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 Washington, DC 20009
 (202) 234-5570

Interviews: 906 voters, including 135 AAPI voters, and 126 African-American voters
 Dates: October 27-November 3, 2021

FINAL

46 Male
54 Female
[109]

Study #14123a
 LA County Homelessness Survey
 October/November 2021

Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.

S3a. Are you currently registered to vote in Los Angeles County?

Yes, registered.....	100	CONTINUE	[157]
No, not registered	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure	-		

S1. Does anyone in your household work for a radio station, a television station, a newspaper, an advertising agency, a market research firm, or as an active political campaign worker?

No.....	100	CONTINUE	[158]
Yes	-	TERMINATE	
Not sure.....	-		

S4. I know it's a long way off, but what are the chances that you will vote in the November 2022 elections here in Los Angeles County for mayor, city council, L.A. County Board of Supervisors, and other local offices--are you certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances fifty-fifty, or do you think you will not vote?

Certain to vote	68	[159]
Probably vote.....	16	
Chances are 50-50.....	9	
Will not vote	5	
Not sure.....	2	

S6. For statistical purposes only, would you please tell me how old you are? (IF "REFUSED," ASK:) Well, would you tell me which age group you belong to? (READ LIST.)

18-24	11	[160-161]
25-29	9	
30-34	10	
35-39	9	
40-44	9	
45-49	7	
50-54	7	
55-59	8	
60-64	8	
65-69	7	
70-74	8	
75 and older	6	
Not sure/refused	1	

S7ab. To ensure that we have a representative sample, would you please tell me whether you are of Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish origin? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "NO" OR "NOT SURE," ASK:)** And again, for statistical purposes only, what is your race--white, Black or African American, Asian or Pacific Islander, or something else?

White	41	[162]
Black/African American	9	
Asian/Pacific Islander	11	
Other	3	
Latino/Hispanic/Spanish	36	
Not sure/refused	-	

PARTY REGISTRATION	
Democrat	54
Republican.....	18
No party	21
Other.....	7

1. Do you feel that things in Los Angeles County are generally going in the right direction today, or do you feel that the county is on the wrong track?

	<u>10-11/21</u>	<u>10/19</u>	
Right direction	39	32	[165]
Wrong track	46	46	
Not sure	15	22	

2ab. Now I'm going to read you some issues facing Los Angeles. For each one, please tell me whether you think it is a very serious problem, a serious problem, somewhat of a problem, or not a problem at all.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM

	<u>Total Serious Problem</u>	<u>Very Serious Problem</u>	<u>Serious Problem</u>	<u>Somewhat Of A Problem</u>	<u>Not At All A Problem</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Homelessness							[166/174]
October/November 2021	94	73	21	5	1	-	
October 2019	95	74	21	3	2	-	
Housing affordability							[167/175]
October/November 2021	86	61	25	10	3	1	
October 2019	85	60	25	10	4	1	
Traffic congestion							[168/178]
October/November 2021	75	45	30	20	4	1	
October 2019	88	58	30	9	2	1	
Climate change							[173]
October/November 2021 *.....	69	43	26	16	12	3	
October 2019	65	41	24	17	17	1	

Q.2ab (cont'd)	Total Serious Problem	Very Serious Problem	Serious Problem	Somewhat Of A Problem	Not At All A Problem	Not Sure	
Taxes							[170/178]
October/November 2021	62	34	28	25	9	4	
October 2019	57	31	26	23	17	3	
Air quality							[171]
October/November 2021 *	65	33	32	27	7	1	
October 2019	52	21	31	28	18	2	
Public safety							[169/177]
October/November 2021	57	28	29	32	9	2	
October 2019	53	22	31	31	13	3	
Jobs and economic development							[208]
October/November 2021 **	55	24	31	28	14	3	
October 2019	43	19	24	32	21	4	
Quality of public schools							[179]
October/November 2021 **	55	24	31	24	11	10	
October 2019	57	32	25	24	10	9	
Immigration							[180]
October/November 2021 **	42	21	21	27	25	6	
October 2019	47	29	18	21	27	5	
Availability of parks and open space							[172]
October/November 2021 *	33	15	18	32	31	4	
October 2019	28	15	13	33	37	2	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).
** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

3a. When it comes specifically to the problem of homelessness, would you say it affects you directly, it affects you indirectly, OR that it's a problem in the region but does not affect you personally?

