

Recovery housing in Los Angeles County: the facts

What recovery residences are, how many people in Los Angeles County need substance use treatment, overdose and homelessness trends, and what research says about outcomes.

KEY FINDINGS

1.64M

About 1.64 million Los Angeles County residents ages 12 and older, or 17%, are affected by a substance use disorder.

LA County Public Health, SAPC Strategic Plan 2023 to 2028

5%

Only about 5% of Los Angeles County Medi-Cal members with a substance use disorder are receiving the treatment they need.

LA County Public Health, SAPC Strategic Plan 2023 to 2028

2,298

Los Angeles County recorded 2,298 accidental overdose and poisoning deaths in 2025, down nearly 30% from the 2022 peak of 3,220.

LA County Department of Public Health, 2026

73,040

The January 2026 count found 73,040 people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County, up 1.2% from 2025.

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, 2026

40%

Drug overdose caused 40% of the 2,208 deaths among people experiencing homelessness in the county in 2024, the leading cause.

LA County Department of Public Health, 2026

31% vs 65%

In a randomized trial, 31% of people placed in recovery homes reported substance use at two years, compared with 65% in usual aftercare.

Jason and colleagues, American Journal of Public Health, 2006

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<https://blackburnrecoveryservices.com/recovery-housing-los-angeles-county-facts/>

SOURCES

LA County Department of Public Health: SAPC Strategic Plan 2023 to 2028; overdose release, June 25, 2026; homeless mortality release, March 10, 2026; Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, 2026 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count (July 2026); SAMHSA, recovery housing best practices (2018 and 2023); Jason et al., AJPH 2006; Mericle et al., J Subst Abuse Treat 2019; Reif et al., Psychiatric Services 2014. Full method, tables and links: <https://blackburnrecoveryservices.com/recovery-housing-los-angeles-county-facts/>