

Recent Trends Among the Unsheltered in Three Los Angeles Neighborhoods: An Annual Report from the Los Angeles Longitudinal Enumeration and Demographic Survey (LA LEADS) Project

Appendixes

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About This Report

Homelessness is perceived by many as the most serious public policy problem facing Los Angeles today, but information is limited about the unsheltered populations living on the city's streets. To fill this knowledge gap and help inform the development of effective policy, RAND Corporation researchers set out to determine the number of people living unsheltered over the course of a year in three areas of Los Angeles with high concentrations of unsheltered homelessness: Hollywood, Skid Row, and Venice. This is the first systematic effort to monitor changes in the number of people living unsheltered over a full year, helping to bolster what is captured by the annual Los Angeles County point-in-time count, which provides a snapshot in time of this population. The researchers also conducted surveys of unsheltered people in these neighborhoods to provide information about the demographic characteristics, past experiences with the housing system, and housing needs and preferences of unsheltered Angelenos in these neighborhoods.

This appendix supplements information found in the main report: Jason M. Ward, Rick Garvey, and Sarah B. Hunter, *Recent Trends Among the Unsheltered in Three Los Angeles Neighborhoods: An Annual Report from the Los Angeles Longitudinal Enumeration and Demographic Survey (LA LEADS) Project*, RAND Corporation, RR-A1890-2, 2023.

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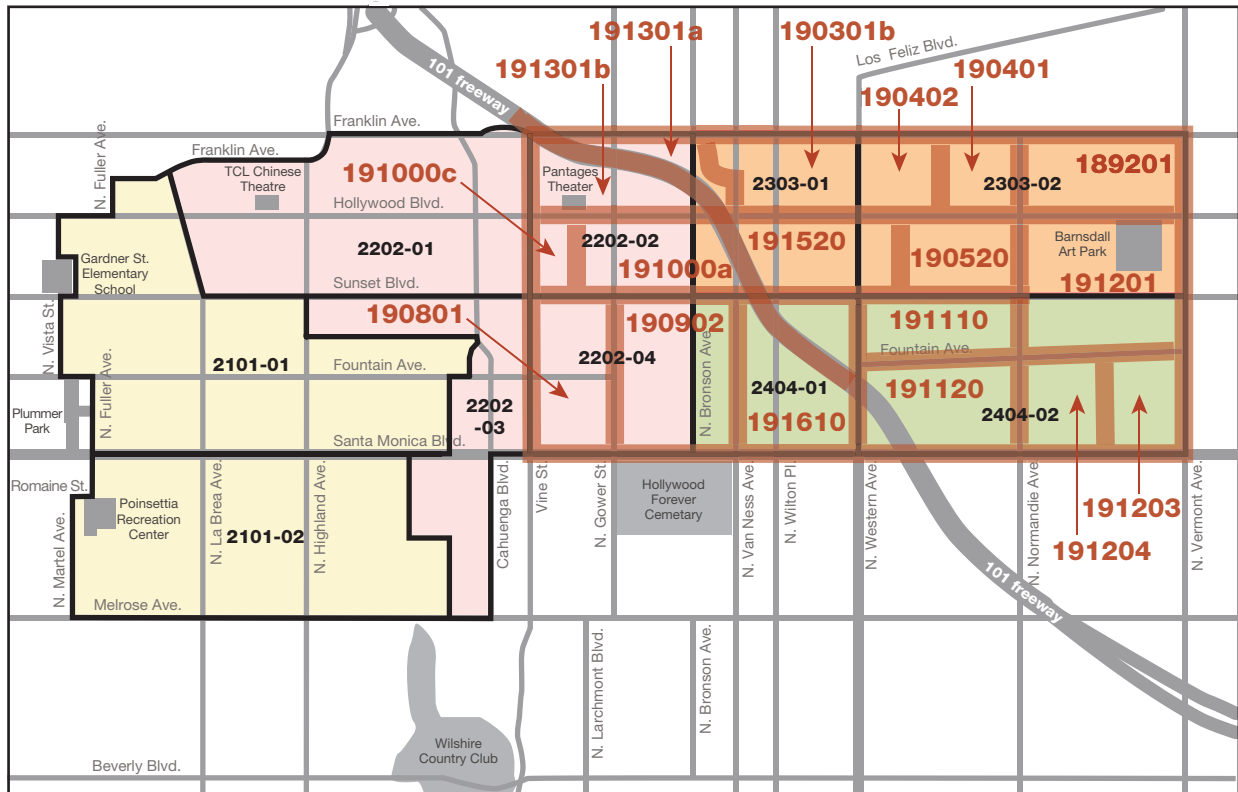
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Appendix A. Neighborhood Geography