	<u>10-11/21</u>	<u>10/19</u>	
Directly	28	28	[209]
Indirectly	26	28	
Problem in the region but does not affect me personally	44	43	
Not a problem (VOL)	1	1	
Not sure	1	-	
Total Affects Me Directly/Indirectly	54	56	

3b. Would you say you know a lot, just some, very little, or nothing at all about the work local governments are doing to address homelessness?

A lot	13	[210]
Just some	34	
Very little	37	
Nothing at all	13	
Not sure	3	
Total A Lot/Some	47	

3c. Thinking about the last couple years, do you think the issue of homelessness in L.A. County has gotten better, worse, or stayed about the same? *

Gotten better.....	7	[211]
Gotten worse	79	
Stayed about the same	13	
Not sure.....	1	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

3d. Thinking about the last couple years, do you think the issue of homelessness in your local neighborhood has gotten better, worse, or stayed about the same? **

Gotten better.....	9	[212]
Gotten worse	66	
Stayed about the same	23	
Not sure.....	2	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

4. Please tell me which ONE of the following words best describes how the problem of homelessness in L.A. County makes you feel. **(READ LIST.) (INTERVIEWER: IF NONE OR MORE THAN ONE, PROBE:)** Well, if you had to choose, which one of the following words comes closest to how you feel?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Sad	24	[213-214]
Disappointed	21	>
Sympathetic.....	14	
Unsafe	12	
Discouraged	10	
Angry	9	
Indifferent	3	
Hopeful	3	
Fear	2	
None (VOL)	1	
Not sure.....	1	

5a. Using a scale of one to ten, on which ten means having homeless individuals in your neighborhood makes you feel very unsafe and one means that does not make you feel unsafe at all, how unsafe, it at all, do homeless individuals in your neighborhood make you feel? *

10, feel very unsafe	19	[215-216]
8-9.....	18	
6-7.....	19	
5.....	16	
1-4, do not feel unsafe at all.....	27	
Not sure	1	
Total 8-10	37	
Mean	6.1	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

5b Have you ever considered moving to a different city or neighborhood because of the problem of homelessness? Have you seriously considered moving because of the problem of homelessness, considered it but not seriously, or have you not considered it at all? **

Yes, seriously	21		[217]
Yes, but not seriously	18	CONTINUE	
No, have not considered it at all	60	Skip to Q.6a	
Not sure	1		
Total Yes	39		

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

(FORM B. ONLINE ONLY. ASK ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAY THEY HAVE CONSIDERED MOVING IN Q5b)

Q5OE. Please explain why the issue of homelessness made you consider moving to a different city or neighborhood.

SEE ATTACHED VERBATIM RESPONSES

6a. Which of the following statements comes closer to your perspective? **(READ LIST.)**

Homelessness in L.A. County can be solved with the right leadership and policies.....	58	[229]
Homelessness will always be part of life in L.A. County	31	
Some of both (VOL)	9	
Neither of these (VOL)	1	
Not sure	1	

6b. Which of the following do you think is the primary cause of homelessness? **(READ LIST.)**

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Lack of affordable housing and wages that aren't keeping up with the cost of living	35	
Failure to provide access to healthcare for mental and physical illness	27	
A person's individual actions and decisions	18	[230]
All of these (VOL)	17	
None of these (VOL)	1	
Not sure	2	

7ab. I am now going to read a list of groups or organizations that may be involved with the issue of homelessness in Los Angeles. For each one, please tell me whether you see that group as mainly part of the solution, mainly part of the problem, or some of both when it comes to homelessness.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY MAINLY PART OF THE SOLUTION

