



JUNE 8, 9, 10
LOS ANGELES, CA, U.S.
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The current conditions of life in Los Angeles

What are the conditions of one of the biggest cities in the richest country on earth?

- Los Angeles county has one-third of California's COVID-19 cases and 40% of the state's deaths. ([Source](#))
- The Public Policy Institute of California estimates that 20.8% of people in Los Angeles County live in poverty. ([Source](#))
- In 2019, more than a third (34.0%) of California state residents were living in poverty or near poverty.

What does it cost to live there? ([Source](#))

- Los Angeles has over 40,000 houseless people in its city, making it home to about a quarter of all houseless people in the state of California. California itself is home to around a quarter of all the houseless people in the United States.
- L.A. has a higher percentage of cost burdened households than any other major American city, with almost half of all households spending more than one-third of their income on rent. The city also has the highest rate of overcrowding nationally, with the second fewest available homes per adult.
- The median cost of a home is \$860,000 and a two bedroom rental costs, on average, \$2,700 per month.

The LAPD: The third largest police force in the U.S.

- In 2021, the Los Angeles Police Commission approved a \$1.9 billion dollar budget for the LAPD, which amounts to a \$213 million dollar increase. ([Source](#))
- Since the year 2000, there have been almost 1,000 deaths caused by law enforcement in Los Angeles. ([Source](#))
- While Black people only make up 10% of L.A.'s population, they make up 24% of law enforcement killings.
- In 2021, the city of Los Angeles was awarded around \$1.3 billion under the Biden Administration's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for COVID-19 pandemic relief. Of the \$680 million that was transferred to the city last year, almost half or \$317 million went to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) for "payroll expenditures." ([Source](#))



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How does local and federal policy protect the environment of the “City of Flowers and Sunshine”?

- Los Angeles, which used to be one of the major oil-producing regions in the world, has no buffers or setbacks between oil extraction and homes. Approximately 75% of active oil or gas wells are located within 500 meters (1,640 feet) of “sensitive land uses,” such as homes, schools, child care facilities, parks or senior residential facilities. ([Source](#))
- The neighborhood of Wilmington is home to five oil refineries and pumps out 46,000 barrels per day – making it the third most productive area in the U.S. Due to the impact of the oil and gas drilling and refining, census tracts in Wilmington, which is 90% people of color, are exposed to more pollution than 80-90% of the state of California. ([Source](#))
- Living near active or inactive oil can cause increased damage to lung function, preterm birth risk, and risk of cardiovascular disease. ([Source](#), [source](#), [source](#))