

Your 2020 Census

Guide for homelessness service providers

How does the census impact those experiencing homelessness?

There are approximately over 36,000 homeless individuals and families in the City of Los Angeles, according to the 2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority. An undercount of these individuals could result in the loss of billions of dollars for federally funded programs that benefit them, including the Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers Program, the Health Care for the Homeless Program, and the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program.

How can homeless service providers help ensure an accurate count?

It's crucial that L.A.'s homeless population is counted accurately to secure our fair share of funding for vital social services. Work with your local Complete Count Committee and U.S. Census Bureau office to develop impactful outreach strategies and identify locations where people are living.

How will the U.S. Census Bureau count individuals experiencing homelessness?

Service-Based Enumeration (March 30 - April 1, 2020)

To count people at places where they receive services (including shelters and soup kitchens) and at outdoor locations like encampments.

Enumeration at Transit Locations (April 9 - May 4, 2020)

To count people who do not have a stable home in transitory locations, such as hotels and motels.

Census survey question

Asks respondents to include anyone staying in their home temporarily, who may not have been accounted for already as part of the household.

The City of Los Angeles will provide reasonable accommodation(s) to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and facilities for people with disabilities. To make a request contact the Department on Disability at DOD.Contact@lacity.org or (213) 202-5668 five or more working days in advance.