



Deaths Among Homeless Persons in Santa Barbara County

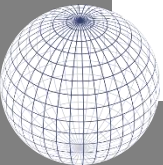
January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017

A Report for the Santa Barbara County
Board of Supervisors

March 5, 2019

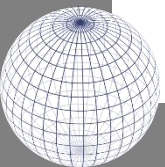
Background

- Sixth Santa Barbara County Homeless Death Review Team (HDRT) report
- Multi-disciplinary team meets regularly
- Reflects data from calendar year 2017
- Data collected year-round
- Review process takes 6-8 months



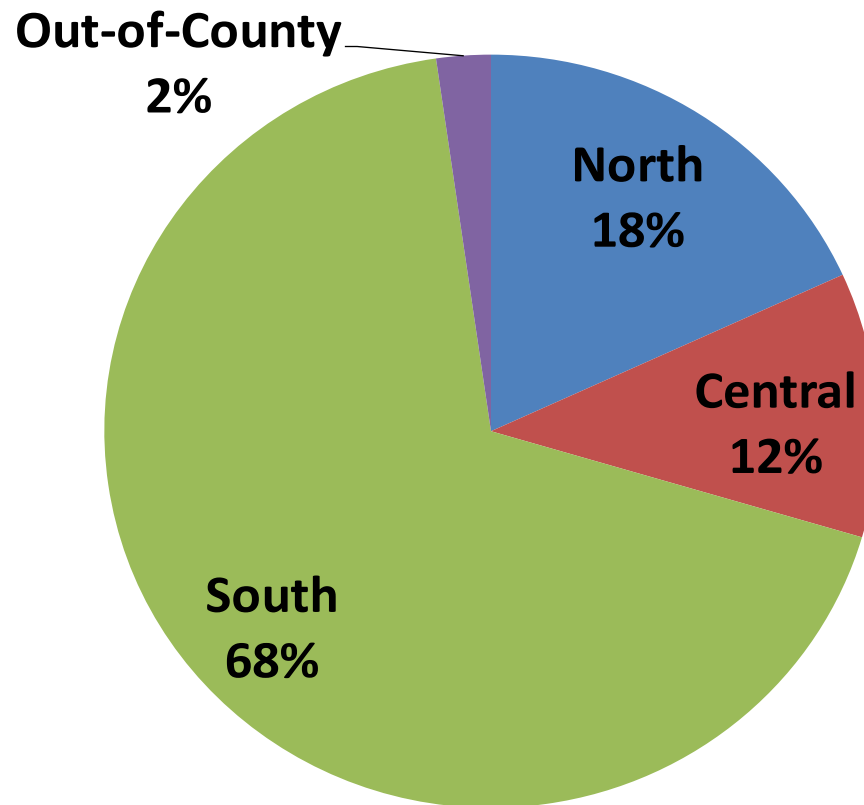
Demographics

- 44 individuals were identified in 2017
- 82% were male
- Average age of death is 52
 - Women: 53 years
 - Men: 52 years
- By race/ethnicity
 - 73% were White
 - 30% were Hispanic/Latino



2017 Location of Death (Usual Residence)

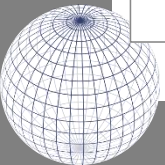
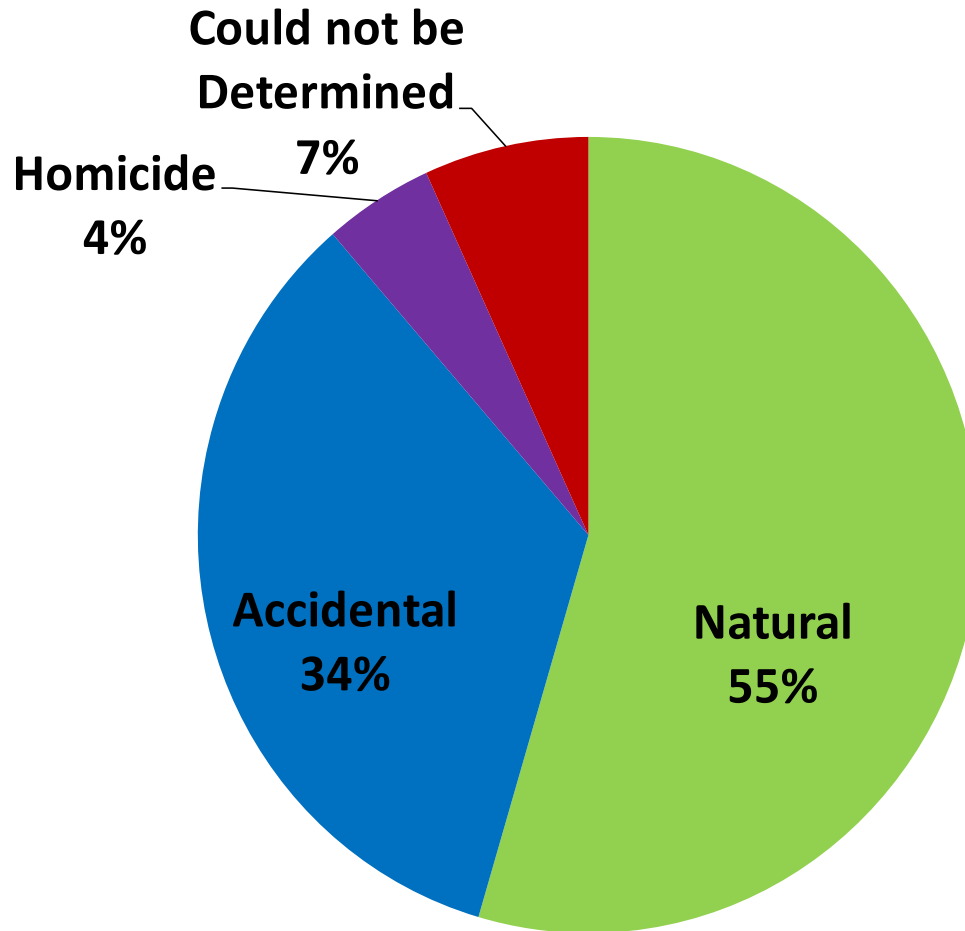
2017 Santa Barbara County Homeless Deaths by Geographic Location, N=44



