

AGENDA

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chair: Holly J. Mitchell

Thursday, March 12, 2026
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Meeting Location:

First 5 LA
750 N. Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

1. **ACTION**
Call to Order / Roll Call
2. **INFORMATION**
AB 2449 Request to Participate Remotely Due to Just Cause or Emergency Circumstances
3. **INFORMATION**
Report out on Closed Session of the Board of Commissioners – March 12, 2026
4. **ACTION**
Consent
 - A. Approve Commission Meeting Summary Action Minutes – February 12, 2026 4
 - B. Approve the Monthly Financial Statements for the Months Ending December 31, 2025 9 and January 31, 2026
 - C. Approve the FY 2025-26 Mid-Year Revised Budget 18
 - D. Authorize First 5 LA to Receive Funds from WestEd for the Building Equitable Early Learning and Care Systems (BEELS) Project and Approve Resolution #2026-01 and Authorize First 5 LA Staff to Execute an Agreement in the Anticipated Amount of up to \$100,000 through September 27, 2027. 24
5. **INFORMATION**
Remarks by the Commission Chair of the Board
6. **INFORMATION** 26
President/CEO Report
7. **INFORMATION** 29
Federal and State Budget Updates

COMMISSIONERS

Los Angeles County Supervisor
Holly J. Mitchell
Chair

Brandon Nichols
Vice Chair

Alma Cortes, Ed. D.
Barbara Ferrer Ph.D.,
M.P.H., M.Ed.
Astrid Heger, M.D.

Abigail Marquez
Summer McBride
Maricela Ramirez,
Ed. D.
Carol Sigala, Ph.D.

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Justin Blakely
Robert Byrd, Psy.D.
Deanne Tilton Durfee
Jacquelyn McCroskey, DSW

PRESIDENT & CEO

Karla Pleitéz Howell

VICE PRESIDENTS

Aurea Montes-Rodriguez
JR Nino

Presenters: Aurea Montes-Rodriguez, Vice President of Community Engagement & Policy and Chris Hoene, Executive Director, California Budget & Policy Center

- 8. **INFORMATION** 77
A Portrait of Los Angeles County 2026

Presenters: Aurea Montes-Rodriguez, Vice President of Community Engagement & Policy; Kristen Lewis, Director and Co-Founder, Measure of America; Alex Powers, Associate Director, Measure of America; Kate Harvey, Research Analyst, Measure of America; and Bill Pitkin, Special Advisor, Measure of America

- 9. **Break**
- 10. **INFORMATION** 127
Holding the Line for Families: A Look at Los Angeles' Crisis Intervention and Prevention in Uncertain Times

Presenters: Aurea Montes-Rodriguez, Vice President of Community Engagement & Policy; Carrie D. Miller, Ph.D., Senior Manager, Policy Implementation and Alignment Branch, County of Los Angeles; Kristina Meza, Executive Director, Poverty Alleviation, Policy Implementation and Alignment Branch, County of Los Angeles; Debra Colman, MSW, Director – LA County Office of the Advancement for Early Childhood Education (OAECE); Abigail Marquez, General Manager, City of Los Angeles Community Investment for Families Department ; Veronica McDonnell, Assistant General Manager, Community Services and Development Division, City of Los Angeles Community Investment for Families Department

- 11. **INFORMATION**
Public Comment for items not on the agenda
- 12. **ACTION**
Adjournment

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SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

**FIRST 5 LA
February 12, 2026
Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Hybrid of In-Person and Virtual
1:30-4:30 pm**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Commissioners:

Luis Bautista
Alma Cortes
Astrid Heger
Abigail Marquez
Summer McBride (Acting Chair)
Carol Sigala
Lisa Whitecrow (Alternate)

Ex-Officio Commissioners:

Justin Blakely (arrived at 1:45 pm)
Robert Byrd (arrived at 1:43 pm)
Deanne Tilton Durfee

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Barbara Ferrer
Jacquelyn McCroskey
Holly Mitchell (Chair)
Brandon Nichols
Maricela Ramirez

STAFF PRESENT:

Karla Pleitez Howell, President & CEO
Aurea Montes-Rodriguez, Vice President of
Community Engagement and Policy
JR Nino, Vice President of Operations &
Sustainability
Linda Vo, Board Relations Manager

GENERAL COUNSEL:

Serita Young, Attorney-at-Law

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:

1. Commission Acting Chair McBride called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm. Quorum was present.

COMMISSION: (Items 2– 13)

2. **AB 2449 Request(s) to Participate Remotely Due to Emergency Circumstances and Notice(s) of Remote Participation for Just Cause**

No Commissioners joined under AB 2449.

3. **Election of Commission Chair**

Commissioner Bautista nominated Holly Mitchell as Chair for 2026.

M/S (Bautista/Sigala)

Luis Bautista – Aye
Alma Cortes – Aye
Astrid Heger – Aye
Abigail Marquez – Aye
Summer McBride – Aye
Carol Sigala – Aye

**SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (HYBRID)**

February 12, 2026

1:30-4:30 pm

4

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

Lisa Whitecrow – Aye

HOLLY MITCHELL IS APPROVED AS THE CHAIR UNANIMOUSLY

4. Election of Commission Vice Chair

Brandon Nichols is nominated by Summer McBride as Vice Chair for 2026

M/S (McBride/Marquez)

Luis Bautista – Aye
Alma Cortes – Aye
Astrid Heger – Aye
Abigail Marquez – Aye
Summer McBride – Aye
Carol Sigala – Aye
Lisa Whitecrow – Aye

BRANDON NICHOLS IS APPROVED AS THE VICE CHAIR UNANIMOUSLY

5. CONSENT

- A. Approve Commission Meeting Summary Action Minutes – November 13, 2025**
- B. Approve the Monthly Financial Statements for the Months Ending October 31 and November 30, 2025**
- C. Contract: Approve One (1) New Agreement, One (1) Renewal, and Authorize Staff to Complete the Final Execution of the New Agreement and Renewal Upon Approval from The Board.**

M/S (Sigala/Bautista)

Luis Bautista – Aye
Alma Cortes – Aye
Astrid Heger – Aye
Abigail Marquez – Aye
Summer McBride – Aye
Carol Sigala – Aye
Lisa Whitecrow – Aye

THE ITEMS WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Remarks by the Commission Acting Chair of the Board

Remarks were given by Acting Chair McBride.

7. President & CEO's Report

A report-out was given by Karla Pleitez Howell.

8 Finance Update (Written Only)

- A. FY 2025-26 Mid-Year Revised Budget**
- B. Budget/Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) Calendar for 2026**

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

This item was presented as written only – no presentation. All background information was provided in the Board packet and will go for action on Consent at the March Board meeting.

9. **Authorize First 5 LA to Receive Funds from WestEd for the Building Equitable Early Learning and Care Systems (BEELS) Project, Approve Resolution #2026-01 and Authorize First 5 LA Staff to an Execute Agreement in the Amount of \$100,000 (Written Only)**

This item was presented as written only – no presentation. All background information was provided in the Board packet and will go for action on Consent at the March Board meeting.

10. **Governor’s January Budget Proposal & Federal Updates**

Presenters: Aurea Montes-Rodriguez, Vice President of Community Engagement and Policy and Ofelia Medina, Senior Policy Strategist

Aurea and Ofelia provided updates on state and federal budget proposals, legislative timelines, and potential impacts on programs serving families and young children. The discussion highlighted the narrowing Republican majority in the House, potential funding threats to health and human services programs, and the upcoming expiration of ACA premium tax credits, which could lead to higher premiums and an increase in uninsured individuals.

They also reviewed the implementation of provisions in H.R. 1, including SNAP work requirements and changes to Medicaid eligibility that could affect millions of California families. In addition, Aurea and Ofelia discussed First 5 LA’s longstanding commitment to home visiting as a key strategy for supporting families with young children, noting the organization’s historical investments and the current program landscape. The conversation emphasized the importance of developing a long-term financial vision for home visiting given ongoing fiscal constraints and the need to align and leverage multiple funding sources.

There was no further discussion on this item.

11. **Home Visiting: First 5 LA Past and Present, Policy Landscape and Sustainability Opportunities**

Presenters: Diana Careaga, Director of Family Supports; Stacy Lee, Chief Learning Officer and Senior Managing Director, Children Now; and Christina Altmayer, Senior Regional Vice President, Health Management Associates

Diana, along with two external presenters, discussed the role of home visiting programs in supporting families and young children, emphasizing the importance of resilient systems and sustained, long-term investments. Stacy highlighted how home visiting builds trust with families and provides critical support during times of crisis. The discussion explored both opportunities and challenges in implementing home visiting programs at the local and state levels, including funding constraints, workforce recruitment, and coordination across agencies.

Presenters also examined the complexity of funding and administering home visiting services in California. Christina, a senior vice president from HMA, discussed the challenges families face in accessing Medi-Cal benefits and the need to coordinate multiple funding streams, such as MIECHV, CalWORKs, and Medi-Cal, to support home visiting services. The conversation

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

emphasized the importance of systems thinking and collaboration between First 5 LA and key partners to maximize revenue, improve enrollment, and strengthen long-term program sustainability. Strategies discussed included technical assistance, intermediary support, and strategic planning.

The presenters concluded with an overview of the long-term vision for home visiting, including the Welcome Baby model, collaboration with the Department of Public Health on the Unified Central Billing System, and potential funding transitions involving the Department of Mental Health. Commissioners also raised considerations related to virtual home visiting, maintaining trust with families, addressing high-risk factors for children, and strengthening the home visiting workforce through potential partnerships with community colleges for training and education.

There was no further discussion on this item.

12. **Best Start: Insights from a 15+ Year Investment in Communities to Inform Future Direction**

Presenters: Aurea Montes-Rodriguez, Vice President of Community Engagement and Policy ; Juanita Gallion, Director, Capacity Building & Leadership Development, Center for the Study of Social Policy; and Liz Squibb, Senior Associate, Center for the Study of Social Policy

Aurea and external presenters reviewed Best Start's 15-year investment and support from First 5 LA, highlighting successes in advancing equity through community partnerships, capacity building, and efforts to address families' basic needs. They noted the program's impact across communities while also discussing ongoing challenges, including sustaining community capacity with reduced funding and the risk that community voices could be diminished without continued support. The discussion emphasized the importance of coordination, ongoing support, and the development of clear metrics to track progress and long-term impact.

Public Comments:

Community leaders and advocates from several Best Start regions across Los Angeles County expressed support for continued funding and requested an 18-month transition period for the Best Start infrastructure. Speakers emphasized the program's importance in providing essential resources and support for families with children ages 0–5, and highlighted its role in advancing health equity, housing stability, and overall community well-being. Many shared personal experiences illustrating Best Start's positive impact in their communities and urged the Board to maintain current investments while allowing sufficient time for thoughtful planning during any transition. The Board acknowledged the public comments and noted that the feedback would be reviewed.

There was no further discussion on this item.

13. **Public Comment (for items not on the agenda)**

No general public comments were provided.

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

ADJOURNMENT:

The Commission adjourned at 5:07 pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Commission meeting will take place on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 1:30 pm.

Meeting details will be posted per Brown Act Requirements
Meeting minutes were recorded by Linda Vo, Board Relations Manager

FIRST 5 LA

SUBJECT:
Monthly Financial Reports

RECOMMENDATION:
Approval of the monthly financial statements for the months ending December 31, and January 31, 2026.

BACKGROUND:
Staff provides monthly financial reports for the Commission's review and approval to ensure transparency of the financial status of First 5 LA.

DISCUSSION:

December 31, 2025

First 5 LA began the month of December with a cash balance of \$271.9 million. During the month, we received \$3.9 million in revenues. We had \$4.1 million in program expenditures, and \$1.3 million in operating expenditures. As a result, First 5 LA ended the month with a cash balance of \$270.5 million.

January 31, 2026

First 5 LA began the month of January with a cash balance of \$270.5 million. During the month, we received \$7.5 in revenues. We had \$4.8 million in program expenditures, and \$1.2 million in operating expenditures. As a result, First 5 LA ended the month with a cash balance of \$272 million.

This report includes detailed financial information for the months ending December 31, and January 31, 2026. The financial statements are unaudited and reported as a "soft close." All materials in this packet and check registers are available online. Statements in this report include the following:

- **Revenue and Expense Statement:** Summarizes financial statements to highlight the starting cash balance, revenues received, program and operating expenses, and the ending cash balance for the month.
- **Balance Sheet:** Provides a "snapshot" view of the Commission's assets, liabilities and fund balance as of December 31, and January 31, 2026.
- **Detailed operating and program expenditures:** Shows expenses against the FY 2025-26 Budget approved on June 12, 2025.

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA
Revenue and Expense Statement
December 31, 2025, Unaudited**

	REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES	
Net Position as of Net Position November 30, 2025	\$ 271,889,996	
Revenue		
Monthly State Allotments	3,122,104	(1)
CA Electronic Cigarette Excise Tax (CECET) FY205-26 Q1	145,760	
State Commission - Other Program Funds	-	
Interest Income - Unreserved	669,764	
Investment Income - Other	-	
Other General Revenues-Rental Income	48,887	
Total Revenue	\$ 3,986,514	
Expenses		
Program Budget (Attachment A)		
2024-2029 Strategic Plan	\$ 3,850,031	
Strategic Initiatives Development Fund	253,082	
Total Initiative/Program Expenses	\$ 4,103,113	
Operation and Administration (Attachment B)		
Personnel	\$ 1,059,418	
General Operating	62,382	
Consultant Services	104,468	
Professional Services	23,498	
Travel Expenses	2,438	
Professional Development	750	
Capital Improvements	14,139	
Total Operation and Administration	\$ 1,267,093	
Total Expenses	\$ 5,370,206	
Variance (Revenue - Expenses)	\$ (1,432,578)	
Net Position as of December 31, 2025	\$ 270,506,304	(2)

NOTE:

- 1) Tobacco tax revenue for October 2025.
- 2) Net Position excludes fixed assets and liabilities.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY FIRST - PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION (AKA FIRST 5 LA)
PROGRAM EXPENDITURES BY FY 2023-24 BUDGET
DECEMBER 31, 2025, UNAUDITED

INITIATIVE/PROGRAM	FY 2025-26 BUDGET	DECEMBER EXPENDITURES	FISCAL YTD EXPENDITURES	BALANCE REMAINING
2024-2029 STRATEGIC PLAN				
Center for Family Systems				
Family Supports	30,699,413	2,460,803	9,671,882	21,027,531
Health Systems	1,156,000	224,984	402,860	753,140
Center Support	175,000	-	50,000	125,000
Center for Community Engagement Policy				
Communities	10,189,050	1,069,917	2,265,219	7,923,831
Impact & Accountability	1,414,000	71,280	104,965	1,309,035
Public Policy & Early Care and Education	9,765,000	18,848	4,388,154	5,376,846
Center for Strategy & Culture				
Communications	1,463,500	4,200	125,712	1,337,788
Subtotal 2024-2029 Strategic Plan	54,861,963	3,850,031	17,008,792	37,853,171
Strategic Initiatives Development Fund	4,751,470	253,082	280,467	4,471,003
TOTAL	59,613,433	4,103,113	17,289,260	42,324,173

The FY 2025-26 program budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 12, 2025.

NOTES:

Journal entries for FY 2023-24 accrued expenses were reversed in July 2024. The amounts reported are the actual/accrual program expenditures for December 2025.

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA
Operating & Administrative Budget Update
December 31, 2025, UNAUDITED**

OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE	DECEMBER ACTUAL	FISCAL YTD ACTUAL	FY 2025-26 BUDGET	FISCAL YTD VARIANCE
Personnel Services				
Salaries & Wages	792,192	4,706,306	11,788,254	7,081,948
Fringe Benefits	267,226	1,610,152	4,583,872	2,973,720
Total Personnel Services	1,059,418	6,316,458	16,372,126	10,055,668
General Operating Expenses				
ADP Payroll Charges	-	10,219	40,000	29,781
Workers Compensation Insurance	(12,493)	38,035	84,919	46,884
Utilities	15,588	57,834	185,000	127,166
Corporate Insurance	15,847	143,549	140,800	(2,749)
Mileage, Parking and Other Transportation	305	1,727	22,965	21,238
Telephones	1,230	13,932	53,300	39,368
Cell Phones & Mobile Devices	6,700	41,250	108,300	67,050
Outside Printing & Publishing	-	-	2,300	2,300
Other Supplies	389	3,089	3,000	(89)
Postage & Delivery	302	581	2,510	1,929
Educational Supplies	185	327	5,000	4,673
Office Supplies	776	8,999	34,790	25,791
Subscriptions & Publication	557	1,675	34,000	32,325
Equipment-Rents & Leases	1,068	8,830	21,000	12,170
Building Repair & Maintenance	24,262	55,253	170,000	114,747
Equipment Repair & Maintenance	-	574	6,500	5,926
Offsite Storage	287	1,280	5,200	3,920
Hardware & Software Maintenance	2,571	75,496	404,000	328,504
Miscellaneous/Contingency	2,766	9,652	89,800	80,148
Internal Meeting	2,042	8,729	89,200	80,471
Divisional Capacity Building	-	1,750	19,000	17,250
Total General Operating Expenses	62,382	482,781	1,521,584	1,038,803
Consultant Services				
Consultant Fees	78,309	281,484	972,000	690,516
Other Professional Fees	26,159	102,834	311,900	209,066
Total Consultant Services	104,468	384,318	1,283,900	899,582
Professional Services				
Audit	-	46,000	72,000	26,000
Legal Fees	16,284	46,455	200,000	153,545
Professional Dues	4,029	20,420	74,250	53,830
Staff Recruitment	-	1,647	10,000	8,353
Commission Stipends	-	2,700	20,000	17,300
Web-Based Services	2,795	14,532	70,000	55,468
Bank & Other Service Charges	390	4,733	12,000	7,267
Total Professional Services	23,498	136,487	458,250	321,763
Travel Expenses				
Airfare	-	5,415	117,125	111,710
Lodging	1,474	10,433	115,348	104,915
Per Diem	-	2,934	45,270	42,336
Other Travel Expense	964	3,056	18,865	15,809
Total Travel Expenses	2,438	21,838	296,608	274,770
Professional Development				
Training Material & Supplies	-	-	12,100	12,100
In-house Training	-	-	64,300	64,300
Leadership Programs	690	8,821	135,000	126,179
Conference/Training Registrations	60	4,576	89,700	85,124
Outside Training	-	1,595	49,500	47,905
Total Professional Development	750	14,992	350,600	335,608
Capital Improvements				
Capital Outlay (Equipment Purchases)	14,139	19,247	103,500	84,253
Total Capital Improvements	14,139	19,247	103,500	84,253
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,267,093	7,376,121	20,386,567	13,010,447

NOTES - OPERATING & ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET UPDATE:

The administrative expenses are within the maximum authorized under the Board policy.

The FY 2025-26 operating budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 12, 2025.

**Los Angeles County Children and Families First -
Proposition 10 Commission
Statement of Net Assets
December 31, 2025 Unaudited**

Current Assets:

Cash	\$ 7,244,011
Cash- Morlin Mgmt Corp	243,437
Investment:	
Operating and Allocated funds	251,884,542
Advance - Regional Network (RN)	691,718
Advance - Various	198,650
Other Receivables	22,115
Total Current Assets	<u>\$ 260,284,473</u>

Fixed Assets:

Land	\$ 2,039,000
Building & Improvements	15,970,799
Furniture & Fixtures	627,671
Computer, Software & Accessories	2,280,106
Office Equipment	346,044
Accumulated Depreciation	(8,388,282)
CIP Phase-II	1,441,837
Total Fixed Assets	<u>\$ 14,317,175</u>

Total Assets

\$ 274,601,648

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:

Other Liabilities	\$ 300,408 (1)
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$ 300,408</u>

Net Assets:

Investment in capital assets	\$ 14,317,175
Restricted	259,984,065
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 274,301,240</u>

Total Liabilities and Net Assets

\$ 274,601,648

NOTES:

(1) Other Liabilities include accounts payable, and other related liabilities.

