



The U.S. Department of  
Housing and Urban Development  
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

## PART 2: Estimates of Homelessness in the United States

# The 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress

OCTOBER 2018



# Summary of Contents

Acknowledgements	ii
Foreword	iii
Key Terms	iv

## About this Report

Types of AHAR Estimates and Key Data Sources: PIT and HMIS	ix
Supplemental Data Sources	xi
Data Notes	xi
Broader Perspectives on Housing Instability and Homelessness	xiv
Domestic Violence Survivors in the U.S. Homeless Residential Services System	xiv
How to Use This Report	xvi
Key Findings	xvii
Interpretation of the Findings	xxii

## Additional Forms of Homelessness and Housing Instability

American Housing Survey 2013 Supplement	3
Residents Who Have Moved Out in the Past 12 Months	3
Residents Who Have Moved In in the Past 12 Months	4
Data from Local Education Agencies on Children who Experience Homelessness	5
Voices of Youth Count: Youth Experiences with Explicit Homelessness and Couch Surfing	7
American Housing Survey: The Affordable Housing Stock for Low-Income Renters	8

## Section 1: Homelessness in the United States

One-Night Estimates of Homelessness	1-3
By State	1-4
By State and Sheltered Status	1-5
One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Homelessness	1-7
Characteristics	1-8
Geography	1-12
Patterns of Homeless Service Use	1-14
Homelessness by Comparison	1-16

## Section 2: Homeless Individuals

One-Night Estimates of Homeless Individuals	2-3
By State	2-4
By State and Sheltered Status	2-5
One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Homeless Individuals	2-7
Characteristics	2-8
Geography	2-12
Patterns of Homeless Service Use	2-14

## Section 3: Homeless Families with Children

One-Night Estimates of People in Families with Children	3-3
By State	3-5
By State and Sheltered Status	3-6
One-Year Estimates of Sheltered People in Families with Children	3-9
Characteristics	3-10
Geography	3-14
Patterns of Homeless Service Use	3-16

## Section 4: Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

One-Night Estimates of Unaccompanied Youth Homelessness	4-3
By State	4-4
By State and Sheltered Status	4-5

## Section 5: Homeless Veterans

One-Night Estimates of Homeless Veterans	5-3
By State	5-4
By State and Sheltered Status	5-5
One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Homeless Veterans	5-7
Characteristics	5-8
Geography	5-11
Patterns of Homeless Service Use	5-13
Homeless Veterans Using Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)	5-15

## Section 6: Chronically Homeless Individuals

One-Night Estimates of Chronic Homelessness	6-3
By State	6-4
By State and Sheltered Status	6-5

## Section 7: People in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

One-Year Estimates of People in PSH	7-3
Characteristics	7-4
Geography	7-8
Residential Patterns People Living in PSH	7-10
One-Year Estimates of Veterans in PSH	7-13
Characteristics	7-14
Residential Patterns Veterans Living in PSH	7-15
Veterans in HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Programs using Housing Subsidies	7-16

## Acknowledgements

### AUTHORED BY:

Meghan Henry, Korrin Bishop, Tanya de Sousa, Azim Shivji, and Rian Watt, *Abt Associates*.

### PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS:

Dr. Jill Khadduri, *Abt Associates*.

Dr. Dennis Culhane, *University of Pennsylvania*.

### DATA MANAGERS:

Korrin Bishop, Tanya de Sousa, Azim Shivji, *Abt Associates*.

### DATA COLLECTORS:

Roopa Akkineni, Thyria Alvarez, Korrin Bishop, Meg Carroll, Lauren Christopher, Cristina Cristobal, RJ de la Cruz, Tanya de Sousa, Vanessa Ehrenpreis, Nomoya Hall, Marissa Hashizume, Bennett Heine, Thuan Huynh, Naomi Joseph, Tresa Kappil, Elizabeth Kellogg, Rob Lindgren, Andrew McFadden, Haleigh Miller, Tyler Morrill, Jillian Ouellette, Sonja Richard, Azim Shivji, Kait Siegel, Aubrey Sitler, Claudia Solari, Amanda Steigman, Bill Villalba, Carolyn Wagner, and Rian Watt, *Abt Associates*.

Jennifer Roesler, Rachel Sarnacki, *University of Pennsylvania*.

### DATA ANALYSTS:

Tom McCall, Azim Shivji, Tanya de Sousa, *Abt Associates*.

### REVIEWERS:

Karen DeBlasio, William Snow, and Norman Suchar, *The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development*.

Dr. Larry Buron, *Abt Associates*.

### DESIGN AND PRODUCTION:

David Dupree, *Abt Associates*.

## Foreword



I am pleased to submit to Congress the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) Part 2, which provides national estimates of homelessness in the United States. This is the second part in a two-part series. Part 1 was published in December 2017 and is based on one-

night national, state, and local estimates of sheltered and unsheltered homelessness. This report furthers our understanding of the homelessness in our country by looking at the number of people in shelters over the course of a full year and providing in-depth information about their characteristics and use of the homeless services system.

HUD has released the AHAR each year since 2007 to give both national- and local-level information needed to track progress toward ending homelessness in the United States. This year's report shows that there was a small increase in the one-night estimates of people experiencing homelessness between January 2016 and January 2017, and a modest decline in the number of people who experienced sheltered homelessness at some point over the course of the year. Compared to 2007, 10.8 percent fewer people experienced homelessness nationwide during 2017.

This downward trend has been particularly striking for veteran populations, a testament to the impactful partnership between HUD and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Compared to 2009, when HUD began collecting information on this population, 20.9 percent fewer veterans experienced homelessness nationwide during 2017; which means 31,000 fewer veterans were without a home. The report shows a 5.1 percent decline in veteran homelessness between 2016 and 2017 alone. HUD and the VA will continue these efforts until all people who have served our country have a place to call home.

HUD and its federal partners will continue to support the efforts of local communities across the nation to end homelessness experienced by families with children, unaccompanied youth, and people who have chronic patterns of homelessness. This report provides insights into patterns of homelessness for each of these groups and helps us track the progress made nationally and by different types of communities. The report also puts the estimates of people experiencing homelessness in the broader context of renters with fragile housing situations, reporting some key findings from HUD's latest Worst Case Housing Needs report and relating them to patterns of homelessness. By understanding the full nature of the problem, we will be in a better position to solve it.

We need to maintain a strong focus on collecting accurate data that can inform housing interventions to improve the lives of all Americans. This report shows continued progress toward ending homelessness, but also a need for continued efforts. With effective partnerships, both locally and federally, we can give all individuals and families the right type and level of support to move out of homelessness and into a better life. We look forward to continuing this work until the job is done.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Carson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Ben Carson, Secretary**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

# Key Terms

*Note: Key terms are used for AHAR reporting purposes and accurately reflect the data used in this report. Definitions of these terms may differ in some ways from the definitions found in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (McKinney-Vento) and in HUD regulations.*

**Adults** are people age 18 or older.

**Children** are people under the age of 18.

**Chronically Homeless Individual<sup>1</sup>** is an individual with a disability who has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years with a combined length of time homeless of least 12 months.

**Chronically Homeless People in Families** refers to people in families with children in which the head of household has a disability and has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years with a combined length of time homeless of least 12 months.

**Continuums of Care (CoC)** are local planning bodies responsible for coordinating the full range of homelessness services in a geographic area, which may cover a city, county, metropolitan area, or an entire state.

**Domestic Violence Shelters** are shelter programs for people who are homeless and are domestic violence victims.

**Emergency Shelter** is a facility with the primary purpose of providing temporary shelter for homeless people.

**Family with Children** refers to a household that has at least one adult (age 18 and older) and one child (under age 18). It does not include households composed only of adults or only children.

**Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)** is a software application designed to record and store client-level information on the characteristics and service needs of homeless people. Each CoC maintains its own HMIS, which can be tailored to meet local needs, but must also conform to Federal HMIS Data and Technical Standards.

**HMIS Data** provide an unduplicated count of people who are experiencing sheltered homelessness and information about their characteristics and service-use patterns over a one-year period of time. These data are entered into each CoC's HMIS at the client level but are submitted in aggregate form for the AHAR.

<sup>1</sup> The definition of chronic homelessness changed in 2016. The previous definition was an individual with a disability who had either been continuously homeless for 1 year or more or had experienced at least 4 episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years.

**Homeless** describes a person who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

**Household Type** refers to the composition of a household upon entering a shelter program. People enter shelter as either an individual or as part of a family with children, but can be served as both individuals or family members during the AHAR reporting year. However, the estimates reported in the AHAR adjust for this overlap and thus provide an unduplicated count of homeless people.

**Housing Inventory Count (HIC)** is produced by each CoC and provides an annual inventory of beds that assists people in the CoC who are experiencing homelessness or leaving homelessness.

**HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)** program is a program for formerly homeless veterans that combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance provided by HUD with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) through VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outreach clinics.

**Individual** refers to a person who is not part of a family with children during an episode of homelessness. Individuals may be homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

**Living Arrangement before Entering Shelter** refers to the place a person stayed the night before the first homeless episode captured during the AHAR reporting year. For those who were already in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at the start of the reporting year, it refers to the place they stayed the night before beginning that current episode of homelessness.

**Multiple Races** refers to people who self-identify as more than one race.

**One-Year Shelter Count** is an unduplicated count of homeless people who use an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October through September of the following year. The 1-year count is derived from communities' Homeless Management Information Systems.

**Other One Race** refers to a person who self-identifies as being one of the following races: Asian, American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or other Pacific Islander.

**Parenting Youth** are people under age 25 who are the parents or legal guardians of one or more children (under age 18) who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household.

**Parenting Youth Household** is a household with at least one parenting youth and the child or children for whom the parenting youth is the parent or legal guardian.

**Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)** is a program designed to provide housing (project- and tenant-based) and supportive services on a long-term basis to formerly homeless people. HUD McKinney-Vento-funded programs require that the client have a disability for program eligibility, so the majority of people in PSH have disabilities.

**People in Families with children** are people who are homeless as part of households that have at least one adult (age 18 and older) and one child (under age 18).

**Point-in-Time (PIT) Count** is an unduplicated 1-night estimate of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations. The 1-night count is conducted according to HUD standards by CoCs nationwide and occurs during the last 10 days in January of each year.

**Principal City** is the largest city in each metropolitan statistical area. Other smaller cities may qualify if specified requirements (population size and employment) are met.

**Safe Havens** are projects that provide private or semi-private long-term housing for people with severe mental illness and are limited to serving no more than 25 people within a facility. People in safe havens are included in the 1-night PIT count but, at this time, are not included from the 1-year shelter count.

**Sheltered Homelessness** refers to people who are staying in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs.

**Shelter Programs** include both emergency shelter program and transitional housing programs.

**Total U.S. Population** refers to people who are housed (including those in group quarters) in the United States, as reported in the American Community Survey (ACS) by the U.S. Census Bureau.

**Transitional Housing Programs** provide people experiencing homelessness a place to stay combined with supportive services for up to 24 months.

**Unaccompanied Children and Youth (under 18)** are people who are not part of a family with children or accompanied by their parent or guardian during their episode of homelessness, and who are under the age of 18.

**Unaccompanied Youth (18 to 24)** are people who are not part of a family with children or accompanied by their parent or guardian during their episode of homelessness, and who are between the ages of 18 and 24.

**Unduplicated Count of Sheltered Homelessness** is an estimate of people who stayed in emergency shelters or transitional housing programs that counts each person only once, even if the person enters and exits the shelter system multiple times throughout the year within a CoC.

**Unsheltered Homeless People** are people whose primary nighttime residence is a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for people (for example, the streets, vehicles, or parks).

**U.S. Population Living in Poverty** refers to people who are housed in the United States in households with incomes that fall below the federal poverty level.

**Veteran** refers to any person who served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States. This includes Reserves and National Guard members who were called up to active duty.

**Victim Service Provider** refers to private nonprofit organizations whose primary mission is to provide direct services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. This term includes rape crisis centers, domestic violence programs battered women's (shelters and non-residential), domestic violence transitional housing programs, and other related advocacy and supportive services programs.



# About This Report

Types of AHAR Estimates and Key Data Sources: PIT and HMIS .....	ix
Supplemental Data Sources .....	xi
Data Notes .....	xi
Broader Perspectives on Housing Instability and Homelessness.....	xiv
Domestic Violence Survivors in the U.S. Homeless Residential Services System .....	xiv
How to Use This Report .....	xvi
Key Findings.....	xvii
Interpretation of the Findings .....	xxii

**PIT data** estimate the number of people experiencing sheltered homeless and unsheltered homelessness on a single night during the year.

**HMIS data** estimate the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness at any time during the year.

In 2001, the U.S. Congress required that HUD fund communities to implement information systems to track the use of homelessness services, with the understanding that ending homelessness requires knowledge about the size of the problem and the way in which it affects different population groups. Two main HUD efforts supported the development of these systems. The first was the provision of technical assistance on conducting the Point-in-Time (PIT) count by communities, which continues today. The second established a set of standardized data that communities collect about people who use emergency shelters and other components of their homeless services systems, as well as system parameters for how this information is stored locally in Homelessness Management Information Systems (HMIS), secured, and disclosed.

In February 2007, HUD released estimates of homelessness in the U.S. based on PIT counts and one-year HMIS data in the first Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), which has been submitted to the U.S. Congress every year since then. The AHAR documents how many people are experiencing sheltered homelessness and how many people are experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations often referred to as “the street.” The AHAR is used to inform federal, state, and local policies to prevent and end homelessness.

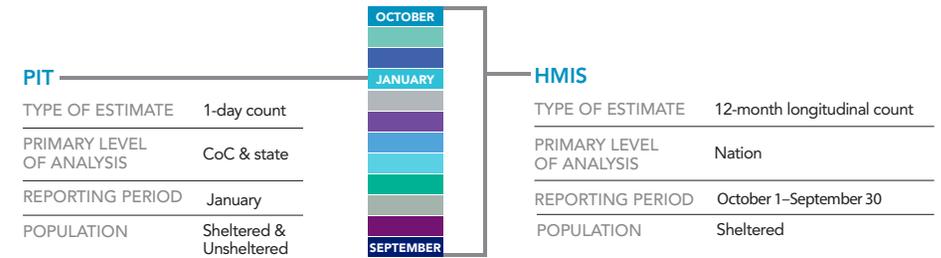
This report is the second part of a two-part series. The first part is called *The 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress, Part 1: Point-in-Time Estimates of Homelessness*, and was published in December 2017. The Part 1 report provides estimates of homelessness based on PIT count data gathered by communities throughout the country in late January. The estimates are provided at the national-, state-, and CoC-levels.

Part 2 of the 2017 AHAR builds on the Part 1 report by adding 1-year estimates of sheltered homelessness based on data from HMIS. The HMIS estimates provide detailed demographic information about people who use the nation’s emergency shelters and transitional housing projects during a 12-month period.

### Types of AHAR Estimates and Data Sources: PIT and HMIS

The estimates presented throughout this report are based primarily on aggregate information submitted by hundreds of communities nationwide about the people experiencing homelessness that they encounter and serve. There are two types of estimates: 1-night counts based on PIT count data and 1-year counts based on HMIS data (See Exhibit A).

### EXHIBIT A: Comparison of Data Sources PIT Count and HMIS



#### PIT Count

The PIT counts offer a snapshot of homelessness—of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations—on a single night. The 1-night counts are conducted by CoCs in late January<sup>2</sup> and reported to HUD as part of their annual applications for McKinney-Vento funding. In addition to the total counts of homelessness, the PIT counts provide an estimate of the number of people experiencing homelessness within particular populations, such as people with chronic patterns of homelessness and veterans. Typically, CoCs conduct a PIT count in shelters every year and a street (or unsheltered) count at least every other year. Many CoCs choose to conduct both counts each year. In 2017, the PIT estimates of people experiencing homelessness in sheltered and unsheltered locations, as well as the number of beds available to serve them, were reported by 399 Continuums of Care (CoC) nationwide. These 399 CoCs covered virtually the entire United States. The Northern Mariana Islands is the newest CoC and reported PIT count and HIC data for the first time in 2017.

Communities across the nation typically conduct their PIT counts during a defined period of time (e.g., dusk to dawn) on a given night to minimize the risk of counting any person more than once. Many CoCs also collect identifying information to help unduplicate their counts of unsheltered homeless people. HUD has standards for conducting the PIT counts, and CoCs use a variety of approved methods to conduct the counts. Researchers reviewed the data for accuracy and quality prior to creating the PIT estimates for this report. The PIT estimates reported in previous years are subject to change in the analysis of year-to-year trends if communities have later adjusted their counting methods.

<sup>2</sup> Some CoCs are given permission to conduct counts outside of the last 10 days of January for good cause.

CoCs collect some demographic characteristics (gender, ethnicity, race, and age) as part of the PIT count. CoCs also report on parenting youth and unaccompanied youth. However, producing accurate estimates of homeless youth is challenging and local counting methodologies are still improving. HUD and its federal partners selected the PIT estimates from January 2017 as the baseline measure of homelessness among unaccompanied youth. The baseline measure will be used to assess future trends in the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness in the United States.

PIT counts are useful because they account for both sheltered and unsheltered homeless people. However, the estimates of homelessness on a single night can be influenced by changes in local methodologies to count people experiencing homelessness, especially those in unsheltered locations. In addition, the estimates are not designed to count people who experience homelessness throughout the year, and thus provide limited information on how people use the homeless service system.

### HMIS

The 1-year HMIS estimates provide unduplicated counts of homeless people who use an emergency shelter, transitional housing program, or PSH program at any time from October through September of the following year. In the past few years, HUD has collaborated with its federal partners to increase the participation in HMIS and clarify data collection procedures with communities. These partnerships include the integration into the HMIS of data for the VA Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, HHS' Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) programs, and HHS' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) program. These efforts have improved HUD's homelessness estimates and will continue to contribute to our understanding of homelessness in this Nation.

The 1-year HMIS estimates in this report provide information about the demographic characteristics of sheltered homeless people and their patterns of service use. The 12-month counts of sheltered homelessness are produced using HMIS data from a nationally representative sample of communities. Data are collected separately by project type (emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing) and for individuals, people in families, and veterans. While this AHAR does not include 1-year estimates for people with chronic patterns of homelessness and only limited data on homeless youth, HUD plans to update the AHAR data collection requirements so that, starting with the 2018 AHAR, the 1-year estimates will provide information on these populations.

For the 2017 AHAR, the estimates were derived from aggregate HMIS data reported by 384 CoCs nationwide, approximately 95 percent of all CoCs nationwide. The data are unduplicated, offering information on 989,350 people served by CoCs, and are weighted to provide a statistically reliable estimate of the *total number of people* who access shelter throughout the year (1,416,908 people in 2017).<sup>3</sup> Excluded from the HMIS-based estimates are people in unsheltered locations, in programs targeting domestic violence victims, and in safe havens.

In combination, the PIT and HMIS estimates provide a comprehensive picture of homelessness in the United States that includes counts of people on the street as well as information on people who use the shelter system. The PIT estimate of homelessness will be smaller than the annual HMIS estimate because the PIT count data capture homelessness on a single night, whereas HMIS estimates capture anyone that is identified in the shelter system at any point during the year.

Exhibit B shows the trends in the PIT and HMIS counts since the first AHAR was released in 2007 and places them in a larger historical context.

### A Note on Natural Disasters

Several natural disasters struck the United States during the period represented by the 1-year HMIS estimates, from October 2016 through September 2017. Most prominently, the 2017 Atlantic hurricanes, Harvey, Maria, and Irma, made landfall in the summer and fall of 2017. The 1-year HMIS estimates do not describe Puerto Rico, but they do describe other areas affected by the 2017 Atlantic hurricanes, including Texas, Florida, and the Virgin Islands. Because of the disruptions wrought by the hurricanes, the Virgin Islands was not able to submit HMIS data for the full one year period from October 2016 to September 2017; the 1-year estimates have been weighted to represent the Virgin Islands through other communities. Historically destructive wildfires also broke out in the fall and winter of 2017 in California, though the most destructive of these, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, occurred outside of the timeframe covered in the 1-year HMIS estimates, in the months after September 2017. All of these natural disasters *may* have affected the 1-year HMIS estimates, to the extent that people displaced by the natural disasters were reported in local HMIS databases; but because it is unclear what proportion of people displaced by the natural disasters were captured in HMIS, the effects of these disasters on the 1-year HMIS estimates are unclear.

<sup>3</sup> The unduplicated raw count of people in PSH is 264,184, to generate a weighted estimate of 376,086 people in PSH in 2017.

## Supplemental Data Sources

Two other data sources are used in the AHAR: Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data and U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) data. The HIC data provide an inventory of beds dedicated to serve people who are experiencing homelessness<sup>4</sup> and thus describe the nation's capacity to house such people. The HIC data are compiled by CoCs and represent the inventory of beds in various programs, including programs from all funding sources, within the homeless services system that are available during a particular year.

ACS data are used to provide a profile of the total U.S. population and U.S. households living in poverty. The AHAR uses ACS data on gender, age, ethnicity, race, household size, disability status, and type of geographic location to serve as a comparison to the nationally representative HMIS data. The ACS data come in several forms. This report uses the 1-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) that corresponds most closely to the HMIS data for any given year.

The AHAR compares the estimate of homelessness with ACS data about all people in housing units or group quarters in the U.S. Through this comparison, the report provides a picture of how people who are homeless differ from, or are similar to, the broader population. This report on homelessness also compares the homeless population with the U.S. population living in poverty. Most homeless people are poor, so differences between all people who are poor and people who are homeless may highlight subgroups at greatest risk of becoming homeless.

In collaboration with the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), this 2017 report includes data on veterans using the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program's rapid re-housing services. This year's report also includes an additional year of data on the veterans who use the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program (HUD-VASH).<sup>5</sup> The 2017 AHAR supplements the HMIS data on veterans in permanent supportive housing again this year with administrative data on HUD-VASH from the VA's Homeless Operations Management Evaluation System (HOMES).

<sup>4</sup> People served in permanent supportive housing programs are no longer considered homeless.

<sup>5</sup> For more information on the HUD-VASH program see: [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/vash](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/vash) and <http://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash.asp>.

## Data Notes

Information on people's characteristics and patterns of homelessness collected as part of CoCs' PIT counts and HMIS records are generally self-reported. This information may be collected using a standard survey or intake form. Some HMIS data may reflect additional supporting documentation if the information is necessary to establish eligibility for services.

PIT and HMIS data quality has improved considerably since HUD began to compile these data resulting in more reliable estimates of homelessness. PIT count methodologies have become more robust, meaning that communities are employing approaches that are improving the accuracy of their counts. HMIS bed-coverage rates, a measure of how many beds within the community contribute data in a CoC's HMIS, have increased sharply over time, and rates of missing data have declined.

Not all information presented in the narrative in this report is reflected in the exhibits. For example, the exhibits may present the percentage of homeless people within a particular category, while the narrative highlights the percentage change over the years.

The supporting HMIS data used to produce the 2017 figures in the report can be downloaded from HUD's Resource Exchange at <http://www.hudexchange.info/>. Those tables are:

1. 2017 AHAR HMIS Estimates of Homelessness.xlsx
2. 2017 AHAR HMIS Estimates of Homeless Veterans.xlsx
3. 2017 AHAR\_HMIS Estimates of People in PSH.xlsx
4. 2017 AHAR\_HMIS Estimates of Veterans in PSH.xlsx

The AHAR estimation methodology and underlying assumptions for the information presented in this report are consistent with past reports, thus making data comparable over time and across AHAR reports. For more details, the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology can be downloaded from: <http://www.hudexchange.info/>.

## EXHIBIT B: Historical Context Surrounding Trends in Homelessness

PIT & HMIS 2007-2017

### 1987

The Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (later renamed McKinney-Vento) becomes law, providing substantial federal resources to address homelessness and establishing an Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH).

### 1989

HUD's programs providing resources to end homelessness are brought together in an Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAP).

### 1990

The Shelter Plus Care (S+C) permanent supportive housing program is enacted as part of the National Affordable Housing Act.

### 1994

HUD requires funding for McKinney-Vento programs to have a consolidated application from a local Continuum of Care (CoC).

### 2001

HUD endorses the goal of ending chronic homelessness and begins emphasizing that goal in funding competitions.

HUD submits to Congress the Department's strategy for implementing Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) at CoCs and reporting to Congress in an Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR).

1,588,595

1,593,794

1,558,917

1,593,150

1,502,196

### FEBRUARY 2007

HUD submits the first AHAR to Congress, setting the baseline for tracking trends in homelessness.

### MAY 2008

Congress returns to funding the HUD-VASH program providing substantial numbers of vouchers for supportive housing for veterans.

### FEBRUARY 2009

Congress enacts \$1.5 billion for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program.

### MAY 2009

Congress enacts the Continuum of Care program and the Emergency Shelter Grants program was revised and renamed the Emergency Solutions Grants program as part of the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act.

### JUNE 2010

A new federal strategic plan to end homelessness, "Opening Doors," is released.

### DECEMBER 2011

Congress authorizes about \$100 million in funding for the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, providing substantial resources for ending veteran homelessness.

647,258

639,784

630,227

637,077

623,788

PRE-2007

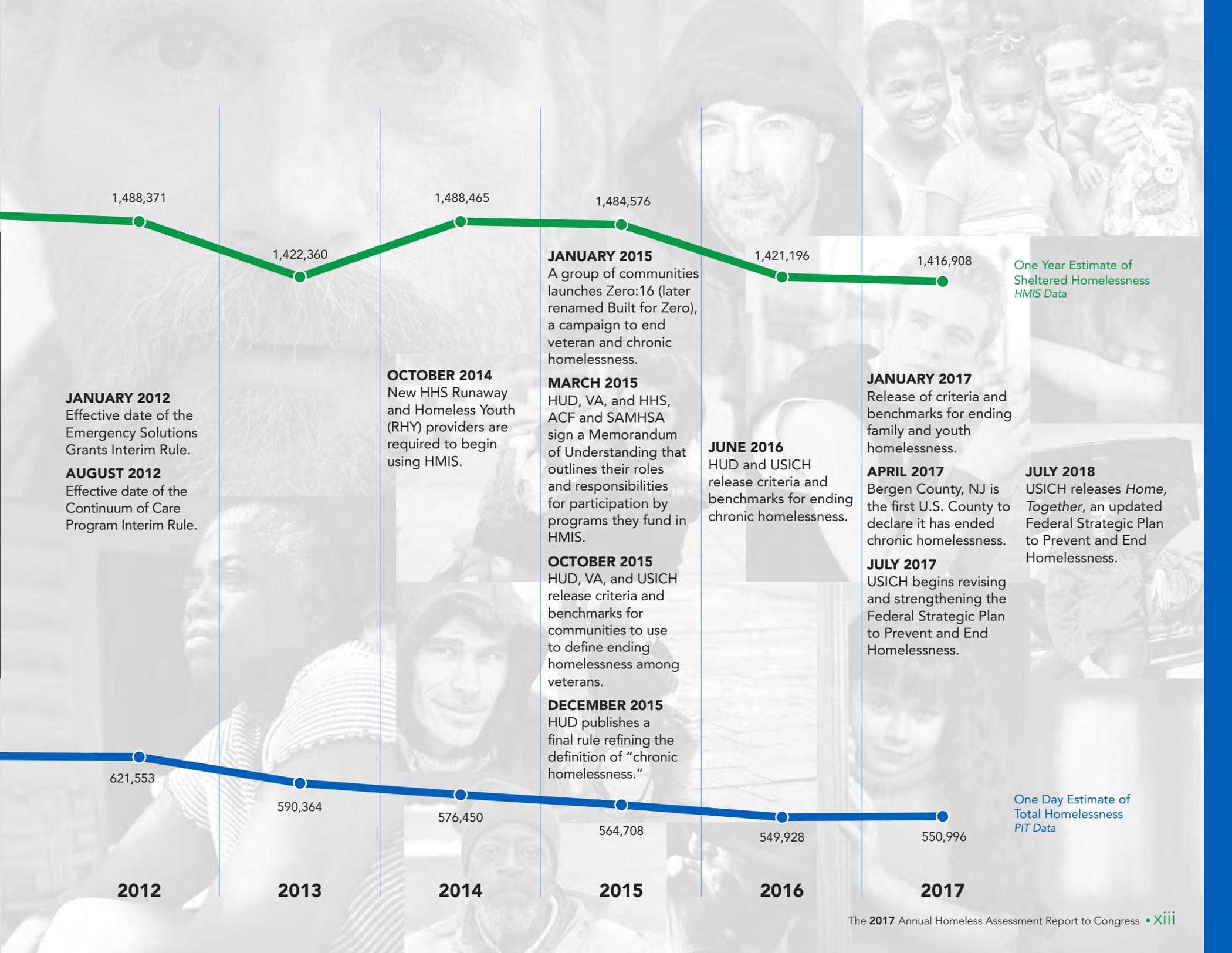
2007

2008

2009

2010

2011



1,488,371

1,422,360

1,488,465

1,484,576

1,421,196

1,416,908

One Year Estimate of Sheltered Homelessness  
HMIS Data

**JANUARY 2012**  
Effective date of the Emergency Solutions Grants Interim Rule.

**AUGUST 2012**  
Effective date of the Continuum of Care Program Interim Rule.

**OCTOBER 2014**  
New HHS Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) providers are required to begin using HMIS.

**JANUARY 2015**  
A group of communities launches Zero:16 (later renamed Built for Zero), a campaign to end veteran and chronic homelessness.

**MARCH 2015**  
HUD, VA, and HHS, ACF and SAMHSA sign a Memorandum of Understanding that outlines their roles and responsibilities for participation by programs they fund in HMIS.

**JUNE 2016**  
HUD and USICH release criteria and benchmarks for ending chronic homelessness.

**JANUARY 2017**  
Release of criteria and benchmarks for ending family and youth homelessness.

**APRIL 2017**  
Bergen County, NJ is the first U.S. County to declare it has ended chronic homelessness.

**JULY 2018**  
USICH releases *Home, Together*, an updated Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

**OCTOBER 2015**  
HUD, VA, and USICH release criteria and benchmarks for communities to use to define ending homelessness among veterans.

**DECEMBER 2015**  
HUD publishes a final rule refining the definition of "chronic homelessness."

**JULY 2017**  
USICH begins revising and strengthening the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

621,553

590,364

576,450

564,708

549,928

550,996

One Day Estimate of Total Homelessness  
PIT Data

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

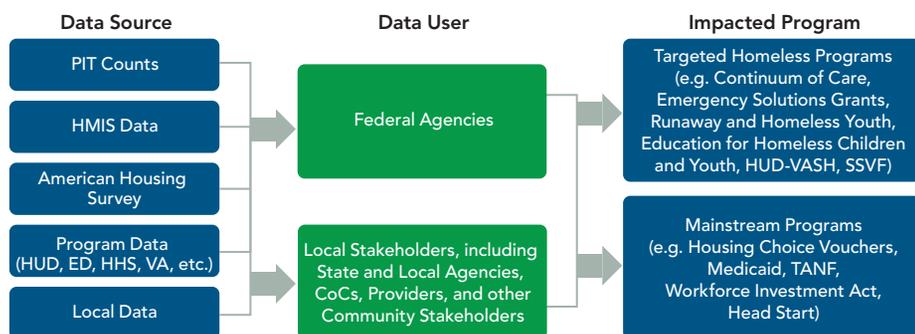
2017

## Broader Perspectives on Housing Instability and Homelessness

For more than a decade, HUD has supported local efforts to collect information about people experiencing homelessness. Together, the PIT count and HMIS data present a detailed picture of who is experiencing homelessness in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or in unsheltered locations; what their demographic characteristics are; and how they make use of the residential services available for homeless people.

HUD and its federal partners use many other data sources to get a fuller picture of homelessness and housing instability, including data collected and reported by other federal agencies as well as national and local studies and evaluations. Each of these data sources provides an important perspective on homelessness. For example, HUD uses the American Housing Survey (AHS) to produce reports every two years that provide estimates of how many renters have “worst case needs” for housing assistance, because they have very low incomes, no housing assistance, and severe rent burdens or substandard housing. The Department of Veterans Affairs data provide additional crucial information about veterans experiencing homelessness that is not captured in the PIT count.

This report highlights findings from the *Worst Case Housing Needs: 2017 Report to Congress* that uses 2015 AHS data to understand both the regional and national supply of affordable, available, and adequate rental housing. This section also draws on data from the Department of Education on students in public schools who are reported as being homeless, including those who are temporarily living with other people because of the loss of housing or economic hardship. Finally, the section includes data from the Voices of Youth Count initiative which reports findings from a national survey used to create estimates of youth experiences with homelessness and housing instability over the course of a year.



Federal agencies use data to inform a broad set of policy solutions across many different programs to meet goals the nation has set for preventing and ending homelessness. Ending homelessness cannot rely solely on programs that are targeted to people experiencing homelessness. HUD and its federal partners recognize that homelessness is closely linked to housing affordability, income and employment, health (including physical, behavioral, and mental disabilities), and education. The mainstream programs that address these needs have a substantial role in preventing and ending homelessness.

## Domestic Violence Survivors in the U.S. Homeless Residential Services System

Data from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) show that about 10 million women and men in the U.S. experience physical violence by an intimate partner each year.<sup>6</sup> Many people escaping domestic violence, which also includes dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, seek assistance outside the homeless services system, but emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing programs within the homeless services system can provide shelter or housing for people in crisis and seeking a safe refuge.

Estimating the number of people escaping domestic violence who use the homelessness system can be challenging. Residential programs in the homeless services system used by people escaping domestic violence may be in programs operated by victim service providers specifically for survivors of domestic violence or programs available to a broader population experiencing homelessness. Programs serving a broader homeless population report information to their communities’ HMIS on all their clients, some of whom may be survivors of domestic violence. However, programs operated by victim service providers are prohibited by law from reporting personally identifying client information into HMIS.<sup>7</sup> Thus, the HMIS data used as the basis for the AHAR Part 2 report do not include people staying in domestic violence shelters or in residential programs designated for survivors of domestic violence.

In the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, another data source for the AHAR Part 2, reporting people in residential programs operated by victim service providers is optional. Communities that collect information from those programs do not do so systematically, so it is not possible to use the PIT counts to estimate the percentage

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVS-StateReportBook.pdf>. The survey was conducted in 2012, and results were reported in 2017.

<sup>7</sup> Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-113s47enr/pdf/BILLS-113s47enr.pdf>

**EXHIBIT C: Domestic Violence Beds**

by Household Type and CoC Type, HIC 2017

Type	DV Beds	Total Beds	% DV Beds	# of CoCs
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,691</b>	<b>899,059</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>399</b>
<b>Beds By Family Type</b>				
Individuals	9,618	468,718	2.1	399
Families	46,073	430,341	10.7	399
<b>Beds By CoC Type</b>				
Major City CoCs	16,837	431,974	3.9	48
Smaller City, County, & Regional CoCs	20,235	335,837	6.0	306
Balance of State and Statewide CoCs	18,068	126,707	14.3	40

Note 1: Total beds include year-round beds from emergency shelter (ES), transitional housing (TH), safe havens (SH), rapid re-housing (RRH), permanent supportive housing (PSH), and other permanent housing (OPH) projects. Beds funded under HUD’s Rapid Re-housing Demonstration (DEM) program are included with RRH.

Note 2: The total beds and beds by household type include Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories. Bed counts by CoC Type do not include Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories, excluding five CoCs. For Puerto Rico PR-502, the DV Beds, Total Beds and % DV Beds are: 269; 2,683; and 10.0%. For Puerto Rico PR-503, these figures are: 168; 1,197; and 14.0%. For Guam, these figures are: 41; 390; and 10.5%. For the Northern Mariana Islands, these figures are 41; 41; and 100.0%. For the U.S. Virgin Islands, these figures are: 32; 230; and 13.9%.

Note 3: Of the 399 CoCs, 386 CoCs had any DV beds; 13 CoCs did not have bed inventories targeted to survivors of domestic violence.

of people experiencing homelessness who are domestic violence survivors.<sup>8</sup>

In contrast, the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data can provide an estimate of the extent to which the homeless services system explicitly targets residential services to domestic violence survivors. The HIC contains information on all the projects and beds in the homeless services system, regardless of funding source, including beds in domestic violence shelters. Thus, the HIC can show the numbers of beds and units intended for survivors of domestic violence. While the HIC provides a count of the beds, it cannot identify the number of unique people who were served in those beds over the course of year, so this information is similar to a PIT count, with the caveat that the beds might not all be occupied at any particular point in time. In addition, survivors of domestic violence may use beds intended for a broader homeless population, so the HIC still offers only a limited sense of the extent to which this population uses the homeless services system.

<sup>8</sup> Using the optional PIT count of victims of domestic violence within the homeless population produces a total of 87,329 people, 56 percent of whom were located in sheltered locations (emergency shelters, transitional housing, and safe havens) and the remaining 44 percent in unsheltered locations.

**EXHIBIT D: Domestic Violence Beds**

by Program Type, Household Type and CoC Type, HIC 2017

Type	DV Beds	Total Beds	% DV Beds	# of CoCs
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,691</b>	<b>899,059</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>399</b>
<b>Total – ES, TH, SH</b>	<b>48,271</b>	<b>399,439</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>399</b>
<b>Beds By Family Type</b>				
Individuals	8,707	198,153	4.4	399
Families	39,564	201,286	19.7	399
<b>Beds By CoC Type</b>				
Major City CoCs	13,675	196,196	7.0	48
Smaller City, County, & Regional CoCs	17,898	137,960	13.0	306
Balance of State and Statewide CoCs	16,275	63,450	25.7	40
<b>Total – RRH, PSH, OPH</b>	<b>7,420</b>	<b>499,620</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>391</b>
<b>Beds By Family Type</b>				
Individuals	911	270,565	0.3	391
Families	6,509	229,055	2.8	391
<b>Beds By CoC Type</b>				
Major City CoCs	3,162	235,778	1.3	48
Smaller City, County, & Regional CoCs	2,337	197,877	1.2	299
Balance of State and Statewide CoCs	1,793	63,257	2.8	40

Note 1: Total beds include year-round beds from emergency shelter (ES), transitional housing (TH), and safe havens (SH), separately from rapid re-housing (RRH), permanent supportive housing (PSH), and other permanent housing (OPH) projects. Beds funded under HUD’s Rapid Re-housing Demonstration (DEM) program are included with RRH.

Note 2: The total beds and beds by household type include Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories. Bed counts by CoC Type do not include Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories, excluding five CoCs (PR (2 CoCs), GU, MP, VI).

Note 3: Of the 399 CoCs with any ES, TH, or SH beds, 385 CoCs had any DV bed of those types; 14 CoCs did not have bed inventories of those types targeted to survivors of domestic violence. Of the 391 CoCs with any RRH, PSH, or OPH beds, 126 CoCs had any DV beds of those types; 265 CoCs did not have bed inventories of those types targeted to survivors of domestic violence.

Exhibit C displays the number of beds available year round<sup>9</sup> as reported in the 2017 HIC for all projects in the homeless services system that have identified domestic violence survivors as the target population. Exhibit D shows these beds by the type of program, distinguishing beds for people currently experiencing homelessness (transitional housing, safe havens, and emergency shelters) from beds in permanent housing programs (rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing).

Based on the bed counts in the 2017 HIC, 55,691 (6.2%) of all the beds available year round in the homeless services system were targeted to survivors of domestic violence (DV). Of the emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe haven beds for people currently experiencing homelessness, 12.1 percent were targeted to survivors of domestic violence, as were 1.5 percent of all permanent housing beds for people who are formerly homeless. Approximately 13 percent of all DV beds were in permanent housing programs.

Exhibits C and D also show how the share of beds in each Continuum of Care (CoC) targeted to survivors of domestic violence varies by geography. CoCs are divided into three geographic categories: major city CoCs (N=48); smaller city, county, and regional CoCs (N=306); and Balance of State (BoS) or statewide CoCs (N=40).<sup>10</sup> In 2017, the share of beds for people currently experiencing homelessness targeted to survivors of domestic violence was 7 percent in major city CoCs and 13 percent in smaller city, county, and regional CoCs. The share in BoS or statewide CoCs was much larger, 25.7 percent.

All states in the U.S. have some of their emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe haven bed inventories targeted to survivors of domestic violence. In 2017, shares of the state-level bed inventory for people currently experiencing homelessness that were targeted to survivors of domestic violence ranged from 4.3 percent in New York to 32.1 percent in North Dakota. In addition to North Dakota, five other states had more than 25 percent of their bed inventory for people experiencing homelessness targeted to domestic violence survivors: New Mexico (31.5%), South Dakota (29.4%), Missouri (27.2%), Arkansas (26.5%), and Mississippi (26.4%).

<sup>9</sup> The HIC contains information on seasonal and overflow beds, however only year-round beds are considered for this analysis.

<sup>10</sup> Major city CoCs cover the 50 largest cities in the U.S.; Smaller city, county and regional CoCs are jurisdictions that are neither one of the 50 largest cities nor Balance of State or Statewide CoCs; Balance of State or statewide CoCs are typically composed of multiple rural counties or cover an entire state. Note that the 50 largest cities are contained within 48 CoCs, two of which contain two major cities each (TX-601: Fort Worth/Arlington/Tarrant County CoC; AZ-502: Phoenix/Mesa/Maricopa County Regional CoC). Puerto Rico and U.S. territories are excluded from this classification.

## How to Use this Report

The 2017 AHAR Part 2 is intended to serve as a data reference guide. The body of the report is divided into seven sections:

1. All homeless people,
2. Homeless individuals,
3. Homeless people in families with children,
4. Unaccompanied homeless youth,
5. Homeless veterans,
6. Chronically homeless individuals, and
7. People living in permanent supportive housing (PSH).

Sections 1 to 3 and 5 begin with a summary of the PIT count data and an analysis by state of people who were experiencing homelessness on a single night in January 2017; the HMIS data on people who were experiencing sheltered homelessness at some time during the reporting year. These one-year estimates include information on gender, age, ethnicity, race, household size, disability status, geographic location, characteristics by geography, living situation before entering shelter, length of shelter stay, and bed-use patterns. Section 5 on homeless veterans includes the most recent information available on veterans using the SSVF program's rapid re-housing services.

Sections 4 and 6 are based only on PIT data, as HMIS data are not yet available for unaccompanied youth or for people with chronic patterns of homelessness. Section 7 is based on HMIS data on residents of PSH and on supplementary data on the HUD-VASH program.

This report is intended for several audiences: Members of Congress, staff at local service providers and CoCs, researchers, policy-makers, and advocates. These audiences may have various reasons for reading this report, but all audiences will find answers to questions that can be useful to them. For example:

**At the national level,** Congress and policymakers can mark progress on the nation's efforts to prevent and end homelessness. Key stakeholders can also identify which household types and sub-populations require more attention in this effort and which groups are improving at a slower rate than others.

**At the state level,** policymakers and state-level CoCs can determine how they compare to other states on a range of important measures. The report shows which states experienced substantial changes in their homeless populations compared

## Key Findings

### Homelessness in the United States

#### One-night Estimates:

- 550,996 people experienced either sheltered or unsheltered homelessness on a single night in 2017. More than a third of people experiencing homelessness on a single night (34.5%) were in unsheltered locations.
- Two-thirds of people experiencing homelessness were doing so as individuals (66.5%) and one-third were people in families with children (33.5%).
- The number of people experiencing homelessness on single night declined by 14.9 percent between 2007 and 2017. Despite recent increases in unsheltered homelessness, there were 25.7 percent fewer people counted in places not meant for human habitation in 2017 than in 2007.

#### One-year Estimates:

- In 2017, 1,416,908 million people in the U.S. experienced sheltered homelessness at some point during the year, a 10.8 percent decrease since 2007.
- People experiencing sheltered homelessness in 2017 were 5 times more likely than people in the U.S. population to be in a single-person household.
- While a considerable majority of people experiencing sheltered homelessness do so in principal cities, the percentage has been slowly shifting from principal cities toward suburban and rural areas. Between 2007 and 2017, sheltered homelessness declined 15.9 percent in principal cities and increased by 6 percent in suburban and rural areas. The share of people experiencing homelessness also decreased in principal cities (from 76.9% to 72.5%) and increased in suburban and rural areas (from 23.1% to 27.5%). Meanwhile, shares of the U.S. population and the U.S. poverty population found in principal cities and suburban and rural areas remained constant.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the share of individuals who entered emergency shelter or transitional housing programs from unsheltered locations increased from 13.7 percent to 27.4 percent, while those coming from other shelter programs declined from 31.2 percent to 22.2 percent.

### Homeless Individuals<sup>11</sup>

#### One-night Estimates

- On a single night in January 2017, 366,585 people were experiencing homelessness as individuals, an 11.2 percent decline since 2007.
- More than half (52.7%) of all individuals in the one-night count were staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens, while just

to other states, and these comparisons can foster collaborations and propel efforts towards ending homelessness.

**At the local level**, community leaders and local service providers can assess how their community compares to the nation. This comparison can highlight ways in which the community's homeless population is similar or different from the national profile of homelessness.

This report can address many questions that may be of interest across all audiences:

1. How many people experience homelessness in the U.S. in any given year? How has this changed over time?
2. Are women more likely to experience homeless than men? How many people experience homelessness as individuals, and how many are in families with children?
3. How many children and youth experience homelessness in the U.S.?
4. What is the race and ethnicity of people who experience homelessness in the U.S.?
5. What is the rate of disability among people who experience homelessness?
6. Where do people experiencing homelessness stay before they enter the shelter system?
7. How long do people stay in emergency shelter and transitional housing programs?
8. How many U.S. veterans experience homelessness? How has that number changed over time?
9. How many people in the U.S. have chronic patterns of homelessness?
10. How many people live in permanent supportive housing, and what are their characteristics? Where were they staying beforehand, and where did they go once they left?

<sup>11</sup> The term "Individuals" refers to people that are not part of a family with at least one adult and one child. See the Key Terms on pages iv-v for more information.



under half were in unsheltered locations (47.3%).

- Individuals experiencing homelessness on a single night were 4.5 times more likely to be unsheltered than people in families with children. Of all people in unsheltered locations, 89.1 percent were individuals.
- While the number of unsheltered homeless individuals was 13.1 percent lower in 2017 than it was in 2007, these numbers have increased each year since 2014. Between 2016 and 2017, the number of unsheltered individuals increased by 10.3 percent.
- California had 11,298 more individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in 2017 than in 2016, driving the national increase.

