COMMON SENSE INSTITUTE

JANUARY 2026

CRIME, DRUGS, RENT PRICES:
WHAT IS THE STRONGEST CONNECTION TO U.S. HOMELESSNESS?

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Dustin Zvonek, CSI Homelessness Fellow

Zvonek brings extensive public policy and executive leadership experience to the Common Sense Institute (CSI). As a former small business owner, bank and nonprofit executive, and public servant, his career reflects a deep commitment to finding practical solutions for complex challenges.

Elected to the Aurora City Council, which represents Colorado's third-largest city, Zvonek served as an at-large member and mayor pro tem. He played a pivotal role in addressing homelessness by traveling across the country to study strategies and best practices. His efforts culminated in authorship of a resolution that ensured the Aurora Regional Navigation Campus for the homeless remained committed to a "work first" model that emphasized treatment, personal accountability, and a structured path to self-sufficiency. Additionally, Zvonek chaired the Management and Finance and Public Safety Committees and represented Aurora on the boards of the Aurora Economic Development Council and the Fitzsimons Innovation Community, a hub for health and life sciences.

Prior to his public service, Zvonek served as district and communications director for a federal lawmaker, policy director for the Colorado State Senate minority leader, and vice president of strategy and innovation for a national nonprofit, where he drove strategic growth and organizational innovation.

A graduate of Colorado State University, Zvonek lives in southeast Aurora with his wife, Ann, and their four children. An avid runner and fitness enthusiast, he balances his professional endeavors with a passion for family and community engagement.

DJ Summers, Director of Communications and Research Operations

Summers is CSI's Director of Communications and Research Operations. He oversees CSI's fellows and research staff, coordinates with partners, iterates and analyzes projects, and breaks down findings for the public, legislators, and commercial leaders.

Cole Anderson, Deputy Director of Policy and Research

Cole Anderson is the Deputy Director of Policy & Research with Common Sense Institute. He joined CSI in June of 2022.

Before joining CSI, Cole attended the University of Denver where he double majored in Economics and Public Policy, fostering his passion for pressing policy issues. His work at CSI has covered a variety of topics including crime, healthcare, foster care, and workforce issues among other topics.

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ABOUT COMMON SENSE INSTITUTE

Common Sense Institute is a non-partisan research organization dedicated to the protection and promotion of Colorado's economy. CSI is at the forefront of important discussions concerning the future of free enterprise and aims to have an impact on the issues that matter most to Coloradans. CSI's mission is to examine the fiscal impacts of policies, initiatives, and proposed laws so that Coloradans are educated and informed on issues impacting their lives. CSI employs rigorous research techniques and dynamic modeling to evaluate the potential impact of these measures on the economy and individual opportunity.

TEAMS & FELLOWS STATEMENT

CSI is committed to independent, in-depth research that examines the impacts of policies, initiatives, and proposed laws so that Coloradans are educated and informed on issues impacting their lives. CSI's commitment to institutional independence is rooted in the individual independence of our researchers, economists, and fellows. At the core of CSI's mission is a belief in the power of the free enterprise system. Our work explores ideas that protect and promote jobs and the economy, and the CSI team and fellows take part in this pursuit with academic freedom. Our team's work is informed by data-driven research and evidence. The views and opinions of fellows do not reflect the institutional views of CSI. CSI operates independently of any political party and does not take positions.

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INTRODUCTION

This report examines two aspects of homelessness policy: how homelessness is defined and categorized, and how federal funding is currently structured.

Homelessness is often treated as a single problem, but it often arises due to very different causes, from a recently laid-off worker sleeping in a car to a chronically homeless individual struggling with addiction or mental illness and living on the street. Different stakeholders often emphasize different aspects of homelessness. Some focus on temporary housing caused by housing costs and wages, while others prioritize visible street homelessness associated with addiction, mental illness, and crime. These differing perspectives can lead to disagreements about appropriate policy responses.

This CSI analysis examines correlations between homelessness rates and multiple factors. Housing affordability correlates with homelessness rates, as do labor productivity, state spending, drug use, crime and mental illness. In several cases, these latter factors show stronger statistical correlations than housing affordability.

These correlations do not establish causation, as multiple confounding factors may influence these relationships. For example, states with higher costs of living may also have higher wages, different drug enforcement, or other regional characteristics that affect homelessness rates independently. However, these findings do suggest that homelessness correlates with a broader range of factors than housing costs alone.

Until recently, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) primarily funded "Housing First" programs, which provide housing without requiring sobriety, employment, or treatment. Alternative "Work First" or "Intervention First" models, which require employment, sobriety, and treatment alongside or before housing placement, currently face barriers. An executive order signed in July 2025, however, shifted funding priorities to non-housing first treatment models.

The data in this report show associations between homelessness and multiple factors beyond housing affordability. These findings examine whether new funding priorities are being directed to the most effective ends.

KEY FINDINGS

- Data suggest homelessness is higher in wealthy, expensive states with high state spending, widespread drug use, higher crime, and lower policing levels. This outcome is especially true of the categories associated with visible street homelessness.

  > Total homelessness rates are most strongly correlated with labor productivity, illicit substance use rates, and total state spending per person.

  > Chronic homelessness rates are most strongly correlated with illicit substance use rates, statewide combined crime rates, and police per population.

  > Unsheltered homelessness rates are most strongly correlated with police per population, hours needed to pay rent, and combined crime rates.

  > Severely mentally ill homelessness rates are most strongly correlated with illicit substance abuse rates, hours to pay rent, state spending per person, and labor productivity.

  > Homelessness with chronic substance abuse rates are most strongly correlated with illicit substance abuse rates, hours to pay rent, and state spending per person.

- Colorado ranks ninth for its rate of total homelessness, seventh for chronic homelessness, 10th for unsheltered homelessness, seventh for severely mentally ill homelessness, and seventh for homeless with chronic substance abuse issues.

