



MILLION DOLLAR HOODS

Bookings into the L.A. County Jail (2010-2016)

A Million Dollar Hoods White Paper

June 11, 2019

Prepared for the Alternatives to Incarceration Working Group,
established by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on February 12, 2019





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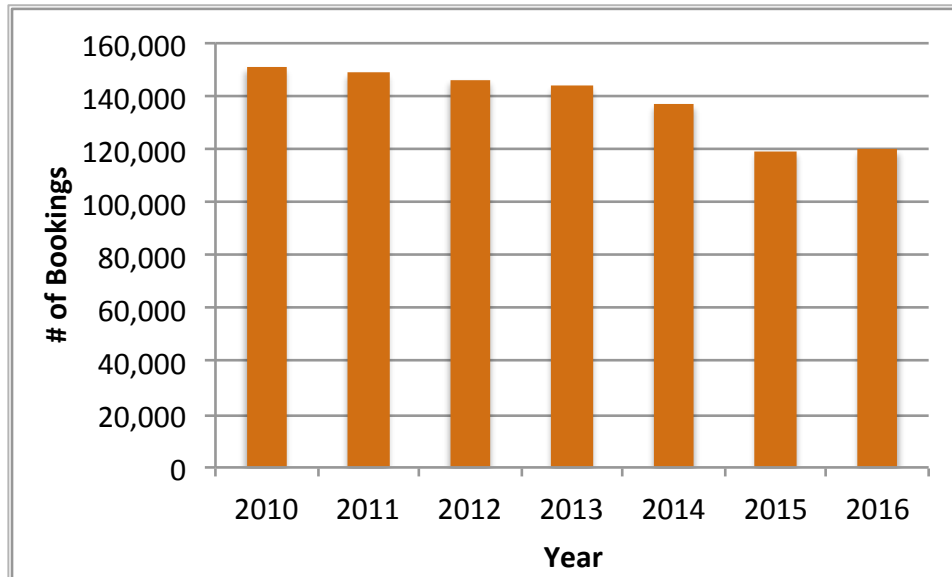
Bookings into the L.A. County Jail (2010-2016) A Million Dollar Hood White Paper

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and Kelly Lytle Hernández, PhD

Los Angeles County operates the largest jail system in the United States, which imprisons more people than any other nation on Earth.¹ Using booking data collected by the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, this report provides an overview of jail admissions into the Los Angeles County Jail between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2016.

Between 2010 and 2016, the annual number of jail bookings declined from 150,948 to 119,821. In these years, persons admitted into the jail spent an average of 47 days in custody. However, the median number of days spent in custody was much lower. In 2010, the median number of days a person spent in the jail was 13. In 2016, 10 days was the median number of days spent in custody at the jail. The County of Los Angeles spent at least \$389 million incarcerating people for ten days or less between 2010 and 2016.

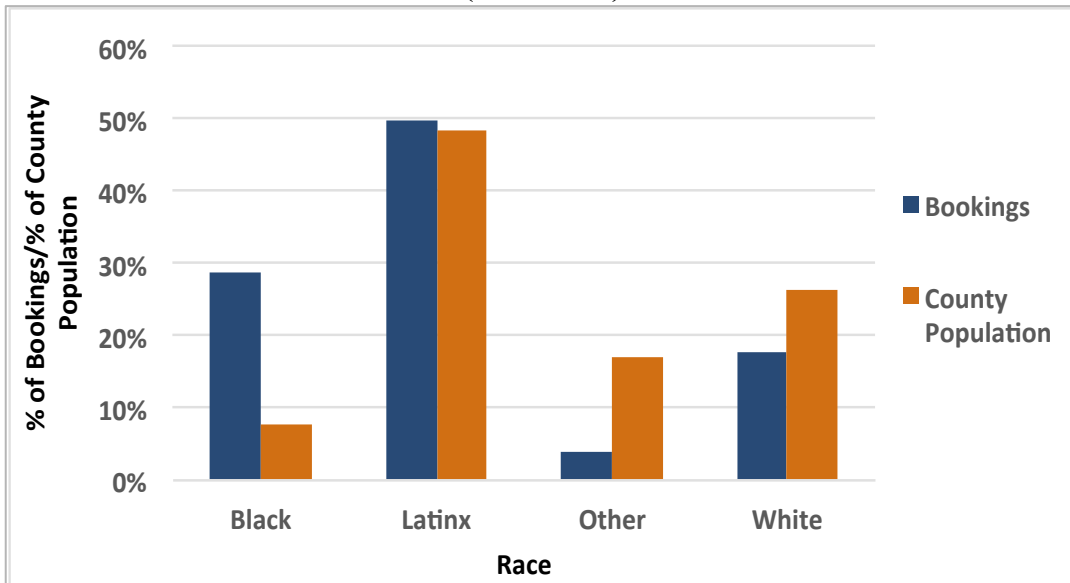
**Total Bookings into the Los Angeles County Jail by Year
(2010-2016)**



