2019 SANTA BARBARA COUNTY HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT & SURVEY

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

HOME FOR GOOD
Santa Barbara County

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ABOUT THE RESEARCHER

Applied Survey Research (ASR) is a social research firm committed to helping people build better communities by collecting meaningful data, facilitating information-based planning, and developing custom strategies. The firm was founded on the principle that community improvement, initiative sustainability, and program success are closely tied to assessment needs, evaluation of community goals, and development of appropriate responses.

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Rosie Rojo	City of Santa Maria
Alice Gleghorn	Dept, of Behavioral Wellness
Megan Riker-Rheinschild	Victim Witness
Noel Lossing	Child Welfare Services

DEPLOYMENT SITES

- Carpinteria: Carpinteria Veterans Memorial Building
- Goleta Area: Coast Community Church of the Nazarene
- Isla Vista: Isla Vista Community Service District
- Lompoc: Veterans Memorial Building (VFW)
- Solvang: People Helping People
- Santa Barbara: Louise Lowry Davis Center
- Santa Maria: Ethel Pope Auditorium

INTRODUCTION

Every two years, during the last ten days of January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of the local population experiencing homelessness. These Point-in-Time Counts measure the prevalence of homelessness in each community and collect information on individuals and families residing in emergency shelters and transitional housing, as well as on people sleeping on the streets, in cars, abandoned properties, or other places not meant for human habitation

The Point-in-Time Count is the only source of nationwide data on sheltered and unsheltered homelessness, and is required by HUD of all jurisdictions receiving federal funding to provide housing and services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Currently, the Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care receives approximately $2.5 million dollars annually in federal funding, which is a key source of funding for the county's homeless services.

Continuums of Care report the findings of their local Point-in-Time Count annually to HUD. This information ultimately helps the federal government to better understand the nature and extent of homelessness nationwide. Point-in-Time Count and Survey data also help inform communities' local strategic planning, capacity building, and advocacy campaigns to prevent and end homelessness.

Santa Barbara County worked in conjunction with Applied Survey Research (ASR) and the Northern Santa Barbara United Way to conduct the 2019 Santa Barbara County Homeless Point-in-Time Count and Survey. ASR is a social research firm with extensive experience in homeless enumeration and needs assessments and the United Way has helped organize the Point-in-Time Count for the past several years.

The Santa Barbara County Homeless Point-in-Time Count consists of two primary components:

(1) a point-in-time enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals and families, such as those sleeping outdoors, on the street, or in parks, tents, or vehicles, and

(2) a point-in-time enumeration of homeless individuals and families residing in temporary shelter, including emergency shelters or transitional housing facilities.

The 2019 Santa Barbara County Homeless Point-in-Time Count was a comprehensive community effort. With the support of individuals with lived experience of homelessness, numerous community volunteers, and staff from various city and county departments, the entire county (with the exception of the Channel Islands) was canvassed between the hours of 5 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. on January 24, 2019. This resulted in a volunteer and peer-informed visual count of unsheltered homeless individuals and families residing on the streets and in vehicles, makeshift shelters, encampments, and other places not meant for human habitation. Shelters and transitional housing facilities also reported the number of homeless individuals and families who occupied their facilities on the night prior to the day of the count. Short surveys were also administered to 818 unsheltered and sheltered individuals and families. These surveys gathered basic demographic details necessary to report to HUD.

A specialized count of both unaccompanied children and transition-age youth under the age of 25 was conducted on the same day. This dedicated count was designed to improve the understanding of the scope of youth homelessness. Trained youth enumerators who currently are or have recently experienced homelessness conducted the count and administered surveys in specific areas where homeless youth were known to congregate. The results of this effort contributed to HUD's initiative to measure progress toward ending youth homelessness by 2020.

This report provides data regarding the number and characteristics of people experiencing homelessness in Santa Barbara County on a single night in January. Special attention was given to specific subpopulations, including chronically homeless persons, veterans, families, unaccompanied children under the age of 18, and transition-age youth between the ages of 18 and 24. To better understand the dynamics of homelessness over time, results from previous years, including 2015 and 2017 are provided where available and applicable.

PROJECT OVERVIEW AND GOALS

In order for the 2019 Santa Barbara County Point-in-Time Count and Survey to best reflect the experience and expertise of the community, ASR spoke with local community members drawn from city and county departments, community-based service providers, and other interested stakeholders.

The 2019 Point in Time Count Team identified several important project goals:

- To preserve current federal funding for homeless services and to enhance the ability to raise new funds;
- To improve the ability of policy makers and service providers to plan and implement services that meet the needs of the local homeless population;
- To measure changes in the numbers and characteristics of the homeless population since the 2017 Santa Barbara County Homeless Point-in-Time Count and Survey and to track progress toward ending homelessness;
- To increase public awareness of overall issues around homelessness as well as generate support for constructive solutions; and
- To assess the status of specific subpopulations, including veterans, families, unaccompanied children, transition-age youth, and those who are chronically homeless.
- This report is intended to assist service providers, policy makers, funders, and local, state, and federal governments in gaining a better understanding of the population currently experiencing homelessness, measuring the impact of current policies and programming, and planning for the future.

FEDERAL DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS FOR POINT-IN-TIME COUNTS

In this study, the HUD definition of homelessness for the Point-in-Time Count was used. This definition includes individuals and families:

- Living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangement; or
- With a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place neither designed for nor ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, airports, or camping grounds.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

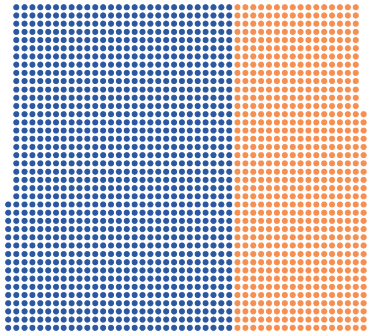
2019 HOMELESS POINT-IN TIME COUNT & SURVEY

Every two years, during the last 10 days of January, communities across the country conduct comprehensive counts of the local homeless populations in order to measure the prevalence of homelessness in each local Continuum of Care.

The 2019 Santa Barbara Point-in-Time Count was a community-wide effort conducted on January 24th, 2019. During the same time, a survey was administered to 818 unsheltered and sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness, in order to profile their experience and characteristics.

TOTAL COUNT OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

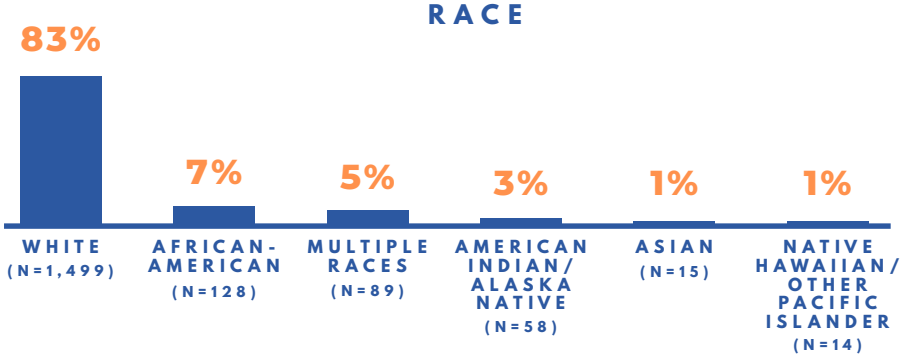
1,803
TOTAL



63% UNSHELTERED (N=1,133)

37% SHELTERED (N=670)

RACE



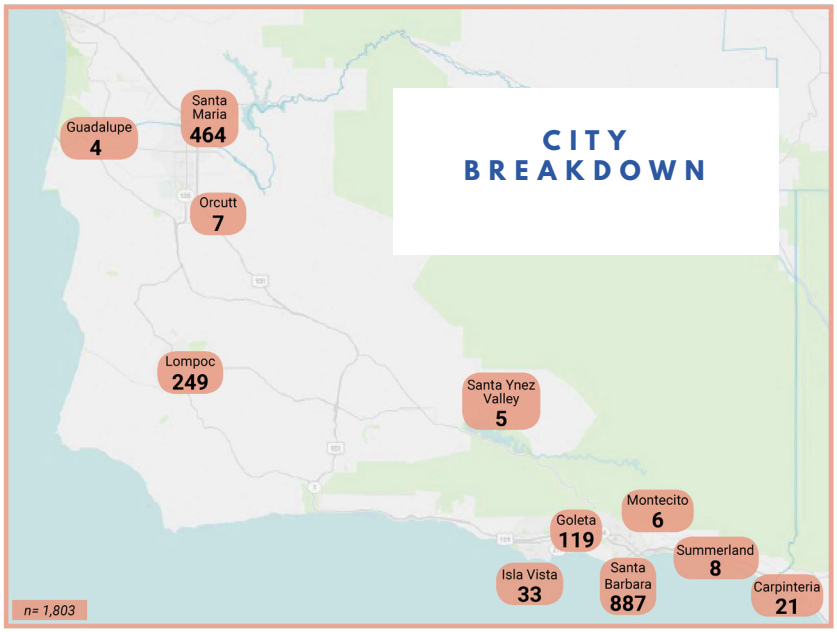
AGE

UNDER 18 (N=237)

