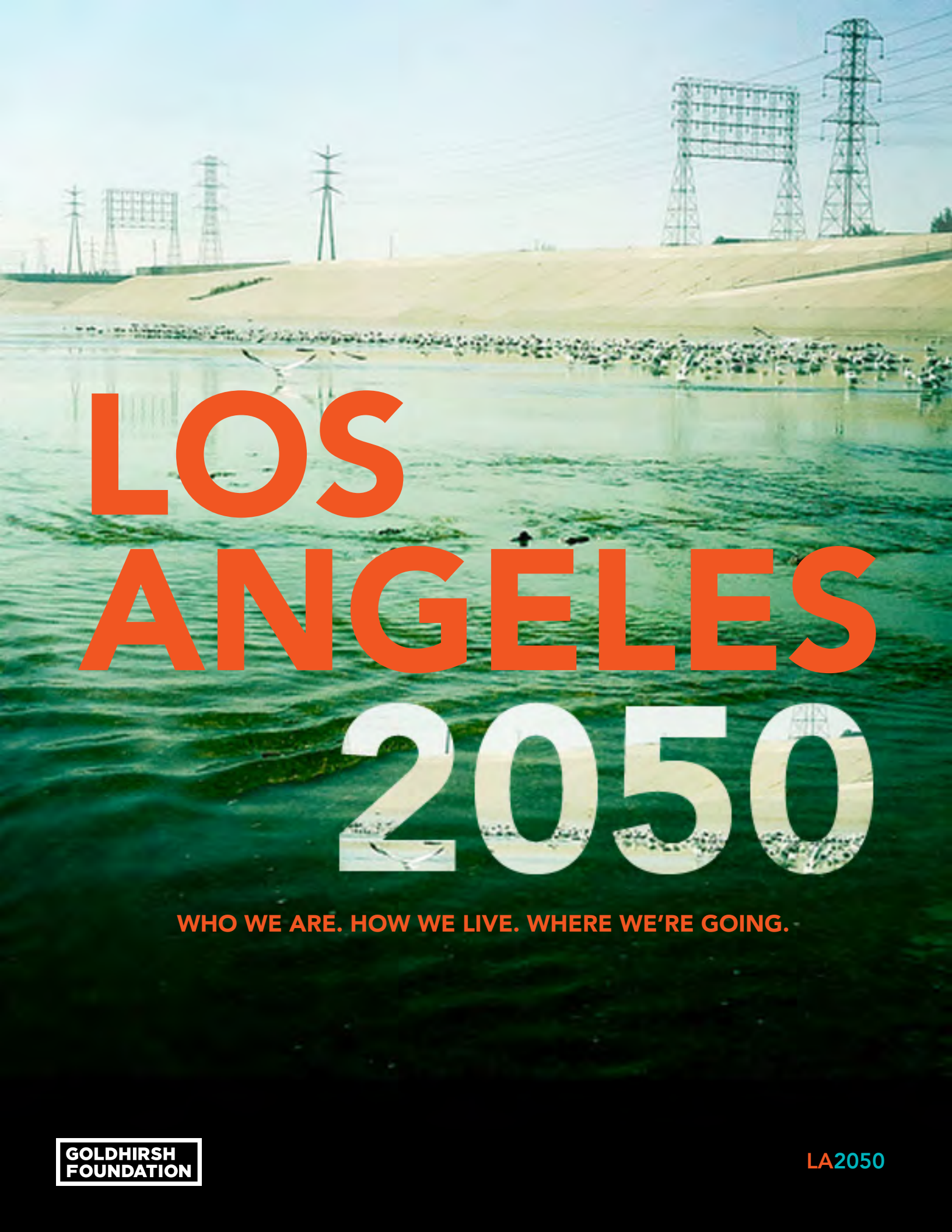


LOS ANGELES 2050

WHO WE ARE. HOW WE LIVE. WHERE WE'RE GOING.

GOLDHIRSH FOUNDATION

LA2050

LA2050
IS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF LOS ANGELES

It is a project rooted in a vision of a successful region – one that is a healthy, thriving, and desirable place to live. It provides the framework to harness the area's untapped potential, and it lays out a roadmap to create a metropolis that boasts a robust middle class. It foresees an environment that fosters innovation and embraces creativity. And, in the end, it promotes a future where people are deeply engaged in building and shaping their region.

THE GOAL OF LA2050 IS TO STIMULATE AN OUTBREAK OF IDEALISM THAT STRENGTHENS CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, CHALLENGES THE STATUS QUO, AND DEMANDS MORE FOR THE FUTURE OF LOS ANGELES.

ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

LA2050 tells the story of Los Angeles using eight indicators that paint a comprehensive picture of the region. Social scientists, economists, and political leaders are moving beyond traditional measures of economic health to assess the vibrancy of cities.[1] The field is embracing broader measures of human development* and well-being – and so are we.

Based on a comprehensive review of the most recent literature on human development, we have selected eight indicators that form the basis of our analysis. We looked to organizations that are known for conducting innovative social science research, including the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)[2], Brookings Institution[3], the United Way[4], the American Human Development Project[5], and the Glasgow Indicators Project[6]. In addition, we consulted with the LA2050 Academic Advisory Committee to ensure that we identified the most relevant measures. Based on these inputs, this document focuses on the following eight indicators:

*Human development focuses on the "enlargement of the range of people's choices" that allow them to lead full lives. This definition expands on international development approaches that emphasize meeting basic human needs and rely on economic growth as a performance criterion.

From: Streeten, P. (1995). Human Development: Means and Ends. *The Pakistan Development Review*, (34(4): 346

EDUCATION

Evidence that students are engaged in a learning process that adequately prepares them to contribute their skills, talents, and abilities to society.

INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

Evidence of Angelenos' economic self-sufficiency.

HOUSING

Evidence of access to and the affordability of housing.

HEALTH

Evidence of residents' health status and their ability to access health care.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Properties and characteristics of the local environment that have measurable impacts on the life, health, and well-being of Angelenos and their environs.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Evidence of Angelenos' exposure to crime and evidence that residents perceive their environment as safe.

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS

Evidence of individual and collective engagement in actions designed to identify and address issues of social well-being.

ARTS AND CULTURAL VITALITY

"Evidence of creating, disseminating, validating and supporting arts and culture as a dimension of everyday life in communities."[7]

TRANSPORTATION: Why it isn't an indicator

Many of LA2050's supporters, contributors, and advisors have questioned the omission of transportation as a key indicator in this document. Before this report was authored, we had every intention of including transportation as a measure of well-being, given its importance in shaping how people experience their environs. We assumed that a robust transportation network that provides residents with a bevy of mobility options would be a key indicator of quality of life. However, an exhaustive literature review and consultation with transportation experts did not support these assumptions. It turns out that transportation is not a key indicator of human well-being.

LA2050 Academic Advisor and transportation expert Dr. Martin Wachs suggests that transportation should be contextualized as a means to an end. It's hard to measure the quality of life by calculating transportation costs or the amount of time spent in congestion. Instead, we should look at transportation as a means to achieving other goals. For instance, transportation affects access to health care, housing, jobs, education, and other services.

No one moves to a place because it has a stellar transportation system. People live where they do because they want to get a quality education, a good job, an affordable home, and maintain (or build new) social ties. Transportation helps accomplish these goals.

In this context, a great transportation network in and of itself doesn't say much about the health of a region. Indeed, a robust transportation system is often the outgrowth of a healthy and thriving environment. While we recognize the centrality of transportation as a facilitator of human well-being, it does not meet the threshold to be considered an indicator in this report.

LA2050 REPORT

WHO WE ARE. HOW WE LIVE. WHERE WE'RE GOING.

This report documents the LA region in the present and forms a framework to craft an informed vision for the future. It is an assessment of Los Angeles as we know it now. It examines who we are, it describes how we live, and it projects where we're going if we continue on our current path. We conducted a thorough literature review and consulted with the LA2050 Academic Advisory Committee to establish a snapshot of Los Angeles.

LA2050: Together Shaping the Future of Los Angeles

VISION FOR A SUCCESSFUL LA.

We believe in the power of Angelenos to shape the future of our region. We aim to ignite the creativity and passion of Angelenos to make LA's story one of hope for all. If we don't like what the projections are saying about our future, then we as citizens, organizations, stakeholders, and policymakers can work together towards a more successful Los Angeles – one that empowers us and takes full advantage of the potential our region holds. With your help, together we will put Los Angeles on a path to vibrancy. Please join us.

www.LA2050.org

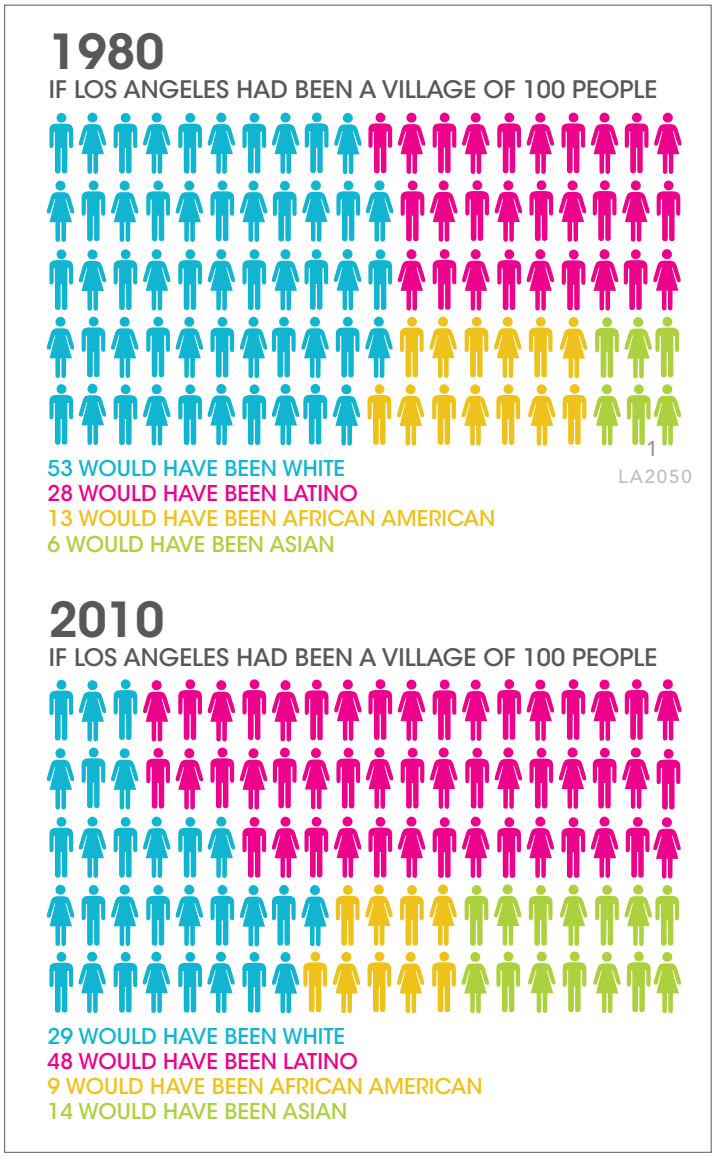
WITH THAT,
LET'S LAUNCH INTO THE NARRATIVE OF

The story of Los Angeles is a story of hope.

It's a story of resilience in the face of adversity, but it's also a story of neglect. It's a story of almost incomprehensible disparity, of unequal and uneven access, of dreams denied and opportunity deferred.

And, still, it's a story of hope.

This is WHO WE ARE.



Myers, D. (2011). *The Future Demographic Outlook of Los Angeles.* Population Dynamics Research Group, Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA.

With over 9.8 million residents, Los Angeles County is the most populous county in the U.S.[8] Home to the largest city in California and the second largest in the United States, the county's population would make it the eighth largest state in the nation.[9] With more than a quarter of the state's labor force, it employs over 4.3 million people. The region is "the largest manufacturing center in the U.S.,"[10] employing more than 380,000 workers in that sector alone.[11]

It is one of the most diverse regions in the country. Latinos are the largest racial/ethnic group[12] and over 57 percent of the population speaks a language other than English. That's more than double the figure for the nation as a whole, where just 20 percent of the population speaks a second language.[13] Although the county represents just three percent of the U.S. population, it is home to 17 percent of the nation's Koreans, 14 percent of its Mexicans, 14 percent of its Filipinos, 13 percent of its Chinese, and 13 percent of its Japanese.[14]

The region's recent history has been characterized by population swells and rapid shifts in the area's racial and ethnic makeup. After World War II, the region's population growth was fueled by migration from other states. This led to a relatively youthful, largely white populace. As migration from U.S. states began to dwindle in the 1970s, international immigration surged. This effectively caused an upheaval in the area's ethnic and racial makeup. And that shift came to define the latter part of the 20th Century.[15]

Now the demographic shifts and population surges have tempered. The racial and ethnic composition of Los Angeles has not been changing as rapidly due to reduced immigration. What is evident today is that the immigrant population that propelled the area's growth in recent decades is becoming more deeply settled, and they're rearing a new generation of California natives.[16]

Racial and Ethnic Make-Up

In terms of race and ethnicity, Los Angeles has no single ethnic group that forms a majority. Latinos account for nearly 48 percent of the population; whites make up about 29 percent of the populace; Asian and Pacific Islanders are 14 percent of the population; and African Americans constitute about 9 percent of the county's residents.[17]

Our Origins

As noted above, Los Angeles' history has been largely shaped by migration and immigration. During the 1950s and 60s "roughly half of Californians were drawn from other states."[18] When domestic migration slowed in the decades that followed, foreign immigration became the state's growth engine.[19] By 2000, more than 35 percent of the county's residents were foreign-born, up from 11 percent just three decades earlier. In the same year, Los Angeles had also become the "nation's major immigrant port of entry, supplanting New York City."[20]

Today, in-migration to California is slowing, and Los Angeles County mirrors that trend. The number of native Californians is increasing as a proportion of the populace. California natives haven't made up such a large portion of the state's residents since 1900.[21] Today, the county's California-born population is 49 percent, while the foreign-born figure remains at 35 percent. However, the proportion of residents from other states has dropped to below 16 percent.[22]

Aging Population

Historically, Los Angeles has been relatively youthful when compared to the nation[23], but the region's populace is aging. With the ebbing tide of migrants into the county, there is no longer a steady stream of young adults to replace the influx from previous generations. Between 2000 and 2010, the proportion of children (aged 0-17) shrunk by more than 5 percent. Los Angeles lost 10 percent of its children between the ages of five and nine, representing the largest decline of any age group.[24]

In the same decade, the proportion of young adults (aged 18-34) shrank slightly, to just over 26 percent of the population. Meanwhile, the proportion of middle-aged adults (aged 35-64) grew, inching toward the 40 percent mark. The proportion of older adults (aged 65+) rose incrementally in the same timeframe, to just over 10 percent of area residents.[25]

While our population remains relatively youthful, the Los Angeles region is on the cusp of a shift. Mirroring the national trend of a rapidly aging population, we're beginning to see losses in the region's child and young adult age groups.[26] The decline in the young adult population will significantly affect the region. This age group is "crucial to the future of Los Angeles because they represent the new workers, new parents, new housing consumers, new taxpayers, and new voters."[27] How this population changes in light of reduced domestic migration and international immigration is pivotal.

Today's policies will have far-reaching implications since the next generation of adults are the young California-natives who are now working their way through the region's educational, health care, and social welfare systems.

These aspects of who we are as a region are determinants of who we will be. They influence what we can and cannot accomplish in the future. We're numerous. We're diverse. We're aging. We're increasingly native Californians. That's Los Angeles today and it sets the stage for the future.

Now that we understand who we are, we can explore **HOW WE LIVE.**

In Los Angeles, how we live is largely a product of who we are. In many cases, race, income, and geography dictate how residents experience Los Angeles.

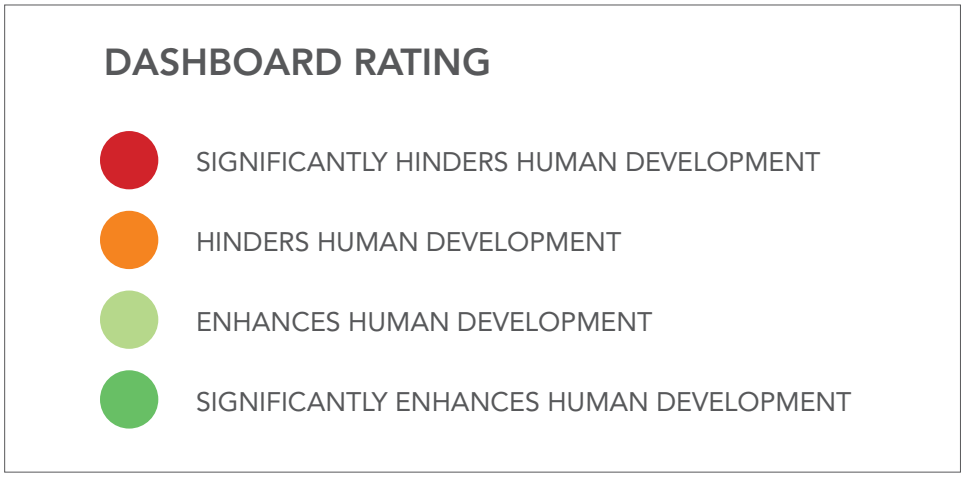
The county has large swaths of concentrated poverty, particularly in central Los Angeles and near the ports complexes.[28] For residents in these areas, life in Los Angeles presents a host of challenges. The communities of color that reside in low-income neighborhoods are faced with dismal job prospects; unemployment rates for Latinos and African Americans are consistently higher than the countywide average.[29] Families struggling to get by have no choice but to enroll their children in the underfunded[30] and underperforming[31] public school system. Park space is scarce[32] and healthy food options are few and far between, so rates of obesity and chronic disease are more prevalent.[33] To boot, these Angelenos are exposed to the worst air in the region, further deteriorating their health.[34]

On the other end of the spectrum, Los Angeles has relatively large areas of concentrated wealth. The top 20 percent of households earn more than the bottom 80 percent combined.[35] Emerging from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, the job market is still challenging, but the unemployment rate among the county's white and Asian communities is significantly lower than those for African Americans and Latinos.[36] Families with high incomes have the option of sending their children to private schools, avoiding the dysfunction of the public school system. Park space is concentrated near higher-income neighborhoods[37] and healthy food options are plentiful.[38] Not surprisingly, relatively wealthy places like Santa Monica and Los Angeles' Westside have the lowest obesity rates in the county.[39]

Los Angeles is a region where opportunities are constrained for many segments of the population, including those families in the Gateway Cities or in the San Gabriel Valley who are finding affordable housing increasingly out of reach,[40] the two million residents scattered throughout the county who lack health insurance,[41] or the 3 in 5 students countywide who aren't prepared for college because they didn't (or couldn't) complete the necessary coursework.[42]

As this report delves into how Angelenos live, the theme of access and opportunity will surface time and time again. We'll find that in Los Angeles, who you are, where you live, and how much money you make is a strong predictor of your fate.

Based on our analysis, we've created a dashboard that provides a snapshot of the LA area today. Each of the indicators is assigned one of four colors (red, orange, light green, or green) based on its impact on human development in Los Angeles. The rating system is as follows:



The ratings were informed by our research and in consultation with the LA2050 Academic Advisory Committee. To be clear, they are not meant to imply any numeric calculation or weighted score. They are based on the available data and provide only a high-level overview of each of the eight indicators.

We should note that these ratings will vary substantially within the county because of varying demographic, socioeconomic, and geographic factors. In the county's affluent communities, most of these indicators would earn much higher ratings. In the poorest neighborhoods, many would receive the lowest designation. The dashboard provides a snapshot of where Los Angeles stands today as a whole, but it doesn't account for the vast diversity of experiences that characterize the region. That said, it is a simple reference point against which we can chart the LA that we'd like to see in 2050.

