

# Claiborne Encampment Survey Results

February 28, 2008





# Claiborne Encampment Survey Overview

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- 46 question survey designed to identify housing and health care needs of people sleeping in the Claiborne Encampment to inform housing placement strategy
- Gain a post-Mardi Gras portrait
- Includes Vulnerability Questions to find those who are at the highest risk of dying on the streets
- By-name and picture registry of individuals found sleeping outside

# Vulnerability Index

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- Based on Dr. Jim O'Connell research from Boston's Healthcare for the Homeless
  - "Risk Factors for Death in Homeless Adults in Boston."  
Archives of Internal Medicine. July 13, 1998,
- Presence of a risk factor indicates a 40% mortality rate over 7 years

# Vulnerability Index

## Factors that Increase Risk of Dying on the Streets

**More than 6 months street homeless AND at least one of the following:**

- End Stage Renal Disease
- History of Cold Weather Injuries
- Liver Disease or Cirrhosis
- HIV+/AIDS
- Over 60 years old
- Three or more emergency room visits in prior three months
- Three or more ER or hospitalizations in prior year
- Tri-morbid (mentally ill+ abusing substances+ medical problem)

# Survey Teams

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- UNITY
- Louisiana Public Health Institute
- NOPD Homeless Assistance Collaborative
- Common Ground Institute New York

# Baseline Estimate Results

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- Baseline Count 6:00 am Feb 19th
- Walk each sector and plot individual sleeping or tent on map
- 50 individuals awake counted
- 100 tents Counted
- 84% of tents had only 1 person, assume 1 per tent
- Estimate 150 people sleeping Under Claiborne Corridor

# Interview Methodology

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- Surveys administered starting 6 to 9 am Feb 20<sup>th</sup> and 5 am to 8 am Feb 21<sup>st</sup>
- Teams of two interviewers
- Stay together for safety
- Divided Encampment into 4 sectors
- Covered each sector on 2 mornings with same team
- Woke each person up and asked to participate in survey
- 46 question survey in exchange for \$5 Subway sandwich card

# Interview Methodology

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- Safety First
- Assertive
- Respectful
- Sensitive
- Persistent

# Interview Questions

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- Demographics
- Hurricane impact
- Health Risk Indicators
- Institutional Usage (prison, shelter, jail)
- Employment, Benefits, and Citizenship
- Identification: SSN and Picture

# Interview Results

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- 118 (79% of baseline estimate) interviews completed
- 80 pictures allowed (68% of respondents)

# Claiborne Encampment Risk Indicators

<b>Risk indicator</b>	<b># of people</b>
Tri-morbid	23
3x hospital last year	20
> 60 years old	6
Liver Disease	4
3x ER last 3 months	10
Frostbite/Cold Weather	10
Kidney Disease	2
HIV+/AIDS	5

39 (33%) of those surveyed met at least one High-Risk Criteria

# Claiborne Encampment High Risk Cohort

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# of co-occurring risk indicators	# of people in risk category
5	2 person
4	4 people
3	2 people
2	12 people
1	19 people
Total	39

