NORCAL CONTINUUM OF CARE
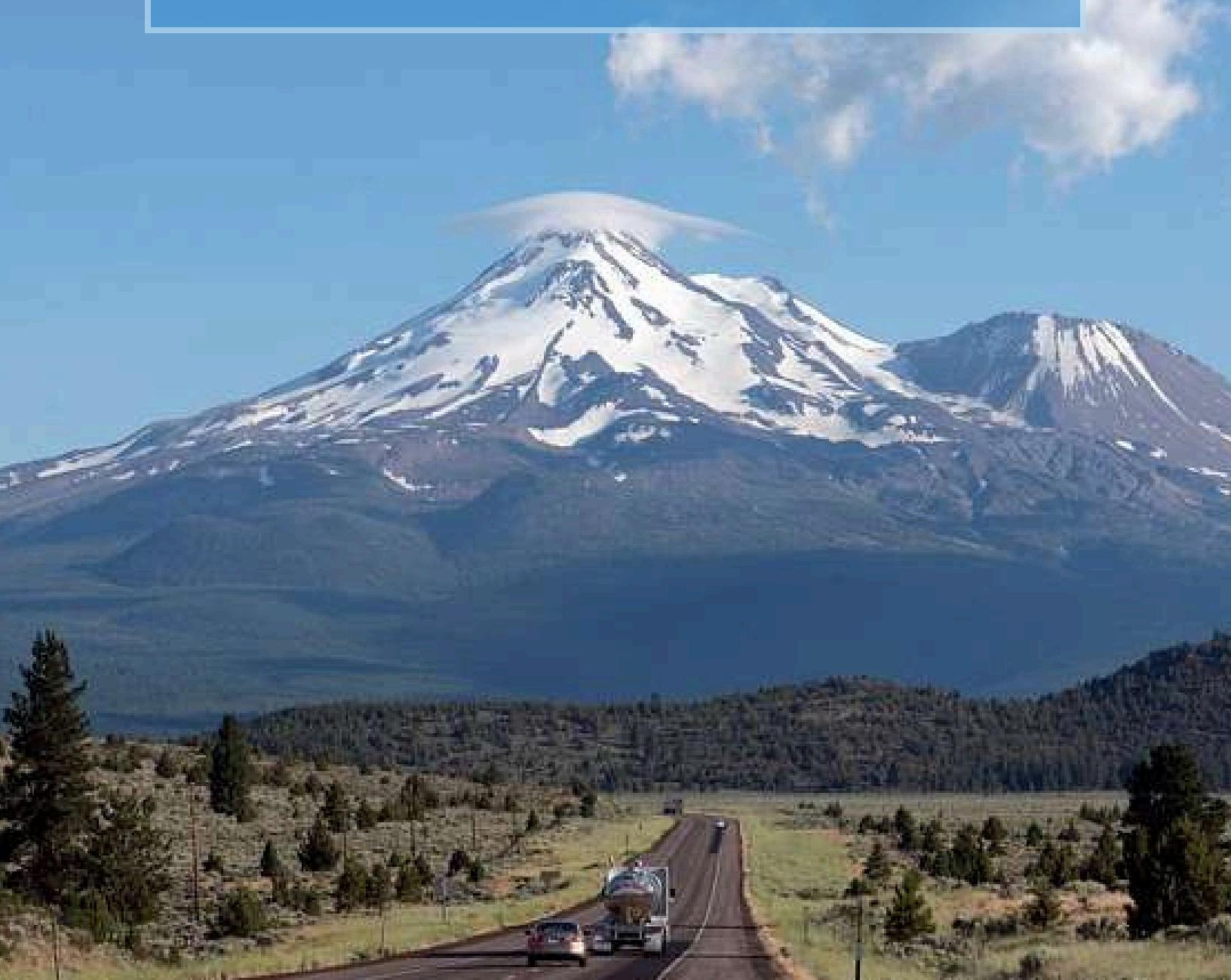# POINT-IN-TIME COUNT COMMUNITY REPORT 2025

Prepared By | **Simtech** *Solutions*, inc.

CONTENT

INTRODUCTION

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is an annual census conducted for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) of all people experiencing homelessness who are living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, safe havens, or unsheltered situations on a single night. The NorCal CoC which includes Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra counties, conducts the Count in partnership with the City of Redding as CoC Lead Agency. Unsheltered situations include anyone without a permanent residence found to be staying outdoors or in places not designed for habitation such as vehicles, streets, parks, or abandoned buildings. The PIT Count also presents an opportunity to raise awareness of the myriad of challenges our homeless residents face, hear firsthand experiences from those experiencing homelessness, and demonstrate the compassion and generosity of the NorCal CoC community.

The PIT count has two components: sheltered and unsheltered. The sheltered count is conducted annually of people experiencing homelessness who are living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or safe havens. The unsheltered portion of the PIT count is required to be conducted biennially during the last 10 days of January.

The PIT is the result of extraordinary community collaboration and includes a community-wide effort to engage and assess the unsheltered population. This year's count was conducted over a week-long period beginning on January 21, 2025, and asked people experiencing homelessness (PEH) where they would be sleeping on that night. The count was conducted with the support of 203 registered volunteers, who used the Counting Us mobile application developed by Simtech Solutions Inc., to gather the survey information. The PIT also requires participation by all emergency shelters and transitional housing projects in the region, including those that do not normally utilize the region's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for data collection. After the PIT count was completed, the data was carefully analyzed and validated to meet HUD's high data quality standards.

The count results found in this report were successfully submitted to HUD in time for the June 13th 2025, deadline and have since been reviewed by and approved by HUD Technical Assistance providers. This report is a further evaluation of those count results and is being provided as one tool for which the community can use to measure how effectively we are addressing the needs of our homeless neighbors.

Please Note: Anywhere in the report that refers to "Sheltered" is inclusive of Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing. Additionally, in the report the NorCal CoC did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2021 and 2024, the report carries over the unsheltered numbers for 2020 and 2023.

LIMITATIONS

While the primary purpose of the biennial Point-in-Time count is to quantify the extent of homelessness both locally and nationally, it is important to understand the limitations of this information. One of these limitations is the results represent only snapshot in time and therefore this information does not reflect the total number of people experiencing homelessness throughout the year. Since the count is conducted on a single night in January, other factors such as weather and the number of volunteers available to conduct the count, may factor into the count's accuracy. As a result of these limitations, it is important to understand that the Point-In-Time Count is only one piece of data used to understand who is experiencing homelessness in our community. Other data that should be considered is data collected through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), McKinney-Vento data of youth experiencing homelessness, and data for people in sheltered situations where upon their release they will become homeless, such as hospitals and jails.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency - supplies for incentives	City of Yreka
Pizza Factory- Lunch	Yreka Police Department
Chick-fil-A- Breakfast sandwiches	Seventh Day Adventist Church
Good News Rescue Mission- Breakfast burritos, tables and crates for carrying supplies	Elks
Dignity Health- Mercy Medical Center Redding- funding for socks, headlamps, hand warmers and incentives	Disability Action Center
Salvation Army- Coffee	Yreka Library

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Haven Humane- dog crates	Nation's Finest
Shasta Community Health Center - Water bottles	Lifeline
Shasta School of Cosmetology- Haircut vouchers	VyncaCare
New Life Discovery Project- Building, donuts, coffee supplies/cups	Fairchild Medical Center
RABA- Bus passes	Lassen Works
Coca Cola- Beverages for the day of event	Crossroads Ministries
Partnership Health-backpacks	Lassen Family Services
Plumas Crisis Intervention & Resource Center – supplies and incentives	Fort Sage Resource Center
Sunrays of Hope partnering with Modoc County Behavioral Health, assist with surveys and incentives	Westwood Resource Center
Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency	Susanville Indian Rancheria
Youth Empowerment Siskiyou	Lassen County Behavioral Health
Northern Valley Catholic Social Services	Lassen County Community College
Siskiyou Domestic Violence and Crisis Center	Lassen County Office of Education
Yreka Food Bank	Susanville Police Dept
Saint Anthony's Catholic Church	Lassen County Veterans Service Officer
Karuk Tribal Housing Authority	Lassen County Public Health
Siskiyou Community Resource Collaborative	And various community advocates, including individuals with lived experience of homelessness

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each year, communities across the country participate in the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count — a nationwide effort to measure the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. This data provides a critical snapshot of the state of homelessness in our region and contributes to a national understanding of trends, progress, and persistent challenges in the effort to prevent and end homelessness.

Why We Count

The PIT Count is more than just a data collection exercise. It is a vital process used by local, state, and federal agencies to inform policy, allocate resources, and track progress over time. Locally, it helps communities better understand who is experiencing homelessness, where they are located, and what services may be most urgently needed. Nationally, it informs the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and other partners in shaping strategies and evaluating the impact of investments in housing and homelessness services.

The annual PIT Count is a reminder of the complexity of homelessness and the importance of sustained, community-driven efforts to address its root causes. There is a critical role for local partnerships to access hard to reach populations.

We are deeply grateful to all who made this year's PIT Count possible. From the individuals experiencing homelessness who courageously shared their stories, to the hundreds of volunteers, outreach workers, and regional coordinators who devoted their time and expertise — your efforts made this count meaningful. We also thank our community partners and funders whose support ensured that this effort was carried out with care, respect, and integrity.

The data collected through the PIT Count is a foundation upon which we build more effective solutions. It helps us identify emerging trends, target resources to those most in need, and advocate for continued investment in housing, prevention, and support services. While the PIT Count provides a valuable snapshot, the work to prevent and end homelessness is ongoing — and it requires continued collaboration, innovation, and commitment.
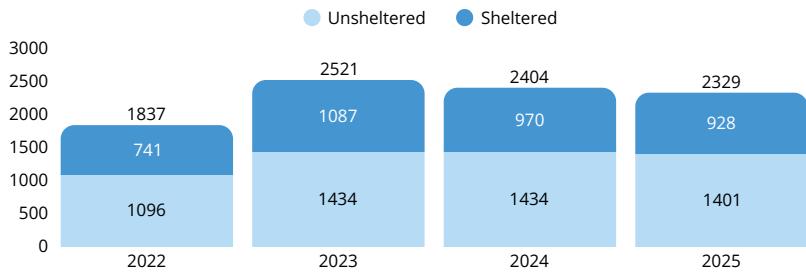
Together, through efforts like the PIT Count, we move closer to a future where homelessness is rare, brief, and nonrecurring.

