

# POPULATION AND DATA PROFILES



## THE AFFECTS OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE ON OAKLAND YOUTH

THE CITY OF OAKLAND, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

### BACKGROUND

According to the US Census, there are 158,337 people under the age of 30 in Oakland. This is 40% of total population. Crime and violence are among some of the most critical issues facing youth in Oakland. This profile sheet provides general information about the status of young people (ages 0-30) and indicators of violence.

### GENERAL INFORMATION FROM THE US CENSUS

- Oakland youth are distributed evenly across age groups
  - Under 5 years old — 28,292 (26% of population under 19)
  - 5-9 years old — 30,134 (27% of population under 19)
  - 10-14 years old — 26,502 (24% of population under 19)
  - 15 –19 year old — 24,562 (23% of population under 19)
- A language other than English is spoken at home for 37% of children under 5 years old in 2000.
- The ethnicity and race of youth under 19 in Oakland is: African American - 29%; Native American and Alaskan Native - .51%; Asian – 12%; Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander - .53%; White – 26%; Latino – 18%; Two or More Races – 4%; and Some other Race – 10%

### FAMILY VIOLENCE FROM THE 2003 ALAMEDA COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPORT

- The total number of domestic violence related calls to police from Oakland residences in 2000 was 2,319.
- This represented 37% of all domestic violence related calls for the 23 police jurisdictions in Alameda County. Of the 2,319 domestic violence calls to police, 12.2% involved weapons.
- The rate of domestic violence calls in Oakland is the highest of any city in the County, with a three-year average rate of 9.8 per 1,000 from 1997 to 1999, higher than the county rate of 6.17 per 1,000.
- There were a total of 122 deaths related to domestic violence in Alameda County from 1996 to 2000, an average of 24 deaths each year. A child was present in over half the incidents (55%) that included reports of who was at the scene.

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 40% of the total population of Oakland is under the age of 30.
- The rate of domestic violence calls in Oakland is the highest of any city in Alameda County.
- The majority of Alameda County parolees lived in Oakland (60.5%) in 2005.
- Among African American males aged 15-34 years of age, homicide was the leading cause of death in Alameda County.
- The City of Oakland, DHS dedicates over \$15 million annually to children and youth programs.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

FAMILY VIOLENCE	2
INJURY RATES	2
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	2-3
SEXUALLY EXPLOITED MINORS	2
HEALTH	3
EDUCATION	3
WHAT IS BEING DONE TO HELP?	4

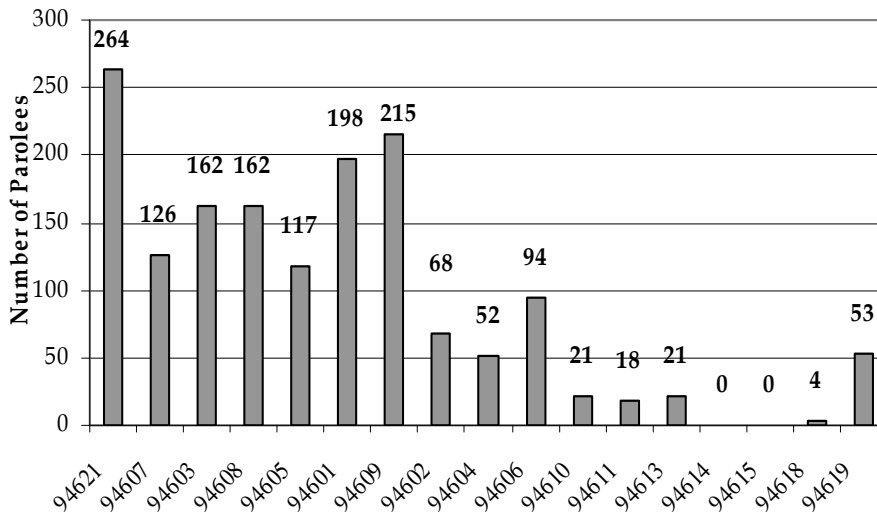
*“Among African American males aged 15-34 years of age, homicide was the leading cause of death in Alameda County”*

### INJURY RATES

- As of January 2006, Highland Hospital in Oakland treated 233 youth ages 14-30 for gunshots, stab wounds or assaults over a one year period. (Alameda County Medical Center)
- According to a report by the Alameda County Public Health Department, although African Americans make up only 35% of the total population in Oakland, they represented more than 77% of the homicide victims in the years 2002-2004.
- The same reported noted that the highest rate of homicide was among 20 to 24 year olds, a rate of 79.6 per 100,000. The next highest rates were among those 15 to 19 years (47.4 per 100,000) and 25 to 34 years(44.4 per 100,000).
- According to the Alameda County Health Status Report of 2006, among African American males aged 15-34 years of age, homicide was the leading cause of death in Alameda County.
- The same report indicated that self inflicted injury rates were highest among females in Alameda County aged 15-24 years (over 70 per 100,000) as compared to the average rate for all ages of 27 per 100,000 from 2001-2003.

### YOUNG ADULTS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

**Number of Parolees by Zipcode January 2006**



- Oakland is home to an estimated 3,000 parolees. The average age of all parolees under supervision in Alameda County was 36.7 years old in 2005. (Urban Strategies)
- The majority of Alameda County parolees lived in Oakland (60.5%) in 2005. 65% of Alameda County parolees are African American, 15.3% are white, 14.8% are Latino, 1.6% are Asian, 2.1% are other and .5% are Native American. (Urban Strategies)
- Approximately 62% of ex-offenders are re-arrested within three years of their release and 41% return to prison in California. (Bureau of Prison Statistics)

### SEXUALLY EXPLOITED MINORS

- The Alameda County Interagency Children’s Policy Council reported that the Oakland Police Department identified 218 minors actively prostituted by 155 pimps (minors not formally arrested, but minors known to police) during 2001-2003.
- In May of 2006, the Oakland Police Dept. projected they will identify 75 sexually exploited minors a year.

