Dane County Data from a System Lens

For the Community Court Advisory Subcommittee

May 2023

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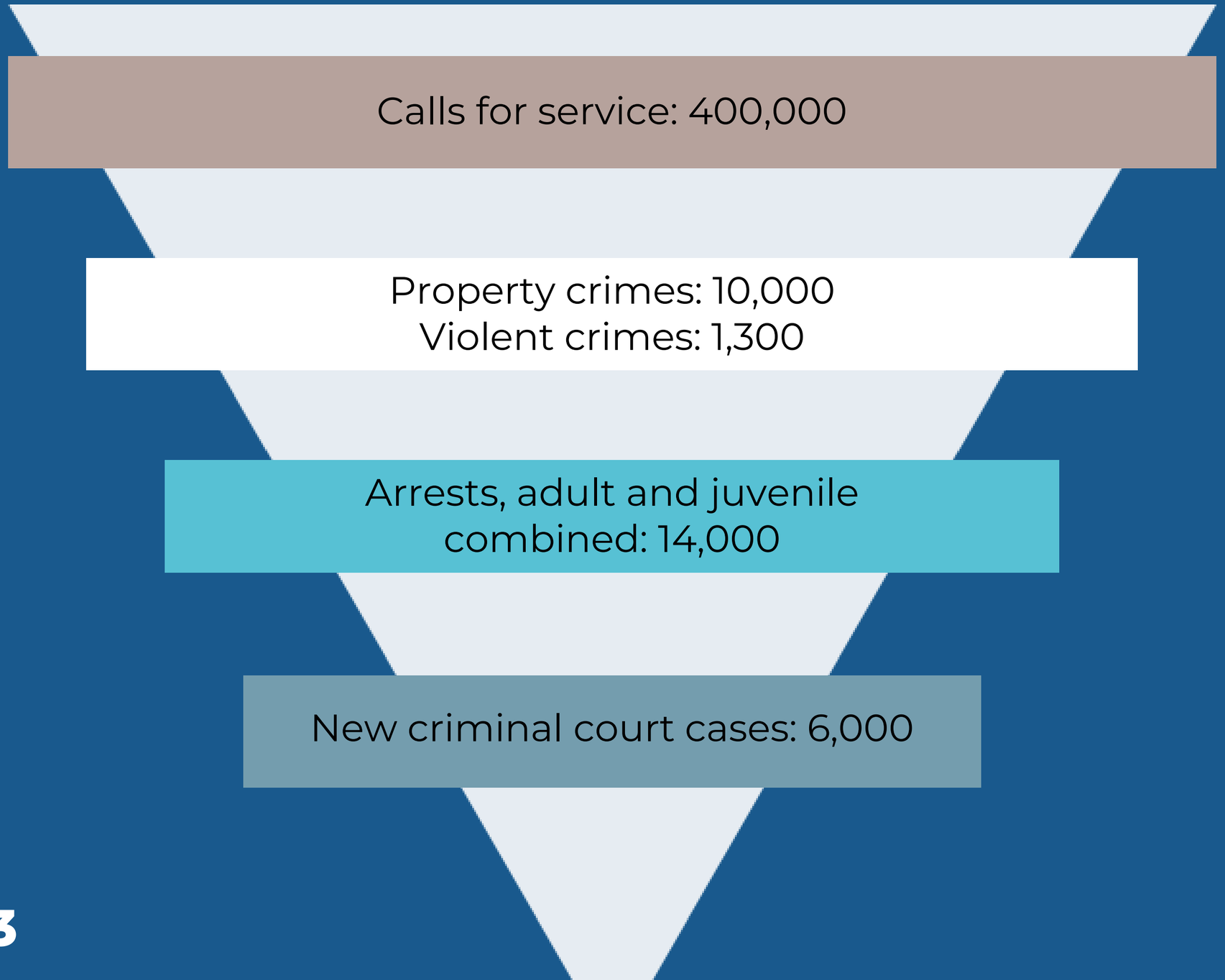
Community Justice Council Research Analyst

Today's data dive

Enhanced Information is one of the principles of community courts. Better information can improve decision-making.

- Provide a system overview to give an idea of scale involved
- Highlight most racially disparate offenses
- Share information on substance abuse and behavioral health issues
- Go over additional resources



Ballpark annual numbers for Dane County

- Figures represent events rather than individuals
- Court cases are misdemeanor, felony, and criminal traffic cases
- Caveat: system patterns changed during the pandemic so these are estimates

About the data

CCAP data

Charging data is from CCAP, about 30,000 cases initiated 2018-2022.

Types of cases

Analysis includes felony, misdemeanor, and criminal traffic cases.

Non-violent

Offenses not in list of violent offenses developed by WI Pretrial Pilot Project.

