



Housing the Unsheltered: *Barriers & Supply*



Presenter

Joe N. Savage, Jr., PhD
Senior Regional Advisor
joe.savage@usich.gov



About USICH

- Only federal agency solely **dedicated to ending homelessness**
- Coordinates federal response across **19 federal agencies**
- **Cabinet leadership** under Chair HHS Secretary Becerra
- Supports **all levels of government** + private sector and philanthropy to advance most efficient and effective strategies



usich.gov/all-in



UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

ALL IN: **The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness**

DECEMBER 2022

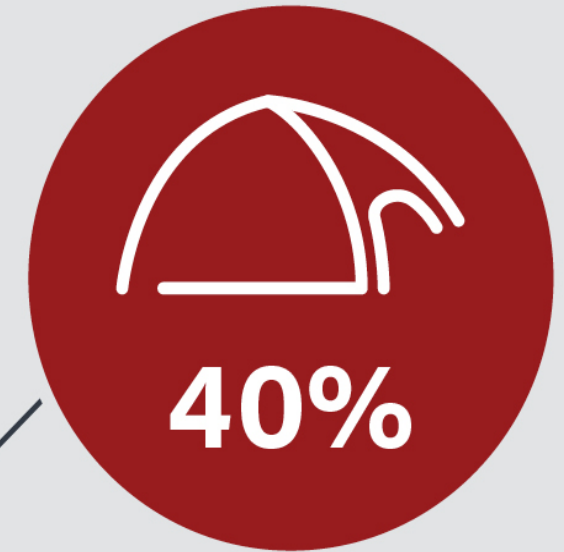


State of Homelessness

Sheltered vs. Unsheltered Homelessness*



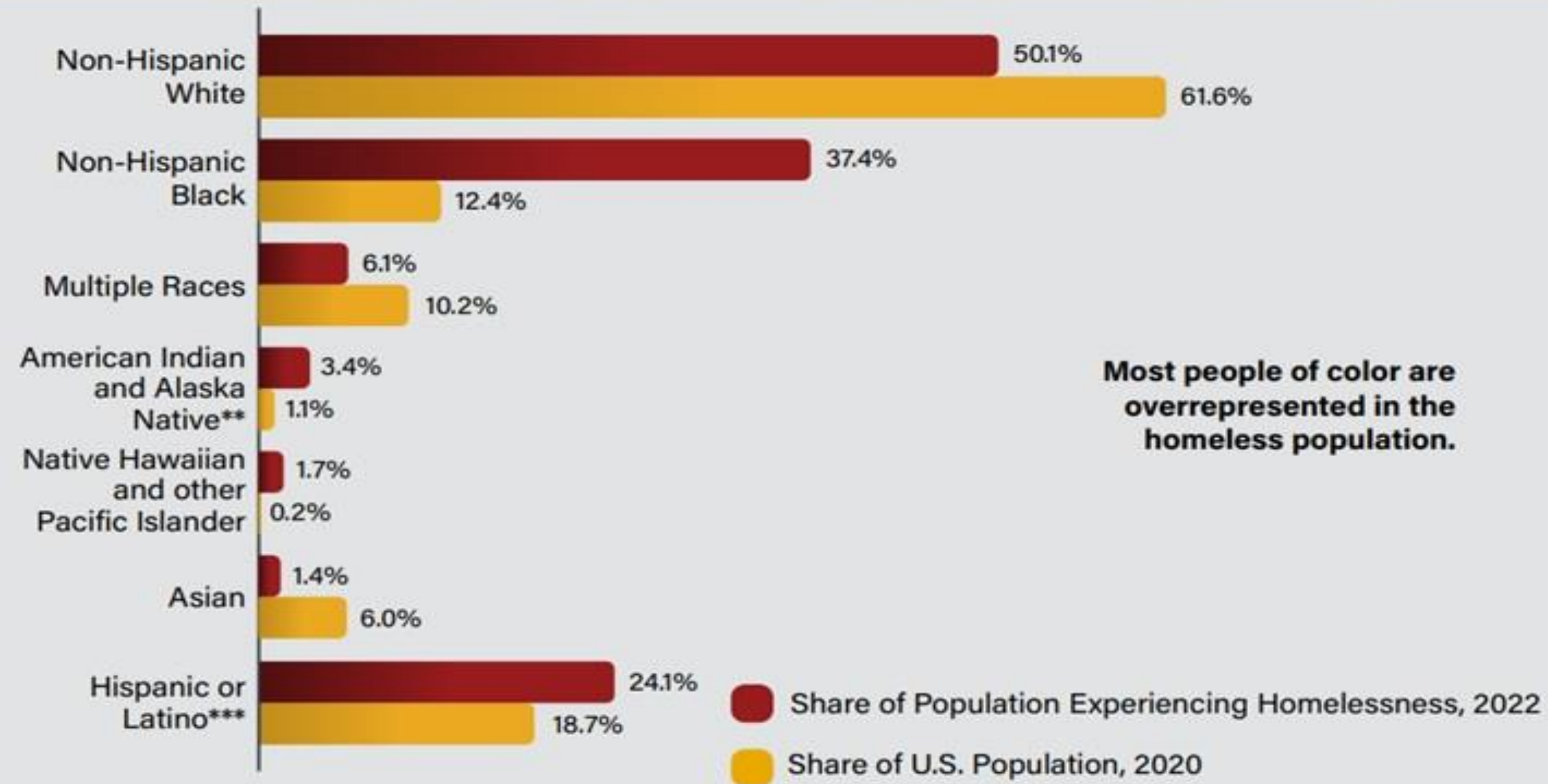
Portion of the total homeless population (including individuals and families) that is sheltered, living in shelters or other temporary housing