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA
Revenue and Expense Statement
January 31, 2026, Unaudited**

	REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES	
Net Position as of Net Position December 31, 2025	\$ 270,506,304	
Revenue		
Monthly State Allotments	5,335,206	(1)
CA Electronic Cigarette Excise Tax (CECET) FY205-26 Q1	-	
State Commission - Other Program Funds	1,378,343	
Interest Income - Unreserved	738,086	
Investment Income - Other	-	
Other General Revenues-Rental Income	48,887	
Total Revenue	\$ 7,500,522	
Expenses		
Program Budget (Attachment A)		
2024-2029 Strategic Plan	\$ 4,760,231	
Strategic Initiatives Development Fund	-	
Total Initiative/Program Expenses	\$ 4,760,231	
Operation and Administration (Attachment B)		
Personnel	\$ 1,067,306	
General Operating	82,785	
Consultant Services	46,547	
Professional Services	10,795	
Travel Expenses	517	
Professional Development	774	
Capital Improvements	291	
Total Operation and Administration	\$ 1,209,015	
Total Expenses	\$ 5,969,246	
Variance (Revenue - Expenses)	\$ 1,531,276	
Net Position as of January 31, 2026	\$ 272,037,580	(2)

NOTE:

- 1) Tobacco tax revenue for November and December 2025.
- 2) Net Position excludes fixed assets and liabilities.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILY FIRST - PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION (AKA FIRST 5 LA)
PROGRAM EXPENDITURES BY FY 2023-24 BUDGET
JANUARY 31, 2026, UNAUDITED

INITIATIVE/PROGRAM	FY 2025-26 BUDGET	JANUARY EXPENDITURES	FISCAL YTD EXPENDITURES	BALANCE REMAINING
2024-2029 STRATEGIC PLAN				
Center for Family Systems				
Family Supports	30,699,413	3,533,856	13,205,738	17,493,675
Health Systems	1,156,000	96,925	499,785	656,215
Center Support	175,000	-	50,000	125,000
Center for Community Engagement Policy				
Communities	10,189,050	739,358	3,004,577	7,184,473
Impact & Accountability	1,414,000	74,409	179,374	1,234,626
Public Policy & Early Care and Education	9,765,000	293,550	4,681,704	5,083,296
Center for Strategy & Culture				
Communications	1,463,500	22,133	147,845	1,315,655
Subtotal 2024-2029 Strategic Plan	54,861,963	4,760,231	21,769,024	33,092,939
Strategic Initiatives Development Fund	4,751,470	-	280,467	4,471,003
TOTAL	59,613,433	4,760,231	22,049,491	37,563,942

The FY 2025-26 program budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 12, 2025.

NOTES:

Journal entries for FY 2023-24 accrued expenses were reversed in July 2024. The amounts reported are the actual/accrual program expenditures for January 2026.

**Los Angeles County Children and Family First -
Proposition 10 Commission (aka) First 5 LA
Operating & Administrative Budget Update
January 31, 2026, UNAUDITED**

OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE	JANUARY ACTUAL	FISCAL YTD ACTUAL	FY 2025-26 BUDGET	FISCAL YTD VARIANCE
Personnel Services				
Salaries & Wages	677,372	5,383,678	11,788,254	6,404,576
Fringe Benefits	389,934	2,000,086	4,583,872	2,583,786
Total Personnel Services	1,067,306	7,383,764	16,372,126	8,988,362
General Operating Expenses				
ADP Payroll Charges	5,159	15,378	40,000	24,622
Workers Compensation Insurance	-	38,035	84,919	46,884
Utilities	13,716	71,550	185,000	113,450
Corporate Insurance	-	143,549	140,800	(2,749)
Mileage, Parking and Other Transportation	401	2,128	22,965	20,837
Telephones	1,664	15,596	53,300	37,704
Cell Phones & Mobile Devices	6,700	47,950	108,300	60,350
Outside Printing & Publishing	-	-	2,300	2,300
Other Supplies	389	3,478	3,000	(478)
Postage & Delivery	156	737	2,510	1,773
Educational Supplies	-	327	5,000	4,673
Office Supplies	1,731	10,730	34,790	24,060
Subscriptions & Publication	2,840	4,515	34,000	29,485
Equipment-Rents & Leases	2,362	11,192	21,000	9,808
Building Repair & Maintenance	16,805	72,058	170,000	97,942
Equipment Repair & Maintenance	-	574	6,500	5,926
Offsite Storage	136	1,416	5,200	3,784
Hardware & Software Maintenance	15,143	90,639	404,000	313,361
Miscellaneous/Contingency	8,412	18,064	89,800	71,736
Internal Meeting	7,171	15,900	89,200	73,300
Divisional Capacity Building	-	1,750	19,000	17,250
Total General Operating Expenses	82,785	565,566	1,521,584	956,018
Consultant Services				
Consultant Fees	29,596	311,080	972,000	660,920
Other Professional Fees	16,951	119,785	311,900	192,115
Total Consultant Services	46,547	430,865	1,283,900	853,035
Professional Services				
Audit	3,370	49,370	72,000	22,630
Legal Fees	-	46,455	200,000	153,545
Professional Dues	4,279	24,699	74,250	49,551
Staff Recruitment	-	1,647	10,000	8,353
Commission Stipends	750	3,450	20,000	16,550
Web-Based Services	2,396	16,928	70,000	53,072
Bank & Other Service Charges	-	4,733	12,000	7,267
Total Professional Services	10,795	147,282	458,250	310,968
Travel Expenses				
Airfare	132	5,547	117,125	111,578
Lodging	-	10,433	115,348	104,915
Per Diem	92	3,026	45,270	42,244
Other Travel Expense	293	3,349	18,865	15,516
Total Travel Expenses	517	22,355	296,608	274,253
Professional Development				
Training Material & Supplies	-	-	12,100	12,100
In-house Training	-	-	64,300	64,300
Leadership Programs	-	8,821	135,000	126,179
Conference/Training Registrations	399	4,975	89,700	84,725
Outside Training	375	1,970	49,500	47,530
Total Professional Development	774	15,766	350,600	334,834
Capital Improvements				
Capital Outlay (Equipment Purchases)	291	19,538	103,500	83,962
Total Capital Improvements	291	19,538	103,500	83,962
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,209,015	8,585,136	20,386,567	11,801,432

NOTES - OPERATING & ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET UPDATE:

The administrative expenses are within the maximum authorized under the Board policy.

The FY 2025-26 operating budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 12, 2025.

**Los Angeles County Children and Families First -
Proposition 10 Commission
Statement of Net Assets
January 31, 2026 Unaudited**

Current Assets:

Cash	\$	2,405,395
Cash- Morlin Mgmt Corp		243,437
Investment:		
Operating and Allocated funds		257,937,647
Advance - Regional Network (RN)		635,631
Advance - Various		198,650
Other Receivables		22,116
Total Current Assets	\$	<u>261,442,876</u>

Fixed Assets:

Land	\$	2,039,000
Building & Improvements		15,970,799
Furniture & Fixtures		627,671
Computer, Software & Accessories		2,280,106
Office Equipment		346,044
Accumulated Depreciation		(8,388,282)
CIP Phase-II		1,441,837
Total Fixed Assets	\$	<u>14,317,175</u>

Total Assets

\$ 275,760,050

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:

Other Liabilities	\$	249,203 (1)
Total Current Liabilities	\$	<u>249,203</u>

Net Assets:

Investment in capital assets	\$	14,317,175
Restricted		261,193,673
Total Net Assets	\$	<u>275,510,847</u>

Total Liabilities and Net Assets

\$ 275,760,050

NOTES:

(1) Other Liabilities include accounts payable, and other related liabilities.

FIRST 5 LA

SUBJECT:
Mid-Year Adjustments to the FY 2025-26 Budget

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve mid-year adjustments to the FY 2025-26 Budget as detailed in Attachment 1 (Program Budget) and Attachment 2 (Operating Budget).

BACKGROUND:
The \$80.0 million FY 2025–26 Budget, approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 12, 2025, reflects staff’s best estimate of the resources needed to advance First 5 LA’s strategic priorities and includes approximately \$67.3 million in programmatic costs and \$12.7 million in administrative costs. The proposed mid-year budget adjustments are net cost neutral and do not change the overall approved budget level. Adjustments are limited to shifts among existing line items to align projected spending with actual needs identified during the first half of the fiscal year, with no movement between programmatic and operating budgets.

As a reminder, as of FY 2025-26, First 5 LA has shifted from reporting total internal operation costs to separately reflecting program support (operational costs needed to advance programmatic work) and administrative support (operational costs needed to advance the administrative work). This change is intended to more accurately represent the true cost of the programs. Initial budget requests were estimated using the information available at the time of budget development and were based on spending projections—rather than final negotiated contract amounts—so staff would have the flexibility to manage contracts within a budget unit without having to return to the Board. Based on updated information, there is no proposed change to the FY 2025-26 Program Budget, including Program Support, of \$67.3 million. Adjustments in administrative support line-item costs resulted in a cost neutral adjustment to the \$12.7 million Administrative Support budget. These administrative operational cost adjustments are detailed at an organization-wide summary level in Attachment 2.

The result is a cost neutral adjustment to the approved FY 2025-26 Budget of \$80.0 million, as illustrated in the high-level table below.

Budget Component	Approved FY 2025-26 Budget	Proposed Adjustments	Revised FY 2025-26 Budget	% Change
Program	\$ 67,347,252	-	\$ 67,347,252	0.0%
Administrative Support	12,652,748	-	12,652,748	0.0%
Total Revised FY 2025-26 Budget	\$ 80,000,000	-	\$ 80,000,000	0.0%

DISCUSSION:
The mid-year adjustments reflect cost-neutral shifts related to conference and training registrations, leadership programs, outside/external education, internal meetings, and related travel expenses within and across departments and Centers. Decreases in Health Systems Department (\$1,600) and Contract Administration & Purchasing Department (CAP) (\$2,900) are offset by corresponding increases in the Center for Family Systems & Human Resources Department (\$1,600) and the Center for Operations & Sustainability (COS) (\$2,900) to centralize conference, leadership, and

education costs based on updated spending projections. Consistent with First 5 LA's budget policy, these adjustments do not exceed \$25,000 and therefore fall within the Executive Director's authority and are exempt from formal Board approval.

Administrative Cost:

Though it does not set or mandate a limit, Proposition 10 does require all First 5 commissions to establish an administrative cost cap. As part of the approval of the annual fiscal year budget, First 5 LA approves an annual limit on the organization's administrative spending. While this administrative cost limit represents a percentage of the overall fiscal year budget, the Commission approves the limit at the dollar amount level. This is because administrative costs are generally not as fluid as other types of costs and cannot adapt quickly to respond to changes in actual spending levels.

The administrative cost limit approved in June 2025 as part of the FY 2025-26 Budget was approximately \$12.7 million. Based on the mid-year budget revisions discussed above and detailed in Attachment 1 and Attachment 2, there was no change to the total administrative cost of \$12.7 million.

NEXT STEPS:

Pursuant to the parameters of the First 5 LA Budget Policy, the adjustments to the FY 2025-26 Budget are exempt from formal approval by the Board of Commissioners. However, to maintain transparency the FY 2025-26 Mid-Year Revised Budget materials will be shared with the Board of Commissioners in February 2026 for information only.

First 5 LA's approach to budgeting will continue to evolve – informed by experience and the long-term financial plan - to achieve greater clarity and transparency. We will continue to use any learnings derived from the mid-year budget adjustment process, as well as the Strategic Plan implementation, to inform the FY 2026-27 Budget development process and greater alignment to our fiscal reality. The proposed FY 2026-27 Budget is expected to be presented to the Board of Commissioners for discussion in May 2026 and approval in June 2026.

CENTER/DEPARTMENT	PROJECT NAME	APPROVED FY 2025-26 BUDGET	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS	REVISED FY 2025-26 BUDGET	VARIANCE
					% CHANGE
2024-2029 STRATEGIC PLAN					
Center for Family Systems & Human Resources					
FAMILY SUPPORTS	Welcome Baby Hospitals	\$ 16,990,000		\$ 16,990,000	0.0%
	Select Home Visiting Programs	9,630,000		9,630,000	0.0%
	Family Strengthening Oversight Entity	3,415,113		3,415,113	0.0%
	F5CA Home Visiting Coordination Project	-		-	N/A
	Stronger Families Database	664,300		664,300	0.0%
	Welcome Baby Impact Study	-		-	N/A
Sub-total Family Supports		\$ 30,699,413	\$ -	\$ 30,699,413	0.0%
HEALTH SYSTEMS	Help Me Grow	\$ 60,000		\$ 60,000	0.0%
	Infrastructure Support for Sustainability and Health Planning	170,000		170,000	0.0%
	AAIMM Birth Outcomes and Disparities – Policy and Systems Change	926,000		926,000	0.0%
Sub-total Health Systems		\$ 1,156,000	\$ -	\$ 1,156,000	0.0%
CENTER SUPPORT	Center for Strategic Partnerships	\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000	0.0%
	County Partnership Fund	125,000		125,000	0.0%
Sub-total Center Support		\$ 175,000	\$ -	\$ 175,000	0.0%
Sub-Total: Center for Family Systems & Human Resources		\$ 32,030,413	\$ -	\$ 32,030,413	0.0%
Center for Community Engagement & Policy					
COMMUNITIES	Region 1: Central-East Regional Network	\$ 2,582,580		\$ 2,582,580	0.0%
	Region 2: SLA Regional Network	2,948,080		2,948,080	0.0%
	Region 3: SFV Regional Network	1,377,210		1,377,210	0.0%
	Region 4: Port Cities Regional Network	1,554,880		1,554,880	0.0%
	Region 5: AV Regional Network	1,296,300		1,296,300	0.0%
	Cross Regional Alignment	95,000		95,000	0.0%
	Best Start Learning Agenda	-		-	N/A
	Activating Network Partners	300,000		300,000	0.0%
	Expand Regional Influence and Impact with Data	-		-	N/A
	Learning Dialogues	35,000		35,000	0.0%
Sub-total Communities		\$ 10,189,050	\$ -	\$ 10,189,050	0.0%
IMPACT & ACCOUNTABILITY	Annual Reporting	\$ 41,000		\$ 41,000	0.0%
	Data Requests	5,000		5,000	0.0%
	Children's Data Network (CDN)	530,000		530,000	0.0%
	WIC Data Mining Research Partnership	266,000		266,000	0.0%
	Data Agenda	-		-	N/A
	Impact Framework	272,000		272,000	0.0%
	Equity Index	300,000		300,000	0.0%
Sub-total impact & Accountability		\$ 1,414,000	\$ -	\$ 1,414,000	0.0%
PUBLIC POLICY & EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION	County ECE Infrastructure Support	\$ 200,000		\$ 200,000	0.0%
	Kindergarten Readiness Assessment	-		-	N/A
	Provider Advisory Group	250,000		250,000	0.0%
	Universal Preschool	75,000		75,000	0.0%
	Dual Language Learner	400,000		400,000	0.0%
	Home-Based Child Care Strategy	600,000		600,000	0.0%
	IMPACT Legacy	2,600,000		2,600,000	0.0%
	QSLA Facilitation and Communications	250,000		250,000	0.0%
	Early Childhood Policy and Advocacy Fund	3,610,000		3,610,000	0.0%
	Policy Advocacy Fund Technical Assistance Provider	525,000		525,000	0.0%
	Organization-Wide Sponsorships	240,000		240,000	0.0%
	Organizational Memberships	170,000		170,000	0.0%
	Organization-Wide Partnerships	140,000		140,000	0.0%
	Policy & Advocacy Stakeholder Engagement	125,000		125,000	0.0%
State Policy and Sustainability Advocate	205,000		205,000	0.0%	
	Strategic Plan Advocacy Strategies	20 375,000		375,000	0.0%
Sub-total Public Policy & Early Care Education		9,765,000	-	9,765,000	0.0%
Sub-Total: Center for Community Engagement & Policy		\$ 21,368,050	\$ -	\$ 21,368,050	0.0%

CENTER/DEPARTMENT	PROJECT NAME	APPROVED FY 2025-26 BUDGET	PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS	REVISED FY 2025-26 BUDGET	VARIANCE
					% CHANGE
<i>Center for Strategy & Culture</i>					
COMMUNICATIONS	Strategic Communications	\$ 557,500		\$ 557,500	0.0%
	Strategic Communications Partnerships	150,000		150,000	0.0%
	Strategic Marketing	756,000		756,000	0.0%
Sub-total Communications		1,463,500	-	1,463,500	0.0%
<i>Sub-Total: Strategy & Culture</i>		\$ 1,463,500	\$ -	\$ 1,463,500	0.0%
TOTAL 2024-2029 STRATEGIC PLAN		\$ 54,861,963	\$ -	\$ 54,861,963	0.0%
	Strategic Initiatives Development Fund	\$ 4,751,470		\$ 4,751,470	0.0%
	Program Support	\$ 7,733,819		\$ 7,733,819	0.0%
TOTAL FIRST 5 LA PROGRAM BUDGET		\$ 67,347,252	\$ -	\$ 67,347,252	0.0%
Administrative Cost					
	Administrative Support	\$ 12,652,748		\$ 12,652,748	0.0%
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE Support		\$ 12,652,748	\$ -	\$ 12,652,748	0.0%
TOTAL FIRST 5 LA BUDGET		\$ 80,000,000	\$ -	\$ 80,000,000	0.0%

NON- F5LA PROPOSITION 10 REVENUES					
	F5CA IMPACT	\$ 3,375,531		\$ 3,375,531	0%
	Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan	250,000		250,000	0%
	SHV: DMH Application for funding	4,016,581		4,016,581	0%
	F5CA QSLA Facilitation & Comms	-		-	N/A
TOTAL NON-F5LA PROPOSITION 10 REVENUES		\$ 7,642,112	\$ -	\$ 7,642,112	0.0%

TOTAL DEMAND ON F5LA RESOURCES		\$ 72,357,888	\$ -	\$ 72,357,888	0.0%
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OPERATING COSTS SUMMARY

BUDGET FY25-26

CENTER/OFFICE/TEAM: First 5 LA



Description	FY2026 BUDGET	FY2026 MID-YEAR	Proposed Adjustment	% Variance
Total Operating Expenses	20,386,568	20,386,568	0	0.0%
Total Salaries & Wages	11,788,254	11,788,254	0	0.0%
6040 Social Security Tax	681,226	681,226	0	0.0%
6215 Utilities	185,000	185,000	0	0.0%
6225 Mileage, Parking and Other Transportation	22,965	22,965	0	0.0%
6230 Telephones	53,300	53,300	0	0.0%
6235 Cell Phone & Mobile Devices	108,300	108,300	0	0.0%
6240 Outside Printing & Publications	2,300	2,300	0	0.0%
6245 Other Supplies	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
6250 Postage & Delivery	2,510	2,510	0	0.0%
6255 Educational Supplies	5,000	5,000	0	0.0%
6260 Office Supplies	34,790	34,790	0	0.0%
6265 Subscriptions & Publications	34,000	33,800	(200)	0.6%
6270 Capital Outlay	103,500	103,500	0	0.0%
6275 Equipment-Rents & Leases	21,000	21,000	0	0.0%
6280 Building Repair & Maintenance	170,000	170,000	0	0.0%
6285 Equipment Repairs &	6,500	6,500	0	0.0%
6290 Offsite Storage	5,200	5,200	0	0.0%
6295 Hardware & Software	404,000	404,000	0	0.0%
6300 Miscellaneous/Contingency	89,800	89,800	0	0.0%
6310 Internal Meetings	89,200	87,100	(2,100)	2.4%
6315 Divisional Capacity Building	19,000	19,000	0	0.0%
6410 Consultant Fees	972,000	972,000	0	0.0%
6420 Other Professional Fees	311,900	311,900	0	0.0%
6510 Audit	72,000	72,000	0	0.0%
6520 Legal Fees	200,000	200,000	0	0.0%
6540 Professional Dues	74,250	73,850	(400)	0.5%
6550 Staff Recruitment	10,000	10,000	0	0.0%
6560 Commissioners Stipends	20,000	20,000	0	0.0%
6570 Web-Based Services	70,000	70,000	0	0.0%
6580 Bank & Other Service Charges	12,000	12,000	0	0.0%
6610 Airfare	117,125	117,125	0	0.0%
6620 Lodging	115,348	113,948	(1,400)	1.2%

OPERATING COSTS SUMMARY

BUDGET FY25-26

CENTER/OFFICE/TEAM: First 5 LA



Description	FY2026 BUDGET	FY2026 MID-YEAR	Proposed Adjustment	% Variance
6640 Per Diem	45,270	44,870	(400)	0.9%
6650 Other Travel Expense	18,865	18,865	0	0.0%
6810 Training Materials & Supplies	12,100	12,100	0	0.0%
6820 In-house Training	64,300	64,300	0	0.0%
6830 Leadership Programs	135,000	138,100	3,100	(2.2%)
6840 Conference/Training Registrations	89,700	90,000	300	(0.3%)
6850 Outside Education	49,500	50,600	1,100	(2.2%)

FIRST 5 LA

SUBJECT:

Authorize First 5 LA to Receive Funds from WestEd for the Building Equitable Early Learning and Care Systems (BEELS) Project and Approve Resolution # 2026-01 and Authorize First 5 LA Staff to Execute an Agreement in the Amount of up to \$100,000. The funding amount is contingent upon the final award from WestEd.

RECOMMENDATION:

The following recommendations were presented as written information for the Board's consideration at the February 12, 2026 Commission meeting. First 5 LA staff recommends that at the March 12, 2026 Commission meeting, the Board approve the following action related to the Building Equitable Early Learning and Care Systems (BEELS) Project:

1. Approve a Budget Resolution # 2026-01 to approve receipt of funds in the amount of \$100,000 for a project period of March 12, 2026 to September 27, 2027 from WestEd to implement BEELS.
2. Authorize the President/CEO, or Designee, to complete execution of agreement with WestEd upon approval from the Board at the March 12, 2026 Commission Meeting to receive funds through September 27, 2027.
3. Authorize the President/CEO or Designee, on behalf of First 5 LA, to accept additional funding from WestEd and to execute agreements should additional funding to BEELS arise.

BACKGROUND:

WestEd is collaborating with regions across the state to elevate California's efforts through the Building Equitable Early Learning and Care Systems (BEELS) project. BEELS, which is funded by First 5 California (F5CA), is designed to augment and expand local equity efforts and utilize these experiences to inform the development of a statewide equitable early learning system.

