

BALANCING THE SCALES OF JUSTICE: County Profiles



**A Report Supplement by the ACLU of Northern California
and the W. Haywood Burns Institute**



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This analysis of county-level data from Alameda, Fresno, and Los Angeles Counties is part of a larger study, *Balancing the Scales of Justice: An Exploration into How Lack of Education, Employment, and Housing Opportunities Contribute to Disparities in the Criminal Justice System*. The study can be found by visiting www.aclunc.org/docs/racial_justice/balancing_the_scales_of_justice.pdf.

This publication is made possible by the generous support of the Race, Gender and Human Rights Fund of the Women’s Foundation of California, Rosenberg Foundation, and Fund for Nonviolence.



ALAMEDA COUNTY

For each county explored in *Balancing the Scales of Justice: An Exploration into How Lack of Education, Employment, and Housing Opportunities Contribute to Disparities in the Criminal Justice System*, the ACLU-NC and BI collected county-level data on education, employment, housing, and criminal justice data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, and gender. While data were available for each extra-judicial domain as well as for the criminal justice system, it was not the type and kind of data necessary to examine how extra-judicial drivers lead to criminal justice system contact. Counties do not collect data in a manner that analyzes how social service agencies coordinate to serve populations and/or individuals, nor do they typically assess whether individuals who have contact with the criminal justice system would be better served by a social service intervention, rather than incarceration. Although this type of critical data is unavailable, counties have information on the racial and gender differences in education, employment, housing, and criminal justice system involvement. This profile offers a snapshot of Alameda County.

A. EXTRA-JUDICIAL FACTORS: RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

Generally, in Alameda County, people of color have less access and/or decreased opportunity in all domain areas explored in this project. Moreover, system-involved interviewees in Alameda County experienced significantly diminished access and/or opportunity when compared to the county as a whole.

Table 1: Alameda County Extra-Judicial Factors: Racial and Ethnic Disparities

		White	Black	Latino	Asian	Other	Total
Population							
2005	Adult	455,226	166,882	223,212	275,815	33,641	1,154,776
2005	Youth (10-17)	50,259	25,868	40,055	37,337	756	154,275
Education							
2005	Countywide Percent Graduating High School	94%	82%	80%	92%	65%	-
2009	Interviewee Percent Graduating High School	33%	62%	0%	-	-	58%
2005	Countywide UC/CSU Eligibility	50%	22%	25%	60%	65%	-
Employment							
2007	Countywide Median Earnings ¹	\$48,135	\$31,445	\$25,587	\$41,869	\$24,672	\$37,965
2006	Countywide Percent Unemployed	5.1%	14.6%	8.4%	5.7%	-	7.2%
2009	Interviewee Percent Unemployed at Arrest	67 %	54%	40 %	-	-	52%
2007	% Service	12%	17%	24%	13%	26%	16%
2007	% Sales	23%	35%	23%	23%	21%	24%
2007	% Farming	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2007	% Construction	10%	4%	19%	4%	21%	10%
2007	% Production	8%	10%	15%	10%	16%	10%
2007	% Management	47%	33%	19%	50%	16%	39%
Housing							
2009	Interviewee Rent Burden ²	100%	50%	100%	-	-	56%
2008	Countywide Home Ownership Percent	64%	34%	48%	61%	46%	55%
2009	Interviewee Home Ownership Percent	0%	8%	0%	-	-	6%

1. Education

Graduation Rates: With the exception of Asian youth, graduation rates in Alameda County are generally higher for White youth than for youth of color. System-involved interviewees had significantly lower graduation rates than the Alameda County average. Whereas 82% of Black youth and 80% of Latino youth in the county graduated, only 62% of Black and no Latino interviewees graduated from high school.

UC/CSU Eligibility: White youth are significantly more likely to graduate with UC/CSU eligibility.



2. Employment

Unemployment Rates: With the exception of Asians, unemployment rates are significantly higher for people of color in Alameda County's work force than for Whites. System-involved interviewees had significantly higher unemployment rates at the time of their most recent arrest than the Alameda County averages. Whereas 14.6% of Blacks in the Alameda County labor force are unemployed, 54% of Black interviewees were unemployed at the time of their most recent arrest. Whereas 8.4% of Latinos in the Alameda County labor force are unemployed, 40% of Latino interviewees were unemployed at the time of their most recent arrest.

Median Incomes: In Alameda County, median incomes are significantly higher for White workers than they are for people of color. Whereas the median income for White workers of Alameda County is \$48,135, the median income for Black workers is \$31,445, 35% less than that of White workers. Median income for Latino workers is \$25,587, 47% less than that of White workers.

Occupation Types: For those residents of Alameda County who are employed in the workforce, occupation types varied significantly by race and ethnicity. White and Asian workers were generally more likely to hold management positions than Black and Latino workers, and Black and Latino workers were more likely hold positions in service and sales. For example, of all White residents in the work force, 47% held management positions, while of all Black and Latino residents in the workforce, only 33% and 19%, respectively, held management positions. In contrast, of all White residents in the work force, 35% held service and sales positions, while of all Black and Latino residents in the workforce, 52% and 47%, respectively, held sales and service positions. A higher proportion of Latino residents in the workforce in Alameda County held positions in construction than either White or Black residents.

3. Housing

Home Ownership: In Alameda County, people of color are less likely to own a home than Whites. Whereas 64% of White residents are homeowners, only 34% of Black residents and 48% of Latino residents are homeowners. Of the system-involved interviewees, only 8% of Black interviewees reported owning their home.

B. CRIMINAL JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

Adults of color in Alameda County are significantly more likely to be arrested than White adults, both in general and for drug charges.³ In general, there are no significant differences in the rate at which complaints are filed in Alameda County. However, there are significant differences in the conviction rates—people of color are more likely to be convicted. Moreover, when convicted, people of color in Alameda County tend to receive more severe sentences, such as prison, than White adults. For felony drug offenses, there are significant differences in the rates at which complaints are filed and the rates at which people are convicted, as well as disparities in resulting prison sentences.

1. Adult Arrests⁴

Table 2: Alameda County Arrests Disaggregated by Race and Ethnicity

	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Total Arrests	16,234	18,679	11,975	4,593	51,481
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000 Adults)	33	126	81	23	52
Percent Felony	26%	44%	30%	29%	34%
Percent Misdemeanor	74%	56%	70%	71%	66%
Total Arrests for Drug Charges	4,283	3,898	2,173	764	11,118
Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	9	26	15	4	11
Percent Felony	41%	75%	49%	45%	55%
Percent Misdemeanor	59%	25%	51%	55%	45%

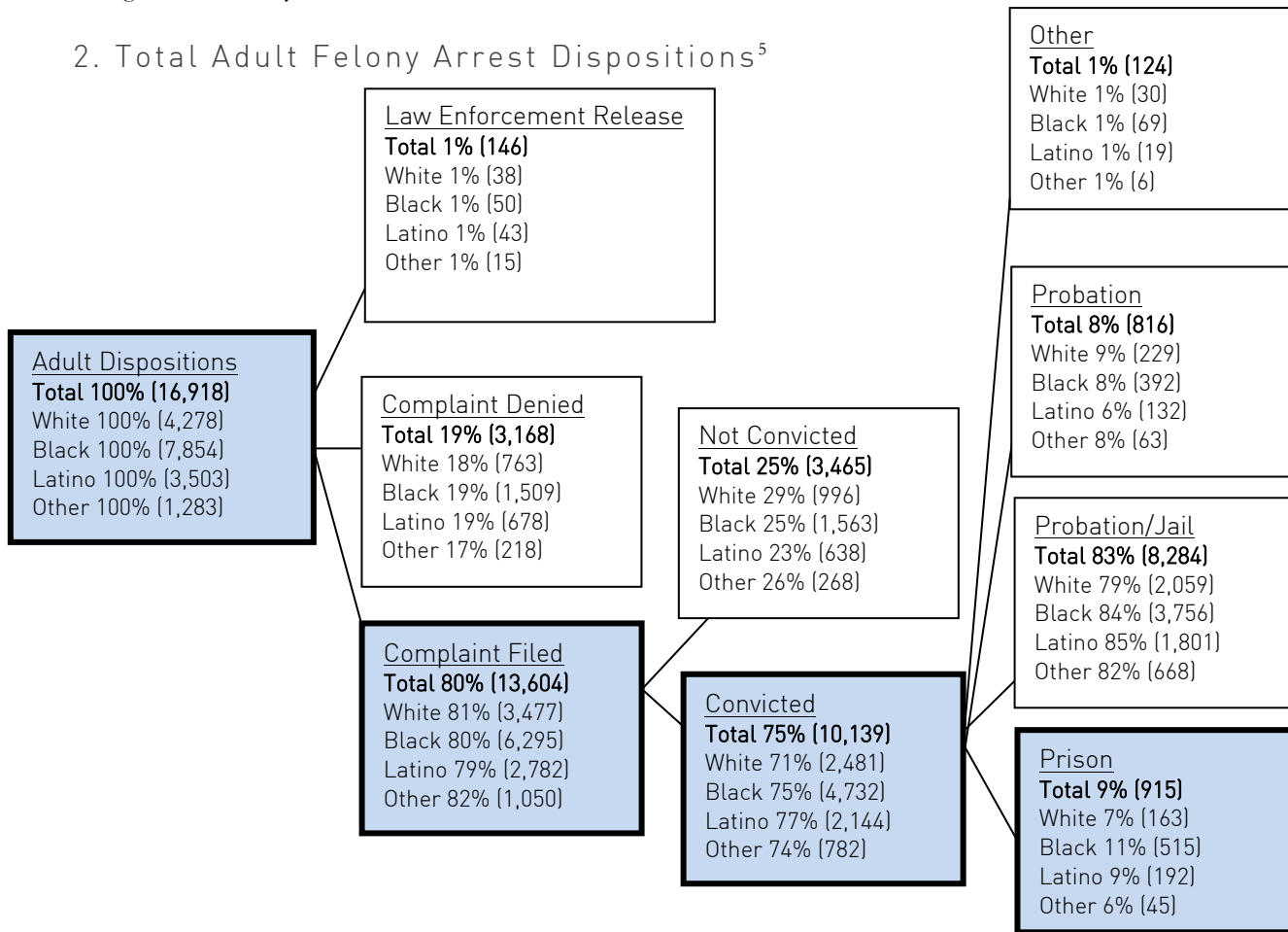
In Alameda County in 2005, Black adults were nearly four times as likely as White adults to be arrested. For every 1,000 White adults in the county in 2005, 33 were arrested, and for every 1,000 Black adults in the county in 2005, 126 were arrested. Moreover, Black adults



were significantly more likely to be charged with a felony. Whereas 26% of all White adult arrests were felony charges, 44% of Black adults were charged with felony offenses.

Disparities were also significant in arrests for drug charges. Black adults were nearly three times as likely as White adults to be arrested with drug charges. For every 1,000 White adults in the county in 2005, nine were arrested with drug charges, and for every 1,000 Black adults in the county in 2005, 26 were arrested with drug charges. Moreover, Black adults were significantly more likely to be charged with a felony drug offense. Whereas 41% of all White adult drug arrests were felony charges, 75% of Black adults arrested for a drug related offense were charged with a felony.

2. Total Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions⁵



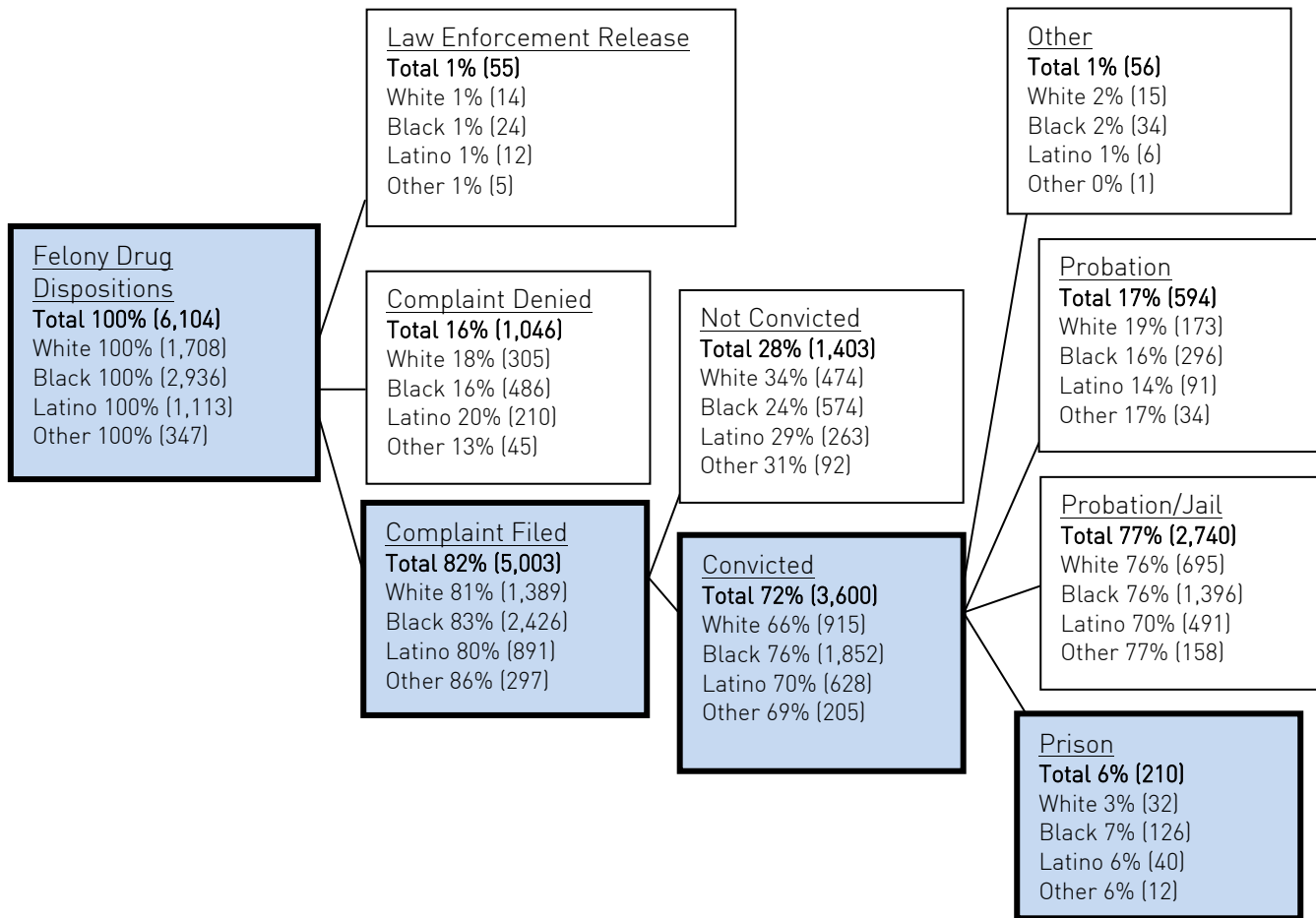
Due to the fact that adults of color in Alameda County are arrested, particularly for felony offenses, at a higher rate than White adults, adults of color are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony arrest events with final dispositions.

There is no significant difference in the rate at which complaints are filed in Alameda County. In fact, White adults are slightly more likely to have a complaint filed. Whereas 81% of White adults with an arrest resulting in a final disposition have a complaint filed, 80% of Black adults and 79% of Latino adults have a complaint filed. There is, however, a difference in conviction rates in Alameda County. Whereas only 71% of White adults with a complaint filed are convicted, 75% of Black adults and 77% of Latino adults are convicted.

Additionally, there are differences in sentences for Black and Latino adults in Alameda County. Whereas 9% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of probation without jail, 8% of convicted Black adults and 6% of convicted Latino adults receive a sentence of probation without jail. Whereas only 7% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of prison, 11% of convicted Black adults and 9% of Latino adults receive a sentence of prison.



3. Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions for Drug Offenses



Again, due to the fact that adults of color in Alameda County are arrested for drug offenses, and particularly for felony drug offenses, at a significantly higher rate than White adults, adults of color are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony drug arrests events with final dispositions.

Black adults arrested on felony drug charges are slightly more likely than White adults to have a complaint filed. Whereas 81% of White adults with an arrest resulting in a final disposition have a complaint filed, 83% of Black adults have a complaint filed. There is also a difference in conviction rates for felony drug arrests in Alameda County. Whereas only 66% of White adults with a complaint filed for a felony drug charge are convicted, 76% of Black adults and 70% of Latino adults are convicted. Additionally, there are significant differences in sentences for adults convicted of felony drug charges in Alameda County. Whereas 19% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of probation without jail, only 16% of convicted Black adults and 14% of convicted Latino adults receive a sentence of probation without jail. And, whereas only 3% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of prison, 7% of convicted Black adults and 6% of Latino adults receive a sentence of prison.



C. EXTRA-JUDICIAL FACTORS: GENDER DIFFERENCES

Table 3: Alameda County Extra-Judicial Factors: Gender Differences

		Male	Female	Total
Education				
2005	Countywide Percent Graduating High School	85.7%	92.2%	88.9%
2009	Interviewee Percent Graduating High School	38%	50%	58%
2005	Countywide UC/CSU Eligibility	39.1%	46.5%	-
Employment				
2007	Countywide Median Earnings ⁶	\$43,195	\$32,327	\$37,965
2006	Countywide Percent Unemployed	7.2%	7%	7.2%
2009	Interviewee Percent Unemployed*	45%	71%	56%
Housing				
2009	Interviewee Rent Burden ⁷	71%	45%	56%
2008	Countywide Home Ownership Percent	51%	45%	47%
2009	Interviewee Home Ownership Percent	14%	0%	6%

1. Education

Graduation Rates: Graduation rates in Alameda County are generally higher for women than men. System-involved interviewees had significantly lower graduation rates than the Alameda County average. Whereas 85.7% of men and 92.2% of women in the county graduated, only 38% of male interviewees and 50% of female interviewees graduated from high school.

UC/CSU Eligibility: Women are more likely to graduate with UC/CSU eligibility.

2. Employment

Unemployment Rates: There is no significant difference between male and female unemployment rates in Alameda County's work force. System-involved interviewees had significantly higher unemployment rates at the time of their most recent arrest than the Alameda County averages. Whereas 7.2% of the Alameda County labor force is unemployed, 45% of male interviewees and 71% of female interviewees were unemployed at the time of their most recent arrest.

Median Incomes: In Alameda County, median incomes are significantly higher for men than women. Whereas the median income for men Alameda County is \$43,195, the median income for female workers is \$32,327, 25% less than that of male workers.

3. Housing

Home Ownership: In Alameda County, women are less likely to own a home than men. Whereas 51% of men are homeowners, only 45% of women are homeowners. Of the system-involved interviewees, no women and only 14% of men were homeowners.



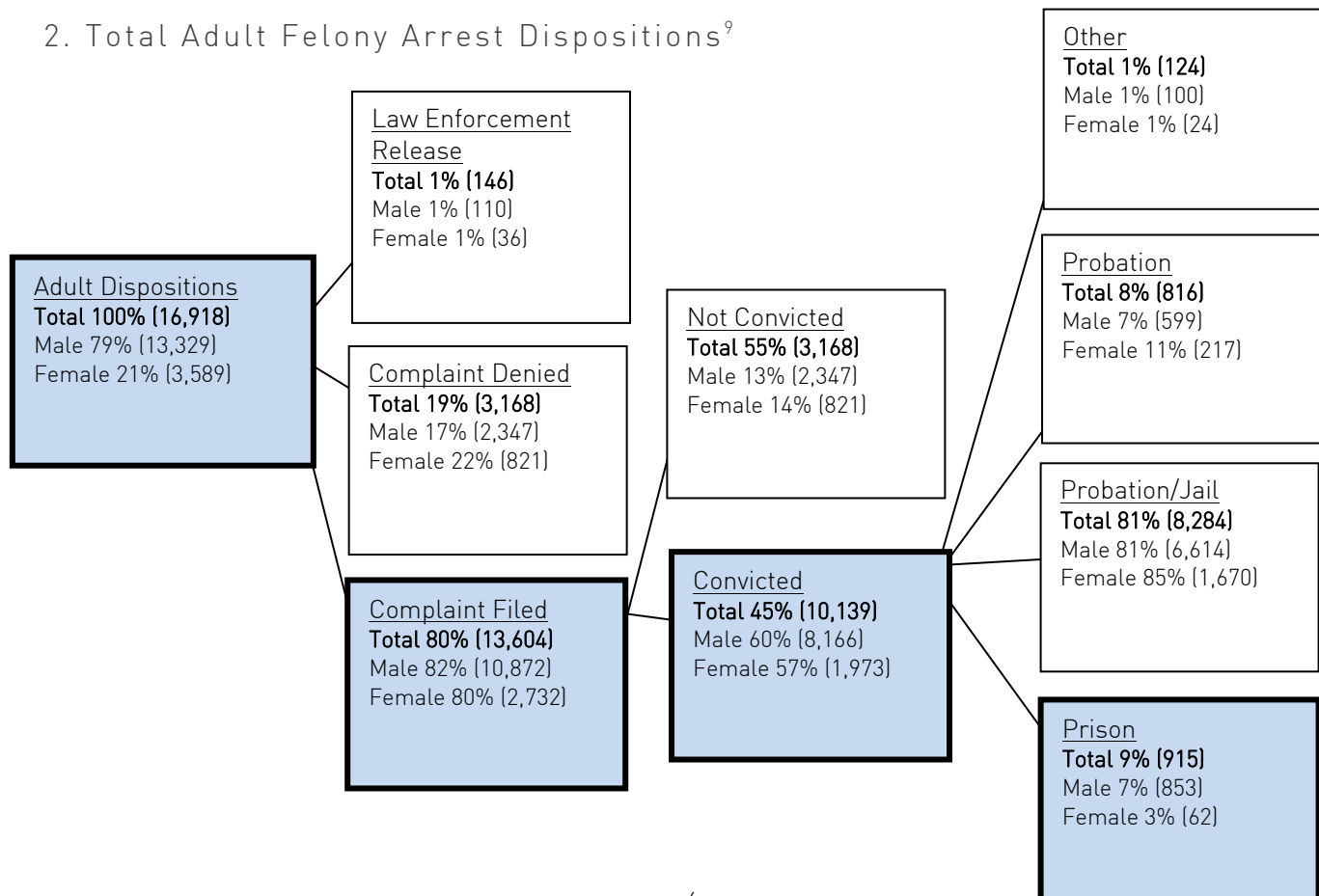
D. CRIMINAL JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: GENDER DIFFERENCES

1. Adult Arrests⁸**Table 4: Alameda County Adult Arrests Disaggregated by Gender**

	Male	Female	Total
Total Arrests	40,526	10,955	51,481
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	76	19	52
Percent Felony	34%	33%	34%
Percent Misdemeanor	66%	67%	66%
Total Arrests for Drug Charges	8,746	2,372	11,118
Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	16	4	11
Percent Felony	56%	49%	55%
Percent Misdemeanor	44%	51%	45%

In Alameda County in 2005, men were four times as likely as women to be arrested. For every 1,000 women in the county in 2005, 19 were arrested, and for every 1,000 men in the county in 2005, 76 were arrested. However, men and women were charged with felonies at similar rates.

Disparities were also significant in arrests for drug charges. Men were four times as likely as women to be arrested with drug charges. For every 1,000 women in the county in 2005, four were arrested with drug charges, and for every 1,000 men in the county in 2005, 16 were arrested with drug charges.

2. Total Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions⁹

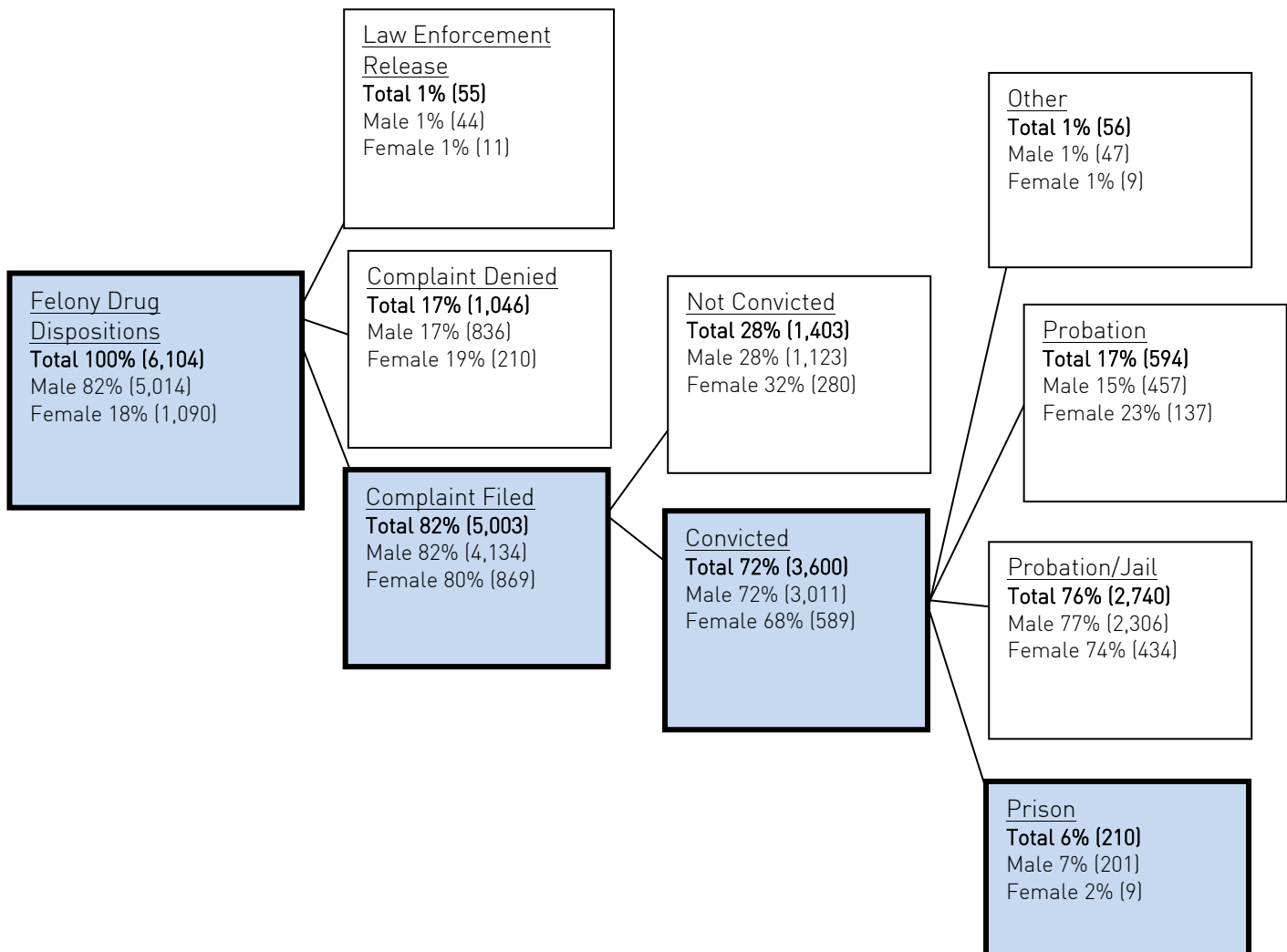


Due to the fact that men in Alameda County are arrested, particularly for felony offenses, at a higher rate than women, men are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony arrests events with final dispositions.

There is no significant difference in the rate at which complaints are filed in Alameda County. Eighty-two percent of men with an arrest resulting in a final disposition have a complaint filed, and 80% of women have a complaint filed. There is, however, a slight difference in conviction rates in Alameda County. Whereas only 57% of women with a complaint filed are convicted, 60% of men are convicted.

Additionally, there are slight differences in sentences for men and women in Alameda County. Whereas 85% of convicted women receive a sentence of probation with jail or jail, 81% of convicted men receive a sentence of probation with jail or jail. And, whereas only 3% of convicted women receive a sentence of prison, 7% of men receive a sentence of prison.

3. Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions for Drug Offenses



Again, due to the fact that men in Alameda County are arrested for drug offenses, and particularly for felony drug offenses, at a significantly higher rate than women, men are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony drug arrest events with final dispositions.

Men arrested on felony drug charges are slightly more likely than women to have a complaint filed. Whereas 82% of men with an arrest resulting in a final disposition have a complaint filed, 80% of women have a complaint filed. There is also a difference in conviction rates



for felony drug arrests in Alameda County. Whereas only 68% of women with a complaint filed for a felony drug charge are convicted, 72% of men are convicted. Additionally, there are differences in sentences for adults convicted of felony drug charges in Alameda County. Whereas 23% of women convicted receive a sentence of probation without jail, only 15% of men convicted receive a sentence of probation without jail. And, whereas only 2% of women receive a sentence of prison, 7% of men convicted receive a sentence of prison.

E. JUVENILE JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

1. Youth Arrests¹⁰

Table 5: Alameda County Youth Arrests Disaggregated by Race/Ethnicity

	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Total Number Arrested	1,371	2,339	1,472	703	5,885
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	27	90	37	18	38
Percent Felony	27%	44%	38%	38%	38%
Percent Misdemeanor	63%	48%	55%	56%	54%
Percent Status Offense	9%	9%	7%	6%	8%
Total Number Arrested on Drug Charges	175	209	91	61	536
Youth Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	3	8	2	2	3
Percent Felony	32%	71%	30%	41%	48%
Percent Misdemeanor	68%	29%	70%	59%	52%

In Alameda County in 2005, Black youth were more than three times as likely as White youth to be arrested. For every 1,000 White youth in the county in 2005, 27 were arrested, and for every 1,000 Black youth in the county in 2005, 90 were arrested. Latino youth were also arrested at higher rates than White youth. For every 1,000 Latino youth in the county in 2005, 37 were arrested. Moreover, Black youth were significantly more likely to be charged with a felony. Whereas 27% of all White youth arrests were felony charges, 44% of Black youth were arrested with felony charges.

Disparities were also significant in arrests for drug charges. Black youth were nearly three times as likely as White youth to be arrested with drug charges. For every 1,000 White youth in the county in 2005, three were arrested with drug charges, and for every 1,000 Black youth in the county in 2005, eight were arrested with drug charges. Moreover, Black youth were significantly more likely to be charged with a felony drug offense. Whereas 32% of all White youth drug arrests were felony charges, 71% of Black youth arrested for a drug related offense were charged with a felony.

