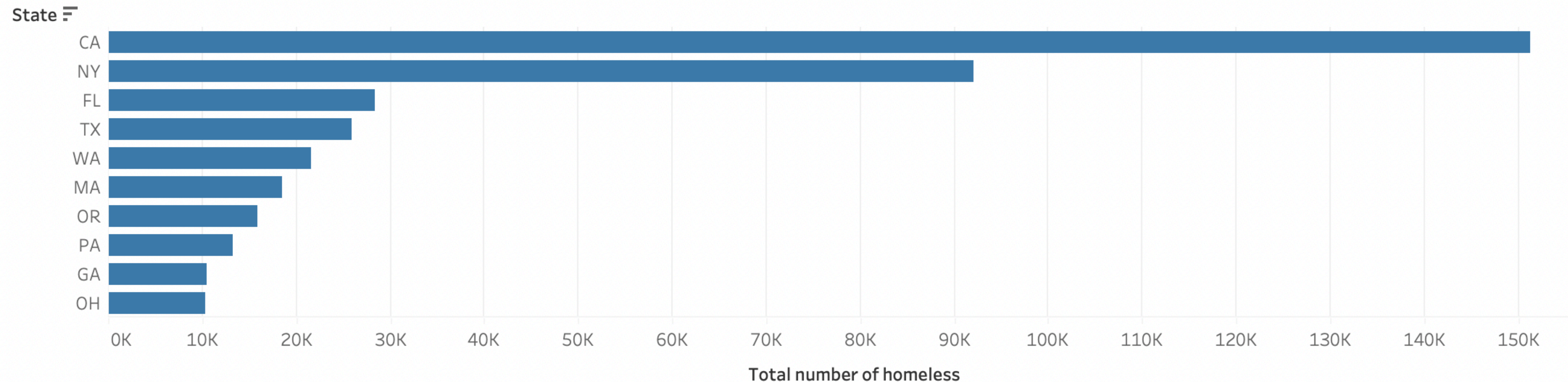SANCIA YANG

HOW CAN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA REDUCE HOMELESSNESS?

INTRODUCTION

▸ Homelessness is a growing problem across the US

▸ California has the largest number of unhoused individuals

Top 10 states

State ⬅

CA	
NY	
FL	
TX	
WA	
MA	
OR	
PA	
GA	
OH	

0K 10K 20K 30K 40K 50K 60K 70K 80K 90K 100K 110K 120K 130K 140K 150K
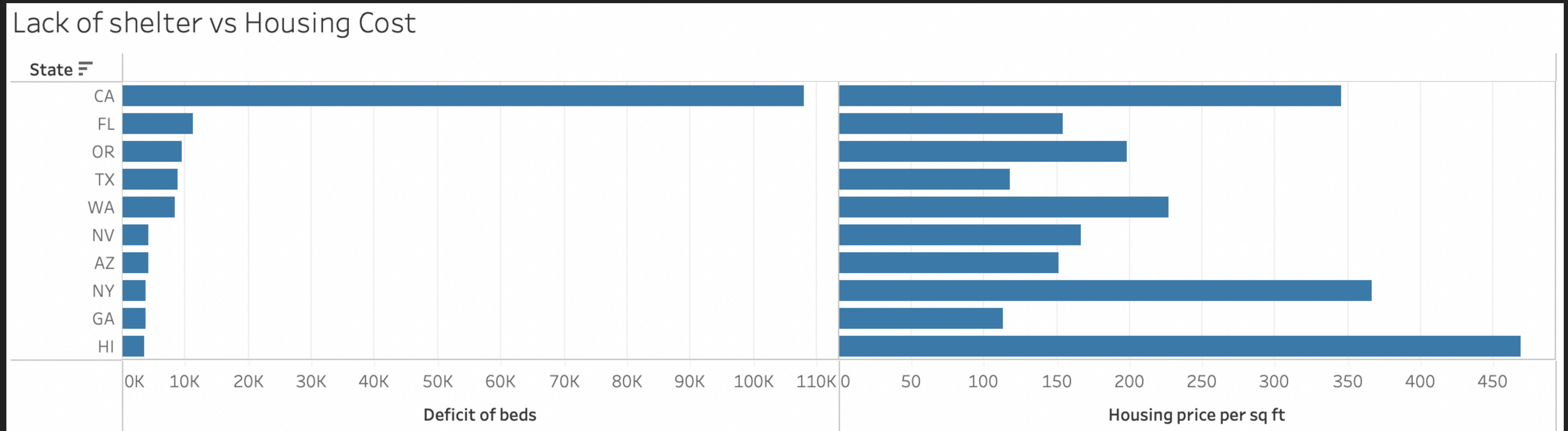
Total number of homeless

