# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count

Overall Results for
Los Angeles County and
Los Angeles Continuum of Care

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# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Homeless Count Overview



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# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Scope and Limitations of the Count



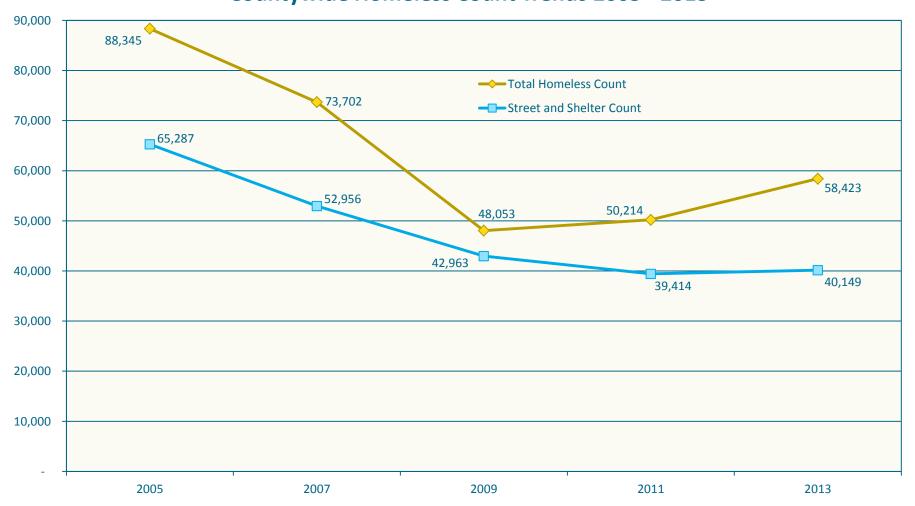
- The Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count's main purpose is to answer very important questions about homelessness in Los Angeles:
  - The number of homeless persons (HOW MANY?)
  - The demographic characteristics of homeless population
    - Examples: veteran homelessness, chronic homelessness, youth homelessness, etc. (WHO?)
    - Barriers/benefits usage (HOW?)
  - The location of our homeless (WHERE?)
- What the count is not designed to answer is WHY
  - Example: Why did the numbers increase or decrease by X% in my area?



- Los Angeles County-wide Homeless count:
  - Homelessness in Los Angeles increased to 40,149 men, women and children, or 1.9% in the street and shelter count before including homeless people who would not have been seen in the street or shelter count (identified as "Hidden Homeless")
  - When estimates for homeless people not counted during the street and shelter count are included in the estimates, the number increases to 58,423 people, a 16% increase (8,209 people) when compared to the 50,214 counted in 2011 for Los Angeles County
- Los Angeles County biennial estimates of homeless people has included an estimate for hidden homeless since 2005.



#### **Countywide Homeless Count Trends 2005 - 2013**





- People who are sheltered represent only about 1 in 4 each night 15,013 (26%) were sheltered, while 43,410 had no safe place to stay (74%);
- 50,213 (86%) people who are homeless in Los Angeles are single adults
- 7,391 (13%) are family members including children
- 819 (1%) are unaccompanied youth under 18
- Over the course of a year, at least 190,207 men, women and children experience homelessness in Los Angeles County (annualized rate)
- This annualized estimate is up 65,273 from the 2011 estimate of 124,934 people experiencing homelessness over the year



#### Los Angeles Continuum of Care 2013 Homeless Count:

- Homelessness in the LA CoC increased to 35,524 men, women and children, or 2.6% in the street and shelter count over 2011 estimates, before including homeless people who would not have been seen in the street or shelter count (identified as "Hidden Homeless")
- When estimates for homeless people not counted during the street and shelter count are included in the estimates, the number increases to 53,798 people, an 18% increase (8,376 people) when compared to the 45,422 counted in 2011 for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care

Note: The Los Angeles Continuum of Care includes the County of Los Angeles and all cities in the County except for Long Beach, Glendale and Pasadena. These cities each operate separate CoCs.



#### Continuum of Care Homeless Trends 2005 - 2013





- People who are sheltered represent only about 1 in 4 each night 12,934 (24%) were sheltered, while 40,864 had no safe place to stay (76%)
- 46,303 (86%) of those homeless in Los Angeles are single adults
- 6,678 (12%) are family members including children
- 817 (2%) are unaccompanied youth under 18
- 1 in 4 homeless adults are chronically homeless (have disabling conditions and are experiencing long term street homelessness)
- 1 in 3 homeless adults have mental and/or physical disabilities
- Approximately 1 in 9 is a veteran

For Federal Homeless Assistance, Los Angeles County is comprised of four Homeless Continua of Care (systems to address homelessness). The Los Angeles Continuum represents about 90% of the total of Los Angeles County. Other CoCs in the County include the cities of Long Beach, Glendale and Pasadena.



