
Expanding Opportunity Framework Racial Disparities Analysis

*Understanding Different Approaches for Addressing
Racial Disparities*

Section 2 Safety & Justice

A tool developed by:
The Community Advancement Network (CAN) - Austin, TX
Updated August 2026

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Addressing
Concentrated
Wealth & Power

Safety &
Justice

State/National
Legislation &
Policy

Housing,
Health &
Human
Services

Social Capital
& Community
Leadership

Educational
& Economic
Opportunity

Expand
Opportunity
for Youth &
Adults

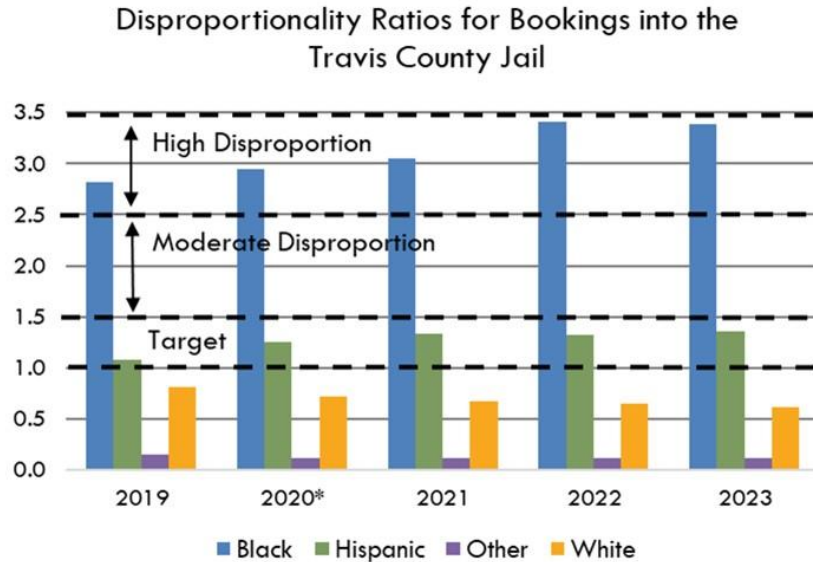
Workforce
Development

Section 2

Introduction

People of Color, particularly African Americans, have disparate outcomes when it comes to the criminal justice system from police stops/searches/arrests to jail time awaiting for trial and representation/outcomes in court proceedings. When an individual becomes involved in the justice system, their families are affected and their prospects post-incarceration are severely limited. Criminal Justice reform is pivotal to our ability to addressing existing racial disparities.

JAIL BOOKINGS

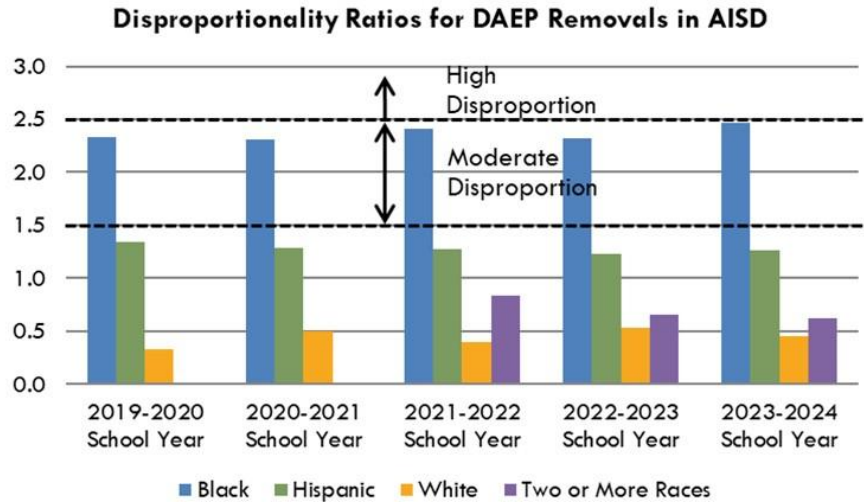


SOURCE: 2025 CAN Community Dashboard
<https://dashboard.canatx.org/>

People arrested by the 21 law enforcement agencies in Travis County are generally booked into the Travis County jail. Black residents account for 28% of people booked into jail, but for only 8% of Travis County's adult population, which indicates a high level of disproportionate representation and a disproportionality ratio of 3.4. This level of disproportionality has been relatively constant over time.

Disproportionality ratios are classified as follows: Comparable Representation (rates under 1.50), Moderate Disproportion (rates between 1.50-2.49), High Disproportion (rates between 2.50-3.49), and Extreme Disproportion (rates of 3.50 and over).

