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Measure A Baselines & Goals for the LA County Homelessness Services System

July 8, 2025

Agenda

- Measure A

- New governance bodies

- Baseline Metrics and Adopted Goals

- Key takeaways

- What to watch for next

Measure A

What is Measure A?

- Ballot measure passed by voters in LA County
  - Levies a permanent half-cent sales tax all of which goes to affordable housing and homelessness services
- Does not increase the funding provided by Measure H for homelessness services
- Breakdown of Measure A money
  - 60% to homelessness services
  - 35.75% to affordable housing and prevention (budgeted by the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency or LACAHSA) - nearly all of the homelessness prevention dollars are budgeted by LACAHSA
  - 1.25% to accountability, data, and research

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Measure A Goals

1. Increase the number of people moving from encampments into permanent housing to reduce **unsheltered homelessness**
2. Reduce the number of people with **mental illness and/or substance use disorders** who experience homelessness
3. Increase the number of people **permanently housed** leaving homelessness
4. **Prevent** people from falling into homelessness
5. Increase the number of **affordable housing** units in Los Angeles County

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Measure A Metrics

Required LA County to set metrics to achieve goals

1. **Leadership Table** (LTRHA) developed and recommended metrics for five-year goals
2. **Executive Committee for Regional Homelessness Alignment** (ECRHA) (County Board, City Mayor, smaller City mayors, and Governor's Office) and **LACAHSA** formally adopted metrics in **April 2025**
3. Budget expenditures are decided each year by the **County Board of Supervisors, Local jurisdictions,** and **LACAHSA**

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New Governance

https://homeless.lacounty.gov/governance/

The Executive Committee

Who:
Political leaders and government officials

Goal:
Provide unity across LA County + approve a regional plan

The Leadership Table

Who:
Community representatives with City + County agency leaders

Goals:
Educate the public and ECHRA; represent various sectors; Oversee implementation
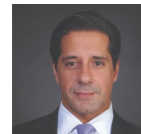
Sector & Community Representation

- Academia
- Business Community
- Faith Community
- Homeless Service Providers
- Labor Community
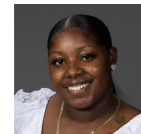- Persons with Lived Expertise
- Veteran Community

Celina Alvarez
Service Provider
Housing Works

Kevin Blackburn
Business
Los Angeles Business Council

Alberto M. Carvalho
Education
Los Angeles Unified School District

La'Toya Cooper
Lived Expertise / Youth System
LA Emissary

Peter Laugharn
Philanthropy
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

David Green
Labor
SEIU Local 721

George W. Greene, Esq.
Business
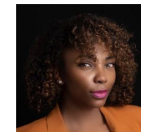The Hospital Association of Southern California

Darren Hendon
Veteran Community
Veteran Social Services, Inc

Stephanie Klasky-Gamer
Service Provider
LA Family Housing

Alexis Obinna
Lived Expertise / Youth System
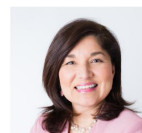LA Emissary/Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles

Amara Ononiwu
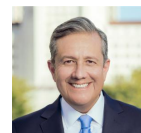Faith
Faith Collaborative to End Homelessness
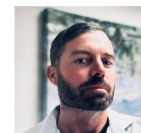
Jose Osuna
Service Provider
Brilliant Corners

Janey Rountree, JD /LLM
Academia
California Policy Lab at UCLA

Maria S. Salinas
Business
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

Miguel Santana
Philanthropy
California Community Foundation

Brandon Scoggan
Lived Expertise / Adult System
Valley Oasis

Grant Sunoo
Service Provider
Little Tokyo Service Center

Measure A baseline metrics and adopted goals

Overview

- Development and adoption processes

- Description of data sources

- For each of the Measure A goals 1–4, we will discuss:

  - FY 2023–24 baseline and trends from 2019–2024

  - Adopted Goals

- Key takeaways

Key Milestones

- <u>June 2024–January 2025</u>: Leadership table and other partners developed concepts for Measure A metrics

- <u>January 24, 2025</u>: Data Subcommittee presented baseline measures and five-year trends for Measure A Goals 1–4

- <u>February 2025</u>: Leadership Table recommends goals

- <u>March 2025</u>: Executive Committee considers and adopts goals

- <u>March 25, 2025</u>: Board of Supervisors adopts final goals in FY2025-26 Funding Recommendations

Data Sources

Point in Time Count

Visual count and demographic survey

HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) service data

People accessing homelessness services in LA County

CHAMP (Comprehensive Health Accompaniment and Management Platform) service data

People accessing DHS housing programs in LA County

Linked data from County Depts (DMH, DHS, DPH) through the County Infohub

For mental health and substance use disorder diagnoses

Notes on interpreting this data

- Administrative data only captures people who access services. More people are counted as services expand or outreach improves

- Estimates will change in the future as data quality improves or changes

- Survey data only includes those who can be found and are willing to respond to the questions

Key Takeaways (Preview)

- **The number of people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County is growing.**

- **Inflow into the homelessness system is significant and constant over time.**

- **There have been gains in moving people from homelessness to permanent housing and serving unsheltered people in interim housing.**

- **The proportion of people with service histories indicating serious mental illness or substance use disorder is relatively constant over time.**

Five-year trend: Services data

Count of service participants experiencing homelessness during fiscal year
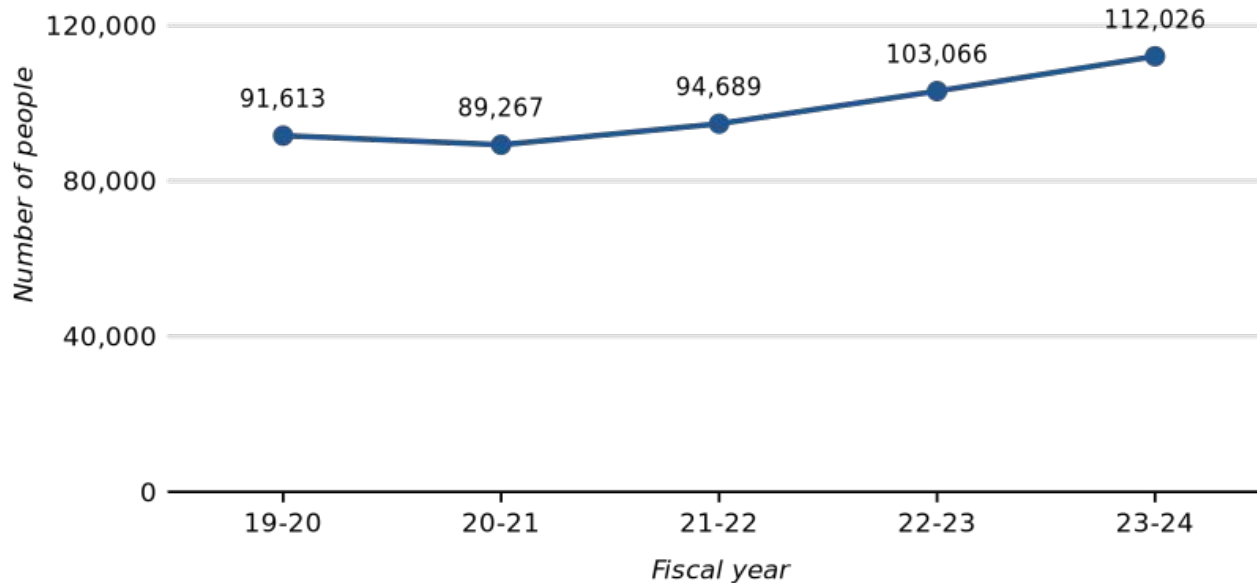
Change year over year:

