METHODOLOGY

## BOLD VISION   MIDTERM REPORT

October 2024

Bold Vision is a multi-sector, multi-generational initiative that aims to transform L.A. County into a community where its Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) children and youth thrive. Launched in 2019, Bold Vision established a Community Council of 13 youth-organizing and youth-serving community-based organizations and embarked on an extensive community engagement process. This process resulted in a launch report released in 2022 that included the Bold Vision strategic framework, the priorities for Bold Vision's initial phase, and a set of indicators across Bold Vision's five key domains. Bold Vision's Midterm Report revisits these indicators and introduces new ones to help identify inequities that BIPOC youth face and measure progress toward youth thriving.

We examined racial and geographic outcomes and disparities for 19 indicators across Bold Vision's domains. The inequities raised in the report are not the result of youth and their families, but the result of biased and discriminatory policies and systems. This methodology dives into how we analyzed outcomes for each indicator and disparities within and across domains. Bold Vision's five domains, pictured on the following page, are: Community Organizing & Power Building, Positive Youth Development, Healthy Built Environment, Systems Impact, and Youth Power.

We thank and acknowledge everyone who played a role in developing and identifying these indicators and methodologies. This includes, but is not limited to, the Bold Vision Community Council, Bold Vision Youth Council, Bold Vision staff, Catalyst California staff, and members of Bold Vision's Survey Advisory Group who provided data—including the L.A. County Youth Development Department and Department of Public Health. Feedback from these stakeholders was imperative to how we measure, define, and visualize the data.

For a copy of the Bold Vision Midterm report, please visit: www.boldvisionla.org. For more information on the community engagement process that informed the original indicator selection, please review the Bold Vision launch report. For access to our visuals and scripts for each indicator, visit our GitHub repository.

BOLD VISION FRAMEWORK
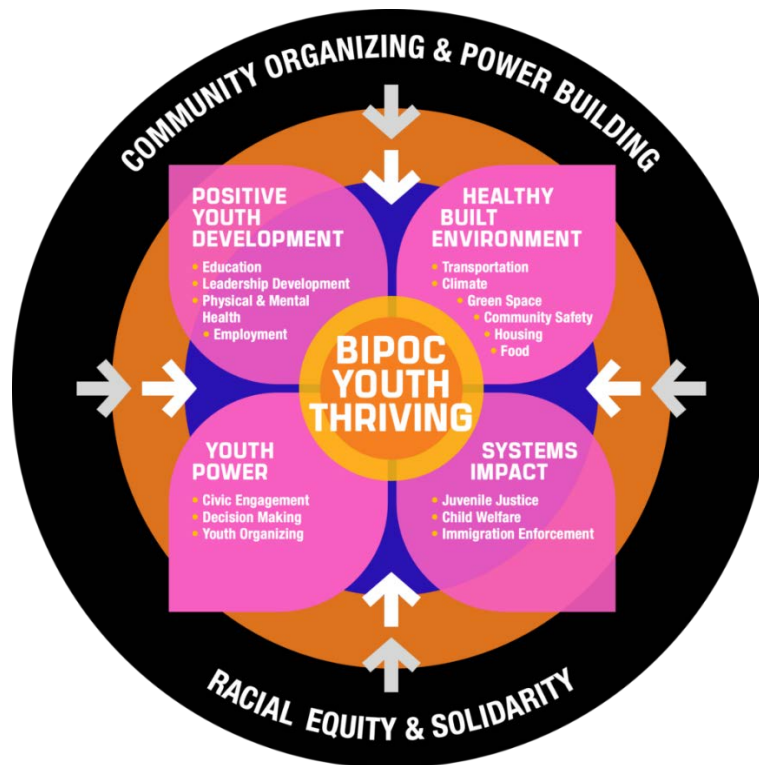
MEASURING OUTCOMES AND DISPARITIES

We analyze indicators and their respective domains in four ways to track (1) outcomes – how much youth are supported in reaching their fullest potential and (2) equity - the depth of disparity between racial groups and regions in L.A. County.

Outcomes by Race and Region

Estimates by race and region allow us to see racial and geographic outcomes in resources and opportunities for youth. Charts by race and region for every indicator are provided in our Indicator Findings, Charts, and Maps Appendix with at least one indicator spotlighted per domain in the full report.

We analyze outcomes for each indicator by race to see how outcomes vary by racial identity. In other words, we calculate an individual indicator estimate for each youth racial group, e.g., the percentage of Black youth who turn out to vote. We also calculate the overall outcome for BIPOC youth for each indicator, e.g., the percentage of BIPOC youth who turn out to vote. We define BIPOC youth as all youth other than non-Latinx, White youth. Our indicator methodologies explain how we calculate estimates by

race for each indicator. They may be direct estimates based on the data or, at times, on weighted averages using geographic population and indicator data.

We additionally analyze outcomes for each indicator by region in L.A. County, e.g., the percentage of youth in the Antelope Valley who are in foster care. We use L.A. County Service Planning Areas as a proxy for regions to maximize the number of indicators we can calculate by geography—given that data is often limited in its geographic granularity. They may be direct estimates based on the data or, at times, on spatial intersections or weighted averages that use smaller geographic units to aggregate up to regions. Our indicator methodologies explain how we calculate estimates by region for each indicator.

Indicator Differences by Race and Region

Before analyzing disparities by indicator, we determine the best, or most desirable, rate for every indicator. This may be the highest or lowest rate. For example, the best rate for youth arrests would be the lowest rate. We identify the racial group and region with the best rate and treat that group/region as the reference rate. Each group/region is compared to the reference rate to see the distance or disparity between each group/region and the reference rate. In other words, we take the difference between each group/region and the reference rate. Racial groups are compared to the racial group with the best rate. Regions are compared to the region with the best rate. For instance, Asian youth had the lowest rate of youth arrests out of all racial groups. We subtracted every racial group's arrest rate from the youth arrest rate among Asian youth to get a number difference between groups. These number differences form the basis of pink and purple heatmap tables throughout the report to show racial and regional differences within each domain. They allow us to see which racial groups and regions are most consistently impacted by higher disparities and worse outcomes with domains.

Index of Disparity by Indicator and Race/Region

Based on the racial and regional differences calculated for each indicator, we then calculate a measure called the index of disparity to compare disparities across indicators within a domain. This allows us to see which indicators within a domain show the greatest disparities in how they support young people. The index of disparity summarizes the average disparity seen across groups/regions expressed as a percentage. The index of disparity is calculated by taking the absolute value of the differences between groups/regions, summing them, dividing by the number of groups/regions minus one, and finally dividing by the best rate. This number is multiplied by a hundred to express it as a percentage. The result is a standard measure that allows us to compare indicators with different units. A higher percentage shows more disparity than a lower percentage. At times, we exclude an estimate from the index of disparity calculation if it is unstable and, as a result, dramatically increases the index of disparity score. These exclusions are noted in the indicator methodologies.

