

# Health Starts at Home Evaluation

## Findings from the First Six Months of Follow-up

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February 25, 2020



**Health Resources in Action**  
*Advancing Public Health and Medical Research*

# Evaluation Background

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- Collaborative evaluation development during the planning phase
  - The Boston Foundation
  - Urban Institute
  - Grantee partnerships
- Long time horizon to improve housing situations
  - Evaluation includes short, intermediate and long-term outcomes
- Collaboratively-developed shared Core Measure data
  - Self-report & EMR data
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data
- Housing Outcome data



# Core Measures Methodology

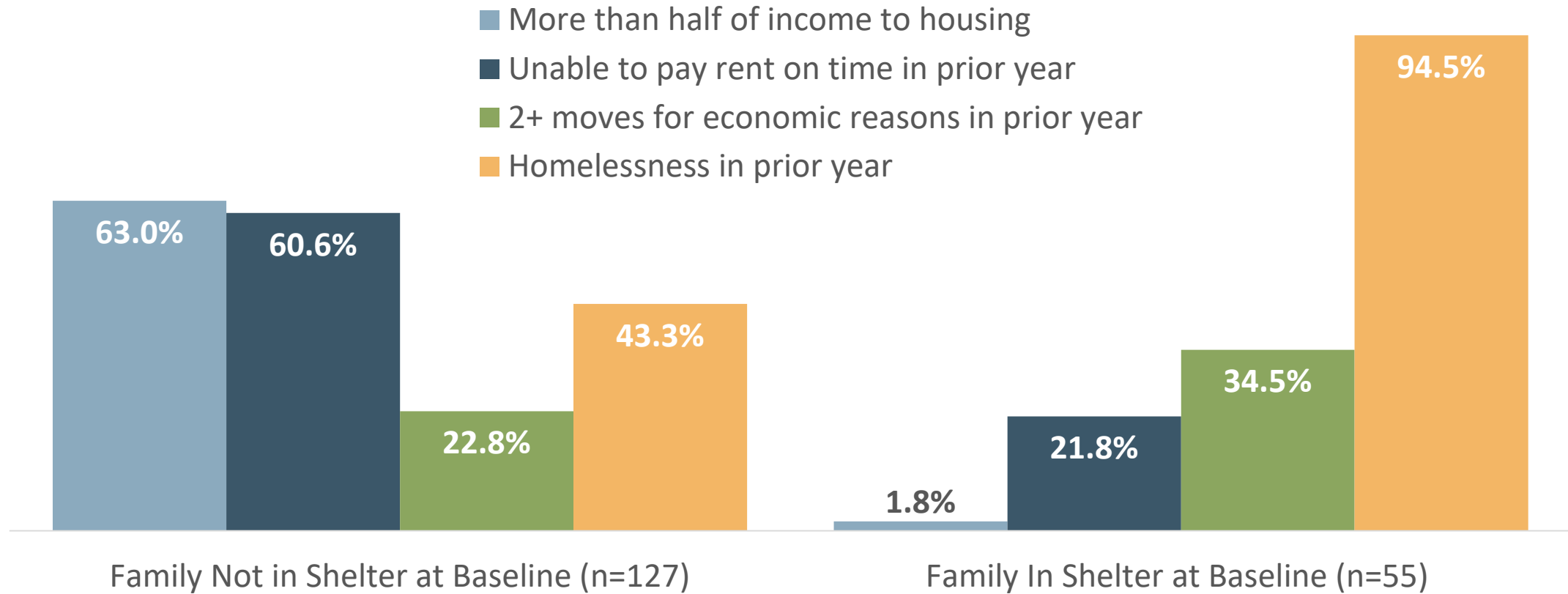
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- Partnerships collected core measures data at six-month intervals from enrolled families
  - Data transferred quarterly to HRiA for analyses
  - Baseline data collection was completed in April 2018
- Of 205 families with complete baseline data, 182 families (89%) also had complete six-month follow-up data
  - 55 of these families (30%) were in shelter at baseline
- Significance testing was conducted to determine whether change between timepoints were statistically significant ( $P < .05$ )
- Analyses were also stratified by number of sub-population groupings to explore differences (e.g. residence in shelter at baseline, change in housing type, and indicators of health status at baseline)



