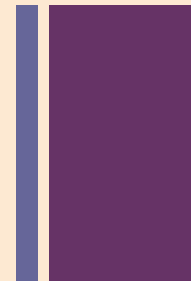




Coalition of
Communities of
Color



Portland State
UNIVERSITY



***The African American Community in
Multnomah County:
An Unsettling Profile...***

Special Thanks To:

Coalition of Communities of Color

Portland State University

Multnomah County

City of Portland

United Way

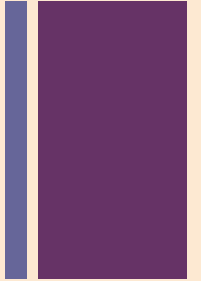
Northwest Health Foundation

Dr. Lisa K. Bates

Dr. Ann Curry-Stevens



And Thanks to These Community Groups



- **Portland African American Leadership Forum**

- **Urban League of Portland**

- **PCRI**

- **SEI**

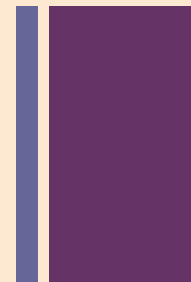
- **BPI**

- ***And to the dozens of others in our community, who have also***

signed onto our report letter...



The African American Community in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile...



“It’s all right to tell a man to lift himself by his own bootstraps, but it is cruel just to say to a bootless man that he ought to lift himself by his own bootstraps.”

“We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there "is" such a thing as being too late. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action.”

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

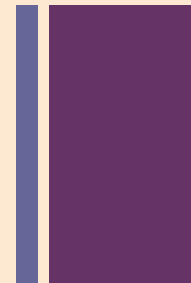


Report Overview

Dr. Lisa K. Bates: Author



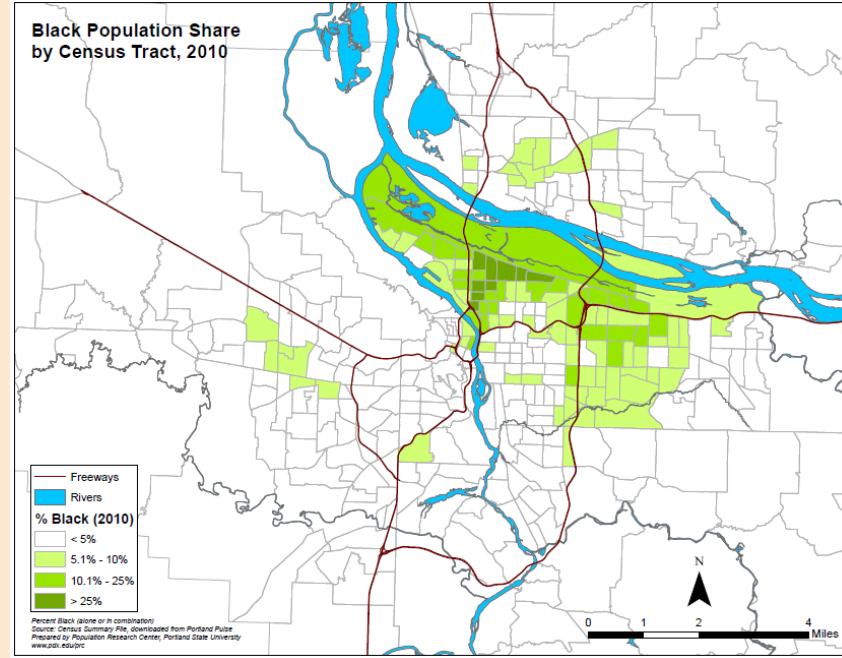
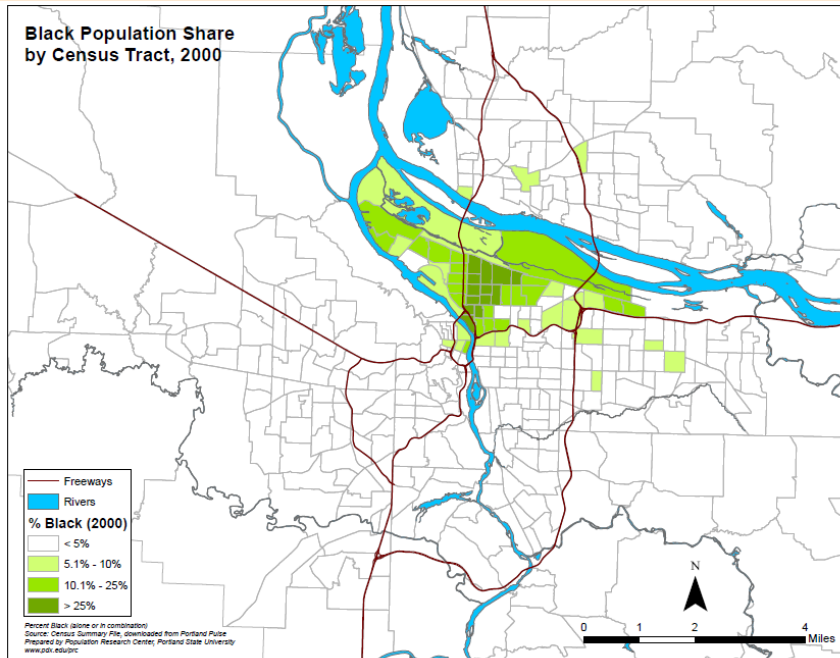
African-American Community Profile



- Data assembled on a range of indicators in key policy areas
 - Economic opportunity, housing, education, child welfare, health, the criminal justice system, and civic engagement
- Data show disparities that must be addressed through an equity lens
- Data are often not sufficient for policy development, implementation, and evaluation