WestEd has funding through December 2027 to lead this historical opportunity and to equip local communities to identify, refine, and/or sustain equitable systems that support the whole child/whole family, prioritizing children and families who are historically and presently underserved and marginalized. BEELS strives to capture what counties want and know to be important for the children, families, and providers who serve them and the costs, while centering equity and a data-driven story that focuses on sustainability.

Funds will be used to support the implementation of the regional action plan developed by First 5 LA and the BEELS team, and approved by the BEELS team and First 5 CA, which includes: contracting with a facilitator who will manage and facilitate a Community of Practice for Early Learning and Care (ELC) providers to share and learn innovative practices from one another, and to plan and implement a collaborative space (i.e., convening) that brings quality improvement (QI) implementers together to coordinate strategies and maximize resources. This will prompt opportunities to better do systems work, which will ultimately lead to a more equitable system.

NEXT STEPS:

Upon Commission approval, the President/CEO, or Designee, will execute a contract with WestEd in the amount of up to \$100,000 through September 27, 2027, and authorize the President/CEO to accept additional funding if funding for the same purpose continues.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01

**A RESOLUTION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES FIRST PROPOSITION 10 COMMISSION:
APPROVAL OF RECEIPT OF FUNDS FOR THE BUILDING EQUITABLE EARLY LEARNING AND CARE
SYSTEMS (BEELS) PROJECT**

The Board of Commissioners of Los Angeles County Children and Families First Proposition 10 Commission (“the Commission”) hereby finds and resolves as follows:

Whereas, pursuant to the Fund Balance Policy approved on October 13, 2016, the Commission is required to approve via Resolution the receipt of restricted funds, thus formally acknowledging and reflecting externally imposed constraints placed on the use of these resources; and

Whereas, funds awarded by WestEd will be restricted for use in support of the implementation of a regional action plan developed by First 5 LA and the Building Equitable Early Learning and Care Systems (BEELS) team, to strengthen local equity efforts and inform a more equitable statewide early learning system. Funds will be used to help implement the regional action plan, including facilitating a Community of Practice for Early Learning and Care (ELC) and coordinating quality improvement efforts, to foster collaboration, align strategies, and advance more equitable early learning systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Funding received from WestEd in the amount of up to \$100,000 through September 27, 2027 will be considered restricted for fund balance purposes; and
2. The President & CEO or Designee, on behalf of First 5 LA, is authorized to accept additional funding from WestEd if funding for the same purpose continues; and
3. The executed copy of this Resolution shall be retained on file as evidence of the Commission’s actions herein.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 12th DAY OF MARCH 2026, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: Commissioners _____

NOES: Commissioners _____

ABSTAIN: Commissioners _____

Holly J. Mitchell
Chair, First 5 LA

Karla Pleitéz Howell
President & CEO

Memo

To: Board of Commissioners

From: Karla Pleitéz Howell, President & CEO

Date: March 12, 2026

Subject: **PRESIDENT & CEO’S REPORT**

I. PRESIDENT & CEO HIGHLIGHTS

This month, we warmly invite the start of the spring season and proudly acknowledge Women’s History Month. This year’s theme of "Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future" celebrates the important role that women have played – and continue to play — in creating sustainability where it matters. Not just the environment, but finance and economics, community resilience, leadership succession, and intergenerational equity. First 5 LA is honored to join Los Angeles County in celebrating all the women who continue to forge a brighter, more sustainable future for all.

During today’s First 5 LA board of commissioners meeting, we are joined by several partners who will present insights and analysis on city, county, state and federal landscapes. From county demographic shifts to advocacy priorities in the context of the upcoming California gubernatorial election and in response to federal administration budget and policy actions that continue to impact children and families.

At the federal level, as a result of H.R.1, millions of families have already begun losing coverage or benefits. These cuts will result in:

- Almost 11 million more people without health insurance by 2034
- 4 million people losing some or all their food assistance in an average month once H.R. 1 is fully implemented
- 2.6 million U.S. citizen children cut off from the Child Tax Credit as soon as this year

Additionally, the administration’s immigration crackdown has resulted in widespread family separations by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, with hundreds of children detained without their parents. This cruel practice inflicts lasting trauma on children—both those directly affected and those who witness it—while prioritizing arrest numbers over humanity.

From continued U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids across Los Angeles County communities to persistent threats of freezing funding for critical child care and safety net services, our families are experiencing unprecedented levels of uncertainty.

COMMISSIONERS

Los Angeles County Supervisor
Holly J. Mitchell
Chair

Brandon Nichols
Vice Chair

Alma Cortes, Ed. D.
Barbara Ferrer Ph.D.,
M.P.H., M.Ed.
Astrid Heger, M.D.

Abigail Marquez
Summer McBride
Maricela Ramirez,
Ed. D.
Carol Sigala, Ph.D.

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Justin Blakely
Robert Byrd, Psy.D.
Deanne Tilton Durfee
Jacquelyn McCroskey, DSW

PRESIDENT & CEO

Karla Pleitéz Howell

VICE PRESIDENTS

Aurea Montes-Rodriguez
JR Nino

A deep dive into these and other societal and economic indicators will be explored through the presentation by Measure of America as they introduce the recently released report, A Portrait of Los Angeles County 2026: Toward an Equitable Future for All Angelenos. The report presents a comprehensive examination of the well-being and equity of our diverse County and offers critical insight into the conditions that shape the lives of Los Angeles residents, exploring dimensions such as health, education, living standards, environmental justice, housing, homelessness, and community safety. First 5 LA is proud to have been a partner in the development of the report, assisting in the coordination of in-person convenings of Best Start community partners who provided valuable lived-experience insight during a time of heightened fear around immigration enforcement raids. Deep gratitude to residents and community partners from the Antelope Valley, the San Fernando Valley, East Los Angeles, South Los Angeles, and Long Beach for their participation.

Achieving equitable outcomes for all Los Angeles County residents, especially our youngest children and their families, requires ongoing collaboration and innovation to address the persistent disparities and unequal access to critical services and supports. First 5 LA is committed to strengthening collective efforts to address the urgent needs of children and families today while laying the groundwork for long-term, systemic change required to build a brighter future for every child.

II. UPDATES FROM THE TEAM – WHAT HAS FIRST 5 LA BEEN UP TO?

Advancing First 5 LA’s PPECE priorities and building relationship with policymakers

The Public Policy and Early Care and Education (PPECE) department team is on full swing with the start of the budget and legislative session. On Wednesday, February 18, PPECE participated in Thriving Families CA “Lifting Up Families” Advocacy Day in Sacramento. The day focused on maintaining and advancing funding for child care and the early education workforce, as well as ensuring access to housing, health care, food, and other supports to break cycles of poverty. At the federal level, PPECE submitted public comment on the Federal Notice of Proposed Rulemaking “Reimagining and Improving Student Education,” which would reclassify fields such as nursing, social work, education, and public health as ineligible for higher federal student loan limits. First 5 LA uplifted how this could significantly constrain the workforce pipeline for specialized health, child development, and family-support services. Finally, second round of grants for Year 3 of the Community Opportunities Flexible Fund (COFF) were awarded under Early Childhood Policy & Advocacy Fund (EC PAF).

Advancing Housing Stability for Families with Young Children

The Community Voice for Housing Equity initiative advances First 5 LA’s 2024–2029 Strategic Plan by supporting Objective 1.3: reducing housing insecurity among families with children prenatal to age five. Housing instability remains a major barrier to healthy child development and family well-being. Through a competitive process, First 5 LA selected five community-based partners—Public Counsel, TRUST South LA, Esperanza Community Housing, LA Family Housing, and SAJE—to translate research and community experience into equity-driven housing policy recommendations. An external facilitator will lead a structured process integrating data and lived experience, resulting in community-informed policy priorities that will guide First 5 LA’s advocacy and cross-sector partnerships beginning in FY 2026. This initiative demonstrates progress in operationalizing the Strategic Plan by aligning research, community voice, and policy action to address housing insecurity as a key determinant of early childhood outcomes.

III. CONTRACTS EXECUTED LEVERAGING PRESIDENT & CEO DELEGATION AUTHORITY

Nothing to highlight this month.

IV. RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS SPONSORED BY FIRST 5 LA

Name: Winter Soiree: SANKOFA

Date: February 19, 2026

Amount: \$2,500

The Communities Department attended Partnership for Growth LA's Winter Soiree: SANKOFA, an event celebrating community leadership and honoring our Board Chair, Holly Mitchell. The evening also marked the unveiling of the Freedom Farms Collective, a community-owned farm-to-table ecosystem serving South and West Los Angeles and expanding equitable access to healthy food for children and families.

Name: The Power of Prevention: Lessons from the Skid Row Oral History Project

Date: February 19, 2026

Amount: \$3,000

First 5 LA sponsored The Power of Prevention: Lessons from the Skid Row Oral History Project, a powerful briefing that highlighted the experiences of children and families in Skid Row and underscored the urgent need for prevention-focused solutions to address systemic hardship.

Name: Family Learning Festival

Date: February 28, 2026

Amount: \$5,000

We sponsored Connections for Children's 2nd Annual Family Learning Festival, a free community event that welcomed more than 600 children, parents, and caregivers and provided access to essential programs supporting learning, health, and social development—laying the foundation for lifelong success.

California State Budget

Overview of the Governor's Proposed 2026-27 Spending Plan

29

Chris Hoene, Executive Director



Today we will:

- Review the state and federal context
- Share our key takeaway on the governor's proposal
- Describe key elements of the governor's plan
- Preview what to expect next



Why the State Budget Matters

31

Budget choices affect all Californians.



Key State and Federal Context



State Context

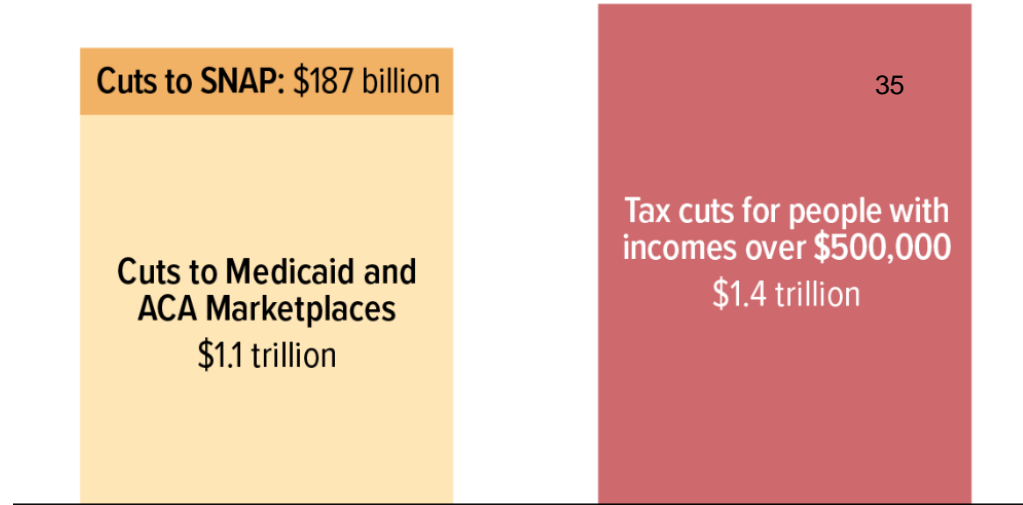
- More than **1 in 5** Californians experience poverty
- The state is facing **widening inequality**
- The gap between the growth in workers' earnings and corporate profits **remains stark**

Federal Context

- H. R. 1 — the Republican megabill — **guts Medi-Cal and CalFresh to fund tax cuts** for corporations and the wealthy
- **Federal funds provide major support** for key programs and services in California

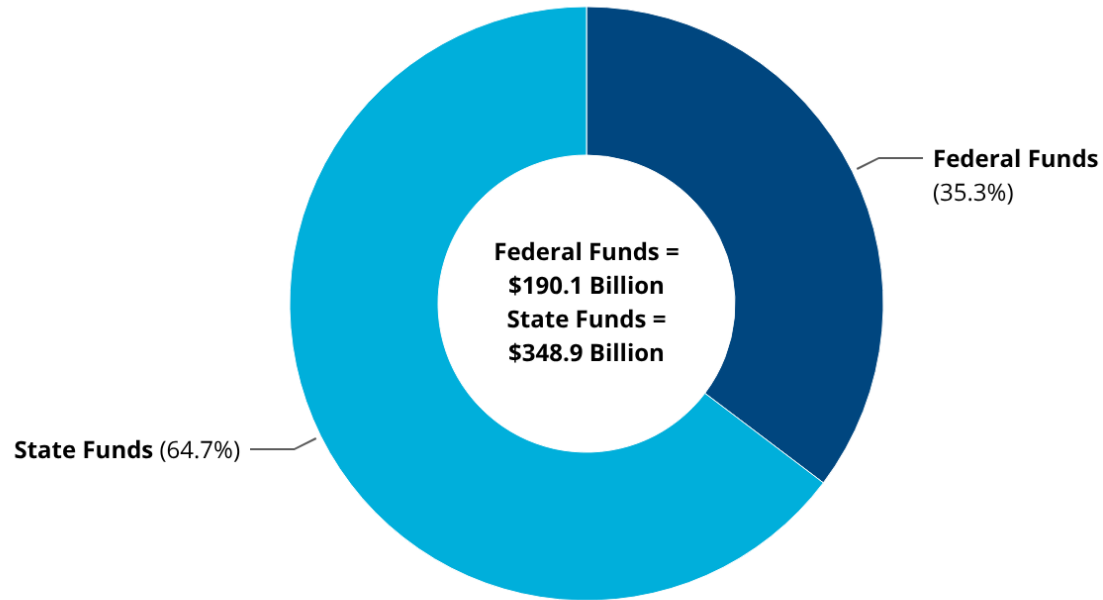
Harmful Republican Megabill Takes Health Care and Food Assistance Away From People to Pay for Tax Cuts for Wealthy

Bill cuts health coverage by over \$1 trillion and SNAP by \$187 billion, while giving the wealthy \$1.4 trillion in tax cuts



Federal Funds Make Up Over One-Third of California's State Budget

Governor's Proposed 2026-27 Expenditures = \$539.1 Billion



Note: State funds reflect General Fund, special fund, and bond fund dollars.

Source: Department of Finance



H.R. 1 (2025) Impacts on California

- **Up to 2 million Californians could lose their Medi-Cal coverage** and the state could lose tens of billions of dollars in federal funding every year.
- **Over 3 million California households are poised to lose some or all of their food assistance.** In total, cuts to SNAP are estimated to cost the state between \$2.3 billion and \$5.1 billion annually in lost federal funding.
- **On tax cuts:** In California, the top 1% will receive an average annual tax cut of \$35,000, while the bottom 20% will receive just \$100, on average.

The Governor's Budget Proposed 2026-27 Spending Plan

The governor's
proposed 2026-27
budget **fails to meet**
the moment.

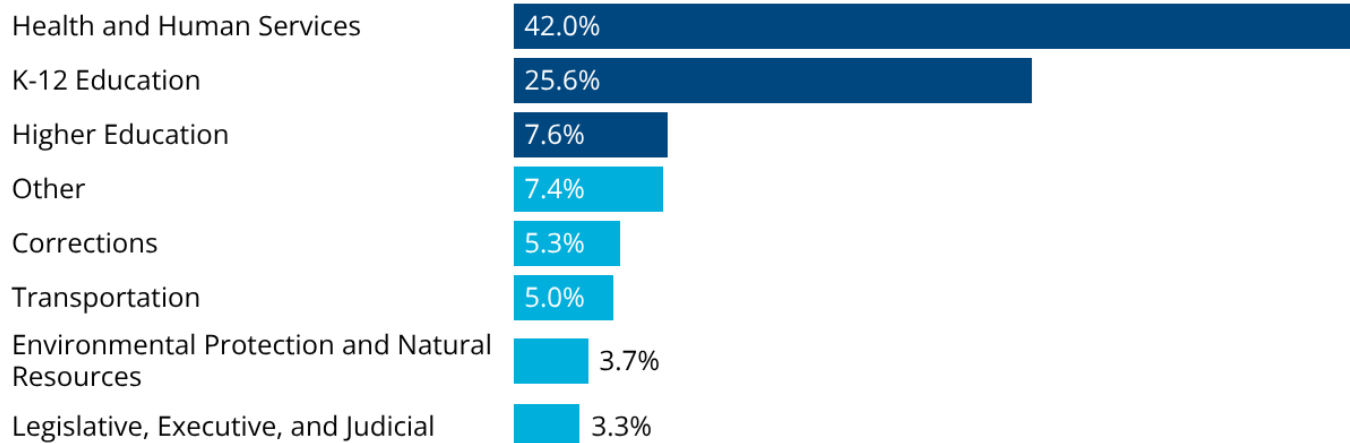


**Most proposed
expenditures go to
health and human
services or education.**



3 in 4 State Dollars Support Health and Human Services, K-12 Education, or Higher Education

Proposed 2026-27 General Fund and Special Fund Expenditures = \$332.6 Billion



Note: "Other" reflects a number of budget categories, including Business and Consumer Services, Housing and Homelessness, and Labor and Workforce Development.

Source: Budget Center analysis of Department of Finance data



California Budget
& Policy Center

The governor's plan assumes:

- **Extremely strong revenue growth**
- **A relatively small deficit**
- **Growing reserves**



Governor Projects Substantial Revenue Growth

- The governor projects that General Fund revenue will be **\$42 billion higher** across the three-year “budget window” than was assumed last June
- The Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO) projects that revenue growth could be even more robust, **potentially exceeding the governor’s forecast by several billion dollars**
- The **strong stock market** is a major reason for this positive near-term revenue outlook

Governor Projects a Relatively Small Budget Deficit

- The governor projects a relatively small General Fund deficit of **\$2.9 billion**, mainly due to the administration's very positive revenue forecast
- Both the administration and the LAO will release **updated revenue, spending, and deficit estimates in the spring**
- Both the Dept. of Finance and LAO project significant "outyear deficits" for the next several years (without additional revenues).

Governor Projects Over \$20 Billion in Reserves

- Under governor's proposal, California would end 2026-27 with:
 - **\$14.4 billion** in the Budget Stabilization Account (BSA), California's main rainy day fund
 - **\$4.5 billion** in the state's discretionary reserve ("SFEU")
 - **\$4.1 billion** in the Prop. 98 reserve, California's fund for K-12 schools and community colleges

The governor omits **revenue solutions** that could mitigate the harm of federal cuts and help address ongoing needs.



