



*The* **STATE** *of*  
**HOMELESSNESS**  
**IN AMERICA**

20  16

AN EXAMINATION OF TRENDS IN HOMELESSNESS, HOMELESS ASSISTANCE,  
AND AT-RISK POPULATIONS AT THE NATIONAL AND STATE LEVELS.



The National Alliance to End Homelessness is a leading voice on the issue of homelessness. To accomplish its mission of ending homelessness, the Alliance uses data and research to identify the nature of, and solutions to, the problem. It analyzes policy to determine how best to advance these solutions. And, it helps build the capacity of communities to implement strategies that help them end homelessness.



The Homelessness Research Institute (HRI), the research and education arm of the National Alliance to End Homelessness, works to end homelessness by building and disseminating knowledge. The goals of HRI are to build the intellectual capital around solutions to homelessness; to advance data and research to ensure that policymakers, practitioners, and the caring public have the best information about trends in homelessness and emerging solutions; and to engage the media to promote the proliferation of solid data and information on homelessness.



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State of Homelessness in America 2016 is the sixth in a series of reports charting progress in ending homelessness in the United States. It is intended to serve as a desktop reference for policymakers, journalists, and community and state leaders.

## REPORT CONTENTS

This report uses the most recently available data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Census Bureau, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics to present national and state trends in homelessness, populations at risk of homelessness, and the types and utilization of homeless assistance. Chapter 1 details national and state trends from 2014 to 2015 in the overall homeless population and subpopulations, including individuals, families, and veterans. Chapter 2 presents trends in populations at risk of homelessness from 2013 to 2014, including households experiencing severe housing cost burden and people living doubled up with family and friends. Chapter 3 analyzes trends in the types and scope of assistance available to people experiencing homelessness and utilization of those resources from 2014 to 2015.

## REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

### HOMELESSNESS

On a single night in January 2015, 564,708 people were experiencing homelessness<sup>1</sup> — meaning they were sleeping outside or in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program. From 2014 to 2015, overall homelessness decreased by 2.0 percent and homelessness decreased among every major sub-population: unsheltered persons (1.2 percent), families (4.6 percent), chronically homeless individuals (1.0 percent), and veterans (4.0 percent).

- In total, 33 states and the District of Columbia (D.C.) reported decreases in overall homelessness, while 16 states reported increases. The states with decreases in homelessness were concentrated in the South and Midwest.
- Despite a national decrease in unsheltered homelessness, only 18 states reported decreases in the number of people living in unsheltered locations, including the street, cars, and abandoned buildings. The national decrease in unsheltered homelessness was driven in large part by decreases in unsheltered homelessness in Florida, Texas, and Georgia.
- The national rate of homelessness in 2015 fell to 17.7 homeless people per 10,000 people in the general population from 18.3 in 2014. The rates in individual states ranged from 111 in D.C. to 7 in Mississippi.
- The rate of veteran homelessness continued its descent of the past several years to 24.8 homeless veterans per 10,000 veterans in the general population. The rates in individual states ranged from 145 in D.C. to 9 in Virginia.
- The majority of states had decreases in every major subpopulation: family homelessness (33 states and D.C.), chronically homeless individuals (31 states and D.C.), and veteran homelessness (33 states).

### POPULATIONS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

Many poor people are at risk of homelessness. Ultimately, this is because it is hard for them to afford housing. Unemployment, housing cost burden, and living doubled up are indications of this struggle to afford housing. Longitudinal trends and changes from 2013 to 2014 indicate populations at risk of homelessness may be starting to benefit from the economic recovery.

- In 2014, 7 million people in poor households were doubled up with family and friends, the most common prior living situation before becoming homeless. This represents a 9 percent decrease from 2013 and the first significant decrease in the size of this at-risk population since the Great Recession. Forty-seven states and D.C. had decreases. Still, the number of people in poor households living doubled up is 52 percent higher now than in 2007, prior to the recession.
- The number of poor renter households experiencing severe housing cost burden, those households in poverty paying more than 50 percent of their income toward housing, totaled 6.6 million in 2014, increasing 2.1 percent nationally from 2013, with 32 states seeing an increase. Since 2007, the number of poor households with severe housing cost burden has increased 27.7 percent and has plateaued since the recession instead of decreasing with the recovery.
- From 2013 to 2014, the number of unemployed people fell 16 percent, and the unemployment rate continued its multi-year decline, falling to 6.2 percent in 2014. Every state and D.C. saw decreases in the number of unemployed people.
- The number of people in poverty (48.2 million) and the poverty rate (15.5 percent) remained relatively steady in 2014. Thirty-two states and D.C. saw a decrease in the number of people in poverty; 18 saw an increase.

<sup>1</sup> National estimates of homelessness include Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, but these jurisdictions are not included in the totals of states seeing increases or decreases.

## HOMELESS ASSISTANCE SYSTEM

Communities across the country respond to homelessness with a variety of housing and services programs, including emergency shelters, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing. The HEARTH Act, passed in 2009, placed a greater emphasis on permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing as permanent housing solutions to homelessness. The shift away from transitional housing to permanent housing began to be seen in 2013 and has continued in 2015.

- Rapid re-housing capacity grew dramatically for a second year—an increase of 22,529 beds. This represents a 59.6 percent increase from 2014 to 2015 and a 204 percent increase from 2013 to 2015. Thirty-eight states and D.C. increased rapid re-housing capacity from 2014 to 2015.
- The number of permanent supportive housing beds continued to grow from 2014 to 2015 by 18,930 beds (6.3 percent) to a total of 319,212 beds. Thirty-five states reported increases and 15 states and D.C. reported decreases.
- Transitional housing capacity continued to decrease nationwide with 40 states and D.C. reducing capacity. Despite the decrease in capacity, utilization of transitional housing was low, with 81.7 percent of beds filled at the time of the point-in-time count. This is the lowest utilization of transitional housing recorded since 2007.

## MOVING FORWARD

The number of people who are homeless, defined as those sleeping outside and in homeless assistance programs, continues to decrease despite the fact that the size of low-income populations in at-risk housing situations remains significantly above pre-recession levels. These decreases are likely due in part to the effectiveness of targeted federal funding to address homelessness administered by a variety of federal agencies, including HUD, the U.S. Department

of Veteran Affairs, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Education. These federal programs and the public and private homeless assistance efforts in states and local communities have increasingly shifted to a focus on permanent housing solutions, such as permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing. Since 2007, permanent supportive housing capacity has grown 69 percent nationally and, since beginning to be funded by HUD McKinney-Vento homeless assistance programs in 2013, rapid re-housing capacity has grown 204 percent nationally.

Homelessness may be decreasing, probably due in part to improvements in homeless assistance and increasing investment in proven solutions by the federal government, but this alone cannot overcome the inability of low-income households to afford housing. Housing is difficult to access and maintain for a large swath of the American public due to a lack of affordable housing stock combined with insufficient and stagnant incomes. This was the case prior to the recession, worsened during the recession, and has not improved substantially since the end of the recession. In fact, it appears that lower-income populations may not be experiencing the same benefits of the improving economy as those in higher income levels despite decreases in unemployment. And, the recovery of the housing market is making housing even more difficult to afford than earlier in the recovery when rents remained lower. Simultaneously, many low-income assistance programs are facing federal spending cuts and caps. The homeless assistance system is doing what it can to serve those in the country with the most desperate housing needs, but the federal government should prioritize investment in affordable housing and other efforts to improve economic conditions for low-income populations.



## CHAPTER ONE

# HOMELESSNESS IN AMERICA

The January 2015 point-in-time count,<sup>2</sup> which identified 564,708 people experiencing homelessness,<sup>3</sup> is the most recent national estimate of homelessness in the United States. This translates to a national rate of homelessness of fewer than 18 homeless persons out of every 10,000 persons in the general public on a single night. From 2014 to 2015, homelessness decreased overall and amongst every major subpopulation: unsheltered homelessness, families, chronically homeless individuals, and veterans. Homeless unaccompanied youth and children represented 6.5 percent of the overall homeless population, but it remains unlikely that the point-in-time counts present an accurate enumeration of this population.<sup>4</sup>

This chapter provides longitudinal national trends in overall homelessness and all subpopulations. State-by-state changes from 2014 to 2015 are detailed for overall homelessness and for each subpopulation.

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<sup>2</sup> Every year, during the last 10 days of January, communities across the country conduct an enumeration of homeless persons living in emergency shelter, transitional housing, or on the street, in what is commonly known as a point-in-time count. See page 10 for more information on point-in-time counts.

<sup>3</sup> For the purposes of this report, homelessness or homeless refers to the definition set by HUD, which considers an individual homeless if he or she lives in an emergency shelter, transitional housing program (including safe havens), or a place not meant for human habitation, such as a car, abandoned building, or on the streets.

<sup>4</sup> Unaccompanied children and youth were first differentiated in the point-in-time counts in 2013 and communities are still adopting and developing strategies to ensure that homeless youth are captured during the point-in-time count.



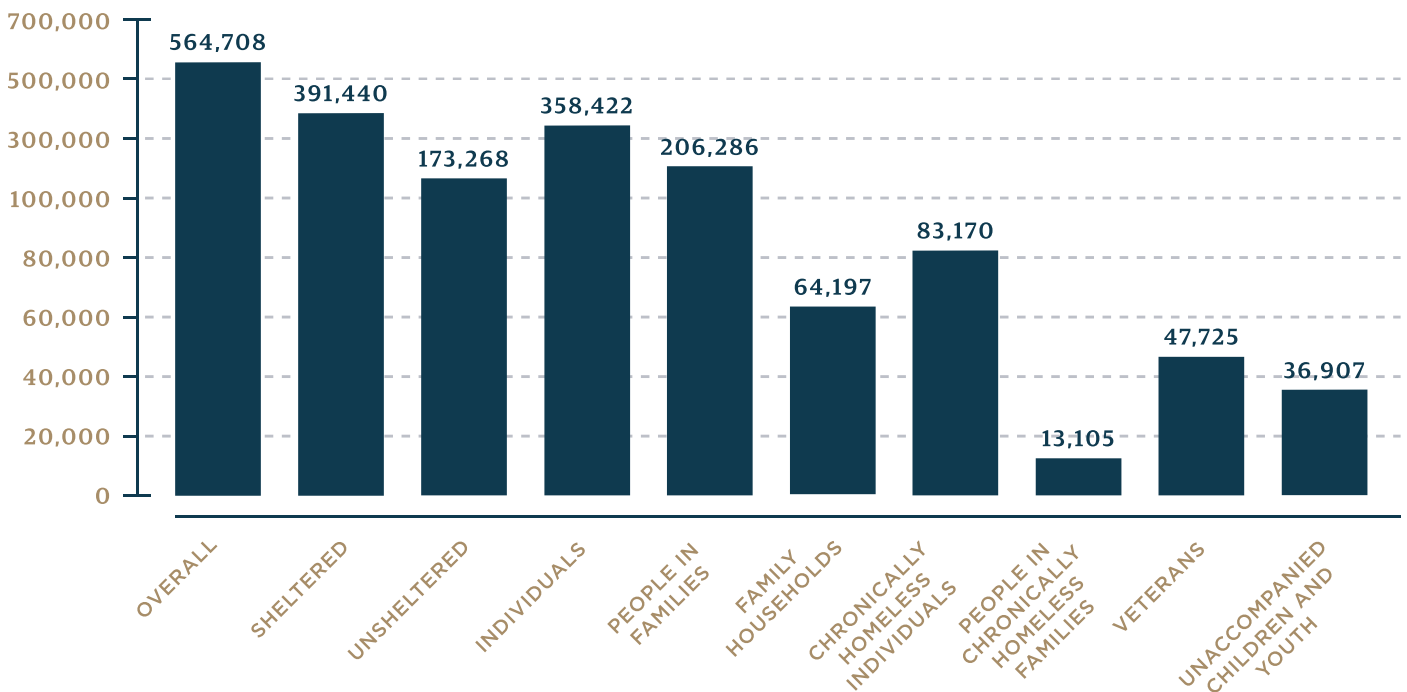
## HOMELESS POPULATION AND SUBPOPULATIONS

The January 2015 point-in-time count identified 564,708 people experiencing homelessness. Though the vast majority of the homeless population (391,440 people) lived in some form of shelter or in transitional housing at the time of the point-in-time count in 2015, approximately 31 percent (173,268 people) lived in a place not meant for human habitation, such as the street or an abandoned building.

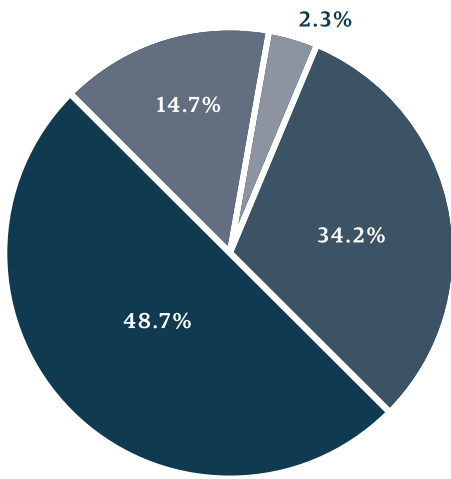
The largest subpopulation experiencing homelessness was individuals, comprising almost 63 percent of all homeless people (358,422 people). About 37 percent were people in families (206,286 people in 64,197 households). Individuals who were chronically homeless represented almost 15 percent (83,170 people) of the homeless population, while people in chronically homeless families made up approximately 2 percent (13,105 people) of the homeless population. About 8 percent of the homeless population was made up of veterans (47,725 people). Unaccompanied youth and children accounted for 6.5 percent of the total homeless population (36,907 people).<sup>5</sup>

Figures 1.1 and 1.2 illustrate the breakdown of homeless populations and subpopulations in 2015.

**FIGURE 1.1**  
**HOMELESS POPULATION AND SUBPOPULATIONS, 2015**



<sup>5</sup> An individual or family is considered chronically homeless if he or she or, in the case of a family, a head of a household, has a disabling condition and has been continuously homeless for 1 year or more or has experienced at least 4 episodes of homelessness in the last 3 years. Prior to the 2013 point-in-time count, information on chronic homelessness was collected only for individuals. Starting in 2013, information on chronic homelessness was collected for both individuals and families.



**FIGURE 1.2**  
**MAJOR HOMELESS**  
**SUBPOPULATIONS, 2015**

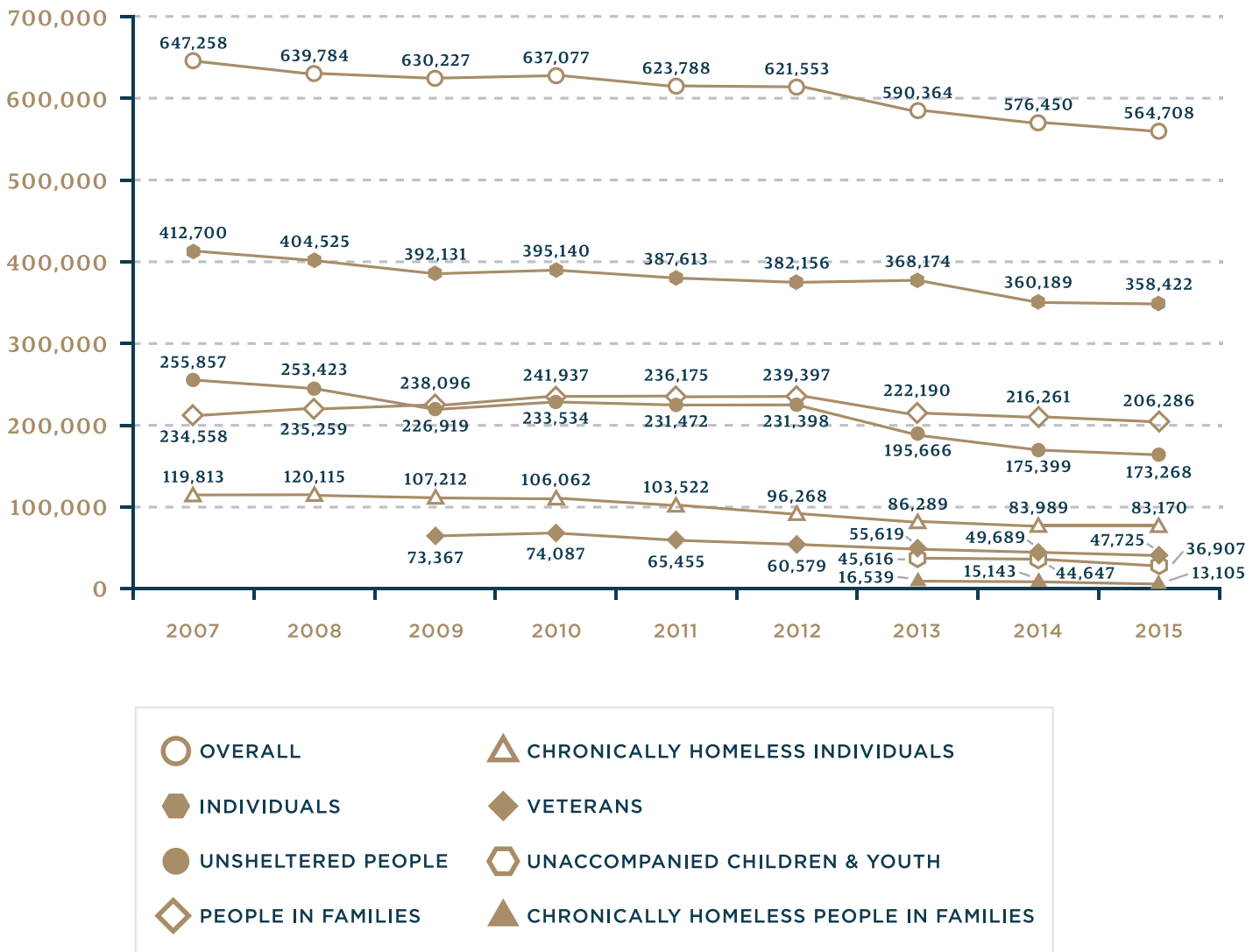
- NON-CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS (275,252)
- PEOPLE IN NON-CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES (193,181)
- CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS (83,170)
- PEOPLE IN CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES (13,105)



# NATIONAL TRENDS IN THE HOMELESS POPULATION AND SUBPOPULATIONS

Since 2007, homelessness has decreased overall and across every subpopulation (see Figure 1.3), but the most dramatic decreases in homelessness have been amongst veterans (35 percent decrease since 2009), people living in unsheltered locations (32 percent decrease since 2007), and people experiencing chronic homelessness (31 percent decrease since 2007).

**FIGURE 1.3**  
**SUBPOPULATION TRENDS, 2007-2015**



## *Point-In-Time*

# ESTIMATES *of* HOMELESSNESS

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*The State of Homelessness in America* series and many prior reports on the incidence and prevalence of homelessness use point-in-time counts as the measure to evaluate progress in ending homelessness. On a given night in January, communities, organized into Continuums of Care (CoCs), count the number of people experiencing homelessness in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and sleeping outside and in other places not meant for human habitation.<sup>6</sup> Electronic administrative records are used to enumerate people living in emergency shelters and transitional housing. An organized unsheltered count is conducted by outreach workers and volunteers who canvas CoCs to enumerate the people who appear to be living in places not meant for human habitation. Unsheltered counts are required every other year, although most communities conduct an unsheltered count annually.<sup>7</sup> These two counts, the sheltered and unsheltered counts, provide information on nationwide trends in homelessness. CoCs report the data to HUD through the annual application for homeless assistance grants as well as through the Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX). This data is disseminated through the Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress (AHAR).

**POINT-IN-TIME COUNTS ARE THE ONLY MEASURE THAT CAPTURE SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.**

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The point-in-time counts are not without limitations. There is variation in count methodology year-to-year within and across communities. Unsheltered counts have more limitations than sheltered counts and there is more variation in methodology. Point-in-time counts are, however, the only measure that enumerates people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in addition to those who are sheltered. And, despite its flaws, the annual point-in-time counts result in the most reliable estimate of people experiencing homelessness in the United States from which progress can be measured.

<sup>6</sup> There are populations other than those captured in the point-in-time count that are eligible for homeless assistance services, including those who will be without housing within 14 days or are living unstably doubled up or couch-surfing.

<sup>7</sup> Communities were mandated to conduct an unsheltered count in 2015, but not in 2014. 78 percent of communities completed an unsheltered count in 2014. For the purposes of the year-to-year comparisons between 2014 and 2015, if a community did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2014, the 2013 unsheltered number was used.

## NATIONAL AND STATE RATES OF HOMELESSNESS

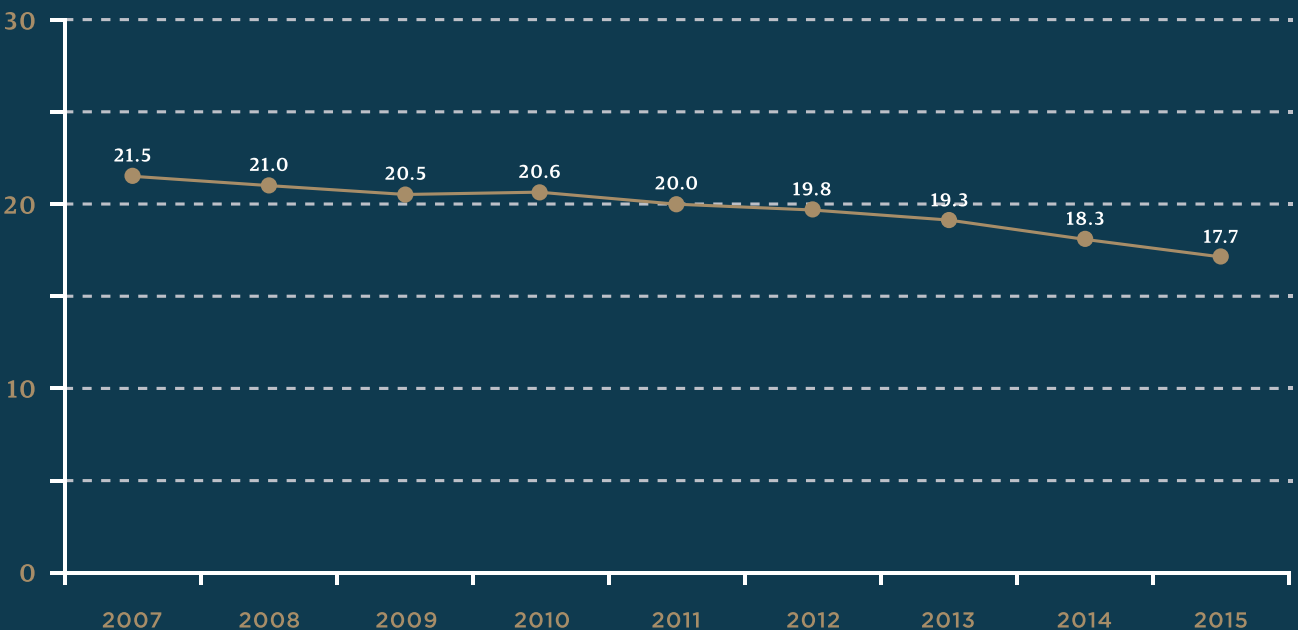
National trends and overall totals do not provide a complete picture of homelessness across the country. Larger and more populous areas have greater numbers of people experiencing homelessness, but not necessarily higher rates of homelessness. Similarly, as the overall population of the country grows, one may see the homeless population grow, although the frequency of homelessness remains the same. By calculating the rate of homelessness, one can see trends in homelessness in relation to the size of and trends in the general population of the nation or an individual state.

In 2015, the national rate of people experiencing homelessness was 17.7 people experiencing homelessness per 10,000 people in the general population. Since 2007, the size of the overall homeless population has only decreased 12.8 percent, but the rate of homelessness has decreased by 17.7 percent. This indicates that homelessness has decreased despite increases in the general population (see Figure 1.4).

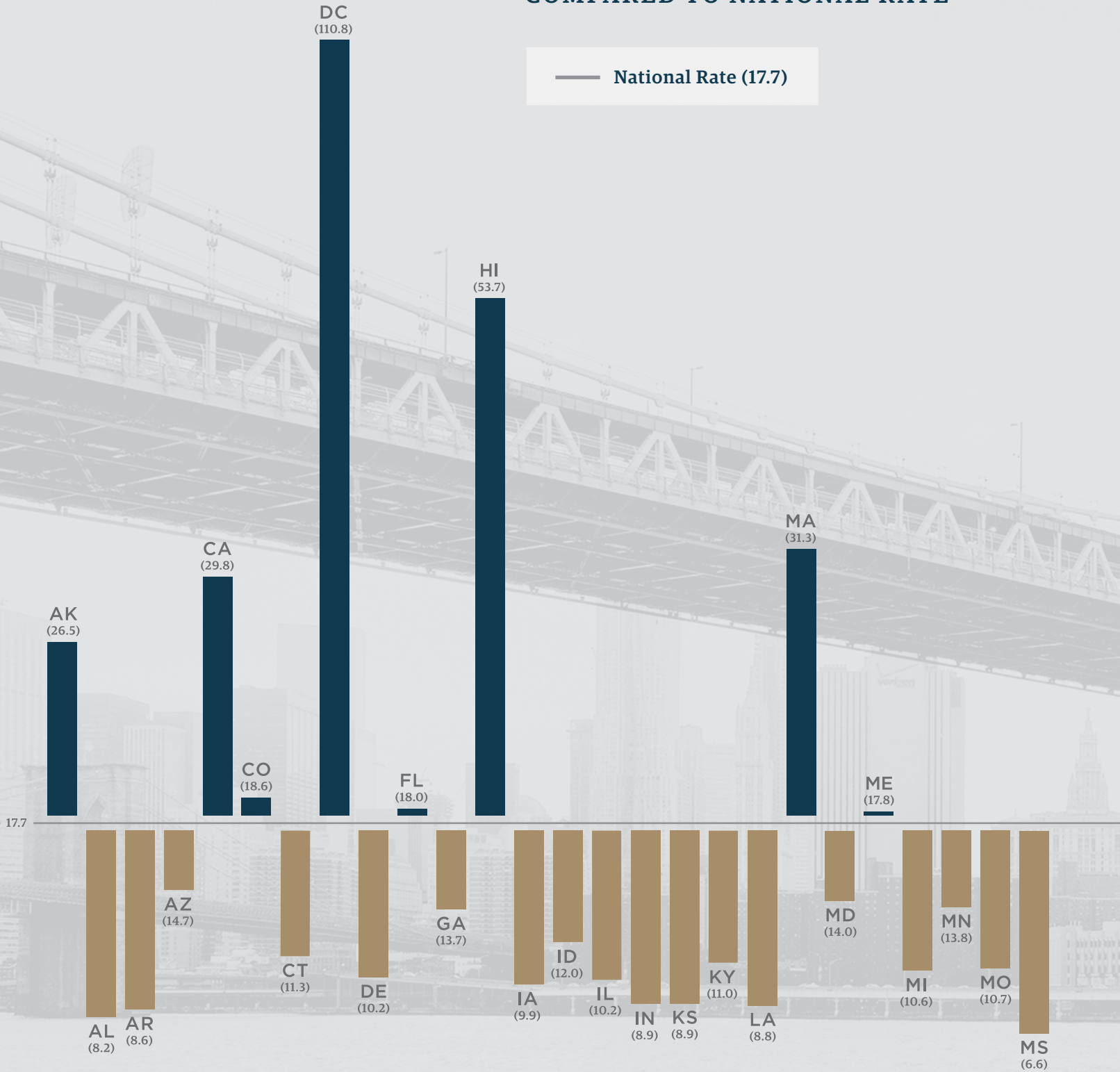
Similarly, examining rates of homelessness can provide a clearer picture of the prevalence of homelessness in individual states (see Figure 1.5). For example, Texas is the state with the 4th highest number of people experiencing homelessness (23,678 people on a given night in 2015), but has a rate of homelessness significantly lower than the national rate of homelessness.

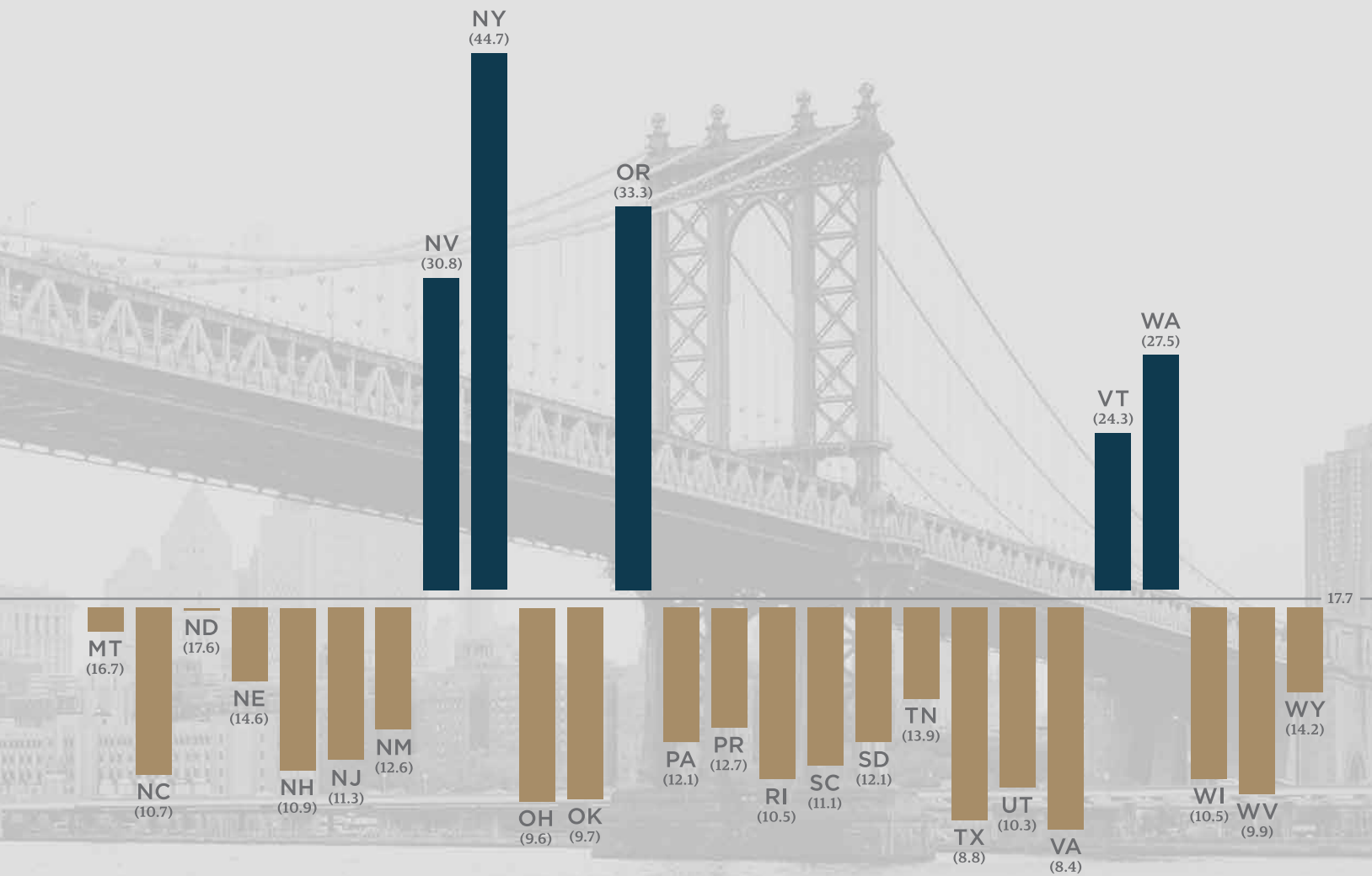
FIGURE 1.4

### CHANGE IN NATIONAL RATE OF HOMELESSNESS, 2007-2015



**FIGURE 1.5**  
**2015 STATE RATES OF HOMELESSNESS**  
**COMPARED TO NATIONAL RATE**





# STATE TRENDS IN HOMELESSNESS

## OVERALL HOMELESSNESS

The number of people experiencing homelessness in America decreased by 2.0 percent from 2014 to 2015, but trends varied among states: 33 states and D.C. reported decreases in overall homelessness, while 16 states reported increases (see Map 1.1 and Table 1.1).