Age-limited

Ages 17 to 35

Most racially disparate offenses

As measured by Black-White disparity rate ratio

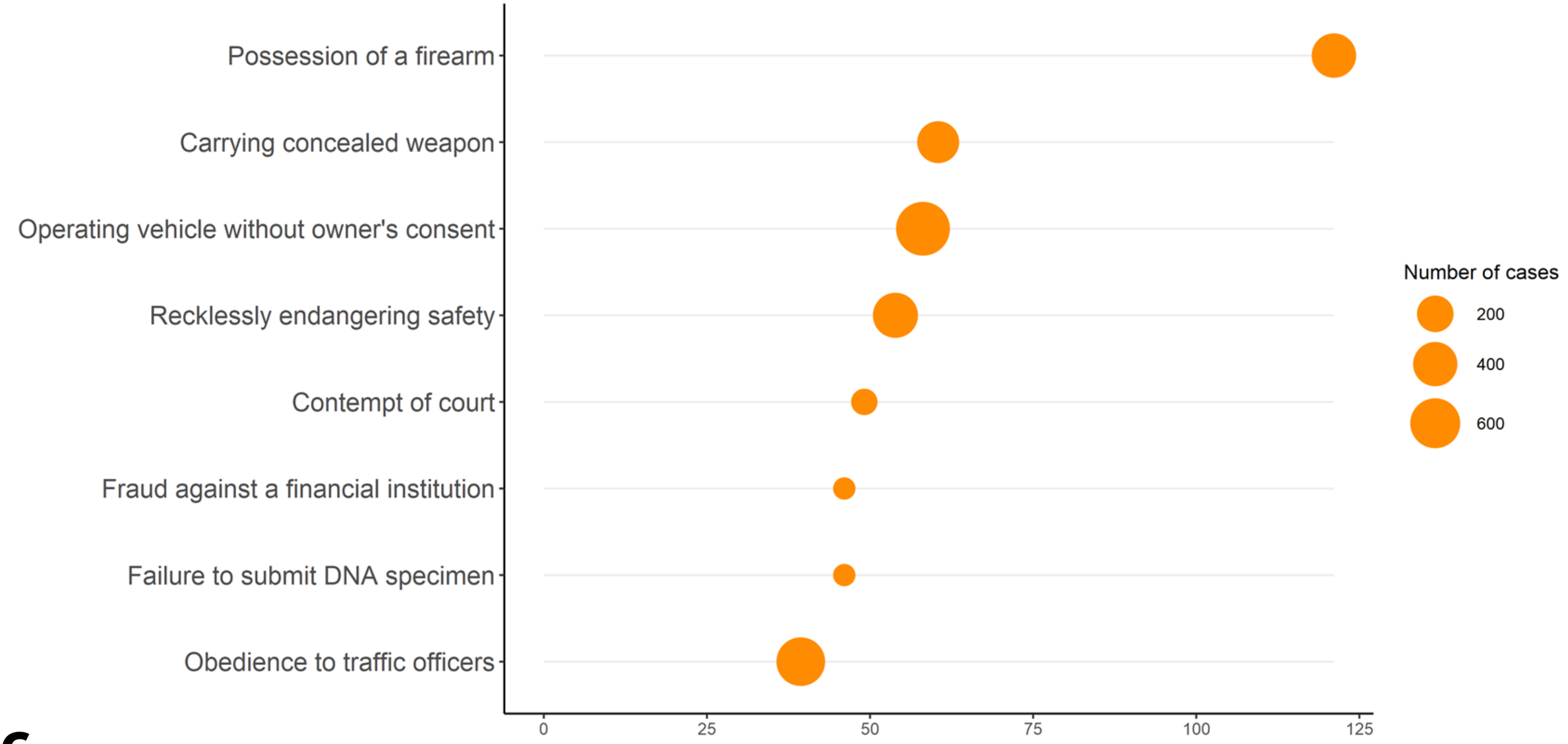
$$\text{Rate per 100,000 residents} = \frac{\text{Court cases that include that offense } \cdot 100,000}{\text{Number of Residents}}$$

$$\text{Disparity Rate Ratio} = \frac{\text{Rate}_{Black}}{\text{Rate}_{White}}$$

Non-violent categories of charges with largest black/white disparities

Years 2018-2022

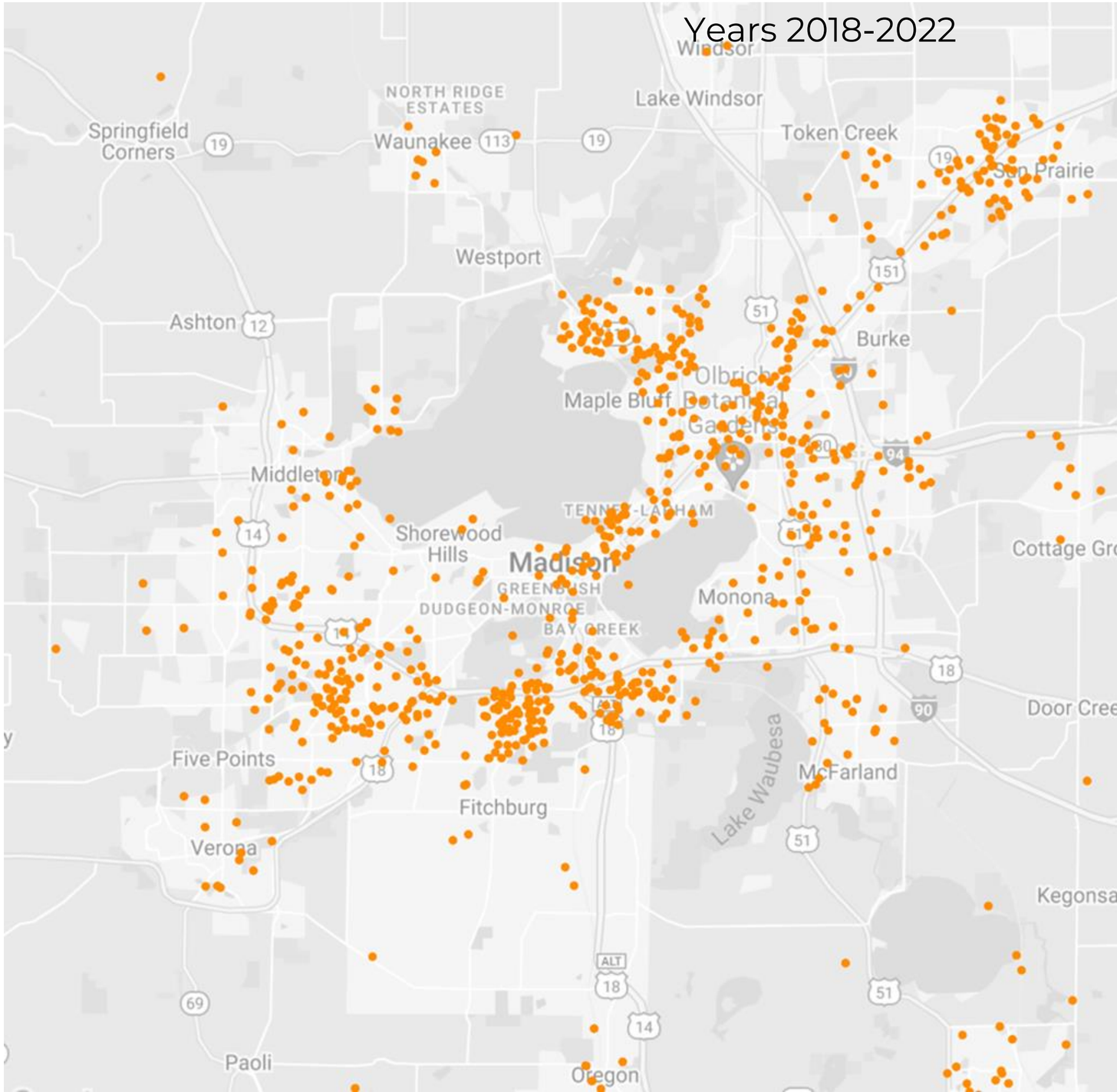
Chart shows disparity ratio, calculated by dividing the rate of Black residents of Dane County charted with this offense divided by the rate of White residents charged with this offense. For residents ages 17 to 35.



