

2020 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count
Service Planning Area (SPA) 8
South Bay Results

24 June 2020

Presented to the South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness



Mark Silverbush & Nancy Wilcox

Co-Chairs, South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness (SBCEH)

Website: sbceh.org

Email: contactSBCEH@gmail.com

Outline

- The importance of understanding Homeless Count (HC) data
- Keeping the HC's data in perspective
- SPA 8/South Bay Results, 5-Year View
 - This briefing contains primarily demographic trends
 - Notes about LAHSA 2020 methodological changes that affected demographics

Why the Homeless Count (HC) Data are Important

- **Nationally:** The HC are the official data reported to HUD
- **County:** In Los Angeles County, they are used to:
 - Target services to special populations
 - Track trends, help evaluate service and housing program effectiveness
 - Allocate public funding, including Measure H
- **Locally:** In SPA 8, we focus on each community's unique homelessness challenges, and the entire SPA as a region

Keeping HC Data in Perspective

- The Homeless Count is a “point-in-time” census held in late January
 - The numbers **fluctuate** throughout the year and...
 - They **don't provide a good sense of flows** into and out of homelessness throughout the year (CES is better at tracking that)
 - ***Special Post-COVID note:*** This HC was conducted before the pandemic. As such, it will be one of the key baselines by which Los Angeles can measure the impact of the pandemic on the homeless population
- The demographic numbers often do not trend up or down in adjacent years
 - **Examine “prevalence”** (or proportion) for a fuller perspective
- SPA 8's trends often do not follow those at LA Continuum of Care (CoC) level

Special 2019 Data Notes

- SBCEH raised questions about where 2019 “Demographic Surveys” was conducted
 - This could have caused SPA 8’s data for that year to overly reflect one subregion
- LAHSA re-released 2019 HC data on 7-30-19
 - This briefing contains the updated stats, which are different from what we presented last year (used initial dataset released on 6-4-19)
 - **SPA 8’s Count went up slightly from 4,388 to 4,409 (the number sheltered was updated)**
 - City-level numbers were not affected

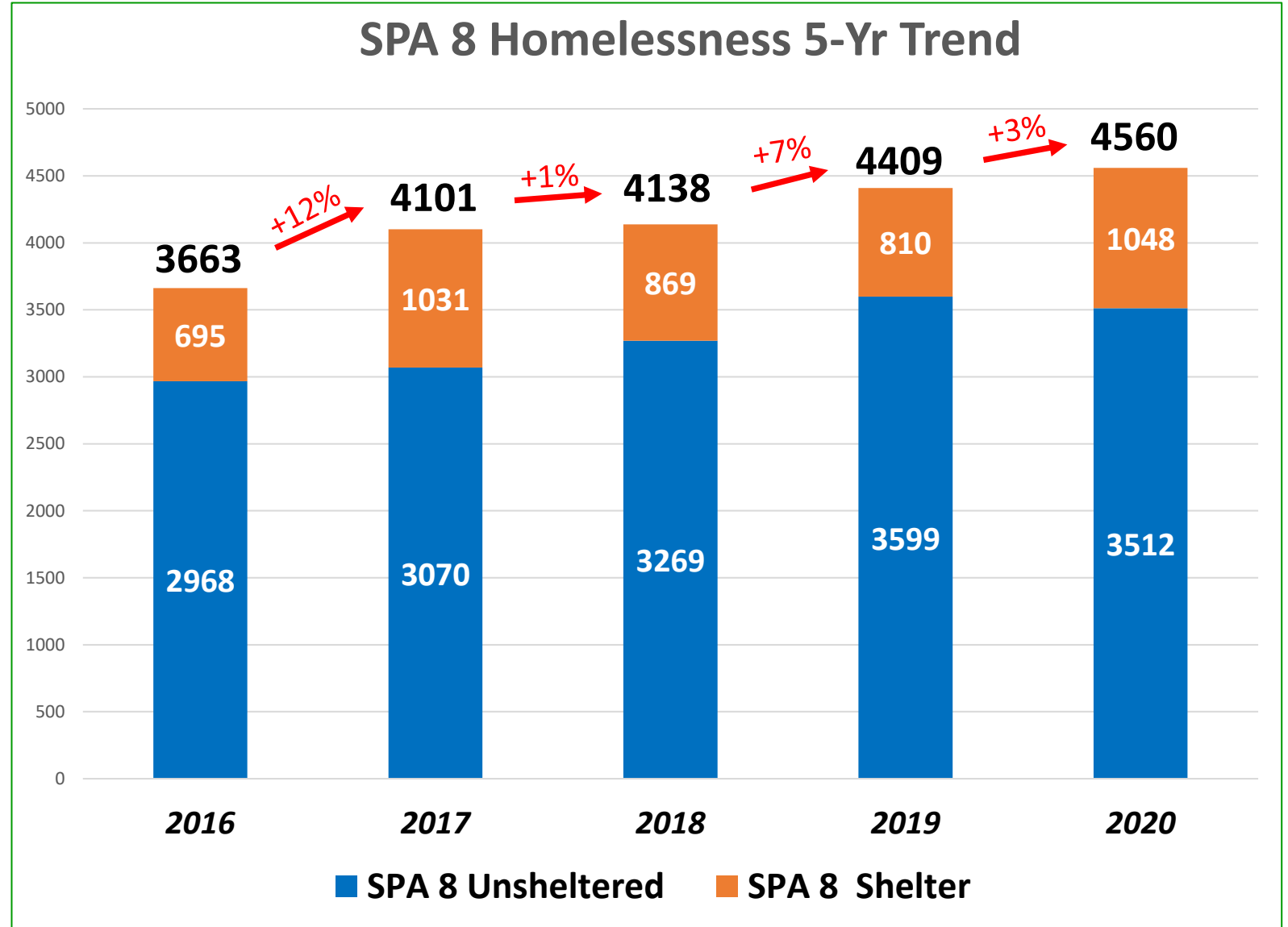
Note About “SPA 8” Geographic Area

- **“SPA 8”** to us is **“LA County’s SPA 8 minus City of Long Beach”**
 - Prior to 2020, Long Beach CoC held biennial Counts
 - Different methodology used for HC demographics
- **Long Beach went up by 7.4%** from 1,894 to 2,034
- Data Source
 - http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/health/homeless-services-division/homeless-count/a_homeless-data-exchange--hdx- final-20200611

