



**MINNESOTA**  
**INTERAGENCY COUNCIL**  
**ON HOMELESSNESS**

Cathy ten Broeke

Basilica of St. Mary

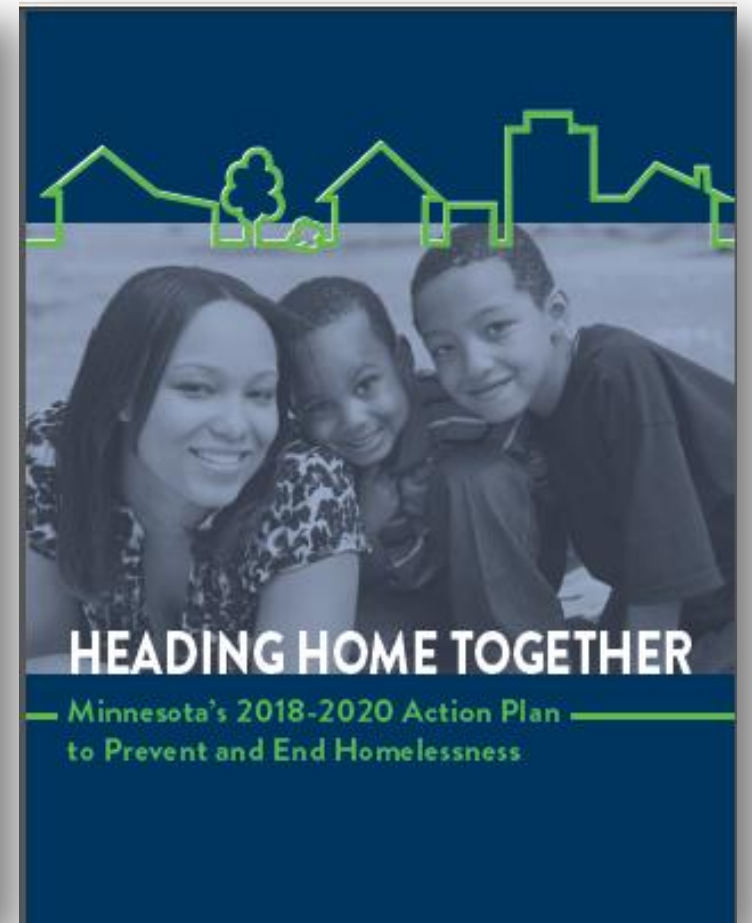
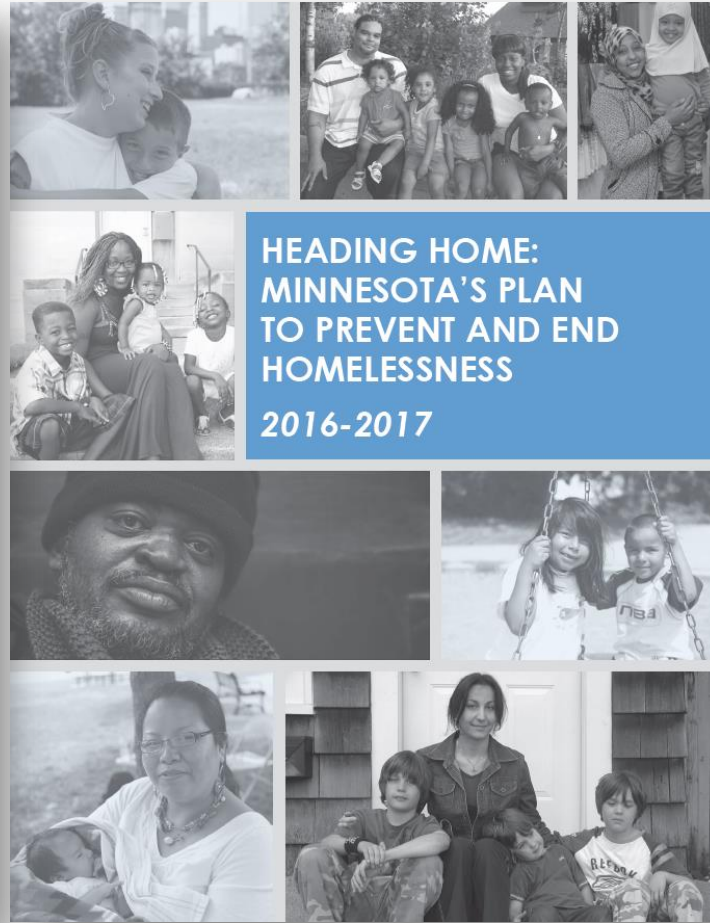
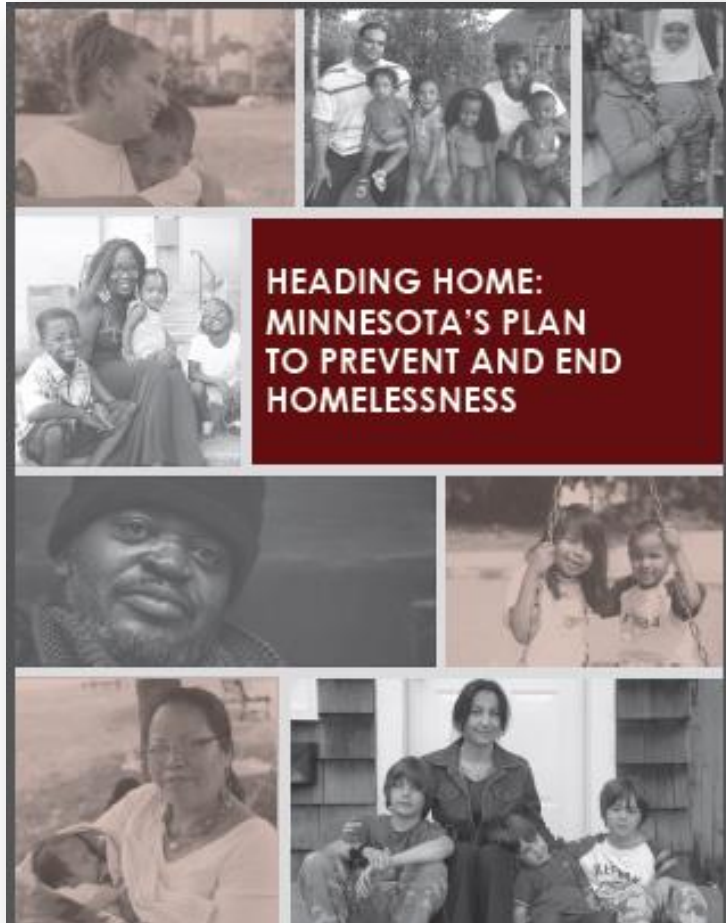
January 16, 2021

# Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness

The Council is led by Lt. Governor Flanagan, Co-Chaired by Commissioners Harpstead and Ho, and includes the following agencies:

- Department of Corrections
- Department of Education
- Department of Employment and Economic Development
- Department of Health
- Department of Human Rights
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Revenue
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Metropolitan Council
- Minnesota Housing
- Minnesota Management and Budget
- Office of Higher Education

# Heading Home, 2013 - 2020



# Seven Principles

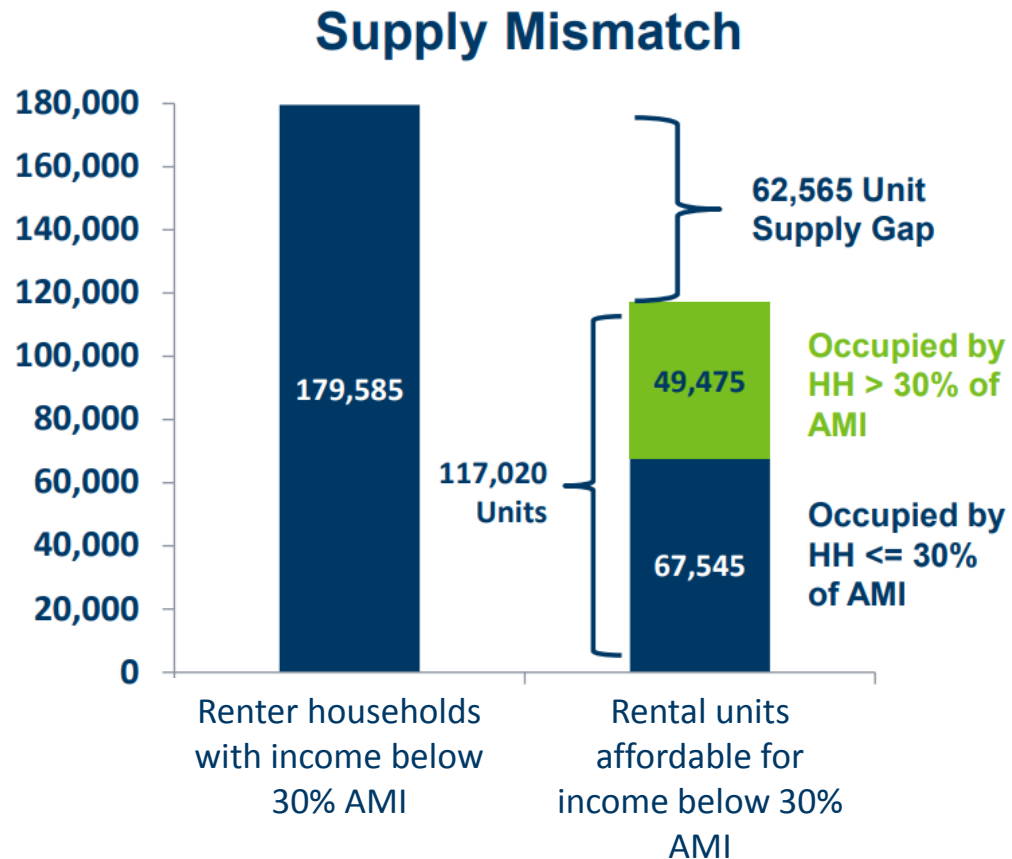
## To prevent and end homelessness in Minnesota, we will work collaboratively to:

1. Identify all people experiencing homelessness.
2. Provide some form of shelter immediately to anyone who needs it, with appropriate services.
3. Link people experiencing homelessness with housing and services tailored to their needs through coordinated entry and prioritize people experiencing chronic homelessness for permanent supportive housing.
4. Assist people with moving swiftly into permanent housing with any needed supports.
5. Use a person-centered, Housing First orientation in our response to homelessness.
6. Help people experiencing or at risk of homelessness increase employment and income.
7. Organize resources, plans, partnerships, and system capacity that are sufficient to prevent and end homelessness on an ongoing basis.

Prevent homelessness whenever possible, and otherwise making it rare, brief, and non-recurring



