



Fall 2025 Kitsap County Veterans Stand Down



September 27, 2025





Veterans Stand Down

- Stand Down: “...a relaxation of status of a military unit or force from an alert or operational posture.” A time to take care of your needs.
- The event is organized by volunteers of the Kitsap Area Veterans Alliance (KAVA) and members of the Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board.
- The Veterans Stand Down is a longstanding semi-annual event focused on providing the veterans of Kitsap County with resources and information about veteran's benefits.
- All veterans are invited to attend but special attention is given to the indigent and homeless veterans of Kitsap County.
- Over 30 Community Service Providers enthusiastically supported the event by providing representatives who staffed information tables.
- 95 Veterans registered with their 92 family members at the Stand Down and about 70 veteran volunteers supported the event. 16 Veterans were homeless, up from 11 who attended the April 2025 event.
- 9 of the registered attendees were residents of the WDVA Transitional Housing Unit at Retsil up from 8 who attended the April 2025 event.

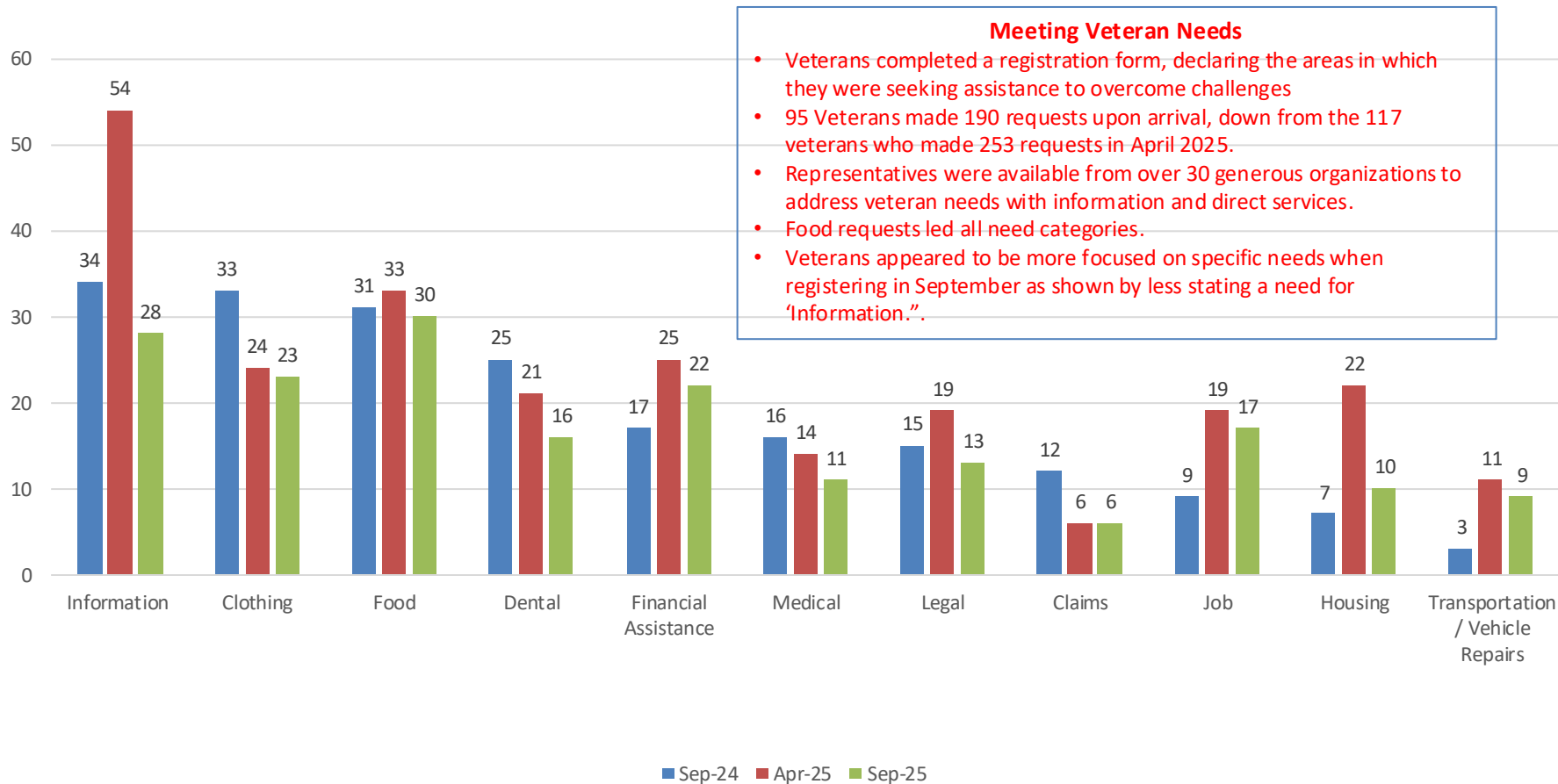


A Closer Look At The Kitsap County Veterans Stand Down





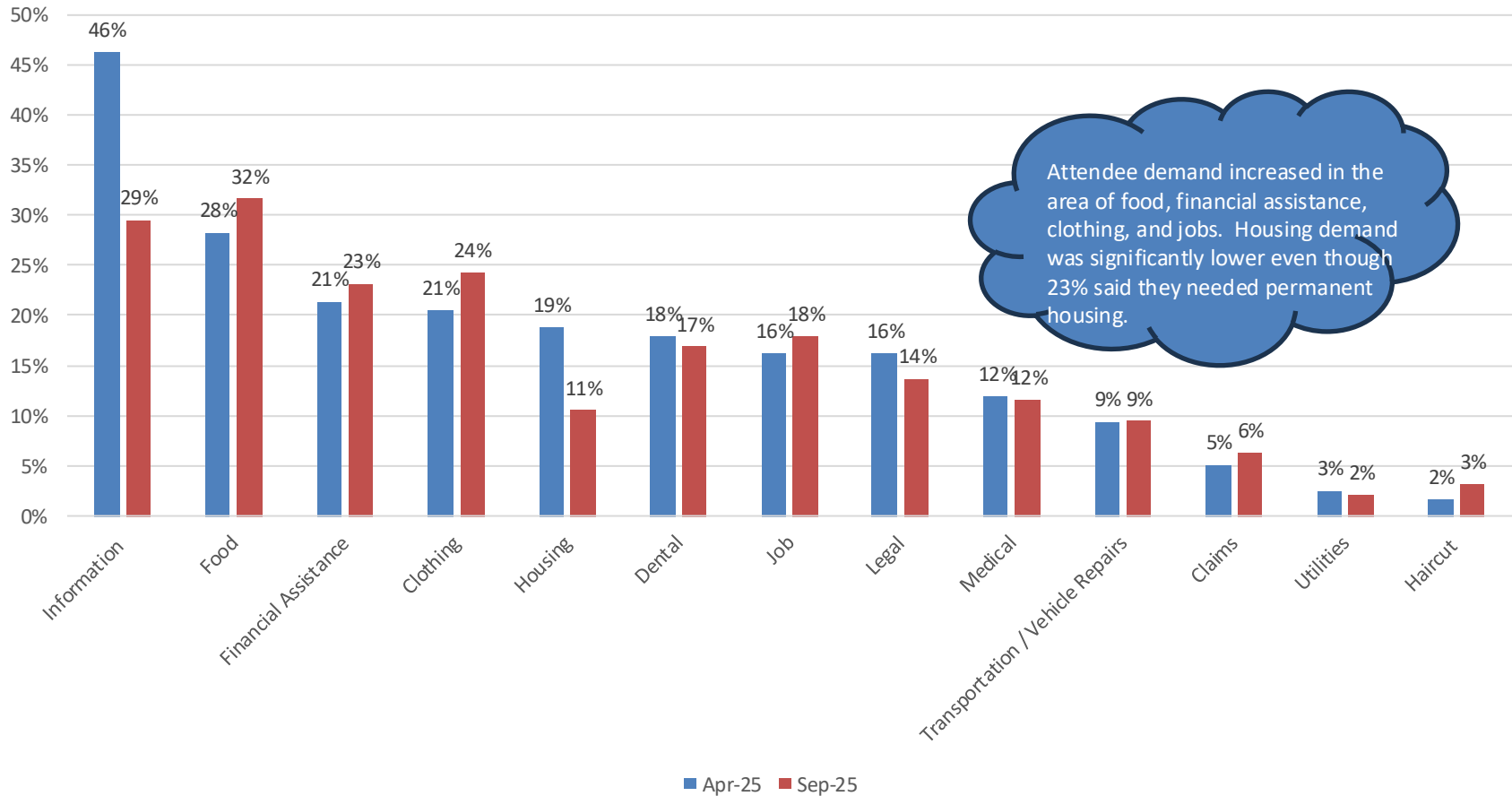
I need help with...





I need help with...

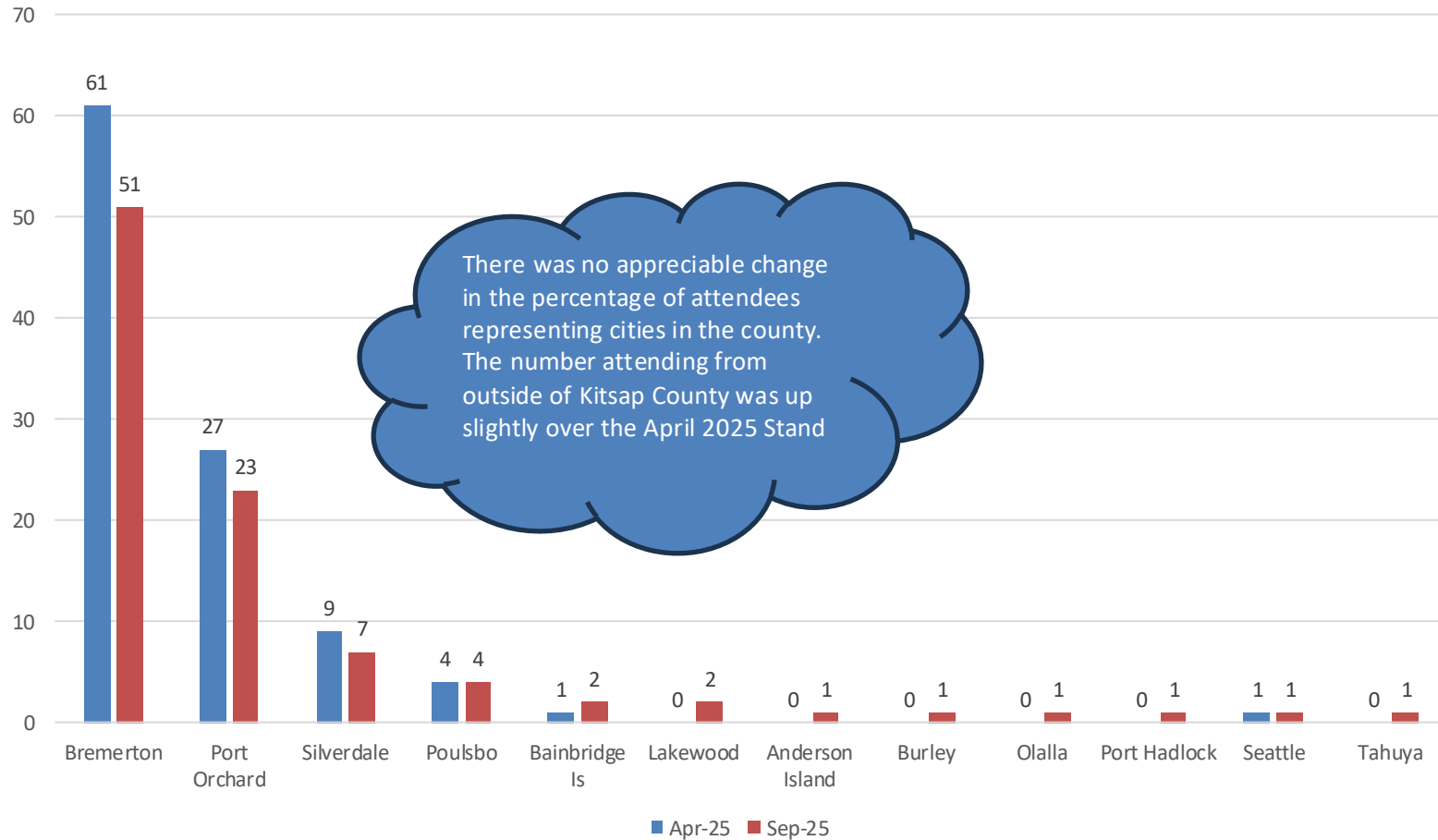
Requested Services as a Percentage of Attendees





