Alliance for Regional Solutions

Shelter Provided to the Homeless in North San Diego County Bridge Housing Between 07/1/2025 - 06/30/2026

RTFH
SAN DIEGO'S REGIONAL LEADER ON HOMELESSNESS

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Acknowledgements

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Table of Contents

Introduction **1**

Background 1

A. Data Collection 1

B. Data Analysis 1

C. Limitations 1

D. Scope 1

Results 2

A. Location and Length of Service 2

B. Demographic and Prior Living Situation Information 4

1. Information Collected from All Clients 4

C. Income, Non-Cash Benefits, and Employment Situation 21

D. Length of Participation in Shelters 26

E. Destination upon Leaving Shelter 28

F. Clients exiting 2024-2025 and returning in 2025-2026 29

Summary 35

Appendix A – Recommendations 36

Appendix B – Data Tables 37

A. Demographic Characteristics of Clients Sheltered, 2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing 37

B. 2024-2025 North San Diego Bridge Housing Returning Clients 46

References **48**

Introduction

The Alliance for Regional Solutions (ARS) collected client shelter stay data during its 2025-2026 Bridge Housing homeless services in North San Diego County. This report describes the number of clients that were sheltered, the demographic characteristics of these clients, the length of shelter provided to these clients, as well as a brief review of clients served during both the 2024-2025 and the 2025-2026 year.

The ARS commissioned the Regional Task Force on Homelessness (RTFH) to analyze the 2025-2026 Bridge Housing data. The data was entered by Bridge Housing staff into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and extracted for analysis in July 2026.

Background

A. Data Collection

Shelter staff collected information about the residents who stayed in their respective bridge housing shelters. This included client demographics and residential information. The staff members entered the data into Clarity, which is the designated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for the San Diego City and County Continuum of Care region. Data represents ARS bridge housing program entries recorded in Clarity until or before July 1, 2026.

B. Data Analysis

Most of the data manipulation was done using Looker and various HUD reports which generated the final numbers used in this report. Looker is the data analysis tool integrated into Clarity's web-based HMIS. Clarity also has several HUD reports built into its system. All graphs and charts were created using Looker and Microsoft Excel.

C. Limitations

Any time data is collected, there can be errors in the data collection or the data entry process. During collection, data may not be completely collected or it may be recorded erroneously. Another limitation is that most questions primarily rely upon client self-report, which may or may not be truthful. Self-report, however, is often the only method available. Another limitation is the data standards change in 2025, where the Gender field in client profiles was removed and the Sex field was added in each enrollment. Sex was not required to be updated for enrollments existing before October 1, 2025, causing missing data for some of those enrollments, and clients can have multiple sex values reported since that information is collected for every enrollment.

D. Scope

These findings apply only to the persons who used these bridge housing shelter services and not to the homeless population at large in North San Diego County nor to all sheltered clients in San Diego. Whether or not these sheltered clients were similar to those served in other bridge housing in San Diego or to the general homeless population was not examined.

Results

A total of 472 distinct clients were recorded from the seven 2025-2026 North San Diego ARS bridge housing programs. The three largest Alliance North San Diego Bridge Housing programs provided shelter service to 395 clients, which is about 81% of the total number of clients (Operation Hope North County, Catholic Charities - La Posada De Guadalupe, and Interfaith Community Services - Escondido Family Shelter (Table 1)[1].

A. Location and Length of Service

A total of 146 ARS beds were available to temporarily house homeless individuals in the North San Diego area throughout the year (Table 1). Together these beds enabled 47,962 bed-nights to be provided (Bed Nights Available) between the 472 distinct clients. Program utilization (bed-nights used/bed-nights available) ranged from 49% to 97%.

The 472 distinct client stays in the North San Diego Bridge Housing averaged 76 nights (Table 1). Although the number of nights varied from 1 day to 1 year, around 16% were sheltered for 7 to 29 nights (1 week - 1 month) and around 25% of the clients were sheltered for 30 to 89 nights (1-3 months) (Graph 1).

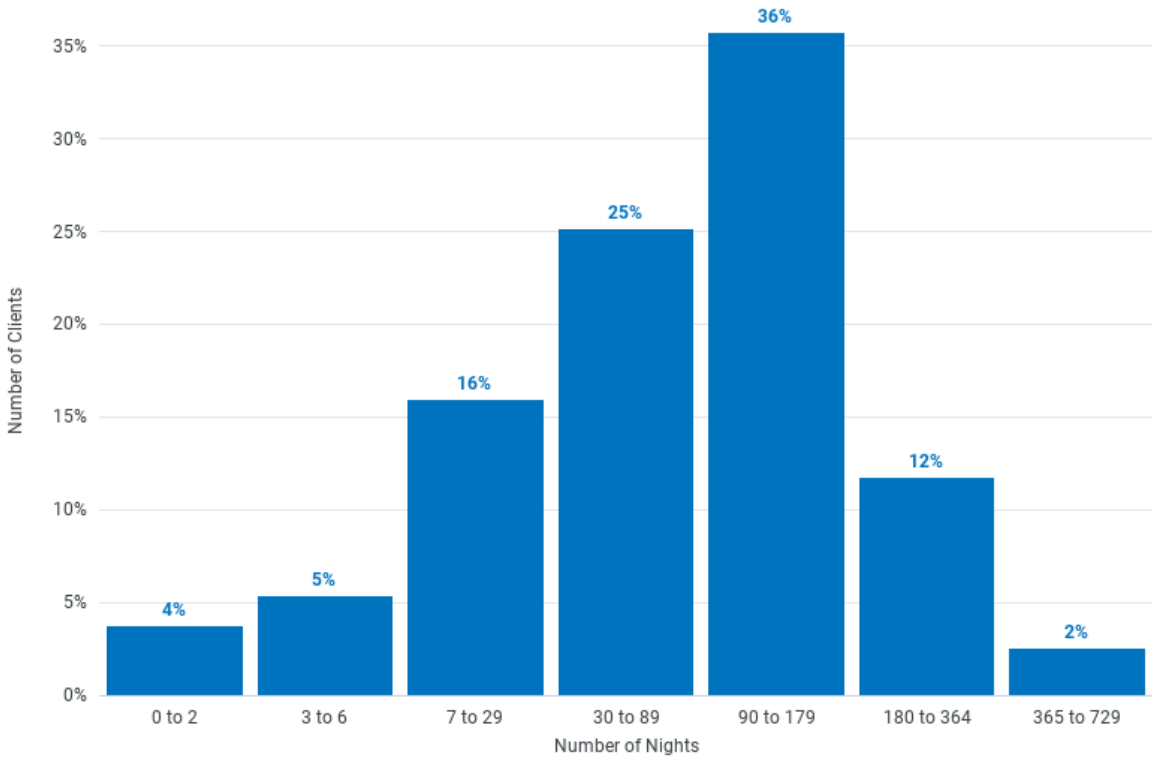
[1] 395 out of a client count of 487 since duplicate clients are served in different programs.

Table 1. Shelter Capacity and Shelter Provided, 2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing

Program Name *Clients served*	Program Capacity			Shelter Provided			
	Number of Beds [1]	Number of Operating Nights [2]	Bed-Nights Available [3]	Bed-Nights Used [4]	Bed-Night Utilization	Enrollments in the programs	Client count [10]
Interfaith Shelter Network-North County Coastal [5] *Men, women and families*	12	93	1,116	544	49%	17	17
Catholic Charities - La Posada De Guadalupe [6] *Men*	50	365	13,579	15,956	87%	147	142
Carlsbad ERF - La Posada De Guadalupe [7] *Men*		365	4,492			60	56
ERF Oceanside - La Posada De Guadalupe [8] *Men*		179	179			3	3
Operation Hope North County *Families and women*	34	365	12,410	9,997	81%	163	162
Interfaith Community Services-Haven House Bridge Housing [9] *Men and women*	10	155	1,550	1,506	97%	16	16
Interfaith Community Services-Escondido Family Shelter *Men, women and families*	40	365	14,600	9,759	67%	91	91
Total	**146**	**1,887**	**47,962**	**37,762**	**79%**	**497**	**472**

[1] Number reported by project staff.
[2] Dates of operation reported by project staff; operating nights were calculated based on what was reported to the RTFH during the 2026 Housing Inventory Count (HIC).
[3] The number of beds multiplied by the number of operating nights.
[4] One person staying one night is a bed-night. It is calculated using the sum of enrollment days in the project for each provider.
[5] Interfaith Shelter Network North County Coastal operated for 93 nights, from December 28, 2025 to March 31, 2026.
[6] Catholic Charities shared 50 La Posada beds with Carlsbad ERF and ERF Oceanside. Catholic Charities La Posada operated for 365 nights, with a minimum of 34 beds and maximum of 40 beds.
[7] Carlsbad ERF shared 50 La Posada beds with Catholic Charities and ERF Oceanside. Carlsbad ERF La Posada operated for 365 nights, with a minimum of 9 beds and maximum of 15 beds.
[8] ERF Oceanside shared 50 La Posada beds with Catholic Charities and Carlsbad ERF. ERF Oceanside operated for 179 nights with 1 bed.
[9] Interfaith Community Services Haven House operated for 155 nights, from July 1, 2025 to December 3, 2025.
[10] Total distinct client count of 472 does not add up to the listed provider's client count of 487 since duplicate clients are served in different programs.

Graph 1
Number of Nights of Shelter per Client per Stay,
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=472 Clients)



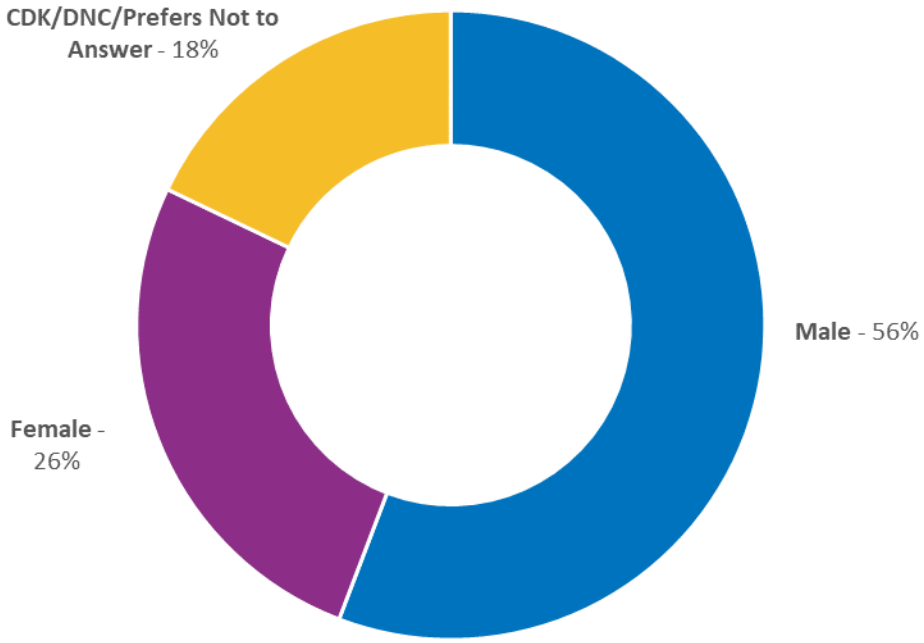
B. Demographic and Prior Living Situation Information

Demographic and prior living situation information for the clients served are presented below. The data was collected on adults and children, unless the description explicitly states otherwise.

1. Information Collected from All Clients

As seen in the graphs that follow (Graphs 2 and 3), 56% of sheltered individuals were males, and 31% of all clients were of singularly Hispanic/Latino/e origin. The greatest percentage of sheltered individuals (38%) identified as White, followed by those who identified with Hispanic origin (31%) (Graph 3). Less clients reported as a combination of both White and Hispanic ethnicities (14%) as opposed to singularly Hispanic (31%).

Graph 2
Sex Distribution of Clients Sheltered,
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=472 Clients)[1]



[1] "CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer" stands for "Client doesn't know/Data not collected/Client prefers not to answer".