These index of disparity scores are shown in blue bar charts throughout the report to show which indicators have the highest or lowest disparities per domain. You can also compare scores across indicators in other domains. For example, the indicator youth in foster care in Systems Impact has a greater regional disparity (196.3%) than the indicator youth asthma (47.6%) in Positive Youth Development. You can interpret the index of disparity as follows: on average, there is a 47.6% disparity in youth asthma rates between regions.

We finally average the indicator-level index of disparity scores in each domain to have two final measures for every domain—the average racial and regional disparity. In other words, we add all the indicators' index of disparity scores in a domain and divide them by the number of indicators in the domain. With these average scores by domain, we can track how domains' disparities compare and, over time, how disparities are growing or shrinking within a domain.

For instance, in the simplest terms, we can compare the average racial disparity (index of disparity score) in Positive Youth Development (17.2%) to the average racial disparity in Systems Impact (612.6%). This comparison shows us how our child welfare, immigration, and criminal legal systems are exponentially failing our young people compared to systems in Positive Youth Development.

DEFINING REGIONS AND LIMITATIONS

We rely on L.A. County Service Planning Area (SPA) boundaries as an approximation for regions in the county. Each of our data sources vary in the geographic detail they publish. To compare the data across indicators and domains, we decided to use SPA boundaries as our main geographic unit. This allows us to compare and describe geographic disparities, improves the stability of our estimates, and increases the number of indicators available at sub-county levels. However, SPAs also overlook the nuances within L.A. County communities. The County primarily uses SPAs to develop and deliver services to communities. But SPA boundaries are often so large that one SPA may include an extremely high-income and a very low-income community with differing needs and experiences. For instance, the South Bay, SPA 8, includes the communities Palos Verdes and Inglewood. The median household income in Palos Verdes is $224,766, but only $67,563 in Inglewood.[1] We encourage readers to consider these nuances when exploring the disparities shown by region. Community narratives should be paired with the data presented to make sense of the trends shown and identify differences within regions.

DEFINING RACE AND LIMITATIONS

Disaggregating, or splitting, data by race is essential to tracking inequities in how systems serve our young people and communities, but too often how racial data is collected and who it is collected from falls short of representing the full spectrum of identities. We worked closely with community partners, youth, and subject matter experts to ensure that we present the indicators in ways that are inclusive and representative of youth racial identities even with data constraints. At times, some racial groups are missing from our estimates because the data source failed to include them as a category in data collection. Other times, the experiences of certain groups may be obscured by collapsing them with others, e.g., when Asian Pacific Islander is included as one category rather than disaggregated as two categories Asian and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (NHPI). Additionally, sometimes a single racial group includes diverse communities each with their own experience of racism and discrimination. For instance, because of limitations in our data sources, we often must combine all Asian identities into a

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[1] U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, Table S1901

single Asian category and all youth who identify as two or more races into Multiracial even though each category includes diverse communities and experiences.

Throughout our indicators, we strive to use the following racial categories. We acknowledge how these fall short of representing the diversity of youth identities and experiences in L.A. County. For better tracking of racial inequities, we must do better in highlighting the experiences of different Asian identities; collect more data on Southwest Asian or North African (SWANA), NHPI, and American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN) youth; and understand the growing population of Multiracial youth. Each indicator methodology specifies the racial groups included, and which groups were not available in the data.

Race and Ethnicity	Definition
Latine/x/o/a (Latine)[2]	Latine, including all Latine alone or in combination with another race
Black	Black alone, non-Latine
White	White alone, non-Latine
Asian	Asian alone, non-Latine
Multiracial	Two or more races, non-Latine
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (NHPI)	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, alone or in combination with another race or Latine
American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN)	American Indian or Alaska Native, alone or in combination with another race or Latine
Southwest Asian or North African (SWANA)	Southwest Asian (Middle Eastern) or North African, alone or in combination with another race or Latine

An Introduction to the term SWANA

Southwest Asian or North African (SWANA) is the term we use to describe communities from the Southwest Asia and North African region. It is more representative and inclusive than the orientalist term Middle Eastern or North African (MENA). Historically, SWANA people have been erased from data collection and reporting. The U.S. Census Bureau and its data products have grouped these communities into the White racial group, rendering invisible their unique experiences. Wars and conflict in the SWANA region have driven many people from these communities to the U.S. as refugees, where their identities have been negatively stereotyped and subject to prejudice or hate. Many SWANA folks also arrived for economic or educational opportunities and have contributed to the growing entrepreneurship economy here in the U.S.

We have created a method for creating proxy estimates for SWANA communities based on ancestry fields in the American Community Survey's microdata. We define SWANA ancestry based on the following categories: Afghan, Algerian, Amazigh, Arab, Armenian, Assyrian, Bahraini, Chaldean, Egyptian, Emirati, Iranian, Iraqi, Israeli, Jordanian, Kurdish, Kuwaiti, Lebanese, Libyan, Middle Eastern, Moroccan, North African, Omani, Palestinian, Qatari, Saudi, Sudanese, Syrian, Tunisian, Turkish, Yazidi, and Yemeni.[3] The

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[2] We use the term Latine to use gender-neutral terms and be responsive to youth feedback on their preferred labels for the Latine/x/o/a/Hispanic community.
[3] We replace the term Berber with Amazigh given the U.S. Census Bureau's problematic usage of the term Berber.

U.S. Census Bureau uses these labels and terms, and they do not necessarily reflect these groups' preferred terms. This list is also not exhaustive and will continue to change.

For a small number of indicators, we include estimates for SWANA/SA—Southwest Asian (Middle Eastern) or North African, or South Asian. Criminal justice data sometimes reports estimates for a Middle Eastern or South Asian category. We opt for the more representative term SWANA/SA. This includes South Asian people and people of SWANA descent. We use a combination of ancestry and race fields to create proxy estimates from SWANA/SA. We include the same ancestries as SWANA but add people of South Asian origin based on these categories: Asian Indian, Bangladeshi, Bhutanese, Maldivian, Nepalese, Pakistani, Sikh, Sindhi, and Sri Lankan.

Consensus on the identity groups included in the terms SWANA or MENA is still being built. These groups encompass a diversity of origins and intersections between national, geopolitical, religious, and ethnic identities. For years, advocacy organizations representing these communities have advocated for including a MENA category in the U.S Census to distinguish their experiences from the White experience. While the U.S. Census Bureau still delays in including MENA in data collection, our proxy estimates are the best available to help bring to light the discrimination experienced by these communities.

Positive Youth Development

INDICATOR: CONNECTED YOUTH

Measure: Percentage of youth ages 14-24 who are enrolled in school and/or working.

About: The connected youth indicator measures whether youth in L.A. County are connected to academic and labor systems via enrollment in schools or employment in the labor force. Youth under the age of 16 are not asked if they are employed, but youth have a right to work starting at 14 years old. For this analysis, we assume youth under 16 are unemployed. Their connection rates are determined only based on school enrollment. Youth are flagged as being connected to the school or labor force if they are employed and/or report current school enrollment. The best rate for this indicator is the highest rate.

