



# THE STATE OF UNSHELTERED VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

## WHAT UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS IS



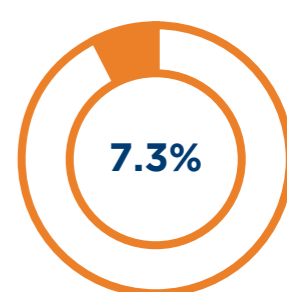
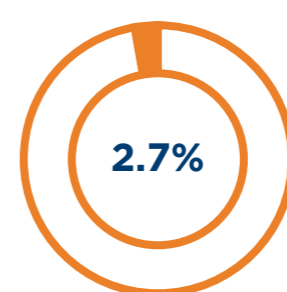
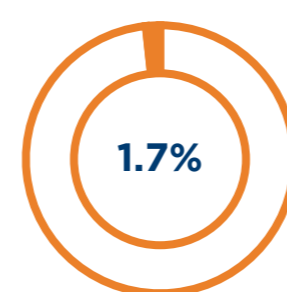
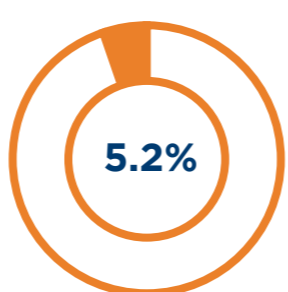
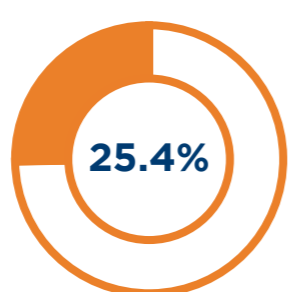
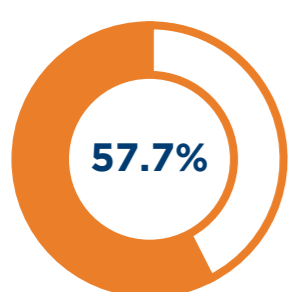
- Unsheltered homelessness is when a person has a primary nighttime location that is typically not a place where individuals sleep, such as streets, vehicles, or parks.<sup>1</sup>
- **44%** of all homeless Veterans were unsheltered during 2023.
- Between 2010 and 2023, unsheltered homelessness among Veterans dropped by **more than 49%**.

## WHO UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS IMPACTS



- Despite homelessness amongst Veterans continuing to drop, our communities are seeing an increase in the rate of Veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
- Unsheltered homelessness disproportionately effects African American and Hispanic/Latino(a/x) Veterans. These groups have higher rates of unsheltered homelessness compared to their representation in the general population.<sup>1</sup>

## RACE



White

Black

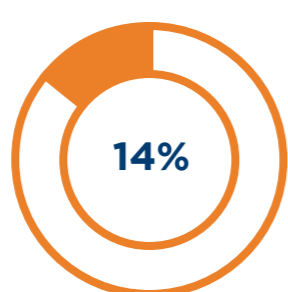
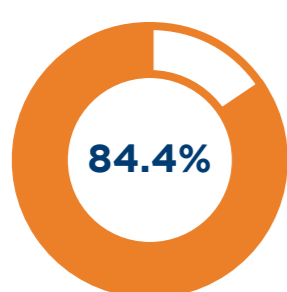
Native American

Pacific Islander

Asian

Multiple Races

## GENDER



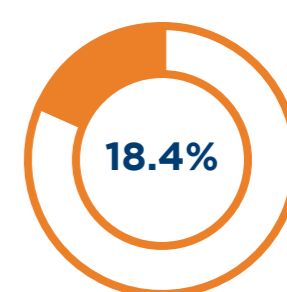
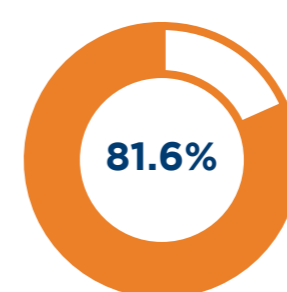
Male

