The Changing Demographic Outlook and Housing Trends: Homelessness in Los Angeles

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What do we know about homelessness in CA?

Number of People Experiencing Homelessness, CA vs. LA, 2009-2019

Source: HUD Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, 2019
Who is experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles?

LA Continuum of Care Demographics-2019

- 75% Unsheltered
- 28% Chronically Homeless
- 23% Newly Homeless

Source: LAHSA Adult Demographic Survey, 2019
Who is experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles?

Reasons Given For Homelessness among Unsheltered Adults, Los Angeles Continuum of Care, 2019

- Behavioral: 15% Newly Homeless, 32% Chronically Homeless
- Health: 8% Newly Homeless, 16% Chronically Homeless
- Economic: 57% Newly Homeless, 49% Chronically Homeless

Source: HUD Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, 2019; LAHSA Adult Demographic Survey, 2019
Who is experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles?

Adults experiencing chronic homelessness reported one or more of the following long-duration health conditions, Los Angeles Continuum of Care, 2019

- Substance abuse: 40%
- Physical disability: 46%
- Mental illness: 63%
- Physical illness or other condition: 61%

Source: HUD Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, 2019; LAHSA Adult Demographic Survey, 2019
Who is experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles?

Adults newly experiencing homelessness reported one or more the following long-duration health conditions,
Los Angeles Continuum of Care, 2019

- Substance abuse: 10%
- Physical disability: 13%
- Mental illness: 17%
- Physical illness or other condition: 22%

Source: HUD Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, 2019; LAHSA Adult Demographic Survey, 2019
Who is experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles?

LA Population Experiencing Homelessness by Age

Source: LAHSA Adult Demographic Survey, 2019; 2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count - Data Summary
Who is experiencing homelessness in CA?

LA County Homeless Population by Gender, 2019 Estimates

- Male: 60.8%
- Female: 38.0%
- Transgender: 1.0%
- Gender Non-Conforming: 0.2%

Source: HUD Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, 2019; DWC Los Angeles City Women’s Needs Assessment; 2019
Who is experiencing homelessness in LA County?

People of Color as Share of LA County General Population vs. LA County Homeless Population, 2019 Estimates

- Hispanic/Latino of Any Race: 48.6% (General Population), 48.1% (Homeless Population)
- Asian: 32.0% (General Population), 15.4% (Homeless Population)
- Black/African American: 1.2% (General Population), 9.0% (Homeless Population)
- Native American/Alaska Native: 0.4% (General Population), 2.0% (Homeless Population)

Source: HUD Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, 2019; US Census Bureau Quick Facts, 2019
COVID-19 in Los Angeles’s Homeless Community

• COVID-19 cases confirmed by laboratory test:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Resident Cases:</th>
<th>Staff Cases:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shelters/ Homeless Service Centers:</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encampments:</td>
<td>37</td>
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Source: County of Los Angeles Public Health. Updated 6/3/20

Six people experiencing homelessness have died from COVID-19 in Los Angeles County as of June 3, 2020.
How did we get here?

• Constrained housing supply

• Severe rent burden

• Institutional and systemic racism
How did we get here?

• As of 2019, California is experiencing a shortage of 1.4 million affordable homes given the demand for affordable housing.

• Housing construction has lagged in California’s coastal metro areas since the 1990s, driving up housing costs.

Source: California Housing Partnership, 2019; California Legislative Analyst's Office, 2019
How did we get here?

Share of Households Experiencing Severe Rent Burden, 2018 estimates

- Riverside-San Bernardino: 29.1%
- San Diego: 28.6%
- Los Angeles-Anaheim: 28.3%
- Bakersfield: 27.2%
- Sacramento: 27.0%
- Fresno: 26.2%
- San Francisco-Oakland: 22.0%
- San Jose: 21.1%
- Average U.S. Major Metro: 22.8%

Source: 2018 ACS 1-Year Estimates
How did we get here?

- Overrepresentation in the criminal justice system
- Housing segregation and discrimination
- Employment discrimination and unemployment

Black People As Share of Overall Population vs. Homeless Population, 2019 Estimates

- California:
  - Share of Overall Population: 7%
  - Share of Population Experiencing Homelessness: 29%

- Los Angeles County:
  - Share of Overall Population: 9%
  - Share of Population Experiencing Homelessness: 40%

Source: LAHSA Ad Hoc Committee on Black People Experiencing Homelessness, 2018
Where do we go from here?

• Systems Changes
  • Financing
  • Planning and zoning
  • Institutional racism

• Interventions for People
  • Prevention
    • Eviction Moratoria
    • Workout strategies for accrued non payment of rent
    • Targeted emergency aid
  • Expansion of Medicaid benefits
  • Linkages to Supportive Housing
Thank you!
Current Homelessness Research

Addressing Disparities:
- Increasing Black Tenant Retention in Permanent Supportive Housing
- Coordinated Entry System (CES) Triage Tool Research & Refinement

COVID-19 Related:
- Permanent Supportive Housing for adults ages 65+ after Project Room Key
- Examining the efficacy of text message surveys and social distancing/sanitation awareness at Skid Row Housing Trust
- Responding to intimate partner violence and homelessness
- Healthcare systems and homelessness intersection
- Housing policies to prevent homelessness (mortgage forbearance, rent forgiveness)

Image Source: LAHSA
COVID-19 and Homelessness

Exit Planning

- **May 2020**: Using Existing Resources
  - 1,000 Persons Temp Exit #1 via lease/buy/build
  - 1,000 Persons Perm Exit #1

- **July 2020**: Using Existing Resources
  - 6,000 Persons
    - 12,000 Persons
      - 65+ or high-risk health condition
      - Exit from C-19 Shelters
  - 6,000 Persons
    - Temp Exit #2 via lease/buy/build

- **Jan 2021**: Using New Resources: ESG/CDBG/CDF/General (State, County, Cities)
  - 5,000 Persons
    - 8,000 Persons
      - Temporarily housed (Temp. Exit #1 + 2)
  - 3,000 Persons Temporarily housed (via SSI+)
  - 3,000 Persons Perm Exit #4 via ded source

- **Jan 2023**: Sustain & Secure Dedicated Source
  - 15,000 Persons
  - 65+ or high-risk health condition
  - Exit from C-19 Shelters
  - 6,000 Persons
    - Perm Exit #2 via PSH, RHI, etc.
  - 8,000 Persons
    - Stabilize & Enroll in SSI, Other Benefits