

# **BMSZKI**

(The Budapest Methodological Centre of Social Policy and Its Institutions)

## **Pathways of elderlies and long term housing possibilities**

Outreach  
team

GP services, free  
psychiatric &  
dermatological  
consultation, recovery  
units

Nigh shelters,  
temporary  
accommodations  
(some with medical  
staff)

Help for  
jobseekers

Day centres

Help with applications  
for social  
housing/nursing  
homes & grants

**Services**



Since 1993 homeless  
service provider of  
Budapest Municipality

In 2021 we had  
3592 clients in 20  
sites, 500+  
colleagues

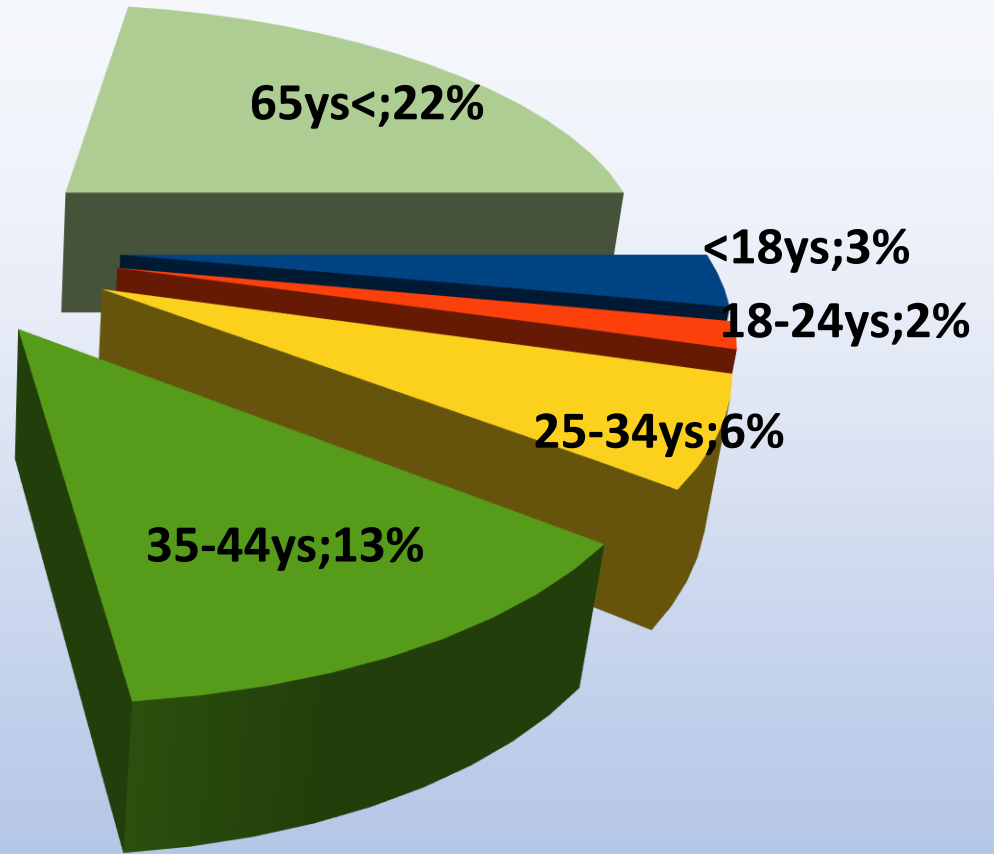
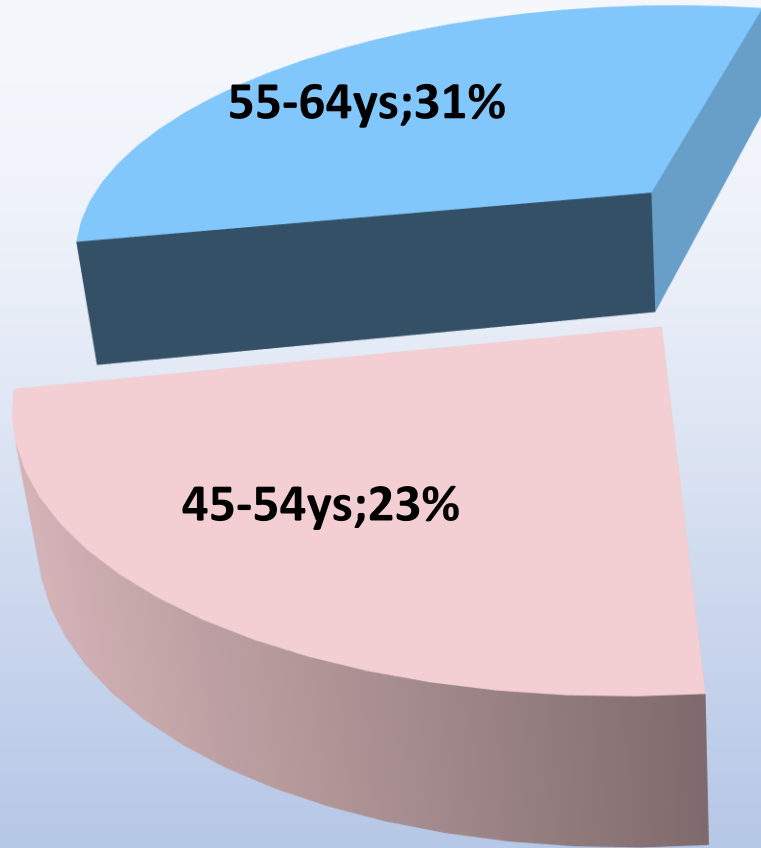
1000+ beds at 6  
night shelters (av  
age: 54ys)

1500+ beds at 10  
temporary  
accommodations (av age:  
57ys)

500+ clients at  
6 day centres

1200 places at 3  
workers` hostels  
(rented on free  
market)

# Numbers



**Age distribution 2021**

53% of all our clients is  
older than 55 years &  
22% older than 65 years  
(legal retirement age)

In 2021 the average age in  
our recovery units was  
59.3 years

The average age in 2013  
was 47.8 years, in 2021 it  
was 55.2 years

2021. av pension  
148,450huf (4%  
growth from 2020)

Under 14 & over 65  
ratio is 139.5%  
(2021)

Av rent in Budapest  
138,000huf in 2021,  
(January 2022 159,000huf  
18% growth)

Av age 42,9 (2022), 20,3%  
of the population is 65+

**More (national) numbers**

30% of our clients  
have memory  
problems

53% have problem  
to take a bite from  
an apple

45% have  
problem to mount  
12 steps

10% have  
difficulties to get  
dressed alone

20% have  
difficulties to find  
their way in the  
city

25-30% have some  
psychiatric problems  
(not necessarily  
diagnosed)

**03/02/2022 survey**



Deteriorating health (mental & physical)

Never rented or had own place, born into homelessness

Isolation

No or low income/ debts

GP, recovery units, financial help with prescriptions, temp accommodation for psychiatric patients

Special night shelters & temp accommodations, “protected” areas, reserved beds, medical staff

Debt management & acquisition of some income, financial support/aid

## Challenges & Solutions





Works within the Customer Service Office

Considers the applications for temporary accommodation

Interview (considering different aspects)

Goal is to find permanent accommodation for the elderly (more expensive, sense loss of freedom, *cooperation?*)

**Accommodation Preparatory Team**

Medical advice  
before suggesting  
accommodation

Consultation with  
psychiatrist or  
psychologist is  
available for all clients

“Mobile” interviews  
for elderly clients  
wanting to move to  
temp acc.

Social workers help  
with applications to  
long term  
accommodations

Cooperation with  
Awakening  
Psychiatric Day  
Hospital

**Cooperation between services**

Family (partner  
died, relationship/  
family problems)

Hospital

Other homeless  
associations

Care home, nursing  
home (homeless  
accommodation is  
cheaper, more  
freedom)

Own/rental  
accommodation (debts,  
overcrowded)

**Where they come from**

Nursing home

Care home

Social housing  
for pensioners

Psychiatric home

Home for  
handicapped  
people

Home for people  
suffering from  
addictions

**Long term possibilities**



**A case**



## **Elisabeth (1955)**

- 67-year-old lady, in good health, very positive, flexible, and independent
- lived in one of our temporary accommodations and decided to move out, and move in with her son and grand-son (10yrs)
- Elisabeth with her social worker was preparing her application for pensioners' social housing, but the process stopped when she moved out
- her pension is 90,000huf/month (230eur)
- she returned after less than a year and wanted to move back to the same accommodation (one bed) to work with the same social worker
- she was saying that she cannot stand her grand-son, that he is condescending, ill-mannered and she has to sleep with him, because the flat they are renting is small
- she also complained about her son's partner, who lives with her grandmother, because she needs to be cared for
- she also complained about her son's partner, who lives with her grandmother, because she needs to be cared for
- also she has mentioned that she financially supports her son and she does not want to do that any more, she very much felt like that she has been exploited financially by her son, while not getting the respect deserved from her grand-son
- she also resented her grand-son for being very close to his father, thus she felt excluded lots of times
- from the part of Elisabeth there was a need to be independent from her family, but also to stay in touch, also she wanted to finish her application for permanent housing
- I could detect that she felt guilty for leaving her son and grand-son and she expressed fear several times over that they would question her love for them

<https://www.bmszki.hu/hu>

<https://www.ksh.hu/>

**Sources**