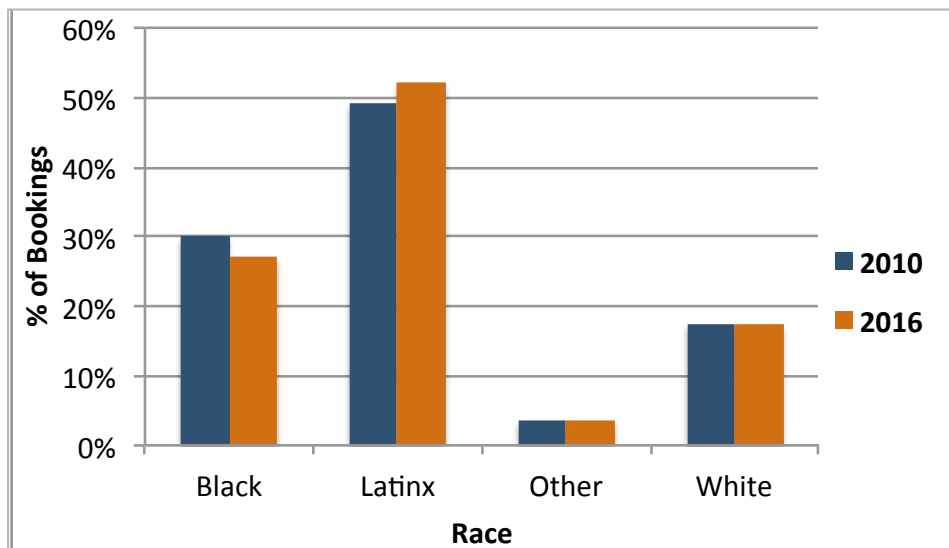
¹ Vera Institute of Justice, Incarceration Trends, at <http://trends.vera.org/rates/los-angeles-county-ca>.

Amid the decline in total jail bookings, racial disparities persisted. African American jail admissions were the most staggering. Whereas African Americans are 8% of the L.A. County population, they comprise 29% of the jail admissions between 2010 and 2016. The percentage of Latinx persons booked into the County Jail nearly mirrors the County's total Latinx population. However, a relative disparity endures between white and Latinx jail bookings. Whereas Latinx persons represent 50% of jail bookings and 49% of the County population, white persons comprise 18% of jail bookings and 27% of the County population. Furthermore, the proportion of Latinx bookings into the L.A. County Jail rose between 2010 and 2016, revealing an upward trend in Latinx bookings into the County jail.

Bookings into the L.A. County Jail vs. L.A. County Population, by Race (2010-2016)

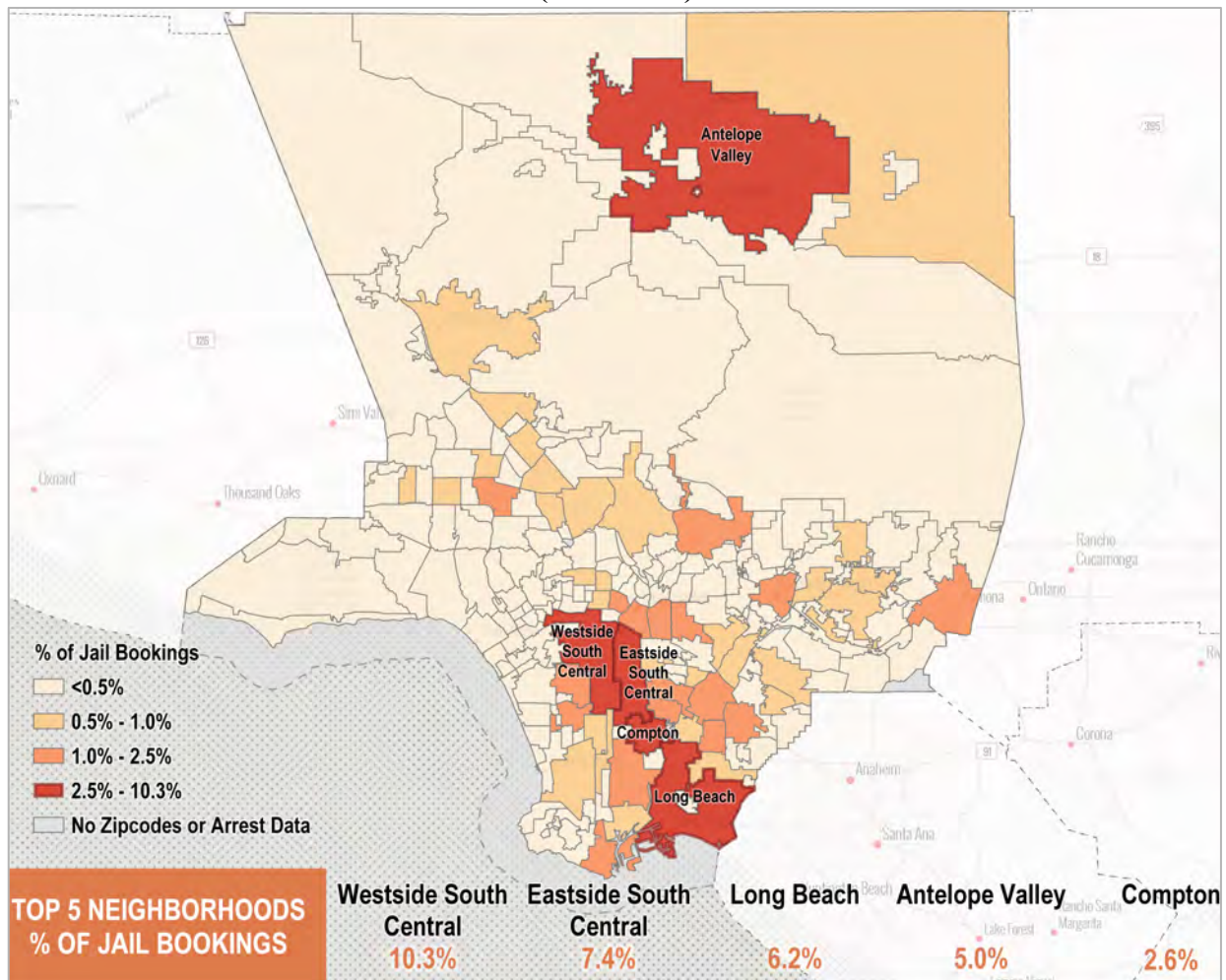


Bookings into L.A. County Jail by Race 2010/2016



Between 2010 and 2016, the most-common home zip codes for persons booked into the County jail were clustered in South Central, Compton, Long Beach, and the Antelope Valley. As the County’s Portrait of Los Angeles Report explains, these neighborhoods are “struggling” and “precarious,” home to some of the County’s highest unemployment rates and lowest incomes.² Therefore, it is little surprise that persons booked into the L.A. County Jail most-frequently (22%) reported their employment status as “unemployed.”