NORCAL

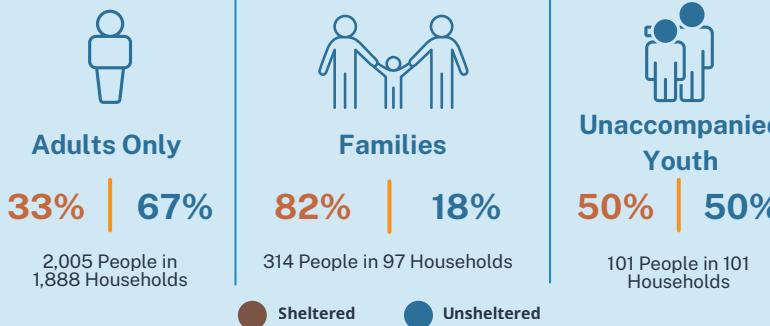## HOMELESS CENSUS & SURVEY 2025 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

POINT IN TIME COUNT TRENDS

○ Unsheltered ● Sheltered

Year	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
2022	741	1096	1837
2023	1087	1434	2521
2024	970	1434	2404
2025	928	1401	2329

UNSHELTERED SLEEPING LOCATIONS

VEHICLE, RV, OR BOAT
26%

STREET OR OUTSIDE
67%

MAKESHIFT SHELTER
7%

HOUSEHOLD BREAKDOWN

Adults Only
33% | 67%
2,005 People in 1,888 Households

Families
82% | 18%
314 People in 97 Households

Unaccompanied Youth
50% | 50%
101 People in 101 Households

● Sheltered ● Unsheltered

SHELTERED/ UNSHELTERED POPULATION

Sheltered 40% Unsheltered 60%

GENDER IDENTITIES

MAN 61.1%

WOMAN 37.7%

ADDITIONAL GENDER IDENTITIES 1.3%
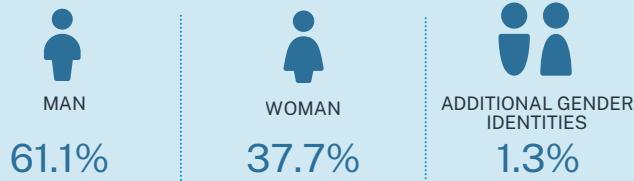
SELECT POPULATION LOCATIONS

Chronic Homelessness
26% | 74%
922 People

Parenting Youth
91% | 9%
11 People

Veterans
42% | 58%
113 People

● Sheltered ● Unsheltered

AGE RANGES

Age	Percent
Under 18	8.0%
18-24	5.0%
25-34	15.8%
35-44	24.2%
45-54	21.5%
55-64	17.7%
65+	7.8%
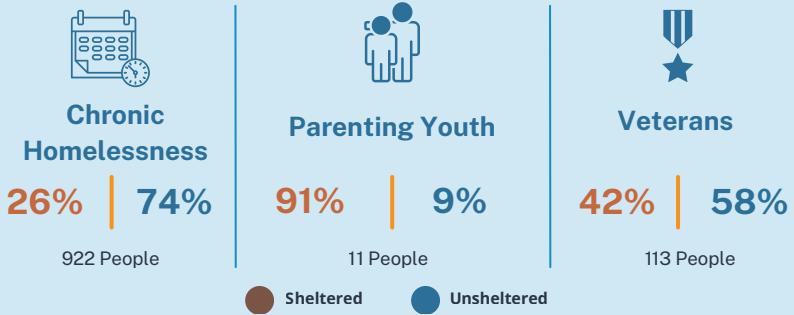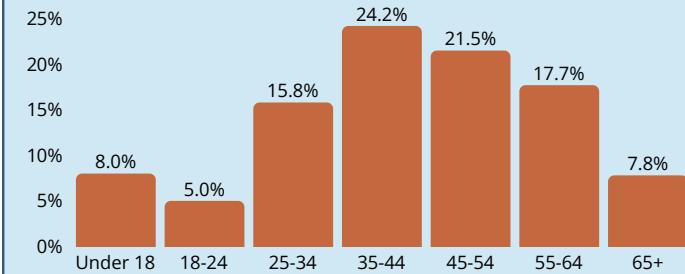
RACE IDENTITIES COMPARED TO GENERAL POPULATION

● PIT ● Census

Middle Eastern/North African is not included as a Census Race category.

Race	PIT	Census
American Indian/ Native Alaskan	11.2%	2.5%
Asian or Asian American	1.1%	2.7%
Black/ African/ African American	3.7%	1.9%
Hispanic & Latino/e/a	7.1%	13.4%
* Middle Eastern or North African		
Multiple Races	6.0%	10.9%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0.9%	0.3%
White	72.3%	78.4%
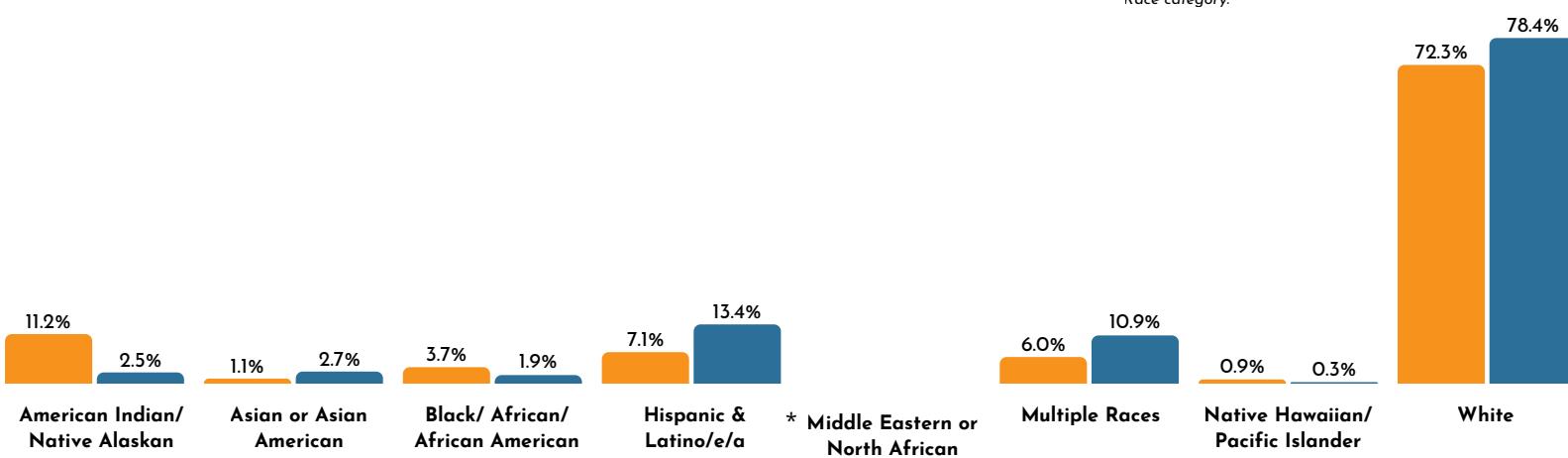
COMPARISON BY COUNTY

The breakdown of people experiencing homelessness by county can be found in the table below. These include the total homeless population for the given county, and then broken down by shelter status. Next to each count is the percent of the total for the entire NorCal community it represents.

County Name	Total Homeless	Percent of Total	Sheltered Total	Percent Sheltered	Unsheltered Total	Percent Unsheltered
Del Norte	482	20.7%	25	3%	457	33%
Lassen	124	5.3%	80	9%	44	3%
Modoc	25	1.1%	11	1%	14	1%
Plumas	108	4.6%	18	2%	90	6%
Shasta	1082	46.5%	628	68%	454	32%
Sierra	15	0.6%	0	0%	15	1%
Siskiyou	493	21.2%	166	18%	327	23%

KEY FINDINGS

The Point-in-Time Count data from 2025 found an estimated 2,329 people were experiencing homelessness on a single night in January in NorCal CoC. This is an decrease of 192 people (7.6%) from the last full Unsheltered PIT count conducted in 2023. This year the number of people counted living unsheltered in NorCal CoC decreased by 2.3%. In 2023, NorCal CoC counted 1,434 unsheltered homeless individuals while 1,087 were counted in shelters. In 2025, 1,401 people were counted living unsheltered. There were also 928 people in shelters on the night of the count, an 14.6% decrease from 2023.
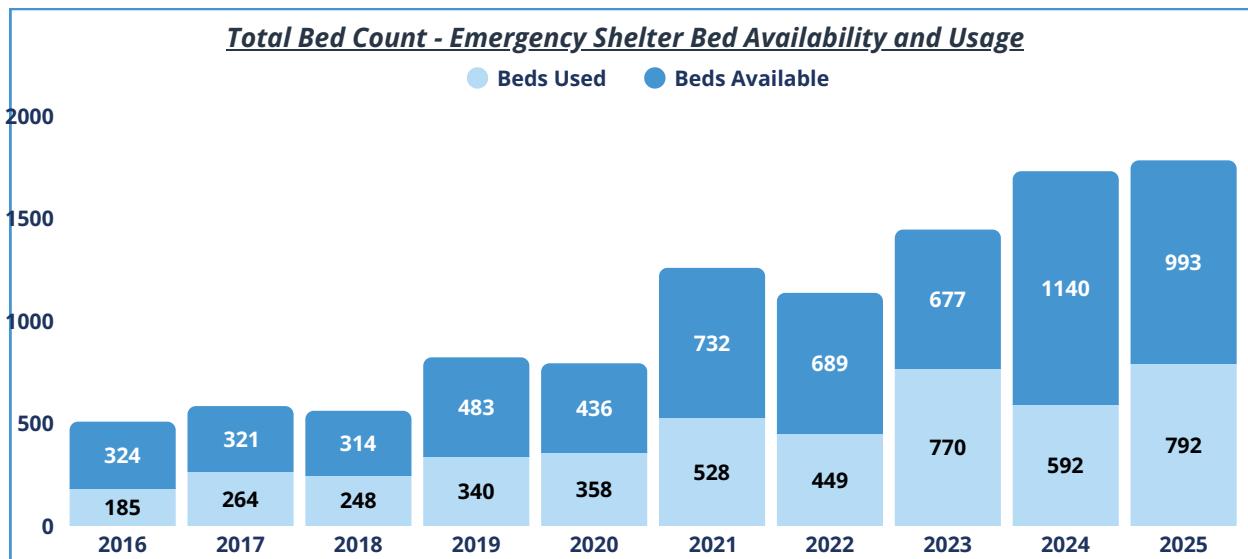
Individuals accounted for 2,005 (86.1%) of the total homeless population. There were 314 people (13.5%) found in households with at least one adult and one child and 10 people (0.4%) in households with only children under age 18. Over the last ten years, NorCal CoC has seen the total number of people experiencing homelessness counted during the PIT increase by 83.1% with the number of people living unsheltered increasing by 45.9%.