	Mainly Part Of The <u>Solution</u>	Mainly Part Of The <u>Problem</u>	<u>Some Of Both</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Advocacy group for homeless rights **	47	15	24	14	[240]
Labor unions *	25	16	27	32	[234]
Neighborhood groups and homeowner associations *	20	27	33	20	[235]
City and county government	18	37	40	5	[213/236]
The federal government *	18	39	36	7	[233]
California state government **	15	38	38	9	[238]
The news media	14	35	33	18	[232/237]
Developers and real estate groups **	12	51	24	13	[239]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

8. If you had to choose, do you think solving the problem of homelessness in Los Angeles is primarily a responsibility of local officials, regional officials, state officials, or national officials?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

	<u>10-11/21</u>	<u>10/19</u>	
Local officials	32	29	[241]
State officials	30	30	
National officials	16	20	
Regional officials	13	12	
Not sure	9	9	

9a. Using scale of negative five to positive five, I'd like to know how you feel when it comes to the ability of political and civic leaders in Los Angeles to adequately address the problem of street homelessness. On this scale, a negative five means that you are very pessimistic that Los Angeles can address the problem of street homelessness, a positive five means you are very optimistic that Los Angeles can address the problem of street homelessness, and a zero is right in the middle.

	<u>10-11/21</u>	<u>10/19</u>	
-5, very pessimistic	20	24	[242-243]
-3 to -4	11	10	
-1 to -2	13	7	
0	20	22	
+1 to +2	14	12	
+3 to +4	10	8	
+5, very optimistic	11	16	
Not sure	1	1	
Total Pessimistic	44	41	
Total Optimistic	35	36	
Mean	-0.5	-0.4	

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO GIVE A NEGATIVE RATING IN Q.9a.)

9b. Are you pessimistic about the ability of political and civic leaders in Los Angeles to adequately address the problem of homelessness because you believe there is a lack of leadership in L.A. or because there are no realistic solutions?

Lack of leadership	43	[244]
No realistic solutions	26	
Both (VOL).....	28	
Not sure	3	

10ab. As you think about the issue of homelessness, do you feel that society has **(A)** gone too far in upholding the rights of homeless residents at the expense of housed residents, **(B)** struck about the right balance between homeless residents and housed residents, OR **(C)** gone too far in upholding the rights of housed residents at the expense of homeless residents? If you think there is no real difference between the interests of housed residents and homeless residents, just say so. **(ROTATE STATEMENTS A AND C.)**

	<u>10-11/21</u>	<u>10/19</u>	
(A) Gone too far in upholding rights of homeless	27	30	[247]
(B) Struck about the right balance	15	19	
(C) Gone too far in direction of upholding rights of housed ...	22	24	
No difference between interests of both	18	12	
Not sure	18	15	

Moving along...

11. As officials choose how to use existing funds to deal with homelessness, which of the following do you think should be the top priority? **(READ LIST.)**

Building long-term housing for homeless people with services, even though it costs more to build, takes longer to develop and may serve only a small portion of the homeless population	30	[248]
Focusing on short-term shelter sites that are cheaper and quicker to build, and can be a step toward permanent housing for the majority of the homeless population, even though they are temporary.....	57	
Neither of these (VOL)	10	
Not sure	3	

12. When it comes to addressing the issue of homelessness, please tell me which approach comes closest to your point of view.

GROUP A feels that Southern California basically has the right set of policies in place to deal with the homelessness problem. We need to execute them more effectively and also recognize that solving the problem will take time.

GROUP B feels that Southern California faces an emergency situation with homelessness, for which current policies and funding are inadequate. We need to break with long-standing practices, even if doing so might require major changes to some neighborhoods.

Which comes closer to your point of view--the GROUP A approach, or the GROUP B approach?

	<u>10-11/21</u>	<u>10/19</u>	
GROUP A approach	27	26	[249]
GROUP B approach	61	63	
Both (VOL)	7	4	
Neither (VOL)	2	3	
Not sure	3	4	

13ab. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: The state of California should guarantee access to (**FORM A:** shelter/**FORM B:** housing) as a basic human right for all of its residents?

