Under the Microscope: Asian and Pacific Islander Youth in Oakland
Needs, Issues, Solutions

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INTRODUCTION

Under the Microscope: Asian and Pacific Islander Youth in Oakland was a data report first published in November, 2003. At the time, the data report represented the first-ever effort to provide a comprehensive look at youth of different Asian and Pacific Islander (API) ethnicities on a city-wide basis and focused on the interrelated issues of juvenile justice, education, and behavioral health among API groups in Oakland. By examining each of these ethnicities separately, the report exposed the widely varying needs of different API youth and revealed that certain groups within the API community are especially at risk, leading to specific recommendations on how to serve these groups.

This report is an updated version of the initial data report released in 2003. The data sources and references used throughout this report are similar to those found in the first report. For most of the tables and figures used, more recent data was available. By using similar datasets, a comparison can be made to the findings described in 2003. In many instances, the data suggests that API youth in Oakland are continuing to face issues that must be addressed by the community and by local policymakers.

The process began in November of 2001, when the Asian Pacific Islander Youth Violence Prevention Center (API Center), a collaboration between the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) and the University of Hawai'i, invited representatives from community-based organizations, social service agencies, educational institutions, and juvenile justice agencies to attend the Community Leaders Orientation. This was the first Community Response Plan meeting in which the API Center presented the need for a comprehensive strategy to reduce and prevent juvenile crime and violence. Representatives from 28 community organizations and government agencies met monthly to strategize and to provide feedback for the data collection, analysis, and advocacy for Oakland API youth. This group and the entire report are guided by the following mission and goals:

"Through the collaboration of the Community Response Plan group, we are determined to further the healthy development and empowerment of API youth by educating the community and promoting further understanding of the needs of and the issues facing the diverse API youth population in Oakland, and identifying and advocating for specific mobilization of resources and policy changes."

WHO ARE ASIANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS (APIS)?

API is a term used to refer to a diverse group of ethnicities that originate from the various parts of the Asian continent and of the islands of the Pacific Ocean. It includes, but is not limited to, those who identify themselves as: Asian Indian, Bangladeshi, Cambodian, Chinese (includes Taiwanese), Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Melanesian (includes Fijian), Micronesian, (includes Guamanian or

Chamorro), Mien, Native Hawai'ian, Pakistani, Samoan, Sri Lankan, Thai, Tongan, and Vietnamese[1].

DEMOGRAPHICS OF APIS IN OAKLAND

The following demographic data is presented to provide a context in which to view the issues that will be discussed in later sections of the report. It provides a comparison for API within the nation, the state, and the city of Oakland.

Population Size

APIs first arrived in Oakland in large numbers in the 1860s after the conclusion of the Gold Rush. Since then, this diverse group has grown dramatically in population[2]. The concentration of APIs is higher in Alameda County than it is statewide or nationally, although the API percentage of the general population is expected to increase at all geographic levels in coming years:

Actual Percentages of Asian and Pacific Islanders in Alameda County, California and the United States for 2000, and Projections for the years 2020 and 2040

	Alameda County	California	United States
2000	23.9%	12.9%	4.5%
2020	28.8%	14.2%	6.0%
2040	35.7%	15.5%	8.2%

Sources: State of California, Department of Finance, *County Population Projections with Age, Sex and Race/Ethnic Detail*. Sacramento, CA, December 1998; Population Projections Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau.

The API population is the only group that consistently increased in percentage of the total Oakland population since 1950, almost doubling between 1980 and 1990. The percentages of most of the API ethnicities in Oakland have consistently grown or remained steady since 1950 (Appendix A).

In terms of specific ethnic groups, from 1950 to 1990, Chinese and Filipinos had the largest populations among the various API ethnic groups in Oakland. Between 1990 and 2000, Vietnamese replaced Filipino as the second largest Asian American ethnic group in Oakland, with the Chinese remaining the largest (Appendix A).

1 The ethnicities referred to as APIs may vary for different disciplines. For example, the discipline of geography may include those originating in Eastern Asia (which includes the area commonly referred to the Middle East, with such countries as Iraq, Iran and Lebanon) as part of the API group. The list given here is not completely inclusive; for a more detailed list, please refer to the Census Bureau.
2 For a more detailed history of Asian and Pacific Islanders, please refer to Appendix D.

Population Characteristics from the 2000 Census and 2005 American Communities Survey

As a whole, Asians and Pacific Islanders in Oakland have lower per capita incomes, lower median earnings, less educational attainment, more people per household, and more households with children under 18 than the total Oakland population. In all of these categories, Pacific Islanders (PIs) deviate from the Oakland averages more than Asians. Asians, however, face higher poverty levels and more language barriers than PIs.

The following section compares characteristics of the API population in Oakland and characteristics of the total Oakland population (please refer to Appendix A for detailed numbers). Data will be presented from two sources: the 2005 American Communities Survey, and the 2000 Census Summary Files.

The data presented in the following section comes from the 2005 American Communities Survey (ACS). This data compares the API population in Oakland with Oakland's general population:

- Asians have lower median household incomes and lower per capita incomes than the total Oakland population (earning $7,166 and $4,405 less, respectively). The median household income of PIs is $1,734 lower than that of all of Oakland, and the per capita income of PIs is $14,021 lower than the total Oakland population. This discrepancy can be explained by the large household size of many PI groups.

- Asians working full-time in the past year had lower median earnings than the total Oakland population. Among males, Asians had a median income $3,585 lower than the total male population in Oakland. Among females, Asians had a median income $8,914 lower than the total female population in Oakland.

- Asians have a lower percentage of educational attainment than the overall Oakland population starting from high school graduation (16% and 20.2%. respectively) and higher with the exception of attaining an Associates Degree.

- Among the API in Oakland, Chinese make up about half of the population at 50.2%, followed by Filipinos (11.4%) and Vietnamese (9.1%). After these two groups, the rest of the API ethnicities make up no more than 5% each of the total API population in Oakland.

In the section below, data will be presented from the 2000 Census Survey. This data compares the API population in Oakland with Oakland's general population. This section also compares different API ethnicities to each other. More recent data from the 2005 American Communities Survey could not be used for this section because the number of sample cases was too small to compare API subgroups.

- PIs have a slightly lower poverty rate (19.3%) than the total Oakland population. However, PIs have a particularly high number of children ages 6-11 that qualify for

poverty status, 7.5% above the average number for all of Oakland. All PI families below the poverty level have children under the age of 18, a larger portion than the percentage of Asian families below the poverty level who have children under the age of 18 (72%).

- PIs have a higher percentage of educational attainment than all of Oakland's population until college. At the higher education levels, lower proportions of PIs attain associate, bachelor, or graduate degrees than either the total Oakland population or the Oakland Asian population.

- In terms of household size, overall, PIs have a much larger number of people in each household (3.92 household members) than either Asians (3.02 members) or the total Oakland population (2.60 members). Additionally, both Asian households and Pacific Islander households have a higher percentage of children ages 6-17 years living with two parents (75.0% and 81.5%, respectively) than the total Oakland population (55.8%).

- Taiwanese (2.0 household members), Japanese (1.95 members) and Koreans (1.97 members) are the only API groups that have a significantly lower average household size than the total Oakland population (2.6 members). Cambodians, Vietnamese, Polynesians (particularly Samoans and Tongans), and Melanesians all have larger average households than the Oakland population by more than one individual. Several ethnic groups have average household sizes that are much larger than the Oakland population: Cambodians had on average 1.9 more household members, Samoans 1.99 more, and Tongans 3.41 more.

- Almost half (47.9%) of API-language households are "linguistically isolated," meaning that in the household, no person age 14 or over speaks only English and no person age 14 or over who speaks a language other than English speaks English very well. This is the highest percentage within Oakland, the second being Spanish-language households at 30.7%.

- Many API groups have a high percentage of households with children under 18 compared to the Oakland average of 33.5%. Groups with especially high percentages (over 70%) include Cambodians, Laotians, Samoans, and Tongans. Groups with between 50% and 70% include Vietnamese, Polynesians, and Melanesians. Additionally, 0-17 year olds make up 38.3% of PI the population, compared to 25% of the total Oakland population and 24.5% of the Asian population.

OTHER ISSUES INFLUENCING THE API AMERICAN EXPERIENCE TODAY

Common misconceptions of APIs are strongly influenced by the widely held belief of the "model minority," which holds that APIs are more successful financially and educationally than other minorities because of their "exemplary commitment to family values, thrift, educational achievement, and a strong work ethic" (Asian and Pacific

Islander Youth Violence Prevention Center, 2001). One common misconception is that APIs do not face any discrimination and are not in need of any social services.

This model minority myth is perpetuated by presenting the multiple API ethnicities as one homogenous group. The category of API is composed of more than 40 different ethnicities whose histories of immigration, education and economic opportunities vary greatly. However, when categorized together under the label "Asian," larger ethnic groups with longer histories of immigration often overshadow smaller ethnic groups, many of whom have arrived in the last thirty years. In order to adequately understand the specific needs of smaller ethnic groups, such as Samoans, Vietnamese, and Laotians, disaggregating data by ethnicity is crucial.

While the statistics do show that taken together, Asian Americans have the highest educational attainment and the highest median family income of all ethnic groups, a closer look reveals that the model minority myth is highly inaccurate. Although it is true that some segments of the Asian American community have achieved levels above the country's average, other segments have some of the lowest incomes and educational levels in the country (Ong, 2002; Asian and Pacific Islander Youth Violence Prevention Center, 2001).

Many Asian ethnic groups, such as Taiwanese and South Asians, immigrated to the United States under student or professional visas after the Immigration Act of 1965 was passed, and by definition these immigrants were educated and possessed specialized skills that facilitated their economic success.

In contrast, the wave of refugees from Southeast Asia that entered the United States in the 1970s and 1980s faced entirely different circumstances, having experienced the hardships of war, refugee camps, and difficult escapes from their native countries. Additionally, many of these refugees were soldiers and their families, who lacked the crucial job skills needed in the United States (Indochinese Housing Development Corporation, 2001).

In addition to these refugees, Asian Americans of all ethnicities have been disadvantaged and face significant barriers in achievement. Many Asian immigrants move to ethnic enclaves, which are often in the inner city, and face problems frequently found in low-income urban areas, such as high crime rates (Ong, 2002).

Language and culture barriers are also predominant within the API immigrant community, heightened by the cultural and linguistic diversity within this category. APIs as a group constitute over one hundred languages and dialects whose cultural practices and beliefs vary greatly. These barriers in turn affect education and job opportunity. A common example of this is when highly educated immigrants are unable to find skilled jobs in the United States and must open their own small businesses and work long hours to provide for their households (Martinez, 1996). As a means of economic survival, many take low-wage entry-level jobs with little opportunity for advancement. To meet the high cost of living, many often work more than one job, leaving little time to improve their

English skills which are necessary for them in order to use the education and/or training they learned in their countries of origin.

In addition, immigrants are also affected by these difficulties within their own families. There is often both a language and cultural break between the first and second generations, which can lead to conflict and misunderstandings (Martinez, 1996).

METHODOLOGY

This report concentrates on API youth in the city of Oakland, California. The major difficulty faced in the investigation of each subject area was a lack of data disaggregated by specific API ethnicities. This information is significant because of the major differences in language, education, and income that exist between various API ethnicities.

In the demographics section, all information comes from the United States Census Bureau. The comparative information is based on ethnic groups "alone or in combination." Because the 2000 Census allowed people to indicate as many racial and ethnic groups as they would like, using only those who say they are one ethnicity alone undercounts that ethnic group. This report attempts to be as inclusive as possible; therefore, the population given for each ethnic group includes everyone who identified with that group, regardless of whether they also identified with other groups. Because people could identify with multiple ethnic groups, the sums of the populations given for each ethnic group do not equal the total population. This method of reporting 2000 Census information is used throughout the report. In the demographics section, several comparisons of the racial composition of the population of Oakland across time are given. Because the Census categories for race change dramatically over the years examined, detailed descriptions of each year are given with these tables.

The education report examines the K-12 API youth population (ages 5-17). Data in this section were primarily supplied by the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) and the California Department of Education.

The juvenile justice report examines the API youth populations ages 10-17. Most of the data included in this section have been gathered from government agencies such as the FBI Uniform Crime Reports and the Alameda County Probation Department. An obstacle to data collection in this section was that uniform reporting of race of an offender does not exist in the Probation Department. Therefore, oftentimes an individual police officer assumes and designates the race of a person, which can lead to inaccuracies in data. For example, there is a high rate of arrests in Oakland for Samoan youth; however, Tongans, who do not appear in the arrest data, are the largest Pacific Islander group in Oakland, leading to the theory that some of the youth identified as Samoan may have in fact been Tongan. For this report, a database of youth offenders was obtained from the Alameda County Probation Department. This database contained only the general racial groups of offenders rather than their specific ethnicity; however, the offenders' last names were available. A database of common API last names and the specific ethnicity to which these surnames correspond was created and used to re-

designate the ethnicities of those offenders who were originally placed in the "Other Asian" and "Other" categories. A more detailed explanation of this process and of the limitations that were inherent in this type of re-categorization is included in the juvenile justice section.

The behavioral health report is split in three sections, substance abuse, mental health, and teen pregnancy. Data were mainly compiled from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), the Alameda County Public Health Department, and three health service agencies that serve the local API community. Data collection for the behavioral health section was the most difficult, as much of the available data was not standardized and often not disaggregated by race or ethnicity. Compounding these barriers was the fact that very little literature on the health of API adolescents is currently available.

Throughout the process, the CRP group has outreached directly to the community, presenting information at various events and fairs. Additionally, four youth input focus groups were convened to broaden the perspectives represented in the report and to confirm that the information reflects actual youth experiences. Relevant information gathered from these meetings can be found throughout the chapters.

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CHAPTER 1: EDUCATION DATA

The planning group examined education because of its central position regarding the welfare of all youth. Lack of engagement with school is a risk factor for youth delinquency and violence. Conversely, doing well in school creates opportunities for youth not only in education but in related areas, e.g. jobs.

Education information will be presented in four sections: 1) District Issues to provide a context for issues pertinent to API students, 2) Asian Students, 3) Pacific Islander Students, and 4) Asian Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Students. Conclusions and recommendations complete this section.

The education chapter examines the K-12 API youth population (ages 5-17). Data in this section was primarily supplied by the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) and the California Department of Education. The CRP also contracted with the OUSD Grants Office to get specific data on Limited English Proficient (LEP) students, which provided further information on the educational needs of specific API ethnicities. The data provided by the OUSD Grants Office could not be updated for this report. Therefore specific data on LEP students is the same data that was presented in the first report.

SECTION 1: OUSD DISTRICT ISSUES

This section looks at Oakland Unified School District as a whole. OUSD has a unique diversity of youth. Various indicators show how a district's students are performing; these factors include: truancy, drop-out rates, GPA, test scores, and suspension numbers. It may appear that Asian students as a group are performing as well as if not better than other ethnic groups. This image of success is created by the lack of disaggregated data.

Table 1.1: OUSD Enrollment by Ethnicity, K-12 Population, 2005-2006

Ethnicity	Number	Percent
African American	16,600	40
Asian	6,766	16.3
Caucasian	2,599	6.3
Filipino	331	0.8
Hispanic	13,777	33.2
Native American	158	0.4
Pacific Islander	505	1.2
Other	731	1.8
Total	**41,467**	**100**

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 4/6/07

- OUSD has a highly diverse population
- The African American community has decreased from 2003 school year from 43.4% to 40% of the population
- API students constitute about 17.5% of the student population
- Caucasian students represent only 6% of the student population
- Since the 2002-03 academic year, overall student enrollment in OUSD had dropped about 18%, from 50,319 students to 41,467 students.

Table 1.2: Youth Ages 5-17 living in Oakland, 2000

Ethnicity	Number	Percent
African American	31,896	43.1
Asian	10,827	15.3
Caucasian	17,290	26.3
Filipino	1,354	1.9
Hispanic	20,331	27.5
Native American/ Alaskan Native	1,372	1.9
Pacific Islander	896	1.2
Other	13,464	18.0
Total*	**71,467**	**100.0**

Source: Census 2000

Note: *Multiracial persons are counted more than once and as a result, numbers/percentages may not add up to the total population.

- For all ethnic groups fewer youth are enrolled in OUSD compared to the number living in Oakland. This is, in part, because multiracial persons are counted more than once in the Census, thus increasing the number of youth in each category.
- Caucasians appear to have the largest discrepancy in 5–17 year olds residing in Oakland who do not attend public schools. The population of youth identified as at least part Caucasian in Oakland is 17,290, or 26.3% of the Oakland youth population aged 5-17. In contrast, OUSD shows its Caucasian population as 2,599, or 6.3% of the OUSD population; this is about 1/6 of the Oakland Caucasian youth population. However, the differences in ethnic categorization between the 2000 Census and the OUSD reports mean that it cannot be determined from this data whether Caucasian youth are going elsewhere for their education or if some of the youth who identify as part Caucasian in the Census data are located in a different category in the OUSD data (where youth were only placed in one category).
- While Caucasians appear underrepresented, other ethnic groups have a balanced representation, or are overrepresented. For example, African American youth are 43% of the youth population in Oakland, and 40% of the OUSD population. Hispanic youth are 28% of the Oakland youth population and 33% of the OUSD population, and Asian youth are 15% of the Oakland youth population and 16% of the OUSD population.

Table 1.3: OUSD Truancy Data 2001-2002

School	Average Absence Rate	Number of Students Enrolled	Daily Average Number of Students Absent	Daily Average $$$ Lost Due to Absences
Elementary School	6.4%	28,934	1,852	47,855.68
Middle School	13.6%	11,361	1,545	39,922.80
High School	20.7%	10,406	2,154	55,659.36
Total	10.9%	50,701	5,551	**$143,437.84**

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 2/21/2003.
Note: Does not include Alternative Middle Schools, Alternative High Schools, Special Education Schools, and Charter Schools

- This table shows data presented in the first *Under the Microscope* Report. The data needed to update this table could not be obtained so the table has been reused.
- Truancy has multiple consequences for the student, the school and the community. Using the minimum Average Daily Attendance (ADA) allocation of $25.84 per student per day for 2002, OUSD loses an average of $143,438 daily due to student absences. This amounts to $1 million every 7 days and about $28 million a year that would be available to the district if all students attended school every day.

Table 1.4: Dropout Rate by Gender and Ethnicity, OUSD, Grades 7-12; 2004-05

	African American	Asian	Caucasian	Filipino	Hispanic	Native American	Pacific Islander	Other	Total
	200	26	26	*	56	*	*	36	354
Female	-2.00%	-0.70%	-1.90%		-0.70%			-13.30%	-1.50%
	225	35	13	*	100	*	10	54	443
Male	-2.20%	-0.90%	-0.80%		-1.20%		-3.30%	-20.70%	-1.80%
	425	61	39	*	156	*	18	90	797
Total	-2.10%	-0.80%	-1.30%		-0.90%		-3.20%	-16.90%	-1.60%

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 7/7/06.

Note: A student is classified as a dropout when the student is absent for 45 or more consecutive days without a transcript request. The number of dropouts from grades 7-8 and 9-12 is expressed as a percent of the total enrollment for the same year. The rate is percentage of enrollment within a particular ethnic group. The "Other" category should not be used in comparisons due to the ambiguity of the ethnicities /races of student classifying as "Other."

An asterisk (*) indicates a value less than 10.

- OUSD dropout rate decreased from 2.9% in 2002 to 1.6% in 2005.
- All ethnic groups with the exception of the Pacific Islander population witnessed a decrease in dropout rate from 2002 (2%) to 2005 (3.2%).
- Pacific Islander students had the highest dropout rate compared to other ethnic groups (3.2%).
- In contrast, Asian students had the lowest dropout rate compared to other ethnic groups (0.8%).
- More than half of the dropouts in 2004-05 were African American students (53%).

Table 1.5: OUSD Dropout Rate by Grade, Ethnicity and Gender, 2004-2005

Grade	Gender	African American	Asian	Caucasian	Filipino	Hispanic	Native American	Pacific Islander	Other	Total
Grade 7	**Female**	23 -2.70%	*	*		12 -1.70%		*		46 -2.40%
	Male	26 -3.00%	12 -4.10%	*		19 -2.50%		*		61 -2.90%
	Total	49 -2.90%	18 -3.20%	*		31 -2.10%		*		107 -2.70%
Grade 8	**Female**	27 -3.20%	*			*		*	*	43 -2.40%
	Male	16 -1.90%	*	*	*	16 -2.50%				39 -2.00%
	Total	43 -2.60%	*	*	*	25 -2.00%		*	*	82 -2.20%

Grade 9	**Female**	24 -2.50%	*	*		*			24 -68.60%	61 -3.00%
	Male	27 -2.80%	*	*		15 -2.40%	*	*	16 -84.20%	65 -3.10%
	Total	51 -2.70%	*	*		22 -1.80%	*	*	40 -74.10%	126 -3.00%
Grade 10	**Female**	25 -2.90%	*	*		*	*	*	*	50 -2.90%
	Male	24 -3.10%	*	*	*	20 -3.90%	*	*	*	64 -3.60%
	Total	49 -3.00%	11 - 1.60%	*	*	29 -3.10%	*	*	16 -43.20%	114 -3.20%
Grade 11	**Female**	25 -4.00%	*	*		*		*		48 -3.50%
	Male	27 -4.70%	*	*	*	14 -3.90%	*	*	*	59 -4.40%
	Total	52 -4.30%	14 - 2.40%	*	*	22 -3.20%	*	*	*	107 -4.00%
Grade 12	**Female**	76 -13.80%	*	10 -20.40%	*	11 -4.00%		*	*	106 -8.90%
	Male	105 -23.20%	*	*		16 -5.90%		*	23 - 100.00%	155 - 14.80%
	Total	181 -18.00%	*	15 -13.90%	*	27 -4.90%		*	26 - 100.00%	261 - 11.70%
Total	**Female**	200 -2.00%	26 - 0.70%	26 -1.90%	*	56 -0.70%	*	*	36 -13.30%	354 -1.50%
	Male	225 -2.20%	35 - 0.90%	13 -0.80%	*	100 -1.20%	*	10 -3.30%	54 -20.70%	443 -1.80%
	Total	425 -2.10%	61 - 0.80%	39 -1.30%	*	156 -0.90%	*	18 -3.20%	90 -16.90%	797 -1.60%

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 7/7/06.

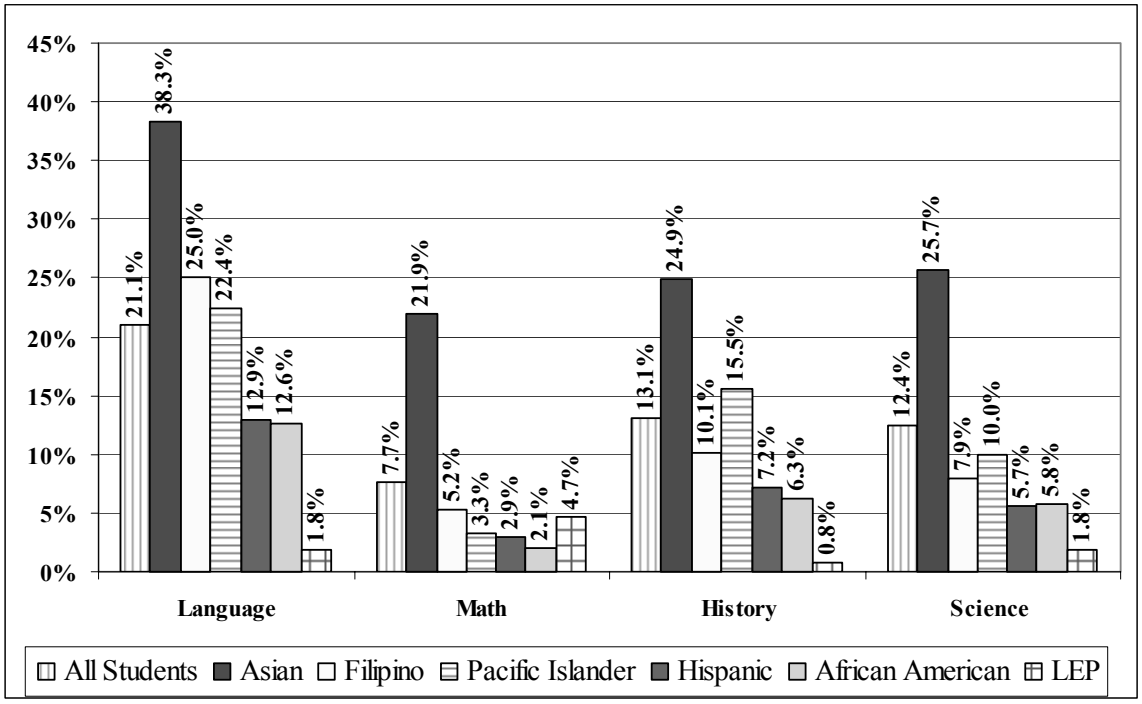
Notes: A student is classified as a dropout when the student is absent for 45 or more consecutive days without a transcript request. The number of dropouts from grades 7-8 and 9-12 is expressed as a percent of the total enrollment for the same year.

Rate is percentage of enrollment of the same group (based on CBEDS enrollment.)

* indicates a value less than 10.

- The total number of dropouts decreased 48% from 2002 to 2005.
- The peak number and percentage of dropouts occurs in Grade 12 (33%).
- Compared to other ethnic groups, Pacific Islanders have the highest drop out rate of 3.2%.
- In all ethnic groups, with the exception of Caucasians, the dropout rate for male students was higher compared to female students.

Figure 1.1: Results for students who scored "Proficient" or Advanced"* Scores By Subject Area and Ethnicity for all OUSD High Schools, Grades 9, 10, and 11, 2006



Source: California Department of Education,
Standardized Testing and Reporting System, http://star.cde.ca.gov; Accessed 5/14/07.

* California uses five performance levels to report student achievement on the CSTs:

Advanced performance in relation to the content standards tested
Proficient performance in relation to the content standards tested
Basic performance in relation to the content standards tested
Below Basic performance in relation to the content standards tested
Far Below Basic performance in relation to the content standards tested

- In all subjects, Asian students performed better than other Oakland High School students.
- Filipino students performed better than other students on the Language sections of the California Standards Test, but had lower scores on the Math, History and Science sections.
- Pacific Islander students performed better than other students on the Language and History sections, but had lower scores on the math and science sections.
- Hispanic students scored lower on all subject tests compared to other students.
- Limited English Proficiency students performed considerably lower than other students on all subject tests.

Table 1.6: Grade Point Average (GPA) by Ethnicity, OUSD High Schools, 2003-2004

School	African American	Asian	Caucasian	Filipino	Hispanic	Native American	Pacific Islander	Other	All Groups
Architecture Academy	2.09 73 (18.3%)	2.56 94 (23.5%)	1.34 * 	2.67 * 	1.80 221 (55.3%)		2.20 * 		2.05 400 (100.0%)
Castlemont High School	1.92 789 (49.9%)	2.45 45 (2.8%)	2.07 * 	2.05 * 	2.10 682 (43.1%)		1.91 50 (3.2%)	2.19 * 	2.01 1,582 (100.0%)
Fremont High School	2.07 96 (35.0%)	2.13 35 (12.8%)	2.46 * 	1.20 * 	2.01 126 (46.0%)	0.00 * 	2.43 * 	1.80 * 	2.05 274 (100.0%)
Mandela High School	2.49 113 (29.7%)	3.15 63 (16.6%)	2.94 * 	3.35 * 	2.35 182 (47.9%)	2.60 * 	2.39 * 	1.33 * 	2.56 380 (100.0%)
McClymonds High School	1.98 561 (79.1%)	1.98 57 (8.0%)	2.55 * 	2.56 * 	2.06 69 (9.7%)	3.00 * 	2.36 * 	2.85 * 	2.01 709 (100.0%)
Oakland High School	2.28 535 (26.4%)	2.88 1,079 (53.2%)	2.73 45 (2.2%)	2.34 22 (1.1%)	2.32 325 (16.0%)	1.37 * 	2.81 13 (0.6%)	2.81 * 	2.62 2,030 (100.0%)
Oakland Technical High School	2.17 1,008 (62.4%)	2.99 306 (18.9%)	3.08 92 (5.7%)	2.52 15 (0.9%)	2.32 182 (11.3%)	2.28 * 	2.89 * 	1.72 * 	2.40 1,616 (100.0%)
Robeson Visual Arts	2.16 156 (38.5%)	2.33 53 (13.1%)	1.92 * 	3.17 * 	2.02 181 (44.7%)	2.00 * 	1.54 * 		2.12 405 (100.0%)
Skyline High School	2.33 920 (44.6%)	3.00 500 (24.2%)	2.96 222 (10.8%)	2.59 25 (1.2%)	2.42 350 (17.0%)	2.25 14 (0.7%)	2.27 22 (1.1%)	3.20 10 (0.5%)	2.58 2,063 (100.0%)
Dewey	1.83 185 (69.5%)	1.74 28 (10.5%)	2.38 * 	2.50 * 	2.16 46 (17.3%)	2.67 * 	1.83 * 		1.89 266 (100.0%)
High Schools	2.15 4,251 (44.9%)	2.86 2,232 (23.6%)	2.91 389 (4.1%)	2.57 90 (1.0%)	2.17 2,318 (24.5%)	2.03 26 (0.3%)	2.21 122 (1.3%)	2.63 31 (0.3%)	2.36 9,459 (100.0%)
High Schools-Alternative	2.17 477 (54.9%)	2.57 86 (9.9%)	2.59 25 (2.9%)	3.26 10 (1.2%)	2.41 255 (29.3%)	2.11 * 	3.05 * 	2.76 * 	2.31 869 (100.0%)
District	2.23 9,379 (45.9%)	2.97 3,965 (19.4%)	3.11 961 (4.7%)	2.81 161 (0.8%)	2.40 5,571 (27.3%)	2.20 67 (0.3%)	2.43 244 (1.2%)	2.68 80 (0.4%)	2.47 20,428 (100.0%)
Rank	**7**	**2**	**1**	**3**	**6**	**8**	**5**	**4**	

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 7/7/06.
Notes: * indicates a value less than 10.*

- Compared to other ethnic groups, Asian students had the second highest district wide GPAs (2.97) and Filipino students had the third highest district wide GPAs (2.81).
- The average GPA for Pacific Islander students (2.43) was slightly lower than the total district wide average (2.47).
- African American students, the largest ethnic group in Oakland Unified, had the second lowest district wide GPA at 2.23.

- The GPA for all high schools in 2003-04 was 2.36, an increase from 2001-02 when the average high school GPA was 2.14.

Table 1.7: Suspension Incidences by Reason and Ethnicity, OUSD High Schools, 2004-2005

	African American	Asian	Caucasian	Filipino	Hispanic	Native American	Pacific Islander	Other	Total
Controlled Substance	125 (62.8%)	13 (6.5%)	*		54 (27.1%)	*	*	*	199 (100.0%)
Dangerous Object/Weapon	122 (63.9%)	10 (5.2%)	*		49 (25.7%)	*		*	191 (100.0%)
Disruption/Defiance of Authority	1,162 (73.5%)	45 (2.8%)	26 (1.6%)	*	300 (19.0%)	*	24 (1.5%)	16 (1.0%)	1,581 (100.0%)
Drug Paraphernalia	*				*				10 (100.0%)
Harass/Intimidate	37 (78.7%)	*	*		*				47 (100.0%)
Hate Violence	*	*			*				*
Imitation Firearm	14 (58.3%)	*			*				24 (100.0%)
Injured Another Person	1,498 (75.7%)	69 (3.5%)	39 (2.0%)	*	319 (16.1%)	*	23 (1.2%)	17 (0.9%)	1,978 (100.0%)
Obscene Act/Profanity/Vulgarity	293 (76.9%)	14 (3.7%)	13 (3.4%)	*	51 (13.4%)	*	*	*	381 (100.0%)
Property Damage	115 (59.0%)	13 (6.7%)	*	*	55 (28.2%)	*	*	*	195 (100.0%)
Received Stolen Property	22 (78.6%)	*	*		*				28 (100.0%)
Robbery or Extortion	23 (76.7%)				*	*		*	30 (100.0%)
Sexual Assault or Battery	22 (71.0%)	*			*			*	31 (100.0%)
Sexual Harassment	56 (77.8%)	*	*		13 (18.1%)			*	72 (100.0%)
Sold Imitation Controlled Substance	*				*				*
Stolen Property	41 (69.5%)	*	*		10 (16.9%)	*		*	59 (100.0%)

Terroristic Threat	*				*				*
Tobacco/Nicotine	*				*				*
Unknown	11 (73.3%)				*			*	15 (100.0%)
Violence Not In Self Defense	1,051 (75.0%)	67 (4.8%)	20 (1.4%)	*	229 (16.3%)	*	17 (1.2%)	*	1,401 (100.0%)
Total	4,621 (73.7%)	246 (3.9%)	113 (1.8%)	10 (0.2%)	1,119 (17.8%)	34 (0.5%)	70 (1.1%)	59 (0.9%)	6,272 (100.0%)

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 7/7/06.
Notes: * indicates a value less than 10.*

- Compared to 2001-02, there was a 10% decrease in the total number of suspensions in 2004-05.
- African American students are overrepresented in suspensions, accounting for 74% of all suspensions and 40% of the student population.
- In contrast, Asian students are underrepresented in suspensions, accounting for less than 4% of all suspensions and 16% of the student population.
- Consistent with other ethnic groups, the majority of suspensions for Asian students were a result of injury to another person (28% of all Asian suspensions) and violence not in self defense (27%).

Table 1.8: Suspension Incidences by Reason and Grade, OUSD, K-12, 2003-2004

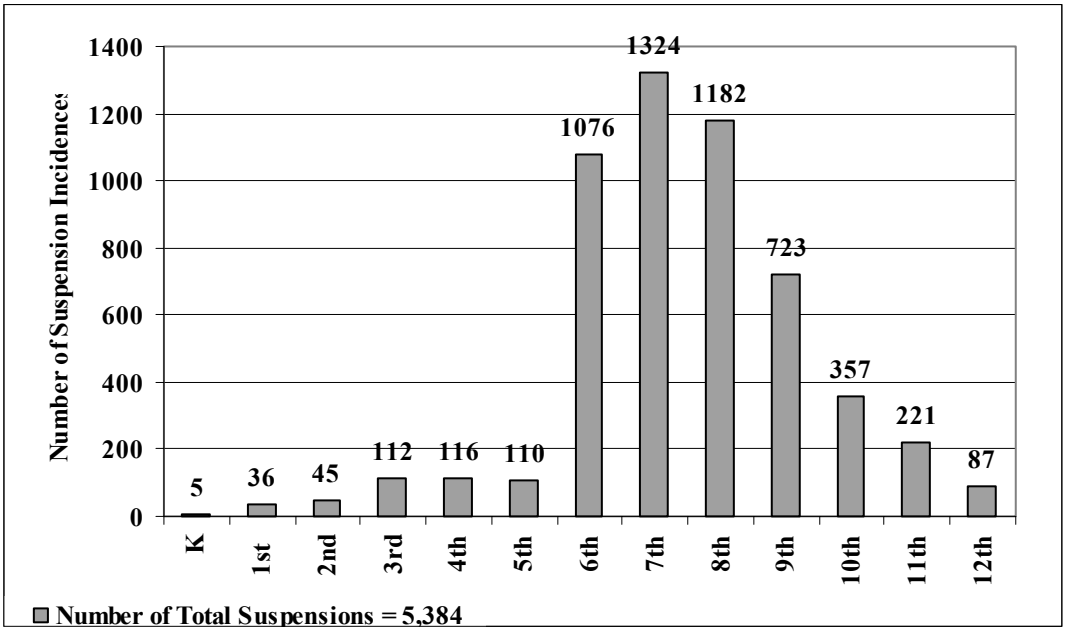
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Controlled Substance					5 0.7%	8 1.1%	85 12.0%	133 18.8%	124 17.6%	136 19.3%	144 20.4%	42 5.9%	29 4.1%	706 100.0%
Dangerous Object/Weapon	3 0.4%	6 0.7%	14 1.7%	11 1.4%	16 2.0%	26 3.2%	113 14.0%	192 23.9%	172 21.4%	132 16.4%	79 9.8%	36 4.5%	5 0.6%	805 100.0%
Disruption/ Defiance of Authority		5 0.1%	12 0.4%	44 1.3%	21 0.6%	25 0.7%	657 19.4%	869 25.6%	825 24.3%	574 16.9%	213 6.3%	111 3.3%	38 1.1%	3,394 100.0%
Drug Paraphernalia							5 16.1%	4 12.9%	12 38.7%	4 12.9%	6 19.4%			31 100.0%
Harass/ Intimidate							13 9.6%	17 12.5%	28 20.6%	42 30.9%	27 19.9%	9 6.6%		136 100.0%
Hate Violence							7 77.8%	2 22.2%						9 100.0%
Imitation Firearm			3 4.2%	4 5.6%	11 15.5%	3 4.2%	19 26.8%	9 12.7%	7 9.9%	7 9.9%		8 11.3%		71 100.0%
Injured Another Person	5 0.1%	36 0.7%	45 0.8%	112 2.1%	116 2.2%	100 1.9%	1,076 20.0%	1,324 24.6%	1,182 22.0%	723 13.4%	357 6.6%	221 4.1%	87 1.6%	5,384 100.0%

Obscene Act/Profanity/ Vulgarity		6 0.6%	6 0.6%	11 1.1%	15 1.5%	5 0.5%	101 10.0%	265 26.2%	273 27.0%	170 16.8%	102 10.1%	40 4.0%	16 1.6%	1,010 100.0%
Property Damage	3 0.5%	11 1.7%	3 0.5%	10 1.6%	3 0.5%	16 2.5%	40 6.2%	145 22.6%	156 24.3%	129 20.1%	84 13.1%	15 2.3%	28 4.4%	643 100.0%
Received Stolen Property						5 8.9%	8 14.3%	20 35.7%	15 26.8%	8 14.3%				56 100.0%
Robbery or Extortion							6 5.4%	25 22.3%	18 16.1%	10 8.9%	25 22.3%	23 20.5%	5 4.5%	112 100.0%
Sexual Assault or Battery		6 5.5%	2 1.8%	2 1.8%	17 15.5%	5 4.5%	26 23.6%	30 27.3%	15 13.6%	7 6.4%				110 100.0%
Sexual Harassment			3 1.3%		20 8.9%	5 2.2%	45 20.0%	65 28.9%	49 21.8%	17 7.6%	16 7.1%	5 2.2%		225 100.0%
Sold Imitation Controlled Substance					5 14.7%		8 23.5%			3 8.8%		10 29.4%	8 23.5 %	34 100.0%
Stolen Property			1 0.5%	8 4.3%		1 0.5%	17 9.1%	45 24.2%	38 20.4%	41 22.0%	10 5.4%	15 8.1%	10 5.4%	186 100.0%
Terroristic Threat					2 7.4%	2 7.4%	6 22.2%		7 25.9%			5 18.5%	5 18.5 %	27 100.0%
Tobacco/ Nicotine			4 14.3%				12 42.9%			7 25.0%		5 17.9%		28 100.0%
Unknown						3 7.3%	4 9.8%	20 48.8%	9 22.0%	1 2.4%	4 9.8%			41 100.0%
Violence Not In Self Defense	8 0.2%	19 0.4%	67 1.4%	40 0.9%	87 1.9%	99 2.1%	916 19.6%	1,212 25.9%	700 14.9%	767 16.4%	419 8.9%	250 5.3%	101 2.2%	4,685 100.0%
Total	19 0.1%	89 0.5%	160 0.9%	242 1.4%	318 1.8%	303 1.7%	3,164 17.9%	4,377 24.7%	3,630 20.5%	2,778 15.7%	1,486 8.4%	795 4.5%	332 1.9%	17,693 100.0%

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 7/7/06.

