# Santa Barbara County Homelessness Action Plan Stakeholder Input Sessions

## Community Meetings

**October 28-30 2019**

LESAR DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS

# Welcome!

- **Welcome**
- **Introductions**
  - The Homeless Assistance Team
  - The Continuum of Care (CoC)

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**County of Santa Barbara**

Community Services Department, Housing & Community Development Division

# *Community Forum to Address Homelessness*

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# Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)

Building a More Complete Crisis Response System Together

<u>Total Projected HEAP Outcomes</u>

1364 Persons

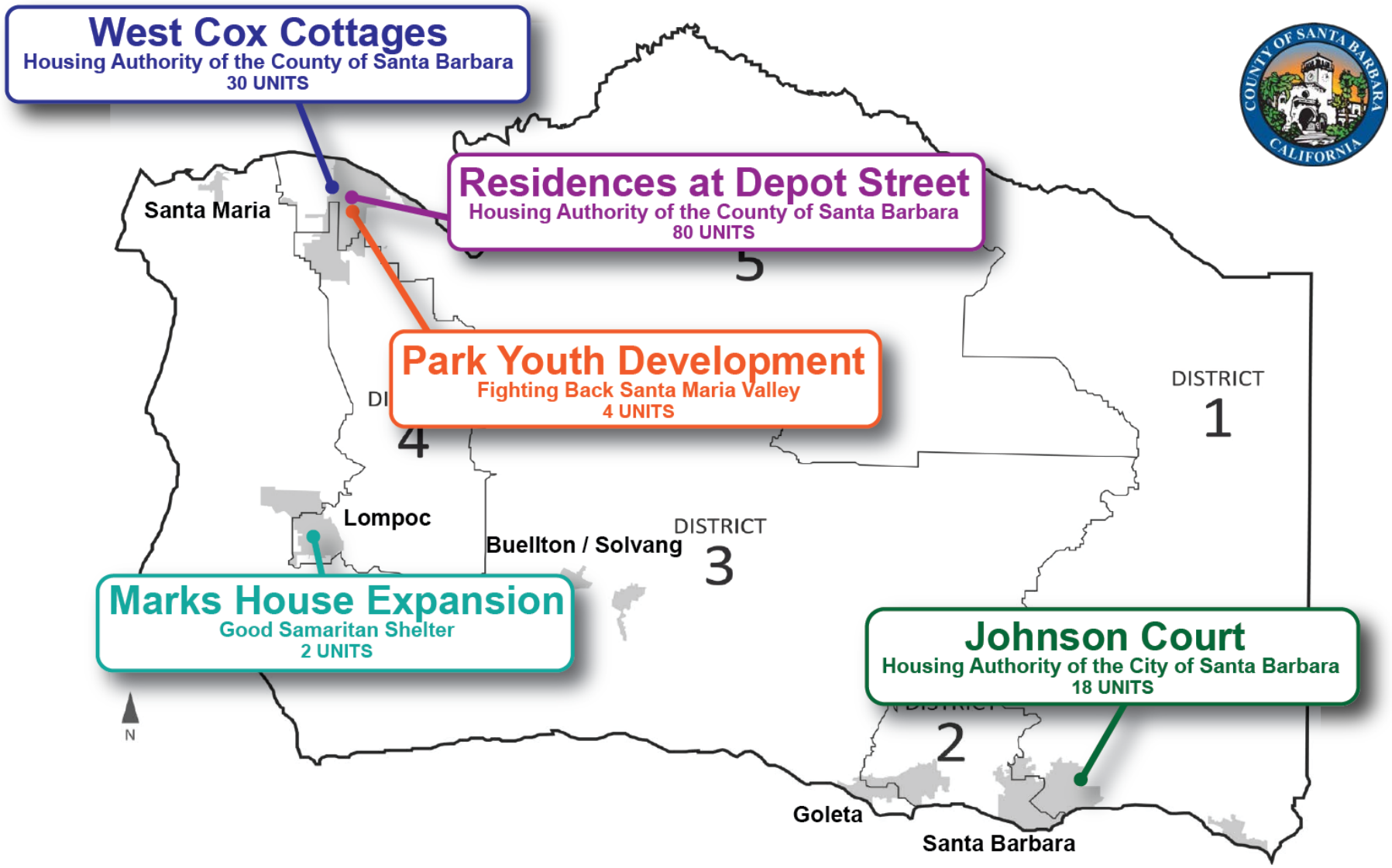
289 Permanent Housing Placements

# Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) North County Awards

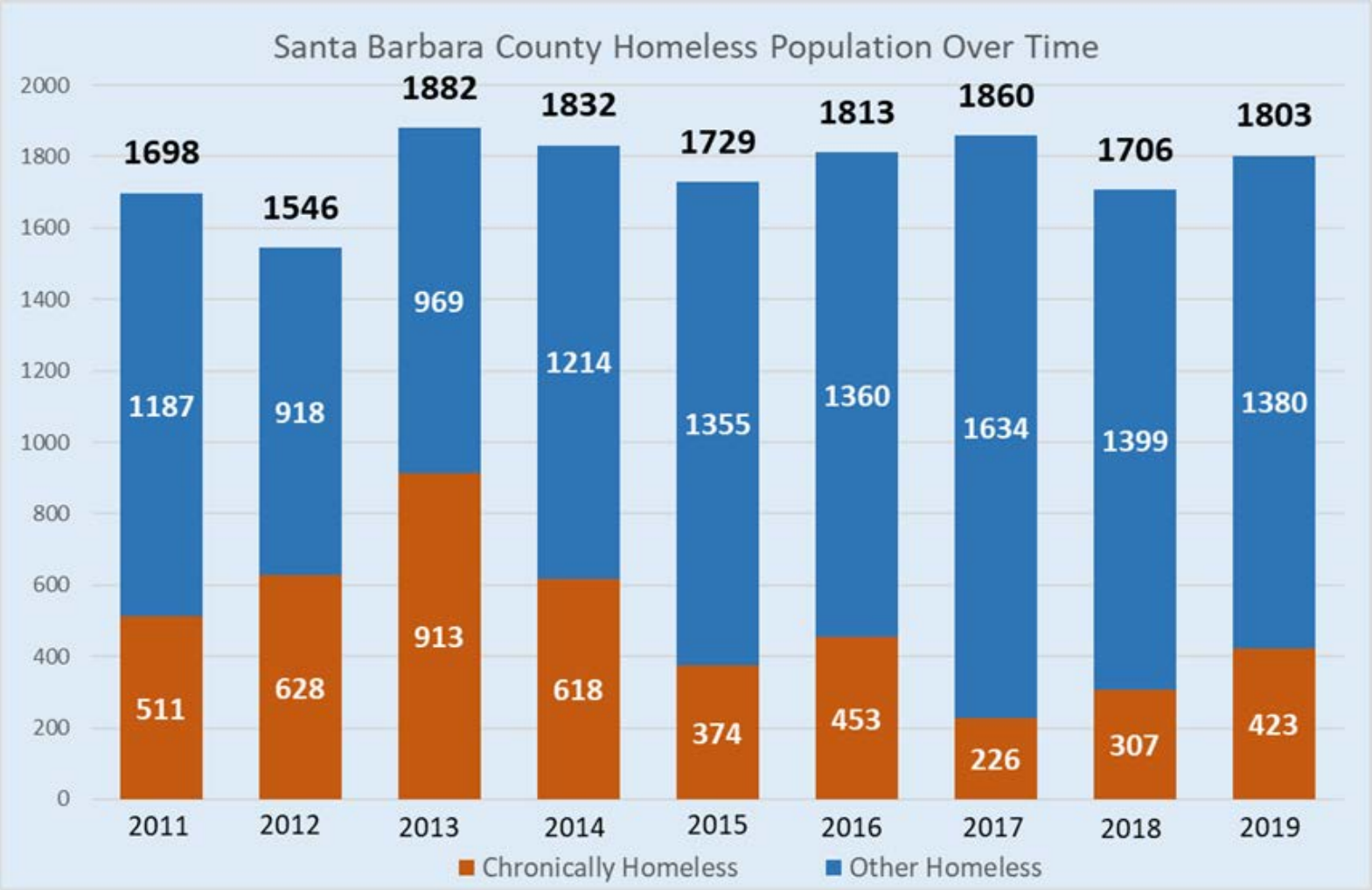
Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley
$900,000