Charges in a minimum of 50 cases

Addresses of people charged with the most racially disparate categories of non-violent offenses

Defendants age 17 to 35
Dane County Jobs Center and Dane County Jail excluded from map
2018 to 2022



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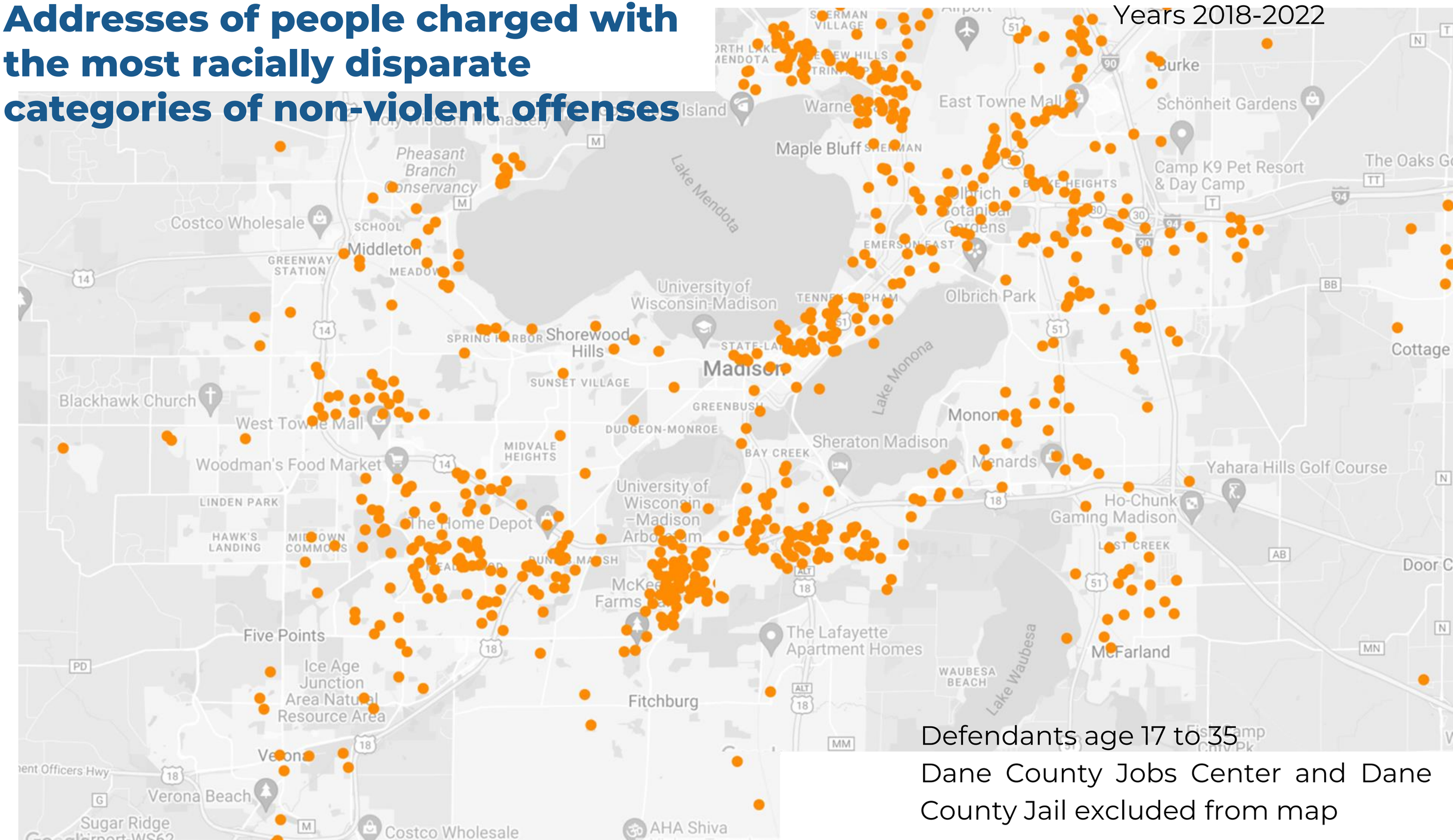


