LABarometer Tracking Report

from

The Mobility & Sustainability Survey

Waves 1 - 3

Release Date:
June 14, 2023
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Background and Methods

The LABarometer Mobility & Sustainability survey tracks environmental sustainability, transportation behavior, and climate vulnerability in Los Angeles County. It is inspired by county-wide efforts to reduce automobile congestion, minimize environmental impacts, and increase resilience to climate change in the region.

The survey covers a variety of topics, including heat and pollution exposure, natural disaster preparedness, pro-environmental behavior, transportation sentiment, transportation access and behavior, and the steps Los Angeles County residents are taking to adapt to climate change. The survey also includes LABarometer’s consumer sentiment index, a set of six questions designed to monitor individual finances and the economy.

This document tracks key outcomes of interest from Waves 1-3 of the Mobility & Sustainability survey. For an exhaustive list of variables included in the Mobility & Sustainability surveys, please refer to the Longitudinal File codebook.

Survey Methodology

All LABarometer surveys are fielded to the LABarometer Panel, a probability-based Internet panel of adults living in households throughout Los Angeles County. From 2019 to 2022, LABarometer survey waves comprise four surveys, fielded three to six months apart. The surveys cover the following topics: Livability, Mobility, Sustainability & Resilience, and Affordability & Prosperity.

In 2022, LABarometer moved to a biannual survey frequency and these four surveys were combined and reduced in size to two surveys, one on Livability & Affordability and one Mobility & Sustainability. The Mobility & Sustainability survey is fielded in January of each year and the Livability & Affordability Survey is fielded in July of each year. Field periods range from 8-12 weeks.

Following UAS protocols, all LABarometer surveys are fielded in English and in Spanish. To participate in a survey, panel members can use any computer, cell phone, or tablet with Internet access. The majority of panel members have their own internet access. Panel members who do not have access to internet are provided with an internet-enabled tablet to ensure their regular participation in our surveys.

Survey and Sample Information

A total of 1,190-1,417 Los Angeles County residents completed any given wave of the Mobility & Sustainability survey. Participants were recruited from the LABarometer Panel and survey participation rates ranged from 73% to 78%.
Details for each survey, including links to individual survey toplines, are provided in the informational table below. For waves 1 and 2, "M" is used to denote the Mobility survey module and "S" is used to denote the Sustainability survey module.

Variable names and question wording are not provided in this release. To see the questions used in any given survey, please refer to the associated survey codebook, questionnaire, or topline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey</th>
<th>UAS #</th>
<th>Sample Size</th>
<th>Completion Rate</th>
<th>Field Dates</th>
<th>Topline Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wave 1 (M)</td>
<td>UAS 219</td>
<td>1384</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>Dec 11, 2019 – Feb 7, 2020</td>
<td>UAS 219 Topline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wave 1 (S)</td>
<td>UAS 286</td>
<td>1417</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>Jun 3, 2020 – July 13, 2020</td>
<td>UAS 286 Topine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wave 2 (M)</td>
<td>UAS 379</td>
<td>1337</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>Mar 2, 2021 – Apr 30, 2021</td>
<td>UAS 379 Topline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wave 2 (S)</td>
<td>UAS 403</td>
<td>1244</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>Jul 19, 2021 – Sep 5, 2021</td>
<td>UAS 403 Topline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wave 3</td>
<td>UAS 510</td>
<td>1190</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>Jan 27, 2023 – Mar 31, 2023</td>
<td>UAS 510 Topline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey Weights

The method for creating sample weights for the tracking survey follows the general procedure for UAS surveys described in CESR’s online methodology documentation. Sample weights are constructed in two steps. First, we calculate a base weight that corrects for unequal probabilities of selection of different households into the UAS. Second, we generate post-stratification weights, which align sample distributions of key demographics, namely gender, race/ethnicity, age, education, and geographic location, with their population counterparts. Population benchmarks are derived from the Basic Monthly Current Population Survey (CPS). The provided sample weights bring the sample in line with the L.A. County adult population.

About the Panel

The LABarometer Panel is a probability-based, Internet panel of approximately 2,100 adults living in households throughout Los Angeles County. It is a sub-panel of the Understanding America Study (UAS), a national Internet panel of 10,000 Americans maintained by the USC Dornsife Center for Economic and Social Research. Following UAS procedures, LABarometer panel members are recruited in batches and refreshed through address-based sampling using postal codes. Eligible individuals are all non-institutionalized adults aged 18 and older living in a contacted household in Los Angeles County.