Education
FACT SHEET

DASHBOARD RATING
Significant impediment to human development

Education received the lowest rating, meaning that it is a significant impediment to human development. This outcome was based on the fact that the public school system in Los Angeles is failing many of its students. Graduation rates are low and too many kids throughout the county are not completing the necessary college preparatory coursework. Enrollment and investment in high-quality preschool is also lacking. On top of this, continued cuts at the state level are making a bad situation worse. Given that education is such a fundamental aspect of human development with far-reaching effects, the stark disparity in educational opportunities for the county's students is unacceptable.

KEY FINDINGS:

- LA County has 1,808,227 students; 175,800 are in private school; 1,632,427 attend public school.[44]
- There are 80 school districts in LA County. Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) is the largest in the state and the second largest in the nation.[45]
- LAUSD has about 670,000 students enrolled in 1,235 K-12 schools, centers, and charter schools.[46]
- The LAUSD high school student body is 75 percent Latino, 9 percent African American, 4 percent Asian, 9 percent white and 3 percent Filipino. 74 percent of this cohort is economically disadvantaged.[47]
- Overall, 48 percent of LAUSD's high school students are proficient in English and Language Arts; 46 percent are proficient in Math.
- High school students scoring "proficient" or "advanced" in English and Language Arts (ELA) and Math (M) by race[48]:
  Asian: 76 percent (ELA)/ 80 percent (M)
  White: 74 percent (ELA)/70 percent (M)
  Filipino: 64 percent (ELA)/61 percent (M)
  Latino: 43 percent (ELA)/41 percent (M)
  African American: 43 percent (ELA)/32 percent (M)
  Pacific Islander: 21 percent (ELA)/20 percent (M)
- In 2011 the overall Academic Performance Index (API) score for Los Angeles Unified School district was 728, a 19-point increase from 2010. It was the largest increase of any urban school district in California, but it still fell short of the 800-point target.[49]
- The increase in API scores district-wide obscures the disparities along racial/ethnic lines. API scores by race[50]
  White: 849
  African American: 663
  Latino: 686
  Low-income: 691
- The LAUSD graduation rate for 2009-2010 was 64.2 percent. The statewide graduation rate was 74.4 percent.[51] The nationwide graduation rate was 71.7 percent.[52]
- Countywide, just 2 in 5 students complete the necessary college preparatory coursework.[53]
- In LAUSD only 22 percent "of all 9th graders graduate four years" after completing A-G college preparatory coursework. Only 16 percent of Latino 9th graders graduated after completing the A-G coursework.[54]
- More than a quarter of children in Los Angeles are enrolled in afterschool programs, compared to 19 percent at the state and 15 percent at the national level.[55]

METRICS[43]

(1) test scores, (2) high school completion and drop rates, (3) college-going rates, (4) preschool participation, and (5) afterschool and summer school enrichment programs.

Let's start with
EDUCATION

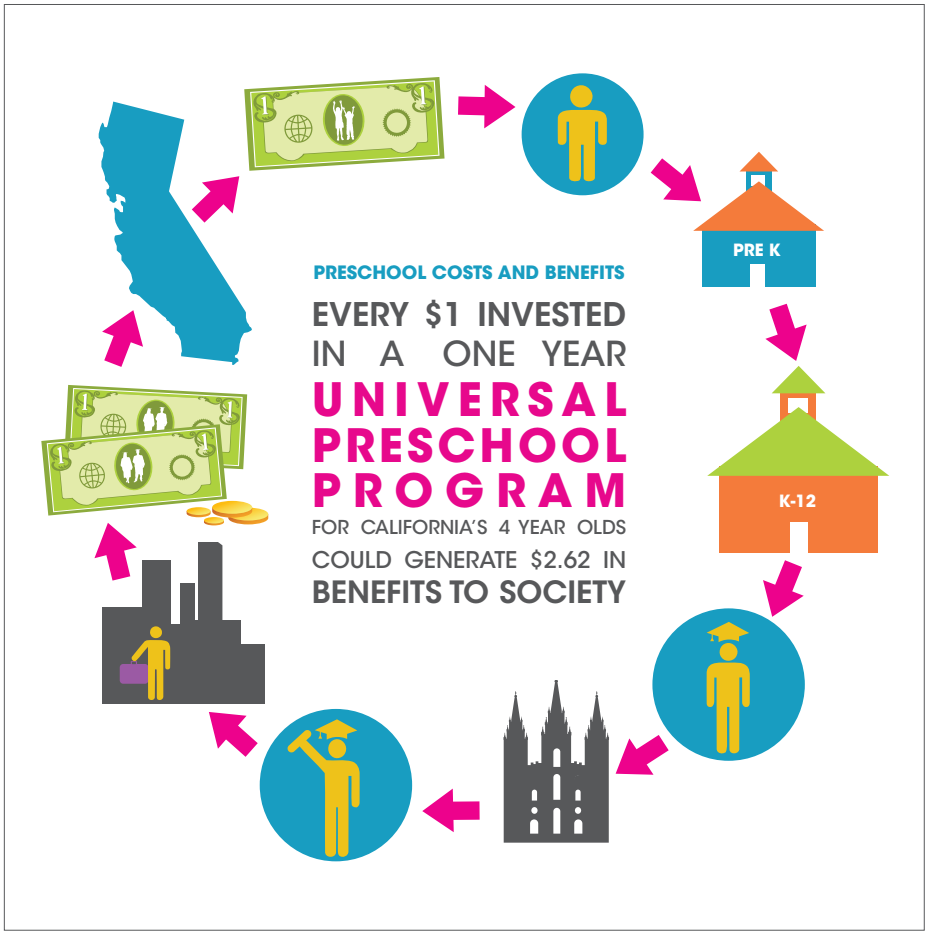
It's a "basic need and important aspiration of people."[56] A well-educated Angeleno is less likely to be unemployed and more likely to earn higher wages. She is more likely to report improved health and less likely to suffer from chronic disease. She is more inclined to be an engaged member of the community, and less likely to commit crime. She also relies less on social assistance. Collectively, better educated Angelenos lead to "higher GDP growth, higher tax revenues and lower social expenditures."[57] In short, an effective education system benefits us all. Unfortunately, public education in Los Angeles falls short.

Too few of our kids are enrolled in high quality pre-school education programs.
Too many aren't making it to their senior year of high school.

For every dollar spent on the provision of high quality, universal pre-school, the state of California would net more than two dollars in economic benefits.[58]

But forget the statewide benefits for a moment; the estimated effects on Los Angeles County alone are impressive. Providing one year of pre-school funding keeps more than 4,000 kids from being held back a grade; it shrinks the special education cohort by nearly 3,000 kids; it decreases the ranks of high school dropouts by 3,200 students; and more than 2,300 kids will avoid the juvenile court system.[59] By investing money up front, the state can save millions on special education, remedial instruction, and the criminal justice system.

Despite the obvious payback on investment, the state's continuing budget woes have led to steadily reduced funding for these programs.



RAND Corporation (2005). *The Effects of Universal Preschool Programs in California: Estimates for Los Angeles County.* Santa Monica, CA.

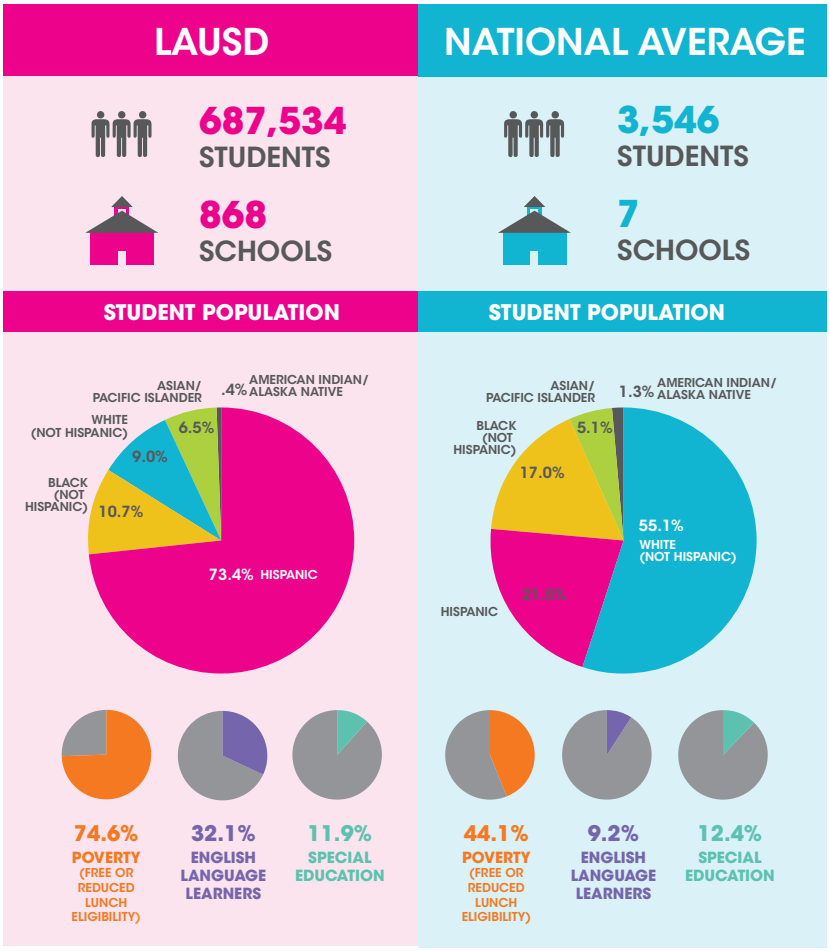
California's 2011-12 budget reduced funding for early childcare and early learning programs by 15 percent. At the same time, Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation to reallocate one billion dollars from the state's First 5 programs.[60] Funded by a cigarette sales tax, First 5 provides "education, health services, childcare, and other crucial programs."[61] Cutting First 5's funding, coupled with the overall reduction of state programs, means that some 28,000 kids statewide will be unable to attend pre-school.[62]

The cuts to investment in children's education and health will likely continue as California grapples with ongoing structural deficits. Governor Brown's proposed 2012-2013 budget would permanently eliminate funds for transitional kindergarten[63], a "program designed to serve children not ready for regular kindergarten."[64] The program was enacted after lawmakers passed a law that mandated an earlier cutoff age for kindergarten. The transitional kindergarten program was intended to assist "low-income families that could not easily afford private pre-kindergarten programs."[65] Brown's budget proposal "would eliminate 71,000 child care positions" statewide.[66]

This has the broad effect of making early education a luxury that is available only to those who can afford it. In Los Angeles County, less than one-fifth of pre-school aged children are enrolled in early education programs[67], depriving many children of a much-needed leg-up when they enter the public school system.

LAUSD GRADUATION REPORT

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



Editorial Projects in Education (2011). Education Week Maps. School District Graduation Report. Bethesda, MD.

For K-12 education, this report focuses on the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). Its sheer scale and influence in the region are undeniable and its impacts are far-reaching.

LAUSD is the largest district in the state and the second largest in the nation. It serves more than 670,000 students.[68] That's enough kids to fill Dodger Stadium, the Hollywood Bowl, the Staples Center, the Greek Amphitheater, the Rose Bowl, and the Coliseum.

Seven in 10 students are Latino, 6 in 10 will graduate, and fully one quarter will not finish high school.[69] For those of you keeping count, that's over 20,000 Angelenos entering the modern economy every year and competing without a high school degree.[70]

But even that statistic obscures a reality that is much more bleak. Only six in ten Latino students complete high school. African Americans and Pacific Islanders are almost as likely to dropout as they are to graduate; their graduation rates are 57 and 56 percent, respectively.[71]

That's not promising. And, yet, there is reason for hope. Enrollment in afterschool programs is a surprising bright spot in Los Angeles. Small-scale experiments in magnet, charter, and other locally controlled schools are creating islands of excellence in an otherwise underperforming system, helping the district achieve incremental improvements in test scores.

A sizeable portion of Los Angeles students are enrolled in afterschool programs. With 27 percent of kids (about 175,400 students) participating in these enrichment programs, the area outpaces the state (19 percent) and national (15 percent) averages. LA "stands out as a solid provider of afterschool programs for kids."[72] This feat was accomplished largely because of deliberate policy decisions made at the state level. California's After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program, the result of a voter-approved initiative, has some $550 million in dedicated funding.[73] The program "funds local afterschool education and enrichment programs throughout California," providing "tutoring and additional learning opportunities for students in kindergarten through ninth grade."[74]

In addition, parents in Los Angeles demonstrate a "high degree of support for afterschool programs in the city." Eighty six percent are in favor of public funding for these programs and nearly 90 percent would like to see public funding for summer learning programs. More than 220,000 children (34 percent of students) in Los Angeles participate in summer learning programs, again outpacing state (27 percent) and national (25 percent) figures.[75]

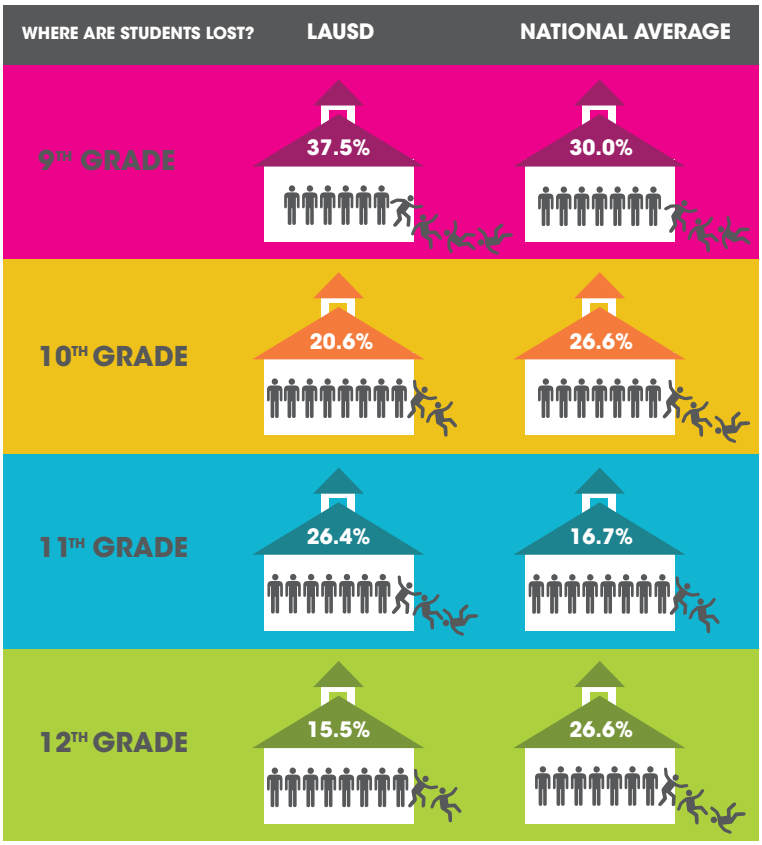
Californians' commitment to supporting education will be tested in the near future. Governor Jerry Brown's 2012-2013 budget calls for another $4.8 billion in cuts from K-12 education if voters fail to approve tax hikes in November, amounting to a three week reduction in the school year.[76] LAUSD alone has suffered $2.3 billion in cuts over the last four years.[77]

In spite of this, public schools stand to gain if voters approve tax hikes in November of 2012. California's K-12 education and community colleges "would gain roughly $5 billion in funding each year" if a temporary half-cent sales tax increase and a surtax on individual incomes above $250,000 are approved.[78] It helps that the majority (53 percent) of Californians are concerned about the "potential effects of automatic spending cuts on K-12 education."[79]

GRADUATION PIPELINE CLASS OF 2009

PERCENT OF STUDENTS LOST BY GRADE

Details may not sum to 100% due to rounding.



Editorial Projects in Education (2011). Education Week Maps. School District Graduation Report. Bethesda, MD.

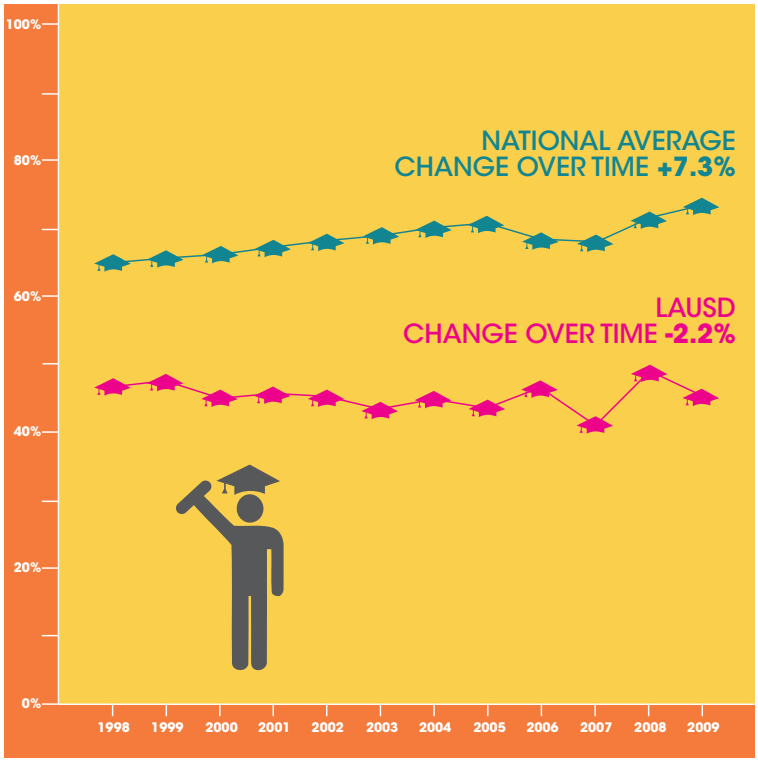
LAUSD has seen incremental improvements in test scores, reporting the largest one-year improvement among large urban school districts in the state.[80] Overall, the district reported a single-year gain of 19 points on the state's academic performance index (API). It earned an average score of 728, falling short of the 800-point target. Just over 200 LAUSD schools met or exceeded that goal, representing an increase of 36 schools over the previous year. But those 200-odd schools account for only one-fourth of all LAUSD schools.[81] So while the district's scores are improving, the overwhelming majority of LAUSD students are attending underperforming schools. Furthermore, the district-wide scores hide disparities that fall along racial and ethnic lines. While LAUSD's white students have a collective API score of 862 (well above the target), Latino students scored just 707, and African American pupils fared worse still, with a score of 678.[82]

The reality is that LAUSD students are left with few options. Many of them are inadequately prepared for college, vocational school, or the workforce.[83] Countywide, just 2 in 5 students complete the necessary college preparatory coursework. That number drops to just 1 in 5 for African American and Latino males. Most distressingly, in LAUSD, low-income students of color tend to be offered fewer college preparatory classes when "compared to their affluent, white and Asian counterparts across town."[84] This only perpetuates a long-established economic system that divides Los Angeles into haves and have-nots.

GRADUATION ANALYSIS

GRADUATION RATE FOR ALL STUDENTS, CLASS OF 2009

LAUSD **45.8%** | NATIONAL AVERAGE **73.4%**



Editorial Projects in Education (2011). Education Week Maps. School District Graduation Report. Bethesda, MD.

Which brings us to INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT.

Income and Employment
FACT SHEET

DASHBOARD RATING
Hinders human development

Income and Employment was deemed to be a hindrance to human development, earning an orange on our scale. Los Angeles' bifurcated economic system creates a society of haves and have-nots. Too many families are struggling to get by, and the persistently high unemployment rate is making the region a less attractive place to settle.

