

Community Profile

LA CITY: Baldwin Village Gang Reduction and Youth Development Zone



Introduction

The Mayor's Office of the City of Los Angeles established twelve Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) zones in 2007 to implement targeted strategies that address gang violence in communities with some of the highest levels of crime and gang activity in the city. Understanding the specific and unique characteristics of a community is the first step toward effectively creating long-term improvement for the people who live there. This profile uses a comprehensive approach that includes data, charts and narrative aimed at providing important and useful statistical information on the population, demographic, social and economic conditions of the LA City Baldwin Village Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) Zone.

Components

- Overview
- Population Characteristics
- Education
- Economic
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- Public Safety
- Community Resources
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OVERVIEW

Healthy City is presenting this community profile to the University of Southern California's Center for Religion and Civic Culture (CRCC) as part of their Gang Violence Intervention Project. This community profile will provide a snapshot of the area, as a basis to understanding the general make up of the community and potential needs of its residents. Data presented will include existing community resources and population characteristics, as well as education, economic, housing, health, environment and safety statistics. CRCC will share this profile with its network of faith based organizations that are focused on implementing a gang intervention program in their service areas.

This community profile presents extensive data and analysis, and encourages further exploration of the community's rich history and experience. It is our hope that this profile will provide context and understanding of the issues facing the Baldwin Village GRYD zone community and allows readers to see how they can strategize to implement policy or programmatic changes that address the needs of the community.

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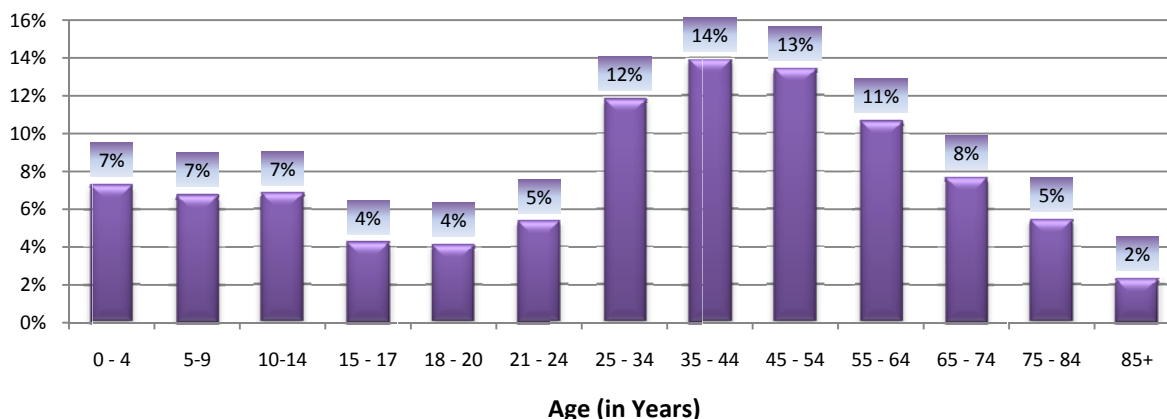
Population Characteristics

Population characteristics are important size and composition measures of the people of an area, and when analyzed together, they describe a community and inform community decision-making. Measures such as the total population, the number of children, and family size are used to determine adequate levels of services in an area, including schools, hospitals and child-care facilities. Measures of race and ethnicity, family structure, and civic participation are useful in evaluating the cultural relevance and effectiveness of local services such as counseling, income security, and basic needs to serve the area population. Assessing the concentration of population characteristics in an area and comparing them to characteristics in other areas are vital to identifying an area's unique and current needs, and planning for future conditions.

General Population

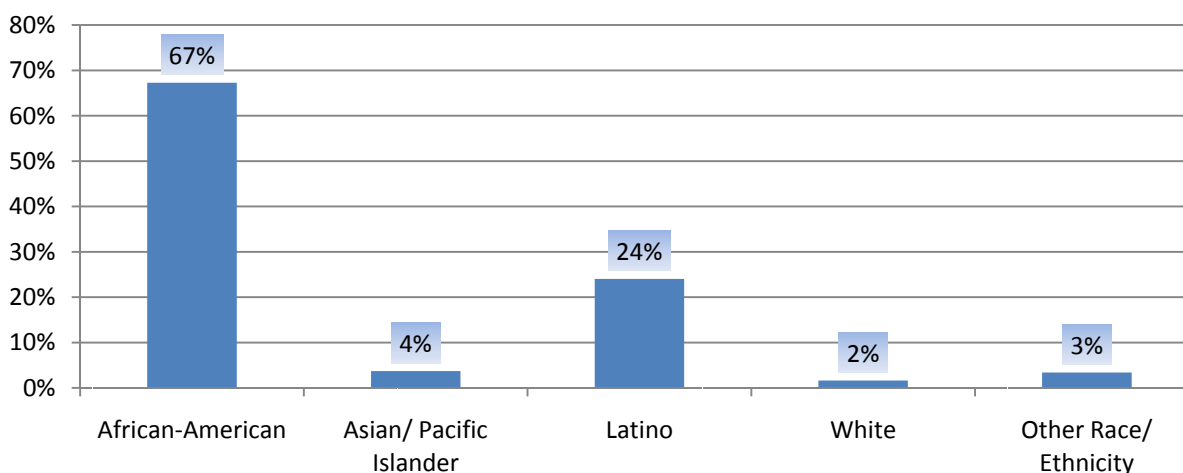
The Baldwin Village GRYD Zone had an estimated population of 26,984, with ¼ of the population under the age of 18. Nearly 60% of the population was between 18 and 64 years old, with residents ages 35-44 years old representing the largest age group.