#### One-year Estimates

- Between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2017, an estimated 950,497 people used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program as individuals, an unchanged estimate from 2016 and a 14.8 percent decline since 2007.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the number of sheltered individuals age 62 or older increased by 68.5 percent (30,658 more people). The share of elderly individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness has nearly doubled, from 4.1 percent in 2007 to 8 percent in 2017, a sharper rise than the share of all U.S. individuals 62 or older (29.7% to 34.1%).
- In 2017, individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were more than three times as likely to identify as African American as were all U.S. individuals (38.7% versus 12.0%). However, sheltered individuals were less likely to identify as African American than were sheltered people in families with children (51.8%).
- Half of adult individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness had a disability in 2017 (49.2%). This was 2.5 times the rate of disability among individuals in the U.S. population (19.8%), and 1.6 times the rate of disability among individuals in the U.S. population living in poverty (31.6%).
- Although the share of all U.S. individuals living in poverty in suburban and rural areas stayed roughly level (59.5% in 2007 and 59.6% in 2017), the share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in those areas increased from 21.3 percent in 2007 to 25.4 percent in 2017. Both the share and the number of sheltered individuals in principal cities declined during the same time period.
- Nearly half of individuals entered emergency shelter or transitional housing from another homeless situation (49.6%). Of those, more than half entered from an unsheltered location. The number of individuals entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing program from an unsheltered location increased by 84.1 percent between 2007 and 2017.
- Of the individuals who were not already homeless before entering emergency

shelter or transitional housing programs, most came directly from a housed situation (63.7%). The share who entered from institutional settings increased from 20.8 percent in 2007 to 26.5 percent in 2017.

- Between 2007 and 2017, the homeless services system nationwide saw the number of emergency shelter beds for individuals increase by 23,023 beds, while the number of transitional housing beds for individuals nationwide decreased by a larger amount, 39,524 beds.

## Homeless Families with Children<sup>12</sup>

### One-Night Estimates

- In 2017, 184,411 people experienced homelessness as part of a family with children. This is a 21.4 percent decline since 2007. The number of family households in the 2017 one-night estimates was 57,886, 26.3 percent fewer family households than in 2007.
- About 33.5 percent of all people experiencing homelessness on a single night were in families with children.
- About nine in ten people experiencing homelessness as part of a family on a single night (91%) were in sheltered locations, while only 9 percent were unsheltered.
- Only 8.9 percent (8,387 people) of people with chronic patterns of homelessness in 2017 were in families with children. Of people in families with chronic patterns of homelessness, nearly three in ten (28.7%) were in unsheltered locations.
- 21,338 people were experiencing homelessness in families with children with a parent under the age of 25.
- While nationally, about a third of all people experiencing homelessness were in families with children, more than half of all people experiencing homelessness were in families in Massachusetts (64.3%), New York (58.2%), and the District of Columbia (52.1%).

### One-Year Estimates

- An estimated 478,718 people in 150,630 family households used an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2017. In 2017, the number of people in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness over the course of one year was essentially the same as in 2007, just 1.1 percent higher or 5,177 more people.
- In 2017, about a third of all people who experienced sheltered homelessness over the course of the year, 33.8 percent, were in families with children.

<sup>12</sup> Families with children are households composed of at least one adult and one child under age 18.

- In 2017, children under 18 made up about three in five people (60.8%) experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children. Among these children, about half (49.0%) were under six years old, and one in ten (10.8%) were infants less than one year old.
- While women comprised a smaller share of adults experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children in 2017 (77.9%) than in 2007 (82%), they remained overrepresented compared to the share of women among adults in U.S. families (54.4%), and adults in families living in poverty (65.5%).
- While the proportion of African Americans among all U.S. families with children has remained relatively stable between 2007 and 2017 (13.8% versus 13.4%), the proportion of family members experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as black or African American declined, from 55.2 percent in 2007 to 51.8 percent in 2017. In a similar trend, the proportion of black or African American families living in poverty decreased during the same timeframe (from 26.2% to 22.9%).
- Adults in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness are 2.5 times more likely to have a disability (21.5%) than all adults in families with children in the U.S. (8.6%), and 1.4 times more likely than adults in families with children in the U.S. living in poverty (15.6%).
- People in families using shelters in principal cities declined by 5.5 percent (18,931 fewer people) and increased by 19.1 percent (24,334 more people) in suburban and rural areas, continuing a gradual shift from principal cities to suburban and rural areas. However, sheltered people in families with children remained considerably overrepresented in principal cities compared to the U.S. family population (68.3% vs 31.8%).
- Between 2016 and 2017, the percentage of adults in families entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing program from homelessness increased from 33 percent to 38.2 percent. Of those, the share entering shelter from the street or other unsheltered locations increased (from 32.9% to 35.1%) and those entering from other sheltered locations decreased (67.1% to 64.9%).

## Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

### One-Night Estimates

- In 2017, 38,303 unaccompanied youth under the age of 25 were experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness. Unaccompanied homeless youth were 7 percent of the total homeless population and 10.5 percent of people experiencing homelessness as individuals.

- Most unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness (87.9%; 33,668 people) were between the ages of 18 and 24. Just 12.1 percent (4,635 people) were under the age of 18.
- Unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness are much more likely to be unsheltered (51.6%) than all people experiencing homelessness (34.5%) or people experiencing homelessness as individuals (47.3%).
- California reported the largest number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness (12,962 people), which is 33.8 percent of the national total.
- Nevada had the highest unsheltered rate among unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness, with 89.2 percent.

## Homeless Veterans

### One-Night Estimates

- 40,020 veterans were experiencing homelessness in the United States, representing 9.1 percent of all adults experiencing homelessness.
- 61.7 percent of veterans experienced homelessness in sheltered locations (24,690 veterans), and 38.3 percent were in unsheltered locations (15,330 veterans).
- The number of veterans experiencing homelessness dropped 45.5 percent between 2009 and 2017. However, the number of homeless veterans increased for the first time between 2016 and 2017, reflecting an increase in unsheltered veterans --particularly in the West. California and Washington experienced the largest one-year increases in unsheltered veterans (with 2,021 and 514 more unsheltered veterans).
- The number of sheltered veterans declined by 6.5 percent between 2016 and 2017, offsetting some of the increases in the unsheltered population.

### One-Year Estimates

- An estimated 118,380 veterans used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at some point between October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017.
- Between 2009 and 2017, the number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness has declined 20.9 percent (31,255 fewer veterans).
- Among all veterans in the U.S., 1 in 184 experienced sheltered homelessness at some point during 2017.
- Veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were older in 2017 than they were in 2009. The share of veterans who were elderly more than doubled between 2009 and 2017, from 8.7 percent to 19.2 percent. This outpaced the increase in the share of all U.S. veterans who were elderly, which grew from 47.7

percent to 54.9 percent. Elderly veterans are the only group with an increase in the number experiencing homelessness between 2009 and 2017 (9,677 more veterans).

- Veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in 2017 were much less likely to be white and not Hispanic than were all U.S. veterans (43.8% versus 78.1%). Veterans identifying as black or African-American were overrepresented among veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness, 37.9 percent of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness compared to 11.5 percent of all US veterans.
- In 2017, compared with all U.S. veterans, veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were more than twice as likely to have a disability (59.4% versus 28.8%).
- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in principal cities declined 8.2 percent (7,634 fewer veterans), while the number in suburban and rural areas grew by 4.1 percent.
- In 2017, prior to entering shelter, 55.1 percent of the veterans who entered emergency shelter or transitional housing programs were already homeless. Of these veterans, just over half (51.7%) were on the street or in other unsheltered locations. Thus, unsheltered veterans made up 28.5 percent of all veterans who entered shelter at some point during the reporting year.
- The number of veterans who were already homeless in an unsheltered location prior to entering shelter increased 7.3 percent (2,296 more veterans) between 2009 and 2017. Despite this increase, overall the number of veterans who entered shelter from homelessness declined by 5.3 percent (3,677) between 2009 and 2017.

## Chronically Homeless Individuals<sup>13</sup>

### One-Night Estimates

- 86,705 individuals had chronic patterns of homelessness. This was 23.7 percent of all individuals experiencing homelessness in the U.S.
- More than two-thirds (69.3%) of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness were unsheltered compared to 47.3 percent of all individuals experiencing homelessness.
- While the number of unsheltered individuals experiencing chronic homelessness was 23.0 percent lower in 2017 than it was in 2007, the numbers have been on the rise in recent years. Between 2016 and 2017, the number of sheltered

individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness increased by 8.3 percent and unsheltered chronic homelessness increased by 13.6 percent.

- Nearly two-fifths (41.7%) of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in the U.S. were located in California. No other state accounted for more than 8 percent.
- States with the largest increases in the number of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness were in the West. California experienced an increase of 5,739 people and Washington had an increase of 2,050 people.

## People in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

### One-Year Estimates

- An estimated 376,086 people lived in PSH during 2017. Just over one-third (34.2%) were people in families with children rather than individuals.
- The number of people living in PSH increased 1.5 percent (5,671 more people) between 2016 and 2017. This change was comprised of a 2.5 percent increase in the number of people in families with children in PSH (3,138 more people) and by a 1.1 percent increase in the number of individuals in PSH (2,794 more people).
- The overall share of women in PSH declined from 47.3 percent in 2010 to 43.4 percent in 2017, but the share in 2017 was still larger than the share of adults using emergency shelter or transitional housing programs who were women (37.6%).
- People living in PSH in 2017 were older than people living in PSH in 2010. The proportion of PSH residents aged 62 or older increased from 4 percent to 10.2 percent, and the proportion of people aged 51 to 61 grew from 19.9 percent to 28.5 percent.
- More than one-third of PSH residents (35.5%) were living in suburban and rural areas, and 64.5 percent were living in cities. Between 2010 and 2017, the number of PSH residents in suburban and rural areas increased by 56.4 percent while the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness in those areas decreased by 32.4 percent.
- 99,397 veterans lived in PSH in 2017. Most (91%) were in PSH as individuals rather than as members of a family with at least one child (9.6%). Between 2016 and 2017, the number of veterans in PSH increased 10.4% (9,393 more veterans).

<sup>13</sup> A chronically homeless individual is an individual (that is, not part of a family with at least one adult and one child) with a disability who has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years.

## Interpretation of the Findings

Each year, HUD reports to Congress on the number of people who experience homelessness in the United States. Preventing and ending homelessness requires accurate information on the size and nature of the homelessness in the country, both at a point-in-time and on an annual basis. These data are critical to measuring progress toward federal, state, and local goals to end homelessness among families with children, unaccompanied youth, veterans, people with chronic patterns of homelessness, and people experiencing homelessness as individuals.

These reports use one-night point-in-time (PIT) count data and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data.

- To generate the PIT count data, communities count how many people are experiencing unsheltered and sheltered homelessness on one night in late January. These data provide estimates of the number of people experiencing homelessness within a community or jurisdiction, the scale of the need for homelessness services and housing on a given day, and how that need is changing from year to year.
- The HMIS data reported by communities are statistically adjusted to generate estimates of the number and demographics of people who use the nation’s emergency shelters and transitional housing projects during a 12-month period. These one-year data document the total number and characteristics of people who experience sheltered homelessness over the course of a year, many of whom experience homelessness for short periods of time and may be missed by data collected one night a year.

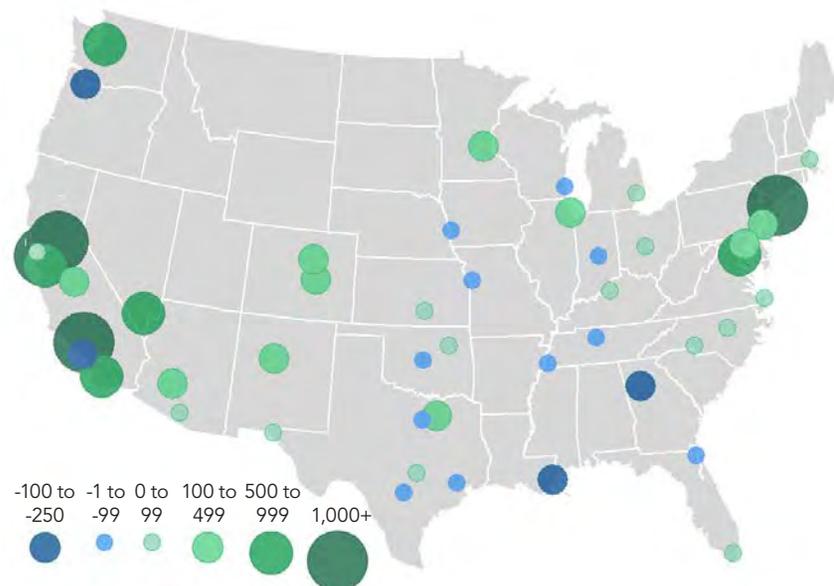
One-year estimates of homelessness show a 10.8 percent decline overall since 2007. This decline was composed entirely of people who were experiencing homelessness on their own. The number of individuals experiencing homelessness in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs was 14.8 percent lower in 2017 than it was in 2007, while the number of people in families with children remained stable over that time period. However, *one-night counts*, which include the number of people in both sheltered locations and unsheltered locations, show a different trend. While the one-night count of individuals experiencing homelessness declined at a similar rate as the one-year decline (11.2%), the number of people in families with children on a single night declined by 21.4 percent – with unsheltered declines accounting for a considerable portion (40,000 fewer families versus 10,000 fewer sheltered families). Unsheltered homelessness among families with children steadily

declined in the past decade in all parts of the country. This is not the case for people experiencing homelessness as individuals.

### Rising Unsheltered Population in the West

As individuals comprise a considerable share of the homeless population, fluctuations in this group have a large effect on national trends. Between 2016 and 2017, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness on a single night increased by 3.2 percent overall, driven entirely by increases in the number of people staying outdoors. The unsheltered individual population in CoCs that cover the 50 largest cities in the United States has increased each year since 2014, is 19 percent higher than it was in 2016 and is within 1 percent of the estimate in 2007. This crisis of a surging unsheltered population is primarily occurring in cities in the West. During this one-year period, communities covering 33 of the 50 largest cities in the U.S. experienced increases in unsheltered individuals. Of the ten major cities with the largest increases, 6 were on the West Coast. In response, HUD, in collaboration with other national partners, has begun an effort to help communities better understand the nature of their unsheltered populations and find solutions.

**EXHIBIT E: Changes in Numbers of Unsheltered Individuals in Major Cities, 2016-2017**



The subset of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness increased at a faster rate than all individuals, with a year over year increase of 12 percent overall and 14 percent for those in unsheltered locations. These increases are recent. Comparing the numbers of people experiencing chronic homelessness in 2017 to 2010 or 2007, the numbers nationally are lower by a good margin. As of 2014, unsheltered chronic homelessness in the nation's largest cities had declined by nearly 40 percent since these data were collected. Each year after that, the number increased, and in 2017 the number of unsheltered individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness was only 9 percent lower than the estimate in 2007. In the last year alone, unsheltered chronic homelessness rose 27 percent in the nation's largest cities, and while Los Angeles continues to be a primary driver of fluctuations in this population it isn't alone. CoCs that covered 33 of the 50 largest cities experienced increases in the number of unsheltered chronically homeless individuals, and the 6 communities with the largest increases were in California and Washington.

Given the rising housing costs in the West, it is not surprising that unsheltered homelessness has risen as well. There were fewer housing units affordable, adequate, and available for extremely low income renters in the West (26.6 units for every 100 renters) than in any other region of the country. The Northeast, also known for its high housing costs, had nearly ten more units affordable, adequate, and available than did the West (36 units per 100).

Unlike all individuals and individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness, the number of homeless veterans in unsheltered locations in major cities declined between 2014 and 2016. However, between 2016 and 2017 there was an uptick in unsheltered veterans in the nation's largest cities. There were 2,650 more unsheltered veterans on the streets of the nation's largest cities than in 2016 (a 47% rise).

## Disproportionate Shares of Homelessness among People of Color

People experiencing homelessness are disproportionately people of color (either not white or white and Hispanic) regardless of whether they are in families, on their own, have chronic patterns of homelessness, or served in the U.S. military. Homelessness is most often the result of deep poverty colliding with a lack of housing options, and people of color are overrepresented among the U.S. poverty population setting up this disproportionate share of people experiencing homelessness. However, even when compared to the U.S. poverty population, people of color account for a higher share of the one-year estimates of people in

sheltered locations. The picture is somewhat different for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. While people other than white and non-Hispanic are still overrepresented, one-night estimates of unsheltered homelessness in 2017 show a distribution much closer to the national distribution (44.8% of the unsheltered population compared to 38.9% of the U.S. population).

Families with a parent identifying as black or African American were particularly overrepresented among the sheltered population over the course of the year (51.8%) and on a single night (53%) compared to the U.S. population (13.4%) and the U.S. poverty population (22.9%). This likely has to do with a confluence of factors, including, but not limited to, a concentration of sheltered homelessness in urban areas, where many African American populations live, and a shortage of affordable housing that is particularly acute in urban areas.

The racial composition of individuals experiencing homelessness in 2017 is different from that of people in families, and there also are differences between the sheltered and unsheltered populations. A higher share of individuals in shelter over the course of a year are white, non-Hispanic (44.1%), but people of color were still overrepresented. For example, African Americans comprised 38.7 percent of sheltered individuals over the course of a year (and 36% on a single night) compared to only 12 percent of all individuals in the United States, and 18.6 percent of the poverty population. On a single night in 2017, however, a majority of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness were white (54.8%).

Veterans experiencing homelessness were less likely than other homeless individuals to identify as a race other than white, but still far more likely than all U.S. veterans to identify as a person of color. African Americans accounted for more than three times the share of sheltered adults as they do of U.S. veterans.

## People Experiencing Homelessness are Getting Older

Individuals experiencing homelessness are getting older. The share of homeless individuals who are over the age of 50 increased by more than 10 percentage points in the last decade, from 22.9 to 33.8 percent, outpacing increases in the U.S. poverty population (4.8 percentage point rise) and the U.S. population (4.6 percentage point rise). Veterans experiencing homelessness – most of whom are individuals – have aged at a much sharper rate. Between 2009 and 2017, the share of veterans experiencing homelessness over the age of 50 increased by more than 14 percentage points (from 47.2% to 61.5%), compared to an increase of less than one percent for all U.S. veterans.

## Federal Investments have Shown Promise in Reducing Homelessness among Particular Populations

Both the federal government and communities have invested heavily in permanent supportive housing (PSH) over the last decade. The PSH inventory grew 88 percent between 2007 and 2017, and the inventory dedicated to people with chronic patterns of homelessness grew 294 percent (and 34% just since 2016). HUD and USICH have provided communities with guidance on how to prioritize the most vulnerable people for PSH. One indicator of this prioritization is that the number of people accessing PSH directly from unsheltered locations increased 188.5 percent between 2010 and 2017. These investments and policies have resulted in considerable declines in chronic homelessness. Over the last decade, the number of people with chronic patterns of homelessness decreased by nearly 28 percent.

Since 2008, HUD and VA have made considerable investments in HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program (HUD-VASH), a form of PSH specifically for veterans, and other federal programs that provide a range of housing and services options for Veterans experiencing homelessness. Since undergoing a significant expansion in 2008, nearly 129,000 veterans have been housed through this program. Between 2015 and 2017 alone, the program housed more than 55,000 veterans were housed. In recent years, HUD and the VA have also made considerable investments in rapid re-housing through the CoC, ESG, and SSVF programs. The investment in programs to address veteran homelessness is reflected in changes in the number of veterans staying in shelter on a single night and over the course of a year. Between 2012 and 2017, one-year estimates of veterans declined by 14 percent and one-night estimates have declined 34 percent.

The steady declines in the number of people experiencing homelessness in families with children can be attributed, in part, to federal and local investments in rapid re-housing programs. Significant work has been undertaken by communities across the country to reallocate resources to permanent housing interventions, such as rapid re-housing. These housing resources are often combined with supportive services to meet the needs of families with children. The inventory of rapid re-housing programs grew by 22 percent between 2016 and 2017. This increase in investment in rapid re-housing has created opportunities to serve a greater number of families and end families' homelessness more quickly.

# Additional Forms of Homelessness and Housing Instability

Introduction.....	3
American Housing Survey 2013 Supplement: Residents Who Have Moved Out in the Past 12 months.....	3
American Housing Survey 2013 Supplement: Residents Who Have Moved In in the Past 12 Months .....	4
Data from Local Education Agencies on Children who Experience Homelessness.....	5
Voices of Youth Count: Youth Experiences with Explicit Homelessness and Couch Surfing.....	7
American Housing Survey: The Affordable Housing Stock for Low-Income Renters.....	8



## Introduction

Individuals, families, and youth experiencing homelessness often experience multiple types of housing instability. In addition to the data collected through PIT counts and HMIS are several other important sources of information about homelessness and housing instability. This section presents information about people who share housing with others because of the loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (i.e., doubled up); people who are living in hotels or motels because they have no alternative adequate accommodations; and people who have housing problems such as severe rent burdens or unsafe housing. Information from the American Housing Survey (AHS), U.S. Department of Education,<sup>1</sup> and the Voices of Youth Count describes:

- People who live with another household and then move out;
- People who move into a unit with a pre-existing household;
- Children who are deemed homeless by U.S. public schools according to the definition of homeless children and youth established in Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. These data are reported annually by local school administrators to the U.S. Department of Education and includes children and youth sharing the housing of others because of loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reasons;
- Low-income renters who are severely rent burdened, have severe housing problems, and have other indicators of instability such as missed rent payments or no good choice for a destination if evicted; and
- People aged 13 to 25 who were homeless or couch surfing.

This information sheds light for organizations at the federal, state, and local levels on the broader spectrum of people experiencing homelessness or precarious housing situations. These data also inform the need for mainstream affordable housing and benefits programs that can supplement federal and local homelessness resources.

The data sources—the American Housing Survey and data from local education agencies—have limitations, like all sources of data, but they provide context for understanding forms of homelessness and housing instability in addition to those described in the rest of this report.

<sup>1</sup> For more information on the U.S. Department of Education's definition of homeless children and youth, refer to: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/pg116.html#sec725>.

### American Housing Survey 2013 Supplement: Residents Who Have Moved Out in the Past 12 Months

“Doubling up” can mean many things and sometimes refers to multigenerational households or to people who share housing on a long-term basis in order to save on housing costs. A supplement to the 2013 AHS<sup>2</sup> was designed to learn about different forms of doubling up, including those in less stable living situations. Respondents<sup>3</sup> were asked a series of questions about household members who had moved out of the housing unit within the past year. The questions were asked about households that stayed for at least two weeks and had no other usual residence.<sup>4</sup>

In 2013, there were 4.4 million households with at least one member who had moved out in the last year.<sup>5</sup> The large number of such households can reflect a variety of circumstances—for example, a college student who was at home during summer break and returned to school; an elderly person who was living with family and moved into assisted living; or someone who moved to a new city and stayed with a friend until finding his or her own place. To more fully understand the nature of the mover's stay and the mover's destination, the 2013 AHS supplement asked additional questions. The answers to those questions reveal a subset of people who may be doubled-up and vulnerable to experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness. Exhibit 1 summarizes the reasons household members moved out of the respondent's housing unit and the household members' destination upon moving.

<sup>2</sup> Details about the AHS and the Doubling Up supplement can be found here: <http://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/ahs/2013/> and <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/ahs/>. If more than one person or group of people moved into or out of a household, questions were tabulated for the first person or group of in-movers and the first person or group of out-movers listed by the respondent.

<sup>3</sup> These questions were asked of a knowledgeable household member age 16 or over. In most cases, the respondent was the head of household.

<sup>4</sup> These questions were restricted to occupied housing units where a person or group of people moved out within 12 months prior to the interview or since the current occupants moved in when that was less than a year before the interview. Household members moving out included anyone who stayed in the home for at least 2 weeks and had no other place where he or she usually lived. While respondents were instructed to only include people who had stayed at least two weeks, a small percentage of households were reported with a length of stay less than 2 weeks. They included minors who moved out without a parent or guardian. In cases where more than one person or group of people moved out during the last year, the respondent was instructed to refer to the first person or group of people listed as moving out in the last year.

<sup>5</sup> The AHS National Summary Tables (Table S-07\_AO) are available at: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/ahs/data/2013/ahs-2013-summary-tables/national-summary-report-and-tables---ahs-2013.html>

#### American Housing Survey Special Supplement for 2013

The American Housing Survey (AHS) is based on a representative sample of housing units in the United States and asks questions about the housing unit, the composition of the household occupying the unit, household income, and housing costs. The AHS is conducted biennially. In 2013, the AHS included a topical supplement called “Doubling Up,” in which a subset of people was asked questions about reasons surrounding residential moves. The 2013 survey also asked renter households about some specific indicators of housing instability, such as threats of eviction, that are not part of the core questionnaire.

### EXHIBIT 1: Reasons Household Members Moved Out of the Respondent's Housing Unit and Where They Moved

	# Housing Units	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,421,000</b>	
<b>Reason for Stay</b>		
Lack of money	1,191,000	27.1
Other reasons (not lack of money)	3,200,000	72.9
<b>Asked to Leave</b>		
Yes	320,000	7.3
No	4,089,000	92.7
<b>Main Reason for Leaving</b>		
Financial	543,000	12.4
Crowding, conflict or violence	250,000	5.7
Other reasons <sup>a</sup>	3,585,000	81.9
<b>Destination</b>		
Moved to the home of relatives/friends	1,084,000	25.3
Moved to homeless situation <sup>b</sup>	13,000	0.3
Moved to treatment program, hospital, or nursing home	67,000	1.6
Moved to jail or prison	17,000	0.4
Moved to foster care	11,000	0.3
Moved to another situation <sup>c</sup>	3,090,000	72.2

Source: Table S-07-AO of the 2013 AHS National Summary tables

Note: The number of housing units is rounded to the nearest thousand. Those "not reported" are excluded.

<sup>a</sup> Other reasons for leaving the housing unit included a major change in the family (e.g. marriage, new relationship, divorce, death, separation), health reasons, to be closer to work or job, school or military, or to establish one's own household.

<sup>b</sup> A homeless situation was defined as staying in a shelter program or in a place not meant for human habitation such as a park, street, sidewalk, car, or abandoned building.

<sup>c</sup> Other situations included one's own place, dormitories, or barracks.

Of the households with at least one member that moved out in the past year, 27.1 percent were reported by the respondent to have been staying because of a lack of money to pay for housing. Other questions asked about whether movers left voluntarily and the main reason people moved out. According to the respondent, 7.3 percent (320,000 movers) of household members who moved were asked to leave. When asked about the main reason the household member or members moved out, 5.7 percent were reported to have moved out because of crowding and conflict

or violence in the housing unit, and 12.4 percent moved out because of financial reasons.<sup>6</sup>

Few household members who moved out (less than one percent) were reported by the respondent to have gone to a shelter program or a place not meant for human habitation,<sup>7</sup> but a quarter went to stay with family or friends rather than to a place of their own. Some household members went to settings that are known to be closely interrelated with experiences of homelessness: institutional health facility, such as a treatment program, hospital, or nursing home (1.6 percent or 67,000 movers), jail or prison (0.4 percent or 17,000 movers), or foster care (0.3 percent or 11,000 movers).

### American Housing Survey 2013 Supplement: Residents Who Have Moved In in the Past 12 Months

The AHS supplement also asked questions about households with at least one member who moved into an existing household's unit in the past year and who was still there at the time of the AHS interview.<sup>8</sup> In 2013, there were 3.3 million such households. The large number of households can reflect a range of circumstances—for example, a new spouse or partner moving into the partner's unit, a new baby born to the family, a college student who moved home after leaving school, or an elderly person who was living on his or her own and moved in with family. To more fully understand the nature of the mover's stay and the mover's prior living situation, the 2013 AHS supplement asked respondents<sup>9</sup> additional questions. The answers to those questions reveal a subset of people who are doubled-up and vulnerable to experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness. Exhibit 2 summarizes the reasons household members moved into an existing household's unit and the living situation from which they moved.

Of the households with at least one member who moved into an existing household's unit in the past year, 24.6 percent were reported to have moved in

<sup>6</sup> Financial reasons could include the inability to contribute to the housing costs in their host's unit, but it could also include a mover's ability to pay for their own housing.

<sup>7</sup> This is a small number compared to the number of people staying in shelters at some time during 2014 who were reported by the HMIS to have come from staying with friends or relatives. These numbers are based on different methods of identifying people who become homeless.

<sup>8</sup> These data and those in Exhibit 2 are based on HUD-PD&R tabulations of 2013 American Housing Survey data. They differ from figures presented in the AHS national summary Table S-07\_AO. Table S-07\_AO includes both in-movers in the past 12 months who formed entirely new households and those who moved into existing households. Exhibit 2 includes only those who moved into a pre-existing household.

<sup>9</sup> These questions were asked about the person (or group of people) who moved into an occupied housing unit containing a pre-existing household and who moved in within 12 months prior to the interview. The respondent who answered these questions was a knowledgeable household member age 16 or over, not necessarily someone who recently moved into the existing household.

## EXHIBIT 2: Reasons Household Members Moved Into an Existing Household's Housing Unit and the Situation from Which They Moved

	# Housing Units	%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,269,000</b>	
<b>Reason for Stay in Current Home</b>		
Lack of money	787,000	24.6
Other reasons (not lack of money)	2,416,000	75.4
<b>Asked to Leave Prior Situation</b>		
Yes	170,000	5.3
No	3,025,000	94.7
<b>Main Reason for Leaving Prior Situation</b>		
Financial	599,000	18.7
Crowding, conflict or violence	227,000	7.1
Other reasons <sup>a</sup>	2,371,000	74.1
<b>Place Stayed Prior to Current Home</b>		
Moved from home of relatives/friends	1,056,000	33.1
Moved from a homeless situation <sup>b</sup>	18,000	0.6
Moved from treatment program, hospital, or nursing home	11,000	0.4
Moved from jail or prison	7,000	0.2
Moved from foster care	18,000	0.6
Moved from another situation <sup>c</sup>	2,081,000	65.2

Source: HUD-PD&R tabulations of 2013 American Housing Survey Data

Note: The number of housing units is rounded to the nearest thousand. Those "not reported" are excluded.

<sup>a</sup> Other reasons for leaving the housing unit included a major change in the family (e.g. marriage, new relationship, divorce, death, separation), health reasons, to be closer to work or job, school or military, or to establish one's own household.

<sup>b</sup> A homeless situation was defined as staying in a shelter program or in a place not meant for human habitation such as a park, street, sidewalk, car, or abandoned building.

<sup>c</sup> Other situations included one's own place, dormitories, or barracks.

because of a lack of money to pay for housing. Other questions asked about whether they left their prior situation voluntarily and the main reason people left their prior situation. According to the respondent, 5.3 percent (170,000 in-movers) were asked to leave their prior situation. When asked about the main reason for leaving their prior situation, 7.1 percent of people were reported to have experienced crowding, conflict, or violence, and 18.7 percent were reported to have moved for financial reasons.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Respondents could have interpreted this as either positive or negative financial reasons.

## Data from Local Education Agencies on Children who Experience Homelessness

Children who experience homelessness are more likely than other children to have high rates of acute and chronic health problems, as well as exposure to violence. Their schooling is also at risk, as unstable housing often contributes to frequent school mobility and chronic absenteeism. The U.S. Department of Education's (DoED) Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program provides grants to State Educational Agencies (SEAs) to ensure that children and youth experiencing homelessness have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including preschool education, as provided to other children and youth. This includes efforts to improve enrollment and retention in, and successful completion of, early childhood, elementary, and secondary education for children who experience homelessness, as well as to assist youth in their transition to postsecondary education.

As part of those efforts, DoED collects data from local education agencies (LEAs) about children<sup>11</sup> ages 3 through grade 12 who are enrolled in public schools, including public preschool programs, whose primary nighttime residence at any time during a school year was:

1. a shelter, transitional housing, or awaiting foster care placement;
2. unsheltered (e.g., cars, parks, campgrounds, temporary trailer, or abandoned buildings);
3. a hotel or motel because of the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; or
4. in housing of other people because of loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (i.e., doubled-up).

The DoED uses these primary nighttime residence categories to identify those students who are eligible for services under the Education for Homeless Children and Youth program, authorized under Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

During the 2015-2016 school year, 1,300,957 students were identified – at some point during the school year – as living in one of the circumstances that enables them to receive services mandated under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, a 3.1 percent increase from the prior school year (39,496 more students).<sup>12</sup> In

<sup>11</sup> Some students in higher grades are youth over the age of 18.

<sup>12</sup> The Federal Data Summary: School Years 2013-14 to 2015-16 report on education for homeless children and youth is available at: <https://nche.ed.gov/downloads/data-comp-1314-1516.pdf>. The Federal Data Summary: School Years 2012-13 to 2014-15 report on education for homeless children and youth is available at: <https://>

### Local Education Agency Data, HMIS Data, and Point in Time Data

The LEA data reported by the U.S. Department of Education differ from the HMIS and PIT data reported to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in several ways, noted below. Although these data sources differ, they can and should be used side by side in local planning and policymaking to determine the appropriate array of programs that should be available to people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness within the community.

- LEA data are reported by school administrators and generally verified by local liaisons and state Coordinators. HMIS data are reported by homeless service provider staff. PIT count data are reported by communities based on counts of people in shelter programs and unsheltered locations.
- LEA data cover a July 1 to June 30 period; however, data on school children during the summer may be limited. HMIS data used in the AHAR cover a period from October 1 through September 30. PIT count data are for a single night in January.
- LEA data include children and youth living in hotels or motels if they are judged to be there because of a lack of alternate, adequate accommodation. HMIS data include people living in hotels or motels only if those accommodations were subsidized through a homeless assistance program.
- LEA data include children and youth awaiting foster care placement. HMIS data do not include children who are wards of the state such as those awaiting foster care placements.
- LEA data include children and youth whose primary nighttime residence is in housing of other people due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason. HMIS data on people experiencing homelessness do not include people who are housed outside of the homeless services emergency response system—that is, in shelter other than emergency shelters or transitional housing.
- The LEA data reports on information on public school children from ages 3 through grade 12. HMIS and PIT count data include children under age 3. The LEA data include some youth (age 18 and older) who are still in public school. The HMIS data and PIT count report all people 18 and over in a separate category from those under 18. The PIT count data report all youth who are ages 18 to 24 in a separate category.

2015-2016, 75.8 percent of children eligible for services based on their living situation were living with other people because of housing loss or other economic hardship; 14.4 percent were in shelters, transitional housing, or awaiting foster care placement; 6.5 percent were living in a hotel or motel because of the lack of alternate, adequate accommodations; and 3.3 percent were in unsheltered locations.

Between the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years, the number of students identified in each primary nighttime residence category increased. The number of students identified as being in shelters, transitional housing, or awaiting foster care placement increased 3.0 percent (5,482 more students) between the last two school years. The number identified as sharing housing with other people because of loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason increased 2.9 percent from the prior year (27,437 more students). During the 2015-2016 school year, the number of students who were identified as having a primary nighttime residence of an unsheltered location at some point during the school year increased from the

**EXHIBIT 3: Number of Enrolled Public School Students in Homeless Situations by Primary Nighttime Residence, the U.S. Department of Education, School Years 2011-2012 through 2015-2016**

	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,131,187</b>	<b>1,202,507</b>	<b>1,298,236</b>	<b>1,261,461</b>	<b>1,300,957</b>
Shelters, transitional housing, awaiting foster care	175,694	174,715	186,265	181,386	186,868
Doubled Up <sup>a</sup>	852,183	919,370	989,844	958,495	985,932
Unsheltered locations <sup>b</sup>	40,780	39,243	42,003	39,421	43,194
Hotels/Motels	62,530	69,179	80,124	82,159	84,963

Source: <https://nche.ed.gov/downloads/data-comp-1314-1516.pdf>, and <https://nche.ed.gov/downloads/data-comp-1112-1314.pdf>. To learn more about state homeless education data, please visit: <http://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/consolidated/index.html>

<sup>a</sup> Children who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason.

<sup>b</sup> E.g., cars, parks, campgrounds, temporary trailer, abandoned buildings, or other places not intended for human habitation.

[nche.ed.gov/downloads/data-comp-1213-1415.pdf](https://nche.ed.gov/downloads/data-comp-1213-1415.pdf). The Federal Data Summary: School Years 2011-12 to 2013-14 report on education for homeless children and youth is available at: <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/homeless/data-comp-sy13-14.pdf>. Refer to these reports for data quality issues that affect school year-to- school year comparisons and trend information.

### VoYC Sample

A homelessness module was added to Gallup, Inc.'s US Politics and Economics Daily Tracking Survey (DTS) of a nationally representative sample of adults in the U.S. Those who responded that the household had a member aged 13 to 25 at any time in the prior 12 months were asked a series of additional questions about that youth's experience with homelessness.

Of 68,539 respondents, 26,161 were asked the additional questions about youth.

- 13,560 adults reported on one household member ages 13 to 17;
- 16,975 adults reported on one household member ages 18 to 25;
- 6,295 adults were themselves ages 18 to 25 and gave self-reports; and
- Follow-up interviews were conducted with 150 respondents to validate results and support adjustments to estimates.

prior year by 9.6 percent (3,773 more students). The number of students identified as staying in hotels or motels because of the lack of alternative accommodations at some point during the school year increased 3.4 percent (2,804 more children). This is the only category of primary nighttime residence that has increased in every consecutive school year since 2011-2012.

### Voices of Youth Count: Youth Experiences with Explicit Homelessness and Couch Surfing

Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago developed the Voices of Youth Count (VoYC)—a national research initiative designed to address critical gaps in the nation's knowledge about the scope and scale of youth homelessness, as well as the life circumstances and experiences of runaway, unaccompanied homeless and unstably housed youth between the ages of 13 and 25 years old. In 2017, Chapin Hall released a national estimate of youth experiencing explicit homelessness and couch surfing.<sup>13</sup> Surveys were administered in 2016 and 2017 and gathered information from U.S. adults about youth ages 13 to 25.<sup>14</sup> Responses from this survey were used to create national estimates of youth experiences with homelessness and housing instability over the course of a year.

<sup>13</sup> Morton, M.H., Dworsky, A. and Samuels, G.M. 2017. Missed opportunities: Youth homelessness in America. National estimates. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

<sup>14</sup> Morton, M.H., Dworsky, A. Matjasko, J.L., Curry, S.R., Schlueter, D., Chavez, R., and Farrell, A.F. 2018. Prevalence and Correlates of Youth Homelessness in the United States. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 62(1): 14-21. ([http://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X\(17\)30503-7/fulltext](http://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X(17)30503-7/fulltext)).

The survey first asked an adult if a youth between the ages of 13 to 17 or between the ages of 18 and 25 was ever part of the household, even temporarily,<sup>15</sup> in the past year. If the answer was yes, additional questions were asked about the experiences of the youth in the past 12 months. If the household had youth in both age groups, the respondent was asked about one youth in each age group. If the respondent was between 18 and 25, he or she was asked to answer questions about their own experience.

The following questions were asked:

For 13 to 17 year olds:

- Did the youth run away from home and stay away for at least one night?
- Did the youth leave home because he or she was asked to leave?

For both age groups, 13 to 17 and 18 to 25:

- Was the youth,<sup>16</sup> homeless for at least one night?
- Did the youth<sup>17</sup> couch surf – that is move from one temporary housing arrangement to another?

Any youth 13 to 17 years of age who reported to have run away or been asked to leave or who self-reported as homeless in the past year was defined as having experienced “explicit” homelessness, as was any youth 18 to 25 years of age who had been homeless. Those in both age groups who only experienced couch surfing in the past year were identified separately. Adjustments were made to ensure 13 to 17-year-olds were not part of a family—that is, not accompanied by a parent or guardian.<sup>18</sup>

VoYC found that 460,000 households with youth age 13 to 17 and 1.87 million 18 to 25-year olds had experienced explicit homelessness at some point in the preceding year.<sup>19</sup> An additional 200,000 households with youth ages 13 to 17 and 1.61 million

<sup>15</sup> Example situations where a youth may be a temporary household member were described in the survey questions as foster children or extended family members about youth ages 13 to 17, and roommates or extended family members about youth ages 18 to 25.

<sup>16</sup> The self-report question was: were you homeless for at least one night?

<sup>17</sup> The self-report question was: did you couch surf – that is move from one temporary housing arrangement to another?

<sup>18</sup> The questions in the Gallup poll about youth experiences with homelessness did not identify whether youth were homeless while unaccompanied by a parent or legal guardian. However, the follow-up survey (N=150) identifies the share of youth ages 13-17 who were accompanied by a parent or legal guardian and applied a reduction adjustment to the full sample to estimate unaccompanied youth ages 13-17. Youth ages 18-25 were assumed to be unaccompanied in the Morton, Dworsky, and Samuels report (2017), but this was not examined in the follow-up survey.

<sup>19</sup> Information on youth ages 13 to 17 were generated through questions asked of adults in the household about any youth in the household. Only household prevalence estimates could be generated for youth

### Estimates based on VoYC Data, PIT Count, and HMIS Data

The VoYC estimates differ from the estimates based on PIT count and HMIS data in several ways. The differences that are most important for interpreting the estimates of youth homelessness are noted here. Although these estimates differ, they can and should be used in combination for local planning and policymaking to determine the appropriate array and scale of programs for youth experiencing or at-risk of homelessness in the community.

- VoYC defines youth who ran away, left home because of being asked to leave, or had been homeless in the past year as experiencing “explicit” homelessness. The AHAR estimates based on either PIT or HMIS data define youth as “literally” homeless if, on a given night, they slept either in a shelter program (emergency shelter, safe haven, or transitional housing) or in a place not meant for human habitation.
- VoYC focuses on homeless youth ages 13 to 25, reports on experiences of youth ages 13 to 17 who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian, and assumes youth ages 18 to 25 are unaccompanied. The PIT and HMIS data define youth as anyone between the ages of 0 and 24 and thus may include some unaccompanied children under the age of 13. PIT estimates of unaccompanied youth do not include 25-year olds. HMIS estimates of people experiencing homelessness as individuals permit identification of people under 18 who do not have an adult with them. HMIS estimates of youth ages 18 to 24 may be accompanied by other people ages 18 or older.
- VoYC gathers data on youth experiences over the course of a year in a phone-based survey based on third-party reporting or self-reports. HMIS uses administrative records to measure sheltered homelessness over the course of a year based on shelter entry and exit dates. PIT counts are based on both administrative records and in-person surveys.

18 to 25-year olds had experienced couch surfing only. About half of youth ages 13 to 25 who were either explicitly homeless or couch surfed had those experiences for the first time during the year covered by the survey.

Youth ages 18 to 25 with particular demographic characteristics were more likely to experience explicit homelessness. African American youth had an 83 percent

increased risk of having experienced explicit homelessness compared to youth of other races (see Exhibit 6). Hispanic youth ages 18 to 25 had a 33 percent higher risk of reporting explicit homelessness than their non-Hispanic counterparts. Youth ages 18 to 25 who identified as Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) had a 120 percent higher risk of experiencing explicit homelessness. Unmarried parenting youth ages 18 to 25 had a 200 percent higher risk of reporting explicit homelessness than those who were not parents.<sup>20</sup> Youth who lacked a high school diploma

<sup>20</sup> Marital and parenting status were asked at the time of the Gallup poll and were not directly tied to the time during which the 18 to 25 year-old was experiencing explicit homelessness, which means that the child may or may not have been in the custody of that youth parent at that time.

### EXHIBIT 4. Estimates of Explicit Homelessness and Couch Surfing Only among Youth in the U.S., VoYC 2016-2017

Age Group	Explicit Homelessness Estimate	Couch Surfing Only Estimate
13-17	0.46 million	0.20 million
18-25	1.87 million	1.61 million

Source: Morton, M.H., Dworsky, A. and Samuels, G.M. 2017. Missed opportunities: Youth homelessness in America. National estimates. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

### EXHIBIT 5. Prevalence Estimates of Explicit Homelessness among youth in the U.S. by Geography, VoYC 2016-2017

Age Group	Explicit Homelessness		Couch Surfing Only	
	% Rural	% Non-Rural	% Rural	% Non-Rural
13-17	2.8	3.0	1.6	1.2
18-25	4.7	5.2	4.5	4.4

Source: Morton, M.H., Dworsky, A. and Samuels, G.M. 2017. Missed opportunities: Youth homelessness in America. National estimates. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

### EXHIBIT 6. Characteristics of Youth at Greater Risk of Experiencing Explicit Homelessness ages 18-25, VoYC 2016-2017

Characteristic	% Higher Risk
Black or African American	83
Hispanic, non-White	33
LGBTQ	120
Reported Annual Household Income of < \$24,000	162
Unmarried Parenting Youth	200
Less than a High School Diploma	346

Source: Morton, M.H., Dworsky, A. and Samuels, G.M. 2017. Missed opportunities: Youth homelessness in America. National estimates. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.  
Note: Risk ratios were converted from odds ratios from a logistic regression model predicting homelessness based on characteristics from self-reports of 18 to 25-yr olds.

ages 13 to 17 rather than population estimates. Both household and population prevalence estimates were generated for youth ages 18 to 25 because in addition to adult respondents answering questions about those youth, the survey also gathered self-reports of youth ages 18 to 25. The estimates reported here for youth ages 18 to 25 are population estimates.

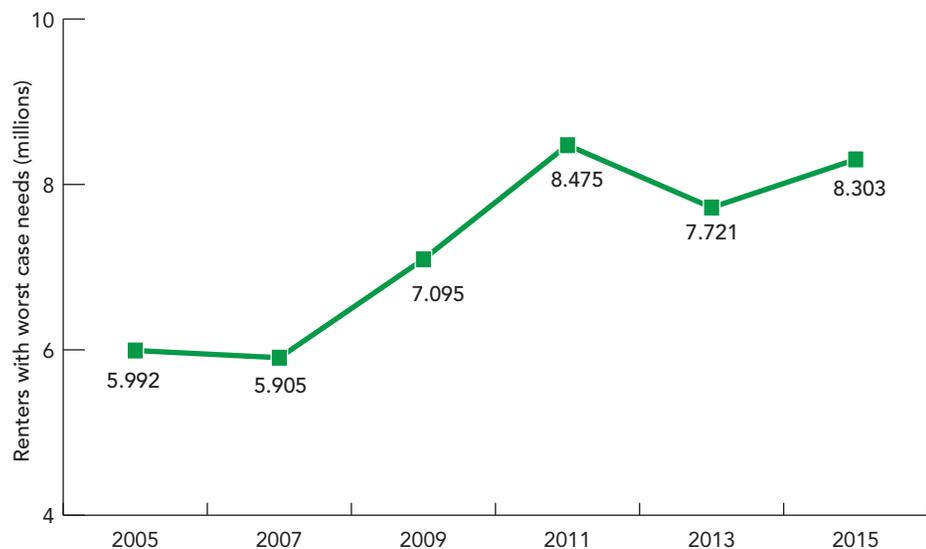


had a 346 percent higher risk of experiencing explicit homelessness than youth who graduated from high school. Nearly one-third of youth experiencing explicit homelessness or couch surfing had experiences with foster care in their past. Nearly half of youth had been in juvenile detention, jail, or prison in their past.