- Veteran homelessness has experienced a significant decrease (-23%), from 8,131
   men and women in 2011 to 6,248 in 2013
- An even larger decrease (-505) was seen in homeless female veterans, going from 909 in 2011 to 352 in 2013 (-61%)
- Chronically homeless family members have decreased as well, from 2,730 adults and children in 2011 to 1,227 adults and children in 2013 (-55%)
- Adult single men represented the fastest growing segment of people experiencing homelessness in the LA CoC; adult men represented 59% of the homeless population in 2011, and now represent 68% of the total homeless population



- The 2013 homeless count also showed a shift in demographics; there has been a significant increase in the ratio of White/Caucasian homeless persons over the 2011 count, increasing from 25% to 37% of the total population
- African American/Black and Hispanic/Latino populations have both decreased by approximately 6% each, to 38% and 22% respectively

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Homeless Count Background



- In 2004, HUD mandated that CoCs conduct a homeless count during the last 10 days of January, every two years
- The City and County of Los Angeles agreed to comply with the HUD mandate
- The first census was held in January 2005; the same methodological components have been used in Los Angeles County since 2005
- LAHSA's first counts used random sampling to select census tracts to target in the count
- The 2013 count was conducted January 29-31 for the Los Angeles Continuum; the cities of Glendale, Long Beach and Pasadena also conducted counts during the last 10 days of January

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Homeless Count Background



- In 2009, LAHSA created the Opt In Program, which allows cities and communities to count 100% of their community's jurisdiction and recruit their own volunteers
- In 2013, the Count PLUS program was introduced as an enhancement to the Opt
   In Program
- CountPLUS communities and cities count 100% of their census tracts and conduct demographic surveys as well
- The Homeless Count has a margin of error of less than 5% - making it as robust as any major survey; confidence level is 95%

**Homeless Count Census Tracts, 2005 - 2013** 

	Census Tracts # %			ge vs. Count
			#	%
Census Tracts in Overall LA CoC	1,887	100%		
2005 Count	510	27%	-	-
2007 Count	505	27%	-5	-1%
2009 Count	754	40%	+249	+49%
2011 Count	922	49%	+168	+22%
2013 Count	1,355	72%	+433	+47%

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Essential Components of the Count



- The methodology used in homeless counts has been consistent with prior years and include:
  - Shelter Count
  - Street Count
  - Youth Count
  - Telephone Survey to Identify the Hidden Homeless
  - Demographic Survey



#### **Homeless Definitions**

- For purposes of reporting homeless count data to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, all Continua of Care use a "literal homeless" definition: "Men, women and children who are:
  - Sleeping in places not meant for human habitation, including on the street, in parks, along rivers, in backyards, unconverted garages, cars and vans, along freeways or under overpasses, and the like;
  - Sleeping in emergency shelters, safe havens, or transitional housing programs and were homeless upon entry into the program"
- Other federal, state and local programs use expanded definitions for homelessness, which are not included in these estimates. However, we believe that these other numbers are important as they, at a minimum, indicate housing instability and may include, but are not limited to, people who experience literal homelessness



- The Los Angeles Continuum is the only continuum in Los Angeles County that conducts a Hidden Homeless survey. For comparative purposes, numbers for the LACoC are shown with and without the Hidden Homeless estimates
  - Before factoring in the Hidden Homeless estimates, Los Angeles County saw a 1.9% increase in its homeless populations
  - After considering estimates for homeless men and women not seen during the street count (hidden homeless), the increase is 16.3% countywide, or 8,209 more than 2011
- Two Continua, Los Angeles and Long Beach reported increases in homelessness,
   and two Continua, Pasadena and Glendale, reported reductions in homelessness
- Los Angeles, the largest Continuum, reported an increase of 2.6%, or 902 people before the hidden homeless estimate, and 18.4% increase or 8,376 more homeless people over the 2011 count



At any point in time, an estimated 58,423 people are homeless in Los Angeles County, representing approximately a 16% increase from the 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count

**Changes in Los Angeles County Total Homeless Population, 2011 - 2013** 

	Popu	lation	Cha	nges
	2011	2013	#	%
Los Angeles Continuum of Care	34,622	35,524	+902	+3%
Glendale Continuum of Care	412	320	-92	-22%
Long Beach Continuum of Care*	3,164	3,533	+369	+12%
Pasadena Continuum of Care	1,216	772	-444	-37%
Total Los Angeles County	39,414	40,149	+735	+2%
Hidden Homeless Estimates	10,800	18,274	+7,474	+69%
Total LA County with Hidden Homeless	50,214	58,423	+8,209	+16%

<sup>\*</sup>The 2011 Long Beach Homeless Count results submitted to HUD can be found at <a href="http://www.hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewHomelessRpts">http://www.hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewHomelessRpts</a>. The 2013 estimates were from the City of Long Beach 2013 Homeless Count Summary Report dated January 24, 2013 and can be found at <a href="http://www.longbeach.gov/health/fss/homeless\_services/">http://www.longbeach.gov/health/fss/homeless\_services/</a>



#### **Sheltered, Unsheltered and Hidden Homeless Results**

Changes in Homeless Population (Excluding Hidden Homeless), 2011 - 2013

	Total		Shelt	ered	Unsheltered		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
2013	40,149	100.0%	15,013	37.4%	25,136	62.6%	
2011	39,414	100.0%	18,587	47.2%	20,827	52.8%	
Changes	+735	+1.9%	-3,574	-19.2%	+4,309	+20.7%	