Population by Age in the Baldwin Village GRYD, 2010



Although Latinos represented the largest racial/ethnic group throughout the City of Los Angeles, the Baldwin Village GRYD zone reflects a community where African-Americans represented the majority of the population at nearly 70% of the GRYD's population. Latinos represented the second largest racial/ethnic groups in the area, at 24% of the population.¹ The age and racial/ethnic make-up of the population are significant in determining the types of services and programs that might be necessary to appeal to certain age groups and various cultures. For example, a large working age population may demand more employment and economic support programs, while a significant youth population will necessitate youth development and educational programs.

Race/ Ethnicity in the Baldwin Village GRYD, 2010

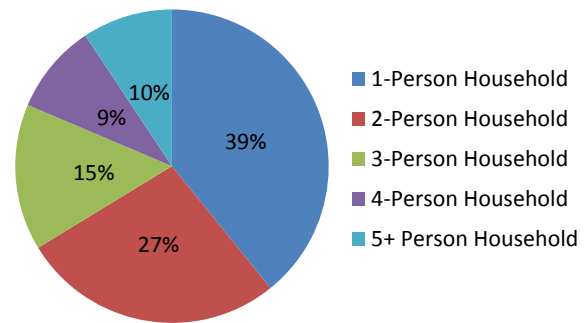


¹ Nielsen Claritas, Inc. US Census Estimates, 2010.

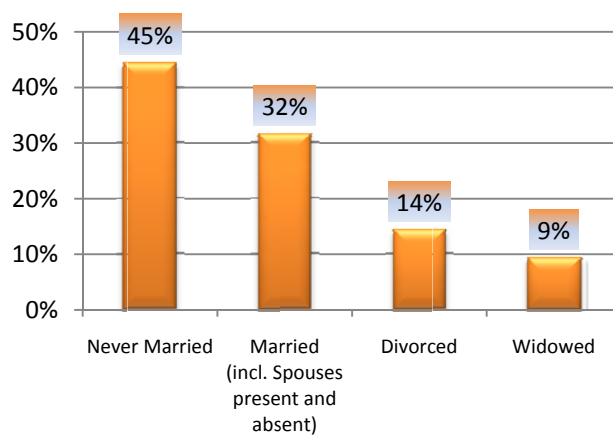
Families and Households

Nearly 40% of households in the GRYD were one-person households, while 34% of households had 3 or more persons. The predominant proportion of residents (45%) had never married, while 32% of residents were married. Of the families with children in the community, 68% were headed by single parents, while 32% were headed by married couples.² The size and family structure of households in the area implicate a potential need for support services for single-parent families and increased resources to meet the needs of the populations of dense communities.

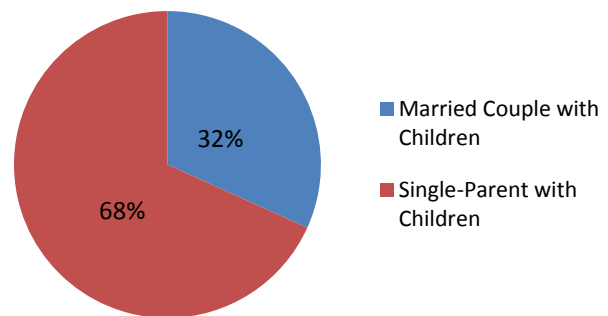
Household Size in the Baldwin Village GRYD, 2010



Marital Status in the Baldwin Village GRYD, 2010



Families with Children in the Baldwin Village GRYD, 2010



Further data gathering directly from the community members is necessary to determine the specific types of resources or capacities needed. For example, a survey with community residents may reveal that additional resources are not needed, but the existing resources may need to be more culture-specific or age appropriate to adequately serve the community.

Civic Participation

Civic participation represents people's involvement in their community, their level of commitment to the issues affecting them and may even reflect neighborhood cohesion and trust among residents. There were 30,358 voters in the 2008 General Election in the Baldwin Village GRYD zone. This is 12,471 (70%) more people than those who voted in the 2006 elections.³ This increase in participation must be analyzed with the issues and significance of each election to make significant conclusions around civic participation. However, at the least, an increase in voter participation reveals the potential to engage more residents and to gather community support and encourage continued involvement in planning and policy issues that directly affect community residents.

² Nielsen Claritas, Inc. US Census Estimates, 2010.

³ Statewide Database at the University of California, Berkeley; the redistricting database for the state of California.

Education

Education characteristics are often indicators of workforce readiness, career development and the quality of educational institutions in the area. These characteristics suggest what resources might be needed in terms of educational programs and support services, as well as job training and employment services for area residents. These types of resources are particularly important in the Baldwin Village GRYD zone to provide support for youth development with positive, alternative opportunities to youth faced with pressures of gang activity and community violence.