High Risk Means there is a 40% mortality rate over next 7 years

# Claiborne Encampment

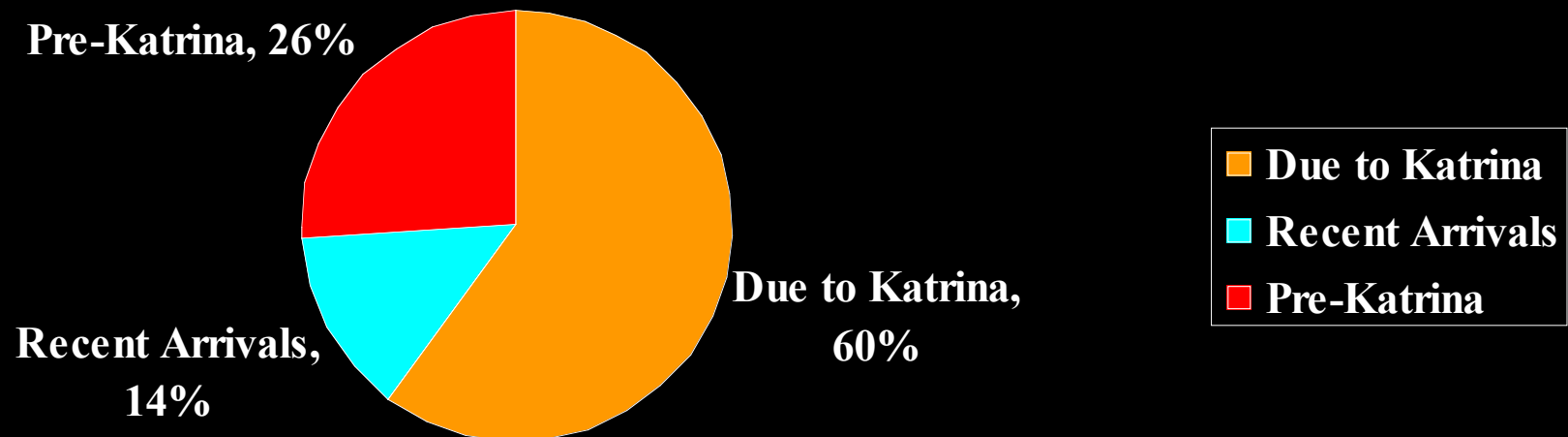
## One of the Most Vulnerable

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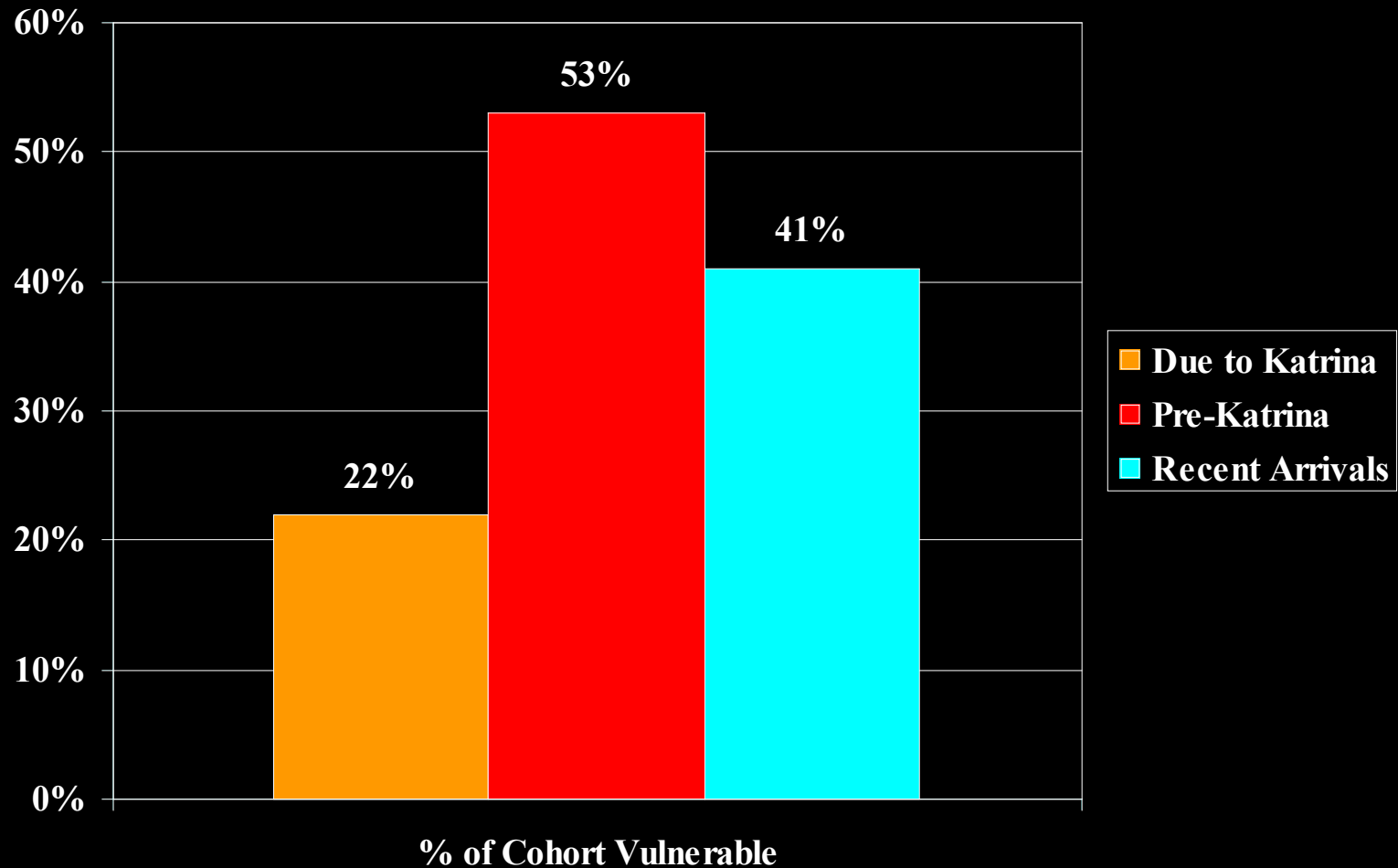
- 42 year old man
- New Orleans resident for 26 years
- lived in a shelter before Katrina
- 5 years on the streets
- HIV+/AIDS
- History of Hypothermia/Frostbite
- 4 trips to the ER in last 3 months
- “Tri-morbid” = mentally ill + abusing substances + medical problem
- Surveyor suspected developmentally disabled
- No reported income or insurance

# Claiborne Encampment – Three Distinct Cohorts

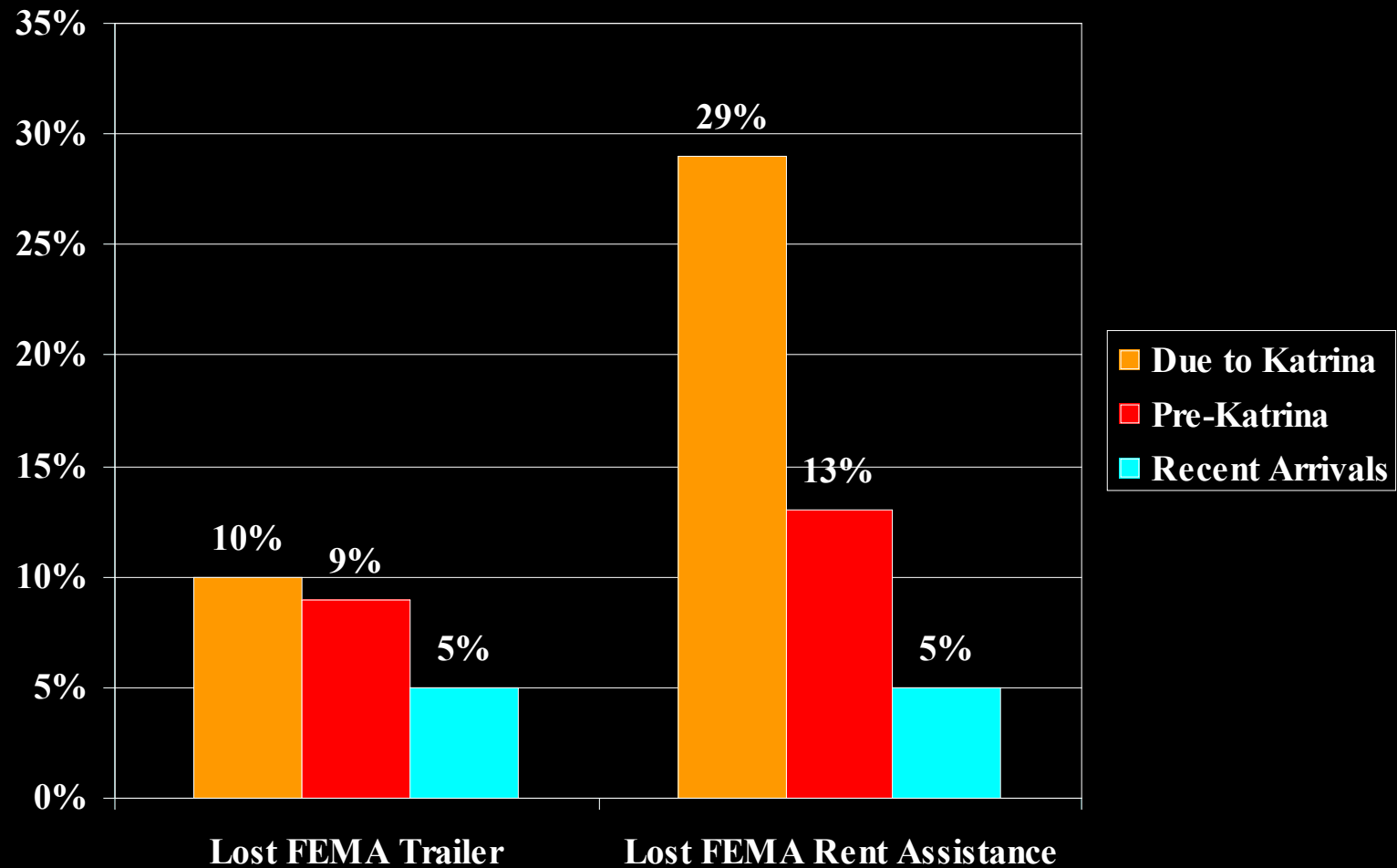
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# Claiborne Encampment - Vulnerability