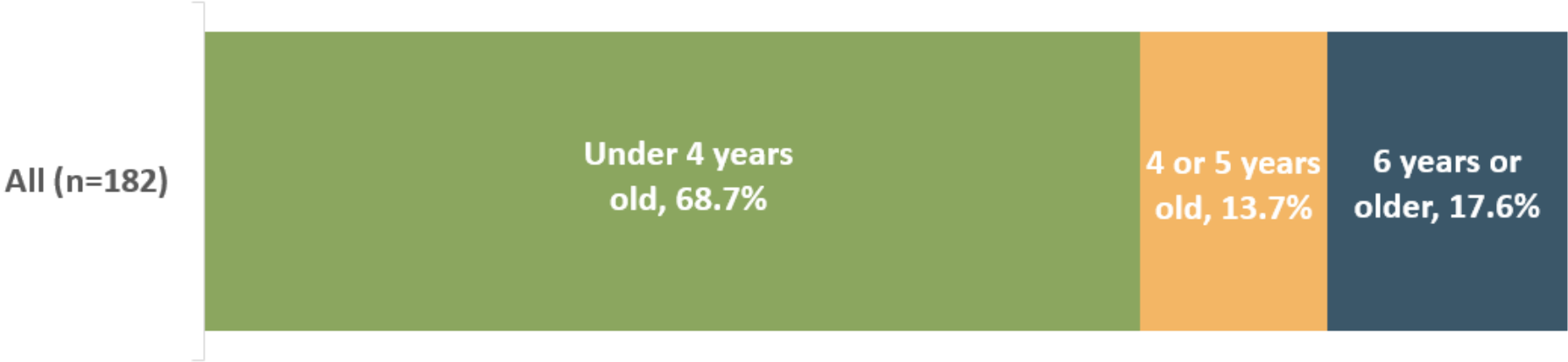
# Eligibility Criteria

Percent of families meeting HSAH eligibility criteria, by baseline shelter residence

