SBCAG Housing Data Dashboard

Glossary/Key Terms

Above Moderate-Income (AMI+)

Households earning more than 120% of the Area Median Income.

(Housing Production, RHNA Progress, Income Thresholds)

ACS (American Community Survey)

Ongoing Census survey providing 1-year and 5-year estimates on a wide variety of topics.

AMI (Area Median Income)

The midpoint of household incomes in a region, used to define income thresholds. (Affordability, Income Thresholds, RHNA Progress)

Building Permits

Permits issued allowing the construction of housing units. This metric is also used to calculate RHNA progress.

Carpool or Vanpool

Commuting method involving shared rides with others.

CDP (Census Designated Place)

A statistical geographic area defined by the U.S. Census for unincorporated communities.

Certificates of Occupancy

Issued when a building is deemed habitable and legal for occupancy.

Cost Burdened

Households spending more than 30% of income on housing.

Countywide View

Data summarized for the entirety of Santa Barbara County.

Deed-Restricted Units

Units legally required to remain affordable to income-restricted tenants for a period.

Employed / Unemployed Population

Count of residents in the labor force who are either employed or unemployed.

Entitlements

Planning approvals issued before building permits, authorizing housing projects.

Extremely Low-Income (ELI)

Households earning ≤30% of AMI (area median income).

Group Quarters Population

People living in shared living situations such as dorms, prisons, or care facilities.

HAMFI (HUD Area Median Family Income)

HUD's calculation of median income used for federal housing programs.

Homeless Unaccompanied Youth

Youth under 25 experiencing homelessness without a parent/guardian.

Household Size

Average number of people living in a household.

Infill Units

Housing built in previously developed areas, rather than open space or farmland.

Moderate-Income (MI)

Households earning between 81-120% of AMI.

North County / South County

Subregional divisions within Santa Barbara County for analysis. For this dashboard, the South Coast PUMA area (includes communities Carpinteria to North of Goleta) was used as the delineation line.

Overcrowded Housing

Units with more than 1.01 persons per room.

PIT Count (Point-in-Time Count)

Annual count of individuals experiencing homelessness on one night in January. Conducted by volunteers and organized by the County of Santa Barbara.

PUMA (Public Use Microdata Area)

Geographic unit defined by the Census Bureau for large areas (~100,000 population).

Rapid Rehousing

Short-term housing support that quickly stabilizes formerly homeless people.

Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)

State-mandated housing targets assigned to jurisdictions by income level.

Rent Burdened

Renters spending more than 30% of income on rent.

RHNA Cycle

Time window for meeting RHNA goals. 5th Cycle = 2014–2022, 6th Cycle = 2023–2031.

SB 35 (Senate Bill 35)

California law allowing streamlined approval for projects in jurisdictions not meeting RHNA benchmarks.

Severely Cost Burdened

Households spending more than 50% of income on housing.

Severely Overcrowded Housing

Units with more than 1.51 persons per room.

Sheltered / Vehicular / Outdoors Homelessness

Categories showing where unhoused individuals reside.

Tenure

Describes housing as owner-occupied or renter-occupied.

Very Low-Income (VLI)

Households earning ≤50% of AMI.

WFH/Worked from Home

Percentage of employed population whose primary workplace is home.