

2007 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count

Skid Row Homeless Counts: Comparison of The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) And The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Homeless Enumerations

LAPD Overall Methodology¹

On the first and 15th, ten units of police officers with their designated areas count how many people were on the streets between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 4:00 a.m. For January, they enumerated on January 2 and 15th. The police officers are instructed to enumerate every single homeless person in their designated area and tally whether they are male, female, or a child. They also count how many tents, cardboards, and tarp tents there are. In their enumeration, Police Officers interact with the homeless population. When police officers encounter an encampment full of cardboard boxes or tarps, they will either ask the main speaker of the group for a count or they will themselves count the people in each box or tent. Regarding shelters, the LAPD obtains the number of available beds from the three missions in Skid Row-Union Rescue Mission, Los Angeles Mission and Midnight Mission.

One point that Officer Fernandez wanted to make clear was that they enumerate homeless people whom they know are living in Downtown Los Angeles. Because police officers patrol the boundaries on a nightly basis, they believe they know personally 99.9% of the homeless population. They are able to distinguish between a homeless person who lives on the streets and a drug dealer or buyer who is just visiting.

Maps demonstrating LAPD's homeless counts can be found at: <http://homeless.cartifact.com/maps/>

LAHSA Overall Methodology

On January 25, 2007 from 10:00 p.m. up to 2:00 a.m., LAHSA had teams of volunteers that included community residents and homeless people count unsheltered homeless people, including those found on streets, in vehicles, in makeshift shelters (such as tents), and encampments. Each team had a census tract map and tally sheet that had been assigned to them to cover and tally how many single men and women, unaccompanied youth, and families.

Out of concern for the privacy of the homeless community and the safety of the enumerators, census workers were instructed not to approach vehicles or to enter encampment areas. Instead, when they could not clearly count the number of occupants, enumerators were asked to just note on their census tally sheet how many vehicles or encampments they discovered. Also, if the homeless person's gender was not identifiable, teams were to place the person under the Unknown category. To calculate the number of homeless persons in those cars, vans/RV's, and encampments data from the Homeless Survey were used to generate a multiplier. This was done by asking survey respondents who reported staying in cars, vans, RV's, or encampments how many people typically stayed there, producing an average number of people. These multipliers were applied to every car, van/RV, or encampment identified, and the total number of people estimated to stay in these places was added to the number of individuals and family members enumerated in that census tract.

LAHSA also obtained a tally of all homeless people who were sheltered in emergency and transitional housing on that same night.

¹ Information regarding Los Angeles Police Department Homeless enumeration obtained from Officer Michael Fernandez