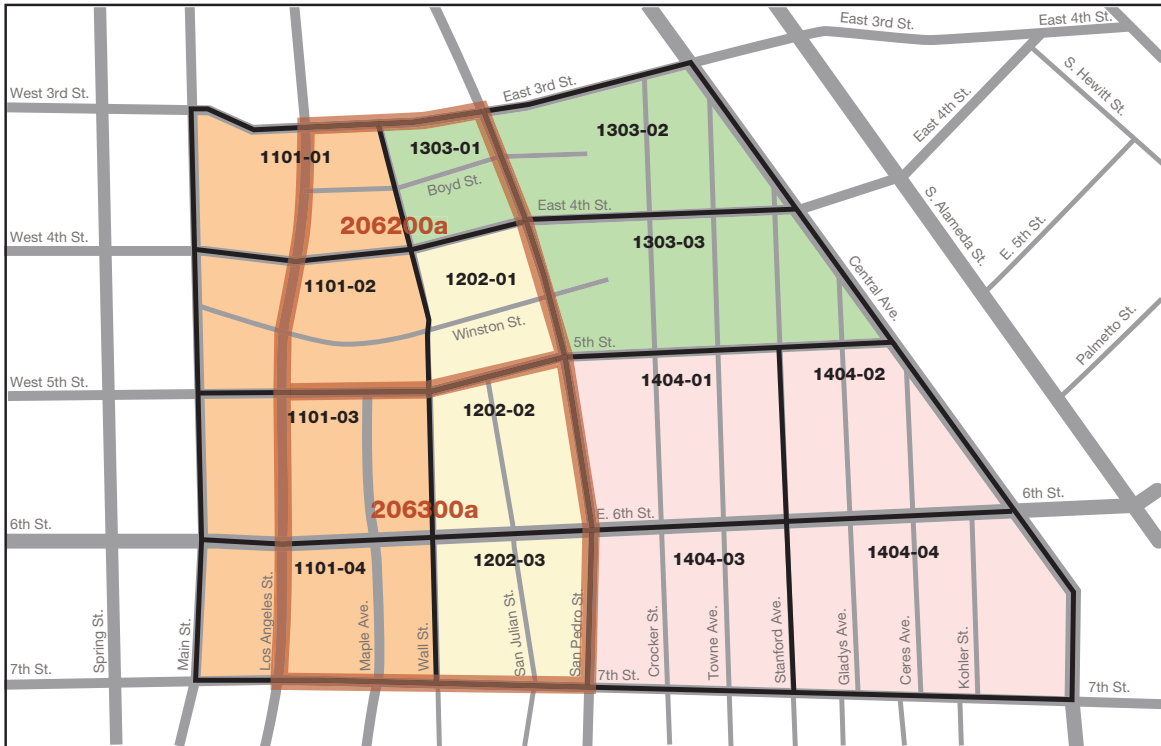
The following three maps (Figures A.1–A.3) present the correspondences between 2020 census tracts and the blocks we used in our own enumerations for each study neighborhood.