Portion of the total homeless population (including individuals and families) that is unsheltered, living in cars, streets, or encampments

While more people experiencing homelessness *overall* live in sheltered locations, according to the 2022 Point-in-Time Count, for only the second time since HUD started collecting this data, people who experience homelessness as *individuals* (versus families) are more likely to live in unsheltered locations.

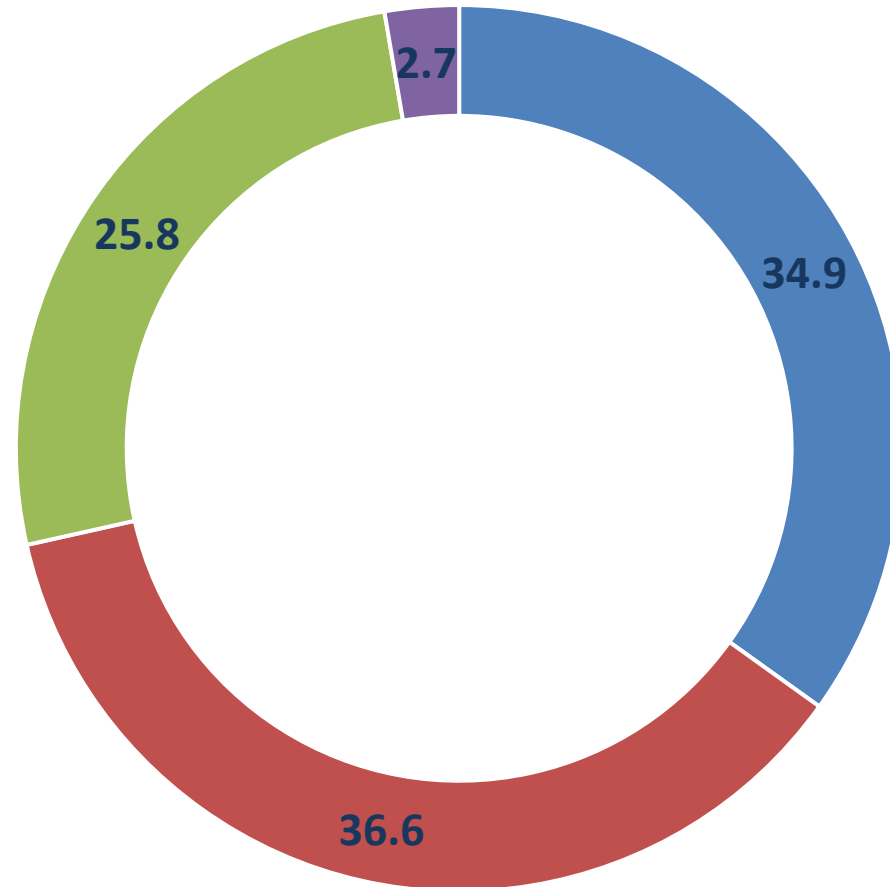
The Disproportionate Impact of Homelessness*





