

# Hurricane Harvey Housing Impacts: 49-County Survey Analysis

Top-line Findings

Prepared for the Texas General Land Office,  
Community Development and Revitalization Program

July 11, 2018



**The University of Texas at Austin**  
**Bureau of Business Research**  
*Office of the Vice President for Research*

# Overview

- The Texas General Land Office (GLO) asked the Bureau of Business Research (BBR), an organized research unit of the IC<sup>2</sup> Institute at The University of Texas at Austin, to conduct a general-population (random) survey of housing needs among residents and victims of the 49 Texas counties affected by Hurricane Harvey in August 2017.
- The goal of the survey findings was to help GLO determine the most appropriate type of housing assistance and method of communication with residents as it disburses HUD Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds to victims in the affected counties.
- The goal was to obtain 100 completed phone and online surveys in each of the 49 counties, with a minimum of 80 completed surveys in each county.

# Survey Methodology

- BBR conducted a phone and web survey (in English and Spanish) of residents in the 49-county region about the impact of Hurricane Harvey on their housing (homes and apartments).
- The survey vendor built a random sample frame using a combination of random digit dialing of landline and cell phone numbers, and listed cell phone numbers, in the 49-county region.
- The web-based survey instrument, containing the same questionnaire, was targeted toward residents in the 49-county region with unmet housing needs resulting from Hurricane Harvey damage.
- The research team promoted the web-based survey through a press release from GLO and The University of Texas at Austin and ads on Facebook that invited residents in the region whose homes or apartments had been damaged by the hurricane to take the online survey ([www.harveysurvey.com](http://www.harveysurvey.com)).
- In addition, to increase the survey participation rate among residents with unmet housing needs, the survey vendor asked phone participants to recommend friends and neighbors in their county who have unmet housing needs as a result of the hurricane, who might be approached to complete the survey.

# 49 Counties and Regions Involved

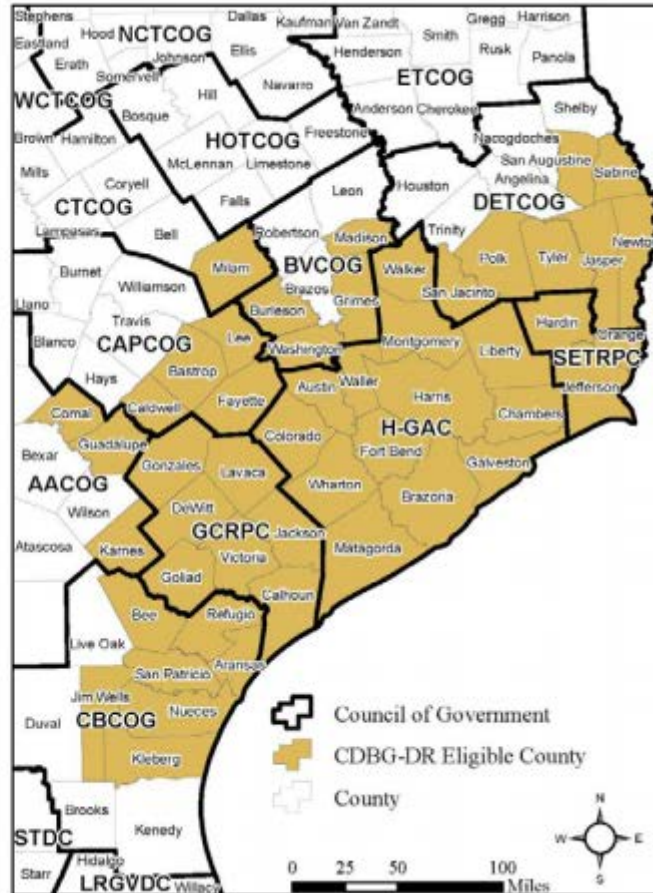
**State of Texas**  
**Hurricane Harvey: DR-4332**  
**August 25-30, 2017**

Incident Period: August 25 - September 15, 2017  
 Major Disaster Declaration  
 Declared on: August 25, 2017

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County Designations as of 10/11/2017

Counties Eligible for  
 CDBG-DR Funds: 49



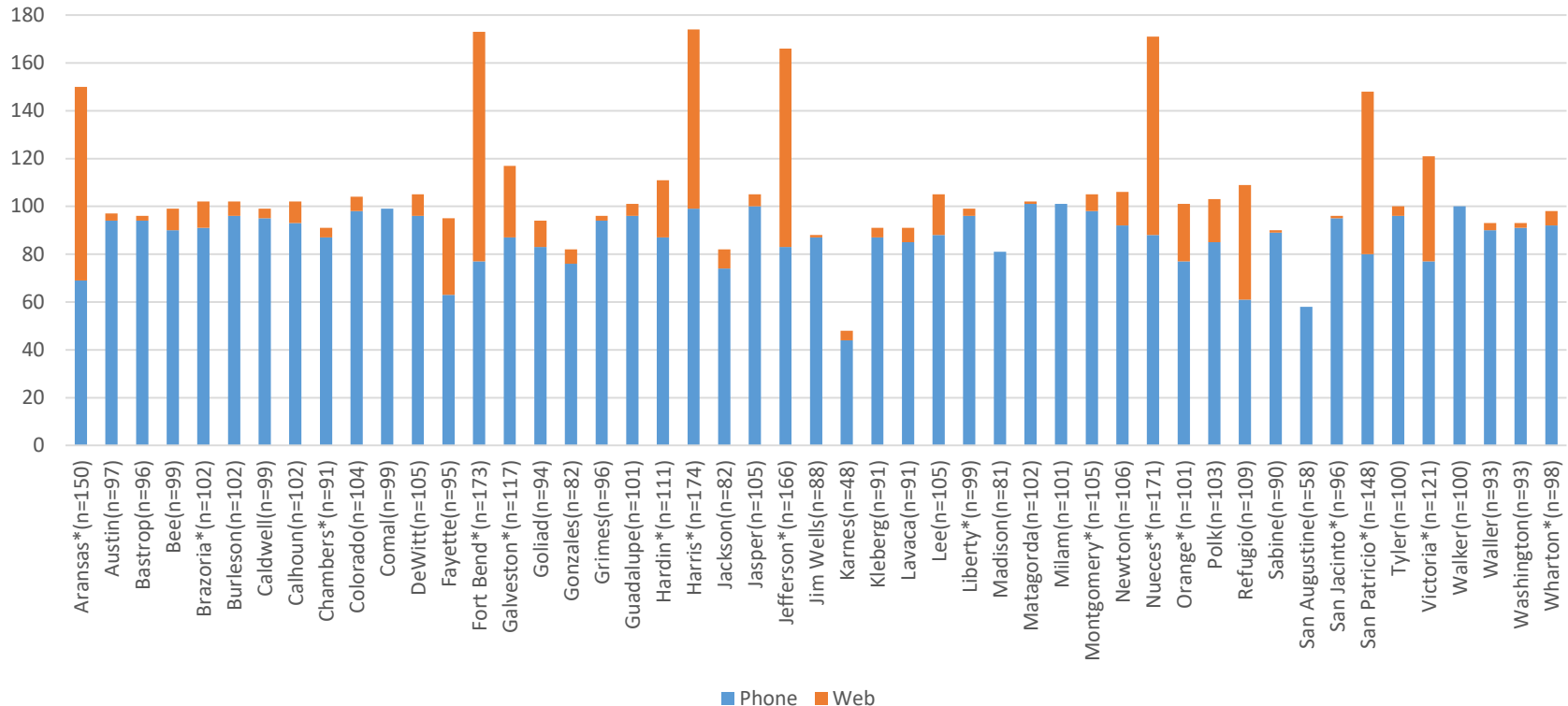
- Aransas
- Austin
- Bastrop
- Bee
- Brazoria
- Burleson
- Caldwell
- Calhoun
- Chambers
- Colorado
- Comal
- DeWitt
- Fayette
- Fort Bend
- Galveston
- Goliad
- Gonzales
- Grimes
- Guadalupe
- Hardin
- Harris
- Jackson
- Jasper
- Jefferson
- Jim Wells
- Karnes
- Kleberg
- Lavaca
- Lee
- Liberty
- Madison
- Matagorda
- Milam
- Montgomery
- Newton
- Nueces
- Orange
- Polk
- Refugio
- Sabine
- San Augustine
- San Jacinto
- San Patricio
- Tyler
- Victoria
- Walker
- Waller
- Washington
- Wharton

