# Senate Bill 15-185 CLEAR Act

# 2016

# **Community Law Enforcement Action Reporting Act**





Population race/ethnicity estimates, 2016, 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

Age Group	Race/ethnicity	%	N
Adult		75%	530,626
	Black	6%	31,403
	Hispanic	14%	73,642
	Other	5%	27,060
	White	75%	398,522
Juvenile		25%	177,855
	Black	7%	13,141
	Hispanic	23%	41,641
	Other	6%	10,194
	White	63%	112,879
All		100%	708,481

Data source: Office of the State Demographer,

https://demography.dola.colorado.gov/population/data/race-estimate/#county-race-by-age-estimates

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# **SUMMARY: Report on the C.L.E.A.R. Act:**

# **Community Law Enforcement Action Reporting Act**

# Pursuant to Senate Bill 2015-185

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The corresponding web-based interactive data dashboard is located here: colorado.gov/dcj-ors/ors-SB185



#### **Preface**

In 2015, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 185, the Community Law Enforcement Action Reporting Act, or the CLEAR Act. The CLEAR Act mandates that the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) annually analyze and report data provided by law enforcement agencies, the Judicial Department, and the adult Parole Board, to reflect decisions made at multiple points in the justice system process. The CLEAR Act requires that the data be analyzed by race/ethnicity and gender. This study presents information for calendar year 2016.

Senate Bill 15-185 mandated DCJ to annually analyze and report these data disaggregated by offense type. In 2017, following the publication of the first CLEAR Act report, the findings from the statewide analysis were presented to the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Commission voted unanimously to request that the next analyses disaggregate the data by judicial district so that local stakeholders could examine if and where disparities exist, and develop strategies to address them.

This report provides information about arrests and court cases for the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District for events that occurred in 2016. The statewide report and the individual judicial district reports may be found here: *colorado.gov/dcj-ors/ors-SB185*.

The findings presented here collapse the offense categories into four broad groups: **Drugs, Other, Property** and **Violent** crimes. The details by offense type, and by judicial district, are presented in the corresponding web-based interactive dashboard available at the link above.

These two reporting mechanisms—this report and the data dashboard—should be viewed together since only the report contains information regarding the data sets used in the report and in the dashboard, and because the analysis of the four broad categories of crime allows for summary discussion of patterns of events.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This report is available at http://cdpsdocs.state.co.us/ors/docs/reports/2016-SB15-185-Rpt.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For more information about the Commission, see https://www.colorado.gov/ccjj.

# **Executive Summary**

**Background.** In 2015, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 15-185, the Community Law Enforcement Action Reporting Act, or the CLEAR Act. The CLEAR Act mandates that the Division of Criminal Justice annually analyze and report data provided by law enforcement agencies, the Judicial Department, and the adult Parole Board, to reflect decisions made at multiple points in the justice system process. The CLEAR Act requires that the data be analyzed by race/ethnicity and gender. This study presents information for calendar year 2016.

In 2017, following the publication of the first CLEAR Act report,<sup>3</sup> the findings from the statewide analysis were presented to the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.<sup>4</sup> At the conclusion of the presentation, the Commission voted unanimously to request that the next analyses disaggregate the data by judicial district so that local stakeholders could examine if and where disparities exist, and develop strategies to address them. This report of 2016 data was prepared for the 4th Judicial District.

Senate Bill 15-185 mandated DCJ to annually analyze and report these data disaggregated by offense type. Because it is difficult to identify patterns in analyses that involve many categories, <sup>5</sup> this report presents a summary of the findings by collapsing the offense categories into four broad groups: **Drugs, Other, Property** and **Violent** crimes (see Appendix A and Appendix B for a list of crimes falling into these categories). The details by offense type are presented in the corresponding web-based interactive dashboard available at: *colorado.gov/dcj-ors/ors-SB185* 

The state Demographer's Office estimates that in 2016, the population in Colorado's 4th Judicial District was 708,481. The adult population was comprised as follows: White, 75%; Black, 6%; Hispanic, 14%; and Other, 5%. The juvenile population was comprised as follows: White, 63%, Black, 7%, Hispanic 23%, and Other 6%. Males made up 50% of the state population and females made up the other half of the population.

An important note about race/ethnicity. The analysis of race and ethnicity across justice decision points is significantly hampered by the lack of ethnicity information in the statewide court data system. Specifically, the Judicial Branch's ICON data system does not distinguish between race and ethnicity. As a result, persons of Hispanic ethnicity are typically in the White race category, and thus significantly undercounted in the Hispanic category. For example, in 2016 Hispanics represented 22% of the Colorado population, but only 6% of court cases statewide were classified as Hispanic in ICON.

To improve upon the accuracy of the race/ethnicity designation in court data in this analysis, court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) arrest data, which contains both race and ethnicity. To obtain ethnicity information, the defendant's name and date of birth in the court record was matched to arrest data and the ethnicity was extracted for all arrests. If the ethnicity recorded for any

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This report is available at http://cdpsdocs.state.co.us/ors/docs/reports/2016-SB15-185-Rpt.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For more information about the Commission, see https://www.colorado.gov/ccjj.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The arrest information includes 17 offense categories summarized from more than 40, and the court data includes 24 offense categories summarized from more than 1500 statutes.

arrest was found to be Hispanic, then the race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic. Otherwise, the original race/ethnicity designation from the court record was used.

Law enforcement data. In 2016 law enforcement made/issued nearly 22,000 arrests/summonses in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. For this analysis, dozens of offense categories were collapsed into four broad groups of crimes: Drugs, Other, Property and Violence (see Appendix A for the list of offenses in these categories). In 2016, arrests/summonses for Drug offenses accounted for 7% of all arrests/summonses and Violent crimes accounted for another 16% of arrests/summonses, Property offenses accounted for 21% of arrests/summonses, and the remainder of arrests/summonses (56%) fell into the Other crime category. Blacks represented 6% of the population in the 4th Judicial District in 2016, but accounted for 17% of arrests/summonses. Hispanics represented 16% of the population and 10% of arrests/summonses. Males represented about 50% of the state population and 70% of arrests. Females were much more likely to be involved in Property offenses than the other offense categories. Juveniles were more likely to be summonsed than arrested. Violent crimes were less likely than the other crime categories to result in a summons.

**Filings.** This study of 15,729 case filings in county, district, and juvenile courts combined found that, while Blacks represented 6% of the population in the 4th Judicial District, and 17% of the arrests/summonses in 2016, they accounted for 18% of district court filings. In juvenile court, Blacks represented 25% of cases, compared to 7% Black juveniles in the population. Hispanic adults made up 14% of the adult population in the 4th Judicial District and had 18% of district court filings in 2016. In terms of gender, 28% of filings were females and 72% were males. Females were slightly more likely than men to be involved in Property crimes and slightly less to be involved in Violent offenses. Only 2% of cases completed a district and juvenile court; 1% of county court cases completed a trial. Note that these cases are not necessarily the same cases in the **Law Enforcement Data** section above.

Case outcomes. Caution should be used when interpreting the case outcome since many factors can influence the decision. For example, the existence of prior cases (criminal history) may influence the outcome of a case. Additionally, most cases contain multiple charges, and many cases have concurrent cases. These factors are likely to significantly affect the outcome of a case. In particular, all charges in a case may be dismissed or modified as part of a plea agreement involving that case or multiple cases. In fact, 43% of cases in county court were dismissed, as were 15% of cases in district court and 21% of cases in juvenile court. One-third (30%) of county court cases were convicted as charged compared to 43% in district court and 39% in juvenile court.

**Initial sentences.** This analysis reflects the most serious initial sentences; these can be later modified, such as when jail is added as part of a probation revocation. Additionally, individuals may have multiple cases for which they are sentenced simultaneously. The sentence given in one case may not truly reflect the seriousness of the case as the more serious sentence may be recorded in another case as part of a plea agreement. Finally, in addition to concurrent cases affecting the sentencing outcome of a case, criminal/juvenile history may also influence the final initial sentence.

County court Drug cases resulted in a fine in 61% of cases, and community service for 27% of cases. Deferred judgments occurred for 45% of Violent crime cases, 38% of Other cases, and 4% for Drug cases (this figure represents only 8 cases).

In district court, Probation was the most frequently occurring initial sentence, imposed 72% of the time for Drug cases. The second most frequently occurring sentence in district court was a prison sentence: 20% of Drug cases, 38% of Other cases, 23% of Property cases, and 25% of Violent cases received a sentence to the Department of Corrections. Women were more likely to receive a deferred judgment compared to men and less likely to receive a prison.

For drug offenses, Hispanics were more likely than the other race/ethnicity categories to receive a sentence to prison. Other offenses were likely to result in a prison sentence. Blacks and Hispanics were somewhat more likely to receive prison sentences for Violent offenses. Across race/ethnicity categories, Blacks and Hispanics were considerably less likely to receive a deferred judgment.

In juvenile court, initial sentences to Probation were the most frequently occurring sentence, followed by deferred judgment. Drug and Violent cases were more likely than other offenses to receive a deferred judgment (30%) in juvenile court. Initial sentences to the Division of Youth Services were more likely for Violent and Other cases.

**Revocations.** Cases sentenced in 2016 to probation or a deferred judgment that received a revocation in the 4th Judicial District are included in the analyses presented here. Those sentenced near the end of 2016 may not have had enough time to get revoked. **Note that these are cases, not individuals.** Counting cases and not individuals is likely to inflate the proportion of revocations presented in these analyses. For example, the Judicial Department reports that in 2016, 22% of adult state probation terminations were the result of a revocation. The revocations presented here may not result in termination from probation supervision. In fact, in 2016, across county, adult district, and juvenile district courts *statewide*, 49% of cases were reinstated, 44% were not reinstated, and for the remaining 7% of cases it was unclear the outcome of the revocation.

Overall, 16% of county court cases receiving a probation/deferred judgment in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in 2016 were revoked. Hispanics were slightly more likely to be revoked compared to the overall revocation rate (21% compared to 16% overall). Across race/ethnicity categories, those with Violent cases were generally more likely to be revoked compared to the other offense categories.