# Claiborne Encampment - FEMA



31% lost FEMA trailer or Rental Assistance

# Abandoned Buildings

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- 74 (64%) have slept in an abandoned building since becoming homeless

# Claiborne Encampment Victims of Violent Crime

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- 33% report being a victim of a violent crime since becoming homeless

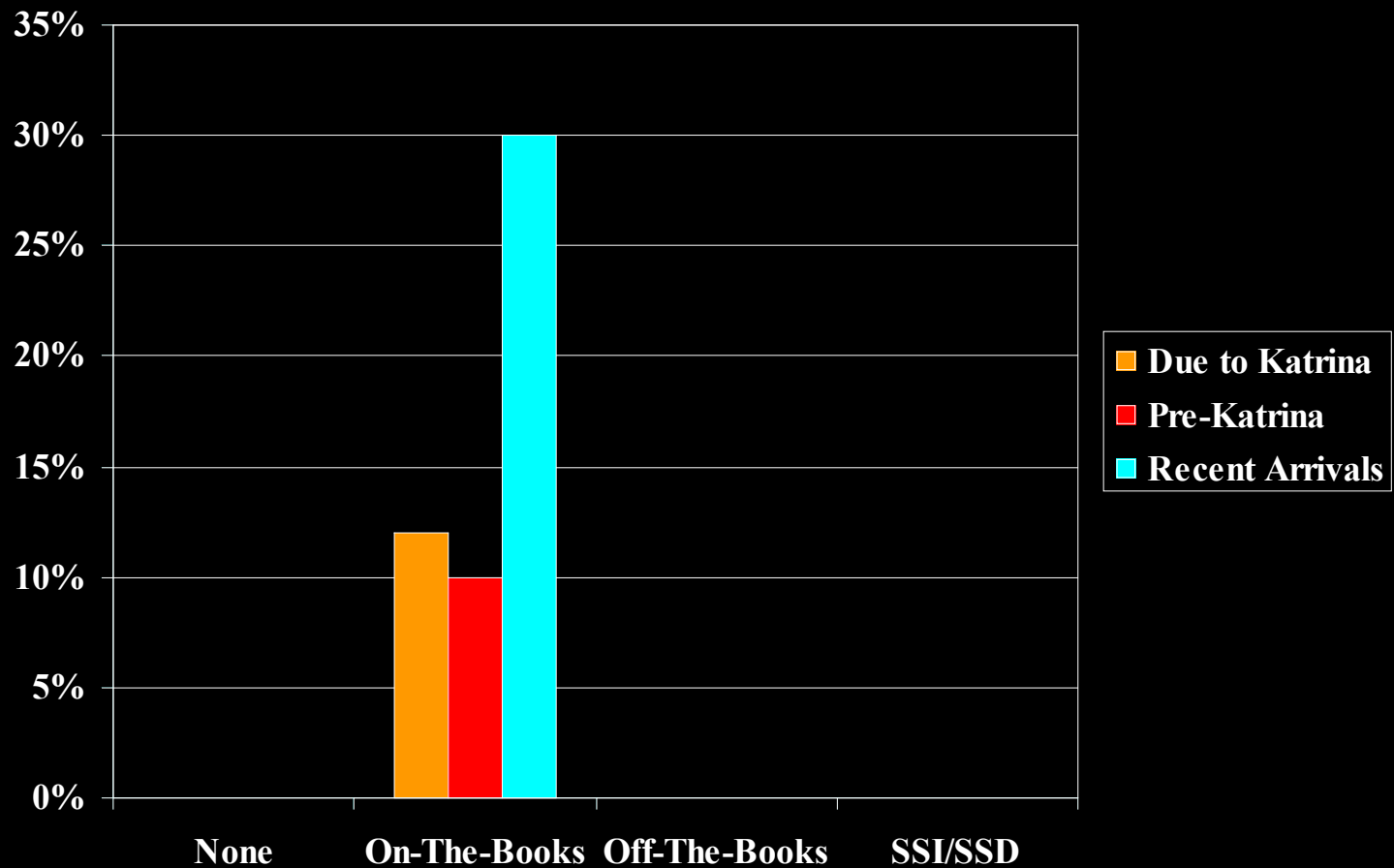


# Institutional History

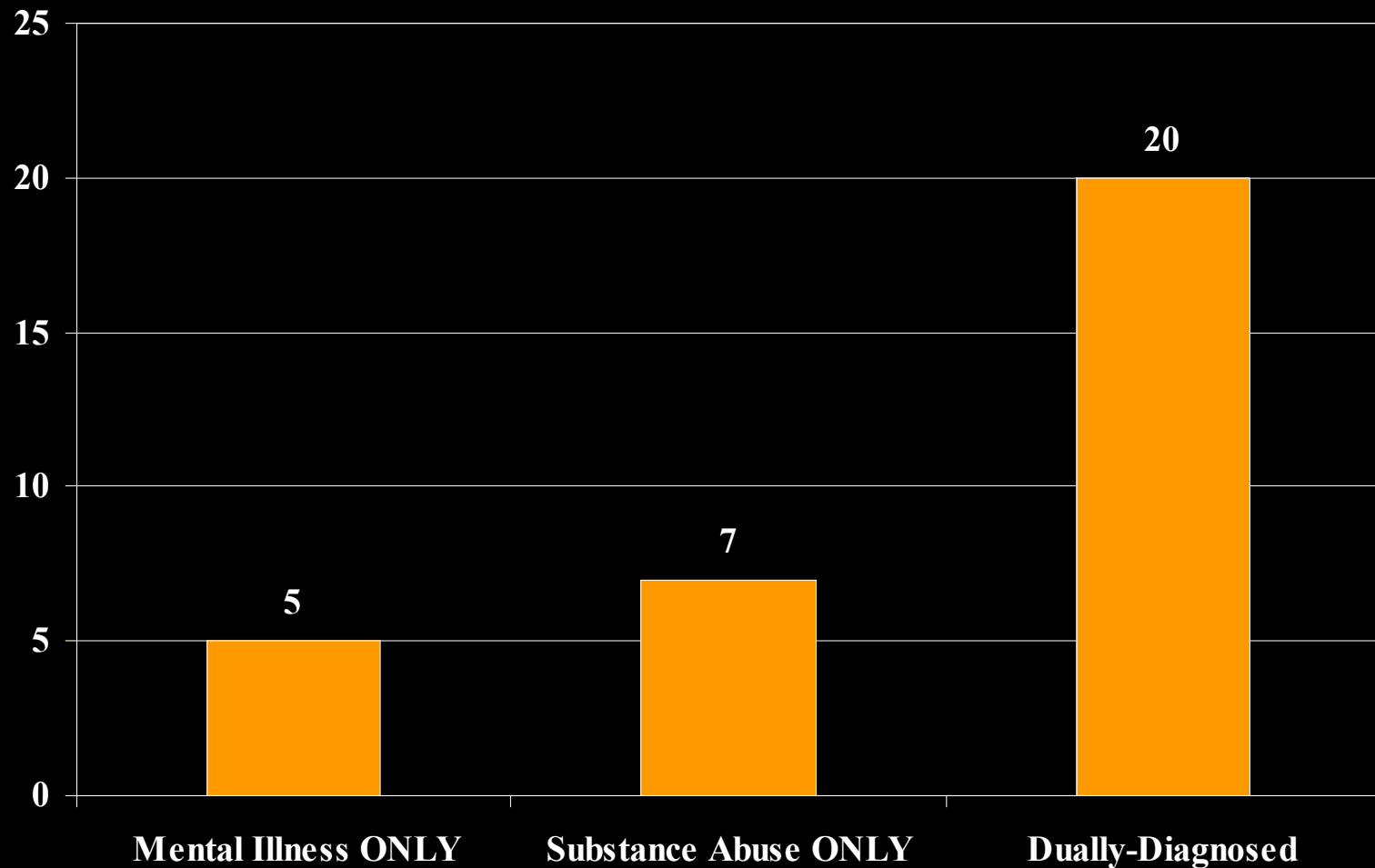
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- 19 (15.6%) are veterans
  - 8 have VA insurance
  - 3 have VA benefits
- 83% have been in jail
- 37% have been in prison
- 9% were in foster care