Good Samaritan Shelter
$850,000

Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara
$1,350,000


West Cox Cottages
Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara
30 UNITS
Residences at Depot Street
Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara
80 UNITS
Park Youth Development
Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley
4 UNITS
Marks House Expansion
Good Samaritan Shelter
2 UNITS
Johnson Court
Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara
18 UNITS
Santa Maria
Lompoc
Buellton / Solvang
Goleta
Santa Barbara
DISTRICT
1
DISTRICT
3
N

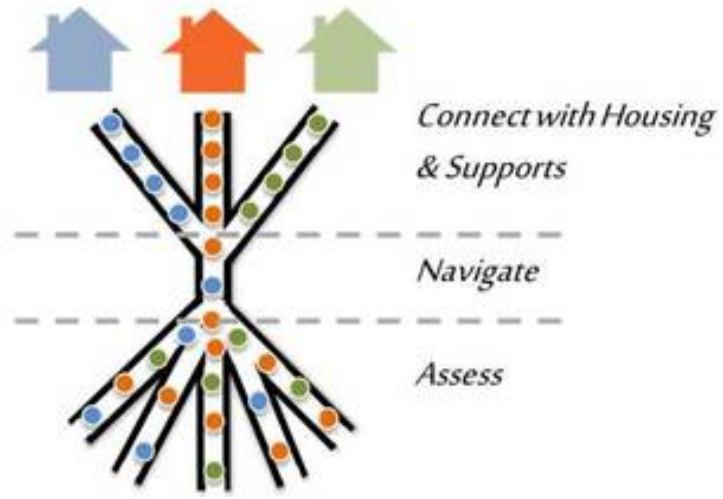
# 2019 Point in Time Count
# Countywide Homeless Population



# 2019 Point in Time Count Map

# Data Collection Sources

## Coordinated Entry System

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## Homeless Management Information System

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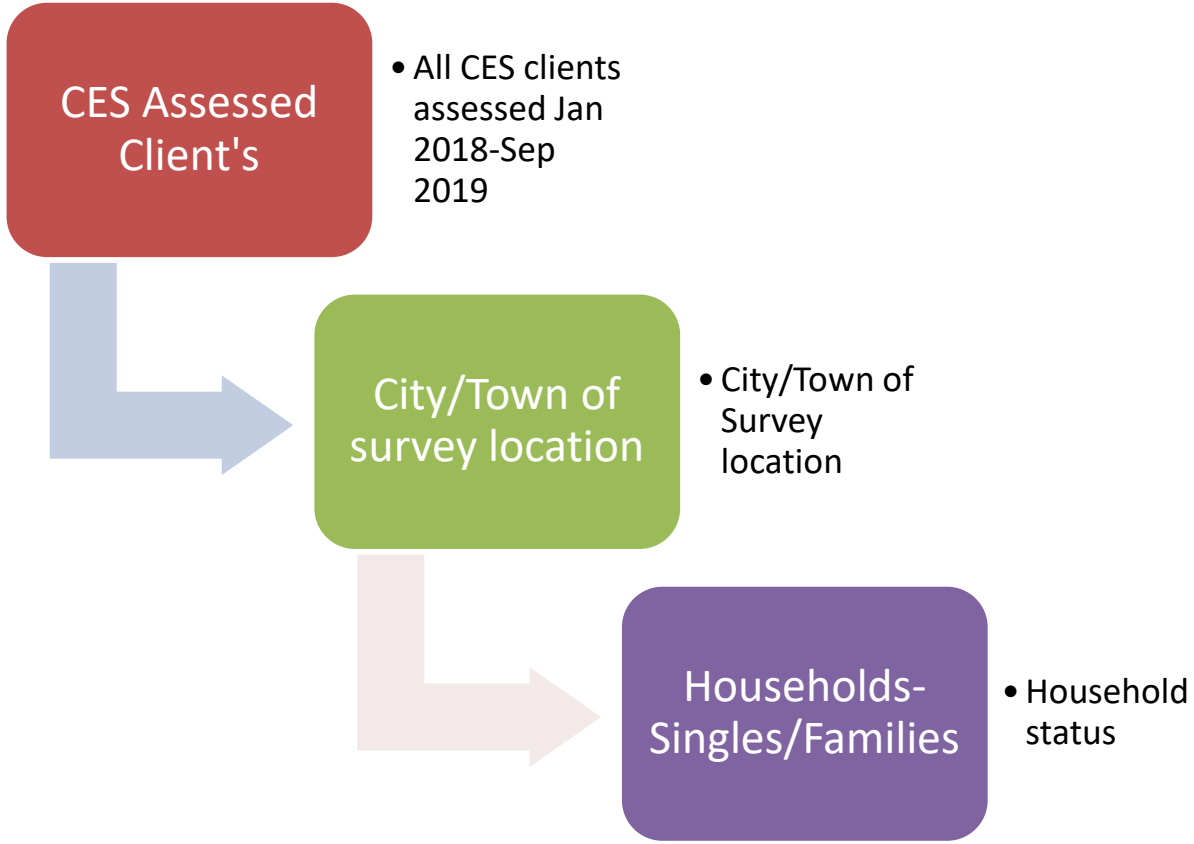
*The Coordinated Entry System is a, no-wrong door, countywide system that* ***engages and connects individuals and families experiencing homelessness to the optimal resources*** *for their needs. We believe that everyone deserves a safe place to call home for good.*

*The partners listed are the local Coordinated Entry System.*

***AmeriCorps Partnership***
*Carp Connect*
***City Net***
*City of Santa Barbara*
*Cottage Hospital*
***Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley***
*Freedom Warming Centers*
***Good Samaritan Shelter***
*Housing Authority County of Santa Barbara*
*Housing Authority of City of Santa Barbara*
*Isla Vista Community Service District*
*Mental Wellness Center*
***New Beginnings Counseling Center***
***PATH –Santa Barbara***
*PathPoint*
***Salvation Army Transition & Recovery Center***
*Sanctuary Psychiatric Centers*
*Santa Barbara Community Housing Corporation*
***Santa Barbara County Behavioral Wellness***
*Santa Barbara County Probation*
*Santa Barbara County Public Defender*
*Santa Barbara County Public Health*
*Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department*
***Santa Barbara County Social Services***
***Santa Ynez Valley People Helping People***
*Showers of Blessing*
***United Way Home for Good Santa Barbara County***
***WillBridge of Santa Barbara***
*Youth and Family Services – Channel Island YMCA*