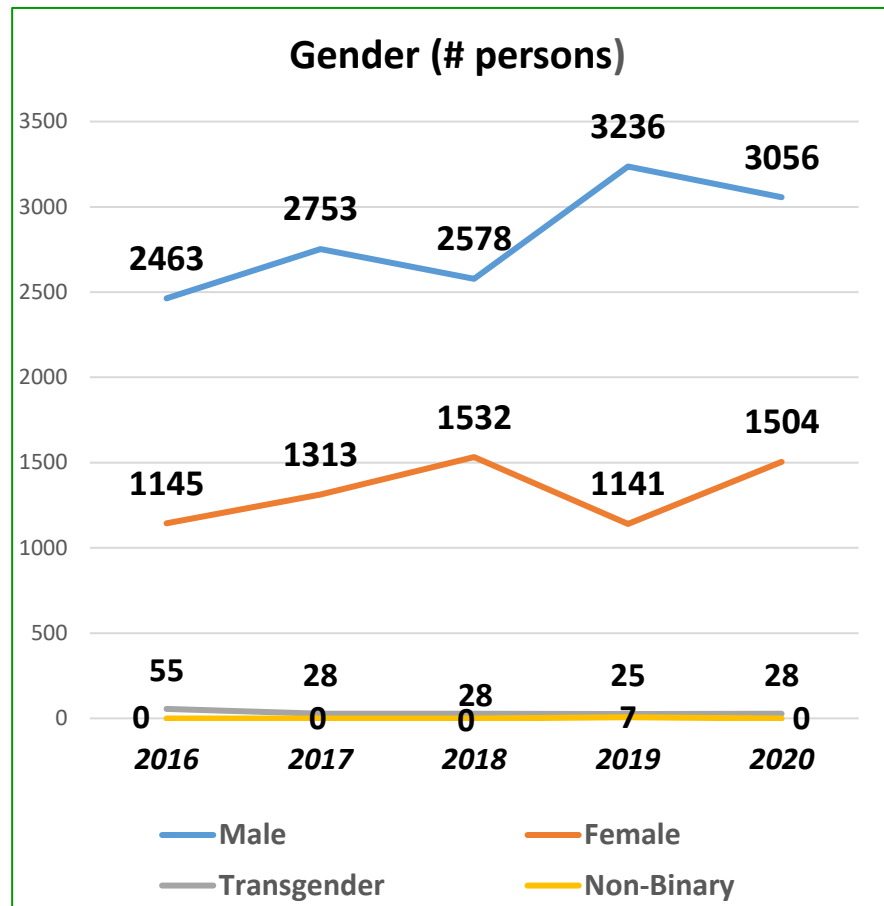
HC 2020 Highlights for Los Angeles County and LA Continuum of Care (CoC)

- **LA County went up by 12.7%** from 58,936 to 66,433
- **LA City's total rose by 14.2%** from 36,165 to 41,290
- **LA CoC increased by 13.4%** from 56,257 to 63,706
- Four out of the last 5 years showed Count increases
- Data Sources
 - LAHSA's Executive Director Heidi Marston's briefing posted on 6-12-20 at <https://www.lahsa.org/documents?id=4558-2020-greater-los-angeles-homeless-count-presentation.pdf>
 - Santa Monica Count Press Release: <https://www.santamonica.gov/press/2020/06/12/santa-monica-homeless-count-data-shows-impact-of-coordinated-efforts-with-8-decrease-pre-covid-19>