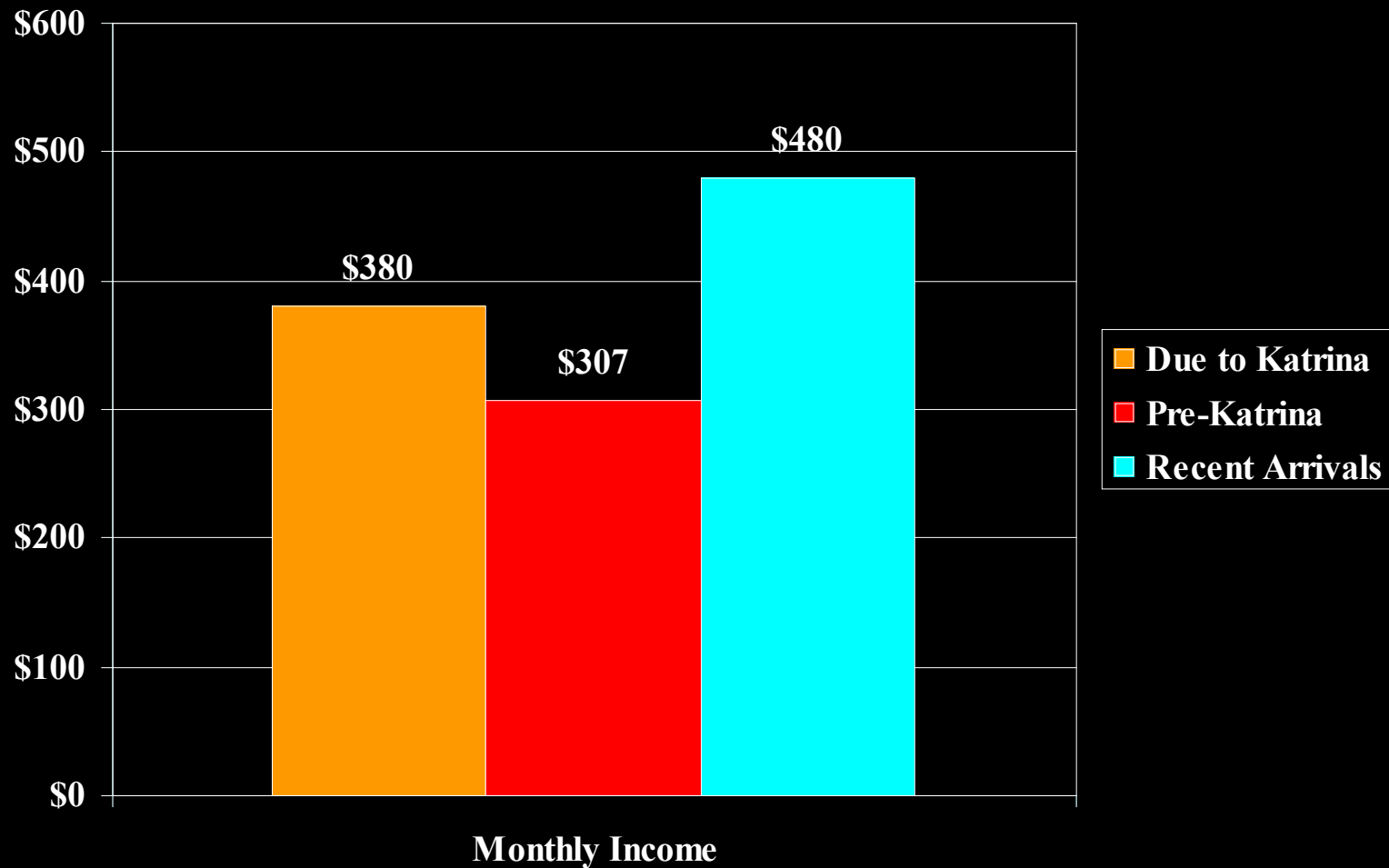
# Claiborne Encampment Income Source



# Claiborne Encampment – Mental Health & Substance Abuse (of the 39 Most Vulnerable)



