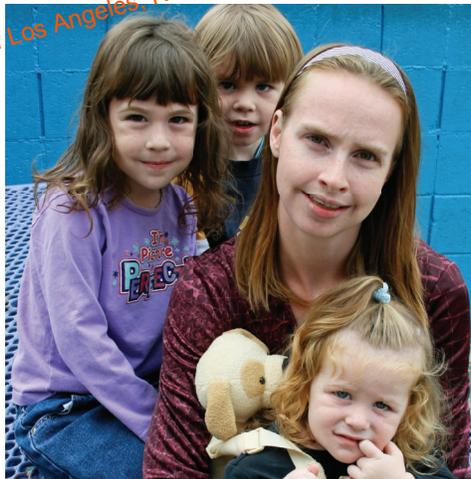


# 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Report

Including Detailed Geography Reports

*Casey v. City of Los Angeles, No. 11-56253 archived on September 11, 2012*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## SPECIAL THANKS

LAHSA would also like to thank the thousands of volunteers, service providers, and County and City departments for their assistance and support conducting the 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count.

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LAHSA is a Joint Powers Authority created and managed by the City and County of Los Angeles and is the lead agency for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care.



## Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Highlights

The Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, the nation's largest count of homeless individuals and families, took place from Jan. 25-27, 2011 with the support of 4,000 volunteers. The census covered more than 4,000 square miles and included all of Los Angeles County, except the cities of Glendale, Pasadena and Long Beach, which conducted their own homeless counts.



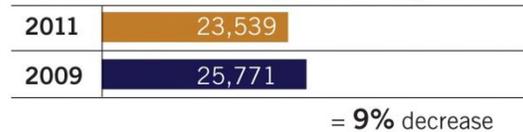
2011

As the lead agency for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC), the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) coordinates the Homeless Count every two years as part of a national effort required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

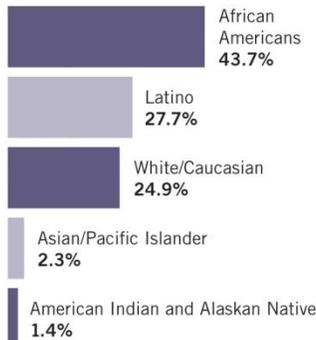
### Homelessness in Los Angeles County



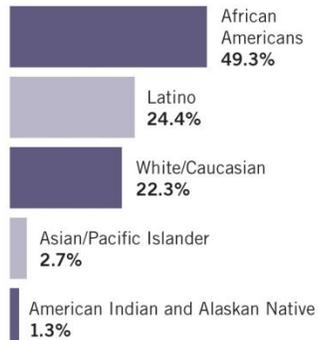
### Homelessness in City of Los Angeles



#### Ethnicity of Homeless Population in LA County



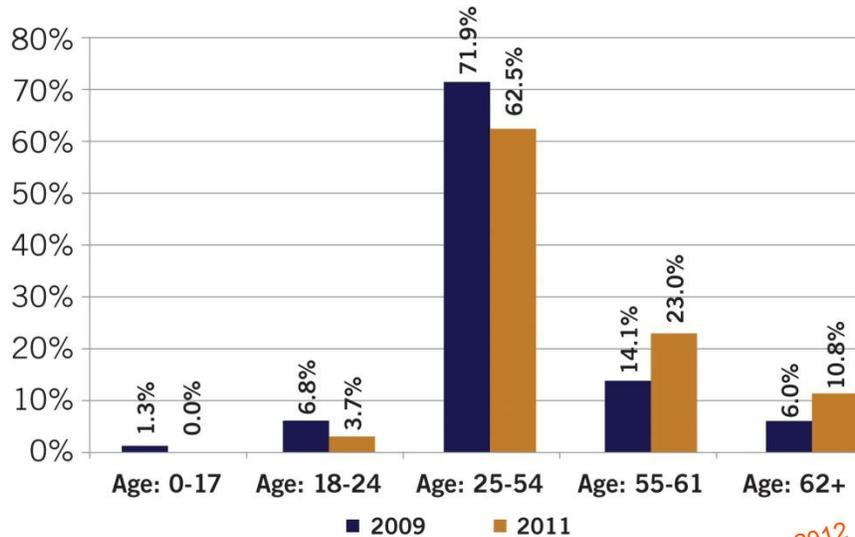
#### Ethnicity of Homeless Population in City of LA



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### Age of Chronic Homeless\*

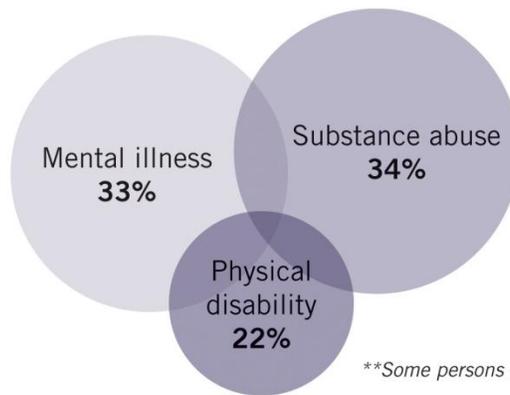
The homeless population is aging, with nearly 34 percent of chronic homeless persons aged 55 or older. This will increase the public cost of homelessness.



\*Refer to definition of chronic homelessness in the 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Report, page 13.

### Disabilities\*\*

Many homeless persons in Los Angeles County suffer from physical disabilities, mental illness and substance abuse. In particular, the homeless mental illness rate is higher than the national average.



\*\*Some persons are experiencing multiple disabling factors.

### Homeless Veterans

18 percent of the homeless are veterans – a 3 percent increase from 2009.

Veterans have a higher rate of chronic homelessness than the general population. 31 percent of homeless veterans are chronically homeless, up from 19 percent in 2009.

Male	5,939	7,221	+22%
Female	601	909	+51%
	<b>2009</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>Change</b>

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## Introduction

**The Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count is the nation’s largest count of homeless persons, covering over 4,000 square miles.** The project is a community-wide effort made possible with the support of 4,000 volunteers including: homeless housing and service providers, nonprofits, businesses, faith based groups, government agencies and academic organizations throughout Los Angeles County. In addition to counting homeless persons living on the streets and in shelters, Los Angeles is one of the only jurisdictions to conduct a youth count in order to target hard to reach youth, a demographic survey, and a survey to identify homeless persons hidden from view because they were found on private property.

**The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) coordinates the biennial Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC) as part of the national effort to enumerate the homeless population required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).** The LA CoC includes all of Los Angeles County, except the cities of Glendale, Pasadena, and Long Beach, who administer and operate their own respective Continuum of Care systems and conduct their own homeless counts.

Jurisdictions receiving federal funding to provide housing and services for the homeless through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant Program are required to conduct a biennial Point-in-Time count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families during the last ten days of January. This information helps the federal government better understand the character and scale of homelessness nationally. Locally, the count provides valuable information to guide the allocation of limited resources for housing and services. It is also essential for future planning to prevent and end homelessness in Los Angeles.

### Homelessness Definition

According to HUD, a person is considered homeless **only** when he/she resides in one of the places described below at the time of the count.

An unsheltered homeless person resides in:

- A place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, or on the street.

A sheltered homeless person resides in:

- An emergency shelter.
- Transitional housing for homeless persons who originally came from the streets or emergency shelters.

**Due to the size of Los Angeles, LAHSA divided the shelter and street components of the count into three geographic areas that were counted during a three day period from January 25 to January 27, 2011.** The demographic survey was completed from February 2 to April 8, 2011 and included 3,658 surveys of homeless persons on the street and in shelters to gather key demographic information about the Los Angeles homeless population. A survey to identify the hidden homeless was conducted from January 25 to April 10, 2011. The survey estimated the number of homeless persons who were not counted during the street count because they were on private property and hidden from view. These persons were included in the unsheltered homeless count for the LA CoC.

This report summarizes our findings and the methodology used, with specific attention given to the following HUD priority target populations: veterans, the chronically homeless, families and youth.

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## RESULTS OF THE 2011 GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT

- In the **County of Los Angeles** in January 2011 there were an estimated **51,340** homeless persons, which represents a **3% decrease** from the prior count.
- In the **City of Los Angeles** in January 2011 there were an estimated **23,539** homeless persons, which represents a **9% decrease** from the prior count.
- The same methodology and components were used to calculate the 2009 and 2011 estimates.

**Figure 1: Los Angeles County 2011 Homeless Count**

Area	2011	Prior Count*	Change	%
Los Angeles Continuum of Care	45,422	47,572 <sup>1</sup>	-2,150	-4.5%
Glendale Continuum of Care	412	428	-16	-3.7%
Long Beach Continuum of Care	4,290	3,909	+381	9.7%
Pasadena Continuum of Care	1,216	1,137	+79	6.9%
<b>Los Angeles County Total</b>	<b>51,340</b>	<b>53,046</b>	<b>-1,706</b>	<b>-3.2%</b>

**Figure 2: Los Angeles County 2011 Sheltered versus Unsheltered Count**

	2011		Sheltered		Unsheltered	
Los Angeles Continuum of Care	45,422	88%	16,882	37%	28,540	63%
Glendale Continuum of Care	412	1%	291	71%	121	29%
Long Beach Continuum of Care	4,290	8%	2,087	49%	2,203	51%
Pasadena Continuum of Care	1,216	2%	453	37%	763	63%
<b>Los Angeles County Total</b>	<b>51,340</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>19,713</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>31,627</b>	<b>62%</b>

**Figure 3: Los Angeles County 2011 Homeless by Household Type**

	2011	Single Adults		Families		Unaccompanied Youth (<18)	
Los Angeles Continuum of Care	45,422	35,838	79%	9,218 <sup>2</sup>	20%	366	1%
Glendale Continuum of Care	412	297	72%	115	28%	-	0%
Long Beach Continuum of Care	4,290	3,380	79%	910	21%	-	0%
Pasadena Continuum of Care	1,216	1,019	84%	194	16%	3	0%
<b>Los Angeles County Total</b>	<b>51,340</b>	<b>40,534</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>10,437<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>1%</b>

\* Represents 2009 data for Los Angeles and Long Beach, and 2010 data for Glendale & Pasadena who conduct annual homeless counts.

<sup>1</sup> Adjusted for family members receiving Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) CalWORKs Temporary Assistance benefits. As a result of input from family providers who participated in a 2010 strategy session to improve techniques for counting homeless families, LAHSA was able to include 1,248 family households for 2011. These households comprised an estimated 3,744 family members. In 2009, there were 1,626 family households, with an estimated 4,878 family members. All families received a hotel/motel benefit through the Temporary Assistance program and were eligible for inclusion in the homeless count enumeration.

<sup>2</sup> The 9,218 family members in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care were in 3,035 families.

<sup>3</sup> The 10,437 family members in Los Angeles County were in 3,439 families.

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Los Angeles Continuum of Care Results

Los Angeles Continuum of Care Results

The Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC) includes all of Los Angeles County, except the cities of Glendale, Pasadena, and Long Beach, who administer and operate their own respective Continuum of Care systems and conduct their own homeless counts.

**Figure 4: Homeless by Household Type, 2009-2011**

Area	2011	2009	Change	%	Single Adults	Family Members	Unaccompanied Youth (<18)
LA CoC	45,422	47,572*	-2,150	-4.5%	35,838 79%	9,218 20%	366 1%

**Figure 5: Sheltered and Unsheltered Data, by Household type, 2009-2011**

Area	2011	Sheltered	Unsheltered	2009	Sheltered	Unsheltered
LACoC	45,422	16,882 37%	28,540 63%	47,572*	18,928 40%	28,644 60%
<i>by Household Type</i>						
Single Adults	35,838	9,541 27%	26,297 73%	37,171	9,834 26%	27,337 74%
Families	9,218	7,254 79%	1,964 21%	9,763	8,752 90%	1,011 10%
Unaccompanied Youth (<18)	366	87 24%	279 76%	638	342 54%	296 46%

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Los Angeles Continuum of Care Results

Los Angeles Continuum of Care Results

\* Adjusted for family members receiving DPSS CalWORKs Temporary Assistance benefits. As a result of input from family providers who participated in a 2010 strategy session to improve techniques for counting homeless families, LAHSA was able to include 1,248 family households for 2011. These households comprised an estimated 3,744 family members. In 2009, there were 1,626 family households, with an estimated 4,878 family members. All families received a hotel/motel benefit through the Temporary Assistance program and were eligible for inclusion in the homeless count enumeration.