Figure A.1. Hollywood Block Correspondence with Census Tracts



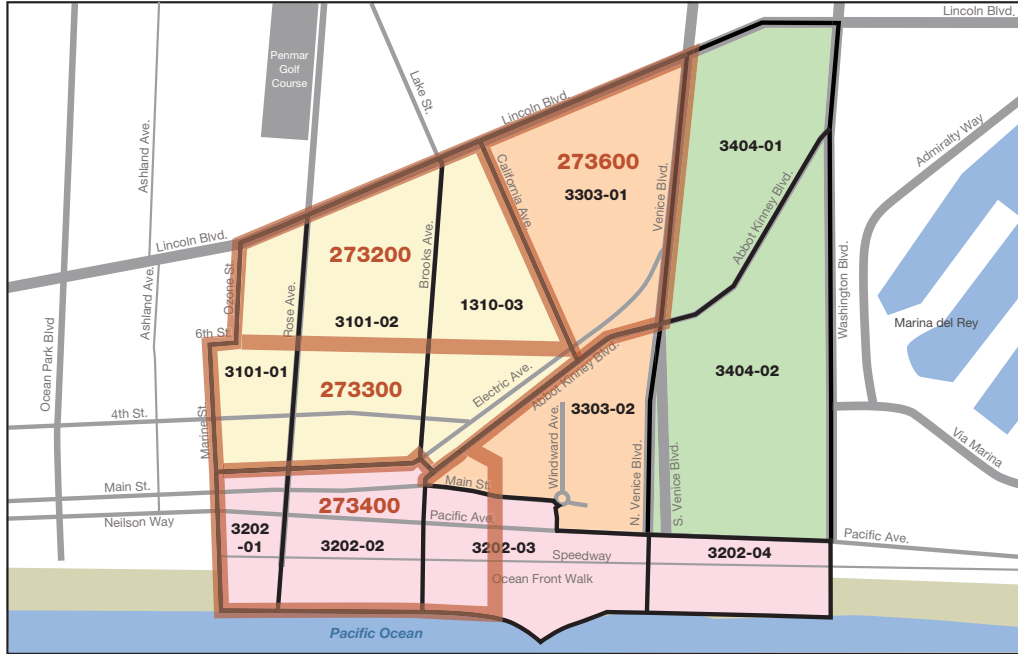
NOTE: The thick black lines and numbering in black indicate LA LEADS enumeration blocks. The thick red lines and red numbers indicate 2020 census tracts.

Figure A.2. Skid Row Block Correspondence with Census Tracts



NOTE: The thick black lines and numbering in black indicate LA LEADS enumeration blocks. The thick red lines and red numbers indicate 2020 census tracts.

Figure A.3. Venice Block Correspondence with Census Tracts



NOTE: The thick black lines and numbering in black indicate LA LEADS enumeration blocks. The thick red lines and red numbers indicate 2020 census tracts.

Appendix B. Enumeration Counts by Category

The tables in this appendix (B.1–B.4) present discrete, unadjusted count numbers, by category, for each enumeration conducted in each neighborhood. In the last two columns, we also present the bounded estimates for the totals in each neighborhood using the two approaches discussed in the main report.

Table B.1. Enumeration Totals by Category and Incorporating Multipliers: Hollywood

Date and Time	People	Cars and Vans	RVs	Small Tents	Medium Tents	Large Tents	Total	Multiplier Estimates	
								Upper Bound	Lower Bound
10/29/21 (AM)	280	53	22	85	76	116	632	900	719
11/22/21 (PM)	302	91	29	90	58	126	696	996	801
12/21/21 (AM)	222	87	36	109	74	129	657	988	844
01/19/22 (PM)	341	82	32	80	74	145	754	1,054	834
02/17/22 (AM)	213	76	25	84	62	110	570	842	705
03/16/22 (PM)	294	108	30	66	64	98	660	939	749
04/11/22 (AM)	339	95	37	98	53	90	712	995	776
05/18/22 (PM)	338	86	32	88	71	92	707	987	769
06/09/22 (AM)	259	91	35	93	67	100	645	938	771
07/07/22 (PM)	359	110	32	91	71	105	768	1,080	848
08/03/22 (AM)	339	105	29	108	73	134	788	1,131	912
08/29/22 (PM)	433	91	32	65	62	108	791	1,063	783
10/04/22 (AM)	326	82	46	88	59	69	670	928	718