Revocations from probation/deferred judgments occurred more frequently in district court (29%) compared to county court (16%) in 2016. Hispanics were most likely to be revoked (37% compared to 29% overall). Hispanics with Drug offenses were most likely to be revoked (49%). Men and women with Drug cases were most likely, compared to those with other crime types, to get revoked.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Judicial data pertaining to *petitions* to revoke are less reliable than data identifying actual revocations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Judicial Branch Annual Statistical Report, Fiscal Year 2016, Table 48, page 120.

In juvenile court, 24% of cases sentenced to probation/deferred judgment in 2016 in the 4th Judicial District were revoked. Blacks were most likely to get revoked (35%); the few cases in the Other race/ethnicity category (n=13) make it difficult to interpret the findings. Females were revoked at a rate of 25% compared to 24% for males. Comparing across crime types in juvenile court, females with Drug crimes were most likely to be revoked (60%); males with Drug cases were also most likely to be revoked (44%).

**Additional analyses.** To better understand the disparity across race/ethnicity in initial sentences, a statistical technique called logistic regression was employed in an attempt to account for circumstances that may impact decision making at this point in the process. These additional analyses allow for the examination of the impact of concurrent and prior cases, including current and prior violent offenses, may have on those decisions.

After controlling for the additional factors, Blacks were statistically significantly <u>less</u> likely than Whites to receive a DOC sentence. There was no difference between Hispanics and Whites in the initial sentence to DOC. Hispanics were significantly less likely than Whites to receive a deferred judgment; there was no difference between Blacks and Whites. Finally, after controlling for the additional factors, Black youth were statistically significantly less likely than Whites to receive a deferred judgment in juvenile court. Despite this complex analysis, it is possible that other factors besides concurrent cases and prior history explain the race/ethnicity differences in initial sentences described here.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The violent crimes included in this analysis are as follows: C.R.S. 18-3-102, 1st degree homicide; 18-3-103, 2nd degree homicide; 18-3-202, 1st degree assault; 18-3-203, 2nd degree assault; 18-3-301, 1st degree kidnapping; 18-3-302, 2nd degree kidnapping; 18-3-402, sex assault (felony); 18-3-404, unlawful sexual contact (felony); 18-3-405, sex assault on a child; 18-3-405.3, sex assault on a child position of trust; 18-4-302, aggravated robbery; 18-4-102, 1st degree arson; 18-3.5-103, 1st degree unlawful termination of pregnancy; 18-3.5-104, 2nd degree unlawful termination of a pregnancy.

### **Section 1: Introduction**

# **Background and overview**

In 2015, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 15-185, the Community Law Enforcement Action Reporting Act, or the CLEAR Act. The CLEAR Act mandates that the Division of Criminal Justice annually analyze and report data provided by law enforcement agencies, the Judicial Department, and the adult Parole Board, to reflect decisions made at multiple points in the justice system process. The CLEAR Act requires that the data be analyzed by race/ethnicity and gender. This study presents information for calendar year 2016, including the following:

- Arrest information by offense type disaggregated by summons, custody/warrant arrest, and on view/probable cause arrest;
- Misdemeanor and felony charges filed by offense type;
- The dispositions of charges filed by offense type;
- Sentence by offense type; and
- Revocations for probation and deferred judgments.

Senate Bill 15-185 mandated DCJ to annually analyze and report these data disaggregated by offense type. Because it is difficult to identify patterns in analyses that involve many categories (the arrest information includes 17 offense categories [summarized from more than 40], and the court data includes 24 offense categories[summarized from more than 1500 statutes]), this report presents a summary of the findings by collapsing the offense categories into four broad groups: Drugs, Other, Property and Violent crimes (see Appendix A and Appendix B for a list of crimes falling into these categories). The details by offense type are presented in the corresponding web-based interactive dashboard available at: colorado.gov/dcj-ors/ors-SB185.

In 2017, following the publication of the first CLEAR Act report, the findings from the statewide analysis were presented to the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Commission voted unanimously to request that the next analyses disaggregate the data by judicial district so that local stakeholders could examine if and where disparities exist, and develop strategies to address them. Information by judicial district and details by offense type may be found at the interactive dashboard available at: colorado.gov/dcj-ors/ors-SB185.

These two reporting mechanisms—this report and the data dashboard—should be viewed together since only the report contains information regarding the data sets used in the report and in the dashboard, and because the analysis of the four broad categories of crime allows for summary discussion of patterns of events.

An important note about race/ethnicity. The analysis of race and ethnicity across justice decision points is significantly hampered by the lack of ethnicity information in the statewide court data system. Specifically, the Judicial Branch's ICON data system does not distinguish between race and ethnicity. As a result, persons of Hispanic ethnicity are typically in the White race category, and thus significantly undercounted in the Hispanic category. For example, in

2016 Hispanics represented 22% of the Colorado population, but only 6% of court cases statewide were classified as Hispanic in ICON.

To improve upon the accuracy of the race/ethnicity designation in court data in this analysis, court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) arrest data, which contains both race and ethnicity. To obtain ethnicity information, the defendant's name and date of birth in the court record was matched to arrest data and the ethnicity was extracted for all arrests. If the ethnicity recorded for any arrest was found to be Hispanic, then the race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic. Otherwise, the original race/ethnicity designation from the court record was used.

The NIBRS arrest data contained all arrests from 2011 to 2016. Matching involved finding an exact match on name and date of birth between the data sets. For the analysis of charges, no match was found for 15% of cases, statewide. For the analysis of sentences, no match was found for 13% of cases, statewide. The lack of a match was due primarily to differences in the spelling of names and differences in dates of birth.

Organization of this report: This report is organized into four sections. This section provides an overview of the study and important information about the data sources. Section Two presents the findings from the law enforcement arrest/summons analyses, breaking down the information into three categories as directed by S.B. 15-185: on view/probable cause (an arrest without a warrant but with probable cause, resulting in physical restraint), summons (an order to appear in court), and custody/warrant (an arrest that involves an outstanding warrant and physical restraint). Section Three presents the findings from the analysis of data obtained from the Judicial Department, including filing charges, case outcomes, initial sentences, trials, and revocations for those sentenced to probation or a deferred judgment. The findings are presented by county, adult district and juvenile court. Section Four describes the findings from additional analyses undertaken to better understand the impact of concurrent cases and criminal history on the initial sentence.

#### Data sources

Arrest/Summons. Law enforcement data for the period between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016 was obtained from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which includes Group A and B arrests. NIBRS requires different details in the reporting of Group A and Group B offenses. Law enforcement must report both incidents and arrests for Group A offenses, and they must report only arrests for Group B offenses. NIBRS developers used the following criteria to determine if a crime should be designated as a Group A offense:

- The seriousness or significance of the offense;
- The frequency or volume of its occurrence;
- The seriousness or significance of the offense;
- The prevalence of the offense nationwide;
- The probability law enforcement becomes aware of the offense;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Note that the arrests by Colorado State Patrol officers could not be allocated by judicial districts because CSP regions do not correspond directly to judicial district boundaries. Arrests by CSP are included only in this study's statewide report and not the individual judicial district reports. The statewide report is available at colorado.gov/dcj-ors/ors-SB185.

- The likelihood that law enforcement is the best source for collecting data regarding the offense;
- The burden placed on law enforcement in collecting data on the offense;
- The national statistical validity and usefulness of the collected data.

NIBRS Group A offenses are listed in Appendix A, and Group B offenses are summarized into "Other." Per the CLEAR Act, the data presented here includes information concerning arrests classified as *on view/probable cause* (an arrest without a warrant but with probable cause, resulting in physical restraint), *summons* (an order to appear in court), and *custody/warrant* (an arrest that involves an outstanding warrant and physical restraint). Over 21,596 NIBRS incidents in the 4th Judicial District were analyzed for calendar year 2016 (Table 1-1).

Table 1-1. Arrests by type, 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, 2016

Arrest type	%	N
Custody/warrant	27%	5,807
On-view/probable cause	27%	5,912
Summons	46%	9,877
All	100%	21,596

Data source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data. Extracted 6/7/2017.

The arrest data were reduced to 17 categories of offenses (see Appendix A) that can be viewed on the interactive data dashboard and, for this report, further collapsed into four categories of Drugs, Other, Property and Violent. Arrests can contain multiple charges. The arrest charge presented here represents the most serious charge on the arrest as selected by the law enforcement officer.

The NIBRS data contain both race and ethnicity information.

**Judicial case processing data.** ICON is the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system, which contains county and district court adult and juvenile filings and case dispositions statewide, with the exception of Denver County Court. <sup>11</sup> The data are presented by court type: County, Adult District, and Juvenile. Juveniles who were charged as adults are in Adult District Court. The number of cases analyzed by type of court is in Table 1-2.

Table 1-2. Court of case filing, 4th Judicial District, 2016

Court	%	N
Adult District	41%	6,463
County	51%	8,058
Juvenile	8%	1,208
All	100%	15,729

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Group B crimes include bad checks, curfew/loitering/vagrancy, disorderly conduct, driving under the influence, drunkenness, family offenses (nonviolent), liquor law violations, voyeurism, runaway, trespass of real property, all other offenses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Denver County Court is not part of ICON and consequently this information is excluded from the information presented in this report and on the interactive web dashboard.

Note that the information presented here reflects the analysis of more than 15,729 *cases not individuals*. Individuals may have multiple, concurrent cases, <sup>12</sup> and cases typically have multiple charges. Frequently cases and charges are dismissed for a judgment in a concurrent case. The **Dismissed/Not Guilty** category in the tables that follow means that some charges were dismissed and some were found not guilty.

The crime information analyzed for this study reflects the most serious filing or conviction charge for 24 offense categories<sup>13</sup> which, for the analysis presented in this document, have been collapsed into four categories: Drug, Other, Property and Violent.<sup>14</sup> The analysis of the 24 offense categories is available on the interactive data dashboard. See Appendix B for the list of offenses that were combined into the four broad categories.

This analysis focused on the most serious charge as defined by felony or misdemeanor level. Traffic cases are not in this analysis unless they appeared in a district/county filing. Cases sentenced to probation or a deferred judgment that were revoked are reported, but those sentenced near the end of 2016 may not have had time to revoke.

