

SOUTH LA DECIDES: CHILDREN DATA AND MAPPING PORTAL

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September 29, 2021

About the Data and Mapping Tool

This data and mapping portal is designed to provide stakeholders in South Los Angeles with information about the socioeconomic status of young children and their neighborhoods. The portal helps empower community members by providing insights that inform, focus and sharpen their advocacy on behalf of children with the goal of improving their future. The initial objective is to use the data to engage in redistricting, the once in a decade process of redrawing electoral district lines. The portal can also be used to design policies and programs that enrich the lives of young children.

The information for the data and mapping portal resides on two geographic information system (GIS) maprooms, covering two time periods:

- ◆ **2010/12:** <https://arcg.is/00iHCP0>
- ◆ **2018/19:** <https://arcg.is/14qarq>

The time periods cover the most recently available data (2018/2019) and roughly the previous census (2010/2012).

Data and Boundaries You'll Find

Each of the maprooms contains 11 data layers related to the topics of early childhood, food security, employment opportunities, and key neighborhood demographics. Data is reported at the census tract level¹. In addition, the maprooms also contain boundaries of key elected representatives.

1. Early Childhood

Percent children 5 and under - this indicator represents the population 5 years and younger. Data is derived from the American Community Survey. We estimated this age population using two tables from the ACS:

- Table B01001. Sex By Age
- Table B17001. Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Sex by Age

Percent enrolled in preschool - this indicator represents the population 3 years and over that are enrolled in nursery school or preschool. The information is normalized by the population ages 0-4. It is constructed using two tables from the ACS:

- Table B14001. School Enrollment By Level Of School For The Population 3 Years and Over
- Table B01001. Sex By Age

¹ A "census tract" is an area roughly equivalent to a neighborhood established by the Bureau of Census for analyzing populations. The Bureau of the Census describes census tracts as "a relatively homogenous area with respect to population characteristics, economic status and living conditions." The population for a census tract ranges from 2,500 to 8,000 people.

Licensed child care slots per children ages 0-4 - This indicator represents the number of licensed child care slots that are available to children ages 0-4 using data from California Department of Social Services for slots in licensed childcare centers divided by the number of children ages 0-4 from the American Community Survey. We used centers with an active license for the relevant years.

Percent children 5 and under in poverty - This indicator represents the population five years and younger living in poverty. The poverty rates for the two time periods are not directly comparable because the two time periods are not at the same point in the business cycle. Recessions and expansions affect the number of households in poverty. The information is, nonetheless, useful in comparing differences across neighborhoods within a time period.

2. Food Security

Percent children households w/SNAP - this indicator represents the share of households with children that receive Food Stamps or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which is the largest federal nutrition assistance program provided to low-income individuals and families. The information is derived from the following ACS table:

- Table B22002. Receipt Of Food Stamps/Snap In The Past 12 Months By Presence Of Children Under 18 Years By Household Type For Households

Low-access to supermarkets - this indicator represents census tracts that are designated by the USDA as having low-access to supermarkets. The USDA defines these tracts as “A tract with at least 500 people, or 33 percent of the population, living more than one-half mile (urban areas) or 10 miles (rural areas) from the nearest supermarket, supercenter, or large grocery store.” For more information see the [USDA Food Access Research Atlas documentation page](#). While the quality and accuracy of this measure are unknown, some potential limitations of food access measures are that the data used may not be representative of a community’s food needs (such as access to culturally relevant retailers) and does not include community-driven food security strategies. Others have found inconsistencies with alternative indicators in what is designated as underserved neighborhoods ([Xiaoguang Ma, et al., 2013](#)), and CNK’s preliminary assessment finds some inaccuracies in the USDA designation for Los Angeles. This may be due to using outdated or partial listings. There are also possible technical limitations due to lack of geographic precision (using tracts rather than much smaller units) and not accounting for the relative number of persons per store (a large ratio may indicate being underserved if a single nearby store is in an extremely dense location). Despite these limitations, the USDA does provide useful insights, which should be used with local knowledge.

3. Employment Opportunities

Jobs per labor force population - this indicator represents the number of jobs that are available to the labor force population in a neighborhood, which is a proxy to identify neighborhoods with greater employment opportunities (“job rich”) and fewer opportunities (“job poor”). Job counts are from the U.S. Census Bureau [Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics \(LEHD\) program](#)

for the appropriate year. The total number of jobs is divided by the number of people in the labor force reported from the 2008-12 and 2015-19 ACS data.

- Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics [Origin-Destination Employment Statistics \(LODES\)](#)
- Table B23025. Employment Status For Population 16 Years And Over
- Limitation: The jobs-worker ratios for the two time periods are not directly comparable because the two time periods cover different parts of the business cycle. Recessions and expansions affect the number of jobs and size of the labor force. The information is, nonetheless, useful in comparing differences across neighborhoods within a time period.