African-American Presence in Multnomah County: Remarks from Authors





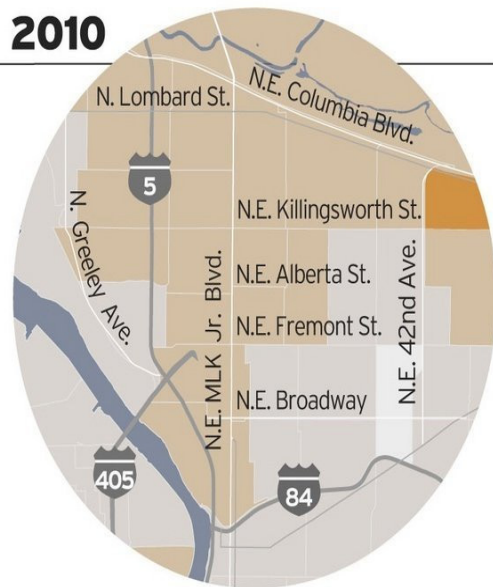
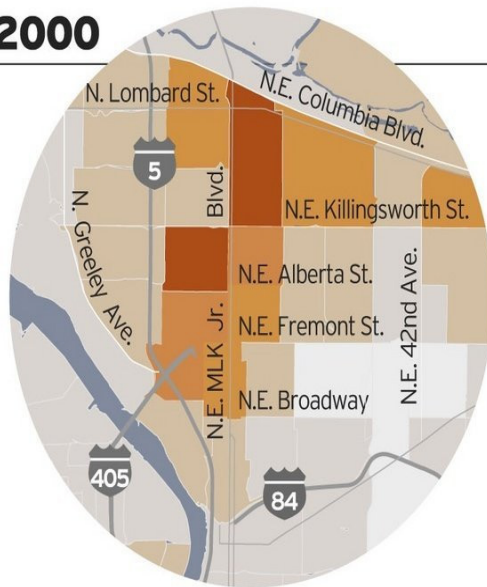
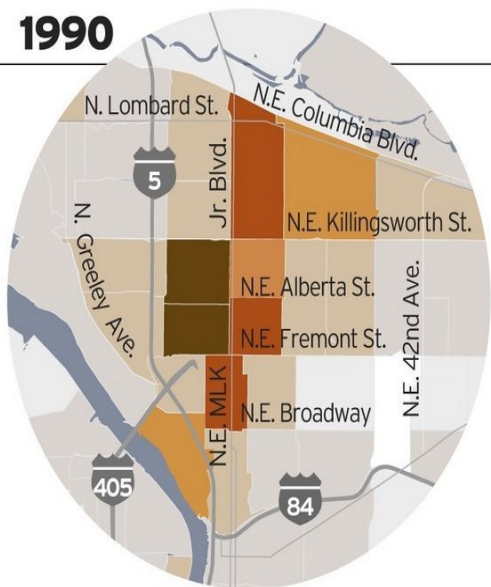
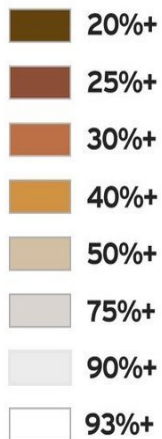
African-American Presence in Multnomah County

Percent white in
Northeast Portland

1990

2000

2010



Source: U.S. Census

DAN AGUAYO/THE OREGONIAN

No neighborhood in Northeast Portland remains majority Black as of 2010



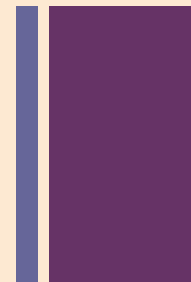
African-American Presence in Multnomah County: An Overview



- Black unemployment is persistently high and employment recovers slowly after recession
 - Average 17.5% for 2009-2011
- Black wealth building is further limited by very low homeownership rates
 - 32% of Black households are homeowners
 - Homeownership is a bulwark against gentrification

+ African-American Presence

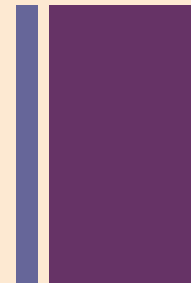
in Multnomah County: An overview



- Black children and youth are not thriving in local institutions
 - Serious disparities in school achievement, graduation
 - Exclusionary discipline disparities of 3.5-to-1 are strongly related to Black high school drop out
 - Juvenile justice policies like Measure 11 can derail young people's potential with adult convictions



African-American Presence in Multnomah County: An overview



- Black well-being is threatened by health disparities in areas from diabetes to maternal care
 - Relates to environmental justice in neighborhoods
 - Relates to built environment, gentrification, and environmental justice in neighborhoods
- Black community has far too many negative encounters with police and the criminal justice system
 - Ongoing organizing against racial profiling and sentencing disparities



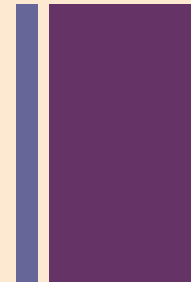
Child Welfare and Education

**Kali Thorne Ladd: Executive Director,
KairosPdx**

Board Member, Portland Community College



The Status of Children in Homes & Schools



- **CHILD WELFARE:**

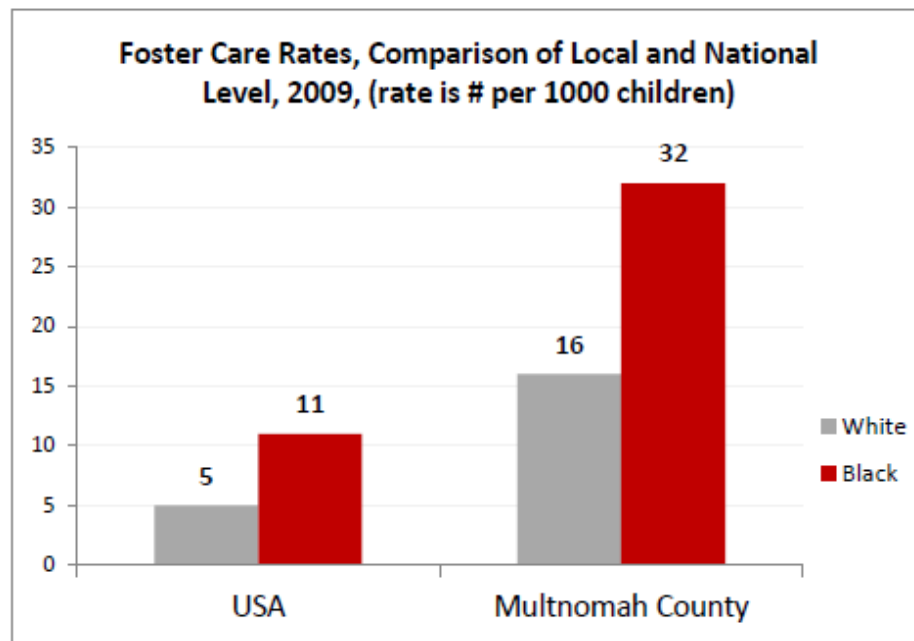
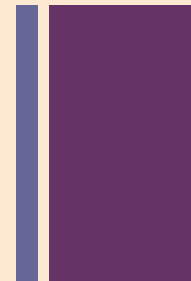
Racial disproportionality and disparity in state child welfare systems have been of growing concern in the state of Oregon. This issue rose to the level of an executive order from then-Governor Kulongoski in 2009 establishing a Child Welfare Equity Task Force charged with reducing racial disproportionality in the state system.

- **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT:**

The racial achievement gap is perpetuated by policies that fail to acknowledge the limited access to early childhood programs, housing, health care, and economic opportunities that impact families over generations. The long standing problems for education in the African-American community are illustrated in the current profile of educational attainment for adults.



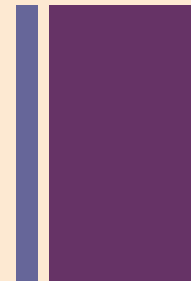
Child welfare: Foster Care Rates



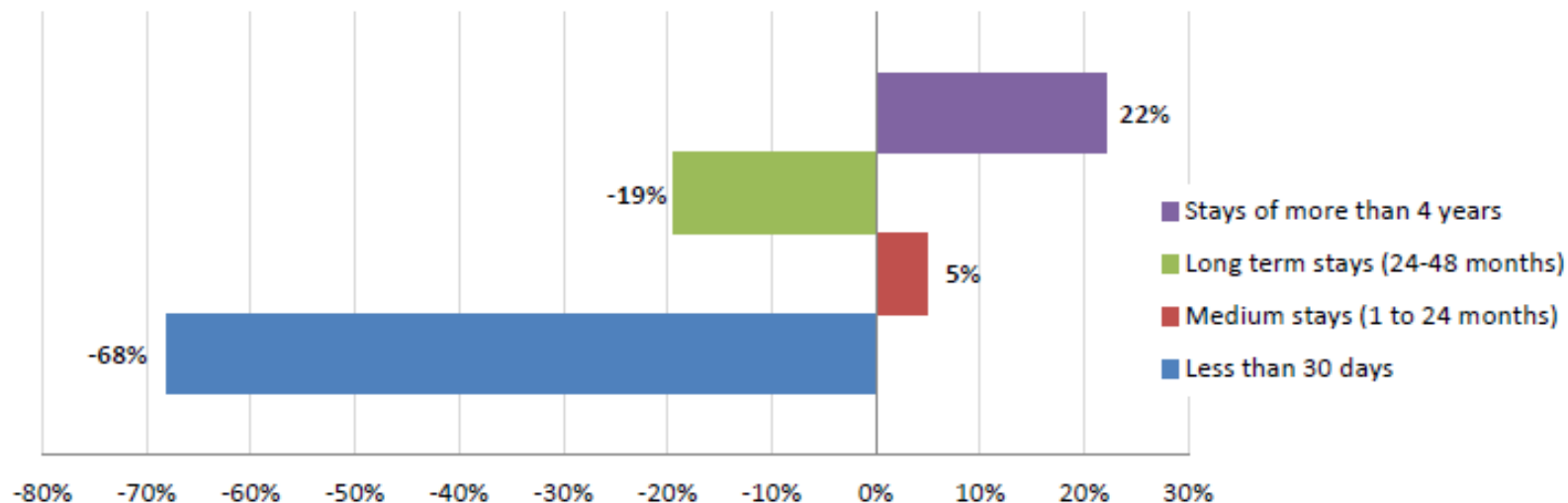
Source: Curry-Stevens' calculations for Multnomah County from data from Miller et al. (2009); for national data, see Child Welfare League of America (2008).



Child Welfare: Stays In Foster Care



**Disproportionality in Foster Care Length of Stay,
Blacks in Multnomah County, 2008/09**

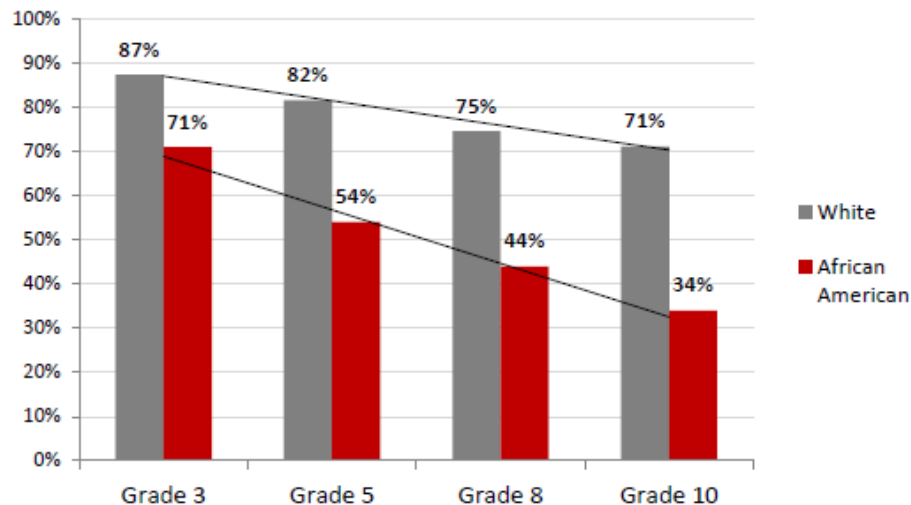




Education: Achievement Testing Gaps

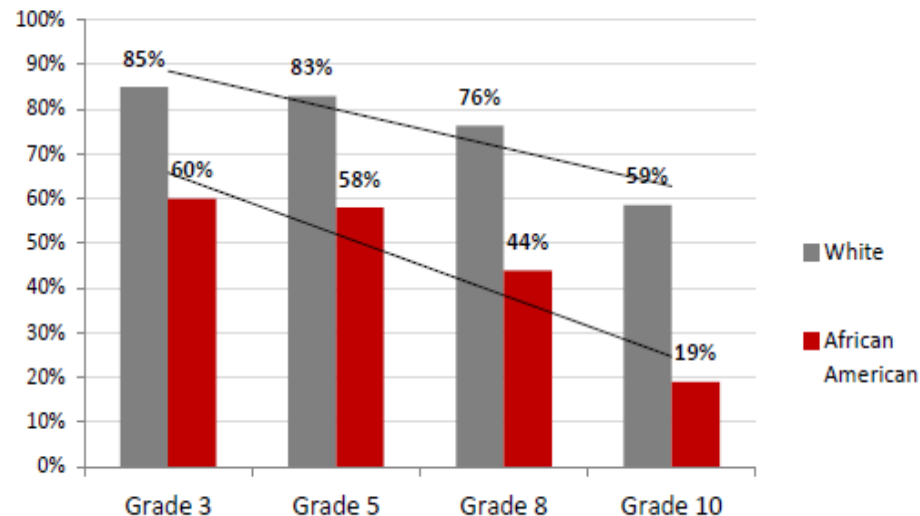


Reading/Literature Scores, Multnomah County, 2008
(% who meet/exceed benchmarks)