Manner of Death

2017 Manner of Death of Santa Barbara County Homeless

Deaths, N=44



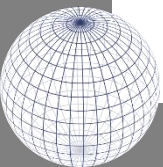
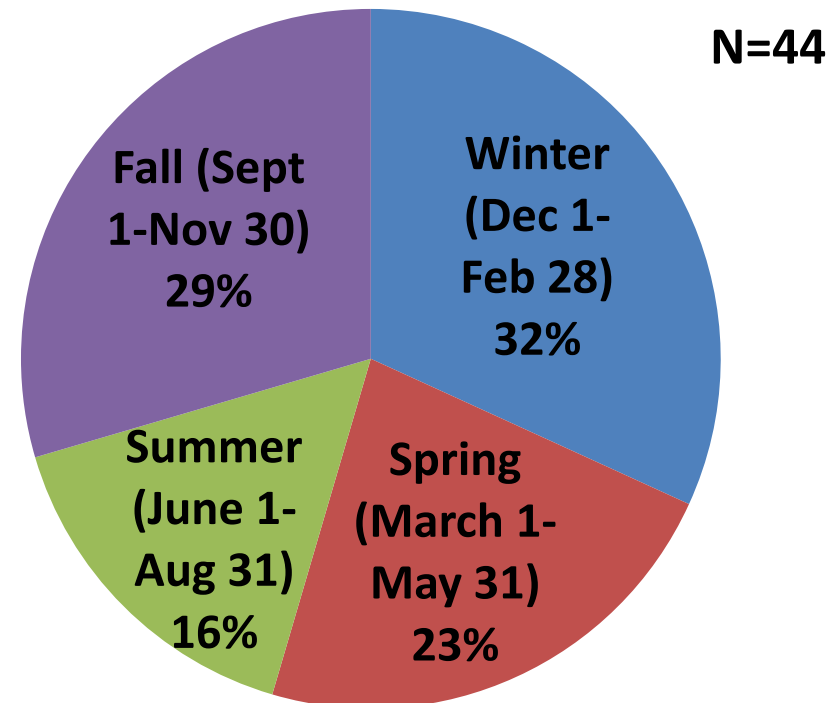
Cause of Death

Cause of Death

- 25% -Cardiovascular Related
- 25% -Drug/Alcohol Related
- 9% -Blunt Force Trauma
- 41% -All Other Causes

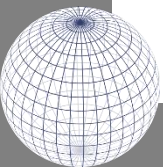
Location and Season of Death

- 64% -Indoors
- 36% -Outdoors



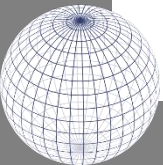
Access To Services

- 43% received Primary Care/health services from Public Health (PHD)
- 25% had contact with the Sheriff's department (SO)
- 68% received services from the Department of Social Services (DSS)
- 61% received services from Behavioral Wellness (BW)
- 11% received services from Veteran's Services (VA)