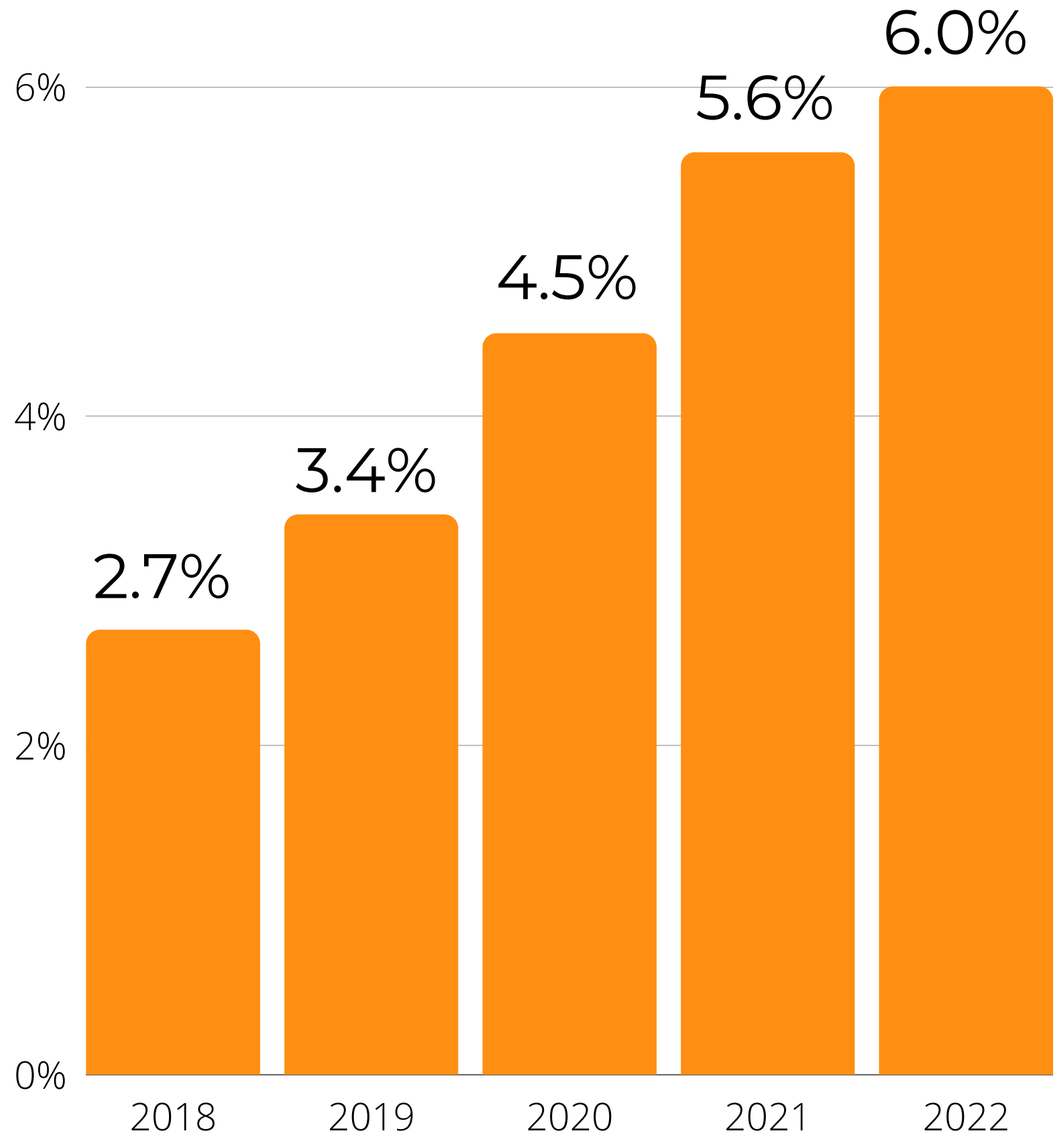
Defendants age 17 to 35

Dane County Jobs Center and Dane County Jail excluded from map

Share of all criminal cases that include one of the most disparate category of charges

Of all felony, misdemeanor, and criminal traffic cases filed in a year for 17 to 35 year olds, this is the percentage of those cases that include one of those most-disparate charges.

Although relatively small, the share has steadily increased.



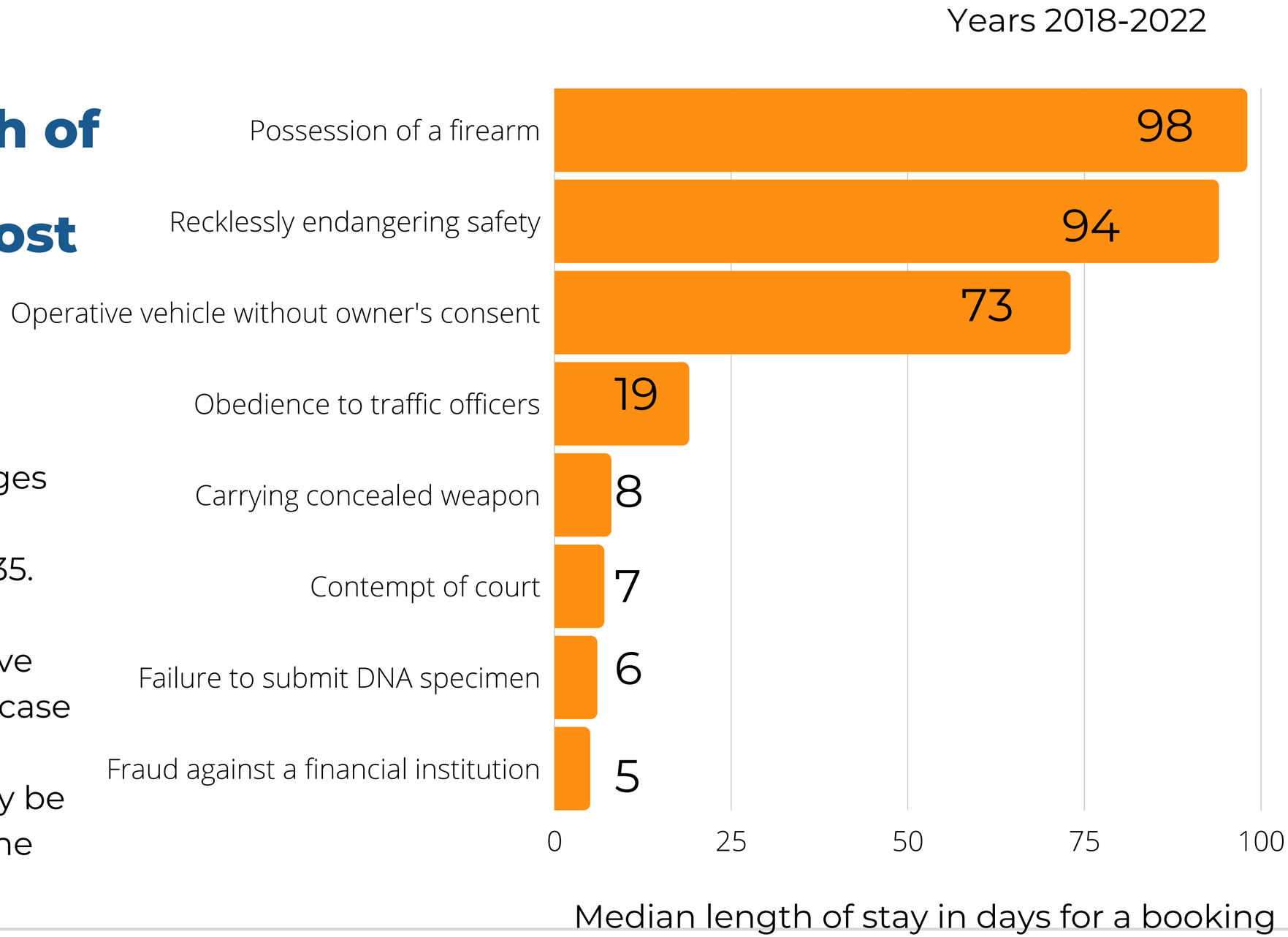
Have defendants in these cases had a previous case filed in the past three years?

