

Measure A Baselines Report

From the Data Subcommittee of the Executive Steering Committee for Data and IT Governance
January 24, 2025

SUMMARY

Measure A was approved by the Los Angeles County electorate in November 2024. The measure establishes a half-cent sales tax to pay for countywide homelessness services and affordable housing construction, replacing an existing quarter-cent sales tax under Measure H. Measure A also articulates five homelessness and affordable housing policy goals and requires the Executive Committee on Regional Homeless Alignment (ECRHA) and the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHSa) to formulate metrics and targets for these goals by April 1, 2025. In formulating metrics for Ballot Measure A goals, ECRHA and LACAHSa will take recommendations and input from the Leadership Table for Regional Homeless Alignment (LTRHA).¹

In October 2024, the Executive Steering Committee for Data and IT Governance (ESC)² formed a Data Subcommittee to help support the LTRHA and ECRHA in developing baselines and metrics for Ballot Measure A Goals 1–4.³ In this report, the Data Subcommittee presents metrics and baselines for those goals and provides baseline estimates for each. The report also includes trend estimates for all four metrics across five previous years, enabling policymakers to track progress over time. These baselines will inform the Leadership Table for Regional Homelessness Alignment (LTRHA) as it recommends performance targets and the Executive Committee on Regional Homeless Alignment (ECRHA) as it sets those targets for Measure A revenues.

¹ The goals are: (1) *Increase the number of people moving from encampments into permanent housing to reduce unsheltered homelessness*; (2) *Reduce the number of people with mental illness and/or substance use disorders who experience homelessness*; (3) *Increase the number of people permanently leaving homelessness*; and (4) *Prevent people from falling into homelessness*. Metrics for Goal 5, *Increase the number of affordable housing units in Los Angeles County*, will be formulated by the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHSa) and are being developed through a separate process.

² The Homeless Data Executive Steering Committee (ESC), originally launched in 2022 by the Chief Executive Office Homeless Initiative and the Chief Information Office to oversee the implementation of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Homelessness data recommendations, is a multi-agency committee that ultimately acts as the central homelessness IT and data governance body for the County. The ESC aims to strengthen data integration, develop performance metrics, and standardize practices to improve homelessness services Countywide. Since its launch, the ESC has expanded to include County departments and regional partners to align efforts and promote equity-driven, data-informed decision-making. Quarterly meetings include representatives from the Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion Initiative, County departments of Health Services, Mental Health, and Public Social Services, LAHSA, and representatives from the City's Chief Administrative Office, Chief Legislative Analyst, and the Mayor's Office, and is advised by the California Policy Lab at UCLA. The most recent meeting was held on December 12, 2024.

³ The Data Subcommittee members have subject matter expertise and data related to Goals 1–4, which focus on homelessness services and prevention.

The metrics and baselines reported here are based on two data sources about people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County: survey data drawn from the annual Point in Time (PIT) Count and related demographic survey data, and administrative data on service enrollments drawn from existing records at the Los Angeles Homelessness Services Authority (LAHSA) and the County. These data sources are discussed in more detail below.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Here we summarize key insights drawn from the detailed analysis below.

- 1. The number of people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County is growing over time.** The number of people who were experiencing homelessness and accessed County services (service participants) increased an average of 5% each year between FY 2019–20 and FY 2024–25, an upward trend is also visible in the PIT Count. This shift provides necessary context to the trends we see in the Measure A metrics. Several metrics, such as the number of people experiencing homelessness with a serious mental illness or substance use disorder, increased between 2019 and 2024, but this growth does not outpace the growth in the overall population of people experiencing homelessness.
- 2. Inflow into the homelessness system is significant and constant over time (Goal 4).** About 60,000 people newly accessed services during the 2024–25 fiscal year — representing 56% of all service participants experiencing homelessness. About the same proportion of service participants were newly accessing services in each of the prior four years.
- 3. There have been gains in moving people from homelessness to permanent housing and serving unsheltered people in interim housing (Goal 1, Goal 3).** About one in six people experiencing homelessness in FY 2023–24 exited to permanent housing. The number of people exiting homelessness increased by an average of 5% each year between FY 2019–20 and FY 2024–25. More unsheltered service participants are exiting to permanent housing and accessing interim housing compared to five years ago.
- 4. The proportion of people with service histories indicating serious mental illness or substance use disorder is relatively constant over time (Goal 2).** About 40% of service participants experiencing homelessness have evidence of a serious mental illness or substance use disorder, a proportion that is consistent across survey and administrative data and relatively constant over time. However, there is some evidence that in recent years a larger proportion of this group has a substance use disorder or has both types of disorders (see Figure 16). This trend deserves further exploration.
- 5. Reviewing survey data and administrative data together can provide a more complete picture of Los Angeles's homeless residents than can either source alone.** The PIT Count and demographic survey provide snapshots of people experiencing homelessness at

a moment in time. Administrative data provide a longitudinal view of service participants' experiences and outcomes over time. Changes over time in metrics tracked by administrative data may reflect changes in participants' experiences or outcomes, or they may reflect changes in system capacity, such as an increase in the number of people the system can serve. Changes over time in metrics tracked by survey data may reflect changes in the region's population experiencing homelessness or may be specific to the moment in time when the PIT Count takes place. Taken together, these two sources can help provide context to each other.

I. BACKGROUND

In this report, the Data Subcommittee presents recommended metrics for Measure A policy goals 1–4 and provides baseline estimates based on the most recent reporting period. The report also includes trend estimates for each metric across five previous years, where available. The metrics are a mandated component of the Measure A ballot initiative and will enable policymakers and stakeholders to track progress towards Measure A policy goals over the next five years.

About the Data Subcommittee. The Data Subcommittee was formed to provide data and analytical expertise to the Measure A goal-setting process. The Subcommittee is composed of homelessness and data experts from the County's Chief Information Office (CIO), Department of Health Services (DHS), the Los Angeles Homelessness Services Authority (LAHSA), the California Policy Lab at UCLA, and the Homelessness Policy Research Institute (HPRI) at USC. The co-chairs of the Data Subcommittee are Peter Loo, Los Angeles County's Chief Information Officer, and Janey Rountree, Executive Director of the California Policy Lab at UCLA. A full list of members can be found in Appendix C. The Data Subcommittee reports to the ESC, which includes over 40 members representing the County of Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Homelessness Services Authority (LAHSA) and external research partners.

Table 1: Data Subcommittee Key Events, Tasks, and Deliverables

Month	Key events and deliverables	Key tasks
Jun.–Oct. 2024	- Leadership Table (LT) developed concepts for baselines and metrics	- Supported LT subcommittee meetings
Oct. 2024	- LT makes metric recommendations - Data Subcommittee established	- Begin metric and baseline design process - Develop plan to integrate homelessness services data sources
Nov. 2024	- Present work plan to Executive Committee (ECRHA) 11/22	- Integrate homelessness services data sources in LA County CIO environment - Complete metric design process - Begin calculating metrics
Dec. 2024	- Present work plan to Leadership Table (LTRHA) 12/12	- Continue calculating metrics, including baseline measures - Summarize Point in Time Count baseline numbers
Jan. 2025	- Present baselines to ESC and LT co-chairs 1/7 and 1/8 - Present baselines to ECRHA 1/24	- Complete calculating baseline measures and metrics - Develop report and presentation by 1/17

Metric development. Between June 2024 and October 2025, the LTRHA convened dozens of stakeholders from the government and private sector in a series of meetings to develop concepts for translating Ballot Measure A’s policy goals into metrics. In October 2024, the LTRHA published recommendations that informed the Data Subcommittee’s effort to design metrics that can be calculated reliably with the available data. The Data Subcommittee calculated baselines for metrics related to Measure A goals 1–4. These baselines provide context for the five-year targets ECRHA will set for each of the goals. By extension, they will allow stakeholders to track movement towards these targets over time.

Demographic-specific analysis and other ongoing workstreams. Due to the deadlines set by Ballot Measure A, this report focuses on the overall baseline estimate and metrics for goals 1–4. The Data Subcommittee continues to work to produce important supporting information, such as breakdowns by demographic group and system type. These breakdowns will support the work of the Equity Committee in analyzing disparities and other issues.⁴ These additional workstreams are described in more detail in Appendix A.

⁴ The Equity Committee of the Leadership Table is a developing committee focused on monitoring the equity of the homelessness services system funded by Measure A, with a focus on populations named within the measure: veterans, seniors, transition-age youth, women, members of LGBTQIA+ communities, survivors of domestic violence and overrepresented racial groups. The committee will work to define equity and measure progress toward equity goals. The committee is currently made up of representatives from LAHSA; the Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative (ARDI); Abt Global; Arc4Justice; and County CIO, with plans to expand to include additional relevant subject matter experts.

II. DATA SOURCES

The Data Subcommittee relied on two types of information to produce the metrics and baseline measures presented in this report: survey data and administrative data on service use. Although these sources are collected differently and for different purposes, together they provide visibility into who is experiencing homelessness at a point in time each year (PIT Count and surveys) and who is enrolled in homelessness services throughout each year in Los Angeles (administrative data). These data sources and their limitations are described in more detail below and in Table 2. Appendix B provides a break-down of the data sources for each Measure A goal.

Point in Time Count and demographic survey

The survey data used to produce the measures in this report are drawn from the annual Point in Time (PIT) Count and demographic survey. The PIT-based metrics shown here describe the population of people who experienced homelessness on a single night when the Count is conducted.

Within Los Angeles County, there are four Continua of Care (CoCs), including the Los Angeles City & County Continuum of Care (LA CoC), which is administered by LAHSA and includes the majority of LA County; Glendale; Pasadena; and Long Beach. Each CoC conducts their own PIT Count each January as a visual-only tally of people who are unsheltered. For people sheltered at the time of the PIT Count, the CoCs rely on information recorded by interim housing sites in administrative data. These counts can be added together to estimate a countywide PIT Count, including the estimated numbers of people who are unsheltered and in interim housing.

The four CoCs supplement the visual-only count with their own demographic survey of people experiencing homelessness, typically conducted by third party researchers. However, each CoC uses a different methodology and survey questions, and the results of the demographic surveys therefore cannot be merged to report countywide population results. For this report, the Data Subcommittee had access to the demographic survey results for the LA CoC. The LA CoC demographic survey uses common sampling and weighting techniques to construct a representative sample of the population experiencing unsheltered homelessness across the CoC, then uses that sample to estimate population characteristics. In 2024, about 95% of people experiencing homelessness in LA County were counted in the LA CoC.

Table 2 and Appendix B display which measures include data from all four CoCs and which were limited to the LA CoC.

Administrative data

The administrative data used in this report is drawn from County and LAHSA homeless and mainstream services case management and reporting systems. In preparing the metrics and baselines presented in this report, the Data Subcommittee leveraged Los Angeles County's

integrated data capacities and used de-identified administrative records to show the pathways individuals take through the homelessness services system while they are unhoused.

Administrative data can help provide important insights but also has limitations. Where PIT Count and demographic survey data include people regardless of whether they are engaged with services, administrative data, which are collected for purposes of case management and program administration, are limited to people receiving services administered by LAHSA or the County.⁵ In some cases, improving outreach or expanding services to reach more people can artificially inflate administrative data metrics, even if the same number of people are experiencing homelessness. To make this clear, we refer to people counted in administrative data as “service participants experiencing homelessness” throughout this report.

The metrics calculated using administrative data describe the people who access services at any time throughout the reporting period, rather than at a single point in time as in PIT Count data.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). All Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoCs) in the United States are mandated to record homelessness services case management and reporting data in HMIS systems. The Data Subcommittee used information recorded in HMIS for the Los Angeles City & County Continuum of Care (LA CoC), which is administered by LAHSA and is the largest of the four CoCs in Los Angeles County. LAHSA's instance of HMIS is the primary system of record for the County's homelessness services system.

Three additional CoCs in the County are independent of LAHSA: the cities of Glendale, Pasadena and Long Beach, each of which administer separate instances of HMIS. Data from these instances of HMIS are included only partially in the measures presented in this report.⁶ Depending on the year, as well as the client and service type in question, LAHSA's HMIS provides between 88% and 90% of homelessness services enrollments recorded annually in the County.

Comprehensive Health Accompaniment and Management Platform (CHAMP). CHAMP is the case management system for the Housing for Health (HFH) program administered by Los Angeles County's Department of Health Services (DHS). Although the bulk of homelessness services and clients are recorded in HMIS, Intensive Case Management Services (ICMS), as

⁵ The measures discussed in this report include people receiving mainstream as well as homelessness services, but those receiving the former are a subset of those receiving the latter. The measures, in other words, do not include people in receipt of mainstream services only.