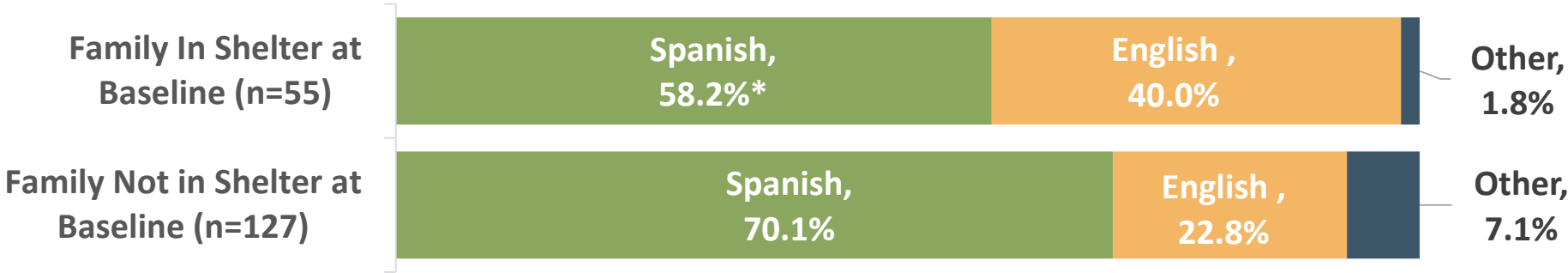


# Baseline Demographic Characteristics

Age group of enrolled child, all families



Language spoken at home, by baseline shelter residence



\*Significant difference Not in Shelter vs. In Shelter; Chi-square test, P<.05

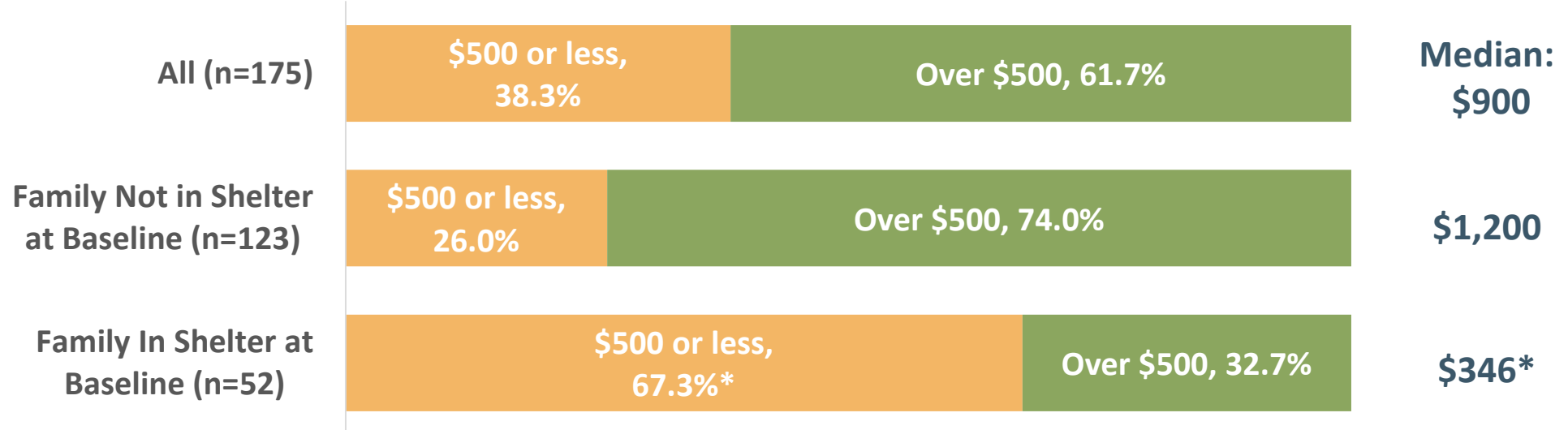


# Baseline Economic Characteristics

## Educational attainment of enrolled caregiver, all families



## Household Income, by baseline shelter residence

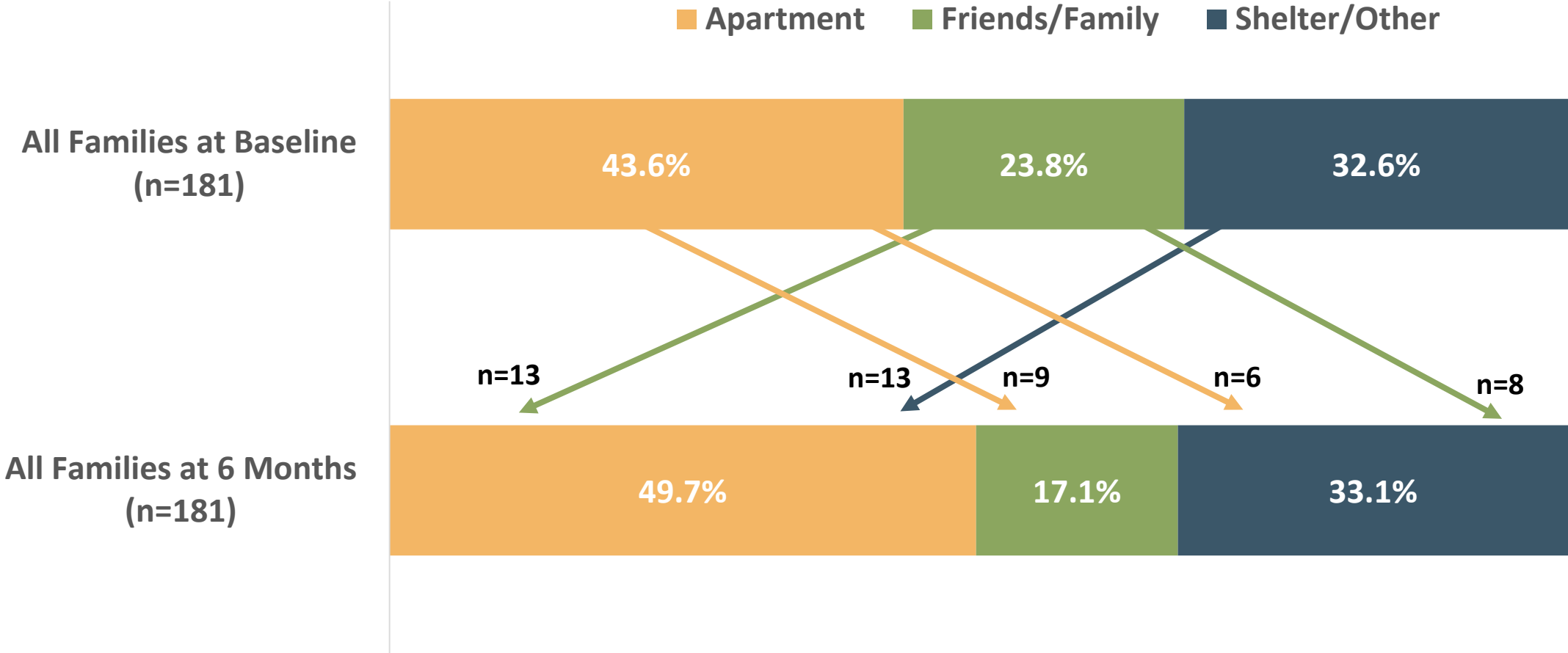


\*Significant difference Not in Shelter vs. In Shelter; Chi-square test,  $P < .001$



