



**Riverside
University
HEALTH SYSTEM**

Public Health

in affiliation with



Riverside County Public Health
Community Health Needs Assessment

Moreno Valley CHA Data

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report was to provide results that are specific to the City of Moreno Valley. For brevity, detailed methods and appendices have been removed.

This report is a custom analysis of data collected from a County-wide study measuring COVID-19 attitudes and health needs. The larger study includes comprehensive analyses and information regarding survey development, sampling protocol and timeframes, and data weighting. If desired, please contact RUHS-PH or HARC for a copy of these comprehensive reports.

This project was supported by Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Enhancing Detection funds, which expands upon previous COVID-19 awards and is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention by way of the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act Response Activities for Cross-Cutting Emerging Issues. The present report was developed by HARC, Inc. on behalf of Riverside University Health System – Public Health (hereafter referred to as RUHS – Public Health).

About RUHS – Public Health

Established in 1926, the Riverside University Health System-Public Health (RUHS-PH) is the local, public agency responsible with ensuring the health and well-being of county residents and visitors in service of the well-being of the community. RUHS-PH's values of respect, integrity, service, and excellence are demonstrated through their strong partnerships with community-based organizations, academic institutions, tribal organizations, faith-based organizations, local governmental agencies and community leaders, local business, social service providers, nongovernmental organizations and other relevant partner organizations necessary to improving the health and wellbeing of Riverside County's community.

About HARC

HARC, Inc. (Health Assessment and Research for Communities) is a nonprofit research and evaluation organization based in Riverside County. HARC advances the quality of life by helping community leaders use objective research and analysis to turn data into action. HARC specializes in providing data that helps improve the social determinants of health.

METHODS

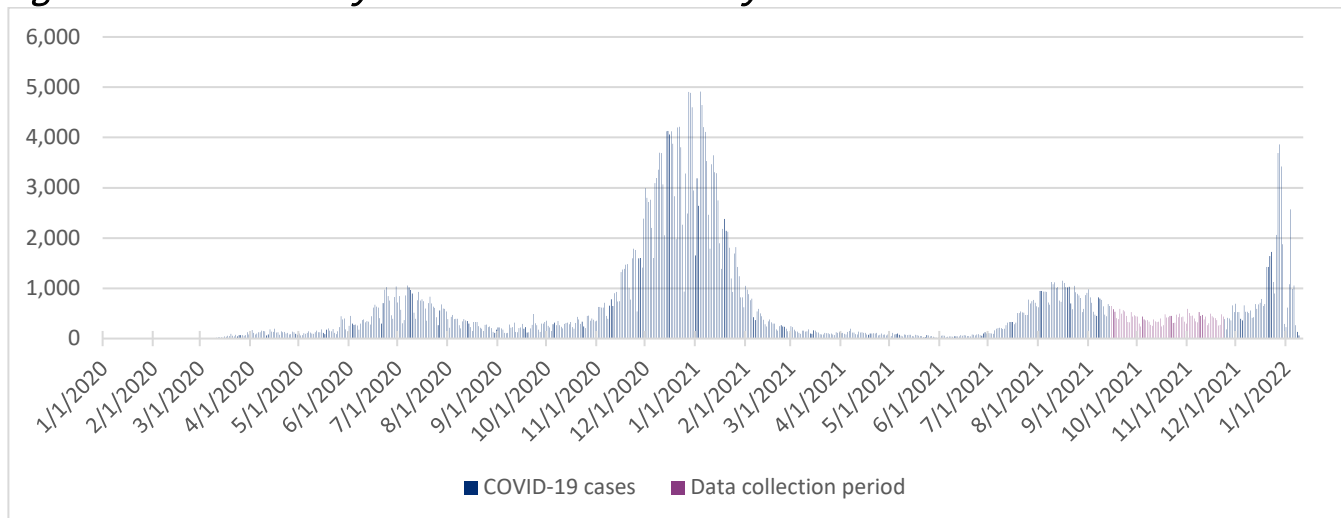
Ace Printing purchased a random sample of 40,000 households in Riverside County. HARC and Ace mailed an “invitation package” to all 40,000 households, which included a cover letter (in English and Spanish), a paper survey in English, a paper survey in Spanish, a pre-paid return envelope, and a \$2 bill as a pre-incentive. Each survey was printed with a unique identifier code so that each household could only participate once. Invitation packages were mailed out in eight batches of 5,000 on the following dates:

- Batch 1: 9/15/21
- Batch 2: 9/16/21
- Batch 3: 9/21/21
- Batch 4: 9/22/21
- Batch 5: 9/24/21
- Batch 6: 9/27/21
- Batch 7: 9/29/21
- Batch 8: 9/30/21

Residents were offered a \$25 Visa card as a post-incentive; as such, those who returned the survey were sent a \$25 Visa card within two weeks of receipt of their paper survey. On 11/24/21, the completed dataset was sent to a statistician for weighting. Weighting is important to ensure that the results of the survey appropriately represent the county. Missing data were imputed using a hot deck method. Iterative proportional fitting was used to ensure marginal distributions for age, sex, race by ethnicity, and household income aligned. In the end, a response rate of approximately 21.5% was achieved.

Figure 1 below provides additional context to the data collection timeline. That is, data was being collected right after the detection of the Delta variant and before the detection of the Omicron variant. The purple cases in the figure below indicate the data collection period.

Figure 1. COVID-19 Daily Cases in Riverside County



Note: Data in chart are from RUHS - Public Health.

RESULTS: Community Health Needs Assessment

For background purposes, 504 residents of Moreno Valley returned a survey back to HARC. When weighted, these 504 people become 120,046 residents. While figures/tables may include estimates such as “percentages”, “frequencies”, “counts”, etc., these all refer to weighted estimates and percentages. Furthermore, the survey results contain data for and are weighted for the adult population only. Thus, this report may refer to “residents” a number of times, and these residents are always residents who are ages 18 and older. That said, for comparative purposes, Riverside County estimates are provided in each section to understand how the city of Moreno Valley compares to the County of Riverside in each area.