- Among the 50 largest metro areas, metropolitan Denver ranks fifth for total number of homeless people, sixth for number of chronically homeless people, 11th for total number of unsheltered homeless people, fourth for the number of severely mentally ill homeless people, and fourth for the number of homeless people with a chronic substance abuse issue.

- **Top states for:**

  - > Homelessness per 10,000:

    - Hawaii, New York, Oregon, Vermont, California, Massachusetts, Washington, Alaska, Colorado, Nevada

  - > Chronically homeless per 10,000:

    - Oregon, California, Washington, Vermont, Hawaii, Nevada, Alaska, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Colorado

  - > Unsheltered homeless per 10,000:

    - Oregon, California, Hawaii, Washington, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Idaho

  - > Severely mentally ill homeless per 10,000:

    - Vermont, California, Washington, Oregon, Hawaii, Rhode Island, Colorado, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Alaska

  - > Homeless with chronic substance abuse per 10,000:

    - Washington, California, Oregon, Hawaii, Alaska, Vermont, New Mexico, Colorado, Rhode Island, New Hampshire

- **Top metro areas for:**

  - > Homelessness per 10,000:

    - New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Seattle, Denver

  - > Chronically homeless per 10,000:

    - Los Angeles, Seattle/King County, New York City, San Jose/Santa Clara, San Diego, Denver

  - > Unsheltered homeless per 10,000:

    - Los Angeles, Seattle/King County, San Jose/Santa Clara, San Diego, New York City, San Francisco, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Portland

  - > Severely mentally ill homeless per 10,000:

    - Los Angeles, New York City, Seattle/King County, Denver, San Jose/Santa Clara

  - > Homeless with chronic substance abuse per 10,000:

    - Los Angeles, Seattle/King County, New York City, Denver, San Francisco

HOMELESSNESS TRENDS BY U.S. STATE

There were 762,240 homeless individuals counted in U.S. states in 2024, not including territories and federal districts. This number is more than the population of Denver, but slightly less than that of Seattle.

Of this total, 270,450, or 35%, were unsheltered, slightly more than the population of St. Petersburg, Florida. Nearly 22% were chronically homeless, just over 18% were severely mentally ill, and nearly 15% had an issue with chronic substance abuse.

FIGURE 1.

Unsheltered Homeless Persons by U.S. State
2024

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

The nation's homeless individuals are primarily concentrated in a handful of states. California's total homeless population stood at 187,084 in 2024, or 25% of the nation's. New York has the second highest with 158,019, or 21%. Three-quarters of the nation's homeless are in just eleven states: California, New York, Washington, Florida, Massachusetts, Texas, Illinois, Oregon, Colorado, Arizona, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

Similarly, the number of unsheltered homeless in the United States is heavily concentrated in a few states. California alone accounts for nearly half. The Golden State counted 123,974 homeless individuals in 2024, which is 46% of the nation's total. Nearly 80% of the unsheltered homeless in the United States reside in California, Florida, Washington, Oregon, Texas, Arizona, Georgia, New York, Nevada, and Colorado.

This heavy concentration in a handful of U.S. states is true for most homelessness subcategories, including chronically homeless, severely mentally ill homeless, homeless with chronic substance abuse issues, homeless with HIV/AIDS, and victims of domestic violence.

Colorado ranks highly in each category. It ranks ninth for total homelessness, seventh for chronic homelessness, 10th for unsheltered homelessness, seventh for severely mentally ill homelessness, and seventh for homeless with chronic substance abuse issues.

Many of the states with the highest homeless counts are also states with high populations. To get a true measurement of homelessness occurrence, CSI analyzed the number of homeless individuals per capita. Colorado ranks highly in this regard: ninth for total homelessness rate, seventh for chronic homelessness rate, 10th for unsheltered homelessness rate, seventh for severely mentally ill homelessness rate, and seventh for its rate of homeless individuals with chronic substance abuse issues.

Rankings of the 10 highest homelessness rates from highest to 10th-highest are:

- **Homelessness per 1,000:** Hawaii, New York, Oregon, Vermont, California, Massachusetts, Washington, Alaska, Colorado, Nevada

- **Chronically homeless per 10,000:** Oregon, California, Washington, Vermont, Hawaii, Nevada, Alaska, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Colorado

- **Unsheltered homeless per 10,000:** Oregon, California, Hawaii, Washington, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Idaho

- **Severely mentally ill homeless per 10,000:** Vermont, California, Washington, Oregon, Hawaii, Rhode Island, Colorado, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Alaska

- **Homeless with chronic substance abuse per 10,000:** Washington, California, Oregon, Hawaii, Alaska, Vermont, New Mexico, Colorado, Rhode Island, New Hampshire

The Appendix has the full ranking of states.

FIGURE 2.

JANUARY 2026 // HOMELESSNESS IN THE U.S.