**Figure 6: Homeless Subpopulation Data**

	2011	%	2009*	%
<b>Chronically Homeless Individuals</b>	10,901	24%	10,245	24%
<b>Chronically Homeless Family Members</b>	2,730	6%	not available	
<b>Veterans</b>	8,131	18%	6,540	15%
<b>Survivors of Domestic Violence</b>	4,610	10%	3,762	9%
<b>Persons with AIDS/HIV</b>	1,104	2%	1,064	2%
<b>Persons with Mental Illness</b>	14,830	33%	10,387	24%
<b>Persons with Physical Disabilities</b>	9,903	22%	not available	
<b>Persons with Substance Abuse Problems</b>	15,489	34%	17,419	41%

\* based on 2009 original count of 42,694

**Figure 7: Homeless Gender Data, Adults and Children**

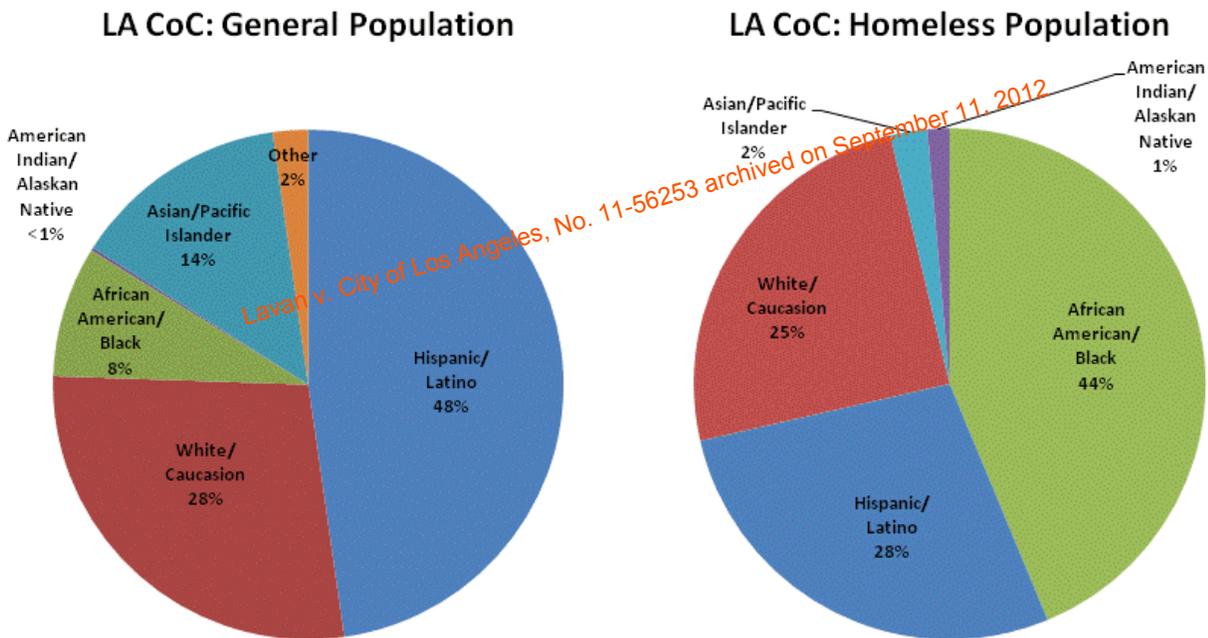
	2011		2009*	
<b>Adult Male</b>	26,767	59%	25,862	60%
<b>Adult Female</b>	12,589	28%	13,730	32%
<b>Male Children (&lt; 18)</b>	3,057	7%	2,026	5%
<b>Female Children (&lt; 18)</b>	3,009	7%	1,076	3%

\* based on 2009 original count of 42,694

Figure 8: Homeless Ethnicity Data, 2011

	2011	%	2009*	%
African American/ Black	19,868	43.7%	19,886	46.6%
Hispanic/Latino	12,573	27.7%	12,631	29.6%
White/ Caucasian	11,287	24.9%	8,924	20.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,058	2.3%	470	1.1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	636	1.4%	783	1.8%

\* based on 2009 original count of 42,694



- African Americans/Blacks represent a disproportionately high share of our local homeless population.

## LA CoC SUBPOPULATION DATA

### Chronic Homeless

#### Chronic homelessness among single adults remained stable between 2009 and 2011.

- Nearly one-quarter (24%) of the homeless population were chronically homeless single adults. This rate is consistent with the 2009 data.
- The percentage of persons experiencing at least four episodes of homelessness in three years has increased, while the percentage of persons who have been homeless over one year has decreased.
- Of the chronically homeless survey respondents, there was an increase in mental illness and a decrease in substance abuse.
- Family members experiencing chronic homelessness comprise 8% of the total homeless population.

#### Chronic Homeless Definition

An unaccompanied disabled person who has been continuously homeless for over one year or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in three years; or a family is considered chronically homeless if at least one member meets the definition of chronic homelessness.

The stressors associated with a tough economy may exacerbate mental illness and increase the rate among already vulnerable homeless populations. More specifically, many individuals may lose their ability to pay for and maintain critical prescription interventions that stabilize the disabling condition of mental illness.

Additionally, the chronic homeless in the LA CoC is aging. Persons aged 55 and older now make up 33.8% of the chronic homeless population, compared to just 20.1% in 2009. The aging of the LA CoC's chronic homeless population will increase the public cost of homelessness; unless we address this emerging phenomenon, this trend will likely continue.

Los Angeles Continuum of Care Results

Los Angeles Continuum of Care Results

Figure 9: Long Term and Episodic Chronic Homelessness 2009-2011

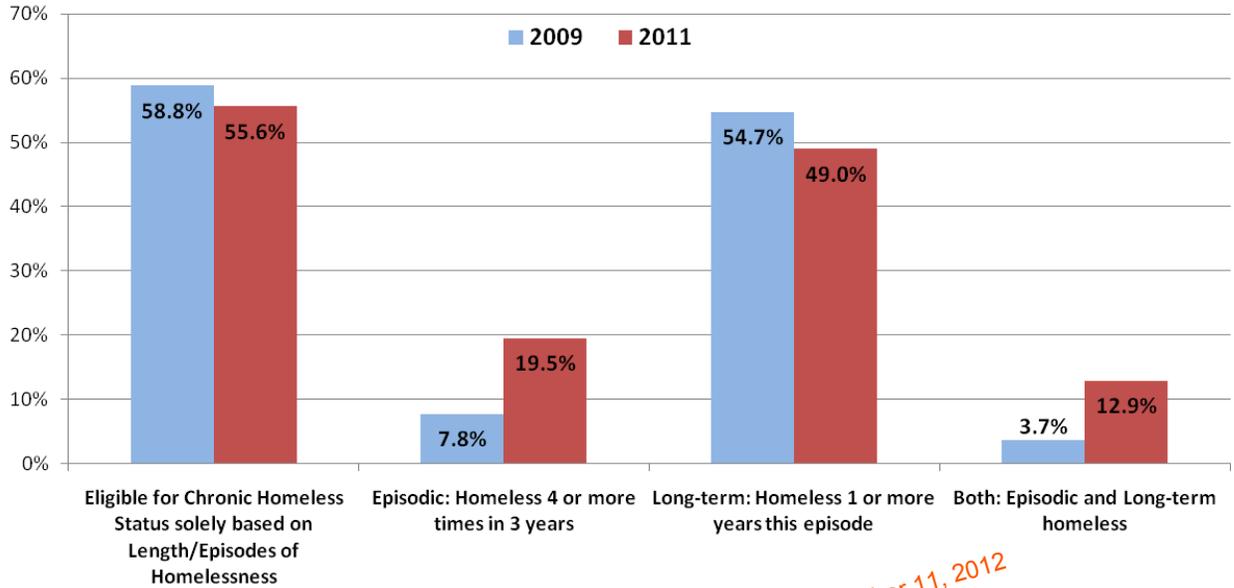
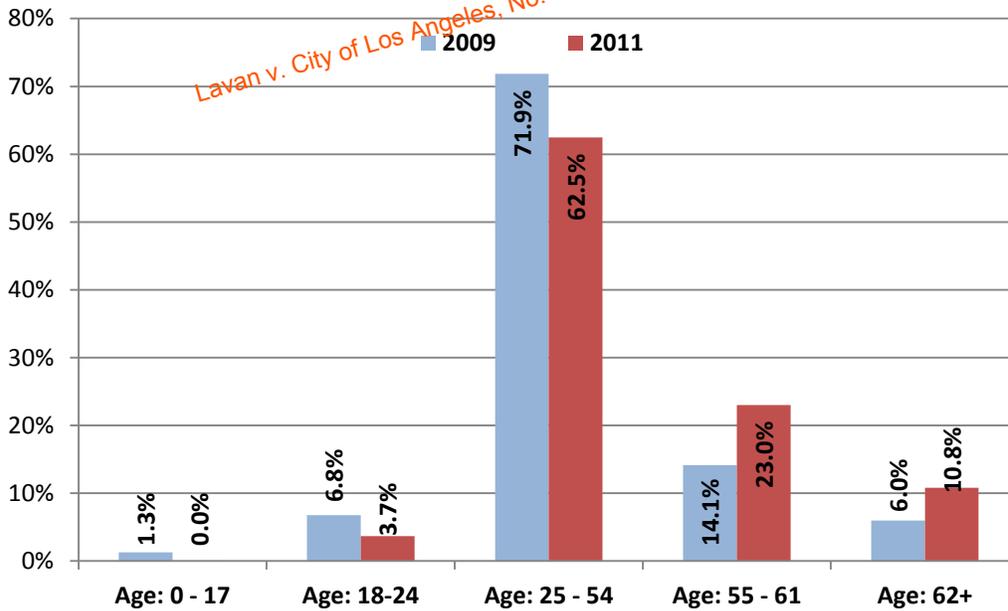


Figure 10: Age of Chronic Homelessness 2009-2011



Los Angeles Continuum of Care Results

Los Angeles Continuum of Care Results

## Veterans

- **18%** of the homeless in the LA CoC are Veterans, a 3% increase from the 2009 count.
- **31% of homeless veterans are chronically homeless** up from 19% in 2009.

### Veteran Definition

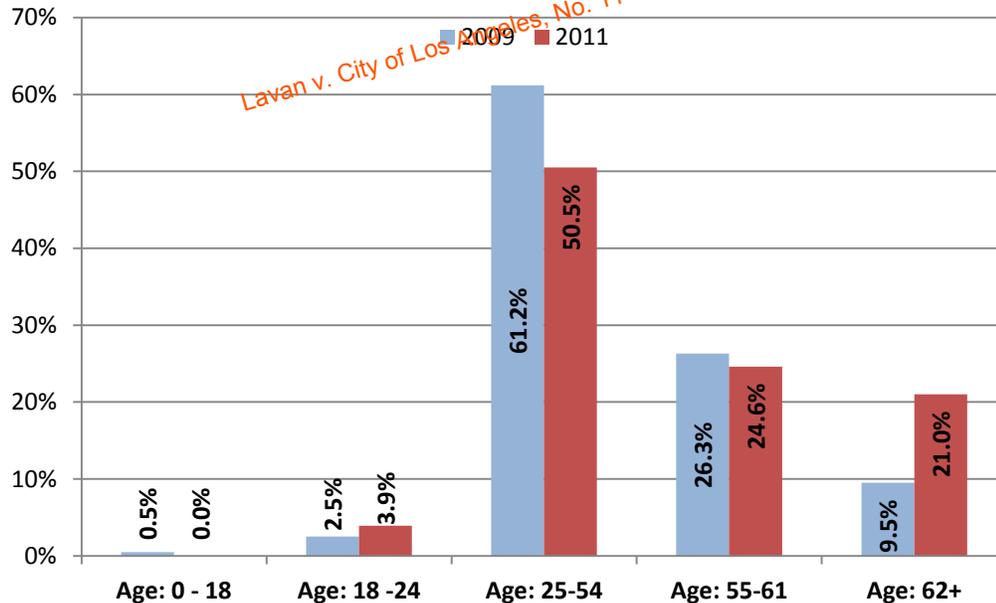
A person who has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, not including inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was activated into active duty.

