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## INTRODUCTION

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Preventing violence before it occurs is an important component of achieving health equity and reducing the health impacts from violence.

### UNDERSTANDING VIOLENCE

Having fewer social and economic resources and opportunities creates a social disadvantage for some groups and communities. Socially disadvantaged groups and communities are more likely to not only be actual victims of violence but also know victims or hear about or witness acts of violence.

In turn, violence can worsen social disadvantage. Studies that have adjusted for measures of social disadvantage (income, education, residential location) have found that racial/ethnic differences in violence were either reduced or eliminated.<sup>4</sup>

#### ***Violence Is a Health Equity Issue***

Violence contributes to poor health outcomes, particularly among young people, people of color, and low-income communities.<sup>1,2</sup> The major root causes of health disparities—poverty and lack of economic opportunity, education inequities, racism/discrimination, and poor neighborhood conditions—increase the likelihood that violence will take place in communities. Preventing violence demands attention and action to address these root causes.

#### ***Violence Is a Public Health Issue***

Violence is a serious public health problem, but one that is preventable. In the U.S., nearly 30 million emergency room visits and more than 180,000 deaths are attributable to injury and violence each year, resulting in \$80 billion in medical costs and \$326 billion in lost productivity.<sup>3</sup> In addition to injury, disability, and even death, the health consequences of violence may include chronic disease and an increased risk for health-related behaviors, such as smoking, eating disorders, substance abuse, and decreased physical activity. Emerging evidence suggests that increased exposure to violence may lead to increased asthma symptoms. Additionally, the stress from trauma experienced from violence can impair the immune system. Adults exposed to violence as children have an increased likelihood of chronic conditions as adults, such as heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes. Violence also negatively affects the health of the community by reducing productivity, decreasing

the sense of safety, and causing emotional disturbances among family and friends of the victims.

In alignment with the national health agenda, the Santa Clara County Public Health Department has set its strategic focus on three local winnable battles: 1) Obesity Prevention, 2) Tobacco Prevention, and 3) Injury and Violence Prevention. An overarching priority of the Department is to improve its capacity to address the root causes of health disparities. The Department recognizes that it is well suited to address the causes of injury- and violence-related inequities through policy, systems and environmental change.

The Santa Clara County Public Health Department launched a Community Violence Assessment in October of 2011 to inform internal strategic planning in the area of violence prevention. The Assessment has two primary facets: 1) an analysis of local violence data, and 2) interviews with community leaders and groups about existing violence prevention efforts and possible roles for the Department to support those efforts as well as opportunities for leadership and collaboration.

This report summarizes the findings of the local violence data analysis. The research questions that informed the analysis are described below:

- What are key violence issues affecting Santa Clara County?
- What populations are most at-risk for violence in Santa Clara County?
- What communities are most impacted by violence in Santa Clara County?

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

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The data in this report provide a snapshot of violence in Santa Clara County that will help inform how and where to concentrate local public health efforts to prevent violence from occurring in the first place.

### ***What are the violence trends in Santa Clara County?***

The findings below illustrate a downward trend across most violence-related indicators included in this report, such as adult and juvenile felony arrests for violent offenses, child maltreatment allegations and substantiations, and confirmed cases of elder maltreatment. This is consistent with state and national downward trends. However, not all trends in Santa Clara County were positive. For example, there was more than a threefold increase in domestic violence-related deaths from 2010 to 2011.

- Adult and juvenile felony arrests for violent offenses have declined over the past decade. The rate of adult felony arrests for violent offenses per 100,000 adults declined from 392 in 2000 to 302 in 2009, representing a 23% decrease. Among juveniles, the rate of felony arrests for violent offenses per 100,000 juveniles decreased from 403 in 2000 to 303 in 2009, representing a 25% decrease.
- Rates of child maltreatment allegations and substantiations reached a decade low in 2010. The child maltreatment allegation rate declined from 36 per 1,000 children in 2001 to 28 per 1,000 children in 2010, while the substantiation rate declined from 7 per 1,000 children in 2001 to 3 per 1,000 children in 2010.
- Contrary to the downward trend in the rates of child maltreatment allegations and substantiations, the percentage of recurrence of a substantiated maltreatment allegation within six months in Santa Clara County increased from 7% in 2001 to 10% in 2010.
- Similar to child maltreatment, elder/dependent adult maltreatment also declined in recent years. The rate of elder maltreatment per 1,000 elders declined from 441 in fiscal year 2009 to 323 in fiscal year 2011.
- Domestic violence-related deaths rose from 2010 to 2011, increasing from 5 deaths to 16 deaths.<sup>4</sup>
- Demand for domestic-violence related services are on the rise. The number of victims who accessed local domestic violence shelters increased from 699 in fiscal year 2010 to 795 in fiscal year 2011, while the number of those unable to access shelter increased from 1,052 to 1,842 during this time period.

### ***What population sub-groups in Santa Clara County are disproportionately affected by violence?***

Analysis of violence patterns within population sub-groups was limited by the availability of data. Most data for this report were analyzed by race/ethnicity, age, and sex. The findings below illustrate some of the violence disparities that exist within Santa Clara County. The groups most affected by violence in Santa Clara County include people of color, males, and youth/young adults ages 15-24. Females are more likely than males to experience intimate partner violence, elder maltreatment, and sexual abuse.

➤ People of Color

The data presented in this report show that Hispanics and African Americans are disproportionately affected by violence, either as victims or perpetrators.

- In 2009, 40% of homicide victims were Hispanic.
- Hispanics are twice as likely as non-Hispanics to experience a firearm death. In 2007, the age-adjusted death rate per 100,000 people was 6 for Hispanics as compared with 3 for non-Hispanics.
- Hispanics had the highest rate of domestic violence-related deaths (11 per 100,000 people) as compared to 4 per 100,000 people among Whites during the 2000-2010 timeframe.
- African Americans had the greatest percentage of adults who reported physical abuse by an intimate partner in 2005-06: 11% as compared to 3% of Asian/Pacific Islanders who had the lowest percentage.
- Almost three in four (73%) juveniles referred into the juvenile justice system for domestic violence offenses were Hispanic in fiscal year 2011.
- The rate of felony arrests for assault among African American adults (81 per 10,000 people) was more than five times greater than that of White adults (14 per 10,000 people) in 2009.
- In 2010, the child maltreatment substantiation rate of African American children was 12 times higher than the rate of Asian/Pacific Islander children.
- The percentage of children maltreated within six months of a substantiated maltreatment allegation was 6 times higher in 2010 among Hispanic children (12%) than Asian/Pacific Islander children (2%).
- African American (14%), Native American (11%), and Hispanic (10%) students were more likely to consider themselves part of a gang in 2009-10 as compared to Asian/Pacific Islander and White students (each 5%).

➤ Males

- In 2009, males accounted for 83% of homicide deaths, with an age-adjusted homicide rate of 5 per 100,000 people.
- Males accounted for 60 of the 66 firearm deaths in 2007.
- In 2009, the age-adjusted suicide rate for males was more than double (11 per 100,000 people) the rate of females (4 per 100,000 people) in the County.
- Males were equally likely as women to experience a domestic-violence related death from 2000 to 2010.
- In fiscal year 2011, males accounted for over eight in ten of the bookings and charges filed for domestic violence-related assault and battery.
- More than two-thirds (69%) of juvenile domestic violence offenders in fiscal year 2011 were male.

➤ Youth and Young Adults

- In 2009, the age groups with the highest rates of nonfatal hospitalized assault injuries were youth ages 15-19 (67 per 100,000 people) and young adults ages 20-24 (78 per 100,000 people).
- When looking at the distribution of homicide victims in 2009 by age, the highest percentage was in the 15-24 age group (36%).

➤ *Women are more likely to be abused*

- According to 2005-06 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, a higher percentage of adult women (11%) in Santa Clara County reported physical abuse than adult men (2%).
- Elder and dependent adult women are more likely than their male counterparts to be victims of maltreatment. Women accounted for 66% of confirmed cases of elder maltreatment in 2011 (excluding financial abuse), and their rate (383 per 100,000 elder women) was considerably higher than that of men (246 per 100,000 elder men).
- Girls under 18 years of age were more likely than boys to have substantiated cases for sexual abuse: 5.8% as compared with 1.2% of male cases

➤ *Whites Are Most At-Risk for Suicide and Elder Maltreatment*

- In 2009, Whites accounted for over two-thirds (67%) of the suicides in the County and they had the highest age-adjusted suicide rate per 100,000 people (12) as compared with Asians (5) and Hispanics (4). When viewing the age distribution of suicides among Whites, the age groups with the highest percentage of deaths were 45-54 (29%), 35-44 (19%), and 55-64 (17%).
- Almost half (46%) of elder/dependent adult maltreatment victims in fiscal year 2011 were identified as Caucasian.<sup>5</sup>

***What are the violence patterns at our local schools?***

The data findings below illustrate that most students feel safe at school, however, 21% to 44% of students report having experienced either physical, psychological or cyber bullying. The truancy rate, an early indicator of students needing help, has risen over the past few years.

- Approximately two-thirds (65%) of middle and high school students reported they felt safe at school in 2009-10, a slight increase since 2003-04 (61%).
- In 2009-10, a greater percentage of middle and high school students in Santa Clara County reported psychological bullying (44%) than physical bullying (28%) on the school property in the past 12 months. Approximately 1 in 5 students (21%) reported cyber bullying on the school property in the past 12 months.
- The truancy rate in Santa Clara County increased from 18% in 2006-07 to 23% in 2010-11.
- In 2010-11, there were 19,760 suspensions, of which 48% were related to violence and drugs. The rate of violent and drug related suspensions per 1,000 students in Santa Clara County increased from 34 in 2004-05 to 36 in 2010-11.
- The percentage of middle and high school students who reported their boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt them on purpose during the past 12 months was similar from 2001-02 (4%) to 2009-10 (5%).

***What is the prevalence of protective factors among Santa Clara County students that can buffer against risk-taking behaviors?***

- Developmental assets measure the positive values, relationships, and experiences that youth need to thrive. Santa Clara County elementary school students who participated in the Fall 2010 Project Cornerstone Youth Survey reported a higher average number of 40 developmental assets (27) than did middle (22) and high school (20) students.
- Girls tended to report more assets than boys across all grade levels except in a few notable areas, such as “self-esteem” and “sense of purpose.”

## ***What geographic areas within Santa Clara County are most impacted by violence?***

An analysis of local violence data by various levels of geography show notable differences in violence patterns among Santa Clara County's communities.

### ➤ Jurisdictions

- The geographic areas that consistently had higher violence-related incidents across the different types of violence examined in this report include San Jose, Morgan Hill, Gilroy, Campbell, Santa Clara, and the county's unincorporated area. For example:
  - San Jose had the greatest number of homicide offenses reported to local law enforcement in 2009.
  - Within San Jose, the areas of Central San Jose and East San Jose contained the highest rates of child maltreatment allegations.
  - Morgan Hill had the highest rate of adult felony arrests for violent offenses in 2009, followed by Gilroy.
  - Campbell had the highest rate of domestic violence-related calls to police in 2009.
  - San Jose (60) and Santa Clara (21) had the highest number of domestic-violence related deaths during the 2000-2010 timeframe.
  - The county's unincorporated area had the highest rate of forcible rape reported to local law enforcement and the second highest rate of domestic violence-related calls to police.

### ➤ School Districts

- An analysis of violence-related data at the school district level suggests that students at East Side Union High School District are more likely to be affected by violence than are students at other districts. Indicators of this disparity include:
  - The truancy rate was 59% in 2010-11, considerably higher than all other Santa Clara County school districts.
  - Approximately half (52%) of students reported in 2009-10 that they feel safe at school, the lowest percentage among the school districts that were designated as priority districts for the purposes of this report.
  - Self-reported gang membership was highest in East Side Union High School District in 2009-10 as compared to the other priority school districts.
- Other school districts that are most impacted by violence include San Jose Unified, Luther Burbank, Alum Rock Union Elementary, Morgan Hill Unified, Gilroy Unified, Santa Clara Unified, Campbell Union High, and the Santa Clara County Office of Education.
- It is important to note that caution should be taken in making any conclusions from the findings presented above as data were limited at the school district level.



## METHODOLOGY

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Leadership within the Santa Clara County Public Health Department partnered with Creative Mundo Consulting, a local research consulting firm, to develop a list of twenty-two violence related indicators that spanned across the main types of violence: child maltreatment, elder maltreatment, sexual violence, youth violence, adult violence, and intimate partner violence. Once the list of indicators was finalized, Creative Mundo Consulting along with the Public Health Department staff identified relevant data sources, then collected and analyzed the data. The Department staff conducted the analysis of California Healthy Kids Survey data. Analysis of violence patterns within population sub-groups was limited by the availability of data. Most data for this report were analyzed by race/ethnicity, age, and sex.

A key goal of the analysis was to understand which communities in Santa Clara County are most affected by violence. Where possible, data were analyzed at the census tract, zip code, school, school district and jurisdiction levels. The school district level analysis was concentrated on districts categorized as “priority districts” because they had the lowest Academic Performance Index (API scores) and the highest high school dropout rates. Having a wide representation of school districts across Santa Clara County was also considered in the selection of “priority districts.” These districts are listed below:

- Alum Rock Union Elementary
- Campbell Union High
- East Side Union High
- Franklin-Mckinley Elementary
- Gilroy Unified
- Luther Burbank
- Mt. Pleasant Elementary
- Morgan Hill Unified
- Mountain View Whisman
- Oak Grove Elementary
- San Jose Unified
- Santa Clara Unified
- Santa Clara County Office of Education

The data presented in this report were obtained from various organizations and the county departments within Santa Clara County; California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center; California Healthy Kids Survey; California Health Interview Survey; California Department of Public Health; California Department of Education; Child Welfare Dynamic Report System (a collaboration of the California Department of Social Services / University of California at Berkeley); Project Cornerstone; and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Population data was obtained from the California Department of Finance and the U.S. Census Bureau. Data limitations were described where applicable in the data narratives or in the endnotes section of the report.

## ADULT AND YOUTH VIOLENCE

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### Homicide

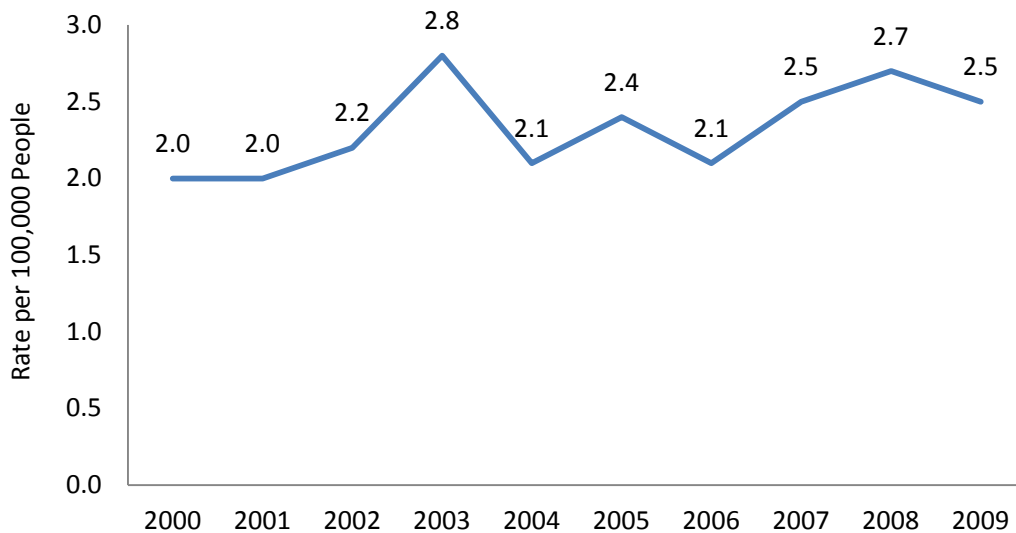
#### Homicide Offenses Reported to Local Law Enforcement

The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program defines homicide or murder as the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. An estimated 14,748 persons were murdered nationwide in 2010.<sup>6</sup>

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In 2009, the rate of homicide offenses reported to local law enforcement was 3 per 100,000 people in Santa Clara County, which is lower than the state rate of 5 per 100,000 people.<sup>7</sup> The rate has remained stable over the past decade.

Homicide Offenses Reported to Local Law Enforcement, Rates per 100,000, 2000-2009



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2000-2009. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

In 2009, San Jose had the highest number of homicide offenses reported to local law enforcement (28) followed by Santa Clara (6) and the county's unincorporated area (3).

Homicide Offenses Reported to Local Law Enforcement by Jurisdiction, 2009

Jurisdiction	Number of Offenses
Cupertino	1
Gilroy	1
Milpitas	2
Morgan Hill	1
Palo Alto	1
San Jose	28

Jurisdiction	Number of Offenses
Santa Clara	6
Saratoga	1
Sunnyvale	1
Unincorporated Area	3

Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009. Note: The Santa Clara Transit District reported 1 case (data not shown above). There were no homicide offenses reported in 2009 for Campbell, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos/Monte Sereno, and Mountain View. Data downloaded November of 2011.

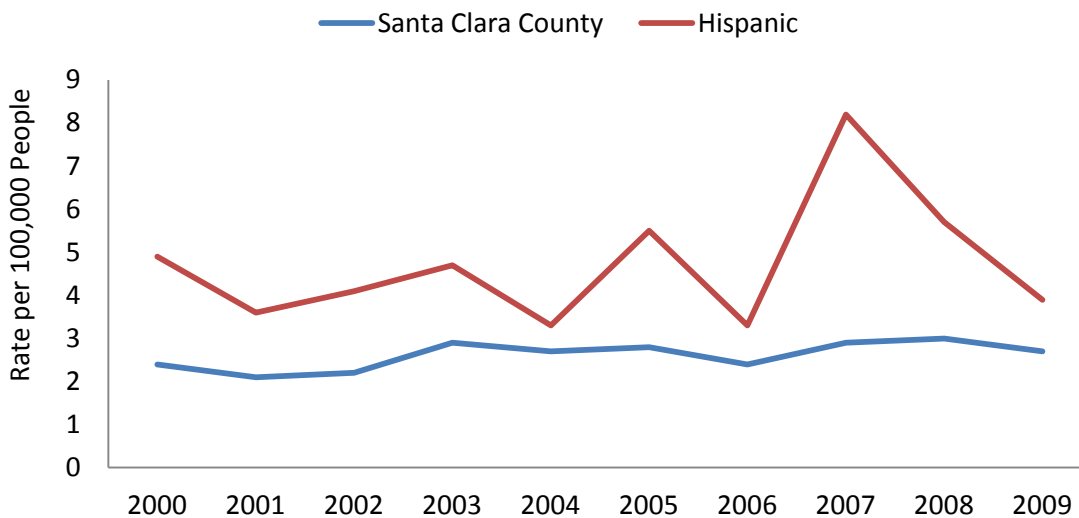
## Deaths Due to Homicide

### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In Santa Clara County there were 47 deaths due to homicide in 2009. The age-adjusted homicide rate was 3 per 100,000 people, lower than the state rate of 5 per 100,000 people.<sup>8</sup> The age-adjusted homicide rate in Santa Clara County remained stable from 2.4 per 100,000 people in 2000 to 2.7 in 2009.

Hispanics accounted for 4 in 10 deaths (40%) due to homicide in Santa Clara County in 2009, with an age-adjusted rate of 4 per 100,000 people. The rates for other racial and ethnic groups are not presented due to the small sample sizes. In 2009, men accounted for 83% of homicide deaths, with an age-adjusted homicide rate of 5 per 100,000 people.

Age-Adjusted Homicide Rates per 100,000 for Hispanics Compared to Santa Clara County, 2000-2009



Source: California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section, Death Records, 2000-2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Deaths are based on residence. Data downloaded November of 2011.

## Homicide Victims by Demographics, 2009

	Number of Deaths	% of Total
Total	47	100.0%
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	39	83.0%
Female	8	17.0%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
Asian	12	25.5%
Black or African American	5	10.6%
Hispanic	19	40.4%
White	9	19.1%
Multi-race	2	4.3%
<b>Age Group</b>		
< 5	2	4.3%
5-14	1	2.1%
15-24	17	36.2%
25-34	13	27.7%
35-44	6	12.8%
45-54	6	12.8%
55-64	1	2.1%
85 +	1	2.1%

Source: California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section, Death Records, 2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Notes: Deaths are based on residence. No homicides were reported for Pacific Islanders in 2009. Data downloaded November of 2011.

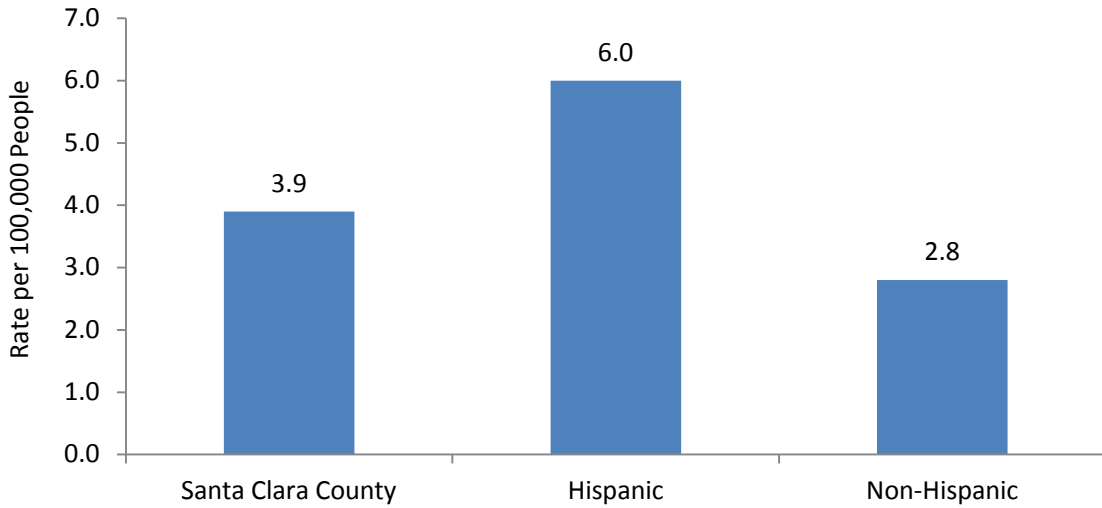
## Firearm Deaths

Firearm related deaths refer to deaths that occur due to guns regardless of the intent (intentional, unintentional, or undetermined). Death due to injuries from firearms is an important public health problem. In 2010, firearms were used in 68% of the nation's murders, 41% of robberies, and 21% of aggravated assaults.<sup>9</sup> In 2008, 50% of youth homicide victims were killed with a firearm.<sup>10</sup>

### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In 2007, there were 66 deaths related to firearms in Santa Clara County.<sup>11</sup> The age-adjusted death rate was 4 per 100,000 people, lower than the rate for the state (9). Men accounted for 91% of the firearm deaths in 2007. The rate for Hispanics (6) was two times the rate of non-Hispanics (3) in Santa Clara County.

Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates Due to Firearms by Hispanic Origin, 2007



Source: Centers for Disease and Control Prevention, 2007 WONDER Online Database. Note: Data downloaded December of 2011.

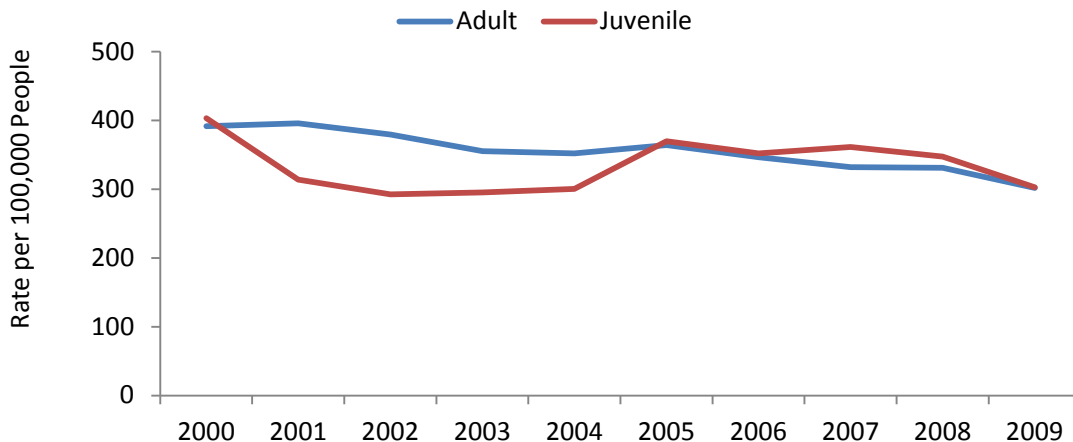
**Arrests for Violent Crimes**

Violent crimes are defined in the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program as those offenses that involve force or threat of force.<sup>12</sup> The data presented below was obtained from the California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, which categorizes the following offenses as violent crime: homicide, forcible rape, robbery, assault, and kidnapping.

*Status in Santa Clara County*

In Santa Clara County, the rate of adult felony arrests for violent offenses per 100,000 people declined steadily over the past decade dropping from 392 in 2000 to 302 in 2009. Among juveniles, the rate of felony arrests for violent offenses per 100,000 people decreased from 403 in 2000 to 303 in 2009. The adult and juvenile violent offense arrest rates per 100,000 were approximately equal in 2009.

Felony Arrests for Violent Offenses, Rates per 100,000, 2000-2009



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2000-2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

The county's rates of adult and juvenile felony arrests for violent offenses were lower than the state in 2009, and the difference widened since 2000.

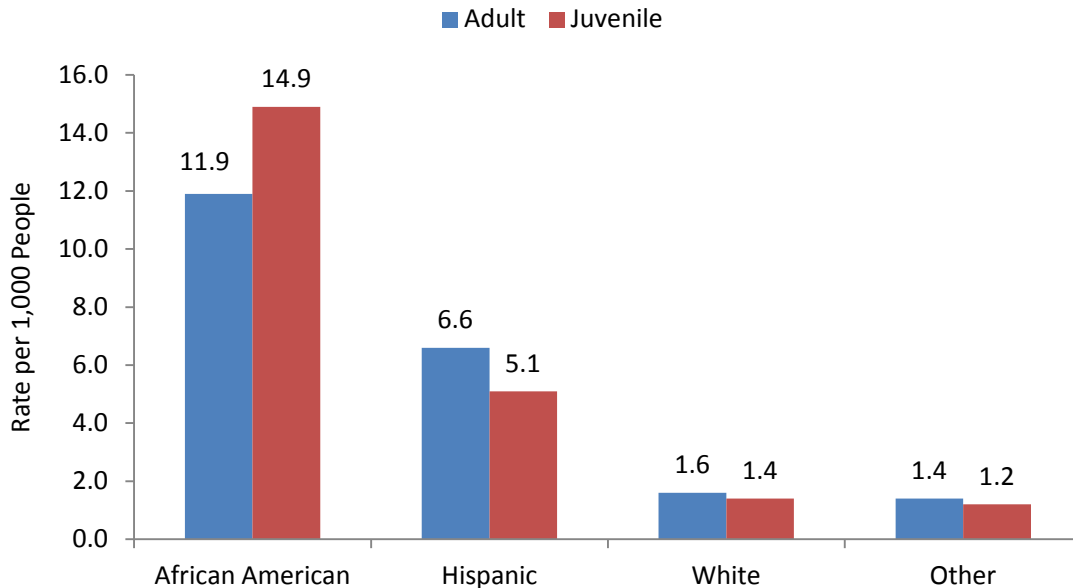
**Ratio of Santa Clara County's Rates of Felony Arrests for Violent Offenses to California's Rates of Felony Arrests for Violent Offenses**

	2000	2009
Adult	0.75	0.72
Juvenile	0.96	0.89

Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2000-2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

Among racial and ethnic groups, African Americans had the highest adult and juvenile violent offense arrest rates per 100,000 people in 2009. The juvenile violent arrest rate among African Americans (15) was substantially higher than the rate among White juveniles (1).

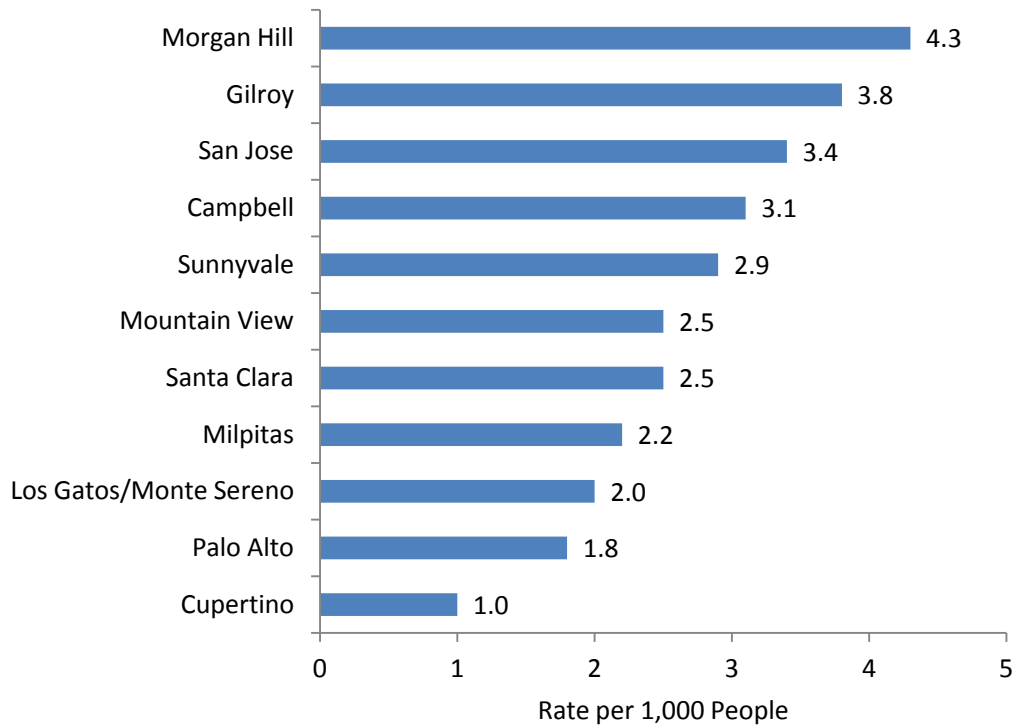
**Felony Arrests for Violent Offenses by Race/Ethnicity, Rates per 1,000, 2009**



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009; California Department of Finance, State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050. Sacramento, CA, July 2007. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

Among jurisdictions, Morgan Hill (4.3) had the highest adult felony arrest rate for violent offenses per 1,000 people followed by Gilroy (3.8), San Jose (3.4), Campbell (3.1) and Sunnyvale (2.9).

Adult Felony Arrests for Violent Offenses by Jurisdiction, Rates per 1,000, 2009



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009; U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey. Note: The county's Unincorporated area reported 266 violent arrests (population data not located to generate rate); Santa Clara Transit District reported 15 violent arrests; West Valley College District reported 1 violent arrest; CSU San Jose reported 5 violent arrests; and the CA Highway Patrol reported 25 violent arrests (data not shown above). Data downloaded November of 2011. \* Rates are not displayed if they are based on fewer than 20 cases [Los Altos/Lost Altos Hills (19) and Saratoga (13)].

## Assault

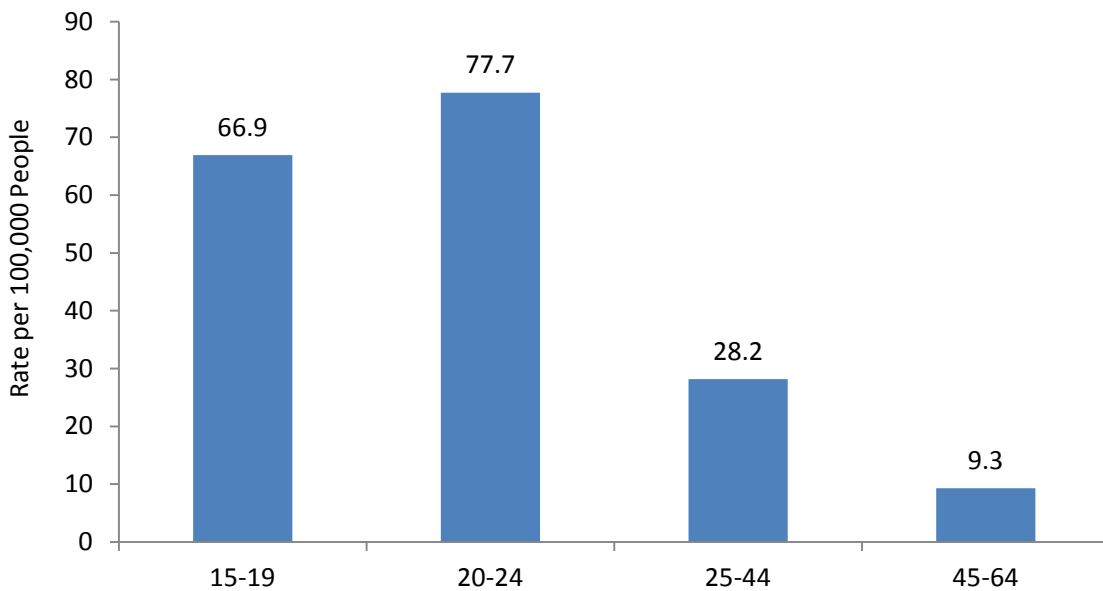
Assault is any intentionally caused injury to another person that may or may not involve intent to kill. In 2010, aggravated assaults accounted for the highest number of violent crimes reported to law enforcement nationwide at 63%.<sup>13</sup>

### Nonfatal Hospitalizations Due to Assault

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In 2009, there were 387 nonfatal hospitalized injuries due to assaults in Santa Clara County.<sup>14</sup> The age groups with the highest rates of nonfatal hospitalized assault injuries were young adults ages 20-24 (78 per 100,000 people) and youth ages 15-19 (67 per 100,000 people).

#### Age-Specific Nonfatal Hospitalized Assault Injury by Age, Rates per 100,000, 2009



Source: California Department of Public Health, EpiCenter, 2009 California Injury Data Online; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011. \* Rates are not displayed if they are based on fewer than 20 cases [Under 15 (17) and 65 and over (14)].

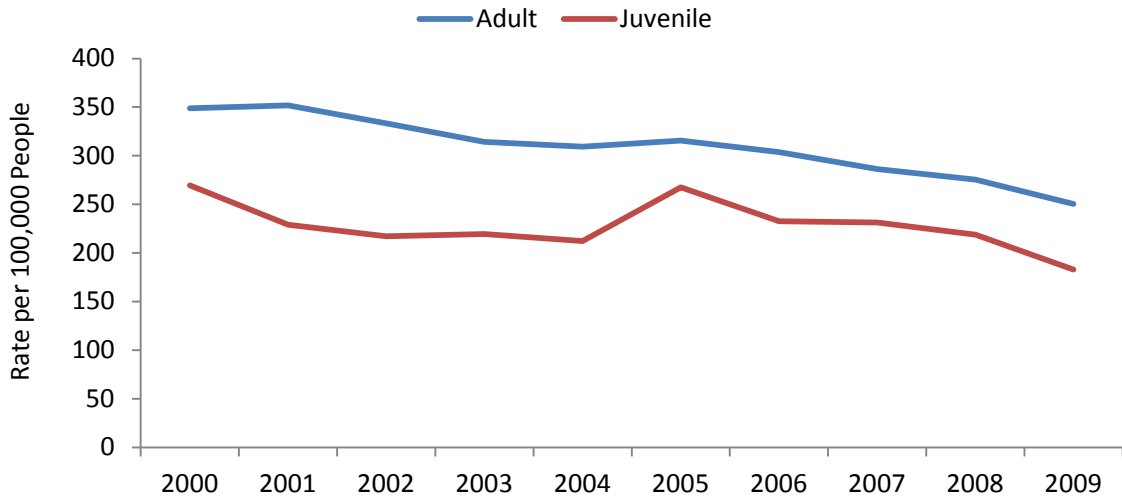


## Felony Arrests for Assault

### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In Santa Clara County, the rates of adult felony arrests for assault per 100,000 people declined steadily from 349 in 2000 to 250 in 2009. Similarly, the juvenile felony arrest rate for assault per 100,000 people declined from 270 in 2000 to 183 in 2009.

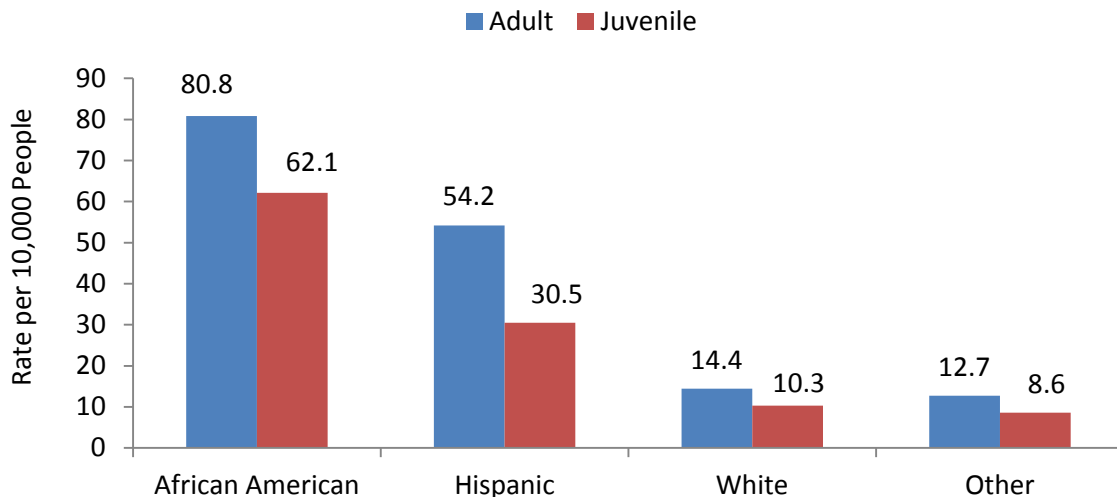
Felony Arrests for Assault, Rates per 100,000, 2000-2009



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2000-2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

When viewing these data by race/ethnicity, African American adults and juveniles have the highest felony arrest rates for assault per 100,000 people: the rate of African American adults (81) is more than five times greater than the rate of White adults (14).

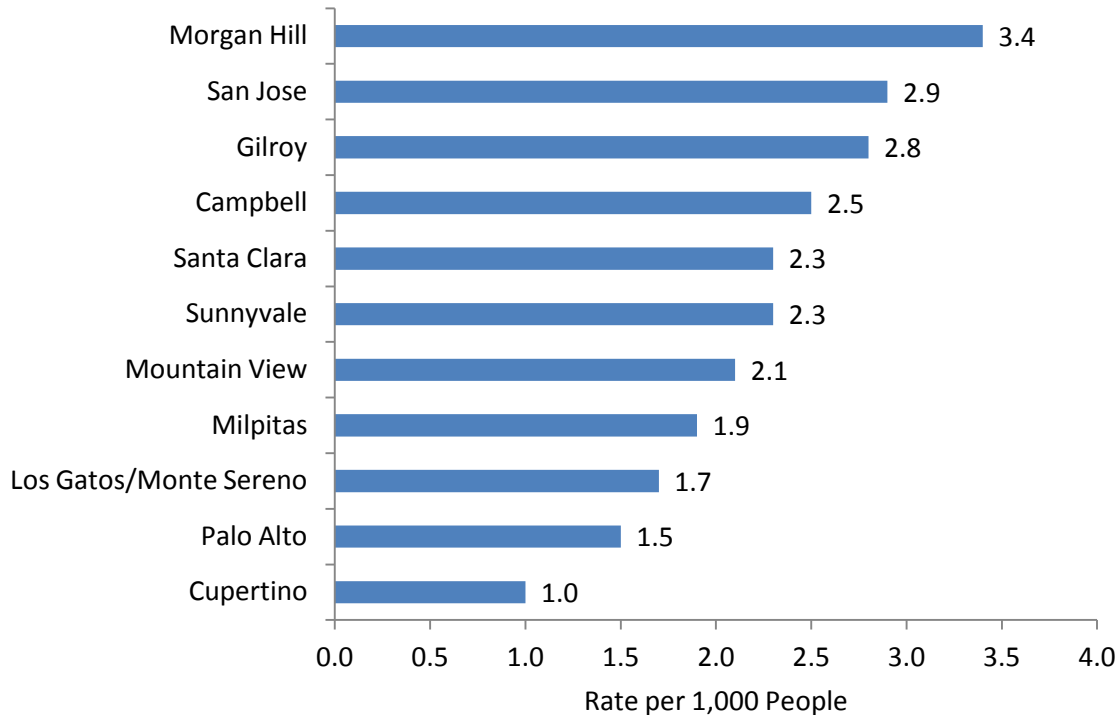
Felony Arrests for Assault by Race/Ethnicity, Rates per 10,000, 2009



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009; California Department of Finance, *State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050. Sacramento, CA, July 2007*. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

Among jurisdictions, Morgan Hill (3.4) had the highest rate of adult felony arrests for assault per 1,000 people, followed by San Jose (2.9), Gilroy (2.8), Campbell (2.5), Santa Clara (2.3) and Sunnyvale (2.3).

Adult Felony Arrests for Assault by Jurisdiction, Rates per 1,000, 2009



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009; U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey. Note: The county's Unincorporated area reported 227 arrests for Assault (population data not located to generate rate); Santa Clara Transit District reported 6 arrests for Assault; West Valley College District reported 1 arrest for Assault; CSU San Jose reported 5 arrests for Assault; and the CA Highway Patrol reported 19 arrests for Assault (data not shown above). Data downloaded November of 2011.\* Rates are not displayed if they are based on fewer than 20 cases [Los Altos (17), Los Altos Hills (22), Saratoga (13)].

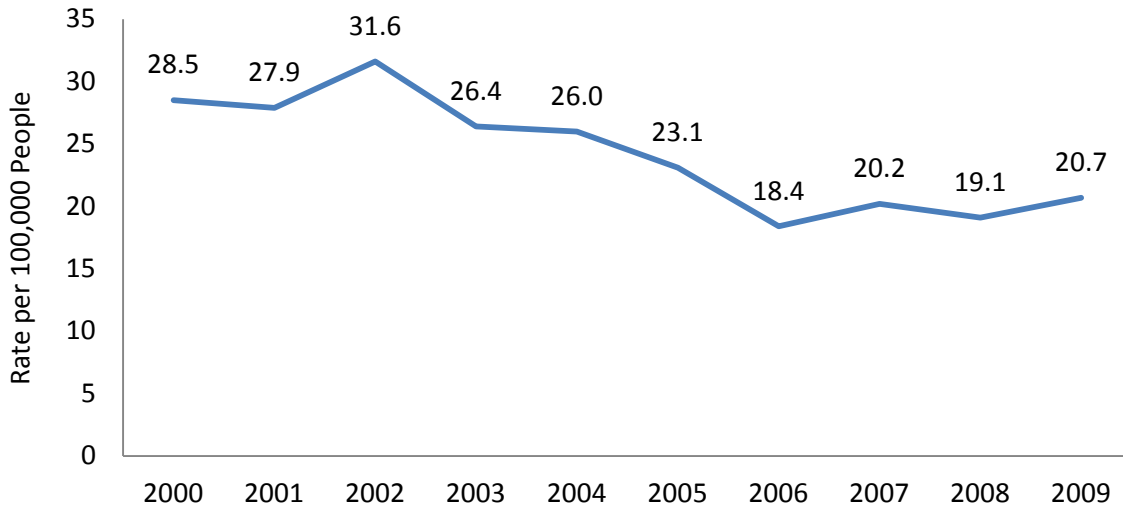
### Forcible Rape Offenses Reported to Local Law Enforcement

Nearly 1 in 5 women (18%) and 1 in 71 men (1%) in the United States have been raped at some time in their lives. More than half (51%) of female victims of rape reported being raped by an intimate partner and 41% by an acquaintance; for male victims, more than half (52%) reported being raped by an acquaintance and 15% by a stranger.<sup>15</sup> The majority of this victimization starts early in life. Approximately 80% of female victims experienced their first rape before the age of 25 and almost 4 in 10 experienced the first rape before age 18 (30% between 11-17 years old and 12% at or before the age of 10). Over a quarter (28%) of male victims of rape were first raped when they were 10 years old or younger.

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In 2009, the rate of forcible rape offenses reported to local law enforcement in Santa Clara County was 21 per 100,000 people, lower than the state rate of 23 per 100,000 people.<sup>16</sup> The rate of forcible rape offenses declined in the county from 29 in 2000 to 21 in 2009.

### Offenses of Forcible Rape Reported to Local Law Enforcement, Rates per 100,000, 2000-2009



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2000-2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

In 2009, San Jose, Santa Clara and the county’s unincorporated area had the highest incidents of forcible rape offenses reported to law enforcement. Among these jurisdictions, the county’s unincorporated area had the highest rate of forcible rape (33 per 100,000 people) followed by San Jose (28) and Santa Clara (17).

### Offenses of Forcible Rape Reported to Local Law Enforcement by Jurisdiction, Rates per 100,000, 2009

Jurisdiction	Number of Offenses	Rate per 100,000 People
Campbell	13	*
Cupertino	4	*
Gilroy	4	*
Los Gatos/Monte Sereno	1	*
Milpitas	6	*
Morgan Hill	13	*
Mountain View	14	*
Palo Alto	9	*
San Jose	258	27.5
Santa Clara	20	17.4
Saratoga	1	*
Sunnyvale	11	*
Unincorporated Area	30	32.6

Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009; California Department of Finance, *E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001–2010, with 2000 & 2010 Census Counts*. Note: CSU San Jose reported 3 cases (data not shown above). There were no offenses reported for Los Altos or Los Altos Hills. Data downloaded November of 2011. \* Rates are not displayed if they are based on fewer than 20 cases.

## Gang Involvement

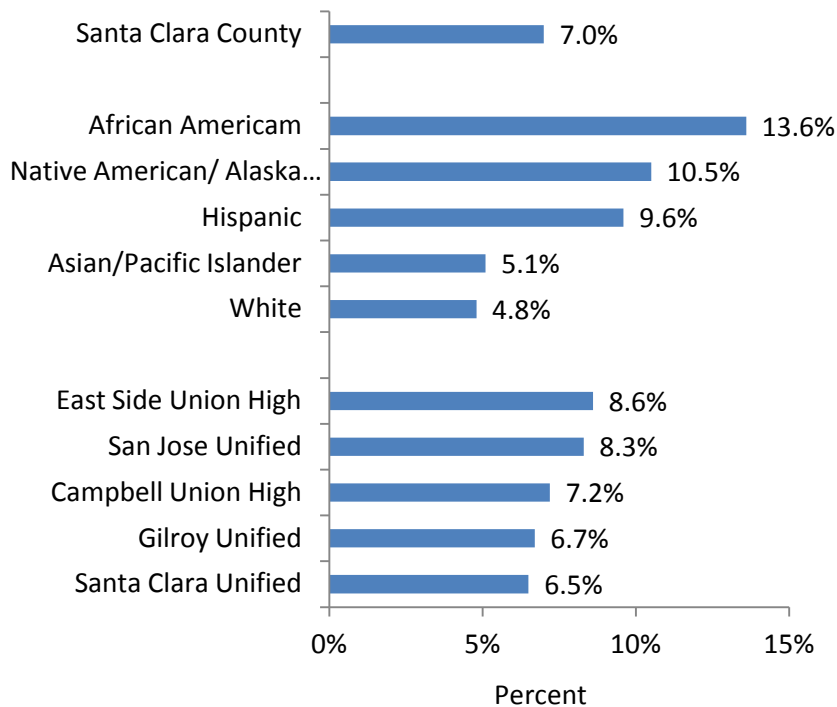
The growth of youth gangs over the past few decades is a major cause for concern. Based on law enforcement reports, in 2009 there were an estimated 28,100 gangs and 731,000 gang members throughout 3,500 jurisdictions nationwide.<sup>17</sup> The prevalence rate of gang activity nationwide increased from 24% in 2001 to 35% in 2009.<sup>18</sup>

Youth join gangs for protection, enjoyment, respect, money, or because a friend is in a gang. Youth are at higher risk of joining a gang if they engage in delinquent behaviors; are aggressive or violent; experience multiple caretaker transitions; have many problems at school; associate with other gang-involved youth; or live in communities where they feel unsafe. According to the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (a nationally representative sample of 9,000 adolescents), 8% of the youth surveyed had belonged to a gang at some point between the ages of 12 and 17.<sup>19</sup>

### *Status in Santa Clara County*

The percentage of middle and high school students who reported they consider themselves as a member of a gang declined slightly from 2001-02 (9%) to 2009-10 (7%). African American (14%), Native American (11%), and Hispanic (10%) students were more likely to consider themselves part of a gang in 2009-10 as compared to Asian/Pacific Islander and White students (each 5%). Among the priority school districts for which reliable data were available, gang membership was highest in East Side Union High (9%) and San Jose Unified (8%).

Percentage of Middle and High School Students Who Consider Themselves as a Member of a Gang by Race/Ethnicity and Priority School District, 2009-10



Source: California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS), 2009-10.

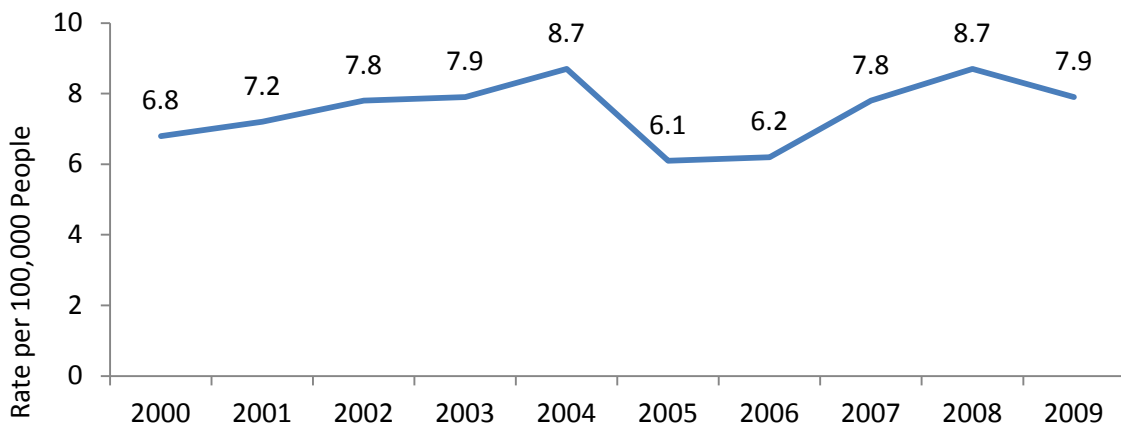
## Suicide

Suicide occurs when a person ends his or her life. It is the 10th leading cause of death among Americans.<sup>20</sup> More than 36,000 people take their lives each year. For youth between the ages of 10 and 24, suicide is the third leading cause of death. Those who attempt suicide and survive may have serious injuries like broken bones, brain damage, or organ failure. Also, people who survive often have depression and other mental health problems.

### *Status in Santa Clara County*

There were 147 deaths due to suicide in Santa Clara County in 2009.<sup>21</sup> The age-adjusted suicide rate was 8 per 100,000 people, lower than the state rate of 10 per 100,000 people.<sup>22</sup> The age-adjusted suicide rate in Santa Clara County increased slightly from 7 in 2000 to 8 in 2009.

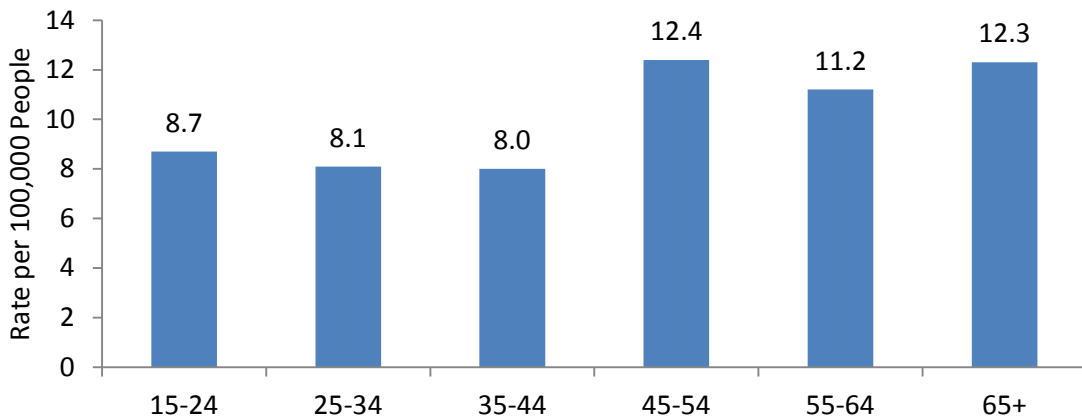
Age-Adjusted Suicide Rates per 100,000, 2000-2009



Source: California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section, Death Records, 2000-2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Deaths are based on residence. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

In 2009, the age-adjusted suicide rate for males was more than double (11 per 100,000 people) the rate of females (4 per 100,000 people) in the county. Whites accounted for over two-thirds (67%) of the suicides in the county and they had the highest age-adjusted suicide rate (12) in 2009 as compared with Asians (5) and Hispanics (4). Rates of other racial and ethnic subgroups are not presented due to the small sample size. Adults ages 45–54 and those 65 and over had the highest age-specific suicide rates (each 12), followed by those ages 55–64 (11).

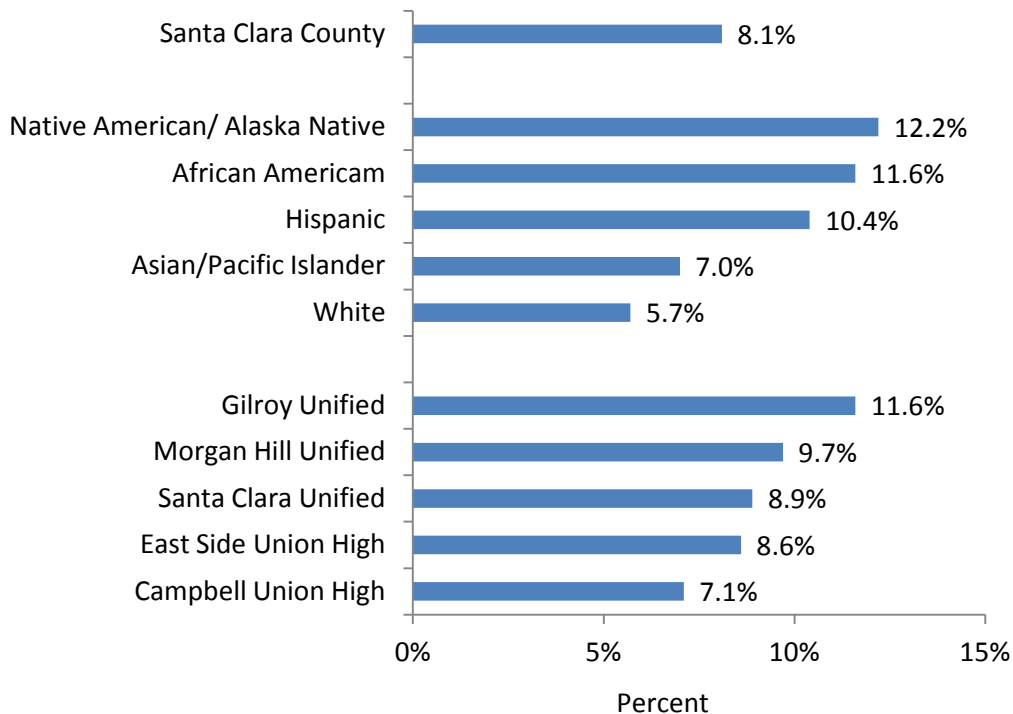
Age-Specific Suicide Rates per 100,000 by Age, 2009



Source: California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section, Death Records, 2009.  
 Population Source: California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

In 2007-08, 8% of middle and high school students reported they had tried to commit suicide in the past 12 months. The percentage did not change from 2003-04 (8%). When viewing these data by race and ethnicity, Native American (12%) and African American (12%) students were the most likely to have attempted suicide during the past 12 months, while White students were the least likely (6%). Among the priority school districts for which reliable data were available, the percentage of students who attempted suicide in the past 12 months was highest in Gilroy Unified (12%) and lowest in Campbell Union High (7%).

Percentage of Middle and High School Students Who Reported Attempted Suicide During the Past 12 Months by Race/Ethnicity and Priority School District, 2007-08



Source: California Healthy Kids Survey, 2007-08.

## INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

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### Adults Who Have Experienced Intimate Partner Violence

Intimate partner violence (IPV) occurs between two people in a close relationship. The term "intimate partner violence" describes physical, sexual, or psychological harm by a current or former partner or spouse. IPV affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels. IPV not only affects those who are abused, but also has a substantial effect on family members, friends, co-workers, other witnesses, and the community at large.

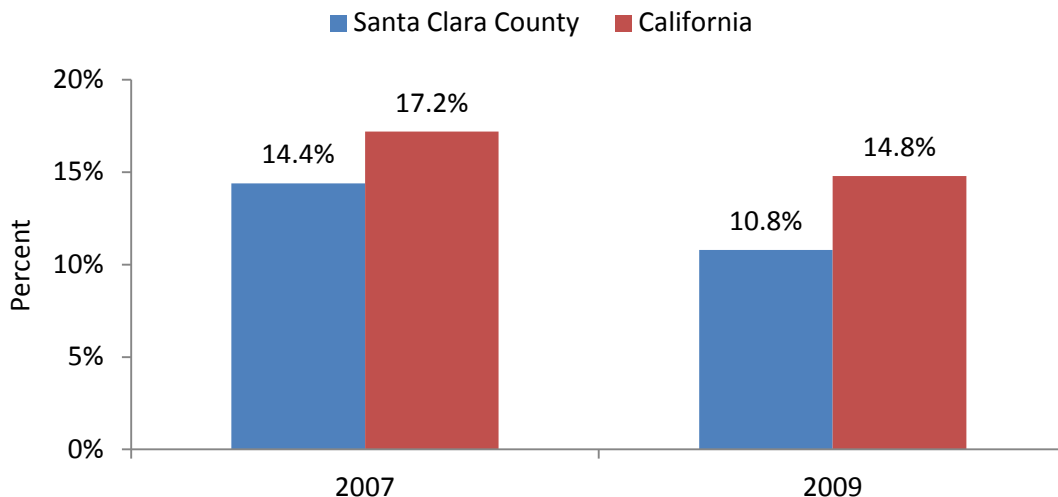
Nationwide, IPV affects more than 12 million people each year and women are disproportionately impacted. For instance, 1 in 4 women have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner while 1 in 7 men experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner. Eight in ten women (81%) who experienced rape, stalking or physical violence by an intimate partner reported significant short or long term impacts related to the violence experienced in the relationship such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) symptoms and injury while 35% of men report such impacts of their experiences.<sup>23</sup>

Children who witness domestic violence face increased risks: the risk of exposure to traumatic events, the risk of neglect, the risk of being directly abused, and the risk of losing one or both of their parents. Childhood problems associated with exposure to domestic violence include behavioral, social, and emotional problems; cognitive and attitudinal problems; and long-term problems, such as higher levels of adult depression and trauma symptoms and increased tolerance for and use of violence in adult relationships.<sup>24</sup>

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In 2009, 11% of adults ages 18-65 in Santa Clara County reported in the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) that they had ever experienced physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner, lower than the percentage of adults statewide (15%). The percentages were lower in 2009 compared to 2007 for Santa Clara County (14%) and California (17%).