New Revenue Is Essential to Protecting Californians from Harmful Federal Cuts

- **Governor's budget plan protects billions of dollars in costly state tax loopholes** that disproportionately benefit large, profitable corporations
- **A missed opportunity:** Closing costly corporate tax loopholes would free up billions of dollars to help protect vital services and invest in the well-being of all Californians

Governor's Approach: Health

Health Policy Cuts Target Immigrants

- In 2025-26, **state leaders restricted immigrants' access to health care**, including by freezing Medi-Cal enrollment for undocumented Californians starting January 1, 2026
- In 2026-27, **Gov. Newsom proposes further rollbacks:**
 - Imposes work-reporting requirements on undocumented Californians — a change that is not required by H.R. 1
 - Denies state-funded Medi-Cal to immigrant populations losing coverage due to H.R. 1 starting October 1, 2026

Governor Does Not Address Pending Loss of MCO Tax Revenue

- California is **on the brink of losing billions of dollars for Medi-Cal** due to H.R. 1's new restrictions on the managed care organization (MCO) tax
- The current MCO tax will remain **in effect until the end of 2026**, when it expires
- The governor **fails to propose a plan to restructure the MCO tax** to salvage these revenues in the near term, before deeper cuts to the tax take effect in late 2027

Governor Proposes Reductions to In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

- **Calls for shifting over \$230 million in IHSS costs to counties starting in 2027-28**
 - This shift would be accomplished by ending the state's share of cost for any growth in IHSS "hours per case"
- **Proposes to end the IHSS back-up provider system in 2026-27, reducing annual state costs by \$3.5 million**
 - This system helps IHSS consumers find a provider when their regular caregiver is unavailable

Governor's Approach: Economic Security



No Plan to Address Federal Threats

- Only makes **required investments** in CalFresh
- **Fail to address hunger cliffs** communities may face due to time limits
- Doesn't expand California Food Assistance Program for newly **excluded immigrants**

Governor Maintains Safety Net, but Goes No Further Despite Rising Need

- **Maintains cash assistance programs including:**
 - Refundable tax credits (CalEITC, YCTC, Foster Youth)
 - CalWORKs grants
 - SSI/SSP grants
- **Maintains partial funding for child care spaces and temporary provider pay boost**
 - Walks back commitment to add 44,000 subsidized child care spaces
 - Upholds terms of Child Care Providers United contract

Governor's Approach: Housing & Homelessness



Proposal Lacks Meaningful Investment in Affordable Housing

- No effort to address the **severe housing challenges** that renters and low-income Californians are facing⁵⁶
- Fails to fund **critical & oversubscribed programs** like Multifamily Housing Program

Proposed Budget Leaves Homelessness Funding Reduced

- Governor proposes **no new or ongoing state funding** to address homelessness
- HHAP funding for local governments is **maintained at \$500 million one-time in 2026-27**, effectively a 50% cut from prior years
- Key programs serving vulnerable populations are **reduced or allowed to sunset** (Bring Families Home, Home Safe, Housing Disability Advocacy Program)

Governor's Approach: Education

Proposition 98 Funding Is Up Substantially

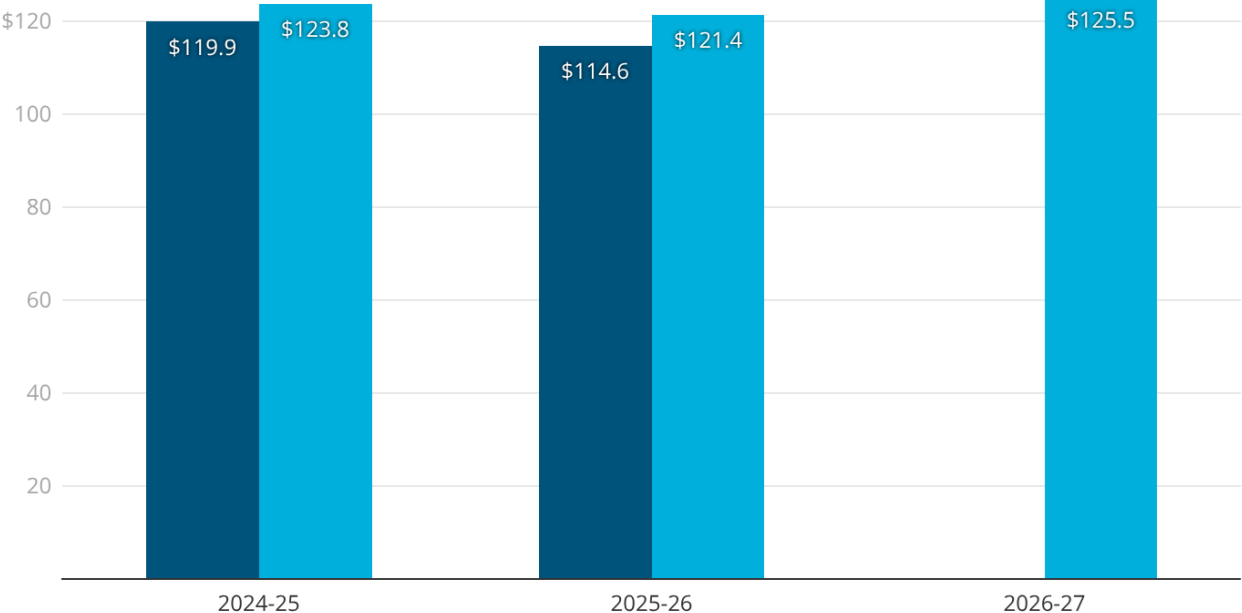
- Prop. 98 guarantees a **minimum funding level** for TK-12 schools, community colleges, and state preschool
- The guarantee is **estimated to be over \$20 billion higher** across the three-year “budget window” than was projected last June



Higher Revenue Estimates in the 2026-27 Proposed Budget Increase the Prop. 98 Guarantee by \$21.7 Billion

Estimates of Prop. 98 Guarantee Levels Across the Three-Year Budget Window, Dollars in Billions

■ June 2025 Estimate ■ January 2026 Estimate



Source: California Department of Finance, Legislative Analyst's Office



Key TK-12 Investments Under Governor's Plan

Early Learning

- Fully funds **transitional kindergarten (TK)**, including lower student-to-teacher ratios first implemented in 2025-26
- Provides \$2.0 billion in Prop. 98 funds for the **California State Preschool Program**

K-12

- \$2.8 billion to sustain a **discretionary block grant** for student support and development
- \$2 billion to fund a **2.41% COLA** for the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)
- \$1 billion to sustain the **community schools** program

What Key Early Budget Actions Have State Leaders Already Taken?

Governor Approves Funding for Planned Parenthood

SB 106 (a “Budget Bill Junior”):

- **Allocates \$90 million one-time General Fund** to the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) to distribute to family planning providers
- **Helps ensure that these clinics can keep their doors open and provide critical reproductive health services** after H.R. 1 eliminated their funding

What Are the Impacts of the Budget at the Local Level?

Counties Facing Increased Costs Due to H.R. 1

H.R.1 is anticipated to **increase counties' annual costs by \$6 billion to \$9.5 billion**, which includes:

- **Providing indigent health care** to people who lose Medi-Cal due to work-reporting requirements
- **Loss of public hospital system revenues** due to reductions federal support for Medicaid
- **Increased workforce-related costs** for implementing Medi-Cal + CalFresh eligibility requirements

Governor Fails to Support Local Governments

- **No funding to help counties** to meet the demands coming from H.R. 1 (+ IHSS cost shift)
- Hospitals and food banks are likely to **become overburdened**
- Proposition 1 (2024) is **not significantly expanding local housing programs** and could force cuts to vital services



Equitable Revenue Solutions ⁶⁷



Ongoing, equitable revenue solutions are needed to:

- **Address the harms of federal cuts**
- **Protect vital services**
- **Invest in the long-term well-being of Californians**

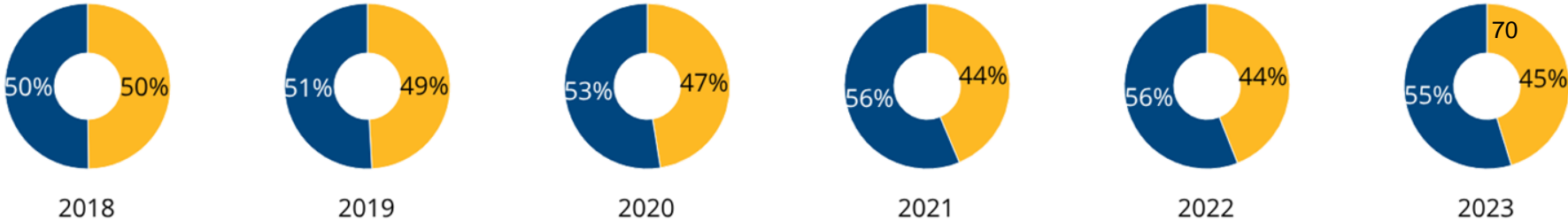
Ensuring Profitable Corporations Pay Fair Share in Taxes Is a Key First Step

- Highly profitable corporations are receiving **significant federal tax cuts from H.R. 1** on top of ongoing tax cuts from the 2017 Trump tax cuts
- California **loses billions of dollars in revenues** each year to **corporate tax breaks**
- Policymakers have commonsense options to **close corporate tax loopholes** and make sure **wealthy corporations are fairly contributing revenues** to support needed public services

A Large Share of Profitable Corporations Only Pay \$800 Minimum Tax in California

Share of Profitable Corporations Paying No California Corporate Tax Above Minimum Tax, 2018-2023

■ Corporations Paying Only Minimum Tax
■ Corporations Paying More Than Minimum Tax



Source: Franchise Tax Board

Raising Revenues Through Fairer Corporate Taxes

- **Stop tax haven abuse** by closing a loophole that lets corporations avoid around \$3-4 billion in state taxes each year
- **Limit tax credits and deductions** to ensure no profitable corporation can virtually eliminate its state taxes
- **Adjust tax rates to reflect corporate profit concentration** by applying higher tax rates to higher profits

What's Next?

Next Steps in the State Budget Process

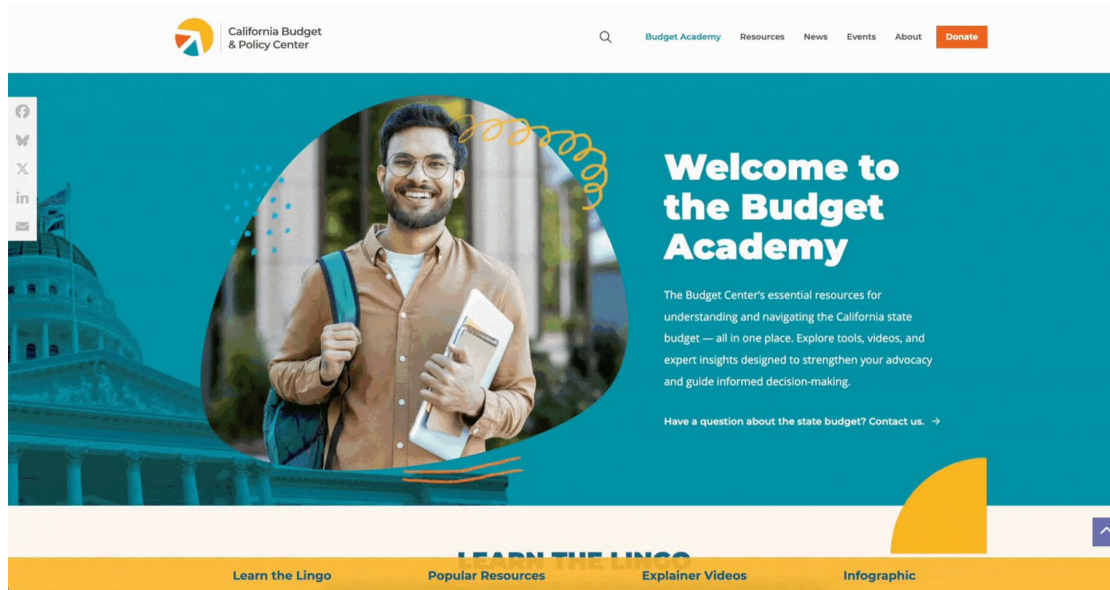
- **February to Early May:** Budget subcommittee hearings
- **By May 14:** Governor's "May Revision" released
- **Late May to Early June:** Unified legislative budget unveiled
- **By June 15:** Legislature passes the unified legislative budget
- **Late June:** Governor + legislative leaders (the "Big Three") reach a budget deal
- **Late June to Early July:** Governor signs bills in the budget package, possibly with line-item vetoes



Make Us Your Go-to Source

- [Check out](#) the Budget Center's **First Look** publication for an in-depth analysis of the governor's proposed budget ⁷⁴
- [Register](#) for **Policy Insights**, the Budget Center's annual conference being held on April 22, 2026 in Sacramento

Explore the Budget Academy



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Check out the Budget Academy for tools and resources to help you master the budget process, strengthen your advocacy, and drive meaningful change!

Thank you!

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California Budget
& Policy Center

A PORTRAIT OF LA COUNTY **KEY FINDINGS**

Thursday, March 12th



A PORTRAIT OF **LOS ANGELES COUNTY 2026**

TOWARD AN EQUITABLE FUTURE FOR ALL ANGELENOS

77

Kristen Lewis
Alex Powers

RESEARCHERS
Kate Harvey
Tara Shawa

SPECIAL ADVISOR
Bill Pitkin

WITH FOREWORD BY
Lisa H. Wong, Psy.D.
Director, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
**DEPARTMENT OF
MENTAL HEALTH**
hope. recovery. wellbeing.

THE
RALPH M. PARSONS
FOUNDATION

78



The **James Irvine**
Foundation



**Cedars
Sinai**



CONRAD N. HILTON
FOUNDATION

1ST LA
first 5 la
Giving kids the best start

MEASURE OF AMERICA



Measure of America, a nonpartisan project of the nonprofit Social Science Research Council, provides easy-to-use, methodologically sound tools for understanding **well-being and opportunity** in America.

Through reports, online tools, and evidence-based research, Measure of America works with partners to breathe life into numbers, using data to identify areas of need, pinpoint levers for change, and track progress over time.

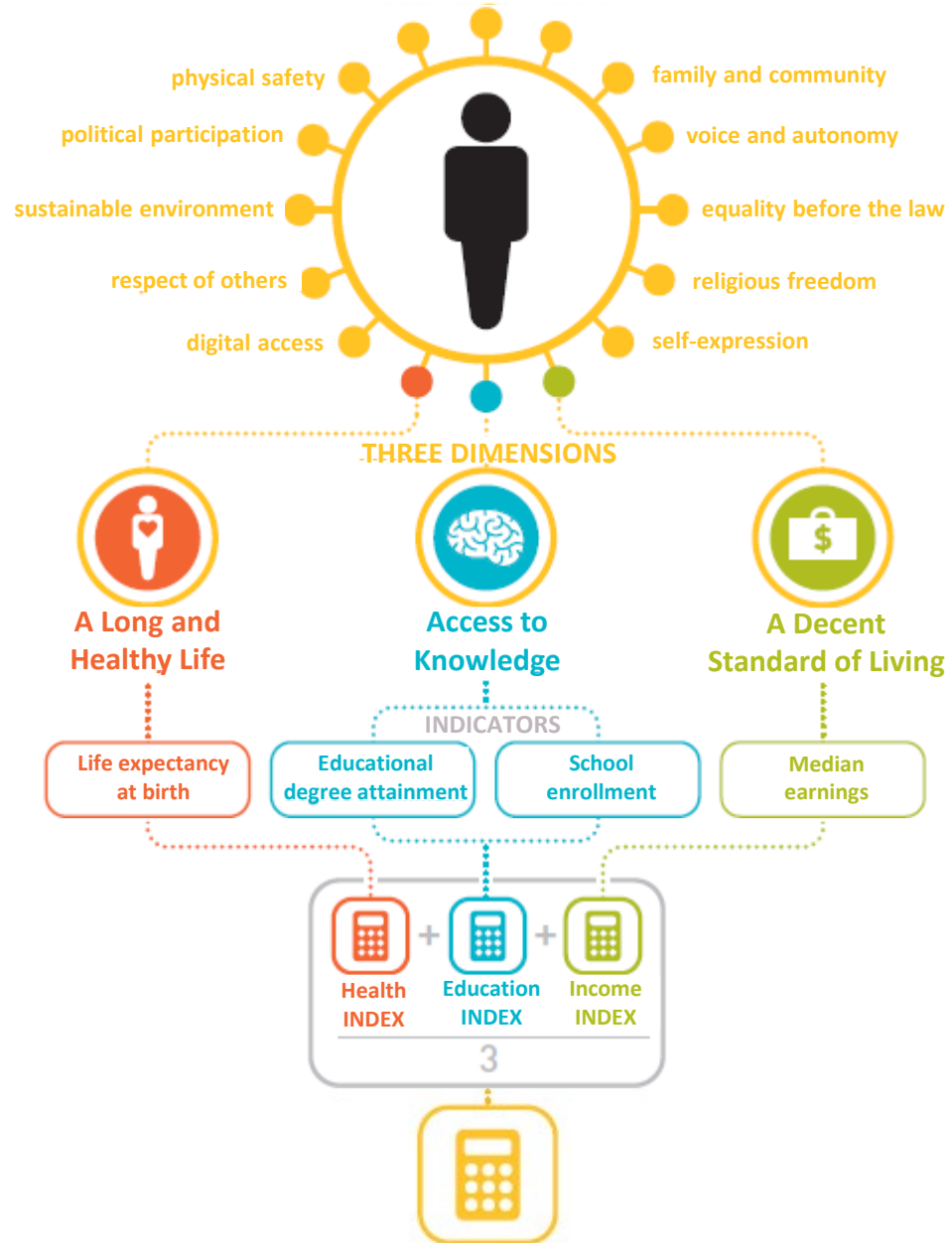
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IS AN ALTERNATIVE TO MONEY METRICS LIKE GDP



80

Human development is about the real freedom ordinary people have to decide who to be, what to do, and how to live.

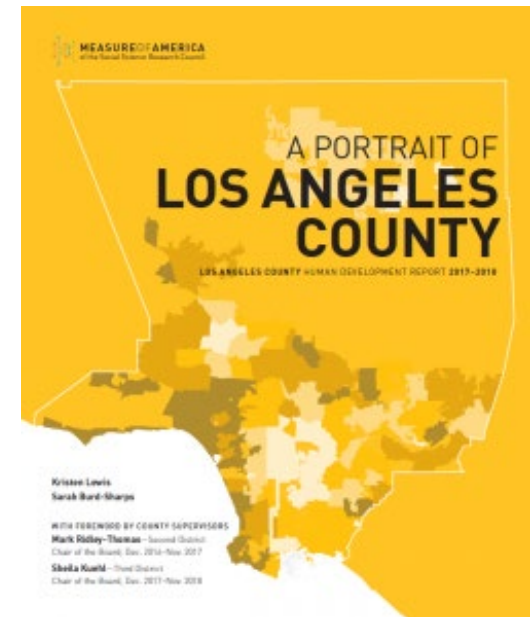
HOW IS HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MEASURED?



PORTRAIT OF LA COUNTY 2017: SOME IMPACTS

- The LA County Department of Mental Health—needs assessment & planning
- Served as a model for the Los Angeles County Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative (ARDI) State of Black Los Angeles report series
- LA City workforce development sites relocated based on need using the neighborhood HDI scores as a guide
- Community Development Commission—assessment of impediments to housing access and compliance with the Fair Housing Act
- LA County Healthy Design Workgroup—design a placed-based equity pilot in local communities like Florence-Graham.
- The Department of Recreation and Parks—development of its new operational strategic plan to expand park access and programming

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PORTRAIT OF LA COUNTY 2026

Provide a well-being snapshot and track change over time for 140 localities (from 2015 to 2023) and for racial and ethnic groups, women and men, and US-born and immigrant Angelenos



Incorporate qualitative information and perspectives gleaned from facilitated group discussions and data gallery walks in five selected neighborhoods and three Countywide groups

Spotlight the needs of specific populations, such as Angelenos who are experiencing mental illness, are justice involved, or are unhoused



Produce report that synthesizes these analyses in ways that can inform equitable policymaking and resource allocation and meet the needs of our key stakeholders

DATA WALKS

- 70 people across two in-person data walks in Long Beach and the Antelope Valley
- 350-400 people across virtual data walks



I love *First 5* because [of] the idea to have education, early education, that's what it's all about, education. And if we all make the effort to drive that, focus that into those kids, the youth, the people in the early stage, to have knowledge about how to live healthy, mentally, physically and economically...I think that should be a priority for us as parents and as a community.



South LA resident

DATA WALK TAKEAWAYS

- Rising housing costs
- Mental health
- Childcare affordability
- Unreliable public transportation
- Benefits for older Angelenos
- Pathways to career opportunities

One issue is the price of rent going up and up and wages aren't. I think everybody's kind of dealing with that. Even in my community, a lot of people are having to move because they can't afford where they've been staying at for years. So, yeah, that's one thing I noticed.



LGBTQ Angeleno

Voices by Conversation ⓘ



- Health
- Mental Health
- Education
- Work and Wages
- Housing
- Childcare
- Transportation
- Affordability
- Community Resources
- Immigration

FIRST 5 OBJECTIVES



Children prenatal to age 5 and their families have their basic needs met.

REDUCE the annual number of deaths of children under 1 year old per 1,000 live births in Los Angeles County to 3.5% by the end of 2029.

Data on **infant mortality** by demographic group.

REDUCE the annual percent of households with children prenatal through age 5 in Los Angeles County living in poverty to 15.4% by the end of 2029.

Data on **child poverty** by demographic group.
Recommendation to prioritize places where the **well-being of children and families** is at risk.

REDUCE the annual percent of households with children prenatal through age 5 in Los Angeles County who experience housing insecurity to 52% by the end of 2029.

Data on **housing cost burden** by place. Recommendation to keep people housed and increase access to **affordable housing**.

FIRST 5 OBJECTIVES



Children prenatal to age 5 have nurturing relationships and environments.

INCREASE the annual percent of pregnant and/or postpartum people in Los Angeles County identified as at-risk for maternal depression who receive mental health care.

Recommendation to improve access to **mental health treatment**.

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INCREASE the annual percent of children prenatal to age 5 in Los Angeles County with access to sufficient choices for healthy foods by the end of 2029.

Data on **food deserts** by place.

INCREASE the annual percent of children prenatal to age 5 in Los Angeles County who have access to parks and open spaces to 57% by the end of 2029.

Data on **pollution** by place.

FIRST 5 OBJECTIVES



Children prenatal to age 5 have a solid foundation for well-being, lifelong learning and success.

INCREASE the annual percent of children prenatal to age 5 in Los Angeles County receiving publicly funded early care and education in a mixed-delivery system to 25% by the end of 2029.

INCREASE annual percent of children prenatal to age 5 in Los Angeles County with a developmental delay receiving early intervention services by the end of 2029.

INCREASE annual percent of households with children prenatal to age 5 in Los Angeles County receiving culturally affirming services and supports by the end of 2029.

Report section on **early care and education**. Education data by demographic group.