### American Housing Survey: The Affordable Housing Stock for Low-Income Renters

HUD submits reports to Congress every other year on renter households with severe needs for affordable housing or housing assistance. Prepared by HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R), the Worst Case Needs reports are based on detailed tabulations of data in the American Housing Survey (AHS). The analysis focuses on the availability, quality, and costs of rental housing units relative to the incomes of the housing's occupants. Households with worst case needs are defined as renters with incomes below 50 percent of area median income who do not have housing assistance and are living in severely inadequate housing, paying more than half of their income for housing costs, or both.

**EXHIBIT 7: Growth in Worst Case Housing Needs (in millions), 2005-2015**



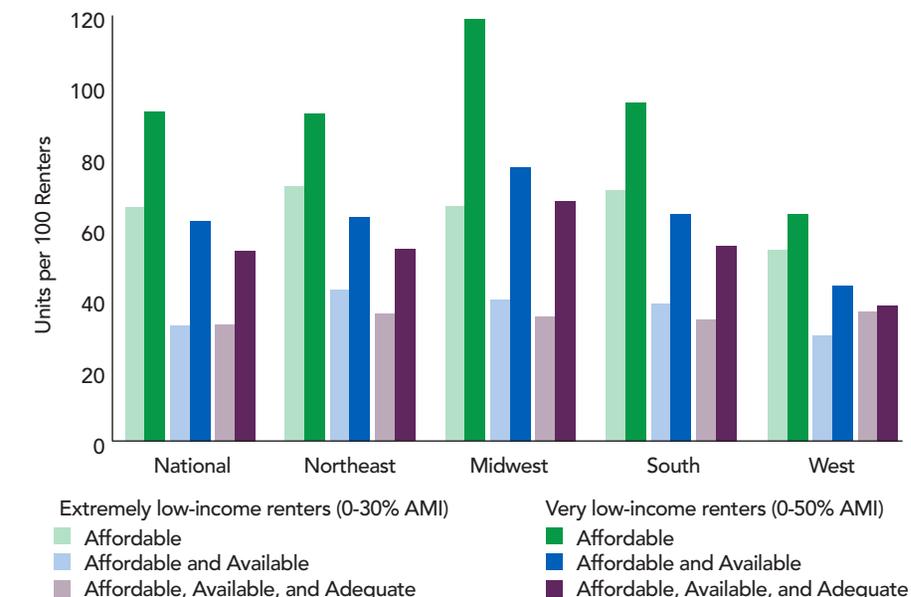
Source: American Housing Survey data, 2015. The exhibit is reproduced from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, *Worst Case Housing Needs: 2017 Report to Congress*. Office of Policy Development and Research, August 2017.

The 2017 *Worst Case Housing Needs* report is based on data for 2015. In 2015, there were 8.30 million renter households with worst case needs, up from 7.72 million in 2013 (a 7.5% rise). This increase heralded a recent increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness, in particular unsheltered homelessness. Almost all households with worst case needs (98.2%) pay more than half their income for rent, an untenable situation that puts people at risk of homelessness.<sup>21</sup>

The 2017 report describes both a growing number of renter households and a growing number of high-end rental units, driven in part by a continued shift from homeownership to rental, paired with a shrinking supply of affordable units. The report describes a worsening mismatch between unit rents and the number of households with incomes sufficient to afford them. The report measures this

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/Worst-Case-Housing-Needs.pdf>

**EXHIBIT 8: Affordable, Available, and Adequate Rental Units by Income and Region of Renters, 2015**



Source: American Housing Survey data, 2015. The exhibit is produced from data presented in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, *Worst Case Housing Needs: 2017 Report to Congress*. Office of Policy Development and Research, August 2017.

Note: AMI=Area Median Income

mismatch by looking at whether units are affordable, available, and adequate:

- *Affordability* measures the extent to which rental housing units have rents for which a household at a certain income level would pay no more than 30 percent of its income.
- *Availability* measures the extent to which rental housing units are not just affordable but also available to households in a certain income range, meaning that a household within that range occupies the unit or that the unit is vacant.
- *Adequacy* identifies whether a unit that is affordable and available is also physically adequate based on the condition of the housing unit and its plumbing, heating, and electrical systems.<sup>22</sup>

The rental housing stock that was affordable was scarcest for the lowest income renters. Nationally, for every 100 renters with extremely low incomes (incomes 30 percent or less than the area median income), only 66 rental units were affordable. Moreover, many of these rental units were occupied by households with relatively higher incomes, leaving only 37.7 units both affordable and available, and only 33 units were affordable, available and adequate for every 100 renters with extremely low incomes.

The mismatch between the number of affordable units and the number of extremely low-income renters is most severe in the West, where the rise in homelessness has outpaced other areas of the country. In the West there were 53.9 rental units affordable for every 100 extremely low-income renters in 2015. In other regions, the mismatch was less severe, ranging from 66.2 to 71.7 rental units affordable for every 100 renters with extremely low incomes. The pattern of regional differences is similar for units that are affordable and available and for units that are affordable, available, and adequate. The West also has the highest percentage of renters with worst case needs and the lowest percentage of renters with housing assistance.

<sup>22</sup> A detailed description of the housing unit characteristics that determine adequacy are in Appendix E of the *Worst Case Housing Needs: 2017 Report to Congress*.



# 2017 Homelessness IN THE UNITED STATES

## **POINT-IN-TIME (PIT)**

One-Night Estimates of Homelessness .....	1-3
By State .....	1-4
By State and Sheltered Status .....	1-5

## **HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS)**

One-Year Estimates of Homelessness .....	1-7
--	-----

### Characteristics of Sheltered Homelessness

Gender and Age .....	1-8
Ethnicity and Race .....	1-9
Household Size and Disability Status .....	1-11

### Geography of Sheltered Homelessness

Geographic Location .....	1-12
Characteristics by Geography .....	1-13

### Patterns of Homeless Service Use Among Sheltered Homelessness

Living Situation Before Entering Shelter .....	1-14
Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns .....	1-15

Sheltered Homeless Populations Compared to Other Populations .....	1-16
--	------

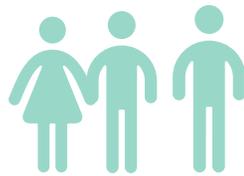
# 2017 Homelessness

IN THE UNITED STATES

## Did You Know?

PIH

On a single night in January 2017 **550,996** people were experiencing homelessness



This is a **14.9% decline** since 2007 but a slight increase over 2016



More than 2 in 5 people experiencing homelessness are in CA or NY

People experiencing unsheltered & sheltered homelessness

**34.5%**



**65.5%**

HMIS

In 2017, **1.42 million** people used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at some point during the year

This is a **10.8% decline** since 2007

**1 in 228 people**

in the U.S. experienced sheltered homelessness at some point in 2017.



**African Americans comprised 43.0%** of the sheltered homeless population.

**From 2016–2017...**

People experiencing sheltered homelessness



**▼ 1.8%**

CITIES



**▲ 4%**

SUBURBAN & RURAL AREAS

**KEY TERM**

**Homeless** describes a person who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

# 2017 One-Night Estimates OF HOMELESSNESS

On a single night in January 2017, 550,996 people in the United States were experiencing homelessness.

## PIT

The Point-in-Time (PIT) estimates are one-night counts of people experiencing homelessness in both sheltered and unsheltered locations. The one-night counts are conducted by CoCs nationwide and occur during the last ten days in January. CoCs are required to conduct a PIT count in shelters (emergency shelter and transitional housing programs) and a street (or “unsheltered”) count at least every other year. The unsheltered PIT count was required in 2017, and all 399 CoCs participating in the PIT reported unsheltered counts.

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- 550,996 people were experiencing homelessness in the United States.
- About a third of people experiencing homelessness (34.5%) were in unsheltered locations, while about two-thirds (65.5%) were in sheltered locations.

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The one-night estimate of homelessness increased 0.2 percent, or 1,068 more people. This was the first overall increase since 2010.
- The number of people experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations increased 7.8 percent (13,772 more people), the largest single-year increase in unsheltered homelessness observed since 2007. Meanwhile, the number of people experiencing homelessness in shelter declined 3.4 percent (12,704 fewer people) from 2016 to 2017. This is the second consecutive year, and only the second time since 2007, that the unsheltered population increased while the sheltered population decreased.

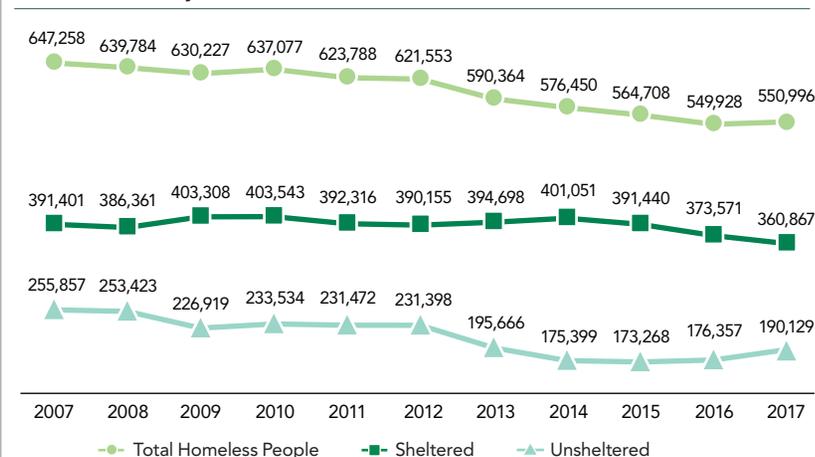
### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- The one-night estimate of homelessness declined 14.9 percent, or 96,262 fewer people.
- Despite recent increases, this decline was driven mostly by reductions in the number of people experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations (65,728 fewer people; a 25.7% drop).
- Although the overall number of people in unsheltered locations declined between 2007 and 2017, the 190,129 people who experienced unsheltered homelessness on a single night in 2017 is the highest number reported since 2013.
- The 360,867 people experiencing sheltered homelessness on a single night in 2017 is the lowest number in any year since data collection began.

Data Source: PIT 2007–2017  
Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories  
See the supporting PIT data tabulations posted on HUD’s Resource Exchange at [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

### EXHIBIT 1.1: One-Night PIT Counts of Homelessness

PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007–2017



Note: 2017 estimate differs from the 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report: Part 1 due to an adjustment made by Los Angeles to their unsheltered population. The total unsheltered population was reduced by 2,746.

### EXHIBIT 1.2: Changes in Single-Night Estimates of Homelessness

PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007–2017

Years	Total Homeless People		Sheltered People		Unsheltered People	
	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
2016 to 2017	1,068	0.2	-12,704	-3.4	13,772	7.8
2015 to 2016	-14,780	-2.6	-17,869	-4.6	3,089	1.8
2014 to 2015	-11,742	-2.0	-9,611	-2.4	-2,131	-1.2
2013 to 2014	-13,914	-2.4	6,353	1.6	-20,267	-10.4
2012 to 2013	-31,189	-5.0	4,543	1.2	-35,732	-15.4
2011 to 2012	-2,235	-0.4	-2,161	-0.6	-74	0.0
2010 to 2011	-13,289	-2.1	-11,227	-2.8	-2,062	-0.9
2009 to 2010	6,850	1.1	235	0.1	6,615	2.9
2008 to 2009	-9,557	-1.5	16,947	4.4	-26,504	-10.5
2007 to 2008	-7,474	-1.2	-5,040	-1.3	-2,434	-1.0
2007 to 2017	-96,262	-14.9	-30,534	-7.8	-65,728	-25.7

## By State

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- California (24.1%) and New York (16.4%) accounted for more than two-fifths of all people experiencing homelessness in the U.S. – up from one-third in 2016. The state with the next largest share was Florida, with 5.9 percent of the one-night estimate of total homelessness.
- Twenty-six states each accounted for less than one percent of the national homeless population.

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

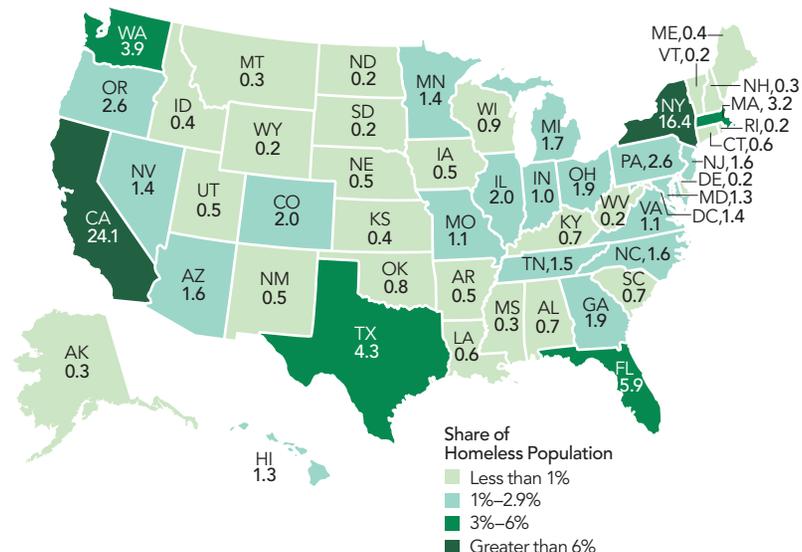
- Thirty states and the District of Columbia reported declines in the number of people experiencing homelessness, a total reduction of 18,579 people. Twenty states reported increases in the number of people experiencing homelessness, totaling 20,061 people. In California alone, there were 13,390 more people experiencing homelessness in 2017 than in 2016, an 11.3 percent increase.
- Georgia experienced the largest decrease in people experiencing homelessness: 2,735 fewer people in 2017 than in 2016 (a 21.2% decrease), followed by Massachusetts, with a decline of 2,043 people (a 10.4% decrease).

### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- The number of people experiencing homelessness decreased in 36 states, totaling 131,593 fewer people. This outnumbered an increase of 35,494 people in 14 states and the District of Columbia.
- Texas had the largest overall decline in people experiencing homelessness, with 16,240 fewer people (a 40.8% drop). New York had the largest increase, with 26,902 more people experiencing homelessness counted in 2017 than in 2007, an increase of 43 percent.

### EXHIBIT 1.3: Homeless People in the U.S.

Percentage of National Total in Each State, 2017



### EXHIBIT 1.4: Total Homelessness by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	13,390	11.3	Georgia	-2,735	-21.2
New York	3,151	3.6	Massachusetts	-2,043	-10.4
Oregon	715	5.4	Florida	-1,369	-4.1
Nevada	435	5.9	Pennsylvania	-1,201	-7.8
Texas	426	1.8	South Carolina	-1,135	-22.5
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
New York	26,902	43.0	Texas	-16,240	-40.8
Massachusetts	2,438	16.1	Florida	-15,879	-33.0
District of Columbia	2,153	40.5	Georgia	-9,465	-48.2
Hawaii	1,150	18.9	New Jersey	-8,778	-50.7
Montana	379	33.0	California	-7,454	-5.4

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

Data Source: PIT 2007–2017

Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories

See Part 1 of the 2017 AHAR for more details on PIT estimates by state ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info))

## By State and Sheltered Status

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- California had both the largest number and percent of people experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations, 88,896 and 67.6 percent of the total. Florida had the second largest number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness (15,079 people), while Nevada had the second highest percentage of people experiencing homelessness who were found in unsheltered locations (58.4%).
- In four states—California, Nevada, Oregon, and Hawaii—more than half of the homeless population was unsheltered.
- In nine states, more than nine in ten people experiencing homelessness were in sheltered locations. The lowest rates of unsheltered homelessness were in Iowa and Nebraska, where fewer than five percent of people experiencing homelessness were in unsheltered locations.

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- Unsheltered homelessness increased in 28 states and the District of Columbia (by 18,359 more people) and decreased in 22 states (4,497 fewer people).
- Thirty-eight states and the District of Columbia experienced decreases in sheltered homelessness (18,981 fewer people).
- California experienced the largest increases in both unsheltered and sheltered homelessness, with 10,506 more people counted in unsheltered locations (a 13.4% increase) and 2,884 more people in shelter (a 7.3% increase).
- Georgia experienced the largest decline in unsheltered homelessness (1,843 fewer people, a 34.3% decrease), while Massachusetts experienced the largest decline in sheltered homelessness (2,274 fewer people, a drop of 12.1%).

### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- The overall decline in national homelessness between January 2007 and January 2017 was driven primarily by reductions in the unsheltered population in 35 states. Florida had the largest drop in unsheltered homelessness, 12,461 fewer people (a 45.2% decline).
- Sheltered homelessness decreased in 34 states over the ten year period. Texas had the largest drop in sheltered homelessness over this period, 7,827 fewer people (a 34.2% decline).
- Of the 16 states and the District of Columbia that experienced increases in the number of people in sheltered locations over this period, New York had the largest increase, with 27,667 more people counted on a single night in January 2017 than in 2007 (a 48.3% increase).

### EXHIBIT 1.5: Sheltered Homelessness by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	2,884	7.3	Massachusetts	-2,274	-12.1
New York	2,187	2.6	District of Columbia	-1,456	-18.1
Oregon	750	14.3	Pennsylvania	-1,324	-9.7
Montana	197	25.0	Illinois	-1,195	-12.3
Washington	160	1.3	Texas	-1,159	-7.1
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
New York	27,667	48.3	Texas	-7,827	-34.2
Massachusetts	2,861	20.9	New Jersey	-7,714	-52.0
District of Columbia	1,596	32.0	California	-5,875	-12.1
Hawaii	708	26.1	Washington	-4,336	-25.7
Minnesota	682	11.6	Illinois	-3,630	-29.8

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

### EXHIBIT 1.6: Unsheltered Homelessness by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	10,506	13.4	Georgia	-1,843	-34.3
Texas	1,585	22.9	Hawaii	-508	-11.8
New York	964	26.8	Florida	-282	-1.8
Colorado	920	31.3	Connecticut	-257	-38.2
Nevada	651	16.6	Tennessee	-241	-8.0
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
Washington	2,069	31.7	Florida	-12,461	-45.2
Nevada	754	19.7	Texas	-8,413	-49.8
District of Columbia	557	163.8	Georgia	-7,775	-68.8
Hawaii	442	13.2	Arizona	-2,862	-47.5
Pennsylvania	319	21.6	Tennessee	-1,999	-42.0

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

## 2017 PROFILE

A TYPICAL PERSON EXPERIENCING SHELTERED HOMELESSNESS WAS:

### A Man by Himself

62.4% MEN / 64.9% 1-PERSON HOUSEHOLD



### Aged 31-50

33.0%

### Black or African American

43.0%

### Not Disabled

55.6%

---

### Living in a City

72.5%



---

### Already Homeless

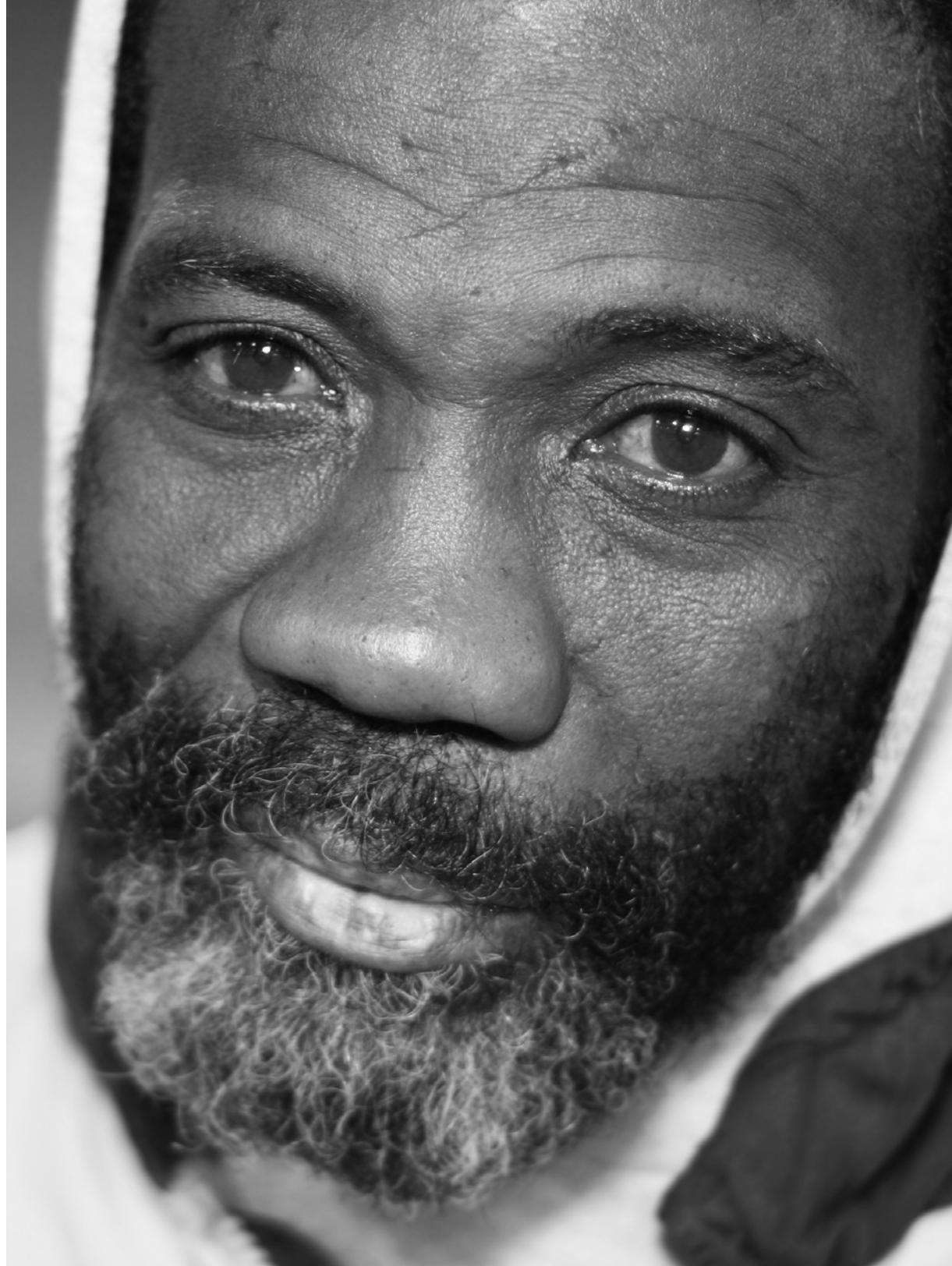
PRIOR TO USING A SHELTER\* (47.8%)

---

### Spending 27 Nights in Emergency Shelter



\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.



# 2017 One-Year Estimates OF SHELTERED HOMELESSNESS

## HMIS

These estimates are based on data collected over the course of one year and account for all people who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October 1 through September 30 of the reporting year. The estimates are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data to HUD. The estimates are statistically adjusted to account for people experiencing sheltered homelessness in programs that do not yet participate in their local HMIS—thus providing a complete estimated enumeration of shelter users in each community. These HMIS-based estimates do not include: (a) shelter users in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories; (b) people served by victim service providers; and (c) people in unsheltered locations who never used a shelter program during the 12-month period.<sup>1</sup>

The 2017 AHAR uses data from approximately 95% of all CoCs, and estimates are weighted to represent the entire United States.

### Estimate of People Experiencing Sheltered Homelessness in 2017

- The estimated number of people who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any point from October 1, 2016, through September 30, 2017, was 1,416,908.<sup>2</sup>
- One in 228 people in the U.S. experienced sheltered homelessness at some point during that period.

### Changes Over Time

- The number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness at some point during the year declined by 0.3 percent (4,288 fewer people). The one-year decline was more modest than the 4.3 percent decline in the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness on a single night between 2015 and 2016 (63,380 fewer people).
- Between 2007, the year HUD began tracking this information, and 2017, the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness dropped by 10.8 percent (171,687 fewer people).

<sup>1</sup> People served in Safe Havens are included in the PIT estimates but not in these one-year estimates of shelter users.

<sup>2</sup> The 95 percent confidence interval for the total sheltered homeless population in 2017 is 1,294,602 to 1,539,214 (1,416,908 ± 122,306).

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017

1,416,908 people in the U.S. experienced sheltered homelessness at some time during 2017, a 10.8% decrease since 2007.

EXHIBIT 1.7a: Trend in One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Homelessness, 2007–2017



EXHIBIT 1.7b: One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Homelessness and Annual Change from the Prior Year, 2007–2017

Year	Estimate	# Change from previous year	% Change from previous year
2017	1,416,908	-4,288	-0.3
2016	1,421,196	-63,380	-4.3
2015	1,484,576	-3,889	-0.3
2014	1,488,465	66,106	4.6
2013	1,422,360	-66,011	-4.4
2012	1,488,371	-13,825	-0.9
2011	1,502,196	-90,954	-5.7
2010	1,593,150	34,233	2.2
2009	1,558,917	-34,877	-2.2
2008	1,593,794	5,199	0.3
2007	1,588,595	—	—

## Gender and Age

Starting in 2015, HUD collected age information for youth between the ages of 18 and 24 who were experiencing sheltered homelessness over the course of the one-year period. Information is collected separately for people between the ages of 25 and 30. For more detailed information on age categories, see the supporting HMIS data available for download ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info)).

### In 2017

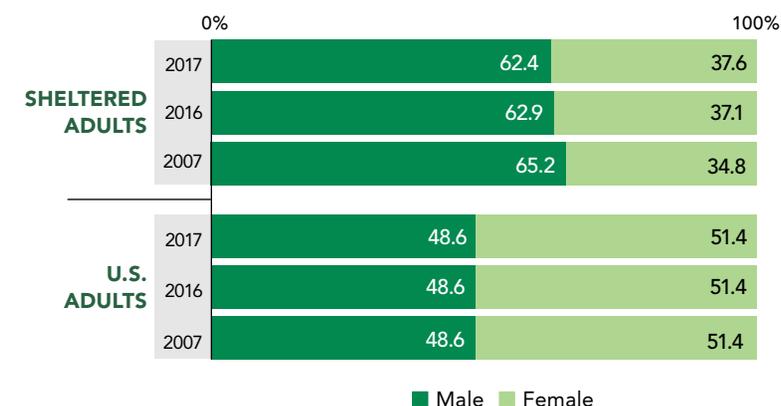
- In contrast to the U.S. adult population, where the proportion of men to women is roughly equal (51.4% men; 48.6% women), men noticeably outnumbered women among all adults experiencing sheltered homelessness (62.4% were men compared to 37.6% women).
- More than one of every five people experiencing sheltered homelessness (22.5%) was a child (that is, under age 18). More than one in ten (10.1%) was a young adult between the ages of 18 and 24.
- One-third of people experiencing homelessness were between the ages of 31 and 50, 1.3 times the percentage of 31 to 50-year olds in the total U.S. population (25.8%).
- While 18.8 percent of the U.S. population was age 62 or older, this demographic made up only 5.4 percent of people experiencing sheltered homelessness.

### Changes Over Time

- While the age and gender distributions remained stable in recent years, between 2007 and 2017 the distribution of people experiencing homelessness over the course of a year became slightly older and slightly more female.
- The proportion of elderly people (ages 62 and over) in shelter increased from 2.9 percent in 2007 to 5.4 percent in 2017. This represents an increase of 29,845 more elderly people in shelter in 2017 than in 2007. A larger change occurred in the proportion of people in shelter ages 51 to 61, which increased from 13.6 percent in 2007 to 17.6 percent in 2017.
- The proportion of people between the ages of 31 and 50 experiencing sheltered homelessness declined between 2007 and 2017, from 41.2 percent to 33 percent.
- The proportion of people under age 18 experiencing sheltered homelessness remained relatively stable, at 21.8 percent in 2007 and 22.5 percent in 2017.
- The share of men experiencing sheltered homelessness was larger in 2007 (65.2% men and 34.8% women) than it was in 2017 (62.4% men and 37.6% women).

### EXHIBIT 1.8: Gender

Sheltered Homeless Adults and U.S. Adults, 2007-2017



### EXHIBIT 1.9: Age

Sheltered Homeless People and U.S. Population, 2007-2017 (in %)

Age	Sheltered People			U.S. Population		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
Under Age 18	21.8	22.3	22.5	24.6	22.9	22.8
18 - 30	20.5	22.0	21.5	18.1	18.1	18.0
18 - 24	--	10.3	10.1	--	9.8	9.6
25 - 30	--	11.7	11.4	--	8.4	8.4
31 - 50	41.2	33.3	33.0	29.0	26.0	25.8
51 - 61	13.6	17.7	17.6	13.2	14.8	14.7
62 and Older	2.9	4.7	5.4	15.1	18.3	18.8

Note: Prior to 2015, data were collected on people age 18-30. Since then, information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

## Ethnicity and Race

### In 2017

- People who identify as Hispanic remained slightly underrepresented in the sheltered homeless population (17.2%) compared to the total U.S. population (17.8%). By contrast, people who identify as black or African American were present in the sheltered homeless population at roughly 3.4 times the rate as in the total U.S. population (43% vs. 12.7%).
- More than three in five people experiencing sheltered homelessness (63.5%) identified as either non-white or white and Hispanic. This was largely driven by the overrepresentation of African Americans in the sheltered homeless population compared to the U.S. population.
- White, non-Hispanic people were underrepresented in the sheltered homeless population compared to the total U.S. population, representing 36.5 percent of people experiencing sheltered homelessness, compared to 61.1 percent of the total U.S. population.

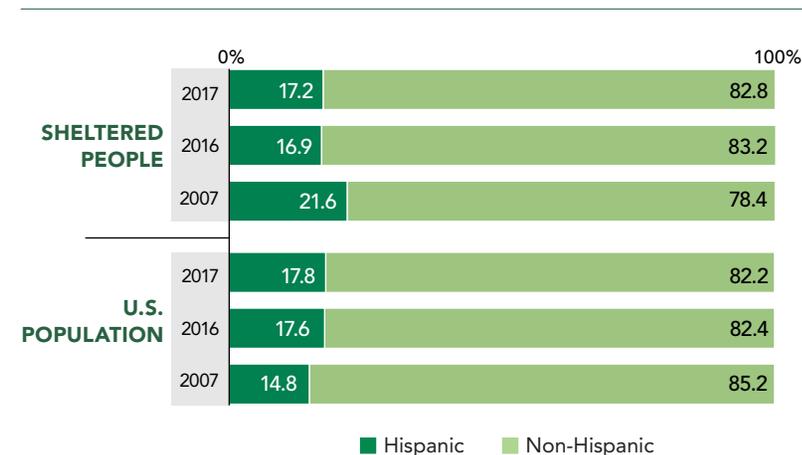
### Changes Over Time

- The share of Hispanics experiencing sheltered homelessness increased from 16.9 percent in 2016 to 17.2 percent in 2017. This change mirrors a similar increase in the U.S. population where the share of Hispanics increased from 17.6 percent in 2016 to 17.8 percent in 2017.
- Over a longer timeframe, the share of people in the sheltered homeless population who identified as Hispanic declined from 21.6 percent in 2007 to 17.2 percent in 2017, while the share of Hispanics in the total U.S. population increased from 14.8 percent to 17.8 percent over the same period.
- As the proportion of people in the U.S. who identified themselves as not white or white and Hispanic grew from 33.8 percent in 2007 to 38.9 percent in 2017, their proportion in the sheltered homeless population remained about the same, 63.6 percent in 2007 and 63.5 percent in 2017.

African Americans were present in the sheltered homeless population at roughly 3.4 times the rate as in the total U.S. population (43% vs. 12.7%).

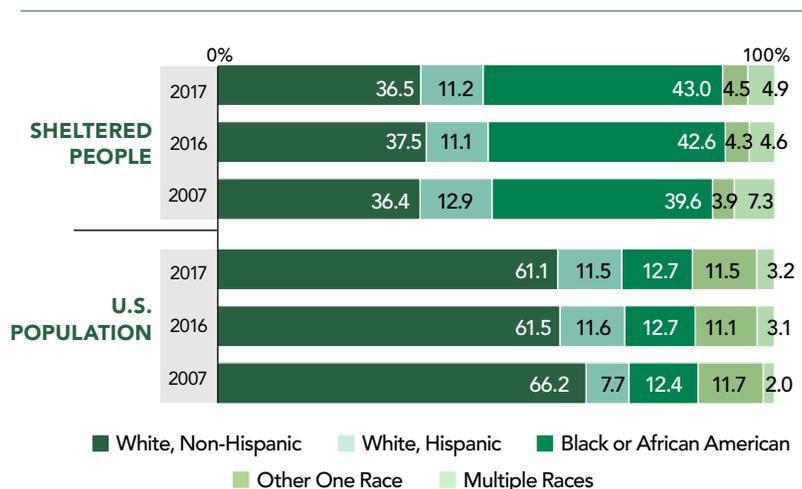
### EXHIBIT 1.10: Ethnicity

Sheltered Homeless People and U.S. Population, 2007-2017



### EXHIBIT 1.11: Race

Sheltered Homeless People and U.S. Population, 2007-2017





## Household Size and Disability Status

### In 2017

- People experiencing sheltered homelessness were 5.1 times more likely to be by themselves than people in the total U.S. population (64.9% versus 12.8% have a household size of one person).
- Adults with disabilities were overrepresented among people experiencing homelessness in 2017. Adults with disabilities account for 15.9 percent of the total U.S. adult population and 44.4 percent of all adults experiencing homelessness in shelter over the course of a year.

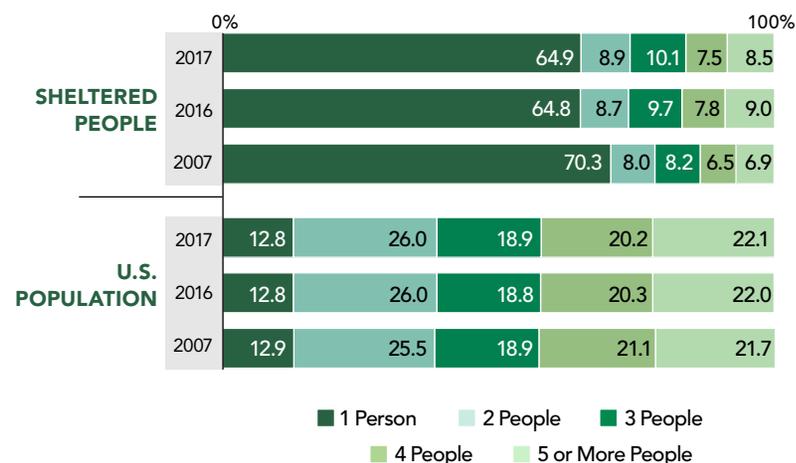
### Changes Over Time

- Between 2007 and 2017, the percentage of people experiencing sheltered homelessness as part of a multi-person household increased from 29.7 percent to 35.1 percent. This reflected the growth in the proportion of people experiencing sheltered homelessness as part of family households, which rose from 29.8 percent of all people experiencing sheltered homelessness to 33.8 percent over the same period.
- The disability rate among adults experiencing sheltered homelessness continued to increase, from 37.1 percent in 2007 to 44.4 percent in 2017.

In 2017, people experiencing sheltered homelessness were 5.1 times more likely than people in the total U.S. population to be in a single-person household.

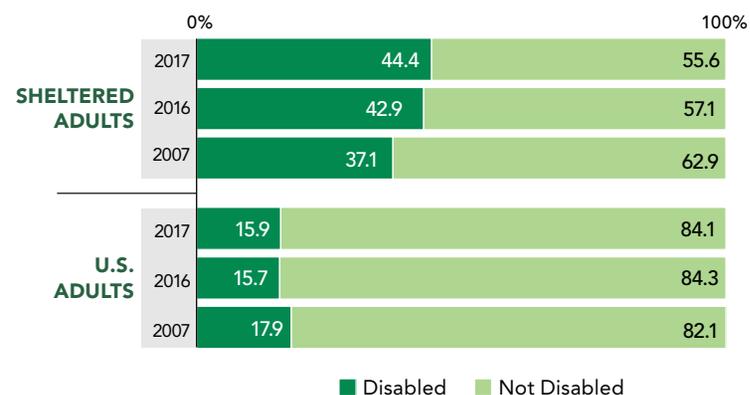
### EXHIBIT 1.12: Household Size

Sheltered Homeless People and U.S. Population, 2007-2017



### EXHIBIT 1.13: Disability Status

Sheltered Homeless Adults and U.S. Adults, 2007-2017



## Geographic Location

### In 2017

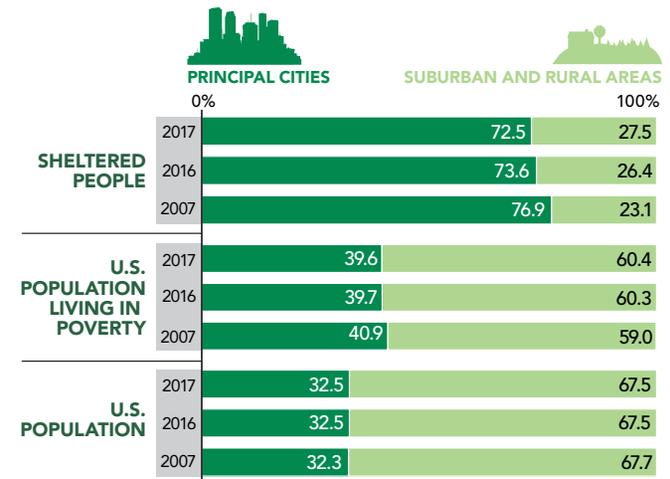
- Nearly 3 in 4 people (72.5%) experienced sheltered homelessness in principal cities rather than in suburban or rural areas. This degree of urban concentration is much higher than for the total U.S. population (32.5% of whom live in principal cities) and the U.S. population living in poverty (39.6%).
- Fewer than 3 in 10 people experiencing sheltered homelessness do so in suburban and rural areas (27.5%, or 389,569 people).

### Changes Over Time

- While a considerable majority of people experiencing sheltered homelessness do so in principal cities, the percentage has been slowly shifting from principal cities toward suburban and rural areas. Between 2016 and 2017, sheltered homelessness declined 1.8 percent (19,140 fewer people) in principal cities, but increased 4 percent (14,851 more people) in suburban and rural areas.
- Over the 10-year period between 2007 and 2017, the number of people experiencing homelessness in suburban and rural areas rose by 6 percent (22,018 more people) and dropped by 15.9 percent (193,705 fewer people) in principal cities.

### EXHIBIT 1.14: Geographic Distribution

Sheltered Homelessness, U.S. Population Living in Poverty, and U.S. Population, 2007-2017



Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. The revised estimates result in higher proportions of people in principal cities for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the total U.S. population than shown in past reports. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info)).

### EXHIBIT 1.15: Percent Change by Geography

Sheltered Homeless People, U.S. Population Living in Poverty, and U.S. Population, 2007-2017

Population	2016-2017		2007-2017	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
All Sheltered People	-1.8	4.0	-15.9	6.0
U.S. Population Living in Poverty	-4.3	-3.9	10.8	17.1
U.S. Population	0.6	0.5	8.7	7.5

Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info)).

## Characteristics by Geography

### In 2017

- Characteristics of people experiencing sheltered homelessness differed by geography. About a quarter of people experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas (25.8%) were children, compared to about one-fifth (21.2%) in principal cities. The proportion of adult women experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas (41.6%) was also higher than in principal cities (36.2%).
- People experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas were less likely to identify as African American (34.3%) or to be by themselves (59.7%) than were those in principal cities (46.5% and 66.9%).
- People experiencing sheltered homelessness in principal cities were more likely to identify as Hispanic (18.3%) than were those in suburban and rural areas (14.2%).

### Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the profile of homelessness by geography remained fairly stable with two exceptions. The proportion of disabled adults experiencing sheltered homelessness in principal cities grew, increasing from 42.1 percent in 2016 to 44.2 in 2017. The proportion of people experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban or rural areas who were white (Hispanic or non-Hispanic) declined from 56.7 percent in 2016 to 54.6 percent in 2017.
- Larger changes in the characteristics of people experiencing sheltered homelessness occurred over the longer period. While the disability rate among adults experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas declined between 2007 and 2017 (from 52.9% to 45%), the rate rose in principal cities from 31.5 percent in 2007 to 44.2 percent in 2017.
- The proportion of people who are African American experiencing sheltered homelessness in principal cities grew from 39.7 percent in 2007 to 46.5 percent in 2017.
- The share of elderly people (ages 62 or older) experiencing sheltered homelessness in principal cities increased from 3.2 percent in 2007 to 5.6 percent in 2017 and from 2 percent to 4.7 percent in suburban and rural areas.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the proportion of multi-person households has increased in both principal cities (from 28.1% to 33.1%) and suburban and rural areas (from 34.9% to 40.3%).

### EXHIBIT 1.16: Characteristics by Geography

Sheltered Homeless People, 2007-2017 (in %)

Characteristic	Principal Cities			Suburban and Rural Areas		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
# Homeless People	1,221,044	1,046,478	1,027,339	367,551	374,718	389,569
<b>Gender of Adults</b>						
Male	66.0	64.6	63.8	62.4	58.0	58.4
Female	34.0	35.4	36.2	37.6	42.0	41.6
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Hispanic	23.9	17.8	18.3	13.9	14.2	14.2
Non-Hispanic	76.1	82.2	81.7	86.1	85.8	85.8
<b>Race</b>						
White, Non-Hispanic	33.9	34.3	33.3	44.3	46.4	44.7
White, Hispanic	14.9	11.4	11.7	6.5	10.3	9.9
Black or African American	39.7	45.8	46.5	39.3	33.9	34.3
Other One Race	4.1	4.4	4.4	3.2	4.0	4.7
Multiple Races	7.5	4.2	4.2	6.7	5.6	6.5
<b>Age</b>						
Under Age 18	21.1	21.1	21.2	24.0	25.6	25.8
18 - 30	20.0	22.0	21.6	22.1	22.0	21.3
18 - 24	--	10.3	10.3	--	10.2	9.6
25 - 30	--	11.7	11.3	--	11.8	11.7
31 - 50	41.4	33.8	33.3	40.4	32.1	32.2
51 - 61	14.2	18.2	18.2	11.5	16.4	16.0
62 and Older	3.2	5.0	5.6	2.0	4.0	4.7
<b>Household Size</b>						
1 Person	71.9	66.7	66.9	65.1	59.3	59.7
2 People	8.0	8.3	8.8	8.0	9.8	9.4
3 People	7.7	9.1	9.2	9.9	11.3	12.5
4 People	6.0	7.3	7.0	8.0	9.4	9.0
5 or More People	6.3	8.6	8.2	9.0	10.2	9.4
<b>Disability Status of Adults</b>						
Disabled	31.5	42.1	44.2	52.9	45.3	45.0
Not Disabled	68.5	57.9	55.8	47.1	54.7	55.0

Note: Data were collected on people age 18-30 until 2015, when this information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

## Living Situation Before Entering Shelter\*

Information on where people experiencing sheltered homelessness lived before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs was asked of all adults in families and all individuals, including children in child-only households.

### In 2017

- Prior to entering shelter, nearly half of people (47.8%) were already homeless, more than one-third (35.5%) were living in a housed situation, and the remaining were staying either in an institutional setting (11.4%) or some other setting (5.3%).
- Three-quarters of the people who were living in a housed situation prior to entering shelter had been staying with either family (43.7%) or friends (31.3%), while about a quarter were staying in housing they either rented (22.1%) or owned (2.1%). Less than one percent left permanent supportive housing to enter a shelter program.
- Among the people who were already homeless prior to entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing program during the reporting year, over half (52.6%) had been staying in unsheltered locations not meant for human habitation.
- Of those *not already homeless* at entry into emergency shelter or transitional housing programs, about 68 percent were housed, while 21.9 percent were in institutions, and 10.2 percent were in other settings.

### Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of people who were already homeless prior to entering shelter increased 14.1 percent (66,843 more people). This increase was the result of both a 16.7 percent increase in the number of people entering shelter from unsheltered locations (40,620 more people) and an 11.4 percent increase in the number entering from sheltered locations (26,223 more people). The increase from unsheltered locations parallels the one-night increase in the unsheltered population.
- In 2017, 39,546 fewer people came to emergency shelter or transitional housing programs from housing settings than had done so in 2016. Reductions in the number of people entering shelter after staying with friends or family accounted for 84.3 percent of this decline.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the number of people entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing programs from unsheltered locations increased 91.8 percent (135,891 more people).
- The number of people entering a shelter program from a housing unit they rented declined 27.8 percent (34,145 fewer people) over the same time period.

\* Shelter refers to emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017

## EXHIBIT 1.17: Places People Stayed

Before Entering Shelter\* and Change Over Time, 2007–2017

Place Stayed	2017		2016–2017		2007–2017	
	#	%	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
<b>Already Homeless</b>	<b>539,585</b>	<b>47.8</b>	<b>66,843</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>29,034</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Sheltered	255,606	47.4	26,223	11.4	-106,857	-29.5
Unsheltered	283,979	52.6	40,620	16.7	135,891	91.8
<b>Housing</b>	<b>400,728</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>-39,546</b>	<b>-9.0</b>	<b>-65,729</b>	<b>-14.1</b>
Staying with family	175,179	43.7	-19,330	-9.9	-20,459	-10.5
Staying with friends	125,250	31.3	-14,000	-10.1	6,800	5.7
Rented housing unit	88,653	22.1	-5,609	-6.0	-34,145	-27.8
Owned housing unit	8,536	2.1	-348	-3.9	-17,718	-67.5
Permanent supportive housing	3,110	0.8	-259	-7.7	-207	-6.2
<b>Institutional Settings</b>	<b>128,857</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>-1,501</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>7,584</b>	<b>6.3</b>
Substance abuse treatment center	29,548	22.9	-595	-2.0	-9,143	-23.6
Correctional facility	52,281	40.6	-1,079	-2.0	-329	-0.6
Hospital	27,760	21.5	339	1.2	13,055	88.8
Psychiatric facility	19,268	15.0	-166	-0.9	4,001	26.2
<b>Other Settings</b>	<b>60,071</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>-13,714</b>	<b>-18.6</b>	<b>-60,239</b>	<b>-50.1</b>
Hotel or motel	41,911	69.8	-2,650	-5.9	-3,328	-7.4
Foster care home	3,544	5.9	238	7.2	-2,213	-38.4
Other living arrangement	14,616	24.3	-11,302	-43.6	-54,698	-78.9

Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

## EXHIBIT 1.18: Places People Stayed

Who Were Not Already Homeless

Before Entering Shelter\*, 2007–2017 (in %)

	2007	2016	2017
<b>HOUSING</b>	65.9	68.3	68.0
<b>INSTITUTIONS</b>	17.1	20.2	21.9
<b>OTHER</b>	17.0	11.4	10.2

Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. This change was applied beginning with the 2017 AHAR Report. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

## Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns

**E**mergency shelter and transitional housing programs were designed differently. Emergency shelters were designed as high-volume, high-turnover programs; their primary purpose was to provide temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness. In contrast, transitional housing programs were designed to offer people experiencing homelessness shelter as well as supportive services for up to 24 months, assuming people would stay longer than they do in emergency shelters.