- The female veteran homelessness increased 51% to 909, from 601 in 2009. Male veteran homelessness increased by 22% to 7,221 from 5,939 in 2009.

- Nationally veterans of the Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom or OIF) and Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom or OEF) wars are at significant risk of becoming homeless.

Source: Veteran Homelessness: A supplemental Report to the 2009 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, Department of Housing and Urban Development and Veterans Administration, 2010

Figure 11: Homeless Veterans: Age 2009-2011



## Families with children

In 2011, there were 9,218 homeless family members, 1,964 were unsheltered and 7,254 were sheltered.

### Family Definition

A household with one or more adults accompanied by at least one child (under 18).

- There was a 6% decrease in family homelessness since 2009.<sup>5</sup>

## Youth

In 2011, there were 3,959 homeless youth in the LA CoC, compared to 4,210 in 2009.

LAHSA conducted an unsheltered youth count separate from the unsheltered street count on January 31, 2011 during the day in order to include homeless youth who are not typically enumerated in night street counts.

- Local youth provider agencies and homeless youth volunteer counters found 859 homeless youth, ages 24 and under.
- Of the 3,959 homeless youth, 3,593 were between the ages of 18 to 24, and 366 were under 18 and unaccompanied.
- Provider agencies and homeless youth counters identified neighborhoods to count in each Service Planning Area (SPA) based on their knowledge of hot spot areas where homeless youth tend to frequent. In 2009, four of the eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs) in LA County were covered and in 2011, seven of the eight SPAs were covered.

### Youth Definition

Unaccompanied persons, under 18 or between 18 to 24 years old.

<sup>5</sup> Adjusted for family members receiving DPSS CalWORKs Temporary Assistance benefits. As a result of input from family providers who participated in a 2010 strategy session to improve techniques for counting homeless families, LAHSA was able to include 1,248 family households for 2011. These households comprised an estimated 3,744 family members. In 2009, there were 1,626 family households, with an estimated 4,878 family members. All families received a hotel/motel benefit through the Temporary Assistance program and were eligible for inclusion in the homeless count enumeration.

## Age

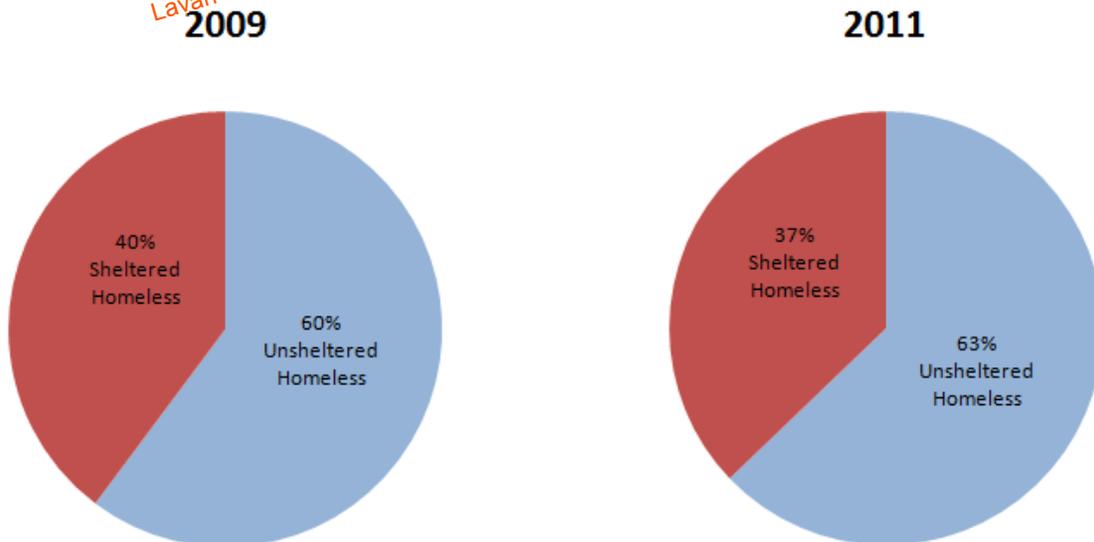
Figure 12: Homeless Age Data, 2011

	2011	%
Under 18	6,066	13.4%
18-24	3,593	7.9%
25-54	26,085	57.4%
55-61	6,407	14.1%
62 & Older	3,271	7.2%

## Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness

- **Over the past two years, the unsheltered/sheltered rate has stabilized.**
  - The unsheltered rate in the LA CoC is still unacceptable and poses major implications for the ongoing work that must be done to prevent and end homelessness. Contributing to our challenge is the lack of affordable housing and ongoing severe economic conditions.
- Of the LA CoC's homeless population, **28,540 or 63% were unsheltered** and 16,882 or 37% were sheltered.

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## Institution Count

In addition to counting homeless persons living in shelters and on the streets, LAHSA also conducts an enumeration of persons living in institutions such as local and county jails, hospital emergency rooms and beds, and residential alcohol and drug treatment programs who would be homeless if they were not residing in one of these programs.

- Although this data is not reported to HUD, it provides Los Angeles with valuable information about the homeless population which is used for planning purpose across the CoC.
- The 2011 count found 6,069 persons residing in institutions, which is a 1% decrease from the last time LAHSA conducted a similar count of institutions in 2007. This information was not collected in 2009 due to insufficient data.

## Annualized Estimate

The total number of persons who were homeless during the course of the past year within the LA CoC was **120,070 persons**. The annualized number estimates the number of persons who become homeless during the twelve months that surround the count. The estimate also includes persons that cycle in and out of homelessness as well as those who become homeless for a period of time (such as a few weeks or a few months) that may not overlap with the nights the point-in-time homeless count was conducted. In 2009, the annualized estimate was 96,169.

**City of Los Angeles Results** **City of Los Angeles Results**

- In the **City of Los Angeles** in January 2011 there were **23,539** homeless persons, which represents a **9% decrease** from the prior count.

**Figure 13: Homeless by Household Type, 2011**

Area	2011	2009	Change	%	Single Adults	Family Members	Unaccompanied Youth (<18)
LA City	23,539	25,771 <sup>6</sup>	-2,232	-8.7%	17,944 76%	5,284 23%	311 1%

**Figure 14: Homeless Sheltered and Unsheltered Data, by Household type, 2009-2011**

Area	2011	Sheltered	Unsheltered	2009	Sheltered	Unsheltered
LA City	23,539	10,562 45%	12,977 55%	25,771	10,001 39%	15,770 61%
<i>by Household Type</i>						
Single Adults	17,944	6,175 34%	11,769 66%	21,653	6,501 30%	15,152 70%
Families	5,284	4,302 81%	982 19%	3,807	3,342 88%	465 12%
Unaccompanied Youth (<18)	311	85 27%	226 73%	311	158 51%	153 49%

**Figure 15: Homeless Subpopulation Data, 2009-2011**

	2011	%	2009*	%
Chronically Homeless Individuals	5,579	24%	6,195	25%
Chronically Homeless Family Members	1,561	7%	Not available	
Veterans	3,267	14%	4,107	16%
Survivors of Domestic Violence	2,253	10%	2,206	9%
Persons with AIDS/HIV	793	3%	650	3%
Persons with Mental Illness	8,265	35%	6,056	24%
Persons with Physical Disabilities	5,049	21%	Not available	
Persons with Substance Abuse Problems	7,349	31%	10,554	42%

\* based on 2009 original count of 24,915

**City of Los Angeles Results** **City of Los Angeles Results**

<sup>6</sup> Adjusted for family members receiving DPSS CalWORKs Temporary Assistance benefits. As a result of input from family providers who participated in a 2010 strategy session to improve techniques for counting homeless families, LAHSA was able to include 680 family households for 2011. These households comprised an estimated 2,040 family members. In 2009, there were 285 family households, with an estimated 856 family members. All families received a hotel/motel benefit through the Temporary Assistance program and were eligible for inclusion in the homeless count enumeration.

**Figure 16: Homeless Gender Data**

	2011	%
Adult Male	13,585	57.7%
Adult Female	6,365	27.0%
Male Children (< 18)	1,809	7.7%
Female Children (< 18)	1,780	7.6%

**Figure 17: Homeless Ethnicity Data**

	2011	%
African American/ Black	11,599	49.3%
Hispanic/Latino	5,747	24.4%
White/Caucasian	5,249	22.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	631	2.7%
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	313	1.3%

*Lavan v. City of Los Angeles, No. 11-56253 archived on September 11, 2012*

**Service Planning Area Results**

**Service Planning Area Results**

The Service Planning Area (SPA) data in this report is for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC), which includes all of Los Angeles County, except the cities of Glendale, Pasadena, and Long Beach, who administer and operate their own respective Continuum of Care systems and conduct their own homeless counts.

**Figure 18: Homeless by Household Type, 2011**

Service Planning Areas (SPAs)	All SPAs	Single Adults	Family Members	Unaccompanied Youth (<18)
1- Antelope Valley	1,412	889 63%	517 37%	6 <1%
2- San Fernando Valley	4,727	3,821 81%	866 18%	40 1%
3- San Gabriel Valley	3,918	3,385 86%	526 13%	7 <1%
4- Metro LA	11,571	9,655 83%	1,781 15%	135 1%
5- West LA	3,512	2,803 80%	682 19%	27 1%
6- South LA	8,735	5,582 64%	3,017 35%	136 2%
7- East LA County	4,759	3,868 81%	888 19%	3 <1%
8- South Bay	6,788	5,833 86%	943 14%	12 <1%
<b>LA CoC Total</b>	<b>45,422</b>	<b>35,838 79%</b>	<b>9,218 20%</b>	<b>366 1%</b>

**Figure 19: Homeless Population Totals, 2009-2011**

Service Planning Areas (SPAs)	All SPAs	1 Antelope Valley	2 San Fernando Valley	3 San Gabriel Valley	4 Metro LA	5 West LA	6 South LA	7 East LA County	8 South Bay	Unknown SPA
2009 Reported	42,694	2,419	3,312	2,780	11,093	5,538	8,514	4,517	3,954	567
2009 DPSS Adjustment <sup>7</sup>	4,878	450	441	489	288	162	2,073	432	543	0
<b>2009 FINAL</b>	<b>47,572</b>	<b>2,869</b>	<b>3,753</b>	<b>3,269</b>	<b>11,381</b>	<b>5,700</b>	<b>10,587</b>	<b>4,949</b>	<b>4,497</b>	<b>567</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>45,422</b>	<b>1,412</b>	<b>4,727</b>	<b>3,918</b>	<b>11,571</b>	<b>3,512</b>	<b>8,735</b>	<b>4,759</b>	<b>6,788</b>	<b>0</b>
# Change	-2,150	-1,457	974	649	190	-2,188	-1,852	-190	2,291	-567
% Change	-4.5%	-50.8%	+26.0%	+19.9%	+1.7%	-38.4%	-17.5%	-3.8%	+50.9%	-100.0%