Source: <http://www.glo.texas.gov/the-glo/public-information/notices/files/action-plan-final-draft-1-18-18.pdf>

# Overview

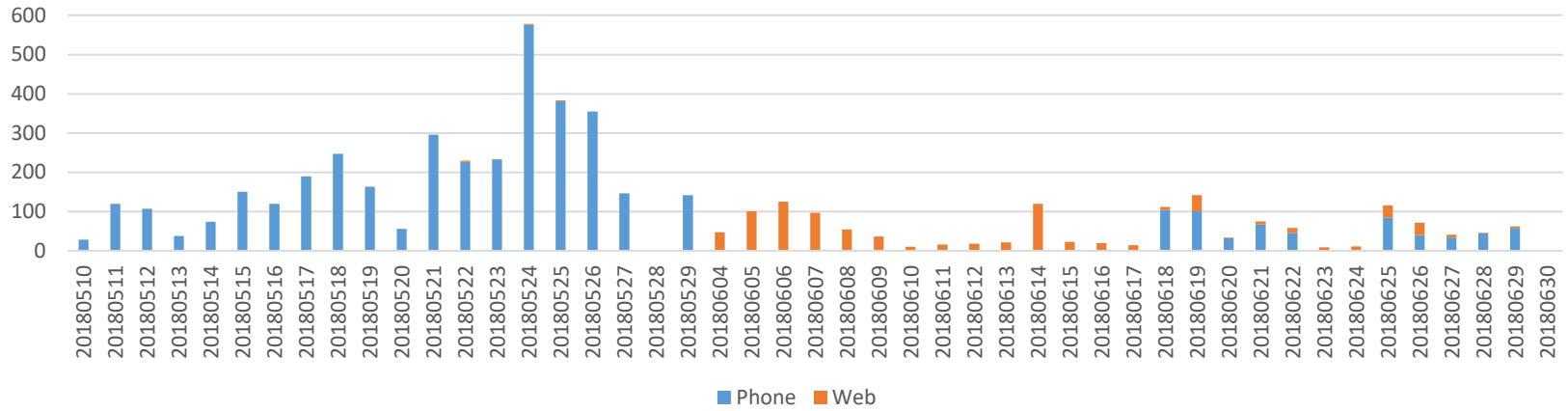
- Distribution of phone (random) and web (targeted) survey results by county is presented
  - 5140 interviews in total through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 4260 by phone and 880 by web
  - Interviewing started on May 10<sup>th</sup>