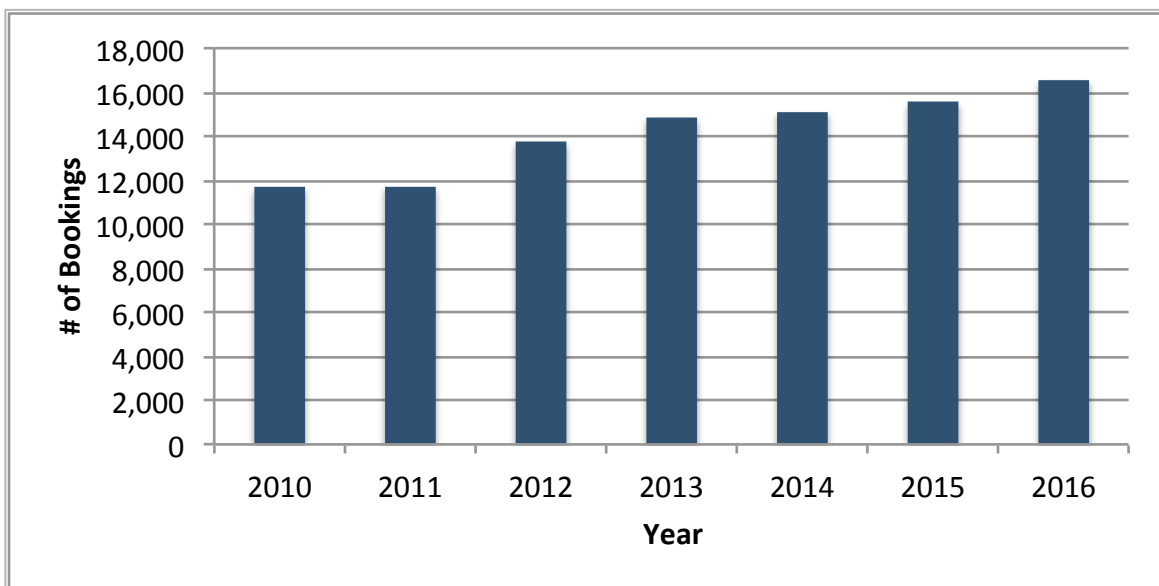
Jail Bookings by L.A. Neighborhood (2010-2016)



² [The Measure of America Series, A Portrait of Los Angeles County, 2017–2018.](#)

People who reported being houseless comprised 10.3% of all bookings between 2010 and 2016. Moreover, houseless bookings were on the rise in these years. In 2010, 11,725 bookings involved houseless persons. By 2016, 16,567 bookings involved houseless persons, representing a 41% increase in the total number of bookings of houseless persons since 2010. Amid the steady decline in the total number of jail bookings, houseless bookings increased from 7.8% of all bookings in 2010 to 13.8% of all bookings in 2016.

Bookings of Houseless Adults into L.A. County Jail (2010-2016)