+5% on average

Five-year change:

+22%

Goal 1
Encampments to Housing

Goal 1

Measure A language

Increase the number of people moving from encampments into permanent housing to reduce unsheltered homelessness (Section 4.A.1)
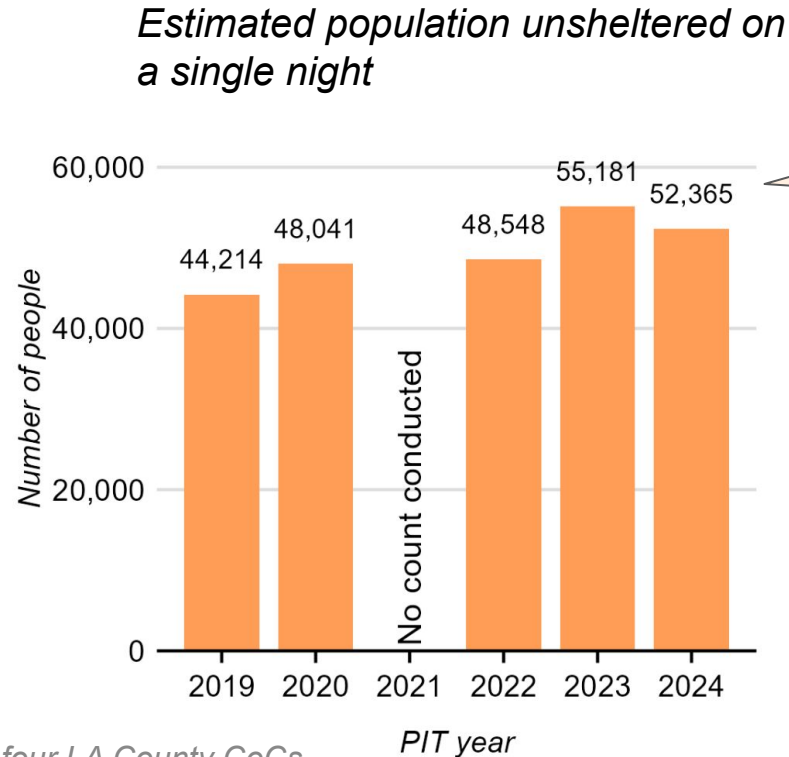
Goal 1: Survey/PIT data metric

Baseline:

Estimated population of people sleeping unsheltered on a single night in 2024 PIT Count

Includes people sleeping on the streets, in tents, and in vehicles

Trend:

Average change in population year over year

19

PIT estimate: Population unsheltered on a single night

*Estimated population unsheltered on a single night*

2024 baseline:

52,365 people

Change year over year:

+6% on average

*Compare to 7% average increase in total number of people experiencing homelessness

*Includes all four LA County CoCs

Unsheltered people as percentage of all people experiencing homelessness

Percentage unsheltered out of all people experiencing homelessness
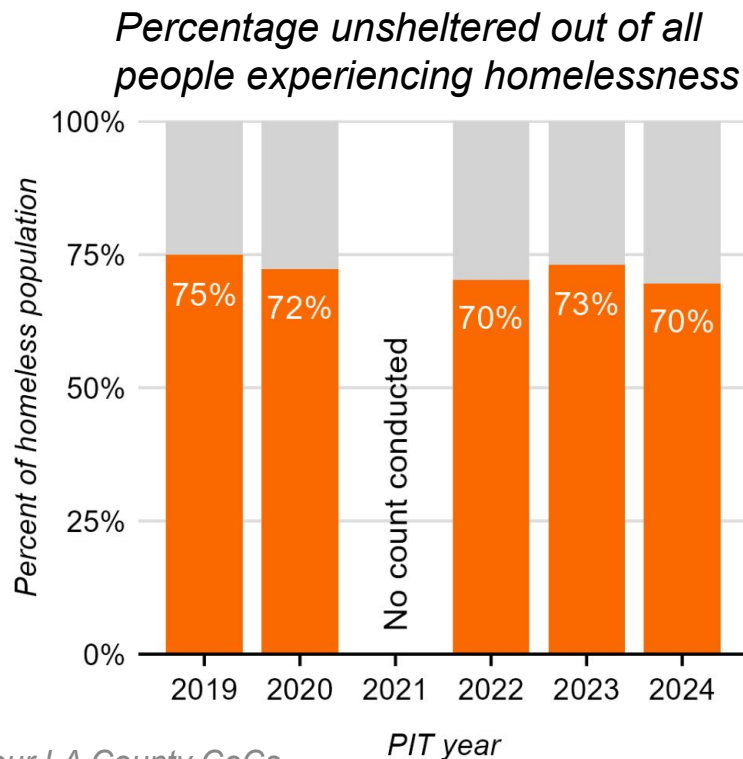
7 in 10 people experiencing homelessness were unsheltered in 2024

*Includes all four LA County CoCs

Goal 1: Service data metric

Baseline (a):

Count of service participants who experienced unsheltered homelessness during the 2023–24 fiscal year

Goal 1: Service data metric

Baseline (a):

Count of service participants who experienced unsheltered homelessness during the 2023–24 fiscal year

Baseline (b):

How many of those people also accessed interim housing

Baseline (c):

How many of those people exited to permanent housing

Goal 1: Service data metric

Baseline (a):

Count of service participants who experienced unsheltered homelessness during the 2023–24 fiscal year

Baseline (b):
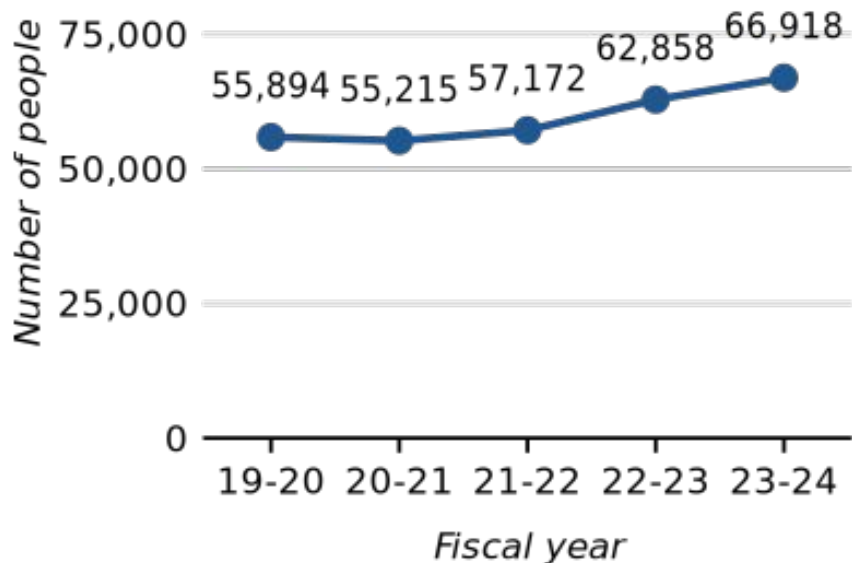
How many of those people also accessed interim housing

Trend:

