# Unsheltered Homelessness in the U.S.: Characteristics, Trends, and Strategies to Address



Samantha Batko, National Alliance to End Homelessness June 5, 2017

### Presentation Overvirew

- Unsheltered Homelessness in the U.S.
- Trends in U.S. Unsheltered Homelessness
- Contributing Factors
- Strategies for Consideration

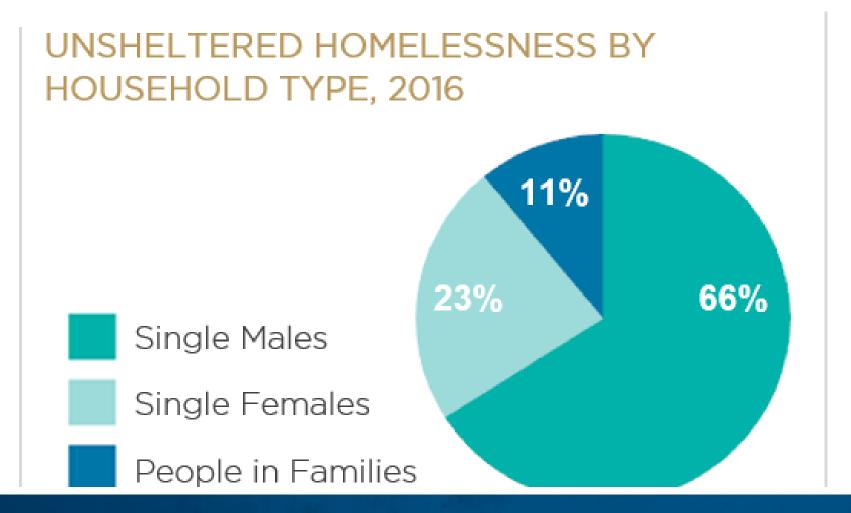


### Data

- U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development
- U.S. Census Bureau
- Survey Responses



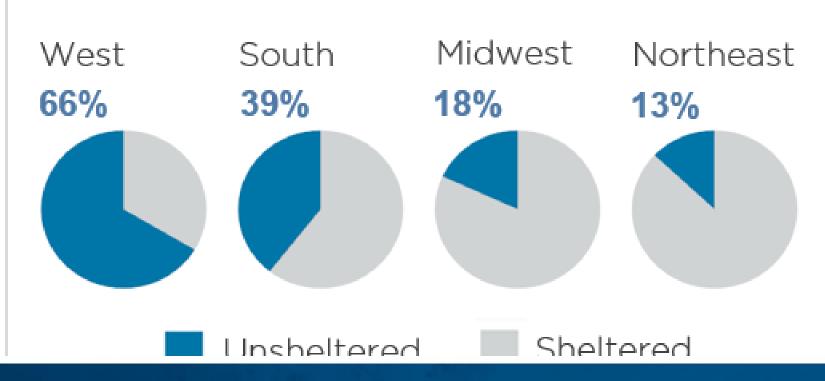
## Unsheltered Homelessness in U.S.: Characteristics