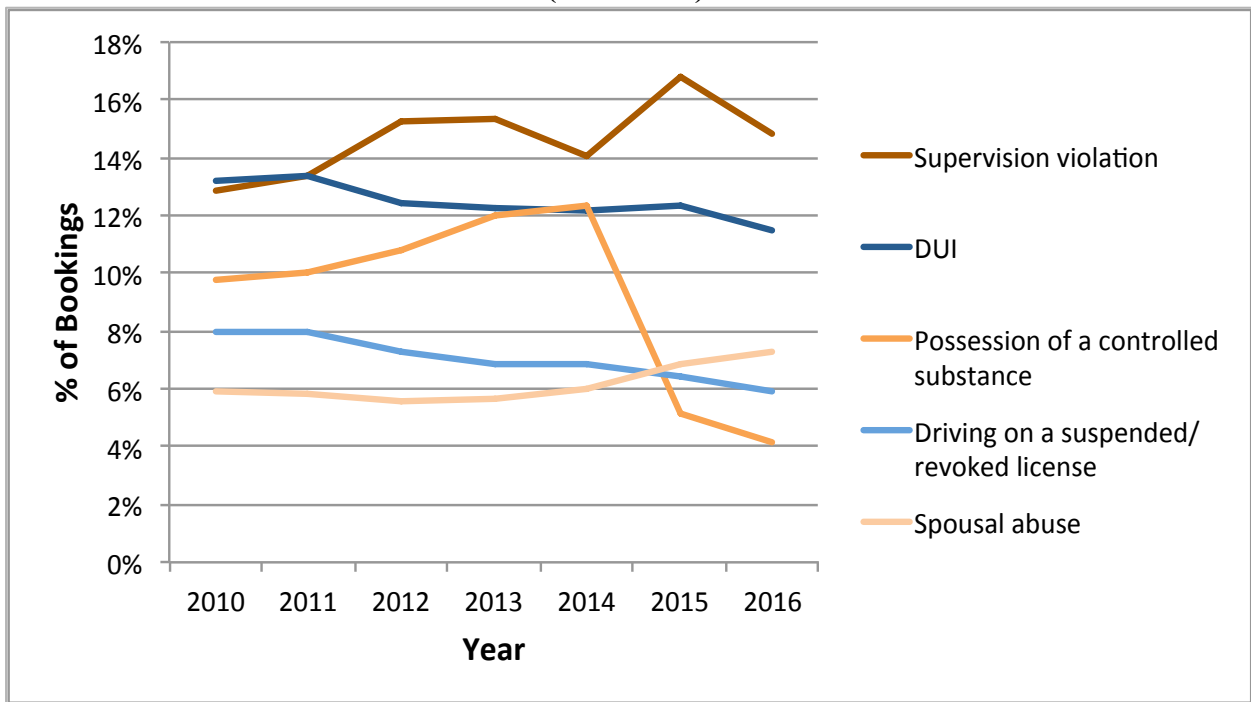


Between 2010 and 2016, 567,124 bookings into the L.A. County Jail, or 59 percent of all bookings, carried just one charge. Of these single-charge bookings, parole/probation violations, DUI, possession of a controlled substance, driving on a suspended/revoked license, and spousal abuse were the top five booking charges for men. For women, possession of a controlled substance, DUI, driving on a suspended/revoked license, prostitution/solicitation, and theft/shoplifting were the top five booking charges.³

³ In 2013, the Council of State Governments Justice Center found drug violations to be the leading cause of re-arrest among persons on parole or probation in Los Angeles County between January 1, 2008 and June 30, 2011, suggesting that drug charges play a major role in supervision violation in Los Angeles County. “The Impact of Probation and Parole opulations on Arrests in Four California Cities: A Report Prepared by the Council of State Governments Justice Center” (New York: Council of State Governments Justice Center, 2013), 6, 39. See also Joan Petersilia, “California Prison Downsizing and Its Impact on Local Criminal Justice Systems,” 8 *Harvard Law and Policy Review* 327 (2014).

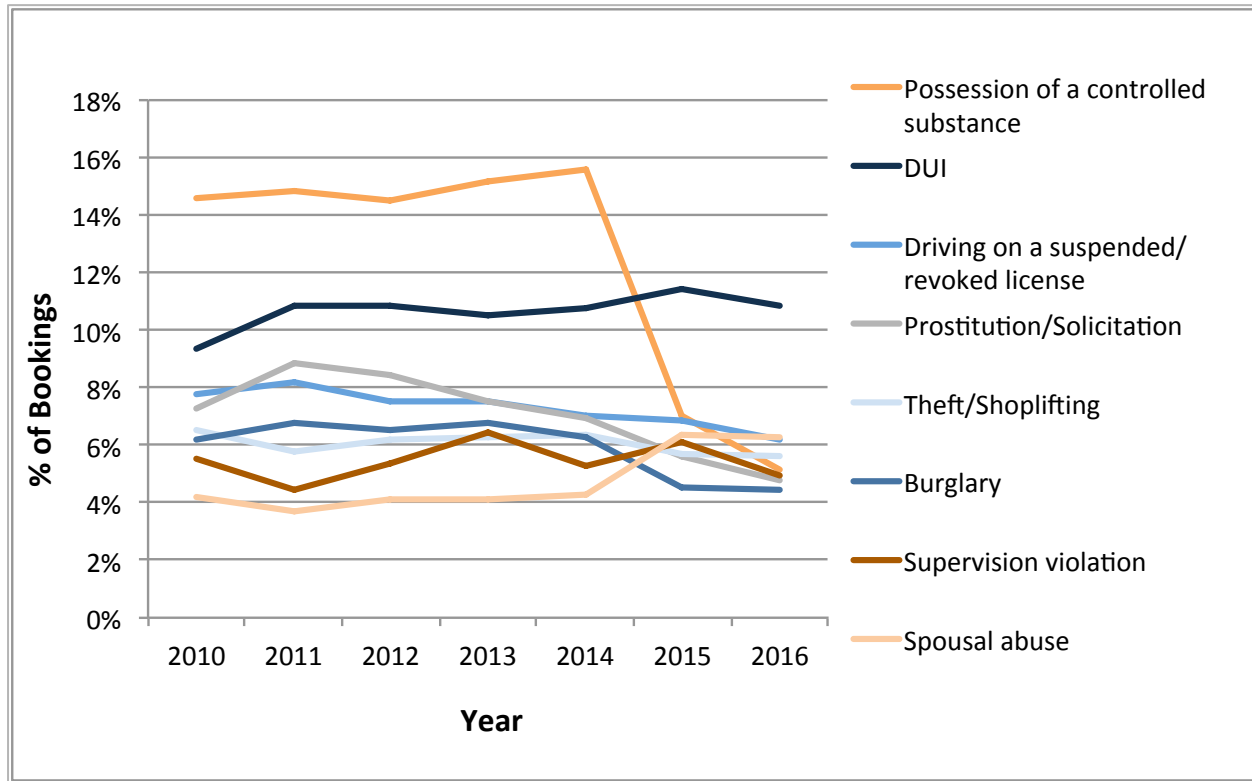
Between 2010 and 2016, 13% of all single-charge bookings were for a supervision violation. Although the total *number* of single-charge bookings declined between 2010 and 2016, the *proportion* of all single-charge bookings for a supervision violation increased slightly, rising from 11% of all single-charge bookings in 2010 to 13% of all single-charge bookings in 2016. Persons solely booked for a supervision violation spent an average of 32 days and a median of 19 days in custody at the L.A. County Jail.

