



GREATER LOS ANGELES
HOMELESS COUNT

JULY 24, 2026

2026

WHY WE COUNT: A local effort with national impact

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



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



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



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

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

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

01

DATA RECONCILIATION

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

02

ESRI APP

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

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

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

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



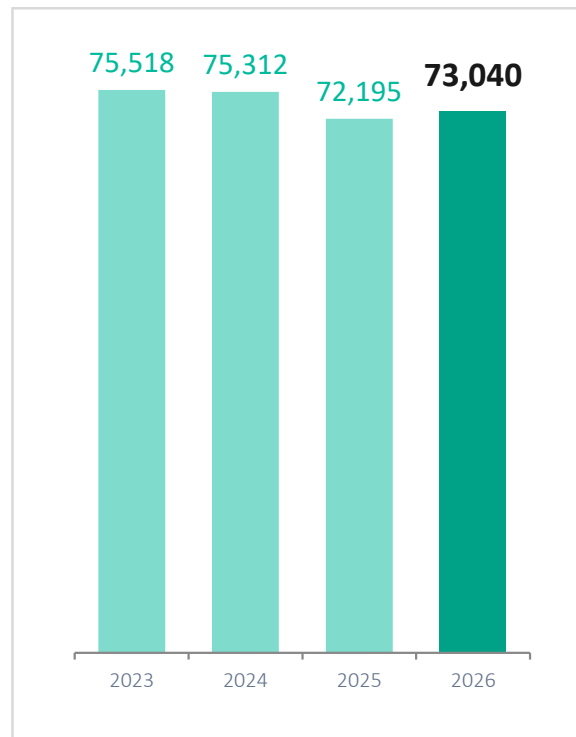
PART

1

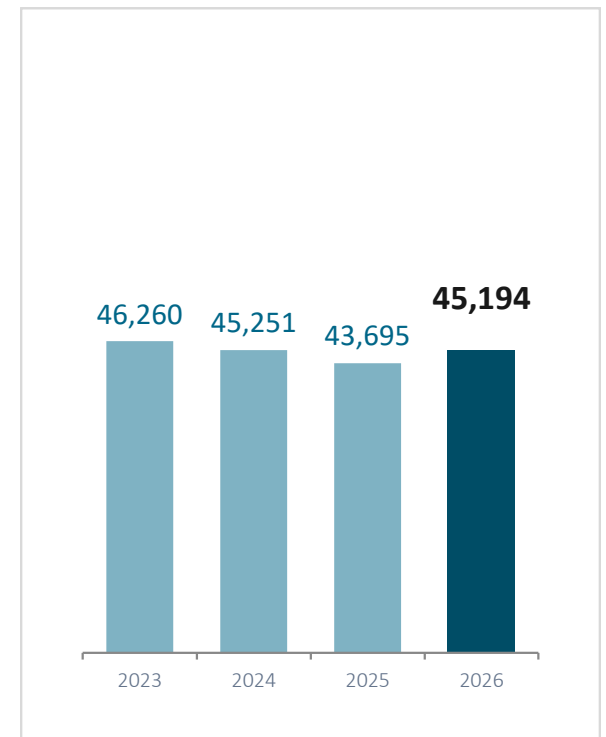
2026 Homeless Count Key Findings

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

LA County **+1.2%**



LA CITY **+3.4%**

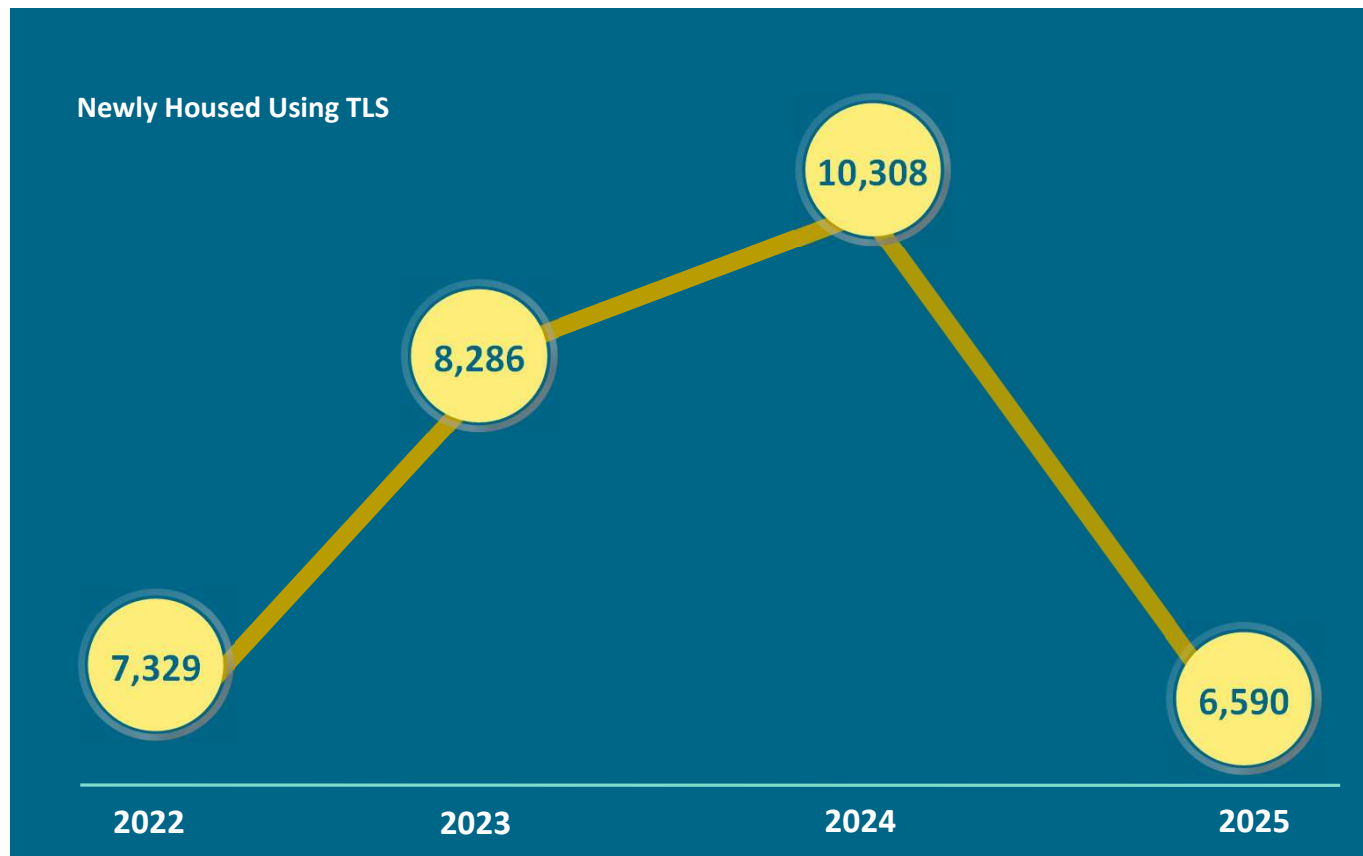


The story of the Homeless Count is mainly the story of TLS.

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



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



01

Starting in 2022, TLS was a major factor in the increase of people in permanent housing.

02

Funding reductions forced a pause on new TLS enrollments.

03

As a result, the number of new TLS move-ins dropped by 3,718 in 2025.

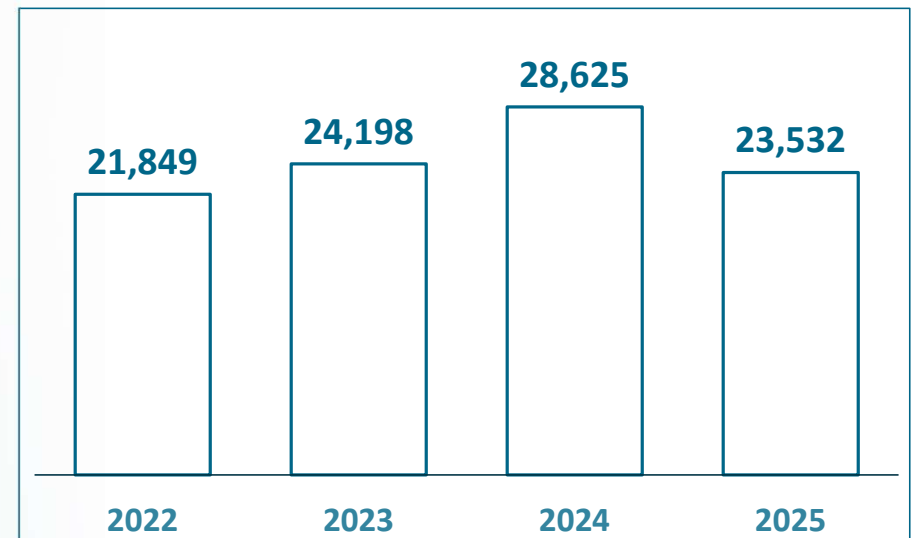
Data Source: HMIS - LAHSA System Key Performance Indicators