States with decreases in homelessness were concentrated in the South and Midwest with many states in those regions seeing significant decreases in homelessness. Additionally, large decreases were seen in three large and populous states that are among the states with the most people experiencing homelessness: Florida (5,642 people fewer), Texas (4,817 fewer people), and Georgia (2,731 fewer people).

Increases in homelessness were concentrated in the West and Northeast and the two states with the largest homeless populations: New York (7,660 more people) and California (1,786 more people).

**MAP 1.1**  
**CHANGE IN OVERALL HOMELESSNESS, 2014-2015**

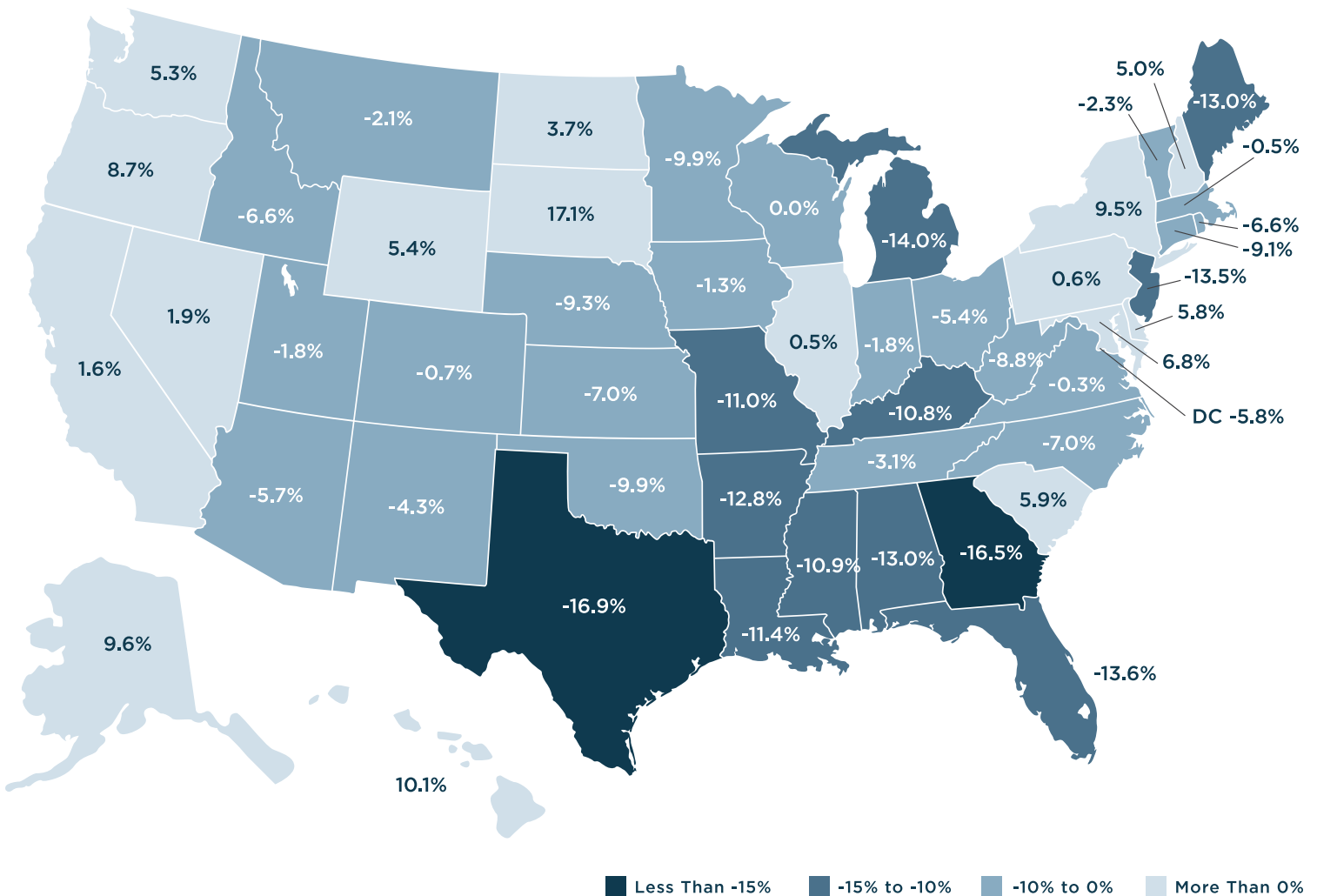




TABLE 1.1

## CHANGE IN OVERALL HOMELESSNESS, 2014-2015

ST	2015 Homeless Persons	2014 Homeless Persons	% Change	2015 Rate Per 10,000	ST	2015 Homeless Persons	2014 Homeless Persons	% Change	2015 Rate Per 10,000
AK	1,956	1,784	9.6%	26.5	MT	1,709	1,745	-2.1%	16.7
AL	3,970	4,561	-13.0%	8.2	NC	10,685	11,491	-7.0%	10.7
AR	2,560	2,936	-12.8%	8.6	ND	1,305	1,258	3.7%	17.6
AZ	9,896	10,495	-5.7%	14.7	NE	2,744	3,026	-9.3%	14.6
CA	115,738	113,952	1.6%	29.8	NH	1,445	1,376	5.0%	10.9
CO	9,953	10,028	-0.7%	18.6	NJ	10,098	11,671	-13.5%	11.3
CT	4,047	4,450	-9.1%	11.3	NM	2,629	2,746	-4.3%	12.6
DC	7,298	7,748	-5.8%	110.8	NV	8,743	8,582	1.9%	30.8
DE	953	901	5.8%	10.2	NY	88,250	80,590	9.5%	44.7
FL	35,900	41,542	-13.6%	18.0	OH	11,182	11,823	-5.4%	9.6
GA	13,790	16,521	-16.5%	13.7	OK	3,777	4,191	-9.9%	9.7
GU	1,280	1,356	-5.6%	-	OR	13,226	12,164	8.7%	33.3
HI	7,620	6,918	10.1%	53.7	PA	15,421	15,333	0.6%	12.1
IA	3,081	3,122	-1.3%	9.9	PR	4,518	4,132	9.3%	12.7
ID	1,966	2,104	-6.6%	12.0	RI	1,111	1,190	-6.6%	10.5
IL	13,177	13,107	0.5%	10.2	SC	5,354	5,057	5.9%	11.1
IN	5,863	5,971	-1.8%	8.9	SD	1,036	885	17.1%	12.1
KS	2,588	2,783	-7.0%	8.9	TN	9,123	9,415	-3.1%	13.9
KY	4,538	5,089	-10.8%	11.0	TX	23,678	28,495	-16.9%	8.8
LA	4,081	4,606	-11.4%	8.8	UT	3,025	3,081	-1.8%	10.3
MA	21,135	21,237	-0.5%	31.3	VA	7,001	7,020	-0.3%	8.4
MD	8,390	7,856	6.8%	14.0	VI	337	448	-24.8%	-
ME	2,372	2,726	-13.0%	17.8	VT	1,523	1,559	-2.3%	24.3
MI	10,516	12,227	-14.0%	10.6	WA	19,419	18,442	5.3%	27.5
MN	7,546	8,377	-9.9%	13.8	WI	6,057	6,055	0.0%	10.5
MO	6,482	7,282	-11.0%	10.7	WV	1,835	2,013	-8.8%	9.9
MS	1,983	2,226	-10.9%	6.6	WY	798	757	5.4%	14.2
USA	564,708	576,450	-2.0%	17.7					

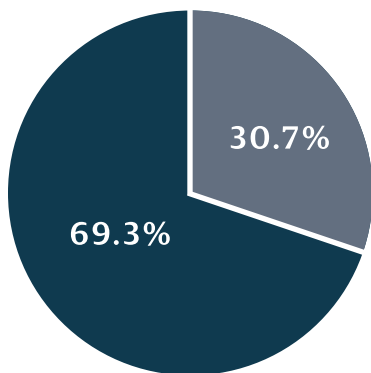


FIGURE 1.6

## SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED PROPORTIONS, OVERALL HOMELESSNESS, 2015

- TOTAL SHELTERED (391,440)
- TOTAL UNSHELTERED (173,268)

## UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS

Most people experiencing homelessness do so while in emergency shelter or transitional housing, but approximately one-third (30.7 percent) of the homeless population was unsheltered during a single night in January 2015. This means they were living in a place unfit for human habitation, such as on the street, in a car, or in an abandoned building. Throughout Chapter 1, the proportion of each subpopulation that was unsheltered nationally will be shown in a pie chart on the same page as state trends.

From 2014 to 2015, the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness decreased by 1.2 percent, but most states (32 states and D.C.) reported increases in unsheltered homelessness (see Map 1.2 and Table 1.2). The national decrease in unsheltered homelessness is significantly driven by decreases in unsheltered homelessness in three states: Florida (4,674 fewer people), Texas (2,781 fewer people), and Georgia (2,504 fewer people).

**MAP 1.2**  
**CHANGE IN UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS, 2014-2015**

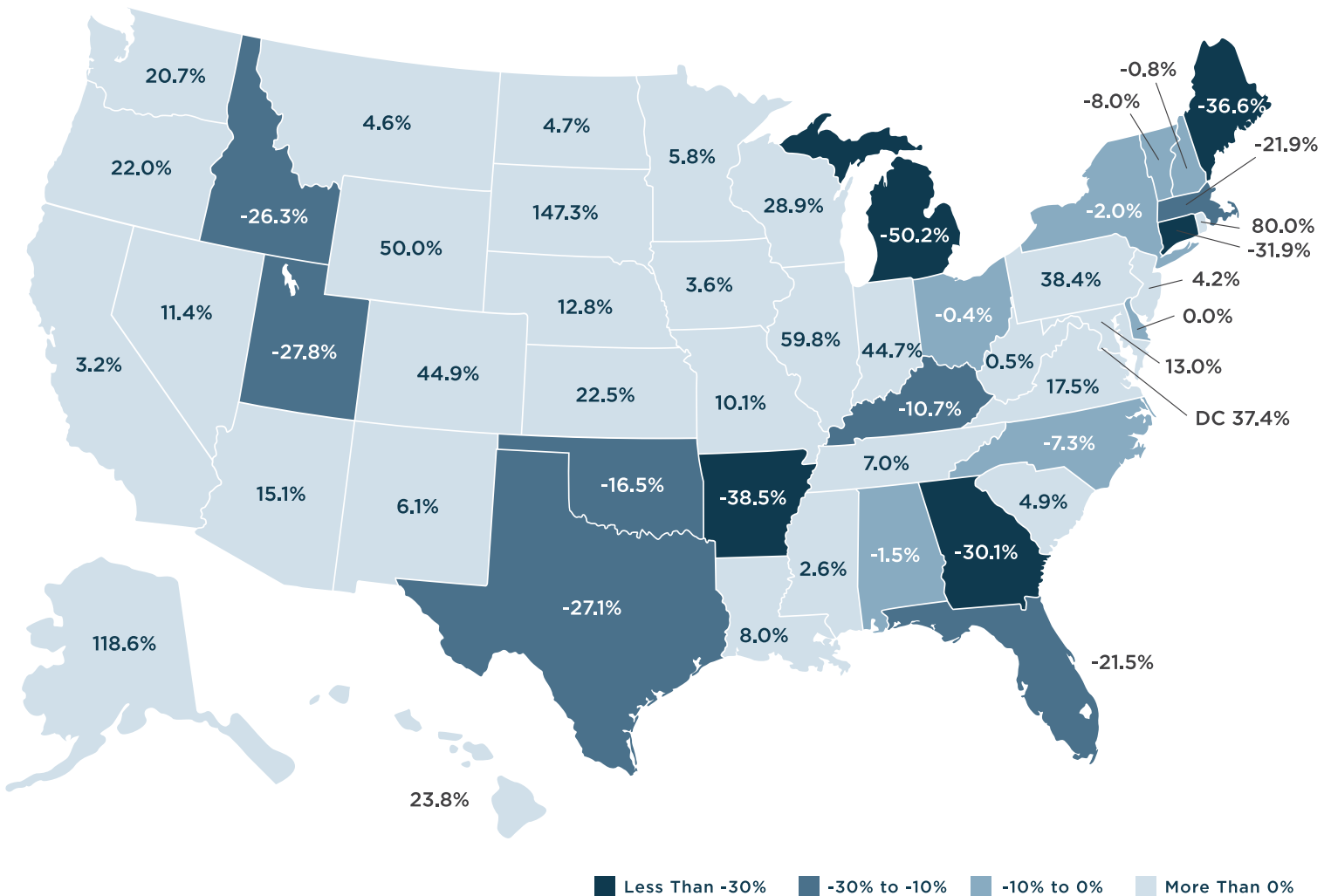


TABLE 1.2

## CHANGE IN UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS, 2014-2015

ST	2015 Unsheltered Persons	2014 Unsheltered Persons	% Change	ST	2015 Unsheltered Persons	2014 Unsheltered Persons	% Change
AK	317	145	118.6%	MT	872	834	4.6%
AL	1,027	1,043	-1.5%	NC	2,425	2,617	-7.3%
AR	882	1,433	-38.5%	ND	486	464	4.7%
AZ	2,957	2,569	15.1%	NE	123	109	12.8%
CA	73,699	71,437	3.2%	NH	132	133	-0.8%
CO	2,819	1,945	44.9%	NJ	974	935	4.2%
CT	626	919	-31.9%	NM	454	428	6.1%
DC	544	396	37.4%	NV	4,215	3,785	11.4%
DE	37	37	0.0%	NY	4,022	4,103	-2.0%
FL	17,017	21,691	-21.5%	OH	1,099	1,103	-0.4%
GA	5,803	8,307	-30.1%	OK	778	932	-16.5%
GU	1,193	1,230	-3.0%	OR	7,395	6,063	22.0%
HI	3,843	3,105	23.8%	PA	1,428	1,032	38.4%
IA	203	196	3.6%	PR	3,097	2,726	13.6%
ID	469	636	-26.3%	RI	36	20	80.0%
IL	2,714	1,698	59.8%	SC	1,896	1,808	4.9%
IN	583	403	44.7%	SD	136	55	147.3%
KS	305	249	22.5%	TN	3,244	3,032	7.0%
KY	742	831	-10.7%	TX	7,486	10,267	-27.1%
LA	1,191	1,103	8.0%	UT	226	313	-27.8%
MA	593	759	-21.9%	VA	811	690	17.5%
MD	1,796	1,589	13.0%	VI	252	363	-30.6%
ME	59	93	-36.6%	VT	150	163	-8.0%
MI	1,072	2,152	-50.2%	WA	7,121	5,902	20.7%
MN	841	795	5.8%	WI	442	343	28.9%
MO	1,071	973	10.1%	WV	432	430	0.5%
MS	842	821	2.6%	WY	291	194	50.0%
				USA	173,268	175,399	-1.2%

## FAMILY HOMELESSNESS BY STATE

The number of people in homeless families reported in point-in-time counts in 2015 decreased by 4.6 percent from 2014 to 206,286 people. The vast majority of those homeless families were in sheltered locations (see Figure 1.7).

Decreases in family homelessness were wide-spread throughout the country with 33 states and D.C. reporting decreases in people in homeless families from 2014 to 2015 (see Map 1.3 and Tables 1.3 and 1.4). The three states with the largest decreases in people in homeless families were Florida (3,237 fewer people), Texas (1,905 fewer people), and New Jersey (1,316 fewer people).

Increases in family homelessness were reported sporadically across the country 2015 (see Map 1.3 and Tables 1.3 and 1.4), but the largest increase was reported in New York with an increase of 4,168 people in 1,023 family households.

MAP 1.3

### CHANGE IN PEOPLE IN HOMELESS FAMILIES, 2014-2015

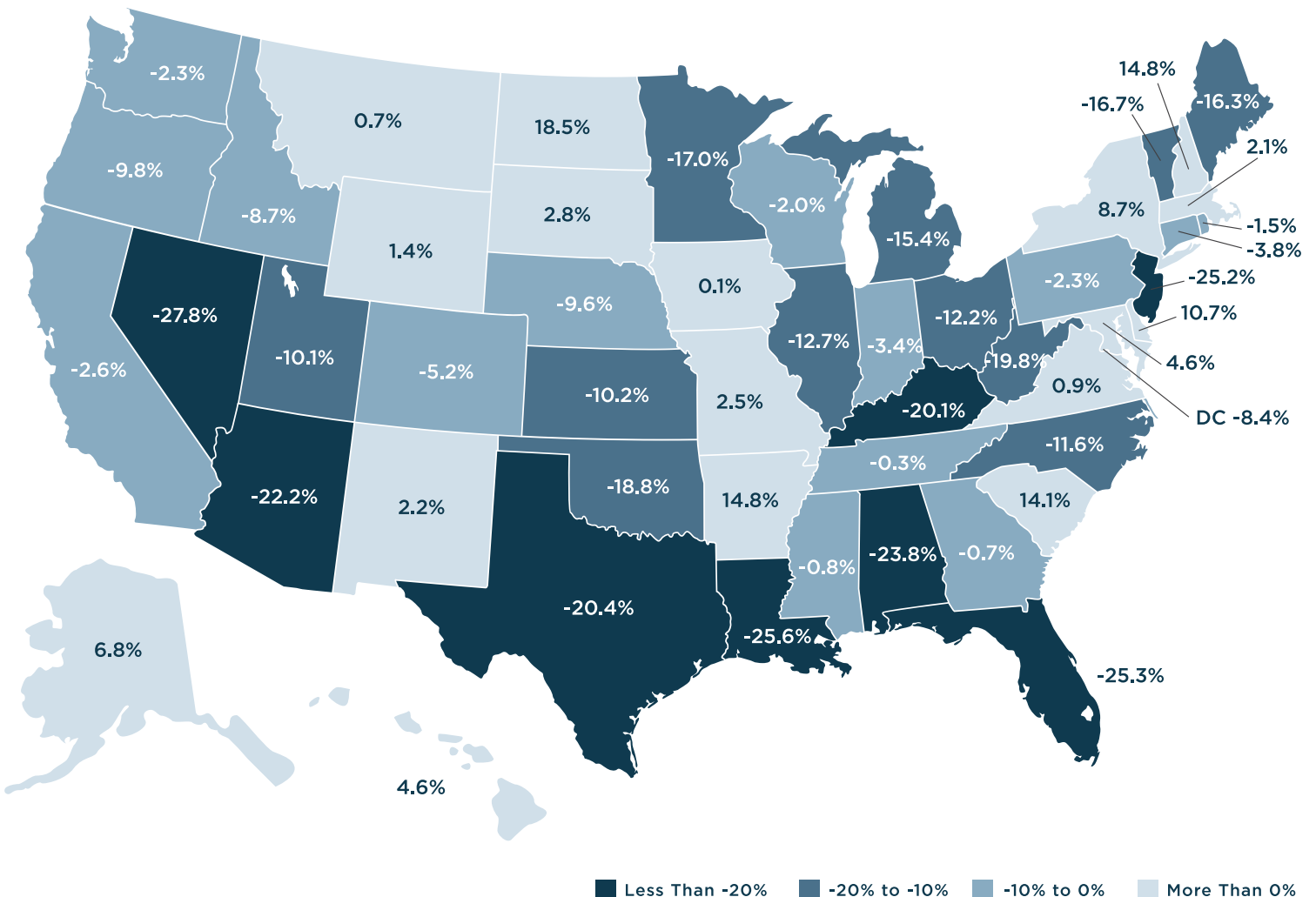


TABLE 1.3

CHANGE IN PEOPLE IN HOMELESS FAMILIES, 2014-2015

ST	2015 Persons in Families	2014 Persons in Families	% Change	ST	2015 Persons in Families	2014 Persons in Families	% Change
AK	614	575	6.8%	MT	582	578	0.7%
AL	1,102	1,446	-23.8%	NC	3,529	3,993	-11.6%
AR	727	633	14.8%	ND	441	372	18.5%
AZ	3,348	4,301	-22.2%	NE	1,024	1,133	-9.6%
CA	22,582	23,187	-2.6%	NH	667	581	14.8%
CO	4,224	4,455	-5.2%	NJ	3,909	5,225	-25.2%
CT	1,328	1,381	-3.8%	NM	963	942	2.2%
DC	3,477	3,795	-8.4%	NV	885	1,226	-27.8%
DE	351	317	10.7%	NY	52,115	47,947	8.7%
FL	9,575	12,812	-25.3%	OH	3,617	4,119	-12.2%
GA	4,088	4,118	-0.7%	OK	996	1,227	-18.8%
GU	974	1,024	-4.9%	OR	3,765	4,176	-9.8%
HI	3,313	3,168	4.6%	PA	6,816	6,974	-2.3%
IA	1,580	1,578	0.1%	PR	589	700	-15.9%
ID	794	870	-8.7%	RI	405	411	-1.5%
IL	5,025	5,757	-12.7%	SC	1,420	1,244	14.1%
IN	1,949	2,018	-3.4%	SD	406	395	2.8%
KS	1,122	1,250	-10.2%	TN	2,607	2,615	-0.3%
KY	1,387	1,737	-20.1%	TX	7,413	9,318	-20.4%
LA	864	1,162	-25.6%	UT	1,216	1,352	-10.1%
MA	14,757	14,449	2.1%	VA	2,811	2,786	0.9%
MD	3,007	2,876	4.6%	VI	29	23	26.1%
ME	1,153	1,378	-16.3%	VT	613	736	-16.7%
MI	3,970	4,692	-15.4%	WA	6,893	7,052	-2.3%
MN	3,924	4,725	-17.0%	WI	3,065	3,126	-2.0%
MO	3,048	2,975	2.5%	WV	421	525	-19.8%
MS	508	512	-0.8%	WY	298	294	1.4%
				USA	206,286	216,261	-4.6%

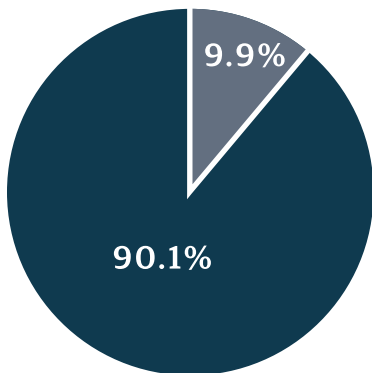


FIGURE 1.7

SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED PROPORTIONS, PEOPLE IN HOMELESS FAMILIES, 2015

- SHELTERED PEOPLE IN HOMELESS FAMILIES (185,824)
- UNSHELTERED PEOPLE IN HOMELESS FAMILIES (20,462)

TABLE 1.4

## CHANGE IN HOMELESS FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS, 2014-2015

ST	2015 Family Households	2014 Family Households	% Change	ST	2015 Family Households	2014 Family Households	% Change
AK	180	193	-6.7%	MT	182	166	9.6%
AL	360	457	-21.2%	NC	1,110	1,303	-14.8%
AR	240	240	0.0%	ND	123	120	2.5%
AZ	1,002	1,295	-22.6%	NE	327	347	-5.8%
CA	7,195	6,956	3.4%	NH	244	213	14.6%
CO	1,242	1,317	-5.7%	NJ	1,346	1,716	-21.6%
CT	456	495	-7.9%	NM	296	306	-3.3%
DC	1,131	1,231	-8.1%	NV	279	397	-29.7%
DE	115	104	10.6%	NY	15,361	14,338	7.1%
FL	3,053	4,550	-32.9%	OH	1,108	1,314	-15.7%
GA	1,236	1,291	-4.3%	OK	343	400	-14.3%
GU	180	180	0.0%	OR	1,179	1,275	-7.5%
HI	798	790	1.0%	PA	2,299	2,384	-3.6%
IA	496	487	1.8%	PR	170	208	-18.3%
ID	251	264	-4.9%	RI	112	132	-15.2%
IL	1,648	1,880	-12.3%	SC	510	445	14.6%
IN	636	654	-2.8%	SD	125	121	3.3%
KS	346	395	-12.4%	TN	869	804	8.1%
KY	467	564	-17.2%	TX	2,316	2,784	-16.8%
LA	285	376	-24.2%	UT	364	298	22.1%
MA	4,903	4,781	2.6%	VA	890	883	0.8%
MD	970	948	2.3%	VI	10	9	11.1%
ME	358	388	-7.7%	VT	201	239	-15.9%
MI	1,285	1,521	-15.5%	WA	2,154	2,182	-1.3%
MN	1,192	1,422	-16.2%	WI	954	1,007	-5.3%
MO	926	902	2.7%	WV	129	173	-25.4%
MS	152	179	-15.1%	WY	93	89	4.5%
				<b>USA</b>	<b>64,197</b>	<b>67,513</b>	<b>-4.9%</b>

## CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

Chronic homelessness is defined as homelessness among people who have a disability—including serious mental illness, chronic substance use disorders, or chronic medical issues—and who are homeless repeatedly or for long periods of time. Starting in 2013, data was collected on both chronically homeless individuals and families.

### *Chronic Homelessness Among Individuals*

From 2014 to 2015, the total number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness fell by 1.0 percent nationally and the majority of them were living in unsheltered locations (see Figure 1.8). In most states, changes in chronic homelessness were of modest magnitude: 31 states and D.C. reported decreases; 18 states reported increases (see Map 1.4 and Table 1.5).

Three states reported large decreases in the number of chronically homeless individuals: Texas (1,174 fewer people), Florida (822 fewer people), and Georgia (651 fewer people). An additional 6 states reported decreases in chronic homelessness of at least one-third from 2014 to 2015: Utah (53.9 percent), Connecticut (47.6 percent), Rhode Island (46.1 percent), Montana (39.8 percent), Kentucky (37.6 percent), and North Dakota (36.9 percent).

Three states reported increases of significant magnitude in chronic homelessness from 2014 to 2015: Oregon a 59.5 percent increase (1,314 people) and South Carolina a 236 percent increase (643 people). California also reported an increase of 978 people experiencing chronic homelessness, a 3.5 percent increase.