Top Charges Against Men Booked into the L.A. County Jail by Year (2010-2016)



*% of bookings represents the percent of men booked for a single charge.

Top Charges Against Women Booked into the L.A. County Jail by Year (2010-2016)

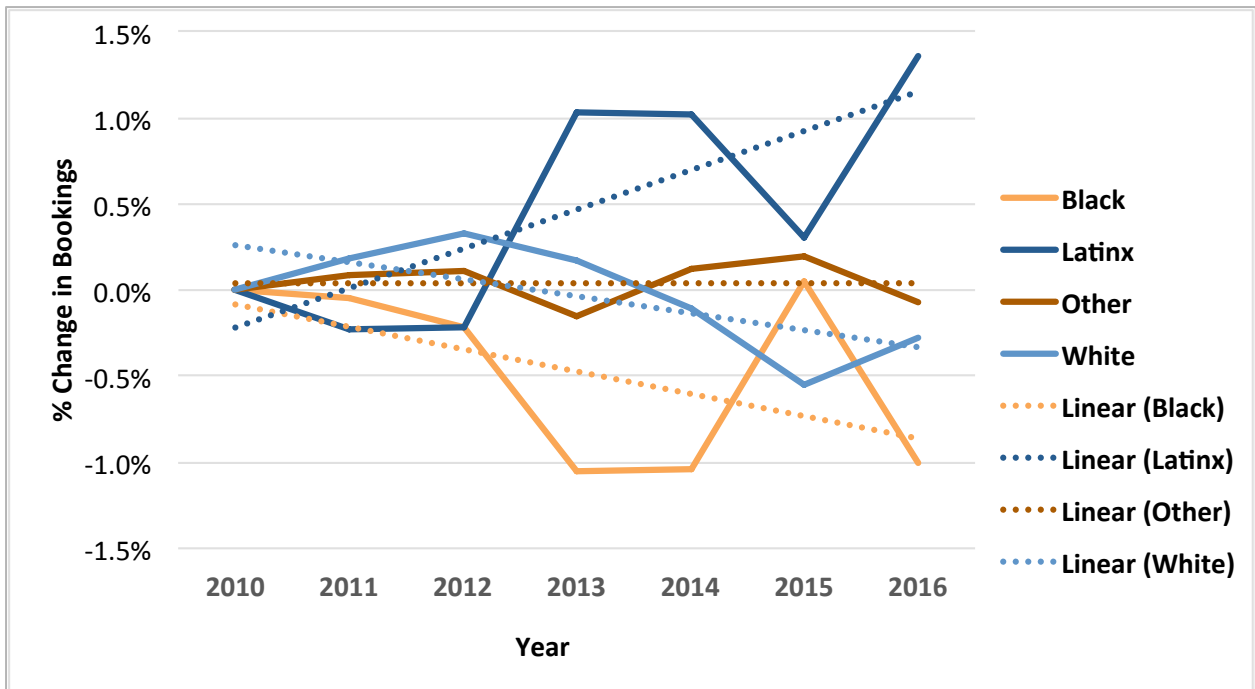


* % of bookings represents the percent of women booked for a single charge.

Bookings related to substance abuse, namely possession of a controlled substance and DUI, consistently ranked among the top booking charges for men and women booked on a single charge between 2010 and 2016. It cost the County of Los Angeles at least \$315 million to incarcerate individuals booked on a single charge for either DUI or possession of a controlled substance. Although bookings for possession of a controlled substance dropped significantly in 2015, following the passage of Proposition 47 (effective November 5, 2014), Los Angeles County continued to spend tens of millions of dollars to jail persons booked on substance-abuse related charges. In 2015 and 2016 alone, Los Angeles County spent at least \$49 million incarcerating individuals booked on a single charge for either DUI or possession of a controlled substance.

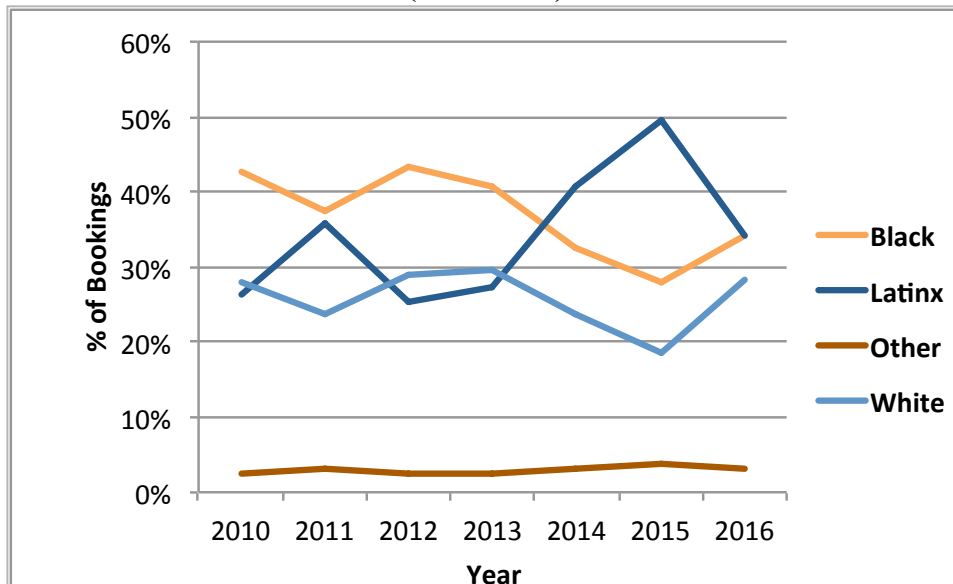
The data tables and visualizations below provide additional information on bookings into the Los Angeles County Jail between 2010 and 2016. In particular, they highlight trends by race, gender, residence, and charge as well as housing status. All graphs below related to charges represent single-charge bookings.