KEY FINDINGS:

- More than 12.5 million Americans are looking for work[86] and there were only 3.7 million job openings.[87] The national unemployment rate is hovering at 8.1 percent.[88]
- At the end of 2012, there were 18.3 million people in the California labor force, with 16.4 million people employed, 2.9 million unemployed, and an unemployment rate of 8.1 percent.[89]
- LA County's unemployment rate topped the national and state figures, with a rate of 12.2 percent.[90]
- Unemployment rates for African American and Latinos are the highest among any ethnic group. In Los Angeles County the unemployment rate for African Americans and Latinos is 21 percent and 14 percent, respectively.[91]
- "Workers under 25 years of age have the highest under-employment rate of any labor force group – 37.9% in LA County, 36.0% in California, and 27.3% in the U.S."[92]
- In 2011, the median income in California was $57,287.[93] In LA County the figure was $70,100.[94]
- Of the 265 neighborhoods in Los Angeles County, Bel Air has the highest median income at $207,938 and Downtown has the lowest median income at $15,003.[95]
- In 2008, 45 percent of the county's households did not earn enough to cover basic expenses (i.e., an income of less than $52,184 for a family of four); 3 percent of households had just enough income to cover necessities (income between $52,184 and $56,768); 52 percent of households had enough income to live comfortably (income above $66,768).[96]
- Los Angeles has a higher poverty rate (17.5 percent)[97] than the nation (15.1 percent)[98] and the state (16.3 percent).[99]
- In LA County, to support a family's basic needs:
  A single parent household with two kids must make $68,714.
  A two-parent household with only one parent working with two kids must make $61,706.
  A two-working parents household with two kids must make $76,614.
  A single adult household must maintain a minimum salary of $30,496.[100]

METRICS[85]

(1) employment & unemployment rates, (2) household income, (3) poverty rates and, (4) family supportive wages.

INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

Income expands "people's consumption possibilities, providing them with the resources to satisfy their needs."[101] By extension, wealth protects us from "unexpected shocks that could lead to poverty and destitution."[102] Armed with a sufficient education, an Angeleno with adequate income is more likely to be in better health. He is more likely to live in a safe neighborhood. And he is more likely to report higher life satisfaction.[103]

As a corollary, the availability of well-paying jobs allows individuals to fulfill their "ambitions, to develop skills and abilities, to feel useful in society and to build self-esteem."[104] Collectively, high employment levels create societies that are "richer, more politically stable and healthier."[105]

For many Angelenos, well-paying jobs are elusive. Too many families are struggling to get by on too little income.

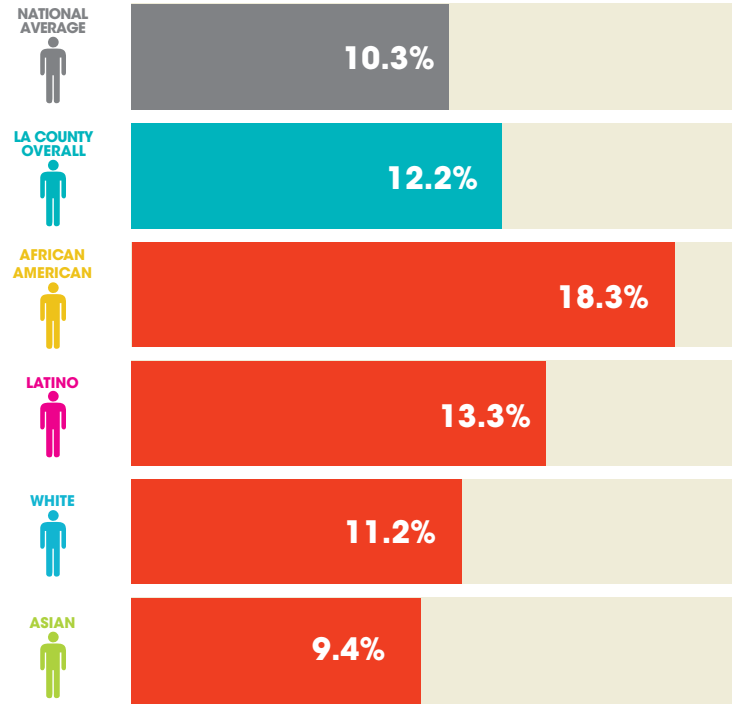
The "Great Recession," or whatever history will call it, has had an especially strong effect on Los Angeles. The region's reliance on the industry that constructs and sells housing has amplified the effects of the recession, creating a grim economic climate. Employment in the state "won't return to pre-recession levels until 2014, and construction employment won't reach those levels until at least 2021."[106]

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY RACE

LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE HAS SURPASSED THE NATIONAL AVERAGE

SINCE THE MIDDLE OF 2008 WITH MORE THAN ONE TENTH OF THE WORKFORCE SEEKING EMPLOYMENT. THE STORY IS WORSE FOR THE COUNTRY'S SIZEABLE COMMUNITIES OF COLOR.

PERCENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN L.A. COUNTY



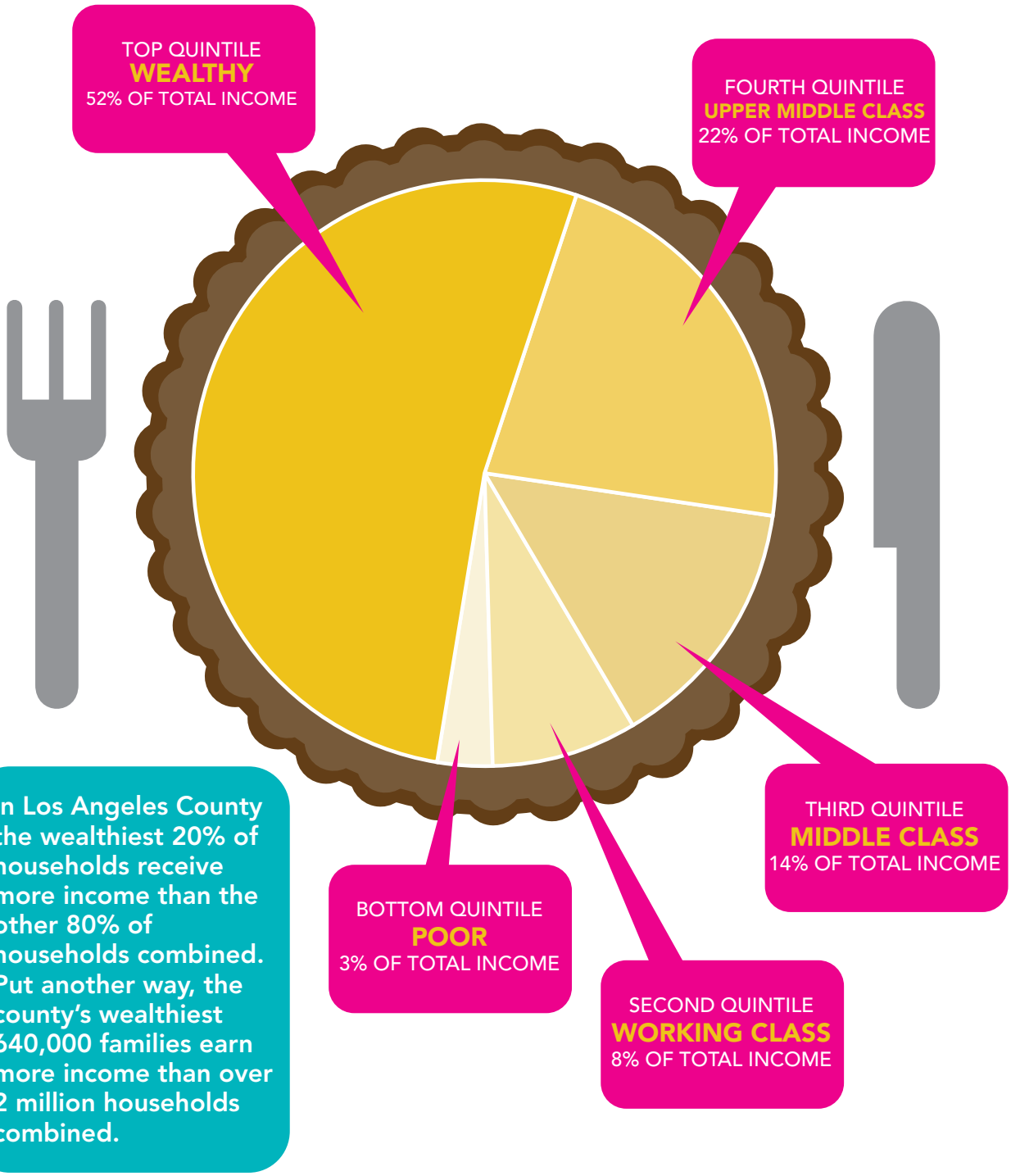
U.S. Census Bureau (2011). American Community Survey Employment Status.

Los Angeles County's unemployment rate has surpassed the national average since the middle of 2008, with 12.2 percent of the workforce seeking employment.[107] The story is worse for the county's sizeable communities of color. Most notably, nearly two fifths of the African American workforce is not participating in the regional economy.[108]

Given that "the experience of unemployment is one of the factors that have the strongest negative impact on people's subjective well-being,"[109] this isn't good news.

INCOME BY QUINTILES

WHO GETS THE BIGGEST PIECE OF THE PIE?



U.S. Census Bureau (2010). American Community Survey Select Economic Statistics.

But it gets worse. The region's poor employment statistics are reflected in its income distribution. While the county's median income of about $70,100 is above the state average (~$54,681), the manner in which income is distributed reinforces the notion of a bifurcated economic system.

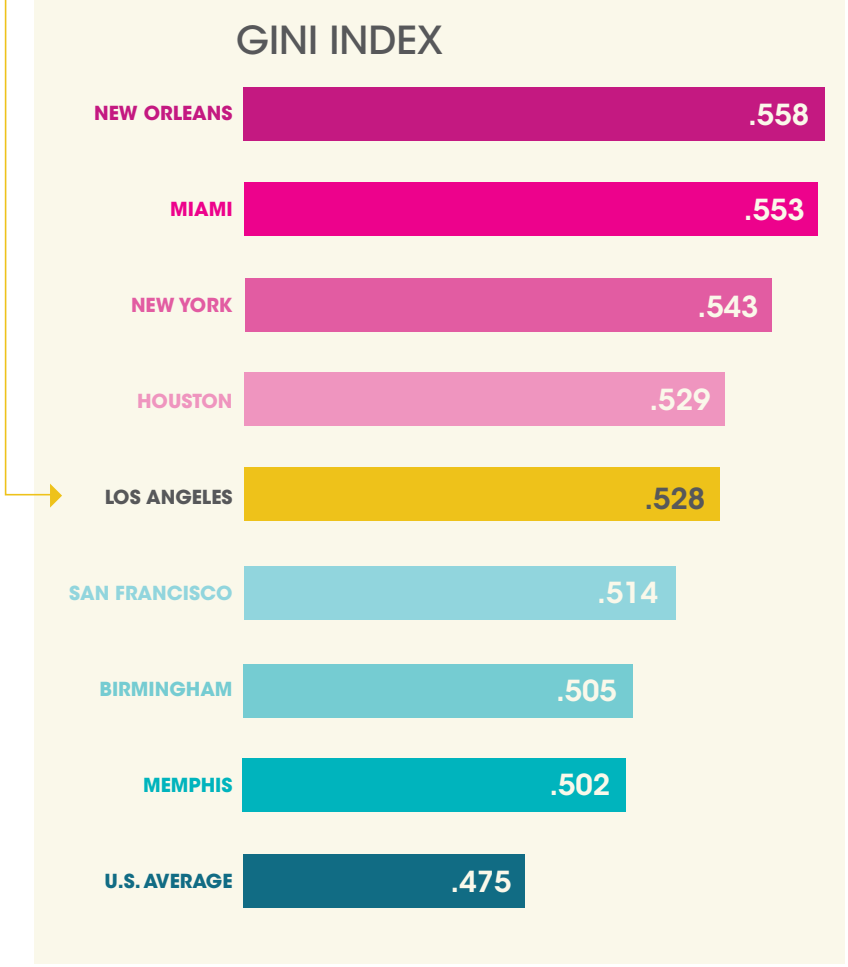
The top 20 percent of households in the county earn more income than the bottom 80 percent combined.[110] Of large metropolitan areas in the U.S., Los Angeles ranks third (behind New York and Miami) for income inequality. That means that a smaller proportion of Angelenos controls a larger share of income than in most other cities in the U.S.

Nearly half of the county's households struggle to meet the most basic needs of food, shelter, transportation, and healthcare. Three percent, or just "over 25,000 families have just enough income" to cover those basic necessities. In Los Angeles a budget for providing family necessities requires an annual income of $64,239 for one parent with two children. Two-parent households with two kids need to make $54,039.[111]

Income disparity is exacerbated by the fact that LA is an expensive place to live. While Los Angeles is relatively cheap in comparison to places like New York[112], the incomes of Angelenos don't allow them to keep pace. Simply put, LA's workers generally don't make enough income to live near their jobs, which is why the next statement shouldn't be surprising.

INCOME DISPARITY RANKING

THE LOS ANGELES METROPOLITAN AREA CONSITENTLY RANKS AS ONE OF THE WORST U.S. CITIES IN TERMS OF INCOME INEQUALITY.



Weinberg, D.H. (2011). U.S. Neighborhood Income Inequality in the 2005-2009 Period. *American Community Survey Reports*. Washington, D.C.: United States Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration.

Los Angeles residents spend a lot on

HOUSING.

Housing
FACT SHEET

DASHBOARD RATING
Hinders human development

Housing earned an orange on our scale, meaning that it hinders human development. Receding housing costs and the uptick in multi-family and affordable housing construction are the only factors preventing this indicator from receiving a red rating. Affordable housing is out of reach for many families, and too many low- and middle-income households are spending too much for their homes.

KEY FINDINGS:

- Overall, Los Angeles has relatively low vacancy rates of 7.2 percent for the City of Los Angeles and 6.8 percent for LA County as compared to a state average of 9.1 percent.[114]
- The homeowner vacancy rate of 2.3 percent is lower than the rental vacancy rate of 5.5 percent, mirroring a common trend nationwide.[115]
- Los Angeles' vacancy rate (8.1 percent) is lower than comparable metropolitan areas like San Francisco (9.4 percent), Atlanta (20.9 percent), Chicago (14.8 percent), and New York (10.3 percent).[116]
- Los Angeles has relatively high median rents ($1,161 for the county, $1,135 for the city) when compared to other major cities like San Francisco ($1,407), New York ($1,129), Chicago ($1168), and Atlanta ($905).[117]
- The median home sales price in the Los Angeles area was $315,200[118], up 1.33 percent[119] from 2011.
- More than half (55.5 percent) of LA County renters spend 30 percent or more of their income on housing.[120]
- For homeowners, nearly half (51.5 percent) spend 30 percent or more on housing, and one-fifth spend 50 percent or more.[121]
- Nationally, the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area has the second highest percentage of working households with a severe housing cost burden. 38 percent of the area's working households spend more than 50 percent of their income on housing costs. Miami-Fort-Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, Florida has the highest proportion (42 percent).[122]
- Nearly 76 percent of low-income owners and 93 percent of low-income renters spend 30 percent or more on housing.[123]
- Although housing affordability in Los Angeles has increased, potential buyers need to earn a minimum annual income of $58,550 to qualify for the purchase of a home priced at the county median price, $296,780.[124]
- Only 49 percent of Los Angeles' home buyers could afford the median home sales price, compared to 78 percent in San Bernardino County, 65 percent in Riverside County, and 35 percent in Orange County.[125]
- Los Angeles is considered the "homeless capital of the country."[126] There were an estimated 51,340 homeless persons countywide in 2011, representing a 3 percent decrease over the previous year.[127]

METRICS[113]

(1) vacancy rates, (2) median rent, (3) median sales price, and (4) housing affordability

HOUSING

It's a pricey commodity, oftentimes consuming the largest chunk of family income. Housing is at the "top of the hierarchy of human material needs . . . and is central to people's ability to meet basic needs."[128] Inadequate housing can affect health status, disrupt social relations, and hamper an individual's ability to participate in the larger society.

Families in Los Angeles spend more of their income on housing than families in most other large cities in the U.S.[129]

Using the standard that housing is affordable if the rent or mortgage requires less than 30 percent of a household's income,[130] many Angelenos have difficulty finding housing within their means. Once again, low-income households have the hardest time locating suitably priced homes. Three fourths of low-income homeowners and more than 90 percent of low-income renters spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing.[131]

One reason for the city's high housing costs is the paucity of units for low- and middle-income wage earners. Just 49 percent of the city's home buyers can afford the area's median home price of $296,780. A household would need an annual income of $58,550 to afford a home at that price.[132]

As Dr. Richard Green of the University of Southern California noted, the city of Los Angeles is one of the few places in the nation where there isn't enough housing stock.[133] Demand far outstrips supply, with Los Angeles reporting some of the lowest vacancy rates when compared to other large U.S. cities.[134] That doesn't bode well for the legions of low-income and middle class households that are competing for Los Angeles' limited housing stock.

Even so, there is reason for hope. The decades-long trend of households moving to far-flung suburbs in search of cheap homes is beginning to reverse itself. On the whole, the county's population is younger than that of the nation. Economists predict that a younger populace "'buffeted by the boom and bust in the housing market'" will stimulate "more demand for urban rental units and less demand for suburban cul-de-sacs."[135] The market is already beginning to respond to these pressures. Building permits for single-family homes are declining "while permits for multifamily complexes are starting to regain strength."[136]

Still, a significant number of Angelenos spend large sums of their income on expensive housing. This depletes financial resources that households need to afford other necessities. For some families, this erases the option of sending their child to a private school that may outperform the public school system. For others, it means curtailing their use of personal vehicles in a car-dominated region, potentially restricting mobility and access to jobs.

And some families risk their HEALTH.

Health
FACT SHEET

DASHBOARD RATING
Hinders human development

Health was found to hinder human development in Los Angeles. The county's large proportion of uninsured individuals and the stark disparities in health outcomes based on race, class, and geographic location make the health landscape perilous for many Angelenos. Still, as a whole, we're less obese than the nation, and the county has reported steady reductions in death rates from chronic conditions like heart disease and lung cancer.

KEY FINDINGS:

- Race, income and educational attainment and geographic location are the primary influences on the health of different populations in LA County.[138]
- Obesity rates are about 19 percent for adults and 23 percent for children.[139] But the county fares better than the nation.[140]
- Twenty two percent of adults and 7 percent of the youths in Los Angeles are uninsured. Latinos have the highest uninsured rates (34 percent).[141] These figures surpass the nationwide uninsured rate, estimated at 15.5 percent.[142]
- South LA and Metro LA have the lowest rates of insured Angelenos in the county.[143]
- Coronary heart disease kills the most people in LA County, but the rates of death have fallen 38 percent in the last decade.[144]
- There has been "a 23 percent decline in the death rate from lung cancer, and a 35 percent decrease in the death rate from stroke."[145]
- Black and Latino males most often die prematurely of homicide.[146]
- Studies have shown that the "economic well-being of local communities is the strongest and most consistent predictor of premature mortality among Latinos and the best way to decrease mortality rates in this group would be to address income disparities."[147]
- Black males are the only group for which HIV is in the top five causes of premature death.[148]
- Women have the most similar causes of death across all ethnicities.[149]
- Average life expectancy has risen from 75.8 years in 1991 to 80.3 years in 2006. But "there is a nearly 18-year difference in life expectancy between black males and Asian/Pacific Islander females (69.4 vs. 86.9 years, respectively).[150]
- Los Angeles County life expectancy at birth (in years) by race and gender (female/male)[151]:
  All groups: 82.9/77.6
  Whites: 82.3/77.6
  Latinos: 84.4/79.0
  African Americans: 77.2/69.4
  Asians and Pacific Islanders: 86.9/82.4
- The overall death rate for African Americans (940 per 100,000) is significantly higher than the any other group and is also higher than the average (624 per 100,000).[152]

METRICS[137]

(1) rates of chronic disease, (2) access to healthcare, and (3) mortality & morbidity

HEALTH

It isn't news that "health is one of the most valued aspects of people's life."[153] International surveys have found that, combined with jobs, health status ranks as one of the most important determinants of people's living conditions. Good health enables us to participate as full citizens in our society.[154] A healthy Angeleno is capable of obtaining a quality education and finding gainful employment.