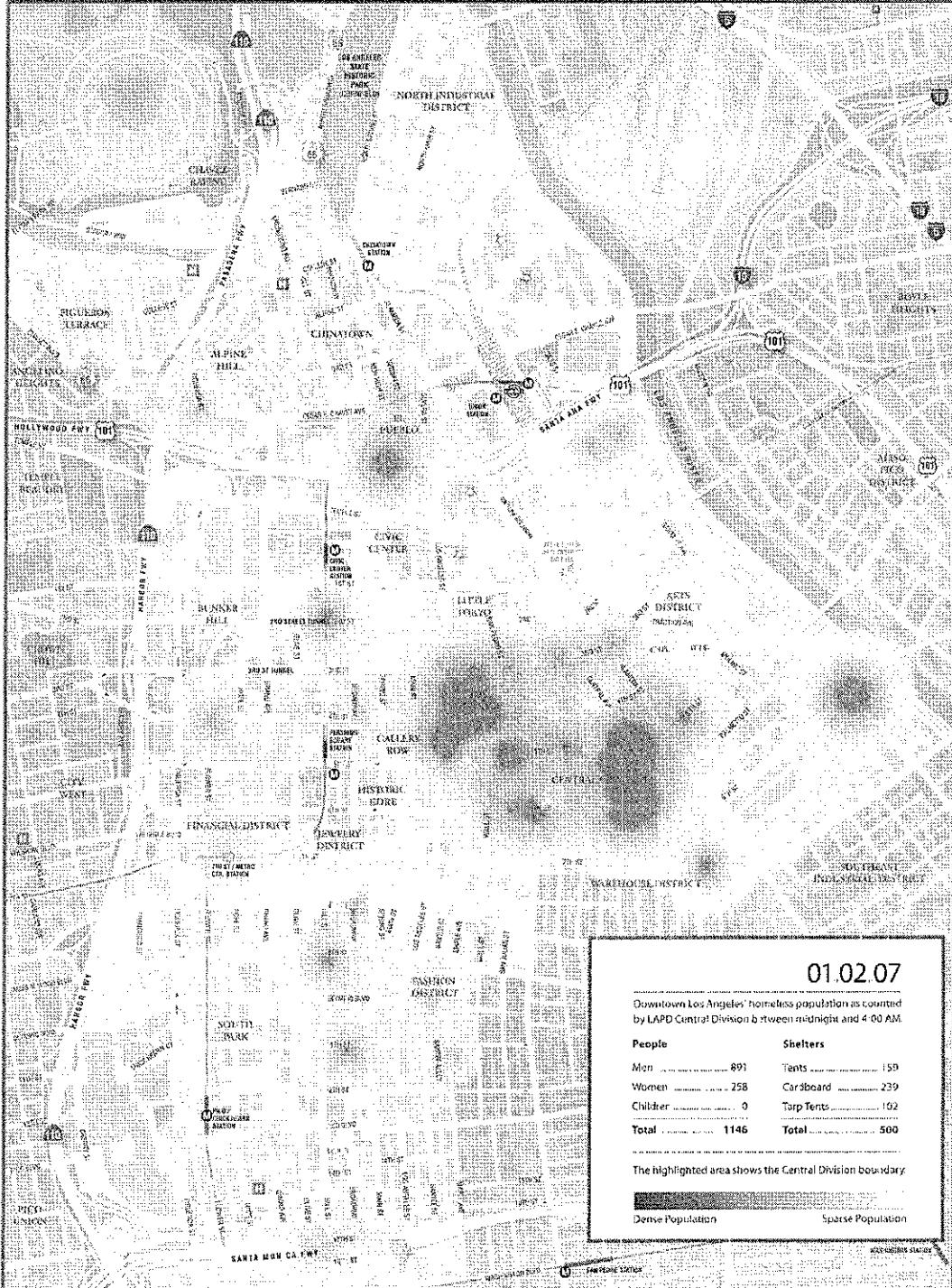
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Differences	LAPD	LAHSA
Street Count Time	12:00 midnight-4:00 a.m.	10:00 p m up to 2:00 a m
Street Count Boundaries	Santa Monica Freeway (10) on the South, Chinatown on the North, Los Angeles River on the East and Harbor Freeway (110) on the West	The census tracts that encompass Skid Row are tracts 2062, 2063, and 2073 Boundaries are from Temple and Alameda to North/East to 7 th and Alameda to the South East, to 7 th and Los Angeles, to 9 th and Los Angeles, to 9 th and Hill, to 2 nd and Hill, to 2 nd and Los Angeles, to 1 st and Los Angeles, to 1 st and San Pedro, to Temple and San Pedro, to Temple and Alameda.
Street Count (Unsheltered only)	January 2, 2007: 1,146 homeless people January 15, 2007: 875 homeless people	January 25, 2007: 1,797

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Downtown Los Angeles Homeless Count

01.02.07



Homeless Count by
LAPD Central Division

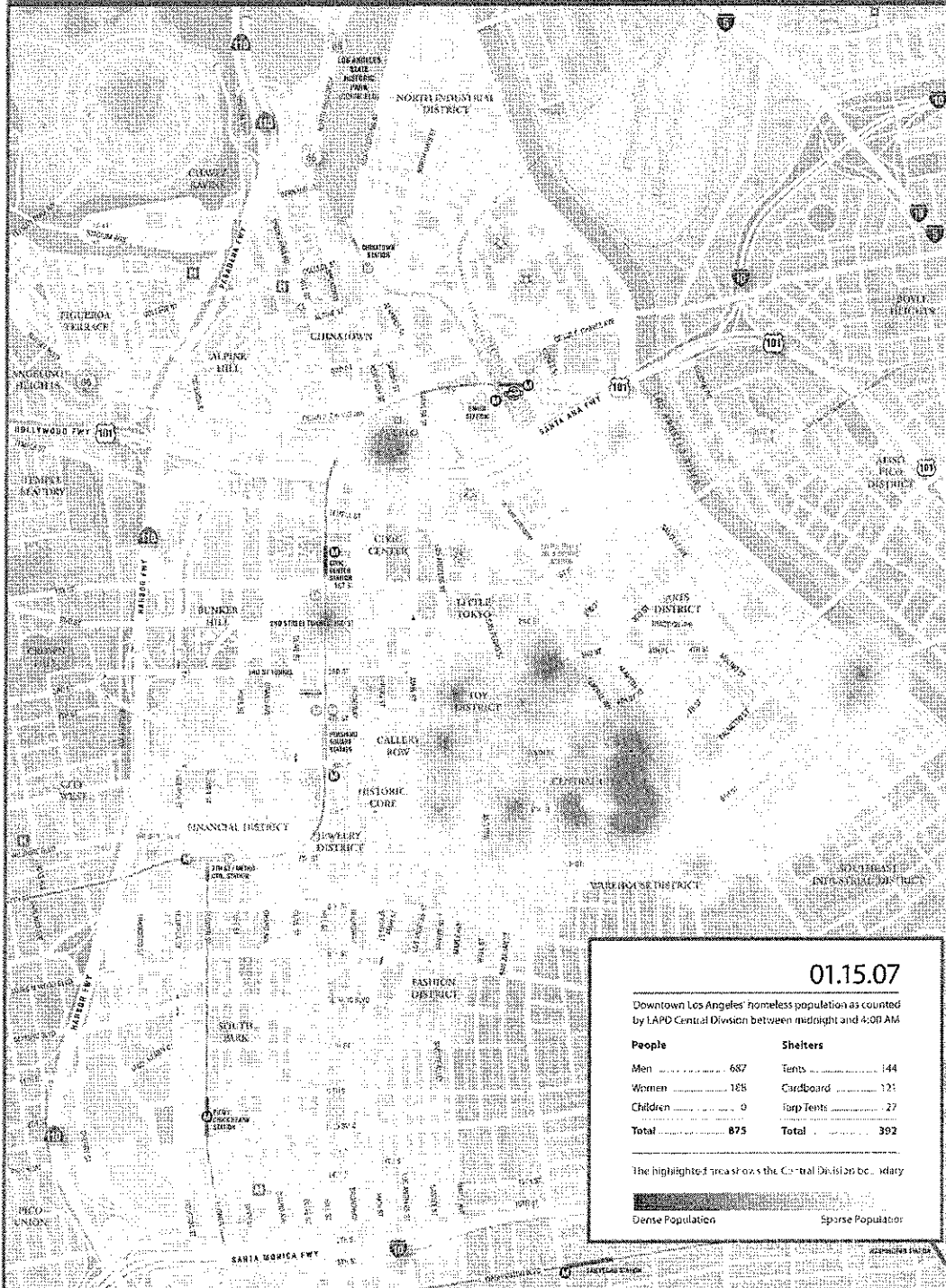
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CARTIFACT
Maps that make business.