2. Youth Referrals to Probation and Detentions

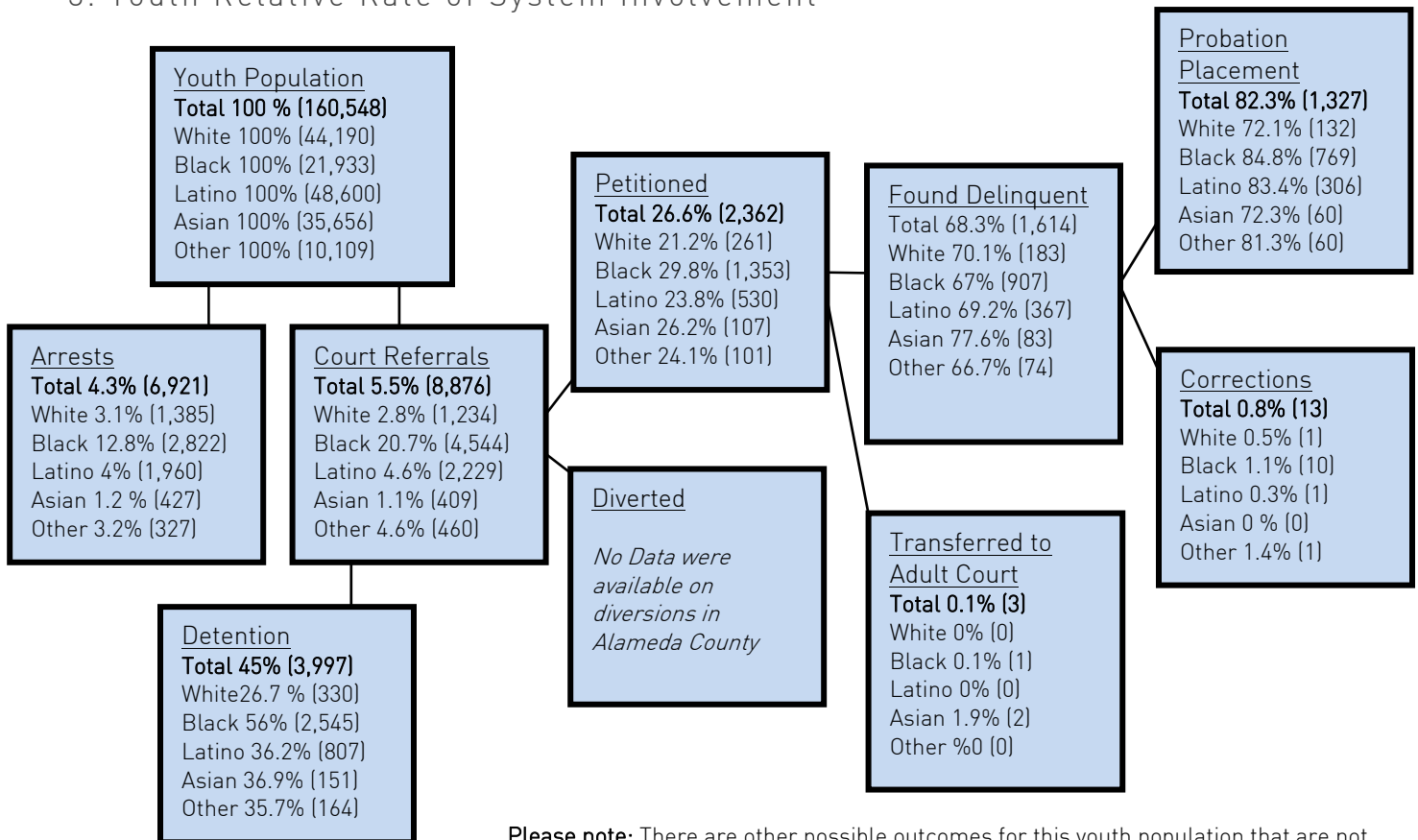
Youth referrals occur when a youth is brought to the attention of the probation department for a case review. Youth may be referred by a number of sources, with the largest percentage of referrals coming from law enforcement.¹¹ Referrals to probation consist of two types: new referrals and subsequent referrals. Youth with a “new referral” are not currently supervised by the probation department and are typically first-time offenders. Youth with a “subsequent referral” are currently supervised by the probation department. A subsequent referral may consist of a new arrest or probation violation. After a juvenile is referred to the probation department, a probation officer determines whether the juvenile should be detained pre-adjudication or released.¹²

**Table 6: Alameda County Youth Referrals to Probation and Detention**

	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Total Number Referred to Probation	1,486	5,184	2,282	1,226	10,178
Total Rate of Referral (per 1,000 youth)	30	200	57	32	66
Percent New	83%	78%	80%	78%	79%
Percent Subsequent	17%	22%	20%	22%	21%
Percent Detained	28%	50%	40%	32%	43%
Percent Not Detained	72%	50%	60%	68%	57%

In Alameda County in 2005, Black and Latino youth were significantly more likely to be referred to probation than White youth. For every 1,000 White youth in the county in 2005, 30 were referred to probation, for every 1,000 Black youth in the county in 2005, 200 were referred, and for every 1,000 Latino youth 57 were referred. Black and Latino youth were slightly more likely to be referred to probation for a subsequent rather than new offense. Whereas 17% of White youth referrals were subsequent referrals, 22% and 20% of Black and Latino youth referrals, respectively, were subsequent referrals. Black and Latino youth were significantly more likely to be detained as a result of their referral to probation. Whereas 28% of White youth were detained pre-adjudication, 50% and 40% of Black and Latino youth, respectively, were detained.

3. Youth Relative Rate of System Involvement



Please note: There are other possible outcomes for this youth population that are not captured in the Relative Rate Index and therefore are not captured on the above chart.



Youth of color are overrepresented throughout the juvenile justice system in Alameda County according to 2007 data.¹³ Whereas only 3.1% of White youth were arrested, 12.8% of Black youth were arrested. And whereas only 2.8% of White youth were referred to juvenile court, 20.7% of Black youth and 4.6% of Latino youth were referred.

Due to the fact that youth of color in Alameda County are referred to juvenile court at a significantly higher rate than White youth, youth of color were, at a baseline, overrepresented throughout the juvenile justice system. In addition, youth of color also penetrated more deeply into the system and tended to experience more punitive responses than White youth. For example, whereas only 26.7% of White youth referred to juvenile court were securely detained pre-adjudication, 56% of Black youth, 36.2% of Latino youth and 36.9% of Asian youth referred were detained pre-adjudication. Although the numbers are small, youth of color were sentenced to correctional facilities at higher rates than White youth.

F. JUVENILE JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: GENDER DIFFERENCES

1. Youth Arrests¹⁴

Table 7: Alameda County Youth Arrests Disaggregated by Gender

	Male	Female	Total
Total Number Arrested	4,358	1,527	5,885
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	54	20	38
Percent Felony	43%	22%	38%
Percent Misdemeanor	51%	65%	54%
Percent Status Offense	6%	14%	8%
Total Number Arrested on Drug Charges	456	80	536
Youth Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	6	1	3
Percent Felony	49%	40%	48%
Percent Misdemeanor	51%	60%	52%

In Alameda County in 2005, male youth were more than twice as likely as female youth to be arrested. For every 1,000 male youth in the county, 54 were arrested, and for every 1,000 female youth in the county in 2005, 20 were arrested. Female youth were significantly more likely to be arrested for a status offense.¹⁵ Whereas only 6% of male arrests were for status offenses, 14% of female arrests were for status offenses.

2. Youth Probation Referrals and Detentions

Table 8: Alameda County Youth Probation Referrals Disaggregated by Gender

	Male	Female	Total
Total Number Referred to Probation	7,983	2,195	10,178
Total Rate of Referral (per 1,000 youth)	100	29	65
Percent New	78%	83%	79%
Percent Subsequent	22%	17%	21%
Percent Detained	44%	35%	43%
Percent Not Detained	56%	65%	57%



Female youth were slightly more likely to be referred to probation for a new offense than male youth. Whereas 78% of male youth referrals were new referrals, 83% of female youth referrals were new.

CONCLUSION

In Alameda County, Blacks and Latinos, especially those with criminal convictions, have the least access to education, employment, and housing. Blacks and Latinos have the lowest graduation rates and are least likely to graduate with the credits necessary to enter a four-year university. They are unemployed at higher rates, earn less, and work mostly in sales and service jobs. System-involved interviewees were unemployed at nearly eight times the rate of the county average. Moreover, Blacks and Latinos are less likely to own a home than Whites. They also have more contact with the criminal justice system. Black adults are arrested nearly four times more frequently than Whites; Latinos are arrested nearly two and a half times as often. Blacks and Latinos are more likely to be charged with a felony in both drug crimes and non-drug crimes. Blacks and Latinos are also convicted and sentenced to prison at higher rates than White adults. Similarly, Black and Latino youth are arrested, charged with felonies, and sentenced to probation at higher rates than White youth. Overall, Blacks and Latinos have less access to educational, employment, and housing opportunities, and they are overrepresented at almost every decision-making point in the criminal justice system.

There are also gender differences in Alameda County. Women fare better on educational factors, but earn less and have lower homeownership rates than men. Men have more system contact; they are arrested four times as frequently and experience slightly higher rates of conviction and prison sentences. Male youth are also arrested at higher rates and are nearly twice as likely to be charged with a felony. Female youth are more likely to be arrested for status offenses.

¹ Median incomes were not available for system-involved interviewees for two reasons. First, the majority of interviewees were currently unemployed. When asked what their highest paying annual income was, 52% of interviewees reported their highest paying income was less than \$30,000 per year, and another 16% indicated that their highest paying job paid between \$10.00 and \$15.00 per hour.

² Data on the percentage of residents within each county of inquiry experiencing rent burden were not available. The U.S. Census Community Survey includes data on the average percentage of income spent on housing costs, but not on the percentage of residents who experience rent burden. Therefore, the data were not comparable to the interview data.

³ Data collected by the California Department of Justice for arrests are pulled from a separate database than law enforcement and court disposition data. Thus, comparisons of adult arrests and dispositions are not possible.

⁴ The California Department of Justice collects information on felony and misdemeanor arrests. When a person is arrested for multiple offenses, only the most serious offense is reported.

⁵ The California Department of Justice collects information on the number of felony arrest events with a final disposition received in California's adult criminal justice system. As indicated in the table, final dispositions may occur at the law enforcement, prosecution, or court level. Adult felony arrest disposition data are grouped by the year of disposition regardless of the year in which the arrest occurred.

⁶ See note 1.

⁷ See note 2.

⁸ See note 4.

⁹ The California Department of Justice collects information on the number of felony arrest events with a final disposition received in California's adult criminal justice system. As indicated in the table, final dispositions may occur at the law enforcement, prosecution, or court level. Adult felony arrest disposition data are grouped by the year of disposition regardless of the year in which the arrest occurred.

¹⁰ See note 4.

¹¹ Referrals may also be generated by schools, parents, public or private agencies, individuals, or by transfers from another county or state.



¹² California Department of Justice Division of California Justice Information Services Bureau of Criminal Information and Analysis Criminal Justice Statistic Center, *Juvenile Justice in California 2008*, July 2009, <http://www.ag.ca.gov/cjsc/publications/misc/jj08/preface.pdf>.

¹³ Data in the Juvenile Justice Flowchart vary from data on youth arrests and youth referrals to probation for two reasons. First, the data are collected from different sources. Data for the flowchart are collected as part of the state mandate to “address disproportionate minority contact” with the juvenile justice system as part of a core requirement of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP). Second, the data are available for different years.

¹⁴ See note 4.

¹⁵ Some laws only apply to youth because they are minors; these laws are called status offenses. Examples of juvenile status offenses are violating curfew laws, running away from home, and being truant from school.



FRESNO COUNTY

For each county explored in *Balancing the Scales of Justice: An Exploration into How Lack of Education, Employment, and Housing Opportunities Contribute to Disparities in the Criminal Justice System*, the ACLU-NC and BI collected county-level data on education, employment, housing, and criminal justice data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, and gender. While data were available for each extra-judicial domain as well as for the criminal justice system, it was not the type and kind of data necessary to examine how extra-judicial drivers lead to criminal justice system contact. Counties do not collect data in a manner that analyzes how social service agencies coordinate to serve populations and/or individuals, nor do they typically assess whether individuals who have contact with the criminal justice system would be better served by a social service intervention, rather than incarceration. Although this type of critical data is unavailable, counties have information on the racial and gender differences in education, employment, housing, and criminal justice system involvement. This profile offers a snapshot of Fresno County.

A. EXTRA-JUDICIAL FACTORS: RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

Generally, in Fresno County, people of color have less access and/or decreased opportunity in all domain areas explored in this project. Moreover, system-involved interviewees in Fresno County experienced significantly diminished access and/or opportunity when compared to the county as a whole.

Table 1: Fresno County Extra-Judicial Factors: Racial and Ethnic Disparities

		White	Black	Latino	Asian	Other	Total
Population							
2005	Adult	252,809	26,737	269,709	54,718	20,143	624,116
2005	Youth (10-17)	33,611	7,799	64,663	13,735	1,110	120,918
Education							
2005	Countywide Percent Graduating High School	90%	87%	87%	94%	78%	84%
2009	Interviewee Percent Graduating High School	80%	75%	70%	-	-	74%
2005	Countywide UC/CSU Eligibility	45%	22%	21%	47%	37%	33%
Employment							
2005	Countywide Median Earnings ¹	\$35,187	\$21,885	\$18,804	\$21,439	\$19,030	\$23,243
2009	Countywide Percent Unemployed	5.8%	20.7%	12.0%	11.0%	14.1%	9.7%
2006	Interviewee Percent Unemployed at Arrest	63%	64%	24 %	-	50%	38%
2007	% Service	15%	-	21%	18%	-	18%
2007	% Sales	25%	-	22%	25%	-	24%
2007	% Farming	9%	-	16%	2%	-	11%
2007	% Construction	9%	-	11%	4%	-	9%
2007	% Production	11%	-	15%	19%	-	13%
2007	% Management	31%	-	16%	33%	-	25%
Housing							
2009	Interviewee Rent Burden ²	-	33%	58%	100%	-	56%
2008	Countywide Home Ownership Percent	65%	26%	45%	58%	40%	52%
2009	Interviewee Home Ownership Percent	0%	67%	23%	-	-	28%

1. Education

Graduation Rates: With the exception of Asian youth, graduation rates in Fresno County are generally higher for White youth than for youth of color. System-involved interviewees had lower graduation rates than the Fresno County average. Whereas 87% of Black and Latino youth in the county graduated, only 75% of Black and 70% Latino youth interviewees graduated from high school.



UC/CSU Eligibility: White youth are significantly more likely to graduate with UC/CSU eligibility.

2. Employment

Unemployment Rates: With the exception of Asians, unemployment rates are significantly higher for people of color in Fresno County than for Whites. System-involved interviewees had significantly higher unemployment rates at the time of their most recent arrest than the Fresno County average. Whereas 20.7% of Blacks in the Fresno County labor force are unemployed, 64% of Black interviewees were unemployed at the time of their most recent arrest. Whereas 12% of Latinos in the Fresno County labor force are unemployed, 24% of Latino interviewees were unemployed at the time of their most recent arrest.

Median Incomes: In Fresno County, median incomes are significantly higher for White workers than they are for people of color. Whereas the median income for White workers of Fresno County is \$35,187, the median income for Black workers is \$21,885, 38% less than that of White workers. The median income for Latino workers is \$18,804, 47% less than that of White workers.

Occupation Types: For those residents of Fresno County who are employed in the workforce, occupation types varied by race and ethnicity. White workers were generally more likely to hold management positions than Latino workers, and Latino workers were generally more likely to hold positions in farming, service, and production. For example, of all White workers in Fresno County, 31% held management positions, while of Latino workers in Fresno County, only 16%, held management positions. In contrast, of all White workers, 35% held farming, service, and production positions, while of all Latino workers, 52% held farming, service, and production positions.

3. Housing

Home Ownership: In Fresno County generally, people of color are less likely to own a home than Whites. Whereas 65% of White Fresno County residents are homeowners, only 45% of Latino residents are homeowners.

B. CRIMINAL JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

Adults of color in Fresno County are significantly more likely to be arrested than White adults, both in general and for drug charges.³ In general, there are no significant differences in the rate of complaints, or the rate of conviction in Fresno County. However, there are significant differences in the sentencing—people of color in Fresno County tend to receive more severe sentences, like prison, than White adults.

1. Adult Arrests⁴

Table 2: Fresno County Arrests Disaggregated by Race and Ethnicity

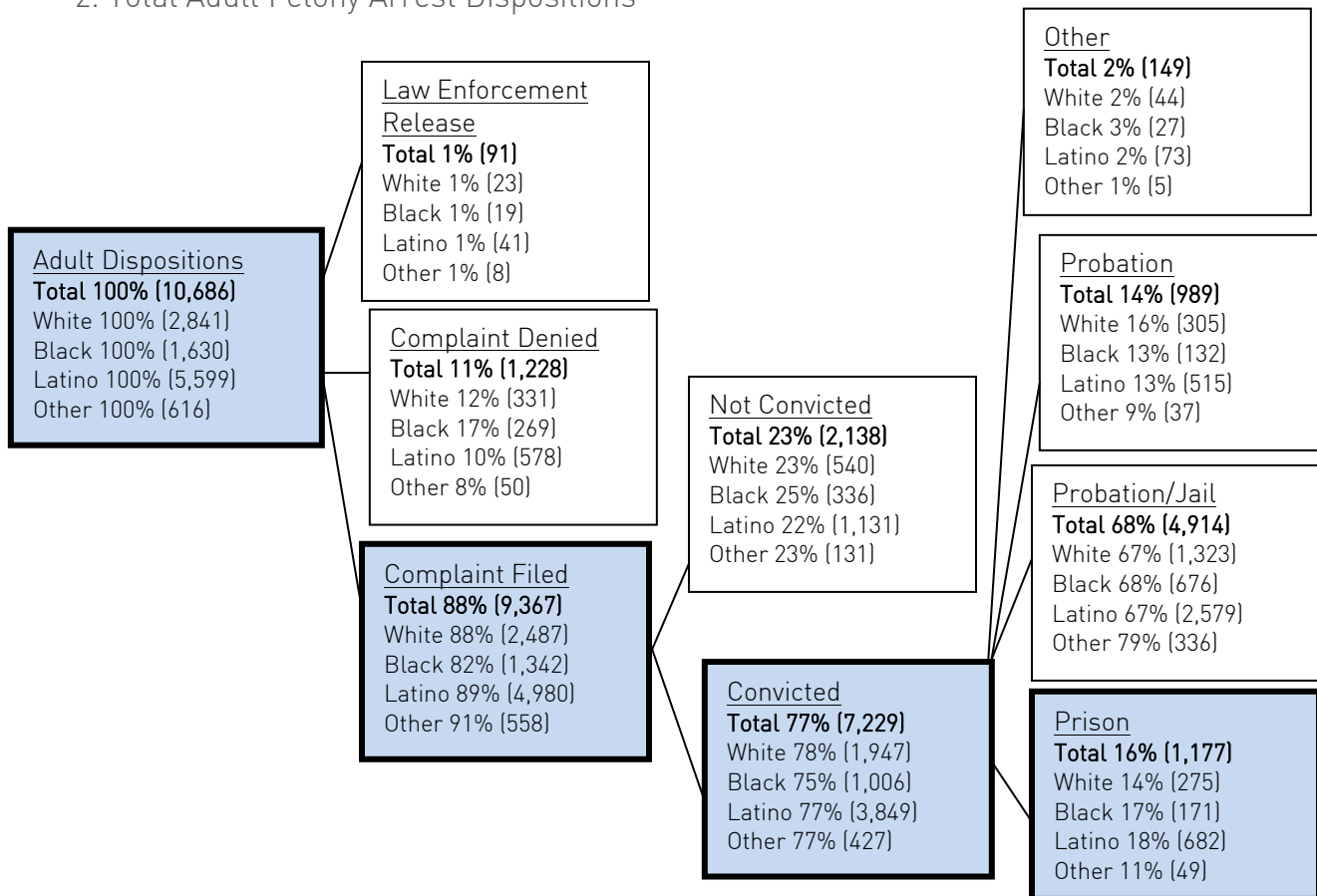
	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Total Arrests	10,539	5,495	23,125	1,896	41,055
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	41	235	127	45	81
Percent Felony	38%	45%	37%	42%	39%
Percent Misdemeanor	62%	55%	63%	58%	61%
Total Arrests for Drug Charges	2,329	1,218	3,870	370	7,787
Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	9	52	21	9	15
Percent Felony	55%	58%	61%	54%	58%
Percent Misdemeanor	45%	42%	39%	46%	42%

In Fresno County in 2005, Black adults were more than five times as likely as White adults to be arrested and Latino adults were more than three times as likely to be arrested. For every 1,000 White adults in the county in 2005, 41 were arrested, for every 1,000 Black adults in the county in 2005, 235 were arrested, and for every 1,000 Latino adults in the county in 2005, 127 were arrested. Moreover, Black adults were more likely to be charged with a felony. Whereas 38% of all White adult arrests were felony charges, 45% of Black adults were charged with felony offenses.



Disparities were also significant in arrests for drug charges. Black adults were more than five times as likely as White adults to be arrested with drug charges and Latino adults were more than twice as likely. For every 1,000 White adults in the county in 2005, nine were arrested with drug charges, for every 1,000 Black adults in the county in 2005, 52 were arrested with drug charges, for every 1,000 Latino adults arrested in the county, 21 were arrested with drug charges.

2. Total Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions⁵



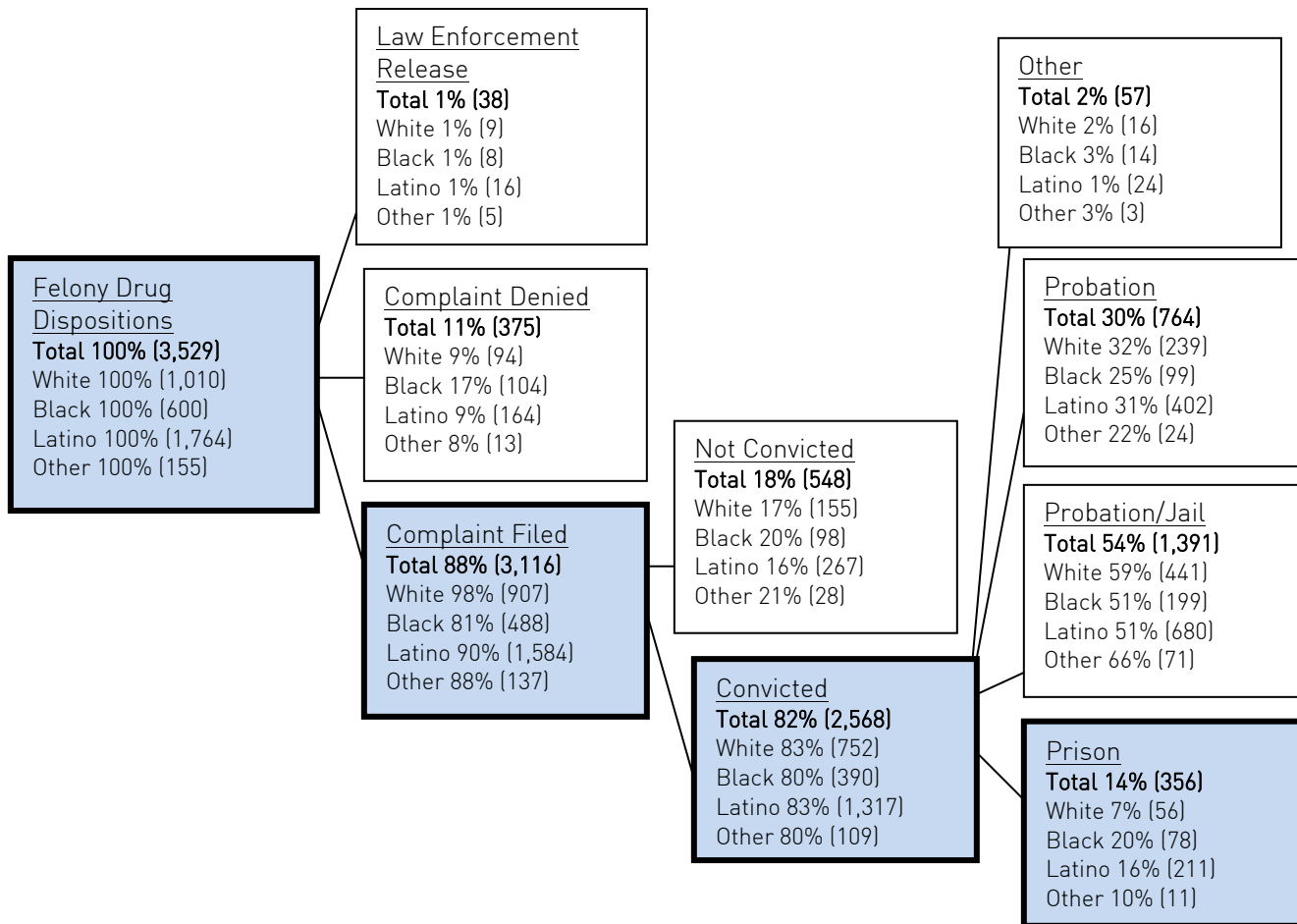
Due to the fact that adults of color in Fresno County are arrested, particularly for felony offenses, at a higher rate than White adults, adults of color are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony arrest events with final dispositions.

Black adults in Fresno County are significantly less likely to have a complaint filed than White adults, and Latino adults are slightly more likely to have a complaint filed than White adults. Whereas 82% of Black adults with an arrest resulting in a final disposition have a complaint filed, 88% of White adults and 89% of Latino adults have a complaint filed.

There are no significant differences in conviction rates in Fresno County, though White adults experience slightly higher conviction rates than Black or Latino adults. Whereas 78% of White adults with a complaint filed are convicted, 75% of Black adults and 77% of Latino adults are convicted. There are, however, significant differences in sentences for Black and Latino adults in Fresno County. Whereas 16% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of probation without jail, 13% of convicted Black adults and 13% of convicted Latino adults receive a sentence of probation without jail. And, whereas 14% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of prison, 17% of convicted Black adults and 18% of convicted Latino adults receive a sentence of prison.



3. Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions for Drug Offenses



Again, due to the fact that adults of color in Fresno County are arrested for drug offenses, and particularly for felony drug offenses, at a significantly higher rate than White adults, adults of color are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony drug arrests events with final dispositions.

White adults with a felony drug arrest are significantly more likely to have their case filed than Black or Latino adults in Fresno County. Once filed, there are no differences in conviction rates for drug arrests between White and Latino adults, but Black adults are less likely to be convicted. Whereas 83% of White and Latino adults with a complaint filed for a felony drug charge are convicted, 80% of Black adults are convicted. Additionally, there are significant differences in sentences for adults convicted of felony drug charges in Fresno County. Whereas 32% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of probation without jail, only 25% of convicted Black adults and 31% of convicted Latino adults receive a sentence of probation without jail. And, whereas only 7% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of prison, 20% of convicted Black adults and 16% of Latino adults receive a sentence of prison.



C. EXTRA-JUDICIAL FACTORS: GENDER DIFFERENCES

Table 3: Fresno County Extra-Judicial Factors: Gender Differences

		Male	Female	Total
Education				
2005	Countywide Percent Graduating High School	83.9%	93.3%	88.6%
2009	Interviewee Percent Graduating High School	71%	75%	74%
2005	Countywide UC/CSU Eligibility	28%	37%	33%
Employment				
2007	Countywide Median Earnings ⁶	\$26,679	\$19,835	\$23,243
2006	Countywide Percent Unemployed	9.1%	10.4%	9.7%
2009	Interviewee Percent Unemployed at Arrest	29%	59%	38%
Housing				
2009	Interviewee Rent Burden ⁷	50%	100%	56%
2008	Countywide Home Ownership Percent	47%	35%	39%
2009	Interviewee Home Ownership Percent	50%	25%	28%

1. Education

Graduation Rates: Graduation rates in Fresno County are higher for women than men. System-involved interviewees had significantly lower graduation rates than the Fresno County average. Whereas 83.9% of men and 93.3% of women in the County graduated, only 28% of male interviewees and 37% of female interviewees graduated from high school.

UC/CSU Eligibility: Women are more likely to graduate with UC/CSU eligibility.

2. Employment

Unemployment Rates: There is no significant difference between male and female unemployment rates in Fresno County's work force. System-involved interviewees had significantly higher unemployment rates at the time of their most recent arrest than the Fresno County averages. Whereas 9.7% of the Fresno County labor force is unemployed, 29% of male interviewees and 59% of female interviewees were unemployed at the time of their most recent arrest.

Median Incomes: In Fresno County, median incomes are higher for men than women. Whereas the median income for men Fresno County is \$26,679, the median income for female workers is \$19,835, 26% less than male workers.

3. Housing

Home Ownership: In Fresno County, women are less likely to own a home than men. Whereas 47% of men are homeowners, only 35% of women are homeowners. Of the system-involved interviewees, 25% women and only 50% of men were homeowners.



D. CRIMINAL JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: GENDER DIFFERENCES

1. Adult Arrests⁸

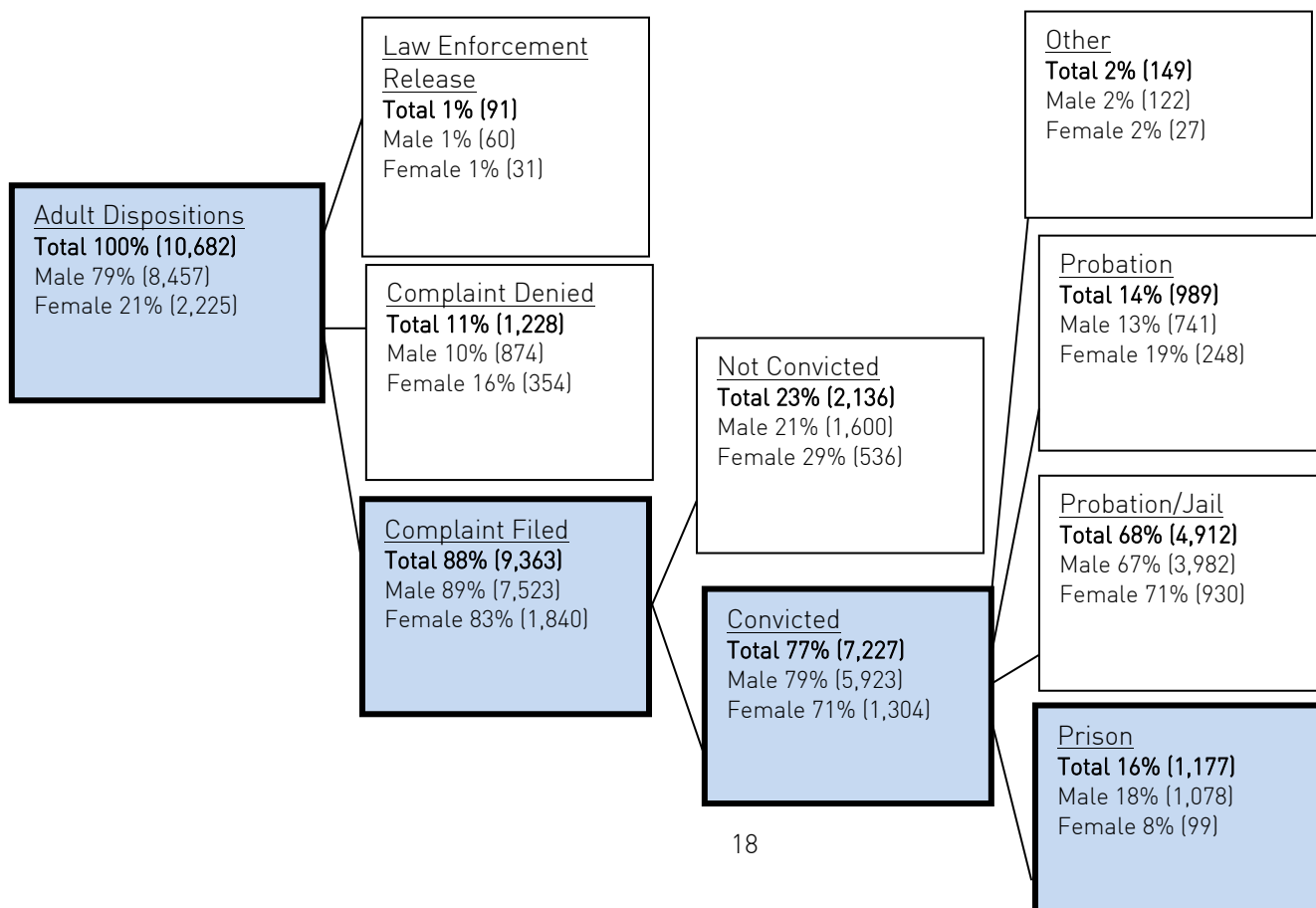
Table 4: Fresno County Adult Arrests Disaggregated by Gender

	Male	Female	Total
Total Arrests	32,877	8,178	41,055
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	109	27	81
Percent Felony	38%	39%	39%
Percent Misdemeanor	62%	61%	61%
Total Arrests for Drug Charges	6,170	1,617	7,787
Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	20	5	15
Percent Felony	59%	54%	58%
Percent Misdemeanor	41%	46%	42%

In Fresno County in 2005, men were four times as likely as women to be arrested. For every 1,000 women in the county in 2005, 27 were arrested, and for every 1,000 men in the county in 2005, 109 were arrested. However, men and women were charged with felonies at similar rates.

Disparities were also significant in arrests for drug charges. Men were four times as likely as women to be arrested with drug charges. For every 1,000 women in the county in 2005, five were arrested with drug charges, and for every 1,000 men in the county in 2005, 20 were arrested with drug charges.

2. Total Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions⁹



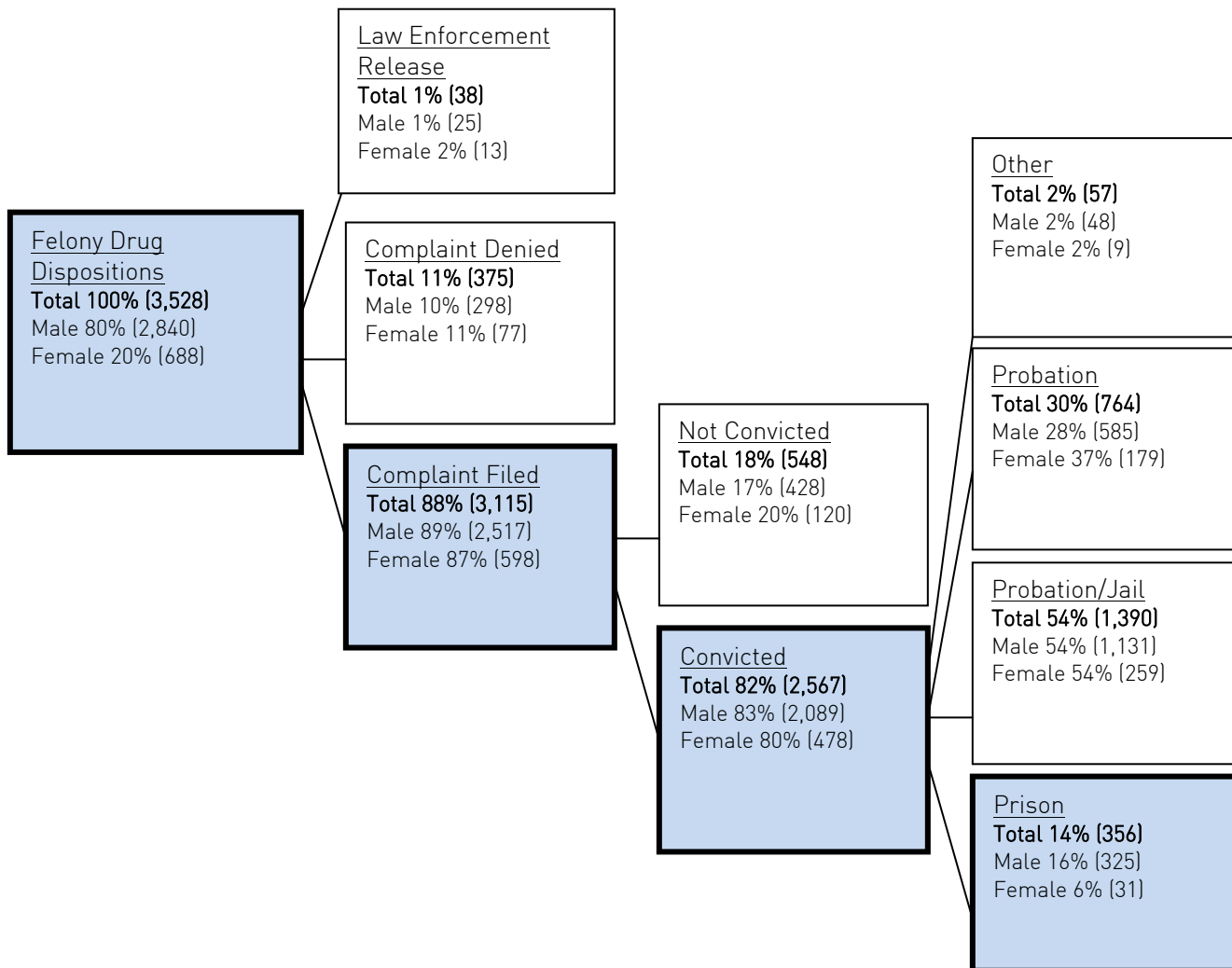


Due to the fact that men in Fresno County are arrested, particularly for felony offenses, at a higher rate than women, men are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony arrest events with final dispositions.

Men arrested on felony charges are more likely than women to have a complaint filed. Whereas 83% of arrested women have a complaint filed, 89% of men have a complaint filed. There are also significant differences in conviction rates in Fresno County. Whereas 71% of women with a complaint filed are convicted, 79% of men are convicted.

Additionally, there are significant differences in sentences. Whereas 19% of women convicted receive a sentence of probation without jail, 13% of men receive a sentence of probation without jail. And, whereas 8% of women convicted receive a sentence of prison, 18% of men convicted receive a sentence of prison.

3. Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions for Drug Offenses



Again, due to the fact that men are arrested for drug offenses, and particularly for felony drug offenses, at a significantly higher rate than women, men are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony drug arrest events with final dispositions.

Men with felony drug arrests are significantly more likely to have their case filed than women in Fresno County. Once filed, there are slight differences in conviction rates for drug arrests between men and women. Whereas 80% of women with a complaint filed for a felony drug charge are convicted, 83% of men are convicted. Additionally, there are significant differences in sentences for men and women convicted



of felony drug charges in Fresno County. Whereas 37% of convicted women receive a sentence of probation without jail, only 28% of convicted men receive a sentence of probation without jail. And, whereas only 6% of convicted women receive a sentence of prison, 16% of convicted men receive a sentence of prison.

E. JUVENILE JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

1. Youth Arrests¹⁰

Table 5: Fresno County Youth Arrests Disaggregated by Race and Ethnicity

	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Total Number Arrested	1,617	1,224	3,725	653	7,219
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	48	157	58	44	60
Percent Felony	22%	26%	26%	27%	25%
Percent Misdemeanor	70%	71%	69%	67%	70%
Percent Status Offenses	8%	2%	5%	5%	5%
Total Number Arrested on Drug Charges	155	70	348	37	610
Youth Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	5	9	5	2	5
Percent Felony	19%	54%	23%	30%	26%
Percent Misdemeanor	81%	46%	77%	70%	74%

In Fresno County in 2005, Black youth were more than three times as likely as White youth to be arrested. For every 1,000 White youth in the county in 2005, 48 were arrested, and for every 1,000 Black youth in the county in 2005, 157 were arrested. Latino youth were also arrested at higher rates than White youth. For every 1,000 Latino youth in the county in 2005, 58 were arrested. Black and Latino youth were slightly more likely than White youth to be charged with a felony. Whereas 22% of all White youth arrests were felony charges, 26% of Black and Latino youth were arrested with felony charges.

Disparities were also significant in arrests for drug charges. Black youth were nearly twice as likely as White youth to be arrested with drug charges. For every 1,000 White youth in the county in 2005, five were arrested with drug charges, and for every 1,000 Black youth in the county in 2005, nine were arrested with drug charges. Moreover, Black youth were significantly more likely to be charged with a felony drug offense. Whereas 19% of all White youth drug arrests were felony charges, 54% of Black youth arrested for a drug related offense were charged with a felony.

2. Youth Referrals to Probation and Detentions

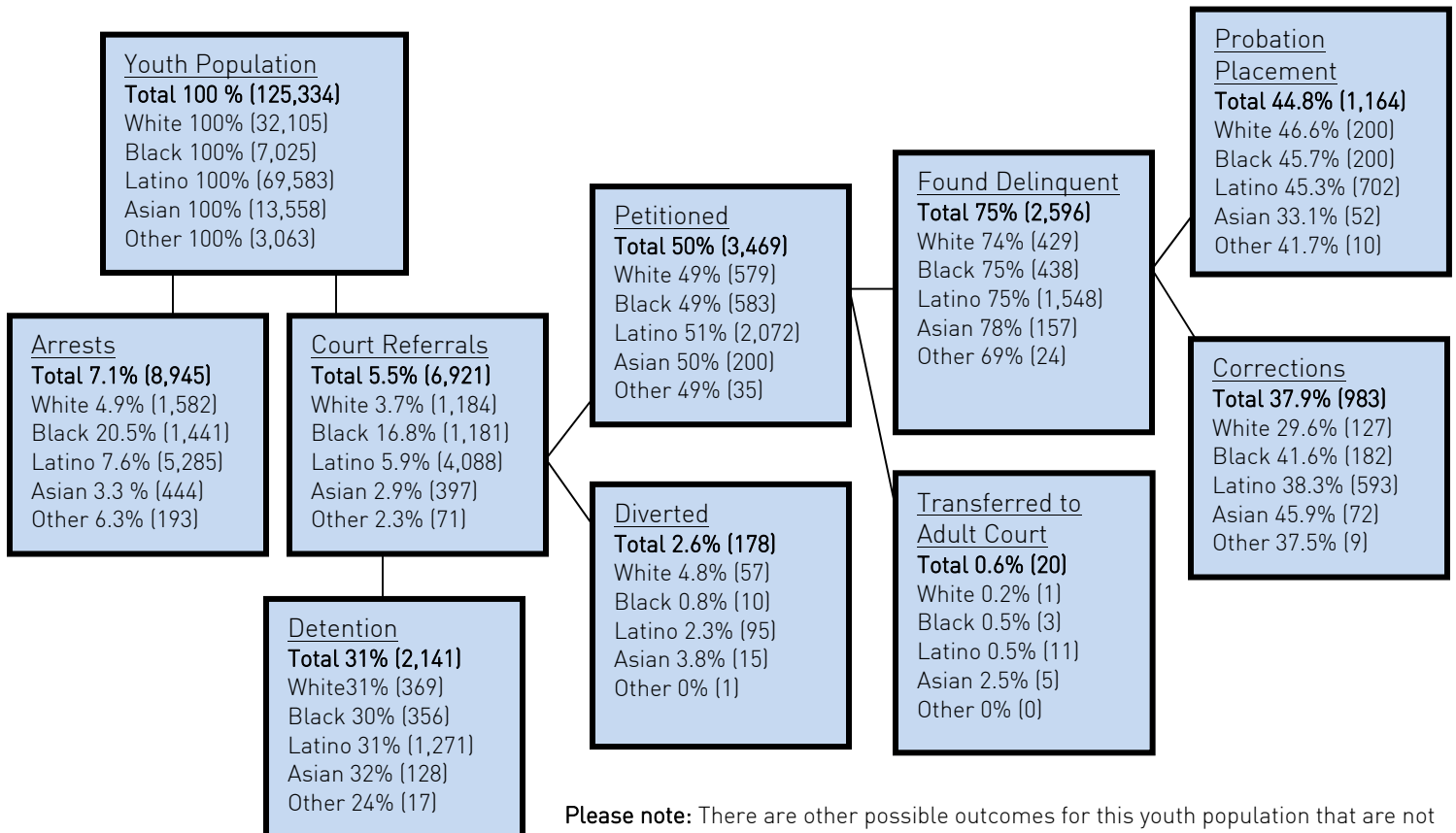
Youth referrals occur when a youth is brought to the attention of the probation department for a case review. Youth may be referred by a number of sources, with the largest percentage of referrals coming from law enforcement.¹¹ Referrals to probation consist of two types: new referrals and subsequent referrals. Youth with a “new referral” are not currently supervised by the probation department and are typically first-time offenders. Youth with a “subsequent referral” are currently supervised by the probation department. A subsequent referral may consist of a new arrest or probation violation. After a juvenile is referred to the probation department, a probation officer determines whether the juvenile should be detained pre-adjudication or released.¹²

**Table 6: Fresno County Youth Referrals to Probation and Detention**

	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Total Number Referred to Probation	1,620	1,448	4,578	826	8,472
Total Rate of Referral (per 1,000 youth)	48	186	71	56	70
Percent New	77%	72%	75%	82%	75%
Percent Subsequent	23%	28%	25%	18%	25%
Percent Detained	29%	35%	34%	32%	33%
Percent Not Detained	71%	65%	66%	68%	67%

In Fresno County in 2005, Black and Latino youth were significantly more likely to be referred to probation than White youth. For every 1,000 White youth in the County in 2005, 48 were referred to probation; for every 1,000 Black youth, 186 were referred; and for every 1,000 Latino youth, 71 were referred. Black and Latino youth were slightly more likely to be referred to probation for a subsequent offense than White youth. Whereas 23% of White youth referrals were subsequent referrals, 28% and 25% of Black and Latino youth referrals, respectively, were subsequent referrals. Black and Latino youth were more likely to be detained as a result of their referral to probation. Whereas 29% of White youth were detained pre-adjudication, 35% and 34% of Black and Latino youth, respectively, were detained.

3. Youth Relative Rate of System Involvement



Please note: There are other possible outcomes for this youth population that are not captured in the Relative Rate Index and therefore are not captured on the above chart.



Youth of color are overrepresented throughout the juvenile justice system in Fresno County according to 2007 data.¹³ Whereas only 4.9% of White youth were arrested, 20.5% of Black youth and 7.6% of Latino youth were arrested. And whereas only 3.7% of White youth are referred to juvenile court, 16.8% of Black youth and 5.9% of Latino youth were referred.

Due to the fact that youth of color in Fresno County are referred to juvenile court at a significantly higher rate than White youth, youth of color are, at a baseline, overrepresented throughout the juvenile justice system. In addition, youth of color also penetrate more deeply into the system and tend to experience more punitive responses than White youth. For example, whereas 4.8% of White youth referred to juvenile court received the benefit of diversion, only 0.8% of Black youth and 2.3% of Latino youth referred to Court were diverted. Additionally, youth of color are significantly more likely to be sentenced to correctional facilities than White youth. Whereas 29.6% of White youth found delinquent in juvenile court were sentenced to juvenile corrections, 41.6% of Black youth, 38.3% of Latino youth, and 45.9% of Asian youth found delinquent were sentenced to juvenile corrections

F. JUVENILE JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: GENDER DIFFERENCES

1. Youth Arrests¹⁴

Table 7: Fresno County Youth Arrests Disaggregated by Gender

	Male	Female	Total
Total Number Arrested	5,177	2,042	7,219
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	86	35	61
Percent Felony	29%	16%	25%
Percent Misdemeanor	67%	77%	70%
Percent Status Offense	5%	7%	5%
Total Number Arrested on Drug Charges	501	109	610
Youth Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	8	2	5
Percent Felony	27%	23%	26%
Percent Misdemeanor	73%	77%	74%

In Fresno County in 2005, male youth were more than twice as likely as female youth to be arrested. For every 1,000 male youth in the county, 86 were arrested, and for every 1,000 female youth in the county in 2005, 35 were arrested. Female youth were more likely to be arrested for a status offense.¹⁵ Whereas 5% of male arrests were for status offenses, 7% of female arrests were for status offenses.

2. Youth Referrals to Probation and Detentions

Table 8: Fresno County Youth Probation Referrals Disaggregated by Gender

	Male	Female	Total
Total Number Referred to Probation	6,169	2,303	8,472
Total Rate of Referral (per 1,000 youth)	102	40	70
Percent New	72%	84%	75%
Percent Subsequent	28%	16%	25%
Percent Detained	38%	20%	33%
Percent Not Detained	62%	80%	67%

In Fresno County in 2005, female youth were more likely to be arrested for a new offense than male youth. Whereas 72% of male arrests were for new offenses, 84% of female youth arrests were for new offenses.



CONCLUSION

In Fresno County, Blacks and Latinos, especially those with criminal convictions, have the least access to education, employment, and housing. Blacks and Latinos have the lowest graduation rates and are least likely to graduate with the credits necessary to enter a four-year university. Latinos are unemployed at higher rates, earn less, and work mostly in farming, sales, and production jobs. System-involved interviewees were unemployed at six times the rate of the county average. Moreover, Latinos have a lower homeownership rate than Whites. They also have more contact with the criminal justice system. Black adults are five times more likely than White adults to be arrested in Fresno County; for Latinos, the arrest rate is three times as high. This disparity is evident with specific respect to drug crimes, where Black adults are five times as likely as White adults to be arrested, and the Latino adult arrest rate is more than double that of White adults. While there are no significant differences in conviction rates, Blacks and Latinos receive harsher sentences. Similarly, Black and Latino youth are arrested, charged with felonies, and sentenced to probation at higher rates than White youth. Black youth are three times as likely as White youth to be arrested, and are twice as likely as White and Latino youth to be arrested for a drug offense. The disparities continue as youth progress through the criminal justice system. White youth are six times more likely to be diverted from criminal prosecution than Blacks, and twice as likely as Latinos. Black and Latino youth are substantially more likely than White youth to be placed in the correctional system, instead of probation. Overall, Blacks and Latinos have less access to educational, employment, and housing opportunities, and they are overrepresented at almost every decision-making point in the criminal justice system.

There are also gender differences in Fresno County. Women fare better on educational factors, but earn less and have lower homeownership rates than men. Men have more system contact: they are arrested and convicted at higher rates and sentenced to harsher punishments. Male youth are also arrested at higher rates generally, but female youth are more likely to be arrested for new offenses as well as status offenses.

¹ Median incomes were not available for system-involved interviewees for two reasons. First, the majority of interviewees were currently unemployed. When asked what their highest paying annual income was, 52% of interviewees reported their highest paying income was less than \$30,000 per year, and another 16% indicated that their highest paying job paid between \$10.00 and \$15.00 per hour.

² Data on the percentage of residents within each county of inquiry experiencing rent burden were not available. The U.S. Census Community Survey includes data on the average percentage of income spent on housing costs, but not on the percentage of residents who experience rent burden. Therefore, the data were not comparable to the interview data.

³ Data collected by the California Department of Justice for arrests are pulled from a separate database than law enforcement and court disposition data. Thus, comparisons of adult arrests and dispositions are not possible.

⁴ The California Department of Justice collects information on felony and misdemeanor arrests. When a person is arrested for multiple offenses, only the most serious offense is reported.

⁵ The California Department of Justice collects information on the number of felony arrest events with a final disposition received in California's adult criminal justice system. As indicated in the table, final dispositions may occur at the law enforcement, prosecution, or court level. Adult felony arrest disposition data are grouped by the year of disposition regardless of the year in which the arrest occurred.

⁶ See note 1.

⁷ See note 2.

⁸ See note 4.

⁹ The California Department of Justice collects information on the number of felony arrest events with a final disposition received in California's adult criminal justice system. As indicated in the table, final dispositions may occur at the law enforcement, prosecution, or court level. Adult felony arrest disposition data are grouped by the year of disposition regardless of the year in which the arrest occurred.



¹⁰ See note 4.

¹¹ Referrals may also be generated by schools, parents, public or private agencies, individuals, or by transfers from another county or state

¹² California Department of Justice Division of California Justice Information Services Bureau of Criminal Information and Analysis Criminal Justice Statistic Center, *Juvenile Justice in California 2008*, July 2009, <http://www.ag.ca.gov/cjsc/publications/misc/jj08/preface.pdf>.

¹³ Data in the Juvenile Justice Flowchart vary from data on youth arrests and youth referrals to probation for two reasons. First, the data are collected from different sources. Data for the flowchart are collected as part of the state mandate to “address disproportionate minority contact” with the juvenile justice system as part of a core requirement of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP). Second, the data are available for different years.

¹⁴ See note 4.

¹⁵ Some laws only apply to youth because they are minors: these laws are called status offenses. Examples of juvenile status offenses are violating curfew laws, running away from home, and being truant from school.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY

For each county explored in *Balancing the Scales of Justice: An Exploration into How Lack of Education, Employment, and Housing Opportunities Contribute to Disparities in the Criminal Justice System*, the ACLU-NC and BI collected county-level data on education, employment, housing, and criminal justice data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, and gender. While data were available for each extra-judicial domain as well as for the criminal justice system, it was not the type and kind of data necessary to examine how extra-judicial drivers lead to criminal justice system contact. Counties do not collect data in a manner that analyzes how social service agencies coordinate to serve populations and/or individuals, nor do they typically assess whether individuals who have contact with the criminal justice system would be better served by a social service intervention, rather than incarceration. Although this type of critical data is unavailable, counties have information on the racial and gender differences in education, employment, housing, and criminal justice system involvement. This profile offers a snapshot of Los Angeles County.

A. EXTRA-JUDICIAL FACTORS: RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

In Los Angeles County, people of color have less access and/or decreased opportunity in all domain areas explored in this project. Moreover, system-involved interviewees in Los Angeles County experienced significantly diminished access and/or opportunity when compared to the county as a whole.

Table 1: Los Angeles County Extra-Judicial Factors: Racial and Ethnic Disparities

		White	Black	Latino	Asian	Other	Total
Population							
2005	Adult	2,383,206	686,192	3,164,317	1,033,251	274,266	7,541,232
2005	Youth (10-17)	258,375	126,407	700,794	126,099	3,934	1,215,609
Education							
2005	Countywide Percent Graduating High School	91%	83%	85%	94%	100%	80%
2009	Interviewee Percent Graduating High School	-	50%	50%	-	-	47%
2005	Countywide UC/CSU Eligibility	45%	34%	32%	65%	31%	40%
Employment							
2007	Countywide Median Earnings ¹	\$ 42,328	\$ 29,472	\$ 20,869	\$33,068	\$20,999	\$27,571
2006	Countywide Percent Unemployed	5.4%	11.7%	6.6%	5.4%	6.6%	6.5%
2009	Interviewee Percent Unemployed at Arrest	-	61%	38%	-	-	53%
2007	% Service	15%	21%	24%	14%	24%	20%
2007	% Sales	25%	32%	25%	27%	25%	26%
2007	% Farming	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2007	% Construction	9%	5%	13%	4%	14%	10%
2007	% Production	12%	9%	22%	9%	22%	16%
2007	% Management	39%	34%	16%	46%	15%	28%
Housing							
2009	Interviewee Rent Burden ²	-	75%	83%	-	-	79%
2008	Countywide Home Ownership Percent	59%	36%	40%	50%	34%	46%
2009	Interviewee Home Ownership Percent	-	0%	0%	-	-	0%

1. Education

Graduation Rates: With the exception of Asian youth, graduation rates in Los Angeles County are generally higher for White youth than for youth of color. System-involved interviewees had significantly lower graduation rates than the Los Angeles County averages. Whereas 83% of Black youth and 85% of Latino in the county graduated, only 50% of Black and Latino interviewees graduated from high school.

UC/CSU Eligibility: White youth in Los Angeles County are significantly more likely to graduate with UC/CSU eligibility.



2. Employment

Unemployment Rates: With the exception of Asians, unemployment rates are significantly higher for people of color in Los Angeles County than for Whites. System-involved interviewees had significantly higher unemployment rates at the time of their most recent arrest than the Los Angeles County average. Whereas 11.7% of Blacks in the Los Angeles County labor force are unemployed, 61% of Black interviewees were unemployed at the time of their most recent arrest. Whereas 6.6% of Latinos in the Los Angeles County labor force are unemployed, 38% of Latino interviewees were unemployed at the time of their most recent arrest.

Median Incomes: In Los Angeles County, median incomes are significantly higher for White workers than they are for people of color. Whereas the median income for White workers of Los Angeles County is \$42,328, the median income for Black workers is \$29,472, 30% less than that of White workers, and the median income of Latino workers is \$20,869, 51% less than that of White workers.

Occupation Types: For those residents of Los Angeles County who are employed, occupation types varied significantly by race and ethnicity. White workers were generally more likely to hold management positions than Black and Latino workers, and Black and Latino workers were generally more likely to hold positions in service and sales. For example, of all White Los Angeles County workers, 39% held management positions, while of all Black and Latino workers, only 34% and 16%, respectively, held management positions. In contrast, of all White workers, 40% held service and sales positions, while of all Black and Latino workers, 53% and 49%, respectively, held sales and service positions. Additionally, a higher proportion of Latino workers in Los Angeles County held positions in construction and production than either White or Black residents.

3. Housing

Home Ownership: In Los Angeles County, people of color are less likely to own a home than Whites. Whereas 59% of White Los Angeles County residents are homeowners, only 36% of Black residents and 40% of Latino residents are homeowners. None of the system-involved interviewees in Los Angeles County are homeowners.

B. CRIMINAL JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

Adults of color in Los Angeles County are significantly more likely to be arrested than White adults, both in general and for drug charges.³ There are not, in general, significant differences between the rate at which complaints are filed, and the rate at which adults are convicted when looking at total felony arrest dispositions in Los Angeles County. However, there are significant differences in adult sentences. When convicted, people of color in Los Angeles County tend to receive more severe sentences, like prison, than White adults. For felony drug charges, there are significant differences in the rates at which complaints are filed, and the rate at which adults are convicted. This is particularly true for Black adults, who experience higher felony drug conviction rates and are sentenced to prison for felony drug charges at a significantly higher rate than White adults in the county.

1. Adult Arrests⁴

Table 2: Los Angeles County Arrests Disaggregated by Race and Ethnicity

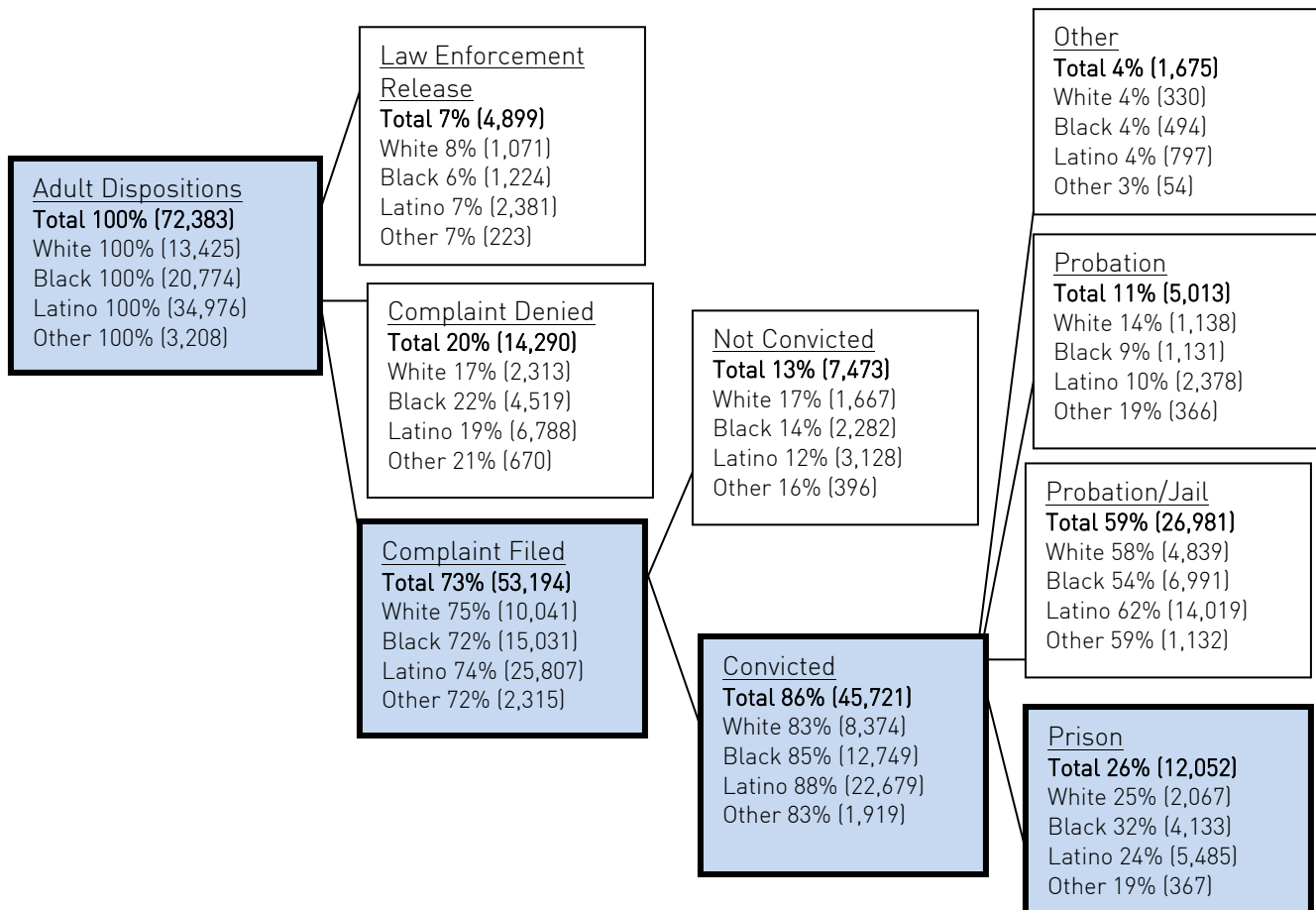
	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Total Arrests	73,743	82,616	15,7014	15,290	328,663
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	31	120	50	12	44
Percent Felony	34%	45%	40%	35%	40%
Percent Misdemeanor	66%	55%	60%	65%	60%
Total Arrests for Drug Charges	17,311	23,001	31,932	2,384	74,628
Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	7	34	10	2	10
Percent Felony	57%	64%	64%	59%	62%
Percent Misdemeanor	43%	36%	36%	41%	38%



In Los Angeles County in 2005, Black adults were nearly four times as likely as White adults to be arrested, and Latino adults were almost twice as likely. For every 1,000 White adults in the county in 2005, 31 were arrested, for every 1,000 Black adults in the county in 2005, 120 were arrested, and for every 1,000 Latino adults in the county in 2005, 50 were arrested. Moreover, Black adults were more likely to be charged with a felony. Whereas 34% of all White adult arrests were felony charges, 45% of Black adults were charged with felony offenses.

Disparities were also significant in arrests for drug charges. Black adults were nearly five times more likely to be arrested with drug charges than White adults. For every 1,000 White adults in the county in 2005, seven were arrested with drug charges, and for every 1,000 Black adults in the county in 2005, 34 were arrested with drug charges. Moreover, Black and Latino adults were more likely to be charged with a felony drug offense. Whereas 57% of all White adult drug arrests were felony charges, 64% of Black and Latino adults arrested for a drug related offense were charged with a felony.

2. Total Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions⁵



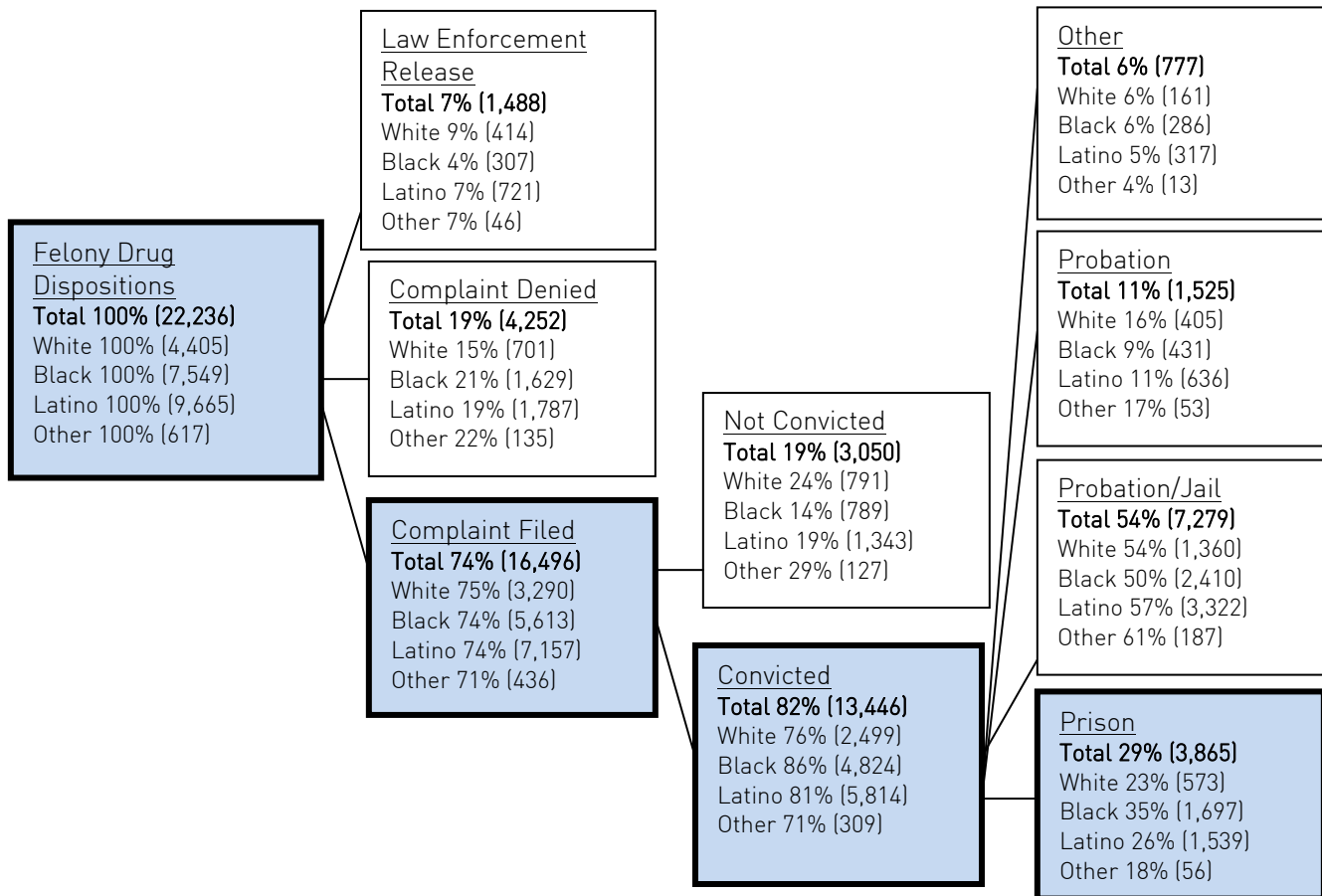
Due to the fact that adults of color in Los Angeles County are arrested, particularly for felony offenses, at a significantly higher rate than White adults, adults of color are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony arrest events with final dispositions.

As adults are processed through the criminal justice system in Los Angeles County, there are no significant differences in the rates of complaints filed, nor of adults convicted, though Black and Latino adults experience higher conviction rates than White adults. However, there are significant differences in sentences for Black adults in Los Angeles County. Whereas 14% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of probation without jail, only 9% of convicted Black adults and 10% of Latinos receive a sentence of probation without jail. And, whereas only 25% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of prison, 32% of convicted Black adults receive a sentence of prison. Furthermore, convicted Latino adults in Los Angeles County are sentenced to prison at slightly lower rates than White adults, 24% of



convicted Latino adults as compared to 25% of convicted White adults. Latino adults are more likely to receive a sentence of probation with jail than White adults 62% versus 58%, respectively.

3. Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions for Drug Offenses



Again, due to the fact that adults of color in Los Angeles County are arrested for drug offenses, and particularly for felony drug offenses, at a significantly higher rate than White adults, adults of color are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony drug arrests events with final dispositions.

There is not a significant difference in the rate at which complaints are filed for adults with felony drug charges in Los Angeles County. However, there is a significant difference in the rate of conviction for those felony drug arrests in which complaints are filed. Whereas 76% of White adults with a complaint filed are convicted, 86% of Black adults and 81% of Latino adults are convicted. Once convicted, people of color in Los Angeles County experience more severe sentences as the result of a felony drug arrest. Whereas 16% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of probation without jail, only 9% of convicted Black adults and 11% of Latino adults receive a sentence of probation without jail. Whereas 23% of convicted White adults receive a sentence of prison as the result of a felony drug conviction, 35% of convicted Black adults and 26% of convicted Latino adults receive a sentence of prison.



C. EXTRA-JUDICIAL FACTORS: GENDER DIFFERENCES

Table 3: Los Angeles County Extra-Judicial Factors: Gender Differences

		Male	Female	Total
Education				
2005	Countywide Percent Graduating High School	83.1%	92.1%	87.7%
2009	Interviewee Percent Graduating High School	54%	33%	47%
2005	Countywide UC/CSU Eligibility	35%	44%	40%
Employment				
2007	Countywide Median Earnings ⁶	\$31,169	\$24,130	\$27,571
2006	Countywide Percent Unemployed	6.1%	6.9%	6.5%
2009	Interviewee Percent Unemployed at Arrest	34%	85%	53%
Housing				
2009	Interviewee Rent Burden ⁷	67%	88%	79%
2008	Countywide Home Ownership Percent	40%	37%	38%
2009	Interviewee Home Ownership Percent	0%	0%	0%

1. Education

Graduation Rates: Graduation rates in Los Angeles County are higher for women than men. System-involved interviewees had significantly lower graduation rates than the Los Angeles County average. Whereas 83.1% of men and 92.1% of women in the County graduated, only 54% of male interviewees and 33% of female interviewees graduated from high school.

UC/CSU Eligibility: Women are more likely to graduate with UC/CSU eligibility.

2. Employment

Unemployment Rates: There is no significant difference between male and female unemployment rates in Los Angeles County's work force. System-involved interviewees had significantly higher unemployment rates at the time of their most recent arrest than the Los Angeles County averages. Whereas 6.5% of the Los Angeles County labor force is unemployed, 34% of male interviewees and 85% of female interviewees were unemployed at the time of their most recent arrest.

Median Incomes: In Los Angeles County, median incomes are higher for men than women. Whereas the median income for men Los Angeles County is \$31,169, the median income for female workers is \$24,130, 23% less than male workers.

3. Housing

Home Ownership: In Los Angeles County, women are slightly less likely to own a home than men. Whereas 40% of men are homeowners, only 37% of women are homeowners. Of the system-involved interviewees, none were homeowners.



D. CRIMINAL JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: GENDER DISPARITIES

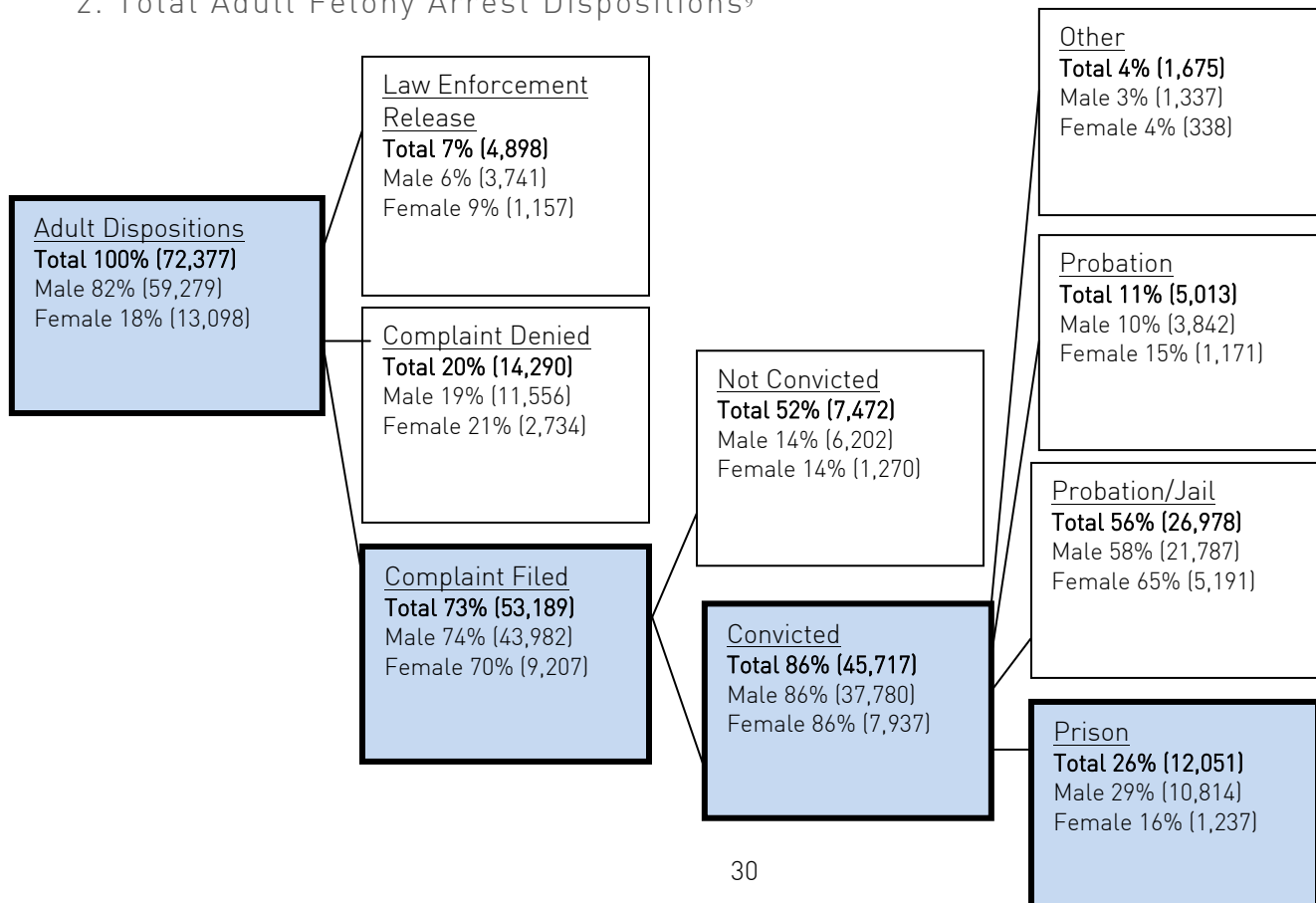
1. Adult Arrests⁸

Table 4: Los Angeles County Adult Arrests Disaggregated by Gender			
	Male	Female	Total
Total Arrest	265,676	52,987	328,663
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	75	14	44
Percent Felony	40%	46%	40%
Percent Misdemeanor	60%	54%	60%
Total Arrest for Drug Charges	60,889	13,739	74,628
Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000)	17	4	10
Percent Felony	62%	63%	62%
Percent Misdemeanor	38%	37%	38%

In Los Angeles County in 2005, men were more than five times as likely as women to be arrested. For every 1,000 women in the county in 2005, 14 were arrested, and for every 1,000 men in the county in 2005, 75 were arrested. However, men and women were charged with felonies at similar rates.

Disparities were also significant in arrests for drug charges. Men were more than four times as likely as women to be arrested with drug charges. For every 1,000 women in the county in 2005, four were arrested with drug charges, and for every 1,000 men in the county in 2005, 17 were arrested with drug charges.

2. Total Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions⁹



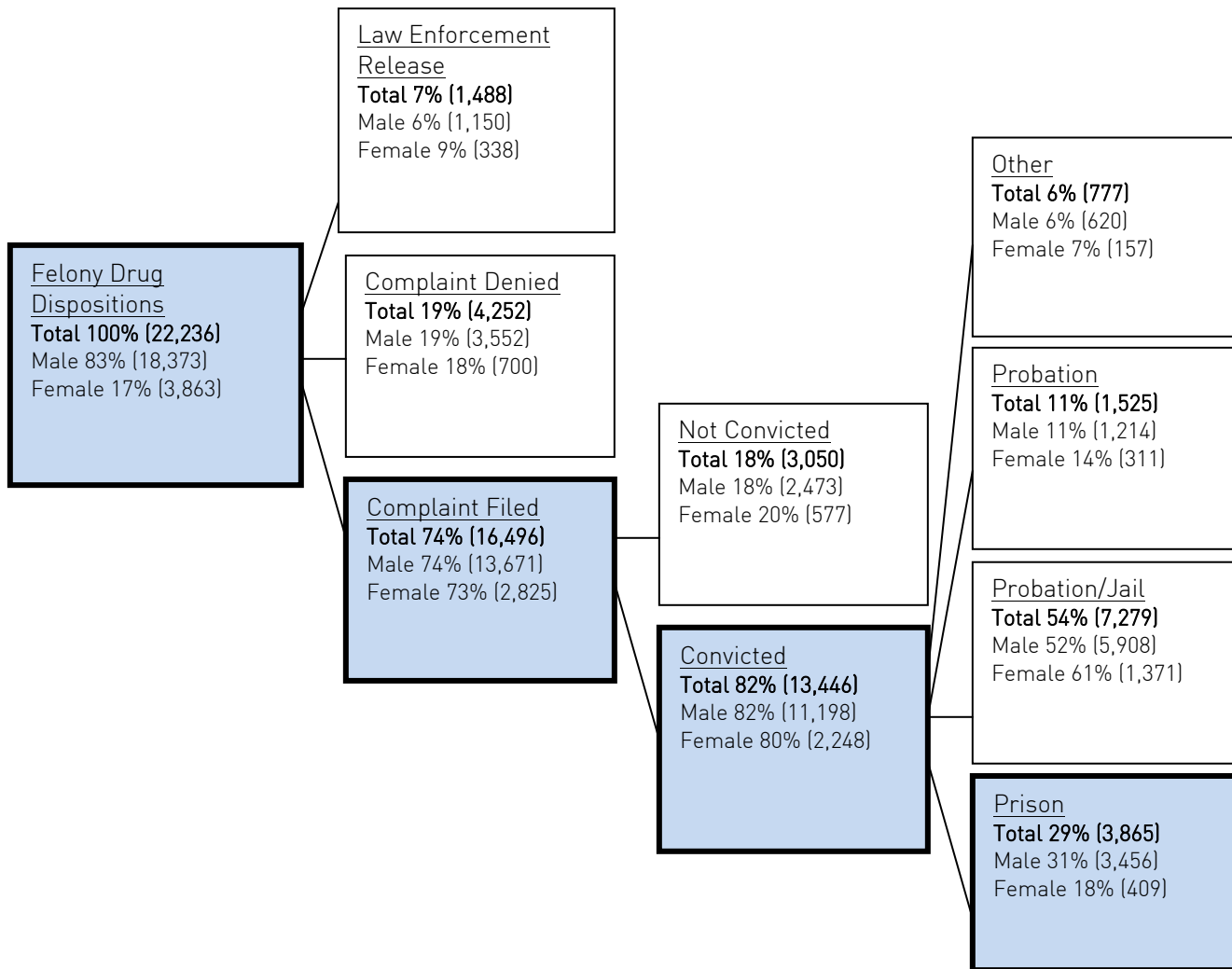


Due to the fact that men in Los Angeles County are arrested, particularly for felony offenses, at a significantly higher rate than women, men are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony arrests events with final dispositions.

Men with a felony arrest are slightly more likely to have their case filed than women in Los Angeles County. Whereas 70% of women with an arrest resulting in a final disposition have a complaint filed, 74% of men have a complaint filed. As adults are processed through the criminal justice system in Los Angeles County, there are no significant differences in conviction rates. However, there are significant differences in sentences for men and women Los Angeles County. Whereas 15% of women convicted receive a sentence of probation without jail, 10% of men receive a sentence of probation without jail. And, whereas 16% of women convicted receive a sentence of prison, 29% of men convicted receive a sentence of prison.

Additionally, there are significant differences in sentences for men and women convicted of felony drug charges in Los Angeles County. Whereas, 15% of convicted women receive a sentence of probation without jail, only 10% of convicted men receive a sentence of probation without jail. And, whereas only 16% of convicted women receive a sentence of prison, 29% of men receive a sentence of prison.

3. Adult Felony Arrest Dispositions for Drug Offenses



Again, due to the fact that men in Los Angeles County are arrested for drug offenses, and particularly for felony drug offenses, at a significantly higher rate than women, men are, at a baseline, overrepresented in the number of felony drug arrests events with final dispositions.



There is no significant difference in the rate at which complaints are filed or the rate at which convicted men and women are convicted in Los Angeles County. However, there is a slight difference in the rate of law enforcement releases. Whereas 7% of women were released by law enforcement, 6% of men were released.

E. JUVENILE JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT: RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES

1. Youth Arrests¹⁰

Table 5: Los Angeles County Youth Arrests Disaggregated by Race/Ethnicity

	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Total Number Arrested	7,887	12,889	32,863	2,647	56,286
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	31	102	47	20	46
Percent Felony	23%	41%	30%	26%	31%
Percent Misdemeanor	57%	41%	43%	55%	45%
Percent Status Offense	20%	19%	27%	19%	23%
Total Number Arrested on Drug Charges	983	1,054	3,338	200	5,575
Youth Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	4	8	5	2	5
Percent Felony	26%	38%	39%	28%	36%
Percent Misdemeanor	74%	62%	61%	72%	64%

In Los Angeles County in 2005, Black youth were more than three times as likely as White youth to be arrested. For every 1,000 White youth in the county in 2005, 31 were arrested, and for every 1,000 Black youth in the county in 2005, 102 were arrested. Latino youth were also arrested at higher rates than White youth. For every 1,000 Latino youth in the county in 2005, 47 were arrested. Moreover, Black and Latino youth were more likely than White youth to be charged with a felony. Whereas 23% of all White youth arrests were felony charges, 41% of Black youth and 30% of all Latino youth were arrested with felony charges.

Disparities were also significant in arrests for drug charges. Black youth were twice as likely as White youth to be arrested with drug charges. For every 1,000 White youth in the county in 2005, four were arrested with drug charges, and for every 1,000 Black youth in the county in 2005, eight were arrested with drug charges. Moreover, Black youth were more likely to be charged with a felony drug offense. Whereas 26% of all White youth drug arrests were felony charges, 38% of Black youth arrested for a drug related offense were charged with a felony.

2. Youth Referrals to Probation and Detentions

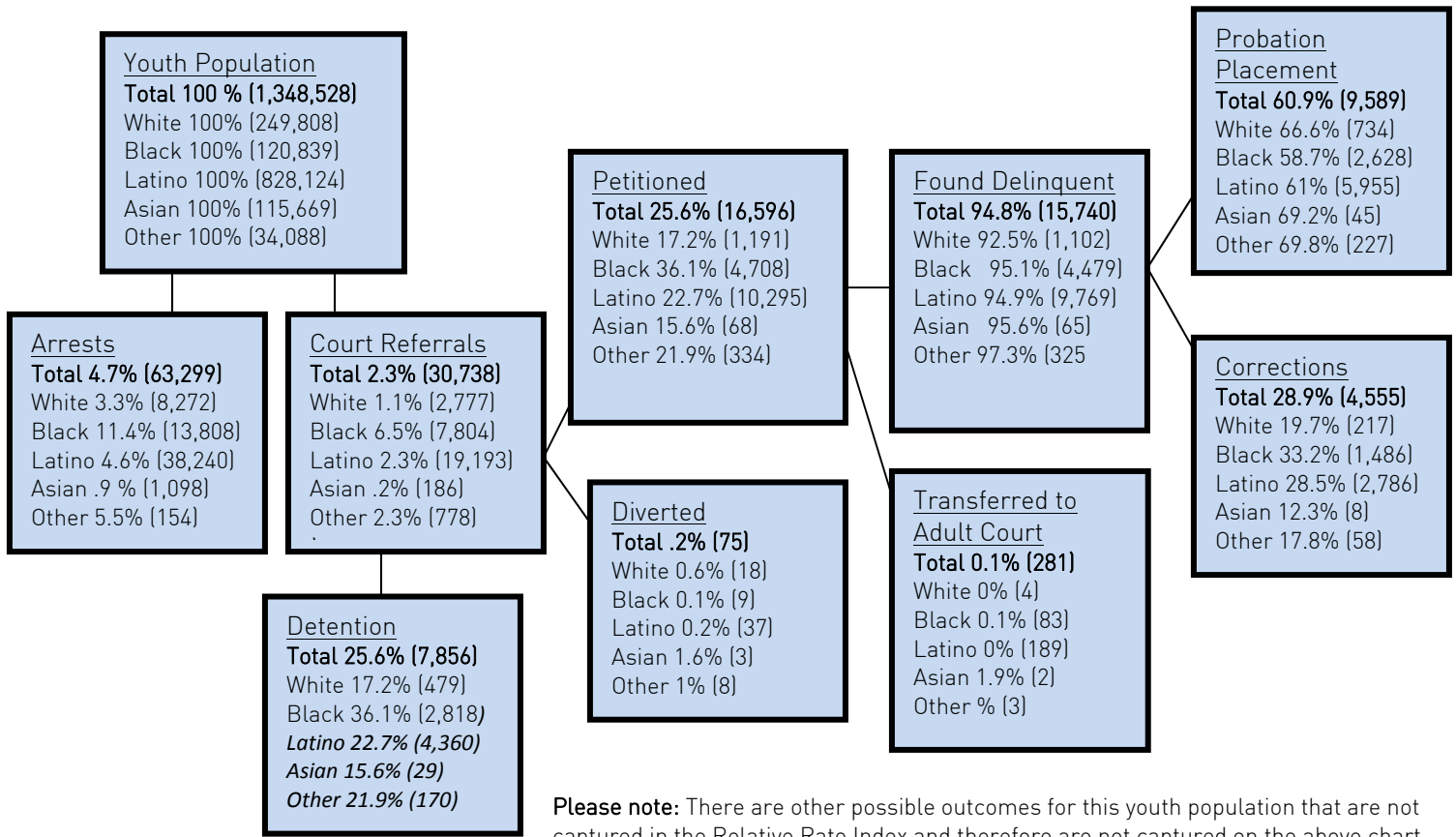
Youth referrals occur when a youth is brought to the attention of the probation department for a case review. Youth may be referred by a number of sources, with the largest percentage of referrals coming from law enforcement.¹¹ Referrals to probation consist of two types: new referrals and subsequent referrals. Youth with a “new referral” are not currently supervised by the probation department and are typically first-time offenders. Youth with a “subsequent referral” are currently supervised by the probation department. A subsequent referral may consist of a new arrest or probation violation. After a juvenile is referred to the probation department, a probation officer determines whether the juvenile should be detained pre-adjudication or released.¹²

**Table 6: Los Angeles County Referrals to Probation and Detention**

	White	Black	Latino	Other	Total
Total Number Referred to Probation	3,039	8,523	19,222	1,116	31,900
Total Rate of Referral (per 1,000 youth)	12	67	27	9	26
Percent New	76%	60%	84%	77%	77%
Percent Subsequent	24%	40%	16%	23%	23%
Percent Detained	20%	39%	27%	0%	32%
Percent Not Detained	75%	56%	69%	13%	64%
Detention Status Unknown	5%	5%	4%	2%	4%

In Los Angeles County in 2005, Black and Latino youth were significantly more likely to be referred to probation than White youth. For every 1,000 White youth in the county in 2005, 12 were referred to probation, for every 1,000 Black youth in the county in 2005, 67 were referred, and for every 1,000 Latino youth 27 were referred. Black youth were more likely than White or Latino youth to be referred to probation for a subsequent rather than new offense. Whereas 24% of White youth referrals and 16% of Latino youth referrals were subsequent referrals, 40% of Black youth referrals were subsequent referrals. Black and Latino youth were more likely to be detained as a result of their referral to probation. Whereas 20% of White youth were detained pre-adjudication, 39% and 27% of Black and Latino youth, respectively, were detained.

3. Youth Relative Rate of System Involvement





Youth of color are overrepresented throughout the juvenile justice system in Los Angeles County according to 2007 data.¹³ Whereas only 3.3% of White youth were arrested, 11.4% of Black youth and 4.6% of Latino youth were arrested. And whereas only 1.1% of White youth were referred to juvenile court, 6.5% of Black youth and 2.3% of Latino youth were referred.

Due to the fact that youth of color in Los Angeles County are referred to juvenile court at a significantly higher rate than White youth, youth of color were, at a baseline, overrepresented throughout the juvenile justice system. In addition, youth of color also penetrate more deeply into the system and tend to experience more punitive responses than White youth. For example, whereas only 17.2% of White youth referred to juvenile court were securely detained pre-adjudication, 36.1% of Black youth and 22.7% of Latino youth referred were detained pre-adjudication. As well, youth of color are significantly more likely to be sentenced to correctional facilities than White youth and significantly less likely to be placed on probation. Whereas 19.7% of White youth found delinquent in juvenile court were sentenced to juvenile corrections, 33.2% of Black youth and 28.5% of Latino youth found delinquent were sentenced to juvenile corrections. And whereas 66.6% of White youth found delinquent in juvenile court were placed on probation, only 58.7% of Black youth and 61% of Latino youth found delinquent were placed on probation.

F. JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT: GENDER DIFFERENCES

1. Youth Arrests¹⁴

Table 7: Los Angeles County Youth Arrests Disaggregated by Gender

	Male	Female	Total
Total Number Arrested	42,531	16,755	59,286
Total Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	68	28	49
Percent Felony	35%	17%	30%
Percent Misdemeanor	45%	56%	48%
Percent Status Offense	21%	27%	22%
Total Number Arrested on Drug Charges	4,716	859	5,575
Youth Drug Arrest Rate (per 1,000 youth)	8	1	5
Percent Felony	35%	42%	36%
Percent Misdemeanor	65%	58%	64%

In Los Angeles County in 2005, male youth were more than twice as likely as female youth to be arrested. For every 1,000 male youth in the county, 68 were arrested, and for every 1,000 female youth in the county, 28 were arrested. Female youth were significantly more likely to be arrested for a status offense.¹⁵ Whereas 21% of male arrests were for status offenses, 27% of female arrests were for status offenses.



2. Youth Probation Referrals and Detentions

Table 8: Los Angeles County Youth Probation Referrals Disaggregated by Gender			
	Male	Female	Total
Total Number Referred to Probation	26,097	5,803	31,900
Total Rate of Referral (per 1,000 youth)	42	10	26
Percent New	65%	74%	66%
Percent Subsequent	35%	26%	34%
Percent Detained	30%	26%	29%
Percent Not Detained	66%	70%	67%
Detention Status Unknown	4%	4%	4%

In Los Angeles County in 2005, female youth were more likely to be referred to probation for a new offense than male youth. Whereas 65% of male referrals were for new offenses, 74% of female arrests were for new offenses.

CONCLUSION

In Los Angeles County, Blacks and Latinos, especially those with criminal convictions, have the least access to education, employment, and housing. Blacks and Latinos have the lowest graduation rates and are least likely to graduate with the credits necessary to enter a four-year university. On average, Blacks earn less than 75% as much as Whites, and Latinos earn less than half as much. Blacks and Latinos are also unemployed at higher rates and work mostly in sales and service jobs. System-involved interviewees were unemployed at eight times the rate of the county average. Moreover, Blacks and Latinos have the lowest homeownership rates in the county. They also have more contact with the criminal justice system. Blacks and Latinos are arrested at higher rates, charged with felonies at higher rates, convicted at higher rates, and sentenced to harsher punishments. This is also true with respect to drug crimes, where Blacks are nearly five times as likely as Whites to be arrested. Blacks and Latinos are also more likely to be convicted of and sent to prison for drug crimes than Whites. Similarly, Black and Latino youth are arrested, charged with felonies, and sentenced to probation at higher rates than White youth. Overall, Blacks and Latinos are overrepresented at almost every decision-making point in the criminal justice system.

There are also gender differences in Los Angeles County. Women fare better on educational factors, but earn less and have lower homeownership rates than men. Men have more system contact: they are arrested at higher rates and sentenced to harsher punishments. Male youth are also arrested at higher rates generally, but female youth are more likely to be arrested for status offenses.

¹ Median incomes were not available for system-involved interviewees for two reasons. First, the majority of interviewees were currently unemployed. When asked what their highest paying annual income was, 52% of interviewees reported their highest paying income was less than \$30,000 per year, and another 16% indicated that their highest paying job paid between \$10.00 and \$15.00 per hour.

² Data on the percentage of residents within each county of inquiry experiencing rent burden were not available. The U.S. Census Community Survey includes data on the average percentage of income spent on housing costs, but not on the percentage of residents who experience rent burden. Therefore, the data were not comparable to the interview data.

³ Data collected by the California Department of Justice for arrests are pulled from a separate database than law enforcement and court disposition data. Thus, comparisons of adult arrests and dispositions are not possible.

⁴ The California Department of Justice collects information on felony and misdemeanor arrests. When a person is arrested for multiple offenses, only the most serious offense is reported.

⁵ The California Department of Justice collects information on the number of felony arrest events with a final disposition received in California's adult criminal justice system. As indicated in the table, final dispositions may occur at the law enforcement, prosecution, or court level. Adult felony arrest disposition data are grouped by the year of disposition regardless of the year in which the arrest occurred.



⁶ See note 1.

⁷ See note 2.

⁸ See note 4.

⁹ The California Department of Justice collects information on the number of felony arrest events with a final disposition received in California's adult criminal justice system. As indicated in the table, final dispositions may occur at the law enforcement, prosecution, or court level. Adult felony arrest disposition data are grouped by the year of disposition regardless of the year in which the arrest occurred.

¹⁰ See note 4.

¹¹ Referrals may also be generated by schools, parents, public or private agencies, individuals, or by transfers from another county or state.

¹² California Department of Justice Division of California Justice Information Services Bureau of Criminal Information and Analysis Criminal Justice Statistic Center, *Juvenile Justice in California 2008*, July 2009, <http://www.ag.ca.gov/cjsc/publications/misc/jj08/preface.pdf>.

¹³ Data in the Juvenile Justice Flowchart vary from data on youth arrests and youth referrals to probation for two reasons. First, the data are collected from different sources. Data for the flowchart are collected as part of the state mandate to "address disproportionate minority contact" with the juvenile justice system as part of a core requirement of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP). Second, the data are available for different years.

¹⁴ See note 4.

¹⁵ Some laws only apply to youth because they are minors: these laws are called status offenses. Examples of juvenile status offenses are violating curfew laws, running away from home, and being truant from school.



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