Calculations by Race

Estimates by race are calculated based on respondent-reported race and ancestry fields. Race fields included in the American Community Survey Public Use Microdata are used for calculating rates for all race groups other than SWANA. Using microdata enables us to calculate connected youth percentages for SWANA youth by pulling ancestry fields in data.

Calculations by Region

Data is originally available by Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA), geographic areas defined by the Census Bureau for sampling and reporting, which we match to Service Planning Areas (SPAs). The assigning of PUMAs to SPA is based on the population density of youth ages 0 to 24. We assign PUMAs to any SPA where the PUMA has at least 30% of its population living. Since these geographies do not nest, edge effects in the analysis are present.

Limitations: The data used are microdata estimates, in other words, small samples of the total population with margins of error not shown in the analysis. This indicator only identifies whether youth are connected to school or the labor force. It is not a measure of the quality of those connections or whether they have supportive adults in those systems.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Another Race, non-Latine Multiracial, SWANA alone or in combination.

Ages Included: 14 to 24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of American Community Survey Public Use Microdata, 5-Year Estimates (2017-2021).

INDICATOR: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ACCESS

Measure: Average percentage of children under 5 who are enrolled in Early Care and Education (ECE) facilities in L.A. County.

About: This indicator measures access to ECE facilities based on population and ECE enrollment data. ECE includes licensed family child care, child care centers, pre-Kindergarten, and Transitional Kindergarten. We use child population and enrollment estimates from the American Institutes for Research and California Child Care Resource and Referral Network to first approximate the percentage of children under 5 enrolled in ECE facilities by ZIP Code in LA County. We then compute weighted averages and spatial analyses to apply these estimates to race groups and regions. The best rate for this indicator is the highest rate.

Calculations by Race

The data are not available by race. We calculate a weighted average by race group to estimate access rates by race. This involves averaging the availability of ECE in ZIP Codes by the racial composition of youth in those ZIP Codes. We rely on 2020 Census data to get counts by race and ZIP Code for children under 5.

Calculations by Region

The ECE data available are by ZIP code, which do not line up evenly with Service Planning Areas (SPAs) and have some matching issues with ZIP code tabulation areas, the Census approximation of ZIP codes. We match ZIP Codes to SPAs based on any ZIP Code having at least a 20% geographic overlap with any SPA. We then use a method called aerial apportionment to assign ZIP Code populations to SPAs based on the percentage geographic overlap. Weighted averages are used to then calculate an average percent access by SPA based on ZIP Code enrollment rates and population distribution.

Limitations: This indicator measures physical access to ECE and does not account for language, cultural, cost, or other barriers to ECE. It also assumes that ECE facilities in a ZIP Code are accessible to children living in that ZIP Code. It does not account for ECE seats being occupied by children living outside of the ZIP Code nor does it account for the number of ECE seats available in neighboring ZIP Codes. Because we rely on 2020 Census data for population figures, we are also unable to calculate an estimated SWANA access rate.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Another Race, non-Latine Multiracial.

Ages Included: 0-4

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of American Institutes for Research (2020), California Child Care Resource and Referral Network (2021), and U.S. Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (2020).

INDICATOR: ASTHMA

Measure: Percentage of youth ages 0-24 who have current asthma

About: This indicator is measured as the percentage of youth whose caregivers or themselves report them as having current asthma. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health provided direct estimates by race and region for this indicator based on their Los Angeles County Health Child and Adult Surveys. Child and adult survey samples are pooled to create overall estimates for the youth population ages 0-24. For youth 17 and under, data are based on reports from their caregivers or a person knowledgeable about them. For youth 18-24, data are based on their own self-reports from the adult survey. The best rate for this indicator is the lowest rate.

Calculations by Race

L.A. County Department of Public provided estimates by race. They combine estimates for Multiracial youth and youth identified as Another Race. For youth 17 and under, race data are based on reports from their caregivers or a person knowledgeable about them. For youth 18-24, race data are based on their self-reports from the adult survey. Estimates for AIAN and NHPI youth are unstable based on coefficients of variation over 40%.

Calculations by Region

L.A. County Department of Public provided estimates by Service Planning Area (SPA). SPA-level data are derived from household addresses.

Limitations: L.A. County Department of Public Health does not report data on SWANA youth. Additionally, data on Multiracial youth and youth identified as Another Race are combined. Data on youth 17 and under is based on reports from a person knowledgeable about them. This means that these reports may not be complete reflections of youth asthma status.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Multiracial or Another Race.

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Los Angeles County Health Survey (2023).

INDICATOR: HEALTH STATUS

Measure: Percentage of youth ages 0-24 who, or whose caregivers, report them as having good to excellent health status

About: This indicator measures the percentage of youth whose caregivers or themselves report their health status as good, very good, or excellent. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health provided direct estimates by race and region for this indicator based on their Los Angeles County Health Child and Adult Surveys. Child and adult survey samples are pooled to create overall estimates for the youth population ages 0-24. For youth 17 and under, data are based on reports from their caregivers or a person knowledgeable about them. For youth 18-24, data are based on their own self-reports from the adult survey. The best rate for this indicator is the highest rate.

Calculations by Race

L.A. County Department of Public provided estimates by race. They combine estimates for Multiracial youth and youth identified as Another Race. For youth 17 and under, race data are based on reports from their caregivers or a person knowledgeable about them. For youth 18-24, race data are based on their own self-reports from the adult survey.

Calculations by Region

L.A. County Department of Public provided estimates by Service Planning Area (SPA). SPA-level data are derived from household addresses.

Limitations: L.A. County Department of Public Health does not report data on SWANA youth. Additionally, data on Multiracial youth and youth identified as Another Race are combined. Data on youth 17 and under is based on reports from a person knowledgeable about them. This means that these reports may not be complete reflections of how a youth might report their health status.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Multiracial or Another Race.

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Los Angeles County Health Survey (2023).

INDICATOR: ACCESS TO NEEDED MEDICAL CARE

Measure: Percentage of youth ages 0-24 who, or whose caregivers, report them as having somewhat to very easy access to medical care when they needed it

About: This indicator measures the percentage of youth who, or their caregivers, report them as having very or somewhat easy access to medical care when they needed it. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health provided direct estimates by race and region for this indicator based on their Los Angeles County Health Child and Adult Surveys. Child and adult survey samples are pooled to create overall estimates for the youth population ages 0-24. For youth 17 and under, data are based on reports from their caregivers or a person knowledgeable about them. For youth 18-24, data are based on their own self-reports from the adult survey. The best rate for this indicator is the highest rate.

Calculations by Race

L.A. County Department of Public provided estimates by race. They combine estimates for Multiracial youth and youth identified as Another Race. For youth 17 and under, race data are based on reports from their caregivers or a person knowledgeable about them. For youth 18-24, race data are based on their own self-reports from the adult survey.

Calculations by Region

L.A. County Department of Public provided estimates by Service Planning Area (SPA). SPA-level data are derived from household addresses.