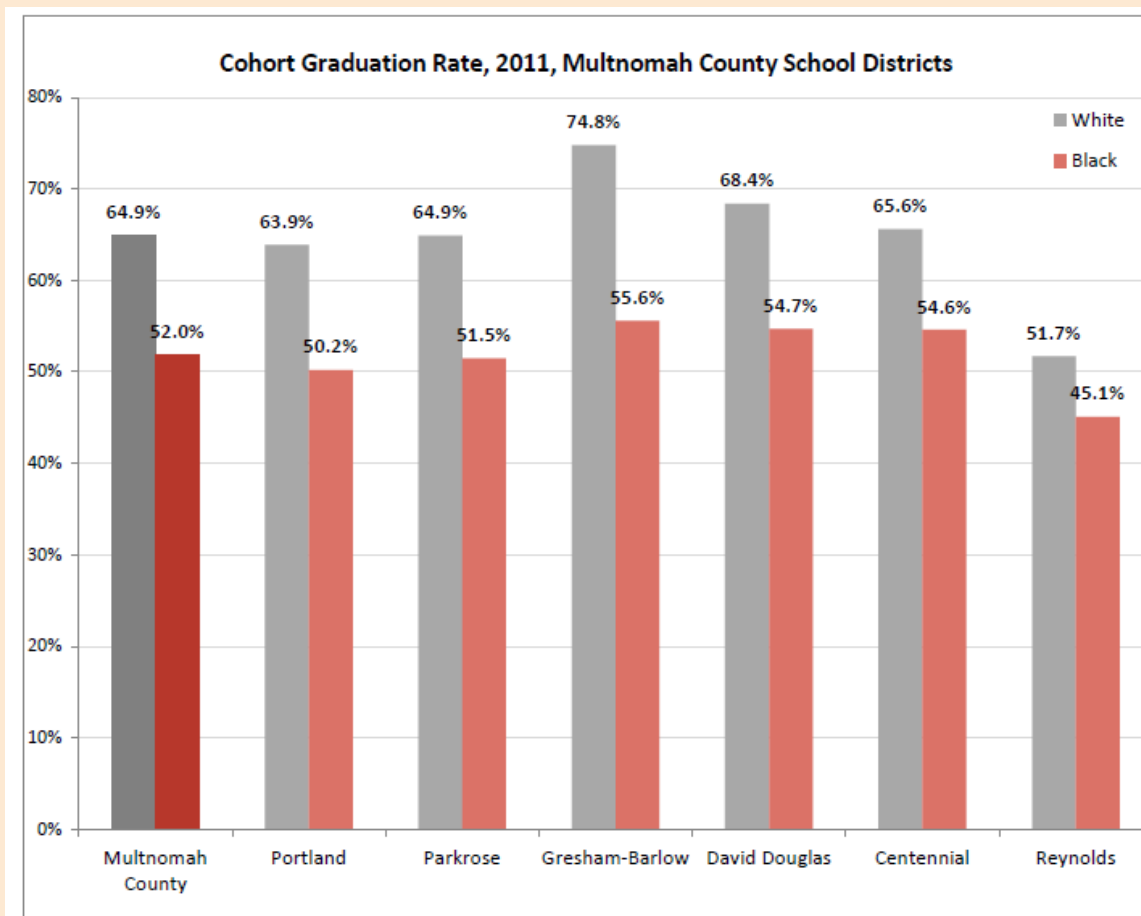
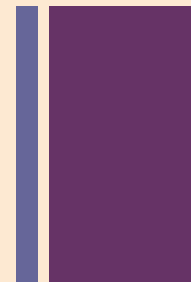
Source: Author's calculations from Oregon Department of Education data tallied by Pat Burk.

Mathematics Scores, Multnomah County, 2008
(% who meet/exceed adequacy)





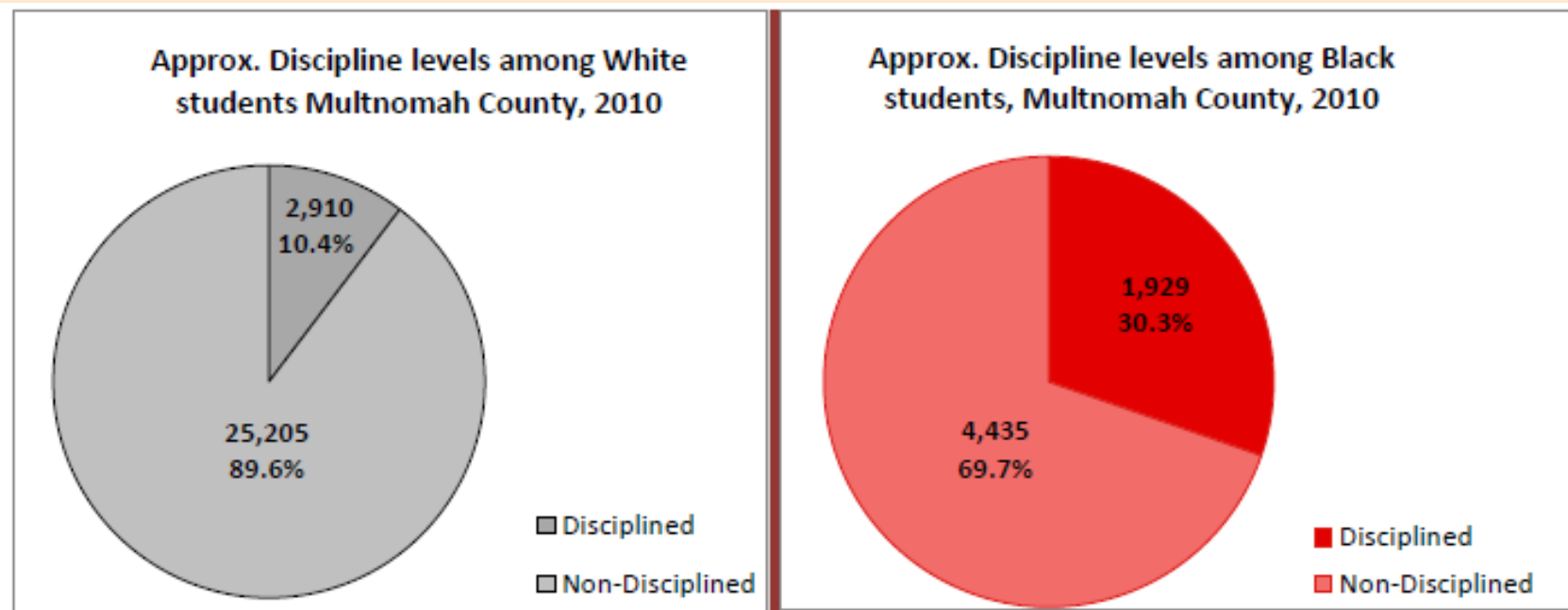
Education: High School Graduation



Source: Curry-Stevens' calculations of Oregon Department of Education's data on the Cohort Graduation Rate.