Graph 3

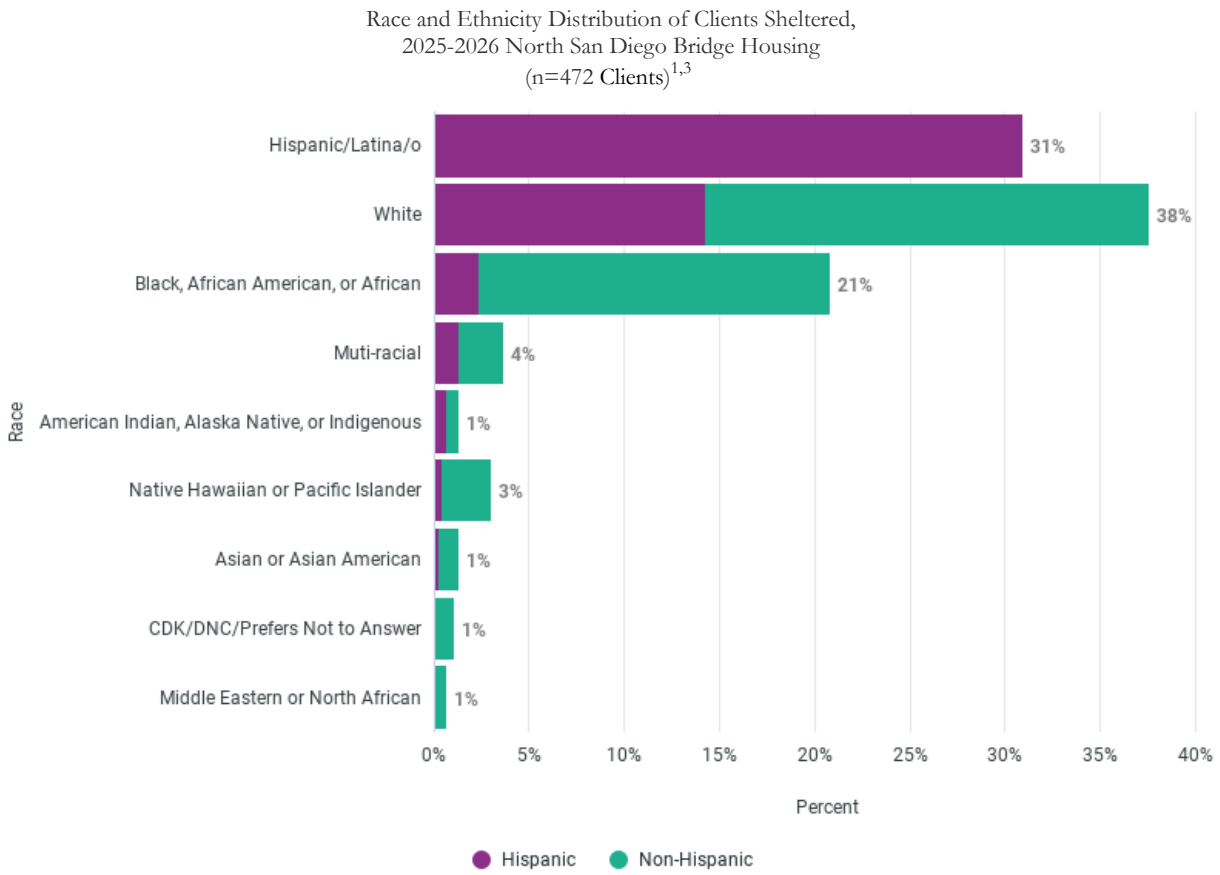


Table 2. Race and Ethnicity distribution of Clients Sheltered

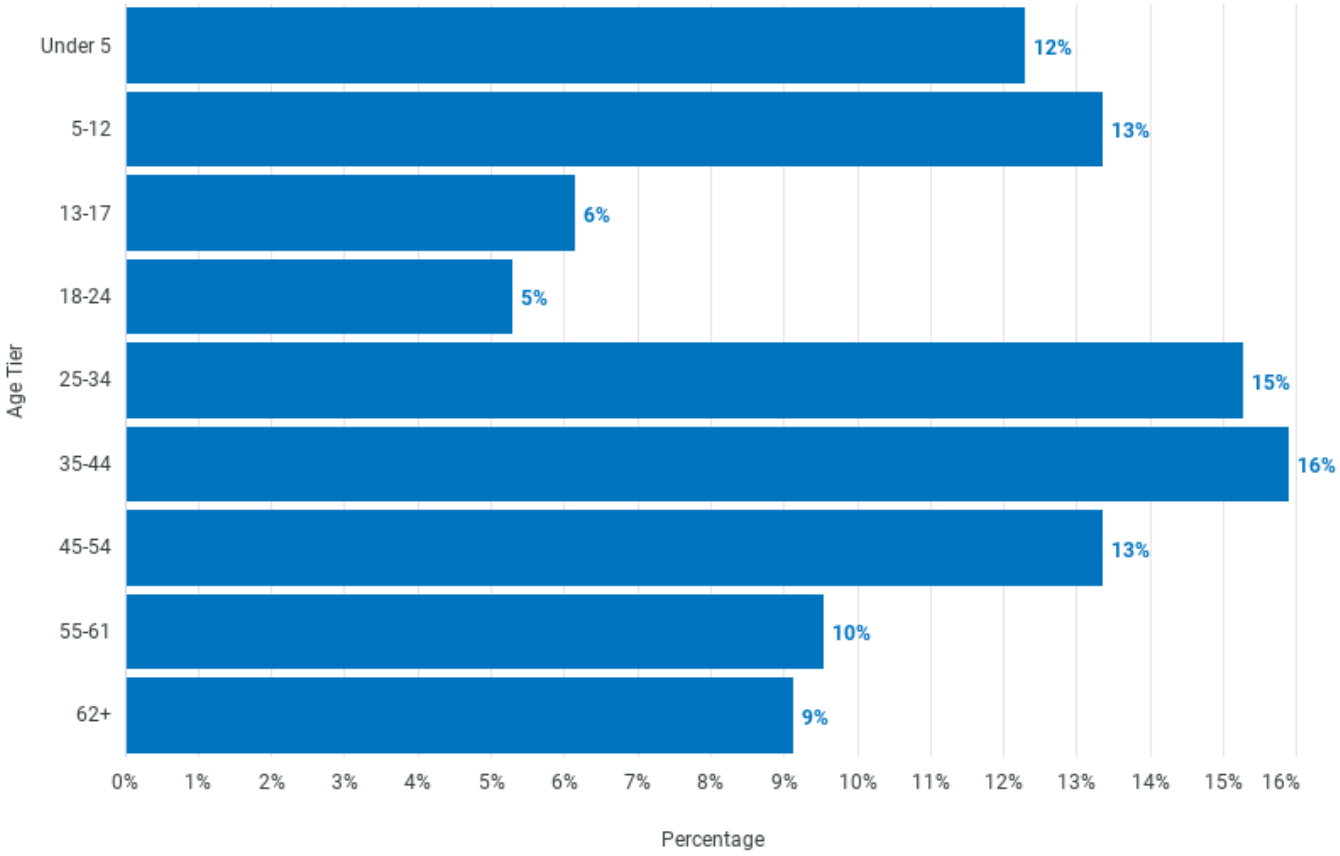
Race distribution of Clients Sheltered		
	Client Percent[2]	
Race and Ethnicity	**Hispanic**	**Non-Hispanic**
White	14%	23%
Hispanic/Latina/e/o	31%	0%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	1%	1%
Multi-Racial	1%	2%
Black, African American, or African	2%	18%
Asian or Asian American	0%	1%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%	3%
Middle Eastern or North African	0%	1%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer[4]	0%	1%
Total	**236**	**236**

[1,2] Percentages were rounded to whole numbers and may not add up to exactly 100%.

[3,4] "CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer" stands for "Client doesn't know/Data not collected/Client prefers not to answer".

Breaking down the age demographics of sheltered clients, 13% were aged between 45-54, 10% fell within the 55-61 age bracket, and 9% were aged 62 and above. Notably, children (those 17 years or younger) constituted about 31% of the clientele, with young kids aged 5-12 representing the largest portion of youth at 13%. This means that a significant 69% of the sheltered clients were adults, ranging from 18 to 62 years and older (Graph 4).

Graph 4
Age Group of Clients Sheltered,
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=472 Clients) [1,2]



[1] Age of the client at the project start.

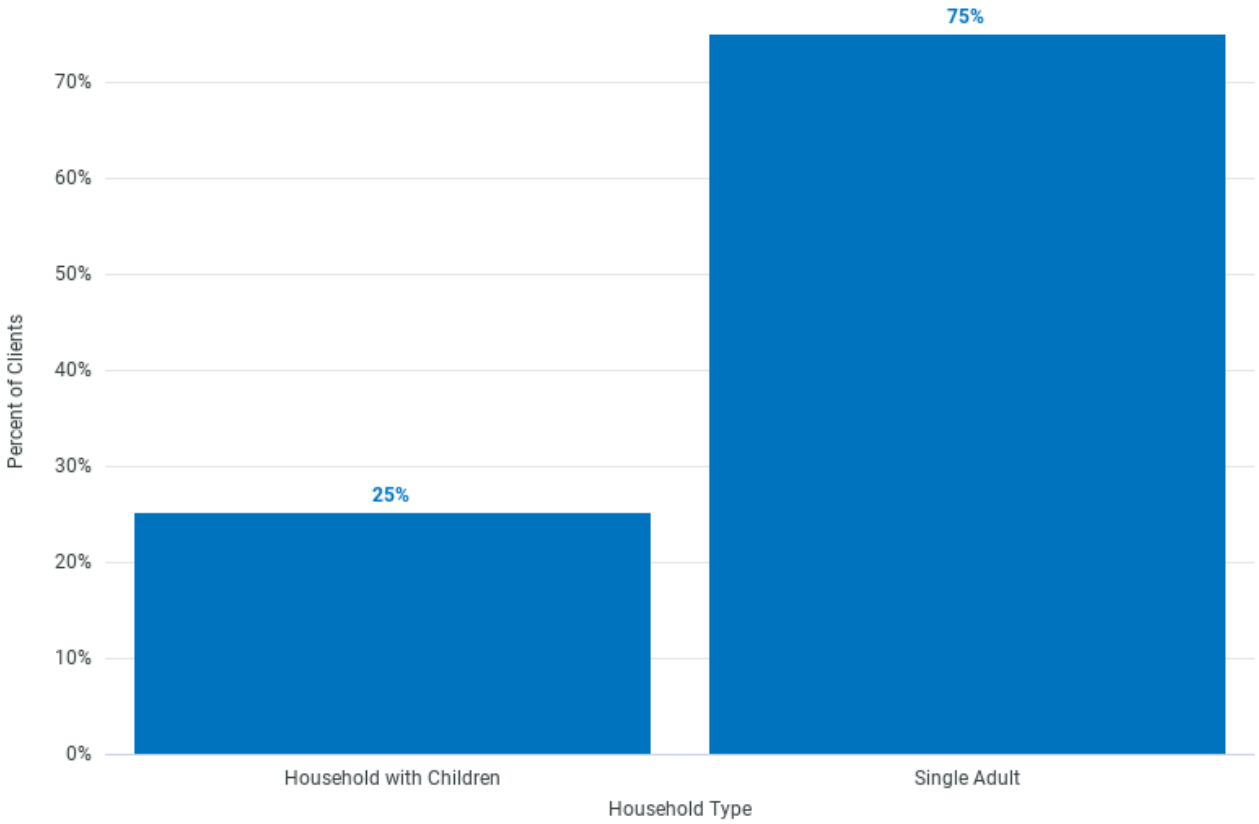
[2] Percentages were rounded to whole numbers and may not add up to exactly 100%.

Analyzing the enrollment patterns, 48% of clients registered as individuals, while the slight majority, 52%, enrolled alongside family members (see Graph 5). When examining the types of households served, 25% are categorized as "Households with children," whereas a significant 75% fall under "Single Adult" households (refer to Graph 6).

Graph 5
Family versus Individual Client Enrollments,
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=472 Clients)



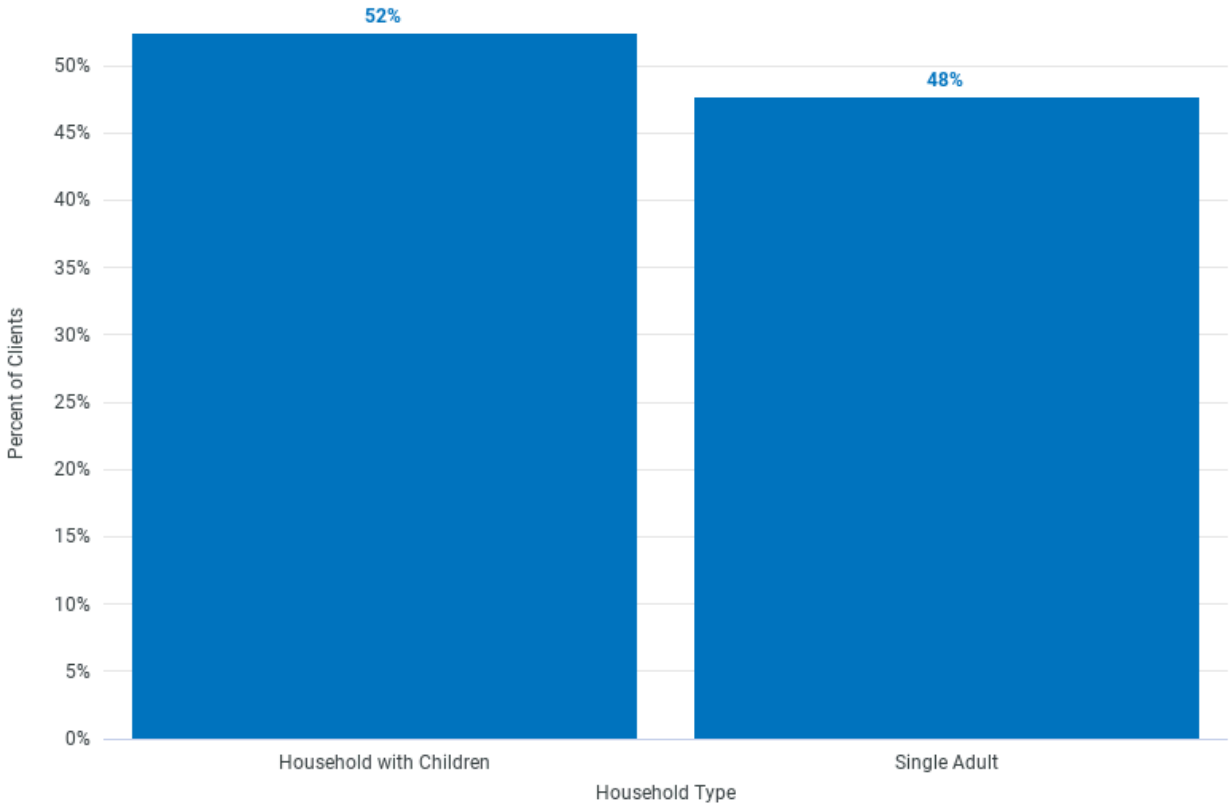
Graph 6
Households Served by Households Type,
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=319 Households)[1]



[1] Total number of households.

Out of the 472 clients, a slight majority of 52% are part of "Households with Children". In contrast, 48% are single adults (illustrated in Graph 7). Delving deeper into the 248 clients from "Households with Children", adults constitute 42%, while children represent a larger portion at 58% (graph 8).

Graph 7
Total Clients Served by Households Type,
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=472 Clients)

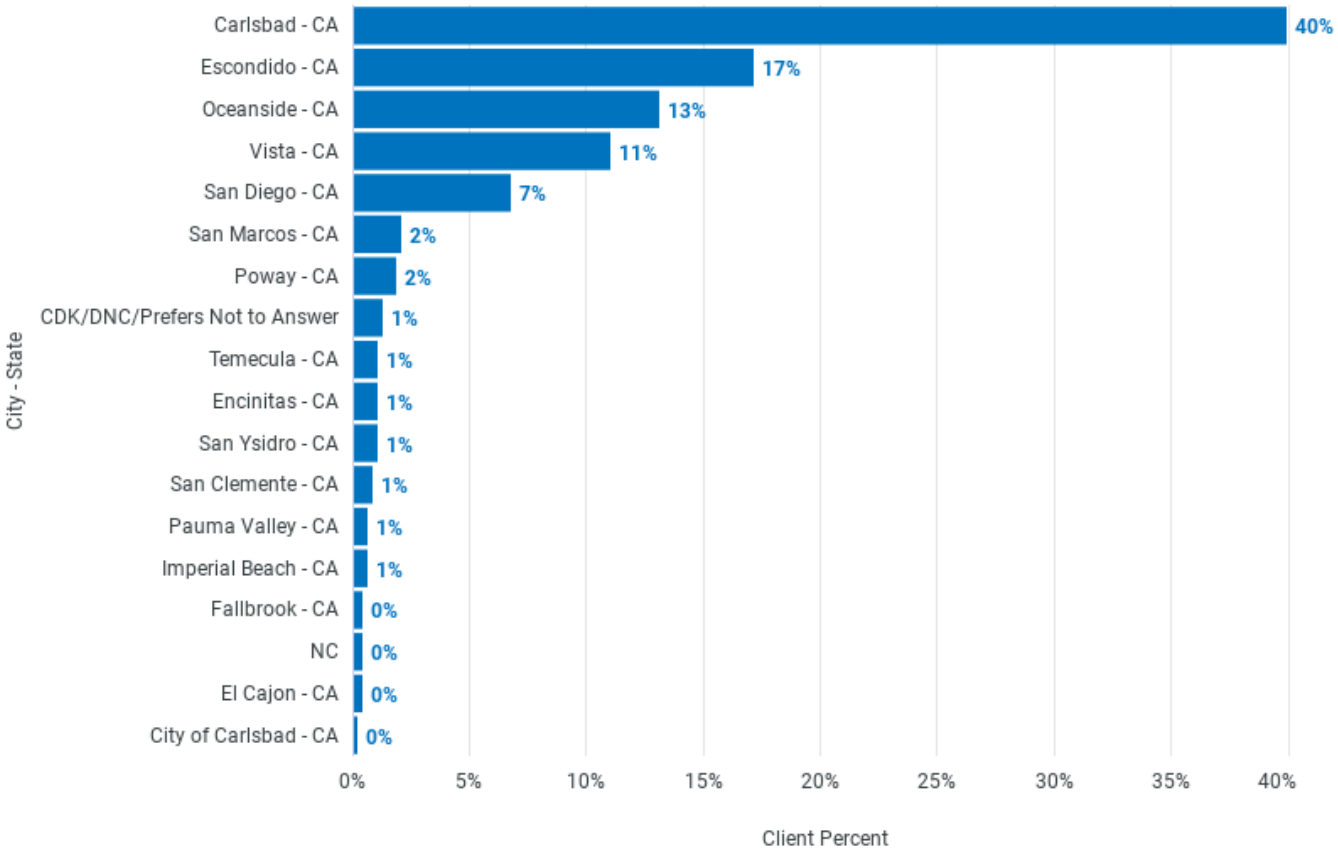


Graph 8
Households with Children and Adults Served
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=248 Clients)



An overwhelming 96% of clients who provided prior location data indicated that they experienced homelessness within San Diego County just before entering the project. Specifically, 84% of these clients pinpointed their location of homelessness to North County San Diego. The primary areas within North County include Carlsbad (40%), Escondido (17%), Oceanside (13%), and Vista (11%) (refer to Graph 9).