As previously mentioned, Judicial systematically collects information about race but not ethnicity. This means that, when the data is disaggregated by race/ethnicity, most Hispanics are in the White category. For example, in 2016 Hispanics represented 22% of the Colorado population, but only 6% of cases statewide were classified as Hispanic in ICON.

The analysis of race and ethnicity across justice decision points is significantly hampered by the lack of ethnicity information in the statewide court data system. To improve upon the accuracy of the race/ethnicity designation in court data in this analysis, court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) arrest data, which contains both race and ethnicity. To obtain ethnicity information, the defendant's name and date of birth in the court record was matched to arrest data and the ethnicity was extracted for all arrests. If the ethnicity recorded for any arrest was found to be Hispanic, then the race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic. Otherwise, the original race/ethnicity designation from the court record was used.

The NIBRS arrest data contained all Colorado arrests from 2011 to 2016. Matching involved finding an <u>exact</u> match on name and date of birth between the data sets. For the analysis of *charges*, no match was found for 15% of cases statewide. For the analysis of *sentences*, no match was found for 13% of cases statewide. The lack of a match in the arrest data was due primarily to differences in the spelling of names, and differences in dates of birth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> This study found that in 2016, statewide, 18% of county court cases, 35% of district court cases, and 36% of juvenile court cases had other, concurrent cases mentioned in minute orders or sentencing notes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The 24 offense categories are summarized from more than 1500 statutes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Note that all offenses include attempts, solicitations, and conspiracies.

#### **Section 2: Law Enforcement Information**

# **Arrest/summons**

The findings presented in this report summarize multiple offense types into four broad categories of crime types: Drugs, Other, Property and Violent (Table 2-1) (see Appendix A for a list of crimes in each category). The interactive dashboard, at *colorado.gov/dcj-ors/ors-SB185*, provides information on 17 arrest offense types. The analysis of four broad categories allows for the identification of patterns that are difficult to discern when detailed information is presented. Additionally, some of the law enforcement findings are disaggregated, by adults, juveniles, and by gender. Finally, Senate Bill 15-185 mandates that arrest information be provided by arrest type and summons. The data represent all arrests/summonses captured in the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) for calendar year 2016.

Table 2-1. Arrests by offense, 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, 2016

Offense	%	N
Drugs	7%	1,526
Other	56%	12,185
Property	21%	4,508
Violent	16%	3,377
All	100%	21,596

Data source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data. Extracted 6/7/2017.

Table 2-2 reflects over 21,000 arrests/summonses captured in NIBRS for calendar year 2016 in the 4th Judicial District, by race/ethnicity. Blacks (adults and juveniles) represented 6% of the population in 2016, but accounted for 17% of arrests/summonses in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. Hispanics (adults and juveniles) represented 16% of the population and were underrepresented in arrests, accounting for 10% of arrests. The Other race/ethnicity category represented 5% of the population, and were underrepresented in arrests (2%). Whites (adults and juveniles), represented 73% of the population, and 71% of arrests/summonses in the 4th Judicial District.

Table 2-2. Arrests by race/ethnicity, 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, 2016

Race/ethnicity	%	N
Black	17%	3,727
Hispanic	10%	2,170
Other	2%	464
White	71%	15,235
All	100%	21,596

Data source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data. Extracted 6/7/2017.

Table 2-3 shows that juveniles accounted for 5% of on view/probable cause arrests, and that 39% of those arrests were for violent crimes, a proportion similar to adults (38%). Juveniles accounted for 7% of custody/warrant arrests (Table 2-4). Overall, juveniles were more likely to get summoned than arrested; they accounted for 16% of summonsed cases (Table 2-5). Not surprisingly, violent offenses were least likely to result in a summons for adults and juveniles (Table 2-5).

Table 2-3. Arrest type On-View/Probable Cause, by age group and offense

Age Group	Offense	%	N
Adult		95%	5,632
	Drugs	13%	735
	Other	26%	1,489
	Property	22%	1,245
	Violent	38%	2,163
Juvenile		5%	280
	Drugs	5%	13
	Other	29%	82
	Property	28%	77
	Violent	39%	108
All		100%	5,912

Table 2-4. Arrest type Custody/Warrant, by age group and offense

Age Group	Offense	%	N
Adult		93%	5,394
	Drugs	2%	92
	Other	82%	4,441
	Property	8%	449
	Violent	8%	412
Juvenile		7%	413
	Drugs	1%	4
	Other	86%	356
	Property	7%	27
	Violent	6%	26
All		100%	5,807

Data source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data. Extracted 6/7/2017.

Table 2-5. Arrest type Summons, by age group and offense

Age Group	Offense	%	N
Adult		84%	8,286
	Drugs	5%	437
	Other	61%	5,059
	Property	28%	2,319
	Violent	6%	471
Juvenile		16%	1,591
	Drugs	15%	245
	Other	48%	758
	Property	25%	391
	Violent	12%	197
All		100%	9,877

Data source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data. Extracted 6/7/2017.

Combining juveniles and adults, the following three tables show type of arrest/summons by offense type, disaggregated by race/ethnicity. First, Table 2-6 shows that 13% of probable cause arrests were for Drug related offenses, 27% were for Other offenses, 22% for Property offenses, and 38% for Violent offenses. While Blacks made up 6% of the population in the 4th Judicial District, Table 2-6 shows that they were arrested at multiple times that rate for probable cause arrests in 2016: 14% of Drug arrests were Blacks, 18% of arrests for Other offenses were Blacks, 17% of Property arrests were Blacks, and 22% of Violent arrests were Blacks. Hispanics represented 16% of the population in 2016, and were underrepresented in on-view/probable cause arrests in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District.

Table 2-6. Arrest type On-View/Probable Cause, by offense and race/ethnicity

Offense	Race/ethnicity	%	N
Drugs		13%	748
	Black	14%	102
	Hispanic	7%	55
	Other	2%	15
	White	77%	576
Other		27%	1,571
	Black	18%	285
	Hispanic	9%	144
	Other	3%	46
	White	70%	1,096
Property		22%	1,322
	Black	17%	224
	Hispanic	7%	98
	Other	3%	40
	White	73%	960
Violent		38%	2,271
	Black	22%	510
	Hispanic	8%	191
	Other	3%	66
	White	66%	1,504
All		100%	5,912

Data source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data. Extracted 6/7/2017.

The other arrest type, where an individual is taken into custody on an outstanding warrant, is depicted in Table 2-7. Over 80% (83%) of these arrests involved an offense that fell into the Other category. While only 8% of these types of arrests involved a Violent offense, Blacks made up 23% of Violent crime custody/warrant arrests.

Table 2-7. Arrest type Custody/Warrant, by offense and race/ethnicity

Offense	Race/ethnicity	%	N
Drugs		2%	96
	Black	12%	12
	Hispanic	7%	7
	Other	1%	1
	White	79%	76
Other		83%	4,797
	Black	17%	810
	Hispanic	7%	335
	Other	2%	89
	White	74%	3,563
Property		8%	476
	Black	17%	82
	Hispanic	9%	43
	Other	2%	11
	White	71%	340
Violent		8%	438
	Black	23%	102
	Hispanic	7%	31
	Other	3%	13
	White	67%	292
All		100%	5,807

Table 2-8 shows that summons are less likely to be issued for Violent offenses (7%) compared to Other (59%) and Property (27%) and that, of those summons issued for Violent crimes, 19% went to Blacks and 12% to Hispanics. Whites were least likely to be summonsed for a Violent crime (67%) and most likely for Drugs (71%).

Table 2-8. Arrest type Summons, by offense and race/ethnicity

Offense	Race/ethnicity	%	N
Drugs		7%	682
	Black	14%	98
	Hispanic	13%	88
	Other	1%	10
	White	71%	486
Other		59%	5,817
	Black	16%	942
	Hispanic	12%	727
	Other	2%	93
	White	70%	4,055
Property		27%	2,710
	Black	16%	433
	Hispanic	14%	373
	Other	2%	62
	White	68%	1,842
Violent		7%	668
	Black	19%	127
	Hispanic	12%	78
	Other	3%	18
	White	67%	445
All		100%	9,877

The following three tables show arrest/summons by broad offense category and gender. Although women make up half the population, they were considerably less likely than men to be arrested. Overall, women constituted approximately one-quarter to one-third of arrests and 27% to 46% of summonses (depending on the crime category) and men comprised the remainder. Overall, women were more likely to be involved in Property offenses compared with the other offense categories.

Table 2-9. Arrest type On-View/Probable Cause, by offense and gender

Offense	Gender	%	N
Drugs		13%	748
	Female	29%	219
	Male	71%	529
Other		27%	1,571
	Female	25%	398
	Male	75%	1,173
Property		22%	1,322
	Female	30%	396
	Male	70%	926
Violent		38%	2,271
	Female	29%	650
	Male	71%	1,621
All		100%	5,912

Data source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data. Extracted 6/7/2017.

Table 2-10. Arrest type Custody/Warrant, by offense and gender

Offense	Gender	%	N
Drugs		2%	96
	Female	29%	28
	Male	71%	68
Other		83%	4,797
	Female	28%	1,362
	Male	72%	3,435
Property		8%	476
	Female	38%	180
	Male	62%	296
Violent		8%	438
	Female	14%	62
	Male	86%	376
All		100%	5,807

Table 2-11. Arrest type Summons, by offense and gender

Offense	Gender	%	N
Drugs		7%	682
	Female	27%	185
	Male	73%	497
Other		59%	5,817
	Female	28%	1,650
	Male	72%	4,167
Property		27%	2,710
	Female	46%	1,235
	Male	54%	1,475
Violent		7%	668
	Female	34%	227
	Male	66%	441
All		100%	9,877

Data source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data. Extracted 6/7/2017.