18-24 W/O CHILDREN (N=96)

OVER 24 (N=1,470)

CITY BREAKDOWN



GENDER BREAKDOWN

39% FEMALE (N=706)

60% MALE (N=1,090)

1% TRANSGENDER/ NON-CONFORMING (N=7)

SUBPOPULATION DATA:

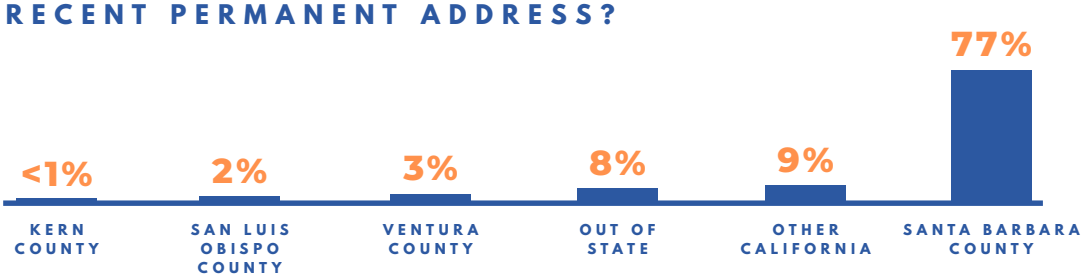
6% VETERANS (N=114)

23% CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS (N=423)

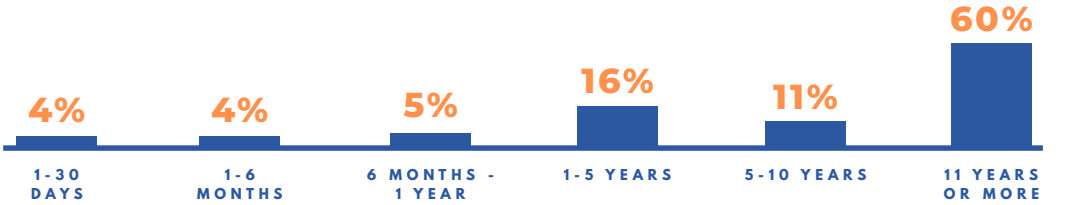
5% UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH (NOTE: 18-24 W/O CHILDREN = 75; <18 =11) (N=86)

ASR

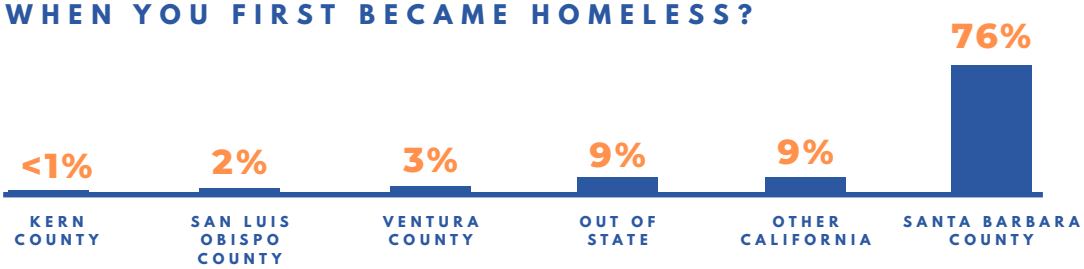
LOCALISM: WHERE WAS YOUR MOST RECENT PERMANENT ADDRESS?



LOCALISM: HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY?



LOCALISM: WHERE WERE YOU LIVING WHEN YOU FIRST BECAME HOMELESS?



HEALTH CONDITIONS

20% MENTAL HEALTH DISABILITY

42% CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITION

24% SUBSTANCE ABUSE

1% HIV/ AIDS RELATED ILLNESS

35% PHYSICAL DISABILITY

12% DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

FIRST TIME HOMELESS

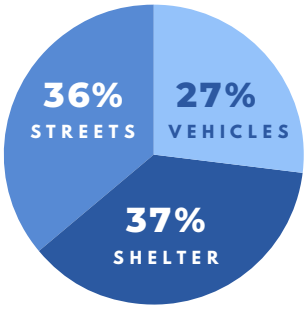
N=818

49% YES

50% NO

1% DON'T KNOW/ REFUSED

SLEEPING LOCATION ON NIGHT OF COUNT



MONTHS HOMELESS OVER THE LAST 3 YEARS

(N=346)

5% ONE MONTH OR LESS

31% 11 MONTHS

64% ONE YEAR OR MORE

17% COMPLETED ASSESSMENT FOR HOUSING

N=778

NUMBER OF BEDS AVAILABLE ON EVENING OF COUNT:

552 EMERGENCY SHELTER (ES) BEDS

0 SAFE HAVEN (SH) BEDS

217 TRANSITIONAL HOUSING (TH) BEDS

127 RAPID RE-HOUSING (RRH) BEDS

665 PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING (PSH) BEDS

297 OTHER PERMANENT HOUSING (OPH) BEDS

TOTAL BEDS:

1,858

ASR

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT & SURVEY

This section provides an overview of the findings generated from 2019 Santa Barbara County Homeless Point-in-Time Count and Survey. Surveys were administered using Simtech's Counting Us phone app to a randomized sample of homeless individuals on January 24th, 2019. This effort resulted 818 complete and unique surveys.

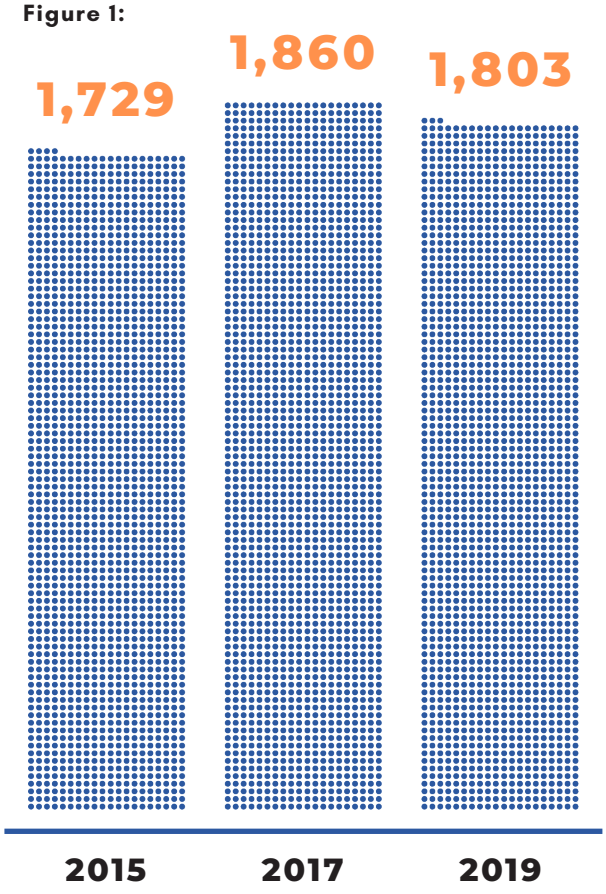
Based on a Point-in-Time Count of 1,803 homeless persons, with a randomized survey sampling process, these 818 valid surveys represent a confidence interval of +/-2.53% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the entire estimated population of homeless individuals in Santa Barbara County. In other words, if the survey were conducted again, we can be 95% certain that the results would be within 2.53 percentage points of the current results. However, the survey is not completely random due to logistics errors and these confidence levels are to be considered references rather than precise estimates.

In order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the experiences of individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Santa Barbara County, respondents were asked basic demographic questions including age, gender, race, and ethnicity. In order to respect respondent privacy and to ensure the safety and comfort of those who participated, respondents were not required to complete all survey questions. Missing values were intentionally omitted from the survey results. Therefore, the total number of respondents for each question will not always equal the total number of surveys conducted. For more information regarding the survey methodology, please see Appendix A.

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS ENUMERATED DURING THE GENERAL POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT WITH TREND

The number of individuals counted in the 2019 Santa Barbara Point-in-Time Count was 1,803. This was a slight decrease in the number of individuals counted in 2017 (1,860). It should be noted that the methodology used in the 2019 count was different than the methodology used in the 2015 and 2017 count.