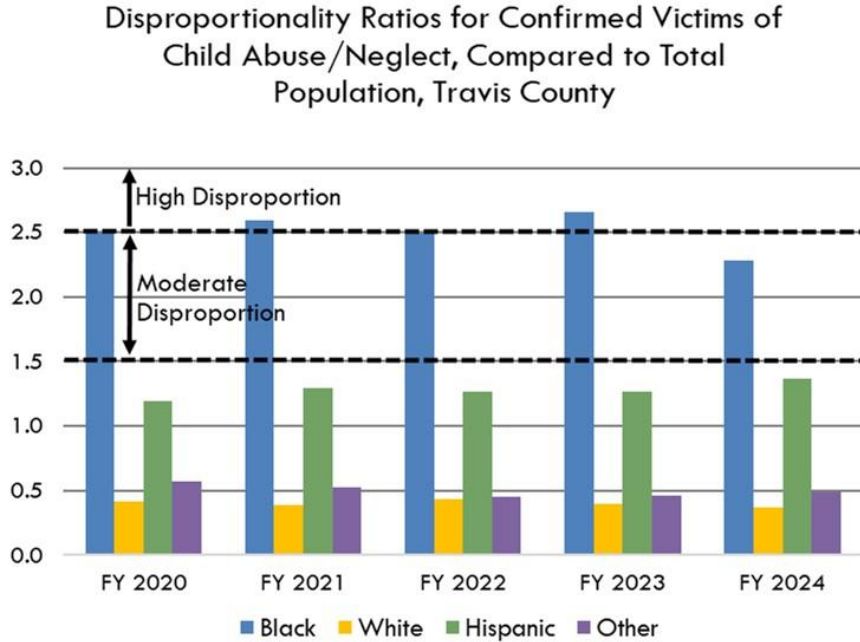
DAEP REMOVALS



During the 2023-2024 school year, African-American students in AISD were over represented in **Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs (DAEP)** removals by a factor of 2.5. African-American students are disproportionately represented in DAEP placements. Some groups or years are not included because data may be unavailable.

The disproportionality ratio is calculated by dividing the representation of each racial and ethnic group removed from AISD classrooms to DAEP by their representation in the general student population.

CHILD ABUSE



Black children in Travis County are over represented among children who experience abuse or neglect. During Fiscal Year 2023-2024, African-American children made up about 20% of confirmed victims of child abuse or neglect in Travis County, compared to about 8% of the total population under 18. This results in a disproportionality ratio of 2.4, indicating a moderate level of over-representation

SOURCE: 2025 CAN Community Dashboard
<https://dashboard.canatx.org/>

ORGANIZATIONS WORKING TO ADDRESS RACIAL DISPARITIES RELATING TO SAFETY & JUSTICE (*People of Color-Led*)

Austin Justice Coalition
<https://www.austinjustice.org/>

City of Austin Office of Police Oversight
<https://www.austintexas.gov/police-oversight>

Austin/ Travis County Reentry
Roundtable
<https://www.reentryroundtable.org/>

Jails to Jobs
<https://www.jailtojobs.com/>

On Point Reentry
<https://www.onpointreentry.org/>

Excellence and Advancement Foundation
<https://breakthepipeline.org/>

Grassroots Leadership
<http://grassrootsleadership.org/>

Measure Austin
<https://wemeasure.org/>

NAACP Austin
<http://www.naacpaustin.com/>

American Gateways
<http://www.americangateways.org/>

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WORKING TO ADDRESS RACIAL DISPARITIES RELATING TO SAFETY & JUSTICE

Undoing White Supremacy Austin
<https://undoingwhitesupremacy.org/>

SAFE Alliance
<https://www.safeaustin.org/>

Center for Child Protection
<https://centerforchildprotection.org/>

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Undoing White Supremacy Austin - Unlearning Circles

<https://undoingwhitesupremacy.org/unlearning-circles/>

Community Healing Circles

<https://students.austincc.edu/truth-racial-healing-and-transformation-center/racial-healing-circles/>

RESOURCE TO LEARN ABOUT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CAN "Get Engaged" Community Calendar

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1FUkB R8pDw7Pb4HNIoT1dBn09UXnuVvOa1HP9KMF3aMo/edit?gid=1003257320#gid=1003257320>

COALITIONS WORKING TO ADDRESS RACIAL DISPARITIES

Black Austin Coalition

<https://blackaustincoalition.com/>

Austin Justice Coalition

<https://austinjustice.org/>

Brave Communities

<https://bravecommunities.org/>

Communities of Color United

<https://www.facebook.com/CCUCoalition/>

Community Resilience Trust

<https://communityresiliencetrust.org/>