### In 2017

- The homeless services system nationwide had 277,537 year-round beds in emergency shelters and 120,249 beds in transitional housing programs. Of the 1,416,908 people experiencing sheltered homelessness at some point during the reporting year, 85.1 percent stayed only in emergency shelters, 11.6 percent stayed only in transitional housing programs, and 3.4 percent used both emergency shelter and transitional housing programs during the reporting year.
- The median length of stay over the course of the reporting year was 27 nights for emergency shelter clients and about 4 months (114 nights) for transitional housing clients.
- About a third (33.1%) of transitional housing clients stayed longer than six months, while 10.4 percent of emergency shelter clients did so.
- On average, 87.4 percent of emergency shelter beds were occupied per night, while 81.7 percent of transitional housing beds were occupied per night.

### Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of year-round, emergency shelter beds increased (12,908 more beds), and the number of people using emergency shelters (either exclusively or in addition to transitional housing programs) increased by 17,370 people (1.4%).
- There were 24,500 fewer transitional housing beds available in 2017 than in 2016 (a 16.9% decrease), and the number of people using transitional housing (either exclusively or in addition to emergency shelters) declined by 36,052 people (14.6%) over the same period.
- Emergency shelter beds served fewer people per available bed in 2017 (4.9 people per bed) than in 2007 (7.3 people per bed) and for longer stays—the median length of stay was 18 nights in 2007 and 27 nights in 2017.
- The average occupancy rates changed slightly between 2007 and 2017, from 88.5 percent to 87.4 percent for emergency shelter beds. The average occupancy rate changed more obviously for transitional housing beds, from 76.9 percent in 2007 to 81.7 percent in 2017.

### EXHIBIT 1.19: Length of Stay

People in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2017

Length of Stay	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing	
	#	%	#	%
7 days or less	354,374	28.4	9,885	4.7
8 to 30 days	317,005	25.4	26,964	12.8
31 to 180 days	445,954	35.8	104,416	49.4
181 to 360 days	89,097	7.1	46,390	21.9
361 to 365 days	41,057	3.3	23,738	11.2

Note: Length of stay accounts for multiple program entries/exits by summing the total number of (cumulative) days in a homeless residential program during the 12-month reporting period. The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.

### EXHIBIT 1.20: Bed-Use Patterns

People in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2007-2017

Bed-Use Patterns	Emergency Shelter			Transitional Housing		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
Median # nights	18	27	27	113	117	114
Average # nights	46	63	65	149	150	146
Average occupancy rate (in %)	88.5	87.7	87.4	76.9	83.1	81.7
Bed count	211,451	264,629	277,537	211,205	144,749	120,249
Turnover rate	7.3	5.1	4.9	1.8	2.0	2.0

Note1: The average daily occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the average daily census during the 12-month reporting period by the total of year-round equivalent beds for that year.

Note2: The total bed count is based on the year-round beds determined at one point in time from the HIC.

Note3: The turnover rate measures the number of people served per available bed over the 12-month reporting period, and is calculated by dividing the total number of sheltered homeless people by the number of year-round equivalent beds available that year.

**EXHIBIT 1.21: Sheltered Homeless Population Compared to Other Populations**



**All People**

The number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness in the U.S. in 2017 was roughly equivalent to the total population of Hawaii.

Number in sheltered population (2017)

**1,416,908**

Number in comparison population (2017)

**1,427,538<sup>1</sup>**

**Comparison Population:**

Total population of Hawaii



<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. "Annual Estimates of the Resident Population: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2017." <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=bkml>



**Children**

The number of children experiencing sheltered homelessness in the U.S. was more than twice the total number of children enrolled in the Dallas Independent School District.

Number in sheltered population (2017)

**317,546**

Number in comparison population (2017)

**156,832<sup>2</sup>**

**Comparison Population:**

Total number of children in the Dallas Independent School District in school year 2017-2018.



<sup>2</sup> Dallas ISD Facts Sheet. <https://www.dallasisd.org/Page/2609>



## African Americans

The number of people in the U.S. experiencing sheltered homelessness identifying as black or African American in 2017 was larger than the total number of African Americans in Atlanta, GA (239,005) and Washington, DC (318,598) combined.

Number in sheltered population (2017)

**590,965**

Number in comparison population (2016)

**557,603<sup>3</sup>**

### Comparison Population:

Total African American population of Atlanta, GA and Washington, DC.



<sup>3</sup> 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates. [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS\\_16\\_5YR\\_DP05&src=pt](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_16_5YR_DP05&src=pt)



## Veterans

The number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in the U.S. was more than the current total number of members in the Air National Guard.

Number in sheltered population (2017)

**118,380**

Number in comparison population (2016)

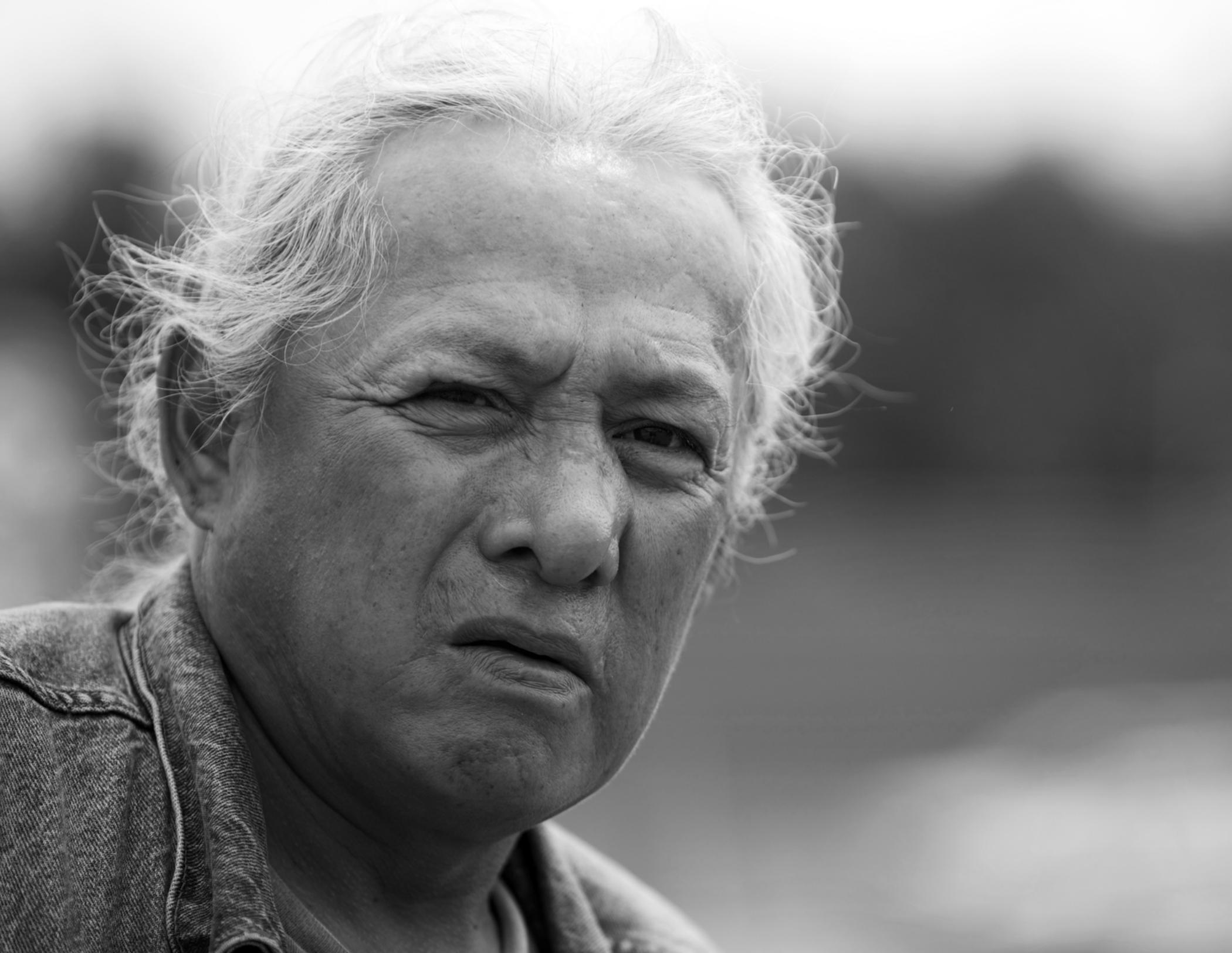
**105,887<sup>4</sup>**

### Comparison Population:

All members of the Air National Guard.



<sup>4</sup> Department of Defense 2016 Demographics. [download.militaryonesource.mil/12038/MOS/Reports/2016-Demographics-Report.pdf](https://download.militaryonesource.mil/12038/MOS/Reports/2016-Demographics-Report.pdf)



# 2017 Homeless Individuals IN THE UNITED STATES

## POINT-IN-TIME (PIT)

One-Night Estimates of Homeless Individuals.....	2-3
By State .....	2-4
By State and Sheltered Status .....	2-5

## HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS)

One-Year Estimates of Homeless Individuals .....	2-7
--	-----

### Characteristics of Sheltered Individuals

Gender and Age .....	2-8
Ethnicity and Race .....	2-9
Household Size and Disability Status .....	2-11

### Geography of Sheltered Individuals

Geographic Location .....	2-12
Characteristics by Geography .....	2-13

### Patterns of Homeless Service Use

Living Situation Before Entering Shelter .....	2-14
Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns .....	2-15



# 2017 Homeless Individuals

IN THE UNITED STATES

## Did You Know?

PIT

On a single night in January 2017, **366,585** individuals were experiencing homelessness 

This is a **11.2% decline** since 2007

Individuals experiencing homelessness were **5.2 times more likely to be unsheltered** than people in families with children

Individuals experiencing unsheltered & sheltered homelessness

**47.3%**  **52.7%**

HMIS

In 2017, **950,497** individuals experienced sheltered homelessness at some point during the year 

This is a **14.8% decline** since 2007

**50.8%** of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness had a disability, **2.6 times the national rate** for individuals

Among individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness **in 2017...**



**74.6%**  
CITIES



**25.4%**  
SUBURBAN & RURAL AREAS

### KEY TERM

An **individual** is a person in a household that does not have both an adult (age 18 or older) and a child. These households include people who experience homelessness alone, as adult roommates, as married or cohabiting couples without children, or in households comprised of multiple children. Unaccompanied youth, including parenting teens, are counted as individuals in this section. A separate section of the report focuses just on youth. In contrast to an "individual," a person in a "family with children" is in a household with at least one adult and one child.

# 2017 One-Night Estimates OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS

## PIT

This section presents the Point-in-Time (PIT) estimates of individuals who experienced homelessness in the U.S. For the purpose of this report, “individuals” refers to people in households without children under age 18 and people in households with only children under age 18. Although the AHAR refers to this population as “individuals,” people who are experiencing homelessness as individuals may include households with more than one person. Taken together, people experiencing homelessness as individuals and as families with children comprise the entire homeless population.

The PIT estimates are one-night counts of people experiencing homelessness in both sheltered and unsheltered locations. The one-night counts are conducted by CoCs nationwide and occur during the last ten days in January. CoCs are required to conduct a PIT count in shelters (emergency shelter and transitional housing programs) and a street (or “unsheltered”) count at least every other year. The unsheltered PIT count was required in 2017.

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- 366,585 people in households without children (individuals) were experiencing homelessness in the United States, 66.5 percent of all people in the one-night counts.
- More than half (52.7%) of all individuals experiencing homelessness were staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens. Individuals were 5.2 times more likely to be unsheltered than people in families with children. Of people in unsheltered locations, 91.2 percent were individuals.

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The total number of individuals experiencing homelessness increased by just over three percent (3.2%, or 11,373 more people). This was the first increase in the total number of individuals experiencing homelessness since 2010.
- The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness decreased 2.5 percent (4,864 fewer people), continuing the trend from the previous two years.
- The number of unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness increased by 10.3 percent (16,237 more people), outpacing the decline in individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness. This was the third consecutive year that the number of unsheltered individuals went up and a much larger increase than the previous two years.

### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- Despite the recent increase, the number of individuals who were experiencing homelessness declined by 11.2 percent (46,115 fewer people) over the longer period.
- The unsheltered population decreased 13.1 percent (26,186 fewer individuals), and the sheltered population decreased 9.4 percent (19,929 fewer individuals).

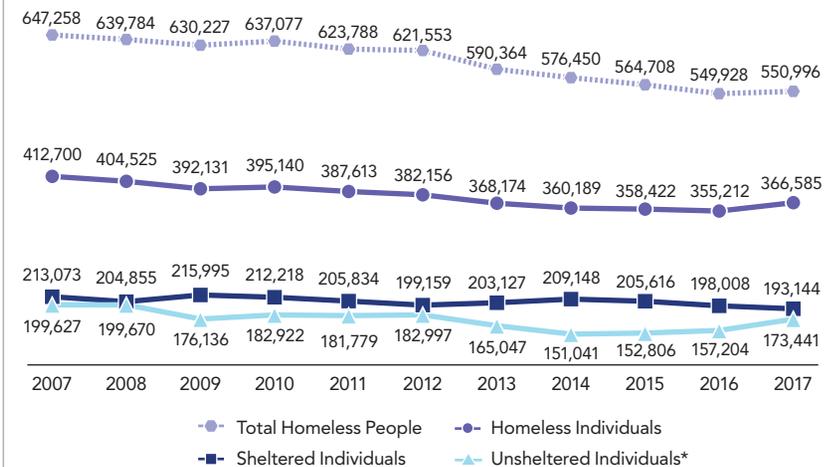
Data Source: PIT 2007–2017

Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories

See the supporting PIT data tabulations posted on HUD’s Resource Exchange at [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

In 2017, 16,237 more individuals were experiencing unsheltered homelessness on a single night than in 2016, a 10.3% increase.

**EXHIBIT 2.1: One-Night Counts of Homeless Individuals**  
PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007-2017



Note: 2017 estimate differs from the 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report: Part 1 due to an adjustment made by Los Angeles to their unsheltered population. The total unsheltered population was reduced by 2,746.

**EXHIBIT 2.2: Change in Homeless Individuals**  
PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007-2017

Years	Total Homeless Individuals		Sheltered Individuals		Unsheltered Individuals	
	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
2016 to 2017	11,373	3.2	-4,864	-2.5	16,237	10.3
2015 to 2016	-3,210	-0.9	-7,608	-3.7	4,398	2.9
2014 to 2015	-1,767	-0.5	-3,532	-1.7	1,765	1.2
2013 to 2014	-7,985	-2.2	6,021	3.0	-14,006	-8.5
2012 to 2013	-13,982	-3.7	3,968	2.0	-17,950	-9.8
2011 to 2012	-5,457	-1.4	-6,675	-3.2	1,218	0.7
2010 to 2011	-7,527	-1.9	-6,384	-3.0	-1,143	-0.6
2009 to 2010	3,009	0.8	-3,777	-1.7	6,786	3.9
2008 to 2009	-12,394	-3.1	11,140	5.4	-23,534	-11.8
2007 to 2008	-8,175	-2.0	-8,218	-3.9	43	0.0
2007 to 2017	-46,115	-11.2	-19,929	-9.4	-26,186	-13.1

## By State

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- California accounted for more than 3 in 10 individuals experiencing homelessness (30.4%), representing a growth in its share of all individuals experiencing homelessness over the prior year (27.8%). Only two other states accounted for more than five percent of all individuals experiencing homelessness in the nation, New York (10.3%) and Florida (6.3%).
- Individuals made up more than four-fifths of all people experiencing homelessness in the one-night count in three states: Nevada (93.0%), California (83.8%), and Arkansas (83.8%). In all but two states and the District of Columbia, more than half of all people experiencing homelessness were individuals.

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

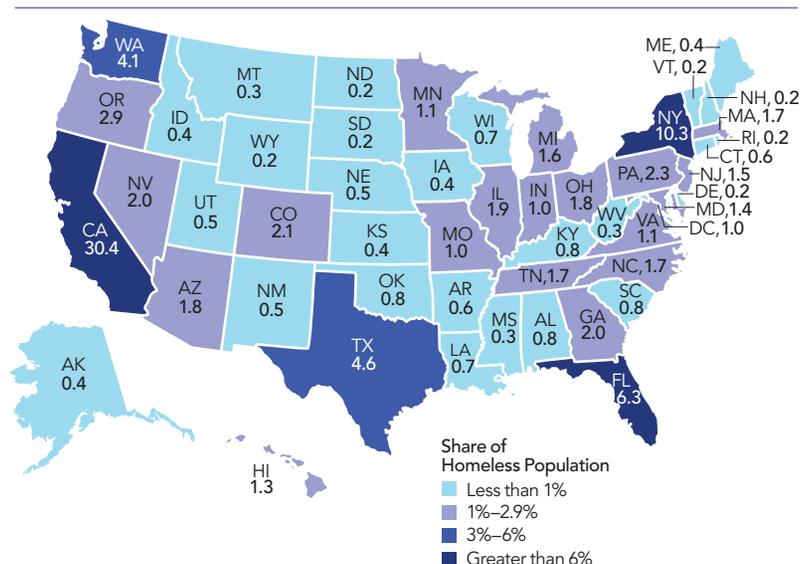
- California had the largest increase in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness (12,600 more individuals or 12.9%). The next largest increase was in New York (2,075 more individuals or 5.9%).
- While nationally the number of individuals experiencing homelessness increased, this population declined in 28 states and the District of Columbia.
- Georgia had the largest decrease in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness, with 1,843 fewer people (a 19.9% decline).

### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- A majority of states (28 and the District of Columbia) experienced declines in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness. Florida had the largest decline, 31.1 percent. Texas and Georgia also experienced large decreases over the period, a 36.5 percent decline in Texas and a 40.7 percent decline in Georgia.
- Twenty-two states had an increase in the number of individuals experiencing homelessness. New York had the largest increase, with 9,334 additional people.

### EXHIBIT 2.3: Homeless Individuals in the U.S.

Percentage of National Total in Each State, 2017



### EXHIBIT 2.4: Total Homeless Individuals by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	12,600	12.9	Georgia	-1,843	-19.9
New York	2,075	5.9	Florida	-1,433	-5.9
Colorado	1,121	17.4	South Carolina	-862	-22.9
Oregon	1,055	11.2	Louisiana	-617	-19.4
Washington	881	6.3	Tennessee	-515	-7.7
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
New York	9,334	33.3	Florida	-10,272	-31.1
Washington	1,492	11.2	Texas	-9,598	-36.5
Hawaii	1,200	36.0	Georgia	-5,099	-40.7
Nevada	804	12.4	New Jersey	-3,539	-39.4
Minnesota	630	19.3	Arizona	-3,532	-35.2

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

Data Source: PIT 2007-2017

Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories

See Part 1 of the 2017 AHAR for more details on PIT estimates by state ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info))

## By State and Sheltered Status

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- Nearly half (49.1%) of all unsheltered individuals in the U.S. were in California. Nearly four in five individuals experiencing homelessness in California (77.3%) were in unsheltered locations.
- In seven other states, more than half of all individuals experiencing homelessness were in unsheltered locations: Hawaii, Nevada, Mississippi, Oregon, Arkansas, Washington, and Florida.
- States that sheltered more than 90 percent of individuals experiencing homelessness were Iowa, Nebraska, Maine, Delaware, and Rhode Island.

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The largest increases in the number of individuals counted in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, and safe havens were in California (1,302 more people, a 5.5% increase) and New York (1,097 more people, a 3.5% increase). The largest decline was in Florida, with 710 fewer individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness (a 6.1% decrease).
- Georgia experienced the largest decline in unsheltered individuals (1,160 fewer people, a 25.9% decrease). While California had the largest absolute increase in unsheltered individuals (11,298 more people), the District of Columbia had the largest percentage increase (182.1%).

### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- New York had the largest increase in individuals counted in sheltered locations (9,983 more people), followed by Minnesota (711 more people) and Wisconsin (246 more people).
- California had the largest decline in sheltered individuals (5,475 fewer people) since 2007, while Florida had the largest decline in unsheltered individuals (8,431 fewer people) over the same period.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations declined in 31 states. The number of individuals experiencing homelessness in sheltered locations declined in 30 states and the District of Columbia during the same time period.

### EXHIBIT 2.5: Sheltered Homeless Individuals by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	1,302	5.5	Florida	-710	-6.1
New York	1,097	3.5	Georgia	-683	-14.3
Oregon	635	17.4	District of Columbia	-679	-20.2
Colorado	367	8.4	South Carolina	-673	-28.8
Washington	344	5.4	Texas	-601	-6.5
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
New York	9,983	43.6	California	-5,475	-18.0
Minnesota	711	32.6	Texas	-4,405	-33.6
Wisconsin	246	11.9	New Jersey	-2,996	-42.6
Idaho	244	39.8	Massachusetts	-1,891	-26.3
Montana	235	59.0	Florida	-1,841	-14.4

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

### Exhibit 2.6: Unsheltered Homeless Individuals by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	11,298	15.3	Georgia	-1,160	-25.9
Texas	1,350	20.3	Florida	-723	-5.8
New York	978	27.8	Connecticut	-255	-38.2
Colorado	754	35.9	Tennessee	-196	-8.0
Nevada	644	16.4	Louisiana	-195	-17.6
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
California	4,783	5.9	Florida	-8,431	-41.6
Washington	2,872	55.5	Texas	-5,193	-39.4
Nevada	1,722	60.7	Georgia	-3,458	-51.0
Hawaii	1,042	46.6	Arizona	-2,532	-45.2
District of Columbia	557	163.8	Tennessee	-1,485	-39.7

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

## 2017 PROFILE

A TYPICAL INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCING SHELTERED HOMELESSNESS WAS:

### A Man by Himself

70.6% MALE / 97.4% 1-PERSON HOUSEHOLD



### Aged 31-50

40.7%

### White, Non-Hispanic

44.1%

### Not Disabled

50.8%

---

### Living in a City

74.6%



---

### Already Homeless

PRIOR TO USING A SHELTER\* (49.6%)

---

### Spending 22 Nights in Emergency Shelter



\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.



# 2017 One-Year Estimates OF SHELTERED HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS

## HMIS

These estimates are based on data collected over the course of one year and account for all individuals who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at any time from October 1 through September 30 of the reporting year. Individual refers to a person who is not part of a family with children, meaning under the age of 18, during an episode of homelessness. Individuals may be homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households. The estimates are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data to HUD. The estimates adjust statistically for people experiencing sheltered homelessness in shelter programs that do not yet participate in their local HMIS—thus providing a complete estimated enumeration of sheltered individuals in each community—and are weighted to represent the entire country. These HMIS-based estimates do not include: (a) sheltered individuals in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories; (b) individuals served by victim service providers; and (c) individuals in unsheltered locations who never used a shelter program during the 12-month period.<sup>1</sup>

### Estimate of Individuals Experiencing Sheltered Homelessness in 2017

- An estimated 950,497 individuals used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at some time between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2017.<sup>2</sup>

### Changes Over Time

- The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness stayed essentially the same, with an estimate of 340 fewer people between 2016 and 2017. While level over the one-year period, the one-night estimate of sheltered homelessness declined by 2.5 percent.
- 164,557 fewer people experienced sheltered homelessness over the course of a year in 2017 than in 2007, a decrease of 14.8 percent. This was a steeper drop than in the number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness on a single night in January, which fell by 9.4 percent.
- The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness has decreased in seven of the ten years between 2007 and 2017, and for each of the last two years.

<sup>1</sup> People served in Safe Havens are included in the PIT estimates, but not in these HMIS-based estimates of sheltered homelessness over the course of one year.

<sup>2</sup> The 95 percent confidence interval for the estimate is 866,441 to 1,034,553 (950,497 +/- 84,056).

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017

950,497 people in households without children experienced sheltered homelessness at some time during the 2017 reporting year.

EXHIBIT 2.7a: Trend in One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Individuals, 2007–2017

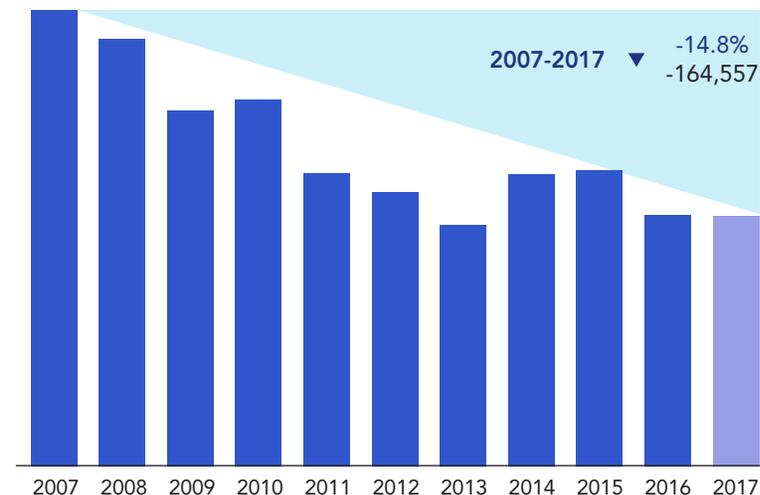


Exhibit 2.7b: One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Individuals and Annual Change from the Prior Year, 2007–2017

Year	Estimate	# Change from previous year	% Change from previous year
2017	950,497	-340	0.0
2016	950,837	-36,403	-3.7
2015	987,239	3,112	0.3
2014	984,127	41,111	4.4
2013	943,017	-26,642	-2.7
2012	969,659	-14,810	-1.5
2011	984,469	-58,773	-5.6
2010	1,043,242	8,583	0.8
2009	1,034,659	-57,953	-5.3
2008	1,092,612	-22,442	-2.0
2007	1,115,054	--	--

## Gender and Age

Starting in 2015, HUD collected age information for people between the ages of 18 and 24 who were experiencing sheltered homelessness over the course of the one-year period. Information is collected separately for people between the ages of 25 and 30. For more detailed information on age categories, see the supporting HMIS data available for download ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info)).

### In 2017

- While men were in the minority among U.S. individuals living in poverty (46.4%) and only a slight majority (50.2%) among all adult individuals, more than seven in ten adult individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were men (70.6%).
- Two in five individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were between the ages of 31 and 50. Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were about twice as likely to be between the ages of 31 and 50 as were individuals in the U.S. population.
- One in ten individuals experiencing homelessness was a young adult between the ages of 18 and 24 (10.7%), and just more than one in ten (11.6%) was between the ages of 25 and 30.
- Children (under age 18) comprised only 3.2 percent of all individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness.
- Individuals age 62 and older made up 27.7 percent of adult individuals in the U.S. population living in poverty and 34.1 percent of adult individuals overall, but just 8 percent of adult individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness.

**The share of children experiencing sheltered homelessness without an adult increased 25.4% (6,183 more children) between 2016 and 2017.**

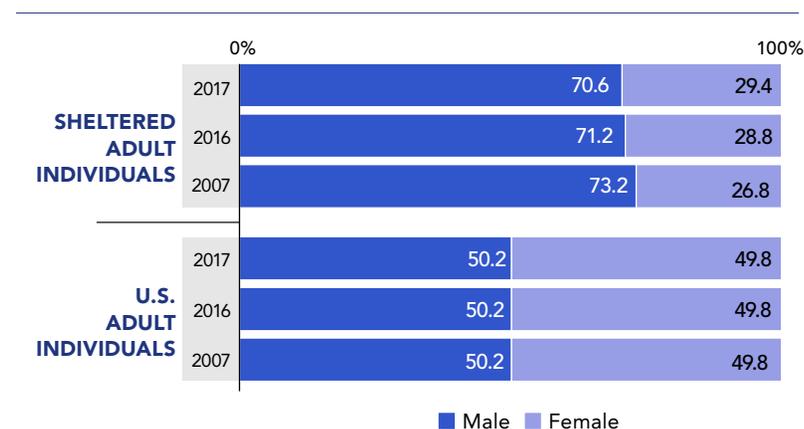
### Changes Over Time

- While the share of U.S. adult individuals who are women has stayed the same between 2007 and 2017 (49.8%), the share of women among individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness has increased from 26.8 percent in 2007 to 29.4 percent in 2017.
- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of children (under age 18) experiencing sheltered homelessness without an adult increased by 25.4 percent (6,183 more children).
- Two in five individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in 2017 were between the ages of 31 and 50. However, the share in that age group dropped by 11.2 percentage points between 2007 and 2017, from 51.9 percent in 2007 to 40.7 percent in 2017.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the number of sheltered elderly individuals age 62 or older increased by 68.5 percent (30,658 more people). The share of elderly individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness has nearly doubled in this period, from 4.1 percent in 2007 to 8 percent in 2017.

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017; ACS 2006, 2015, 2016

### EXHIBIT 2.8: Gender

Sheltered Adults Individuals and U.S. Adult Individuals, 2007-2017



### EXHIBIT 2.9: Age

Sheltered Individuals and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017 (in %)

Age	Sheltered Individuals			U.S. Individuals		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
Under Age 18	4.8	2.6	3.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
18 - 30	20.3	22.9	22.4	22.0	22.2	22.3
18 - 24	--	10.8	10.7	--	12.4	12.2
25 - 30	--	12.2	11.6	--	9.9	10.1
31 - 50	51.9	41.4	40.7	25.4	21.0	20.6
51 - 61	18.9	26.1	25.8	22.7	23.2	22.9
62 and Older	4.1	7.0	8.0	29.7	33.4	34.1

Note: Prior to 2015, data were collected on people age 18-30. Since then, information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

## Ethnicity and Race

### In 2017

- A slightly higher share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness identified as Hispanic (13%) than individuals in the U.S. population (11.7%).
- Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were more than twice as likely to identify as African American as were individuals in the U.S. population living in poverty (38.7% versus 18.6%), and more than three times as likely than all U.S. individuals (38.7% versus 12.0%).
- More than four in ten individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness identified as white and non-Hispanic (44.1%), nearly four in ten (38.7%) as Black or African American, and about one in ten (8.9%) as white and Hispanic.
- Other races identified included: American Indian or Alaska Native (2.6%), Asian (0.9%), and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (0.8%). These three races together were present among sheltered homeless individuals at less than half the rate as for all U.S. individuals (4.3% and 9.1%).

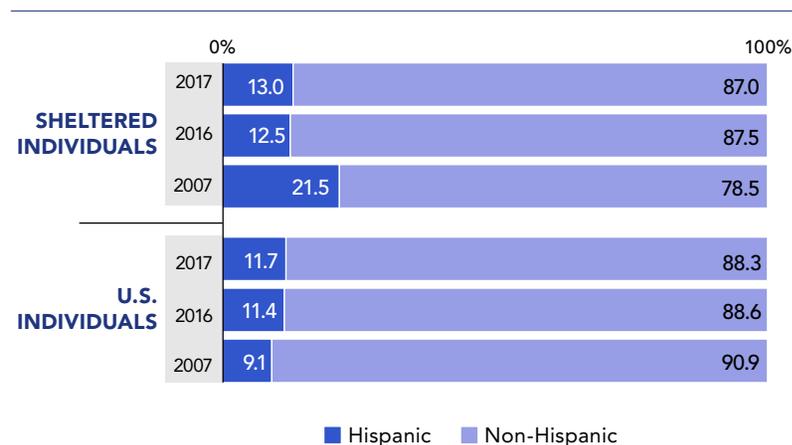
Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were more than three times as likely to identify as African American as were all U.S. individuals (38.7% versus 12.0%).

### Changes Over Time

- The race and ethnicity of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness remained stable from 2016 to 2017. However, there were some notable shifts in racial characteristics over the longer, ten-year period. The percentage of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as Hispanic dropped from 21.5 percent in 2007 to 13 percent in 2017. During the same time period, Hispanics in the total U.S. population increased from 9.1 percent to 11.7 percent.
- The share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as white and non-Hispanic increased between 2007 and 2017, from 42.6 percent of sheltered individuals to 44.1 percent in 2017. During the same time period, individuals identifying as white and non-Hispanic in the total U.S. population declined, from 74.4 percent to 69.1 percent.
- Over the ten-year period, the share of sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness identifying as black or African American increased from 33.2 percent to 38.7 percent, a sharper rise than the increase in individuals identifying as black or African American in the total U.S. population (10.8% in 2007 to 12% in 2017).

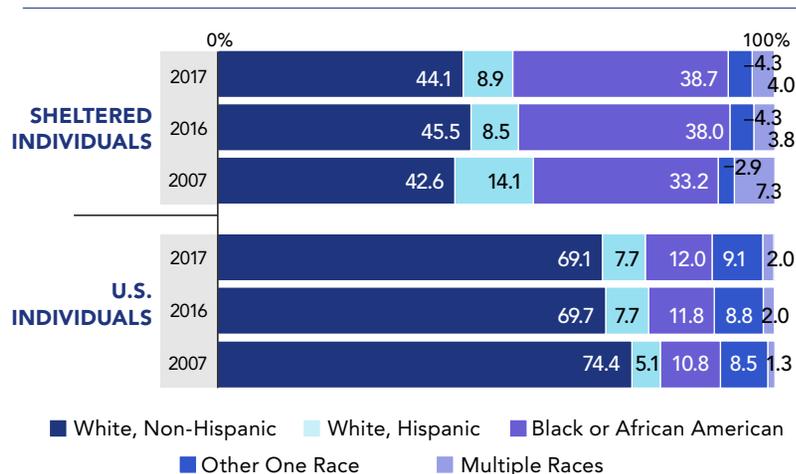
### EXHIBIT 2.10: Ethnicity

Sheltered Individuals and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017



### EXHIBIT 2.11: Race

Sheltered Individuals and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017





## Household Size and Disability Status

An “individual” refers to a person who is not part of a family with children during an episode of homelessness. Individuals may be homeless as single adults, unaccompanied youth, or in multiple-adult or multiple-child households.

### In 2017

- Only 2.6 percent of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were in a household with another adult in 2017. This is considerably lower than share of U.S. individuals in households with other adults (74.9%).
- Half of adult individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness had a disability in 2017 (49.2%). This was 2.5 times the rate of disability among individuals in the U.S. population (19.8%), and 1.6 times the rate of disability among individuals in the U.S. population living in poverty (31.6%).

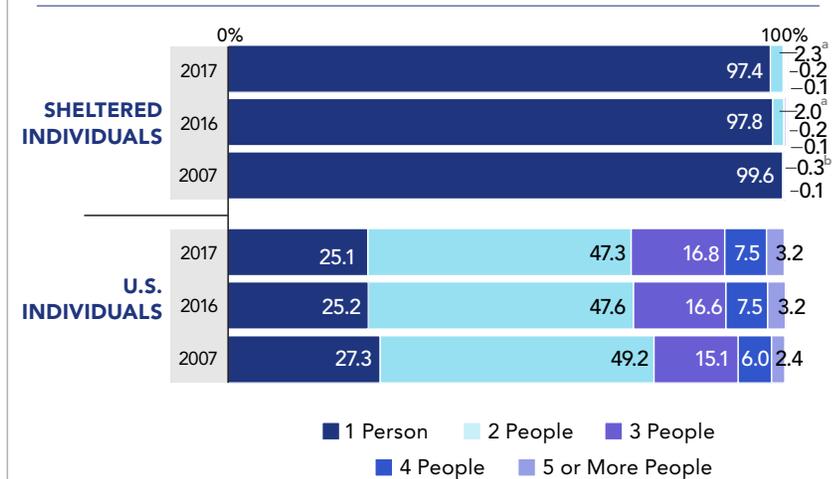
**49.2% of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness had a disability, which was 2.5 times the national rate for individuals.**

### Changes Over Time

- While remaining low, the share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in households with other adults increased considerably, from 0.4 percent in 2007 to 2.6 percent in 2017.
- The proportion of sheltered individuals experiencing homelessness who have a disability increased from 40.4 percent to 49.2 percent between 2007 and 2017.

### EXHIBIT 2.12: Household Size

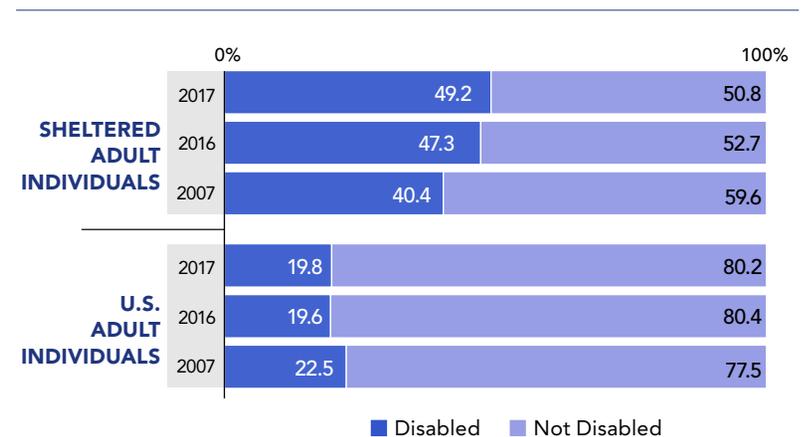
Sheltered Individuals and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017



Note: a) 0.0% for 5 or more people; b) 0.0% for 3 people, 4 people

### EXHIBIT 2.13: Disability Status

Sheltered Adult Individuals and U.S. Adult Individuals, 2007-2017



## Geographic Location

### In 2017

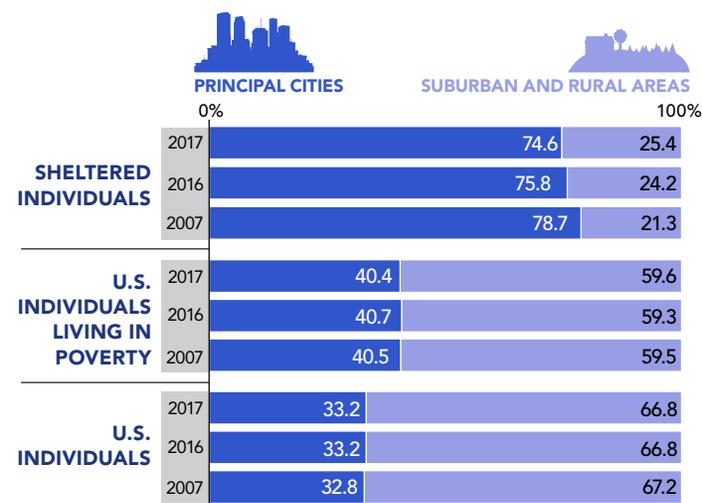
- Three of every four individuals who were experiencing sheltered homelessness (74.6%) were located in principal cities. The remaining 25.4% percent were in suburban and rural areas.
- Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness were 1.8 times more likely to be in cities than were individuals living in poverty (74.6% versus 40.4%) and 2.2 times more likely than individuals in the U.S. population (74.6% versus 33.2%).

### Changes Over Time

- Over the last ten years, the location of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness over a one-year period has shifted -- declining in principal cities and increasing in suburban and rural areas. This trend did not reflect changes in where all U.S. individuals or individuals living in poverty were located, which increased at a similar rate in both types of locations.
- The number of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness dropped 19.2 percent (168,517 fewer people) in principal cities, and increased by 1.7 percent (4,050 people) in suburban and rural areas. During the same time period, the number of individuals living in poverty in principal cities and in suburban and rural areas increased (25.7% and 26.6%), as did the number of all U.S. individuals in both locations (17.8% and 15.7%).
- Although the share of all U.S. individuals living in poverty in suburban and rural areas stayed roughly level (59.5% in 2007 and 59.6% in 2017), the share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in those areas increased by nearly 20 percent, from 21.3 percent in 2007 to 25.4 percent in 2017.

### EXHIBIT 2.14: Geographic Distribution

Sheltered Individuals, U.S. Individuals Living in Poverty, and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017



Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. The revised estimates result in higher proportions of people in principal cities for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the total U.S. population than shown in past reports. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.<sup>3</sup>

### EXHIBIT 2.15: Percent Change by Geography

Sheltered Individuals, U.S. Individuals Living in Poverty, and U.S. Individuals, 2007-2017

Population	2016-2017		2007-2017	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
Sheltered Individuals	-1.5	4.6	-19.2	1.7
U.S. Individuals Living in Poverty	-1.0	0.2	25.7	26.6
U.S. Individuals	1.4	1.3	17.8	15.7

Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.<sup>4</sup>

## Characteristics by Geography

### In 2017

- Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas were more likely to identify as white and non-Hispanic than African-American (52.7% versus 31.4%), while the share was roughly equal in principal cities (41.1% versus 41.3%).
- Women made up a larger share of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas than in cities (32.4% versus 28.4%).
- A slightly smaller share of individual adults experiencing sheltered homelessness had a disability in cities than in suburban and rural areas (48.9% versus 50.1%).
- Elderly individuals (age 62 or older) made up approximately the same proportion of the sheltered population in both cities and suburban and rural areas (8.1% and 7.5%).

### Individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in principal cities were about equally likely to be white and non-Hispanic (41.1%) and African American (41.3%)

### Changes Over Time

- The share of elderly individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness who were 62 or older increased both in cities and in suburban and rural areas between 2007 and 2017-- from 4.4 percent to 8.1 percent in cities and from 3 percent to 7.5 percent in suburban and rural areas.
- The racial characteristics of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas remained about the same between 2007 and 2017. However, the percentage of sheltered individuals who identified as Hispanic in suburban or rural areas declined from 14.5 percent to 10.4 percent.
- In cities, the share of sheltered individuals who identified as black or African American increased from 33.6 percent in 2007 to 41.3 percent in 2017. The percentage of individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as Hispanic dropped from 23.4 percent to 13.9 percent over the same time period.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the share of sheltered adult individuals with a disability declined in suburban and rural areas by 9.2 percentage points (from 59.3% to 50.1%), but increased 14.8 percentage points in cities (from 34.1% to 48.9%).

### EXHIBIT 2.16: Characteristics by Geography

Sheltered Individuals, 2007-2017 (in %)

Characteristic	Principal Cities			Suburban and Rural Areas		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
# Homeless People	877,974	720,315	709,457	236,990	230,522	241,040
<b>Gender of Adults</b>						
Male	73.8	72.5	71.6	71.1	67.1	67.6
Female	26.2	27.5	28.4	29.0	32.9	32.4
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Hispanic	23.4	13.1	13.9	14.5	10.7	10.4
Non-Hispanic	76.6	86.9	86.1	85.5	89.3	89.7
<b>Race</b>						
White, Non-Hispanic	39.7	42.6	41.1	52.8	54.2	52.7
White, Hispanic	16.0	8.8	9.3	7.5	7.7	7.6
Black or African American	33.6	40.5	41.3	31.6	30.4	31.4
Other One Race	2.8	4.5	4.6	3.0	3.5	3.5
Multiple Races	7.9	3.6	3.7	5.1	4.2	4.8
<b>Age</b>						
Under Age 18	5.3	2.5	3.0	3.3	2.9	3.8
18 - 30	19.4	22.7	22.3	23.8	23.6	22.7
18 - 24	--	10.6	10.8	--	11.2	10.6
25 - 30	--	12.1	11.5	--	12.4	12.1
31 - 50	51.6	41.6	40.6	53.0	40.9	40.8
51 - 61	19.4	26.0	26.0	17.0	26.3	25.2
62 and Older	4.4	7.2	8.1	3.0	6.4	7.5
<b>Household Size</b>						
1 Person	99.8	97.8	97.5	98.9	97.8	97.3
2 People	0.2	2.0	2.2	0.8	2.1	2.5
3 People	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
4 People	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
5 or More People	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
<b>Disability Status of Adults</b>						
Disabled	34.1	46.4	48.9	59.3	50.1	50.1
Not Disabled	66.0	53.6	51.1	40.7	49.9	49.9

Note: Data were collected on people age 18-30 until 2015, when this information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

## Living Situation Before Entering Shelter\*

Information on where individuals were staying before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs was asked of all individuals, including children experiencing homelessness without adults.

### In 2017

- Before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs in 2017, about half (49.6%) of individuals were already homeless, while a third (32.1%) came from a housing arrangement of some kind. The remaining individuals came from institutional settings (13.3%) or other settings (4.9%).
- More individuals entered emergency shelter or transitional housing from places not meant for human habitation (55.3%) than from other shelters (44.7%).
- About two-fifths of the 126,726 individuals who entered emergency shelter or transitional housing from an institutional setting came from a substance abuse treatment center (22.3%) or a psychiatric facility (15.2%), while another two-fifths (41%) entered from a correctional facility.
- Among individuals who were not already homeless before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs, less than two thirds (63.7%) came from housing. About one-quarter (26.5%) entered from institutional settings, and the rest (9.8%) entered from other settings such as motels.

### Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of individuals entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs from homeless situations increased by 13.8 percent overall (11.4% from sheltered locations and 15.8% from unsheltered locations).
- Over a longer time period, 2007 to 2017, the share of individuals who entered emergency shelter or transitional housing programs from unsheltered locations increased from 13.7 percent to 27.4 percent, while those coming from other shelter programs declined from 31.2 percent to 22.2 percent.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the share of adult individuals who were staying in a hospital before entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing program rose from 1.4 percent to 2.9 percent, while the share entering from a psychiatric facility rose only slightly, from 1.5 percent to 2.0 percent.
- The share of adult individuals entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs from housing they rented declined between 2007 and 2017, from 9.6 percent to 6.8 percent.
- Of the individuals who were not already homeless before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs, the share who entered from institutional settings increased from 20.8 percent in 2007 to 26.5 percent in 2017.