Point-In-Time Count Trends for CA-516 NorCal

Legend: Unsheltered, Sheltered

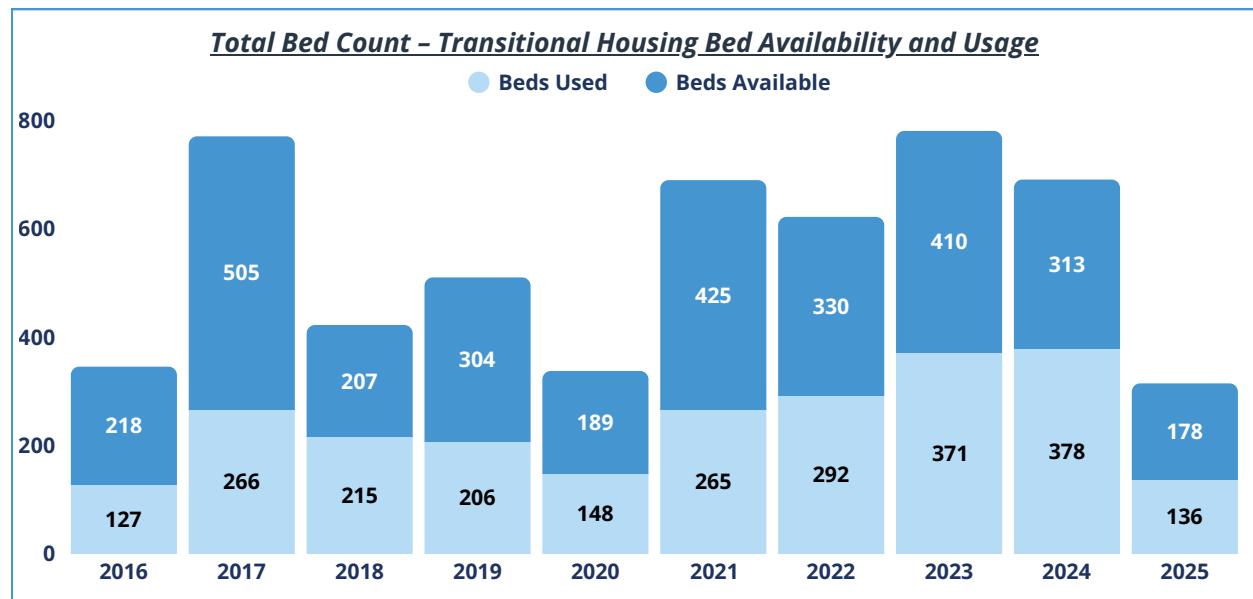| Year	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total
2016	960	312	1,272
2017	404	530	934
2018	690	459	1,149
2019	806	543	1,349
2020	1,023	506	1,529
2021	1,023	792	1,815
2022	1,096	741	1,837
2023	1,434	1,087	2,521
2024	1,434	970	2,404
2025	1,401	928	2,329
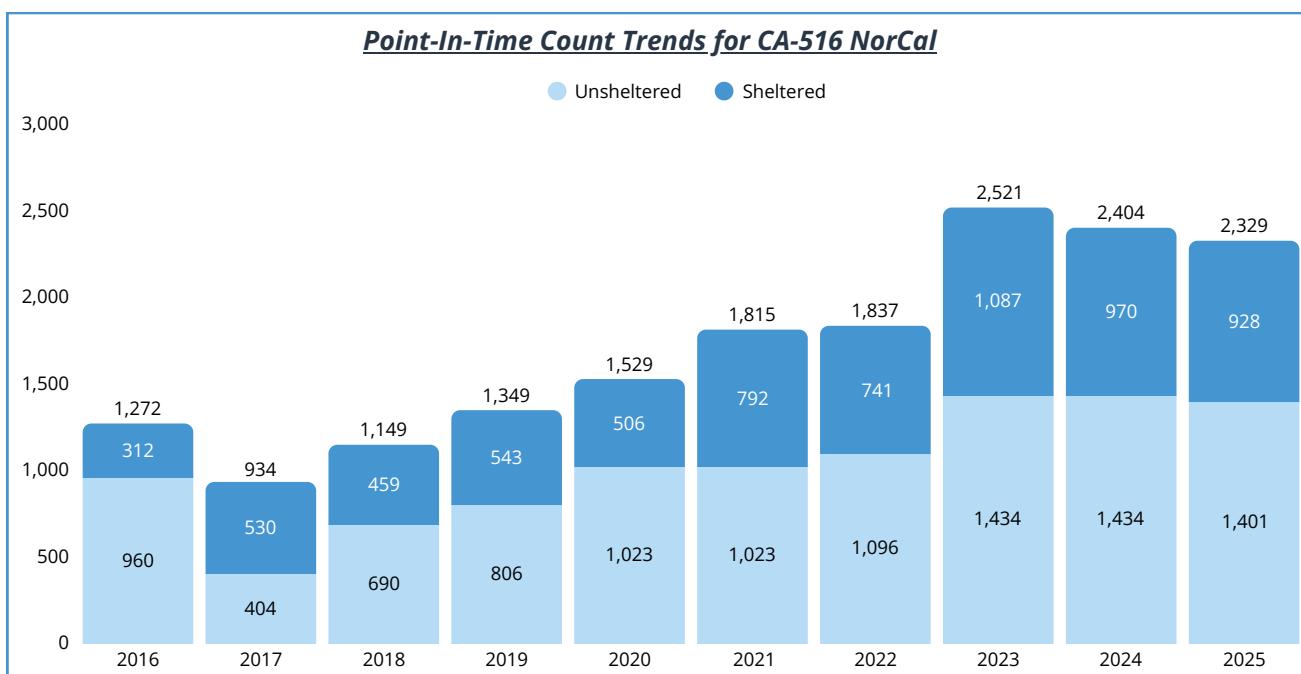
The number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness has decreased in the 2025 count.

SHELTER CAPACITY UTILIZATION

The shelter capacity utilization is calculated by comparing the number of people who were indicated to be staying in the Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing beds with the total number of beds indicated to be available according to the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) submitted to HUD. For the night of the count, 792 of the 993 Emergency Shelter beds (79.8%) were used and the remaining 201 (20.2%) were not. The HIC does not identify the reason that the beds were vacant. As seen in the chart below, the bed utilization rate has fluxuated greatly over the last 10 years of the HIC.

Total Bed Count - Emergency Shelter Bed Availability and Usage

Beds Used Beds Available

Year	Beds Used	Beds Available
2016	185	324
2017	264	321
2018	248	314
2019	340	483
2020	358	436
2021	528	732
2022	449	689
2023	770	677
2024	592	1140
2025	792	993

For Transitional Housing, 136 of the 178 beds (76.4%) were utilized on the night of the count, again show an increase in utilization over time.

Total Bed Count – Transitional Housing Bed Availability and Usage

Beds Used Beds Available

| Year	Beds Used	Beds Available
2016	127	218
2017	266	505
2018	215	207
2019	206	304
2020	148	189
2021	265	425
2022	292	330
2023	371	410
2024	378	313
2025	136	178

11

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

According to HUD, a family or household is simply one or more individuals who live together. Members of the family do not need to be related by blood, marriage, or in any other legal capacity.

Within the overall homeless population, individuals accounted for an estimated 2,005 (86.1%) of the homeless population, 314 (13.5%) were from 97 households with at least one adult and one child, and 10 people (0.4%) were from households with only children.

The number of families experiencing homelessness decreased by 34.9% from 2023 to 2025 and the number of people in families decreased by 35.3%. Since the 2016 Point-in-Time Count, the number of homelessness families increased 64.4% from 59 to 97. The number of people within family households increased 51.7% from 207 people to 314.

Households with Children Trends Over Time
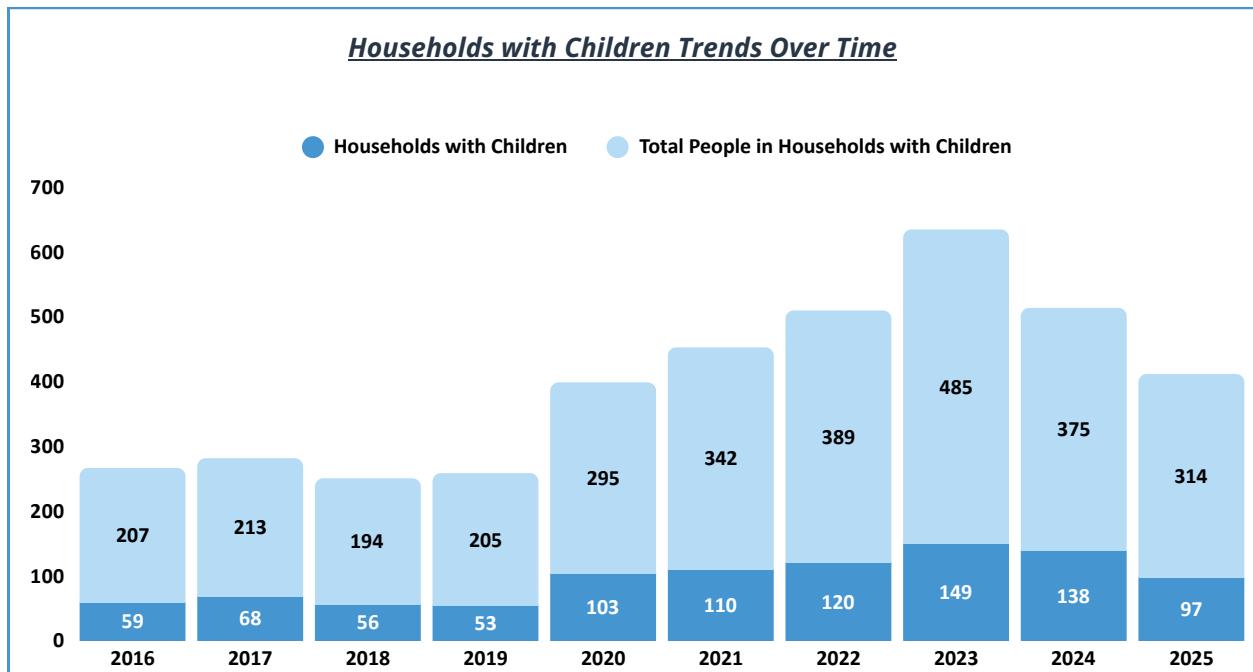
Within Emergency Shelters and Transitional Housing projects, there were 80 households with both adults and children and 258 household members. 37.2% percent of the individuals making up these households were adults over the age of 25, 7.0% percent were young adults 18-24, and the remaining 55.8% percent were children under the age of 18. The household composition for the unsheltered count found an estimated 17 households with both adults and children with a total of 56 household members. Within these households, 37.5% percent were adults over the age of 25, 58.9% percent were children under the age of 18, and 3.6% between the ages of 18-24 were represented.