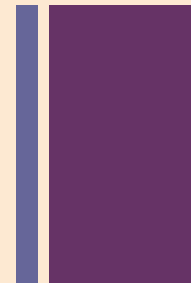
Education: Discipline Disparities



Source: Adapted from Multnomah County Commission on Children, Families and Communities, 2012.⁹² Levels have been adjusted by using approximate values for the number of discipline incidents per student who faces discipline.



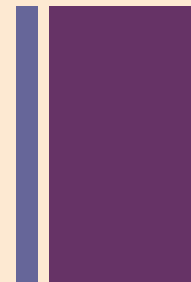
Child Welfare & Education: Policy Recommendations



- **Pertaining to Children's Levy:**
 - Consider expansion of investment in culturally diverse pool of foster and adoptive resources.
 - Enhance equity through the adoption of specific practices such as community partnerships, family group decision-making and structured decision-making that can minimize bias where discretion exists.
- When the city reauthorizes the Children's Levy, pay special attention to investments that serve the African-American community in the child welfare program area.
- Continued investments in early childhood with specific focus on programs that provide early childhood services to African-American children.



Child Welfare & Education: Policy Recommendations Cont'd.



- Continued investments in programs like Future Connect to ensure that black students who do graduate high school have access to on-ramps to better jobs and self-sufficient wages, in effect breaking the cycle of poverty.
- Continued investment in jobs programs for youth understanding that the academic disparities highlighted in the earlier slides are exacerbated when black youth do not have access to summer opportunities.
- Investment in updates to the report *Disproportionate Discipline Data* released in 2012.

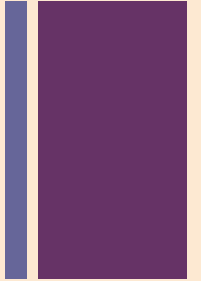


Economic Prosperity & Housing

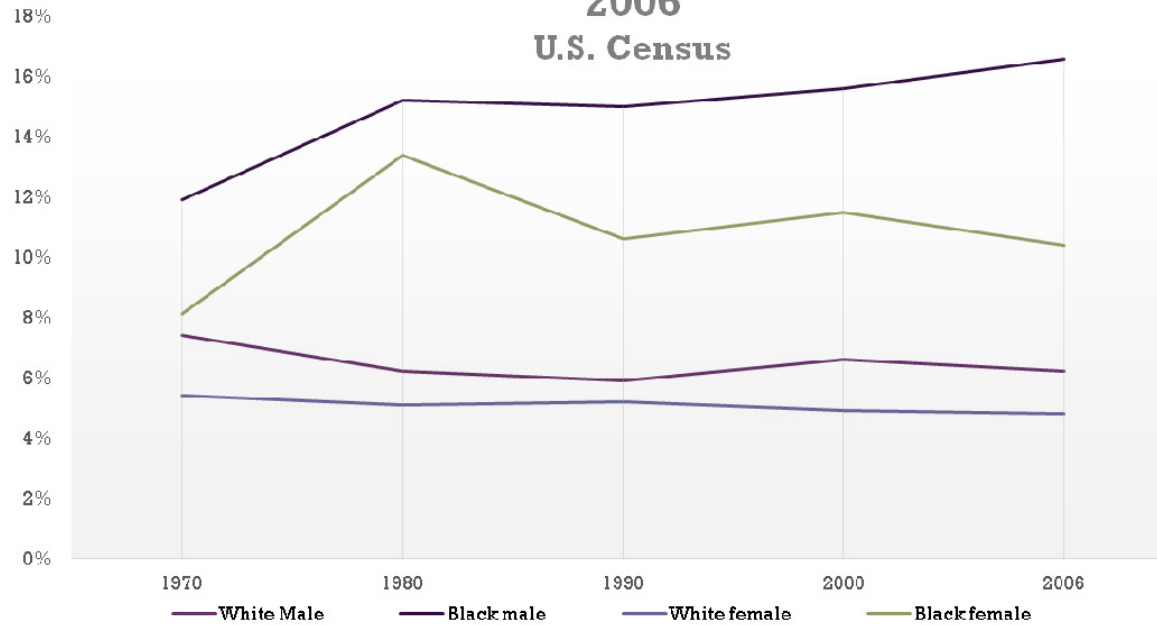
Maxine Fitzpatrick: Executive Director, PCRI



Persistent employment challenges



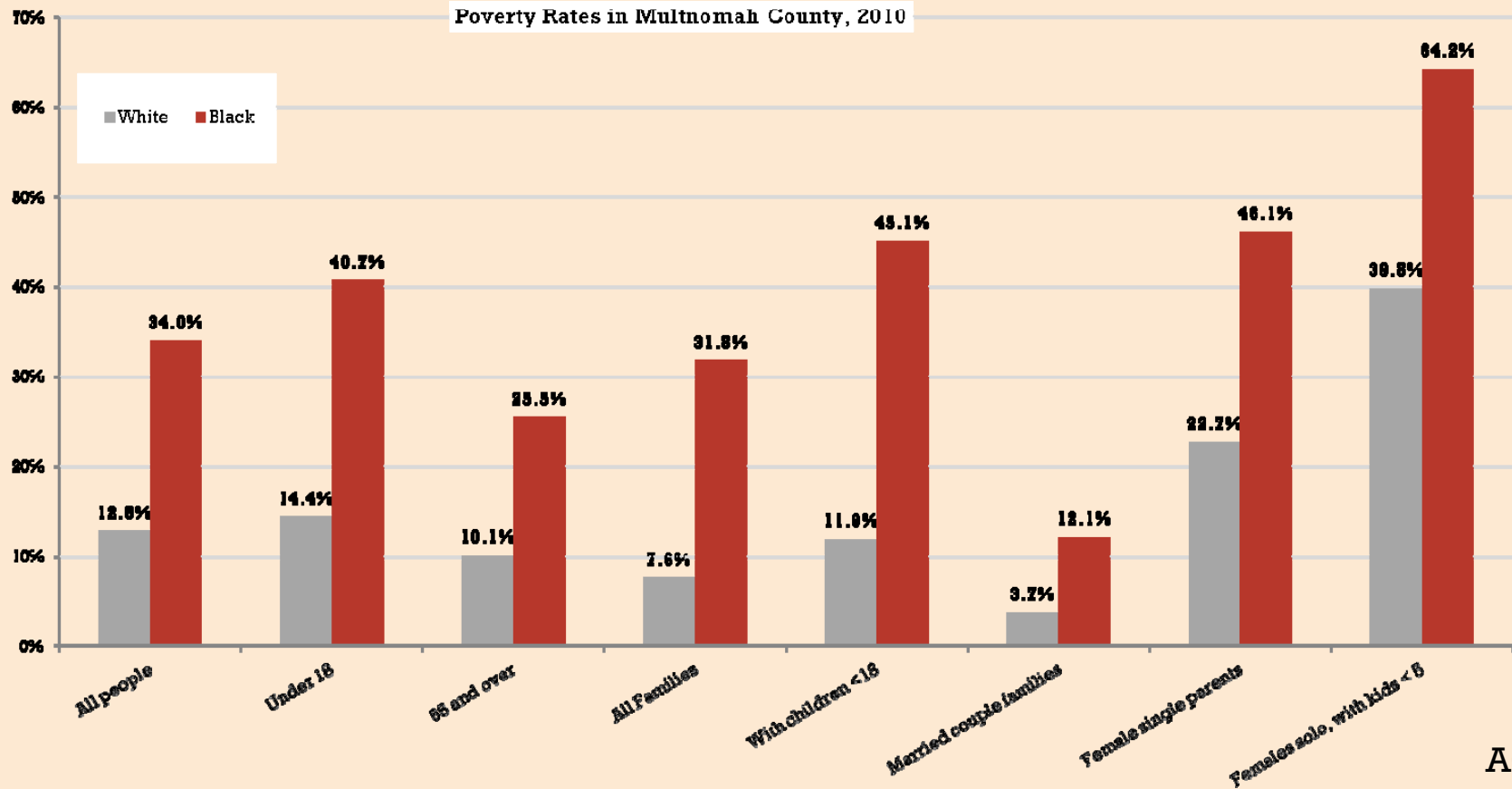
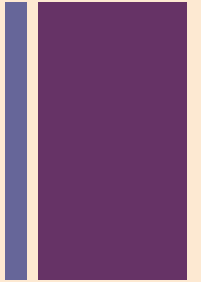
Historical unemployment rates, Portland 1970-2006
U.S. Census



