



# Why homelessness happens and what we can do about it

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# Why Homelessness Happens



- Limited availability of affordable housing
  - Gap of 500,000+ units in L.A.
- Increasing rental costs
  - 4.8% increase from 2015 to 2016
- Poverty
  - Los Angeles County housing-indexed poverty rate of 27%
- Cumulative impact of systemic racism and discrimination
- System failures
- Family conflicts and domestic violence
- Individual vulnerabilities

<https://lusk.usc.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/2016-Multifamily-Forecast-Report.pdf>

<https://documents.lahsa.org/Communication/2016/2016HomelessCountResultsRelease.pdf>

# Understanding the Dynamics of Homelessness



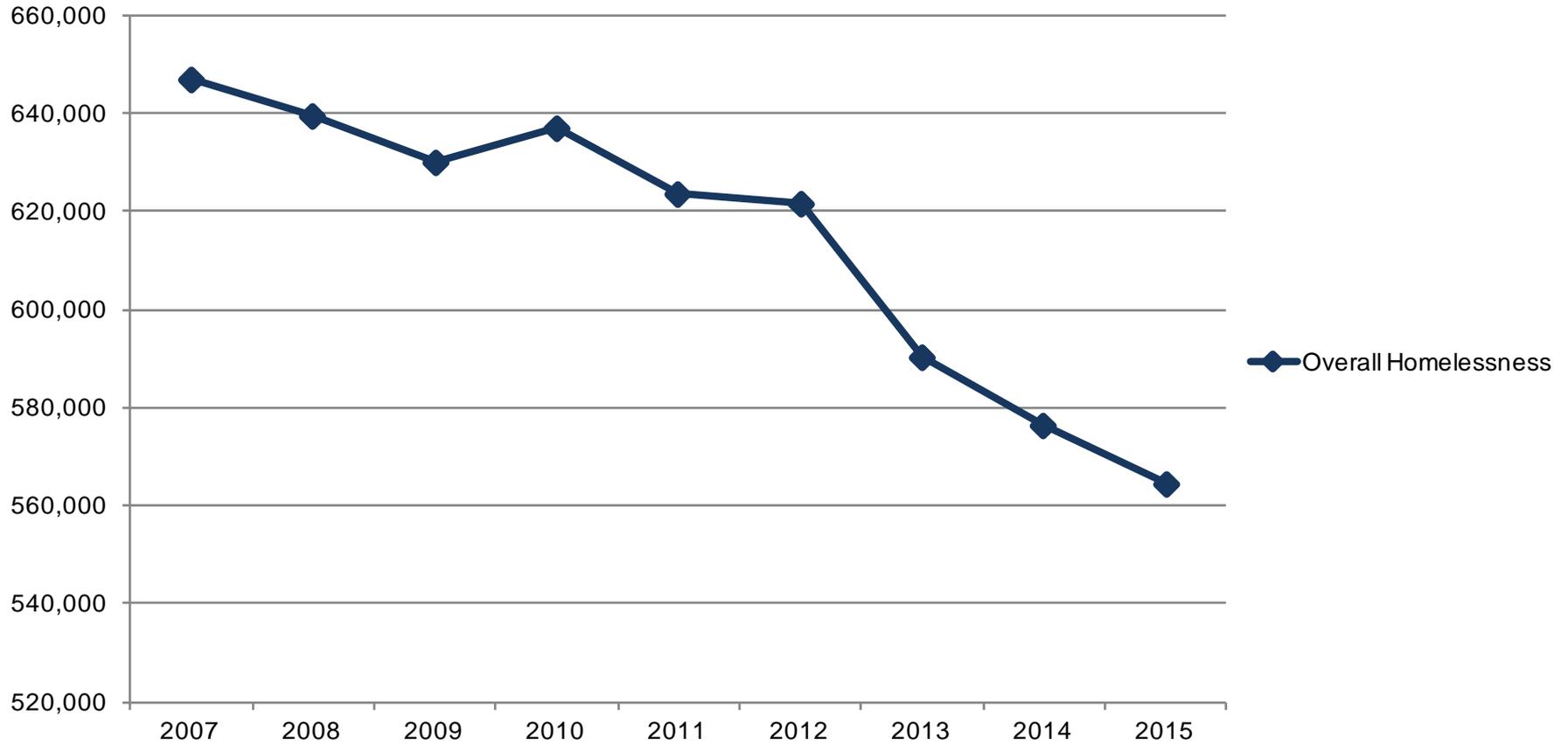
Short-term (80%)