Changes in Homeless Population (Including Hidden Homeless), 2011 - 2013

	Total		Shelt	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Hidden Homeless	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
2013	58,423	100.0%	15,013	25.7%	25,136	43.0%	18,274	31.3%	
2011	50,214	100.0%	18,587	37.0%	20,827	41.5%	10,800	21.5%	
Changes	+8,209	+16.3%	-3,574	-19.2%	+4,309	+20.7%	+7,474	+69.2%	



Changes in Homeless Population by Continuum of Care (CoC), 2011 - 2013

		To	otal	Shel	tered	Unsheltered		Hidden Homeless
		#	% County	#	% County	#	% County	#
Overall	2013	58,423	100.0%	15,013	100.0%	25,136	100.0%	18,274
Los Angeles County	2011	50,214		18,587		20,827		10,800
	Changes	+8,209		-3,574		+4,309		+7,474
	2013	53,798	92.1%	12,934	86.2%	22,590	89.9%	18,274
Los Angeles CoC	2011	45,422		16,882		17,740		10,800
Coc	Changes	+8,376		-3,948		+4,850		+7,474
Claudala	2013	320	0.5%	213	1.4%	107	0.4%	
Glendale CoC	2011	412		291		121		
COC	Changes	-92		-78		-14		
Lance Break	2013	3,533	6.0%	1,654	11.0%	1,879	7.5%	
Long Beach CoC	2011	3,164		961		2,203		
Coc	Changes	+369		+693		-324		
Danadana	2013	772	1.3%	212	1.4%	560	2.2%	
Pasadena CoC	2011	1,216		453		763		
	Changes	-444		-241		-203		



#### **Homeless by Household Type**

- Single adult literal homelessness represent 86% of the total, and has increased by 26.3%, by 10,460 men and women from 2011 (the Hidden Homeless estimates are 100% single adult)
- Families experiencing literal homelessness represent approximately 13% of the total, and have decreased by 26.7%. However, of the almost 7,400 family members experiencing literal homelessness, two thirds are children under 18
- Unaccompanied Youth numbers, while representing only 1.4% of our total, increased
   121.9% -- a function of both an increase in numbers, and better coverage in the 2013
   youth count

Changes in Los Angeles County Homelessness by Household Type, 2011 - 2013

	Total	Single Adults		Family N	/lembers	Unaccompanied Youth (<18)		
	#	#	%	#	%	#	%	
2013	58,423	50,213	85.9%	7,391	12.7%	819	1.4%	
2011	50,214	39,750	79.2%	10,095	20.1%	369	0.7%	
Changes	+8,209	+10,463	+26.3%	-2,704	-26.7%	+450	+121.9%	



Changes in Continuum of Care (CoC) Homelessness by Household Type, 2011 – 2013

		То	tal	Single Adults Family Members		/lembers		mpanied h (<18)	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
	2013	53,798	100.0%	46,303	86.1%	6,678	12.4%	817	1.5%
Los Angeles CoC	2011	45,422	100.0%	35,838	78.9%	9,218	20.3%	366	0.8%
Coc	Changes	+8,376	+18.4%	+10,465	+29.2%	-2,540	-27.6%	+451	+123.2%
	2013	320	100.0%	202	63.1%	118	36.9%	0	0.0%
Glendale CoC	2011	412	100.0%	297	72.1%	115	27.9%	0	0.0%
Coc	Changes	-92	-22.3%	-95	-32.0%	+3	+2.6%	0	-
	2013	3,533	100.0%	3,147	89.1%	386	10.9%	0	0.0%
Long Beach CoC	2011	3,164	100.0%	2,596	82.0%	568	18.0%	0	0.0%
Coc	Changes	+369	+11.7%	+551	+21.2%	-182	-32.0%	0	-
	2013	772	100.0%	561	72.6%	209	27.1%	2	0.3%
Pasadena CoC	2011	1,216	100.0%	1,019	83.8%	194	16.0%	3	0.2%
	Changes	-444	-36.5%	-456	-44.7%	+15	+7.7%	-1	-33.3%

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Key Findings – Annualized Estimate



At least 190,000 men, women and children experienced homelessness in Los Angeles over the course of a year, an increase of more than 65,000 from 2011 estimates (based on the two continua that do annualized estimates - Los Angeles and Pasadena)

(The annualized number estimates the number of persons who experience homelessness during a twelve month period around the count. The count represents a single point in time)

#### **Continuum of Care (CoC) Annualized Estimates of Homelessness**

	Annualized	l Estimates
	2013	2011
Los Angeles CoC	187,119	120,070
Pasadena CoC	3,088	4,864
Los Angeles County Total*	190,207	124,934

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Differentiating Precariously Housed and Other Definitions of Homeless by Other Programs



- Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS)
- DPSS considers a family or individual to be homeless when they:
  - lack a fixed and regular nighttime residence; or
  - have a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations; or
  - are residing in a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; or
  - have a need for housing in a commercial establishment (e.g., hotel/motel), shelter, publicly-funded transitional housing, or from a person in the business of renting properties who has a history of renting properties; or
  - receive a pay rent or quit notice (at risk); or
  - use the County DPSS office as their permanent address regardless of housing status
- Based on this expanded definition, DPSS reported that as of May 2013, there were 12,932 CalWORKs families who were classified as homeless
- Additionally, DPSS reported 58,395 General Relief recipients in April 2013 who met their homeless definition

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Differentiating Precariously Housed and Homeless by Other Federal Programs



In addition to the 53,798 literally homeless persons in the LA Continuum of Care, the 2013 Homeless Count telephone survey identified an estimated 14,146 people who are precariously housed and an additional 6,204 who are at risk of being homeless

Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC) Precariously-Housed & At-Risk Populations

	Overall Precariously Housed	Overall At-Risk Population	
Los Angeles CoC	14,146	6,204	

- HUD Definitions:
- Precariously housed A person who is staying with a household because he or she has no other regular or adequate place to stay due to a lack of money or other means of support and who is sleeping inside the house and will be allowed to stay for 15-90 days
- At-risk of literal homelessness A person who is staying with a household because he or she has no other regular or adequate place to stay due to a lack of money or other means of support and who is sleeping inside the house, and will have to leave in 14 days or less

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Precariously Housed and Definitions of Homeless by Other Programs



#### Education System

- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance provides transportation benefits for displaced children; they do not need to be 'literally homeless' as required by HUD to receive these benefits
- However, these children are at risk of becoming literally homeless, and some are literally homeless
- The Los Angeles County Office of Education identified that as of June 2012, a cumulative total of 57,611\* students were eligible for homeless assistance based on the McKinney-Vento Education definition during the school year



- While the 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count doesn't provide detailed information on why literal homelessness has increased in the region, we believe the increase can be attributed to:
  - The continuing, persistent recession in California and Los Angeles, and resulting high unemployment
  - The loss of critical resources available under ARRA, Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing funds, that brought over \$80 million to Los Angeles County between 2009 and August 2012
  - Lack of adequate affordable housing options for low income households, and increasing housing rental rates
  - Prison realignment, which released probationers without adequate funding and coordination for services and housing options
  - Los Angeles County receives less Federal McKinney Vento funding due to use of CDBG funding formulas
  - In-migration of homeless persons to Los Angeles County



- Economic Recession, Worst Since Great Depression
  - California was one of the hardest hit states in the country during the economic recession, suffering high unemployment and high job losses
  - Los Angeles County's unemployment rate was 11.2% in 2012 and 13.2% in 2011, one of the highest in the U.S.
  - Los Angeles County's unemployment rate in 2013 is still significantly above the statewide average of 9 percent and way above the national average of 7.5%



- End of Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)
  - The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) included \$1.5 billion for the prevention of homelessness and rapid re-housing of homeless households suffering the effects of the recession
  - HPRP began in 2009 and ended in August of 2012
  - HPRP helped 9,000 people in the City of Los Angeles and 3,409 people in the County of Los Angeles
  - HPRP brought over \$80 million of federal resources into Los Angeles County to address homeless prevention and support rapid re-housing activities
  - While the HPRP program was active, the homeless count for Los Angeles County decreased from 52,619 in 2009 to 50,214 in 2011; homelessness increased to 58,423 in 2013 when HPRP funding ended in August 2012



- Lack of Affordable Housing in Los Angeles
  - The California Association of Realtors Housing Affordability index indicates that only 46% of residents can afford to buy a home in Los Angeles
  - Average monthly rent in the Los Angeles region is \$1,421\* as of winter
     2012-2013, making it one of the top 10 highest places to rent in the U.S.
  - Rental housing costs are expected to rise by an additional 10 percent in the
     City of Los Angeles over the next year

<sup>\*2013</sup> Out of Reach Report, National Low Income Housing Coalition – Los Angeles/Long Beach Metropolitan Area



#### AB109 California Prison Realignment Act

- AB109 released probationers incarcerated in State Correctional Facilities to local communities as a way to reduce overcrowding in state prisons
- As of June 2013, more than 15,798 AB109 offenders had been released to Los Angeles County, and an estimated 4,000 released to the City of Los Angeles



#### Lack of Resources

- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance funding from the federal government does not reflect local need, but is based on the Community Development Block Grant formula, which heavily weights age of housing
- As a result, Los Angeles receives significantly less in federal resources than other jurisdictions
- Funding inequities around the U.S. range from lows of \$508 per homeless person to highs of \$10,391 per homeless person based on a policy brief developed by Home for Good
- In 2012, Los Angeles received \$1,530 per homeless person, with much of that funding needed to support existing permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless people; only approximately \$550 of that amount, per homeless person, is available to assist those who are currently homeless



- In-migration of Homeless Persons to Los Angeles Region
  - In a recent Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data assessment, only 62% of new enrollees seeking homeless services reported being from Los Angeles County
  - 18% reported coming from areas outside Los Angeles County, and another
     20% refused to specify where they became homeless
  - Factors including weather, beaches, many food distribution programs, and a focus on providing homeless assistance and housing draw homeless persons to Southern California



The Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC) includes all of Los Angeles County except the cities of Glendale, Pasadena and Long Beach, which administer and operate independent Continua of Care and conduct their own homeless counts

Changes in Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Population, 2011 - 2013

	Total		Single Adults		Family Members		Unaccompanied Youth (<18)	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
2013	53,798	100.0%	46,303	86.1%	6,678	12.4%	817	1.5%
2011	45,422	100.0%	35,838	78.9%	9,218	20.3%	366	0.8%
Changes	+8,376	+18.4%	+10,465	+29.2%	-2,540	-27.6%	+451	+123.2%

Changes in Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Population (Excluding Hidden Homeless), 2011 - 2013

	Total		Single Adults		Family Members		Unaccompanied Youth (<18)	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
2013	35,524	100.0%	28,029	78.9%	6,678	18.8%	817	2.3%
2011	34,622	100.0%	25,038	72.3%	9,218	26.6%	366	1.1%
Changes	+902	+2.6%	+2,991	+11.9%	-2,540	-27.6%	+451	+123.2%

- Before consideration of hidden homelessness, the Los Angeles CoC experienced a 2.6% increase in homelessness
- Factoring in the Hidden Homeless survey, homelessness increased by 18.4% in the Los Angeles CoC



#### **Shelter Counts decreased by more than 23%**

- The number of families utilizing motel vouchers on the nights of the count resulted in a significant reduction in the Emergency Shelter count
- Additionally, the economic downturn has resulted in a number of shelters closing and a reduced capacity for crisis housing since 2011

**Changes in Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC) Shelter Counts, 2011 - 2013** 

	Total		Emergeno	cy Shelters	Transition	ransitional Shelters		Safe Haven Shelters	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
2013	12,934	100.0%	6,468	50.0%	6,445	49.8%	21	0.2%	
2011	16,882	100.0%	9,855	58.4%	6,982	41.4%	45	0.3%	
Changes	-3,948	-23.4%	-3,387	-34.4%	-537	-7.7%	-24	-53.3%	



- While 76% of the total homeless population is unsheltered on any given night,
- shelter varies significantly by household type
- 82% of the homeless single adult population is unsheltered
- 31% of homeless families are unsheltered
- 88% of unaccompanied youth under 18 are unsheltered

Comparison of Homelessness Shelter Status by Household Type, 2013 vs. 2011

			2013			2011					
	Total	Sheltered		Unsheltered		Total	Sheltered		Unsheltered		
LA CoC Overall	53,798	12,934	24.0%	40,864	76.0%	45,422	16,882	37.2%	28,540	62.8%	
Single Adults	46,303	8,226	17.8%	38,077	82.2%	35,838	9,541	26.6%	26,297	73.4%	
Family Members	6,678	4,607	69.0%	2,071	31.0%	9,218	7,254	78.7%	1,964	21.3%	
Unaccompanied Youth*	817	101	12.4%	716	87.6%	366	87	23.8%	279	76.2%	

<sup>\*</sup>Unaccompanied youth represent youth under 18 years of age

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count LA CoC Subpopulation Prevalence Rates



**Changes in Homeless Subpopulation Totals, 2011 - 2013** 

	2011		2013		Changes	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Chronically Homeless Individual	10,901	24.0%	13,613	25.3%	+2,712	+24.9%
Chronically Homeless Family Members	2,730	6.0%	1,227	2.3%	-1,503	-55.1%
Substance Abusers	15,489	34.1%	16,892	31.4%	+1,403	+9.1%
Mentally III	14,830	32.6%	16,229	30.2%	+1,399	+9.4%
Veterans	8,131	17.9%	6,248	11.6%	-1,883	-23.2%
Female Veterans	909	2.0%	352	0.7%	-557	-61.3%
Persons with HIV/AIDS	1,104	2.4%	511	0.9%	-593	-53.7%
Survivors of Domestic Violence	4,610	10.1%	4,827	9.0%	+217	+4.7%
Physical Disability	9,993	22.0%	9,790	18.2%	-203	-2.0%

#### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count LA CoC Gender Prevalence Rates



- Over 70% of the total number of homeless persons were male, and nearly 30% were female
- Compared to 2011, the number of homeless adult males increased by 37%

#### Changes in Homeless Totals by Sex, 2011 - 2013

	2011		20	13	Changes	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Adult Male	26,767	59.0%	36,682	68.2%	+9,915	+37.0%
Adult Female	12,589	27.7%	12,449	23.1%	-140	-1.1%
Male Child <18	3,057	6.7%	2,439	4.6%	-618	-20.2%
Female Child <18	3,009	6.6%	2,228	4.1%	-781	-26.0%
Los Angeles CoC Total	45,422	100.0%	53,798	100.0%	+8,376	+18.4%

## 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count LA CoC Ethnicity Prevalence Rates



- This years shows a significant shift in the demographics of homelessness in Los Angeles: 38% of the total number of homeless persons identified as Black/African American, 36.6% identified as White/Caucasian and 21.8% as Hispanic/Latino. Asians/Pacific Islanders, Native American/Alaskan Natives, and Multi-Racial/Others represented 3.6% of homeless persons
  - There was a 74.5% increase in homelessness among the White/Caucasian population
  - Hispanic homeless populations decreased by 6.5% from 2011
  - Asian/Pacific Islander homeless populations decreased by 34.6% from 2011