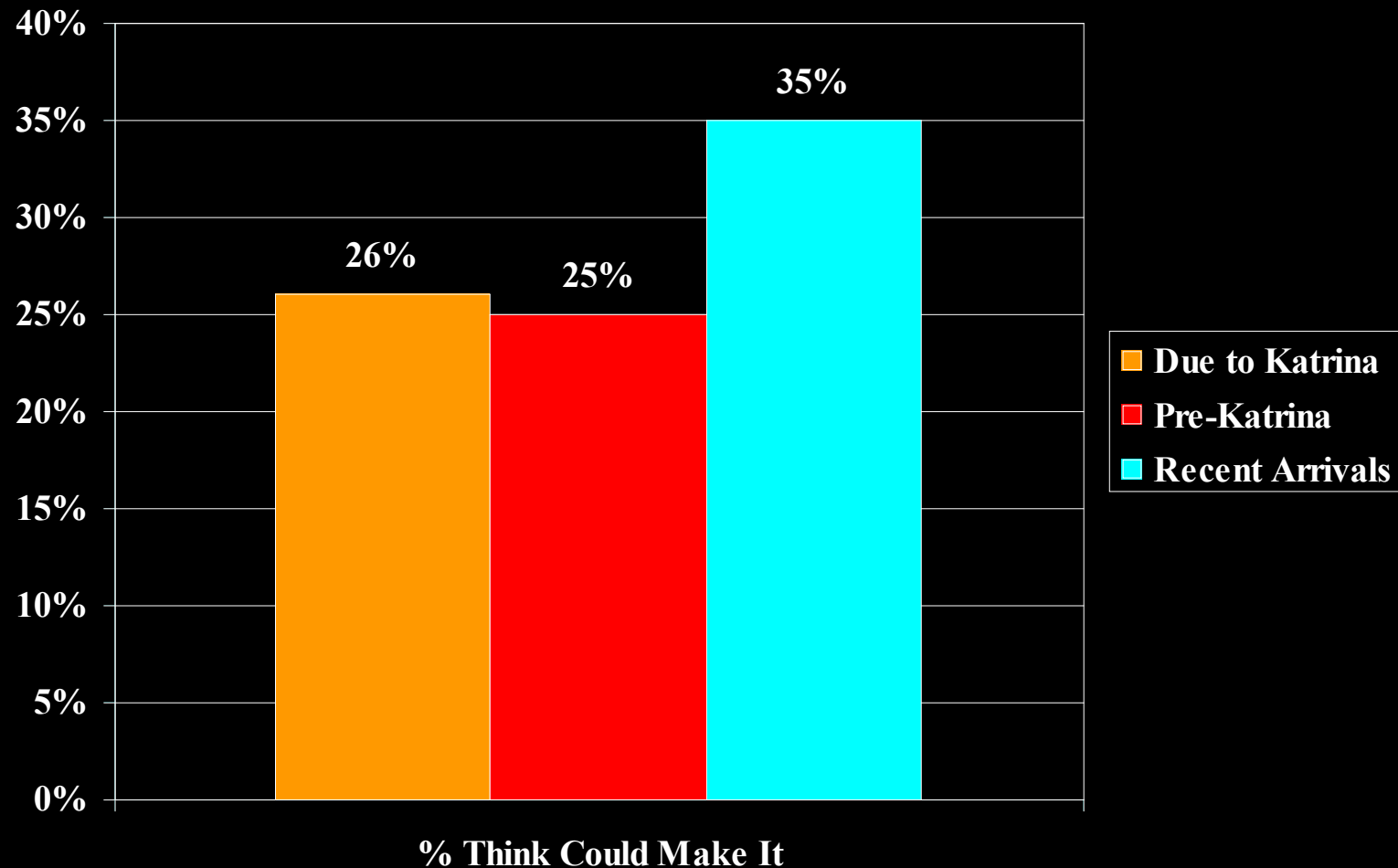
# Claiborne Encampment – Average Monthly Income



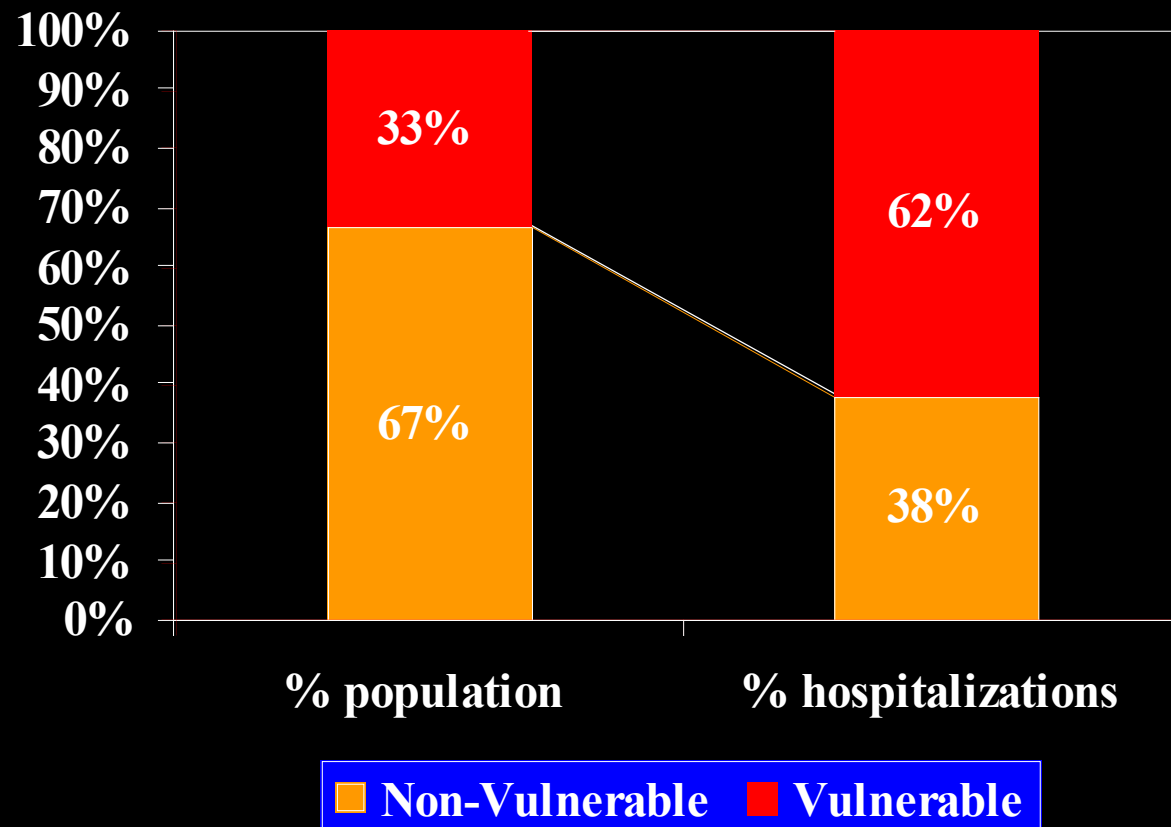
# Up-Front Rental Assistance Requests of Employed Homeless