ADULTS IN HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN OVER TIME

The Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing projects also served 663 people in households without children. Of these, 6.6% percent were young adults (those between the ages of 18 to 24) and the remaining 93.4% percent were adults over the age of 25.
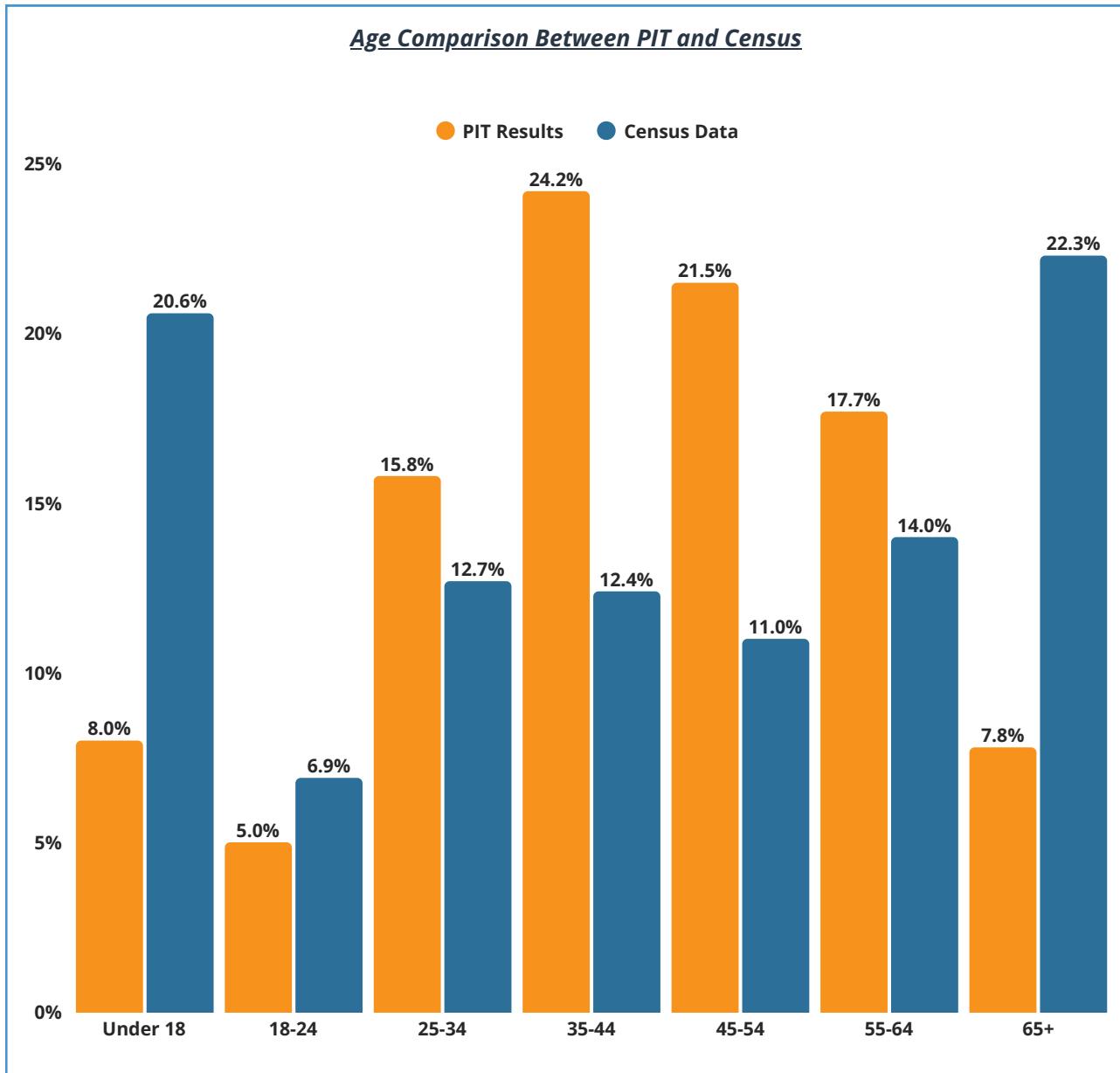
The unsheltered count estimated 1,342 people in households without children. Of these, 3.9% percent were young adults (those between the ages of 18 to 24) and the remaining 96.1% percent were adults over the age of 25.

Apaliwal, CC BY 3.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>, via Wikimedia Commons

AGE DEMOGRAPHICS

The age characteristics vary depending on both the household composition as well as whether those being counted were in shelters or unsheltered.

Age Comparison Between PIT and Census

● PIT Results   ● Census Data

Age	PIT Results	Census Data
Under 18	8.0%	20.6%
18-24	5.0%	6.9%
25-34	15.8%	12.7%
35-44	24.2%	12.4%
45-54	21.5%	11.0%
55-64	17.7%	14.0%
65+	7.8%	22.3%

Within the sheltered population in NorCal CoC, there were 2,025 persons of the age 25 and older, 117 persons between the age of 18-24, and 187 persons under 18. Both the Under 18 and 65+ categories had distinct underrepresentations in the count compared to their respective census proportions, while the greatest overrepresentation in ages was held by people 35-54 years of age.

There were 97 households with both adults and children and within these households 56.4% were children under the age of 18, 6.4% were young adults 18-24, and 37.3% were adults over the age of 25. The average household size was 3.24 people. There were 1,888 households without children with 4.8% being young adults and the remaining 95.2% being adults over the age of 25. Young adults used a larger percentage of the transitional housing beds (18.4%) than the 4.7% used by young adults in emergency shelters. Within the unsheltered population in NorCal CoC, 1,312 individuals were reported as 25 or older, 55 were between the ages of 18-24, and 36 were reported as children under 18. This represents a 1.3% decrease in unsheltered adults above 25 years old, a 38.2% decrease in the number of people between the ages of 18-24, and a 125.0% *increase* in the number of children under 18 experiencing unsheltered homelessness since 2023.

Within the total homeless population, including both sheltered and unsheltered, NorCal CoC saw a 2.1% decrease in homelessness among adults while the population under 18 decreased 37.9% from 2023 to 2025. Young adults also decreased 22.5% from 151 in 2023 to 117 in 2025.

When comparing the NorCal CoC 2025 Point-in-Time Count of people experiencing homelessness to Census information, individuals under 18 represent 8.0% and 20.6% respectively. In opposition to this comparison, those experiencing homelessness between the ages of 35-44 make up 24.2% of the homeless population while they represent 12.4% of the greater populace.
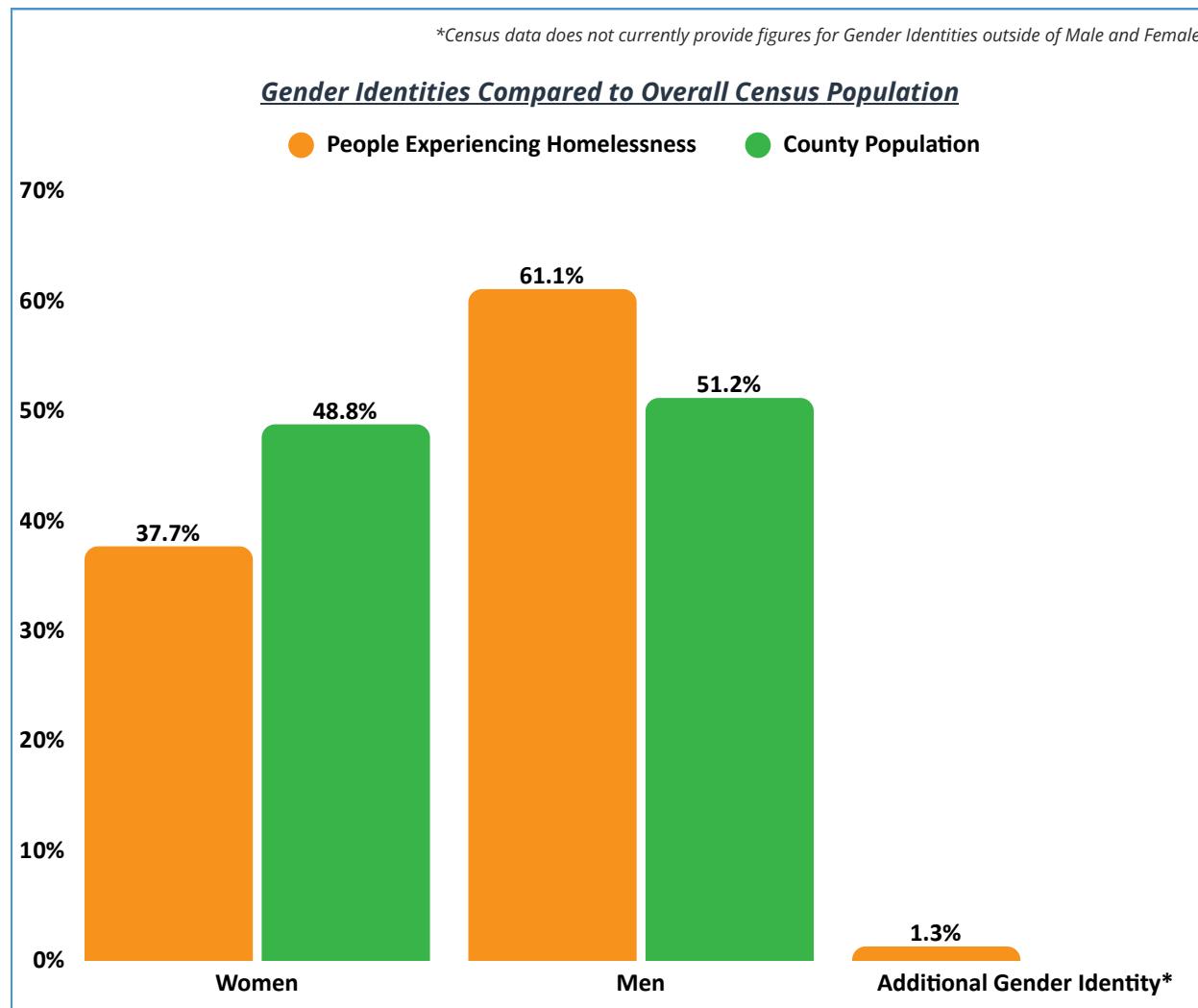
Within NorCal CoC individuals 65 years and older made up 9.7% and 6.5% of sheltered and unsheltered populations, respectively. Within the overall homeless population, individuals over 55 accounted for 25.5% of those recorded as people experiencing homelessness while representing 30.6% of the general population. At a national level, over 19.6% of the homeless population is made up of individuals over 50 years old.[1]

1. *The U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). American Community Survey: 5-Year Demographic and Housing Estimates.*

GENDER

Men comprised most of the homeless population with 1,422 (or 61.1%) of the total population whereas women accounted for 877 (or 37.7%) and other gender groups accounted for 1.3% with 30. Compared to census information[2], 51.2% of the population was recorded as male and 48.8% was recorded as female. It is important to note that the US Census data currently does not provide gender demographic data beyond male and female.

