County of Los Angeles
Progress Report 2004

To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

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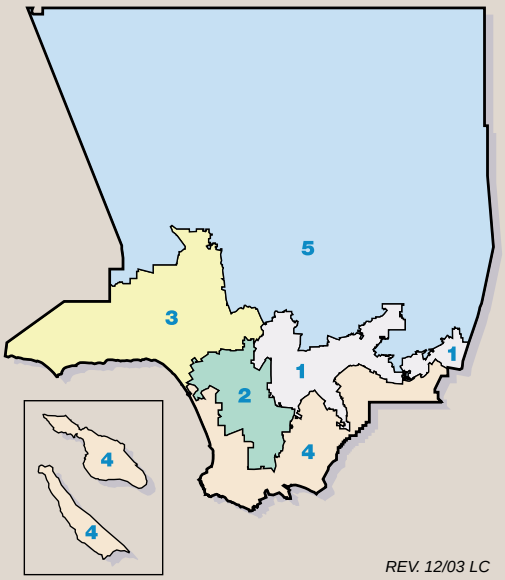

Catalina and San Clemente Islands are part of the County of Los Angeles

REV. 12/03 LC

A Message from the Chair

Since joining the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, I have promoted efforts to enhance accountability for the services we provide to County residents and to develop quality data to substantiate progress made in achieving desired community results and outcomes. One of the key initiatives in this regard was my motion adopted by the Board directing the Chief Administrative Office and several other departments to develop an annual "report card" of indicators for key County services, demonstrating the impact that County services are having on the quality of life for the constituents we serve.

I am pleased to present the first issue of this report, now referred to as the County Progress Report. While this is an initial effort, the Report reflects a wide array of key indicators concerning critical public service issues as prenatal care, adoptions, child abuse and neglect, crime and arrest rates, quality of County roads, and recreational and cultural programs. These indicators, which reflect the impacts of programs largely under the County's control, are compared within larger regional indicators for context. Over time, this Report and the indicators will be further refined as data gathering improves, shared responsibility for results among several departments is identified, and feedback is provided by the community we serve as to what they most want to see in the Report.

Finally, the County Progress Report and its attendant focus on accountability and results is fully consistent with the County's Strategic Plan, most recently updated and approved by the Board of Supervisors in December 2002. The Strategic Plan includes a strategy to develop a countywide framework for performance measurement, reflecting the Board's increasing focus on results. This framework – *Performance Counts!* – is reflected for the first time in the 2004-05 Proposed Budget. As the County Progress Report evolves, links between these allied results-based efforts will be enhanced.

Collectively, these initiatives embody the message of accountability for results. As County government, we hold ourselves and our community partners accountable for achieving the highest possible results with the public's money, and together, we expect to report positive changes over time in the County indicators described in this Report. We wish to thank all who participated in this challenging project to provide you, the public we serve, with the results of County programs and services.

Your input and feedback via the form "Let Us Know What You Think" will help ensure that this Report addresses areas of concern and interest to you. Please take the time to "let us know" and thank you for your interest in the County of Los Angeles.

Don Knabe, Chair
County of Los Angeles, Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, Fourth District

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Introduction to the County's First Progress Report

The County of Los Angeles has embarked on a long-term initiative to improve the results it achieves for the diverse clients it serves—the residents, businesses, and communities of Los Angeles County. The publication of this first County Progress Report represents another cornerstone in an ongoing effort to develop a collaborative, responsive County government dedicated to "enriching lives."

Historical Profile

California became a legal U.S. territory in August 1848. The County of Los Angeles was created by the California State legislature 18 months later on February 18, 1850, seven months before California formally gained statehood. Since 1852, the County has been governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors which serves as the executive and legislative head. Los Angeles County is the largest and most complex county government in the United States. Each of the supervisors is elected to a four-year term to represent one of the five supervisorial districts into which the County is divided. Each district now includes approximately 1.9 million persons.

Changing and Growing Population

The County of Los Angeles includes almost 10 million residents residing in over 88 different incorporated municipalities plus the unincorporated area of the County. Approximately 1 out of every 28 United States residents live in Los Angeles County and only eight states have a population larger. Population growth in Los Angeles County is projected to increase almost 20 percent by 2020.

Los Angeles County is not only the most populous County in the country, but it is one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse. Data from the recent U.S. Census 2000 found that 36 percent of Los Angeles County residents are foreign born; less than half of the population—46 percent—speaks English only in the home.

Strong Economic Base

The diverse and growing population creates the dynamic cultural mix for which Los Angeles is well known and fosters a diversified economic base for the County. Los Angeles County is home to a broad array of industries including: banking, entertainment, aerospace, information technology, tourism, manufacturing, and textiles. The diversity of the County's industrial base provides economic flexibility that helps sustain the County through industry-specific recessionary periods.

County of Los Angeles: Diverse and Complex Services

As its population has grown, so has the responsibility of the County of Los Angeles to provide services to its residents, businesses, and communities. The County of Los Angeles has two distinct and critical roles. First, the County is a regional government with primary responsibility for health and human services; the County also has a lead responsibility for providing public safety, justice, recreation, and cultural services. Several of the County's major cultural attractions, including the Disney Concert Hall, Hollywood Bowl, and Music Center facilities, are owned by the County of Los Angeles. Additionally, the County manages over 20,000 acres of regional parkland and facilities for residents' and visitors' enjoyment and exercise.

Second, the County of Los Angeles serves as the government agency providing a full range of municipal services for the over 1 million people living in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, which include some 134 distinct communities. The municipal services include police, fire, land use planning and regulation, code enforcement, street and road maintenance, libraries, local parks, and other basic municipal services.

Enriching Lives through Effective and Caring Service

Increasing demands for service in an environment with less local, State, and Federal funding have prompted the County of Los Angeles' managers to develop innovative approaches to do more with less. Consistent with this innovation effort, the County Board of Supervisors adopted a first-ever County of Los Angeles Strategic Plan in 1999 and an updated Plan in December 2002. The Plan identifies specific improvement strategies for program areas, such as public safety, community services, and children and family services, as well as operating strategies to improve fiscal management, increase efficiencies, and enhance the capacity of the County workforce to meet current and future challenges.

This ***County Progress Report***, the first of its kind for Los Angeles County, presents a comprehensive picture of the results the County is achieving. Closely aligned with this effort is the County's *Performance Counts!* program which is designed to provide program level measurement of the results the County achieves and the process to achieve those results. This information was included for the first time in the 2004-2005 Proposed Budget.

Many reports are available in Los Angeles County that provide an in-depth examination of specific program areas or issues such as the Children and Families Budget, Children's Report Card, Infrastructure Report Card, Annual Health Survey, and many others. This Report provides the first composite picture of regional conditions and the County's efforts to improve or mitigate the effects of these conditions.

The Report is organized according to the County Strategic Plan's four programmatic goal areas—Children and Families' Well-Being, Community Services, Health and Mental Health, and Public Safety. Each section includes:

- Regional indicators of the condition within Los Angeles County; and
- Specific measures which relate to services provided or funded by the County of Los Angeles which seek to impact the identified conditions.

The combined set of measures highlight emerging conditions that may warrant future investments as well as successes that the County of Los Angeles has achieved as a result of specific services provided. Given that this is our first effort to provide a comprehensive report summarizing overall County conditions and results, not all critical indicators may be included. Through community feedback and discussion, this Report will be updated and improved over time. The information provided is intended to promote awareness of how the County is performing in a number of areas. In some areas, the County is performing well; in others, the need for improvement is indicated. The input that is generated from this review will also be critical as the County reviews and updates its Strategic Plan.

Thank you for your interest in the County of Los Angeles' inaugural publication of the ***County Progress Report***. All readers are encouraged to complete the self-addressed survey card included in the back of this Report.

Executive Summary

Welcome to the County's first Progress Report. The publication of this first County Progress Report represents another cornerstone in an ongoing effort to develop a collaborative, responsive County government dedicated to "enriching lives" for the diverse clients it serves—the residents, businesses, and communities of Los Angeles County.

The composite picture of the numerous indicators presented in this Report provides windows into understanding the complexity of providing a broad range of services to an ethnically, economically, and culturally diverse population. Individually, the indicators provide data to strengthen the ongoing discussion of specific policy actions and trends. Collectively, themes for broader community discussion in each of the goals areas begin to emerge, as highlighted below. As with similar efforts, there is good news, as well as continued opportunities for improvement. The results show both the success and ongoing challenges as the County of Los Angeles works to achieve positive results for its clients while working within the larger Los Angeles County economic, social, and environmental conditions.

Highlights from the First County Progress Report

Children and Families' Well-Being

Strengths

- Percentage of mothers who receive adequate prenatal care continues to rise overall and across all ethnicities ensuring that more babies are born healthy.
- Immunization rates of children in Los Angeles County exceed both State and national averages.
- 70 percent of youth participating in the Workforce Investment Act Youth Program were employed or in school nine months after completing the program which exceeds the State standard and continues a positive trend over the past three years. Employment/enrollment rates for emancipated youth continue to be less than the national average for their age group, but are improving.

Opportunities

- According to the U.S. Census 2000, 14.4 percent of families continue to live below the poverty level which links to the continuing increase in the monthly average number of persons receiving public assistance since 2000-2001.
- The number of reported child abuse and the percentage of cases that are substantiated continue to rise. Additionally, Los Angeles County's rate of re-abuse of children within six months of the first abuse is 9.4 percent as compared with the national standard of 6.1 percent.
- Los Angeles County rate of timely reunification of children with parents and caregivers within 12 months or less is significantly lower than the national standard and surrounding counties. Similarly, Los Angeles County's rate of adoption finalized within 24 months from the removal from home is significantly

less than the national standard. Children are staying within the County system of care longer, as compared with national standards and other comparable counties.

Community Services

Strengths

- County economic growth in terms of both net increase in jobs and average annual salary is forecast for the first time since March 2001. The UCLA Anderson School forecast for Los Angeles County, prepared in March 2004, predicted increased job growth and continued increased wages. Job growth is projected to increase annually through 2006.
- Since 2000, over 90 percent of roads in unincorporated area have been rated as satisfactory or better as compared with all countywide roads which were rated at 65 percent.
- Attendance at County parks, golf, and recreational facilities continues to have modest increases.
- Los Angeles has the fourth highest number of museums with paid staff of major metropolitan areas in the United States serving the largest per capita number of any metro region.
- Attendance rates are rising at all major arts facilities in Los Angeles County, including the Los Angeles County Museum of Arts. The Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, and free arts programs.

Opportunities

- Arts grants funding by public and private grant makers decreased by 8 percent from 2000 to 2002.
- In Los Angeles County the amount of public funding for nonprofit arts organization was significantly less than the per capita amount of public funding in San Francisco or San Diego.

Health and Mental Health

Strengths

- Rates of smoking continue to decline. Since 1999, there has been an 18 percent decline in adult smoking rates. Additionally, there is high compliance among patrons in bars and restaurants with the California Smoke-Free Workplace Law.

Opportunities

- Health care insurance continues to be a critical local, State and national issue. An estimated 10 percent of the children 0-17 years in Los Angeles County are without health insurance and 26 percent of adults, and 2.0 percent of older adults. The County of Los Angeles continues to be the provider for this population directly through services and through the Medi-Cal program. Overall, enrollment in public health insurance has increased by 41 percent since 1998-1999.

Public Safety

Strengths

- The overall crime rate within Los Angeles County has decreased substantially since a peak in 1997. Within the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department jurisdiction, there has been a 17 percent decrease in violent crimes and a 4 percent decrease in total arrests. The arrest rate for adults and juveniles parallels the overall reduction in crime since 1997.
- Conviction rates for gang murders and attempted murders are up 1 percent and 7 percent, respectively.
- While the number of cases referred for filing felony criminal charges has increased by almost 5 percent, the District Attorney continues to meet the goal of referring and filing cases within five days.
- Approximately 80 percent of probationers consistently complete probation services without being involved in new crimes.
- Average fire response times have decreased or remained stable since 1998.

Opportunities

- There has been an increase in crime rates for the County since 1999, although significantly below the 1997 rates.
- Since 2000, there has been a significant increase in gang crime as reported by the Sheriff's Department. Aggregated assault makes up the largest portion of this increase.

County Progress Report: First Step

It should be acknowledged that the County of Los Angeles, like most jurisdictions within the State of California, is currently facing formidable budget curtailments as the State continues to climb out of record deficits. Severe cutbacks in funding will undoubtedly result in deterioration in some indicators. However, it is these times which most challenge our ability to appropriately prioritize essential services, maximize resources available through collaborative partnerships within and outside of the County organization, and pursue continued improvements in efficiency to achieve our Mission, "to enrich lives through effective and caring service."

Children and Families' Well-Being

The well-being of children and families and the community as a whole, is inextricably intertwined with other community issues and concerns addressed in this Report, and can enhance or detract from the well-being of the community as a whole and its residents. The well-being of children and families is a primary concern of the County of Los Angeles, and many valuable partners work with the County to improve the well-being of children and families within the County.

A U.S. Census 2000 snapshot of households in the County of Los Angeles shows that:

- 68.2 percent of the over 3.1 million households in the County are families.
- The average household size is 2.98 and the average family size is 3.61.
- The median family income is $46,452.

The specific elements of children and family well-being highlighted in the first County Progress Report relate to the five outcome areas adopted by the County Board of Supervisors:

Good Health

- Healthy Babies: Prenatal Care
- Healthy Babies: Low Birth-Weight
- Healthy Young Children: On-Time Immunization of Young Children

Economic Well-Being

- Poverty Rate for Families and Individuals
- Public Assistance Caseload
- Court Orders for Child Support
- Child Support Collections

Safety and Survival

- Child Abuse
- Children Placed in Out-of-Home Care
- Reunification of Children with Parents/Caregivers
- Adoptions
- At-Risk Elders and Dependent Adults

Social and Economic Well-Being

- Children's Day Treatment Mental Health Services
- Quality K-12 Sequential Education for the Arts

Educational and Workforce Readiness

- Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN)
- Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program

Good Heath

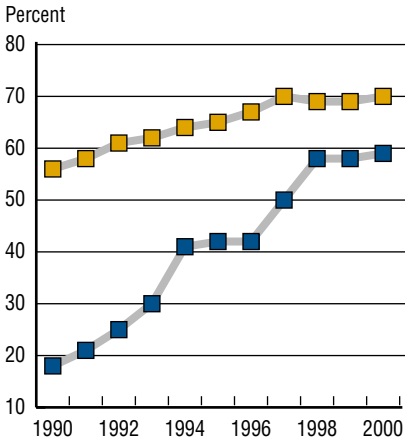
Healthy Babies: Prenatal Care

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Countywide percentage of women who deliver babies and receive enough prenatal care**

73.8% Countywide percentage of women who delivered babies at all hospitals within Los Angeles County and received enough prenatal care in year 2000

36.2% Increase in the number of women countywide receiving enough prenatal care since 1990

Percent of Mothers Who Received Enough Prenatal Care at Hospitals in Los Angeles County*



Percentage of Mothers Who Received Enough Prenatal Care Countywide

Percentage of Mothers Who Received Enough Prenatal Care at Los Angeles County Hospitals

Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services

* As Rated by the Adequacy Prenatal Care Utilization (APNCU) Index

Why is it important?

Prenatal care is important to make sure that babies are born healthy. Pregnant women should see a doctor several times during their pregnancy, starting during the first three months of pregnancy. The doctor checks for problems that might affect the baby, and makes sure the mother is eating the right foods to keep the baby healthy.

The graph to the left shows that the percentage of mothers in the County who received adequate prenatal care is improving.

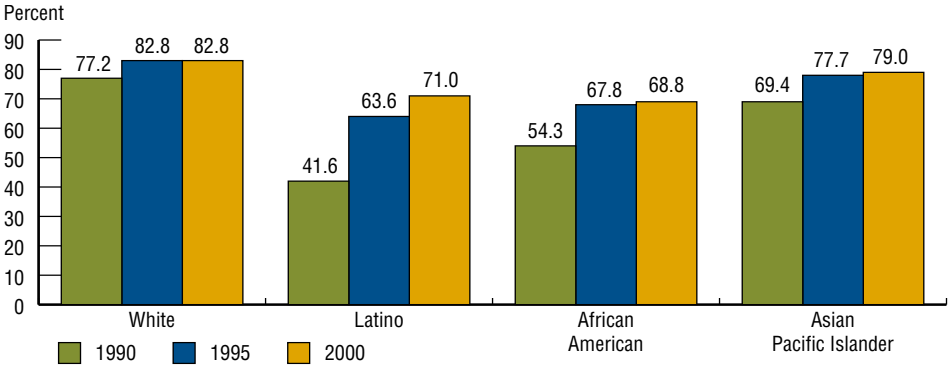
How are we doing?

The rise in mothers receiving adequate prenatal care may be due to the countywide efforts to get women into prenatal care early, as well as having them continue having regular prenatal care visits during their pregnancy. More women were given prenatal care because the County: 1) taught more women about the importance of prenatal care and 2) enrolled more women into Medi-Cal.

Between 1990 and 2000, the number of births in Los Angeles County delivered in County hospitals went down from 20.9 percent to only 3.6 percent. This shows that fewer women are having babies in County hospitals.

Eighty percent of babies born in County hospitals are to Latino mothers. The figure below shows that the percentage of mothers receiving prenatal care is improving for all mothers, be they White, Latino, African American or Asian Pacific Islander.