# Claiborne Encampment – “Could Make it Once in Apartment”

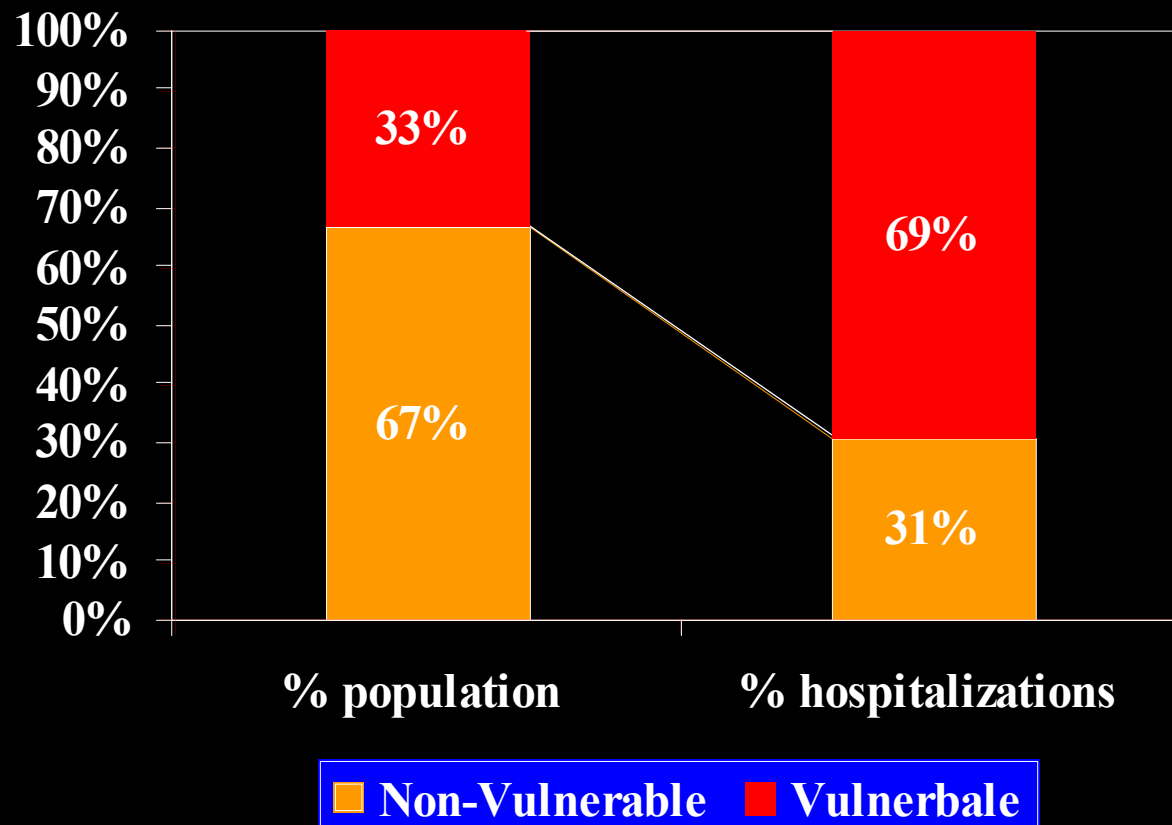


# Hospital Use by Claiborne Encampment Residents



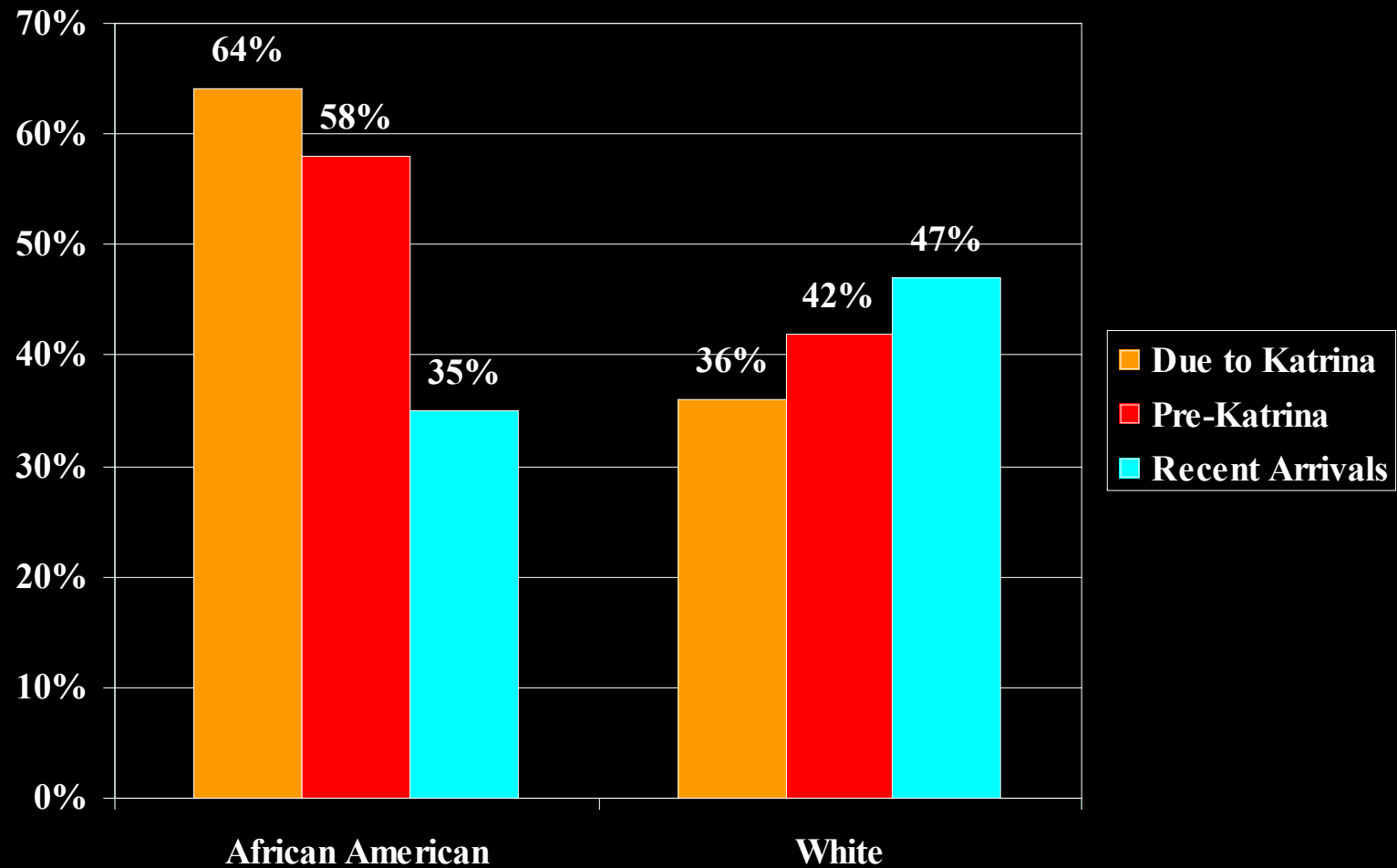
61 hospitalizations reported by 118 respondents