Limitations: L.A. County Department of Public Health does not report data on SWANA youth. Additionally, data on Multiracial youth and youth identified as Another Race are combined. Data on youth 17 and under is based on reports from a person knowledgeable about them. This means that these reports may not be complete reflections of how youth might report their ability to access care.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Multiracial or Another Race.

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Los Angeles County Health Survey (2023).

HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENT

INDICATOR: LACK OF GREEN SPACE

Measure: Average percent of impervious land cover in neighborhoods where youth live.

About: The indicator is a measure of the percentage of impervious land based on data from the Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium, National Land Cover Database. Impervious surfaces, mainly asphalt and concrete don't allow water to seep into the ground. They contribute to pollution and heat stress in urban areas. Impervious land data are available in 30-meter grid squares. We summarize these grids at the census tract level using the zonal statistics tool in ArcGIS. We use the median impervious land cover in each census tract as the basis for our calculations by race and region. The best rate for this indicator is the lowest rate.

Calculations by Race

The data are not available by race. We compute a weighted average to approximate lack of green space by race, averaging the percentage of impervious land in census tracts by the racial composition of youth in those tracts. The resulting rates are the weighted average percent of impervious land cover or lack of green space by race in L.A. County based on population demographics and land cover in each census tract.

Calculations by Region

Census tracts are matched to Service Planning Areas (SPAs) based on spatial intersect. Census tracts nest into SPAs. The percentage of impervious land cover by SPA is calculated by weighting the percentage of impervious land cover by each SPA's youth population distribution in their census tracts. In other words, census tracts with more of the SPA's youth population receive a higher weight in the final average.

Limitations: Impervious data are only available at 30-meter grid square resolution and updated every five years so may miss more granular or more recent land cover differences. These data are one indicator of potential pollution and heat impacts and not a measure of pollutants or heat impacts. Additionally, this indicator does not measure how accessible green spaces are to youth. Some areas not characterized by impervious land cover may be privately owned and not publicly accessible to youth. Because we rely on 2020 Census data, we are also unable to calculate lack of green space estimates for SWANA youth.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Another Race, non-Latine Multiracial.

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium, National Land Cover Database (2021) and the U.S. Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (2020).

INDICATOR: ACCESS TO FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Measure: Percentage of youth ages 0-17 whose parents, guardians, or decision makers rate their community's access to fresh fruits and vegetables as good or excellent

About: This indicator measures youth whose parents, guardians, or caregivers rated their community's access to fresh fruits and vegetables as good or excellent. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health provided direct estimates by race and region for this indicator based on their Los Angeles County Health Child Surveys. For youth 17 and under, data are based on reports from their caregivers or a person knowledgeable about them. The best rate for this indicator is the highest rate.

Calculations by Race

L.A. County Department of Public provided estimates by race. They combine estimates for Multiracial youth and youth identified as Another Race. For youth 17 and under, race data are based on reports from their caregivers or a person knowledgeable about them.

Calculations by Region

L.A. County Department of Public provided estimates by Service Planning Area (SPA). SPA-level data are derived from household addresses.

Limitations: L.A. County Department of Public Health does not report data on SWANA youth. Additionally, data on Multiracial youth and youth identified as Another Race are combined. Data on youth 17 and under is based on reports from a person knowledgeable about them. This means that these reports may not be complete reflections of how a youth perceive their access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Multiracial or Another Race.

Ages Included: 0-17

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Los Angeles County Health Survey (2023).

INDICATOR: RENT BURDEN

Measure: The percentage of youth living in rent-burdened households in L.A. County.

About: This indicator measures the percentage of youth living in rent-burdened households out of all youth living in eligible households. Rent burden is defined as a household spending 30% or more of their household income on rent. Eligible households are renter-households paying rent. The best rate for this indicator is the lowest rate.

Calculations by Race

Estimates by race are calculated based on respondent-reported race and ancestry fields. Race fields included in the American Community Survey Public Use Microdata are used for calculating rent burden rates for all race groups other than SWANA. We use ancestry fields to approximate rent burden rates for youth estimated to be of SWANA identity.

Calculations by Region

Data are originally available by Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA), geographic areas defined by the Census Bureau for sampling and reporting. We match PUMAs to SPAs based on the population density of youth ages 0-24. PUMAs are assigned to SPAs where they have at least an estimated 30% of their population living in the SPA. Since these geographies do not nest, edge effects in the analysis are present.

Limitations: Incomes and rent are subject to change and do not account for the wealth and debt or other costs of a household. The data used are microdata estimates, in other words, small samples of the total population with margins of error not shown in the analysis.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Another Race, non-Latine Multiracial, SWANA alone or in combination.

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of American Community Survey Public Use Microdata, 5-Year Estimates (2017-2021).

INDICATOR: TRAFFIC INJURIES / FATALITIES

Measure: Number of youth pedestrians and bicyclists killed or severely injured by traffic collisions per 100,000 youth from 2018 to 2022.

About: We utilized weighted averages, based on census-tract level data on transportation injuries, fatalities, and demographics, to calculate injuries and fatalities by racial group and region. We excluded data for census tracts with less than 100 people. Replicating methodologies used in safe streets initiatives throughout California, we concentrated on severe injuries and fatalities while excluding instances of minor injuries or complaints of pain. This prioritizes instances where the risk of significant harm is most acute. Utilizing the codebook provided by Traffic Injury Mapping System and the victim-level dataset, we filtered for victims with a degree of injury classified as killed, severe injury, or suspected serious injury. Additionally, we filtered for victim role, specifically targeting pedestrians or bicyclists, along with victims aged 24 and under. This approach ensures that efforts are targeted at addressing the most pressing issues in road safety for youth, with the ultimate goal of encouraging active transportation for all youth. To calculate estimates by race and region, we first matched the coordinates of fatalities and injuries to census tracts in the county. The best rate for this indicator is the lowest rate.

Calculations by Race

Transportation injury data is available by race, but only for the party relational data, which only includes the major players in the crash, not all victims. Since we worked with the victim relational data, we were not able to access race data for all victims when merging the victim data with the party relational data. Therefore, to address this, we employed a method known as a weighted average to approximate transit injuries and fatalities by race. This involves averaging the total severe injury and fatality rates per 1,000 individuals at the census tract level by the racial composition of youth in tracts throughout the county. The resulting rates are the weighted average transit injury and fatality rates by race in L.A. County based on population demographics and transit injuries/fatalities in each census tract. This approach helps estimate how transportation-related injuries and fatalities are distributed among different racial and ethnic groups within the youth population, even though the data is not directly categorized by race.

Calculations by Region

Like calculations by race, we also determined weighted averages at the Service Planning Area (SPA) level. Census tracts are matched to SPAs based on spatial intersection. Transit injury and fatality rates by SPA are calculated by weighting the census tract level transit injury and fatality rate by each SPA's youth population distribution in their census tracts. In other words, census tracts with more of the SPA's youth population receive a higher weight in the final average.