Local Schools

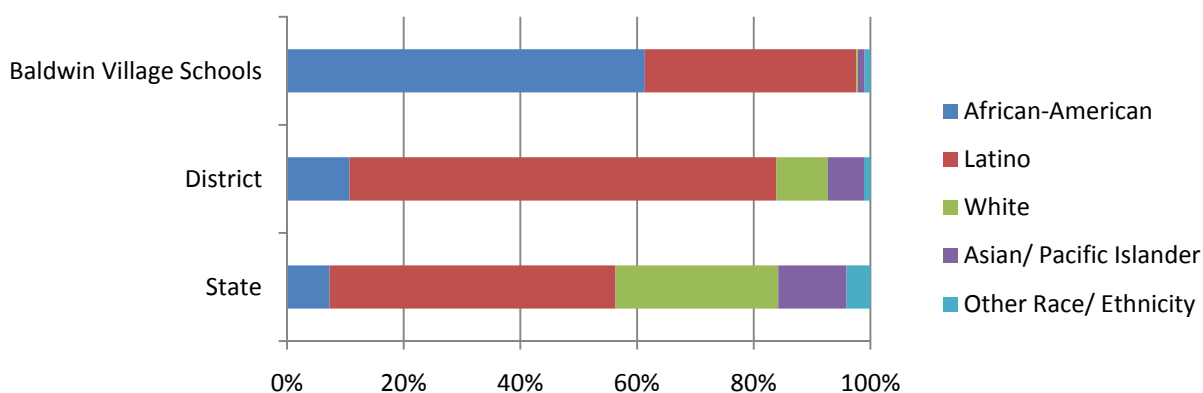
The following is a list of the major schools in the Baldwin Village GRYD Zone (which most of the following data reflect):

- Coliseum Street Elementary School
- Hillcrest Drive Elementary School
- Audubon Middle School
- Susan Miller Dorsey Senior High School
- View Park Continuation School

School Demographics

African-Americans represented over 60% of the student population in the Baldwin Village area schools and Latinos represent over 35% of the student population.⁴ Notably, Baldwin Village schools had more than three times as many African-American students than schools throughout the local school district and state.

Race/ Ethnicity in Baldwin Village GRYD Schools, 2009

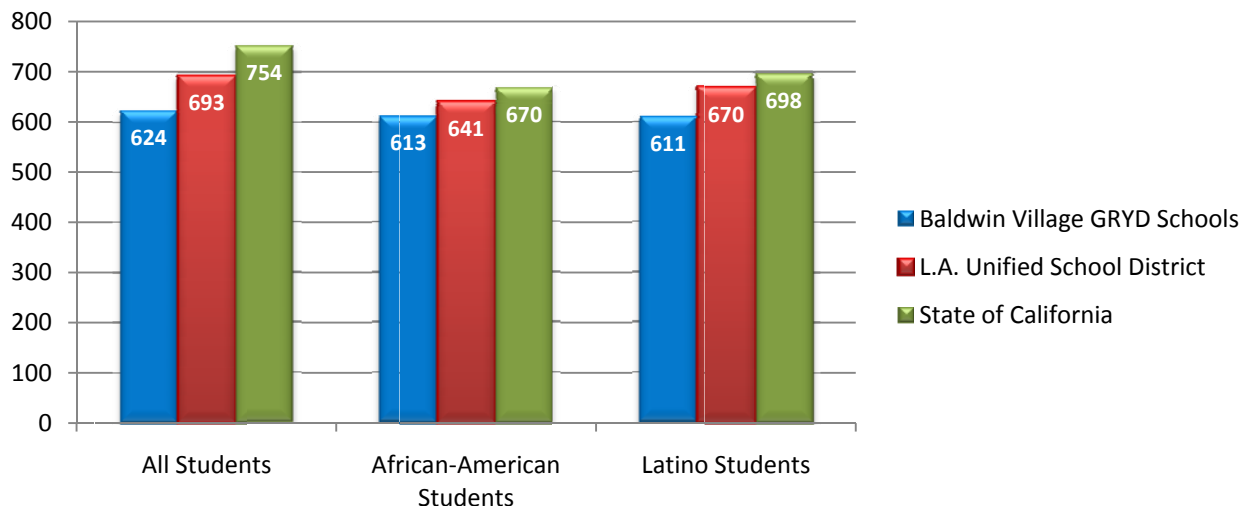


The average Academic Performance Index (API) scores for all schools in the area show that local schools performed at lower levels than the district and state in 2009. The API scores of African-American and Latino students revealed lower scores for these two ethnic groups, when compared to all other students overall in the Baldwin Village area, the local school district, and statewide. The lower performance level for African American and Latino students requires deeper study into the causes for performance differences including students' learning environments, cultural learning styles, and socio-economic factors such as poverty status, community violence, educational attainment level of parents,

⁴ California Department of Education, 2009. School demographic data.