**Change in Bookings by Race over Time
(2010-2016)**



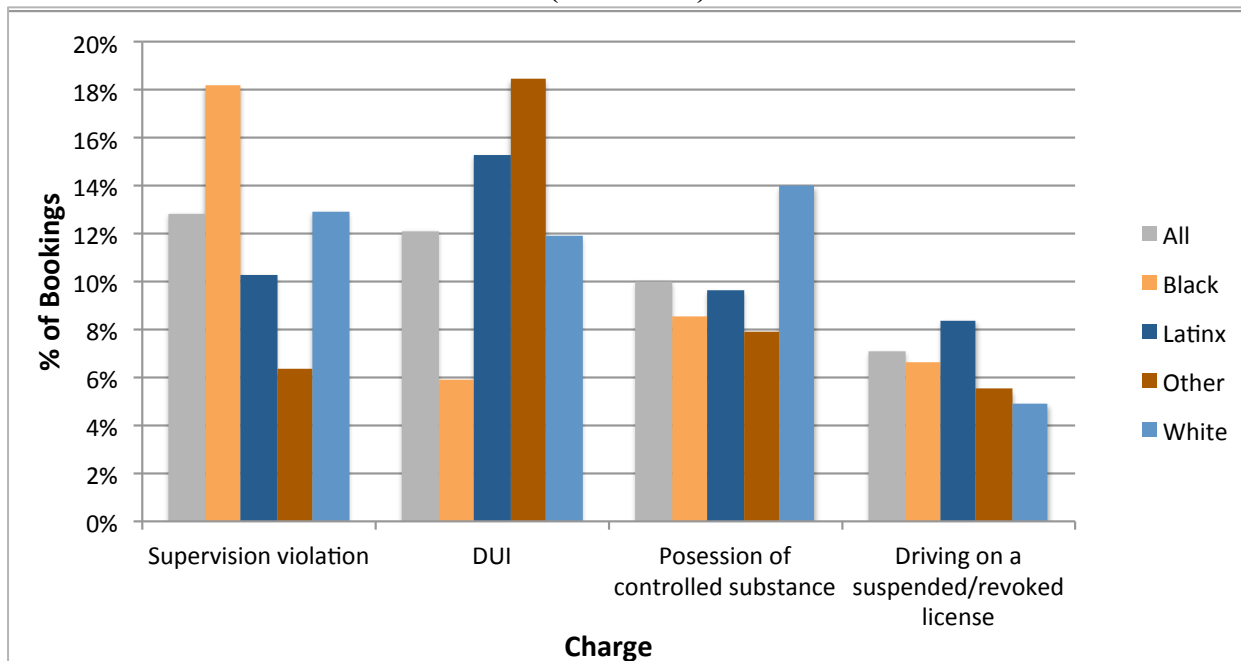
* This graph represents the percent change in bookings of Black adults, Latinx adults, Other race adults and White adults each year.

Booking Trends of Houseless Adults by Race (2010-2016)



* This graph reflects the % of houseless bookings by race.

Four Most Common Charges Against People Booked into the L.A. County Jail (2010-2016)



* % of bookings represents the percent of Black adults, Latinx adults, Other race adults, and White adults booked for a single charge.

**Top Charges Against Women Booked into the L.A. County Jail by Race
(2010-2016)**

Black		Latinas		Other		White	
Charge	%	Charge	%	Charge	%	Charge	%
Prostitution /Solicitation	16%	DUI	13%	DUI	16%	Possession of a controlled substance	18%
Possession of a controlled substance	10%	Possession of a controlled substance	12%	Possession of a controlled substance	10%	DUI	13%
Driving on a suspended/revoked license	7%	Driving on a suspended/revoked license	9%	Theft/ Shoplifting	7%	Burglary	6%
Supervision violation	7%	Theft/ Shoplifting	7%	Driving on a suspended/revoked license	5%	Theft/ Shoplifting	6%
Burglary	6%	Burglary	6%	Burglary	5%	Supervision violation	6%

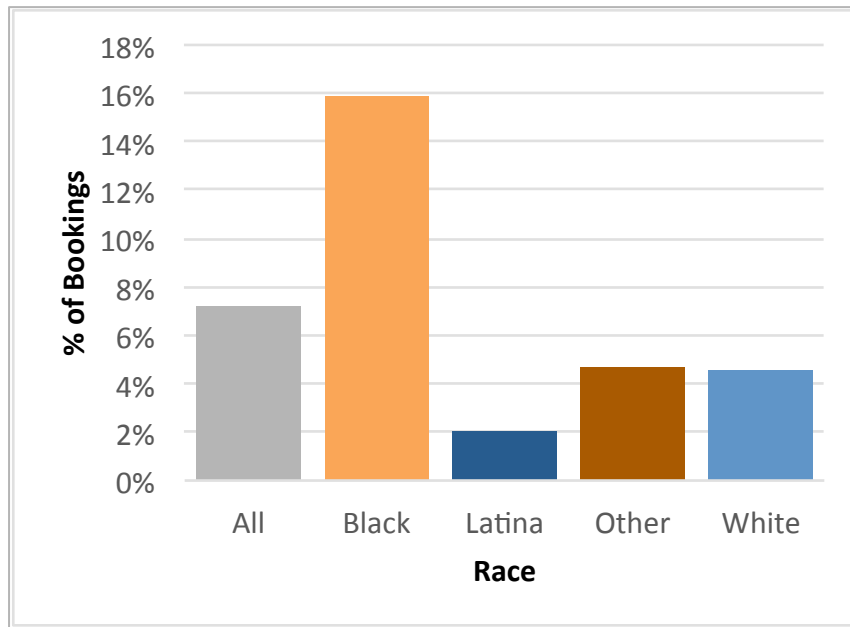
*% represents the percent of Black females, Latinas, Other race females and White females booked for a single charge.