- The majority of suspensions occur in the middle school years (63%): 6th grade (18%), 7th grade (24%), and 8th grade (21%).
- Most suspensions occur between grades 6 and 10 (87%).
- The number of suspensions increases by 944% from 5th grade (303) to 6th grade (3,164).
- Most suspensions occurred as a result of injury to another person (30%) or violence not in self defense (26%).

Figure 1.2: OUSD Suspensions for Injury to another Person, 2003-2004



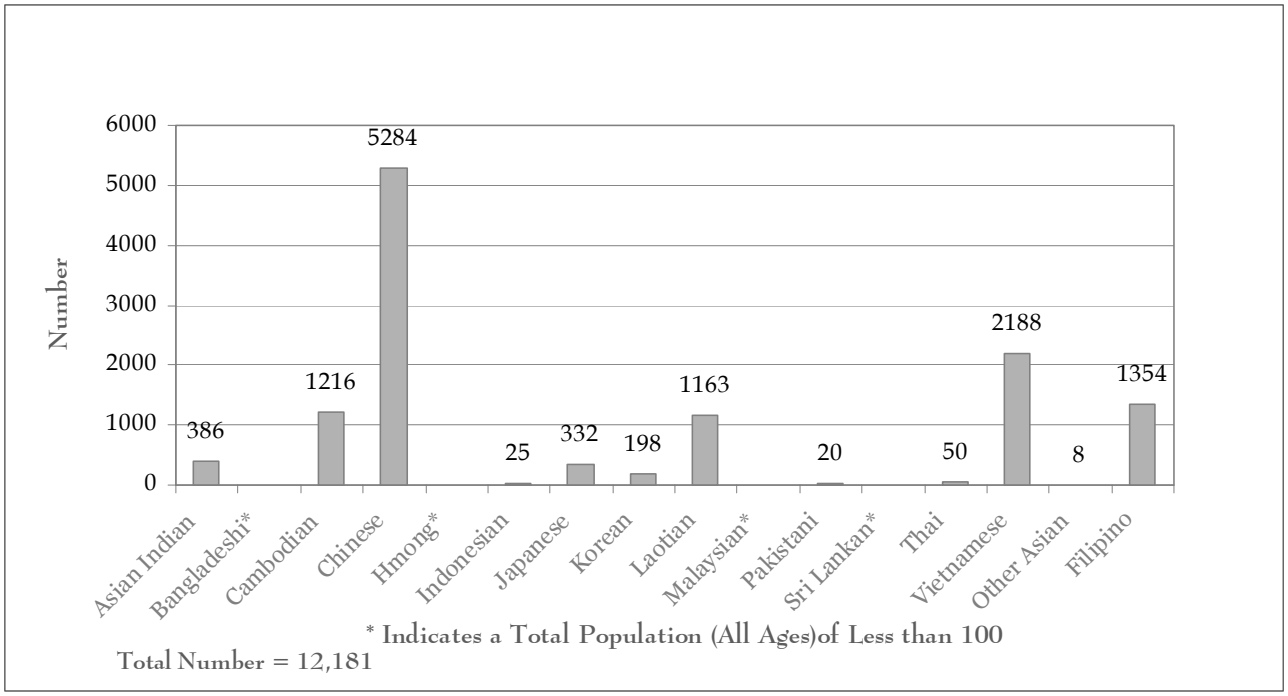
Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us

- Most suspensions occurred as a result of injury to another person (30%) or violence not in self defense (26%).
- There is an 878.2% increase in suspensions between the 5th and 6th grade.
- About 8% (424) of suspensions for injury to another person were for children in elementary school.
- About 67% (3,582) of suspensions for injury to another person were for youth in middle school.

SECTION 2: ASIAN STUDENTS

This section examines the number of Asian students attending OUSD, and their performances and behavior at school. School data combines Asians into one group which does not allow analysis by specific Asian ethnicities. To more fully understand the situation of Asian students, the Asian category should be disaggregated into specific ethnicities. Data presented in the following section suggests some Asian ethnicities do well in school, whereas others may be having some difficulties.

Figure 1.3: Oakland Asian Population Distribution for 5-17 year-olds, 2000



Source: Census Bureau 2000

- In 2000, there were approximately 12,181 Asian youth between the ages of 5 – 17 years old living in Oakland.
- The largest group is Chinese who represent 43.4% of the population.
- Southeast Asians (Cambodian, Vietnamese, Laotian, Hmong, Thai) compose about 38% (4,617) of the Asian population aged 5-17 years old in Oakland.
- Together Chinese and Southeast Asian youth make up 81.3% of the total Asian youth population, leaving a little under 20% of other Asian ethnicities.

Table 1.9: Asian Student Population Distribution, OUSD, 2005-2006

	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total
# of Asian Students	546	458	484	473	503	541	493	492	502	573	614	567	520	**6766**
Total # of Students	3847	3517	3593	3350	3275	3419	3204	3179	2912	3697	3225	2331	1918	**41467**

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 4/6/07.

- The number of Asian students in K-12 ranges from 458 students (1st grade) to 614 students (10th grade).
- Compared to 2002-03, there has been a 21% decrease in the number of students attending Oakland Unified schools. Similarly, the number of Asian students has decreased 16% during this time period.
- The average number of Asian students per grade was 521, an average of 16.3% of the population for each grade level.

Table 1.10: Asian Student GPA by High School, 2003-2004

High School	Asian Population	Asian GPA	Total GPA
Skyline	501	3.00	2.58
Oakland Tech	316	2.99	2.4
Oakland	1,094	2.88	2.62
Castlemont	46	2.45	2.01
Fremont	36	2.13	2.05
McClymonds	57	1.98	2.01
Dewey	28	1.74	1.89

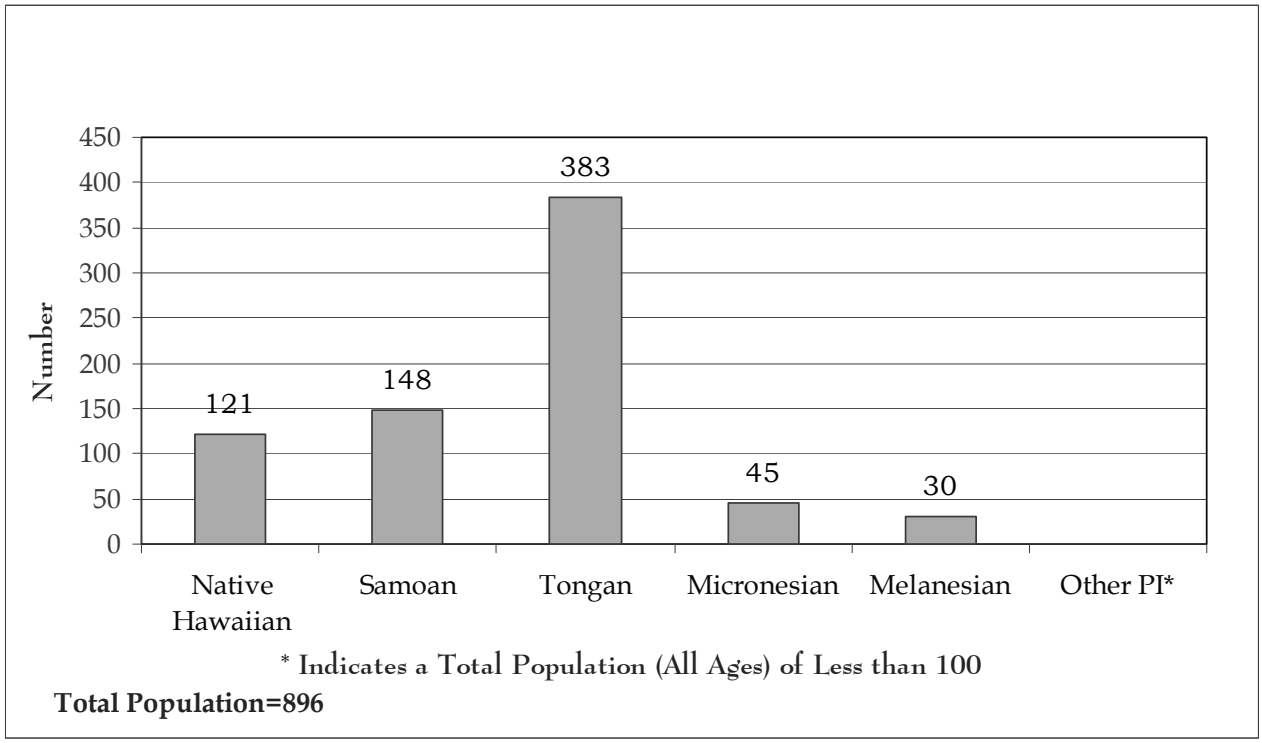
Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 7/7/06.

- The GPAs for Asian students from Oakland high schools ranged from 1.74 to 3.00.
- In 5 out of 7 high schools, Asian students performed better academically than their peers.
- Compared to 2001-02, GPAs for Asian students increased at Skyline (from 2.87 to 3.00), Oakland Tech (from 2.76 to 2.99), Oakland (from 2.67 to 2.88) and Castlemont (from 2.23 to 2.45) high schools, the four schools with the highest GPAs for Asian students.
- Compared to 2001-02, GPAs for Asian students decreased at Fremont (from 2.34 to 2.13), McClymonds (from 2.02 to 2.01) and Dewey (from 1.81 to 1.74) high schools, the three schools with the lowest GPAs for Asian students.
- In the three high schools with relatively larger Asian populations (Skyline, Oakland Tech, and Oakland), Asian students have considerably higher GPAs than their peers.
- Asian students appear to be performing well academically compared to other groups. However, LEP students receive low scores on standardized tests. As the data regarding LEP students will show in the next section, Asian data in the aggregate does not accurately describe the disparities that exist among the various Asian ethnicities.

SECTION 3: PACIFIC ISLANDER STUDENTS

This section looks at the performance of Pacific Islander (PI) youth in Oakland public schools. Pacific Islander youth population by specific ethnicities is examined, their population distribution in OUSD and their academic performance.

Figure 1.4: Oakland Pacific Islander Population Distribution of 5-17 year-olds, 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000
Note: The Census data include PI youth who may be of multiple ethnicities and counted more than once.

- In 2000, the total Pacific Islander population of 5-17 year olds was 896. Of the Pacific Islander group Polynesians (Native Hawaiian, Samoan and Tongan) make up the majority, 72.8% (652).
- In 2005-2006, OUSD shows an enrollment of 505 PI students. Some PI youth in OUSD may be placed in other racial categories (for instance, a child who is Caucasian and PI may be categorized as Caucasian in OUSD).

Table 1.11: Pacific Islander Student Population Distribution, OUSD, 2005-2006

	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total
# of Pacific Islander Students	37	36	45	46	44	39	54	37	30	50	38	24	25	**505**
Total # of Students	3847	3517	3593	3350	3275	3419	3204	3179	2912	3697	3225	2331	1918	**41467**

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 4/6/07.

- The number of Pacific Islander students in K-12 ranges from 24 students (11th grade) to 54 students (6th grade).
- Compared to 2002-03, there has been a 21% decrease in the number of students attending Oakland Unified schools. Comparably, the number of Pacific Islander students has decreased 15% during this time period.
- The average number of Pacific Islander students per grade was 39, an average of 1.2% of the total district population for each grade level.

Table 1.12: Pacific Islander Student GPA by High School, 2003-2004

High School	Pacific Islander Pop.	Pacific Islander GPA	Total GPA
Oakland Tech	7	2.89	2.40
Oakland	13	2.81	2.62
Fremont	7	2.43	2.05
McClymonds	9	2.36	2.01
Skyline	22	2.27	2.58
Castlemont	126	1.91	2.01
Dewey	1	1.83	1.89

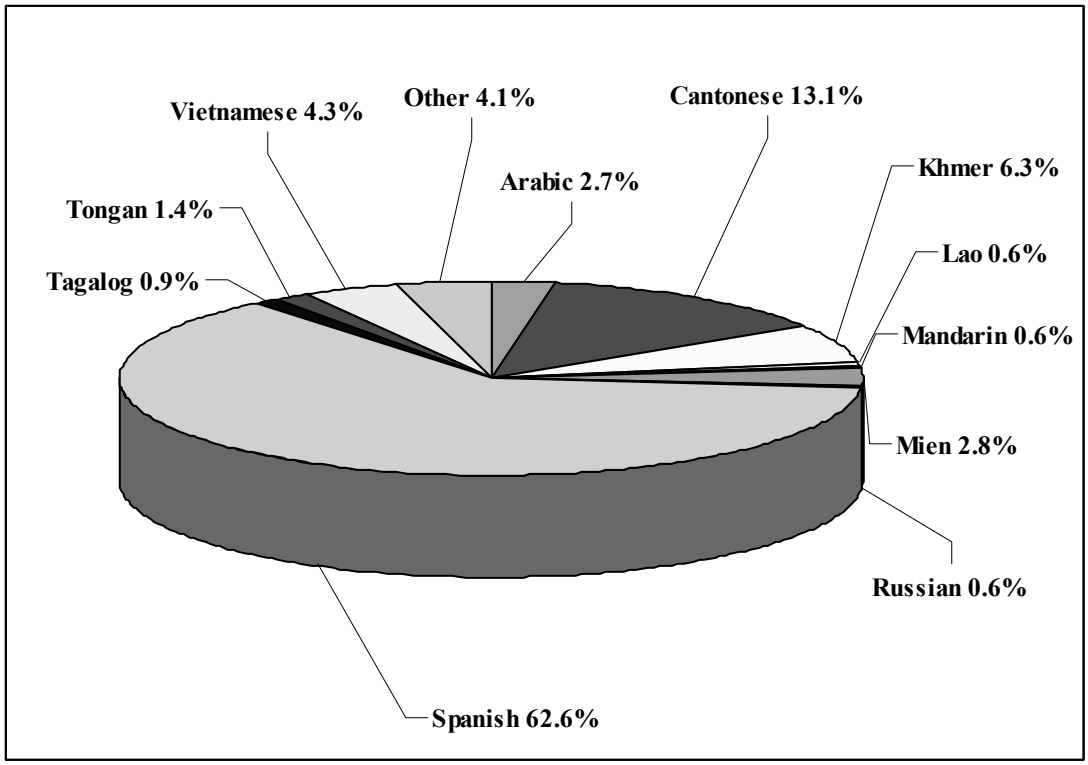
Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 7/7/06.

- The GPAs for Pacific Islander students from Oakland high schools ranged from 1.83 to 2.89.
- In 4 out of 7 high schools, Pacific Islander students performed better academically than their peers.
- Compared to 2001-02, GPAs for Pacific Islander students increased at all seven Oakland high schools in 2003-04.

SECTION 4: API LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (LEP) STUDENTS

This section looks at LEP students in OUSD. The ethnic make-up of LEP students is examined as well as the population distribution in OUSD. The requirements of moving into mainstream English classes and the numbers that make this move are discussed. While OUSD does not record API ethnicity in student data, the district has data by language spoken for LEP students. The LEP student data is a back door to disaggregating data in that academic performance, attendance, and suspensions can be examined by individual languages, providing a way to obtain information about students of specific API ethnicities. This analysis, however, is limited because this data does not include all API students.

Figure 1.5: Limited English Proficient (LEP) Students Language Breakdown in All OUSD High Schools, 2005-06



Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 5/14/07.

- The majority of LEP in high school are Spanish speaking (62.6%).
- About 27% of high school LEP students speak Asian languages. The largest group speaks Cantonese (13.1%), followed by Khmer (6.3%), Vietnamese (4.3%), and Mien (2.8%).
- Compared to 2001-02, the percentage of LEP students speaking Asian languages decreased from 40% to 27% in 2005-06.

Table 1.13: LEP Asian and Pacific Islander Student Population Distribution, 2005-06

	K	1	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Total
# of API LEP Students	433	343	366	189	168	120	136	111	120	175	177	167	147	**2,652**
Total # of LEP Students	1693	1487	1478	1090	944	727	695	612	583	704	606	409	349	**11,377**

Source: OUSD, www.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 4/6/07.

- About 35% of the API student population are LEP students (2,652), a decrease from 48% in 2002-03.
- API students account for 18.3% of the total OUSD population, but account for 23% of the LEP population.
- Since 2002-03, there has been a 32% decrease in the total number of LEP students.
- Since 2002-03, there has been a 39% decrease in the number of API LEP students.

Designation as an LEP Student

Upon enrolling OUSD, a student is tested for English proficiency if a parent indicates on the enrollment form that his or her primary language is not English. Once placed in LEP classes, a student must fulfill criteria identified below in order to move into mainstream English classes. **Redesignation** is the term used to describe the change in the status of a student who is LEP and has qualified to be put in mainstream English classes (see below).

Redesignation to mainstream English classes

A LEP student is reassigned to English language mainstream classes when the following criteria are met:

1) Statewide **California English Language Development Test (CELDT)** score of 4/5.
2) SAT9 Reading and Language scores at or above the 36th percentile
3) GPA of 2.0 or above
4) Teacher Recommendation or Parental Approval

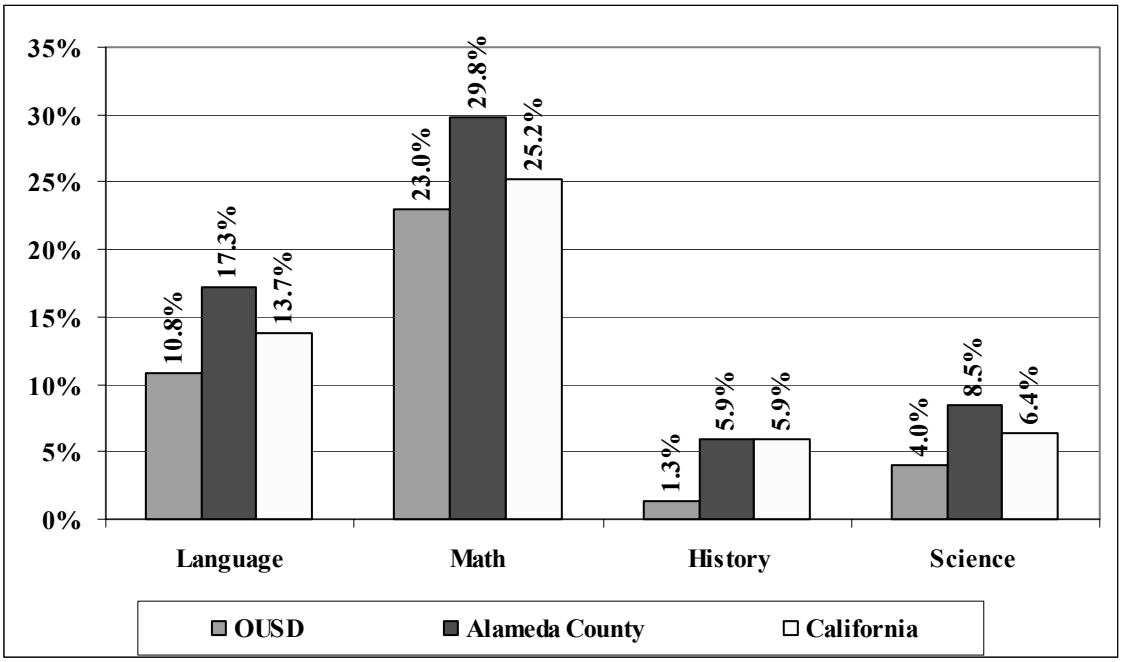
Table 1.14: English Learners and Students Redesignated, Grades K-12, OUSD, Alameda County and California; 2004-2005 and 2005-2006

	2004-2005		2005-2006	
	# of English Learners (% of Enrollment)	**# of Students Redesignated (% redesignated)**	**# of English Learners (% of Enrollment)**	**# of Students Redesignated (% redesignated)**
OUSD	14,254 (29.0 %)	2,014 (13.4 %)	13,651 (28.4 %)	1,911 (13.4 %)
Alameda County	44,340 (20.5 %)	5,459 (12.1 %)	44,432 (20.7 %)	5,320 (12.0 %)
California	1,591,525 (25.2%)	143,136 (9.0%)	1,571,463 (24.9%)	153,027 (9.6%)

Source: California Department of Education; Accessed 7/7/06.

- Compared to Alameda County and the state of California, Oakland Unified has the highest percentage of English Learners and the highest percentage of students redesignated to mainstream English classes.
- Between 2000 and 2006, the number of English Learners enrolled in Oakland Unified has decreased 30%. The number of English Learners enrolled in Alameda County has decreased 3%, and the number of English Learners in California has increased 4%.
- Between 2004-05 and 2005-06, the percentage of students redesignated to mainstream English classes remained about the same in Oakland Unified, Alameda County and California.
- California Education Code: Schools shall receive $100 per year per LEP student enrolled in grades 4 to 8. Additionally, a school will receive a one-time $100 for any K-12 LEP student who is redesignated to English-fluent status. Schools can also apply for a $400 grant per LEP student to operate an LEP program that "provides multiple, intensive language and literacy opportunities."

Figure 1.6: Percentage of LEP students who scored "Proficient" or "Advanced"* Scores on the California Standards Tests (CST) for All Grades; Oakland, Alameda County and California



Source: California Department of Education,
Standardized Testing and Reporting System, http://star.cde.ca.gov; Accessed 5/14/07.

* California uses five performance levels to report student achievement on the CSTs:

Advanced performance in relation to the content standards tested
Proficient performance in relation to the content standards tested
Basic performance in relation to the content standards tested
Below Basic performance in relation to the content standards tested
Far Below Basic performance in relation to the content standards tested

- Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students in Oakland Unified School District scored lower on the California Standards Test (CST) in all subjects compared to LEP students in Alameda County and LEP students in California.
- LEP students in Alameda County performed better on the CST in all subject tests compared to LEP students in California.

Figure 1.7: Current OUSD High School Graduation Requirements

Graduation Requirements:		
230 Credits in required subjects		
Minimum GPA 2.0		
Passes the California State Exit Exam in Math and Language arts		
Completes a senior project		
Required Subjects	Units	Semesters
English	40	8
Math – Algebra and Geometry	30	6
Science – Biology/Physical Science	30	6
U.S. History	10	2
World Cultures	10	2
American Government	5	1
Economics	5	1
World Languages*	10	2
Visual Performing Arts	10	2
Physical Education	20	4
Electives	60	12

Source: www.student.ousd.k12.ca.us; Accessed 5/17/07.

**Enrollment in ELD classes for English Language Learners may satisfy this requirement*

Table 1.15: The Mean Number of Days Absent of LEP API Students by LEP Language, OUSD, 2000-2001

	Cambodian	*Cantonese*	*Chewcho*	*Chinese*	*Filipino*	*Hindi*	*Ilocano*	*Korean*	*Lao*	*Mandarin*
Number of Students	752	1877	17	37	16	24	5	25	141	52
Mean # of Days Absent	18	10	1	9	12	12	13	7	**20**	6
	Mien	*Punjabi*	*Samoan*	*Tagalog*	*Thai*	*Tongan*	*Toysan*	*Urdu*	*Vietnamese*	*West Asian*
Number of Students	566	5	14	123	5	176	18	7	870	9
Mean # of Days Absent	17	12	15	17	16	**21**	5	**23**	10	6

Source: OUSD Grants Office Received June 6, 2002
Note: Groups with a population under 5 persons were omitted for confidentiality reasons
Bold indicates a group with high mean numbers of days absent.

- This table shows data presented in the first *Under the Microscope* Report. The data needed to update this table could not be obtained so the table has been reused.
- The groups with the highest mean number of days absent are Asian Indians (23), Tongans (21), and Laotians (20).
- The group with the lowest mean number of days absent is Chewcho (Chinese dialect), who have 17 students with a mean of 1 day absent.
- The group with the highest population, Cantonese, has a mid-range mean number of days absent, 10.

Table 1.16: The Mean GPA of LEP API Students by Language, OUSD, 2000-2001

	Cambodian	*Cantonese*	*Chewcho*	*Chinese*	*Filipino*	*Hindi*	*Korean*	*Lao*	*Mandarin*
Number of Students	469	1309	11	24	10	20	17	93	35
Mean GPA	**1.83**	2.71	*3.26*	2.91	**1.72**	2.17	2.72	**1.77**	*3.10*

	Mien	*Samoan*	*Tagalog*	*Tongan*	*Toysan*	*Urdu*	*Vietnamese*	*West Asian*
Number of Students	363	10	77	105	11	6	612	7
Mean GPA	2.11	**1.33**	2.23	**1.47**	*3.15*	2.36	2.76	2.36

Source: OUSD Grants Office Received June 6, 2002
Note: Groups with a population under 5 persons were omitted for confidentiality reasons.
Italics indicate a group with a high GPA.
Bold indicates a group with a low GPA.

- This table shows data presented in the first *Under the Microscope* Report. The data needed to update this table could not be obtained so the table has been reused.
- The language groups with the lowest mean GPA are Samoan (1.33), Tongan (1.47), Filipino (1.72), Lao (1.77), and Cambodian (1.83) – all Southeast Asians and Pacific Islanders. These groups all have a mean GPA under 2.0.
- Tongan and Lao speaking youth have one of the highest mean number of days absent as well as one of the lowest mean GPA of LEP groups.
- Chewcho, Mandarin, and Toysan are the only language groups that have a GPA over 3.0 – all Chinese dialects. Chewcho students have the highest mean GPA as well as the lowest mean number of days absent.

CONCLUSIONS

SUMMARY

- The aggregation of Asians in one category is misleading and gives the impression that Asian students are faring better than other groups. When disaggregated by Asian ethnicity, educators can see which groups are in need of extra attention, different methods of delivery of the curriculum, more parent involvement or other intervention. The data using the language of LEP students gives an indication of the disparity of attendance and GPAs among API students in Oakland.
- Standardized tests indicate that LEP (of which 40% are API) students have the lowest scores in almost every subject.
- The small amount of disaggregated data available for LEP Asian students demonstrates variance in success levels of different LEP API groups. Some LEP API students have low GPA and high truancy rates. These groups may not receive the attention they need because other API students are able to perform well on standardized tests, and the lower achievement of some groups is hidden.
- The large population of Chinese students in OUSD, who are faring well academically, overshadow API groups with lower achievement, such as LEP students and Southeast Asians.
- It is reasonable to assume that high numbers of Asian LEP students mean high numbers of Limited English Proficiency parents as well. Language barriers may prevent some parents from participating fully in their child's education or understanding the educational requirements for their children.
- The Pacific Islander youth population is relatively small. For this reason it is easy to overlook this group's poor academic performance and commitment to school as shown in the absence and drop out rates.
- The high truancy level among OUSD students deprives the district of funds needed to provide essential services and promote the academic achievement of its students.
- OUSD has a table which displays an inverse relationship between academic success and days absent (Appendix B). This data suggests that truancy needs to be decreased in order for the district to improve academic performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Ideas:

- **Advocacy**: The goal is motivate API parents to advocate for their children.
- **Truancy**: Truancy has links to delinquency, which affects youth, parents and the community. The school also loses money with each absence, which can deprive the school of income. Decreasing truancy has the potential to improve academic performance, crime rates of juveniles and quality of education.
- **Classification**: Disaggregation is necessary to fully address the needs of specific API ethnicities.

Strategies:

- **Classification**: The District should disaggregate the Asian ethnicity category.
  - Enrollment forms could expand the ethnicity category
    Recommended format:
    What is your ethnicity (mark all that apply):
    African American/ Black _
    Caucasian _
    Asian/ Pacific Islander:
    South Asian (including: Indian, Bangladeshi, Pakistani & Sri Lankan) _
    Cambodian _
    Chinese _
    Filipino _
    Hmong _
    Japanese _
    Korean _
    Laotian _
    Mien _
    Native Hawaiian _
    Samoan _
    Thai _
    Tongan _
    Vietnamese _
    Latino/ Hispanic _
    Native American or Alaskan Native _
    Other _____
  - In addition a question about home language should include: Do your parent(s) speak English? What is their primary language?
- **Truancy**:
  - Conduct surveys of students to find out why they don't go to school and what would entice them to return. It would be most effective to conduct the survey at the beginning of the year when attendance rates are at their highest.
  - Outreach to API parents using the community is a necessary step to improve the attendance and performance of API students.
- **Graduation Requirements**: Provide greater outreach regarding the graduation requirements including stories in the media (school newspapers and the ethnic press),

fliers for parents in appropriate languages, and notices in environments where API congregate.

- **Parent Communication**: Provide a mechanism for communicating with the non - English speaking parents such as educational videotapes in appropriate languages. Ethnic specific parent conferences have been held by the *API Education Taskforce* and these are opportunities to connect with parents in environments they find comfortable.
- **Make Data Available**: Make extensive district data easily available to the public and provide access to Community Based Organizations and parents at no charge. Providing data on test scores, GPA, suspension and dropouts disaggregated by specific Asian ethnicities can help identify important issues that need to be addressed by schools and at the district level in order to provide equal educational opportunities to LEP and API students.
- **Create API Centers**: Resource Centers in each High School and Middle School to address the social and academic needs of API students. (For flowchart, see Appendix B). It is important that the API Center target API students, but does not exclude students of other ethnicities. The goal is to make information more accessible to the various API ethnicities, especially LEP students.
    - Resources should include programs and services (non-profit, federal, etc.) that can help youth in areas of education, legal services, health, extracurricular activities, and career options. This information should be disseminated in various languages.

Promising Approaches:

- Truancy:
    - *Helping Hand*: Truant youth (K-3rd grade) are referred by school officials. A counselor is assigned to the youth to create a plan for up to eight weeks. There is a focus on family support and resistance from the family may warrant a Family Court Referral. After the counseling the youth and family are monitored for an additional 30-60 days.
    - *Verde Elementary School - Richmond*: has implemented a system, hiring parents to go door to door to inquire about truant students. Perhaps a similar program can be implemented in OUSD. Effects have been improved student attendance, and increased parent participation. This may be quite effective if parents of ethnicities with high truancy rates are recruited as workers (i.e. Mien community, Tongan community).

EDUCATION GLOSSARY

GENERAL TERMS

- *API (Asian & Pacific Islander) Education Taskforce* - Advocate and educate quality programs for the API students and parents living in Oakland, California. Committee consists of community agency representatives, educators, and parents.

- *ELD/ESL* – English Language Development, formerly ESL, English as a Second Language. Youth whose first language is not English are taken out of mainstream English classes to focus primarily on learning English.

- *LEP* – Limited English Proficiency. A designation term used for youth whose first language is other than English. This is the lowest level of English proficiency; as students learn English, they may be redesignated or moved up to FEP- Fluent English Proficiency status.

- *Proposition 227* – Passed in California in 1998, this measure mandates English only instruction rather than Bilingual instruction for Limited English Proficiency students.

- *Redesignation* – The process of being moved out of LEP status to FEP status and mainstream English classrooms.

EDUCATIONAL TESTS & REPORTING SYSTEMS

- *STAR* – Standardized Testing and Reporting System. Youth take the SAT9 test and STAR is the agency that computes the scores and reports them to the public.

- *CELDT* - California English Language Development Test

CHAPTER 2: JUVENILE JUSTICE DATA

Juvenile justice information will be presented in six sections, moving from broad categories to more specific ones: 1) Nationwide Data, 2) Statewide Data, 3) Oakland Trends, 4) API Trends in Oakland, 5) Female API Trends in Oakland, and 6) Male API Trends in Oakland.

Juvenile justice numbers and trends are important in that they affect the entire community. Delinquency is linked to other areas the report covers, including education and behavioral health. The Community Response Plan group identified data regarding API youth involvement in crime and delinquency as a priority. Anecdotal information seemed to indicate that API youth are getting more involved in crime, but the extent and nature of that involvement was not known.

Certain risk factors for delinquent behavior connect juvenile justice issues with topics discussed in the rest of the report. As identified and described in a 1995 report on the juvenile crime outlook in California, there are several characteristics that are often displayed by "at-risk juveniles:" (Legislative Analyst's Office, 1995)

1) *Failure in School*: This includes poor academic performance, poor attendance, and/or expulsion or dropping out of school. Because the youth has left school earlier than peers, the youth misses chances to learn how to do such things as learn how to meet deadlines, follow instructions, and deal constructively with peers.
2) *Family Problems*: This includes a past history of criminal activity by members of the family. It also refers to juveniles who have been victimized by (sexual, physical, or emotional) abuse, neglect, or abandonment. This can also be manifested as a lack of parental control over the child.
3) *Substance Abuse*: This includes arrests for drug or alcohol possession or sale, as well as the alteration of behavior by substance abuse. An example is that using alcohol or drugs can lower inhibitions and make it easier for a youth to commit a criminal offense. Drug abusers may also commit property offenses to support their habit.
4) *Pattern Behaviors and "Conduct" Problems*: This includes chronic stealing or running away, as well as conduct and behavioral problems that are detailed in the Behavioral Health chapter.
5) G*ang Membership and Gun Possession*: Gang membership is strongly associated with future criminal activity, and the possession of a gun by a juvenile increases the severity of juvenile crime by making offenses more likely to result in injury or death.

Justice issues take on an added importance within a community that is fearful of turning to the police for help due to a myriad of reasons. In a poll conducted by the API Center at the Oakland Chinatown New Year's Bazaar in February of 2002, about 20% of the people polled in Chinese said that they would be reluctant to report a crime to the police due to immigration reasons. The second-most-cited reason for reluctance was that there were language difficulties involved in going to the police (API Center, 2002). These issues, especially the language barrier, might be compounded by a real or a perceived lack of personnel in various parts of the justice system who can speak the languages of the people in the community. In January of 2003, 14.6% of those employed by the police

department (including sworn members, rangers, trainees and civilian employees) were Asian or Pacific Islander, nearly the same as the percent in the general population (15.2%) (OPD, January 2003; 2000 Census Report). However, there is no information regarding how this number reflects the specific API ethnicities or how many of these individuals are able to speak the API languages.

This section examines API youth populations ages 10-17. Most of the data included in this section has been gathered from government agencies such as the FBI Uniform Crime Reports and the Alameda County Department of Probation. An obstacle that arose in collecting data in this section was that a uniform way to report the race of an offender does not exist in the Oakland Police Department. Therefore, individual police officers designated the race of a person, which could lead to inaccuracies in data.

The Alameda County Probation Department does not collect information about the specific ethnicities of youth, only their general racial group. Therefore, in order to analyze specific ethnicities, the ethnicity of youth had to be determined. This was accomplished in a manner that was previously used in an earlier API Center report entitled "Not Invisible: Asian Pacific Islander Juvenile Arrests in San Francisco County" and the method of categorization is described as follows:

> Many of the youths who were categorized in the race/ethnic field as "Other Asian" and "Other" can be classified into a specific race/ethnic group by examining the youth's last name. A database of common Asian Pacific Islander surnames and the race/ethnic group that coincides with that surname was developed for the purpose of this project. Many Asian surnames can be used to identify multiple races/ethnicities, but our database reflected the most commonly used categorization of race or ethnicity corresponding to a given surname. The names in the database were collected from various sources including five Internet sites and two resource manuals (Rhoda L. Agin et al., 1992; and Him Mark Lai, 1998), then compiled into one central database. Names were also added to the database by searching the given data set for names already categorized as a specific Asian race/ethnicity and cross-checking with names in the database. Commonly used names not included in the database were added and continuously updated with new data sets
>
> This method allowed for additional cases to be included in the analysis of API arrests in Alameda County. The total number of API youths engaged in the Alameda County juvenile justice system increased as youths with Asian surnames were reclassified from the general "Other" racial group and "Other Asian" category into specific API ethnic groups. This recategorization allowed for a larger sample size, and in turn, clearer trends and conclusions regarding API juveniles' arrests in Alameda County.
>
> There are, however, several limitations to this method that must be considered. One major consideration is that it does not account for multi-ethnicity or the nuances within particular ethnic groups (e.g., ethnic Chinese in Vietnam versus mainland Chinese). Also, youths with API surnames may not necessarily be of API descent (e.g., adoptions), or API youths missed because of common shared surnames with other ethnic groups (e.g., Filipinos have some surnames similar to Spanish/Hispanic group). Considering that there is relatively scant information on APIs within the juvenile justice system, the benefits from this recategorization and resulting analysis outweigh the above-noted limitations (Le et al., 2001).