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

PEOPLE PERMANENTLY HOUSED

98,204

People permanently housed
since 2022



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

LAHSA System KPIs 2024 to 2025



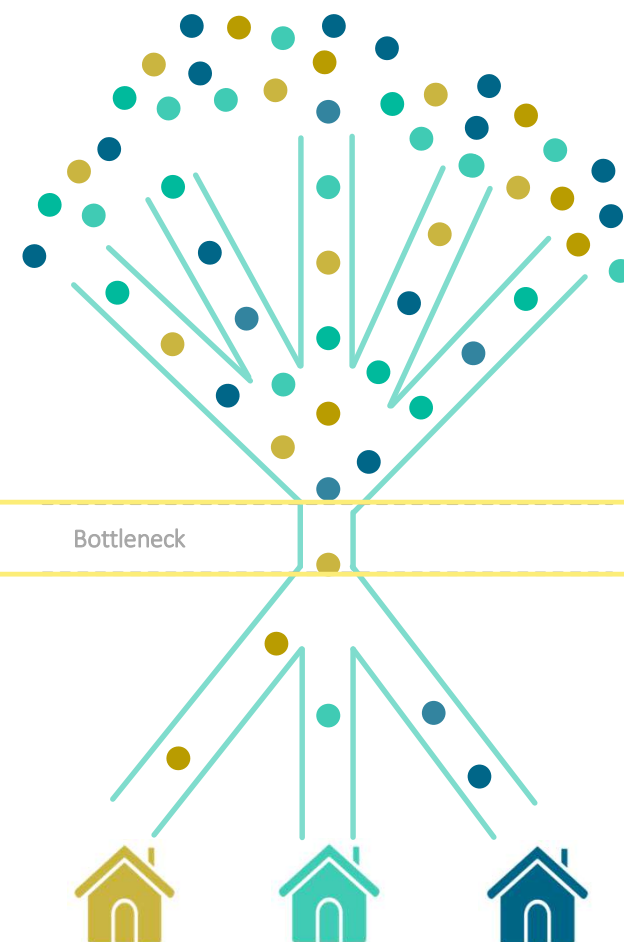
Movement from interim housing to permanent housing **decreased** 36% (12,120 to 7,770)



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



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

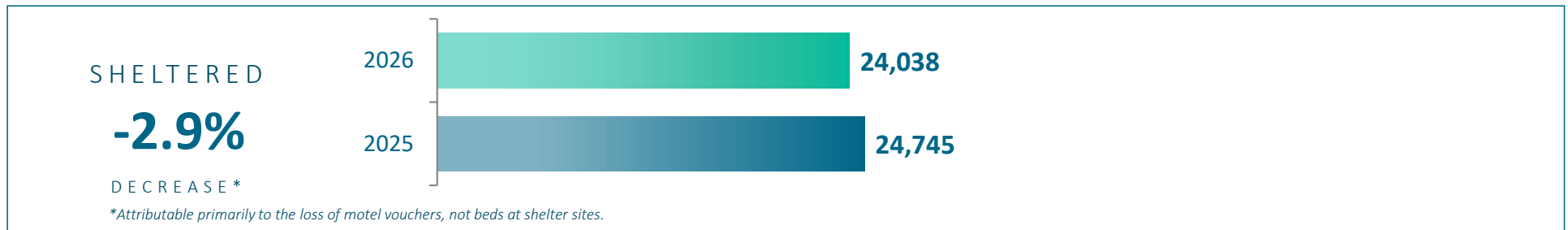
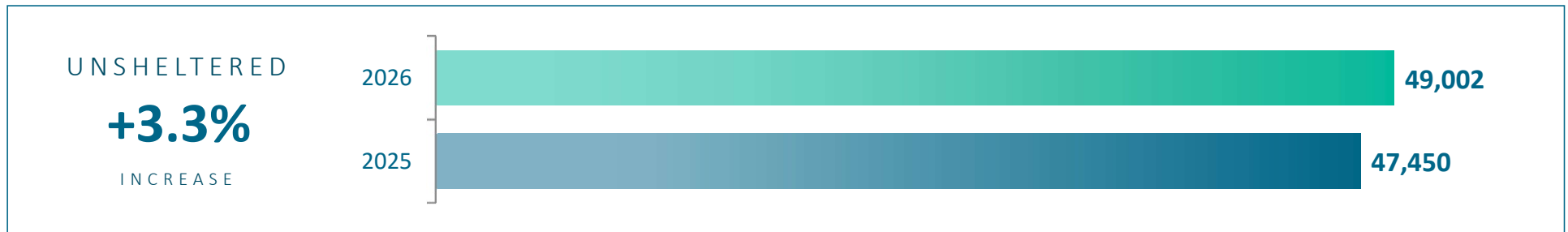