**Top Charges Against Men booked into the L.A. County Jail by Race
(2010-2016)**

Black		Latinos		Other		White	
Charge	%	Charge	%	Charge	%	Charge	%
Supervision violation	21%	DUI	16%	DUI	19%	Supervision violation	16%
Possession of a controlled substance	8%	Supervision violation	11%	Possession of a controlled substance	8%	Possession of a controlled substance	13%
Driving on a suspended/revoked license	7%	Possession of a controlled substance	9%	Supervision violation	7%	DUI	11%
DUI	6%	Driving on a suspended/revoked license	8%	Spousal abuse	6%	Burglary	5%
Spousal abuse	6%	Spousal abuse	7%	Driving on a suspended/revoked license	6%	Spousal abuse	5%

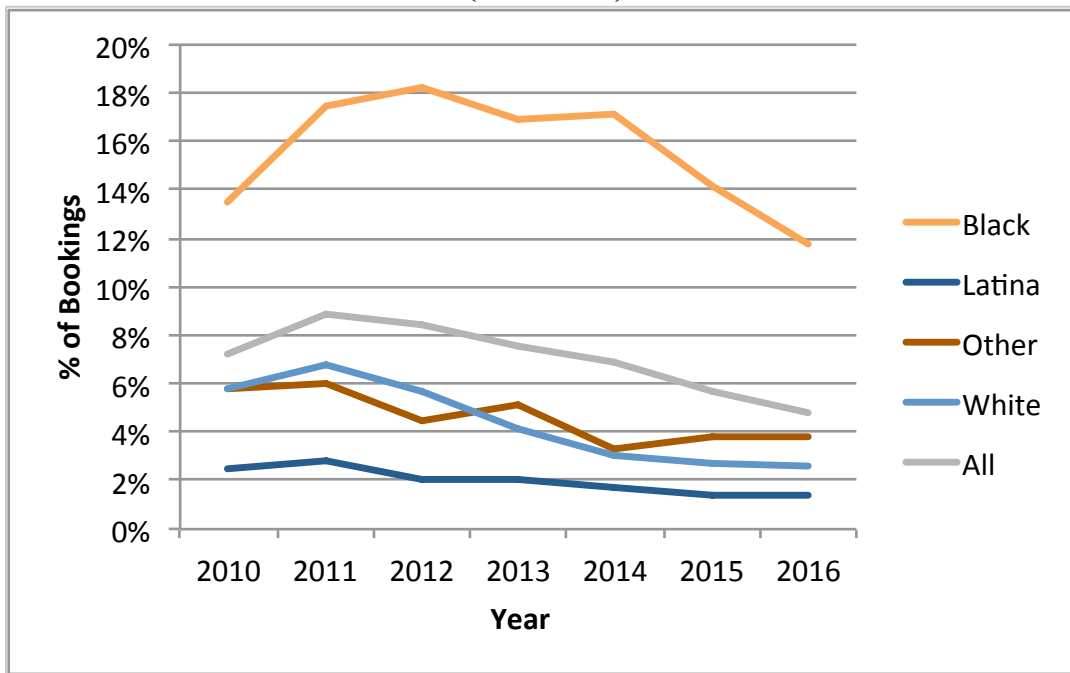
* % represents the percent of Black males, Latinos, Other race males and White males booked for a single charge.

Prostitution/Solicitation Charges Against Women by Race (2010-2016)