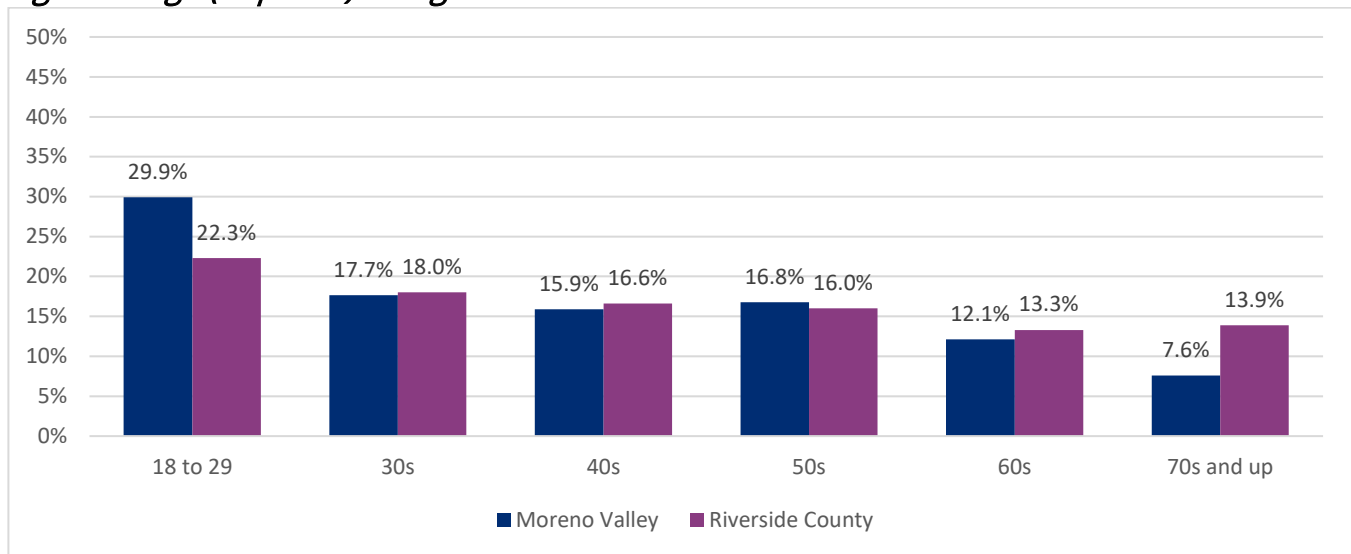
As noted earlier, these data are from a county-wide study. The original sample data was acquired through random sampling of the adult, Riverside County population, and was intended to be representative of the county-level geography. Conversely, the current report includes data filtered to the city of Moreno Valley residents (as well as Riverside County comparisons). Thus, estimates provided should not be interpreted as definitive estimates of the Moreno Valley population, but rather, as informative indicators.

Demographics

Age

Moreno Valley residents ranged in age from 18 to 96; the median age of residents was 41 whereas the average was 43. See the figure below for percentages of each age group as well as comparisons to Riverside County; overall, Moreno Valley residents were younger than Riverside County residents.

Figure 2. Age (Imputed) Categories

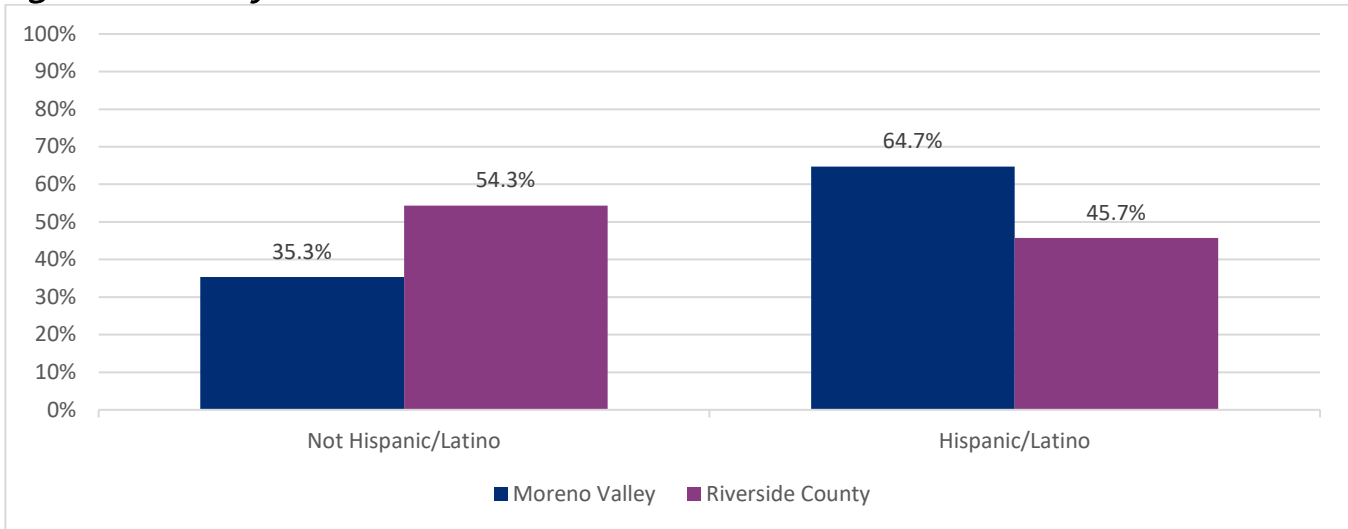


Note: Moreno Valley ($n = 120,046$), Riverside County ($n = 1,823,445$).

Ethnicity

Slightly more than half (64.7%) of Moreno Valley residents identify as Hispanic/Latino, whereas less than half (45.7%) of Riverside County residents identify as Hispanic/Latino.

Figure 3. Ethnicity

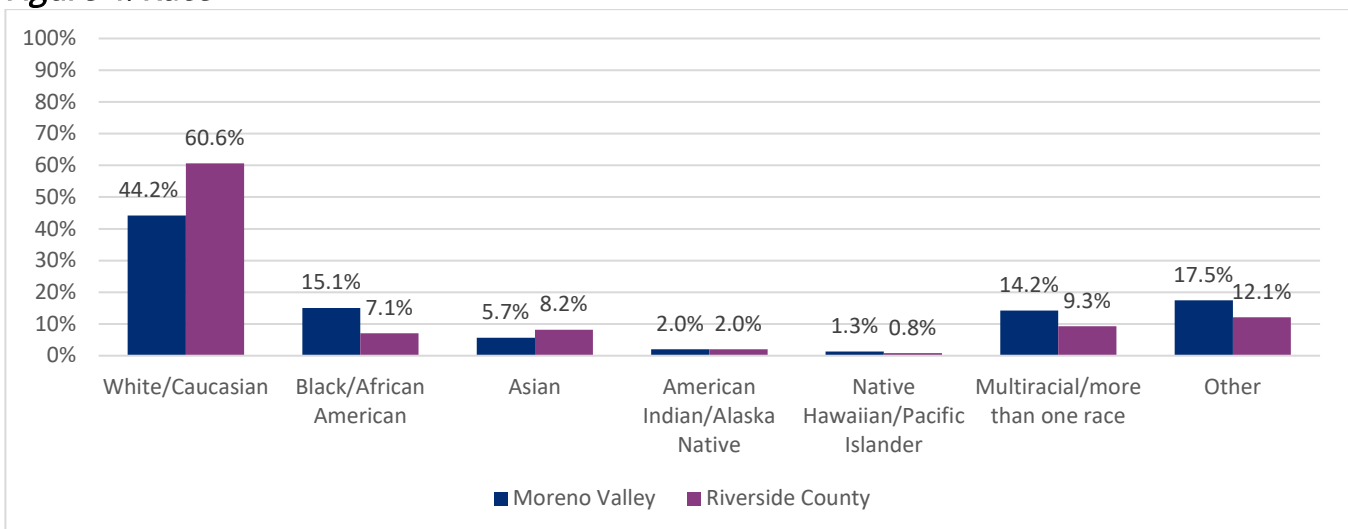


Note: Moreno Valley ($n = 118,209$), Riverside County ($n = 1,765,108$).

Race

When measuring race per the Census Bureau (that is, where Hispanic/Latino is an ethnicity and not a race), the plurality of Moreno Valley residents (44.2%) identified as White/Caucasian, substantially below the percentage for Riverside County (60.6%). The percent of Black/African American adults in Moreno Valley is double that of the County overall. See Figure 4 below for additional details as well as comparisons to Riverside County.