SPA 8 South Bay Results

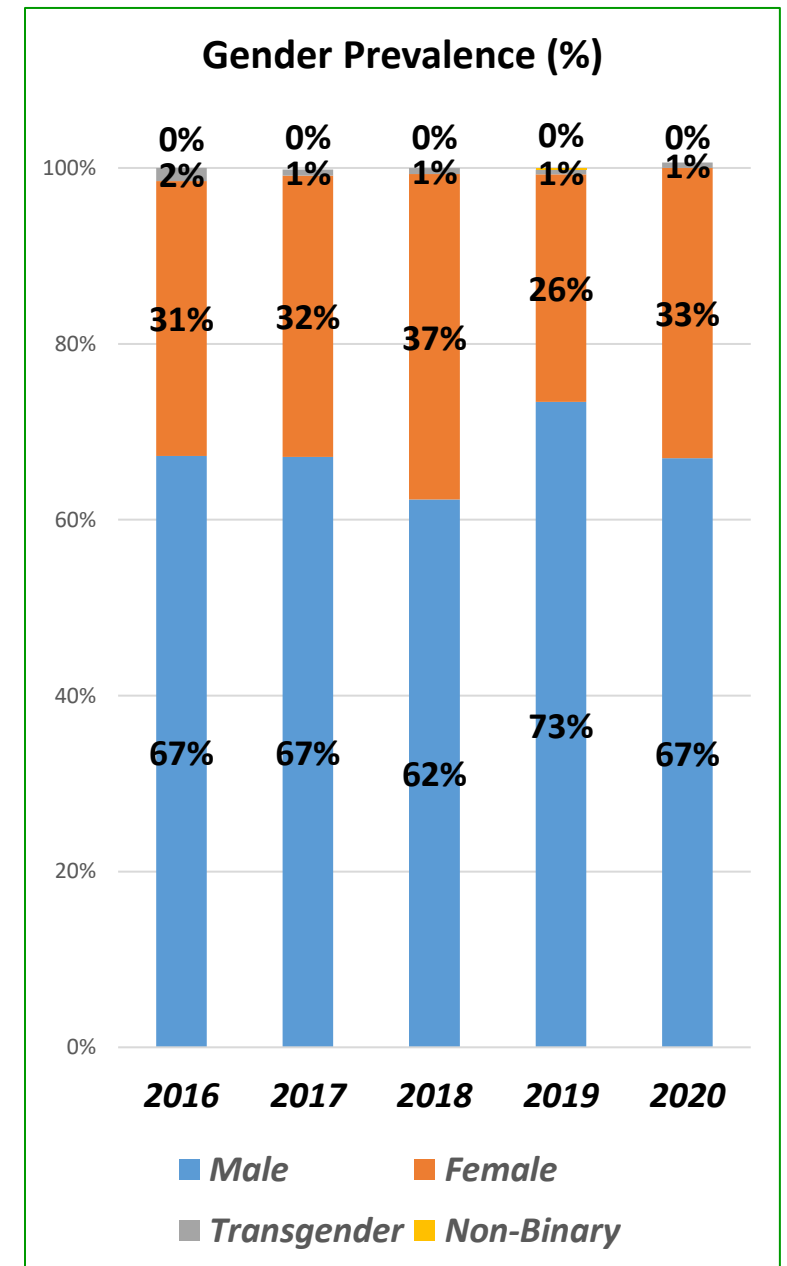


SPA 8: Gender

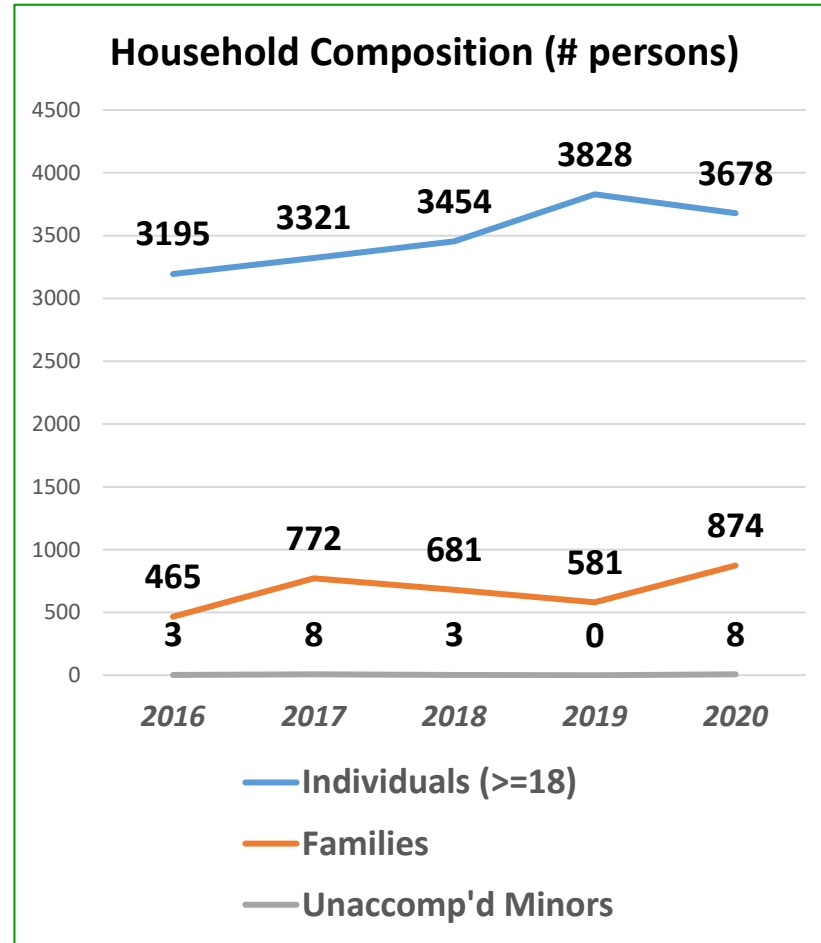


Females experiencing homelessness went up 32%, largely driven by increase in families units.

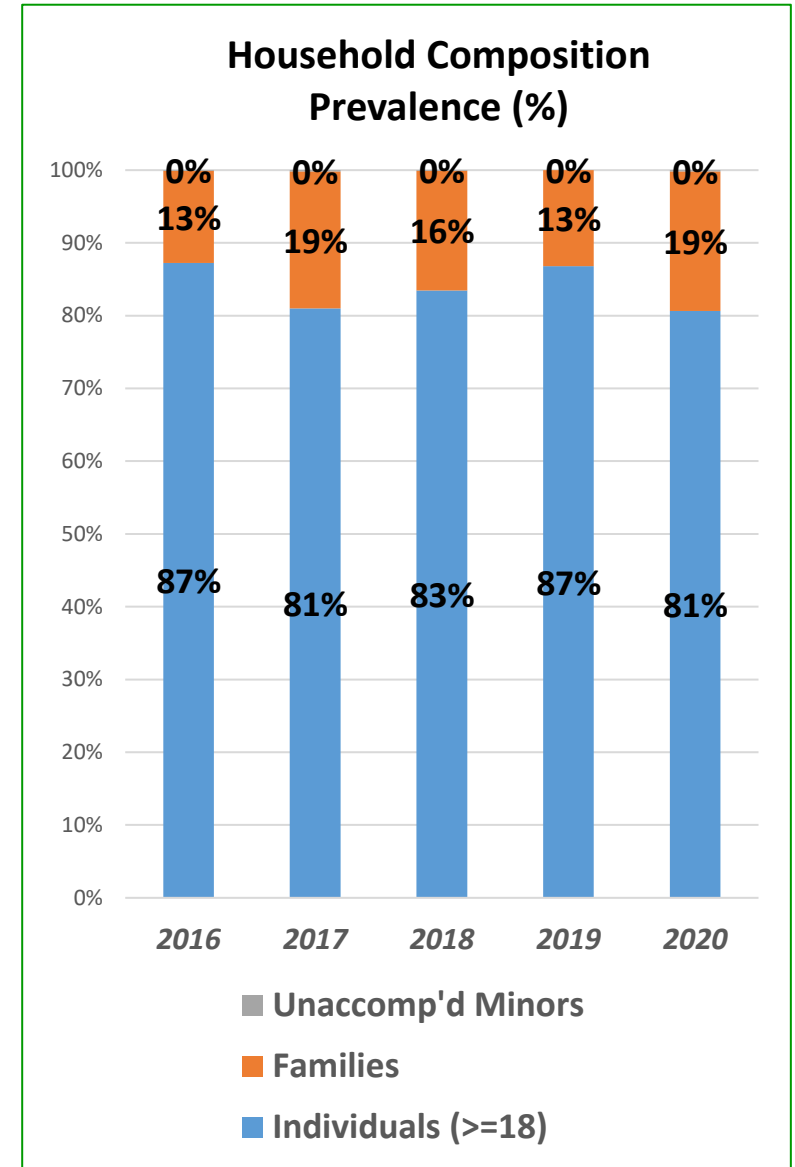
In 2020, “Transgender” was included in all four categories so LAHSA discourages comparisons with past years.