Sample Breakdown by County

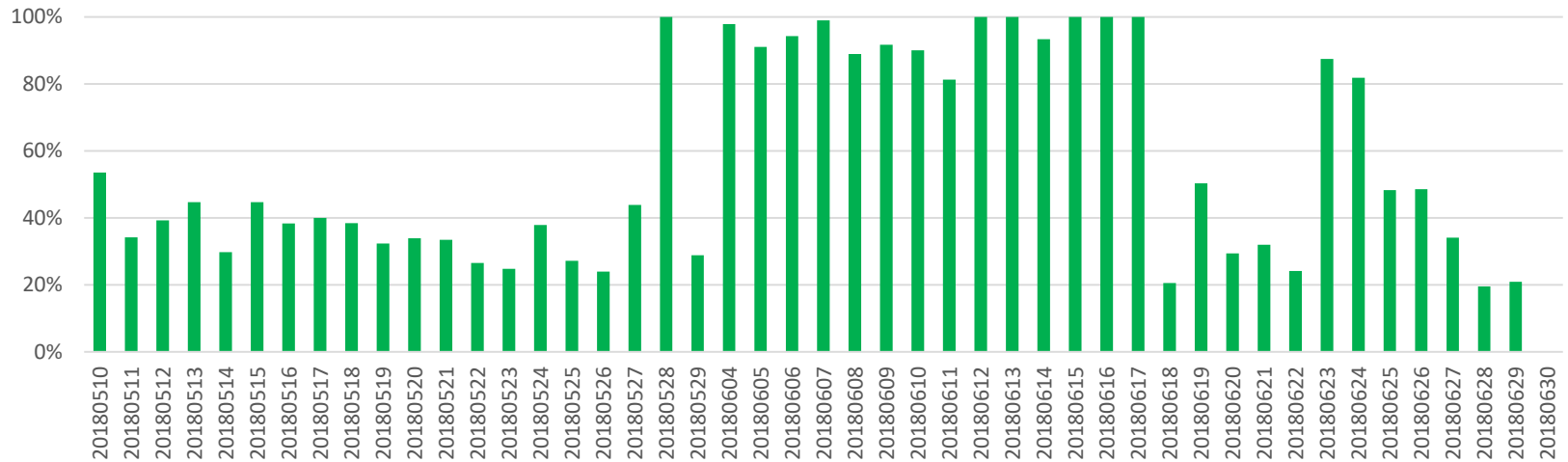


# Fieldwork Timing

## Interviews By Day

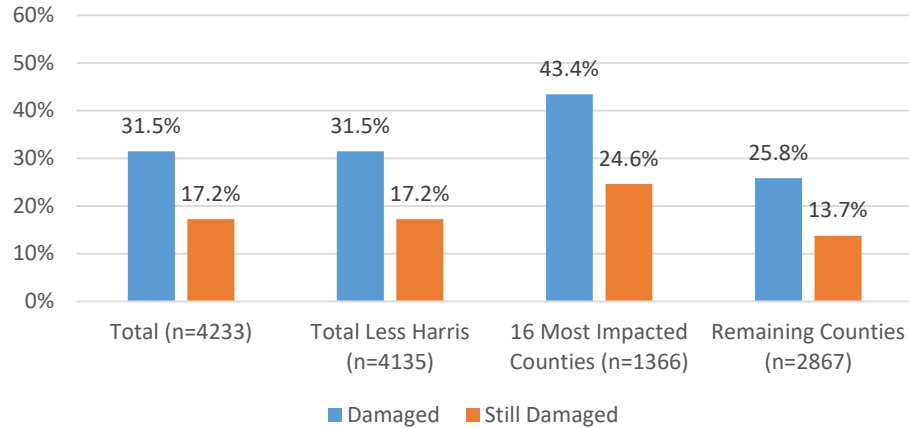


## % of Interviews Reporting Damage

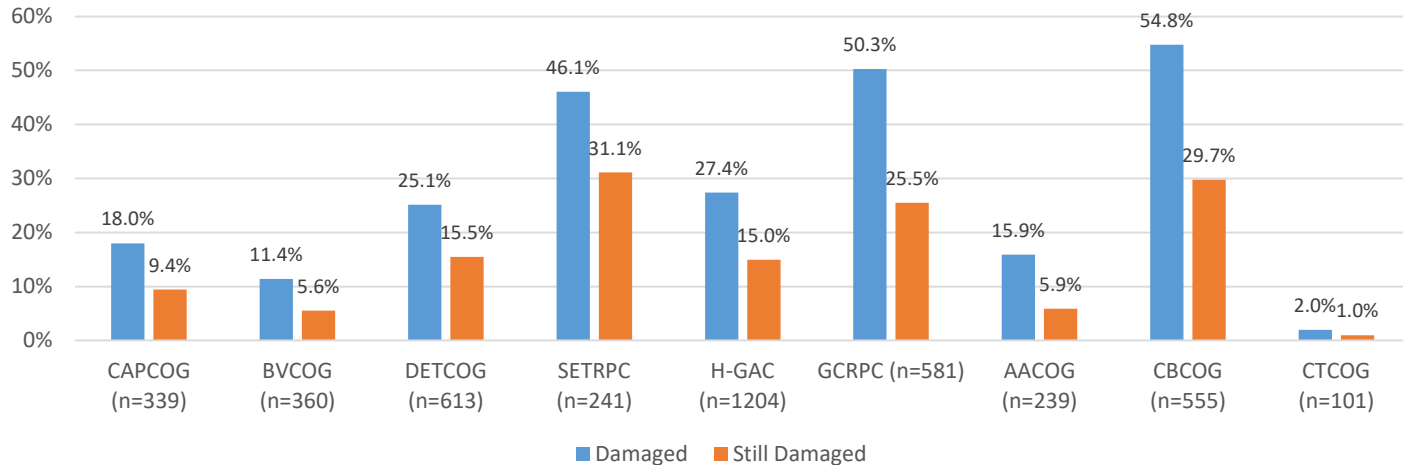


# Damaged During Harvey and Damage Remaining

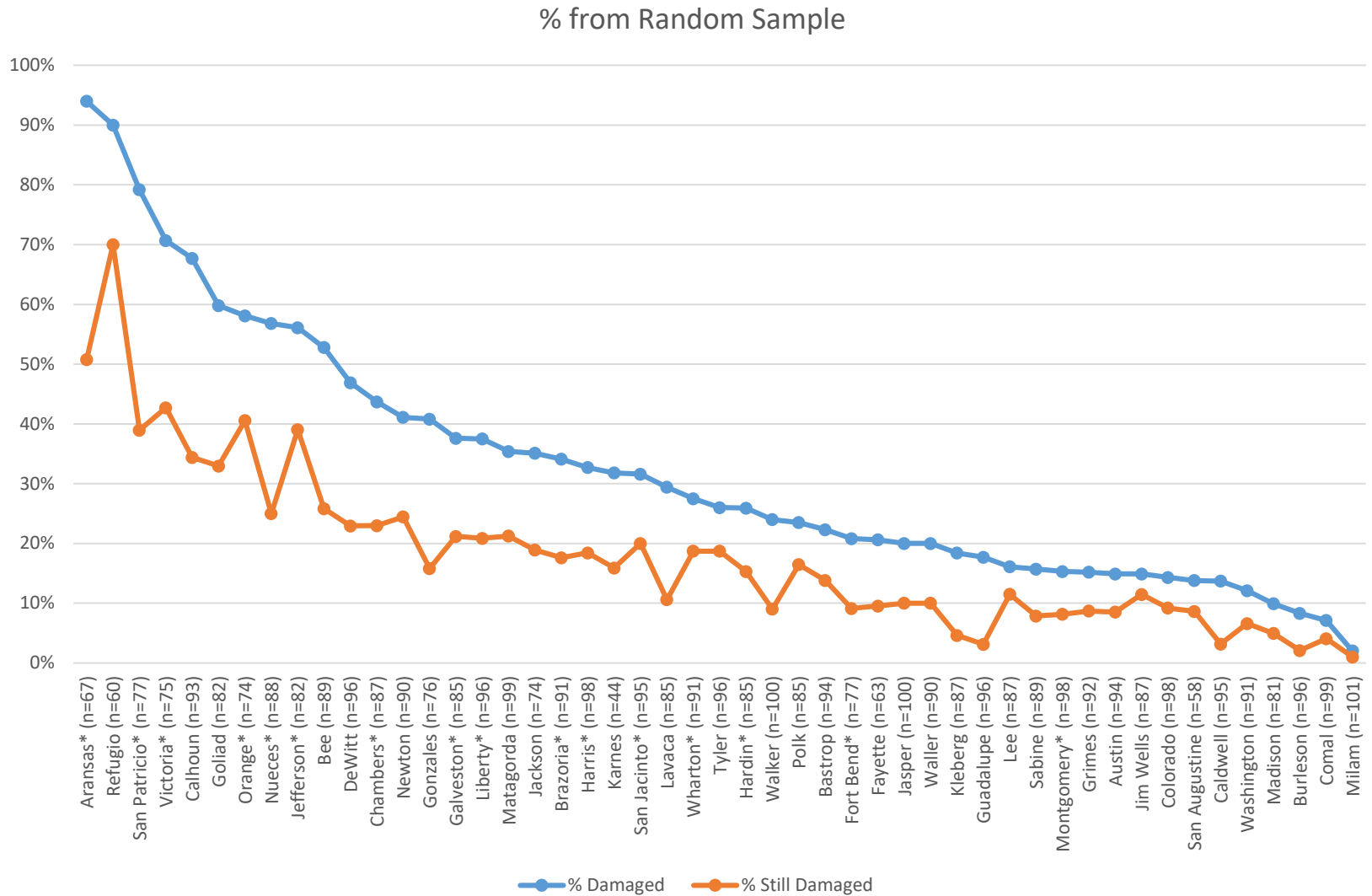
Overall and By Level of Impact (Sample: Random)