## YOUTH UNDER 18 IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

- In 2000, the California Youth Authority (CYA) paroled 176 youth to Oakland. (Center on Juvenile & Criminal Statistics)
- 45% of males and 65% of all females incarcerated by the California Youth Authority had mental health problems. (Center on Juvenile & Criminal Statistics)
- 91% of youth released from the California Youth Authority recidivate. (Center on Juvenile & Criminal Statistics)
- There were 1,766 youth on probation in Oakland as of June, 2005. (Alameda County Probation Department)
- Oakland youth in juvenile hall make up almost half (46%) of all Alameda County youth detainees. (Alameda County Probation Department)
- In 2004, African American youth made up a disproportionate number of youth in the county's juvenile justice system (55%). (Alameda County Probation Department)
- Over the past ten years (from 1993 - 2004), the rate of youth committed to the California Division of Juvenile Justice has decreased statewide. In Alameda County, the rate of commitment decreased 70%. (Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice)

## HEALTH

- Oakland's teen pregnancy rate is 56.9 births per 1,000 females aged 15-19 in the years 2000—2002. (Alameda County Health Department)
- Eleventh grade OUSD students report a lower cigarette (21%), tobacco (3%), alcohol (56%), inhalant (5%), and marijuana (40%) use than students statewide or nationally. (CA Healthy Kids Survey)
- In Alameda County, 28% of 18-24 year olds did not have health insurance compared to 7% of 10-17 year olds in 2003. (Alameda County Public Health Department— CAPE Unit )

## EDUCATION

- The total enrollment for the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) in 2003-04 was 50,437 students. (California Dept. of Education)
- Over half of the student population was in Grade 6 or over. (California Dept. of Education)
- In 2001, only 11.5% of California Youth Authority inmates passed the California High School Exit exam. (California Dept. of Education)
- In 2002—03, 9% of 9th graders dropped out of school and the four year derived drop out rate was 31% for OUSD. (California Dept. of Education)
- In 2005, 20% of 9th Grade OUSD students reporting bringing a weapon to school during the previous 12 months and only 12% felt very safe at school. (CA Healthy Kids Survey)
- There were 2,422 chronic truants and 2,700 suspensions for a violent incident in the OUSD during the 2005-06 school year. (OUSD)

*“Only 15% of Oakland Unified School District 9th Graders felt very safe at school in 2005.”*



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For more information contact:  
Sara Bedford

City of Oakland, Dept. of Human Services  
DHS Policy and Planning Manager  
150 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4340  
Oakland, CA 94612

Phone: 510- 238- 6794  
E-mail: [sbedford@oaklandnet.com](mailto:sbedford@oaklandnet.com)

**WHAT IS THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DOING TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF OAKLAND YOUTH?**

The City of Oakland, Department of Human Services (DHS) has several initiatives specifically designed to meet the needs of youth.

The Oakland Fund for Children and Youth (OFCY) was established by a ballot initiative in 1996 to help young people grow to become healthy, productive, and honorable adults. Annually, 2.5% of Oakland's General Fund is set aside for this purpose. OFCY now supports services to over 20,000 children and youth, ages 0–20, annually.

In 2004, Oakland voters passed Measure Y, the Violence Prevention and Public Safety Act. Voters approved a new tax along with a parking surcharge in order to support full staffing for fire engine companies, 63 additional police officers and violence prevention programs. In fiscal year 2006-07, over 8,000 at-risk youth (aged 13-30) benefited from Measure Y violence prevention services implemented in high need Oakland communities.

Other DHS programs include the Oakland Youth Commission, Summer Food Program and a Safe Walk to School.

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**VISIT [WWW.OAKLANDHUMANSERVICES.ORG](http://WWW.OAKLANDHUMANSERVICES.ORG)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS**

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**RESOURCES FOR DATA AND STATISTICS ON OAKLAND YOUTH:**

GENERAL BACKGROUND ON OAKLAND CHILDREN—[WWW.KIDSCOUNT.ORG](http://WWW.KIDSCOUNT.ORG)

ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.—[WWW.ACPHD.ORG/USER/DATA/DATAREPORTS](http://WWW.ACPHD.ORG/USER/DATA/DATAREPORTS).

EX-OFFENDER AND HOMICIDE REPORTS—[WWW.URBANSTRATEGIES.ORG](http://WWW.URBANSTRATEGIES.ORG)

CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF EDUCATION STATISTICS—[HTTP://WWW.CDE.CA.GOV/DS/](http://WWW.CDE.CA.GOV/DS/)

CALIFORNIA HEALTHY KIDS SURVEY— [HTTP://WWW.WESTED.ORG/PUB/DOCS/CHKS\\_HOMEHTML](http://WWW.WESTED.ORG/PUB/DOCS/CHKS_HOMEHTML)

NOT JUST A NUMBER— [HTTP://WWW.PEACETAKESCOURAGE.COM/NUMBER.HTML](http://WWW.PEACETAKESCOURAGE.COM/NUMBER.HTML)

ALAMEDA COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPORT - [HTTP://WWW.ACPHD.ORG/AXBYCZ/ADMIN/  
DATAREPORTS/DVINAC\\_MAY03.PDF](http://WWW.ACPHD.ORG/AXBYCZ/ADMIN/DATAREPORTS/DVINAC_MAY03.PDF)

CENTER ON JUVENILE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE - [HTTP://WWW.CJCJ.ORG](http://WWW.CJCJ.ORG)