DESIRED IMPACT

▸ Implement policies to rehome unhoused individuals

▸ Reduce the number of unsheltered persons by 7% within a year of policy implementation

DATA

▸ *Point-in-time Count* (2019)

▸ *Housing Inventory Count* (2019)

▸ National Mental Health Services Survey (2019) from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

▸ National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (2019) from SAMHSA
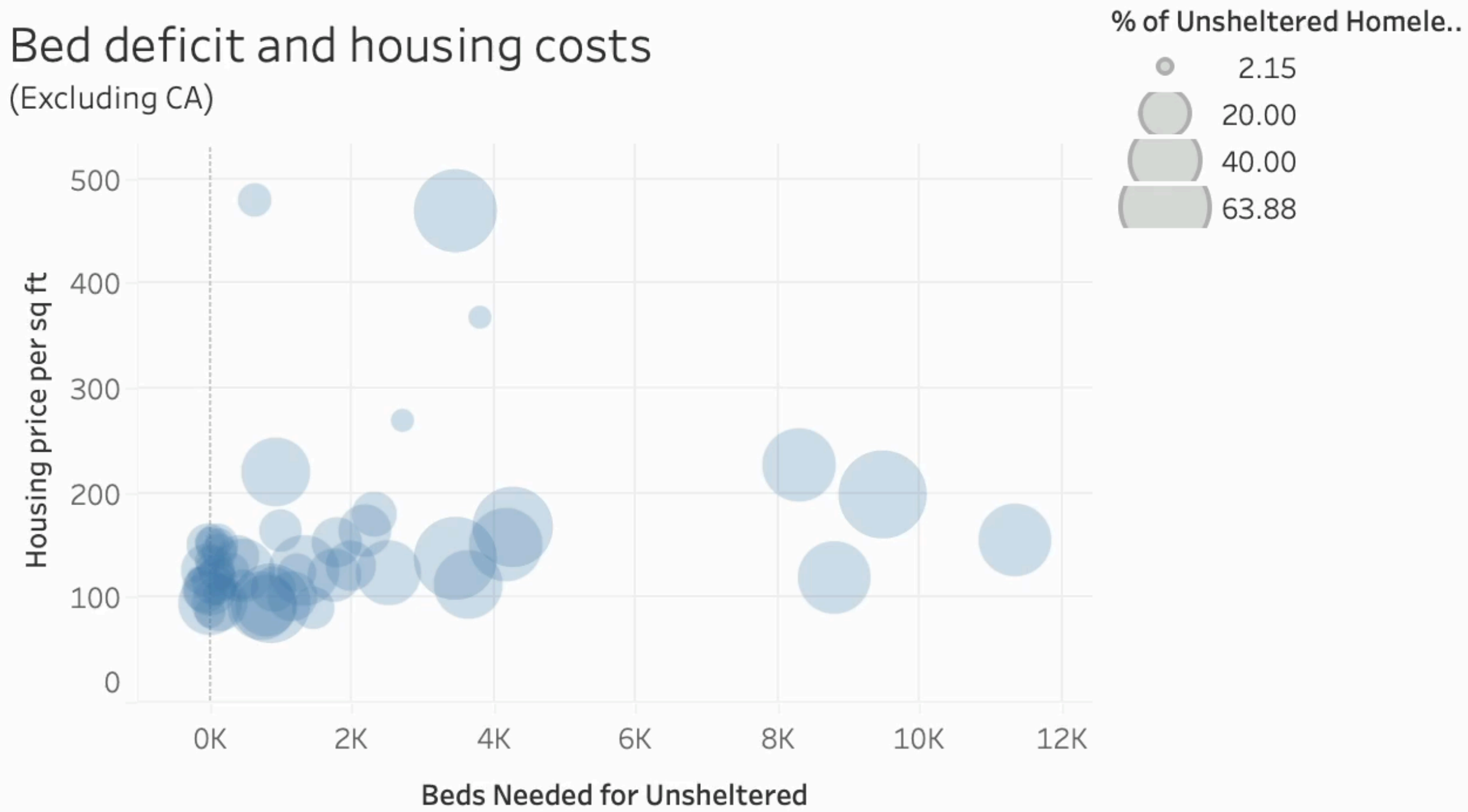
▸ Median cost of housing by square foot from Redfin