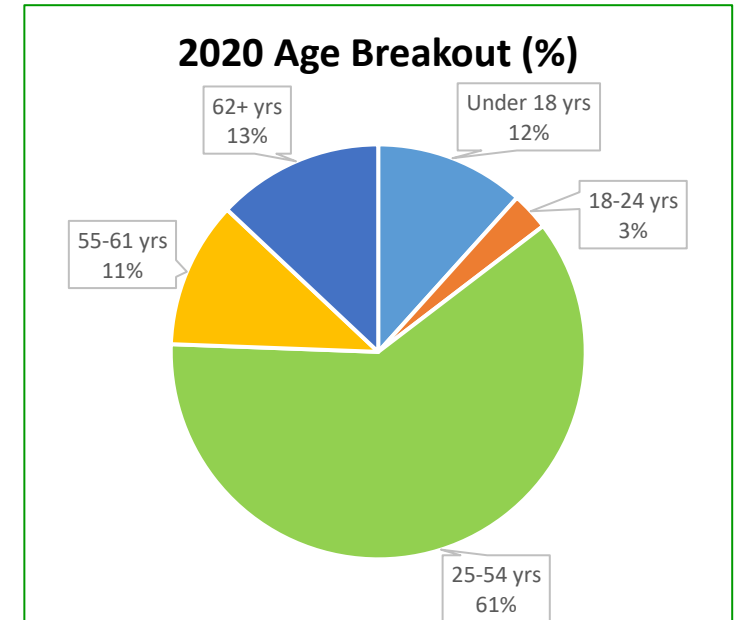
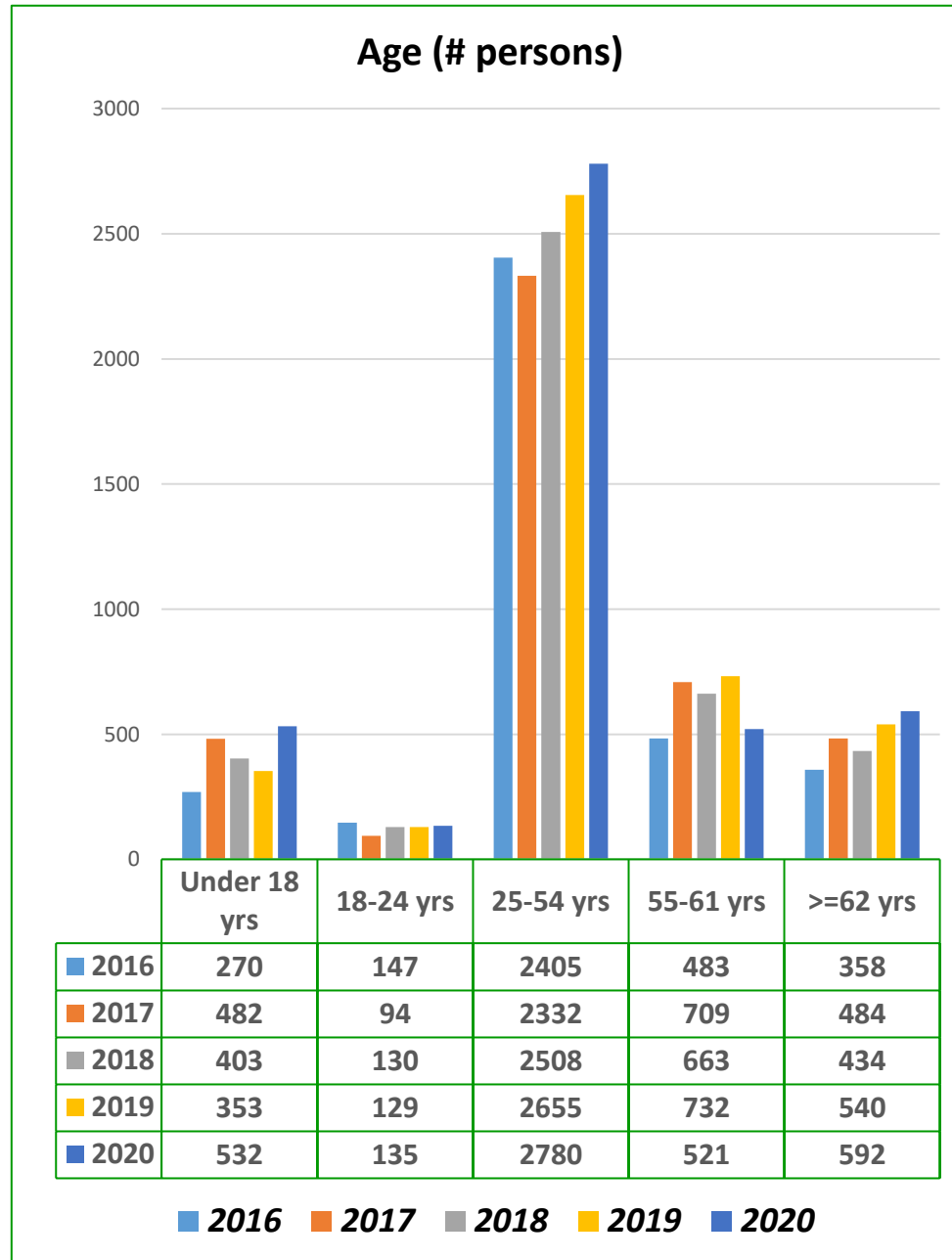
SPA 8: Household Composition



In 2020, new methodological improvements were made for determining “Family” unsheltered homelessness. This resulted in a **46% LA CoC increase** and **51% rise in SPA 8**.