Limitations: Victim-reported race data is not reported for all victims in transit injuries and fatalities. Weighted averages use Census data at local geographies which precludes the ability to calculate statistics for SWANA populations or disaggregated subgroups of larger racial groups.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Another Race, non-Latine Multiracial, non-Latine White, NHPI alone or in combination.

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of the California Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System data (2018-2022) and the U.S. Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (2020).

INDICATOR: POLLUTION EXPOSURE

Measure: The average percentile of pollution exposure around sensitive land uses for youth 0-24 years old.

About: This indicator weights the average exposure to pollution by sensitive land uses commonly used by youth, at the census tract level. Sensitive land uses include parks, schools, family childcare homes, and early childcare centers. Exposure to pollution is determined by CalEnviroScreen 4.0 data's pollution burden score. We first rescale pollution burden scores to L.A. County census tracts. We then join location data on sensitive land uses to census tracts. Each tract is given a weighted pollution exposure score based on its share of sensitive land uses out of the county total. This census tract level score forms the basis of our calculations by race and region. While we have exact location data for most sensitive land uses, family childcare homes are reported by ZIP Code. The total number of family childcare homes in the ZIP Code is allocated to census tracts based on the percentage that the tract overlaps with the ZIP Code area. Some slight edge effects may be present in the allocation process. The best rate for this indicator is the lowest rate.

Calculations by Race

The data are not available by race. We use census tract population data to calculate a weighted average for this indicator by race. In other words, we average the census tract level pollution exposure scores by the racial composition of youth in those tracts. The resulting rates are the weighted average percentile of pollution exposure around sensitive land uses by race based on population demographics, pollution burden, and the share of sensitive land uses.

Calculations by Region

Census tract level scores are aggregated into Service Planning Areas (SPAs). Census tracts are matched to SPAs based on spatial intersection. Census tracts nest into SPAs. The pollution exposure around sensitive land uses by SPA is calculated by weighing pollution exposure by tract by each SPA's youth population distribution in each of their respective census tracts. In other words, census tracts with more of the SPA's youth population receive a higher weight in the final average.

Limitations: Our analysis assumes that all sensitive land uses are equally accessible and utilized across all youth in each census tract. We also assume that each census tract has at least one of each sensitive land use type. The Census does not report census tract population data for SWANA populations, meaning we are unable to publish estimates for SWANA youth. According to OEHHA, the CalEnviroScreen 4.0 pollution burden indicator is not a measure of health risk, rather a measure of vulnerability for the populations living in an area. Please note, CalEnviroScreen 4.0 compiles 21 indicators, see the report for additional limitations that exist for each indicator.

A percentile does not describe the magnitude of the difference between two or more areas (e.g., an area/group ranked in the 30th percentile is not necessarily 3 times more impacted than an area ranked in the 10th percentile). Instead, it should be described as showing the relative ranking of areas based on

their pollution exposure. Areas with a higher percentile of pollution exposure have relatively higher pollution exposure than areas with a lower score.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, non-Latine Another Race, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Multiracial, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine White.

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of GreenInfo Network's California Protected Areas (2023a) & School Campus (2021) Databases, California Community Care Licensing Division (2023), California OEHHA CalEnviroScreen 4.0 (2021), and U.S. Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (2020).

YOUTH POWER

INDICATOR: LIVING WAGE

Measure: Percentage of youth ages 15-24 who are in the labor force and receiving a living wage.

About: The following indicator measures the percentage of youth receiving a living wage out of all youth ages 15-24 who reported some wages and were at work last week or were employed. We exclude youth who reported being self-employed or employed through a family business – classes of workers who have different wages than other classifications. Hourly wages are calculated as the total wages reported divided by the estimated total hours worked. We set living wage at $16.90 - based on the minimum wage across L.A. County as of 2023. The best rate for this indicator is the highest rate.

Calculations by Race

Estimates by race are calculated based on respondent-reported race and ancestry fields. Race fields included in the American Community Survey Public Use Microdata are used for calculating rates for all race groups other than SWANA (Southwest Asian and North African). Using microdata enables us to calculate connected youth percentages for SWANA youth by pulling ancestry fields in data.

Calculations by Region

Data is originally available by Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA), geographic areas defined by the Census Bureau for sampling and reporting, which we match to Service Planning Areas (SPAs). The assigning of PUMAs to SPA is based on the population density of youth ages 0 to 24. We assign PUMAs to any SPA where the PUMA has at least 30% of its population living. Since these geographies do not nest, edge effects in the analysis are present.

Limitations: The data used are microdata estimates, in other words, small samples of the total population with margins of error not shown in the analysis. While we use a wage rate that is higher than $15/hour, which used to be considered the living wage, our estimates likely overestimate living wage rates given inflation. Our estimates also do not account for household size and number of wage earners in a household. As of February 14, 2024, the MIT Living Wage Calculator, which adjusts living wage rates based on the minimum standards and costs of living in an area, estimated that 1 adult with 0 children in L.A. County must earn an hourly rate of $26.63 to support themselves and meet their basic needs working full-time. A family with 2 working adults and 2 children must have each worker earn a minimum of $33.24 an hour.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Another Race, non-Latine Multiracial, SWANA alone or in combination.

Ages Included: 15 to 24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of American Community Survey Public Use Microdata, 5-Year Estimates (2017-2021).

INDICATOR: ACCESS TO BASE-BUILDING ORGANIZATIONS

Measure: Average percentile access youth (ages 0-24) have to organizations focused on advocacy and base-building

About: This indicator measures the level of access youth have to LA county-based nonprofits that are focused on building youth advocacy and engagement. It factors in the density of organizations and youth to measure access both as a function of the number of organizations in an area and the number of youth nearby that could access them. We rely on data from USC Equity Research Institute's "California Health and Justice for All Power-Building Landscape: Defining the Ecosystem" as well as data from the Internal Revenue Service Exempt Organizations Business Master File Extract and Cause IQ's nonprofit directory.

To calculate the indicator, we first calculate a census tract level access score that is later used to calculate weighted averages by region and race. We match organizations to address data included in the IRS data and geocode their addresses. We then use the enhanced two-step floating catchment area (E2SFCA) method to calculate census tract access scores. This method involves calculating the youth population within a distance from each organization to obtain an organization level supply-to-demand ratio. We use buffer zones of 0-3 miles, 4-7 miles, and 8-10 miles. Populations further from the organization are weighted to have less access. We then use population weighted census tract centroids to summarize access scores for organizations within 3, 7, and 10 miles of each census tract. Organizations further from the census tract are weighted less. These final scores are converted to percentiles to have a final percentile measure of lowest to highest access to base-building organizations for every census tract in the county. These scores are used to estimate scores by region and race. They essentially demonstrate the level of access across the county as a function of supply (number of organizations) and demand (youth population). The best rate for this indicator is the highest rate.

Calculations by Race

We calculate average percentile access scores by race by averaging access to base-building organizations in census tracts by the racial composition of youth in those tracts. Called a weighted average, this method uses Census data counts by race at local geographies to estimate trends by race at larger geographies. Final rates by race can be interpreted as average percentile access scores.