But, given the high cost of housing and the wide disparities in household income, a large proportion of the region's denizens are unable to safeguard their health. Los Angeles County is home to over two million uninsured people.[155] That means one in four residents has little or no access to preventative care; that means one in four has few options when things go awry; that means one in four risks financial ruin due to illness.

Geography, income, and race are strong predictors of the fate of LA's residents, and health is no exception.

Low-income and non-white populations suffer the worst negative health consequences of modern life. These groups are more likely to live in neighborhoods where they are exposed to heavily polluted air. This increases their cancer risk and causes an increased incidence of respiratory ailments like asthma.[156]

In Los Angeles, air toxins concentrate in the highest quantities near the ports complex and in Central LA. Both locations are home to low-income communities of color, and both locations have the highest estimated cancer risk in Los Angeles. Near the ports, it's estimated that nearly 4 out of every 1,000 residents will be diagnosed with cancer as a result of the area's poor air quality. For the entire Los Angeles area, the estimated cancer risk is just over 1 in 1,000.[157] So, residents of Central Los Angeles and those living near the ports are almost four times more likely than everyone else to develop cancer because of where they live and the air they breathe.

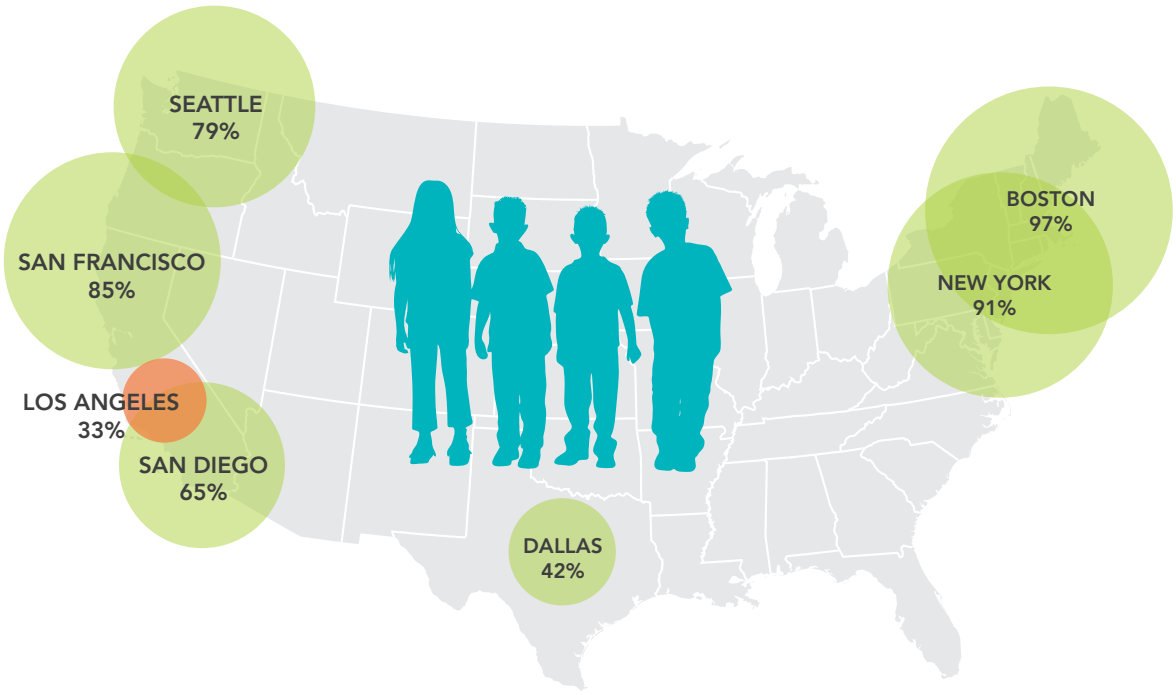
LEADING CAUSES OF PREMATURE DEATH BY RACE**

RACE	1	2	3	4
WHITE	HEART DISEASE *25,427	DRUG OVERDOSE *10,454	LUNG CANCER *9,196	SUICIDE *8,437
LATINO	HOMICIDE *22,546	MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH* 17,678	HEART DISEASE *15,239	LIVER DISEASE *10,749
AFRICAN AMERICAN	HEART DISEASE *13,764	HOMICIDE *11,736	LUNG CANCER *3,958	MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH* 3,741
ASIAN/ PACIFIC ISLANDER	HEART DISEASE *5,576	STROKE *2,931	LUNG CANCER *2,461	MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH* 2,423

*years of life lost over the 10-year reporting period
**note that "premature" is defined as any death that occurs before 75 years of age

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (2010). *Cause of Death and Premature Death: Trends for 1998-2007.* Los Angeles, CA.

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITHIN 1/4 MILE OF A PARK



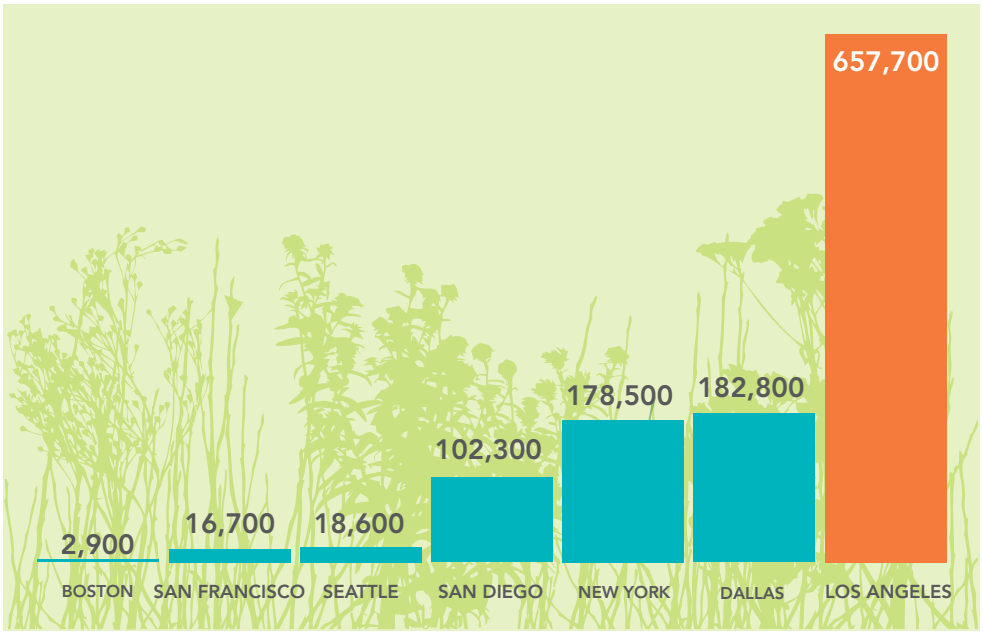
Trust for Public Land (2004). *No Place to Play: A Comparative Analysis of Park Access in Seven Major Cities.* San Diego, CA.

Underserved neighborhoods are also less likely to have easy access to parks and open space where individuals can exercise, leading to an increased incidence of obesity.[158] Of seven major U.S. metropolitan areas, Los Angeles offered its children the worst access to parkland, leaving well over 600,000 children without any easy way to access a park facility.[159] The disparity between ethnic groups is particularly stark. In heavily Latino neighborhoods, residents have about one half acre of park space for every 1,000 people. African American neighborhoods must make do with fewer than 2 acres of open space per 1,000 residents. Predominantly white neighborhoods, however, average over 30 acres per 1,000 residents.[160]

Further compounding the problem is a lack of access to food retailers that sell fresh fruits and vegetables.[161] Largely white neighborhoods have three "times as many supermarkets as Black neighborhoods and nearly twice as many markets as Latino neighborhoods in Los Angeles."[162] Predictably, a place like West Los Angeles, with its low poverty rate and higher incomes, has the lowest obesity rate in the county; just 1 in 10 West Angelenos are obese.[163] South Los Angeles, with its concentration of low-income communities of color, reports the highest obesity rate in the county; more than 1 in 3 South Angelenos are obese.[164]

For LA's low-income communities of color, the region's health landscape is dismal. For many, it's a story of access. There's limited access to clean air, poor access to recreation spaces, and restricted access to healthy nutritional options. And for the one-fourth of county residents who are uninsured, there's very little access to affordable health care.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITHOUT ACCESS TO A PARK



Trust for Public Land (2004). *No Place to Play: A Comparative Analysis of Park Access in Seven Major Cities.* San Diego, CA.

All of this has conspired to create a region where 1 in 4 children are obese.[165] It has conspired to create a place where chronic conditions like diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart disease are curtailing life. It has conspired to create a region where low-income people of color are the most likely to get sick and the least likely to get care.

And still, there is hope. Adjusted for age and race, it is estimated that the overall obesity rate in Los Angeles County is significantly below the national average. Just over one fifth of the residents are obese, versus one third of the national population. Places where people are "more affluent and better educated" were shown to have a much lower incidence of obesity, proving just how critical the link is between education, income, and health outcomes.[166]

On the horizon, there's the full implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. In 2014, nearly all legal U.S. residents will be required to obtain health insurance.[167] Ostensibly, this will substantially lower the number of uninsured people countywide. Rates of hypertension, obesity, and diabetes are higher for low-income people of color.[168] Health, with its fundamental impact on the human experience, is one of the starkest examples of the disparities between the haves and the have-nots in this region.

While income and education are inextricably woven to health outcomes, the physical environment also plays a role. Although it's improving, Los Angeles' environmental landscape also demonstrates the disparity that has come to characterize this region.

And with that, we move on to
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

Environmental Quality
FACT SHEET

DASHBOARD RATING
Hinders human development

Environmental Quality was also found to be a hindrance to human development in LA, earning an orange rating. There is no doubt that the environmental quality has dramatically improved in recent decades, and we're on a trajectory that is promising. Still, Los Angeles' water sources are imperiled, park access is lacking for many of the region's residents, and the poorest air quality is concentrated near low-income communities of color.

KEY FINDINGS:

- Los Angeles devotes 7.9 percent (23,798 acres) of its total land area to parks and open space, which is on par with the national median figure of 8.3 percent.[170] However, access to the city's park infrastructure lags behind much of the nation.[171]

- Of seven major U.S. metropolitan areas that were evaluated, Los Angeles offered its children the worst access to parks, leaving well over 600,000 children in the city and over 1.6 million in the county without any easy way to get to a park facility.[172]

- Proximity to parkland in major U.S. metropolitan areas (percentage of children within one-quarter mile of a park
  Boston: 97 percent (2,900 children without easy access to a park)
  New York: 91 percent (178,500 children)
  San Francisco: 85 percent (16,700 children)
  Seattle: 79 percent (18,600 children)
  San Diego: 65 percent (102,300 children)
  Dallas: 42 percent (182,800 children)
  Los Angeles County: 36 percent (1,694,400 children)

- A 2002 study found that heavily Latino neighborhoods have only 0.6 park acres per 1,000 people; African American communities have 1.7 park acres per 1,000 people; and largely Caucasian communities have 31.8 park acres per 1,000 residents.[173]

- Southern California "contains some of the highest concentrations of industrial and commercial operations in the country" and has the poorest air quality in the U.S.[174]

- Diesel particulate matter (DPM) contributes to 84 percent[175] of the estimated cancer risk, but programs to reduce DPM have had success. The ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles have reduced DPM by 80 percent in a five-year period.[176]

- "Population-weighted cancer risk estimates from air toxics exposure are consistently about 50% higher for people of color, as compared to Anglos, at every level of income."[177]

- Average water use from 2005 to 2010 was about the same as it was in 1981 "despite the fact that over 1.1 million additional people now live in Los Angeles."[178]

- On average, the city receives 52 percent of its water from the Metropolitan Water District, which sources its water from the Colorado River and from the Bay Delta.[179]

- A major earthquake in or near the Delta could interrupt water supplies for "up to three years posing a significant and unacceptable risk to the California business economy."[180]

METRICS[169]

(1) proximity to parks & access to open space, (2) air quality, and (3) water supply & quality.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

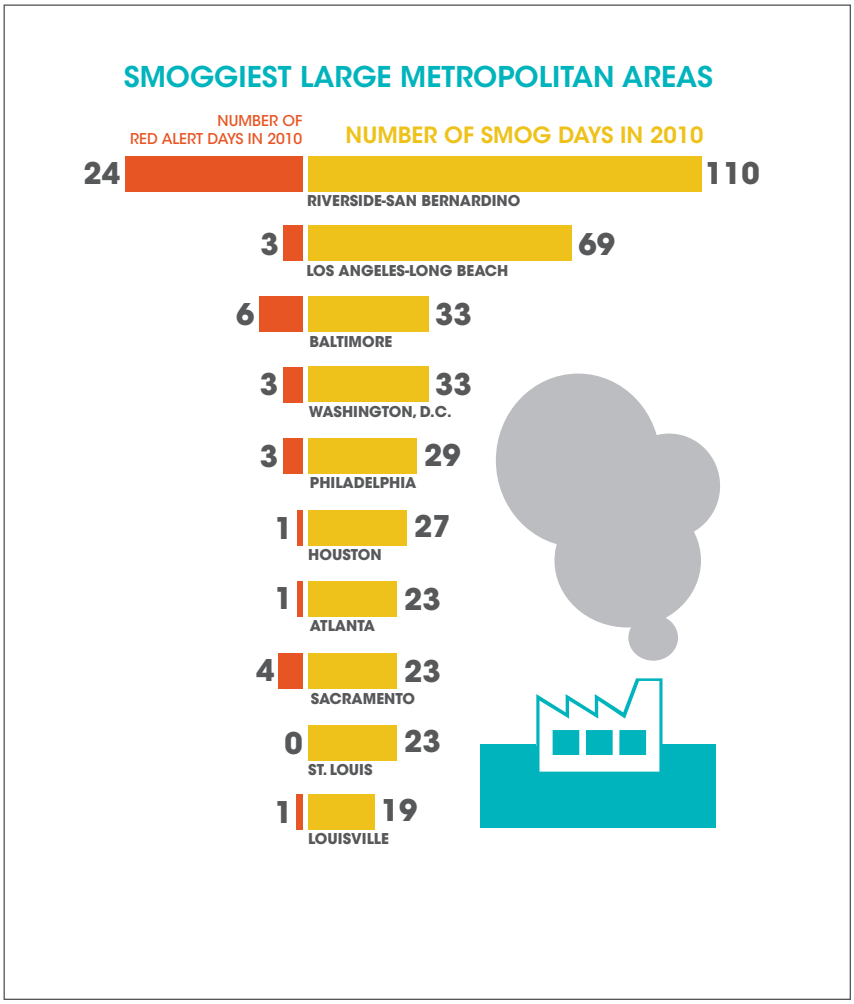
The environment where people live, work, and play is a key component of quality of life. Environmental pollutants also have a sizeable impact on health, "with around one fourth of the global burden of diseases deemed to be associated with poor environmental conditions."[181] While the health impacts associated with our surroundings are not always readily apparent, our environs elicit a visceral response. People intrinsically "attach importance to the beauty and the cleanliness of the place where they live."[182]

Although environmental conditions in Los Angeles are not ideal, the environmental quality of the city and the region has been steadily improving for decades. And there is no sign that the trend will reverse.

Longtime residents of Los Angeles (and air quality data) will tell you that the smog that once defined the image of the region is less persistent. However, the area continues to rank at the bottom of the nation in terms of air quality.[183] The Los Angeles-Long Beach metropolitan area was ranked as the second smoggiest large metro region in the nation, just behind Riverside-San Bernardino. In 2010, the Los Angeles-Long Beach area reported 69 smog days, meaning that Los Angeles had unhealthy air on 1 out of every 5 days. The city also recorded three red-alert days, where "air quality was so poor that anyone could experience adverse health effects." Furthermore, "sensitive populations -- children, the elderly, and people with respiratory illness -- could experience worse effects."[184] That's not good, but things are much better than they were.