By COG (Random)



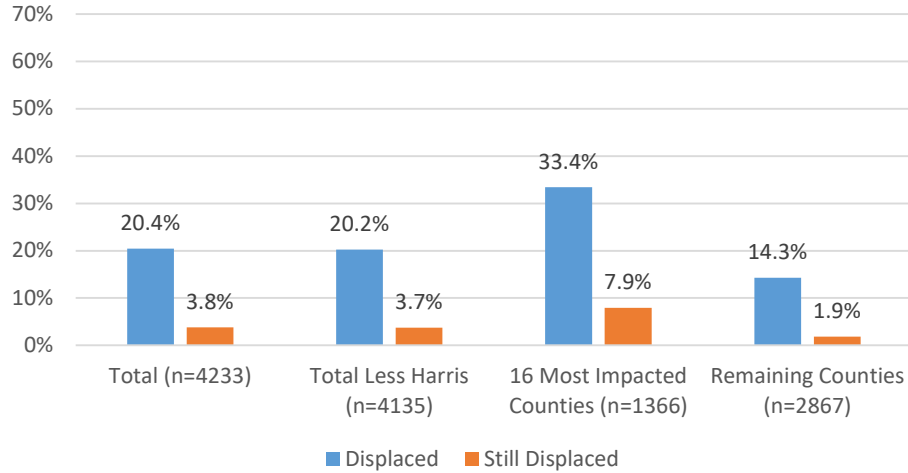
# Damaged During Harvey and Damage Remaining