Calculations by Region

We calculate average percentile access scores by region by averaging access to base-building organizations in census tracts within each Service Planning Area (SPA)—weighting by the distribution of the SPA's youth population in each tract. Like calculations by race, this weighted average approach uses Census data counts at local geographies to estimate trends at larger geographies, accounting for the distribution of the population. Final rates by region can be interpreted as average percentile access scores.

Limitations: We try to approximate service areas by using buffer zones around each organization and census tract. However, service areas for each organization may be smaller or larger than the areas we studied. We were also unable to find and map addresses for all organizations, and many organizations have headquarters and satellite site relationships that are more nuanced than we could model. This indicator also does not account for adequate funding to serve the population accessing services. Nor does it adjust for greater need in some areas due to historic disenfranchisement and suppression. Lastly, limited data at census tract level precludes the ability to calculate statistics for SWANA youth or disaggregate subgroups of larger racial/ethnic groups, e.g., Asian youth.

Race Groups Included: AIAN alone or in combination, NHPI alone or in combination, Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Another Race, non-Latine Multiracial.

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of the USC Equity Research Institute, California Health and Justice for All Power-Building Landscape: Defining the Ecosystem (2019); IRS Business Master File Extract (2023); and Cause IQ Nonprofit Directory (2022). Population data from U.S. Census Bureau, Centers of Population by Census Tract (2020) and U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (2020).

INDICATOR: YOUTH VOTER TURNOUT

Measure: Percent of youth (ages 18-29) who turned out to vote during presidential and midterm election years out of eligible youth

About: This indicator measures the percentage of eligible youth (ages 18 to 29) who voted in presidential and midterm elections in the pooled data years 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2020. Eligible youth voters are defined as adult citizens ages 18 to 29. We pooled estimates from the Current Population Survey Voting Supplement using weights from the supplement. We estimated the standard error using the generalized variance parameters as published in the 2016 CPS November Supplement Codebook for the different racial groups. The index of disparity by race and region for this indicator is calculated using the best (or highest) rate of people who voted in presidential and midterm elections.

Calculations by Race

We use respondent-reported race fields to calculate estimates by race for this indicator. NHPI estimates for this indicator were unstable. The dataset does not include a category for SWANA, nor does it include details on respondent-reported ancestry. Therefore, we were unable to publish estimates for SWANA youth.

Calculations by Region

The data only includes a limited number of principal cities within the Los Angeles Metropolitain Service Area (MSA). However, estimates at the city level were highly unstable for most cities and, these cities do not nest into Service Planning Areas without significant edge effects. Therefore, we chose not to include estimates by region for this indicator.

Limitations: The data source includes a limited sample of respondents and race categories. Therefore, SWANA data could not be collected from this data source and NHPI estimates were unstable. Newer data, later than 2020 was also not available. Due to this survey's smaller sample size, we also had to aggregate several survey years, extending to 10 years before the current year and were unable to publish estimates by region.

Race Groups Included: non-Latine White alone, non-Latine Black alone, Latine, AIAN alone or in combination, non-Latine Asian alone, NHPI alone or in combination, non-Latine Multiracial.

Ages Included: 18-29

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of IPUMS Current Population Survey Voting Supplement (2014, 2016, 2018 and 2020).

INDICATOR: POLITICALLY ENGAGED YOUTH

Measure: Percent of youth (ages 18-29) who reported engaging in at least one political engagement activity

About: This indicator measures the percentage of youth (ages 18 to 29) who are politically engaged in the pooled data years 2013, 2017, 2019 and 2021. Political engagement is defined as someone who bought or boycotted a product based on a company's social or political values, discussed politics with friends or family at least monthly, or contacted a public official. Using the supplement weight, we pooled estimates from the Current Population Survey Civic Engagement Supplement. We estimated the standard error using the generalized variance parameters published in the 2016 CPS November Supplement Codebook for the different racial groups. The index of disparity by race and region for this indicator is calculated using the best (highest) rate of people who engaged politically.

Calculations by Race

We use respondent-reported race fields to calculate estimates by race for this indicator. NHPI estimates for this indicator were unstable. The dataset does not include a category for SWANA, nor does it include details on respondent-reported ancestry. Therefore, we were unable to publish estimates for SWANA youth.

Calculations by Region

The data only includes a limited number of principal cities within the Los Angeles Metropolitain Service Area (MSA). However, estimates at the city level were highly unstable for most cities. And these cities do not nest into Service Planning Areas without significant edge effects. Therefore, we chose not to include estimates by region for this indicator.

Limitations: The data source includes a limited sample of respondents and race categories. Therefore, SWANA data could not be collected from this data source and NHPI estimates were unstable. Newer data, later than 2021 was also not available. Due to this survey's smaller sample size, we also had to aggregate several survey years, extending to 10 years before the current year and were unable to publish estimates by region. Additionally, while the supplement includes other types of civic engagement activities, these other activities were not included consistently across survey years, limiting our ability to include them in our analysis. These activities also encompass political engagement but were not included in our analysis due to limited data years: served on a committee or as an officer of an organization, participated in a service or civic organization, participated in a school, neighborhood, or community association, expressed opinions on the Internet, and voted frequently in local elections.

Race Groups Included: non-Latine White alone, non-Latine Black alone, Latine, AIAN alone or in combination, non-Latine Asian alone, NHPI alone or in combination, non-Latine Multiracial.

Ages Included: 18-29

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of IPUMS Current Population Survey Civic Life and Volunteer Supplements (2013, 2017, 2019 and 2021).

SYSTEMS IMPACT

INDICATOR: YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE OR PROBATION SYSTEMS

Measure: Average foster care and probation rates per 1000 youth ages 0-20

About: This indicator represents the average number of children in the foster care and/or probation systems per 1000 youth 0-20. It is measured by averaging the quarterly point in time counts and dividing the resulting average count by the total youth population estimates from the U.S. Census by 1000. Population estimates by age and race are derived from the Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC) File. UC Berkeley provided the data to Catalyst California by special request. The best rate for this indicator is the lowest rate.

Calculations by Race

We scale the average count of youth from each race group in foster care and probation to the youth population for each race group. Fewer race/ethnicity groups are reported by the data source. Estimates for Asian and Pacific Islander are combined, and no estimates are available for SWANA or Multiracial youth.

Calculations by Region

UC Berkeley matches youth to Service Planning Areas (SPAs) based on regional offices. We then average the quarterly point-in-time estimates provided by SPAs. Importantly, SPA-level data for probation youth was not provided. Matching population estimates are created for each SPA based on census-tract level data from the Census DHC File. Census tracts nest into SPAs to calculate the total youth population for ages 0-20 by SPA.

Limitations: The categories for Asian and Pacific Islander (API) youth are not disaggregated and instead combined. Similarly, data for Multiracial and SWANA youth are not reported. This erases the experience of these groups. The data also only includes youth up to age 20, meaning transitional age youth who are impacted by prior child welfare or probation involvement are not included in our estimates.

