



## Veterans - Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC)

### Background

For the purpose of the Homeless Count, a person is considered to be a veteran if the following criteria have been met: (i) served on active duty in the US Armed Forces (such as, Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines Corps, or Coast Guard) or as a member in the National Guard or as a Reservist; (ii) able to identify discharge status.

Veterans experience additional troubles that may result from combat experience, such as higher rates of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), physical disability, chronic health issues, and traumatic brain injury (TBI). It is critical to understand the homeless veteran population in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC) in order to examine this population's varying levels of need for services and support. *Opening Doors*, the nation's first comprehensive strategy to end homelessness, has contributed to the substantial national decrease (47 percent) in veteran homelessness from 2010 to 2016. In the LA CoC, veteran homelessness has decreased by 32 percent since 2015 thanks to the federal housing vouchers through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, with coordinated funds from the City and County of Los Angeles.

### Sheltered Veterans

#### Methodology

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data were utilized to estimate the number of veterans in emergency shelters, safe havens, and transitional housing programs, regardless of their funding sources.

### Unsheltered Veterans

#### Methodology

A 15-minute demographic survey was conducted with homeless persons on the street during the Point-In-Time (PIT) Count days in order to produce subpopulation estimates.

Results						
	Grand Total		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Totals	2,728		1,243		1,485	
Age: 18 - 24	18	1%	7	1%	11	1%
25 - 54	1,300	48%	613	49%	687	46%
55 - 61	808	30%	353	28%	455	31%
62+	602	22%	270	22%	332	22%
Individuals	2,703	99%	1,218	98%	1,485	100%
Family Members	25	1%	25	2%	0	0%
Chronically Homeless	689	25%	47	4%	642	43%
Mental Illness	874	32%	216	17%	658	44%
Chronic Substance Abuse	470	17%	137	11%	333	22%
Persons with HIV/AIDS	53	2%	39	3%	14	1%
Domestic Violence Experience	414	15%	75	6%	339	23%
Physical Disability	534	20%	147	12%	387	26%
Male	2,502	92%	1,170	94%	1,332	90%
Female	172	6%	72	6%	100	7%
Transgender	54	2%	1	0.1%	53	4%
Hispanic / Latino	485	18%	177	14%	308	21%
White	968	35%	415	33%	553	37%
Black / African-American	1,084	40%	596	48%	488	33%
Asian	18	1%	14	1%	4	0.3%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	58	2%	16	1%	42	3%
Native Hawaiian / Other Pacific Islander	6	0.2%	6	0.5%	0	0%
Multi-Racial / Other	109	4%	19	2%	90	6%

#### Notes

- Grand Total = Sheltered + Unsheltered
- N = number; % = percentage share of either Grand Total, Sheltered, or Unsheltered
- Sheltered include homeless individuals and family members in emergency shelters, safe havens, and transitional housing; Unsheltered include homeless individuals and family members living in a place not meant for human habitation (i.e., cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings)
- Family Members include members in a family household that has at least one adult and one child