**Agencies in bold complete assessments with persons experiencing homelessness*

# Overview of Assessed Clients



# Santa Maria Orcutt

INDIVIDUALS

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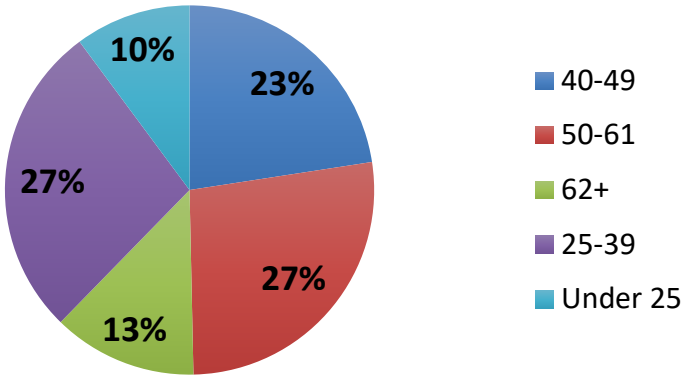
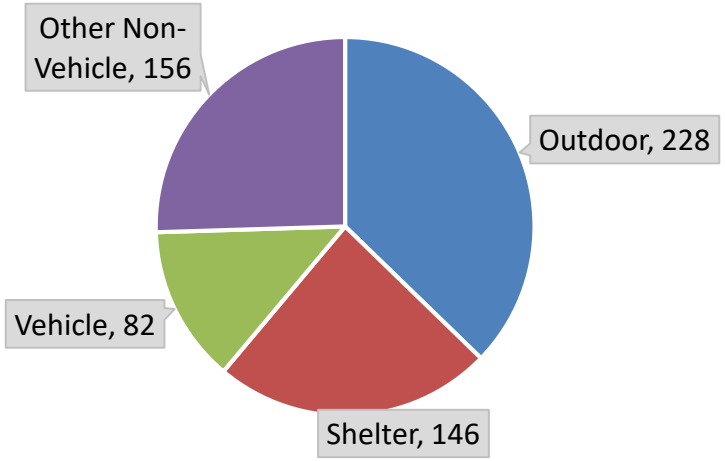
# Demographics from CES/HMIS

**Age Distribution**




**Sleeping Location**




**456 clients assessed by CES**

**45 years**
Average age

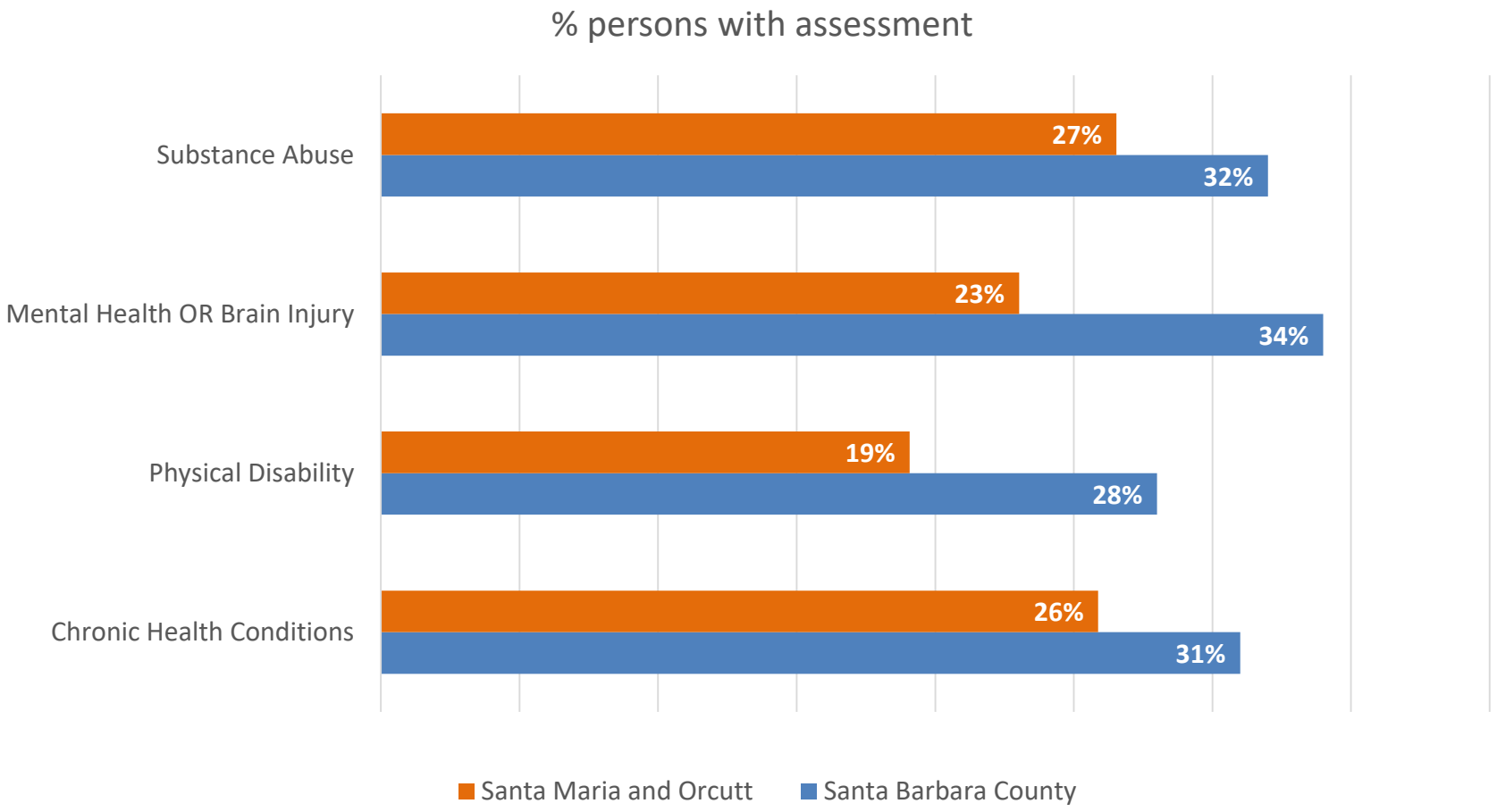
**39 months**
Average Length of Time Homeless