Within the Juvenile Justice report, arrest data will be presented in several different forms:

- By the total number of arrest incidents: This includes every occasion on which an arrest occurs, therefore one individual can contribute more than one arrest incident.

- By the arrest rate: This refers to a group's total number of arrests per some quantity. The quantity is per 100 when the numbers are percentages, but is specified when it is something else.
- By the number of unique individuals: This number shows how many different people are arrested. One individual may have more than one arrest incident, but for this statistic, the person is only counted once.

The arrest data does not, however, show the number of *crimes* that are committed, as a series of crimes may result in a single arrest or a single crime may result in multiple arrests.

Several clarifications must be made regarding the manner in which ethnicity is presented in this report. The terms API and Asian are not used interchangeably. API is used to refer to Asians and Pacific Islanders together. The term Asian does not encompass the Pacific Islander community. When these groups are separated from one another, Pacific Islanders will either be their own category or will be included in the "Other" category. Also, Hispanics may or may not be treated as a completely distinct ethnic group. This means that in some instances, individuals of Hispanic descent may be distributed throughout the other ethnic categories, as well as being given their own category; one can be, for example, Hispanic and African American or Hispanic and Caucasian. However, wherever possible, ethnicities are given as "non-Hispanic" and a distinct, separate Hispanic category is included in order to more accurately show the population. When Hispanics are displayed as a separate category *in addition to being distributed throughout the other ethnic categories*, it will be noted.

SECTION 1: NATIONWIDE DATA

This section looks at national trends in juvenile arrest numbers and arrest rates. While national numbers are not disaggregated by API ethnicities, one can examine arrest numbers that are disaggregated by gender, type of offense, and general racial categories.

Table 2.1: Percentage Change in the Juvenile Crime Index,* United States 2000-2005

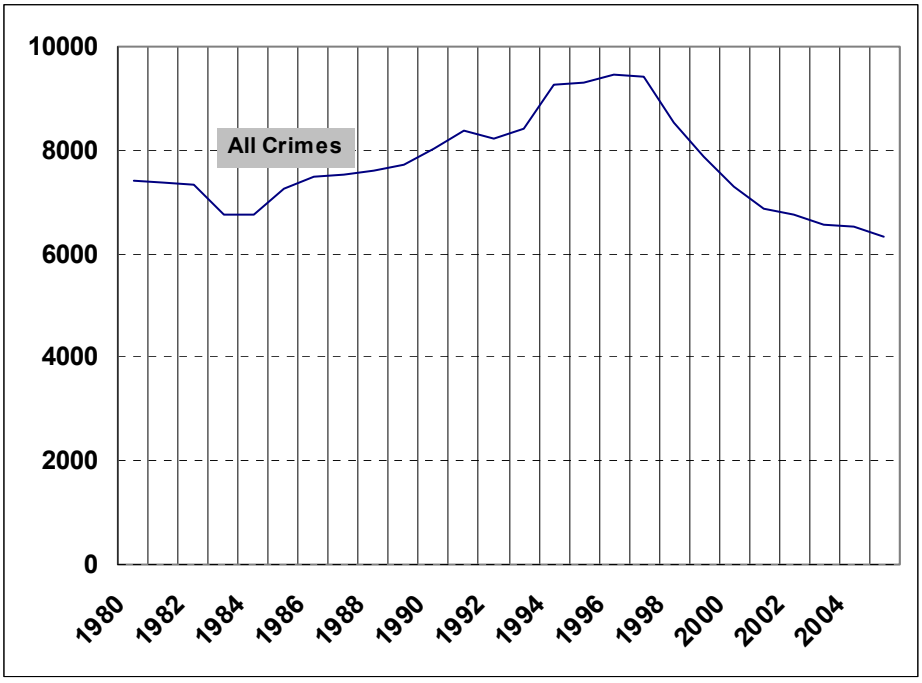
Ethnicity	Arrests - 2000	Arrests - 2005	Percent Change	Percent Change of Population
Asian Pacific Islander	8,007	5,838	-27.1%	12.2%
Native American	5,220	4,785	-8.3%	-5.9%
African American	121,708	126,986	4.3%	0.6%
Caucasian	275,438	241,194	-12.4%	1.0%
Total	410,373	378,803	-7.7%	1.3%

Source: Uniform Crime Reports, Federal Bureau of Investigation, http://www.fbi.gov; U.S. Census Bureau; National Population Estimates for the 2000s; http://www.census.gov/popest/national/asrh/2005_nat_res.html; Date last accessed 4/23/07

Note: *The Crime Index refers to the sum of the Violent Crime Index and the Property Crime Index. The Violent Crime Index includes arrests with charges of murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; the Property Crime Index encompasses arrests with charges of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The Crime Index does not include other assaults, vandalism, weapons-possession, drug and alcohol violations, DUI's, disorderly conduct, curfew and loitering law violations or runaways.

- National trends show juvenile offender numbers decreasing, almost 8% between 2000 and 2005.
- Except for African American juveniles (4.3%), all other racial groups had a decrease in violent crime and property crime arrests.
- The most significant decrease in arrests, over 27%, was among API juveniles, during the same period that their overall population increased by 12%.
- It must be noted that Hispanic juveniles are not included in this chart, because the FBI does not classify them separately from other ethnic groups in arrest numbers. They are instead distributed throughout the racial groups shown. For example, one can be both Caucasian and Hispanic.

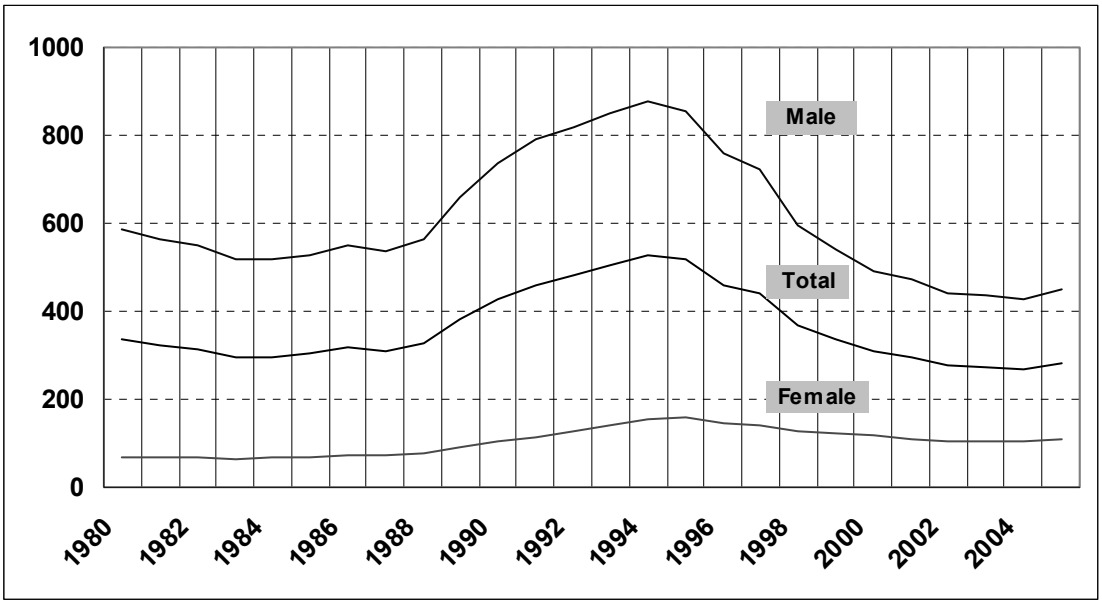
Figure 2.1: Juvenile Arrest Rates* for All Crimes; United States, 1980-2005



Source: OJJDP, Statistical Briefing Book, Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime, Juvenile Arrest Rates, http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/crime/excel/JAR_2005.xls; Accessed 4/17/2007.
*Arrest rates are calculated as arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10-17.

- The overall juvenile arrest rate in 2005, 6,350 arrests for every 100,000 juveniles, was lower than it was in 1980, 7,414 arrests per 100,000 juveniles.
- Between 1980 and 2005, there was a 14% decrease in the juvenile arrest rate.
- Since 1996, when the juvenile arrest rate peaked at 9,443 arrests for every 100,000 juveniles, there has been a 33% decrease in the juvenile arrest rate.

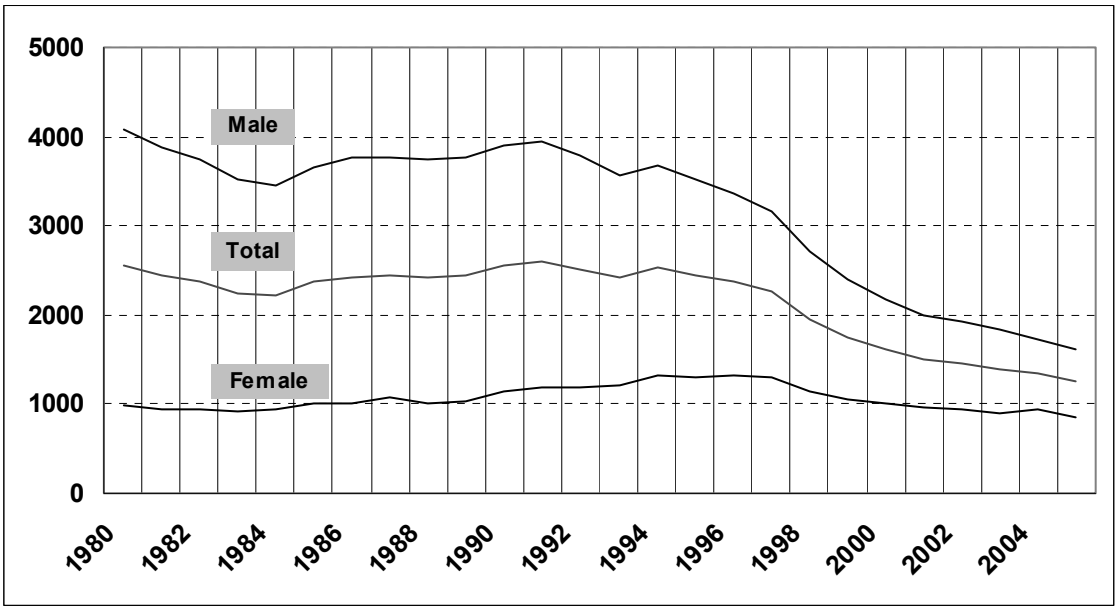
Figure 2.2: Juvenile Arrest Rates for Violent Crime Index Offenses by Sex; United States, 1980-2005



Source: OJJDP, Statistical Briefing Book, Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime, Juvenile Arrest Rates, http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/crime/excel/JAR_2005.xls; Accessed 4/17/2007.
*Arrest rates are calculated as arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10-17.

- The juvenile arrest rate for violent crime offenses in 2005 was 283 arrests for every 100,000 juveniles, lower than it was in 1980, 334 arrests per 100,000 juveniles.
- Between 1980 and 2005, there was a 15% decrease in the juvenile arrest rate for violent crimes.
- From its peak in 1994, the juvenile arrest rate for Violent Crime Index offenses had dropped by about 46% in 2005.
- In 2005, male juveniles were arrested at a rate 4 times more often than female juveniles (450/100,000 vs. 107/100,000).
- While male juveniles witnessed a 23% decline in their arrest rate for violent offenses between 1980 and 2005, the rate for female juveniles increased over 50% in the same time period.

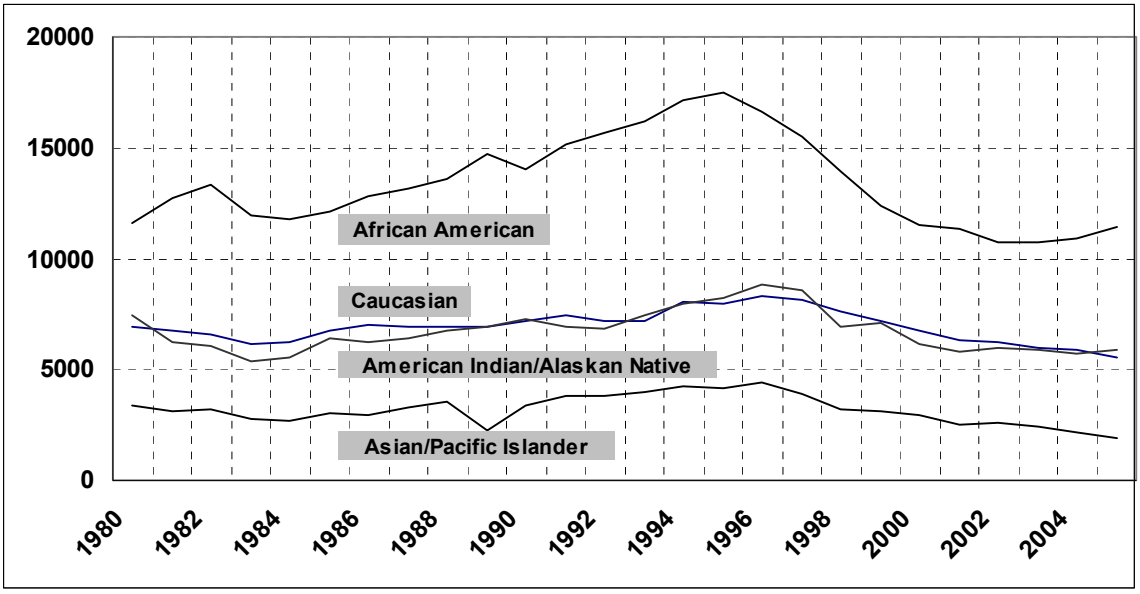
Figure 2.3: Juvenile Arrest Rates for Property Crime Index Offenses by Sex; United States, 1980-2005



Source: OJJDP, Statistical Briefing Book, Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime, Juvenile Arrest Rates, http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/crime/excel/JAR_2005.xls; Accessed 4/17/2007.
*Arrest rates are calculated as arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10-17

- The juvenile arrest rate for property crime offenses in 2005 was 1,246 arrests for every 100,000 juveniles, lower than it was in 1980, 2,562 arrests per 100,000 juveniles.
- Between 1980 and 2005, there was a 51% decrease in the juvenile arrest rate for property crimes.
- In 2005, male juveniles were arrested at a rate almost twice that of female juveniles (1,611/100,000 vs. 862/100,000).
- Between 1980 and 2005, the arrest rate for male juveniles decreased significantly more than it did for female juveniles, 61% vs. 12%.

Figure 2.4: Juvenile Arrest Rates for All Crimes by Race; United States, 1980-2005



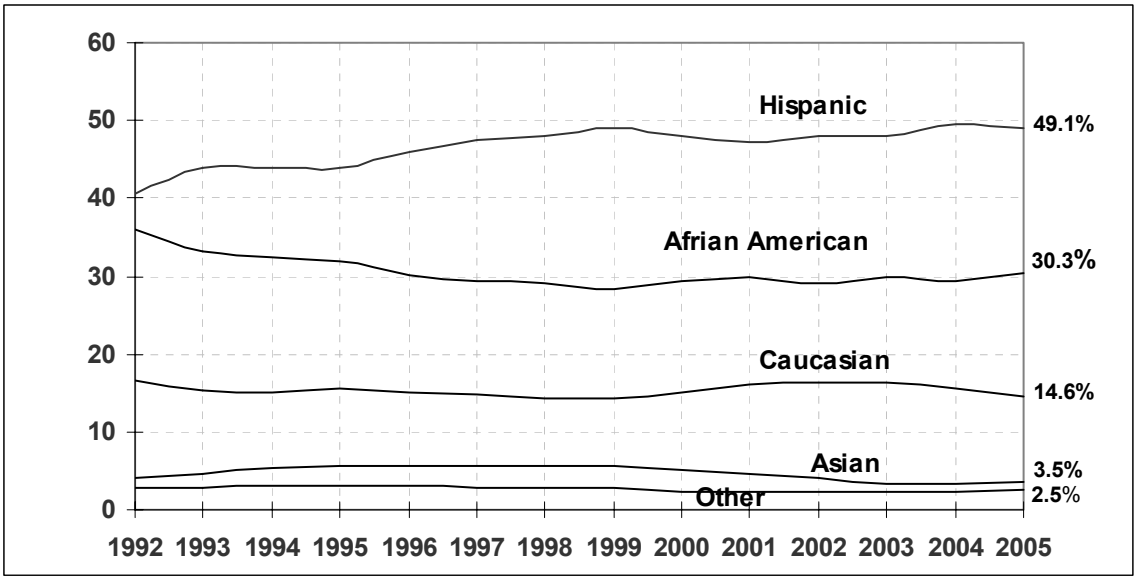
Source: OJJDP, Statistical Briefing Book, Law Enforcement and Juvenile Crime, Juvenile Arrest Rates, http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/crime/excel/JAR_2005.xls; Accessed 4/17/2007.
*Arrest rates are calculated as arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10-17

- Between 1980 and 2005, the total juvenile arrest rate decreased 1% for African Americans, 20% for Caucasians, 21% for American Indians/Alaskan Natives and 45% for API juveniles.
- In 2005, the juvenile arrest rate for African Americans (11,440/100,000) was about twice the rate it was for Caucasians (5,533/100,000) and about six times the rate of Asian Pacific Islander juveniles (1,896/100,000).
- The overall arrest rate for African American juveniles peaked in 1995. For the other three racial groups, the arrest rates peaked in 1996. Between their peak years and 2005, the juvenile arrest rates declined for each racial group: the decline was 57% for API juveniles, 35% for African Americans, 34% for Caucasians, and 33% for American Indians.

SECTION 2: STATEWIDE DATA

In this section, statewide data on juvenile justice arrests and youth in the California Youth Authority are examined. Here, unlike in national data, information regarding specific API ethnicities is available and reveals that certain API groups account for a much larger portion of the juvenile arrests than others.

Figure 2.5: Racial Composition of Juveniles in the California Youth Authority[3] (CYA), 1992-2005



Source: CYA Research Division, 2005

- The representation of Hispanic youth in CYA has increased substantially from 1992 (41%) to 2005 (49%).
- The percentage of African American youth in CYA decreased slightly between 1992 (35.9%) and 2005 (30.3%) and has been around 30% for the past decade.
- The percentage of Caucasians dropped from 1992 (16.5%) to 2005 (14.6%), while the percentage of Asian and "other" ethnicities remained constant.
- The overall number of youth placed into institutions has decreased substantially over the last five years. In 2000, the number of youths in California institutions was 7,547. In 2007, the number of youth was 2,647, a 65% decrease over 5 years.

[3] The California Youth Authority is a state-run agency into which a juvenile can be ordered into placement by a judge. This is where a youth serves his sentence after being declared guilty of a crime, whereas Juvenile Hall is a county facility where youth wait for their court dates and while they were waiting to be transferred to their longer term placement. The placement in the CYA facility is usually reserved for those youth who commit more serious crimes (such as those with a violent component); camps and other alternate institutions are used for other juvenile offenders.

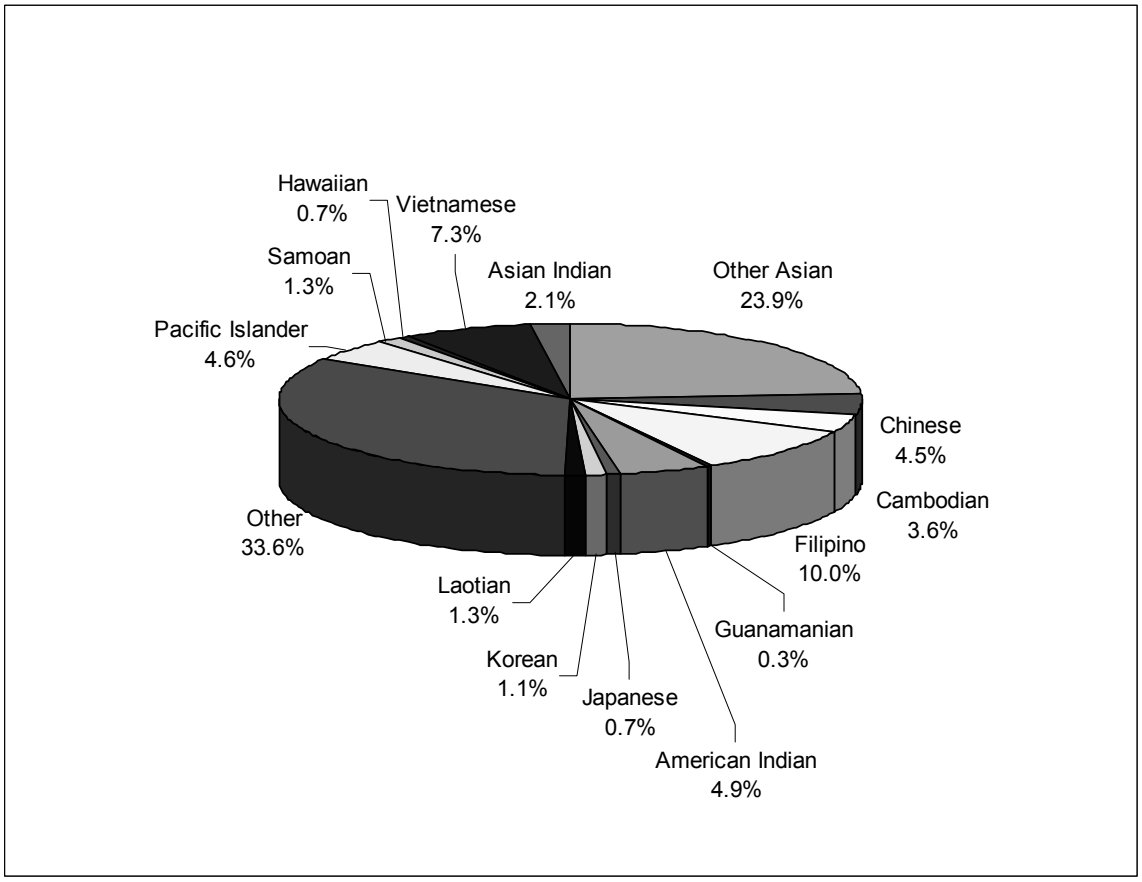
Table 2.2: Percent of Total Juvenile Felony Arrests by Ethnicity; California, 2005

	Caucasian	Hispanic	African American	Other	# Total Arrests
1998	28.8	42.1	20.2	8.9	80,758
2005	23.8	46.5	23.2	6.5	61,161
% of Juvenile Population, 2005	33.7	48.0	7.2	11.0	100

Source: State of California, Department of Justice

- The total number of juvenile felony arrests in California decreased by 24% between 1998 and 2005.
- Hispanic juveniles make up about 48% of the juvenile population, and constitute about 47% of juvenile felony arrests.
- African American youth constitute a disproportionate amount of felony arrests, about 23%, compared to being about 7% of the juvenile population.
- API youth, grouped into the "other" category, make up about 11% of the juvenile population, and less than 7% of the total juvenile felony arrests in 2005.

Figure 2.6: Percent of Total Juvenile Felony Arrests by "Other;" California, 2004



Source: State of California, DOJ, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2005

- When the category of "other" is disaggregated by specific ethnicity, the two groups that make up the largest portions are those labeled "Other" (33.6%) and "Other Asian" (23.9%). This lack of specificity demonstrates the necessity of better methods for gathering ethnic information from individuals who are being arrested rather than having someone else recording what s/he thinks the individual's ethnicity is.
- Compared to ethnic groups in the "other" category, Filipino and Vietnamese youth contribute a large portion of the juvenile felony arrests in California, 10% and 7% respectively.
- Compared to 1998, the percentage of juvenile felony arrests increased by 1.4% for Cambodians, decreased by 1.6% for Laotians, and decreased by 4.2% for Vietnamese youth.

SECTION 3: OAKLAND TRENDS

This section examines juvenile offenders entering and within the justice system in Oakland. This encompasses a variety of topics, starting with a look at the changes in juvenile arrest numbers over a decade, moving then to arrest *rates* among different ethnic groups in the city, looking next to how different areas of Oakland are differentially affected by juvenile arrests and then onto how various ethnic groups compare in representation throughout the justice process. The chapter concludes with a brief look at victimization, comparing how the ethnicities of juvenile victims compare to that of the suspects. The data presented here suggest that while, on the whole, total arrest numbers in Oakland are on the decline, some ethnic/racial groups in Oakland, as well as some areas of the city, still face troubling issues in the juvenile justice arena.

Table 2.3: Total Juvenile Arrest Incidents Referred to Probation by Ethnicity, Oakland, 1995-2006

Ethnicity	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Asian/PI	393	444	390	344	339	272	257	231	225	242	217	223	**3577**
African Amer.	3,745	3,804	3,694	3,466	3,469	3,057	2,590	2,635	2,435	2,390	2,281	2,112	**35678**
Hispanic	471	577	517	540	517	349	398	320	383	453	455	408	**5388**
Native Amer.	9	9	12	2	9	0	10	8	3	4	0	3	**69**
Caucasian	104	116	108	106	98	86	88	67	69	71	72	68	**1053**
Other	45	75	69	82	117	66	101	91	94	91	82	93	**1006**
Total	**4,767**	**5,025**	**4,790**	**4,540**	**4,549**	**3,830**	**3,444**	**3,352**	**3,209**	**3,251**	**3,107**	**2,907**	**46771**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- Similar to national trends, the peak in juvenile arrests in Oakland occurred in 1996 with 5,205 arrests referred to probation.
- Since 1996, when the juvenile arrest incidents peaked, there has been a 42% decrease in arrest incidents referred to probation.
- In 2006, African Americans had the highest number of arrest incidents referred to probation in Oakland (2,112 arrests), accounting for 73% of all arrests referred to probation.
- Asians and Pacific Islanders accounted for about 8% of the arrests referred to probation in 2006.
- Between 1995 and 2006, every ethnic group witnessed a decline in total juvenile arrests referred to probation.

Table 2.4: Unique Juvenile Arrests Referred to Probation by Ethnicity, Oakland, 1995-2006

Ethnicity	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Asian/PI	239	307	267	259	254	187	192	154	165	177	150	152	**2503**
African Amer.	1,941	2,223	2,216	2,047	1,972	1,746	1,569	1,550	1,460	1,438	1,352	1285	**20799**
Hispanic	285	364	339	355	350	243	276	233	265	303	294	282	**3589**
Native Amer.	7	7	9	1	4	0	6	7	3	2	0	1	**47**
Caucasian	60	80	75	77	76	60	50	48	48	57	48	55	**734**
Other	35	55	54	71	99	52	87	77	76	67	58	74	**805**
Total	**2,567**	**3,036**	**2,960**	**2,810**	**2,755**	**2,288**	**2,180**	**2,069**	**2,017**	**2,044**	**1,902**	**1849**	**28477**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- Similar to the trend for the total number of juvenile arrests in this time period for Oakland, unique arrests for all juveniles peaked in 1996 and steadily drop after that year.
- The number of unique juvenile arrests referred to probation in 2006 is the lowest it has been in the past decade.
- Since 1995, there has been a 26% decrease in the number of unique juveniles referred to probation.
- Since 1996, when the number of unique juvenile arrests peaked, there has been a 37% decrease in arrests referred to probation.
- API youth witnessed a slight decrease in unique juvenile arrests between 2005 (150) and 2006 (152).
- The average number of arrests per juvenile referred to probation (found by dividing the total number of arrests by the number of unique arrests) decreases between 1995 and 2006. In 1995, juveniles referred to probation were arrested on average 1.86 times compared to 1.57 times in 2006. This trend was reflected across racial groups with the exception of Native American youth, a group with very little representation in the data.

Table 2.5: Juvenile Arrest Rate Per Thousand of the Juvenile Population, By Ethnicity, Oakland, 2006

Ethnicity	Total Arrest Incidents in 2006	Juvenile Population 10 – 17 Years Old	Arrest Rate Per 1,000
Samoan	13	93	**140**
African-American	2112	18243	**116**
Cambodian	52	832	**63**
Laotian	42	807	**52**
Hispanic	408	10866	**38**
Vietnamese	36	1306	**28**
Korean	3	122	**25**
Filipino	18	805	**22**
Pacific Islander	5	340	**15**
Caucasian	68	5298	**13**
Chinese	34	3164	**11**
AIAN	3	526	**6**
Other Asian	18	-	**-**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006; Census, U.S. Census Bureau
Note: Juvenile population numbers may exceed total juvenile population due to overlapping of multiracial persons. Because the populations of API ethnicities were not available excluding Hispanics, these groups include Hispanics here. The populations of other ethnic groups (African American, Caucasian, and Native American) are given as non-Hispanic.
*A population for Other Asian could not be calculated, because many of the ethnic groups comprising this category were below the population threshold of the 2000 Census and therefore their populations were unavailable. Because the population for this group was unavailable, an arrest rate could not be calculated.

- Samoan youth had the highest arrest rate (140 arrests per 1,000) compared to any other ethnic group. Compared to Caucasian youth, Samoan youth were 11 times more likely to be arrested.
- African American youth accounted for 73% of the total arrest incidents in 2006 and had the second highest arrest rate (116 arrests per 1,000) behind Samoan youth. African American youth were 9 times more likely than Caucasian youth to be arrested.
- The South East Asian population as a whole had relatively high arrest rates compared to other Asian Pacific Islanders. Cambodian (63 arrests per 1,000) and Laotian youth (52 arrests per 1,000) had arrest rates at least 4 times as high as Chinese youth. Vietnamese youth (28 per 1,000) had an arrest rate more than double that of Chinese youth.
- Hispanic youth had an arrest rate (38 arrest per 1,000) nearly three times as high as Caucasian youth.

Table 2.6: Population, Arrests, Adjudications & Placements[4] of Juveniles by Ethnicity, Oakland, 2006

Ethnicity	Juvenile Population		Unique Arrests		Adjudications		Institutional Placements	
	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total
API	7827	18.0%	152	8%	42	7.1%	12	8.1%
African American	18243	42.0%	1285	69%	424	71.9%	117	78.5%
Hispanic	10866	25.0%	282	15%	89	15.1%	16	10.7%
Caucasian	5298	12.2%	55	3%	17	2.9%	3	2.0%
Other	1193	2.7%	75	4%	18	3.1%	1	0.7%
Total	**41333**	**100.0%**	**1849**	**100%**	**590**	**100.0%**	**149**	**100.0%**
Ethnicity	**Juvenile Population**		**Unique Arrests**		**Adjudications**		**Institutional Placements**	
	#	% of Total Population	#	% of Those in Population	#	% of Those Arrested	#	% of Those Adjudicated
API	7827	18.0%	152	1.9%	42	27.6%	12	28.6%
African American	18243	42.0%	1285	7.0%	424	33.0%	117	27.6%
Hispanic	10866	25.0%	282	2.6%	89	31.6%	16	18.0%
Caucasian	5298	12.2%	55	1.0%	17	30.9%	3	17.6%
Other	1193	2.7%	75	6.3%	18	24.0%	1	5.6%
Total	**41333**	**100.0%**	**1849**	**4.5%**	**590**	**31.9%**	**149**	**25.3%**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006; Census, U.S. Census Bureau.
Note: Population numbers do not add to the total due to overlapping of multiracial persons, as we used populations for each race "alone or in any combination," resulting in the same persons possibly being included in several categories.
The category of "Other" includes American Indian and Alaska Native.

- African American youth are disproportionately represented at every level of the juvenile justice system. While African American youth constitute about 42% of the juvenile population in Oakland, they also account for 69% of unique arrests, 72% of adjudications, and 79% of institutional placements.
- Among youth who have adjudication hearings, API youth have the highest percentage that end up being placed into institutional settings (28.6%).
- Among arrested youth, Hispanic youth who have the second highest percentage of juveniles who face adjudications (31.6%). Among youth who are adjudicated, Hispanic youth have the third highest percentage of youth (18%) who face institutional placements.

[4] After the Court has ordered that a youth be removed from his home, the placement needs of the youth are identified and he/she is placed into an appropriate placement facility, including foster homes, group homes, or private institutions. Within Alameda County, in addition to the private institutions (examples: Thunder Road, Potter's House), there are public institutions that can be utilized: the CYA (see Figure 2.5); or, for youth who have not committed sex offenses or violent crimes, and have not been diagnosed as seriously emotionally disturbed, Camp Sweeney.

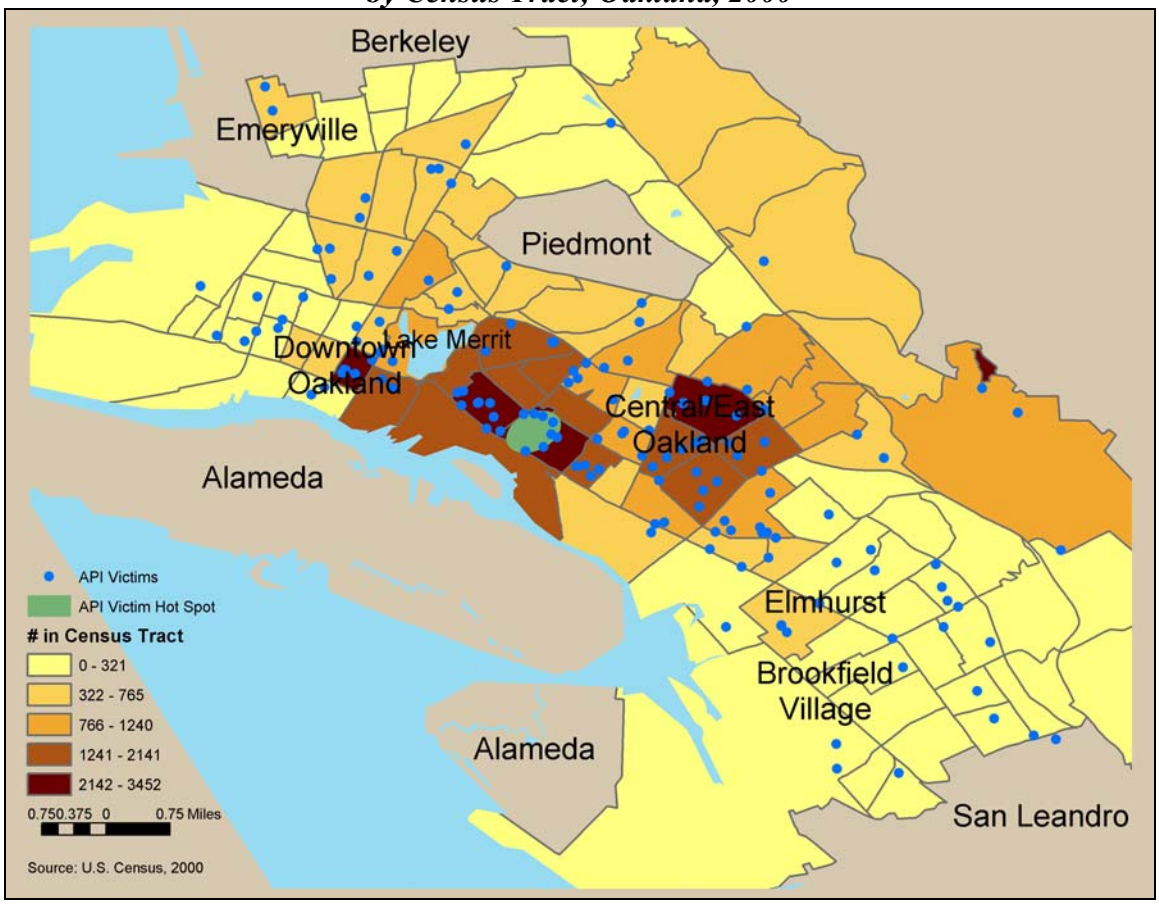
Table 2.7: Number of Juvenile Victims by Ethnicity and by Suspect's Ethnicity, Oakland, 2000

Ethnicity of Suspect	Ethnicity of Victim												Total
	Caucasian		African American		Hispanic		API		Other		Missing		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Caucasian	38	40.4	26	2.7	4	1.6	2	2.9	2	5.3	0	0	**72**
African American	34	36.2	838	86.7	46	18.3	18	25.7	14	36.8	6	28.6	**956**
Hispanic	8	8.5	21	2.2	174	69.0	5	7.1	4	10.5	4	19.0	**216**
API	2	2.1	10	1.0	8	3.2	31	44.3	8	21.1	2	9.5	**61**
Other	1	1.1	15	1.6	6	2.4	8	11.4	8	21.1	1	4.8	**39**
Missing	11	11.7	56	5.8	14	5.6	6	8.6	2	5.3	8	38.1	**97**
Total	**94**	**100%**	**966**	**100%**	**252**	**100%**	**70**	**100%**	**38**	**100%**	**21**	**100%**	**1,441**

Source: Le and Chan (2001). Invisible Victims: Asian Pacific Islander Youth. API Center.

- The data presented in Table 2.7 has not been updated since the initial *Under the Microscope* report. More recent data could not be obtained in order to update this table.
- In Oakland, there is a stronger pattern of victimization within each ethnic group than between different ethnic groups. Juveniles are most likely to be victimized by someone who shares their ethnic background than someone who does not.