Figure 4. Race

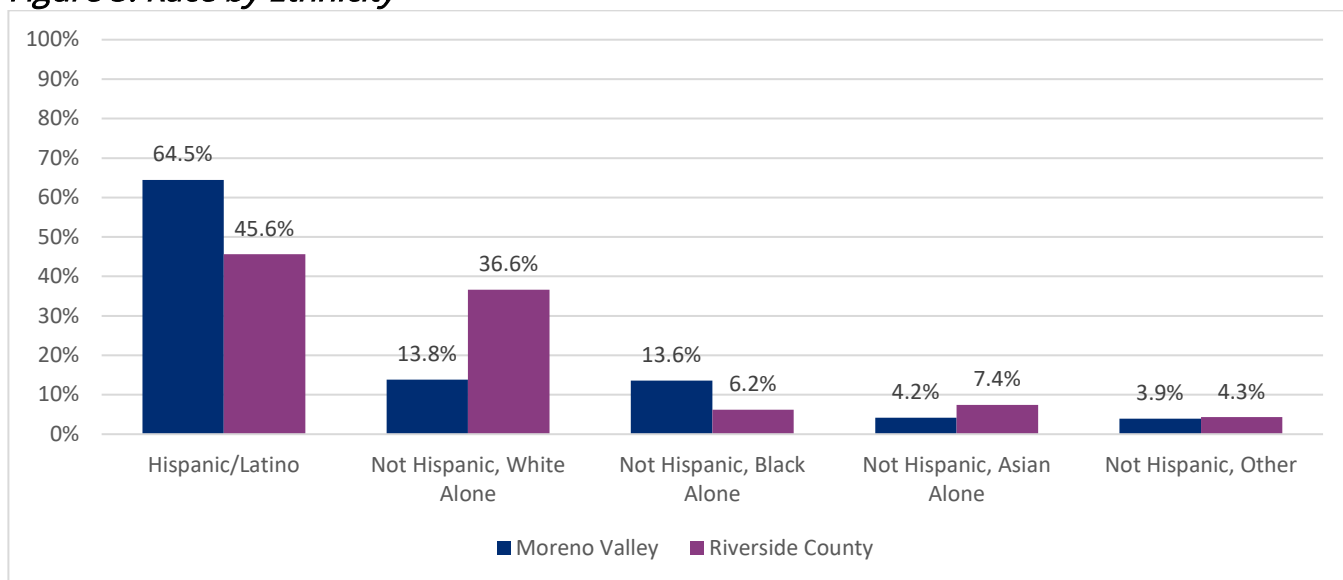


Note: Moreno Valley ($n = 107,208$), Riverside County ($n = 1,698,172$).

Race was also crossed with ethnicity to provide clarity on the number of people identifying as Hispanic (e.g., when asked about race, respondents may choose “other” since Hispanic is not an option).

As illustrated in Figure 5 below, when combining race with ethnicity, only 13.8% of Moreno Valley residents are non-Hispanic White—less than half the percentage for Riverside County as a whole. Overall, Moreno Valley is home to substantially more people of color than Riverside County as a whole.

Figure 5. Race by Ethnicity



Note: Moreno Valley ($n = 120,046$), Riverside County ($n = 1,823,445$).

Gender Identity

Two questions were utilized to measure gender identity, per best practices established in the field of survey research.¹ Firstly, residents were asked, “What sex were you assigned at birth, on your original birth certificate?” As illustrated in Table 1, post-weighting, 57.7% of Moreno Valley residents were female, slightly higher than that of Riverside County (50.5%).

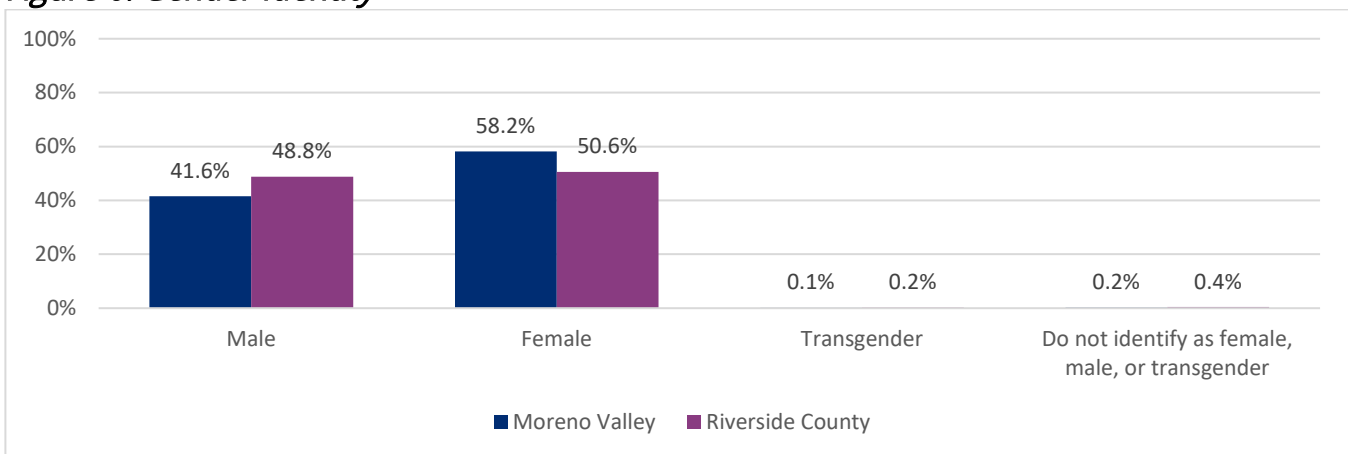
Table 1. Sex Assigned at Birth

Sex Assigned at Birth	Moreno Valley	Riverside County
Male	42.3%	49.5%
Female	57.7%	50.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

Note: Moreno Valley (*n* = 120,046), Riverside County (*n* = 1,823,445).

Next, residents were asked about their current gender identity: “How do you describe yourself?” Residents could indicate male, female, transgender, or “do not identify as female, male, or transgender.” There was a slightly greater proportion of females (58.2%) in Moreno Valley compared to Riverside County females (50.6%). Very few Moreno Valley residents identified as transgender (0.1%) or stated, “do not identifying as female, male, or transgender” (0.2%), which are both similar to Riverside County rates (0.2%, 0.4%, respectively).

Figure 6. Gender Identity



Note: Moreno Valley (*n* = 118,484), Riverside County (*n* = 1,791,125).

A total of 1.4% (approximately 1,692 residents) of Moreno Valley residents identified with a gender that does not match their birth certificate (e.g., assigned male at birth but identify