Data analysis by Dr. Karen Gibson



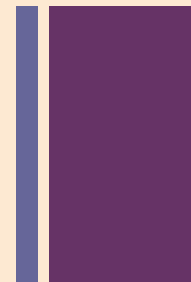
Black Poverty



ACS 2010

+ Noted Economic Points...

- In 2010, the City of Portland commissioned a study on the utilization of Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBEs) by the City and the Portland Development Commission.
- While contracts made as part of “sheltered market” and “good faith effort” programs meet the City’s equity goals (again, noting the goals are low), outside of these specific programs, there is a failure to utilize MBE/WBE firms at the expected level, given their availability.
- Outside of the “good faith effort” program, only one of the City’s 76 prime construction contracts over \$100,000 was awarded to a MBE firm. For PDC-funded projects, **fewer than 1%** of all MBE/WBEs available received contracts, despite a business equity program for subcontractors. These disparities were also present for professional services contracts.
- Furthermore, the auditor found that half of Sheltered Market contracts were awarded to White Male owned firms (as small businesses), rather than closing the acknowledged disparity for African-American owned firms.

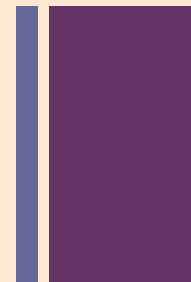




Housing

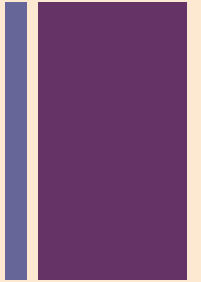
From the Report:

- *Despite over fifty years of Fair Housing law, African-Americans continue to face serious disparities as described here in terms of housing affordability, homeownership and access to mortgages, homelessness, and discrimination. In Portland, as in other cities, strong and cohesive Black neighborhoods were formed out of segregation, but were partially dismantled by highway and redevelopment construction and redlined, or systematically denied credit and investment, leading to decline. As policymakers targeted these neighborhoods in the Albina district, market pressures quickly escalated, causing another displacement for African-Americans from well-situated neighborhoods with new amenities to more distant, less accessible and amenity-rich neighborhoods in the mid-County.*





