

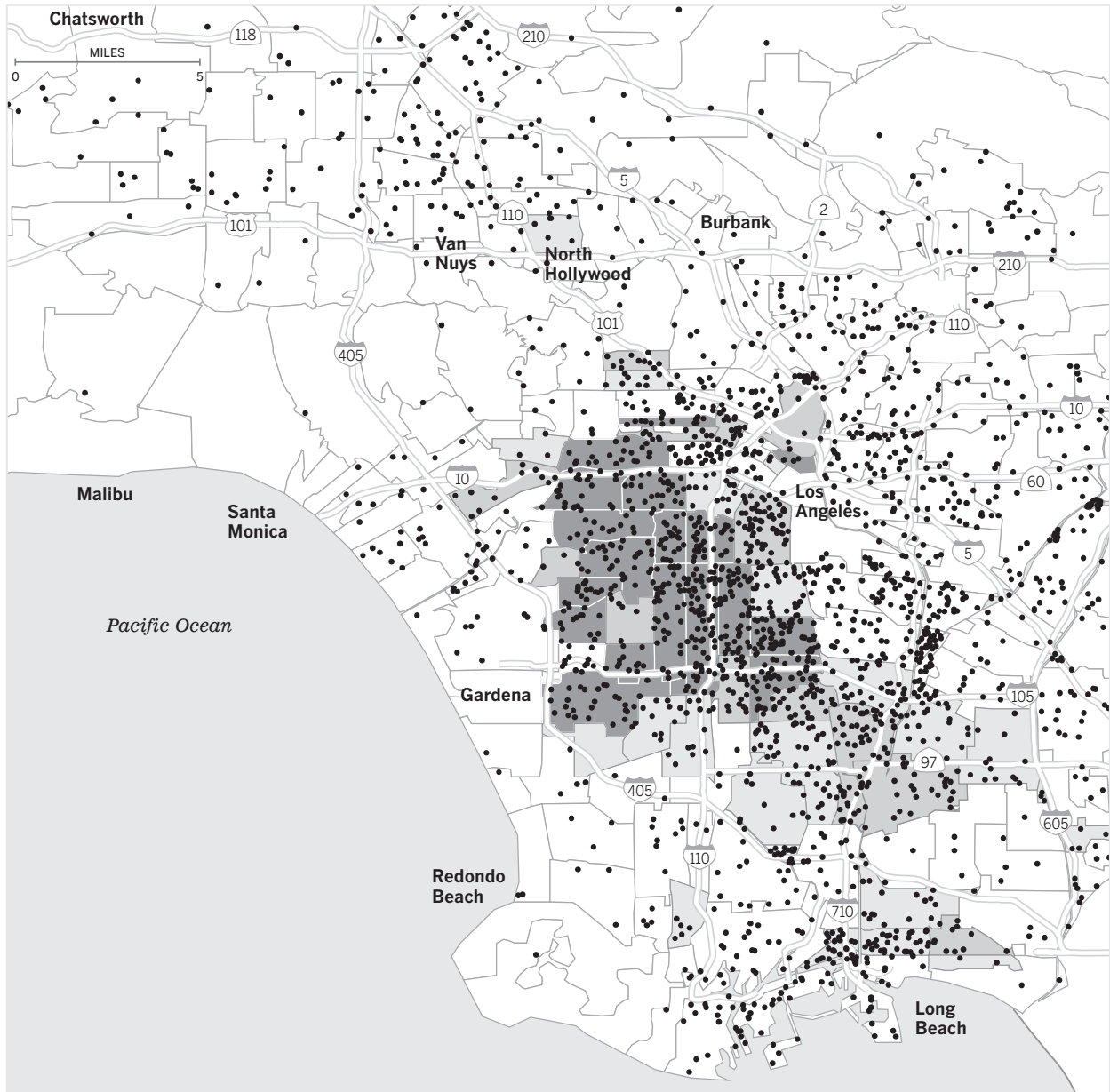
The homicide zone

Homicides occur most often where more young black men live: South-Central Los Angeles, stretching into Compton and north Long Beach. Local homicide numbers reflect a longstanding national pattern. Blacks are 12.7% of the U.S.

population but have made up almost half of its murder victims for at least 25 years. The dots, each representing three homicides from 1995 to 2000, are randomly distributed within ZIP Code boundaries.

Black males age 15-34 per sq. mi.:

0-175.0 175.1-350.0 350.1-525.0 525.1-1,083 • Each symbol represents 3 homicides



Sources: Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Northeastern University professor James Alan Fox and U.S. Census Bureau - Researched by DOUG SMITH AND JILL LEOVY Los Angeles Times