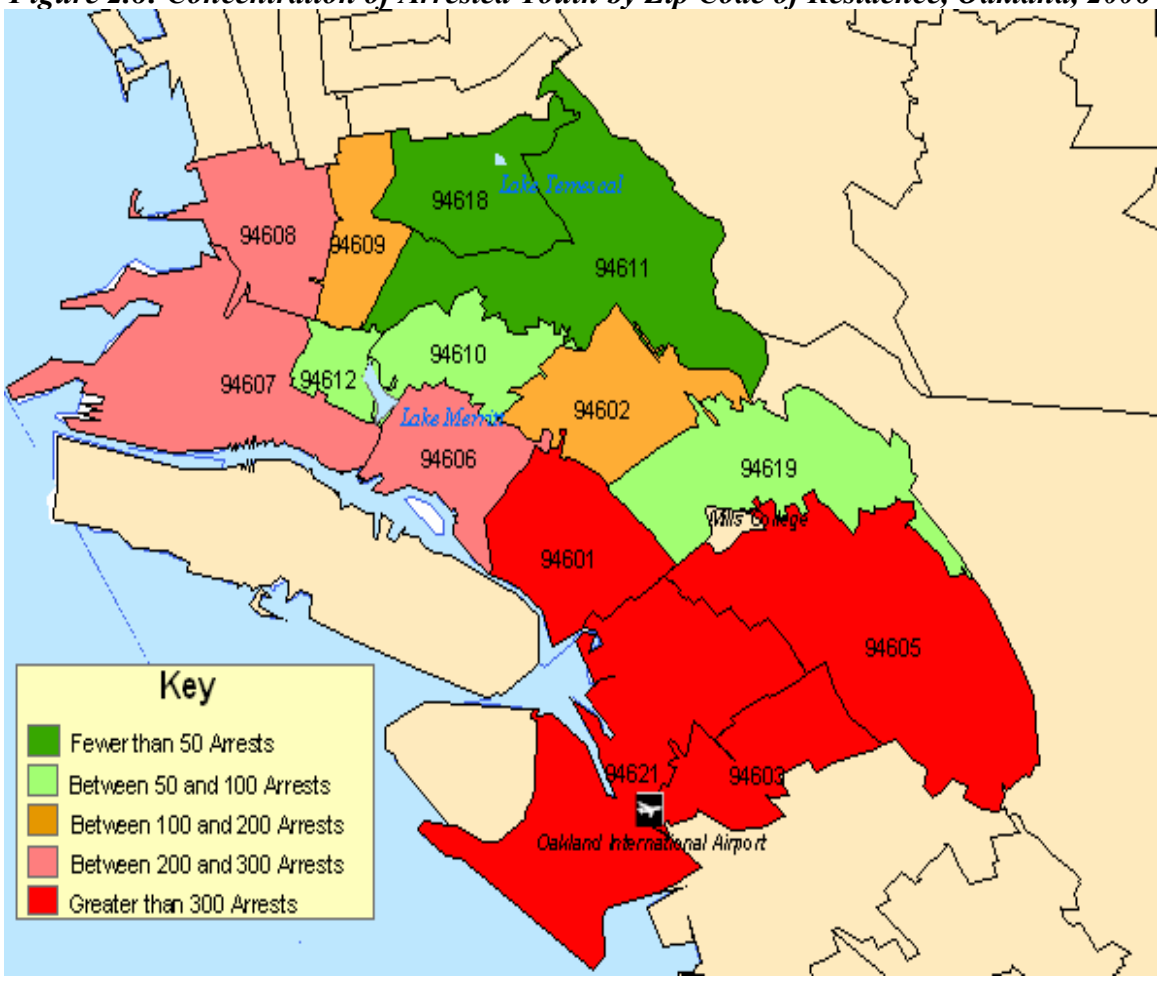
Figure 2.7: API Juvenile Victims and Number of Asians by Census Tract; Oakland, 2000



Source: Alameda County Probation Department; 2000 Census, U.S. Census Bureau.

- The data presented in Figure 2.7 has not been updated since the initial *Under the Microscope* report. More recent data could not be obtained in order to update this figure.
- Most incidents involving the victimization of an API youth (indicated above by blue dots) occur in areas where there are relatively high populations of APIs (shown with darker colors on the map). The hotspot, shown above as the green oval, indicates where the highest concentration of API victims occurred, in an area with one of the highest populations of APIs.
- Figure 2.7 supports the data shown in Table 2.7. In Oakland, there is a stronger pattern of victimization within each ethnic group than between different ethnic groups. Juveniles are most likely to be victimized by someone who shares their ethnic background than someone who does not. For example, 44% of API juveniles victimized in Oakland indicated that the suspects of the crime were also API.

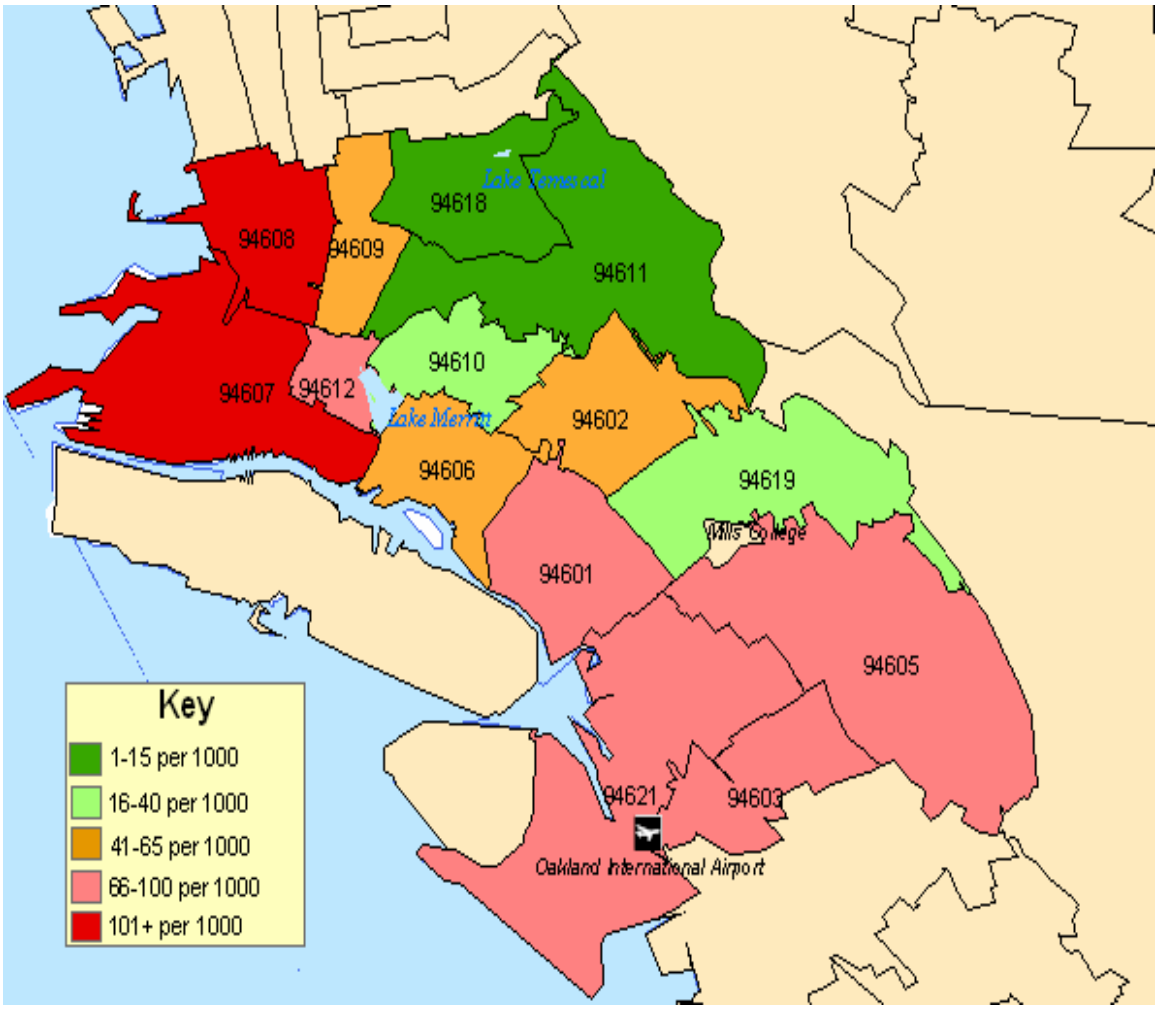
Figure 2.8: Concentration of Arrested Youth by Zip Code of Residence, Oakland, 2006



Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- The four zip codes with the highest total juvenile arrests in 2006 are 94601 (515), 94605 (365), 94603 (352) and 94621 (308). These four areas are adjacent to one another and are located in the southeastern part of Oakland.
- The zip codes with the fewest number of juvenile arrests in this period are also adjacent to one another and are located in the northern part of Oakland.

Figure 2.9: Juvenile Arrest Rates by Zip Code of Residence, Oakland, 2006



Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006; Census, U.S. Census Bureau;
Note: Populations used to calculate rates are for the entire zip code. A portion of this may be outside of the City of Oakland.

- The four zip codes with the highest juvenile arrests rates in 2006 are 94607 (126 per 1,000), 94608 (104 per 1,000), 94612 (85 per 1,000), and 94603 (79 per 1,000). The zip codes with the highest numbers of juvenile arrests in 2006 (see Figure 2.8) do not correspond to the zip codes with the highest arrest rates. This can be due to the large number of juveniles who live in these areas.
- However, zip codes with relatively low numbers of juvenile arrests in 2006 (fewer than 50 arrests; see previous page), such as 94618 (11) and 94611 (31) also have the lowest arrest rates in Oakland (13 per 1,000 and 11 per 1,000 respectively), both less than 15 per 1,000.
- The zip code with the highest juvenile arrest rate in Oakland, 94607, also contains the area with the highest concentration of Asians in the city of Oakland. This is the area that stretches from about 7th to 11th Street from Broadway to Harrison, Oakland's Chinatown. It is important to keep in mind that 94607 contains a great deal more space than just Chinatown.

Table 2.8: Total Juvenile Arrests by Zip Code, Oakland, 2001-2006

ZIP CODE	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
94601	506	498	449	516	512	515	**2996**
94605	449	506	419	428	384	365	**2551**
94603	452	420	338	348	382	352	**2292**
94621	408	372	410	368	317	308	**2183**
94607	334	337	276	317	304	300	**1868**
94608	220	220	239	175	198	248	**1300**
94606	251	229	259	252	222	237	**1450**
94602	167	168	195	186	126	123	**965**
94609	189	168	171	161	120	105	**914**
94619	150	89	88	92	73	81	**573**
94610	38	42	50	58	55	54	**297**
94612	68	75	49	50	55	51	**348**
94611	35	24	28	33	30	31	**181**
94618	27	22	21	11	10	11	**102**
Other Zip Codes	67	101	107	108	138	91	**612**
Unknown	83	81	110	148	181	38	**641**
Total	**3444**	**3352**	**3209**	**3251**	**3107**	**2910**	**19273**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- The Zip Codes with the highest number of total juvenile arrests between 2001 and 2006 was 94601 (Fruitvale) and 94605 (Southeast Hills), both located in the area known as East Oakland.
- More than half (53%) of the total juvenile arrests in 2006 occurred in four Zip Codes: 94601 (Fruitvale), 94603 (Elmhurst), 94605 (Southeast Hills), and 94621 (Central East Oakland), all areas in East Oakland.

Table 2.9: Distribution and Rates of Homicides, by Age, Oakland, 2002-2004

Age	Homicides	Rate per 100,000	Percentage of Total
0-14	10	3.8	**3.2**
15-19	*36*	*47.4*	**11.4**
20-24	71	79.6	**22.5**
25-34	99	44.4	**31.4**
35-44	47	24.1	**14.9**
45-64	45	17.5	**14.3**
65+	7	5.4	**2.2**
Total	**315**	**25.6**	**100**

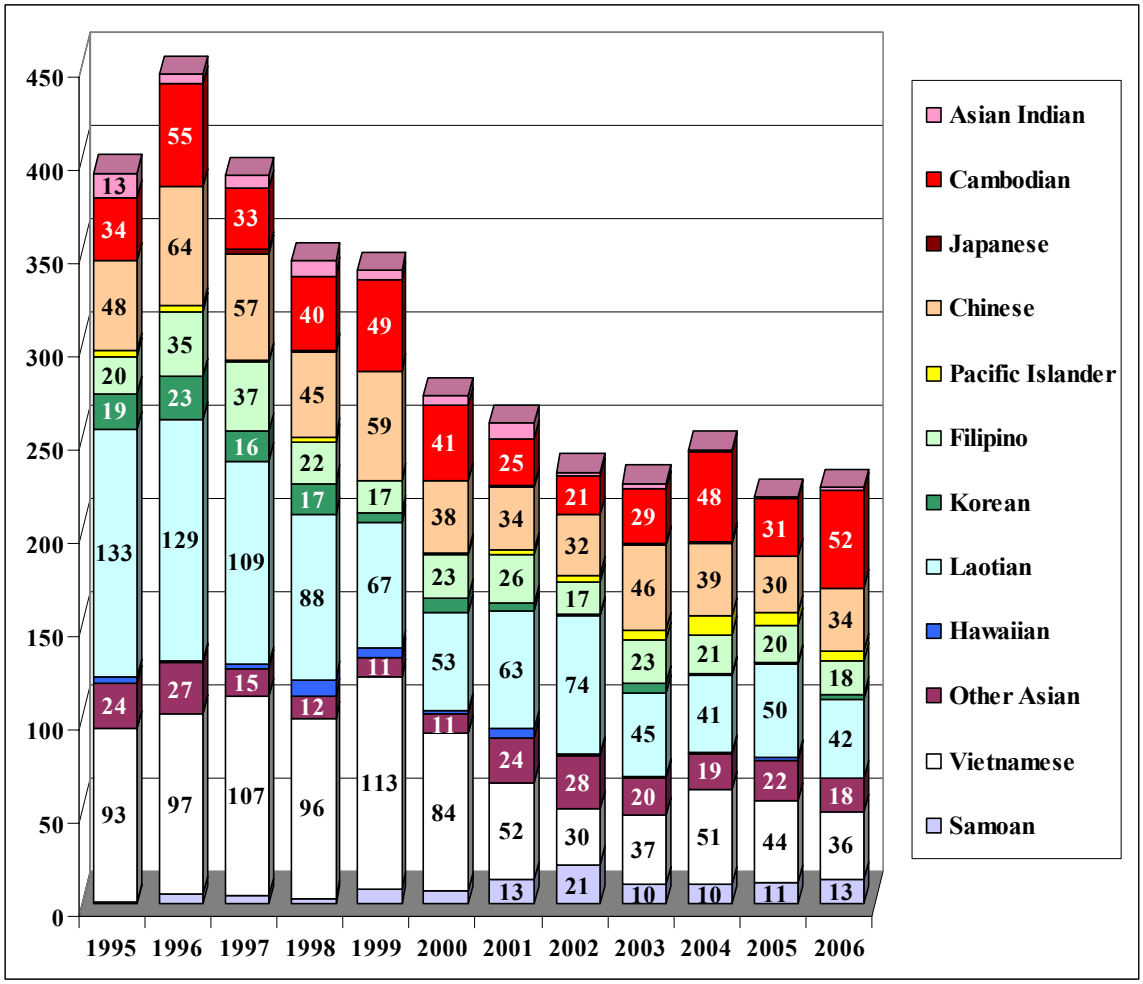
Source: Violence in Oakland: A Public Health Crisis.
Alameda County Public Health Department, 2006.

- About 15% of homicide victims in Oakland were under the age of 19 years old.
- The second highest homicide rate was among individuals aged 15 to 19 years old.
- Although victims aged 15 to 19 years old accounted for about 11% of the total percentage of homicides, the homicide rate for this group was about twice as high as the total homicide rate for Oakland.
- Furthermore, the homicide rate for individuals aged 15 to 19 years old was about six times higher than the homicide rate for Alameda County, and about eight times higher than the national homicide rate.

SECTION 4: API TRENDS IN OAKLAND

This section looks specifically at API youth in Oakland. It examines specific API groups, arrests, level of offense, and how these have changed over time, as well as the types of crimes API youth commit, and how the severity of crimes vary by API ethnicity and gender. The data display drastic differences in trends and numbers between the API ethnicities, the genders, and API youth and other youth.

Figure 2.10: Juvenile Arrests Referred to Probation by API Ethnicity; Oakland, 1995-2006*



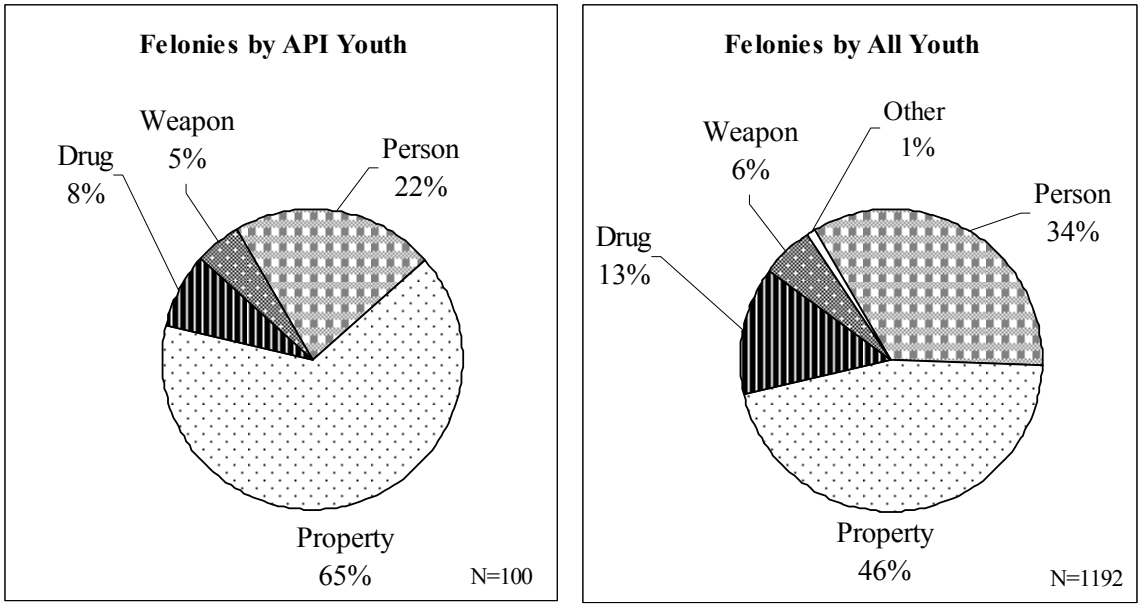
Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006
*Values less than 10 have not been denoted in the figure.

- When API arrests are disaggregated by ethnicity, there are vast differences among groups. In 2006, for example, Cambodian (23%), Laotian (19%), and Vietnamese youth (16%) accounted for about 58% of all API arrests in Oakland.
- Since 1996, when the number of API juvenile arrests peaked, there has been a 50% decrease in the number of API juvenile arrests. The most significant decreases were

among Korean (87%), Laotian (67%), Vietnamese (63%), Filipino (49%) and Chinese (47%) youth.

- Between 1996 and 2006, two groups witnessed increases in their arrest numbers, Samoans (160%) and Pacific Islanders (67%).

Figure 2.11: Type of Total Felony Arrests by Juveniles, Oakland, 2006



Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- Of the 1,192 felony arrests referred to the Probation Department in 2006, almost half of them (46%) involved property crimes.
- Compared to all juveniles, API youth had a higher percentage of arrests for property crimes (65% vs. 46%).
- Compared to all juveniles, API youth had a lower percentage of arrests for person offenses (22% vs. 34%), drug offenses (8% vs. 13%) and weapon offenses (5% vs. 6%).
- Compared to previous years (2001-05), API youth were more likely to be arrested for person offenses (22% vs. 19%) and weapons offenses (5% vs. 4%).

API Gangs in Oakland

It is unknown how many API youth in Oakland are involved in gangs. This is because when youth are arrested, placed in Juvenile Hall, or otherwise involved in the juvenile justice system within the city of Oakland or Alameda County, their possible gang affiliation is not recorded or otherwise categorized. However, there is anecdotal evidence from community members, adults and youth alike, that gangs are a growing problem within the API community, especially among Southeast Asians.

Table 2.10: API Juvenile Felony Arrests Oakland 2001-2006

Ethnicity	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Asian Indian	2	2	0	0	0	1	**5**
Cambodian	12	13	13	26	19	16	**99**
Chinese	18	18	27	24	16	24	**127**
Filipino	9	10	12	10	8	7	**56**
Hawaiian	2	1	0	0	0	0	**3**
Japanese	0	0	1	0	0	0	**1**
Korean	4	0	5	1	1	1	**12**
Laotian	44	40	25	16	23	16	**164**
Pacific Islander	2	2	2	2	2	0	**10**
Samoan	9	9	4	3	5	2	**32**
Vietnamese	30	14	18	22	19	24	**127**
Other Asian	14	13	10	9	13	9	**68**
Total	**146**	**122**	**117**	**113**	**106**	**100**	**704**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- Laotian (164), Vietnamese (127) and Chinese (127) youth had the highest number of felony arrests between 2001 and 2006.
- Similarly, Vietnamese (24), Chinese (24), Laotian (16) and Cambodian youth (16) had the highest number of felony arrests in 2006.
- Consistent with the national crime rate, the total number of API arrests has been decreasing for the past five years. Between 2001 and 2006, there has been a 32% decrease in the number of API juvenile felony arrests.
- Between 2005 and 2006, there was a 6% decrease in the total number of API juvenile felony arrests.
- Although Laotian, Vietnamese, Chinese and Cambodian youth represented the groups with the highest number of total felony arrests, the felony arrest rates among these groups varied. For example, the felony arrest rates for these API groups were:

  Laotian youth - 20 arrests per 1,000
  Cambodian youth - 19 arrests per 1,000
  Vietnamese youth - 18 arrests per 1,000
  Chinese youth - 8 arrests per 1,000

Table 2.11: API Juvenile Misdemeanor Arrests Oakland, 2001-2006

Ethnicity	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Asian Indian	4	0	1	1	1	1	**8**
Chinese	14	10	10	12	9	7	**62**
Cambodian	7	5	8	13	5	15	**53**
Filipino	9	4	10	6	7	7	**43**
Hawaiian	1	0	0	0	0	0	**1**
Japanese	1	0	0	1	0	0	**2**
Korean	0	1	0	0	0	2	**3**
Laotian	11	12	6	12	8	9	**58**
Pacific Islander	0	2	2	2	0	1	**7**
Samoan	3	9	3	6	4	4	**29**
Vietnamese	14	11	14	21	19	5	**84**
Other Asian	8	9	5	6	5	4	**37**
Total	**72**	**63**	**59**	**80**	**58**	**55**	**387**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- Vietnamese (84), Chinese (62) and Laotian (58) juveniles had the highest numbers of misdemeanor arrests among API youth between 2001 and 2006. These numbers represent a trend similar to that found among juvenile API felony arrests.
- Cambodian (15), Laotian (9), Chinese (7), and Filipino (7) youth had the highest number of misdemeanor arrests in 2006.
- In 2006, Cambodian youth had the highest number of misdemeanor arrests (15), about 27% of the total number of API misdemeanor arrests.
- Consistent with the national crime rate, the total number of API arrests has been decreasing for the past five years. Between 2001 and 2006, there has been a 24% decrease in the number of API juvenile misdemeanor arrests.
- Between 2005 and 2006, there was a 5% decrease in the total number of API juvenile misdemeanor arrests.
- Although Cambodian, Laotian, Chinese and Filipino youth represented the groups with the highest number of total misdemeanor arrests in 2006, the misdemeanor arrest rates among these groups varied largely. For example, the misdemeanor arrest rates for these API groups were:

  Cambodian youth - 18 arrests per 1,000
  Laotian youth - 11 arrests per 1,000
  Filipino youth - 9 arrests per 1,000
  Chinese youth - 2 arrests per 1,000

Figure 2.12: API Offenses by Gender, Oakland 2006

Source: Alameda Country Probation Department, 2006

- In 2006, about 45% of API arrests were for felony offenses, 25% were for misdemeanor offenses and 30% were for parole violations.
- API males committed 85% of felony offenses, 65% of misdemeanor offenses and 76% of parole violations.
- API females committed 15% of the felony offenses, 35% of the misdemeanor offenses, and 24% of the parole violations.
- Regardless of the type of offense, gender disparities are considerable between males and females. However, gender disparities are greatest among felony offenses. Males are arrested five times more often for felony offenses than females.
- Compared to 2000, when 69% of offenses were for felonies, API youth were more likely to be arrested for non-felonious offenses in 2006 (55%).

SECTION 5: FEMALE API TRENDS IN OAKLAND

This section focuses on the female API juvenile offenders of Oakland. It is important to examine the female offenders by themselves because delinquent behavior among girls is often related to other problems, including teen pregnancy, domestic violence, and other public health problems. Services that are based on the perceived needs of and targeted to boys are often not effective for girls. This section finds that through the 1990s, the number of arrests of girls in Oakland doubled, and that in this time period, the number of arrests of API girls increased by a much larger proportion, making it critical to target these youth with cultural and age-appropriate, gender-specific programming.

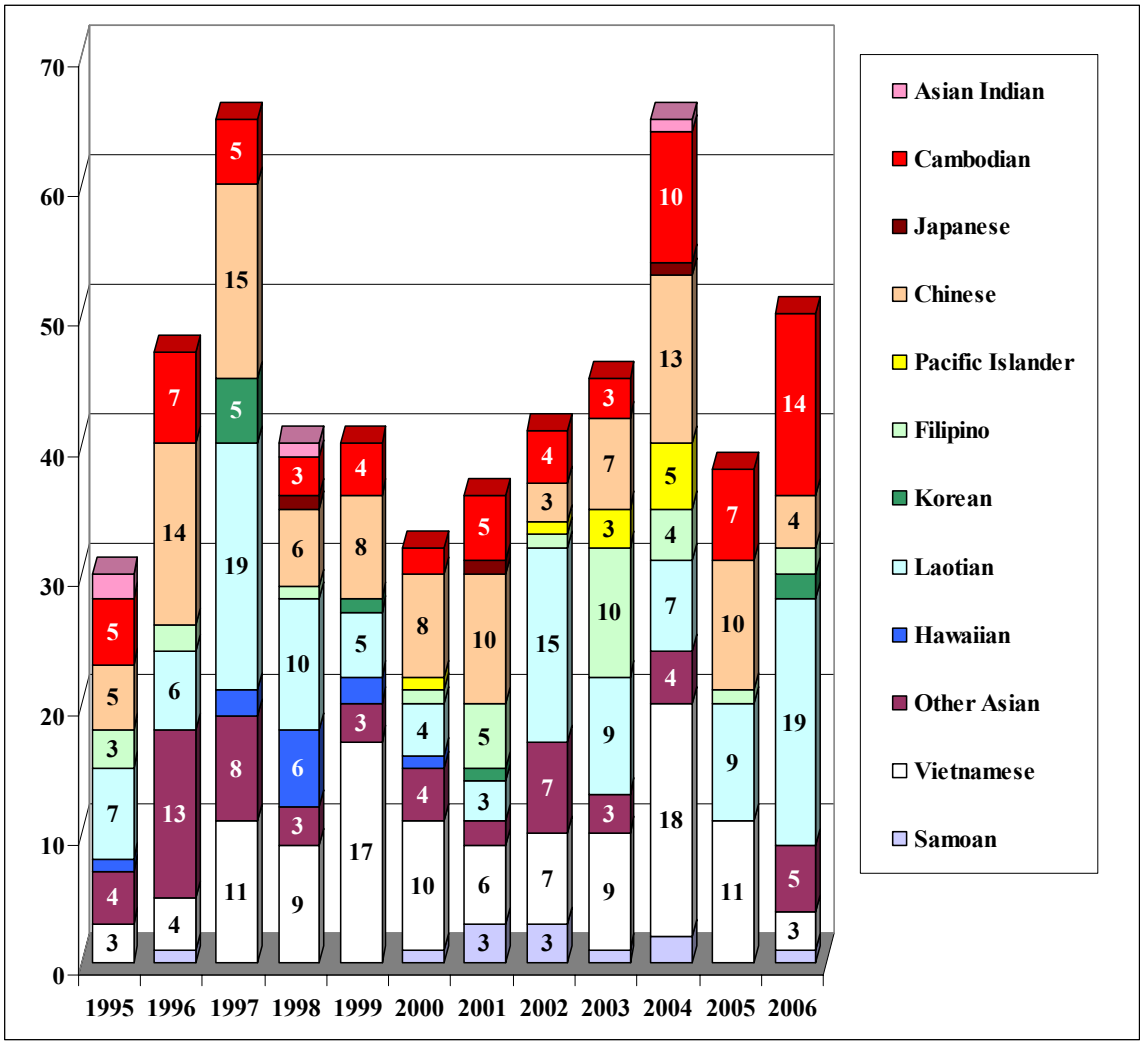
Table 2.12: Total Female Juvenile Arrests by Ethnicity; Oakland, 2001-2006

Ethnicity	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
API	36	41	45	65	38	50	**225**
African-American	591	629	557	592	537	551	**2906**
Hispanic	62	48	61	74	59	43	**304**
American Indian	7	3	2	0	0	0	**12**
Other/Unknown	26	20	24	23	18	24	**111**
White	34	17	15	18	27	35	**111**
Total	**756**	**758**	**704**	**772**	**679**	**703**	**3669**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- Between 2001 and 2006, there was a 7% decrease in the total number of female juvenile arrests.
- Between 2001 and 2006, about 79% of all the female juvenile arrests were African American youth. About 6% of all the female juvenile arrests were API youth and 8% were Hispanic youth.
- In the same time period, API females accounted for a 39% increase in their total juvenile arrests.
- Furthermore, between 1991 and 2006, there was a 900% increase in the total number of API female juvenile arrests.

*Figure 2.13: Total API Female Juvenile Arrests, Oakland, 1995 – 2006**



Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006
*Values less than 3 have not been denoted in the figure.

- When API arrests are disaggregated by ethnicity, there are vast differences among groups. In 2006, for example, Laotian (38%) and Cambodian (28%) youth accounted for about 56% of female API arrests in Oakland.
- Arrests for API juvenile females peaked in 1996 and again in 2004.
- Between 1995 and 2006, the total number of female API juvenile arrests increased by 67%.
- Between 1995 and 2006, three groups accounted for 60% of arrests: Laotian (21%), Vietnamese (20%) and Chinese (19%) youth.

Table 2.13: Unique API Female Juvenile Arrests, Oakland, 1995-2006

Felonies													
	1995	**1996**	**1997**	**1998**	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**	**Total**
Asian Indian	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Cambodian	2	1	0	3	3	1	2	2	2	3	1	2	22
Chinese	1	5	2	1	3	1	4	1	4	4	5	1	32
Filipino	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	1	0	1	11
Hawaiian	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Japanese	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Korean	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
Laotian	3	1	7	3	2	2	1	8	5	3	4	5	44
Other Asian	2	4	3	1	2	3	1	1	2	2	0	2	23
Other PI	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Samoan	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	6
Vietnamese	1	2	8	0	5	0	3	3	5	4	4	3	38
Total	12	15	21	10	16	9	15	17	22	19	14	15	**185**
Misdemeanors													
	1995	**1996**	**1997**	**1998**	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**	**Total**
Asian Indian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Cambodian	0	2	4	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	2	5	18
Chinese	4	7	8	4	5	7	5	2	1	7	3	2	55
Filipino	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	6	2	1	1	14
Hawaiian	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Japanese	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	3
Korean	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
Laotian	4	5	5	5	2	0	2	3	1	2	0	1	30
Other Asian	1	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	0	2	19
Other PI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	3
Samoan	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
Vietnamese	2	2	2	3	8	7	3	2	3	6	5	0	43
Total	12	21	27	15	17	17	17	11	13	24	11	13	**198**
Probation Violations													
	1995	**1996**	**1997**	**1998**	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**	**Total**
Cambodian	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	2	1	10
Chinese	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	7
Filipino	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Hawaiian	0	0	1	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Japanese	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Laotian	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	10
Other Asian	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Other PI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Samoan	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Vietnamese	0	0	0	3	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	9
Total	1	1	5	12	4	3	2	2	3	8	5	5	**51**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006
Note: Groups that had no arrests for a certain level of offense throughout the time period examined were omitted.

- Between 1995 and 2006, unique juvenile API female felony arrests ranged from nine arrests in 2000 to 22 arrests in 2003.
- Similar to the total arrests, three groups accounted for 62% of unique felony arrests between 1995 and 2006: Laotian youth (24%), Vietnamese youth (21%) and Chinese youth (17%).
- Similar to the unique felony arrests, three groups accounted for 65% of misdemeanor arrests between 1995 and 2006: Chinese youth (28%), Vietnamese youth (22%) and Laotian youth (15%).
- Between 1995 and 2006, four groups accounted for 72% of unique probation violations: Laotian youth (20%), Cambodian youth (20%), Vietnamese youth (18%), and Chinese youth (14%).
- Between 1995 and 2006, about 46% of the unique arrests were for felony offenses, 43% were for misdemeanor offenses, and 12% were for probation violations.

SECTION 6: MALE API TRENDS IN OAKLAND

The next section of this chapter examines juvenile API males. They contribute the vast majority of the arrests attributed to API youth. While arrests of all male youth in Oakland fell by almost a third during the 1990s, arrests of API boys have increased. This trend was not reflected across all API ethnicities, which highlights the importance of examining each of these unique groups separately.

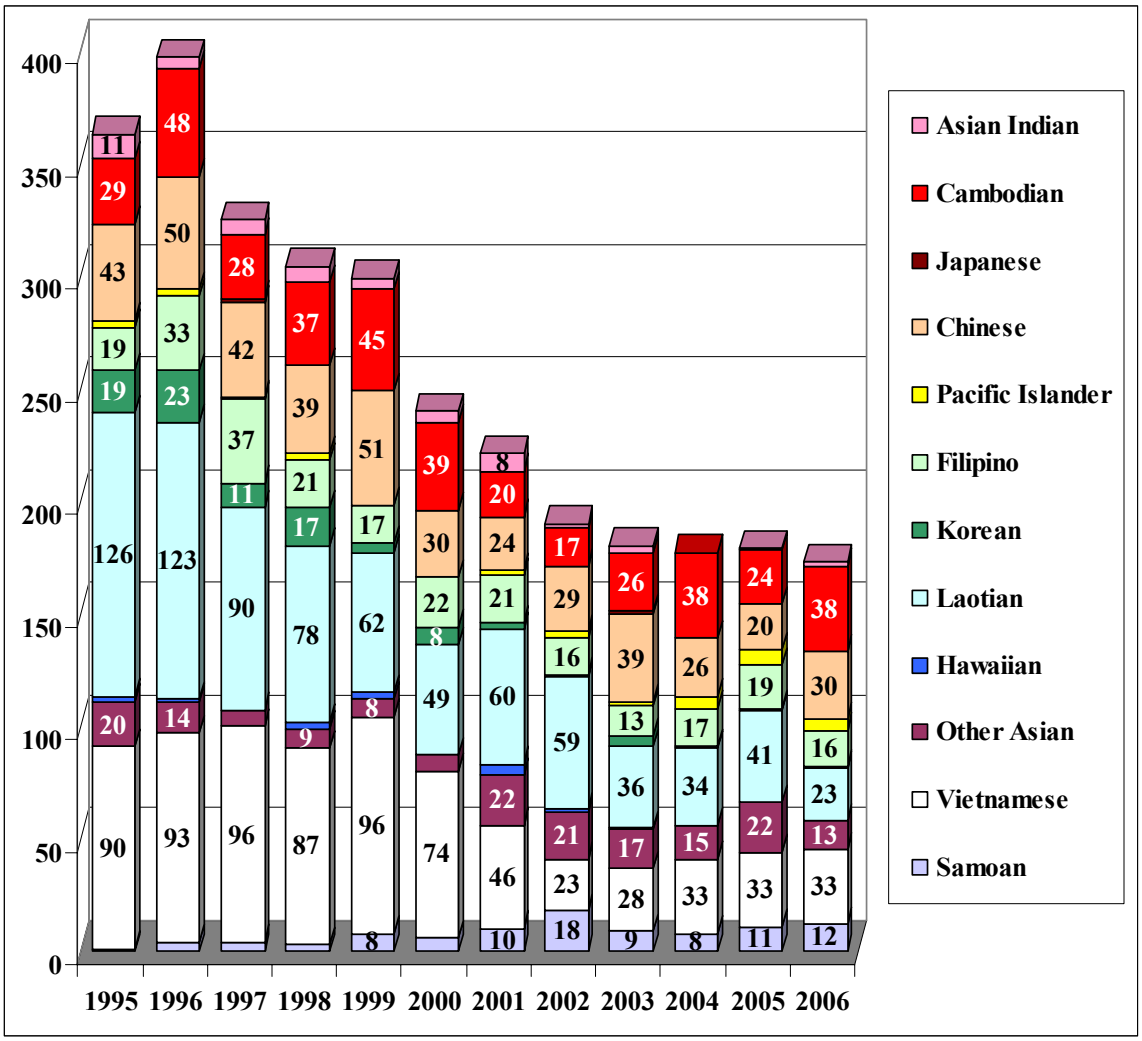
Table 2.14: Total Male Juvenile Arrests by Ethnicity; Oakland, 2001-2006

Ethnicity	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Asian/PI	205	181	163	168	167	173	**1,057**
African Amer.	1,814	1,819	1,718	1,668	1,618	1561	**10,198**
Hispanic	291	249	294	349	365	365	**1,913**
Native Amer.	2	4	1	4	0	3	**14**
Other	67	67	64	55	58	69	**380**
Caucasian	54	45	48	49	44	33	**273**
Total	**2,433**	**2,365**	**2,288**	**2,293**	**2,252**	**2204**	**13,835**

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- Between 2001 and 2006, there was a 9% decrease in the total number of male juvenile arrests.
- Between 2001 and 2006, about 74% of all the male juvenile arrests were African American youth.
- Between 2001 and 2006, about 14% of all the male juvenile arrests were Hispanic youth and 8% were API youth.
- Between 2001 and 2006, Hispanic youth were the only group to have experienced an increase in total juvenile arrests (25%).

*Figure 2.14: Total API Male Juvenile Arrests Incidents, Oakland, 1995-2006**



Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006
*Values less than 8 have not been denoted in the figure.

- When API arrests are disaggregated by ethnicity, there are vast differences among groups. In 2006, for example, Cambodian (22%) youth, Vietnamese youth (19%), and Chinese youth accounted for about 58% of all API arrests in Oakland.
- Arrests for API males peaked in 1996 and have been declining from that year. Between 1996 and 2006, there has been a 56% decrease in the total number of API male juvenile arrests.
- Between 1995 and 2006, the total number of male API juvenile arrests decreased by 52%. During the same period, the number of female API juvenile arrests increased by 67%.
- Between 1995 and 2006, three groups accounted for 64% of arrests: Laotian (26%), Vietnamese (24%) and Chinese (14%) youth; a similar trend was found among female API juvenile arrests.