HOMELESSNESS ACROSS THE COUNTY

TLS cuts contributed to countywide unsheltered homelessness increase.

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

TOTAL	2025	2026
+1.2%	72,195	73,040
INCREASE		



HOMELESSNESS IN CITY OF LA

TLS cuts impacted City's increase.

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



UNSHelterED
+7.9%
INCREASE



SHELTERED
-3.9%
DECREASE *



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

Economic factors always drive homelessness.

01

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

02

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

03

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

04

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



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

Inflow into the Rehousing System

Economic factors contributed to the increase in system inflow.

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

6%

increase in
inflow
since 2023.

2.37

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

In 2025,
55,691
or
66%
of inflow
participants, are
newly unhoused.

2025

2024

2023

55,691

55,843

52,683



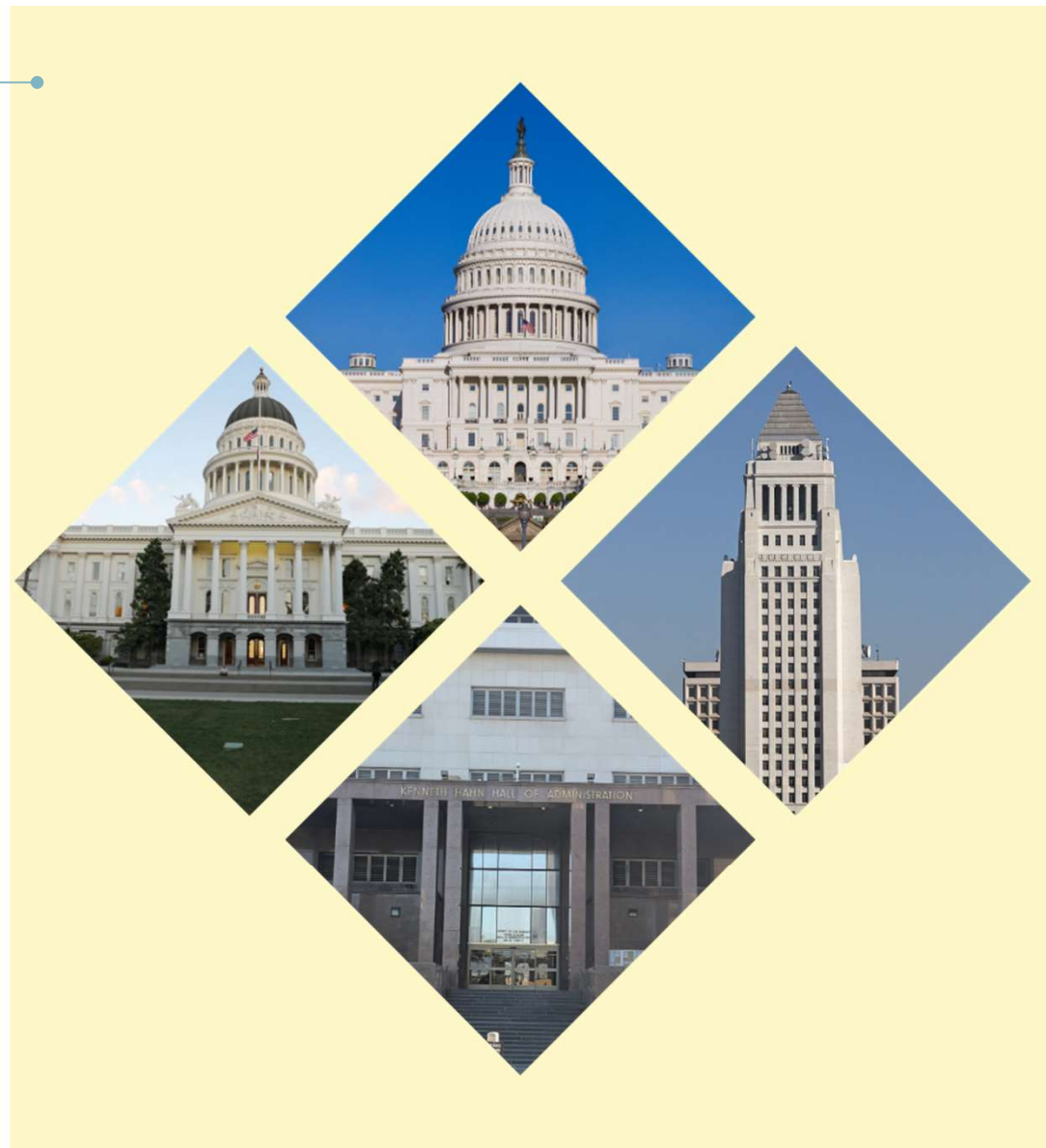
Data from LAHSA's Homeless Information System (HMIS).

A photograph of a bedroom, viewed through an open white door. The room contains a bed with a dark blanket and several folded light-colored towels or blankets at the foot. To the left of the bed is a dark nightstand with various items on it, including a cup and some papers. A window with white blinds is visible behind the bed. A ceiling fan with three blades and a light fixture is mounted on the ceiling. The overall lighting is dim, and the image has a slightly desaturated, blue-toned appearance.

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

How do we return to progress?

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



Returning the LA Region to Progress

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

01

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

02

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

03

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

PART

2

2026 Homeless Count Methodology 101

The LA CoC* PIT Count methodology has 3 components

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

Sheltered adults & youth (33.0%):

- Shelter count
- Administrative data (HMIS)

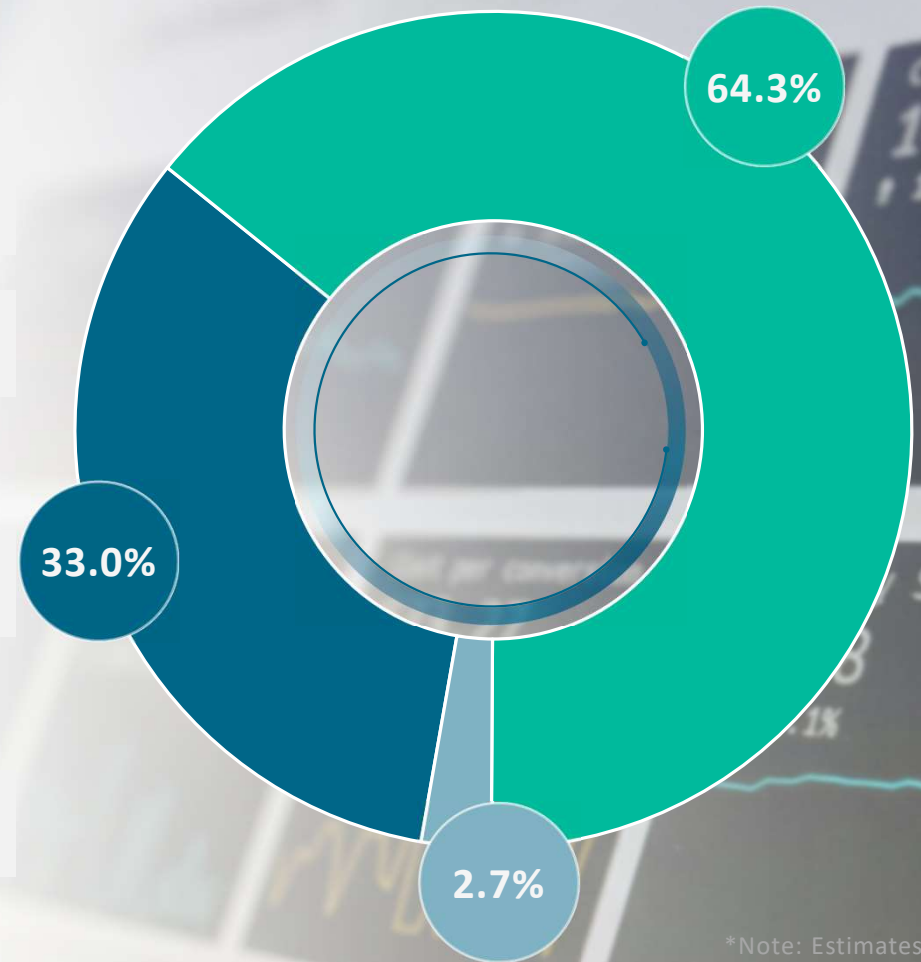
Unsheltered adults (64.3%):

