

## Los Angeles: The City of Angels



# Live in Los Angeles

## About Los Angeles



Known for **having it all** – beaches, mountains, Hollywood, palm-tree lined streets, and famously beautiful weather year-round (among other ideals) – **Los Angeles** has attracted people from across the country and around the world since it was founded.

Like the rest of America, Los Angeles was built by immigrants. In 1850, the county of L.A. was established, and new residents from Europe, Central and South America, and Asia made new homes there. Today, Los Angeles is home to over **140 cultures** and **135 languages**.

Now the **largest city in California** and the second largest in the U.S., boasting a population of 3.8 million in the city with 1,001 different neighborhoods, Los Angeles continues to be a **diverse, thriving metropolis**.

Nestled in a basin bounded in the west and south by the **Pacific Ocean** and in the east by the **San Gabriel mountains**, Los Angeles county offers something for everyone within its more than **4,000 square miles**. Each of its **distinct neighborhoods** has a different culture and style, from **beachside communities** like Santa Monica and Venice Beach to **hipster inland neighborhoods** like Melrose and Silver Lake.

## Economy

A hub of **international trade, manufacturing, aerospace, banking, retail**, and one of the world's **busiest ports**, the county of Los Angeles has an economy that would rank **17<sup>th</sup> largest in the world** if it were a nation.

Also defined by entrepreneurship and a **“creative culture,”** Los Angeles is the hub of the world's **entertainment industry**, and filming can be found throughout the city on a daily basis.

Home to **world-class universities** including the University of California, Los Angeles and the University of Southern California, and **hospitals**, Los Angeles is also a **center of learning and research**.

Los Angeles is a major tourist destination, and accordingly, **tourism** is a big part of the city's economy. With all that Los Angeles has to offer visitors – as well as locals – it's not surprising that so many people from all over the world choose to visit and live in Los Angeles.

### Los Angeles Weather

Average Annual Temperature	66°
Warmest Month (average)	August (76°)
Coldest Month (average)	December (58°)
Average Annual Rainfall	15 inches

### Major Area Employers

- County of Los Angeles
- LAUSD
- Federal Government
- UCLA
- City of Los Angeles
- State of California
- Kaiser Permanente
- Northrop Grumman Corp.
- Boeing Co.
- Kroger Co.
- USC

### Los Angeles Cost of Living (Average)

Average Per Capita Income	\$20,683
Housing (2-bedroom apt.):	\$872
Median House Price:	\$391,400
Transportation	Access to a car essential
Public Transportation	\$1.35
Annual Childcare (preschool)	\$7,200

## Recreation

With more than **65,000 acres of parks, lakes, trails, natural areas, and gardens**, and **25 miles of beaches**, there are seemingly endless ways to enjoy Los Angeles' **329 days of sunshine** almost every single day of the year.

Sports fans will find themselves at home in Los Angeles, with **twelve pro sports teams** (including baseball, basketball, hockey, and soccer), as well as horse and car racing, and sports facilities including the Rose Bowl, the Staples Center, the Coliseum and Dodger Stadium.

### Los Angeles Quality of Life

Average Commute	29 minutes
Recreation	Hiking, biking, surfing, sailing, and much more!

## Arts & Culture

**Cultural institutions** – such as the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Music Center (comprised of the Walt Disney Concert Hall, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Mark Taper Forum, and Ahmanson Theatre), the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Museum of Natural History, and more than **300 other museums** – abound in Los Angeles.

Not surprisingly, Los Angeles offers an endless array of cultural activities, from **theater, opera, and film premieres**, to **festivals, music, and performance art** for all Angelenos to enjoy.

### Cost of Living Calculator

How does the cost of living in Los Angeles compare to other U.S. cities?



(Check out the CNN Money calculator: <http://cgi.money.cnn.com/tools/costofliving/costofliving.html>).

# Work for Los Angeles Schools

## Los Angeles Unified School District: Leadership

Currently, the leadership of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) is in transition.