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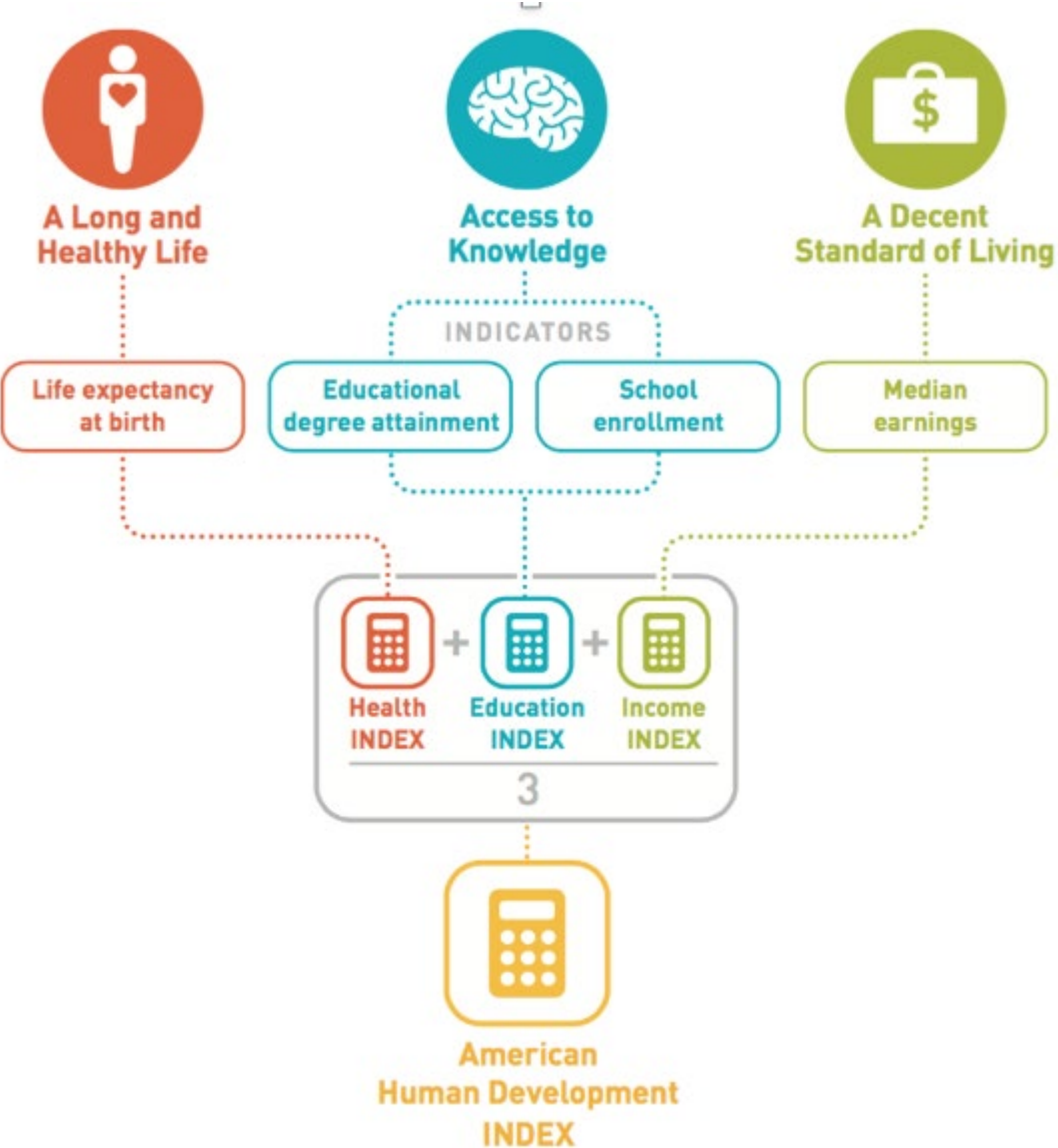
Recommendation to invest in **high-quality early care and education** for children from birth to age five.

Recommendation to **support threatened communities**.

WHAT DOES THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX REVEAL?



HDI COMBINES HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND EARNINGS INDICATORS



Each
10,0
Ang













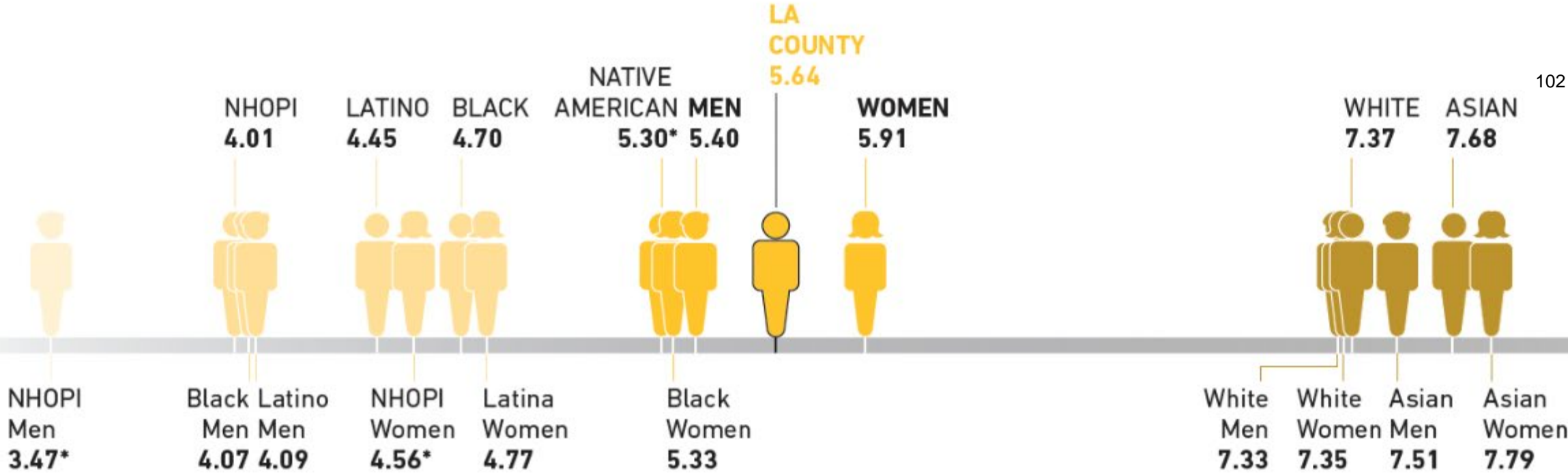






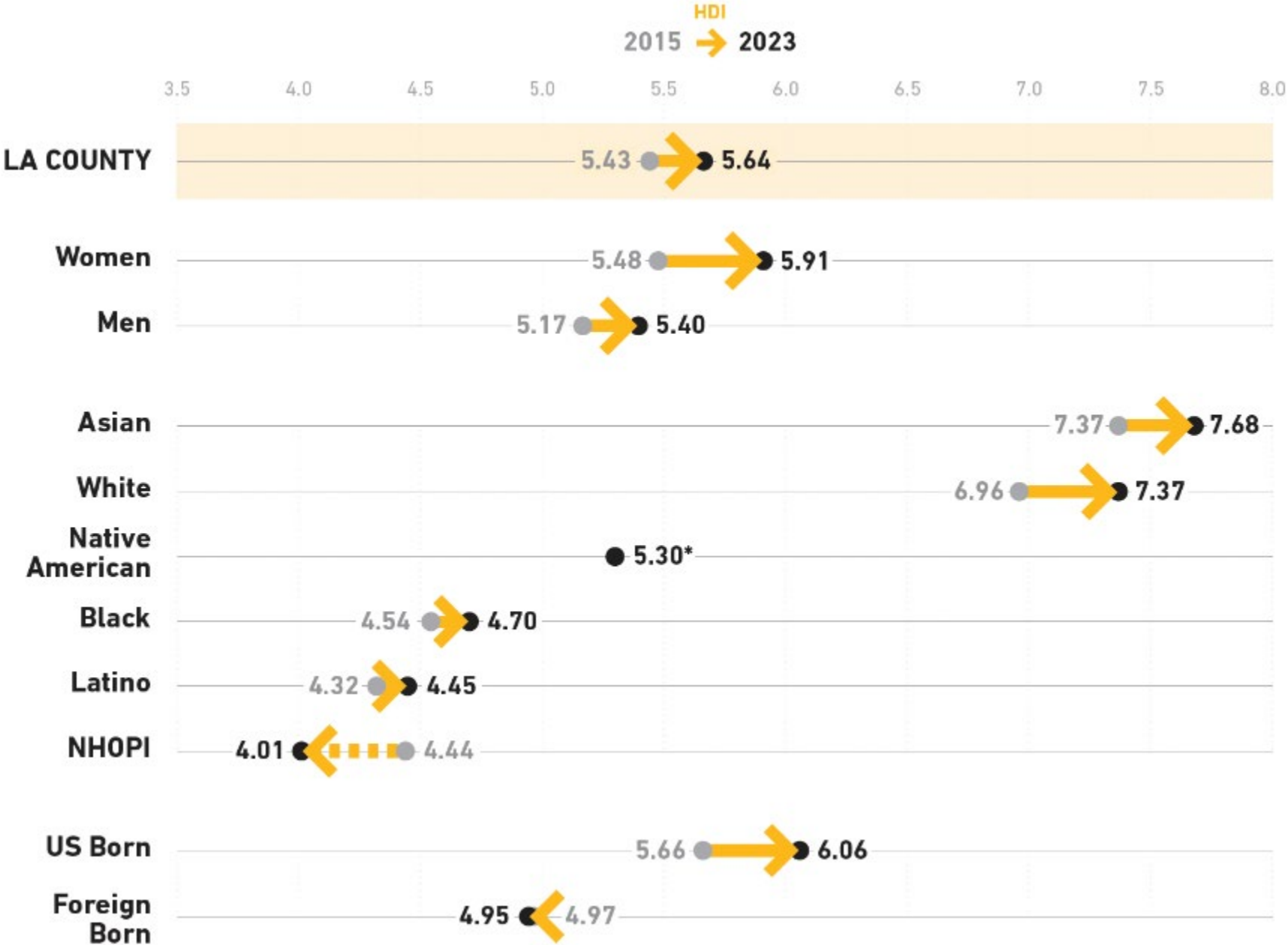


HDI BY GENDER AND BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

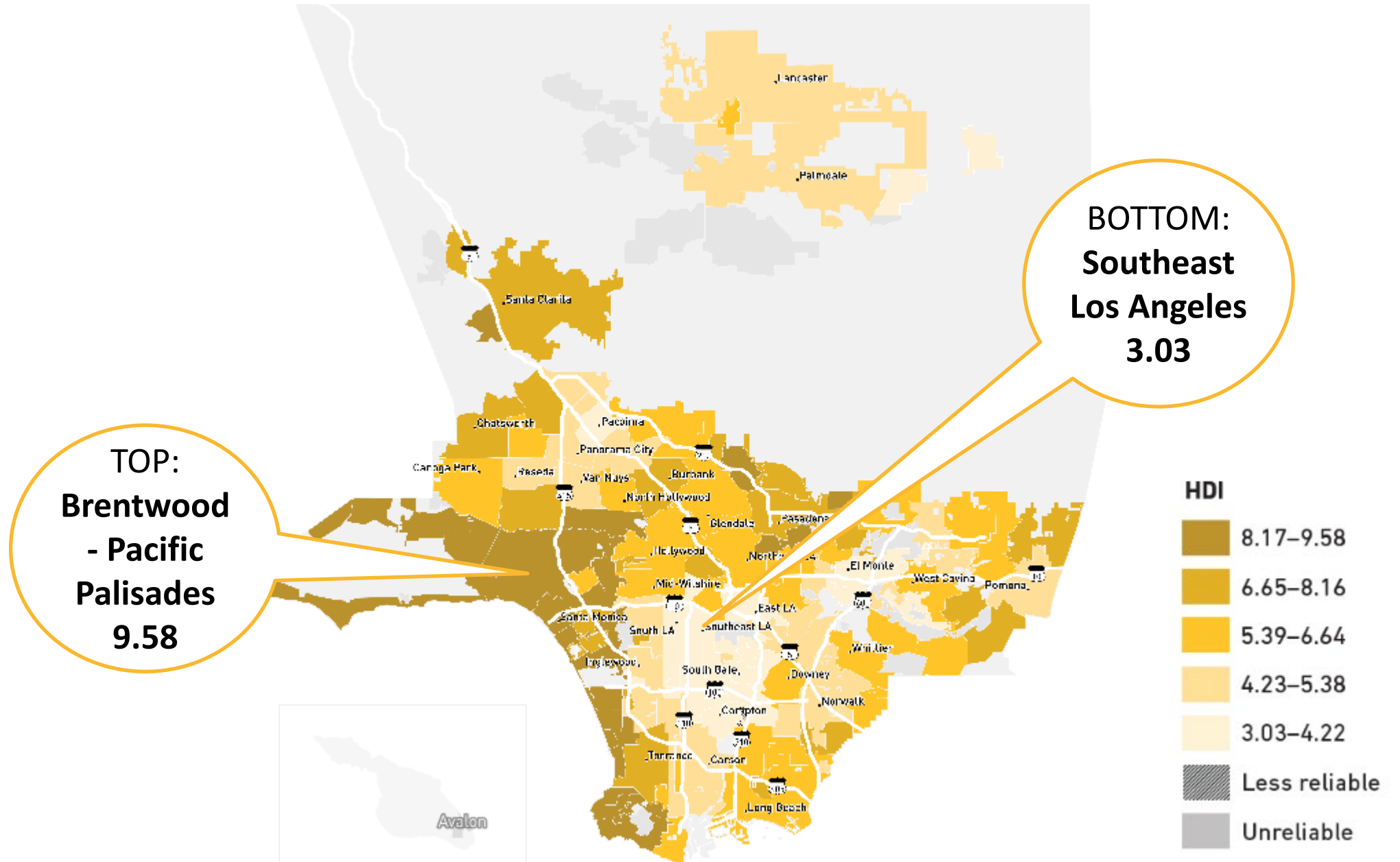


*Less reliable estimate








HDI BY GROUP: CHANGE OVER TIME



HDI BY PLACE



CHILD WELL-BEING

	 ALL LA	 ASIAN	 BLACK	 LATINO	 NATIVE AMERICAN	 NHOPI	 WHITE
Health							
Births to mothers receiving first-trimester prenatal care (2020)	87.5%	88.3%	78.1%	84.5%	80.4%	73.0%	90.2%
Infants born at a low birthweight (2024)	7.6%	8.2%	12.7%	7.5%			6.0%
Teen births, rate per 1,000 (2021–2023)	7.8	0.4	10.8	11.0			1.8
No usual source of health care (2023–2024)	12.2%	12.9%	19.1%	12.2%			9.6%
Health status excellent or very good (2023–2024)	75.0%	79.8%	70.4%	68.7%			83.6%
Depression–related feelings among 11th graders (2021–2023)	36.0%	33.0%	37.0%	38.0%	26.0%	43.0%	31.0%
Alcohol/drug use in past month among 11th graders (2021–2023)	1.0%	7.0%	16.0%	13.0%	21.0%	13.0%	22.0%
Infant mortality, rate per 1,000 (2023)	4.0	2.7	8.9	4.3			2.6
Education							
Preschool enrollment for 3- and 4-year-olds (2019–2023)	48.0%	52.6%	46.2%	40.7%			65.2%
Public school enrollment (#) (2024–2025)	1.3 M	104,000	86,000	832,000	2,000	3,000	162,000
School connectedness rated high among 11th graders (2021–2023)	54.0%	55.0%	46.0%	53.0%	48.0%	71.0%	62.0%
Students meeting or exceeding grade-level standards in math (2024–2025)	39.3%	76.3%	22.6%	30.4%	32.2%	35.1%	58.3%
Students meeting or exceeding grade-level standards in English (2024–2025)	50.5%	78.6%	35.2%	43.3%	45.4%	48.3%	67.4%
Chronic absenteeism, miss 10% of school days or more (2024–2025)	20.5%	5.9%	32.5%	22.8%	29.9%	31.9%	14.8%
Students suspended (2024–2025)	1.8%	0.6%	5.4%	1.7%	4.2%	3.4%	1.4%
Students not completing high school (2024–2025)	7.4%	2.2%	11.2%	7.9%	10.6%	7.1%	5.4%
Youth disconnection rate (2019–2023)	11.9%	6.4%	20.3%	12.9%	13.4%	14.1%	9.1%
Living standards							
Children in poverty (2019–2023)	18.0%	10.0%	26.0%	22.0%	19.0%		8.0%
Broadband access (2022)	95.4%	97.6%	93.9%	94.4%	100.0%		98.1%
Protection, Attachment, Justice-Involvement							
Substantiated child maltreatment, rate per 1,000 (2024)	6.3	1.2	17.2	7.4	10.9		3.4
In foster care, rate per 1,000 (2025)	4.9	0.6	18.6	5.6	12.5		2.3
Gang membership (2017–2019)		2.0%	5.8%	4.2%	7.7%	3.1%	3.4%
Juvenile felony arrest, rate per 1,000 (2023)	3.5		16.1	3.3			1.1

HDI BY SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT



DISTRICT 1
Supervisor
Hilda L. Solis

Diamond Bar	7.45
Walnut	7.24
La Verne	6.75
Silver Lake - Echo Park - Elysian Valley	6.66
Alhambra	6.35
Hacienda Heights	6.30
Monterey Park	6.05
Rowland Heights	6.05
San Gabriel	5.99
Northeast Los Angeles	5.90
West Covina	5.83
Downtown	5.83
Covina	5.28
Avocado Heights	5.00
Montebello	4.94
Rosemead	4.76
Azusa	4.71
West Puente Valley	4.54
Pomona	4.34
Citrus	4.23
Baldwin Park	4.16
El Monte	4.11
La Puente	4.11
Valinda	4.05
South El Monte	4.00
Vincent	3.97
Westlake	3.89
Boyle Heights	3.80
East Los Angeles	3.63
South San Jose Hills	3.62



DISTRICT 2
Supervisor
Holly J. Mitchell

Manhattan Beach	9.14
Westchester - Playa del Rey	8.80
Hermosa Beach	8.77
Culver City	8.71
Redondo Beach	8.58
El Segundo	8.27
Palms - Mar Vista - Del Rey	7.72
View Park-Windsor Hills	7.28
Marina del Rey	7.21
Del Aire	7.00
Wilshire	6.11
West Carson	5.89
Carson	5.36
Gardena	4.95
Harbor Gateway	4.84
West Adams - Baldwin Hills - Leimert	4.79
Alondra Park	4.71
Hawthorne	4.66
Inglewood	4.62
Lawndale	4.38
South Los Angeles	3.82
West Athens	3.72
West Rancho Dominguez	3.72
Lennox	3.51
East Rancho Dominguez	3.46
Compton	3.42
Westmont	3.32
Willowbrook	3.26
Florence-Graham	3.08
Southeast Los Angeles	3.03



DISTRICT 3
Supervisor
Lindsey P. Horvath

Brentwood - Pacific Palisades	9.58
Bel Air - Beverly Crest	9.20
Beverly Hills	9.09
Malibu	9.04
Calabasas	8.98
Agoura Hills	8.93
Westlake Village	8.91
Topanga	8.62
Santa Monica	8.59
Venice	8.55
West Los Angeles	8.44
Sherman Oaks - Studio City - Toluca Lake - Cahuenga Pass	8.17
Encino - Tarzana	7.93
Palms - Mar Vista - Del Rey	7.72
West Hollywood	6.97
Chatsworth - Porter Ranch	6.77
Granada Hills - Knollwood	6.67
Canoga Park - Winnetka - Woodland Hills - West Hills	6.39
Westwood	6.37
Hollywood	6.18
Wilshire	6.11
Northridge	5.97
North Hollywood - Valley Village	5.49
Reseda - West Van Nuys	5.29
Van Nuys - North Sherman Oaks	5.20
Sylmar	5.06
San Fernando	4.48
Mission Hills - Panorama City - North Hills	4.38
Sun Valley - La Tuna Canyon	4.27
Arlota - Pacoima	4.16



DISTRICT 4
Supervisor
Janice Hahn

Palos Verdes Estates	9.49
Rolling Hills Estates	9.07
Rancho Palos Verdes	8.98
Cerritos	7.65
Torrance	7.49
Signal Hill	6.78
East Whittier	6.48
La Mirada	6.44
Lakewood	6.03
San Pedro	5.80
Whittier	5.74
Lomita	5.69
Long Beach	5.60
Downey	5.39
West Whittier-Los Nietos	5.21
Santa Fe Springs	4.99
South Whittier	4.94
Norwalk	4.89
Hawaiian Gardens	4.76
Pico Rivera	4.76
Artesia	4.70
Bellflower	4.61
Commerce	4.37
Wilmington - Harbor City	4.32
Walnut Park	4.30
South Gate	4.08
Bell	4.05
Paramount	3.94
Huntington Park	3.77
Lynwood	3.65
Maywood	3.52
Bell Gardens	3.61
Cudahy	3.18