Change in count of (a), (b), and (c) year over year

Baseline (c):

How many of those people exited to permanent housing

Service data estimate (a): Service participants who experienced unsheltered homelessness

Count of service participants who experienced unsheltered homelessness
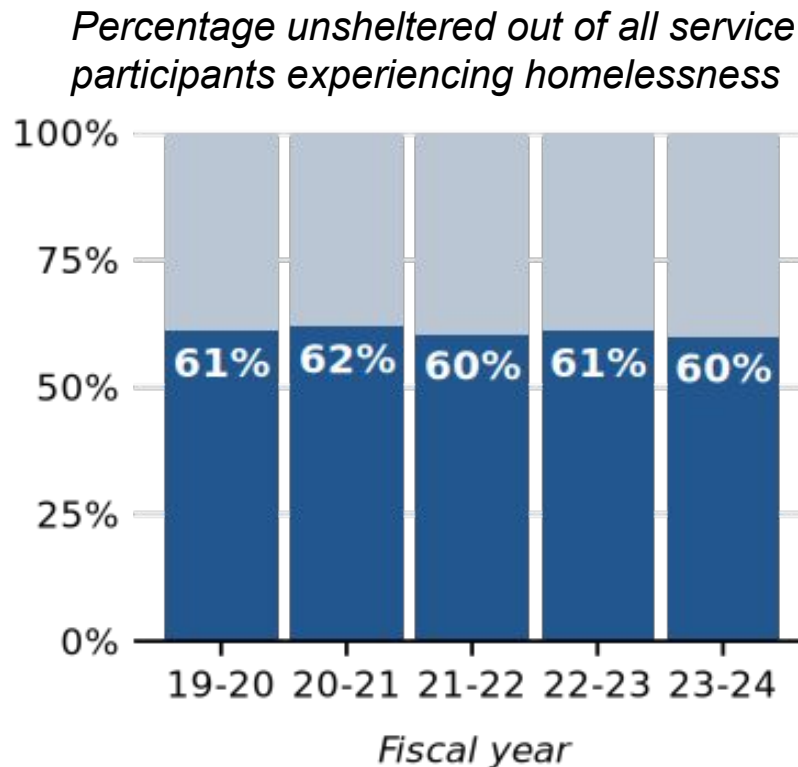

FY 2023–24 baseline:

66,918 people

Change year over year:

+5% on average

*Compare to **5%** average increase in total service participants experiencing homelessness*

Unsheltered people as a percentage of service participants experiencing homelessness

Percentage unsheltered out of all service participants experiencing homelessness

6 in 10
service participants experiencing homelessness were unsheltered in FY 2023–24

Gains in sheltering and housing unsheltered people over five years

Unsheltered service participants who…

FY 2023–24 baseline

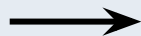*Change year over year*

Also accessed interim housing (b)

22,852 people
(34% of all unsheltered service participants)

→

+14% on average

Exited to permanent housing (c)

5,937 people
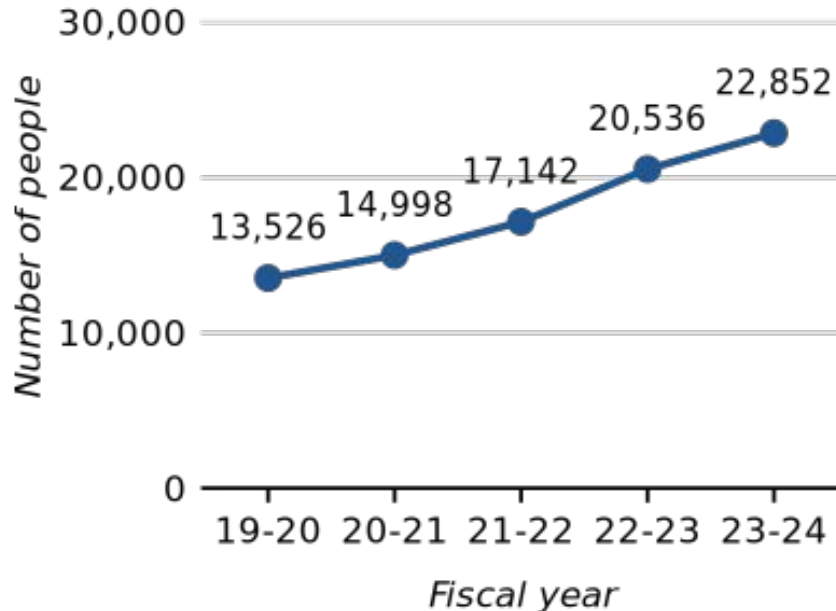(9% of all unsheltered service participants)

→

+19% on average

Compare to **5% average increase in total service participants experiencing <u>unsheltered</u> homelessness*

Admin data estimate (b): Unsheltered service participants accessing interim housing

Count of unsheltered service participants who also accessed interim housing
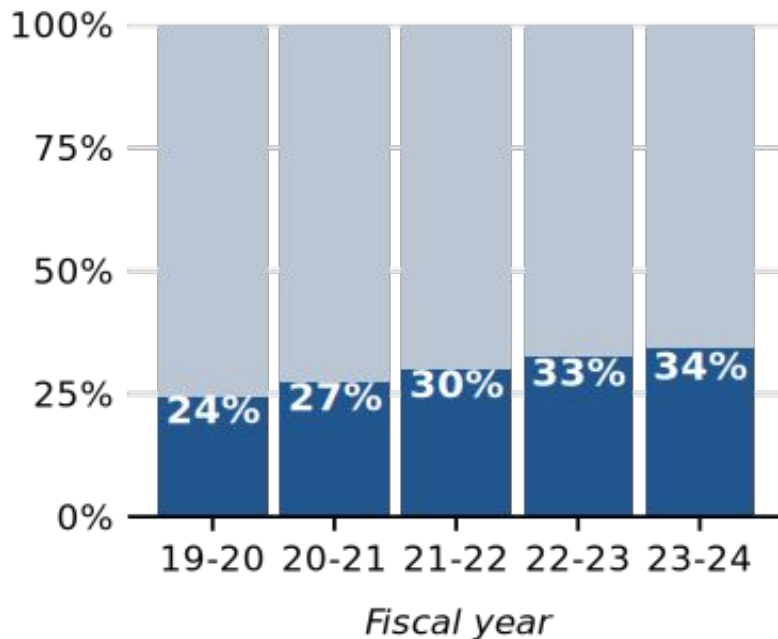

FY2023–24 baseline:

22,852 people

Average change year over year

+14% change

People accessing interim housing as a percentage of all unsheltered service participants