Percent of Mothers Who Received Adequate Prenatal Care* by Ethnic Origin



Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services

* As Rated by the Adequacy Prenatal Care Utilization (APNCU) Index

Healthy Babies: Low Birth-Weight

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage of babies born in the County of Los Angeles that are low birth-weight**

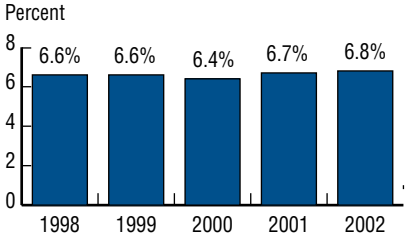
Why is it important?

A baby is low birth-weight if it is born weighing less than five and one-half pounds. Babies born weighing five and one-half pounds to nine pounds are considered normal weight. Low birth weight babies are more likely to have health problems that need more medical care.

How are we doing?

As shown in the figure to the right, Los Angeles County babies' birth weights have pretty much stayed the same from 1998 to 2002.

Percentage of Los Angeles County Babies who are Born with Low Birth-Weight



Source: California Department of Health Services, Birth Records

Healthy Young Children: On-Time Immunization of Young Children

Indictor of Countywide Condition: **Percentage of children who are immunized on time**

65% The percentage of children (19-35 months) who were immunized on time in the United States in 2002

67% The percentage of children (19-35 months) who were immunized on time in California 2002

72% The percentage of children (19-35 months) who were immunized on time in Los Angeles County in 2002

Immunizations are one of the best and low-cost ways to keep people healthy and prevent illnesses that can cause death. Within the last 100 years, the number of children who grew up to be adults has grown by nearly 30 percent. Childhood diseases have gone down by more than 90 percent because of immunizations.

Keeping young children up-to-date on their immunizations is the best way to prevent the spread of vaccine-preventable diseases in childhood and to control vaccine-preventable diseases among adults. The Healthy People 2010[1] Goal is to: 1) have 90 percent of young children immunized for individual vaccines and 2) to immunize 80 percent of young children for the series of four Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis, three Poliovirus, one Measles, Mumps, Rubella, three Haemophilus Influenzae Type b and three Hepatitis B vaccinations.

Source: Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, 2002 National Immunization Survey, Immunization Program. Note: Vaccination coverage levels by vaccine and series among children 19-35 months of age are estimated by the National Immunization Survey.

1 Healthy People 2010 is a statement of health objectives designed to identify the most significant preventable threats to health and to establish goals to reduce these threats over the first decade of the new century. These objectives and goals were developed by leading Federal agencies with the most relevant scientific expertise. For more information, visit: www.healthypeople.gov

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage of children with registered immunization records in the Los Angeles Immunization Network (LINK)**

43,100 Number of children with registered immunization records in LINK as of August 2003

Why is it important?

Immunization registries are computer databases that keep track of all the vaccines a child has had and which ones he/she will need in the future. Immunization registries can be an important part of a national immunization system. Registries help children get immunized on time because they: 1) show which vaccines the child has already had; 2) indicate what shots the child has already had if a child goes to a new doctor or clinic; and 3) show which children are due to have vaccines.

The Healthy People 2010 Goal is to have 95 percent of children who are less than six years old listed in an immunization registry.

How are we doing?

Immunization levels in Los Angeles County, as well as in California and the United States, have been going up since they were first measured using the National Immunization Survey in 1995.

- In 2002, 72 percent of children in Los Angeles County were up-to-date compared to 61 percent in 1995.
- In 2002, Los Angeles County met the Healthy People 2010 Goal for Measles, Mumps and Rubella (91 percent immunized), Hepatitis B (90 percent), and Haemophilus Influenza Type b (90 percent) and nearly met the goal for Polio (88 percent). For four doses of Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis, 84 percent of young children were immunized.

The Los Angeles Immunization Network (LINK) is an Internet-based system used by providers and other approved agencies in Los Angeles County to track the immunizations of their clients. LINK is a partnership between the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, the City of Pasadena Public Health Department and the City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services. Link was started in October of 2002. As of August 2003, LINK was used at 16 clinics in the County and has the vaccinations listed for 43,100.

Economic Well-Being

Poverty Rate for Families and Individuals

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage of families and individuals living below poverty level**

14.4% Percentage of families with income below poverty level

28.5% Percentage of families with a female head of household and no husband present with income below poverty level

17.9% Percentage of individuals with income below the poverty level

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

Why is it important?

Poverty is a factor that impacts a family's ability to remain a stable, intact family unit. As defined by the United States Office of Budget and Management and updated for inflation using the Consumer Price Index, the average poverty threshold for a family of four in 2002 was $18,392 in annual income; $14,348 for a family of three; $11,756 for a family of two; and $9,183 for unrelated individuals.

Data from Census 2000 indicate that poverty is the greatest in households with a female head of household and no husband present. These are the families that are most likely to require public social services and cash assistance.

Public Assistance Caseload Trend

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Trend in the number of persons receiving public assistance**

2,139,519 Monthly average number of persons receiving public assistance in 2002-2003

23% Percentage increase in the monthly average number of persons receiving public assistance since 2000-2001

Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Social Services

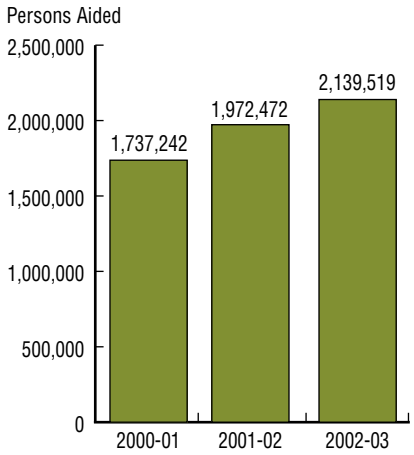
Why is it important?

The number of persons receiving public assistance can serve as a barometer of the general well-being of the residents of the region and their ability to become self-sufficient. Those receiving assistance include families with unemployed heads of household and unemployed individuals, as well as low-income families, aged, blind, and disabled individuals who receive Medi-Cal Only assistance and/or Food Stamps. The largest public assistance caseload is for Medi-Cal health benefits with no cash assistance. The health of the economy also impacts the need for public assistance: when the unemployment rate increases, the need for public assistance also increases.

How are we doing?

In 2002-2003, the County Department of Public Social Services provided public assistance to a monthly average of 2,139,519 persons, an increase of 23 percent since 2000-2001. The County is meeting the needs of those residents who are not able to become self-sufficient.

Monthly Average Number of Persons Aided



Court Orders for Child Support

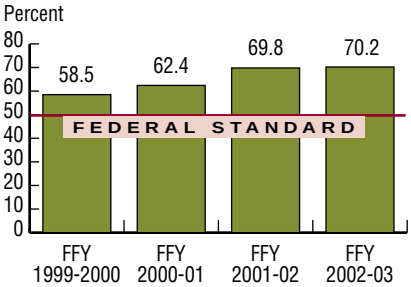
Indicator of County Results: **Percentage of child support cases with a court order for support**

70.2% Percentage of child support cases in County of Los Angeles with court orders for child support in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2002-2003

50% Federal Performance Standard for establishment of court orders for child support payments

20% Percentage increase in court orders for child support between 1999-2000 and 2002-2003

Cases with Court Orders for Child Support (Federal Standard 50%)



Why is this important?

The establishment of a court order is prerequisite to enforcement and collection of child support. Additionally, the State receives Federal incentives based on performance in this category.

How are we doing?

The Federal Performance Standard requires 50 percent of active cases to have court orders for child support. Additionally, the State receives Federal incentives based on performance in this category. As shown in the chart to the left, Los Angeles County exceeds this standard and is making continual improvement.

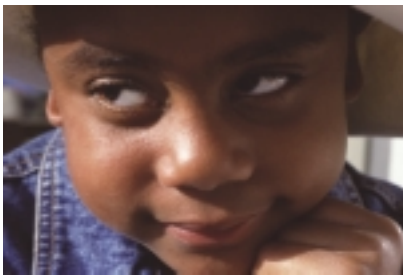
Child Support Collections

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage of child support collected compared to the Federal Standard of 40%**

37.3% Percentage of current court-ordered child support that is collected for children and families

47.1% Percentage of past due court-ordered child support collected for children and families

$489.5 Million Total child support collected in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2002-2003



Why is it important?

Child support contributes to the well-being of children and families. According to the United States Census Bureau's study on Child Support for Custodial Mothers and Fathers published in October 2000, approximately 26 percent of children under the age of 21 resided in single parent households in 1998. In Los Angeles County, an estimated 28.5 percent of families with female head of households lived below poverty level in 1999. The 2003 State of the County Report published by the United Way of Greater Los Angeles found that in 2000, 24.2 percent of persons under the age of 18 lived below the poverty level. Hence, the collection of child support is of paramount importance to the well-being of children and families of Los Angeles County.

In addition to the significance of child support on families, the State receives Federal incentives based on performance in this category.

How are we doing?

Historically, current support collections in Los Angeles County have been low, ranging from 30 to 33 percent of the total amount of support due. The Federal Performance Standard is 40 percent for collection of both currently due and arrears child support. As of September 30, 2003, current support collections reached a record high of 37.3 percent. Further, the Child Support Services Department realized and maintained the 40 percent collection standard during the last quarter of this FFY 2002-2003. The following table provides the current trend in collection results.

Percentage of Child Support Collected and Total Amount of Collections Compared to the Federal Standard

	Federal Standard	Current Collections	Past Due Collections	Total Collections (millions)
FFY 1999-2000	40%	32.1%	46.7%	**$372.3**
FFY 2000-2001	40%	32.1%	46.6%	**$425.3**
FFY 2001-2002	40%	33.3%	42.9%	**$465.3**
FFY 2002-2003	40%	37.3%	47.1%	**$489.5**

Safety and Survival

Child Abuse

Indicator of Countywide Conditions: **Percentage of child abuse/neglect reports in Los Angeles County that are substantiated**

134,558 Number of reports of suspected child abuse/neglect in 2002

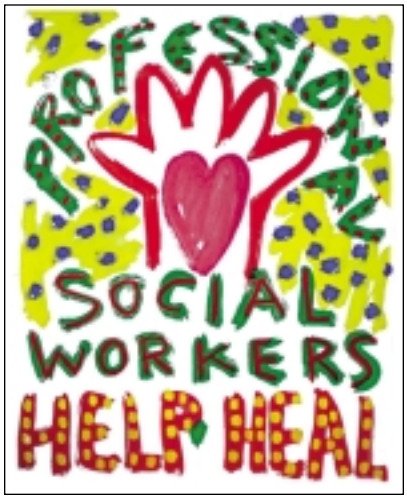
31,608 Number of substantiated reports of child abuse/neglect in 2002

23.1% Percentage of suspected child abuse reports that were substantiated in 2002

9.1% Percentage increase in the number of substantiated child abuse/neglect cases from 2001 to 2002

Allegations of child abuse received by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) are evaluated and reported in the abuse category of highest severity/priority as indicated below:

1) Sexual Abuse; 2) Physical Abuse; 3) Severe Neglect; 4) General Neglect; 5) Exploitation; 6) Emotional Abuse; 7) Caretaker Absence/Incapacity; 8) At Risk, Sibling Abused; 9) Substantial Risk; 10) Missing/Other.



The following table provides data on the reports of child abuse during the past four years. The data indicate that while the number of reports of child abuse has been increasing, the percentage of reports determined to be substantiated has remain fairly constant. While it is always a matter of concern when the number of allegations of suspected child abuse and neglect received are increasing, the more important statistic is the number of sustained allegations. Sustained allegations are those that were determined to be valid following a social worker's investigation.

Number and Percentage of Child Abuse/Neglect Reports that are Substantiated in Los Angeles County

	1999	2000	2001	2002
Reports of Suspected Child Abuse/Neglect	125,052	130,737	127,233	134,558
Child Abuse/Neglect Reports that are Substantiated	28,882	27,844	28,472	31,068
% That Are Substantiated	**23.1%**	**21.3%**	**22.4%**	**23.1%**

Source: Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, retrieved July 1, 2003 from University of California at Berkeley Center for Social Services Research.

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage of children in Los Angeles County who are victims of re-abuse/neglect within six months of first abuse.**

9.4% Percentage of children who are victims of abuse/neglect within six months of first substantiated abuse/neglect in Los Angeles County in 2002-2003

6.1% or less National Standard for another substantiated or indicated report of children abuse/neglect within six months of first incident of substantiated abuse/neglect.

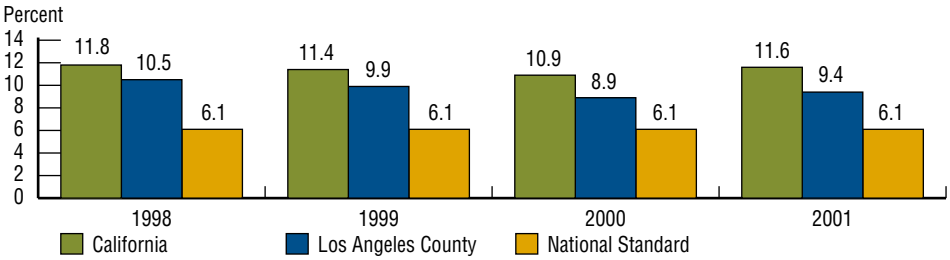
Why is this important?

It is a reasonable expectation of the public that once a child has been brought to the attention of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) that the child will be safe from future abuse. To ensure the commitment of reducing the incidents of abuse and neglect of children is realized, the Department is in the process of implementing a standardized system for assessing the safety and risk factors that could affect the well being of the child. The Department is also pursuing the use of multiple participant decision-making to ensure that assessment results are not the exclusive responsibility of a single individual without the benefit of input from family members or others that have knowledge of the situation.

How are we doing?

The National standard for recurrence of child abuse/neglect within the first six months of the first abuse report date is 6.1 percent or less. As indicated in the following Chart, the County of Los Angeles is not meeting the National Standard. However, the following chart indicates that the County does have a lower re-abuse rate than the statewide average. The most recent data for Los Angeles County indicates a 9.4 percent rate for recurrence of maltreatment within six months compared to a State rate of 11.6 percent.

Recurrence of Child Abuse/Neglect Within Six Months of Initial Abuse/Neglect



Source: University of California at Berkeley Center for Social Services Research Background Paper: "Child and Family Services Reviews National Standards."

Children Placed in Out-of-Home Care

Indicator of Countywide conditions: **Number of at-risk children placed in out-of-home care**

34,284 Number of children placed in out-of–home care in Los Angeles County in 2002.

-8.6% Percentage decrease in the number of out-of-home placements between 2001 and 2002.

Why is this important?

Unstable families and families in financial crisis impacting the well-being and safety of children fall into the County's protective safety net for children. Services may involve the removal of a child from the home and placement in a foster home or the home of another relative pending reunification with the family or placement in an adoptive home.

How are we doing?

As can be seen in the table below, the County has seen a significant decrease in the placement of children in out-of-home care between 1999 and 2002. Although the County has a higher number of children placed in out-of-home care per 1,000 children population for each year compared to the State of California without Los Angeles County, the County had seen a 31.7 percent decrease in placements from 1999 to 2002 compared to the State of California, which had a 3.8 percent decrease over that same period of time. The County's decrease in placements can be attributed to DCFS' recent emphasis in philosophy that out-of-home placement of children removed from their family should not be a permanent status, but rather a temporary, last resort, with the goal of achieving permanency as early as possible through reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship.

Placement of Children in Out-of-Home Care

Los Angeles County	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**% Change 1999 to 2002**
Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care	50,249	44,149	37,510	34,284	**-31.8%**
Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care per 1,000 children population	17.66	16.56	13.9	12.57	**-9.6%**
State of California without Los Angeles County	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**% Change from 1999 to 2002**
Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care	54,439	59,700	58,566	57,142	**-3.9%**
Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care per 1,000 children population	8.82	9.07	8.78	8.46	**-3.6%**

Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services

Reunification of Children with Parents/Caregivers

Indicator of County Results: **Reunification of Children with parents/caregivers 12 months or less from latest removal from home**

33.2% Percentage of children in Los Angeles County who were reunified with parents/caregivers in less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home in 2002-2003

76.2% National Standard for reunifying children with parents/caregivers within 12 months of removal from home

Why is it important?

This indicator is important because the longer children reside in out-of-home care, the less likely that reunification with their families will occur. Although reunification with the family is the goal for every child, it does not replace safety.

How are we doing?

The figure below provides a comparison of the family reunification performance of various southern California counties compared to Los Angeles County. The DCFS' performance in this marker for reunification of children with their families falls behind other California counties. However, with the implementation of initiatives to keep children in their own homes, the children entering our out-of-home care system may have more complex needs, fewer known strengths, and may, in fact, require more services and, for their safety, more caution about returning them home. Also, although the legal mandate calls for reunification services to be provided for 12 months before an alternative permanent plan (adoption) must be pursued, the law does allow reunification services to be extended to 18 months if a family is making progress. Since reunification of children with their families in a safe and stable environment is the preferable outcome, the extension of reunification services to 18 months has become the standard rather than 12 months.