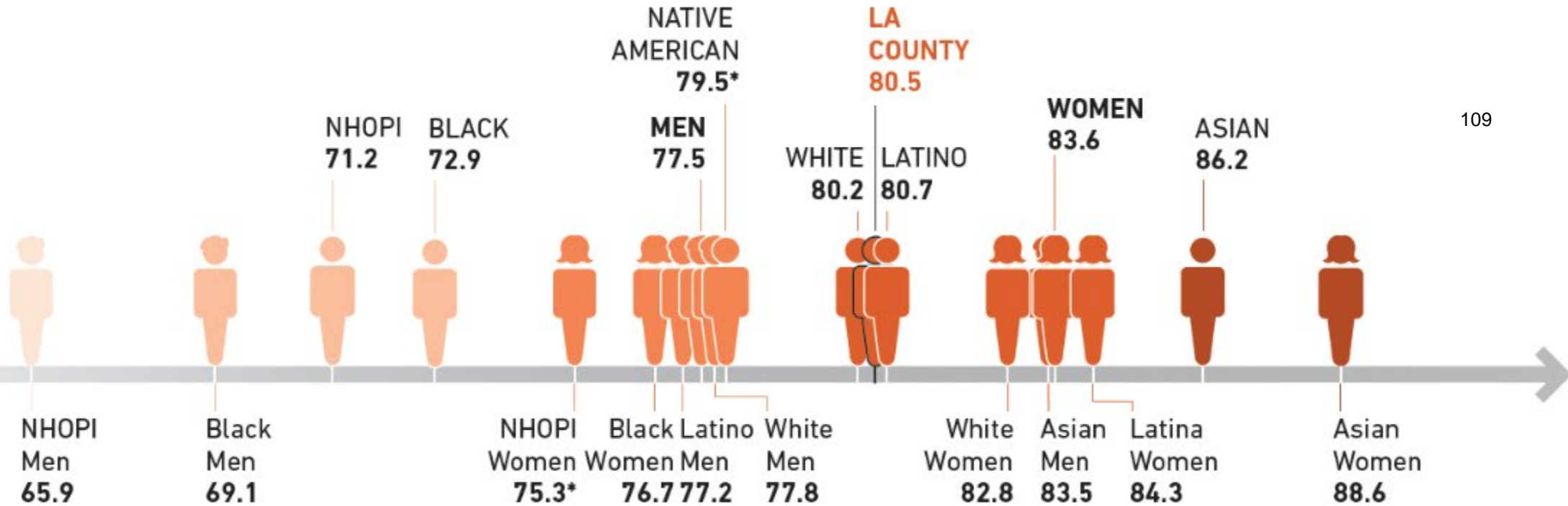
DISTRICT 5
Supervisor
Kathryn Barger

La Cañada Flintridge	9.00
San Marino	8.82
Sierra Madre	8.82
South Pasadena	8.66
Stevenson Ranch	8.65
Sherman Oaks - Studio City - Toluca Lake - Cahuenga Pass	8.17
La Crescenta-Montrose	7.95
Arcadia	7.88
Attadena	7.54
Claremont	7.35
Pasadena	7.31
Burbank	6.76
La Verne	6.75
Castaic	6.74
Santa Clarita	6.65
East San Gabriel	6.56
Glendale	6.48
Temple City	6.40
Monrovia	6.35
San Dimas	6.24
Hollywood	6.18
Glendora	6.17
Duarte	5.75
Sunland - Tujunga - Lake View Terrace - Shadow Hills - East La Tuna Canyon	5.73
North Hollywood - Valley Village	5.49
Quartz Hill	5.48
Charter Oak	5.18
Lancaster	4.61
Palmdale	4.67
Sun Valley - La Tuna Canyon	4.27
Lake Los Angeles	3.76
Sun Village	3.64

A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE

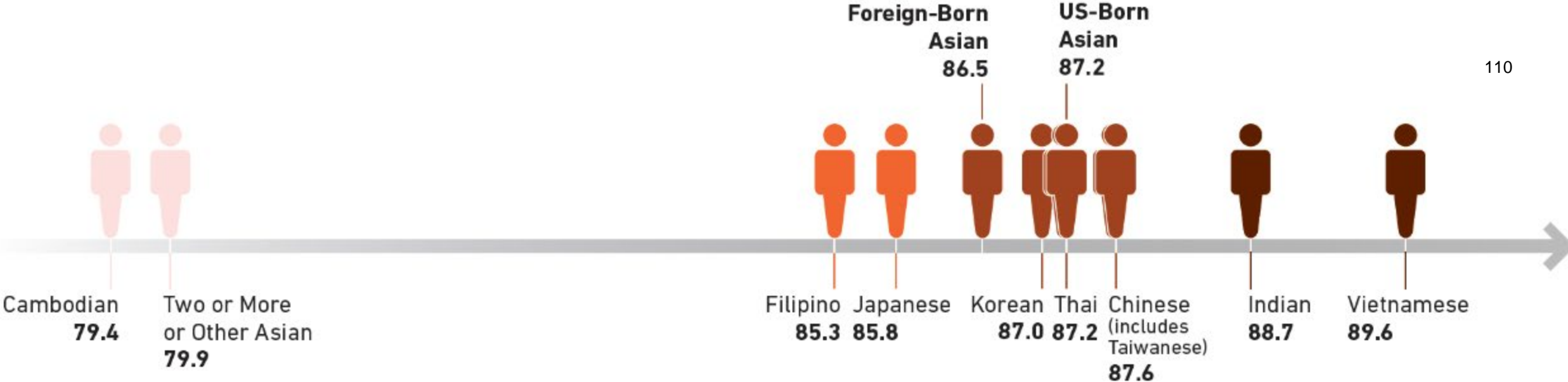


LIFE EXPECTANCY BY GENDER AND BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

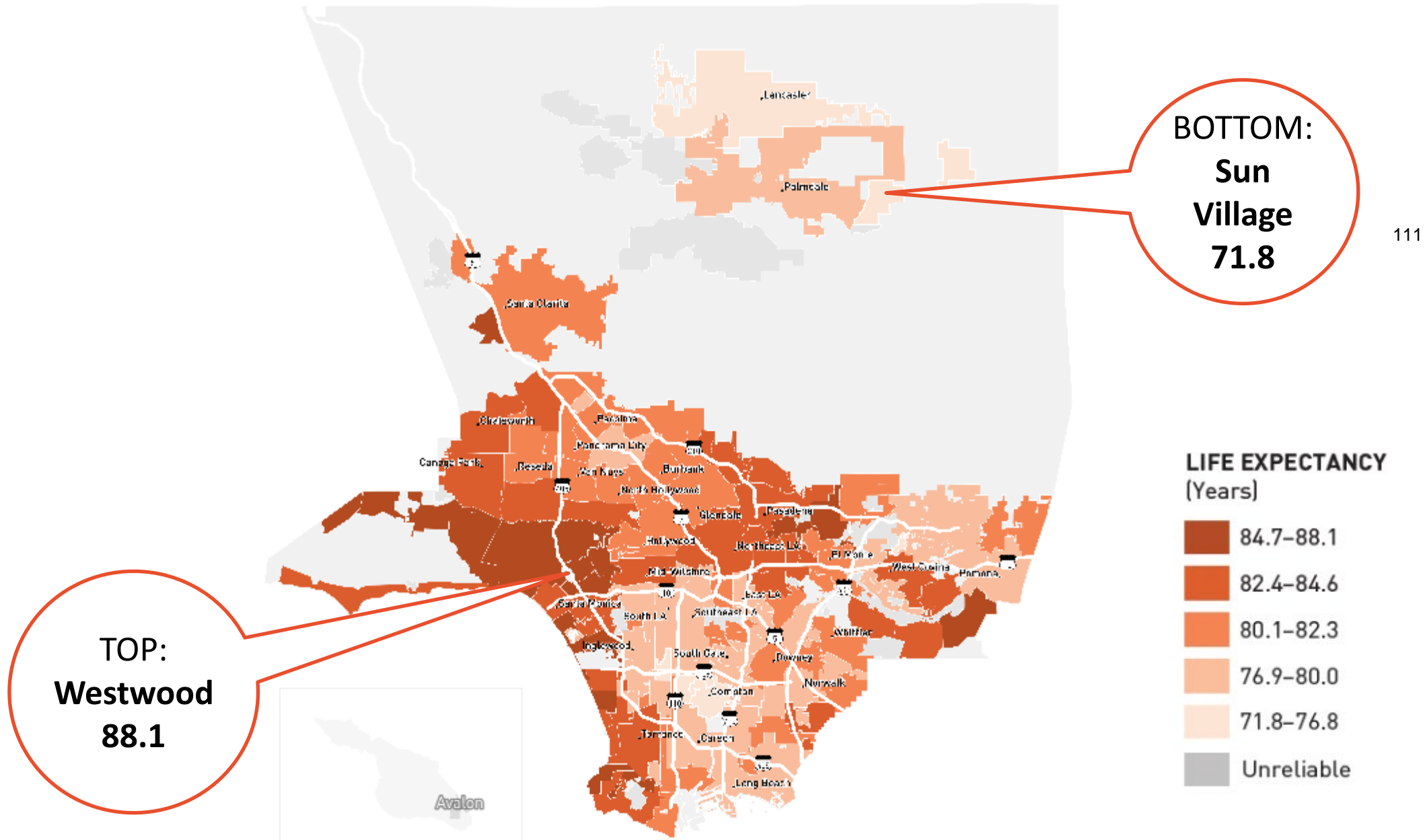


*Less reliable estimate

LIFE EXPECTANCY BY ASIAN SUBGROUP



LIFE EXPECTANCY BY PLACE



ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE



EDUCATION BY GENDER AND BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

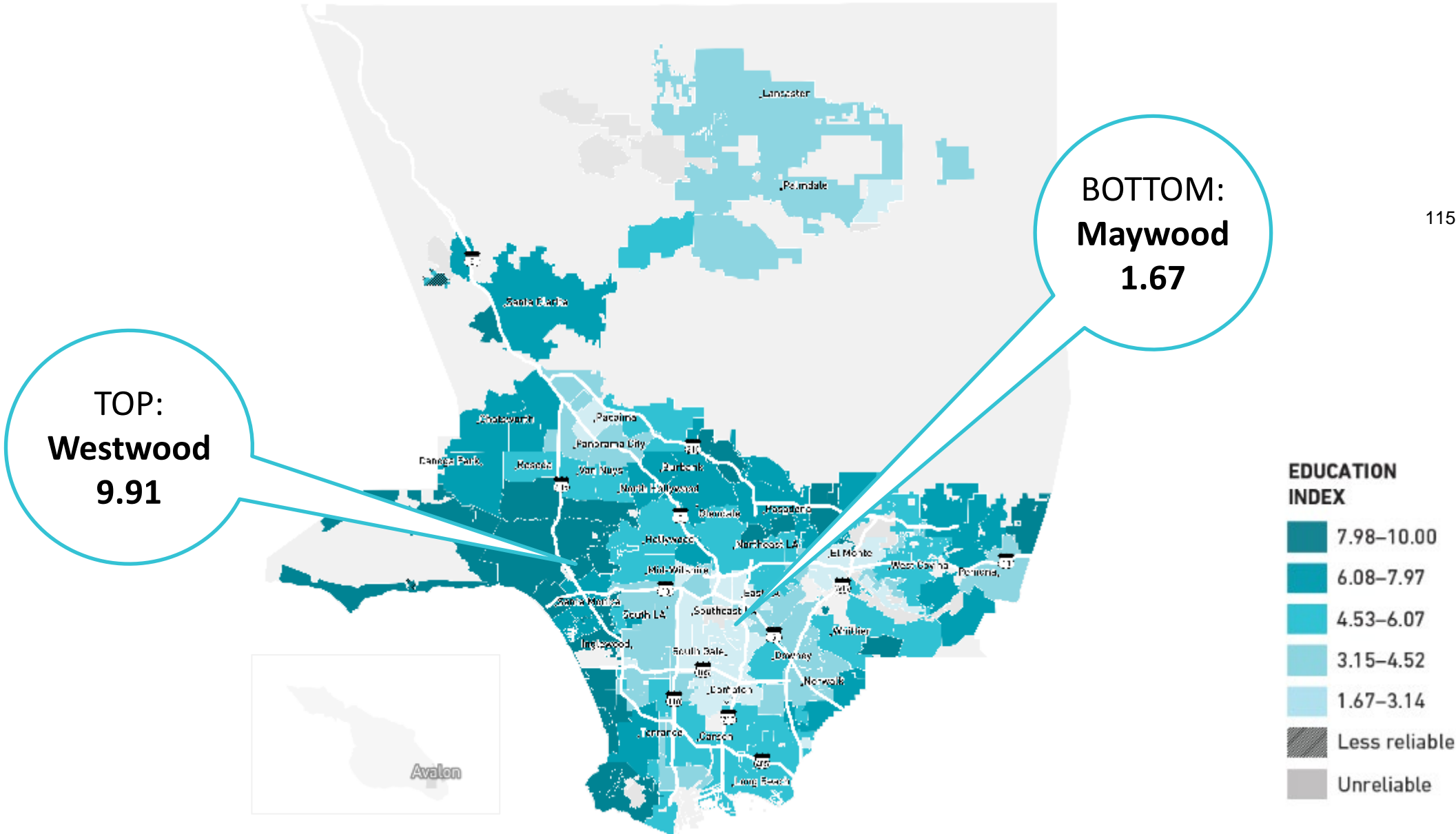
	EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT						School Enrollment (% ages 3 to 24)
	EDUCATION INDEX	Less than High School (% of adults 25+)	High School Diploma (% of adults 25+)	Bachelor's Degree (% of adults 25+)	Graduate Degree (% of adults 25+)		
LOS ANGELES COUNTY	5.46	18.7	44.7	23.0	13.6		79.3
GENDER							
Women	5.66	18.5	43.7	23.5	14.3		80.4
Men	5.26	18.9	45.8	22.4	12.9		78.2
RACE/ETHNICITY							
White	7.62	4.4	39.2	33.2	23.2		81.6
Asian	7.56	10.6	34.2	36.3	18.9		86.4
Black	5.43	8.3	58.9	19.9	12.9		76.2
Native American	4.70	15.7	63.8	13.4	7.1		80.5
NHOPI	3.84	11.9	68.8	13.9	5.4		71.0
Latino	3.29	33.9	49.6	11.4	5.1		76.9

EDUCATION BY LATINO SUBGROUP

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

	EDUCATION INDEX	Less than High School (% of adults 25+)	High School Diploma (% of adults 25+)	Bachelor's Degree (% of adults 25+)	Graduate Degree (% of adults 25+)	School Enrollment (% ages 3 to 24)
LOS ANGELES COUNTY	5.46	18.7	44.7	23.0	13.6	79.3 <small>114</small>
Foreign-Born Latino Residents	0.42	52.0	39.3	6.1	2.6	54.3
US-Born Latino Residents	4.95	12.9	61.7	17.5	7.9	79.1
Latino Subgroups						
Central American	2.43	43.0	44.5	9.4	3.1	75.0
Mexican	3.00	35.7	50.5	9.9	3.9	76.6
Other Latino	4.31	23.2	53.2	15.9	7.7	78.1
Puerto Rican / Dominican / Cuban	5.66	13.5	48.9	24.0	13.6	78.4
South American	6.13	12.2	49.8	24.7	13.3	82.8