Within Family Households, the survey findings showed that 56.7% of respondents identified as women and 43.0% identified as male. Additonal genders accounted for 0.3% on the night of the PIT within family households.
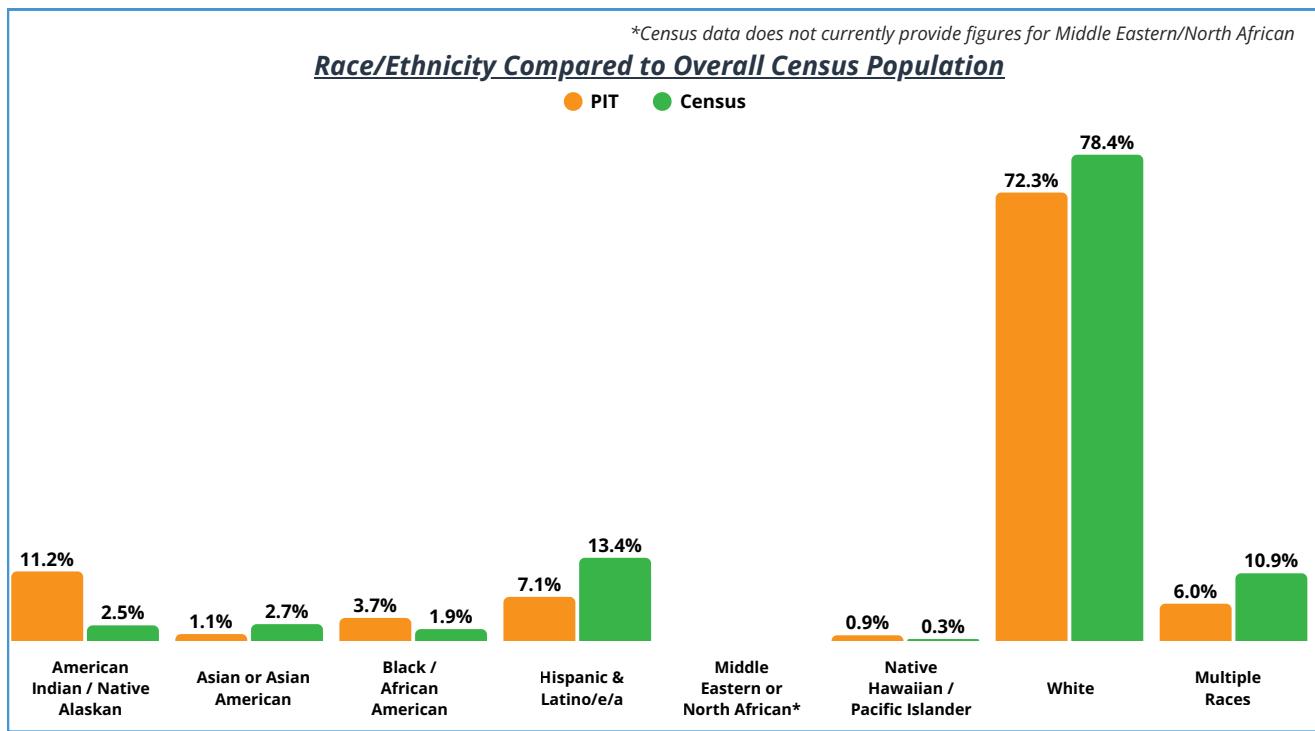
*Census data does not currently provide figures for Gender Identities outside of Male and Female

Gender Identities Compared to Overall Census Population

● People Experiencing Homelessness   ● County Population

- Women: 37.7% (People Experiencing Homelessness), 48.8% (County Population)
- Men: 61.1% (People Experiencing Homelessness), 51.2% (County Population)
- Additional Gender Identity*: 1.3% (People Experiencing Homelessness)

2. *The U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). American Community Survey: 5-Year Demographic and Housing Estimates.*

RACIAL DISPARITIES IN THE HOMELESS POPULATION

Most Black or African American, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) groups, especially African Americans, experience homelessness at higher rates than people who are White. Nationally, according to the 2024 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR), African Americans accounted for 20.8% of all people experiencing homelessness and 26.1% of people experiencing homelessness as members of families with children, despite being 12.4% of the U.S. population.[3] Within **NorCal CoC**, people who identify as Black or African American constitute 1.9% of the overall population yet comprise 3.7% of the homeless population.

Conversely, there is a significantly higher prevalence of people who are American Indian, Alaskan Native, or Indigenous experiencing homelessness (11.2%) compared to the overall population (2.5%), an almost 3.5x overrepresentation.

*Census data does not currently provide figures for Middle Eastern/North African

Race/Ethnicity Compared to Overall Census Population

● PIT   ● Census

Category	PIT	Census
American Indian / Native Alaskan	11.2%	2.5%
Asian or Asian American	1.1%	2.7%
Black / African American	3.7%	1.9%
Hispanic & Latino/e/a	7.1%	13.4%
Middle Eastern or North African*		
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0.9%	0.3%
White	72.3%	78.4%
Multiple Races	6.0%	10.9%

Typically, people who are White, as well as Asian Americans, are well under-represented in the homeless population. However, within **NorCal CoC**, the census data indicates 78.4% were White and 2.7% were of Asian descent and yet comprised 72.3% and 1.1% of the homeless population, respectively.

In 2024, HUD reassigned the Ethnicity Category of Hispanic/Latina/e/o to a Race Category. In **NorCal CoC** 13.4% of the CoC's population identify as Hispanic/Latina/e/o, while 7.1% the population experiencing homelessness identified as such.

3 *The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2025). The 2024 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress.*

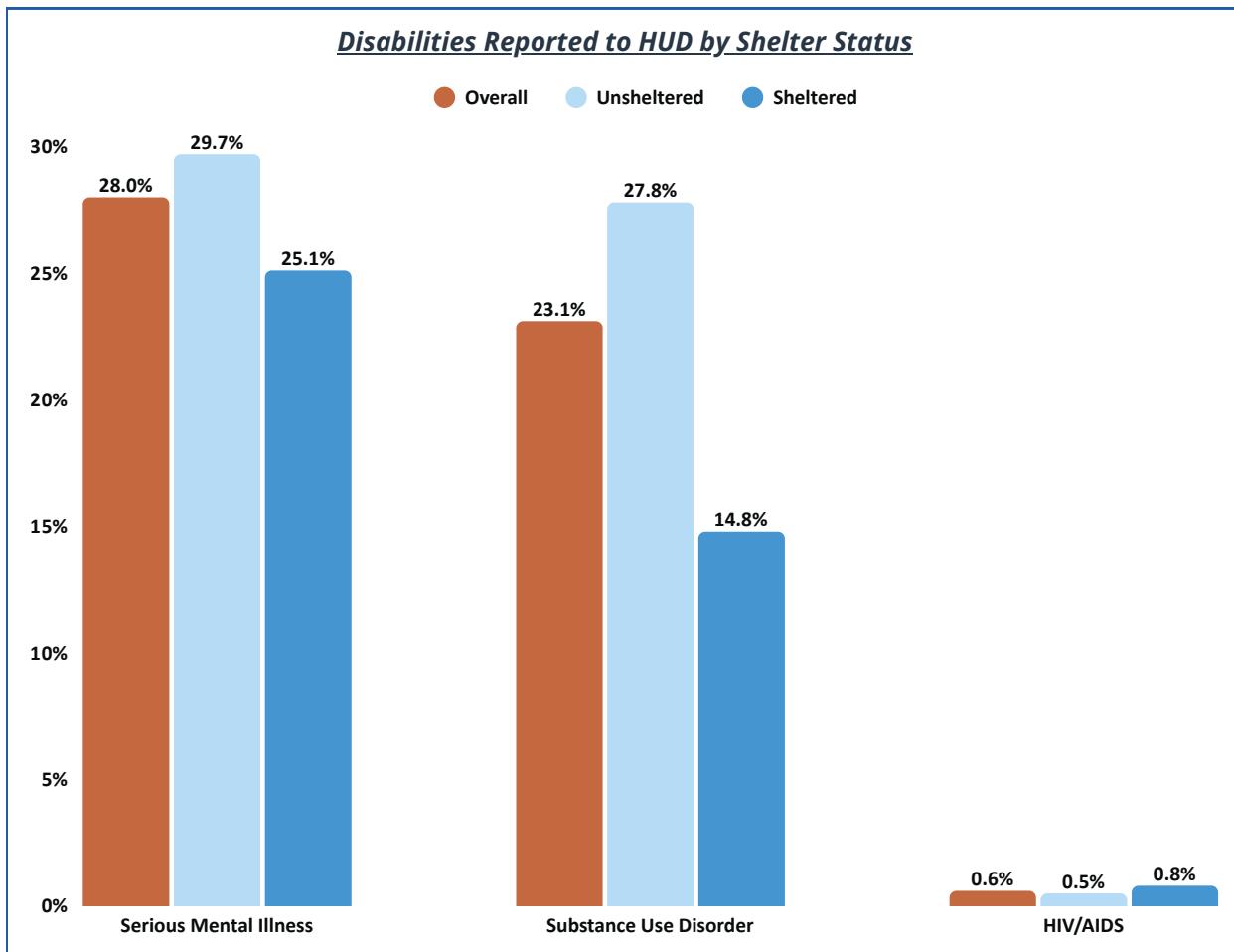# RACIAL COMPOSITION FOR SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED

Of the people experiencing sheltered homelessness in NorCal CoC, 5.8% identified as Black or African American and 72.6% identified as White. For those experiencing unsheltered homelessness, 2.3% identified as Black or African American and 72.0% identified as White. In comparison to national data[3], Black or African American people were 36.6% of the overall sheltered population and White people were 33.5% of it. Among people experiencing unsheltered homelessness nationally, Black or African American people comprised 20.8% of the population and White people were 40.7% of it.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

According to the National Health Care for the Homeless Council (NHCHC)[4], the average life expectancy for individuals experiencing homelessness is 20 years less than those in stable housing. Without regular access to safe and stable housing, many individuals also lack access to healthcare, experience preventable illness, and often endure longer hospitalizations than those who have safe and stable housing. It is estimated that those experiencing homelessness are at least 350% more likely to die than housed people.

The presence of a disabling condition, which can be exacerbated by homelessness, can hinder a person from being able to obtain employment and maintain stable housing. The prevalence rates of disabling conditions for the people experiencing homelessness in NorCal CoC who were surveyed are shown below.