Table B.2. Enumeration Totals by Category and Incorporating Multipliers: Skid Row

Date and Time	People	Cars and Vans	RVs	Small Tents	Medium Tents	Large Tents	Total	Multiplier Estimates	
								Upper Bound	Lower Bound
09/30/21 (AM)	595	24	6	166	135	320	1,246	1,593	1,198
10/13/21 (PM)	586	69	5	168	153	276	1,257	1,627	1,238
11/02/21 (AM)	529	52	7	190	133	325	1,236	1,620	1,269
11/15/21 (PM)	611	62	5	215	147	314	1,354	1,755	1,352
12/03/21 (AM)	757	108	5	216	166	336	1,588	2,052	1,550
12/15/21 (PM)	586	49	5	233	228	274	1,375	1,801	1,412
12/27/21 (AM)	604	50	5	246	143	275	1,323	1,713	1,312
01/13/22 (PM)	701	48	4	252	179	304	1,488	1,913	1,447
01/26/22 (AM)	620	43	3	214	198	273	1,351	1,790	1,377
02/02/22 (PM)	657	68	5	235	188	304	1,457	1,894	1,458
02/22/22 (AM)	673	58	5	230	150	270	1,386	1,775	1,328
03/07/22 (PM)	655	63	5	245	128	299	1,395	1,799	1,365
03/25/22 (AM)	742	48	7	217	114	253	1,381	1,728	1,236
04/06/22 (PM)	884	63	5	242	102	311	1,607	2,002	1,416
04/26/22 (AM)	755	47	7	191	130	273	1,403	1,755	1,254
05/03/22 (PM)	741	52	5	252	98	286	1,434	1,811	1,319
05/20/22 (AM)	747	78	5	193	160	271	1,454	1,845	1,349
05/31/22 (PM)	859	78	6	212	175	243	1,573	1,968	1,398
06/15/22 (AM)	845	61	4	185	144	259	1,498	1,856	1,295
06/27/22 (PM)	854	58	3	204	187	239	1,545	1,922	1,355
07/13/22 (AM)	741	54	4	195	181	231	1,406	1,768	1,277
07/28/22 (PM)	761	66	4	203	132	306	1,472	1,862	1,357
08/08/22 (AM)	837	64	4	177	129	261	1,472	1,822	1,266
08/25/22 (PM)	772	73	4	214	134	261	1,458	1,837	1,324
09/09/22 (AM)	836	60	4	182	148	260	1,490	1,848	1,294
09/19/22 (PM)	749	74	4	208	124	277	1,436	1,816	1,318

Table B.3. Enumeration Totals by Category and Incorporating Multipliers: Venice

Date and Time	People	Cars and Vans	RVs	Small Tents	Medium Tents	Large Tents	Total	Multiplier Estimates	
								Upper Bound	Lower Bound
10/05/21 (AM)	110	138	80	46	46	56	476	782	694
11/10/21 (PM)	109	89	92	39	49	44	422	679	593
12/09/21 (AM)	167	152	85	49	39	47	539	846	713
01/03/22 (PM)	149	172	80	69	39	65	574	933	814
01/28/22 (AM)	165	188	72	59	63	58	605	979	848
03/02/22 (PM)	180	163	70	60	41	49	563	885	742
03/31/22 (AM)	202	171	75	56	38	59	601	936	775
04/28/22 (PM)	196	207	75	65	69	34	646	1,025	869
05/25/22 (AM)	213	183	64	80	47	42	629	983	814
06/23/22 (PM)	164	185	69	63	28	40	549	869	738
07/22/22 (AM)	240	191	85	60	33	45	654	995	804
08/23/22 (PM)	269	173	56	57	31	80	666	1,007	792
09/15/22 (AM)	226	166	64	52	28	65	601	917	737