Female

Gender Non-conforming

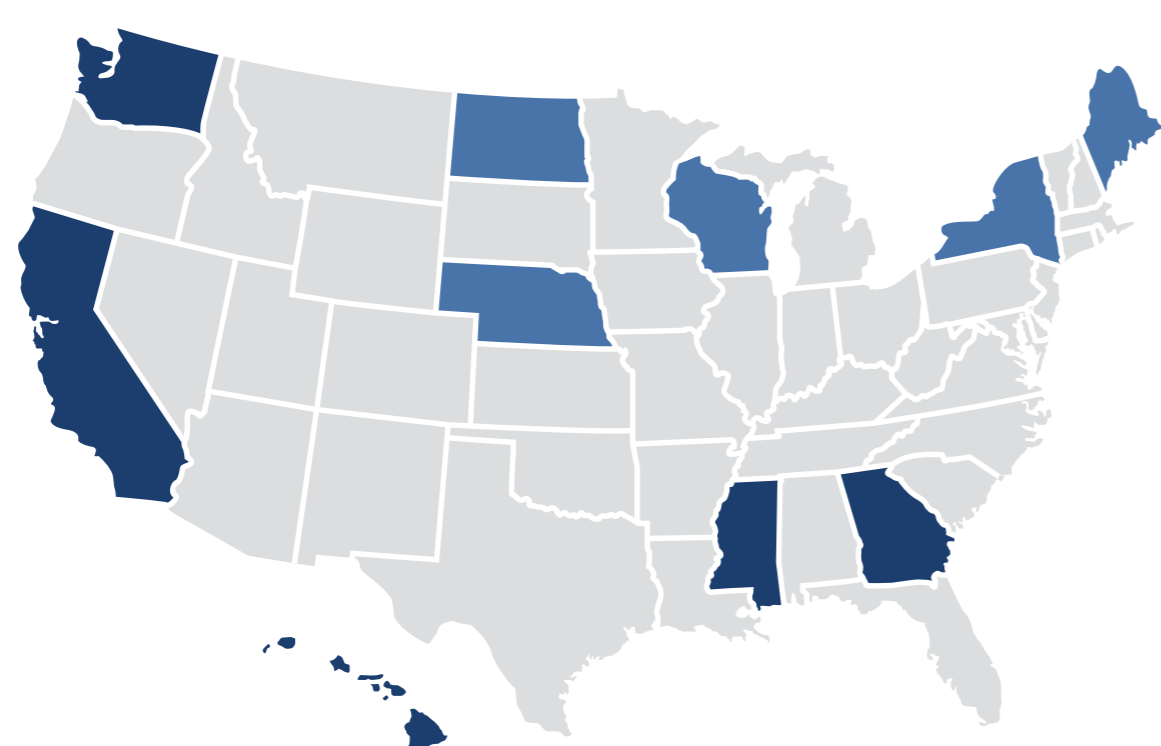
Transgender

## ETHNICITY



Non-Hispanic/Latino

Hispanic/Latino



Highest Rates of Unsheltered Homelessness

Lowest Rates of Unsheltered Homelessness

- States with the *highest* rates of unsheltered homelessness among Veterans were **Mississippi, California, Washington, Georgia, and Hawaii.**<sup>1</sup>

- States with the *lowest* rates of unsheltered homeless Veterans are **Wisconsin, Maine, New York, North Dakota, and Nebraska.**<sup>1</sup>

## WHY UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS MATTERS

Housing instability can lead to financial, physical and mental health, and employment challenges for Veterans, leading an increased reliance on institutional care.

Unsheltered homeless Veterans are more likely to have criminal justice history, medical and drug problems, poor social support, and financial hardship, and they may need additional resources to get housed.

## WHAT VA IS DOING ABOUT UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS

All VA Medical Centers complete street or community-based outreach services directly on the streets, at encampments, in congregate meal sites, and with Community Resource and Referral Centers (CRRCs) or with the help of community partnerships through local Coordinated Entry Systems, Continuums of Care, and VA funded housing programs, such as Contract Emergency Residential Services, Grant and Per Diem, and HUD-VA Supportive Housing.



- **33 CRRCs** are conveniently located where Veterans can meet with VA staff to obtain supportive services
- **3,604** shelter beds are designated for homeless Veterans
- **240 Stand Down** events served more than **44,000** Veterans in 2023

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Collaboration with Community Partners](#)

[VA Homeless National Call Center](#)

[VA Community Resource & Referral Centers](#)

[Outreach Tools and Literature](#)

<sup>1</sup> The 2023 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress