Crowding
By [Dr. Mason Gaffney]

Article citation:
[Gaffney, Mason]. "Crowding." N.d. Study guide.

Fair Use Disclaimer
The Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, a non profit private foundation, is publishing this article, at no cost, pursuant to the Fair Use provisions of Section 107 of the Copyright Act which states that under certain circumstances, the fair use of a copyrighted material for purposes of criticism, comment, teaching, scholarship and research is not an infringement of copyright. If you have any concerns about the publication of this article, please contact us at **info@schalkenbach.org.**

The Robert Schalkenbach Foundation's Digital Collections and Archives is an extension of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation's Engel Georgist Library. It collects, organizes, preserves, and provides free online access to researchers and the general public of Georgist literature including books, newspapers, pamphlets, scholarly articles and archival materials.

RSF is particularly proud to offer free online access to the works of the late Georgist scholar Mason Gaffney, made possible through the generosity of the Danica Foundation and with the consent of the Mason and Letitia Gaffney Trust.

Robert Schalkenbach Foundation: https://schalkenbach.org/
Engel Georgist Library: https://www.librarycat.org/lib/EngelGeorgistLibrary
RSF Digital Collections and Archives: https://schalkenbach.starter1ua.preservica.com/

CROWDING

1. 100,000 young families per year are moving back to live with grandma and grandpa.

I heard this datum on the national news today, accompanied by the statistic that young families are going bankrupt at a record rate, in spite of the ongoing economic expansion!
Can you imagine the rate of bankruptcy when this bubble bursts?
Well, it has now (3-08), and you need not imagine the bankruptcies, ~~they are~~ in the press daily.

"Unaffordable housing" is blamed for this unprecedented mass migration of young families back to their parents' homes.

-- Cited from news report by Al Date, 2002

2. See data on people per d.u., by city, in Excel files. Beach cities like Newport and Laguna, >1.5 persons per d.u. (ppdu); Sta. Ana, 4 or so.

3. Mena, Jennifer. "In housing density, it's too close for comfort." LAT 15 Sept 03, pp. B1, B6

In Sta. Ana, 1/5 of the houses are substandard. Ave. size of hshld = 4.6 people. Cf. L.A., 2.8; NYC, 2.6, Laguna Beach 1.0.

Faulty plumbing, wiring.

State code allows 19 people to share a house of 950 s.f. That is 50 s.f. p.c. 1990s, City tried stricter standard; cheap housing advocates beat them back, called it bias.

Tenants sublet to others to meet monthly rent of $1100 for houses of 950 s.f. That is $1.16 psf per mo., or $13.89 per year.

One lot, at 1/3 acre, has 4 houses, with 42 people - plus more in garages, part of the time, total of 55 people per 1/3 acre, or 165 p.a., = 106,000 psm.

For Sta Ana as a whole, there are now 12,425 psm.

(Cf. the 9a polo field in Sta. Barbara: space for 1,485 people.)

4. TPE 21 Nov 03 A23

Census defines "crowded" hshlds as those with more than one person per room, excluding baths, halls, and porches (but including living, dining, kitchen, utility, rooms, perhaps attic and basement space, garage space, etc.!)

15.2% of Calif hshlds in 2000 are thus "crowded." That is 1.6m "families." It follows that a much higher % of PEOPLE are thus crowded, since these crowded families contain more people.

Only HI has a higher %, 15.9%.

9 of the 10 most crowded large U.S. cities are in Calif. Salinas is the northernmost.

5. Homeless people, the ultimate in high density. They use no countable land at all.
There are about 195,000 homeless vets in the U.S. on any given night. - Dept of Vets Affairs. Those with drug and alky problems can get shelter. The others have to "go bush" in the summertimes. Watkins, Thomas, AP, 4-1-07 A2. TPE

Gary Becker claims there are "only" 300,000 homeless Americans, citing Jencks, and Rossi, who says there are just 3,000 in Chicago. For this he got a Nobel Laureate.

Here are more data Becker overlooked.

3-yr study by a panel, "Bring L.A. Home", public/pvt., in L.A.

220,000 people in L.A. alone cycle through homelessness each year; 88,000 homeless on any given night.

-- Jablon, Robert, AP. TPE 4-7-06 A3.

L.A. referred to as having more homeless than other big cities - but S.F. seems to have a lot, too. As for small cities, and rural areas, that includes the *colonias* of the Coachella Valley, with rents of $250/mo, which are close to homelessness. Cf. recent (3-08) publicity about closing down Duroville (unincorp.), a 3rd-world *favela* here in Riverside Cnty.