In December 2008, superintendent **David L. Brewer III**, a retired Three-Star Vice Admiral who served **35 years** in the **U.S. Navy**, stepped down from leading LAUSD. Appointed to lead LAUSD in October 2006, Brewer previously served as **Vice Chief of Naval Education and Training Command** for the U.S. Navy, where he was responsible for educational programs for hundreds of thousands of sailors and their families.

In the wake of Brewer's departure, **Ray Cortines**, who was previously serving the Los Angeles district as **senior deputy superintendent**, was appointed **interim superintendent**. Cortines – who previously led school systems in New York City, San Francisco, Pasadena and San Jose, and had served LAUSD as interim superintendent in 2000 – was appointed senior deputy superintendent for LAUSD in April 2008 and was

### LAUSD Quick Stats:

# Schools, Centers, and Charters	1,190
# Students	694,288
# Employees	83,967
# Teachers	45,473
Budget	\$13.986 billion
Governance Model	Elected School Board
Interim Superintendent	Ray Cortines (since December 2008)

responsible for overseeing the district's **operations** and **instruction**.

## LAUSD: Reform Strategy

The Strategic Plan for LAUSD includes seven strategies:

**Strategy 1:** Use a research-based, coherent, and rigorous standards-based **curriculum** that meets the needs of diverse learners as a tool that ensures they will be college-prepared and career ready.

**Strategy 2:** Build learning communities in which teachers, and those who support them, use data in a reflective cycle of continuous improvement to develop their skills in delivering high-quality, personalized **instruction** that ensures learning for all students in all classrooms.

**Strategy 3:** Build **school and district leadership** teams that share common beliefs, values, and high expectations for all adults and students and that support a cycle of continuous improvement to ensure high-quality instruction in their schools.

**Strategy 4:** Build at each school a community of **informed and empowered parents, teachers, staff, and community partners** who work collaboratively to support high-quality teaching and learning.

**Strategy 5:** Build personalized school environments where students and adults are **physically and emotionally safe and secure** and, as a result, where learning opportunities and personal achievement can be optimized for all.

**Strategy 6:** Design and implement district and school **organizational and support structures** to improve school performance.

**Strategy 7:** Design and implement systems of **reporting, accountability, and incentives** as ways to measure outcomes and promote continuous improvement.

About LAUSD Students:	
% Low Income Students	80%
% English Language Learners	35%
% African American	11.2%
% Hispanic	72.8%
% White	8.9%
% Asian/Pacific Islander	4.0%
% Multi-Racial	2.9%
% Amer. Indian/Alaska Native	0.3%
Graduation Rate	45.3%
Dropout Rate	31.7%

The Senior Deputy Superintendent's 2008-2009 strategy and goals for high academic achievement include:

1. **API scores and the achievement gap.** From 1999-2007, there were sustained gains in API scores at the elementary level, but gains for middle and high schools have leveled off; the achievement gap persists at all grade levels. The 2008-2009 LAUSD reform strategy requires each Local District to identify schools with successful standards-based instruction, and present to the Senior Deputy Superintendent a plan to improve middle schools (focusing on English language arts and mathematics standards), high schools (focusing on enrollment and graduation), to increase capacity of schools with effective educators, and to increase the use of periodic assessment results to change instructional practice.

2. **English language learners.** Thirty-five percent of LAUSD students are English language learners; the 2008-2009 LAUSD reform strategy requires each Local District to present a plan of action to ensure the development and proficiency of all English learners. In addition, the LAUSD offices of English Learners and Standard English learners will report directly to the Chief Academic Officer.

## Los Angeles Charter Management Organizations

**Alliance for College-Ready Public Schools**, a nonprofit charter management organization, has a mission to open and operate a network of excellent, small, high-performing public schools (grades 6-8 and 9-12) in historically underachieving, low income, overcrowded communities in Los Angeles that will significantly outperform other public schools in preparing students to enter and succeed in college.

