



GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT

Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils
September 10, 2026

2026

WHY WE COUNT: A local effort with national impact

Behind these numbers are our neighbors and a national standard of accountability



We conduct the largest unsheltered annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count in the nation, a process designed with USC and required by HUD to ensure consistency across the nation.



This data not only informs LA's policies and strategies to end homelessness but also contributes to California's and the nation's understanding of the crisis.



The Count combines direct data like shelter bed occupancy with observational estimates and statistical sampling. It's an imprecise estimate but essential, as it gives us a snapshot of the reality our unhoused neighbors face.

+99% of HC26 data was entered digitally, with positive user feedback, enabling simpler and more efficient data reconciliation.

LAHSA is deeply committed to producing the most accurate homeless count possible.

01

DATA RECONCILIATION

- Designed to identify and address inaccuracies, leading to the most reliable final count.
- Collaboration between Deployment Site Coordinators and volunteers is essential to ensure accurate data and continuous improvement.

02

ESRI APP

- Switched to the Esri app to improve accuracy by mitigating the challenges of paper-based systems.
- Methodology unchanged—only tools have evolved for more accurate, verifiable, and timely data.
- Paper forms present challenges: illegible handwriting, tabulation errors, and an imprecise location data.

The Count is an estimate best interpreted as a snapshot of homelessness at the regional level. It is not as useful for measuring neighborhood-level homelessness.

The count undergoes extensive quality control and statistical calculation to provide a countywide view.

Over the years, individual communities have established local counts that add detail and nuance to neighborhood-level understanding.



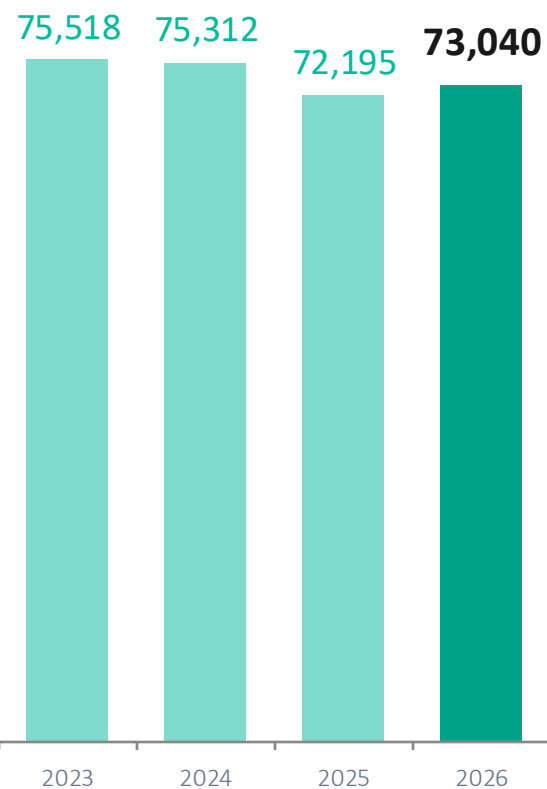
PART

1

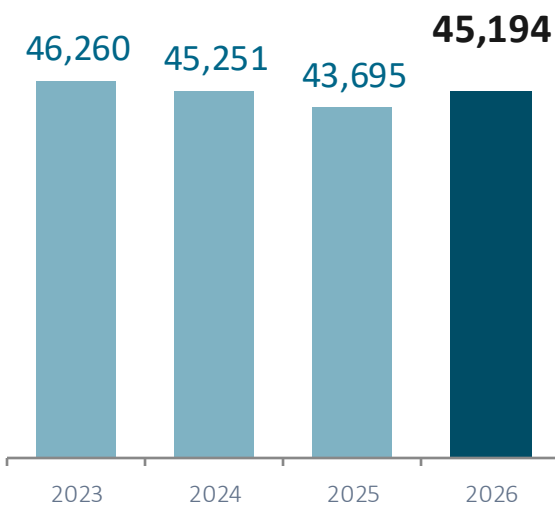
2026 Homeless Count Key Findings

Following years of declines, progress addressing homelessness in the LA region stalled: this year's homelessness estimate in LA County increased by 1.2%, while the City of Los Angeles estimate increased by 3.4%.

LA County **+1.2%**



LA CITY **+3.4%**



**Note: Neither increase is considered statistically significant.*

Homeless Count Within City of LA By Council Districts

[RETURN TO MENU](#)

The raw count data from the Los Angeles Continuum of Care Point-in-Time count include the number of sheltered persons staying in temporary shelter and of unsheltered persons and dwellings. The total sheltered persons do not include clients sheltered with vouchers or in programs with confidential addresses. *The available filters for this dashboard are on the right. To filter to a specific area, either use the dropdown or select on the interactive map. To filter between years, use the year dropdown on the right. On the left, the raw count data will adjust based on the filters selected. If you have any questions, please return to menu with button on top left and submit through the link provided.*

Sheltered Persons Staying in Temporary Shelter

Data collected from service providers.

2,874 Total Sheltered Persons

A formatting issue in the original version of this dashboard prevented certain interim housing sites, including Project Homekey, and their participants from appearing within their local jurisdiction. This formatting issue for the local dashboard did not affect the overall LA Continuum of Care or County totals, or the data submitted to HUD.