DATA

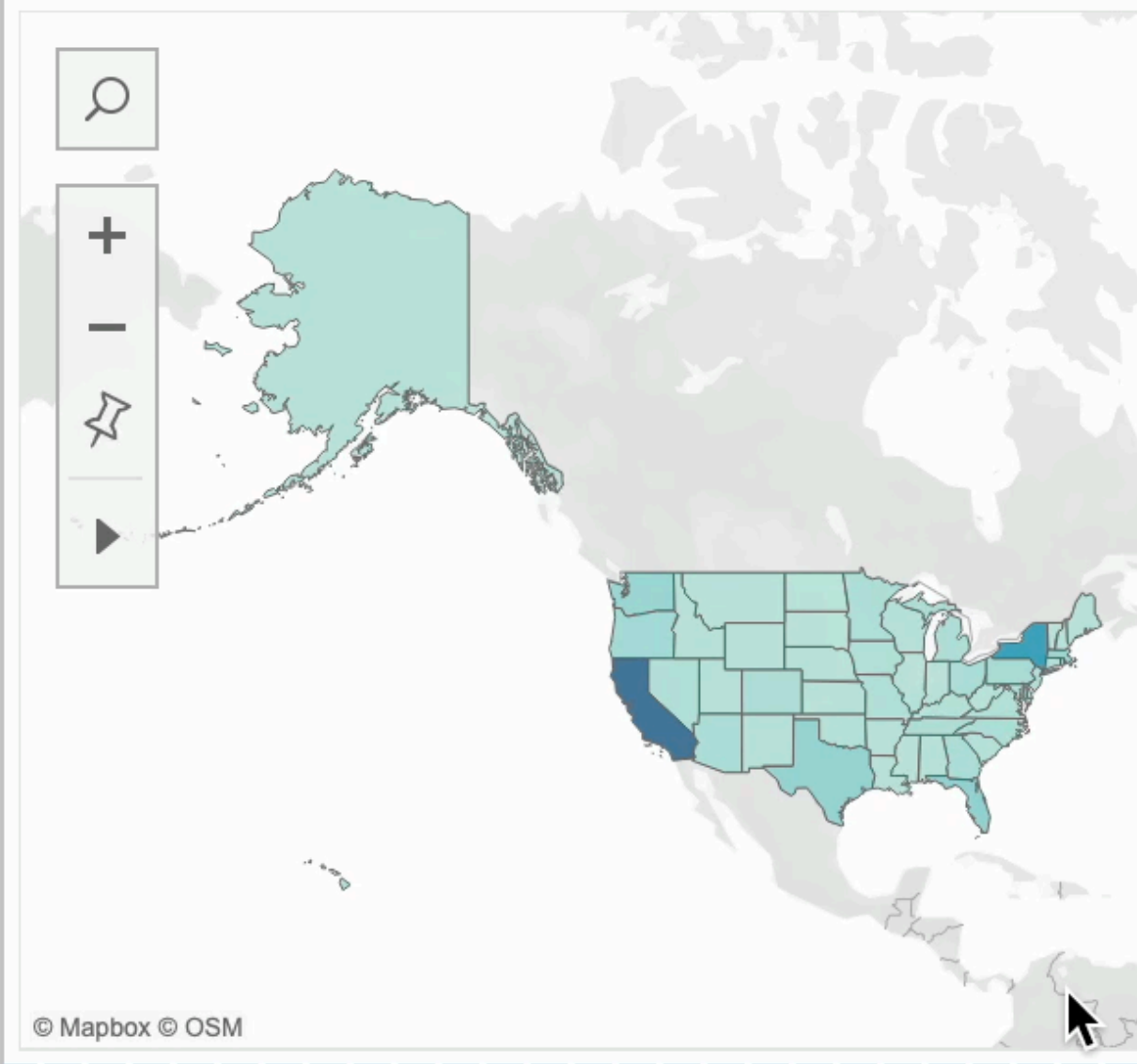▸ Cost of housing is a factor, but not a determining factor