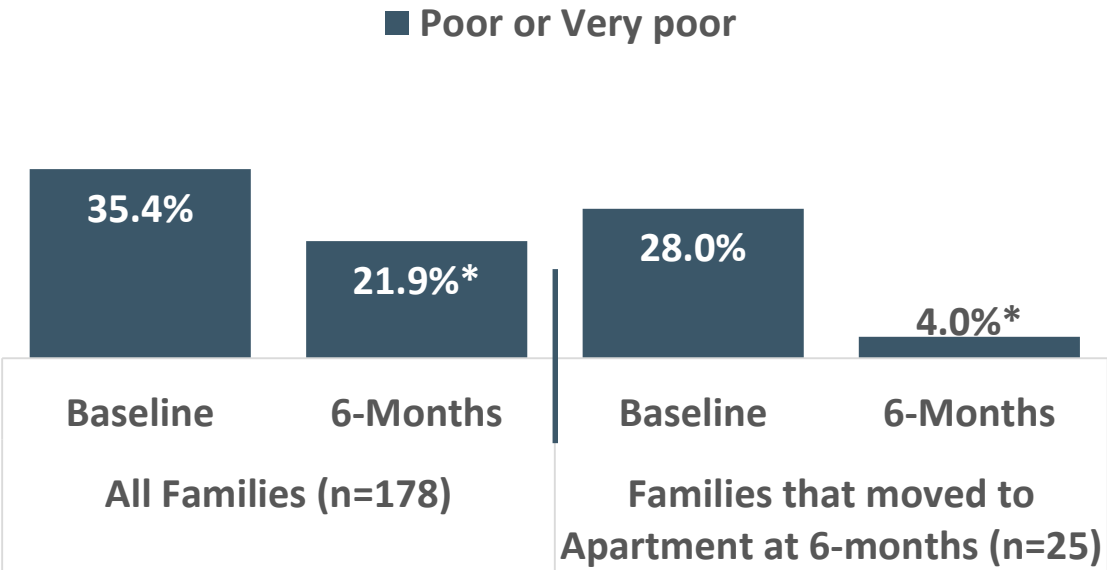
# Change in Housing Indicators

Housing type of enrolled families, by timepoint

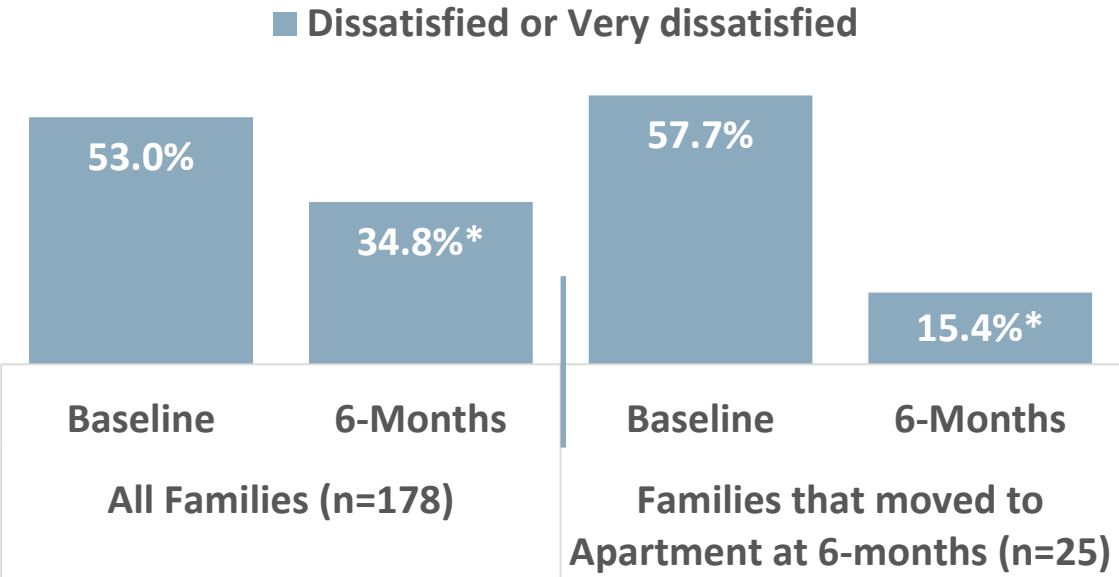


# Change in Housing Indicators

Caregiver rating of housing quality



Caregiver rating of housing satisfaction



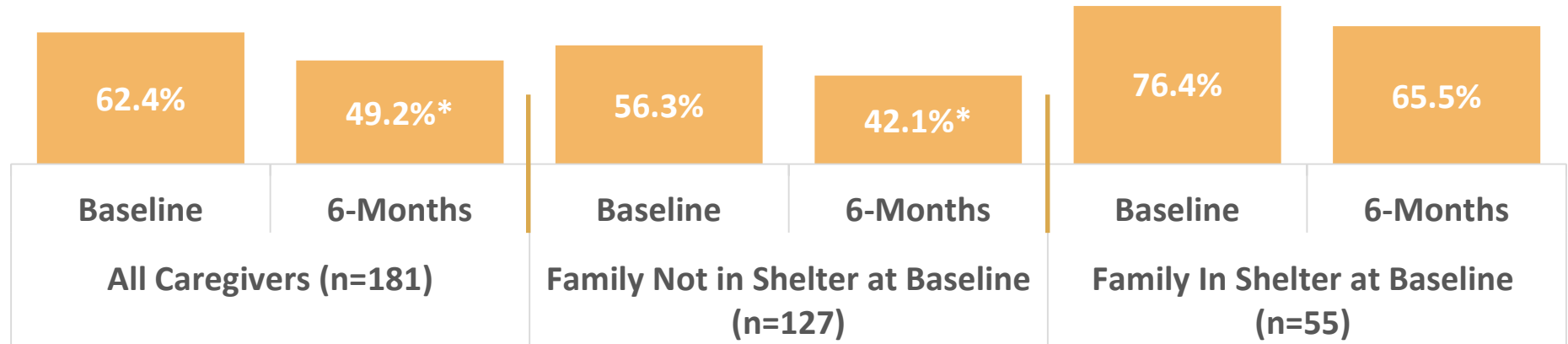
\*Significant Change Baseline vs. 6-Month; McNemar's test  $P < .05$