Alliance Quick Stats:	
# Schools (current)	10
# New Planned Schools (2008-2009)	1-3
# New Planned Schools (2009-2010)	3
% Low Income Students	92%

**Green Dot Public Schools** is leading the charge to transform public education in Los Angeles and beyond so that all children receive the education they need to be successful in college, leadership, and life. Green Dot is achieving this mission in three ways: first, by creating and operating high-achieving public schools where nearly all students graduate and go on to college; second, by helping parents throughout the city organize to strengthen their neighborhood schools; and thirdly, by pushing the Los Angeles Unified School District to move boldly to improve the city's public schools.

Green Dot Quick Stats:	
# Schools (current)	12
# New Planned Schools (2008-2009)	4
# New Planned Schools (2009-2010)	5-10
% Low Income Students	86%

**ICEF Public Schools** is a nonprofit charter school management organization serving communities in the South Los Angeles area. ICEF Public Schools operates high-quality, tuition-free, public charter elementary, middle, and high schools, with a goal to develop and manage charter schools that prepare minority students to attend and compete academically at the top colleges and universities in the nation. Their mission is to transform South Los Angeles into a stable, economically vibrant community by providing first-rate educational opportunities and by annually graduating 2,000 high school students.

ICEF Quick Stats:	
# Schools (current)	9
# New Planned Schools (2008-2009)	3-4
# New Planned Schools (2009-2010)	3-4
% Low Income Students	50%

**Partnership for Los Angeles Schools** is the first project of its kind in Los Angeles and in the state of California. Created by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, the Partnership's goal is to both dramatically improve student achievement within its schools and to become a model for collaboration, school reform, and community advancement that can be replicated throughout Los Angeles and California.

Partnership Quick Stats:	
# Schools (current)	14-16
# New Planned Schools (2008-2009)	10-20
# New Planned Schools (2009-2010)	10-20
% Low Income Students	~83%

**Partnerships to Uplift Communities (PUC Schools)**, a nonprofit charter management organization, aims to significantly increase college entrance and graduation rates for underserved students in Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley. PUC operates a growing network of small, public charter schools, and has a mission of developing and managing high quality charter schools in densely populated urban communities with overcrowded and low achieving schools. PUC uplifts and revitalizes communities through the development of educational and other supportive partnerships.

**PUC Quick Stats:**

# Schools (current)	8
# New Planned Schools (2008-2009)	0
# New Planned Schools (2009-2010)	2
% Low Income Students	82%

## Los Angeles Broad Residents and Alumni

### **Daniel Chang**

Vice President of New School Development, Green Dot Public Schools  
Broad Residency Class of 2007-2009  
MBA, Anderson School of Management, UCLA  
BS, Business Administration, University of California, Berkeley  
Previous Employers: Model N; Desktop.com; Broadview International

### **Parker Hudnut**

Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer, Alliance for College-Ready Public Schools  
Broad Residency Class of 2005-2007  
MBA, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania  
BA, Environmental Science, University of Virginia  
Previous Employers: Chancellor Beacon Academies; Quisic

Current Projects: "I am working on creating 100,000 square feet of educational space, growing a \$38 million budget to \$50 million next year, creating systems that will help school staff stay focused on students (not compliance) and being part of the revolution that we know as the Los Angeles charter school movement."

Why Los Angeles: ***"If you want to work where students need you most, where hard work pays off with high graduation rates, and where you can see progress every day toward the creation of a truly innovative urban education landscape, then come to L.A.!"***

### **Mark Kleger-Heine**

Chief Operating Officer, Partnership for Los Angeles Schools  
Broad Residency Class of 2008-2010  
MBA, Columbia Business School  
MPA, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University  
BA, Psychology, Yale University  
Previous Employers: McKinsey & Company; Project GRAD

### **Devyn Schoenfeld**

Director, Facilities Development, Alliance for College-Ready Public Schools  
The Broad Residency Class of 2007-2009  
MBA, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania  
BS, Economics, Baruch College