Longer-term or  
Repeatedly (10-  
15%)

Longer-term  
with disability  
(5-10%)

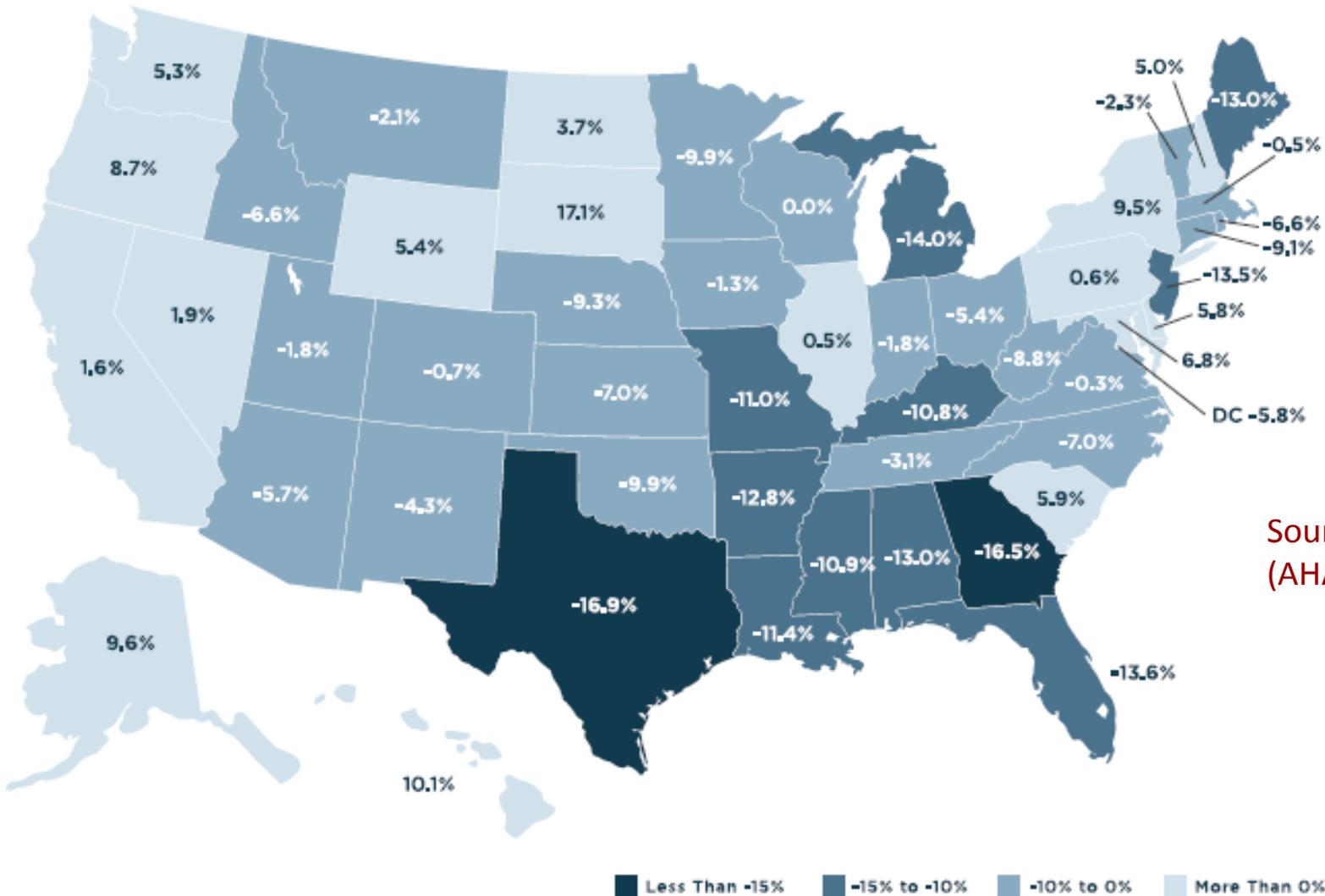
Source: NAEH

