

Homeless Veteran Information

October 15, 2015

Handout #2



Introductory Remarks

- Veteran experiences differ from civilians
- Experiences unique to only veterans:
 - Bootcamp
 - Duty Stations
 - War, Combat, Deployments
 - Unique Traditions, Terminology, and Structure
 - Readjustment after war or deployment
 - Transition from Military to Civilian life



Veteran Population

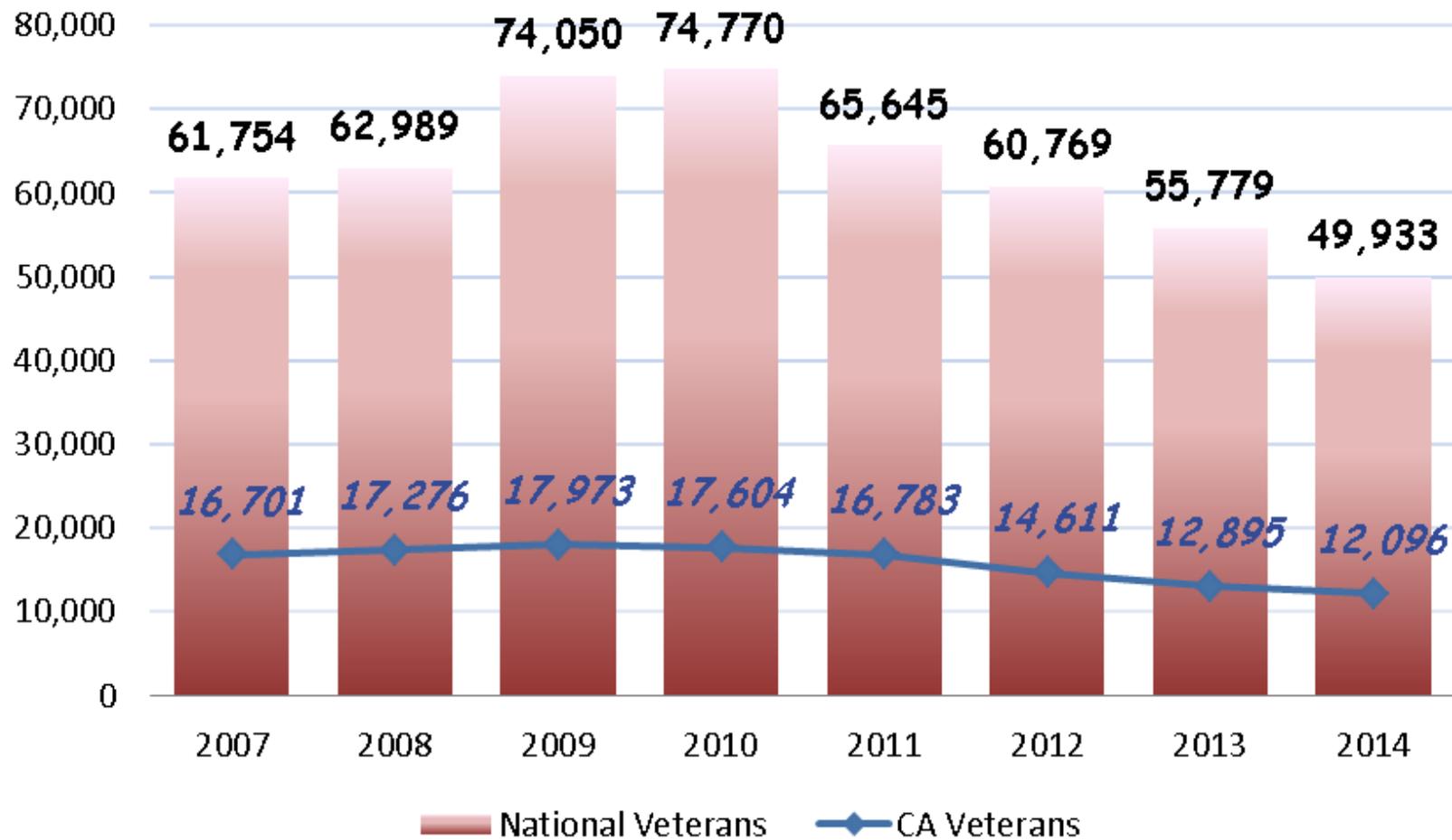
- Veterans make up 9.5% of the Nation's population
- Homeless veterans were 8.6%* of 2014 Point-in-Time (PIT) count
- In California, homeless veterans were 10.6%* of the 2014 PIT count

* These numbers include all homeless persons. When minors are separated from the homeless count, the numbers go up. According to the 2014 AHAR report, veterans make up 11.3% of the Adult Homeless population nationally.