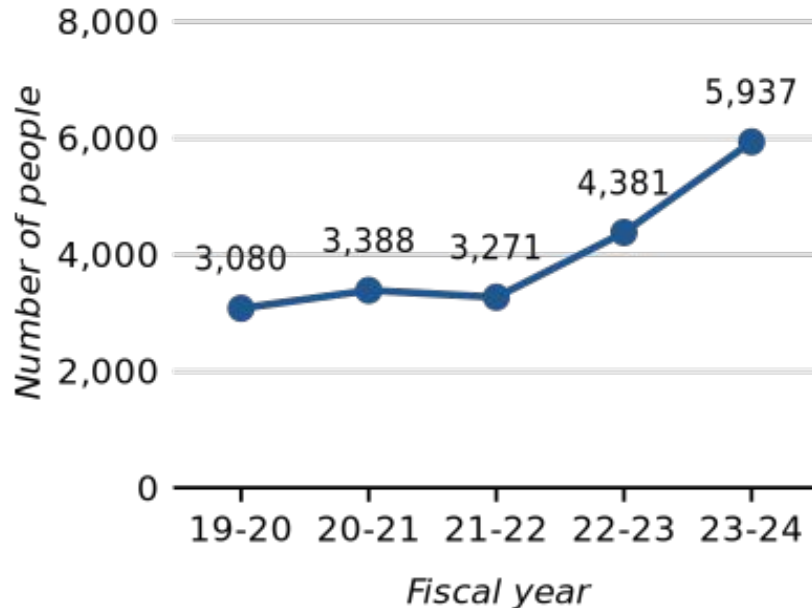Percentage also accessing interim housing, out of all unsheltered service participants

Average change year over year

+9% change

Admin data estimate (c): Unsheltered service participants exiting to permanent housing

Count of unsheltered service participants who exited to permanent housing
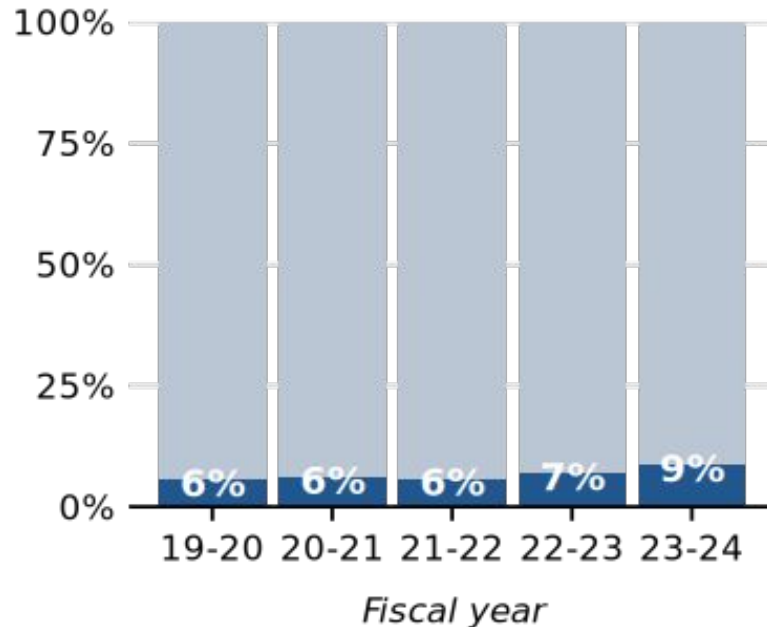

FY2023–24 baseline:

5,937 people

Average change year over year

+19% change

Unsheltered people exiting to permanent housing as a percentage of all unsheltered service participants

Percentage exiting to permanent housing out of all unsheltered service participants

Average change year over year

+13% change

2030 Targets

Metric 1a:

↓ **30%** the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness to 36,656 (PIT Count)

Metric 1b:

↑ **80%** the number of people moving into permanent housing to 10,687

Metric 1c:

↑ **32%** the rate of people moving into IH from 34% to 45%

Goal 2

People Experiencing Homelessness With Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorder

Goal 2

Measure A language

Reduce the number of people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders who experience homelessness (Section 4.A.2)

Goal 2: Service data metric

Baseline:

Count of service participants with evidence of a substance use disorder (SUD) or serious mental illness (SMI) during 2023–24 fiscal year

Evidence of mental illness or SUD is based on:

1. Reports in **homelessness services records**

2. Diagnoses or treatments recorded in **linked clinical data**

Trend:

Change in count year over year

Service data definitions

Substance use disorder (SUD): Mental and behavioral disorders due to psychoactive substance use (excluding nicotine dependence)

Serious mental illness (SMI)*: Schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders, bipolar and related disorders, and depressive disorder

* PTSD is not included in the SMI metric, but is reported separately

Service data estimates: participants with substance use disorder (SUD) or serious mental illness (SMI)

Count of service participants with SUD or SMI
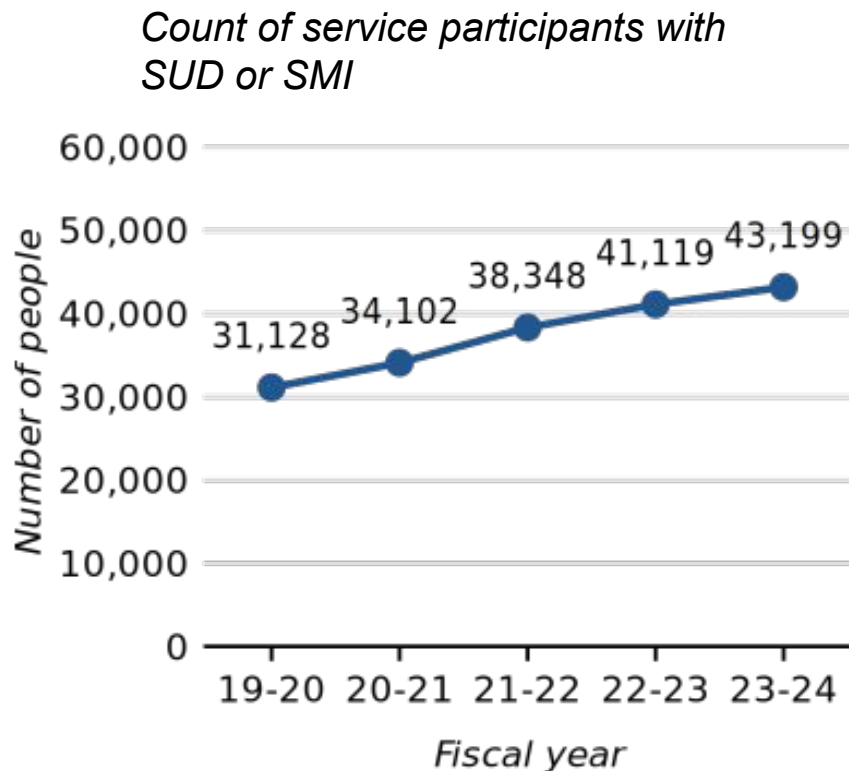

FY 2023–24 baseline:

43,199 people

Change year over year:

+9% on average

*Compare to **5%** average increase in total service participants experiencing homelessness

People with serious mental illness or substance use disorder as percentage of all service participants experiencing homelessness