- Since 1995, the majority of API groups have shown decreases in their overall arrest incidents. Some notable examples are among Laotian males, who had an 82% decrease in their total arrest incidents, Vietnamese males, who had a 63% decrease, Chinese males who had a 30% decrease and Korean males who had a 95% decrease.
- Two groups, however, have shown considerable increases in their arrest numbers since 1995. Samoan males had an 1100% increase in arrest incidents, and Cambodian males had a 31% increase in arrest incidents. Furthermore, by 2006, Cambodian males accounted for the most arrests among API groups in Oakland.

Table 2.15: Unique API Male Juvenile Arrests, Oakland, 1995-2006

Felonies													
	1995	**1996**	**1997**	**1998**	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**	**Total**
Asian Indian	4	3	3	3	2	2	1	2	0	0	0	1	21
Cambodian	10	22	11	17	22	17	8	10	8	17	12	8	162
Chinese	25	32	22	18	29	17	9	12	19	16	9	20	228
Filipino	5	15	11	9	6	7	4	6	8	7	6	5	89
Hawaiian	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	6
Japanese	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Korean	4	9	5	8	4	3	3	0	5	1	1	0	43
Laotian	48	53	42	37	33	22	31	16	8	10	11	8	319
Other Asian	9	5	4	3	6	1	9	6	5	6	11	5	70
Other PI	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	7
Samoan	1	2	1	1	4	1	6	6	3	2	4	1	32
Vietnamese	44	55	44	38	44	32	16	7	10	14	11	18	333
Total	152	198	144	135	151	102	90	68	68	73	65	66	1312
Misdemeanors													
	1995	**1996**	**1997**	**1998**	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**	**Total**
Asian Indian	2	0	1	0	3	2	3	0	1	0	1	1	14
Cambodian	3	6	3	6	3	2	5	3	5	8	2	2	48
Chinese	3	7	5	9	4	4	6	8	5	3	5	5	64
Filipino	1	4	5	4	2	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	40
Hawaiian	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Japanese	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Korean	2	2	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	10
Laotian	13	13	9	11	4	3	7	6	4	5	3	3	81
Other Asian	3	3	0	3	1	2	6	2	2	3	4	2	31
Other PI	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Samoan	0	0	3	1	2	0	3	5	3	5	3	2	27
Vietnamese	8	12	9	10	9	8	10	7	5	9	10	4	101
Total	35	47	38	47	28	25	45	35	29	36	32	24	421

Probation Violations													
	1995	**1996**	**1997**	**1998**	**1999**	**2000**	**2001**	**2002**	**2003**	**2004**	**2005**	**2006**	**Total**
Asian Indian	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	5
Cambodian	3	4	4	2	3	4	5	2	6	3	3	9	48
Chinese	4	1	4	5	3	2	1	2	4	1	3	1	31
Filipino	3	3	2	1	2	0	5	1	1	2	3	2	25
Hawaiian	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	4
Japanese	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Korean	2	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Laotian	9	7	7	10	9	6	3	11	9	6	9	6	92
Other Asian	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	0	4	20
Other PI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	4
Samoan	0	2	0	1	2	2	0	1	3	1	2	2	16
Vietnamese	5	6	9	15	17	13	5	2	4	0	2	4	82
Total	27	25	31	40	38	31	23	21	30	17	23	29	335

Source: Alameda County Probation Department, 2006

- Similar to the total arrests, three groups accounted for 67% of unique felony arrests between 1995 and 2006: Vietnamese youth (26%), Laotian youth (24%) and Chinese youth (17%).
- Similar to the unique felony arrests, three groups accounted for 59% of unique misdemeanor arrests between 1995 and 2006: Vietnamese youth (24%) and Laotian youth (20%) and Chinese youth (15%).
- Between 1995 and 2006, four groups accounted for 74% of unique probation violations: Laotian (27%), Vietnamese (24%), Cambodian (14%), and Chinese (9%) youth.
- Between 1995 and 2006, about 64% of the unique arrests were for felony offenses, 20% were for misdemeanor offenses, and 16% were for probation violations. In contrast, API females were arrested most often for misdemeanor offenses (46%) over the same period of time.
- Since 1995, the number of unique API felony arrests has decreased 57%. The number of unique misdemeanor arrests has decreased 31%, and the number of unique probation violation arrests has increased 7%.

CONCLUSIONS

SUMMARY

- Arrests for Asians and Pacific Islanders have decreased along with other ethnic groups since 2003.
  - Nationally, between 2000 and 2005 the number of juvenile arrests on API youth has decreased by over 27% (Table 2.1).
  - In Oakland, API youth are arrested at a lower rate (1.9%) than any other ethnic group, except for Caucasians. The adjudication rate for API youth (27.6%) is lower than that of other ethnic groups. However, API youth had the highest percent of adjudications resulting in an institutional placement at 28.6% compared (Table 2.6).
- While the overall number of crimes committed by API in Oakland is down from the year 2000, the number of crimes committed by specific groups is obscured by the aggregation of all API youth into one category (Figure 2.10).
  - The number of crimes committed by specific groups, such as Laotian, Filipino, and Chinese youth are very similar to those of 2000 (Figure 2.10).
  - In some cases, for Samoans, Pacific Islanders and Cambodians the number of crimes has actually gone up since 2000 (Figure 2.10)
- Within Oakland, male and female juvenile offenders are not the same. They are arrested for different types of crimes varying in severity. Furthermore, where male youth have shown a decrease in arrests since 2000, female youth have had an increase in arrest numbers. For girls, this trend is all the more troubling because the increases in arrests for female juveniles are obscured due to the small proportion of the arrests of all juveniles these arrests make up, lessening the chance that they will receive programs that are specially designed to assist girls to overcome the challenges facing them.
  - When a gender analysis is introduced, more differences emerge. For example, in 2000, API males were arrested more frequently for felony offenses (85 arrests) than for misdemeanor offenses (36 arrests). In contrast, API females were arrested slightly more for misdemeanors (19 arrests) than for felonies (15 arrests; Figure 2.12).
- Within Oakland, crime is concentrated in particular areas. In 2006 the areas of West Oakland had the highest juvenile arrests rates (Figure 2.9). However, most of the arrests occurred in areas within East Oakland such as the Fruitvale, Elmhurst, Southeast Hills and Central East Oakland (Table 2.8 and Figure 2.8).

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Disseminate information about the juvenile justice system in multiple languages:** Help parents of different ethnic backgrounds understand the juvenile justice system by creating a video that informs parents of the juvenile justice process in their respective languages.

    - Because of the increasing representation of the API community in the juvenile justice system, it is important to provide a mechanism through which parents of offenders can understand the justice system.
    - Since the API community and its youthful offenders have distinct linguistic and cultural backgrounds, efforts to disseminate information to this group should acknowledge these differences and have videos produced in many different languages.
    - These videos could be produced as a student project in collaboration with a local school, such as the California College of Arts and Crafts, the Academy of Art, or the University of California, Berkeley.
- **Language access:** Increase language access for youth in the juvenile justice system and their parents.
    - Increase the cultural competency of the city departments by making bilingual and multicultural skills an expressed value. This value should be incorporated into recruitment. By having people who work within the system able to speak different languages, community members who speak only these languages proficiently are able to understand what is happening to their children and how to help them. Also, having these language and cultural capabilities built into the system may help people feel comfortable turning to the police for help.
    - Help the city communicate with non-profit organizations to assist building bilingual staff capacity with skills useful to the city. Many community-based organizations that exist within Oakland possess multilingual capabilities and can be utilized by the city to provide services in languages that the city currently does not have the capacity for. For example, these agencies may be utilized for interpretative services when a community member who cannot speak English comes to a city department without multilingual capacity, or the agencies themselves could be contracted with to provide certain services directly to the community. Also, these organizations already have experience in actively recruiting and hiring bilingual staff, experience they can lend to the city.
- **Resource guide:** Create a resource guide containing listings of Oakland youth organizations and nearby affiliates, as well information about the services they provide and their capacity (how many youth they are currently serving and how many they are capable of serving). This resource guide would educate those who use it about the resources that are available in the community and provide connections between the various organizations to help them to work together.
    - One function of this resource guide would be to help offer alternatives to the traditional juvenile justice system and incarceration. For example, it would contain listings for programs, such as McCullum Youth Court, which is currently being underutilized in Oakland. In this program, youth who have come into contact with the police may be referred to the Youth Court if they fit certain criteria. Youth are then held accountable to a jury of their peers, who decide on the appropriate sentence, which always includes the offender serving on a jury himself and attending a gender-specific workshop. The sentence may also include community service, restitution, Anger Management classes, Theft Awareness classes, counseling, letter writing, or essay writing. This type of teen court uses "peer influence, accountability, competency development, and youth

involvement" (OJJDP) to address juvenile crime. In the year 2000, McCullum Youth Court served approximately 300 youth who were referred from Alameda, Berkeley, Oakland, or Piedmont (McCullum Youth Court, 2003). According to a study of the court conducted by an Oakland police officer, the recidivism rate of juveniles referred to McCullum Youth Court was about 28 to 29 percent, lower than 42% treated in a traditional manner (Chang, 2002).

- **Mentoring:** Develop a one-on-one ethnic-specific mentoring program. "Adult mentors are a stable source of encouragement and support, communicating values and providing examples of dedication and dependability…Committed adults who serve as mentors to at-risk or delinquent youth build resiliency and academic skills within those youth, helping to prevent further delinquent behavior" (OJJDP).
  - In a study conducted on eight Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) mentoring programs that randomly assigned youth to being immediately eligible for a mentor or to be put on a waiting list as a control group, it was found that mentored youth were almost one-third less likely to hit someone than the youth in the control group and were 46% less likely to initiate drug use during the study period (OJJDP).
  - These types of programs also have implications for truancy issues. In the same study, it was found that youth who were mentored "skipped half as many days of school as control youth…and skipped fewer classes" (OJJDP).
  - Although it may be considered ideal to have mentors who are very familiar with the youth's cultural background and can communicate effectively with the youth and his/her family, this same study has shown that characteristics such as race and gender do not correlate strongly with a successful mentoring relationship, so it should be kept in mind that "establishing an unmatched relationship is better than waiting for a 'perfect' match" (OJJDP).
- **Programming specific to gender and ethnicity:** Develop gender-specific and ethnic-specific programming.
  - For example: The Asian Youth Alliance Program (AYA) has the goal of "decreasing high risk behaviors and substance use among Chinese and Filipino youth living in Daly City…accomplished by successfully altering intermediary knowledge, attitudinal, and skill deficits related to these. The AYA program achieves these goals by building a consortium of Asian-focused youth-serving agencies to better meet the needs of youth while also addressing the needs of youth in specific Asian communities through curriculum-based prevention interventions." They have achieved "increased cultural pride and lower tolerance for drugs" as well as "decreased social anxiety" among their youth (SAMSHA, 2000).
  - For example: Girls Inc., a national non-profit organization, sponsors a variety of programs that are designed to empower and educate girls of all ages, programs that have been validated by preliminary evaluations of effectiveness. These programs target a variety of issues that are faced by girls in today's society, including violence prevention and safety, dealing with peer and media pressure, leadership skills, basic economic skills, and teen pregnancy prevention. (Girls Incorporated, 2003)

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JUVENILE JUSTICE GLOSSARY

GENERAL TERMS

- Adjudication – Adjudication is the trial process. It is the process used to determine the facts in a juvenile case.

- Unique – In this report, unique is used to show that an individual was arrested, but does not include arrest data for the same individual in other crimes. Therefore, when labeled as "unique arrests," a single offender appears only once, regardless of how many crimes he committed.

LEVELS OF OFFENSES

- Felony – A crime punishable with death or by imprisonment in the state prison. Except in cases where a different punishment is prescribed by the laws of the State of California, every crime declared to be a felony, or to be punishable by imprisonment in a state prison, is punishable by imprisonment in any of the state prisons for 16 months, or two or three years.

- Misdemeanor – A crime punishable, in the discretion of the court, by imprisonment in the state prison or by fine or imprisonment in the county jail. Except in cases where a different punishment is prescribed by the laws of the State of California, every offense declared to be a misdemeanor is punishable by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars ($1,000), or by both.

TYPES OF OFFENSES (PARTIAL LISTING)

- Property Offenses

    - *Felony* – Arson , Burglary, Forgery, Grand Theft (property over $400, auto, firearms), Receiving Stolen Property, Extortion, Vandalism (property damage over $5,000). Possession of a Firebomb

    - *Misdemeanor* – Petty Theft (property value less $400), Vandalism (property damage less $1,000), Trespassing

- Crimes Against Persons

    - *Felony* – Murder, Rape, Sexual Battery, Aggravated Battery, Robbery, Carjacking, Kidnapping, Mayhem, Child Abduction, Assault with a Deadly Weapon (Firearm), Assault with a Deadly Weapon (Not A Firearm)

    - *Misdemeanor* – False Imprisonment, Assault, Battery

- Drug Offenses

    - *Felony* – Possession of Narcotics, Possession of Narcotics for Sale, Sale of Narcotics, Possession of Marijuana for Sale, sell, transport of import Marijuana, Possession of Controlled substances other than Marijuana, Cultivation of Mushrooms

    - *Misdemeanor* – Under the Influence of Narcotics, Possession of Not More Than 1 oz of marijuana, Possession of Narcotics Paraphernalia.

- Weapons Offenses

    - *Felony* – Ex-felon in Possession of a Concealable Firearm, Possess, Manufacture or Sell Dangerous Weapons, Possession of Firearm with Altered or Removed Serial Number, Possession of Armor Penetrating Ammunition

    - *Misdemeanor* - Carrying a Concealed Weapon within a Vehicle, Carrying a Concealed Firearm, Carrying a Loaded Firearm in Public, Unlawful Possession of Tear gas.

- Crimes Against the Public Peace

    - *Felony* – Lynching, Brandish Firearm in an Officer's Presence, Brandish Firearm or Weapon to Resist Arrest , Terrorist Threats

    - *Misdemeanor* – Riot, Unlawful Assembly, Brandish Firearm, Brandish Weapon other than Firearm

- Other Offenses:

    - *Felony* – Escape from Prison Custody, Escape from County/City Jail

    - *Misdemeanor* – Public Intoxication, Lewd Conduct, Prostitution, Begging, Annoying Telephone Calls, Annoy or Molest a Minor

CHAPTER 3: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DATA

Behavioral health is an important consideration in youth development and well-being. In this chapter, we consider three areas of behavioral health: 1) Substance Abuse, 2) Mental Health, and 3) Teen Pregnancy.

The excessive publicity given to the academic success of some API groups has not only obscured the academic needs of other API, it has also given the false impression that substance abuse, mental health and teen pregnancy are nonexistent concerns among API youth. In each section, we present data showing that API youth are impacted by these three behavioral health issues. We also consider the implications of behavioral health for understanding the needs and issues faced by API youth involved in delinquency.

The data presented in this chapter consist primarily of youth ages 12-17 and were gathered from a variety of sources, e.g.: surveys administered both nationally (National Survey on Drug Use and Health) and locally (California Healthy Kids Survey, OUSD); drug treatment facility records (Treatment Episode Data Set); and data provided by local health agencies. Teen pregnancy data were provided by the Alameda County Public Health Department, and the National Vital Statistics Report and concern females ages 15-19.

SECTION 1: SUBSTANCE ABUSE

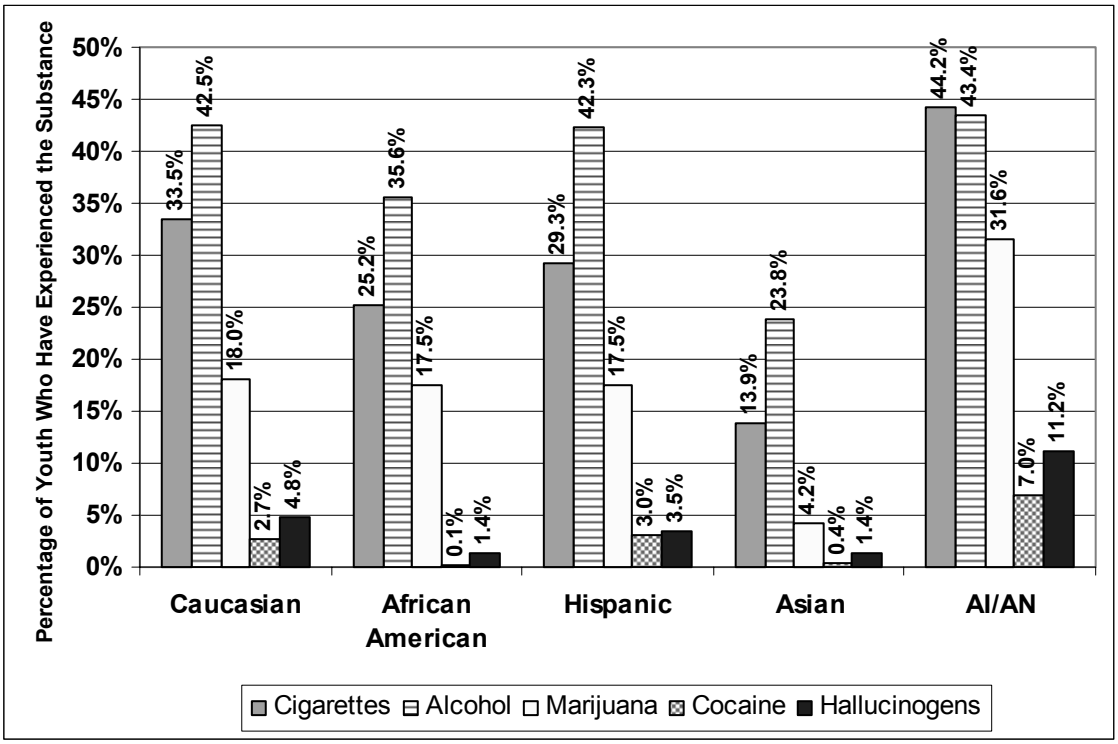
The misconception that API youth do not engage in behaviors such as substance abuse is undermined in the light of data. The following section consists of four areas: i) national rates provide an overview of what substances are popular among youth in the US; ii) state data show how drug abuse among API youth in California compare with national patterns; iii) in Oakland, trends in substance abuse show similarities with statewide patterns; data on specific API subgroups in Oakland are also presented; and iv) the association of substance abuse with delinquency is supported with data from a national sample of API youth.

Two key points become clear from these data. The first is that API youth are not immune to the dangers of substance abuse; the second is that the correlates of substance use (e.g., delinquency) impact API youth as much as they do non-API youth – if not more so.

In this chapter, data for California and some of the data for Oakland were taken from the Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). One note about this data set is that it is based on admissions to drug treatment facilities. Because an individual could be admitted to drug treatment *more than once* within a single year, it is important to realize that "admissions" do not represent unique individuals, but rather the occurrence of being treated for substance abuse.

Unless noted otherwise, all groups include youth of Hispanic ancestry, overlapping with the *Hispanic* group which consists only of youth with Hispanic ancestry.

Figure 3.1: Percentage of Youth (Ages 12-17) Reporting Lifetime† Use of Various Substances, 2005



Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies,
National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 2005.
†Lifetime use refers to whether the youth has ever, in his entire lifetime, experimented with that substance.
Note: Population estimates for different ethnic groups do not include individuals of Hispanic ancestry.
For weighted sample sizes, please refer to Appendix C.

- The three most popular substances used by Asian youth are alcohol (24%), tobacco (14%), and marijuana (4%). The same trend is observed for youth of other racial groups.
- In comparison to other ethnic groups, reported lifetime substance use among API youth is considerably less for tobacco, alcohol and marijuana use.

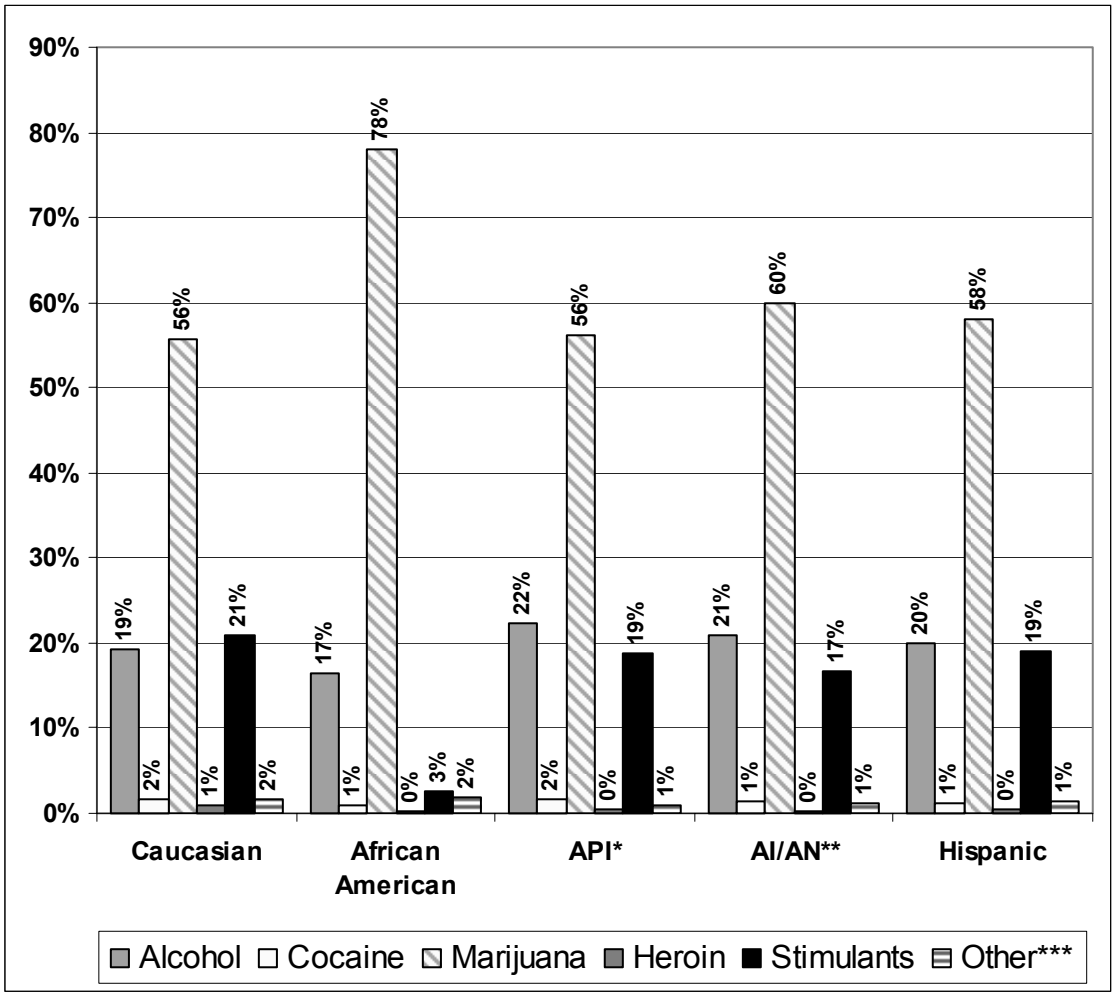
Alcohol and Cigarette Use as Indicators of Illicit Drug Use

- Among youth ages 12 to 17, research finds that heavy alcohol or tobacco use is associated with illicit drug use.[5] For example, whereas only 4.2% of nondrinkers currently used drugs, 65.5% of heavy drinkers reported using drugs. Similarly, only 4.6% of nonsmokers currently used illicit drugs, compared with 42.7% of smokers (SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 2000).

[5] Illicit Drug Use indicates use at least once of marijuana/hashish, cocaine (including crack), heroin, hallucinogens (including LSD and PCP), inhalants, or any prescription-type psychotherapeutic used nonmedically.

Given the above finding, it is important to consider that nationally, the number of API smokers increases seven-fold from middle school to high school (Farrelly, Vilsaint, Lindsey, Thomas, & Messeri, 2001).

Figure 3.2: California Youth Admissions (Ages 12-17) to Treatment Facility By Primary Substance of Abuse and Race, 2005



Source: Office of Applied Studies, SAMHSA, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), 2005.
Note: "*Primary substance of abuse"* refers to the substance that was abused most frequently by a person and which led to drug treatment.
*Asian/Pacific Islander, **American Indian/Alaska Native;
*** '*Other*' includes: tranquilizers, barbiturates, inhalants and over-the-counter medications.
For sample sizes, please refer to Appendix C.

- Primary marijuana abuse accounted for 56% of API youth admissions, 58% of Hispanic youth admissions, and 78% African American youth admissions into California treatment facilities.
- The percentage of juveniles in California treatment facilities for marijuana abuse is four times greater than the adult percentage (60% vs. 15%).

- Primary alcohol abuse accounted for 22% of API youth admissions, 20% of Hispanic youth admissions, and 17% of African American youth admissions into California treatment facilities. A higher percentage of API youth were admitted to treatment facilities for alcohol abuse compared to other ethnic groups.
- Among all ethnic groups, 94% to 98% of all treatment admissions were for alcohol, marijuana or stimulant abuse.

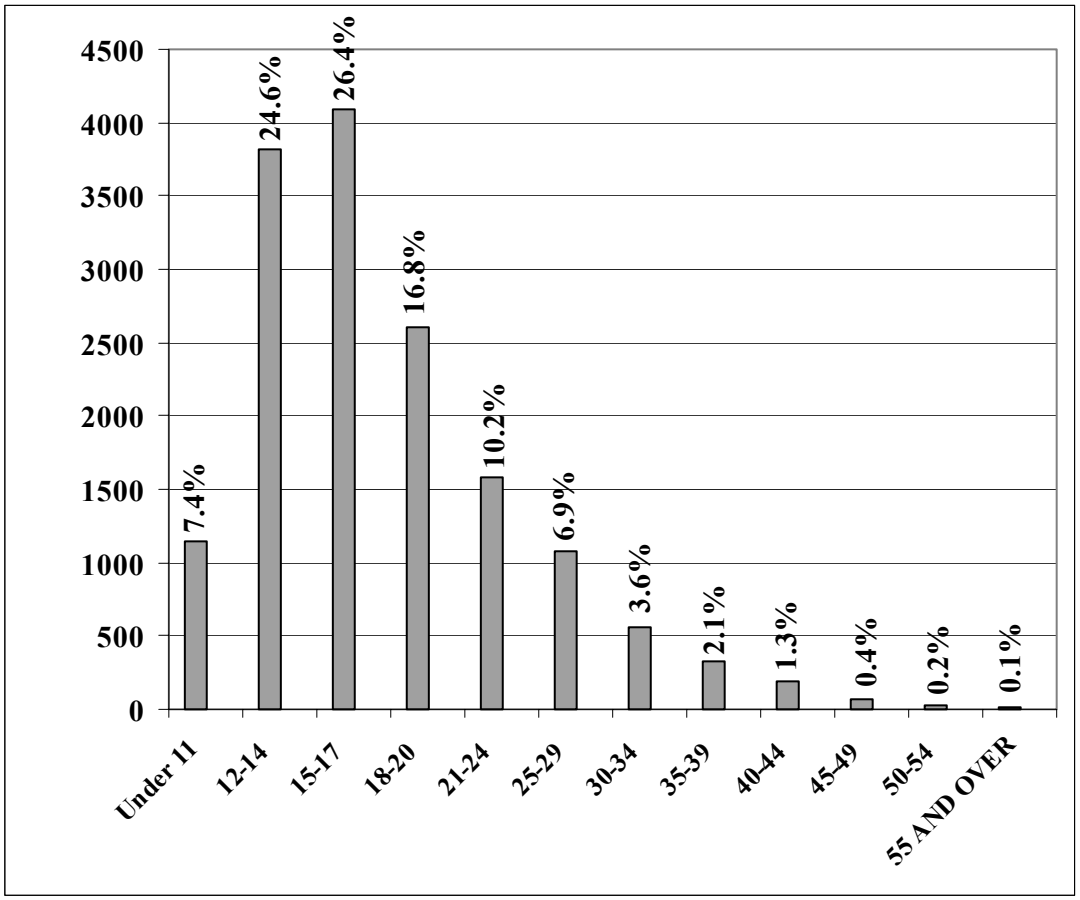
Table 3.1: Youth (Aged 12-17) Admission Rates (per 100,000) to Drug Treatment Facilities in California by Primary Substance of Abuse and Race, 2000 and 2005

	2000	2005	% Change
ALCOHOL			
Caucasian	138	98	-29.3%
African American	104	171	65.0%
American Indian/Alaska Native	755	407	-46.1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	48	50	3.2%
Hispanic/Latino	93	136	45.9%
MARIJUANA			
Caucasian	349	282	-19.2%
African American	508	807	59.0%
American Indian/Alaska Native	1532	1161	-24.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	148	125	-15.8%
Hispanic/Latino	304	396	30.0%
STIMULANTS			
Caucasian	64	106	64.9%
African American	9	27	195.4%
American Indian/Alaska Native	250	322	28.7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	34	42	22.4%
Hispanic/Latino	48	129	168.1%

Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), 2000 and 2005 accessed on 4/16/07 from http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/SAMHDA/; Population Estimates Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

- From 2000 to 2005, the rate of alcohol related youth admissions to drug treatment facilities in California increased 65% for African American youth, 46% for Hispanic youth, and 3% for API youth.
- From 2000 to 2005, the rate of marijuana related youth admissions to drug treatment facilities in California increased 59% for African American youth and 31% for Hispanic youth.
- From 2000 to 2005, the rate of stimulant related youth admissions to drug treatment facilities in California increased for all ethnic groups: 195% for African American youth, 168% for Hispanic youth, 65% for Caucasian youth, 29% for American Indian youth and 22% for API youth.

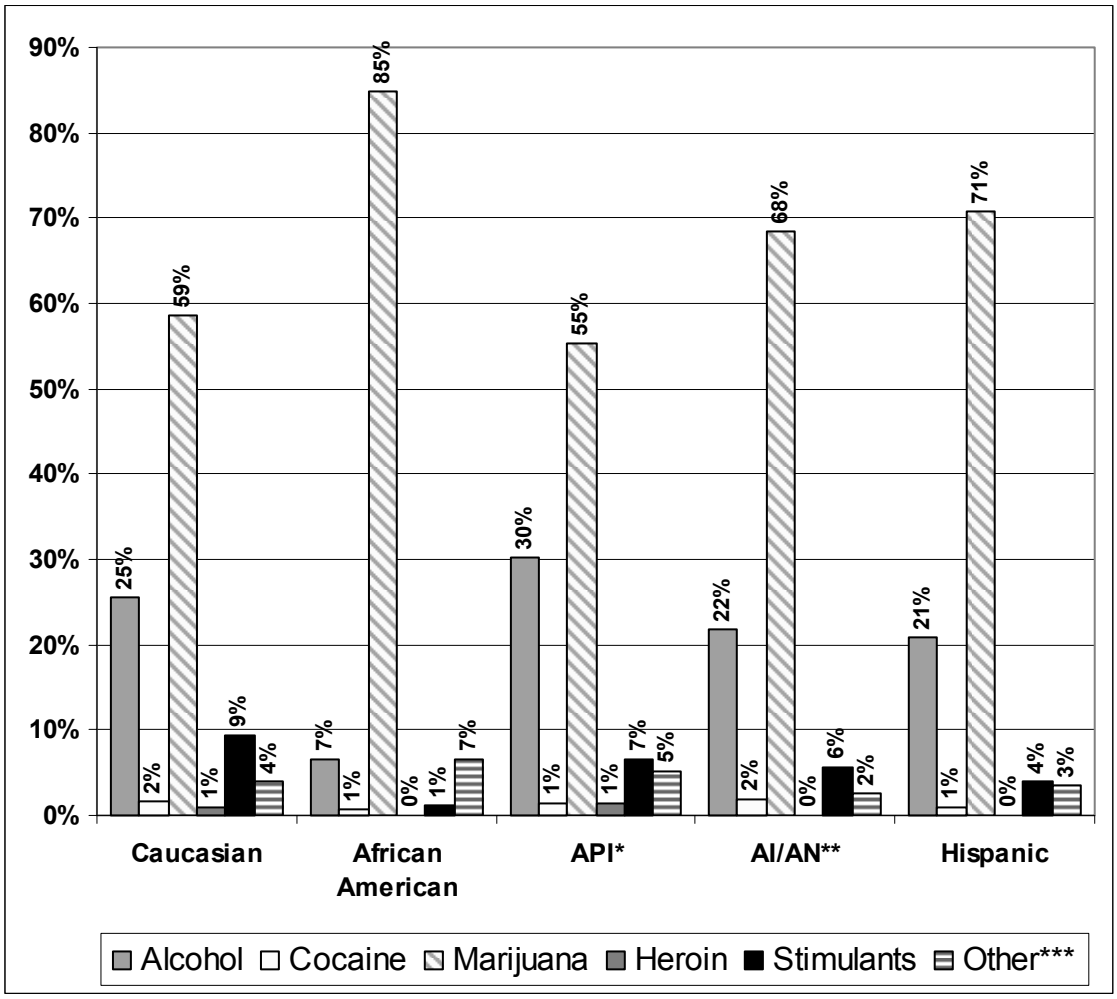
Figure 3.3: Age of First Use of Drugs for API Admitted into Drug Treatment, United States, 2005



Source: Office of Applied Studies, SAMHSA, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), 2005.

- These data are based on asking 15,498 API patients *in drug treatment* at what age they first started using drugs.
- More than 58% of the API admitted into drug treatment facilities first used drugs before the age of 18.
- There is a 233% increase in first drug use between users aged "11 and Under" and "12-14."

Figure 3.4: Oakland Youth Admissions (Ages 17 and Under) to Treatment Facilities By Primary Substance of Abuse and Race, 2005



Source: Office of Applied Studies, SAMHSA, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), 2005.
Note: *Asian/Pacific Islander, **American Indian/Alaska Native;
*** '*Other*' includes: tranquilizers, barbiturates, inhalants and over-the-counter medications.
For sample sizes, please refer to Appendix C.

- Among Oakland based youth, primary marijuana abuse accounted for 55% of API youth admissions, 59% of Caucasian youth admissions, 71% of Hispanic youth admissions, 68% of American Indian youth admissions, and 85% of African American youth admissions into treatment facilities.
- Compared to the rest of the state (see Figure 3.2), a higher percentage of API youth in Oakland are in treatment facilities for alcohol abuse (30% vs. 22%), and a lower percentage are in facilities for stimulant abuse (7% vs. 19%).
- Among youth in Oakland, primary alcohol abuse accounted for 30% of API youth admissions, 21% of Hispanic youth admissions, 22% of American Indian youth admissions, 25% of Caucasian youth admissions, and 7% of African American youth admissions into treatment facilities.
- A higher percentage of API youth (30%) were admitted to treatment facilities for alcohol abuse compared to other ethnic groups.

Table 3.2: Youth Who Reported Lifetime Substance Use in Oakland Unified School District, by Gender and Ethnicity, Grades 7, 9 and 11

	Cigarettes				Alcohol				Marijuana				Inhalants			
Ethnicity	**N†**	**%**	**% of M**	**% of F**	**N**	**%**	**% of M**	**% of F**	**N**	**%**	**% of M**	**% of F**	**N**	**%**	**% of M**	**% of F**
African American	2007	*11*	12	11	1989	*40*	35	44	1989	*40*	39	41	1983	*8*	8	8
Asian	1138	*12*	14	10	1135	*31*	30	31	1136	*18*	19	16	1127	*9*	9	9
Hispanic	1703	*18*	19	17	1695	*44*	43	45	1692	*26*	27	24	1692	*10*	10	10
Caucasian	385	*13*	14	13	385	*44*	35	49	383	*31*	27	33	385	*11*	15	10
NHPI*	148	*22*	15	27	148	*45*	39	49	147	*34*	28	39	149	*14*	12	16
AIAN**	261	*15*	15	15	261	*39*	31	46	263	*37*	31	42	259	*13*	16	11
Other	414	*13*	14	13	413	*39*	32	45	412	*28*	27	29	405	*11*	7	14
Total***	5369	*14*	15	13	5339	*39*	37	41	5340	*29*	29	29	5316	*10*	10	10

Source: California Healthy Kids Survey (OUSD), 2006

Note: *Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, **American Indian/Alaska Native;

***Individuals with multiple ethnicities are represented in more than one ethnic category. For this reason, the total does not equal the sum of the individual ethnicities.

†The N values reflect differences in the response rates as some individuals did not respond to specific items. See Appendix C for sample distributions by gender, ethnicity and substance use.

- Cigarette use among OUSD students ranged from 11% to 22%. With the exception of African American youth, fewer Asian youth reported smoking cigarettes (12%) than any other group.
- Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) youth reported the highest percentage of cigarette smoking, almost twice as high as Asian youth. About 27% of NHPI girls reported having smoked cigarettes, considerably more than any other group.
- Alcohol consumption ranged between 31% and 45%. Asian youth reported the least alcohol consumption (31%), and NHPI youth reported the most alcohol consumption (45%).
- About half (49%) of NHPI girls reported consuming alcohol at some point in their lives.
- In every ethnic group, more girls reported consuming alcohol than boys.
- Marijuana use ranged between 18% and 40%. Asian youth reported smoking marijuana the least (18%), and African American youth reported smoking marijuana the most (40%).
- Compared to other substances, students reported inhalant use the least frequently. About 8% to 14% of youth reported having used inhalants. NHPI youth had the highest incidence of inhalant use, 14%.