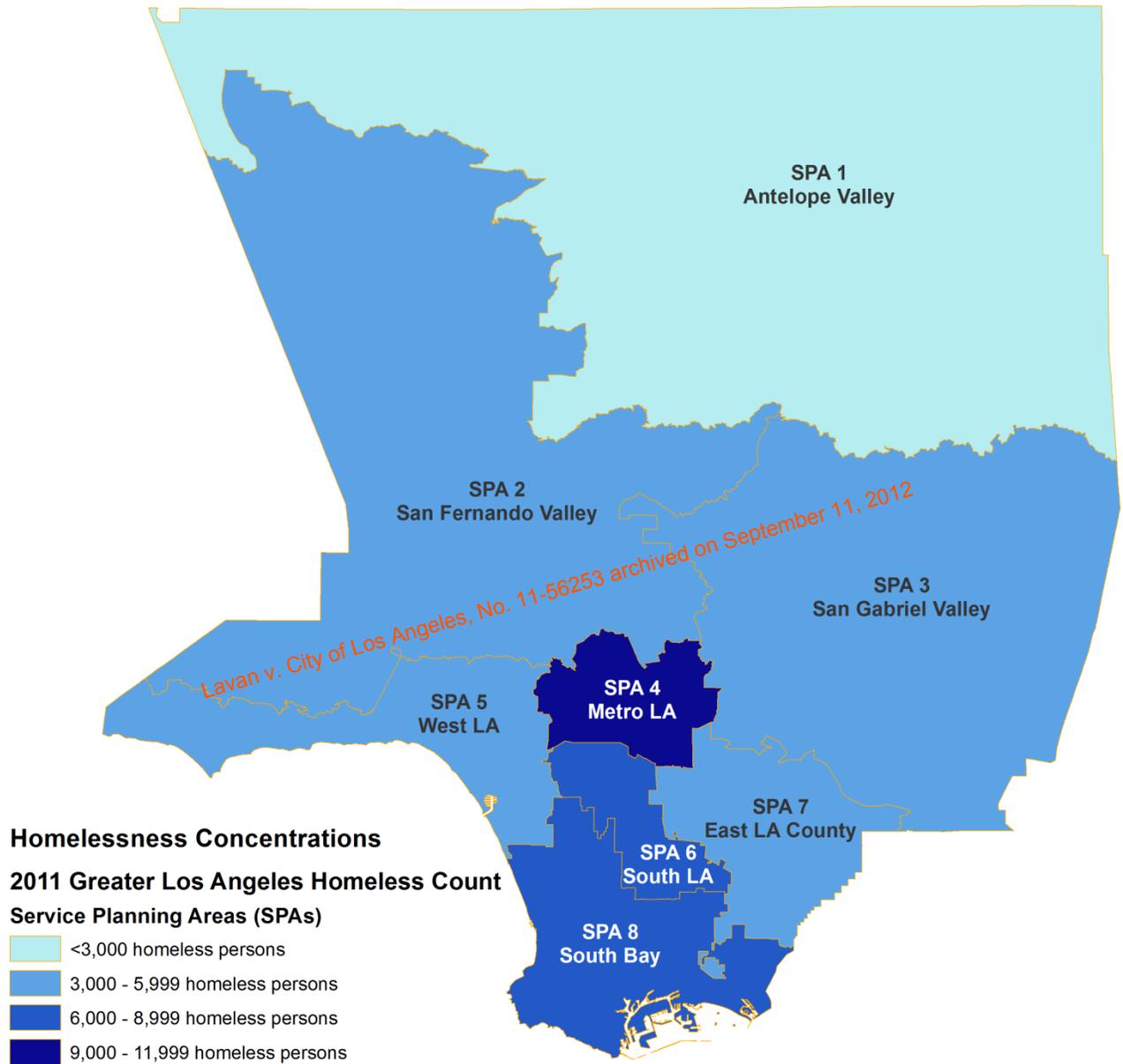
**Service Planning Area Results**

**Service Planning Area Results**

<sup>7</sup> Adjusted for family members receiving Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) CalWORKs Temporary Assistance benefits. As a result of input from family providers who participated in a 2010 strategy session to improve techniques for counting homeless families, LAHSA was able to include 1,248 family households for 2011. These households comprised an estimated 3,744 family members. In 2009, there were 1,626 family households, with an estimated 4,878 family members. All families received a hotel/motel benefit through the Temporary Assistance program and were eligible for inclusion in the homeless count enumeration.

Service Planning Area Results Service Planning Area Results

Figure 20: Service Planning Area Map of Homelessness, 2011



Service Planning Area Results Service Planning Area Results

**Service Planning Area Results** **Service Planning Area Results**

**Figure 21: Homeless Age Prevalence Rates, 2011**

	1 LA CoC	2 Antelope Valley	3 San Fernando Valley	4 San Gabriel Valley	5 Metro LA	6 West LA	7 South LA	8 East LA County	9 South Bay
<b>Under 18</b>	13.4%	24.0%	11.7%	9.3%	10.6%	12.2%	23.5%	11.4%	8.9%
<b>18-24</b>	7.9%	4.2%	1.9%	8.2%	11.3%	10.2%	6.5%	9.8%	8.0%
<b>25-54</b>	57.4%	63.9%	59.0%	60.6%	60.8%	53.6%	49.5%	59.2%	51.1%
<b>55-61</b>	14.1%	4.7%	16.2%	9.8%	12.0%	15.0%	13.6%	14.7%	21.3%
<b>62 &amp; Older</b>	7.2%	3.2%	11.2%	12.1%	5.3%	9.0%	6.9%	4.9%	10.7%

**Figure 22: Homeless Age Totals, 2011**

	1 Antelope Valley	2 San Fernando Valley	3 San Gabriel Valley	4 Metro LA	5 West LA	6 South LA	7 East LA County	8 South Bay
<b>Under 18</b>	339	553	363	1,230	427	2,053	540	607
<b>18-24</b>	60	89	321	1,303	358	568	467	542
<b>25-54</b>	902	2,787	2,874	7,033	1,881	4,324	2,818	3,466
<b>55-61</b>	66	765	383	1,391	527	1,192	701	1,443
<b>62 &amp; Older</b>	45	533	477	614	319	598	233	730
<b>Total</b>	1,412	4,727	3,918	11,571	3,512	8,735	4,759	6,788

**Service Planning Area Results** **Service Planning Area Results**

**Service Planning Area Results** **Service Planning Area Results**

**Figure 23: Homeless Subpopulation Prevalence Rates Within each SPA, 2011**

Service Planning Areas (SPAs)	LA CoC	1 Antelope Valley	2 San Fernando Valley	3 San Gabriel Valley	4 Metro LA	5 West LA	6 South LA	7 East LA County	8 South Bay
Chronically Homeless Individuals	24%	15%	31%	29%	19%	31%	24%	23%	24%
Chronically Homeless Family Members	6%	5%	2%	8%	5%	6%	8%	4%	9%
Substance Abusers	34%	17%	26%	47%	32%	33%	32%	36%	41%
Mentally Ill	33%	20%	35%	38%	38%	48%	35%	27%	15%
Veterans	18%	6%	12%	10%	14%	29%	12%	18%	37%
People With AIDS/HIV	2%	1%	3%	3%	5%	1%	1%	0%	1%
Survivors of Domestic Violence	10%	15%	5%	18%	9%	8%	10%	12%	10%
Physical Disability	22%	10%	26%	19%	19%	31%	22%	33%	15%

**Figure 24: Homeless Subpopulation Totals, 2011**

Service Planning Areas (SPAs)	LA CoC	1 Antelope Valley	2 San Fernando Valley	3 San Gabriel Valley	4 Metro LA	5 West LA	6 South LA	7 East LA County	8 South Bay
Chronically Homeless Individuals	10,901	209	1,489	1,149	2,176	1,076	2,073	1,078	1,652
Chronically Homeless Family Members	2,730	67	93	324	578	207	679	203	579
Substance Abusers	15,489	238	1,228	1,849	3,691	1,169	2,803	1,734	2,776
Mentally Ill	14,830	287	1,643	1,472	4,419	1,670	3,023	1,283	1,033
Veterans	8,131	90	554	381	1,656	1,004	1,069	856	2,521
People With AIDS/HIV	1,104	14	148	106	633	25	113	6	57
Survivors of Domestic Violence	4,610	211	245	697	1,078	292	841	561	685
Physical Disability	9,993	143	1,239	754	2,198	1,080	1,964	1,563	1,051

**Service Planning Area Results** **Service Planning Area Results**

**Service Planning Area Results** **Service Planning Area Results**

**Figure 25: Distribution of Key Homeless Populations and Subpopulations, 2011**

Service Planning Areas (SPAs)	Single Adults	Chronically Homeless Individuals	Family Members	Chronically Homeless Family Members	Veterans	Unaccompanied Youth (<18)
1- Antelope Valley	2%	2%	6%	3%	1%	2%
2- San Fernando Valley	11%	14%	9%	3%	7%	11%
3- San Gabriel Valley	9%	11%	6%	12%	5%	2%
4- Metro LA	27%	20%	19%	21%	20%	37%
5- West LA	8%	10%	7%	8%	12%	7%
6- South LA	16%	19%	33%	25%	13%	37%
7- East LA County	11%	10%	10%	7%	11%	1%
8- South Bay	16%	15%	10%	21%	31%	3%
LA CoC Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

*Lavan v. City of Los Angeles, No. 11-56253 archived on September 11, 2012*

**Service Planning Area Results** **Service Planning Area Results**

**Supervisorial Districts Results** **Supervisorial Districts Results**

The Supervisorial District (SD) data in this report is for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC), which includes all of Los Angeles County, except the cities of Glendale, Pasadena, and Long Beach, who administer and operate their own respective Continuum of Care systems and conduct their own homeless counts.

**Figure 26: Homeless by Household Type, 2011**

Supervisorial Districts (SDs)	Total	Single Adults		Family Members		Unaccompanied Youth (<18)	
SD 1- Gloria Molina	11,269	9,186	82%	2,053	18%	30	<1%
SD 2- Mark Ridley-Thomas	19,380	14,740	76%	4,484	23%	156	1%
SD 3- Zev Yaroslavsky	8,048	6,744	84%	1,152	14%	152	2%
SD 4- Don Knabe	3,372	2,695	80%	661	20%	16	<1%
SD 5- Michael Antonovich	3,353	2,473	74%	868	26%	12	<1%
LA CoC	45,422	35,838	79%	9,218	20%	366	1%

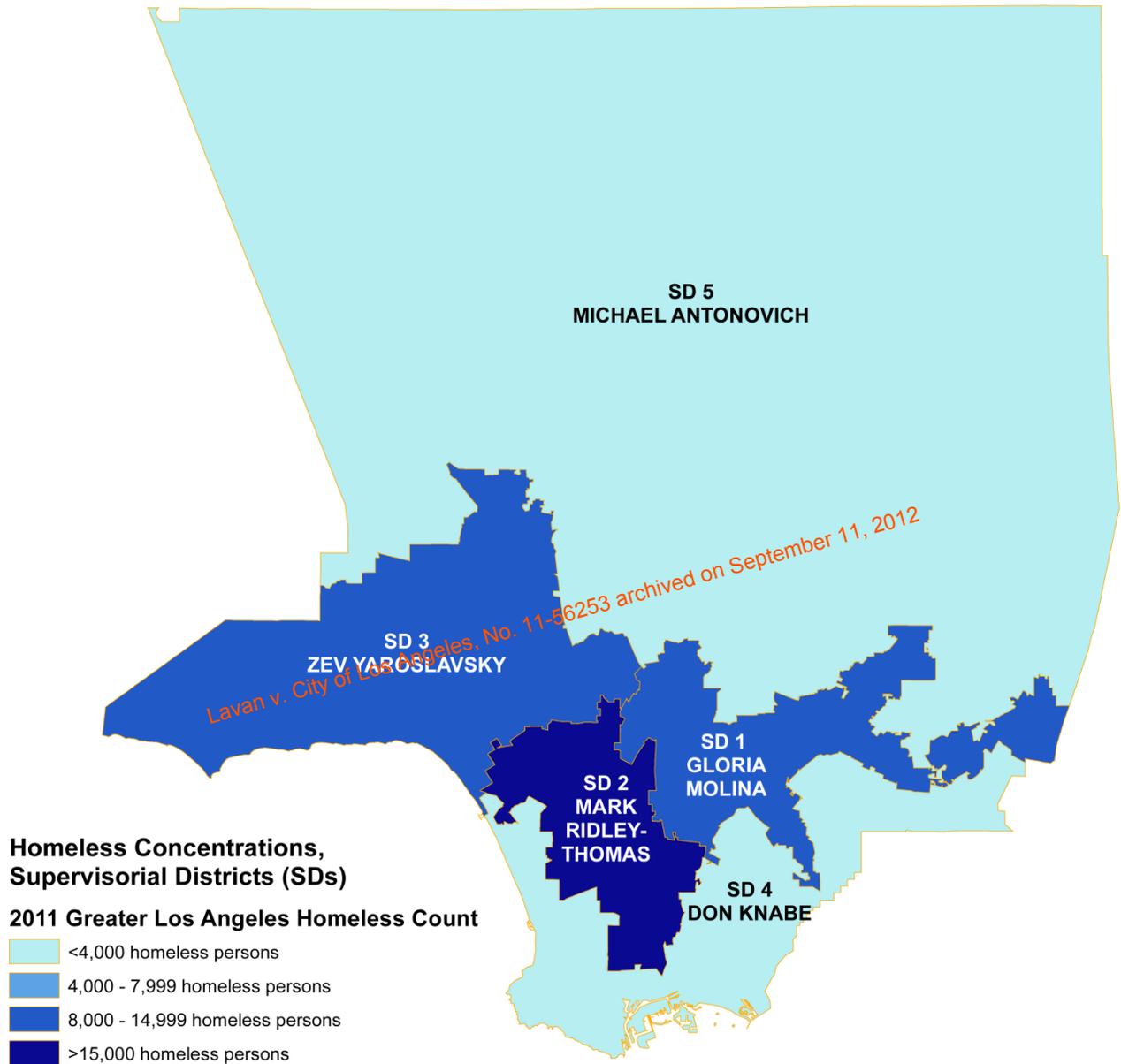
**Figure 27: Homeless Population Totals, 2009-2011**