Percentage with SMI/SUD out of all service participants experiencing homelessness
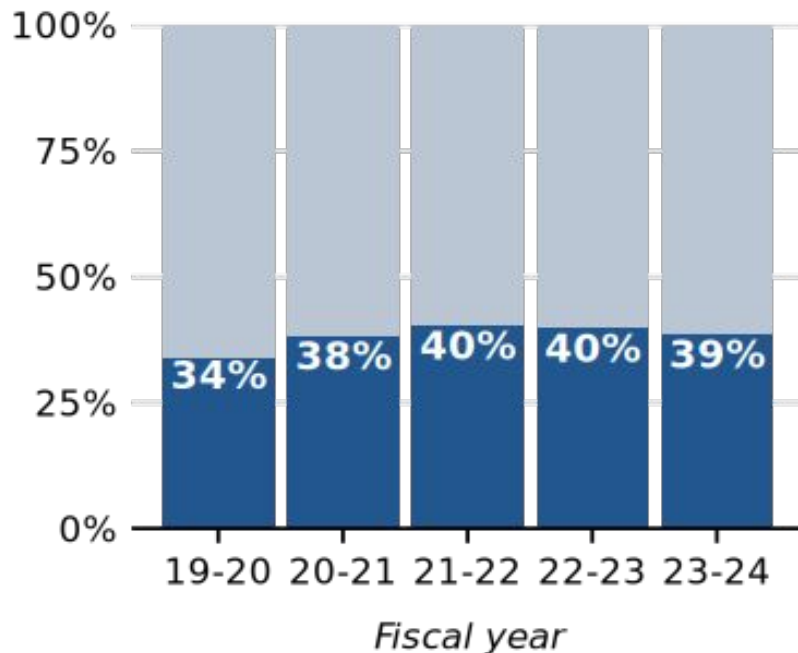
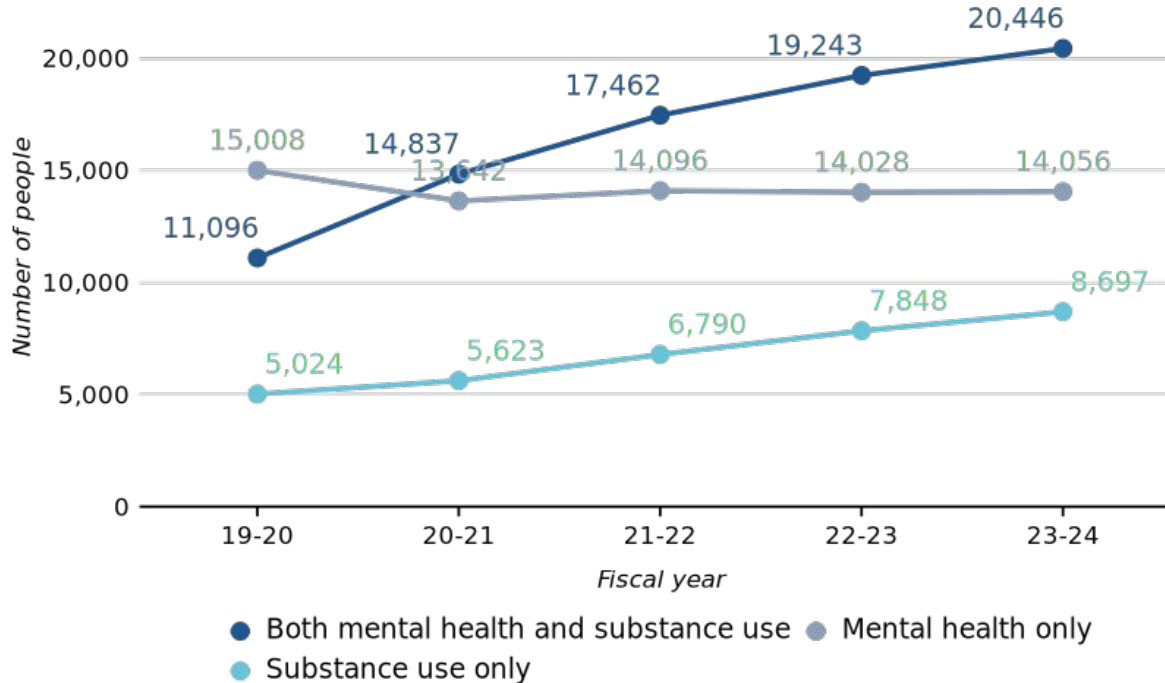*4 in 10* service participants had evidence of serious mental illness or substance use disorder

Goal 2: Service data estimates by condition

Breakdown by type of disorder

Goal 2: 2030 Targets

Metric 2a:

↓ **15%** the number of people with SMI alone to 11,978

Metric 2b:

↓ **10%** the number of people with SUD alone to 7,827

Metric 2c:

↓ **10%** the number of people with co-occurring SMI and SUD to 18,401

Goal 3
Permanent Exits From Homelessness

Goal 3

Measure A language

Increase the number of people permanently leaving homelessness (Section 4.A.3)

Goal 3: Admin data metric

Baseline (a):

Count of service participants who exited homelessness to permanent housing during 2023–24 fiscal year

Goal 3: Admin data metric

Baseline (b):

Count of service participants who exited homelessness to permanent housing during 2023–24 **and did not return to homelessness within 24 months**
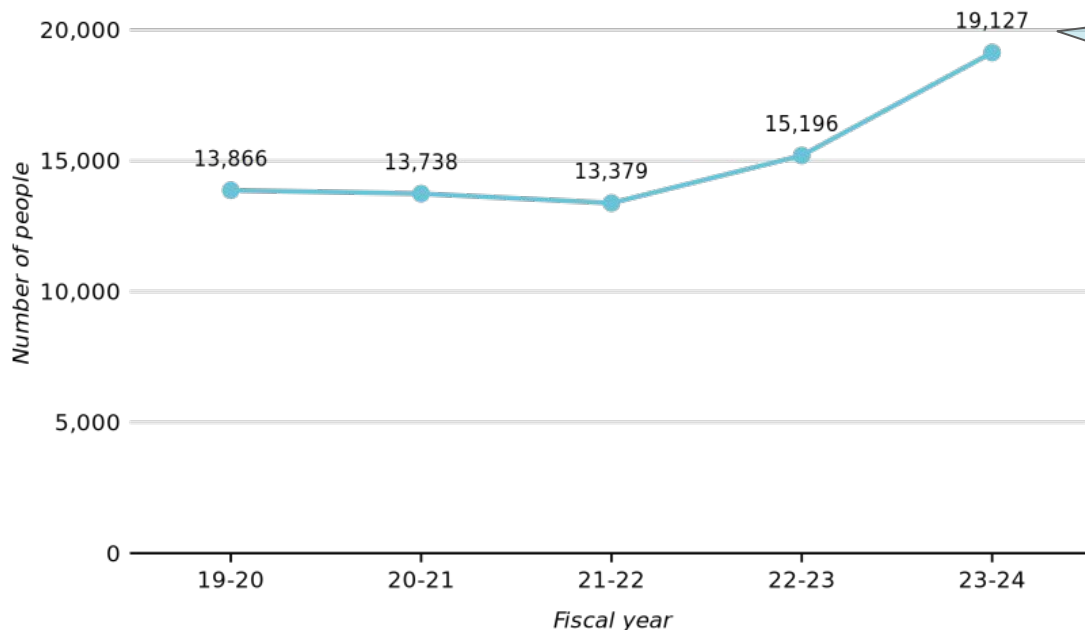
Trend:

Change in count of (b) year over year

We count a person as "returning to homelessness" if:
They **enter homelessness services again** 24 months or less after their exit to housing.