MAP 1.4

### CHANGE IN CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS, 2014-2015

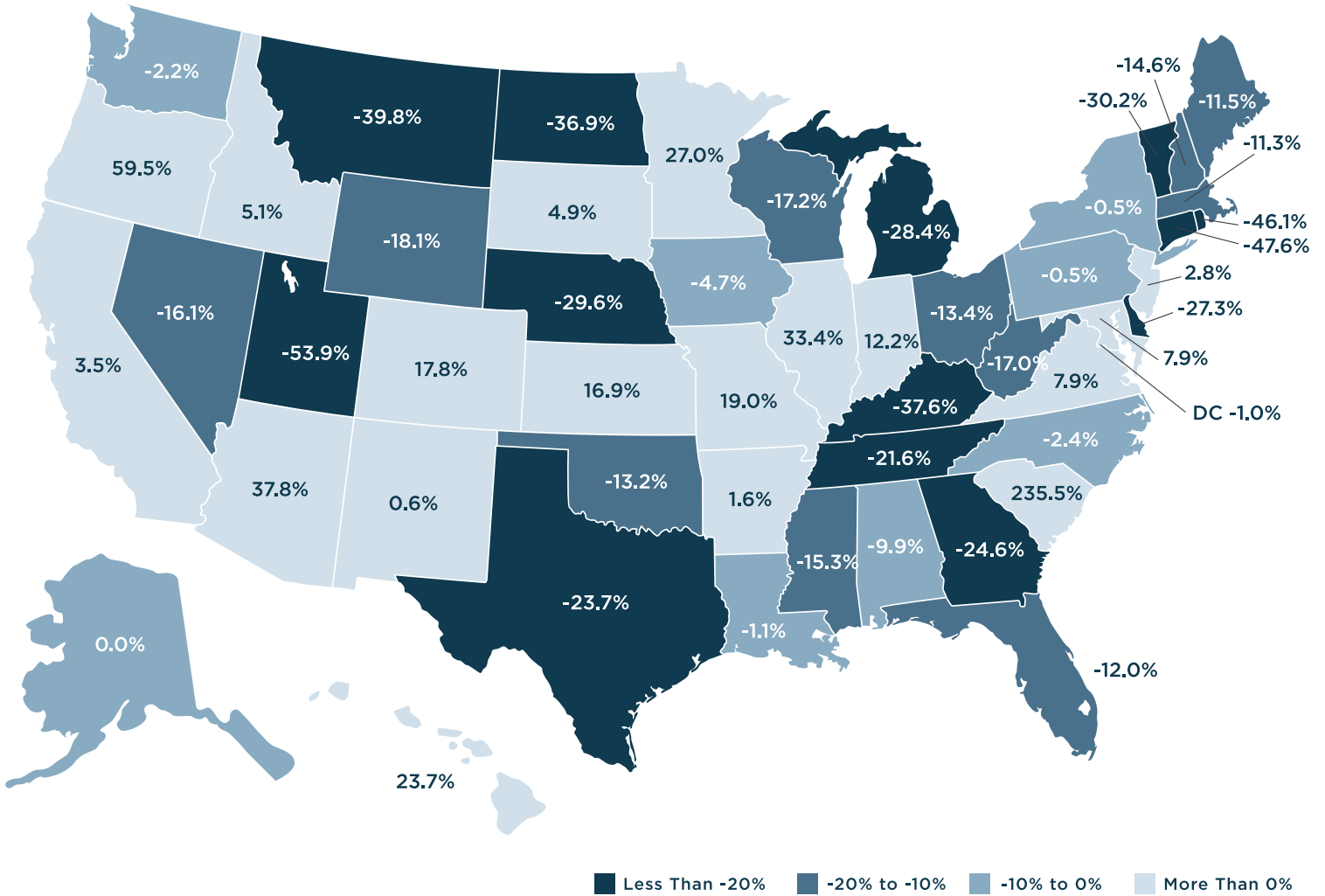




TABLE 1.5

CHANGE IN CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS, 2014-2015

ST	2015 Chronically Homeless Individuals	2014 Chronically Homeless Individuals	% Change	ST	2015 Chronically Homeless Individuals	2014 Chronically Homeless Individuals	% Change
AK	182	182	0.0%	MT	154	256	-39.8%
AL	557	618	-9.9%	NC	1,253	1,284	-2.4%
AR	524	516	1.6%	ND	70	111	-36.9%
AZ	1,246	904	37.8%	NE	257	365	-29.6%
CA	29,178	28,200	3.5%	NH	257	301	-14.6%
CO	1,572	1,335	17.8%	NJ	1,182	1,150	2.8%
CT	538	1,026	-47.6%	NM	621	617	0.6%
DC	1,593	1,609	-1.0%	NV	585	697	-16.1%
DE	64	88	-27.3%	NY	4,327	4,350	-0.5%
FL	6,021	6,843	-12.0%	OH	1,160	1,340	-13.4%
GA	1,994	2,645	-24.6%	OK	508	585	-13.2%
GU	27	24	12.5%	OR	3,521	2,207	59.5%
HI	1,372	1,109	23.7%	PA	1,442	1,449	-0.5%
IA	201	211	-4.7%	PR	1,615	1,567	3.1%
ID	164	156	5.1%	RI	110	204	-46.1%
IL	1,799	1,349	33.4%	SC	916	273	235.5%
IN	608	542	12.2%	SD	85	81	4.9%
KS	339	290	16.9%	TN	1,492	1,904	-21.6%
KY	383	614	-37.6%	TX	3,778	4,952	-23.7%
LA	735	743	-1.1%	UT	178	386	-53.9%
MA	1,411	1,590	-11.3%	VA	1,041	965	7.9%
MD	1,634	1,515	7.9%	VI	22	88	-75.0%
ME	193	218	-11.5%	VT	139	199	-30.2%
MI	830	1,160	-28.4%	WA	2,261	2,311	-2.2%
MN	1,124	885	27.0%	WI	361	436	-17.2%
MO	875	735	19.0%	WV	352	424	-17.0%
MS	233	275	-15.3%	WY	86	105	-18.1%
USA	83,170	83,989	-1.0%				

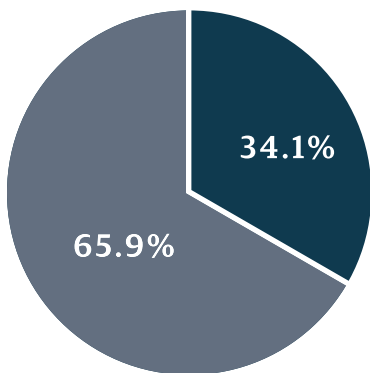


FIGURE 1.8

SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED PROPORTIONS, CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS, 2015

- SHELTERED CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS (28,355)
- UNSHELTERED CHRONICALLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS (54,815)

**Chronic Homelessness Among Families**

In 2015, 6.4 percent of all people in homeless families were chronically homeless (13,105 people) and they were significantly more likely to be unsheltered. Over one-third of the people in families experiencing chronic homelessness were unsheltered (see Figure 1.9), making up almost one-quarter of all people in homeless families who are unsheltered. Three states report more than 1,000 people in chronically homeless families: California (3,049 people), New York (2,789 people), and Massachusetts (1,150 people). Five states report concentrations of people in chronically homeless families of more than 10 percent of all people in homeless families: North Dakota (15.4 percent), Arkansas (13.6 percent), California (13.5 percent), Oregon (13.0 percent), and Idaho (10.2 percent).

**MAP 1.5**  
**PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE IN HOMELESS FAMILIES WHO ARE CHRONICALLY HOMELESS, 2015**

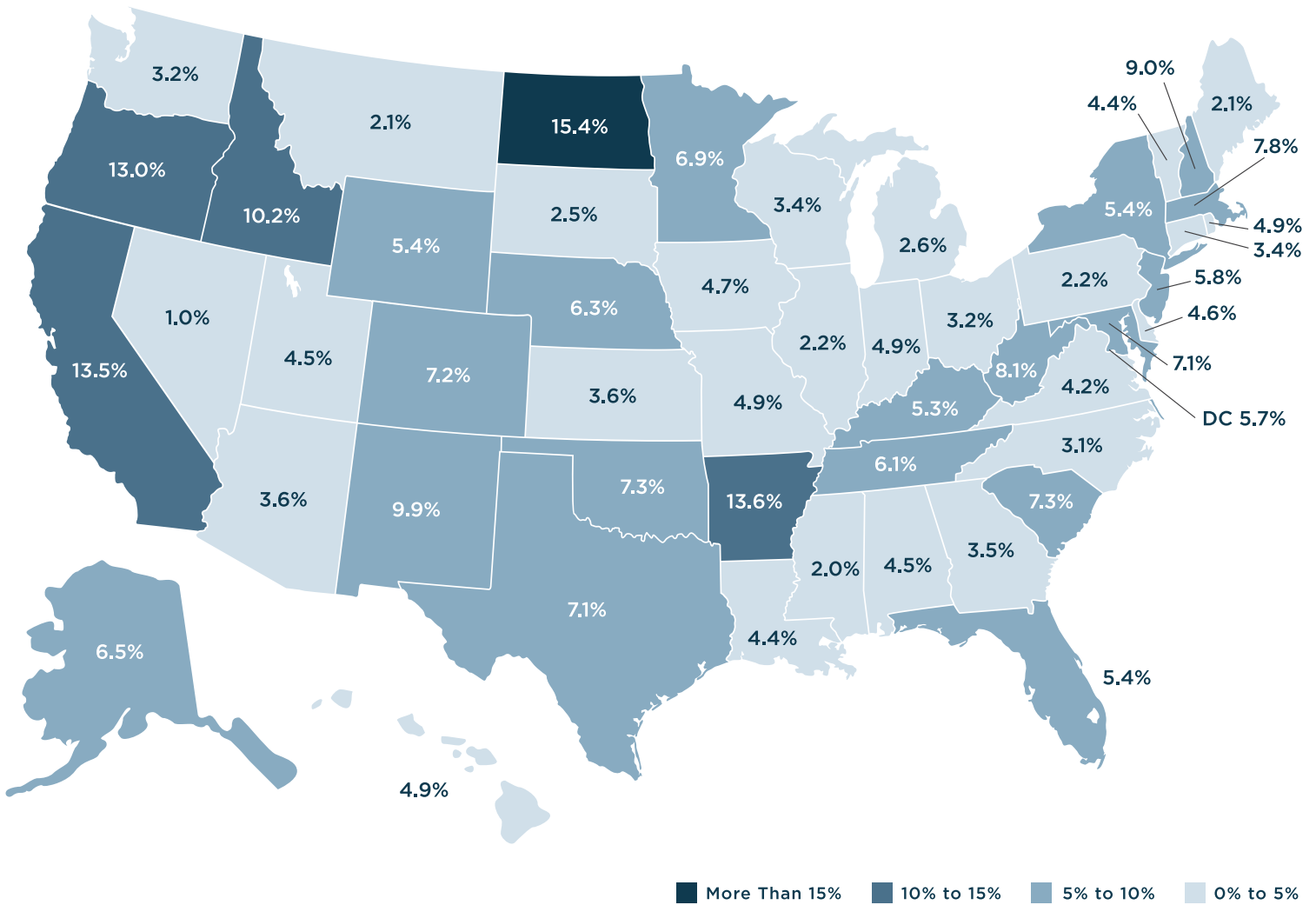


TABLE 1.6

**PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE IN HOMELESS FAMILIES WHO ARE CHRONICALLY HOMELESS, 2015**

ST	2015 Persons in Chronically Homeless Families	2015 Persons in Homeless Families	2015 Percentage of Persons in Homeless Families That Are Chronically Homeless	ST	2015 Persons in Chronically Homeless Families	2015 Persons in Homeless Families	2015 Percentage of Persons in Homeless Families That Are Chronically Homeless
AK	40	614	6.5%	MT	12	582	2.1%
AL	50	1,102	4.5%	NC	111	3,529	3.1%
AR	99	727	13.6%	ND	68	441	15.4%
AZ	120	3,348	3.6%	NE	65	1,024	6.3%
CA	3,049	22,582	13.5%	NH	60	667	9.0%
CO	305	4,224	7.2%	NJ	228	3,909	5.8%
CT	45	1,328	3.4%	NM	95	963	9.9%
DC	197	3,477	5.7%	NV	9	885	1.0%
DE	16	351	4.6%	NY	2,789	52,115	5.4%
FL	519	9,575	5.4%	OH	115	3,617	3.2%
GA	143	4,088	3.5%	OK	73	996	7.3%
GU	126	974	12.9%	OR	490	3,765	13.0%
HI	162	3,313	4.9%	PA	148	6,816	2.2%
IA	74	1,580	4.7%	PR	141	589	23.9%
ID	81	794	10.2%	RI	20	405	4.9%
IL	113	5,025	2.2%	SC	104	1,420	7.3%
IN	95	1,949	4.9%	SD	10	406	2.5%
KS	40	1,122	3.6%	TN	158	2,607	6.1%
KY	74	1,387	5.3%	TX	526	7,413	7.1%
LA	38	864	4.4%	UT	55	1,216	4.5%
MA	1,150	14,757	7.8%	VA	117	2,811	4.2%
MD	213	3,007	7.1%	VI	0	29	0.0%
ME	24	1,153	2.1%	VT	27	613	4.4%
MI	105	3,970	2.6%	WA	221	6,893	3.2%
MN	272	3,924	6.9%	WI	103	3,065	3.4%
MO	150	3,048	4.9%	WV	34	421	8.1%
MS	10	508	2.0%	WY	16	298	5.4%
USA	13,105	206,286	6.4%				

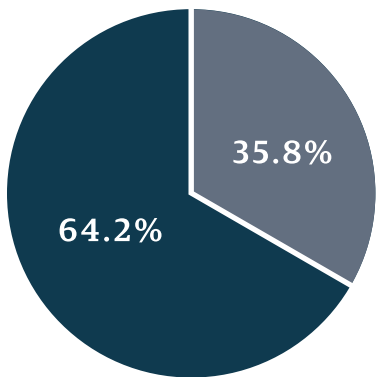


FIGURE 1.9

**SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED PROPORTIONS, CHRONICALLY HOMELESS PEOPLE IN FAMILIES, 2015**

- SHELTERED PEOPLE IN CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES (8,412)
- UNSHELTERED PEOPLE IN CHRONICALLY HOMELESS FAMILIES (4,693)

## VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

Veteran homelessness decreased by 4.0 percent from 2014 to 2015 across the nation. The majority of homeless veterans were in shelters (66.0 percent) in 2014 (see Figure 1.10). Veteran homelessness decreased in most states from 2014 to 2015 with 33 states reporting decreases; 17 states and D.C. reported increases (see Map 1.6 and Table 1.7). The majority of increases and decreases were modest with Arizona seeing the largest percentage increase at 42.2 percent (362 veterans more) and Mississippi seeing the largest percentage decrease at 26.2 percent (73 veterans).

**MAP 1.6**  
**CHANGE IN VETERAN HOMELESSNESS, 2014-2015**

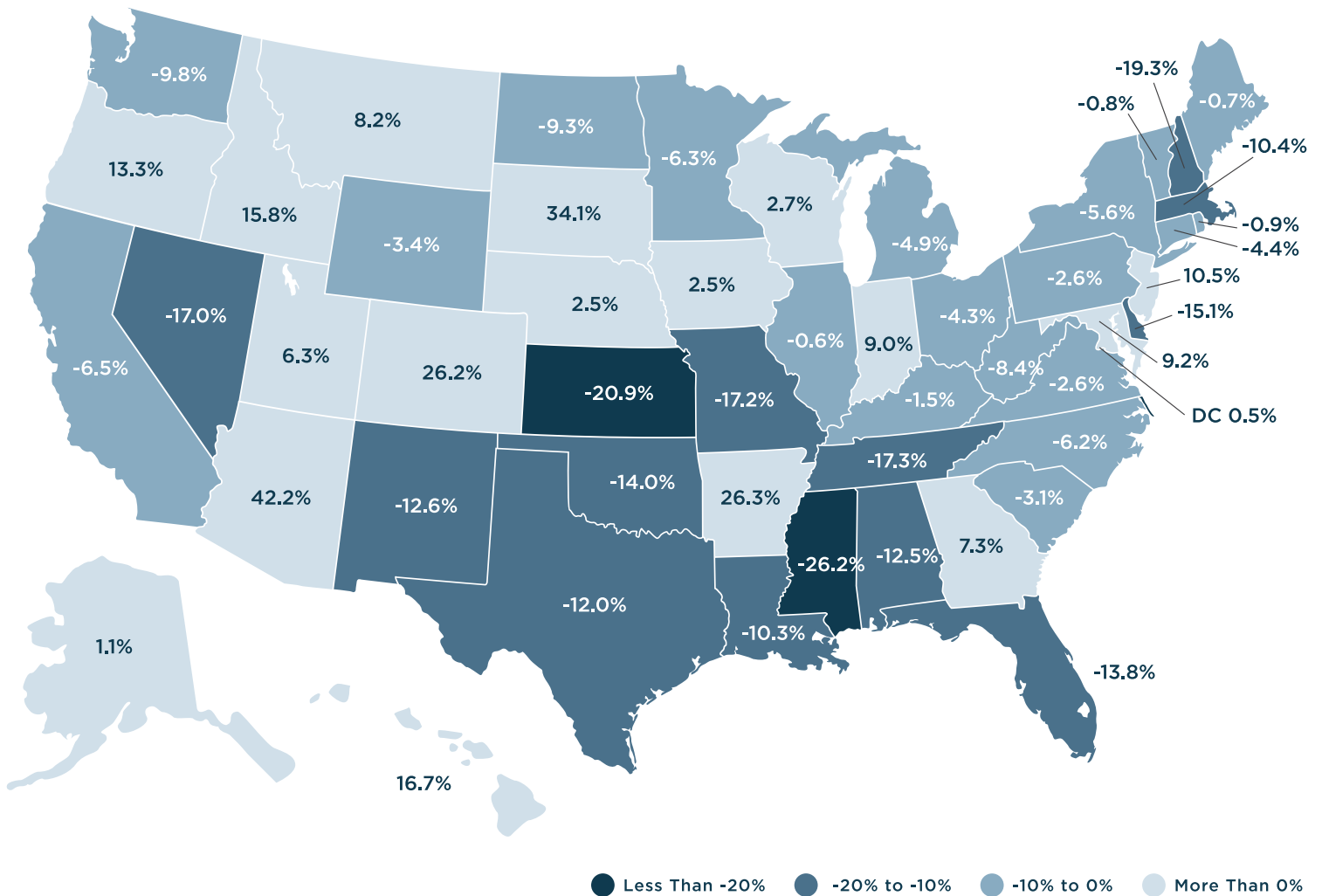


TABLE 1.7

**CHANGE IN VETERAN HOMELESSNESS, 2014-2015 AND RATE OF VETERAN HOMELESSNESS, 2015**

ST	2015 Veterans	2014 Veterans	% Change	2015 Rate Per 10,000 Veterans	ST	2015 Veterans	2014 Veterans	% Change	2015 Rate Per 10,000 Veterans
AK	180	178	1.1%	25.8	MT	277	256	8.2%	32.8
AL	474	542	-12.5%	13.8	NC	1,092	1,164	-6.2%	16.2
AR	456	361	26.3%	21.9	ND	137	151	-9.3%	27.3
AZ	1,220	858	42.2%	25.3	NE	247	241	2.5%	19.3
CA	11,311	12,096	-6.5%	66.8	NH	138	171	-19.3%	13.9
CO	950	753	26.2%	25.1	NJ	696	630	10.5%	19.3
CT	282	295	-4.4%	14.9	NM	278	318	-12.6%	18.3
DC	408	406	0.5%	145.4	NV	860	1,036	-17.0%	40.5
DE	79	93	-15.1%	11.0	NY	2,399	2,542	-5.6%	31.0
FL	3,926	4,552	-13.8%	26.9	OH	1,183	1,236	-4.3%	15.6
GA	1,548	1,443	7.3%	23.8	OK	351	408	-14.0%	12.7
GU	23	36	-36.1%	-	OR	1,464	1,292	13.3%	49.6
HI	692	593	16.7%	63.0	PA	1,375	1,411	-2.6%	16.7
IA	207	202	2.5%	10.4	PR	164	87	88.5%	18.3
ID	249	215	15.8%	21.5	RI	107	108	-0.9%	16.8
IL	1,226	1,234	-0.6%	19.2	SC	681	703	-3.1%	18.5
IN	790	725	9.0%	19.3	SD	177	132	34.1%	28.3
KS	311	393	-20.9%	16.6	TN	945	1,142	-17.3%	21.0
KY	591	600	-1.5%	21.1	TX	2,393	2,718	-12.0%	16.0
LA	392	437	-10.3%	15.0	UT	337	317	6.3%	25.7
MA	1,133	1,264	-10.4%	33.5	VA	604	620	-2.6%	8.7
MD	714	654	9.2%	18.6	VI	34	32	6.3%	-
ME	151	152	-0.7%	13.3	VT	119	120	-0.8%	27.2
MI	1,067	1,122	-4.9%	17.8	WA	1,293	1,433	-9.8%	23.1
MN	297	317	-6.3%	9.2	WI	534	520	2.7%	14.5
MO	540	652	-17.2%	12.3	WV	305	333	-8.4%	21.7
MS	206	279	-26.2%	11.8	WY	112	116	-3.4%	24.7
					USA	47,725	49,689	-4.0%	24.8

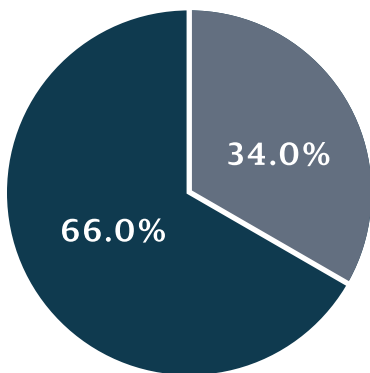


FIGURE 1.10

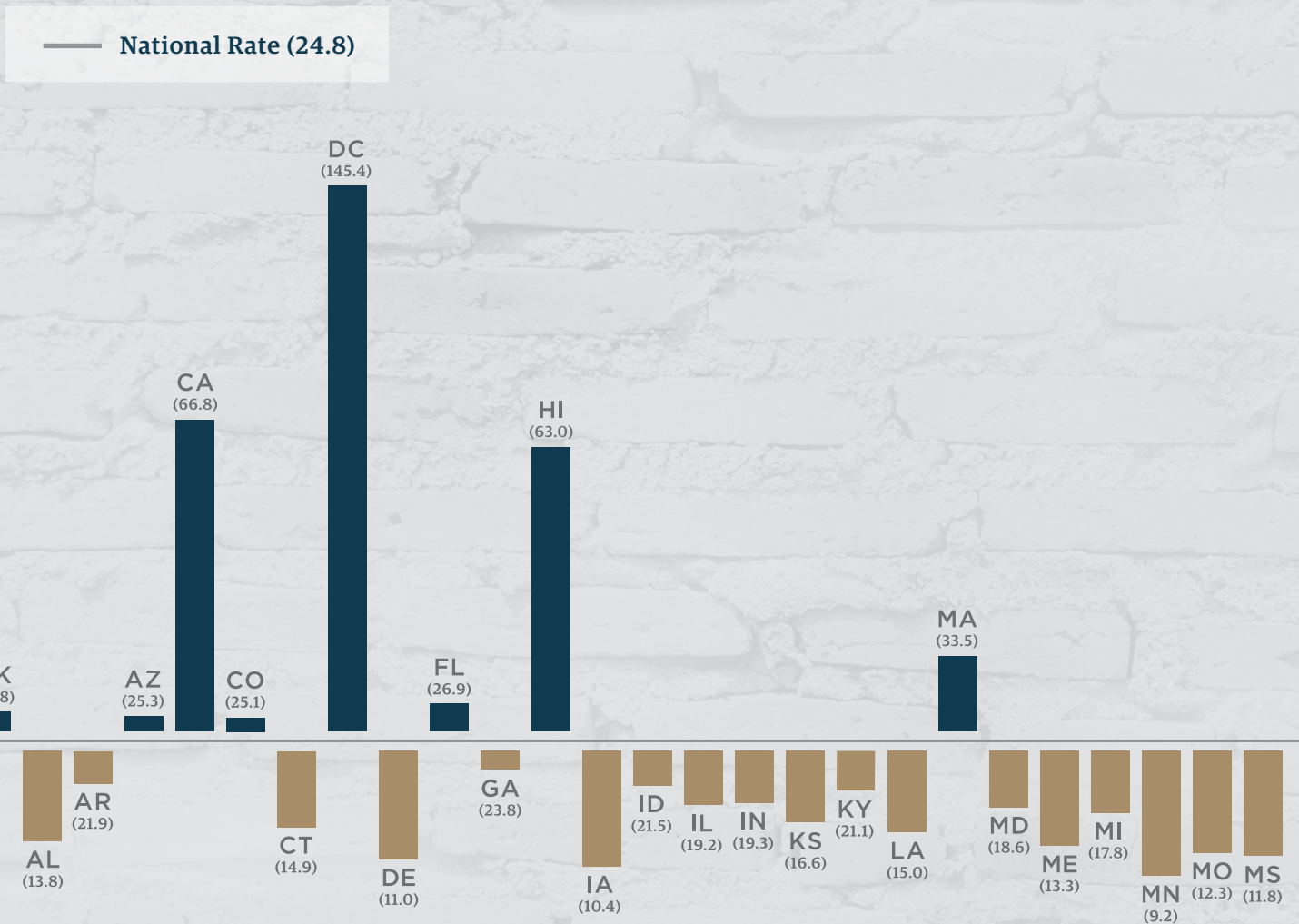
**SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED PROPORTIONS, HOMELESS VETERANS, 2015**

- SHELTERED HOMELESS VETERANS (31,505)
- UNSHELTERED HOMELESS VETERANS (16,220)

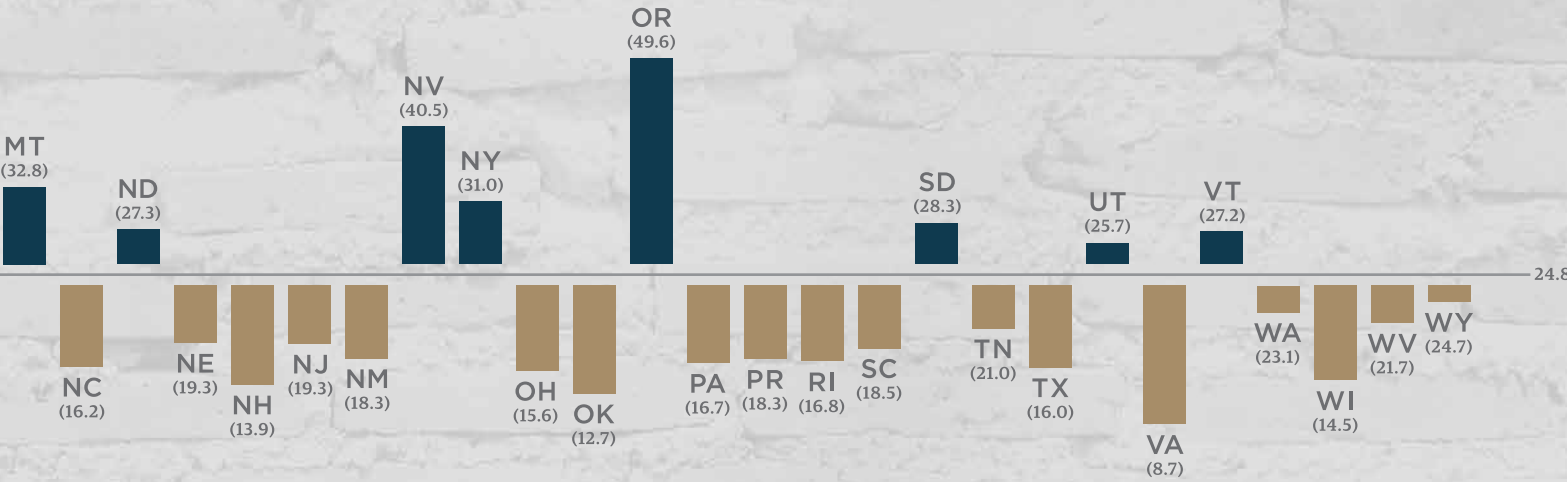
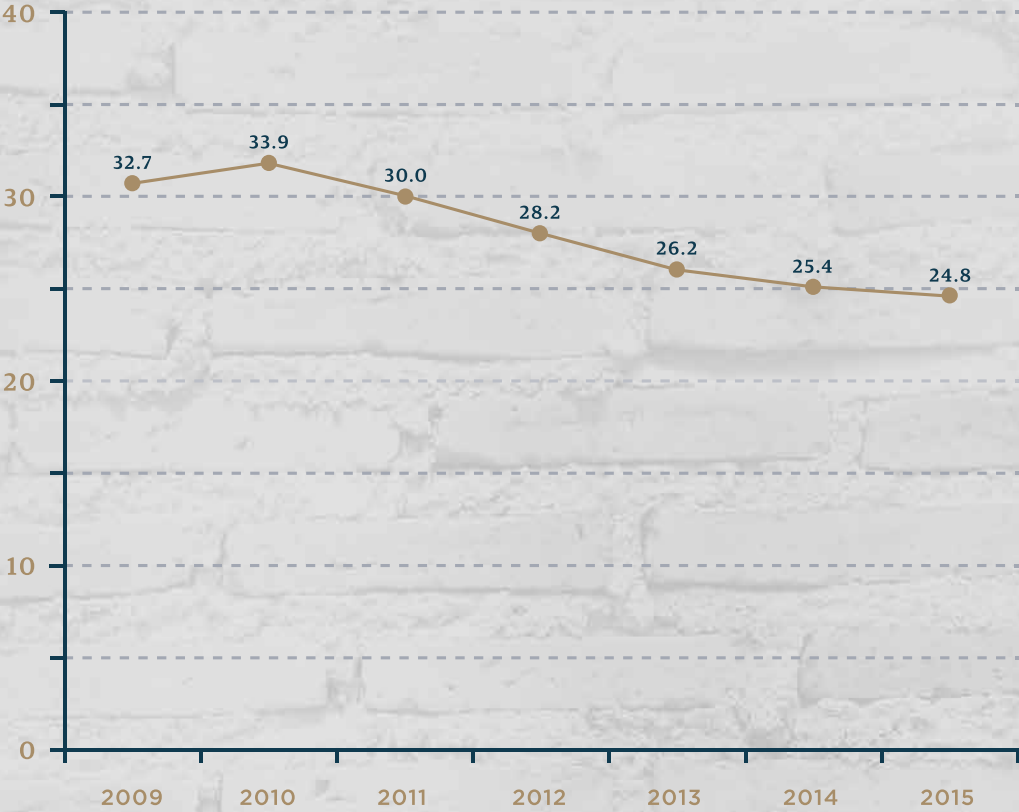
### RATES OF VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

Similar to the rates of overall homelessness, one can see trends in veteran homelessness in relation to the size of and trends in the general population of veterans in the nation or in an individual state. This is particularly important with regards to veterans as a homeless subpopulation because veterans tend to be concentrated in particular regions of the country. Per 10,000 veterans in the United States, 24.8 veterans were homeless in the 2015 point-in-time count. The rate of homelessness among veterans has decreased significantly since first calculated in the *State of Homelessness in America 2009* at 32.7 homeless veterans per 10,000 veterans in the general population to 24.8 in 2015 (see Figure 1.11). Rates of veteran homelessness vary greatly among states, ranging from a high of 145.4 in the District of Columbia to a low of 8.7 in Virginia (see Figure 1.12 and Table 1.7).

**FIGURE 1.12**  
**STATE-BY-STATE RATES OF VETERAN HOMELESSNESS COMPARED TO NATIONAL RATE**



**FIGURE 1.11**  
**CHANGE IN NATIONAL RATE OF VETERAN HOMELESSNESS, 2009-2015**



## UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND YOUTH BY STATE

The number of unaccompanied children and youth<sup>8</sup> found to be experiencing homelessness in the January 2015 point-in-time counts was 36,907. This number is not likely to be accurate, as youth are thought not to be enumerated effectively with point-in-time counts methods currently used in a large number of CoCs. There are limited beds available for this population nationwide, which impacts the size of the sheltered population, and it is widely accepted that homeless young people do not congregate in the same areas as older homeless adults. This means targeted outreach to youth during point-in-time counts is needed. It is not clear how many CoCs implement specific strategies to capture unsheltered children and youth during their point-in-time counts.