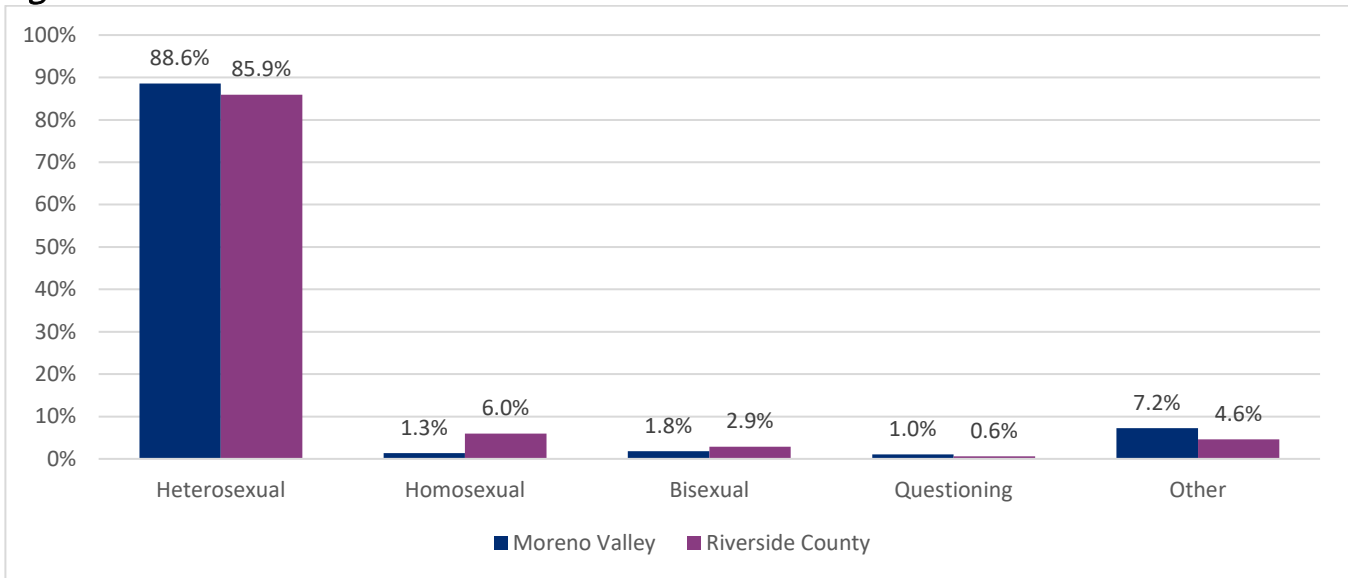
¹ Williams Institute (2009). Best practices for asking questions about sexual orientation on surveys (SMART). Available online at <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/publications/smart-so-survey/>

as a female now, etc.), whereas about 1.0% (approximately 18,283 residents) of Riverside County residents identified with a gender that does not match their birth certificate.

Sexual Orientation

To measure sexual orientation, residents were asked, “Do you consider yourself to be...” Results showed that the majority of Moreno Valley residents (88.6%) identify as heterosexual, as illustrated in Figure 7 below. This rate is approximately similar to that of Riverside County.

Figure 7. Sexual Orientation



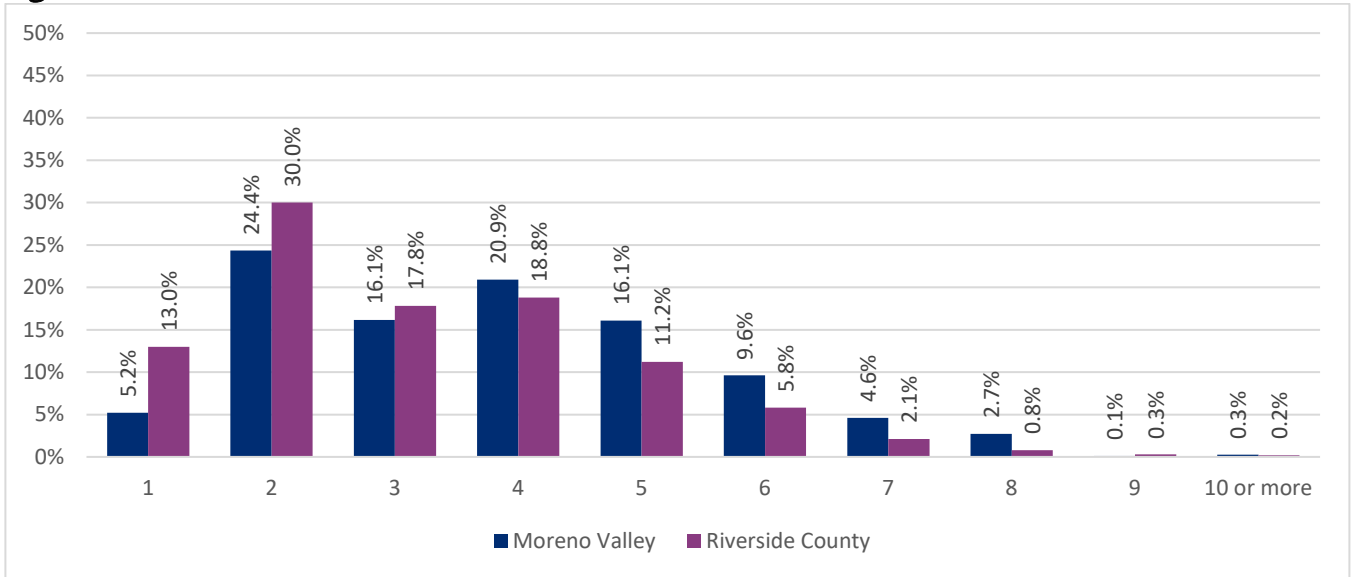
Note: Moreno Valley ($n = 111,556$), Riverside County ($n = 1,699,634$).

Household Size

The median household size for Moreno Valley was four people, whereas Riverside County was two people.

As illustrated in the figure below, Moreno Valley residents typically reported a household size of two to four people (61.4%). See Figure 8 below for additional details.

Figure 8. Household Size



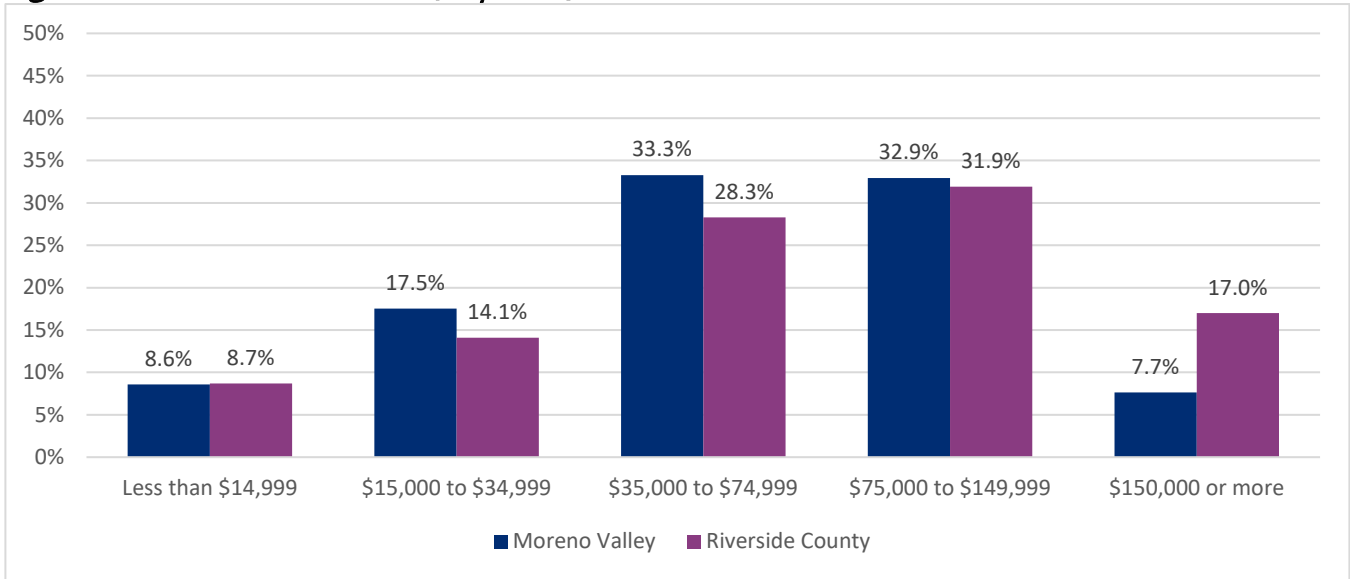
Note: Moreno Valley ($n = 118,687$), Riverside County ($n = 1,790,315$).