⁶ The HMIS data used by the Data Subcommittee are shared under a long-standing data sharing and linkage agreement between Los Angeles and Los Angeles County. These data include all services recorded in LAHSA's instance of HMIS and some but not all services provided through the Pasadena and Glendale CoCs. LAHSA is currently finalizing work on an arrangement that will make services from all three CoCs available in LAHSA's HMIS and, in turn, will allow LAHSA to transfer these data to the Information Hub and enable CIO to include the data in the Measure A metrics.

well as Interim Housing (IH) and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) services provided to some of the County's most vulnerable homelessness services users, are administered through HFH and recorded in the CHAMP system. To calculate the baseline measures and metrics, these data were merged with the HMIS data and then de-duplicated where necessary.⁷

Administrative data on services indicating serious mental illness and substance use disorder. The technical capabilities that de-identify and integrate data flowing to the Information Hub from LAHSA and DHS similarly allow us to integrate records from the Department of Mental Health (DMH), Department of Health Services (DHS) and Public Health (DPH). To measure people experiencing homelessness who have a *serious mental illness*, we observed conditions reported in HMIS and CHAMP and also linked homelessness services participants recorded in HMIS and CHAMP to records of mental health services provided through DMH and DHS. To measure people experiencing homelessness who have a *substance use disorder*, we observed conditions reported in HMIS and CHAMP and also linked homelessness services participants recorded in HMIS and CHAMP to services provided by DMH and DHS, as well as treatment services provided through DPH's Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) program. To observe people with both serious mental illness and substance use disorder, we combined all of these data sources to observe people with histories of both conditions. These data sources provided the administrative data basis for the Goal 2 baseline.

Notes on interpreting the data sources

The data analyzed for this report provides the best possible overview of people experiencing homelessness in LA County available to us at this time. However, data sources are always imperfect and should be interpreted with caution. Below are specific points to keep in mind:

1. Administrative data only captures people who access services and misses people who do not.
2. The quality and completeness of administrative data can vary over time. Admin data estimates will change in the future as data quality improves and more people are included in the data.⁸ Improvements to PIT Count methodology may also change estimates in future

⁷ Clients and services can be recorded in both CHAMP and HMIS for several reasons. If, for example, a client receives interim housing administered by LAHSA and then *steps up* to interim housing recorded in CHAMP, and the enrollments in both services are active within the same period of observation, the client will be recorded in both systems and any measure based on a deduplicated count of systemwide interim housing clients will necessitate deduplication. In this example, however, the services the client uses are distinct and are not de-duplicated in an overall count of services during the observation period. In other examples, the same service can be recorded in both systems. This can occur as a result of braided funding sources, the net effect of which is to require providers or program administrators to ensure the services are recorded in HMIS or CHAMP. In this example, the same integrated data capacities facilitate de-duplicated counts of clients and services, if and where they are required.

⁸ We anticipate several improvements to the administrative data in the coming months that could impact the results of this analysis. These improvements will increase both the coverage and detail of the data presented in this report. First and foremost, LAHSA and the LA County are working to include HMIS data from Glendale, Pasadena and Long Beach for future reports in addition to LA CoC HMIS data. This is expected to increase the count of people accessing services, but it could also reduce the count of people

years.⁹

3. As services expand or outreach improves, more people are counted in administrative data — which may look like an increase in homelessness when it is actually an improvement in the system's service capacity.
4. Survey data only reflects those willing to respond to the questions, including sensitive questions about a person's history with mental health or substance use issues.
5. The PIT Count and demographic survey questions have been in use for years and were not specifically designed to answer questions about the policy goals of Measure A. Some survey questions are therefore imperfectly aligned with the metrics.

Table 2: Summary of Metric Data Sources

	Survey (PIT) metrics	Administrative data metrics
Data sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual Point in Time (PIT) Count - PIT demographic survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HMIS (LAHSA) - CHAMP (DHS) - Linked data from DMH, DHS, and SAPC through County Infohub
Baseline years	PIT years 2019–2024 (no count was conducted in 2021)	FY 2019–20 through FY 2023–24
Geographic coverage	Total population: All LA County Goal 1 metric: All LA County Goal 2 metric: LA CoC only Goal 4 metric: LA CoC only	LA City & County CoC ¹⁰
Goals covered*	Goals 1, 2, and 4	Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4
Interpretation	Number of people who were experiencing homelessness <i>on a single night</i>	Number of people who accessed services while experiencing homelessness <i>over the course of a reporting period</i>

* See Appendix B for a breakdown of data sources by goal

newly accessing services because we will observe more prior service access — for instance, if someone accessed services in both Long Beach and the LA CoC (see Goal 4). Second, DHS is in the process of adopting HMIS standards in their CHAMP database, which would facilitate integration of the two data sources and could lead to more detailed and accurate reporting. All of these changes could lead to shifts in the estimates in this report, though we do not expect major changes to trends.

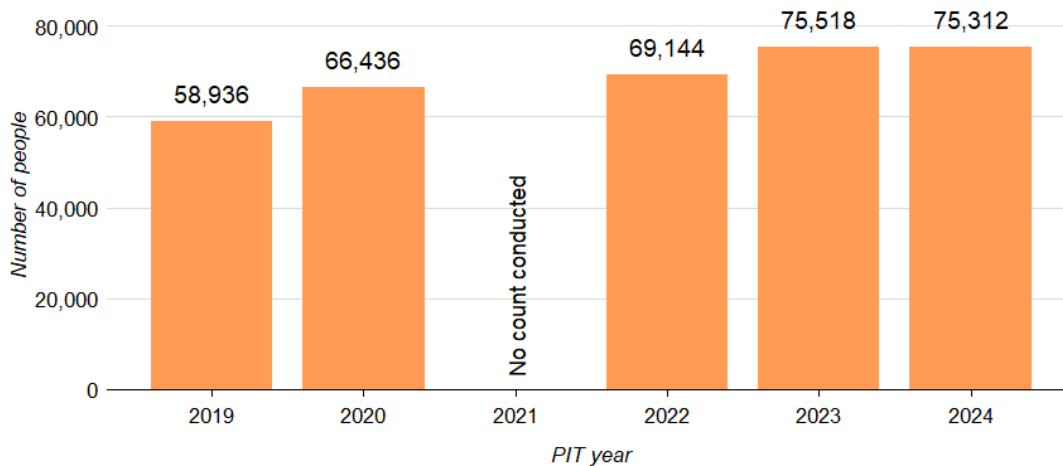
⁹ For instance, the average number of people estimated to be living in cars, vans, recreation vehicles, tents, and make-shift shelters (CVRTMs) can fluctuate on any given year, which may reflect actual changes in the composition of the homeless population or be a result of the specific sample of people who responded to the demographic survey. Future efforts to change the estimation procedures to minimize the chances that sampling is driving any fluctuation may affect year-over-year comparisons.

¹⁰ LAHSA and the LA County are working to include HMIS data from Glendale, Pasadena and Long Beach for future reports. Progress is being made on the agreements necessary for including these data in reports going forward.

III. FIVE-YEAR TREND IN HOMELESSNESS

Both the Point in Time Count and administrative records show an increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness over the last five years. Across LA County, the PIT Count counted 75,312 people experiencing homelessness on a single night in 2024 (Figure 1). This represents an average increase year over year of 7% since 2019 (total five-year change: 28%).

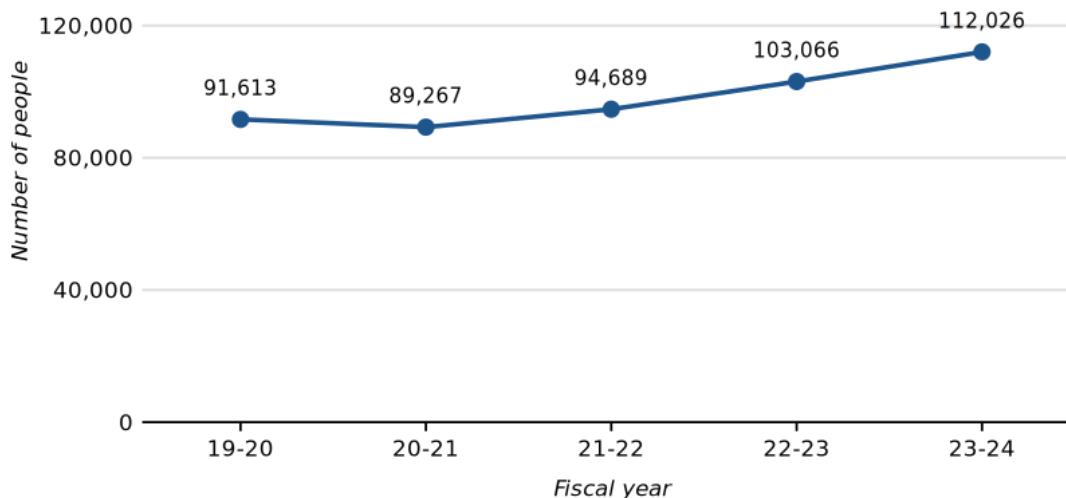
Figure 1: Estimated population of adults experiencing homelessness on a single night



Data from Los Angeles City & County, Pasadena, Glendale, and Long Beach CoCs PIT Counts.
There was no count in 2021 due to COVID-19.

In the administrative data, we observe about 112,000 service participants experiencing homelessness during the 2023–24 fiscal year — a 22% increase from 2019–20 (average increase per year: 5%) (Figure 2). Some of this change could be explained by service expansions or data improvements, but the fact that we observe a similar pattern in the PIT Count indicates a real upward trend.

Figure 2: Count of service participants experiencing homelessness during fiscal year



Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

This upward trend provides necessary context to the Measure A metric trends. Several metrics increased between 2019 and 2024, but in many cases their growth does not outpace the growth in the total number of people experiencing homelessness. To make this dynamic clear, we show each metric both as a raw number and as a percentage of the total number of people experiencing homelessness.

IV. RECOMMENDED METRICS AND BASELINE CALCULATIONS

This section provides recommended metrics for each Measure A goal and reports estimates for the baseline year of 2024. We also include estimates of the metrics five years in the past, where available. For each goal, we present the goal language as adopted in Measure A, a description of each metric, and figures displaying five years of historical data. In order to summarize the five-year trend, we report the average percentage change year over year.¹¹

Goal 1: Encampments to housing

Measure A language: *Increase the number of people moving from encampments into permanent housing to reduce unsheltered homelessness (Section 4.A.1)*

Survey/PIT data metric (Goal 1)

Baseline:

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

Trend:

Average change in population year over year

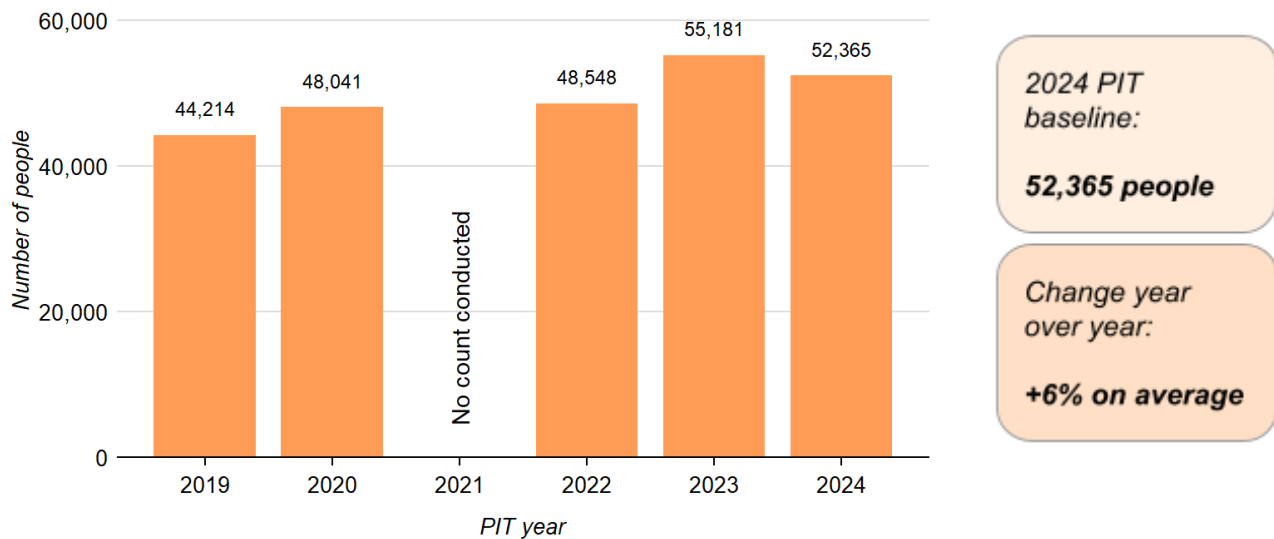
Sleeping unsheltered includes sleeping on the streets, in tents, and in vehicles. This metric is reported for the estimated population of people experiencing homelessness on a single night, including people under 18, across all four Los Angeles County CoCs. There is no information specific to encampments in the PIT Count, so this metric includes anyone sleeping unsheltered.