Summary: Law enforcement data. In 2016 law enforcement made/issued nearly 22,000 arrests/summonses in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. For this analysis, dozens of offense categories were collapsed into four broad groups of crimes: Drugs, Other, Property and Violence (see Appendix A for the list of offenses in these categories). In 2016, arrests/summonses for Drug offenses accounted for 7% of all arrests/summonses and Violent crimes accounted for another 16% of arrests/summonses, Property offenses accounted for 21% of arrests/summonses, and the remainder of arrests/summonses (56%) fell into the Other crime category. Blacks represented 6% of the population in the 4th Judicial District in 2016, but accounted for 17% of arrests/summonses. Hispanics represented 16% of the population and 10% of arrests/summonses. Males represented about 50% of the state population and 70% of arrests. Females were much more likely to be involved in Property offenses than the other offense

categories. Juveniles were more likely to be summonsed than arrested. Violent crimes were less likely than the other crime categories to result in a summons.

# **Section 3: Court Case Processing**

The Judicial Branch's information management system contains county and district court adult and juvenile case filings and dispositions statewide, with the exception of Denver County Court. For this analysis, cases were selected for the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. County court contains both adult and juvenile misdemeanor cases. The data are presented here by court type: county, adult district, and juvenile. Juveniles who were charged as adults are in adult district court.

Note that this analysis reflects *cases not individuals*. Individuals may have multiple, concurrent cases, <sup>16</sup> and cases typically have multiple charges. Frequently cases and charges are dismissed for a judgment in a concurrent case. The **Dismissed/Not Guilty** category in the tables that follow means that some charges were dismissed and some were found not guilty.

The crime information analyzed for this study reflects the most serious filing or conviction charge for 24 offense categories which, for the analysis presented in this document, have been collapsed into four categories: Drug, Other, Property and Violent. The analysis of the 24 offense categories, summarized from more than 1500 statutes, is available on the interactive data dashboard at *colorado.gov/dcj-ors/ors-SB185*. See Appendix B for the list of offenses that were combined into the four broad categories.

Additionally, all offenses presented in the analysis of court data <u>include</u> attempts, solicitations, and conspiracies.

This analysis focused on the most serious charge as defined by felony or misdemeanor level. Traffic cases are not in this analysis unless they appeared in a district/county court filing.

### **Case Filings**

#### Overall

Table 3-1 depicts race/ethnicity distribution for 5,729 case filings in county, adult district, and juvenile courts combined in the 4th Judicial District. While Blacks represented 6% of the population and 17% of the arrests/summonses in 2016, they accounted for 18% of court filings. Hispanics represented 16% of the population, 10% of arrests/summonses, and 18% of case filings. Note that these cases are not necessarily the same cases in the **Law enforcement data** section above.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Denver County Court is not part of the statewide Judicial data management system.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> This study found that in 2016, statewide, 18% of county court cases, 36% of district court cases, and 37% of juvenile court cases had other, concurrent cases mentioned in minute orders or sentencing notes.

Table 3-1. Overall filings by race/ethnicity\*

Race/ethnicity	%	N		
Black	18%	2,865		
Hispanic	18%	2,905		
Other	3%	398		
White	61%	9,561		
All	100%	15,729		

\*Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Combining information across the three court types, Table 3-2 shows the race/ethnicity distribution for the four crime categories. Table 3-2 shows that Drug offenses were the most serious filing charge in 9% of cases, and Violent charges comprised the largest category at 36% of charges filed. Among Violent charges, 20% of these were Black cases.

Table 3-2. Most serious filing charge by race/ethnicity\*

Offense	Race/ethnicity	%	N
Drugs		9%	1,467
	Black	14%	202
	Hispanic	18%	271
	Other	2%	25
	White	66%	969
Other		23%	3,547
	Black	18%	621
	Hispanic	18%	651
	Other	3%	102
	White	61%	2,173
Property		32%	5,038
	Black	17%	879
	Hispanic	21%	1,034
	Other	2%	122
	White	60%	3,003
Violent		36%	5,677
	Black	20%	1,163
	Hispanic	17%	949
	Other	3%	149
	White	60%	3,416
All		100%	15,729

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

\*Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-3 depicts that, across all court types, 28% of filings were females and 72% were males. Females were slightly more likely than men to be involved in Property crimes (37% compared to 30%, respectively) and slightly less to be involved in Violent offenses (34% compared to 37%, respectively).

Table 3-3. Most serious filing charge by gender

Gender	Offense	%	N
Female		28%	4,437
	Drugs	10%	443
	Other	19%	857
	Property	37%	1,646
	Violent	34%	1,491
Male		72%	11,292
	Drugs	9%	1,024
	Other	24%	2,690
	Property	30%	3,392
	Violent	37%	4,186
All		100%	15,729

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

# **Court type**

Table 3-4 breaks down race/ethnicity by the type of court for the 4th Judicial District. While county court had the most cases in 2016 (51% of the total), followed by adult district court 41%) and juvenile court at 8%. Blacks, comprising 6% of the adult population and 7% of the juvenile population in the 4th Judicial District, represented 18% of adult district and county court cases, respectively, and 25% in juvenile court. Hispanic youth made up 23% of the juvenile population in the 4th Judicial District and 24% of district court filings in 2016.

Table 3-4. Court of case filing, by race/ethnicity\*

Court	Race/ethnicity	%	N
Adult District		41%	6,463
	Black	18%	1,133
	Hispanic	19%	1,259
	Other	2%	150
	White	61%	3,921
County		51%	8,058
	Black	18%	1,426
	Hispanic	17%	1,353
	Other	2%	193
	White	63%	5,086
Juvenile		8%	1,208
	Black	25%	306
	Hispanic	24%	293
	Other	5%	55
	White	46%	554
All		100%	15,729

Table 3-5 provides the type of offense by court type. Nearly half (45%) of county court cases are Violent offenses (primarily misdemeanor assault); Property offenses (37%) and Violent cases (25%) comprise the largest categories of cases in adult district court. Property crimes (43%) and Violent crimes (38%) make up the majority of cases filed in juvenile court. Table 3-6 presents the distribution across gender for cases in county, district and juvenile court. Females were more likely to have cases in county court (31%) compared to adult district court (26%) and juvenile court (20%).

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-5. Court of case filing, by most serious filing charge

Court	Offense	%	N
Adult District		41%	6,463
	Drugs	18%	1,146
	Other	20%	1,318
	Property	37%	2,397
	Violent	25%	1,602
County		51%	8,058
	Drugs	4%	299
	Other	25%	2,022
	Property	26%	2,116
	Violent	45%	3,621
Juvenile		8%	1,208
	Drugs	2%	22
	Other	17%	207
	Property	43%	525
	Violent	38%	454
All		100%	15,729

Table 3-6. Court of case filing, by gender

Court	Gender	%	N
Adult District		41%	6,463
	Female	26%	1,674
	Male	74%	4,789
County		51%	8,058
	Female	31%	2,519
	Male	69%	5,539
Juvenile		8%	1,208
	Female	20%	244
	Male	80%	964
All		100%	15,729

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

#### **Trials**

Table 3-7 shows how very infrequently cases in these courts completed a trial (1-2%). Table 3-8 combines information across court types and shows the number of trials completed by offense category. Cases with a Violent offense were most likely to complete a trial.

Table 3-7. Court of case filing, by trials completed

Court	Completed Trial	%	N
Adult District		41%	6,463
	No	98%	6,342
	Yes	2%	121
County		51%	8,058
	No	99%	7,984
	Yes	1%	74
Juvenile		8%	1,208
	No	98%	1,179
	Yes	2%	29
All		100%	15,729

Table 3-8. Most serious filing charge, by trials completed

Offense	Completed Trial	%	N
Drugs		9%	1,467
	No	99%	1,451
	Yes	1%	16
Other		23%	3,547
	No	99%	3,507
	Yes	1%	40
Property		32%	5,038
	No	99%	5,008
	Yes	1%	30
Violent		36%	5,677
	No	98%	5,539
	Yes	2%	138
All		100%	15,729

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

**Summary: Filings.** This study of 15,729 case filings in county, district, and juvenile courts combined found that, while Blacks represented 6% of the population in the 4th Judicial District, and 17% of the arrests/summonses in 2016, they accounted for 18% of district court filings. In juvenile court, Blacks represented 25% of cases, compared to 7% Black juveniles in the population. Hispanic adults made up 14% of the adult population in the 4th Judicial District and had 18% of district court filings in 2016. In terms of gender, 28% of filings were females and 72% were males. Females were slightly more likely than men to be involved in Property crimes and slightly less to be involved in Violent offenses. Only 2% of cases completed a district and juvenile court; 1% of county court cases completed a trial. Note that these cases are not necessarily the same cases in the **Law Enforcement Data** section above.

#### **Case outcomes**

The following three tables present the case outcomes for the 4th Judicial District, by race/ethnicity and most serious filing charge (including attempt, conspiracy and solicitation), for county court, district court, and juvenile court in 2016. It is important to remember that most cases contain multiple charges, and many cases have concurrent cases. All charges in a case may be dismissed or modified as part of a plea agreement involving that case or multiple cases. In fact, overall, in nearly half (43%) of cases, all charges were dismissed in county court in 2016 (Table 3-9). In county court, case outcomes involving Violent charges were more likely to get dismissed, compared to the other crime categories. There were few differences across race/ethnicity in terms of case outcomes, except that Blacks and Hispanics were more likely to be involved in cases not yet resolved.

Convicted as charged means the defendant was convicted of at least the most serious filing charge.

Table 3-9 reflects county court case outcomes, showing that 30% of cases were convicted as charged, and 15% were convicted of another crime. In adult district court (Table 3-10), 28% were convicted of another crime and 43% were convicted as charged. In juvenile court (Table 3-11), 12% were convicted of another offense and 39% were convicted as charged.

Table 3-9. County Court outcomes by race/ethnicity\* and most serious filing charge

Race/ethnicity		Convicted as charged	Convicted other crime	Dismissed/not guilty	Not yet resolved/case closed	All	N
Black		28%	14%	44%	14%		1,426
- I delt	Drugs	34%	12%	32%	22%	100%	
	Other	31%	18%	30%	21%	100%	
	Property		8%	40%	15%	100%	364
	Violent	21%	14%	55%	10%	100%	663
Hispanic		32%	14%	40%	13%	100%	1,353
	Drugs	23%	21%	31%	25%	100%	48
	Other	38%	22%	25%	15%	100%	324
	Property	42%	8%	35%	15%	100%	425
	Violent	22%	15%	53%	10%	100%	556
Other		31%	16%	46%	8%	100%	193
	Drugs	25%	25%	25%	25%	100%	4
	Other	39%	18%	33%	10%	100%	61
	Property	43%	3%	43%	11%	100%	35
	Violent	20%	18%	57%	4%	100%	93
White		31%	15%	43%	11%	100%	5,086
	Drugs	34%	8%	42%	16%	100%	206
	Other	34%	22%	32%	13%	100%	1,279
	Property	40%	6%	38%	15%	100%	1,292
	Violent	23%	17%	52%	7%	100%	2,309
All		30%	15%	43%	12%	100%	8,058

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-10. Adult District Court outcomes by race/ethnicity\* and most serious filing charge

Tuble 5-10. Aut	IIL DISTIICE	Court outcome	s by ruce/ethin	icity and most se	rious Jiling charge		
		Convicted as	Convicted	Dismissed/not	Not yet resolved/case		
Race/ethnicity	,	charged	other crime	guilty	closed	All	N
Black		38%	26%	17%	18%	100%	1,133
	Drugs	53%	18%	15%	13%	100%	159
	Other	41%	20%	20%	18%	100%	196
	Property	46%	24%	18%	13%	100%	390
	Violent	22%	36%	16%	26%	100%	388
Hispanic		43%	28%	14%	14%	100%	1,259
	Drugs	54%	27%	10%	10%	100%	218
	Other	41%	25%	15%	18%	100%	276
	Property	46%	27%	17%	10%	100%	488
	Violent	32%	35%	13%	20%	100%	277
Other		43%	21%	20%	15%	100%	150
	Drugs	48%	14%	33%	5%	100%	21
	Other	50%	19%	16%	16%	100%	32
	Property	48%	12%	21%	18%	100%	56
	Violent	29%	39%	15%	17%	100%	41
White		45%	28%	15%	12%	100%	3,921
	Drugs	55%	22%	14%	9%	100%	748
	Other	45%	25%	17%	14%	100%	814
	Property	47%	27%	15%	11%	100%	1,463
	Violent	32%	38%	14%	17%	100%	896
All		43%	28%	15%	14%	100%	6,463

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-11. Juvenile Court outcomes by race/ethnicity\* and most serious filing charge

Tubic 5 11. Juve	Time cour	t outcomes by i	acc, cumierty	unu most senous	Jilling charge		
Race/ethnicity		Convicted as charged	Convicted other crime	Dismissed/not guilty	Not yet resolved/case closed	All	N
Black		33%	11%	23%	33%	100%	306
	Drugs	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%	2
	Other	40%	9%	22%	28%	100%	67
	Property	34%	10%	26%	30%	100%	125
	Violent	27%	13%	21%	38%	100%	112
Hispanic		40%	10%	20%	30%	100%	293
	Drugs	20%	20%	40%	20%	100%	5
	Other	41%	16%	18%	25%	100%	51
	Property	44%	9%	20%	27%	100%	121
	Violent	35%	9%	21%	35%	100%	116
Other		45%	9%	18%	27%	100%	55
	Other	67%	0%	11%	22%	100%	9
	Property	39%	6%	26%	29%	100%	31
	Violent	47%	20%	7%	27%	100%	15
White		42%	13%	21%	24%	100%	554
	Drugs	53%	20%	20%	7%	100%	15
	Other	35%	18%	30%	18%	100%	80
	Property	45%	6%	21%	28%	100%	248
	Violent	41%	18%	17%	23%	100%	211
All		39%	12%	21%	28%	100%	1,208

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

**Summary: Case outcomes.** Caution should be used when interpreting the case outcome since many factors can influence the decision. For example, the existence of prior cases (criminal history) may influence the outcome of a case. Additionally, most cases contain multiple charges, and many cases have concurrent cases. These factors are likely to significantly affect the outcome of a case. In particular, all charges in a case may be dismissed or modified as part of a plea agreement involving that case or multiple cases. In fact, 43% of cases in county court were dismissed, as were 15% of cases in district court and 21% of cases in juvenile court. One-third (30%) of county court cases were convicted as charged compared to 43% in district court and 39% in juvenile court.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

### **Initial sentences**

The tables below show cases sentenced between Jan 1, 2016 and Dec 31, 2016 in the 4th Judicial District, in county court, district court, and juvenile court. These cases are not necessarily the same cases in the **Case Filings** section above. Also, because these data represent cases, not individuals, the number of individuals sentenced to the Department of Corrections (DOC) or the Division of Youth Services (DYS) from this jurisdiction will not match the number reported as admissions by DOC or DYS.

Cases generally have multiple initial sentences, usually include fines, and can also include community service and credit for time served. The data below reflect the <u>most serious initial</u> <u>sentence</u>. For example, the sentence of fines means that no more serious sentence was found. The same is true for credit for time served and community service.

Initial sentences can be later modified, such as when jail is added as part of a probation revocation. When probation sentences also include a jail sentence, the probation sentence is counted as the initial sentence because it is longer than the jail sentence. Probation/Intensive Supervision includes electronic monitoring.

Additionally, individuals may have multiple cases for which they are sentenced simultaneously. The sentence given in one case may not truly reflect the seriousness of the case as the more serious sentence may be recorded in another case as part of a plea agreement. Also, please note that the crime categories include attempts, solicitations, and conspiracy offenses.

Finally, in addition to concurrent cases affecting the sentencing outcome of a case, criminal/juvenile history may also influence the initial sentence.

# **County court**

Table 3-12 presents the initial sentence for each of the four offense types for county court cases in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in 2016. County court Drug cases resulted in a fine in 61% of cases, and community service for 27% of cases. Deferred judgments occurred for 45% of Violent crime cases, 38% of Other cases, and 4% for Drug cases (this figure represents only 8 cases).

Table 3-12. Initial sentence in County Court, by most serious conviction charge (N=3,907)

Sentence	Drugs	%	Other	%	Property	%	Violent	%
Community Corrections	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	<1%
Community Service	53	27%	7	1%	4	<1%	1	<1%
Deferred	8	4%	474	38%	405	37%	604	45%
Fines/fees	118	61%	152	12%	67	6%	11	1%
Jail	6	3%	266	21%	299	27%	193	14%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	0	0%	166	13%	67	6%	399	30%
Unsupervised Probation	10	5%	188	15%	266	24%	142	11%
All	195	100%	1,253	100%	1,108	100%	1,351	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

Table 3-13 reflects initial county court sentences by gender. Women were more likely than men to receive a deferred judgment in county court (44% compared to 36%, respectively). Men were more likely than women to receive a jail sentence (21% for men compared to 16% for women).

Table 3-13. Initial sentence in County Court by gender (N=3,907)

Sentence	Female	%	Male	%
Community Corrections	1	<1%	0	0%
Community Service	20	2%	45	2%
Deferred	510	44%	981	36%
Fines/fees	108	9%	240	9%
Jail	182	16%	582	21%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	118	10%	514	19%
Unsupervised Probation	208	18%	398	14%
All	1,147	100%	2,760	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

Table 3-14 presents the initial sentence in county court by race/ethnicity for the 4th Judicial District. Those in the Other race/ethnicity category were much more likely to receive a deferred judgment (49% compared to 30-41% for other race/ethnicities Blacks and Hispanics were considerably more likely to receive jail time (23% and 27%, respectively), compared to 12% of Other cases and 16% of White cases.

Table 3-14. Initial sentence in County Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=3,907)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	665	719	81	2,442
Community Corrections	0%	<1%	0%	0%
Community Service	1%	2%	1%	2%
Deferred	36%	30%	49%	41%
Fines/fees	8%	10%	7%	9%
Jail	23%	27%	12%	17%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	18%	15%	14%	16%
Unsupervised Probation	14%	16%	16%	16%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

The following four tables show the initial county court sentence for each of the four offense categories, by race/ethnicity. Table 3-15 shows initial sentences for county court Drug cases. The few numbers of cases in the Black and Other race/ethnicity category require caution when interpreting the findings.

Table 3-15. Initial sentence for Drugs as most serious conviction in County Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=195)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	31	46	3	115
Community Service	23%	26%	33%	29%
Deferred	10%	2%	0%	3%
Fines/fees	61%	67%	67%	57%
Jail	3%	0%	0%	4%
Unsupervised Probation	3%	4%	0%	6%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

Table 3-16 shows that, for those with Other as the most serious county court conviction charge, Blacks and Hispanics were more likely to receive a jail sentence and less likely to receive a deferred judgment. Table 3-17 provides information on the initial sentence in county court for Property offenses and Table 3-18 depicts the initial sentence for Violent offenses in county

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

court. For violent offenses in county court, Blacks and Hispanics were less likely to receive a deferred judgment.

Table 3-16. Initial sentence for Other as most serious conviction in County Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=1,253)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	203	233	35	782
Community Service	<1%	0%	0%	1%
Deferred	34%	27%	49%	41%
Fines/fees	8%	10%	11%	14%
Jail	30%	31%	6%	17%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	15%	15%	14%	12%
Unsupervised Probation	13%	16%	20%	15%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

Table 3-17. Initial sentence for Property as most serious conviction in County Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=1,108)

()				
Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	180	229	15	684
Community Service	0%	<1%	0%	<1%
Deferred	32%	33%	33%	39%
Fines/fees	8%	7%	0%	5%
Jail	28%	30%	40%	25%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	9%	5%	7%	6%
Unsupervised Probation	24%	24%	20%	24%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-18. Initial sentence for Violent as most serious conviction in County Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=1,351)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	251	211	28	861
Community Corrections	0%	<1%	0%	0%
Community Service	0%	<1%	0%	0%
Deferred	45%	35%	64%	46%
Fines/fees	<1%	1%	0%	1%
Jail	16%	26%	7%	11%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	30%	28%	18%	30%
Unsupervised Probation	9%	9%	11%	11%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

#### **District court**

Table 3-19 shows the initial sentence by offense type for district court cases in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. Probation was the most frequently occurring initial sentence, imposed 72% of the time for Drug cases. The second most frequently occurring sentence in district court was a prison sentence: 20% of Drug cases, 38% of Other cases, 23% of Property cases, and 25% of Violent cases received a sentence to the Department of Corrections. Deferred judgments were imposed somewhat infrequently and were most likely to be imposed in Property cases (22%), and least likely to be imposed in Drug cases (2%). Table 3-20 shows women were more likely than men to receive a deferred judgment (20% compared to 13%) and less likely to receive a prison sentence (17% compared to 30%).

Table 3-19. Initial sentence in Adult District Court, by most serious conviction charge (N=4,900)

Sentence	Drugs	%	Other	%	Property	%	Violent	%
Community Corrections	32	3%	36	4%	93	5%	23	2%
Community Service	1	<1%	1	<1%	1	<1%	0	0%
Deferred	21	2%	138	14%	400	22%	189	17%
Dept of Corrections	198	20%	381	38%	421	23%	281	25%
Fines/fees	11	1%	4	<1%	13	1%	2	<1%
Jail	11	1%	49	5%	51	3%	45	4%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	701	72%	385	39%	836	46%	567	51%
Youthful Offender System	0	0%	0	0%	1	<1%	8	1%
All	975	100%	994	100%	1,816	100%	1,115	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-20. Initial sentence in Adult District Court by gender (N=4,900)

Sentence	Female	%	Male	%
Community Corrections	38	3%	146	4%
Community Service	0	0%	3	<1%
Deferred	272	20%	476	13%
Dept of Corrections	221	17%	1,060	30%
Fines/fees	15	1%	15	<1%
Jail	30	2%	126	4%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	755	57%	1,734	49%
Youthful Offender System	0	0%	9	<1%
All	1,331	100%	3,569	100%

Table 3-21 shows the initial sentence in adult district court by race/ethnicity, combining all crime types. Hispanics were least likely to receive a deferred judgment (10%) and slightly more likely to receive a sentence to the Department of Corrections.

Table 3-21. Initial sentence in Adult District Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=4,900)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	785	972	100	3,043
Community Corrections	3%	5%	2%	3%
Community Service	0%	0%	0%	<1%
Deferred	16%	10%	21%	16%
Dept of Corrections	26%	30%	28%	25%
Fines/fees	1%	1%	2%	1%
Jail	4%	3%	0%	3%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	50%	50%	47%	51%
Youthful Offender System	1%	<1%	0%	<1%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

\*Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

The following four tables show initial district court sentences for each of the offense categories, by race/ethnicity. Table 3-22 shows the sentences cases received for Drug offenses. Hispanics were more likely to receive a sentence to prison. Other offenses (Table 3-23) were likely to result in a prison sentence. Blacks and Hispanics were somewhat more likely to receive prison sentences for Violent offenses (Table 3-25).

Table 3-22. Initial sentence for Drugs as most serious conviction in Adult District Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=975)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	113	207	17	638
Community Corrections	6%	6%	0%	2%
Community Service	0%	0%	0%	<1%
Deferred	1%	<1%	24%	2%
Dept of Corrections	19%	28%	24%	18%
Fines/fees	1%	1%	0%	1%
Jail	2%	1%	0%	1%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	71%	64%	53%	75%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 3-23. Initial sentence for Other as most serious conviction in Adult District Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=994)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	156	217	23	598
Community Corrections	1%	6%	0%	4%
Community Service	0%	0%	0%	<1%
Deferred	14%	10%	13%	15%
Dept of Corrections	37%	46%	57%	35%
Fines/fees	1%	0%	0%	1%
Jail	4%	6%	0%	5%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	44%	32%	30%	40%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-24. Initial sentence for Property as most serious conviction in Adult District Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=1,816)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	286	349	40	1,141
Community Corrections	5%	6%	5%	5%
Community Service	0%	0%	0%	<1%
Deferred	27%	15%	25%	23%
Dept of Corrections	21%	23%	15%	24%
Fines/fees	1%	1%	2%	1%
Jail	3%	2%	0%	3%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	44%	52%	52%	45%
Youthful Offender System	0%	<1%	0%	0%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 3-25. Initial sentence for Violent as most serious conviction in Adult District Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=1,115)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	230	199	20	666
Community Corrections	2%	3%	0%	2%
Deferred	12%	12%	20%	20%
Dept of Corrections	29%	27%	25%	23%
Fines/fees	0%	0%	5%	<1%
Jail	6%	4%	0%	4%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	50%	54%	50%	50%
Youthful Offender System	2%	1%	0%	<1%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

#### **Juvenile court**

Table 3-26 below reflects the initial sentence for juvenile court cases, by crime type, for the 4th Judicial District. As with district court, initial sentences to Probation were the most frequently occurring sentence, followed by deferred judgment. Drug and Violent cases were more likely than other offenses to receive a deferred judgment (30%) in juvenile court. Initial sentences to

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

the Division of Youth Services were more likely for Violent and Other cases. Table 3-27 shows initial sentences by gender.

Table 3-26. Initial sentence in Juvenile Court, by most serious conviction charge (N=685)

Sentence	Drugs	%	Other	%	Property	%	Violent	%
Deferred	7	30%	34	24%	54	20%	75	30%
Division of Youth Services	1	4%	19	14%	34	12%	35	14%
Fines/fees	1	4%	4	3%	17	6%	6	2%
Jail	0	0%	5	4%	4	1%	2	1%
Juvenile Detention	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	14	61%	76	55%	167	61%	129	52%
All	23	100%	139	100%	276	100%	247	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

Table 3-27. Initial sentence in Juvenile Court by gender (N=685)

Sentence	Female	%	Male	%
Deferred	44	33%	126	23%
Division of Youth Services	10	7%	79	14%
Fines/fees	11	8%	17	3%
Jail	0	0%	11	2%
Juvenile Detention	0	0%	1	<1%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	70	52%	316	57%
All	135	100%	550	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

Table 3-28 reflects the initial juvenile court sentence by race/ethnicity. Across race/ethnicity categories, Blacks and Hispanics were considerably less likely to receive a deferred judgment (15% and 19%, respectively compared to 40% and 31%).

Table 3-28. Initial sentence in Juvenile Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=685)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	153	171	20	341
Deferred	15%	19%	40%	31%
Division of Youth Services	23%	18%	25%	5%
Fines/fees	3%	3%	10%	5%
Jail	2%	2%	0%	1%
Juvenile Detention	0%	0%	0%	<1%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	57%	57%	25%	57%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

The following four tables show initial juvenile court sentences for each of the offense categories, by race/ethnicity. Table 3-29 shows the sentences cases received for Drug offenses. Caution should be used when interpreting the findings because of the few cases (n=23). Blacks and Hispanics were much more likely to receive a deferred judgment for cases that were Violent (Table 3-32).

Table 3-29. Initial sentence for Drugs as most serious conviction in Juvenile Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=23)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	White
N	3	7	13
Deferred	0%	29%	38%
Division of Youth Services	33%	0%	0%
Fines/fees	0%	14%	0%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	67%	57%	62%
All	100%	100%	100%

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-30. Initial sentence for Other as most serious conviction in Juvenile Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=139)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	44	30	1	64
Deferred	16%	17%	0%	34%
Division of Youth Services	25%	10%	100%	6%
Fines/fees	0%	3%	0%	5%
Jail	7%	3%	0%	2%
Juvenile Detention	0%	0%	0%	2%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	52%	67%	0%	52%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

\*Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-31. Initial sentence for Property as most serious conviction in Juvenile Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=276)

(14-270)				
Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	67	66	10	133
Deferred	10%	23%	30%	22%
Division of Youth Services	22%	14%	20%	6%
Fines/fees	6%	5%	20%	6%
Jail	0%	5%	0%	1%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	61%	55%	30%	65%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals. \*Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-32. Initial sentence for Violent as most serious conviction in Juvenile Court by race/ethnicity\* (N=247)

Sentence	Black	Hispanic	Other	White
N	39	68	9	131
Deferred	23%	16%	56%	38%
Division of Youth Services	21%	28%	22%	5%
Fines/fees	3%	0%	0%	4%
Jail	0%	0%	0%	2%
Probation/Intensive Supervision	54%	56%	22%	52%
All	100%	100%	100%	100%

**Summary: Initial sentences.** This analysis reflects the most serious initial sentences; these can be later modified, such as when jail is added as part of a probation revocation. Additionally, individuals may have multiple cases for which they are sentenced simultaneously. The sentence given in one case may not truly reflect the seriousness of the case as the more serious sentence may be recorded in another case as part of a plea agreement. Finally, in addition to concurrent cases affecting the sentencing outcome of a case, criminal/juvenile history may also influence the final initial sentence.

County court Drug cases resulted in a fine in 61% of cases, and community service for 27% of cases. Deferred judgments occurred for 45% of Violent crime cases, 38% of Other cases, and 4% for Drug cases (this figure represents only 8 cases).

In district court, Probation was the most frequently occurring initial sentence, imposed 72% of the time for Drug cases. The second most frequently occurring sentence in district court was a prison sentence: 20% of Drug cases, 38% of Other cases, 23% of Property cases, and 25% of Violent cases received a sentence to the Department of Corrections. Women were more likely to receive a deferred judgment compared to men and less likely to receive a prison.

For drug offenses, Hispanics were more likely than the other race/ethnicity categories to receive a sentence to prison. Other offenses were likely to result in a prison sentence. Blacks and Hispanics were somewhat more likely to receive prison sentences for Violent offenses. Across race/ethnicity categories, Blacks and Hispanics were considerably less likely to receive a deferred judgment.