Table B.4. Enumeration Totals by Category: Veterans Row

Date and Time	People	Cars and Vans	RVs	Small Tents	Medium Tents	Large Tents	Total
10/06/21 (4 PM)	6	0	1	1	2	44	54
10/26/21 (9 AM)	9	0	1	2	3	34	49
11/18/21–10/1/22 ^a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

^a Over the period of November 18, 2021, to October 1, 2022, we made several visits and found no evidence of unsheltered individuals or associated vehicles or structures at this neighborhood. Because of the small sample size of potential survey respondents and non-random sampling approach, we do not calculate estimates for this subsample using multipliers.

Appendix C. Additional Survey Demographic Characteristics

The tables in this appendix reproduce data from tables in the main report with various additional details.¹

Table C.1 reproduces the data in Table 3 but presents additional demographic characteristics that were omitted for brevity. We also provide separate tabulations for the 12 respondents whom we interviewed from Veterans Row. Table C.2 reproduces Table 4 but includes separate tabulations for these Veterans Row respondents.

Table C.3 reproduces Table 5 with two differences. First, we add in a tabulation of the Veterans Row respondents. Second, we add in the results of answers in the “other” categories for questions about issues that prevented past housing move-in, specific housing needs not otherwise asked about, and issues that would prevent a future move-in to offered housing. These free-form responses were first examined to identify numerous cases in which responses duplicated choices already presented. Then, we combined the remaining unique answers into a more succinct set of categories.

Finally, Table C.4 reproduces the responses to the question, “What issues stopped you from moving into housing in LA?” (See the row labeled “Factors that prevented housing move-in.”) The table presents the results we obtained when we conditioned this question on respondents having answered “yes” to the prior question, “Since you have been homeless in LA, have you been offered housing?” The question about factors preventing respondents from obtaining housing better addresses the issue of barriers encountered in housing offers obtained through the provision of homelessness services rather than issues encountered by individuals seeking housing outside the homelessness housing service provision framework (e.g., in the private market or in other informal ways, such as doubling up). Broadly, the answers as to what factors prevented moving into housing are quite similar, but there are some survey neighborhood-specific differences.

¹ Jason M. Ward, Rick Garvey, and Sarah B. Hunter, *Recent Trends Among the Unsheltered in Three Los Angeles Neighborhoods: An Annual Report from the Los Angeles Longitudinal Enumeration and Demographic Survey (LA LEADS) Project*, RAND Corporation, RR-A1890-2, 2023. As of January 15, 2023: https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA1890-2.html

Table C.1. Full Demographic Characteristics of Survey Participants (percentages)

Participant Characteristic	All (N = 430)	Hollywood (n = 104)	Skid Row (n = 211)	Venice (n = 103)	Veterans Row (n = 12)
Age					
18–24	4	5	2	9*	0
25–34	18	40*	8	17**	0
35–44	19	21*	13	28*	45
45–54	24	14*	29	25+	18
55–64	24	13*	32	19*	18
65 and older	10	7*	16	2**	18
Gender					
Male	70	73	69	67	91
Female	26	22	28	27	9
Nonconforming	2	3	1	4	0
Missing	2	2	1	2	0
Hispanic ethnicity	20	18	21	22	17
Race					
American Indian/Alaska Native	16	13	16	17	42
Asian American	5	7	4	7	8
Black/African American	51	49*	66	26**	25
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	3	3	3	4	8
White	32	35*	15	60**	75
Other	15	15	13	17	17
Marital status					
Married	5	9	3	5	0
Serious relationship, not married	5	5	5	7	0
Widowed	4	6	4	4	0
Divorced or separated	27	20*	30	26	55
Never married	58	62	57	58	45
Educational attainment					
Less than high school	29	29	31	26	25
High school graduate	32	23*	39	28*	33
Vocational, business, or trade school	4	12*	1	4*	0
Some college (1 year or less)	10	16*	7	10	8
Some college (more than 1 year)	12	10	10	17	25
Associate's degree	5	3	6	6	0