**42 Veterans**

**40%** state that emotional, physical or sexual trauma caused their **current** episode of homelessness

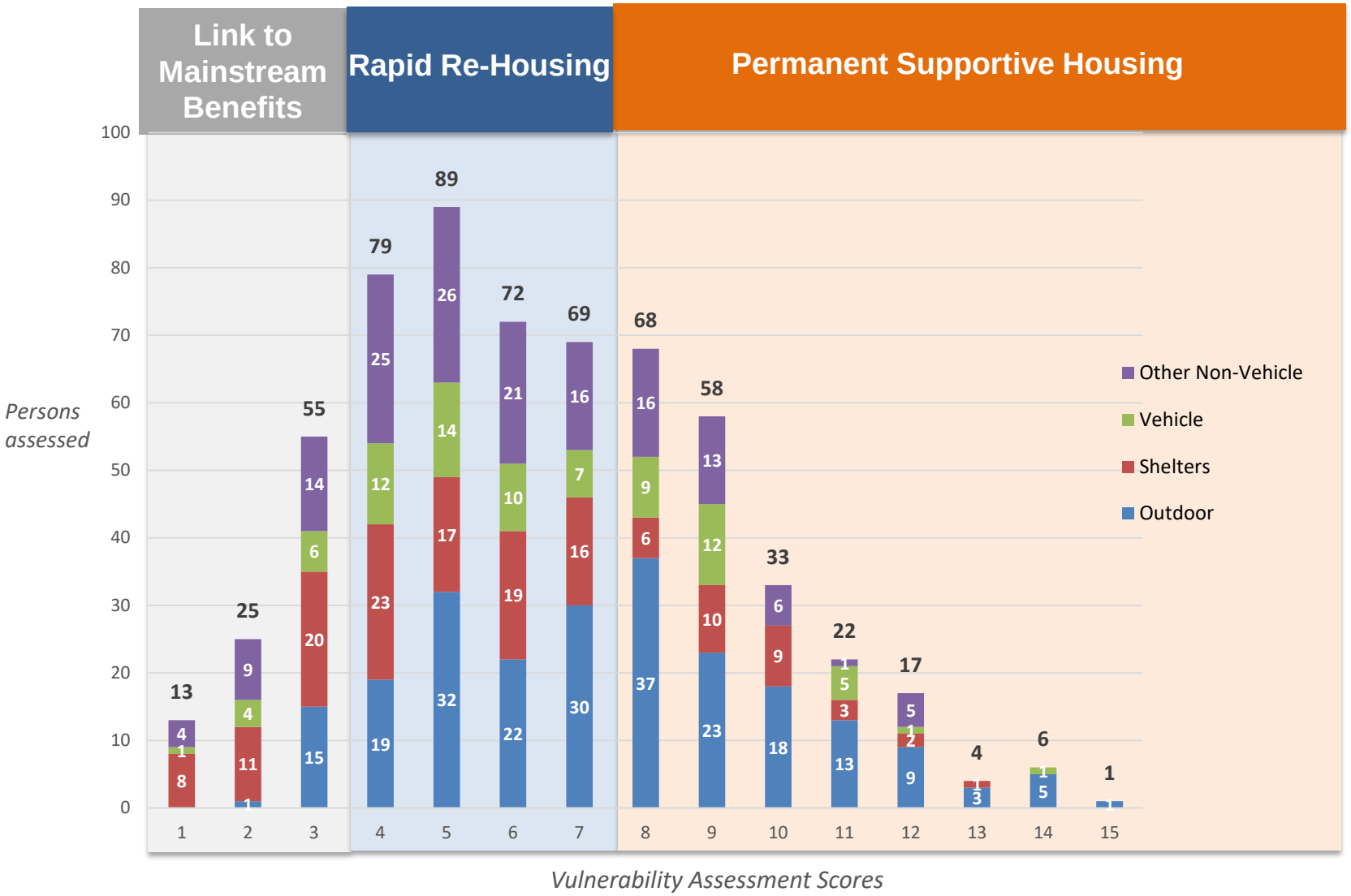
**49%** experiencing chronic homelessness

# Disabling Conditions




*Santa Maria/Orcutt Individuals*

# Housing Intervention Needs




***Current Status: 122 Individuals have been Housed***

# Santa Maria

FAMILIES

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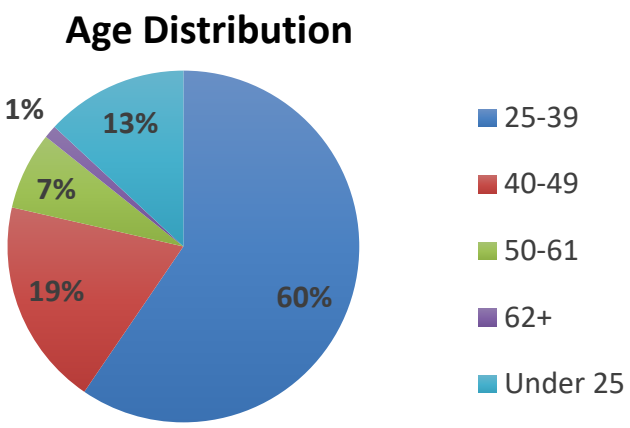
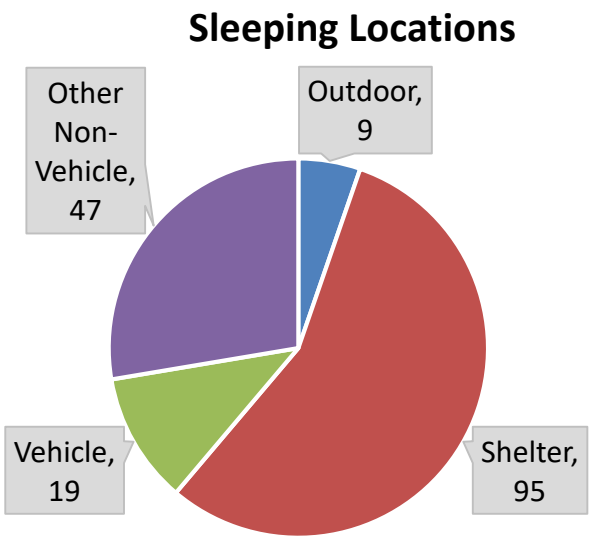
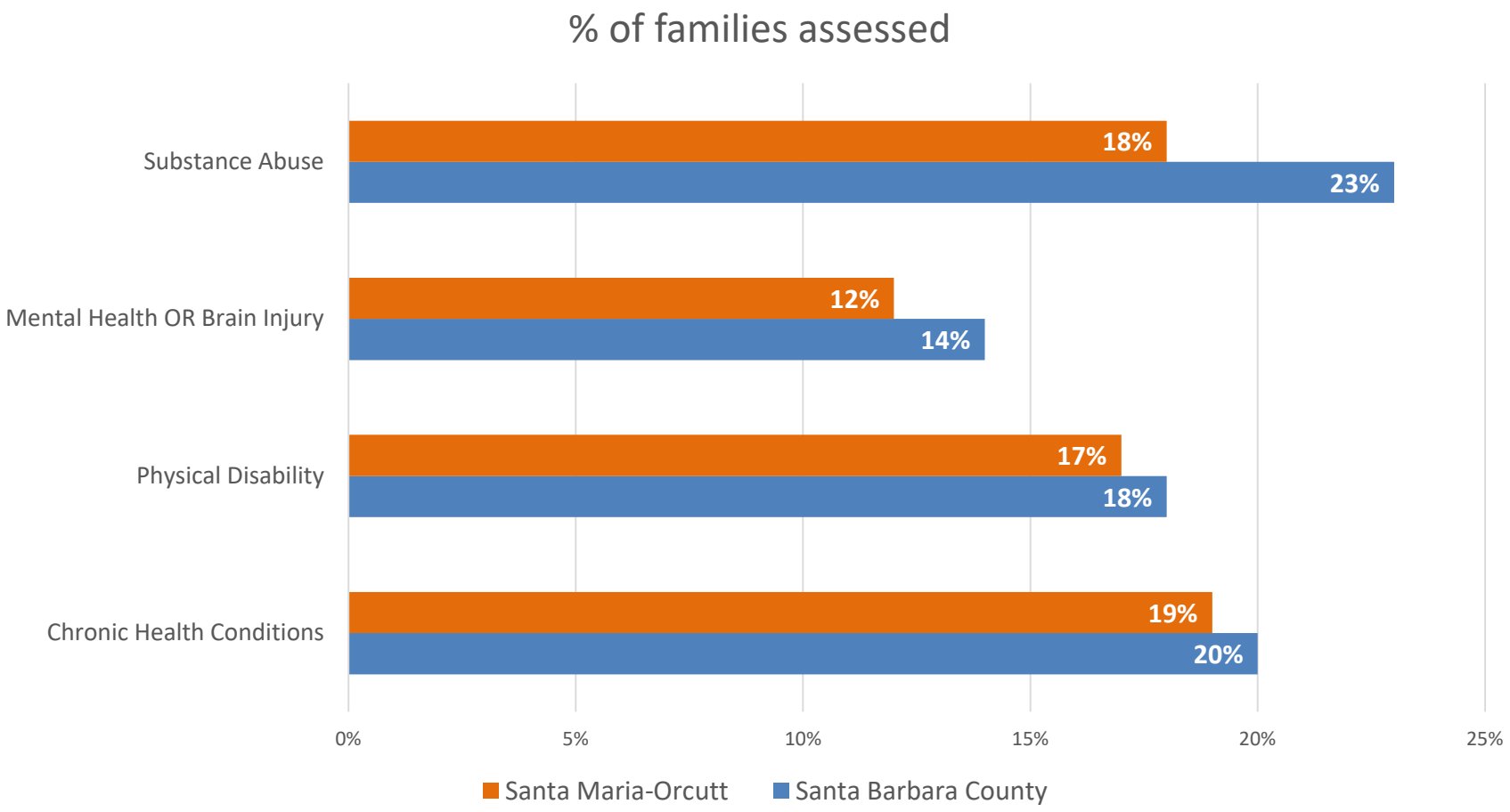
# Demographics from CES/HMIS