Homeless Persons by U.S. State
2024
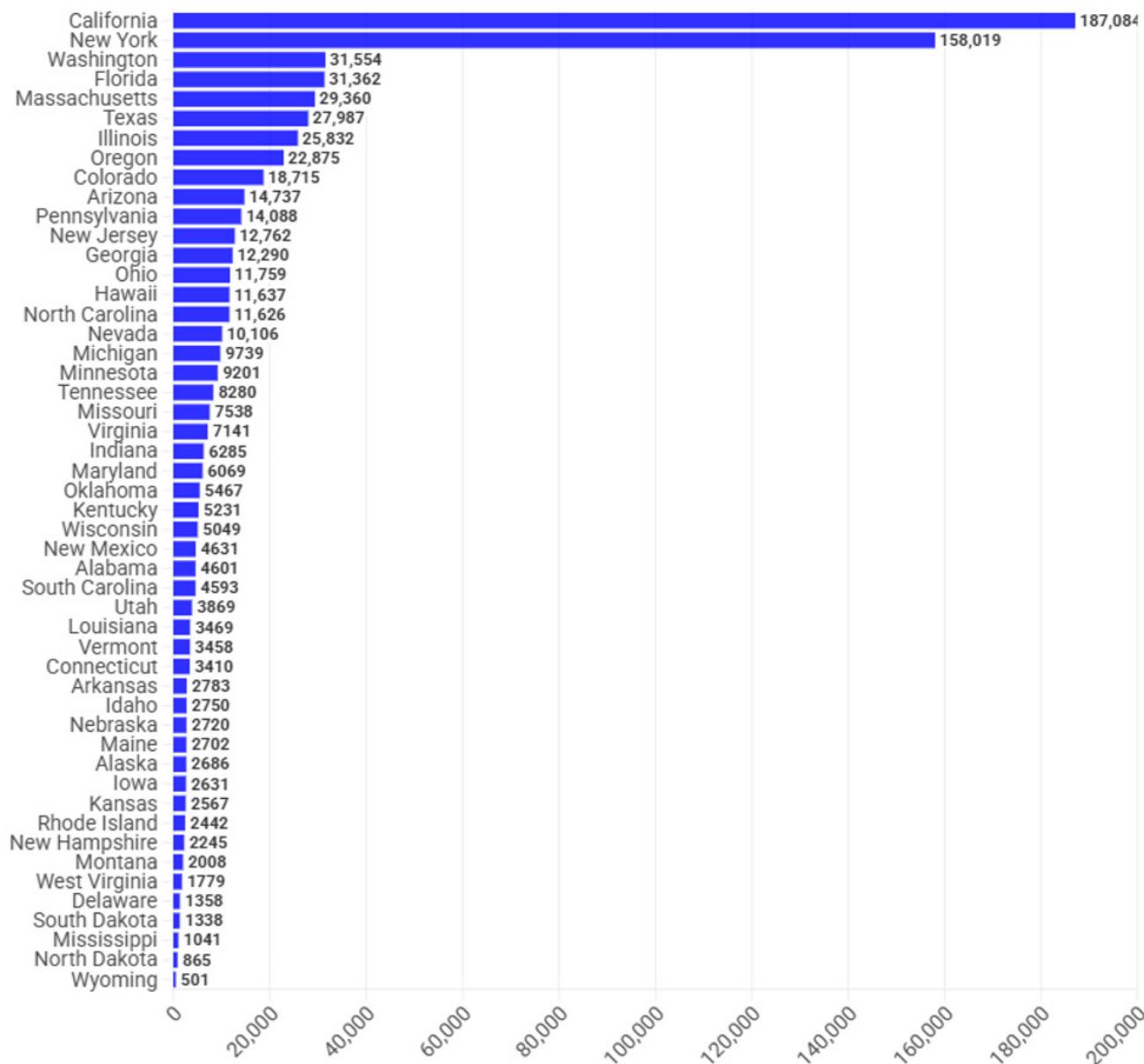
Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

U.S. HOMELESSNESS TRENDS BY METRO AREA/CITY

Along with U.S. states, CSI analyzed the changes in homelessness subcategories across the 50 largest areas specified by HUD. These areas are referred to as Continuum of Care areas, or CoCs. A CoC is a local planning body that coordinates and funds homelessness assistance programs for a specific geographic area. CoCs are not directly comparable to cities, counties, or U.S. Census Bureau Metropolitan Statistical Areas, but often encompass one or more of them. Seattle's CoC, for example, includes both the City of Seattle and King County, Washington. CSI used U.S. Census Bureau data and other data to estimate the population size of each CoC.

As the graph on the next page shows, New York City CoC has the largest total number of homeless individuals among the 50 largest CoC areas, with 140,134 overall. The Los Angeles City and County CoC is next with 71,201 homeless individuals. It is followed by the Chicago CoC (18,836), the Seattle/King County CoC (16,868), and the Metropolitan Denver CoC (14,281). The San Diego City and County; San Jose, Santa Clara City and County; Phoenix-Mesa/Maricopa County; San Francisco; and Las Vegas/Clark County CoCs round out the top 10 Continuum of Care areas for total homeless population. (See Appendix for the full list.)

FIGURE 3.

Total Homelessness Counts By 50 Largest Continuum of Care Areas

2024

CoC Area	Count
New York City CoC	140,134
Los Angeles City & County CoC	71,201
Chicago CoC	18,836
Seattle/King County CoC	16,868
Metropolitan Denver CoC	14,281
San Diego City and County CoC	10,605
San Jose, Santa Clara City & County CoC	10,394
Phoenix-Mesa/Maricopa County CoC	9435
San Francisco CoC	8323
Las Vegas/Clark County CoC	7906
Portland, Gresham/Multnomah County...	7384
Sacramento City & County CoC	6615
Boston CoC	5898
District of Columbia CoC	5616
Philadelphia CoC	5191
Riverside City and County CoC	4249
Minneapolis/Hennepin County CoC	3866
Miami-Dade County CoC	3800
Dallas City & County, Irving CoC	3718
San Antonio/Bexar County CoC	3398
Houston, Pasadena/Harris, Fort Bend...	3280
Austin/Travis County CoC	2975
Atlanta CoC	2867
Orlando/Orange, Osceola, Seminole...	2776
Salt Lake City and County CoC	2404
Columbus/Franklin County Coc	2380
Kansas City, Independence, Lee's...	2181
Charlotte/Mecklenburg County CoC	2095
Nashville/Davidson CoC	2094
Tampa/Hillsborough County CoC	1893
Oklahoma City CoC	1838
Louisville-Jefferson County CoC	1728
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI MSA	1725
Indianapolis CoC	1701
Cleveland/Cuyahoga County CoC	1637
Baltimore CoC	1600
Buffalo, Niagara Falls/Erie, Niagara,...	1549
New Orleans/Jefferson Parish CoC	1454
Jacksonville-Duval, Clay Counties CoC	1339
Pittsburgh, McKeesport, Penn...	1164
Grand Rapids, Wyoming/Kent County...	1089
Rochester, Irondequoit, Greece/Monroe...	1056
Cincinnati/Hamilton CoC	1031
Raleigh/Wake County CoC	992
Birmingham/Jefferson, St. Clair, Shelby...	911
Milwaukee City and County	885
Memphis/Shelby County CoC	784
Richmond/Henrico, Chesterfield, Hano...	681
St. Louis, MO-IL MSA	452
Virginia Beach CoC	311

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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CORRELATIONS BETWEEN HOMELESSNESS AND VARIOUS FACTORS

CSI's correlation analysis measures the strength of various correlations and states' rates of homelessness. Each analysis returns a correlation coefficient which measures this strength, ranging from 0 to ±1. Correlation alone does not establish causation but simply indicates the strength of the relationship between one set of variables and another.