Graph 9
Location Immediately Prior to Entry
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=444 Clients)[1,2,3]



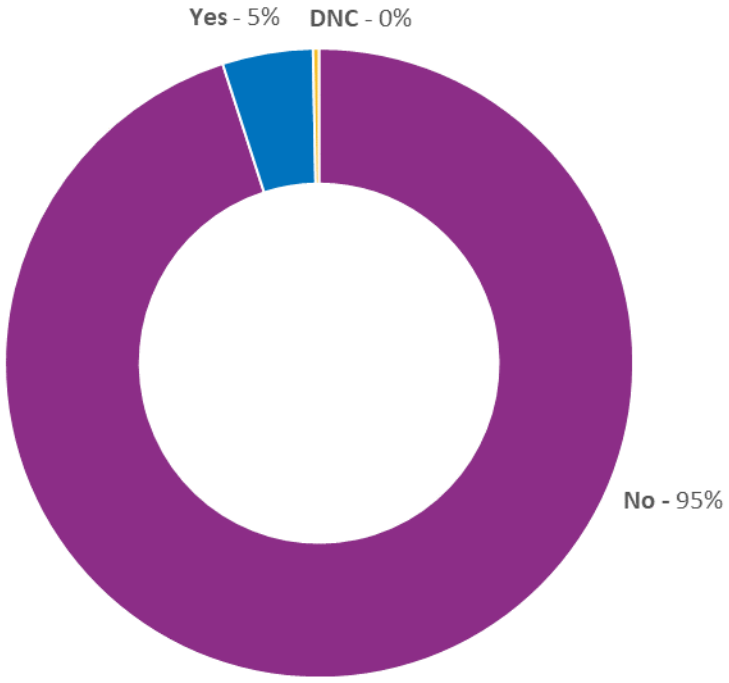
[1] Clients could have more than one enrollment, and therefore more than one location prior to entry.

[2] "CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer" stands for "Client doesn't know/Data not collected/Client prefers not to answer".

[3] Percentages were rounded to whole numbers and may not add up to exactly 100%. Some locations show as 0% because there are less than 1% of clients from that location.

Some demographic details were specifically gathered for adult clients aged 18 and above, totaling 322 individuals. Of these adults, 5% reported a history of military service (refer to Graph 10). A closer look reveals that 93% of these veterans are male, while a notable 60% of all homeless veterans in the reporting cohort are chronically homeless (details in Appendix B, Table 9, 10).

Graph 10
Military History
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=322 Adult Clients)[1, 2,3]



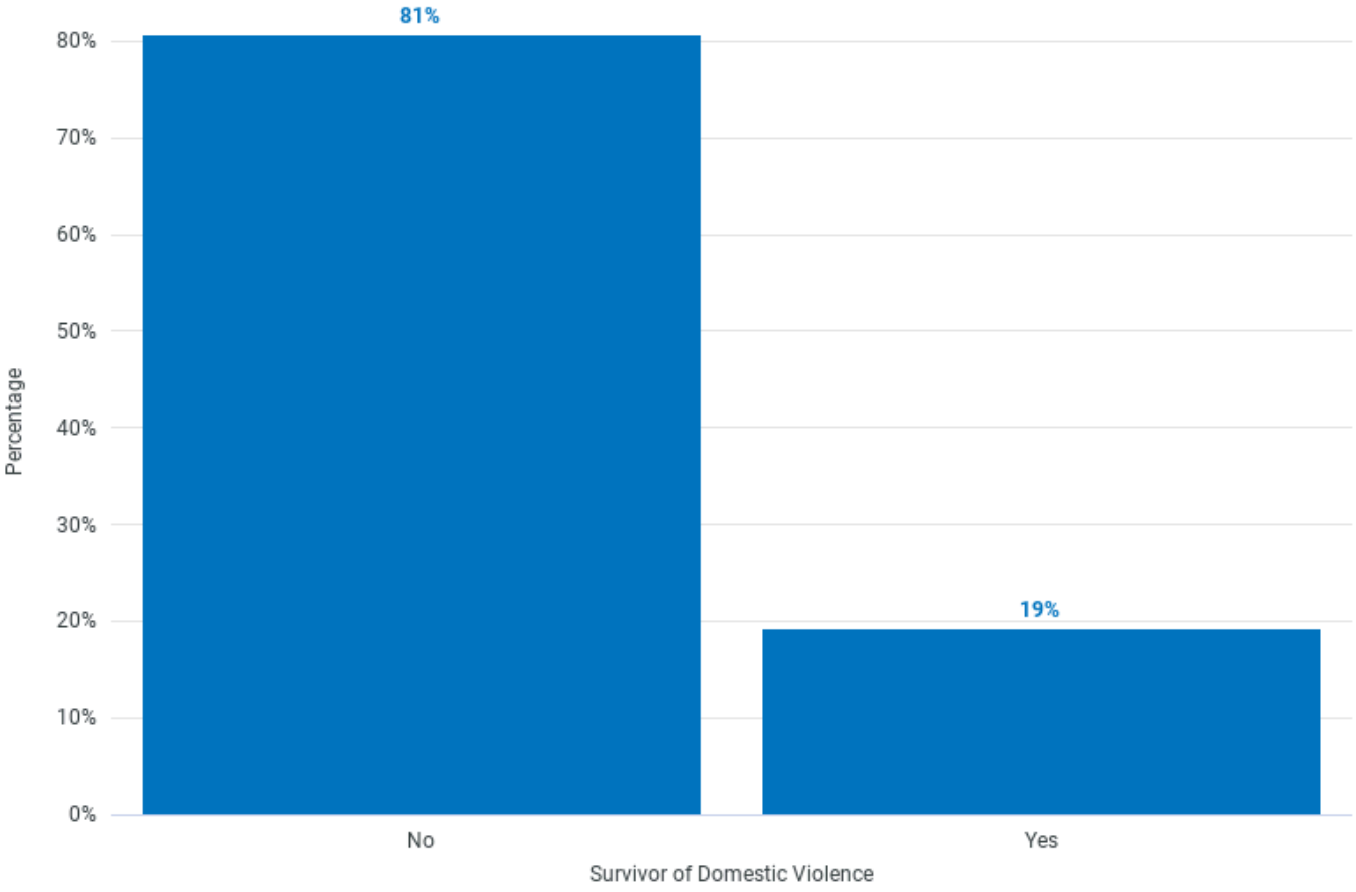
[1] Military history was not collected from all 472 clients because it is only applicable to adult clients.

[2] DNC stands for Data Not Collected.

[3] Percentages were rounded to whole numbers. DNC shows up as 0% because less than 1% of applicable clients had military history data not collected.

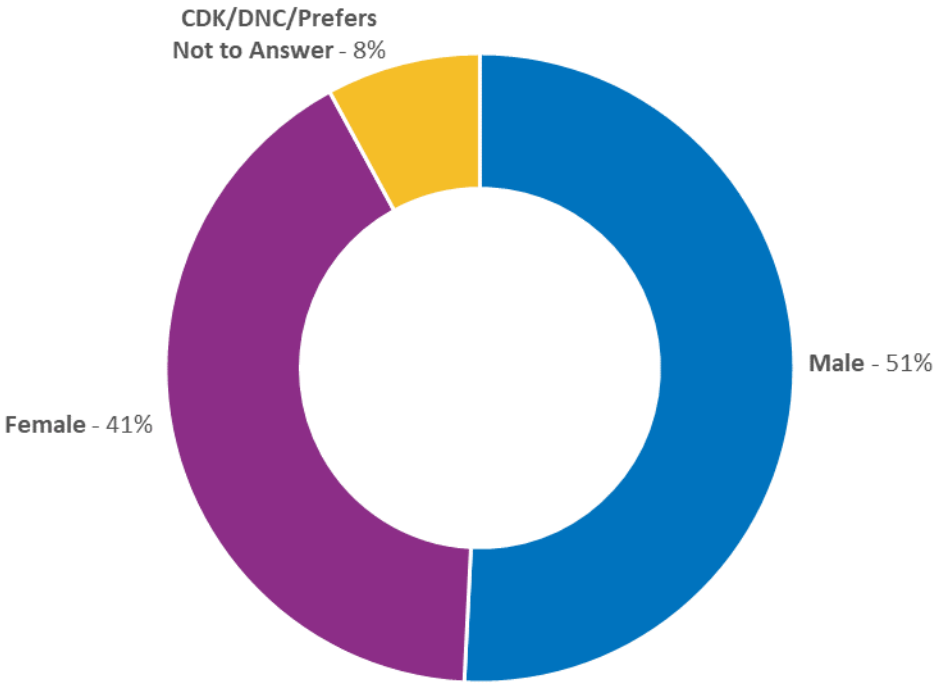
Approximately 19% of adults disclosed a history of domestic violence (refer to Graph 11). Analyzing this by sex, of the 63 victims of domestic violence, 41% identified as female, and 51% as male (see Graph 12).

Graph 11
Domestic Violence Victims
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=322 Adult Clients)[1,2]



[1] History of domestic violence was not collected from all 472 clients because it is only applicable to adult clients.

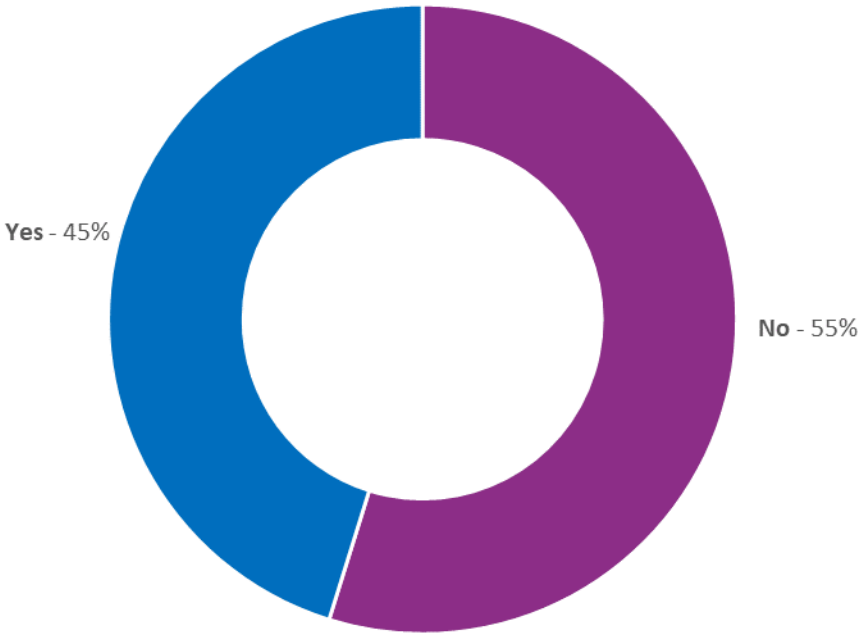
Graph 12
Domestic Violence Victims History by Sex
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=63 Adult Clients)[1]



[1] "CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer" stands for "Client doesn't know/Data not collected/Client prefers not to answer".

Around forty-five percent (45%) of clients indicated they have a disabling condition, whereas 55% stated they do not have such a condition (refer to Graph 13).

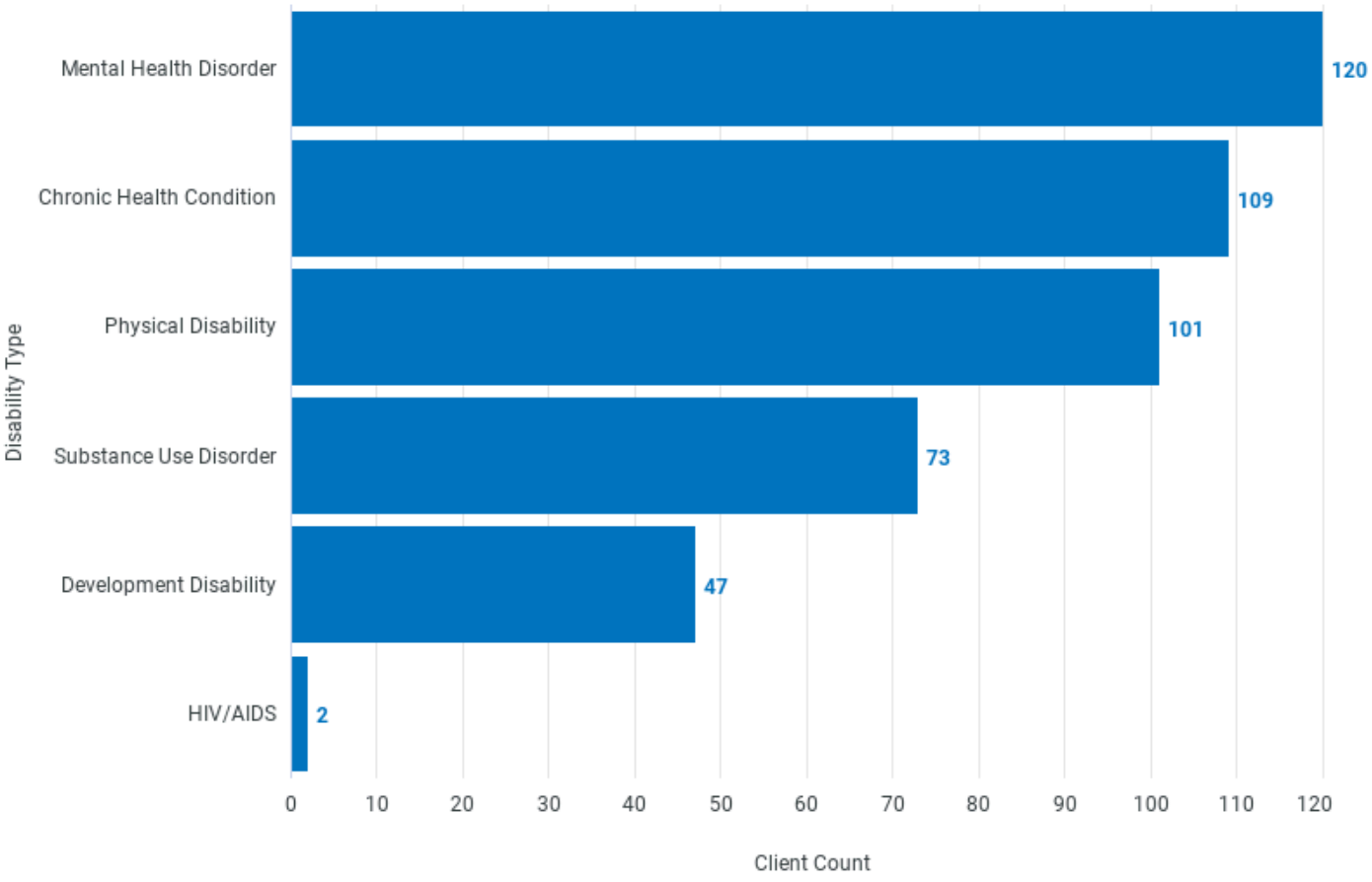
Graph 13
Disabling Condition
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=472 Clients)[1]



[1] Some clients have more than one enrollment throughout the reporting period; hence, there are more than 472 disabling condition responses.

Among the number of disabilities reported by clients, mental health disorders and chronic health conditions were the most commonly reported conditions with 120 and 109 clients, respectively. Physical disabilities were cited 101 times, substance abuse was cited 73 times, and there were 47 affirmations of a developmental disability. A minimal number of 2 clients represented having HIV/AIDS (see Graph 14).

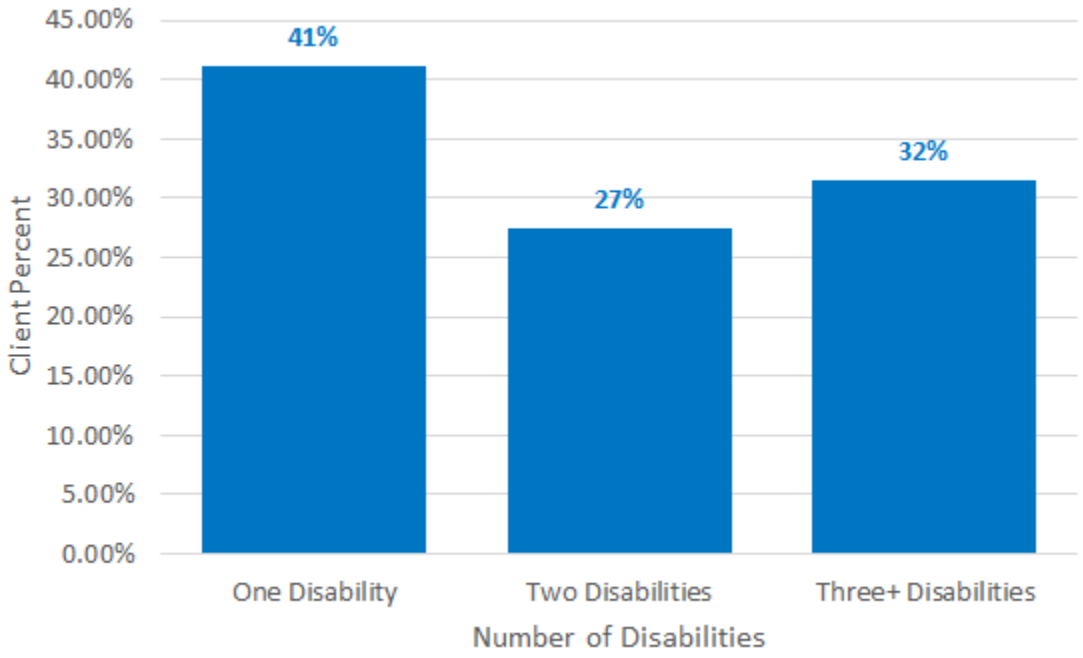
Graph 14
Disability Type
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=219 Clients)[1]



[1] In determining the total number of distinct clients with a disablement, it was found that there are 219 distinct clients. This figure takes into account that certain clients have been diagnosed with multiple conditions. Therefore, the total number of disabilities exceeds the number of unique clients.

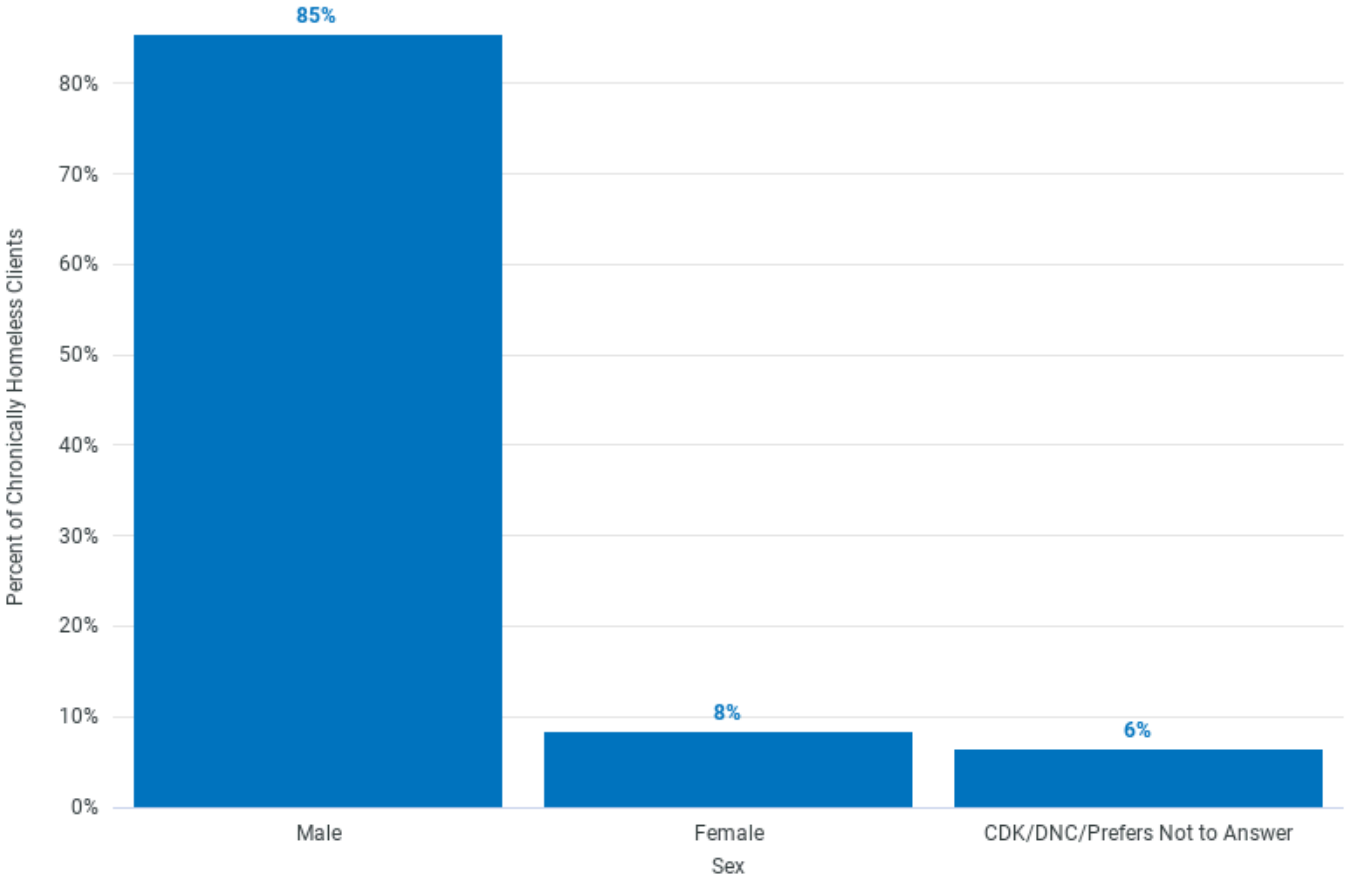
Out of the total clients served, 59% (or 129 clients) reported having two or more co-occurring disabling conditions. Meanwhile, 41% (or 90 clients) indicated they have just one type of disability. Specifically, 27% (or 60 clients) mentioned two co-occurring disabilities, and 32% (or 69 clients) reported three or more types of disabilities. (Refer to Graph 15).

Graph 15
Disabilities by Number
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=219 Clients)



Chronic homelessness is defined by prolonged or recurrent periods of homelessness, typically manifesting as life on the streets, in emergency shelters, or in safe havens, coupled with a persistent disabling condition. In the 2025-2026 operating year, 26% of all clients served were identified as chronically homeless upon their enrollment into an ARS shelter (see Appendix Data Table 20). A sex breakdown reveals that 85% of the chronically homeless adults were male, while 8% were female (refer to Graph 16). The age group 45-54 stood out, with 23% of the chronically homeless clients falling into this category, making it the most represented age bracket (Appendix Data Table 22). At the point of project entry, 65 of these chronically homeless individuals reported mental health issues, 41 indicated substance use disorders, and 58 cited physical disabilities (details in Appendix Data Table 23).

Graph 16
Chronic Homelessness Amongst Clients Sheltered
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=108 Adult Clients)[1,2,3,4]



1 In this analysis, all chronically homeless adults were included without consideration for family status.

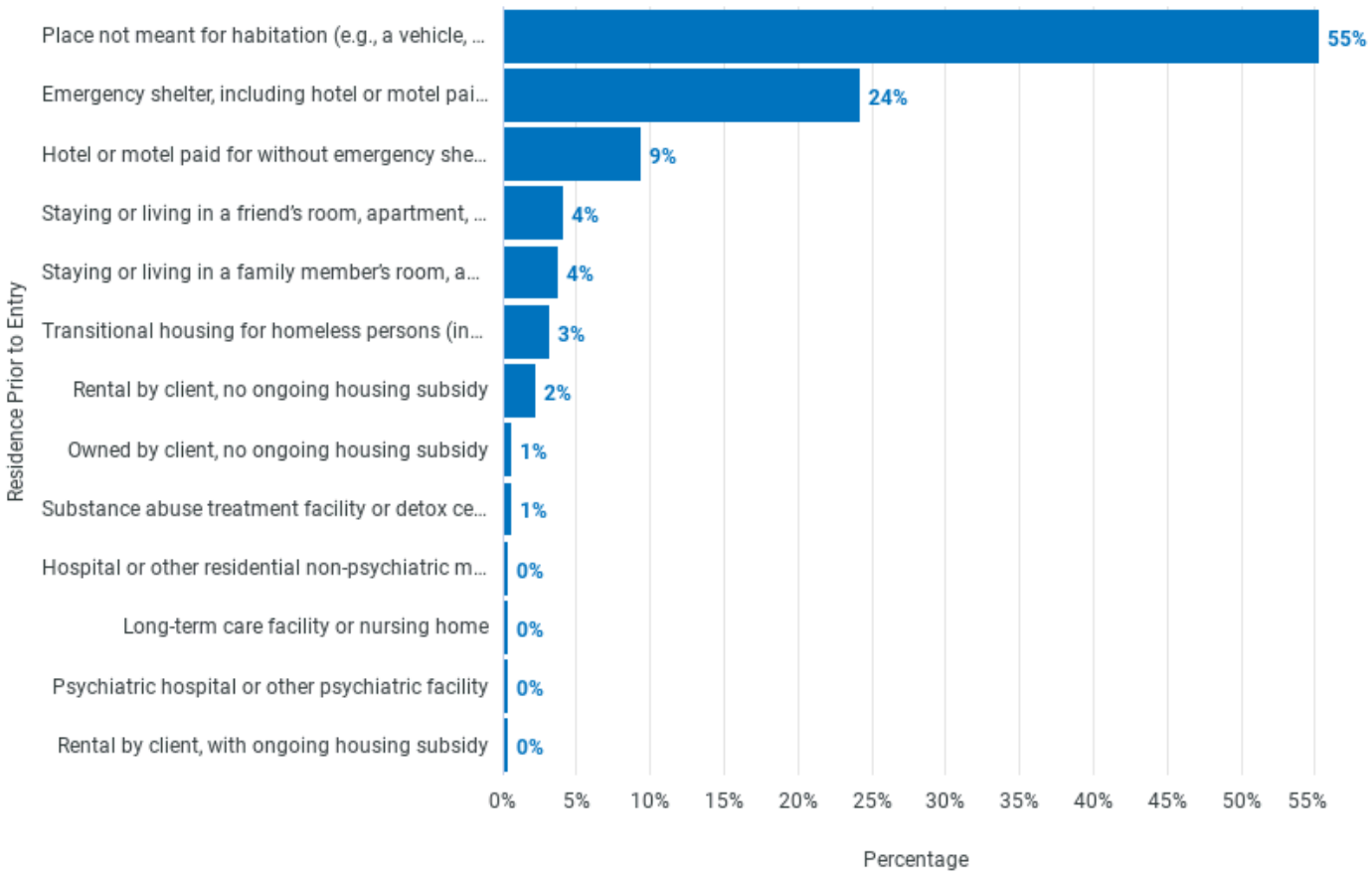
2 Percentages were rounded to whole numbers and may not add up to exactly 100%.

3 "CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer" stands for "Client doesn't know/Data not collected/Client prefers not to answer".

4 HUD Chronic Homelessness Definition: an individual with a disability as defined in section 401(9) of the McKinney-Vento Assistance Act who lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter and has been homeless and living as described for at least a year or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years as long as the combined occasions equal at least 12 months and each break in homelessness separating the occasions included at least 7 consecutive nights of not living as described, or (2) has been residing in an institutional facility for less than 90 days and has met the criteria outlined in (1) before entering that facility, or (3) is a family whose head of household meets all criteria outlined in (1), including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.

Data detailing the living conditions of clients the night prior to their shelter program entry was compiled for adult clients (n=322, see Graph 17). A significant 55% reported their immediate prior living situation as a "place not meant for habitation". This encompasses areas like streets, cars, abandoned buildings, fields, beneath highway overpasses, and other similar locations. Beyond these unconventional dwellings, a predominant number (45%) of clients transitioned to the shelter from unstable or temporary accommodations. This includes emergency shelters, motels or hotels (either funded by an organization or the client themselves), residences of family or friends, or institutional settings. However, self-pay motels aren't considered a homeless situation and may not be eligible for housing subsidy. This shows people most often are on the streets (55%), shelter (24%), or relying on themselves to pay for hotels/motels (9%).

Graph 17
Living Situation Prior to First Shelter Night for Sheltered Adult Clients,
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=322 Adult Clients)[1,2]

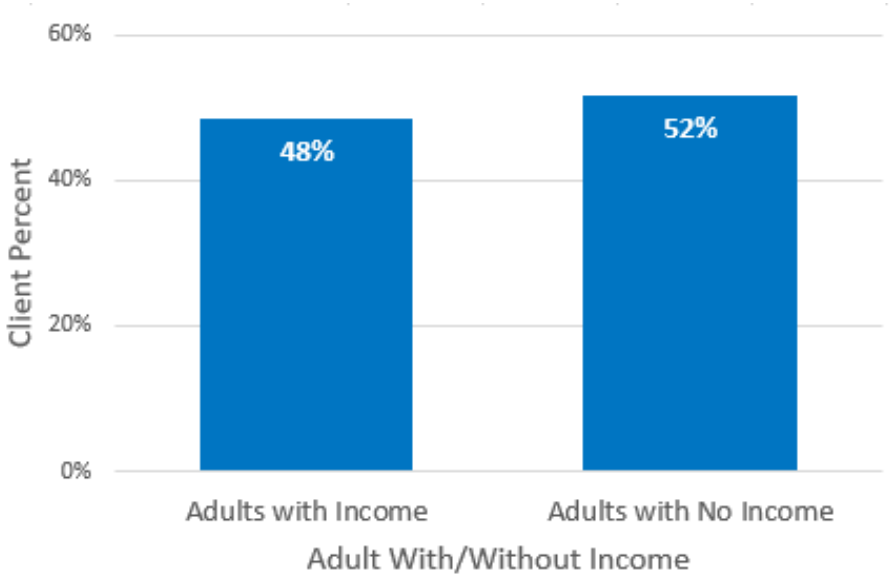


[1] Numbers adjusted for rounding. Some prior living situations show as 0% because there are less than 1% of clients from that prior living situation.
[2] Percentages add up to be greater than 100% because clients could have multiple enrollments with different prior living situations.

C. Income, Non-Cash Benefits, and Employment Situation

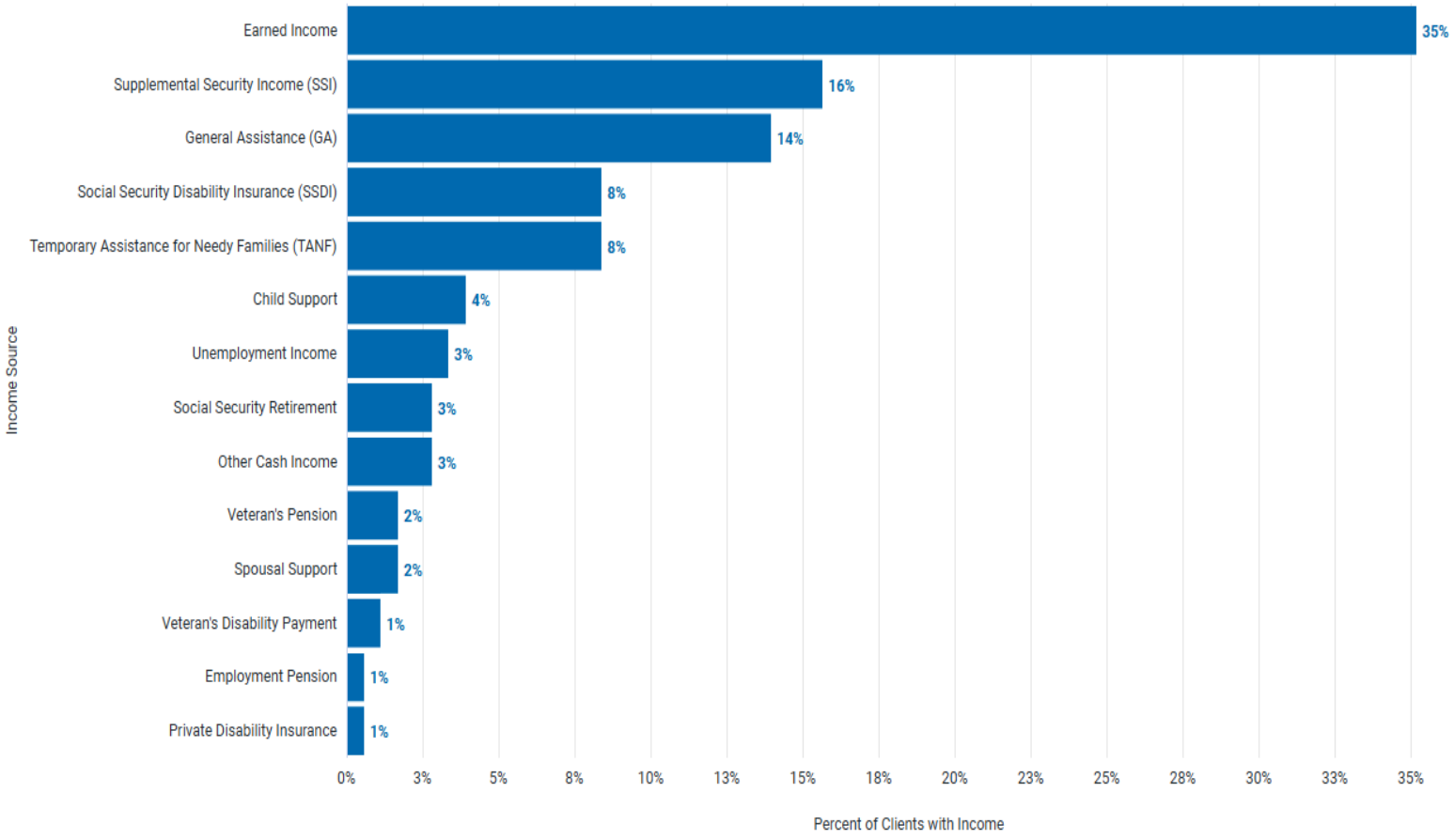
Information about a client's income at project entry was recorded for adult clients served. Only clients who were adults at entry had their income recorded upon entry into the shelter (n=322). Also, 48% of adult clients reported having at least one source of income, and 52% said they did not have any source of income at entry into the shelter (Graph 18).
Of those with a source of income, a large plurality of clients reported receiving earned income from employment (35%), Social Security Income (SSI) (16%), or General Assistance (GA) (14%) (Graph 19).

Graph 18
Income Received for Adult Sheltered Clients
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=322 Adult Clients)[1]



[1] Percentages were rounded to whole numbers and may not add up to exactly 100%.

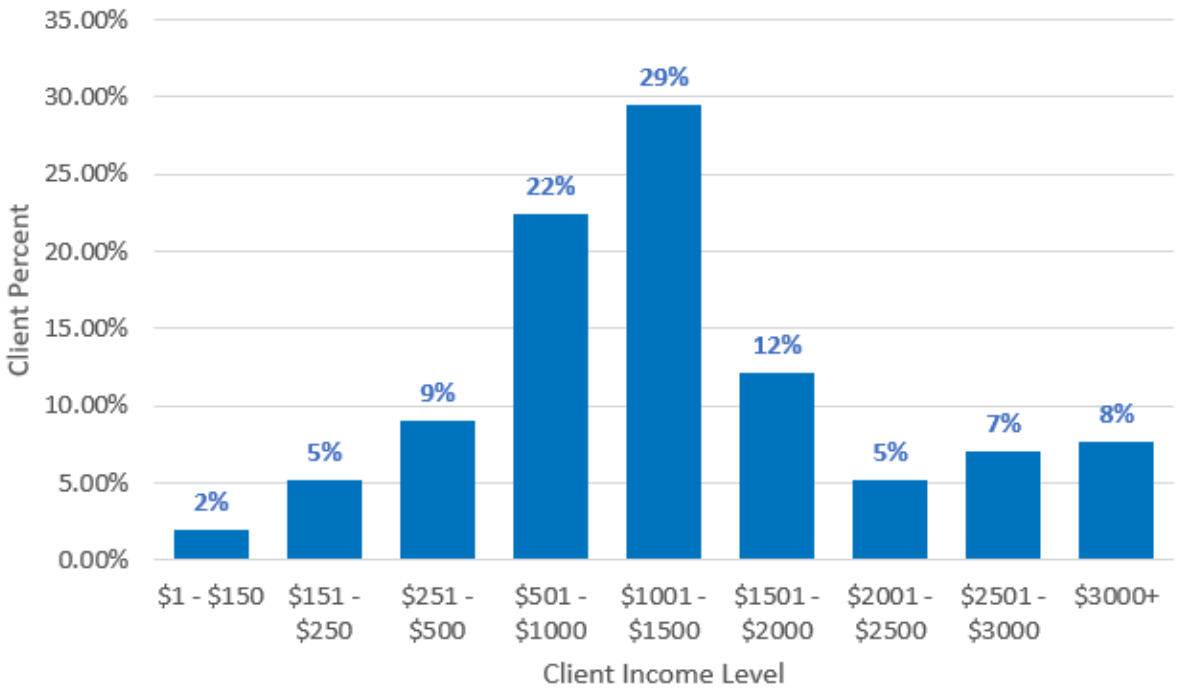
Graph 19
Income Source for Adult Sheltered Clients
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=156 Adult Clients)[1]



[1] Percentages add up to be greater than 100% because clients could report more than one source of income.

Income levels spanned a wide range among clients at ARS shelters. Monthly incomes ranged from a minimum of $5 to a maximum of $6,000 (refer to Table 3). A significant 94% of client enrollments fell into the "extremely low income" bracket, earning less than 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Another 6% were classified as "very low income", earning between 31-50% of AMI (see Graph 21). The mean monthly income for clients who reported earnings stood at $1,450.26, with a median of $1,200. This shows a very slight positive skew of the data (as seen in Graph 20) because the clients who reported higher incomes cause the average to overestimate the income.

Graph 20
Monthly Average Income Levels - Count of Clients at each Income Brackets Reported at Entry
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=156 Adult Clients)[1, 2]



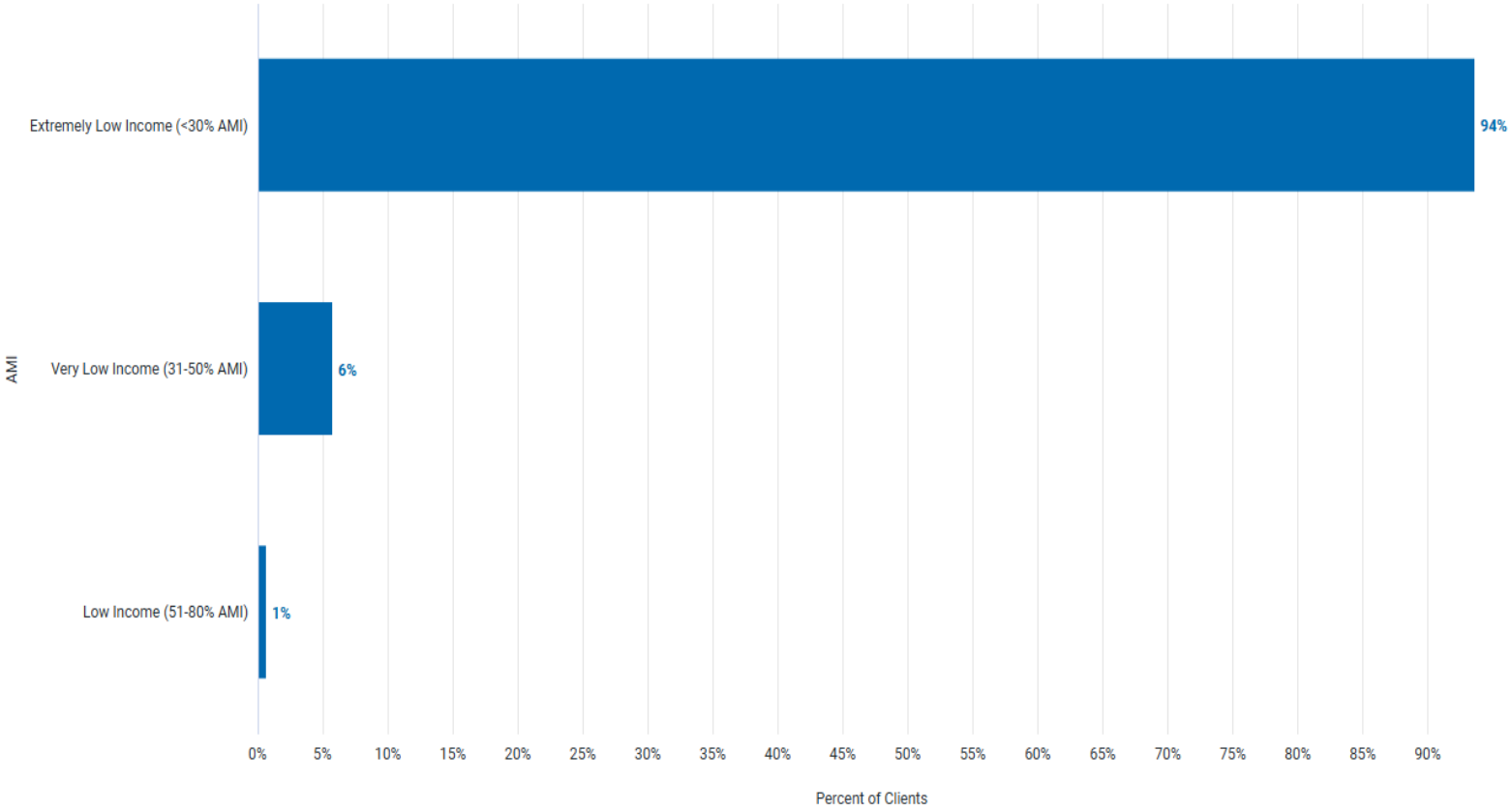
[1] Income amounts from all sources averaged for each client because clients can have multiple enrollments.

[2] Percentages were rounded to whole numbers and may not add up to exactly 100%.

Table 3. Income Amount for Adult Clients Sheltered, 2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing (n=164 adults with income amounts reported)

Summary of Income Amounts Reported			
Minimum	**Maximum**	**Median**	**Average**
$5	$6,000	$1,200	$1,450.26

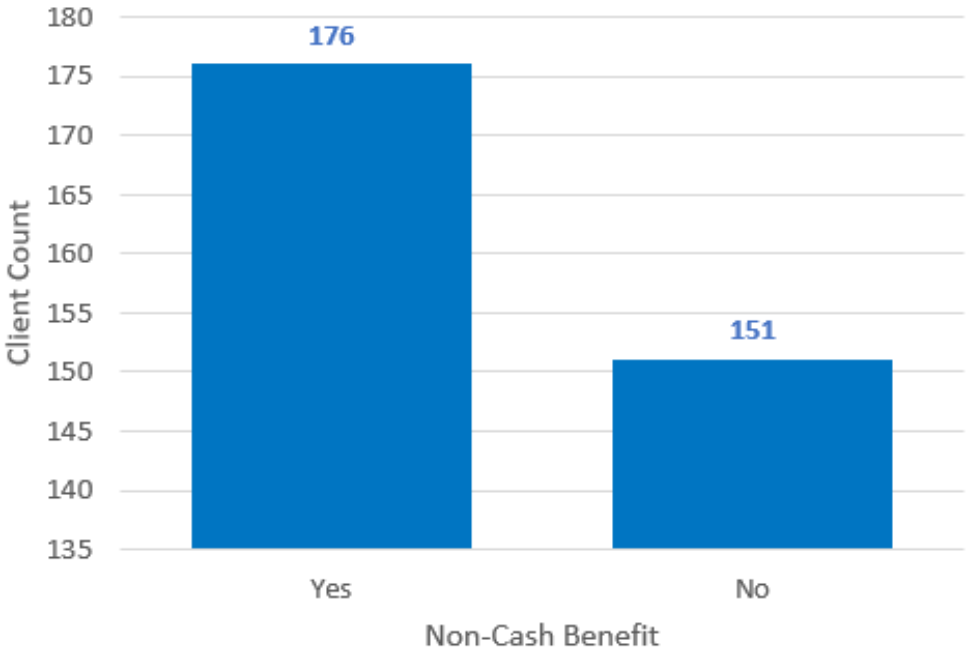
Graph 21
Area Median Income – AMI as Reported at Entry
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=156 Adult Clients)[1]



[1] Percentages were rounded to whole numbers and may not add up to exactly 100%.

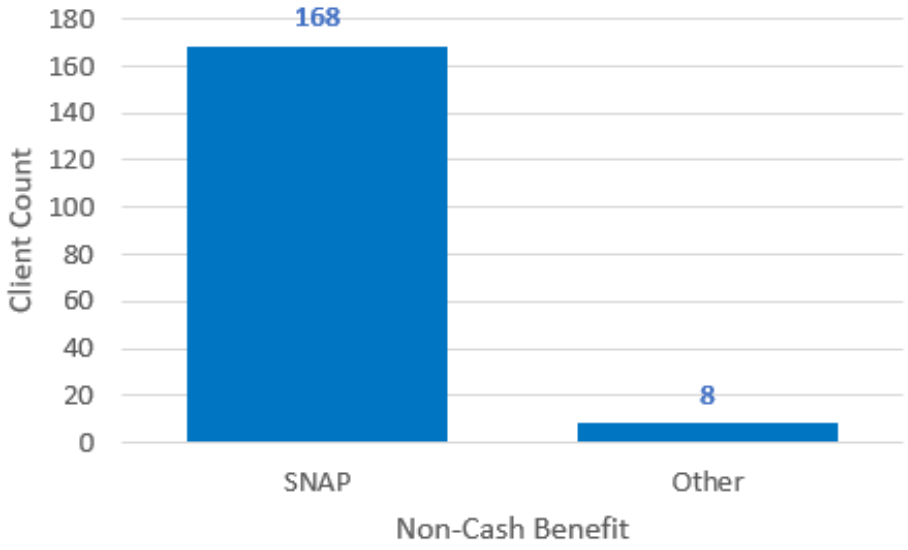
Non-cash benefits serve as a crucial resource for many clients. Upon project entry, 176 adult clients indicated they were beneficiaries of such non-cash aids, while 151 stated they weren't receiving any (refer to Graph 22). Diving into specifics, 168 clients were recipients of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly known as food stamps), and 8 clients reported availing other types of services (as depicted in Graph 23).

Graph 22
Non-Cash Benefit for Sheltered Adult Clients at Project Start
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=322 Adult Clients)[1]



[1] Some clients may have more than 1 enrollment which may cause the sum to be more than the number of clients.

Graph 23
Non-Cash Benefit Type for Sheltered Adult Clients at Project Start
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=176 Adult Clients)[1]

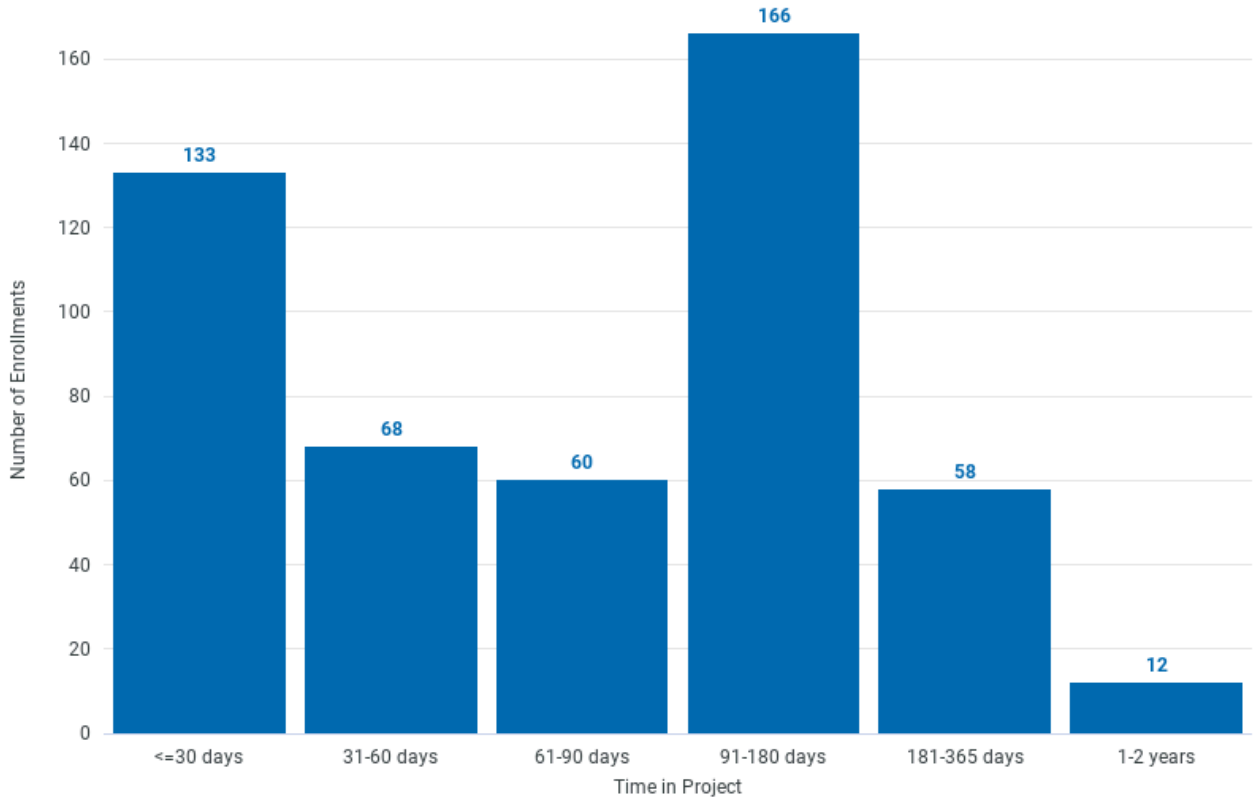


[1] "Other" include benefit types such as out of state SNAP equivalents and income from an unknown source.

D. Length of Participation in Shelters

Using HMIS data, we assessed the duration of unique shelter stays for clients in the ARS North County emergency shelter programs. A large majority of stays, 86%, fell in the range of within 180 days, with a significant 33% of enrollments having continuous stays of 91-180 days (see Graph 24). A small but notable 2% of enrollments had length of stays of over 1 year, but exited the program during this reporting period.

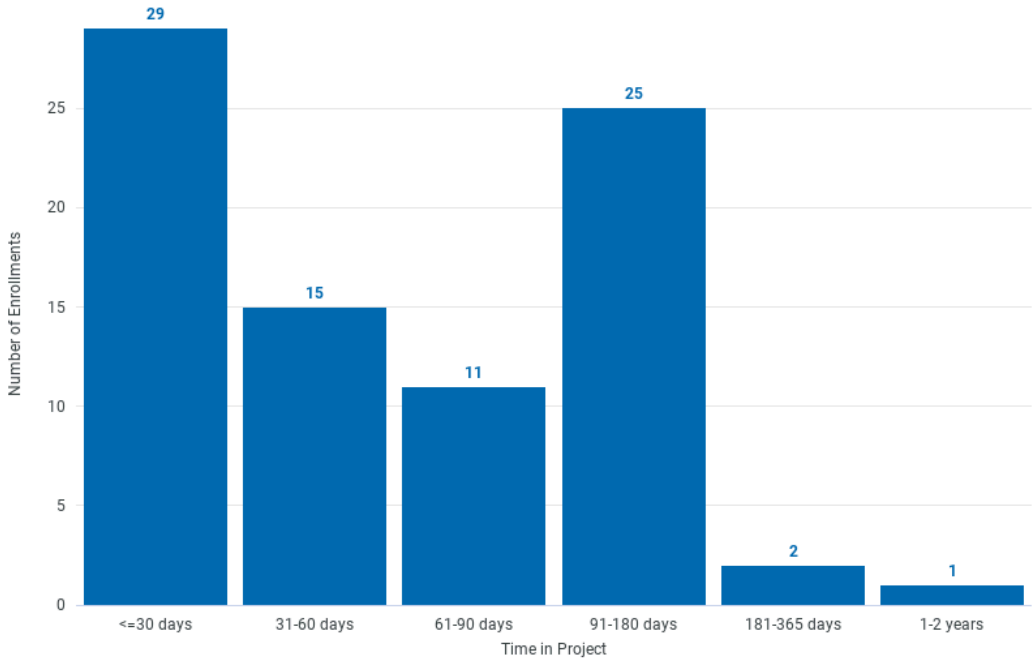
Graph 24
Length of Stay - All Clients
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=497 Enrollments)[1]



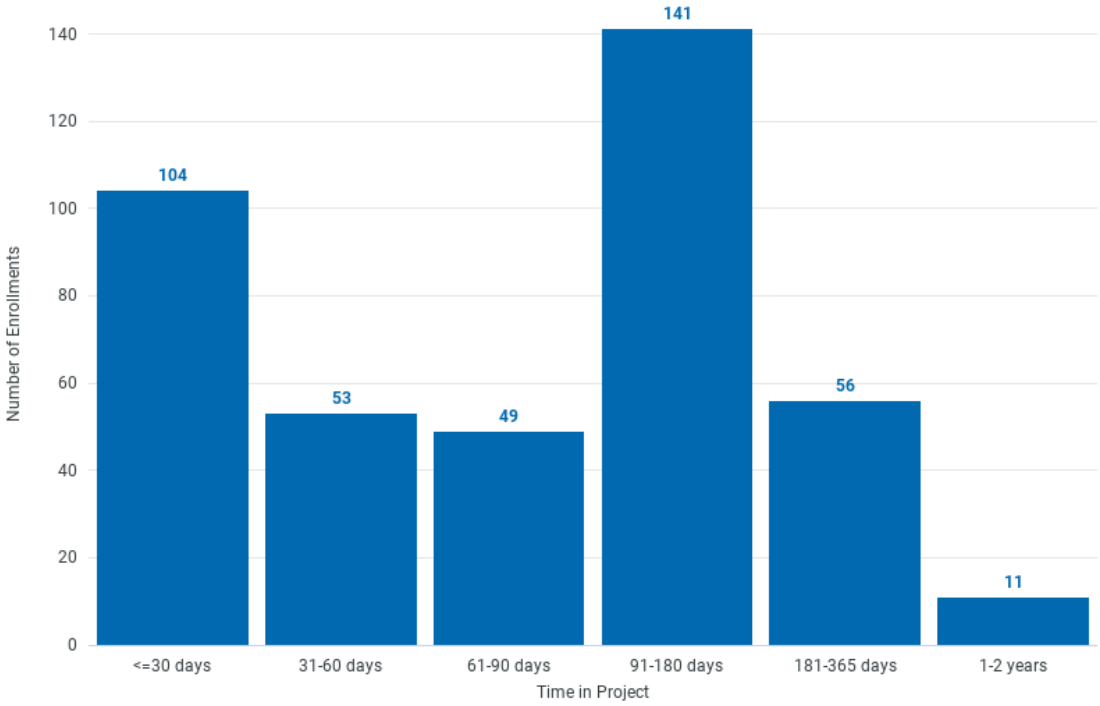
For the context of this report, a "stayer" is defined as a client who remains enrolled in an ARS shelter up to the report's concluding day. Conversely, a "leaver" refers to an individual who was enrolled at some point during the reporting year but was not enrolled in any ARS shelter by the end of the reporting period. The distribution of stayers and leavers is similar to the overall distribution of client length of stay, with the majority being less than 180 days (refer to Graphs 25 and 26). For stayers, the majority had stays of 30 days or less or 91-180 days during the reporting period. Similarly, for leavers, the majority also had stays of 30 days or less or 91-180 days.

[1] This graph shows the number of enrollments, rather than clients, because clients can have multiple enrollments with varying lengths of stay.

Graph 25
Length of Stay - Stayers
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=83 Enrollments)[1]



Graph 26
Length of Stay - Leavers
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=414 Enrollments)[1,2]

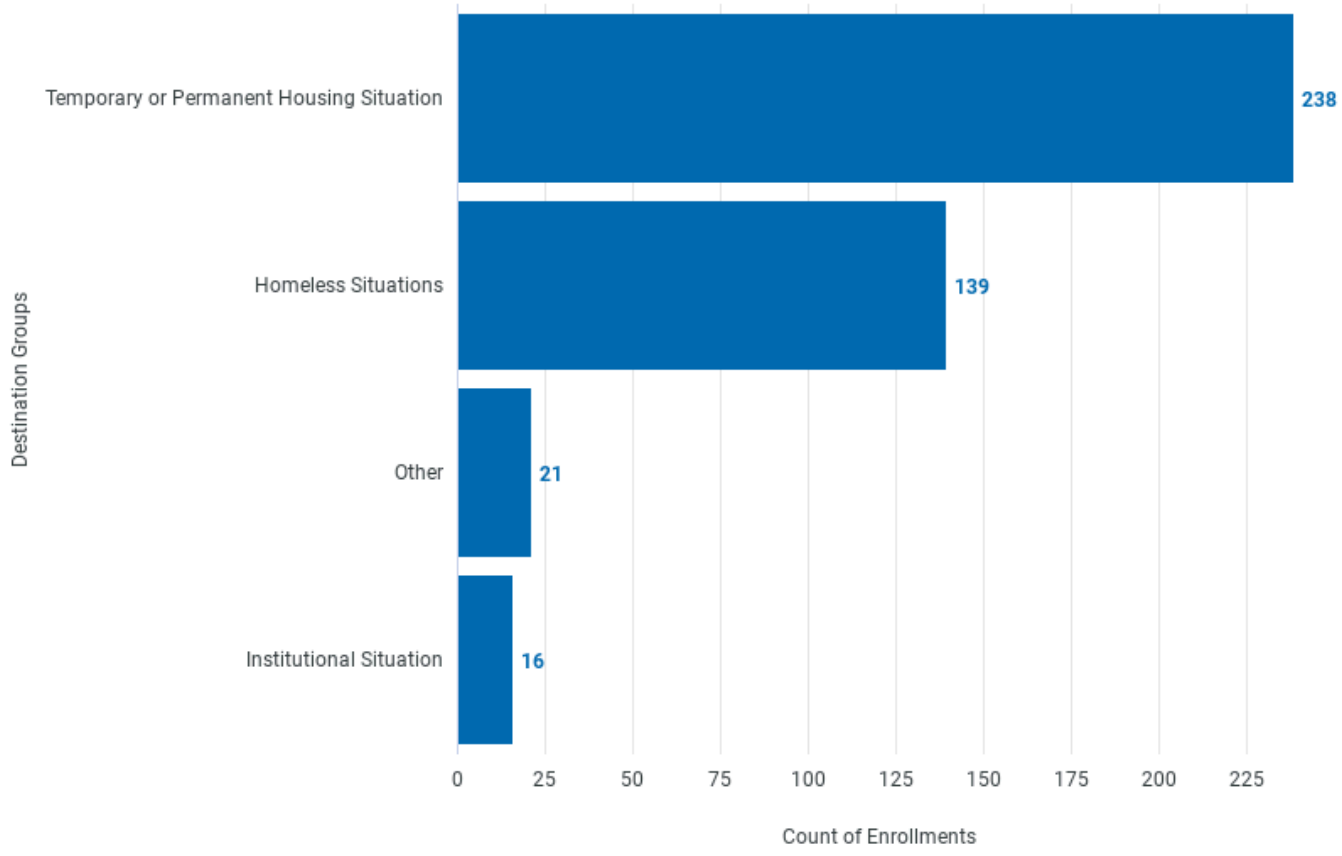


[1] This graph shows the number of enrollments, rather than clients, because clients can have multiple enrollments with varying lengths of stay.
[2] The number of stayers and leavers does not equal the total number of distinct clients due to there being more than 472 total enrollments.