In 1976, the entire Southern Coast Basin (including Los Angeles, Long Beach, Riverside and San Bernardino) reported over 200 smog days. That number shrunk to 163 by 1990, and was below 100 by 2001.[185]

More recently, the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles have implemented regulations to curb emissions of diesel particulate matter, one of the more toxic air pollutants. There has been an 80 percent reduction in diesel particulate matter at the ports since the clean trucks program was



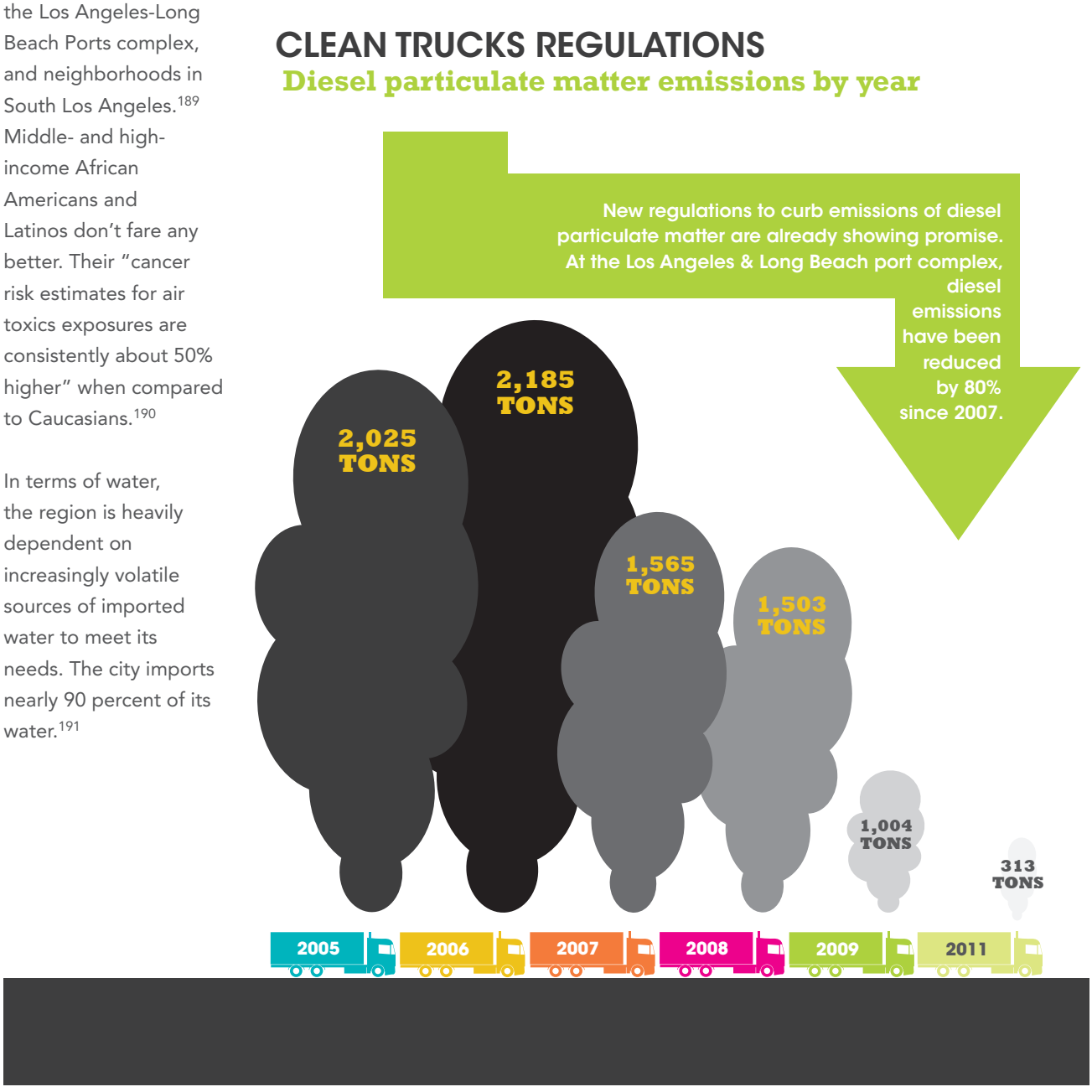
Abrams, C. (2011). *Danger in the Air: Unhealthy Air Days in 2010 and 2011.* Boston, MA: Environment America.

implemented in 2005.[186] The California Air Resources Board has approved a statewide regulation that should deliver similar results across the state. The estimated effect will be a daily reduction of 13 tons of diesel particulate matter by 2014.[187]

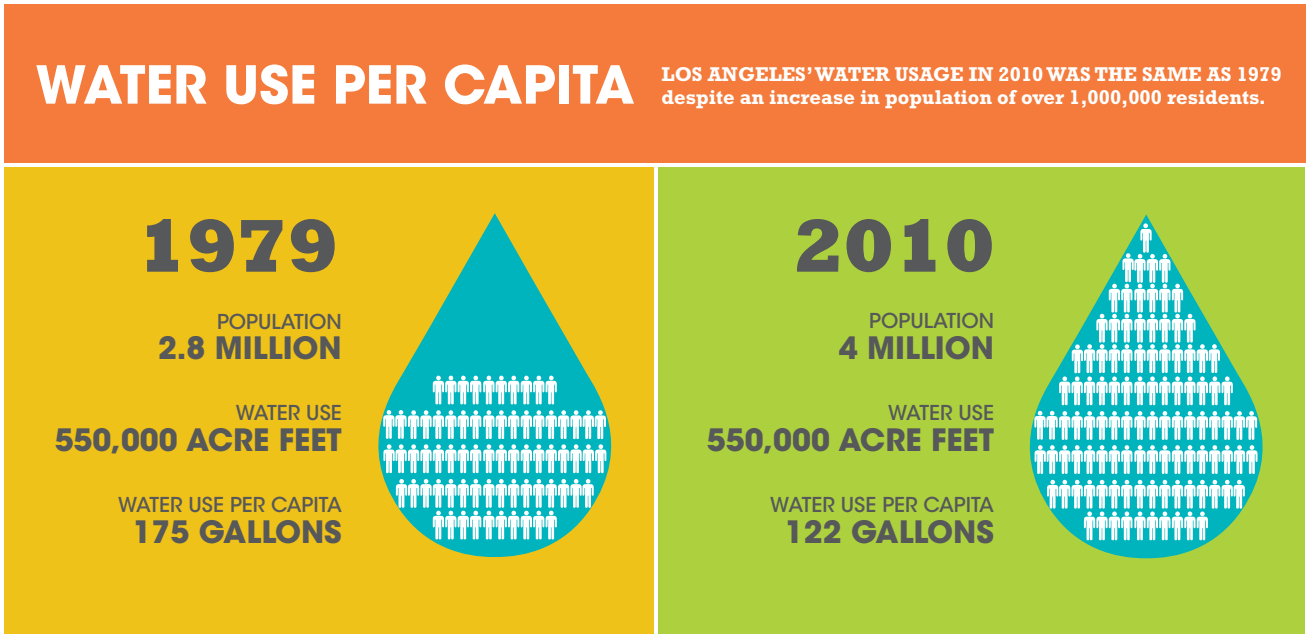
But incremental improvements should not take away from the urgency of the issue. In spite of the gains made in environmental quality over the last half century, the negative impacts associated with poor air quality fall disproportionately on low-income communities of color.[188]

Compared to whites, African American and Latino residents are more than three times as likely to live close to hazardous facilities. They are also more likely to live in the region's most polluted areas, including neighborhoods near the Los Angeles-Long Beach Ports complex, and neighborhoods in South Los Angeles.[189] Middle- and high-income African Americans and Latinos don't fare any better. Their "cancer risk estimates for air toxics exposures are consistently about 50% higher" when compared to Caucasians.[190]

In terms of water, the region is heavily dependent on increasingly volatile sources of imported water to meet its needs. The city imports nearly 90 percent of its water.[191]



Port of Los Angeles & Port of Long Beach (2010). *2010 Update: San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan*. Los Angeles, CA.
Port of Los Angeles (2012). *Port of Los Angeles Clean Truck Program Fact Sheet*. Los Angeles, CA.



Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (2010). *Urban Water Management Plan.* Los Angeles, CA.

One of the biggest sources for LA (and Southern California) is the Bay Delta in Northern California. This "hub of California's water delivery system" has had its output restricted due to environmental degradation.[192] A variety of factors, including agricultural runoff and the use of water pumps that alter the water's natural flow, have severely degraded the Bay Delta's natural ecosystem. A series of regulations have been implemented to restore the area's natural habitats, but the restrictions have had the cumulative effect of reducing supplies by about 30 percent in an average year.[193]

On top of that, the Delta is ill-equipped to handle a major flood or earthquake in the near term. A major seismic event or a large flood could introduce salt water into a freshwater system, making it unsuitable for agricultural or urban uses. The Delta is protected by an antiquated system of levees built more than a century ago. These earthen barriers that protect "low-lying islands, farmland, three state highways, a railroad, and several utility lines are weak and widely expected to fail in the event of an earthquake."[194] Without adequate preparation and mitigation measures, water deliveries to Southern California can be disrupted for "up to three years posing a significant and unacceptable risk to the California business economy."[195] That amounts to 21 million people facing a water shortage[196] that would cost the state over $40 billion in economic losses, or twice the cost of the Northridge earthquake.[197]

Given this reality, the region has made enormous strides in reducing the per capita consumption of water in Los Angeles. Average water use from 2005 to 2010 is about the same as it was in 1981, despite the addition of over 1.1 million people to the local population. As a result, Los Angeles consistently ranks among the lowest in per person water consumption rates when compared to California's largest cities.[198]

Indeed, the story of environmental quality in Los Angeles is one of tremendous progress. While there are still missed opportunities, the region's environmental trajectory is promising.

And with that hopeful note,
we move onto another positive story:
PUBLIC SAFETY.

Public Safety
FACT SHEET

DASHBOARD RATING
Enhances human development

Public Safety was found to enhance human development in Los Angeles, earning a light green designation. Crime rates are at historic lows throughout the county. Still, the experience of crime and perceptions of safety still vary widely along racial and socioeconomic lines.

KEY FINDINGS:

- Mirroring national trends, Los Angeles' crime rate has steadily declined over the past two decades. As of 2010, there were about 29 incidents per 1,000 residents, lower than the national average of 30.37 and higher than the average for large cities with populations of over 500,000 (50.19).[200]
- Crime rates have reached historic lows, with the homicide rate in 2010 the lowest since 1966. The LA Times notes that "nearly every type of offense, including robberies, rapes, burglaries and thefts" continue to decline in spite of the economic downturn.[201]
- Crime rates per capita vary widely throughout the city. In Watts there are 310 violent crimes per 10,000 people; in Bel-Air there are 2.[202]
- Neighborhoods with perceived social disorder and a lack of "collective efficacy" are more associated "with crime-related outcomes."[203]
- In Los Angeles, higher rates of ethnic diversity tends to be associated with increased perceptions of safety in both neighborhoods[204] and schools.[205]
- Foreign-born residents and recent immigrants are less likely to commit and be victims of crime in Los Angeles (and nationally).[206]
- U.S. born men "are incarcerated at a rate over two-and-a-half times greater than that of foreign-born men."[207]
- California cities like Los Angeles "that had a higher share of recent immigrants saw their crime rates fall further than cities with a lower share."[208]
- The LAPD has nearly 10,000 police officers patrolling an area of 473 square miles and a population of just under 4 million inhabitants.[209] That translates to roughly 2.6 officers for every 1,000 residents, a number just on par with the national average, but below other large cities such as New York (4.2), Chicago (4.4), and Philadelphia (4.3).[210]
- Los Angeles' physical footprint is larger than Baltimore, Boston, Cleveland, Manhattan, Minneapolis, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, and St. Louis combined. Yet, the city "has fewer than half the police offers of all those cities combined."[211]
- "Though Los Angeles is under-policed compared to cities such as New York and Chicago, 8 of the nation's 15 biggest cities have fewer officers per capita."[212]

METRICS[199]

(1) per capita crime rates, and (2) perceptions of crime and safety.

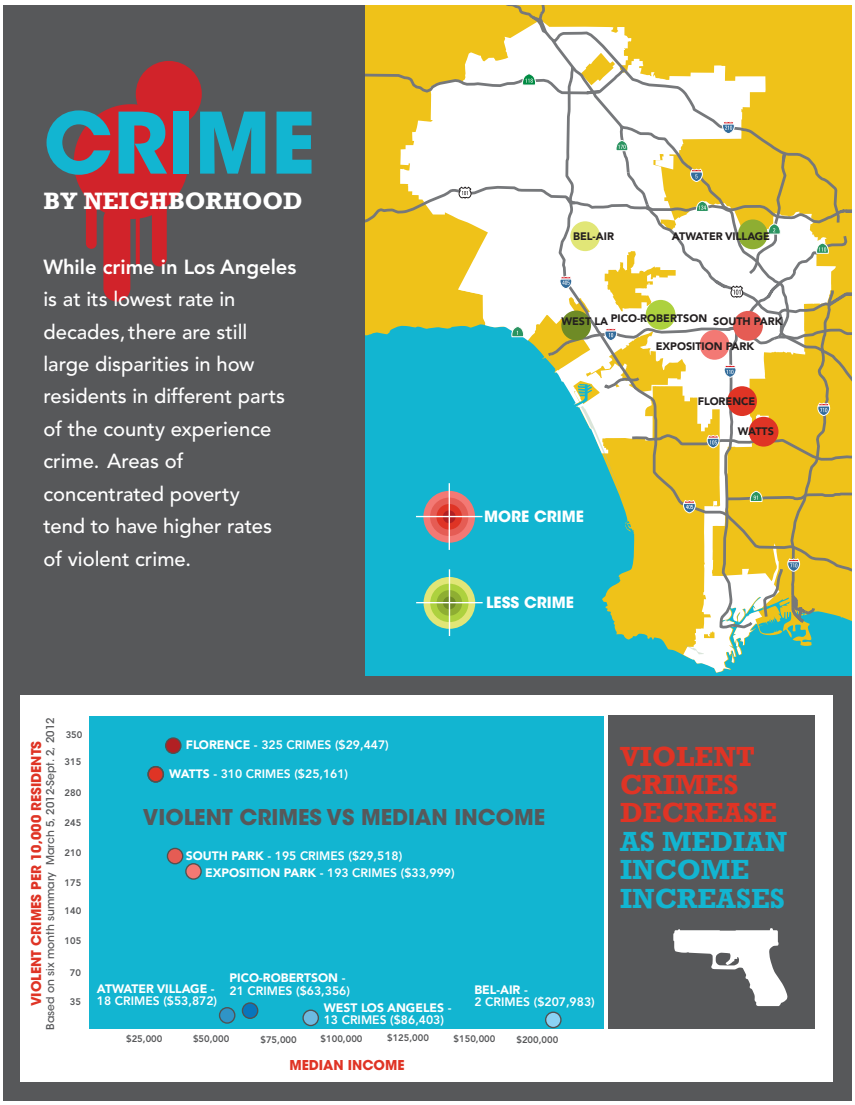
PUBLIC SAFETY

Safety and security is "a core element for the well-being of individuals and society as a whole."[213] Crime can lead to loss of life and property; it has detrimental physical and mental health consequences; it can reduce economic productivity; and, most detrimentally, it creates a pervasive feeling of vulnerability.[214]

The reality and perception of safety in Los Angeles is a remarkable bright spot in the malaise of the current recession.

Against all economic odds, and contrary to the common perception of the region, crime rates are the lowest that they've been in decades, and they're continuing to drop.[215] The region has mirrored the national trend of steadily declining levels of crime in recent decades. Violent crime fell almost 10 percent during the first six months of 2010. That year, the city reported fewer than 300 homicides, the fewest since 1966.[216]

Still, the experience of crime and safety in Los Angeles depends on who you are and where you live.[217] Areas of concentrated poverty with less ethnic diversity are more likely to experience higher levels of crime.[218] The citywide violent crime rate is 56 incidents for every 10,000 residents. But in Watts that number jumps to 310 incidents; in Exposition Park the figure is 195 incidents.



Los Angeles Times (2012). Mapping L.A.: Violent Crime. *Los Angeles Times*. Los Angeles, CA.

Compare that to higher-income locations like Pico-Robertson, Bel-Air, and Century City.[219] Each of them report fewer than 21 incidents of violent crime per 10,000 capita, with Century City reporting fewer than 2 incidents for every 10,000 residents.

Given those statistics, it should come as no surprise that people in low-income neighborhoods are more likely to perceive their environment as unsafe.[220] Areas "with higher levels of violence have a greater share of high school drop outs, individuals below poverty, households receiving welfare," and a higher unemployment rate.[221] Los Angeles neighborhoods with the highest

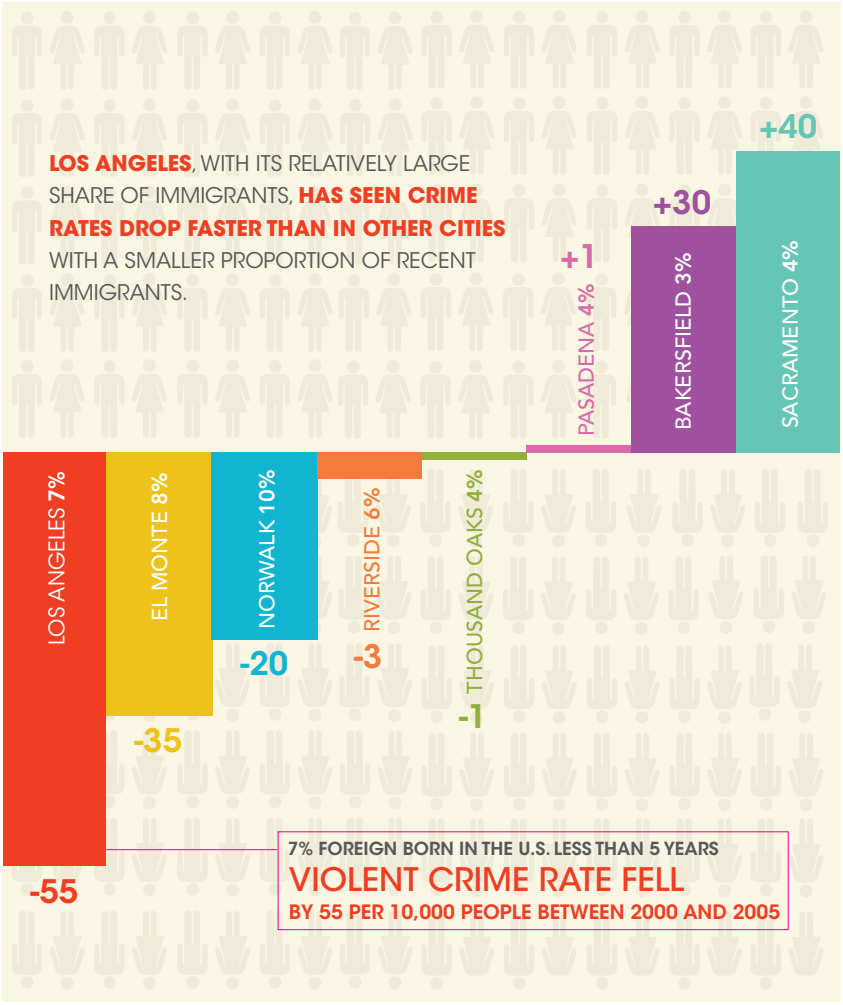
crime rates are predictably ethnically homogenous with high rates of poverty, lending credence to the notion that community violence "is correlated with multiple measures of disadvantage."[222]

Angelenos who feel that they can work with family, friends, and neighbors to bring about positive, collective change are also more likely to report feeling safer.[223] Surprisingly, it is the residents of ethnically diverse neighborhoods who are more likely to feel that they can trust their neighbors.[224] Which brings us to our next contrarian factoid. Even though there is a common misconception that immigrant populations increase crime, they are statistically unlikely to perpetrate crime.

Compared to foreign-born men, males born in the U.S. are more than twice as likely to be incarcerated. Los Angeles, with its large share of immigrants, has seen crime rates drop faster than in other cities with a smaller proportion of foreign-born people.[225] Furthermore, residing in an immigrant household reduced the instance of experiencing youth violence. Studies have found "that youth from immigrant households of Latin American origins have significantly reduced odds of more serious forms of youth violence relative to non-Latinos."[226] And because this bears repeating, ethnically diverse neighborhoods encourage safety and reduce criminal acts.[227] In the case of public safety, racial diversity is one of Los Angeles' greatest assets. This diversity also affects how we interact and connect with each other.

IMMIGRANTS' IMPACT ON CRIME

CRIME RATE PER 10,000 PEOPLE BETWEEN 2000-2005 AND PERCENT FOREIGN BORN



Butcher, K.F., Piehl, A.M. (2008). Crime, Corrections, and California. *California Counts: Population Trends and Profiles.* San Francisco, CA: Public Policy Institute of California.

It affects our

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS.

Social Connectedness
FACT SHEET

DASHBOARD RATING
Hinders human development

Social Connectedness received an orange rating. The lower rates of trust, voting, and social engagement in Los Angeles are not promising. In addition, levels of social connectedness are all tied to educational attainment. Still, research shows that lower levels of social interaction and civic engagement are typical in large, diverse regions like Los Angeles.