Participant Characteristic	All (N = 430)	Hollywood (n = 104)	Skid Row (n = 211)	Venice (n = 103)	Veterans Row (n = 12)
Bachelor's degree or postgraduate degree	8	8	7	10	8
Health rating					
Excellent	18	24*	15	19	8
Very good	20	22	18	22	33
Good	30	27	32	28	33
Fair	19	15	21	23	8
Poor	12	12	14	9	17
Chronic health condition	45	38	46	45	58
Mental health condition	57	54	60	51	67
Substance use disorder	22	19	23	21	50
Regular use—alcohol	31	27	35	24*	42
Regular use—marijuana/cannabis	50	57*	44	50	92
Regular use—methamphetamine, cocaine, fentanyl, heroin, or prescription opioids	26	29	27	18**	58
Arrested in past 30 days	4	5	4	3	0
Jail or prison stay in past 30 days	3	3	3	3	0

NOTE: Participants could indicate membership in more than one race/ethnicity, so these sum to greater than 100. Mutually exclusive percentages may not sum to exactly 100 because of rounding. Some individual questions have instances of item nonresponse. Actual sample size across questions ranges from 426 to 431. We performed statistical tests of differences across neighborhoods for each category by creating indicator variables for membership in each group above (e.g., age 18–24) and regressing each indicator variable on indicator variables for the Hollywood and Venice neighborhoods (with Skid Row as the omitted neighborhood so that coefficients measure differences with the mean value for Skid Row). A second, analogous regression tests differences between Venice and Hollywood (omitting Hollywood). Results for Hollywood and Venice that are statistically significantly different from Skid Row at the 90-percent confidence level are indicated with a star (*). Results for Venice that are statistically significantly different from Hollywood at the 90-percent confidence level are indicated with a plus sign (+). (We did not conduct statistical testing of the results from Veterans Row because of the small sample size and lack of randomization for this subsample.)

Table C.2. Measures of Homelessness Experiences of Survey Participants (percentages)

Participant Characteristic	All (N = 430)	Hollywood (n = 104)	Skid Row (n = 211)	Venice (n = 103)	Veterans Row (n = 12)
Age at first spell of homelessness					
Younger than 18	21	27*	15	28*	33
18–24	23	30*	21	24	17
25–34	24	26	25	21	25
35–44	13	7*	15	14	8
45–54	11	6*	14	10	8
55–64	7	5*	10	4*	0
65 or older	1	0*	1	0*	8
Duration of current spell of homelessness					
Less than a year	22	25	18	25	33
1 to 2 years	11	13	8	15	17
2 to 3 years	11	13	8	15*	8
3 years or longer	57	50*	66	46*	42
Lifetime duration of homelessness					
Less than a year	9	10	8	12	8
1 to 2 years	7	12*	3	10*	8
2 to 3 years	10	10	9	13	8
3 years or longer	74	69*	81	66*	75
Duration at current location					
Less than 3 months	16	15	11	26**	17
3–6 months	8	11	6	9	8
More than 6 months	76	74*	83	65*	75
Location prior to current location					
Los Angeles County	59	57	61	57	50
Elsewhere in California	12	12	10	13	25
Outside California	26	24	26	28*	25
Incarcerated	1	4	1	0*	0
Missing	3	4	3	2	0

NOTE: To reduce respondent burden, the RAND Survey Research Group recommended using overlapping periods (at the bounds of each grouping) for some of the response options. For clarity here, we group categories into broader periods and assume zero “edge cases” (e.g., 12 months exactly). Some individual questions have instances of item nonresponse. Actual sample size across questions ranges from 419 to 431. Mutually exclusive percentages may not sum to exactly 100 due to rounding. We performed statistical tests of differences across neighborhoods for each category by creating indicator variables for membership in each group above (e.g., age 18–24) and regressing each indicator variable on indicator variables for the Hollywood and Venice neighborhoods (with Skid Row as the omitted neighborhood so that coefficients measure differences with the mean value for Skid Row). A second, analogous regression tests differences between Venice and Hollywood (omitting Hollywood). Results for Hollywood and Venice that are statistically significantly different from Skid Row at the 90-percent confidence level are indicated with a star (*). Results for Venice that are statistically significantly different from Hollywood at the 90-percent confidence level are indicated with a plus sign (+).