\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017

## EXHIBIT 2.17: Places Individuals Stayed

Before Entering Shelter\* and Change Over Time, 2007-2017

Place Stayed	2017		2016-2017		2007-2017	
	#	%	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
<b>Already Homeless</b>	<b>471,682</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>57,077</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>7,642</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Sheltered	210,870	44.7	21,577	11.4	-111,514	-34.6
Unsheltered	260,812	55.3	35,500	15.8	119,156	84.1
<b>Housing</b>	<b>305,183</b>	<b>32.1</b>	<b>-30,387</b>	<b>-9.1</b>	<b>-53,436</b>	<b>-14.9</b>
Staying with family	129,472	42.4	-14,530	-10.1	-20,641	-13.8
Staying with friends	101,644	33.3	-12,107	-10.6	14,517	16.7
Rented housing unit	64,318	21.1	-3,013	-4.5	-34,606	-35.0
Owned housing unit	6,884	2.3	-458	-6.2	-13,056	-65.5
Permanent supportive housing (PSH)	2,865	0.9	-279	-8.9	350	13.9
<b>Institutional Settings</b>	<b>126,726</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>-1,611</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>7,988</b>	<b>6.7</b>
Substance abuse treatment center	28,257	22.3	-294	-1.0	-8,384	-22.9
Correctional facility	51,936	41.0	-1,161	-2.2	-471	-0.9
Hospital	27,249	21.5	105	0.4	12,957	90.7
Psychiatric facility	19,284	15.2	-261	-1.3	3,886	25.2
<b>Other Settings</b>	<b>46,905</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>-13,126</b>	<b>-21.9</b>	<b>-45,258</b>	<b>-49.1</b>
Hotel or motel	29,876	63.7	-2,928	-8.9	5,873	24.5
Foster care home	3,445	7.3	259	8.1	-2,345	-40.5
Other living arrangement	13,584	29.0	-10,457	-43.5	-48,786	-78.2

Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

## EXHIBIT 2.18: Places Individuals Stayed

Who Were Not Already Homeless  
Before Entering Shelter\*, 2007-2017 (in %)

2007	2016	2017
63.0	64.0	63.7
20.8	24.5	26.5
16.2	11.5	9.8



Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. This change was applied beginning with the 2017 AHAR Report. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

## Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns

**E**mergency shelter and transitional housing programs were designed differently. Emergency shelters were designed as high-volume, high-turnover programs; their primary purpose was to provide temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness. In contrast, transitional housing programs were designed to offer people experiencing homelessness shelter as well as supportive services for up to 24 months, assuming people would stay longer than they do in emergency shelters.

### In 2017

- There were 136,187 year-round beds for individuals in emergency shelters and 60,313 year-round beds for individuals in transitional housing programs. Of the 950,497 individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness at some point during the reporting year, 85.9 percent stayed in emergency shelters only, 10.7 percent stayed in transitional housing programs only, and 3.4 percent used both emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.
- Over the course of the reporting year, the median length of stay for individuals in emergency shelter was 22 nights with 6.2 individuals served per bed.
- The median length of stay for individuals in transitional housing programs was 101 nights, or about three months, with 2.2 individuals served per bed throughout the year.
- On average, 88.6 percent of emergency shelter beds were occupied per night, while 82.5 percent of transitional housing beds were occupied per night.

### Changes Over Time

- The length of stay for individuals in emergency shelter was slightly longer in 2017 than in 2016, while the length of stay in transitional housing was slightly shorter. The average number of nights an individual stayed in emergency shelter increased from 50 nights to 53 nights, while the average stay in transitional housing declined from 138 nights in 2016 to 136 nights in 2017.
- Between 2016 and 2017, the average occupancy rate for transitional housing decreased from 84.9 percent to 82.5 percent, while average occupancy increased for emergency shelter beds (85.5% to 88.6%). The bed turnover rate remained stable for both program types.
- Over the longer period, lengths of stay in both emergency shelter and transitional housing grew longer. The median number of nights in emergency shelter increased from 14 to 22 between 2007 and 2017, while the median number of nights in transitional shelter increased from 91 to 101.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the homeless services system nationwide saw the number of emergency shelter beds for individuals increase by 23,023 beds, while the number of transitional housing beds for individuals nationwide decreased by a larger amount, 39,524 beds.

### EXHIBIT 2.19: Length of Stay

Individuals in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2017

Length of Stay	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing	
	#	%	#	%
7 days or less	290,440	34.4	7,375	5.5
8 to 30 days	215,755	25.6	18,738	14.0
31 to 180 days	274,716	32.5	68,054	50.8
181 to 360 days	48,250	5.7	26,365	19.7
361 to 366 days	14,866	1.8	13,498	10.1

Note: Length of stay accounts for multiple program entries/exits by summing the total number of (cumulative) days in a homeless residential program during the 12-month reporting period. The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.

### EXHIBIT 2.20: Bed-Use Patterns

Individuals in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2007-2017

Bed-Use Patterns	Emergency Shelter			Transitional Housing		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
Median # nights	14	21	22	91	103	101
Average # nights	38	50	53	130	138	136
Average occupancy rate (in %)	90.2	85.5	88.6	80.7	84.9	82.5
Bed count	113,164	131,106	136,187	99,837	69,150	60,313
Turnover rate	8.9	6.3	6.2	2.1	2.2	2.2

Note1: The average daily occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the average daily census during the 12-month reporting period by the total of year-round equivalent beds for that year.

Note2: The total bed count is based on the year-round beds determined at one point in time from the HIC.

Note3: The turnover rate measures the number of people served per available bed over the 12-month reporting period, and is calculated by dividing the number of people served by the total of year-round equivalent beds for that year.



**2017**

# Homeless Families with Children IN THE UNITED STATES

## **POINT-IN-TIME (PIT)**

One-Night Estimates of Homeless Families with Children .....	3-3
By State .....	3-5
By State and Sheltered Status .....	3-6

## **HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS)**

One-Year Estimates of Homeless Families with Children .....	3-9
---	-----

### Characteristics of Sheltered Families with Children

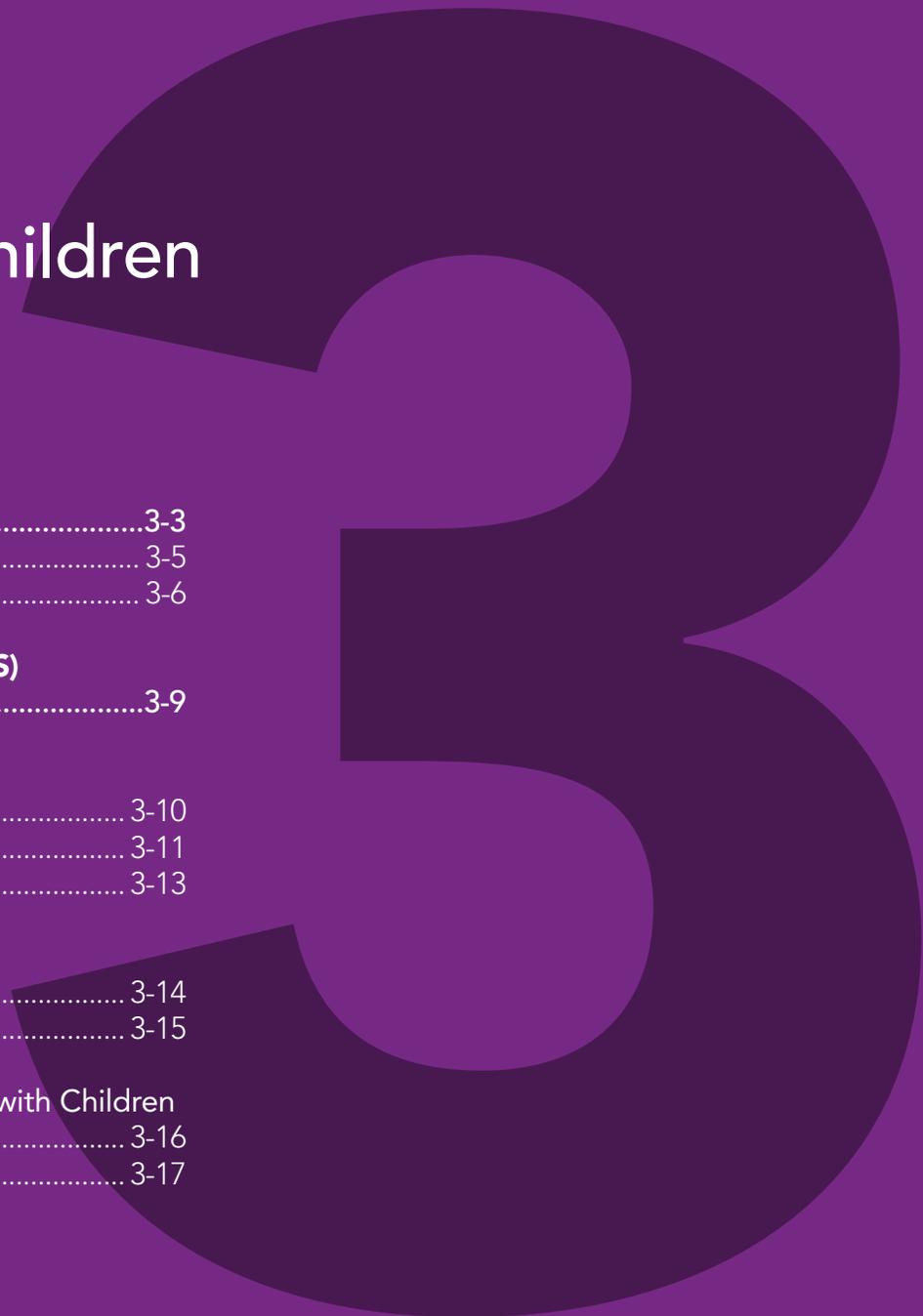
Gender and Age .....	3-10
Ethnicity and Race .....	3-11
Household Size and Disability Status .....	3-13

### Geography of Sheltered Families with Children

Geographic Location .....	3-14
Characteristics by Geography .....	3-15

### Patterns of Homeless Service Use Among Sheltered Families with Children

Living Situation Before Entering Shelter .....	3-16
Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns .....	3-17



# 2017 Homeless Families with Children

IN THE UNITED STATES

## Did You Know?

PIT

On a single night in January 2017, **184,411** people were experiencing homelessness as part of a family with children 

This is a **21.4% decline** since 2007 

For 33 states and D.C., at least **91%** of people experiencing homelessness in families were in sheltered locations

People in families with children in unsheltered & sheltered locations

9%

91% 

HMIS

In 2017, **478,718** people in families with children experienced sheltered homelessness at some point during the year 

This is **essentially the same** number as in 2007 

About **3 in 5 people** experiencing sheltered homelessness as part of a family were children under age 18 

**Between 2007 and 2017**, people in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness



▼ **5.5%**  
CITIES



▲ **19.1%**  
SUBURBAN & RURAL AREAS

### KEY TERM

**Families with children** are households composed of at least one adult and one child under age 18. Family households with children have various compositions: single-parent families, two-parent families, and multi-generation families.

**Chronically Homeless People in Families** are people in families with children in which the head of household has a disability and has either been continuously homeless for 1 year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years where the combined length of time homeless in those occasions is at least 12 months.

**Parenting Youth** are people under age 25 who are the parents or legal guardians of one or more children (under age 18) who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, where there is no person over age 24 in the household.

# 2017 One-Night Estimates OF HOMELESS FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

## PIT

This section presents the Point-in-Time (PIT) estimates of people who experienced homelessness as part of a family with children in the U.S. The PIT estimates are one-night counts of people experiencing homelessness in both sheltered and unsheltered locations. The one-night counts are conducted by CoCs nationwide and occur during the last ten days in January. CoCs are required to conduct a PIT count in shelters (emergency shelter and transitional housing programs) and a street (or “unsheltered”) count at least every other year. The unsheltered PIT count was required in 2017.

“Families with children” are households composed of at least one adult and one child under age 18. Most of the estimates in this section describe the number of people in family households rather than the number of households.

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- 184,411 people experienced homelessness as part of 57,886 families with children. About a third (33.5%) of all people experiencing homelessness on a single night were in families.
- About nine in ten people experiencing homelessness as part of a family on a single night (91%) were in sheltered locations, while only 9 percent were unsheltered.

### Chronically Homeless People in Families with Children<sup>1</sup>

- Of all people with chronic patterns of homelessness in January 2017, only 8.8 percent (8,387 people) were in families with children. Of people in families with chronic patterns of homelessness, nearly three in ten (28.7%) were in unsheltered locations.

### Homeless People in Parenting Youth Families with Children<sup>2</sup>

- 21,338 people were experiencing homelessness in families with children with a parent under the age of 25. Five percent of people in parenting youth families experiencing homelessness were in unsheltered locations.

<sup>1</sup> Estimate differs from the 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report: Part 1 due to an adjustment made by Los Angeles to their unsheltered population. The number of chronically homeless people in families was reduced by 70 people. The number of parenting youth was reduced by 250 people.

<sup>2</sup> Homeless families with parenting youth draw from multiple populations: families with at least one adult and one child (like the other families described in this section) and child-only families, where the head of household is under age 18. This population of families with only children and no adults, though described here as “families,” is considered part of the population of “individuals” experiencing homelessness. The 184,411 people in families with children do not include these individuals.

Data Source: PIT 2007–2017

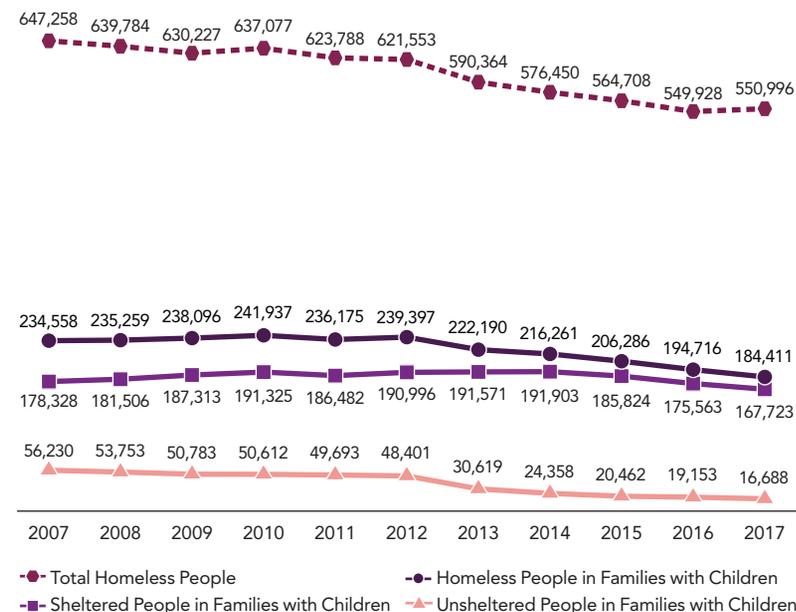
Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories

See the supporting PIT data tabulations posted on HUD’s Resource Exchange at [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

Since 2007, the number of people in families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness on a single night in January dropped by 70.3%.

### EXHIBIT 3.1: One-Night Counts of Homeless People in Families with Children

PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007–2017



Note: 2017 estimate differs from the 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report: Part 1 due to an adjustment made by Los Angeles to their unsheltered population. The number of unsheltered people in families was reduced by 250 people.

**Between January 2016 and January 2017**

- The number of people experiencing homelessness in families with children declined 5.3 percent (10,305 fewer people). Similarly, there were 5.5 percent fewer homeless family households (3,379 households) in 2017 than in 2016.
- The share of people in families counted in shelters rather than unsheltered locations increased slightly between 2016 and 2017 (from 90.2% to 91%).
- Both sheltered and unsheltered family homelessness declined, with 7,840 fewer people experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children in 2017 than in 2016 (a 4.5% decline), and 2,465 fewer in unsheltered locations (an 12.9% decline).

**Between January 2007 and January 2017**

- The number of people experiencing homelessness in families with children on a single night declined 21.4 percent (50,147 fewer people). The drop in people in families with children in unsheltered locations largely drove the overall decline, with 70.3 percent fewer people in families in unsheltered locations (39,542 fewer people). Those experiencing sheltered homelessness declined more modestly, by 5.9 percent (10,605 fewer people).
- Over the ten-year period, the number of family households with children experiencing homelessness declined 26.3 percent (20,649 fewer family households).

**EXHIBIT 3.2: Change in Homeless People in Families with Children**

PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007-2017

Years	Total Homeless People in Families with Children		Sheltered People in Families with Children		Unsheltered People in Families with Children	
	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
2016 to 2017	-10,305	-5.3	-7,840	-4.5	-2,465	-12.9
2015 to 2016	-11,570	-5.6	-10,261	-5.5	-1,309	-6.4
2014 to 2015	-9,975	-4.6	-6,079	-3.2	-3,896	-16.0
2013 to 2014	-5,929	-2.7	332	0.2	-6,261	-20.4
2012 to 2013	-17,207	-7.2	575	0.3	-17,782	-36.7
2011 to 2012	3,222	1.4	4,514	2.4	-1,292	-2.6
2010 to 2011	-5,762	-2.4	-4,843	-2.5	-919	-1.8
2009 to 2010	3,841	1.6	4,012	2.1	-171	-0.3
2008 to 2009	2,837	1.2	5,807	3.2	-2,970	-5.5
2007 to 2008	701	0.3	3,178	1.8	-2,477	-4.4
2007 to 2017	-50,147	-21.4	-10,605	-5.9	-39,542	-70.3

Data Source: PIT 2007–2017

Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories

See the supporting PIT data tabulations posted on HUD's Resource Exchange at [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

## By State

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- Nationally, about a third of all people experiencing homelessness were in families with children. A much higher percentage, more than half, of all people experiencing homelessness were in families in Massachusetts (64.3%), New York (58.2%), and the District of Columbia (52.1%).
- Nearly 3 in 10 people experiencing homelessness in families with children (28.5%) were in New York. Only three other states accounted for more than five percent of the nation's population of families with children experiencing homelessness: California (11.6%), Massachusetts (6.2%), and Florida (5.2%).

### Chronically Homeless People in Families with Children

- Over half of all people experiencing chronic homelessness in families with children (51.9%) were located in California, New York, Massachusetts, and Florida. Rhode Island was the only state that reported no people in families with chronic patterns of homelessness.

### Homeless People in Parenting Youth Families with Children

- New York had the largest number of people in parenting youth households experiencing homelessness (6,387 people), accounting for 30 percent of all people experiencing homelessness in families with a young parent.

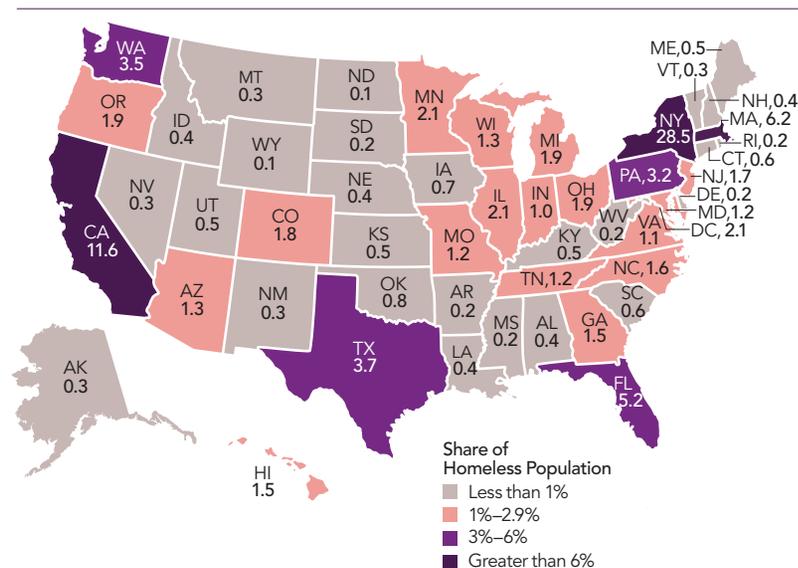
### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The one-night count of people experiencing homelessness in families with children increased in 13 states, totaling 2,776 more people. California and New York experienced the largest increases (1,076 and 790 more people).
- The number of people in families with children experiencing homelessness decreased in 37 states and the District of Columbia, totaling 13,068 fewer people. Massachusetts had the largest decrease, with 1,876 fewer people.

### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- New York and Massachusetts experienced the largest increases in the number of people experiencing homelessness in families with children between 2007 and 2017. The number increased by 17,568 in New York and 4,463 in Massachusetts.
- Thirty-eight states experienced declines in the number of people in families with children experiencing homelessness over the ten-year period. States with the largest declines were: California (6,762 fewer people), Texas (6,642 fewer people), Florida (5,607 fewer people), and New Jersey (5,239 fewer people).

**EXHIBIT 3.3: Homeless Families with Children in the U.S.**  
Percentage of National Total in Each State, 2017



**EXHIBIT 3.4: Homeless People in Families with Children by State**  
Largest Changes in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
New York	1,076	2.1	Massachusetts	-1,876	-14.2
California	790	3.9	Georgia	-892	-24.5
Oklahoma	265	23.9	Pennsylvania	-873	-13.0
New Hampshire	141	26.2	District of Columbia	-777	-16.6
Minnesota	97	2.6	Colorado	-731	-17.8
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
New York	17,568	50.9	California	-6,762	-24.1
Massachusetts	4,463	65.3	Texas	-6,642	-49.3
District of Columbia	2,287	142.7	Florida	-5,607	-37.3
Oklahoma	136	11.0	New Jersey	-5,239	-62.8
Mississippi	110	42.0	Georgia	-4,366	-61.3

Note: North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan were excluded from the list of largest decreases from 2007 to 2017 due to methodological changes.

Data Source: PIT 2007-2017  
Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories  
See Part 1 of the 2017 AHAR for more details on PIT estimates by state ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info))

## By State and Sheltered Status

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- In 33 states and the District of Columbia, at least 90 percent of people experiencing homelessness in families with children were in emergency shelters, safe havens, or transitional housing programs.
- Three states accounted for over half (56.3%) of the nation's population of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness as part of a family with children: California (23.6%, or 3,658 people), Florida (20.9%, or 3,242 people), and Oregon (11.8%, or 1,826 people). These three states accounted for more than 50 percent of this population in 2016 as well.

#### Chronically Homeless People in Families with Children

- Chronically homeless people in families with children were much more likely to be in unsheltered locations (28.7%) than all people in families with children experiencing homelessness (9%).

#### Homeless People in Parenting Youth Families with Children

- In 29 states and the District of Columbia, more than 90 percent of people experiencing homelessness in families with children with parenting youth were in sheltered rather than unsheltered locations.
- For the second year in a row, Mississippi is the only state where the majority of these families with children were in unsheltered locations (60.9%).

In 2017, North Dakota (58%) and Oregon (51.9%) were the only states where more than half of people experiencing homelessness in families with children were in unsheltered locations.

### EXHIBIT 3.5: Sheltered Homeless People in Families with Children by State

Largest Changes in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	1,582	9.9	Massachusetts	-1,872	-14.2
New York	1,090	2.1	Colorado	-897	-27.5
Oklahoma	125	12.9	District of Columbia	-777	-16.6
Minnesota	118	3.3	Pennsylvania	-773	-11.7
New Hampshire	116	22.0	Illinois	-728	-16.1
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
New York	17,684	51.4	New Jersey	-4,718	-60.5
Massachusetts	4,752	72.7	Texas	-3,422	-35.1
District of Columbia	2,287	142.7	Washington	-2,956	-33.8
Hawaii	550	34.1	Oregon	-2,516	-59.8
Oklahoma	204	23.0	Illinois	-2,407	-38.9

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

## By State and Sheltered Status

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- In 13 states, the number of people in families experiencing homelessness in sheltered locations increased (3,515 additional people). California (1,582 additional people) and New York (1,090 additional people) had the largest increases.
- The number of people in families experiencing sheltered homelessness declined in 36 states and the District of Columbia (11,114 fewer people). The largest decreases were in Massachusetts (1,872) and Colorado (897).
- California had the largest decreases in the one-night counts of people in families with children in unsheltered locations: 792 fewer people in 2017 than in 2016.

### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- The largest increases in the number of people in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness were in New York (17,684 additional people) and Massachusetts (4,752 additional people). The largest decreases were in New Jersey (4,718 fewer people) and Texas (3,422 fewer people).
- California, Georgia, Florida, and Texas all had substantial decreases in people in families with children experiencing unsheltered homelessness over this ten-year period. The District of Columbia continued its ten-year trend of sheltering all people in families with children experiencing homelessness.

## EXHIBIT 3.6: Unsheltered Homeless People in Families with Children by State

Largest Changes in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
Florida	441	15.7	California	-792	-17.8
Texas	235	89.0	Georgia	-683	-77.1
Colorado	166	19.7	Hawaii	-477	-47.7
Oklahoma	140	97.9	Oregon	-455	-19.9
North Dakota	86	136.5	Washington	-412	-43.1
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
Montana	130	216.7	California	-6,362	-63.5
Mississippi	67	1,675.0	Georgia	-4,317	-95.5
Maine	58	414.3	Florida	-4,030	-55.4
Idaho	52	38.5	Texas	-3,220	-86.6
--	--	--	Oregon	-1,684	-48.0

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes. Only four states experienced increases in unsheltered homelessness among people in families with children.

## 2017 PROFILE

A TYPICAL PERSON EXPERIENCING SHELTERED HOMELESSNESS IN A FAMILY WITH CHILDREN WAS:

### In a Household with a Young Mother and a Child

77.9% FEMALE /

52.1% 2- OR 3-PERSON HOUSEHOLD



### Under Age 18

60.8%

### Black or African American

51.8%

### Not Disabled

78.5%

---

### Living in a City

68.3%



---

### Staying in Housing

PRIOR TO USING A SHELTER\* (53%)

---

### Spending 46 Nights in Emergency Shelter



\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.



# 2017 One-Year Estimates OF SHELTERED HOMELESS FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

## HMIS

These estimates are based on data collected over the course of one year and account for all people who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program as part of a family with children at any time from October 1 through September 30 of the reporting year. The estimates are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data to HUD. The estimates adjust statistically for people experiencing sheltered homelessness in shelter programs that do not yet participate in their local HMIS—thus providing a complete estimated enumeration of sheltered people in families with children in each community—and are weighted to represent the entire country. These HMIS-based estimates do not include: (a) sheltered people in families with children in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories; (b) people in families with children served by victim service providers; and (c) people in families with children in unsheltered locations who never used a shelter program during the 12-month period.

“Families with children” are households composed of at least one adult *and* one child under age 18. Most of the estimates in this section describe people in families rather than family households.

### Estimate of Families with Children Experiencing Sheltered Homelessness in 2017

- An estimated 478,718 people in 150,630 family households used an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2017.<sup>3</sup>
- About a third of all people who experienced sheltered homelessness over the course of the year, 33.8 percent, were in families with children.

### Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of people in families who used a shelter at some time over the course of a year declined 0.6 percent (2,692 fewer people), while the number of family households using shelters increased 2.2 percent, or 3,275 households. This is the third time in ten years that the direction of change for sheltered people in families and sheltered family households was different, reflecting year-to-year fluctuations in the sizes of families experiencing sheltered homelessness.
- In 2017, the number of people in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness over the course of one year was essentially the same as in 2007, just 1.1 percent higher or 5,177 more people. The number was higher during some of the intervening years and highest in 2010, with 567,334 people in families using shelters at some time during that year.

<sup>3</sup> The 95 percent confidence interval for the number of sheltered people in families with children in 2017 is 422,518 to 534,918 (478,718 ± 56,200).

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017

In 2017, one-third of people experiencing sheltered homelessness were people in families with children.

EXHIBIT 3.7a: Trend in One-Year Estimates of Sheltered People in Families with Children, 2007–2017

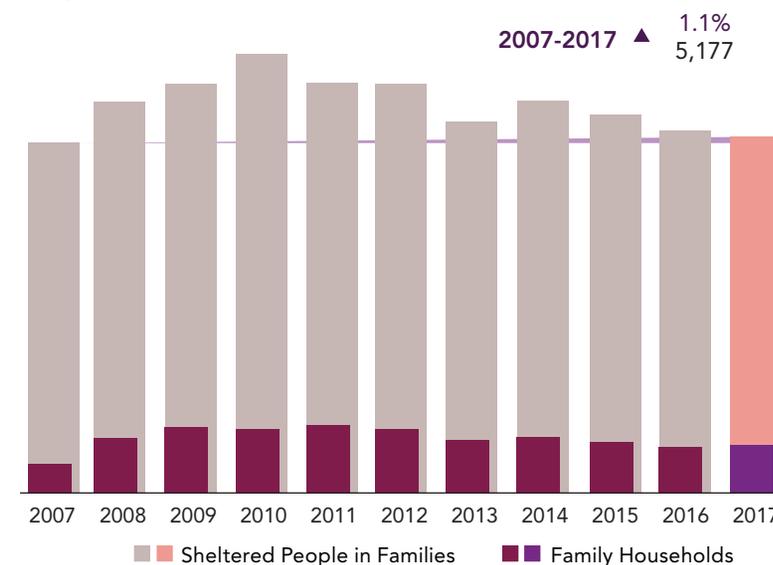


EXHIBIT 3.7b: One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Families with Children and Annual Change from the Prior Year, and One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Family Households, 2007–2017

Year	Sheltered People in Families with Children Estimate	# Change from Previous Year	% Change from Previous Year	Family Households Estimate
2017	478,718	-2,692	-0.6	150,630
2016	481,410	-21,111	-4.2	147,355
2015	502,521	-14,895	-2.9	154,380
2014	517,416	21,702	4.4	160,301
2013	495,714	-39,706	-7.4	156,540
2012	535,420	-1,994	-0.4	167,854
2011	537,414	-29,920	-5.3	172,767
2010	567,334	31,887	6.0	168,227
2009	535,447	18,723	3.6	170,129
2008	516,724	43,183	9.1	159,142
2007	473,541	—	—	130,968

## Gender and Age

Beginning in 2015, HUD collected age information for people between the ages of 18 and 24 who were experiencing sheltered homelessness over the course of the one-year period. Information is collected separately for people between the ages of 25 and 30. For more detailed information on age categories, see the supporting HMIS data available for download ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info)).

### In 2017

- Women accounted for more than three in four adults experiencing sheltered homelessness as part of families with children (77.9%). This share was 1.4 times higher than the share of women among adults in U.S. families (54.4%), and 1.2 times higher than the share among adults in families living in poverty (65.5%).
- Children under 18 made up about three in five people (60.8%) experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children. Among these children, about half (49.0%) were under six years old, and one in ten (10.8%) were infants less than one year old.
- Adults between the ages of 25 and 30 in families with children were at greater risk of falling into sheltered homelessness than were older adults living with children. One of every 204 adults in U.S. families who were between the ages of 25 and 30 used a shelter program at some point during the year, whereas only one in 572 adults in families who were ages 31 to 50 did so.

## Nearly half of children (48.9%) experiencing sheltered homelessness in families were 5 years of age or younger.

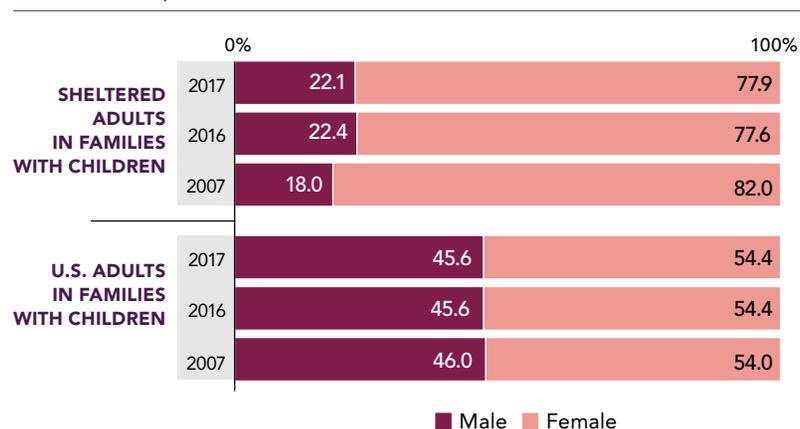
### Changes Over Time

- The ages of children using shelter as part of a family shifted somewhat between 2007 and 2017. The most common age remained between ages 1 through 5, comprising similar shares of children experiencing sheltered homelessness over time (39.1% in 2007 and 38.1% in 2017). The share of children who were infants less than one year old decreased from 12.2 percent to 10.8 percent. Meanwhile, the share of children between 6 years and 12 years old increased from 33.6 percent to 36.5 percent.
- Although adults experiencing sheltered homelessness between the ages of 51 and 61 in families with children represent just 1.4 percent of all people experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children, their numbers have grown by 19.6 percent between 2007 and 2017.
- The gender of adults experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children shifted somewhat between 2007 and 2017, with women comprising a smaller share in 2017 (77.9%) than in 2007 (82%).

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017; ACS 2006, 2015, 2016

### EXHIBIT 3.8: Gender

Sheltered Adults in Families with Children and U.S. Adults in Families with Children, 2007-2017



### EXHIBIT 3.9: Age

Sheltered People in Families with Children and U.S. People in Families with Children, 2007-2017 (in %)

Age	Sheltered People in Families with Children			U.S. People in Families with Children		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
Under Age 18	61.6	60.8	60.8	46.6	46.2	46.3
18 - 30	20.9	20.1	19.8	14.5	13.9	13.6
18 - 24	--	9.3	8.9	--	7.1	6.9
25 - 30	--	10.8	10.9	--	6.8	6.7
31 - 50	16.0	17.6	17.8	32.2	31.1	31.1
51 - 61	1.2	1.3	1.4	4.7	6.1	6.1
62 and Older	0.3	0.2	0.2	2.0	2.8	2.9

Note: Prior to 2015, data were collected on people age 18-30. Since then, information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

## Ethnicity and Race

### In 2017

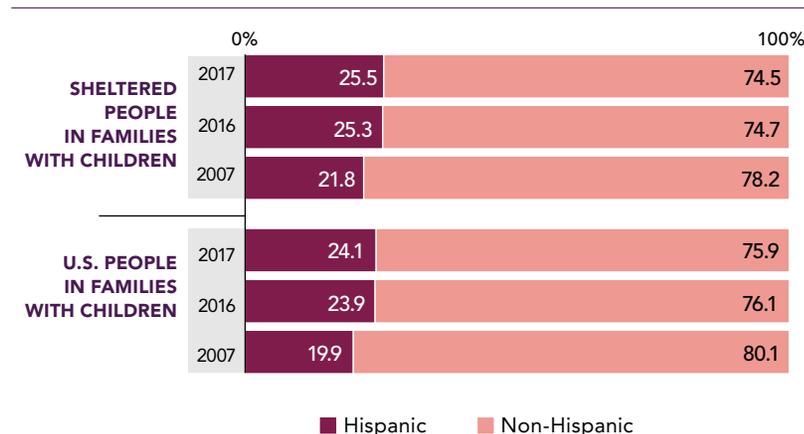
- The share of people in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as Hispanic is fairly representative of the share of Hispanics among all families with children in the U.S. (25.5% and 24.1%), but it was nearly ten percentage points lower than the share of Hispanics in families with children in the U.S. living in poverty (35.2%).
- African Americans were overrepresented among adults in families with children experiencing homelessness, accounting for 51.8 percent compared to 13.4 percent of adults in families with children in the U.S. African Americans were also overrepresented compared to adults in families with children in the U.S. living in poverty (22.9%).
- Sheltered people in families with children were more likely to identify as a race other than white or as white-Hispanic (79%) than people experiencing sheltered homelessness as individuals (55.9%).
- People identifying as white and non-Hispanic were underrepresented among sheltered adults in families with children (21%) compared to the adults in the U.S. families living in poverty (33.6%).

### Changes Over Time

- The share of sheltered people in families with children who identified as Hispanic increased, from 21.8 percent in 2007 to 25.5 percent in 2017, proportionate to the growth among all people in families with children in the U.S. (19.9% to 24.1%), as well as all people in families in the U.S. living in poverty (30.8% to 35.2%).
- While the proportion of African Americans among all U.S. families with children has remained relatively stable between 2007 and 2017 (13.8% versus 13.4%), the proportion of people experiencing sheltered homelessness who identified as black or African American declined, from 55.2 percent in 2007 to 51.8 percent in 2017. In a similar trend, the proportion of black or African American families living in poverty decreased during the same timeframe (from 26.2% to 22.9%).

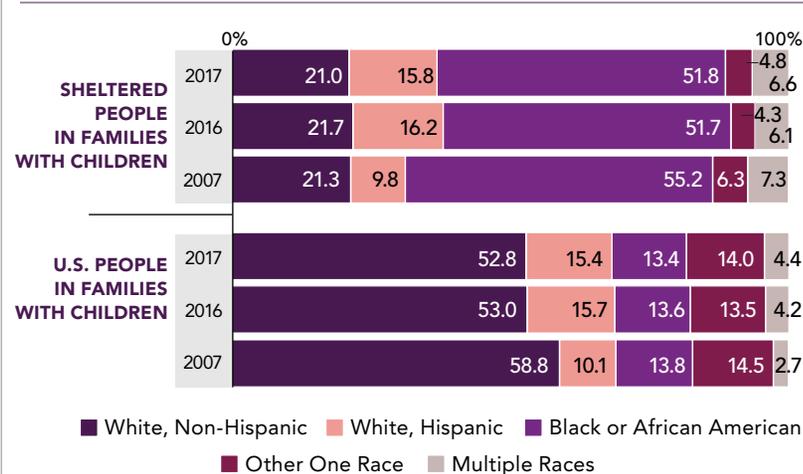
### EXHIBIT 3.10: Ethnicity

Sheltered People in Families with Children and U.S. People in Families with Children, 2007-2017



### EXHIBIT 3.11: Race

Sheltered People in Families with Children and U.S. People in Families with Children, 2007-2017





## Household Size and Disability Status

Throughout this report, the definition of “family” is a household with at least one adult and one child. The resulting minimum household size is two people. Family households have various compositions: single-parent families, two-parent families, and multi-generation families.

### In 2017

- Families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness were generally in smaller households than those in the broader U.S. population. More than half the people in families experiencing sheltered homelessness (52.1%) were in households of just two or three people. By contrast, only a quarter of the people in all families with children in the U.S. (24.9%) were in households of two or three people.
- About a quarter of the people in families experiencing sheltered homelessness (25.5%) were in households with five or more people.
- Adults in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness are 2.5 times more likely to have a disability (21.5%) than all adults in families with children in the U.S. (8.6%), and 1.4 times more likely than adults in families with children in the U.S. living in poverty (15.6%).
- The disability rate among adults in families with children using shelters at some time over a year (21.5%) is about half the rate found among individuals using shelters (49.2%).

Adults in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness are 2.5 times more likely to have a disability than all adults in families with children in the U.S.



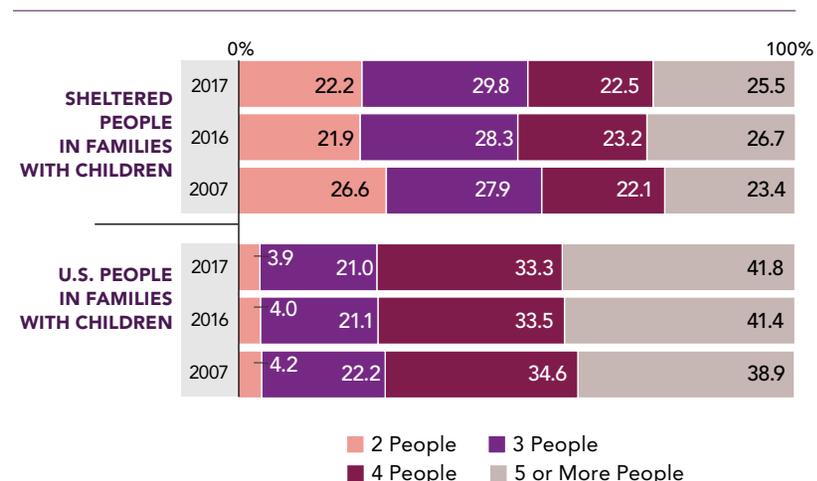
### Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of people in families experiencing sheltered homelessness decreased while the corresponding number of family households increased. This reflects a decline in mean household size, from 3.27 in 2016 to 3.18 in 2017.
- Over a longer time period, sizes of families experiencing homelessness increased. The proportion of two-person households dropped from 26.6 percent in 2007 to 22.2 percent in 2017, and the proportion of households of 5 or more people grew from 23.4 percent to 25.5 percent.
- Over the 2007-2017 period, the disability rate for adults in families using shelters at some time during a year increased from 16.4 percent in 2007 to 21.5 percent in 2017. During the same time period, the disability rate for adults in all U.S. families with children declined from 10.1 percent to 8.6 percent.

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017; ACS 2006, 2015, 2016

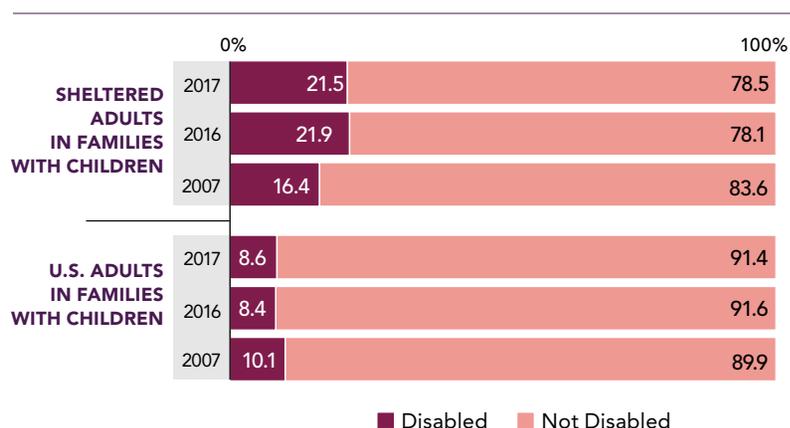
### EXHIBIT 3.12: Household Size

Sheltered People in Families with Children and U.S. People in Families with Children, 2007-2017



### EXHIBIT 3.13: Disability Status

Sheltered Adults in Families with Children and U.S. Adults in Families with Children, 2007-2017



## Geographic Location

### In 2017

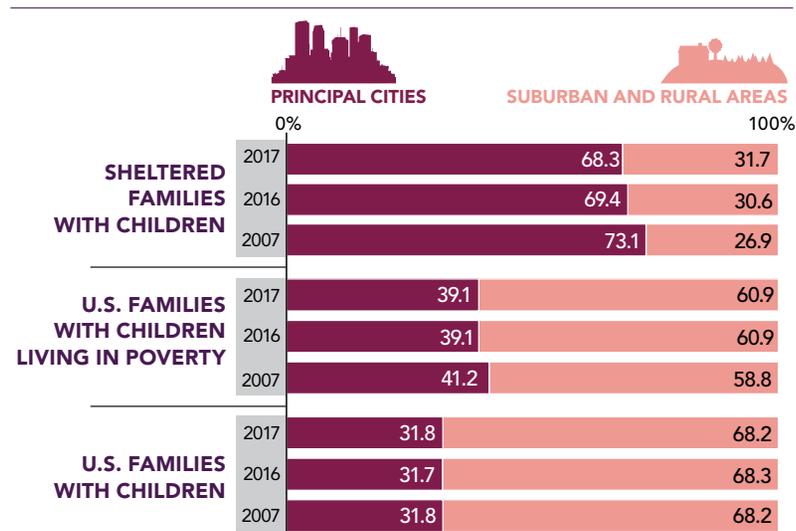
- More than two-thirds of people in families with children who experienced sheltered homelessness were in principal cities, 68.3 percent, while just under a third were in suburban and rural areas (31.7%). A much higher proportion of all people in U.S. families with children lived in suburban and rural areas (68.2%), as did a much higher portion of people in families living in poverty (60.9%).
- People in families experiencing sheltered homelessness were more likely to be in suburban and rural areas (31.7%) than were individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness (25.4%).

### Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of people in families experiencing sheltered homelessness declined by 2 percent (6,823 fewer people) in principal cities and increased 2.8 percent (4,132 more people) in suburban and rural areas.
- Although the geographical distribution of all U.S. families with children stayed roughly constant between 2007 and 2017, sheltered homelessness among people in families with children continued a gradual shift from principal cities to suburban and rural areas. People in families using shelters in principal cities declined by 5.5 percent (18,931 fewer people) and increased by 19.1 percent (24,334 more people) in suburban and rural areas.

### EXHIBIT 3.14: Geographic Distribution

Sheltered Families with Children, U.S. Families with Children Living in Poverty, and U.S. Families with Children, 2007-2017



Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. The revised estimates result in higher proportions of people in principal cities for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the total U.S. population than shown in past reports. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.<sup>2</sup>

### EXHIBIT 3.15: Percent Change by Geography

Change in the Number of Sheltered People in Families with Children, U.S. Families with Children Living in Poverty, and U.S. Families with Children, 2007-2017

Population	2016–2017		2007–2017	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
Sheltered Families with Children	-2.0	2.8	-5.5	19.1
U.S. Families with Children Living in Poverty	-6.6	-6.6	2.0	11.3
U.S. Families with Children	-0.2	-0.3	0.3	0.3

Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.<sup>3</sup>

## Characteristics by Geography

### In 2017

- A higher percentage of people experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children in principal cities identified as Hispanic (27.9%) than in suburban and rural areas (20.3%).
- While African Americans were the most commonly reported racial group among the sheltered family population in both principal cities and suburban and rural areas, African Americans accounted for a considerably higher share in principal cities than in suburban and rural areas (58.1% versus 38.7%).
- People who identified as white and non-Hispanic accounted for just 15.8 percent of people in families using shelters in principal cities but twice as high a proportion (32.1%) in suburban and rural areas.
- The disability rate among adults in families with children experiencing homelessness in suburban and rural areas was higher than the rate among sheltered families in principal cities (25.4% versus 19.6%).
- More families had either five or more people or just two people together in shelter in cities (26 percent with 5 or more people and 23.1 percent with two) than in suburban and rural areas (24.3 and 20.4 percent).

### Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, there was very little change in the characteristics of sheltered people in families with children in either principal cities or suburban or rural areas. Over the longer period, however, there were notable changes.
- While increasing from 56.0 percent to 58.1 percent in principal cities, the percentage of African Americans experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children dropped in suburban and rural areas, from 53.3 percent in 2007 to 38.7 percent in 2017.
- The percentage of people identifying as Hispanic increased in both principal cities and in suburban and rural areas, but by a wider margin in suburban and rural areas. In 2017, 27.9 percent of sheltered people in families with children in principal cities identified as Hispanic, compared to 24.6 percent in 2007. In suburban and rural areas, the percentage of sheltered people in families with children identifying as Hispanic increased from 13.4 percent to 20.3 percent during the same timeframe.
- The disability rate of adults in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness increased between 2007 and 2017, from 15.4 percent to 19.6 percent in principal cities and from 18.7 percent to 25.4 percent in suburban and rural areas.
- Between 2007 and 2017, the share of men in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness increased both in principal cities (from 17.8% to 21.7%) and in suburban and rural areas (from 18.3% to 22.9%).

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017

### EXHIBIT 3.16: Characteristics by Geography

Sheltered Homeless People in Families with Children, 2007-2017 (in %)

Characteristic	Principal Cities			Suburban and Rural Areas		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
# Homeless People in Families with Children	346,032	333,924	327,101	127,283	147,486	151,617
<b>Gender of Adults</b>						
Male	17.8	22.0	21.7	18.3	23.4	22.9
Female	82.2	78.0	78.3	81.7	76.6	77.1
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Hispanic	24.6	27.9	27.9	13.4	19.6	20.3
Non-Hispanic	75.4	72.1	72.1	86.6	80.4	79.7
<b>Race</b>						
White, Non-Hispanic	18.6	15.9	15.8	28.1	34.3	32.1
White, Hispanic	11.8	17.1	16.9	5.0	14.2	13.5
Black or African American	56.0	57.5	58.1	53.3	39.1	38.7
Other One Race	7.3	4.2	4.0	3.7	4.7	6.6
Multiple Races	6.4	5.3	5.3	9.8	7.7	9.1
<b>Age</b>						
Under Age 18	60.9	61.0	60.9	63.4	60.4	60.5
18 - 30	21.5	20.4	20.1	19.2	19.5	19.2
18 - 24	--	9.6	9.3	--	8.6	8.0
25 - 30	--	10.8	10.8	--	10.8	11.2
31 - 50	15.9	17.1	17.4	16.3	18.6	18.6
51 - 61	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.3	1.5
62 and Older	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
<b>Household Size</b>						
1 Person	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2 People	28.3	21.9	23.1	22.0	21.8	20.4
3 People	27.6	28.2	28.8	28.9	28.6	32.1
4 People	21.6	22.9	22.1	23.4	23.8	23.2
5 or More People	22.5	27.0	26.0	25.7	25.8	24.3
<b>Disability Status of Adults</b>						
Disabled	15.4	19.8	19.6	18.7	26.7	25.4
Not Disabled	84.7	80.2	80.4	81.3	73.3	74.6

Note: Data were collected on people age 18-30 until 2015, when this information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

## Living Situation Before Entering Shelter\*

Information on where people experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children stayed before entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs was asked only of adult members of families with children.

### In 2017

- Over half (53%) of adults in families with children entered an emergency shelter or transitional housing program from a housed situation, a considerably higher share than the percentage of individuals who came from a housed situation (32.1%). Of those 99,309 adults in families with children, the majority had been staying with family (47.7%) or friends (24.9%) before entering shelter.
- Adults in families with children were not as likely to be homeless prior to entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing program as individuals experiencing sheltered homelessness (38.2% versus 49.6%).
- Of those sheltered adults in families with children who were not already homeless, 85.7 percent were living in a housed situation prior to entering shelter, 2.6 percent were in institutional settings, and 11.8 percent were in other settings (predominantly hotels or motels not subsidized by vouchers).

### Changes Over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the percentage of adults in families entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing program from homelessness increased from 33 percent to 38.2 percent. Of those, the share entering shelter from the street or other unsheltered locations increased (from 32.9% to 35.1%) and those entering from other sheltered locations decreased (67.1% to 64.9%).
- Over a longer time period, between 2007 and 2017, the number of people in families with children accessing shelter directly from an unsheltered location increased by 400.2 percent (20,065 more people). The share entering shelter from the street or other unsheltered locations also increased (from 11.4% to 35.1%), while those entering from other sheltered locations decreased (88.6% to 64.9%).
- The number of adults in families who entered an emergency shelter or transitional housing program from housing declined by 8.4 percent (9,156 fewer people) between 2016 and 2017. This was driven by reductions in adults entering shelter from staying with family or friends and from housing units they rented (56.6% in 2016 and 51.9% in 2017).
- Despite recent declines in the number of people in families with children accessing emergency shelter or transitional housing from housed situations, there have been considerable increases over the last ten years (by 24% overall and by 39.4% from a rented housing unit).

\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017

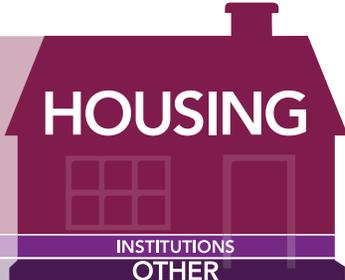
**EXHIBIT 3.17: Places Adults in Families with Children Stayed Before Entering Shelter\* and Change Over Time, 2007-2017**

Place Stayed	2017		2016–2017		2007–2017	
	#	%	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
<b>Already Homeless</b>	<b>71,539</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>9,317</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>27,567</b>	<b>62.7</b>
Sheltered	46,460	64.9	4,598	11.0	7,502	19.3
Unsheltered	25,079	35.1	4,719	23.2	20,065	400.2
<b>Housing</b>	<b>99,309</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>-9,156</b>	<b>-8.4</b>	<b>19,195</b>	<b>24.0</b>
Staying with family	47,354	47.7	-4,762	-9.1	11,701	32.8
Staying with friends	24,720	24.9	-2,036	-7.6	5,134	26.2
Rented housing unit	25,239	25.4	-2,480	-8.9	7,140	39.4
Owned housing unit	1,734	1.7	119	7.4	-4,638	-72.8
Permanent supportive housing (PSH)	262	0.3	3	1.2	-142	-35.1
<b>Institutional Settings</b>	<b>2,961</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>-343</b>	<b>-10.4</b>	<b>-161</b>	<b>-5.2</b>
Substance abuse treatment center	1,497	50.6	-387	-20.5	-403	-21.2
Correctional facility	690	23.3	-72	-9.4	121	21.3
Hospital	683	23.1	101	17.4	123	22.0
Psychiatric facility	91	3.1	15	19.7	-2	-2.2
<b>Other Settings</b>	<b>13,664</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>-804</b>	<b>-5.6</b>	<b>-5,377</b>	<b>-28.2</b>
Hotel or motel	12,393	90.7	229	1.9	-631	-4.8
Foster care home	122	0.9	-28	-18.7	77	171.1
Other living arrangement	1,149	8.4	-1,005	-46.7	-4,823	-80.8

Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

**EXHIBIT 3.18: Places Adults in Families with Children Stayed Who Were Not Already Homeless Before Entering Shelter\*, 2007-2017 (in %)**

2007	2016	2017
78.3	85.9	85.7
3.1	2.6	2.6
18.6	11.5	11.8



Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

## Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns

**E**mergency shelter and transitional housing programs were designed differently. Emergency shelters were designed as high-volume, high-turnover programs; their primary purpose was to provide temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness. In contrast, transitional housing programs were designed to offer people experiencing homelessness shelter as well as supportive services for up to 24 months, assuming people would stay longer than they do in emergency shelters.

### In 2017

- There were 141,350 beds in emergency shelters for families with children and 59,936 beds in transitional housing programs for families with children.
- Of the 478,718 people in families experiencing sheltered homelessness at some point during the reporting year, 83.7 percent stayed only in emergency shelters, 13.4 percent stayed only in transitional housing programs, and 2.9 percent used both emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.
- The median length of stay in emergency shelter for people in families with children was 46 nights, more than twice as long as for individuals (22 nights). The median stay in transitional housing was 138 nights (about four and a half months) over the course of one year.

### Changes Over Time

- The emergency shelter inventory for families with children increased by 43.8 percent (43,063 more beds) from 2007 to 2017, while the transitional housing inventory for families with children decreased by a slightly larger quantity (46.2%, or 51,432 fewer beds).
- The proportion of people in families with children experiencing sheltered homelessness that used emergency shelters at some point during the reporting year (either exclusively or in addition to transitional housing programs) increased from 75.4 percent in 2007 to 86.6 percent in 2017, while the proportion using transitional housing programs (either exclusively or in addition to emergency shelters) decreased from 30.5 percent in 2007 to 16.3 percent in 2017.
- Although emergency shelters served more people in families with children in 2017 (414,541 people) than in 2007 (356,899), these facilities served fewer people per available bed (3.5 people per bed in 2017 and 4.9 in 2007).
- The median length of stay for people in families with children using emergency shelters increased by 16 days between 2007 and 2017.
- Average occupancy rates increased in emergency shelters from 85.9 percent in 2007 to 86.1 percent in 2017 and in transitional housing programs from 72.9 percent in 2007 to 80.6 percent in 2017. Both 2017 occupancy rates represent slight decreases over the 2016 average occupancy rates of 90.4 percent in emergency shelters and 81.1 percent in transitional housing programs.

Data Source: HMIS 2007–2017; HIC 2007–2016

### EXHIBIT 3.19: Length of Stay

People in Families with Children in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2017

Length of Stay	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing	
	#	%	#	%
7 days or less	66,527	16.1	2,548	3.3
8 to 30 days	103,608	25.0	8,326	10.7
31 to 180 days	174,924	42.3	36,721	47.0
181 to 360 days	41,936	10.1	20,206	25.9
361 to 365 days	26,803	6.5	10,326	13.2

Note: Length of stay accounts for multiple program entries/exits by summing the total number of (cumulative) days in a homeless residential program during the 12-month reporting period. The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.

### EXHIBIT 3.20: Bed-Use Patterns

People in Families with Children in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2007-2017

Bed-Use Patterns	Emergency Shelter			Transitional Housing		
	2007	2016	2017	2007	2016	2017
Median # nights	30	49	46	151	140	138
Average # nights	67	91	90	174	166	163
Average occupancy rate (in %)	85.9	90.4	86.1	72.9	81.1	80.6
Bed Count	98,287	133,523	141,350	111,368	75,599	59,936
Turnover rate	4.9	3.7	3.5	1.6	1.8	1.8

Note 1: The average daily occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the average daily census during the 12-month reporting period by the total of year-round equivalent beds for that year.

Note 2: The total bed count is based on the year-round beds determined at one point in time from the HIC.

Note 3: The turnover rate measures the number of people served per available bed over the 12-month reporting period, and is calculated by dividing the total number of sheltered homeless persons by the number of year-round equivalent beds available that year.



# 2017 Unaccompanied Homeless Youth IN THE UNITED STATES

## POINT-IN-TIME (PIT)

One-Night Estimates of Unaccompanied Homeless

Youth.....	4-3
By State .....	4-4
By State and Sheltered Status .....	4-5



# 2017 Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

IN THE UNITED STATES

## Did You Know?

PIT

On a single night in January 2017, an estimated **38,303 unaccompanied youth** were experiencing homelessness



**87.9%** were 18-24  
**12.1%** were under 18

Unaccompanied youth under age 25 experiencing unsheltered and sheltered homelessness

**51.6%** **48.4%**



### KEY TERMS

**Unaccompanied Youth (under 18)** are people who are not part of a family with children or accompanied by their parent or guardian during their episode of homelessness, and who are under the age of 18.

**Unaccompanied Youth (18 to 24)** are people who are not part of a family with children or accompanied by their parent or guardian during their episode of homelessness, and who are between the age of 18 and 24.

# 2017 One-Night Estimates OF UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH

## PIT

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count data collection includes information on the number of young adults and children who are experiencing homelessness without a parent or guardian present. These estimates are reported separately for unaccompanied homeless youth who are under the age of 18 and for unaccompanied youth between the ages of 18 and 24 experiencing homelessness. Both groups are also included in total counts of people experiencing homelessness as individuals.<sup>1</sup>

The PIT estimates are based on one-night counts of people experiencing homelessness in both sheltered and unsheltered locations. The one-night counts are conducted by CoCs nationwide and occur during the last ten days in January. CoCs are required to conduct PIT counts of the sheltered homeless population each year and to conduct PIT counts of the unsheltered homeless population every other year. The unsheltered PIT count was required in 2017, and all 399 CoCs participating in the PIT reported unsheltered counts.

HUD and its federal partners selected the January 2017 PIT count as the baseline measure that will be used to assess future trends in the number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness on a single night in the United States.

HUD and its federal partners have been collaborating for many years to integrate their data collection efforts, including aligning project types with HUD emergency shelter and transitional housing project classifications. A key element of this integration was the Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) program funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). RHY programs have now integrated their data with HMIS. The 2018 AHAR will include estimates of unaccompanied youth experiencing sheltered homelessness over the course of a year.

This report discusses unaccompanied youth under age 25 experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness on a single night, with more detailed data available online.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> An individual is a person in a household that does not have both an adult (age 18 or older) and a child. See the Key Terms for more details.

<sup>2</sup> The PIT data used to produce the 2017 figures in this report can be downloaded from: [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

Data Source: PIT 2017  
Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories

Of the 38,303 youth who were homeless and unaccompanied on a night in January 2017, 12.1% were under age 18.

### EXHIBIT 4.1: One-Night Estimates of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

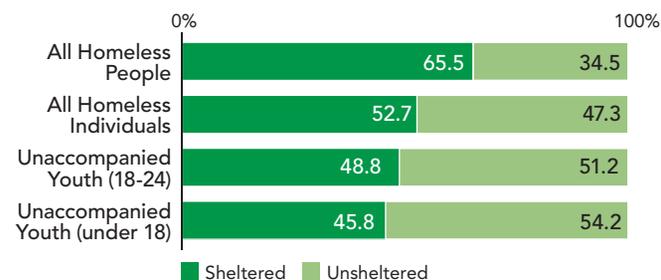
PIT Estimates by Age and Sheltered Status, 2017

	Total Unaccompanied Homeless Youth		Sheltered Unaccompanied Youth		Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
All Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (under 25)	38,303	100.0%	18,542	100.0%	19,761	100.0%
Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (under 18)	4,635	12.1%	2,122	11.4%	2,513	12.7%
Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (18-24)	33,668	87.9%	16,420	88.6%	17,248	87.3%

2017 estimate differs from the 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report: Part 1 due to an adjustment made by Los Angeles to their unsheltered population. The number of unsheltered homeless youth was reduced by 2,496 people.

### EXHIBIT 4.2: One-Night Estimates of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth, Homeless Individuals, and All Homeless People

PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2017

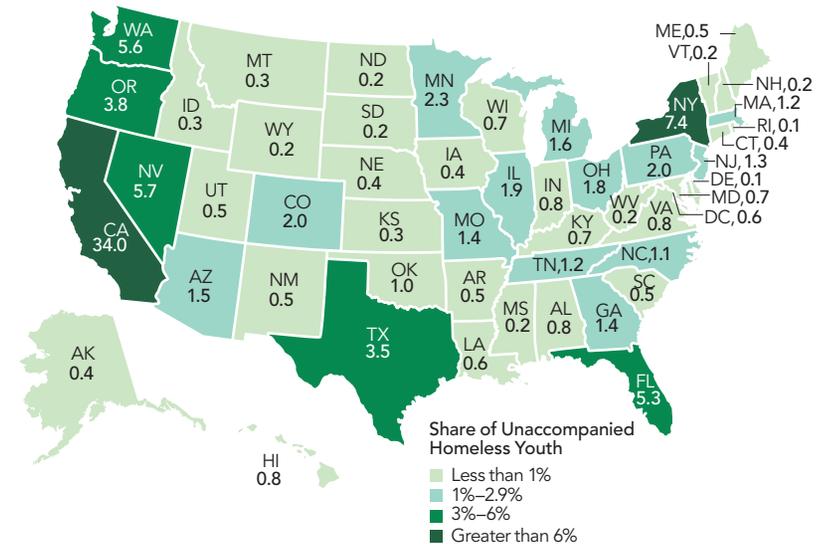


## By State

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- An estimated 38,303 unaccompanied youth under the age of 25 were experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness. Unaccompanied homeless youth were 7 percent of the total homeless population and 10.5 percent of people experiencing homelessness as individuals.
- Most unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness (87.9%; 33,668 people) were between the ages of 18 and 24; 12.1 percent (4,635 people) were under the age of 18.
- In addition, there were 9,332 parents and 12,006 children in families in which the parent was a youth under age 25. They are not included in this section but are described in the section of this report on Families with Children.
- Unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness are much more likely to be unsheltered (51.6%) than all people experiencing homelessness (34.5%) or people experiencing homelessness as individuals (47.3%). The younger unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness—people under age 18—are slightly more likely to be unsheltered (54.2%) than unaccompanied youth age 18 to 24 experiencing homelessness (51.2%).

**EXHIBIT 4.3: Unaccompanied Homeless Youth in the U.S.**  
Percentage of National Total in Each State, 2017



Data Source: PIT 2017  
Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories  
See Part 1 of the 2017 AHAR for more details on PIT estimates by state ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info))

## By State and Sheltered Status

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- One out of every two unaccompanied youth under the age of 25 experiencing homelessness across the country were identified in just four states. California reported the largest number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness (12,962 people), which is 34.0 percent of the national total. Other states with large numbers of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness were: New York (2,829; 7.4%), Nevada (2,166; 5.7%), Washington (2,135; 5.6%), and Florida (2,019; 5.3%).
- Nevada had the highest unsheltered rate among unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness in the country, with 89.2 percent (or 1,931 people) staying in places not meant for human habitation. Hawaii and California followed, with 82.4 and 79.1 percent of unaccompanied youth in those states staying in unsheltered locations.
- Iowa had the lowest unsheltered rate among unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness in the country, with four of 140 (2.9%) youth staying in unsheltered locations.

### EXHIBIT 4.4: States with Highest and Lowest Rates of Unsheltered Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

with Counts of Unsheltered and Total Youth, 2017

State	% Unsheltered	Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth (#)	Total Unaccompanied Youth (#)
<b>Highest Rates</b>			
Nevada	89.2	1,931	2,166
Hawaii	82.4	263	319
California	79.1	10,253	12,962
Washington	65.7	1,402	2,135
Oregon	65.3	955	1,462
<b>Lowest Rates</b>			
Iowa	2.9	4	140
Delaware	4.4	2	45
Nebraska	7.9	13	164
New York	10.4	294	2,829
Michigan	11.3	69	608

Data Source: PIT 2017

Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories

See Part 1 of the 2017 AHAR for more details on PIT estimates by state ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info))



# 2017 Homeless Veterans IN THE UNITED STATES

## POINT-IN-TIME (PIT)

One-Night Estimates of Homeless Veterans.....	5-3
By State .....	5-4
By State and Sheltered Status .....	5-5

## HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS)

One-Year Estimates of Homeless Veterans .....	5-7
---	-----

### Characteristics of Sheltered Veterans

Gender and Age .....	5-8
Ethnicity and Race .....	5-9
Household Size and Disability Status .....	5-10

### Geography of Sheltered Veterans

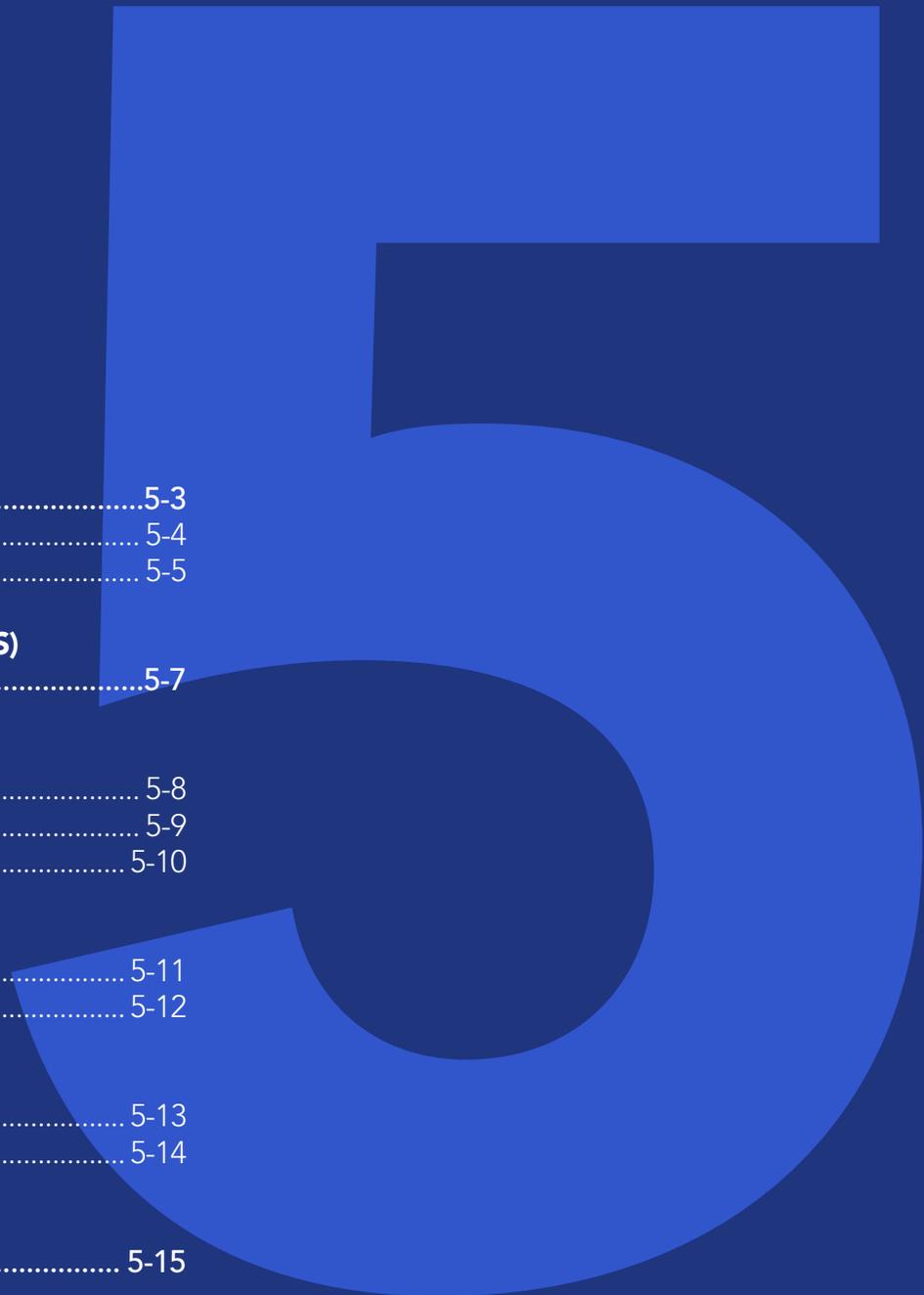
Geographic Location .....	5-11
Characteristics by Geography .....	5-12

### Patterns of Homeless Service Use

Living Situation Before Entering Shelter .....	5-13
Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns .....	5-14

### Homeless Veterans Using Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF).....

5-15



# 2017 Homeless Veterans

## Did You Know?

PIT

On a single night in January 2017, **40,020** veterans were experiencing homelessness



This is a **45.5% decline** since 2009

The number of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness increased between 2016 and 2017 for the first time since 2012, **2,263 more unsheltered veterans**. This was largely offset by a **decrease of 1,714 sheltered veterans**.

Veterans in unsheltered & sheltered locations

**38.3%** **61.7%**



HMIS

In 2017, **118,380** veterans used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at some point during the year



This is a **20.9% decline** since 2009

Veterans make up

**8.7%** of the U.S. adult population and

**10.8%** of the adult population experiencing sheltered homelessness

Among veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in 2017, **2.7%** were in families with children



**KEY TERM**

**Veteran** refers to any person who served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States. This also includes Reserves and National Guard members who were called up to active duty.

# 2017 One-Night Estimates OF HOMELESS VETERANS

## PIT

Understanding the extent and nature of homelessness among veterans is an important focus for both HUD and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Estimates of homeless veterans began in 2009. HUD and VA have worked collaboratively for many years to produce accurate estimates of veterans experiencing homelessness and identify effective strategies for preventing and ending homelessness among veterans. The overall framework for addressing veteran homelessness focuses on several key areas: providing affordable housing and permanent supportive housing, increasing meaningful and sustainable employment opportunities, reducing the financial vulnerability of veterans, and transforming the homeless crisis response system with a focus on prevention and rapid re-housing. This section provides the most accurate metrics to gauge the nation's progress toward ending homelessness among veterans.

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- 40,020 veterans were experiencing homelessness in the United States, representing 9.2 percent of all adults experiencing homelessness.
- 61.7 percent of veterans experienced homelessness in sheltered locations (24,690 veterans), and 38.3 percent were in unsheltered locations (15,330 veterans).

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The number of veterans experiencing homelessness increased by 1.4 percent (549 more veterans). This was entirely attributable to an increase in the unsheltered population (2,263 more veterans) and was largely offset by a decrease in the sheltered population (1,714 fewer veterans).

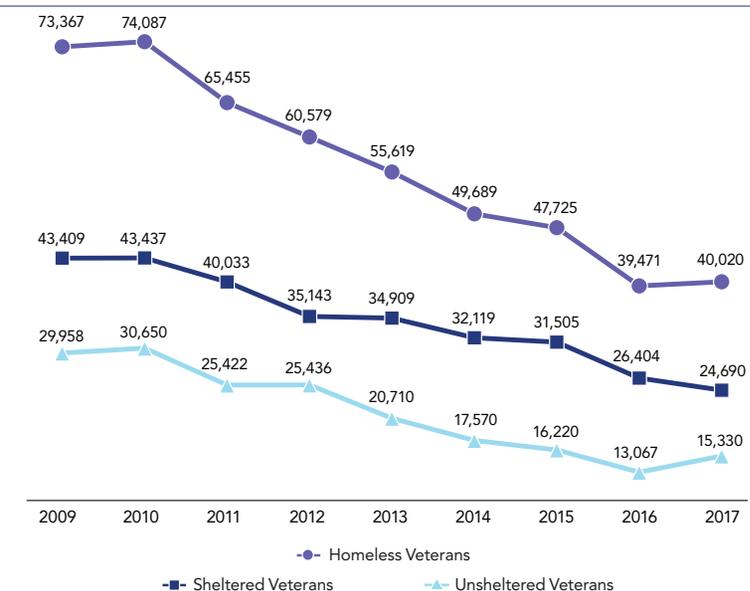
### Between January 2009 and January 2017

- The total number of veterans experiencing homelessness dropped 45.5 percent or 33,347 people.
- The number of veterans experiencing homelessness in unsheltered locations decreased 48.8 percent (14,628 fewer veterans), and the number in sheltered locations decreased 43.1 percent (18,719 fewer veterans).
- Among veterans experiencing homelessness on a single night, a smaller share were in unsheltered locations in 2017 (38.3%) than in 2009 (40.8%).

Data Source: PIT 2009–2017  
Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories  
See the supporting PIT data tabulations posted on HUD's Resource Exchange at [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

40,020 veterans experienced homelessness in the U.S. in January 2017, a 45.5% decline from 2009.

**EXHIBIT 5.1: One-Night Counts of Homeless Veterans**  
PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2009–2017



Note: 2017 estimate differs from the 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report: Part 1 due to an adjustment made by Los Angeles to their unsheltered population. The number of unsheltered veterans was reduced by 36 people.

**EXHIBIT 5.2: Change in Homeless Veterans**  
PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2009–2017

Years	Total Homeless Veterans		Sheltered Veterans		Unsheltered Veterans	
	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
2016 to 2017	549	1.4	-1,714	-6.5	2,263	17.3
2015 to 2016	-8,254	-17.3	-5,101	-16.2	-3,153	-19.4
2014 to 2015	-1,964	-4.0	-614	-1.9	-1,350	-7.7
2013 to 2014	-5,930	-10.7	-2,790	-8.0	-3,140	-15.2
2012 to 2013	-4,960	-8.2	-234	-0.7	-4,726	-18.6
2011 to 2012	-4,876	-7.4	-4,890	-12.2	14	0.1
2010 to 2011	-8,632	-11.7	-3,404	-7.8	-5,228	-17.1
2009 to 2010	720	1.0	28	0.1	692	2.3
2009 to 2017	-33,347	-45.5	-18,719	-43.1	-14,628	-48.8

## By State

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- Four states accounted for more than half of the nation's homeless veterans: California (28.7%; 11,436 veterans), Florida (7.1%; 2,817 veterans), Texas (5.5%; 2,200 veterans), and Washington (5.2%, 2,093 veterans).
- More than one in ten adults experiencing homelessness (9.2%) was a veteran. Veterans were a slightly lower share of the total US adult population, 8.5 percent.
- The six states with the highest rates of veterans among their homeless adults were South Dakota (17.9% of homeless adults), Montana (17.2%), South Carolina (14.7%), Indiana (14.4%), Idaho (14.3%) and Kentucky (14.3%). Of these heavily rural states, only two (Montana and South Carolina) were among those with the highest rates of veterans among their total populations.
- New York had the lowest rates of homeless veterans and the lowest rate of veterans among all adults (2.1%; 4.7%).

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

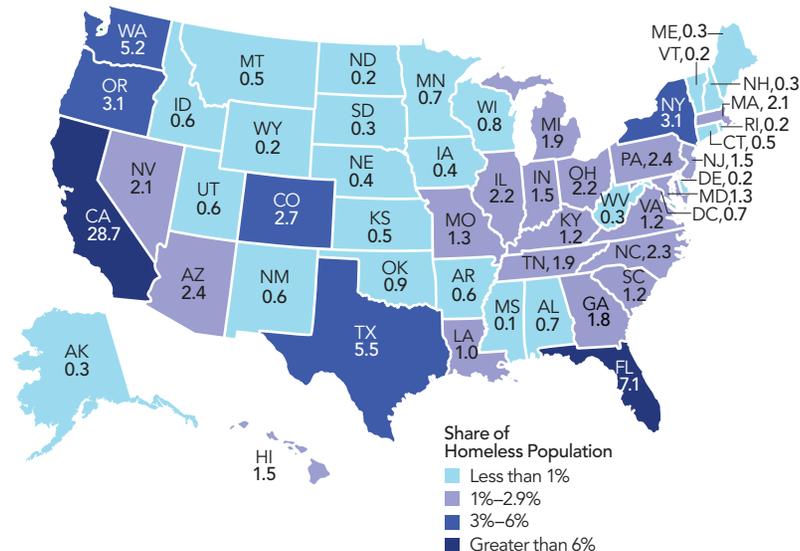
- The one-night count of veterans experiencing homelessness decreased in 36 states and the District of Columbia, totaling 2,487 fewer veterans.
- Increases in veterans experiencing homelessness occurred in 14 states, totaling 3,094 more veterans. The overall increase in the number of veterans experiencing homelessness was driven by increases in California, with 1,824 more veterans (a 19.0% increase).

### Between January 2009 and January 2017

- Only five states experienced increases in the number of veterans experiencing homelessness: Washington (130 more veterans), Hawaii (116), Utah (54), Vermont (33), and Maine (8).
- The number of homeless veterans declined in 45 states and the District of Columbia (totaling 33,678 fewer veterans). The four states with the largest numeric decreases in homeless veterans were: California (6,537 fewer veterans), New York (4,635), Florida (4,318), and Texas (3,291).
- Mississippi had the largest percentage decline, with 84 percent fewer veterans experiencing homelessness, (301 fewer veterans). Four other states have experienced decreases in veterans' homelessness that exceed 70 percent since 2009: Louisiana (80.7%), New York (78.8%), Alabama (74.7%), and Georgia (74.2%).

### EXHIBIT 5.3: Homeless Veterans in the U.S.

Percentage of National Total in Each State, 2017



### EXHIBIT 5.4: Homeless Veterans by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2009-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	1,824	19.0	Georgia	-343	-32.5
Washington	609	41.0	South Carolina	-258	-35.0
Texas	432	24.4	Pennsylvania	-173	-15.2
Kansas	48	28.4	Utah	-115	-34.3
North Carolina	43	4.8	Alabama	-104	-27.9
<b>2009 to 2017</b>					
Washington	130	6.6	California	-6,537	-36.4
Hawaii	116	23.3	New York	-4,635	-78.8
Utah	54	32.5	Florida	-4,318	-60.5
Vermont	33	53.6	Texas	-3,291	-59.9
Maine	8	6.5	Georgia	-2,048	-74.2

Note: Figures from 2009 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

Data Source: PIT 2009-2017

Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories

See Part 1 of the 2017 AHAR for more details on PIT estimates by state ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info))

## By State and Sheltered Status

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- In three states, more than half of their veterans experiencing homelessness were in unsheltered locations: California (66.6%), Hawaii (61.5%), and Oregon (53.4%).
- In three states, more than 95 percent of veterans experiencing homelessness were in sheltered rather than unsheltered locations: Nebraska (98.9%), Rhode Island (96.8%), and New York (95.3%).

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The number of veterans in unsheltered locations dropped in 26 states, totaling 996 fewer veterans, and increased in 24 states and the District of Columbia, totaling 3,312 more veterans.
- California experienced the largest increase, with 2,021 more unsheltered veterans. This is nearly 4 times larger than the increase in Washington, the state with the next largest change (514 more veterans).

### Between January 2009 and January 2017

- In five states, the number of unsheltered veterans decreased by more than 1,000 people: California (3,553 fewer veterans), Florida (3,232), Texas (1,935), Louisiana (1,490), and Georgia (1,141).
- The largest decreases in the number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were in New York (3,861 fewer veterans), California (2,984), Texas (1,356), and Florida (1,086).

### EXHIBIT 5.5: Sheltered Homeless Veterans by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2009-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
Washington	95	9.5	Pennsylvania	-213	-19.6
Texas	94	7.3	California	-197	-4.9
Nevada	55	12.6	Colorado	-163	-18.0
Kansas	39	28.3	Illinois	-138	-19.4
Montana	33	35.9	South Carolina	-131	-29.0
<b>2009 to 2017</b>					
Utah	93	84.5	New York	-3,861	-76.5
Vermont	37	71.2	California	-2,984	-43.9
Hawaii	3	1.3	Texas	-1,356	-49.6
Maine	1	0.8	Florida	-1,086	-37.4
--	--	--	Georgia	-907	-66.1

Note: Figures from 2009 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes. The fifth line of the increases from 2009 to 2017 is blank because only four states have seen increases over that period.

### EXHIBIT 5.6: Unsheltered Homeless Veterans by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2009-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	2,021	36.1	Georgia	-228	-48.1
Washington	514	106.0	South Carolina	-127	-44.4
Texas	338	70.0	Florida	-81	-7.5
Colorado	60	21.8	Nevada	-74	-17.9
Illinois	53	22.5	Oregon	-70	-9.5
<b>2009 to 2017</b>					
Washington	204	25.7	California	-3,553	-31.8
Hawaii	113	42.8	Florida	-3,232	-76.4
Oregon	63	10.5	Texas	-1,935	-70.2
Illinois	62	27.4	Louisiana	-1,490	-96.5
Oklahoma	55	92.6	Georgia	-1,141	-82.3

Note: Figures from 2009 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

## 2017 PROFILE

A TYPICAL VETERAN EXPERIENCING SHELTERED HOMELESSNESS WAS:

### A Man by Himself

91.9% MALE / 99.9% 1-PERSON HOUSEHOLD



### Aged 51-61

42.2%

### White, Non-Hispanic

48.3%

### Disabled

59.4%

### Living in a City

72%



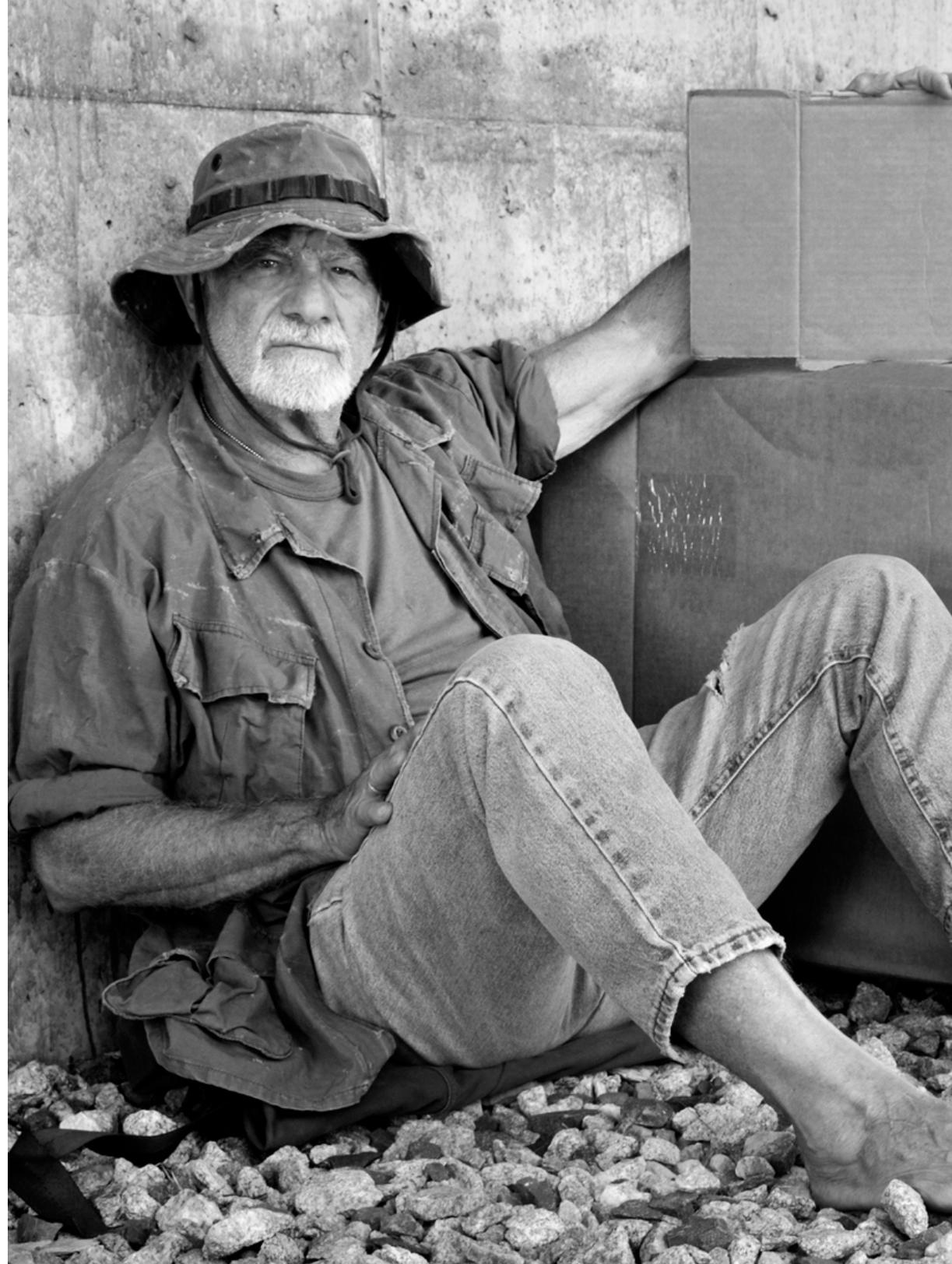
### Already Homeless

PRIOR TO USING A SHELTER\* (55.1%)

### Spending 23 Nights in Emergency Shelter



\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter or transitional housing programs.



# 2017 One-Year Estimates OF SHELTERED HOMELESS VETERANS

## HMIS

Since 2009, HUD has estimated the annual number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness at some time during the reporting year, from October 1 through September 30. These estimates are based on data collected over the course of one year and account for all veterans who used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program, including programs that specifically target veterans and those that do not.<sup>1</sup> The estimates are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data to HUD. The estimates adjust statistically for veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in shelter programs that do not yet participate in their local HMIS—thus providing a complete estimated enumeration of sheltered veterans in each community—and are weighted to represent the entire country. These HMIS-based estimates do not include: (a) sheltered veterans in Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories; (b) veterans served by victim service providers; and (c) veterans in unsheltered locations who never used a shelter program during the 12-month period.<sup>2</sup>

Veterans experience homelessness as individuals or as part of a family. Following the definitions used throughout this report, veteran individuals are in households without any children, while homeless veterans in families with children are in households that have at least one child present.

### Estimate of Veterans Experiencing Sheltered Homelessness in 2017

- An estimated 118,380 veterans used an emergency shelter or transitional housing program at some point between October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017,<sup>3</sup> representing 1 in 184 veterans in the U.S.
- Compared to their share of the U.S. adult population, veterans were overrepresented in the population of adults experiencing sheltered homelessness. Veterans made up 10.8 percent of adults using emergency shelter or transitional housing programs compared to 8.7 percent of the U.S. adult population.

### Changes over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness at some point during the reporting period declined 5.1 percent (6,329 fewer veterans).
- Between 2009 and 2017, the number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness has declined 20.9 percent (31,255 fewer veterans).
- The declines in *one-night* counts of sheltered veterans (declines of 6.5% since 2016 and 43.1% since 2009) were more pronounced than declines in one-year estimates.

<sup>1</sup> VA-funded projects with beds in emergency shelter or transitional housing that participate in HMIS include: HCHV CERS (ES), GPD (TH), CWT/TR (TH). In some cases, SSVF may support an emergency shelter stay while a client awaits a permanent housing placement.

<sup>2</sup> People served in Safe Havens are included in the PIT estimates but not in these one-year estimates of shelter users.

<sup>3</sup> The 95 percent confidence interval for the sheltered homeless veteran population in 2017 is 102,754 to 134,006 (118,380 +/- 15,626).

118,380 veterans experienced sheltered homelessness in the U.S. at some point in 2017.

EXHIBIT 5.7a: Trend in One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Veterans, 2009-2017

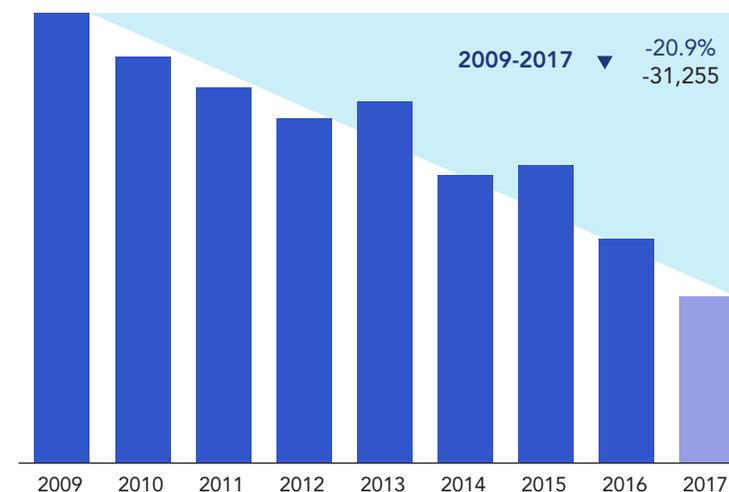


EXHIBIT 5.7b: One-Year Estimates of Sheltered Veterans and Annual Change from the Prior Year, 2009-2017

Year	Estimate	# Change from previous year	% Change from previous year
2017	118,380	-6,329	-5.1
2016	124,709	-8,138	-6.1
2015	132,847	1,150	0.9
2014	131,697	-8,160	-5.8
2013	139,857	1,862	1.3
2012	137,995	-3,454	-2.4
2011	141,449	-3,393	-2.3
2010	144,842	-4,793	-3.2
2009	149,635	--	--

## Gender and Age

### In 2017

- About nine in ten veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness (91.9%) were men, about the same share as for all U.S. veterans (90.9%).
- Elderly veterans (ages 62 and older) were underrepresented among veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness. While the majority of all veterans in the U.S. (54.9%) were age 62 or older, just 19.2 percent of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were.
- While only 17.9 percent of all U.S. veterans were between the ages of 51 to 61, 42.2 percent of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were in that age range.

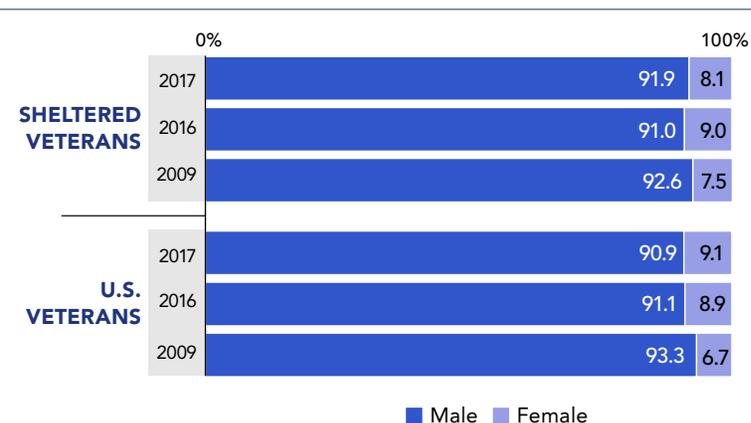
The share of elderly veterans (age 62 or older) more than doubled between 2009 (8.7%) and 2017 (19.2%).

### Changes over Time

- Veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were older in 2017 than they were in 2009. The share of veterans who were elderly more than doubled between 2009 and 2017, from 8.7 percent to 19.2 percent. This outpaced the increase in the share of all U.S. veterans who were elderly, which grew from 47.7 percent to 54.9 percent. Elderly veterans are the only group with an increase in the number experiencing homelessness between 2009 and 2017 (9,677 more veterans).
- The share of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness who were between the ages of 51 and 61 increased from 38.4 percent in 2009 to 42.2 percent in 2017. Meanwhile, the share of all U.S. veterans in that age group dropped from 24.3 percent to 17.9 percent.
- Between 2009 and 2017, the share of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness who were women remained about the same (7.5% and 8.1%), while the share of all veterans in the U.S. who were women increased 2.4 percentage points (from 6.7% to 9.1%).

### EXHIBIT 5.8: Gender

Sheltered Veterans and U.S. Veterans, 2009-2017



### EXHIBIT 5.9: Age

Sheltered Veterans and U.S. Veterans, 2009-2017 (in %)

Age	Sheltered Veterans			U.S. Veterans		
	2009	2016	2017	2009	2016	2017
18 - 30	8.1	9.2	8.3	5.0	6.6	6.6
18 - 24	—	2.0	1.6	—	2.3	2.2
25 - 30	—	7.3	6.7	—	4.3	4.4
31 - 50	44.7	31.7	30.3	23.0	20.7	20.6
51 - 61	38.4	42.9	42.2	24.3	17.8	17.9
62 and Older	8.7	16.2	19.2	47.7	54.8	54.9

Note: Prior to 2015, data were collected on people age 18-30. Since then, information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

## Ethnicity and Race

### In 2017

- Hispanics were a smaller share of veterans than of the U.S. adult population as a whole (6.5% vs. 15.7%). However, veterans who identify as Hispanic were slightly overrepresented among veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness (7.4%).
- Veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were much less likely to be white and not Hispanic than were all U.S. veterans (48.3% versus 78.1%). Veterans identifying as black or African-American were the most overrepresented among veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness, 37.9 percent of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness compared to 11.5 percent of all US veterans.
- Veterans experiencing homelessness in families with children were less likely to be white and not Hispanic than veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness as individuals (41.2% versus 49.5%).