¹¹ We calculate the average change year over year by calculating the percent change for each year (change from FY 2019–20 to FY 2020–21, change from FY 2020–21 to FY 2021–22, etc.), then averaging them together. For the PIT Count metrics that do not have data in 2021, we do not include the percent change between 2020 and 2022 in the average.

Goal 1 PIT baseline estimates

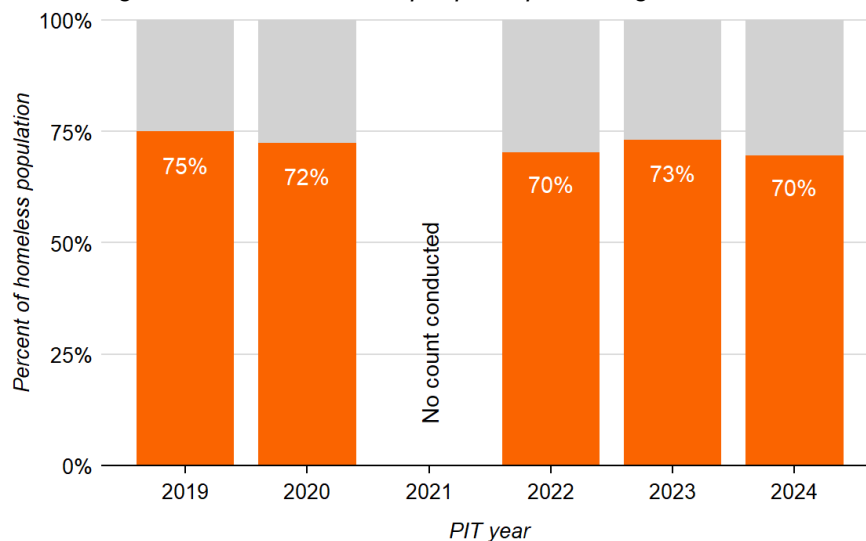
About 52,000 people were unsheltered on a single night throughout Los Angeles County in the baseline year of 2024 (Figure 3), representing about seven in ten people experiencing homelessness (Figure 4).

Figure 3: Estimated population unsheltered on a single night



Data from Los Angeles City & County, Pasadena, Glendale, and Long Beach CoCs PIT Counts.
There was no count in 2021 due to COVID-19.

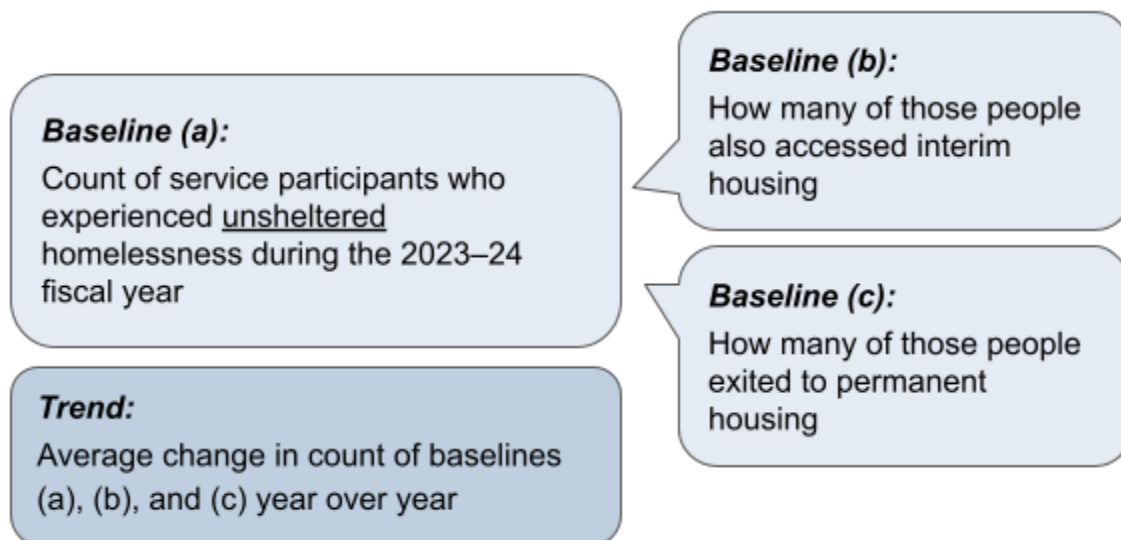
Figure 4: Percentage unsheltered out of all people experiencing homelessness



Data from Los Angeles City & County, Pasadena, Glendale, and Long Beach CoCs PIT Counts
There was no count in 2021 due to COVID-19.

The number of unsheltered people generally trended upwards over the last five years, increasing about 6% on average since 2019 (total five-year change: 18%), though the number of unsheltered people went down between 2023 and 2024. This increase is in line with the increase in the total population of people experiencing homelessness (+7% on average) — meaning that the proportion of the homeless population who were unsheltered remained relatively stable or slightly decreased over the last five years, moving from 75% to 70%.

Admin data metric (Goal 1)



For baseline (a), a person is counted as experiencing unsheltered homelessness if they do any of the following during the reporting period:

- Enroll or update their status in street outreach (and do not report that they are housed)
- Report that they are unsheltered while in a non-residential program
- Enroll in a program and report they are coming from unsheltered homelessness
- Exit from a program to unsheltered homelessness

For baseline (b), a person is counted as *also accessing interim housing* if they have a service record in interim housing at any time during the reporting period, regardless of whether it is before or after they were observed unsheltered. People experiencing homelessness often cycle between unsheltered homelessness and interim housing, so we look at whether people are accessing interim housing *in addition to* being unsheltered, rather than treating moves into interim housing as a one-way progression.

For baseline (c), a person is counted as *exited to permanent housing* if they enter into permanent housing *after* being observed unsheltered.¹² A person is counted as exiting to

¹² Measure (c) differs from HUD and the state System Performance Measures, which count exits to housing only among people enrolled in street outreach programs. The HUD/state SPM approach is likely

permanent housing regardless of whether they return to homelessness within the fiscal year. See Goal 3 for a measure of returns to homelessness.

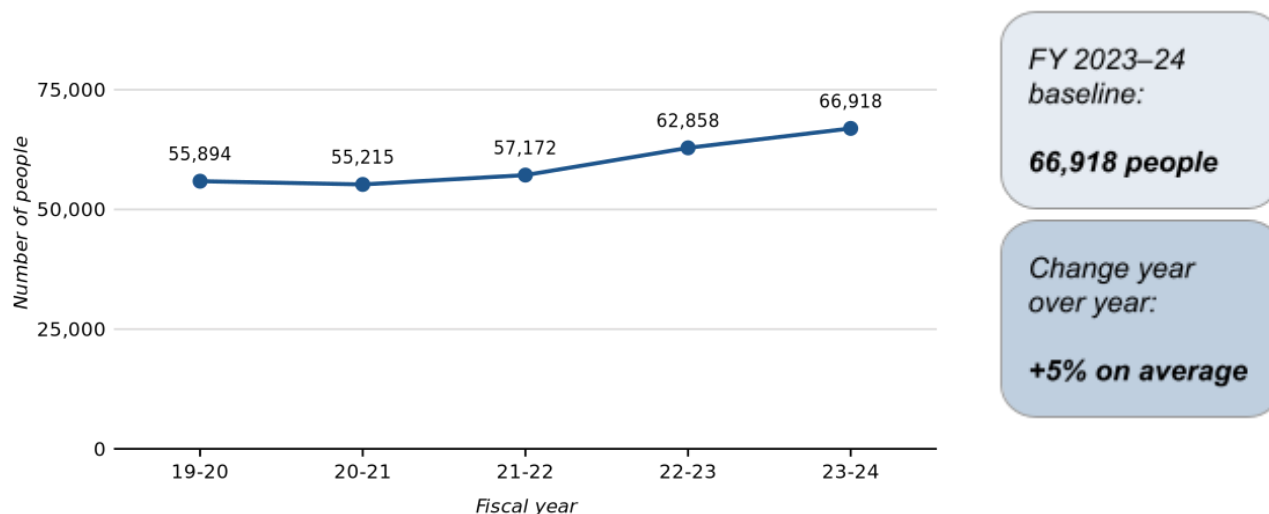
Encampments. These measures count anyone with evidence that they are unsheltered, regardless of whether they are in an encampment. LAHSA recently launched a new HMIS module to track encampments of five or more people, which will permit additional analysis specific to encampments in the future.

Goal 1 Admin data baseline estimates

(a) Service participants experiencing unsheltered homelessness

About 67,000 service participants experienced unsheltered homelessness at some point during FY 2023–24 (Figure 5), representing about six in ten of all service participants experiencing homelessness (Figure 6).

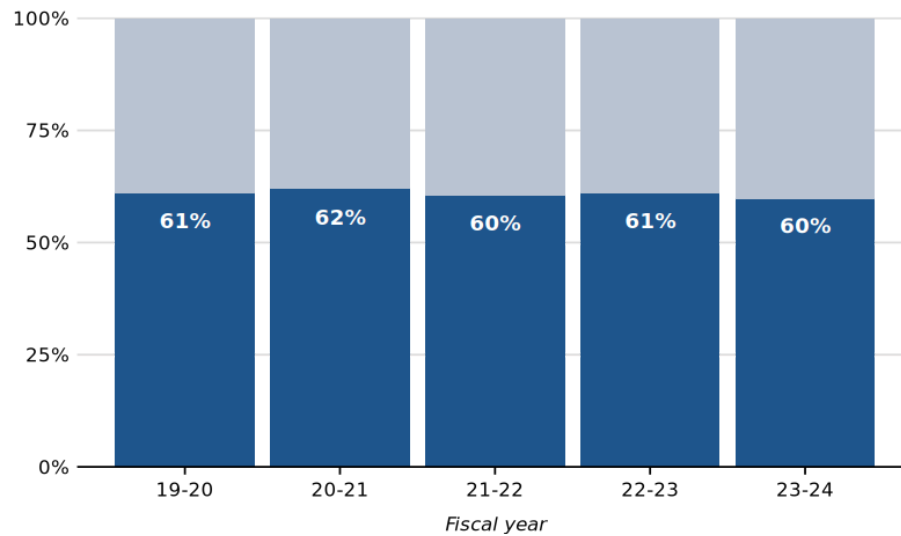
Figure 5: Count of service participants who experienced unsheltered homelessness (a)



Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

to significantly undercount the number of unsheltered people in Los Angeles County because unsheltered people are not always enrolled in street outreach. We count street outreach enrollees as a subset of this measure, but also include other observations that indicate a person is experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

*Figure 6: Percentage unsheltered out of all service participants experiencing homelessness
(a)*



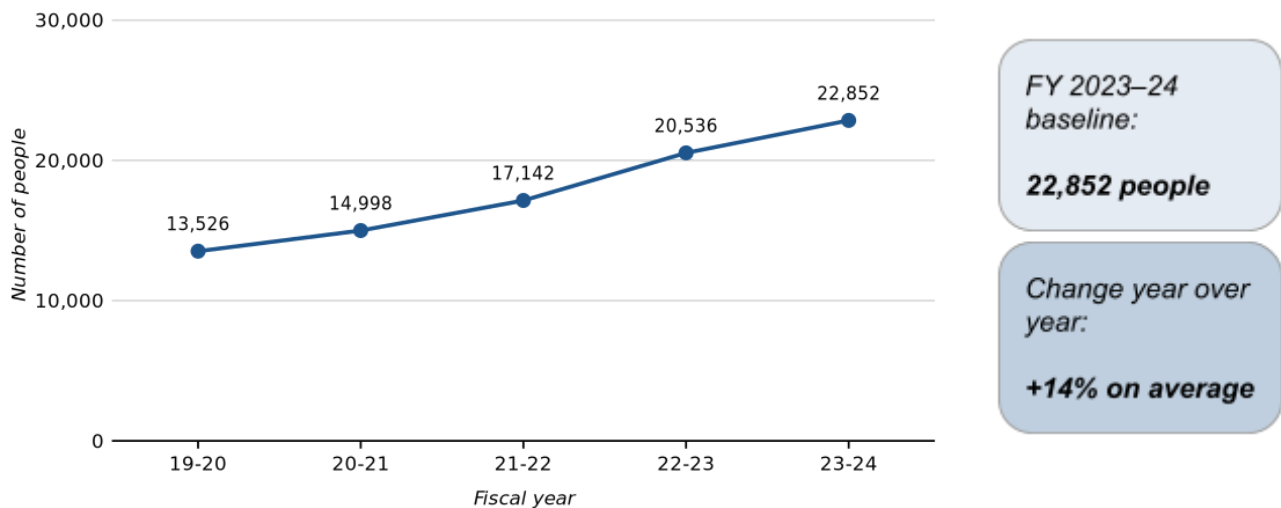
Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

The number of service participants experiencing unsheltered homelessness trended upwards over the last three fiscal years, with an average change of 5% year over year since FY 2019–20 (total five-year change: 20%) (Figure 5). This increase is identical to the increase in the total number of service participants experiencing homelessness (+5% on average). Therefore, the proportion of service participants who experienced unsheltered homelessness over the last five years has remained the same, at around 60%.