About half the defendants in the most disparate charges had a different case filed in the previous three years.

Median length of stay in jail in cases with most disparate charges

This analysis included cases in which all charges were non-violent, and defendant is age 17 to 35.

The defendant may have other charges on their case in addition to the ones shown here. There may be other things keeping the person in jail.



Three key takeaways about most racially disparate offenses

- Different offenses have different black-white disparity ratios
- The most racially disparate non-violent offenses have to do with weapons, car theft, and reckless behavior
- Defendants in the most racially disparate offenses live in many different areas, with more concentration near McKee Farms, Park/Fish Hatch/Beltline, the Isthmus, and Warner Park.

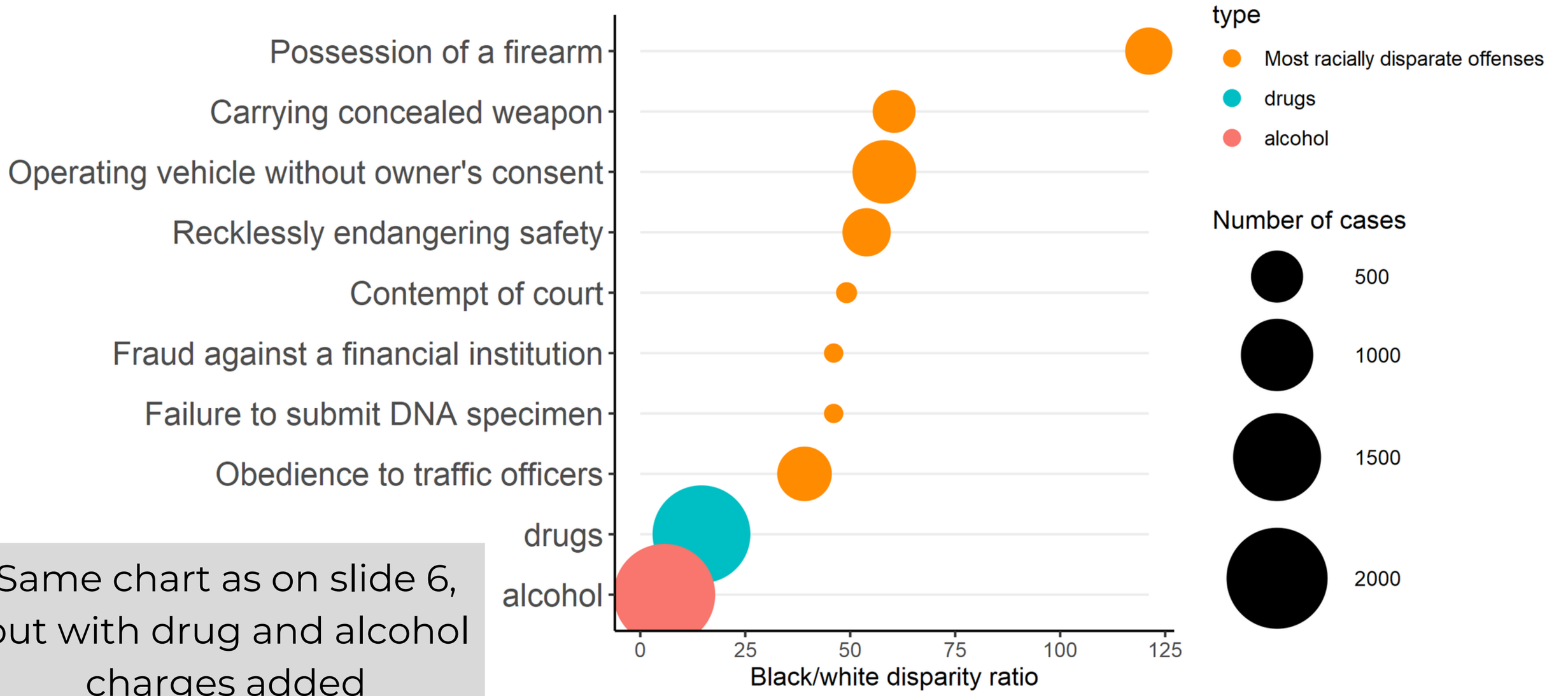
Substance use and mental health

For purposes of this analysis, substance use cases are considered felony, misdemeanor, or criminal traffic cases with an offense name that includes any of the following keywords: OWI, PAC, intoxication, alcohol, or interlock device OR includes an offense in Chapter 961 of the Wisconsin statutes which has to do with drugs.

Comparison of disparity rate ratios

Years 2018-2022

Chart shows disparity ratio, calculated by dividing the rate of Black residents of Dane County charted with this offense divided by the rate of White residents charged with this offense. For residents ages 17 to 35.