Disabilities Reported to HUD by Shelter Status

Legend: Overall · Unsheltered · Sheltered

- Serious Mental Illness: Overall 28.0%, Unsheltered 29.7%, Sheltered 25.1%
- Substance Use Disorder: Overall 23.1%, Unsheltered 27.8%, Sheltered 14.8%
- HIV/AIDS: Overall 0.6%, Unsheltered 0.5%, Sheltered 0.8%

4 *National Health Care for the Homeless Council. (2024). Mortality and Homelessness Fact Sheet.*

KEY SUBPOPULATIONS

As homelessness is a complex issue, it is often beneficial to focus the conversations on particular "subpopulations." Three of these key subpopulations are:

1

People experiencing chronic homelessness

2

Veterans

3
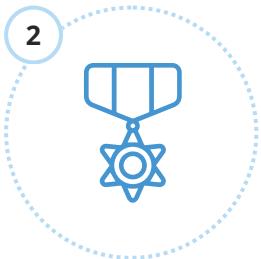
Unaccompanied children and transition-age youth

Local progress toward ending homelessness can be evaluated broadly as well as by each of these subpopulations. The following evaluation utilizes data gathered from local Point-in-Time counts as well as results from the national count.

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

HUD defines a chronically homeless person as someone who has experienced homelessness for a year or longer—or who has experienced at least four episodes of homelessness totaling 12 months in the last three years—and also has a disabling condition that prevents them from maintaining work or housing. This definition applies to individuals as well as people in family households who meet the definition.

The chronically homeless population represents one of the most vulnerable populations experiencing unsheltered homelessness; the mortality rate for those experiencing chronic homelessness is four to nine times higher than that of the general population.[5] The chronic homeless population tends to have higher community costs attributed to emergency room visits, interactions with law enforcement, incarceration, and regular access to social support and homeless services. These combined costs are often significantly higher than the cost of providing individuals with permanent housing and supportive services.

In NorCal CoC, 239 of 928 people (25.8%) in shelters were determined to be chronically homeless whereas 683 of the 1,401 (48.8%) from the unsheltered count were determined to be chronically homeless. The number of people who reported experiencing chronic homelessness went up significantly in the 2025 Count

Chronic Homelessness Over Time

● Unsheltered ● Sheltered

Year	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total
2016	368	368	425
2017	242	99	341
2018	324	107	431
2019	259		318
2020	376		430
2021	376	97	473
2022	495	79	574
2023	618	140	758
2024	618	128	746
2025	683	239	922
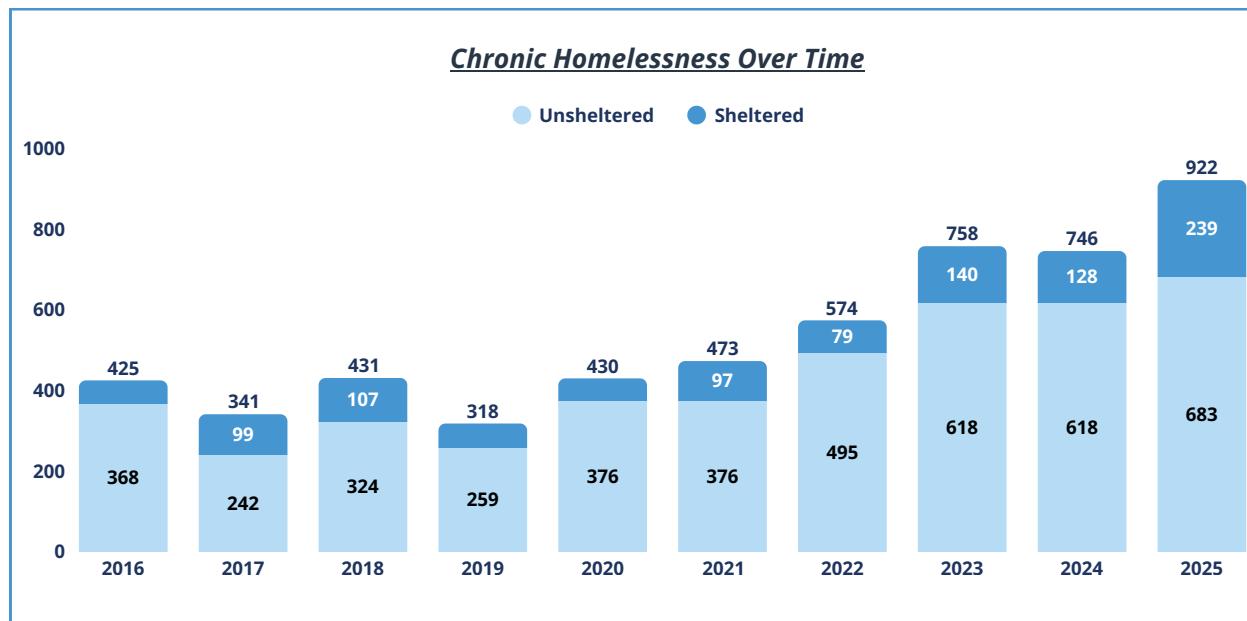
In the 2024 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR), HUD found that 167,991 individuals were experiencing chronic homelessness, which is just under one-quarter of all homeless individuals. Within NorCal CoC, 888 of 2,005 (44.3%) individual adults were estimated to be chronically homeless. For households, the percentages are significantly lower with 32 of the 314 (10.2%) people in households with at least one adult and one child considered to be chronically homeless.
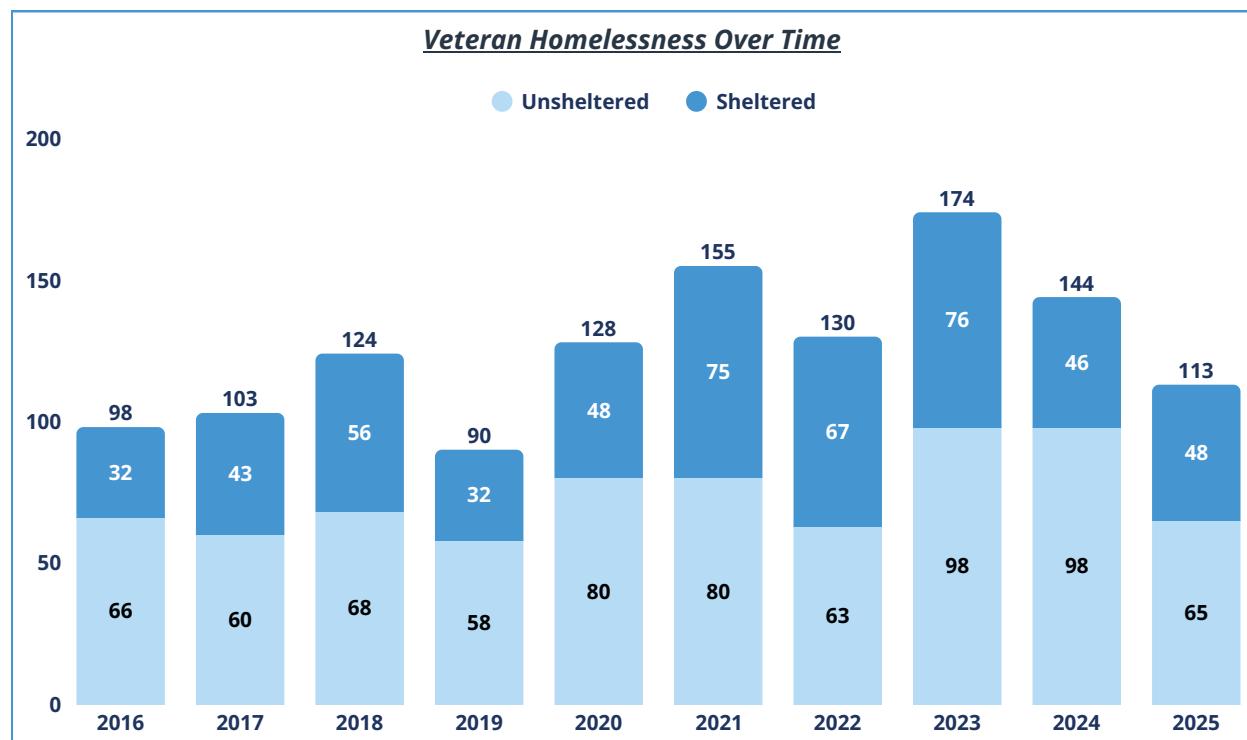
5. *USICH. 2010. Supplemental Document to the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.*

VETERANS

U.S. veterans experience conditions that place them at increased risk for homelessness. Veterans experience higher rates of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), sexual assault, and substance use. Veterans experiencing homelessness are more likely to live on the street than in shelters and remain unsheltered for extended periods.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides a broad range of benefits and services to veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. These benefits can involve different forms of financial assistance, including monthly cash payments to disabled veterans, health care, education, and housing benefits. In addition to these supports, the VA and HUD partner to provide additional housing and support services to veterans currently homeless or at risk of homelessness. Within NorCal CoC's PIT count, 113 people identified as a veteran. This represents 5.3% of all adults counted on that night. There were no households or children found to be affiliated with any veterans. There were 65 veterans living unsheltered the night of the count, and 48 counted in shelters. Men made up 90.3% of the population with only 9 women total between sheltered and unsheltered groups, and 2 veterans identifying as more than one gender.

Within shelters, 15 veterans were determined to be chronically homeless and 47 of the unsheltered veterans were determined to be chronically homeless.

Veteran Homelessness Over Time

Legend: ● Unsheltered ● Sheltered

Year	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total
2016	66	32	98
2017	60	43	103
2018	68	56	124
2019	58	32	90
2020	80	48	128
2021	80	75	155
2022	63	67	130
2023	98	76	174
2024	98	46	144
2025	65	48	113

6. National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. Veteran Homelessness.

UNACCOMPANIED AND PARENTING YOUTH

Young people experiencing homelessness have more difficulty accessing services, including shelter, medical care, and employment. Potential reasons for this include the stigma of their housing situation, lack of knowledge of available resources, and a lack of services targeted to young people.

Although largely considered an undercount, nationwide estimates from 2024[7] suggest there are more than 38,000 unaccompanied youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness and in public shelters, with nearly all being between the ages of 18 and 24. According to the 2024 AHAR *"Compared to all individuals experiencing homelessness, unaccompanied youth were more often non-white (65.9% of youth vs. 61.7% of all individuals), Hispanic/Latina/o (32.6% vs. 30.6%), or identifying themselves other than male or female (4% vs. 2%)."* In comparison, girls represented 36.6% of the NorCal CoC findings, and 4.0% identified as a gender other than male or female. The sheltered unaccompanied youth represented 49.5% of the population with 21 of the 50 total being found in transitional housing.