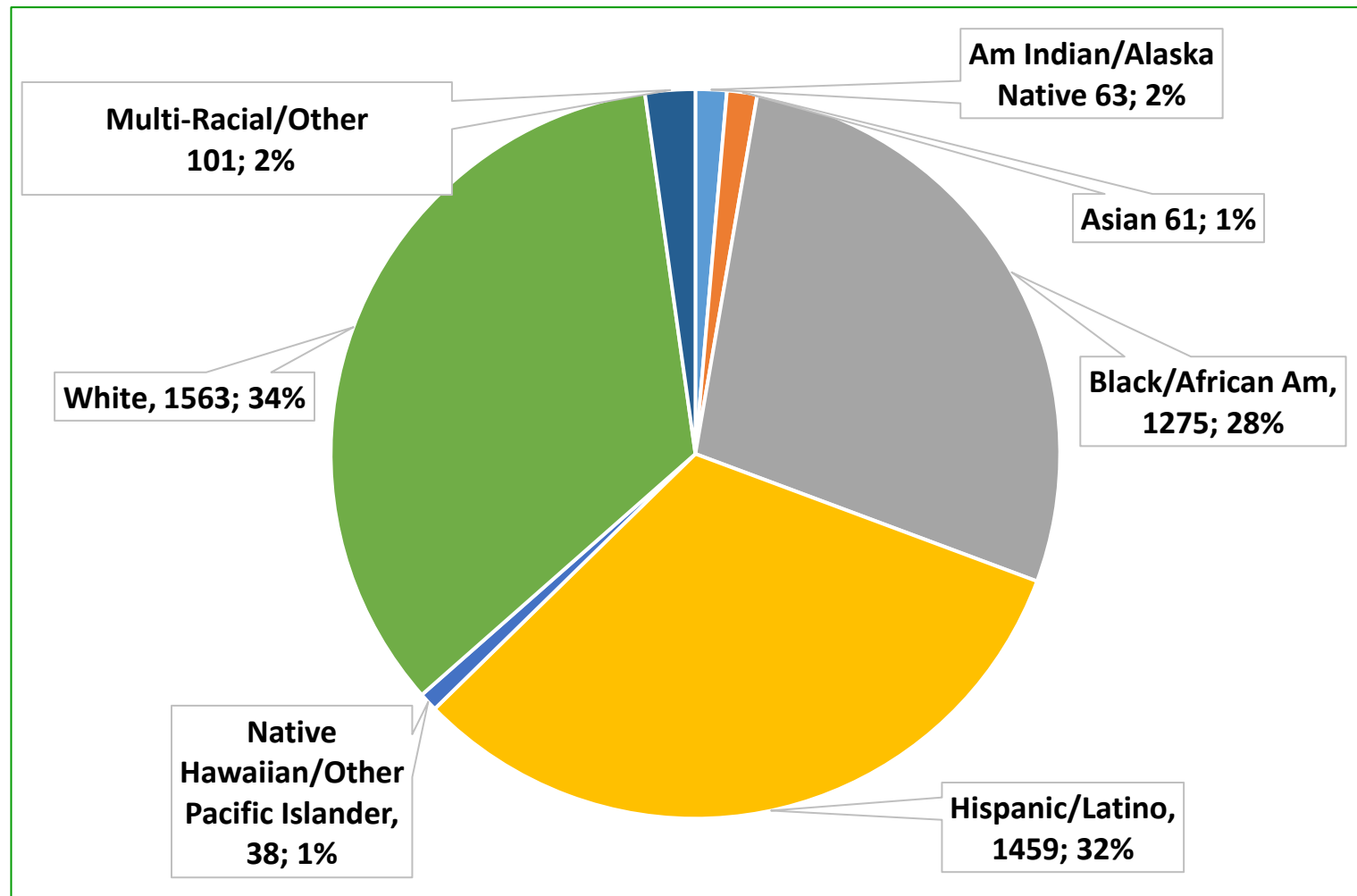
SPA 8: Age by Year



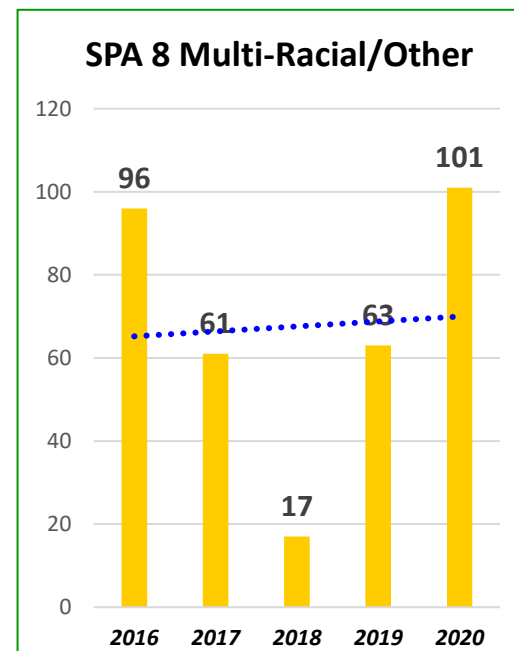
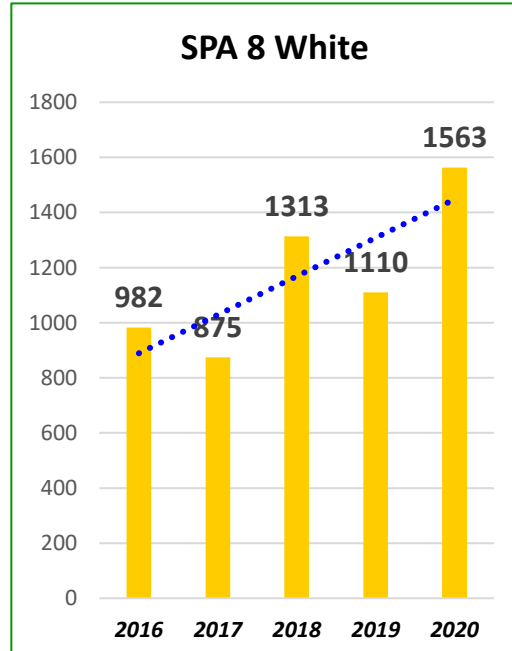
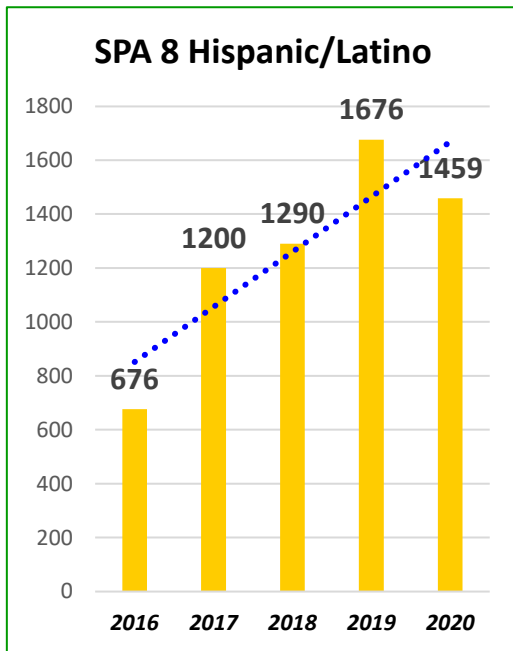
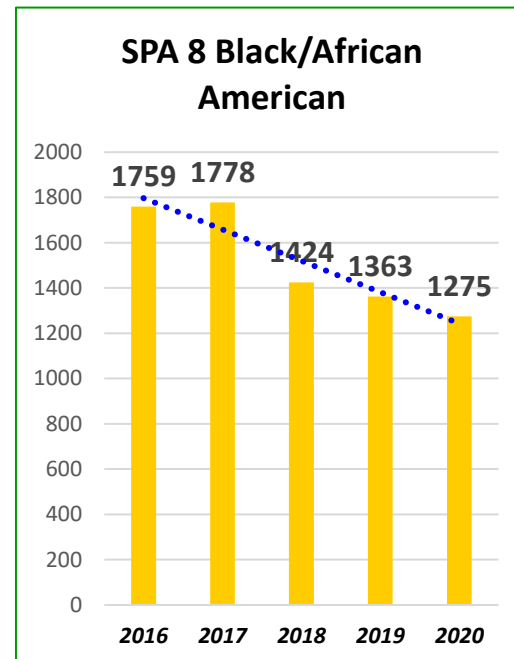
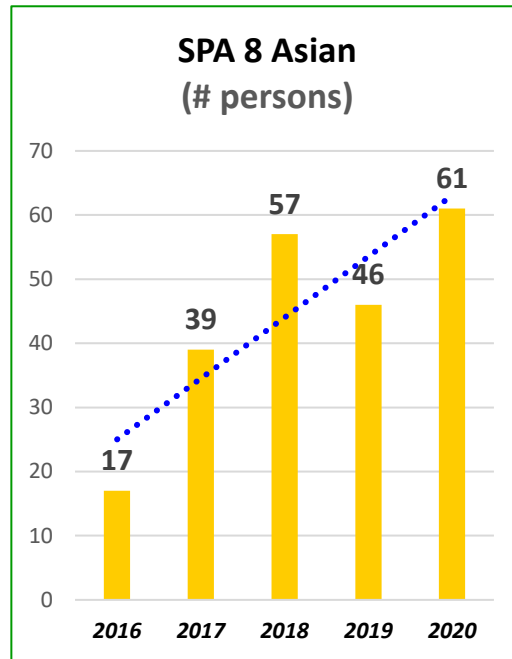
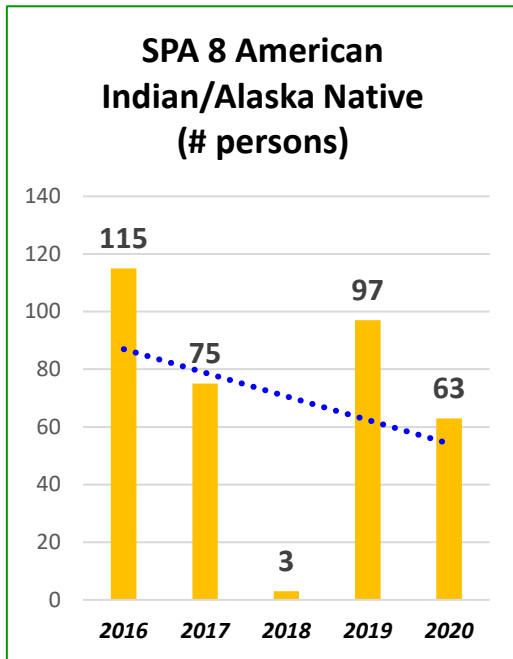
While homelessness among Seniors 62+ in LA CoC increased by 20%, SPA 8's one year increase was 10%.