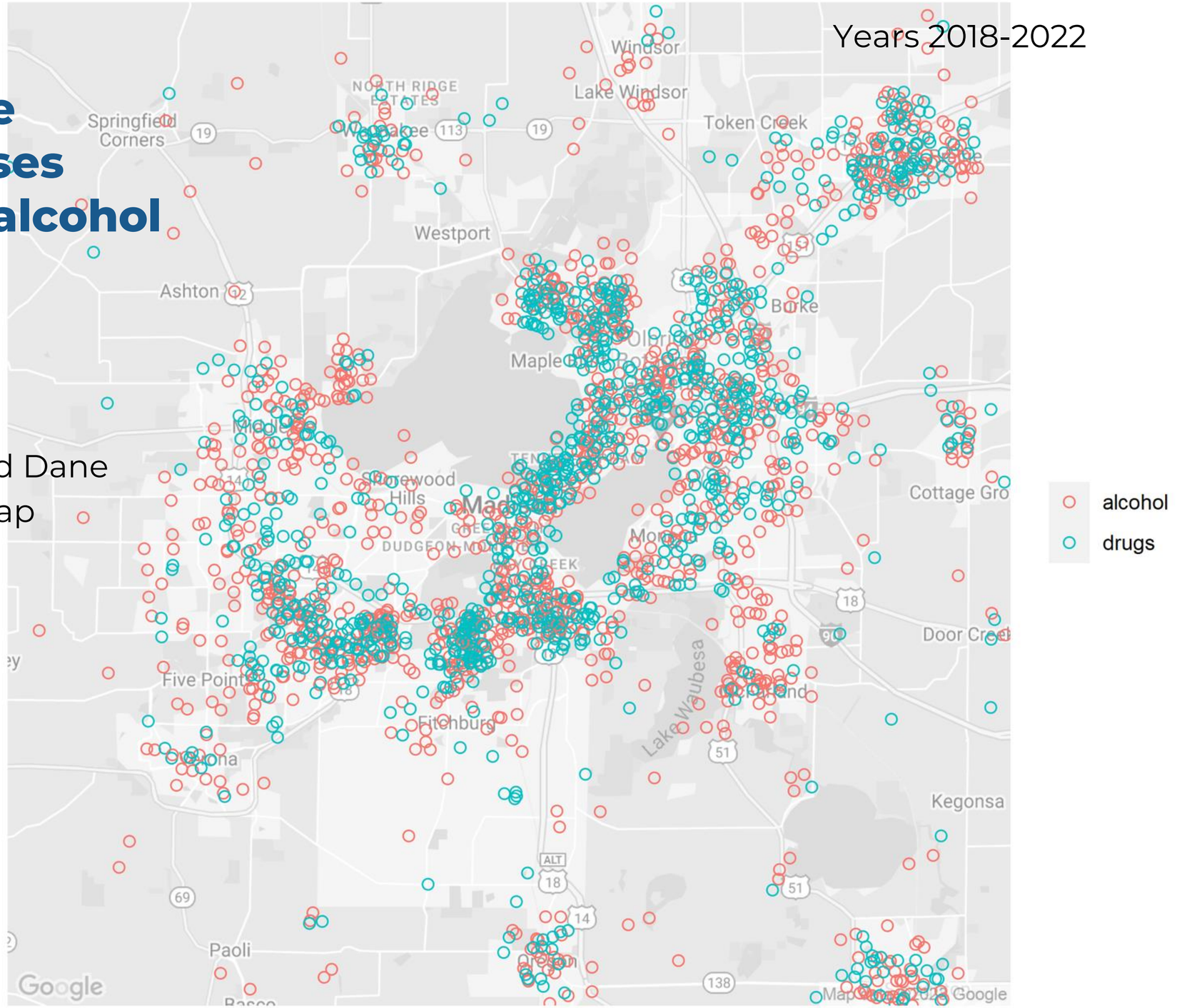
Same chart as on slide 6, but with drug and alcohol charges added

Charges in a minimum of 50 cases

Addresses of people charged with offenses related to drugs or alcohol

Years 2018-2022

Defendants age 17 to 35
Dane County Jobs Center and Dane County Jail excluded from map