4. Key Demographics

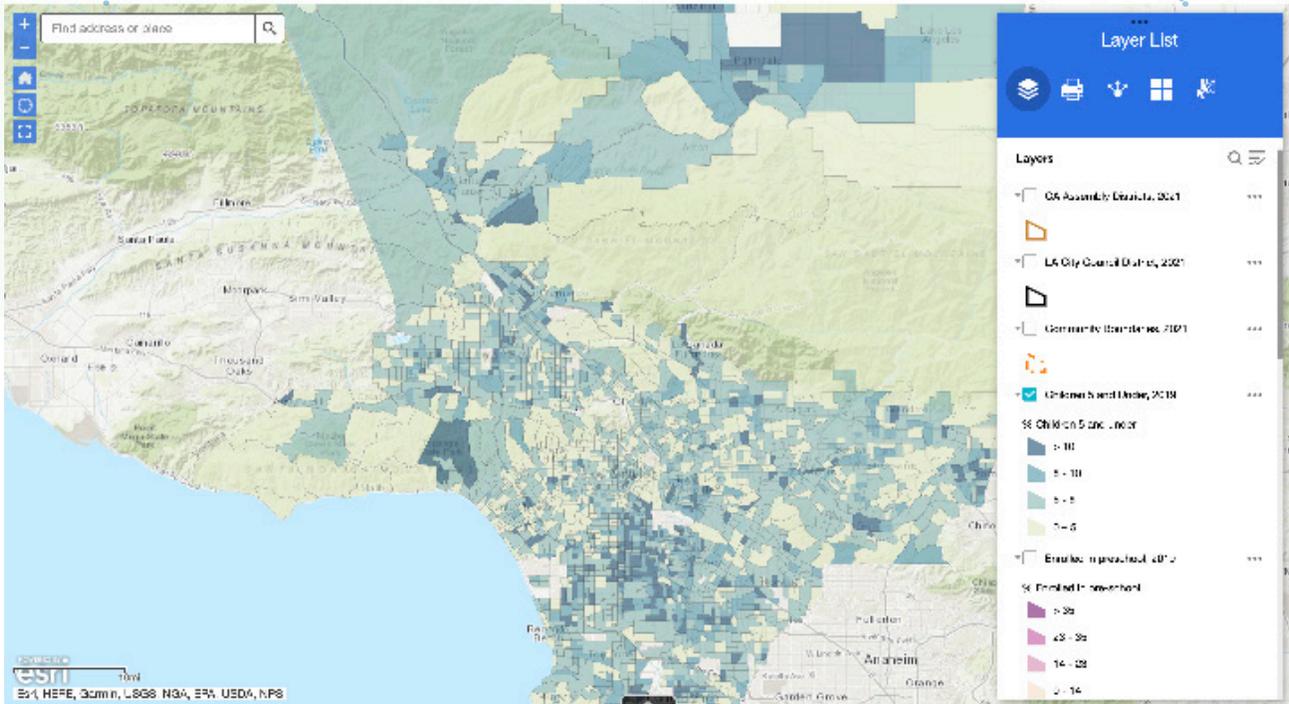
- % U.S. Citizens age 18+ - this indicator represents the population 18 years and older who are U.S. citizens. This segment of the population represents the voting age population.

5. Boundaries of Key Elected Representatives

- **California State Assembly Districts**- The Assembly, the lower house of the State Legislature, has 80 members, each representing one district.
 - [2001 boundaries](#) represent districts drawn after the 2000 Decennial Census. Assembly members serve two-year terms. We use the latest iteration of the boundaries which were released [in 2007 as Census' TigerLine GIS products](#).
 - [Current \(as of September 2021\)](#) drawn in 2011 by a California Citizens Redistricting Commission.
- **Los Angeles City Council Districts** - The Los Angeles City Council is the governing body of the City of Los Angeles. The council is composed of 15 members elected from single-member districts for 4-year terms for a maximum of three terms.
 - [2002 boundaries](#) represent districts drawn after the 2000 Decennial Census.
 - [Current \(as of September 2021\)](#) represents districts drawn after the 2010 Decennial Census.
- **Community Boundaries** - Also known as Countywide Statistical Area (formerly called Board Approved Statistical Areas) provide a common geographic boundary for reporting departmental statistics for unincorporated areas to the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. They are not designed to perfectly represent communities, nor jurisdictional boundaries. We use [the latest iteration](#), which were produced using 2010 census block group geographies, were released Apr 18, 2017 and updated Aug 29, 2021.

Using the Mapping Tool

Main Navigation Tools: Use the tools in the top right and left corners to navigate the mapping tool.