Table 3.3: API Youth Who Reported Lifetime Substance Use in Oakland Unified School District, by API Ethnicity, Grades 7, 9 and 11

	N†	Cigarettes (%)	Alcohol (%)	Marijuana (%)	Inhalants (%)
Asian Indian	61	15%	25%	29%	19%
Cambodian	173	22%	46%	30%	11%
Chinese	647	10%	28%	12%	10%
Filipino	172	15%	37%	32%	12%
Japanese	55	9%	40%	30%	21%
Korean	33	6%	39%	24%	3%
Laotian	83	28%	42%	30%	11%
NHPI*	157	22%	44%	34%	14%
Other	177	19%	40%	28%	8%
Vietnamese	282	15%	36%	24%	13%
Total API**	1298	13%	32%	19%	10%

Source: California Healthy Kids Survey (OUSD), 2006

Note: *Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander,

**Individuals with multiple ethnicities are represented in more than one ethnic category. For this reason, the total does not equal the sum of the individual ethnicities.

† The N values reflect the total sample distribution. However, the response rates varied by each item. The percentages shown are based on the number of individuals in each sample who responded to the corresponding item. See Appendix C for actual sample sizes for each substance by ethnicity.

- Cigarette use among API youth ranged from 6% to 28%. Laotian (28%), Cambodian (22%) and NHPI (22%) youth reported the most tobacco use.
- Alcohol consumption among API youth ranged from 25% to 46%. Cambodian (46%), NHPI (44%), and Laotian (42%) youth reported the most alcohol consumption.
- Marijuana use among API youth ranged from 12% to 34%. NHPI (34%), and Filipino (32%) youth reported smoking marijuana the most.
- Inhalant use among API youth ranged from 3% to 21%. Japanese (21%) and Asian Indian (19%) youth reported the most inhalant use.

Table 3.4: Youth Who Reported Lifetime Use of Other Substances in Oakland Unified School District, by Ethnicity, Grades 7, 9 and 11

Ethnicity	N†	Cocaine	Methamphet-amines	LSD	Ecstasy	Heroin	Other Illegal Drug*
African American	2085	2%	3%	3%	8%	2%	4%
Asian	1163	3%	3%	2%	7%	2%	4%
Hispanic	1744	7%	6%	4%	9%	4%	5%
Caucasian	396	7%	5%	8%	7%	3%	8%
NHPI**	157	6%	5%	4%	15%	6%	8%
AIAN***	279	5%	7%	11%	10%	4%	5%
Other	438	6%	6%	7%	10%	6%	7%
Total****	5574	5%	4%	4%	9%	3%	5%

Source: California Healthy Kids Survey (OUSD), 2006

Note: *Other Illegal Drugs Includes PCP, downers, and prescription pills not prescribed by a doctor; **Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, ***American Indian/Alaska Native;

****Individuals with multiple ethnicities are represented in more than one ethnic category. For this reason, the total does not equal the sum of the individual ethnicities.

† The N values reflect the total sample distribution. However, the response rates varied by each item. The percentages shown are based on the number of individuals in each sample who responded to the corresponding item. See Appendix C for actual sample sizes for each substance by ethnicity.

- Cocaine use ranged from 2% to 7%. Hispanic and Caucasian youth reported the most cocaine use (7%).
- Methamphetamine use ranged from 3% to 7%. American Indian and Alaskan Native (AIAN) youth reported the most methamphetamine use (7%).
- LSD use ranged from 2% to 11%. AIAN youth reported the most LSD use (11%).
- Ecstasy use ranged from 7% to 15%. About 9% of all youth reported using ecstasy, a higher percentage than any other substance. NHPI youth reported the most ecstasy use (15%).
- Among Asian youth, ecstasy was the most commonly used substance (7%). More than twice as many Asian youth reported using ecstasy than cocaine (3%), methamphetamine (3%), LSD (2%), or heroin (2%). A similar trend was observed among NHPI youth and African American youth.
- Heroin use ranged from 2% to 6%. NHPI youth reported the most heroin use (6%).

Table 3.5: Asian Youth Who Reported Lifetime Use of Ecstasy in Oakland Unified School District, Disaggregated by Asian Ethnicity, Grades 7, 9 and 11

Ethnicity	Number of Users	% of Users
Chinese	25	22%
Vietnamese	21	19%
Cambodian	14	12%
Filipino	14	12%
NHPI*	14	12%
Other	10	9%
Laotian	6	5%
Japanese	4	4%
Asian Indian	3	3%
Korean	2	2%
Total API**	**67**	**-**

Source: California Healthy Kids Survey (OUSD), 2006
Note: *Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander;
**Individuals with multiple ethnicities are represented in more than one ethnic category. For this reason, the total does not equal the sum of the individual ethnicities.

- Disaggregated data on Asian ecstasy users reveal that Chinese (22%) and Vietnamese (19%) youth made up about 41% of all API ecstasy users. These two ethnic groups also make up the largest Asian subgroups in Oakland.
- Cambodian (12%), Filipino (12%) and NHPI (12%) youth accounted for about 36% of all API ecstasy users.

Table 3.6: Average Number of Anti-Social Behaviors† Committed by Ethnicity* and Number of Substances Used

	Number of Substances Used (Lifetime)		
Ethnicity	**None**	**One**	**Two or More**
Asian/Pacific Islander	**0.92** (n=479)	**1.78** (n=186)	**3.89** (n=296)
Hispanic	**0.79** (n=1015)	**1.66** (n=505)	**3.44** (n=1113)
Native American	**0.85** (n=171)	**1.37** (n=104)	**3.43** (n=238)
Caucasian	**0.69** (n=2626)	**1.46** (n=1170)	**3.10** (n=2236)
African American	**0.85** (n=709)	**1.68** (n=332)	**3.02** (n=486)
API Ethnicity	**None**	**One**	**Two or More**
Southeast Asian	***1.30*** (n=84)	**1.72** (n=32)	***4.71*** (n=31)
Japanese	**1.25** (n=40)	**1.86** (n=14)	**4.43** (n=28)
Filipino	**0.97** (n=87)	**1.88** (n=41)	**4.18** (n=71)
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	**0.49** (n=51)	**1.65** (n=31)	**3.85** (n=73)
Chinese	**0.68** (n=109)	**1.43** (n=28)	**3.31** (n=26)
Other Asian	**0.97** (n=79)	**2.41** (n=27)	**2.96** (n=52)
Korean	**0.84** (n=25)	***2.46*** (n=13)	**2.19** (n=16)

Source: World Health Organization, Health Behavior in School-Aged Children, 1996

* All racial groups include mixed youth of Hispanic ancestry and thus overlap with the Hispanic category (which consists of all youth who reported having Hispanic ancestry).

† Anti-social behavior includes: stealing (something) face-to-face; shoplifting; hurting animals; hurting people; using a weapon; destroying property; setting fires; breaking into a house; lying; staying out late; and cutting school.

- These data are based on the nationwide survey on Health Behavior in School-Aged Children (1996). The sample is composed of youth in the 6th, 8th and 10th grades. This table shows data presented in the first *Under the Microscope* Report. The data needed to update this table could not be obtained so the table has been reused.
- For almost all groups, anti-social behavior increased with the number of substances youth reported using. The exception is Korean youth, for whom there were low sample sizes.
- API youth had the highest average anti-social behavior in all three drug use categories.
- Southeast Asian youth averaged the most anti-social behaviors among youth who reported *no* substance use (1.30) as well as among multiple substance users (4.71).
- The association between delinquency and substance abuse is most severe in Hawaiian and Pacific Islander youth. Hawaiian and Pacific Islander youth who reported no substance use had the *lowest* average anti-social behavior (0.49) among all youth.

However, their counterparts who reported using two or more substances averaged 3.85 anti-social behaviors – nearly **8 times** the average for non-users.

- Along with Southeast Asian and Hawaiian and Pacific Islander youth, Japanese and Filipino multiple substance users had higher average anti-social behaviors than their non-API counterparts (4.43 and 4.18, respectively).
- It should be noted that while substance abuse and anti-social behavior may both be considered delinquent, they differ in emphases. Substance abuse refers to the act of using substances in a way that is harmful to the individual. Anti-social behavior is termed 'anti-social' because of its negative effects on other people (i.e., society).

SECTION 2: MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health refers to the successful use of our mental functions to help us be productive, maintain good relationships with others and help us cope with and adjust to adversity (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2001).

The lack of knowledge on the mental health needs of API youth has been noted by researchers for a number of years (Bui & Takeuchi, 1992; Chun & Sue, 1998). This deficient area of research continues to this day, as indicated by its minimal coverage in a supplement to the Surgeon General's recent report on mental health (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2001).

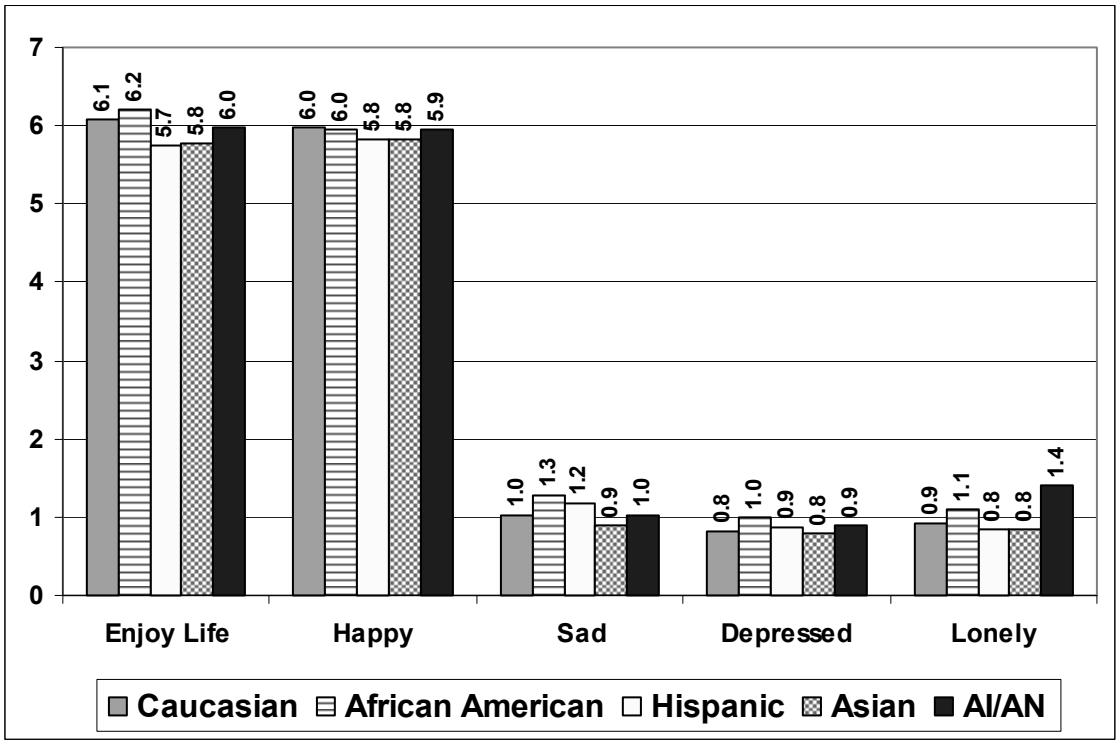
Despite the shortage of information, what *is* known about the mental health of API youth justifies its inclusion in this report. Depression and suicide are important issues for API youth. In 2000, suicide was the second leading cause of death among API youth, second only to unintentional injuries (Center for Disease Control, 2000). Additionally, it has recently been found that Asian American girls have the highest rates of depressive symptoms of all racial groups and the highest suicide rate among all women between ages 15 and 24 (American Psychological Association, 2003).

Mental health is of further significance when considering delinquent youth. In a review of the mental health needs of youth in the juvenile justice system, Cocozza and Skowyra (2000) estimate that at least 20% of youth in the system have a serious mental health problem.

This section consists of three parts: 1) state data on subjective well-being provide a sense of the overall emotional health of youth in California; 2) data from health agencies in Oakland illustrate the type of disorders that local API youth have struggled with; and, 3) the relationship between mental health and delinquency is examined with data from a national sample of API youth.

National data are based on the Health Behavior of School-Aged Children Survey (World Health Organization, 1996). State data are based on the California Health Interview Survey. Local data on mental health youth clients were obtained from Asian Community Mental Health Services, Asian Health Services and Asian Pacific Psychological Services, all based in Oakland. These data consist of youth from ages 5-18. It should be noted that the data provided by the Asian Community Mental Health Services refers to data that was initially reported in the first *Under the Microscope* Report. More recent data could not be obtained to update these tables. However, due to the importance of the data presented in these tables, they have been reinstated in this report.

Figure 3.5: Average Number of Days in a Week that California Adolescents Reported these Subjective Feelings



Source: California Health Interview Survey, 2005
*AI/AN = American Indian and Alaska Native

- Sample sizes for each group were: Asian = 312; AIAN = 36; Latino = 1342; African American = 186; and Caucasian = 1909 (N=3,785).
- Respondents were asked, "In the past 7 days, how many days were each of the following things true?"
- Compared to other ethnic groups, Hispanic and Asian students reported "enjoying life," being "happy," and being "lonely" less often.
- Africa American youth reported being "sad" and "depressed" slightly more than other youth.
- However, partially disaggregated data reveal important differences among Asian ethnic groups. While Asian adolescents, as a whole, reported less feelings of depression than other ethnic groups, Filipino and Vietnamese youth reported more feelings of depression.

Korean	0.5
SE Asian	0.7
Cambodian	0.7
South Asian	0.7
Chinese	0.7
All Asian	**0.8**
Japanese	0.8
Filipino	1.1
Vietnamese	1.2

The data in the following section were provided by community based organizations. The participation of local organizations is a crucial part of any community effort, particularly for the API community. In Oakland, API-focused CBOs provide important services that are culturally competent and accessible in a number of languages. Because of their importance in the API community, data from these local agencies help fill the critical gap in what we know about the mental health of API youth, too often understudied in national datasets.

Table 3.7: Ethnic Breakdown of API Youth Clientele in Oakland API Health Agencies†

INSURED CLIENTS

Ethnicity	Percent Range (%)
Chinese	27.3 - 53.1
Vietnamese	12.5 - 17.9
Lao	12.5 - 15.6
Cambodian	3.1 - 19.8
Filipino	1.7 - 1.9
Korean	0 - 3.1
Other API	0 - 6.3
Non-API	6.3-33.1

N = 582.

UNINSURED CLIENTS

Ethnicity	Percent Range (%)
Chinese	51.4 - 52.2
Cambodian	4.3 – 8.3
Lao	4.3 – 8.3
Filipino	1.4 – 8.7
Korean	0 – 6.5
Other API	0 - 6.5
Vietnamese	0 - 4.3
Non-API	13.0 -30.6

N = 118.

Source: Asian Community Mental Health Services, Asian Health Services, Asian Pacific Psychological Services, 1997-2002.

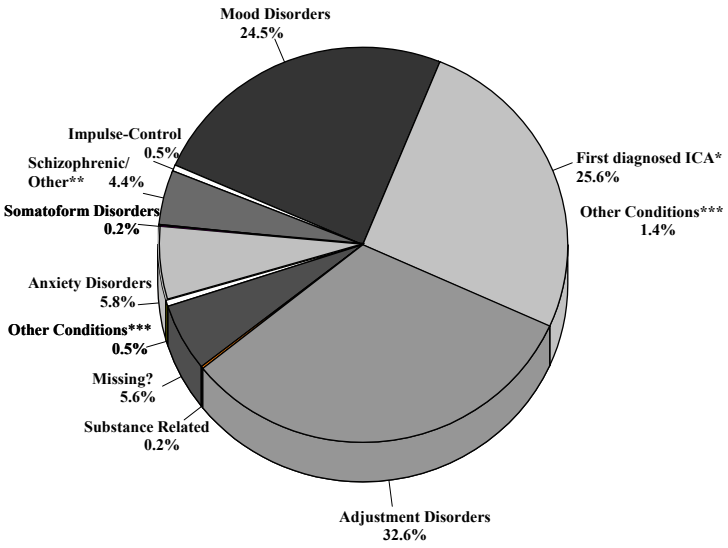
† Because agencies differed in their capacity to provide data for certain years, it was not possible to combine data across all agencies. Thus, the range of percentages are presented instead (the percentage of clients from any one ethnicity varies from agency to agency).

- This table shows data presented in the first *Under the Microscope* Report. The data needed to update this table could not be obtained so the table has been reused.
- These data represent API youth clients who have utilized local mental health services.
- Chinese youth make up the largest portion of insured API youth. Southeast Asians (Lao, Vietnamese and Cambodian) also make up a large portion of youth clients.
- Chinese youth also make up the majority of uninsured API youth, while Filipino, Lao and Cambodian youth make up noticeable portions of this clientele.

Lack of insurance is a critical health issue. The uninsured are not only less likely than those with insurance to seek routine care, they are also less likely to seek help for serious conditions (Asian & Pacific Islander Health Forum, 2002). Without care, those with mental health needs cannot be diagnosed, distorting the prevalence of certain disorders. Local API health agencies in Oakland have found themselves providing pro-bono services to uninsured clients when possible, but too often are forced to turn them away due to burgeoning caseloads and lack of funding. Without treatment, uninsured youth in need of mental health services may worsen in their condition and require more intensive care. In the long run, the costs are greater, both financially and in terms of the general well-being of these youth.

Figure 3.6: Diagnoses of API Youth Clients† at an Oakland-Based Health Agency

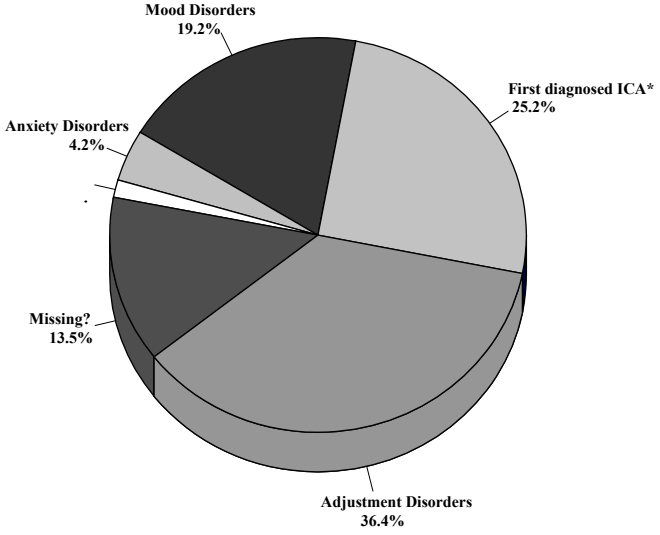
INSURED Clients, October 1997 – September 2002



N = 429

Female = 179 (41.7%); Male = 250 (58.3%)

UNINSURED Clients, January 2000 – September 2002



N = 72

Female = 24 (33.3%); Male = 48 (66.7%)

Source: Asian Community Mental Health Services, Asian Health Services, Asian Pacific Psychological Services, 1997-2002.

*First diagnosed ICA: disorders usually first diagnosed in infancy, childhood or adolescence; **Schizophrenic/other: Schizophrenic/other psychotic disorders; ***Other conditions: Other conditions that may be a focus of clinical attention. These conditions include maltreatment, bereavement and religious or spiritual problems that are not considered to be mental disorders (DSM-IV, 1994).

† Data may include non-Asian/Pacific Islander clients, although the majority (70-90%) of each agency's clientele is API.

- This table shows data presented in the first *Under the Microscope* Report. The data needed to update this table could not be obtained so the table has been reused.
- Due to concerns regarding confidentiality, data are not linked to any single agency.
- The most common diagnosis among both insured and uninsured API youth is **adjustment disorder**, followed by "**disorders usually first diagnosed in infancy, childhood or adolescence**" (a category that includes conduct disorders and ADHD), and **mood disorders** (including depression and 'depression not otherwise specified').
- Low percentages of substance related disorders are observed for this time period because the particular agency providing the data did not have an established alcohol/drug treatment program at the time.
- Data for fiscal year 2001-2002 from a local agency also show adjustment disorders as the most frequent diagnosis among its API youth clientele (59.4%), followed by anxiety (18.8%) and mood disorders (18.7%).

While adjustment disorder (a maladaptive reaction to a stressful event or change in one's life) may involve disturbances in emotion, conduct, or both, the symptoms of adjustment disorder in adolescents tend to be more behavioral (e.g., acting out) (Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, 2002). This is an important point since youth diagnosed with

conduct disorder are more likely to transition from the mental health system to the juvenile justice system than youth with other diagnoses (Scott et al., 2002).

As the above data indicate the most common mental health disorders in insured API youth clients occur in similar percentages among uninsured API youth clients. Thus, while uninsured API youth may share similar mental health needs as insured API youth, their lack of insurance only puts them at greater risk.

As with substance abuse, mental health is an issue that relates to delinquency. For API youth in Oakland, two commonly diagnosed disorders that bear on delinquency are adjustment disorders (see Figure 3.6) and mood disorders (e.g., depression) (see Table 3.8 below).

Table 3.8: Average Number of Anti-Social Behaviors Committed: Non-Depressed Youth vs Depressed Youth

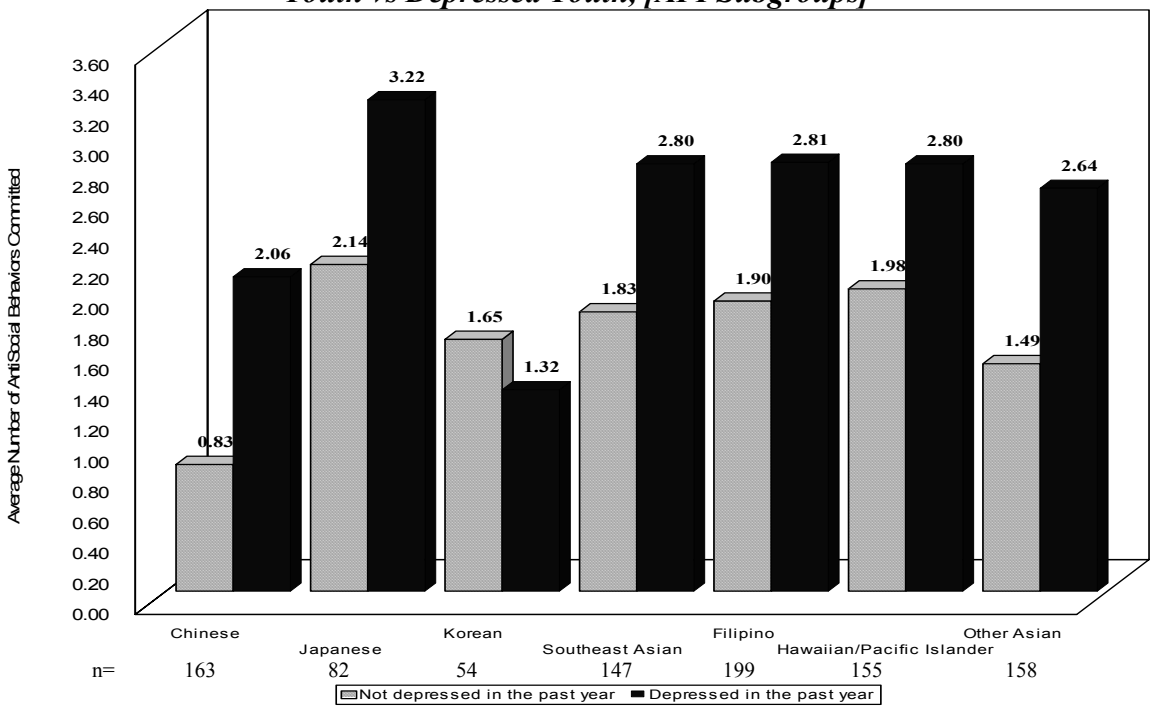
	Depressed in the Past Year	
Ethnicity*	**No**	**Yes**
Caucasian	1.43	2.38
African American	1.47	2.19
Hispanic	1.69	2.69
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.64	2.65
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1.84	2.54

Source: World Health Organization, Health Behavior in School-Aged Children, 1996
*All groups include youth of Hispanic ancestry, while the Hispanic category is comprised only of youth with Hispanic ancestry.

- This table shows data presented in the first *Under the Microscope* Report. The data needed to update this table could not be obtained so the table has been reused.
- Youth who felt depressed in the past year also reported committing more anti-social behavior than youth who reported no depression in the past year.
- Among depressed youth, Hispanic youth averaged the most anti-social behavior (2.69), followed by API youth (2.65).
- For both Hispanic and API youth, depressed youth averaged one more anti-social behavior than non-depressed youth. This difference is the largest of all groups.

Disaggregated data show that the association between delinquency and depression is consistent among most API subgroups, with the exception of Korean youth (low sample sizes may be a factor; see Figure 3.7). Furthermore, disaggregated data also reveal that some depressed API subgroups average more anti-social behavior than non-API groups.

Figure 3.7: Average Number of Anti-Social Behaviors Committed: Non-Depressed Youth vs Depressed Youth, [API Subgroups]



Source: World Health Organization, Health Behavior in School-Aged Children, 1996

- This table shows data presented in the first *Under the Microscope* Report. The data needed to update this table could not be obtained so the table has been reused.
- Japanese, Southeast Asian, Filipino and Hawaiian/Pacific Islander youth who reported feeling depressed in the past year, averaged more anti-social behaviors than depressed non-API youth.
- Depression and delinquency appear to sharply impact Chinese youth. While non-depressed Chinese youth average 0.83 anti-social behaviors (the lowest among all API groups), the average for depressed Chinese youth (2.06) is 2.5 times as high.
- These data do not establish depression as a cause of delinquency since it is possible that youth become depressed because of their involvement in delinquent behavior. Regardless of the cause, the data show that API youth involved in delinquency have emotional needs that must be addressed.

SECTION 3: TEEN PREGNANCY

Teen pregnancy is an issue with complicated causes and serious consequences for the well-being of the youth involved, especially for teenage girls. Anecdotal evidence suggests pregnant teens may suffer from depression because of the great disruption in normal social development that pregnancy at a young age entails. The pregnant teenager is often forced to drop out of school, hindering the attainment of educational and professional goals.

Moreover, as a consequence of unprotected sex, teen pregnancy is just one in a constellation of health risks for youth. Unprotected sex also leaves teens vulnerable to sexually transmitted diseases (e.g., HIV, chlamydia). Furthermore, other factors like drug use, gang involvement, and depression may put teens at risk for unprotected sex and thus, teen pregnancy and STDs.

Teen pregnancy is an emerging issue for the API community in Oakland. Although national data suggest that API have lower rates of teen pregnancy, certain API subgroups in Alameda County are more heavily impacted than would appear in aggregated data.

In this section we present data on: 1) trends in teen birth rates since 1990; and 2) current teen birth rates. Both parts consist of national, state and local data. Finally, we conclude with 3) a discussion on the relationship between delinquency, unprotected sex, and teen pregnancy in API youth.

Data on national and statewide teen birth rates were taken from the National Vital Statistics Report. Local data on teen births were provided by the Alameda County Public Health Department. It should be noted that data on teen birth rates are not the same as teen *pregnancy* rates. Because not all teens who are pregnant necessarily deliver (as in the case of a miscarriage or abortion), the percentage of teens who have given birth does not tell us how many teens were actually pregnant. However, because data on miscarriages and abortion among API subgroups is often inadequate (Weitz, Harper, & Mohllajee, 2001), the number of births given by teens is useful as an *indirect* indicator of teen pregnancy.

Table 3.9: Change in Teen Birth Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Girls 15-19, California and United States, 1990-2003

Ethnicity	California	United States
Caucasians	-60%	-36%
Hispanics	-39%	-18%
African Americans	-61%	-45%
Native Americans	-63%	-35%
Asian/Pacific Islanders	-49%	-34%

Source: National Vital Statistics Reports, Accessed April 18, 2007 from http://teenpregnancy.org/america/statestatisticsDisplay.asp?ID=4&sID=42&stateID=5

Notes: Two states are missing the percent change for non-Hispanic Whites, 12 states are missing percent changes for African American teens, 13 states are missing percent changes for Hispanic teens, 29 states and D.C. are missing percent changes for Native American teens, and 18 states and D.C. are missing percent changes for Asian/Pacific Islander teens. Percent changes are missing because rates are not available for 1990 and/or 2002.

- Teen birth rates refer to the percentage of girls ages 15-19 who have given birth.
- Between 1990 and 2003, African Americans girls (-45%) and Caucasian girls (-36%) experienced the largest decreases in teen birth rates nationally.
- Between 1990 and 2003, African Americans girls (-61%), Native American girls (-63%), and Caucasian girls (-60%) experienced the largest decreases in teen birth rates statewide.
- API teen birth rates in California decreased much more than they did nationwide (-49% vs. 34%)
- Hispanic teen birth rates in California decreased much more than they did nationwide (-39% vs. 18%).

Table 3.10: Teen Birth Rate (per 1,000) of Girls Aged 15-19 by Ethnicity, California and United States, 2003

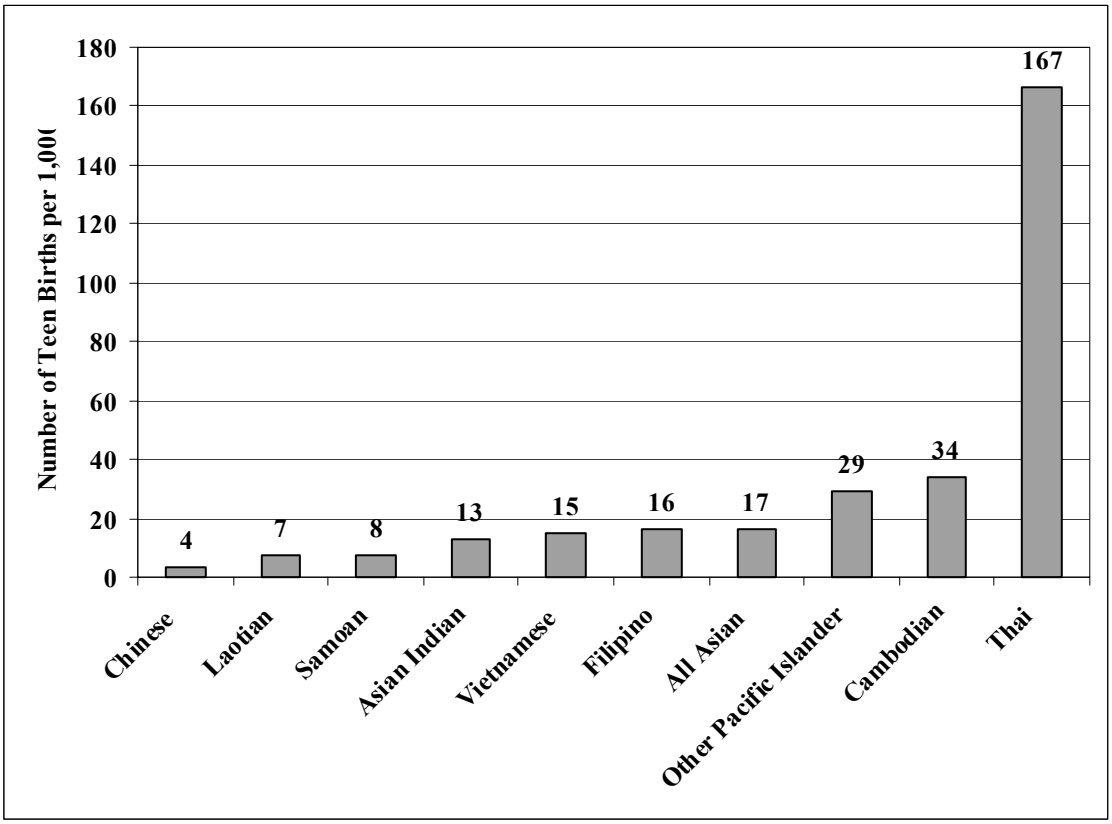
Ethnicity	California	United States
Caucasians	17	27
Hispanics	68	82
African Americans	43	64
Native Americans	18	53
Asian/Pacific Islanders	14	17

Source: National Vital Statistics Reports, Accessed April 18, 2007 from http://teenpregnancy.org/america/statestatisticsDisplay.asp?ID=4&sID=28&stateID=5

Notes: Eight states are missing rates for African American teens, 3 states are missing rates for Hispanic teens, 11 states and D.C. are missing rates for Native American teens, and 12 states and D.C. are missing rates for Asian/Pacific Islander teens. Rates are missing because the number of births and/or teens was too small to calculate a reliable rate.

- In 2003, Hispanic girls aged 15-19 had the highest teen birth rate in both California (68/1,000) and the United States (82/1,000).
- According to aggregated data, API girls have the lowest teen birth rates in California (14/1,000) and the rest of the nation (17/1,000).

Figure 3.8: Teen Birth Rate (per/1,000) of API Girls Aged 15-19 by API Sub-group; Oakland, 2000-2005



Source: Alameda County Public Health Department, 2006; US Census, 2000.
*Due to the small numbers of reported teen births, caution should be used in interpreting the results.

- Contrary to state and national data (see table 3.10), disaggregated data show high teen birth rates among a number of API subgroups in Oakland.
- From 2000-2005, Thai girls aged 15-19 years old had the highest teen birth rate in Oakland (167/1,000) compared to other API subgroups. One reason this rate is so high is because the Thai population of girls aged 15-19 is very small so even the presence or absence of one incident greatly affects the rate per 1,000. For this reason, this finding should be interpreted with caution.
- Compared to the teen birth rate for all API girls in Oakland (17/1,000), three groups had higher birth rates: "other Pacific Islander" girls (29/1,000), Cambodian girls (34/1,000), and the aforementioned small population of Thai girls (167/1,000).
- In addition to these subgroup differences, it is important to note that
  - Cultural beliefs may affect teen pregnancy among some API groups. For example, early marriage is a tradition in Lao communities and teen pregnancy is a common outcome of this practice (Get Real About Teen Pregnancy Campaign, 2002).

Table 3.11: Average Number of Annual Teen Births by API Ethnicity, Girls 15-19, Alameda County, 1990-2005*

Ethnicity	Avg. # of teen births (1990-1999)	Avg. # of teen births (2000-2005)	% Change
Hawaiian	8	1.3	-83.3%
Guamanian	4.8	1.0	-79.2%
Laotian	9.5	2.3	-75.4%
Japanese	1.7	0.5	-70.6%
Thai	5	2.3	-53.3%
Korean	1.7	0.8	-51.0%
Vietnamese	18.8	10.2	-45.9%
Filipino	67.1	36.5	-45.6%
Chinese	9.7	5.5	-43.3%
Cambodian	16.2	10.7	-34.2%
Samoan	4	2.7	-33.3%
Asian Indian	5.7	5.8	2.3%
Hmong	*	0.8	*
Other Asian	*	10.3	*
Other PI	*	9.2	*

Source: Alameda County Public Health Department, 2006

*Due to the small numbers of reported teen births, caution should be used in interpreting the results.

- Compared to the 1990-1999 time period, from 2000-2005 API girls in Alameda County experienced decreases in the number of teen births.
- Compared to other API subgroups, Filipino, Cambodian and Vietnamese girls tended to have higher numbers of teen births in both 1990-1999 and 2000-2005.
- Disaggregated data by API ethnicity shows that teen births impact some groups far more than others. During the 2000-2005 period, Filipina girls accounted for 36.5% of the API teen births.

How delinquency and substance use are related to teen pregnancy: The dangers of unprotected sex

Delinquency and substance use are not only associated with each other, they are also associated with other risky behaviors like **unprotected sex**. Substance use not only decreases inhibitions against sex, it also impairs decisions about practicing safe sex.

- Teen sexual activity linked to alcohol and drug use increases the chances of unintended pregnancy and of infection with sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), such as syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, AIDS (National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 1999).
- 55% of teens said that sex while drinking or on drugs was often a reason for unplanned pregnancies (National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 1999).
- Teens who used marijuana were four times more likely to have been pregnant or to have gotten someone pregnant than teens who never smoked it (National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 1999).
- The California Girls' Study found that approximately 50% of a sample of girls in the California justice system reported having sex while high on alcohol or other drugs (Acoca & Dedel, 1998). In the same sample, 29% of the girls (or 290 per 1000) reported ever having been pregnant.
- Substance abuse and the male partner: Several of the young mothers in the California Girls' Study reported that the male partners who fathered their children had serious substance abuse problems and also were abusive to them during their pregnancies (Acoco & Dedel, 1998).

Teen pregnancy as a concern for API youth

- A recent survey conducted among API teens and young adults in Oakland found that: 62% agreed that premarital sex was okay, 24% expressed embarrassment about using condoms, and 20% of sexually active youth reported never using condoms (Wong, 2002).
- Risky sexual behavior has been tied to involvement in the gang culture for some API youths, including Cambodians, Filipinos, Laotians, and Vietnamese. Furthermore, teen pregnancy may arise as a byproduct of the gang initiation ritual for girls, often serving as the only safe way for members to leave the gang (Get Real About Teen Pregnancy Campaign, 2002).
- Asian youth who either had a weapon or knew someone who had a weapon were more likely to have engaged in sexual intercourse – according to a study conducted in San Francisco and Oakland (Martinez, 1996).

So much more needs to be learned about teen pregnancy in the API community. However, the above findings suggest that pregnant teens are likely to deal with a number of issues: substance abuse, delinquency, as well as emotional, physical and sexual abuse by their partners.