(b) Interim housing access among unsheltered service participants

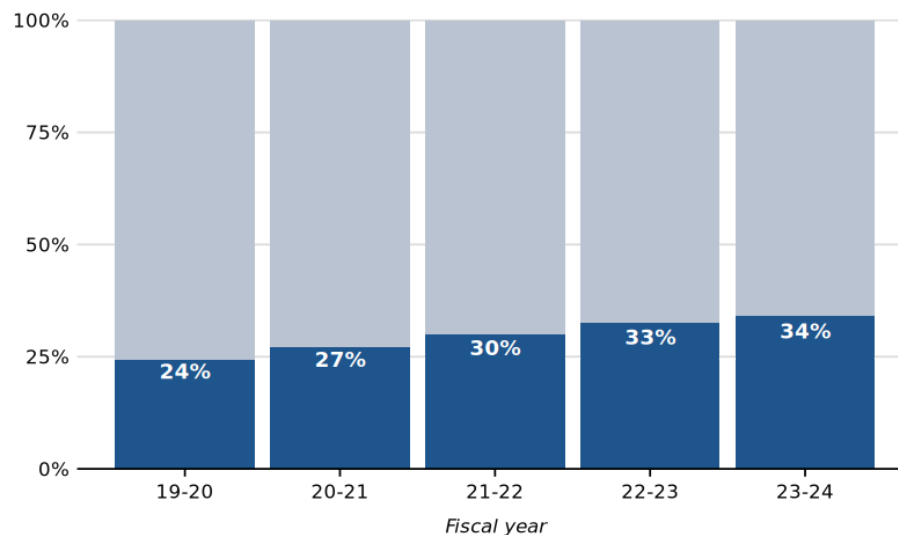
About 23,000 service participants who were unsheltered during FY 2023–24 also accessed interim housing during that year (Figure 7). This represents about a third of unsheltered service participants (Figure 8).

Figure 7: Count of unsheltered service participants who also accessed interim housing during the reporting period



Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

Figure 8: Percentage of all unsheltered service participants who also accessed interim housing during the reporting period



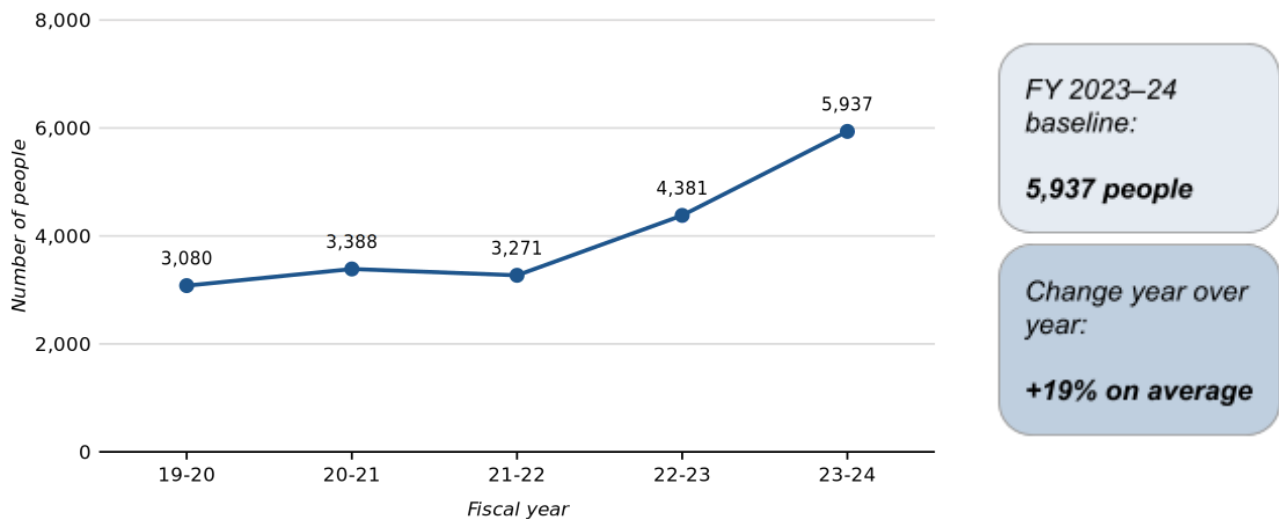
Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

The last five years have seen a positive trend in the number of unsheltered people accessing shelter. The count of unsheltered service participants accessing shelter increased 14% each year on average (five-year change: 69%), and the proportion of unsheltered service participants accessing shelter increased from 24% to 34%.

(c) Exits to permanent housing among unsheltered service participants

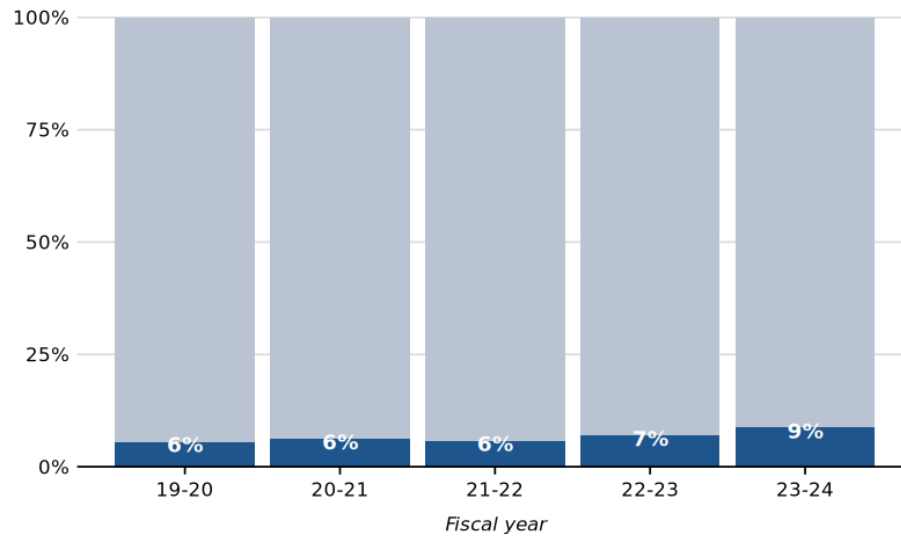
About 6,000 service participants who were unsheltered during FY 2023–24 exited to permanent housing during that year (Figure 9). This represents about one in ten unsheltered service participants (Figure 10).

Figure 9: Count of unsheltered service participants who exited to permanent housing during the reporting period



Note: Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

Figure 10: Percentage of all unsheltered service participants who exited to permanent housing during the reporting period



Note: Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

There is also a positive trend in the number of unsheltered people exiting to permanent housing. The count of unsheltered service participants exiting to permanent housing increased 19% each year on average, nearly doubling over the course of five years (five-year change: 93%). The percentage of unsheltered service participants exiting to permanent housing increased from 6% to 9%.

Goal 2: People experiencing homelessness with mental illness and substance use disorders

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

Survey/PIT data metric (Goal 2)

Baseline:

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

Trend:

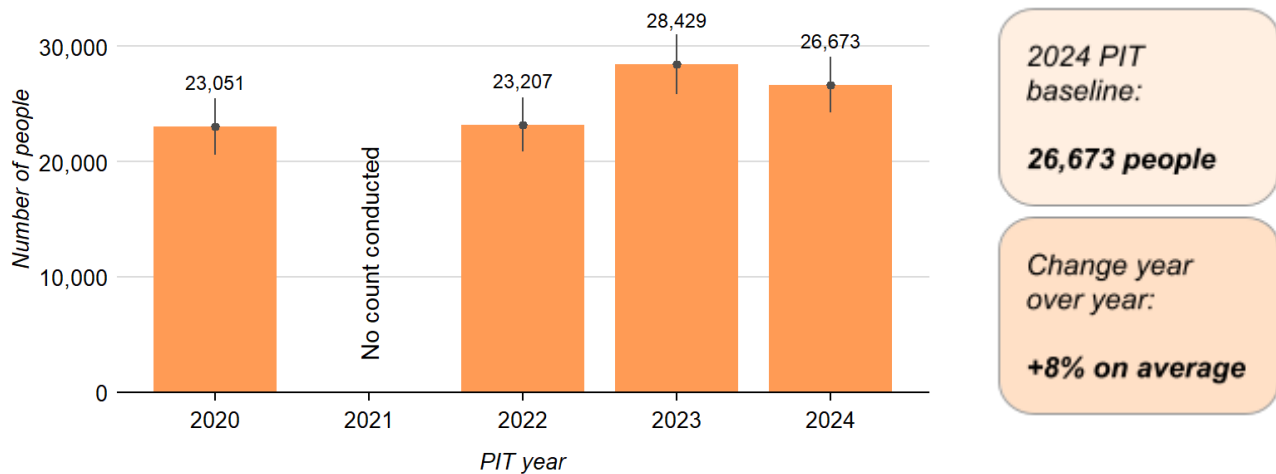
Average change in population year over year

This baseline is measured for the population of adults 18 and older who experienced homelessness on a single night, and includes only the Los Angeles City & County Continuum of Care. The wording of the survey questions about mental illness and substance use disorders changed between the 2019 and 2020 PIT Counts, so results are displayed for 2020 onward.

Survey respondents are counted as having a *serious mental illness* if they respond that they have or have been diagnosed with a “permanent or long-term” serious mental illness, including severe depression, bipolar disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, and schizophrenia. They are counted as having a *substance use disorder* if they report having permanent or long-term difficulties with alcohol or substance use. For people who were sheltered at the time of the PIT Count, the count uses reports recorded in HMIS to measure SMI and SUD prevalence.

Goal 2 PIT baseline estimates

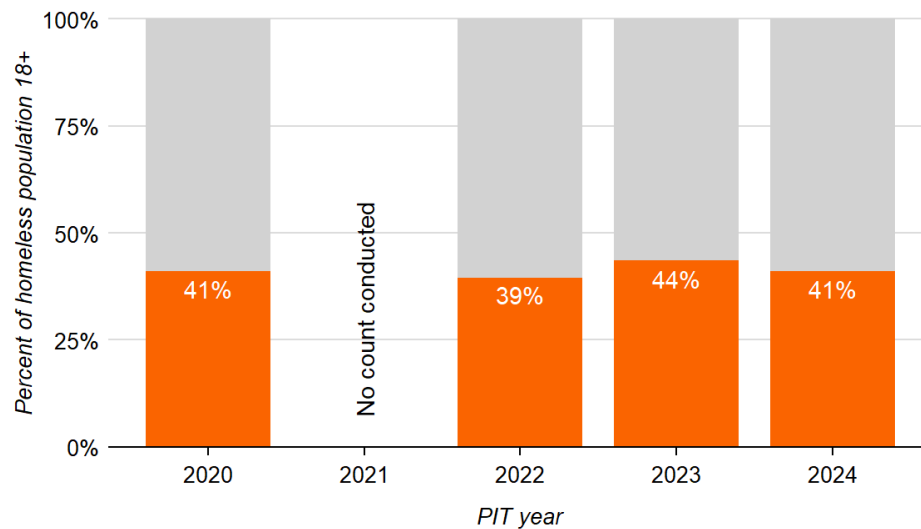
Figure 11: Estimated population reporting long-term SMI or long-term SUD (self-reported)



Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC PIT Count and demographic survey. There was no count in 2021 due to COVID-19. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

In the baseline year of 2024, an estimated population of about 27,000 people reported a permanent or long-term serious mental illness, a permanent or long-term substance use disorder, or both (Figure 11). About four in ten adults experiencing homelessness on a single night reported an SMI or SUD (Figure 12).

Figure 12: Percentage reporting long-term SMI or long-term SUD out of all adults experiencing homelessness



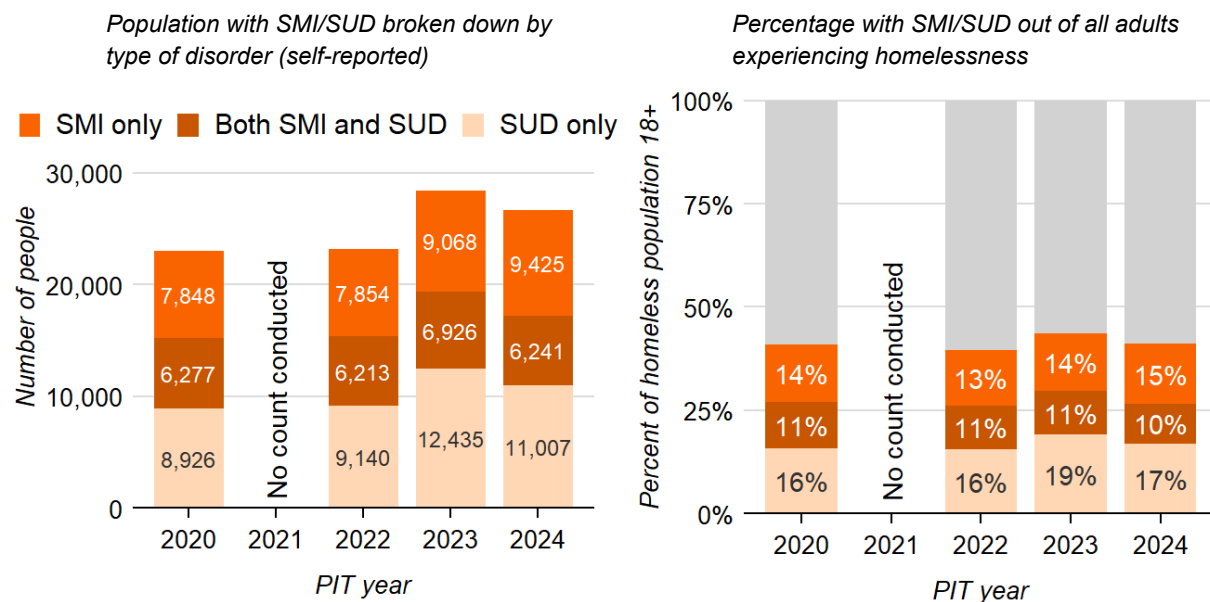
Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC PIT Count and demographic survey. There was no count in 2021 due to COVID-19.

The number of people with either an SMI or SUD generally trended upwards over the last four years, increasing about 8% on average since 2020 (data for 2019 was not comparable and so was dropped). At the same time, the proportion of people experiencing homelessness who reported an SMI or SUD remained relatively stable because the overall population of people experiencing homelessness grew during this time.

In Figure 13, we break down the topline number by diagnosis:

- SMI only: People who report only long-term serious mental illness
- SUD only: People who report only long-term substance use disorder
- Both SMI and SUD: People who report both an SMI and an SUD

Figure 13: Breakdown of population with serious mental illness and/or substance use disorder by type of disorder



Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC PIT Count. There was no count in 2021 due to COVID-19.

In 2024, 25% of adults experiencing homelessness reported a serious mental illness (15% with serious mental illness alone plus 10% with both SMI and SUD). About 27% reported a substance use disorder (17% with substance use disorder alone plus 10% with both SMI and SUD). About ten percent of adults experiencing homelessness on a single night reported having both a serious mental illness and a substance use disorder. The proportion of people with both conditions has stayed relatively steady since 2020.

Admin data metric (Goal 2)

Baseline:

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

Trend:

Average change in count year over year

We count a person as having evidence of a substance use disorder or mental illness if either:

- There is a mental illness or substance use disorder reported in an HMIS or CHAMP record, or
- There is evidence of a serious mental illness or substance use disorder in a DMH, DHS, or SAPC record

Substance use disorder diagnoses include mental and behavioral disorders due to psychoactive substance use, excluding nicotine dependence. We consider enrollment or ongoing treatment in a SAPC program as evidence of SUD.

Serious mental illness diagnoses include schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders, bipolar and related disorders, and depressive disorders.¹³

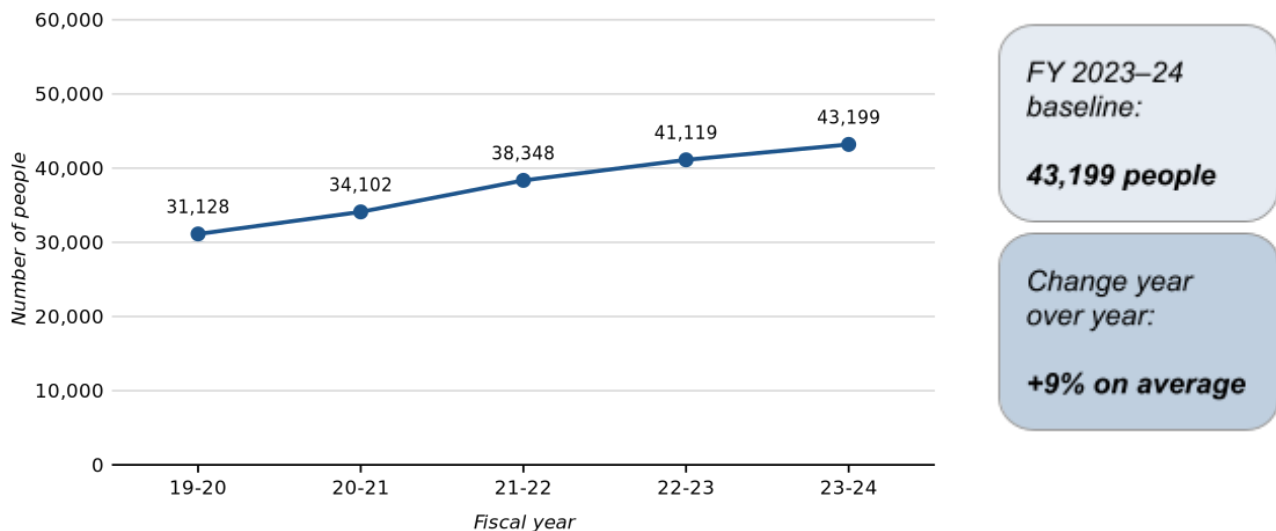
This definition of serious mental illness does not include post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Due to the high level of interest in PTSD among people experiencing homelessness, we include a separate graph showing PTSD prevalence in Figure 17.

¹³ The SUD and SMI disabilities captured in HMIS and CHAMP are self-reported by clients or based on staff observation, so they may lack clinical confirmation and may include a wider range of conditions, including PTSD. They are generally thought to be under-reported due to clients' reluctance to report these conditions. These conditions are reported as HUD-defined disabilities, so they are flagged in HMIS systems only if they meet the criteria of being of indefinite duration and of impairing a client's ability to live independently.

Goal 2 Admin data baseline estimates

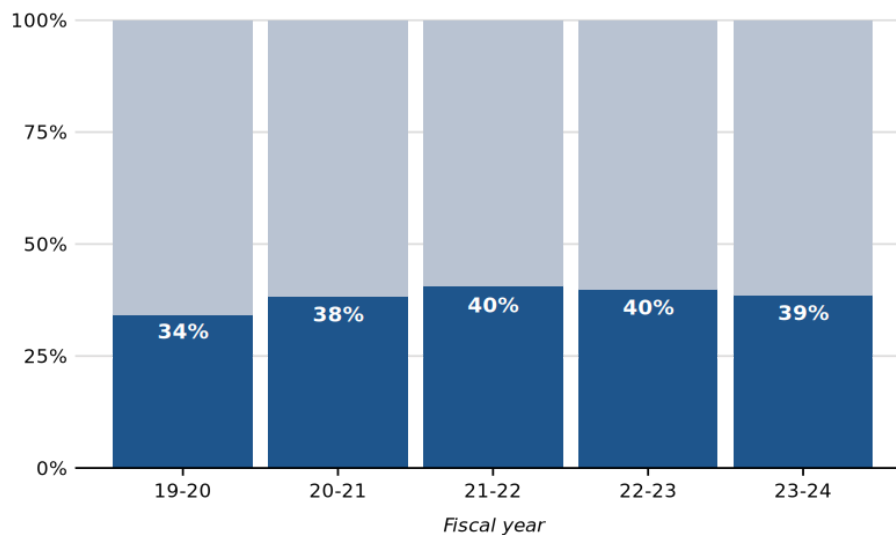
In FY 2023–24, about 43,000 service participants experiencing homelessness had evidence of either a substance use disorder, serious mental illness, or both (Figure 14). This represents about four in ten of all service participants experiencing homelessness (Figure 15).

Figure 14: Count of service participants with evidence of SUD or SMI



Note: Data on homelessness from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP. Data on SMI from HMIS, CHAMP, DMH, and DHS. Data on SUD from HMIS, CHAMP, DMH, DHS, and SAPC.

Figure 15: Percentage with SUD/SMI out of all service participants experiencing homelessness

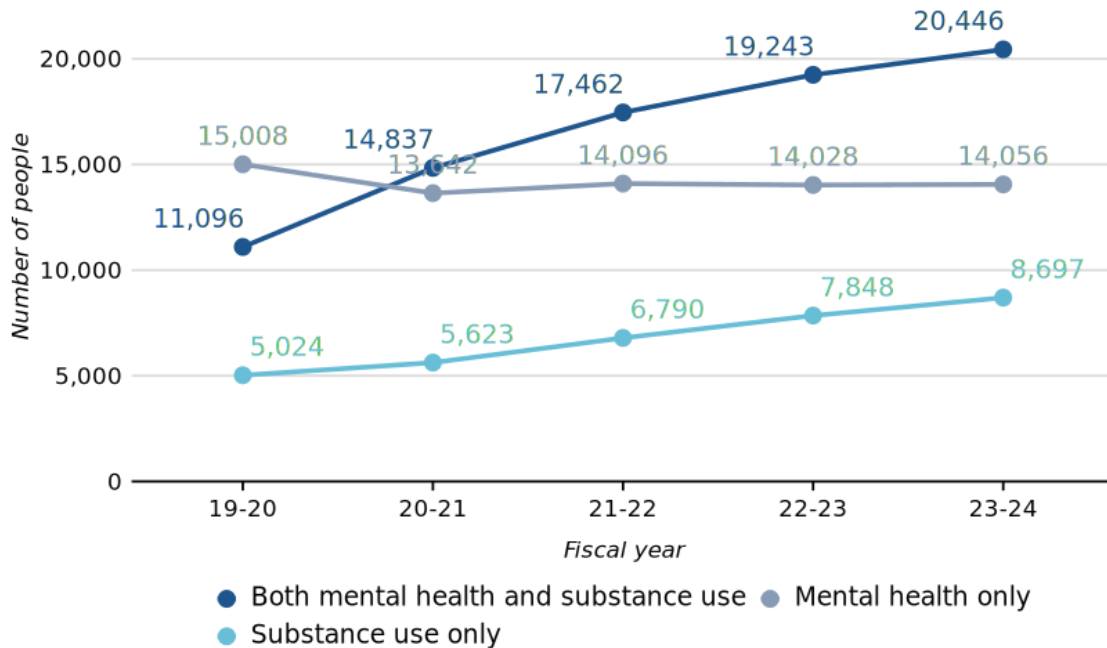


Note: Data on homelessness from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP. Data on SMI from HMIS, CHAMP, DMH, and DHS. Data on SUD from HMIS, CHAMP, DMH, DHS, and SAPC.

The number of service participants with either disorder has been growing over the last five years, with an average increase year over year of 9% (five-year change: 39%).

Figure 16 displays the number of people with each type of disorder. The lines are mutually exclusive and sum to the total number of service participants with SMI or SUD. As of 2024, about 35,000 people had evidence of a serious mental illness (14,056 with serious mental illness alone plus 20,446 with both SMI and SUD), representing about 30% of all service participants experiencing homelessness. About 29,000 had evidence of a substance use disorder, representing about 26% of service participants. Nearly half of people counted in the SMI/SUD metric had *both* a mental health disorder and a substance use disorder — representing 18% of all service participants experiencing homelessness.