Percentage of Children Reunified in Less than 12 months from Latest Removal from Home

National Standard	All CA Counties without Los Angeles County	**Los Angeles County**	Orange County	Riverside County	San Bernardino County	Ventura County
76.2	72.7	**33.2**	57.2	76.1	64.1	67.8

Adoptions

Indicator of County Results: **Length of time to achieve adoption compared to National standard of finalized adoption in less than 24 months**

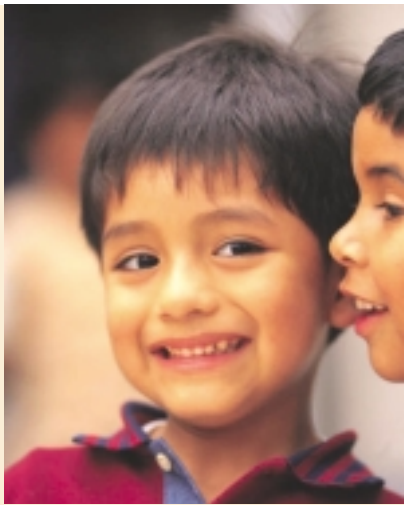
9.4% Percentage of children adopted in Los Angeles County in 2002-2003 who had adoptions finalized within 24 months of the latest removal from home

32.0% National Standard for Finalized Adoptions within 24 month of removal from home

4,628 Number of children placed for adoption in Los Angeles County in 2002-2003

1,901 Number of finalized adoptions in Los Angeles County in 2002-2003

41.1% Percent of finalized adoptions of all children who received adoption services in Los Angeles County in 2002-2003.



Why is this important?

Once a child has been removed from their home and adoption services deemed appropriate, it is in everyone's best interest to finalize the adoption as soon as possible. A finalized adoption provides a greater sense of certainty for the child and their new family. In addition, more finalized adoptions translates into closing of more child welfare dependency cases, which reduces caseloads and allows social workers to better serve the needs of children and families.

How are we doing?

As the chart below indicates, the percentage of adoptions finalized within 24 months from the latest removal from home for Los Angeles County is far below that of neighboring counties, the State, and the national standard. The reluctance of social workers, judges, attorneys, child advocates, etc., to "give up" on family reunification services is the primary reason why it takes the County longer than 24 months from the latest removal from home to finalize an adoption. The DCFS recognizes that major improvements are needed to reduce the time it takes to finalize adoptions. Changes currently in the works to improve adoption rates and time to finalize adoptions include the use of technology to increase each child's exposure to potential adoptive families, and the revamping of organizational structure and process to improve efficiency.

Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 24 months from the Latest Removal from Home *(National Standard is greater than or equal to 32 percent)*

Jurisdiction	10/00-9/01	10/01-9/02	10/02-9/03
All CA Counties without Los Angeles County	26.1%	28.5%	30.3%
Los Angeles County	**4.0%**	**6.4%**	**9.4%**
Orange County	14.8%	12.7%	19.4%
San Bernardino County	20.2%	16.4%	19.4%
Riverside County	39.1%	37.0%	36.8%
Ventura County	24.2%	39.2%	32.8%

Number of Adoption Cases and Finalized Adoptions In the County of Los Angeles

	10/00-9/01	10/01-9/02	10/02-9/03
Total Children Placed for Adoption	9,426	6,536	4,628
Finalized Adoptions	2,906	2,845	1,901
Finalized Adoptions as a Percentage of Total Adoptions Cases	30.8%	43.5%	41.1%

Source: Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, Adoptions Division Integrated System (AIS)

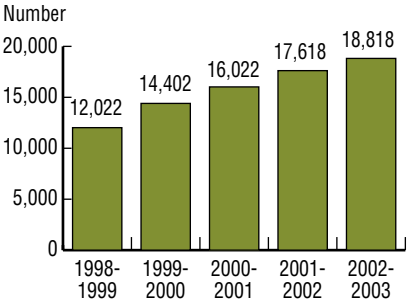
At-Risk Elders and Dependent Adults

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Trend in suspected elder and dependent adult abuse in Los Angeles County**

18,818 Number of reports of suspected elder/dependent adult abuse/neglect in 2002-2003.

56.5% Percentage increase in reports of suspected elder and dependent adult abuse from 1998-1999 through 2002-2003

Referrals for Suspected Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse to Centralized Intake Unit



Elder and dependent adults are potentially at risk of abuse or neglect because they may not be physically and/or mentally able to protect/take care of themselves or their interests. For 2002-2003, the Los Angeles County Department of Community and Senior Services (CSS) received 23,355 reports of suspected abuse and/or neglect by others or self neglect. Of these, 18,818 were received by the Adult Protective Services (APS) Centralized Intake Unit (CIU) and 4,537 were walk-ins to the APS Civic Center Homeless Project Unit. Data on the walk-ins is limited because of the nature of the population and is not included in the chart to the left. As shown, the number of reports of suspected abuse/neglect has grown each year since 1998-1999, representing a 56.5 percent increase through 2002-2003.

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage of elder and dependent adults receiving services whose risk level is reduced based on Community and Senior Services' independent ranking.**

9.5% - 11.8% Percentage by which elder/dependent adult self-neglect was reduced during the report period April 2003 through July 2003

Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Community and Senior Services. CSS began gathering results data in 2003-04 and full year data is not yet available.

Why is this important?

The number of U.S. elders is expected to double from 35.3 million in 2000 (13 percent of the population) to 70 million in the year 2030 (21.2 percent of the population). The likelihood of persons having some form of disability and/or chronic disease increases with age, and life expectancy continues to rise significantly. There will be twice as many elders, living longer than ever before,

with disabilities and/or chronic diseases. There will be twice the number of potential victims of abuse, exploitation, neglect and self-neglect, therefore, twice the number of elders needing protection. The CSS APS Program is the most cost-effective and humane way to deal with this problem by lowering risk levels and providing preventive measures whenever and wherever possible. Other alternatives, such as institutionalization, are far more costly both in dollars and in human dignity.

How are we doing?

In 2002-2003, CSS provided some level of service to 23,355 clients although data on the results of client services is only gathered for those 18,818 clients for which referrals were received by the CIU. The other 4,537 clients walk-in for services at a skid row project center which does not have a tracking system.

CSS works with clients to identify and, to the extent possible, reduce risks by defining service goals and jointly developing plans with the elder/dependent adult to address individual needs. Service goals may be developed to address the following: 1) elimination/reduction of risk/danger due to abuse by another; 2) adequate medical/psychiatric care; 3) ability to accomplish Activities of Daily Living[2] and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living;[3] 4) adequate nutrition; 5) adequate/stable income; 6) adequate/stable housing; and 7) reduction of self-imposed isolation. Future service results will be measured and reported for two variables: 1) the degree to which service goals were achieved and, 2) the percentage by which the clients' level of risk were reduced.

Social and Emotional Well Being

Children's Mental Health Services

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Children and youth in need of mental health services.**

288,000 Estimated number of children and youth that are in need of mental health services.

Indicator of County Results: **Percent change in number of children and youth provided with mental health services.**

119% Increase of children and youth provided mental health services from 1998-1999 to 2002-2003.

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) provides mental health services to children and adults with psychological emotional and other mental health disturbances, with the goal of assisting individuals to effectively function in school, work, and community settings. Three general types of services are provided: outpatient, day treatment, and 24-hour.

2 Activities of Daily Living (e.g., feeding, bathing, toileting,etc.)

3 Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (e.g. grocery shopping, laundry, housecleaning, etc.)

Outpatient mental health settings provide a range of services to assist children and youth to gain the social and functional skills necessary for appropriate development and social integration. These services include: clinical assessment and evaluation, therapy, medication support, rehabilitation for common daily functioning, and plan development to coordinate other effective services that will help to sustain mental health. These services are provided through community mental health centers and clinics, in schools, in the community, and in homes. Outpatient mental health services are the least restrictive, allowing children and youth to continue to function and interact freely within their communities.

Day treatment services are designed to provide an organized and structured multi-disciplinary mental health treatment program as an alternative to hospitalization, to avoid placement in a more restrictive setting, or to maintain a child in a community setting. Services are provided within either a half- or full-day program of supervised and structured mental health treatment, with the goal of helping children and youth successfully perform basic daily activities.

Through the DMH, children and youth also receive 24-hour mental health services in situations where the individual is of grave danger to herself, himself, or others, or is unable to function without close supervision due to a psychiatric condition. 24-hour services include hospitalization and psychiatric residential placements and are the most restrictive of services provided through the DMH. Hospitalization time ranges from 24-hours to two weeks; psychiatric residential placements generally last longer, until the child or youth demonstrates the ability to function in a less restrictive setting.

Why is this important?

The 2002 President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health reports:

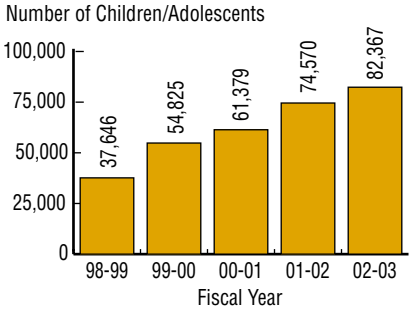
> Mental illnesses rank first among illnesses that cause disability in the United States, Canada, and Western Europe. This serious public health challenge is under-recognized as a public health burden. In addition, one of the most distressing and preventable consequences of undiagnosed, untreated, or under-treated mental illnesses is suicide. The World Health Organization (WHO) recently reported that suicide worldwide causes more deaths every year than homicide or war.

A previous 1999 Surgeon General's report on mental health and children states, "mental health in childhood and adolescence is defined by the achievement of expected developmental cognitive, social and emotional milestones, and by secure attachments, satisfying social relationships, and effective coping skills." This report goes on to state that mental disorders disrupt healthy childhood development, creating significant functional problems for children and youth that often follow them into adulthood.

How are we doing?

Estimates completed by the California State Department of Mental Health indicate that 7-5 percent of children and adolescents experience severe emotional disturbance and are in need of mental health services. The 2002 President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health estimates that number to be 9 percent of children and adolescents. Over the past five years, the average number of children and youth under the age of 22 in Los Angeles County has been 3.2 million (U.S. Census Bureau). By estimating that 9 percent of these children and youth are in need of mental health services, as many as 288,000 residents in this age category are in need of the services that the DMH provides. The graph to the right demonstrates the progress that DMH has made in meeting this need.

Mental Health Services to Children and Youth 1998-1999 through 2002-2003

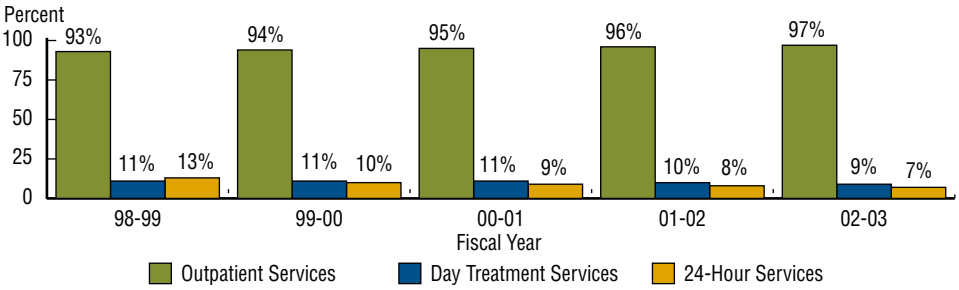


Source: Source: Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

Between 1998 and 2003, mental health services to children and youth increased by 119 percent, demonstrating that the DMH is committed to improving access to services for this population. During FY 2002-2003, 29 percent of the estimated total need for service was being met, which was up from an estimated 13 percent during FY 1998-1999.

While no estimated needs data exist for day treatment and 24-hour services, the following graph demonstrates that of the total number of children and youth provided mental health services, the number served in these more intensive treatment settings has remained relatively consistent over the past five years.

Mental Health Service Types 1998-1999 through 2002-2003



Source: Source: Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

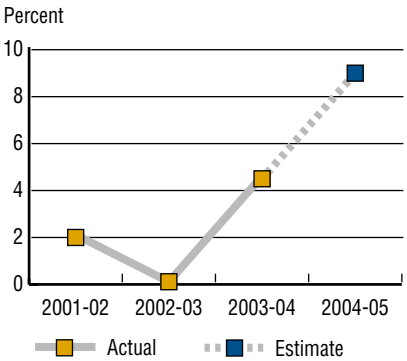
During FY 1998-1999, the number of children and youth receiving 24-hour services was slightly higher than those receiving day treatment services. This number has since decreased due to both limited bed availability and an increase in alternative, less intensive mental health services. Also note that while not all consumers receive outpatient mental health service, the amount of outpatient services in relationship to other types of service has steadily increased over the past five years.

Quality K-12 Sequential Education in the Arts

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage of students who receive a quality, sequential K-12 education in the arts—dance, music, theatre, and the visual arts**

0% of students in Los Angeles County attended school districts that met the five critical success factors for quality K-12 arts education in 2002-2003.

Percent of Total Student Population Who Attended a School District That Met Critical Success Factors



The 30 diverse leadership partners implementing Arts for All: Los Angeles County Regional Blueprint for Arts Education, the ten-year arts education plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors, have identified five critical success factors for a quality K-12 arts education. According to self reported school district data, in 2001-02 only 2 percent of all students attended school districts meeting all five critical success factors. This percentage dropped to zero in 2002-2003, a decline that is consistent with what happens when there is no infrastructure to support arts education at the school district level. For 2003-2004, the percentage is increasing to 4.5 percent.

Why is it important?

Providing students with an education in dance, music, theatre, and the visual arts has been proven to strengthen a child's academic growth and development as an individual and ensures a creative and competitive workforce to meet the economic opportunities of the present and the future. The five critical success factors for a quality arts education—an adopted arts education policy, plan, arts coordinator, arts budget of at least 5 percent, and a 1:400 ratio of arts teachers to students—demonstrate a district's commitment to arts education and create the necessary infrastructure to sustain arts education.

How are we doing?

According to self-reported school district data, the percentage of districts meeting the critical success factors for arts education decreased over the past three years, resulting in a decreased percentage of students receiving a quality, sequential arts education. Of note is the 14 percent decrease in the number of districts employing arts coordinators to oversee and ensure the implementation of the arts curricula in all schools.

School Districts Meeting Each of the Critical Success Factors for Sequential K-12 Arts Education

	2000	2003	% Change
Policy	47%	29%	**-18%**
Plan	52%	40%	**-12%**
Coordinator	33%	19%	**-14%**
Budget of 5%	16%	*	**—**
Ratio of 400:1 Students to Arts Teachers	16%	12%	**-4%**

* 2003 budget data is unavailable.

Education and Workforce Readiness

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage of young adults (18-24) in Los Angeles County who are in school or employed**

78.9% Percentage of young adults (18-24) who were in school or employed in 2002-2003.

The County Department of Health Services 2002-2003 Health Survey indicates that 78.9 percent of young adults are in school or employed. This means that 21 percent of this age group within the County may have difficulty becoming productive members of the community without some intervention.

Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN)

Indicator of County Results: **Average percentage of the Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) Program caseload obtaining jobs and the monthly average number of participants receiving services:**

7.3% Percentage of GAIN caseload placed in a job in 2002-2003.

5,247 Monthly average of participants who received supportive services in 2002-2003.

11,233 Monthly average of participants who engaged in education and training in FY 2002-2003.

The County of Los Angeles' Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) both reacts to adverse economic and employment conditions and proactively works to assist the participants it serves, obtain self-sufficiency through various employment and training programs. The GAIN Program provides employment and training opportunities to CalWORKs participants. CalWORKs is the cash public assistance program for children and families.

Why is this important?

CalWORKs assistance is time-limited and recipients must prepare themselves for gainful employment. GAIN provides CalWORKs participants with training, educational, employment, post-employment, and supportive services to develop skills and self-confidence needed to secure jobs, remove barriers to employment, and assist families to become economically self-sufficient. GAIN takes a "work first" approach, making employment the principal goal for every able-bodied adult recipient.

How are we doing?

The following table provides the monthly average number of job placements compared to the average GAIN caseload in FY 2002-2003. The most recent performance indicates that 7.3 percent of the GAIN caseload was placed in a job in 2002-2003 which is an average of 3,466 participants each month.

Monthly Average of GAIN Participants' Job Placements • FY 2002-2003

Average Monthly GAIN Caseload	Average Monthly Job Placements	Average Monthly Percent of Caseload Placed In a Job
47,474	3,466	7.3%

Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Social Services

DPSS also provides education, training, and supportive services in the form of domestic violence, mental health, and substance abuse services. The following tables provide a comparison for FY 2001-2002 and FY 2002-2003 of the number of participants receiving these services. The number of participants receiving supportive services increased by 17.3 percent from FY 2001-2002 to FY 2002-2003. The number of adults engaged in education and training decreased 4.2 percent. This decrease is primarily due to the 14.7 percent decline in the number of GAIN participants from FY 2001-2002 to 2002-2003. In light of this caseload decline, a larger percent of GAIN participants are receiving supportive services, and are enrolled in education and training during FY 2002-2003 compared to the previous fiscal year.

Comparison of GAIN Participation between 2001-2002 and 2002-2003

	2001-2002	2002-2003	Percent Change
Average Monthly Number of Participants Who Received Supportive Services	4,473	05,247	17.30%
Average Monthly Number of Adult Participants Engaged in Education and Training	11,722	11,233	-4.20%

Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Social Services

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program

Indictor of County Results: **Percentage of youth exiting the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program who are employed, in military, or enrolled in post secondary education nine months after leaving the program**

70% Percentage of youth completing the WIA Youth Program that achieved Program goals and remained in a positive outcome nine months after leaving the Program in 2002-2003

5,000 Number of youth participating in the WIA Youth Program in 2002-2003

The WIA Youth Program includes a program that serves low-income youth in an effort to motivate them to stay in school and/or increase their job training skills and assist them in obtaining and maintaining work.

Why is it important?

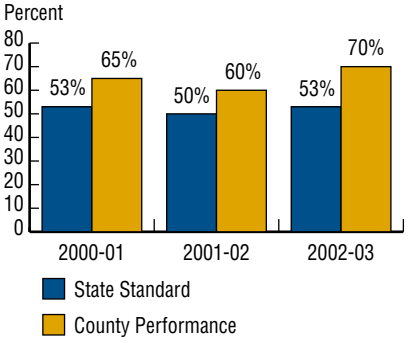
Economically disadvantaged and/or unemployed youth between the ages of 14-21 years are more likely to succeed in becoming self-sufficient if they receive support and assistance to complete school or training. This indicator assesses the status of youth who participated in the WIA Youth Program who do not return to secondary education, but receive a diploma, entered post-secondary education, advanced training, military service, or employment nine months after exiting the program.

How are we doing?

For 2002-2003, the WIA Youth Program provided services to over 5,000 low-income youth between the ages of 14-21 and had a 70 percent retention rate. This rate exceeded the State standard of 53 percent. In the first year of the Program, 65 percent of the youth who exited and did not return to secondary education either earned a diploma, entered post-secondary education, received or were receiving job training, joined the military, or obtained emplyment. This data is gathered nine months after the participants leave the Program. The high rate of success is due to the fact that these youth are retained in the Program and are provided with access to an array of services including tutoring, counseling, mentoring, leadership, alternative education, summer youth employment, internships, and support services. Youth do not exit from the Program until all planned services are obtained.

In the three years that the Program has been in operation, only in the second year (FY 2001-2002) was there a decline in the performance outcomes. This was expected because, in the first year, the youth who exited were carried-over from the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Program, the previous major Department of Labor-funded employment and training program. The JTPA Program was not available in FY 2001-2002 and FY 2002-2003.

Percentage of WIA Youth Retained in a Positive Outcome 9 Months After Completing the Program



Community Services

Los Angeles County provides services and programs that add to the quality of life for all County residents from cultural and recreational opportunities to economic development and environmental protection.

In addition, the Board of Supervisors serves as the governing body for approximately 1,023,700 persons who live in unincorporated County areas. The County operates as the "city" government for these areas providing municipal services to residents and businesses. Various County departments also provide municipal services, under contract, for many of the 88 cities within the County and their 8,778,900 residents. The services the County provides benefit and enrich the lives of all County residents, businesses, and communities through cultural and recreational opportunities as well as economic stimulus and environmental protection activities.

This section focuses specifically on County services, indicators, and measures related to:

Supporting a Healthy Economy

- Job Creation and Retention
- Quality of Infrastructure – County Roadway Pavement Condition
- Traffic Mobility – Congestion at Intersections
- Traffic Mobility – Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS)

Supporting a Healthy Environment

- Solid Waste Management
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Recycling
- Beach Water Quality
- Pest Detection to Manage Infestations

Supporting Recreational and Cultural Opportunities

- Circulation of Library Materials
- Internet Usage at County Public Libraries
- Parks and Golf Courses
- Arts and Culture
- Los Angeles County Arts Commission
- The Music Center/Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History

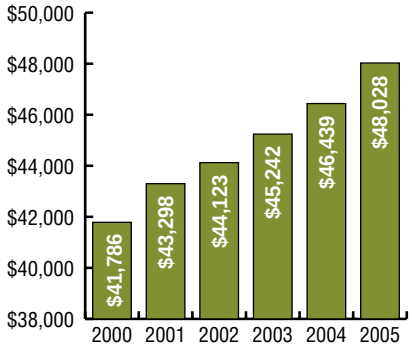
Supporting a Healthy Economy

Job Creation and Retention

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Job growth, and growth in average annual salary**

6.2% The projected annual salary growth from 2003 to 2005

Predicted Increase in Average Annual Salary



Source: UCLA Anderson School, March 2004 Forecast

The UCLA Anderson School forecast for Los Angeles County, prepared in March 2004 is optimistic. Payroll employment has recently increased for the first time since March 2001 and is expected to continue with the addition of 50,000 jobs in 2004, 59,000 jobs in 2005, and close to 97,000 jobs in 2006.

The forecast additionally shows a continuing increase in wages with an average annual salary of $46,439 in 2004, increasing to over $48,028 in 2005, a 3.5 percent increase.

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage change in the number of direct jobs created or retained by Los Angeles County's Community Development Commission projects (redevelopment, revitalization, enterprise zones, lending programs)**

1,504 Number of jobs created or retained in Los Angeles County during 2001-2002 to 2002-2003

45.7% Increase in jobs created or retained in Los Angeles County between 2001-2002 and 2002-2003

The Los Angeles County Community Development Commission (CDC) helps create and retain jobs in Los Angeles County. Through the expenditure of Federal, State, and local economic development funds, CDC assists in retaining existing businesses and attracting new businesses which retain or create new jobs for County residents.

The CDC administers commercial and industrial lending programs, business incubator programs, and an enterprise zone program. These programs help to increase both the number of jobs created and jobs retained in Los Angeles County. Job creation means the establishment of a new employment position. Job retention means the preservation of an employment position that would have been lost if it was not for an intervention in the form of financial assistance, technical assistance, or incentive.

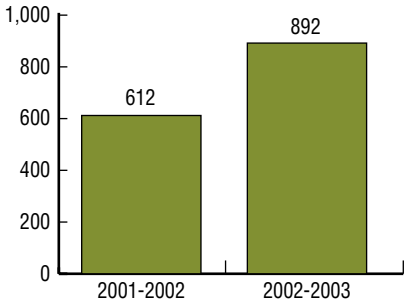
Why is this important?

A healthy economy is impacted by the job market and employment opportunities. Business creation, expansion, attraction, and retention lead to more and better paying jobs for County residents, increased income for households, and strengthened neighborhoods.

How are we doing?

In the last two years, the CDC has helped to create or retain 1,504 jobs, accomplishing a 45.75 percent increase in 2002-2003. The number of jobs created and retained is dependent on local economic conditions.

Jobs CDC has Created or Retained in Los Angeles County



Quality of Infrastructure — County Roadway Pavement Condition

Good roads are important to the economic well-being of the Los Angeles County region and a direct concern to residents and businesses. We also know that good roads create confidence in our government and economy. Roads can be rated for the quality of pavement surface conditions as well as the mobility of traffic.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Roadway pavement surface condition countywide**

65% of the roads countywide were rated satisfactory or better for pavement condition in a 2001 survey

Indicator of County Results: **Roadway pavement surface condition in unincorporated County areas**

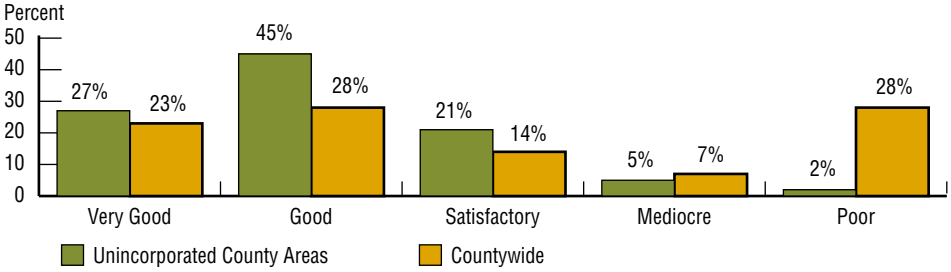
93% of the roads in the unincorporated County areas were rated satisfactory or better for pavement condition in a 2001 survey

Why is it important?

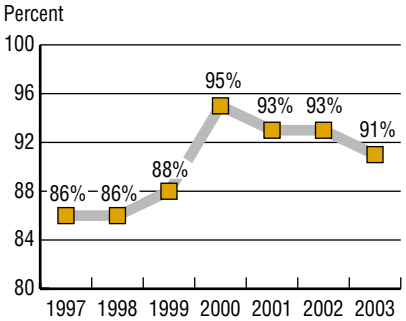
Well-maintained roads provide a comfortable ride, improve overall public safety, and reduce vehicle maintenance costs.

The quality of the countywide road system is the responsibility of multiple government agencies. The following chart provides a comparison of the pavement condition of countywide (Los Angeles Basin) road system with the roads in unincorporated County areas, which are maintained by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW).

Rating of the Condition of County Road System • 2001



Trend in the Percentage of Roads in Unincorporated County Areas Rated as Satisfactory or Better



Source: Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

How are we doing?

DPW reviews the condition of roads in unincorporated County areas every year. As shown in the chart above left entitled, "Trend in the Percentage of Roads in Unincorporated County Areas Rated as Satisfactory or Better," pavement conditions generally improved between 1997 and 2003. It is expected that the next pavement rating cycle will show a lower pavement condition rating both in the unincorporated areas and countywide. This is due to the recent State cuts in transportation funding to cities and counties.

Traffic Mobility — Congestion at Intersections

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Traffic congestion at major street intersections throughout the County**

42% Percentage of monitored intersections countywide that were rated as severely congested during the A.M. peak hour in 2003

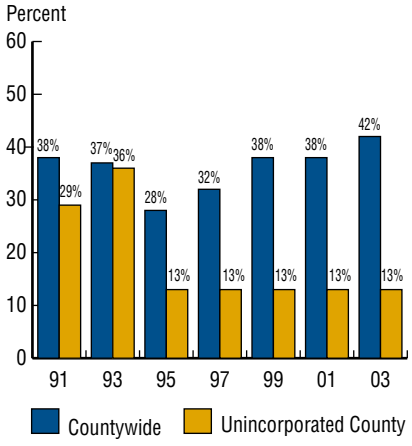
52% Percentage of monitored intersections countywide that were rated as severely congested during the P.M. peak hour in 2003

Indicator of County Results: **Traffic congestion at major street intersections in unincorporated County areas**

13% Percentage of monitored intersections in unincorporated County areas that were rated as severely congested during the A.M. peak hour in 2003

38% Percentage of monitored intersections in unincorporated County areas that were rated as severely congested during the P.M. peak hour in 2003

Percent of Major Street Intersections Congested (LOS of E or F) in the AM Peak Hour



Why is it important?

The amount of traffic that can travel along our major streets is largely controlled by the amount of congestion at intersections. If intersections are less congested, traffic can move more freely on these streets during peak hours.

The measure of congestion for major street intersections is known as the Level of Service (LOS). A letter grade of "A" to "F" is assigned to represent the severity of the congestion. At an intersection with LOS of "E" or "F", the most congested, motorists would likely need to wait in a long line of traffic or through several green-yellow-red cycles of a traffic signal. These delays result in lost time for the traveling public, longer commutes, and increased fuel usage and air pollution.

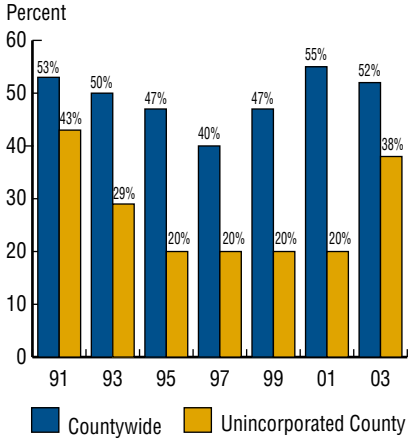
How are we doing?

Based on 164 monitored intersections selected throughout the County to represent the level of intersection congestion, the percentage of severely congested intersections is becoming higher every year. This is because traffic is increasing without a corresponding increase in the capacity of these intersections.

Of the 164 monitored intersections, 15 are located within unincorporated communities. In 2003, it was found that two of these intersections are becoming more congested. Both are located in the Palmdale area, in an area of rapid development. As a result, the overall percentage ratio of congested intersections in unincorporated areas increased significantly during this period. A comparison of congestion at major street intersections in unincorporated County areas with the countywide condition is shown on the previous page and to the right.

Increasing the capacity of intersections would require the construction of additional traffic lanes. This is very difficult due to the lack of available funding and the lack of land adjacent to roadways to build additional traffic lanes.

Percent of Major Street Intersections Congested (LOS of E or F) in the PM Peak Hour



Traffic Mobility — Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS)

The DPW has joined forces with various cities and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to create a countywide master plan to implement an ATMS for major streets. This system includes traffic signal synchronization and other new technologies to improve the flow of traffic.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Implementation of an ATMS on major streets**

53% Percentage of major streets countywide that have had ATMS technology installed

Why is it important?

As previously noted, the ability to construct additional traffic lanes is severely limited. Therefore, it is important that traffic signals along major streets are systematically synchronized. This reduces the need for drivers to stop repeatedly at successive traffic signals along these routes.

How are we doing?

Work on the remaining 47 percent of the major street network that will be equipped with ATMS technology is scheduled to be completed by June 2006.

A new County Traffic Management Center located in Alhambra was opened on July 21, 2004. This Center will enable engineers to remotely monitor the efficiency of the major street network and adjust traffic signal timing to improve traffic flow. The Intelligent Transportation Systems that we are deploying as part of the ATMS will also assist us in sharing traffic data between public agencies or with the private sector. Once the data has been disseminated, it can be formatted into traveler information that will assist motorists in planning their trips.

Supporting a Healthy Environment

Solid Waste Management

The control of activities related to solid waste collection, recycling, and disposal is aimed at preventing pollution and contamination of our environment and conserving our natural resources. The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, as amended, mandated a goal of 50 percent diversion rate of waste from landfill disposal by the year 2000.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Diversion of waste from landfill disposal**

42% Countywide diversion rate of waste from landfill disposal in 2000

The California Integrated Waste Management Board reports in its Jurisdiction Diversion and Disposal Profile that the County of Los Angeles achieved a Countywide diversion rate of 42 percent for the year 2000, compared to 20 percent in 1995. Although we are making good progress, we still need to improve our diversion rate to meet the 50 percent diversion rate goal. The unincorporated communities and the 88 cities in the County are united in their efforts to expand recycling and reduce trash generation to meet this goal.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Trend in solid waste disposal at solid waste landfills**

1.1 Million Ton Reduction in the annual rate of solid waste disposed at landfills since 1999

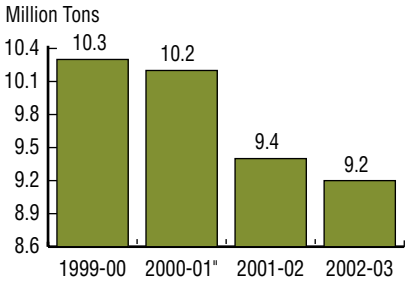
Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Remaining permitted landfill capacity in Los Angeles County**

5 Million Tons Net reduction in available landfill capacity in Los Angeles County since 1999

As a result of diversion efforts, the disposal rate at landfills within the County has shown a slow, but gradual reduction over the last four years. However, due to the limited availability of sites suitable for landfill development, the permitted disposal capacity of landfills within the County has continued to drop from 86 million tons as of July 1, 1999, to approximately 81 million tons as of July 1, 2003. The charts on the next page provide the status of all solid waste landfills within the County.

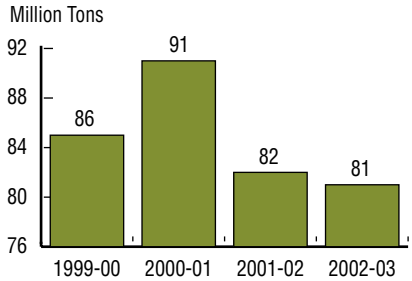
The remaining landfill capacity and the rate of depletion of that capacity give an indication of the ability of jurisdictions in the County to meet the solid waste disposal needs of their residents and businesses, thereby protecting public health and safety and the environment. The DPW monitors landfill capacity and disposal rates to ensure that disposal services are available to residents and businesses in the County without interruption.

Total Solid Waste Disposed at Landfills in Los Angeles County

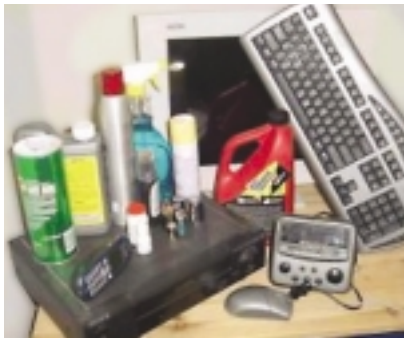


Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. Landfill refers to a disposal facility receiving decomposable solid waste but not hazardous waste

Remaining Permitted Landfill Capacity in Los Angeles County



Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. Landfill refers to a disposal facility receiving decomposable solid waste but not hazardous waste



Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Recycling

Indicator of County Results: **Trend in diversion of household hazardous waste (HHW) landfills to recycling**

21% Increase in volume of HHW diverted from landfills since 1999-2000

15% Increase in HHW collection program participants since 1999-2000

Why is it important?

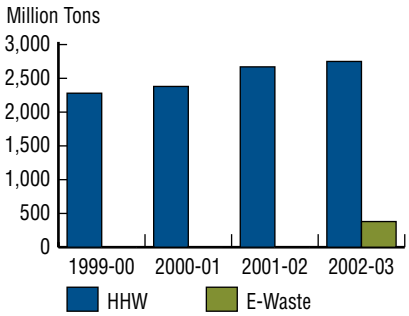
Preventing disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW) and electronic waste (E-Waste) at landfills protects public health and the environment and conserves natural resources through recycling of these materials. A typical home can contain a vast array of household hazardous products used for cleaning, painting, beautifying, lubricating and disinfecting the house, yard, workshop and garage. Examples of HHW include lawn/garden products, latex/water based paints, used motor oil and filters, alcohol-based lotions, ammonia-based cleaners, mercury batteries, etc. The term E-Waste is applied to consumer electronic equipment that is no longer wanted. Examples of E-Waste include computers, printers, televisions, VCRs, cell phones, fax machines, stereos, and electronic games.

