More younger women are becoming newly homeless. Women ages 18 to 40 comprised 36.7% of women who became homeless for the first time within the last year.

Women of color—particularly Black women—continue to be disproportionately affected by homelessness. While Black women make up 9% of LA County’s population, they accounted for nearly one-third (28.7%) of the women surveyed.

A majority of newly homeless women were also women of color: 24.1% were Black women, and 35.4% were Latina.

Nearly half (48.9%) of all women surveyed were age 51 and older. The median age of survey respondents was 48, versus a median age of 35 for all women in the City of Los Angeles.

Homelessness is not inevitable. It is a societal problem that bears especially hard on women. We need committed community members like you to help us develop policies that will transform systems and change lives.
The Downtown Women’s Center is the only organization in Los Angeles focused exclusively on serving and empowering women experiencing homelessness and formerly homeless women.

We envision a Los Angeles with every woman housed and on a path to personal stability. Our mission is to end homelessness for women in greater Los Angeles through housing, wellness, employment, and advocacy.

www.DowntownWomensCenter.org

#EveryWomanHoused

01 INDICATE gender in HUD Point-In-Time counts to more accurately determine immediate women-specific shelter bed and housing needs.

02 INCLUDE gender, and gender paired with the experience of violence/trauma, as weighted factors in vulnerability scoring for individuals entered into the Coordinated Entry System.

03 PROVIDE access to government data (including the HUD Homeless Management Information System) about LGBTQIA+ women experiencing homelessness.

04 TRACK AND SHARE the specific needs of women with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness.

05 INCREASE research on the impacts of violence and trauma on mental health, as well as the link between gender-based violence and experiences of homelessness.