A Portrait of Los Angeles County
2017–2018
A Portrait of Los Angeles County Project

Produced in partnership with Southern California Grantmakers & the Los Angeles County Office of Child Protection, Department of Children and Family Services, and Department of Public Health

With the generous support of the following:

- Annenberg Foundation
- BCM Foundation
- Blue Shield of California Foundation
- California Community Foundation
- The California Endowment
- The California Wellness Foundation
- Citi Community Development
- Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
- The James Irvine Foundation
- Leonetti/O’Connell Family Foundation
- Los Angeles County Productivity Investment Fund of the Quality and Productivity Commission
- The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation
- Sony Pictures Entertainment
- United Way of Greater Los Angeles
- Weingart Foundation
Measure of America, a nonpartisan project of the nonprofit Social Science Research Council, provides easy-to-use yet methodologically sound tools for understanding well-being and opportunity in America.

Overall goals: to generate fact-based public dialogue on well-being and to provide user-friendly metrics for accountability on human progress.

Rooted in the capabilities and human development conceptual framework.
WHAT IS HUMAN DEVELOPMENT?

Defined as a process of improving people’s well-being and enlarging their freedoms and opportunities.

Puts people at the center of analysis.

Is expanded by the things we do ourselves and by the conditions and institutions around us.

Is a hopeful, optimistic concept about the real freedom that ordinary people have to determine who to be, what to do, and how to live.
WHERE DID IT COME FROM?

Debuted in 1990 at the UN
Rooted in Nobel laureate economist Amartya Sen's capabilities framework.
Seen as the global gold standard for measuring well-being.
HOW IS IT MEASURED?

THREE DIMENSIONS

A Long and Healthy Life
- Life expectancy at birth

Access to Knowledge
- Educational degree attainment
- School enrollment

A Decent Standard of Living
- Median earnings

INDICATORS

Health INDEX

Education INDEX

Income INDEX

WWW.MEASUREOFAMERICA.ORG
HOW ARE **PORTRAITS** BEING USED IN OTHER COUNTIES?

- Pledge of Support—120+ orgs.
- Train the trainers to present the “Portrait”
- County-wide focus on 5 lowest tracts
- Funding Circle
- Restriction on e-cigarettes
- Universal preschool feasibility study
- Living Wage Ordinance 12/2015
- Hike the Portrait
WHAT DOES THE INDEX REVEAL ABOUT LA COUNTY?
SO MANY NUMBERS! HOW WE PRESENT THE RESULTS

BY GEOGRAPHY

• 78 of 88 incorporated cities + 28 Census-designated places (unincorporated) = 97% of LA County population*
• 69 PUMAs
• Within LA City: 15 LA City Council Districts and 35 Community Plan Areas

BY POPULATION GROUP

• Race and ethnicity
• Gender
• Nativity (U.S. born and immigrant)

*map closely with LA Times neighborhoods
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Group</th>
<th>HD Index</th>
<th>Life Expectancy at Birth (years)</th>
<th>Less Than High School (%)</th>
<th>At Least High School Diploma (%)</th>
<th>At Least Bachelor’s Degree (%)</th>
<th>Graduate Degree (%)</th>
<th>School Enrollment (%)</th>
<th>Median Earnings (2015 dollars)</th>
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## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

### BY ASIAN SUBGROUP

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<tr>
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<th>HD Index</th>
<th>Life Expectancy at Birth (years)</th>
<th>Less Than High School (%)</th>
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<th>At Least Bachelor's Degree (%)</th>
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# Human Development Index

## By Nativity

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<th>Less Than High School (%)</th>
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<th>Graduate Degree (%)</th>
<th>School Enrollment (%)</th>
<th>Median Earnings (2015 dollars)</th>
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<td>68.4</td>
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</table>
A resident of San Marino City . . .

- lives 8 ½ years longer
- is 16 times as likely to have at least a bachelor’s degree
- earns about $60,000 more

. . .

than a resident of Florence-Graham
A LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE
LIFE EXPECTANCY IN LA COUNTY

BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

- **US**: 79.3 years
- **LA County**: 82.1 years
- **Asian American**: 87.2 years
- **Latino**: 84.4 years
- **White**: 80.9 years
- **Black**: 75.6 years
- **Native American**: 75.1 years

Outlive whites by 3 ½ years

12.1 year gap
The Latino Health Paradox

- **Latino Health Paradox:** Latinos tend to have health outcomes that "paradoxically" are comparable to or better than whites even though Latinos have lower average income and education.

- More research is needed but **fewer health risk behaviors** (smoking, binge drinking) and some aspects of **Latino culture** seem to bolster health: social support, family cohesion

- These benefits, however, seem to wear off over time.
LOW
Sun Village 75.8 years

HIGH
Walnut Park 90.5 years!
What will it take? Progress on health will require . . . paying attention to the conditions of daily life.

