

POLICING THE UNEMPLOYED IN LOS ANGELES

An Analysis of LAPD Data (2012-2017)

A MILLION DOLLAR HOODS REPORT

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in consultation with the Los Angeles Black Worker Center

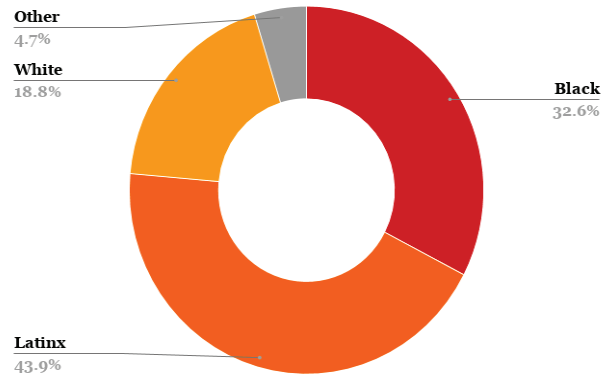
Between 2012 and 2017, unemployed persons comprised 43% of all arrests in the City of Los Angeles. Their detention in LAPD lockups cost the City an estimated \$245 million while they and/or their loved ones paid an estimated \$63.6 million in nonrefundable bail bond deposits. Using LAPD data, this report documents key information and demographics for all arrests of unemployed persons in the City of Los Angeles between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2017. The report focuses on African Americans, documenting that among African Americans who reported being “unemployed” at the time of their arrest, the most common charge they faced was “Failure to Appear” and 27% were houseless.

43% of all arrests were unemployed persons

Unemployed persons spent

1,402 years in LAPD Custody

Arrests of Unemployed Persons by Race



Top 5 Charge Categories for Arrests of Unemployed Black Men

Charge Category	% Of Charges
Failure to Appear	21%
Supervision Violation	13%
Possession of Controlled Substance	9%
Theft/Shoplifting	5%
Spousal Abuse	5%

Top 5 Charge Categories for Arrests of Unemployed Black Women

Charge Category	% Of Charges
Failure to Appear	35%
Prostitution/Soliciting	21%
Supervision Violation	12%
Possession of Controlled Substance	10%
Theft/Shoplifting	9%

Unemployed African Americans Arrested by Home Zip Code (2012-2017)

	HOUSELESS	SOUTH LOS ANGELES				
TOP ZIP CODES	N/A	90044	90003	90037	90047	90043
Number of Arrests	18,319	3,044	2,633	2,159	1,875	1,624

Methodology: On March 15, 2018, the LAPD fulfilled a Public Records Act request submitted by Professor Kelly Lytle Hernandez on January 4, 2018. The data provided included more than twenty categories of information for all detention bookings made by the LAPD between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2017, including arrests made by LAPD and other law enforcement agencies within the City of LA. For this report, we utilized the following categories of information: Race, Sex (gender), Total_Bail (the sum of all bail set), Rel_Reas (release disposition), and Home_Res (home address), Employment (occupation) and Jail Days. Jail days were calculated based on arrest and release dates. When the release date was not provided, jail days was assumed to be 3. (See MDH website for additional explanation). To calculate total money bail set, we calculated the sum of all numeric values included in the “Total_Bail” category. To calculate how much was paid to bail bond agents, we estimated that for persons released on “BOND” 10% of their total money bail charge was paid to a bail bond agent. To estimate the cost of incarceration we used an average LAPD bed rate multiplied by the number of jail days. To determine arrests by residence, we geo-coded and cross-referenced the home addresses provided in the “Home_Res” category within Los Angeles County. Unemployed arrests were determined by identifying every instance of “unemployed” listed in the occupation category. Arrests for people over 65 or under 18 were dropped. Charge categories were developed as follows: FAILURE TO APPEAR may include charge codes 18 3146US, 40508(A)VC, 853.7PC, 11360PC, 11357PC, 11359PC, 11358PC and 853.5PC; PROSTITUTION/SOLICITING may include charge codes 653.2PC and 647PC; SUPERVISION VIOLATION may include charge codes 1203.2PC, 3000.08CPC, 3454(c)PC, 3455(B)1PC, 1203.2(A)PC, 3056, 3455(A)04PC, 3455(C)PC, 3000.08FPC, 3454PC, 3455(A)PC, 3000PC and 3606US; POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE may include charge codes 4060BP, 11351HS, 11377(A)HS, 11550(A)HS, 11350HS, 11375(B)2HS, A11550(A)HS, 11550(A)1HS, 11350(A)HS and 11377HS; PETTY THEFT AND SHOPLIFTING may include charge codes 1708US, 484PCTFMV, 485PC, 488PC, 459.5 PC, 484F(A)PC, A488PC, 490PC, A484PC, 484E(D)PC, 498(B)(4)PC, 666PC, 484PC, 490.2PC, 498(D)PC, 666(A)PC, 484(A)PC, 490.5(A)PC, 537(A)(1)PC, 666.5PC, 484E(A)PC, 498(B)(1)PC, 587CPC, 666.5(A)PC, 498PC, 537PC, 587PC and 484E(B)PC; SPOUSAL ABUSE may include charge codes 273.5PC, 243PC and 646.9PC.

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