SPA 8 Race & Ethnicity

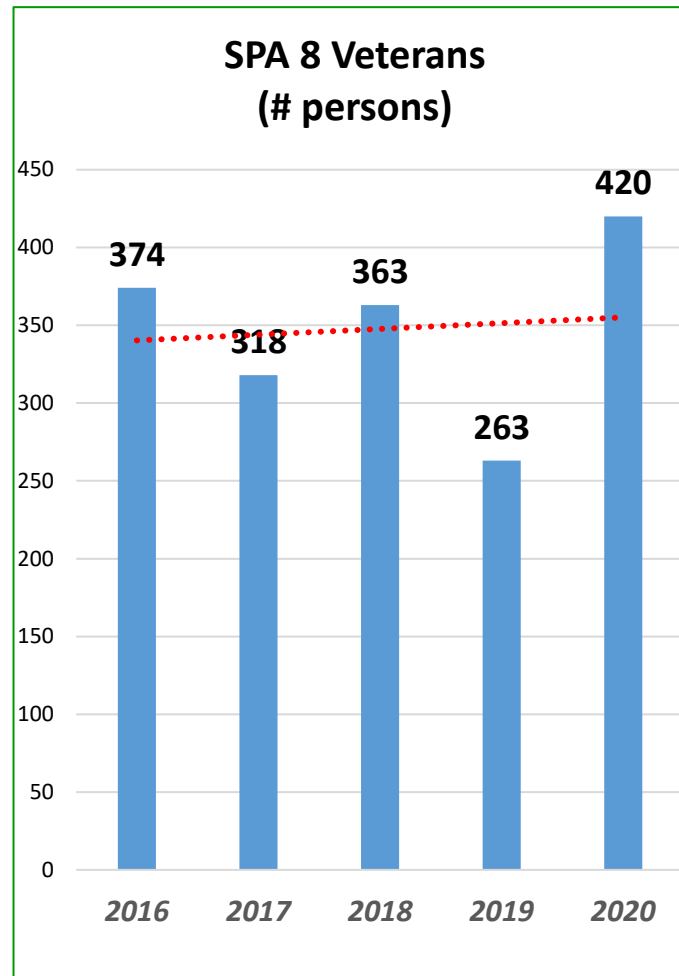
2020 SPA 8 Race & Ethnicity Composition (%)



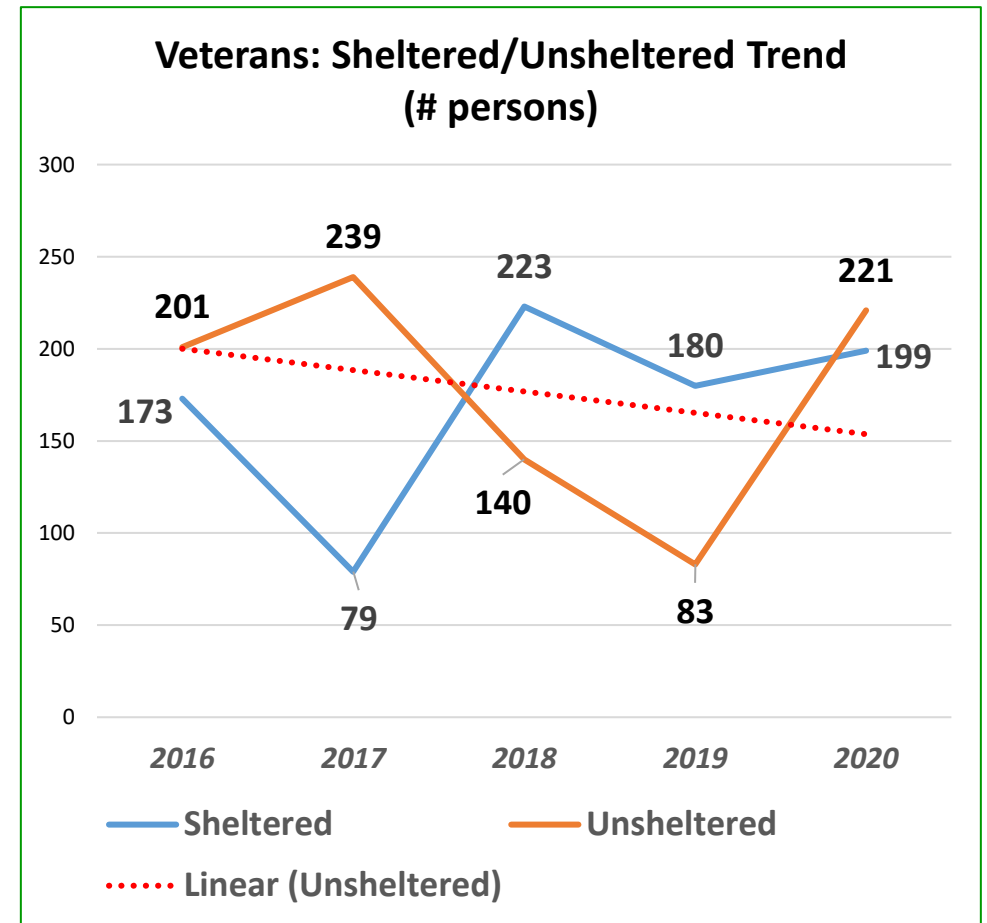
SPA 8 Race & Ethnicity



SPA 8 Special Populations (1 of 4)



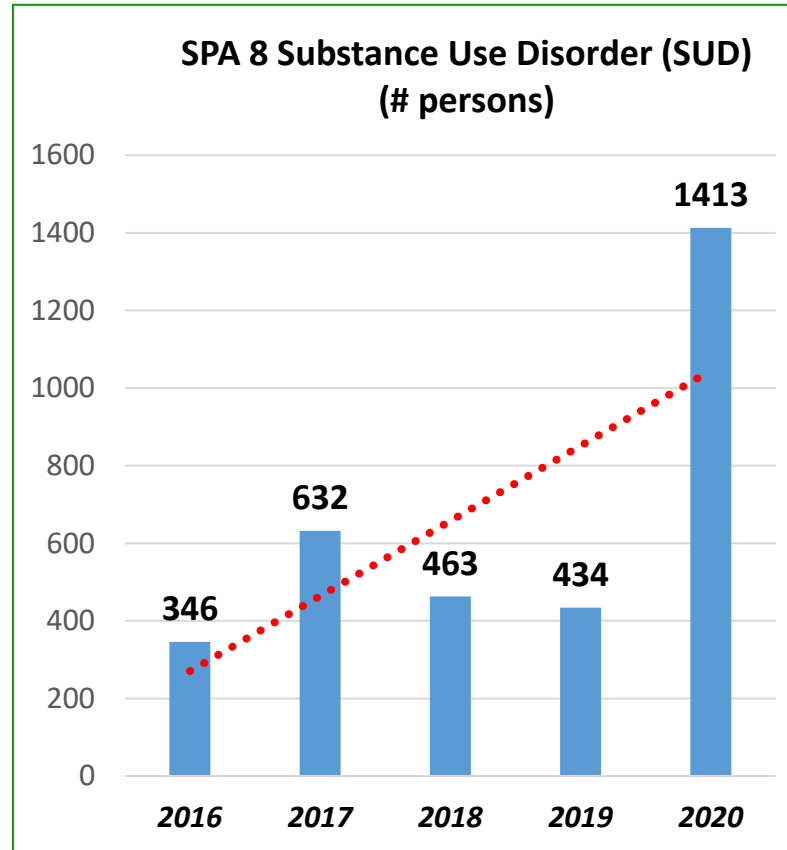
Veteran homelessness in the **LA CoC** was relatively flat with a **0.6% increase**, but **SPA 8's one year increase was 60%** driven by the increase of those living unsheltered.