The Attendees

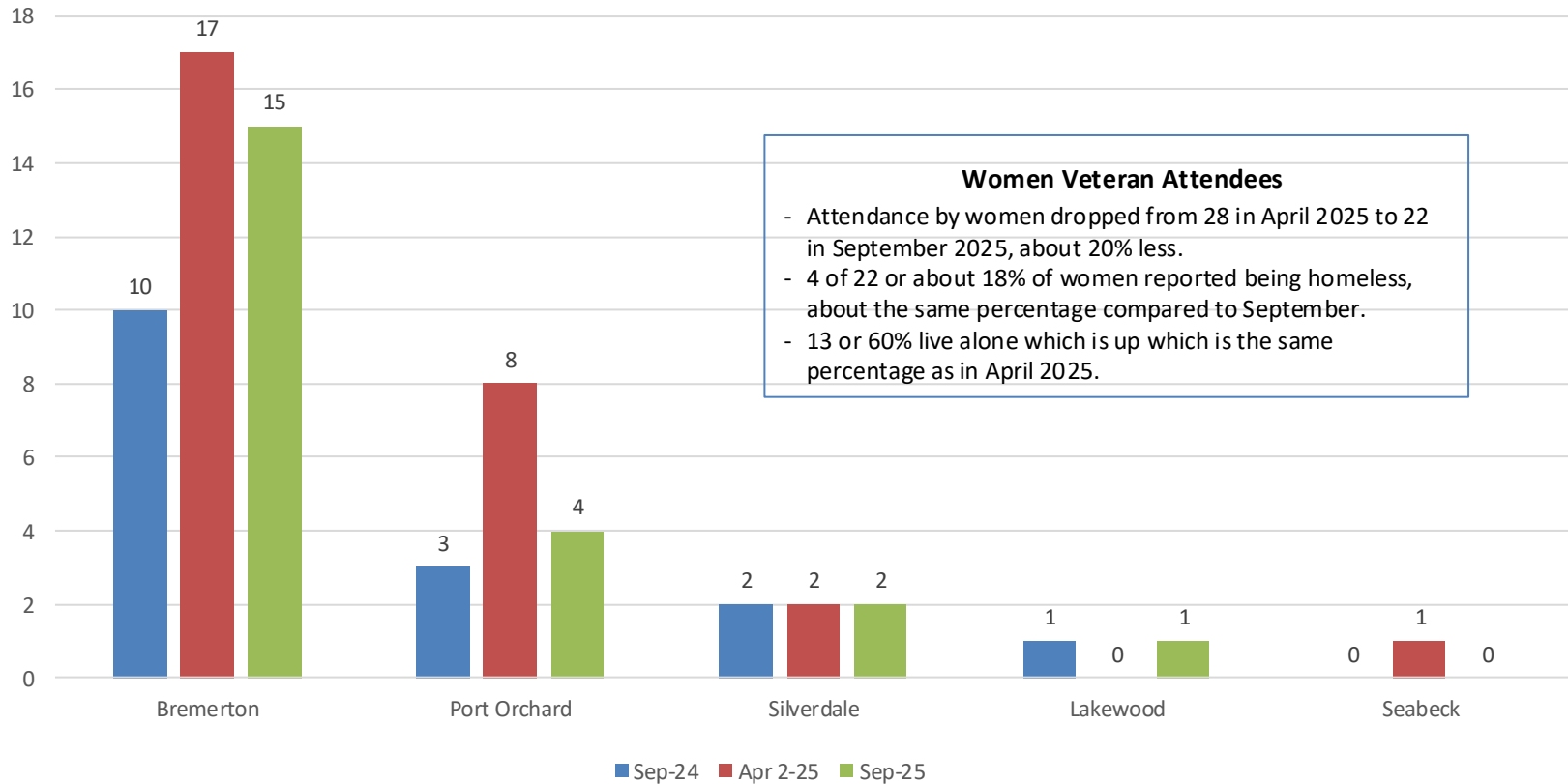
Attendees live in





The Attendees

Women attendees live in ...

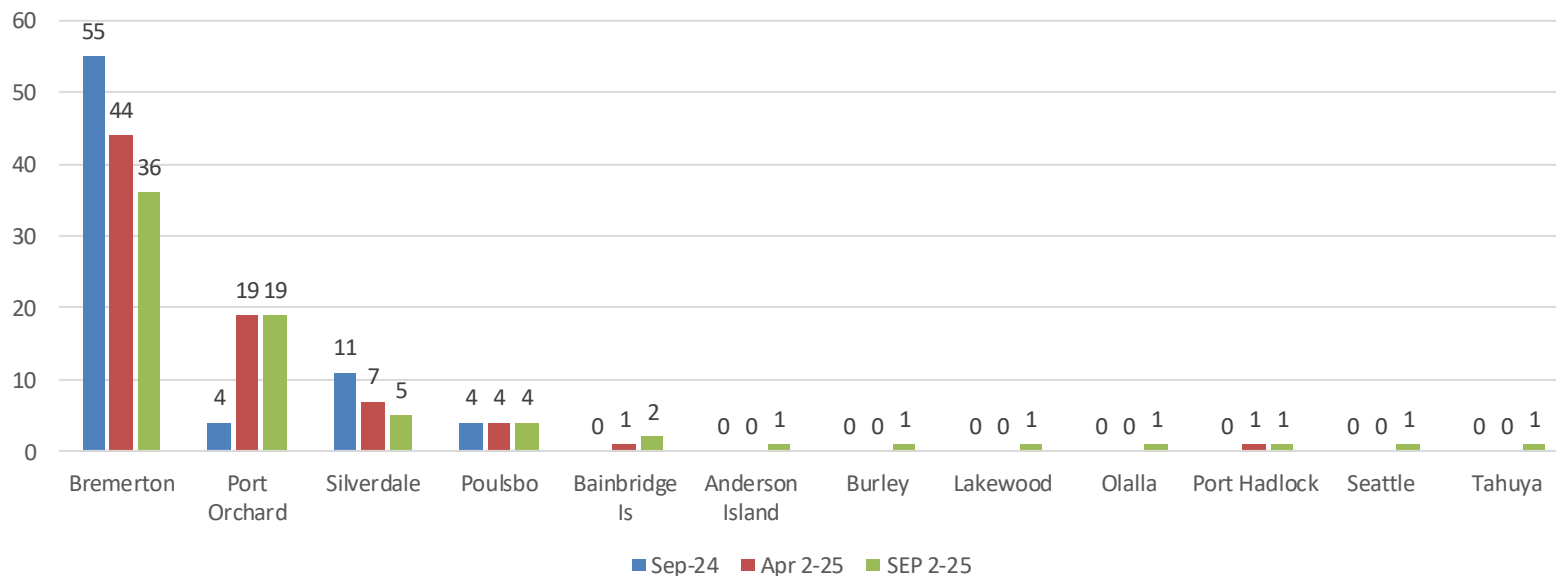


Data as of September 27, 2025



The Attendees

Men attending live in...



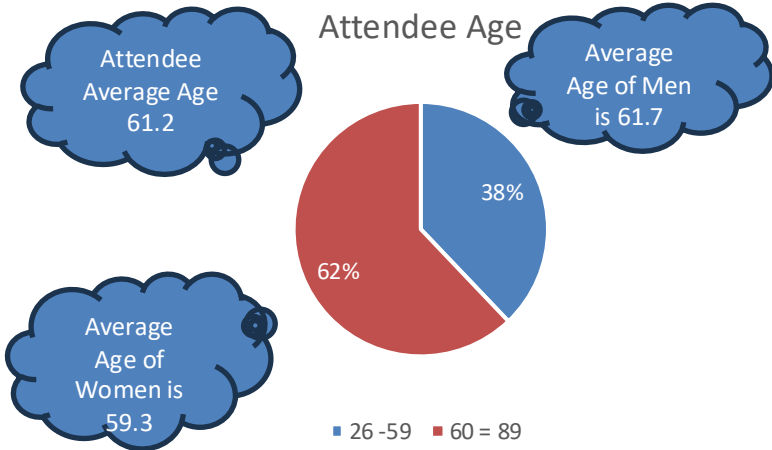
Male Veteran Housing				
	Apr-24	Sep-24	Apr-25	Sep-25
Own Home	84%	62%	83%	57%
Transitional Housing	6%	10%	7%	12%
Car	5%	2%	4%	0%
Street	2%	3%	0%	4%
Motel	1%	0%	1%	0%
Shelter	1%	0%	0%	0%
Couch Surfer	0%	0%	4%	4%

Male Veteran Attendees

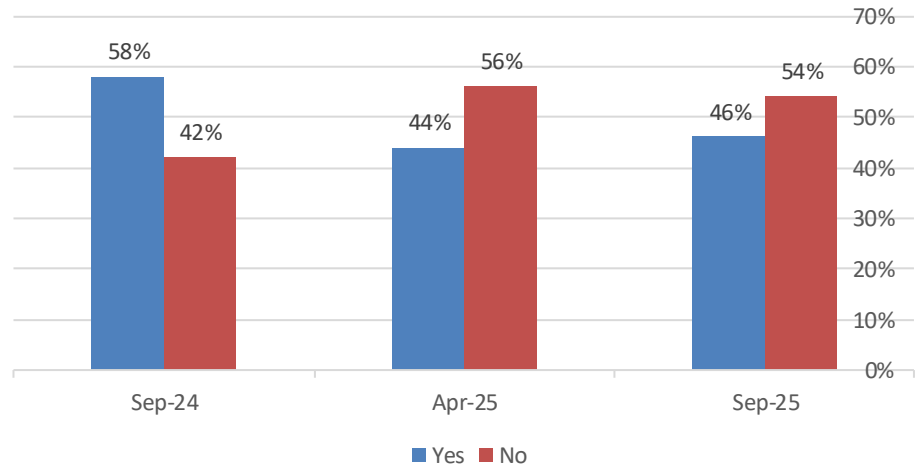
- 20% report being homeless up from 16% in September.
- 52% are single, up from 47% in September.
- 56% live with others down from 76% in April 2025.
- Average monthly income is about \$2962, down from \$3,511, in April 2025 and less than \$3658 in September 2024.
- Average household size is 2.0 down from 2.1 in April 2025.
- Average household of 2 is living under 200% of the federal poverty level by about \$300 dollars per month.
- Average single attendee is living under 200% of the Federal Poverty Level by \$635 dollars per month.



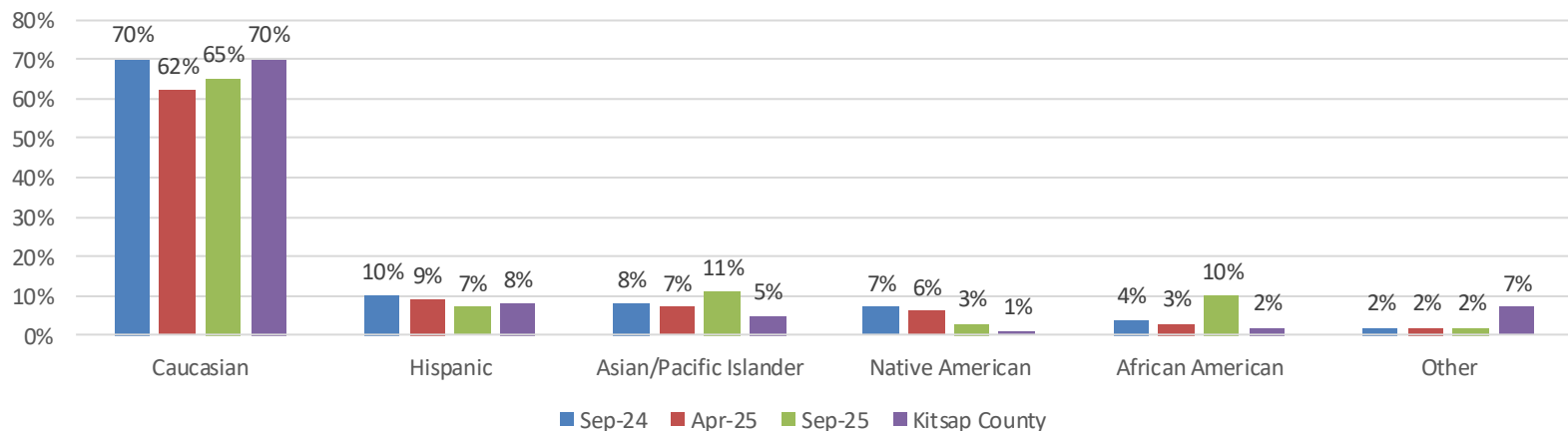
The Attendees



Have you attended a Stand Down in the past?



Ethnicity

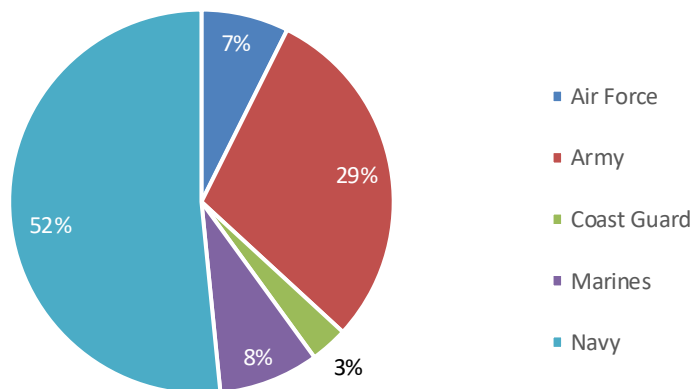


Data as of September 27, 2025



The Attendees

Service Affiliation

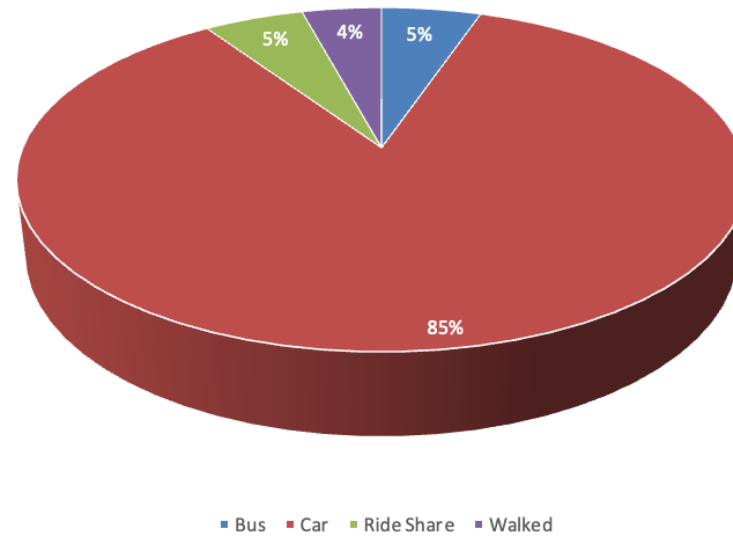


Housing	Active	Honorable	Medical	Other Than Honorable	Under Honorable Conditions	Grand Total
Car		1				1
Couch		4				4
Homeless		1				1
Own	1	64	2	3	3	73
Street		2				2
Tent					1	1
Transitional	1	8		2	1	12
Transitional (blank)		1				1
Total	2	81	2	5	5	95



The Attendees

How did you travel to the Stand Down?