Figure 16: Breakdown of service participants with SMI, SUD, or both



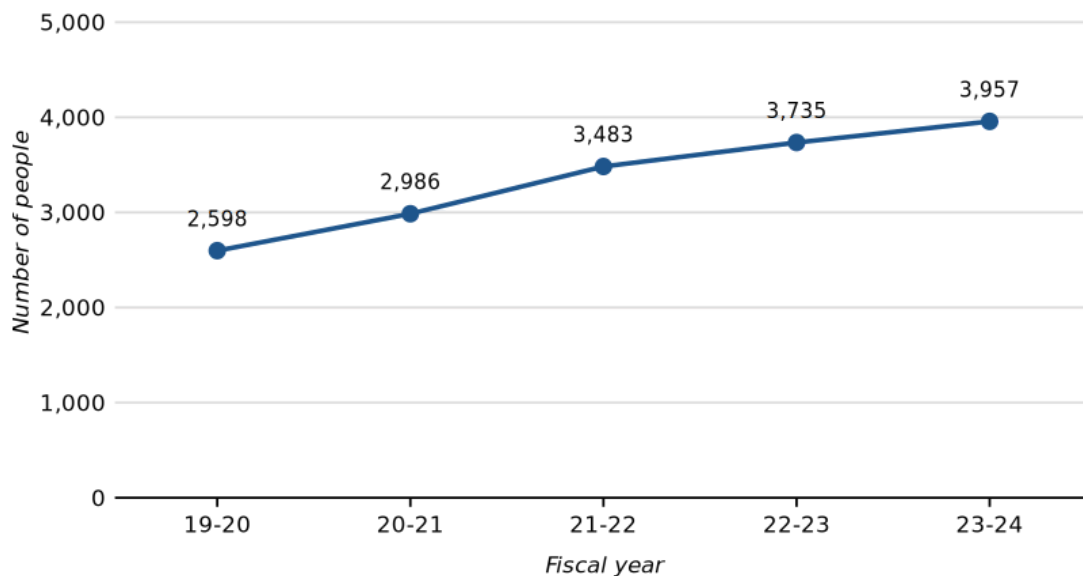
Note: Data on homelessness from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP. Data on SMI from HMIS, CHAMP, DMH, and DHS. Data on SUD from HMIS, CHAMP, DMH, DHS, and SAPC.

These breakdowns show some evidence that the number of people with substance use disorder has increased over the last five years. The number of service participants with evidence of both mental illness and substance use disorder increased by 17% on average each year, while the number of people with only a substance use disorder has also increased (15% on average each year). At the same time, the number of people with only a mental health condition has remained relatively stable, meaning that it has gone down as a proportion of all service participants experiencing homelessness.

That said, this trend needs more investigation and should be interpreted with caution. We do not see a similar increase in the prevalence of co-occurring conditions or substance use disorder in the PIT Count. While this trend may indicate a real shift, it may also be an artifact of changes in how service providers are collecting or recording data.

Post-traumatic stress disorder. Figure 17 displays the number of service participants experiencing homelessness in each period who have evidence of PTSD. PTSD is not included in the definition of serious mental illness, but is displayed here separately. To observe PTSD, we use CHAMP reports of PTSD alongside services with PTSD diagnoses in DMH and DHS data. About 4,000 people have evidence of PTSD in FY 2023–24. The number of service participants with PTSD has been growing over the last five years, with an average increase year over year of 11% (five-year change: 52%). The proportion of service participants with PTSD remained small, ranging between 3% and 4% through the reporting periods.

Figure 17: Count of service participants experiencing homelessness with evidence of PTSD



Data on homelessness from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP. Data on PTSD from CHAMP, DMH, and DHS.

Goal 3: Permanent exits from homelessness

Measure A language: *Increase the number of people permanently leaving homelessness (Section 4.A.3)*

Note: There is no PIT metric for Goal 3. The PIT is a cross-sectional survey of people experiencing homelessness and does not collect data about exits from homelessness to permanent housing.

Admin data metric (Goal 3)

Baseline (a):

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

Baseline (b):

Count of service participants from baseline (a) who exited **and did not return to homelessness within 24 months**

Trends:

Average change in baselines (a) and (b) year over year

A person is counted as “exiting to permanent housing” if they either:

- Exit from a homelessness service to a permanent destination (including self-resolving), or
- Move into a permanent housing program, including permanent supportive housing (PSH), time-limited subsidy programs (TLS), and other permanent housing programs and there is no indication in administrative data that they were already housed when they moved in.¹⁴

A person is counted as “returning to homelessness” if they re-enter homelessness services within 24 months after their exit to permanent housing. Because we do not know whether a person has returned to homelessness until after 24 months have elapsed, there is a two-year lag in reporting returns. In the chart below, we also display the number of people who did not return within 12 months (reported with a one-year lag) for context.

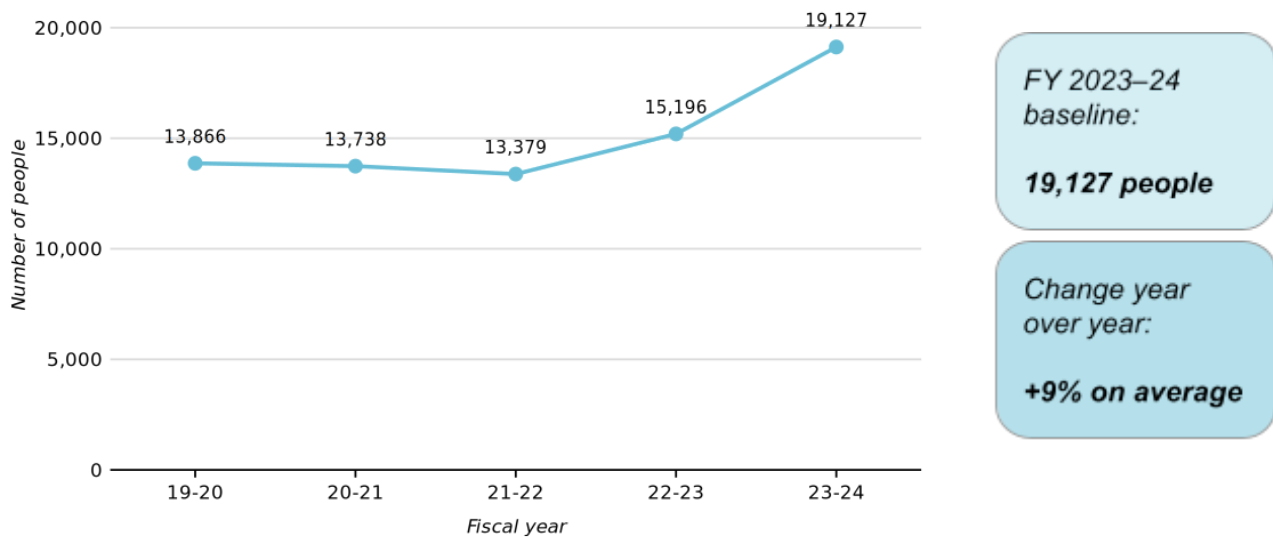
¹⁴ The discussion below describes how and why this component differs from the way exits are counted in official County reporting.

Goal 3 Admin data baseline estimates

(a) Exits to permanent housing

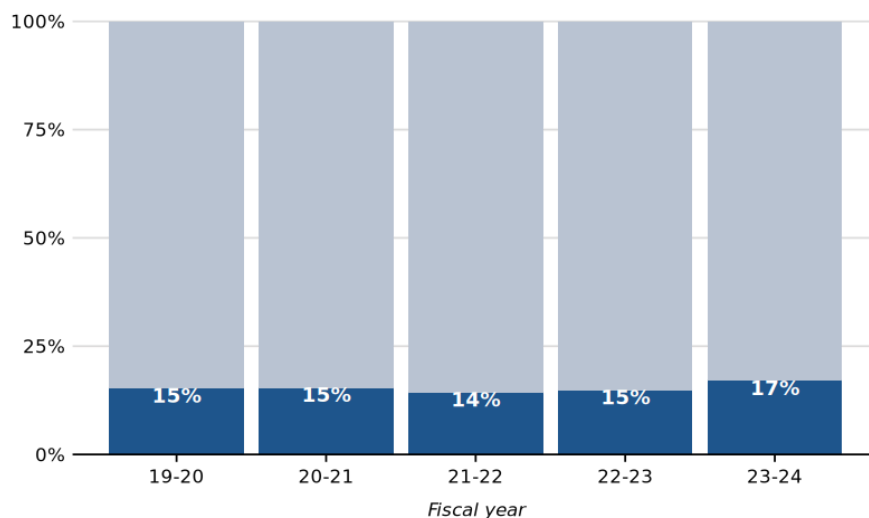
In FY 2023–24, about 19,000 service participants experienced homelessness and exited to permanent housing (Figure 18) — representing 17% of all service participants experiencing homelessness during the year (Figure 19).

Figure 18: Count of service participants who exited to permanent housing



Note: Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

Figure 19: Percentage who exited to permanent housing out of all service participants experiencing homelessness

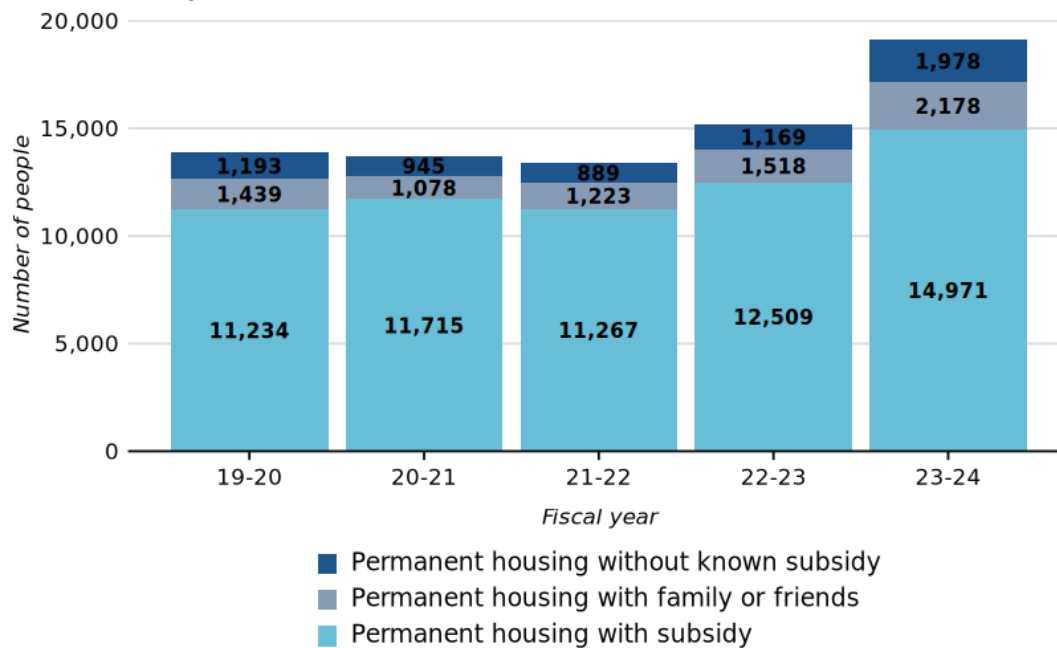


Note: Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

In Figure 20, we break down these exits by the type of permanent exit destination type:

- *Permanent housing with a subsidy* includes people who enter PSH, TLS, and other PH programs, or who report that they are exiting to subsidized housing.
- *Permanent housing without a known subsidy* includes people who report that they are exiting to a home that they own or rent without reporting that it is subsidized
- *Family or friends* includes people who report that they are exiting to live with family or friends on a permanent basis.

Figure 20: Breakdown of service participants who exited to permanent housing by type of permanent housing



Note: Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

Most of the people we observe exiting to permanent housing have some kind of rental subsidy. That said, administrative data is least likely to capture people who “self-resolve” and leave homelessness without enrolling in a housing program. The increase in exits to permanent housing appears to be driven by more people exiting to permanent housing with some sort of subsidy.