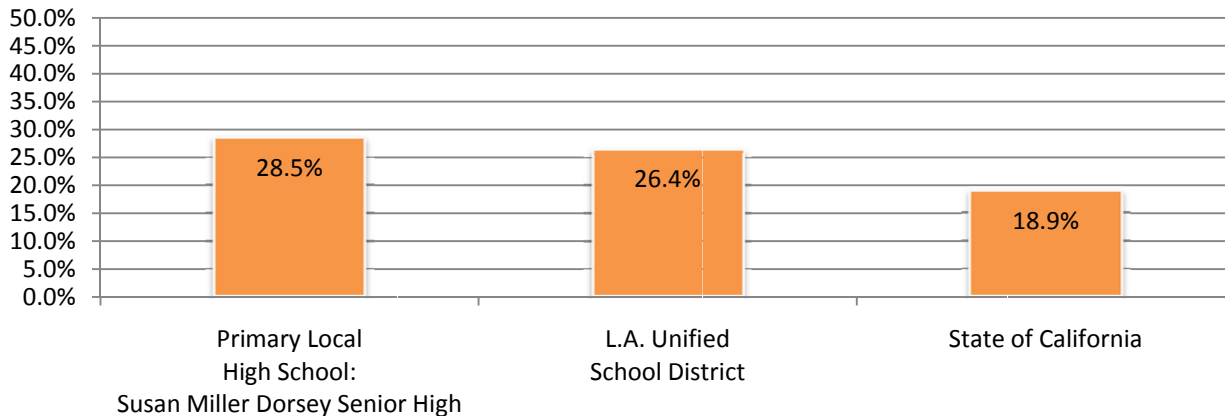
and any other aspects that may affect a student's education.

Average Academic Performance Index (API) Scores, 2009



At 28.5%, the drop-out rate for the primary, local high school, Susan Miller Dorsey Senior High, was 2% higher than the drop-out rate in the Los Angeles Unified School District and 10% higher than the rate for the state of California.⁵

Drop-out Rate (4-year adjusted) for Primary Local High Schools in the Baldwin Village GRYD, 2009



Alternative education programs, job training and employment services may prove helpful in providing the necessary support to promote positive youth development. Additional support through programs and resources that promote alternative transitions into the economic environment can provide youth who do not go through traditional modes of education with key resources and opportunities to become positive contributors to their community.

⁵ California Department of Education, 2009. Four-year adjusted drop-out rate accounts for school transfers and re-enrollments.

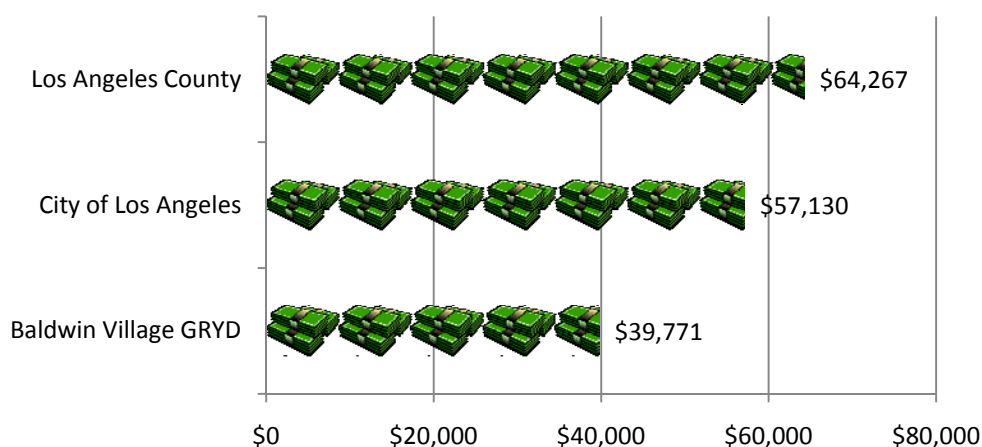
Economic Environment

Economic characteristics represent the individual and collective financial resources of a community. These characteristics generally reflect a community's production and distribution of wealth, income, and commodities. Key economic characteristics include poverty status, income, employment status, and characteristics related to local industry and commerce. Analysis of these characteristics assess the conditions of the local economy, families, households, and individuals and helps to identify the community's strengths and challenges in promoting and sustaining overall economic growth.

Income

The average median household income for census block groups located in the Baldwin Village GRYD zone was \$39,771. This was 30% less than the average median household income for census block groups in the City of Los Angeles and 38% less than the average median household income for block groups in LA County.⁶

Average Median Household Income (per Block Groups, in each area), 2010



The difference in average median incomes for the GRYD zone compared to the City and County implies a potential need for income support services and perhaps additional research on the local economy to determine what programs are most appropriate for the economic development of the community. This may include surveys, research and data gathering on the informal economy, which includes street vendors, food trucks, and similar types of businesses that might not get counted with the revenues of more traditional businesses in a fixed location.