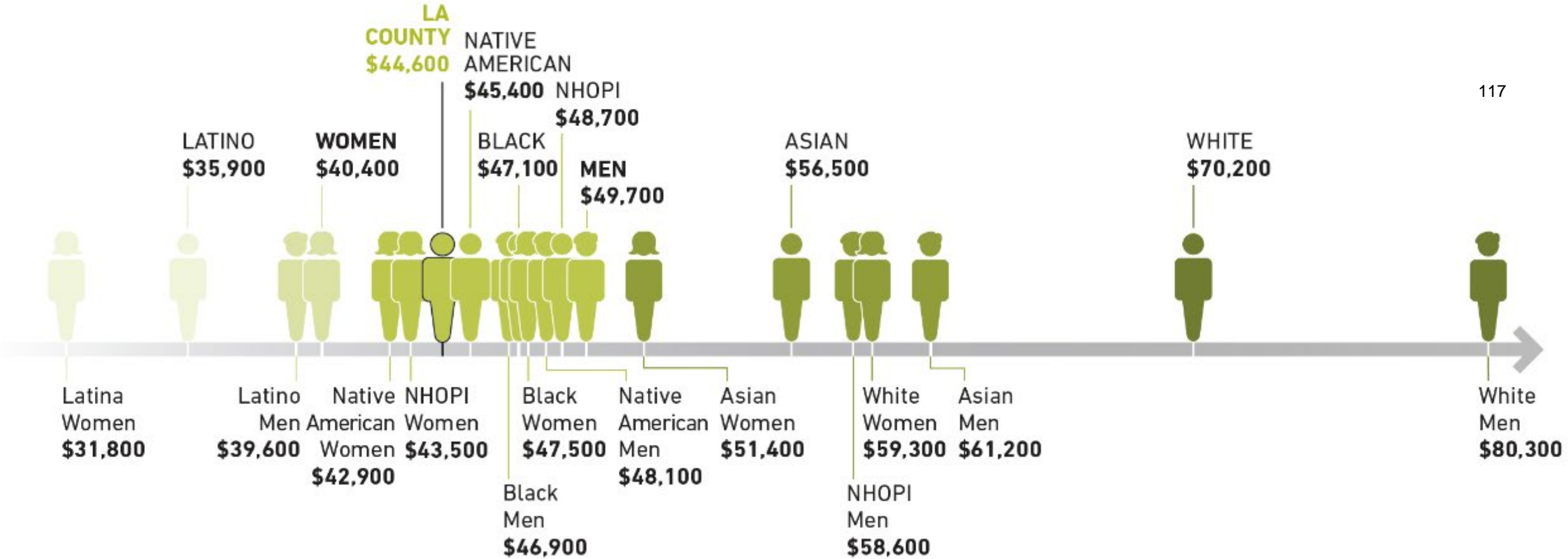
EDUCATION INDEX BY PLACE



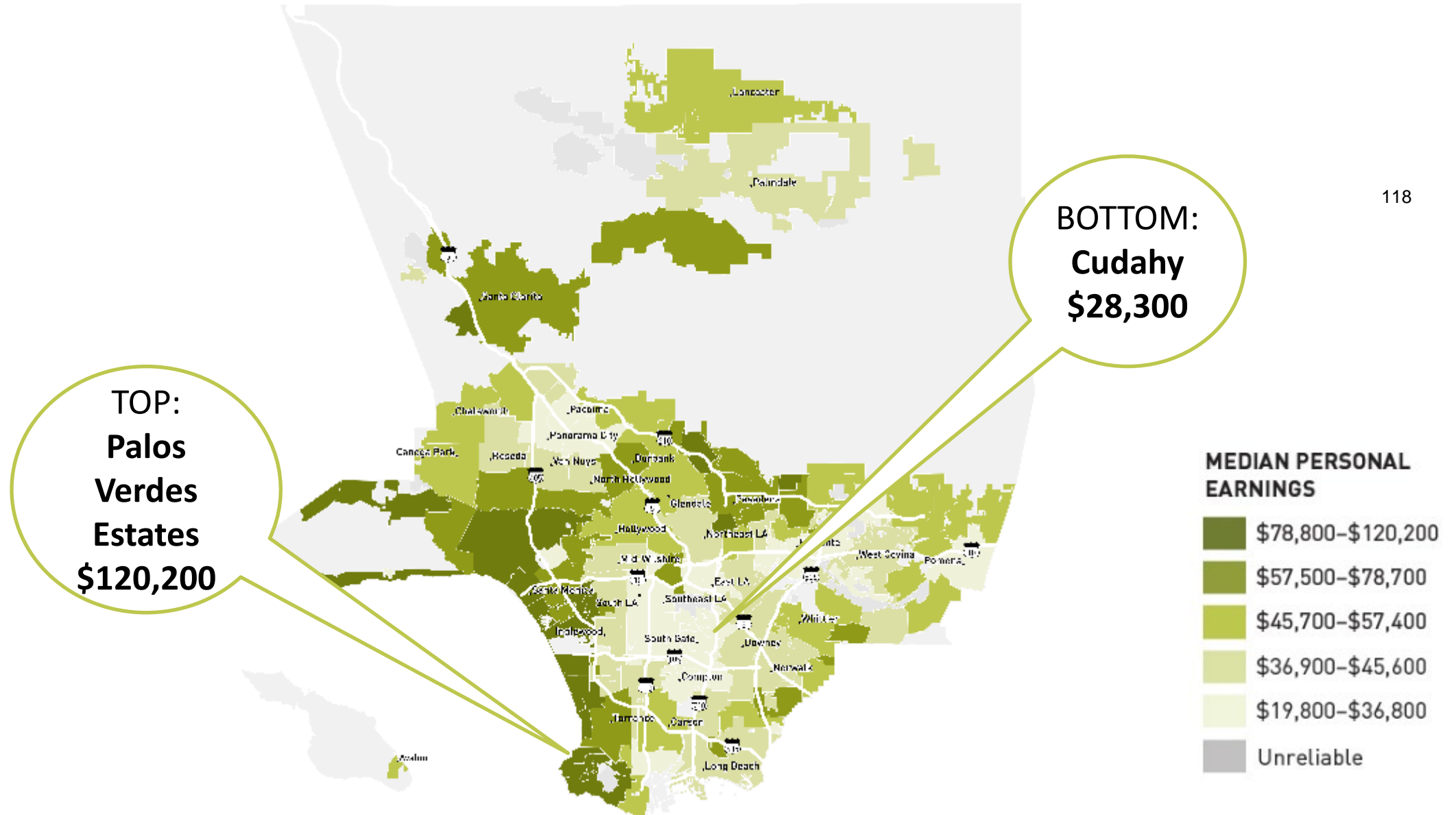
DECENT STANDARD OF LIVING



MEDIAN PERSONAL EARNINGS BY GENDER AND BY RACE AND ETHNICITY



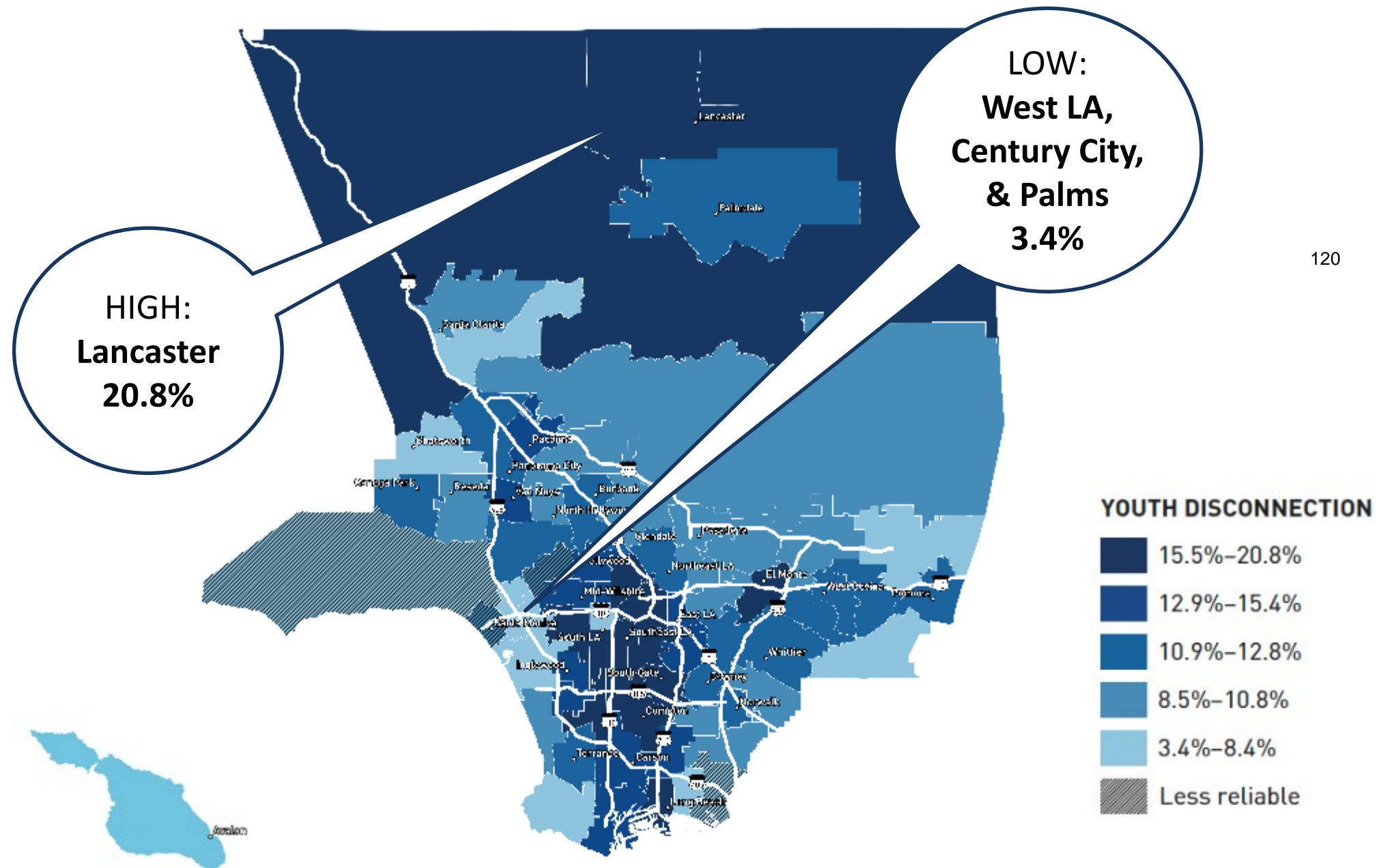
MEDIAN PERSONAL EARNINGS BY PLACE



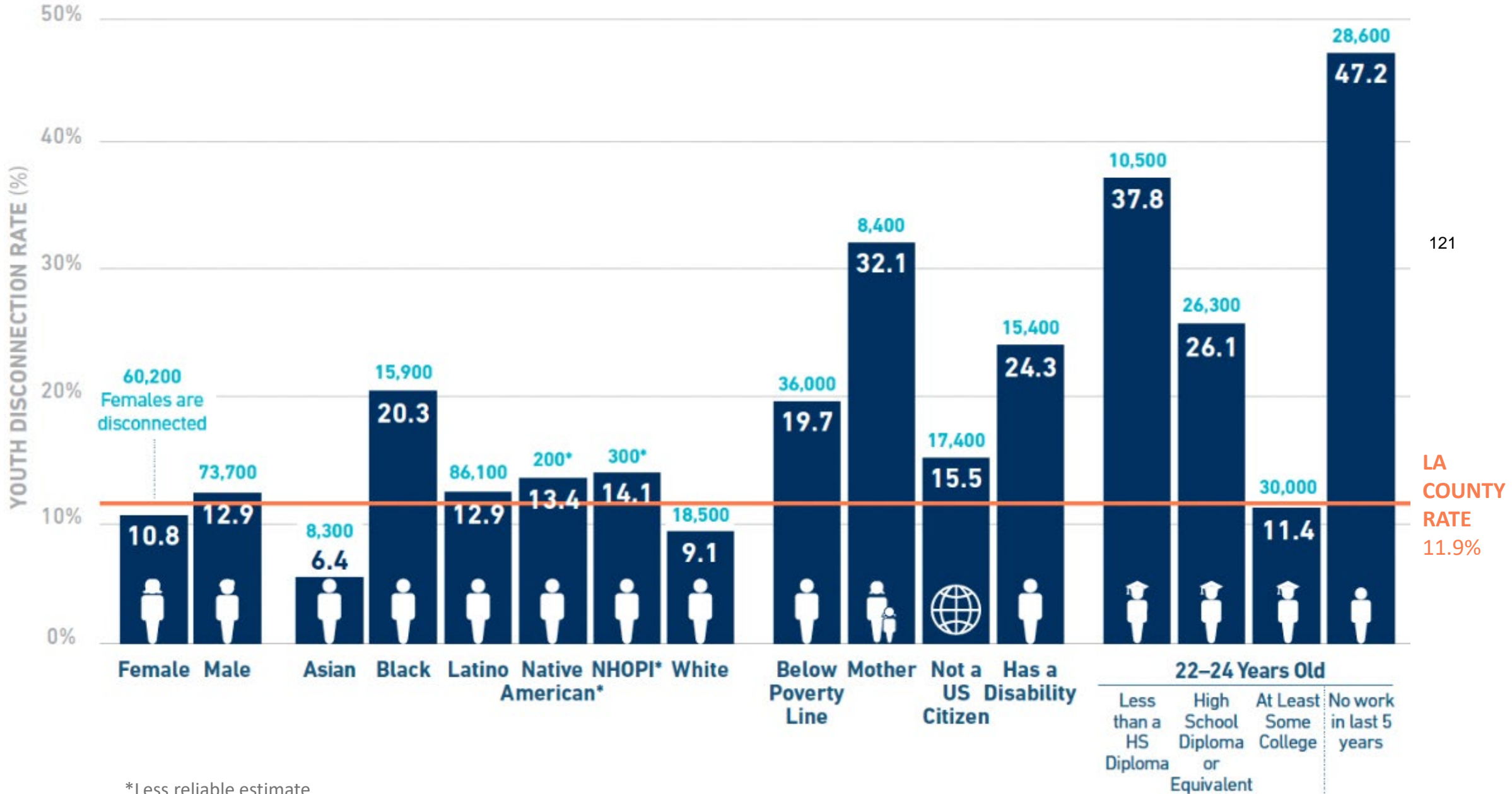
YOUTH DISCONNECTION / OPPORTUNITY YOUTH



YOUTH DISCONNECTION BY NEIGHBORHOOD CLUSTER



WHO IS DISCONNECTED IN LA COUNTY?



AGENDA FOR ACTION

Three cross-cutting imperatives:

- Address disparities in well-being among Angelenos
- Prioritize places where the well-being of children and families is at risk
- Implement prevention programs and services

What needs to change is to capture things before they happen. We need to be ready. Not get ready, but we need to be ready preparing for these things. We have a lot of foster children who once they turn 18, they will have nowhere to go. They are all over in the community. We got homeless. It's getting more and more tents and people sleeping on the street. We need to help the people.



Antelope Valley resident

AGENDA FOR ACTION



- Address premature mortality
- Improve access to mental health and substance use prevention and treatment
- Invest in high-quality early care and education for children from birth to age five ¹²³
- Help young people successfully transition to thriving adulthoods
- Expand economic opportunity and security
- Keep people housed and increase access to affordable housing
- Support threatened communities
- Decrease justice involvement and support community reentry
- Disaster recovery and climate resiliency

Q&A



ACCESS THE REPORT & PORTAL HERE



measureofamerica.org/los-angeles-2026/



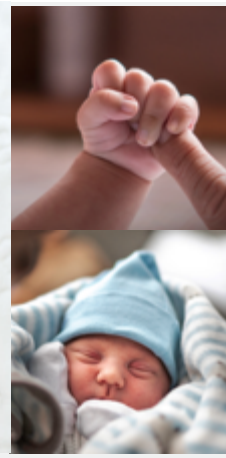
thank you!

www.measureofamerica.org

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Holding the Line for Families: A Look at Los Angeles' Crisis Intervention and Prevention in Uncertain Times



Presenters

Aurea Montes-Rodriguez, VP of Community Engagement & Policy

Carrie D. Miller, Ph.D., Senior Manager, Policy Implementation and Alignment Branch, County of Los Angeles

Kristina Meza, Executive Director, Poverty Alleviation, Policy Implementation and Alignment Branch, County of Los Angeles

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Debra Colman, MSW, Director – LA County Office of the Advancement for Early Childhood Education (OAECE)

Abigail Marquez, General Manager, City of Los Angeles Community Investment for Families Department

Veronica McDonnell, Assistant General Manager, Community Services and Development Division, City of Los Angeles Community Investment for Families Department



Presentation:

1. Context
2. Crisis Intervention, LA County
3. State of Poverty Crisis and Early Interventions, LA County
4. Infant/Toddler Early Care and Education System Blueprint, LA County
5. Community Investment for Families, LA City
6. Board discussion on overall prevention strategy

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Context Setting



- **Crisis Intervention**
- **Prevention**

First 5 LA defined "prevention" in its Prevention First Initiative as ways in which to keep families together with a focus on housing and poverty alleviation. Further, prevention is about investing early in families' strengths and connecting them to supports before challenges become crises. It is a shared responsibility across families, communities, and public systems to protect children's well-being and opportunity.

2026 Crisis Contingency Plan

Los Angeles County

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March 12,
2026

Carrie Miller, Ph.D.

Senior Manager

Policy Implementation & Alignment Branch

CEO.

2022-23 Recommended County Budget Vol. 1

2022-23 Recommended County Budget Vol. 2

2022-23 Recommended County Budget Vol. 1

2022-23 Recommended County Budget Vol. 2

2022-23 Recommended County Budget Vol. 1

2022-23 Recommended County Budget Vol. 2

2022-23 Recommended County Budget Vol. 1

Federal Funding Freeze

- On January 6, 2026, the federal administration released a directive to five states, including California, initiating “funding freezes” for CalWORKs, Child Care and Development Fund, and Social Services Block Grant funded programs

- The impacted states pursued legal action resulting in temporarily blocking the federal administration from withholding federal funding

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- Partners collaborated on a Crisis Contingency Plan:

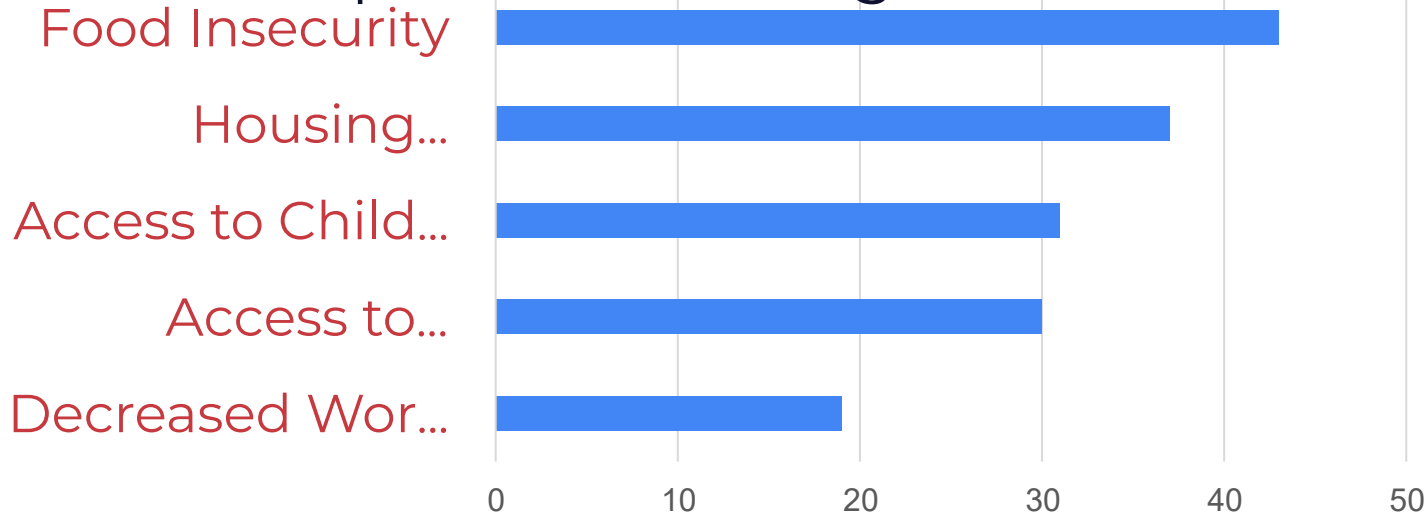
- County Departments: DPSS, DCFS, DPH/OAECCE, DEO, DCBA, Libraries, Parks and Recreation, Aging and Disabilities, DYD, and DHS

- Community Partners: First 5 LA, WIC, 211 LA, Office of Food Systems, Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, and the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office

Surveys sent to more than 2,000 community partners and residents

Results from the 350 responses received:

Impacts of Funding Freezes



Other Notable Responses:

- Reduction of staff and services for support agencies
- Overall family and financial stability
- Education access and attendance
- Access to senior and elderly services
- Access to transportation services

Food Assistance

- ❖ LA Regional Food Banks at 940 sites Countywide
- ❖ AD Meals for Qualifying Seniors
- ❖ Universal School Meal Program
- ❖ DPH CalFresh Healthy Living and Food Redistribution Project
- ❖ DPH and DHS Food Rx Produce Distribution Services

Housing Assistance

- ❖ DCBA Emergency Rent Relief Program
- ❖ Airbnb.org Emergency Housing through 211 LA
- ❖ DCBA Foreclosure Prevention and Eviction Defense
- ❖ LACDA Housing Operations Programs
- ❖ DPSS CalWORKs Housing Support Program

Child Care Supports

- ❖ Child Care Choices Los Angeles County
- ❖ County-Funded Child Care Subsidy Program in South LA

Other Direct Assistance

- ❖ 2-1-1 Information and Referral Services
- ❖ Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program
- ❖ Community College Basic Needs and Extended Opportunity Programs and Services
- ❖ Public Library Diaper Distribution and Other Resources
- ❖ DPR Food Programs and Recreational Programming
- ❖ DCFS Prevention and Aftercare Network
- ❖ DCBA Office of Immigrant Affairs Counseling Services
- ❖ Animal Care and Control's Donated Pet Food

Employment Assistance

- ❖ DEO Public Workforce System
- ❖ DEO Youth@Work
- ❖ DEO Worker Equity Fund

Food Assistance

- ❖ **Increase Capacity for Food Banks** – Use additional \$7.9 million in available food resources at the LA Regional Food Bank

Other Direct Assistance

- ❖ **DCFS Prevention and Aftercare Network** – Expand capacity to offer additional community supports to vulnerable families
- ❖ **Prioritize Job Training Access** – Prioritize County job training programs for impacted CalWORKs recipients
- ❖ **Care Portal CBO Network** – Work with Care Portal community organizations to provide material goods
- ❖ **Home Visiting Program** – Leverage home visitation programs to connect families to critical resources
- ❖ **Emergency Aid for College Students** – Encourage colleges and college districts to expand emergency aid eligibility
- ❖ **Stretch County Supports** – Stretch County resources to provide additional supports

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Communications Campaign

- ❖ **Immediate Social Media and Outreach Campaign** – Launch media campaign and refer people to food banks, WIC, and 2-1-1
- ❖ **Coordinated Public Information Campaign** – Coordinate a multi-platform plan focused on sharing information in multiple languages
- ❖ **Employer Campaign** – Encourage employers to provide flexibility to employees with temporary lapse in child care access

Outreach/Fundraising

- ❖ **Coordinate with the Faith-Based Community** – Coordinate and leverage existing resources
- ❖ **Advocate for Additional Philanthropic Funding** – Share emergent needs with philanthropic partners and encourage increased support
- ❖ **Community-Funded Relief Fund** – Encourage residents to raise funds to provide direct support to families as an emergency call to action
- ❖ **DCBA Office of Immigrant Affairs Counseling Services** – Expand capacity to provide critical counseling services
- ❖ **CBO Networks and Volunteer Organizations** – Mobilize volunteers for various response efforts with volunteer focused organizations



Phase II – Three Months & Beyond

Food Assistance

- ❖ **Expand DPH's Food Redistribution Resources and Grocery Voucher Program** – Expand food distribution capacity
- ❖ **Expand DPH's Produce Prescription Program** – Enable healthcare providers to "prescribe" free fresh fruits and vegetables to patients with diet-related chronic conditions and food insecurity
- ❖ **Expand DPH's Market Match Program** – Model DPH's Market Match program implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic, which provides a dollar-for-dollar match to customers using federal assistance, effectively doubling their purchasing power for fresh produce
- ❖ **AD Meals for Qualifying Seniors** – Expand the daily meals program for seniors and daily home-delivered meals to home-bound individuals 136
- ❖ **Hospitality High Road Training Partnership** – Expand the distribution of hot and ready meals

Housing Assistance

- ❖ **Airbnb.org Emergency Housing** – Expand their free emergency housing program
- ❖ **Expand the Emergency Rent Relief Program** – Expand the Emergency Rent Relief Program

Child Care Supports

- ❖ **Employer Activation** – Encourage employers to provide child care subsidies and other resources that keep employees returning to work
- ❖ **Leverage Existing Infrastructure** – Expand enrollment in transitional kindergarten, California State Preschool, Head Start, Early Head Start, and the County-funded Child Care Choices subsidy program in South LA

Transportation Supports

- ❖ **Expand Access to Transportation Supports** – Expand Metro's LIFE program to include alternative transportation services for people with disabilities

Retail Supports

- ❖ **Retail Voucher Program** – Expand access to retail voucher programs for purchasing critical home, clothing, and school supplies



Next Steps

- Food Distribution to Start in April
- Evaluate current conditions at the federal, State, and local levels for new developments that warrant triggering implementation of this Contingency Plan

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Poverty Alleviation Initiative (PAI)

First 5 LA

March 12th, 2026

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County of Los Angeles
**Poverty
Alleviation
Initiative**
PATHWAYS TO THRIVE



Overview of Poverty Presentation



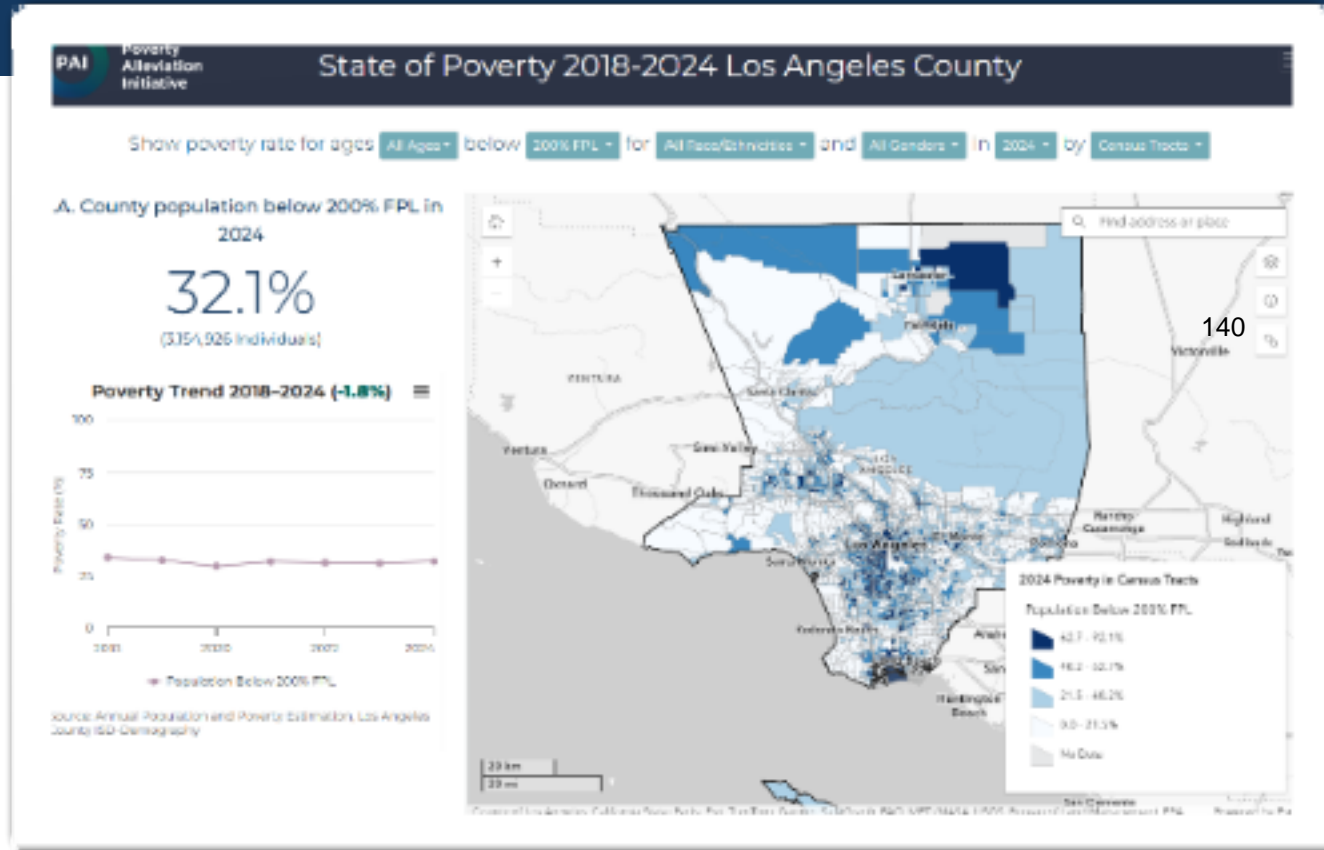
- Introduction to the PAI Evaluation, feat our New Dashboard
 - In Practice: How we used our dashboard to inform food resource distribution
- Guaranteed Income Updates