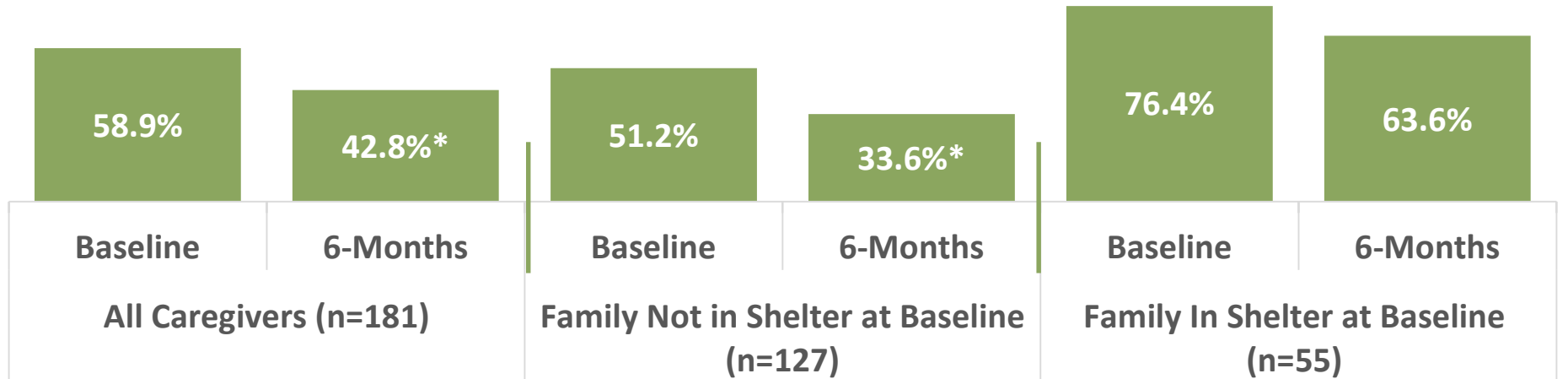


# Change in Caregiver Mental Health Status

Caregivers screened positive for Anxiety Symptoms (GAD-2)



Caregivers screened positive for Depressive Symptoms (PHQ-2)