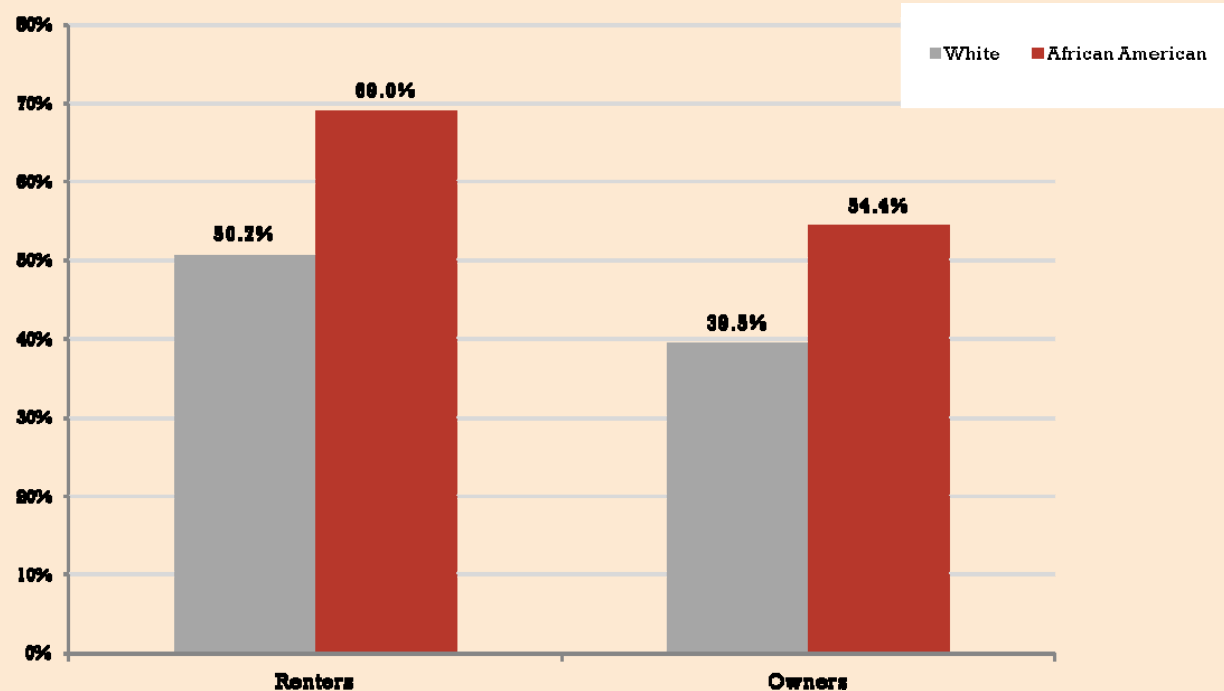
Housing: Affordability



Households
spending
more than
30% of their
income on
housing

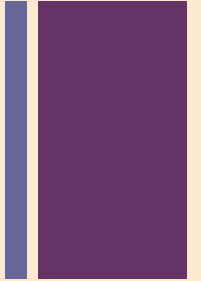
Source: ACS 2010

**Those spending more than 30% of their income on housing,
Multnomah County, 2010**





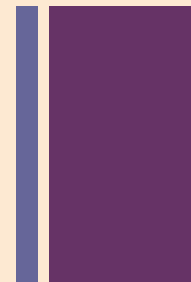
Housing: Homeownership



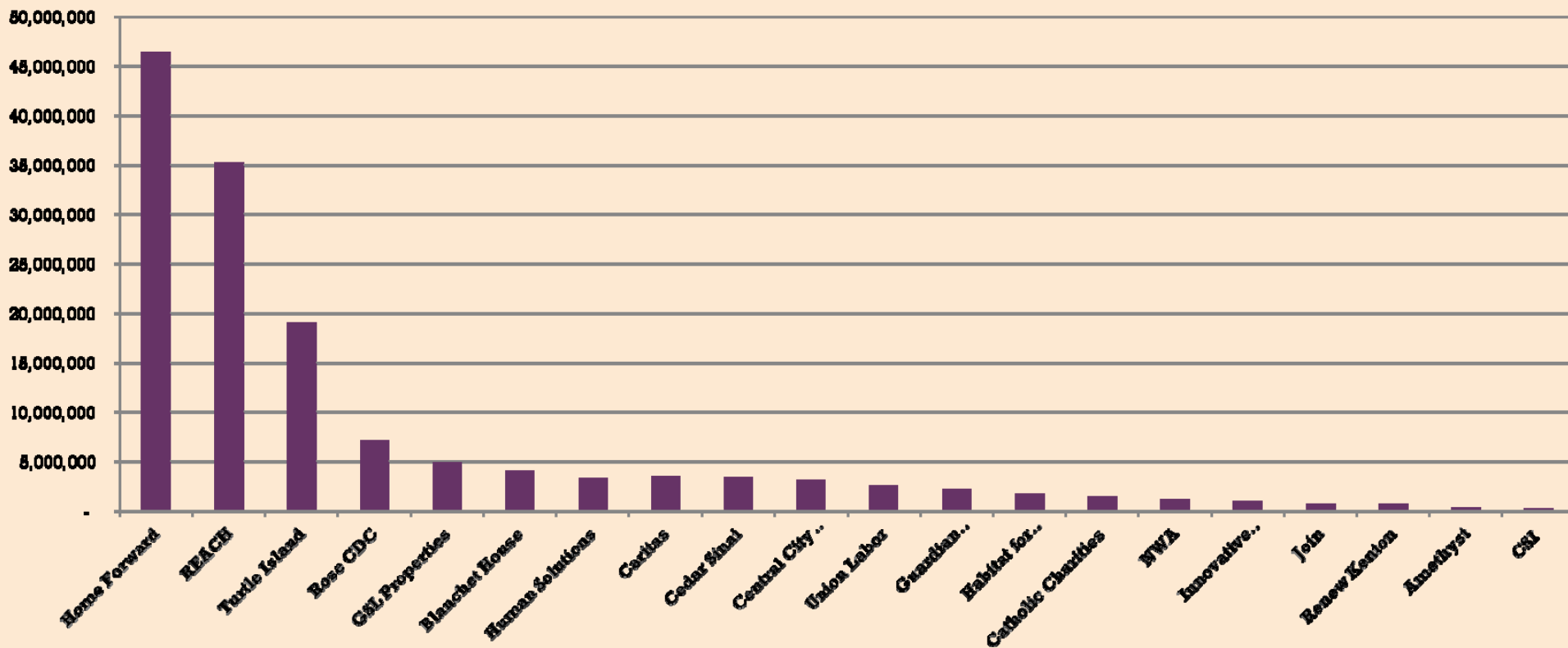
- Just 32% of Black households in Multnomah County are homeowners.
- Black-White homeownership gap for African Americans is 27 percentage points.