Search Tool

To search for a specific location, type a county, city, zip code, address, or place into the search bar located in the top left corner. Once you have typed the desired location, select it from the options that appear or click on the magnifying glass icon to zoom to that location. The map will automatically zoom to that location.

Zoom

Use the boxes with the + and - symbols on the top left-hand side of the map to zoom in and out. Clicking the "+" will zoom in to wherever your page is centered around and clicking the "-" will zoom out.

Reposition

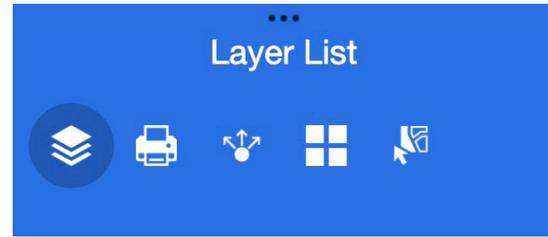
Click and hold your mouse anywhere on the map while dragging to pan around the screen.

Original Map Extent

To return to the original map extent/view, click the "Home Button" with the home icon at any time.

My Location

To find your current location on the map, click the "My Location" button to zoom to your current location on the map. Note that location settings must be enabled on your browser in order to use this feature.



Layer List

On the top right side, there are options for which data layer to view. Select by using the checkboxes.

Print Map

Create a printer-friendly map and export in different formats (e.g., pdf, image). Select the "advanced" features for more options.

Share Map

To share the web mapping tool, click on the "Share" icon in the top right blue box, located under the "Layer List" text. A link to the web mapping tool will be available, and optional specifications can be found under "Link options." The code to embed the data/mapping tool to a website can be found in the text box below "Embed this app in a website."

Change Basemap

To change the basemap, click on the highlighted icon composed of 4 white squares titled "Basemap Gallery" and choose 12 optional basemaps options. You can select whichever basemap you prefer and can change the basemap at any time without affecting your other selections/zoom.

Selection Tool

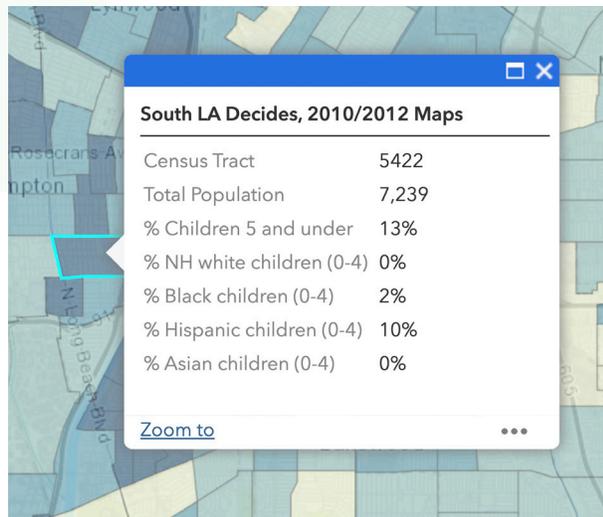
Use the select tool to combine census tract and create a report. See next page.

Viewing Data & Creating Reports

Data View & Report Tools: The maprooms provide two tools to view data for your neighborhood (census tract) and generate statistical reports.

Single Census Tract

To view data about a specific Census Tract, click on any tract within the map and a pop-up window will appear.



Multiple Census Tracts

To get data for more than one tract, use the “Select” icon in the top right blue box, which is located under the “Layer List” (top right navigation tool). Then follow the next steps:



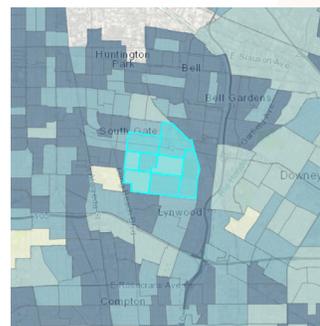
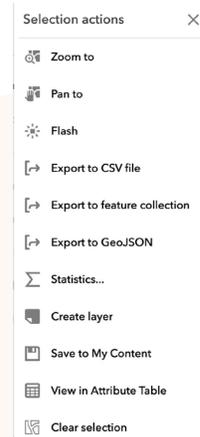
1. Hold the shift button on your keyboard to select more than one census tracts



2. Once you’ve selected multiple tracts, hit the “Select” button



3. You can now do the following:
 - Create a map layer from selection
 - View the selection attribute table
 - Export selection data to CSV file
 - Print the selection



Further Information

For questions regarding the data/mapping tool, please contact Chhandara Pech at knowledge@luskin.ucla.edu.



 <https://knowledge.luskin.ucla.edu>

 [KnowledgeLuskin](#)

 [UCLACenterForNeighborhoodKnowledge](#)



 <https://chc-inc.org>