Data shows homelessness rates are higher in wealthy places with abundant state resources, widespread drug use, and lower policing levels. This scenario is especially true of the categories associated with visible street homelessness.

Housing First funding is often justified by demonstrating the connection between housing prices and rents and homelessness rates. Homelessness, the argument claims, is primarily a function of housing prices outstripping the ability of low-income workers to pay rent or mortgage.

Often, however, this argument does not explore connections between homelessness rates and other factors — some of which are as strongly correlated with homelessness as housing affordability. CSI ran a series of correlation tests to explore these connections, comparing the 2024 rates of homelessness in each state to 10 state-level variables from the same year. The data was taken from U.S. federal sources and analyzed by CSI economists. We examined:

- Statewide rate of illicit substance use in the past year[i]
- Statewide National Incident-Based Reporting System combined violent and property crime rate[ii]
- State-level number of hours needed at the average wage to pay the average rent
- State government spending per capita[iii]
- Statewide labor productivity rates[iv]
- Statewide combined 2015-24 grant distributions from HUD[v]
- Statewide rates of serious mental illness in the past year[vi]
- Statewide disposable income[vii]
- Statewide poverty rate[viii]
- Statewide police per population[ix]

The correlation coefficient between state-level homelessness rates and rent affordability is 0.35. As shown in the graph on the next page, states with higher homelessness rates tend to have less affordable rent prices.

Other correlations, however, are stronger. The graph to the right displays state homelessness rates and state rates of illicit substance use. There the correlation coefficient is 0.57, which is stronger than the relationship between homelessness and rent affordability.

FIGURE 4.

Correlation Between U.S. States 2024 Homelessness Rate and Rate of Illicit Substance Use
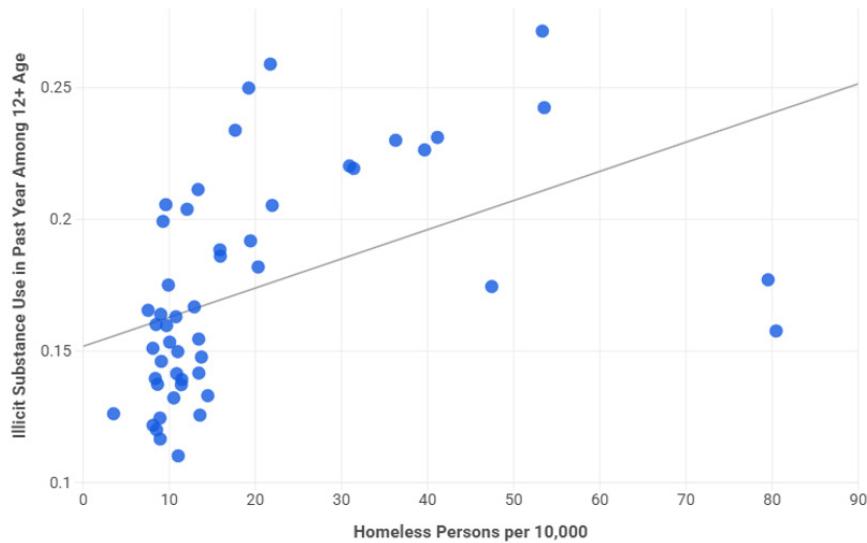

The correlation coefficients between total homelessness rates are shown in Figure 5. The strongest are between homelessness and labor productivity, illicit substance use rates, and total state spending per person.

FIGURE 5.

Correlation Between U.S. States 2024 Homelessness Rate and Hours of Labor Required to Pay Rent
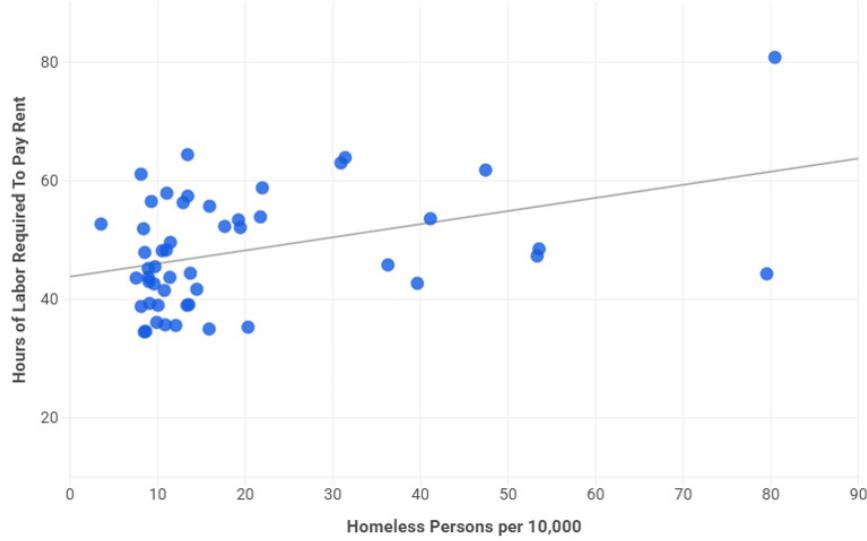
CSI also ran correlation analyses for the same 10 variables against the rates of chronic homelessness, unsheltered homelessness, homelessness with serious mental illness, and homelessness with chronic substance abuse.