	FORM A* (Shelter)	FORM B** (Housing)	
Strongly agree.....	52	46	[250/251]
Somewhat agree.....	24	26	
Somewhat disagree.....	11	13	
Strongly disagree.....	9	11	
Not sure.....	4	4	
Total Agree	76	72	
Total Disagree	20	24	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

14. Next I'm going to read you some solutions that some local governments have used to help homeless individuals. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the solution.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY STRONGLY OR SOMEWHAT SUPPORT

	Total Support	<u>Strongly Support</u>	<u>Some-what Support</u>	<u>Neither Support Nor Oppose</u>	<u>Some-what Oppose</u>	<u>Strongly Oppose</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Re-using existing buildings and spaces that were not originally built to be homeless housing, such as an unused office buildings, to provide housing for those who are homeless	81	52	29	7	4	5	3	[257]
Building communities of tiny homes to provide temporary housing with on-site services for those who are homeless	80	51	29	7	6	5	2	[254]
Designating certain areas for vehicles and RVs to park and serve as campsites where those who are homeless can go.....	70	39	31	9	8	10	3	[258]
Purchasing hotels and turning them into housing for those who are homeless.....	67	39	28	10	8	12	3	[256]
Temporarily leasing hotels and motels to provide shelter for people experiencing homelessness	66	38	28	10	11	11	2	[253]
Allowing temporary encampment sites in some public spaces and providing them with public services such as water and garbage collection	56	33	23	10	13	18	3	[255]

15. Which of the following actions do you think should be given higher priority by local authorities when dealing with the homeless in Los Angeles County? (**READ LIST.**)

Clearing out homeless encampments from neighborhoods and parks	39	[259]
Providing services to individuals living within homeless encampments	52	
Not sure	9	

16. How much, if at all, should the police or sheriff's deputies be involved when homeless encampments are cleared? Should they be very involved, somewhat involved, not very involved or not at all involved?

Very involved	27	[260]
Somewhat involved	44	
Not very involved	14	
Not at all involved	11	
Not sure	4	
Total Involved	71	
Total Not Involved	25	

Changing subjects...

17. When homeless encampments are cleared, which of these results do you think is mostly likely to occur?
(READ LIST)

Homeless individuals find shelter or permanent housing	19	[261]
Homeless individuals leave the Los Angeles region	10	
Homeless individuals move to other encampments elsewhere in the region	64	
Not sure	7	

18a. The state legislature recently passed a new law, SB 9, that modifies local government zoning laws to make it easier to build multi-family dwelling units in urban areas across the state. I am going to read you a short description of SB 9. Please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this new law. SB 9 would offer homeowners new options to build up to four additional units on their lots by adding granny units, or by converting their home to a duplex, triplex, or fourplex, regardless of whether the property is currently zoned as single-family only.

Do you support or oppose this new state law? *

	<u>SB 9</u>	
Strongly support	30	[262]
Somewhat support	25	
Neither support nor oppose	14	
Somewhat oppose	12	
Strongly oppose	15	
Not sure	4	
Total Support	55	
Total Oppose	27	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

18b. The state legislature recently passed a new law, SB 10, that modifies local government zoning laws to make it easier to build multi-family dwelling units in urban areas across the state. I am going to read you a short description of SB 10. Please tell me whether you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this new law. SB 10 allows a city to expedite the approval of new housing developments of as many as ten units on land located near transit hubs or urban infill areas.

Do you support or oppose this new state law? **

	<u>SB 10</u>	
Strongly support	38	[263]
Somewhat support	30	
Neither support nor oppose	14	
Somewhat oppose	6	
Strongly oppose	7	
Not sure	5	
Total Support	68	

Total Oppose 13

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

18c. Which of the following do you think would be the most effective in reducing homelessness? **(READ LIST.)**

Allowing developers to build more houses and apartments that would rent at market rates	13	[264]
Offering incentives to developers if they build more low-cost, affordable housing.....	46	
Using tax money to build units specifically for homeless individuals	22	
All of these (VOL)	11	
None of these (VOL)	5	
Not sure.....	3	

19. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the state passing legislation related to local zoning and housing policy if the City has failed to produce adequate affordable housing?