About LABarometer

LABarometer is a research center housed at the USC Dornsife Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR). We conduct basic and applied social science research on issues affecting Los
Angeles County residents, with the aim of informing academic research, public discourse, and policy. At the heart of our research is the LABarometer Panel, a probability-based Internet survey panel of approximately 12,500 adults randomly selected from households throughout Los Angeles County.

LABarometer surveys are fielded to the LABarometer Panel on a biannual basis to monitor social and economic conditions in Los Angeles County. These longitudinal surveys focus on four dimensions of individual and community well-being: livability, affordability, mobility, and sustainability. LABarometer surveys include questions about residents’ lives, their attitudes and behaviors, and the challenges they encounter in their communities, filling data gaps on topics ranging from housing insecurity and climate resilience, to transportation behavior and the economy.

**Survey Team**

**Kyla Thomas**, Ph.D., is the Director of LABarometer and a Sociologist at the USC Dornsife Center for Economic and Social Research.

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**Thalia Thom** is the Research Assistant for LABarometer and a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Sociology at USC.

**Michele Warnock** is Center Assistant for the USC Dornsife Center for Economic and Social Research.
Transportation Behavior

Private Vehicle Use in Last Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2019</td>
<td>89.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2021</td>
<td>93.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2023</td>
<td>91.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ride Hailing Use in Last Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2019</td>
<td>43.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2021</td>
<td>17.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2023</td>
<td>28.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Metrolink Use in Last Year

- Dec 2019: 11.6%
- Mar 2021: 1.7%
- Feb 2023: 3.7%

Amtrak Use in Last Year

- Dec 2019: 3.6%
- Mar 2021: 0.8%
- Feb 2023: 1.9%

[Bar charts showing usage percentages for Metrolink and Amtrak in December 2019, March 2021, and February 2023.]
Use Metrolink/Amtrak/Dial-A-Ride at Least One Day A Week
Among Metrolink/Amtrak/Dial-A-Ride Users

- Dec 2019: 31.1%
- Mar 2021: 44.1%
- Feb 2023: 28.6%

Walk/Skateboard/Kick Scooter at Least One Day A Week
Among Walkers/Skateboarders/Kick Scooterers

- Dec 2019: 69.2%
- Mar 2021: 72.6%
- Feb 2023: 77.5%
Transportation Perceptions

Private Vehicle Safe

Bus Safe

Dec 2019  Mar 2021  Feb 2023

Percent

74.5  77.0  75.5

25.2  17.7  20.1

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
Transportation Access

Vehicles Own or Lease

Likely to Buy Vehicle in the next 12 Months
Enrolled in Commuter Benefit Program
Among those offered program by employer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jun 2020</th>
<th>Jul 2021</th>
<th>Feb 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Coolness and Heat

Visited Some Place to Cool Down

- Jun 2020: 54.8%
- Jul 2021: 54.9%
- Feb 2023: 57.6%

Visited Some Place to Warm Up

- Jun 2020: 22.2%
Pollution

Agree Safe Air Quality in Home

Agree Safe Air Quality in Neighborhood
A bar graph shows the percentage of people agreeing with the statement "Safe Water for Drinking in Neighborhood" over three periods: June 2020, July 2021, and February 2023. The percentages are 50.8%, 48.1%, and 48.2% respectively.

Another bar graph shows the percentage of people agreeing with the statement "Safe Air Quality at Work" over the same periods. The percentages are 58.2%, 65.1%, and 65.1% respectively.
Climate Change Attitudes

Believe Climate Change is Threat to LA County Residents

- June 2020: 72.3%
- July 2021: 76.7%
- February 2023: 72.7%

Believe Climate Change is Caused by Humans

- June 2020: 70.8%
- July 2021: 73.4%
- February 2023: 73.1%
Believe Local Government is Doing Enough

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun 2020</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 2021</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2023</td>
<td>18.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sustainable Behavior

Home Has: Solar Panels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Jun 2020</th>
<th>Jul 2021</th>
<th>Feb 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Home Has: Solar water heater

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Jun 2020</th>
<th>Jul 2021</th>
<th>Feb 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How Often: Limit Use of Plastic

31.0 31.2 29.3

Jun 2020 Jul 2021 Feb 2023

How Often: Hang Clothes to Dry

18.6 17.1 19.0

Jun 2020 Jul 2021 Feb 2023
How Often: Limit Air Conditioning

 Own/Lease Electric Car
Next Car Likely Electric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jun 2020</th>
<th>Jul 2021</th>
<th>Feb 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>38.2</td>
<td>47.5</td>
<td>57.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

percent
Natural Disasters

At Least Moderately Prepared for Natural Disaster

Disaster Impact: Lost Income Due to Inability to Work