Race Groups Included: non-Latine White alone, non-Latine Black alone, Latine/o/a/x, non-Latine American Indian or Alaskan Native alone, non-Latine Asian or Pacific Islander alone.

Ages Included: 0-20

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of California Child Welfare Indicators Project, L.A. County Point in Time Counts for Foster Care and Probation, UC Berkeley (2023) and the U.S. Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (2020).

INDICATOR: GRADUATION RATES AMONG SYSTEMS-IMPACTED YOUTH

Measure: Percentage of systems-impacted youth who completed their high school education within four years

About: This indicator measures the high school completion rate within four years for systems-impacted youth, defined as foster youth and students attending schools with Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS). DASS schools are more likely to serve high-risk or juvenile court-involved students. We include foster youth that are enrolled in DASS and non-DASS schools. We also include graduation rates of foster youth and DASS students enrolled in charter or non-charter schools. We use county totals for our estimates by race and school-level totals for our estimates by region. The best rate for this indicator is the highest rate.

Calculations by Race

We utilize the race data provided by the California Department of Education to report graduation rates by race specifically for DASS students. However, due to the unavailability of race data for foster youth students, we only present a total graduation rate for this group. While we present data for foster youth alongside our estimates by race, we do not include the foster youth graduation rate in our index of disparity calculations.

Calculations by Region

We calculated regional rates by joining schools with their respective Service Planning Area (SPA) based on the school's locations. SPA-level graduation rates represent the average graduation rates for schools within their boundaries. The calculations by SPA include foster youth and DASS students combined, including those enrolled in charter schools.

Limitations: The data source does not include data for SWANA youth. Additionally, it does not allow us to calculate estimates for multiracial AIAN and NHPI youth. Additionally, five schools tagged as being within L.A. County by the data source had addresses outside of L.A. County. Consequently, we opted to exclude these schools from our analysis. Lastly, our analysis does not account for attendance boundaries or systems-impacted youth who may be attending private schools or other schools not included in the data.

Race Groups Included: Non-Latine Asian, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Filipino/e/a/x, Latine, non-Latine American Indian or Alaskan Native, non-Latine Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, non-Latine Multiracial, non-Latine White.

Ages Included: 14-18

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of California Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate and Outcome Data (2021-2022).

INDICATOR: YOUTH IN UNDOCUMENTED FAMILIES

Measure: Percent of youth (0-24) who are predicted to be undocumented or live with undocumented family members

About: This indicator measures the share of youth in mixed status families. It includes youth who are predicted to be undocumented or live with undocumented family members. Data were received from the University of Southern California's (USC) Equity Research Institute (ERI), which produces data for the California Immigrant Data Portal. Estimates are based on an approach developed by Professor Manuel Pastor that relies on a series of conditions, or "logical edits" that predicts who among the non-citizen population is least likely to be undocumented. Probability estimates are based on logistic regression models created from the Survey of Income and Program Participation, with the model being applied to American Community Survey microdata. Results of the model are compared to totals from immigration experts. Please see the California Immigrant Data Portal's methodology page for more information (https://immigrantdataca.org/about/methodology). The best rate for this indicator is the lowest rate.

Calculations by Race

Predicted estimates by race were provided by USC ERI based on the model.

Calculations by Region

USC ERI provided us with total estimates of undocumented youth by Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA) (a set of 69 neighborhoods used by the Census for sampling and reporting). We match PUMAs to Service Planning Areas (SPAs) by the area they intersect, keeping matches where the PUMA had at least a 20% overlap with the SPA. Totals by PUMA are allocated proportionally to SPAs based on the percent each PUMA overlapped with each SPA, a method called aerial apportionment.

Limitations: There is limited data on undocumented youth and these estimates are based on predictions from a statistical model. Because of limited data, this indicator does not include trends for NHPI, AIAN, Multiracial, or SWANA youth. Additionally, relying on PUMA-level estimates may overlook nuances within those areas. In other words, a PUMA that crosses into multiple SPAs could have very different trends in one area of the PUMA than the other. Our calculations by region assume that trends and populations are constant throughout each PUMA.

Race Groups Included: Latine, non-Latine Black, non-Latine Asian, non-Latine White, non-Latine Another Race (includes persons identified as Another Race, Multiracial, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander).

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: USC Equity Research Institute's calculations of American Community Survey Public Use Microdata, 2017-2021 5-Year Estimates, from IPUMS USA and the Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2014.

INDICATOR: YOUTH ARRESTS

Measure: Number of youth arrests per 1,000 youth ages 0-24

About: This indicator measures the rate at which youth (ages 0-24) are arrested by any law enforcement in L.A. County. We combine data from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD), and the California Department of Justice (CADOJ) Racial Identity & Profiling Act (RIPA) to have full coverage of youth arrests across L.A. County. We include arrests that were done with or without a warrant. Rather than relying solely on RIPA data for analysis, we combine data sources to have more geographic details about the location of stops in LAPD or LASD boundaries. CADOJ RIPA data does not publish geographic details about the location of the stop. We use data from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) and Census to scale arrest counts to the youth population for each race group and region. The best rate for this indicator is the lowest rate.

Calculations by Race

We calculated the total number of arrests for each racial group, combining the counts from each data source. We then divided this count by the total youth population of the same race and multiplied the result by 1,000 to obtain the rate of arrests per 1,000 youth ages 0-24. To be able to calculate rates for the Southwest Asian or North African, or South Asian (SWANA/SA) youth population, we use ACS microdata to create youth population estimates. We rely on self-reported race fields for all race groups other than SWANA/SA. For SWANA/SA, we combine self-reported race and ancestry to derive proxy estimates for this group.

Calculations by Region

To determine youth arrests by SPA, we utilized shapefiles representing LAPD reporting districts and public safety station boundaries. LAPD arrest data includes a reporting district for each stop and, at times, longitude and latitude coordinates. LASD arrest data includes the sheriff station and approximate address of where the stop took place. CADOJ RIPA data includes the law enforcement agency that completed the stop. We created a cross-reference of these boundaries with Service Planning Areas (SPAs) to identify spatial intersections. A 20% threshold was applied to determine assignment for public safety stations, meaning public safety stations with at least 20% of their area within an SPA were considered part of it. To avoid double counting arrests when a public safety station belonged to multiple SPAs, we multiplied the arrest count by the percentage of spatial overlap, a method known as aerial apportionment. Reporting districts and SPAs nested directly, meaning there were no duplicates. For a small number of LAPD and LASD arrests that did not have a reporting district or station reported or failed to match to a SPA, we match them to SPAs based on provided geographic coordinates and address fields. We finally use census-tract data from the Census' Demographic and Housing Characteristics File to scale arrest counts by the youth population in each SPA. We aggregate the youth population counts of all census tracts in each SPA.