KEY FINDINGS:

- Like other urban communities in the southwest that were surveyed – Houston, Phoenix, San Diego, San Francisco, and San Jose/Silicon Valley, Los Angeles tends to score lower than the national average across a wide range of the indices.[229]
- In ethnically diverse places like Los Angeles or Houston, college graduates are 4 or 5 times more likely to be politically involved than their fellow residents who did not get past high school. In ethnically less diverse places like Montana or New Hampshire, the class gaps in political participation are less than half that large.[230]
- Los Angeles metropolitan statistical area has a volunteerism rate of 21.5 percent, lower than San Francisco's 29.7 percent rate. In Los Angeles, 2.1 million adults volunteered, ranking the city 46th among the largest 51 metro areas.[231]
- For age groups of 18 and over, voting in Los Angeles is dismal. The national average is 41.8 percent, while Los Angeles's rate is 36 percent.[232] San Francisco, by comparison, has a voting rate of 42.4 percent.[233]
- While fewer than 1 in 12 people with less than a high school education report voting in presidential elections, the number jumps to 1 in 3 for high school graduates. The rate is 3 in 4 for college graduates. And it is 9 in 10 for those with a graduate degree.[234]
- Los Angeles scores are comparable to the national average for diversity of friendships.[235]
- Thirty-six percent of Angelenos say that people can be trusted; 55 percent say you can't be too careful; and 9 percent say that it depends. This profile is a less trusting one than the national profile, in which 47 percent say people can be trusted, 46 percent say you can't be too careful, and 7 percent say that it depends.[236]
- Fewer Angelenos expect to remain in their communities; 66 percent of Angelenos expect to be living in their current community 5 years from now, compared to 76 percent nationally.[237]
- In Los Angeles 31 percent rate their community as an "excellent" place to live, 44 percent "good," 21 percent "fair" and 4 percent "poor." Nationally, the numbers are 41 percent (excellent), 44 percent (good), 13 percent (fair), and 2 percent (poor).[238]
- Thirty-seven percent of Angelenos do not discuss politics at all, while almost 28 percent report discussing politics frequently[239]; the numbers are on par with national averages of 36.6 percent and 26 percent, respectively.[240] Seven percent reported contacting a public official[241] (compared to about 10 percent nationally[242]).
- Angelenos read the newspaper less often than the national average (2.8 days versus 3.3 days).[243]

METRICS[228]

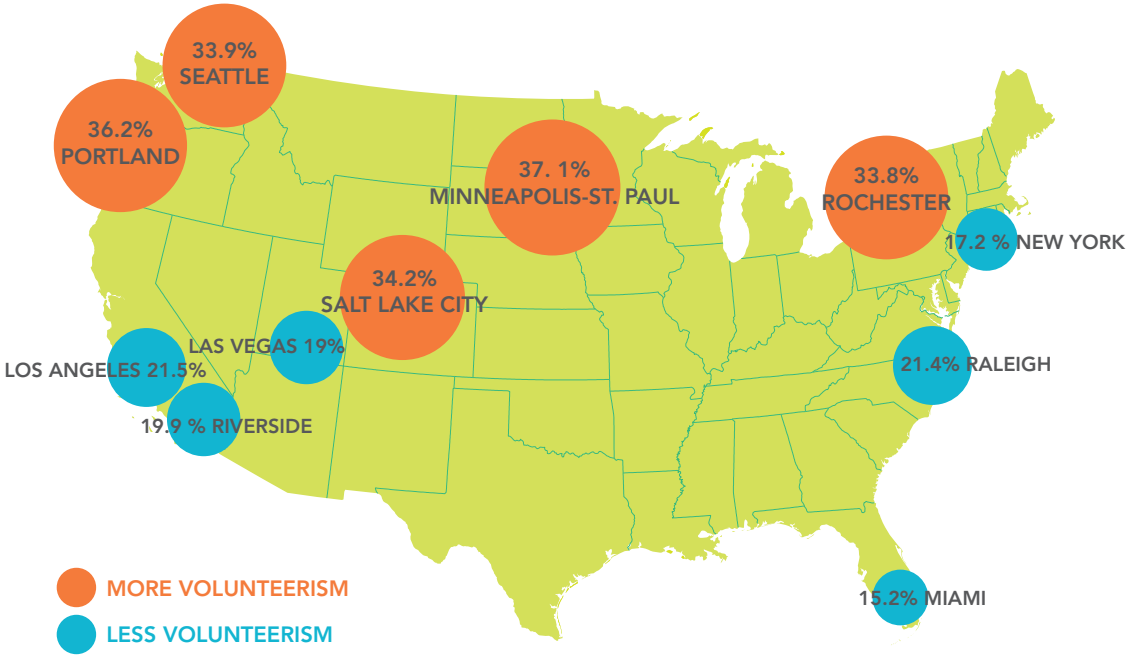
(1) volunteerism, (2) voting, and (3) civic and social engagement.

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS

RATES OF VOLUNTEERISM IN LARGE AMERICAN CITIES

In terms of volunteerism, Los Angeles ranks near the bottom of large U.S. cities.

It is worth noting that cities with large minority populations and cities with the highest income inequality (i.e., New York and Miami) are also at the bottom of that list.



National Conference on Citizenship (2011). *Civic Life in America*. Washington, D.C

Social connectedness attempts to measure the frequency of our contact with others and quality of our personal relationships. For this report, we've also included the element of civic and social engagement into this measure. The fundamental nature of human social bonds makes it one of the "crucial determinants of well-being."[244] But data on the subject is nascent. It's a hard concept to capture, and it's a difficult research question to quantify.

Los Angeles is socially disjointed and stratified.[245] The city's connectedness indicators are perhaps the most concrete (and disheartening) manifestation of LA's inadequate education system.

For Angelenos, social interactions, civic engagement, and social capital are all heavily dependent on education. Angelenos with higher levels of education are more engaged with their community, both civically and socially. In the same vein, higher levels of income are associated with higher rates of giving and larger social networks.[246]

Compared to the nation, Angelenos are less likely to be involved in groups, less likely to engage in organizational activism, less likely to vote, less likely to be engaged in faith-based organizations, less likely to socialize informally, and less likely to be trusting.[247]

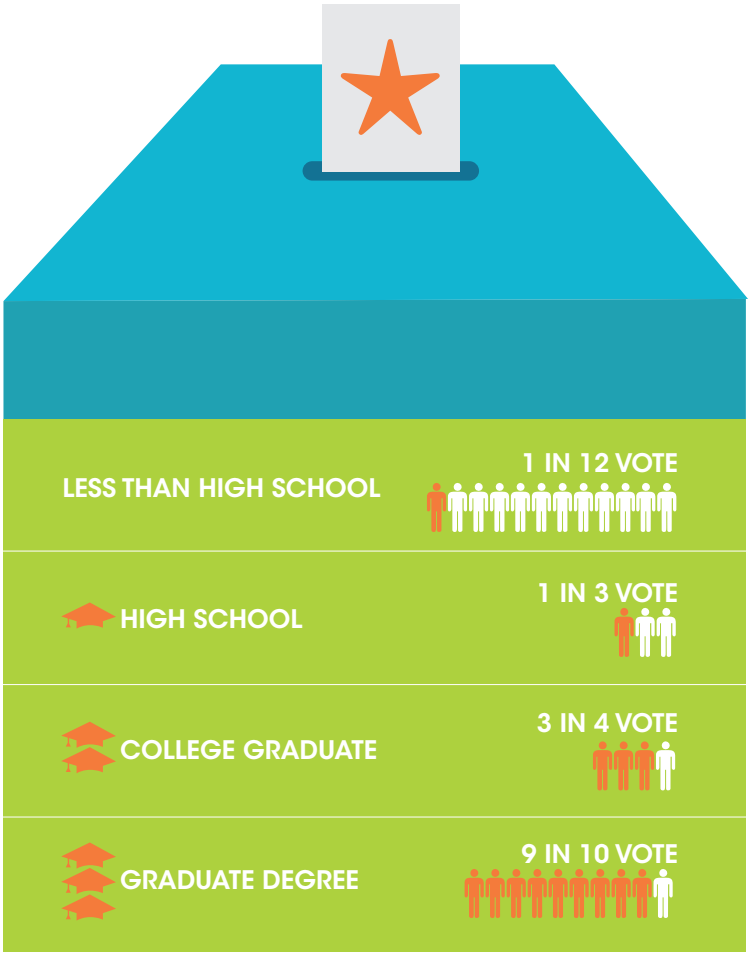
That's depressing, but it makes sense. Participating in any society relies on some basic level of interpersonal trust. And trust is a byproduct of education. Social trust "increases with education across the scale, with a big jump corresponding to having completed a four-year college degree."[248]

If you've finished high school, you're more likely to report trusting the local police; you're more likely to trust the clerks where you shop; you're more likely to trust your coworkers; and you're more likely to trust your neighbors.[249] You're more likely to trust that the society that helped you get an education, earn an income, and that provides you with a certain quality of life will be able to deliver more. If you were denied the benefits associated with that social system, you're less likely to be an active participant.

And that's why Los Angeles suffers when it comes to social connectedness. We have a city with too many people who have been failed by civic and social institutions. Too many Angelenos feel that society does not operate with their interests at heart. Too many Angelenos have been left behind.

VOTING RATES BY EDUCATION LEVEL

Small increases in education levels significantly increase voter participation rates.



California Community Foundation (n.d.). *Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey: Data Highlights from the Los Angeles Sample*. Los Angeles, CA.

And, once again, there is hope. Levels of trust increase as people acclimate to a place. Los Angeles is a city of newcomers, but living here "is apparently a positive enough experience that, after 5 years, residents voice trust in far greater proportions than they do when they are recent arrivals."[250] Furthermore, small increases in education levels yield significant advantages. While fewer than 1 in 12 people with less than a high school education report voting in presidential elections, the number jumps to 1 in 3 for high school grads. It's 3 in 4 for college grads. And it is 9 in 10 for those with a graduate degree.[251]

In spite of the disjointed nature of social connection in Los Angeles, there are communities and social networks that are thriving. One that bucks the trend is the region's arts community.

Which opens our discussion of

ARTS AND CULTURAL VITALITY.

Arts and Cultural Vitality
FACT SHEET

DASHBOARD RATING
Significantly enhances human development

Arts and Cultural Vitality was found to significantly enhance the quality of life in Los Angeles, earning our highest rating. The arts and cultural scene in Los Angeles is thriving, providing residents with ample opportunities to participate in a variety of formal and informal activities. The creative industries in the region are attracting a steady pool of artists and creative professionals. Furthermore, the region is home to a variety of institutions that are training the next generation of arts professionals.

KEY FINDINGS:

- There are 11,235 arts establishments in the county, translating to 0.88 per 1,000 residents (compared to 0.46 per 1,000 in New York and a national average of 0.64 per 1,000 capita).[253]
- Los Angeles and Orange Counties are home to 66 institutions that offer degree programs in the creative industries, providing a pipeline to attract, train, and retain creative professionals.[254]
- The City of Los Angeles has five National Association of Schools of Art and Design accredited schools: (1) American Film Institute; (2) California State University, Los Angeles; (3) Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, Los Angeles; (4) Loyola Marymount University; and (5) Otis College of Art and Design.[255]
- Los Angeles has the highest concentration of working artists and arts professionals in the U.S. With over 57,000 residents employed in arts occupations, it employs about 14 percent of the nation's arts professionals and is the top net attractor of young artists.[256]
- As a share of the metro area workforce, arts careers make up 1.01 percent of the area's total employment, trailing the national average of 1.52 percent.[257]
- There are 9.54 artist jobs per 1,000 people in Los Angeles. That's higher than the national average of 5.95 jobs per 1,000 people, and higher than many other major metropolitan areas, including New York (7.24), San Francisco (7.2), Washington, D.C. (5.02), and Chicago (3.15).[258]
- The city's "high cost of living, high unemployment rates, and setbacks in the entertainment industry place its artist super-city status at risk."[259]
- LAUSD has led the way in creating a standards-based arts program that has served as the model for the countywide Arts for All program that has been adopted by school districts throughout Los Angeles County.[260]
- LAUSD lacks a comprehensive arts program in middle schools, with fewer than 10 percent of middle schools receiving instruction in the four arts areas (dance, music, theatre, visual, and media arts).[261]
- "Los Angeles Unified's arts program has been particularly hard hit [by recent budget cuts]. In 2008, there were 335 full-time elementary arts teachers. [In 2011], after state and federal funding dried up, there were about 250, according to district officials."[262]
- Los Angeles' public arts expenditures ($9.62 million) are below the national average, and well below the levels seen in other major metropolitan areas including New York, Washington, D.C., and San Francisco.[263]
- At $75.87 per capita, foundation and nonprofit expenditures in support of the arts is above the national average($63.31), but it lags behind cultural hubs like Washington, D.C. ($654.19), San Francisco ($202.88), and New York ($259.45).[264]

METRICS[252]

(1) presence of opportunities for cultural participation, (2) participation in cultural and artistic activities, and (3) support for cultural participation.

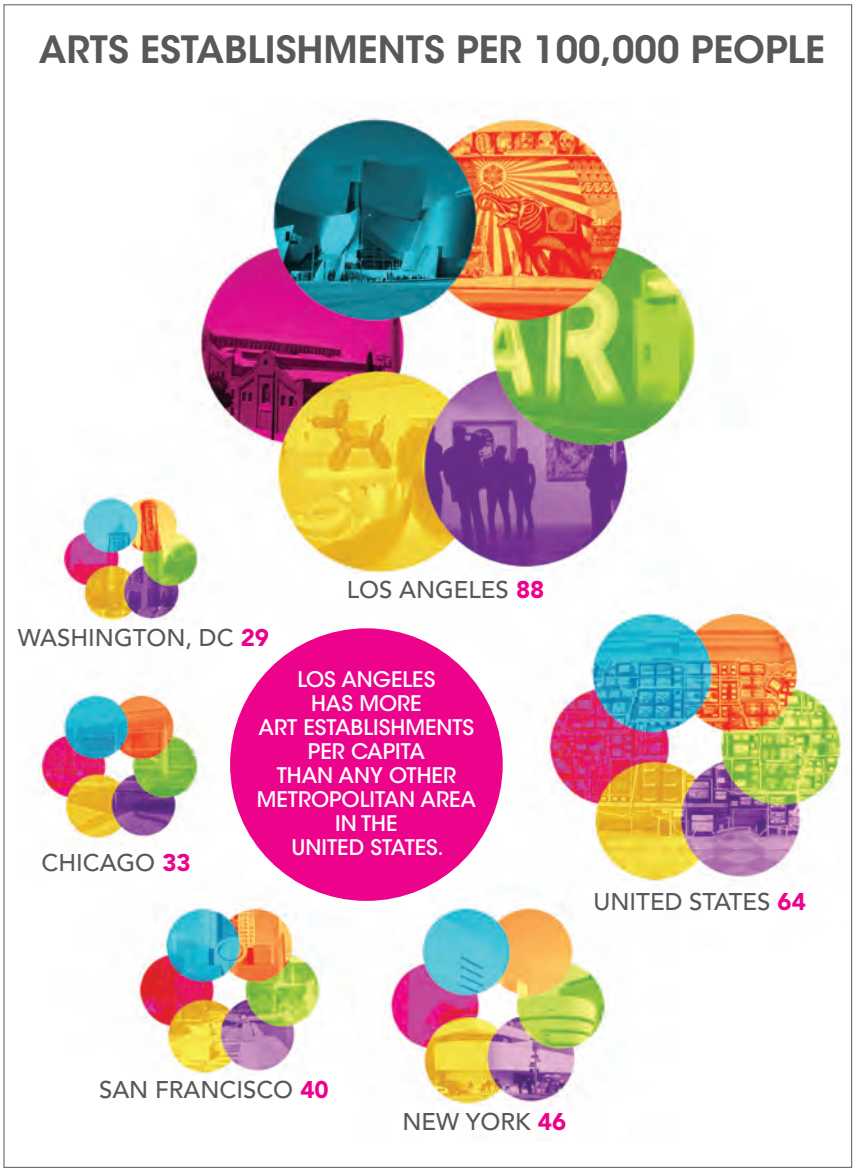
ARTS AND CULTURAL VITALITY

Arts and Cultural vitality relates to the vibrancy and strength of the region's cultural, creative, and artistic institutions. Public participation in both formal (e.g., museums) and less formal (e.g., community festivals) arts and cultural events has direct economic impacts[265] and has direct impacts on the iconic nature of a place.[266]

Metropolitan Los Angeles is, in most respects, the national leader in arts and culture.

The city succeeds in attracting, training and retaining a steady corps of artists and creative professionals in spite of the conspicuous lack of a comprehensive arts-nurturing policy.[267]

The city of Los Angeles is home to the largest concentration of working artists in the nation and is the top net attractor of young artists.[268] And by that, we mean that for every artist that moves out of LA, more than 2 move in.



Urban Institute (2010). Arts and Culture Indicators Project Data: 2006-2008. Washington, D.C.

The county boasts over 11,000 arts establishments[269], which makes it possible for the area to support more performing artists than New York.[270] The LA metro area boasts 88 arts establishments for every 100,000 residents. That's almost twice as many as New York (46 establishments per 100,000 residents) and well above the national figure (64 establishments per 100,000 residents).[271]

In terms of employment, LA has over 570,000 residents employed in arts occupations. The city has over 9 artists jobs for every 1,000 residents. That outpaces the national average of 6 jobs per 1,000 capita and surpassing cultural hubs like New York (7 jobs/1,000 capita), San Francisco (7 jobs/1,000 capita), Washington, D.C. (5 jobs/1,000 capita), and Chicago (3 jobs/1,000 capita).[272]

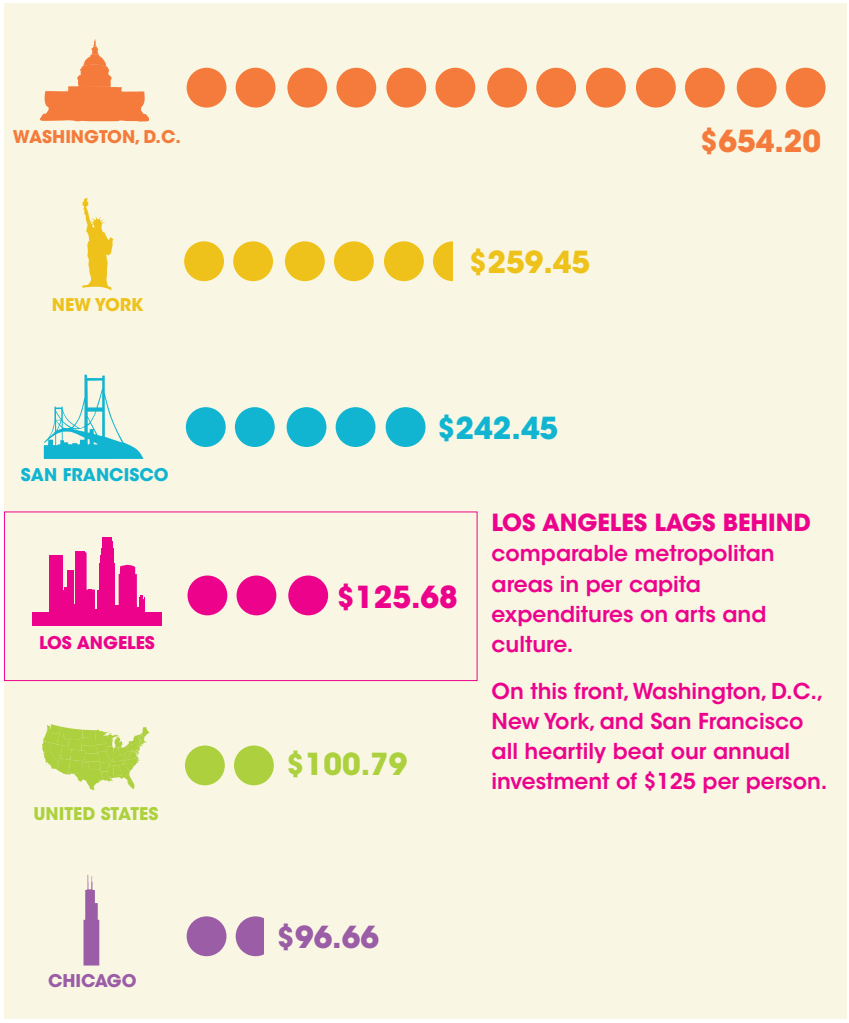
Local colleges and universities are well-prepared to train the artists that flock to the region. Los Angeles and Orange Counties are home to nine independent visual and performing arts colleges, 28 colleges and universities, and 29 community colleges that offer degree programs in the creative industries.[273]

In spite of all this, funding for the arts in Los Angeles is not on par with other large cultural centers. The region fails to match its peers when it comes to expenditures on the arts. Although we're above the national average, Los Angeles lags behind comparable metropolitan areas in per capita expenditures on arts and culture. On this front, Washington, D.C., New York, and San Francisco all heartily beat our annual investment of $125 per person.[274]

Experts also note that Los Angeles' status as an arts hub is threatened by the city's "high cost of living, high unemployment rates, and setbacks in the entertainment industry."[275] Furthermore, there is no coherent arts-retaining policy at either the city or county level.[276] These demerits make it even more astonishing that the arts and cultural scene in Los Angeles is thriving. Given the relative lack of institutional and structural investment, this truly bright area of the Los Angeles experience should have already ceded to the competition – but it hasn't.

Some of the resiliency of the Los Angeles arts and culture community comes from its variety. The largest employment areas in the creative industries involve diverse sectors, including entertainment, fashion, visual and performing arts, and furniture and home furnishings.[277]

ART EXPENDITURES PER CAPITA



Urban Institute (2010). Arts and Culture Indicators Project Data: 2006-2008. Washington, D.C.

Furthermore, the arts have proven to be a major force for self-efficacy and entrepreneurship. Los Angeles County's creative industries had over 100,000 independent firms in 2008. The largest sector included "independent artists, writers and performers."[278] Among that group, there are nearly two self-employed artists in the visual & performing arts for every employee on payroll. The ratio is nearly one-to-one for communications arts (e.g. graphic design); and for every 5 payroll employees in art galleries, there are 6 independent workers.[279]

The dynamic LA arts scene continues to expand and evolve in unexpected and astonishing ways. But to continue to outpace its competitors, Los Angeles must keep the in-migration pipeline flowing. It must recruit, train, and retain the next generation of creative artists.

We've come to the end of our indicators and we hope we've painted a sufficiently detailed portrait of this vast and diverse metropolitan region. We've explained who we are, and we've extracted the high points of how we live. But one question remains.

Which brings us to
WHY THIS MATTERS.

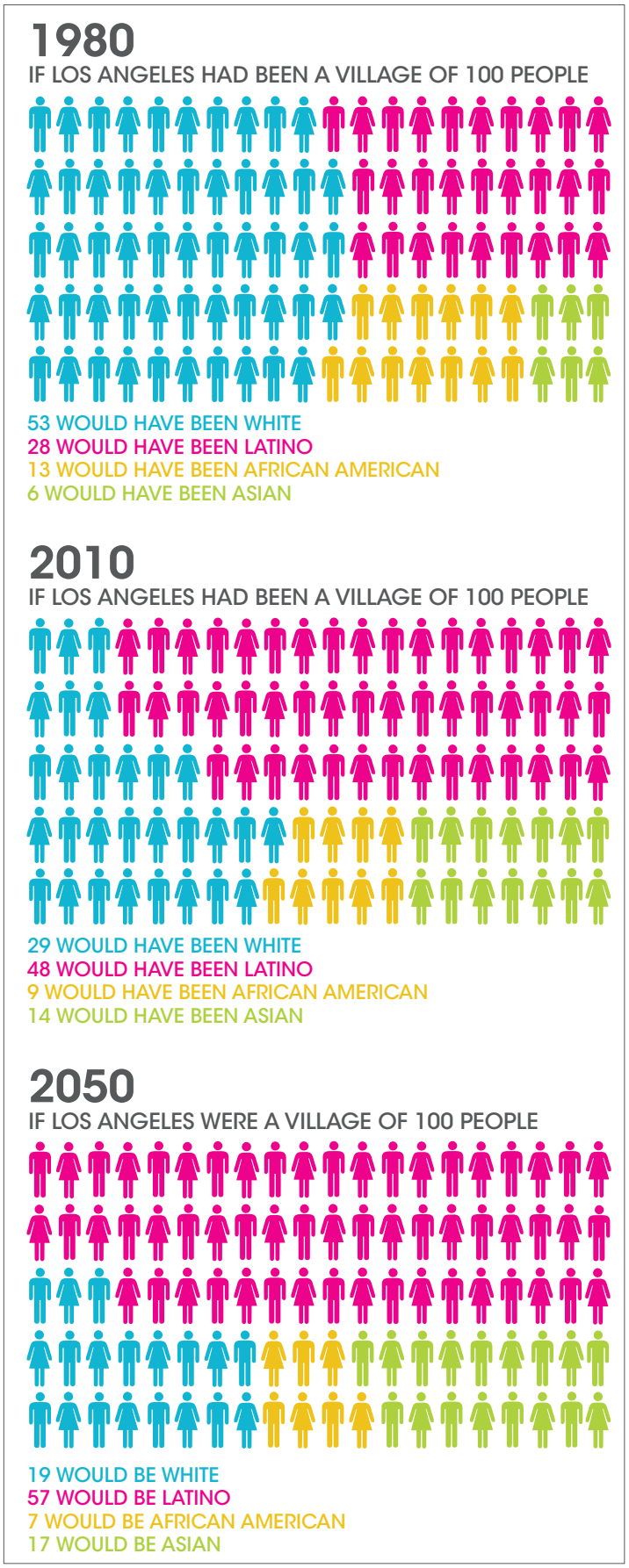
The condition of Los Angeles today matters because who we are and how we live now sets us on a course for who we will be and how we will live tomorrow. Our current condition is putting us on a trajectory towards a future that may not look like anyone's idea of a successful place. While we have revealed some surprising bright spots (lower crime rates, improved environmental conditions, stellar cultural vitality), other indicators – like education, income, and housing – paint a picture of growing disparity that bode ill for the region's overall sense of well-being.

Now that we have a picture of how we live today, let's draw upon demographic projections to imagine how we might live tomorrow, if we continue on our current trajectory. If we don't like where we are headed, this being Los Angeles, we can rewrite the script and imagine a better destination. We can draw on the extraordinary collective spirit of creativity and ambition of the region to envision this brighter LA of 2050.

And once we know where we want to go, we can work backwards to create a plan to increase our chances of arrival at the LA2050 of our aspirations, instead of drifting into the LA2050 of our fears.

But to know where we're going, we need to know
WHO WE WILL BE.

Earlier, we noted that Los Angeles' population is growing older, with a populace that is increasingly made up of native Californians. That trend is likely to continue in coming decades. By 2050, the county population will reach an estimated 12.5 million residents.[280] The demographic shifts that characterized the last half of the 20th Century will not be as dramatic. The growth in the Latino residents and the decline in the white populace aren't as pronounced. Asians and Pacific Islanders and African American populations are projected to remain relatively stable.



Myers, D. (2011). *The Future Demographic Outlook of Los Angeles.* Population Dynamics Research Group, Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA.

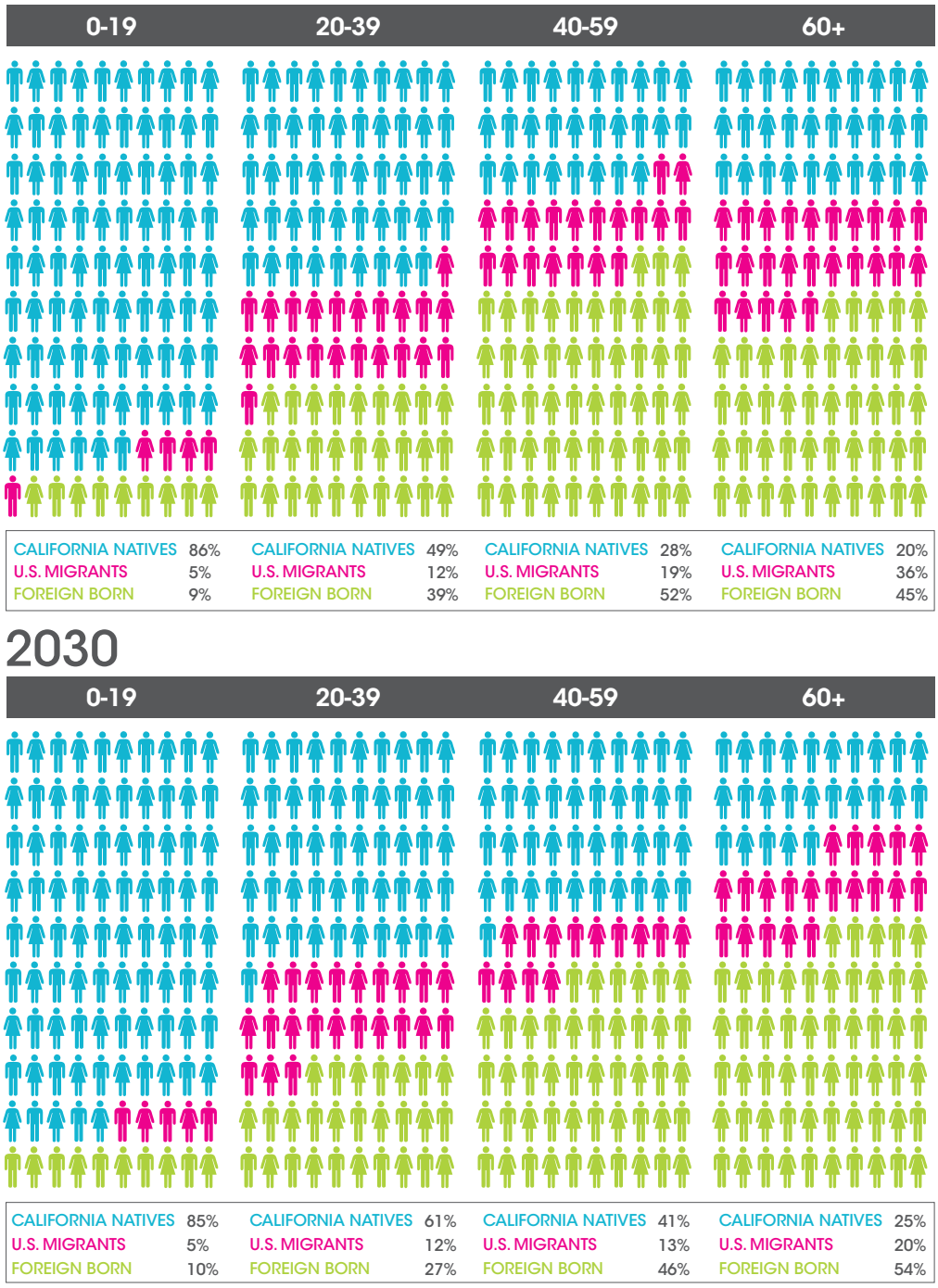
Racial and Ethnic Make-Up

Latinos will constitute the majority of Angelenos by 2020. By 2050 this demographic group will comprise almost 57 percent of the county population, an increase of 9 percent from its current figure. Whites will remain the second largest ethnic group, but the proportion of Caucasians will shrink to just under 19 percent, representing a 10 percent drop from current figures. The third largest racial/ethnic group will be Asians and Pacific Islanders. With a slight 3 percent rise in this group's proportion of the county population, this racial/ethnic category will comprise about 17 percent of the population. African Americans will continue to diminish as a share of the populace, comprising about 7 percent of county residents, down 2 percent from current levels.[281]

Our Origins

In coming decades the foreign-born population is projected to decline slightly, due to the sharp decrease in immigration. Peaking at 36.3 percent in 2000, the proportion of foreign-born Angelenos is expected to drop slightly to 32.6 percent in 2050, down nearly three percent from current levels. California natives will make up the majority (56 percent) of the population in 2050, climbing seven percent from current levels.[282]

PERCENTAGE OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY POPULATION BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE



Myers, D. (2011). *The Future Demographic Outlook of Los Angeles.* Population Dynamics Research Group, Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA.

Aging Population

Los Angeles will see a rapidly aging population in coming decades, mirroring the national trend. A simple way of demonstrating this shift is by looking at the senior ratio, "an index that divides the number of people who are ages 65 and older by the total who are ages 25 to 64."[283] In the county, the state, and the nation, the "number of seniors per 100 residents of prime working age was virtually constant for the last four decades."[284] As the baby boom generation (born 1946 to 1964) began to pass the age of 65 in the late 2000s, the senior ratio began to rise dramatically.

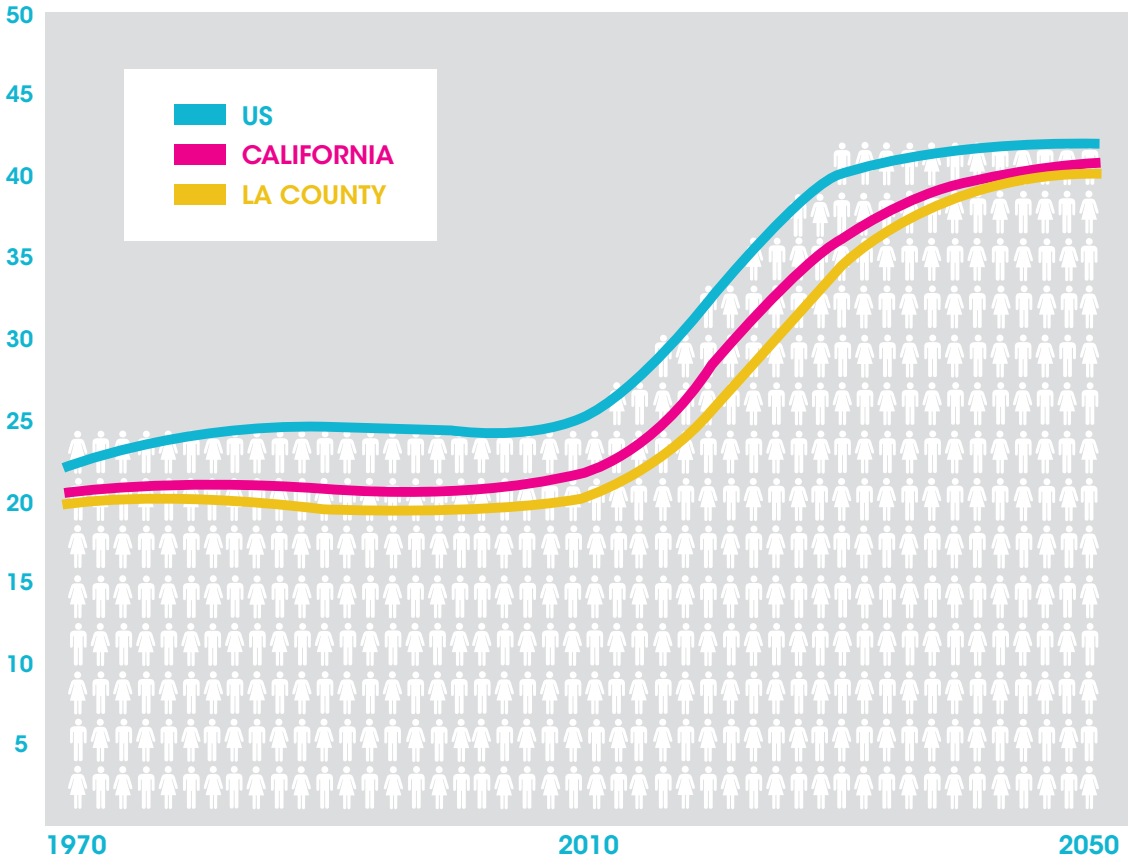
In Los Angeles County there were about 20 seniors for every 100 working age adults in 2010. The state figure was about 21 seniors per 100 working age adults, and the national figure sat at about 25 seniors. By 2050, there will be 40 seniors for every 100 working adults in LA County. Figures for California (41 seniors) and the U.S. (42) will rise dramatically as well.[285]

This will have serious implications as we plot our course moving forward. As demographers note, Los Angeles is facing a "growing loss of our productive population."[286] Health care professionals warn that our current system is "inadequately prepared in geriatrics," and our health care "work-force is not large enough to meet older patients' needs." By 2030, the U.S. will need "an additional 3.5 million formal health care providers – a 35 percent increase from current levels – just to maintain the current ratio of providers to the total population."[287]

As the state's Health and Human Services Agency notes, "California's sheer size, diversity, and large older adult population make it a barometer of how the nation will grapple with the challenges and opportunities of population aging."[288] Los Angeles, the state's largest and most diverse metropolitan region, may well serve as a barometer for California.

The Angelenos of 2050 will, for the most part, be native-Californians. They will be diverse, and they will be older. We are already beginning to see these changes manifest themselves, as evidenced in the county's most recent demographic profile. It's imperative that we understand that the decisions and actions we take today will shape the outcomes for the 12.5 million county residents of the future.

RATIO OF SENIORS (65+) PER 100 WORKING AGE (25-64) FROM 1970-2050



Myers, D. (2011). *The Future Demographic Outlook of Los Angeles.* Population Dynamics Research Group, Price School of Public Policy, University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA.

Now that we have an understanding of who we will be, we can now begin to contemplate

WHERE WE'RE GOING

IF WE CHOOSE TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO.

Based on our analysis of our current conditions and the trajectory of each of the eight indicators that we've examined, we've created a dashboard that projects where LA will be in 2050 if we continue along the same path. We consulted with the LA2050 Academic Advisory committee to gather their input about the future of Los Angeles, and their contributions are reflected in the dashboard. We used the same rating system that we devised to examine the eight indicators in 2013:

- SIGNIFICANTLY HINDERS HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
- HINDERS HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
- ENHANCES HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
- SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCES HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

As we noted earlier, these projections are not meant to imply any numeric calculation or weighted score. It's our best guess, informed by the most recent body of research, and in consultation with academics and experts in the field. It is an unflinching glimpse of our future based on our assessment of how we live today. With that, we present our prediction of how the Los Angeles of 2050 will fare along the eight indicators analyzed in this report if we stay on our current path:

EDUCATION in 2050 will "significantly hinder human development," if we stay on our current course. While the largest school district in the county (LAUSD) is making incremental improvements in test scores and graduation rates, these accomplishments aren't enough to drastically shift the prospects of the K-12 cohort in 2050. The onslaught of state budget cuts aimed at local school districts and the public higher education system does not bode well for the region's education landscape in 2050. If the state continues to divest in early childhood education, and if local school districts continue to provide inadequate college preparatory coursework, then the learners of 2050 will be no better situated to compete in an economy that increasingly depends on a highly-educated workforce.[289]

INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT in 2050 also receives our lowest ranking. Based, in part, on the region's poor education system and on the region's lack of a coherent economic development strategy aimed at creating good-paying jobs in growth sectors, we don't foresee the income and employment situation getting much better. Income and wealth in the region is being concentrated in fewer and fewer hands. It's a trend that's been unfolding nationwide for decades; at the moment, there isn't any clear policy at the federal, state, or local levels to reverse that trend. Furthermore, the area's demographic make-up (with a large share of the population being Latino and African American) implies that the region will persistently suffer from elevated rates of unemployment. Based on these factors, the Los Angeles of 2050 will continue to be a region of haves and have-nots.

HOUSING in 2050 is also predicted to "significantly hinder human development." This analysis is based on the substantial affordability gap that still confronts the region. Without a drastic increase in average household incomes and without significant growth in the number of housing units that are affordable to low- and middle-income earners, Los Angeles in 2050 will remain a place where housing isn't available to young wager-earners, families, seniors and much of the middle class.

HEALTH in 2050 is predicted to remain a "hindrance to human development," earning an orange rating. Better environmental quality and the prospect of universal health care hold the promise of lifting the health landscape for all Angelenos. Still, the region lacks a cohesive strategy to address the disparities in health outcomes along racial and socioeconomic lines. While we do think that Angelenos of the future will have better access to healthcare and will generally be healthier, we still anticipate that health outcomes for the area's large low- and middle-income communities of color to be worse than average. Moreover, our inadequate preparation to meet geriatric healthcare needs could prove significant in a region where the senior ratio is expected to double by 2050.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY in 2050 moves from "hindering human development" to "enhancing human development." Los Angeles' air quality is steadily improving. Plans, policies, and initiatives in the works are having demonstrably positive effects, and track record of past decades is encouraging. The state has identified the Bay-Delta as a serious issue, and mitigation plans are currently underway as officials devise a permanent solution. Local water agencies are increasing their share of local water sources that are more sustainable and secure. The environment of 2050 will almost certainly be better than it is today if we continue down our current path.