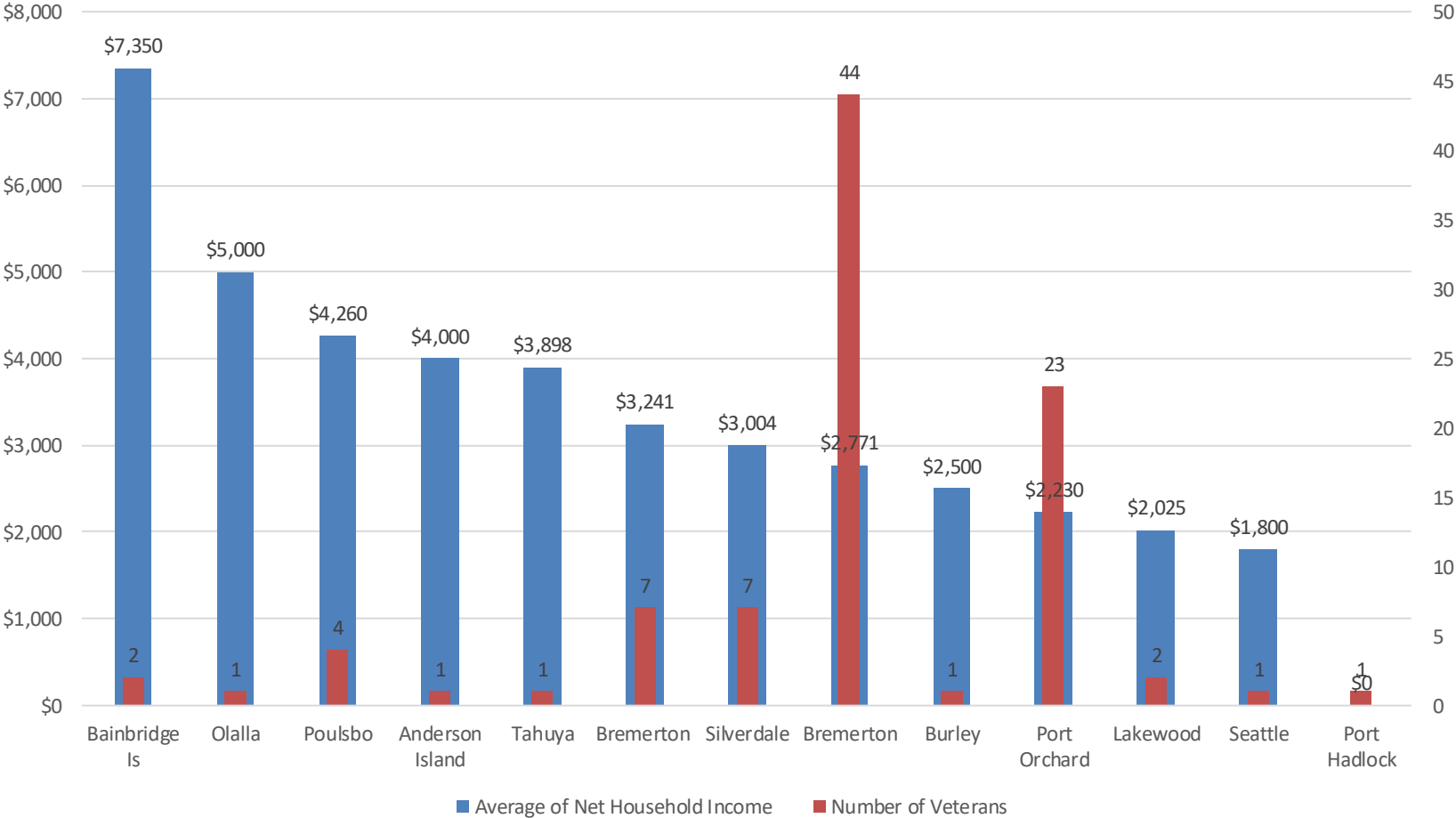


Transportation		
Car	81	77%
Ride Share	5	5%
Walked	4	4%
Bus	5	5%



Housing

Average Attendee Income by City

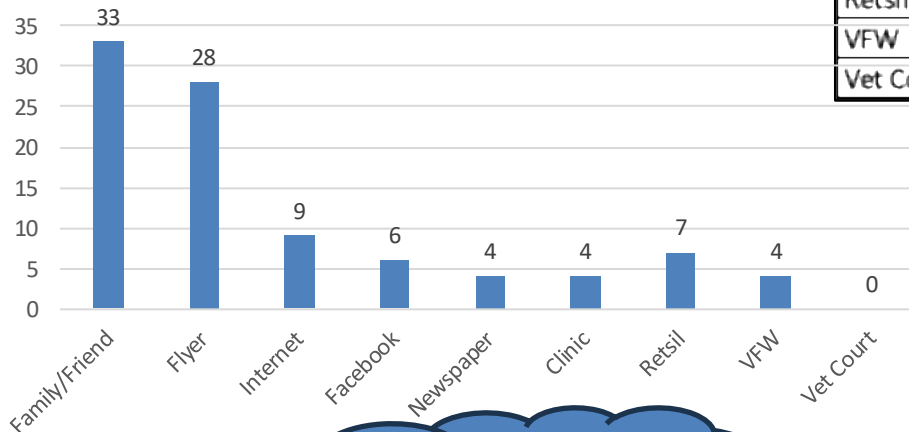


Data as of September 27, 2025



Advertising / Transportation

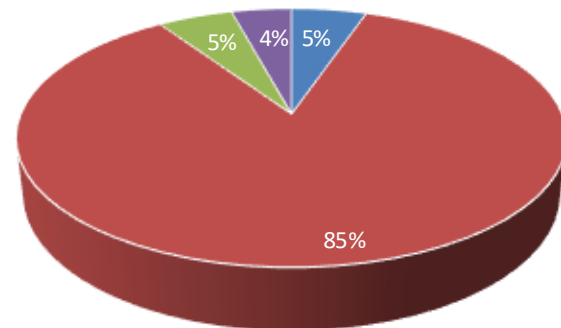
How did you hear about the Stand Down September 2025



One person credited the billboard ad influencing him to attend.

Advertising Sources					
Source	APR 2024	SEP 2024	Apr-25	Sep-25	Trend
Family/Friend	37%	32%	32%	32%	↘
Flyer	15%	22%	34%	29%	↗
Internet	3%	15%	1%	9%	↗
Facebook	9%	10%	14%	6%	↗
Newspaper	10%	8%	5%	4%	↘
Clinic	0%	5%	11%	4%	↗
Retsil	0%	4%	3%	7%	↗
VFW	0%	2%	9%	4%	↗
Vet Court	0%	1%	0%	0%	↘

How did you travel to the Stand Down?