# NATIONAL TRENDS IN HOMELESSNESS



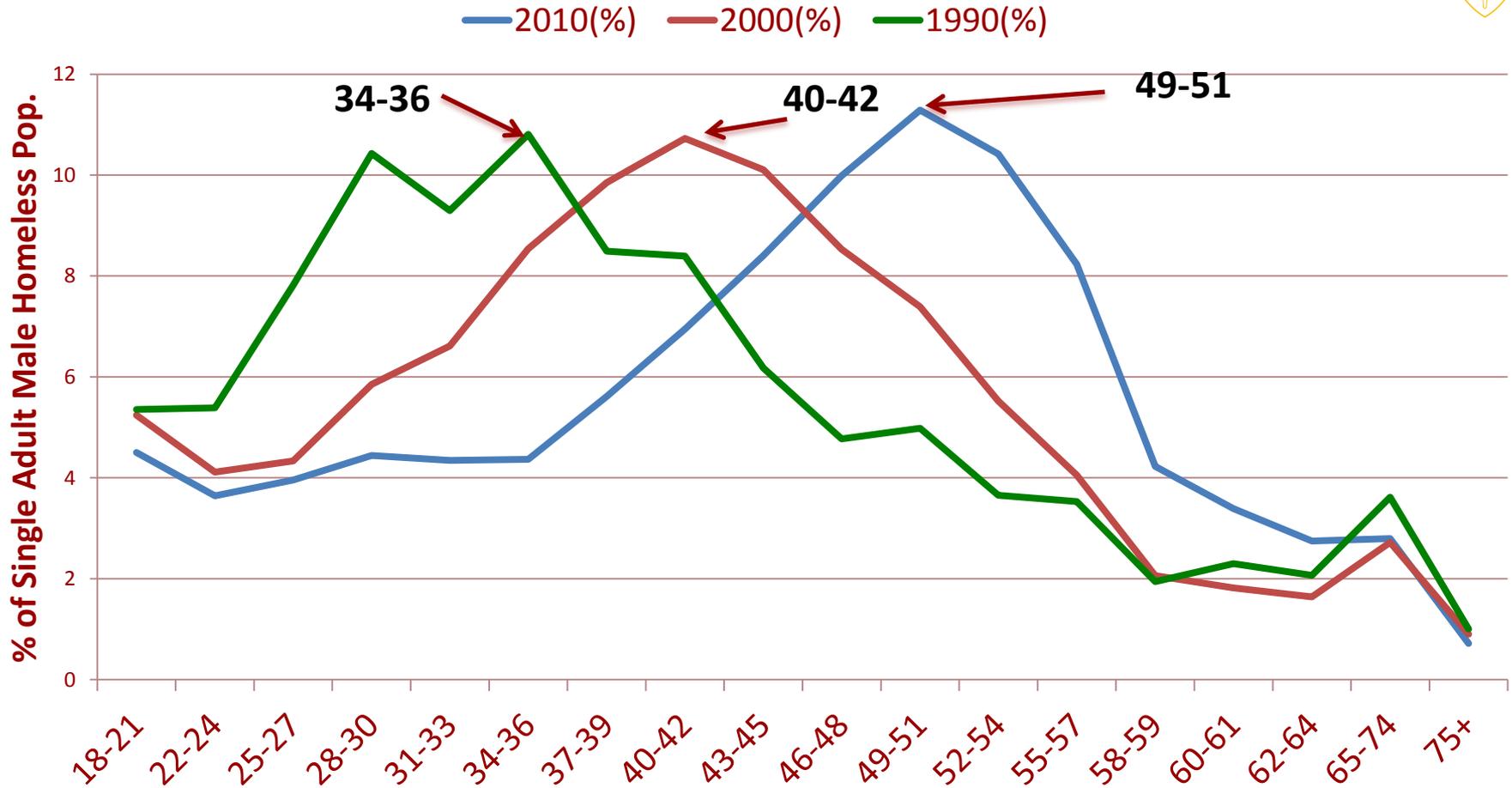
Source: National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH)

# CHANGE IN OVERALL HOMELESSNESS, 2014-2015



Source: NAEH  
(AHAR to Congress)

# Chronic homelessness: a cohort?

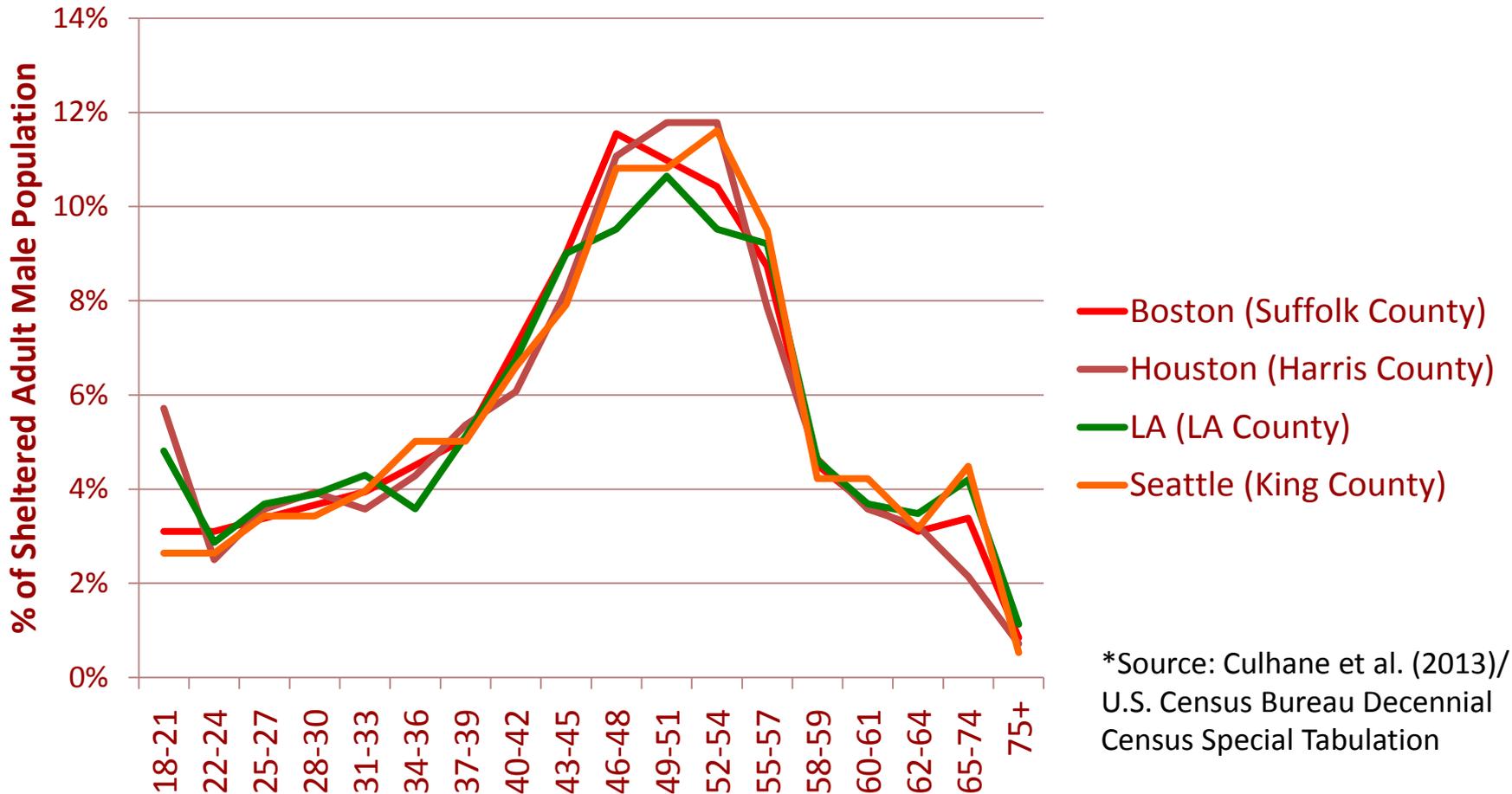


Source: Culhane et al. (2013)/ U.S. Census Bureau Decennial Census Special Tabulation

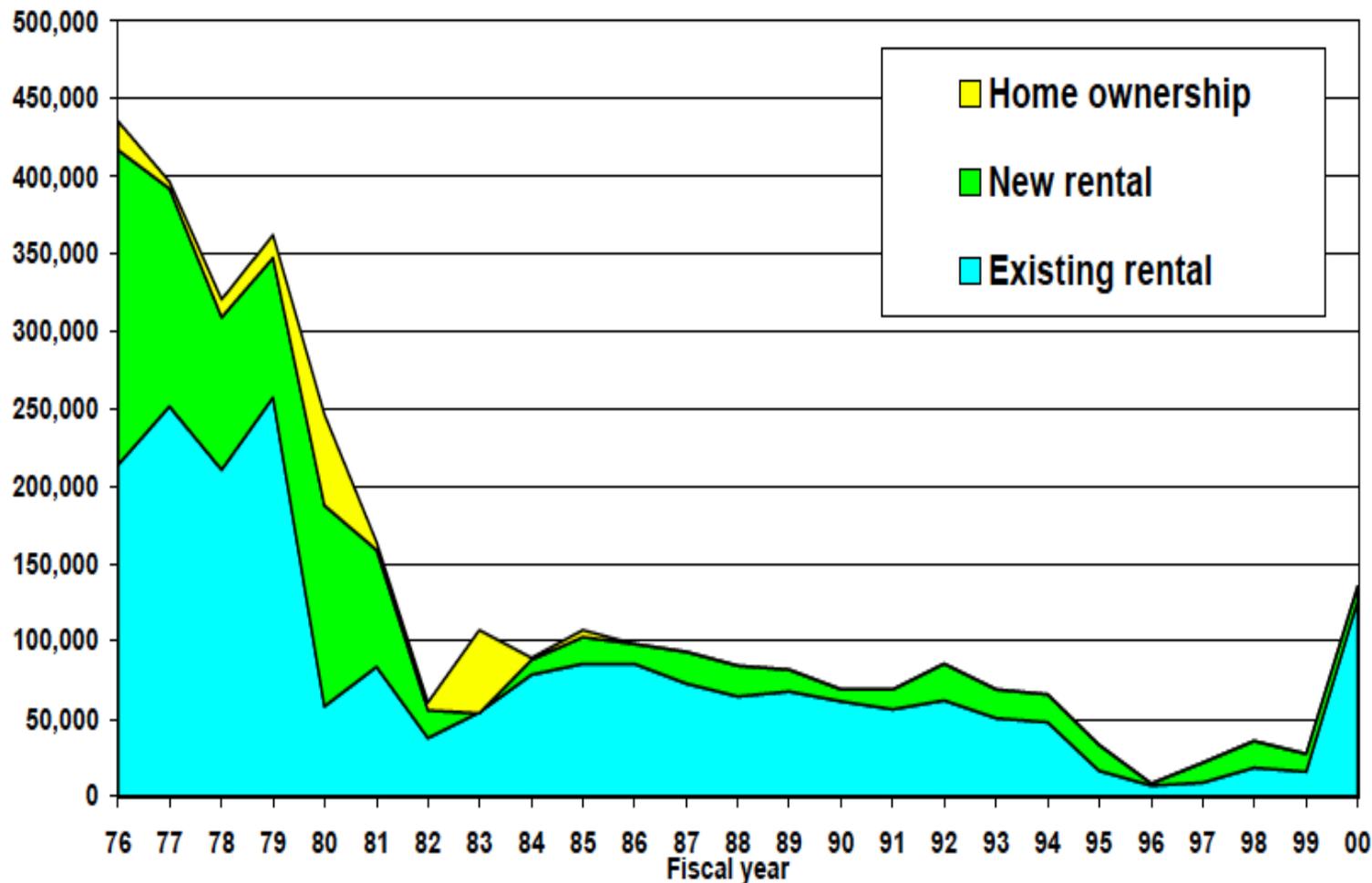
# Aging Trend Consistent Across Cities . . .



## Age Distribution of Sheltered Adult Male Population, 2010



**GRAPH 11. HUD COMMITMENTS (RESERVATIONS) FOR ADDITIONAL  
SUBSIDIZED HOUSING, 1976-2000**



Dolbeare, C.N. (2001). Changing priorities; The federal budget and housing assistance 1976 – 2006. National Low Income Housing Coalition, Washington DC.

# Morbidity, Mortality and Costs

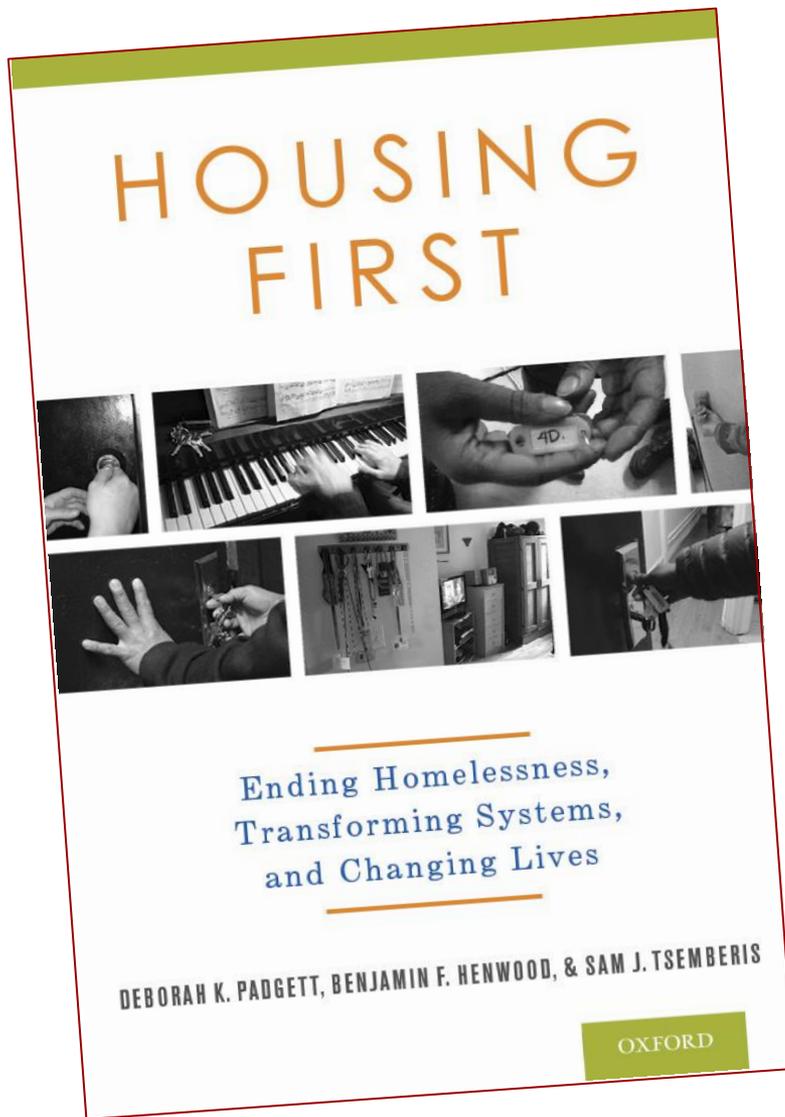


## homelessness...

- can lead to, or worsen, physical and behavioral health conditions
- can increase risk for infectious disease
- can increase risk for injury and assault
- increases risk of mortality

## and is also...

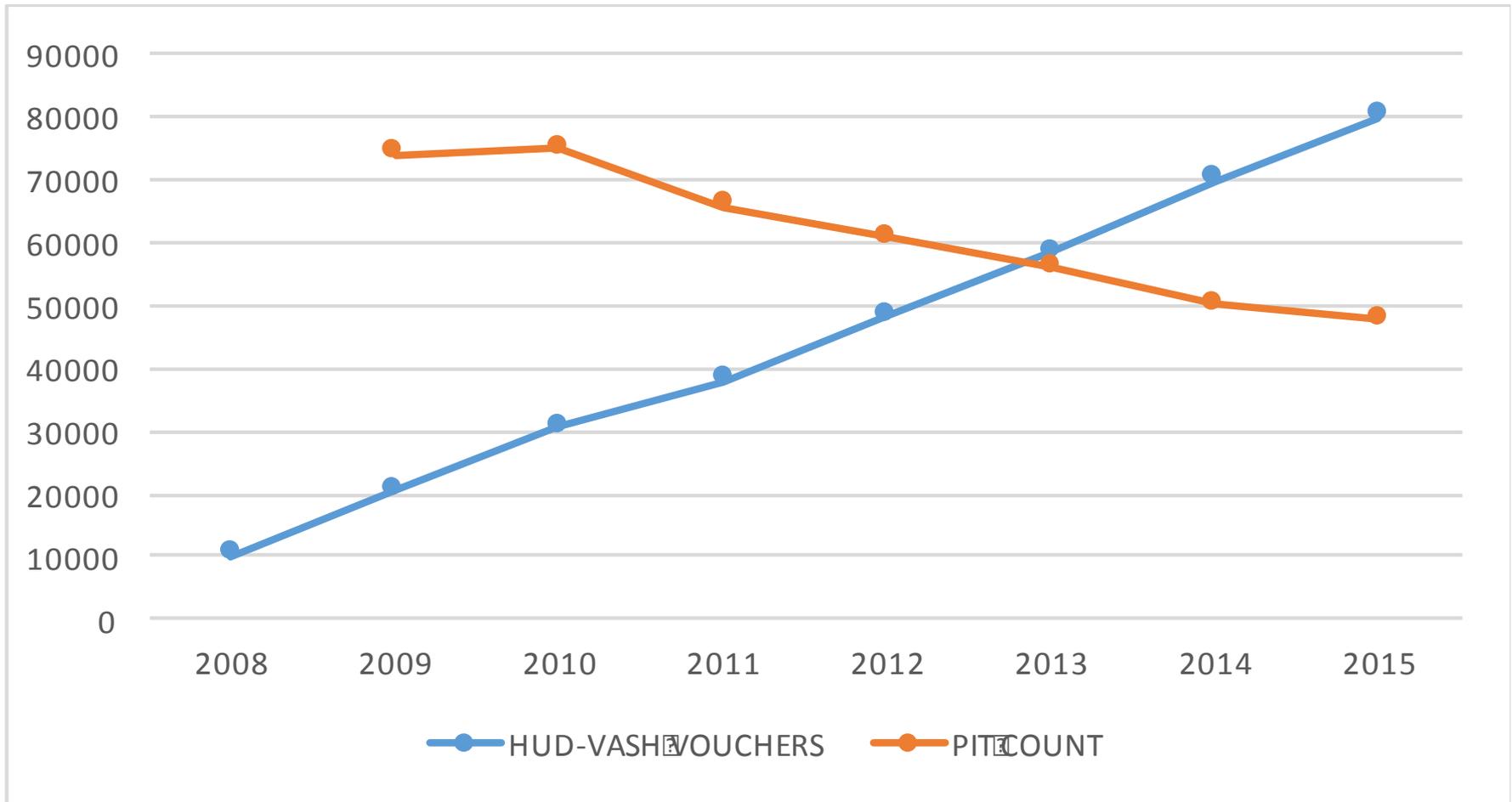
- costly to the public purse

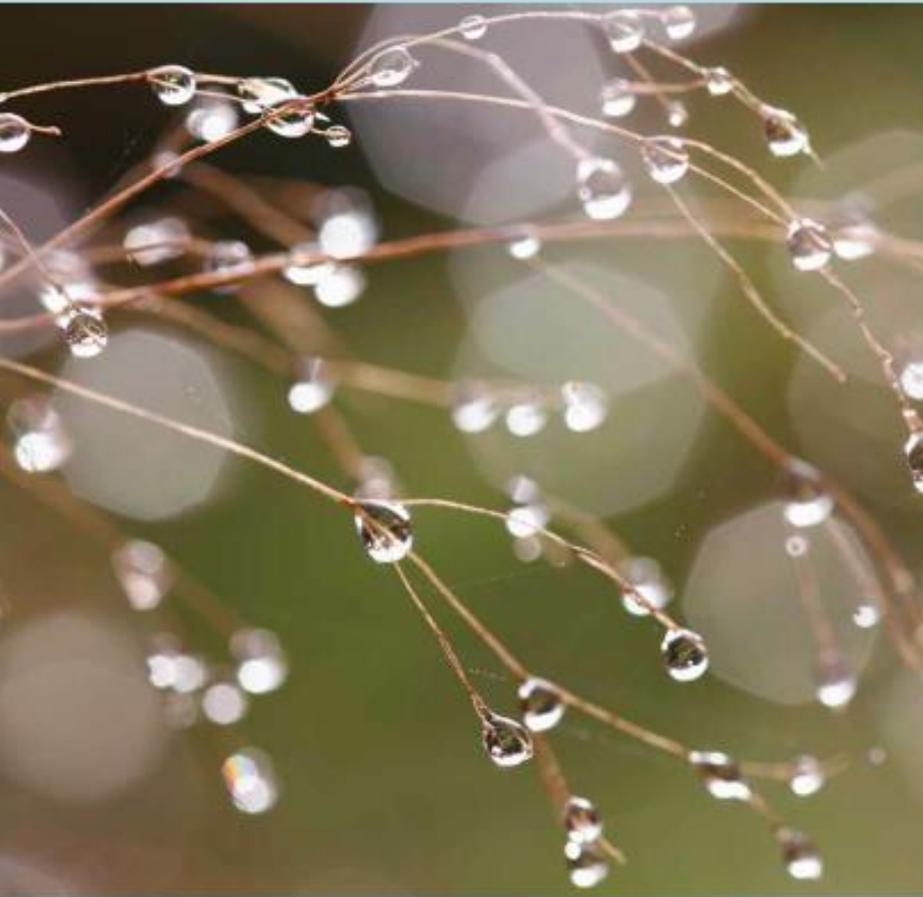


## Evidence-Based Practices

- Housing First
- Critical Time Intervention
- Rapid Re-Housing

# VA's Homelessness Initiative





End Homelessness

## Grand Challenge to End Homelessness

- **Unfunded mandate**
- **Over 1,500 downloads**