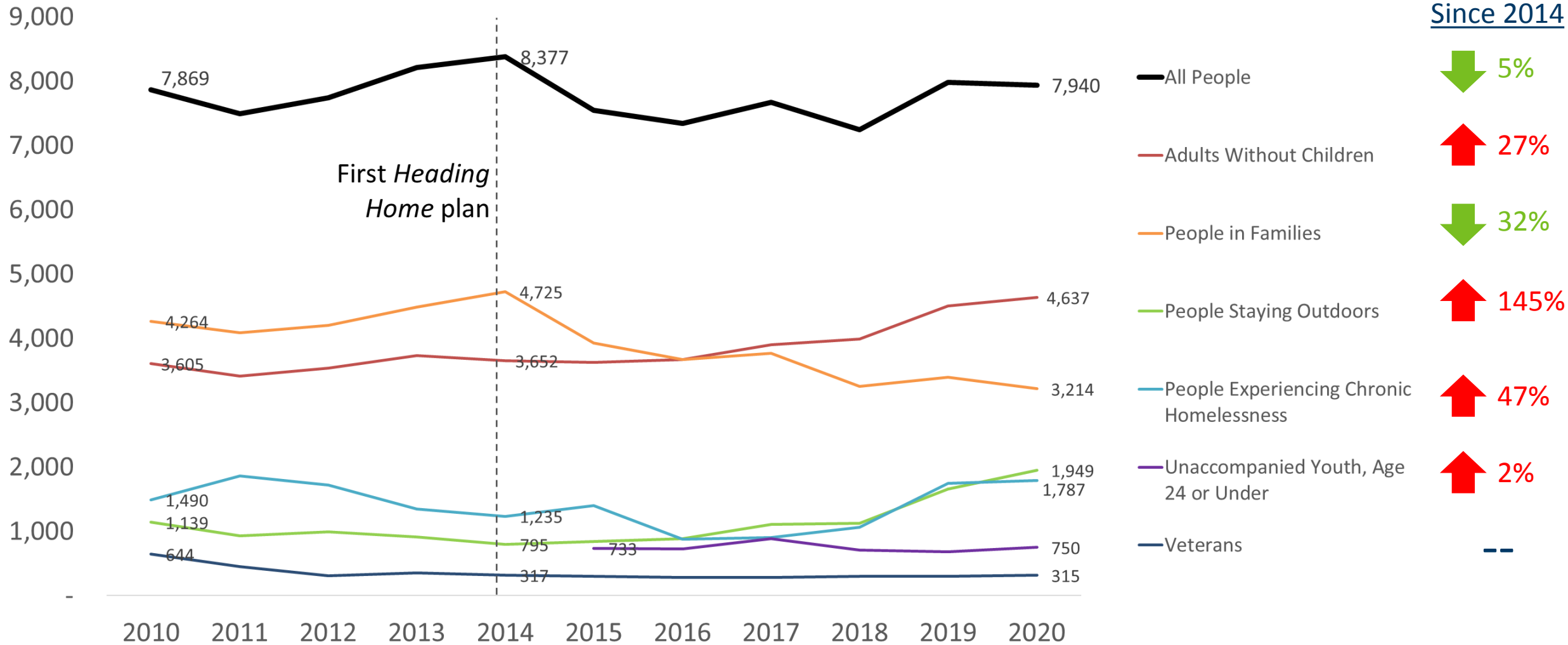
# Massive gap in affordable housing



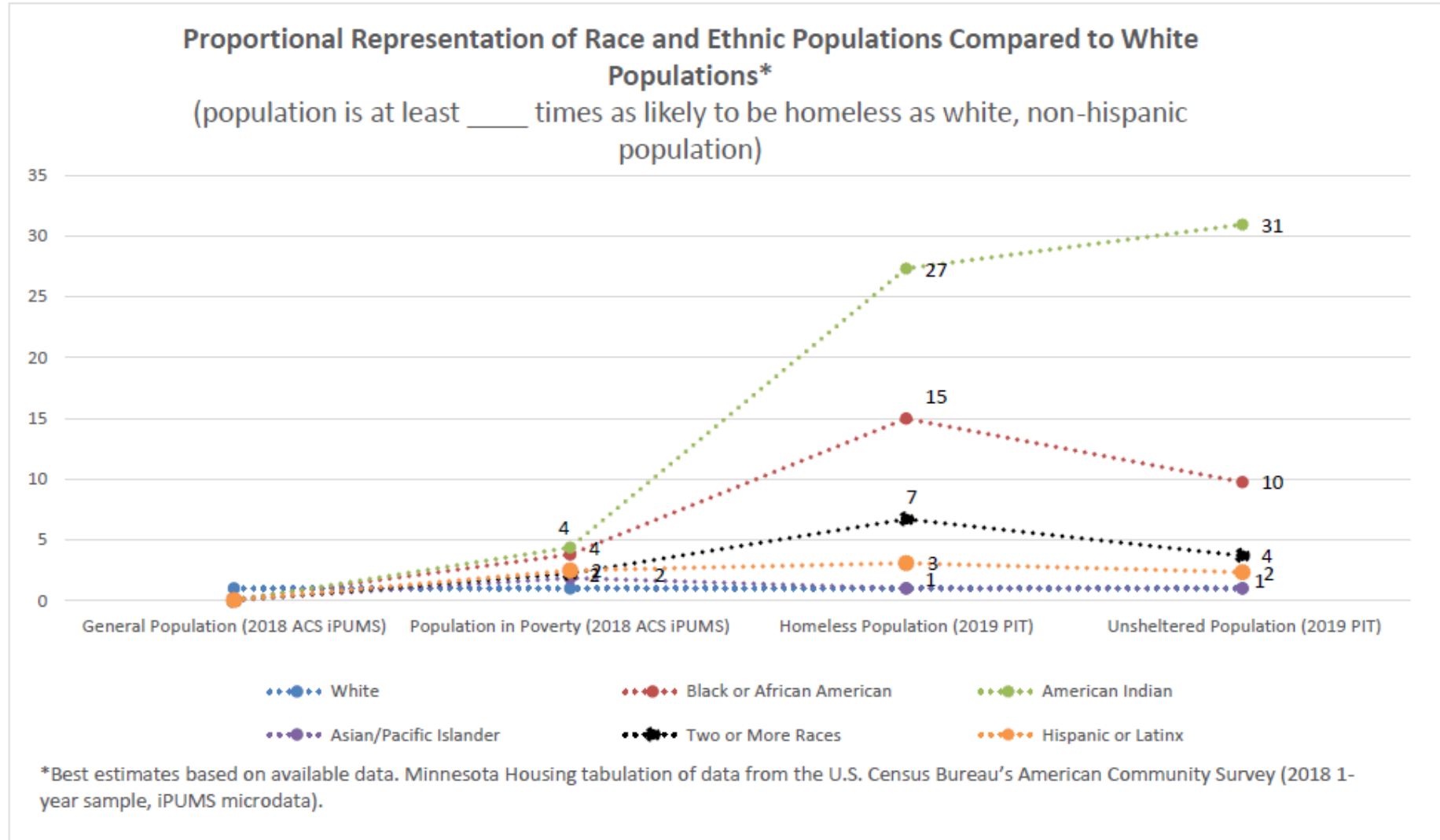
## In Minnesota:

- 557,000 households are cost burdened.
- Among extremely low-income renters, 80% are cost burdened and 61% are severely cost burdened.