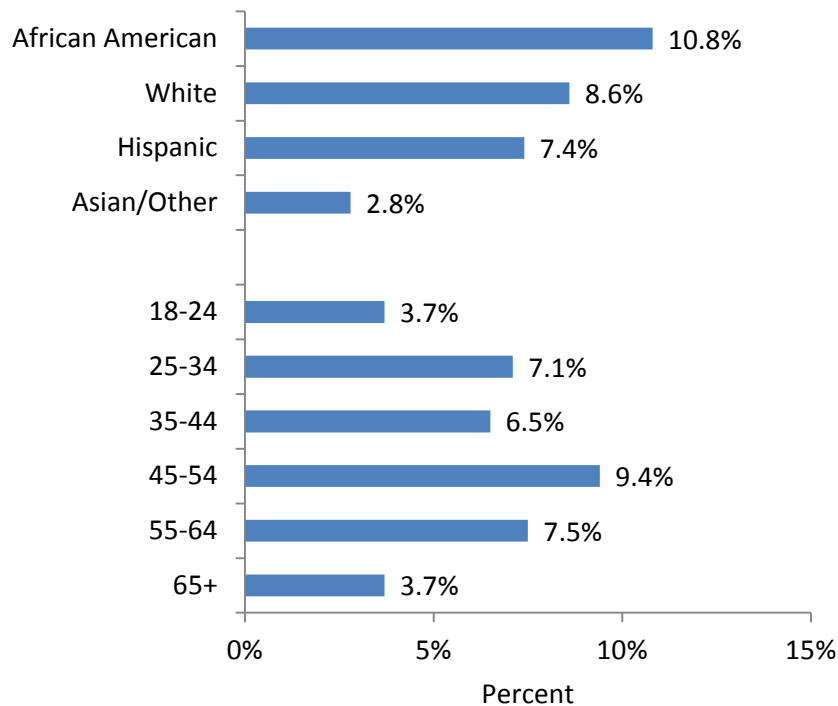
Percentage of Adults Ages 18-65 Who Have Ever Experienced Physical or Sexual Violence by an Intimate Partner as an Adult, 2007 and 2009



Source: California Health Interview Survey, 2007 and 2009. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

According to 2005-06 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, a higher percentage of adult women (11%) in Santa Clara County reported physical abuse than adult men (2%).<sup>25</sup> Among racial and ethnic groups, African Americans reported the highest percentage (11%) of physical abuse by an intimate partner, and Asian/Pacific Islanders reported the lowest (3%).

Percentage of Adults Who Have Been Abused by an Intimate Partner by Race/Ethnicity and Age, 2005-06



Source: Santa Clara County Public Health Department, 2005-2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey.

### Domestic Violence-Related Deaths

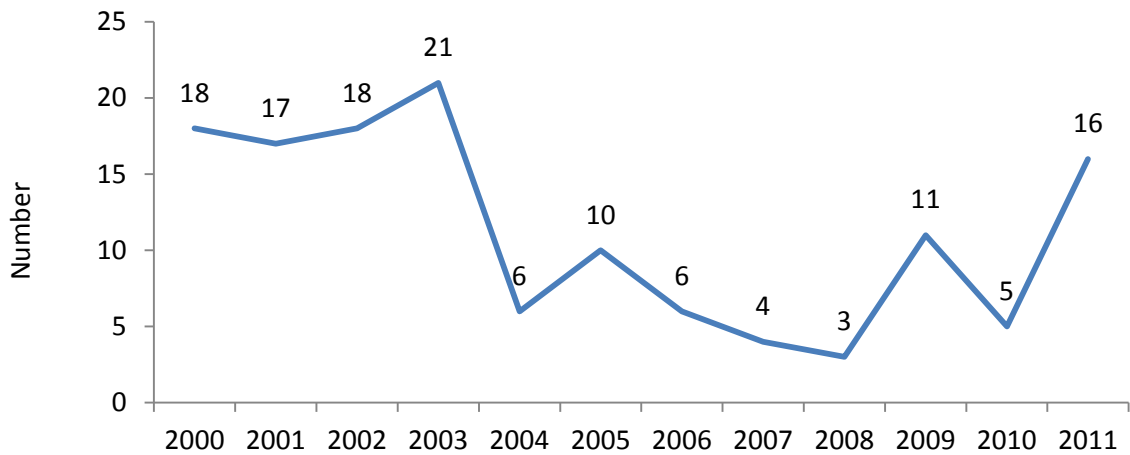
The Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Death Review Committee conducts a thorough case-by-case examination of all deaths in the county related to domestic violence with the intention of discovering and addressing gaps in the system and saving future lives.

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In Santa Clara County, there were 135 domestic violence-related deaths from 2000 to 2011. Domestic violence-related deaths decreased from 2000 to 2008 and then increased from 2008 to 2011. The gender distribution of victims during this time period was approximately equal.<sup>26</sup>



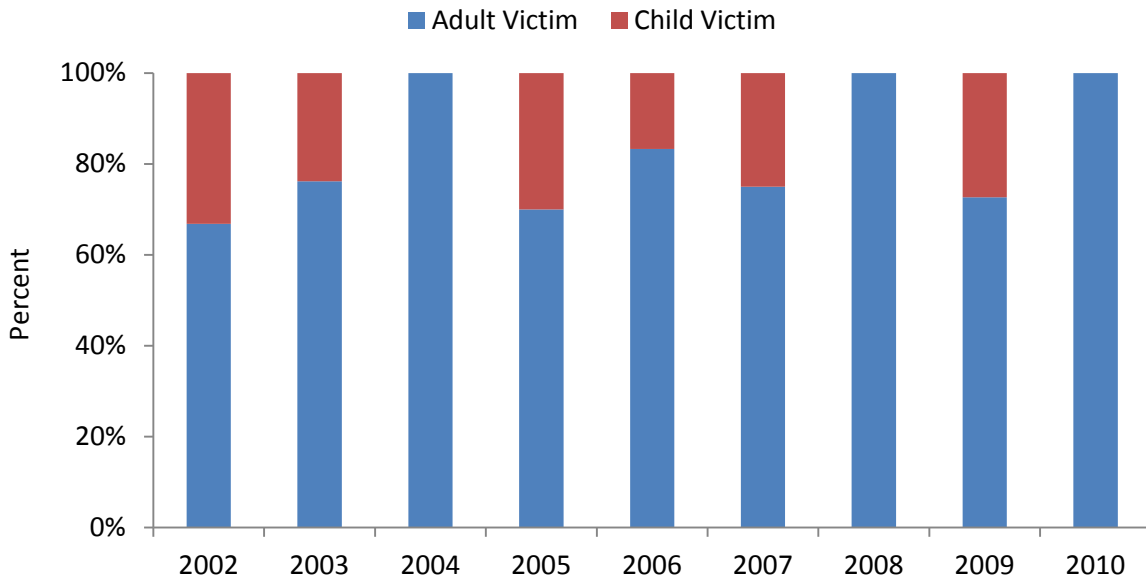
Number of Domestic Violence-Related Deaths, 2000-2011



Source: Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council, Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, 2000–2010; Santa Clara County Office of Women’s Policy, 2011.

In 2002, the Death Review Committee Reports began to present the number of child homicide victims. From 2002-2010, 23% of domestic violence-related homicides in Santa Clara County were children, representing a loss of 19 children.<sup>27</sup> A total of 59 children were present at the time of these incidents.

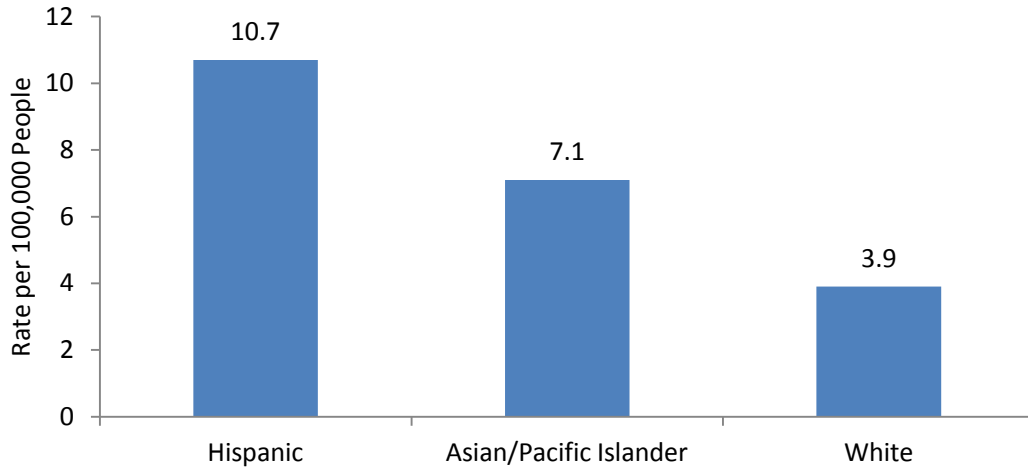
Percentage of Adult and Child Victims of Domestic Violence-Related Deaths, 2002-2010



Source: Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council, Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, 2002–2010.

When viewing these data by race and ethnicity, Hispanics are the most at risk for experiencing domestic violence-related death per 100,000 people. The rate among Hispanics (11) was more than double that of Whites (4) from 2000-2010.

Domestic Violence Deaths by Race/Ethnicity, Rates per 100,000, 2000-2010



Source: Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council, Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, 2000–2010; California Department of Finance, *State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000–2050. Sacramento, CA, July 2007*. Notes: There were no occurrences of domestic violence-related deaths reported for Native Americans. \* Rates are not displayed if they are based on fewer than 20 cases [African American or Black (5) and Multi-race (4)].

The police departments of San Jose and Santa Clara were involved in the greatest number of domestic violence-related deaths from 2000 to 2010: the San Jose Police Department was involved with 60 domestic violence-related deaths, while the Santa Clara Police Department was involved in 21 deaths.

Number of Domestic Violence Deaths by Police Agency Involved, 2000-2010

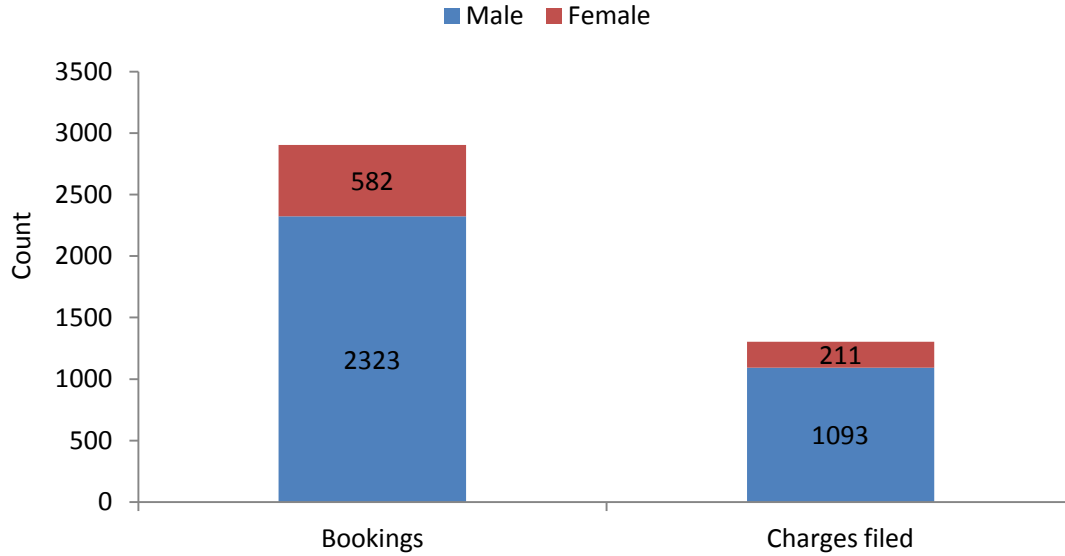
Police Agencies Involved	Deaths
Campbell Police Dept.	1
Gilroy Police Dept.	5
Los Altos Police Dept.	1
Los Gatos–Monte Sereno Police Dept.	2
Milpitas Police Dept.	5
Morgan Hill Police Dept.	2
Mountain View Police Dept.	5
Palo Alto Police Dept.	3
San Jose Police Dept.	60
Santa Clara Police Dept.	21
Sunnyvale Dept. of Public Safety	2
Santa Clara County Sherriff's Dept.	10
Dept. of Corrections	1

Source: Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council, Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, 2000–2010.

## Assault and Battery Related to Domestic Violence

In fiscal year 2011, there were 2,905 bookings for domestic violence-related assault and battery, and 1,304 charges were subsequently filed. Males accounted for over 80% of the bookings and charges filed. Hispanics accounted for close to half of the bookings (48%) and charges filed (49%) for domestic violence-related assault and battery.<sup>28</sup>

Number of Domestic Violence-related Adult Assault and Battery Bookings and Charges Filed by Gender, Fiscal Year 2011

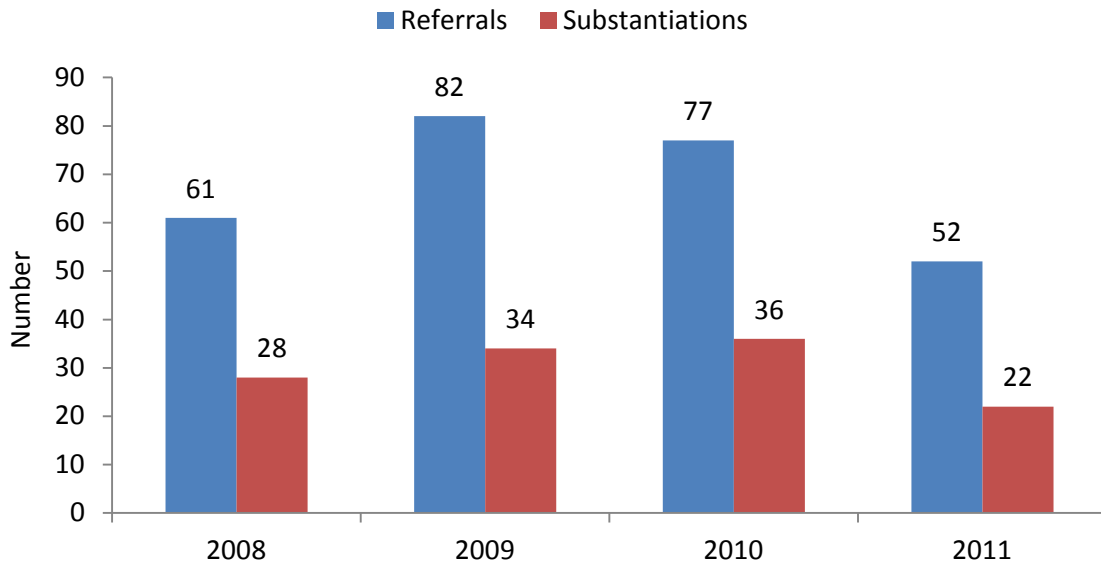


Source: Santa Clara County Information Services Department, Fiscal Year 2011. Note: Penal codes used to define domestic violence related assault and battery includes misdemeanor [PC242/243(E), PC 242/243(E)(1), PC 243(E), PC 243(E)(1), PC 273.5, PC 273.5(A), and PC 273.5(E)] and felony [PC 273.5, PC 273.5(A), PC 273.5(E)]. Counts are duplicated for adult suspects.

## Juvenile Referrals and Substantiations for Domestic Violence Offenses

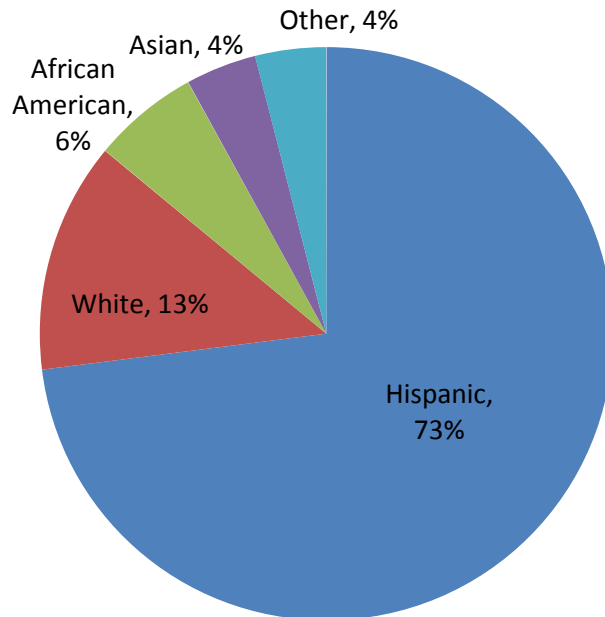
In fiscal year 2011, there were 52 referrals of juveniles into the juvenile justice system for domestic violence offenses in Santa Clara County, 42% of which were substantiated. More than two-thirds of juveniles referred into the juvenile justice system were male (69%) and 73% were Hispanic.<sup>29</sup>

Number of Juvenile Referrals and Substantiations for Domestic Violence Offenses, FY 2008-2011



Source: Santa Clara County Probation Department, Fiscal Years 2008 – 2011. Note: Domestic violence offenses include misdemeanor and felony offenses. Counts are unduplicated for each fiscal year.

Juvenile Referrals for Domestic Violence Offenses by Race/ Ethnicity, FY 2011



Source: Santa Clara County Probation Department, Fiscal Year 2011. Note: Fiscal year 2011 data are unduplicated.