Supervisorial Districts (SDs)	LA CoC	SD 1 Gloria Molina	SD 2 Mark Ridley-Thomas	SD 3 Zev Yaroslavsky	SD 4 Don Knabe	SD 5 Michael Antonovich	Unknown Supervisorial District
2009 Reported	42,694	9,399	16,567	8,221	4,117	3,573	817
2009 DPSS Adjustment <sup>8</sup>	4,878	1,167	2,700	264	120	627	0
2009 FINAL	47,572	10,566	19,267	8,485	4,237	4,200	817
2011	45,422	11,269	19,380	8,048	3,372	3,353	0
# Change	-2,150	703	113	-437	-865	-847	-817
% Change	-4.5%	+6.7%	+0.6%	-5.2%	-20.4%	-20.2%	-100.0%

**Supervisorial Districts Results** **Supervisorial Districts Results**

<sup>8</sup> Adjusted for family members receiving Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) CalWORKs Temporary Assistance benefits. As a result of input from family providers who participated in a 2010 strategy session to improve techniques for counting homeless families, LAHSA was able to include 1,248 family households for 2011. These households comprised an estimated 3,744 family members. In 2009, there were 1,626 family households, with an estimated 4,878 family members. All families received a hotel/motel benefit through the Temporary Assistance program and were eligible for inclusion in the homeless count enumeration.

Figure 28: Los Angeles County Supervisory District Map of Homelessness, 2011



Supervisory Districts Results

Supervisory Districts Results

Figure 29: Homeless Age Prevalence Rates, 2011

	LA CoC	SD 1 Gloria Molina	SD 2 Mark Ridley- Thomas	SD 3 Zev Yaroslavsky	SD 4 Don Knabe	SD 5 Michael Antonovich
<b>Under 18</b>	13.4%	11.6%	15.5%	10.3%	11.8%	16.7%
<b>18-24</b>	7.9%	8.4%	5.6%	11.7%	10.7%	2.9%
<b>25-54</b>	57.4%	60.4%	58.1%	54.1%	54.4%	62.9%
<b>55-61</b>	14.1%	12.0%	14.6%	15.4%	16.4%	8.2%
<b>62 &amp; Older</b>	7.2%	7.6%	6.2%	8.5%	6.7%	9.3%

Figure 30: Homeless Age Totals, 2011

	SD 1 Gloria Molina	SD 2 Mark Ridley- Thomas	SD 3 Zev Yaroslavsky	SD 4 Don Knabe	SD 5 Michael Antonovich
<b>Under 18</b>	1,309	3,010	829	399	560
<b>18-24</b>	941	1,087	945	362	97
<b>25-54</b>	6,801	11,256	4,353	1,835	2,108
<b>55-61</b>	1,350	2,834	1,237	554	274
<b>62 &amp; Older</b>	868	1,193	684	222	314
<b>Total</b>	11,269	19,380	8,048	3,372	3,353

Supervisory Districts Results

Supervisory Districts Results

Supervisory Districts Results

Supervisory Districts Results

**Figure 31: Homeless Subpopulation Prevalence Rates, 2011**

Supervisory Districts (SDs)	LA CoC	1 Gloria Molina	2 Mark Ridley- Thomas	3 Zev Yaroslavsky	4 Don Knabe	5 Michael Antonovich
Chronically Homeless Individuals	24%	20%	23%	27%	31%	28%
Chronically Homeless Family Members	6%	7%	7%	2%	8%	4%
Substance Abusers	34%	35%	36%	32%	36%	25%
Mentally Ill	33%	37%	32%	39%	19%	22%
Veterans	18%	9%	20%	26%	26%	11%
People With AIDS/HIV	2%	3%	2%	3%	0%	1%
Survivors of Domestic Violence	10%	15%	8%	9%	10%	8%
Physical Disability	22%	22%	20%	25%	26%	20%

**Figure 32: Homeless Subpopulation Totals, 2011**

Supervisory Districts (SDs)	LA CoC	1 Gloria Molina	2 Mark Ridley- Thomas	3 Zev Yaroslavsky	4 Don Knabe	5 Michael Antonovich
Chronically Homeless Individuals	10,901	2,289	4,419	2,205	1,055	933
Chronically Homeless Family Members	2,730	819	1,349	169	259	135
Substance Abusers	15,489	3,963	6,918	2,556	1,210	842
Mentally Ill	14,830	4,216	6,140	3,108	628	738
Veterans	8,131	1,020	3,787	2,073	865	385
People With AIDS/HIV	1,104	318	468	273	0	46
Survivors of Domestic Violence	4,610	1,703	1,605	694	329	279
Physical Disability	9,993	2,527	3,932	2,008	873	654

Supervisory Districts Results

Supervisory Districts Results

**LA City Council Districts Results** **LA City Council Districts Results**

**Figure 33: Homeless by Household Type, 2011**

LA City Council Districts (CDs)	Total	Single Adults	Family Members	Unaccompanied Youth (<18)
CD 1- Ed Reyes	909	434 48%	466 51%	9 1%
CD 2- Paul Krekorian	290	221 76%	69 24%	0 0%
CD 3- Dennis Zine	206	142 69%	56 27%	8 4%
CD 4- Tom LaBonge	704	600 85%	83 12%	21 3%
CD 5- Paul Koretz	689	365 53%	319 46%	5 1%
CD 6- Tony Cardenas	1,356	1,003 74%	343 25%	10 1%
CD 7- Richard Alarcon	743	617 83%	110 15%	16 2%
CD 8- Bernard Parks	2,362	997 42%	1,351 57%	14 1%
CD 9- Jan Perry	5,810	4,872 84%	865 15%	73 1%
CD 10- Herb Wesson Jr.	998	763 76%	234 23%	1 <1%
CD 11- Bill Rosendahl	1,258	1,060 84%	179 14%	19 2%
CD 12- Mitchell Englander	140	88 63%	46 33%	6 4%
CD 13- Eric Garcetti	1,918	1,582 82%	270 14%	66 3%
CD 14- Jose Huizar	2,207	1,900 86%	285 13%	22 1%
CD 15- Vacant	1,457	808 55%	608 42%	41 3%
Hidden Homeless	2,492	2,492 100%	0 0%	0 0%
<b>LA City Total</b>	<b>23,539</b>	<b>17,944 76%</b>	<b>5,284 23%</b>	<b>311 1%</b>

**LA City Council Districts Results** **LA City Council Districts Results**

**LA City Council Districts Results** **LA City Council Districts Results**

**Figure 34: Homeless Population Totals, 2009-2011**

LA City Council Districts (CDs)	LA City Total	CD 1- Ed Reyes	CD 2- Paul Krekorian	CD 3- Dennis Zine	CD 4- Tom LaBonge	CD 5- Paul Koretz	CD 6- Tony Cardenas	CD 7- Richard Alarcon	CD 8- Bernard Parks
<b>2009 Reported</b>	24,915	1,061	257	370	992	461	1,094	592	1,193
<b>2009 DPSS Adjustment<sup>9</sup></b>	856	70	0	0	0	54	88	0	370
<b>2009 FINAL</b>	<b>25,771</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>1,563</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>23,539</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>1,356</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>2,362</b>
<b># Change</b>	-2,232	-222	33	-164	-288	174	174	151	799
<b>% Change</b>	-8.7%	-19.6%	+12.8%	-44.4%	-29.0%	+33.9%	+14.7%	+25.5%	+51.1%

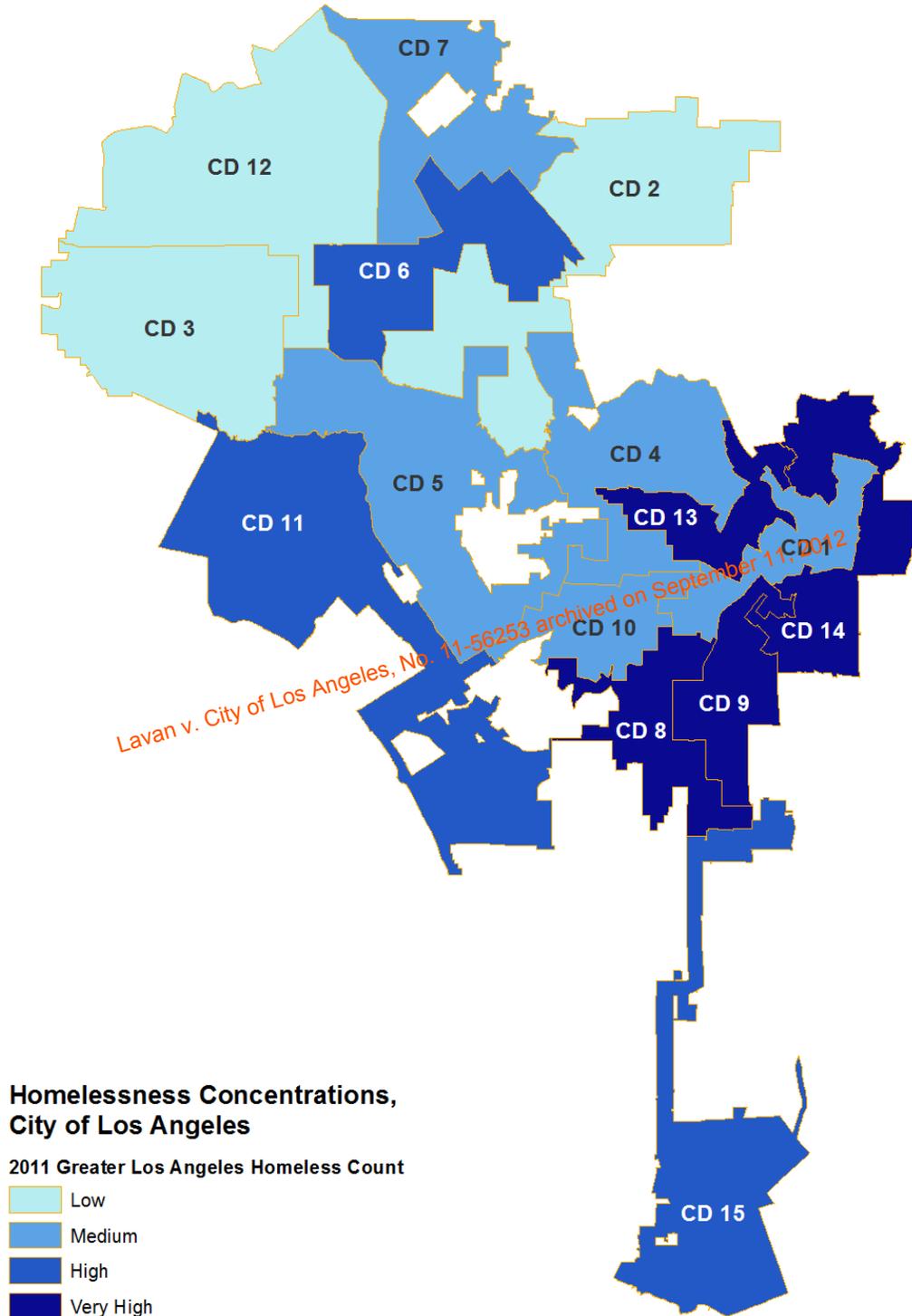
LA City Council Districts (CDs)	CD 9- Jan Perry	CD 10- Herb Wesson Jr.	CD 11- Bill Rosendahl	CD 12- Mitchell Englander	CD 13- Eric Garcetti	CD 14- Jose Huizar	CD 15- Vacant	Hidden Homeless <sup>10</sup>
<b>2009 Reported</b>	5,112	1,186	1,176	440	2,184	2,264	1,124	5,409
<b>2009 DPSS Adjustment<sup>9</sup></b>	75	0	0	59	0	26	114	0
<b>2009 FINAL</b>	<b>5,187</b>	<b>1,186</b>	<b>1,176</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>2,184</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>1,238</b>	<b>5,409</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>5,810</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>1,918</b>	<b>2,207</b>	<b>1,457</b>	<b>2,492</b>
<b># Change</b>	623	-188	82	-359	-266	-83	219	-2,917
<b>% Change</b>	+12.0%	-15.9%	+7.0%	-71.9%	-12.2%	-3.6%	+17.7%	-53.9%

**LA City Council Districts Results** **LA City Council Districts Results**

<sup>9</sup> Adjusted for family members receiving DPSS CalWORKs Temporary Assistance benefits. As a result of input from family providers who participated in a 2010 strategy session to improve techniques for counting homeless families, LAHSA was able to include 680 family households for 2011. These households comprised an estimated 2,040 family members. In 2009, there were 285 family households, with an estimated 856 family members. All families received a hotel/motel benefit through the Temporary Assistance program and were eligible for inclusion in the homeless count enumeration.

<sup>10</sup> Hidden Homeless estimates are most reliable at the Continuum of Care level.

Figure 35: Los Angeles City Council Map of Homelessness, 2011



**Figure 36: Homeless Subpopulation Prevalence Rates, City of Los Angeles, 2011**

	LA City Total
Chronically Homeless Individuals	24%
Chronically Homeless Family Members	7%
Substance Abusers	31%
Mentally Ill	35%
Veterans	14%
People With AIDS/HIV	3%
Survivors of Domestic Violence	10%
Physical Disability	21%

*Lavan v. City of Los Angeles, No. 11-56253 archived on September 11, 2012*

**Skid Row Results**

**Skid Row Results**

Skid Row (also known as Central City East) is home to the largest concentration of homeless individuals in the City of Los Angeles. It is a nearly fifty-block area east of downtown Los Angeles. The census tracts that encompass Skid Row are 2062, 2063, and 2073.

**Homelessness in Skid Row has increased by 14% (+514 persons) since 2009.**

- **4,316 persons were homeless in Skid Row in 2011.**
  - One in three persons living in Skid Row (31%) are homeless (4,316 of 13,889).<sup>11</sup>
  - The balance between sheltered and unsheltered homelessness in Skid Row remains unchanged since 2009, with 78% sheltered and 22% unsheltered.
- **Unsheltered homelessness in Skid Row has increased by 13% since 2009.**
  - The Los Angeles Police Department conducts a monthly homeless count of the Skid Row area. Their data shows a 141 person increase (+15%) in unsheltered homelessness from September 2009 (953) to February 2011 (1,094).<sup>12</sup>
- **Sheltered homelessness in Skid Row has increased by 14% since 2009.**

**Skid Row Homelessness in Los Angeles City & County**

- In 2011, 17% of the City of Los Angeles' homeless population were found in Skid Row, which compares to 15% in 2009.
- In 2011, 8% of the County of Los Angeles' homeless population were found in Skid Row, which compares to 7% in 2009.

**Figure 37: Homeless by Household Type, 2011**

	Total	Single Adults	Family Members	Unaccompanied Youth (<18)
<b>Skid Row</b>	4,316	4,020 93%	278 6%	18 <1%

- Single adults make up the vast majority of Skid Row's homeless population.

**Skid Row Results**

**Skid Row Results**

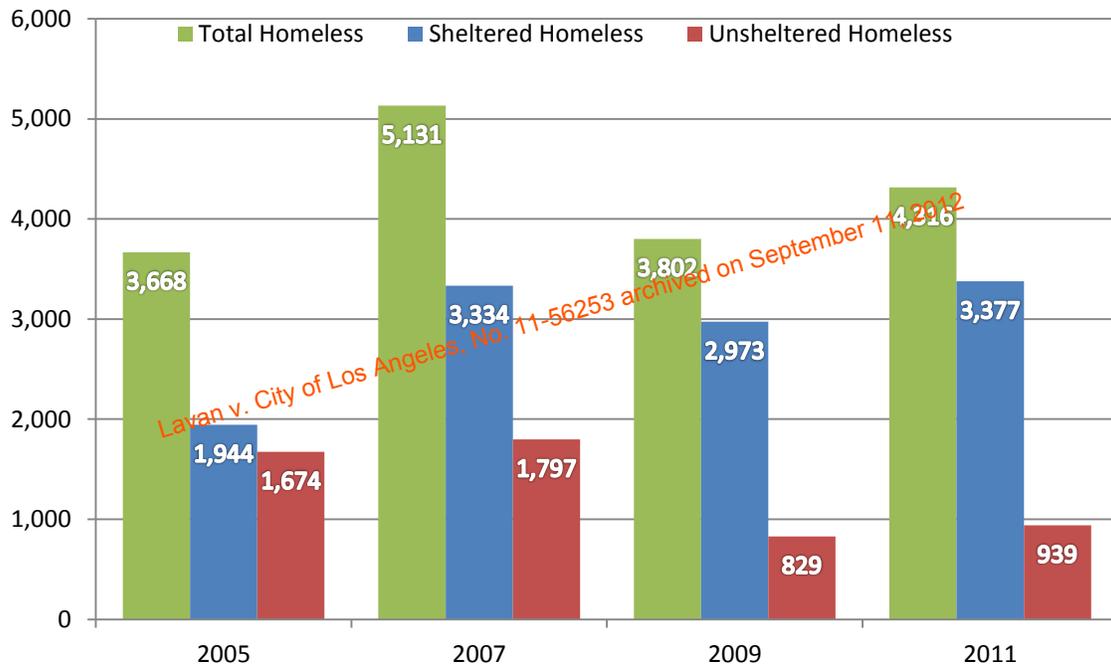
<sup>11</sup> The 2010 US Census point in time data shows that 13,889 persons live in Skid Row.

<sup>12</sup> This is the most recent data that the Los Angeles Police Department had available on homelessness in Skid Row.

Skid Row Results Skid Row Results

Figure 38: Homeless Population Totals, 2005-2011

	Total	Sheltered		Unsheltered	
<b>2011</b>	4,316	3,377	78%	939	22%
<b>2009</b>	3,802	2,973	78%	829	22%
<b>2007</b>	5,131	3,334	65%	1,797	35%
<b>2005</b>	3,668	1,944	54%	1,674	46%

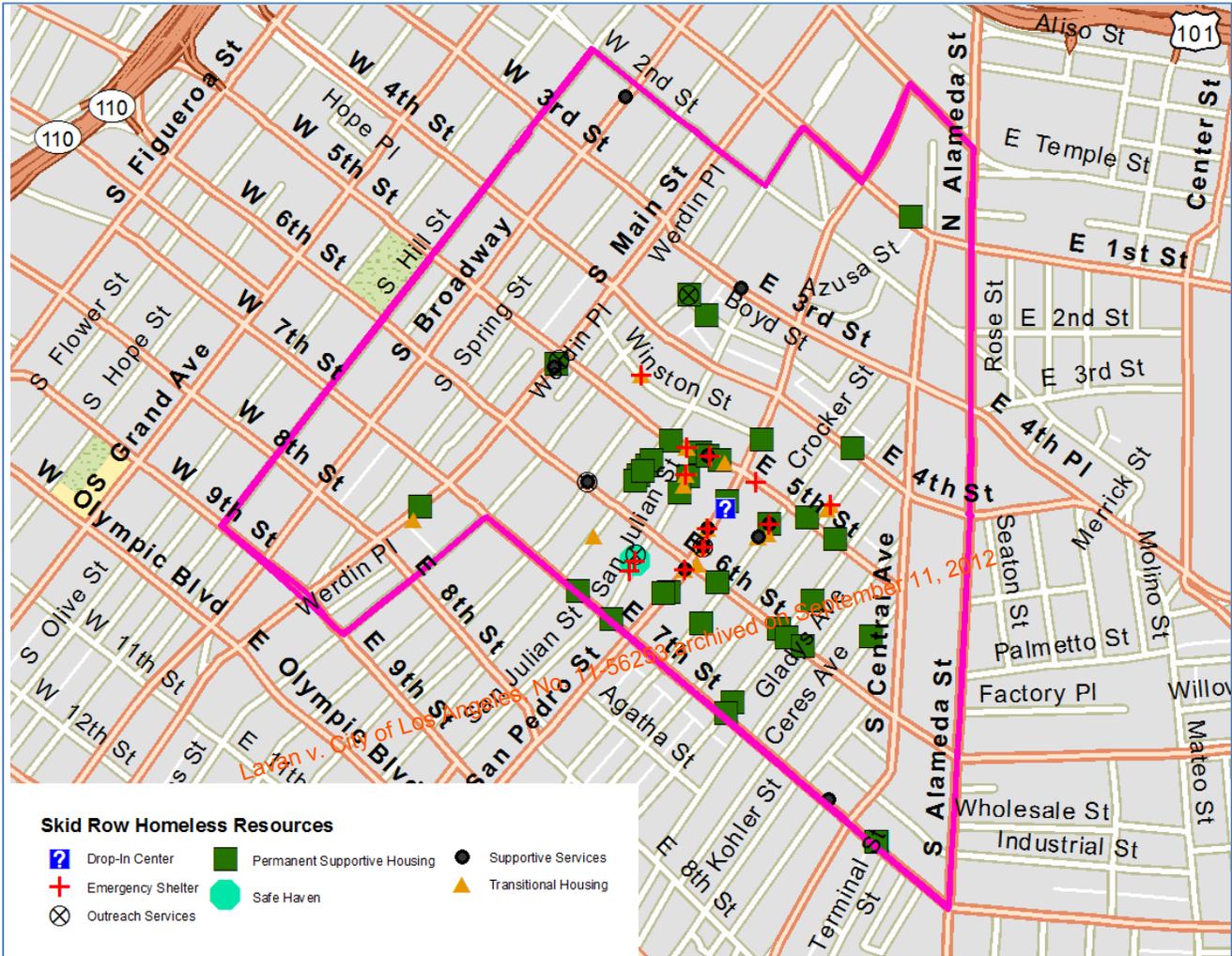


Skid Row Results Skid Row Results

Skid Row Results

Skid Row Results

Figure 39: Map of Skid Row Area, 2011



Skid Row Results

Skid Row Results

## Summary

The 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Point-In-Time Count identified 45,422 homeless individuals and families, which represents a 4.5% decrease from 2009. Of the total homeless population, 16,882 or 37% were sheltered and 28,540 or 63% were unsheltered. There were 26,297 unsheltered single adults and 9,541 sheltered single adults.

As in 2009, nearly one-quarter of the homeless population (24%) are estimated to be chronically homeless single adults. For the first time ever, the 2011 count enumerated chronically homeless families, finding that 8% of the total homeless population consists of family members experiencing chronic homelessness.

The 2011 count identified 18% of the homeless as Veterans, which is a 3% increase from the 2009 Count. Veterans who were chronically homeless also increased from 19% in 2009 to 31% homeless in 2011.

In 2011, there were 3,959 homeless youth in the LA CoC, compared to 4,210 in 2009. 3,593 were between the ages of 18 to 24, and 366 were under 18 and unaccompanied. Of the 366, 279 were unsheltered unaccompanied youth under 18 and 87 were sheltered. Local youth provider agencies and homeless youth volunteer counters found 859 homeless youth, ages 24 and under in the unsheltered youth count on January 31, 2011.