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Downtown Los Angeles Homeless Count

01.15.07



Homeless Count by
LAPD Central Division

Map made with **CARTIFACT**
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Figure 1: Map – Skid Row



Figure 2: Skid Row Overall Census Results: Point-in-Time and Annual Projection

	Number of Homeless Persons	
	2007	2005
Number of People on One Night (Point-in-Time)	5,131	3,668
Number of People per Year (Annual Projection)	7,717	N/A

Figure 3: Skid Row Subpopulations Census Results: Point-in-Time and Annual Projections

Subpopulation	2007	
	Point-in-Time Results	Annual Projections
Sheltered	3,334	5,015
Unsheltered	1,797	2,703
Adult Men	3,910	5,881
Adult Women	1,134	1,706
Adult Transgender	17	26
Total Youth (Under Age 18)	70	105
Age 18-24	182	274
Age 25-55	4,165	6,265
Age 56+	714	1,073
Black/African American	3,320	4,993
Hispanic or Latino	641	965
White	682	1,026
Multi-Racial and Other	487	733
# Individual Families w/ Children	8	12
# People in Families	24	36
Youth in Families	14	21
Youth in Families Age 5 or Younger	8	11
Veterans	877	1,320
Chronically Homeless	1,388	2,295
Mentally Ill	2,514	3,782
Substance Abusers	2,185	3,286
People with HIV/AIDS	133	201
Victims of Domestic Violence	426	641
Unaccompanied Youth ¹	56	84

¹ It is believed that this number represents a significant undercount. For a detailed explanation of the challenges of enumerating homeless youth, please refer to page 114 of this report.

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STREET COUNT TALLY SHEET

SPA: _____ Deployment Location/ #: _____ Census Tract #: _____

Deployment Site Coordinator: _____ Team Captain: _____

Team Member 1: _____ Team Member 2: _____

Date: _____ Time Out: _____ Time In: _____

Tally INDIVIDUALS ONLY in top columns							
# of Individual Male 18 yrs +	# of Individual Female 18 yrs+	# of Adult Transgender 18 yrs +	# Unknown 18 yrs +	# of Youth (Under 18 Yrs. Old)			
				Male	Female	Trans	Uknw

Tally FAMILIES ONLY in lower columns. If more than 6 families, use back of sheet.								
Family Units	# of Male 18 yrs+	# of Female 18 yrs+	# of Adult Transgender 18 yrs +	# Unknown 18 yrs +	# of Youth (Under 18 Yrs. Old)			
					Male	Female	Trans	Uknw
Family 1								
Family 2								
Family 3								
Family 4								
Family 5								
Family 6								

When the Number of People are Unknown, Tally # of VEHICLES AND ENCAMPMENTS ONLY here	
# of cars with sleeping occupants	
# of Vans or RVs with electrical connections	
# of Encampments with people	
# of Persons reported by Park Ranger	