Income and Poverty

Residents were asked, “Last year, what was your household income from all sources before taxes?” Household income in the city of Moreno Valley is slightly lower than Riverside County household income. For instance, the household median income in Moreno Valley was \$60,000, while the average household income was \$71,493.08. In comparison, the household median income in Riverside County as a whole was \$72,000, while the average household income was \$93,421.

As illustrated in Figure 9 below, one in four Moreno Valley adults (26.1%) lives in a household with an annual income of less than \$35,000.

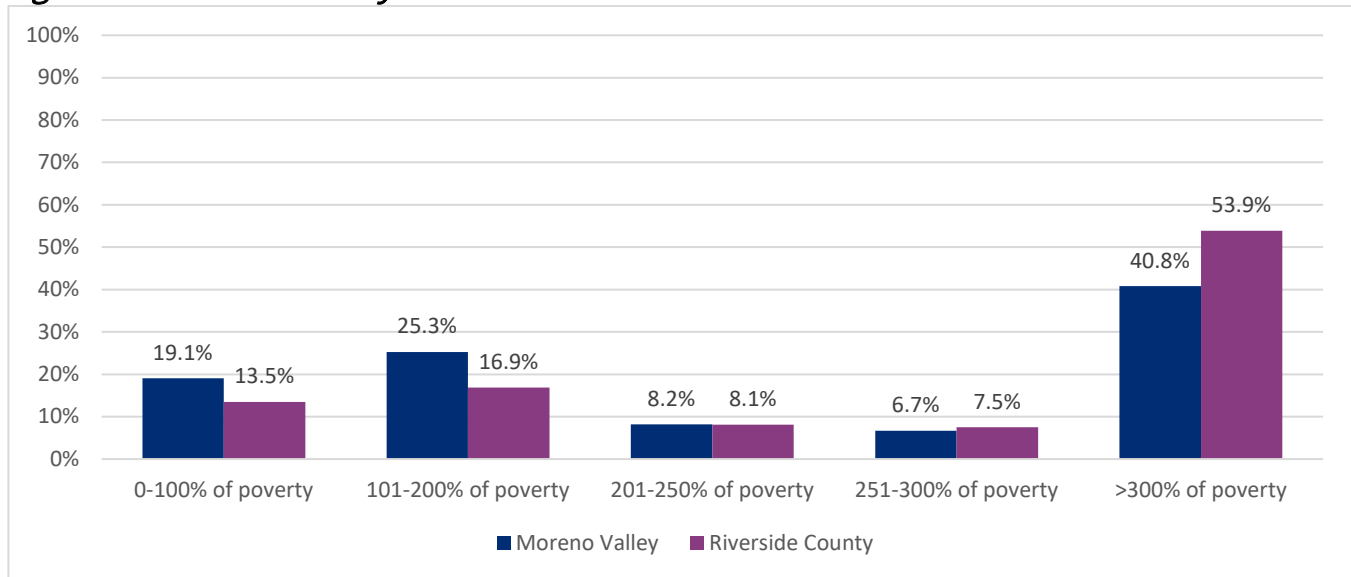
Figure 9. Household Income (Imputed)



Note: Moreno Valley ($n = 120,046$), Riverside County ($n = 1,823,445$).

Using household income and the number of people within the household, the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) was calculated using the Department of Health and Human Service’s guidelines for poverty in 2021. As illustrated in Figure 10 below, 19.1% of Moreno Valley residents are living below the poverty line, while another 25.3% are also very poor, living below 200% of the poverty line. As illustrated in Figure 10, Moreno Valley households are overall poorer than those in the County as a whole.

Figure 10. Federal Poverty Level

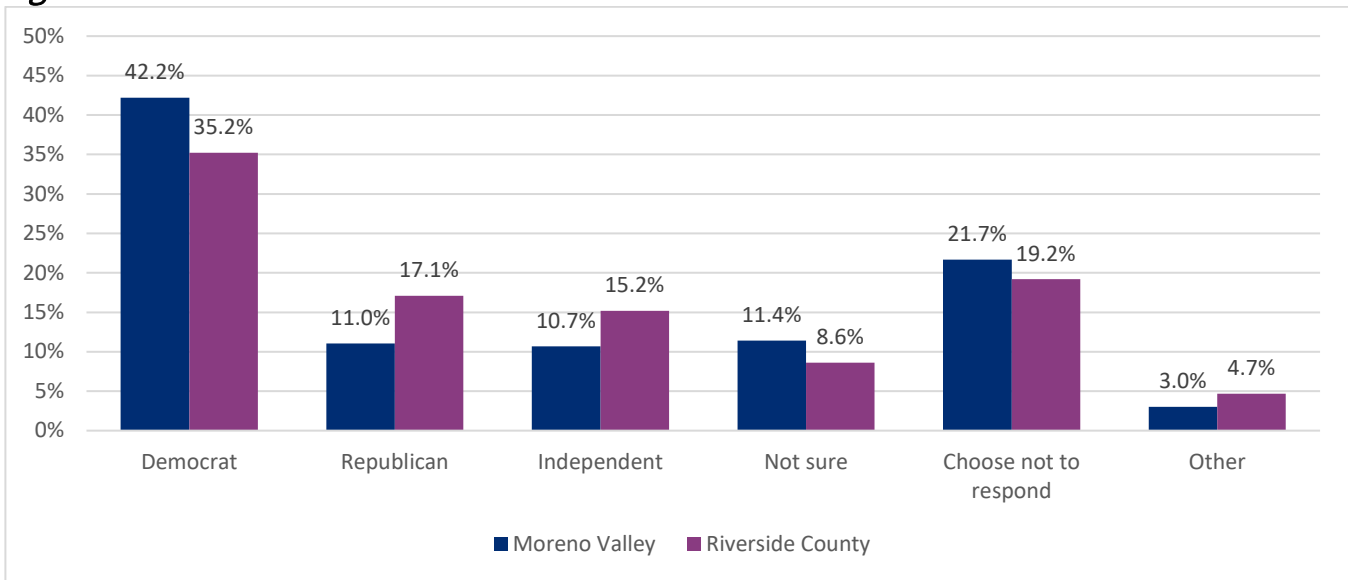


Note: Moreno Valley ($n = 83,421$), Riverside County ($n = 1,394,794$).

Political Affiliation

As a final demographic question, residents were asked, “Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...?” and could then select from a range of options. A plurality of Moreno Valley residents identified as Democrat (42.2%), which was notably higher than the rate for Riverside County (35.2%). A higher proportion of Riverside County residents identify as Republican (17.1%) compared to Moreno Valley residents (11.0%). See Figure 11 below for additional details and comparisons to Riverside County.