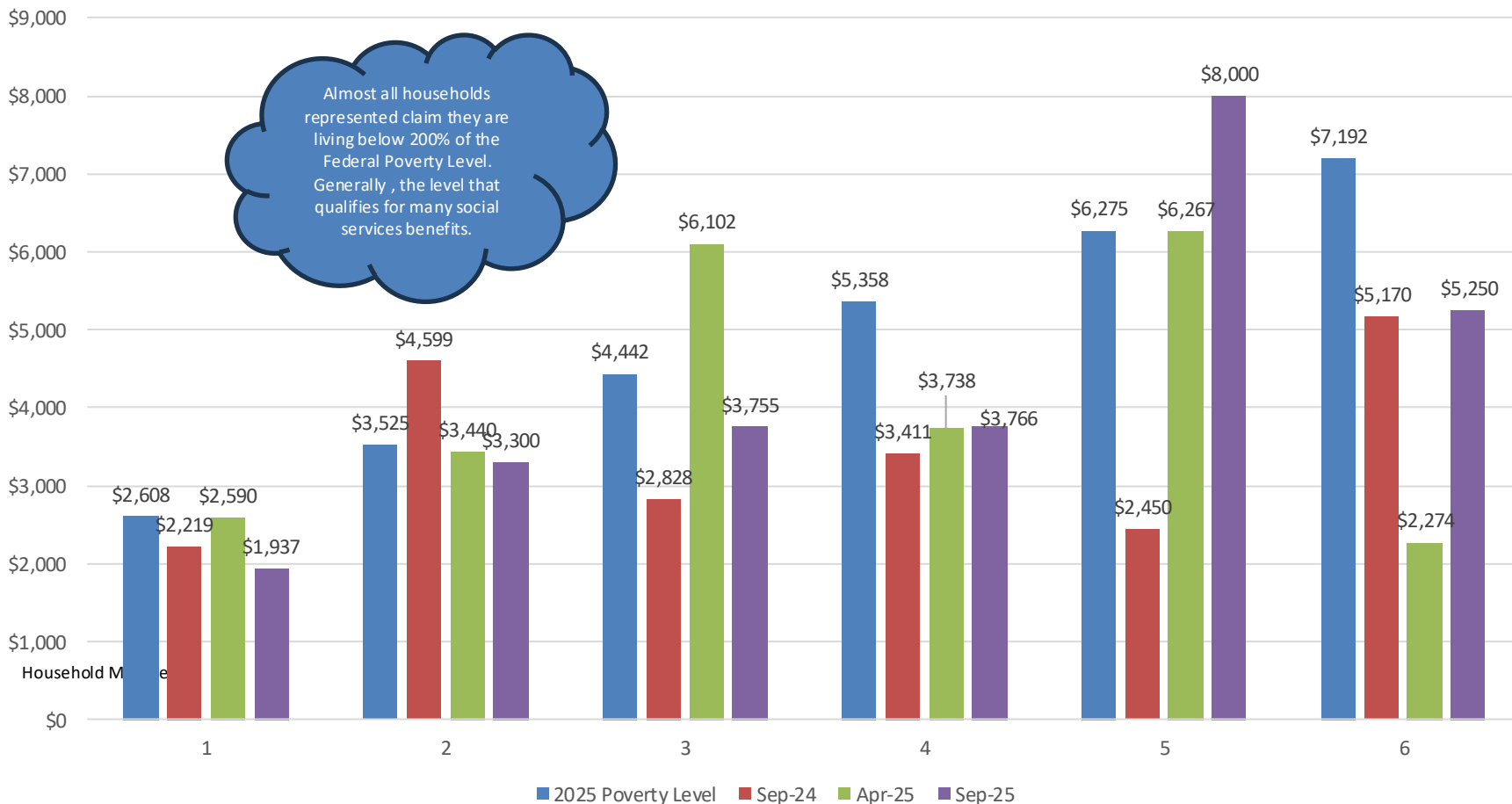


■ Bus ■ Car ■ Ride Share ■ Walked



Household Size and Income

Comparing Monthly Net Household with 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