Service data estimates: People who exited to permanent housing (a)

*Count of service participants who exited to permanent housing*

FY 2023–24 baseline:
19,127 people

Change year over year:
+9% on average

Compare to **5% average increase in total service participants experiencing homelessness*

Service data estimates: People who exited to permanent housing <u>without returning</u> in 24 months (b)

Count who exited to permanent housing, exited without returning within 12 months, and exited without returning within 24 months
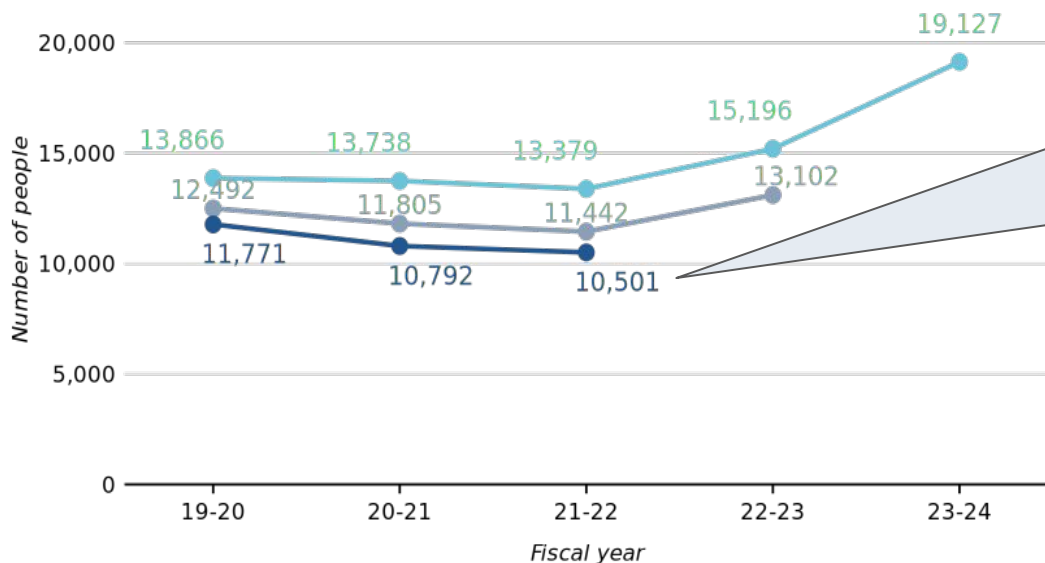
FY <u>2021–22</u> baseline:
(Exited w/out returning in 24 months)

10,501 people

Change year over year (FY19 to FY21)

−6% on average

Goal 3: 2030 Targets

Metric 3a:

↑ **57%** the number of people exiting to permanent housing to 30,000

Metric 3b:

↑ **101%** the number of people who retain housing for 2 years to 21,104

Goal 4
New Entries Into Homelessness

Goal 4

Measure A language

Prevent people from falling into homelessness (Section 4.A.4)

Goal 4: Service data metric

Baseline:

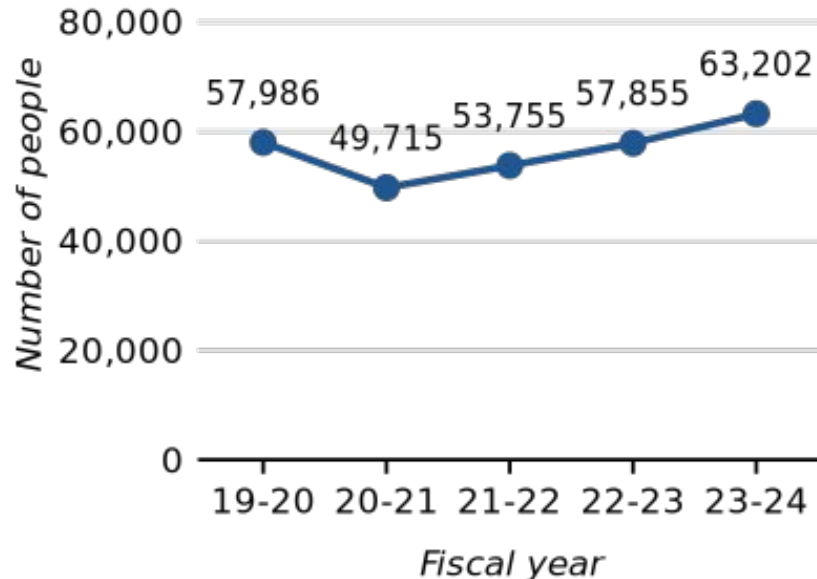Count of service participants newly accessing homelessness services during the 2023–24 fiscal year

We count someone as "newly accessing services" if:
at least 24 months prior, they have not appeared in admin data with evidence they are homeless

Metric:

Change in count year over year

Admin data estimate: People newly accessing homelessness services

Count of service participants newly accessing homelessness services

FY 2023–24 baseline:

63,202 people

Change year over year:

+3% on average

*Compare to **5%** average increase in total service participants experiencing homelessness*

People newly accessing services, as percentage of all service participants experiencing homelessness

Percentage newly accessing services out of all service participants experiencing homelessness
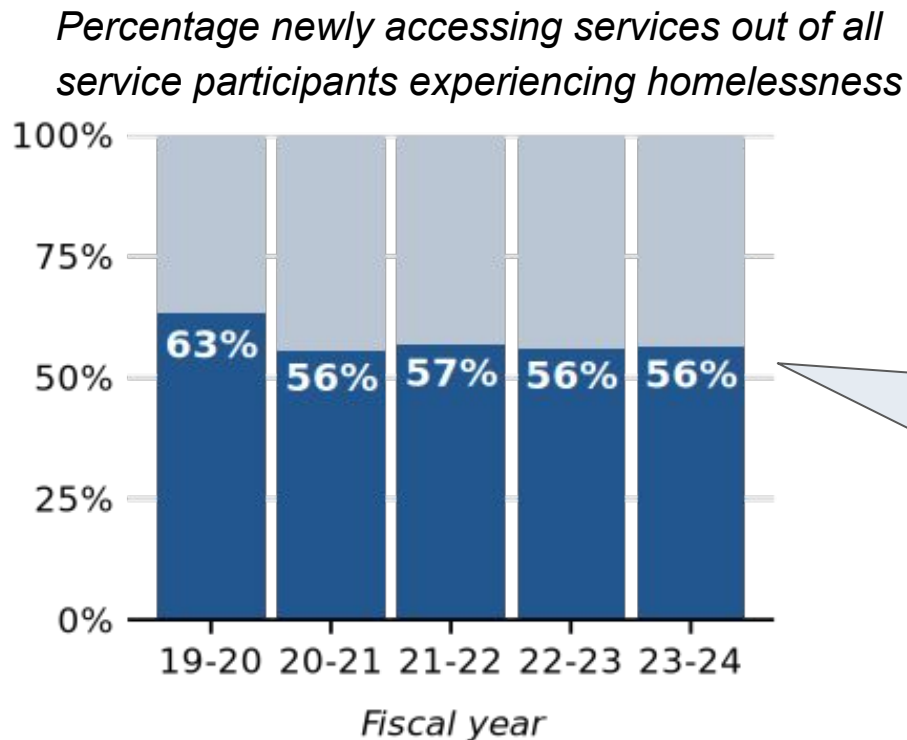
Over 1 in 2 service participants in FY 2023–24 were newly accessing services that year

Goal 4: 2030 Targets

Metric 4:

↓ **20%** the number of people who become newly homeless to 50,561

Key Takeaways from the Baseline Measures

- **The number of people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County is growing.**

- **Inflow into the homelessness system is significant and constant over time.**

- **There have been gains in moving people from homelessness to permanent housing and serving unsheltered people in interim housing.**

- **The proportion of people with service histories indicating serious mental illness or substance use disorder is relatively constant over time.**

What's happening next?