Nationally, youth made up 6.5 percent of the overall homeless population, but, in Nevada, where Las Vegas undertook an extensive youth count, unaccompanied youth were found to account for 26.4 percent of the overall homeless population (see Table 1.8 and Map 1.7). Because of this, changes in youth homelessness from 2014 to 2015 are not presented as the data is considered less complete than data for other subpopulations.

Still, these numbers provide a snapshot of unaccompanied children and youth homelessness in each state. Unaccompanied children and youth are a population that appears to be particularly at risk of being unsheltered; with 51.0 percent of unaccompanied minors and 45.6 percent of youth ages 18 to 24 unsheltered (see Figures 1.13 and 1.14). Only chronically homeless individuals are more likely to be unsheltered.



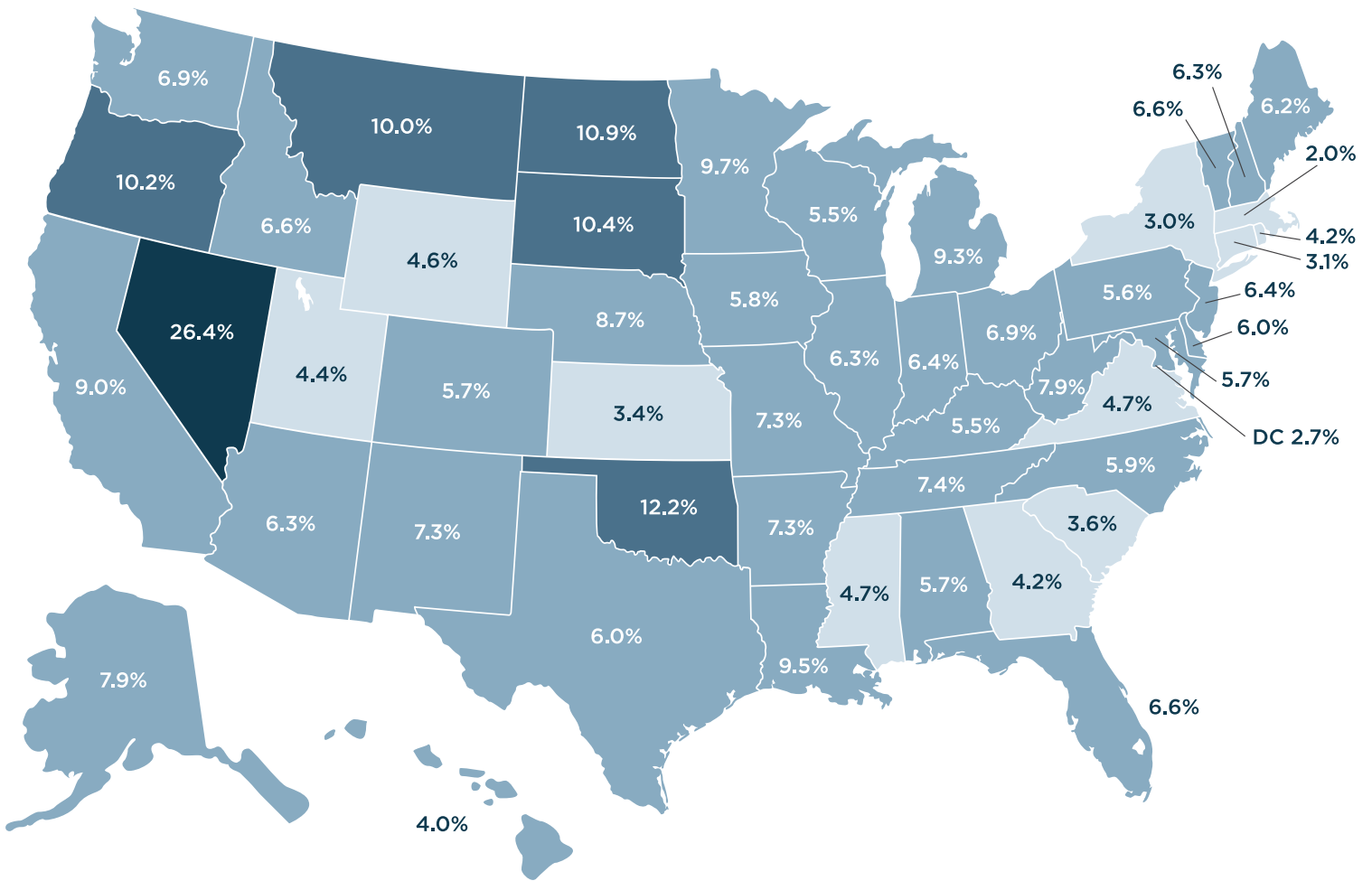
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<sup>8</sup> Unaccompanied children are those individuals experiencing homelessness who are unattached to a family household and under the age of 18. Unaccompanied youth are those individuals experiencing homelessness who are unattached to a family household and ages 18 to 24.



MAP 1.7

**PERCENTAGE OF HOMELESS PEOPLE WHO ARE UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND YOUTH, 2015**



More Than 15%
  10% to 15%
  5% to 10%
  0% to 5%

TABLE 1.8

## HOMELESS UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AND YOUTH, 2015

ST	2015 Sheltered Unaccompanied Children	2015 Unsheltered Unaccompanied Children	2015 Sheltered Unaccompanied Youth (18-24)	2015 Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth (18-24)	2015 Unaccompanied Children and Youth	2015 Children and Youth Percent of Overall Homeless Population
AK	18	6	105	26	155	7.9%
AL	27	5	141	55	228	5.7%
AR	0	0	95	93	188	7.3%
AZ	79	4	371	167	621	6.3%
CA	260	632	2,204	7,320	10,416	9.0%
CO	74	8	286	198	566	5.7%
CT	11	0	81	32	124	3.1%
DC	7	0	176	17	200	2.7%
DE	3	0	53	1	57	6.0%
FL	321	272	886	892	2,371	6.6%
GA	11	4	281	279	575	4.2%
GU	1	0	0	6	7	0.5%
HI	8	16	68	211	303	4.0%
IA	7	0	169	3	179	5.8%
ID	3	1	88	37	129	6.6%
IL	33	5	647	147	832	6.3%
IN	36	0	297	40	373	6.4%
KS	3	0	69	17	89	3.4%
KY	27	0	167	54	248	5.5%
LA	27	3	206	153	389	9.5%
MA	4	1	380	30	415	2.0%
MD	22	32	305	122	481	5.7%
ME	18	0	127	1	146	6.2%
MI	153	7	727	88	975	9.3%
MN	113	18	526	76	733	9.7%
MO	83	18	310	63	474	7.3%
MS	25	0	30	38	93	4.7%

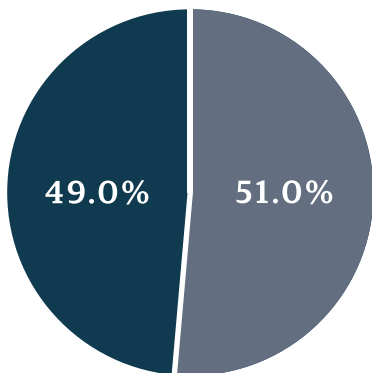
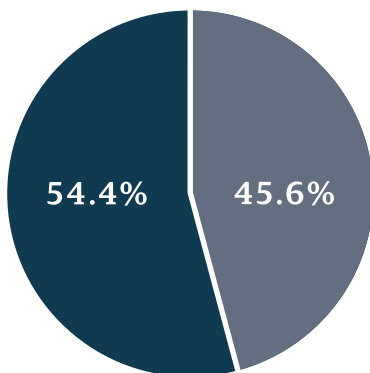


FIGURE 1.13

## SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED PROPORTIONS, HOMELESS UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN, 2015



ST	2015 Sheltered Unaccompanied Children	2015 Unsheltered Unaccompanied Children	2015 Sheltered Unaccompanied Youth (18-24)	2015 Unsheltered Unaccompanied Youth (18-24)	2015 Unaccompanied Children and Youth	2015 Children and Youth Percent of Overall Homeless Population
MT	6	7	35	123	171	10.0%
NC	63	16	405	147	631	5.9%
ND	18	0	95	29	142	10.9%
NE	29	0	191	18	238	8.7%
NH	5	1	77	8	91	6.3%
NJ	47	0	540	56	643	6.4%
NM	53	1	115	24	193	7.3%
NV	9	816	279	1,206	2,310	26.4%
NY	128	5	2,239	254	2,626	3.0%
OH	47	2	618	103	770	6.9%
OK	40	44	275	101	460	12.2%
OR	62	326	386	576	1,350	10.2%
PA	28	9	717	117	871	5.6%
PR	11	2	51	109	173	3.8%
RI	4	0	35	8	47	4.2%
SC	12	1	114	68	195	3.6%
SD	8	0	75	25	108	10.4%
TN	3	11	451	208	673	7.4%
TX	185	33	612	586	1,416	6.0%
UT	11	0	95	26	132	4.4%
VA	12	0	276	42	330	4.7%
VI	0	0	4	8	12	3.6%
VT	3	1	84	13	101	6.6%
WA	91	63	609	578	1,341	6.9%
WI	25	8	262	39	334	5.5%
WV	11	0	92	42	145	7.9%
WY	2	2	24	9	37	4.6%
<b>USA</b>	<b>2,287</b>	<b>2,380</b>	<b>17,551</b>	<b>14,689</b>	<b>36,907</b>	<b>6.5%</b>



**FIGURE 1.14**

**SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED PROPORTIONS,  
HOMELESS UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH, 2015**

- SHELTERED UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH, 18-24 (17,551)
- UNSHELTERED UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH, 18-24 (14,689)

## CHAPTER ONE SUMMARY

Table 1.9 summarizes trends in the homeless population and subpopulations between point-in-time counts in January 2014 and January 2015.

**TABLE 1.9**  
**CHANGES IN HOMELESS POPULATION**  
**AND SUBPOPULATIONS, 2014-2015**

ST	Overall	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Individuals	Persons in Families	Family Households	Chronically Homeless Individuals	Veterans
AK	9.6%	0.0%	118.6%	11.0%	6.8%	-6.7%	0.0%	1.1%
AL	-13.0%	-16.3%	-1.5%	-7.9%	-23.8%	-21.2%	-9.9%	-12.5%
AR	-12.8%	11.6%	-38.5%	-20.4%	14.8%	0.0%	1.6%	26.3%
AZ	-5.7%	-12.5%	15.1%	5.7%	-22.2%	-22.6%	37.8%	42.2%
CA	1.6%	-1.1%	3.2%	2.6%	-2.6%	3.4%	3.5%	-6.5%
CO	-0.7%	-11.7%	44.9%	2.8%	-5.2%	-5.7%	17.8%	26.2%
CT	-9.1%	-3.1%	-31.9%	-11.4%	-3.8%	-7.9%	-47.6%	-4.4%
DC	-5.8%	-8.1%	37.4%	-3.3%	-8.4%	-8.1%	-1.0%	0.5%
DE	5.8%	6.0%	0.0%	3.1%	10.7%	10.6%	-27.3%	-15.1%
FL	-13.6%	-4.9%	-21.5%	-8.4%	-25.3%	-32.9%	-12.0%	-13.8%
GA	-16.5%	-2.8%	-30.1%	-21.8%	-0.7%	-4.3%	-24.6%	7.3%
GU	-5.6%	-31.0%	-3.0%	-7.8%	-4.9%	0.0%	12.5%	-36.1%
HI	10.1%	-0.9%	23.8%	14.9%	4.6%	1.0%	23.7%	16.7%
IA	-1.3%	-1.6%	3.6%	-2.8%	0.1%	1.8%	-4.7%	2.5%
ID	-6.6%	2.0%	-26.3%	-5.0%	-8.7%	-4.9%	5.1%	15.8%
IL	0.5%	-8.3%	59.8%	10.9%	-12.7%	-12.3%	33.4%	-0.6%
IN	-1.8%	-5.2%	44.7%	-1.0%	-3.4%	-2.8%	12.2%	9.0%
KS	-7.0%	-9.9%	22.5%	-4.4%	-10.2%	-12.4%	16.9%	-20.9%
KY	-10.8%	-10.9%	-10.7%	-6.0%	-20.1%	-17.2%	-37.6%	-1.5%
LA	-11.4%	-17.5%	8.0%	-6.6%	-25.6%	-24.2%	-1.1%	-10.3%
MA	-0.5%	0.3%	-21.9%	-6.0%	2.1%	2.6%	-11.3%	-10.4%
MD	6.8%	5.2%	13.0%	8.1%	4.6%	2.3%	7.9%	9.2%
ME	-13.0%	-12.2%	-36.6%	-9.6%	-16.3%	-7.7%	-11.5%	-0.7%
MI	-14.0%	-6.3%	-50.2%	-13.1%	-15.4%	-15.5%	-28.4%	-4.9%
MN	-9.9%	-11.6%	5.8%	-0.8%	-17.0%	-16.2%	27.0%	-6.3%
MO	-11.0%	-14.2%	10.1%	-20.3%	2.5%	2.7%	19.0%	-17.2%
MS	-10.9%	-18.8%	2.6%	-13.9%	-0.8%	-15.1%	-15.3%	-26.2%

ST	Overall	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Individuals	Persons in Families	Family Households	Chronically Homeless Individuals	Veterans
MT	-2.1%	-8.1%	4.6%	-3.4%	0.7%	9.6%	-39.8%	8.2%
NC	-7.0%	-6.9%	-7.3%	-4.6%	-11.6%	-14.8%	-2.4%	-6.2%
ND	3.7%	3.1%	4.7%	-2.5%	18.5%	2.5%	-36.9%	-9.3%
NE	-9.3%	-10.1%	12.8%	-9.1%	-9.6%	-5.8%	-29.6%	2.5%
NH	5.0%	5.6%	-0.8%	-2.1%	14.8%	14.6%	-14.6%	-19.3%
NJ	-13.5%	-15.0%	4.2%	-4.0%	-25.2%	-21.6%	2.8%	10.5%
NM	-4.3%	-6.2%	6.1%	-7.6%	2.2%	-3.3%	0.6%	-12.6%
NV	1.9%	-5.6%	11.4%	6.8%	-27.8%	-29.7%	-16.1%	-17.0%
NY	9.5%	10.1%	-2.0%	10.7%	8.7%	7.1%	-0.5%	-5.6%
OH	-5.4%	-5.9%	-0.4%	-1.8%	-12.2%	-15.7%	-13.4%	-4.3%
OK	-9.9%	-8.0%	-16.5%	-6.2%	-18.8%	-14.3%	-13.2%	-14.0%
OR	8.7%	-4.4%	22.0%	18.4%	-9.8%	-7.5%	59.5%	13.3%
PA	0.6%	-2.2%	38.4%	2.9%	-2.3%	-3.6%	-0.5%	-2.6%
PR	9.3%	1.1%	13.6%	14.5%	-15.9%	-18.3%	3.1%	88.5%
RI	-6.6%	-8.1%	80.0%	-9.4%	-1.5%	-15.2%	-46.1%	-0.9%
SC	5.9%	6.4%	4.9%	3.2%	14.1%	14.6%	235.5%	-3.1%
SD	17.1%	8.4%	147.3%	28.6%	2.8%	3.3%	4.9%	34.1%
TN	-3.1%	-7.9%	7.0%	-4.2%	-0.3%	8.1%	-21.6%	-17.3%
TX	-16.9%	-11.2%	-27.1%	-15.2%	-20.4%	-16.8%	-23.7%	-12.0%
UT	-1.8%	1.1%	-27.8%	4.6%	-10.1%	22.1%	-53.9%	6.3%
VA	-0.3%	-2.2%	17.5%	-1.0%	0.9%	0.8%	7.9%	-2.6%
VI	-24.8%	0.0%	-30.6%	-27.5%	26.1%	11.1%	-75.0%	6.3%
VT	-2.3%	-1.6%	-8.0%	10.6%	-16.7%	-15.9%	-30.2%	-0.8%
WA	5.3%	-1.9%	20.7%	10.0%	-2.3%	-1.3%	-2.2%	-9.8%
WI	0.0%	-1.7%	28.9%	2.2%	-2.0%	-5.3%	-17.2%	2.7%
WV	-8.8%	-11.4%	0.5%	-5.0%	-19.8%	-25.4%	-17.0%	-8.4%
WY	5.4%	-9.9%	50.0%	8.0%	1.4%	4.5%	-18.1%	-3.4%
USA	-2.0%	-2.4%	-1.2%	-0.5%	-4.6%	-4.9%	-1.0%	-4.0%

## CHAPTER TWO

# POPULATIONS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

For the most part, people who ultimately become homeless have strained financial resources and are challenged by the cost of housing. Lower income households often pay large portions of their income towards housing. For those that cannot afford housing independently, living with family and friends, known as doubling up, in order to reduce individual housing-related costs, is an option. This is often the last living situation of households that become homeless.<sup>9</sup> The second most common prior homelessness situation is living in rental housing—often that household is facing a situation in which the majority of their income is dedicated to their rent.

The impacts of economics and housing trends are often delayed, meaning that homelessness may not be affected by these factors immediately, but measures of severe housing cost burden and people living doubled up show the pressing affordable housing issue and a looming threat to increases in homelessness. And, the sizes of these populations are important for the purposes of understanding the magnitude of people at risk of homelessness.

This chapter examines the trends in populations that are plausibly at risk of homelessness, starting with those that are in poverty and unemployed, followed by two populations that are directly vulnerable to homelessness, those experiencing severe housing cost burden and those that are living doubled up.

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<sup>9</sup> The 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress (AHAR) Part II (December 2015) showed that 74.3 percent of people who had housing prior to accessing shelter were living in the home of a family or friend.

## TRENDS IN POPULATIONS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

National changes in economic and housing related factors between 2013 and 2014 show overall ongoing recovery from the Great Recession but present a mixed picture as it relates to the size of the population at risk of homelessness (see in Table 2.1). Despite the unemployment rate falling from 7.4 percent to 6.2 percent, the number of people in poverty and the poverty rate remained relatively unchanged. Additionally, the number of poor renter households paying more than 50 percent of their income towards housing—a group at particular risk of homelessness—increased by 2.1 percent to total 6.5 million. This is likely because, while incomes among poor households have not increased with the recovery, rents have increased as the housing market has recovered. In good news, there was a 9.0 percent decrease in the number of people in poor households doubled up with family and friends.

More striking than changes from 2013 to 2014 are the changes in populations at risk of homelessness from prior to the Great Recession to now (see Figure 2.1). While the number of people in poverty has been steadily increasing, the number of unemployed people has continuously decreased since peaking in 2009, suggesting that lower income populations are being left behind in the economic recovery and may in fact be struggling more because of the recovery of the housing market without a corresponding increase in incomes. The number of households experiencing severe housing cost burden appears to have plateaued at a higher level than was the case prior to the recession. And, despite a 9.0 percent decrease in doubling up from 2013 to 2014, the number of poor people living doubled up is 52 percent higher than it was in 2007.

**TABLE 2.1**  
**AT-RISK POPULATION TRENDS, 2013-2014**

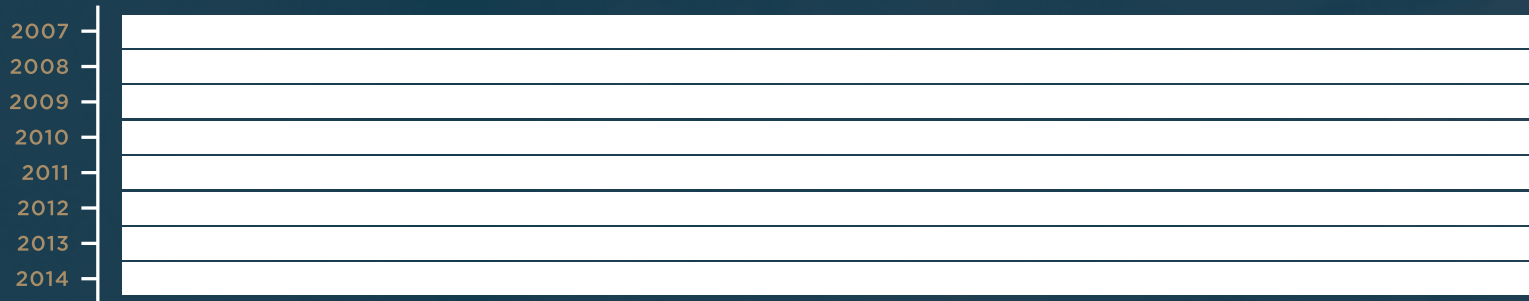
ECONOMIC FACTORS	2014	2013	% CHANGE
Persons in Poverty	48,208,387	48,810,868	-1.2%
Poverty Rate*	15.5%	15.8%	-0.3
Unemployed Persons	9,636,189	11,476,789	-16.0%
Unemployment Rate*	6.2%	7.4%	-1.2
HOUSING-RELATED FACTORS	2014	2013	% CHANGE
Poor Renter Households with Severe Housing Cost Burden	6,551,674	6,416,946	2.1%
People in Poor Households Living Doubled up	6,999,086	7,691,313	-9.0%

\* Percent change column represents change in percentage point.

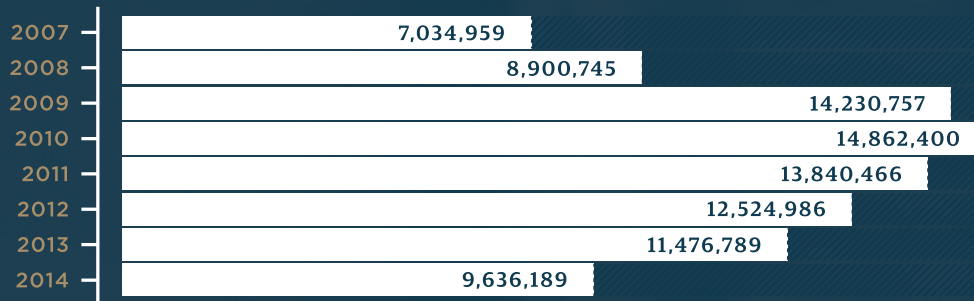
FIGURE 2.1

## NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND HOUSING-RELATED TRENDS, 2007-2014

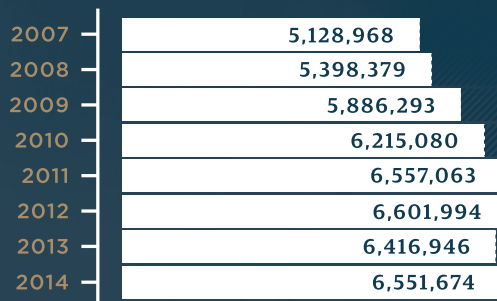
## PERSONS IN POVERTY



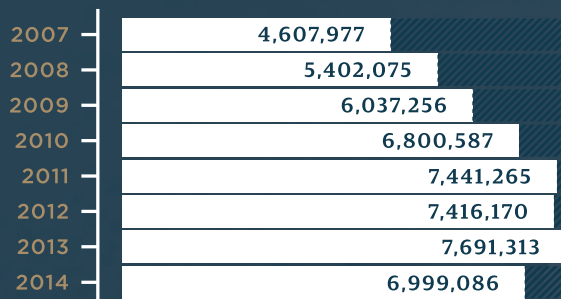
## UNEMPLOYED PERSONS



## POOR RENTER HOUSEHOLDS WITH SEVERE HOUSING COST BURDEN



## PEOPLE IN POOR HOUSEHOLDS DOUBLED UP





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38,052,247
39,108,422
42,868,163
46,215,956
48,452,035
48,760,123
48,810,868
48,208,387

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# STATE TRENDS IN POPULATIONS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

## POVERTY

From 2013 to 2014, the number of people in poverty decreased slightly (1.2 percent). 32 states and D.C. saw decreases in poverty; 18 states saw increases (see Map 2.1 and Table 2.2). Alaska saw the largest percent increase in poverty (20.3 percent); Mississippi the largest percent decrease (10.5 percent).

**MAP 2.1**  
**CHANGE IN PEOPLE IN POVERTY, 2013-2014**

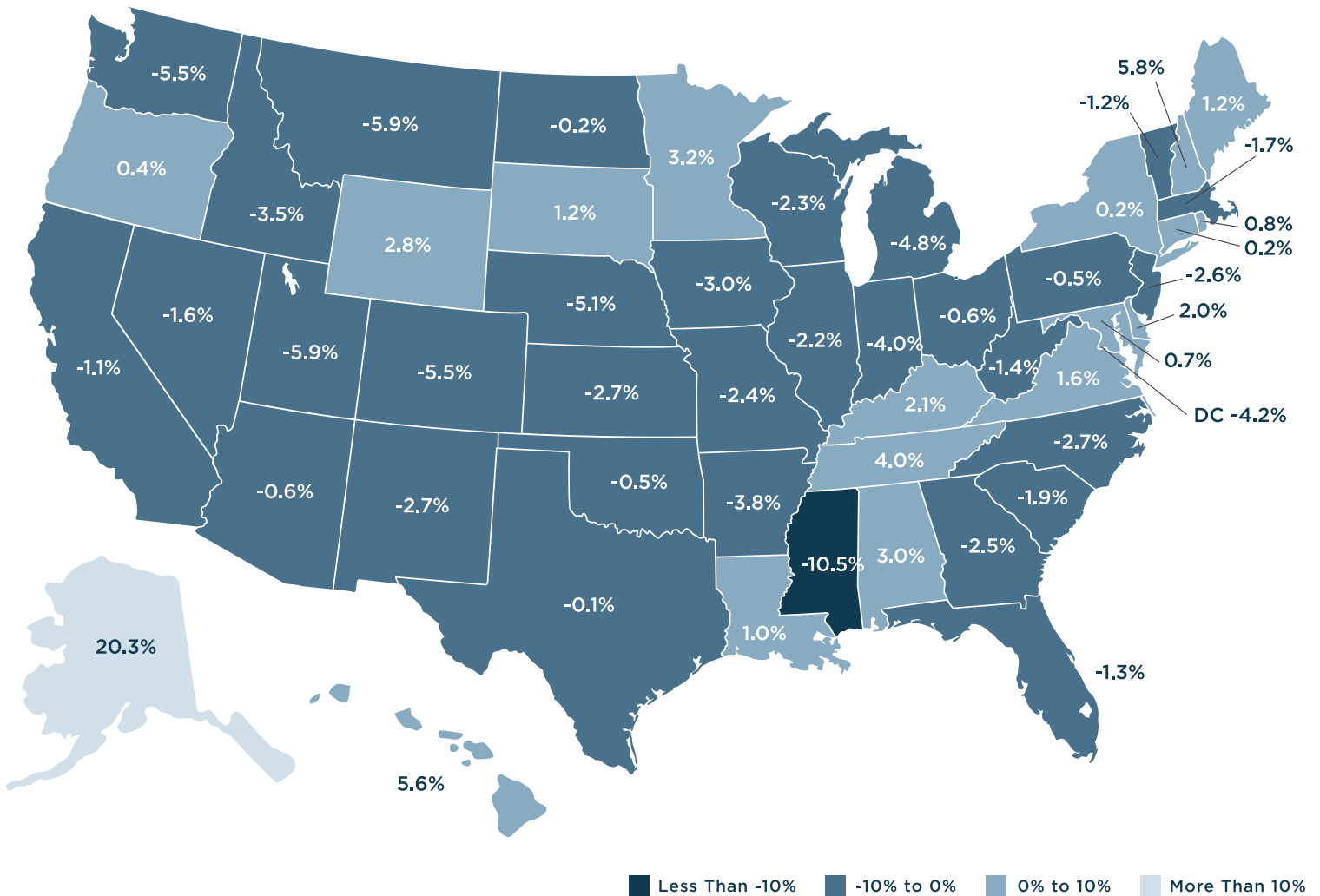


TABLE 2.2

## CHANGE IN PEOPLE IN POVERTY, 2013-2014 AND POVERTY RATE, 2014

ST	2014 Persons in Poverty	2013 Persons in Poverty	% Change	2014 Poverty Rate	ST	2014 Persons in Poverty	2013 Persons in Poverty	% Change	2014 Poverty Rate
AK	80,627	67,016	20.3%	11.2%	MT	153,954	163,637	-5.9%	15.4%
AL	910,175	883,371	3.0%	19.3%	NC	1,668,686	1,715,397	-2.7%	17.2%
AR	543,882	565,469	-3.8%	18.9%	ND	82,264	82,398	-0.2%	11.5%
AZ	1,199,061	1,206,460	-0.6%	18.2%	NE	227,310	239,433	-5.1%	12.4%
CA	6,259,098	6,328,824	-1.1%	16.4%	NH	117,983	111,495	5.8%	9.2%
CO	630,786	667,446	-5.5%	12.0%	NJ	972,903	998,549	-2.6%	11.1%
CT	374,772	373,900	0.2%	10.8%	NM	436,153	448,461	-2.7%	21.3%
DC	110,666	115,551	-4.2%	17.7%	NV	426,730	433,576	-1.6%	15.2%
DE	113,508	111,327	2.0%	12.5%	NY	3,062,938	3,055,645	0.2%	15.9%
FL	3,211,615	3,253,333	-1.3%	16.5%	OH	1,785,780	1,796,942	-0.6%	15.8%
GA	1,797,969	1,843,768	-2.5%	18.3%	OK	623,840	626,906	-0.5%	16.6%
HI	156,729	148,368	5.6%	11.4%	OR	644,450	642,138	0.4%	16.6%
IA	367,816	379,127	-3.0%	12.2%	PA	1,682,212	1,690,405	-0.5%	13.6%
ID	237,981	246,550	-3.5%	14.8%	RI	145,596	144,446	0.8%	14.3%
IL	1,804,535	1,845,393	-2.2%	14.4%	SC	843,860	860,380	-1.9%	18.0%
IN	974,218	1,015,127	-4.0%	15.2%	SD	116,843	115,454	1.2%	14.2%
KS	382,712	393,358	-2.7%	13.6%	TN	1,171,307	1,126,772	4.0%	18.3%
KY	817,542	800,635	2.1%	19.1%	TX	4,523,708	4,530,039	-0.1%	17.2%
LA	896,524	888,019	1.0%	19.8%	UT	339,900	361,181	-5.9%	11.7%
MA	757,235	770,513	-1.7%	11.6%	VA	953,395	938,733	1.6%	11.8%
MD	589,818	585,571	0.7%	10.1%	VT	73,149	74,058	-1.2%	12.2%
ME	182,791	180,639	1.2%	14.1%	WA	913,619	967,282	-5.5%	13.2%
MI	1,568,844	1,648,436	-4.8%	16.2%	WI	738,270	755,551	-2.3%	13.2%
MN	611,354	592,422	3.2%	11.5%	WV	327,764	332,347	-1.4%	18.3%
MO	908,628	931,066	-2.4%	15.5%	WY	63,774	62,039	2.8%	11.2%
MS	623,113	695,915	-10.5%	21.5%	USA	48,208,387	48,810,868	-1.2%	15.5%