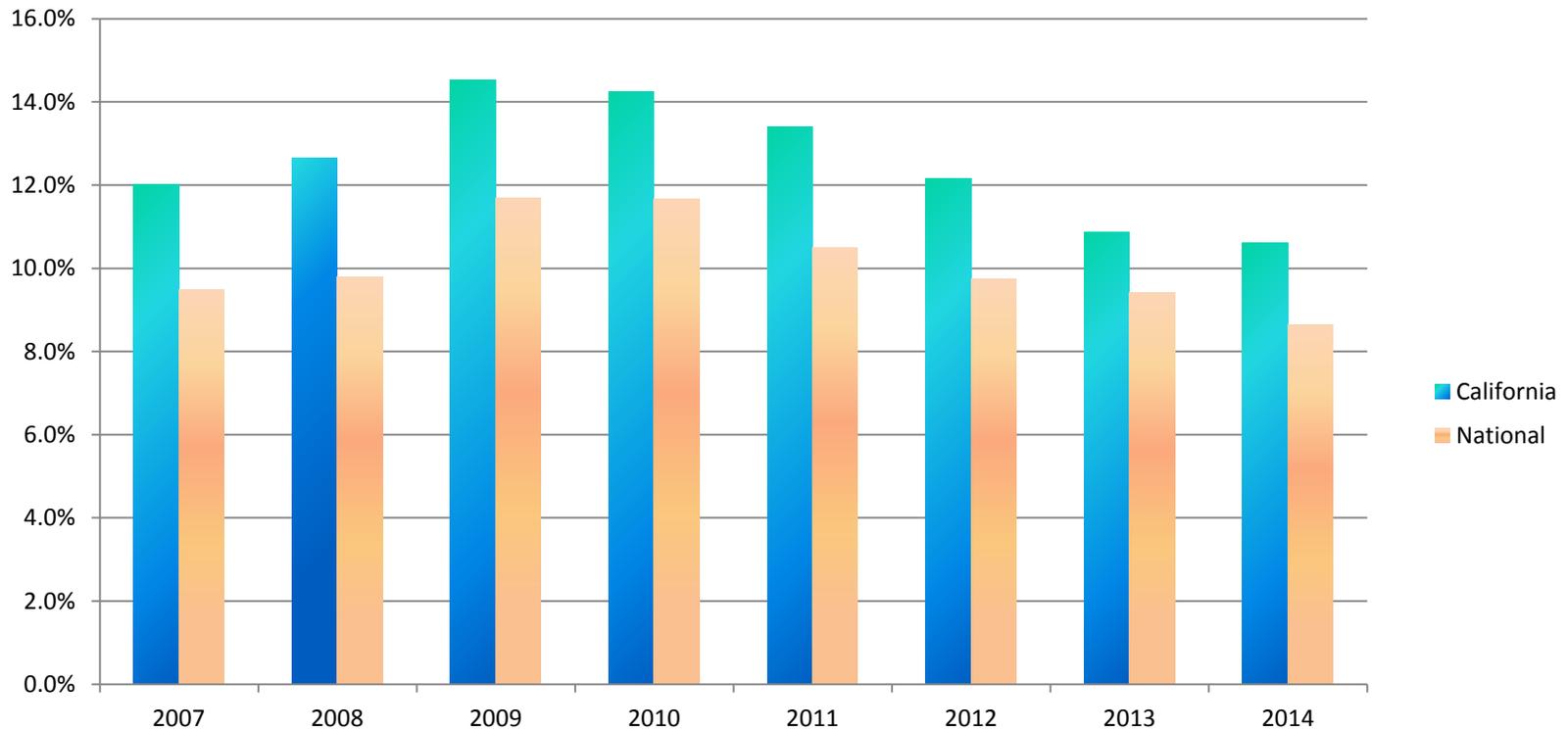


- 2007 CA Veterans account for 27% of the nation's homeless veterans
- 2014 CA Veterans population is down to 24% of the Nation's Population