Why counts of exits to permanent housing shown here differ from County reporting. The number of people who exited permanent housing in Figure 19 are smaller than totals officially reported by the County. Two basic factors account for this difference:

- The totals presented in this report are based on more restrictive conditions for counting exits to permanent housing.¹⁵ We use more restrictive conditions because Measure A ballot language and subcommittee recommendations emphasize counting people permanently *leaving homelessness*, which we define as a person going from experiencing homelessness to housing. This definition excludes transfers between housing programs because a person is already housed when transferring. This definitional focus on people going from experiencing homelessness to housed reduces the annual totals by approximately 25% on average.
- The annual totals presented in County reporting reflect data sources that could not be obtained, prepared, integrated and included in the analysis conducted in this report.¹⁶

Both versions show an increase in the number of people exiting to permanent housing in recent years. By comparison with the total shown exiting to permanent housing for FY 2023–24 presented in Figure 19, the tally in County reporting (26,972) was higher by 41%. At the same time, however, the proportional increase in exits to permanent housing in both sets of numbers between FY 2022–23 and FY 2023–24 was nearly identical.¹⁷ The average year-over-year increase over the five year period examined by the Data Subcommittee for the Measure A

¹⁵ Placements into permanent housing via Time Limited Subsidies (TLS) are the biggest driver of annual exits to permanent housing in both Los Angeles County reporting and in the totals shown in this report. As an example of differing criteria, County tallies include people who exit TLS after at least 12 months of their move in dates and then are placed either in new TLS arrangements or in different permanent housing types. To be counted as a new exits to permanent housing, the County's business rules require a period of at least 12 months separation between the new and the previous TLS move in dates. To be counted as exits to permanent housing, *the Data Subcommittee's* business rules require that there be an exit from the previous TLS move-in to a homeless or institutional living situation, some other evidence of homelessness between the new and previous TLS move-ins, or a period of at least 365 days between exiting to permanent housing from the previous TLS move-in and the new move-in date. Such a condition is not required by the County in producing the annual totals presented in its official reports and performance evaluations. Similarly, annual counts of exits to permanent housing presented in County reporting are based on comparatively permissive business rules with respect to what the County and LAHSA frequently refer to as *self-resolved exits*, which are captured in this report as *Permanent Housing with Family and Friends* and *Permanent Housing without Known Subsidy*. Specifically, the approach taken for this report applies conditions that exclude self-resolved exits included in County reporting when there is evidence that people making such exits become homeless again during the same reporting period.

¹⁶ The Data Subcommittee used the HMIS and CHAMP data ingested into the County's Information Hub to produce the annual exits to permanent housing presented in this report. The HMIS data residing in the Information Hub currently excludes records from the Long Beach, Pasadena and Glendale CoCs. In producing permanent housing results for official County reporting, however, CIO receives supplemental data from LAHSA that include permanent housing placements administered by the independent CoCs. These data are generated in a distinct format that cannot be easily merged with data in HMIS and CHAMP. In some but not all years of reporting, official County totals have included placements administered by the Veterans Administration and through the Department of Public Social Services. Technical barriers and time pressures prevented the Data Subcommittee from including these sources in the counts of exits to permanent housing presented in this report.

¹⁷ As shown in Figure 18, the Data Subcommittee shows an increase of 26% in exits to permanent housing between FY 2022–23 and 2023–24, from 15,196 to 19,127. Official County reporting also indicates a difference of 26% over the same period, from 21,461 to 26,972.

baselines was similarly comparable across the two sets of annual tallies.¹⁸

The narrower criteria adopted by the Data Subcommittee for counting exits to permanent housing reflect the different purpose of the Measure A baseline measures as compared to numbers presented in official County reporting. In reporting these annual exits to the Board of Supervisors on an ongoing basis, CIO is asked to account for all activity enabled by resources allocated for homelessness services Countywide. Given this responsibility, a restrictive set of rules will fail to account for all resources, activity and outcomes. By contrast, Goal 3 in the Measure A Ballot Initiative specifically seeks to increase the number of people *permanently leaving homelessness*. The more restrictive business rules applied in counting annual exits to permanent housing are applied to ensure that the appropriate baseline measure and metric aligns with the language and intention of the Goal they are intended to quantify. People who were not experiencing homelessness at the time they were placed in new housing are not included in the metric.¹⁹

¹⁸ The average annual increase in exits to permanent housing shown in this report for the five year observation is nine percent as compared to six percent for the totals shown in County reporting.

¹⁹ Placements in permanent housing from housed situations are a common feature of the homelessness services system. They may include transfers between different levels of care (eg from permanent supportive housing to enriched residential care or time-limited subsidies). They may also include transfers-in-place from one funding source to another (e.g. from time-limited subsidies to shallow subsidies or from federal housing vouchers to local vouchers funded by the County's Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool). Transfers among permanent housing situations help clients remain stably housed by ensuring that they remain matched to appropriate housing resources to meet their changing needs. For that reason, public reports often count all people newly placed in a housing program, regardless of their prior living situation. Because they include all service participants counted as part of the Measure A metric, as well as other participants not included, those reports necessarily produce higher numbers for the same time periods than does the metric formulated by the Data Subcommittee.

(b) Exits to permanent housing without returning within 24 months

Figure 21 displays the number of people who exited to permanent housing without returning within 24 months (bottom line). For context, we also display the number of people who exited without returning within 12 months (middle line) and the total number of people who exited regardless of whether they returned (the same numbers displayed in Figure 18 above).

Figure 21: Count of service participants who exited to permanent housing, exited without returning in 12 months, and exited without returning in 24 months

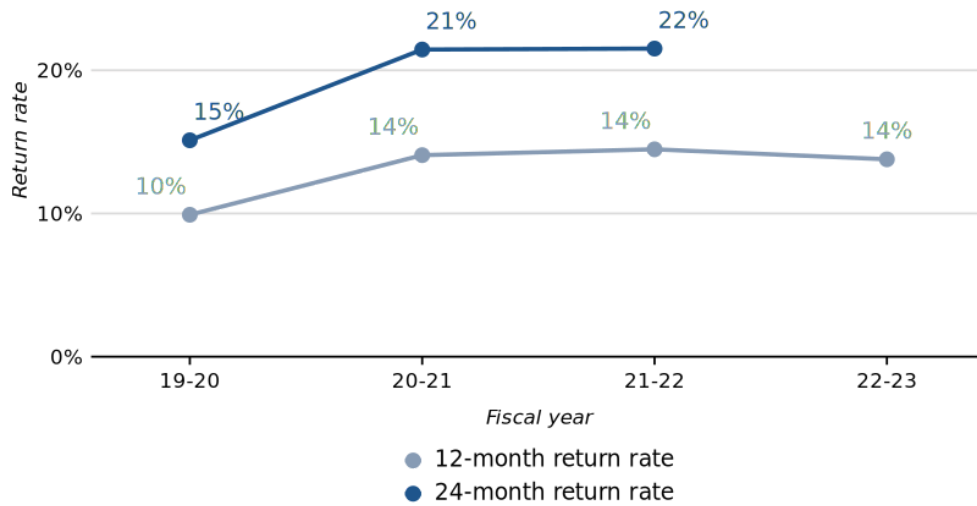


Note: Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

Because there is a lag in reporting, the most recent baseline for exiting without returning in 24 months is from FY 2021-22. In that year, 13,379 people exited to permanent housing, but we observed 2,878 of those people returning to homelessness during FY 2022-23 or FY 2023-24. Therefore, about 10,500 people exited to permanent housing and were not observed returning to homelessness within the next 24 months.

The number of people exiting without returning in 24 months decreased slightly over the three years between FY 2019-20 and FY 2021-22 (average annual change: -6%). This negative trend was slightly greater than the corresponding trend for the same period for those exiting without returning in 12 months (average annual change: -4%), which was in turn slightly greater than the corresponding trend for all exiters (average annual change: -2%). However, there is some indication that this trend may reverse as we collect more data. Both the measure of overall exits to permanent housing and the measure of exits without returning in 12 months increased between FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-24, and we may see a similar pattern for the 24-month baseline.

Figure 22: Percentage of those who exited to permanent housing who return to homelessness in 12 or 24 months



Note: Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

Figure 22 displays service participants returning to homelessness as a percentage of those who exited to permanent housing. As an example, of the 13,379 people who exited to permanent housing in FY 2021–22, we observed 2,878 of those people returning to homelessness within the next two years — representing 22% of all of those who exited. The 24-month return rate for each fiscal year is inclusive of the 12-month return rate: for example, 14% of people in FY 2021–22 returned within a year and an additional 8% returned in the following year, for a total of 22% for the 24-month return rate.²⁰

²⁰ Official County reporting does not include a 24-month return rate, but the 12-month return rate over the same five year period examined by the Data Subcommittee is 13.4%

Goal 4: New entries into homelessness

Measure A language: *Prevent people from falling into homelessness (Section 4.A.4)*

Survey/PIT data metric (Goal 4)

Baseline:

Estimated population of unsheltered people who report that they are in their first episode of homelessness in 2024 PIT Count

Trend:

Average change in population year over year

This metric gives a somewhat approximate sense of how many people are entering homelessness. It includes anyone in their first episode of homelessness, regardless of how long they have been homeless — for instance, a person who reported in the 2024 PIT Count that they were in their first episode could have entered homelessness in 2022 or earlier. While it is an imperfect estimate of inflow for the reporting period, it can give a general sense of the rate at which people are entering homelessness.

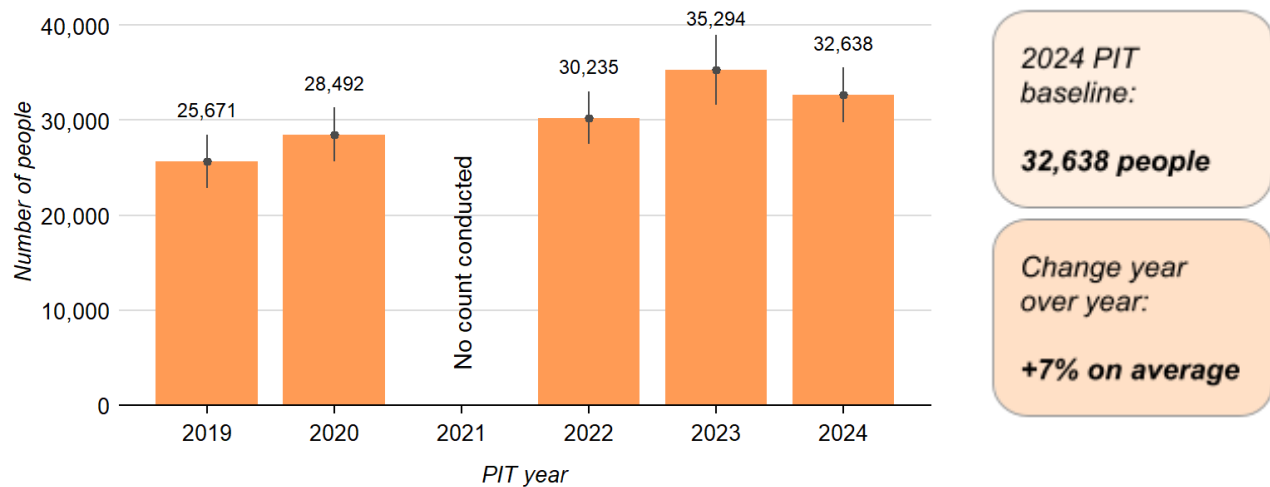
The Los Angeles City & County Continuum of Care demographic survey asks people in their first episode of homelessness how long their episode has lasted. Because this question is only asked of people in their first episode, we cannot use it to estimate a “rate of inflow” — doing so would miss people returning to homelessness after some time away in permanent housing. In future years, the PIT Count could ask every respondent how long their episode of homelessness has lasted and allow for an estimate that is more directly relevant to the question of inflow into homelessness.

In addition, this baseline is measured only for people who were unsheltered at the time of the PIT Count. Because the demographic survey is not conducted in interim housing settings, reliable data about people in shelter is not currently available. Data is from the Los Angeles City & County Continuum of Care only.

