



The Los Angeles Artist Census was designed as a long-term record and resource for local artist advocacy. Since this survey was launched one month prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the data in this report describes the experience of 1,560 Los Angeles-based visual artists prior to the pandemic. We recognize that the current situation is likely to have worsened the conditions we are reporting on.

Stay in touch
@losangelesartistcensus
info@losangelesartistcensus.com
www.losangelesartistcensus.com

This report was released April 2020. Thanks to Sara Constantino, a social scientist at Princeton University, for analyzing the data.

EMPLOYMENT IS INSECURE.

51% of respondents were looking for work.

79% of those looking for work were doing so for better job security, better employment conditions, or for income needs.

49% of employed respondents had no employment benefits, 61% had no paid sick days, and 77% of employed respondents had no paid time off.

DEBT IS BURDENING.

67% of respondents had debt and 90% of those felt burdened by that debt.

77% of respondents with debt felt burdened because they did not make enough money and 53% did not know how long it would take to pay off their total debt.

46% of respondents with student loan debt said their loan increased each month due to interest.

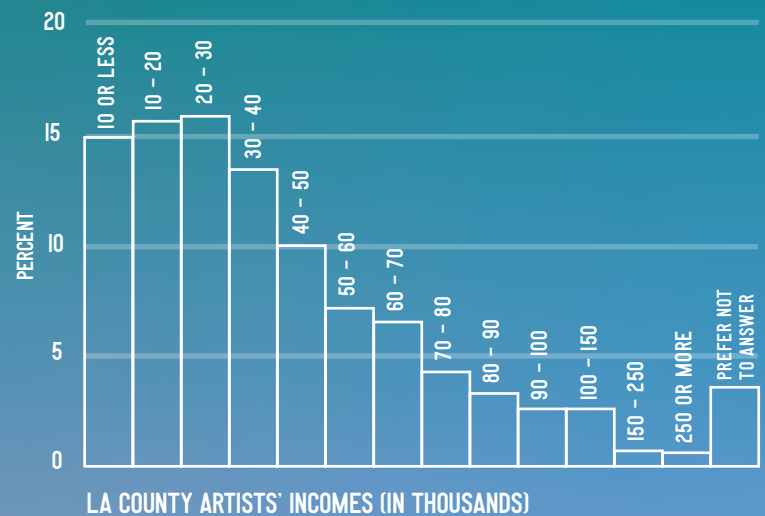
INCOME IS UNPREDICTABLE.

The US Census Bureau lists \$64,251 as the median household income in LA County, in 2019.

76% of respondents earned under \$60,000 and 46% earned under \$30,000 in 2019.

53% of respondents had a household income of less than \$60,000 in 2019.

55% of respondents did not find it simple to predict their income from month to month.



LIVING IN LA IS A CHALLENGE.

The top two challenges of living in LA for our respondents were cost of living (61% of respondents) and housing affordability (47% respondents).

52% considered moving outside of LA County because of their debt.

ACCESSING HEALTHCARE IS DIFFICULT.

40% of respondents could not or had difficulty accessing and/or affording healthcare.

43% of individuals who were unable to see a mental health provider would have liked to but were unable to afford it.

61% of respondents who could not afford a basic necessity in the past 2 years went without healthcare or medicine.