## Domestic Violence-Related Calls

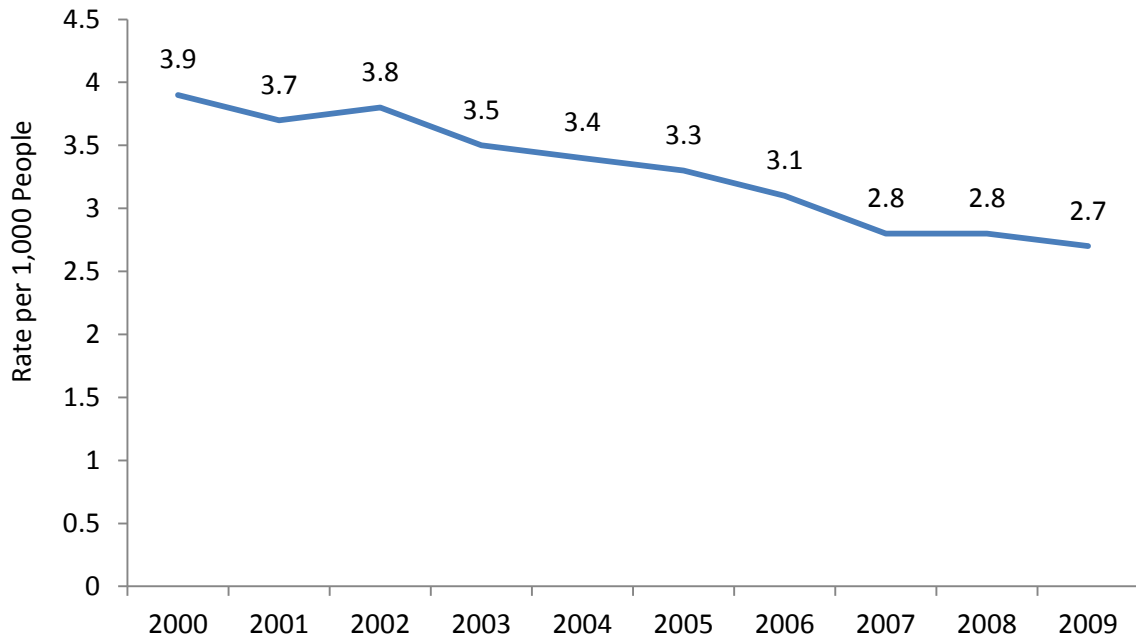
### Domestic Violence-Related Calls to Local Law Enforcement

The California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center provides summary statistical data on the total number of domestic violence-related calls received by law enforcement.

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In Santa Clara County, there were 4,886 calls to local law enforcement in 2009.<sup>30</sup> The rate of domestic violence-related calls to local law enforcement per 1,000 people declined slightly from 4 in 2000 to 3 in 2009.

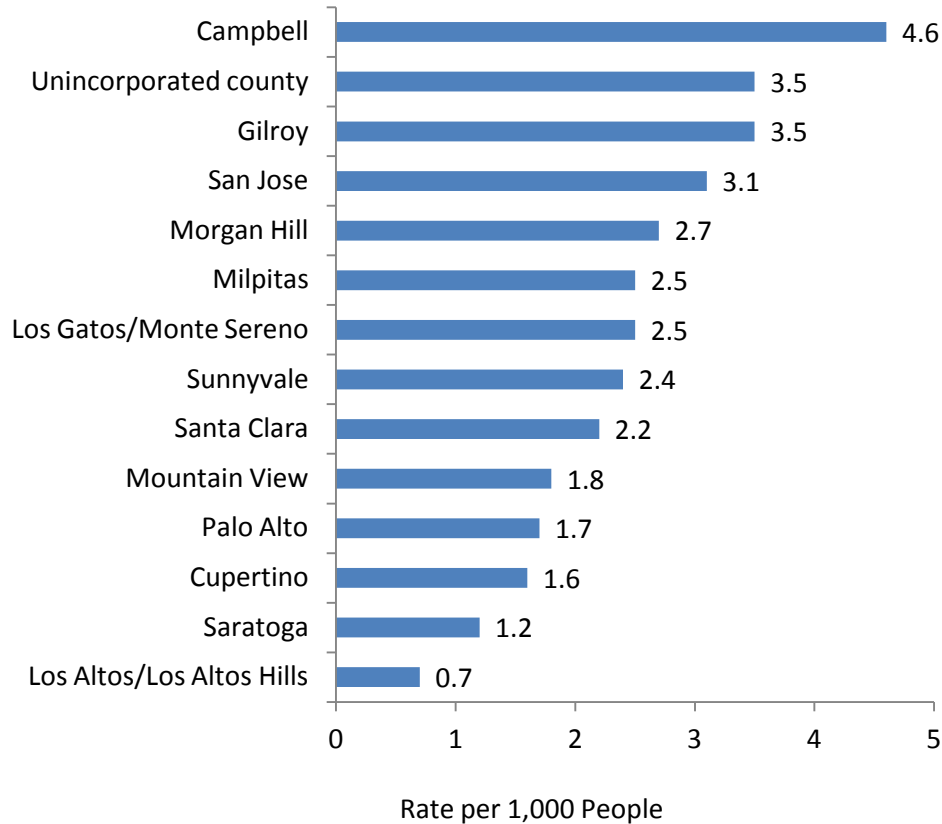
Domestic Violence-Related Calls to Local Law Enforcement, Rate per 1,000, 2000-2009



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2000-2009; California Department of Finance, *State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050, Sacramento, CA, July 2007*. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

In 2009, the jurisdictions with the highest rates of calls to local law enforcement per 1,000 people in Santa Clara County included Campbell (5), the county’s unincorporated area (4), Gilroy (4), San Jose (3), Morgan Hill (3), Milpitas (3) and Los Gatos/Monte Sereno (3).

Domestic Violence-Related Calls to Local Law Enforcement by Jurisdiction, Rate per 1,000, 2009



Source: California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009; California Department of Finance, *E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001–2010, with 2000 & 2010 Census Counts*. Note: Local colleges reported 14 calls; Santa Clara Transit District reported 2 calls (data not shown above). Data downloaded November of 2011.

### Calls to Domestic Violence Hotlines

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources. In a 24-hour survey period conducted on September 15, 2010, local domestic violence programs across the nation answered 22,292 calls and the National Domestic Violence Hotline answered 1,230 calls, resulting in more than 16 hotline calls every minute.<sup>31</sup>

### *Status in Santa Clara County*

The Domestic Violence Advocacy Consortium of Santa Clara County compiles domestic violence-related data from local domestic violence organizations. Their data show an increased number of calls to domestic violence hotlines in recent years. In fiscal year 2011, local domestic violence crisis hotlines answered 23,391 calls (13 calls per 1,000 people) compared to 18,193 calls (10 calls per 1,000 people) in fiscal year 2010.<sup>32</sup>

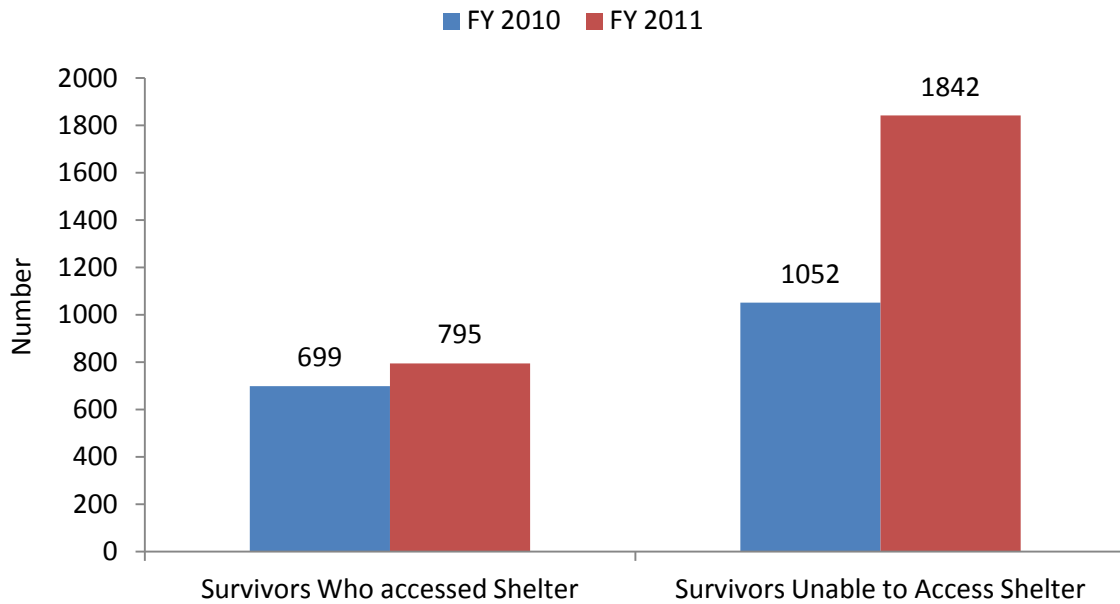
## Demand for Local Domestic Violence Shelters

As communities continue to experience job loss and decreased community resources, domestic violence service providers are challenged to meet an increased demand for services with shrinking resources. According to results from a 24-hour national census of local domestic violence programs, 1,441 programs (82%) reported a rise in demand for services, while at the same time, 1,351 programs (77%) reported a decrease in funding.<sup>33</sup>

### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In fiscal year 2011, local domestic violence shelters in Santa Clara County were accessed by 795 survivors and children with over 20,000 bed nights provided.<sup>34</sup> Approximately 1,842 individuals were unable to access shelter because the domestic violence shelters were full. In fiscal year 2010, local shelters were accessed by 699 survivors and children and 1,052 individuals were unable to access shelter because the domestic violence shelters were full.

Utilization of Domestic Violence Shelters by Survivors and Unmet Demand for Shelter, FY 2010 and 2011



Source: Domestic Violence Advocacy Consortium of Santa Clara County, 2010 and 2011. Note: Data on survivors who accessed shelter is unduplicated while data for those unable to access shelter are duplicated.

## YOUTH SAFETY

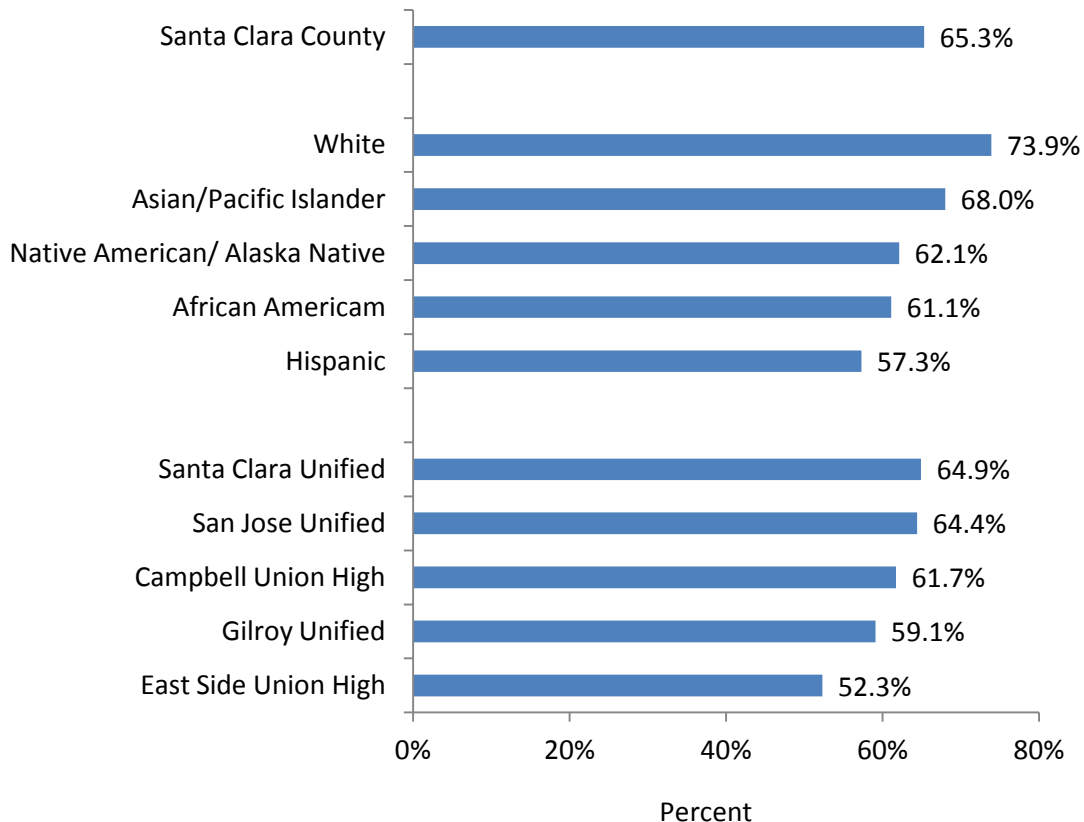
### School Safety

School violence can make students fearful and affect their readiness and ability to learn, and concerns about vulnerability to attacks detract from a positive school environment. In 2007, a greater percentage of students ages 12–18 nationwide reported that they were afraid of attack or harm at school (5%) than away from school (3%) during the school year.<sup>35</sup>

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

The percentage of middle and high school students who reported they feel either safe or very safe at school increased from 2003-04 (61%) to 2009-10 (65%). Similar percentages of male (66%) and female students (65%) reported they feel safe at school. White (74%) and Asian/Pacific Islander (68%) students were more likely to report that they feel safe at school. Among the priority school districts for which reliable data were available in 2009-10, East Side Union High (52%) had the lowest percentage of students who felt safe at school.

Percentage of Middle and High School Students Who Feel Safe at School by Sex, Race/Ethnicity and Priority School District, 2009-10



Source: California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS), 2009-10.



## Bullying

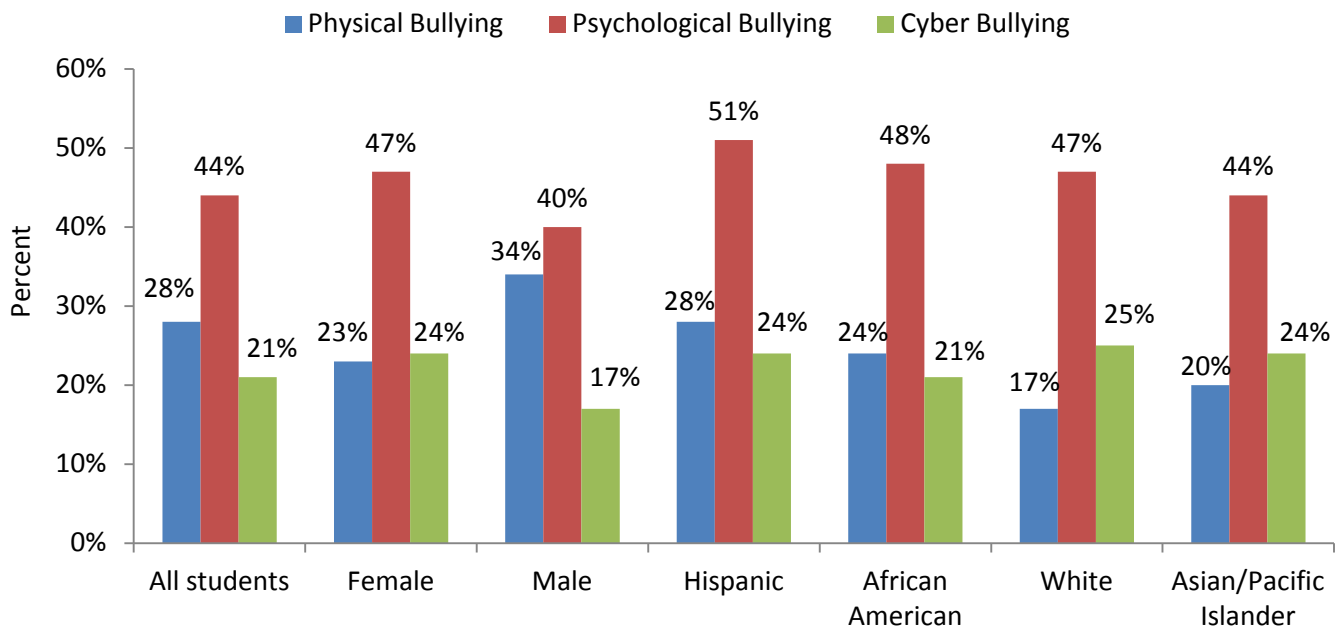
Research indicates that bullying can have negative academic, physical, social, emotional, and psychological consequences on victims, bullies, and witnesses. A report published in the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine in 2003 found that bullying at home or at school may lead to more aggressive behavior as children get older. The study found that many children who bully and those who are bullied carry weapons to schools: about 50% of boys and 30% of girls who had bullied others in school reported carrying a weapon, while 36% of boys and 15% of girls who had been bullied carried a weapon.<sup>36</sup>

### Status in Santa Clara County

In 2009-10, a higher percentage of middle and high school students in Santa Clara County reported psychological bullying (44%) than physical bullying (28%) on the school property in the past 12 months. Approximately 1 in 5 students (21%) reported cyber bullying on the school property in the past 12 months. Male students were more likely to report physical bullying than female students, while female students were more likely to report psychological bullying and cyber bullying. White students were the most likely to report having been cyber bullied, while Hispanics were the most likely to report to psychological and physical bullying.

Among the priority school districts for which reliable data were available, Santa Clara Unified had the highest percentage of students in 2009-10 who reported physical and psychological bullying. The percentage of students who reported cyber bullying was highest in East Side Union High and Campbell Union High School Districts.

Percentage of Middle and High School Students Who Reported Physical, Cyber and Psychological Bullying On School Property during the Past 12 Months by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, 2009-10



Source: California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-10

Percentage of Middle and High School Students Who Reported Physical, Cyber and Psychological Bullying On School Property during the Past 12 Months by Priority School District, 2009-10

	Physical bullying	Cyber bullying	Psychological bullying
Campbell Union High	23.2%	22.2%	42.5%
East Side Union High	22.4%	22.2%	39.6%
Gilroy Unified	29.3%	17.8%	46.4%
San Jose Unified	29.3%	21.1%	43.8%
Santa Clara Unified	31.7%	21.0%	47.6%

Source: California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-10.

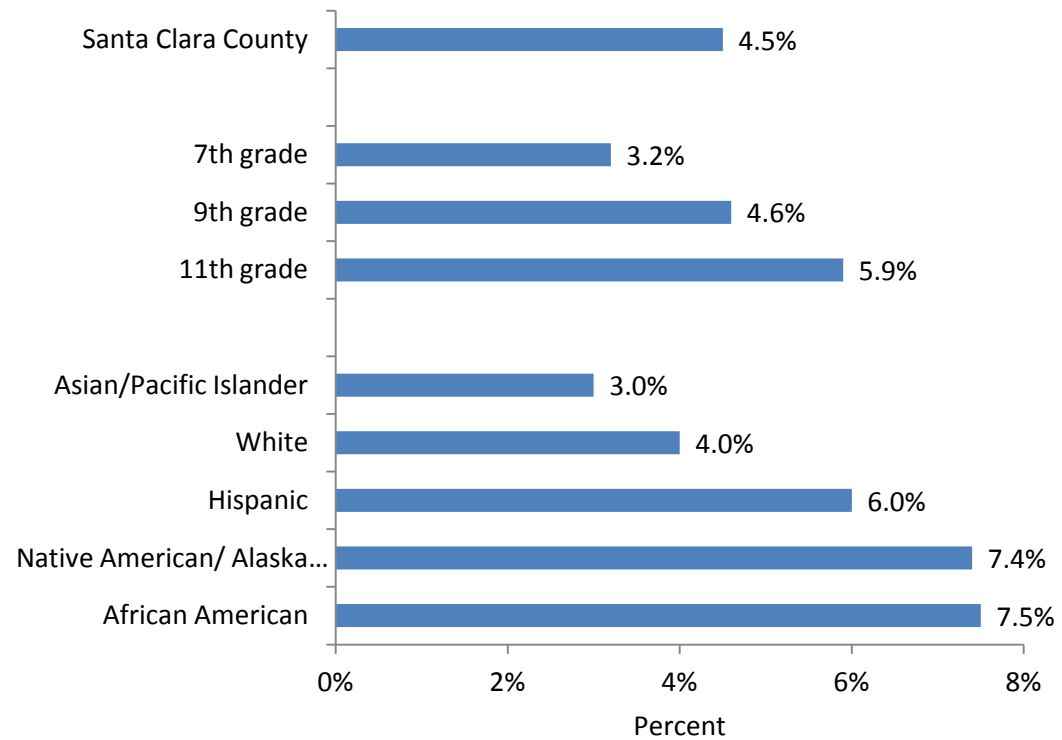
### Teen Dating Violence

Teen dating violence is defined as the physical, sexual, or psychological/emotional violence within a dating relationship. A 2009 nationwide survey found that 10% of high school students reported being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months prior to the survey.<sup>37</sup> Victims of teen dating violence are more likely to do poorly in school, and report binge drinking, suicide attempts, and physical fighting. Victims may also carry the patterns of violence into future relationships.<sup>38</sup>

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

The percentage of middle and high school students who reported their boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt them on purpose during the past 12 months was similar from 2001-02 (4%) to 2009-10 (5%).<sup>39</sup> A slightly higher percentage of male (5%) than female (4%) students reported having been hit, slapped or physically hurt by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the past 12 months. A higher percentage of students in eleventh grade (6%) reported having been hit, slapped or physically hurt than ninth (5%) and seventh grade students (3%). African American students (8%) were most likely to report that their boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt them on purpose during the past 12 month, while Asian/Pacific Islander students were least likely (3%). Among the priority school districts for which reliable data were available, the percentage of students hit, slapped, or physically hurt was highest in East Side Union High and Campbell Union High (each 6%).