Table C.3. Housing Needs and Preferences of Survey Participants, with Recoded “Other” Responses Included (percentages)

Need or Preference	All (n = 430)	Hollywood (n = 104)	Skid Row (n = 211)	Venice (n = 103)	Veterans Row (n = 12)
Interested in housing	90	85*	94	86*	100
Currently on a wait list	30	28	25	39*	50
Offered housing since homeless in Los Angeles	40	38	38	43	75
Factors that prevented housing move-in					
Never contacted for move-in	43	36*	47	45	17
Lack of privacy	40	49*	38	35 ⁺	50
Housing safety	35	44*	31	33 ⁺	33
Paperwork issues	29	31	27	29	33
Hours or curfew	26	23	23	33*	50
Housing location	27	27	23	32	33
Housing cleanliness	26	26	29	20*	17
Other housing rules	21	22	16	27	33
Partner not allowed into housing	17	18	17	18	8
Possessions	11	13	10	12	8
Handicap accessibility	10	10	13	4*	8
Pets	9	8	6	15*	8
Other issues that prevented past move to housing	2	25	23	24	50
Respondents reporting nonredundant “other” issue ^a	(n = 109)	(n = 26)	(n = 52)	(n = 26)	(n = 6)
Lack of income or employment	25	36*	14	35*	17
Lack of support or assistance	23	21	24	27	0
Lifestyle (including drug use)	18	7*	22	12	67
Incarceration history	12	7	16	8	17
Lack of housing or ineligibility for housing	10	14	8	12	0
Need for special housing (e.g., LGBTQ+)	9	14*	10	4	0
Discrimination	3	0	4	4	0
Acceptable housing options					
Permanent stay in motel or hotel setting	86	82*	92	82*	67
Supportive housing (own apartment with case management)	84	86	89	76**	75
Shelter or hotel with private room	82	80	87	77*	67
Interim housing with access to services	62	60	67	50*	58
Safe camping (organized tent space)	50	53	45	55	75
Shared housing (shared apartment or house)	49	52	46	53	50
Bridge housing (temporary shelter with onsite services)	52	50	52	55	42
Group shelter	31	25	33	31	42
Recovery or sober living housing	35	34	39	28*	25

Need or Preference	All (n = 430)	Hollywood (n = 104)	Skid Row (n = 211)	Venice (n = 103)	Veterans Row (n = 12)
Specific housing/shelter needs or requirements					
Needs to be in particular neighborhood	33	36	29	38	42
Storage for possessions	31	36	33	24 ⁺	33
Allowed to stay with partner, spouse, child, roommate	27	32	24	27	42
Allowed to stay with pet(s)	22	23	20	22	25
Handicap accessible	21	19	25	15 [*]	25
Other specific housing needs	11	14	8	16 [*]	8
Respondents reporting nonredundant "other" issue ^a	(n = 49)	(n = 13)	(n = 21)	(n = 14)	(n = 1)
Apartment amenities	33	23	29	50	0
Safety of neighborhood or community	27	31	24	29	0
Access to public transit	16	15	19	7	100
Special population (e.g., LGBTQ+, Catholic, older)	16	31 [*]	14	7	0
Desire for privacy	8	0	14	7	0
Factors that would prevent future housing move-in					
Lack of privacy	63	71 [*]	61	59 ⁺	50
Lack of safety	62	66	63	56	50
Lack of cleanliness	50	49	51	49	50
Negative interactions with staff	42	35	41	50 ⁺	42
Hours or curfew	35	40 [*]	29	44 [*]	33
Other rules	26	23	26	30 [*]	33
Other ^a	4	5	2	8 [*]	0