Employment

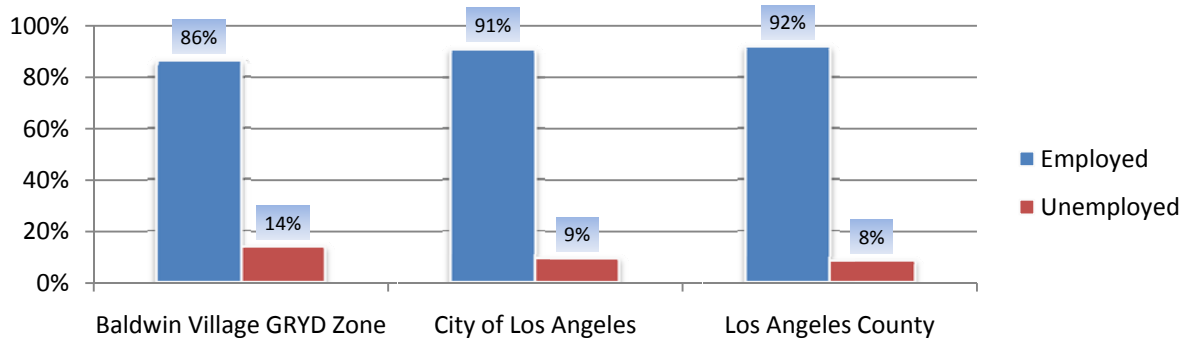
Employment status represents another key economic characteristic of a community. In the Baldwin Village GRYD Zone, eighty-six (86%) percent of the civilian labor force were employed, while 14% were unemployed.⁷ When compared to the rates of employment and unemployment city and countywide, the employment rate in the Baldwin Village GRYD was slightly lower than the rates for the city and county.⁸ The rate of unemployment in the GRYD was slightly higher (by 5-6%) than the unemployment rates of the city and county.

⁶ Nielsen Claritas, Inc. US Census Estimates, 2010.

⁷ Nielsen Claritas, Inc. US Census Estimates, 2009.

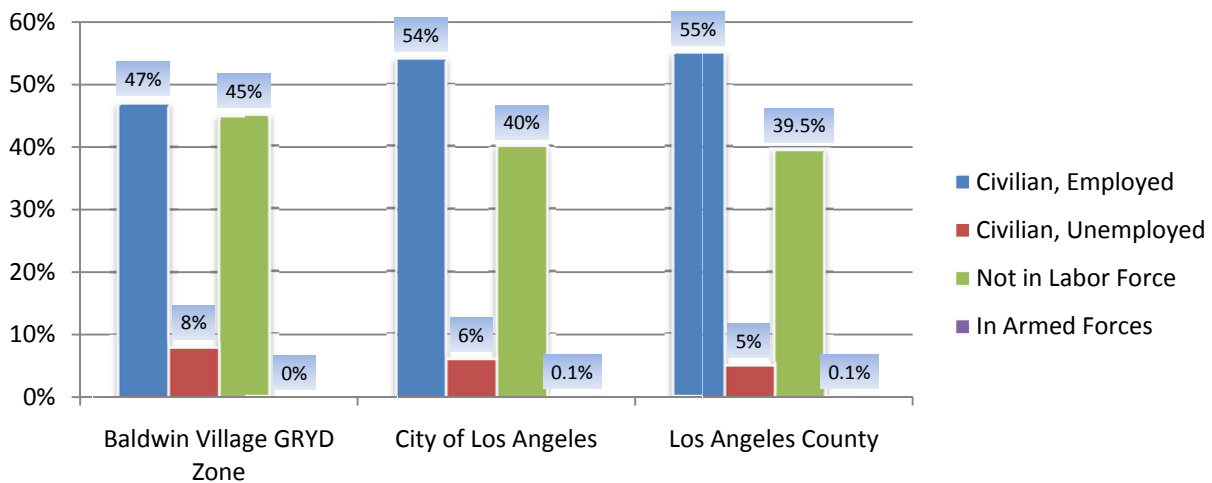
⁸ Nielsen Claritas, Inc. US Census Estimates, 2009.

Employment/ Unemployment Rate for Civilian Labor Force, 2009



In looking at the employment status of the general population of ages 16 or older, all three areas had a relatively significant proportion of the population who were not in the labor force. For the Baldwin Village GRYD Zone, forty-five percent (45%) of the general population ages 16 or older were not in the labor force, almost comparable to 40% within the City of Los Angeles and 39% within Los Angeles County.⁹ According to the United States Census Bureau, “Not in Labor Force” includes “[a]ll people 16 years old and over who are not classified as members of the labor force [and] consists mainly of students, homemakers, retired workers, seasonal workers interviewed in an off season who were not looking for work, institutionalized people, and people doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours during the reference week).”¹⁰ This statistic may call for further investigation into any underlying reasons that this proportion of the community was not in the labor force.

Employment Status of Population Ages 16+, 2009



Local Economy

The top 3 industries by employment in the Baldwin Village GRYD were Health Care and Social Assistance (14%), Retail Trade (11%), and Educational Services (9%).¹¹ The percent of employed civilians ages 16

⁹ Nielsen Claritas, Inc. US Census Estimates, 2009.

¹⁰ American Community Survey, Puerto Rico Community Survey, 2008 Subject Definitions. U.S. Census Bureau. <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/2008/usedata/2008%20ACS%20Subject%20Definitions.pdf>

¹¹ Nielsen Claritas, Inc. US Census Estimates, 2009.

and over in the Baldwin Village GRYD who worked in the Health Care and Social Assistance and Education Services industries was 5% higher than the percent of the same population that worked in these industries within the City and County of Los Angeles. Relatedly, the top 3 occupation types in the Baldwin Village GRYD reflected the top industries. These top occupations were Office and Administrative Support Occupations (27%), Sales and Related Occupations (9%), and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (7.5%).¹² The percent of those employed in Office and Administrative Support Occupations was almost twice the percent of those employed in these occupations throughout Los Angeles City (15%) and Los Angeles County (16%).¹³ The percent of employed civilians in this area who worked in the Transportation and Material Moving Occupations was also higher than the City and County percents, though by a smaller margin.