In 2025, NorCal CoC counted 101 unaccompanied youth under 25 while in the most recent previous full PIT count in 2023, there were 137 persons under age 25. This represents a 26.3% decrease between counts. Additionally, 9.9% of unaccompanied youth were counted as under 18.

Unaccompanied Youth Homelessness Over Time

● Unsheltered   ● Sheltered

Year	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total
2016	130	21	151
2017	30	38	68
2018	24	27	51
2019	59	30	89
2020	83	21	104
2021	83	55	138
2022	59	17	76
2023	88	55	143
2024	88	49	137
2025	51	50	101
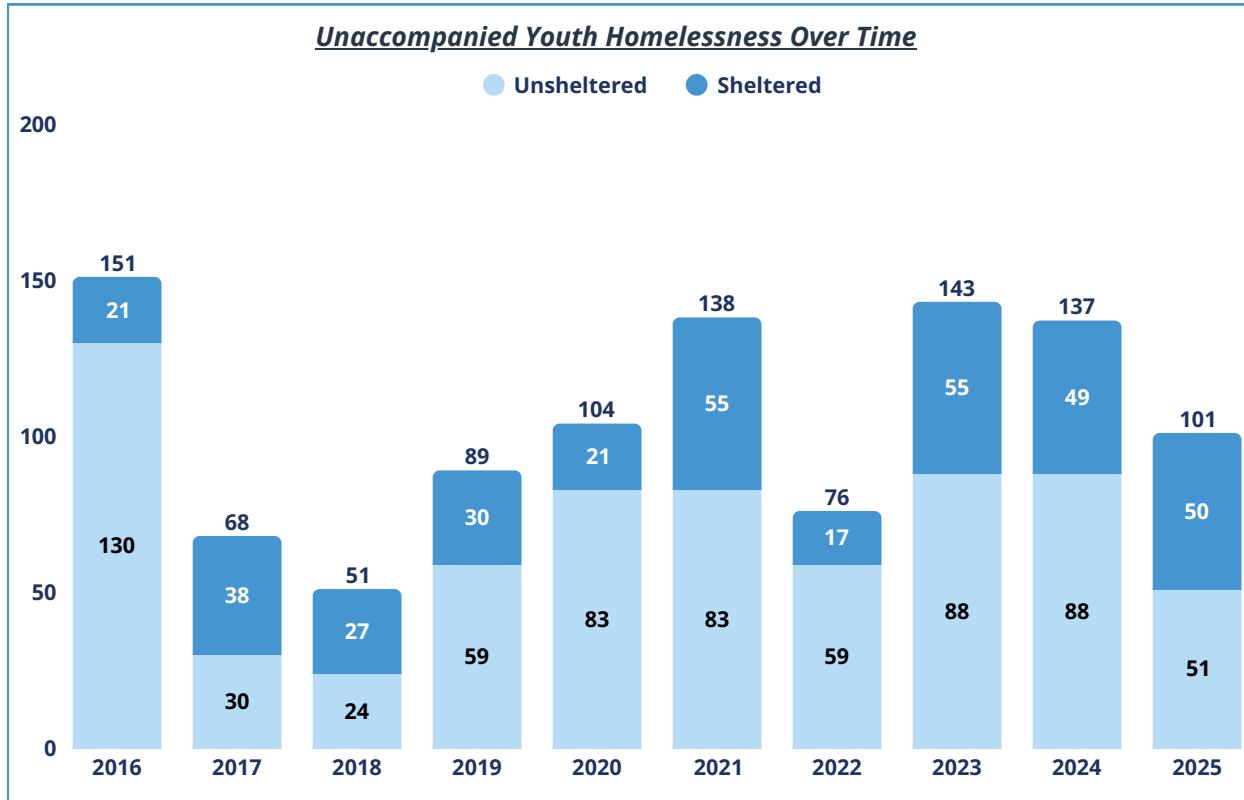
7. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2025). HUD Releases 2024 Annual Homeless Assessment Report Part1

Parenting Youth Homelessness Over Time

Legend: ● Unsheltered ● Sheltered

Year	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total
2017	2	6	8
2018	2	2	4
2019	—	8	8
2020	16	12	28
2021	16	8	24
2022	—	8	8
2023	4	—	5
2024	8	—	9
2025	10	—	11
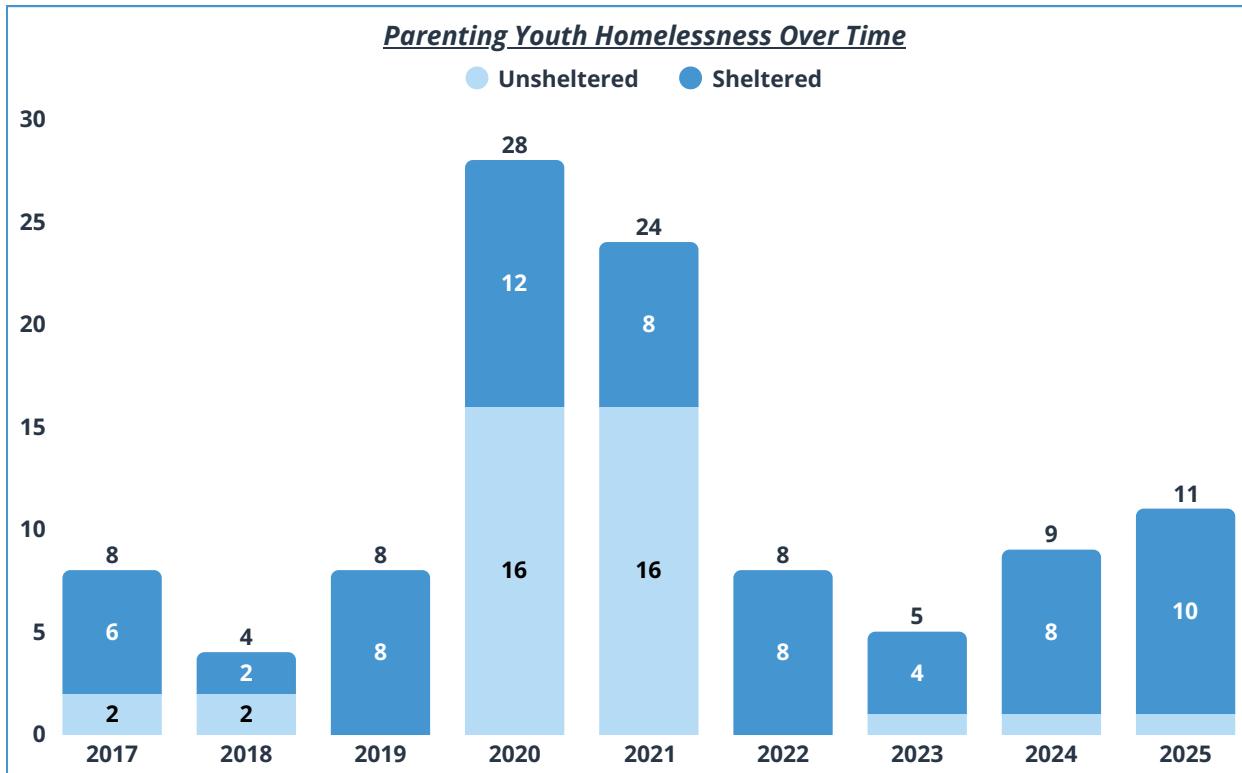
Youth who find themselves parenting while experiencing homelessness have to deal with additional challenges than their counterparts. This subcategory is significantly smaller whether by being collected under the umbrella of another household at the time, greater chances at couch surfing, or more difficult to find. While the total number has consistently risen since 2023 , for the last three years only one parent has been counted unsheltered, and the overall number has fallen by almost 2/3rds since 2020.

THE UNSHELTERED COUNT

NorCal CoC's estimated unsheltered population for the night of the count was 1,401 people which comprised 60.2% of the total homeless population of 2,329. The Count and survey results were gathered by 203 registered count volunteers.
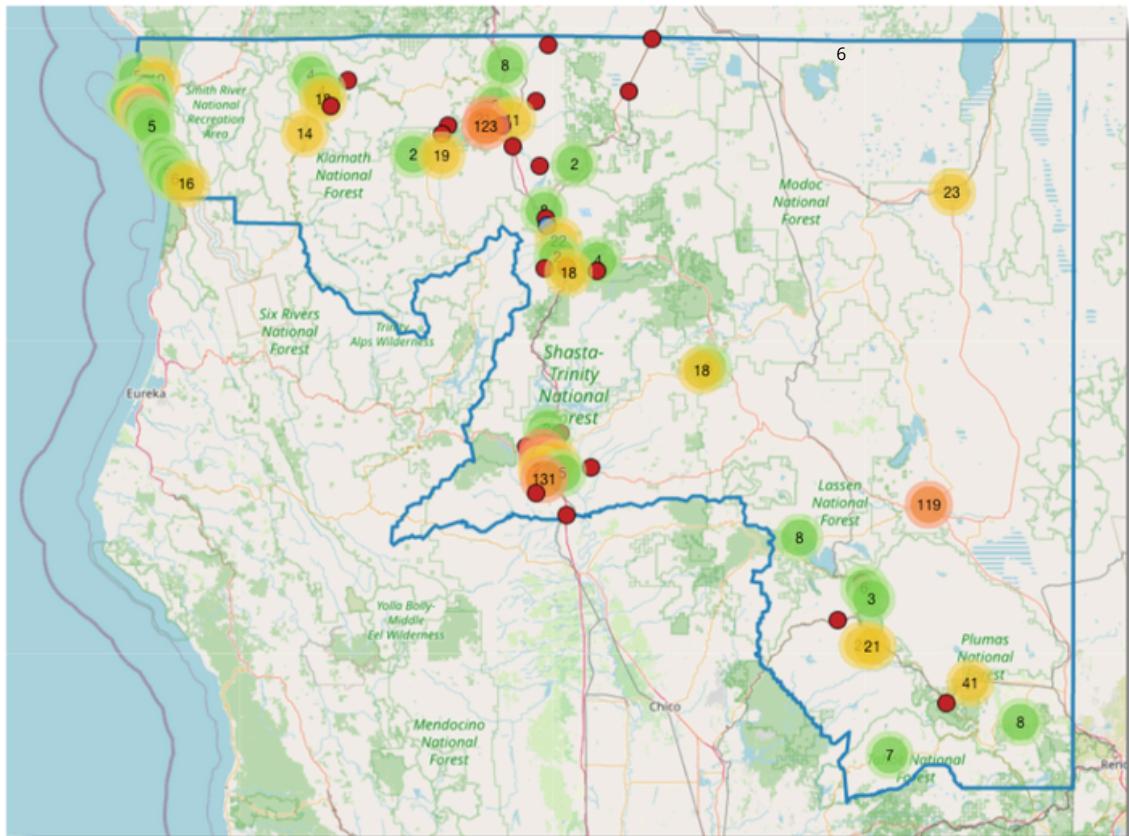
Within the 7 regions there were a total of 203 registered volunteers; 21 in Del Norte, 3 in Lassen, 3 in Modoc, 2 in Plumas, 114 in Shasta, 1 in Sierra, and 59 in Siskiyou. (note: additional volunteers may have been present assisting with activities not requiring registration). The volunteers used the Counting Us app developed by Simtech Solutions to canvas and survey people experiencing homelessness in the areas they each were designated to canvas.

PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN VEHICLES AND MAKESHIFT SHELTERS

In California, the issue of homelessness has taken on a distinct form with a notable population living in vehicles. With the high costs of living, many individuals and families find themselves seeking refuge in cars, vans, and RVs, often parked along residential streets or in designated safe parking areas. This mode of living, while offering some semblance of stability and privacy, comes with significant challenges. Access to basic amenities like sanitation and healthcare remains limited, and the transient nature of housing makes accessing social services and employment opportunities more complicated. Despite these hardships, community organizations and local governments are working to provide support, offering safe parking initiatives, outreach programs, and advocacy efforts to address the complex needs of those living on the margins in one of America's wealthiest regions. In NorCal CoC, 32.6% of the population experiencing unsheltered homelessness was found to be living in vehicles or makeshift shelters.

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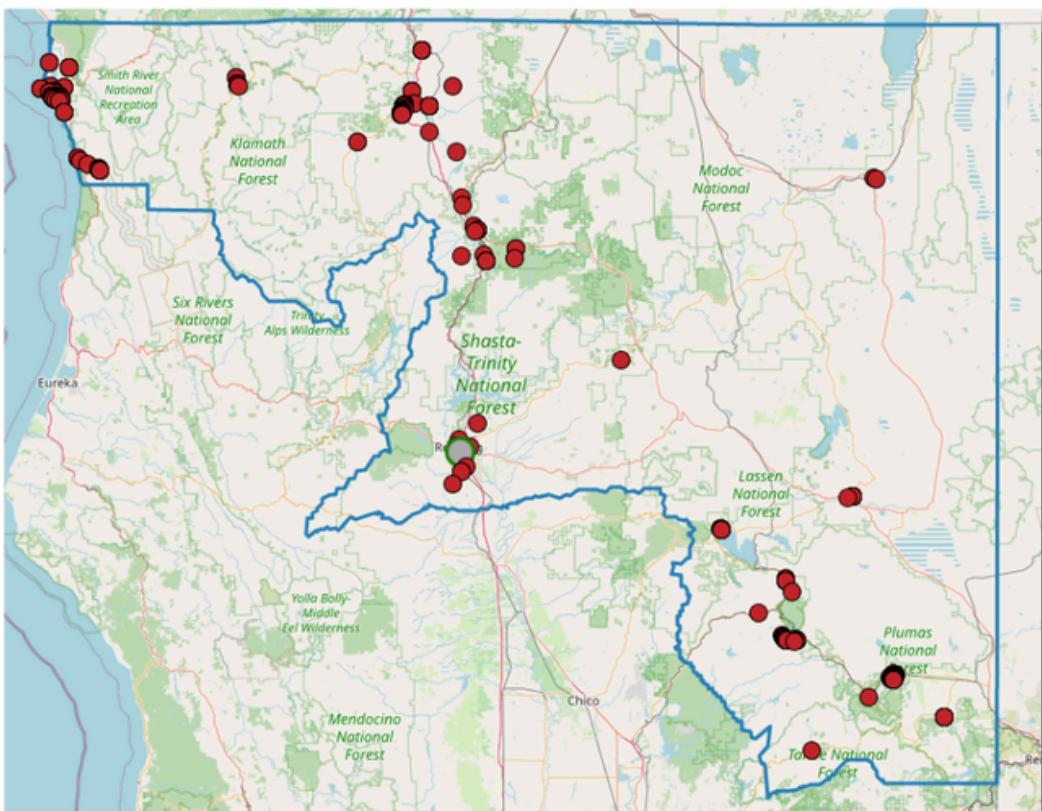
APPENDIX B: 2025 SURVEY INSTRUMENT

This Survey Template is designed to mirror the base "Unsheltered Survey" within the Counting Us app. The questions are color coded as noted below.
RED FONT = HUD required questions that are needed in order to produce the HUD Point in Time report.
PURPLE FONT = These are commonly asked research questions that can be removed without impacting any reporting or conditional logic.
BLACK FONT = Supporting questions designed to help improve the integrity of the data.
YELLOW FONT = Community custom questions.

Introduction & Screener

*Hello, my name is _____ and I'm a volunteer for local outreach. We are conducting a survey to better understand homelessness in our community and improve programs. If you participate your responses will be kept confidential. You can choose to skip any question and your answers will not affect your eligibility for any compensation or services, and the information will not be shared with anyone outside of our team. I need to read each question all the way through. Can I have about 10 minutes of your time? *

1. Have you already been interviewed today for the Point in Time Count?	❑ Yes ❑ No (If Yes --- STOP)
2. **Where are you sleeping on the night of the Count? (If an option in bold is selected, continue with the survey)**	❑ **Abandoned building** ❑ **Under a bridge / overpass** ❑ Jail ❑ **Bus/ Train station** ❑ **Vehicle / Boat / RV** ❑ Motel/Hotel paid for w/ own $ ❑ Motel/Hotel paid for by agency ❑ **Emergency shelter** ❑ Transitional housing ❑ **Outdoor encampment** ❑ House or apt – rent/own ❑ Treatment program ❑ **Park** ❑ Hospital ❑ **Street or Sidewalk** ❑ w/ friend or family (couch surfing) ❑ In a place being evicted from ❑ Other: _____
3. What is your name?	First Name (or Initial): _____ Last Name (or Initial): _____ ❑ Person prefers not to answer
a. If hesitant, ask "What are your initials?"	Text box

APPENDIX : SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Demographic Questions

4. **What is your gender? (select all that apply)**	❑ Woman ❑ Man ❑ Culturally Specific Identity (e.g., Two-Spirit) ❑ Transgender ❑ Non-Binary ❑ Questioning ❑ Different Identity ❑ Person doesn't know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
a. **If Different Identity, please specify**	**Text box**
5. **If refused to answer age, "What age range do you fall into?"**	❑ <5 ❑ 5-12 ❑ 13-17 ❑ 18-24 ❑ 25-34 ❑ 35-44 ❑ 45-54 ❑ 55-64 ❑ 65+
6. **What is your race? (select all that apply)**	❑ American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous (Specify Tribe (optional): _____) ❑ Asian or Asian American ❑ Black, African American, or African ❑ Hispanic/Latina/e/o ❑ Middle Eastern or North African ❑ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander ❑ White ❑ Other: _____ ❑ Person doesn't know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
7. **What is your relationship to Head of Household?**	❑ Self ❑ Spouse ❑ Partner ❑ Child ❑ Other ❑ Non-relative
8. **Is this the first time you have been homeless?**	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
9. **How long have you been homeless this time? Only include time you spent staying in shelters and/or on the streets.**	❑ 0 to 3 months ❑ 4 to 6 months ❑ 7 to 11 months ❑ 12 to 23 months ❑ 24 to 35 months ❑ 36 months or more
10. **How many months did you stay in shelters or on the streets over the past 3 years?**	❑ 0 to 3 months ❑ 4 to 6 months ❑ 7 to 11 months ❑ 12 to 23 months ❑ 24 to 35 months ❑ 36 months or more
11. **How many separate times in the past 3 years have lived in a shelter, on the streets, or in a car?**	❑ Fewer than 4 times ❑ 4 or more times ❑ Person doesn't know ❑ Person prefers not to answer

APPENDIX : SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Community Questions

12.	Do you have a felony conviction?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
13.	Have you ever been denied housing because of criminal conviction?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
14.	Did you ever live in foster care or a group home?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
15.	If yes, what age did you exit?	❑ Under 15 years ❑ 15-18 years ❑ Over 18 years
16.	What is the primary reason of homelessness? Choose only one.	❑ Child/Elder Abuse/Neglect ❑ Domestic Violence ❑ Lack of job skills ❑ Drug abuse ❑ Family break up ❑ Fire ❑ Natural Disaster ❑ COVID-19 ❑ Incarceration ❑ Mental Health ❑ Stranded Traveler ❑ Medical Issues ❑ Relocation ❑ Eviction ❑ Overcrowded ❑ Loss of employment ❑ Illness ❑ Sudden loss of income ❑ Gender identification ❑ Alcohol abuse ❑ Person doesn't know ❑ Person refuses ❑ Other: _____
17.	What brought you to this county?	❑ Grew up here ❑ Family here ❑ Good social services ❑ Affordable housing ❑ Friends here ❑ Other reason
18.	How long have you lived in this county?	❑ Less than 6 months ❑ 6 months to a year ❑ 1-5 years ❑ 6-10 years ❑ Over 10 years ❑ Refused ❑ Other
19.	Did you experience homelessness as a child?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer

Sensitive Questions - (Skip for individuals under 18)

*Next, I'm going to read you a list of "yes-no" questions about different situations you may be facing. The information you choose to share on these next questions will help our community better understand the specific services and resources that people in our community need.

Again, this survey is confidential, and your answers will not affect your eligibility for services or programs. And we can skip any question you don't feel comfortable answering. *

20. Do you have a <u>Substance Use Disorder</u>?	❑ No ❑ Alcohol use disorder ❑ Drug use disorder ❑ Both Alcohol and Drug use disorders ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
a. If yes, is this a long-term disability that impairs your ability to hold a job or live independently?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
21. Do you have a Chronic Health Condition?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
a. If yes, is this a long-term disability that impairs your ability to hold a job or live independently?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
22. Do you have a Mental Health Disorder?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
a. If yes, is this a long-term disability that impairs your ability to hold a job or live independently?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
23. Do you have a Physical Disability?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
a. If yes, is this a long-term disability that impairs your ability to hold a job or live independently?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
24. Do you have a Developmental Disability?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
25. Do you receive disability benefits?	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer

APPENDIX : SURVEY INSTRUMENT

Sensitive Questions - (Skip for individuals under 18)	
26. **Are you living with HIV or AIDS?**	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
27. **Are you currently fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking situation?**	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer
28. **Are you a veteran?** *(served in the US Armed Forces OR been called into duty as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist)*	❑ Yes ❑ No ❑ Person Doesn't Know ❑ Person prefers not to answer