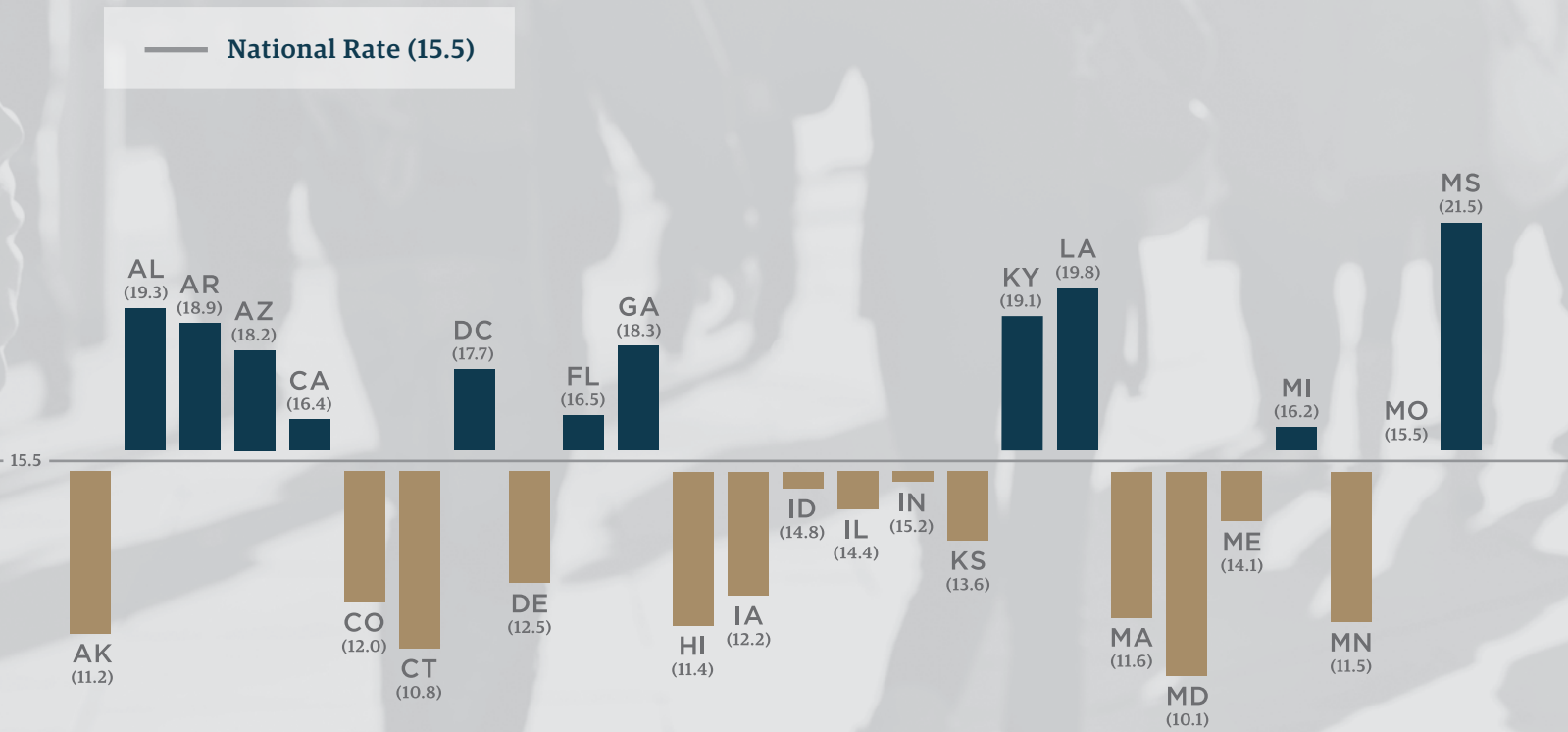
POVERTY RATE

In 2014, the national rate of people experiencing poverty was 15.5 percent. This rate is not significantly different than it was in 2013, but is significantly higher than the rate in 2007, prior to the recession (see Figure 2.2).

Similar to examining rates of homelessness (see Chapter 1), looking at poverty rates state-by-state can provide a clearer picture of the comparative risk of being impoverished in individual states (see Figure 2.3). Despite a large decrease in poverty from 2013 to 2014, Mississippi remains the state with the highest poverty rate at 21.5 percent. Similarly, despite a significant increase in poverty from 2013 to 2014, New Hampshire remained the state with the lowest poverty rate at 9.2 percent.

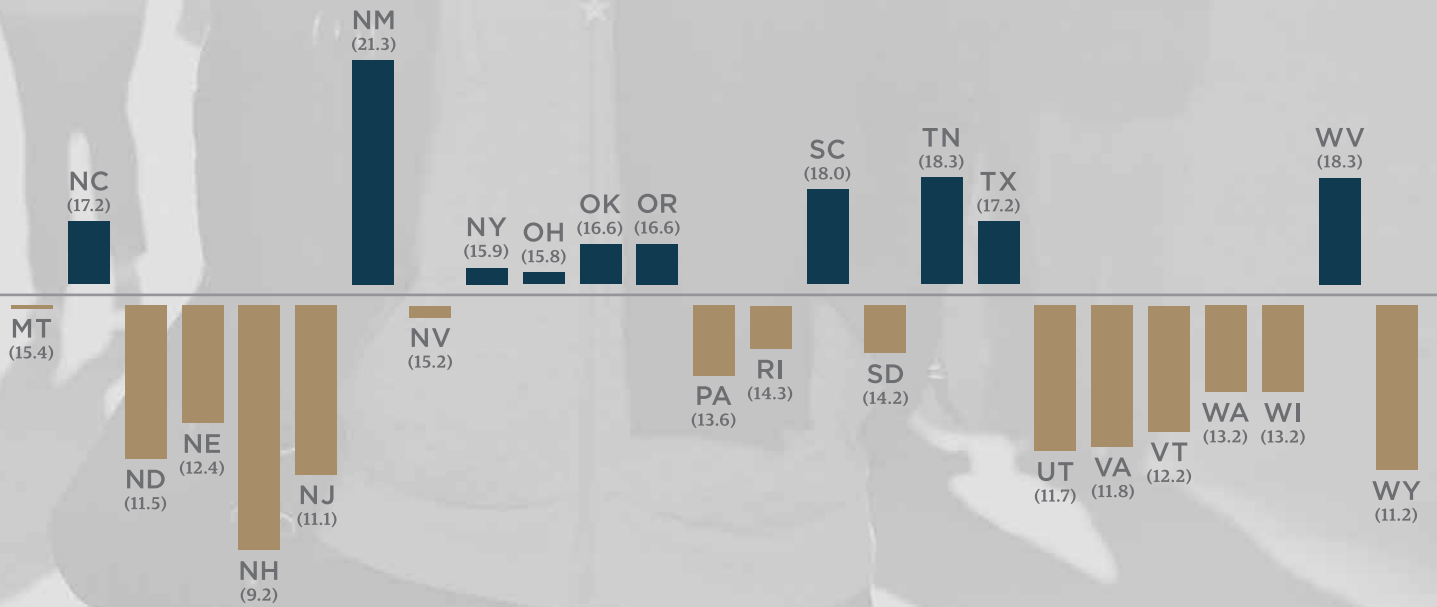
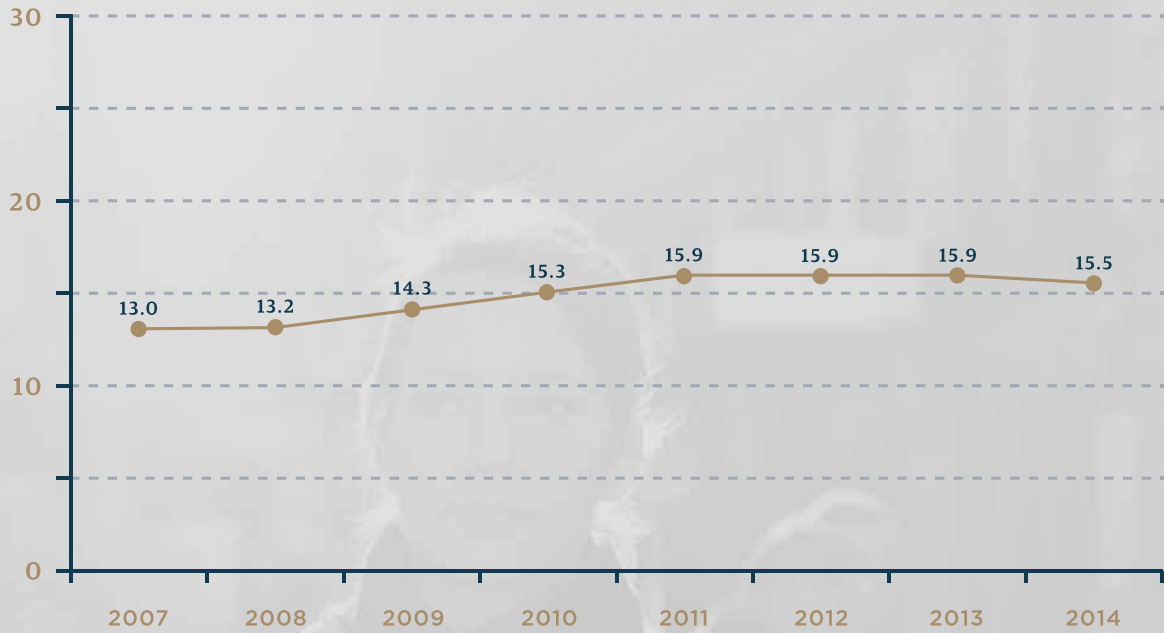
While the prevalence of poverty is an important measure of the risk of homelessness in a given state, Mississippi and New Hampshire serve as good examples of how being at risk of homelessness is not only a matter of being low income. The poverty rate in Mississippi is more than double that in New Hampshire, but the rate of homelessness in Mississippi is almost half of that in New Hampshire. One possible reason for this is that housing is significantly more expensive in New Hampshire than it is in Mississippi—in 2014, to be able to afford a two bedroom apartment in Mississippi, a household would need to make \$13.67 per hour in a full-time job; in New Hampshire the households would need to earn \$20.50 an hour.<sup>10</sup>

**FIGURE 2.3**  
**2014 STATE-BY-STATE RATE OF POVERTY**  
**COMPARED TO NATIONAL RATE**



<sup>10</sup> *Out of Reach, 2015*, National Low Income Housing Coalition

**FIGURE 2.2**  
**CHANGE IN NATIONAL POVERTY RATE, 2007-2014**



## UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment often precedes homelessness and is frequently cited in research as a risk factor for experiencing homelessness. This factor is measured by the number of people in the workforce who are actively seeking a job but do not have one. From 2013 to 2014, the number of unemployed people decreased significantly (16.0 percent) with all 50 states and D.C. seeing decreases in the number of unemployed people (see Map 2.2 and Table 2.3). The states with the largest percent decreases in the number of unemployed people were Colorado (25.2 percent) and Ohio (23.2 percent). California saw the largest decrease in the number of unemployed people, more than 250,000.

MAP 2.2

### CHANGE IN NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE, 2013-2014

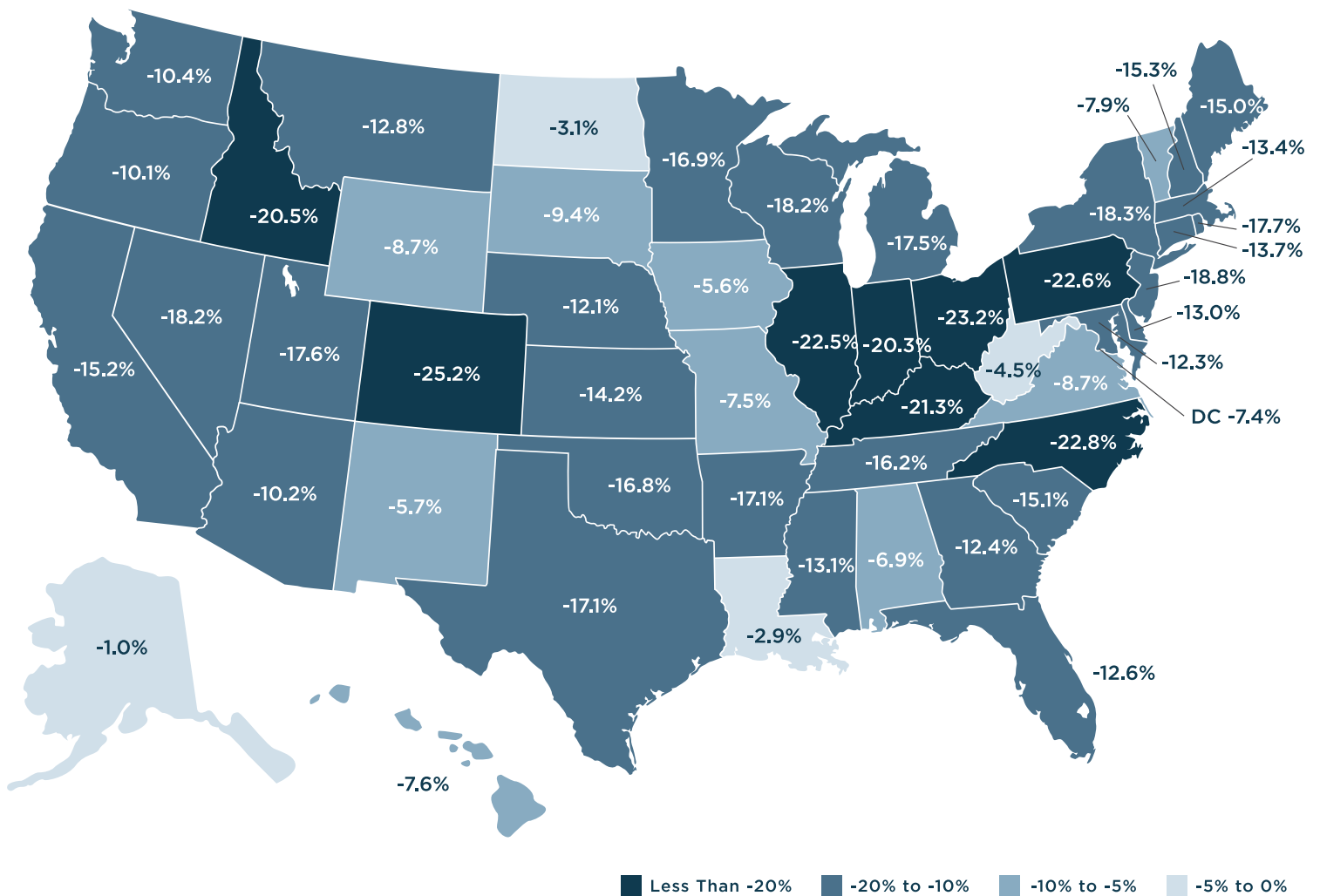


TABLE 2.3

## CHANGE IN NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE, 2013-2014 AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, 2014

ST	2014 Unemployed Persons	2013 Unemployed Persons	% Change	2014 Unemployment Rate	ST	2014 Unemployed Persons	2013 Unemployed Persons	% Change	2014 Unemployment Rate
AK	24,956	25,205	-1.0%	6.8%	MT	24,346	27,914	-12.8%	4.7%
AL	146,208	156,998	-6.9%	6.8%	NC	285,815	370,326	-22.8%	6.1%
AR	79,733	96,148	-17.1%	6.1%	ND	11,503	11,868	-3.1%	2.8%
AZ	212,985	237,229	-10.2%	6.9%	NE	33,903	38,571	-12.1%	3.3%
CA	1,414,276	1,668,743	-15.2%	7.5%	NH	31,959	37,723	-15.3%	4.3%
CO	141,387	189,023	-25.2%	5.0%	NJ	300,277	369,958	-18.8%	6.6%
CT	124,705	144,580	-13.7%	6.6%	NM	60,057	63,690	-5.7%	6.5%
DC	29,399	31,742	-7.4%	7.8%	NV	108,125	132,137	-18.2%	7.8%
DE	25,854	29,702	-13.0%	5.7%	NY	605,041	740,805	-18.3%	6.3%
FL	603,296	690,157	-12.6%	6.3%	OH	327,969	426,918	-23.2%	5.7%
GA	342,365	390,799	-12.4%	7.2%	OK	80,203	96,430	-16.8%	4.5%
HI	29,153	31,552	-7.6%	4.4%	OR	134,956	150,186	-10.1%	6.9%
IA	75,249	79,755	-5.6%	4.4%	PA	369,962	477,843	-22.6%	5.8%
ID	37,404	47,033	-20.5%	4.8%	RI	42,430	51,540	-17.7%	7.7%
IL	460,363	594,127	-22.5%	7.1%	SC	141,451	166,641	-15.1%	6.4%
IN	194,959	244,752	-20.3%	6.0%	SD	15,228	16,813	-9.4%	3.4%
KS	67,994	79,202	-14.2%	4.5%	TN	200,633	239,328	-16.2%	6.7%
KY	130,106	165,262	-21.3%	6.5%	TX	663,997	800,537	-17.1%	5.1%
LA	137,577	141,689	-2.9%	6.4%	UT	54,158	65,722	-17.6%	3.8%
MA	204,809	236,540	-13.4%	5.8%	VA	220,070	241,165	-8.7%	5.2%
MD	181,352	206,890	-12.3%	5.8%	VT	14,305	15,529	-7.9%	4.1%
ME	39,876	46,929	-15.0%	5.7%	WA	217,821	243,072	-10.4%	6.2%
MI	347,972	421,928	-17.5%	7.3%	WI	170,385	208,266	-18.2%	5.5%
MN	121,626	146,423	-16.9%	4.1%	WV	51,508	53,956	-4.5%	6.5%
MO	186,901	202,049	-7.5%	6.1%	WY	13,239	14,507	-8.7%	4.3%
MS	96,343	110,887	-13.1%	7.8%	USA	9,636,189	11,476,789	-16.0%	6.2%

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

In 2014, the national unemployment rate of people experiencing poverty was 6.2 percent, approaching pre-recession rates and falling 1.2 percentage points since 2013. (see Figure 2.4).

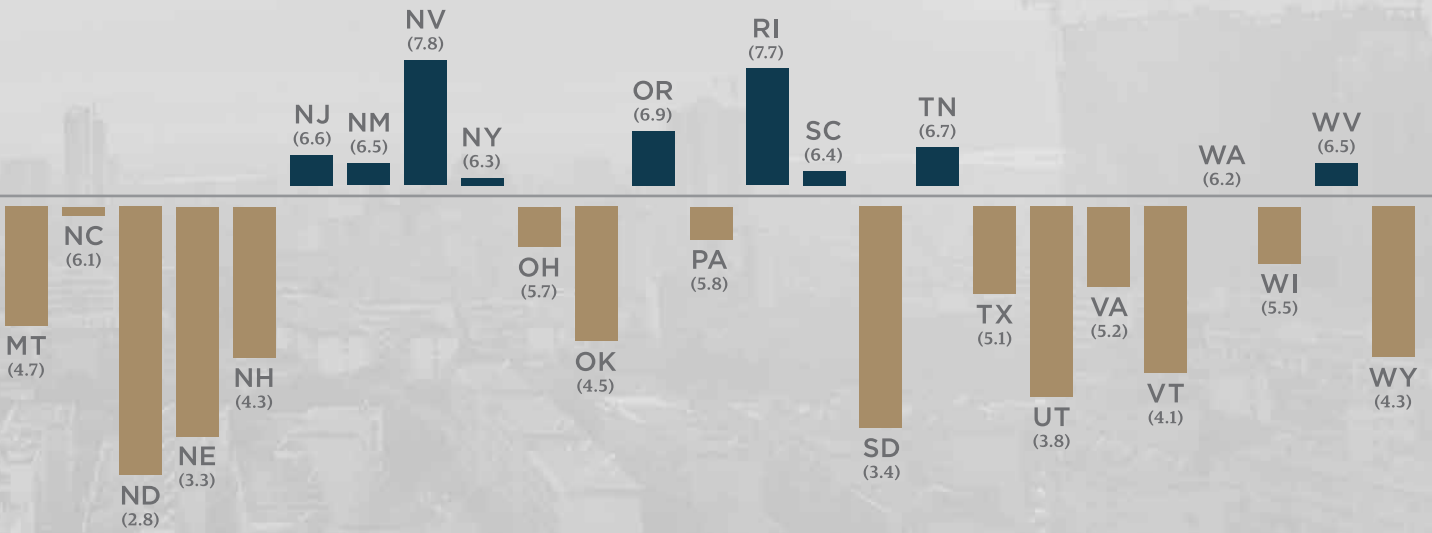
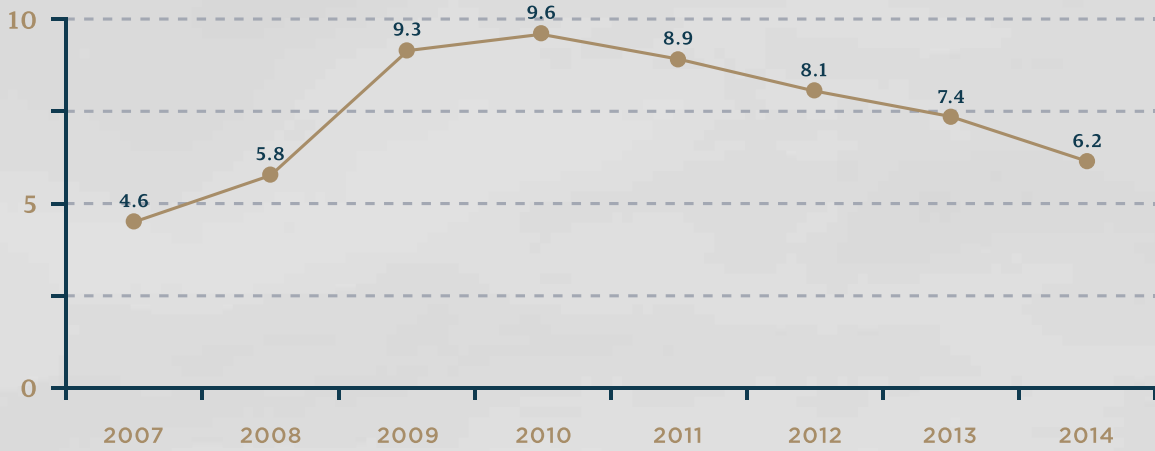
Similar to examining rates of homelessness (see Chapter 1) and poverty, looking at unemployment rates state-by-state can provide a clearer picture of the comparative risk of being unemployed in individual states (see Figure 2.5). With a slight decrease in unemployment, North Dakota maintained the lowest unemployment rate at 2.8 percent. D.C. and Nevada, despite a large decrease in unemployment, had the highest unemployment rates at 7.8 percent.

**FIGURE 2.5**  
**2014 STATE-BY-STATE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**  
**COMPARED TO NATIONAL RATE**





**FIGURE 2.4**  
**CHANGE IN NATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, 2007-2014**



## POOR RENTER HOUSEHOLDS WITH SEVERE HOUSING COST BURDEN

When more than 50 percent of a poor household's income goes to paying rent, that household is experiencing what is known as severe housing cost burden. Households that fall into this category spend a disproportionate amount of income on housing, and are more likely to have an unexpected event—such as loss of employment or unexpected medical costs—result in an experience of homelessness.

Nationally, the number of poor renter households with severe housing cost burden increased slightly (2.1 percent) with 32 states seeing increases (see Map 2.3 and Table 2.4). This is likely an indication that as the housing market recovers, rents are increasing.

**MAP 2.3**  
**CHANGE IN POOR RENTER HOUSEHOLDS WITH SEVERE HOUSING COST BURDEN, 2013-2014**

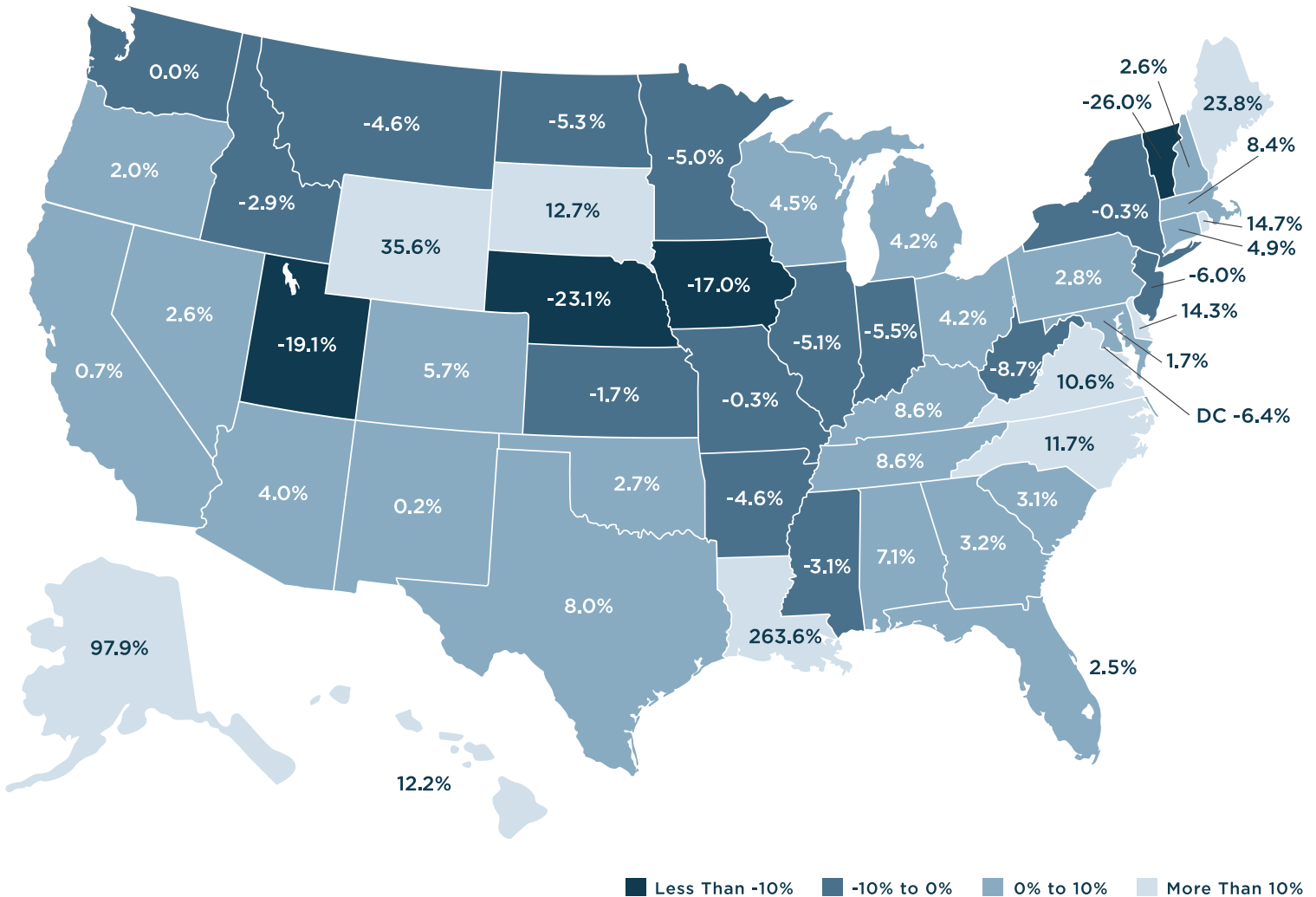


TABLE 2.4

## CHANGE IN POOR RENTER HOUSEHOLDS (PRH) WITH SEVERE HOUSING COST BURDEN (SHCB), 2013-2014

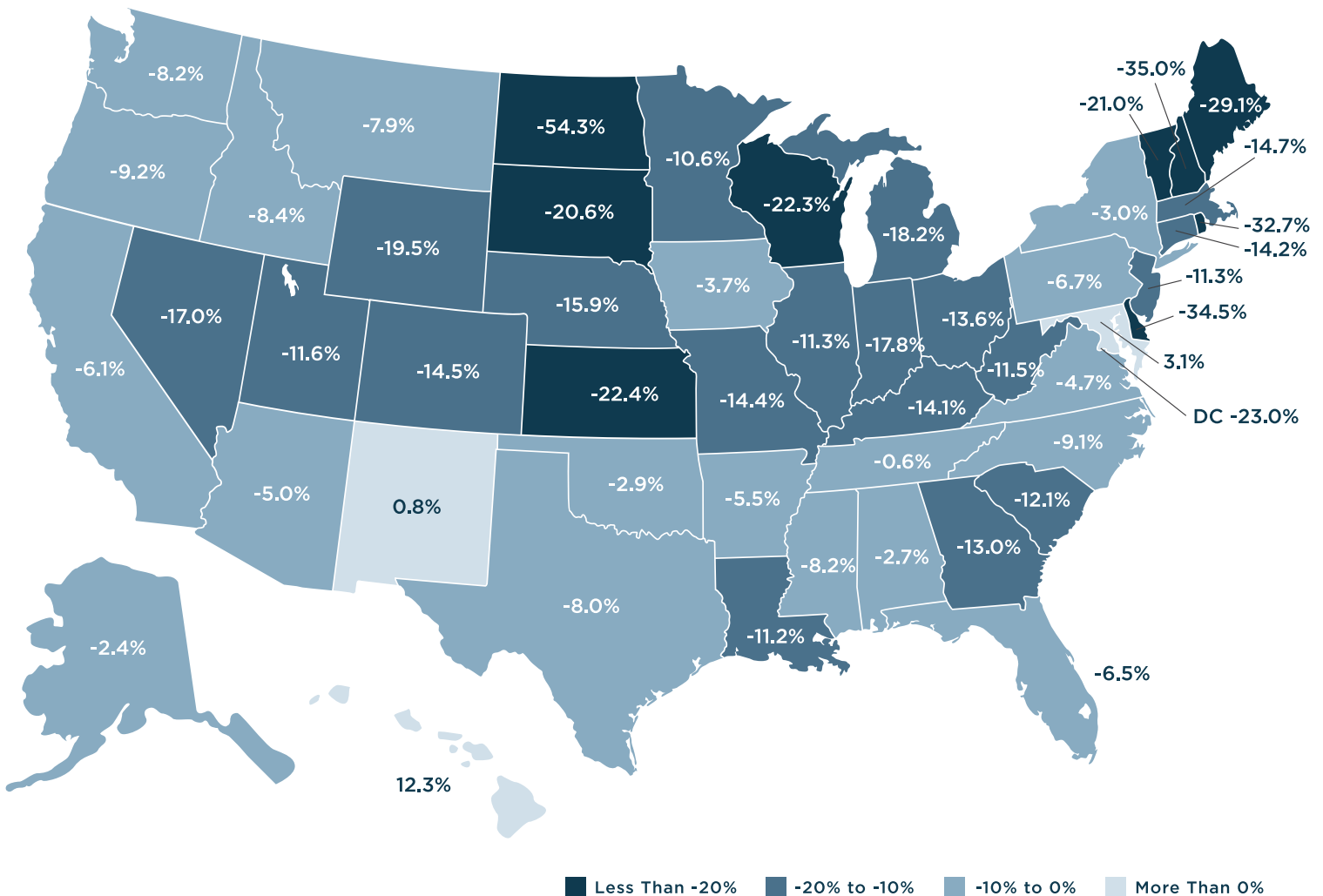
ST	2014 PRH with SHCB	2013 PRH with SHCB	% Change	ST	2014 PRH with SHCB	2013 PRH with SHCB	% Change
AK	9,607	4,855	97.9%	MT	19,693	20,638	-4.6%
AL	111,385	104,002	7.1%	NC	229,862	205,835	11.7%
AR	59,504	62,348	-4.6%	ND	13,272	14,010	-5.3%
AZ	138,210	132,836	4.0%	NE	29,080	37,795	-23.1%
CA	867,948	861,575	0.7%	NH	17,856	17,405	2.6%
CO	100,302	94,933	5.7%	NJ	149,095	158,661	-6.0%
CT	61,782	58,880	4.9%	NM	42,817	42,730	0.2%
DC	19,932	21,287	-6.4%	NV	60,089	58,551	2.6%
DE	14,651	12,820	14.3%	NY	517,334	518,697	-0.3%
FL	411,315	401,344	2.5%	OH	274,402	263,390	4.2%
GA	227,344	220,192	3.2%	OK	72,460	70,561	2.7%
HI	18,906	16,853	12.2%	OR	98,446	96,494	2.0%
IA	46,463	55,951	-17.0%	PA	248,120	241,261	2.8%
ID	26,663	27,455	-2.9%	RI	25,368	22,126	14.7%
IL	251,808	265,420	-5.1%	SC	94,425	91,603	3.1%
IN	128,012	135,098	-5.5%	SD	13,142	11,662	12.7%
KS	52,405	53,330	-1.7%	TN	147,973	136,307	8.6%
KY	96,805	89,179	8.6%	TX	537,200	497,207	8.0%
LA	109,635	113,120	-3.1%	UT	32,453	40,105	-19.1%
MA	128,137	118,239	8.4%	VA	138,283	125,055	10.6%
MD	85,413	84,026	1.7%	VT	6,558	8,868	-26.0%
ME	29,117	23,527	23.8%	WA	127,624	127,564	0.0%
MI	220,803	211,904	4.2%	WI	115,969	110,977	4.5%
MN	84,149	88,558	-5.0%	WV	32,497	35,610	-8.7%
MO	128,567	128,926	-0.3%	WY	10,083	7,434	35.6%
MS	68,710	69,742	-1.5%	USA	6,551,674	6,416,946	2.1%