¹² Nielsen Claritas, Inc. US Census Estimates, 2009.

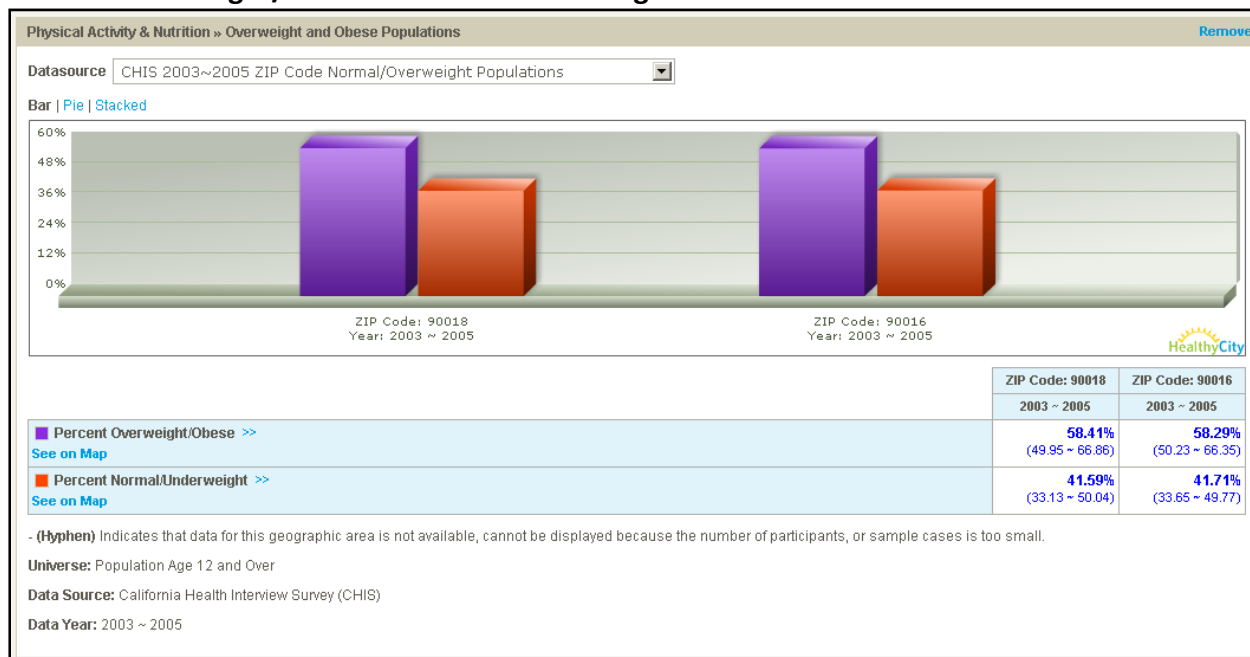
¹³ Nielsen Claritas, Inc. US Census Estimates, 2009.

Health Conditions

The condition of physical and social environments; the places where people live, work and play, have a direct and profound impact on health, determining everything from access to affordable health care, to the presence of healthy food opportunities and the quality of the air people breathe. As we explore the distribution of social and environmental factors elsewhere in this profile, we may begin to see how closely they follow the patterns of health and disease in our communities. Approaching health and its connection to the physical and social environment can provide powerful insight into the priority health needs in a community, and the type of policy and other changes needed to reverse health outcomes and inequities, and build a healthier communities.

Exploring health conditions in the Baldwin Village GRYD zone may help determine their relationship to socio-economic factors and the physical environment. An average 58.35% of people were overweight or obese in the two ZIP codes that encompass the GRYD zone (90018 & 90016).¹⁴ With nearly 60% of the population being overweight or obese in the GRYD zone and surrounding area, there is a clear need for particular programs to address the health concerns of the population. Further research into the causes of these health issues will reveal whether the needs are related to healthcare, physical activity, social support programs, accessibility of nutritional foods, the socio-economic environment, the physical environment, a combination of any of these factors, or some other cause.