Lack of shelter vs Housing Cost

Bed deficit and housing costs
(Excluding CA)

% of Unsheltered Homele..
- 2.15
- 20.00
- 40.00
- 63.88

Housing price per sq ft

500
400
300
200
100
0

0K   2K   4K   6K   8K   10K   12K

Beds Needed for Unsheltered

Bed deficit and housing costs
(Including CA)

Housing price per sq ft

500
400
300
200
100
0

0K   20K   40K   60K   80K   100K

Beds Needed for Unsheltered

Total number of Unhoused people

© Mapbox © OSM

Census region

- [ ] (All)
- [ ]
- [x] Midwest
- [x] Northeast
- [x] South
- [x] West

Total number of homeless

548 ▢▢▢▢▢▢▢▢▢ 151,278

Percentage of Unsheltered by Census Region

© Mapbox © OSM
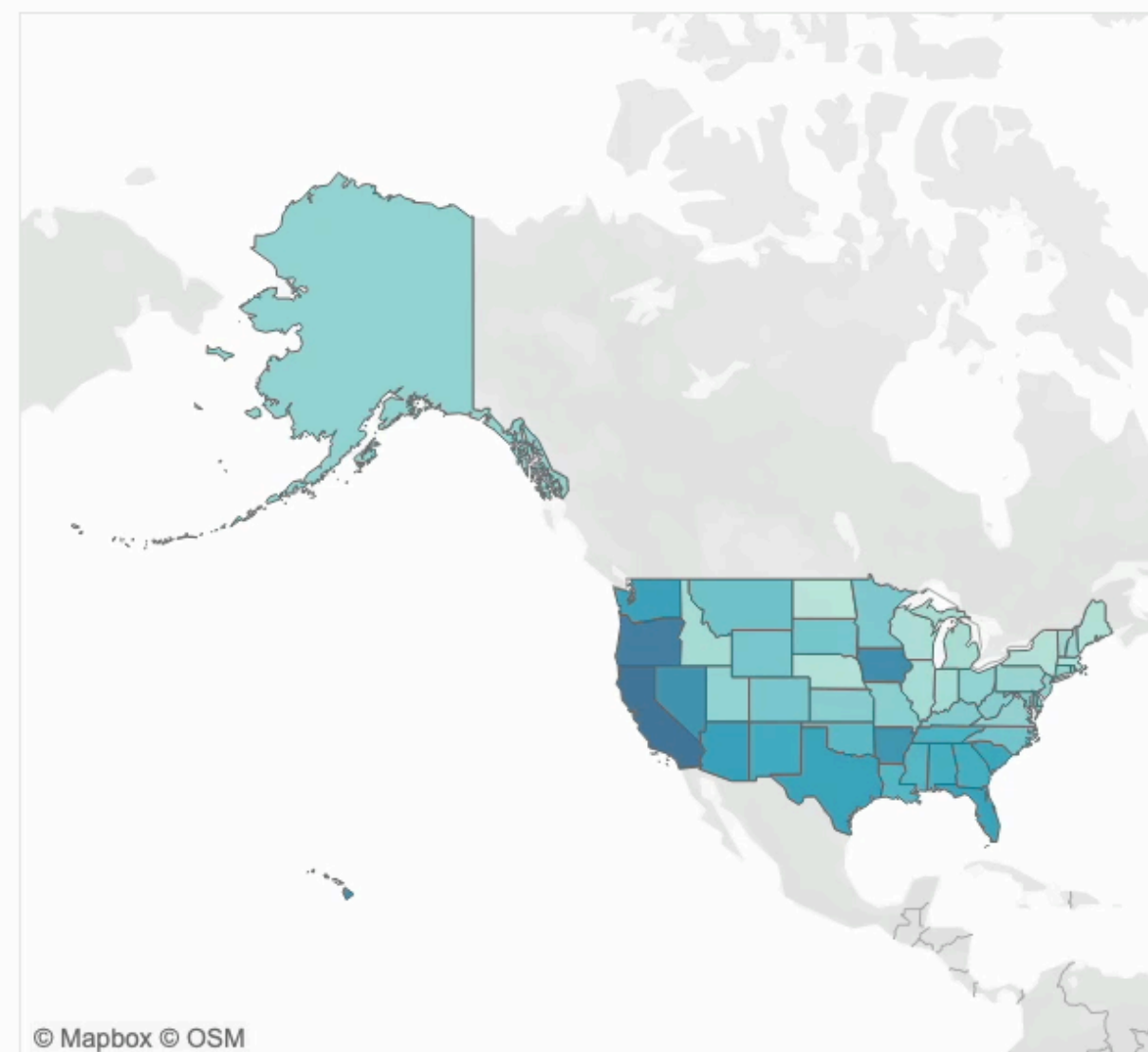