E. Destination upon Leaving Shelter

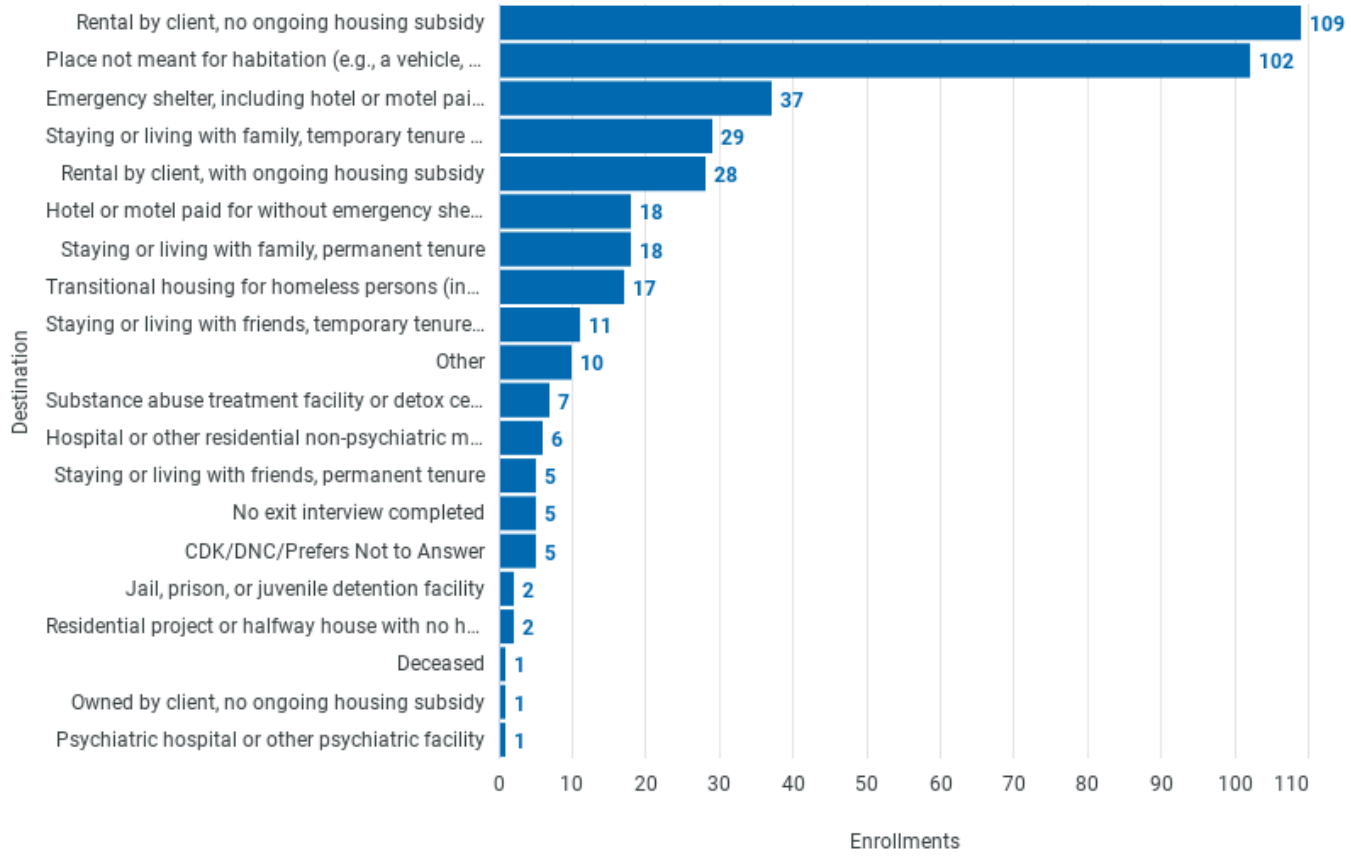
For the 2025-2026 reporting period, exit data was captured for 83% of clients leaving shelters (414 out of 497 total enrollments). Of the 414 departures from the shelters by the year's end, about 34% (or 139 exits out of 414) were to a homeless situation, such as another emergency shelter, while over half, around 57% (or 238 exits out of 414), were to temporary or permanent housing situations (see Graph 27). The predominant exit destination of these 414 exited enrollments, represented by 109 departures (26%), was to a rental by client, with no ongoing housing subsidy (see Graph 28). The next most frequent exit was to a place not meant for habitation, representing 102 departures (25%). An exit interview was unable to be completed for 5 enrollments (1%) (as depicted in Graph 28).

Graph 27
Exit Destination upon Leaving Shelter
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=414 Enrollments)[1]



[1] This graph shows the number of enrollments, rather than clients, because clients can have multiple enrollments with different exit destinations.

Graph 28
Exit Destination upon Leaving Shelter (by Category)
2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=414 Enrollments)[1,2]



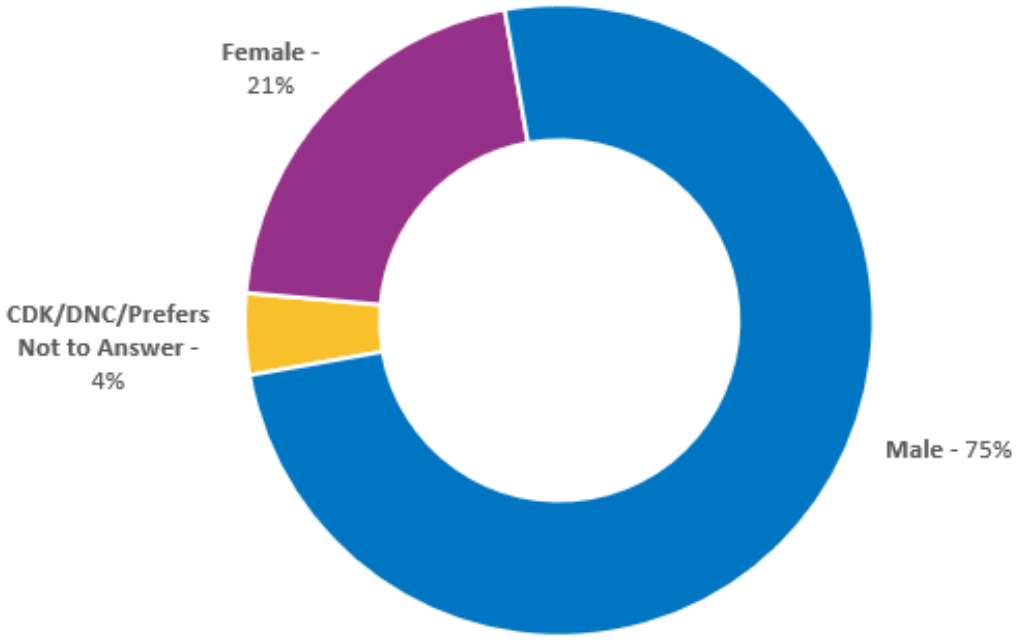
[1] This graph shows the number of enrollments, rather than clients, because clients can have multiple enrollments with different exit destinations.
[2] "CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer" stands for "Client doesn't know/Data not collected/Client prefers not to answer".

F. Clients exiting 2024-2025 and returning in 2025-2026

To gain a comprehensive understanding of the clientele served by North San Diego Bridge Housing, we juxtaposed the list of clients sheltered during the 2025-2026 operating year with those from the preceding 2024-2025 year. Notably, around 5% (or 24 out of 472) of this year's clients had also been served in the previous year. About 83% of these returning clients were adults (refer to Graph 31).

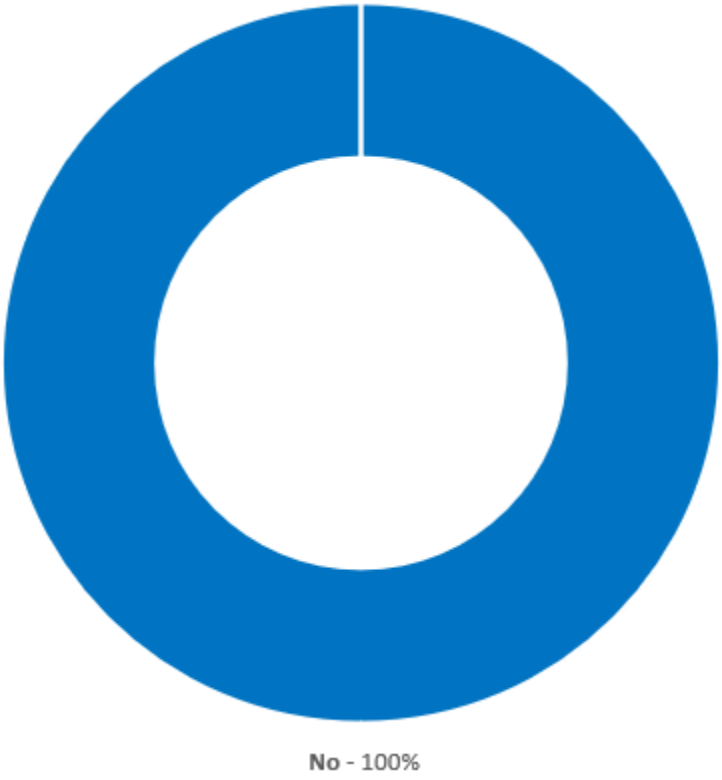
Examining the sex distribution of these returning clients, approximately 75% were male, while 21% were female (see Graph 29). None of these returning adults identified as a veteran (illustrated in Graph 30). Of this group of 24 returning clients, 54% of them reported a disabling condition (Graph 32).

Graph 29
Sex of Returning Clients Sheltered in Both
2024-2025 & 2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=24 Clients)[1,2]



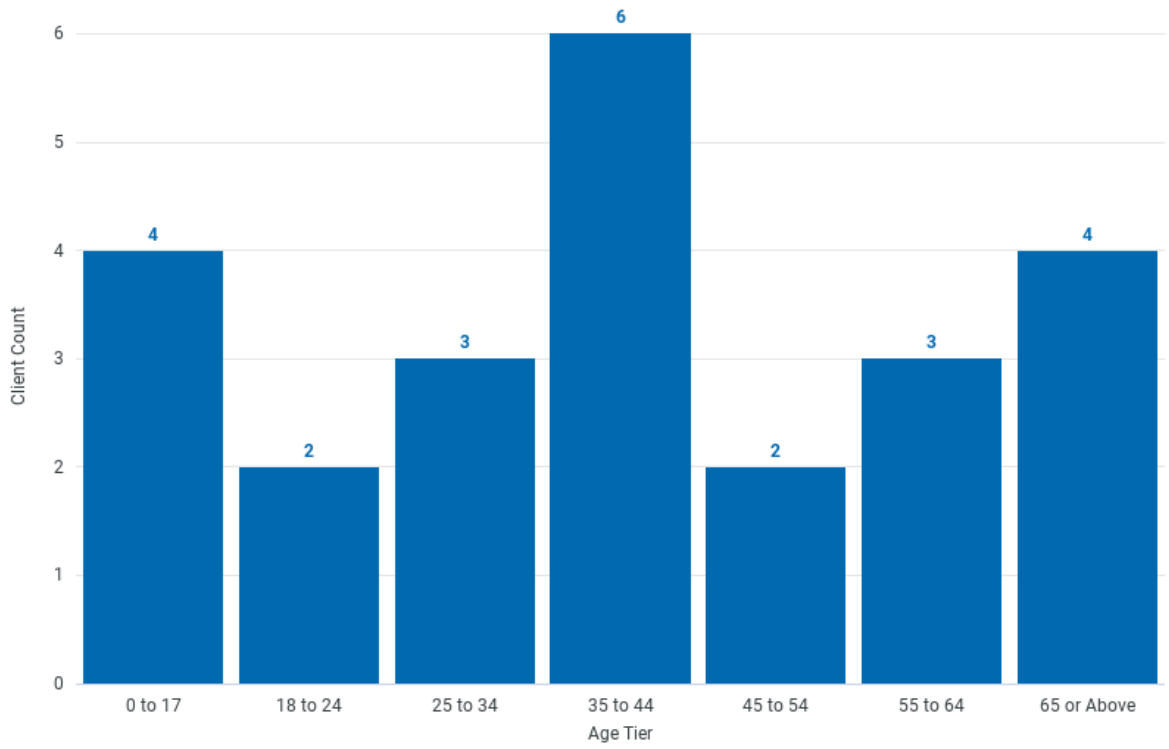
[1] Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2024-2025 year returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2025-2026 year.
[2] "CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer" stands for "Client doesn't know/Data not collected/Client prefers not to answer".

Graph 30
Veteran History of Returning Adult Clients Sheltered in Both
2024-2025 & 2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=20 Adult Clients)[1]



[1] Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2024-2025 year returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2025-2026 year.

Graph 31
Age Group of Returning Clients Sheltered in Both
2024-2025 & 2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=24 Clients)[1]



[1] Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2024-2025 year returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2025-2026 year.