**PEOPLE IN POOR HOUSEHOLDS LIVING DOUBLED UP**

People who are living with family and friends are described as living doubled up. While some people may choose to live doubled up for personal reasons, others are likely doubled up because they cannot afford housing independently and some of them may be at risk of homelessness. Not surprisingly, living doubled up has consistently been shown as the most common prior housed living situation of people who become homeless.<sup>11</sup>

Nationally, the number of people in poor households living doubled up decreased significantly (9.0 percent) with only 3 states seeing increases in the size of this population, and those increases were relatively small (see Map 2.4 and Table 2.5). California and Texas saw the largest decreases in this population with 72,580 and 56,015 less people respectively.

**MAP 2.4**  
**CHANGE IN PEOPLE IN POOR HOUSEHOLDS DOUBLED UP, 2013-2014**



<sup>11</sup> People living in precarious doubled up situations (unable to remain for more than 14 days or moving repeatedly) are not included in point-in-time counts, but are eligible for homeless assistance.

TABLE 2.5

## CHANGE IN PEOPLE IN POOR HOUSEHOLDS (HH) DOUBLED UP, 2013-2014

ST	2014 People in Poor HH Doubled Up	2013 People in Poor HH Doubled Up	% Change	ST	2014 People in Poor HH Doubled Up	2013 People in Poor HH Doubled Up	% Change
AK	14,306	14,656	-2.4%	MT	18,086	19,635	-7.9%
AL	130,302	133,912	-2.7%	NC	240,982	265,088	-9.1%
AR	72,916	77,155	-5.5%	ND	5,111	11,179	-54.3%
AZ	196,349	206,783	-5.0%	NE	22,839	27,158	-15.9%
CA	1,108,973	1,181,553	-6.1%	NH	13,229	20,349	-35.0%
CO	73,165	85,590	-14.5%	NJ	149,935	169,075	-11.3%
CT	46,905	54,698	-14.2%	NM	73,599	72,998	0.8%
DC	13,363	17,346	-23.0%	NV	62,485	75,294	-17.0%
DE	15,001	22,901	-34.5%	NY	488,152	503,403	-3.0%
FL	583,094	623,306	-6.5%	OH	208,079	240,832	-13.6%
GA	265,803	305,680	-13.0%	OK	77,048	79,389	-2.9%
HI	31,375	27,946	12.3%	OR	79,774	87,833	-9.2%
IA	36,879	38,283	-3.7%	PA	228,077	244,446	-6.7%
ID	27,331	29,849	-8.4%	RI	15,389	22,851	-32.7%
IL	259,484	292,578	-11.3%	SC	120,235	136,836	-12.1%
IN	117,799	143,349	-17.8%	SD	13,654	17,192	-20.6%
KS	34,754	44,769	-22.4%	TN	166,863	167,914	-0.6%
KY	98,596	114,836	-14.1%	TX	642,970	698,985	-8.0%
LA	130,043	146,393	-11.2%	UT	39,324	44,507	-11.6%
MA	93,404	109,556	-14.7%	VA	135,708	142,371	-4.7%
MD	103,047	99,955	3.1%	VT	7,529	9,536	-21.0%
ME	17,437	24,611	-29.1%	WA	115,409	125,749	-8.2%
MI	204,422	249,982	-18.2%	WI	71,298	91,814	-22.3%
MN	66,630	74,513	-10.6%	WV	44,002	49,738	-11.5%
MO	106,391	124,360	-14.4%	WY	6,679	8,296	-19.5%
MS	104,861	114,285	-8.2%	USA	6,999,086	7,691,313	-9.0%

## CHAPTER TWO SUMMARY

Table 2.6 summarizes trends in populations at risk of homelessness between 2013 and 2014.

**TABLE 2.6**

### CHANGE IN POPULATIONS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS BY STATE, 2013-2014

ST	Persons in Poverty	Poverty Rate*	Unemployed Persons	Unemployment Rate*	Poor Renter Households with Severe Housing Cost Burden	People in Poor Households Living Doubled Up
AK	20.3%	11.2	-1.0%	6.8	97.9%	-2.4%
AL	3.0%	19.3	-6.9%	6.8	7.1%	-2.7%
AR	-3.8%	18.9	-17.1%	6.1	-4.6%	-5.5%
AZ	-0.6%	18.2	-10.2%	6.9	4.0%	-5.0%
CA	-1.1%	16.4	-15.2%	7.5	0.7%	-6.1%
CO	-5.5%	12.0	-25.2%	5.0	5.7%	-14.5%
CT	0.2%	10.8	-13.7%	6.6	4.9%	-14.2%
DC	-4.2%	17.7	-7.4%	7.8	-6.4%	-23.0%
DE	2.0%	12.5	13.0%	5.7	14.3%	-34.5%
FL	-1.3%	16.5	-12.6%	6.3	2.5%	-6.5%
GA	-2.5%	18.3	-12.4%	7.2	3.2%	-13.0%
HI	5.6%	11.4	-7.6%	4.4	12.2%	12.3%
IA	-3.0%	12.2	-5.6%	4.4	-17.0%	-3.7%
ID	-3.5%	14.8	-20.5%	4.8	-2.9%	-8.4%
IL	-2.2%	14.4	-22.5%	7.1	-5.1%	-11.3%
IN	-4.0%	15.2	-20.3%	6.0	-5.5%	-17.8%
KS	-2.7%	13.6	-14.2%	4.5	-1.7%	-22.4%
KY	2.1%	19.1	-21.3%	6.5	8.6%	-14.1%
LA	1.0%	19.8	-2.9%	6.4	-3.1%	-11.2%
MA	-1.7%	11.6	-13.4%	5.8	8.4%	-14.7%
MD	0.7%	10.1	-12.3%	5.8	1.7%	3.1%
ME	1.2%	14.1	-15.0%	5.7	23.8%	-29.1%
MI	-4.8%	16.2	-17.5%	7.3	4.2%	-18.2%
MN	3.2%	11.5	-16.9%	4.1	-5.0%	-10.6%
MO	-2.4%	15.5	-7.5%	6.1	-0.3%	-14.4%
MS	-10.5%	21.5	-13.1%	7.8	-1.5%	-8.2%

ST	Persons in Poverty	Poverty Rate*	Unemployed Persons	Unemployment Rate*	Poor Renter Households with Severe Housing Cost Burden	People in Poor Households Living Doubled Up
MT	-5.9%	15.4	-12.8%	4.7	-4.6%	-7.9%
NC	-2.7%	17.2	-22.8%	6.1	11.7%	-9.1%
ND	-0.2%	11.5	-3.1%	2.8	-5.3%	-54.3%
NE	-5.1%	12.4	-12.1%	3.3	-23.1%	-15.9%
NH	5.8%	9.2	-15.3%	4.3	2.6%	-35.0%
NJ	-2.6%	11.1	-18.8%	6.6	-6.0%	-11.3%
NM	-2.7%	21.3	-5.7%	6.5	0.2%	0.8%
NV	-1.6%	15.2	-18.2%	7.8	2.6%	-17.0%
NY	0.2%	15.9	-18.3%	6.3	-0.3%	-3.0%
OH	-0.6%	15.8	-23.2%	5.7	4.2%	-13.6%
OK	-0.5%	16.6	-16.8%	4.5	2.7%	-2.9%
OR	0.4%	16.6	-10.1%	6.9	2.0%	-9.2%
PA	-0.5%	13.6	-22.6%	5.8	2.8%	-6.7%
RI	0.8%	14.3	-17.7%	7.7	14.7%	-32.7%
SC	-1.9%	18.0	-15.1%	6.4	3.1%	-12.1%
SD	1.2%	14.2	-9.4%	3.4	12.7%	-20.6%
TN	4.0%	18.3	-16.2%	6.7	8.6%	-0.6%
TX	-0.1%	17.2	-17.1%	5.1	8.0%	-8.0%
UT	-5.9%	11.7	-17.6%	3.8	-19.1%	-11.6%
VA	1.6%	11.8	-8.7%	5.2	10.6%	-4.7%
VT	-1.2%	12.2	-7.9%	4.1	-26.0%	-21.0%
WA	-5.5%	13.2	-10.4%	6.2	0.0%	-8.2%
WI	-2.3%	13.2	-18.2%	5.5	4.5%	-22.3%
WV	-1.4%	18.3	-4.5%	6.5	-8.7%	-11.5%
WY	2.8%	11.2	-8.7%	4.3	35.6%	-19.5%
USA	-1.2%	15.5	-16.0%	6.2	2.1%	-9.0%

\* Column represents change in percentage point.

## CHAPTER THREE

# HOMELESS ASSISTANCE IN AMERICA

Every year, communities conduct a housing inventory count (HIC) in conjunction with the point-in-time count, enumerating emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and, beginning in 2013, rapid re-housing beds. Regardless of the funding source for the bed, communities are required to report on all beds for use by people experiencing homelessness. Funding sources include HUD, VA, and the Runaway and Homeless Youth program administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Longitudinal trends in bed inventory show an increasing shift in homeless assistance toward permanent housing solutions. Permanent supportive housing beds continued multi-year increases in 2015 and rapid re-housing (short-term assistance to help people access permanent housing) capacity increased significantly for the second year. The decrease in transitional housing that started in 2011 became steeper. In this chapter, housing inventory data is used to estimate the capacity of the homeless assistance system on a given night.

As part of the housing inventory and point-in-time efforts, communities also report on the number people in emergency shelter and transitional housing. This chapter also includes an analysis of utilization rates for those two bed types.



## NATIONAL HOMELESS ASSISTANCE SYSTEM CAPACITY

In January 2015, communities across the nation reported a total of 805,791 beds designated for people experiencing homelessness (see Table 3.1). Permanent supportive housing represents the largest proportion of beds available for people experiencing homelessness, making up 39.6 percent of available beds. 32.8 percent of all beds were designated as emergency shelter and 20.0 percent were transitional housing beds.<sup>12</sup> The number of rapid re-housing beds, which has been increasing drastically since 2013, comprised 7.5 percent of all beds.

**TABLE 3.1**  
**HOMELESS ASSISTANCE BY BED TYPE**  
**AND TARGET HOUSEHOLD TYPE, 2015**

	HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN	HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT CHILDREN	ONLY CHILD HOUSEHOLDS	TOTAL
EMERGENCY SHELTER	133,007	128,575	2,858	264,440
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	83,693	76,911	1,223	161,827
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	119,194	199,327	691	319,212
RAPID RE-HOUSING	44,861	15,433	18	60,312
OVERALL	380,755	420,246	4,790	805,791

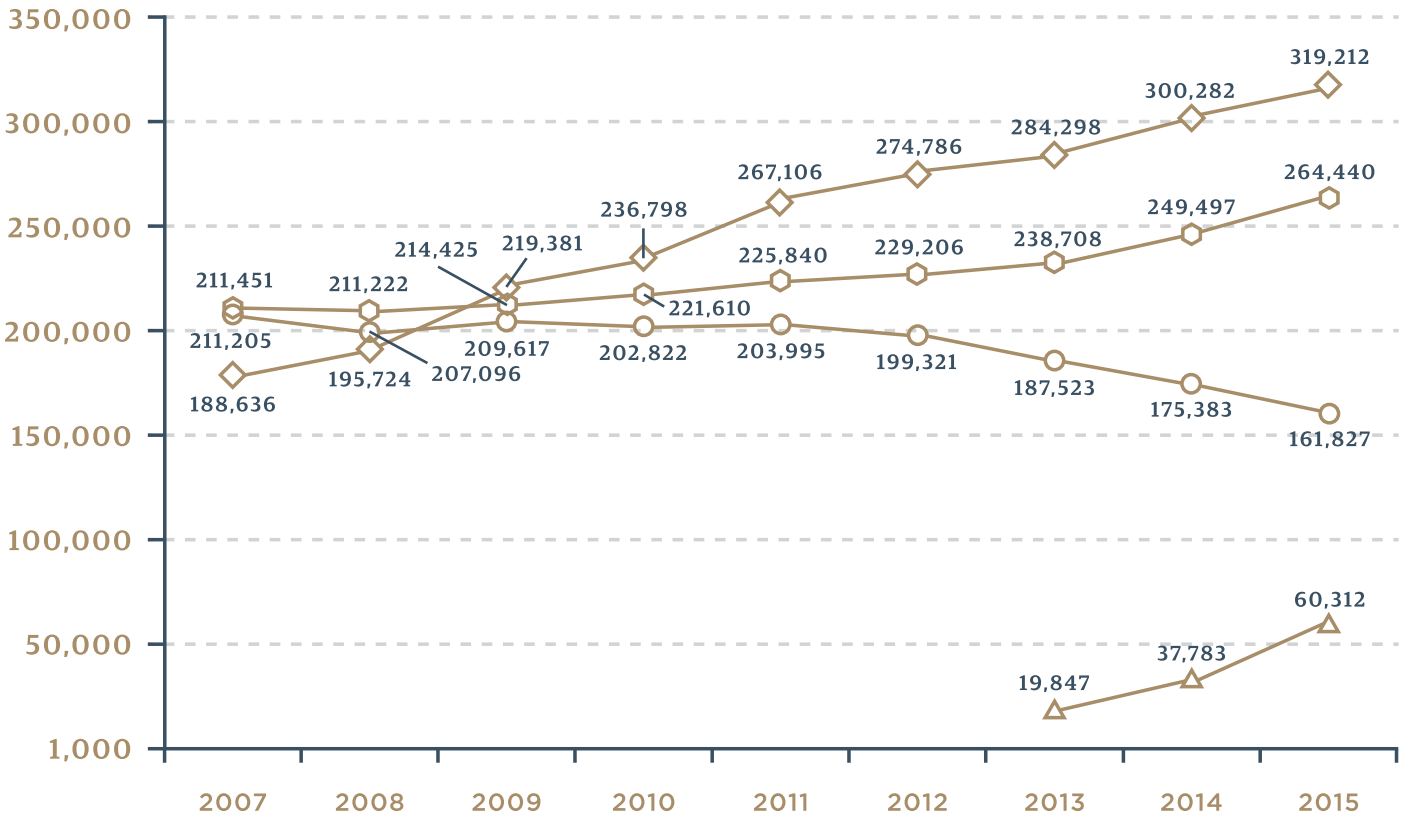
## TRENDS IN HOMELESS ASSISTANCE SYSTEM CAPACITY AND UTILIZATION

From 2007 to 2015, the number of emergency shelter (ES) and permanent supportive housing (PSH) beds increased by 25.1 percent and 69.2 percent, respectively (see Figure 3.1). In this same time period, the number of transitional housing (TH) beds decreased by 23.4 percent. From 2013 to 2015, the number of rapid rehousing (RRH) beds increased by 203.9 percent.

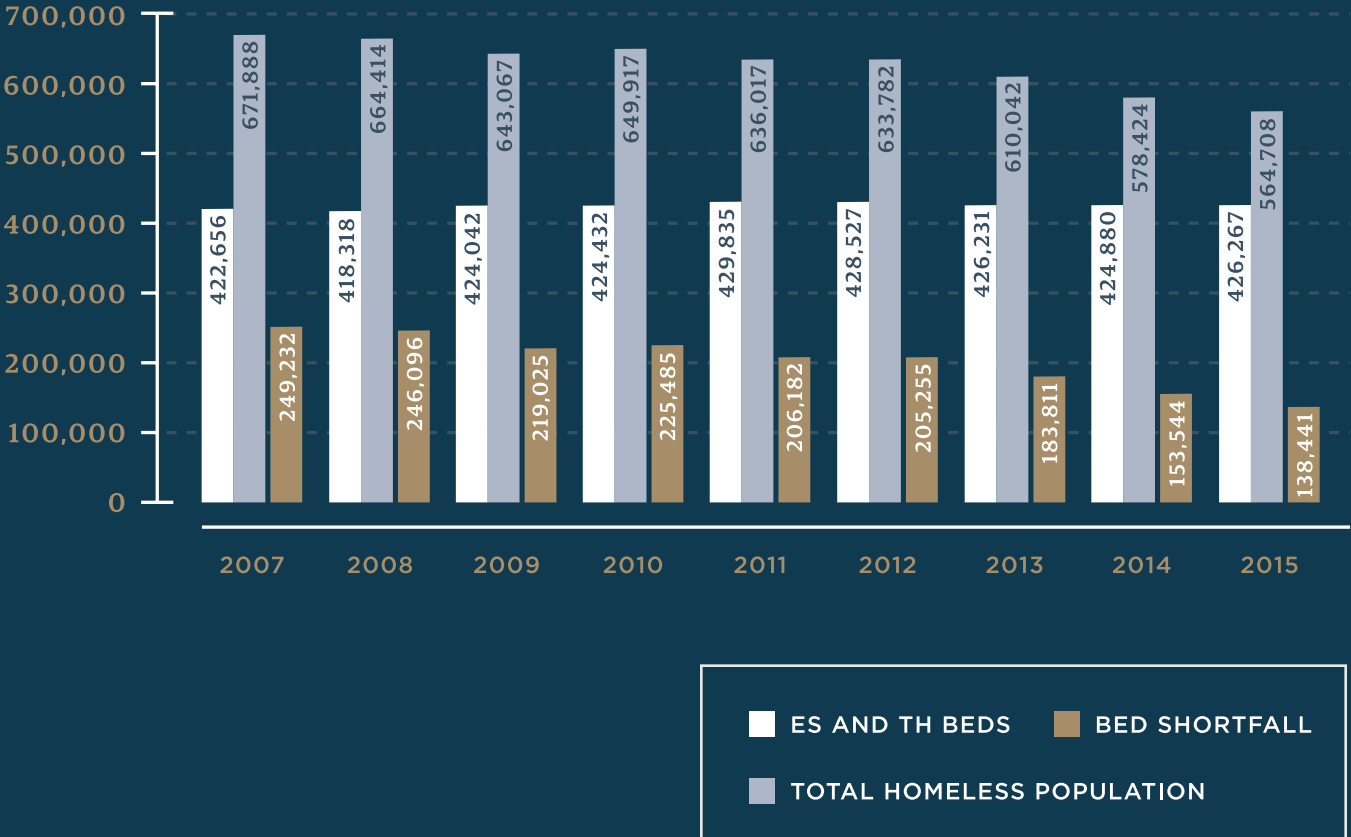
People living in permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing are no longer considered homeless for the purposes of the point-in-time count (see Chapter 1). Only those in emergency shelter and transitional housing are counted as homeless on the night of the point-in-time count. Nationally, emergency shelter and transitional housing beds could assist 76 percent of the total homeless population on a single night in January 2015; however, geographic and population mismatches may prevent every bed from being filled (see Figure 3.2).

<sup>12</sup> Throughout this chapter, Safe Haven beds are included in transitional housing totals.

**FIGURE 3.1**  
**HOUSING INVENTORY, 2007-2015**



**FIGURE 3.2**  
**HOUSING SYSTEM CAPACITY, 2007-2015**

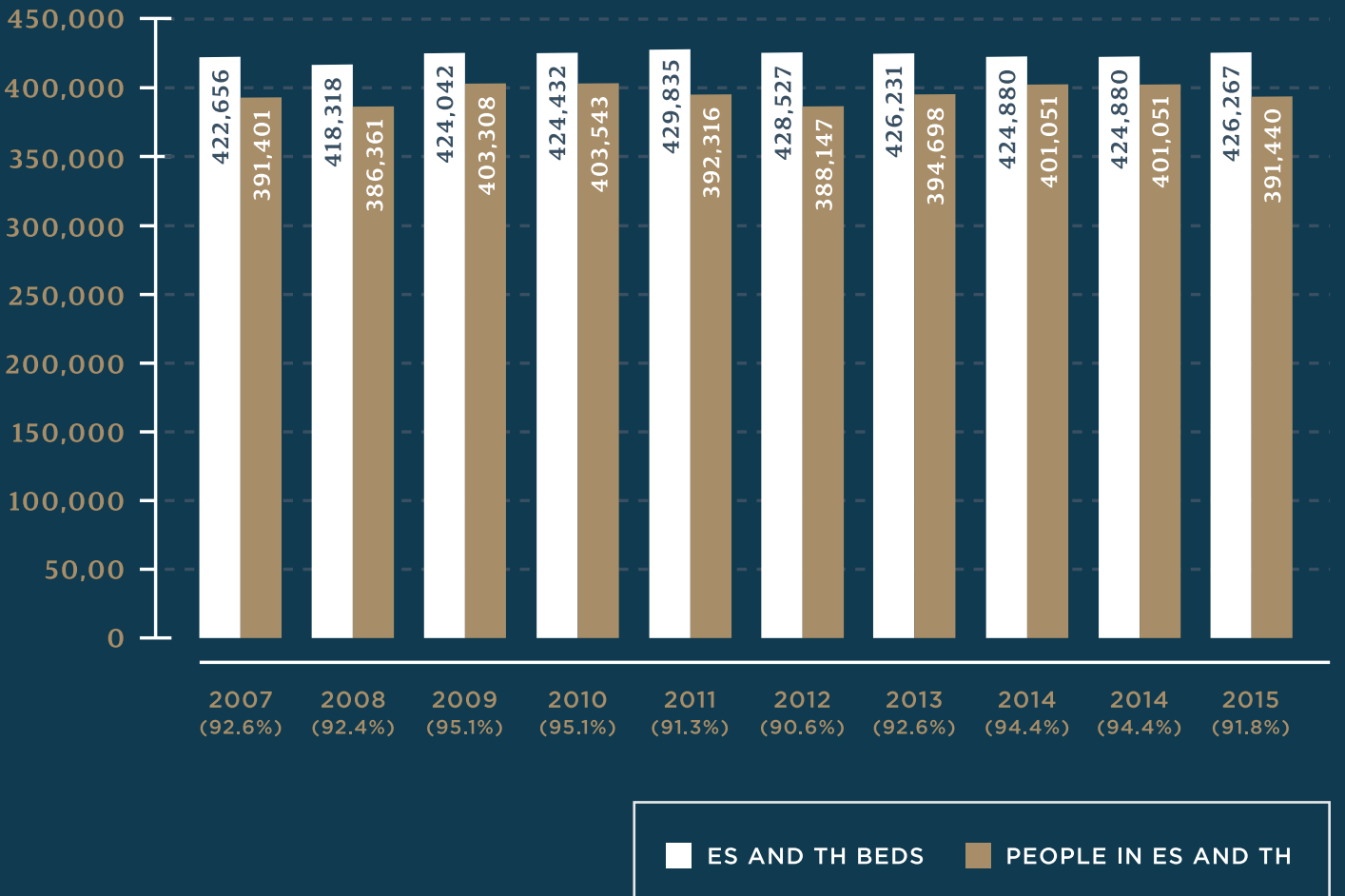


## HOMELESS ASSISTANCE BED UTILIZATION

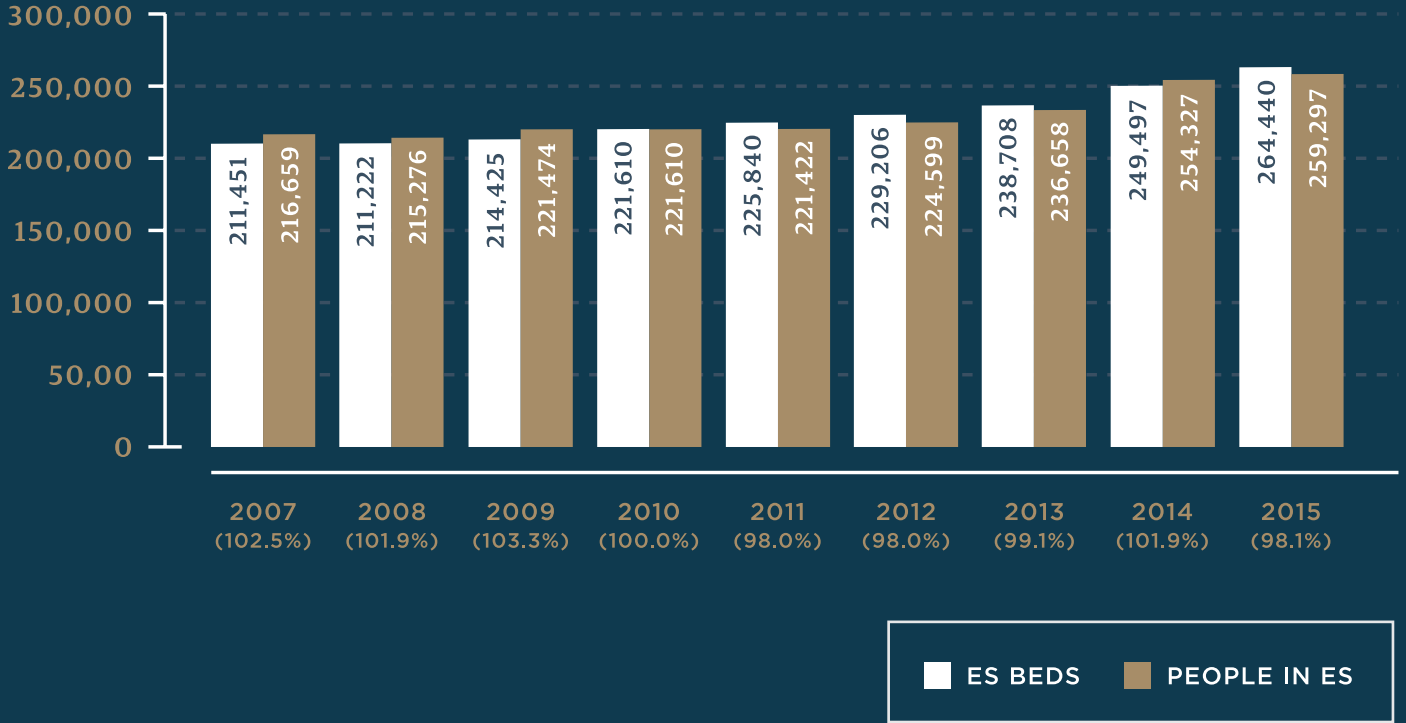
Utilization of available homeless assistance beds has consistently been above 90 percent since 2007 (see Figure 3.3). In 2015, 91.8 percent of beds were full on a given night, but rates for emergency shelter utilization and transitional housing utilization differ significantly.