- Street count (visual tally)
- Demographic surveys

Unsheltered youth (2.7%):

- Survey-based count using respondent-driven sampling

2026 | GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT



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



USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck
School of Social Work

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

Cars

CoC 2025/2026

3,020 → 2,992 **-0.9%**
28 fewer cars

City 2025/2026

1,710 → 1,705 **-0.3%**
5 fewer cars

Vans

CoC 2025/2026

2,695 → 2,799 **+3.9%**
104 more vans

City 2025/2026

1,801 → 1,730 **-3.9%**
71 fewer vans

RVs

CoC 2025/2026

6,290 → 4,968 **-21.0%**
1,322 fewer RVs

City 2025/2026

3,104 → 2,796 **-9.9%**
308 fewer RVs

Tents

CoC 2025/2026

3,453 → 3,248 **-5.9%**
205 fewer tents

City 2025/2026

2,572 → 2,288 **-11.0%**
284 fewer tents

Makeshift Shelters

CoC 2025/2026

3,158 → 3,714 **+17.6%**
556 more makeshift shelters

City 2025/2026

1,823 → 2,242 **+23.0%**
419 more makeshift shelters

LA CoC – All Dwelling Types

2025 TOTAL
18,616

2026 TOTAL
17,721

CHANGE
-4.8%

LA City – All Dwelling Types

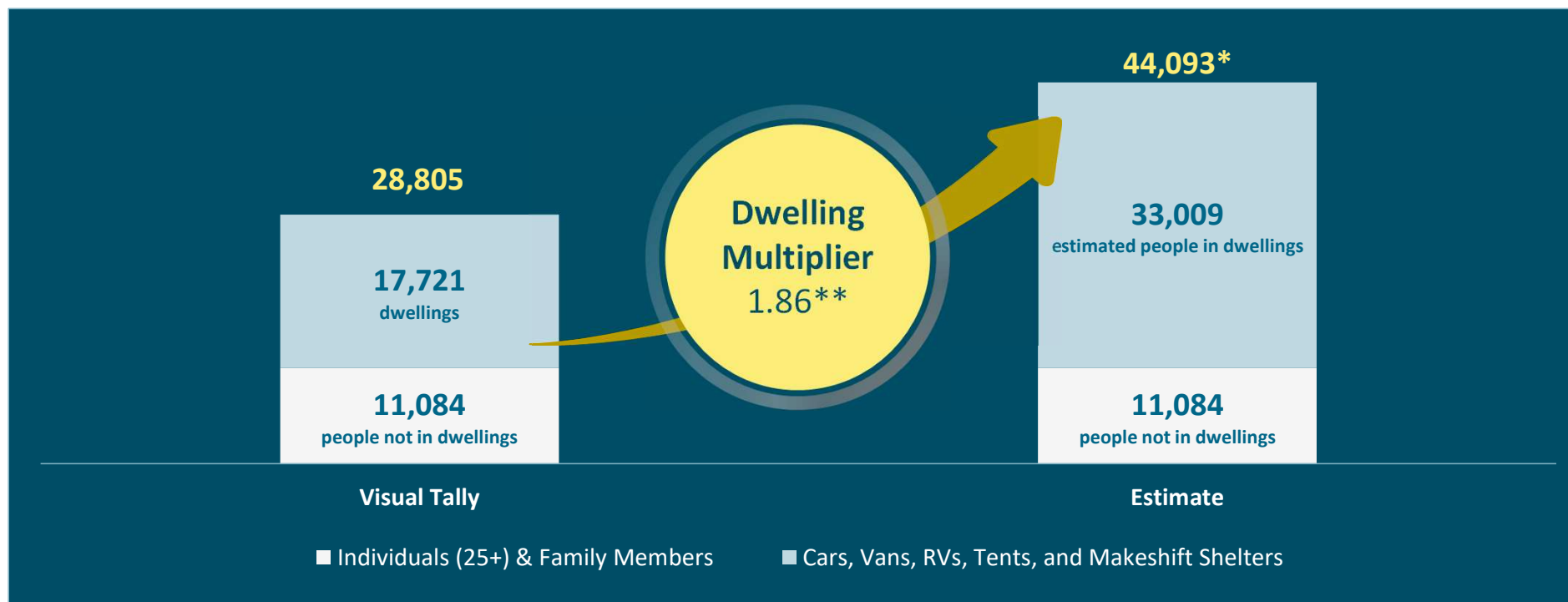
2025 TOTAL
11,010

2026 TOTAL
10,761

CHANGE
-2.3%

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

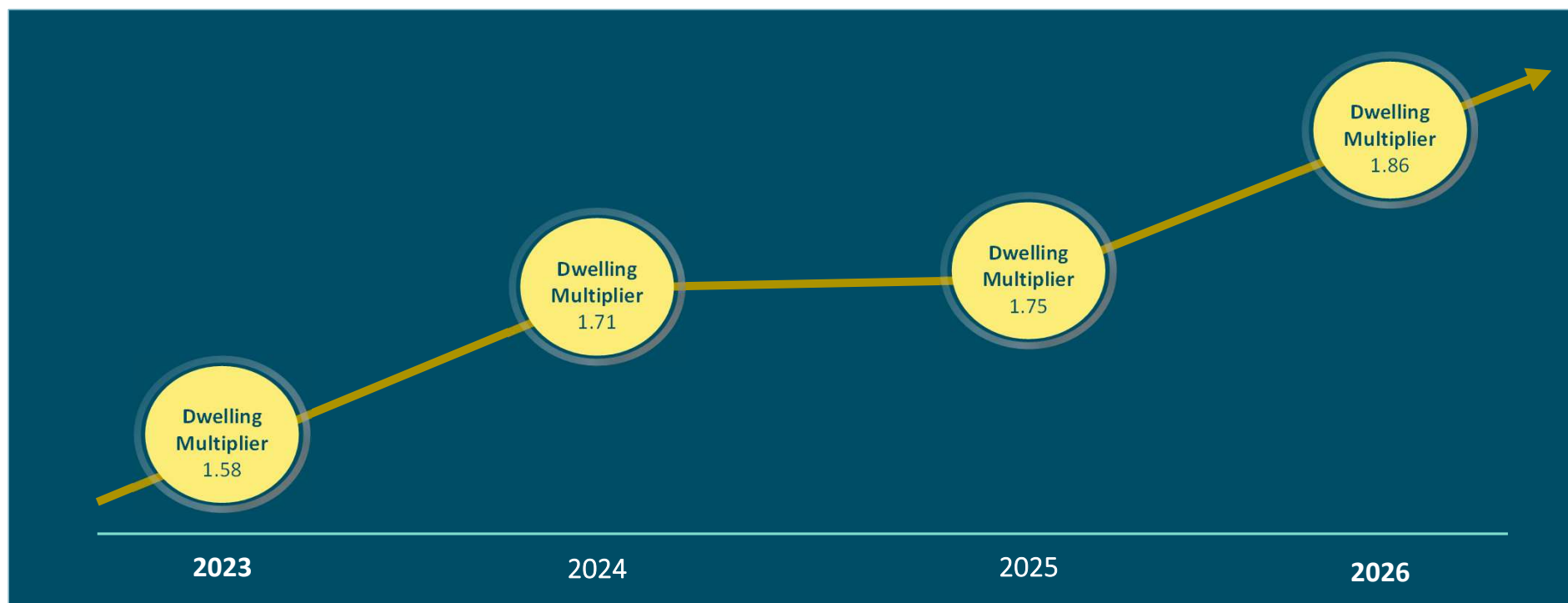
2026 POINT-IN-TIME COUNT: ESTIMATING PEOPLE BASED ON DWELLING COUNTS



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

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

The dwelling multiplier has increased by 16% since 2023.