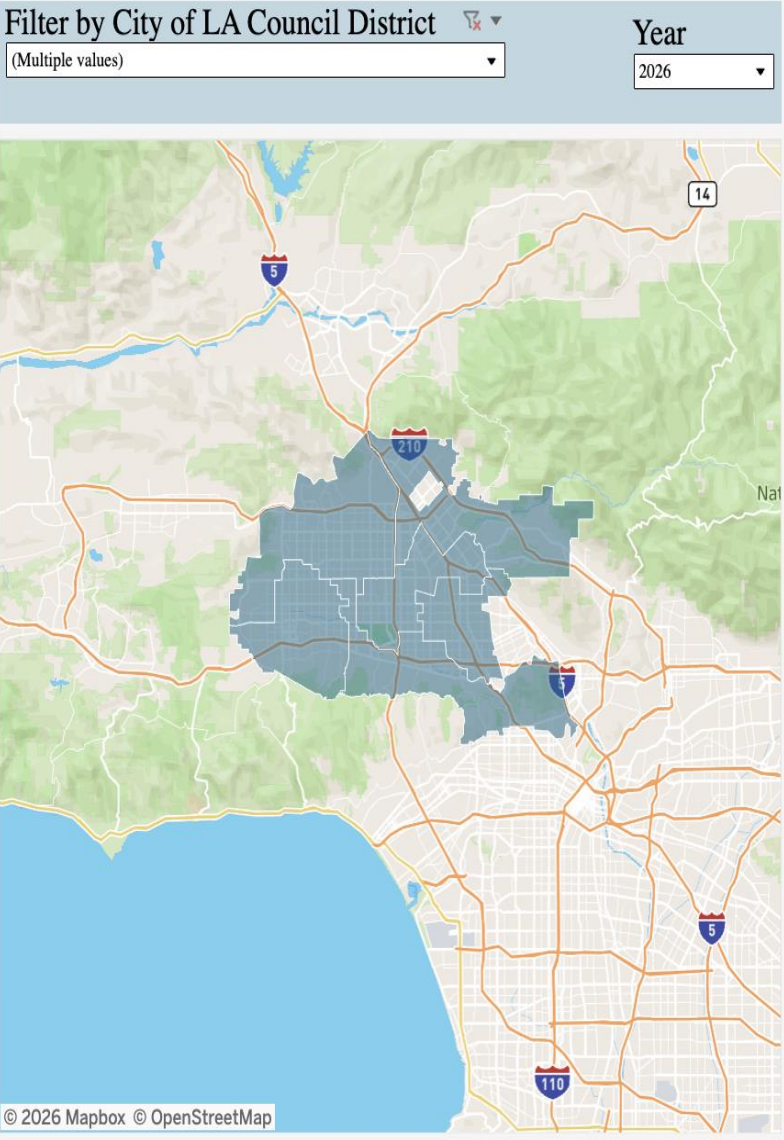
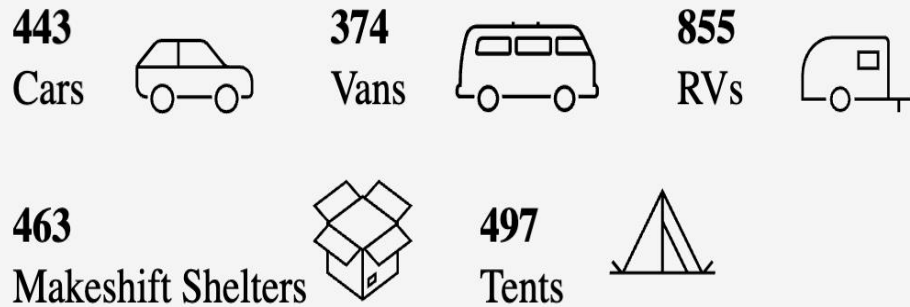
Visual Tally of Unsheltered Persons and Dwellings

Data collected from volunteers and community members on the nights of the count.

1,125 Total Unsheltered Persons not in a Dwelling

2,632 Total Dwellings

Counts indicate observed dwellings and do not indicate how many persons were staying in the dwellings.