Strongly support	30	[265]
Somewhat support	32	
Somewhat oppose	9	
Strongly oppose	11	
Not sure	18	
Total Support	62	
Total Oppose	20	

Getting near the end of the survey...

20. Next year, the City of Los Angeles will elect a new mayor and hold elections for city councilmembers, and the county will hold elections for supervisors. Using a scale of one to ten, on which ten means it should be one of the most important priorities and one means it should not be a priority at all, how much of a priority should the issue of homelessness be for the new mayor, city councilmembers, and the county supervisors?

10, one of the most important priorities	43	[266-267]
8-9.....	29	
6-7.....	15	
5.....	7	
1-4, not a priority at all.....	5	
Not sure	1	
Total 8-10	72	
Mean	8.3	

21a. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a tax increase to create permanent city and county initiatives to help homeless individuals and reduce the homeless population? *

Strongly support	23	[268]
Somewhat support	28	
Somewhat oppose	12	
Strongly oppose	29	
Not sure	8	
Total Support	51	
Total Oppose	41	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

21b. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a tax increase to create permanent City and County initiatives to help homeless individuals and reduce the homeless population if there was a clear plan to ensure accountability and transparency? **

Strongly support	37	[269]
Somewhat support	26	
Somewhat oppose	10	
Strongly oppose	20	
Not sure	7	
Total Support	63	
Total Oppose	30	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

22. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose that the government uses some funding to work with the private sector on solutions to homelessness that are innovative, low-cost, and can be quickly developed?

Strongly support	46	[270]
Somewhat support	36	
Somewhat oppose	5	
Strongly oppose	6	
Not sure	7	
Total Support	82	
Total Oppose	11	

FACTUALS: Now I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

F1. Have you or has someone you know experienced homelessness or housing insecurity in the past year?

	<u>10-11/21</u>	<u>10/19</u>	
Yes, I have	11	6	[271]
Yes, I know someone who has	25	27	
Both (VOL)	NA	1	
No	61	65	
Not sure	3	1	
Total Yes	36	34	

F2. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal	17	[272]
Somewhat liberal	22	
Moderate	33	
Somewhat conservative	13	
Very conservative	8	
Not sure	7	
Total Liberal	39	
Total Conservative	21	

F3a. Do you own or rent the house, condominium, or apartment that you live in?

Own	44	Skip to Q.F3c	[273]
Rent	45	CONTINUE	
Other/live with family members (VOL)	7	Skip to Q.F3c	
Not sure/refused	4		

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY THEY RENT IN Q.F3a.)

F3b. Have you or has someone you know been threatened with eviction or been unable to pay their rent in the past year?

Yes, I have	13	[274]
Yes, I know someone who has	27	
No	58	
Not sure	2	
Total Yes	40	

F3c. How long have you lived in Los Angeles County?

Less than one year	1	[275]
One to three years	3	
Four to ten years	11	
Eleven to twenty years	14	
Twenty-one to thirty years	21	
Thirty-one years or more	47	
Not sure/refused	3	

F4. How would you describe your area of Los Angeles County? **(READ LIST.)**

High-density urban	31	[276]
Lower-density urban	21	
Suburban	36	
Rural	4	
Not sure/refused	8	

F5. For statistical purposes only, would you please tell me whether your total household income for last year was more than or less than \$75,000? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "MORE THAN \$75,000," ASK:)** Would you say that your total household income was more than or less than \$100,000? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "LESS THAN \$75,000," ASK)** Would you say that your total household income was more than or less than \$50,000?

More than \$100,000	23	[280]
\$75,000-\$100,000	15	
\$50,000-\$75,000	17	
Less than \$50,000	33	
Not sure	12	

S8. What is the last grade that you completed in school? *

Grade school	1	[2224- 2225]
Some high school	3	
High school graduate	19	
Some college, no degree	19	
Vocational training/2-year college	12	
4-year college/Bachelor's degree	24	
Some postgraduate work, no degree	3	
2 or 3 years' postgraduate work/master's degree.....	13	
Doctoral/law degree	3	
Not sure/refused	3	

* asked only among 876 respondents.