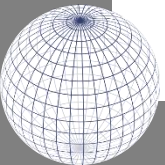
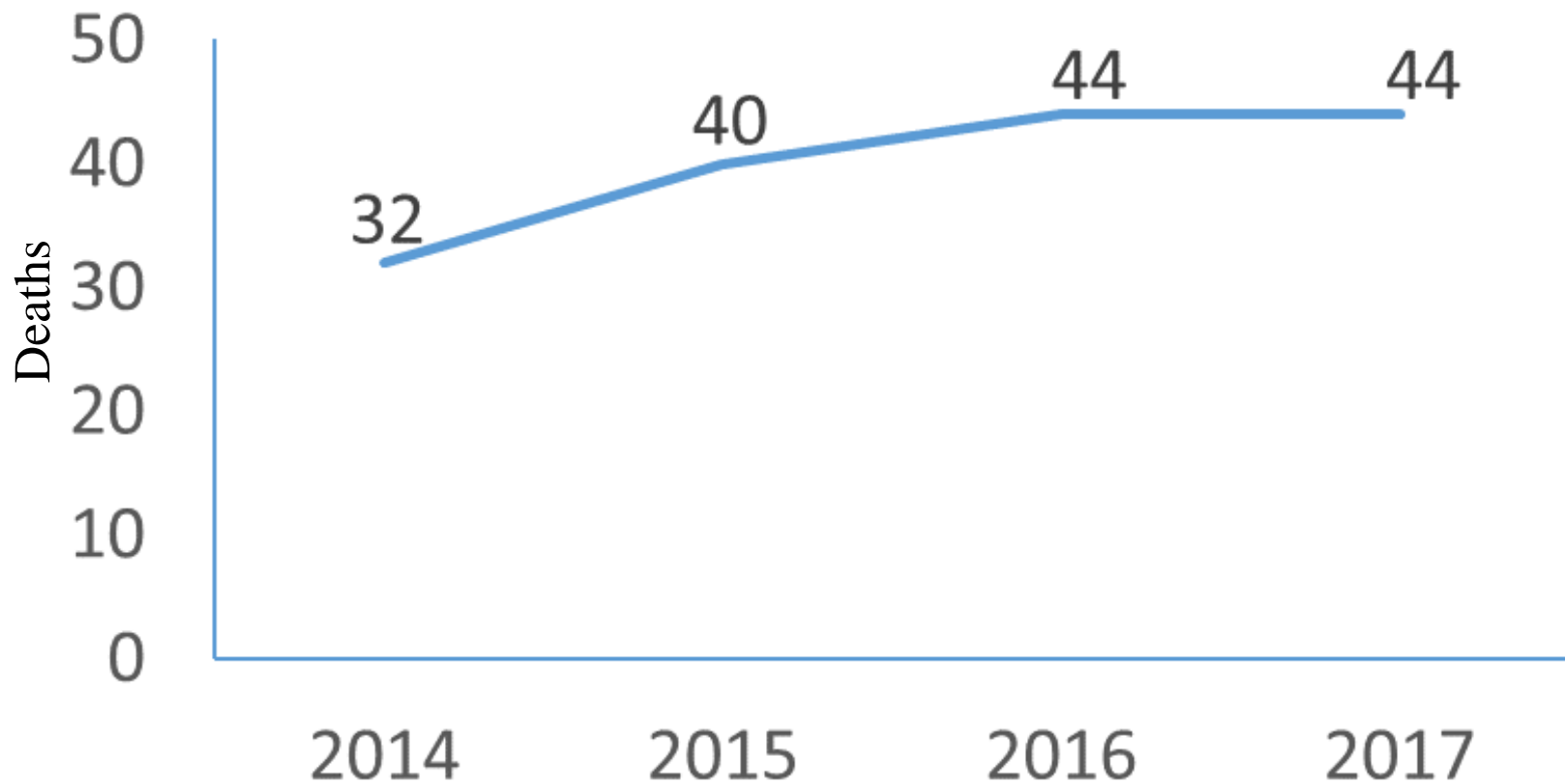


Access To Services (Cont.)

2017	Services used the year prior to death
43.2% (19)	Services from PHD
75.0% (33); 124 visits by 33 decedents = 3.8 visits per patient	Emergency Department Visits (CH or MH)
47.7% (21); 65 admits by 19 decedents = 3.1 admits per patient	Hospital Admits (CH or MH)
25% (11)	Contact with the Sheriff's department in the last year
61.4% (27)	Service from BW
68.2% (30)	Service from DSS
11.3% (5)	Veterans' Services

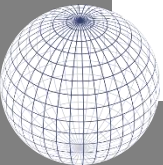


SBC Homeless Deaths



Summary Conclusions and Illustrations of Progress

- As identified in previous reports, cardiovascular disease and substance abuse (drugs and alcohol) remains the most prevalent health condition identified in homeless individuals who died in 2017.
- The decedents died prematurely with average age of death being 52 years in 2017, compared to 77 years in the housed population for the same year.



Summary Conclusions, continued

- These individuals had frequent contact with five Santa Barbara County departments (Public Health, Behavioral Wellness, Sheriff, Social & Veteran Services) and other providers of healthcare services including local hospitals.
- What brings people to homelessness is unique for every individual and ending one's homelessness requires the support of many.