2025 to 2026

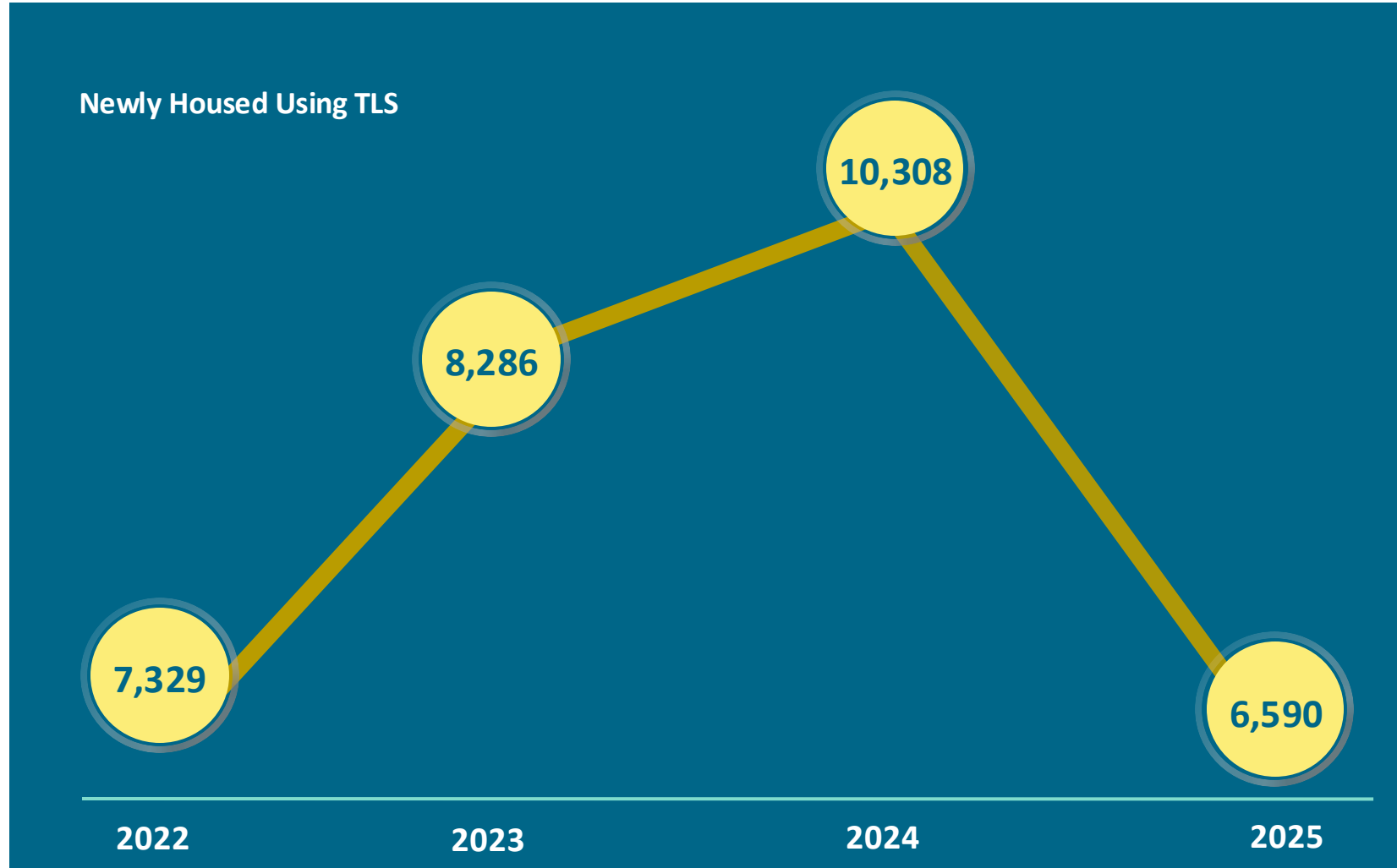
- Sheltered persons: +131
- Unsheltered: -90
- Dwellings: -17
 - +25 cars
 - +8 vans
 - -64 RVs
 - +49 makeshift shelters
 - -35 tents

The story of the Homeless Count is mainly the story of TLS.

- A Time Limited Subsidy (TLS), formerly known as Rapid Rehousing, is a low-barrier, short-term rental subsidy that helps unhoused households quickly move into affordable housing.
- Participants are provided rental assistance for 24 months.
- TLS pairs rental assistance with housing-focused case management and stabilization services.
- Goal after 24 months: help participants become housing self-sufficient or transfer them to another permanent housing subsidy that meets their needs.



Loss of TLS funding forced a program pause. TLS is still frozen.



- 01 Starting in 2022, TLS was a major factor in the increase of people in permanent housing.
- 02 Funding reductions forced a pause on new TLS enrollments.
- 03 As a result, the number of new TLS move-ins dropped by 3,718 in 2025.

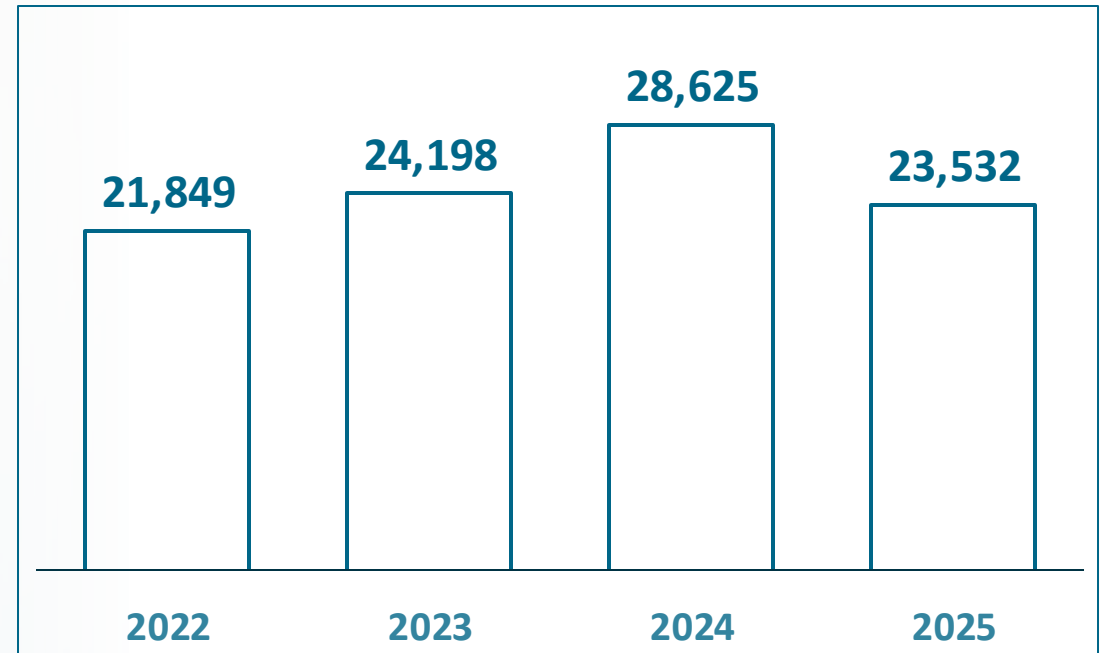
Data Source: HMIS - LAHSA System Key Performance Indicators

The critical shortage of TLS resources and other factors contributed to a 5,093 person drop in the number of people housed in 2025.

PEOPLE PERMANENTLY HOUSED

98,204

People permanently housed
since 2022



Without adequate access to housing, a bottleneck formed, slowing down the system.

LAHSA System KPIs 2024 to 2025



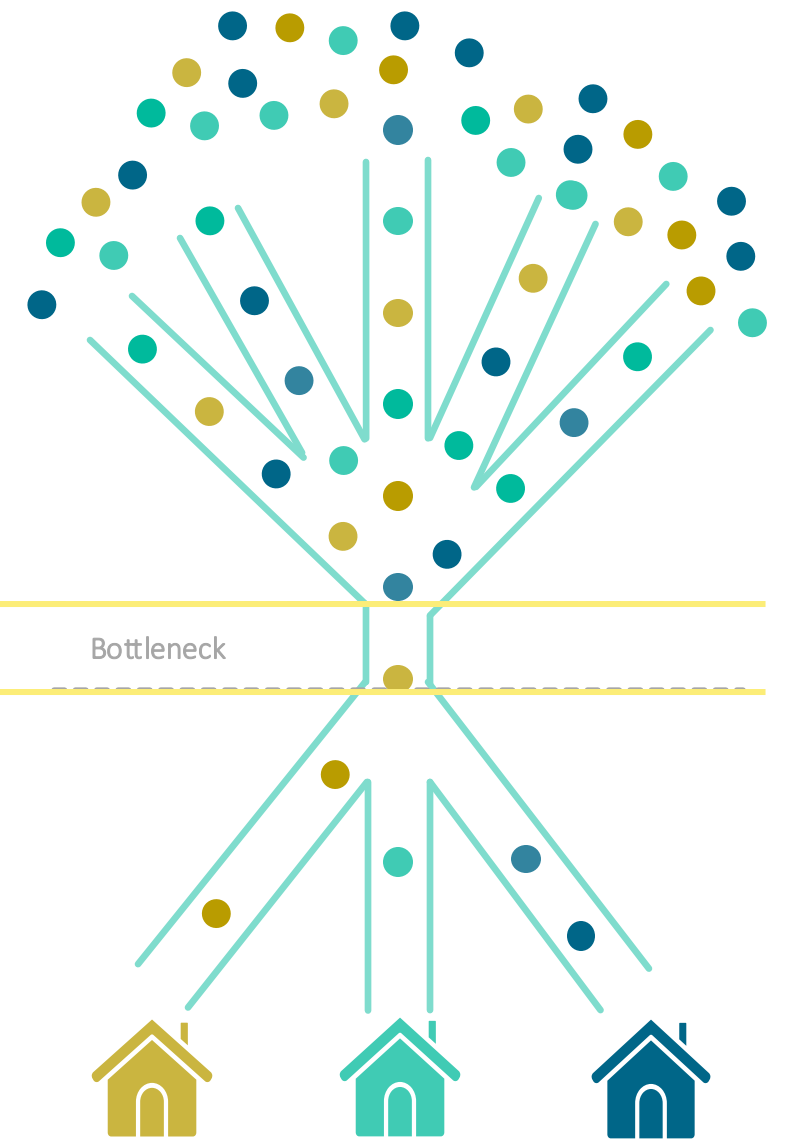
Movement from interim housing to permanent housing **decreased** 36% (12,120 to 7,770)



Movement from the street to IH **decreased** by 8% (16,724 to 15,380).



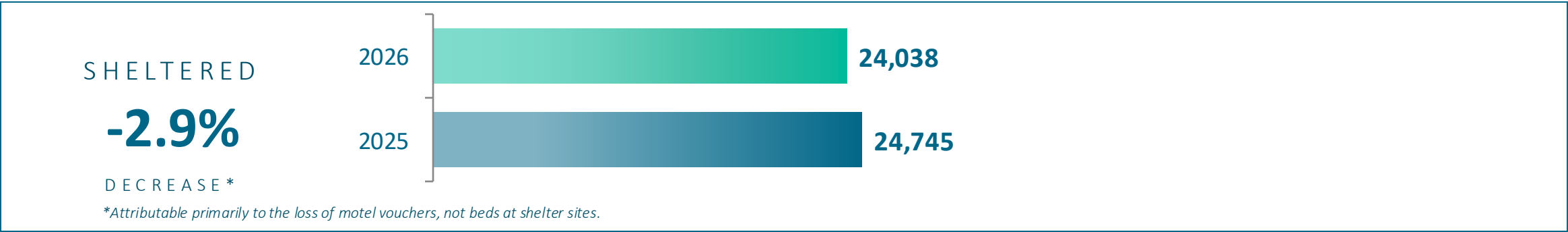
Movement from interim housing to the street **increased** by 24% (4,708 to 5,842)



HOMELESSNESS ACROSS THE COUNTY

TLS cuts contributed to countywide unsheltered homelessness increase.

The decrease in permanent housing placements kept shelter beds occupied. This lack of interim housing availability drove the County’s 3.3% increase in unsheltered homelessness.



Note: Unsheltered = estimate; Sheltered = counted. Also, none of the changes are considered statistically significant.

HOMELESSNESS IN CITY OF LA

TLS cuts impacted City's increase.

The City's 7.9% increase in unsheltered homelessness was also affected by a 580-person increase in people living in RVs.

TOTAL	2025	2026
+3.4%	43,695	45,194
INCREASE		

UNSHELTERED

+7.9%

INCREASE



SHELTERED

-3.9%

DECREASE *



*Attributable primarily to the loss of motel vouchers, not beds at shelter sites.

