

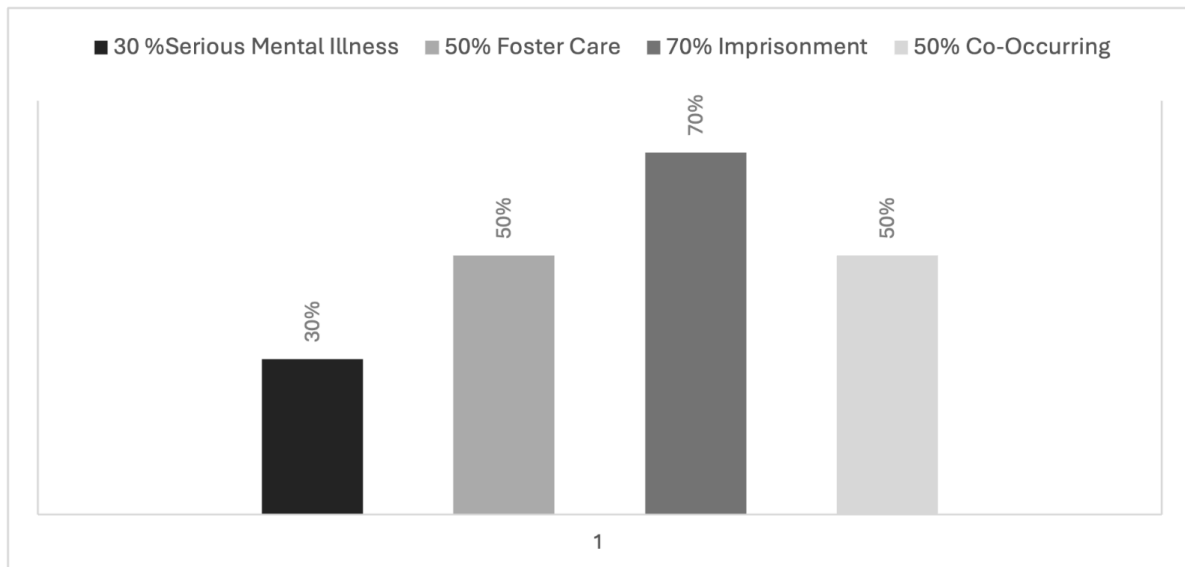
The Demographics of Homelessness

“HUD released the 2024 [Annual Homeless Assessment Report \(AHAR\), Part 1](#) on December 27, 2024. The report, which provides annual estimates of homelessness in the U.S., finds that from 2023 to 2024, homelessness in the U.S. increased by 18%, with approximately 770,000 people experiencing homelessness during this period. Homelessness increased among nearly all populations, including individuals, people in families with children, children and unaccompanied youth, seniors, and people of color.”¹

HUD cites what all other reports list as the cause. Not listed is the real demographic of homelessness or the solution to what our country is failing to do: end homelessness.

The real solution is treating mental health recovery on par with other diseases, allowing and encouraging families to be part of the treatment, repairing and healing families before children are removed to the foster system (known by foster care clinicians as “the highway to homelessness.”) and providing psychiatric hospital care rather than using jails and prisons.

- 21-50% succumb to living without housing is due to serious mental illness²
- 50% of the homeless have been in the foster care system³
- 70% of the homeless have been imprisoned⁴
- 50% Co-occurring Including Veterans



¹ <https://nlihc.org/resource/hud-releases-2024-annual-homeless-assessment-report>

² <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8423293/?utm>

³ <https://nfyi.org/issues/homelessness-2/>

⁴ <https://calhps.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Homeless-Council-White-Paper-3-19-2019.pdf>