

National Prosecutorial Dashboards:

LESSONS LEARNED, THEMES
AND CATEGORIES FOR
CONSIDERATION

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Andrew H. Warren

Office of the State Attorney
13th Judicial Circuit



Philadelphia District
Attorney's Office



National Prosecutorial Dashboards: Lessons Learned, Themes, and Categories for Consideration

Introduction:

Public-facing prosecutorial dashboards are a useful transparency and accountability tool that can help prosecutors' offices communicate information about their activities and outcomes with their communities. The need for these tools is increasing as more offices are collecting data and looking to use this information to help in achieving the goals of increased community engagement, transparency, public accountability, and racial equity. Offices can use their public-facing dashboards to not just measure their own progress on these goals, but also to demonstrate the results of their efforts to the public. Clear data on the activities of a prosecutor's office can facilitate better communication with community stakeholders and inform the discourse on important public policy issues.

The purpose of this document is to provide offices considering adopting public-facing dashboards with a statement of principles, guidelines, considerations, and lessons learned from the experiences of those involved in the development and use of these data tools. The National Prosecutorial Dashboards Advisory Group is made up of prosecutors, researchers, national organizations, and foundations. This document contains lessons learned, themes and categories for consideration and links to external resources including existing public-facing prosecutorial dashboards. This resource guide is made possible through the support of the Tableau Foundation and the efforts of the advisory group who volunteered their time, experiences, insights, and expertise to creating this document.

Statement of Principles:

1. **Communications:** Public-facing dashboards create a vehicle to infuse both internal and external communications with timely evidence that create an informed starting point to evaluate past activities and establish clear expectations and goals.
2. **Transparency:** Public-facing dashboards facilitate transparency by creating a venue for prosecutors' offices to publish data and articulate the context and rationale that underpin decisions made by prosecutors.
3. **Accountability:** Public-facing dashboards create accountability as offices commit to maintain the accuracy, timeliness and relevance of content published through the dashboard.
4. **Racial Equity:** Public-facing dashboards support a commitment by prosecutors to advance racial equity by measuring potential racial and ethnic disparities, which can inform policy change, track progress, and facilitate discussions with community members about prosecutors' roles in advancing equity.
5. **Community Engagement:** Public-facing dashboards elevate community engagement by empowering community members to engage in a dialogue about the role and activity of prosecutors that is based on data and evidence.

Lessons Learned:

1. Communication is key: early and often.

From the moment the office starts considering whether to embark on a public dashboard, it's important to have conversations with both internal and external stakeholders to gain their buy-in early on. Ideally, part of that early communication includes a vision from the elected prosecutor as to why this initiative is important and the impact that they expect it will have in the short and long term. Throughout the process, it is important to communicate what the office is doing, what data are and are not being collected, what information the office would like to start collecting prospectively, and any concerns about data quality and reliability that need acknowledging and addressing.

Offices should also involve their communities in developing the data dashboard early on, as they are the primary audience. Excluding community members increases the risk that dashboard data and communications do not meet community expectations or fail to address external concerns. Include local and national organizations in community workgroups or advisory boards and ensure that the full range of diversity in your community is represented.

Offices should also be mindful about how data are visualized and make sure that there are multiple rounds of useability testing to ensure that the format in which the data are presented enables clear understanding and interpretation of all data points. While the temptation may be to include as much information as possible in a dashboard, selected measures and simpler presentation may offer greater clarity for most users. Offices can provide technical appendices or footnotes separately so that more specialized audiences can have access to that information as well. Dashboards can offer the option for researchers or interested users to download the raw data used to construct any measures or visualizations. While offices can decide what measures and visualizations are presented in the dashboard, offices cannot prevent outside users from using the downloaded raw data to construct their own measures and applying their own interpretations.

Offices can be instructive in how dashboard information should be interpreted by incorporating the dashboard into broader messaging and communication strategies. Anticipate how new or high-profile findings may be received and consider public forums or press releases that incorporate the dashboard and clear, accurate descriptions of the findings. Social media strategies developed by a public information officer can assist in messaging directly to community interests, particularly for communities of color. For instance, offices could develop a public relations campaign to message 2 or 3 specific policy reforms that will positively affect these communities. In addition, consider publishing data stories with some regularity. Data stories provide the opportunity to dive deeper into a specific data point or topic and add more context to the information. A data story could be told in various ways (videos, interviews, and podcasts) to ensure it is not too technical, which could otherwise alienate lay audiences. Be mindful of keeping the information accessible and avoid legal or methodological information that is too technical and could alienate lay audiences.

2. Public prosecutorial dashboards require strong internal commitment.

The elected or appointed prosecutor should express a strong commitment to the use and maintenance of the public-facing dashboard. Commitment from the top will help establish internal buy-in from staff, including from mid-level managers whose efforts are necessary to ensure the dashboard is timely, accurate, and functioning. Information on why data collection, community engagement, and external dashboards are vital, anticipated changes to office practice and culture, and how this might impact prosecutors' day-to-day duties is essential to achieving internal buy-in. In addition to internal buy-in, a public dashboard project also requires a high level of commitment and resource allocation from the office. Make sure to properly staff the dashboard effort. At minimum, this means identifying a seasoned attorney that can ensure the data are interpreted correctly, an individual who is very familiar with how the case management system (CMS) operates and captures data, and a data analyst on staff or an external organization or researcher who can process the data to populate the dashboard. Make sure to allocate enough time for staff involved in the project so that it doesn't conflict with their other responsibilities. Ideally, a single staff member should be the key staff lead and dedicated to building and maintaining the public-facing dashboard. This person could also be the first point of contact for the public with questions regarding the dashboard.

Training opportunities for staff can help describe the goals for putting up data externally and provide information on how to access and use the dashboard. Depending on the current quality and reliability of the data in your CMS, staff and resources may need to be allocated to retrospectively improve upon the information that has (or hasn't) been collected. For instance, misdemeanor cases are an area in which data completeness and timely entry are often sacrificed in the name of expediency. This will present an important challenge to the dashboard effort for two main reasons (1) for offices that prosecute both misdemeanors and felonies, misdemeanors represent the vast majority of cases processed by those offices, and (2) as such, presenting information on how misdemeanor cases are processed and resolved is of key importance to a transparency effort that responds to community interests and concerns.

3. Know your audience.

It is important to have a clear understanding of who the primary audience is from the beginning. The dashboard contents and design should match the needs and data literacy levels of the target audience. Community members, advocacy groups, policymakers, practitioners, journalists, and researchers are all groups that will be interested in the data that is published. However, they all have different ways of consuming and using data. Understanding what information each audience wants, for what purposes, and how that overlaps (or not) across groups will help offices home in on the key features the dashboard should have to satisfy the needs of the main audience, while still being useful to others.

4. Public-facing dashboards should be accessible and digestible to the public.

Offices need to be intentional in how data are presented, even regarding the type of number or statistic used to summarize a particular set of data. For example, regarding case counts, there is a trade-off between presenting data as counts—or the number of cases within any given category—and as percentages or rates. Counts data can have great utility for prosecutors themselves and may be of little use to the public beyond looking at trends for increases or decreases in the number of cases across time. Percentages and rates tend to be more useful to the public because they contextualize the information within a more specific framework. For instance, comparing the number of White and Black defendants who received a prison sentence only gives you information about volume. Conversely, comparing the percentage of White defendants who received a prison sentence out of all White defendants who were convicted, to the same percentage but for Black defendants, gives the public more specific information about potential disparities in outcomes across the two groups. It is important to define both statistical or data terms (e.g., categorical, outcome, or data set) as well as legal terminology and concepts including disposition, clearance, or how the race of an individual was determined.

Data stories provided through the dashboard can also help contextualize the data and provide more detail about what may be behind observed patterns. Whether it is counts, percentages, rates, or more complex measures like ratios, offices should define why, what, and how processes and outcomes will be measured ahead of time. Careful consideration of the why, what, and how will save offices headaches down the line, if the data they end up publishing is misleading or unreliable due to lack of careful planning. In addition, counts, percentages, rates, and even complex ratios are complementary and offices should consider the degree to which these data components are shown alongside each other.

An important consideration of what measures to include is the users' ability to query that data such as comparing outcomes by defendant demographics, including race and ethnicity, and case characteristics, including offense type and severity. Some of the questions that community members may prioritize include: Are criminal justice outcomes different depending on the defendant's race and ethnicity, their gender, their socioeconomic status, or where they live? Are diversionary programs offered and accessed equitably across these groups? Have sentences changed since alternatives to incarceration have become more available? When dashboards are unable to answer key questions such as these, offices should be transparent as to whether this is due to data or dashboard limitations, or if future work can be done to augment the dashboard to supply the relevant information.

5. A focus on racial justice is key to the success of the dashboard.

There is currently a deficit of public trust in the criminal justice system, particularly around issues of race. For prosecutorial dashboards to serve as tools that help address community concerns about racial justice, transparency, and accountability, there must be a very deliberate effort to present information on potential racial and ethnic disparities across all measured areas of the

process, including case outcomes. This implies being ready to have difficult conversations with staff as well as with the community about the patterns of racial disparities observed in the data, if any, the underlying factors potentially driving those disparities, and what policies and practices might need to change so that procedural and case outcomes are not unduly associated with the race or ethnicity of the defendant or victim. As these conversations take place and the data is updated, the dashboards should also enable the office to demonstrate progress towards achieving more equitable criminal justice outcomes.

Accurate collection of race and ethnicity data is essential for the dashboard to show reliable information and disparities with regard to these demographics. Further, dashboard data and visualizations should allow summary statistics or measures to be disaggregated by racial and ethnic groups to allow for more refined comparisons. The utility of dashboard data to advance racial justice can be augmented by allowing cross comparisons with other socio-economic characteristics or related legal information such as legal representation. Where applicable, offices should consider if and how to integrate these demographic as well as socio-economic data into their dashboards.

Ideally, demographic information should be self-reported by the defendants and victims. Prosecutors should discuss model practices for when demographic data cannot be ascertained through self-reporting and determine whether data was entered based on an officer's perception, treated as missing, or collected at a later time. Offices can attempt to solicit a self-report or can consult a source where accurate information might reside, such as licenses or booking data. Jurisdictions should review their criminal justice information systems and establish consistent practices for how officers should enter race and ethnicity information or move past required fields when accurate race and ethnicity information cannot be ascertained.

Offices should consider establishing consistent definitions of what constitutes a disparity and what constitutes disproportionality, which can inform which statistics are made available, initial messaging using dashboard findings, or how data stories investigate the presence of racial and ethnic disparities. Disparities compare outcomes between two groups within the criminal justice system. Section 4 provides an example of a racial disparity in prison sentences between White and Black defendants, whereby the percentage of prison sentences is calculated for each group separately and then the two percentages are compared to each other, usually by dividing the percentage of one group by the other. It is recommended that data analysts use procedures to estimate whether the disparities are statistically significant. A different but complementary approach is comparing the percentage of Black defendants receiving a prison sentence to the percentage of Black people in the jurisdiction's population. This approach is often wrongly referred to as a disparity. However, this exercise is looking at disproportionality between a group's representation in the criminal justice system compared to a group's representation in the general population. Since the two approaches provide different information (i.e., disparities between groups once they enter the system vs. disproportionality of one group in the system compared to the general population) they should be treated as complementary and presented alongside each other.

6. Anticipate constant learning and an evolutionary process.

Building the dashboards is an iterative process that requires flexibility to capture changing information, audiences, and general sentiment toward criminal justice in the community. The launch of the dashboard is not the end of the process. It's just the beginning of a new phase of work whereby the office will be receiving feedback from different stakeholders, evaluating the feasibility of different options to address any issues, testing those options, and then rolling them out. While some adjustments may be straightforward after initial feedback, others may require substantial restructuring of the dashboard and offices can consider prioritizing these changes over a longer timeframe. Think of the process long term, short term, and wide reaching.

7. Don't let perfect be an enemy of the good.

It is important that you establish a realistic but limited timeline around the project. It is important for the dashboard to have accurate data presented in a format that is both accessible and attractive. To that end, it is recommended that researchers and/or data scientists are involved to ensure that the data are processed through a rigorous and valid methodology. Some offices have started hiring their own data scientists and researchers, which builds internal capacity for the long-term maintenance of the dashboard. Even if offices have their own data team, consider also involving external academics or research organizations as a neutral third party that can validate the data process and help avoid suspicion from community members about "cooked data" being presented in the dashboard. Either way, keep in mind that it is easy to get lost in the trees and lose sight of the big picture if appropriate guardrails are not placed around the project. Don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good. Offices will need to be comfortable going live with a limited dashboard that can be improved upon or expanded iteratively. This will allow for continuous feedback from main users as well as maintained momentum through regular announcements about additions (e.g., new data, new features) or improvements to the dashboard. It is important to communicate that the dashboard is ever evolving, and community feedback is welcomed to improve it.

8. Transparency and accountability are very important but may open offices up to critiques.

Public-facing dashboards are an important component of transparency and accountability for prosecutors, and it is important to consider the dashboard as a tool towards achieving these goals. However, once the data are out, it will be difficult if not impossible to control what people do with it. This will make you vulnerable to criticism. It's helpful to prepare for this by making sure the data are presented with the appropriate context for correct interpretation, and by reviewing them carefully before they go live to identify patterns that may be considered problematic by the community. A robust internal data audit will allow offices to be proactive and tell constituents that issues have been identified to start addressing it. Offices should use data and findings from dashboards to guide and implement policy and practice changes. For instance, an office may consider using the dashboard to establish communities of color as the focus of key policy reforms related to racial justice (implicit bias training, eligibility for diversion programs, "blind" charging, etc.) Proactive community engagement can also help guide these changes and communicate

what can and cannot be understood by using the dashboard. After responding to concerns raised by dashboard data and feedback from the community, prosecutors can use the same data tools to measure the effects of these policy and practice responses. Using trends and data in group settings can help create information norms across these groups to initiate policy changes. Be prepared for outside groups to make requests that may not be feasible; for example, audits of, or access to, internal back-end data inputting systems or CMS.

While increasing transparency should motivate offices to publish data, offices need to balance this against considerations that might make publishing certain data or measures ill advised. Offices should be transparent about when data are censored or omitted, whether due to small sample size to maintain confidentiality, or if particular data are suppressed due to a public safety consideration. Having consistent and transparent practices around data publishing is essential to maintaining trust with the audiences that will use the dashboard and query it to answer pressing policy questions.

9. Make sure your CMS can be easily queried.

Case management systems (CMS) were created to help attorneys and offices keep track of cases, not for research or measurement purposes. Nonetheless, the data produced by CMS are the basis for any dashboard. Offices can consider the degree to which any staff who enter data into the CMS are retrained to ensure consistent and good quality data entry. While offices can vary in the type of staff who enter data into their CMS, offices should consider developing consistent practices or issuing guidance for all staff being granted the authority to edit or enter data into the CMS.

It is common practice for prosecutors' offices to capture important information that could be used for measurement (e.g., sentence lengths and conditions, bail information, defense attorney type, victim demographics) in unstructured formats or text fields that make it very difficult to reliably parse the data needed to populate the dashboard. It is essential that your CMS, whether built in-house or purchased as an off-the-shelf product, has structured fields with a constrained set of choices such as checkboxes, dropdown lists, and short text fields where only a specific set of possible values is accepted. In addition, ensure that the CMS has a comprehensive yet limited number of allowed values within fields. For example, if charge dispositions are recorded using more than 20 possible values, it is likely that there are going to be inconsistencies on how said disposition values are used by staff and how they are later classified for the purposes of measurement. Once there are more structured fields containing sufficient information regarding the action taken in the case, then staff can be allowed to still use notes, remarks, or text fields to add more nuance to the information.

10. Consider data inputs or sources outside of the CMS.

Though the main input of data for the public-facing dashboards is your CMS, you should also consider other sources of information that can be updated on an annual basis. Outside organizations such as other system stakeholders or community groups can help determine what additional information is relevant or assist in collecting that data. For instance, information on

office budget and staffing, including staff demographics, can provide important information to contextualize the trends and patterns observed in the case data. Additional data inputs could include staffing and budget for other criminal justice agencies; police department and court case management systems; victim, witness, and defendant satisfaction surveys; Census Bureau information on county demographics and socio-economic characteristics; and the statutory laws that may have an impact on process, outcomes, and patterns therein. Ensure external data sources are reputable and collected in a consistent manner to allow for reliable trend analysis within the dashboard.

Current Public-Facing Dashboards and Data Efforts:

Cook County:

- <https://www.cookcountystatesattorney.org/about/felony-dashboard>

Jackson County:

- <https://jacksoncomo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/b7db05881e914094aa4b872a0ed87455>

Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office (Jacksonville):

- <https://sao4thdatadashboard.com/>

King County:

- kingcounty.gov/paodatadashboard

New York County (Manhattan):

- <https://data.manhattanda.org/#/>

Maricopa County:

- <https://www.maricopacountyattorney.org/419/Data-Dashboard>

Measures for Justice:

- <https://measuresforjustice.org/portal>

Milwaukee County:

- <https://data.mkedao.com/>

Philadelphia County:

- <https://data.philadao.com>

Prosecutorial Performance Indicators:

- <https://prosecutorialperformanceindicators.org/>

San Francisco County:

- <https://www.sfdistrictattorney.org/policy/da-stat/>
- <https://www.sfdistrictattorney.org/policy/justice-dashboard/>

Tableau Foundation:

- <https://www.tableau.com/foundation/data-equity/do-no-harm>
- <https://nationalequityatlas.org/lab>
- <https://www.tableau.com/foundation/data-equity>

Florida 13th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office (Tampa):

- <https://www.sao13th.com/data>

Yolo County:

- <https://measuresforjustice.org/commons/yoloda>

Themes, Categories, and Examples of Public-facing Prosecutorial Dashboards:

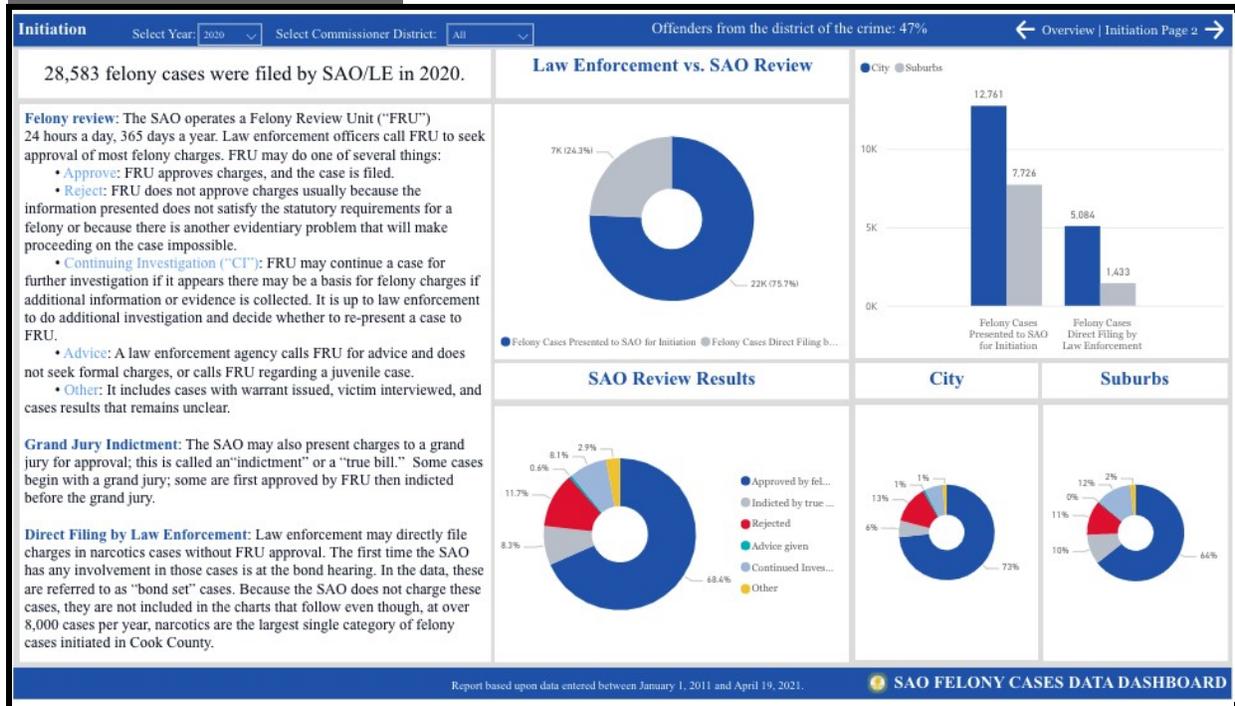
What metrics ultimately end up on a public facing dashboard depends on many factors, such as input from the community and data availability. The following themes and categories are a compilation of the topics discussed by the National Prosecutorial Dashboards Advisory Group and represent a broad range of potential categories of individual measures that offices can consider integrating into their data dashboards. While some categories can be classified across more than one theme, we limited each category to one theme for clarity and ease of reading. Select example graphics from public-facing prosecutorial dashboards that represent the individual themes are included below.