Veterans Experiencing Homelessness



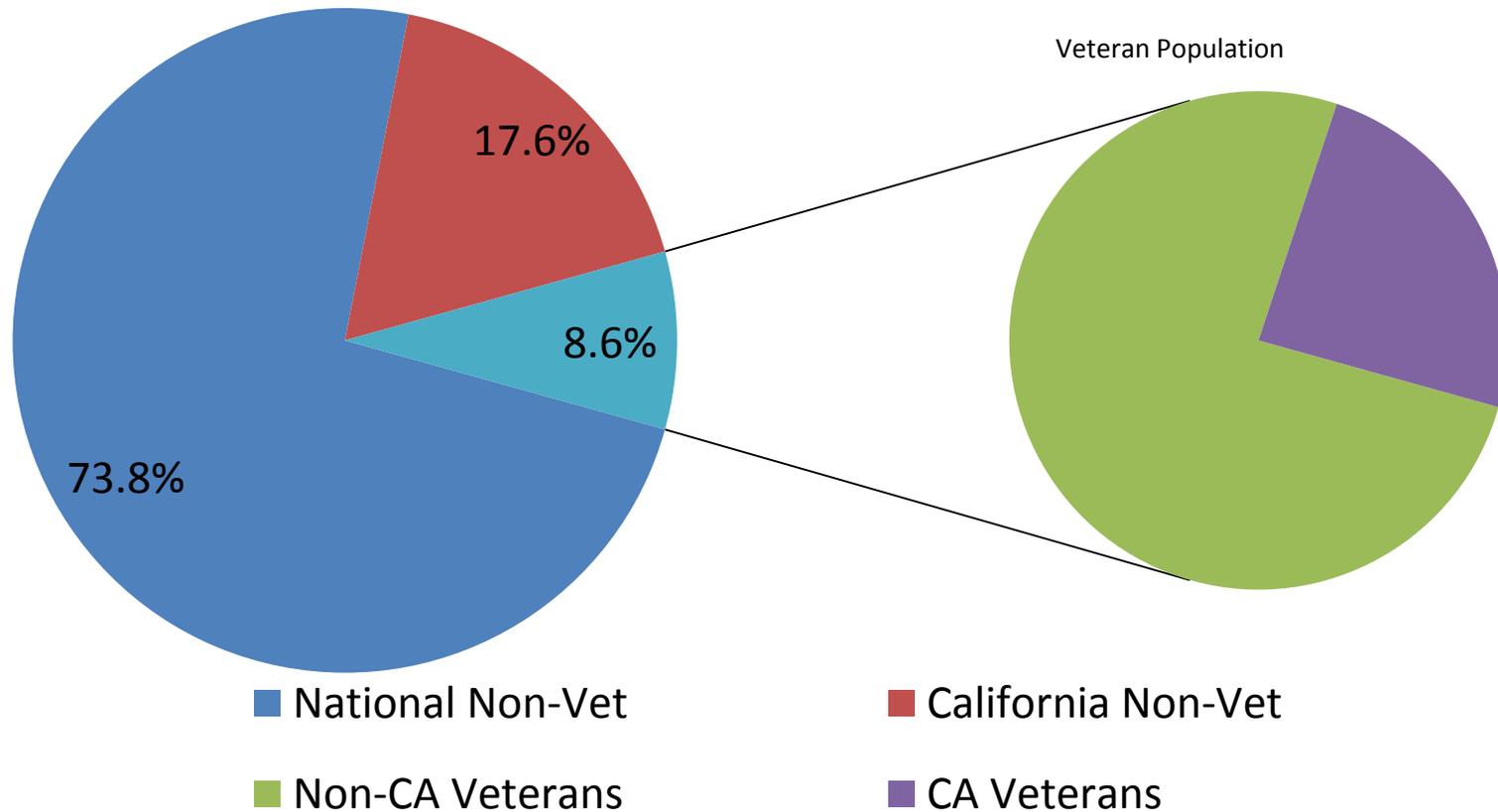
Homeless Veterans as Percent of Homeless Population



The number of veterans in California's homeless population continues to be disproportionately high compared to the National homeless veteran population.



2014 California vs National Homeless Population



Note:

- The light blue slice of 8.6% is all homeless veterans in the nation.
- Of the 8.6% - almost 25% is comprised of California's veterans