In 2015, 98.1 percent of emergency shelter beds were full on a given night, while only 81.7 percent of transitional housing beds were full (see figures 3.4 and 3.5). This disparity in rates of utilization between transitional housing and emergency shelter has existed since 2007 and persists despite large increases in emergency shelter capacity and significant decreases in transitional housing capacity. This indicates that investments in crisis housing should likely go to programs like emergency shelter that have higher utilization rates and contribute to efforts to keep the largest numbers of people from sleeping outside.

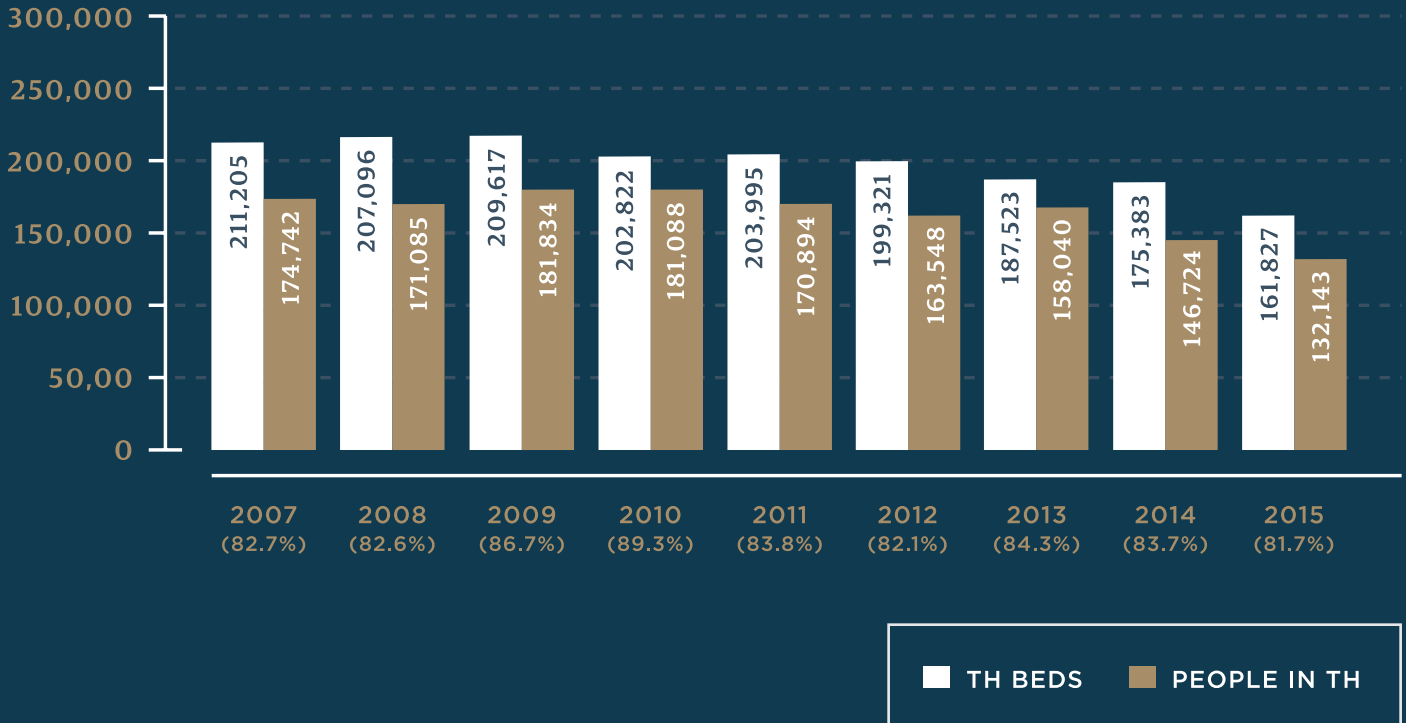
**FIGURE 3.3**  
**BED UTILIZATION TRENDS, 2007-2015**



**FIGURE 3.4**  
**EMERGENCY SHELTER UTILIZATION, 2007-2015**



**FIGURE 3.5**  
**TRANSITIONAL HOUSING UTILIZATION, 2007-2015**



## STATE TRENDS IN HOMELESS ASSISTANCE BED CAPACITY AND UTILIZATION

### EMERGENCY SHELTER

Emergency shelter bed capacity increased nationally by 6.0 percent from 2014 to 2015, but trends varied among states: 30 states reported increases in emergency shelter capacity, while 20 states and D.C. reported decreases (see Map 3.1 and Table 3.2). The largest increases in emergency shelter capacity were in New York (8,865 more beds), California (2,998 more beds), and Massachusetts (2,674 more beds).

The trends in New York and Massachusetts are impacted by what are known as “right to shelter” policies, meaning a jurisdiction is legally required to provide emergency shelter to prevent an individual or family from sleeping outside. Without the concentrated increases seen in the New York and Massachusetts “right to shelter” jurisdictions, the country would have only have seen about a 3,500 bed increase in emergency shelter capacity.

Nationally, the utilization rate of emergency shelter beds<sup>13</sup> was 98.1 percent at the time of the 2015 point-in-time counts, but utilization varied across states. 17 states had emergency shelter utilization rates at above 100 percent (see Map 3.2 and Table 3.2).<sup>14</sup> These states are concentrated, but not exclusively so, in regions of the country that are colder in January when point-in-time counts are conducted.



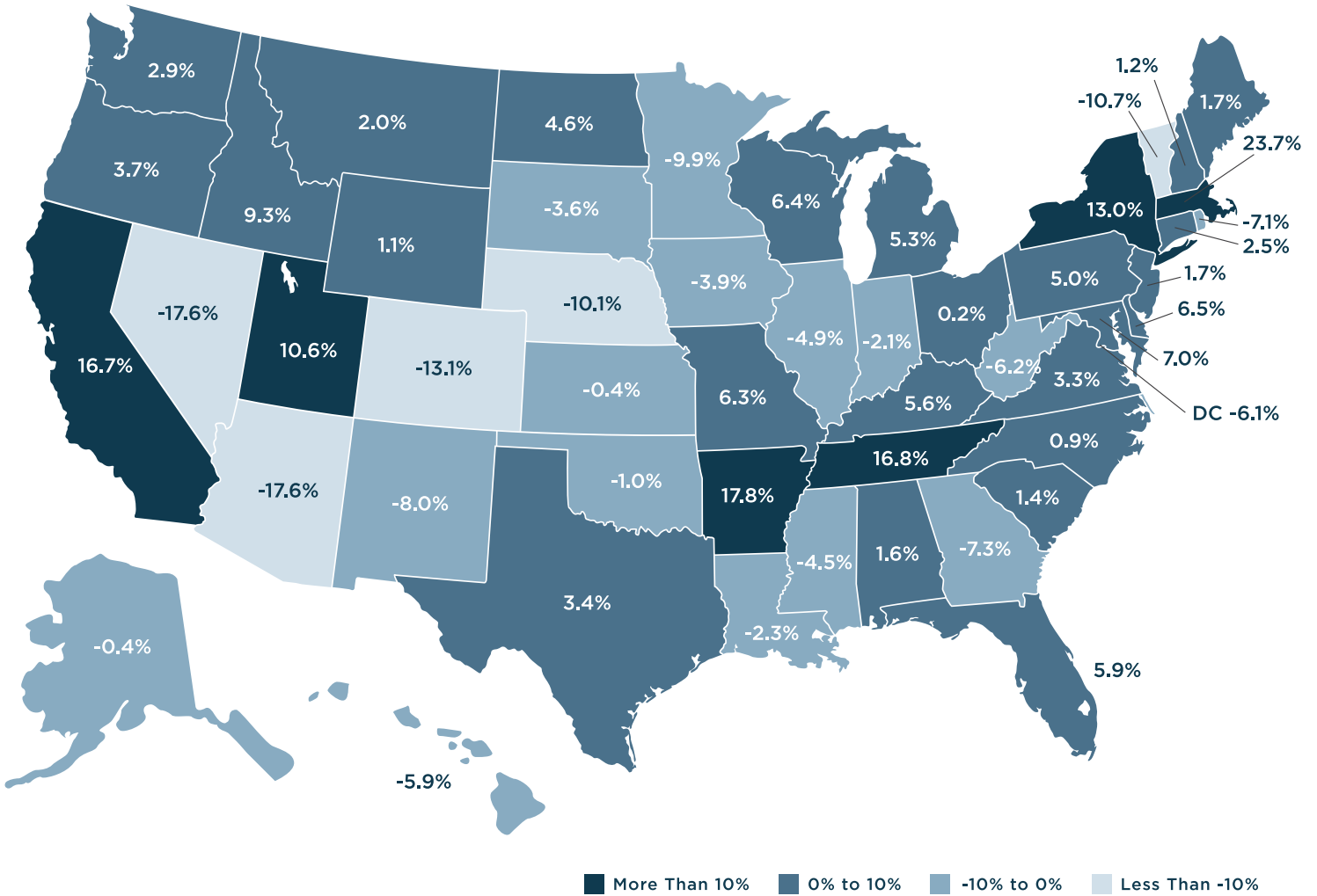
PHOTOGRAPHY CREDIT: PISAPHOTOGRAPHY/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

<sup>13</sup> Utilization rates are calculated using year-round emergency bed capacity. The calculations do not include seasonal beds that are only available under specific circumstances.

<sup>14</sup> As utilization rates are calculated using year-round emergency shelter bed capacity, places that have seasonal beds or flexible capacity to add emergency shelter capacity can . The calculations do not include seasonal beds that are only available under specific circumstances.

MAP 3.1

### CHANGE IN EMERGENCY SHELTER BED CAPACITY, 2014-1015



MAP 3.2

### EMERGENCY SHELTER BED UTILIZATION, 2015

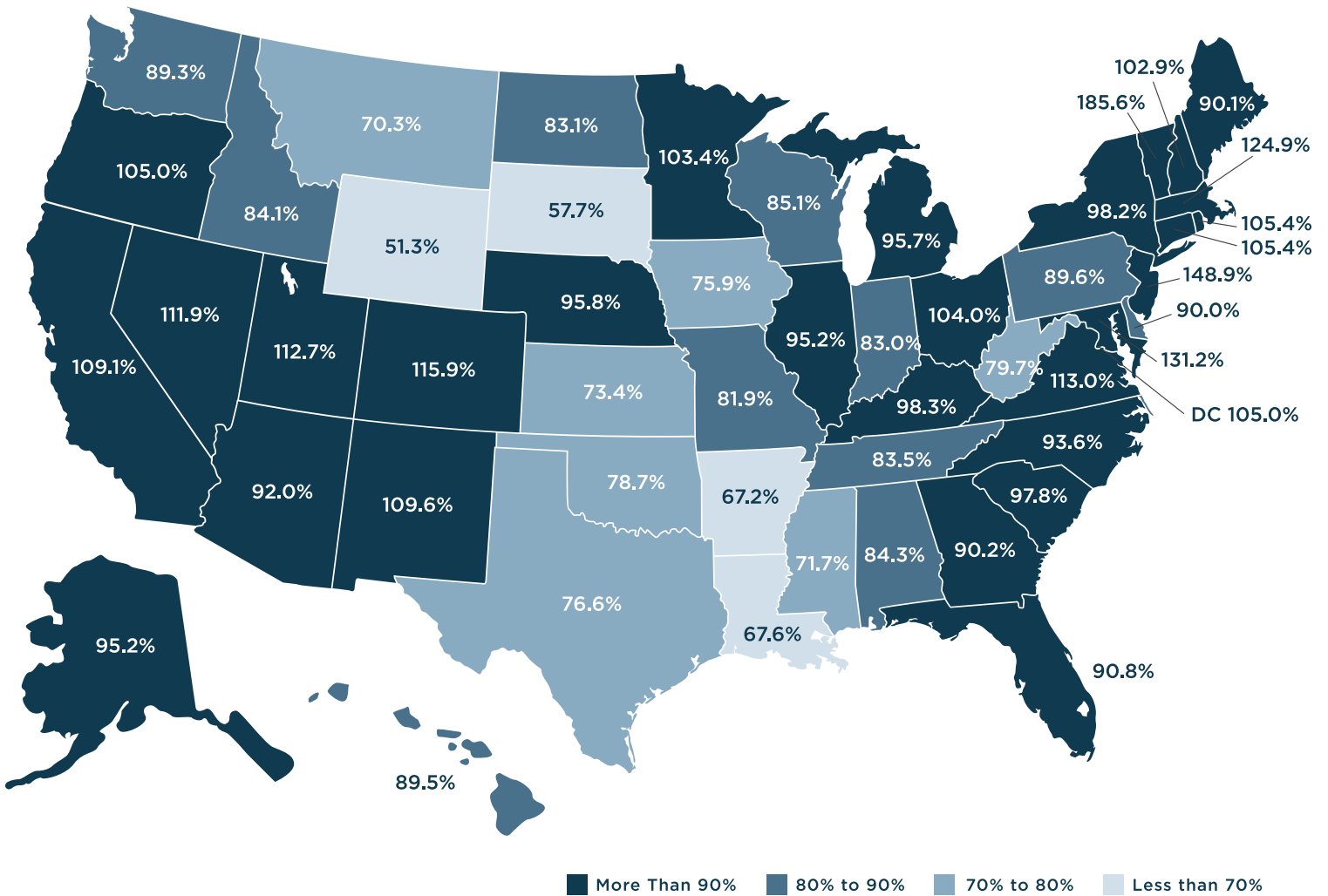






TABLE 3.2

## CHANGE IN EMERGENCY SHELTER (ES) BED CAPACITY AND UTILIZATION, 2014-2015

ST	2015 People in ES	2015 ES Beds	% Beds Filled, 2015	2014 People in ES	2014 ES Beds	% Beds Filled, 2014	% Change in ES Beds	Change in Utilization*
AK	1,127	1,184	95.2%	1,139	1,189	95.8%	-0.4%	-0.6
AL	1,574	1,868	84.3%	1,851	1,838	100.7%	1.6%	-16.4
AR	1,161	1,727	67.2%	1,021	1,466	69.6%	17.8%	-2.4
AZ	3,395	3,692	92.0%	4,291	4,481	95.8%	-17.6%	-3.8
CA	22,750	20,857	109.1%	20,964	17,869	117.3%	16.7%	-8.2
CO	3,782	3,263	115.9%	4,002	3,753	106.6%	-13.1%	9.3
CT	2,418	2,295	105.4%	2,481	2,238	110.9%	2.5%	-5.5
DC	5,085	4,843	105.0%	5,754	5,157	111.6%	-6.1%	-6.6
DE	529	588	90.0%	435	552	78.8%	6.5%	11.2
FL	9,894	10,891	90.8%	10,250	10,286	99.7%	5.9%	-8.8
GA	3,984	4,416	90.2%	4,441	4,765	93.2%	-7.3%	-3.0
GU	73	132	55.3%	57	102	55.9%	29.4%	-0.6
HI	1,257	1,404	89.5%	1,162	1,492	77.9%	-5.9%	11.6
IA	1,225	1,615	75.9%	1,387	1,681	82.5%	-3.9%	-6.7
ID	790	939	84.1%	739	859	86.0%	9.3%	-1.9
IL	4,684	4,918	95.2%	5,031	5,174	97.2%	-4.9%	-2.0
IN	3,082	3,715	83.0%	3,376	3,796	88.9%	-2.1%	-6.0
KS	1,353	1,844	73.4%	1,460	1,852	78.8%	-0.4%	-5.5
KY	2,281	2,320	98.3%	2,382	2,198	108.4%	5.6%	-10.1
LA	1,306	1,931	67.6%	1,451	1,976	73.4%	-2.3%	-5.8
MA	17,444	13,961	124.9%	16,835	11,287	149.2%	23.7%	-24.2
MD	3,953	3,014	131.2%	3,703	2,818	131.4%	7.0%	-0.3
ME	1,085	1,204	90.1%	1,107	1,184	93.5%	1.7%	-3.4
MI	5,393	5,634	95.7%	5,513	5,348	103.1%	5.3%	-7.4
MN	3,764	3,639	103.4%	4,414	4,041	109.2%	-9.9%	-5.8
MO	3,379	4,128	81.9%	3,521	3,882	90.7%	6.3%	-8.8
MS	523	729	71.7%	732	763	95.9%	-4.5%	-24.2

ST	2015 People in ES	2015 ES Beds	% Beds Filled, 2015	2014 People in ES	2014 ES Beds	% Beds Filled, 2014	% Change in ES Beds	Change in Utilization*
MT	535	761	70.3%	471	746	63.1%	2.0%	7.2
NC	5,672	6,062	93.6%	5,631	6,008	93.7%	0.9%	-0.2
ND	640	770	83.1%	639	736	86.8%	0.9%	-3.7
NE	1,493	1,559	95.8%	1,584	1,735	91.3%	-10.1%	4.5
NH	770	748	102.9%	710	739	96.1%	1.2%	6.9
NJ	6,877	4,618	148.9%	7,692	4,543	169.3%	1.7%	-20.4
NM	1,387	1,265	109.6%	1,409	1,375	102.5%	-8.0%	7.2
NV	3,251	2,904	111.9%	3,582	3,523	101.7%	-17.6%	10.3
NY	75,646	77,017	98.2%	66,893	68,152	98.2%	13.0%	0.1
OH	6,942	6,676	104.0%	7,043	6,660	105.8%	0.2%	-1.8
OK	2,309	2,933	78.7%	2,499	2,962	84.4%	-1.0%	-5.6
OR	3,214	3,062	105.0%	2,767	2,952	93.7%	3.7%	11.2
PA	7,576	8,452	89.6%	7,733	8,053	96.0%	5.0%	-6.4
PR	399	646	61.8%	406	589	68.9%	9.7%	-7.2
RI	743	705	105.4%	803	759	105.8%	-7.1%	-0.4
SC	1,639	1,676	97.8%	1,782	1,653	107.8%	1.4%	-10.0
SD	642	1,112	57.7%	528	1,154	45.8%	-3.6%	12.0
TN	3,540	4,237	83.5%	4,160	3,628	114.7%	16.8%	-31.1
TX	10,244	13,382	76.6%	10,601	12,942	81.9%	3.4%	-5.4
UT	1,912	1,697	112.7%	1,762	1,535	114.8%	10.6%	-2.1
VA	4,453	3,942	113.0%	4,281	3,816	112.2%	3.3%	0.8
VI	53	82	64.6%	51	84	60.7%	-2.4%	3.9
VT	1,082	583	185.6%	1,031	653	157.9%	-10.7%	27.7
WA	6,624	7,415	89.3%	6,202	7,209	86.0%	2.9%	3.3
WI	3,112	3,656	85.1%	3,111	3,436	90.5%	6.4%	-5.4
WV	1,020	1,279	79.7%	1,189	1,363	87.2%	-6.2%	-7.5
WY	231	450	51.3%	268	445	60.2%	1.1%	-8.9
USA	259,297	264,440	98.1%	254,327	249,497	101.9%	6.0%	-3.9

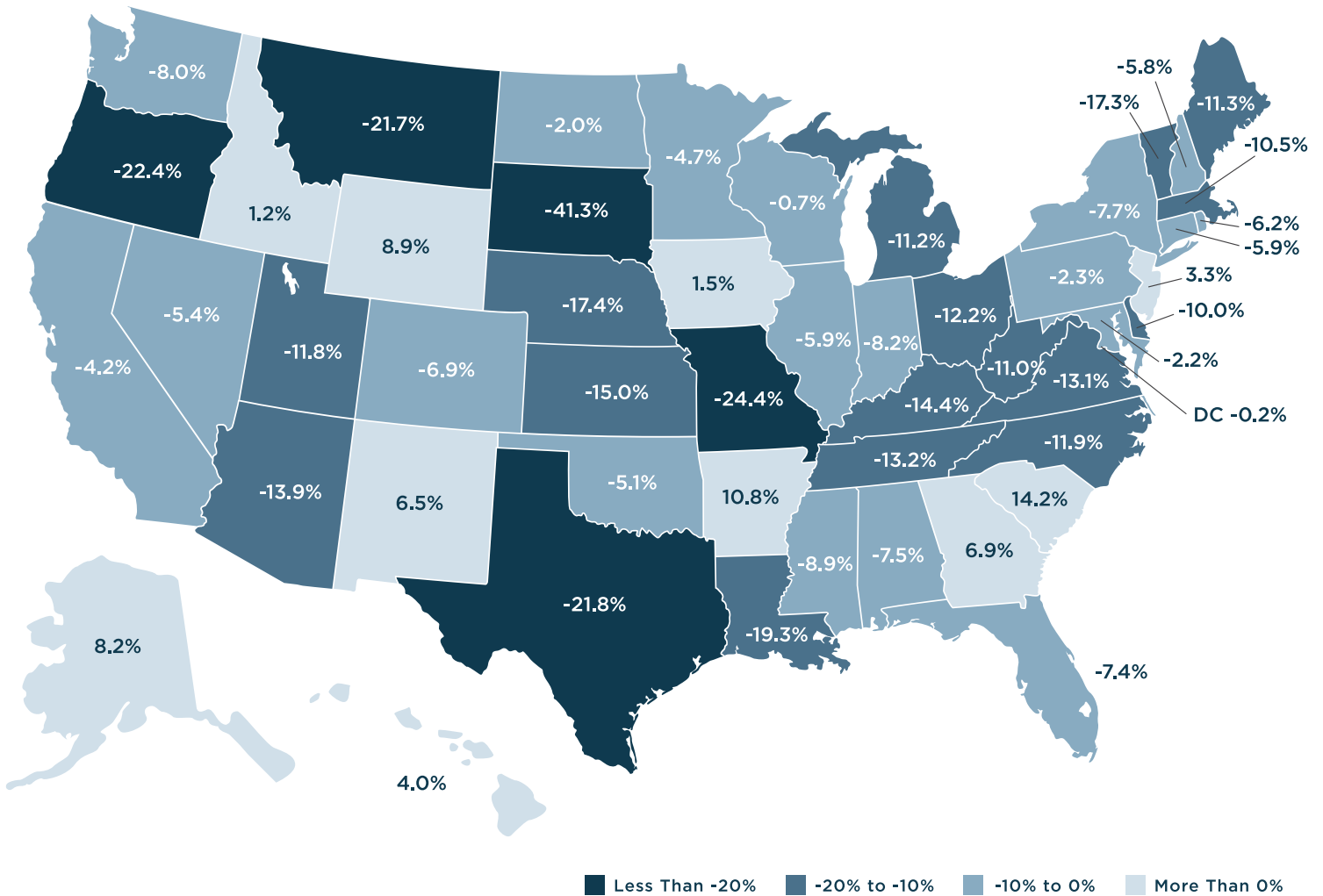
\* Column represents change in percentage point.

## TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Transitional housing bed capacity decreased nationally by 7.7 percent from 2014 to 2015 with 40 states and D.C. reporting decreases in capacity (see Map 3.3 and Table 3.3). The largest decreases in transitional housing capacity were in Texas (2,071 fewer beds) and California (1,094 fewer beds).

Nationally, the utilization rate of transitional housing beds was 81.7 percent at the time of the 2015 point-in-time counts, but utilization varied across states (see Map 3.4 and Table 3.3). Five states had transitional housing utilization rates above 90 percent (about the national rate of emergency shelter utilization): Arizona, Connecticut, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Vermont. Similar to high emergency shelter utilization rates, these states with higher rates are concentrated, but not exclusively so, in regions of the country that are colder in January when point-in-time counts are conducted.

**MAP 3.3**  
**CHANGE IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BED CAPACITY, 2014-2015**



MAP 3.4

# TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BED UTILIZATION, 2015

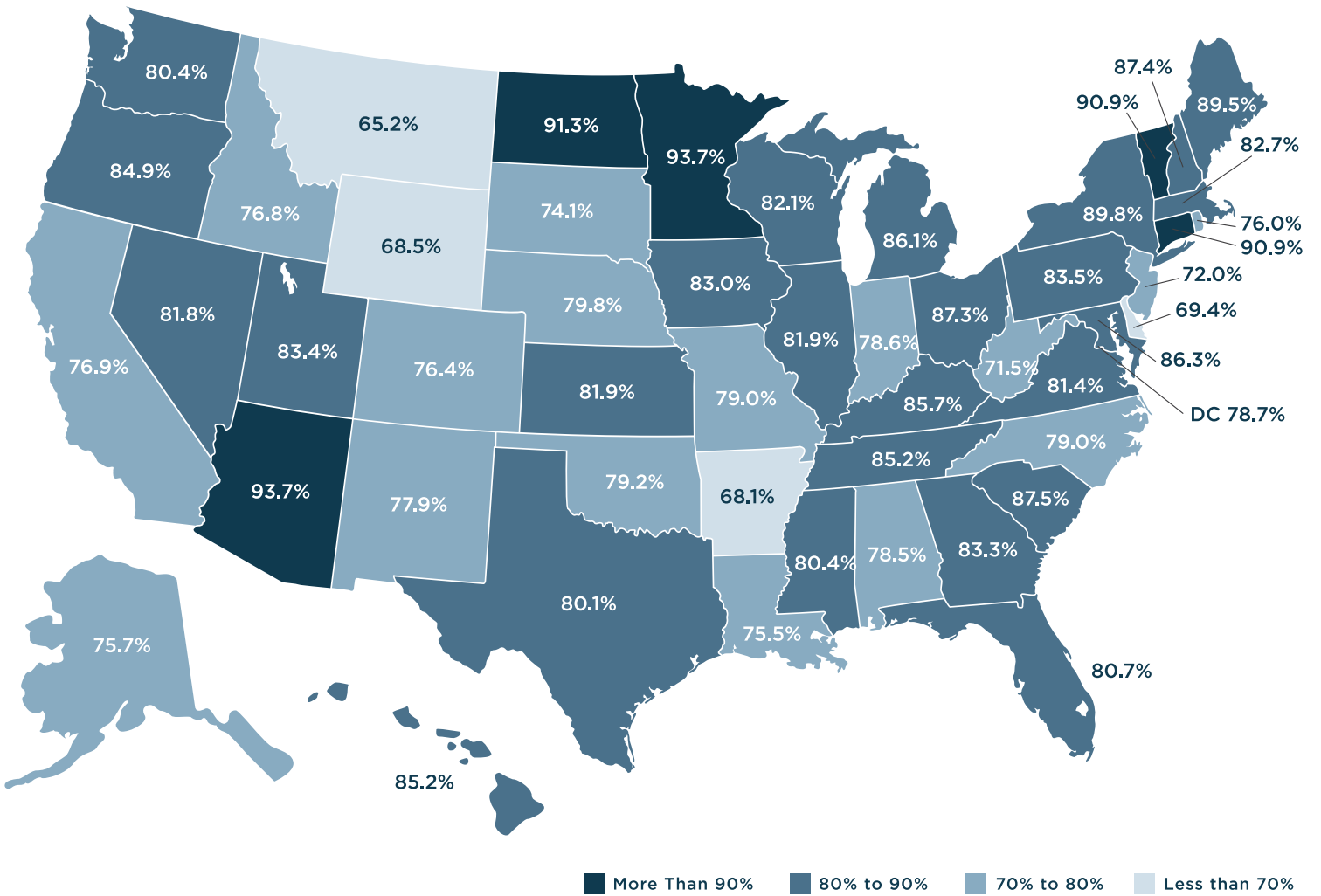


TABLE 3.3

### CHANGE IN TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BED (TH) CAPACITY AND UTILIZATION, 2014-2015

ST	2015 People in TH	2015 TH Beds	% Beds Filled, 2015	2014 People in TH	2014 TH Beds	% Beds Filled, 2014	% Change in TH Beds	Change in Utilization*
AK	512	676	75.7%	500	625	80.0%	8.2%	-4.3
AL	1,369	1,745	78.5%	1,667	1,886	88.4%	-7.5%	-9.9
AR	517	759	68.1%	482	685	70.4%	10.8%	-2.2
AZ	3,544	3,781	93.7%	3,635	4,392	82.8%	-13.9%	11.0
CA	19,289	25,072	76.9%	21,551	26,166	82.4%	-4.2%	-5.4
CO	3,352	4,390	76.4%	4,081	4,713	86.6%	-6.9%	-10.2
CT	1,003	1,104	90.9%	1,050	1,173	89.5%	-5.9%	1.3
DC	1,669	2,120	78.7%	1,598	2,124	75.2%	-0.2%	3.5
DE	387	558	69.4%	429	620	69.2%	-10.0%	0.2
FL	8,989	11,135	80.7%	9,601	12,030	79.8%	-7.4%	0.9
GA	4,003	4,803	83.3%	3,773	4,491	84.0%	6.9%	-0.7
GU	14	22	63.6%	69	84	82.1%	-73.8%	-18.5
HI	2,520	2,959	85.2%	2,651	2,844	93.2%	4.0%	-8.0
IA	1,653	1,991	83.0%	1,539	1,962	78.4%	1.5%	4.6
ID	707	920	76.8%	729	909	80.2%	1.2%	-3.4
IL	5,779	7,057	81.9%	6,378	7,502	85.0%	-5.9%	-3.1
IN	2,198	2,796	78.6%	2,192	3,046	72.0%	-8.2%	6.6
KS	930	1,135	81.9%	1,074	1,336	80.4%	-15.0%	1.5
KY	1,515	1,767	85.7%	1,876	2,064	90.9%	-14.4%	-5.2
LA	1,584	2,097	75.5%	2,052	2,598	79.0%	-19.3%	-3.4
MA	3,098	3,746	82.7%	3,643	4,184	87.1%	-10.5%	-4.4
MD	2,641	3,062	86.3%	2,564	3,132	81.9%	-2.2%	4.4
ME	1,228	1,372	89.5%	1,526	1,546	98.7%	-11.3%	-9.2
MI	4,051	4,703	86.1%	4,562	5,295	86.2%	-11.2%	-0.0
MN	2,941	3,140	93.7%	3,168	3,295	96.1%	-4.7%	-2.5
MO	2,032	2,572	79.0%	2,788	3,402	82.0%	-24.4%	-2.9
MS	618	769	80.4%	673	844	79.7%	-8.9%	0.6

ST	2015 People in TH	2015 TH Beds	% Beds Filled, 2015	2014 People in TH	2014 TH Beds	% Beds Filled, 2014	% Change in TH Beds	Change in Utilization*
MT	302	463	65.2%	440	591	74.5%	-11.9%	-9.2
NC	2,588	3,275	79.0%	3,243	3,716	87.3%	-11.9%	-8.2
ND	179	196	91.3%	155	200	77.5%	-2.0%	13.8
NE	1,128	1,414	79.8%	1,333	1,711	77.9%	-17.4%	1.9
NH	543	621	87.4%	533	659	80.9%	-5.8%	6.6
NJ	2,247	3,119	72.0%	3,044	3,018	100.9%	3.3%	-28.8
NM	788	1,012	77.9%	909	950	95.7%	6.5%	-17.8
NV	1,277	1,562	81.8%	1,215	1,652	73.5%	-5.4%	8.2
NY	8,582	9,561	89.8%	9,594	10,354	92.7%	-7.7%	-2.9
OH	3,141	3,597	87.3%	3,677	4,099	89.7%	-12.2%	-2.4
OK	690	871	79.2%	760	918	82.8%	-5.1%	-3.6
OR	2,617	3,082	84.9%	3,334	3,972	83.9%	-22.4%	1.0
PA	6,417	7,688	83.5%	6,568	7,869	83.5%	-2.3%	0.0
PR	1,022	1,466	69.7%	1,000	1,373	72.8%	6.8%	-3.1
RI	332	437	76.0%	367	466	78.8%	-6.2%	-2.8
SC	1,819	2,079	87.5%	1,467	1,820	80.6%	14.2%	6.9
SD	258	348	74.1%	302	593	50.9%	-41.3%	23.2
TN	2,339	2,744	85.2%	2,223	3,163	70.3%	-13.2%	15.0
TX	5,948	7,430	80.1%	7,627	9,501	80.3%	-21.8%	-0.2
UT	887	1,063	83.4%	1,006	1,205	83.5%	-11.8%	-0.0
VA	1,737	2,135	81.4%	2,049	2,458	83.4%	-13.1%	-2.0
VI	32	46	69.6%	34	43	79.1%	7.0%	-9.5
VT	291	320	90.9%	365	387	94.3%	-17.3%	-3.4
WA	5,674	7,061	80.4%	6,338	7,677	82.6%	-8.0%	-2.2
WI	2,503	3,047	82.1%	2,601	3,068	84.8%	-0.7%	-2.6
WV	383	536	71.5%	394	602	65.4%	-11.0%	6.0
WY	276	403	68.5%	295	370	79.7%	8.9%	-11.2
USA	132,143	161,827	81.7%	146,724	175,383	83.7%	-7.7%	-2.0

\* Column represents change in percentage point.