PART

3

Other 2026 Homeless Count Findings

Service Planning Areas (SPAs) Estimates

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

SPA 1 – ANTELOPE VALLEY *				SPA 2 – SAN FERNANDO VALLEY				SPA 3 – SAN GABRIEL VALLEY				SPA 4 – METRO *			
	2025	2026	CHANGE		2025	2026	CHANGE		2025	2026	CHANGE		2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	6,753	4,755	-29.6%	TOTAL	10,766	10,299	-4.3%	TOTAL	4,485	4,988	+11.2%	TOTAL	16,955	19,431	+14.6%
UNSHELTERED	5,465	3,435	-37.1%	UNSHELTERED	6,692	7,274	+8.7%	UNSHELTERED	3,152	3,708	+17.6%	UNSHELTERED	10,324	12,469	+20.8%
SHELTERED	1,288	1,320	+2.5%	SHELTERED	4,074	3,025	-25.7%	SHELTERED	1,333	1,280	-4.0%	SHELTERED	6,631	6,962	+5.0%

SPA 5 – WEST *				SPA 6 – SOUTH				SPA 7 – EAST *				SPA 8 – SOUTH BAY *			
	2025	2026	CHANGE		2025	2026	CHANGE		2025	2026	CHANGE		2025	2026	CHANGE
TOTAL	5,029	4,518	-10.2%	TOTAL	13,587	14,289	+5.2%	TOTAL	4,778	5,522	+15.6%	TOTAL	5,424	4,774	-12.0%
UNSHELTERED	4,048	3,402	-16.0%	UNSHELTERED	8,161	8,792	+7.7%	UNSHELTERED	3,104	3,705	+19.4%	UNSHELTERED	3,469	3,183	-8.2%
SHELTERED	981	1,116	+13.8%	SHELTERED	5,426	5,497	+1.3%	SHELTERED	1,674	1,817	+8.5%	SHELTERED	1,955	1,591	-18.6%

*Statistically significant changes include:

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

FAMILY
MEMBERS



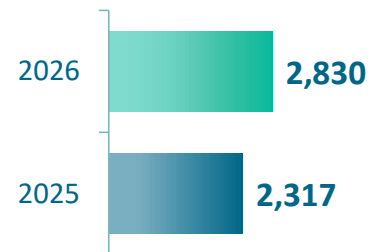
TOTAL
-14.0%
DECREASE



TRANSITIONAL
AGE YOUTH



TOTAL
+22.1%*
INCREASE



**Not a statistically significant change.*

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

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

FAMILY
MEMBERS



TOTAL

-14.0%

DECREASE



These data points are for the Los Angeles CoC.

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

**Not a statistically significant change.*

TOTAL

+9.2%



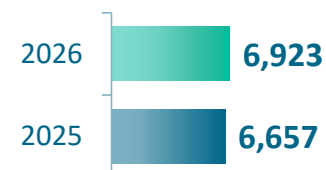
UNSHELTERED

+10.8%



SHELTERED

+4.0%



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

This data is for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care.

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

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



*Respondents can select Hispanic/Latino/a/e alone or in combination with another category, so the total adds up to more than 100%.

Note: Data is self-reported by people experiencing homelessness in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care.

There are minor changes in gender compared to 2025.

GENDER	2025	2026	CHANGE
	SHELTERED UNSHELTERED TOTAL	SHELTERED UNSHELTERED TOTAL	SHELTERED UNSHELTERED TOTAL
CULTURALLY SPECIFIC IDENTITY (E.G. TWO-SPIRIT) ALONE	1	2	+1
DIFFERENT IDENTITY ALONE	191	109	-82
MAN (BOY IF CHILD) ALONE	44,545	45,227	+682
NON-BINARY ALONE	341	244	-97
TRANSGENDER ALONE	156	178	+22
QUESTIONING ALONE	86	115	+29
WOMAN (GIRL IF CHILD) ALONE	22,176	22,232	+56
MORE THAN ONE GENDER	281	469	+188
TOTAL	67,777	68,576	+799



Note: Data is self-reported by people experiencing homelessness in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care.

SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS

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

TOTAL

+6.0%

16,074 17,045



UNSHELTERED

+9.2%

10,830 11,831



SHELTERED

-0.6%

5,244 5,214



SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

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

TOTAL

+12.3%

15,001 16,842



UNSHELTERED

+15.1%

12,324 14,180



SHELTERED

-0.6%

2,677 2,662



*Not a statistically significant change.



These data points are for the Los Angeles CoC.

Age

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

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

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

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

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



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

Veterans

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

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

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