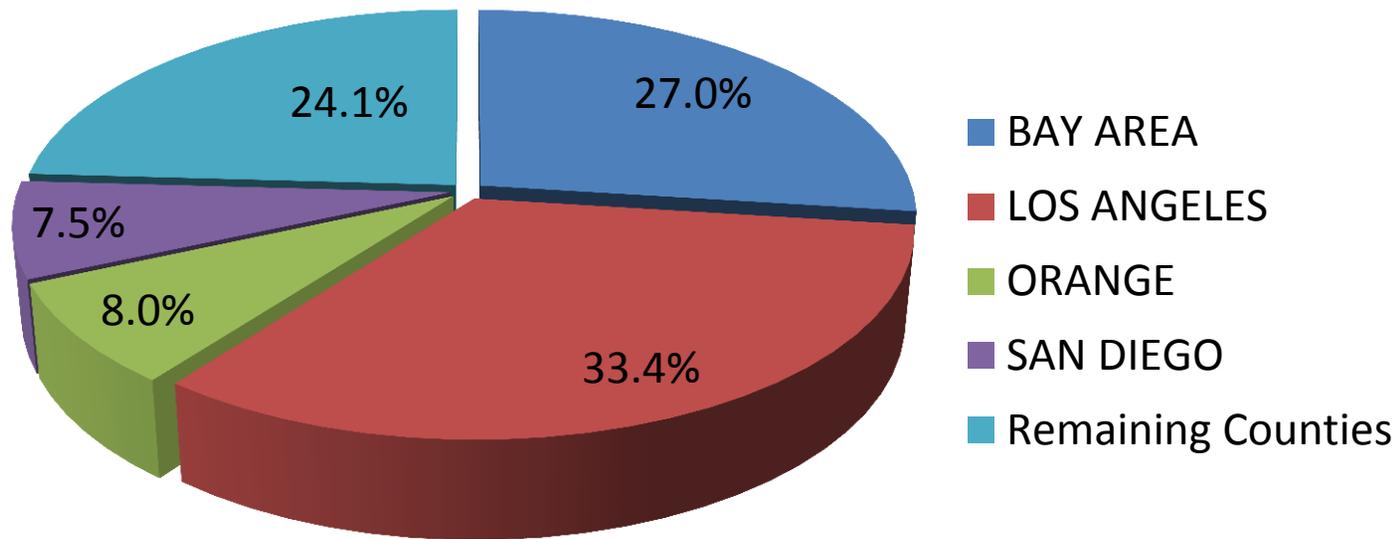


Where Veterans Live

- 68% of homeless veterans live in large cities
- 68% of non-homeless veterans live in suburban and rural areas
- According to the 2014 AHAR,
 - 63% of California's homeless veterans are unsheltered
 - Los Angeles had the largest number of homeless veterans, more than 2x NY, which had the 2nd largest
 - 9 counties were in the top 20 for largest number of homeless veterans



CA 2014 Homeless Population Dispersion



Bay Area – includes Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Sonoma Counties.

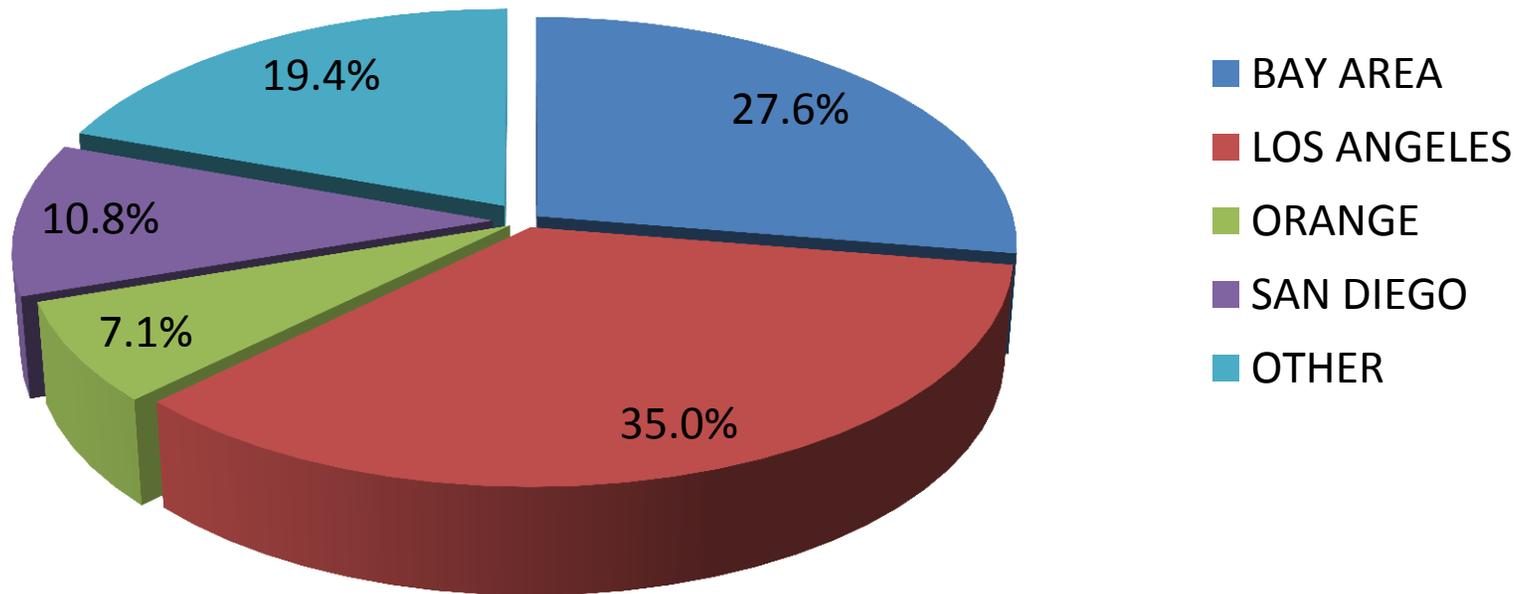
Los Angeles – is Los Angeles County.

Orange – includes Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties.

San Diego – is San Diego County.

Remaining Counties – includes all counties not included in those above.

CA 2014 Homeless Population Dispersion



Counties are the same as the previous chart.

The Homeless Veteran population is almost identical to the total population on the previous chart.

Risk Factors

- Poverty increases the likelihood of homelessness by 1.3 times for men and 3.4 times for women as compared to their civilian counterparts.
- However, poverty isn't a factor if the veteran has a family.
- Substance abuse and mental health issues
- Gender – women are twice as likely as men to become homeless
- Race – see chart on next page



Risk Factors by Race

Exhibit 4-2: Risk of Homelessness among Individual Sheltered Veterans, by Ethnicity and Race		
<i>Ethnicity and Race</i>	<i>Risk of Homelessness among Veterans¹</i>	
	Compared to Non-Veteran Adults in the U.S. Population	Compared to Non-Veteran Adults Living in Poverty
Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	1.1	2.1
Hispanic/Latino	1.5	2.8
Race		
White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino	1.1	2.0
White, Hispanic/Latino	1.4	2.7
Black or African American	1.4	2.2
Asian	3.0	5.9
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.2	2.0
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.8	1.1
Other	1.6	2.6

¹ The risk ratios compare the proportion of the individual adult veteran population that is homeless in relation to the proportion of the non-veteran comparison population that is homeless. The comparison populations are non-veteran individual adults in the U.S. population and non-veteran individual adults living in poverty. The risk ratios comparing veteran adults in families and non-veteran adults in families are not shown here, but are presented in appendix C-2.

Sources: Homeless Management Information Systems data, 2010; U.S. Census Bureau 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates.

Ending Veteran Homelessness

- 2009 USDVA Secretary sets goal to end veteran homelessness by December 2015
- 2009 – 11.7% of nation's homeless were veterans whereas 14.5% of California's homeless were veterans
- Federal government increases USDVA's budget from \$100 billion in 2009 to \$163.9 billion in 2014



Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Act of 2014

- Only authorizes capital funding for housing veterans and their families, no supportive service dollars.
- Defines a veteran broader than any other state and federal program, thereby enabling more veterans to be eligible for the housing.
- Includes veterans of all discharge statuses in the definition of veteran, i.e. even includes dishonorable discharge.



Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Act of 2014

Requires:

- Half of the capital development funding targeted at Extremely Low Income (ELI), i.e. less than 30% Area Median Income, veterans.
- At least 60% of the ELI targeted housing shall be permanent supportive housing. (Permanent supportive housing requires supportive services to be included.)
- Leveraging of other funding sources
- Priority be given to projects that combine housing and supportive services



Veteran-Centric Services

Required because:

- Veterans are not civilians. The U.S. military service is a distinct cultural experience, that remain with a veteran and influence their perspective, beliefs, future experiences, and oftentimes their psychological and physiological states.
- Central in their culture is mission and accountability that when the program is veteran-focused, veterans have higher rates of success with securing employment, stable housing, completing residential treatment programs and addressing mental and physical health needs.
- Veterans are overrepresented in the homeless population, have higher unemployment rates than most certain civilian age-groups, and are less than 10% of the total U.S. population support the different cultural experience and the need for veteran-focused programs.



Veteran-Centric Services

Examples of Veteran Focused Programs are those that:

- Understand the veteran experience – often because they have professional and clinical staff who are veterans or who have a history of working with veterans
- Are trained and educated in the nuances and underlying foundations of military life and culture
- Know how to navigate the network of federal/state benefits and services that are available to only veterans and some expertise about the benefits veterans may be entitled to receive