Economic factors always drive homelessness.

01

Statewide UCSF study indicated the #1 reason people fall into homelessness is economics.

02

59% of LA's newly homeless population cited economic hardship as the primary reason for experiencing homelessness.

03

Renters in LA County need to make about \$110,000 to afford the average rent of \$2,745 for a 2-bedroom apartment.

04

The LA region has a gap of 473,000 affordable housing units.



Data Source for Point 3: National Low Income Housing Coalition's "Out of Reach: California"
Data Source for Point 4: California Housing Partnership LA County Affordable Housing Needs Assessment
Data Source for Point 5: HMIS – LAHSA System KPI Data

Inflow into the Rehousing System

Economic factors contributed to the increase in system inflow.

We define “newly unhoused” as people who have accessed an HMIS service for the first time ever or for the first time in the last two years. Continuous, increasing inflow sustains homelessness.

6%

increase in inflow since 2023.

2.37

newly unhoused people touch the rehousing system for every person it houses.



How do we return to progress?

- LAHSA must win its lawsuit against HUD.
- Lawsuit recently filed to stop the 2026 CoC NOFO by California and other states must succeed.
- State HHAP funding should become annual and ongoing to support successful programs like TLS.
- Develop sustainable funding strategies for Family rental subsidies and services.
- Federal IMD waivers to allow more than 16 beds at mental health treatment centers, so more people with serious mental health conditions can be served more efficiently.



Returning the LA Region to Progress

We know what ends homelessness. Now let's make it happen.

01

Loss of Subsidies
backed up
emergency
shelters, driving a
**3.5% regional
increase** in street
homelessness.

02

**Housing Ends
Homelessness.**
When housing exits
open, street
homelessness
drops. When they
close, system
backup occurs.

03

Reinvest in Housing
by securing state
funding, defending
federal rental
assistance, and
expanding local
prevention.

PART

2

2026 Homeless Count Methodology 101

The LA CoC* PIT Count methodology has 3 components

Overall Estimate: 68,576 (+/- 1,282)

Sheltered adults & youth (33.0%):

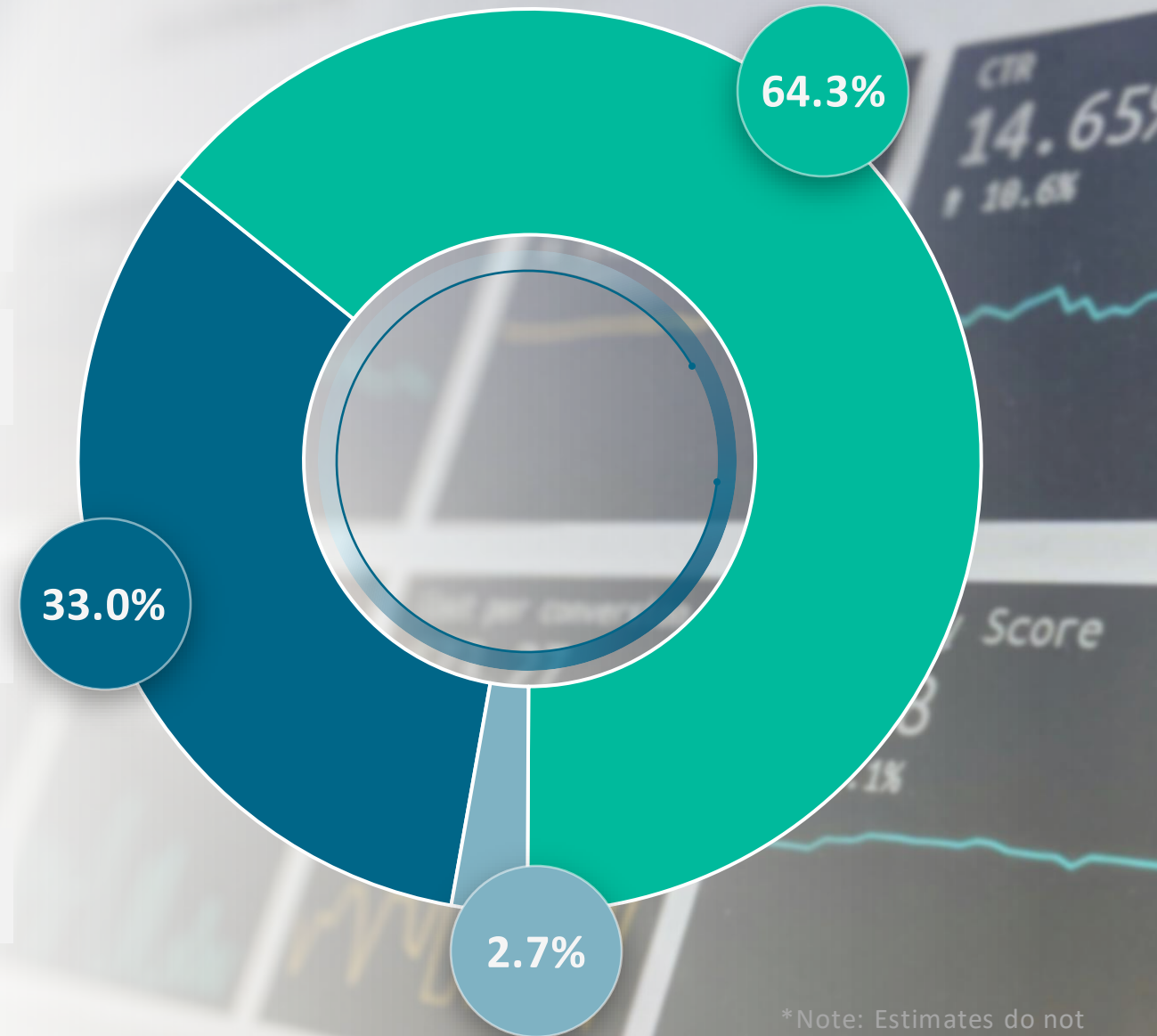
- Shelter count
- Administrative data (HMIS)

Unsheltered adults (64.3%):

- Street count (visual tally)
- Demographic surveys

Unsheltered youth (2.7%):

- Survey-based count using respondent-driven sampling



*Note: Estimates do not include Glendale, Long Beach, and Pasadena.