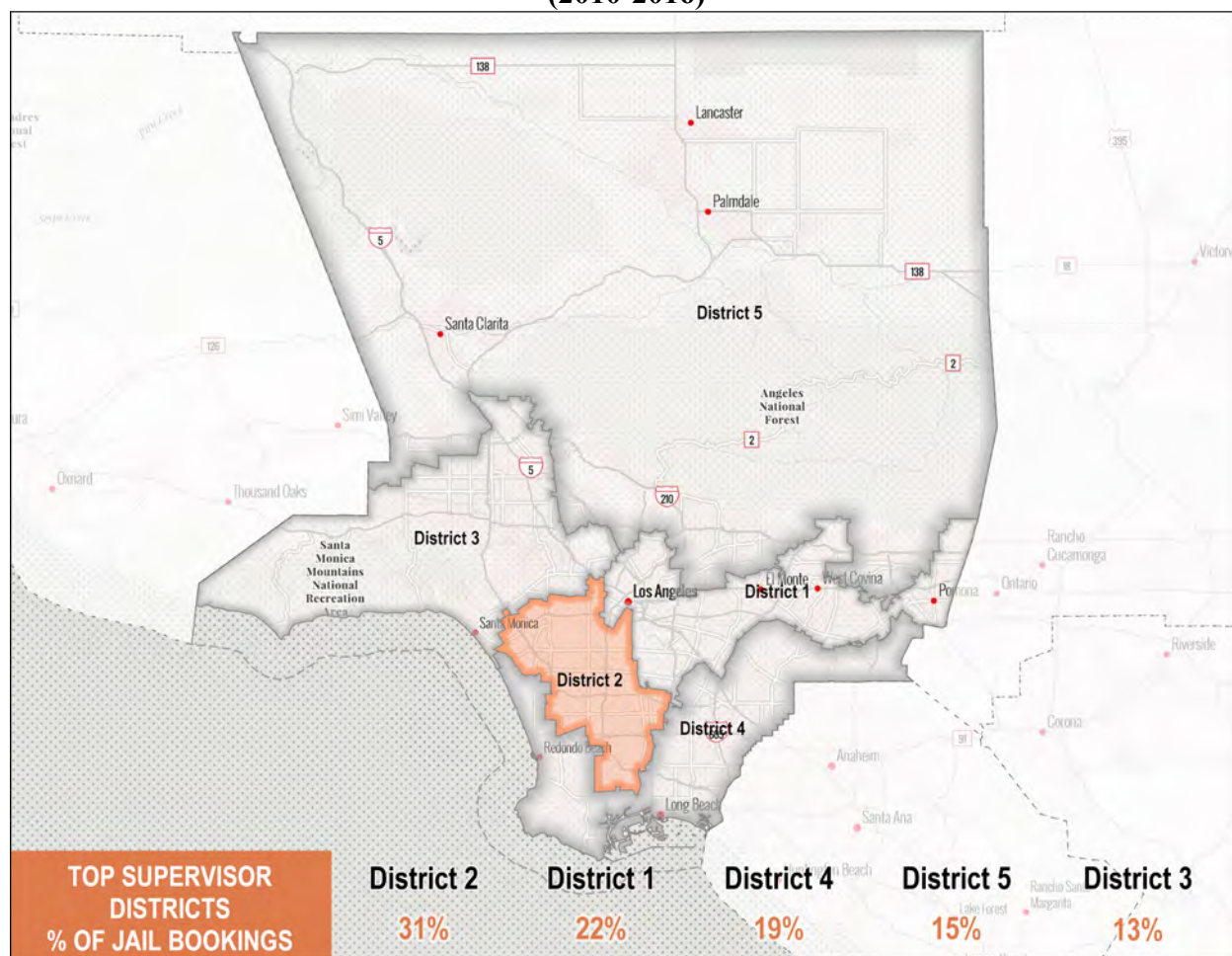
* This graph represents single-charge bookings

Trends in the Proportion of Women by Race Booked for Prostitution/Solicitation (2010-2016)



** % of bookings represents the percent of Black women, Latinas, White women, and Other women booked on a single charge for prostitution/solicitation.

Jail Bookings by Supervisor District (2010-2016)



Methodology: This report uses data provided by the LASD to Professor Kelly Lytle Hernandez on September 6, 2017 in response to a PRA request dated July 3, 2017. The dataset includes information on bookings into the L.A. County Jail between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2016. For this report, we analyzed the following categories of information: Race, Gender, Date of birth, Address (home address), Arrest charges and Jail days. Jail days were calculated based on booking and release dates. It was assumed that a person had not been released between 2010 and 2016 when the release date was not provided. In those cases, the release date was set at the end of the data period (12/31/2016). We calculated the cost per booking as follows: cost = the 2010-2016 average booking fee (\$315.89) + (average daily maintenance cost (\$115.94) * days spent in jail). This report includes bookings of adults 18 years of age and older. The maps include all persons booked into the jail whose full home address was provided and located in L.A. County. Those who were houseless or whose provided home address was empty, partial, or located outside of LA County are not represented in the map. Bookings of houseless adults were

determined based on a home address listed as “transient,” “homeless,” or as one of forty-two housing shelter addresses in Los Angeles County. Bookings of unemployed persons were determined based on an occupation listed as “unemployed,” “no job,” or “not working.” Charge categories reflect the following health and safety codes, vehicle codes, penal codes and business codes: “Possession of a controlled substance” includes the following charges: Health and Safety Codes (HS) 11350*, 11375(A), 11375(B)*, 11377*, 11550*, Business and Professional Code (BP) 4060. “Driving on a suspended/revoked license” includes the following charges: Vehicle Codes (VC) 14601, 14601.1*, 14601.2*, 14601.3*, 14601.4*, 14601.5*. “Prostitution/Solicitation” includes the following charges: Penal Codes(PC) 647*, 653.22*, 653.23A. “Theft/shoplifting/larceny” includes the following charges: Penal Codes(PC) 459.5, 484*, 484.1, 485, 490, 498*, 537*, 587C, 666 * , U.S. Code title 18 1708. “Burglary” includes the following charges: Penal Codes (PC) 459, 460*. “Supervision Violation” includes the following charges: Penal Codes(PC) 1203.2*, 3000.08*, 3056, 3454*, 3455*, U.S. Code 18 3606. “Spousal abuse” includes the following charges: Penal Codes(PC) 243(E), 273.5*. “DUI” includes the following charges: VC 23152*, 23153*, 23550*, 23550.5. * indicates there are code subsections included, for example DUI includes VC 23152 , 23152(A), 23152(B), etc.

Suggested Citation: D. Dupuy, E. Lee, Mariah Tso, I. Bryan, and K. Lytle Hernandez (2019). Bookings into the L.A. County Jail, 2010-2016. Los Angeles, CA. The Million Dollar Hoods Project.