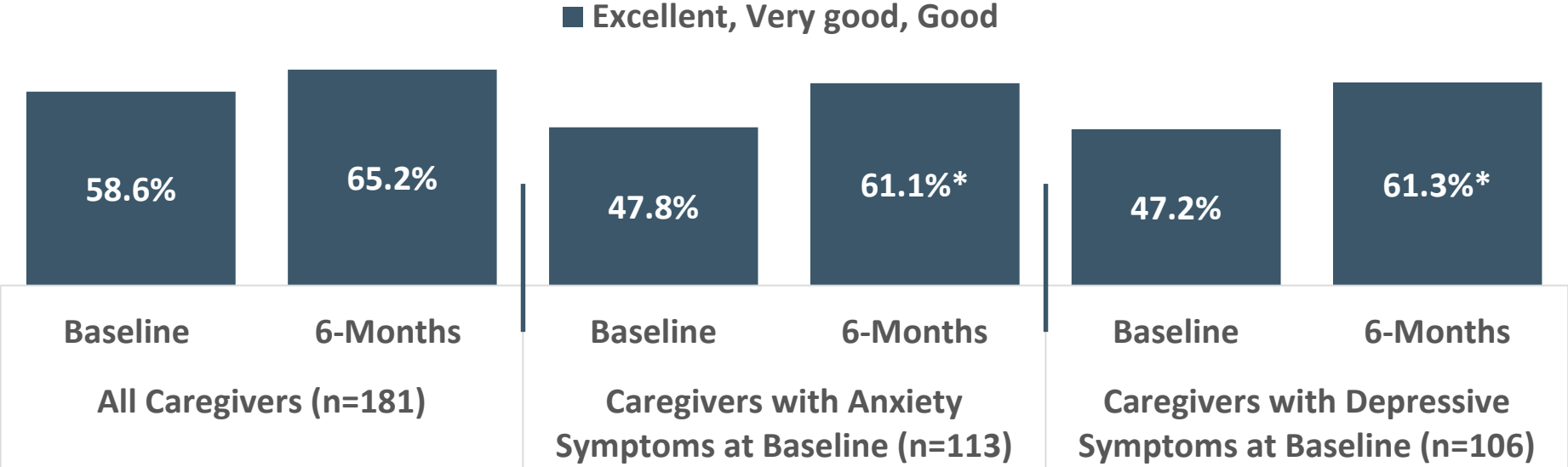


\*Significant Change Baseline vs. 6-Month; McNemar's test  $P < .01$



# Change in Caregiver Health Status

## Caregiver rating of their own overall health

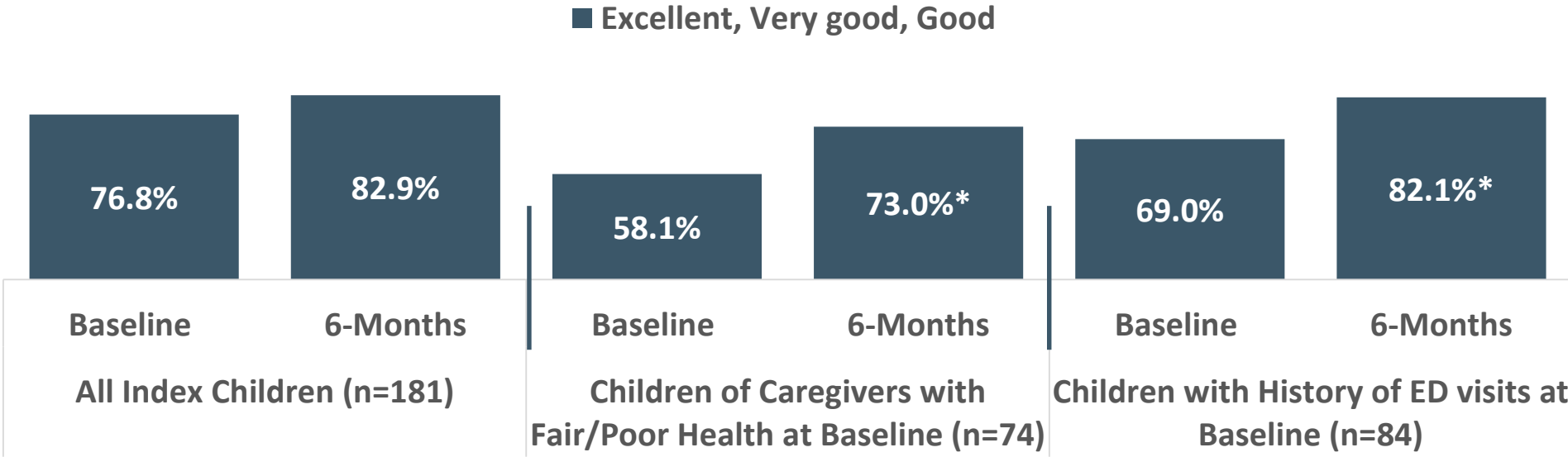


\*Significant Change Baseline vs. 6-Month; McNemar's test  $P < .01$



# Change in Child Health Status

## Caregiver rating the overall health of enrolled child

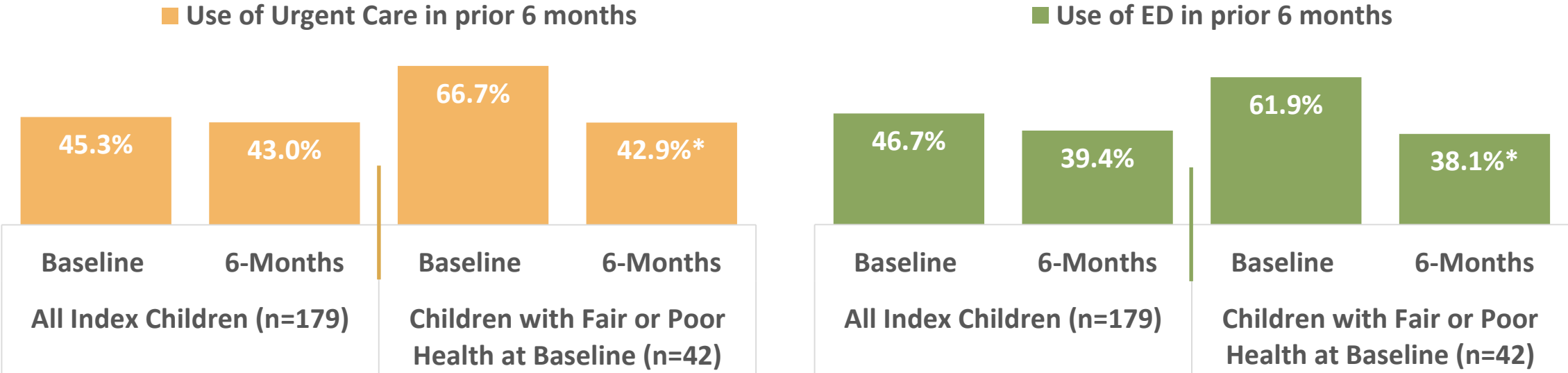


\*Significant Change Baseline vs. 6-Month; McNemar's test  $P < .01$



# Change in Child Healthcare Utilization

## Use of health care services by enrolled child



\*Significant Change Baseline vs. 6-Month; McNemar's test  $P < .01$