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Permanent supportive housing (PSH) bed capacity increased nationally by 6.3 percent from 2014 to 2015, but trends varied among states: 35 states reported increases in PSH capacity, while 15 states and D.C. reported decreases (see Map 3.5 and Table 3.4). The largest increases in PSH capacity were reported in Delaware (21.6 percent), Georgia (20.2 percent), and South Dakota (18.1 percent).

MAP 3.5

CHANGE IN PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING BED CAPACITY, 2014-2015

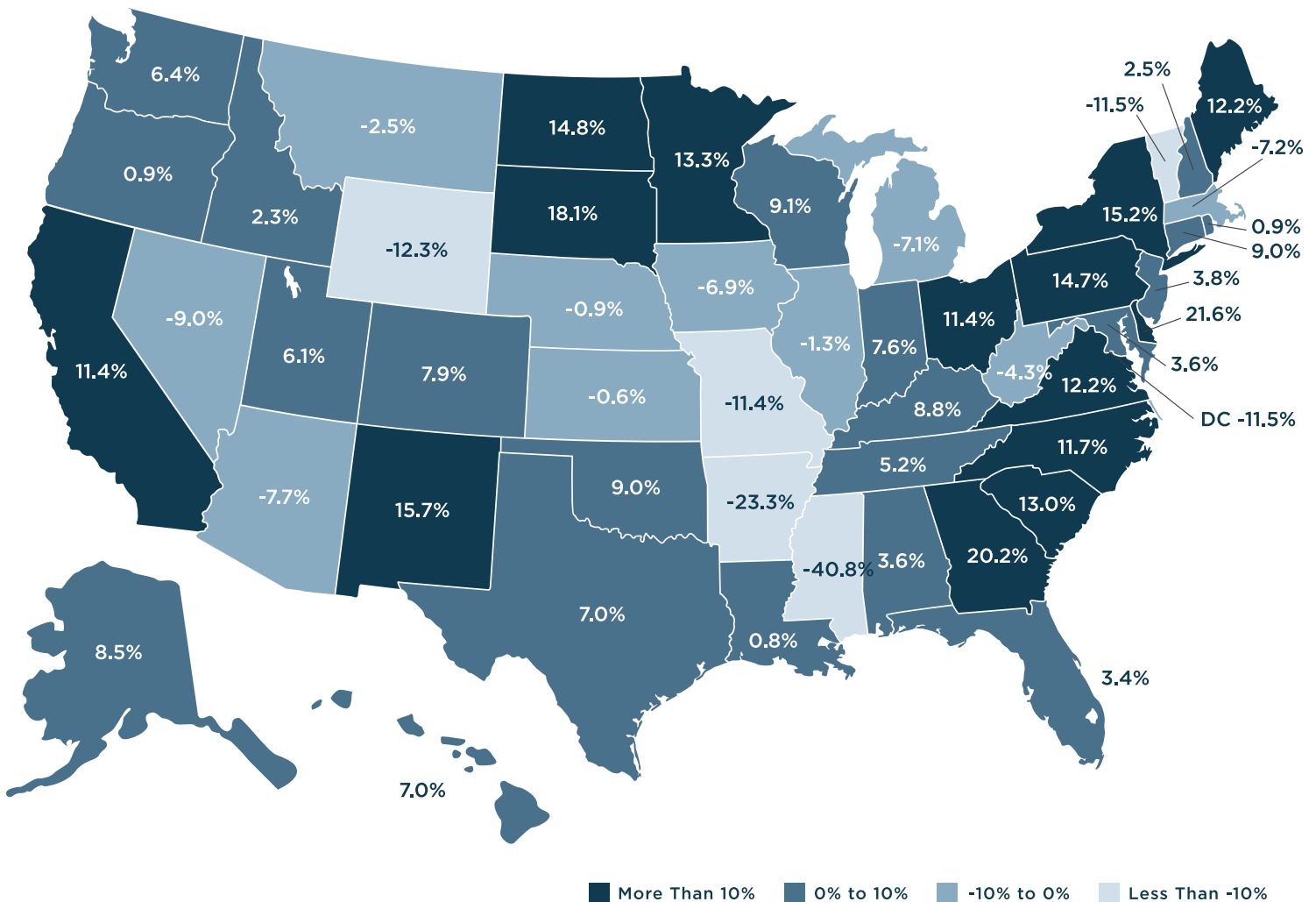




TABLE 3.4

### CHANGE IN PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING (PSH) CAPACITY CHANGE, 2014-2015

ST	2015 PSH Beds	2014 PSH Beds	% Change	ST	2015 PSH Beds	2014 PSH Beds	% Change
AK	776	715	8.5%	MT	550	564	-2.5%
AL	2,995	2,891	3.6%	NC	6,250	5,597	11.7%
AR	708	923	-23.3%	ND	746	650	14.8%
AZ	6,789	7,358	-7.7%	NE	1,024	1,033	-0.9%
CA	50,760	45,580	11.4%	NH	1,110	1,083	2.5%
CO	3,334	3,091	7.9%	NJ	5,939	5,724	3.8%
CT	6,216	5,705	9.0%	NM	2,049	1,771	15.7%
DC	5,679	6,414	-11.5%	NV	2,587	2,842	-9.0%
DE	727	598	21.6%	NY	39,971	34,698	15.2%
FL	16,271	15,742	3.4%	OH	15,824	14,211	11.4%
GA	8,319	6,923	20.2%	OK	1,517	1,392	9.0%
GU	104	102	2.0%	OR	5,889	5,835	0.9%
HI	1,305	1,220	7.0%	PA	13,610	11,862	14.7%
IA	1,022	1,098	-6.9%	PR	1,721	1,988	-13.4%
ID	854	835	2.3%	RI	1,506	1,493	0.9%
IL	12,162	12,317	-1.3%	SC	1,976	1,748	13.0%
IN	3,171	2,947	7.6%	SD	621	526	18.1%
KS	1,400	1,408	-0.6%	TN	4,800	4,563	5.2%
KY	3,347	3,077	8.8%	TX	13,058	12,209	7.0%
LA	4,634	4,596	0.8%	UT	2,403	2,264	6.1%
MA	11,088	11,948	-7.2%	VA	4,020	3,582	12.2%
MD	7,405	7,145	3.6%	VI	35	22	59.1%
ME	2,764	2,464	12.2%	VT	529	598	-11.5%
MI	8,026	8,644	-7.1%	WA	9,628	9,046	6.4%
MN	12,372	10,921	13.3%	WI	2,918	2,675	9.1%
MO	5,016	5,659	-11.4%	WV	1,166	1,219	-4.3%
MS	314	530	-40.8%	WY	207	236	-12.3%
USA	319,212	300,282	6.3%				

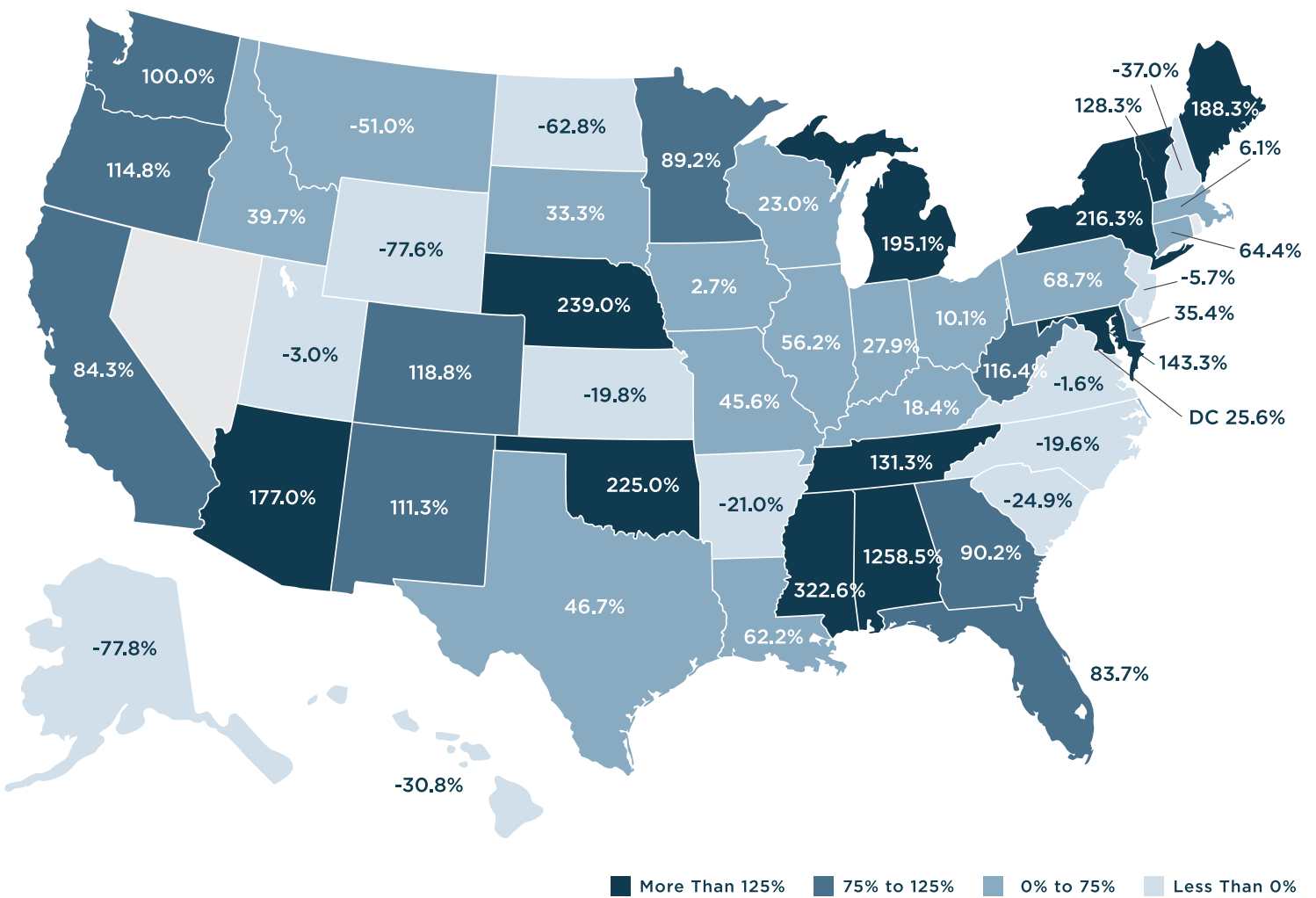
## RAPID RE-HOUSING

Rapid re-housing (RRH) capacity increased nationally by 60 percent from 2014 to 2015, but trends varied among states: 37 states and D.C. reported increases in RRH capacity, while 13 states reported decreases (see Map 3.6 and Table 3.5). Sixteen of the 37 states that reported increases in RRH more than doubled their RRH capacity from 2014 to 2015.

The number of rapid re-housing beds, which has been increasing drastically since 2013, comprised 7.5 percent of all beds in January 2015, but the concentration of rapid re-housing varies greatly among the states (see Map 3.7 and Table 3.5). In 11 states and D.C., RRH comprised more than 10 percent of a state's overall bed capacity in January 2015.

MAP 3.6

### CHANGE IN RAPID RE-HOUSING BED CAPACITY, 2014-2015



11 For the purposes of the Housing Inventory, a rapid re-housing bed is one for which rental assistance from any source is being provided on the night of the count.

MAP 3.7

PROPORTION OF OVERALL BEDS THAT ARE RAPID RE-HOUSING, 2015

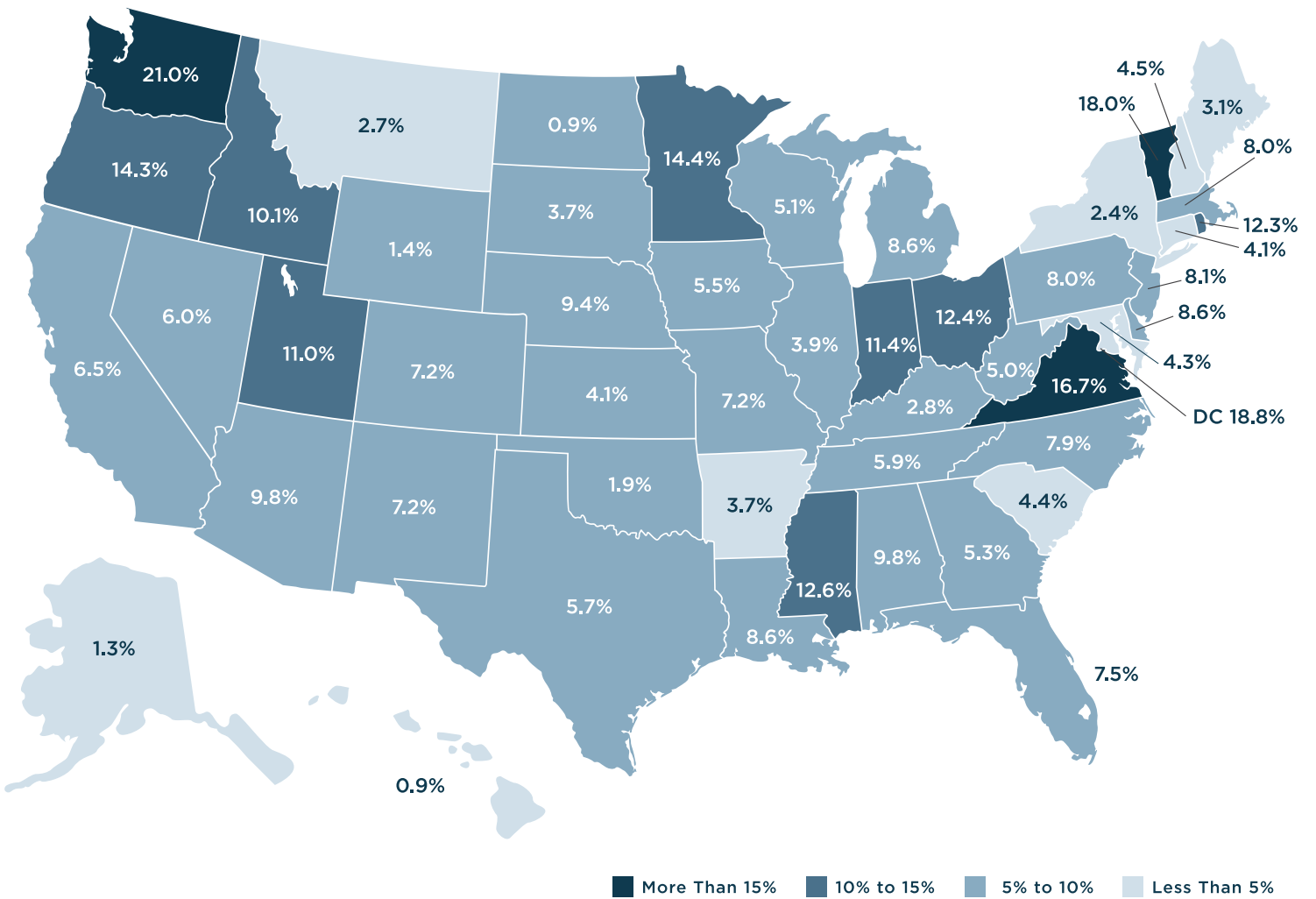


TABLE 3.5

### CHANGE IN RAPID RE-HOUSING CAPACITY, 2014-2015 AND PROPORTION OF OVERALL BEDS THAT ARE RAPID RE-HOUSING, 2015

ST	2015 RRH Beds	2014 RRH Beds	% Change	Total Beds (ES, RRH, TH, PSH)	Proportion of beds that are RRH	ST	2015 RRH Beds	2014 RRH Beds	% Change	Total Beds (ES, RRH, TH, PSH)	Proportion of beds that are RRH
AK	35	158	-77.8%	2,671	1.3%	MT	50	102	-51.0%	1,824	2.7%
AL	720	53	1258.5%	7,328	9.8%	NC	1,340	1,667	-19.6%	16,927	7.9%
AR	124	157	-21.0%	3,318	3.7%	ND	16	43	-62.8%	1,728	0.9%
AZ	1,543	557	177.0%	15,805	9.8%	NE	417	123	239.0%	4,414	9.4%
CA	6,673	3,621	84.3%	103,362	6.5%	NH	116	184	-37.0%	2,595	4.5%
CO	849	388	118.8%	11,836	7.2%	NJ	1,201	1,274	-5.7%	14,877	8.1%
CT	406	247	64.4%	10,021	4.1%	NM	336	159	111.3%	4,662	7.2%
DC	2,921	2,326	25.6%	15,563	18.8%	NV	447	-	-	7,500	6.0%
DE	176	130	35.4%	2,049	8.6%	NY	3,055	966	216.3%	129,604	2.4%
FL	3,126	1,702	83.7%	41,423	7.5%	OH	3,707	3,366	10.1%	29,804	12.4%
GA	991	521	90.2%	18,529	5.3%	OK	104	32	225.0%	5,425	1.9%
GU	-	-	-	258	0.0%	OR	2,000	931	114.8%	14,033	14.3%
HI	54	78	-30.8%	5,722	0.9%	PA	2,604	1,544	68.7%	32,354	8.0%
IA	271	264	2.7%	4,899	5.5%	PR	272	43	532.6%	4,105	6.6%
ID	306	219	39.7%	3,019	10.1%	RI	373	-	-	3,021	12.3%
IL	976	625	56.2%	25,113	3.9%	SC	265	353	-24.9%	5,996	4.4%
IN	1,248	976	27.9%	10,930	11.4%	SD	80	60	33.3%	2,161	3.7%
KS	186	232	-19.8%	4,565	4.1%	TN	740	320	131.3%	12,521	5.9%
KY	212	179	18.4%	7,646	2.8%	TX	2,059	1,404	46.7%	35,929	5.7%
LA	814	502	62.2%	9,476	8.6%	UT	637	657	-3.0%	5,800	11.0%
MA	2,515	2,370	6.1%	31,310	8.0%	VA	2,029	2,062	-1.6%	12,126	16.7%
MD	601	247	143.3%	14,082	4.3%	VI	-	-	-	163	0.0%
ME	173	60	188.3%	5,513	3.1%	VT	315	138	128.3%	1,747	18.0%
MI	1,729	586	195.1%	20,092	8.6%	WA	6,415	3,207	100.0%	30,519	21.0%
MN	3,229	1,707	89.2%	22,380	14.4%	WI	514	418	23.0%	10,135	5.1%
MO	907	623	45.6%	12,623	7.2%	WV	158	73	116.4%	3,139	5.0%
MS	262	62	322.6%	2,074	12.6%	WY	15	67	-77.6%	1,075	1.4%
USA	60,312	37,783	59.6%	805,791	7.5%						



## CHAPTER THREE SUMMARY

Table 3.6 summarizes the capacity and utilization rates of the different types of housing assistance provided by the homeless assistance system.

**TABLE 3.6**  
**CHANGES IN HOMELESS ASSISTANCE SYSTEM BY STATE, 2013-2014**

ST	Change in Number of ES Beds	Change in ES Bed Utilization*	Change in Number of TH Beds	Change TH Bed in Utilization*	Change in Number of PSH Beds	Change in Number of RRH Beds
AK	-0.4%	-0.6	8.2%	-4.3	8.5%	-77.8%
AL	1.6%	-16.4	-7.5%	-9.9	3.6%	1258.5%
AR	17.8%	-2.4	10.8%	-2.2	-23.3%	-21.0%
AZ	-17.6%	-3.8	-13.9%	11.0	-7.7%	177.0%
CA	16.7%	-8.2	-4.2%	-5.4	11.4%	84.3%
CO	-13.1%	9.3	-6.9%	-10.2	7.9%	118.8%
CT	2.5%	-5.5	-5.9%	1.3	9.0%	64.4%
DC	-6.1%	-6.6	-0.2%	3.5	-11.5%	25.6%
DE	6.5%	11.2	-10.0%	0.2	21.6%	35.4%
FL	5.9%	-8.8	-7.4%	0.9	3.4%	83.7%
GA	-7.3%	-3.0	6.9%	-0.7	20.2%	90.2%
GU	29.4%	-0.6	-73.8%	-18.5	2.0%	-
HI	-5.9%	11.6	4.0%	-8.0	7.0%	-30.8%
IA	-3.9%	-6.7	1.5%	4.6	-6.9%	2.7%
ID	9.3%	-1.9	1.2%	-3.4	2.3%	39.7%
IL	-4.9%	-2.0	-5.9%	-3.1	-1.3%	56.2%
IN	-2.1%	-6.0	-8.2%	6.6	7.6%	27.9%
KS	-0.4%	-5.5	-15.0%	1.5	-0.6%	-19.8%
KY	5.6%	-10.1	-14.4%	-5.2	8.8%	18.4%
LA	-2.3%	-5.8	-19.3%	-3.4	0.8%	62.2%
MA	23.7%	-24.2	-10.5%	-4.4	-7.2%	6.1%
MD	7.0%	-0.3	-2.2%	4.4	3.6%	143.3%
ME	1.7%	-3.4	-11.3%	-9.2	12.2%	188.3%
MI	5.3%	-7.4	-11.2%	-0.0	-7.1%	195.1%
MN	-9.9%	-5.8	-4.7%	-2.5	13.3%	89.2%
MO	6.3%	-8.8	-24.4%	-2.9	-11.4%	45.6%
MS	-4.5%	-24.2	-8.9%	0.6	-40.8%	322.6%

ST	Change in Number of ES Beds	Change in ES Bed Utilization*	Change in Number of TH Beds	Change TH Bed in Utilization*	Change in Number of PSH Beds	Change in Number of RRH Beds
MT	2.0%	7.2	-21.7%	-9.2	-2.5%	-51.0%
NC	0.9%	-0.2	-11.9%	-8.2	11.7%	-19.6%
ND	4.6%	-3.7	-2.0%	13.8	14.8%	-62.8%
NE	-10.1%	4.5	-17.4%	1.9	-0.9%	239.0%
NH	1.2%	6.9	-5.8%	6.6	2.5%	-37.0%
NJ	1.7%	-20.4	3.3%	-28.8	3.8%	-5.7%
NM	-8.0%	7.2	6.5%	-17.8	15.7%	111.3%
NV	-17.6%	10.3	-5.4%	8.2	-9.0%	-
NY	13.0%	0.1	-7.7%	-2.9	15.2%	216.3%
OH	0.2%	-1.8	-12.2%	-2.4	11.4%	10.1%
OK	-1.0%	-5.6	-5.1%	-3.6	9.0%	225.0%
OR	3.7%	11.2	-22.4%	1.0	0.9%	114.8%
PA	5.0%	-6.4	-2.3%	0.0	14.7%	68.7%
PR	9.7%	-7.2	6.8%	-3.1	-13.4%	532.6%
RI	-7.1%	-0.4	-6.2%	-2.8	0.9%	-
SC	1.4%	-10.0	14.2%	6.9	13.0%	-24.9%
SD	-3.6%	12.0	-41.3%	23.2	18.1%	33.3%
TN	16.8%	-31.1	-13.2%	15.0	5.2%	131.3%
TX	3.4%	-5.4	-21.8%	-0.2	7.0%	46.7%
UT	10.6%	-2.1	-11.8%	-0.0	6.1%	-3.0%
VA	3.3%	0.8	-13.1%	-2.0	12.2%	-1.6%
VI	-2.4%	3.9	7.0%	-9.5	59.1%	-
VT	-10.7%	27.7	-17.3%	-3.4	-11.5%	128.3%
WA	2.9%	3.3	-8.0%	-2.2	6.4%	100.0%
WI	6.4%	-5.4	-0.7%	-2.6	9.1%	23.0%
WV	-6.2%	-7.5	-11.0%	6.0	-4.3%	116.4%
WY	1.1%	-8.9	8.9%	-11.2	-12.3%	-77.6%
USA	6.0%	-3.9	-7.7%	-2.0	6.3%	59.6%

\* Column represents change in percentage point.

APPENDIX

# METHODOLOGY



## CHAPTER 1

# HOMELESS POPULATIONS AND SUBPOPULATIONS

Data on overall homelessness and subpopulations are based on annual point-in-time (PIT) counts of homeless persons conducted by Continuums of Care (CoCs), local or regional entities that coordinate services and funding for homeless programs. In 2015, 406 CoCs throughout the United States, including Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, submitted homeless population data to HUD. This report used state and CoC-level point-in-time data from 2007 through 2015 in electronic format from HUD Exchange.

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. HUD Exchange. PIT Data since 2007. Retrieved from: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2007-2015-PIT-Counts-by-CoC.xlsx>

## CHAPTER 2

# POPULATIONS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

Populations at risk of homelessness—persons in poverty, unemployed persons, poor renter households with severe housing cost burden, and people in poor households living doubled up—were identified based on the fundamental assumption that constrained resources, including low or poverty-level income, place individuals and households at risk for homelessness.

### POVERTY: NUMBER OF PERSONS AND RATE

Data on poverty comes from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Fact Finder. This data reports on the number of people and families whose income in the previous 12 months was below the U.S. poverty level.

- U.S. Census Bureau. American Fact Finder. American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 2013 and 2014. Retrieved from: <http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>

### UNEMPLOYMENT: NUMBER OF PERSONS AND RATE

Data on unemployment comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This report used statewide annual averages for the civilian non-institutionalized population.

- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program, Statewide Data, Annual Averages Series, 2013 and 2014. Retrieved from: <http://www.bls.gov/lau/rdscnp16.htm>

### POOR RENTER HOUSEHOLDS WITH SEVERE HOUSING COST BURDEN

Data on poor renter households with severe housing cost burden was calculated using variables from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey and from the U.S. Census Bureau's Poverty Threshold Charts. These calculations included households who met all of the following conditions: households renting a housing unit, households whose total income falls under the poverty threshold for the household size (as specified by the Poverty Threshold Charts), and households paying 50 percent or more of total household income in housing rent.

- Household, renter, and housing cost burden variables: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 2013 and 2014. Retrieved from: <http://www2.census.gov/>
- Household poverty status variable: U.S. Census Bureau Poverty Threshold Charts, 2013 and 2014. Retrieved from: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/threshld/index.html>

## POOR PEOPLE LIVING DOUBLED UP

Data on poor people living doubled up was calculated using variables from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey. This report defined poor people as persons living under 125 percent of the poverty level.

Persons who were defined as poor and who also fell into any of the following categories were included in these calculations: persons aged 22 years or older living with father and/or mother, persons living with brother and/or sister, persons living with father-in-law and/or mother-in-law, persons living with son-in-law and/or daughter-in-law, persons living with any other relative, persons living with any other non-relative.

Persons who met any of the following conditions were not included in these calculations: institutionalized persons, non-institutionalized persons living in group quarters, persons under the age of 22 years, married persons living with spouse, housemates/roommates, and boarders/roomers.

- U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 2013 and 2014. Retrieved from: <http://www2.census.gov/>

## CHAPTER 3

### HOUSING INVENTORY

Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data is based on annual point-in-time counts of beds conducted by Continuums of Care (CoCs), local or regional entities that coordinate services and funding for homeless programs. In 2015, 406 CoCs throughout the United States, including Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, submitted housing inventory data to HUD. This report used state and CoC-level housing inventory data from 2007 to 2015 in electronic format from HUD Exchange.

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. HUD Exchange. HIC Data since 2007. Retrieved from: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2007-2015-HIC-Counts-by-CoC.xlsx>

The HIC data set for 2015 categorizes rapid re-housing beds into Demonstration Projects and Non-Demonstration Projects. The data used for rapid re-housing beds includes both Demonstration Projects and Non-Demonstration Projects.



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