- Green spaces
- Sidewalks and bike paths
- Affordable housing

- Fresh produce stores
- High-quality schools
- Affordable health care
- Accessible public transportation

- Jobs with decent wages
- Work/life balance
- A diverse economy

- Equality under the law
- Accountable government
- Affordable, safe childcare
- Safety and security
ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE
HIGH
Palos Verdes Estates City
BA: 75.1%

LOW
Florence-Graham
BA: 4.4%
# EDUCATIONAL DISPARITIES

## Top and Bottom 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LA Census Designated Place</th>
<th>Less Than High School (% 25 and older)</th>
<th>At Least High School Diploma (% 25 and older)</th>
<th>At Least Bachelor's Degree (% 25 and older)</th>
<th>Graduate Degree (% 25 and older)</th>
<th>School Enrollment (% ages 3 to 24)</th>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
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<td>30.1</td>
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## Bottom 10

<table>
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<tr>
<th>LA Census Designated Place</th>
<th>Less Than High School (% 25 and older)</th>
<th>At Least High School Diploma (% 25 and older)</th>
<th>At Least Bachelor's Degree (% 25 and older)</th>
<th>Graduate Degree (% 25 and older)</th>
<th>School Enrollment (% ages 3 to 24)</th>
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<td>Bell City</td>
<td>52.6</td>
<td>47.4</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>76.3</td>
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<td>1.2</td>
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<td>East Los Angeles CDP, California</td>
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<td>6.1</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>75.6</td>
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<td>1.5</td>
<td>77.3</td>
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<td>1.6</td>
<td>75.4</td>
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<td>41.5</td>
<td>4.4</td>
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What Is the Connection between Human Development and Youth Disconnection?

Disconnected youth are people between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither in school nor working. “Emerging adulthood”— the teens and early twenties—is when people build many of the capabilities required for a good life.
Youth Disconnection in LA County

LA County 12.9%

About 171,000 young people

White 8.4%

Latino 12.0%

Black 21.2%
What will it take?

Issues for further exploration: residential segregation, high school completion, unequal allocation of resources for education, and more.
DECENT STANDARD OF LIVING
### MEDIAN PERSONAL EARNINGS
BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial/Ethnic Group</th>
<th>Median Personal Earnings</th>
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<tr>
<td>LOS ANGELES</td>
<td>$30,654</td>
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<td>Whites</td>
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<td>Asian Americans</td>
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<td>Native Americans</td>
<td>$35,429</td>
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<tr>
<td>African Americans</td>
<td>$32,433</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latinos</td>
<td>$22,617</td>
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SPECIAL FOCUS: IMMIGRANT SHARE OF “MAIN STREET” BUSINESS OWNERS

Source: Americas Society/Council of the Americas and the Fiscal Policy Institute

Red = 2000  Blue = 2013
### SPECIAL FOCUS: COMMUTING

![Image of commuting modes](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Means of Transport to Work</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>California</th>
<th>Los Angeles County</th>
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<td>Public transportation (excluding taxis)</td>
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<td>Bicycle</td>
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<td>Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
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</table>
What will it take?

Some issues we will explore further and address include: jobs for the 21st century, housing and homelessness, commuting and transportation, small business ownership, wealth.
THE REPORT WILL CONCLUDE WITH AN AGENDA FOR ACTION

Agenda for Action

What concrete actions can the Sonoma County Department of Health Services and its allies across a wide range of sectors take to shore up the foundations of well-being for all the county’s people and build the capabilities of those groups that lag behind?

**Population-Based Interventions**
- Make Universal Preschool a Reality
- Redouble Antismoking Efforts

**Place-Based Interventions**
- Improve Neighborhood Conditions to Facilitate Healthy Behaviors
- Mend the Holes in the Safety Net for Undocumented Immigrants
- Address Inequality at Education’s Starting Gate
- Prioritize On-Time High School Graduation
- Reduce Youth Disconnection
- Take a Two-Pronged Approach to Raising Earnings: Boost Education and Improve Pay
A Portrait of Los Angeles County

Project Timeline

Procure data
• October ’16–June ’17

Produce early report draft
• April–May ’17

Stakeholder and Advisor Inputs on early draft
• May 2017

OCP Outreach Consultant in place
• June ’17

Research/writing, consultations with experts
• May-August ’17

Ongoing stakeholder strategy, discussions on "Agenda for Action," etc.
• June-October ‘17

Report editing, design, infographics, proofreading, etc.
• August-October ’17

Report release. Launch of CCF Social Change Data Commons
• late fall ’17 - date TBD

Presentations of Report, Media/Comms., Outreach, Dissemination
• For 1 year following release