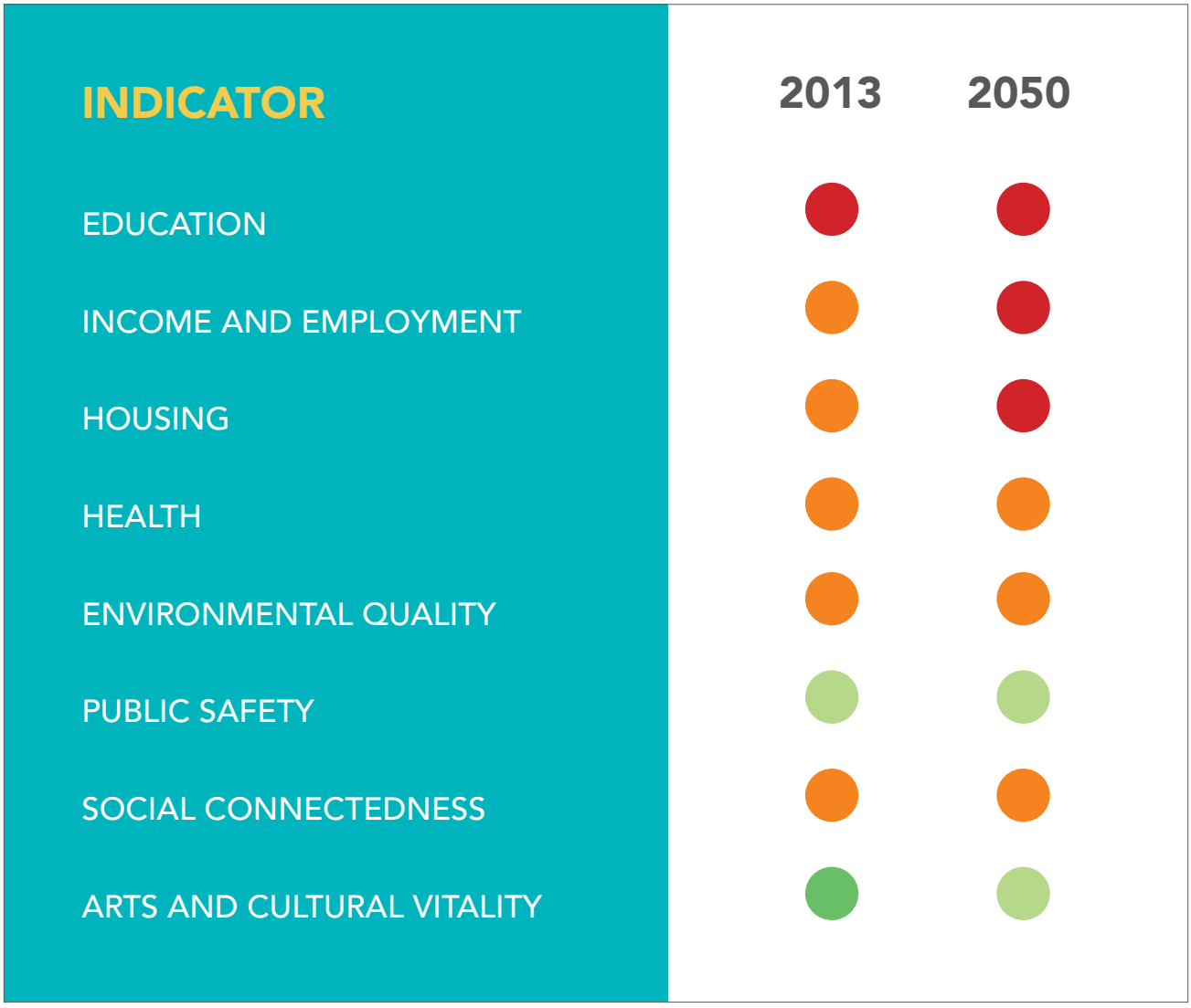
PUBLIC SAFETY in 2050 is also anticipated to "enhance human development." Given the correlation between a youthful population and the incidence of crime[290], a Los Angeles comprised of many more older residents in 2050 will likely see crime rates drop further. The experience of crime and perceptions of safety throughout the region are still anticipated to vary widely based on geographic and socioeconomic factors.

SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS in 2050 is anticipated to "hinder human development." Positive factors include a more rooted population. Los Angeles in 2050 will be home to more native-Californians than in any other period in recent history. As we've noted, living in a place for an extended period of time increases social connections within communities. Weighing heavily against any improvement in this metric, however, is the dismal education system. Education levels are highly correlated with levels of social connectedness, and we don't foresee a dramatically different education landscape for Los Angeles if we continue on our current course. Additionally, it is increasingly difficult for young adults in the region to find a well-paying job, locate affordable housing, and raise a family, threatening the rootedness that fosters increased social connections.

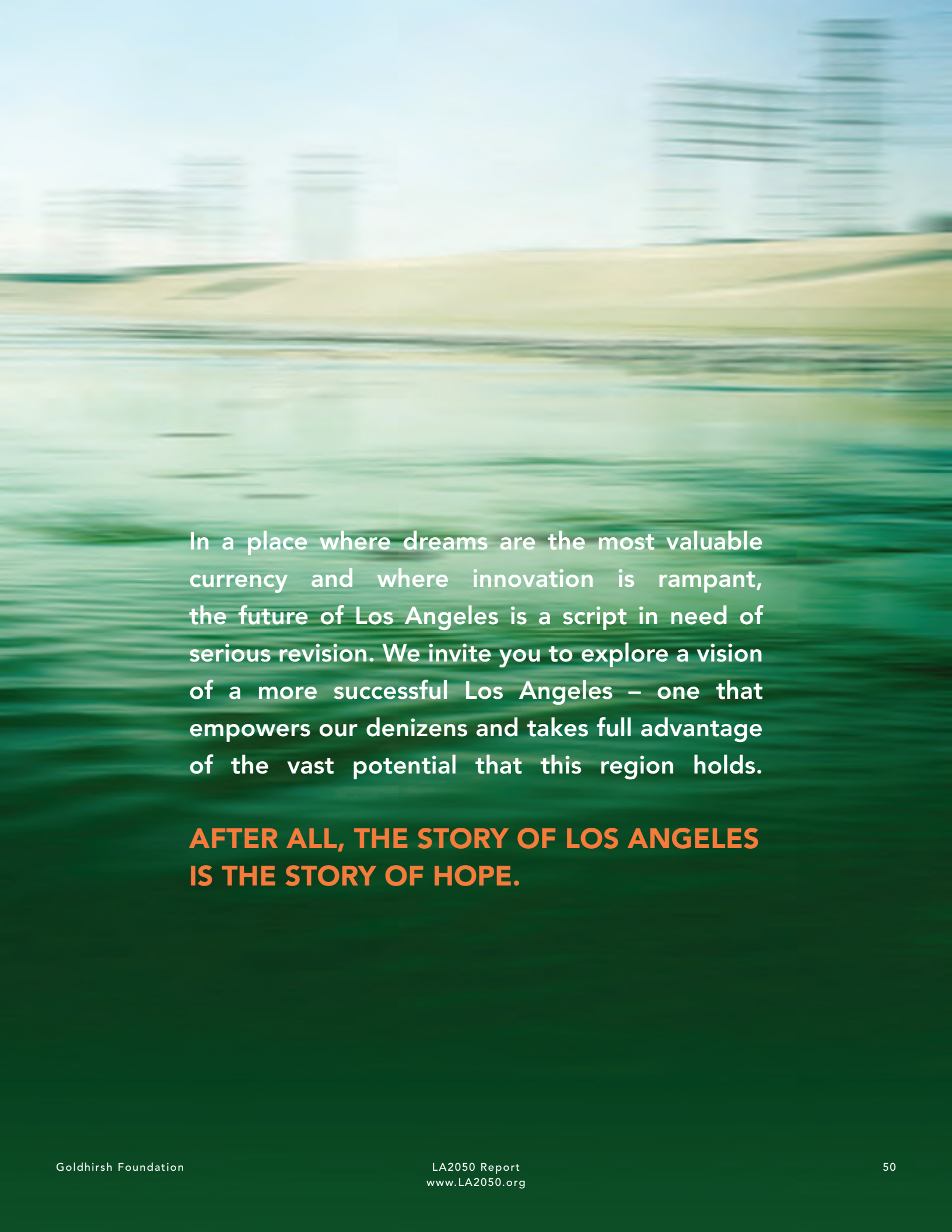
ARTS AND CULTURAL VITALITY in 2050 is expected to go from "significantly enhancing human development" (green) to "enhancing human development" (light green). The primary reason for this projection is the fact that Los Angeles lacks a coherent arts-nurturing policy at the local or regional level. Likewise, if public support for the arts continues to diminish as it has in recent decades, the region may cede some of its arts and cultural dominance to other locales. Still, arts and cultural communities have thrived in LA in spite of challenges in the past, and we expect that Los Angeles will remain an attractive place for artists and arts professionals in the future.

With that, we've concluded the first part of the LA2050 narrative. We've explained who we are, how we live today, and where we're going tomorrow if the status quo isn't challenged. This installment in the series was intended to inform, but it is also the starting point for a new dialogue. If you don't like our projections for the LA of the future, then it's up to all of us to chart a different (more hopeful) course.

LA2050 DASHBOARD



- Significantly hinders human development
- Hinders human development
- Enhances human development
- Significantly enhances human development



In a place where dreams are the most valuable currency and where innovation is rampant, the future of Los Angeles is a script in need of serious revision. We invite you to explore a vision of a more successful Los Angeles – one that empowers our denizens and takes full advantage of the vast potential that this region holds.

AFTER ALL, THE STORY OF LOS ANGELES IS THE STORY OF HOPE.

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ACADEMIC ADVISORS

Adlai Wertman
Professor of Clinical Management and Organization
Founding Director of the Society and Business Lab at University of Southern California

Daniel Flaming
President, Economic Roundtable

Dr. Caprice Young
Vice President for Education Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Dr. Dowell Myers
Professor, University of Southern California
Director, Population Dynamics Research Group

Dr. Edward Blakely
Honorary Professor of Urban Policy at the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney

Dr. Janis Breidenbach
Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Southern California

Dr. Manuel Pastor
Professor of Sociology and American Studies and Ethnicity at University of Southern California

Dr. Maria Rosario Jackson
Consultant, instructor, and writer in the fields of urban planning, community development and arts and culture

Dr. Marlon Boarnet
Professor, University of Southern California
Director, Graduate Programs in Urban Planning

Dr. Martin Wachs
Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Urban Planning at the University of California, Los Angeles Luskin School of Public Affairs

Dr. Matthew Kahn
Professor, Institute of the Environment, Department of Public Policy, Department of Economics at the University of California, Los Angeles Luskin School of Public Affairs

Dr. Richard Green
Professor, University of Southern California
Director and Chair of the USC Lusk Center for Real Estate the Sol Price School of Public Policy at University of Southern California

Dr. Stephanie Pincetl
Adjunct Professor, University of California, Los Angeles
Director of the California Center for Sustainable Communities at University of California, Los Angeles

INTERVIEW SUBJECTS

Adlai Wertman
Professor of Clinical Management and Organization
Founding Director of the Society and Business Lab at University of Southern California

Brian Stetcher
Associate Director, RAND Education
Senior Social Scientist
Professor, Pardee RAND Graduate School

Catherine Atkins
Executive Director Preschool California

Daniel Flaming
Economic Roundtable

Dr. Caprice Young
Vice President for Education Laura and John Arnold Foundation

INTERVIEW SUBJECTS continued

Dr. David Sloan
Professor and Director at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at University of Southern California

Dr. Dowell Myers
Professor, University of Southern California
Director, Population Dynamics Research Group at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at University of Southern California

Dr. Edward Blakely
Honorary Professor of Urban Policy at the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney

Dr. Fernando Torres-Gil
Professor of Social Welfare
Professor of Public Policy
Director of the Center for Policy Research on Aging at University of California, Los Angeles

Dr. Janis Breidenbach
Adjunct Professor at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at University of Southern California

Dr. Manuel Pastor
Professor of Sociology and American Studies and Ethnicity at University of Southern California

Dr. Maria Rosario Jackson
University of Southern California

Dr. Marlon Boarnet
Professor
Director of Graduate Programs in Urban Planning at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at University of Southern California

Dr. Martin Wachs
Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Urban Planning at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs

Mary Leslie
Executive Director, Los Angeles Business Council

Dr. Matthew Kahn
Professor, Institute of the Environment, Department of Public Policy, Department of Economic at University of California, Los Angeles Luskin School of Public Affairs

Dr. Richard Green
Professor Director and Chair of the USC Lusk Center for Real Estate the Sol Price School of Public Policy at University of Southern California

Dr. Richard Jackson
Professor and Chair of Environmental Health Sciences and Professor of the Institute of the Environment & Sustainability and Urban Planning at University of California, Los Angeles

Dr. Stephanie Pincetl
Director of the California Center for Sustainable Communities at University of California, Los Angeles

John Blank
Deputy Chief Economist for the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp

Karen Constine
Public Affairs & Arts/Cultural Management Consulting

CONTRIBUTORS

Aaron Paley
President and Co-Founder, CARS

Adlai Wertman
Professor and Founding Director of Society and Business Lab at University of Southern California Marshall School of Business

Allison Graff-Weisner
Executive Director of City Year Los Angeles

Amita Swadhin
Los Angeles Executive Director, Peer Health Exchange

Andy Lipkis
Executive Director, TreePeople

Bea Stotzer
Board President, NEW Economics for Women

Bettina Korek
Founder and Executive Director, ForYourArt

Carl Cade
Real Estate Developer & Investor
Education Entrepreneur

Danny Corwin
CFO, California Charter Schools Association

David Conforti
Director of Special Projects at Annenberg Foundation

David Flaks
COO, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation

David Levinson
Founder and Executive Director, Big Sunday

Jennifer Ferro
General Manager, KCRW

Jennifer Perry
Executive Director, Children's Action Network

Jill Bauman
President and CEO, ImagineLA

Joel Sappell
Deputy for Special Projects for L.A. County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

Justin Veach
Associate Director of Cultural Programs at Library Foundation of Los Angeles
Kafi Blumenfield
President and CEO of Liberty Hill Foundation

Karen Mack
CEO and Founder, LA Commons

Laurie Ochoa
Arts and Entertainment Editor at The Los Angeles Times

Lee Condon
Owner of Pacesetter Productions, former LAUSD Chief of Staff

Marcia Aaron
Executive Director, KIPP LA

Mark Gold
Associate Director and Adjunct Professor, University of California, Los Angeles Institute of the Environment and Sustainability

Mia Lehrer
President Mia Lehrer + Associates

Michael Kelly
Former Executive Director, the Los Angeles Coalition

Michelle Rhone-Collins
Executive Director, LIFT-LA

Neil Fromer
Executive Director
Resnick Institute at California Institute of Technology

Nike Irvin
Vice President of Programs, California Community Foundation

Omar Brownson
Executive Director, Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation

Rafael Gonzalez
Former Chief Service Officer & Director of Neighborhood & Community Services, Office of Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa

Ruben Gonzalez
Board Member, US-Mexico Border Philanthropy Partnership

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For **test scores**, the research focused on the following: (1) academic Performance Index (API) of schools and students from K to 12
For **high school completion and dropout rates**, the research focused on the following: (1) high school completion and dropout rates for students entering high school in 2006 and (2) high school completion/dropout rates for minority and low income students
For **college-going rates**, the research focused on the following: (1) students entering college from public schools and (2) students prepared to enter college
For **preschool enrollment**, the research focused on the following: (1) enrollment of preschool age children and (2) levels of state and local funding of preschool programs
For **afterschool and summer school enrichment program participation**, the research focused on the following: (1) enrollment of students in afterschool and summer school programs and (2) spending on afterschool and summer school programs

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For **employment and unemployment**, the research focused on the following: (1) rates of employment and unemployment in the U.S., California, and L.A. County
For **household income**, the research focused on the following: (1) median household income for Los Angeles County
For **poverty**, the research focused on the following: (1) federal & state poverty rates
For **family supportive wages**, the research focused on the following: (1) minimum salary and wage needed to sustain a family in Los Angeles

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For **vacancy rates**, research focused on the following: (1) city and countywide vacancy rates, compared to other large metropolitan areas
For **median rent**, research focused on the following: (1) City of Los Angeles median rents compared to other large metropolitan areas
For **median sales price**, research focused on the following: (1) quarterly median sales price reports for the L.A. metropolitan statistical area
For **housing affordability,** research focused on the following: (1) number of households with housing costs exceeding 30 percent of income

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For **rates of chronic disease**, research focused on the following: (1) diabetes, (2) obesity, and (3) high blood pressure
For **access to healthcare**, research focused on the following: (1) insurance rates, (2) prevalence of facilities (hospital beds per 1,000 people), (3) maternal health (including pre-natal care and infant mortality rates)
For **mortality and morbidity**, research focused on the following: (1) life expectancy and (2) causes of death

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For **proximity to parks and open space**, research focused on the following: (1) proportion of city land dedicated to parks and open space, acres of park space per 1,000 residents, and (3) acres of park space per 1,000 residents, by race
For **air quality**, research focused on the following: (1) particle pollution rates, (2) estimated cancer risk associated with exposure to air toxics, and (3) estimated cancer risk associated with exposure to air toxics, by race
For **water quality**, research focused on the following: (1) drinking and irrigation water sources, (2) historic water usage (measured in acre feet), (3) historic water demand (acre feet), (4) water conservation (acre feet), (5) amounts of pollutants and contaminants in drinking water, and (6) concentrations of fecal bacteria in the surf zone

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For **crime rates**, research focused on the following: (1) number of violent crimes per 1,000 capita, (2) number of non-violent crimes per 1,000 capita, and (3) police officers per 1,000 capita
For **perception**, research focused on the following: (1) neighborhood perceptions of crime, (2) effects of immigration on crime, and (3) perception of crime based on socioeconomic status

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For **volunteerism and giving**, the research focused on: (1) rates of volunteerism and (2) rates of charitable giving to religious and non-religious organizations or causes
For **voting**, the research focused on: (1) voting rates for presidential elections and (2) voting rates by educational attainment
For **civic and social engagement**, research focused on: (1) political engagement (discussing politics, reading newspapers, contacting a representative), (2) diversity of friendships and number of reported social interactions, (3) levels of social trust, and (4) levels of community satisfaction

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For **presence**, research focused on the following: (1) art establishments per capita, (2) the number of nonprofit community celebrations, festivals, fairs and parades, (3) access to higher education arts institutions
For **participation**, research focused on the following: (1) K-12 arts education and after-school arts programs and (2) presence of working artists
For **support**, research focused on the following: (1) public expenditures in support of the arts and (2) foundation and nonprofit contributions and expenditures in support of the arts

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GOLDHIRSH FOUNDATION

PREPARED BY:

Estolano LeSar Perez Advisors
510 W. 6th Street
Suite 1100A
Los Angeles, CA 90014
213-612-4545
www.elpadvisors.com

DESIGNED BY:

Cynthia Tan Design
310-595-6238
cyndtan@yahoo.com
www.cynthiatandesign.com

Estolano LeSar Perez ADVISORS LLC

CYNTHIA TAN DESIGN