Encampment resolution efforts led by the City, County, and LAHSA decreased nearly all dwelling types across the LA CoC and the City of LA.

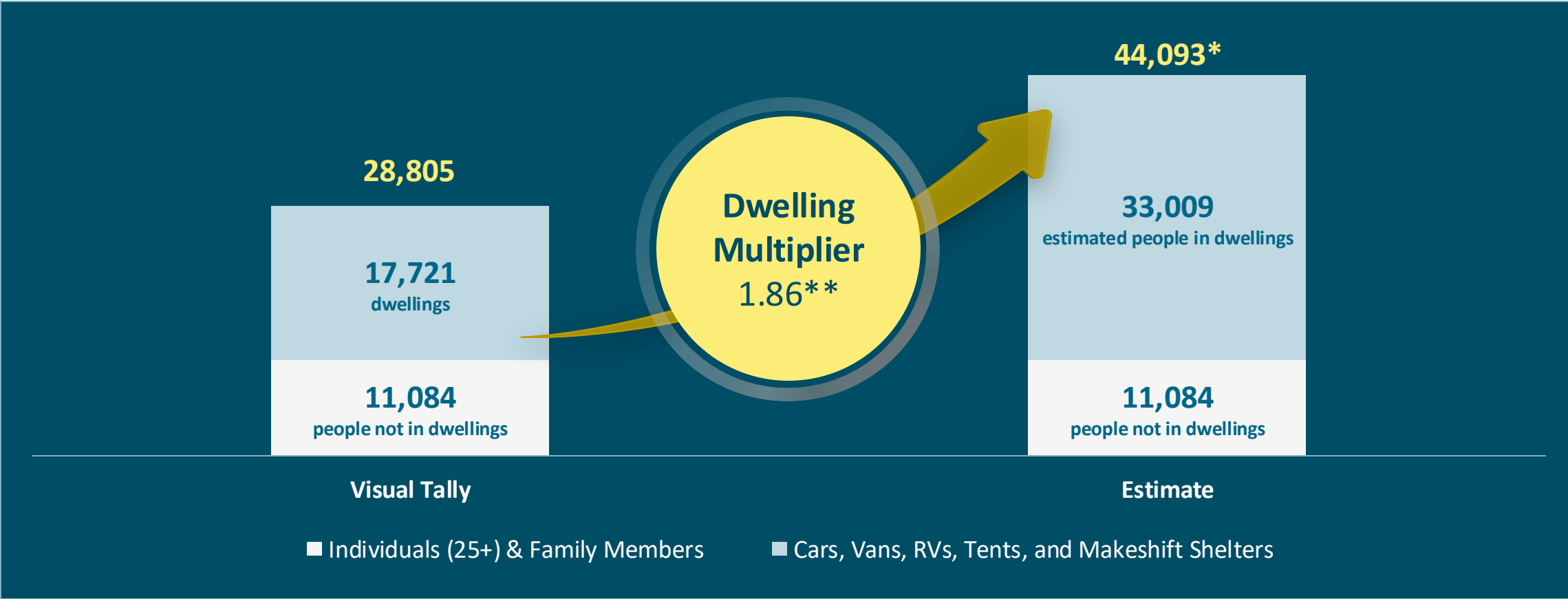
Cars	Vans	RVs	Tents	Makeshift Shelters
CoC 2025/2026 3,020 → 2,992 -0.9% 28 fewer cars	CoC 2025/2026 2,695 → 2,799 +3.9% 104 more vans	CoC 2025/2026 6,290 → 4,968 -21.0% 1,322 fewer RVs	CoC 2025/2026 3,453 → 3,248 -5.9% 205 fewer tents	CoC 2025/2026 3,158 → 3,714 +17.6% 556 more makeshift shelters
City 2025/2026 1,710 → 1,705 -0.3% 5 fewer cars	City 2025/2026 1,801 → 1,730 -3.9% 71 fewer vans	City 2025/2026 3,104 → 2,796 -9.9% 308 fewer RVs	City 2025/2026 2,572 → 2,288 -11.0% 284 fewer tents	City 2025/2026 1,823 → 2,242 +23.0% 419 more makeshift shelters

LA CoC – All Dwelling Types		
2025 TOTAL 18,616	2026 TOTAL 17,721	CHANGE -4.8%

LA City – All Dwelling Types		
2025 TOTAL 11,010	2026 TOTAL 10,761	CHANGE -2.3%

While the number of dwellings decreased, survey data show that more people are occupying each dwelling.