Figure 1:

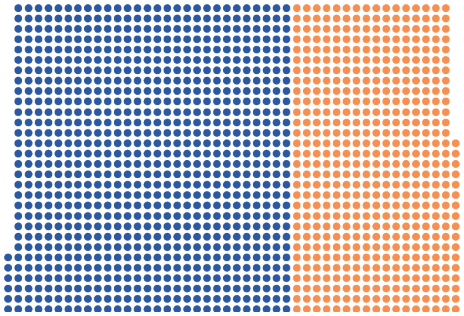


TOTAL NUMBER OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS ENUMERATED DURING THE POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT BY SHELTER STATUS

1,803
Total Count

Almost two-thirds (63%) of homeless individuals enumerated were unsheltered, while 37% were sheltered.

Figure 2:



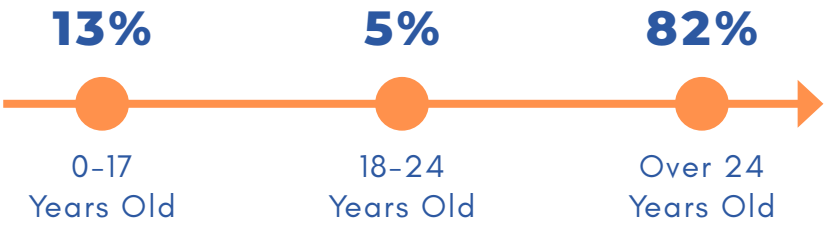
63% Unsheltered (N=1,133)

37% Sheltered (N=670)

AGE

A majority (82%) of homeless individuals enumerated were over 24 years old. Thirteen percent (13%) were transitional age youth between the ages of 18 and 24 and 5% were youth under the age of 18.

Figure 3:

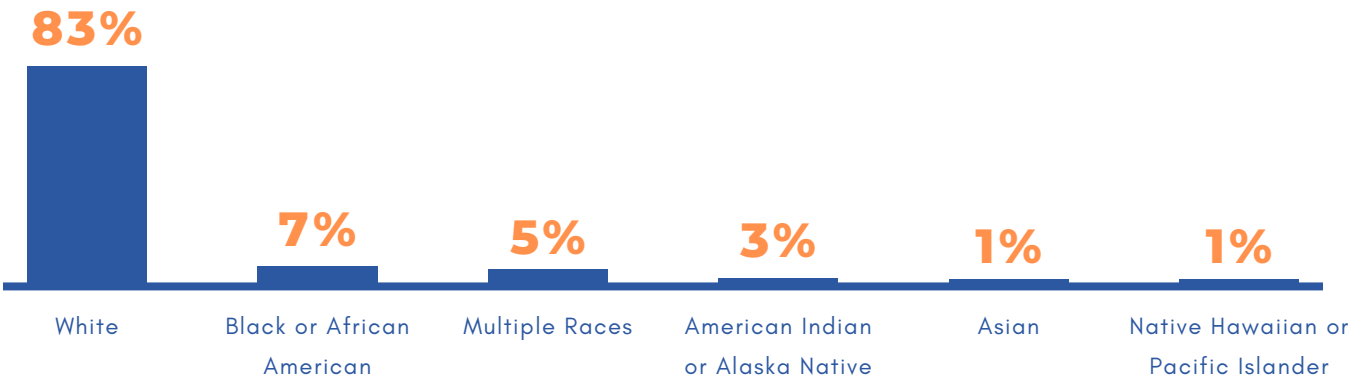


2019 N=1,803

RACE

A majority of homeless individuals enumerated identified as White (83%), which is higher than the general population at 70%*. Seven percent (7%) identified as Black or African-American which is higher than the general population at 2%*. Five percent (5%) identified as multi-racial, while three percent (3%) identified as American Indian or Alaska Native. One percent (1%) identified as Asian, and one percent (1%) identified as Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.

Figure 4:



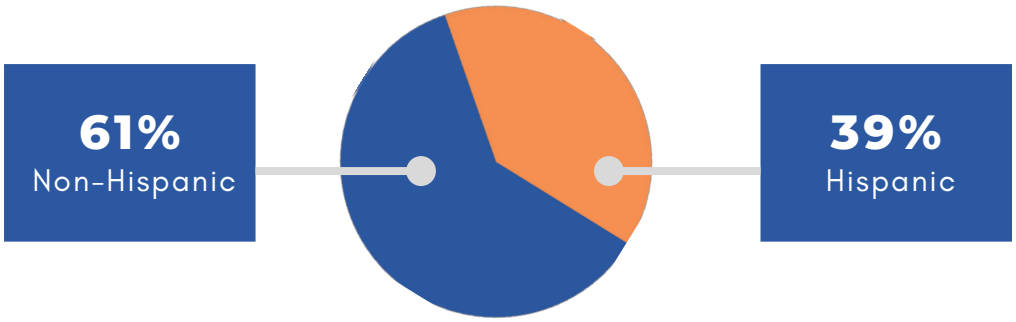
2019 N=1,803

*Source: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF

ETHNICITY

A majority of survey respondents (61%) identified as Non-Hispanic, while 39% identified as Hispanic. These numbers were slightly less than the general population* (57% and 43%, respectively).

Figure 5:



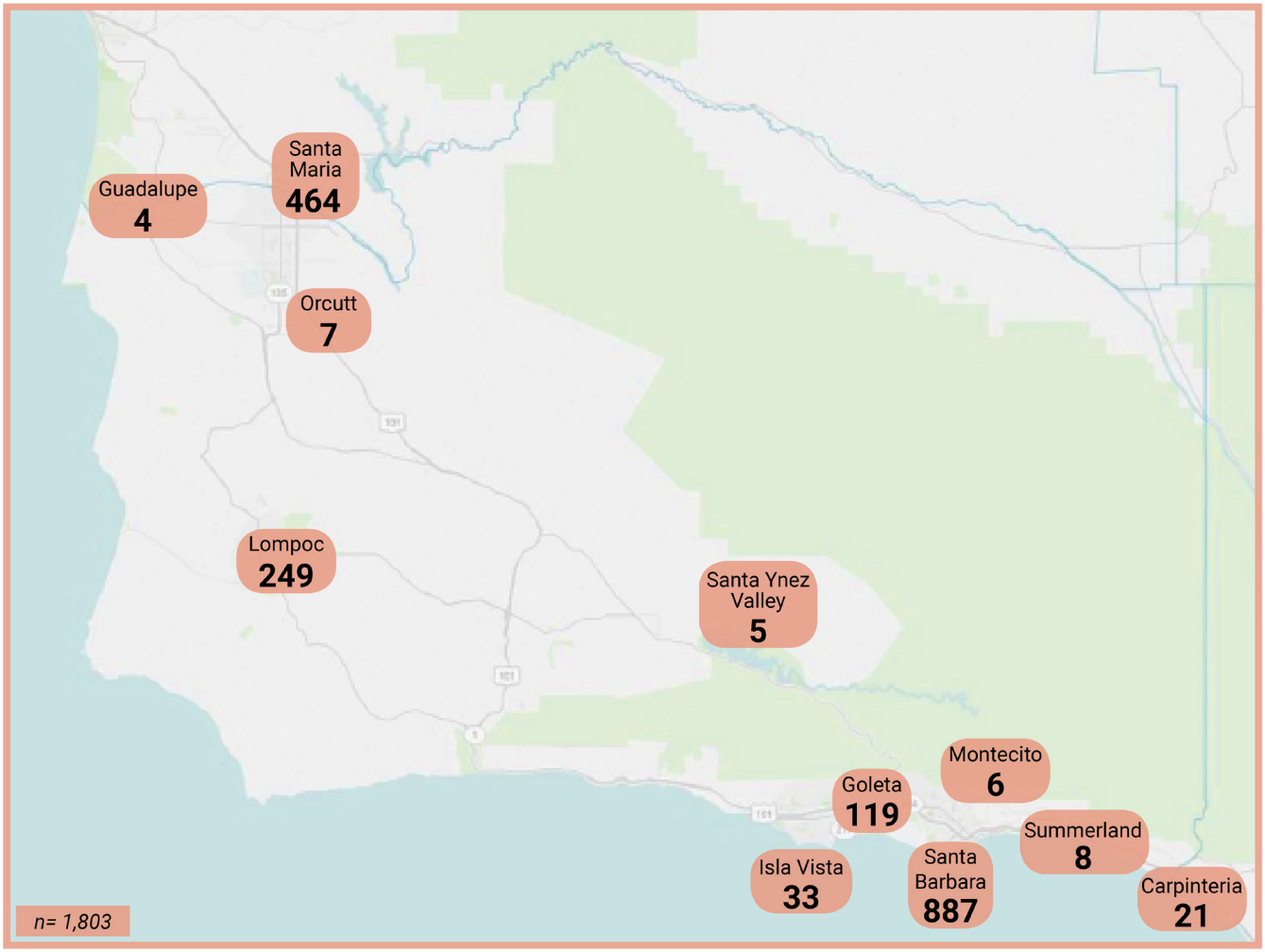
2019 N=1,803

*Source: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS ENUMERATED DURING THE POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT BY CITY

Almost half (48%) of homeless individuals enumerated lived in the city of Santa Barbara, while 28% lived in Santa Maria. Thirteen percent (13%) lived in Lompoc, and 6% lived in Goleta. Two percent (2%) of homeless individuals lived in Isla Vista, while one percent (1%) lived in Carpinteria or Summerland. Less than one percent (<1%) lived in Montecito, Guadalupe, Orcutt, and the Santa Ynez Valley.