How are we doing?

The DPW operates the largest HHW collection program in the nation. Through a contract with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, DPW conducts periodic collection events throughout the County which provide residents with a convenient means to dispose of their HHW and prevent those materials from reaching our landfills. Public participation in these events has shown increases in the last three years and exceeded 58,000 residents in 2002-2003. The total volume of HHW collected at these events has also increased over the last three years from approximately 2,280 tons in 1999-00 to approximately 2,750 tons in 2002-2003.

The program was expanded in 2002-2003 to include the collection of E-Waste. During the first year of the expanded program, approximately 380 tons of E-Waste were collected. Almost all collections of HHW and E-Waste materials are recycled—95 percent of HHW and 100 percent of E-Waste are recycled.

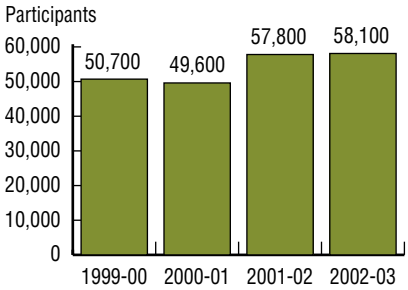
Total HHW and E-Waste* Diverted from Landfills in The County of Los Angeles



Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works.

* Note: 2002-2003 was first year E-Waste was diverted from landfills.

Number of Participants in HHW Collection Events



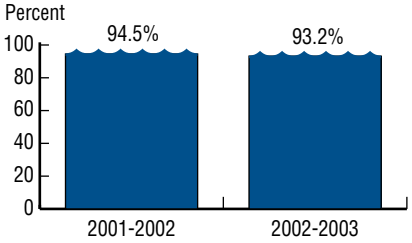
Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works.

Beach Water Quality

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage of days per year the beaches in Los Angeles County meet State water quality safety standards**

93.2% Percentage of available beach days in 2002-2003 that beach water quality met State water quality standards

Percentage of Days Beaches Meet State Water Quality Safety Standards



Source: County of Los Angeles, Department of Health Services, Environmental Health

The key indicator of whether Los Angeles County beaches are safe for public recreation is the percentage of available beach days[4] each year that the beaches meet State water quality safety standards.

This indicator is calculated comparing the total number of available beach days for each of the County's 58 beach monitoring sites to the total number of days each of the County's beach sites did not meet State water quality standards.

Using this indicator, conditions for the past two years show that beaches were safe for public use over 93 percent of the available beach days.

Indicator of County Results: **Surveillance and notice to the public when beach water quality is unsafe for recreational use**

www.lapublichealth.org/beach The website for obtaining beach water quality ratings and notice of closings

Why is it important?

The surveillance of water quality in natural bathing areas such as lakes, rivers, streams, and oceans is essential to protect the public from water-borne illness, injury, and possible death resulting from contaminated water. Activities to regulate the use of recreational waters based on water quality helps protect the public from infectious organisms, detrimental chemicals, physical hazards, and solid, liquid and hazardous waste.

How are we doing?

The County Department of Health Services (DHS) shares responsibility for monitoring water quality at 58 beach sites with the Los Angeles City Bureau of Sanitation and the Los Angeles County Sanitation District. When necessary, they act to protect the public health by posting warning signs when water quality does not meet State standards, or by closing beach areas.

DHS generates a letter grade for each beach area based on the prior 30 days of testing. The grades are available on the DHS Environmental Health's Internet Website at www.lapublichealth.org/beach.

4 Available beach days excludes days when rain equals 1/10" because rain, even at 1/10", causes urban runoff that is carried to ocean waters, increasing contamination. Health advisory notices are always issued after a rain. In 2002-2003 there were 38 "rain days."

Pest Detection to Manage Infestations

Unmanaged infestations of exotic pests could threaten produce production and sales within and outside the County if not effectively controlled.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Square miles placed under quarantine to prevent the establishment of exotic fruit flies**

134 out of Los Angeles' County's 4081 square miles placed under quarantine in 2002-2003.

This measure provides an indication of the magnitude of infestations that could cause severe economic damage to the agriculture industry and the quality of produce grown in the County. Quarantines in Los Angeles County are triggered by the County Agricultural Commissioner primarily when multiple, predetermined numbers of a single species of fruit fly is in a breeding population.

Detection and Management of Fruit Fly Infestations

Detection of Exotic Fruit Flies	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Fruit Flies Trapped	34	20	41
No. of Infestations	6	4	5
No. of Quarantines	0	1	3
No. of Miles Quarantined	0	53	134
Percentage of infestations managed preventing establishment of the pest within the County	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage of exotic invasive fruit fly infestations managed to prevent the establishment of the pest within the County of Los Angeles**

100% Number of fruit fly infestations that were managed to prevent establishment of the pest within the County in 2002-2003

The mission of Pest Detection within the Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures Department is the prompt detection and reaction to each exotic invasive fruit fly found within the County to prevent its establishment. This indicator tracks the capture of such pests as the Oriental Fruit Fly, and Mexican Fruit Fly, through a countywide fruit fly detection trapping network and the percentage of infestations that result in the establishment of the pest within the County.

Why is it important?

If exotic invasive pests, such as fruit flies, were allowed to become established, it would threaten the ability of County residents to grow maggot-free fruits, reduce yield of their production, increase the use of pesticides, and most importantly, prevent California farmers from selling to customers throughout the world because of quarantines.

Exotic fruit flies do not naturally occur in Los Angeles County; they are periodically introduced from other countries through the importation of illegal, uninspected fruit. The immature or maggot stage of these fruit flies eat and destroy fruits and vegetables. Agriculture is the number one industry in California and it would cost the State billions of dollars annually if just one type of exotic fruit fly were to become established in California.

How are we doing?

As indicated in the previous table, the number of square miles quarantined and the numbers of fruit flies trapped have increased in 2001-2003 from previous years. Despite the increase, no fruit flies were allowed to become established in the County of Los Angeles, thus, indicating the continued successful management of exotic pest infestations.

Supporting Recreational and Cultural Opportunities

Circulation of Library Materials

Public libraries meet the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the highly diverse population in Los Angeles County. Through the use of technology, libraries offer an even broader range of learning and informational resources. The County of Los Angeles Public Library serves 51 of the 88 cities in the County, and most of the unincorporated areas, with the exception of those served by the Altadena and Palos Verdes Library Districts.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Library materials circulation of all public libraries in Los Angeles County**

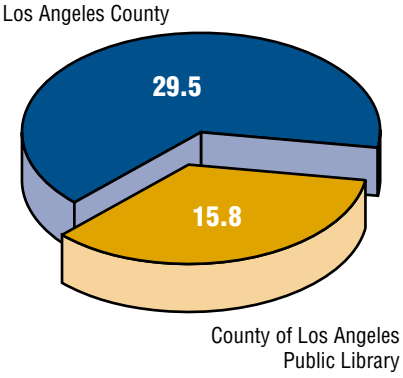
In 2001-2002:

45.3 Million Number of items checked out from all public libraries in the County of Los Angeles

4.6 Average number of items checked out per capita from all public libraries in the County of Los Angeles

5.2 Average number of items checked out per capita statewide

Library Circulation in 2001-2002 (Millions of Items)



This indicator tracks the total number of all materials checked out from public libraries in Los Angeles County. As shown to the left, in 2001-2002, over 45 million items were checked out annually.

Source: California State Library

Indicator of County Results: **Number of items checked out per capita from County of Los Angeles Public Libraries**

In 2001-2002:

15.8 Million Number of items checked out from County of Los Angeles Public Libraries

4.5 Average number of items checked out per capita for residents of areas served by the County Public Library

7.8 Average number of items checked out per capita by registered borrowers

Why is it important?

The number of materials checked out from public libraries is one reflection of the quality if life and of the educational achievement of a community. There is a direct link between educational achievement in a community and the use of library materials.

How are we doing?

Data from the California State Library indicate that public library use in Los Angeles County is high, with over 45 million items checked out of public libraries annually. The County of Los Angles Public Library circulated 15.8 million items, over 35 percent of all library items checked out in the County. Residents of areas served by the County Public Library checked out 4.5 items per capita, 0.1 less than the overall County per capita rate.

Internet Usage at County Public Libraries

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage of households in California with computers and Internet Access**

In 2000:
56.6% Percentage of households in California with computers; and

46% Percentage of households in California with Internet Access

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Falling Through the Net: Toward Digital Inclusion, October 2000.

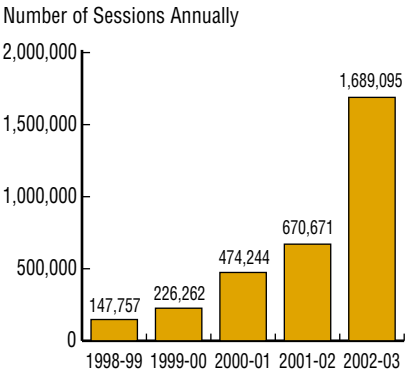
Although data specific to Los Angeles County is not available, data for California in 2000 indicates that community information and recreational needs are being further enhanced with computer use and Internet access.

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage change and number of people accessing the Internet through County Public Library facilities**

250% Percentage increase in Internet use at County Public Libraries between 2001-2002 and 2002-2003

1.7 Million Number of Internet sessions recorded at County Public Libraries in 2002-2003, almost one session for every two residents of the County Public Library service area.

Public Internet Use at County of Los Angeles Public Libraries



Source: County of Los Angeles Public Library

Why is it Important?

Access to the Internet has become an increasing necessity for success in education and in the workplace. Increased use of the Internet correlates with educational achievement and higher household income. Although many Americans now have access to computers and the Internet at home, at work, or at school, a significant proportion have access to the Internet only through public library computers.

How are we doing?

The numbers show that public Internet use at County of Los Angeles Public Libraries has risen steadily and dramatically since the Public Library began offering Internet service in 1998. Use of the Internet by the public at County libraries has increased an average of 77 percent annually and over 250 percent during the period 2001-2002 to 2002-2003.

Parks and Golf Courses

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Number of participants in physical activity programs at local and community regional parks**

39% Percentage of adults in Los Angeles County meeting the recommended guidelines for physical activity.[5]

30% National average for adults[6] meeting recommended guidelines for physical activity.

Indicator of County Results: **Number of participants in physical activity programs at local and community regional parks**

112,400 Participants were enrolled in physical activity programs at local and community regional parks operated by the County Department of Parks and Recreation in Fiscal Year 2002-2003.[7]

Why is it important?

Parks that offer organized physical activities have a positive impact on the health and well-being of County residents.

The most recent Los Angeles County Health Survey indicates that more than half (55 percent) of all adults in the County are overweight and that 40 percent of children and adolescents in the County are overweight or at-risk of becoming overweight.[8] Data from the 2001 Youth Risk Behavior Survey shows that more than 34.5 percent of youth in Los Angeles did not participate in either moderate

5 Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Health Assessment Unit – Recent Health Trends in Los Angeles County, 2002.

6 Healthy People 2010 database, National Center for Health Statistics

7 Estimated participants based on individual park records. The Department of Parks and Recreation is currently formalizing and standardizing the collection of participant and total attendance data.

8 Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Public Health – L.A. Health, July 2003

or vigorous exercise the week before.[9] A 2002 report indicates that 61 percent of adults in Los Angeles County in 1999 did not meet the recommended national guidelines for physical activity.[10]

A lack of physical activity among adults and children is a primary contributing factor to rising obesity rates in the United States and Los Angeles County, and the associated health consequences including increased rates of heart disease, diabetes and high blood pressure. National health care costs related to obesity are estimated at nearly $117 billion, and in California are estimated at $14.2 billion.[11] Health care costs associated with overweight and obesity in Los Angeles County are estimated at $3.43 billion annually.[12]

In addition to the health-related costs, both in terms of human suffering and dollars, physical fitness in children has been found to have a direct impact on the academic achievement of students. A California Department of Education Study released in 2002 showed that higher academic achievement, as measured by the SAT-9 national percentile rank, is associated with higher levels of fitness for students in grades 5 through 9.[13]

How are we doing?

Within the 23 California Assembly Districts in which County local and community regional parks are located, the average percentage of children who are overweight is 27.92 percent, compared with the statewide average of 26.6 percent. The percentage of unfit children, on average, within the 23 California Assembly Districts is 44.89 percent, compared with the statewide average of 39.5 percent.[14]

An increase in developed park space and the construction of additional facilities, such as gymnasiums, has allowed the County to increase the number of programs that encourage physical activity. In Fiscal Year 2002-2003, more than 112,000 participants—from youth to seniors—engaged in physical activity programs offered at the County's local and community regional parks, including swimming, team sports, and fitness classes.

9 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Centers for Disease Control, 2000

10 Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Health Assessment Unit – Recent Health Trends in Los Angeles County, 2002.

11 California Center for Public Health Advocacy, 2002

12 Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Public Health – L.A. Health, July 2003

13 California Department of Education, December 2002

14 California Center for Public Health Advocacy, An Early Warning Sign: Diabetes Deaths in California Legislative Districts, February 2004

Indicator of County Results: **Number of visits to County parks and golf courses for passive or active recreation**

In 2002-2003:
17,863,200 Total estimated visits

3.21% Percentage increase in estimated attendance from prior year

Why is it important?

The number of visits to park facilities, including local and regional parks, natural areas, and golf courses, measure the success of efforts by the County to provide programming and facilities that are attractive to County residents. Attractive parks and programs add to the quality of life for County residents by improving residents' health, by creating a sense of community, protecting and enhancing the environment, and increasing property values.

How are we doing?

The County of Los Angeles operates more than 130 facilities, including 19 golf courses, eight regional parks, natural areas and wildlife/wildflower sanctuaries, and local and community regional parks that include 28 swimming pools and 77 community centers. Park attendance has increased steadily over the past several years as the parks have been refurbished and developed and programming has increased.

Arts and Culture

Los Angeles County is an international center for all art forms, home to more than 150,000 working artists and 2,800 culturally diverse nonprofit arts organizations. Los Angeles County has more theatrical productions (1,500 annually) than any other region in the world and, in addition to Los Angeles County's Museum of Art and the Museum of Natural History , is the home of such major museums as the Getty Center, the Japanese American National Museum, the Museum of the American West, and the Skirball Cultural Center, all created within the last decade. Los Angeles is the second major market for contemporary art (after New York) with more than 150 art galleries.[15] Los Angeles County is not only known as the mural capital of the world with well over 2,000 murals[16] but the festival capital of the world; more than 330 festivals and celebrations are held in Los Angeles annually representing more than 100 distinct nationalities and communities. Los Angeles is also the largest book market in the United States.

The County of Los Angeles plays a vital role in supporting these vibrant assets and is the largest supporter of arts and culture in the region. The County provides this support primarily through public-private partnerships with four major

15 Source: *Museum Companion to Los Angeles* published in 1996 by Museum Publishing

16 Source: *L.A. Walls* published by the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department
Source for all other L.A. Cultural Facts: LA Inc.

agencies: the Arts Commission, Music Center, Museum of Art and Museum of Natural History. The Music Center and museums are operated by nonprofit organizations; the Arts Commission partners with nonprofit arts organizations to provide services through its grants program. The County also provides vital support through many other County departments, including two regional Parks: the Hollywood Bowl operated by the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the John Anson Ford Theatres operated by the Arts Commission.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Concentrations of employment in artistic professions.**

Los Angeles leads all metropolitan areas in the United States in the employment of visual, musical, and performing artists.

Why is it important?

Artists working in Los Angeles County are critical to the region's economy. While many work and spend in the region, some export their work out of the region and spend the resulting income locally; and others evoke innovation on the part of the suppliers that broadens their business. A 1994 study conducted by the Arts Commission showed that these artists move seamlessly between the nonprofit and for profit arts, working synergistically with the music, film, and television industries to drive the region's economy.

How are we doing?

Artistic Concentrations for the Five Largest U.S. Metro Areas by Employment, 2000

Metropolitan Area	Total Artists	Performing Artists	Visual	Authors	Musicians
Los Angeles, CA	**2.99**	**5.44**	**2.34**	**2.71**	**1.95**
New York, NY-NJ	2.52	3.71	2.01	2.99	1.85
San Francisco-Oakland, CA	1.82	1.85	1.83	2.51	1.12
Washington, DC-MD-VA-WV	1.36	1.51	1.01	2.27	1.08
Seattle, WA	1.33	1.15	1.48	1.48	1.06

Source: Census 2000 5% PUMS dataset. Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota

Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco metropolitan areas have disproportionately larger shares of the artistic workforce. Moreover, the metropolitan areas wield their strength across the board, ranking in the top three in all of the suboccupations—performing and visual artists, writers, and musicians. In a shake-up of the ranks of the metropolitan areas, Los Angeles outpaced New York to post the highest concentration of artists in the nation in 2000. Los Angeles has a higher concentration of visual artists and musicians than New York and San Francisco, and far outpaces these areas in the concentration of performing artists. New York still leads in the concentration of writers.

Source: Project on Regional and Industrial Economic, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, March 2004.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Competitive funding available for nonprofit arts organizations.**

Arts grants funding by public and private grantmakers **decreased by 8 percent** from 2000 to 2002. Private sector arts grants decreased by 6 percent from 2000 to 2002 and were 13 percent below 1998 levels.

Why is it important?

Competitive grant funds for nonprofit arts organizations are an investment in people with creative capacity, Arts grants also provide employment opportunities, and access to cultural experiences for residents regardless of their economic circumstances.