In juvenile court, initial sentences to Probation were the most frequently occurring sentence, followed by deferred judgment. Drug and Violent cases were more likely than other offenses to receive a deferred judgment (30%) in juvenile court. Initial sentences to the Division of Youth Services were more likely for Violent and Other cases.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

#### **Revocations**

Cases sentenced in 2016 to probation or a deferred judgment that received a revocation in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District are included in the analyses presented here.<sup>17</sup> Those sentenced near the end of 2016 may not have had enough time to get revoked. **Note that these are cases, not individuals**. Counting cases and not individuals is likely to inflate the proportion of revocations presented in these analyses. For example, the Judicial Department reports that in 2016, 22% of adult state probation terminations were the result of a revocation.<sup>18</sup> The revocations presented here may not result in termination from probation supervision. In fact, in 2016, across county, adult district, and juvenile district courts *statewide*, 49% of cases were reinstated, 44% were not reinstated, and for the remaining 7% of cases it was unclear the outcome of the revocation. The next series of tables shows revocations in district court and juvenile court.

# **County Court**

Table 3-33 shows revocation information for county court. Overall, 16% of cases receiving a probation/deferred judgment in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in 2016 were revoked. Hispanics were slightly more likely to be revoked compared to the overall revocation rate (21% compared to 16% overall). Across race/ethnicity categories, those with Violent cases were generally more likely to be revoked compared to the other offense categories. Table 3-34 shows revocations by gender. Both men and women were more likely to be revoked for Violent offenses compared to the other offense categories.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Judicial data pertaining to *petitions* to revoke are less reliable than data identifying actual revocations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Judicial Branch Annual Statistical Report, Fiscal Year 2016, Table 48, page 120.

Table 3-33. Revocations from Probation/Deferred in County Court, by race/ethnicity\* and most serious conviction charge

Race/ethnicity		No	Yes	All	N
Black		84%	16%	100%	456
	Drugs	100%	0%	100%	4
	Other	87%	13%	100%	126
	Property	84%	16%	100%	116
	Violent	81%	19%	100%	210
Hispanic		79%	21%	100%	435
	Drugs	67%	33%	100%	3
	Other	82%	18%	100%	137
	Property	81%	19%	100%	143
	Violent	74%	26%	100%	152
Other		95%	5%	100%	64
	Other	93%	7%	100%	29
	Property	100%	0%	100%	9
	Violent	96%	4%	100%	26
White		85%	15%	100%	1,774
	Drugs	100%	0%	100%	11
	Other	92%	8%	100%	536
	Property	85%	15%	100%	470
	Violent	80%	20%	100%	757
All		84%	16%	100%	2,729

Table 3-34. Revocations from Probation/Deferred in County Court, by gender and most serious conviction charge

Gender		No	Yes	All	N
Female		85%	15%	100%	836
	Drugs	100%	0%	100%	1
	Other	90%	10%	100%	224
	Property	85%	15%	100%	315
	Violent	82%	18%	100%	296
Male		84%	16%	100%	1,893
	Drugs	94%	6%	100%	17
	Other	90%	10%	100%	604
	Property	83%	17%	100%	423
	Violent	79%	21%	100%	849
All		84%	16%	100%	2,729

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

### **District Court**

Revocations from probation/deferred judgments occurred more frequently in district court (29%, Table 3-35) compared to county court (16%, Table 3-33) in 2016. Hispanics were most likely to be revoked (37% compared to 29% overall). Hispanics with Drug offenses were most likely to be revoked (49%). Table 3-36 shows that women in adult district court were more likely than men to get revoked (30% compared to 28%). Men and women with Drug cases were most likely, compared to those with other crime types, to get revoked.

Table 3-35. Revocations from Probation/Deferred in Adult District Court, by race/ethnicity\* and most serious conviction charge

Race/ethnicity		No	Yes	All	N
Black		74%	26%	100%	516
	Drugs	54%	46%	100%	81
	Other	84%	16%	100%	90
	Property	71%	29%	100%	203
	Violent	84%	16%	100%	142
Hispanic		63%	37%	100%	589
	Drugs	51%	49%	100%	133
	Other	68%	32%	100%	91
	Property	63%	37%	100%	234
	Violent	71%	29%	100%	131
Other		75%	25%	100%	68
	Drugs	69%	31%	100%	13
	Other	90%	10%	100%	10
	Property	65%	35%	100%	31
	Violent	93%	7%	100%	14
White		72%	28%	100%	2,064
	Drugs	64%	36%	100%	495
	Other	80%	20%	100%	332
	Property	69%	31%	100%	768
	Violent	81%	19%	100%	469
All		71%	29%	100%	3,237

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 3-36. Revocations from Probation/Deferred in Adult District Court, by gender and most serious conviction charge

Gender		No	Yes	All	N
Female		70%	30%	100%	1,027
	Drugs	59%	41%	100%	251
	Other	77%	23%	100%	138
	Property	69%	31%	100%	468
	Violent	80%	20%	100%	170
Male		72%	28%	100%	2,210
	Drugs	62%	38%	100%	471
	Other	79%	21%	100%	385
	Property	67%	33%	100%	768
	Violent	80%	20%	100%	586
All		71%	29%	100%	3,237

#### **Juvenile Court**

In juvenile court, 24% of cases sentenced to probation/deferred judgment in 2016 in the 4th Judicial District were revoked (Table 3-37). Blacks were most likely to get revoked (35%); the few cases in the Other race/ethnicity category (n=13) make it difficult to interpret the findings. Table 3-38 presents revocations in juvenile court by gender. Females were revoked at a rate of 25% compared to 24% for males (Table 3-38). Comparing across crime types, females with Drug crimes were most likely to be revoked (60%); males with Drug cases were also most likely to be revoked (44%).

Table 3-37. Revocations from Probation/Deferred in Juvenile Court, by race/ethnicity\* and most serious conviction charge

Race/ethnicity		No	Yes	All	N
Black		65%	35%	100%	110
	Drugs	50%	50%	100%	2
	Other	67%	33%	100%	30
	Property	60%	40%	100%	48
	Violent	73%	27%	100%	30
Hispanic		72%	28%	100%	131
	Drugs	50%	50%	100%	6
	Other	76%	24%	100%	25
	Property	73%	27%	100%	51
	Violent	71%	29%	100%	49
Other		69%	31%	100%	13
	Property	50%	50%	100%	6
	Violent	86%	14%	100%	7
White		82%	18%	100%	302
	Drugs	54%	46%	100%	13
	Other	87%	13%	100%	55
	Property	82%	18%	100%	116
	Violent	84%	16%	100%	118
All		76%	24%	100%	556

Table 3-38. Revocations from Probation/Deferred in Juvenile Court, by gender and most serious conviction charge

Gender		No	Yes	All	N
Female		75%	25%	100%	114
	Drugs	40%	60%	100%	5
	Other	85%	15%	100%	20
	Property	79%	21%	100%	38
	Violent	73%	27%	100%	51
Male		76%	24%	100%	442
	Drugs	56%	44%	100%	16
	Other	78%	22%	100%	90
	Property	73%	27%	100%	183
	Violent	82%	18%	100%	153
All		76%	24%	100%	556

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

**Revocations: Summary.** Cases sentenced in 2016 to probation or a deferred judgment that received a revocation in the 4th Judicial District are included in the analyses presented here. Those sentenced near the end of 2016 may not have had enough time to get revoked. **Note that these are cases, not individuals.** Counting cases and not individuals is likely to inflate the proportion of revocations presented in these analyses. For example, the Judicial Department reports that in 2016, 22% of adult state probation terminations were the result of a revocation. The revocations presented here may not result in termination from probation supervision. In fact, in 2016, across county, adult district, and juvenile district courts *statewide*, 49% of cases were reinstated, 44% were not reinstated, and for the remaining 7% of cases it was unclear the outcome of the revocation.

Overall, 16% of county court cases receiving a probation/deferred judgment in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in 2016 were revoked. Hispanics were slightly more likely to be revoked compared to the overall revocation rate (21% compared to 16% overall). Across race/ethnicity categories, those with Violent cases were generally more likely to be revoked compared to the other offense categories.

Revocations from probation/deferred judgments occurred more frequently in district court (29%) compared to county court (16%) in 2016. Hispanics were most likely to be revoked (37% compared to 29% overall). Hispanics with Drug offenses were most likely to be revoked (49%). Men and women with Drug cases were most likely, compared to those with other crime types, to get revoked.

In juvenile court, 24% of cases sentenced to probation/deferred judgment in 2016 in the 4th Judicial District were revoked. Blacks were most likely to get revoked (35%); the few cases in the Other race/ethnicity category (n=13) make it difficult to interpret the findings. Females were revoked at a rate of 25% compared to 24% for males. Comparing across crime types in juvenile court, females with Drug crimes were most likely to be revoked (60%); males with Drug cases were also most likely to be revoked (44%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Judicial data pertaining to *petitions* to revoke are less reliable than data identifying actual revocations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Judicial Branch Annual Statistical Report, Fiscal Year 2016, Table 48, page 120.

#### **Section 4: Additional Information**

To better understand the sentencing information presented in Section 3, additional analyses were undertaken in an attempt to account for circumstances that may impact the initial sentence decision in adult district court and juvenile court. To the extent that differential sentences were granted across race/ethnicity, these analyses allow for the examination of the impact of concurrent and prior cases, including current and prior violence cases, may have on those decisions.

This section begins with a description of the statistical approach employed, and then presents the findings<sup>21</sup> to the following research questions (the results are summarized below):

- Compared to Whites, are Blacks (or Hispanics) more or less likely to receive a sentence to the Department of Corrections for felony convictions in district court?
- 2. Compared to Whites, are Blacks (or Hispanics) more or less likely to receive a deferred judgment for convictions in district court?
- 3. Compared to Whites, are Black juveniles (or Hispanic juveniles) more or less likely to receive a deferred judgment for convictions in juvenile court?

#### Results

- 1. After controlling for the factors described below, Blacks were statistically significantly <u>less</u> likely than Whites to receive a DOC sentence. There was no difference between Hispanics and Whites receiving a DOC sentence.
- 2. After controlling for the factors described below, Hispanics were statistically significantly less likely than Whites to receive a deferred judgment. There was no difference between Blacks and Whites in receiving a deferred judgment.
- 3. After controlling for the sentencing factors described below, Blacks were statistically significantly less likely than Whites to receive a deferred judgment in juvenile court. There was no difference between Hispanics and Whites.