Themes	Categories
1. Efficiency and Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Screening Decisions • Charge Reductions • Alternatives to Incarceration • Timeliness • Impact of Policies
2. Public Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Referrals by Offense Type • Firearm-Related Offenses • Dispositions • Sentencing • Priors • Frequently Returning Defendants • Recidivism
3. Fairness, Equity, and Social Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defendant Demographics • Victim Demographics • Diversion and Outcomes • Collateral Consequences • Misdemeanors Associated with Poverty • Misdemeanors Associated with Mental Health and Substance Use • Geographic Impact by Neighborhood • Sentence Lengths • Pretrial Release • Measures Across Race/Ethnicity (Disparities and Disproportionalities)
4. Victim Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic Violence • Sexual Assault • Firearm-Related Victimization
5. Contextual Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Demographics • Criminal Justice Resources • Office Staff Demographics • Legal Context

Examples From Current Public-Facing Prosecutorial Dashboards:

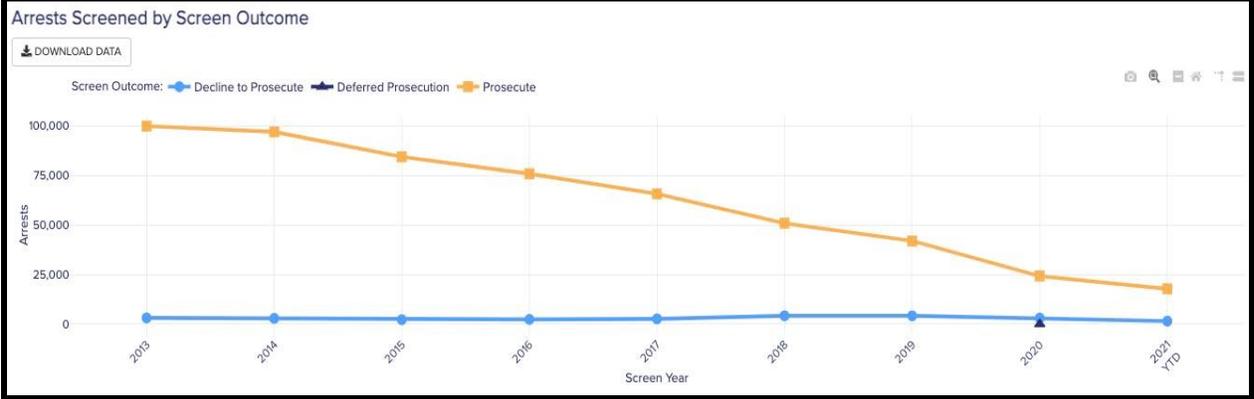
1. Efficiency and Effectiveness:

Case Screening Decisions



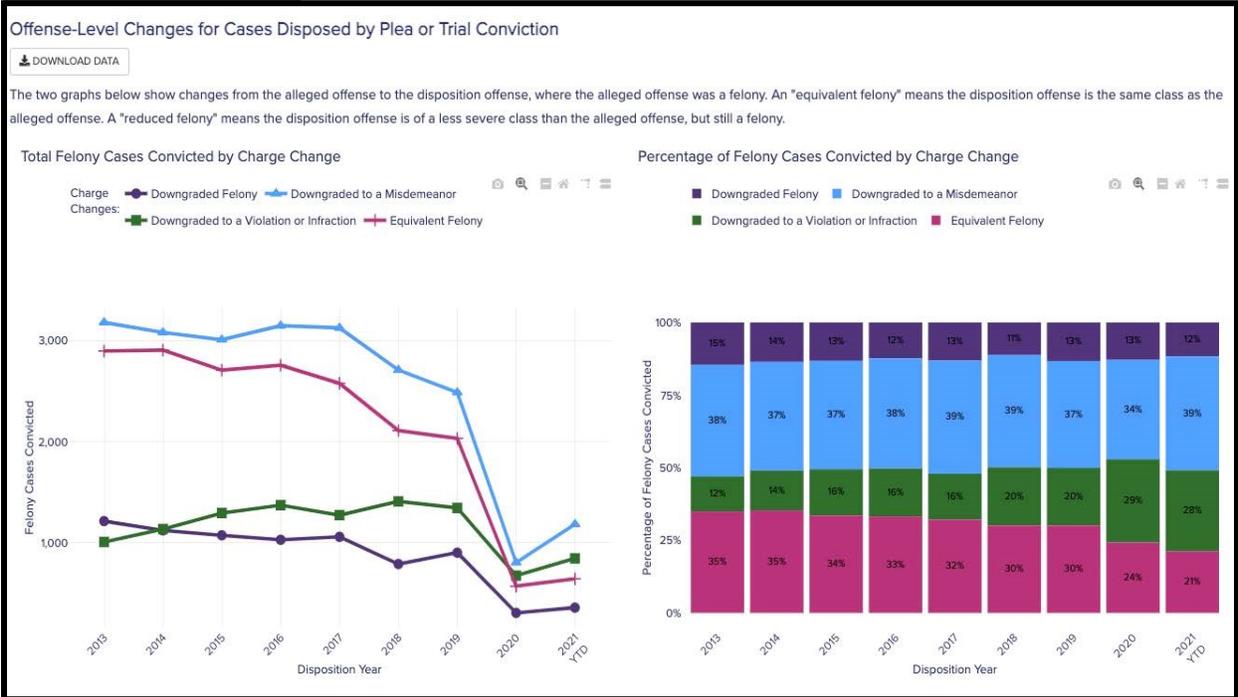
Source: [Cook County State Attorney's Office Felony Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Case Screening Decisions



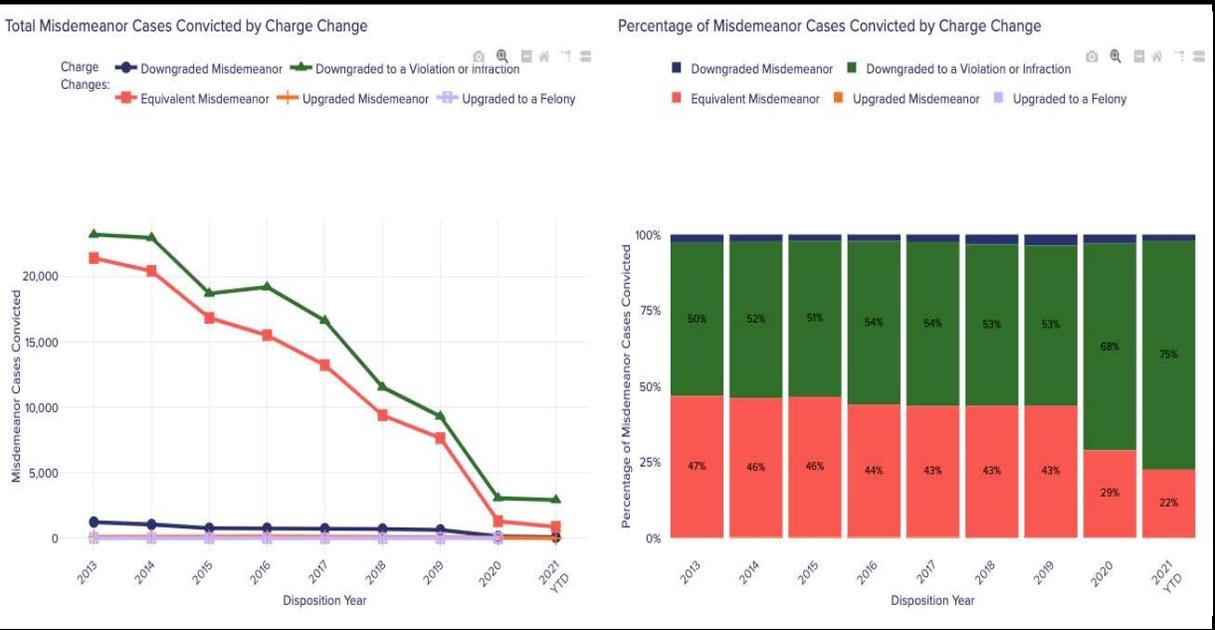
Source: [Manhattan District Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Charge Reductions



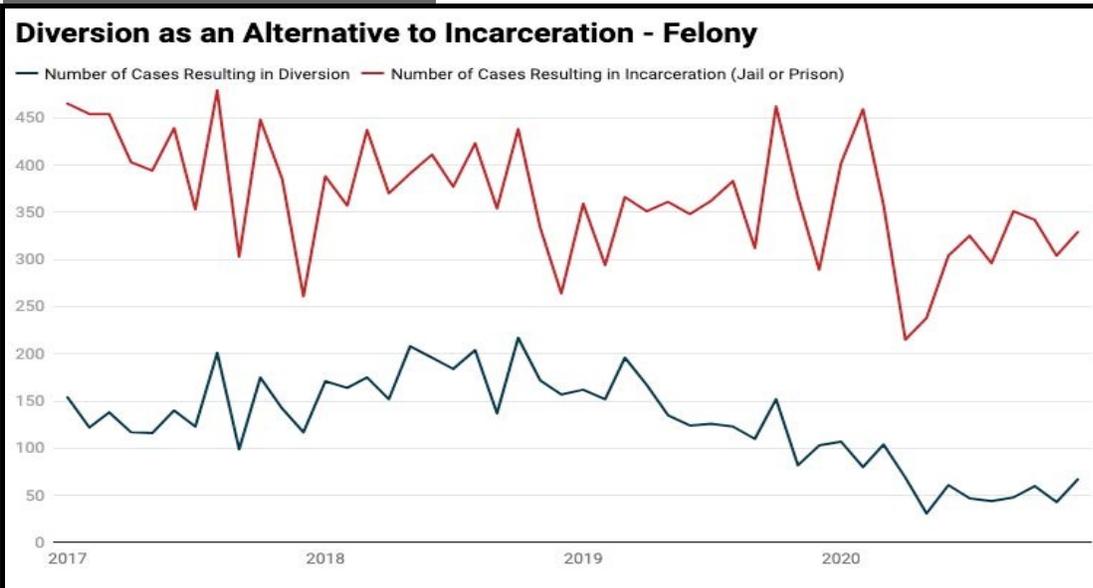
Source: [Manhattan District Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Charge Reductions



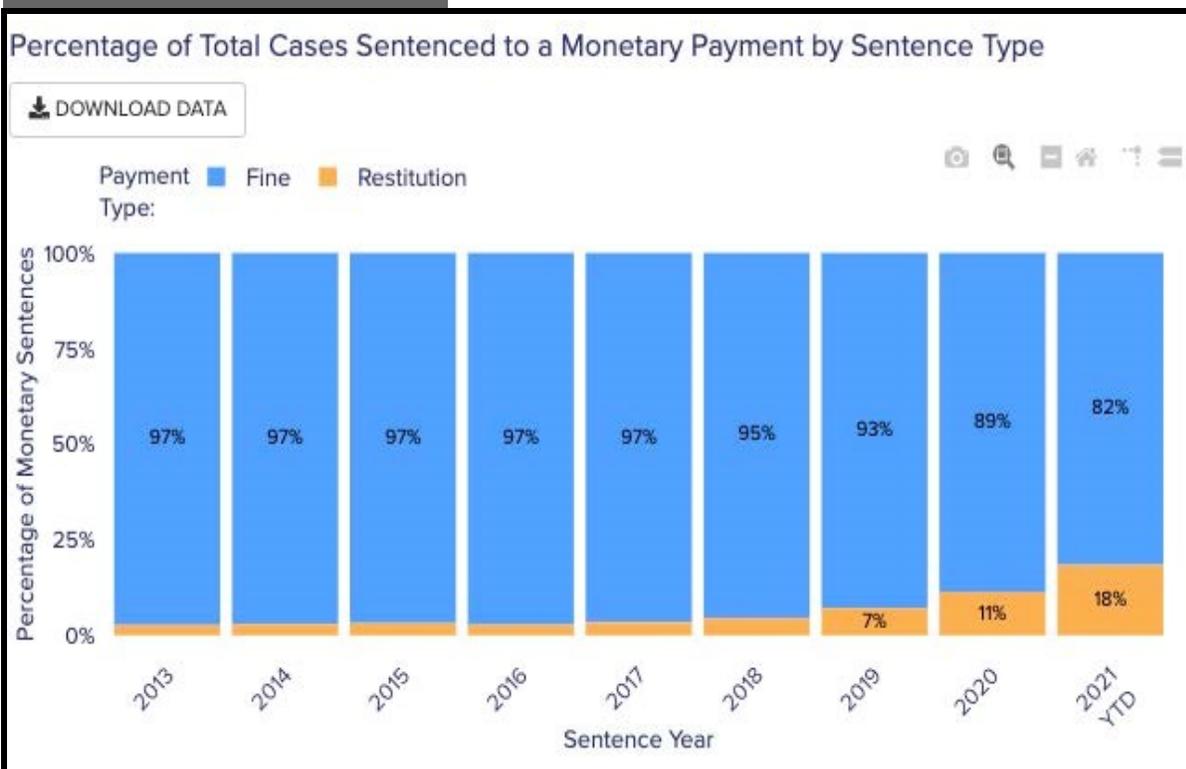
Source: [Manhattan District Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Alternatives to Incarceration



Source: [Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office \(Jacksonville\) Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Alternatives to Incarceration



Source: [Manhattan District Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Timeliness

How Quickly Cases Move Through the System

This section shows monthly data on how long it takes to move cases through the system. The process begins when an **offense** takes place and it comes to the attention of **law enforcement** who make an **arrest** or give a **citation**. Next, the case is **referred** to the **prosecutor** who decides whether to **pursue the case in court** or not. If the case is pursued, the **defendant** is summoned to make the first of many appearances in court. The case ends when the court or a **jury** decides whether the defendant is guilty or not. If guilty, the defendant is sentenced to a punishment established by law.

Below you'll see the time between each of these events. In most cases, the data can be broken down by many filters (**misdemeanor** vs **felony**, or by demographics like race or age, etc., when you click on the breakdown cards).



X HIDE CASES BY TYPE

Median Time from Offense to Case Closure

January 2021

- Offense**
7 Days
Includes: **Crime Report, Investigation, and Arrest**
- Case Referral**
42.5 Days
Includes: **Reception and Review of Charges and Arrest after Charging**
- Charging**
69 Days
Includes: **Arraignment**
- Arraignment**
77 Days
Includes: **Plea Bargain and Trial, Waiver, and Failure to Appear**
- Case Closure**

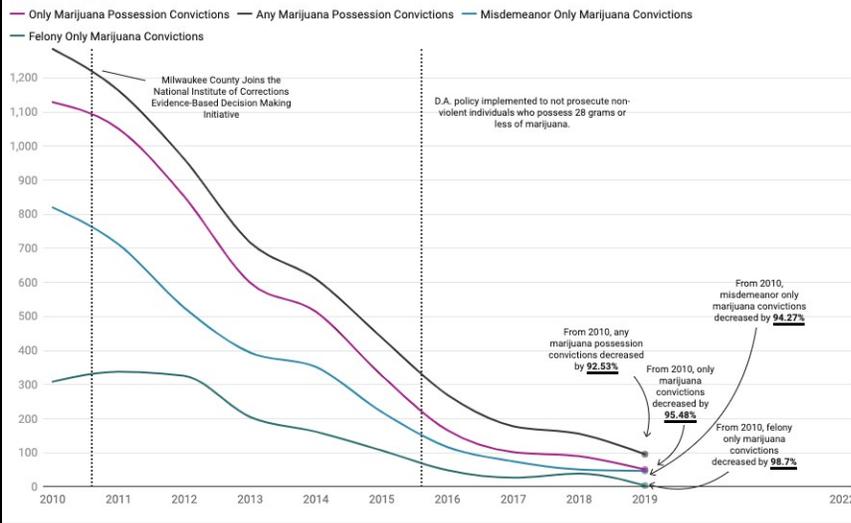
	Misdemeanors	1 Year Change	Felonies	1 Year Change
Total	339.5	+60.1%	306	+92.5%
Offense to Case Referral	9	+28.6%	3	+200.0%
Case Referral to Charging	56	+3.7%	28	+460.0%
Charging to Arraignment	92	+196.8%	21	+2000.0%
Arraignment to Case Closure	64	+128.6%	141	+35.6%
Failure to Appear	117 Cases		14 Cases	

Source: [Yolo County District Attorney's Office Commons Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Impact of Policies

Milwaukee Criminal Convictions for Possession of Marijuana Have Dropped Since 2010.

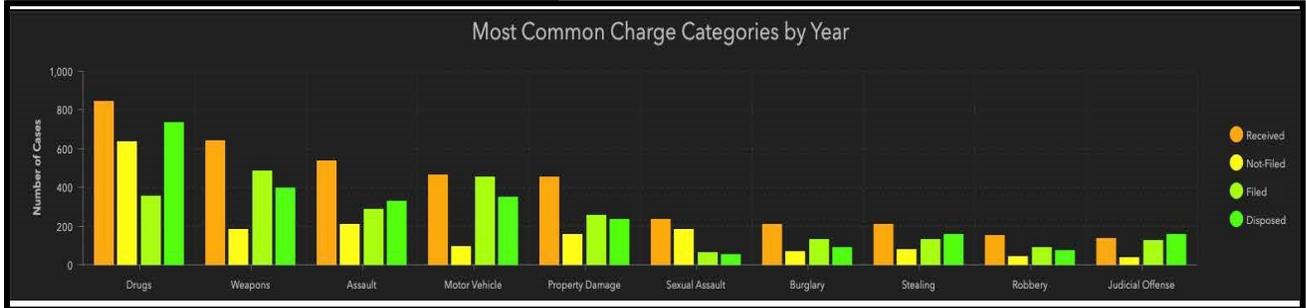
Unlike statewide trends that decreased slightly over 10 years, Milwaukee County, in all marijuana possession conviction categories saw **well over 90% decreases** from 2010-2019.



Source: [Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

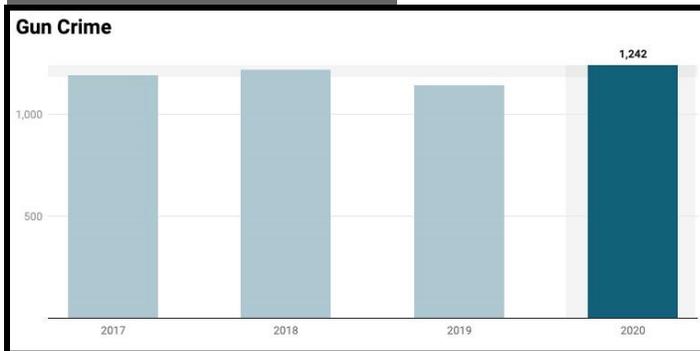
2. Public Safety:

Case Referrals by Offense Type



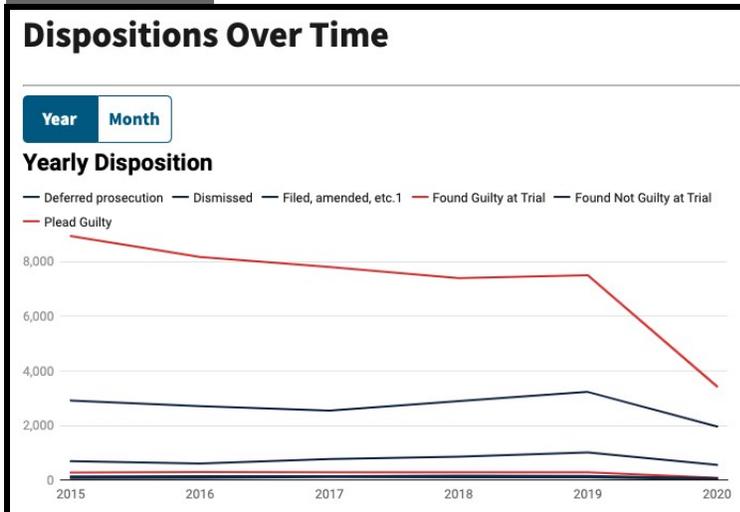
Source: [Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Firearm-Related Offenses



Source: [Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office \(Jacksonville\) Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Dispositions



Source: [Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Sentencing

How Quickly Cases Move Through the System

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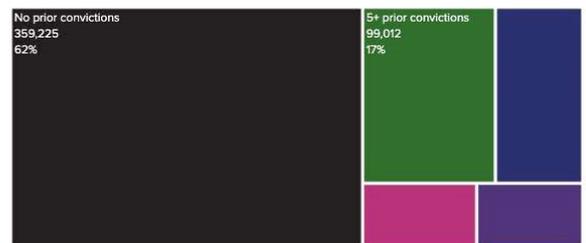
Source: [Yolo County District Attorney's Office Commons Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 8, 2021.

Priors

Number of Prior Manhattan Felony Convictions for Arrested Individual



Number of Prior Manhattan Misdemeanor Convictions for Arrested Individual



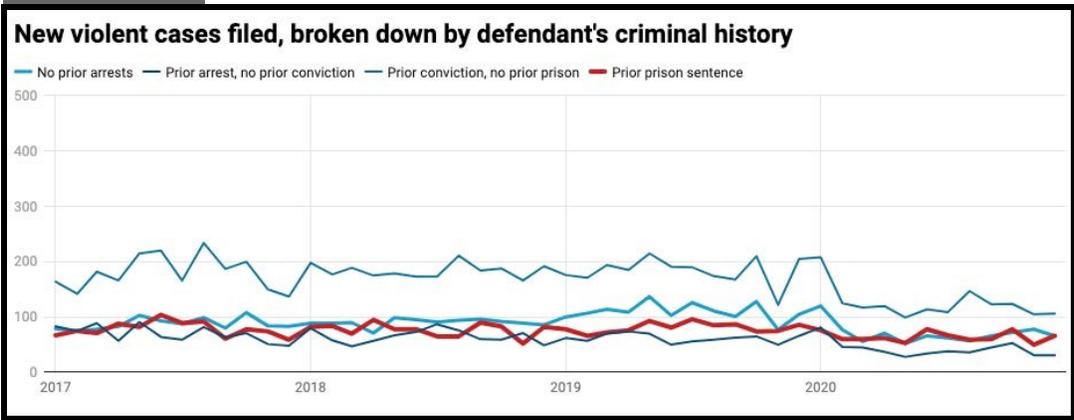
Source: [Manhattan District Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved Sep. 9, 2021.

Frequently Returning Defendants



Source: [Manhattan District Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Recidivism



Source: [Florida 13th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office \(Tampa\) Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

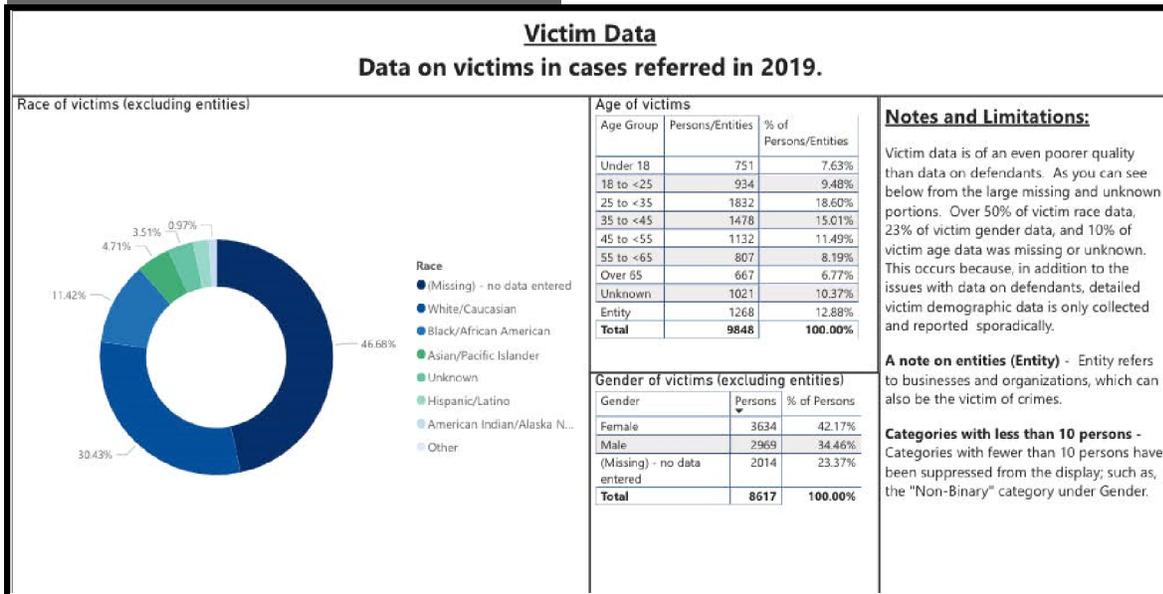
3. Fairness, Equity, and Social Costs:

Defendant Demographics

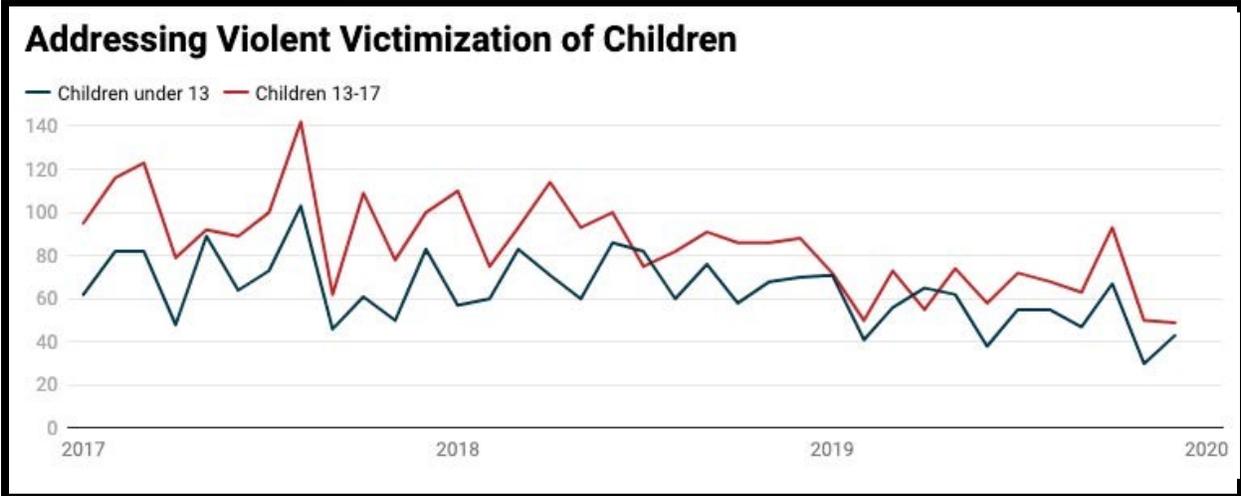


Source: [Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Victim Demographics



Source: [King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.



Source: [Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office \(Jacksonville\) Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Measures Across Race/Ethnicity (Disparities)

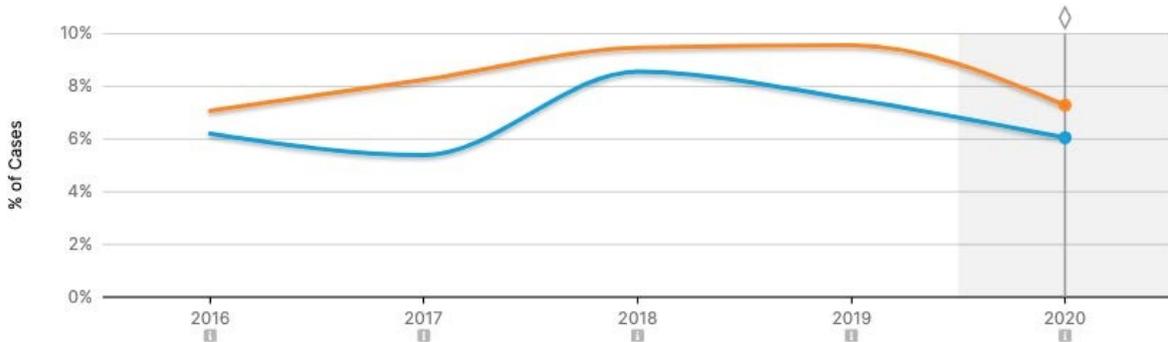
Cases Sentenced to State Prison



This measure shows what **percentage** of cases with a conviction ended with a [sentence](#) of time in state prison.

Race (White | People of Color) - 2020

● White 6.1%
 ● People of Color 7.3%
 Unknown Race / Ethnicity ○ 6.0%



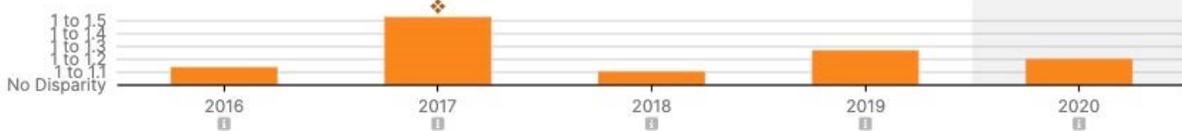
Race Disparity - 2020

A disparity in criminal justice is when people in one group (e.g., a race or ethnicity, a gender, or a socio-economic class) experience a different outcome at some step in the process (e.g., charging, disposition or sentencing) than those in another group. The outcomes of all of these steps can be documented with data and numbers. When significantly *different* numbers are documented for the outcomes between two groups, that is a disparity. When the numbers between the two groups are the same, very close, or not significantly different, no disparity exists. You can tell when the numbers between the two groups are significantly different by looking at the statistical significance markers on the graph. Please also check the detailed table below to look at the actual numbers of cases that are behind the percentages used to calculate the disparities.

Note: Differences in outcomes are also influenced by criminal histories and the facts of the individual cases, which are not accounted for here.

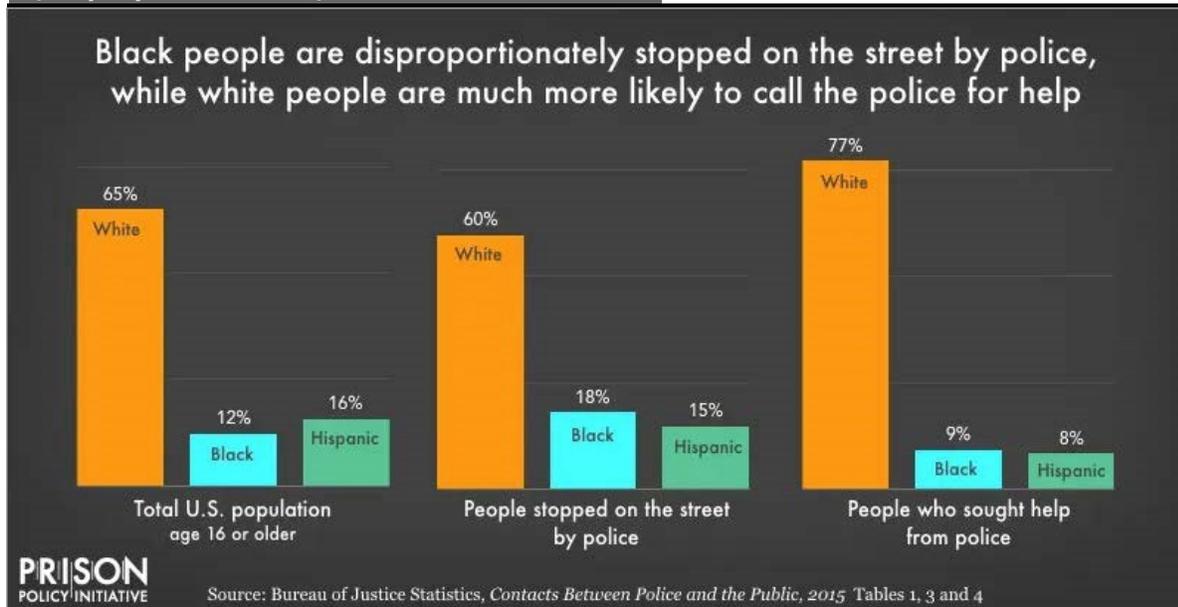
White 1 to 1.2 People of Color

◆ Statistical Significance



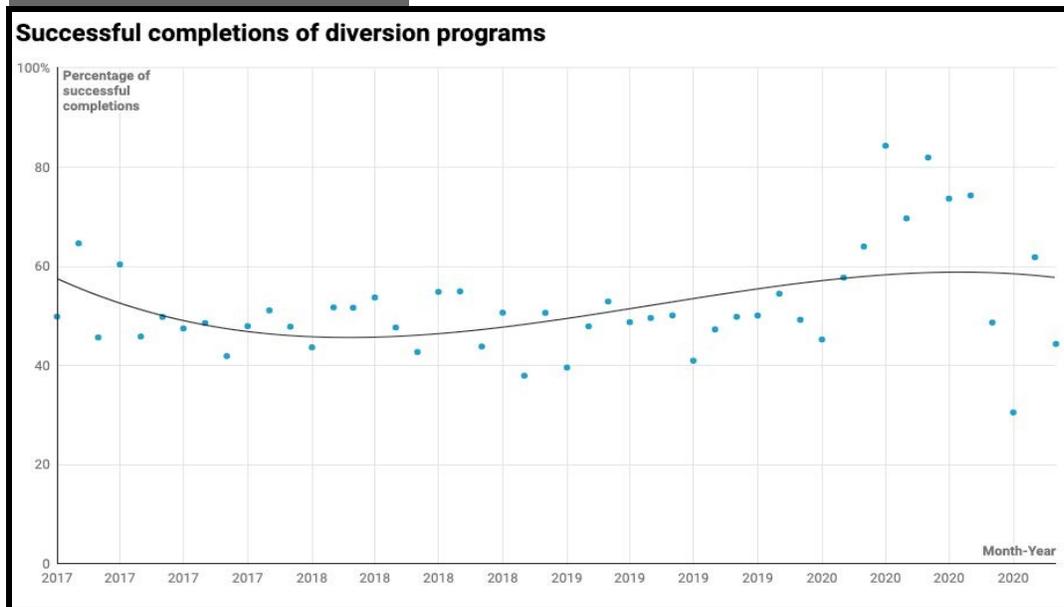
Source: [Yolo County District Attorney's Office Commons Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

**Measures Across Race/Ethnicity
(Disproportionalities)**



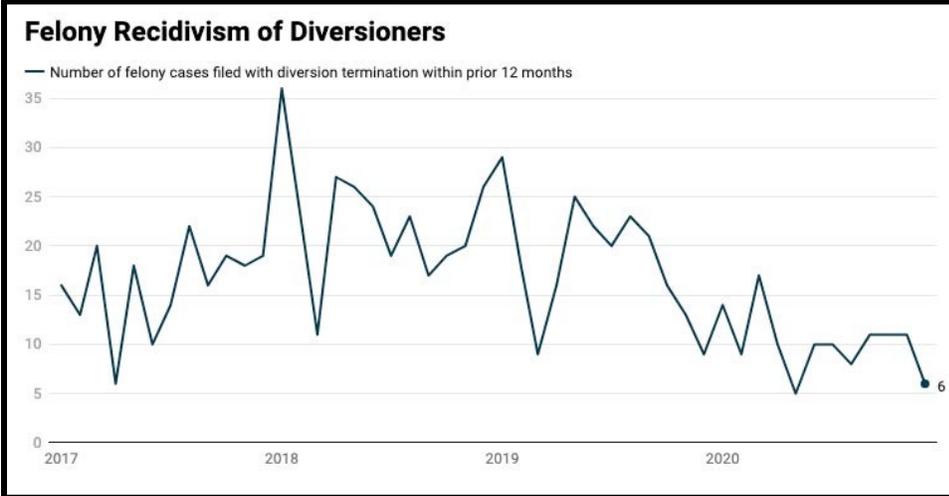
Source: [Prison Policy Initiative](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Diversions and Outcomes



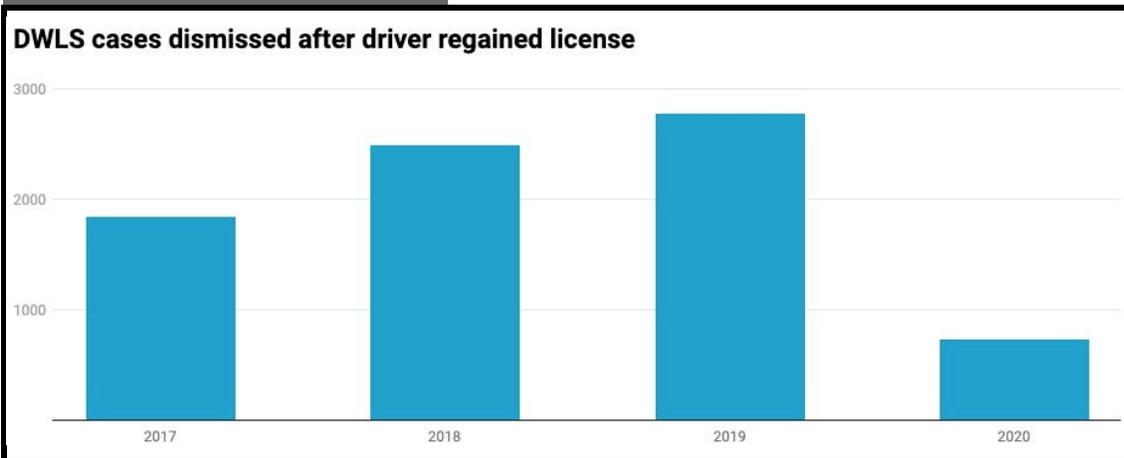
Source: [Florida 13th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office \(Tampa\) Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Diversions and Outcomes



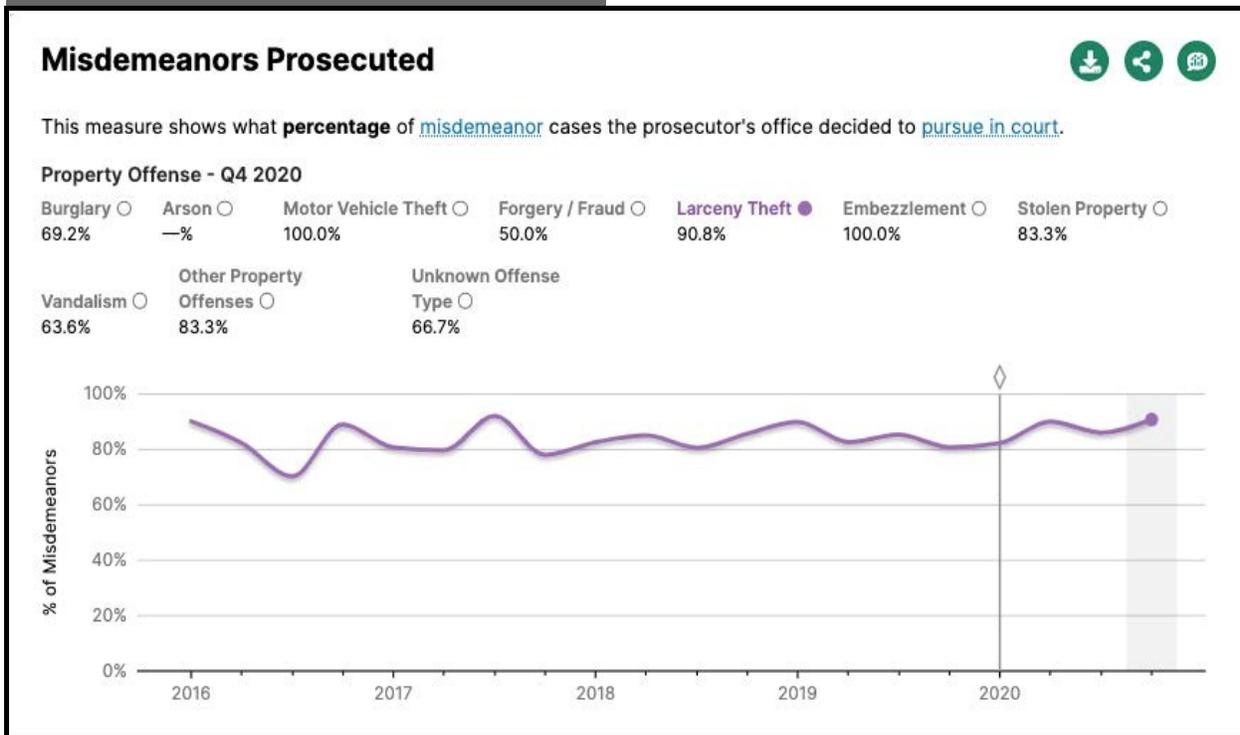
Source: [Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office \(Jacksonville\) Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Collateral Consequences



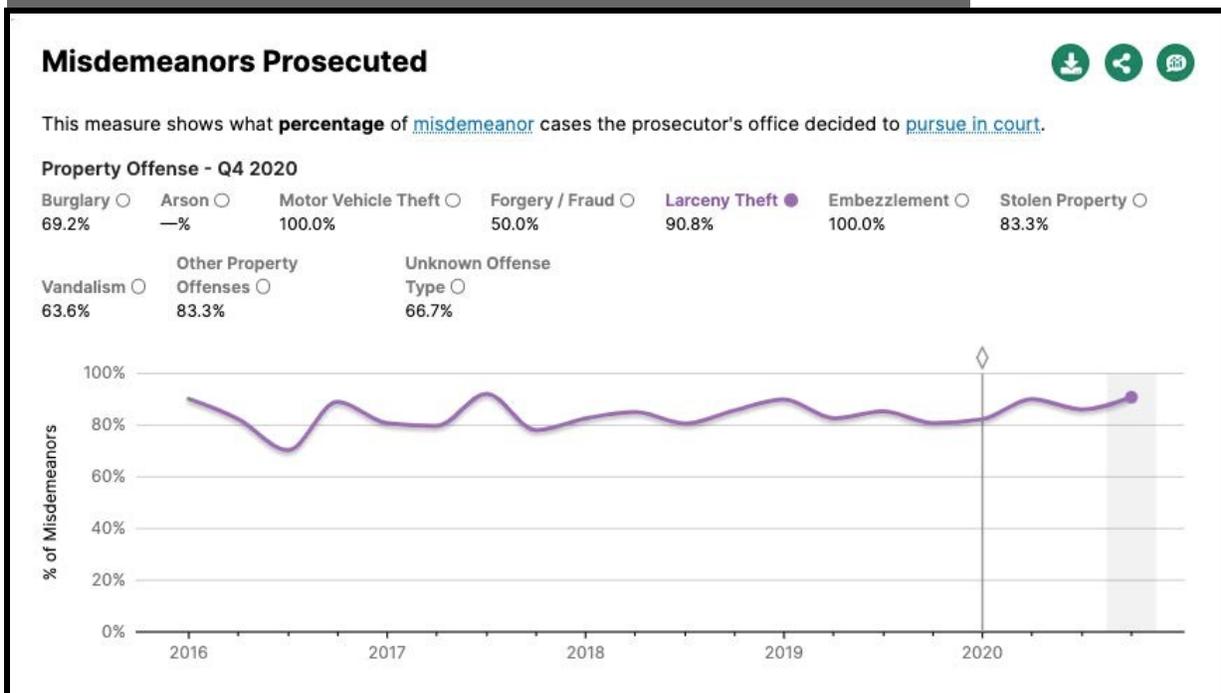
Source: [Florida 13th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Misdemeanors Associated with Poverty



Source: [Yolo County District Attorney's Office Commons Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Misdemeanors Associated with Mental Health and Substance Use



Source: [Yolo County District Attorney's Office Commons Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Geographic Impact by Neighborhood

All Offenses

Violent

Property

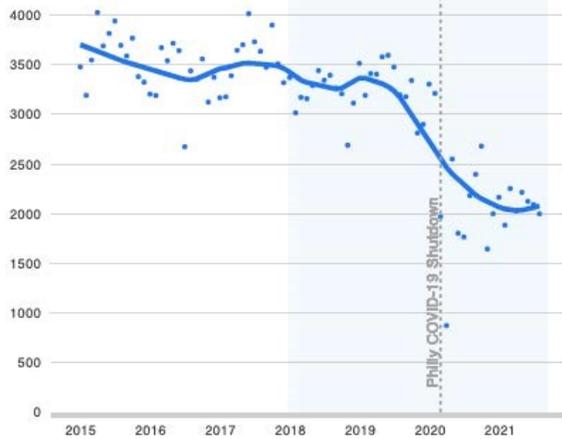
Drugs

Firearms

Other

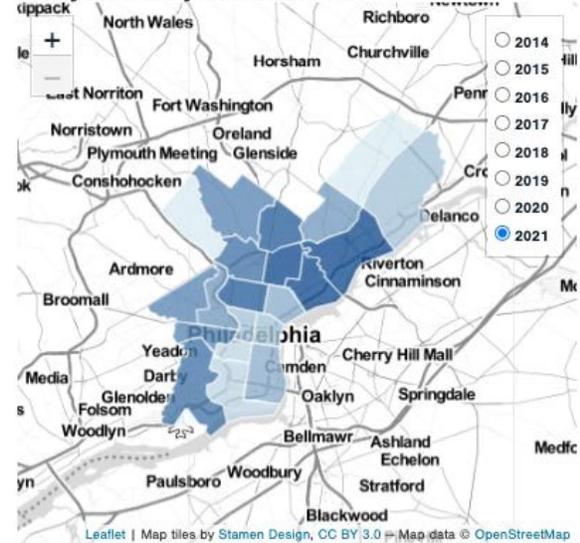
🔴 The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound effect on the criminal legal system. Among other changes, overall arrests and cases charged have been lower than prior years and those arrests that have happened tend to be for more serious offenses. Because of this, statistics about arrests, cases charged, and bail should be interpreted with caution.

Arrests



Source: DAO Analysis of criminal justice data. Current as of 09/08/2021.

Yearly Arrests by Police District



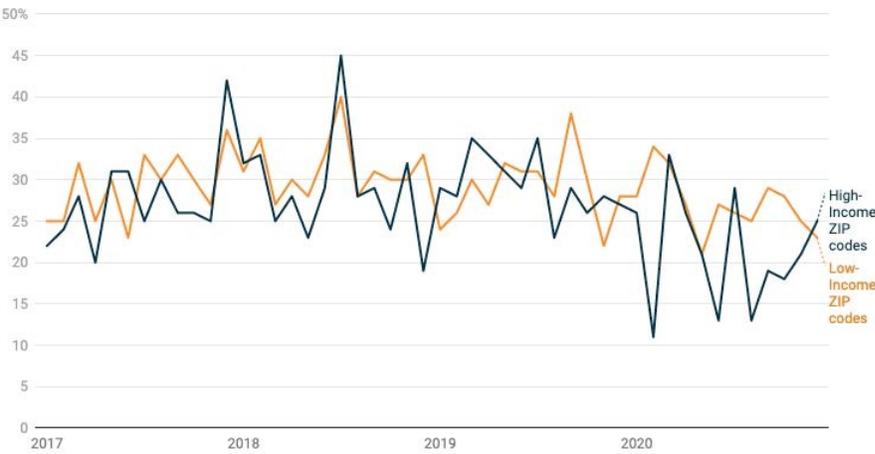
Source: [Philadelphia County District Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Geographic Impact by Neighborhood

Treating Crime the Same Across Neighborhoods

How it's measured	Percent of felony cases rejected or dismissed involving defendants from median household income ZIP codes in: (a) top quintile (b) bottom quintile
Data elements	1. Filing offense severity 2. Case disposition type 3. Offense ZIP code 4. Crime rate of each ZIP code in jurisdiction 5. Date of case disposition
Frequency	Monthly
Rationale for measuring this indicator	Measuring prosecutorial outcomes across low and high-income neighborhoods is important to ensure the uniform treatment of cases across socioeconomic lines.

Treating Crime the Same Across Neighborhoods



Source: [Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Geographic Impact by Neighborhood

Addressing Victimization of the Poor

How it's measured

Violent victimization rate in bottom quintile of median household income ZIP codes

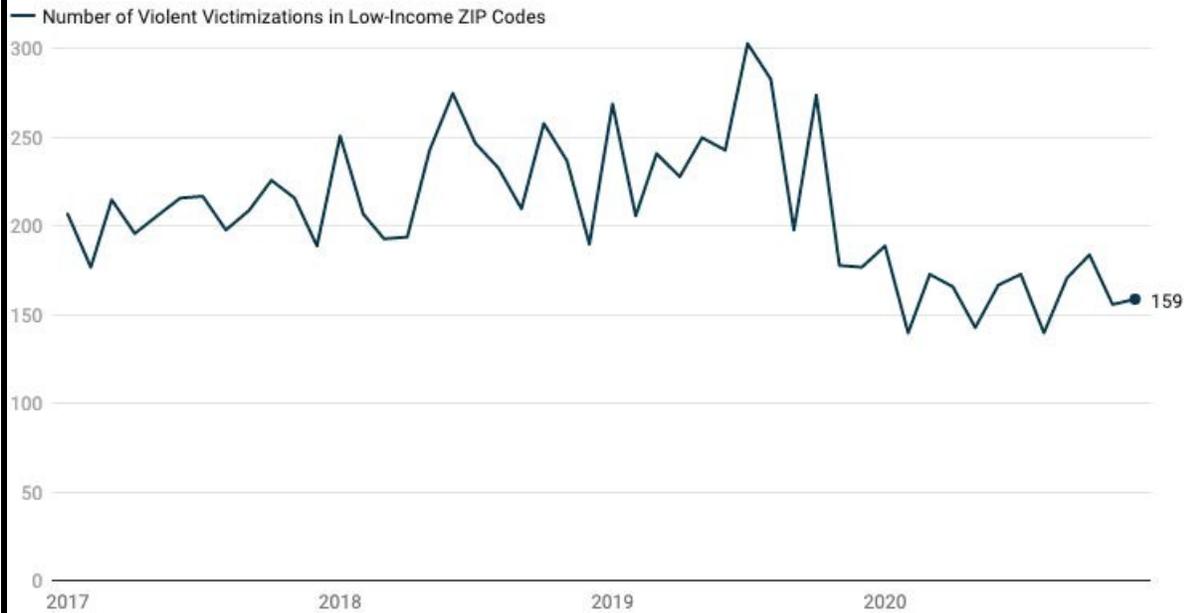
Data elements

1. Referral offense type
2. Victim ZIP code
3. Median household income of each ZIP code in jurisdiction
4. Population of each ZIP code in jurisdiction
5. Date of case referral

Frequency

Monthly

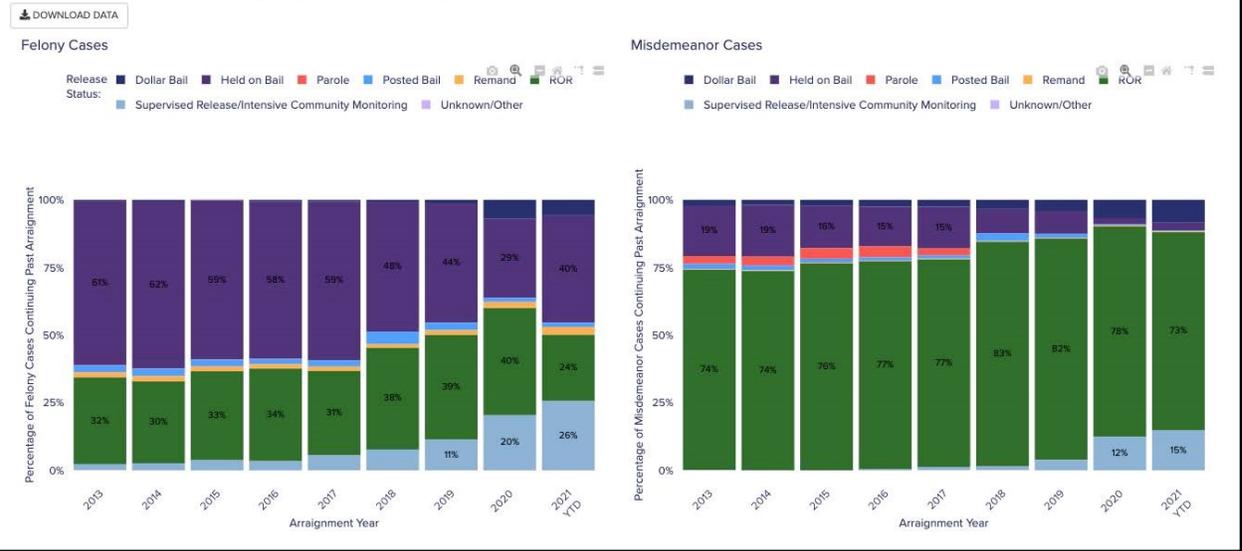
Addressing Victimization of the Poor



Source: [Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office \(Jacksonville\) Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Pretrial Release

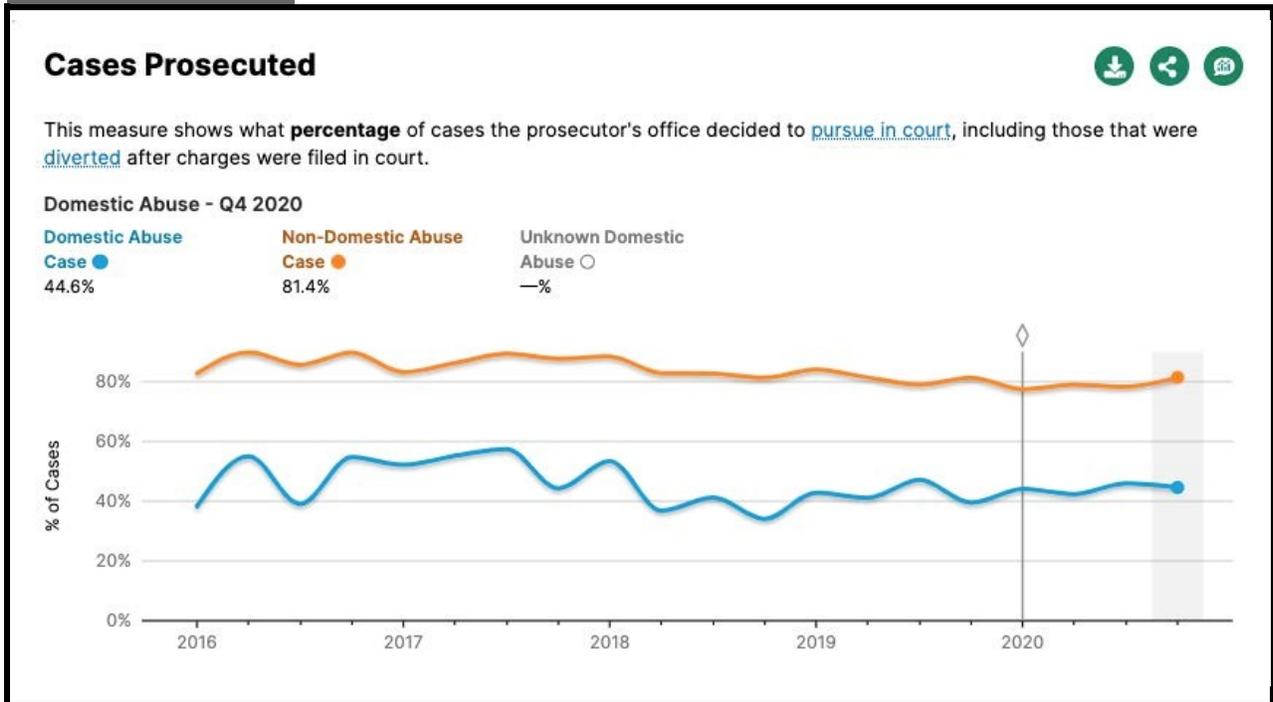
Release Status at Arraignment by Alleged Offense Category



Source: [Manhattan District Attorney's Office, Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

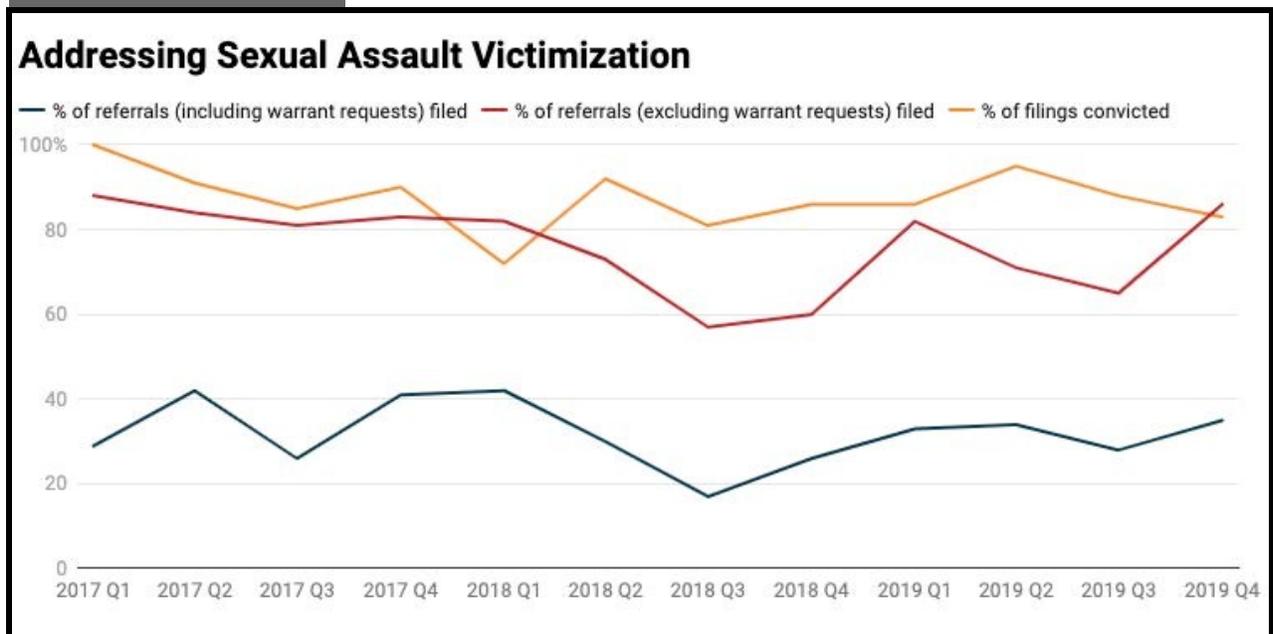
4. Victim Perspective:

Domestic Violence



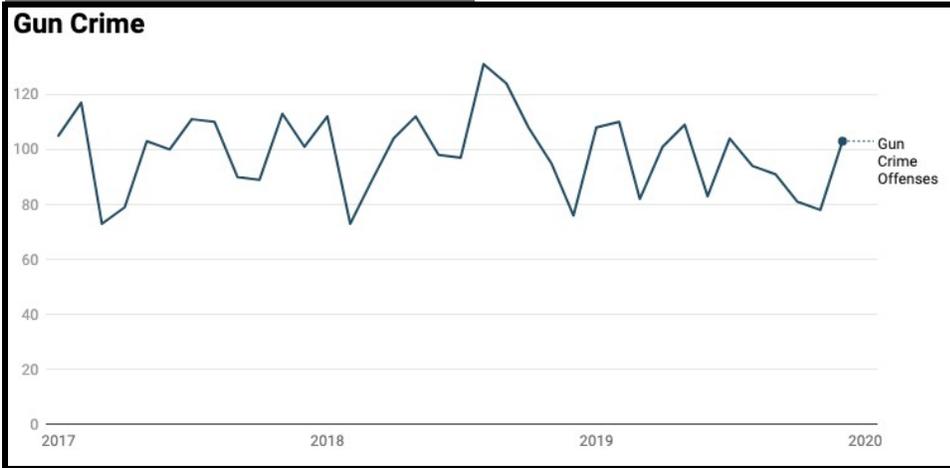
Source: [Yolo County District Attorney's Office Commons Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Sexual Assault



Source: [Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office \(Jacksonville\) Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Firearm-Related Victimization



Source: [Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office \(Jacksonville\) Data Dashboard](#).

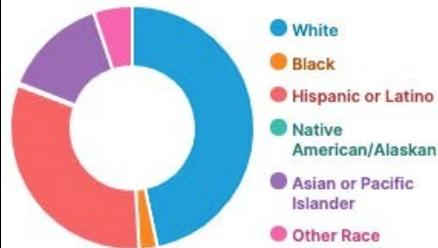
5. Contextual Information:

Community Demographics

Race/Ethnicity

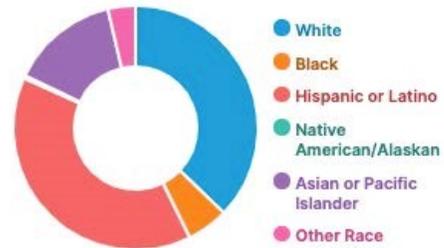
Yolo County

Racial Breakdown



California

Racial Breakdown



Data sourced from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year estimate (2019).

Poverty Indicators

Yolo County

Median Household Income

\$70,228

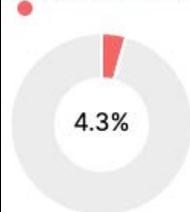
Unemployment Rate



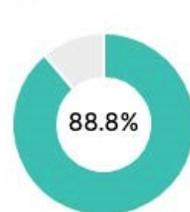
Below Poverty Line



Single Female-Headed Households with Children



High School Graduates

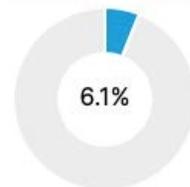


California

Median Household Income

\$75,235

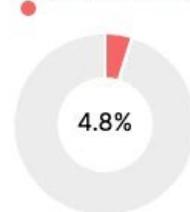
Unemployment Rate



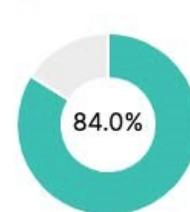
Below Poverty Line



Single Female-Headed Households with Children



High School Graduates



Data sourced from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year estimate (2019).

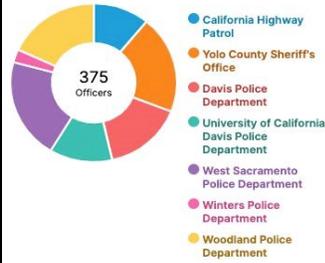
Source: [Yolo County District Attorney's Office Commons Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Criminal Justice Resources

Law Enforcement Resources

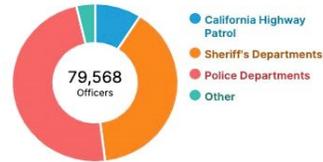
Yolo County

Sworn Officers per Law Enforcement Agency



California

Sworn Officers per Law Enforcement Agency

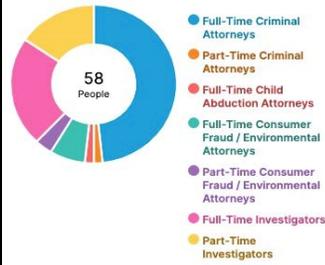


Data sourced from Yolo County DA Office, 2021; California Department of Justice, OpenJustice (2019).

Prosecution Resources

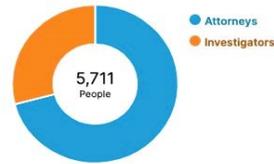
Yolo County

Attorneys & Investigators



California

Attorneys & Investigators

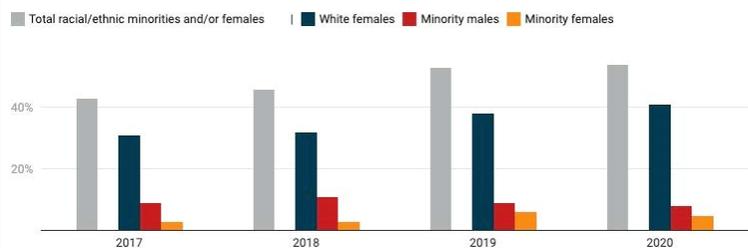


Data sourced from Yolo County DA Office, 2021; California Department of Justice, OpenJustice (2019).

Source: [Yolo County District Attorney's Office Commons Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Office Staff Demographics

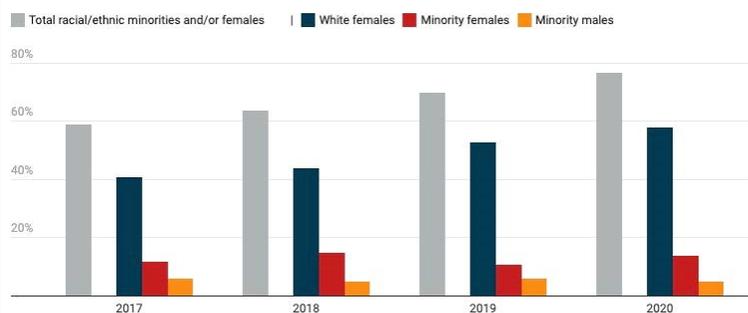
Leadership Diversity



Leadership includes executives, directors, and division chiefs.

Source: State Attorney's Office for the 4th Judicial Circuit, Jacksonville • [Get the data](#)

Prosecutor Diversity



Source: [Florida 4th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's \(Jacksonville\) Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Legal Context

	 Pennsylvania	 California	 Florida
<p>Details On Details Off</p>			
<h3>Pretrial Release Eligibility</h3>			
<p>Offenses presumptively denied or ineligible for pretrial release:</p>			
Capital offenses	<p>✓</p> <p>Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes. 5701. Right to Bail. 42 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 5701 (2012). Archived here.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>California Penal Code. 1270. In What Cases the Defendant May Be Admitted to Bail. Cal. Penal Code § 1270(a) (2013). Archived here.</p> <p>California State Constitution. Article I, section 12. Declaration of Rights. C.A. Const. art. I, § 12. Archived here.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Florida State Constitution. Article I, section 14. Pretrial Release and Detention. Fla. Const. art. I, § 14. Archived here.</p>
Offenses punishable by life imprisonment	<p>✓</p> <p>Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes. 5701. Right to Bail. 42 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 5701 (2012). Archived here.</p>	<p>—</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Florida State Constitution. Article I, section 14. Pretrial Release and Detention. Fla. Const. art. I, § 14. Archived here.</p>
Certain drug trafficking offenses	<p>—</p>	<p>—</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Florida Statutes. 907.041. Pretrial Detention and Release. Fla. Stat. § 907.041(4)(c)(3) (2013). Archived here.</p>
DUI manslaughter	<p>—</p>	<p>—</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Florida Statutes. 907.041. Pretrial Detention and Release. Fla. Stat. § 907.041(4)(c)(4) (2013). Archived here.</p>
Felony offenses involving sexual assault, acts of violence on another person, or the threat of great bodily harm, when the court finds based upon clear and convincing evidence that there is a substantial likelihood the person's release would result in great bodily harm to others	<p>—</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>California State Constitution. Article I, section 12. Declaration of Rights. C.A. Const. art. I, § 12. Archived here.</p>	<p>—</p>
<p>Does state law require the use of a risk assessment tool in deciding pretrial release?</p>			
No	<p>✓</p> <p>Pennsylvania Administrative Code. Rule 523. Release Criteria. 234 Pa. Code § 523. Archived here.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>California Penal Code. 1270.1. In What Cases the Defendant May Be Admitted to Bail. Cal. Penal Code § 1270.1(c) (2013). Archived here.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Florida Statutes. 903.046. Purpose of and Criteria for Bail Determination. Fla. Stat. § 903.046(2). Archived here.</p>

Source: [Measures for Justice Data Portal](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Trials



Source: [San Francisco County District Attorney's Office Data Dashboard](#). Retrieved on Sep. 9, 2021.

Acknowledgments

The National Prosecutorial Dashboards Advisory Group is made up of prosecutors, researchers, national organizations, and foundations. This resource guide is made possible through the efforts of the advisory group and the support of the Tableau Foundation. On behalf of APA, we thank all of the advisory group participants who volunteered their time, experiences, insights, and expertise to creating this document.

National Prosecutorial Dashboards Advisory Group Members

Prosecutors' Offices:

Cook County State's Attorney's Office	Office of the State Attorney 4th Judicial Circuit (Jacksonville, FL)
East Baton Rouge District Attorney's Office	Office of the State Attorney 13th Judicial Circuit (Tampa, FL)
Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office	Philadelphia District Attorney's Office
New York County District Attorney's Office (Manhattan)	San Diego County District Attorney's Office
Office of the Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney	San Francisco District Attorney's Office
Office of the Miami-Dade State Attorney	Yolo County District Attorney's Office

Researchers and National Organizations:

Association of Prosecuting Attorneys	Measures for Justice
Brennan Center for Justice	National Association of Attorneys General
Fair and Just Prosecution	National Association of Prosecutor Coordinators
Florida International University/Loyola University	The National Black Prosecutors Association
Innovative Prosecution Consulting	National District Attorneys Association
Institute for Innovation in Prosecution	Prosecutors' Center for Excellence
Institute for State and Local Governance	Prosecutor Impact
	Vera Institute of Justice

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- Arnold Ventures
- John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
- Tableau Foundation
- Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
- Charles Koch Institute