### Permanent Supportive Housing Making A Difference

LA County's \$100 Million Homeless Prevention Initiative, LA City's Permanent Supportive Housing Program, and the expanded Section 8 voucher program that specifically targets homeless individuals and families has **created 961 new permanent supportive housing** units since 2009.

### Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program Succeeding

Through April 2010, LA City has used its funding to rapidly re-house 1,859 homeless persons and to prevent 1,140 persons from becoming homeless. LA County has rapidly re-housed and prevented homelessness for 2,618 persons over the same period.

Across the country, economic indicators for the past two years suggest that homelessness should be on the rise given the increases in national poverty, unemployment levels and continuing foreclosures, coupled with sharp reductions in social safety net and public benefits programs. Despite the tough economy, there was a slight decrease in homelessness in the LA CoC. It is important to acknowledge the role new and expanded programs implemented by the LA CoC network of housing and service providers played in preventing the number from increasing.

The Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP) brought \$29,466,304 into the City of Los Angeles and \$12,197,108 into the County. This critical funding enabled eligible shelter clients to move to permanency, while simultaneously creating shelter vacancies to be filled by other homeless persons living on

the streets. Without this unprecedented funding, it is likely that homelessness would have increased even more in Los Angeles.

Additionally, the County's \$100 million Homeless Prevention Initiative, the City's Housing That Works Plan, and the expanded Section 8 voucher programs that specifically target homeless individuals and families has created 961 new permanent supportive housing since 2009. Additionally, the City has also dedicated a significant portion of its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to homeless programs and services. Between 2008 and 2011, 1,650 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers were awarded to Housing Authorities in the LA CoC. During this time period, over 1,039 Veterans moved into apartments using the VASH subsidy.

Homelessness in the City of Los Angeles has decreased by 9% since 2009. As a bloc, the remainder of the LA CoC has seen no significant change in homelessness since 2009. (The next set of geographic homeless count reports, due out in early July 2011, will detail whether specific regions of the LA CoC have seen changes since 2009.) This significant difference can be attributed to the resources the City of Los Angeles has dedicated to homelessness. The City of Los Angeles has contributed 745 project-based vouchers or operating subsidy amounting to almost \$75 million to the City's Permanent Supportive Housing. Currently almost 10% of the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles' Section 8 Voucher allocation, which amounts to over 4,000 voucher units, is set aside to house homeless individuals and families who are receiving case management and supportive services.

The techniques Los Angeles is employing to prevent and end homelessness are working as they have prevented a drastic increase in homelessness during the worst economic downturn in years. However, the slight decrease in the overall numbers from 2009 suggests that becoming homeless in a down economy may actually take longer to materialize. Many low income families and individuals are barely hanging on. They are precariously housed and as the federal, state, and local support systems disappear due to funding cuts, it is inevitable that more persons will become homeless. In order to ensure that homelessness does not substantially increase in the coming years, we must continue to support and expand the scale of successful programs and policies.

## How you can help

To conduct the 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count over 4,000 volunteers signed up and took part in the count. To continue our progress in preventing and ending homelessness we need you to stay involved. Volunteer your time and/or donate to the local programs in your community that are making an impact. You can stay informed and register for the next Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count at [www.theycountwillyou.org](http://www.theycountwillyou.org).

## Appendix A: Count Methodology

### 1. Street Count Methodology

#### Why was the Count Conducted?

Since 2003, HUD has required that every jurisdiction report the number of persons who are homeless in its Continuum of Care (CoC) geographic area. LAHSA has served as lead agency for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC) since the annual CoC grant submissions to HUD began in 1995. During this time, tens of millions of dollars have been received on behalf of approximately 200 public agencies and local private nonprofit agencies to support homeless assistance and housing programs within the City and County of Los Angeles.

In 2004, HUD asked jurisdictions to describe the community's plans for a one day, point-in time count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless to be conducted during the last week of January 2005 and every two years afterward during the same period of time. In response to the HUD mandate, LAHSA designed and implemented a methodology that included sheltered and unsheltered persons in a continuum-wide count that is aligned with HUD recommended practices. The process included field enumerations, field surveys, telephone surveys, and a sophisticated statistical analysis used to project homelessness in the LA CoC. These practices are described below.

#### Who Conducted the Homeless Count?

LAHSA and the Survey Research Unit at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) collaborated in the design, implementation, and analysis of the 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count. UNC's responsibilities were to provide methodology and process direction, to design and select all required samples, to develop estimation strategies, and to produce all project estimates. Additionally, UNC utilized their survey call center to conduct an extensive telephone survey to identify the hidden homeless. LAHSA's role included managing all other data collection tasks including: conducting the street and shelter counts, establishing the content of survey questions and forms, administering the demographic survey, compiling the estimates for presentation, and conducting the youth count (all as described below).

#### Who was Included in the Count?

Persons were considered homeless and included in the count if they fell within HUD's definition of homelessness:

"A person is considered homeless only when he/she resides in one of the three following places described below:

1. places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, and abandoned buildings;
2. an emergency shelter; or
3. transitional housing for homeless persons and who originally came from the streets or emergency shelter."

### **Who was not included in the Count?**

HUD has instructed CoC systems not to include persons who are precariously housed in their homeless counts. These are persons on the edge of becoming literally homeless who may be doubled up with friends and relatives or paying extremely high proportions of their resources for rent.

### **How was the Count Conducted?**

The 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count used HUD recommended practices for counting sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons. Taking these recommendations into account, LAHSA completed a street count of unsheltered homeless persons and a shelter count of sheltered homeless persons. To further capture the unsheltered population in the LA CoC, LAHSA completed a telephone survey to identify the homeless hidden on private property and a street count specifically designed to capture homeless youth.

#### Street Count of Unsheltered Homeless Persons

Two-to-three person teams of volunteers were created to conduct street counts throughout Los Angeles County. Team members were trained on the night of the count on how to do a visual enumeration of homeless persons and were given maps with instructions that outlined the census tract assigned to them. Enumerators were given strict instructions to count only within the boundaries of selected tracts. Additionally, street count teams were provided census tally sheets, referral cards, key contact phone numbers, homeless count apparel, and other supplies.

Over the three-night count period, a random sample of 614 census tracts and an additional 308 Opt-In (see page 22 for a description of the Opt-In Program) census tracts were enumerated, for a total of 922 tracts. That represents 49% of the 1,887 total census tracts that fall within the LA CoC. This is a 22% increase from the number of census tracts counted in 2009.

Random selection was utilized at every step in choosing the sample census tracts used in enumerating the homeless as part of the street count. Random selection guaranteed that a broad representation of the homeless population in the LA CoC were included. This prevented the biasing of data that occurs when only counting areas where there are a large number of homeless persons or only interviewing in popular homeless areas such as hot spots. Hot spot census tracts are areas within the LA CoC in where there were significant concentrations of homeless persons. Such census tracts were identified in the 2009 homeless count and updated for use in 2011.

More than 20 homeless street outreach teams across Los Angeles County joined LAHSA staff on August 1, 2010 to help update the 2009 hot spot areas. As part of the study design, census tracts that were considered hot spot census tracts were over sampled, and had a greater likelihood of being selected as part of the randomized census tract selection process.

Stratification was used to ensure a more accurate count for smaller geographic regions within the LA CoC. The sampling frame was subdivided into important subsets called "strata." For the purposes of this count, sampling strata were defined by the eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs) that make up Los Angeles County, by hot spot designation, and by several cities that requested full enumeration (i.e.,

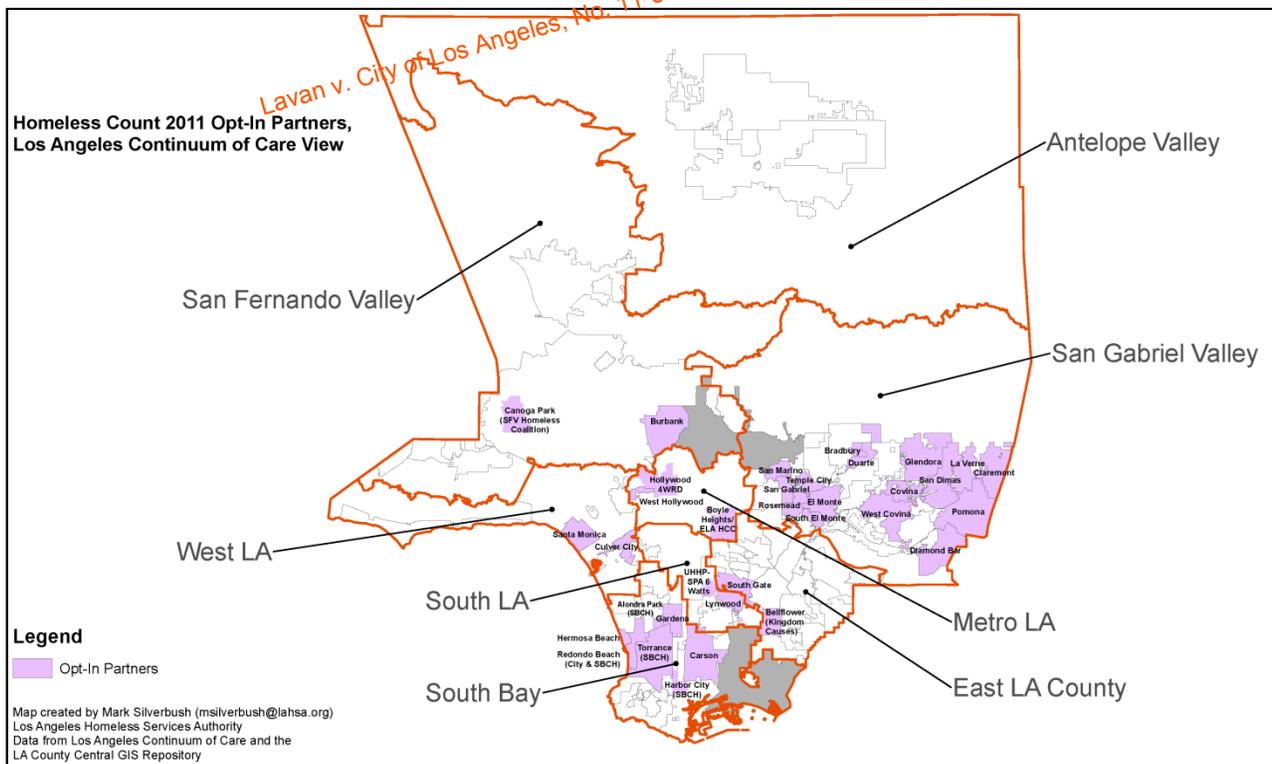
opt-in cities). A separate sample of census tracts was selected in each stratum to produce the best possible estimated street homeless count for the LA CoC.

**The Opt-In Program**

The Opt-In Program provides local jurisdictions with homeless count numbers specific to their area or city allowing them to obtain local homeless count information to more effectively address local homelessness and to report progress to federal, state, and county agencies to meet funding requirements. Prior to the 2009 homeless count, the methodology did not support this need. Beginning in 2009, the study methodology was enhanced to enable opt-in cities/communities to coordinate a homeless count within their borders using locally recruited volunteers from public and private agencies. In total, 35 areas consisting of 28 cities and seven communities enumerated all of their census tracts – through LAHSA’s partnership with 26 city governments and five community groups, a 119% increase in Opt-In Area participation over 2009. Using the results from the LAHSA shelter and youth counts, cities are able to estimate a point-in-time number of the homeless families and individuals who are sheltered and unsheltered in their jurisdictions.

Please see Appendix B, pages 50 and 51, for Opt-In Area results.