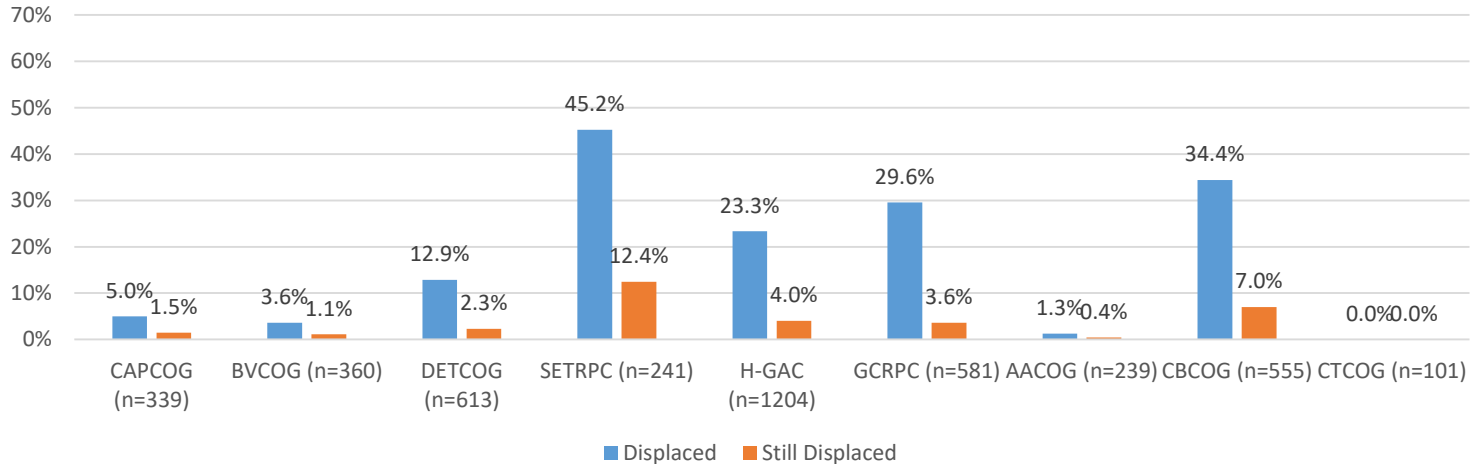


# Displaced During Harvey and Still Displaced

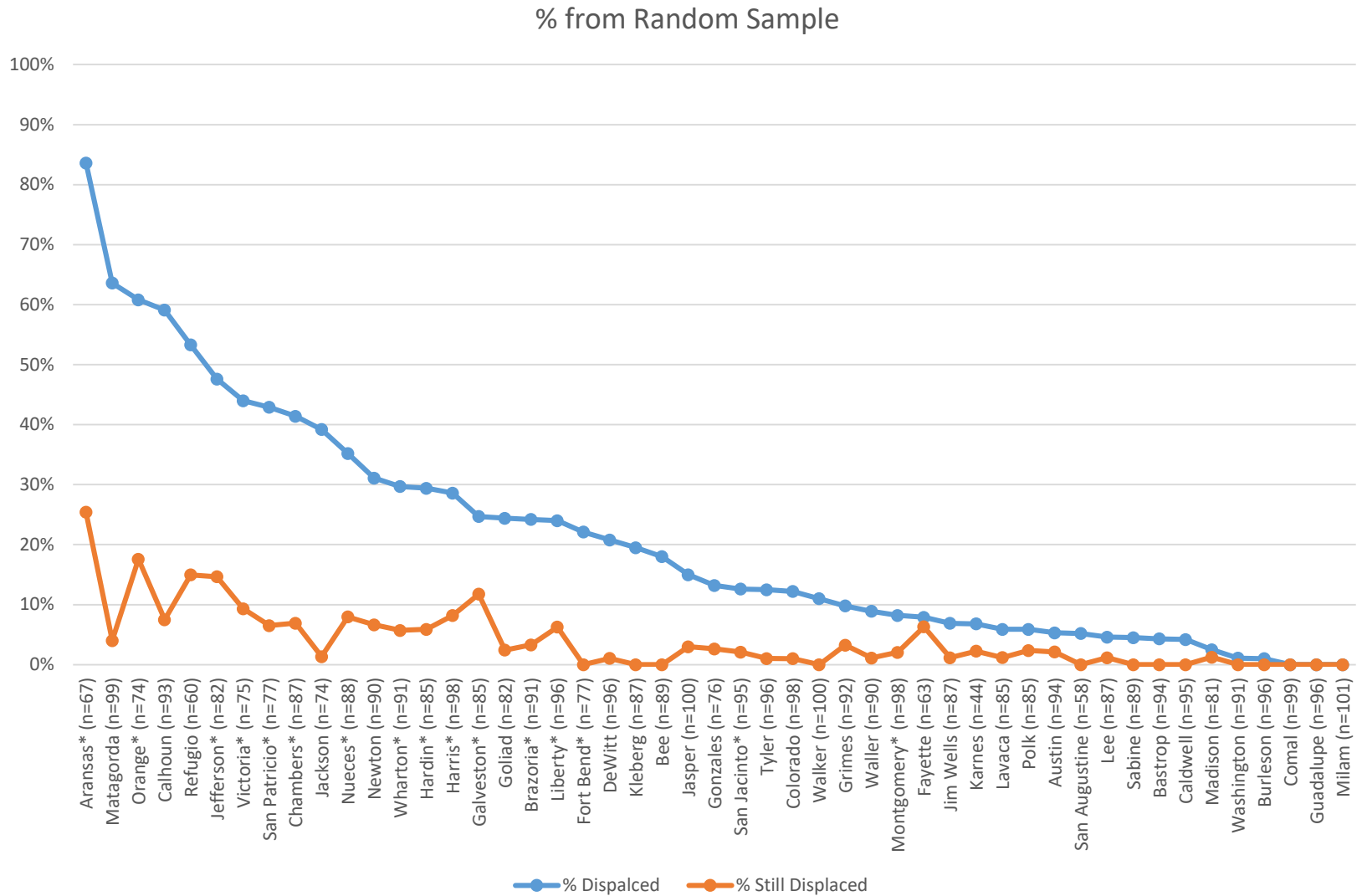
Overall and By Level of Impact (Sample: Random)



By COG (Random)



# Displaced During Harvey and Still Displaced



# Housing Assistance Options Tested

Q17: Please rate each following types of state-run federal program for post-hurricane housing assistance that would benefit you the most, 1 being not very beneficial, and 5 being the very beneficial.

Q18: If you had to choose 1 of the 5 programs to be the most beneficial to you, from the previous list, which one would it be?

**1\_\_\_ Single Family Homeowner Assistance:** Provides for rehabilitation and reconstruction of owner-occupied single-family homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey.

**2\_\_\_ Buyouts and Acquisitions:** Eligible homeowners may sell their home to a local government to move out of harm's way.

**3\_\_\_ Homeowner Reimbursement:** Allows homeowners to be reimbursed for certain out-of-pocket expenses incurred for repairs to their home including reconstruction, rehabilitation or mitigation up to \$50,000.

**4\_\_\_ Homelessness Prevention:** Provides assistance such as short-term mortgage, utility payment and tenant-based rental assistance to help prevent homelessness in the region following Hurricane Harvey.

**5\_\_\_ Affordable Rental:** Provides funding to developers and apartment building owners for rehabilitation, reconstruction and new construction of affordable multi-family apartments in areas impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

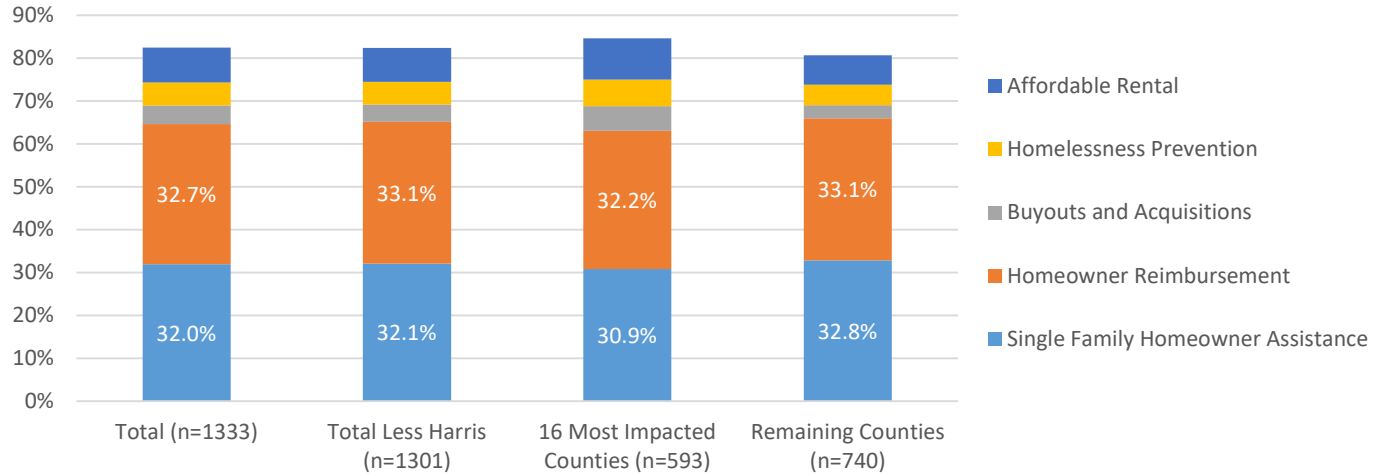
# Housing Assistance Option Preference

TGLO Housing Survey: Q18. If you had to choose 1 of the 5 programs to be the most beneficial to you, from the previous list, which one would it be?