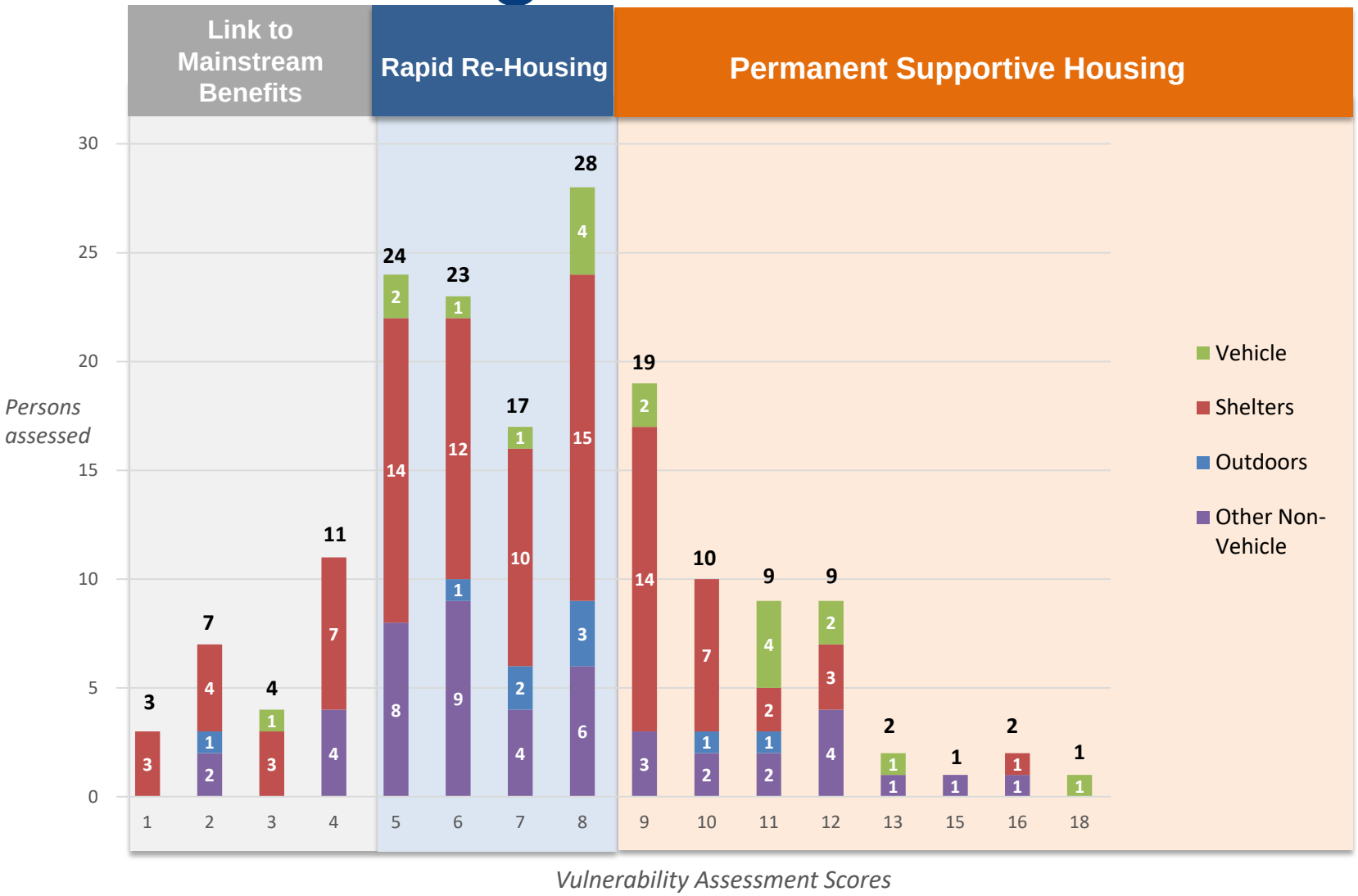

| 170 families total assessed by CES |
|---|
| **34 years**<br>Average age |
| **19 months**<br>Average Length of Time Homeless |
| **11 Veteran Head of households** |
| **46%** state that emotional, physical or sexual trauma caused their **current** episode of homelessness |
| **41%** experiencing chronic homelessness |

# Disabling Conditions




*Santa Maria Families*

# Housing Intervention Needs

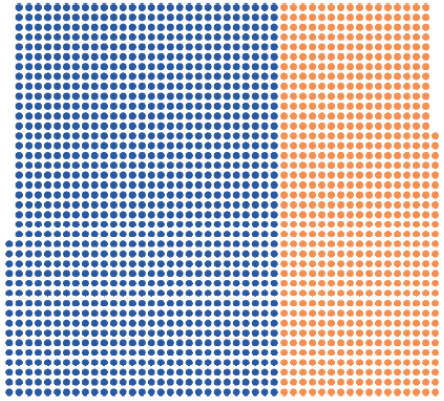



***Current Status: 75 families have been Housed***

# Who is Experiencing Homelessness in Our Community?

## TOTAL COUNT OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

**1,803**
TOTAL



**63%**
UNSHELTERED
(N=1,133)

**37%**
SHELTERED
(N=670)

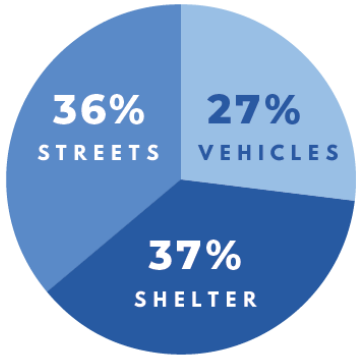
FIRST TIME HOMELESS
N=818

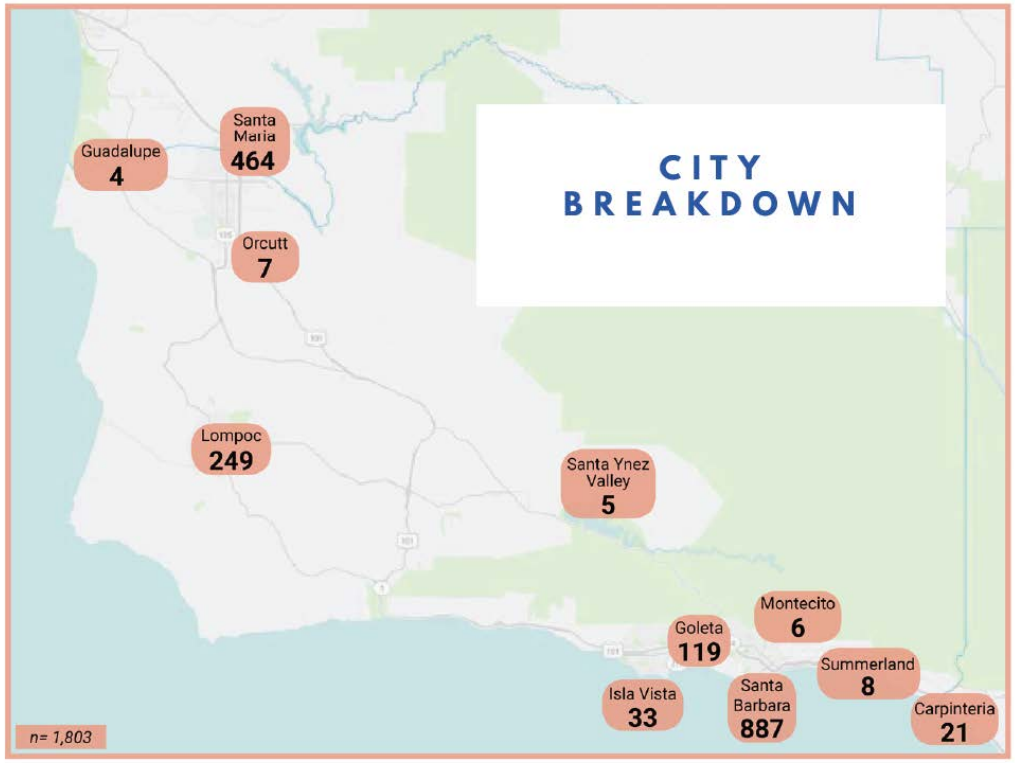
**49%**
YES

**50%**
NO

**1%**
DON'T KNOW/ REFUSED

## SLEEPING LOCATION ON NIGHT OF COUNT



# What is Happening Now?

## Quick overview of current homeless programs and activities

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Phase II Planning

# Introductions: LeSar Development Consultants

# Purpose of Meeting and Importance of Regional Solutions

- Review Phase 1 Plan and update
- Purpose of Phase 2 Plan and process
- Gather feedback and input on Phase 2 priorities, strategies, and goals

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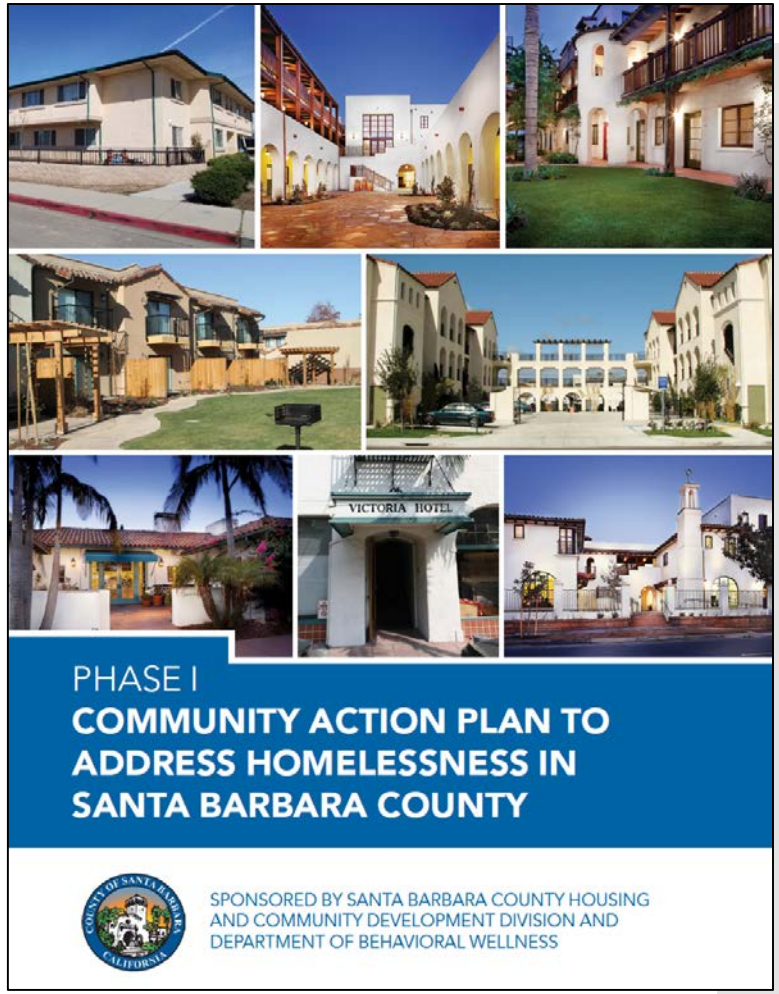
# Review of Phase 1 Plan

- Data on individuals and families experiencing homelessness
- Overview of the current services system
- Description of barriers and challenges
- Strategies and actions to address unmet needs
- Next steps including creation of Phase 2 plan