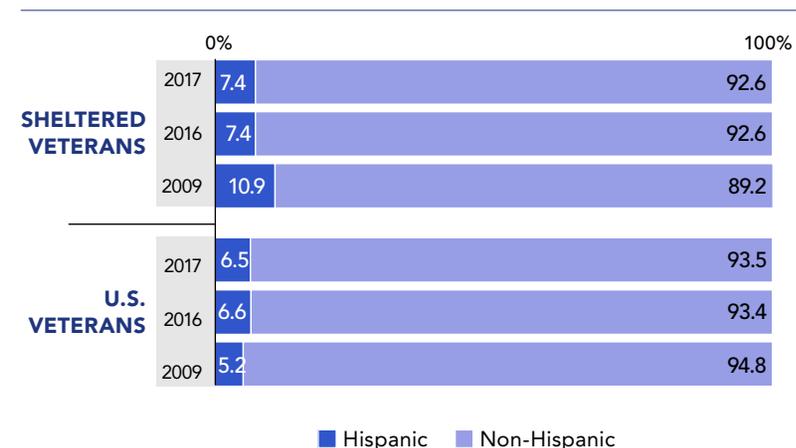
### Changes over Time

- The share of veterans experiencing homelessness identifying as black or African American increased from 34.2 percent in 2009 to 37.9 percent in 2017.
- While the proportion of all U.S. veterans who identified as Hispanic between 2009 and 2017 increased (from 5.2% to 6.5%), the proportion of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness identifying as Hispanic decreased from 10.9 percent to 7.4 percent.

Veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were 3.3 times more likely to identify as black or African American than were all U.S. veterans (37.9% vs. 11.5%).

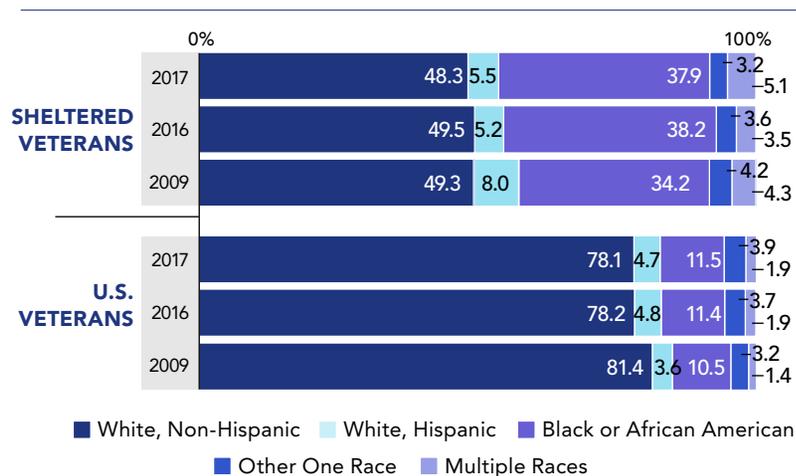
### EXHIBIT 5.10: Ethnicity

Sheltered Veterans and U.S. Veterans, 2009-2017



### EXHIBIT 5.11: Race

Sheltered Veterans and U.S. Veterans, 2009-2017



## Household Size and Disability Status

Veterans in “families with children” are in households composed of at least one veteran and one child under age 18. Veteran “individuals” refers to veterans in households without children under age 18.

### In 2017

- The majority of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness did so as individuals (98%).
- Compared with all U.S. veterans, veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were more than twice as likely to have a disability (59.4% versus 28.8%). Sheltered veterans were also 1.3 times more likely to have a disability than were all adults experiencing sheltered homelessness (44.4%).

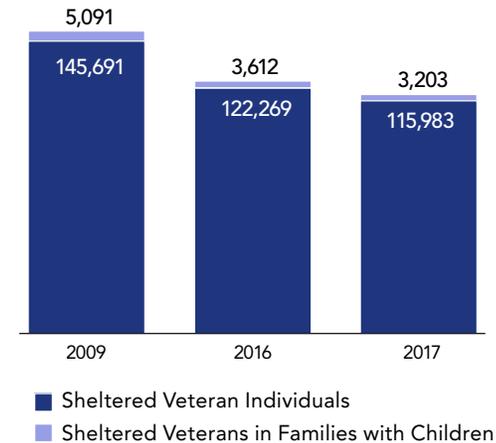
## 59.4 percent of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in 2017 had a disability.

### Changes over Time

- Between 2009 and 2017, the share of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in families with children dropped from 3.4 percent to 2.7 percent.
- The share of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness who had a disability increased from 52.6 percent in 2009 to 59.4 percent in 2017, a sharper rise than that of all U.S. veterans (26% to 28.8%).
- Among the small number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness as part of a family, the share of veterans with a disability more than doubled, increasing from 16.8 percent to 41 percent.

### EXHIBIT 5.12: Sheltered Veterans Estimates

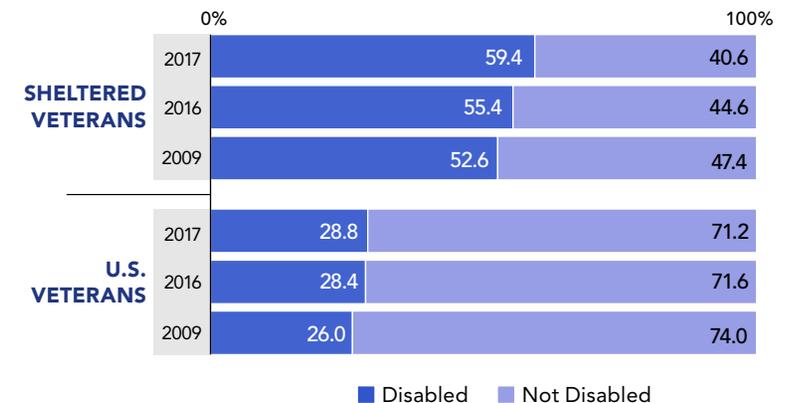
By Household Type, 2009-2017



Note: The number of sheltered veterans served as individuals and in families with children may not sum to the unduplicated total number of sheltered veterans because some veterans were served as both individuals and in families at different points during the reporting period.

### EXHIBIT 5.13: Disability Status

Sheltered Veterans and U.S. Veterans, 2009-2017



## Geographic Location

### In 2017

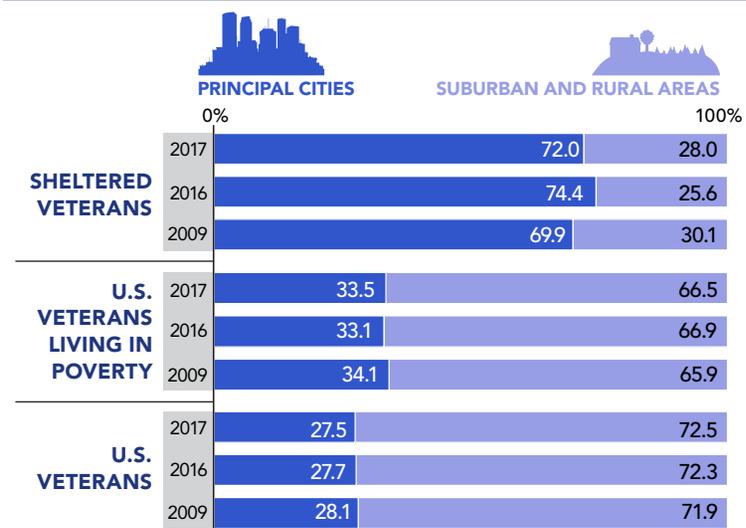
- More than seven in ten veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness (72.0%) were served in principal cities, while more than seven in ten of all U.S. veterans (72.5%) were living in suburban and rural areas, as were two-thirds of veterans in the U.S. population living in poverty (66.5%).

### Changes over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in principal cities declined 8.2 percent (7,634 fewer veterans), while the number in suburban and rural areas grew by 4.1 percent.
- The rise in the number of veterans sheltered in suburban and rural areas is in contrast to declines in the number of veterans located in suburban and rural areas both among all U.S. veterans (1.2% decline) and among U.S. veterans living in poverty (2.7% decline).
- Over a longer period of time, 2009-2017, the share of veterans using shelters in suburban and rural areas dropped slightly, from 30.1 percent to 28 percent.

### EXHIBIT 5.14: Geographic Distribution

Sheltered Veterans, U.S. Veterans Living in Poverty, and U.S. Veterans, 2009-2017



Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. The revised estimates result in higher proportions of people in principal cities for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the total U.S. population than shown in past reports. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology. This report can be downloaded from: [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

### EXHIBIT 5.15: Percent Change by Geography

Sheltered Homeless Veterans, U.S. Veterans Living in Poverty, and U.S. Veterans Population, 2009-2017

Population	2016-2017		2009-2017	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
Sheltered Veterans	-8.2	4.1	-18.5	-26.3
U.S. Veterans Living in Poverty	-1.3	-2.7	9.9	12.8
U.S. Veterans	-2.5	-1.2	-5.2	-1.9

Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for both the U.S. population living in poverty and the U.S. population as a whole to account for this change. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology. This report can be downloaded from: [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

## Characteristics by Geography

### In 2017

- Veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in principal cities were more likely to have a disability than those in suburban or rural areas (60.1% vs. 57.4%). They also were more likely to be age 62 or older (19.8% vs 17.9%). Veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness in suburban and rural areas were slightly more likely to be women (8.6% versus 7.9%).

### Changes over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the share of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness who had a disability increased both in principal cities (55.0% to 60.1%) and in suburban and rural areas (56.5% to 57.4%).
- The proportion of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness who were women declined both in suburban and rural areas (from 11.1% in 2016 to 8.6% in 2017) and in principal cities (from 8.2% to 7.9%).

## EXHIBIT 5.16: Characteristics by Geography

Sheltered Veterans, 2009-2017 (in %)

Characteristic	Principal Cities			Suburban and Rural Areas		
	2009	2016	2017	2009	2016	2017
# Homeless Veterans	104,596	92,841	85,207	45,037	31,868	33,173
<b>Gender</b>						
Male	92.9	91.8	92.1	91.8	88.9	91.4
Female	7.1	8.2	7.9	8.2	11.1	8.6
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Hispanic	13.8	8.0	8.4	4.0	5.7	4.9
Non-Hispanic	86.2	92.0	91.6	96.0	94.3	95.1
<b>Race</b>						
White, Non-Hispanic	43.1	47.4	46.7	63.6	55.6	52.3
White, Hispanic	10.6	5.7	6.2	1.9	3.8	3.6
Black or African American	37.7	39.6	40.1	26.2	34.1	32.3
Other One Race	4.4	3.8	3.5	3.5	2.8	2.4
Multiple Races	4.2	3.5	3.5	4.7	3.7	9.4
<b>Age</b>						
18 - 30	8.0	9.2	8.0	8.6	9.5	9.1
18 - 24	—	1.9	1.5	—	2.0	1.8
25 - 30	—	7.2	6.4	—	7.5	7.3
31 - 50	44.7	31.5	30.5	44.6	32.3	29.7
51 - 61	37.9	42.4	41.8	39.8	44.3	43.4
62 and Older	9.5	16.9	19.8	7.1	14.0	17.9
<b>Household Size</b>						
1 Person	99.7	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.9
2 People	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
3 People	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4 People	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5 or More People	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Disability Status</b>						
Disabled	50.5	55.0	60.1	57.7	56.5	57.4
Not Disabled	49.5	45.0	39.9	42.3	43.5	42.6

Note 1: Data were collected on people age 18-30 until 2015, when this information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

Note 2: Household size reports the total number of veterans in the household, not the total household size.

## Living Situation Before Entering Shelter\*

### In 2017

- Prior to entering shelter, 55.1 percent of the veterans who entered emergency shelter or transitional housing programs were already homeless. Of these veterans, just over half (51.7%) were on the street or in other unsheltered locations. Thus, unsheltered veterans made up 28.5 percent of all veterans who entered shelter at some point during the reporting year.
- About a quarter of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness (25.3%) were in a housed situation before entering shelter. Of those veterans, almost two thirds (65.5%) entered shelter after staying with family or friends.
- Of the 14.8 percent of veterans who entered an emergency shelter or transitional housing program from institutional settings, almost 75 percent entered from a substance abuse treatment center (28.3%), a hospital (27.7%), or a psychiatric facility (18.5%). More than a quarter (25.5%) of these veterans entered shelter from a correctional facility.

### Changes over Time

- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of veterans who entered an emergency shelter or transitional housing program from homelessness increased 6.2 percent (3,800 more veterans), while the number of veterans who entered from housing, institutional settings, or other settings decreased.
- The number of veterans who were already homeless in an unsheltered location prior to entering shelter increased 7.3 percent (2,296 more veterans) between 2009 and 2017. Despite this increase, overall the number of veterans who entered shelter from homelessness declined by 5.3 percent (3,677) between 2009 and 2017.
- Of the veterans who were not already homeless before entering an emergency shelter or transitional housing program, the share who entered from housing decreased from 58.6 percent in 2009 to 56.3 in 2017, while the share entering from institutional settings increased (from 26.3% to 33.0%).
- Between 2009 and 2017, the share of veterans entering emergency shelter or transitional housing programs already homeless increased (46.1% in 2009 to 55.1% in 2017). The share entering sheltered homelessness directly from housing declined (from 31.6% to 24.5%), and the share entering from institutional settings remained flat (14.2% and 14.8%).

\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.

Data Source: HMIS 2009–2017

## EXHIBIT 5.17: Places Veterans Stayed

Before Entering Shelter\* and Change Over Time, 2009–2017

Place Stayed	2017		2016–2017		2009–2017	
	#	%	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
<b>Already Homeless</b>	<b>65,234</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>3,800</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>-3,677</b>	<b>-5.3</b>
Sheltered	31,522	48.3	2,068	7.0	-5,973	-15.9
Unsheltered	33,712	51.7	1,732	5.4	2,296	7.3
<b>Housing</b>	<b>29,887</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>-5,549</b>	<b>-15.7</b>	<b>-17,417</b>	<b>-36.8</b>
Staying with family	10,225	34.2	-2,682	-20.8	-5,325	-34.2
Staying with friends	9,364	31.3	-1,656	-15.0	-2,989	-24.2
Rented housing unit	8,890	29.7	-1,072	-10.8	-6,866	-43.6
Owned housing unit	1,071	3.6	-51	-4.5	-2,324	-68.5
Permanent supportive housing (PSH)	337	1.1	-88	-20.7	87	34.8
<b>Institutional Settings</b>	<b>17,546</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>-421</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>-3,681</b>	<b>-17.3</b>
Substance abuse treatment center	4,964	28.3	-7	-0.1	-3,498	-41.3
Correctional facility	4,474	25.5	-241	-5.1	-1,959	-30.5
Hospital	4,854	27.7	-665	-12.0	823	20.4
Psychiatric facility	3,254	18.5	492	17.8	953	41.4
<b>Other Settings</b>	<b>5,676</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>-2,472</b>	<b>-30.3</b>	<b>-6,527</b>	<b>-53.5</b>
Hotel or motel	4,304	75.8	-1,092	-20.2	-853	-16.5
Other living arrangement	1,372	24.2	-1,380	-50.1	-5,290	-79.4

Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

## EXHIBIT 5.18: Places Veterans Stayed

Who Were Not Already Homeless

Before Entering Shelter\*, 2009–2017 (in %)

	2009	2016	2017	
				<b>HOUSING</b>
	58.6	57.6	56.3	
	26.3	29.2	33.0	<b>INSTITUTIONS</b>
	15.1	13.2	10.7	<b>OTHER</b>

Note: To produce comparable trend information, statistical imputations were applied to missing values in this table. See the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology.

## Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns

Emergency shelter and transitional housing programs are designed differently. Emergency shelters are designed as high-volume, high-turnover programs; their primary purpose is to provide temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness. In contrast, transitional housing programs are designed to offer people experiencing homelessness shelter as well as supportive services for up to 24 months, assuming people will stay longer than they do in emergency shelters.

### In 2017

- Most (64.4%) veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness were served in emergency shelters, either exclusively or in addition to stays in transitional housing.
- Veterans were more likely to be served by transitional housing programs than were all people experiencing sheltered homelessness. While just over one-seventh (14.9%) of all people experiencing sheltered homelessness were served in transitional housing—either exclusively or in addition to stays in emergency shelters—almost two-fifths (39.2%) of veterans were served in transitional housing.
- Although the majority of veterans stayed in transitional housing for one to six months (73.9%), more than a quarter (26.1%) stayed for at least half the reporting year. Veterans stayed in transitional housing for similar lengths of time as sheltered individuals, though a slightly smaller share of veterans stayed for a half of the reporting year or more than all individuals who stayed in transitional housing (29.7%).
- More than nine in ten veterans (94.9%) stayed in emergency shelter for six months or less, and about a third (32.6%) of veterans stayed for one week or less. The share of veterans staying for less than one week was smaller than that of individuals (34.4%), and larger than all people who accessed emergency shelter (28.4%).

### Changes over Time

- Between 2009 and 2017, the share of veterans experiencing sheltered homelessness who stayed in transitional housing (either exclusively or in addition to stays in emergency shelters) rose from 23.6 percent to 39.2 percent.
- The median length of stay for veterans in emergency shelter increased slightly between 2009 and 2017 (from 21 to 23 nights), while the median length of stay in transitional housing declined by about a month (from 120 to 90 nights). By comparison, the median length of stay for individuals in emergency shelter increased (from 14 to 22 nights) as did that of individuals in transitional housing (91 to 101).

Data Source: HMIS 2009–2017; HIC 2009–2017

### EXHIBIT 5.19: Length of Stay

Veterans in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2017

Length of Stay	Emergency Shelter		Transitional Housing	
	#	%	#	%
7 days or less	24,750	32.6	2,316	5.0
8 to 30 days	19,905	26.2	6,560	14.1
31 to 180 days	27,450	36.1	25,414	54.7
181 to 360 days	2,819	3.7	8,920	19.2
361 to 365 days	1,045	1.4	3,210	6.9

Note: Length of stay accounts for multiple program entries/exits by summing the total number of (cumulative) days in a homeless residential program during the 12-month reporting period. The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.

### EXHIBIT 5.20: Bed-Use Patterns

Veterans in Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs, 2009–2017

Bed-Use Patterns	Emergency Shelter			Transitional Housing		
	2009	2016	2017	2009	2016	2017
Median # nights	21	21	23	120	96	90
Average # nights	47	44	48	149	131	126

Note: The maximum length of stay is 365 days, corresponding to the total days observed for this reporting period.

## Homeless Veterans Using Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)<sup>4</sup>

The AHAR does not include information on the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program. SSVF has been a critical component of the nation's crisis response system for homeless veterans in addressing their housing and service needs. For the first time, the AHAR is including HMIS data gathered from the SSVF program in order to shed more light on veterans who came from homeless situations before entering SSVF and their housing destinations.

In 2010, the U.S. government announced its goal to end veteran homelessness. In pursuit of that goal, Congress enacted and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) implemented the SSVF program. SSVF fills gaps in the housing and services coordination system by offering rapid re-housing (RRH) or homelessness prevention (HP) assistance to veteran households experiencing housing crises. These services are focused directly on needs that are related to ending a veteran household's homelessness or preventing it when a veteran household is at imminent risk of homelessness.

Starting in October 2011, VA-funded community-based organizations (CBOs) have administered SSVF assistance to veterans and their households. Eligible SSVF program participants may be single veterans or households in which its head, or spouse or partner of its head, is a veteran. Services are offered to all members of the veteran's household.<sup>5</sup>

The RRH component of SSVF was designed as a short-term, targeted intervention focused on helping veteran households exit homelessness by obtaining and retaining permanent housing. To that end, SSVF RRH offers a wide range of services, including outreach, case management, linkage to VA benefits, and assistance obtaining community-based services.<sup>6</sup> One component of RRH services is Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA), which can be used for rental assistance, security or utility deposits, transportation, emergency housing assistance, childcare, and costs associated with moving, employment (maintenance or attainment), housing applications, furniture, and other expenses approved by VA to facilitate the transition from homelessness to housing.<sup>7</sup> Rental assistance (48.9%) and security deposits (26.8%) have consistently been the top two expenditures among all TFA assistance categories.

<sup>4</sup> This information is the most recent SSVF information available. While SSVF programs report data to the HMIS, they are not currently included in AHAR reporting. More detailed information on SSVF is available in the 2015 SSVF annual report: [https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/ssvf/docs/SSVF\\_Annual\\_Report\\_for\\_FY\\_2015.pdf](https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/ssvf/docs/SSVF_Annual_Report_for_FY_2015.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Serving veterans as well as non-veteran household members is a departure from most VA services that are restricted to veterans only. SSVF serves veterans who might otherwise have been unable to find or sustain housing placements because of unaddressed housing barriers faced by family members. Through SSVF, a veteran can get help with a range of direct assistance for dependent children or other adults in the household. SSVF supports families to remain intact while receiving services.

<sup>6</sup> Community-based services may include health care, daily living services, financial planning, transportation, income support, childcare, housing counseling, fiduciary and representative payee services, and legal services to assist the veteran household with issues that interfere with their ability to obtain or retain housing or supportive services.

<sup>7</sup> Emergency housing assistance costs are for expenses that are necessary for a participant's life or safety on a temporary basis, for items such as food, diapers, winter clothing, etc.

**EXHIBIT 5.21: Demographic Characteristics of Veterans Served in SSVF RRH, FY 2016**

Characteristics	#	%
Total Veterans served	67,581	100.0%
<b>Household Type*</b>		
HHs without children	58,950	87.4%
HHs with children	8,493	12.6%
<b>Military Service</b>		
OEF/OIF/OND	10,213	15.1%
Other	57,368	84.9%
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	59,390	87.9%
Female	7,679	11.4%
Other	512	0.8%
<b>Disability Status</b>		
Disabled	39,847	59.0%
Not Disabled	27,734	41.0%
<b>Chronic Homelessness Status</b>		
Chronically homeless	7,664	11.3%
Not Chronically homeless	59,917	88.7%
<b>Household Income</b>		
Households < 30% AMI	51,105	75.6%
Households >=30% AMI	16,476	24.4%

Source: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data

Note: OEF/OIF/OND refers to service in Iraq or Afghanistan.

\* Households of unknown type are excluded from the household type totals and from the denominator of the percentages, but are included in the unduplicated total of veterans.

SSVF RRH has served an increasing number of veterans each year since the program began in FY 2012. In FY 2012, SSVF RRH served 12,144 veterans through 85 grantees in 40 states and the District of Columbia. Preliminary data show that in FY 2016 SSVF RRH served 67,581 veterans, five times as many veterans as in FY 2012. In FY 2016, SSVF RRH services were administered through 383 grantees across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several U.S. territories.<sup>8</sup>

In total, SSVF RRH served 95,797 people in veteran households in FY 2016, 70.5 percent of whom were veterans.<sup>9</sup> The program primarily serves veterans in households without children, who may be living alone (the most common situation), with a spouse or partner, or with a parent or sibling. Of the 67,581 veterans in SSVF RRH, 87.4 percent were in households without children and 12.6 percent in households with children. The average household size for a veteran in a household with children using RRH was 3.6 people, compared to 1.1 people in households without children.

Of the SSVF RRH veterans served in FY 2016, 15.1 percent were veterans who served in Iraq or Afghanistan, 11.4 percent were female veterans, 59 percent were veterans with disabilities, 11.3 percent were experiencing chronic homelessness, and 75.6 percent were in households with income under 30 percent of the area median income (AMI) (See Exhibit 5.21).

## SSVF RRH served 95,797 people in veteran households in FY 2016, 70.5 percent of whom were veterans.

Among the 67,581 veterans served by SSVF RRH in FY 2016, 49,986 exited the program by the end of the year. Of those veterans who exited, nearly four of five (77.9%) moved into permanent housing (38,928 veterans). Among the veterans moving into permanent housing, exits to rental housing were most common (53.5%; or 20,834 veterans), while moving into permanent supportive housing (including leasing a unit with a HUD-VASH housing subsidy) was the second most common permanent housing destination (40%; or 15,588 veterans).

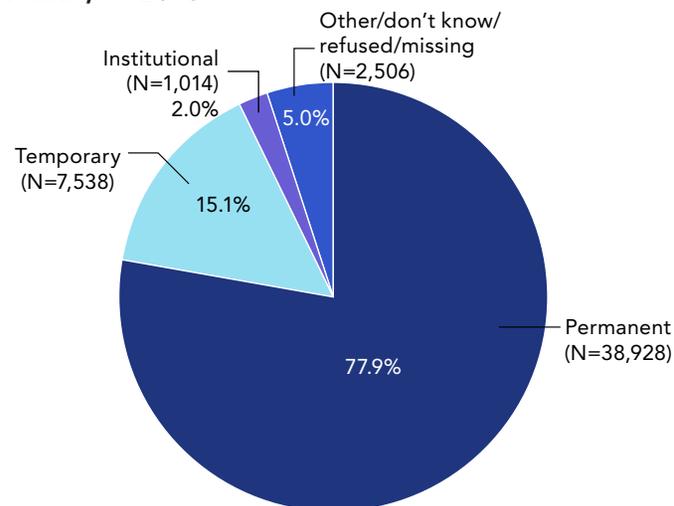
Of those veterans who exited SSVF RRH, 15.1 percent exited to temporary destinations. Of the 7,538 veterans who exited to temporary destinations, most returned to homelessness (74.4%), with 3,315 veterans who went to emergency shelter, safe havens, or transitional housing programs, and 2,293 veterans who went to unsheltered locations. Among veterans exiting SSVF RRH to other temporary destinations, some stayed temporarily with friends or family (1,643 veterans), and few paid to stay in a hotel or motel (287 veterans). A small share of veterans (2%; or 1,014 veterans) who exited SSVF RRH went to institutions.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>8</sup> FY 2016 SSVF data are preliminary as of the publication of this report, but are unlikely to change substantially. Final data can be accessed through the SSVF University website: <https://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf/>

<sup>9</sup> SSVF serves veteran households, including non-veteran household members such as spouses, partners, and children. Of all SSVF program participants in FY 2016, 21.5 percent were children.

<sup>10</sup> Institutional settings include general hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, substance abuse treatment facilities, jail, or prison.

### EXHIBIT 5.22a: Destination upon Exit among Veterans in SSVF RRH, FY 2016



### EXHIBIT 5.22b: Destination upon Exit among Veterans in SSVF RRH, FY 2016

Destination	#	%
<b>Total Exiting</b>	<b>49,986</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Permanent Destination</b>	<b>38,928</b>	<b>77.9</b>
Owned housing unit	270	0.7
Rented housing unit	20,834	53.5
Stay with family or friends	2,135	5.5
Permanent housing program for formerly homeless people	15,588	40.0
Long-term care facility or nursing home"	101	0.3
<b>Temporary Destination</b>	<b>7,538</b>	<b>15.1</b>
Homeless	5,608	74.4
Other	1,930	25.6
<b>Institutional Destination</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>Other Destination</b>	<b>2,506</b>	<b>5.0</b>
Deceased	207	8.3
Other	741	29.6
Missing	1,558	62.2

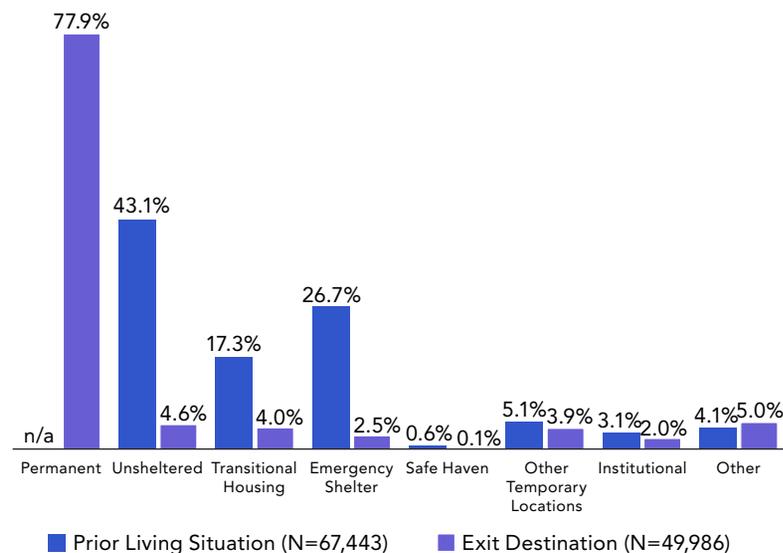
Source: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data

Note: The dataset for FY 2016 includes 6,238 veterans, or 21 percent of total records, with erroneous or missing data, including Veterans with prior living situations marked as a permanent housing location, "other" (e.g., missing or blank), "don't know," or "refused." In part a, these veterans are included within the "Other" category. In part b, these veterans are included within the main "Other Destination" category.

By comparing the prior living and exit destinations, we can gain deeper insights into how veterans use SSVF RRH. As shown in Exhibit 5.23, 87.7% of veterans served by SSVF RRH entered the program from unsheltered (43.1%) or sheltered homeless situations (i.e. transitional housing (17.3%), emergency shelter (26.7%), and safe havens (0.6%)), while 77.9% of exiters left to move into permanent housing.

Four in 10 (43.1%) of SSVF RRH veterans entered the program directly from unsheltered situations, while less than one in 20 (4.6%) of exiters left to unsheltered locations. Similarly, less than one in 20 (4%) of these exiters left to transitional housing, compared to one in 5 (17.3%) veterans at entry. Just one in 40 (2.5%) of these exiters left to emergency shelters, compared to one in 4 (26.7%) veterans at entry. Entries from institutional and safe haven situations were low at 3.1 percent and 0.6 percent. Still, exit rates to those situations were just 2 percent and 0.1 percent.

**EXHIBIT 5.23: Veteran Prior Living Situations and Veteran Exiters' Destinations in SSVF RRH, FY 2016<sup>11</sup>**



Source: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data

Note 1: This exhibit compares all 67,443 veterans served by SSVF RRH to its veteran exiters (49,986) during FY 2016. The veterans exiters subset consists of 74.1% of all SSVF veterans served. An additional 17,457 veterans (25.9%) remained in SSVF RRH by the end of FY 2016.

Note 2: The dataset for FY 2016 includes 6,238 veterans, or 21 percent of total records, with erroneous or missing data, including Veterans with prior living situations marked as a permanent housing location, "other" (e.g., missing or blank), "don't know," or "refused." These veterans are included within the "Other" category.

<sup>11</sup> Based on prior years' SSVF RRH exiters data, which included stayers from previous fiscal years, it is likely that the final distribution of the FY 2016 stayers' exit destinations will be similar to that of FY 2016 exiters. For example, SSVF RRH permanent housing destinations have ranged from 71.4% to 77.8% for veterans since the program's inception. Similarly, unsheltered destinations have consistently remained below 5%.



# 2017 Chronically Homeless Individuals IN THE UNITED STATES

## POINT-IN-TIME (PIT)

One-Night Estimates of Chronically Homeless Individuals .....	6-3
By State .....	6-4
By State and Sheltered Status .....	6-5



# 2017 Chronically Homeless Individuals

IN THE UNITED STATES

## Did You Know?

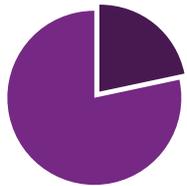
On a single night in January 2017...

PIT

**86,705** individuals had chronic patterns of homelessness



This is a **11.9% increase** since 2016 and a 27.6% decline since 2007. This is the first increase since 2008.



**23.7%** of all homeless individuals were chronically homeless

Chronically homeless individuals in unsheltered & sheltered locations

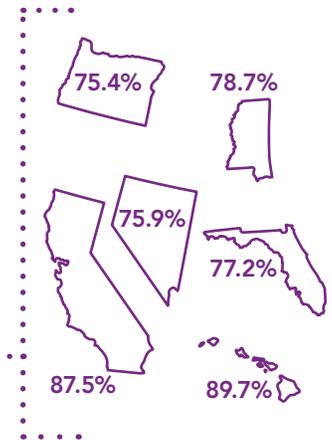
**69.3%**

**30.7%**



**41.7%** of all chronically homeless individuals were in California

In six states (HI, CA, MS, FL, NV, OR) more than **three-quarters** of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness were unsheltered.



### KEY TERMS

**An Individual** is a person in a household that does not have both an adult and a child. These households include people who are homeless by themselves, adult roommates, married or cohabiting couples without children, households comprised of multiple children (e.g., parenting teens), and unaccompanied youth. A person in a "family" is in a household with at least one adult and one child.

**A Chronically Homeless Individual<sup>1</sup>** is an individual with a disability who has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more or has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years with a combined length of time homeless of least 12 months.

<sup>1</sup> The definition of chronic homelessness changed in 2016. The previous definition was an individual with a disability who had either been continuously homeless for 1 year or more or had experienced at least 4 episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years.

# 2017 One-Night Estimates OF CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS

## PIT

Since 2007, communities have submitted data on adult individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness. Since 2013, the AHAR has also reported on chronic homelessness among families with children, based on patterns of homelessness for the head of a family household. Of all people with chronic patterns of homelessness, 8.8 percent (8,387 people) are in families with children. This section discusses only individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness—that is, people in households that do not contain an adult and a child.

HUD currently requires communities to report data on people experiencing chronic homelessness only in the Point-in-Time count. However, HUD is making changes to the data collection that supports estimates of people who use emergency shelter and transitional housing programs over the course of a year, and that will make it possible to understand better why some people have chronic patterns of homelessness. HMIS-based estimates of people experiencing chronic homelessness over the course of a year are expected to be available for the 2018 AHAR.

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- 86,705 individuals were experiencing sheltered or unsheltered chronic homelessness. This was 23.7 percent of all individuals experiencing homelessness in the U.S.
- Individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness were 1.5 times more likely than the total population of individuals experiencing homelessness to be in unsheltered locations. More than two-thirds (69.3%) of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness were unsheltered compared to 47.3 percent of all individuals experiencing homelessness.

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The total number of individuals experiencing sheltered or unsheltered chronic homelessness increased 11.9 percent (9,219 more people). This was the first increase in this population since 2008, when this figure rose 0.3 percent.
- The number of sheltered individuals experiencing chronic homelessness increased 8.3 percent (2,033 more people), and the number in unsheltered locations increased 13.6 percent (7,186 more people). This was the first year since 2007 that both populations increased in the same year.

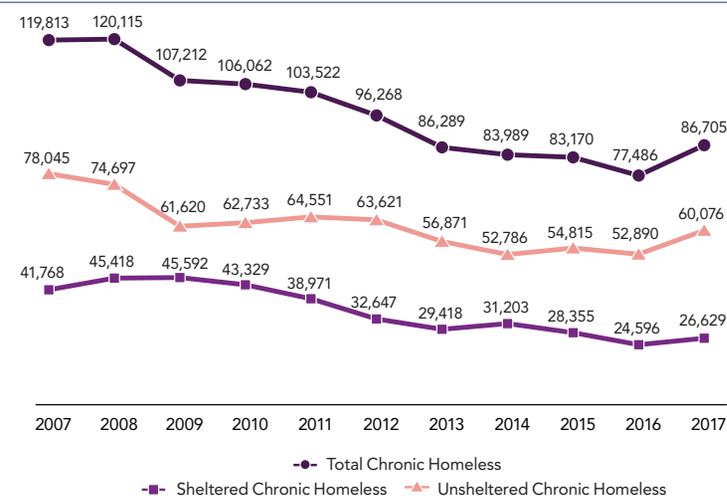
### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- The number of individuals experiencing sheltered or unsheltered chronic homelessness declined 27.6 percent (33,108 fewer people).
- The proportion of all individuals who had chronic patterns of homelessness dropped from 29 percent in 2007 to 23.7 percent in 2017.
- The number of unsheltered individuals experiencing chronic homelessness declined 23 percent, or 17,969 fewer people, while the number of sheltered individuals experiencing chronic homelessness fell 36.2 percent, or 15,139 fewer people.

Data Source: PIT 2007–2017  
Includes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories  
See the supporting PIT data tabulations posted on HUD's Resource Exchange at [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

On a single night in January 2017, 86,705 individuals were experiencing sheltered or unsheltered chronic homelessness.

**EXHIBIT 6.1: One-Night Counts of Chronically Homeless Individuals**  
PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007-2017



Note: 2017 should have a superscript with the following information: 2017 estimate differs from the 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report: Part 1 due to an adjustment made by Los Angeles to their unsheltered population. The number of chronically homeless unsheltered individuals was reduced by 257 people.

**EXHIBIT 6.2: Change in Chronically Homeless Individuals**  
PIT Estimates by Sheltered Status, 2007-2017

Years	Total Chronically Homeless		Sheltered Chronically Homeless		Unsheltered Chronically Homeless	
	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
2016 to 2017	9,219	11.9	2,033	8.3	7,186	13.6
2015 to 2016	-5,684	-6.8	-3,759	-13.3	-1,925	-3.5
2014 to 2015	-819	-1.0	-2,848	-9.1	2,029	3.8
2013 to 2014	-2,300	-2.7	1,785	6.1	-4,085	-7.2
2012 to 2013	-9,979	-10.4	-3,229	-9.9	-6,750	-10.6
2011 to 2012	-7,254	-7.0	-6,324	-16.2	-930	-1.4
2010 to 2011	-2,540	-2.4	-4,358	-10.1	1,818	2.9
2009 to 2010	-1,150	-1.1	-2,263	-5.0	1,113	1.8
2008 to 2009	-12,903	-10.7	174	0.4	-13,077	-17.5
2007 to 2008	302	0.3	3,650	8.7	-3,348	-4.3
2007 to 2017	-33,108	-27.6	-15,139	-36.2	-17,969	-23.0

## By State

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- More than two-fifths (41.7%) of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in the U.S. were located in California. The next two states, Florida and New York, each accounted for about six percent.
- Individuals experiencing chronic homelessness represented more than one quarter of all people experiencing homelessness in two states: New Mexico (28.7%) and California (27.0%).
- In two states and the District of Columbia, more than one in three individuals experiencing homelessness had chronic patterns of homelessness: the District of Columbia (41%), New Mexico (38.2%), and Hawaii (35%).

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

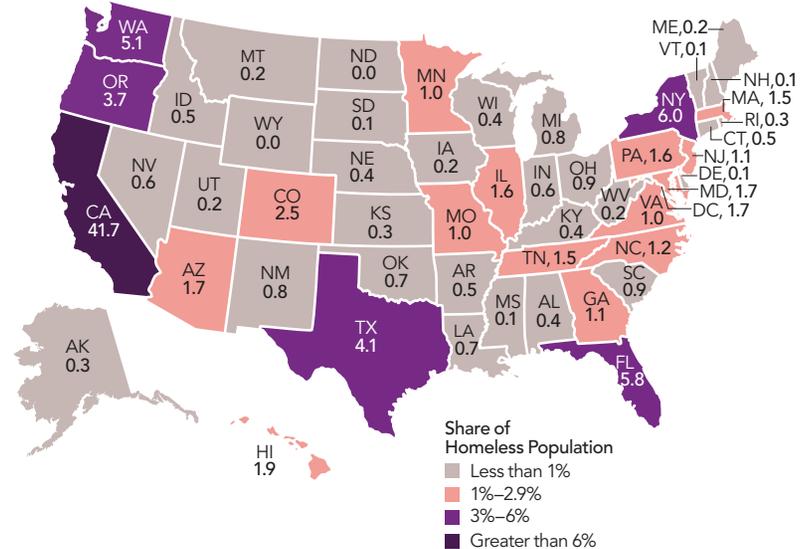
- The number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness increased in 28 states (11,859 more people). For the second year in a row, California had the largest increase in individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness (5,739 more people; a 19.3% increase).
- Decreases in the number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in 22 states and the District of Columbia were offset by increases in 28 states. Georgia experienced the largest decrease (695 fewer people; a 41.9% decline).

### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- The number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness declined in 38 states and the District of Columbia (35,020 fewer people). California and Texas experienced the largest declines, with 4,800 and 4,434 fewer people.
- In 12 states, the number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness increased (3,884 more people). Washington experienced the largest increase (1,754 more chronically homeless individuals), more than twice that of Hawaii, the state with the next largest increase (810 more people). Hawaii had an increase of 2.7 times that of Idaho (296 more people), the state with the next largest increase.

### EXHIBIT 6.3: Chronically Homeless Individuals in the U.S.

Percentage of National Total in Each State, 2017



### EXHIBIT 6.4: Chronically Homeless Individuals by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	5,739	19.3	Georgia	-695	-41.9
Washington	2,050	88.9	Florida	-464	-8.6
New York	975	23.7	Tennessee	-345	-21.0
Colorado	484	29.5	New Hampshire	-127	-55.9
Illinois	418	44.6	South Carolina	-121	-13.3
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
Washington	1,754	67.4	California	-4,800	-11.9
Hawaii	810	104.1	Texas	-4,434	-55.9
Idaho	296	311.6	Florida	-2,512	-33.7
Oregon	291	10.3	Ohio	-1,583	-68.6
South Carolina	219	38.2	New Jersey	-1,570	-62.2

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

Data Source: PIT 2007-2017

Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories

See Part 1 of the 2017 AHAR for more details on PIT estimates by state ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info))

## By State and Sheltered Status

### On a Single Night in January 2017

- In 20 states, more than 50 percent of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness were in unsheltered locations. Hawaii had the largest proportion of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness who were unsheltered (89.7%) followed closely by California (87.5%).
- California alone accounted for more than half (51.8%) of the total population of individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness who were unsheltered. Other states with large numbers of unsheltered, chronically homeless individuals were Florida (3,824 people), Washington (3,067), Oregon (2,352) and Texas (2,178).

### Between January 2016 and January 2017

- The number of sheltered individuals experiencing chronic homelessness increased in 28 states (3,836 more people) and decreased in 22 states and the District of Columbia (1,761 fewer people). The states with the largest increases in numbers were New York (1,047 more people), California (520), and Washington (465), while Oregon and New Jersey also had large percentage increases.
- The number of unsheltered individuals experiencing chronic homelessness increased in 30 states and the District of Columbia (9,575 more people), decreased in 18 states (2,186 fewer people), and remained constant in two states. California and Washington had the largest increases in numbers, with the number of unsheltered, chronically homelessness individuals in Washington doubling between 2016 and 2017.

### Between January 2007 and January 2017

- The long-term, national decline in individuals experiencing chronic homelessness was driven by reductions in the number of unsheltered individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness in 39 states (20,554 fewer people) and, to a lesser extent, reductions in the number of sheltered individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness in 37 states and the District of Columbia (16,716 fewer people).
- Texas experienced the largest decline in individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in sheltered locations (1,971 fewer people; a 59.9% decline), while California experienced the largest decline in individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in unsheltered locations (3,280 fewer people; an 9.5% decline).
- The largest increase in the number of sheltered individuals experiencing chronic homelessness was in New York (697 more people; a 28.9% increase). Washington had the largest increase in unsheltered individuals experiencing chronic homelessness (1,797 more people; a 141.5% increase).

Data Source: PIT 2007–2017  
Excludes Puerto Rico and U.S. Territories  
See Part 1 of the 2017 AHAR for more details on PIT estimates ([www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info))

## EXHIBIT 6.5: Sheltered Chronically Homeless Individuals by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
New York	1,047	50.8	District of Columbia	-329	-26.1
California	520	13.3	Texas	-181	-12.1
Washington	465	56.4	South Carolina	-169	-42.8
Oregon	262	51.8	North Carolina	-168	-31.9
New Jersey	251	86.3	Massachusetts	-138	-13.5
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
New York	697	28.9	Texas	-1,971	-59.9
Idaho	220	594.6	California	-1,520	-25.5
New Mexico	140	57.1	Ohio	-1,205	-75.3
Rhode Island	125	138.9	Massachusetts	-1,171	-57.0
Maine	122	182.1	New Jersey	-1,040	-65.7

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.

## EXHIBIT 6.6: Unsheltered Chronically Homeless Individuals by State

Largest Change in PIT Estimates, 2007-2017

Largest Increases			Largest Decreases		
State	# Change	% Change	State	# Change	% Change
<b>2016 to 2017</b>					
California	5,219	20.2	Georgia	-685	-55.1
Washington	1,585	107.0	Florida	-372	-8.9
Colorado	453	59.7	Oregon	-219	-8.5
Illinois	336	89.6	Tennessee	-214	-20.8
District of Columbia	298	124.2	Indiana	-161	-74.9
<b>2007 to 2017</b>					
Washington	1,797	141.5	California	-3,280	-9.5
Hawaii	778	120.4	Texas	-2,463	-53.1
Oregon	610	35.0	New York	-2,086	-51.3
South Carolina	360	174.8	Florida	-1,797	-32.0
District of Columbia	217	67.6	Arizona	-1,183	-54.9

Note: Figures from 2007 to 2017 exclude North Dakota, Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Michigan from consideration due to methodological changes.



**2017**

# People in Permanent Supportive Housing IN THE UNITED STATES

## **HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS)**

One-Year Estimates of People in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) .....7-3

### Characteristics of People in PSH

Gender and Age.....	7-5
Ethnicity and Race .....	7-6
Household Size and Disability Status.....	7-7

### Geography of People Living in PSH

Geographic Location .....	7-8
Characteristics by Geography .....	7-9

### Residential Patterns of People Living in PSH

Places Adults Stayed before Entering PSH .....	7-10
Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns.....	7-11
Destination at Move-Out for PSH Residents.....	7-12

One-Year Estimates of Veterans Living in PSH..... 7-13

Characteristics of Veterans Living in PSH..... 7-14

### Residential Patterns of Veterans Living in PSH

Places Veterans Stayed Before Moving into PSH .....	7-15
---	------

## **HOMELESS OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT EVALUATION SYSTEM (HOMES)**

Veterans in HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing  
(HUD-VASH) Programs using Housing Subsidies.....7-16

# 2017 People in Permanent Supportive Housing

IN THE UNITED STATES

## Did You Know?

HMIS

Throughout the year in 2017...

**376,086**  
people were living in PSH

**Only 6.6%**  
of people who  
exited PSH went to  
a homeless situation



Most of the growth in the number of people living in PSH **between 2010 and 2017** was among individuals.

## 2017 PROFILE

A TYPICAL PERSON LIVING IN PSH WAS:



**A Man by Himself**

**56.5% MALE / 60.7% 1-PERSON HOUSEHOLD**

**Aged 31–50**  
29.4%

**Black or African American**  
45%

**Disabled**  
87.3%

**Living in a City**  
64.5%



**Experiencing Homelessness**

PRIOR TO ENTERING PSH (81.1%)

**Spending 2-5 Years  
in Permanent Supportive Housing**



### KEY TERM

**Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)** is a program designed to provide housing (project- and tenant-based) and supportive services on a long-term basis to formerly homeless people. HUD McKinney-Vento-funded programs require that the client have a disability for program eligibility, so the majority of people in PSH have disabilities.

# 2017 One-Year Estimates OF PEOPLE IN PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

## HMIS

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs are designed to serve people who were homeless and who have disabilities that reduce their ability to maintain housing without additional support. PSH programs provide permanent housing combined with intensive supportive services to stabilize formerly homeless people in housing. PSH has been an important priority for HUD for many years. The number of beds in PSH projects increased by 87.6 percent between 2007 and 2017, with the growing inventory of HUD-VA Supportive Housing (VASH) program beds an important part of this increase.

In 2010, HUD began collecting and reporting estimates of people who had lived in PSH over the course of a year.

People in PSH are in housing and not considered homeless, unlike people in shelter (emergency shelter or transitional housing programs). PSH is intended to serve people with disabilities and chronic patterns of homelessness. Comparing people living in PSH with people experiencing sheltered homelessness can shed light on the extent to which PSH is targeted to a population with greater needs. Exhibits 7.4 to 7.12 compare people living in PSH with those staying in emergency shelter and transitional housing programs by various demographic characteristics and by location.

The estimates of people in PSH are based on a nationally representative sample of communities that submit aggregate Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data to HUD. Data are adjusted statistically to account for people in PSH programs that do not yet participate in their local HMIS to estimate the total number of people in PSH in each community<sup>1</sup> and are weighted to represent the entire country.<sup>2</sup>

Many exhibits in this section show separate estimates of individuals and people in families with children who are living in PSH. As in other sections of this report, people in families with children are in households with at least one adult and one child. Other people are considered to be experiencing homelessness as individuals.

<sup>1</sup> This adjustment accounts for people in all HUD-VASH projects reported in the HIC in 2017. Prior to 2015, the estimates of people in PSH did not account for HUD-VASH projects that did not participate in HMIS.

<sup>2</sup> The 95 percent confidence interval for people in PSH in 2016 is 367,132 to 385,040 (376,086 ± 8,954).

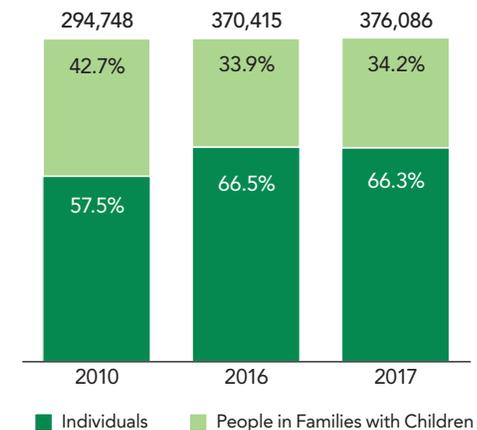
Data Source: HMIS 2010–2017, HIC 2007–2017

376,086 people lived in Permanent Supportive Housing in 2017, a 1.5% increase from 2016.

### 2017 Estimate of People in PSH

- An estimated 376,086 people lived in PSH during 2017.
- Just over one-third (34.2%) were people in families with children rather than individuals. This is slightly higher than the percentage of people experiencing sheltered homelessness as part of families with children (33.8%).

**EXHIBIT 7.1: One-Year Estimates of People Living in PSH**  
By Household Type, 2010-2017



Note: The share of people in PSH as individuals and as family members may not sum to 100% because some people were in PSH as both individuals and in families with children at different points during the reporting period.

### 2017 Estimate of People in PSH

- An estimated 376,086 people lived in PSH during 2017.
- Just over one-third (34.2%) were in families with children rather than individuals. This is slightly higher than the percentage of people experiencing sheltered homelessness as part of families with children (33.8%).

### Changes Over Time

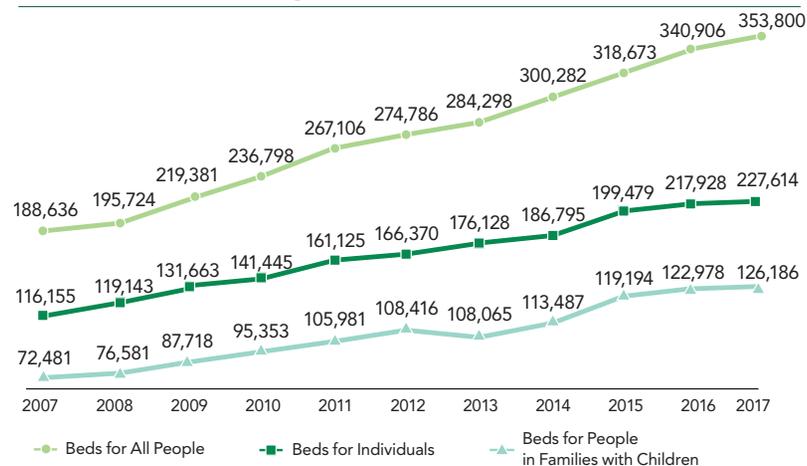
- The number of people living in PSH increased 1.5 percent (5,671 more people) between 2016 and 2017. This change was comprised of a 2.5 percent increase in the number of people in families with children in PSH (3,138 more people) and by a 1.1 percent increase in the number of individuals in PSH (2,794 more people).
- Between 2010 and 2017, the number of people in families with children living in PSH increased only by 2.3 percent (2,902 more people), while the number of individuals living in PSH increased by 47.1 percent (79,848 more people).
- Between 2007 and 2017, the number of PSH beds increased by 87.6 percent (165,164 beds).

Between 2007 and 2017, the number of PSH beds increased by 87.6%.

**EXHIBIT 7.2: Change in the One-Year Estimates**  
People Living in PSH by Household Type, 2010-2017

Population	2016-2017		2010-2017	
	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total People in PSH	5,671	1.5	81,338	27.6
Individuals in PSH	2,794	1.1	79,848	47.1
People in Families with Children in PSH	3,138	2.5	2,902	2.3

**EXHIBIT 7.3: Inventory of PSH Beds in the U.S., 2007-2017**



Note: The number of PSH beds in 2015 shown here is lower than that originally reported in the 2015 AHAR. The PSH inventory was reduced by 539 beds in the Riverside City and County CoC.

## Gender and Age

### In 2017

- Women made up 43.4 percent of all adults in PSH, a larger share than among adults using emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (37.6%).
- Among people in PSH as individuals, a larger proportion of adults were women in PSH (36.3%) than in emergency shelters and transitional housing programs (29.4%). Among people in families with children, the proportion of adults who were women was similar in PSH (76.9%) and shelter programs (77.9%).
- A smaller share of PSH residents were aged 30 or younger (31.8%) compared to people experiencing sheltered homelessness (44%). The difference mainly reflected a smaller share of PSH residents between 18 and 30 (11.7%, compared to 21.5% of people in shelter programs).
- 38.8 percent of PSH residents are 51 years or older compared to 23 percent of people experiencing sheltered homelessness.

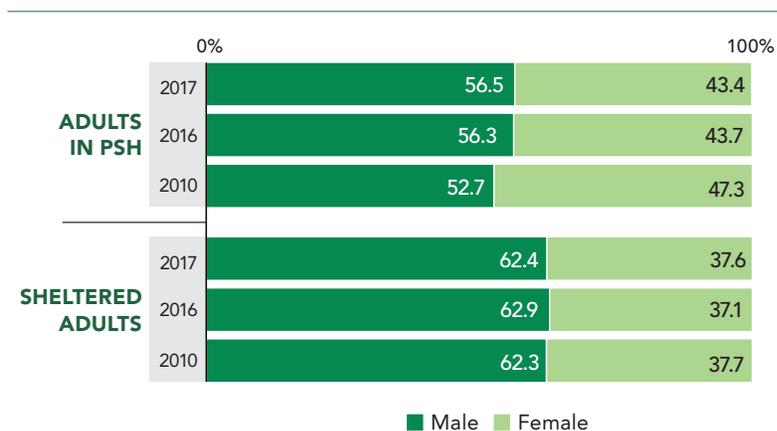
The share of people over age 50 in PSH increased from 23.9% to 38.8% between 2010 and 2017.

### Changes Over Time

- The share of women in PSH declined from 47.3 percent in 2010 to 43.4 percent in 2017.
- People living in PSH in 2017 were older than people living in PSH in 2010. The proportion of PSH residents aged 62 or older increased from 4 percent to 10.2 percent, and the proportion of people aged 51 to 61 grew from 19.9 percent to 28.5 percent.

### EXHIBIT 7.4: Gender

Adults Living in PSH and Adults Using Shelter\*, 2010–2017



### EXHIBIT 7.5: Age

People Living in PSH and People Using Shelter\*, 2010–2017 (in %)

Age	People in PSH			Sheltered People		
	2010	2016	2017	2010	2016	2017
Under Age 18	26.1	20.0	20.1	21.8	22.3	22.5
18 - 30	14.1	12.2	11.7	23.5	22.0	21.5
18 - 24	—	6.0	5.5	—	10.3	10.1
25 - 30	—	6.2	6.2	—	11.7	11.4
31 - 50	35.8	30.7	29.4	37.0	33.3	33.0
51 - 61	19.9	28.6	28.5	14.9	17.7	17.6
62 and Older	4.0	8.5	10.2	2.8	4.7	5.4

Note: Prior to 2015, data were collected on people age 18-30. Since then, information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.

## Ethnicity and Race

### In 2017

- A smaller proportion of PSH residents identified as Hispanic (13.6%) than did people in shelters or transitional housing programs (17.2%).
- About a third of people in PSH (36.9%) identified as white and not Hispanic, virtually the same rate as in people experiencing sheltered homelessness (36.5%).
- About the same share of people in PSH were African American (45%) as were people using emergency shelter or transitional housing programs (43%).

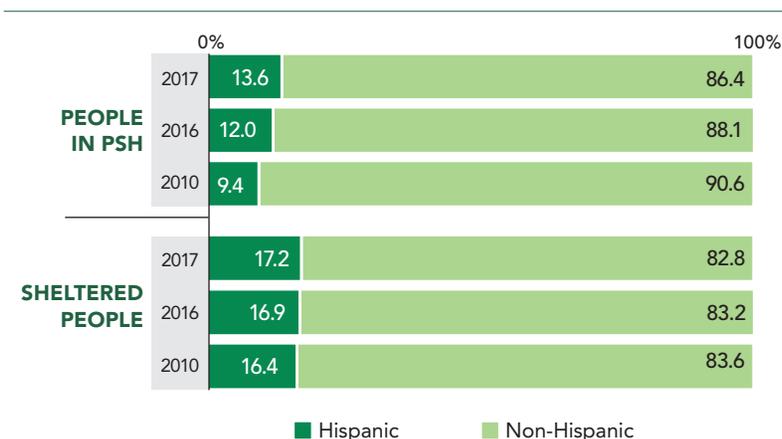
**13.6% of people in PSH identify as Hispanic, compared to 17.2% of people experiencing sheltered homelessness.**

### Changes Over Time

- The share of PSH residents who identified as Hispanic increased from 12 percent in 2016 to 13.6 percent in 2017. The share of people identifying as Hispanic among shelter-users also increased during the period, but by a smaller amount: from 16.9 to 17.2 percent.
- Although the share of shelter-users who identified as African American stayed about the same, the share of PSH residents who identified as African American decreased slightly between 2016 and 2017 from 46.7 percent in 2016 to 45 percent in 2017.
- Over the longer period, the racial characteristics of PSH residents remained stable, with the exception of the Hispanic population, which grew from 9.4 percent to 13.6 percent.

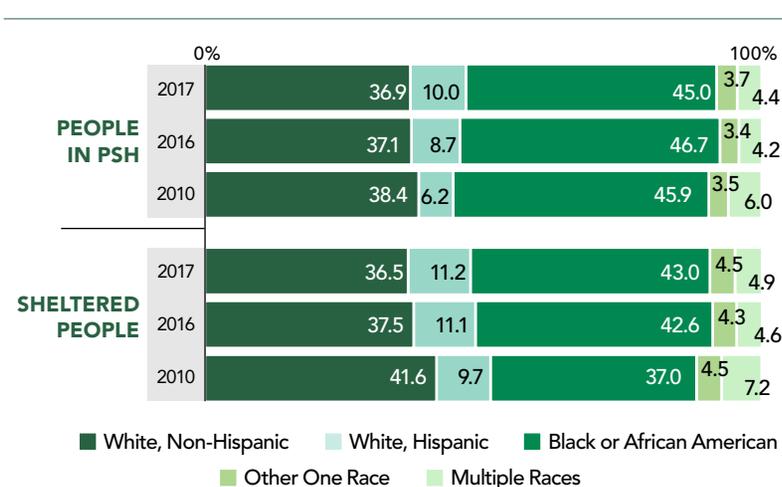
### EXHIBIT 7.6: Ethnicity

People Living in PSH and People Using Shelter\*, 2010–2017



### EXHIBIT 7.7: Race

People Living in PSH and People Using Shelter\*, 2010–2017



\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.

## Household Size and Disability Status

**B**y design, HUD McKinney-Vento-funded PSH programs serve households in which at least one member has a disabling condition.

### In 2017

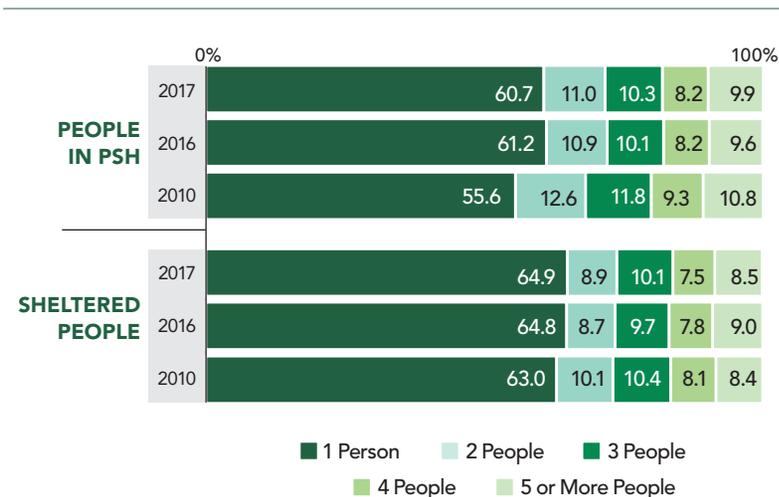
- In both PSH and shelters, more people lived by themselves than with others. Despite recent increases in the share of one-person households in PSH, the share of people living by themselves in PSH (60.7%) remains smaller than the share in shelter (64.9%).
- 18.1 percent of PSH residents were in households with four or more people, compared to 16.1 percent of people experiencing sheltered homelessness.
- Because disabling conditions are an eligibility requirement for entry into PSH, the majority of PSH, nearly nine in ten adults living in PSH, had a disability (87.3%). This is nearly twice the rate of adults using shelter, where a little over four in ten had a disability (44.4%).

### Changes Over Time

- The share of people in PSH living by themselves increased from 55.6 percent in 2010 to 60.7 percent in 2017.
- The share of adults in PSH with any disability also increased between 2010 and 2017, from 78.8 percent to 87.3 percent.

### EXHIBIT 7.8: Household Size

People Living in PSH and People Using Shelter\*, 2010–2017



### EXHIBIT 7.9: Disability Status

Adults Living in PSH and Sheltered Programs, 2010-2017 (in %)

	2010	2016	2017
Disability Status for Adults in PSH	78.8	86.6	87.3
Disability Status for Adults in Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing	31.5	42.1	44.4

\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.

## Geographic Location

### In 2017

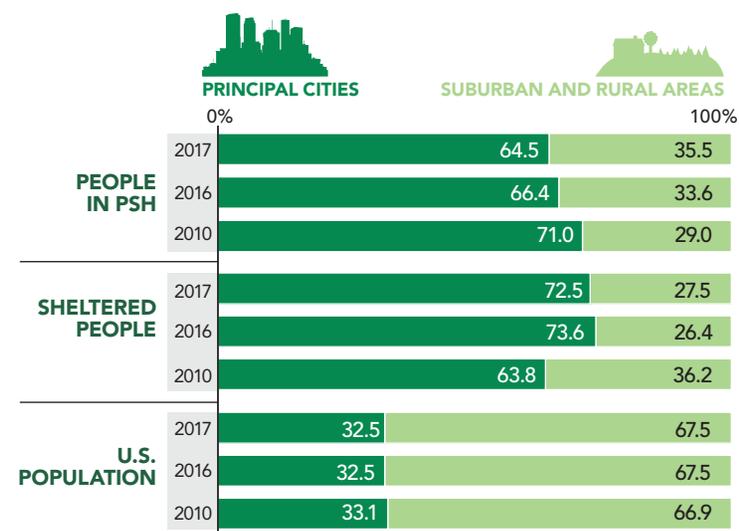
- More than one-third of PSH residents (35.5%) were living in suburban and rural areas, and 64.5 percent were living in cities. PSH residents were more likely to be located in suburban and rural areas than were people experiencing sheltered homelessness (27.5%).

### Changes Over Time

- The number of PSH residents in suburban and rural areas increased 7.1 percent between 2016 and 2017, alongside a slightly smaller (4%) increase in the number of people in suburban and rural shelter programs.
- Between 2010 and 2017, the number of PSH residents in suburban and rural areas increased by 56.4 percent while the number of people experiencing sheltered homelessness in those areas decreased by 32.4 percent.

### EXHIBIT 7.10: Geographic Distribution

People Living in PSH, People Using Shelter\*, and U.S. Population, 2010-2017



Note: In 2012, the ACS changed its approach to tabulating data by geographic area. This exhibit updates the estimates for the U.S. population to account for this change. The revised estimates result in higher proportions of people in principal cities for the total U.S. population than shown in past reports. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology. This report can be downloaded from: [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

### EXHIBIT 7.11: Percent Change by Geography

People Living in PSH and Homeless People Using Shelter\*, 2010-2017

Population	2016-2017		2010-2017	
	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas	Principal Cities	Suburban and Rural Areas
People in PSH	-1.3	7.1	15.8	56.4
Sheltered People	-1.8	4.0	1.0	-32.4

\*Shelter refers to emergency shelter and transitional housing programs.

## Characteristics by Geography

### In 2017

- Women comprised a higher share of PSH residents in suburban and rural areas (47.2%) than in principal cities (41.5%). Women also represented a higher share of PSH residents in suburban and rural areas than they did among people experiencing sheltered homelessness in those regions (41.6%).
- Nearly one-quarter (23.7%) of people living in PSH in suburban and rural areas were children under age 18, and 12.6 percent were adults ages 18 to 30. Both figures were higher than their equivalents in principal cities (18.1% and 11.2%).
- Adults over the age of 51 made up 41.5 percent of PSH residents in principal cities compared to 33.9 percent in suburban and rural areas.
- One-person PSH households were more common in principal cities (64.7%) than in suburban and rural areas (53.4%). Meanwhile, households with four or more people were more common in suburban and rural areas (21%) than in principal cities (16.5%).
- African American PSH residents were nearly 1.4 times more prevalent in principal cities (where they represented 50% of the total number of PSH residents) than in suburban and rural areas (36%).

### Changes Over Time

- The share of adults in PSH who had disabilities increased between 2010 and 2017, both in principal cities (from 78.2% to 87%) and in suburban and rural areas (80.1% to 88%).
- The share of PSH residents in principal cities who identify as African American declined from 52.9 percent in 2010 to 50 percent in 2017, while the African American share of the suburban and rural PSH population increased from 29.3 to 36 percent over the same period.

### EXHIBIT 7.12: Characteristics by Geography

People Living in PSH, 2010-2017 (in %)

Characteristic	Principal Cities			Suburban and Rural Areas		
	2010	2016	2017	2010	2016	2017
# People in PSH	209,414	245,781	242,587	85,334	124,634	133,499
<b>Gender of Adults</b>						
Male	53.4	58.0	58.5	51.0	52.6	52.8
Female	46.7	42.0	41.5	49.1	47.4	47.2
<b>Ethnicity</b>						
Hispanic	9.1	12.1	14.5	9.9	11.7	11.9
Non-Hispanic	90.9	87.9	85.5	90.1	88.3	88.1
<b>Race</b>						
White, Non-Hispanic	32.0	31.4	31.4	53.7	48.1	46.8
White, Hispanic	6.2	8.7	10.5	6.2	8.8	9.1
Black or African American	52.9	52.6	50.0	29.3	35.1	36.0
Other One Race	3.1	3.3	3.8	4.5	3.5	3.5
Multiple Races	5.9	4.0	4.3	6.3	4.5	4.6
<b>Age</b>						
Under Age 18	25.5	18.2	18.1	27.5	23.7	23.7
18 - 30	13.5	11.7	11.2	15.8	13.2	12.6
18 - 24	—	5.8	5.3	—	6.3	5.8
25 - 30	—	5.9	5.9	—	6.9	6.8
31 - 50	36.3	30.8	29.2	34.8	30.6	29.8
51 - 61	20.6	30.4	30.3	18.4	25.0	25.3
62 and Older	4.1	9.0	11.2	3.6	7.5	8.6
<b>Household Size</b>						
1 Person	56.0	65.1	64.7	54.5	53.6	53.4
2 People	13.0	9.7	9.8	11.5	13.4	13.2
3 People	11.5	9.1	9.1	12.6	12.2	12.4
4 People	9.1	7.3	7.3	9.8	9.8	9.9
5 or More People	10.4	8.8	9.1	11.7	11.0	11.2
<b>Disability Status of Adults</b>						
Disabled	78.2	86.6	87.0	80.1	86.6	88.0
Not Disabled	21.8	13.4	13.0	19.9	13.4	12.0

Note: Data were collected on people age 18-30 until 2015, when this information was collected separately for people age 18-24 and 25-30.

## Places Adults in PSH Stayed before Entering PSH

Information on where people lived before entering PSH was collected for all individuals, including children in child-only households, and for adults in families with children. The percentages reported in exhibits 7.13 and 7.14 and the bullet points below are based on this population and do not include children in families.

### In 2017

- Homelessness is often a requirement for entry into PSH. About four in five (81.1%) people living in PSH were homeless before they moved into PSH. Among those who were homeless before entering PSH, two-thirds came from shelters rather than from a place not meant for human habitation.
- 12.9 percent of people living in PSH came from a housed situation, of whom nearly half (45.5%) had been staying with family or friends, over a third (36.4%) had been staying in a housing unit they rented or owned, and 18 percent came from another PSH program.
- Just less than four percent of people in PSH were in an institutional setting prior to entering PSH. Over half (51.7%) of these 10,911 people were in a substance abuse treatment center, 22 percent were in a psychiatric facility, 14.9 percent were in a hospital, and 11.4 percent were in a correctional facility.

### Changes Over Time

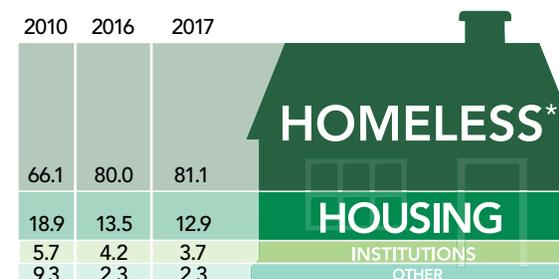
- The number of people entering PSH who came from a homeless situation increased 6.5 percent (14,390 more people) between 2016 and 2017. In contrast, the share of people entering from a housed situation stayed relatively level, increasing by just 0.4 percent (137 more people).
- The number of people who entered PSH from an unsheltered situation increased 188.5 percent (51,169 more people) between 2010 and 2017.
- Between 2010 and 2017, the share of people entering PSH who came from a housed situation dropped from 18.9 percent to 12.9 percent.

The share of people entering PSH who came from a homeless situation increased from 66.1% to 81.1% between 2010 and 2017.

**EXHIBIT 7.13: Places People Stayed**  
Before Entering PSH and Change Over Time, 2010-2017

Places Stayed	2017		2016-2017		2010-2017	
	#	%	# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
<b>Homeless*</b>	<b>236,231</b>	<b>81.1</b>	<b>14,390</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>107,919</b>	<b>84.1</b>
Sheltered	157,920	66.8	4,266	2.8	56,750	56.1
Unsheltered	78,311	33.2	10,124	14.8	51,169	188.5
<b>Housing</b>	<b>37,611</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>2.5</b>
Staying with family	10,710	28.5	-1,262	-10.5	-1,512	-12.4
Staying with friends	6,420	17.1	-802	-0.1	-609	-0.1
Rented housing unit	13,008	34.6	875	7.2	1,113	9.4
Owned housing unit	687	1.8	117	20.5	-914	-57.1
Permanent supportive housing (PSH)	6,786	18.0	1,209	21.7	2,837	71.8
<b>Institutional Settings</b>	<b>10,911</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>-582</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>-75</b>	<b>-0.7</b>
Substance abuse treatment center	5,636	51.7	-612	-9.8	142	2.6
Correctional facility	1,245	11.4	-29	-2.3	22	1.8
Hospital	1,630	14.9	2	0.1	432	36.1
Psychiatric facility	2,400	22.0	57	2.4	-671	-21.8
<b>Other Settings</b>	<b>6,694</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>-11,352</b>	<b>-62.9</b>
Hotel or motel	2,631	39.3	-40	-1.5	299	12.8
Foster care home	551	8.2	-15	-2.7	-57	-9.4
Other living arrangement	3,512	52.5	282	8.7	-11,594	-76.8

**EXHIBIT 7.14: Places Adults Stayed**  
Before Entering PSH, 2010-2017 (in %)



\*Homeless refers to people being served in emergency shelter, safe havens, or transitional housing programs, as well as people living in places not meant for human habitation.

## Length of Stay and Other Bed-Use Patterns

### In 2017

- About one in five people living in PSH at some time during the reporting year (22.1%) had been there for one year or less. About half (49.3%) had lived in PSH between one and five years, and 28.6 percent had lived in PSH for more than five years.
- One in five (19.8%) PSH residents began their PSH stays during the reporting period, and 16.6 percent of PSH residents moved out of PSH during the reporting year.

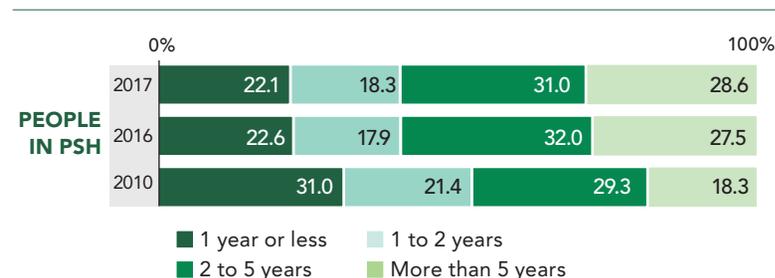
### Changes Over Time

- PSH programs had less turnover in 2017 than in 2016. Fewer people moved into and moved out of a PSH program in 2017 than in 2016 (11,080 fewer entrants and 1,413 fewer exiters). Thus, while the number of people using PSH grew from 2016 to 2017, it grew by a smaller margin (1.5%) than between 2015 to 2016 (6.5%).
- The share of long-term stayers living in PSH during the reporting year has increased every year between 2010 and 2017. The share of PSH residents living in PSH for more than five years increased from 18.3 percent in 2010 to 28.6 percent in 2017.
- The share of people staying in PSH for one year or less declined from 31 percent in 2010 to 22.1 percent in 2017.

In 2017, over a quarter of PSH residents had lived in PSH for 5 years or longer.

### EXHIBIT 7.15: Length of Stay

People Living in PSH, 2010-2017



### EXHIBIT 7.16: Change in the Flow of Entry and Exit by Household Type

People Entering into and Exiting from PSH, 2016-2017

Length of Stay	2017	2016-2017	
	#	# Change	% Change
<b>Entering PSH</b>			
All People	74,565	-11,080	-12.9
Individuals	49,079	-10,433	-17.5
People in Families with Children	25,832	-634	-2.4
<b>Exiting PSH</b>			
All People	62,309	-1,413	-2.2
Individuals	41,928	-761	-1.8
People in Families with Children	20,628	-634	-3.0

Note: The estimated change in individuals and change in people in families with children will not sum to the overall change because: 1) an overlap adjustment factor (see discussion in the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology section A.5 for more details) and 2) some people were in PSH as both individuals and in families with children at different points during the reporting year. This report can be downloaded from: [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

## Destination at Move-Out for PSH Residents

### In 2017

- Only 6.6 percent of people who left PSH became homeless. Of those 3,816 people, about two-thirds (67.5%) entered shelters rather than going to unsheltered locations. The proportion going to unsheltered locations was much higher among individuals, 36.1 percent, than among people in families with children, 15.3 percent.
- More than seven in 10 people leaving PSH during the reporting year moved into another housed situation, 72.1 percent. More than half of those 41,582 people, 55.6 percent, moved into housing they rented. About one in five (21.1%) moved in with family, 12.5 percent went into other permanent supportive housing, and 8.8 percent stayed with friends.
- People in families with children who moved out of PSH were more likely to move into another housed situation than were individuals who exited PSH (85.5% versus 65.5%).
- 6.8 percent of people moving out of PSH (3,924 people) went to an institutional setting. Of those, a majority (58.7%) entered a correctional facility, 17.8 percent a substance abuse treatment center, 15.3 percent a hospital, and 8.2 percent a psychiatric facility.
- Individuals who moved out of PSH were three times more likely to go to an institutional setting than were people in families with children, 8.7 versus 2.9 percent. Among those exiting to an institutional setting, individuals were more likely to exit to a hospital (17.5%) or a psychiatric facility (8.3%) than were families with children (2.2% and 7.5%). However, people in families with children were more likely to exit to a correctional facility (65%) or a substance abuse treatment center (25.3%) than were individuals (57.7% and 16.6%).

Among those who left PSH in 2017 for another homeless situation, individuals were 20 percentage points more likely to exit to unsheltered locations (36.1%) than were people in families (15.3%).

### Changes Over Time

- The number of people who moved out of PSH to homelessness increased modestly (by 0.7%) from 2016 to 2017. This increase was driven by a 2.3 percent increase in the number of individuals who exited PSH into homelessness. The number of people in families with children who exited PSH into homelessness decreased by 5.9 percent.
- The number of people in families with children exiting from PSH to an institutional setting increased 7.1 percent between 2016 and 2017.

Data Source: HMIS 2010–2017

**EXHIBIT 7.17: Destination upon Moving Out**  
People Living in PSH by Household Type, 2017

Destination	All People		Individuals		People in Families with Children	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Homeless*</b>	<b>3,816</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>3,150</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Sheltered	2,577	67.5	2,012	63.9	577	84.7
Unsheltered	1,239	32.5	1,138	36.1	104	15.3
<b>Housing</b>	<b>41,582</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>25,347</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>16,383</b>	<b>85.5</b>
Staying with family	8,792	21.1	4,814	19.0	4,008	24.5
Staying with friends	3,660	8.8	2,553	10.1	1,116	6.8
Rented housing	23,140	55.6	13,835	54.6	9,386	57.3
Owned housing unit	809	1.9	461	1.8	352	2.1
Other PSH	5,181	12.5	3,684	14.5	1,521	9.3
<b>Institutional Setting</b>	<b>3,924</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>3,382</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Substance abuse treatment center	699	17.8	561	16.6	141	25.3
Correctional facility	2,303	58.7	1,950	57.7	362	65.0
Hospital	601	15.3	591	17.5	12	2.2
Psychiatric facility	321	8.2	280	8.3	42	7.5
<b>Other Settings</b>	<b>12,987</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>10,050</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>3,009</b>	<b>8.0</b>
Hotel or motel	276	2.1	208	2.1	69	2.3
Foster care home	403	3.1	62	0.6	342	11.4
Other living arrangement	3,154	24.3	2,274	22.6	896	29.8
Deceased	4,515	34.8	4,303	42.8	233	7.7
Missing destination	4,639	35.7	3,203	31.9	1,469	48.8

**EXHIBIT 7.18: Percent Change in Destination upon Moving Out**  
People Living in PSH by Household Type, 2010–2017 (in %)

Destination	2016–2017			2010–2017		
	All People	Individuals	People in Families with Children	All People	Individuals	People in Families with Children
Homeless*	0.7	2.3	-5.9	81.3	89.1	55.1
Housing	-2.3	-3.4	-0.4	52.5	71.7	30.8
Institutional Setting	-0.9	-2.1	7.1	29.0	25.8	56.5
Other Setting	-3.3	1.5	-15.9	-39.4	-16.8	-67.8

\* Homeless refers to people being served in emergency shelter, safe havens, or transitional housing programs, as well as people living in places not meant for human habitation.  
Note: People exiting PSH programs were asked where they were moving to next.

## One-Year Estimates of Veterans Living in PSH

This section provides information on a specific population residing in PSH—veterans. The HMIS estimates distinguish between veterans served as individuals and veterans living with at least one child (the same definition of family as elsewhere in this report), but only the veterans are included in these estimates, not other adults or children in the household.

The 2017 estimates of veterans in PSH reflect a broader population than in reports published prior to 2015. In the past, the estimates did not include information on all veterans using the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program, a form of PSH. As a result, past estimates underestimated the number of veterans in PSH. In 2015, the methodology used to produce these estimates was changed to account more fully for each community’s HUD-VASH bed inventory reported to HUD, producing a more accurate and substantially larger estimate of veterans in PSH.<sup>3</sup>

This report provides some supplemental information on veterans using HUD-VASH based on data from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Homeless Operations Management Evaluation System (HOMES). These data provide a detailed picture of the veterans who specifically use the HUD-VASH program. Information on veterans in HUD-VASH follows the description of veterans in PSH.

### In 2017, 99,397 veterans lived in PSH.

#### 2017 Estimate of Veterans in PSH

- 99,397 veterans lived in PSH in 2017.<sup>4</sup> Most (91%) were in PSH as individuals rather than as members of a family with at least one child (9.6%).

#### Changes Over Time

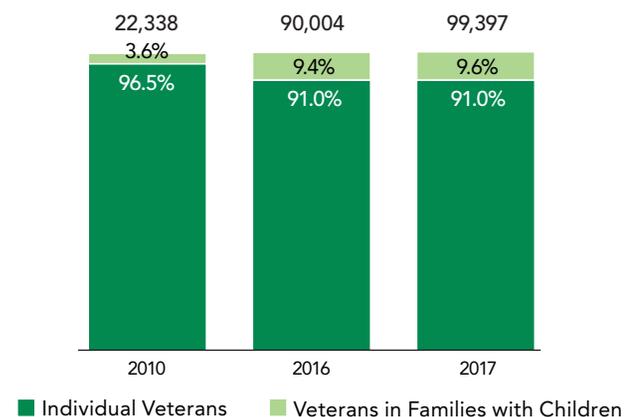
- Between 2016 and 2017, the number of veterans in PSH increased 10.4 percent (9,393 more veterans).
- Both the number of veterans in PSH as individuals and the number of veterans in PSH as members of a family increased between 2016 and 2017, by 10.5 percent for individuals and by 12.1 percent for people in families.

<sup>3</sup> For more information, please see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology. This report can be downloaded from: [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

<sup>4</sup> The 95 percent confidence interval for veterans in PSH in 2017 is 96,439 to 102,355 (99,397 ± 2,958).

Data Source: HMIS 2010–2017

**EXHIBIT 7.19: One-Year Estimates of Veterans Living in PSH**  
By Household Type, 2010–2017



Note: The share of veterans living in PSH as individuals and as family members may not sum to 100% because some veterans were in PSH both as individuals and in families with children at different points during the reporting period.

**EXHIBIT 7.20: Change in Number of Veterans Living in PSH**  
By Household Type, 2016–2017

Population	2016–2017	
	# Change	% Change
Total Veteran Population	9,393	10.4
Individual Veterans	8,582	10.5
Veterans in Families with Children	1,029	12.1

Note: Because of the change in estimating veterans in HUD-VASH that started in 2015, this exhibit does not show changes from 2010 to 2017. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology. This report can be downloaded from: [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

## Characteristics of Veterans Living in PSH

### In 2017

- The typical veteran in PSH was a man (87.1%) who identified himself either as white and not Hispanic (46.3%) or as black or African American (41.9%).
- Only 9.6 percent of veterans in PSH were in families with children, and these veterans were far more likely to be women (44.6%) than were veterans living in PSH as individuals (10.4%).
- Almost all veterans living in PSH (96.3%) were more than 30 years old, and 71.8 percent were over 50 years old.
- Nine in ten veterans living in PSH had a disability (89.6%). Veterans in PSH as individuals were more likely to have a disability than were veterans in PSH as part of a family with children (90.3% vs. 80.8%).

### Changes Over Time

- Despite a slight decline between 2016 and 2017, the share of veterans living in PSH with a disability increased from 80.5 percent in 2010 to 89.6 percent in 2017.
- The share of elderly veterans 62 years or older in PSH nearly doubled between 2010 and 2017, from 12.1 percent to 23.5 percent.
- Between 2010 and 2017, the share of veterans in PSH as individuals who were between the ages of 18 and 30 decreased from 4.3 percent to 2.7 percent, while the share of veterans in that age group in families with children increased from 13.9 percent to 16.3 percent.
- Veteran individuals in PSH experienced declines in the share of people 50 years or under and increases in the share of people 51 years and older, from 2010 to 2017. The reverse was true of veterans in families with children in PSH.

### EXHIBIT 7.21: Characteristics by Household Type

Veterans Living in PSH, 2017 (in %)

Characteristic	All Veterans	Individual Veterans	Veterans in Families with Children
# Veterans in PSH	99,397	90,478	9,533
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	87.1	89.6	55.4
Female	12.9	10.4	44.6
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Hispanic	7.8	7.1	16.5
Non-Hispanic	92.2	92.9	83.5
<b>Race</b>			
White, Non-Hispanic	46.3	47.6	30.1
White, Hispanic	5.5	5.1	10.6
Black or African American	41.9	41.2	51.0
Other One Race	2.8	2.7	3.9
Multiple Races	3.5	3.4	4.4
<b>Age</b>			
18 - 30	3.7	2.7	16.3
18 - 24	0.6	0.4	2.2
25 - 30	3.2	2.3	14.2
31 - 50	24.5	21.6	60.8
51 - 61	48.3	50.8	17.3
62 and older	23.5	24.9	5.6
<b>Disability Status</b>			
Disabled	89.6	90.3	80.8
Not Disabled	10.4	9.7	19.2

## Places Veterans Stayed Before Moving Into PSH

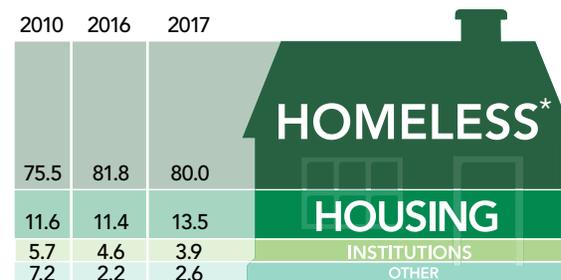
### In 2017

- Four in five veterans living in PSH were homeless immediately before program entry. Of these 75,002 veterans, 28.1 percent were living in a place not meant for human habitation.
- Of the 12,699 veterans who moved into PSH from housing, 42.3 percent had been in housing they rented, 19.2 percent had been living with family, and 14.4 percent had been living with friends.
- More than half (51.4%) of the 3,697 veterans who came to PSH from an institutional setting came from a substance abuse treatment center.

### Changes Over Time

- The share of veterans experiencing homelessness before entering PSH increased from 75.5 percent in 2010 to 80 percent in 2017.

**EXHIBIT 7.22: Places Veterans Stayed Before Moving Into PSH, 2010-2017 (in %)**



**EXHIBIT 7.23: Change in Places Veterans Stayed Before Moving Into PSH, 2016-2017**

Prior Living Arrangement	2016-2017	
	# Change	% Change
Homeless*	6,889	10.1
Housing	3,163	33.2
Institutional Settings	-147	-3.8
Other Settings	558	30.4

Note: Because of the change in estimating veterans in HUD-VASH that started in 2015, this exhibit does not show changes from 2010 to 2017. For more information, see the 2017 AHAR Data Collection and Analysis Methodology. This report can be downloaded from: [www.hudexchange.info](http://www.hudexchange.info).

\* Homeless refers to people being served in emergency shelter, safe havens, or transitional housing programs, as well as people living in places not meant for human habitation.

## Veterans in HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Programs using Housing Subsidies

The HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program for formerly homeless veterans (HUD-VASH)<sup>5</sup> combines rental assistance with case management and clinical services. HUD provides the rental assistance through the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides case management and clinical services through VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs).<sup>6</sup> Every year since 2008, HUD and the VA have awarded HUD-VASH vouchers based on geographic need as well as public housing agency (PHA) and VAMC or CBOC administrative performance. The HUD-VASH program is a form of permanent supportive housing that is designed to bring veterans who are experiencing homelessness into a permanent home, paired with supportive services to improve the stability of their housing situation.

The HUD-VASH program operates using the principles of Housing First, an evidence-based practice that seeks to rapidly house people with special needs into a low-barrier, flexible program that offers voluntary individualized supportive services to help people stay housed. Basing HUD-VASH on Housing First means that the veteran does not have to complete treatment or be currently sober before moving into permanent housing. Services that are provided focus on supporting the veteran's individual goals, and participation in services are not a condition<sup>7</sup> of continued occupancy of the housing with support from the voucher subsidy.

This year's AHAR is the third to provide information from the VA's Homeless Operations Management and Evaluation System (HOMES) about veterans who use HUD-VASH. The VAMCs and CBOCs that administer the HUD-VASH program are required to report data into HOMES, but most do not also provide information to an HMIS. Although data from HOMES are similar to HMIS data in some respects, the data elements are sufficiently different that the information reported here on veterans in HUD-VASH cannot be compared directly to the HMIS-based information on veterans in other permanent supportive housing units. In order to improve the comparability between HUD-VASH numbers and other permanent supportive housing programs reported in AHAR, the HUD-VASH numbers reported here do not include veterans who were receiving case management and had not yet moved into a housing unit supported by a voucher rental subsidy.

<sup>5</sup> For more information on the HUD-VASH program see: [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/hcv/vash](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/vash) and <http://www.va.gov/homeless/hud-vash.asp>.

<sup>6</sup> Examples of clinical services are health care, mental health treatment, and substance use counseling.

<sup>7</sup> Participation involves case management, which the program defines individually for each veteran.

Source: Homeless Operations Management Evaluation System (HOMES) data 2015-2017

**EXHIBIT 7.24: Characteristics of Veterans using HUD-VASH Housing Subsidies, 2015-2017**

Characteristic	% Veterans in HUD-VASH		
	2015	2016	2017
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	87.7	86.8	86.7
Female	12.3	13.2	13.2
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Hispanic	8.1	7.2	7.6
Non-Hispanic	91.9	92.8	92.5
<b>Race</b>			
White	51.0	50.0	50.6
Black or African American	45.3	46.4	45.7
Other one race	3.7	3.5	3.8
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 30	3.7	4.8	4.8
31 to 50	23.7	25.0	25.1
51 to 61	47.0	46.7	46.0
62 and older	25.3	23.5	24.1
<b>Destination at Exit<sup>a</sup></b>			
Homeless	7.7	5.7	3.0
Housing <sup>b</sup>	65.2	73.2	79.9
Institutional settings <sup>c</sup>	6.3	6.5	8.0
Other settings <sup>d</sup>	20.8	14.6	9.1

Source: Homeless Operations Management Evaluation System (HOMES) data

<sup>a</sup> Destination is only calculated for veterans who left the program, which is a small proportion of the total veterans described in the other characteristics.

<sup>b</sup> Housing includes a number of situations, including owned and rented housing that may be subsidized or not subsidized and permanent or temporary (such as staying with family or friends).

<sup>c</sup> Institutional Settings include psychiatric facilities, non-psychiatric hospitals, correctional facilities, and non-VA residential treatment programs.

<sup>d</sup> For destination at exit, unknown destinations are included in "other" settings.

As of the end of the 2017 fiscal year, 128,899 unduplicated veterans had been housed with a housing subsidy through the HUD-VASH program at some point since the program underwent significant expansion in 2008. Between FY 2015 and FY 2017, the program housed 55,478 Veterans. As of September 2017, 77,850 HUD-VASH vouchers were currently under lease.

Exhibit 7.24 shows the characteristics of veterans using HUD-VASH vouchers at some point during the 2017 fiscal year and shows how those characteristics changed between FY 2015 and FY 2017. Most veterans using HUD-VASH vouchers in 2017 were men, 86.7 percent.<sup>8</sup> However, the share of veterans who were women increased by one percentage point between 2015 (12.3%) and 2017 (13.2%). In 2017, just over half (50.6%) of veterans using HUD-VASH vouchers identified themselves as white, 45.7 percent as black or African American, and 3.8 percent as some other race. When asked about their ethnicity, 7.6 percent identified themselves as Hispanic (any race). Veterans using HUD-VASH housing vouchers typically were between ages 51 and 61 (46%), with about a quarter ages 31 to 50 (25.1%), a quarter (24.1%) age 62 or older, and very few (4.8%) between 18 and 30. Veterans using HUD-VASH vouchers in 2017 are slightly younger than were those in 2015.

## As of September 2017, more than 128,000 veterans had been housed through HUD-VASH vouchers since the program expanded in 2008.

Four of every five veterans who left the HUD-VASH program in 2017 (79.9%) went to another housing situation (which could be either permanent or temporary), 8 percent went to an institutional setting, 3 percent became homeless, and 9.1 percent were reported as going to other or unknown settings. The share of veterans who exited the HUD-VASH program to another housing situation increased by nearly 15 percentage points from 2015 (65.2%) to 2017 (79.9%), and the share who became homeless declined by nearly 5 percentage points (from 7.7% in 2015 to 3% in 2017).

<sup>8</sup> The information is based on the veteran in the household, excluding other household members who may be in the HUD-VASH unit.

### HOMES data and HMIS data

- HOMES provides data from the VA's system of care for veterans experiencing homelessness. Submission of data is mandatory for VAMCs and CBOCs. HMIS provides data from the Continuums of Care that serve a broad population of people experiencing homelessness, including veterans. Participation in HMIS is mandatory for grantees of HUD homeless assistance programs but not for all providers of permanent supportive housing. PHAs that provide HUD-VASH or other housing assistance to people experiencing homelessness are not required to participate in HMIS, although some do.
- Data elements, definitions, and guidelines differ between HOMES and HMIS.
- Both HOMES and HMIS data cover veterans using programs at any time during a year.





The U.S. Department of  
Housing and Urban Development  
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT