Homelessness in San Diego, Factors that Impact Homelessness

This project explores homelessness trends in San Diego and across the U.S., focusing on factors like urbanization, income inequality, and demographics. The analysis was conducted using R Studio and Power BI.

Key Insights:

- Age Group Analysis: The 35–44 age group is the most affected, with seniors (65+) being the least affected due to social programs.
- Urban vs. Rural: Major cities experience significantly higher homelessness rates compared to rural areas.
- Demographics: Men, people of color, and veterans face higher risks of homelessness.

R Visualization: Throughout this project, we primarily used R for several key visualizations. Specifically, R was crucial in handling the demographic data.

Figure 3: Homelessness by Sex
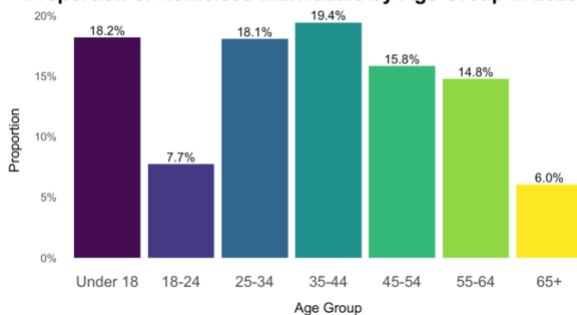
Figure 4 & 5: Homelessness by Race

Figure 1: Homelessness & Age Groups
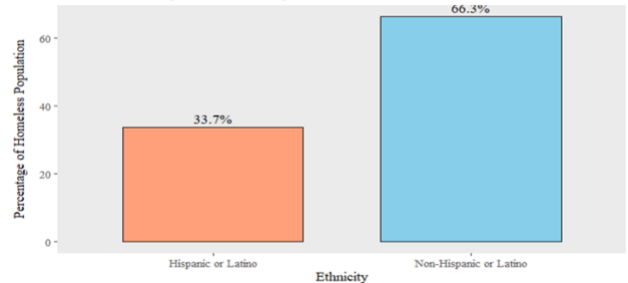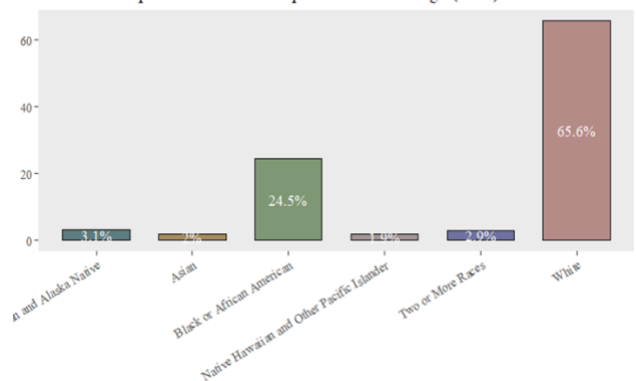
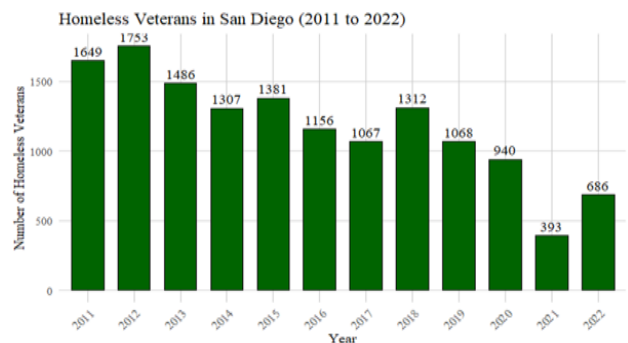*Figure 2: Homelessness in CA by county*

Figure 6: Homelessness among veterans

Power Bi: We used Power BI to analyze and visualize homelessness and related trends across the U.S. and California. The dashboard includes interactive visuals showcasing homelessness by state, age, and race, trends in chronic homelessness, and the impact of drug overdoses. The slicers give detailed filtering by year and demographics to gain deeper insights.

Key Insights:
- **Homelessness Trends:**
  - California and New York have the highest homelessness rates.
  - Post-2020 increase in homelessness linked to the pandemic.
- **Chronic Homelessness:**
  - PSH beds are increasing, but chronic homelessness remains a challenge.
- **Drug Overdose in California:**
  - Opioids and synthetic drugs are the leading causes of overdose deaths.
- **Demographics:**
  - 35–44 age group and racial minorities are most affected.
  - Veteran homelessness is steadily declining.

Data Sources

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
This dataset focuses on the number of people who are homeless given their demographic (age, veteran status, length of homelessness, etc.) alongside their geographical location across U.S. ranging from 2007 to 2023.

CDC: National Center for Health Statistics
This dataset provides information on drug overdoses and the type of drug that caused death per state per year ranging from 2015 to 2024. We are focusing primarily on the statistics on California

CoC: Continuums of care
PIT: Point in time count
HIC: Housing inventory count
PSH: Permanent supportive housing

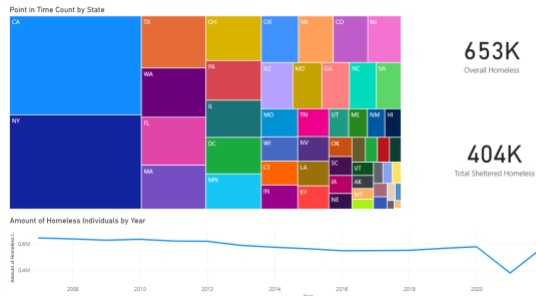*Figure 7: Homelessness in the U.S*
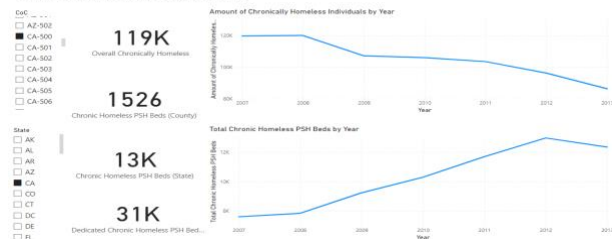

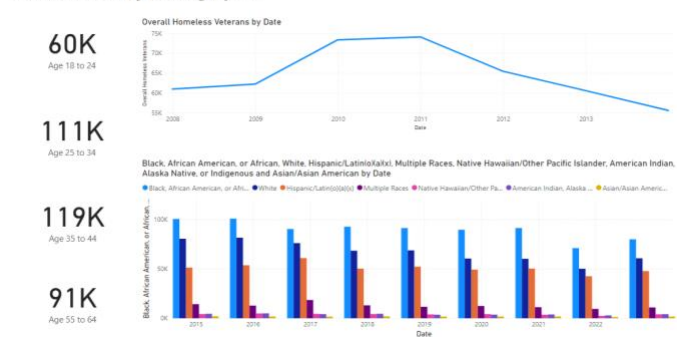*Figure 8: Chronic Homelessness in the U.S*
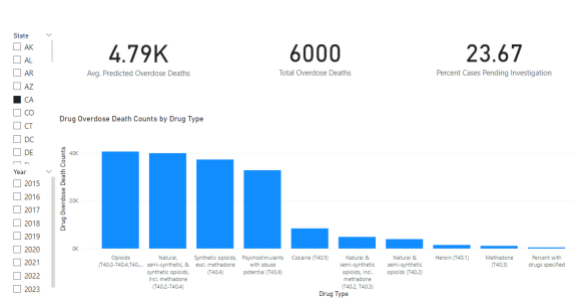
Figure 9: Drug overdose in California in 2024

Figure 10: Homelessness by Demographic