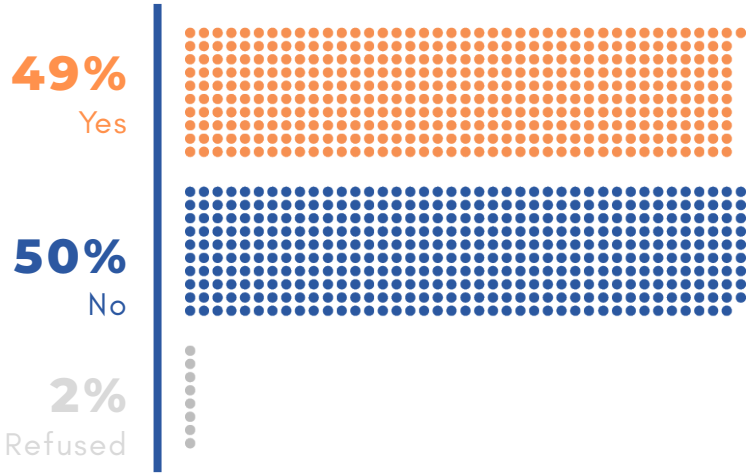
Figure 6:



FIRST TIME HOMELESS

Approximately 49% of survey respondents indicated this was their first experience of homelessness, which is slightly less than the 50% who indicated this was not their first time experiencing homelessness.

Figure 7:

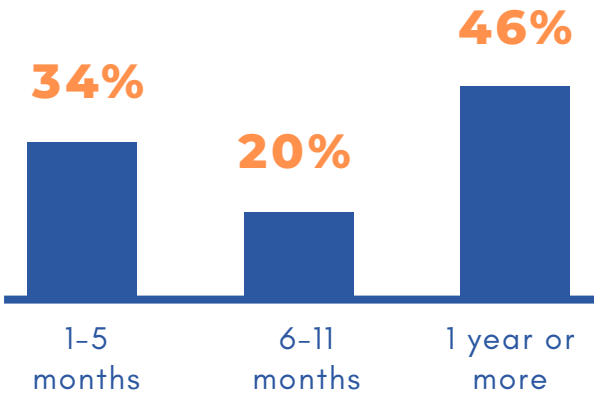


2019 N=818

HOW LONG HOMELESS

Approximately one-third (34%) of respondents had experienced homelessness for 1-5 months, compared to 20% who had experienced homelessness for 6-11 months. Almost half (46%) had experienced homelessness for 1 year or more.

Figure 8:

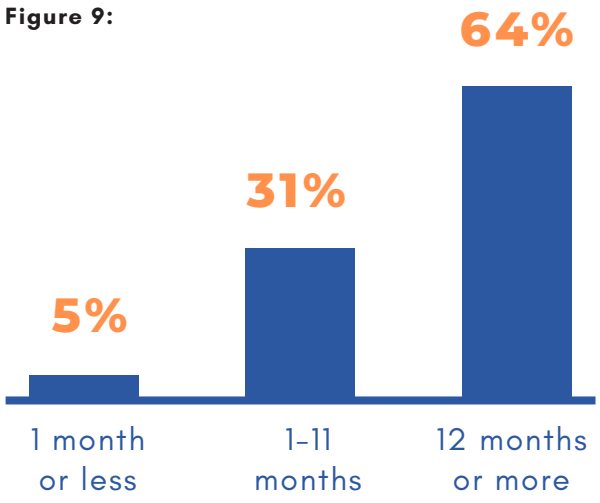


2019 N=699

MONTHS HOMELESS OVER LAST THREE YEARS

Over two-thirds (64%) of respondents reported experiencing homelessness for 12 months or more during the last 3 years compared to the 31% of respondents who reported experiencing homelessness between one and eleven months during the last 3 years. Five percent (5%) reported experiencing homelessness for less than a month during the past 3 years.

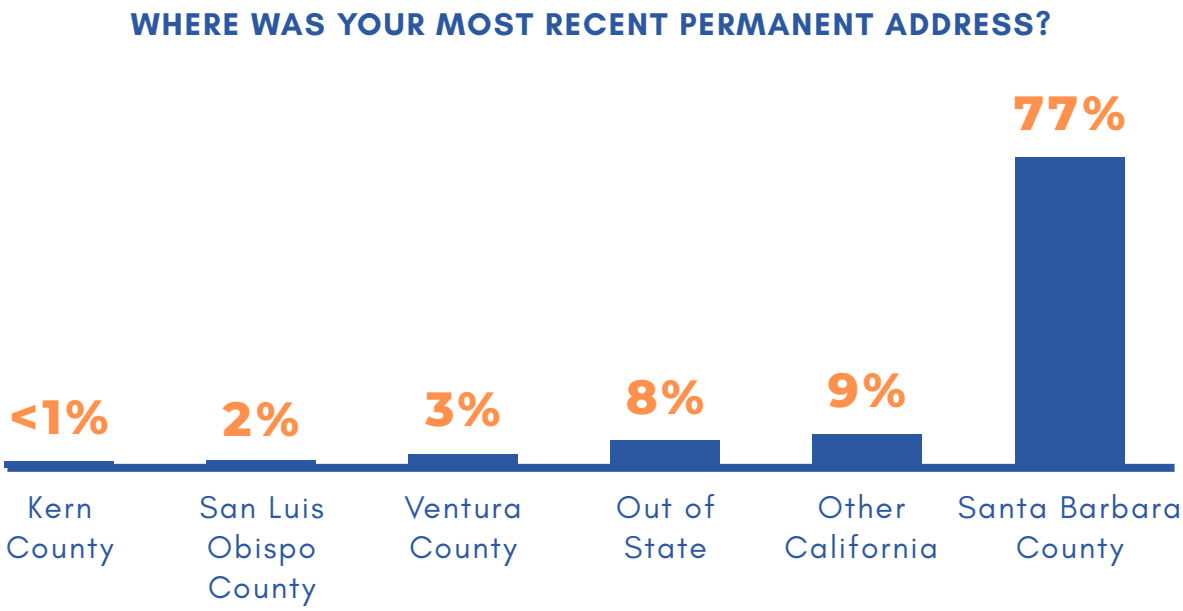
Figure 9:



2019 N=346

LOCALISM

Figure 10:



LOCALISM

Figure 11:

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY?

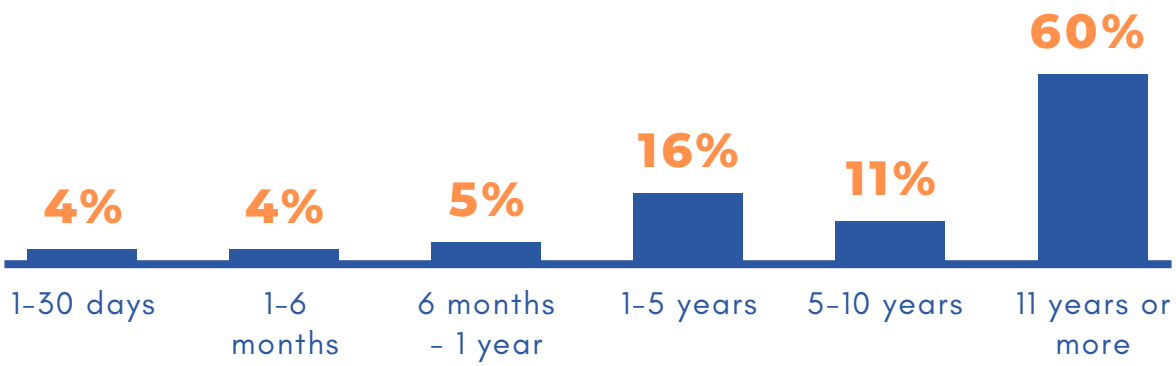
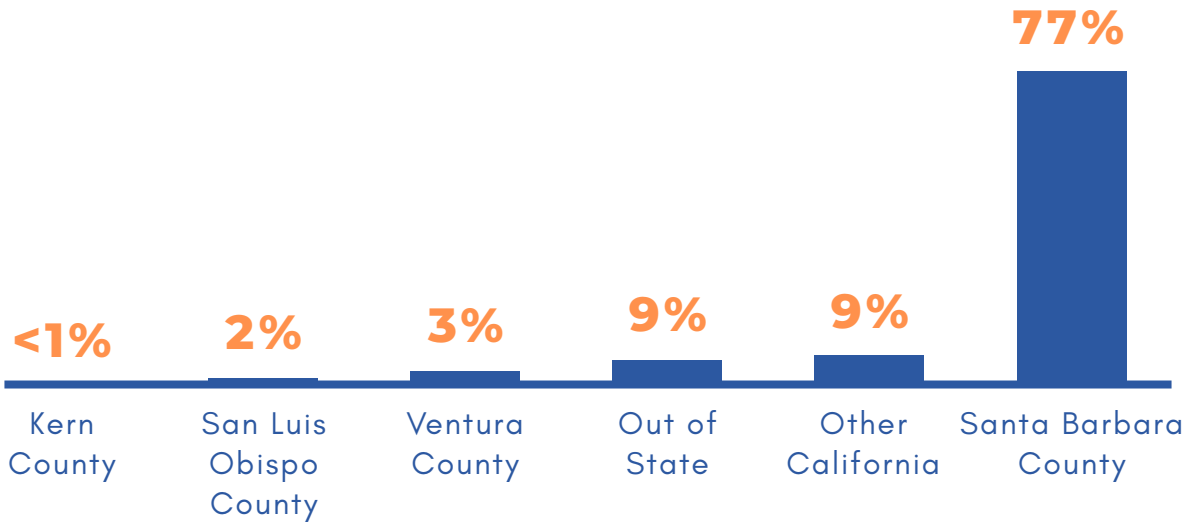


Figure 12:

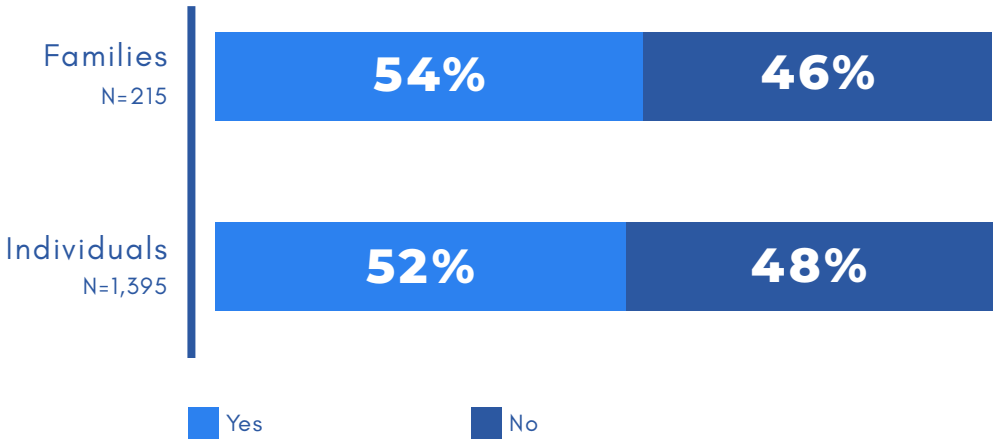
WHERE WERE YOU LIVING WHEN YOU FIRST BECAME HOMELESS?



HAS YOU OR YOUR FAMILY'S CURRENT PERIOD OF HOMELESSNESS BEEN CAUSED BY AN EXPERIENCE OF EMOTIONAL, PHYSICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, SEXUAL, OR OTHER TYPE OF ABUSE, OR BY ANY OTHER TRAUMA YOU OR ANYONE IN YOUR FAMILY HAVE EXPERIENCED?

Over half of individuals and family's (52% and 54%, respectively) current period of homelessness has been caused by some sort of trauma or abuse.

Figure 13:

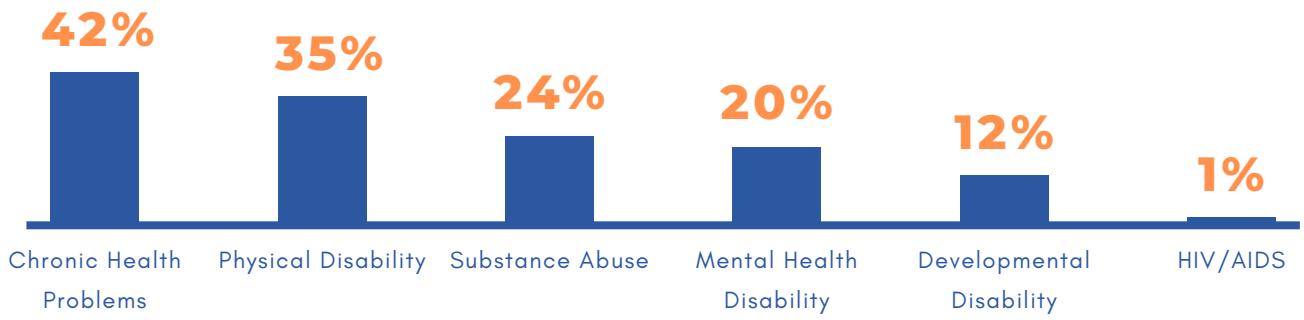


Source: Santa Barbara County VI-SPDAT Trauma Scores

HEALTH CONDITIONS

Nearly 42% of individuals reported having a chronic health condition, with 35% reporting having a physical disability. Twenty four percent (24%) reported substance abuse issues, 20% reported having a mental health disability, and approximately 12% reported having a developmental disability. One percent (1%) reported having an HIV/AIDS related illness.

Figure 14:

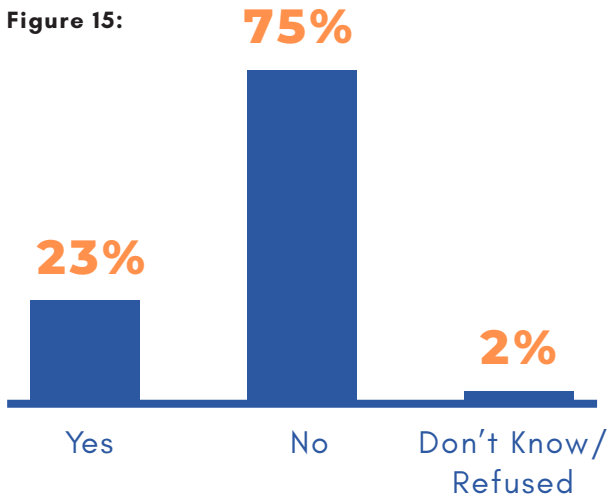


Note: Mental Health, HIV/AIDS, and Substance Abuse data from HMIS. Chronic Health Conditions (N=685), Physical Disability (N=685), and Developmental Disability (N=667) from survey.

ACCESSING BENEFITS

Approximately 23% of individuals reported receiving disability benefits, while 75% did not.

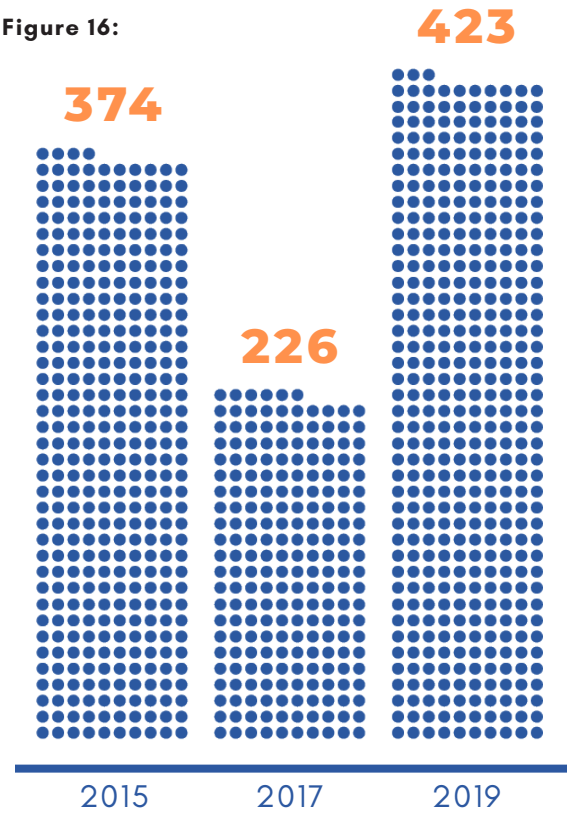
Figure 15:



CHRONIC HOMELESS POPULATIONS ESTIMATES

There were 423 chronically homeless individuals in Santa Barbara County in 2019. Please note, the 2017 Point-In-Time Count methodology was significantly different from the 2019 methodology.