The correlations between chronic homelessness rates and all 10 variables are shown in Figure 7. Illicit substance use and the statewide combined crime rate have stronger correlations with homelessness rates than does rent affordability. The number of police per capita also has a stronger relationship to homelessness. In that case, it is an inverse relationship, meaning states with higher rates of homelessness tend to have lower rates of police per capita. These findings suggest homelessness is associated with multiple characteristics rather than a single cause.

FIGURE 6.

Correlation Coefficients Between 2024 Total Homelessness Occurrence Rates in U.S. and 10 U.S. State Variables

Total Homeless Persons

Variable	Correlation
Labor Productivity	0.47
Illicit Substance Use in Past Year	0.46
State Spending Total Per Person	0.42
Hours to Pay Rent	0.39
HUD Spending 2015-24	0.32
NIBRS Combined Crime Rate	0.23
Serious Mental Illness in Past Year	0.02
Disposable Income	-0.01
Police Per Population	-0.19
Poverty Rate	-0.19

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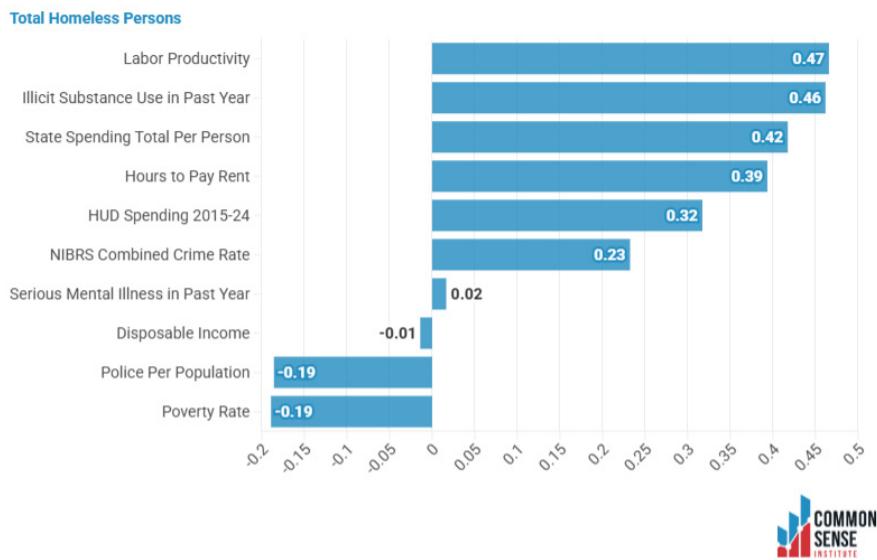
FIGURE 7.

Correlation Coefficients Between 2024 Chronic Homelessness Occurrence Rates in U.S. and 10 U.S. State Variables

Total Chronically Homeless Persons

Variable	Correlation
Illicit Substance Use in Past Year	0.57
NIBRS Combined Crime Rate	0.4
Hours to Pay Rent	0.35
State Spending Total Per Person	0.35
Labor Productivity	0.28
HUD Spending 2015-24	0.16
Serious Mental Illness in Past Year	0.06
Disposable Income	-0.08
Poverty Rate	-0.18
Police Per Population	-0.42

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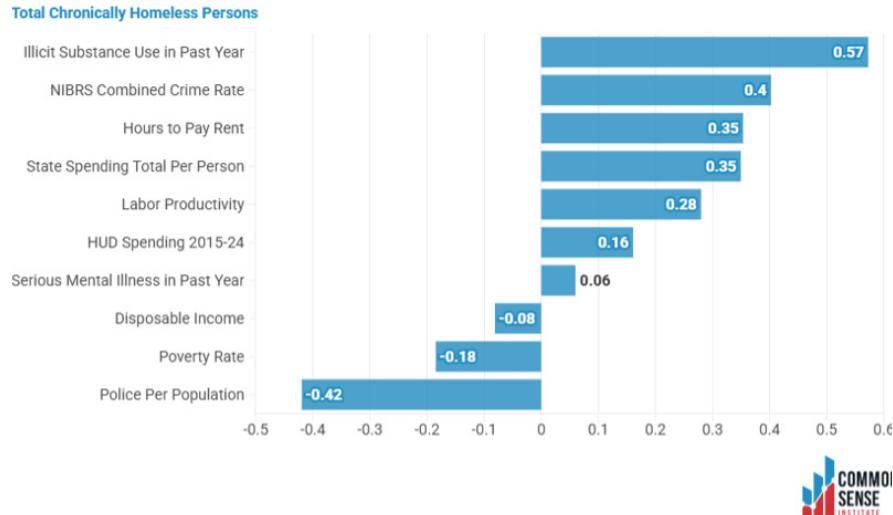
The correlations between unsheltered homelessness and all 10 variables are shown in Figure 8. The strongest are an inverse correlation between unsheltered homelessness rates and police per capita and direct correlations with hours needed to pay rent and combined crime rates.

The correlations between homeless with severe mental illness and all 10 variables are shown in Figure 9. The strongest correlations are with illicit substance abuse rates, hours to pay rent, state spending per person, and labor productivity.

The correlations between homelessness with chronic substance abuse and all 10 variables are shown on the next page. The strongest correlation is with illicit substance abuse rates, followed by rent affordability and state spending per person.

FIGURE 8.