Percentage of Middle and High School Students Who Reported Being Hit, Slapped, or Physically Hurt by a Boyfriend or Girlfriend during the Past 12 Months, by Sex, Grade, Race/Ethnicity, and Priority School District, 2009-10



Source: California Healthy Kids Survey, 2009-10.

## YOUTH RISK FACTORS

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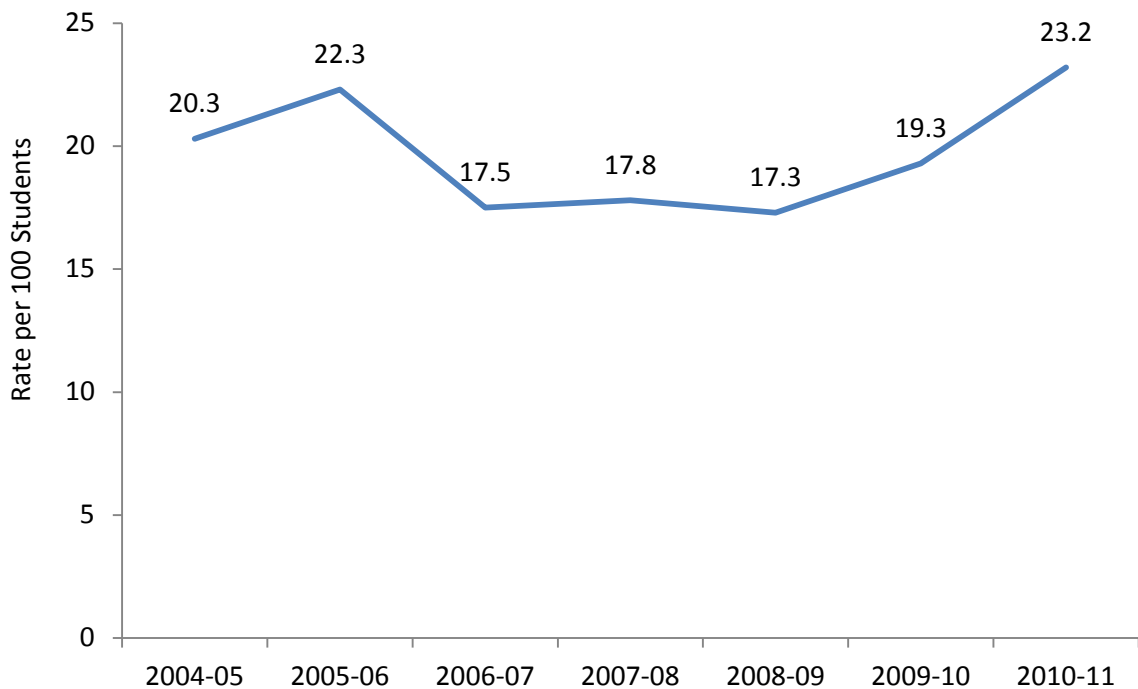
### Truancy

Truancy is an indicator for possible academic failure and truant students are at high risk for delinquency, early pregnancy, drug and alcohol use and physical injury. Youth who skip school are also more likely to be victims of crime or participants in crime.

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

Truancy rates represent the number of students with unexcused absence or tardy on 3 or more days (truants) divided by total enrollment. In 2010-11, the truancy rate in Santa Clara County was 23% and rose from 18% in 2006-07. The statewide truancy rate (30%) was higher than the county's in 2010-11.<sup>40</sup>

#### Annual Truancy Rate, 2004-05 to 2010-11



Source: California Department of Education, Safe & Healthy Kids Program Office, DataQuest, 2004-05 to 2010-11.

Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

The school districts with the highest truancy rates in 2010-11 include East Side Union High (59%), Morgan Hill Unified (43%), Luther Burbank (42%), Santa Clara Unified (36%), Mt. Pleasant Elementary (32%), Santa Clara County Office of Education (32%), and Gilroy Unified (29%).

## Suspensions and Expulsions

Since the early 1990s, the national discourse on school discipline has been dominated by the philosophy of zero tolerance. Zero tolerance policies assume that removing students who engage in disruptive behavior will deter others from disruption and create an improved climate for those students who remain. Abundant controversy has been created in schools and communities throughout the nation in the actual implementation of zero tolerance policies as local practice often extends zero tolerance considerably beyond federal mandates.

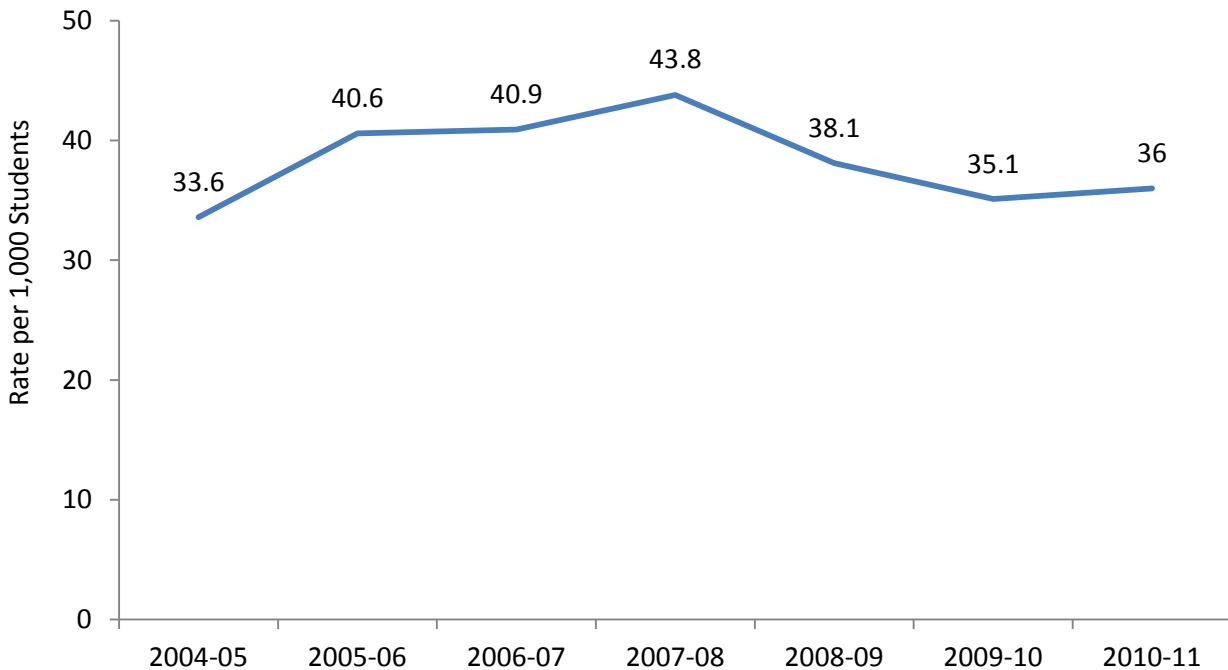
Critics of zero tolerance policies assert that suspensions and expulsions set individuals on an accelerated course to academic failure and delinquency. Expulsion results in the denial of educational services, presenting specific legal as well as ethical dilemmas for students with disabilities. Moreover, research has found that students of color are disproportionately disciplined, with African American students suspended and expelled at much higher rates than White students within the same schools.<sup>41</sup>

In California, suspension is defined as the temporary removal of a student from class instruction for adjustment or disciplinary reasons, while expulsion is defined as the removal of a student from the immediate supervision and control, or the general supervision, of school personnel.

### *Status in Santa Clara County*

In 2010-11, there were 19,760 suspensions in Santa Clara County, of which 48% were related to violence and drugs.<sup>42</sup> Statewide, 46% of total suspensions were related to violence and drugs. The rate of violent and drug related suspensions per 1,000 students in Santa Clara County increased from 34 in 2004-05 to 36 in 2010-11.

Violence and Drug Related Suspensions, Rate per 1,000, 2004-05 to 2010-11

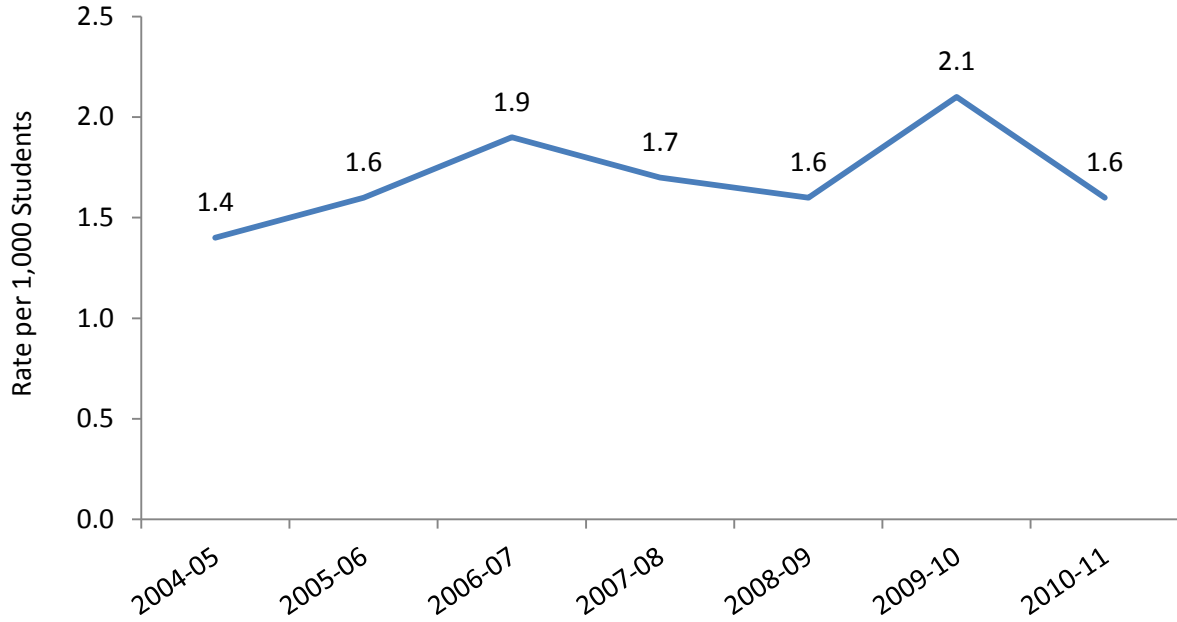


Source: California Department of Education, Safe & Healthy Kids Program Office, DataQuest, 2004-05 to 2010-11.  
Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

In 2010-11, the school districts with the highest violence and drug related suspension rate per 100 students, included Luther Burbank (14), Alum Rock Elementary (6), San Jose Unified (6), Santa Clara County Office of Education (5), and Santa Clara Unified (5).

In 2010-11, there were 508 expulsions in Santa Clara County, 84% of which were related to violence and drugs. Statewide, 80% of total expulsions were related to violence and drugs. The rate of violence and drug related expulsions in Santa Clara County did not change considerably over the past seven years increasing from 1 per 1,000 students in 2004-05 to 2 per 1,000 students in 2010-11.

Rate of Violent and Drug Related Expulsions per 1,000, 2004-05 to 2010-11



Source: California Department of Education, Safe & Healthy Kids Program Office, DataQuest, 2004-05 to 2010-11.  
Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

## YOUTH PROTECTIVE FACTORS

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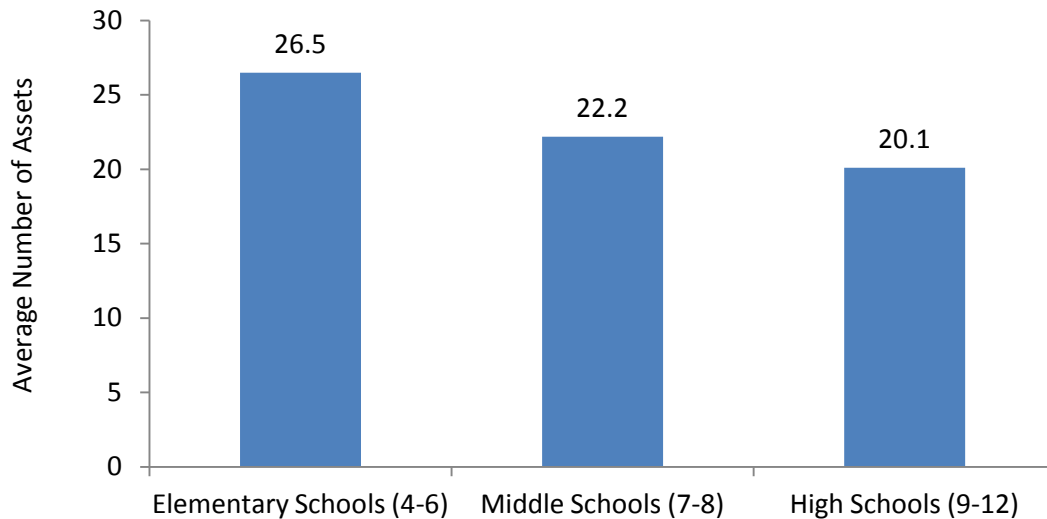
### Developmental Assets

In Fall 2010, Project Cornerstone administered youth surveys to over 38,000 students in more than 200 schools and 25 districts throughout Santa Clara County.<sup>43</sup> The survey measures developmental assets—the positive values, relationships, and experiences that youth need to thrive. The survey also measures risk behaviors and thriving indicators, and correlates them with the presence or absence of developmental assets. Research indicates that the more assets youth possess, the more likely they are to choose healthy activities, succeed in school, and avoid risk behaviors. Conversely, youth with fewer assets are more likely to engage in risk behaviors and fail to achieve at school.<sup>44</sup>

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

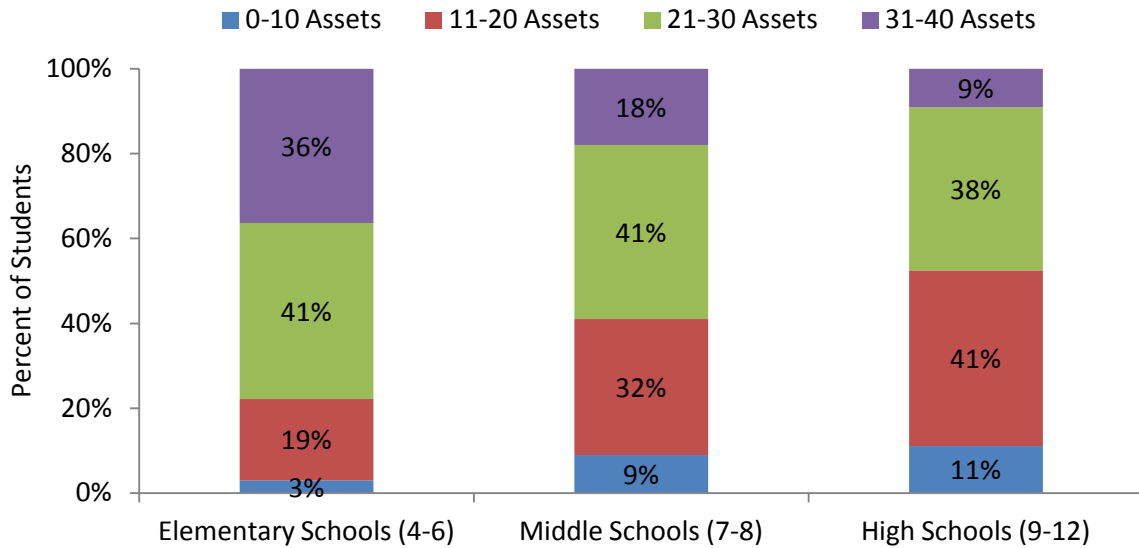
Santa Clara County elementary school students who participated in the Fall 2010 Project Cornerstone Youth Survey reported a higher average number of 40 developmental assets (27) than did middle (22) and high school (20) students. Girls tended to report more assets than boys across all grade levels except in a few notable areas, such as “self-esteem” and “sense of purpose.”

Average Number of 40 Developmental Assets by Grade, 2010



Source: Search Institute Survey Services, Project Cornerstone, Developmental Assets Survey Reports, 2010.

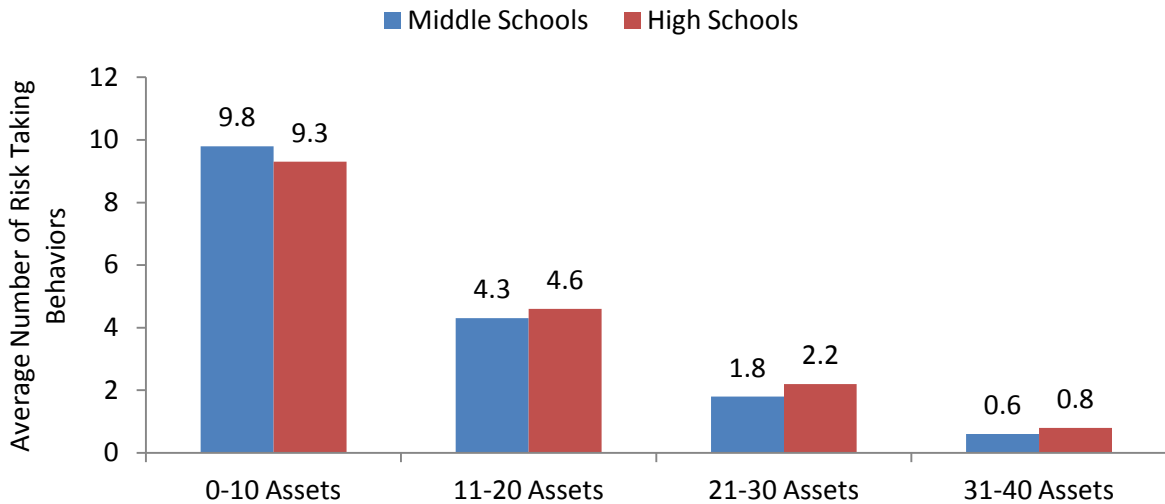
Distribution of Asset Level by School Level, 2010



Source: Search Institute Survey Services, Project Cornerstone, Developmental Assets Survey Reports, 2010.

Students with greater assets reported fewer risk taking behaviors. For instance, middle and high school students with “31-40” assets reported an average of less than 1 risk taking behavior, as compared to students with “0-10” assets who reported an average of 10 risk-taking behaviors. Similarly, elementary school students with higher levels of assets were involved in fewer risk taking behaviors.