**Figure 40: Map of City and Community Partners in the 2011 Opt-In Program**



**Opt-In City Partners**

City	SPA	City	SPA
City of Bradbury	3	City of Lynwood	6
City of Burbank	2	City of Pomona	3
City of Carson	8	City of Redondo Beach	8
City of Claremont	3	City of Rosemead	3
City of Covina	3	City of San Dimas	3
City of Culver City	5	City of San Gabriel	3
City of Diamond Bar	3	City of San Marino	3
City of Duarte	3	City of Santa Monica	5
City of El Monte	3	City of South El Monte	3
City of Gardena	8	City of South Gate	7
City of Glendora	3	City of Temple City	3
City of Hermosa Beach	8	City of West Covina	3
City of La Verne	3	City of West Hollywood	4

**Opt-In Community Group Partners**

Organizing Group	Community/City	SPA
Boyle Heights - ELA	Boyle Heights/Placita Olvera (City of LA)	4
Hollywood 4WRD	East Hollywood (City of LA)	4
Hollywood 4WRD	Hollywood (City of LA)	4
Kingdom Causes	City of Bellflower	7
San Fernando Valley Homeless Coalition	Canoga Park (City of LA)	2
South Bay Coalition for the Homeless	Harbor City (City of LA)	8
South Bay Coalition for the Homeless	Alondra Park (Unincorporated)	8
South Bay Coalition for the Homeless	City of Torrance	8
UHHP SPA 6	Watts (City of LA)	6

**2. Shelter Count Methodology**

The 2010 Housing Inventory Chart of emergency shelters, transitional housing and safe havens from the November 2010 SuperNOFA application was used as a base for compiling a complete shelter list in the CoC. It was vetted with input from homeless coalitions, shelter providers, and LAHSA staff. Agencies with programs located in Service Planning Areas (SPAs) 3 and 7 performed their counts on

the night of January 25th; SPAs 1, 5, and 8 were performed on January 26th and SPAs 2, 4, and 6 were performed on January 27, 2011, consistent with the nights of the street count. Quality checks comparing capacity to occupancy, HMIS data, zero count reports, prior count reports, and other measures were used to ensure response accuracy. In total, 368 programs were included for the point-in-time shelter census. The response rate was 100%.

### 3. Survey to Identify the Hidden Homeless Methodology

In an effort to locate unsheltered homeless persons hidden from view in Los Angeles County, UNC conducted a telephone survey of LA CoC residents. A random sample of LA CoC households (except for the cities of Long Beach, Glendale and Pasadena) were interviewed via telephone in order to estimate the number of homeless persons who were not counted during the street and shelter counts (excluding youths). Persons were classified as hidden homeless if they were sleeping on private property outside a place or residence, such as a car, van, carport, unconverted garage, camper, or encampment dwellings and were included in the unsheltered homeless count.

HUD worked with LAHSA to develop a definition of hidden homeless and determined that individuals or families who are precariously housed or at risk of literal homelessness should not be included in the unsheltered homeless estimate for the LA CoC.

HUD Definitions:

1. Precariously housed – A person who is staying with the household because he or she has no other regular or adequate place to stay due to a lack of money or other means of support and who is sleeping inside the house will be allowed to stay for 15-90 days.
2. At-risk of literal homelessness – A person who is staying with household because he or she has no other regular or adequate place to stay due to a lack of money or other means of support and who is sleeping inside the house, and will have to leave in 14 days or less.<sup>13</sup>

The telephone sample was identified from a disproportionately stratified split-frame (directory-listed and non-directory list-assisted Random Digital Dialing) sample of landline telephone numbers within the LA CoC. Stratification was by various characteristics thought to be predictive of hidden homelessness, with the general strategy being to oversample telephone numbers of households that were thought to be more likely to have hidden homeless persons present based on these predictors.

A total of 33,169 telephone numbers were placed in calling and 3,390 households responded to the hidden homeless interview. It was estimated that 10,800 persons were hidden homeless, living on private property not meant for human habitation. Calling took place over a three month period between January 25 and April 10, 2011. Each number was called a minimum of eight times over

<sup>13</sup> These definitions were agreed upon by experts from HUD, Urban Institute, and Abt Associates.

several weeks and at different times of the day (daytime, evenings, and weekends). The response rate was 34%.

In 2009, it was estimated that 9,968 persons were hidden homeless, living on private property not meant for human habitation. That year the response rate was 31%.

#### **4. Homeless Youth Count**

LAHSA conducted an unsheltered youth count separate from the unsheltered street count during the day hours of January 31, 2011 in order to include homeless youth who are not typically captured in night counts. A 2007 local field test confirmed that conducting an unsheltered youth count during the day would likely improve the LA CoC's ability to document youth homelessness with minimal risk of duplication.

Active leadership and commitment from local youth provider agencies and youth counters were critical to the success of the Youth Count. Under the supervision of provider and LAHSA staff, homeless youth volunteered to help organize and conduct the count. All youth counters and team supervisors were trained at the same time on the day of the count. Neighborhoods were pre-selected based on the youth counters' and providers' knowledge of hot spot areas that homeless youth tend to frequent. In most cases, teams were comprised of five youth counters and were assigned to team supervisors from the volunteer youth's sponsoring agency. Homeless youth were enumerated in areas where they typically reside or receive services under the supervision of homeless youth providers and LAHSA staff. Youth workers were told to use their best judgment in determining a person's homeless status and age.

Homeless youth volunteer counters were included in the count totals based on their sponsor organization's location, if the sponsor verified that they were not staying at their shelter during the count period. Unlike the unsheltered street count, no extrapolations were made from youth count data. The count data supplements the unsheltered count data.

#### **5. Homeless Demographic Survey**

##### **Why was the Demographic Survey Conducted?**

The survey was completed to estimate the size of various subpopulations of persons who are experiencing homelessness, including those that HUD incorporates into the "Point-in-Time Homeless Subpopulations" section of its annual CoC grant application. They include: (1) chronic homeless individuals, (2) chronic homeless families, (3) families (members of), (4) individuals (single), (5) persons with HIV/AIDS, (6) persons with substance abuse problems, (7) persons with severe mental illness, (8) veterans, and (9) survivors of domestic violence.

##### **Who was Included in the Demographic Survey?**

A sample of 3,585 adults participated in the homeless survey and provided detailed information about themselves and, when applicable, their children. This sample represents a 19% increase in completed survey interviews from 2009.

### **How was the Demographic Survey Conducted?**

To obtain a representative sample of homeless persons, two samples were prepared—a street sample and a shelter sample. The street sample was randomly chosen among census tracts within the LA CoC which were included in the street count and thereby assured adequate representation by SPA. Within each chosen census tract, field interviewers were assigned to complete randomly assigned zones. To reduce the opportunity for selection bias among the interviewers, every street, alley and park was canvassed for interviews to ensure the necessary number of completes, before teams could move on to the next census tract. In total, 2,735 interviews were successfully completed.

The shelter sample was randomly chosen among the shelters that participated in the January 2011 homeless count and included acceptable SPA-wide representation. To minimize selection bias, homeless persons were randomly chosen from the shelter rosters before interviewing took place. A total of 850 shelter interviews were completed.

All interviewers who participated in the street and shelter survey were trained by LAHSA staff, increasing accuracy and completion rates as well as enabling LAHSA to gather useful evaluation information from the interviewers such as refusals and explanations for non-responses.

### **When was the Demographic Survey Conducted?**

The survey was conducted from February 7, 2011 through April 8, 2011.

*Lavan v. City of Los Angeles, No. 11-56253 archived on September 11, 2012*

## Appendix B: Opt-In Area Results

The Opt-In Program provides local jurisdictions with homeless count numbers specific to their area or city allowing them to obtain local homeless count information to more effectively address local homelessness and to report progress to federal, state, and county agencies to meet funding requirements. Prior to the 2009 homeless count, the methodology did not support this need. Beginning in 2009, the study methodology was enhanced to enable opt-in cities/communities to coordinate a homeless count within their borders using locally recruited volunteers from public and private agencies. In total, 35 areas consisting of 28 cities and seven communities enumerated all of their census tracts – through LAHSA’s partnership with 26 city governments and five community groups, a 119% increase in Opt-In Area participation over 2009. Using the results from the LAHSA shelter and youth counts, cities are able to estimate a point-in-time number of the homeless families and individuals who are sheltered and unsheltered in their jurisdictions.

For the 2011 Count, LAHSA gave Opt-In groups the opportunity to have their data included in this report. Twenty-eight of 35 Opt-In areas elected to share their results, which are available on the next two pages.

For a complete listing of Opt-In partners, please see page 44 of this report.

To obtain 2011 Opt-In area reports for any of the 35 Opt-In areas, please call LAHSA at (213) 683-3333.

*Lavan v. City of Los Angeles, No. 11-56253 archived on September 11, 2012*

NOTE: For the 2011 Count, LAHSA gave Opt-In groups the opportunity to have their data included in this report. 28 of 35 areas elected to share their results here. For a complete listing of Opt-In partners, please see page 46 of this report. To obtain 2011 Opt-In area reports for any Opt-In area, please call LAHSA at (213) 683-3333.

**Figure 41: Opt-In Area Results**

(Please see footnotes on page 51.)

Opt-In Area	UNSHELTERED			SHELTERED			TOTAL
	Street Count*	Youth Count	Hidden Homeless	Emergency & Winter Shelter	Transitional Housing	Safe Haven	
Alondra Park	28	0	**	0	0	0	28
Boyle Heights/ Placita Olvera (City of LA)	242	21	**	222	61	0	547
Bradbury	0	0	**	0	0	0	0
Burbank	114	0	**	48***	40	0	202
Canoga Park (City of LA)	176	0	**	7	46	0	229
Claremont	13	0	**	13	16	0	42
Covina	24	0	**	30	5	0	59
Culver City	132	6	**	172	0	0	310
Diamond Bar	0	0	**	0	0	0	0
Duarte	6	0	**	0	0	0	6
East Hollywood (City of LA)	98	3	**	0	0	0	101
El Monte	119	1	**	42	202	0	364
Gardena	49	0	**	0	0	0	49
Glendora	29	0	**	0	0	0	29
Harbor City (City of LA)	152	0	**	0	6	0	158
Hermosa Beach	35	0	**	0	0	0	35
Hollywood (City of LA)	748	365	**	122	138	0	1,373
La Verne	3	0	**	0	12	0	15

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Opt-In Area	UNSHELTERED			SHELTERED			TOTAL
	Street Count*	Youth Count	Hidden Homeless	Emergency & Winter Shelter	Transitional Housing	Safe Haven	
Redondo Beach	59	0	**	20	0	0	79
Rosemead	26	0	**	0	0	0	26
San Dimas	7	0	**	0	0	0	7
San Gabriel	17	0	**	0	0	0	17
Santa Monica	314	****	**	105	296	23	738
South Gate	199	0	**	0	0	0	199
Temple City	3	0	**	0	0	0	3
Torrance	88	0	**	0	0	0	88
Watts (City of LA)	165	5	**	531	229	0	930
West Covina	59	4	**	0	0	0	63

\*Street Count data includes homeless persons found outside, including persons found residing in vehicles, tents and encampment dwellings. The following conversion factors were used to estimate the number of persons living in cars, vans/RVs and encampment dwellings when counters tallied these homeless situations: Cars = 1.46, Vans = 1.66, Campers/RVs = 1.79, Tents = 1.62 and Encampments Dwellings = 1.93. Demographic survey interviews were conducted with 3,595 homeless persons to determine these conversion factors.

\*\*The Survey to Identify the Hidden Homeless was designed to generate estimates for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care. An estimate for the number of hidden homeless persons cannot be generated with enough precision at the medium and small city levels, and is thus not included in this table.

\*\*\*Of the 48 persons in Emergency/Winter Shelter population, the City of Burbank reports that 38 of these persons from the Glendale Winter Shelter program were from their city.

\*\*\*\*The City of Santa Monica does not include Youth Count figures as part of their Homeless Count. The Youth Count, which was conducted jointly by LAHSA, OPCC, Common Ground and Stand Up for Kids in West LA (SPA 5) found 35 homeless youth (aged 24 and under) in Santa Monica during a daytime count on January 31, 2011.

## Further Information

For further information and to obtain a copy of the 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Report, visit [lahsa.org](http://lahsa.org) or [theycountwillyou.org](http://theycountwillyou.org).

Register to volunteer for the 2013 Count at [theycountwillyou.org](http://theycountwillyou.org).

## The 2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Team

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