Census region

- [ ] (All)
- [ ]
- [x] Midwest
- [x] Northeast
- [x] South
- [x] West

% of Unsheltered Homeless

2.15 ▢▢▢▢▢▢▢▢▢ 71.68

Map of Beds Needed

by state

© 2022 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap
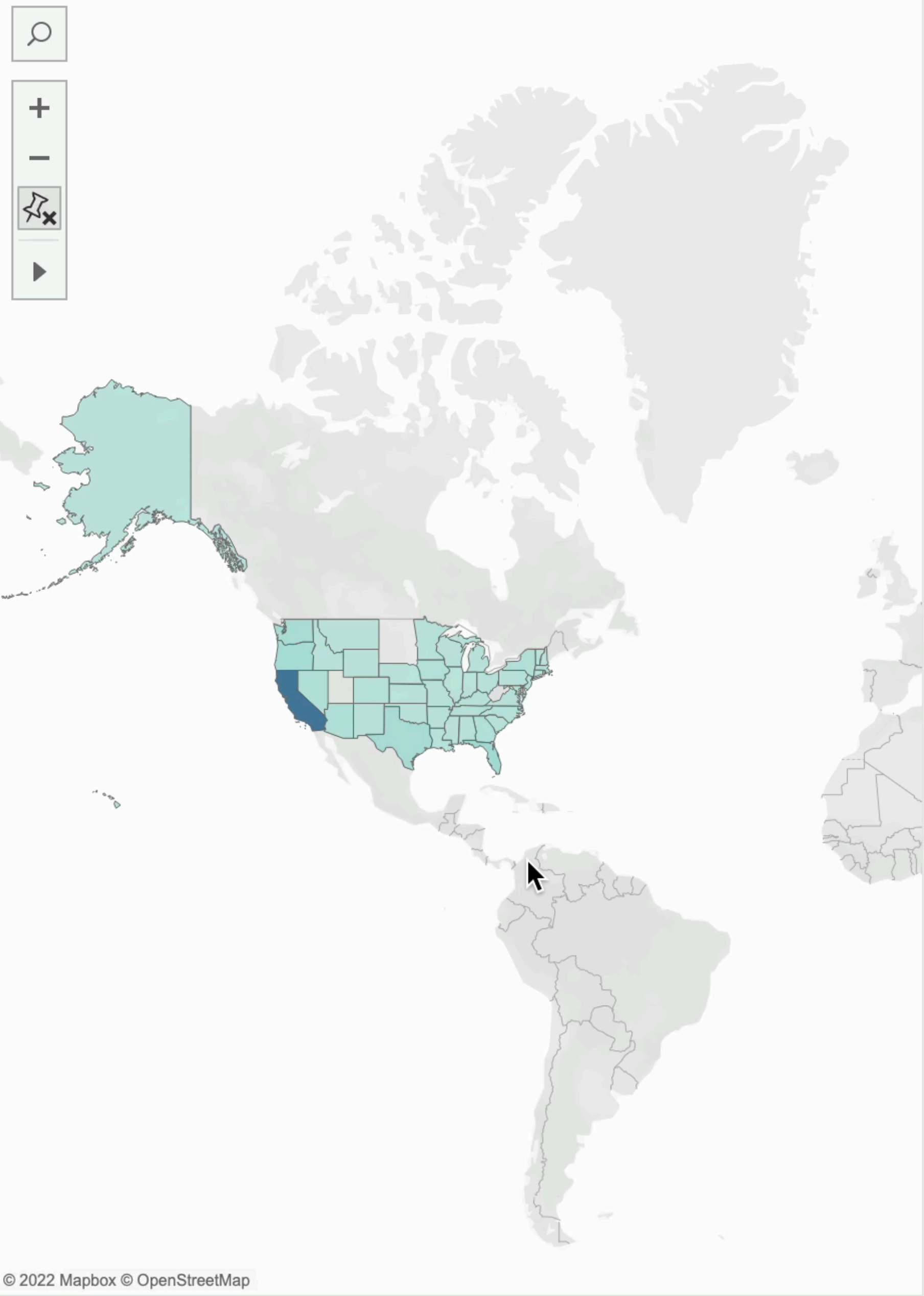
Beds Needed for Unshelt..
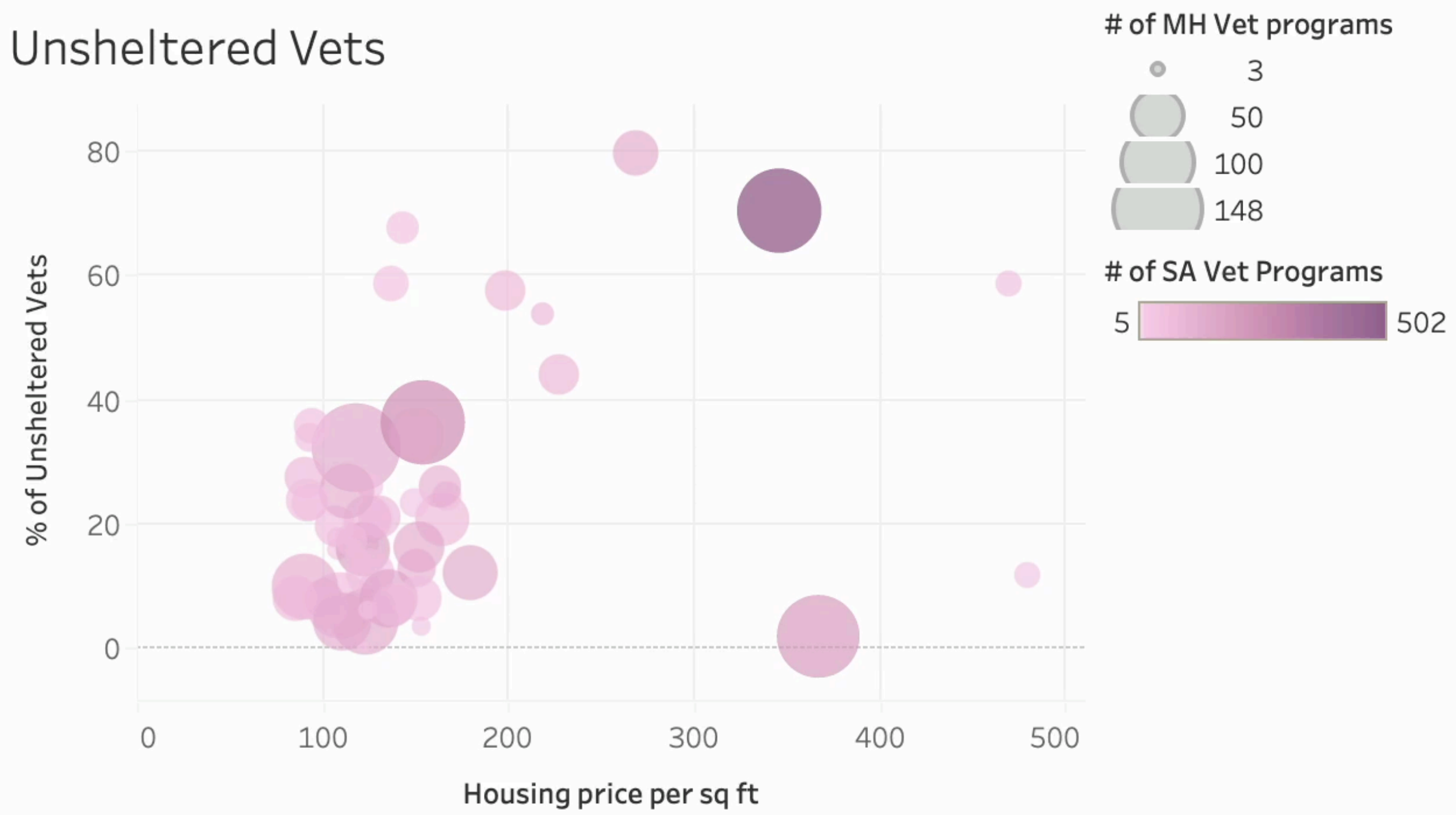
0   108127