Homelessness by Household Type and Sheltered Status (2023)

- Sheltered Individuals
- Unsheltered Individuals
- Sheltered Families
- Unsheltered Families





All Inside

Federal Initiative for Addressing Unsheltered Homelessness



Participating Communities

California

Los Angeles

Chicago

Phoenix Metro

Dallas

Seattle

Denver



All Inside: *Common Goals Across Sites*

- Address bureaucratic obstacles and obtain regulatory waivers and/or policy flexibility in order to maximize federal resources
- Streamline and expedite pathways from homelessness to housing, especially re documentation, verification, and processing
- Increase partnership and involvement of those with lived experience



All Inside: Common Goals Across Sites

- Coordinate on methods and messaging for addressing encampments
- Increase coordination and visibility across systems (e.g., coordinated entry, HMIS visibility)
- Increase access to mental, behavioral, and physical health care for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness
- Increase availability and utilization of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
- Address unique needs of special populations (e.g., veterans, older adults, youth, tribal, justice-involved)



Unsheltered Homelessness:

Barriers

- Lack of deeply affordable permanent housing and support services
- Lack of sufficient resources
- A shortage of low-barrier shelter (including non-congregate shelter)
- Not enough access to trauma informed healthcare, mental health services, and treatment beds/options
- Little assistance helping people to get id's and connect to benefits and housing
- A growing number of ordinances/ laws that penalize people for sitting and sleeping outside
- Barriers to coordinated outreach



Unsheltered Homelessness: *Successes*

- A comprehensive and well-coordinated approach that engages people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in developing responses
- Outreach that employs and is led by people with lived experience of homelessness
- Direct connection to non-congregate shelter (where possible), interim housing solutions, and permanent housing
- Encampment responses that are well coordinated with “on the ground” services and allow for the time needed to engage people and help meet their individual needs to move inside and connect to services
- A neighborhood-by-neighborhood response where outreach teams are imbedded in a particular neighborhood and provide a consistent point of contact for people experiencing homelessness, businesses, and community members
- A strong and effective communication plan that clearly speaks to goals, timelines, and results
- Using data to track progress and measure success



Unsheltered Homelessness: *Successes*

- Setting up resource tables at encampments to help with applications for ID's, Social Security cards, and housing
- Digital ID/documentation storage
- Mobile medical teams, mobile medication assisted treatment/methadone, partnerships with public health for encampment outreach
- 30-day documentation waiver for access to treatment
- Assessing needs of encampment residents and by-name list of encampments
- Using mapping tools for identification and prioritization of encampments
- Offering a variety of low barrier shelter and housing options that accommodate pets, partners, and possessions
- On-the-ground enrollment in Medicaid



Community Dashboards: *Encampments*

Denver's All In Mile High Initiative Dashboard

LA's Inside Safe Initiative



Housing Supply Action Plan: *Increasing Affordable Housing*

- Reward jurisdictions that have reformed zoning and land-use policies
- Deploy new financing mechanisms to build and preserve more housing where financing gaps currently exist
- Expand and improve existing forms of federal financing
- Ensure that more government-owned supply of homes and other housing goes to owners who will live in them



2024 Update: Housing Supply Action Plan Fact Sheet

- HUD PRICE Program (manufactured housing repair/rehab)
- Streamlining HOME Program
- Changes to LIHTC (income averaging; credit reallocation)
- \$115M HUD investment in senior housing (Section 202)
- Tenants Bill of Right (Dept. of Defense military bases)
- Eviction prevention actions for state and local governments



Questions?

www.usich.gov