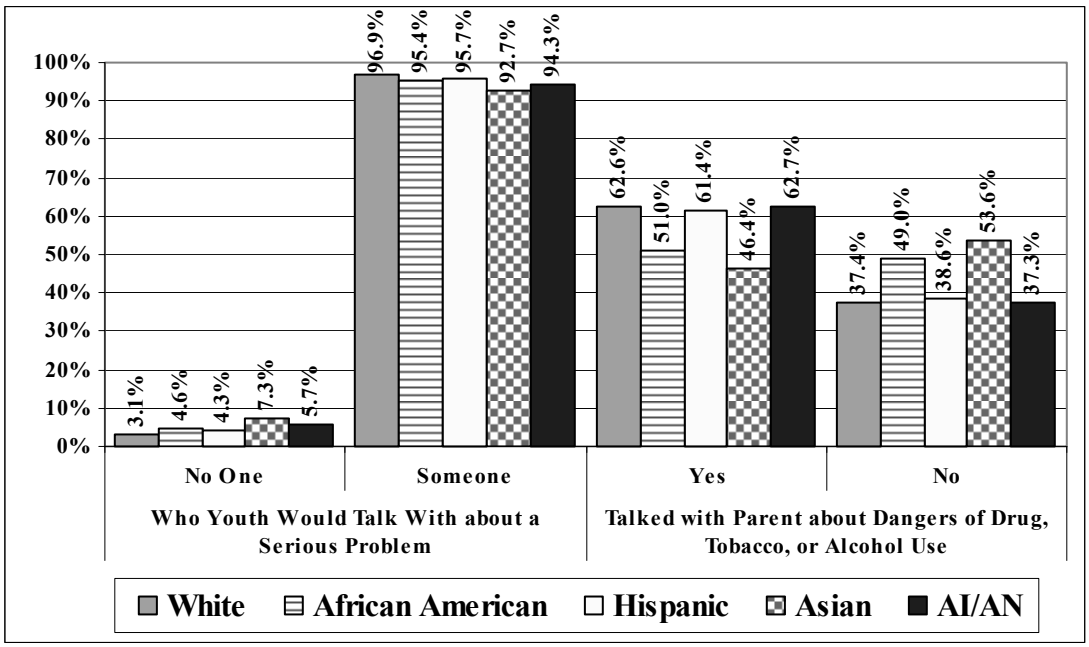
In Alameda County, these findings are further alarming given the high rates of teen births among Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander girls. Thus, dealing with delinquency and substance abuse – in both, API females and males – must include a consideration for their relationship to teen pregnancy.

SECTION 4: HELP-SEEKING BEHAVIOR IN ADOLESCENTS

Who do youth turn to when they have a serious problem? This brief section was included to provide a picture of help-seeking behavior in API youth. Data from the 2005 National Survey on Drug Use and Health are presented below. Adolescents (ages 12-17) were asked the following questions: Who would you talk with about a serious problem? Youth selected one of two options: "no one" or "someone". Secondly, youth were asked, have you talked with at least one parent in the last year about the dangers of drug, tobacco or alcohol use? Youth answered "yes" or "no."

These data are important in the context of this report. Substance abuse, poor mental/emotional health and teen pregnancy are all issues that threaten API youth in Oakland. In considering the type of services API youth need, it is also useful to look at the type of resources these youth feel are available to them.

Figure 3.9: Help Seeking Behaviors of Adolescents aged 12-17, 2005



Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 2005.
Note: Population estimates for different ethnic groups do not include individuals of Hispanic ancestry.
For sample sizes, please refer to Appendix C.

- Most youth (about 96%) felt they could talk to "someone" if they were dealing with a serious problem.
- Compared to other ethnic groups, Asian youth had the highest percentage of respondents who felt they could talk to "no one" about their serious problems (7.3%).
- About 60% of all youth indicated that they have talked to at least one parent about the dangers of drug, tobacco, or alcohol use.
- Compared to other ethnic groups, Asian youth were the least likely to talk to at least one parent about the dangers of drug, tobacco or alcohol use (46.4%).

CONCLUSIONS

SUMMARY

- The number of API youth in California admitted into treatment facilities for abusing alcohol and stimulants increased between 2000 and 2005. Although admissions for marijuana use decreased during this period, the majority of API admissions into treatment facilities in California were for marijuana abuse (56%). There was a similar trend among API youth in Oakland, where 55% of the API youth admitted into treatment facilities were for marijuana abuse. Another 30% of the API youth treatment admissions in Oakland were for alcohol abuse, followed by stimulant abuse. A higher percentage (7%) of API youth were admitted into treatment for stimulant abuse than any other ethnic group, with the exception of Caucasian youth (9%). (Table 3.1, Figure 3.2. and Figure 3.4).
- Based on the 2005-2006 California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) administered in OUSD, Laotian, Cambodian and NHPI youth are overrepresented in certain substance use categories (e.g., cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana).
- More than half (58%) of API admits to treatment facilities nationwide said they first used drugs at age 17 or younger. Furthermore, first drug use increases 233% from ages '*11 and under*' to ages '*12-14'* (Figure 3.3).
- Nationwide, the number of anti-social behaviors committed by API youth rises with the number of substances they report using. Japanese, Southeast Asian, Filipino and Hawaiian/Pacific Islander youth who report using two or more substances average more anti-social acts than non-Asian youth. This association is most severe for Hawaiian/Pacific Islander youth.
- In Oakland, adjustment disorders and mood disorders (e.g. depression) were the most common diagnoses among both insured and uninsured API youth. Both diagnoses have important implications for delinquency since: 1) adolescent symptoms of adjustment disorders often involve disturbances in conduct (e.g., acting out); and 2) youth who reported feeling depressed in the last year also average more anti-social behaviors than youth who reported no depression. Thus, delinquent youth are likely to have emotional needs that must be addressed (Figure 3.6).
- Data on help-seeking behavior suggest that API youth are less likely than other ethnic groups to talk with their parents about the dangers of drug, alcohol and tobacco use. This data also suggest that when API youth are facing serious problems, they are less likely than other ethnic groups to talk to someone about the problems they are facing (Figure 3.9).
- From 2000-2005, Filipina teens (ages 15-19) averaged the highest total number of births per year (36.5) in Alameda County, followed by Vietnamese and Cambodian teens (Table 3.11). However, teen birth rates from 2000-2005 reveal that Southeast Asian females (Thai and Cambodian) had the highest rates, followed by Pacific Islander females (Guamanian, Samoan and Hawaiian). (Figure 3.8).

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Improve research, data collection, and record-keeping:**
  - More research is needed on
    - ❖ the mental health needs of API youth in Oakland,
    - ❖ what factors (e.g., cultural attitudes, poverty, education) impact teen pregnancy – particularly in Southeast API communities.
    - ❖ API youth attitudes toward substance use, especially of cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana, and ecstasy.
    - ❖ the effectiveness of current drug prevention and intervention programs for API youth.
  - Expand API categories as uniformly across agencies as possible. Different agencies vary in the ways they categorize API youth, e.g., some agencies distinguish between Mien, Hmong and Lao; other agencies do not. Some agencies breakdown Pacific Islanders, others do not. The category, "Other Asian" often varies in composition from organization to organization. Improved data for specific API subgroups would clarify their health status and needs.

- **Decrease youth alcohol and tobacco promotion, and sales to youth:** This recommendation involves two parts.
  - *Limit access to alcohol and tobacco* by increasing cigarette and alcohol prices, increasing surveillance and penalties for sales to minors, limiting the number of liquor stores per neighborhood as well as outdoor advertisement signs in communities and areas near K-12 schools.
  - *Involve youth in advocacy and prevention* to educate them on how tobacco and alcohol marketing works and instilling them with self-interest in substance use prevention.
    - ❖ In particular, youth ages 12-14 appear to be critical targets for prevention.
    - ❖ Furthermore, marijuana and ecstasy are two substances that need to be addressed by prevention efforts.

- **Provide more confidential services to youth:** Confidential services are important because:
  - Topics like substance abuse, mental health and teen pregnancy are sensitive in nature, making it difficult for affected youth to seek help. Confidential services may break down these barriers. Confidential services should be made available as an alternative for youth who feel uncomfortable about approaching their parents about certain issues.

- **Continue to support programs that target reproductive health issues in API youth:** In Oakland, there are few API health agencies that, as Family PACT (Planning, Access, Care & Treatment) providers, are able to provide free contraception, STI and pregnancy testing, and counseling to low income adolescents. There are also few multilingual programs that help API families speak with their youth about sex and teen pregnancy. These programs have been effective in preventing teen pregnancy, but are in danger of losing funding due to withering state

budgets. Although it is important to improve current programs for the API community, the few programs that do exist must be protected.

- **Increase support for language accessible and culturally competent services:** Increased support for the following services would better serve immigrant API for whom language and cultural barriers may limit their perception of available services.
  - Bilingual and bicultural services (e.g., alcohol and other drug prevention and treatment programs, pregnancy/STD testing, etc.).
  - Increased clinician presence in schools and communities, particularly clinicians of the same API ethnicity as their clients.
  - Improved health education materials targeting API populations that may be 'linguistically isolated.'
  - In addition, it is necessary to outreach to immigrant API youth to make them aware of available services.

- **Provide healthy and positive opportunities targeted at API youth:** After-school programs are important to all three major health issues.
  - *Substance Abuse:* Providing substance-free areas for youth recreation gives youths other healthy alternatives. Youth focus groups and peer counseling in substance abuse/possession/sale provide peer support.
  - *Mental Health:* Opportunities for sports and the visual/performing arts provide youth with an outlet for self-expression and socialization. The availability of these alternatives shows youth that they are cared for in the community.
  - *Teen Pregnancy:* After-school programs can target physical health and sexual health education, along with sports and the arts.

- **Increase culturally sensitive education on substance abuse, mental health, and teen pregnancy:** Education on these major health issues should be directed not only at youth, but also at teachers, parents and other community leaders.
  - *Mental Health:* Educating parents and teachers about mental health issues would help them identify youth who may be in need of help. Improved understanding of mental health issues and awareness of services in the community would reduce the stigma of seeking out professional help.
  - *Teen Pregnancy:* Informing parents about sexuality and contraception would benefit those parents who want to but feel they lack the knowledge to effectively communicate this information to their children. Providing culturally sensitive strategies for talking with youth is crucial since: 1) immigrant API parents are less likely than 2nd or 3rd generation API parents to feel comfortable discussing sexuality with their children; 2) the topic of sexuality and contraception may be considered taboo in some API groups (e.g., Pacific Islanders).

- **Involve parents and the communities in raising resilient youth:** For many API youth, parents are often too busy to spend time monitoring their children's behavior. The benefit of improved education and information on health issues is that it will help parents understand the importance of being involved in the health of their children. An emphasis on intergenerational communication is especially important for recently

immigrated API families, in which children acculturate more rapidly than their parents to the dominant mainstream culture.

- **Improve community linkages with mental health, substance abuse, and social services**: Establishing better relationships between the community and health services would increase awareness of and demystify the benefits of these services. Collaborations between community organizations, schools and community leaders would be crucial in forging these relationships.

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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GLOSSARY

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- **admission** – For the purposes of this section, an admission is when an individual has formally entered an alcohol/drug treatment unit for treatment or recovery services. Admissions data do *not* represent individuals. An individual who is admitted to a treatment facility twice within the calendar year would be counted as two admissions [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, http://wwwdasis.samhsa.gov/teds99/ ch_1_0_interpretation.htm].

- **admit** – Refers to a person who has entered (been admitted) to an alcohol/drug treatment facility. It should be noted that the plural form of the word, "*admits"* does *not* refer to unique individuals. A person who is admitted to a treatment facility twice within the calendar year would be counted as two admits. [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, http://wwwdasis.samhsa.gov/teds99/ch_1_0_interpretation.htm].

- **cocaine** – An alkaloid, methylbenzoylecgonine, obtained from the leaves of the coca tree (Erythroxylon sp.). It is a central nervous system stimulant that produces euphoric excitement. Abuse and dependence constitute a major drug problem [U.S. Department of Labor, http://said.dol.gov/Glossary.asp].

- **hallucinogens** – Drugs that stimulate the nervous system and produce varied changes in perception and mood, e.g., LSD or PCP. [U.S. Department of Labor, http://said.dol.gov/Glossary.asp].

- **heroin** – A semisynthetic derivative of morphine originally used as an analgesic and cough depressant. In harmful doses it induces euphoria; tends to make the user think he or she is removed from reality, tension, and pressures [U.S. Department of Labor, http://said.dol.gov/Glossary.asp].

- **illicit drug** – Use of the following drugs are illegal in the U.S.: marijuana, cocaine, heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, or non-medical use of prescription-type pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants and sedatives. [SAMHSA, http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/2kState/ PDF/Vol1/OOSAERptVol1_W.pdf].

- **marijuana** – The crushed dried leaves of the flowering cannabis plant, usually rolled into a cigarette (a joint) and smoked. High doses cause impaired judgment, slowed reaction time, limited motor skills, confusion of time sense, and short-term memory loss [U.S. Department of Labor, http://said.dol.gov/Glossary.asp].

- **primary substance of abuse** – The substance most frequently abused by an individual, leading to admission into a drug treatment facility. An individual is sometimes admitted for abusing more than one substance (called secondary and tertiary substances of abuse).

- **stimulants** – Drugs that increase the activity of the nervous system, causing wakefulness. Examples include caffeine, amphetamine, methamphetamine, and cocaine [U.S. Department of Labor, http://said.dol.gov/Glossary.asp].

- **substance use** – In this report, the term *substance use* includes any experimentation with or use of substances and does not necessarily connote abuse.

- **substance abuse** – Refers to a maladaptive pattern in which substance use starts to severely interfere with social, occupational or recreational activities. Individuals continue to use drugs/alcohol even though they know it is causing them psychological and physical problems [DSM-IV, http://www.drugabuse.gov/Drugpages/DSR.html].

- **treatment facility** – A facility in which admits receive services for their alcohol and other drug abuse dependency. These facilities include residential (inpatient) detoxification and rehabilitation centers in which admits remain in the facility for a number of days; and ambulatory (outpatient) care units in which admits receive treatment for a number of hours per day, but return home after each day's treatment.

MENTAL HEALTH

- **adjustment disorder** – The symptoms of adjustment disorder include depression and anxiety *in reaction to* an *identifiable* stressor (such as a particular event). The reaction to the stressful event interferes with daily functioning and is in excess of what is normally expected. In youth, the symptoms of adjustment disorder may involve acting out. [Lucile Packard's Children's Hospital, http://www.lpch.org/DiseaseHealthInfo/HealthLibrary/ mentalhealth/adjdis.html].

- **anxiety disorder** – These disorders are marked by persistent feelings of worry, apprehension, tension or uneasiness. [Health on the Net Foundation, http://129.194.8.64:9001/cgi-bin/HONselect?browse+F03.080#MeSH].

- **conduct disorder –** a disruptive disorder characterized by aggressive behaviors such as fighting, bullying, physically assaulting, sexually coercing and/or being cruel to people or animals. Other common behaviors include vandalism, theft, truancy and early drug, tobacco or alcohol use. [Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General, http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/mentalhealth/toc.html#chapter3]

- **Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th Edition (DSM-IV) –** Published by the American Psychiatric Association, this manual contains a list of criteria used by psychiatrists to classify and diagnose clients with mental disorders.

- **disorders usually first diagnosed in infancy, childhood or adolescence** – this is a broad DSM category consisting of mental disorders that originate in the period up to and including adolescence. These disorders include but are not limited to: mental

retardation, learning disorders, disruptive disorders (e.g., oppositional defiance, conduct disorder), and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

- **oppositional defiant disorder (ODD)** – a disruptive disorder in which the child displays a persistent pattern of defiance and disobedience toward various authority figures (e.g., parents, teachers, etc). Problem behaviors include persistent fighting, arguing, being easily annoyed and being spiteful or vindictive to others. According to the DSM-IV, ODD is sometimes a precursor of conduct disorder. [Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General, http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/mentalhealth/toc.html#chapter3].

- **impulse-control disorder** – Disorders whose essential features are the failure to resist an impulse, drive, or temptation to perform an act that is harmful to the individual or to others. Individuals experience an increased sense of tension prior to the act and pleasure, gratification or release of tension at the time of committing the act. [Health on the Net Foundation, http://www.hon.ch/HONselect/Selection/F03.html].

- **mood disorder** – Those disorders that have a disturbance in mood as their predominant feature. These disorders include major depression and bipolar disorder. [Health on the Net Foundation, http://www.hon.ch/HONselect/Selection/F03.html]

- **other conditions that may be a focus of clinical attention** – These include maltreatment, bereavement and religious or spiritual problems that are not considered to be mental disorders (DSM-IV, 1994).

- **posttraumatic stress disorder** – An anxiety disorder marked by the development of characteristic symptoms following a psychologically traumatic event that is outside the normal range of usual human experience. Symptoms include re-experiencing the traumatic event and numbing of responsiveness to or reduced involvement with the external world. [Health on the Net Foundation, http://www.hon.ch/cgi-bin/HONselect?browse+F03.080.862].

- **psychotic disorders** – The symptoms of psychotic disorders include delusions, hallucinations, or disorganized speech or behavior. Schizophrenia is an example of a psychotic disorder (APA, DSM-IV). [BehaveNet, http://www.behavenet.com/capsules / disorders/briefpsychoticdis.htm].

- **schizophrenia** – Those with schizophrenia often suffer symptoms such as hearing internal voices not heard by others, or believing that other people are reading their minds, controlling their thoughts, or plotting to harm them. Other symptoms include disorganized speech and behavior. [National Institute of Mental Health, http://www.nimh.nih.gov/publicat/schizoph.htm]

- **somatoform disorder** – Disorders that have the presence of physical symptoms that suggest a general medical condition but are not fully explained by a specific physical cause. The symptoms cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social,

occupational, or other areas of functioning. The physical symptoms are not under voluntary control. (APA, DSM-IV). [Health on the Net Foundation, http://www.hon.ch/HONselect/Selection/F03.html].

- **substance related disorders** – These disorders include substance abuse, as well as substance *induced* disorders. Examples of substance induced disorders include anxiety, mood or psychotic disorders brought on by substance use (APA, DSM-IV). [BehaveNet, http://www.behavenet.com/capsules/disorders/sub-reldis.htm].

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The data presented in the preceding report send a message of urgency. The API youth populations are growing quickly and the common stereotypes about their success prevent the examination and addressing of issues that compromise their well-being and success in the future. When looking at particular API subgroups, high rates of offenses compounded by poor academic performance and risky health behaviors present a difficult future for these youth. However, once these issues are identified and solutions are proposed, youth can be prepared to battle against these challenges through means that include providing them with schools that are effective, adult role models who give them adequate support, independence and training with job skills, and the ability to dream that they can succeed.

Through the different chapters, various areas were identified in which API youth are greatly affected. Some of the issues that arose did not just impact the youth directly; they also influenced them indirectly, placing them at greater risk for other problems and troubled behavior. These areas that will be discussed in greater detail include: 1) Truancy; 2) LEP Status; 3) Arrests; 4) Substance Use; 5) Mental Health; and 6) Teen Pregnancy. Further, three improvements to the current system of services would shed light on what is occurring within these issues, as well as providing assistance in resolving the problems: 1) Disaggregation of Data; 2) Further Research; and 3) Language Access.

The recommendations listed below were included in the first *Under the Microscope* Report released in 2003. Although several years have passed since the initial publication, these recommendations are still appropriate and relevant in 2007. Considering that many of these recommendations are still appropriate reinforces the notion that more services and programs need to be implemented to address the needs of API youth in the Oakland community.

CRITICAL AREAS FOR API YOUTH

1. TRUANCY

Within its public school system, truancy is a district-wide problem for Oakland. Truancy has multiple consequences for the student and the school community as a whole.

- During the 2001-2002 school year, Oakland Unified School District lost close to $150,000 per day in ADA funds due to truancy, resulting from an average absence rate of 10.9% overall, or *20.7%* at the high school level.
- Data from the 2001 to 2002 school year for OUSD shows a direct relationship between days and absent grade point averages, i.e. the more days in the classroom, the higher the grade point average. Thus, if there is to be academic success for youth, truancy must be dealt with.
- Some LEP API groups have very high absence rates in OUSD, including those who speak Laotian, Tongan, and Urdu. Laotian and Tongan LEP students also have some of the lowest GPAs of those APIs in the LEP program.

Recommendations

- *Conduct surveys of students in order to learn why they do not attend school and what would entice them to return. This will identify the differing reasons why those who are truant at different rates do not attend school. It would be most effective to conduct the survey at the beginning of the school year, when attendance rates are highest.*
- *Outreach to the API community in the form of parental awareness. This is necessary to get parents involved in the process of improving attendance and thereby the academic performance of API students.*

2. LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (LEP) STATUS

Students may be placed into LEP classes after they, upon enrolling in OUSD and a parent designating that their first language is not English, take an English proficiency test. LEP students tend to receive lower than average scores on standard academic achievement tests. Students may have problems moving out of LEP status into mainstream classes, a process called *redesignation*, because of this low academic performance. This status can adversely affect the ability of students to graduate from high school because LEP classes may not fulfill graduation requirements.

- About 35% of the API students enrolled in OUSD are designated English Learners (LEP). Over 20% of the LEP students in OUSD are Asian.
- For OUSD grades 9-11, LEP students were ranked last in each subject area of the STAR test in 2006, except for Math. LEP students in Oakland also had lower scores than Alameda County LEP students in every subject, and performed significantly less well than LEP students in the nation as a whole.
- LEP students in OUSD may have trouble meeting certain graduation requirement, especially if they are not redesignated into mainstream English classes. OUSD requires eight semesters of English, and only one LEP class (level 4) can be used once to fill this requirement. LEP students who begin at level 3 or lower may need extra semesters of English in order to receive a diploma.

Recommendations

- *Improve communication with API parents in order to educate and empower them to advocate on their child's behalf through:.*
  - *Outreach to the community regarding the graduation requirements. This can include stories in the media (such as school newspapers, and the ethnic press, including community newspapers, television stations and radio stations), fliers for parents in appropriate languages, and notices in environments where API congregate, such as churches, community-based organizations, and grocery stores.*
  - *The creation of a mechanism through which non-English-speaking parents can be communicated with and taught more directly, such as videotapes, which would be distributed to ethnic churches, community-based organizations, etc. in addition to the schools, or parent conferences. Ethnic-specific parent conferences have been held by the API Education Taskforce, providing opportunities to connect with parents in environments they find comfortable.*

3. ARRESTS

Arrests numbers reveal a troubling problem in the API community. Lawmakers often do not consider API youth to be high risk populations for arrests due to low arrest rates among the most sizeable and prominent group (Chinese). However, some subgroups of API youth are being arrested at high rates in Oakland, and arrest numbers for the whole group are increasing. This trend in arrest numbers is troubling, because it may indicate an increase among API youth in involvement with criminal activity. Increased criminal activity among API youth also affects and concerns the entire API community as a whole, not just the youth and their families, making the issue crucial for everyone to address.

- In the year 2006 in Oakland, several API groups had very high arrest rates, including Samoan (140 per 1,000), Cambodian (63 per 1,000), Laotian (52 per 1,000) and Vietnamese youth (28 per 1,000). These rates are masked by the low total population of these groups, as compared to the population of the largest API ethnicity, Chinese. The low arrest rate of Chinese youth (11 per 1,000) in Oakland hides the problems that these smaller ethnic groups face.
- API youth in Oakland have different issues than the youth as a whole in the juvenile justice arena. API juveniles were arrested in the 1990s a great deal more for property crimes than were other youth and dramatically less for drug offenses. While API youth were not arrested as often as youth from other racial groups in Oakland in 2000, once they were in the juvenile justice system, they were the most likely of any group to undergo institutional placement.
- Data shows that juvenile victims, including APIs, in Oakland in 2000 were most likely to be victimized by members of their own ethnic group. Thus, the whole community is implicated by the troubles that its youth are having with the law. Furthermore, multiple encounters with the law early in life are predictive of arrest patterns in adulthood, so early prevention might have a potentially huge effect on future levels of crime in the community.

Recommendations

- *Develop one-on-one mentoring programs: Adult mentors serve as role models for at-risk youth, providing sources of support and examples of commitment. Attachment to dedicated mentors helps the youth "build resiliency and academic skills within [themselves], helping to prevent further delinquent behavior." (OJJDP, 55)*
- *Help parents of different ethnic backgrounds understand the juvenile justice system. This can be done by creating a video that informs parents of the juvenile justice process in their own language. Parents that understand the system are better able to advocate for their children.*
- *Make the community, especially organizations, judges, police, and families, aware of alternatives to the traditional juvenile justice system and incarceration, such as McCullum Youth Court. A resource guide listing Oakland youth organizations and the services that they provide would be instrumental in informing the community about these services and facilitating relationships between community groups.*

4. SUBSTANCE USE

Data presented dispels the common notion that API youth do not engage in such behaviors as substance use. The use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs is an important issue in the API youth community; API youth are not immune to the dangers of substance abuse. In fact, in Oakland, API youth appear to be more prone to certain types of substance use than are other youth, a trend that is increasing. Data also show that API youth are just as susceptible, if not more so, as other youth to the other problematic issues and risky behaviors that are correlated with substance use, such as juvenile delinquency.

- While in the nation as a whole, API youth generally have lower rates of substance use than other youths have, within California, youth admissions rates to treatment facilities for API youth have increased for the abuse of alcohol, and stimulants, between 2000 and 2005.
- Like other racial groups in Oakland and state-wide, the majority of API youth admitted to treatment facilities were treated for primary abuse of marijuana. Also, the percentage of API youth who were admitted primarily for abusing alcohol was slightly higher than that of any other ethnic group. This trend of high alcohol use also appears at the state level.
- Substance use data disaggregated by ethnicity reveals Laotian, Cambodian and NHPI youth are overrepresented among API, cigarette, alcohol, and marijuana users.
- More than half (58%) of API youth who were admitted to drug treatment programs say that they began using drugs when they were 17 years old or younger.
- When examining the relationship between substance use and delinquency among youth of various ethnic groups through a nationwide survey, it is found that for almost all groups, anti-social behavior increased with the number of substances that youth used. In all three categories of substance use (none, one substance, or two or more substances), API youth had the highest average anti-social behaviors.

Recommendations

- *End the promotion and sales of tobacco and alcohol to youth. This can be accomplished through the use of several avenues together.*
  - *Limit the access that youth have to these substances by such means as increasing their prices, increase the monitoring of their sales and institute higher penalties for those caught violating policies about selling substances to minors, and limiting both the number of liquor stores that can be located in each neighborhood and the number of outdoor advertisements placed in areas around K-12 schools.*
  - *Educate and involve youth in how alcohol and tobacco marketing works and create within the youth a self-interest in preventing substance abuse. Education should begin in the pre-school years.*
- *Create after-school programs for youth as a healthy alternative environment. This would provide a recreation space for youth that is substance-free. These programs can also provide youth focus groups and peer-counseling to encourage peer support on issues that include substance abuse, possession and sale.*

5. MENTAL HEALTH

The study of mental health issues among API youth is marked by a dearth of information, yet the statistics that do exist demonstrate that these topics are important to the API community, sometimes even affecting the API youth more than youth of other ethnicities. Mental health problems become a weightier problem when it is realized that they are also correlated with delinquent behavior, increasing the need for them to be addressed directly.

- Within mental health agencies that serve API clientele at Oakland, Chinese youth constitute a majority of those clients who are uninsured, with Cambodian, Lao, and Filipino youth also contributing a notable amount of uninsured clients. This is important to note as those who do not have insurance are less likely to seek help for serious mental health issues or might be turned away from health agencies. Without treatment, their conditions may worsen.
- In Oakland, the most frequent diagnosis made for API youth at health agencies was for adjustment disorder. Symptoms of this disorder tend to be behavioral, such as acting out. Youth who have been diagnosed with conduct disorder are more likely than youth who have been diagnosed with other problems to enter the juvenile justice system.
- Across almost all major ethnicities and API subgroups, depressed youth commit, on average, more anti-social behaviors than non-depressed youth.

Recommendations

- *Create after-school alternative activities for youth, as suggested above. These programs in areas such as sports and the visual and performing arts can create an outlet for youth to express themselves and for socialization.*
- *Educate parents in a culturally sensitive manner about mental health issues. This would both help them to recognize when an adolescent is in need of mental health treatment and also to alleviate the stigma that is often attached to seeking help with these issues.*

6. TEEN PREGNANCY

Contrary to popular belief and to national trends, teen pregnancy is an issue that is very pertinent to the API community in Alameda County, especially to certain subgroups. The subject of teenage pregnancy is fraught with complex causes and very serious consequences for those involved. Pregnancy is entangled with many other issues, including other health topics. A pregnant teenager may become depressed due to the disruption of her normal social development that is caused by the early pregnancy. Other than her mental health, her physical health may also be implicated, as unwanted pregnancies are often the result of unsafe sexual practices, which also put her at risk for sexually transmitted diseases. Education issues are also implicated by teenage pregnancy, as pregnant teenagers often drop out of school.

- More than half of API teenagers and young adults in Oakland believe that premarital sex is okay, about a quarter are embarrassed to use condoms and a fifth of those who are sexually active have never used condoms.

- Although API girls have the lowest teen birth rates nationally and in the state of California, certain populations of API youth in Oakland, such as Thai and Cambodian girls, have very high birth rates when data is disaggregated. However due to the relatively small populations of certain API groups, such as Thai and Cambodian youth, aggregated data does not illuminate the issues faced by these smaller communities.

Recommendations

- *Educate parents in a culturally sensitive manner about teen pregnancy.*
  - *Some parents would like to speak to their children about these issues of sexuality and safe sex practices but feel that they lack the knowledge and information to do this effectively. Teaching parents would enable them to teach their children.*
  - *This education must be done in a culturally sensitive manner because of the cultural differences that surround the topic of sexuality. For example, immigrants are less likely than future generations to feel comfortable talking about this subject with their children. Also, some API groups may consider discussion of these topics taboo.*
- *Develop educational after-school programs for youth, as previously suggested. Rather than only providing sports and arts, these programs can also teach physical health and sexual health information.*
- *Create more confidential services, preferably free, for youth to turn to when they, for example, need to have a pregnancy or STD test. Having these services readily available to youth will encourage them to turn to a trained healthcare professional who can provide effective treatment and compassionate guidance rather than attempting to deal with these issues by themselves.*

TOOLS TO HELP ILLUMINATE AND ADDRESS THESE AREAS

1. DISAGGREGATION OF DATA: EXAMINING CERTAIN ETHNIC GROUPS

Each chapter of this report was faced with the challenge of finding data that was disaggregated by API subgroup, data that was not readily available or did not exist altogether. Across different agencies, there currently are different methods of categorization of ethnic groups, resulting in difficulty in comparing data between agencies.

- For example, the California Youth Authority has the racial categories of Caucasian, Hispanic, African American, Asian and Other. However, some other agencies, such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (*Uniform Crime Reports*) do not have a separate category of Hispanic; instead, they distribute these individuals among the categories of Asian, Native American, Caucasian and African American, making it difficult to make comparisons between data from these different agencies.
- Education information regarding specific API ethnicities was often not maintained by the school district. When enrolling in schools, students were asked their general racial category (e.g. African American, Caucasian, Asian) but were not asked to specify what Asian ethnicity they belonged to, so this information was not recorded anywhere and no method of disaggregating the total student body was available. However,

because the LEP student population was relatively large and could be disaggregated by language, data regarding students enrolled in the LEP program was utilized. This method is not ideal though, as the LEP population does not necessarily reflect the entire population, so the data must be used cautiously to draw conclusions.

Recommendations

- *Create a set of API ethnic categories that can be used uniformly across various agencies: This would allow for both comparisons of information across agencies as well as creating a greater wealth of information about specific API ethnic groups, helping to clarify the issues that they face.*

2. FURTHER RESEARCH

Data that do have API subgroups separated show important disparities between these various API ethnicities. One of the goals in the production of this report was to identify specifically which API ethnicities were having the most trouble (so that assistance directed at these groups can be provided). Issues facing Southeast API youth need to be addressed immediately. However, very little evidence emerges that explains the disparities that emerge between different ethnic groups. Data is scarce or unavailable on the specific cultural beliefs, histories, practices, and other attributes of the various groups that may impact risky behaviors and contribute to the varying circumstances of these ethnic groups.

- Education data show that Pacific Islanders and LEP students consistently have low academic scores (SAT9 and GPA).
- Pacific Islanders and Southeast Asian LEP students have the highest mean number of days absent and the lowest mean GPA of all API LEP groups.
- API youth as a whole have low arrest rates, but when disaggregated, Southeast Asians and Pacific Islanders have the highest arrest rates of all API groups.
- Among all API groups, a much higher percentage of Southeast Asian (Thai and Cambodian) and Pacific Islander (Guamanian, Samoan, and Native Hawaiian) teen girls have given birth in Alameda County than the national and statewide rates for all APIs.
- While no real conclusions can be drawn regarding what has created these differences between ethnic groups, several factors seem to contribute to the findings of the report.
    - For example, in the Lao community, there is a tradition of early marriage. Early marriage often leads to teen pregnancy, a connection that affects the teen birth rates among the Lao community.
    - During the 1970s, many Southeast Asian refugees entered the United States and Oakland, fleeing countries being taken over by Communist regimes, notably Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea (Cambodia). These refugees were often poor and lacked job skills, and were located in various cities, including Oakland, by the Office of Resettlement Services. Today, these Southeast Asian groups seem to be among those that are struggling the most.

Recommendations

- *More research needs to be done, on several points.*
  - *Examine data that has been collected using new methods of identifying ethnicity and race by disaggregating the general categories that are currently used. Data on various subjects, including the juvenile justice system, behavioral health issues, and education, can be used to further illuminate the differing problems that face different ethnic groups.*
  - *After having established which API groups are disadvantaged, further research must be done in order to understand why certain groups are encountering problems and others are not. It is necessary to understand the causes of disparities in order to address them.*
- *Ensure that one-on-one mentoring programs are ethnic-specific, focusing first on programs targeting Southeast API youth.*
  - *A large number of API youth have strong ties to their parents' culture and heritage, adding another dimension to the complex issues surrounding this group. Therefore, it would be most beneficial for these youth if they are able to communicate with mentors who are familiar with their ethnic background.*
- *Develop culturally competent education programs about major issues faced by communities, such as mental health, substance abuse, etc. These educational programs should not be directed solely at youth, but also at teachers, parents and other community leaders. These programs are discussed more above.*

3. LANGUAGE BARRIERS AND IMMIGRATION STATUS

If parents are unable to communicate with the greater community, they cannot access important services, nor can they learn about the issues confronting their children and resources available to them. Parents are unable to learn about the various institutions that their children are involved in without being able to communicate in some way with institutional structures that often do not have resources in their primary language. Without this knowledge and language skills, they are unable to advocate for their children in any arena, including education, health, and juvenile justice.

- 60.6% of Asian Americans are immigrants. This indicates that for a majority of Asians in the United States, English is not their native language.
- The percentage of API youth who were deemed LEP (58.0%) shows that the majority of API youth in the Oakland Unified School District speak a primary language other than English. This also means that the majority of their parents do not speak English as their primary language.
- 47.9% of Asian and PI language speakers together in Oakland are identified in the 2000 Census as "Linguistically Isolated." This means that in the household, no person age 14 or over speaks only English and no person age 14 or over who speaks a language other than English speaks English "Very well." This is the highest percentage of any racial group that is designated "Linguistically Isolated" within Oakland.

Recommendations

- *Create mechanisms and resources through which parents can be educated about various issues. This can be done in many different forms: videos (as previously discussed), brochures that are distributed to parents through schools, health centers, and the juvenile justice system, special classes, seminars and parent conferences, articles in ethnic newspapers, specials on ethnic television and radio stations, etc.*
- *Provide language access within the various systems that parents and youth must deal with.*
  - *Create bilingual and multicultural prevention and treatment programs for alcohol and other drugs. These programs would serve the API community more effectively than current models.*
  - *Increase the amount of clinicians that are present in schools, etc. The ethnicities of these clinicians should reflect those of the populations that they serve.*
  - *Increase the cultural competency of the city departments that are involved in the juvenile justice system by increasing the bilingual and multicultural skills within the various departments. This can be done by making these skills an expressed value in recruitment and by joining forces with non-profit organizations, which may already provide translation, etc.*

In addition to being isolated due to language barriers, API communities may be isolated due to apprehension originating from immigration status. APIs may be afraid to turn to the police or other governmental agencies for needed help out of the fear that they will be reported to the INS and deported.

- In a community survey at the 2002 Chinese New Year Bazaar, more than 10% of those surveyed who spoke Chinese as their primary language said that they would not report a crime in which they were victimized to the police. More than 70% of these people cited "immigration issues" as a reason for this.
- As this community survey revealed, this immigration fear is compounded by a more general fear of the police, possibly originating from the practices of police in immigrants' home countries, and by language difficulties.

Recommendations

- *Increase minority representation within the police department to more closely resemble the population that is served. This will help minorities citizens feel comfortable turning to the police for help, as well as giving the police the tools necessary to serve the diverse communities in their area by creating increased language and communication capabilities, as well as increased cultural competence.*

Adults are not the only members of the community affected by these issues. Youth may feel that no one in their family or their community exists who can help them with whatever issues they are dealing with, at least no one who can communicate with them in their own language and who they trust. These issues of language and immigration may affect those to whom youth turn when they need help.

- In a national survey, out of all ethnic groups, the percentage of Asian youth who said that they would talk to their parents or guardians about serious problems was the lowest.

- While Asians and Pacific Islanders who were born in the United States had the lowest percent who said that they had no one to turn to, immigrant Asian youth were among the *most* likely to say that they had no one to talk to about serious problems. This difference may partly be a result of language barriers for the immigrant youth.

Recommendations

- ❖ *Create mentorship programs that match youth with adults of their own ethnicity. These mentors would provide youth not only with role models, but also with someone to turn to who understands their heritage and their special background.*
- ❖ *Offer youth confidential and preferably free services, such as counseling and pregnancy tests, through providers who understand their cultural background and who can communicate their health and psychological needs sensitively and effectively with them. This would provide youth with professionals that they could trust and who they would not have to fear.*

GLOBAL RECOMMENDATION: API CENTERS IN SCHOOLS

Create API Centers in schools to address the academic, social and health needs of API youth: Many of the suggestions that were previously put forth can be integrated together within a more general center that provides various resources to the youth that attend that particular school. The centers would target the API community but would not be exclusive to these youth. Centers could provide knowledge resources for both youth and for their parents, including information regarding the legal system, health needs, career options, education, etc., that would be presented in all of the various API languages in the form of pamphlets or videos. In addition, staff members of these centers would have multilingual capabilities in order to make the information and services accessible to the API community. The API Centers could also serve as a base for various programs for youth, including tutoring/mentoring, (peer) counseling, leadership development and other extracurricular activities, such as sports and the arts. In short, these centers can be used as a tool to address the needs and well-being of API youth in many different dimensions.