Average Number of 24 Risk-Taking Behaviors by Asset Level Among Middle and High School Students, 2010



Source: Search Institute Survey Services, Project Cornerstone, Developmental Assets Survey Reports, 2010.



## CHILD MALTREATMENT

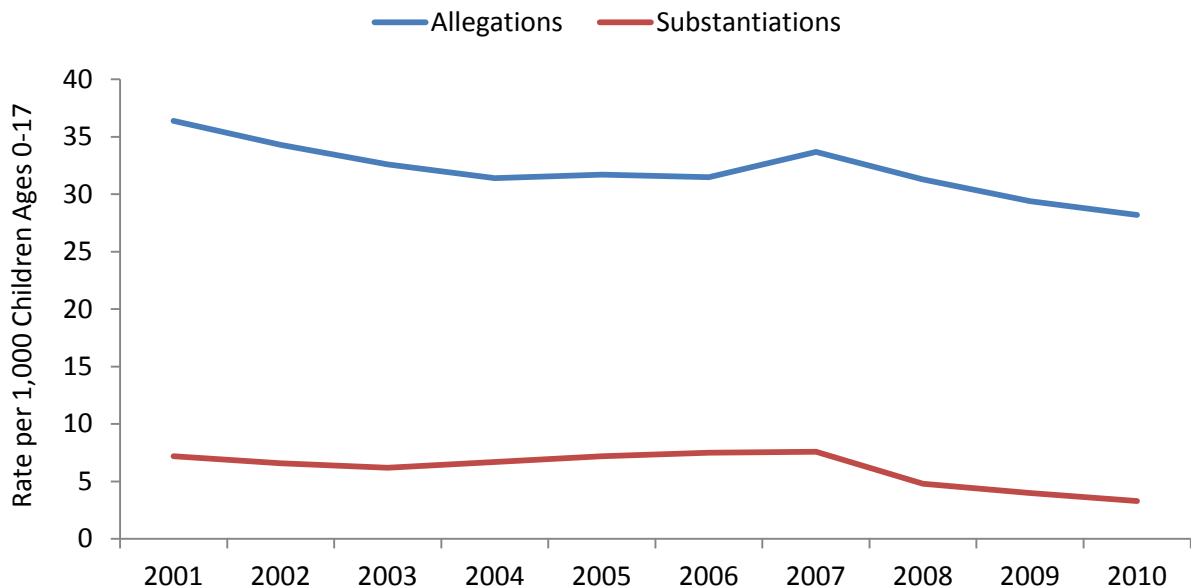
### Child Maltreatment Allegations and Substantiations

Child maltreatment includes all types of abuse and neglect of a child under the age of 18 by a parent, caregiver, or another person in a custodial role. The four common types of abuse are physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and neglect. In 2008, approximately 1,770 children across the country died from abuse or neglect—a rate of 2 deaths per 100,000 children.<sup>45</sup> Maltreatment during infancy or early childhood can cause important regions of the brain to form and function improperly with long-term consequences on cognitive, language, and socio-emotional development, and mental health. Children who experience maltreatment are also at increased risk for adverse health effects and certain chronic diseases as adults, including heart disease, cancer, chronic lung disease, liver disease, obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and high levels of C-reactive protein.

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

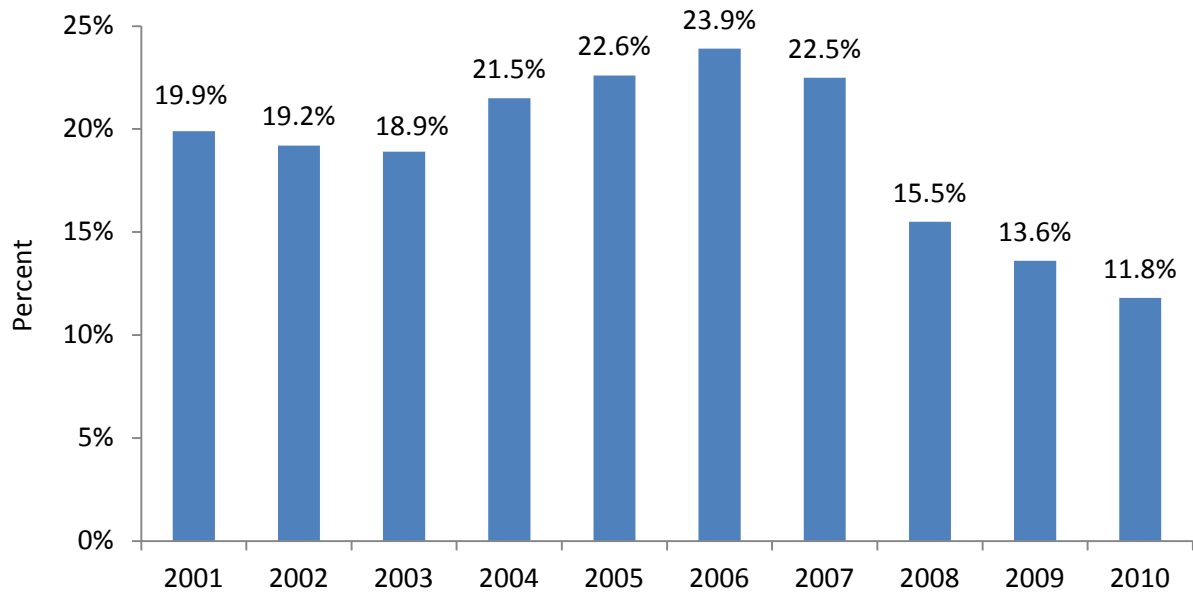
In 2010, there were 12,670 child maltreatment allegations in Santa Clara County, 12% of which were substantiated.<sup>46</sup> Rates of child maltreatment allegations and substantiations were lower in 2010 than any other year over the past decade. The child maltreatment allegation rate declined from 36 per 1,000 children in 2001 to 28 per 1,000 children in 2010, while the substantiation rate declined from 7 in 2001 to 3 in 2010. Substantiations as a percentage of allegations also reached a decade low in 2010 (12% in 2010 as compared with 20% in 2001).

Rates of Allegations and Substantiations of Child Abuse per 1,000 Children (0-17), 2001-2010



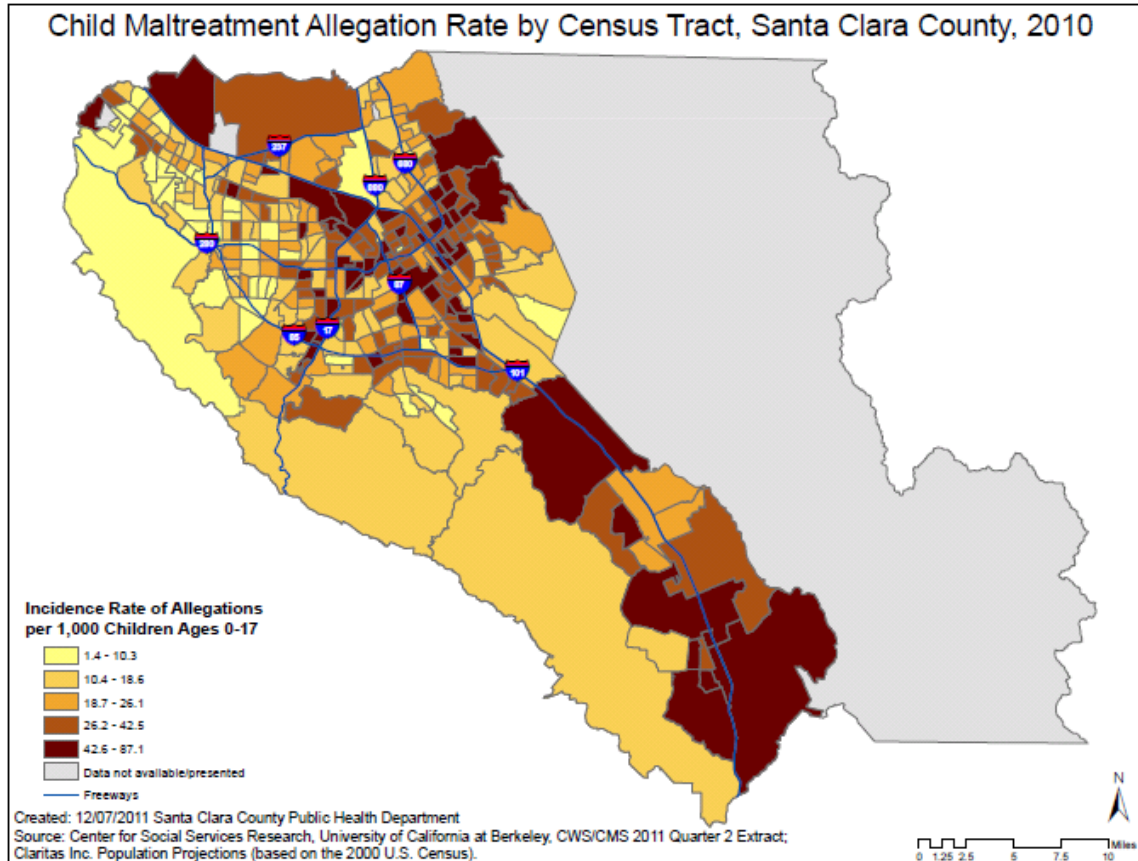
Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 1 Extract, 2001–2010; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Rates are based on unduplicated counts of children. Data downloaded November of 2011.

Substantiations as a Percentage of Allegations, 2001-2010



Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 2 Extract, 2001–2010; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

While the majority of Santa Clara County consists of zip codes that have a rate of 10.4 to 18.6 child maltreatment allegations per 1,000 children, some areas of South County, Central San Jose, and East San Jose contain census tracts with more than 42.6 child maltreatment allegations per 1,000 children.



Santa Clara County’s child maltreatment allegation and substantiation rates are considerably lower than the state, and have fallen more steeply over the last decade. In 2001, the ratio of Santa Clara County’s child maltreatment substantiation rate to the state was .60 in 2001 and declined to .37 in 2010.

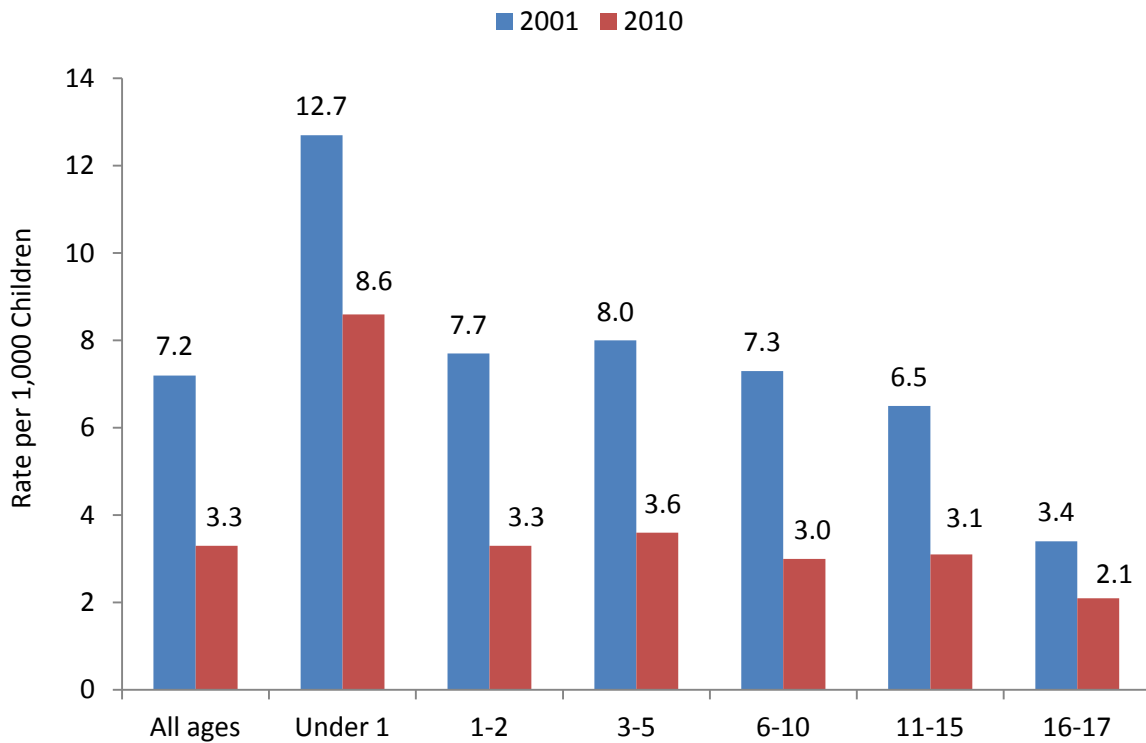
Ratio of the Santa Clara’s County Allegations and Substantiation Rates to California’s Rates

	2001	2010
Allegations	0.73	0.59
Substantiations	0.60	0.37

Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 1 Extract, 2001 and 2010; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

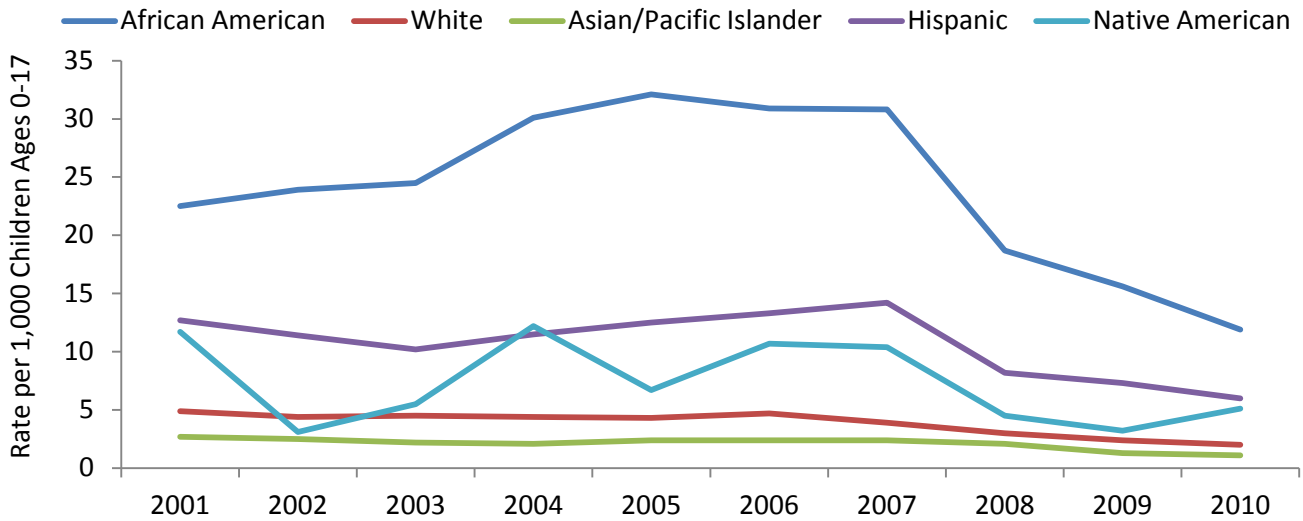
In Santa Clara County, children under 1 are at the greatest risk for child abuse. In 2010, the rate of substantiations per 1,000 children for this age group (9) was three times the rate for all children (3). Among racial and ethnic groups, African American children have the highest rate of child maltreatment substantiations: their substantiation rate (12) was four times greater than the substantiation rate for children overall (3) in 2010.<sup>47</sup> The substantiation rates for children under 1 and African American children declined substantially from 2001 to 2010.

Rates of Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse per 1,000 Children (0-17) by Age Group, 2001 and 2010



Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 1 Extract, 2001–2010; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Rates are based on unduplicated counts of children. Data downloaded November of 2011.

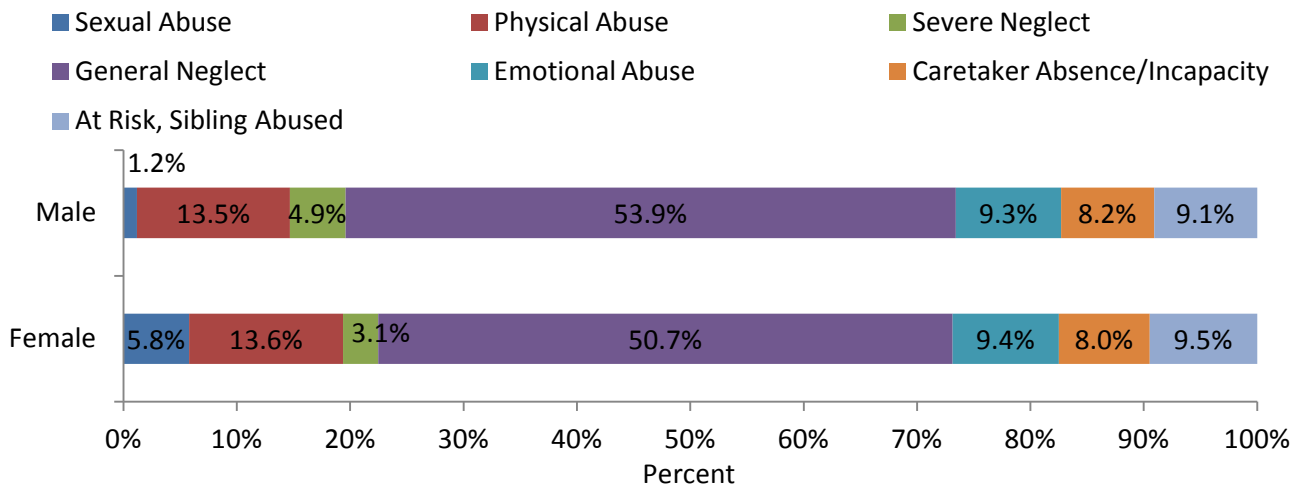
Rates of Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse per 1,000 Children (0-17) by Race/Ethnicity, 2001-2010



Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 1 Extract, 2001–2010; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Rates are based on unduplicated counts of children. Data downloaded November of 2011.

More than half (52.2%) of substantiated cases of child abuse in 2010-2011 in Santa Clara County were general neglect.<sup>48</sup> Girls under 18 years of age were more likely than boys to have substantiated cases for sexual abuse: 5.8% as compared with 1.2% of male cases.

Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse by Type of Abuse and Sex, FY 2010



Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 2 Extract, 2010-2011. Note: A child is counted only once, in category of highest severity. There were no cases designated as “substantiated risk” or “exploitation” from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. Data downloaded November of 2011.

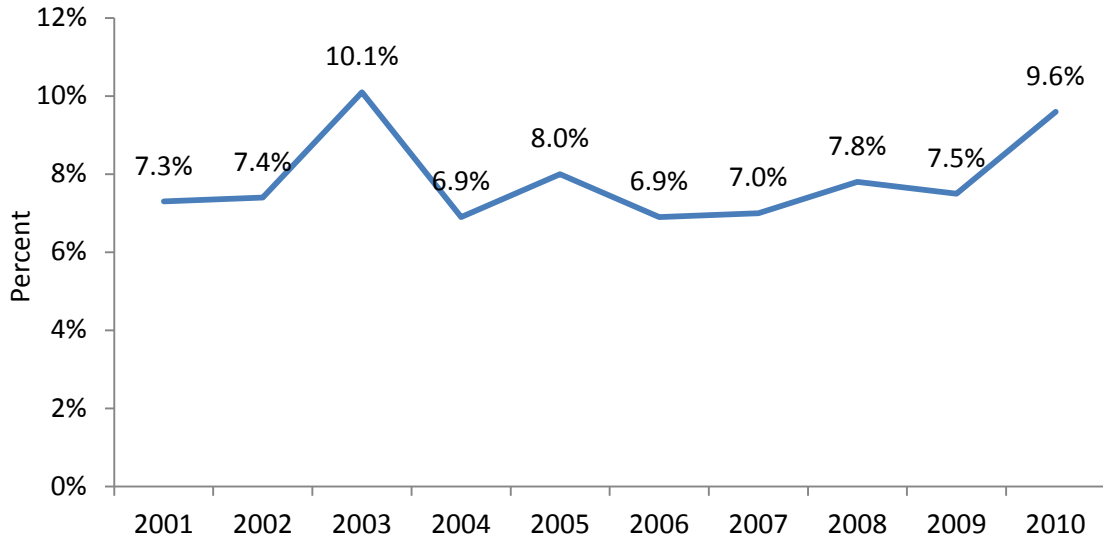
**Recurrence of Child Maltreatment within Six Months**

The indicator “recurrence within six months” reflects the percentage of children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment allegation during a six-month period, who were then victims of another substantiated maltreatment allegation within the next 6 months.