Goal 4 PIT baseline estimates

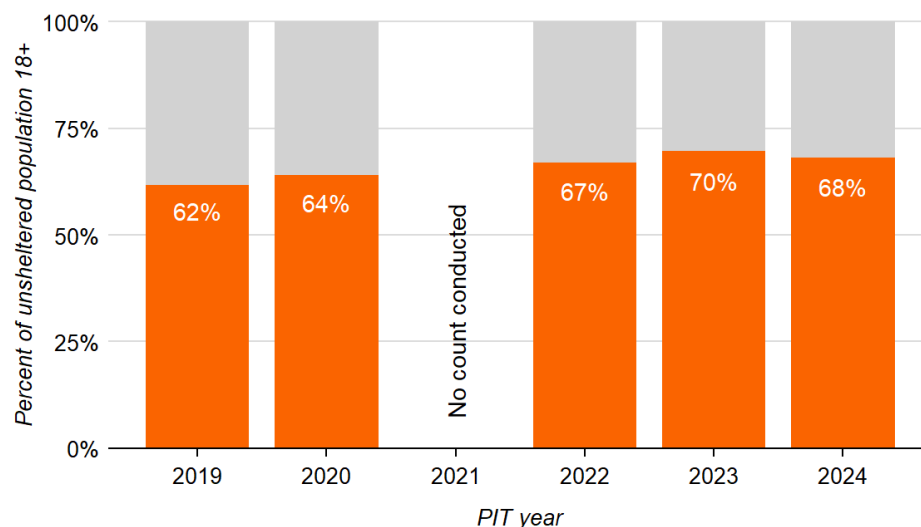
About 32,500 unsheltered people reported that they were in their first episode of homelessness during the baseline year of 2024 (Figure 23). A majority of people experiencing homelessness, about seven in ten, were in their first episode (Figure 24).

Figure 23: Estimated population of unsheltered people in first episode of homelessness (of any duration)



Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC PIT Count and demographic survey. There was no count in 2021 due to COVID-19. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals.

Figure 24: Percentage in first episode out of all adults experiencing unsheltered homelessness



Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC PIT Count and demographic survey. There was no count in 2021 due to COVID-19.

The number of people in their first episode of homelessness increased an average of 7% each year since the 2019 PIT Count. The proportion in their first episode has also increased slightly, from 62% in 2019 to 68% in 2024.

Admin data metric (Goal 4)

Baseline:

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

Trend:

Average change in count year over year

A person is counted as “newly accessing services” if they appear in admin data with evidence they are homeless for the first time in 24 months or more.

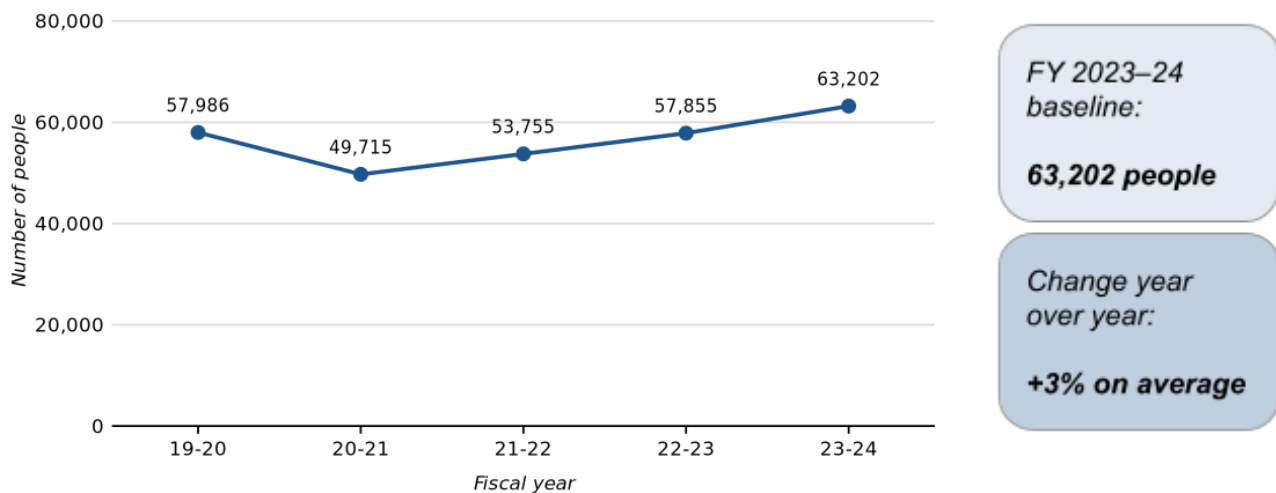
This approach aligns with HUD and the state’s System Performance Measures. That said, it is a very rough estimate of how many people in Los Angeles County newly experience homelessness each year. Because the metric is based on new service access, it cannot distinguish people who are newly experiencing homelessness from people who have experienced homelessness for an extended period but are only accessing services for the first time. As a result, service expansions or changes to data collection practices could make this metric less reliable.

Administrative data could provide a more precise estimate of the number of people entering homelessness in the future. The California Policy Lab developed a concept that would use service participants’ self-reported date of entry into homelessness to retrospectively count the number of people who became homeless in a particular reporting period. However, this data is missing at high rates in HMIS (about 45% of enrollments) and not currently collected in CHAMP. In addition, this alternative measure would make it harder for Los Angeles to compare to other jurisdictions using the state SPMs.

Goal 4 Admin data baseline estimates

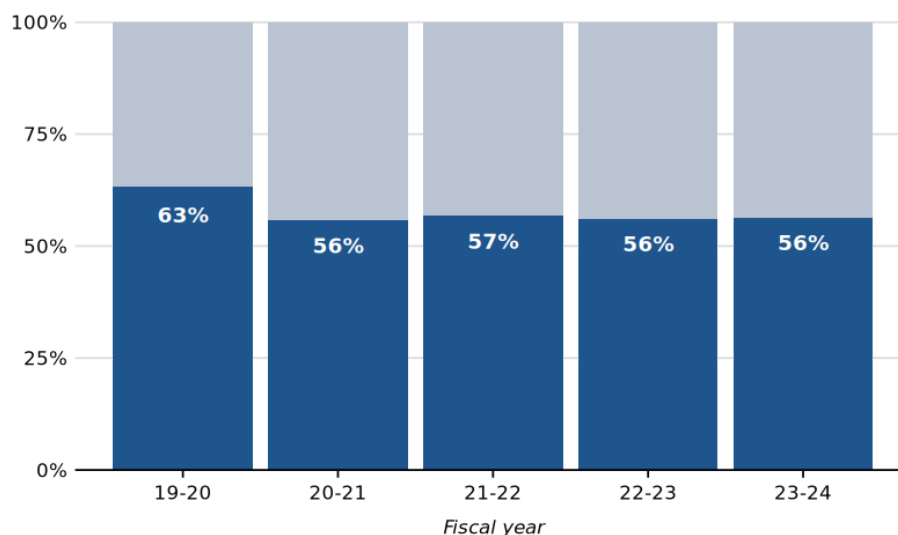
In the 2023–24 fiscal year, about 63,000 people were newly accessing homelessness services (Figure 25). This is a majority of all service participants experiencing homelessness — 56% (Figure 26).

Figure 25: Count of service participants newly accessing homelessness services



Note: Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

Figure 26: Percentage newly accessing services out of all service participants experiencing homelessness



Note: Data from Los Angeles City & County CoC HMIS and CHAMP

The number of people newly accessing services has trended up over the last four years after decreasing between FY 2019–20 and FY 2020–21. The average year-over-year increase over the full five years is 3%, but the average change after FY 2020–21 is 8%. The percentage of service participants newly accessing services has remained steady at 56%.

APPENDIX A: Ongoing Workstreams for the Data Subcommittee

Due to the timing of deadlines set by Ballot Measure A, this report focuses on the overall baseline estimate and metrics for goals 1–4. The Data Subcommittee will work to produce important supporting information, described below, in subsequent reports.

Demographic analysis and measuring progress towards systemic equity. To support the work of the Equity Committee, the Data Subcommittee will produce the metrics and baselines presented here broken down by client demographics, including race, ethnicity, gender, age, and veteran status. The results will be included in a supplement to this report to be released by March 1, 2025. The Data Subcommittee will also continue to provide data and consultation to the Equity Committee in its efforts to assess the equity of the homelessness services system, including access to services and client outcomes.

Producing metrics by populations specific to service systems. People working within the homelessness services system frequently divide the overall population of people experiencing homelessness into populations served by three, specific systems: the single adult system, which serves adults unaccompanied by dependent children; the family system, which serves households that include adult parents and/or guardians and dependent children; and the transition age youth (TAY) system, which serves youth between the ages of 18 and 24 and is inclusive of both young single adults and young parents. The metrics produced for the system overall will also be broken down by these three smaller systems in a supplemental report by April 15, 2025.

Producing metrics by geography and community. The Data Subcommittee recognizes the interest in seeing performance data broken down by geography, including Service Planning Area (SPA), city, supervisorial district, or other areas. This analysis will require assessing the availability and quality of geospatial data. It also requires significant input from policymakers, stakeholders, and people with geographic expertise in order to translate the metrics to conditions where people are frequently moving across geographies. Mapping data can be accomplished through multiple approaches, and a concerted effort must be made upfront to select the most policy-relevant information and methods, as well as to assess the quality and reliability of available geographic data. The Data Subcommittee is committed to beginning this process during the spring.

APPENDIX B: Table Displaying Data Sources For Each Goal

	Survey (PIT) metrics	Administrative data metrics
Total population experiencing homelessness	- PIT Count data from all four LA County CoCs (sheltered and unsheltered people of all ages)	- HMIS data from LA CoC* - CHAMP data countywide
Goal 1: Encampments to housing	- PIT Count data from all four LA County CoCs (all ages)	- HMIS data from LA CoC* - CHAMP data countywide
Goal 2: People experiencing homelessness with mental illness and substance use disorder	- PIT Count and demographic survey data from LA CoC (sheltered and unsheltered people 18+)	- HMIS data from LA CoC* - CHAMP data countywide - Linked records of mental health and substance use services provided through DMH and DHS - Linked records of substance use disorder treatment provided through DPH's SAPC program
Goal 3: Permanent exits from homelessness	<i>[No PIT metric]</i>	- HMIS data from LA CoC* - CHAMP data countywide
Goal 4: New entries into homelessness	- PIT Count and demographic survey data from LA CoC (unsheltered people 18+)	- HMIS data from LA CoC* - CHAMP data countywide

* LAHSA and the LA County are working to include HMIS data from Glendale, Pasadena and Long Beach for future reports. Progress is being made on the agreements necessary for including these data in reports going forward.

APPENDIX C: List of Data Subcommittee Members

Name	Organization
Peter Loo (Co-Chair)	CIO, County Information Office
Janey Rountree (Co-Chair)	ED, California Policy Lab (UCLA)
Max Stevens (Co-Chair designee)	County Information Office
Andy Perry	County Information Office
Monica Gudino	Department of Health Services
Bevin Kuhn	Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
Brooke Spellman	Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
Peter Casey	California Policy Lab (UCLA)
Dean Obermark	California Policy Lab (UCLA)
Jesus Ramos Cardona	California Policy Lab (UCLA)
Zoe Klingmann	California Policy Lab (UCLA)
Randall Kuhn	Professor of Public Health, Fielding School (UCLA)
Ben Henwood	Director, Homelessness Policy Research Institute (USC)
Nick Weinmeister	Homelessness Policy Research Institute (USC)

APPENDIX D: PIT and Demographic Survey Question Wording

Goal 1: Estimated population sleeping unsheltered on a single night

Measured for: All people experiencing homelessness, including children and youth

Estimate based on the proportion of demographic survey respondents who have been staying in a place not meant for human habitation:

- "Where have you spent MOST of your nights in the last 30 days?"
- "You told me where you had spent most nights in the past 30 days. Where did you spend last night?"

Responses included:

- Street/sidewalk/alley
- Campground/woods
- Park/beach/riverbed
- Under bridge/overpass
- Parking lot
- Abandoned building
- Unconverted garage/attic/basement
- Makeshift shelter
- Tent
- Car/truck
- Van/SUV
- RV/camper
- Parking structure
- On a bus/train
- Bus/train station
- Airport
- Workplace
- Other outdoor location
- Other place not meant for human habitation

Goal 2: Estimated population reporting a mental illness or substance use disorder

Measured for: All adults 18+ experiencing homelessness

Population estimate of people 18+ experiencing homelessness who report a permanent or long-term SMI or SUD:

- "Do they have, or have they ever been diagnosed with, any of the following health conditions?"
- "And is their condition permanent or long-term?"

SUD responses wording:

- Difficulties with alcohol
- Difficulties with substance use

SMI response wording:

- Serious mental illness, including severe depression, bipolar disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, and schizophrenia
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Goal 4: Estimated population reporting they are in their first episode of homelessness; Estimated population reporting they are in their first episode and have been homeless for a year or less

Measured for: Adults 18+ experiencing unsheltered homelessness

First episode of homelessness:

- "Is this the FIRST time you have experienced homelessness on the street, in a vehicle or in shelters?"

Episode has lasted for a year or less:

- "How long have you been experiencing homelessness THIS TIME?"
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