Appendix A: Supplemental Information for the Introduction

API Population Projections

	Actual	Projections				
	2000	2000	2010	2020	2030	2040
Alameda County	23.9%	20.0%	25.2%	28.8%	32.4%	35.7%
California	12.9%	11.5%	13.3%	14.2%	15.0%	15.5%
United States	4.5%	4.1%	5.1%	6.0%	7.1%	8.2%

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 2. State of California, Department of Finance, County Population Projections with Age, Sex and Race/Ethnic Detail. Sacramento, CA, December 1998. Population Projections Program, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, D.C. 20233 (301) 763-2436

	2000	2006	% Change
Oakland	16.2%	19.3%	19.1%

Source: The Sourcebook of Zip Code Demographics, 16th Edition. La Jolla, CA: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2002.

Oakland Population, by Race, 1950 – 2000

	Total		White		Black	
1950	383,200		327,430	85.4%	47,610	12.4%
1960	367,548		270,523	73.6%	83,618	22.8%
1970	361,561		213,512	59.1%	124,710	34.5%
1980	339,337		129,692	38.2%	159,281	46.9%
1990	372,242		120,849	32.5%	163,335	43.9%
2000	399,484		138,593	34.7%	150,139	37.6%
	API		**AIAN**		**Other**	
1950	6,781	1.8%	168	0.0%	1,211	0.3%
1960	11,676	3.2%	1,166	0.3%	565	0.2%
1970	17,373	4.8%	2,890	0.8%	3,076	0.9%
1980	26,341	7.8%	2,199	0.6%	21,824	6.4%
1990	54,931	14.8%	2,371	0.6%	30,756	8.3%
2000	69,618	17.4%	6,767	1.7%	56,271	14.1%

Source: U.S. Census 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, U.S Census Bureau.
Note: AIAN= American Indian/Alaskan Native

Notes on Racial Groups, by year:

1950

API = Japanese, Chinese.

Other = "Filipinos, Koreans, Asiatic Indians, etc."

Black/AI = include all people mixed with these races as well.

1960

In this year, people began to classify themselves.

API = Japanese, Chinese, Filipino.

Other = "the relatively small numbers of Koreans, Hawaiians, Asian Indians, Malayans, Eskimos, Aleuts, etc."

Anyone of mixed racial parentage is classified by race of nonwhite parent.

1970

API = Chinese, Filipino, Japanese.

Other = "Hawaiian, Korean, Eskimo, and Aleut" and "include Malayan, Polynesian, Thai, and other races not included in the speific categores listed."

Asian Indians classified as White.

Anyone of mixed racial parentage is classified by race of father.

1980

API = Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Asian Indian, Vietnamese, Hawaiian, Guamanian, Samoan.

Other = "includes Asian and Pacific Islander groups not listed separately (e.g., Cambodia, Laotian, Pakistani, Fiji Islander) and other races not included in the specific categories listed."

Anyone of mixed racial parentage is classified by race of mother; if mother is of mixed racial parentage, the first race reported is used.

1990

API = includes "Other Asian" and "Other Pacific Islander" - more inclusive (provided residual category).

Anyone of mixed racial parentage is classified by race of mother; if mother is of mixed racial parentage, the first race reported is used.

2000

API = includes "Other Asian" and "Other Pacific Islander" in order to be more inclusive.

All = Alone or in any combination with any other race, so percentages will add up to more than 100%.

Oakland Population by API Ethnicity, 1950-2000
(for all ethnicities that are comparable for at least two years)

	1950		1960		1970		1980		1990		2000	
Total	383,200		367,548		361,561		339,337		372,242		399,484	
Chinese	5,531	1.4%	7,658	2.1%	11,335	3.1%	15,010	4.4%	27,672	7.4%	34,242	8.6%
Filipino			1,812	0.5%	3,633	1.0%	5,395	1.6%	7,327	2.0%	8,191	2.1%
Japanese	1,250	0.3%	2,206	0.6%	2,405	0.7%	2,390	0.7%	2,413	0.6%	3,162	0.8%
Indian							610	0.2%	1,178	0.3%	2,321	0.6%
Korean							714	0.2%	1,140	0.3%	2,131	0.5%
Vietnamese							1,440	0.4%	6,481	1.7%	9,658	2.4%
Cambodian									3,103	0.8%	3,237	0.8%
Hmong									8	x	x	x
Laotian									2,529	0.7%	3,206	0.8%
Thai									139	x	285	0.1%
Hawaiian							360	0.1%	386	0.1%	547	0.1%
Samoan							262	0.1%	382	0.1%	514	0.1%
Tongan									505	0.1%	1,129	0.3%
Guamanian							160	x	175	x	212	0.1%
Melanesian									80	x	111	x

x = too small a number to be represented

Source: U.S. Census 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, U.S. Census Bureau.

Housing and Population Characteristics of Asians and PIs compared to Characteristics of the General Population, Oakland, 2005

	Total Population		Asian	*Deviance from Total*		Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	*Deviance from Total*
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN 2005	44,124		36,958	*-7,166*		42,390	*-1,734*
PER CAPITA INCOME IN 2005	25,739		21,334	*-4,405*		11,718	*-14,021*
MEDIAN EARNINGS IN 2005 (DOLLARS) BY WORK EXPERIENCE IN 2005 BY SEX FOR THE POPULATION 16 YEARS AND OVER WITH EARNINGS IN 2005							
Worked full-time year-round in 2005:							
Male	41,801		38,216	*-3,585*		-	*NA*
Female	41,425		32,511	*-8,914*		-	*NA*
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT FOR THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER							
Less than 9th grade	14.0%		23.1%	*9.1%*		-	*NA*
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	7.1%		8.7%	*1.6%*		-	*NA*
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	20.2%		16.0%	*-4.2%*		-	*NA*
Some college, no degree	18.1%		14.3%	*-3.8%*		-	*NA*
Associate degree	6.7%		8.0%	*1.3%*		-	*NA*
Bachelor's degree	20.2%		19.2%	*-1.0%*		-	*NA*
Graduate or professional degree	13.6%		10.6%	*-3.0%*		-	*NA*
						-	*NA*
POVERTY STATUS IN 2005 BY AGE							
Income in 2005 below poverty level	18.3%		17.9%	*-.4%*		-	*NA*
5 years and under (% of total below poverty level)	10.2%		6.7%	*-3.5%*		-	*NA*
6 to 11 years (% of total below poverty level)	9.9%		8.3%	*-1.6%*		-	*NA*
12 to 17 years (% of total below poverty level)	13.6%		9.9%	*-3.7%*		-	*NA*
18 to 64 years (% of total below poverty level)	56.8%		54.4%	*-2.4%*		-	*NA*
65 to 74 years (% of total below poverty level)	3.7%		10.1%	*6.4%*		-	*NA*
75 years and over (% of total below poverty level)	5.9%		10.7%	*4.8%*		-	*NA*

Source: American Communities Survey, 2005.

*Note: The American Communities Survey collects population information every year. Each year, a sample of households is surveyed. For this reason, specific data can not be provided when the number of sample cases is too small. For data not presented in this table, please refer to the following table which presents data from the 2000 Census Survey.

Oakland Population, by API Ethnicity, 2005

		% of Total Oakland	% of APIs in Oakland
Total Population	373,910		
API Total Population	64,784	17.3%	
Asian:	61,358	16.4%	94.7%
Asian Indian	2,046	.5%	3.2%
Bangladeshi	-	-	-
Cambodian	1,656	.4%	2.6%
Chinese	32,536	8.7%	50.2%
Chinese, except Taiwanese	*32,746*	*8.7%*	*50.1%*
Taiwanese	*60*	*.0%*	*.1%*
Filipino	7,405	2.0%	11.4%
Hmong	-	-	-
Indonesian	116	.0%	.2%
Japanese	2,103	.6%	3.2%
Korean	2,296	.6%	3.5%
Laotian	3,215	.9%	5.0%
Malaysian	54	.0%	.1%
Pakistani	-	-	-
Sri Lankan	-	-	-
Thai	46	.0%	.1%
Vietnamese	5,919	1.6%	9.1%
Other specified Asian	3,966	1.1%	6.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander:	3,426	.9%	5.3%
Polynesian	-	-	-
Native Hawaiian	-	-	-
Samoan	-	-	-
Tongan	-	-	-
Micronesian	-	-	-
Guamanian or Chamorro	-	-	-
Melanesian	-	-	-
Fijian	-	-	-

Source: American Communities Survey, 2005, U.S. Census Bureau.
Note: Data for certain groups could not be displayed because the number of sample cases was too small.

Housing and Population Characteristics of Asians and PIs compared to Characteristics of the General Population, Oakland, 2000

	Total Population		Asian	*Deviance from Total*		Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	*Deviance from Total*
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN 1999	40,055		34,790	*-5,265*		42,217	*2,162*
PER CAPITA INCOME IN 1999	21,936		16,786	*-5,150*		12,207	*-9,729*
MEDIAN EARNINGS IN 1999 (DOLLARS) BY WORK EXPERIENCE IN 1999 BY SEX FOR THE POPULATION 16 YEARS AND OVER WITH EARNINGS IN 1999							
Worked full-time year-round in 1999:							
Total	36,340		30,741	*-5,599*		30,163	*-6,177*
Male	37,433		31,917	*-5,516*		37,317	*-116*
Female	35,088		28,847	*-6,241*		25,597	*-9,491*
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT FOR THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER							
Less than 9th grade	13.3%		25.5%	*12.2%*		11.8%	*-1.5%*
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	12.8%		12.8%	*0.0%*		19.0%	*6.2%*
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	17.7%		15.6%	*-2.1%*		28.7%	*11.0%*
Some college, no degree	19.9%		14.6%	*-5.3%*		22.4%	*2.5%*
Associate degree	5.5%		5.3%	*-0.2%*		2.1%	*-3.4%*
Bachelor's degree	18.0%		17.6%	*-0.4%*		12.5%	*-5.5%*
Graduate or professional degree	12.9%		8.5%	*-4.4%*		3.5%	*-9.4%*
AGE OF OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS IN FAMILIES AND SUBFAMILIES BY LIVING ARRANGEMENTS							
6 to 17 years:							
Living with two parents	55.8%		75.0%	*19.2%*		81.5%	*25.7%*
Living with one parent	44.2%		25.0%	*-19.2%*		18.5%	*-25.7%*
POVERTY STATUS IN 1999 BY AGE							
Income in 1999 below poverty level	19.4%		21.3%	*1.9%*		19.3%	*-0.1%*
5 years and under (% of total below poverty level)	11.2%		8.0%	*-3.2%*		13.9%	*2.7%*
6 to 11 years (% of total below poverty level)	14.0%		13.5%	*-0.5%*		21.5%	*7.5%*
12 to 17 years (% of total below poverty level)	10.8%		13.4%	*2.6%*		13.9%	*3.1%*

18 to 34 years (% of total below poverty level)	28.9%		25.9%	*-3.0%*		26.1%	*-2.8%*
35 to 64 (% of total below poverty level)	29.0%		31.3%	*2.3%*		23.0%	*-6.0%*
65 to 74 years (% of total below poverty level)	3.5%		5.7%	*2.2%*		0.7%	*-2.8%*
75 years and over (% of total below poverty level)	3.4%		4.7%	*1.3%*		0.0%	*-3.4%*
POVERTY STATUS IN 1999 OF FAMILIES BY FAMILY TYPE BY PRESENCE OF RELATED CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS BY AGE OF RELATED CHILDREN							
Total:	87,334		14,587			587	
Income in 1999 below poverty level:	14,136		2,764			108	
Married-couple family:	5,068		1,800			69	
With related children under 18 years:	3,747		1,242			69	
Other family:	9,068		964			39	
Male householder, no wife present:	1,252		176			8	
With related children under 18 years:	909		126			8	
Female householder, no husband present:	7,816		788			31	
With related children under 18 years:	6,890		622			31	
AGE BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER							
5 to 17 years							
Speak other languages	43.1%		79.7%	*36.6%*		66.7%	*23.6%*
Speak English "very well" (of those who speak other languages)	50.7%		49.0%	*-1.7%*		78.7%	*28.0%*
Speak English "well" (of those who speak other languages)	31.3%		37.2%	*5.9%*		18.2%	*-13.1%*
Speak English "not well" (of those who speak other languages)	14.6%		12.8%	*-1.8%*		3.1%	*-11.5%*
Speak English "not at all" (of those who speak other languages)	3.4%		1.0%	*-2.4%*		0.0%	*-3.4%*

Source: *2000 Census Summary File 4*, U.S. Census Bureau.

Oakland Population, by API Ethnicity, 2000

		% of Total Oakland	% of APIs in Oakland
Total Population	399,484		
API Total Population	69,618	17.4%	
Asian:	66,400	16.6%	95.4%
Asian Indian	2,321	0.6%	3.3%
Bangladeshi	-	-	-
Cambodian	3,237	0.8%	4.6%
Chinese	34,242	8.6%	49.2%
Chinese, except Taiwanese	*34,139*	*8.5%*	*49.0%*
Taiwanese	*114*	*0.0%*	*0.2%*
Filipino	8,191	2.1%	11.8%
Hmong	-	-	-
Indonesian	171	0.0%	0.2%
Japanese	3,162	0.8%	4.5%
Korean	2,131	0.5%	3.1%
Laotian	3,206	0.8%	4.6%
Malaysian	-	-	-
Pakistani	120	0.0%	0.2%
Sri Lankan	-	-	-
Thai	285	0.1%	0.4%
Vietnamese	9,658	2.4%	13.9%
Other specified Asian	116	0.0%	0.2%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander:	3,218	0.8%	4.6%
Polynesian	2,194	0.5%	3.2%
Native Hawaiian	*547*	*0.1%*	*0.8%*
Samoan	*514*	*0.1%*	*0.7%*
Tongan	*1,129*	*0.3%*	*1.6%*
Micronesian	223	0.1%	0.3%
Guamanian or Chamorro	*212*	*0.1%*	*0.3%*
Melanesian	111	0.0%	0.2%
Fijian	*105*	*0.0%*	*0.2%*

Source: *2000 Census, Summary File 2*, U.S. Census Bureau.

Note: Bangladeshi, Hmong, Malaysian, and Sri Lankan are excluded because their populations are less than 100.

Average Household Size, by API Ethnicity, Oakland, 2000

	Average	Deviance from Oakland Average
Total population	2.6	
Asian:	3.02	0.42
Asian Indian	2.67	0.07
Bangladeshi	x	x
Cambodian	4.5	1.9
Chinese	2.94	0.34
Chinese, except Taiwanese	*2.94*	*0.34*
Taiwanese	*2*	*-0.6*
Filipino	2.93	0.33
Hmong	x	x
Indonesian	2.61	0.01
Japanese	1.95	-0.65
Korean	1.97	-0.63
Laotian	5.47	2.87
Malaysian	x	x
Pakistani	2.74	0.14
Sri Lankan	x	x
Thai	2.64	0.04
Vietnamese	3.65	1.05
Other specified Asian	2.13	-0.47
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander:	3.92	1.32
Polynesian	4.27	1.67
Native Hawaiian	*2.56*	*-0.04*
Samoan	*4.59*	*1.99*
Tongan	*6.01*	*3.41*
Micronesian	2.84	0.24
Guamanian or Chamorro	*2.81*	*0.21*
Melanesian	3.72	1.12
Fijian	*3.77*	*1.17*

Source: *2000 Census, Summary File 2*, U.S. Census Bureau.

Note: Bangladeshi, Hmong, Malaysian, and Sri Lankan are excluded because their populations are less than 100.

Household Language by Linguistic Isolation, Oakland, 2000

Total Households:	**150,971**		
		% of Total	**% within Linguistic Group**
English	101,358	67.1%	
Spanish:	22,797	15.1%	
Linguistically isolated	6,995		30.7%
Not linguistically isolated	15,802		69.3%
Other Indo-European languages:	6,026	4.0%	
Linguistically isolated	1,061		17.6%
Not linguistically isolated	4,965		82.4%
Asian and Pacific Island languages:	18,343	12.2%	
Linguistically isolated	8,789		47.9%
Not linguistically isolated	9,554		52.1%
Other languages:	2,447	1.6%	
Linguistically isolated	449		18.3%
Not linguistically isolated	1,998		81.7%

Source: *2000 Census, Summary File 3*, U.S. Census Bureau.

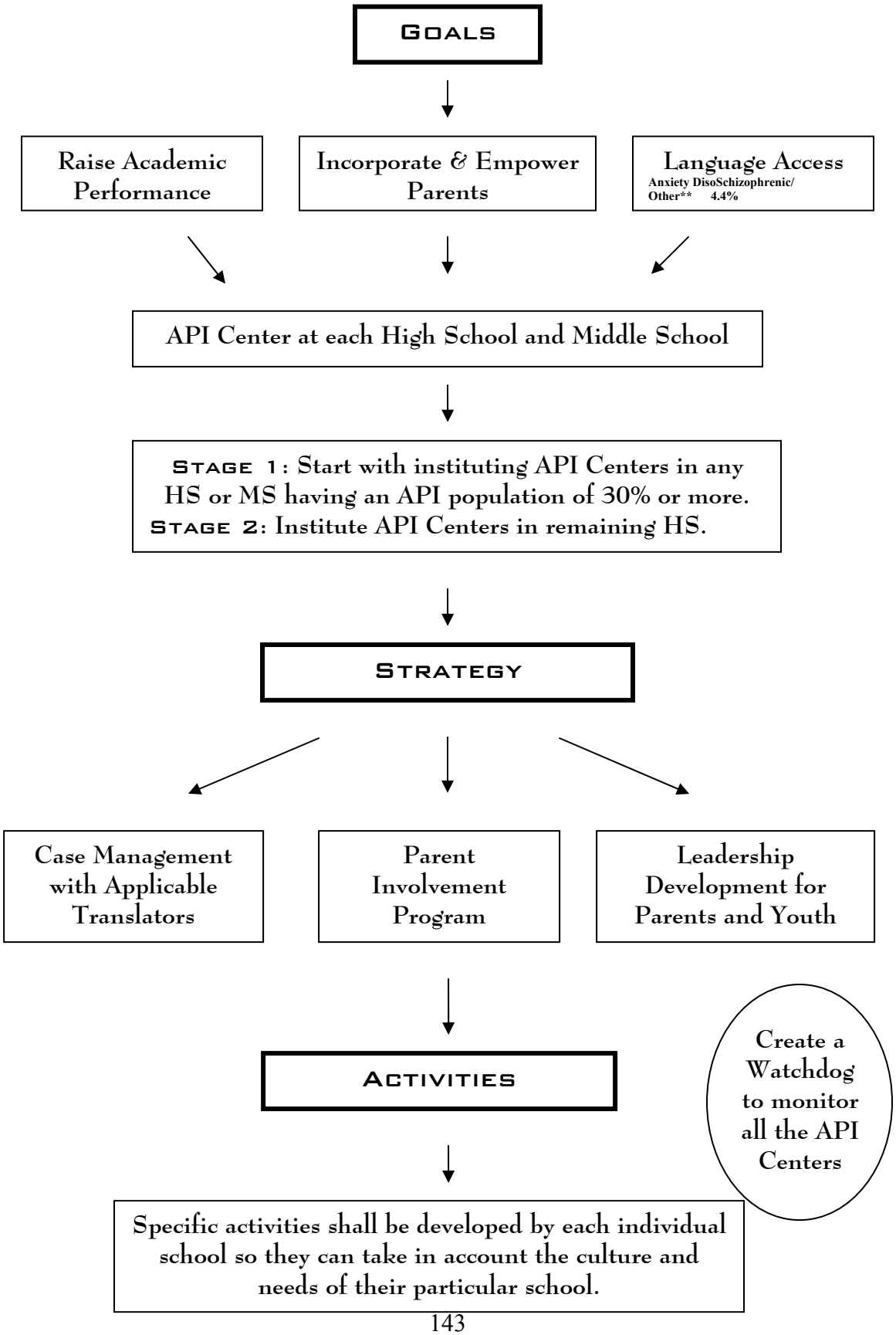
Households with one or more people under 18 years, by API Ethnicity, Oakland, 2000

	Total Households	Households with one or more people under 18 years	Percentage of Total Households that have one or more people under 18 years of age	Married-couple families with one or more people under 18 years	Percentage of Households with one or more people under 18 years that are Married-couple family
Total population	150,790	50,511	33.5%	26,877	53.2%
Asian:	21,167	7,620	36.0%	5,543	72.7%
Asian Indian	831	276	33.2%	197	71.4%
Bangladeshi	x	x	x	x	x
Cambodian	724	552	76.2%	293	53.1%
Chinese	11,431	3,629	31.7%	2,926	80.6%
Chinese, except Taiwanese	*11,378*	*3,625*	*31.9%*	*2,923*	*80.6%*
Taiwanese	*59*	*4*	*6.8%*	*3*	*75.0%*
Filipino	2,472	884	35.8%	544	61.5%
Hmong	x	x	x	x	x
Indonesian	51	11	21.6%	7	63.6%
Japanese	1,393	247	17.7%	163	66.0%
Korean	960	139	14.5%	103	74.1%
Laotian	585	475	81.2%	342	72.0%
Malaysian	x	x	x	x	x
Pakistani	47	15	31.9%	14	93.3%
Sri Lankan	x	x	x	x	x
Thai	86	23	26.7%	14	60.9%
Vietnamese	2,634	1,444	54.8%	1,001	69.3%
Other specified Asian	54	5	9.3%	2	40.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander:	773	420	54.3%	275	65.5%
Polynesian	474	282	59.5%	189	67.0%
Native Hawaiian	*183*	*54*	*29.5%*	*24*	*44.4%*
Samoan	*100*	*70*	*70.0%*	*41*	*58.6%*
Tongan	*182*	*158*	*86.8%*	*125*	*79.1%*
Micronesian	64	24	37.5%	13	54.2%
Guamanian or Chamorro	*62*	*23*	*37.1%*	*12*	*52.2%*
Melanesian	32	17	53.1%	10	58.8%
Fijian	*31*	*17*	*54.8%*	*10*	*58.8%*

Source: *2000 Census, Summary File 2*, U.S. Census Bureau.
Note: Bangladeshi, Hmong, Malaysian, and Sri Lankan are excluded because their populations are less than 100.

Appendix B: Supplemental Information for the Education Chapter

Flowchart Plan For The API Center



Attendance and GPA, OUSD, 2001 - 2002

Attendance Rate %	Fall		Spring		Year	
	Overall GPA	# of Students	Overall GPA	# of Students	Overall GPA	# of Students
0 to 59	0.83	1,173	0.78	2,449	0.82	2,086
60 to 64	1.30	414	1.42	686	1.33	631
65 to 69	1.44	597	1.51	823	1.57	793
70 to 74	1.66	827	1.74	1,083	1.68	1,086
75 to 79	1.85	1,193	1.96	1,553	1.88	1,525
80 to 84	2.07	1,768	2.24	2,230	2.12	2,217
85 to 89	2.27	2,853	2.43	3,119	2.39	3,251
90 to 94	2.54	4,557	2.72	4,366	2.65	4,779
95 to 100	2.98	7,199	3.04	4,791	3.06	5,402

Source: OUSD http://www.ousd.k12.ca.us Downloaded March 12, 2003

Appendix C: Supplemental Information for the Behavioral Health Chapter

The California Healthy Kids Survey

Breakdown of the Sample by Ethnicity and Sex: Grades 7, 9 and 11

	Cigarettes			Alcohol			Marijuana			Inhalants		
Ethnicity	**Total**	**M**	**F**	**Total**	**M**	**F**	**Total**	**M**	**F**	**Total**	**M**	**F**
African American	2007	855	1152	1989	847	1142	1989	844	1145	1983	847	1136
Asian	1138	559	579	1135	556	579	1136	557	579	1127	557	570
Hispanic	1703	800	903	1695	795	900	1692	793	899	1692	795	897
Caucasian	385	145	240	385	144	241	383	143	240	385	144	241
NHPI*	148	66	82	148	66	82	147	65	82	149	66	83
AIAN**	261	118	143	261	117	144	263	119	144	259	117	142
Other	414	177	237	413	175	238	412	177	235	405	174	231
Total***	5369	2480	2889	5339	2460	2879	5340	2460	2880	5316	2457	2859

Source: California Healthy Kids Survey (OUSD), 2006
Note: *Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, **American Indian/Alaska Native;
***Individuals with multiple ethnicities are represented in more than one ethnic category. For this reason, the total does not equal the sum of the individual ethnicities.
Corresponds to Table 3.2.

Breakdown of the Sample by API Ethnicity: Grades 7, 9 and 11

	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Marijuana	Inhalants
Asian Indian	54	56	56	57
Cambodian	169	168	171	168
Chinese	642	638	637	632
Filipino	167	169	165	167
Japanese	53	50	53	53
Korean	33	33	33	32
Laotian	81	83	83	81
NHPI*	151	151	150	152
Other	170	172	172	169
Vietnamese	276	275	279	273
Total API**	1276	1273	1273	1265

Note: *Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander,
**Individuals with multiple ethnicities are represented in more than one ethnic category. For this reason, the total does not equal the sum of the individual ethnicities.
Corresponds to Table 3.3.

Breakdown of the Sample by Ethnicity: Grades 7, 9 and 11

Ethnicity	Cocaine	Methamphet-amines	LSD	Ecstasy	Heroin	Other Illegal Drug*
African American	1306	1305	1299	1284	1256	1983
Asian	756	754	747	740	718	1121
Hispanic	972	973	967	958	946	1685
Caucasian	264	261	263	258	237	385
NHPI**	95	96	93	94	93	148
AIAN***	147	148	150	141	137	265
Other	219	216	216	215	202	415
Total****	3305	3307	3286	3247	3174	5323

Source: California Healthy Kids Survey (OUSD), 2006

Note: *Other Illegal Drugs Includes PCP, downers, and prescription pills not prescribed by a doctor;
**Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, ***American Indian/Alaska Native;
****Individuals with multiple ethnicities are represented in more than one ethnic category. For this reason, the total does not equal the sum of the individual ethnicities.

Corresponds to Table 3.4.

National Survey on Drug Use and Health

Weighted Sample Sizes of Youth (Ages 12-17) Reporting Lifetime† Use of Various Substances, 2005

	Cigarettes	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Hallucinogens	Total Sample
Caucasian	5,163	6,550	2,767	413	738	15,399
African American	975	1,379	678	5	54	3,869
AI/AN*	72	71	52	11	18	163
Pacific Islander**	*	*	*	*	*	79
Asian	147	251	44	4	15	1,055
Hispanic	1,287	1,859	769	133	153	4,392

Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2005.
Note: * American Indian/Alaska Native; ** Includes Native Hawaiian;
†Lifetime substance use refers to whether the youth has ever, in his entire lifetime, experimented with that substance.
Corresponds to Figure 3.1.

Weighted Sample Sizes of Help Seeking Behaviors of Adolescents, 2005

	Talked with Parent about Dangers of Drug, Tobacco, or Alcohol Use		Who Youth Would Talk With about a Serious Problem	
	Yes	No	No One	Some One
White	9,550	5,712	472	14,670
African American	1,950	1,874	175	3,606
AI/AN	98	58	9	150
NHPI	*	*	*	*
Asian	485	561	75	954
Hispanic	2,657	1,670	183	4,118

Source: SAMHSA, Office of Applied Studies, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2005.
*AI/AN = American Indian/Alaskan Native; NHPI = Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander.
Corresponds to Figure 3.9.

Treatment Episode Data Set

Sample Sizes of California Youth Admissions (Ages 12-17) to Treatment Facility By Primary Substance of Abuse and Race, 2005

	Alcohol	Cocaine	Marijuana	Heroin	Hallucinogens	Stimulants	Other***
Caucasian	1099	90	3176	54	19	1198	95
African American	469	28	2216	4	4	73	52
API*	171	12	431	3	3	144	7
AI/AN**	129	8	368	1	1	102	7
Hispanic	2091	114	6069	46	10	1980	136

Source: Office of Applied Studies, SAMHSA, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), 2005.
Note: *Asian/Pacific Islander ; **American Indian/Alaska Native;
*** '*Other*' includes: tranquilizers, barbiturates, inhalants and over-the-counter medications;
Corresponds to Figure 3.2.

Sample Sizes of Oakland Youth Admissions (Ages 12-17) to Treatment Facility By Primary Substance of Abuse and Race, 2005

	Alcohol	Cocaine	Marijuana	Heroin	Hallucinogens	Stimulants	Other***
Caucasian	59	4	136	2	0	22	9
African American	25	3	319	0	0	4	25
API*	23	1	42	1	1	5	4
AI/AN**	35	3	110	0	0	9	4
Hispanic	42	2	143	0	0	8	7

Source: Office of Applied Studies, SAMHSA, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), 2005.
Note: *Asian/Pacific Islander ; **American Indian/Alaska Native;
*** '*Other*' includes: tranquilizers, barbiturates, inhalants and over-the-counter medications;
Corresponds to Figure 3.4.

Appendix D: A Brief History of API Immigration to Oakland, California and the United States

A Brief History of API Immigration to Oakland, California, and the United States*

Asians and Pacific Islanders came to the United States during many different time periods and under varied circumstances. Large-scale migration of Asians to America began in the mid-1800's, as the discovery of gold brought many Chinese immigrants to California. By 1870, Chinese immigrants made up 20% of the California labor force. Workers, threatened by the growing competition for labor, pushed for the government to take action against the Chinese. As a result, a myriad of exclusionary anti-Chinese laws were passed, which restricted them from rights such as citizenship, the ability to testify in court, as well as interracial marriage. These limitations culminated in the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, which barred immigration of Chinese laborers for ten years and prevented Chinese already in the United States from becoming citizens (Asia Society, 1996; Chan, 1991; Lai & Arguelles, 2003).

This larger pattern of immigration was reflected within Oakland, with large numbers of Chinese immigrants arriving in Oakland in the 1860s and 1870s in search of new employment after the end of the gold rush. These immigrants became some of the first settlers of the city. In Oakland, some began to work in local factories, agriculture, fisheries, railroads, and dams, while others started their own small service businesses. By 1880, there were 4,000 Chinese, mostly male, in or around Oakland, constituting the second largest ethnic group in the local population, following Caucasians (Ma, 2000).

In contrasting with these groups arriving from Asia were the ethnic groups located on many different islands in the Pacific Ocean across the region. Hawai'i was known to the western world with the arrival of British explorer James Cook in 1778, at which time the Native Hawai'ian population was estimated to be between 400,000 and 800,000. The Hawai'ian Islands were united under a central leader, King Kamehameha, in 1810. This monarchy was overthrown by United States military forces in 1893, and the islands were annexed by the United States in 1898. The native people of the islands were devastated by many epidemics of diseases introduced by the new settlers. By 1900, fewer than 40,000 people could claim Native Hawai'ian ancestry (Ignacio, 1976; Lai & Arguelles, 2003).

Negative attitudes toward Asian immigrants in Oakland crystallized in the 1870s, as anti-Chinese organizations, such as the Workingman's Party, gained strength and national legislation was passed limiting many rights of the immigrants. This movement locally had the effect of forcing the Asians in Oakland into isolation in many ways, including education, religious practices and business transactions. In response, Asians had no choice but to retreat into such ethnic enclaves such as Chinatown (Ma, 2000).

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 was eventually extended in 1892 and expanded to limit the entry of other Asian ethnic groups (notably the Japanese), particularly through the Immigration Act of 1924, which denied the further entry of most Asians into the

* This brief history is in no way comprehensive of all of the experiences and nuances of Asian and Pacific Islander immigration to the United States. Those interested in more information should refer to the References section for direction to other sources for further reading.

United States. The immigration of Filipino "nationals," which began in large numbers after the United States made the Philippines a territory in 1898, was not affected by these exclusion acts. Fearful of miscegenation, the U.S. government took steps to limit Filipino immigration in 1935 by granting the Philippines independence, redesignating its citizens aliens, and limiting their immigration (Lai & Arguelles, 2003; Le, 2003a).

The government also continued to restrict the immigrants who were already in America, which included many Japanese, Koreans, and Asian Indians that had recently arrived as laborers. In addition, alien land laws were passed that prohibited the leasing or ownership of land to "aliens ineligible for citizenship," which greatly affected the economic mobility of Asian immigrants. For example, in 1913 and 1920, California passed alien land laws, which prohibited certain Asian ethnicities from owning and farming land, thereby relegating Asian to work for others (Lai & Arguelles, 2003; Takaki, 1989).

Asian Americans' rights were further limited when Executive Order 9066 was passed in 1942, sending more than 120,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans living on the West Coast to internment camps, effectively denying them fundamental due process and equal protection rights.. Even those who were citizens of the United States were not protected by Constitutionally-given rights, as two thirds of those interned were citizens by birth (Asia Society, 1996; Chan, 1991; Takaki, 1989).

The Second World War also changed American involvement with another ethnic group, the Samoans. Prior to the war, American Samoa was occupied by the United States navy but was mostly neglected. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the area was transformed to a major military base, with many soldiers arriving to spend money on the islands. The end of the war left the Samoans changed, with a newfound taste for material goods and young men who wanted to see more of the world. For many, it seemed that migrating to Hawai'i or California was necessary "for anyone seeking a job, education, or escape from what some perceived as the chafing confines of village life" (Spickard, et al., 20). When, in 1952, the Navy decided to leave American Samoa, many young Samoans left with them for Honolulu. By the early 1960s, migration had come to be seen as a rite of passage for Samoan youth, reflected in the young age of Samoan immigrants into the United States (Spickard, et al., 2002).

For another group of Pacific Islanders, Tongans, early immigration to the United States began in 1960s with the allure of overseas wages. Immigration at this time for the Tongans was facilitated a great deal by the involvement of the Mormon church, which converted many Tongans to its religion and then funded their migration to religious centers in Hawai'i and Salt Lake City (Small, 1997).

American involvement in the Korean War in the early 1950s resulted in an influx of Korean immigrants to the United States, as American soldiers stationed overseas in Korean married locals, sponsored students to travel to the United States, and arranged adoptions of Korean war orphans to families in America (Lai & Arguelles, 2003). Asian migration to the United States, however, only began again in large numbers after the

Immigration Act of 1965, which eradicated national origins as a category to be used in determining immigration quotas and instead gave priority to family reunification and professional labor needs.

Under this new law, Asians in the U.S. began using the family reunification provision to bring both immediate and extended family into the country, and the Asian American population nationally and locally began to change from mostly male laborers to intact families. Additionally, many Asians utilized the professional category to apply for entry into the United States. After this group began to obtain citizenship, they also began bringing their families into the country. This new immigration policy served to change the face of many Asian communities as more highly educated individuals and intact family units came to America (Chan, 1991; Lai & Arguelles, 2003). Pacific Islander groups also took advantage of these new laws. Early Tongan immigrants used the family reunification clause to bring their large sibling networks to America, with more than 5,000 Tongans arriving by 1980.

Compounding these numbers, beginning in 1975, more than 200,000 refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos entered the United States as Communist governments were instituted in those countries, who entered the country in several waves of immigration. Most of these Southeast Asian immigrants were poor and lacked job skills, leaving them to struggle for their basic needs once they arrived in a new country where a language they often did not understand was spoken. These immigrants needed many different types of assistance from government agencies and non-profit organizations, ranging from the teaching of employment skills to the language development, to help them during their resettlement (Asia Society, 1996; Chan, 1991; Lai & Arguelles, 2003).

In the early and mid-1970s, following the Immigration Act of 1965, Oakland saw an influx of different types of immigrants from Asia than those who had previously arrived. The new immigrants came from widely dissimilar backgrounds, which were often largely dependent upon their country of origin. For example, immigrants from Taiwan were often well-educated, with university degrees and a high level of English competency, and had arrived under the professional category, whereas many of those from Southeast Asia and China were refugees who were older, had few job skills and could not speak English well. Many immigrants also arrived in Oakland at this time from Korea and the Philippines.

Between 1970 and 1980, the African American, Asian, and Hispanic populations of Oakland increased, while the Caucasian population decreased by more than 20%. During this period, some members of the Asian American population gained more acceptance from society and began to move out of Chinatown and other ethnic enclaves that they had previously been quarantined in by the oppression of the rest of society. This change created the more racially-mixed communities that exist in Oakland today (Ma, 2000).

From the years of 1971-2000, Asians comprised 34.0% of all immigrants coming into the United States. The area with the next highest immigration rate is Mexico, with 21.7%.

The breakdown of the specific country of the largest groups of these Asian immigrants for 1971-2000 follows.

Immigrants by Country of Origin, 1971-2000

Country of Origin	% of all immigrants from Asia
Philippines	19.7%
China, Taiwan, Hong Kong	17.0%
India	10.9%
Korea	10.7%
Vietnam	10.4%

Source: INS, *Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2000.*

In total, 60.6% of the Asians in America are immigrants (Asia Society, 1996; Le, 2003b). Pacific Islander populations send a large number of their peoples to the United States as immigrants. About 25,000 Tongans were estimated to live in America in 1995, a number greater than one-fourth of the total population of Tonga. Even more dramatically, the 2000 Census reveals that there are nearly twice as many Samoans as in American Samoa.

Despite the high numbers of immigrants in recent times, Asian immigrants still struggle with policies that restrict their immigration and acceptance in America. Policy changes in the late 1970s made it difficult for those trained as engineers, physicians or other professionals to qualify for admission to the United States and have their training recognized once here, which affected the South Asia and Filipino populations a great deal. Also, the language barrier that many Southeast Asian immigrants (predominantly Mien and Cambodian) faced made it hard for them to pass the language portion of the citizenship tests, which continues to have a great impact on their children. This later generation, although its members arrived in America at such a young age that they can no longer remember their birth country, remain largely non-citizens, making them vulnerable to changes in U.S. policy regarding aliens, including deportation (Lai & Arguelles, 2003).

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