Percent Overweight/Obese in the Baldwin Village GRYD zone



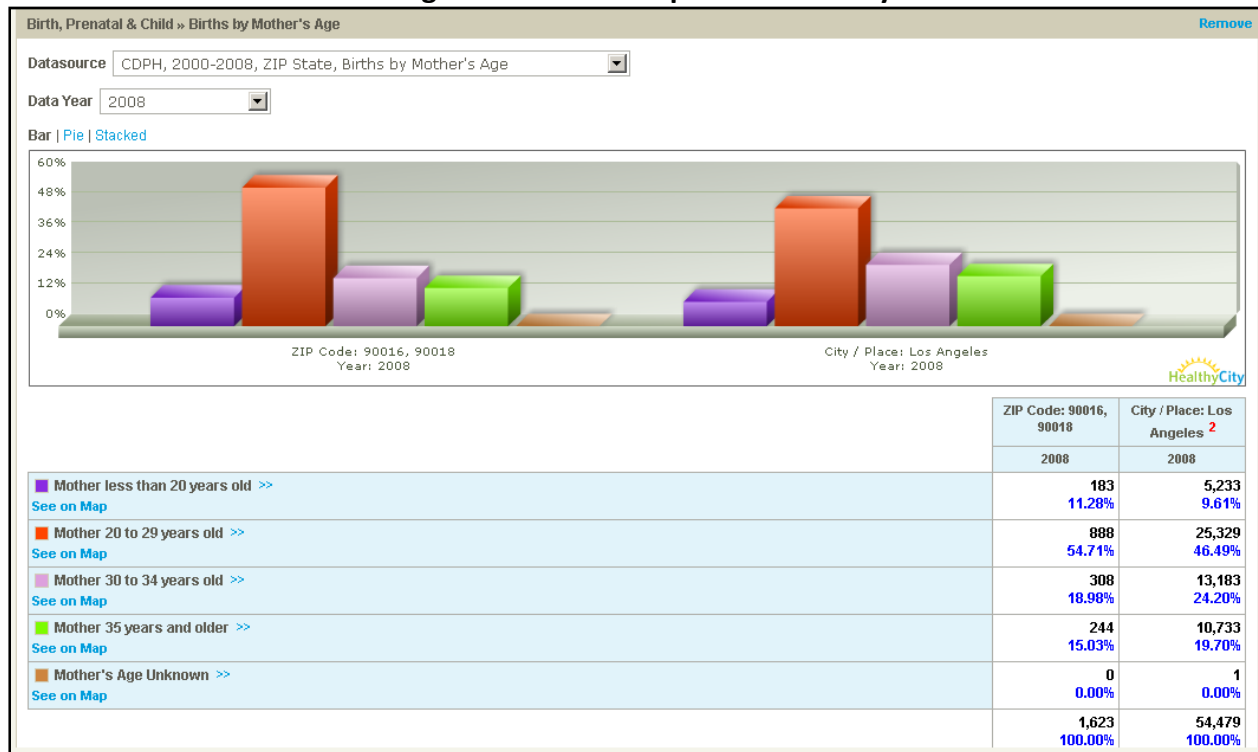
Other health conditions affecting the population include heart disease and cancer, which were two of the leading cause of death in the area of and around the GRYD zone. Just slightly higher than City of Los Angeles percentages, cancer and diseases of the heart accounted for 52.35% of deaths in the GRYD zone in 2008.¹⁵ With a prevalence of these types of health conditions there is the need to ensure adequate healthcare and services are available to the community.

¹⁴ California Health Interview Survey, 3-Year Estimate; 2003~2005. Population Age 12 and Over. Data by ZIP code.

¹⁵ California Department of Public Health, Deaths, 2008. Data by ZIP code.

Teen births accounted for 11.28% of births in the GRYD zone in 2008, compared to approximately 10% of births in the City of Los Angeles.¹⁶ High rates of teen pregnancies may reflect a need for additional resources, including teen parenting programs, teen parent education programs, and prenatal services. A failure to provide appropriate programs and services to address the health issues of the community can affect not only the physical well-being of community members, but also the mental health and ability of the community to resist other socio-economic pressures including violence, poverty, and unemployment in the face of various health issues.

Teen Births in the Baldwin Village GRYD zone compared to the City of LA



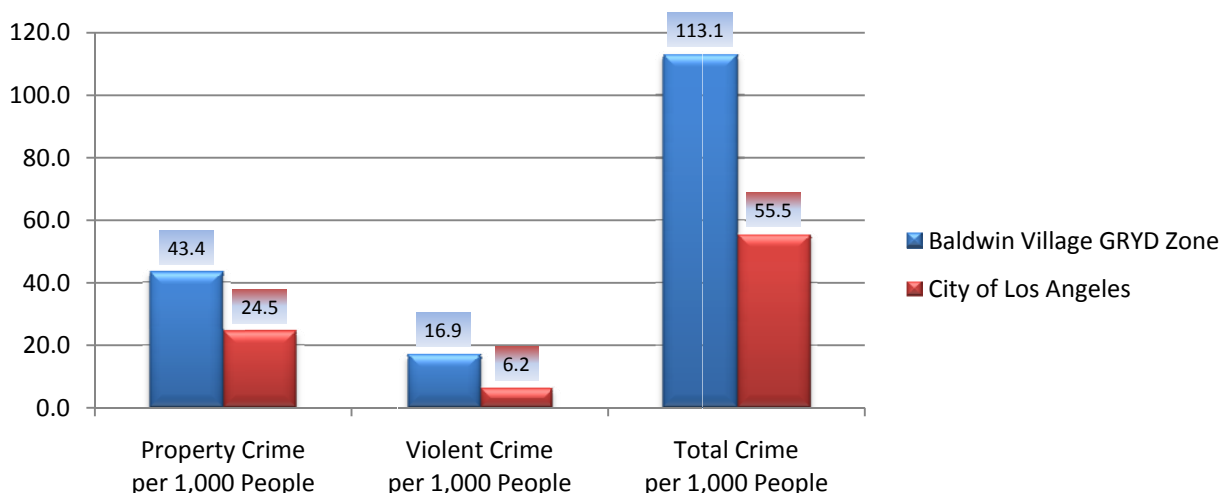
¹⁶ California Department of Public Health, Births, 2008. Data by ZIP code.