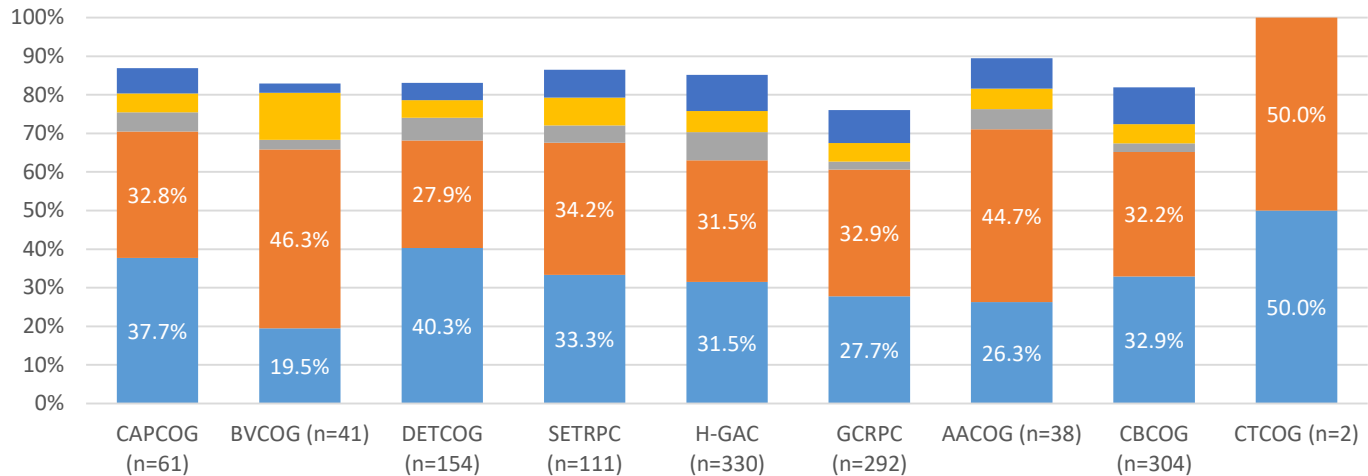
|                                    |   | Sample –                          |  |                     |                                 |                 |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                    |   | Sample: All Responses<br>(n=5005) | Random or Targeted<br>Random<br>(n=4233) | Targeted<br>(n=772) | Home Damaged?<br>No<br>(n=2946) | Yes<br>(n=2059) |
| Single Family Homeowner Assistance | % | 33.4%                             | 33.3%                                    | 33.5%               | 33.8%                           | 32.7%           |
|                                    | n | 1670                              | 1411                                     | 259                 | 997                             | 673             |
| Homeowner Reimbursement            | % | 26.6%                             | <b>25.8%</b>                             | <b>31.0%</b>        | <b>22.6%</b>                    | <b>32.3%</b>    |
|                                    | n | 1332                              | 1093                                     | 239                 | 667                             | 665             |
| Buyouts and Acquisitions           | % | 6.5%                              | 6.1%                                     | 8.5%                | 7.0%                            | 5.8%            |
|                                    | n | 326                               | 260                                      | 66                  | 207                             | 119             |
| Homelessness Prevention            | % | 7.0%                              | 6.8%                                     | 7.9%                | 7.5%                            | 6.2%            |
|                                    | n | 349                               | 288                                      | 61                  | 221                             | 128             |
| Affordable Rental                  | % | 8.7%                              | 9.0%                                     | 7.1%                | 9.3%                            | 7.8%            |
|                                    | n | 434                               | 379                                      | 55                  | 274                             | 160             |