Figure 16:

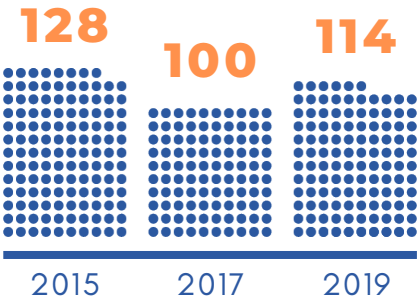


2019 N=676

HOMELESS VETERAN POPULATION ESTIMATES OVER TIME

The number of homeless veterans in Santa Barbara County increased slightly to 114 in 2019.

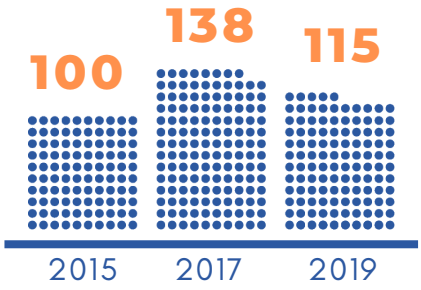
Figure 17:



FAMILIES ENUMERATED DURING THE POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT

There were 115 families identified during the 2019 count, less than the 138 families identified in 2017. 88% of families identified during the 2019 Point-in-Time Count were residing in shelters or transitional housing programs.

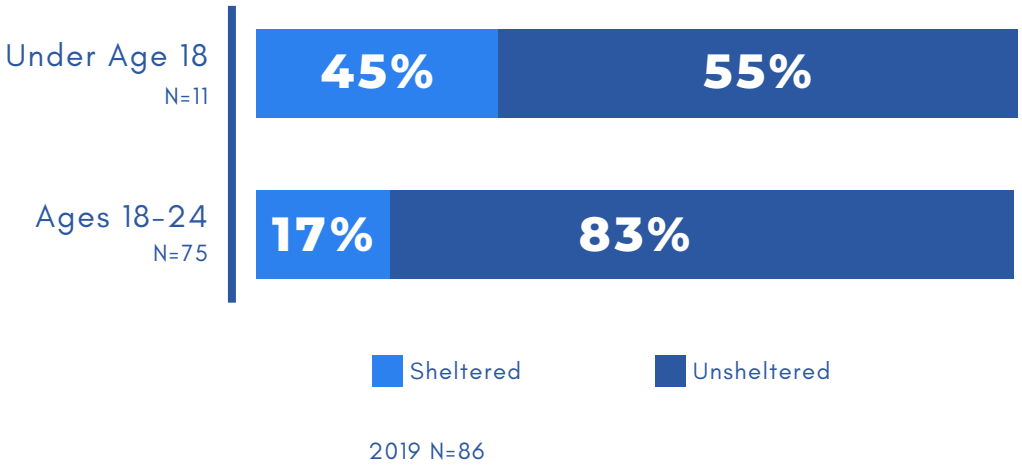
Figure 18:

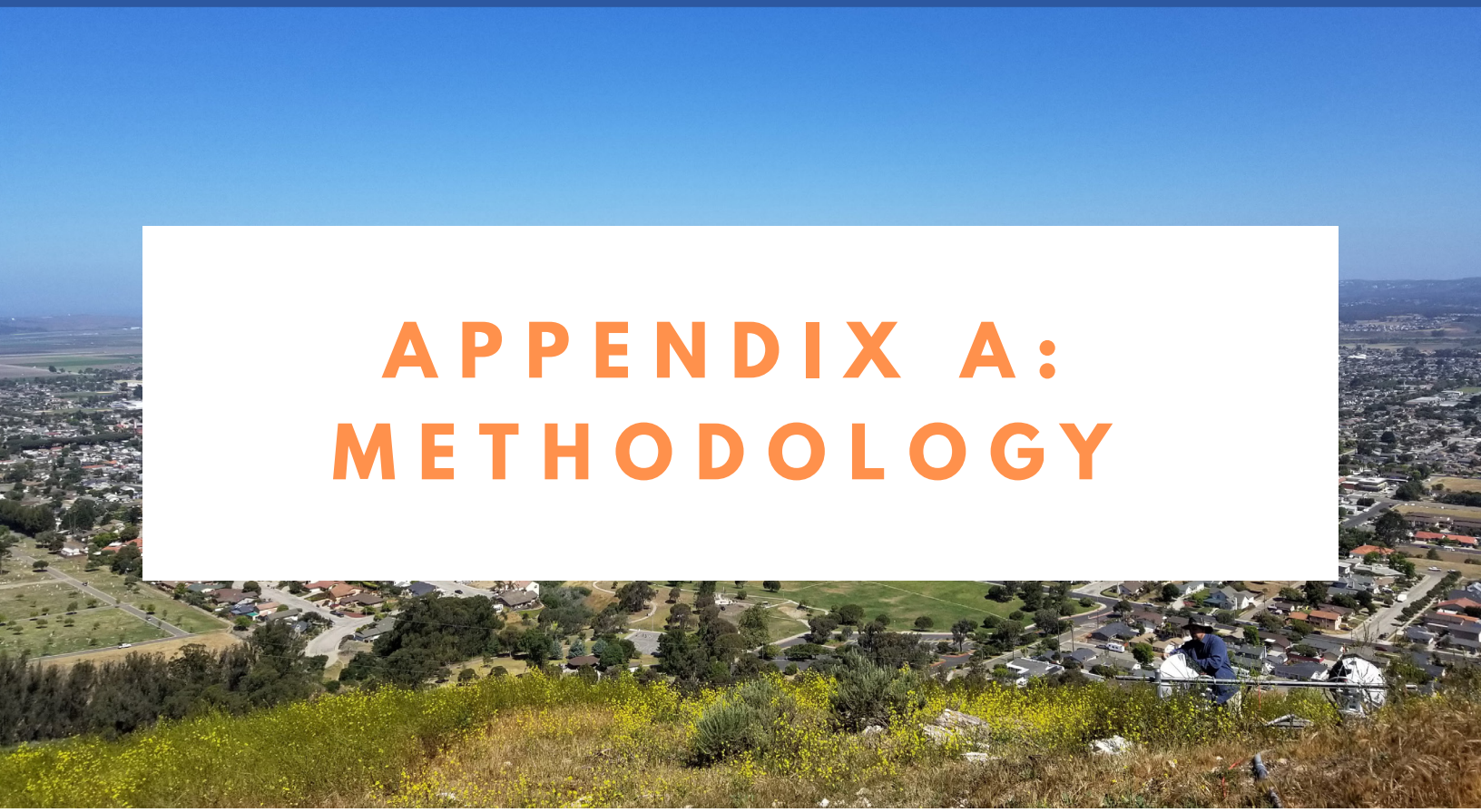


UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND TRANSITIONAL-AGE YOUTH POPULATION

There were 86 unaccompanied children and transitional-age youth identified during the 2019 Point-in-Time Count. Among unaccompanied young people who were homeless, 75 were transitional-age youth between the ages of 18 and 24 while 11 were unaccompanied children under the age of 18. Eighty-three percent (83%) of transitional age youth and 55% of unaccompanied children were unsheltered.

Figure 19:





APPENDIX A: METHODOLOGY

OVERVIEW

The purpose of the 2019 Santa Barbara County Homeless Point-in-Time Count and Survey was to produce a point-in-time estimate of people experiencing homelessness in Santa Barbara County, a county that covers approximately 2,745 square miles. The results of the street counts were combined with the results from the shelter counts to produce the total estimated number of persons experiencing homelessness in Santa Barbara County on a given night, using the HUD definition of homelessness for the Point-in-Time Count. An in-depth qualitative survey was used to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the experiences and demographics of those counted. A more detailed description of the methodology follows.

COMPONENTS OF THE HOMELESS COUNT METHOD

The Point-in-Time Count methodology used in 2019 had four primary components:

- General street count: an enumeration of unsheltered homeless individuals between the hours of 5:00AM to 8:30AM;
- Youth street count: a targeted enumeration of unsheltered homeless youth under the age of 25 between the hours of 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM;
- Shelter count: an enumeration of sheltered homeless individuals on the night before the street count;
- Survey: an in-person survey of unsheltered and sheltered individuals conducted by peer surveyors and volunteers on the same day as the general street count

The general street count was designed to take place before most shelters released persons who slept at the shelter the previous night. In areas with shelters, the immediate area surrounding the shelter was prioritized to eliminate potential double counting of individuals.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

To ensure the success and integrity of the count, many county and community agencies collaborated on community outreach, volunteer recruitment, logistical plans, methodological decisions, and interagency coordination efforts. Applied Survey Research (ASR) provided technical assistance for these aspects of the planning process. ASR has over 19 years of experience conducting homeless counts and surveys throughout California and across the nation. Their work is featured as a best practice in the HUD publication, A Guide to Counting Unsheltered Homeless People, as well as in the Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago publication, Conducting a Youth Count: A Toolkit.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Local homeless and housing service providers and advocates were valued partners in the planning and implementation of this count. Thanks to local efforts, the count included enumerators with a diverse range of knowledge, including expertise regarding areas frequented by homeless individuals, individuals living in vehicles, and persons residing in encampments. Community partners were also a key component in recruiting individuals with lived experience of homelessness to participate in the street count and survey efforts.

STREET COUNT METHODOLOGY

DEFINITION

For the purposes of this study, the HUD definition of unsheltered homeless persons was used:

An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place neither designed for nor ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, airports, or camping grounds.

METHODOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS

The 2019 street count methodology followed an established, HUD approved methodology used in PIT counts throughout the country, with the addition of a dedicated youth count. New this year was the addition of the Counting Us mobile phone app, which is designed to automate the collection of data for the homeless census Point-in-Time Count and Survey. The Counting Us app allows volunteers and guides to record both observational and survey data in the field, even without cell phone coverage. The data collected is available in real time, is easily accessed via the Counting Us website.

VOLUNTEER AND GUIDE RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

Many individuals who live and/or work in Santa Barbara County supported the county's effort to enumerate the local homeless population. Twelve volunteer trainings were held throughout Santa Barbara County prior to the count and survey. In all, 449 community volunteers and 32 homeless guides participated in the general street count on January 24, 2019.

Outreach efforts were conducted to local non-profits and county agencies that serve individuals experiencing homelessness. Local shelters and service providers recruited and recommended the most knowledgeable and reliable homeless individuals to participate in the count. Homeless guides were given a $50 gift card for their work on the day of the count.

Volunteers and homeless guides served as enumerators on the morning of the count, canvassing the county in teams to visually count homeless persons. Volunteers, service providers, and United Way staff supported each of the seven dispatch centers (Carpinteria, Goleta, Isla Vista, Lompoc, Solvang, Santa Barbara, and Santa Maria) greeting volunteers and guides, distributing instructions, maps and supplies to enumeration teams.

In order to participate in the count, all volunteers and guides were required to download the Counting Us mobile application on their phone. Prior to the count, they were encouraged to practice using the app and to familiarize themselves with the survey questions. On the morning of the count, United Way staff reviewed with them how to record observational data into the app, how to access the app while in areas without cell phone coverage, and how to problem solve if needed. United Way staff also reviewed the definition of homelessness, how to identify homeless individuals, potential locations where homeless individuals may be located, how to safely and respectfully conduct the count, and provided maps to ensure the entirety of the assigned area was covered, as well as other tips to help ensure an accurate count.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

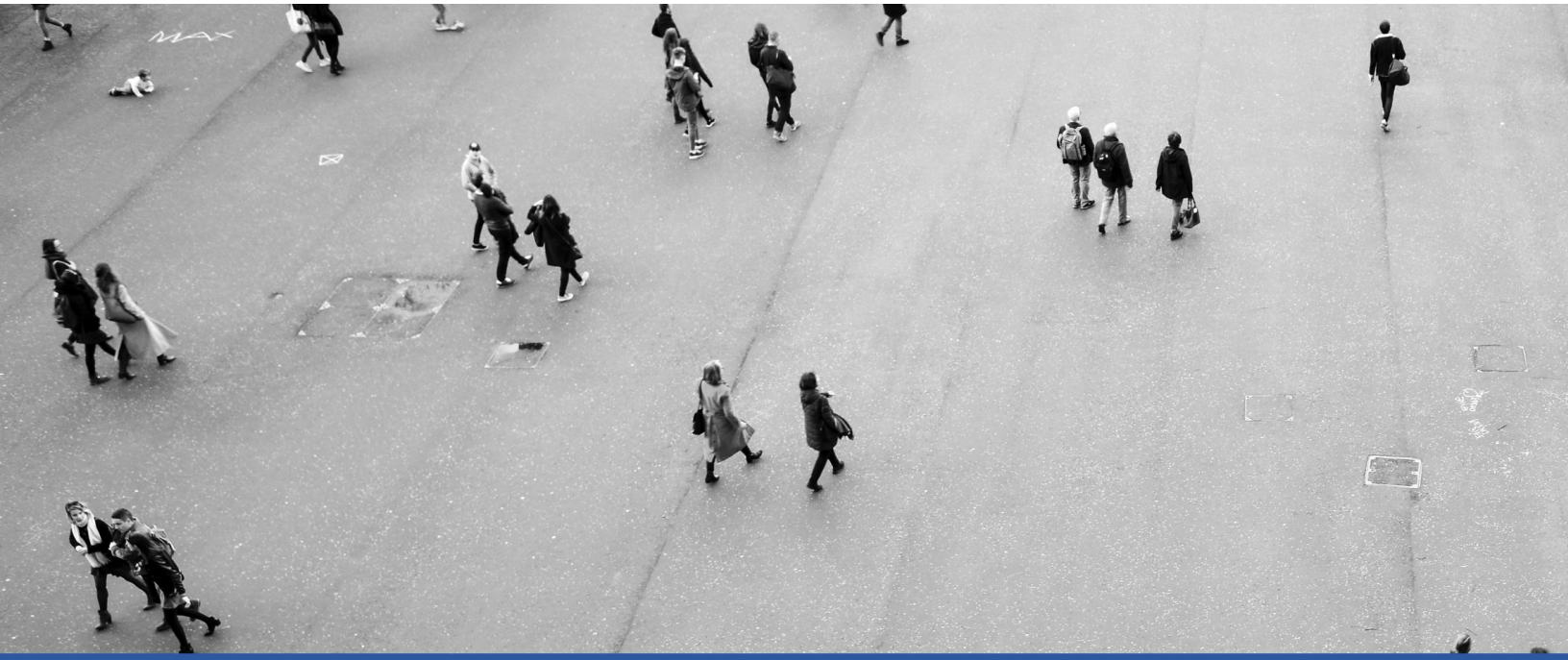
Every effort was made to minimize potentially hazardous situations. Law enforcement agencies were notified of pending street count activity in their jurisdictions. Enumeration teams were advised to take every safety precaution possible, including maintaining a respectful distance from those people they were counting.

STREET COUNT DISPATCH CENTERS

To achieve complete coverage of the county within the allotted timeframe, the planning team identified seven areas for the placement of dispatch centers on the morning of the count: Carpinteria, Goleta, Isla Vista, Lompoc, Solvang, Santa Barbara, and Santa Maria. The planning team determined the enumeration routes and assigned them to the dispatch center closest or most central to the coverage area to facilitate the timely deployment of enumeration teams into the field.

LOGISTICS OF ENUMERATION AND SURVEY

On the morning of the street count, teams of two or more persons were created to enumerate designated areas of the county for the street count. Each team was generally composed of at least two trained volunteers and one trained homeless guide, and provided with their assigned census tract maps, training guidelines, and other supplies. One person from each team was designated to record entries into the Counting Us app (to avoid duplication), while other team members were designated drivers or observers relaying information to the recorder. All accessible streets, roads, parks, and highways in the enumerated tracts were traversed either by foot or by car. Teams were asked to cover the entirety of their assigned areas.



SURVEY METHODOLOGY

PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

A survey of 818 unique individuals experiencing homelessness was conducted on the evening of January 23rd and the morning of January 24th to yield qualitative data about people experiencing homelessness in Santa Barbara County. These data are used for the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance funding application and are important for both future program development and planning.

The survey collected information such as gender, family status, military service, duration and recurrence of homelessness, nighttime accommodations, and access to services through open-ended, closed-ended, and multiple response questions. The survey data bring greater perspective to current issues of homelessness and to the provision and delivery of services.

Surveys were conducted by shelter staff and enumeration teams on the evening prior to and the day of the count. The Counting Us mobile phone application was used to collect the survey data. A short training session on the Counting Us app was facilitated by the United Way staff at each dispatch center, which included reviewing survey questions, how to access surveys while out of cell phone range, interviewing protocol, and confidentiality.

It was determined that survey data would be more easily obtained if an incentive gift was offered to each respondent to show appreciation for their time and participation. A significant number of socks, cereals bars, hygiene kits, 2-1-1 cards, and CES cards were donated from the community and organizations. These were distributed as part of the Point-in-Time Count and Survey, and they were easy to distribute, had wide appeal, and could be provided within the constraints of the project budget. The incentives were widely accepted among survey respondents.