How are we doing?

The following table tracks arts funding by comparing the six public and 24 private sector organizations to be among the most active arts funders in Los Angeles County. One-time grants for the construction of Walt Disney Concert Hall have been factored out.

Arts Funding in Los Angeles County *(Dollars in Millions, Adjusted for Inflation)*

	Public & Private	% Change	Private Sector	% Change	Public Sector	% Change
1998	$37.35		$28.33		$9.02	
2000	$38.67	**4%**	$26.41	**-7%**	$12.26	**36%**
2002	$35.73	**-8%**	$24.78	**-6%**	$10.95	**-11%**

The years between 1998 and 2002 saw a substantial change in arts grantmaking from the public sector. The California Arts Council, which accounted for most of the 36 percent increase in public sector grantmaking in the arts between 1998 and 2000, decreased its grantmaking for the arts in Los Angeles County in 2002 by 41 percent. This reduction was somewhat offset by increases in grantmaking by the National Endowment for the Arts and by some municipal public-sector funders between 2000 and 2002. In 2003, grantmaking by the California Arts Council was eliminated.

Source: A Survey of Arts Funding in Los Angeles County 2003 conducted for Southern California Grantmakers and Los Angeles Arts Funders by the McElwee Group, March 2004.

Los Angeles County Arts Commission

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission provides leadership in cultural services of all disciplines. The Arts Commission funds the largest arts internship program for undergraduates in the country in conjunction with the Getty Trust. In addition, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors, the Arts Commission administers a grant program that funds more than 250 nonprofit arts organizations annually.

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage change from prior year in participation or attendance at County–funded arts programs**

In 2002-2003:

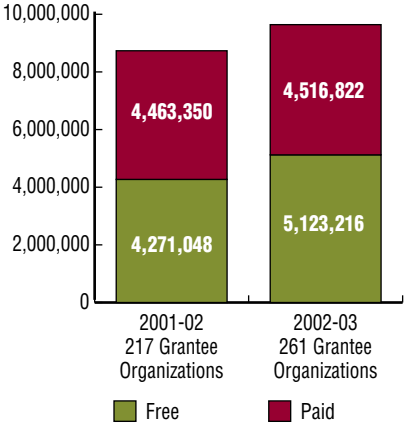
17.2% Increase in total participation or attendance at County-funded arts programs.

4.1% Increase in free admissions at County-funded arts programs.

20% Increase in organizations granted funds by the Arts Commission.

This indicator measures the percentage change in participation or attendance at art programs, including services for families and children, provided by County-funded arts organizations. It also measures the percentage change in admissions that are free for adults and children.

Arts Programs Admittances



Why is it important?

Attendance or participation in County-funded arts programs serves as a gauge of the overall effectiveness of the Arts Commission's program to fund artistic and management projects of small, mid-sized, and large nonprofit arts organizations that provide cultural and educational services for geographically and culturally diverse County communities.

How are we doing?

The total overall number of paid and free admissions increased in 2002-2003. However, as there were 44 additional grantees, the average attendance per grantee organization declined.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Arts Education**

Five school districts, plus the Los Angeles County Office of Education, have committed to planning for arts education during the 2003-2004 school year. It is projected that by 2004-2005 **9 percent** of students in public schools in Los Angeles County will be attending schools which meet the critical success factors.

The first online resource directory for arts education programs in the region - **www.LAArtsEd.org** – has been launched.

A prime focus of the Arts Commission is to restore dance, music, theatre, and visual arts education for the 1.7 million K-12 students enrolled in the 82 school districts in the County by providing leadership in the implementation of Arts for All: Los Angeles County Regional Blueprint for Arts Education.

- Beginning in 2003, the County and its partners are providing assistance to five school districts each year to help districts adopt a policy, plan, and budget and to build the capacity to provide quality K-12 arts education. Los Angeles County school districts that have committed to plan for arts education during the 2003-2004 school year, in addition to the Los Angeles Office of Education, are Culver City Unified School District (USD), Norwalk-La Mirada USD, Pasadena USD, Rosemead SD, and Santa Monica-Malibu USD.

- In February 2004, the Arts Commission launched the first online resource directory for arts education programs in the region - **www.LAArtsEd.org**. The 101 programs currently on the site meet the California state content standards for visual and performing arts and were selected through an intensive application process. The directory is designed to serve as an aid to teachers, administrators, parents, and students looking for quality arts education programs to dovetail with the school curriculum.

The Music Center Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles County

The Music Center, a public/private partnership with the County of Los Angeles, is one of the nation's largest performing arts centers. In October 2003, the Music Center's fourth major venue, Walt Disney Concert Hall, opened to international acclaim. The new 2,265-seat, state-of-the-art concert hall augments the Music Center's three original venues—the 3,200-seat Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, the 750-seat Mark Taper Forum, and the 2,200-seat Ahmanson Theatre. The County of Los Angeles provides funding to the Music Center for general maintenance, custodial services, utility costs, insurance, security, and usher services. The private sector, government grants, and earned revenue provide support for Music Center programming, including its season of dance presentations, the in-school programs produced by the Music Center Education Division, and other community services.

Four distinguished resident companies are the Music Center's prime tenants—the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles Opera, and the Los Angeles Master Chorale. These performing arts companies, all of which are separate nonprofit organizations, produce celebrated annual seasons in the Music Center's venues and greatly benefit from the operational stability the Center provides with County support.

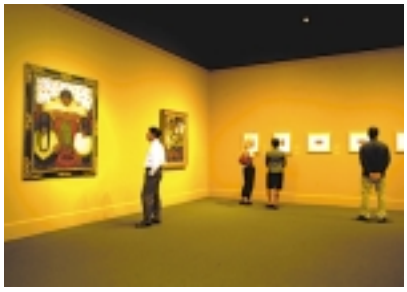
Indicator of County Results: **Annual attendance at performances of music, theater, opera, and dance and participation in music education outreach events for students and teachers at the Music Center/Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles County**

1.3 Million Annual attendance at performances at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Mark Taper Forum, and the Ahmanson Theater in 2002-2003.

12,000 Number of annual events presented by the Music Center Education Division for students, teachers, and families in schools and at the Center's downtown complex; these services served more than 350,000 children and adults in 2002-2003.

75 and 82 Number of partner school districts and private schools who participated in Music Center Division arts learning programs during the 2002-2003 academic year.

Los Angeles County Museum of Art



The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) is the premier encyclopedic art museum in the western United States. The museum serves the public through the collection, conservation, exhibition, and interpretation of significant works of art from a broad range of cultures and historical periods; and translating these collections into meaningful, educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the widest array of audiences. LACMA's educational activities include classes, tours, lectures, symposia, film and music programs, many designed specifically for children and their families.

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage change from previous year in attendance/visitors to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art**

In 2002-2003:

18% Percentage increase in attendance/visitors to LACMA

15% Percentage increase in free youth admissions to LACMA

33% Percentage increase in participation in educational programs for schools, families, and children

Why is it important?

LACMA serves many audiences from a variety of educational and cultural backgrounds. To be accessible to all, LACMA must present artistic programs that cross over traditional barriers to attendance. Admissions are an indicator of LACMA's success in reaching out to the diverse community.

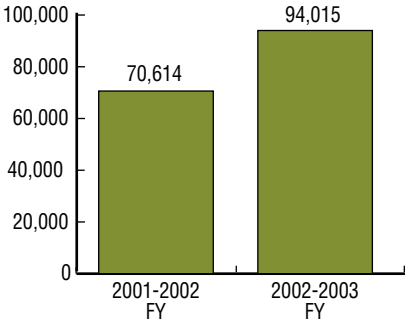
How are we doing?

The effectiveness of LACMA's mission to serve the public by presenting artistic programs to the widest array of audiences can be measured by looking at:

- Overall attendance data;
- Education program participation data; and
- The number of free admissions LACMA offers to the public.

With the inclusion of crowd-pleasing exhibitions like "*Ansel Adams at 100*" and "*Sargent in Italy*" in 2002-2003, LACMA experienced an increase in overall attendance of 18 percent.

LACMA Educational Outreach Program Participants



LACMA Attendance Comparisons

LACMA Total Attendance		% Change	LACMA Free Admissions		% Change
2001-02	647,766		2001-02	105,818	
2002-03	764,119	18%	2002-03	121,498	15%

NexGen, LACMA's free youth membership program, has generated a 15 percent increase in free admissions.

With an aggressive plan of promoting LACMA educational programs to schools, families, and children across the County, LACMA has seen an increase in participation of 33 percent . LACMA will serve more schools throughout the region in the coming year with the inauguration of the Ancient World Mobile, a traveling studio and classroom dedicated to teaching sixth-grade students about art of the ancient world.

Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History

The Museum of Natural History's mission is to inspire wonder, discovery, and responsibility for our natural and cultural worlds. Through its public programs, research, and collections care, the Museum of Natural History enhances understanding of, and stewardship for, our living earth.

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage change from previous year in attendance/visitors to the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History**

In 2002-2003:
47% Percentage increase in general attendance

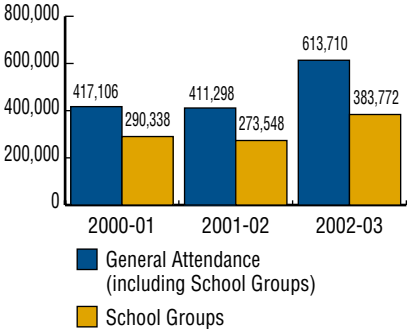
62% Percentage increase in school group attendance

Source: County of Los Angeles Museum of Natural History

Why is it important?

Major indicators of successful implementation of the Museum's mission include general attendance and school attendance. Protection and appropriate use of resources—and understanding and respect for diverse cultures—are essential for this and future generations. The Museum of Natural History's focus on these vital functions enhances its value as an educational and cultural asset for its various audiences both in Los Angeles County and internationally: adults, children, families, school teachers, school children, researchers, and scholars.

Attendance at the Museum of Natural History



How are we doing?

Enhancing the experience of a growing audience is a key strategic priority for the Museum of Natural History. The decision to acquire or develop special temporary exhibits such as "*Chocolate,*" "*Baseball as America,*" "*Macchu Pichu,*" and "*Los Angeles: Light, Motion, and Dreams*" is based on their relevancy and their ability to generate public interest and attendance.

As shown to the right, between 2000-2001 and 2002-2003, general attendance increased over 47 percent and school group attendance increased over 32 percent. School groups also represent more than 62 percent of the total attendance in each year.

Health and Mental Health

A healthy population is critical to a thriving community today and in the future. Good health and access to good health care are basic personal needs. Government agencies provide a health care safety net for those who are unable to provide for themselves.

County government provides public health insurance and direct personal health care and emergency services for eligible low-income and indigent persons, as well as public health services to promote and guard public health. This section highlights the following areas:

Health Coverage for the Uninsured

Adult Health Status

- Adequate Physical Activity
- Adult Smokers
- Compliance with California Smoke-Free Workplace Law

Health Coverage for the Uninsured

Health care insurance is a National, State, and local concern. As the cost for medical care continues to increase and employers determine that they cannot continue to provide benefits, or must reduce coverage, or require employees to share increasing costs, more individuals and families are left with inadequate coverage or none at all.

Indicators of Countywide Conditions:

In 2002-2003:

10.3% Percentage of children 0-17 years without health insurance

An estimated 276,000 children out of 2,679,612 are uninsured in Los Angeles County.

26.2% Percentage of adults (18-64 years) without health insurance

An estimated 1,459,000 adults out of 5,668,702 are uninsured in Los Angeles County.

2.0% Percentage of older adults (65 years and over) without health insurance.

An estimated 20,000 older adults out of 1,000,000 are uninsured in Los Angeles County.

Source: 2002-2003 Los Angeles County Health Survey, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

Indicators of County Results:

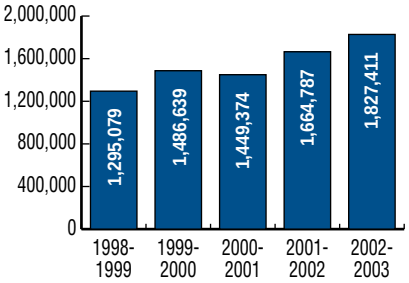
In 2002-2003:

1,827,411 Annual average number of adults and children covered by County administered State Medi-Cal public health insurance

9.8% Percentage increase in number of persons receiving County administered State Medi-Cal public health insurance since 2001-2002

545,000 Number of uninsured patients (not visits) seen at Department of Health Services and public-private partnership facilities during Fiscal Year 2002-2003 (excludes approximately 200,000 patients with Medi-Cal and other coverage).

Annual Average Number of Adults and Children Covered by Public Health Insurance



Source: County of Los Angeles Department of Public Social Services

Why is it important?

Access to health care is a basic personal need. A healthy population is critical to a thriving community today and in the future.

How are we doing?

Public health insurance is provided through the Medi-Cal program which is administered by the County Department of Public Social Services. The number of adults and children receiving public health insurance has increased 41 percent since 1998-1999.

Adult Health Status

Indicators of Countywide Conditions:

In 2002-2003:
35.4% Percentage of adults in Los Angeles County who are overweight/obese (2,194,000 adults)

Source: 2002-2003 Los Angeles County Health Survey, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

Significant overweight and obesity[17] contribute greatly to premature death, ill health, and increased health care costs. Those who are obese are at increased risk of developing many chronic diseases including heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, diabetes, arthritis, and many types of cancer.[18] Overweight and obesity account for an estimated $3.43 billion in health care expenditures annually for adults in Los Angeles County, based on data obtained from a national study of health care costs related to obesity and overweight.[19, 20]

Overweight and obesity increases in Los Angeles County are similar to national increases. There are indications that the rates of increase in obesity and overweight, particularly in Latino and African-American populations and among school-aged children, suggest that the problem of overweight and obesity will persist and worsen among adults in the future. The data is based on self-reports, and likely underestimate the true burden of obesity in the County's adult population. Recent national data found that obesity rates based on measured height and weight were more than 50 percent higher than rates obtained from self-reported height and weight.[21]

See http://lapublichealth.org/ha/reports/habriefs/lahealth073003_obes.pdf for more information on obesity and overweight in LA County.

Adequate Physical Activity

Indicators of Countywide Conditions:

In 2002-2003:
52.7% Percentage of adults in Los Angeles County that are not getting the recommended amount of physical activity[22] (3,594,000 adults)

17 Obesity is defined as a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or greater. Overweight is defined as a BMI of 25-29.9. BMI=(weight (lbs.)/[height (in.)]^2 x 703.

18 Wolf, C, and Tanner, M. (2002). Obesity. Western Journal of Medicine, 176(1), 23-28.

19 Personal communication with Eric A. Finkelstein June 25, 2002

20 Finkelstein, EA, Fiebelkorn, IC, Wang, G. National Medical Spending Attributable to Overweight and Obesity: How Much, And Who's Paying Health Affairs W3-219-226. 14 May 2003.

21 Flegal, KM, Carroll, MD, et al. Prevalence and Trends in Obesity Among U.S. Adults, 1999-2000. JAMA, 288(14), 1723-1727.

22 Meets recommendations based on vigorous activity (20 minutes/day at least 3 days/week) or based on moderate activity (30 minutes/day on 5 days per week), or, meets criteria for both vigorous and moderate, or a combination of vigorous and moderate activity (for the recommended time above) on at least 5 days/week.

Many recent studies have shown that physical activity has a positive influence on health. Physically active adults have a reduced risk for many chronic conditions, including coronary heart disease, hypertension, non-insulin dependent diabetes, osteoporosis, and colon cancer.[23] Also, engaging in regular physical activity reduces symptoms of anxiety and depression; and is associated with fewer hospitalizations, physician visits, and medications.

A majority of American adults do not engage in the recommended amount of physical activity. Consistent with the national pattern, the most recent Los Angeles County Health Survey shows that 52.7 percent of adults—an estimated 3,594,000 adults—are not getting the recommended amount of physical activity.

Adult Smokers

Indicators of Countywide Conditions:

In 2002-2003:

15.6% Percentage of adults who were smokers (1,066,000 adults)

-18.1% Percentage of adults who were smokers in 1999

Source: Department of Health Services, 2002-2003 Health Survey

Smoking is a leading cause of serious ill health and premature death, contributing to an estimated 20 percent of all deaths in Los Angeles County each year. Smoking generates an estimated $2.3 billion per year in direct health care costs (e.g., hospital and ambulatory care, nursing home care, prescriptions) and an additional $2 billion per year in indirect cost (e.g., productivity losses due to illness and premature death).[24]

According to the results of the most recent Los Angeles County Health Survey, 15.6 percent of adults—an estimated 1,070,000 adults—smoke cigarettes, down from 18.1 percent of adults in 1999. The data suggests that smoking rates have dipped to their lowest point in nearly two decades of declines in California (Los Angeles County's smoking rates are similar to those of California), which were at 25.8 percent in 1984.

23 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Physical Activity and Health: A Report of the Surgeon General. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, 1996.

24 Max, W., Rice, D., Zhang, X., Sung, H., and Miller, L. The Cost of Smoking in California, 1999. California Department of Health Services, Sacramento (2002).

Public Safety

Personal and community safety is recognized as being one of our most basic needs. People need a high level of confidence regarding personal and community safety to feel secure in their homes as well as in surrounding areas. Personal and community safety confidence is the result of many public services including law enforcement, prosecutorial services, probation services, fire protection, and emergency services. Residents of the County expect municipal and County leaders to provide for a safe environment. Personal and community safety is an ongoing focus of the County's public safety and justice departments. This section focuses on:

Los Angeles County Sheriff: Crimes and Arrests

- Violent and Property Crimes
- Felony Arrests by Adults and Juveniles
- Narcotics Arrests by Juveniles and Adultst
- Gang-Related Crimes

District Attorney Criminal Prosecutions

- Referrals to the District Attorney for Felony Criminal Charges
- Adult Felony, Adult Misdemeanor, Juvenile Filings
- Adult Felony Filings
- Jury Trials
- Gang Crimes

Probation Department: Management of Probationers to Prevent New Crimes

Fire Department: Emergency Response

Sex Offender Locator Website

Los Angeles County Sheriff: Crimes and Arrests

Violent and Property Crimes

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Crime rate in the County of Los Angeles for violent and property crimes (Part 1 Crimes) per FBI Crime Index**

In 2002:

4,027 The number of violent and property crimes per 100,000 population

89,058 The total number of violent crimes

- **1,162** The number of homicides
- **2,894** The number of forcible rapes
- **29,994** The number of robberies
- **55,008** The number of aggravated assaults

Indicator of County Result: **The violent and property crime rate in the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department jurisdiction**

In 2002:

3,171 The number of violent and property crimes per 100,000 population

20,719 The total number of violent crimes

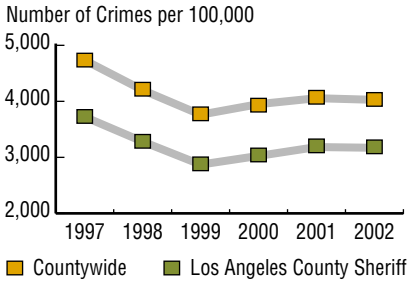
- **317** The number of homicides
- **728** The number of forcible rapes
- **5,640** The number of robberies
- **14,034** The number of aggravated assaults

Source: County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

There are 47 municipal law enforcement agencies within the County of Los Angeles, including the County Sheriff. The Sheriff is responsible for law enforcement and public safety for all unincorporated areas of the County as well as 41 incorporated cities that contract for the Sheriff's services. All law enforcement agencies report crimes within their jurisdiction consistent with the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program administered on a national level by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and at the State level by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

A crime rate describes the number of events that occur within a given population. Typically, this is reported as the number of crimes per 100,000 population.

Part I Crimes per FBI Crime Index for Countywide and Los Angeles Sheriff's Department



Law enforcement agencies throughout the State report summary information to the DOJ on "selected crimes." The crimes, selected because of seriousness, frequency of occurrence, and the likelihood of being reported to the police are homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. These eight offenses are known as Part I Crimes. Part I Crimes are further broken down by violent or property crimes:

- Violent Crimes, which include homicide, forcible rape, aggravated assault, and robbery.
- Property Crimes, which include burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

As indicated in the chart to the left, the overall crime rate within Los Angeles County has decreased substantially during years 1997 through 2002.

Felony Arrests by Adults and Juveniles

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Felony arrest rates for adults (18-64 years old) and juveniles (10-17 years old) per 100,000 population in the County of Los Angeles per FBI Index***

In 2002:

1,825 The number of adult felony arrests per 100,000 population

1,275 The number of juvenile felony arrests per 100,000 population

* Note: Arrest rate is determined by comparing adult arrests to the adult population, and juvenile arrests to the juvenile population.

Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Profiles

Indicator of County Results: **Felony arrest rates for adults (18-64 years old) and juveniles (10-17 years old) per 100,000 population by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department****

In 2002:

1,412 The number of adult felony arrests per 100,000 population

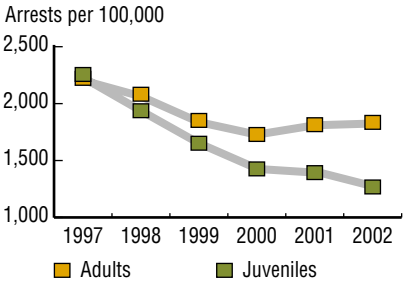
168 The number of juvenile felony arrests per 100,000 population

** Note: Arrest rate is determined by comparing adult arrests to entire population (adult and juvenile) and juvenile arrests to entire population (adult and juvenile).

Source: County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

The arrest rate for adults and juveniles parallels the overall reduction in crime since 1997. However, as shown in the chart to the right, although adult and juvenile arrests countywide per FBI Index were at approximately the same rate in 1997, juvenile arrests have declined at a greater rate. Some of the success achieved in reducing the number of juvenile arrests can be attributed to after school programs conducted throughout the County. One such program is the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Vital Intervention Directional Alternatives (VIDA). Deputy Sheriffs, working in conjunction with volunteers from the United States Marine Corps, interact with at-risk youth with an emphasis on discipline, motivation, and counseling. Other law enforcement agencies in the County have youth programs as well that are designed to work with at-risk youth.

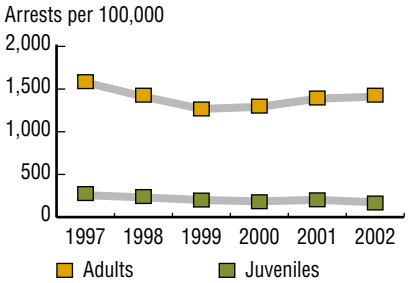
Felony Arrests per 100,000 Population for Los Angeles County per FBI Crime Index*



* Note: Arrest rate is determined by comparing adult arrests to the adult population, and juvenile arrests to the juvenile population.

Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Profiles

Felony Arrests per 100,000 Population in the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Jurisdiction*



** Note: Arrest rate is determined by comparing adult arrests to entire population (adult and juvenile) and juvenile arrests to entire population (adult and juvenile).

Source: County of Los Angeles Sheriff Department

Indicator of County Results: **Number of crimes and arrests by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.**

In 2002*, per the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department:
11% Decrease in number of violent crimes from 1998 (from 23,306 to 20,7199)

4% Increase in property crimes from 1998 (from 65,486 to 68,219)

3% Decrease in total arrests from 1998 (from 98,782 to 95,339)

Source: County of Los Angeles Sheriff

Narcotics Arrests by Adults and Juveniles

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Narcotics arrest rate for adults (18-64 years old) and juveniles (10-17 years old) per 100,000 population in County of Los Angeles per FBI Crime Index***

In 2002:
902 The rate of adult narcotic arrests per 100,000 population

465 The rate of juvenile narcotic arrests per 100,000 population

* Note: Arrest rate is determined by comparing adult arrests to the adult population, and juvenile arrests to the juvenile population.

Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Profiles

Indicator of County Result: **Narcotics arrest rate for adults (18-64 years old) and juveniles (10-17 years old) per 100,000 population by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department****

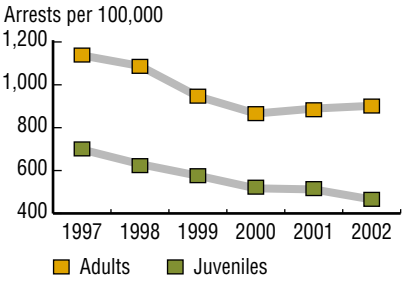
In 2002:
663 The rate of adult narcotic arrests per 100,000 population

45 The rate of juvenile narcotic arrests per 100,000 population

** Note: Arrest rate is determined by comparing adult arrests to entire population (adult and juvenile) and juvenile arrests to entire population (adult and juvenile).

Source: County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

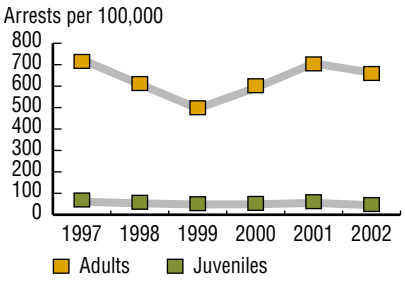
Narcotic Arrests per 100,000 Population County Los Angeles 1997-2002*



* Note: Arrest rate is determined by comparing adult arrests to the adult population, and juvenile arrests to the juvenile population.

Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Profiles

Narcotic Arrests per 100,000 Population in the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department's Jurisdiction, 1997-2002*



** Note: Arrest rate is determined by comparing adult arrests to entire population (adult and juvenile) and juvenile arrests to entire population (adult and juvenile).

Source: County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

The interdiction of illegal drugs in the County continues to be one of the primary goals of law enforcement. The presence of law enforcement officers on patrol is a visual method of deterring the sale of illegal drugs on the streets of our communities. The recent increase in adult narcotic arrests as shown in the charts to the left can be attributed to the vigilance of law enforcement officers present in local neighborhoods. The reductions of juvenile arrests for narcotic violations may lie in the number of anti-drug programs offered by both law enforcement and public and private agencies in the County.

Gang-Related Crimes

Indicator of County Results: **The number of gang-related crimes per the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department:**

In 2002:

168 The number of homicides

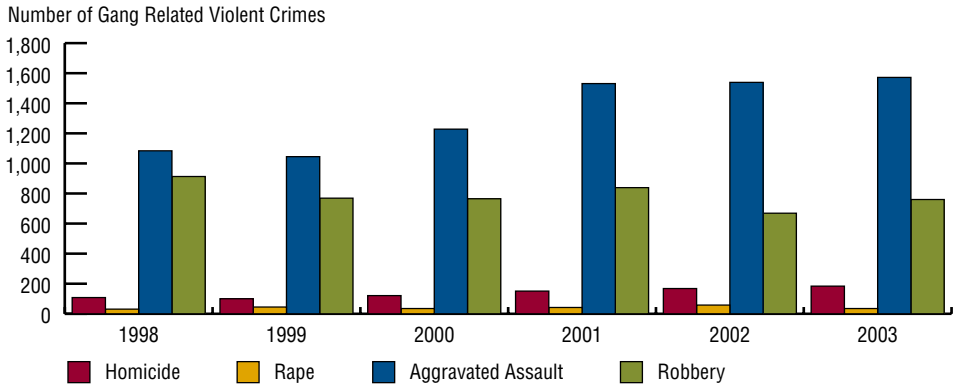
58 The number of forcible rapes

1,539 The number of aggravated assaults

669 The number of robberies

Source: County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Gang-Related Violent Crimes, 1998-2003



Source: County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department

Between 1998 and 1999, there was a slight decrease in violent gang crime. Since 2000, there has been a significant increase in total gang crime as reported by the Sheriff's Department. This is due largely to the reduction of more than 1,000 deputy positions resulting in the loss of the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and Town Sheriff Programs which were designed to put more deputies on patrol combating this type of dangerous activity in the County. The Department is working in a cooperative effort with other law enforcement agencies in the County by targeting those gangs, and gang members who are most violent, with the use of search warrants, making arrests, and seizing large numbers of firearms and automatic weapons.

District Attorney: Criminal Prosecutions

The District Attorney of Los Angeles County is the lawyer for the people, a non-partisan official who is elected every four years. The District Attorney's (DA's) Office prosecutes felony crimes throughout Los Angeles County. Deputy district attorneys also prosecute misdemeanor crimes in unincorporated areas and in 78 of the 88 County cities. The staff of approximately 1,955 includes 938 deputy district attorneys, 235 investigators, and 782 support personnel, comprising the largest local prosecutorial agency in the nation.

The DA's prosecution workload is dependent on the number of arrests made within its jurisdiction. When an arrest is made of a criminal felony defendant on a State charge, the Sheriff, or police department, or State/Federal investigative agency and the prosecutor have two court-days to file a criminal complaint with the DA if the defendant has not yet been allowed bail because of the nature of the charge, or simply has not been able to arrange a bail bond on the charge. If the defendant has secured bail and is out of custody, the filing period may extend beyond the two court day requirement. Criminal filings for defendants out on bail usually occur within two to three weeks thereafter.

Referrals to the District Attorney for Felony Criminal Charges

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage change in number of cases referred to the District Attorney for filing felony criminal charges**

In 2003:

96,083 Number of cases referred for filing felony criminal charges

61,942 Number of referred cases filed

34,141 Number of referred cases declined

4.7% Percentage increase in the number of cases referred for filing felony criminal charges since 2002

Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage of cases filed or declined by the District Attorney within five days of referral for filing of felony criminal charges**

In 2003:

99.7% Percentage of cases referred filed or declined within five days

99.6% Percentage of referrals filed within five days (61,704 referrals filed)

99.8% Percentage of referrals declined within five days (34,072 referrals declined)

2.78 Average number of calendar days for filing or declining all referrals

2.72 Average number of calendar days for filing referrals

3.05 Average number of calendar days for declining referrals

Why is it important?

The average time to file or decline a criminal case is a measure of productivity and efficiency and assures legal compliance with the filing requirement of the United States Supreme Court for in-custody defendants.

How are we doing?

The DA exhibits due diligence and efficiency in timely filing or declining 99.7 percent of all cases referred within 5 days. Of the 96,083 cases referred for filing consideration in 2003, the District Attorney filed criminal charges for 64.5 percent of the referrals and declined to file charges for 35.5 percent.

Adult Felony, Adult Misdemeanor, and Juvenile Filings

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage change in the total number of adult felony, adult misdemeanor, and juvenile filings**

In 2003:

62,452 Total number of adult felony filings*

8.2% Percentage increase in the total number of adult felony filings since 2002

121,248 Number of adult misdemeanor filings

0.3% Percentage increase in the number of adult misdemeanor filings since 2002

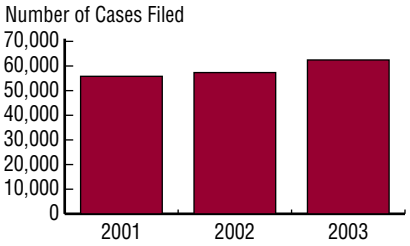
20,519 Number of juvenile filings

-2.3 % Percentage decrease in the number of juvenile filings since 2002

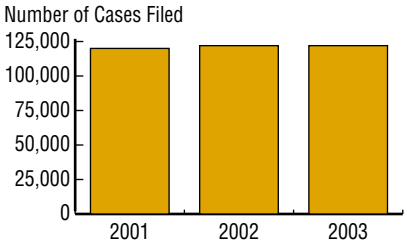
Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

* The difference between the total number of adult felony filings and the number of cases referred for filing (see previous section – Referrals to the DA for Felony Criminal Charges) in 2003 is 510 filings. This is the number of cases that may have been previously declined (or rejected) that were eventually resubmitted and accepted for filing later in the year.

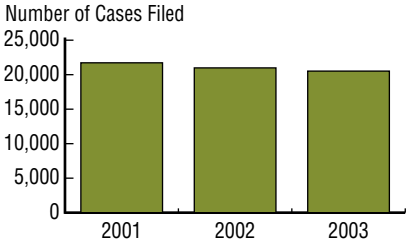
Total Adult Felony Filings



Adult Misdemeanor Filings



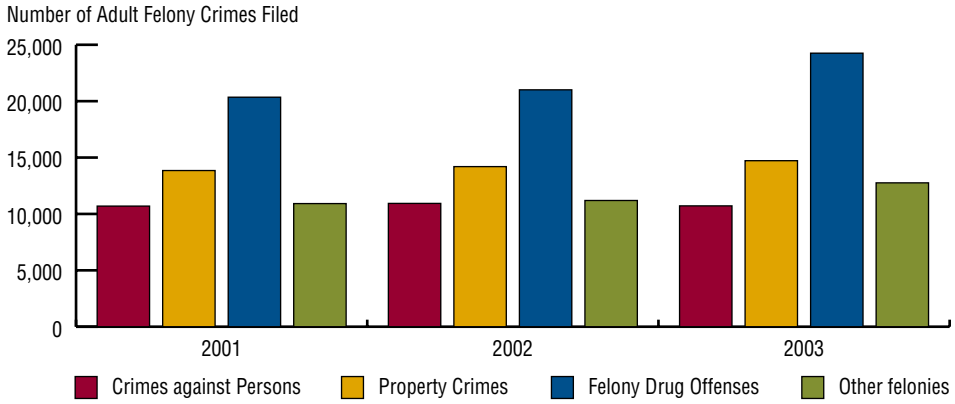
Juvenile Filings



Adult Felony Filings

The DA's Office organizes and groups cases into four categories: crimes against persons, property crimes, felony drug offenses, and other offenses. Crimes against persons includes the following types of crimes: murder, manslaughter, forcible sex crimes, robbery, kidnapping, aggravated assault, attempted murder, felony child abuse, and sex crimes against children.

Adult Felony Filings



Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage change in the total number of adult felonies involving crimes against persons**

In 2003:
10,717 Number of adult felony filings involving crimes against persons

2.0% Percentage decrease in the number of adult felony filings involving crimes against persons since 2002

Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

Property crimes include the following types of crimes: burglary (residential and non-residential), theft (including auto theft), and arson.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage change in number of adult felony filings involving property crimes**

In 2003:
14,721 Number of adult felony filings involving property crimes

3.6% Percentage increase in the number of adult felony filings involving property crimes since 2002

Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

Felony drug offenses include the following types of crimes: felony sale, felony possession, and other felony drug offense.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: Percentage change in the number of adult filings involving drug offenses

In 2003:
24,256 Number of cases of adult felony filings involving drug offenses

13.4% Percentage increase in the number of adult felony filings involving drug offense since 2002

Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

The category, “other felonies”, covers felony weapons offenses, driving under the influence, and all other felonies (gambling, pimping and pandering, white collar crimes [conflict of interest, embezzlement], computer crimes, etc.) that are not included in the other categories.