US Veterans Initiative/Inglewood has a large facility. Its bed configuration changes annually based on VA funding.

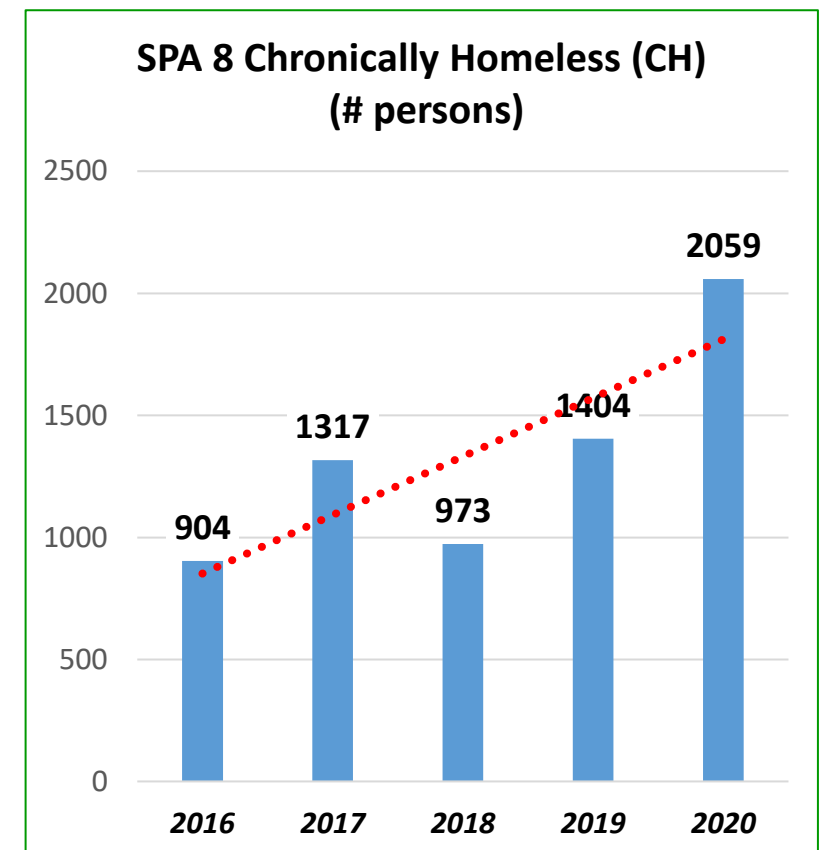
Its shelter count numbers heavily affect SPA 8's overall Vet number. It is a "County Resource," so Vets are not just from SPA 8.

SPA 8 Special Populations (2 of 4)



In 2020, the following change was made for determining SUD usage among unsheltered homelessness: respondents were asked if they had “difficulties” with drug or alcohol use; in previous years they were asked if they had “problematic” use.

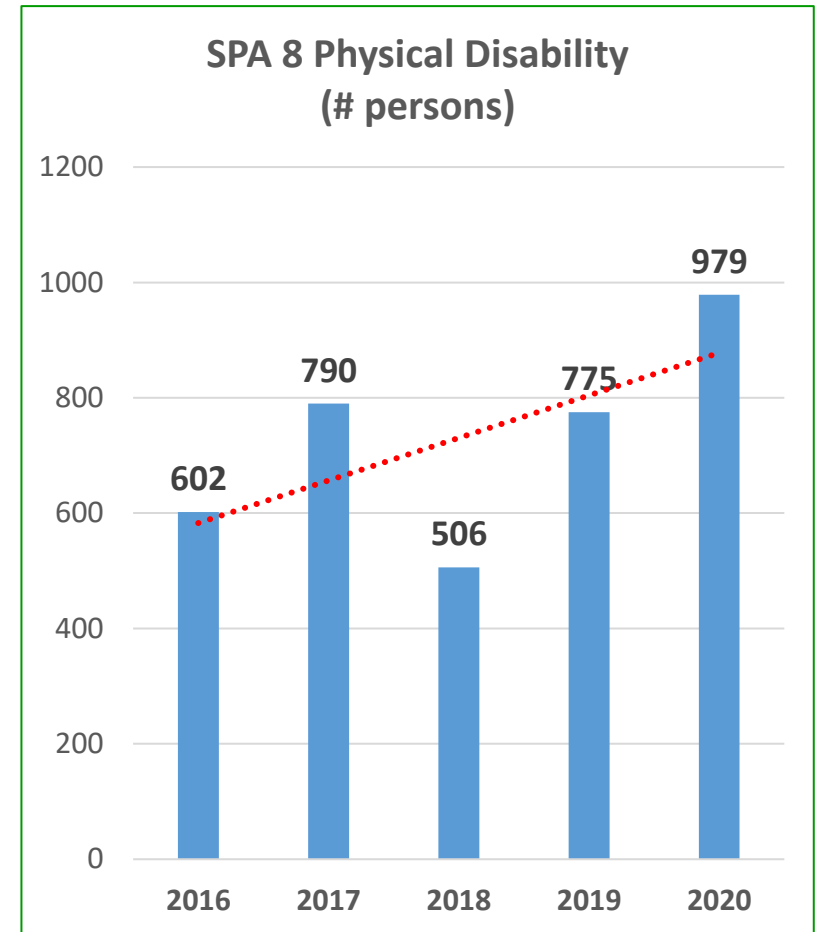
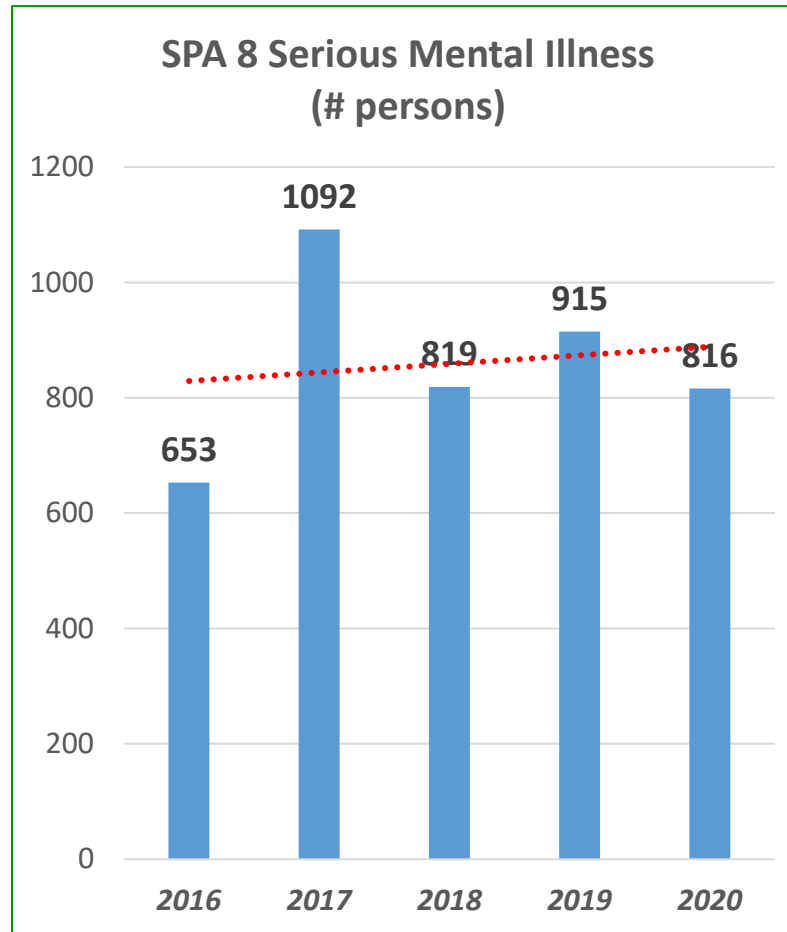
This resulted in a **27% LA CoC increase**
and **226% rise in SPA 8**.