Figure 11. Political Affiliation



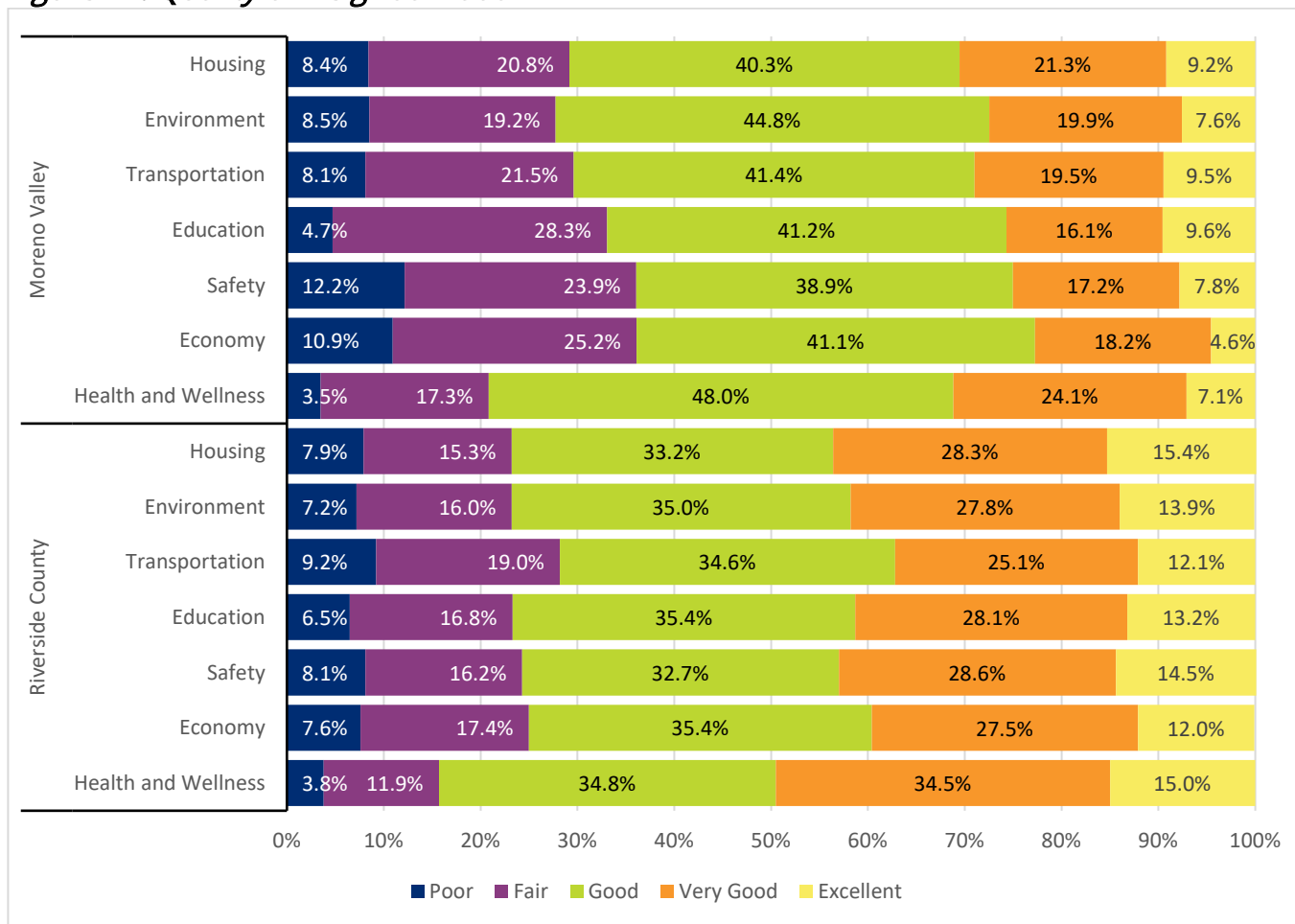
Note: Moreno Valley ($n = 117,546$), Riverside County ($n = 1,774,426$).

Quality of Neighborhood

Participants were asked, “How would you describe the quality of _____ in your neighborhood?” and were asked to rate a series of statements on a 5-point scale from “excellent” to “poor.”

As illustrated in the figure below, poor and fair ratings for all areas in the quality of neighborhood for Hemet are notably higher than the rates for Riverside County as a whole. The lowest rated factors include safety (36.1% rated as fair/poor), economy (36.1%), and education (33.0%). See the figure below for additional details.