Where to watch and participate

- The ECHRA Subcommittee for Best Practices for Standards of Care

- LACAHSA: upcoming decisions on guidelines

- Formation of the new County department

- Annual budget processes and decisions

- The new state department

- Changes to federal funding, policies and rules

Thank you

Appendix Slides

Demographic baseline creation

- Coordinated with people from LAHSA, CIO, various county agencies, and the Leadership Table Equity Subcommittee to develop and approve demographic categories
- Changes to federal SPD 15 race and ethnicity data standards
  - **Old standard** asked two questions
    - Select at least 1 of 5 race categories
    - Whether or not they identify as Hispanic or Latino
  - **New standard** asks people to identify with at least 1 of 7 race or ethnicity categories, including Hispanic or Latino
  - Adopted by HUD in October 2023
- Following federal and County standards, reporting race or ethnicity **alone or in combination**
  - If a person identifies with a race or ethnicity category, they are counted in that race or ethnicity category regardless of any other category they identified with

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Goal 2: Survey/PIT data metric (self-reported)

Baseline:

Estimated population who report long-term serious mental illness (SMI) or long-term substance use disorder (SUD) in 2024 PIT Count
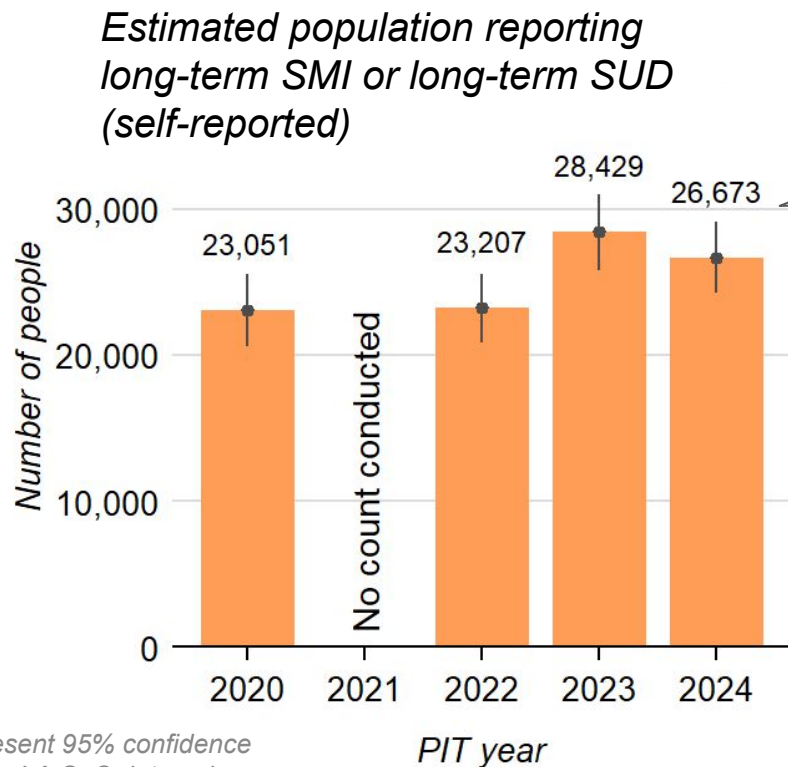
Trend:

Change in population year over year

Survey questions ask about:

- *Permanent or long-term difficulties with drugs/alcohol*

- *Permanent or long-term serious mental illnesses*

PIT estimate: People experiencing homelessness with serious mental illness or substance use disorder

Estimated population reporting long-term SMI or long-term SUD (self-reported)


2024 baseline:

26,673 people

Change year over year:

+8% on average

*Compare to 7% average increase in total number of people experiencing homelessness

* Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. Includes LA CoC data only

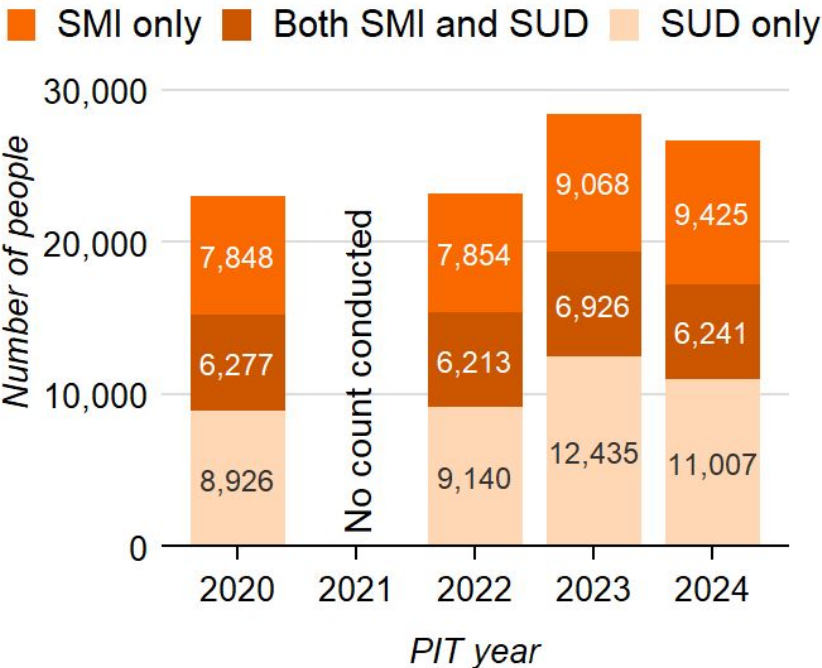# People with serious mental illness or substance use disorder as percentage of all adults experiencing homelessness
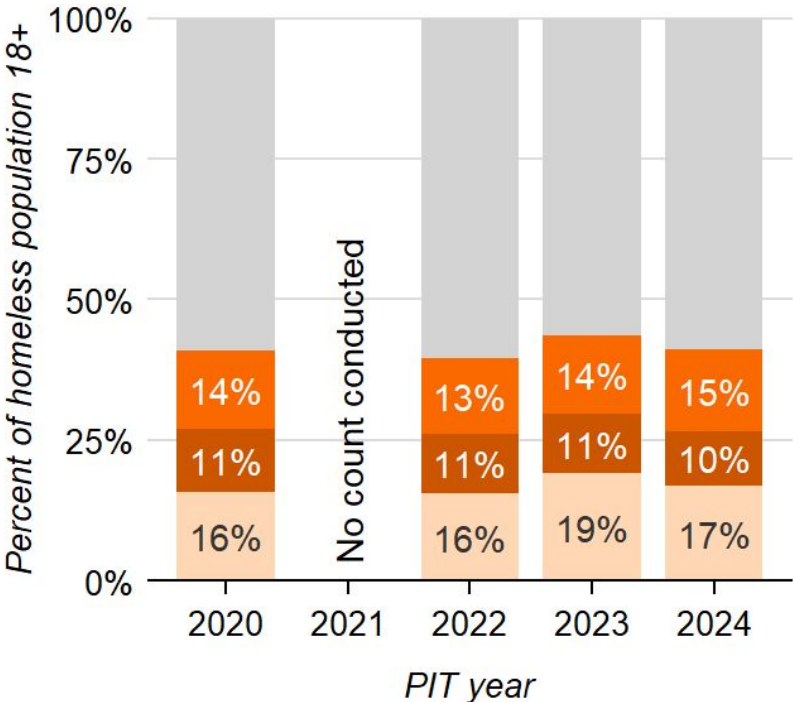
Percentage with SMI/SUD out of all adults experiencing homelessness (self-reported)
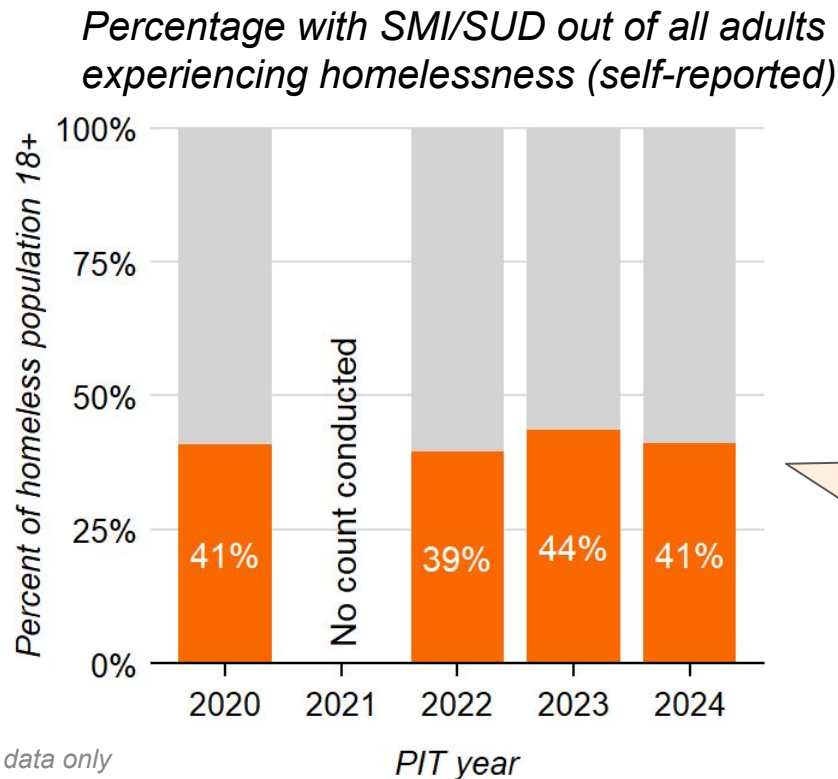
4 in 10 *people experiencing homelessness reported a serious mental illness or substance use disorder in 2024*