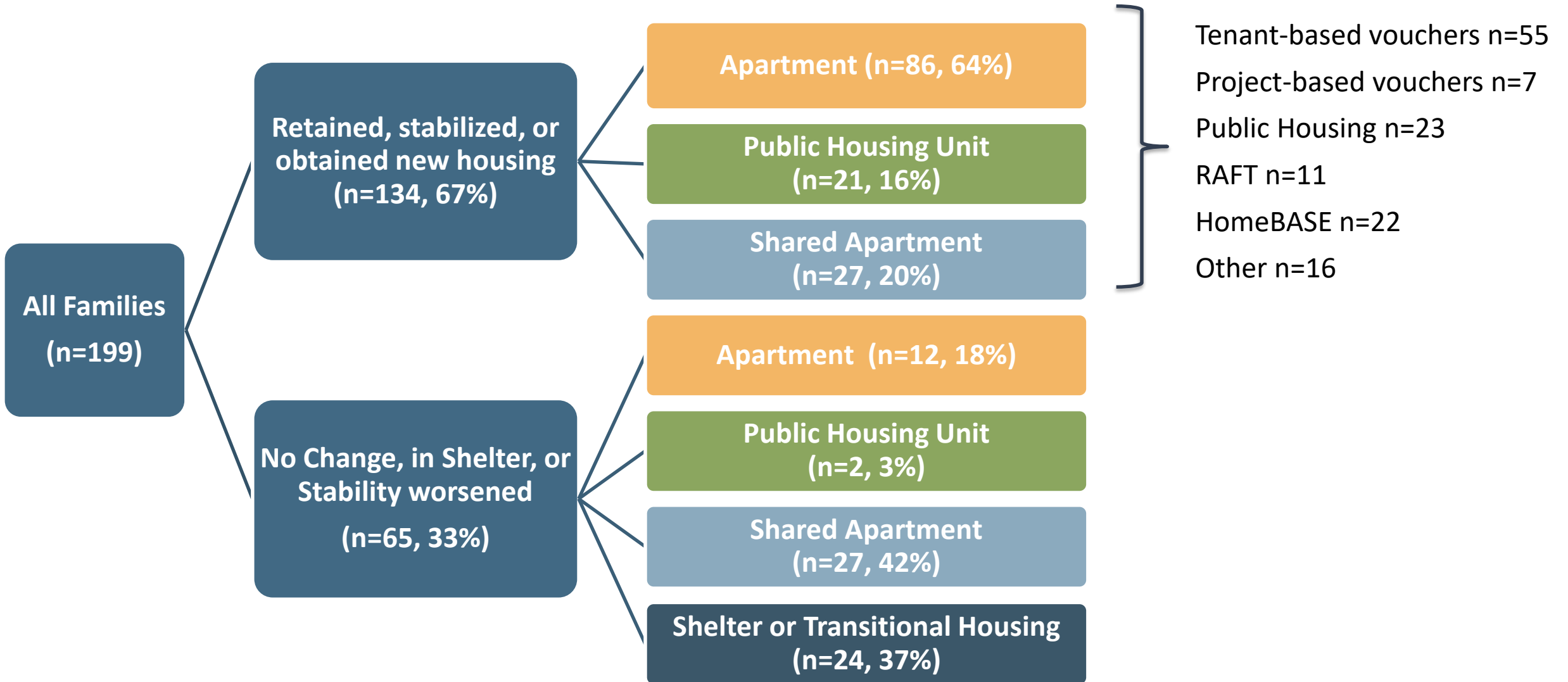
# Preliminary Data on Housing Status at end of Follow-up

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- To examine 'final' housing outcomes for each HSAH family, administrative data were obtained from the HSAH partnerships
  - Data were collected/updated as of November 2019
  - Of the 205 enrolled families, 199 (97%) had administrative housing data
  - Average length of enrollment was 26 months (range 12 – 48 months)



# Preliminary Data on Housing Status at end of Follow-up



# HMIS Data Matching Process

- Dataset: Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Emergency Assistance System
- Timeframe: March 2013-October 2018
- Matching process: Finder file sent by program staff to DHCD

# HMIS Data Matching Results

- 76 percent of families had a recorded shelter stay during the analysis period
  - 92 percent of shelter stays began before HSAH enrollment
- The average length of stay in shelter was 348 days
- Families that used shelter had similar average monthly incomes as all HSAH families (around \$825/month)
- In families with a shelter stay, 69 percent of index children identified as Hispanic compared to 80 percent of all index children in the same programs



# Next Steps

- Follow-up data match later in 2020
  - Capture data on more families
  - Longer follow-up period to assess change in shelter and EA use after HSAH enrollment