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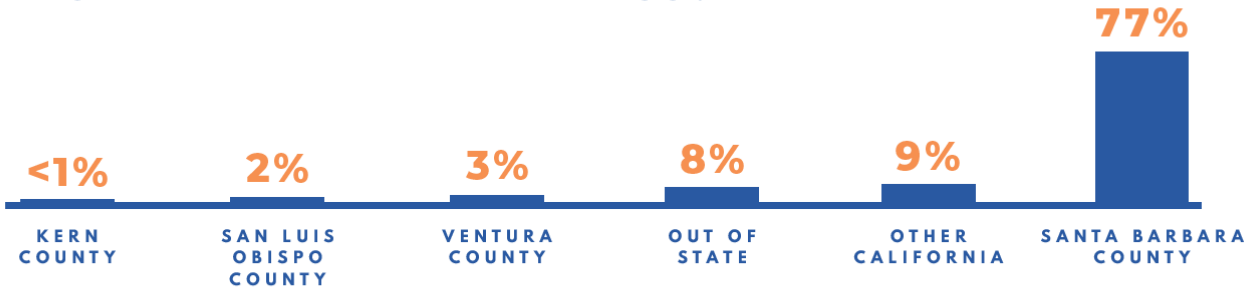
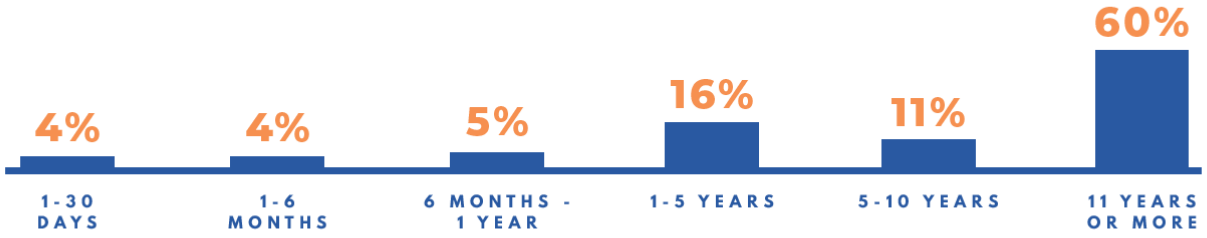
# Extent of Homelessness in County

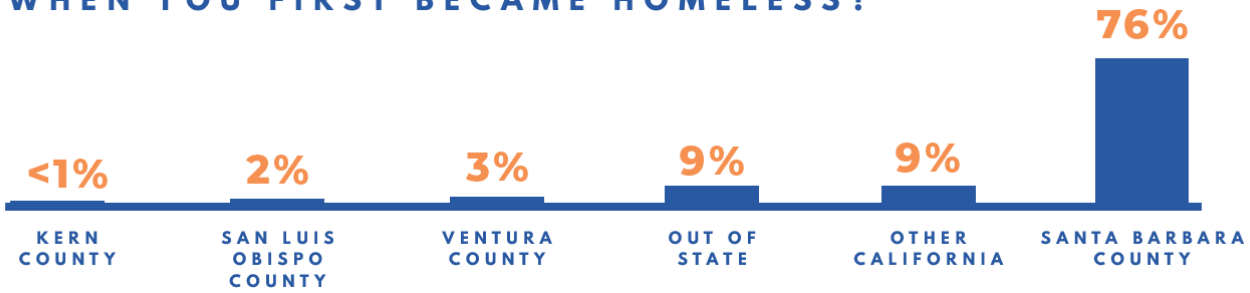
## LOCALISM: WHERE WAS YOUR MOST RECENT PERMANENT ADDRESS?




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



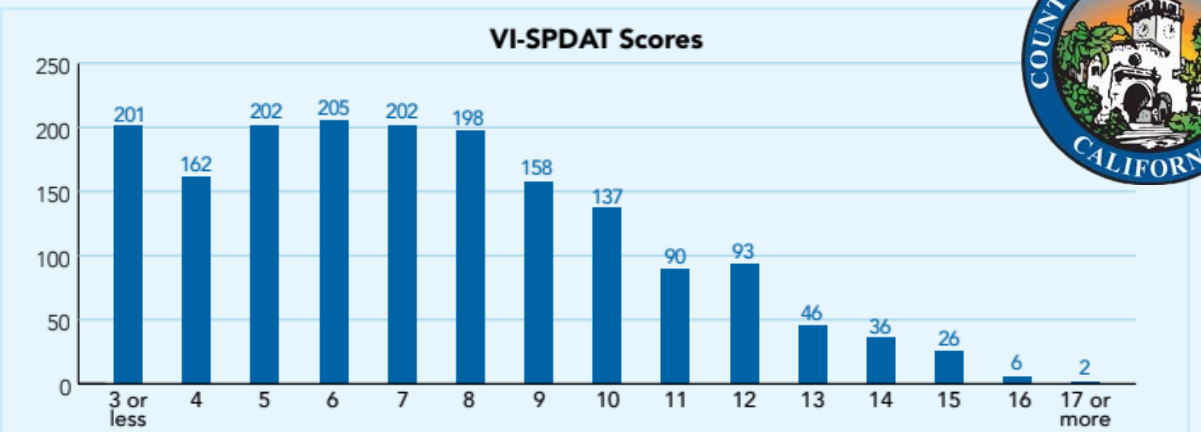

## LOCALISM: WHERE WERE YOU LIVING WHEN YOU FIRST BECAME HOMELESS?



# Data, Gaps, and Needs

## Demand

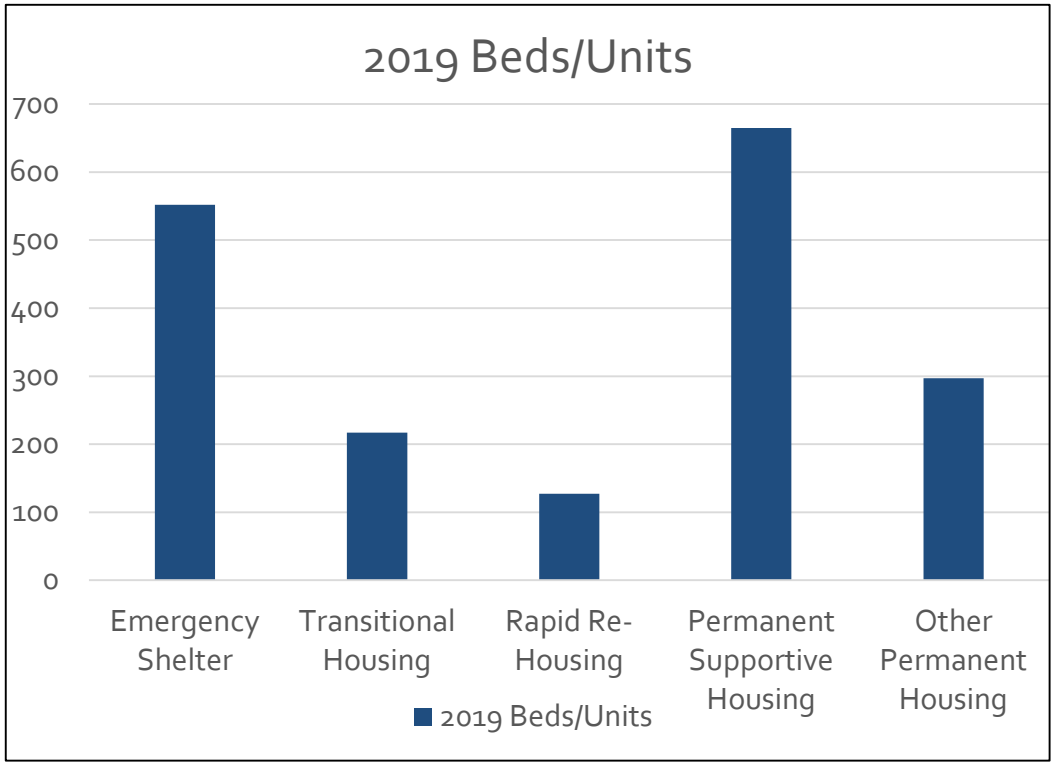
Assessment data through the Coordinated Entry System highlights how many people currently need assistance by intensity. Data is not reflective of all people experiencing homelessness.