Years 2018-2022

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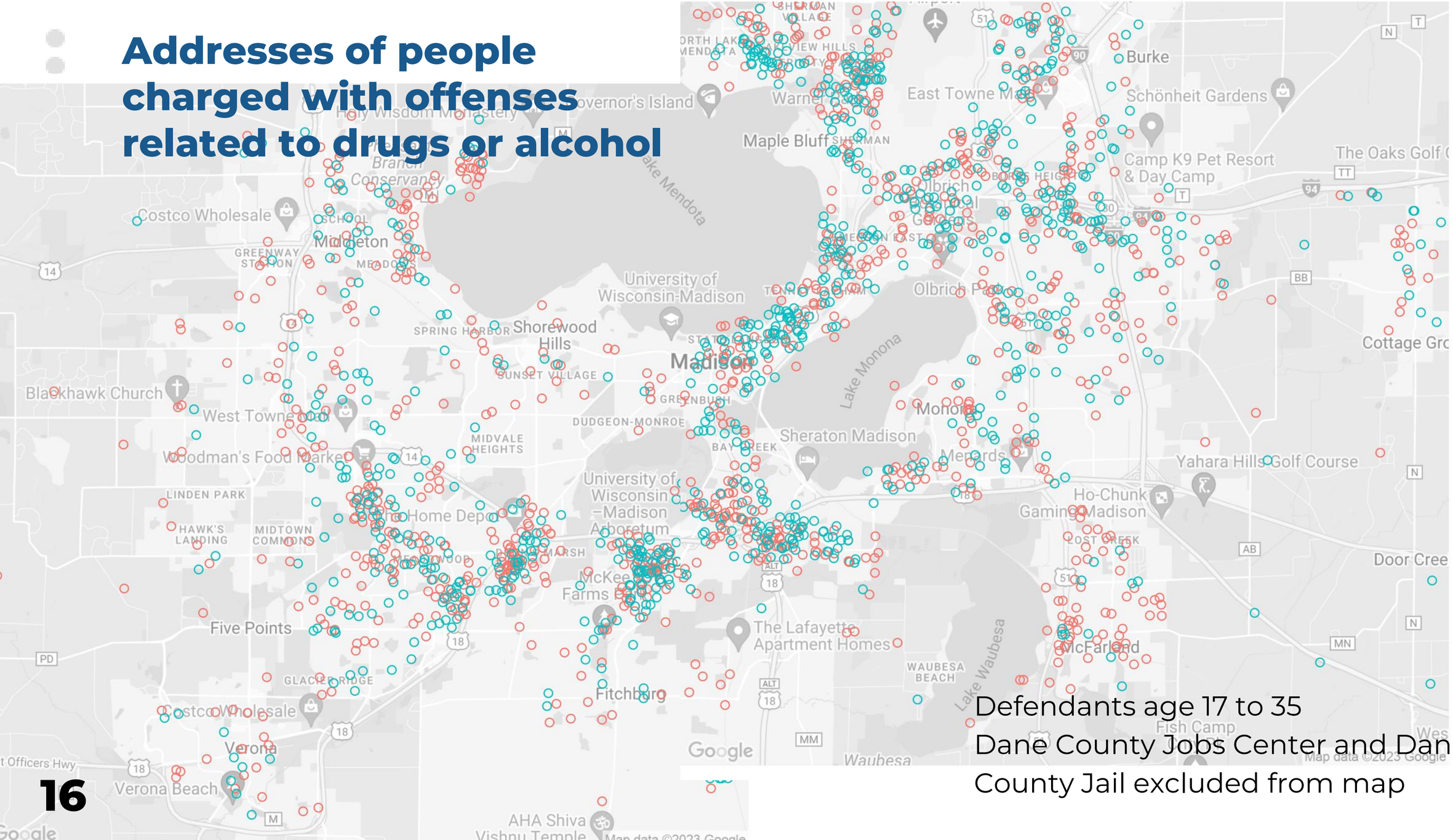
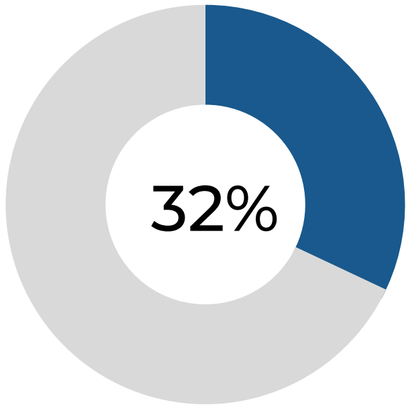


Defendants age 17 to 35
Dane County Jobs Center and Dane County Jail excluded from map

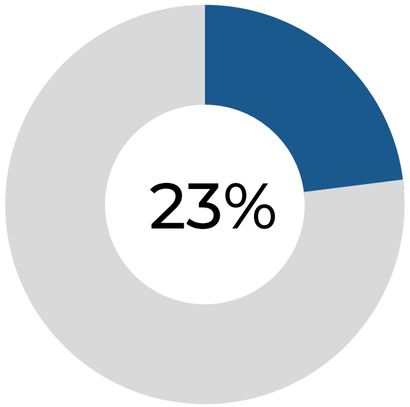
Mental health for people booked into Dane County jail

Data are from 2,200 mental health screens administered by the jail as part of a pilot program in 2021 and 2022.

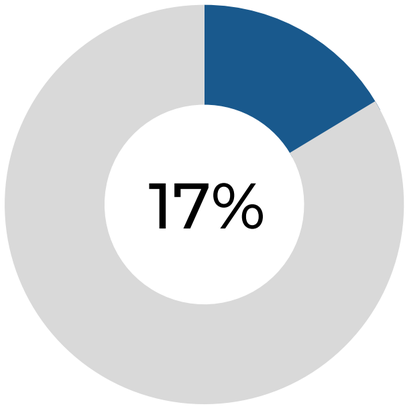
The Brief Jail Mental Health Screen has eight yes/no questions and is designed to alert staff to the need for further evaluation.



Flagged as needing additional mental health evaluation



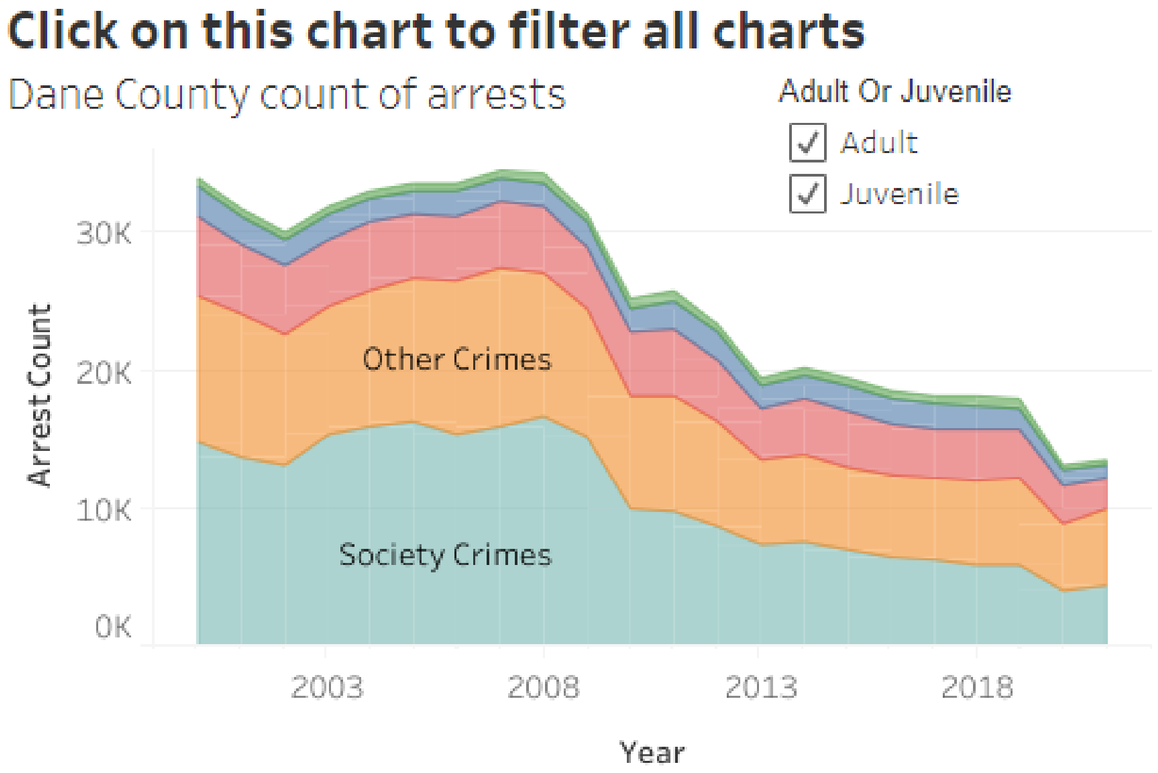
Respondents said they were taking prescribed meds for mental health