Correlation Coefficients Between 2024 Total Unsheltered Homelessness Occurrence Rates in U.S. and 10 U.S. State Variables
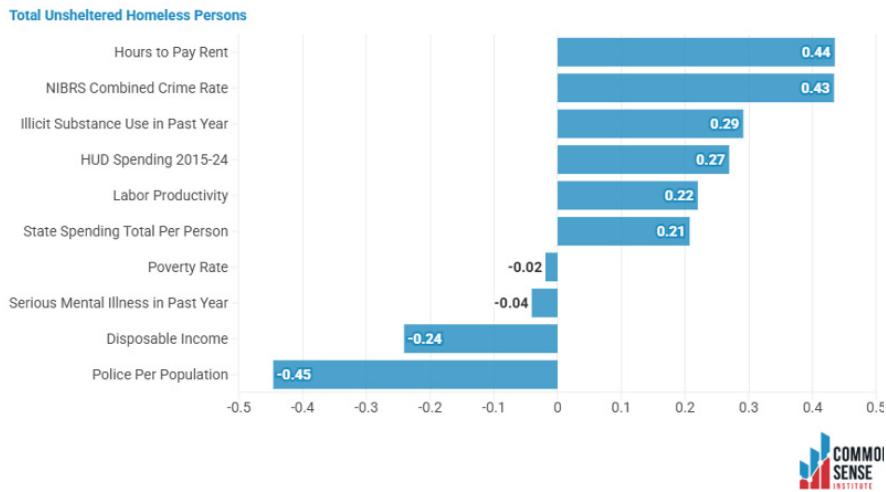
FIGURE 9.

Correlation Coefficients Between 2024 Homelessness With Severe Mental Illness in U.S. and 10 U.S. State Variables
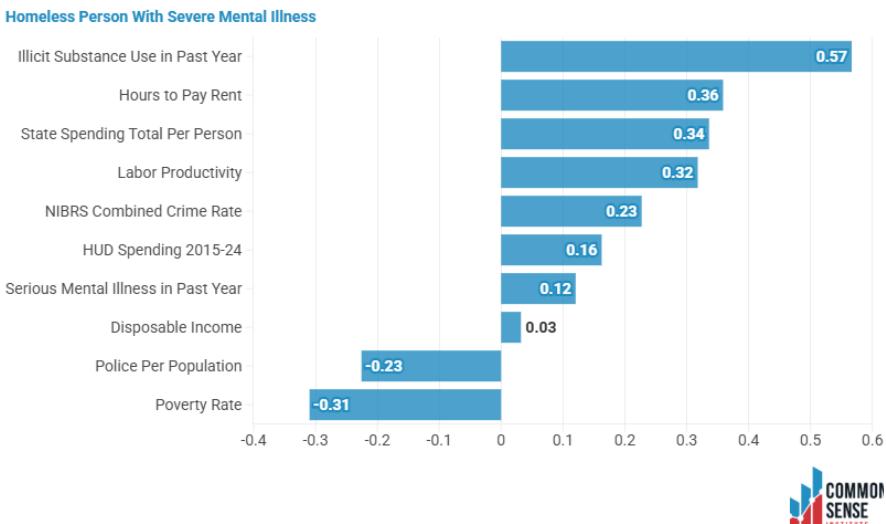
FIGURE 10.

Correlation Coefficients Between 2024 Homelessness with Chronic Substance Abuse Rates in U.S. and 10 U.S. State Variables

Homeless Persons With Chronic Substance Abuse

Variable	Value
Illicit Substance Use in Past Year	0.49
Labor Productivity	0.41
NIBRS Combined Crime Rate	0.36
State Spending Total Per Person	0.35
Hours to Pay Rent	0.34
HUD Spending 2015-24	0.18
Disposable Income	0.04
Serious Mental Illness in Past Year	-0.02
Poverty Rate	-0.24
Police Per Population	-0.35
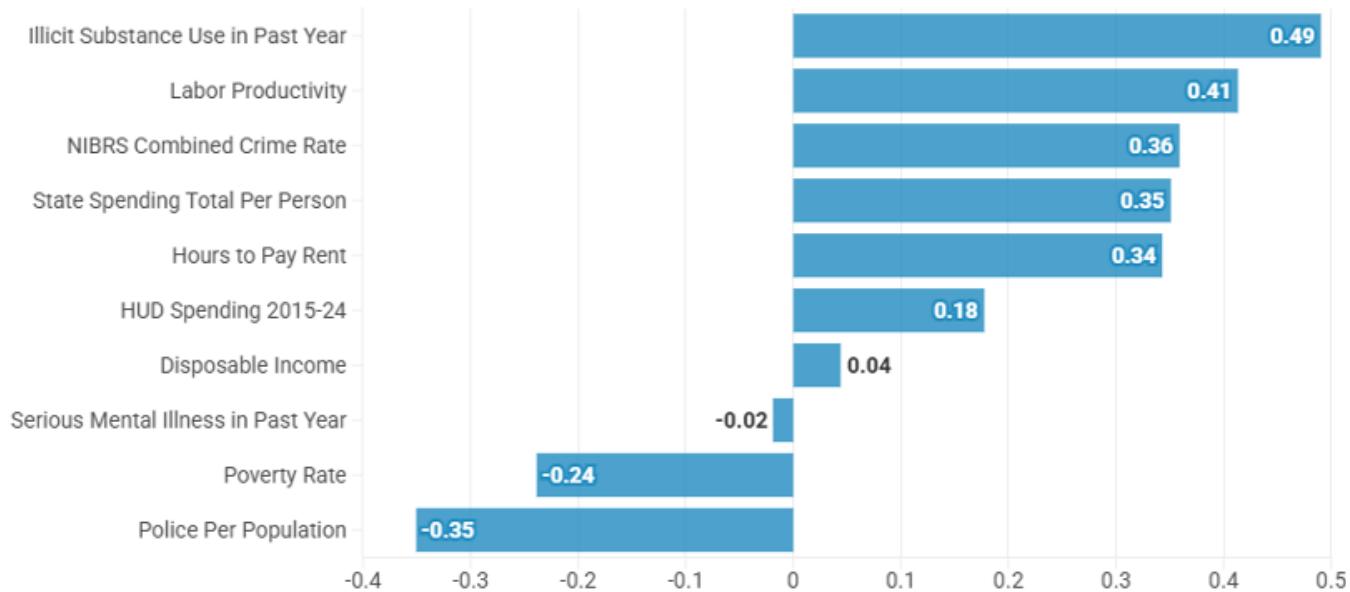
POLICY IMPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

This analysis has several important limitations; correlation does not establish causation. The relationships identified may reflect inseparable causes, reverse causation, or complex regional patterns rather than direct causal effects. For example, states with high homelessness and high state spending may both be responding to underlying economic conditions rather than spending causing homelessness. Conversely, greater statewide wealth and greater state spending levels may indicate greater access to resources for the homeless, which in turn attracts more homeless individuals to those areas or prolongs their situation.

