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900 Unhoused People Died in the City of LA in 2023, With 73% Dying in Streets or Similar Places – Controller Kenneth Mejia Releases 2023 Unhoused Deaths Map

LOS ANGELES – LA City Controller Kenneth Mejia today released a map of deaths of unhoused people in the City of LA in 2023. Last year, Controller Mejia released a [map of unhoused deaths in the year 2022](#).

In 2023, there were a total of 900 deaths of unhoused people in the City of LA. While this is a decrease from the 1,167 deaths in 2022, the Controller's Office believes that any number of unhoused deaths is unacceptable.

- Most common mode of death: Accident (75%)
- 40 unhoused people were murdered in 2023, which is 12% of all homicides in the City of LA. Unhoused people are only about 1% of the population.
- At least 73% of deaths were in streets or areas without proper utilities, such as tents, parking lots, parks, RVs, and vacant buildings.
- Most common place of death: Street/Freeway/Tunnel/Sidewalk
- Black people were 31% of deaths. Black people are only 8% of the City's general population, but are 33% of the City's unhoused population.
- Council Districts 14 and 1 had the highest numbers of deaths as well as some of the highest unhoused populations.
- January, February, and March were the most deadly months.
- The City of LA's 900 unhoused deaths make up 61% of LA County's 1,467 unhoused deaths

The map can be viewed by race and Council District. Hovering over the map shows more details of each death, including Council District, case number, date, location, age, race, gender, place, cause, and mode. The dataset was obtained from the LA County Medical-Examiner Coroner.

Visit the 2023 Unhoused Deaths Map:
[unhouseddeaths2023.lacontroller.app](#)

Analysis:
[controller.lacity.gov/landings/unhoused-deaths-2023](#)

MODE

“Mode” vs “Cause”: Mode of death is the way in which cause contributed to death. Cause of death is the specific factor (e.g., injury, disease, etc.) that led to mode of death. Mode of death is more established data.

Accident: 678 deaths (75%)
Natural: 160 deaths (18%)
Homicide: 40 deaths (4%)
Suicide: 16 deaths (2%)
Undetermined: 6 deaths (1%)

PLACE

At least 73% of deaths were in streets or areas without proper utilities, such as tents, parking lots, parks, RVs, and vacant buildings. 15% were in healthcare facilities. 10% were in other sheltered places, such as hotels, residences, and interim housing facilities. 2% were classified as taking place in "Other".

RACE

While Black people are only 8% of the City of LA's general population, they were 31% of the City's unhoused people who died. Black people were 33% of the City's unhoused population in 2023.

Hispanic/Latino: 289 (32%)
Black: 281 (31%)
White: 274 (30%)
Unknown: 24 (3%)
Asian: 17 (2%)
Hispanic/Latino/White: 6 (1%)
American Indian: 4 (0.4%)
Middle Eastern: 3 (0.3%)
Hispanic/Latino/Black: 1 (0.1%)
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 1 (0.1%)

COUNCIL DISTRICT

The highest unhoused populations in 2022 (the most recent data available) were in Council Districts 14, 9, and 1 (followed closely by 6 and 13), [according to LAHSA](#). The highest numbers of deaths of unhoused people in 2023 were in Council Districts 14 and 1.

Council District 1: 105 deaths (11.7%)
Council District 2: 37 deaths (4.1%)
Council District 3: 20 deaths (2.2%)
Council District 4: 35 deaths (3.9%)
Council District 5: 45 deaths (5.0%)
Council District 6: 46 deaths (5.1%)
Council District 7: 36 deaths (4.0%)

Council District 8: 31 deaths (3.4%)
Council District 9: 40 deaths (4.4%)
Council District 10: 40 deaths (4.4%)
Council District 11: 48 deaths (5.3%)
Council District 12: 38 deaths (4.2%)
Council District 13: 77 deaths (8.6%)
Council District 14: 269 deaths (29.9%)
Council District 15: 33 deaths (3.7%)

MONTH

The highest numbers of deaths occurred in January, February, and March, followed by April and August.

Deaths dropped significantly in November and December

January: 115 deaths (12.8%)
February: 100 deaths (11.1%)
March: 87 deaths (9.7%)
April: 81 deaths (9.0%)
May: 70 deaths (7.8%)
June: 76 deaths (8.4%)
July: 77 deaths (8.6%)
August: 81 deaths (9.0%)
September: 77 deaths (8.6%)
October: 71 deaths (7.9%)
November: 45 deaths (5.0%)
December: 20 deaths (2.2%)

AGE

68% of deaths were suffered by people ages 31-60. Ages 51-60 had the highest death rate.

Under 1 year: 3 deaths (0.3%)
1-10 years: 0 deaths (0.0%)
11-20 years: 5 deaths (0.6%)
21-30 years: 93 deaths (10.4%)
31-40 years: 187 deaths (20.9%)
41-50 years: 183 deaths (20.5%)
51-60 years: 243 deaths (27.2%)
61-70 years: 139 deaths (15.6%)
71-80 years: 36 deaths (4.0%)
Over 81 years: 4 deaths (0.4%)