

CITATIONS AND ARRESTS OF PITTSBURGH YOUTH (2019)

Includes arrests and citations issued by city and school police

In 2019, there were 633 arrests of youth (10-17 years):

48% issued by City Police

51% issued by School Police

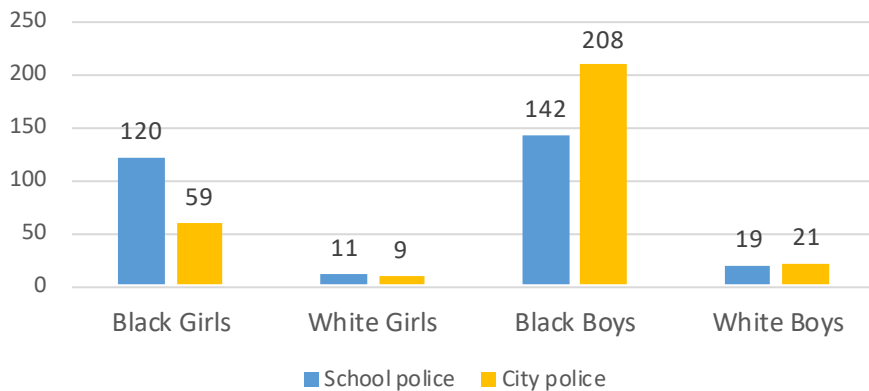


84.4%

**of all youth arrests
were of Black youth
compared to 9.5%
white youth**

*Pittsburgh youth demographics:
White 47.9% Black: 40.4%*

2019 Pittsburgh Youth Arrests by Police Type



Student Arrest Rates:

In 2019, Pittsburgh Public Schools arrested students at 8x the rate of Philadelphia Public Schools (a district 5.8 times the size of Pittsburgh).

Demographic of Pittsburgh Public School Arrests:

37% of students arrested were Black girls

44% of students arrested were Black boys

35% of students arrested had a disability (IDEA)

The most common charge listed for arrest was Disorderly Conduct

87% of ALL

Disorderly Conduct charges were issued to Black youth

*Disorderly conduct can be charged for typical youth behavior,
such as excessive noise, obscene language or gestures*

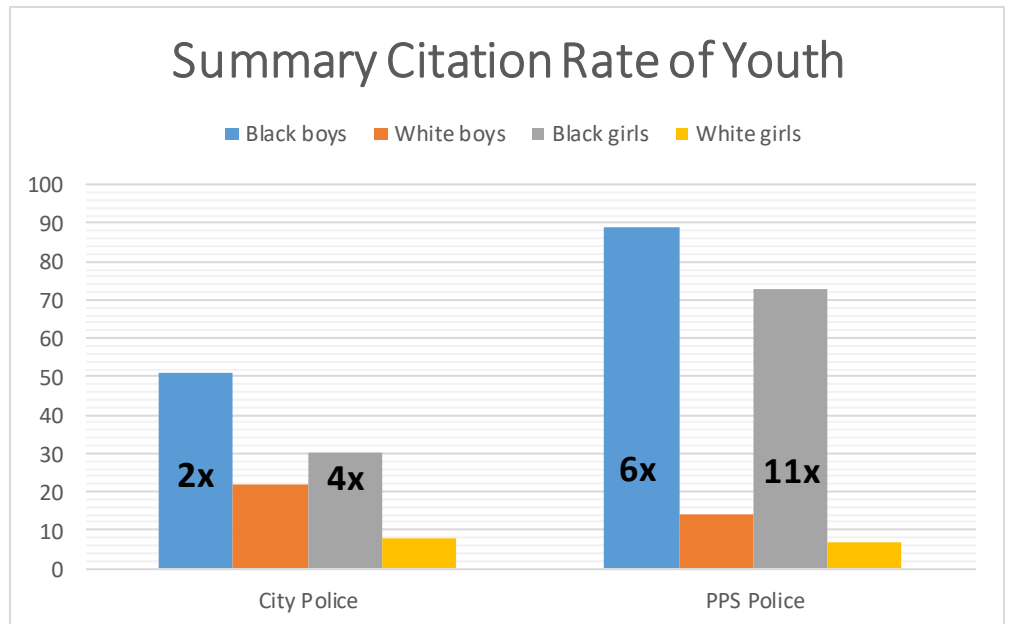
CITATIONS AND ARRESTS OF PITTSBURGH YOUTH (2019)

Includes arrests and citations issued by city and school police

Pittsburgh School Police issued citations:

Black boys are cited at 6x the rate of white boys

Black girls are cited at 11x the rate of white girls



Summary citations (non-traffic tickets) are adult criminal offenses, although they are issued for minor behaviors, like vaping or disorderly conduct. Convictions can have serious, long-term consequences for youth. Typically, youth are charged fines by a magistrate, in addition to other requirements. When young people fail to meet these terms (Failure to Comply), they are sent to juvenile court. Summary convictions create a criminal record for young people.

Failure to Comply:

1/3 of all referrals to juvenile justice in Allegheny County are for Failure to Comply.

Black youth are **10 times** more likely than White youth to be referred to juvenile justice for failure to pay a fine

Referrals to Juvenile Justice for Failure to Comply	
2017	688
2018	765
2019	493

Recommendation: City and School police should place a moratorium on issuing summary citations to youth until issues around disproportionality can be addressed, and clear guidelines can be established around if/when to issue them.

Data Sources: Burgh's Eye View, Pittsburgh Public Schools, Pittsburgh Bureau of Police