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Percentage change in the number of adult felony filings involving other felonies**

In 2003:

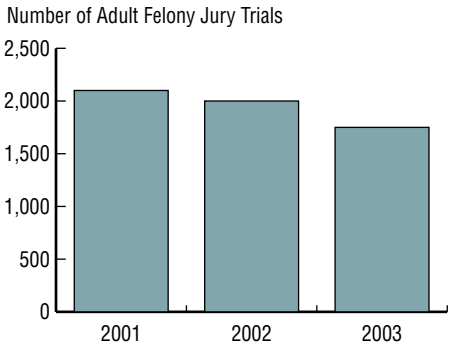
12,758 Number of cases of adult felony filings involving other felonies

12.3% Percentage increase in the number of adult felony filings involving other felonies since 2002

Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

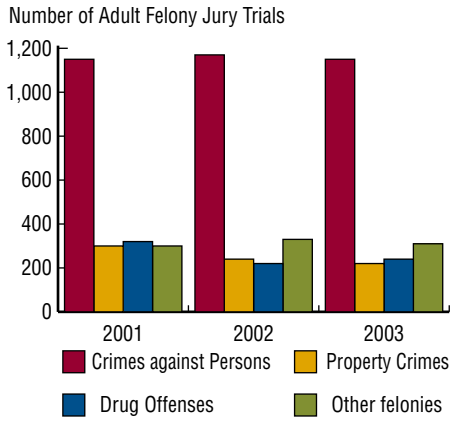
Jury Trials

Total Adult Felony Jury Trials



Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

Adult Felony Jury Trials



Indicator of County Results: **Total number of adult felony jury trials and number of jury trials per category: crimes against persons, property, drug offenses, and other felonies**

In 2003:

1,883 Total number of adult felony jury trials

1,112 Number of adult felony jury trials involving crimes against persons

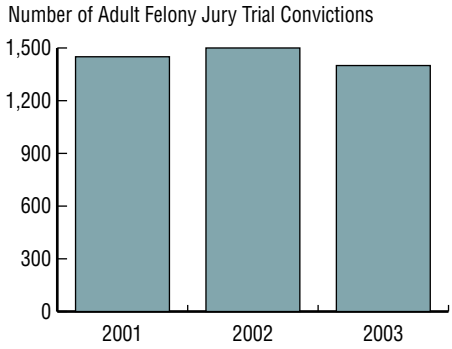
222 Number of adult felony jury trials involving crimes against property

248 Number of adult felony jury trials involving drug offenses

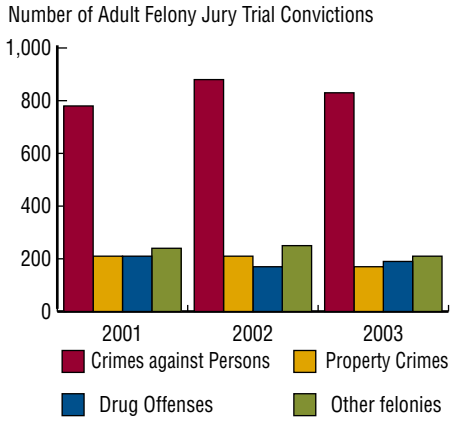
301 Number of adult felony jury trials involving other felonies

Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

Total Adult Felony Jury Trial Convictions



Adult Felony Jury Trial Convictions



Indicator of County Results: **Total number of adult felony jury trial convictions and the number of jury trial convictions per category: crimes against persons, property crimes, drug offenses, and other felonies**

In 2003:

1,404 Total number of adult felony jury trial convictions

841 Number of adult felony jury trial convictions involving crimes against persons

157 Number of adult felony jury trial convictions involving crimes against property

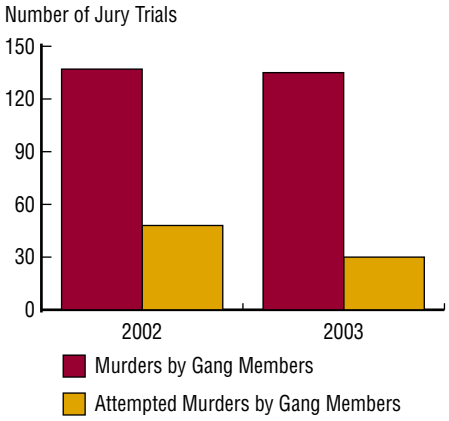
180 Number of adult felony jury trial convictions involving drug offenses

226 Number of adult felony jury trial convictions involving other felonies

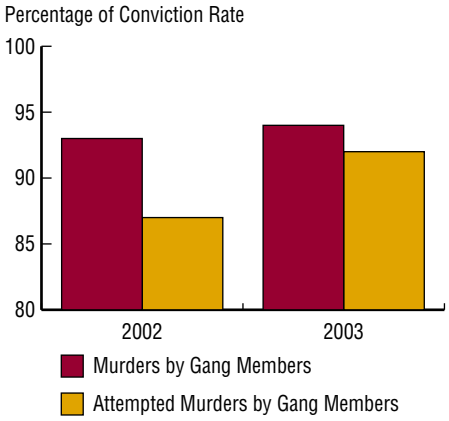
Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

Gang Crimes

Gang Related Jury Trials



Conviction Rate for Gang Related Crimes



Indicator of County Results: **Total number of adult felony filings involving hardcore gangs; number of jury trials involving hardcore gangs per category: murder trials, attempted murder trials; conviction rate for gang murders; and conviction rate for attempted gang murders**

In 2003:

262 Total number of adult felony filings involving hardcore gangs

198 Total number of jury trials involving hardcore gangs

135 Number of murder trials involving gang members

32 Number of attempted murder trials involving gang members

94.2% Conviction rate for gang murders (Up 1.0 percent from 2002)

92.6% Conviction rate for attempted gang murders (Up 7.1 percent from 2002)

Source: County of Los Angeles District Attorney

Why is it important?

It is important for perpetrators of violent gang crimes to be identified, arrested, prosecuted, and convicted according to the law. This is done to protect the public from organized low level behavior that can ruin the local economy, and have a very negative impact on the quality of life for all persons.

How are we doing?

By developing specific, targeted vertical gang prosecution programs, the DA is doing a good job of supporting local communities and their law enforcement agencies in the control of organized criminal gang behavior and the impact of gangs on the community. In 2003, the conviction rate for gang murders and attempted gang murders was 94.2 percent and 92.6 percent, respectfully.

Probation Department: Management of Probationers to Prevent New Crimes

The Probation Department works to prevent and reduce criminal behavior by holding probationers accountable through case management, supervision, and monitoring. The Department administers a variety of services to heighten and promote public safety. These services include recommendations of sanctions to the court, enforcement of court orders, the operation of juvenile halls and camps, the detention of delinquents, assistance to victims, and corrective assistance to individuals in conflict with the law.

Indicator of Countywide Conditions: **Number and percent change of adult and juvenile probationers under Probation Department supervision**

In 2002-2003:

Number of adult probationers and percent change:

2002: 60,277 **2003: 60,617**

Up 1 percent

Number of juvenile probationers and percent change:
2002: 21,406 **2003: 23,149**
Up 10.3 percent

Indicator of County Results: **Percentage of juvenile and adult probationers who successfully complete probation without committing new crimes**

In 2002-2003:
81.1% Percentage of adult probationers that successfully complete probation without committing new crimes

79.0% Percentage of juvenile probationers that successfully complete probation without committing new crimes

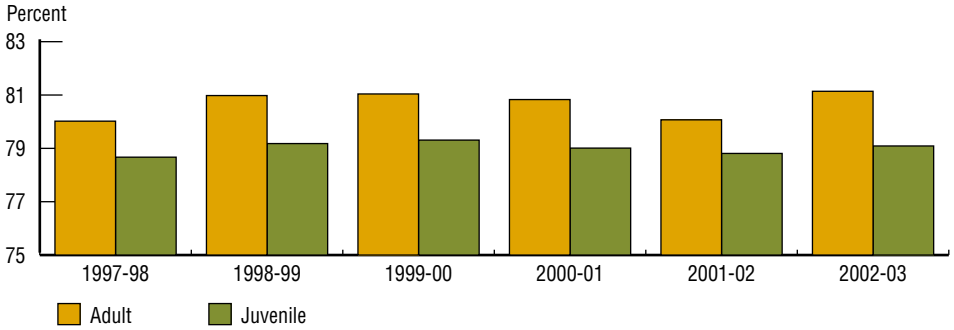
Why is it important?

Public safety is enhanced when juvenile and adult offenders are held accountable and redirected from delinquent and criminal behavior. The Department seeks to positively impact the behavior of probationers in its charge by utilizing strategies ranging from early intervention through suppression. As a result, public safety is enhanced, the family structure is maintained, and probationers are linked to needed rehabilitative services.

How are we doing?

The Probation Department continues to work effectively with adult and juvenile offenders in an attempt to successfully prevent further criminal behavior. As indicated in the chart below, approximately 79 to 80 percent of probationers consistently complete probation services without being involved in new crimes. The Probation Department remains committed to providing effective, community based services, and supervision to probationers while holding them accountable for their actions.

Percentage of Probationers Successfully Completing Probation without committing New Crimes



Source: County of Los Angeles Probation Department

Fire Department: Emergency Response

The public's perception of personal and community safety is also dependent on a responsive fire department. The County Fire Department serves an area covering 2,296 square miles and serves over 3,864,000 residents. The types of emergency calls received through the 911 system are an indicator of public safety trends in the County and the volume helps gauge the adequacy of the 911 system.

Indicator of Countywide Conditions: **Number of emergency calls by service type for the Los Angeles County Fire Department coverage area and percentage change**

In 2002:
12,010 Number of fire calls

170,072 Number of emergency medical services (EMS) calls

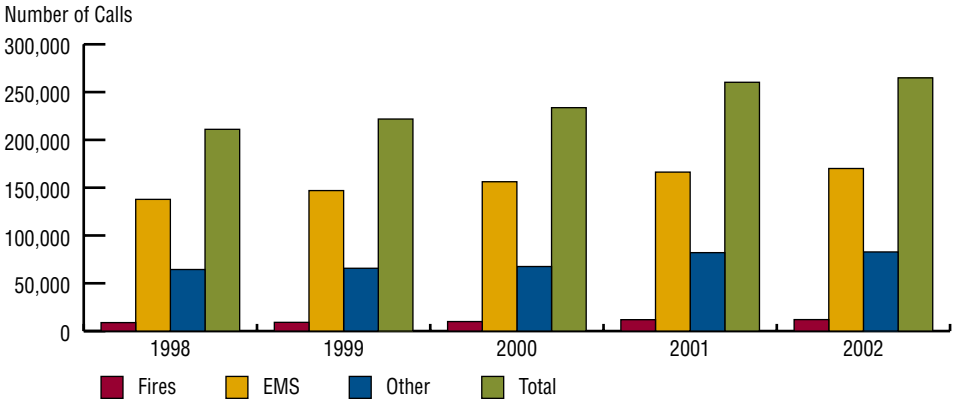
82, 790 Number of other calls, including false alarms, smoke scares, vehicle accidents, and miscellaneous incidents

25.5% Percentage increase in total emergency calls compared to 1998-1999

Source: County of Los Angeles Fire Department

As shown in the following figure, EMS calls have increased steadily, while fire calls have remained fairly constant. The trends are likely impacted by population increases that have occurred concurrently, a greater awareness of the 911 system, and the Fire Department's focus on fire prevention methods and building inspections.

Emergency Calls by Type



Source: County of Los Angeles Fire Department

Indicator of County Results: **Trend in average response time for urban, suburban, and rural emergency calls**

In 2002-2003:
4.5 minutes: Median response time for urban area calls

5.6 minutes: Median response time for suburban calls

7.3 minutes: Median response time for rural calls

Why is it important?

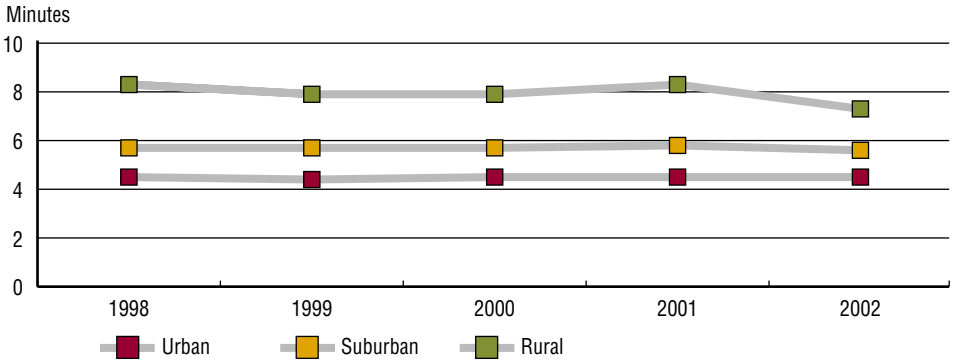
The more quickly Fire Department personnel arrive at the scene of an emergency after receipt of a 911 call, the greater the chance for a successful outcome.

How are we doing?

In 2002, County Fire personnel responded to over 260,000 emergency (911) calls. Over the past five years, it has responded to an average of nearly 236,000 calls annually.

The figure below displays the trend in response times since 1998, based on a 3-month average (July-September). Emergency response time is affected by many factors, including traffic patterns, population, and structure density, and number of business vs. residences. Response times are monitored separately for urban, suburban, and rural areas which have differences in the factors cited. On average, these response times compare favorably with other fire departments of comparable size.

Average Response TIme to Emergency Calls



Source: County of Los Angeles Fire Department

Sex Offender Locator Website

Indicator of Countywide Condition: **Number of sex offenders residing within Los Angeles County**

As of August 2004:

15,561 Estimated number of sex offenders in the County of Los Angeles

12,833 Number of serious offenders who have been convicted of any sexual assault

97 Number of high-risk offenders who have been convicted of multiple violent crimes, at least one of which has been a violent sex crime

2,631 Number of "other offenders" who have been convicted of less violent crimes

Source: Office of the Attorney General, State of California. www.caag.state.ca.us/megan/

While the United States Supreme Court has ruled that photos of convicted sex offenders may be posted on the Internet, California law still only permits access to pictures and information at local police stations.

Indicator of County Results: **Number of hits on the online Sex Offender Locator Website since inception in September 2002.**

As of September 2004

48,000 Daily average number of hits on the Website since inception in September 2002

35 Million Number of hits on the Website since inception

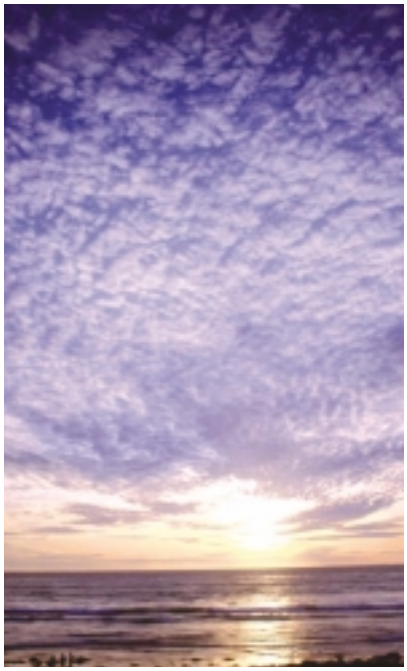
Why is it important?

The Website is a user–friendly, public safety tool that empowers the public with access to information on sex offenders in the community. It is a new addition to the resources the County manages to protect the community. The National Association of Counties honored the Website with its 2003 "Best in Category" achievement award.

How are we doing?

The County's Sex Offender Locator Website has received nearly 40 million hits since its inception in September 2002, an average of 130,000 hits is recorded every day – almost 5,500 per hour. The County's sex offender locator map is having real world results in apprehending predators and protecting our residents. It was reported that a Lancaster man was being too friendly with children in his neighborhood trailer park. Parents did a search and found there was an offender in the neighborhood. At their local Sheriff station, a search on Megan's Law database revealed that the man was a registered sex offender. Subsequent interviews of neighborhood children found one victim and further investigation found two additional victims. The man was arrested, thanks to the County's Website. More information on Megan's Law and access to the database can be found on the Internet at www.lacounty.info.

"Let Us Know What You Think" County Progress Report



We hope that you have found this initial edition of the Los Angeles County Progress Report (CPR) informative and useful. We seek to continually enhance the relevance and scope of the Progress Report in future editions and your input is of critical importance in this regard. Please take a few moments to answer the following questions and return this form to us by using the preprinted postage-paid address on the back. Thank you in advance for your interest and assistance.

On a scale of 1 – 5: (1 = low, 5 = high)

1 2 3 4 5 Rate the CPR in terms of clarity (e.g., understandable) and ease of use.

1 2 3 4 5 Rate the CPR in terms of relevance to what you view as the major priority County service areas.

1 2 3 4 5 Rate the CPR in terms of relevance to County services and operations which touch your life.

1 2 3 4 5 Rate each section of the CPR for the appropriateness, completeness and quality of the data presented. (Each section to be listed separately.)

Rate each section of the CPR for the appropriateness, completeness, and quality of the data presented.

1 2 3 4 5 Children and Families' Well-Being

1 2 3 4 5 Community Services

1 2 3 4 5 Health and Mental Health

1 2 3 4 5 Public Safety

What information/data in the CPR do you believe is extraneous and should be excluded? _____

_____

What information/data is missing from the CPR and should be included?

_____

_____

How do you believe the CPR is useful to the general public? To you? _____

_____

_____

How might the usefulness of the CPR be improved? _____

_____

_____

What other suggestions do you have to enhance the overall quality, usefulness and relevance of the CPR? _____

_____