# Housing Assistance Option Preference

## Random Sample With Damage

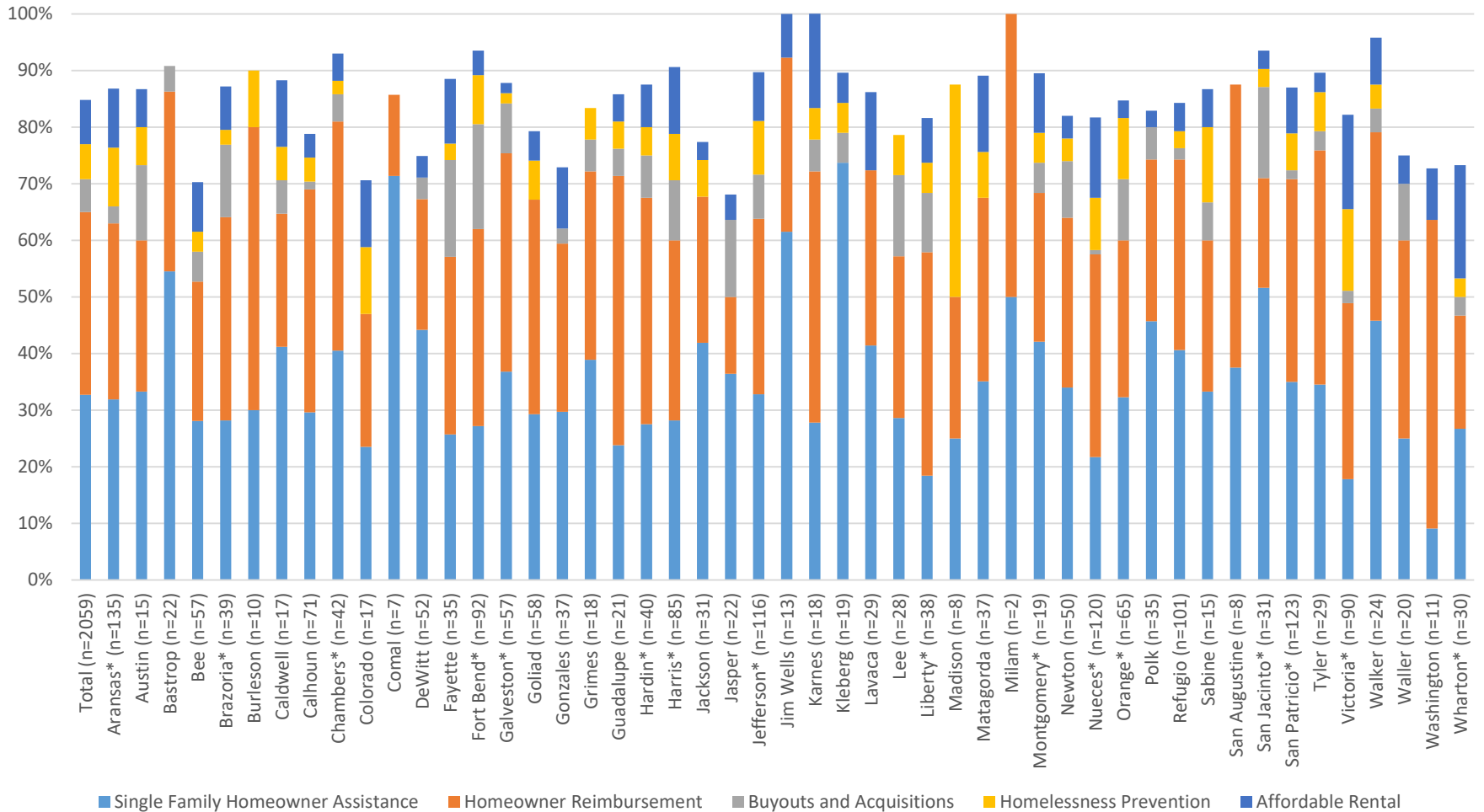


## Random Sample With Damage

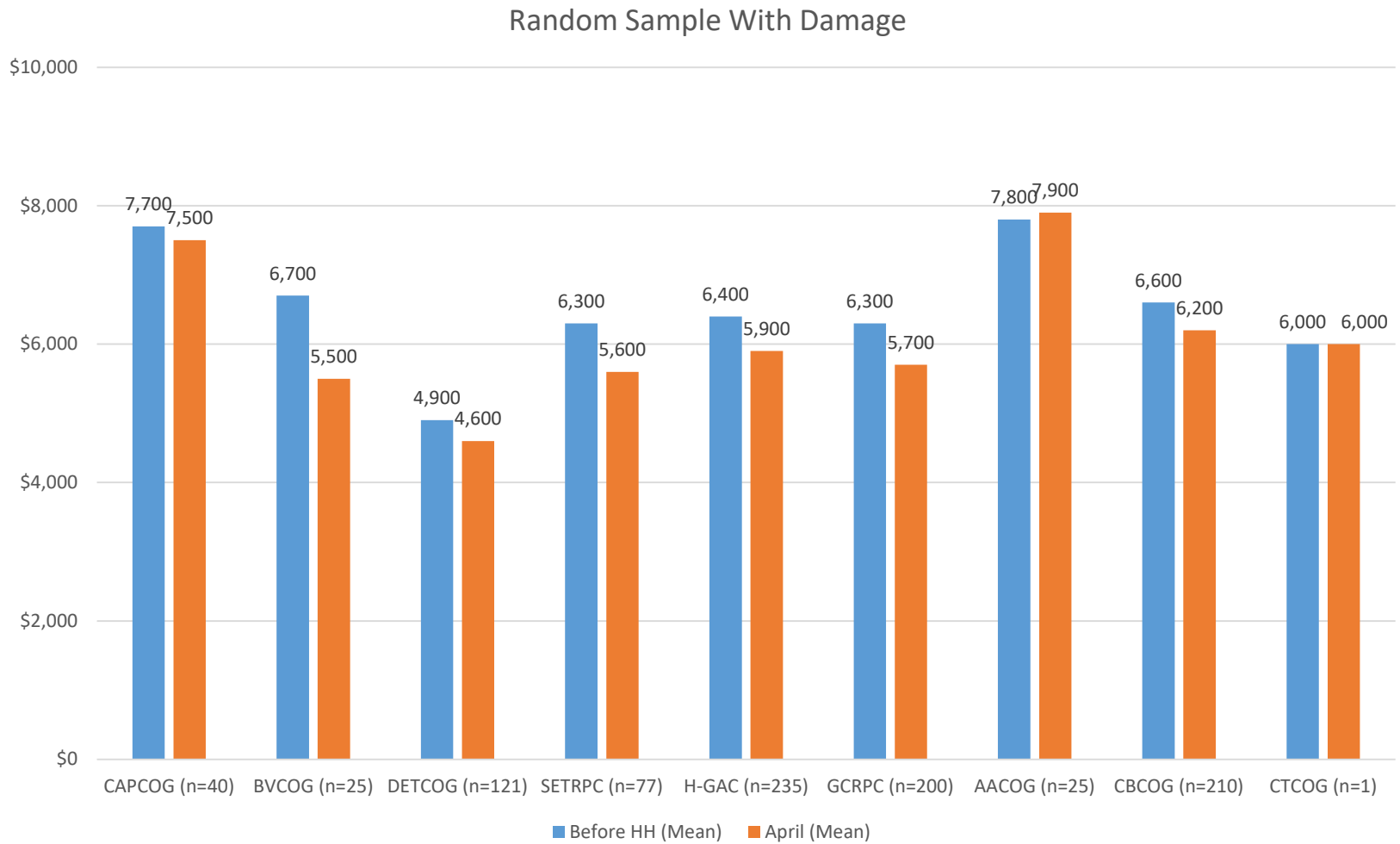


# Housing Assistance Option Preference by County

Sample: Damage=Yes

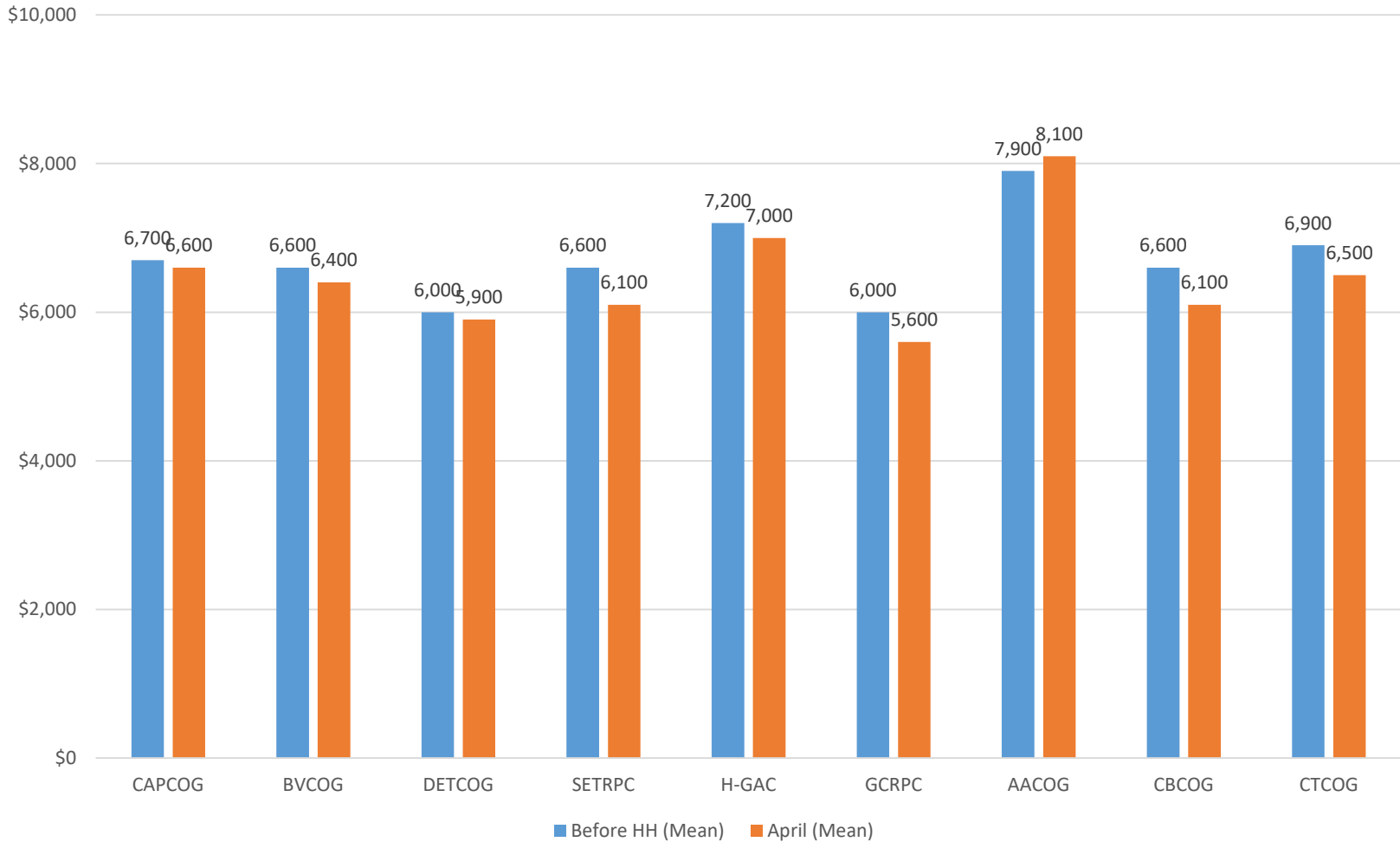


# Monthly Total Gross (Before Taxes) Household Income



# Monthly Total Gross (Before Taxes) Household Income

All Responses





# Demographics (Sample: Random With Damage)

## Own or Rent

|           | CAPCOG | BVCOG | DETCOG | SETRPC | H-GAC | GCRPC | AACOG | CBCOG | CTCOG  |
|-----------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Homeowner | 86.9%  | 90.2% | 92.2%  | 76.6%  | 84.8% | 87.3% | 78.9% | 83.9% | 100.0% |
| Renter    | 9.8%   | 9.8%  | 6.5%   | 20.7%  | 14.2% | 11.0% | 21.1% | 14.1% | 0.0%   |

## Race/Ethnicity

|          | CAPCOG | BVCOG | DETCOG | SETRPC | H-GAC | GCRPC | AACOG | CBCOG | CTCOG  |
|----------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| White    | 55.7%  | 58.5% | 73.4%  | 72.1%  | 60.0% | 65.1% | 63.2% | 64.1% | 100.0% |
| Black    | 9.8%   | 26.8% | 16.9%  | 20.7%  | 16.7% | 7.5%  | 2.6%  | 3.0%  | 0.0%   |
| Hispanic | 14.8%  | 7.3%  | 2.6%   | 2.7%   | 12.7% | 19.9% | 26.3% | 26.0% | 0.0%   |
| Asian    | 1.6%   | 2.4%  | 0.0%   | 0.0%   | 0.6%  | 1.0%  | 0.0%  | 0.0%  | 0.0%   |
| Mixed    | 4.9%   | 2.4%  | 2.6%   | 1.8%   | 3.9%  | 1.7%  | 0.0%  | 2.3%  | 0.0%   |
| Other    | 3.3%   | 2.4%  | 1.9%   | 0.9%   | 3.3%  | 3.1%  | 5.3%  | 2.3%  | 0.0%   |

## Household has Disability Accommodations

|     | CAPCOG | BVCOG | DETCOG | SETRPC | H-GAC | GCRPC | AACOG | CBCOG | CTCOG  |
|-----|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Yes | 23.0%  | 17.1% | 30.5%  | 22.5%  | 21.2% | 28.8% | 31.6% | 20.7% | 0.0%   |
| No  | 70.5%  | 82.9% | 67.5%  | 76.6%  | 76.7% | 70.9% | 65.8% | 78.0% | 100.0% |