* Includes LA CoC data only

Goal 2: Breakdown by type of disorder (serious mental illness, substance use disorder, or both)

Population with SMI/SUD broken down by type of disorder (self-reported)

Legend: ■ SMI only ■ Both SMI and SUD ▪ SUD only

Y-axis: Number of people
X-axis: PIT year

- 2020: SMI only 7,848; Both SMI and SUD 6,277; SUD only 8,926
- 2021: No count conducted
- 2022: SMI only 7,854; Both SMI and SUD 6,213; SUD only 9,140
- 2023: SMI only 9,068; Both SMI and SUD 6,926; SUD only 12,435
- 2024: SMI only 9,425; Both SMI and SUD 6,241; SUD only 11,007

Percentage with SMI/SUD out of all adults experiencing homelessness

Y-axis: Percent of homeless population 18+
X-axis: PIT year

- 2020: 14%, 11%, 16%
- 2021: No count conducted
- 2022: 13%, 11%, 16%
- 2023: 14%, 11%, 19%
- 2024: 15%, 10%, 17%

63

Goal 4: Survey/PIT data metric

Baseline:

Estimated population of unsheltered people who report in 2024 PIT count that they are in their first episode of homelessness (of any duration)
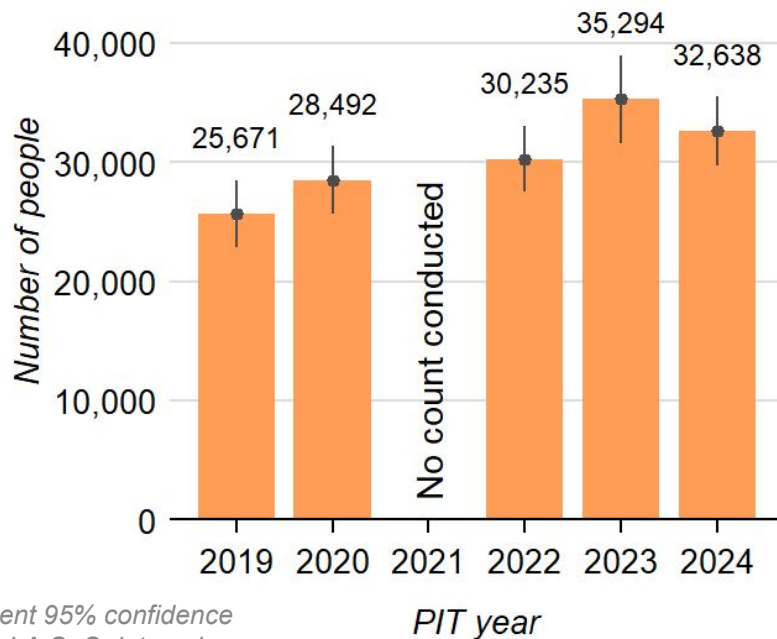
*Measured only for adults who were **unsheltered** at the time of the PIT count (data for sheltered people not available)*

Trend:

Change in population year over year

PIT estimate: Unsheltered population in first episode of homelessness

Estimated unsheltered population in first episode of homelessness (of any duration)


2024 baseline:

32,638 people

Change year over year:

+7% on average

*Compare to **5%** average increase in total number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness*

*Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals. Includes LA CoC data only

Population in first episode of homelessness, as percentage of all unsheltered adults experiencing homelessness

Percentage in first episode out of all unsheltered adults experiencing homelessness
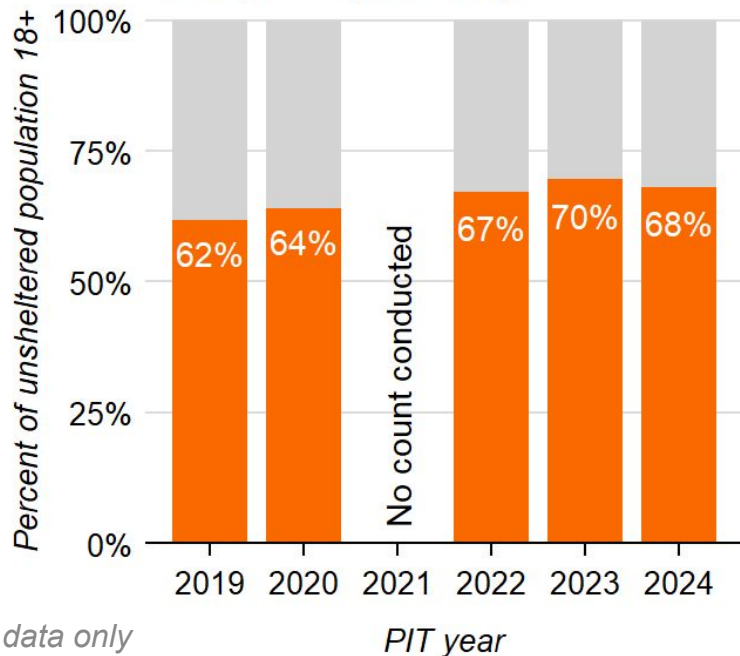
7 in 10 people experiencing homelessness were in their first episode of homelessness in 2024

*Includes LA CoC data only