SURVEY SAMPLING

Based on a Point-in-Time Count estimate of 1,803 homeless persons, with a randomized survey sampling process, the 818 valid surveys represented a confidence interval of +/- 2.53% with a 95% confidence level when generalizing the results of the survey to the estimated population of individuals experiencing homelessness in Santa Barbara County.

The 2019 survey was administered in shelters and on the street. Strategic attempts were also made to reach individuals in various geographic locations and of various subset groups such as homeless youth, military veterans, domestic violence survivors, and families.

DATA COLLECTION

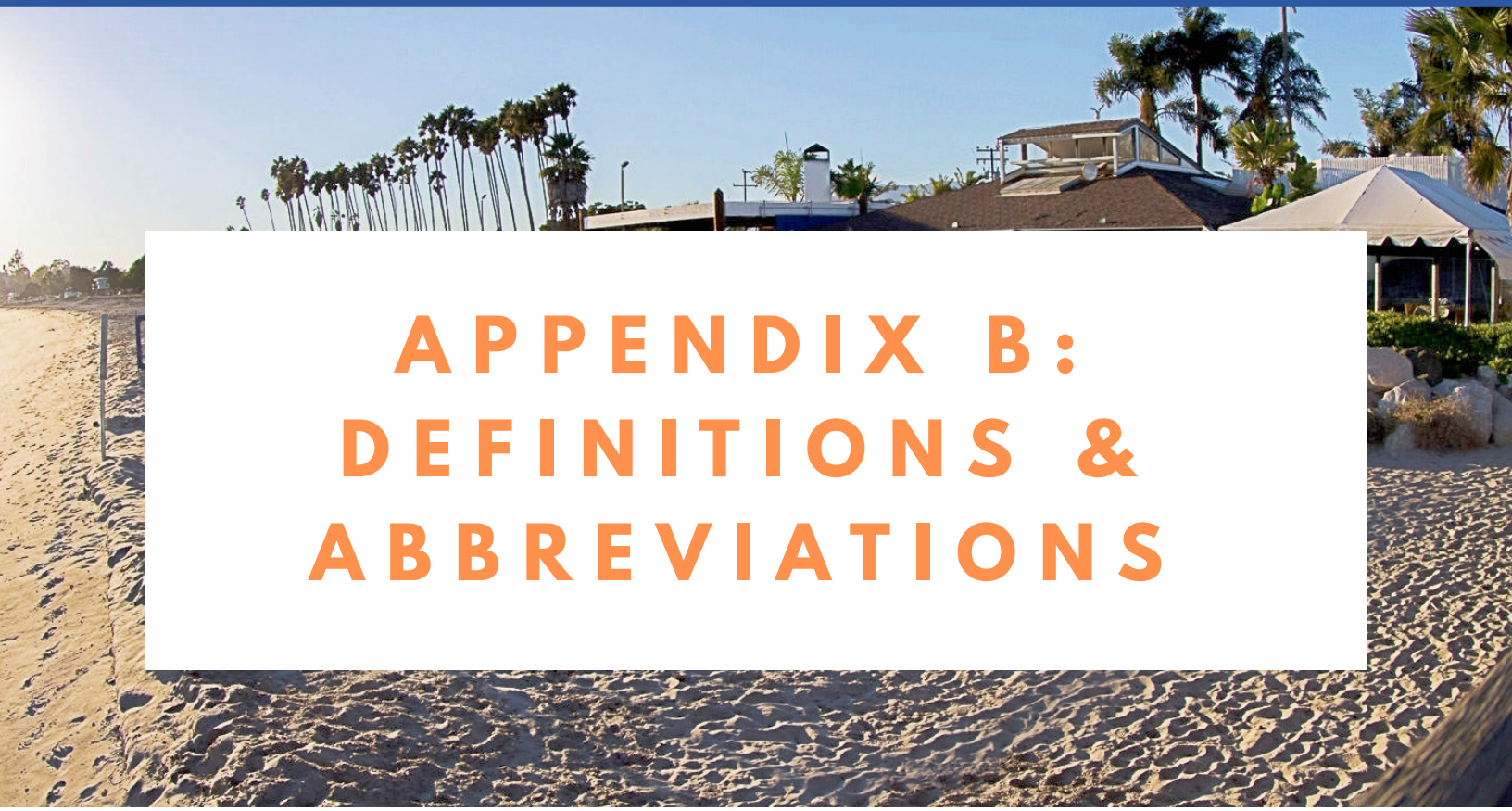
Care was taken by interviewers to ensure that respondents felt comfortable regardless of the street or shelter location where they were being surveyed. During the interviews, respondents were encouraged to be candid in their responses and were informed that these responses would be framed as general findings, would be kept confidential, and would not be traceable to any single individual.

DATA ANALYSIS

The survey requested respondents' initials and date of birth so that duplication could be avoided without compromising the respondents' anonymity. Upon completion of the survey effort, an extensive verification process was conducted to eliminate duplicates. This process examined respondents' date of birth, initials, gender, ethnicity, length of homelessness, and consistencies in patterns of responses to other survey questions.

SURVEY CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

There may be some variance in the data that individuals experiencing homelessness self-reported. Using a peer interviewing methodology is believed to encourage the respondents to be more candid with their answers and may help reduce the uneasiness of revealing personal information. Surveys that were considered incomplete or containing false responses were not accepted. Missing values are intentionally omitted from the survey results. Therefore, the total number of respondents for each question will not always equal the total number of surveys conducted.



APPENDIX B: DEFINITIONS & ABBREVIATIONS

Chronic homelessness – Defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as an unaccompanied individual or head of a family household with a disabling condition who has either continuously experienced homelessness for a year or more, or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness totaling 12 months, in the past three years.

Disabling condition – Defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as a physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury that is expected to be long-term and impacts the individual's ability to live independently; a developmental disability; or HIV/AIDS.

Emergency shelter – The provision of a safe alternative to the streets, either in a shelter facility or through the use of stabilization rooms. Emergency shelter is short-term, usually for 180 days or fewer. Domestic violence shelters are typically considered a type of emergency shelter, as they provide safe, immediate housing for survivors and their children.

Family – A household with at least one adult and one child under the age of 18.

Homeless – Under the Category 1 definition of homelessness in the HEARTH Act, includes individuals and families living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements, or with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.

HUD – Abbreviation for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Precariously housed – A person who is staying with the household because they have no other regular or adequate place to stay due to a lack of money or other means of support.

Sheltered homeless individuals – Individuals who are living in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs.

Single individual – An unaccompanied adult over the age of 18.

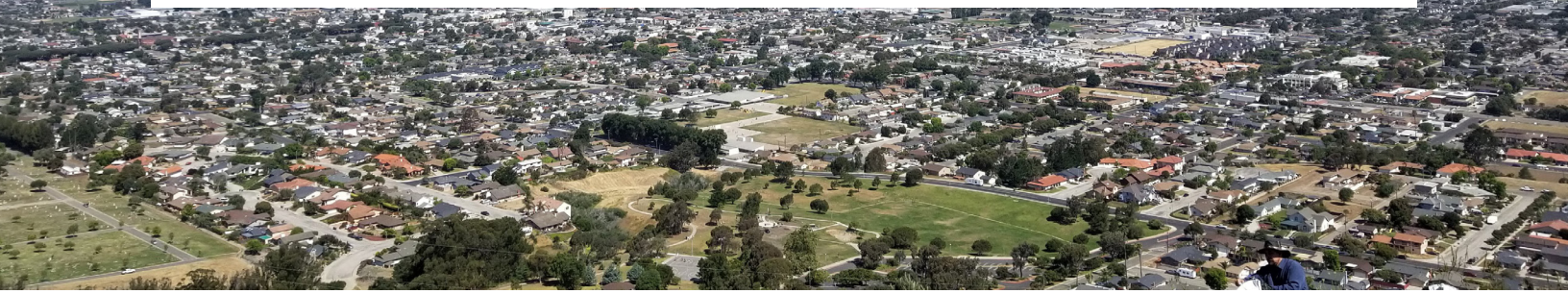
Transition-age youth – Young people between the ages of 18 and 24 years old who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same place as their own child(ren).

Transitional housing – Housing in which homeless individuals may live up to 24 months and receive supportive services that enable them to live more independently. Supportive services – which help promote residential stability, increased skill level or income, and greater self-determination –may be provided by the organization managing the housing, or coordinated by that organization and provided by other public or private agencies. Transitional housing can be provided in one structure or several structures at one site, or in multiple structures at scattered sites.

Unaccompanied children – Children under the age of 18 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian and are not a parent presenting with or sleeping in the same place as their own child(ren).

Unsheltered homeless individuals – Individuals who are living on the streets, in abandoned buildings, storage structures, vehicles, encampments, or any other place unfit for human habitation.

APPENDIX C: TABLE OF FIGURES



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