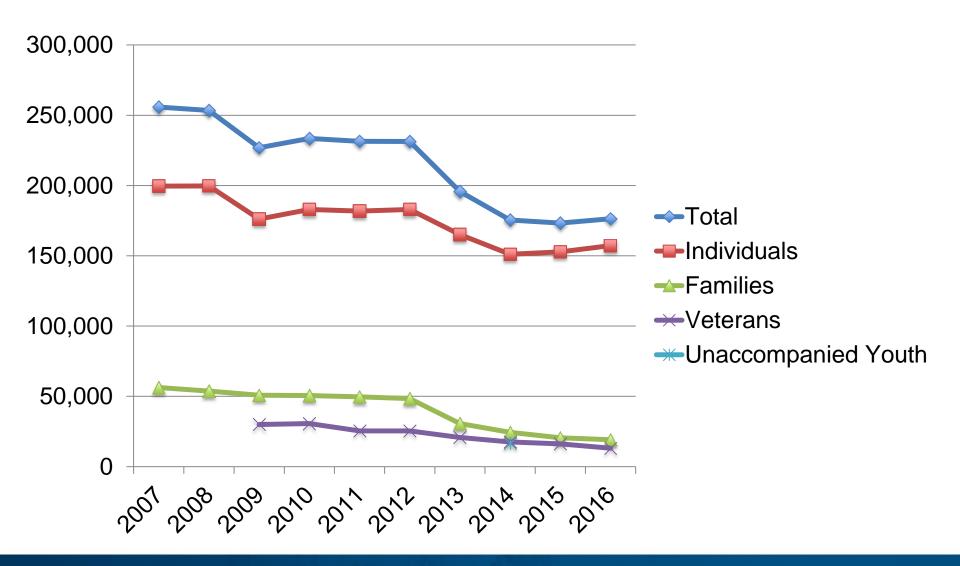
### Unsheltered Homelessness: Geography

### PERCENT OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS THAT IS UNSHELTERED BY REGION, 2016



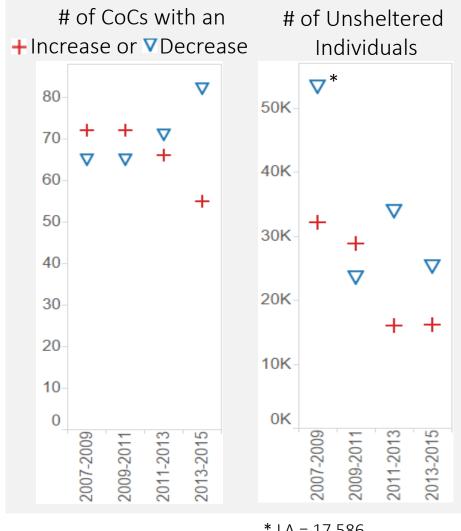


### Trends in Unsheltered Homelessness





The number of CoCs reporting increases in unsheltered individuals and the size of these increases appear to be declining.



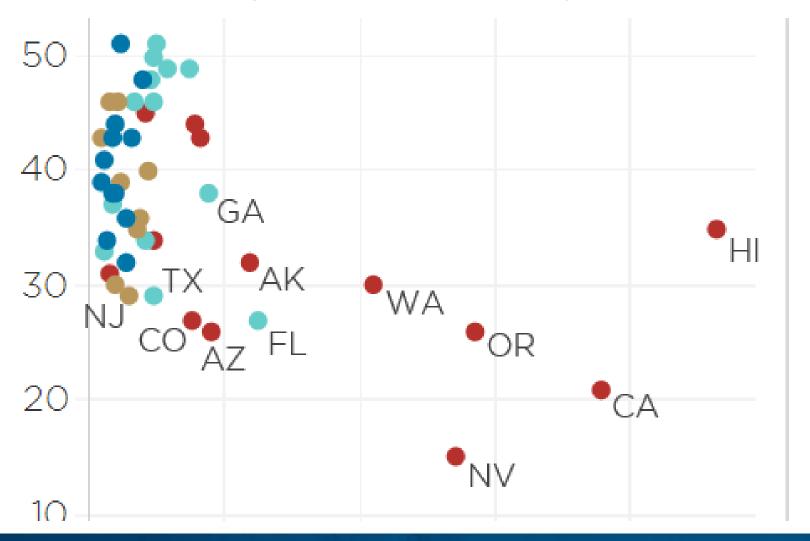
Increase Decrease

\* LA = 17,586

(amongst CoCs regularly counting >100 unsheltered individuals)

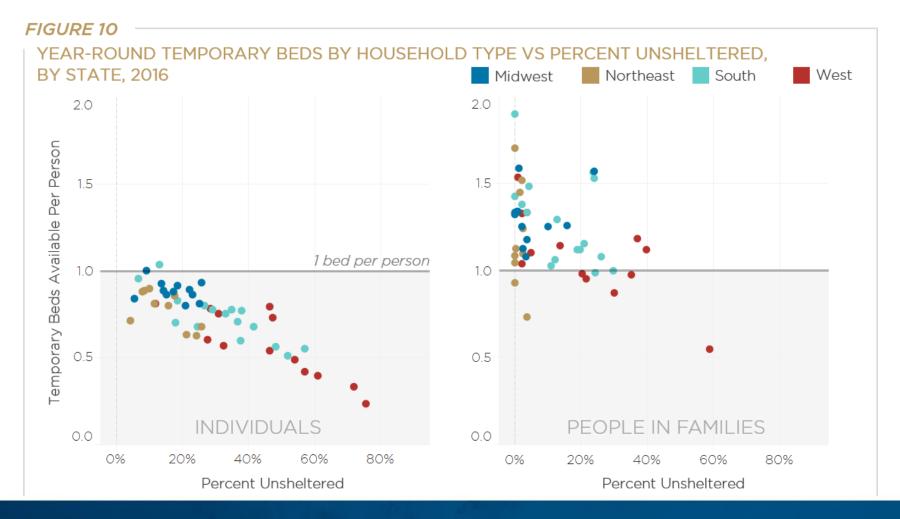


### Contributing Factor: Housing Markets





# Contributing Factor: Homeless Assistance Resources Decisions





### Contributing Factor: Barriers to Assistance

- No pets allowed
- First-come, first-served
- Time limit
- Not open 24 hours
- Single gender only
- Requires job search
- Requires sobriety
- Requires faith-based activities



### Strategies for Consideration

- Invest in affordable housing.
- Create permanent housing exit routes.
- Reallocate temporary housing.
- Improve operating policies at shelters.
- Address substance use through outreach efforts.
- Involve police in engagement efforts as opposed to enforcement.



#### Questions?

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## Survey Response Summary

#### CoCs responding by state