Public Safety

Public safety characteristics describe the general security of a community. These characteristics can be connected to many other community aspects, such as psychological and physical well-being, desirability of the community, house value, and availability of resources. Public safety data include statistics of arrests, crime reported to the police, and the perception of safety among the residents of the neighborhood. In analyzing public safety data, both absolute values and rates provide a comprehensive measure of a community's safety needs. It is also useful to see how those statistics compare to the larger area surrounding the community, the city and county as a whole.

In 2008, there were an estimated 1,170 property crimes and 457 violent crimes that occurred in the Baldwin Village GRYD Zone.¹⁷ In comparing the crime rate (per 1,000 people) in the area to the citywide crime rate, the total crime rate in the GRYD zone was more than twice the rate for the City of Los Angeles. An estimated 113 crimes occurred per 1,000 people in the Baldwin Village GRYD Zone, while 56 crimes occurred per 1,000 throughout the city.¹⁸ The rates of property and violent crime also revealed significant differences between the rates for the GRYD Zone and the city. Property Crime per 1,000 people in the GRYD Zone (43.4) was significantly higher than the rate of the city (24.5); and violent crime per 1,000 people in the GRYD zone (16.9) was nearly three times the rate of the city (6.2).¹⁹

Crime per 1,000 in the Baldwin Village GRYD Zone, 2008



Analyzing the types of crimes that occur along with the culture and characteristics of a community, as presented through the additional data in this profile, helps to shape policing strategies and public safety policies that will address the unique needs of the community. A sense of the community members and their needs also supports gathering input directly from the community on how policing should be implemented allows residents to take charge of the safety of their community.

¹⁷ Los Angeles Police Department, 2008.

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Community Resources

Community resources describe the strength of local institutions to support vulnerable populations. The resource environment of a community presents the infrastructure of opportunities available to residents for basic human services such as housing, health care, education, employment, and recreation. While the presence of resources does not equal accessibility, a scan of the area informs the potential to leverage resources and may also reveal a need for better outreach and connection to residents.

There were a total of 41 nonprofit organizations within the Baldwin Village GRYD zone with combined total nonprofit revenue of \$65,919,931.²⁰ Of those organizations, approximately 66% were established before 1999. The average age and revenues of nonprofits are useful to understand an organization's presence within a community, including the relationship it has with community members, as well as its reputation as an established and trustworthy organization for funders to invest in.

In addition to nonprofits registered with the IRS, there were a number of churches in the area, as well as a minimal number of basic needs services, education resources, individual and family life services, income support and employment services, health care services, and resources for specific target populations. The attached resource maps include human and social services from 2-1-1 LA County's database as well as a database of churches and other faith-based organizations. The types of resources provided may include: Basic Needs (housing, food, financial support, etc.), Health Care, Education, Employment, Social Support, Recreation, Transportation, Faith-Based community organizations, Re-entry Services, Nonprofits in the area, Gang Intervention workers, and Youth Centers.

²⁰ Internal Revenue Service, IRS Form 990, 2006.

Summary

The data and statistics presented paint a story of the Baldwin Village GRYD zone in terms of physical health, safety, economic stability, educational attainment, the built environment and overall community well being. In addition, the overall characteristics of a community are often shaped by the presence and lack of resources. Further participatory research in the community will allow residents to contextualize the information and their needs based on community knowledge.

The data reveal Baldwin Village to be a unique community with a predominantly African American population and a sizeable percentage of Latinos. This data may support the need for more language and culture-specific services within the community, as well as diverse resources that address the specific needs of different community members while promoting a common betterment of the community for all residents. The area is also noticeable for its disparities in terms of academic performance among school students in comparison to the City and County of Los Angeles. With a drop-out rate of 1/3 of all students in the area schools and 1/3 of family households headed by a single parent, the Baldwin Village GRYD zone is in need of targeted education resources and family support services. Teen births are just around 2% higher in the GRYD zone than in the City of LA and heart diseases and cancer are the leading causes of death, similar to the statistics for the City of LA. Yet, the appropriate programs and resources for teen mothers in the Baldwin Village area may differ from services that are useful in other parts of Los Angeles. All of the characteristics presented in this profile reveal a need for specific types of resources that support the community members and promote positive socio-economic and physical environments. Once the environment is suitable to support all of its needs, the implementation of programs, resources, and policy changes will allow for the improvement of the overall community to address and counter issues of violence and promote youth development.

The data present an important picture and urge the need to start exploring the existing conditions and beginning to identify potential needs of the community. Additionally, more in-depth data gathering, that involves the engagement of community residents and expresses their specific to express their needs, will further inform an action plan to implement policy and programmatic changes.

Assets/ Resources and Services near the Baldwin Village, Florence/ Graham, and Newton GRYD Zones, 2010