Previous Employers: Walt Disney Company; RCA Records

### **Yumi Takahashi**

Budget Director, Los Angeles Unified School District  
The Broad Residency Class of 2003-2005  
MPP, Goldman School of Public Policy, UC Berkeley  
BA, Psychology, Pomona College

### **Hoa Truong**

Vice President of Operations, Green Dot Public Schools  
The Broad Residency Class of 2006-2008  
MBA, Anderson School of Management, UCLA  
BS, Business Administration, UC Berkeley  
Previous Employers: Arthur Andersen; KIPP Los Angeles College Preparatory School

### **Marshall Tuck**

Chief Executive Officer, Partnership for Los Angeles Schools  
The Broad Residency Class of 2004-2006  
MBA, Harvard Business School  
BA, Political Science, UCLA  
Previous Employers: Green Dot Public Schools; Model N; Salomon Brothers

### **Kenneth Zeff**

Chief Operating Officer, ICEF Public Schools  
The Broad Residency Class of 2003-2005  
MBA, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania  
BA, Economics and Political Science, University of Michigan  
Previous Employers: U.S. Department of Education; White House Fellow, White House Office of Management and Budget; San Diego City Schools; Deloitte Consulting

Current Projects: "My current project is to guide ICEF Public Schools on a path of fiscal responsibility during these turbulent times.

Why Los Angeles: *"Los Angeles is great because it is close to the ocean, possesses a tolerable climate and affords you plenty of time to get acquainted with the inside of your car!"*

## Resources

### Living in Los Angeles:

City of Los Angeles	<a href="http://www.ci.la.ca.us/">http://www.ci.la.ca.us/</a>
Citysearch	<a href="http://losangeles.citysearch.com/">http://losangeles.citysearch.com/</a>
CNN Cost of Living Calculator	<a href="http://cgi.money.cnn.com/tools/costofliving/costofliving.html">http://cgi.money.cnn.com/tools/costofliving/costofliving.html</a>
Craigslist	<a href="http://losangeles.craigslist.org/">http://losangeles.craigslist.org/</a>
Discover Los Angeles	<a href="http://discoverlosangeles.com/">http://discoverlosangeles.com/</a>

Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce	<a href="http://www.lachamber.com/">http://www.lachamber.com/</a>
Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation	<a href="http://www.laedc.org/">http://www.laedc.org/</a>
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority	<a href="http://www.metro.net/default.asp">http://www.metro.net/default.asp</a>
Los Angeles Daily News	<a href="http://www.dailynews.com/">http://www.dailynews.com/</a>
Los Angeles Magazine	<a href="http://www.lamag.com/">http://www.lamag.com/</a>
Los Angeles Times	<a href="http://www.latimes.com/">http://www.latimes.com/</a>
Los Angeles Visitors Guide	<a href="http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/weaver/ovg08">http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/weaver/ovg08</a>
Time Out Los Angeles	<a href="http://www.timeout.com/travel/losangeles">http://www.timeout.com/travel/losangeles</a>
Wikipedia	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_angeles">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_angeles</a>
Yelp	<a href="http://www.yelp.com/la">http://www.yelp.com/la</a>

## Working in Los Angeles Schools:

Alliance for College-Ready Public Schools	<a href="http://www.laalliance.org/">http://www.laalliance.org/</a>
Council of the Great City Schools	<a href="http://cgcs.org/">http://cgcs.org/</a>
Education Week	<a href="http://www.edweek.org/ew/index.html">http://www.edweek.org/ew/index.html</a>
Green Dot Public Schools	<a href="http://www.greendot.org/">http://www.greendot.org/</a>
ICEF Public Schools	<a href="http://www.icefla.org/">http://www.icefla.org/</a>
Los Angeles Unified School District	<a href="http://www.lausd.net">http://www.lausd.net</a>
Partnership for Los Angeles Schools	<a href="http://www.partnershipla.org/">http://www.partnershipla.org/</a>
Partnerships to Uplift Communities (PUC Schools)	<a href="http://www.pucschools.org/">http://www.pucschools.org/</a>