# Emergency Room Visits by Claiborne Encampment Residents

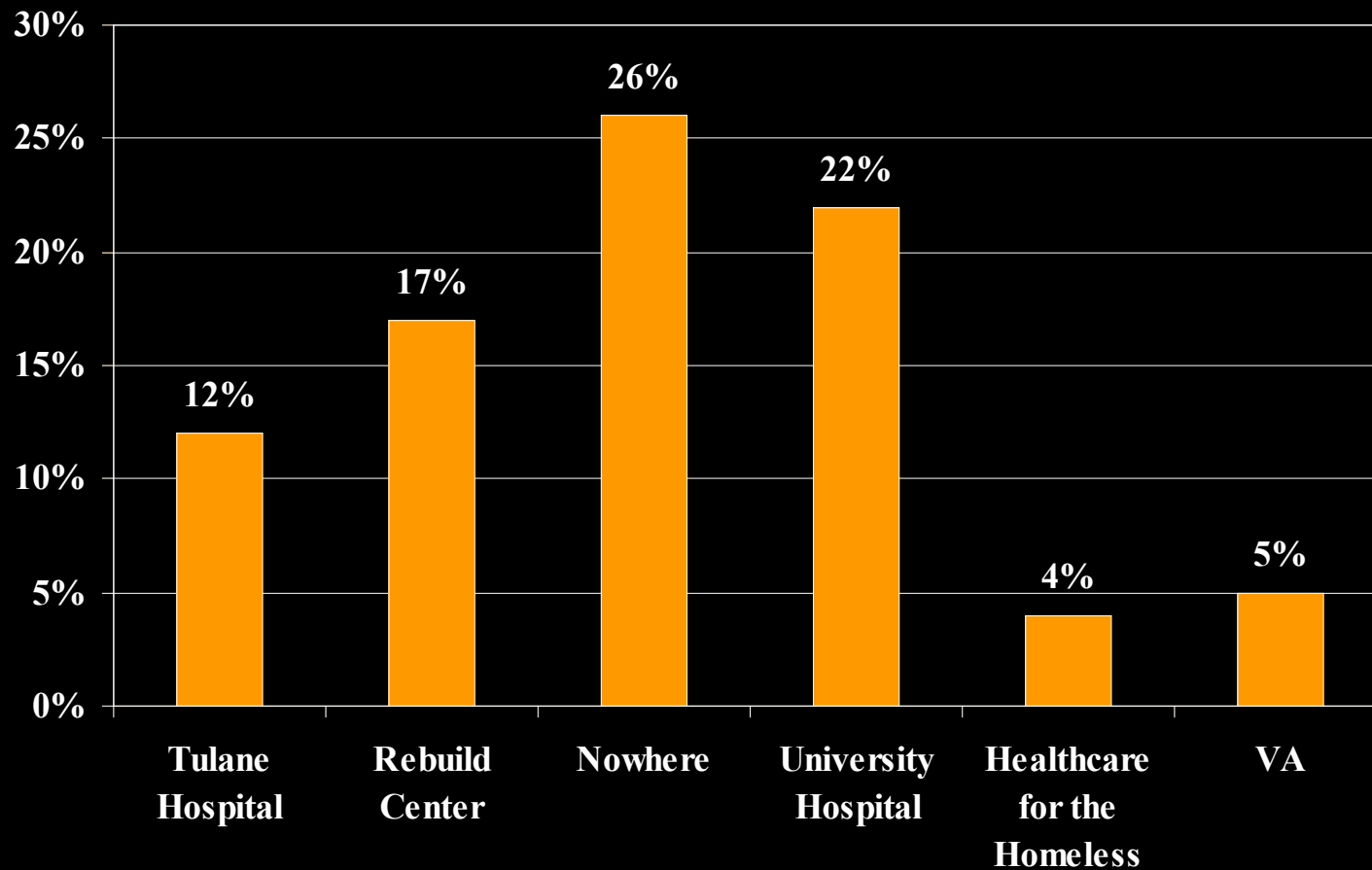


**91 reported ER visits in past 3 months**

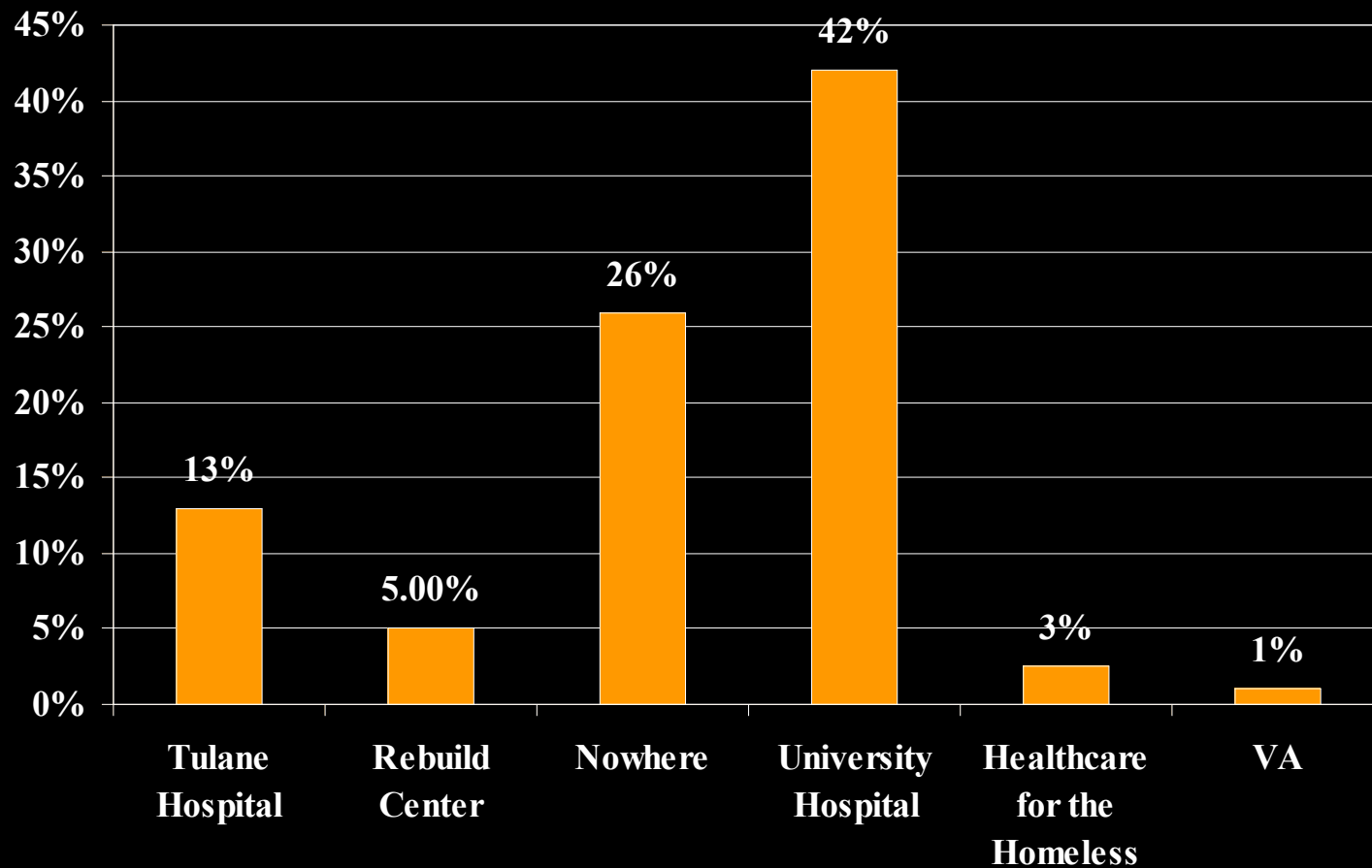
# Claiborne Encampment-Race/Ethnicity



# Where Claiborne Residents go for Routine Health Care Needs

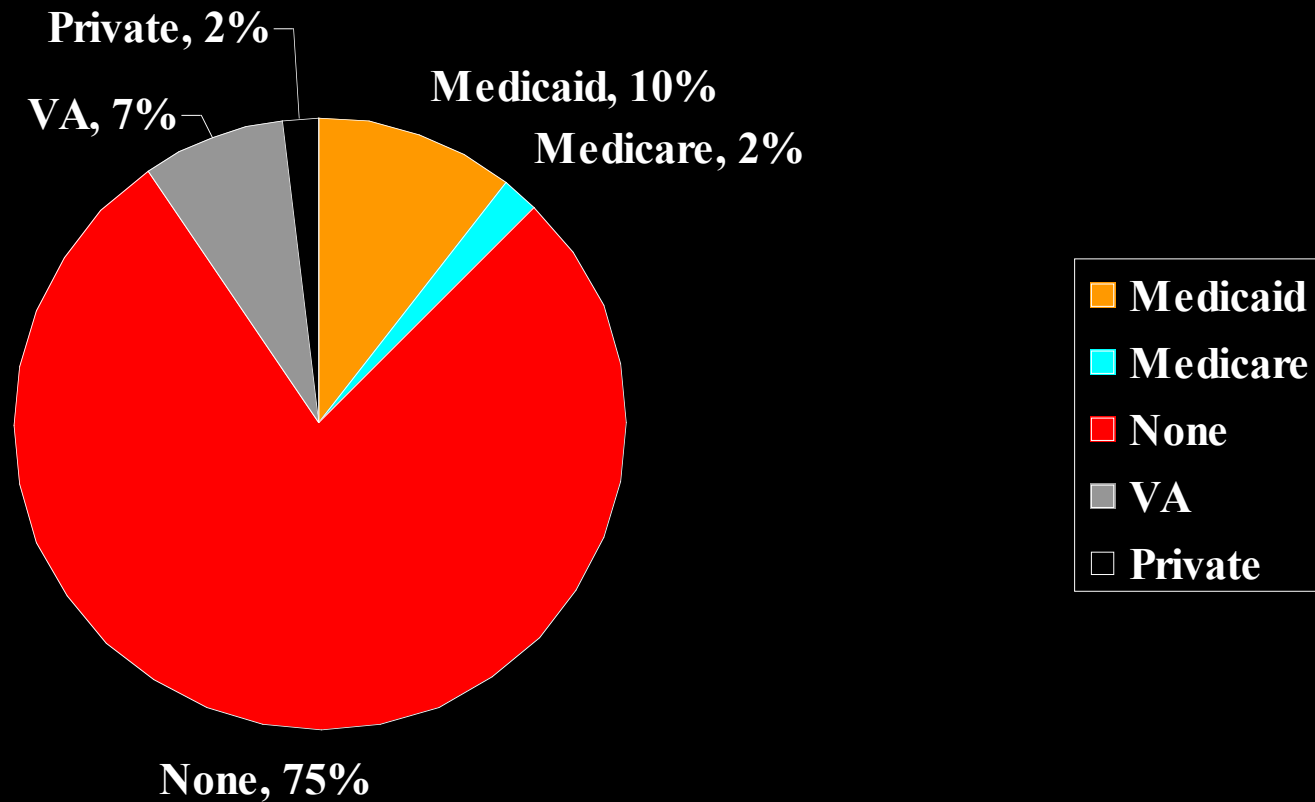


# Claiborne Encampment – Emergency Health Care Services



# Claiborne Encampment - Insurance

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# Different Strategies for Disabled and Non-Disabled

## Disabled

- Permanent Supportive Housing
  - Apartments linked to tenant stabilization services (case management)
- Involvement of Government Agencies for Different Disabled Sub-populations
- Focus First on the 39 Most Vulnerable

## Non-Disabled

- Housing Search Assistance
- Job Training and Placement Services

# Recommendations

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- Different strategy for each cohort:
  - 30% - Lost FEMA assistance and are now homeless (29)
  - 10% Employment and “1 shot deal” for 11 Recent Arrivals seeking work
  - 5% Diversion to their home town for 6 people who were homeless when they arrived in New Orleans
  - 15% - Veterans Administration 19 veterans, but only 3 have VA benefits
  - 42% - University Hospital – 51 individuals have been to the emergency room – Hospital to Home for frequent users

# Recommendations

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- Find or Fund immediate housing-based case management services
- Assemble Permanent State and Federal Supportive Housing Resources
- Health Care for the Homeless to assist with physical and mental health services for vulnerable cohort now and once housed
- Greater NOPD enforcement presence in camp to reduce victimization and violent attacks
- City-wide strategy with targeted interventions similar to those for the Claiborne Encampment