## Status in Santa Clara County

In 2010, 10% of children were maltreated within six months of a substantiated maltreatment allegation, an increase from 7% in 2001. The percentage statewide was 7% in 2010, and contrary to the trend in the county, the rate has decreased over the past decade.<sup>49</sup>

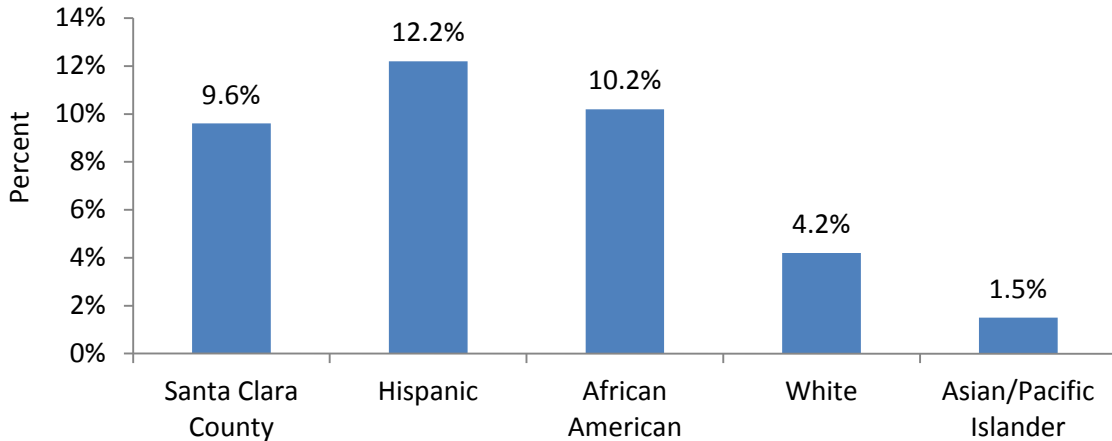
Percentage of Children Maltreated within Six Months of a Substantiated Maltreatment Allegation, 2001-2010



Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 1 Extract, 2001-2010. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

Hispanic and African American children are at greatest risk of experiencing recurrence within six months of a substantiated maltreatment allegation. In 2010, 12% of Hispanic and 10% of African American children experienced recurrence within six-months as compared to 2% of Asian/Pacific Islander children and 4% of White children.

Percentage of Children Maltreated within Six Months of a Substantiated Maltreatment Allegation by Race and Ethnicity, 2010



Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 1 Extract, 2010. Note: The percentage of "recurrence within six months" was not calculated for Native Americans because the numbers were too small. There was one incident of recurrence for this population (data not shown above). Data downloaded November of 2011.

## ELDER/DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE

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### Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

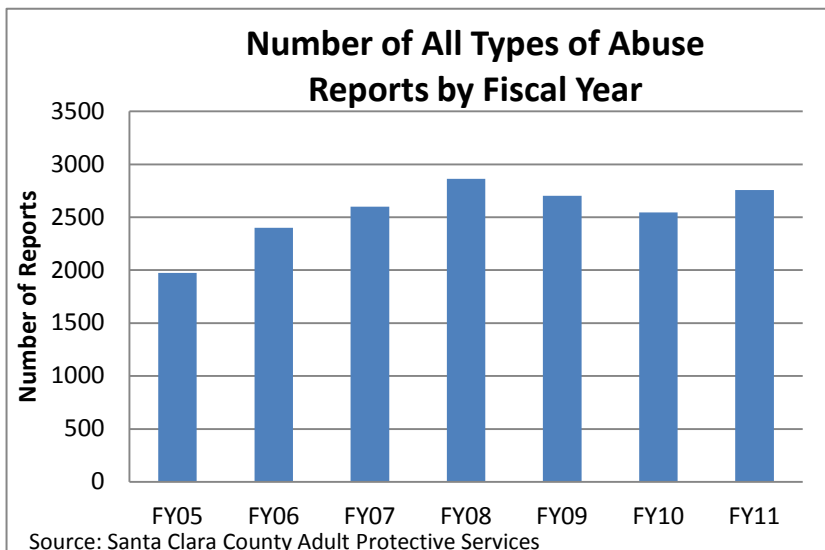
Specific forms of elder abuse are defined by the Welfare and Institution Code of California. These include self-neglect, physical abuse, neglect, financial abuse, abandonment, isolation, abduction and/or mental suffering caused by a caregiver, relative, or any person trusted by an elder or dependent adult.

#### *Status in Santa Clara County*

Statistics related to these categories are collected by the County of Santa Clara's Adult Protective Services (APS), which serves clients age 65 or older and dependent adults (ages 18 to 64 who, because of mental or physical disability, are unable to protect themselves and advocate on their own behalf). This report focuses on the elder population and does not include the statistics for dependent adults.

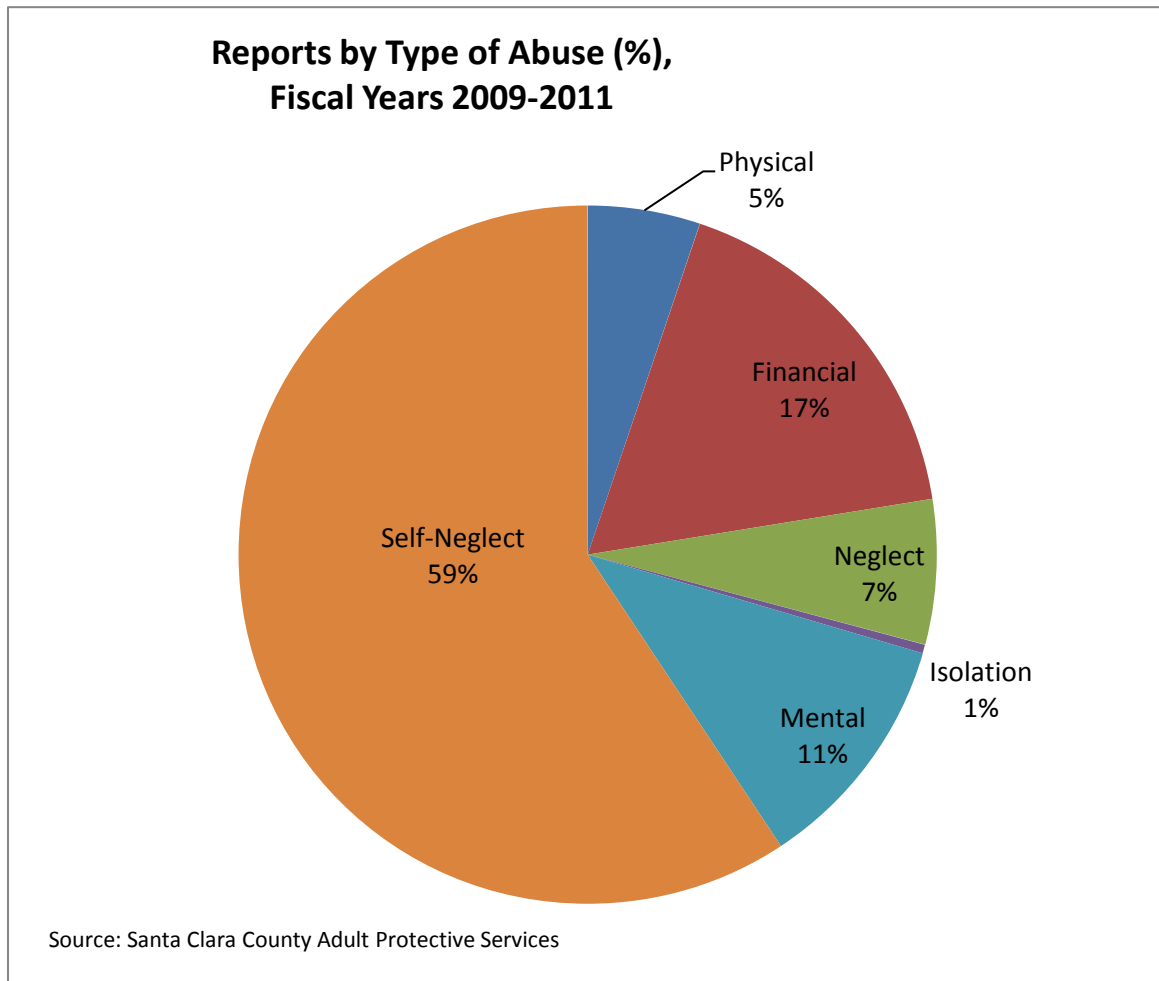
APS is responsible for receiving and documenting reports of abuse outside of facilities. Reports regarding abuse in facilities are processed by the State long-term care ombudsman program and are not included in this report. It should be understood that most abuse goes unreported. In addition, approximately 15% to 18% of all reports received are not investigated by APS. The grounds for not investigating are: 1) victim is receiving intervention from another agency, 2) protection issue is resolved, 3) client has been placed in a permanent facility, 4) client is not in APS jurisdiction and/or 5) the report was received from a non-credible source. For example, a bank may report that an elder is the victim of a telephone scam, but the elder realizes it was a scam and takes appropriate action to protect themselves. Thus, the protection issue is resolved.

Chart 1. Number of All Types of Abuse Reports, Fiscal Years 2005-2011



Since FY05, there has been an overall increase in the number of reports. If FY13 continues its current trend, there will be an additional 8% increase. Statistics from FY09-FY11 show self-neglect to be the most common form of reported abuse (59%), followed by financial abuse (17%) and mental suffering (11%).

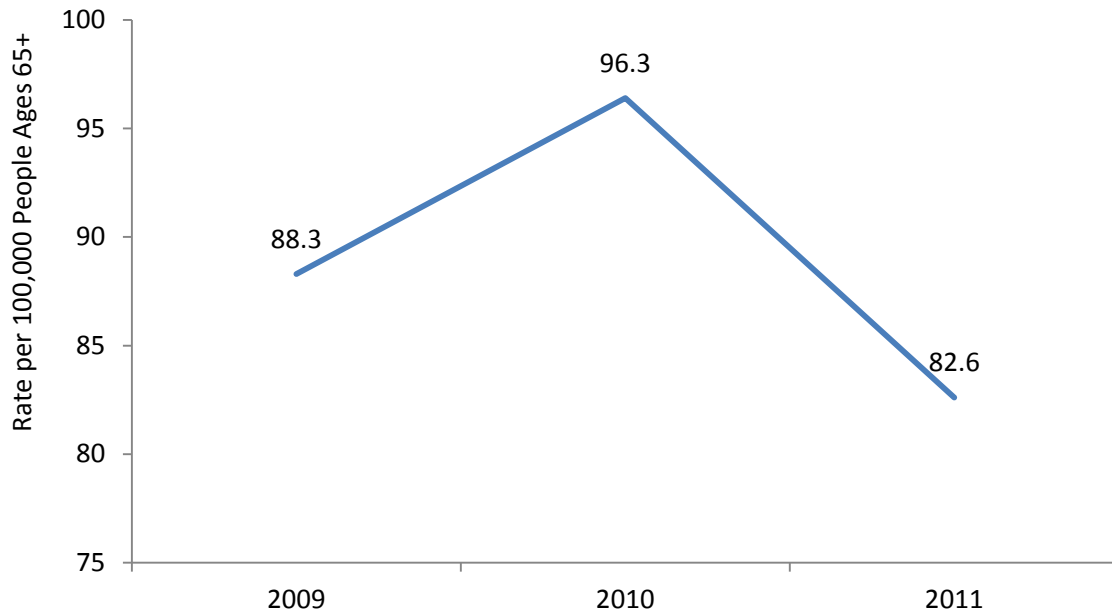
Chart 2. Reports by Abuse Type (%), Fiscal Years 2009-2011



The rate of confirmed elder abuse in Santa Clara County declined from 88.3 per 100,000 elders in fiscal year 2009 to 82.6 per 100,000 elders in fiscal year 2011. Women accounted for 67% of confirmed cases of elder physical abuse, assault/battery, and sexual abuse in 2011, and their rate (98.7 per 100,000 elder women) was higher than that of men (62.4 per 100,000 elder men) in 2011.<sup>50</sup>

Chart 3. Confirmed Cases of Elder Physical Abuse, Assault/Battery, and Sexual Abuse (Rate per 100,000 elders),

Fiscal Years 2009-2011



Source: Santa Clara County, Social Services Agency, Department of Aging and Adult Services, 2009-2011; California Department of Finance, *State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050, Sacramento, CA, July 2007*. Note: Abuse includes physical abuse, assault/battery, and sexual abuse. Financial abuse cases were excluded from the analysis because this form of abuse is not considered violent. Confirmed cases are based on fiscal year data, while population data are for calendar years. Denominators do not account for dependent adults. Data are unduplicated by abuse type.



## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Prevention Institute, Harvard School of Public Health, Southern California Injury Prevention Research Center, UCLA School of Public Health, *A Public Health Approach to Preventing Violence: FAQ*, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section, Death Records, 2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections.

<sup>3</sup> NACCHO, Injury and Violence Prevention, available at [www.http://www.naccho.org/topics/HPDP/injuryprevention/index.cfm?&renderForPrint=1](http://www.naccho.org/topics/HPDP/injuryprevention/index.cfm?&renderForPrint=1), accessed on 11/29/2011.

<sup>4</sup> Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Issue Brief Series: Exploring the Social Determinants of Health, "Violence, Social Disadvantage and Health," May 2011.

<sup>4</sup> Data on domestic violence-related deaths for 2011 are through December 5, 2011.

<sup>5</sup> Elder/Dependent Adult Maltreatment data excludes financial abuse.

<sup>6</sup> The FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, 2010.

<sup>7</sup> California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>8</sup> California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section, Death Records, 2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Deaths are based on residence. Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>9</sup> The FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, 2010.

<sup>10</sup> Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, *Statistical Briefing Book*, 2010.

<sup>11</sup> Centers for Disease and Control Prevention, 2007 WONDER Online Database. Note: Data downloaded December of 2011.

<sup>12</sup> The FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, 2010.

<sup>13</sup> The FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, *Crime in the United States*, 2010.

<sup>14</sup> California Department of Public Health, EpiCenter, 2009 California Injury Data Online. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>15</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention, *National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, 2010 Summary Report*, 2011.

<sup>16</sup> California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Data were accessed November of 2011.

<sup>17</sup> Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Egley, A Jr., Howell JC, *Highlights of the 2009 National Youth Gang Survey*, 2011.

<sup>18</sup> National Gang Center, National Gang Center Bulletin, Howell JC, Egley A Jr., Tita GE, *U.S. Gang Problem Trends and Seriousness, 1996-2009*, 2011.

<sup>19</sup> Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, OJJDP Juvenile Justice Bulletin, Howell JC, *Gang Prevention: An Overview of Research and Programs*, 2010.

<sup>20</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, *Fact Sheet: Understanding Suicide*, 2012.

<sup>21</sup> California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section, Death Records, 2009. Note: Deaths are based on residence. Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>22</sup> California Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics Section, Death Records, 2009; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Deaths are based on residence. Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>23</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention, *National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, 2010 Summary Report*, 2011.

<sup>24</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Child Welfare Information Gateway, Domestic Violence and the Child Welfare System, available at [www.http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/domesticviolence.cfm](http://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/domesticviolence.cfm), accessed on December 5, 2011.

<sup>25</sup> Santa Clara County Public Health Department, 2005-2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Survey.

<sup>26</sup> Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council, Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, 2000-2010. Note: The gender of domestic violence-related victims for 2011 was not available at the time the data were accessed.

<sup>27</sup> Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council, Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, 2002-2010.

<sup>28</sup> Santa Clara County Information Services Department, Fiscal Year 2011.

<sup>29</sup> Santa Clara County Probation Department, Fiscal Year 2011.

<sup>30</sup> California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center, 2009. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>31</sup> National Network to End Domestic Violence, *Domestic Violence Counts 2010*, 2010.

<sup>32</sup> Domestic Violence Advocacy Consortium of Santa Clara County, *Press Release: October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month: Local Programs Raise Awareness as Demand for Services Increase*, 2011. California Department of Finance, *State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050, Sacramento, CA, July 2007*. Note: Department of Finance data is calendar year.

<sup>33</sup> National Network to End Domestic Violence, *Domestic Violence Counts 2010*, 2010.

<sup>34</sup> Domestic Violence Advocacy Consortium of Santa Clara County, 2011.

<sup>35</sup> US Department of Education, US Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs, Robers S, Zhang J, Truman J, Snyder T, *Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2010*, 2010.

<sup>36</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, The ABCs of Bullying, Addressing, Blocking, and Curbing School Aggression, available at [http://pathwayscourses.samhsa.gov/bully/bully\\_1\\_pg5.htm](http://pathwayscourses.samhsa.gov/bully/bully_1_pg5.htm), accessed on 12/2/2011.

<sup>37</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

<sup>38</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, available at [http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/teen\\_dating\\_violence.html](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/teen_dating_violence.html), accessed on December 5, 2011.

<sup>39</sup> California Healthy Kids Survey, 2001-02 and 2009-10.

<sup>40</sup> California Department of Education, Safe & Healthy Kids Program Office, DataQuest, 2010-11. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

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<sup>41</sup> Harvard University, The Advancement Project and The Civil Rights Project, *Opportunities Suspended: The Devastating Consequences of Zero Tolerance and School Discipline Policies*, 2000.

<sup>42</sup> California Department of Education, Safe & Healthy Kids Program Office, DataQuest, 2010-11. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>43</sup> The Project Cornerstone Youth Survey sample was not designed to be generalizable at the County or school district level, but rather is representative of the attitudes and behaviors of the thousands of students who participated in the study.

<sup>44</sup> Project Cornerstone, *Helping Youth Thrive: A Profile of Santa Clara County Elementary School Students, Executive Summary*, 2011.

<sup>45</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Child Maltreatment: Consequences, available at <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/consequences.html>, accessed on December 11, 2011.

<sup>46</sup> Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 1 Extract, 2001–2010. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>47</sup> Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 1 Extract, 2001–2010; California Department of Finance, Population Projections. Note: Rates are based on unduplicated counts of children. Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>48</sup> Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 2 Extract, 2010-2011. Note: A child is counted only once, in category of highest severity. There were no cases designated as “substantiated risk” or “exploitation” from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>49</sup> Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, CWS/CMS 2011 Quarter 1 Extract, 2001–2010. Note: Data downloaded November of 2011.

<sup>50</sup> Santa Clara County, Social Services Agency, Department of Aging and Adult Services, Fiscal Year 2011; California Department of Finance, *State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000–2050, Sacramento, CA, July 2007*. Note: Financial abuse cases were excluded from the analysis because this form of abuse is not considered violent. Confirmed cases are based on fiscal year data, while population data are for calendar years. Denominators do not account for dependent adults. Data are unduplicated by abuse type.