NOTE: Mutually exclusive percentages may not sum to exactly 100 due to rounding. We performed statistical tests of differences across neighborhoods for each category by creating indicator variables for membership in each group above (e.g., age 18–24) and regressing each indicator variable on indicator variables for the Hollywood and Venice neighborhoods (with Skid Row as the omitted neighborhood so that coefficients measure differences with the mean value for Skid Row). A second, analogous regression tests differences between Venice and Hollywood (omitting Hollywood). Results for Hollywood and Venice that are statistically significantly different from Skid Row at the 90-percent confidence level are indicated with a star (*). Results for Venice that are statistically significantly different from Hollywood at the 90-percent confidence level are indicated with a plus sign (+). LGBTQ+ = lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and more.

^aAll but three of the "other" responses to "Factors that would prevent future housing move-in" included an "other" reason that we categorized as redundant with one of our included categories or the reason was not given. Of the remaining three respondents (all in Venice), two answers concerned needing some form of onsite medical care and one answer concerned needing a workspace as part of acceptable housing. Some individual questions have instances of item nonresponse.

Table C.4. Factors Preventing Past Housing Move-In Only Among Those Offered Housing Since Becoming Homeless in Los Angeles (percentages)

Need or Preference	All (N = 172)	Hollywood (n = 39)	Skid Row (n = 81)	Venice (n = 43)	Veterans Row (n = 9)
Factors that prevented housing move-in					
Lack of privacy	47	59	44	40*	56
Never contacted for move-in	44	33	46	58*	11
Housing safety	41	51*	36	42	33
Paperwork issues	32	26	31	37	44
Hours or curfew	30	33	23	35	44
Housing location	30	28	28	33	44
Housing cleanliness	30	31	33	23	22
Other housing rules	24	28	19	30	22
Partner not allowed into housing	18	18	19	19	11
Possessions	11	18	9	12	0
Pets	8	13	5	9	11
Handicap accessibility	8	5	13	5	0
Other issues that prevented past move to housing	22	26	19	19	44
Respondents reporting nonredundant "other" issue ^a	(n = 38)	(n = 10)	(n = 15)	(n = 9)	(n = 4)
Lack of income or employment	29	30	27	44	0
Lifestyle (including drug use)	26	0	27	22	100
Lack of support or assistance	18	40	13	11	0
Need for special housing (e.g., LGBTQ+)	13	30	13	0	0
Incarceration history	8	0	20	0	0
Lack of housing or ineligibility for housing	3	0	0	11	0
Discrimination	3	0	0	11	0

NOTE: This table conditions answers to the question, "What issues stopped you from moving into housing in LA?" (see the row labeled "Factors that prevented housing move-in" in Tables 5 and C.3) on answering "yes" to the question, "Since you have been homeless in LA, have you been offered housing?" Mutually exclusive percentages may not sum to exactly 100 due to rounding. We performed statistical tests of differences across neighborhoods for each category by creating indicator variables for membership in each group above (e.g., lack of privacy) and regressing each indicator variable on indicator variables for the Hollywood and Venice neighborhoods (with Skid Row as the omitted neighborhood so that coefficients measure differences with the mean value for Skid Row). A second, analogous regression tests differences between Venice and Hollywood (omitting Hollywood). Results for Hollywood and Venice that are statistically significantly different from Skid Row at the 90-percent confidence level are indicated with a star (*). Results for Venice that are statistically significantly different from Hollywood at the 90-percent confidence level are indicated with a plus sign (+). (Because of the very small sample sizes of responses containing nonredundant "other" issues, we did not conduct statistical testing for differences between these answers.) LGBTQ+ = lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, and more.

^a All but three of the "other" responses to "Factors that would prevent future housing move-in" included an "other" reason that we categorized as redundant with one of our included categories or the reason was not given. Of the remaining three respondents (all in Venice), two answers concerned needing some form of onsite medical care and one answer concerned needing a workspace as part of acceptable housing. Some individual questions have instances of item nonresponse.