The correlations identified in this analysis between homelessness and factors including illicit substance use, crime rates, labor productivity, and state spending—in addition to housing affordability—suggest a wider range of funding priorities may be appropriate. These models emphasize personal responsibility, sobriety, employment, and treatment as pathways to self-sufficiency. This shift would allow for more tailored, flexible local responses to diverse homelessness subtypes, such as chronic, unsheltered, or those involving mental illness and substance abuse.

This recommendation can be broken down into phases: policy reform, funding allocation, metric redefinition, and implementation oversight. This system would prioritize evidence-based approaches while addressing the limitations of the current "Housing First" dominance.

Policy Reform: Reinforce Amended HUD Guidelines that Include Work First Eligibility

The White House has expanded, through executive order, the funding priorities for HUD grants to include alternatives to housing first funding. Legislators could consider legislation or agency regulations that would encode this newly expanded funding in statute. If future administrations alter this newly expanded funding, future programs may not have the time or momentum to demonstrate effectiveness.

Diversify Funding Streams: HUD could expand its partnerships with other federal agencies, such as the Department of Labor, which oversees job placement integration and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which oversees treatment for those challenges. This move could redirect a portion of HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants to hybrid models, ensuring "Work First" programs are not excluded due to rigid sobriety or employment requirements.

Redefine Metrics of Success: Shift to Self-Sufficiency Indicators

The Colorado Department of Housing Stability could redefine performance metrics in its funding evaluations to include long-term self-sufficiency markers, such as sustained employment (e.g., six-12 months post-program), income stability above poverty thresholds, and reduced reliance on public assistance. It also should move away from short-term outputs like "number of people housed" or "meals served" to outcomes like "percentage transitioning from unhoused to self-sufficient."

BOTTOM LINE

This analysis finds that while housing affordability correlates with homelessness rates, other factors show equal or stronger correlations, including illicit substance use rates, labor productivity, and state spending levels. Factors such as statewide illicit substance abuse rates, labor productivity, state spending levels, and crime are more strongly correlated with homelessness, particularly with regard to the categories of homelessness associated with visible street homelessness.

Though housing prices and area pay scales do contribute to homelessness, understanding the wider array of factors at play paints a fuller picture of possible causes of homelessness. Drug prevalence, crime rates, labor productivity, and state spending levels all show statistical associations with homelessness rates in this analysis. As such, federal homelessness abatement funding should be available for a broad swath of programs, not just "Housing First" programs.

APPENDIX

U.S. STATE RANKINGS FOR TOTAL HOMELESSNESS SUBCATEGORY POPULATIONS

Rank Total	Total Homeless Persons	Total Chronically Homeless Persons %	Total Unsheltered Homeless Persons %	Severely Mentally Ill (Total) %	Chronic Substance Abuse (Total) %	HIV/AIDS (Total) %	Victims of Domestic Violence (Total) %	Unsheltered Chronically Homeless %	Unsheltered Severely Mentally Ill %	Unsheltered Chronic Substance Abuse %	Unsheltered HIV/AIDS %	Unsheltered Victims of Domestic Violence %
Alabama	29	32	14	43	43	26	37	22	34	30	13	25
Alaska	39	37	42	42	33	42	35	42	45	43	43	48
Arizona	10	8	6	13	8	6	12	8	9	7	29	6
Arkansas	35	24	31	41	42	23	40	21	31	32	17	27
California	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Colorado	9	7	10	7	7	17	10	6	6	5	16	7
Connecticut	34	49	38	37	40	24	20	50	38	41	29	21
Delaware	46	45	46	50	50	43	50	43	49	50	41	49
Florida	4	4	2	5	4	3	6	4	3	3	2	4
Georgia	13	20	7	14	13	7	16	13	10	13	4	13
Hawaii	15	17	13	20	17	31	23	10	11	12	29	14
Idaho	36	40	30	45	45	46	42	31	36	36	37	32
Illinois	7	9	15	10	12	5	4	23	18	15	9	12
Indiana	23	35	29	19	19	19	28	38	22	24	25	44
Iowa	40	39	43	38	36	43	32	39	40	42	46	30
Kansas	41	34	35	35	32	39	34	27	33	29	39	31
Kentucky	26	25	24	31	25	21	26	26	24	19	17	21
Louisiana	32	42	28	33	35	28	31	34	28	30	26	33
Maine	38	41	45	39	41	40	44	45	44	44	46	46
Maryland	24	27	32	26	31	21	30	33	32	33	34	26
Massachusetts	5	11	25	11	11	13	8	18	16	14	21	23
Michigan	18	23	26	23	37	26	13	29	29	37	29	28
Minnesota	19	15	21	15	23	12	19	15	14	20	24	24
Mississippi	48	49	41	49	49	28	47	44	43	47	17	40