- From 2000 to 2019, there was a 21% increase in rents and just a 3% increase in incomes (adjusted for inflation).

# Minnesota Point-in-Time count, 2010 – 2020



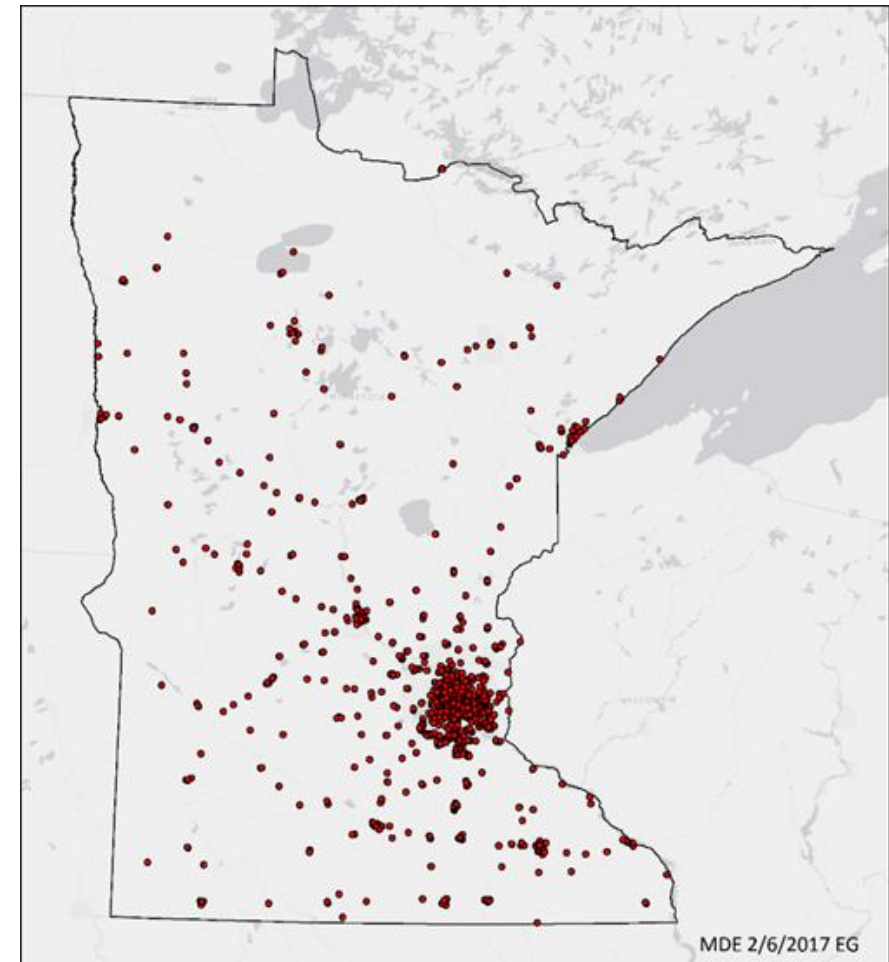
# Homelessness reflects profound impacts of racism and inequity