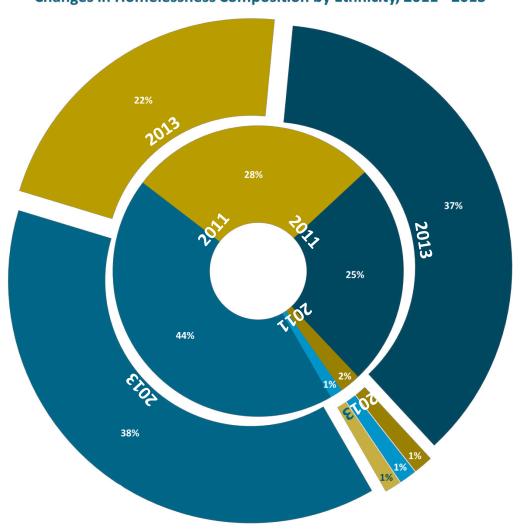
#### Changes in Homeless Totals by Ethnicity, 2011 - 2013

	2011		2013		Changes		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
African American/Black	19,868	43.7%	20,451	38.0%	+583	+2.9%	
Hispanic/Latino	12,573	27.8%	11,750	21.8%	-823	-6.5%	
White/Caucasian	11,287	24.8%	19,693	36.6%	+8,405	+74.5%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,058	2.3%	692	1.3%	-366	-34.6%	
Native American/Alaskan Native	636	1.4%	621	1.2%	-15	-2.4%	
Multi-Racial/Other	N/A	-	591	1.1%	N/A	N/A	

## 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count LA CoC Ethnicity Prevalence Rates







- Between 2011 and 2013
   the Los Angeles homeless
   population became
  - More White/Caucasian
  - Less AfricanAmerican/Black
  - Less Hispanic/Latino

- African American/Black
- Hispanic/Latino
- White/Caucasian
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Native American/Alaskan Native
- Multi-Racial/Other

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count LA CoC Age Totals & Prevalence Rates



- The Homeless population within the Los Angeles Continuum of Care is getting older
- Although the Homeless population grew by 8,376 between 2011 and 2013,
   Homeless Children (Under 18) decreased by 1,445 (-24%) while all other age groups showed an increase
- Largest increases
  - Adults 25-54 (+29%)
  - Seniors 62 & Older (+26%)

Changes in LA Continuum of Care (CoC) Homelessness by Age Totals, 2011 – 2013

changes in EA continuant of care (coe) nomeressitess by Age Totals, 2011 2015							
	2013 Total		2011		2011 - 2013		
			Total		Changes		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Under 18	4,667	9%	6,112	14%	-1,445	-24%	
18-24	4,046	8%	3,708	8%	+338	+9%	
25-54	33,043	61%	25,585	56%	+7,458	+29%	
55-61	7,570	14%	6,468	14%	+1,102	+17%	
62 & Older	4,472	8%	3,549	8%	+923	+26%	
Total	53,798	100%	45,422	100%	+8,376	+18%	

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count 2013 Homeless Numbers Around the USA



#### **Homeless Counts Map**

INTERACTIVE TOOL | MARCH 8, 2013

This map serves as a database of January 2013 point-in-time counts that have been reported in media reports or on Continuum of Care/government websites. Red markers indicate reports of increases and green markers indicate reports of decreases. Stories of partial counts (e.g. unsheltered only or families only) are not included. Links to the report are included. Do you know of a community report not shown in the below map? Notify us and send the report to the Alliance by e-mail. Note: Though all links in this map are live at the time that they are added to the map, archiving practices at online media outlets will lead to some broken links for older stories.

- Media report of an increase in homelessness

Media report of a decrease in homelessness

CoC/government report of an increase in homelessness

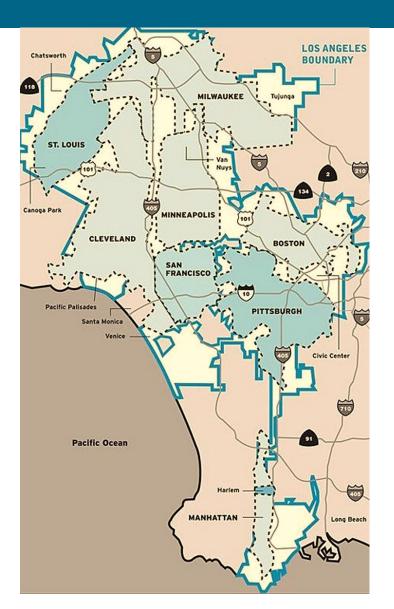
- CoC/government report of a decrease in homelessness



City	State	2012	2013	% Change
Sonoma County	CA	11,929	3,813	-68
<b>Riverside County</b>	CA	4,321	2,978	-31
Kern County	CA	1,439	1,158	-20
Pasadena	CA	904	772	-15
Spokane	WA	1,185	1,030	-13
Hillsboro/Beaverton/ Washington County	WA	1,331	1,153	-13
State of Idaho	ID	1,968	1,781	-10
San Bernardino County	CA	2,532	2,321	-8
Allegheny County	PA	1,376	1,492	-8
Charlotte	NC	2,567	2,418	-6
Austin	TX	2,244	2,121	-5
Washington DC	DC	6,954	6,865	-1
Montgomery County	MD	982	1,004	2
State of Montana	MT	2,250	2,328	3
New Hampshire State	NH	2,422	2,576	6
Sacramento	CA	2,358	2,538	8
Tarrant and Parker Counties	TX	2,169	2,390	10
State of Maine	ME	1,050	1,175	12
Yonkers/Westchester	NY	1,741	2,054	18
Northwest Arkansas	AR	2,001	2,429	18
NC Balance of State	NC	2,922	3,627	24

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Scale and Geography of LA





PITTSBURGH: overall homelessness increased 8%, from 1,376 people in 2012 to 1,492 people in 2013

BOSTON: Overall homelessness increased 5.2% to 6,992 in December 2012

CLEVELAND: 2,191 homeless persons in 2012

ST. LOUIS: 3,630 homeless persons in 2012

SAN FRANCISCO: 15,050 homeless persons in 2012

MILWAUKEE: 1,466 homeless persons in 2012

MINNEAPOLIS: 5,235 homeless persons in 2012

<sup>\*</sup>Note: all the jurisdictions on the map were not included; most recent homeless count results were used because not all have reported their 2013 results

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Homeless Youth



- Los Angeles is one of the only jurisdictions to conduct a separate youth count in order to target hard to reach youth
- Provider agencies and homeless youth counters identified neighborhoods to count, based on where homeless youth tend to frequent
  - increased participation allowed for better coverage
  - 40% increase in number of people counting youth -- 118 youth participated in 2013;
     84 participated in 2011
  - youth workers had hands-on knowledge of youth hot spots in their area
- In 2013, there were 4,863 homeless youth in the LA CoC, compared to 3,959 in
   2011
  - 4,046 were between the ages of 18 to 24
  - 817 were unaccompanied youth under 18

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Homeless Families



- In 2013, family homelessness decreased by 28%
  - There were 6,678 homeless family members in 2,223 families, compared to
     9,218 family members in 4,970 families in 2011
  - In 2013 there were 4,607 family members in shelters compared to 2,071
     who were unsheltered
  - In addition to four program closures, programs distributing emergency hotel/motel vouchers experienced a precipitous drop in families using vouchers on the nights of the 2013 count
  - Challenges in estimating homeless families:
    - Homeless families are hard to find
    - Rules on how to count them

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Homeless Veterans



- 12% of the homeless people in the LA CoC are veterans, a 6% decrease from the 2011 count
  - The number of veterans decreased by almost 23%, from 8,131 to 6,291
- 36% of homeless veterans are chronically homeless, up from 31% in
   2011
- Although the prevalence rate of female veterans decreased by 1%, the number of female veterans decreased by 61%

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Chronic Homelessness



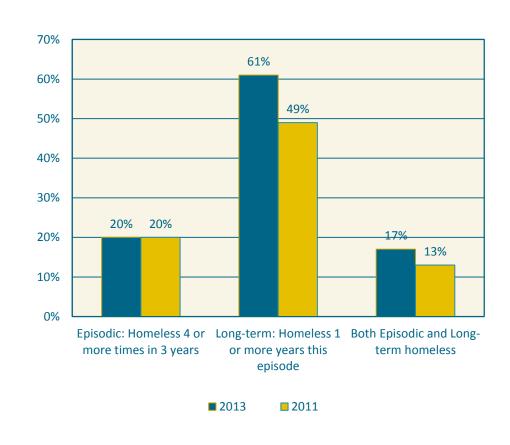
- A little more than 25% of the homeless population were chronically homeless single adults a rate consistent with 2011 data
- However, the total number of chronically homeless individuals has increased by 2,712 persons, from 10,901 in 2011 to 13,613 in 2013, due to the increase in overall homelessness in Los Angeles County
- Chronicity in families experiencing homelessness has decreased from 30% in 2011, to 18% in 2013, resulting in a reduction in chronically homeless family members of over 1,500

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Chronically Homeless Individuals



- The percentage of persons experiencing at least four episodes of homelessness in three years has increased
- HUD's objective is to target long term homelessness

### Long-Term and Episodic Homelessness 2011-2013



# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Methodology: Street Count



- Two-to-four person teams of volunteers were created to conduct street counts throughout Los Angeles County
- Teams counted only within the boundaries of selected census tracts
- Teams visually counted:
  - Homeless people (individuals, including youth and families)
  - Numbers of vehicles with people sleeping inside
  - Number of encampments and tents (any makeshift shelter, such as cardboard boxes, tarps, tents, etc.)
- Teams did not count:
  - People in abandoned buildings
  - People on private property
  - Doubled-up or precariously housed people