Missouri	21	18	17	17	18	10	14	16	15	18	15	9
Montana	44	43	37	44	44	49	41	36	39	38	46	38
Nebraska	37	36	44	29	27	36	36	41	42	40	39	35
Nevada	17	10	9	21	20	25	33	7	35	34	26	34
New Hampshire	43	38	36	32	30	45	45	35	30	25	43	39
New Jersey	12	13	23	9	9	9	15	17	13	11	11	16
New Mexico	28	16	19	24	16	32	27	9	12	10	21	10
New York	2	5	8	2	3	2	2	11	7	8	6	36
North Carolina	16	14	11	18	24	16	18	14	17	22	12	19
North Dakota	49	48	48	46	48	48	47	47	47	48	46	50
Ohio	14	21	18	12	15	15	11	24	20	21	9	17
Oklahoma	25	22	20	28	21	34	22	19	19	17	28	11
Oregon	8	3	4	6	5	11	7	3	4	4	5	3
Pennsylvania	11	12	16	8	10	8	9	20	21	16	7	18
Rhode Island	42	29	39	29	34	37	46	32	27	28	35	41
South Carolina	30	28	22	36	22	14	24	25	26	23	14	15
South Dakota	47	46	47	48	46	46	43	47	48	46	43	42
Tennessee	20	19	12	16	14	18	17	12	8	9	8	8
Texas	6	6	5	4	6	4	5	5	5	6	3	5
Utah	31	30	33	22	26	19	29	28	23	26	33	29
Vermont	33	30	49	34	39	41	38	46	45	44	41	44
Virginia	22	26	27	25	28	30	21	30	25	27	36	20
Washington	3	2	3	3	2	33	3	2	2	2	21	2
West Virginia	45	44	34	40	38	35	39	37	37	35	20	37
Wisconsin	27	33	40	27	29	38	25	40	41	38	37	43
Wyoming	50	47	50	47	47	49	49	49	50	49	46	47

U.S. STATES RANKINGS FOR HOMELESS SUBCATEGORY POPULATIONS PER 100,000

Rank Per Population	Total Homeless Persons	Total Chronically Homeless Persons %	Total Unsheltered Homeless Persons %	Severely Mentally Ill (Total) %	Chronic Substance Abuse (Total) %	HIV/AIDS (Total) %	Victims of Domestic Violence (Total) %	Unsheltered Chronically Homeless %	Unsheltered Severely Mentally Ill %	Unsheltered Chronic Substance Abuse %	Unsheltered HIV/AIDS %	Unsheltered Victims of Domestic Violence %
Alabama	42	39	15	49	47	31	48	21	39	36	13	30
Alaska	8	7	11	10	5	26	3	18	25	13	39	44
Arizona	14	11	7	20	12	5	20	9	12	9	37	8
Arkansas	40	17	19	45	40	13	42	10	18	26	9	17
California	5	2	2	2	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	2
Colorado	9	10	8	7	8	27	12	7	7	6	18	7
Connecticut	38	50	46	40	42	23	13	50	44	45	22	15
Delaware	25	29	35	48	49	37	50	32	50	48	35	48
Florida	23	20	9	29	25	9	33	11	10	12	4	10
Georgia	30	41	13	36	30	10	44	25	24	28	5	26
Hawaii	1	5	3	5	4	7	5	4	2	4	7	4
Idaho	20	24	10	41	36	48	30	19	20	25	34	14
Illinois	13	21	37	30	34	4	9	41	37	33	28	29
Indiana	39	48	36	32	35	32	45	48	28	30	32	50
Iowa	47	38	49	38	37	47	28	38	41	43	46	23
Kansas	43	26	31	27	26	42	26	20	23	23	42	22
Kentucky	28	28	24	33	27	25	27	23	22	14	15	21
Louisiana	49	47	26	39	44	29	41	36	29	34	19	34
Maine	15	18	40	13	16	34	21	40	35	39	46	45
Maryland	36	40	43	35	43	30	47	44	43	42	36	36
Massachusetts	6	13	34	15	14	28	14	24	19	16	31	35
Michigan	37	45	45	47	48	40	31	46	47	49	40	43
Minnesota	18	16	25	19	32	11	24	13	14	18	24	33
Mississippi	50	49	44	50	50	20	49	49	48	50	8	41
Missouri	26	23	22	22	29	6	15	16	16	21	17	9
Montana	16	14	16	18	15	49	11	12	13	17	46	13
Nebraska	21	19	48	12	11	24	18	33	31	31	38	18
Nevada	10	6	5	14	13	19	32	6	27	29	14	32
New Hampshire	17	12	20	8	10	44	23	14	8	8	43	24
New Jersey	22	30	41	17	17	12	39	31	26	19	20	31
New Mexico	12	8	6	9	7	16	8	5	5	5	6	5
New York	2	22	29	11	18	1	7	34	34	27	21	47

North Carolina	33	33	21	43	45	36	46	28	33	38	30	40
North Dakota	31	42	33	28	33	46	22	39	36	41	46	49
Ohio	35	44	39	31	38	38	35	43	38	37	27	38
Oklahoma	24	15	14	21	22	35	19	15	9	11	26	6
Oregon	3	1	1	4	3	3	1	2	3	3	2	1
Pennsylvania	32	35	38	23	28	15	38	37	40	35	23	42
Rhode Island	11	9	17	6	9	8	16	8	6	7	10	19
South Carolina	46	34	27	46	31	21	34	30	32	24	16	12
South Dakota	19	37	32	42	24	43	10	42	46	40	41	20
Tennessee	27	27	12	26	23	33	29	17	11	10	12	11
Texas	41	36	23	37	39	22	40	26	30	32	11	27
Utah	29	25	28	16	21	17	25	27	15	22	25	25
Vermont	4	4	30	1	6	18	2	29	21	20	29	28
Virginia	48	46	42	44	46	39	43	45	42	46	45	37
Washington	7	3	4	3	1	41	6	3	4	2	33	3
West Virginia	34	31	18	24	20	14	17	22	17	15	3	16
Wisconsin	45	43	50	34	41	45	37	47	49	47	44	46
Wyoming	44	32	47	25	19	49	36	35	45	44	46	39

SOURCES

i.   Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration

ii.   https://www.samhsa.gov/data/data-we-collect/nsduh-national-survey-drug-use-and-health/state-releases

iii.   U.S. Department of Justice (FBI Crime Explorer)

iv.   Zillow, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, CSI calculations

v.   U.S. Census Bureau

vi.   U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

vii.   https://www.hudexchange.info/GRANTEES/ALLOCATIONS-AWARDS/?na=100&start=6

viii.   Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration

ix.   https://www.samhsa.gov/data/data-we-collect/nsduh-national-survey-drug-use-and-health/state-releases

x.   U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

xi.   U.S. Census Bureau

xii.   U.S. Department of Justice (FBI Crime Explorer)