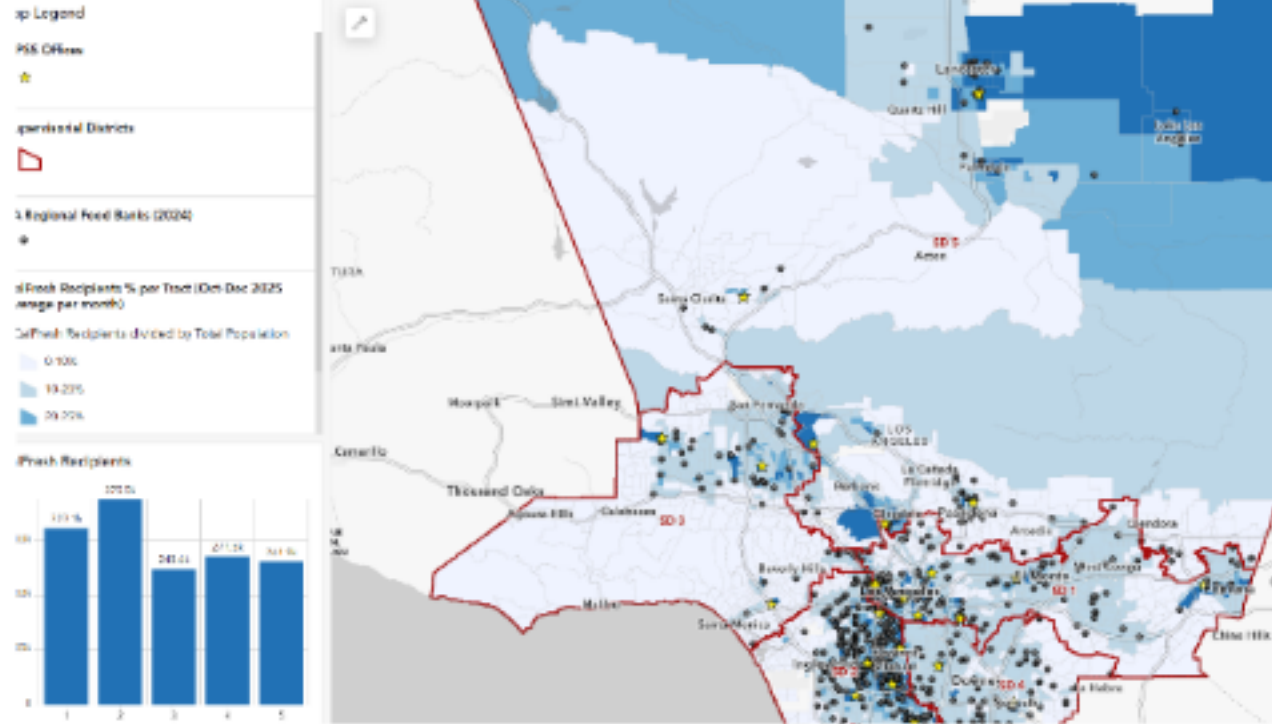
139

In coordination with the LA County Chief Information Officer (CIO) and the Internal Services Division (ISD) GIS Mapping team, PAI developed a dashboard that demonstrates the inequities in how Angeleno's experience poverty.

The dashboard considers geographic detail at the City and neighborhood level, depending on specific measures, and will incorporate critical demographic data.

The dashboard will be phased to include Countywide administrative data in future iterations.





During the federal government shutdown, leveraged administration data to:

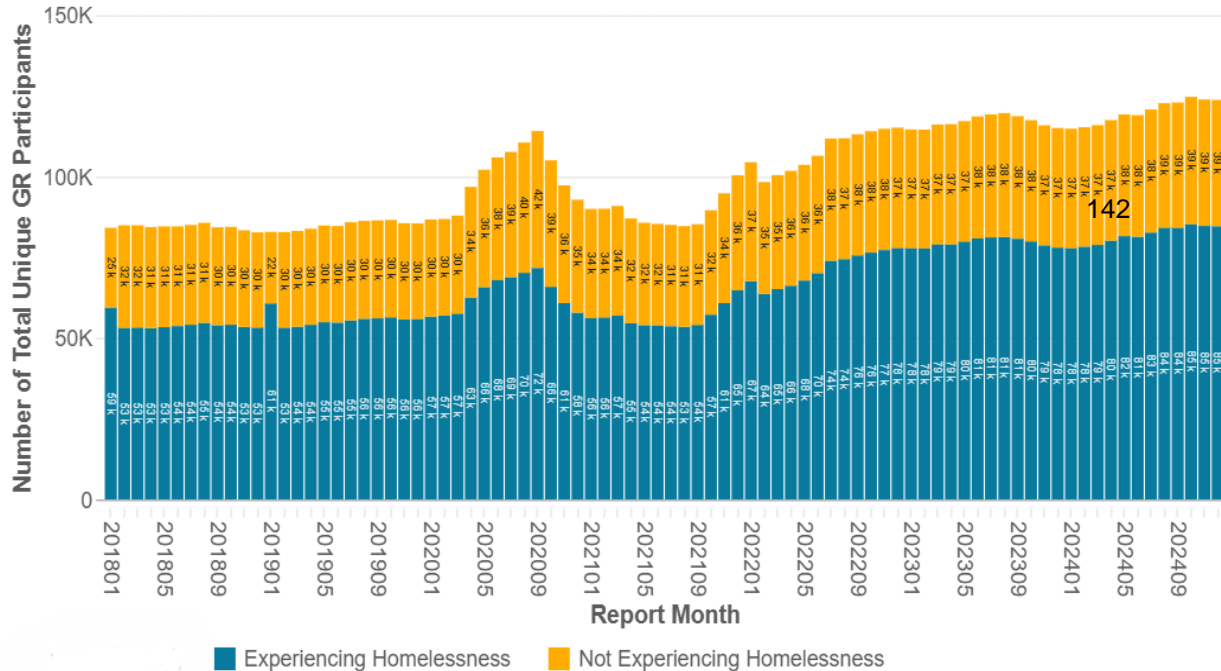
- Identify regions, communities, neighborhoods with the highest concentration of CalFresh Recipients 141
- Identify food pantries most impacted to direct food resources
- Allocate food based on need, including the launch and hosting of large scale food distribution events

As part of broader reform to the County's General Relief Program, PAI is coordinating with DPSS to launch a Measure A funded guaranteed income program for general relief recipients.

The program will aim to address the deep housing insecurities many recipients face while providing a treatment that is rooted in evidence at providing longer term housing security for individuals living in deep poverty.

The program will focus on TAY and Older Adults, serving approximately 700 participants.

The program will run for two years, with two different types of treatments.



Q&A

Infant/Toddler Early Care and Education System Blueprint

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Debra Colman, MSW
Director, Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

09/12/2023

OAECE, in collaboration with the Department of Economic Opportunity, was directed to develop Blueprint

3/1/2024

Blueprint was submitted to the Board of Supervisors



BARBARA FERRER, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

MUNTU DAVIS, M.D., M.P.H.
Health Officer

PRIYA BATRA, M.D., M.S.
Deputy Director for Health Promotion

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Los Angeles, California 90005
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www.childcare.lacounty.org



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Shirley L. Nishi

First District

Holly J. Mitchell

Second District

Lindsay Harwell

Third District

James Hahn

Fourth District

Kathryn Barger

Fifth District

March 1st, 2024

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

SUBJECT:  **BLUEPRINT IDENTIFYING IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM EFFORTS TO FORTIFY THE INFANT AND TODDLER CARE SYSTEM (ITEM 36, BOARD AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2023)**

This report is in response to the September 12, 2023 motion by the Board of Supervisors instructing the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) in the Department of Public Health (Public Health), in collaboration with the Department for Economic Opportunity (DEO) and in partnership with early care and education stakeholders, to develop a blueprint identifying immediate and long-term efforts to fortify the infant and toddler child care system.

The period between birth and age three is critical for child development. During this time, 80 percent of brain development occurs and the foundations for lifelong health, well-being, and success during a child's life are established. The quality of experiences and relationships in the first three years of life has a deep and lasting impact on how the brain develops. Although a parent is a child's first and most important teacher, families often need additional support from early care and education (ECE) providers during these critical years. According to the 2022 Los Angeles County ECE Needs Assessment, Los Angeles County is home to more than 484,000 infants and toddlers and only has licensed capacity through centers and family child care homes to serve 4 percent of children under 24 months. The lack of access to affordable, quality infant and toddler ECE in Los Angeles County has been a crisis for decades. Los Angeles County's low capacity to serve infants and toddlers is caused by multiple interlinked systemic factors. The strain on these factors is increasing dramatically, and if not addressed, may result in infant/toddler ECE program closures. The ECE Infant/Toddler Blueprint (Blueprint) provides a roadmap to fortify Los Angeles County's infant/toddler child care system.

Community Engagement Snapshot

- Convened over **50 meetings**
Engaged **300 stakeholders**
 - Parents
 - ECE providers
 - Colleges and Universities
 - ECE Experts
 - Government

How can the ECE field use the Blueprint?

- Program design tool for community organizations
- Guide for philanthropic investments
- Information for ECE advocates
- Recommendations for elected officials



20 Recommendations to Strengthen the Child Care System for LA County's Youngest Children

Priority Area 1: Capacity and Infrastructure

1



Issue: There are not enough licensed early care and education spaces available for infants and toddlers.

Priority Area 2: Access to Affordable Care

2



Issue: Infant and toddler child care is difficult to locate and expensive for families.

Priority Area 3: Program Operations

3



Issue: The costs to operate an infant/toddler early care and education program are often greater than the revenue programs generate.

Blueprint can be accessed using this [link](#) and at: <https://childcare.lacounty.gov>.

Priority Area 4: Workforce compensation

4



Issue: Early educators – a workforce disproportionately comprised of women of color – earn low wages and receive few benefits.

Priority Area #5: Workforce Pathways and Qualifications

5



Issue: Early educators encounter barriers to accessing training and professional development to strengthen their skills, knowledge, and qualifications.



Priority Area 1: Capacity and Infrastructure







There are not enough licensed early care and education spaces available for infants and toddlers

#	Recommendations	No Action to Date	Exploring Options	Being Implemented
1.1	Establish a grant program to support start-up costs and facility development expenses for family child care homes and center based care that serve infants and toddlers.			
1.2	Invest in a study to identify regulatory changes for family child care homes to sustainably operate a predominantly infant and toddler child care program model.			148
1.3	Increase partnerships between Local Education Agencies and early care and education programs to repurpose school district facility space for use by infant/toddler child care programs.			
1.4	Reassess California Community Care Licensing square footage regulations for licensed infant/toddler early care and education centers.			
1.5	Require new housing development and commercial developers to pay a fee that supports the creation of new infant and toddler child care facilities or include infant and toddler early care and education facility space in new development that can be leased at a reduced rate.			






Infant and toddler child care is difficult to locate and expensive for families.

#	Recommendations	No Action to Date	Exploring Options	Being Implemented
2.1	Launch a County-wide public awareness campaign to promote subsidized infant/toddler early care and education options for low-income families in under-resourced communities including a centralized family friendly website with a universal child care subsidy enrollment application.			 149
2.2	Strengthen the capacity of key Los Angeles County departments and community staff who support parents of infants/toddlers on how to connect families to early care and education resources.			
2.3	Explore investment in a locally funded infant/toddler child care voucher program for low income to moderate income families in Los Angeles County.			
2.4	Revise regulations to ensure children of the infant/toddler early care and education workforce are categorically eligible for subsidized child care regardless of their household income.			







The costs to operate an infant/toddler early care and education program are often greater than the revenue programs generate.

z	Recommendations	No Action to Date	Exploring Options	Being Implemented
3.1	Invest in business training for family child care homes to strengthen operational practices.			150
3.2	Establish County and community-based partnerships that connect family child care homes and Family, Friend, and Neighbor providers serving infants and toddlers to resources that reduce operational costs.			
3.3	Align infant/toddler age range definitions and ratios across General Child Care, Alternative Payment Programs, and California Community Care Licensing to increase the ability for early care and education programs to blend funding.			

Priority Area #4: Workforce Compensation







Early educators – a workforce disproportionately comprised of women of color – earn low wages and receive few benefits.

#	Recommendations	No Action to Date	Exploring Options	Being Implemented
4.1	Establish the state's subsidy reimbursement rates for licensed early care and education providers serving infants and toddlers at 100 percent of the true cost of care which includes compensation at a living wage with benefits.			151
4.2	Revise Family, Friend, and Neighbor subsidy reimbursement rates to a living wage that includes compensation that is no less than the Los Angeles County's hourly minimum wage.			
4.3	Expand guaranteed basic income programs for Family, Friend, and Neighbor child care providers who support infants and toddlers.			
4.4	Explore the feasibility of a local ongoing revenue source to subsidize compensation for infant/toddler early care and education providers.			



Early educators encounter barriers to accessing training and professional development to strengthen their skills, knowledge, and qualifications.

#	Recommendations	No Action to Date	Exploring Options	Being Implemented
5.1	Establish a centralized Los Angeles County Center of Excellence for early care and education employers and workforce to support the infant/toddler child care system.			
5.2	Establish a Los Angeles County Family Friend, and Neighbor Support Network to provide access to resources , learning opportunities, individualized support, home visitation opportunities, and social connections with other child care providers.			152
5.3	Expand partnerships between institutions of higher education and infant/toddler ECE programs for apprenticeships , as well as unit-bearing professional development for early educators caring for infants and toddlers.			
5.4	Revise California Child Development Associate Teacher and Teacher Permits to require successful completion of at least one infant and toddler development college course.			

For more information about the Infant/Toddler Blueprint, visit
Childcare.lacounty.gov/ece-bt3/



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COMMUNITY
INVESTMENT
FOR FAMILIES
DEPARTMENT

Paths to Prosperity

Strengthening Family Stability Amid Federal Uncertainty

FREE TAX
PREP
SERVICES

TENGO PLANES PARA MI
#CashBackRefund
Tenemos planes de
ahorro para la universidad
de mis hijos.

FREE TAX
PREP

Struggling to Stay Afloat

41%

of households live below the Real Cost Measure (RCM)

1,168,546

of households below the RCM

97%

of households below the RCM have at least one working adult and

78%

of heads of households who work are employed full-time and year round

45%

of households spend more than ¹⁵⁵

30%

of their income on housing

Health Care Access

H.R. 1 includes funding reductions and work requirements for Medicaid. Some parents could lose coverage if they do not meet new requirements.

Impact on children

- Possible gaps in health care
- Fewer doctor visits and preventive care
- Delays in identifying developmental or health issues



Food Security

Stricter work and eligibility requirements for CalFRESH. Some families may lose or receive reduced benefits

Impact on children

- Reduced access to healthy foods
- Increased risk of food insecurity



FEDERAL POLICY IMPACTS ON FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

Parental Work Requirements

Some public assistance programs now require parents to work a certain number of hours. Some parents may struggle due to childcare availability or work schedules.

Impact on children

- Stress on parents can affect family stability and caregiving



Family Economic Security

The **Child Tax Credit** is increased for some families, allowing them to receive larger tax refunds to pay for childcare, housing, and basic needs.

Limitations

- Some families may not qualify due to stricter eligibility rules

Trump Accounts creates savings accounts for newborn children. Accounts that are opened are seeded with \$1,000.

Limitations

- Opted in, and Social Security number is required

Strategies to Prevent Negative Impact

to basic needs, workforce stability, and economic security



Strengthen Health Care Access

Increasing access to preventive care



Increase Access to Food Security

Expanding community food programs



Improve Access to Affordable Child Care

Expanding access child care programs



Support Family Economic Stability

Increasing access to income support and financial capability programs



The FamilySource System (FSS) is a network of 19 FamilySource Centers (FSC) located in areas of the City with the highest needs.

The FSS is the City's mechanism for delivering anti-poverty services and initiatives.

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Through a two-generation approach, the FSCs offer a comprehensive range of interconnected essential services, financial capability programs, and educational services designed to lift families out of poverty.

Services



Essential Services

Case Management
Shelter Services
Housing Stability Services
Multi-Benefit Screening
Food Distribution
Parenting Classes
Child Watch
Employment Support
Immigration/Legal Services



Financial Capability

Financial Coaching
Financial Education
Budgeting
Debt Reduction
Credit Counseling
Savings
EITC/CalEITC Outreach
Tax Preparation Services



Youth Services

Tutoring/Homework Assistance
Summer Learning Programs
Academic Mentoring
SAT/ACT Preparation
College Planning
College Tours
Financial Aid/Scholarships
Financial Empowerment



LIMITED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Rental Fees (e.g., application fee, security deposit, and rent)
- Housing or utilities arrears
- Move-in costs (e.g., furnishings, cleaning supplies, storage, and moving services)
- Legal assistance/fees
- Emergency food and clothing

- Documentation fees
- Relocation services
- Health care
- Childcare
- Fees associated with employment
- Transportation assistance
- Auto repair

- Auto repair
- Impound fees
- Car Insurance
- Phone/Internet bills
- Education costs
- Debt resolution
- Financial Savings Match

Program Highlights

PY 2024/2025

\$5.18M

Distributed in Rental
and Utilities
Assistance

\$28.1M

Increased Household
Income

15,761

Tax Returns
Filed

\$1.6M

Emergency Relief

37,949

People Received
Groceries to Address
Food Insecurity

\$12.4M

Tax Credits



COMMUNITY
INVESTMENT
FOR FAMILIES
DEPARTMENT

Paths to Prosperity

Stay Connected

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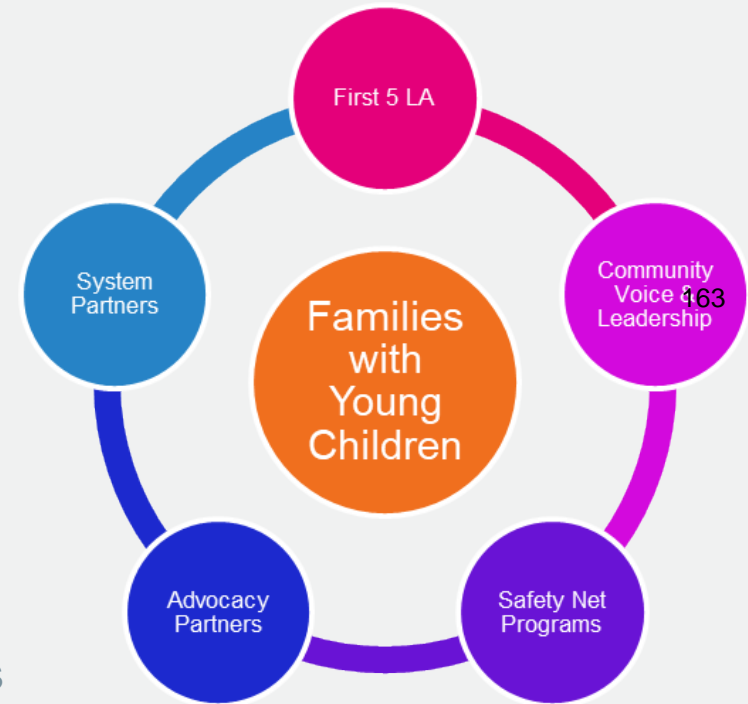
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Prevention: Hubs Framework Design Update

- Guided by the Equity Index
- Best Start Reflections and Findings Report
- Building community-rooted hubs
- Aligning investments for impact
- Strengthening connections and partnerships





Question for Discussion

Building on today's presentations, as First 5 LA designs neighborhood HUBS, how can we ensure they focus on prevention by supporting families early and connecting them to support before challenges become crises?

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Thank you!