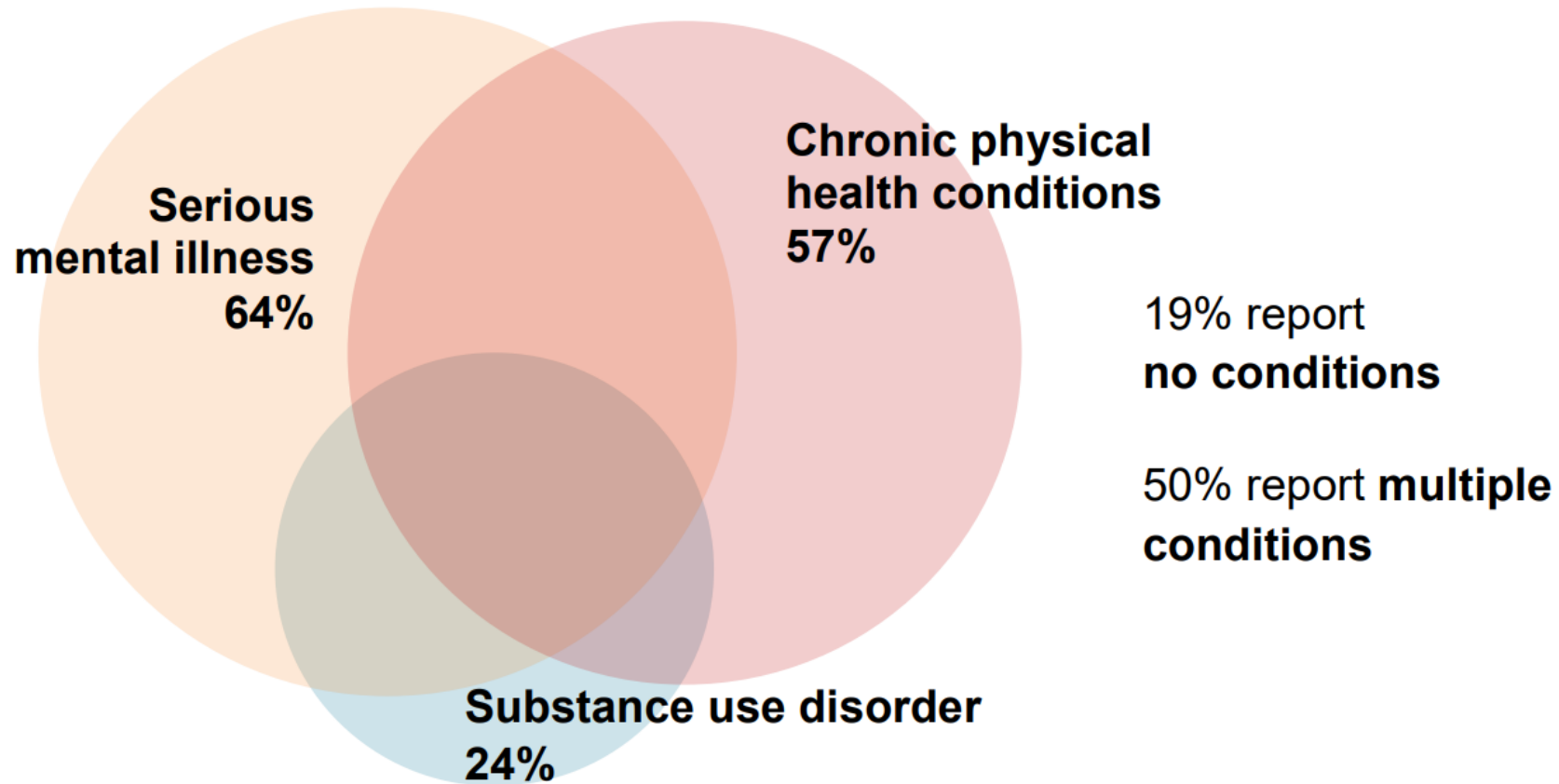


# Student homelessness in Minnesota is widely distributed

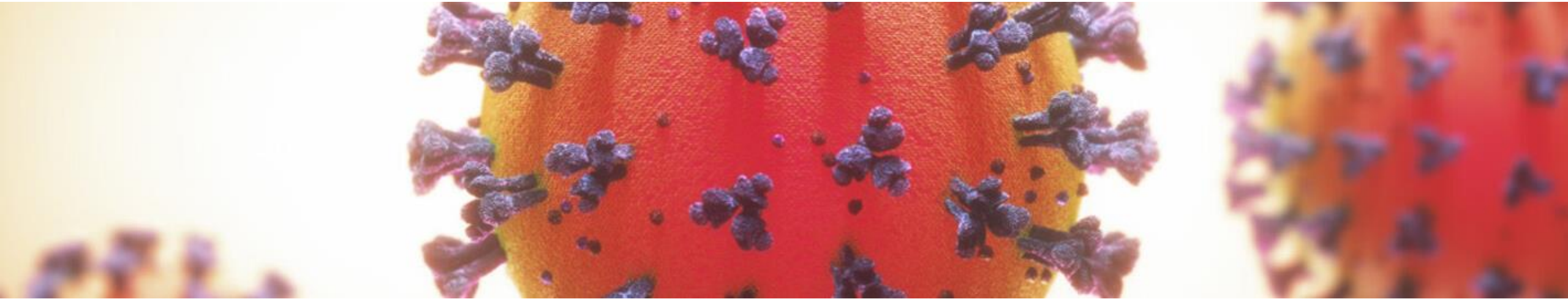
- 9,060 students experiencing homelessness were enrolled in Minnesota schools on October 1, 2019.
  - 1,172 schools and 309 school districts
  - 77 of Minnesota's 87 counties
- Student homelessness disproportionately impacts students of color, American Indian students, LGBTQ students, and students with disabilities.



# Homeless adults face complicating health challenges



Source: Wilder Research, *Homelessness in Minnesota: Detailed Findings from the 2018 Minnesota Homeless Study*, March 2020



# Statewide COVID response for people experiencing homelessness

# Summary of key responses

## Key Strategies

- Guidance and technical assistance to homeless providers (shelters, outreach, public health)
- Funding for shelter decompression, encampment responses and other settings
- Ensure adequate isolation space for people without a safe place to recover on their own
- Proactive distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Extensive engagement of provider community including 1-on-1 technical assistance, newsletters, and weekly webinars

## Major Accomplishments

- Working with local partners to **create over 2,800 temporary shelter options** (typically hotel/motel), cover staffing, and provide food and PPE.
- Contracted with hotels, staffing agencies and food supports to set up isolation spaces
- Partnered with local governments and nonprofits to create ongoing additional emergency shelter capacity for over 300 Minnesotans.
- Innovative use of Housing Support program to promote COVID-safe congregate settings and implement hotel-to-home model connecting people staying outdoors with permanent housing.

Thank you!