#### Method

To determine if differences in initial sentences between Whites and non-Whites were due to the presence of concurrent cases, prior cases, the seriousness of the current offense, and the existence of specific violent crimes in the individual's current/past offense(s), a statistical technique called logistic regression was used. Logistic regression can examine the effect (through odds ratios) of race/ethnicity on sentences received, while controlling for other factors that may impact the sentencing decision. The factors included were those that decision makers often take into in consideration at sentencing, and for which data were available in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Technical details of these statistical analyses are available from the Office of Research and Statistics, Division of Criminal Justice.

Judicial's ICON data system. For sentences to the Department of Corrections, these factors were as follows:

- Prior cases,
- Prior convictions for specific violent crimes,<sup>22</sup>
- Other concurrent cases,
- Felony conviction level,
- Instant offense type (drug, property, other, violent), and
- Whether the instant offense was specific violent crime.<sup>23</sup>

For deferred sentences, the following factors were included in the analysis:

- Prior cases,
- Other concurrent cases,
- Instant offense type (drug, property, other, violent), and
- Whether the instant offense was a specific violent crime.<sup>24</sup>

In addition, the gender and race/ethnicity of the defendant were included in both sentencing models.

Logistic regression models produce odds ratios which, in this study, are the odds for Blacks (or Hispanics) to receive a sentence divided by the odds for Whites to receive the same sentence. An odds ratio of 1 indicates no difference between Whites and Blacks (or Hispanics). An odds ratio greater than 1 means that Blacks (or Hispanics) had higher odds of receiving that sentence than Whites. An odds ratio less than 1 means that Blacks (or Hispanics) had lower odds of receiving that sentence than Whites. Because logistic regression simultaneously controls for the other factors in the model, odds ratios can be used to measure the differences between race/ethnicity groups after removing the influence of the other factors. Odds ratios and their 95% confidence intervals (CI)<sup>25</sup> are reported below.

The violent crimes included in this analysis are as follows: C.R.S. 18-3-102, 1st degree homicide; 18-3-103, 2nd degree homicide; 18-3-202, 1st degree assault; 18-3-203, 2nd degree assault; 18-3-301, 1st degree kidnapping; 18-3-302, 2nd degree kidnapping; 18-3-402, sex assault (felony); 18-3-404, unlawful sexual contact (felony); 18-3-405, sex assault on a child; 18-3-405.3, sex assault on a child position of trust; 18-4-302, aggravated robbery; 18-4-102, 1st degree arson; 18-3.5-103, 1st degree unlawful termination of pregnancy; 18-3.5-104, 2nd degree unlawful termination of a pregnancy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> See footnote above.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> See footnote above.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> A 95% confidence interval means that we can be 95% confident that the true odds ratio is within the specified interval.

## **DOC Sentences - Adult Felony Convictions**

Sentences to the Department of Corrections for felony convictions in adult district court in the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in 2016 were examined (Table 4-1). Blacks received a sentence to DOC in 31% of cases and Hispanics received a sentence to DOC in 35% of cases. In comparison, Whites received a sentence to DOC in 30% of cases. After controlling for other factors described above, Blacks actually had a statistically significantly <u>lower</u> odds of receiving a DOC sentence than Whites (Odds ratio: .72, 95% CI: .57 - .90). There was no significant difference in sentencing between Hispanics and Whites.

Table 4-1. DOC Sentences for felony convictions by race/ethnicity\*

Race/ethnicity	DOC Sentence	%	N
White		62%	2,544
	No	70%	1,787
	Yes	30%	757
Black		16%	660
	No	69%	455
	Yes	31%	205
Hispanic		20%	837
	No	65%	547
	Yes	35%	290
Other		2%	79
_	No	65%	51
	Yes	35%	28
All		100%	4,120

Data Source: Data extracted from the Colorado Judicial Branch's information management system (ICON) via the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by the Division of Criminal Justice. Note these figures represent cases, not individuals.

#### **Deferred Sentences - Adults in District Court**

Deferred sentences for all convictions in adult district court were examined (Table 4-2). Blacks received a deferred sentence in 16% of cases and Hispanics received a deferred sentence in 10% of cases. In comparison, Whites received a deferred sentence in 16% of cases. After controlling for other factors described above, Hispanics still had lower odds of receiving a deferred sentence than Whites (Odds ratio: .75, 95% CI .58 - .97). However there was no significant difference in deferred sentences between Blacks and Whites.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 4-2. Deferred sentence for all convictions in Adult District Court by race/ethnicity\*

Race/ethnicity	Deferred Sentence	%	N
White		62%	3,043
	No	84%	2,542
	Yes	16%	501
Black		16%	785
	No	84%	659
	Yes	16%	126
Hispanic		20%	972
	No	90%	872
	Yes	10%	100
Other		2%	100
	No	79%	79
	Yes	21%	21
All		100%	4,900

#### **Deferred Sentences - Juvenile Court**

Deferred sentences for all convictions in juvenile court were examined. Blacks received a deferred sentence in 15% of cases and Hispanics received a deferred sentence in 19% of cases. In comparison, Whites received a deferred sentence in 31% of cases. After controlling for other factors described above, Blacks still had lower odds of receiving a deferred sentence than Whites (Odds ratio: .53, 95% CI .30 - .90). However there was no significant difference in deferred sentences between Hispanics and Whites.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

Table 4-3. Deferred sentence for all convictions in Juvenile Court by race/ethnicity\*

Race/ethnicity	Deferred Sentence	%	N
White		50%	341
	No	69%	235
	Yes	31%	106
Black		22%	153
	No	85%	130
	Yes	15%	23
Hispanic		25%	171
	No	81%	138
	Yes	19%	33
Other		3%	20
	No	60%	12
	Yes	40%	8
All		100%	685

**Summary: Additional analyses.** To better understand the disparity across race/ethnicity in initial sentences, a statistical technique called logistic regression was employed in an attempt to account for circumstances that may impact decision making at this point in the process. These additional analyses allow for the examination of the impact of concurrent and prior cases, including current and prior violent offenses, <sup>26</sup> may have on those decisions.

After controlling for the additional factors, Blacks were statistically significantly <u>less</u> likely than Whites to receive a DOC sentence. There was no difference between Hispanics and Whites in the initial sentence to DOC. Hispanics were significantly less likely than Whites to receive a deferred judgment; there was no difference between Blacks and Whites. Finally, after controlling for the additional factors, Black youth were statistically significantly less likely than Whites to receive a deferred judgment in juvenile court. Despite this complex analysis, it is possible that other factors besides concurrent cases and prior history explain the race/ethnicity differences in initial sentences described here.

sex assault on a child; 18-3-405.3, sex assault on a child position of trust; 18-4-302, aggravated robbery; 18-4-102, 1st degree arson; 18-3.5-103, 1st degree unlawful termination of pregnancy; 18-3.5-104, 2nd degree unlawful termination of a pregnancy.

<sup>\*</sup>Judicial systematically collects race but not ethnicity. Court cases were matched to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's NIBRS arrest data using name and birthdate to obtain ethnicity information. When Hispanic ethnicity was found in the arrest data, the defendant's race/ethnicity was set to Hispanic; otherwise the original Judicial race designation was used.

The violent crimes included in this analysis are as follows: C.R.S. 18-3-102, 1st degree homicide; 18-3-103, 2nd degree homicide; 18-3-202, 1st degree assault; 18-3-203, 2nd degree assault; 18-3-301, 1st degree kidnapping; 18-3-302, 2nd degree kidnapping; 18-3-402, sex assault (felony); 18-3-404, unlawful sexual contact (felony); 18-3-405, sex assault on a child position of trust; 18-4-302, aggravated robbery; 18-4-102

# Appendix A NIBRS Group A Arrest Crimes

Category	Subcategory	NIBRS Offense
Drugs		
	Drugs	
		Drug Equipment
		Drugs
Other		
	DUI	
		DUI
	Other	
		All Other
		Bad Checks
		Bribery
		Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy
		Destruction of Property
		Disorderly Conduct
		Drunkeness
		Hit and Run
		Human Trafficking - Labor
		Liquor Law Violations
		Non-violent Family Offenses
		Runaway
		Trespassing
		Wagering
	Other Sex Crime	
		Fondling
		Human Trafficking - Commercial Sex Acts
		Peeping Tom
		Pornography
		Promoting Prostitution
		Prostitution
		Purchasing Prostitution
	Weapons	
		Weapons Laws Violation
Property		
	Arson	
		Arson
	Burglary	
		Burglary
	Fraud	
		Counterfeit
		Credit Card/ATM Fraud

Embezzlement Extortion	

# Appendix B Most serious filing/conviction charge categories

Drugs
Drugs(Distribution)
Drugs(Possession)
Other
Escape
Inchoate
Miscellaneous Felony
Miscellaneous Misdemeanor
Other Custody Violations
Other Sex Crime
Sex Offender Failure to Register
Traffic Felony
Traffic Misdemeanor
Weapons
Property
Arson
Burglary
Extortion
Forgery
Fraud
Motor Vehicle Theft
Other Property
Theft
Violent
Felony Assault
Homicide
Kidnapping
Misdemeanor Assault
Other Homicide
Robbery
Sex Assault

**Arson** - 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> degree arson

**Burglary** - 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burglary, possession of burglary tools

Drug Poss - drug possession, paraphernalia possession

**Drugs** - manufacture, process, distribute, cultivate, possession with intent to distribute

Escape

Extortion

**Felony Assault** - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> degree assault, vehicular assault, felony menacing, felony stalking, felony child abuse, witness intimidation

Forgery

Fraud

Homicide - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder

Kidnapping - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> degree kidnapping, false imprisonment, human trafficking, violation of custody

**Misc Felony** - Giving false information to a pawn broker, bribery, witness tampering, vehicular eluding, wiretapping, cruelty to animals,

**Misc Misd** - prostitution, patronizing a prostitute, resisting arrest, obstructing a peace officer, disorderly conduct, interference with school staff, cruelty to animals

Misd Assault -3<sup>rd</sup> degree assault, child abuse, violation of a protection order, harassment

Other Custody Violations - aiding escape, contraband, violation of bail bond conditions

Other Homicide - manslaughter, vehicular homicide, criminally negligent homicide, child abuse causing death