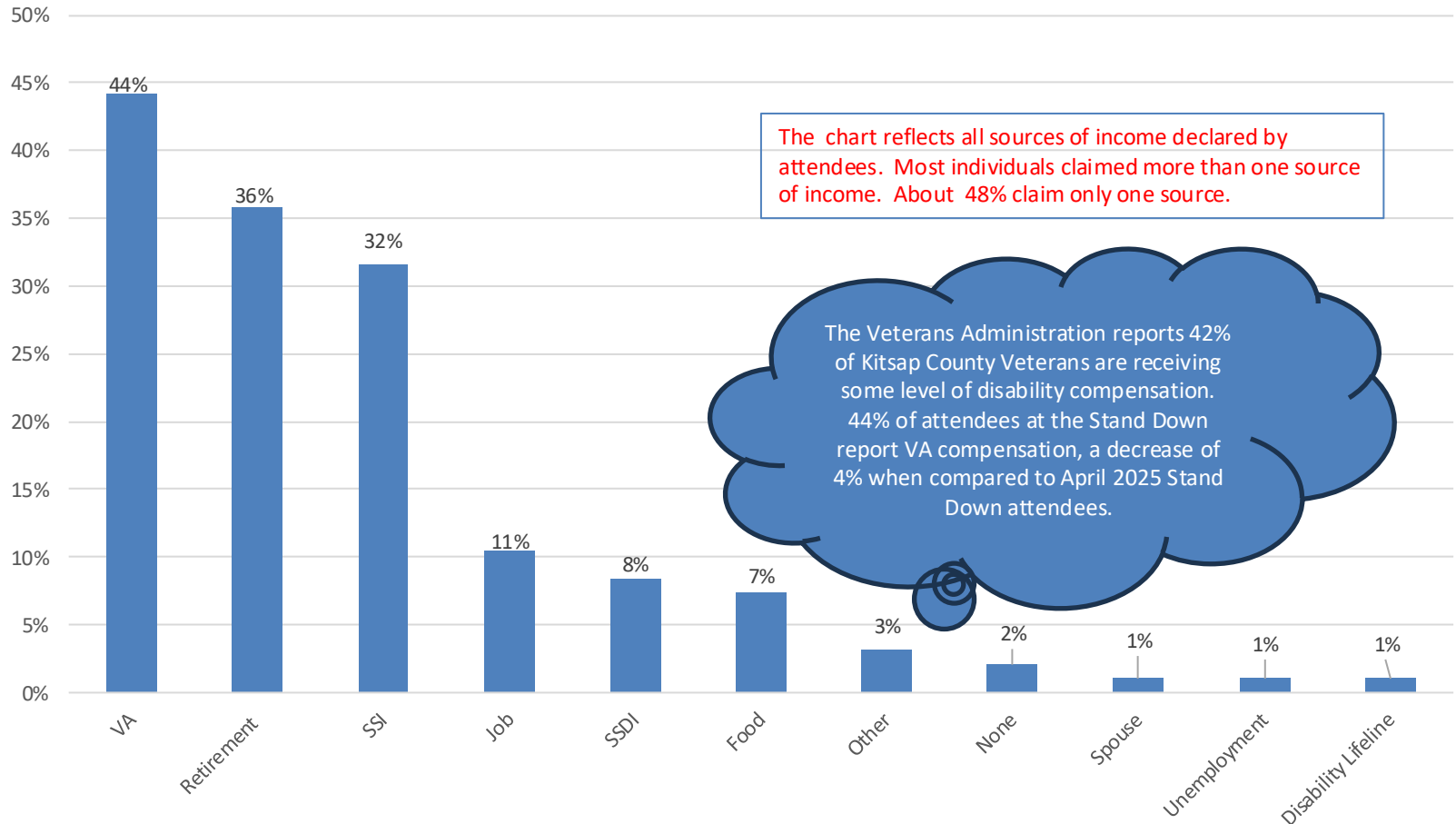


Data as of September 27, 2025



Household Size and Income

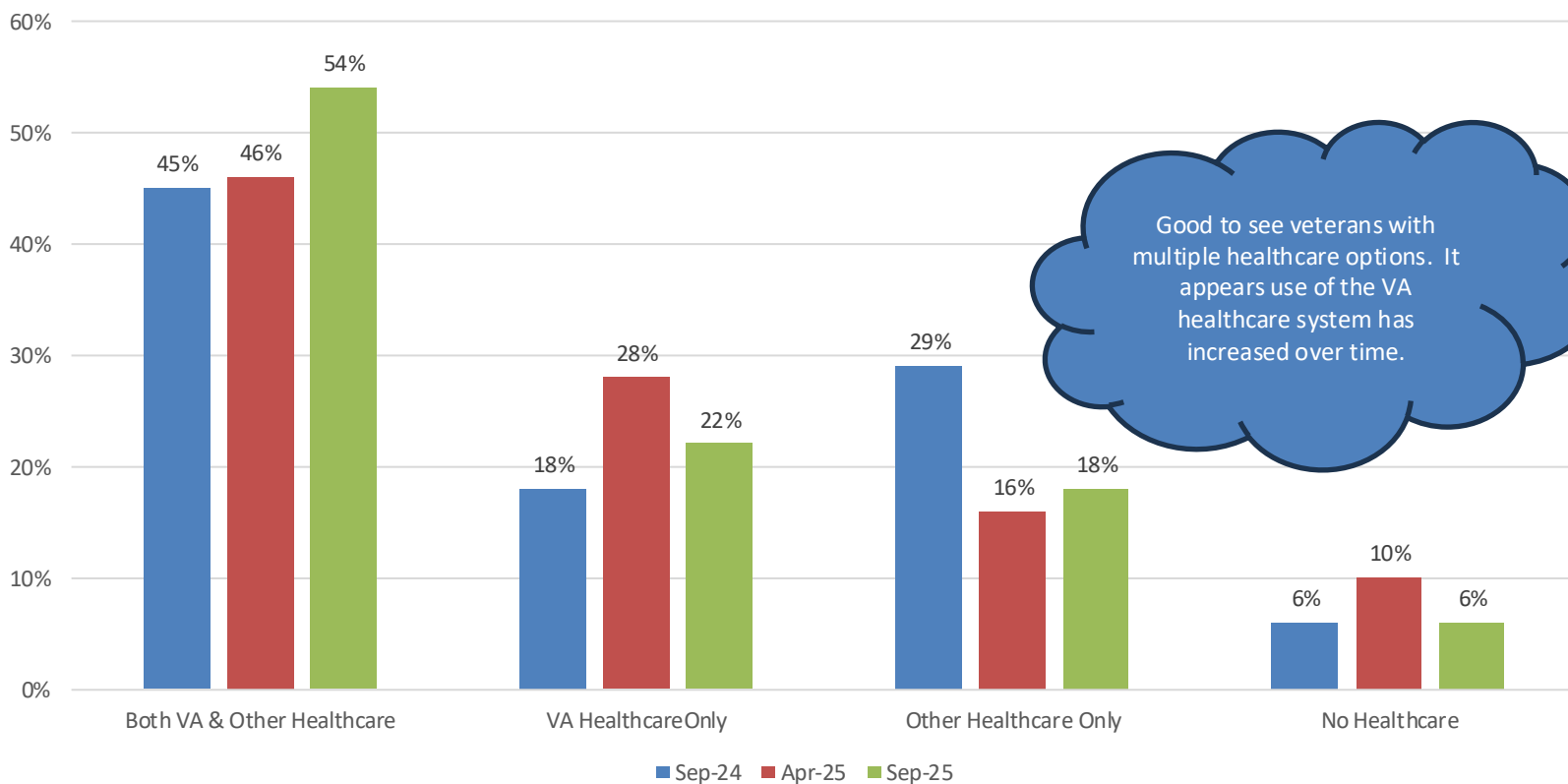
Veteran Income Sources





Healthcare

Veteran Healthcare Access



Data as of September 27, 2025



Summary

- Strong community support contributed to a successful Stand Down.
- Over 30 Community Resource providers delivered needed services and information.
- Evaluate provider invitations to assure veteran needs are addressed.
- Veteran attendance was down compared to the last two events. 188 Veterans and their family members registered.
- Strong volunteer support– mostly veterans - helped with the event
- About 54% attended the event for the first time, down from 56%.
- Most attendees live in Bremerton and Port Orchard. Out of county attendees increased slightly. 7 Retsil residents attended.
- About 70% of attendees live in 1 or two person households where monthly net income on average is below 200% of the federal poverty level for those households.
- About 13% of attendees reported holding jobs while 18% of attendees were seeking jobs.
- 77% of attendees reported living in their own homes down from 84% in April and 86% in September 2024.
- 23% of attendees declared they were not living in permanent housing or homeless which is the up from 16% in April 2025 and 14 % in September 2024.
- Stand Down attendees sought food, financial assistance, clothing, and jobs. at greater rates than in September 2024.



Moving Forward

- Maintain strong relationships with community service providers. Consider some sort of “thank you gift” for those supporting the event.
- Continue aggressive promotion activities for the April 2026 Stand Down, focusing on flyers and social media.
- Poulsbo participation was light but consistent. Continue to focus promotional activities in the north part of the county with outreach to the tribes and veteran service organizations.
- Increase emphasis on claims assistance at future Stand Downs. Work with VSOs to increase claims assistance at the event.
- Assure medical and dental support continues. Track dental van use and PCHS health and dental plan enrollment at the event.
- Financial struggles continue. Emphasize employment opportunities to improve income. Consider participation of more age appropriate employers.
- Prepare for future financial pressures as escalating costs in Washington state continue diminishing available funds among those on fixed incomes.



Questions