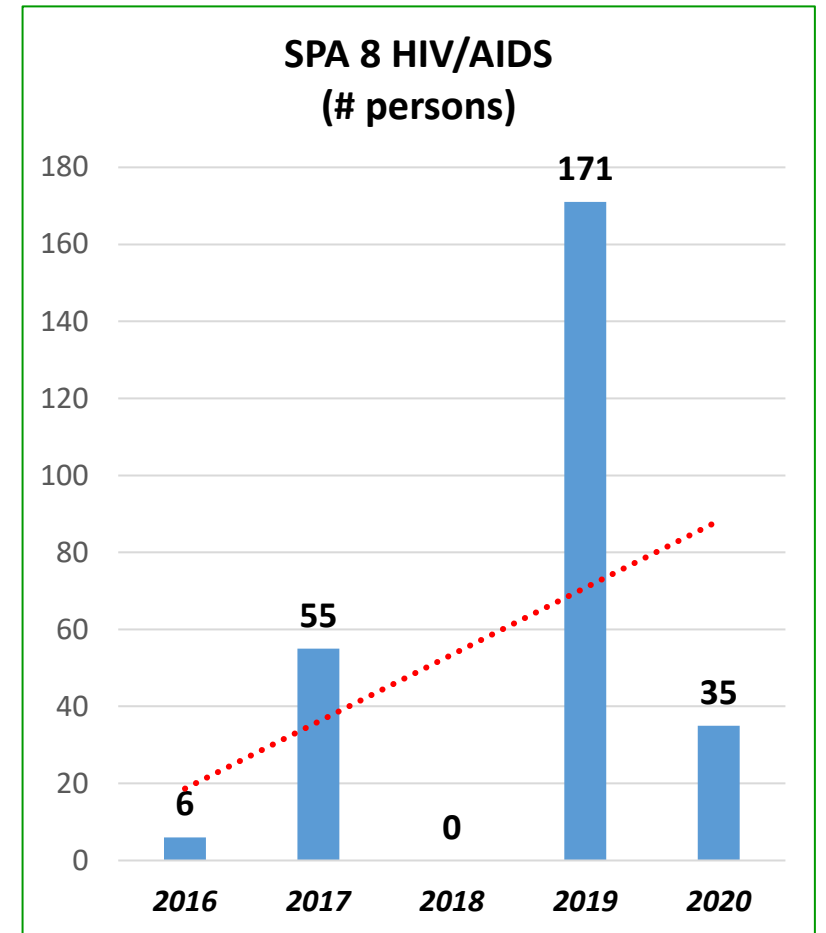
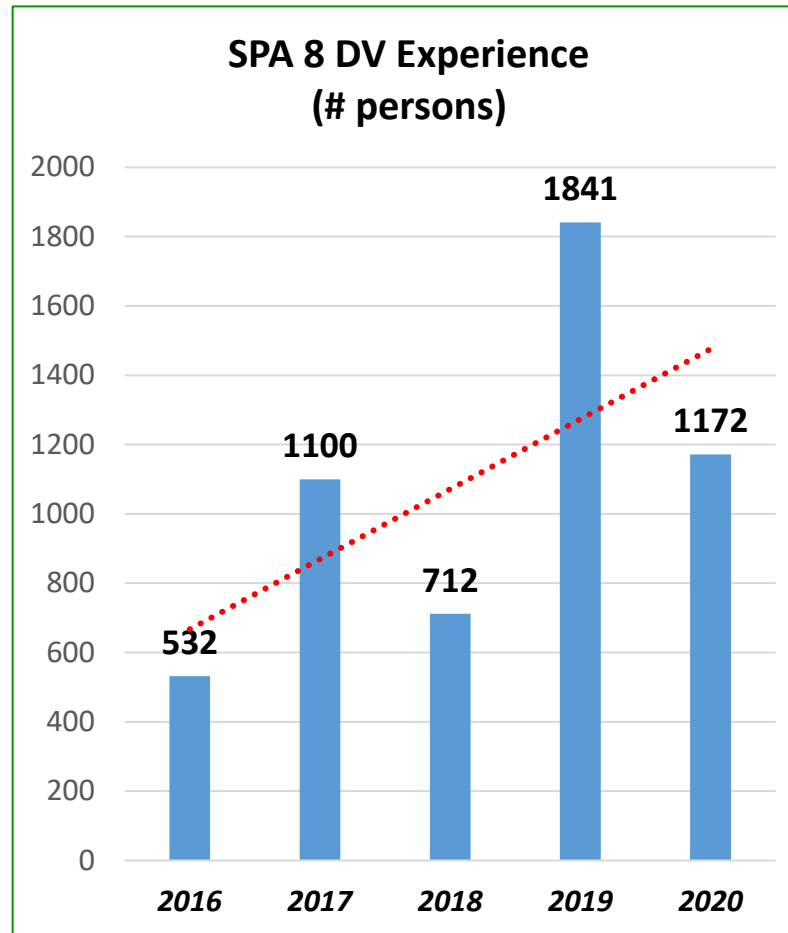
In 2020, the large increase of persons with a SUD affected the number of unsheltered CH, resulting in a **58% LA CoC increase**
and **226% rise in SPA 8**.

Note: LAHSA cautions about comparing CH and SUD with past years.

SPA 8 Special Populations (3 of 4)



SPA 8 Special Populations (4 of 4)



In 2017, HUD broadened DV reporting beyond domestic violence or sexual assault to include dating violence or stalking

Next Wave of 2020 Data

- Additional datasets will be released by LAHSA
 - LA County, LA CoC, Supervisorial Districts, City of LA Council Districts details (this week)
 - # of Vehicles, Tents, Makeshift Shelters by SPA
 - The following historically released in **second wave about a month later**
 - Shelter information
 - Youth Count
 - City-level data
 - Individual Census Tract data

Closing Remarks

Q&A

- We will incorporate into our “info sheets” additional Count info as it becomes available
 - Depending on the release timing, may schedule a separate meeting to review it
 - Will be available on our website
- Demographic information is not statistically reliably at the city-level