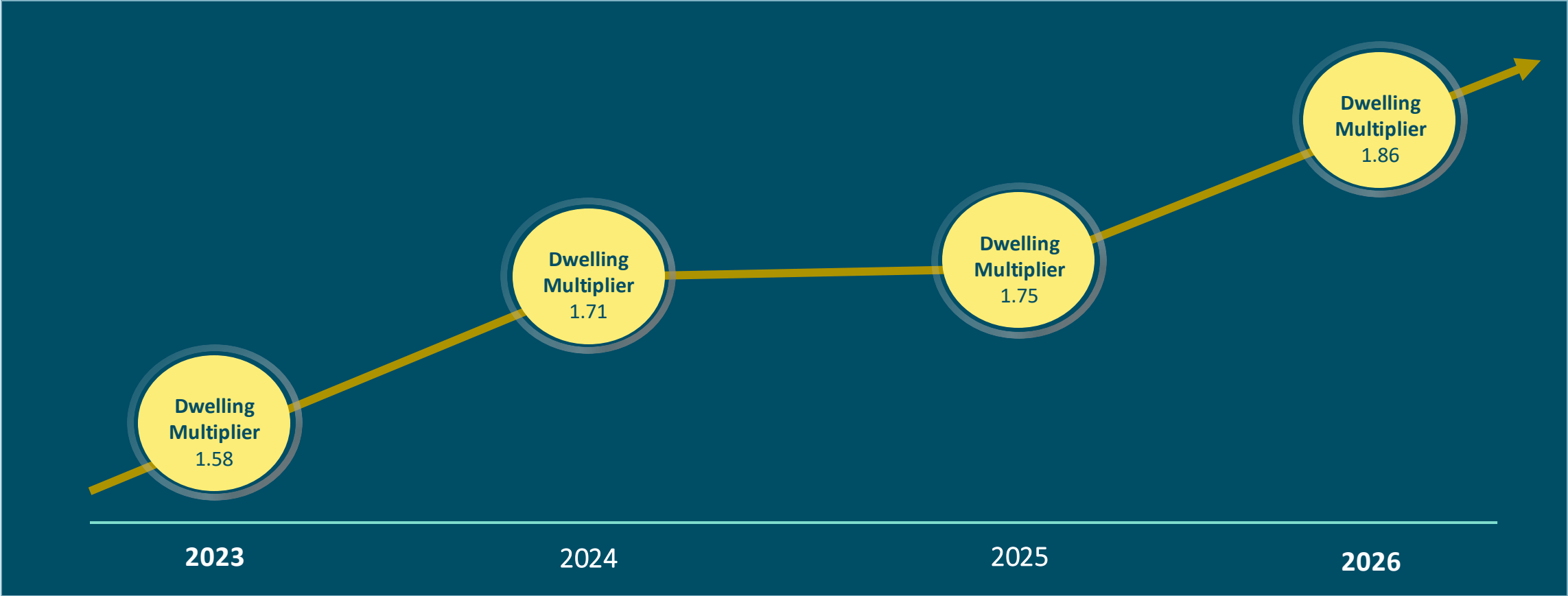
2026 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT: ESTIMATING PEOPLE BASED ON DWELLING COUNTS



*The 95% confidence interval is 42,826 to 42,360. **This is a rounded number of the full “backed-out” multiplier.

More people living in dwellings have been a trend over at least the last four years.

The dwelling multiplier has increased by 16% since 2023.



PART

3

Other 2026 Homeless Count Findings

Service Planning Areas (SPAs) Estimates

¹ SPA 2 excludes data from Glendale CoC² SPA 3 excludes data from Pasadena CoCs³ SPA 8 excludes data from Long Beach CoC

SPA 1 – ANTELOPE VALLEY *

	2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	6,753	4,755	-29.6%
UNSHELTERED	5,465	3,435	-37.1%
SHELTERED	1,288	1,320	+2.5%

SPA 2 – SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

	2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	10,766	10,299	-4.3%
UNSHELTERED	6,692	7,274	+8.7%
SHELTERED	4,074	3,025	-25.7%

SPA 3 – SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

	2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	4,485	4,988	+11.2%
UNSHELTERED	3,152	3,708	+17.6%
SHELTERED	1,333	1,280	-4.0%

SPA 4 – METRO *

	2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	16,955	19,431	+14.6%
UNSHELTERED	10,324	12,469	+20.8%
SHELTERED	6,631	6,962	+5.0%

SPA 5 – WEST *

	2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	5,029	4,518	-10.2%
UNSHELTERED	4,048	3,402	-16.0%
SHELTERED	981	1,116	+13.8%

SPA 6 – SOUTH

	2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	13,587	14,289	+5.2%
UNSHELTERED	8,161	8,792	+7.7%
SHELTERED	5,426	5,497	+1.3%

SPA 7 – EAST *

	2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	4,778	5,522	+15.6%
UNSHELTERED	3,104	3,705	+19.4%
SHELTERED	1,674	1,817	+8.5%

SPA 8 – SOUTH BAY *

	2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	5,424	4,774	-12.0%
UNSHELTERED	3,469	3,183	-8.2%
SHELTERED	1,955	1,591	-18.6%

*Statistically significant changes include:

- Unsheltered Estimate increase in SPA 4 and Unsheltered Estimate decreases in SPAs 1 and 5
- Total Population Estimate increases in SPAs 4 & 7 and Total Population Estimate in SPAs 1 and 8

Veterans

- Homeless Count estimate of veterans decreased by 793.
- Homeless Count change not statistically significant.

DATA SOURCE	2025	2026
HC Estimate	3,050	2,257
By Name List	1,573	1,591

*Data does NOT include Glendale CoC, Pasadena CoC, and Long Beach CoC. Also, data is self-reported by people experiencing homelessness in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care.

FAMILY MEMBERS



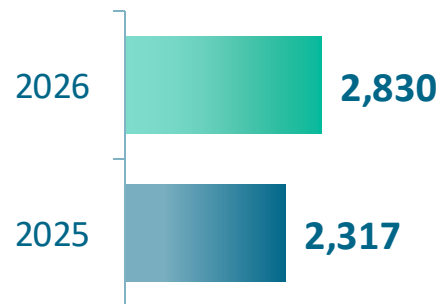
TOTAL
-14.0%
DECREASE



TRANSITIONAL AGE YOUTH



TOTAL
+22.1%*
INCREASE



**Not a statistically significant change.*

Family homelessness has decreased. However, several indicators tell a different story.

- Declining resources for families experiencing homelessness likely drove down the number of families accessing Family Solution Centers.
- New family move-ins to TLS dropped 41% in 2025.
- Family connections to interim housing dropped 62.5% (2,220 to 833).

FAMILY
MEMBERS



TOTAL

-14.0%

DECREASE



These data points are for the Los Angeles CoC.

44.1%* of our unhoused neighbors are experiencing **chronic homelessness** in the CoC compared to 40.9% in 2025

**Not a statistically significant change.*

TOTAL

+9.2%



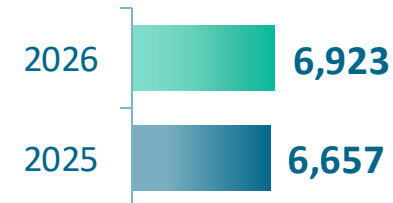
UNSHELTERED

+10.8%



SHELTERED

+4.0%



¹ Unsheltered numbers are an estimate, while Sheltered numbers have been counted.

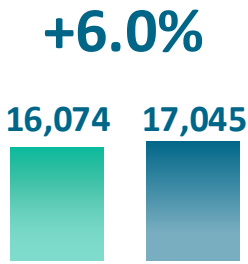
The data continues to show a disproportionate number of Black people experiencing homelessness, while Latinos remain the largest ethnic group experiencing homelessness in the Los Angeles CoC.

RACE / ETHNICITY	HOMELESS POP. SINGLE RACE CATEGORY ONLY	HOMELESS POP. RACE CATEGORY AND HISPANIC/LATINO/A/E	GRAND TOTAL	PERCENT OF TOTAL
AMERICAN INDIAN, ALASKAN NATIVE, OR INDIGENOUS	881	295	1,176	1.7%
ASIAN OR ASIAN AMERICAN	805	151	956	1.4%
BLACK, AFRICAN AMERICAN, OR AFRICAN	18,966	966	19,932	29.1%
HISPANIC/LATINO/A/E ALONE		26,518	26,518	SEE BELOW*
MIDDLE EASTERN OR NORTH AFRICAN	184	28	212	0.3%
NATIVE HAWAIIAN/OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER	339	138	477	0.7%
WHITE	11,839	4,025	15,864	23.1%
MULTIPLE RACES	2,902	539	3,441	5.0%
TOTAL	35,916	32,660	68,576	
HISPANIC/LATINO/A/E ALONE PLUS HISPANIC/LATINO/A/E AND ANY OTHER CATEGORY	N/A	32,660	N/A	47.6%*

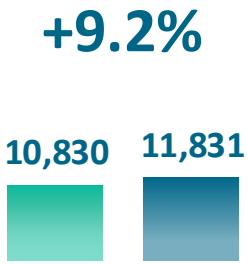
SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS

27.1%* of our unhoused neighbors over 18 report experiencing serious mental illness (SMI) in the LA CoC (compared to 26.2% in 2025).

TOTAL



UNSHELTERED



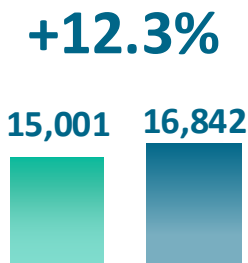
SHELTERED



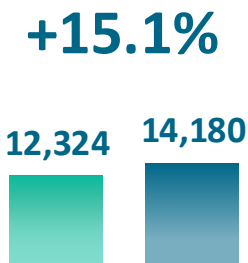
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

26.7%* of our unhoused neighbors report experiencing substance use disorder (SUD) in the LA CoC (compared to 24.5% in 2025).

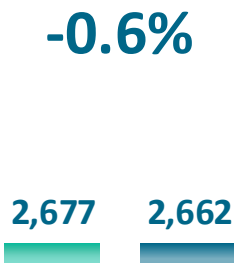
TOTAL



UNSHELTERED



SHELTERED



*Not a statistically significant change.
These data points are for the Los Angeles CoC.

Age

- The number of **adults (18-54)** experiencing homelessness **decreased by 1.1%**
- The number of **older adults (55+)** experiencing homelessness **increased by 13.5%**

AGE GROUPS	2025	2026
CHILDREN (0-17 YEARS)	6,428	5,605
ADULTS (18-54 YEARS)	45,718	45,225
OLDER ADULTS (55+ YEARS)	15,631	17,746

*Data does NOT include Glendale CoC, Pasadena CoC, and Long Beach CoC. Also, data is self-reported by people experiencing homelessness in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care.

59% of the newly homeless population reported economic hardship as the reason they experience homelessness.

REASON FOR HOMELESSNESS	% of newly homeless pop
Economic Hardship	59%
Weakened Social Network	38%
Disabling Health Conditions	23%
System Discharge	10%
Violence	10%
Other	8%



*Data does NOT include Glendale CoC, Pasadena CoC, and Long Beach CoC. Also, data is self-reported by people experiencing homelessness in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care.



The 2026 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count confirms a fundamental truth: **Access to housing ends homelessness.**