Graph 32
Disabling Condition Status of Returning Clients Sheltered in Both
2024-2025 & 2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=24 Clients)[1]

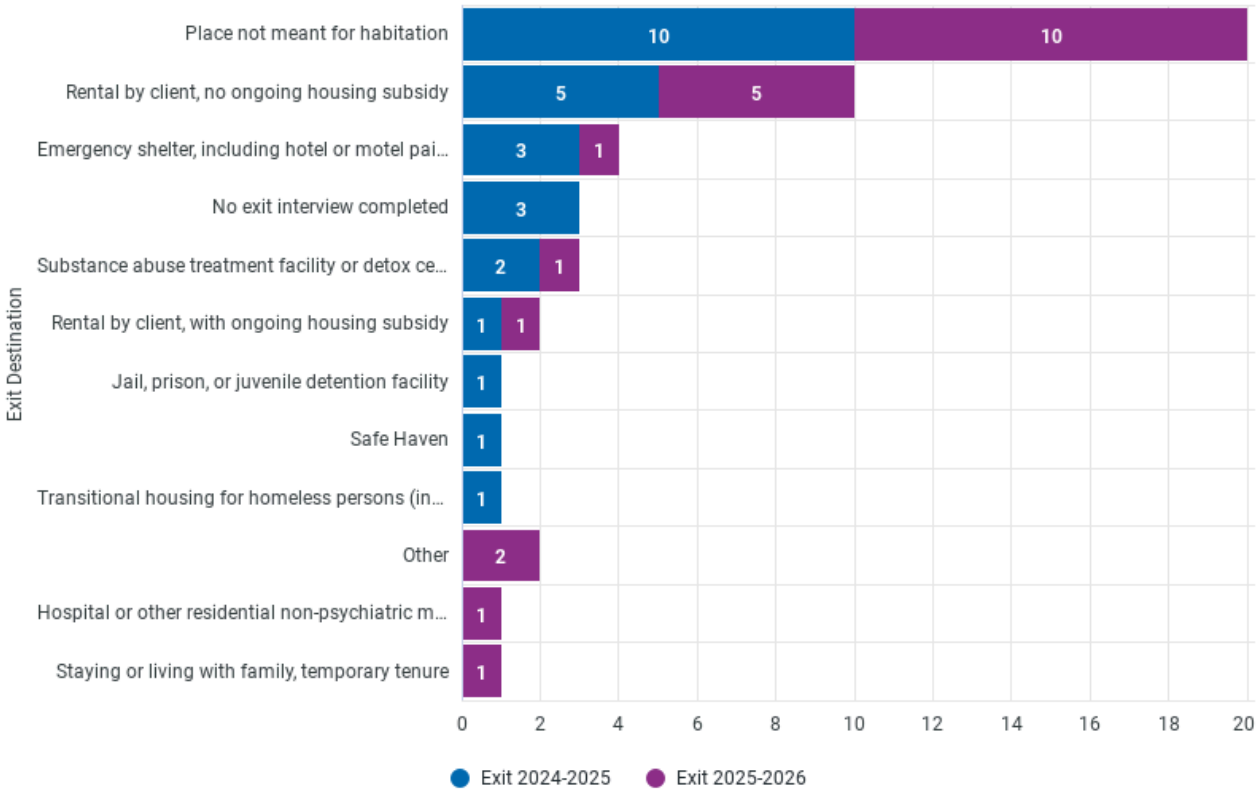


[1] Clients with shelter stay(s) during the 2024-2025 year returning for shelter stay(s) during the 2025-2026 year.

Upon examination of the post-shelter exit destination for returning clients across the two years, noticeable variations emerged (as depicted in Graph 33). The following data pertains to the cohort of 24 clients who had an enrollment in each reporting year. These individuals had exited during the 2024-2025 year and subsequently returned in the 2025-2026 year.

In the 2024-2025 period, the predominant exit destination for returners was to a place not meant for habitation (10 clients), followed by a rental by client (5 clients). Similarly, the predominant exit in the 2025-2026 period was also to a place not meant for habitation (10 clients), followed by a rental by client (5 clients), and not all clients had exited the program by the end of the reporting year. Overall, of the returning clients who exited within the reporting year, there was a decrease in exits to a homeless situation from 52% to 50% while exits to permanent or temporary housing situations increased from 26% to 32%.

Graph 33
Exit Destinations of Returning Clients Sheltered in Both
2024-2025 & 2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing
(n=24 Clients)[1]



[1] Unique client count of 24 between 2024-25 and 2025-26. Graph may have more or less exits depending on the number of enrollments and exits.

Summary

During the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the North San Diego ARS Bridge Housing accommodated 472 distinct individuals. The majority of these clients were predominantly white and male, with a slight majority being part of a family unit, as indicated in Graphs 2, 3, 5, and 7.

The age brackets most frequently utilizing the shelter were those between 35-44, 25-34, 45-54, and 5-12 years of age, constituting 16%, 15%, 13% and 13% of the total population, respectively (See Appendix B, Table 3). Approximately 45% of the clients disclosed having at least one disability (Appendix B, Table 14). Mental health disorders were the most commonly reported disability, affecting 27% of the clientele with a disability, followed by chronic health conditions at 24%. HIV/AIDS was the least reported condition, making up just about 0.4% of the cases (Appendix B, Table 15). About 19% of the adult clients indicated that they were survivors of domestic violence (Appendix B, Table 12). Among these, 41% identified as female and 51% as male (Appendix B, Table 13).

When it comes to exiting the ARS shelter system, roughly 57% of leavers transitioned to a temporary or permanent housing situation such as other shelters, staying or living with family or friends on temporary tenure, a rental by client with an ongoing housing subsidy, and others. Approximately 34% departed to a homeless situation (Graph 27). Given the emergency-focused nature of Bridge Housing shelters and their transient operational periods, it's noteworthy that the length of stay for leavers during the 2025-2026 year were split almost evenly between being within a span of 90 days (50%) and being over 90 days (50%) (Graph 26).

Cyclic shelter use — exiting and re-entering shelters — is sometimes a step in a client's journey toward resolving homelessness. Data shows that 5% (or 24 individuals) of the clients served this year had also utilized ARS shelter services in the previous year, 2024-2025. These returning clients were predominantly male (75%), non-veterans (100%), and a majority of them were below the age of 45 (63%) (Appendix B, Tables 24, 25, 26).

Additionally, 26% of clients were categorized as chronically homeless upon entering the ARS Bridge Housing shelters (Appendix B, Table 20).

In summary, the data collected offers valuable insights into the demographics and needs of the clients served by the ARS shelter system in North San Diego County. The ARS Bridge to Housing Committee will be presented with these findings in order to spark ideas for solutions and recommendations on how to best offer services.

Appendix A – Recommendations

The ARS North County Bridge Housing continues to impress with their consistent and careful data entry practices for data collected. The minimal amount of missing data illustrates their dedication to completing intake/assessment forms and meticulous data entry into HMIS. Moving forward, we offer the following recommendations:

1. **Employee Checklist**: Develop and provide checklists for staff to further remember additional steps to increase data competency, such as: ensuring to add the correct prior/current location for clients, ensuring the correct toggles are selected, and that all numerical data (such as client funds) are entered correctly.
2. **Client Exit Completion**: Continue implementing strategies, such as a communication card for clients to communicate back with the shelters, for data completeness when clients exit programs.
3. **Shared Housing Opportunities**: Based on the income data in this report as well as recent and ongoing efforts to encourage a shared housing model, it is our recommendation to explore shared housing opportunities between clients in the ARS network of shelters.
4. **Enhanced Cross-Verification**: Utilizing the reports available in HMIS, it is our recommendation to develop and/or continue incorporating the use of a cross-check system between HMIS data and actual data about clients staying at the shelters. This will prevent any issues with income, prior living, or any potentially missing exits or enrollments and can enhance HMIS's ability to act as a live roster
5. **Routine Data Quality Reviews and Updates**: Participate in the HMIS Monitoring to ensure accurate data quality has been met, in addition to regularly running and reviewing reports such as the APR to ensure timely entry of both enrollment and exit data at all shelters. If any data updates are needed, ARS North County Bridge Housing may correct data quality issues and collaborate with RTFH as needed.
6. **Continued Staff Training**: Continue to ensure staff who collect and/or record responses related to chronic homelessness are trained and fully aware of the HUD definition. Staff should also be well trained to collect and record disabling conditions appropriately. Staff should also regularly have refresher training to further ensure guidelines are being upheld and lead to higher data competency.
7. **Incentivizing Data Competency**: Leveraging this performance report and HMIS data as well as reports available in HMIS can lead to the continued fostering of a culture of data competency and literacy in North County San Diego. Data Quality, timeliness, and data completeness check-ins with staff or teams can support an environment of collaboration and positive outcomes.
8. **Follow-up Data Collection**: Consider introducing more comprehensive follow-up data collection after clients exit the program. This data could provide crucial insights into the long-term impact of the program, contributing to a more informed strategy for sustainable solutions to homelessness.

As a concluding recommendation, we strongly advocate for the continuation and enhancement of collaboration with RTFH CoC staff. The process of analyzing, reviewing, and implementing strategies based on the findings of this report has proven to be an effective approach to enhancing capacity building, system planning, and implementation. The ARS's leadership and unwavering commitment have played a pivotal role in addressing homelessness in North County. By continuing to work in tandem with the RTFH, the ARS can further strengthen their position as a regional leader in the fight against homelessness. The success of these joint efforts can serve as a blueprint for other regions, showcasing how collaborative, data-informed approaches can lead to significant strides in resolving homelessness. This ongoing collaboration between ARS and RTFH has the potential to enhance not only North County's response to homelessness but also the response of the entire region, thus amplifying the impact of these valuable initiatives.

Appendix B – Data Tables

A. Demographic Characteristics of Clients Sheltered, 2025-2026 North San Diego Bridge Housing (n=472 clients)

Table 1. Sex

Demographic Characteristic	Number	Percent*
Male	265	56%
Female	125	26%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	85	18%
Total	**475**	**100%**

Table 2. Race and Ethnicity

Race and Ethnicity	Number	Percent*
White	177	38%
Hispanic/Latina/e/o	146	31%
Black, African American, or African	98	21%
Multi-Racial	17	4%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	14	3%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	6	1%
Asian or Asian American	6	1%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	5	1%
Middle Eastern or North African	3	1%
Total	**472**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

Table 3. Age Group (Age at Project Start)

Age Group	Number	Percent*
Under 5	58	12%
5-12	63	13%
13-17	29	6%
18-24	25	5%
25-34	72	15%
35-44	75	16%
45-54	63	13%
55-61	45	10%
62+	43	9%
Total	**473**	**100%**

Table 4. Age - Adult versus Child

Age Group	Number	Percent*
Adult (18+ Years)	323	68%
Child (0-17 Years)	150	32%
Total	**473**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

Table 5. Enrolled with Family versus Individually

Enrolled with Family/Individual	Number	Percent*
Family	248	52%
Individual	226	48%
Total	**474**	**100%**

Table 6. Household Served by Household Type

Household type	Served count	Percent*
Households without children	239	75%
Households with at least one adult and one child	80	25%
Total	**319**	**100%**

Table 7. Total Clients Served by Household Type

Household type	Served count	Percent*
Households with at least one adult and one child	248	52%
Single Adults	226	48%
Total	**474**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

Table 8. Military Veteran

Military Veteran	Number	Percent*
Yes	15	5%
No	306	95%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	1	0%
Total	**322**	**100%**

Table 9. Chronic Status of Military Veteran

Chronically Homeless Veterans	Number	Percent*
Yes	9	60%
No	6	40%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	0	0%
Total	**15**	**100%**

Table 10. Sex Distribution of Military Veteran

Sex	Number	Percent
Male	14	93%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	1	7%
Total	**15**	**100%**

Table 11. Age Distribution of Military Veteran

Age tier	Number	Percent*
35-44	3	20%
45-54	2	13%
55-61	4	27%
62+	6	40%
Total	**15**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

Table 12. Domestic Violence History (for adults)

Domestic Violence Victim history	Number	Percent*
Yes	63	19%
No	265	81%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	1	0%
Total	**322**	**100%**

Table 13. Domestic Violence Victim History (By Sex)

Sex	Number	Percent*
Female	26	41%
Male	32	51%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	5	8%
Total	**63**	**100%**

Table 14. Disabling Condition

Disabled (Has a Disabling Condition)	Number	Percent*
Yes	216	45%
No	262	55%
Total	**478**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

Table 15. Health Conditions of Clients Sheltered

Disability Type	Number	Percent*
Physical Disability	101	22%
Mental Health Disorder	120	27%
Chronic Health Condition	109	24%
Substance Use Disorder	73	16%
Developmental Disability	47	10%
HIV / AIDS	2	0%
Total	**452**	**100%**

Table 16. Number of Disabilities per Disabled Client

Disability Type	Number	Percent*
1 Condition	90	41%
2 Conditions	60	27%
3+ Conditions	69	32%
Total	**219**	**100%**

Table 17. Presence of Income within Adult Population

Adult with/without Income	Number	Percent*
Adults with Income	156	48%
Adults with no income	166	52%
Total	**322**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

Table 18. Income Type

Income Type	Number	Percent*
Earned Income	63	35%
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	28	16%
General Assistance (GA)	25	14%
Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)	15	8%
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	15	8%
Child Support	7	4%
Unemployment Income	6	3%
Social Security Retirement	5	3%
Other Cash Income	5	3%
Veteran's Pension	3	2%
Spousal Support	3	2%
Veterans Disability Payment	2	1%
Employment Pension	1	1%
Private Disability Insurance	1	1%
Total	**156**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

Table 19. Length of Participation

Days in a program	All enrollment count	Leavers count	Stayers count
<30 Days	133	104	29
31-60 days	68	53	15
61-90 days	60	49	11
91-180 Days	166	141	25
181-365 Days	58	56	2
1-2 Years	12	11	1
Total	**497**	**414**	**83**

Table 20. Number of Chronically Homeless Persons at Project Start

Chronic status	Number	Percent*
Chronically Homeless	122	26%
Not Chronically Homeless	351	73%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	5	1%
Total	**478**	**100%**

Table 21. Sex Breakdown of Chronically Homeless Head of Households

Sex	Number	Percent*
Male	91	88%
Female	6	6%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	6	6%
Total	**103**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

Table 22. Age of Chronically Homeless Persons

Age group	Number	Percent*
0-17	14	12%
18-24	9	7%
25-34	7	6%
35-44	22	18%
45-54	28	23%
55-61	22	18%
62+	20	16%
Total	**122**	**100%**

Table 23. Health Conditions of Chronically Homeless Persons

Disability Type	Number	Percent*
Physical Disability	58	23%
Mental Health Disorder	65	26%
Chronic Health Condition	61	24%
Substance Use Disorder	41	16%
Development Disability	24	10%
HIV/AIDS	1	0%
Total	**250**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

B. 2024-2025 North San Diego Bridge Housing Returning Clients

Clients Sheltered During both 2024 - 2025 & 2025 - 2026 Years

Table 24. Sex of Returning Clients

Sex	Number	Percent*
Male	18	75%
Female	5	21%
CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer	1	4%
Total	**24**	**100%**

Table 25. Military History of Returning Clients

Veteran Status	Number	Percent*
Yes	0	0%
No	20	100%
Total	**20**	**100%**

Table 26. Age Tier of Returning Clients

Age Tier	Number	Percent*
0-17	4	17%
18-24	2	8%
25-34	3	13%
35-44	6	25%
45-54	2	8%
55-64	3	13%
65 or Above	4	17%
Total	**24**	**100%**

* Numbers adjusted for rounding

Table 27. Exit Destination of Returning Clients

Destination Category	Exit Destination	2024-2025	2025-2026
Homeless Situations	Place not meant for habitation	10	10
	Emergency Shelter (Including hotel/motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher)	3	1
Institutional Situations	Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility	0	1
	Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	2	1
	Jail, prison, or juvenile detention facility	1	0
	Long-term care facility or nursing home	0	0
	Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	0	0
Temporary Housing Situations	Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure (e.g. room, apartment or house)	0	1
	Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	5	5
	Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	0	0
Permanent Housing Situations	Rental by client, with housing subsidy	1	1
Other	No exit interview completed	3	0
	CDK/DNC/Prefers Not to Answer/Other	0	0
	Total	**25**	**20**

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