Limitations: There are variations in how LAPD, LASD, and CADOJ report race and ethnicity of people stopped. While LASD and CADOJ allow for multiple selections of race, LAPD only allows for reporting of

single race groups. To address this, we classified individuals identifying as "another race" in the LAPD dataset into the Multiracial category that CADOJ and LASD report. While we calculate estimates for AIAN, NHPI, and SWANA/SA alone or in combination, for LAPD, these groups only include individuals perceived as being these identities alone. This means the rates for these groups may be underestimates. Importantly, the race reported in stop data is based on officer perceptions while data from the Census and ACS are based on self-reported identity. This can lead to underestimates or overestimates for particular groups depending on whether officers are more or less likely to perceive individuals as a certain race. Lastly, because RIPA data does not provide geographic details about stops beyond the law enforcement agency that conducted the stop, edge effects are present.

Race Groups Included: Latine; non-Latine White; non-Latine Black; non-Latine Asian; American Indian or Alaska Native alone or in combination; Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander alone or in combination; Southwest Asian (Middle Eastern) or North African, or South Asian alone or in combination; non-Latine Multiracial or Another Race.

Ages Included: 0-24

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) arrest data (2022), Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) stop data (2022), and California Department of Justice (CADOJ) Racial Identity & Profiling Act (RIPA) stop data (2022); American Community Survey Public Use Microdata, 5-Year Estimates (2017-2021); and U.S. Census Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (2020).

INDICATOR: YOUTH DIVERTED FROM ARRESTS

Measure: Number of youth (ages 10-17) redirected towards diversion programs per 100 youth arrests

About: This indicator measures the frequency with which youth are redirected towards diversion programs as an alternative to arrest or court involvement in L.A. County. The youth diversion rate is based on the ratio of youth who enroll in and/or complete youth diversion programs to youth arrests within the same race group during the same timeframe. We combine data from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD), and the California Department of Justice (CADOJ) Racial Identity & Profiling Act (RIPA) to have full coverage of youth arrests across L.A. County. Rather than relying solely on RIPA data for analysis, we combine data sources to have more geographic details about the location of stops in LAPD or LASD boundaries. We include arrests that were done with or without a warrant. In the LAPD data, we exclude dependency arrests, which are youth taken into custody when their guardian or caretaker is arrested. These youth would be referred to child welfare and would not be part of diversion programs. For diversion counts, we received 2022 data from the L.A. County Department of Youth Development (DYD). The best rate for this indicator is the lowest rate.

Calculations by Race

We calculated the number of youth who enrolled in or substantially completed diversion programs in 2022 by race group. We then divided this count by the number of youth who were arrested in the same race group and multiplied by 100 to obtain the diversion rate per 100 youth arrests. Because DYD does not disaggregate Asian and Pacific Islander data, we had to combine arrest counts for Asian and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander youth.

Calculations by Region

Youth diversion data was available at the ZIP Code level. We utilized a spatial crosswalk between ZIP Codes and SPAs to calculate the total diversion count at the Service Planning Area (SPA) level. We matched ZIP Codes to each SPA where they had at least a 20% geographic overlap. To address cases where a ZIP code was linked to multiple SPAs, we multiplied the total diversion count by the percentage of spatial overlap between ZIP Codes and SPAs. For determining youth arrests for ages 10-17, we used the same methodology as the youth arrests indicator—cross-referencing boundaries of LAPD reporting districts, public safety station boundaries, and SPAs. After computing the arrest count by SPA, the youth diversion count was divided by the arrest count and multiplied by 100 to derive the final diversion rate per 100 youth arrests by SPA.

Limitations: In line with the methodology for the youth arrests indicator, we grouped individuals perceived as "another race" in the LAPD data or identifying as "other" in the DYD data into the Multiracial category. While we show the diversion rate for Multiracial youth, we exclude this rate from index of disparity calculations due to its significantly higher rate. We suspect that this rate may be inflated due to inconsistencies in how agencies report Multiracial and the possibility that youth may self-report as Multiracial more frequently than officers perceive them as such. Also, DYD does not disaggregate API data, so we must report a combined estimate for the API community. This conceals differences in

diversion rates among Asian and NHPI subgroups. Importantly, the race reported in stop data is based on officer perceptions while data from the Census and ACS are based on self-reported identity. This can lead to underestimates or overestimates for particular groups depending on whether officers are more or less likely to perceive individuals as a certain race. Additionally, while LAPD data clearly reports which arrests were dependency arrests, this information is not clear in RIPA or LASD data. Dependency arrests may therefore be included in regions policed by the Sheriff or non-LAPD police agencies. Lastly, because we rely on ZIP Codes and station boundaries, geographies that do not nest into SPAs, to calculate this indicator, edge effects are present.

Race Groups Included: Latine; non-Latine White; non-Latine Black; non-Latine Asian and Pacific Islander; American Indian or Alaska Native alone or in combination; Southwest Asian (Middle Eastern) or North African, or South Asian alone or in combination; Non-Latine Multiracial or Another Race.

Ages Included: 10-17

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) arrest data (2022), Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) stop data (2022), California Department of Justice (CADOJ) Racial Identity & Profiling Act (RIPA) stop data (2022), and Los Angeles County Department of Youth Development diversion data (2022).

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING & POWER-BUILDING

INDICATOR: POWER BUILDING ORGANIZATIONS

Measures: (1) Average budget of base-building and social advocacy organizations serving youth
(2) Average tenure of base-building and social advocacy organizations serving youth

About: To help get a sense of the strength of L.A. County's youth power-building ecosystem, these indicators measure the budget and tenure of base-building organizations in the county. We rely on data from USC Equity Research Institute's "California Health and Justice for All Power-Building Landscape: Defining the Ecosystem", the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Exempt Organizations Business Master File Extract, and Cause IQ's nonprofit directory. Based on these data sources, we create a list of organizations serving youth with primary activities related to social advocacy or base-building. We match these organizations as best as possible to income and tenure data in the IRS Business Master File. We only include unique organizations, meaning if an organization has multiple sites in the county, we only include them once in our calculations. Often, income data is only reported once in the IRS file for these multi-site organizations.

Budget

We measure the average budget through income data included in the IRS file. The income of base-building organizations is highly skewed—with most organizations having lower incomes and a few having very high incomes. We therefore rely on the median as a measure of central tendency over the mean.

Tenure

We measure average tenure based on the ruling date, or the first time an organization filed as an exempt organization. We calculate tenure using the date January 1, 2024. The tenure of base-building organizations is relatively normally distributed with the median and mean tenure being close to 23-24 years. We rely on the median to measure central tendency over the mean to be consistent with the budget data.

Limitations: We could not match all organizations to the corresponding data in the IRS file. Out of 222 organizations we identified, 74 were missing in the IRS file. This is often due to smaller organizations relying on fiscal sponsors to register with the IRS versus being able to file as an exempt organization independently. Therefore, our budget and tenure figures could be overestimated without these smaller organizations included.

Data Sources: Catalyst California's calculations of the USC Equity Research Institute, California Health and Justice for All Power-Building Landscape: Defining the Ecosystem (2019); IRS Business Master File Extract (2023); and Cause IQ Nonprofit Directory (2022).