Respondents said they have had a hospital stay for mental health reasons

Three key takeaways about substance use and mental health

- Substance-related charges have a lower Black-White disparity ratio than some of the other chargwe looked at
- Drug charges are more racially disparate than alcohol charges.
- People getting booked into jail have documented mental health needs.



Other resources

More data at
cjc.countyofdane.com/Data-and-Dashboards

- Calls for service
- Crime
- Arrests

Coming soon....daily jail population and people in prison who were convicted in Dane County.

Questions?

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Reflection & discussion

Step 1, SOLO: Silently reflect on the questions and jot down your ideas.

Step 2 in PAIRS: Generate ideas in pairs, building on ideas from self-reflection

Step 3, in FOURSOMES: Gather into small groups of 4. and identify the similarities and differences between the ideas stemming from the pairs. agreements and discussing any divergent points of view.

Step 4, ALL: Each group shares their main idea(s) that emerged from your group discussion.

QUESTIONS

Does the data shared so far mirror what you are seeing in the community? If not, how do the two perspectives differ?

2. What hasn't been part of the data conversation so far and needs to be?

Comparison of disparity rate ratios

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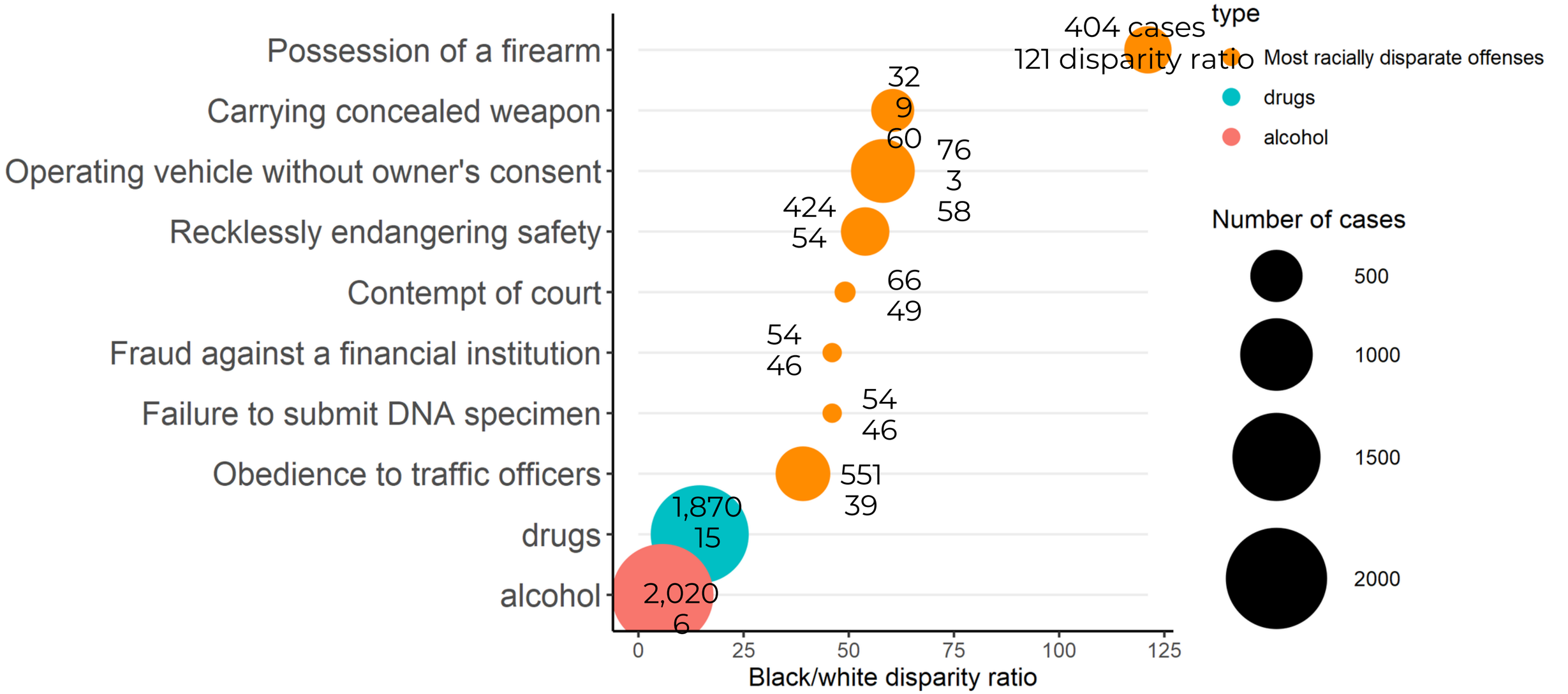

Charges in cases filed 2018 through 2022, in at least 50 cases

group	group_description	rate_ratio	Number of cases
941.29	Possession of a firearm	121.09913	404
941.23	Carrying concealed weapon	60.44296	329
943.23	Operating vehicle without owner's consent	58.11296	763
941.30	Recklessly endangering safety	53.72708	424
785.01	Contempt of court	49.12190	66
943.82	Fraud against a financial institution	46.05178	54
946.52	Failure to submit DNA specimen	46.05178	54
346.04	Obedience to traffic officers	39.11247	551