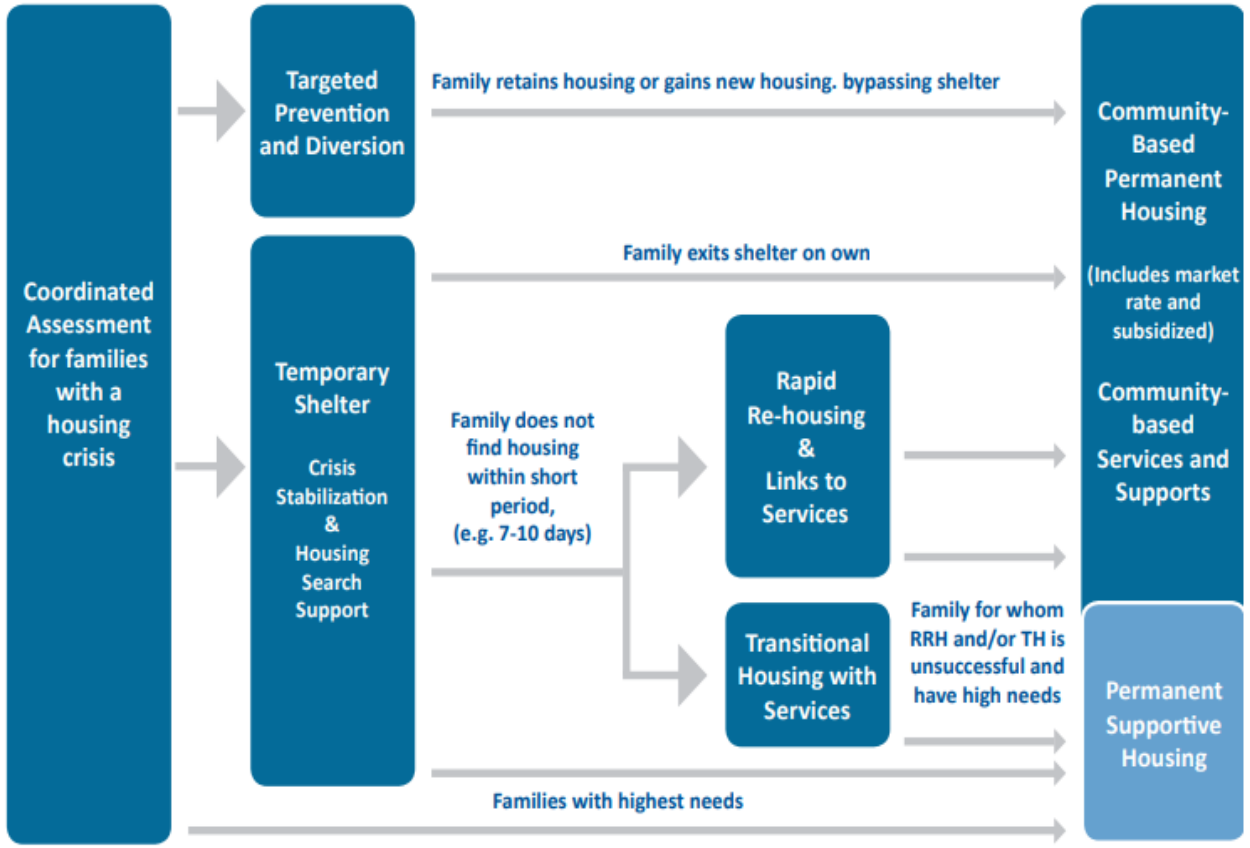

This chart shows the number of people who received each score on the Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). Scores of 8 or higher are associated with acute vulnerability that indicates that a consumer would benefit from being prioritized for Permanent Supportive Housing.

## Resources

Important to note that most of the resources are at capacity, interventions such as RRH and PSH voucher need a physical unit in the community, regional differences in resources, and resources may be population specific.



# Homeless Systems




- Homelessness is a crisis and we must respond as such
- Need to have a Housing Focused oriented response system
- Goal is to ensure homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring

# Review of Phase 1 Plan Goals

1. Increase Access to Safe, Affordable Housing
2. Use Best Practices to Deliver Tailored Supportive Services to Meet Individual Needs
3. Build a Collective Action Plan; Improve Data Sharing
4. Strengthen Support System Available to Help Residents Obtain and Maintain Housing
5. Build Provider Capacity to Address the Needs to Specific Populations

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# Phase 1 detail

- **Increase Access to Safe, Affordable Housing**
- Increase supply of affordable housing; Additional housing subsidies; Increase available funding for housing and services; Expand shelter system and create low-barrier options; Build partnerships with landlords and property managers.
- **Use Best Practices**
- Implement Housing First; Engage in Harm Reduction; Provide Trauma-Informed Care; Expand supportive services; Connect people to 'mainstream' services.
- **Build a Collective Action Plan; Improve Data Sharing**
- Craft a collective response; Improve data collection; Implement open HMIS; Improve data sharing with medical and behavioral health care providers.
- **Strengthen Support System Available to Help Residents Obtain and Maintain Housing**
- Improve prevention and diversion; Create flexible funding source administered through CES; Reach out to the hard-to-reach.
- **Build Provider Capacity to Address Needs of Specific Populations**
- Domestic Violence survivors; Families with children; Those living in vehicles; Veterans; Youth; Those with serious mental health needs; Children with serious emotional disturbance.

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# Phase 2 Regional Planning

1. Moving from planning to action
2. County has contracted with LeSar Development Consultants to assist in creating Phase 2 Plan
3. 3 day site visit to gather input from key groups and stakeholders
4. Develop an operational work plan with specific steps, responsible parties, and funding needed

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# Who else are we gathering input from?

- Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Lompoc
- Elected officials
- Service providers
- Law enforcement
- Faith-based communities
- People with lived experience
- Business community
- Public agencies
- Etc.

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# Time for YOUR input!

## Guided Discussion

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# Guiding Questions

- What do you believe are challenges for people with very low incomes to access housing?
- What are challenges for those experiencing homelessness?
- What has been successful?

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# Guiding Questions

- What role do you see a group like this playing in implementing a broad community plan to address homelessness?

- Whose voice is not represented today that you think should be represented?

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# Closing Remarks

1. Summary
2. Next Steps

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# Next steps

- Aggregate and summarize stakeholder input
- Cross-reference with current plan
- Identify opportunities for policy and program updates
- Set community goals

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# New State Funding Update

# New State Funding: PLHA

- **Quick overview of Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) Funding and Update**
  - Increase the supply of housing for households at or below 60% of area median income
  - Increase assistance to affordable owner-occupied workforce housing
  - Assist persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness
  - Facilitate housing affordability, particularly for lower- and moderate-income households
  - Promote projects and programs to meet the local government's unmet share of regional housing needs allocation
  - Ensure geographic equity in the distribution of the funds

- **Your input and questions**

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# New State Funding: HHAP

- **Quick overview of HHAP & Update**
  - One-time block grant established in 2019-20 Budget
  - Provides local jurisdictions with funds to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness challenges
  - Funding available to continuums, cities and counties
  - Requires a demonstration how they have coordinated with other jurisdictions to identify their share of the regional need to address homelessness, and how the requested funds will help meet the jurisdiction's share of that need
  - Mandate that at least 8% of the allocation MUST be used to establish or expand programs to meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness
  - Does not require a crisis shelter declaration to be a direct recipient of HHAP funds
- **Your input and questions**

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Thank You!

# Questions?

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