- **Robust agenda of initiatives**



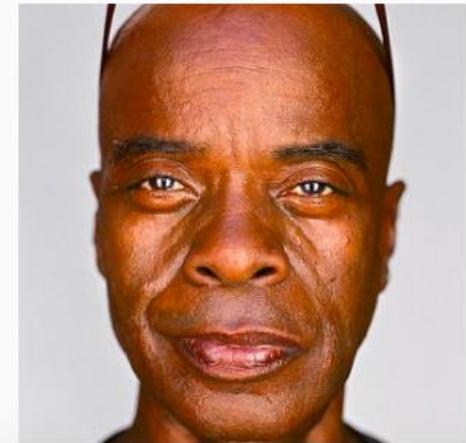
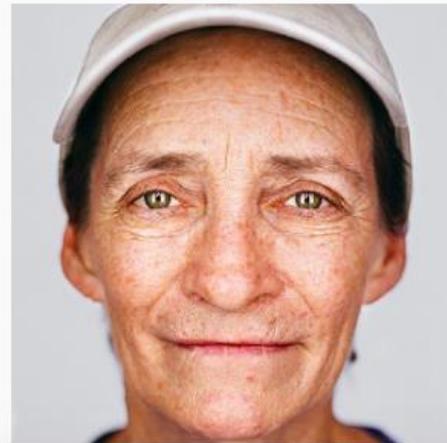
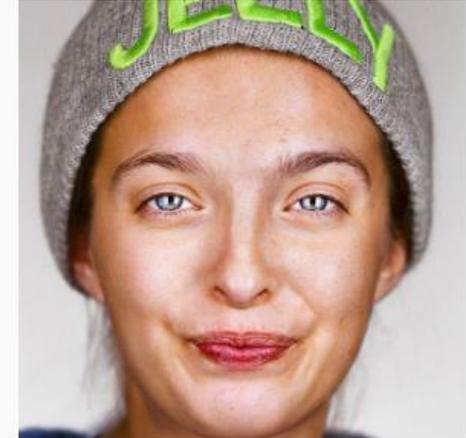
## Homelessness Awareness Week, October 24 – 28th



## Visible homelessness vs...



## Invisibility of those who experience homelessness







# Thank You

**Contact Information**  
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