Figure 12. Quality of Neighborhood

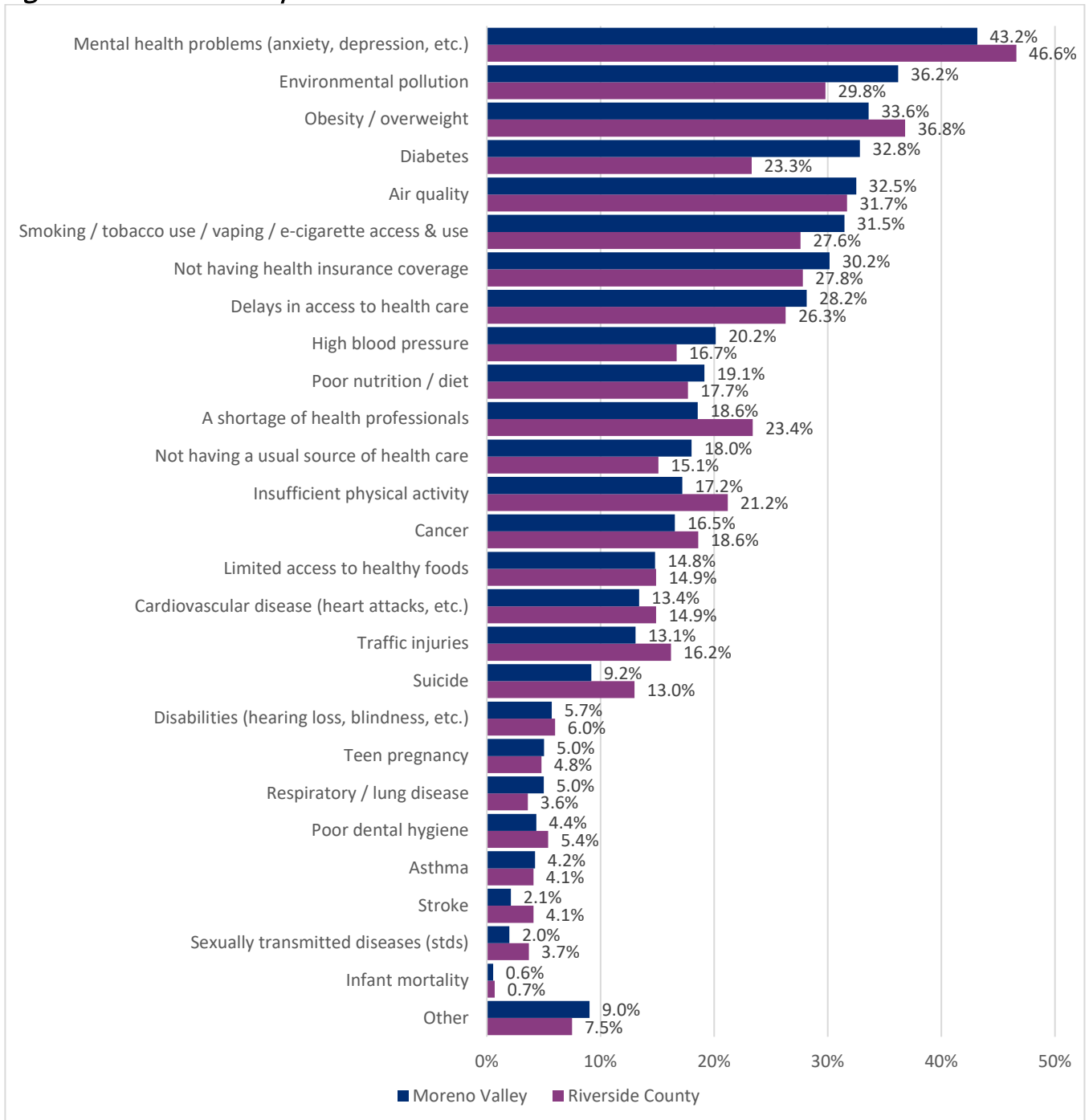


Note: Excludes those who indicated “don’t know/not sure” on items; those were treated as missing. Health and wellness (Moreno Valley, $n = 104,173$; Riverside County, $n = 1,623,684$), Economy (Moreno Valley, $n = 108,546$; Riverside County, $n = 1,671,248$), Safety (Moreno Valley, $n = 111,600$; Riverside County, $n = 1,713,286$), Education (Moreno Valley, $n = 105,835$; Riverside County, $n = 1,628,156$), Transportation (Moreno Valley, $n = 105,697$; Riverside County, $n = 1,604,857$), Environment (Moreno Valley, $n = 111,040$; Riverside County, $n = 1,691,539$), Housing (Moreno Valley, $n = 108,372$; Riverside County, $n = 1,682,175$).

Most Important Health Problems

Participants were asked, “Please select the five most important health problems that need to be fixed in your community”. As illustrated in Figure 13, Moreno Valley residents selected mental health problems (43.2%), environmental pollution (36.2%), and obesity/overweight (33.6%) as the top three health problems. See Figure 13 for additional details and comparisons to Riverside County.

Figure 13. Five Most Important Health Problems

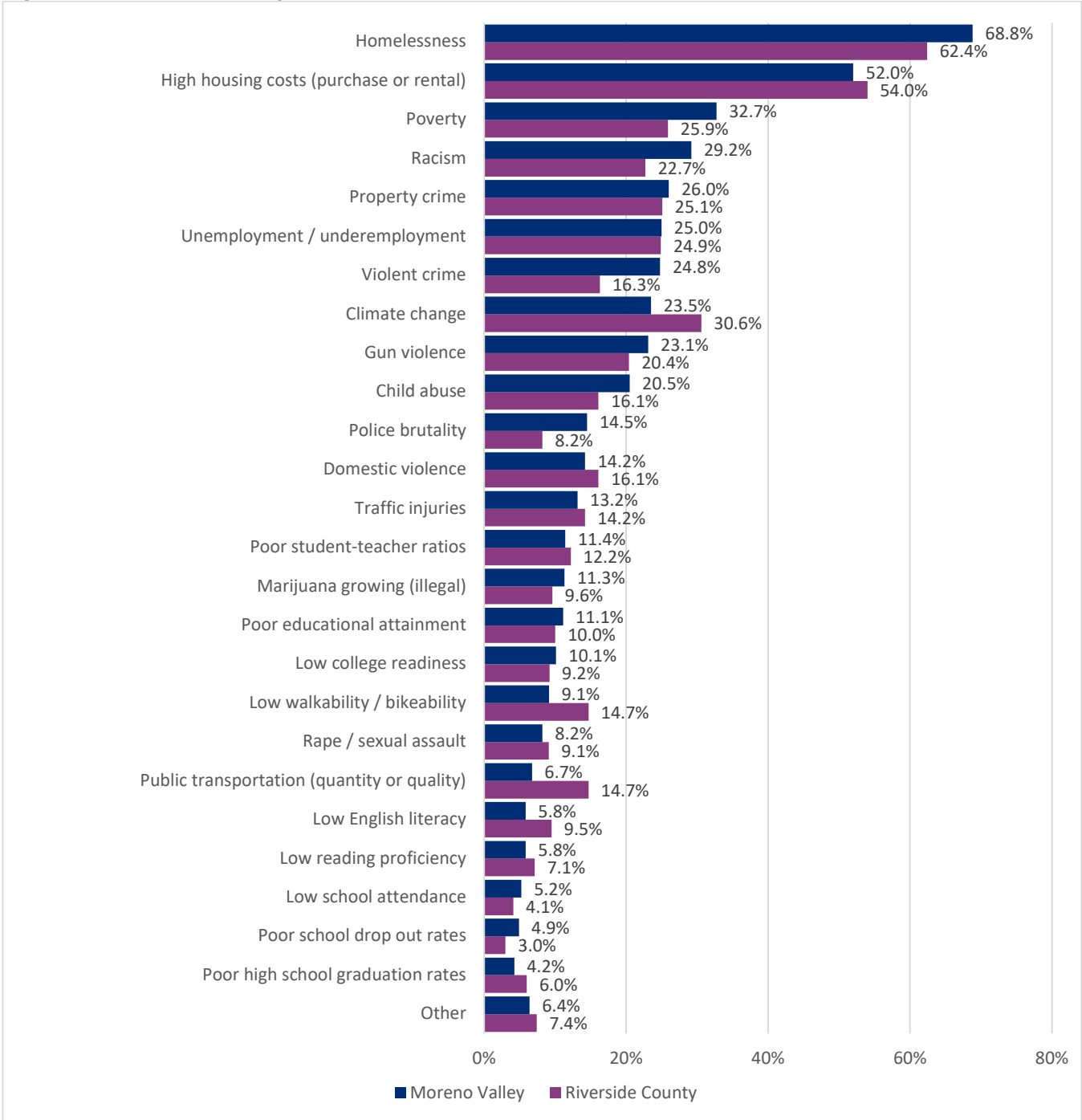


Note: Moreno Valley (n = 111,885), Riverside County (n = 1,691,056)

Most Important Social Problems

Residents were asked, "Please select the five most important social problems that need to be fixed in your community". As illustrated in Figure 14, Moreno Valley residents selected homelessness (68.8%), high housing cost (52.0%), and poverty (32.7%) as the top three social problems. See Figure 14 for additional details and comparisons to Riverside County.

Figure 14. Five Most Important Social Problems

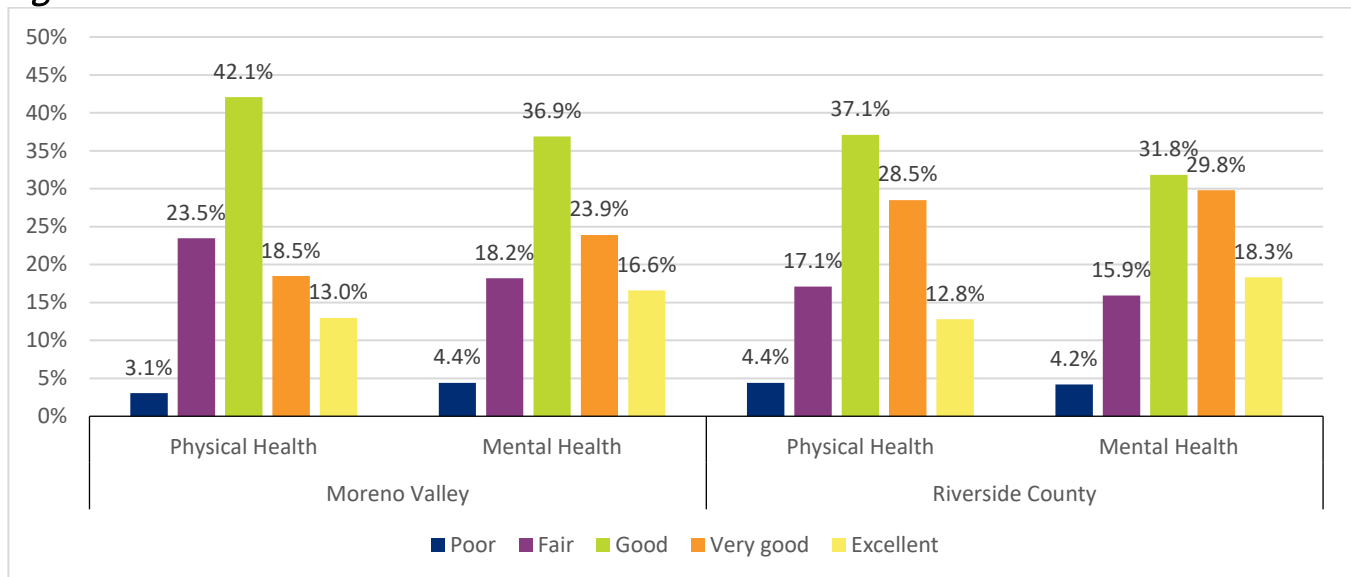


Note: Moreno Valley (n = 113,617), Riverside County (n = 1,704,469).

Health Status

Residents were asked to rate their physical and mental health on a scale from “excellent” to “poor”. As illustrated in Figure 15, most Moreno Valley residents rated their health as “good” or better. See Figure 15 for additional details and comparisons to Riverside County; overall, Moreno Valley appears to have slightly greater proportions of people in “poor” and “fair” physical health than those across the County as a whole. Mental health ratings in Moreno Valley are approximately similar to Riverside County.

Figure 15. Health Status



Note: Moreno Valley (Physical health, $n = 117,372$; Mental health, $n = 115,532$), Riverside County (Physical health, $n = 1,790,239$; Mental health, $n = 1,781,227$).

Adverse Childhood Experiences

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are potentially traumatic events occurring during childhood, including abuse (emotional, physical, or sexual), neglect (emotional or physical), and household instability (witnessing violence against a parent, substance abuse in household, mental illness in household, parental separation or divorce, or incarcerated household member).²

Children who are exposed to ACEs experience long-term effects that are detrimental to their quality of life as adults. For example, research has shown that ACEs are linked to risky health behaviors, chronic health conditions, low life potential, and early death.³ As the number of ACEs a child experiences increase, so does the risk for these serious outcomes.

There are typically 10 ACEs; however, for this survey, HARC only measured four ACEs, all within the “household instability” category. Because of the methods of this survey (i.e., surveying the parents rather than the child), asking questions about child abuse or neglect is unlikely to yield accurate responses—that is, the parents may be unaware of the abuse/neglect or inclined not to disclose it.

² About Adverse Childhood Experiences. (2019). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/acestudy/aboutace.html>

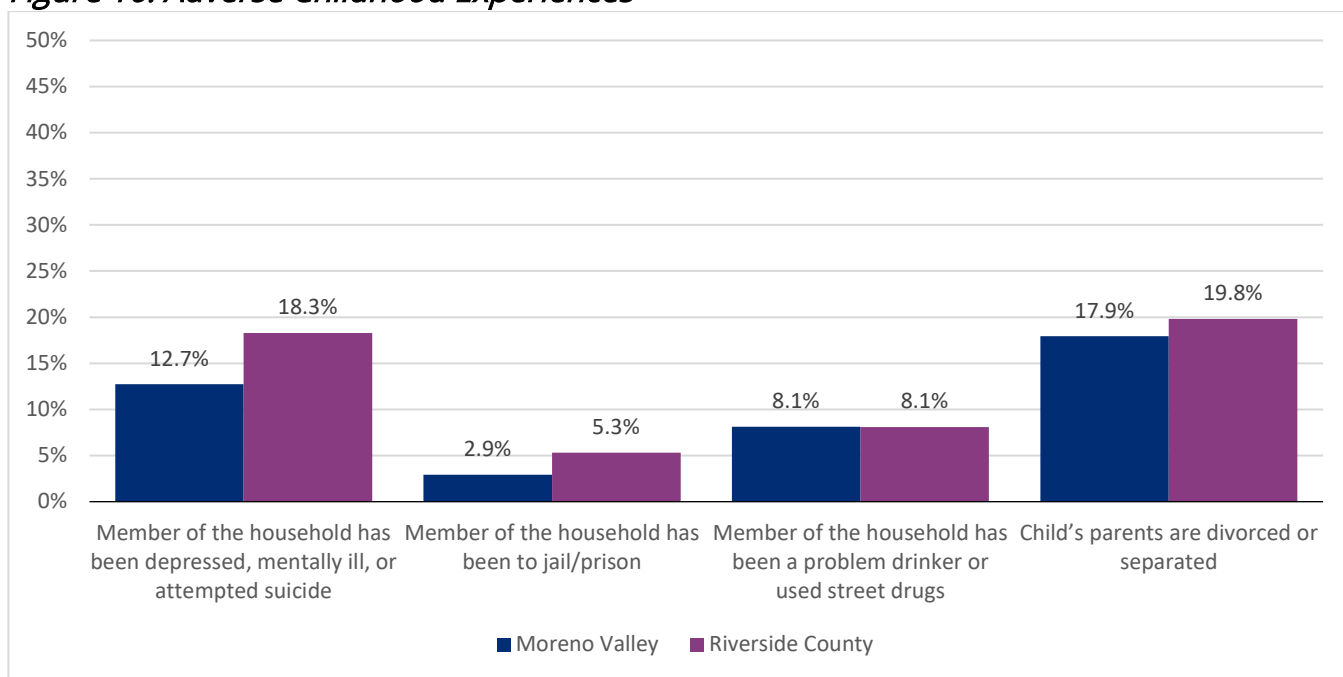
³ Ibid.

Moreno Valley residents were asked whether they have children under the age of 18; 40.5% had children (approximately 47,295 parents of children under 18). For comparison, about 35.1% of Riverside County residents had children.

Residents with children were then asked the four ACEs questions. Nearly three-quarters (71.7%) of Moreno Valley children have not experienced any of these four ACEs; 28.3% of Moreno Valley children have experienced at least one or more ACEs. This is slightly lower than the rate in Riverside County overall (33.7% of children in Riverside County have experience one or more ACEs).

As illustrated in the figure below, the most common ACE (17.9%) among Moreno Valley children is having divorced/separated parents, followed by having a household member who was depressed, mentally ill, or attempted suicide (12.7%).

Figure 16. Adverse Childhood Experiences



Note: Children’s parents are divorced or separated (Moreno Valley, $n = 45,781$; Riverside County, $n = 604,871$), Member of household has been a problem drinker or used street drugs, (Moreno Valley, $n = 46,439$; Riverside County, $n = 607,923$), Member of household has been to jail/prison (Moreno Valley, $n = 45,907$; Riverside County, $n = 608,598$), Member of household has been depressed, mentally ill, or attempted suicide (Moreno Valley, $n = 44,616$; Riverside County, $n = 591,183$). Note that only the “yes” responses are provided in the figure above.

CONCLUSION

This report provides information to inform RUHS – Public Health and others in community health improvement of Community Health Assessment results specific to the city of Moreno Valley and Riverside County.