Beds Needed for Unshelt..

6   108,127

SOLUTION PATH

▸ Can targeted mental health and substance abuse programs reduce the number of unsheltered and unhoused individuals?

▸ Exploratory Data Analysis on *Point-in-Time* and *Housing Inventory Counts*, housing costs, and mental health and substance abuse services
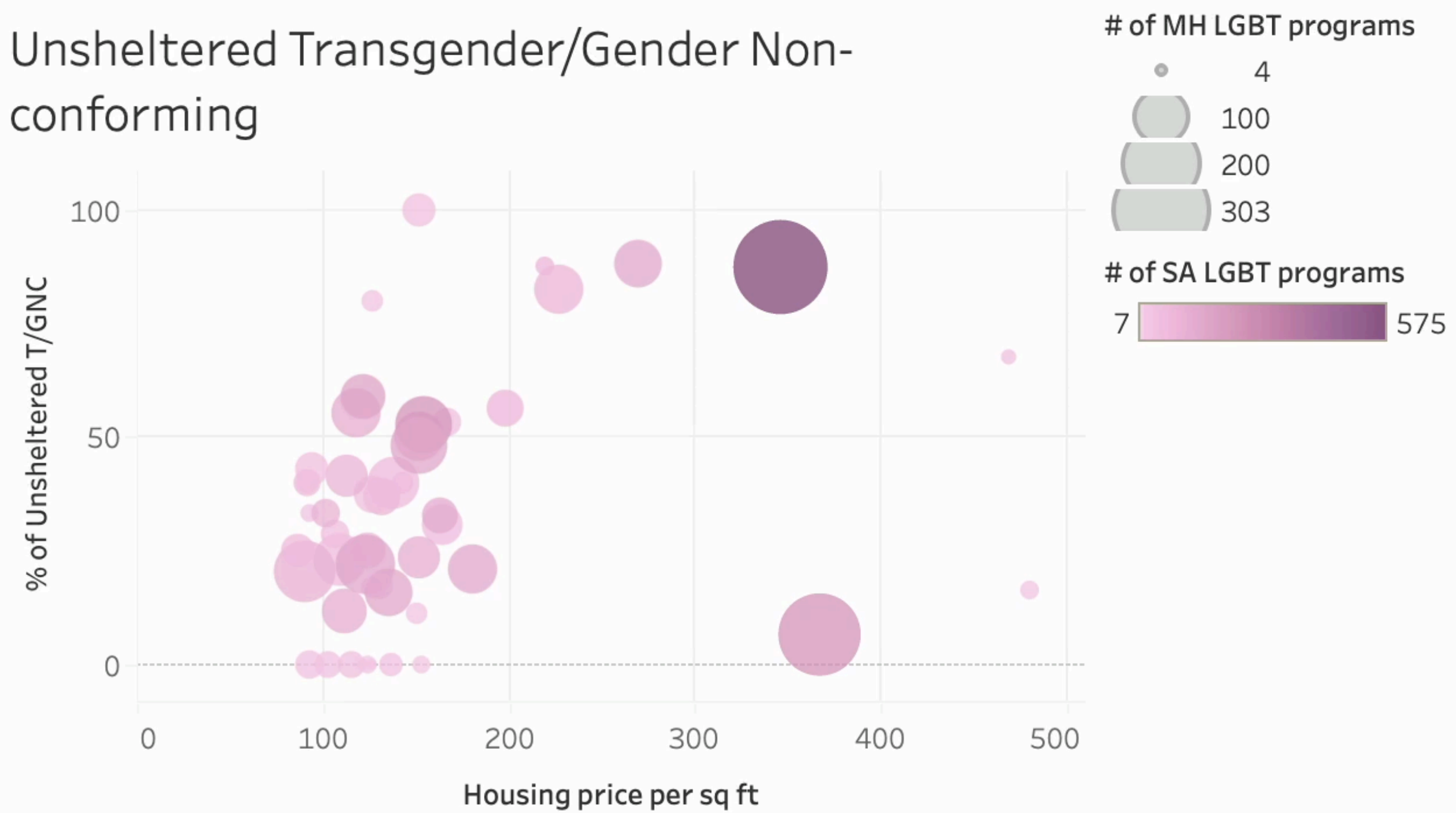
SOLUTION PATH

▸ Examining two subsets of population:

  ▸ Unhoused veterans

  ▸ Unhoused transgender and gender non-conforming

Unsheltered Vets

# of MH Vet programs

- ○ 3
- ○ 50
- ○ 100
- ○ 148

# of SA Vet Programs

5 ▭ 502

X-axis: Housing price per sq ft (0, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500)
Y-axis: % of Unsheltered Vets (0, 20, 40, 60, 80)

Unsheltered Transgender/Gender Non-conforming

# of MH LGBT programs

- ○ 4
- ○ 100
- ○ 200
- ○ 303

# of SA LGBT programs

7 ▭ 575

X-axis: Housing price per sq ft (0, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500)
Y-axis: % of Unsheltered T/GNC (0, 50, 100)

INITIAL CONCLUSIONS

▸ Specific, targeted mental health and substance abuse programs do not significantly reduce the number of unsheltered and unhoused individuals

▸ California needs more Emergency Shelter beds

FUTURE EXPLORATION

▸ NY has a remarkably low percentage of unsheltered unhoused individuals

▸ Meet with NY policy makers to see what has been most effective

CA vs NY

State	% of Unsheltered Homeless	Total number of homeless
CA	(bar to ~72)	(bar to ~150K)
NY	(bar to ~4)	(bar to ~92K)