# Demographics (Sample: All Responses)

## Own or Rent

|           | CAPCOG | BVCOG | DETCOG | SETRPC | H-GAC | GCRPC | AACOG | CBCOG | CTCOG |
|-----------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Homeowner | 89.9%  | 85.2% | 92.4%  | 83.3%  | 84.1% | 84.2% | 89.5% | 84.7% | 87.1% |
| Renter    | 8.1%   | 13.4% | 6.5%   | 14.6%  | 14.7% | 14.5% | 10.1% | 13.6% | 11.9% |

## Race/Ethnicity

|          | CAPCOG | BVCOG | DETCOG | SETRPC | H-GAC | GCRPC | AACOG | CBCOG | CTCOG |
|----------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| White    | 72.3%  | 77.7% | 83.4%  | 78.3%  | 72.8% | 68.2% | 71.0% | 62.9% | 66.3% |
| Black    | 4.4%   | 7.3%  | 8.4%   | 12.1%  | 9.7%  | 6.2%  | 5.6%  | 2.0%  | 5.9%  |
| Hispanic | 13.6%  | 5.7%  | 1.7%   | 3.9%   | 8.7%  | 15.5% | 15.7% | 27.1% | 5.9%  |
| Asian    | 0.5%   | 0.3%  | 0.0%   | 0.0%   | 1.4%  | 0.5%  | 0.0%  | 0.1%  | 1.0%  |
| Mixed    | 2.1%   | 2.7%  | 1.4%   | 2.0%   | 1.9%  | 2.3%  | 1.6%  | 2.8%  | 2.0%  |
| Other    | 2.6%   | 3.0%  | 2.6%   | 1.4%   | 2.4%  | 4.0%  | 2.4%  | 2.3%  | 8.9%  |

## Household has Disability Accommodations

|     | CAPCOG | BVCOG | DETCOG | SETRPC | H-GAC | GCRPC | AACOG | CBCOG | CTCOG |
|-----|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Yes | 20.7%  | 25.8% | 25.7%  | 19.8%  | 16.9% | 24.7% | 18.1% | 21.2% | 22.8% |
| No  | 77.2%  | 72.0% | 73.6%  | 79.1%  | 82.2% | 73.6% | 81.5% | 77.2% | 76.2% |

# Next Steps and Questions

- Weighted data
  - County population
  - County number of households
  - Race/Ethnicity
- Other cuts
  - Above and below poverty threshold
  - Received damage and are below poverty threshold
  - Own versus rent
- Allocation model
  - Maximize allocation subject to TBD constraints
- Expanded report versus immediate needs
  - Press Release