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Methodology: Street Count



- More than 5,000 volunteers canvassed Los Angeles County streets by foot or vehicle, covering more than 16,000 miles
- 1,355 census tracts were covered in 2013 vs. 922 census tracts covered in 2011 (+ 433 more census tracts)
- 68 "opt-in" cities and 22 communities conducted counts, covering
   100% of the census tracts in their city or community
  - 11 communities were Count PLUS Communities and "opted in" to complete a full enumeration and by-name homeless registry

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Methodology: Shelter Count



- Captures the number of individuals and families in emergency shelters, transitional housing, safe havens, and hotels/motels that accept homeless vouchers
- Conducted during same time as unsheltered street count to avoid double counting
- Quality checks include comparing capacity to occupancy, HMIS data, zero count reports, prior count reports, and other measures to ensure response accuracy
- 100% of all emergency shelters, safe haven and transitional housing programs counted
- 24% (12,934) of the homeless population were counted in shelters and transitional housing programs, and voucher and housing benefit programs

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Methodology: Demographic Survey



- A demographic survey is conducted to estimate the number and characteristics of the homeless subgroups:
  - chronically homeless individuals and families
  - family units and members
  - individuals
  - persons with HIV/AIDS
  - persons with substance abuse problems
  - persons with severe mental illness
  - veterans
  - survivors of domestic violence
- 3,300 homeless interviews were completed of the unsheltered homeless population
  - Random sampling was used to reduce survey bias
  - LAHSA utilized HMIS to obtain information for the sheltered homeless population

### 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Methodology: Hidden Homeless Survey



- In 2005, in response to community concerns that the homeless population not visible on streets or staying in shelters would go uncounted, a telephone survey was developed to count the "Hidden Homeless"
  - Attempt to find homeless families
  - People living on private property in places not meant for human habitation
- Telephone survey is a random sample that is statistically spread out throughout the County
  - For 2013, there were 24,916 random telephone numbers called resulting in 2,983 households responding to the interview
  - Calling took place between January 28, 2013 to April 20, 2013 -- each number called a minimum of eight times over a two week period and at different times of the day (daytime, evenings, and weekends)
  - Response rate was 24.5%
  - 18,274 persons were identified as Hidden Homeless\*

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;Hidden Homeless" refers to persons sleeping on private property outside a place of residence, such as a car, van, carport, backyard, unconverted garage, camper and encampment

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Methodology: Hidden Homeless Survey



- Other Continua that try to capture information on hidden homeless in their communities:
  - Las Vegas
  - Vancouver
  - San Mateo County, CA
  - Alameda County, CA
  - Monterey County, CA
  - Cities in Ireland
  - Cities in Australia
  - Cities in UK

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Special Statistical Support



- The University of North Carolina is a leader in the survey research field and directly involved in refining and improving population-based procedures. In 2009, the UNC team brought the hidden homeless estimate to an acceptable level of statistical integrity. In 2011, they pilot-tested a new approach that cut the margin of error in half, thus making it a robust finding
- Robert Agans, Ph.D., Co-Director of the CSRL directs and orchestrates complex survey research operations, including development of sample designs, questionnaire review and psychometric analysis, as well as expertise in both quantitative and qualitative data analysis. Dr. Agans has expertise in questionnaire design and development and has published work on translating survey instruments into foreign languages as well research on survey non-response and telephone sampling methods. Dr. Agans has directed dozens of survey projects over the past ten years, including telephone surveys which screen for rare attributes

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Special Statistical Support



- Donglin Zeng, Ph.D., Professor of Biostatistics and Co-Director of the CSRL, is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. Dr. Zeng, has extensive experience in methodology development and data analysis for missing data including nonresponse
- J. Michael Bowling, Ph.D., a Research Associate Professor in Health Behavior, an Associate Director for Research at the UNC Injury Prevention Research Center, as well as Assistant Director at the CSRL, has extensive expertise in demography and survey sampling methodology. Dr. Bowling has designed and managed over 100 large-scale survey projects, many of which involved multi-staged complex survey designs. These included statewide mail surveys and national random digit dialed (RDD) telephone surveys and statewide personal interview surveys involving perinatal health, dental health, and HIV risk behaviors

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Special Statistical Support



William D. Kalsbeek, Ph.D., Professor of Biostatistics, is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and currently the immediate Past Chair of the ASA's Survey Research Methods Section. In addition to having designed samples for over 60 national, state, and local surveys, he has served as advisor or consultant to many of the major national surveys in the U.S. His international work has included surveys in Indonesia, Somalia, Jordan, Egypt, Honduras, the Russian Republic, Shanghai, and India. He has also played key roles in several National Academy of Sciences studies on the roles and quality of the nation's survey data systems

# 2013 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Next Steps



- Geographical Estimates
  - Supervisorial Districts
  - Service Planning Areas
  - City Council Districts
  - Skid Row
  - Opt-In cities/communities
  - Count PLUS communities
- Assisting CoC planning efforts with updated data

- Analyses
  - Demographic survey analysis
  - Needs analyses
- Website Updates
  - www.lahsa.org
  - www.theycountwillyou.org
- August 2013 Release of Subregional results