PHB Housing Allocation by Sponsor- Less Organizations of Color

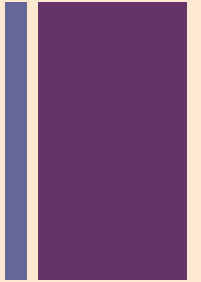


Total Allocation

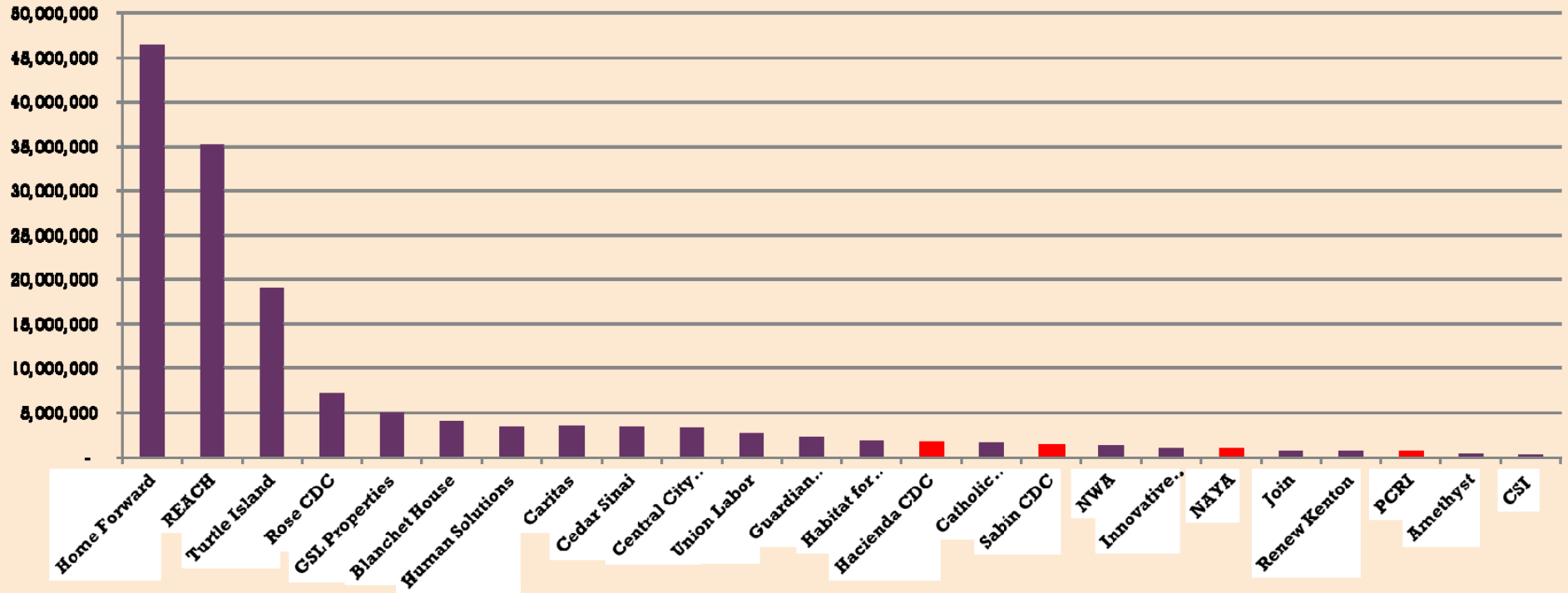




PHB Housing Allocation by Sponsor

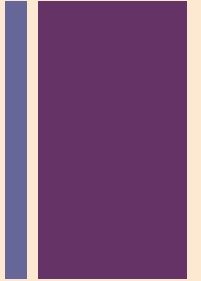


Total Allocation



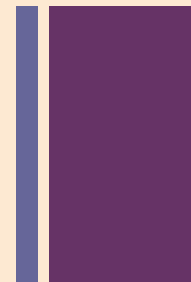
+ Economic Prosperity: Policy Recommendations

- In the Portland Plan you outlined "using agreements such as first-source hiring to promote hiring of qualified local residents who have completed skills training or become unemployed. " We recommend that you do this and report on your outcomes particularly as it pertains to residents in minority communities.
- We recommend that you continue work with the City's procurement services to increase contracting opportunities including targeted prime contracting and community workforce agreements for minority contractors.
- Expansions of summer internships to Future Connect students at PCC and Mt. Hood Community College as a pipeline to long term, living-wage jobs at the city.
- Continue to work on the neighborhood prosperity initiative, and the neighborhood economic development strategy and report outcomes and impact on the African-American community.
- Currently there is a pilot Community Benefits Agreement. Look at expansion of this project to help Minority, Women and Emerging Small businesses.





Housing: Policy Recommendations



- Mitigate the displacement of African-Americans in accordance with the Interstate Urban Renewal Area Housing Strategy aimed at minimizing displacement per a commitment made by the City of Portland in 2002 and never honored:
 - Allocation of 50% (\$48,077,000) of housing funds to communities of color, with a significant portion 75% or \$36,057,751 of this amount to address the involuntary displacement of black people in N/NE Portland during the period of 2000 – 2010.
- Provide record of Housing allocations by Sponsor for the period of 2012-2013.
- Release PHB's reports to HUD detailing how it is meeting the necessary allotment of CDBG, HOME and federal grants in accordance with HUD funding requirements.
- Historical allocation of Tax Incremental Funds for the 30% affordable housing set-aside for the Interstate Urban Renewal Area.



Housing: Policy Recommendations Cont'd.



- Dedicate “watchdog” staff to legislated Section 8 Voucher non-discrimination, for African American clients specifically.
- Support the repeal of “no cause eviction” laws – which undermine tenants’ ability to advocate for healthier homes.
- Increase penalties for landlords that refuse to comply with the Healthy Homes Program, and find best ways to support staff to underline offenses as soon as they occur.

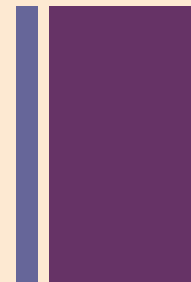


Health

**Ty Schwoeffermann: Health Equity Coordinator,
Urban League of Portland**



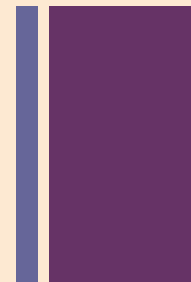
Existing Health Threats



- Health outcome disparities for African Americans in Portland and Multnomah County are severe for some indicators. African Americans have the highest rate of homicide mortality among all racial groups—a rate more than six times higher for African Americans than for Whites.
- In Portland and Multnomah County African Americans are more than twice as likely as Whites to die of diabetes. This fits with national trends showing African Americans are diagnosed with diabetes at double the rate of Whites. Diabetes is associated with an increased risk for a number of serious, sometimes life-threatening complications. African Americans are almost 50% more likely to develop diabetic retinopathy (blindness) as Whites and almost three times as likely to suffer from lower-limb amputations.
- STD's, particularly gonorrhea remain a preventable disease that is highly prevalent in African American communities.



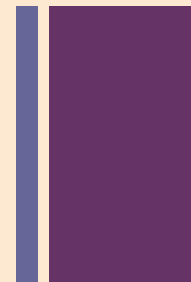
Health: Policy Recommendations



- As a purchaser of insurance, assure that your insurance plans create and utilize strategies for culturally specific Community Health Workers, doulas (traditional childbirth attendants), and other traditional health workers to implement health promotion and treatment strategies such as chronic disease self-management programs in community, corrections, and clinical settings.
- Establish and monitor performance metrics related to health equity outcomes for planning, neighborhood involvement, transportation, housing, parks, and transportation.
- Promote access to mental health and addictions services in City of Portland Housing sites and through expanded partnerships between the Portland Police Bureau and County service providers.



Health: Policy Recommendations Cont'd.



- Reinforce policies that restrict disproportionate exposure to, and marketing of, tobacco products, alcohol, and unhealthy food in low income communities, and African American neighborhoods.
- Promote the determinants of African American health by
 - addressing racism as an underlining contributor to health inequity and premature death
 - supporting programs that reduce African American poverty and increasing access to wealth
 - supporting African American access to healthy housing and neighborhood stability
 - supporting environmental justice-oriented work to reduce disproportionate exposure to hazards
 - ensuring access to transit and parks and recreation opportunities
 - supporting the repeal of “no cause eviction” laws



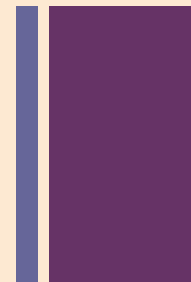
Criminal and Juvenile Justice

Emanuel Price: Director of S.C.A.F.E.

second chances are for everyone Non-Profit



Overrepresentation in the System



- African-Americans have long been active on issues of bias in criminal justice, but the issue was raised to the level of statewide attention in the 1994 Supreme Court of Oregon's audit of racial bias. It concluded that "people of color are more likely to be arrested, charged, convicted and incarcerated, and less likely to be released on bail or put on probation."
- There is a lengthy history of policing practices in Portland that treat people differently by race. Portland's controversial "drug-free zones" were used from 1992-1997 to ban people from neighborhoods based on suspicion—not conviction—of drug possession or sale. The exclusions were most likely to be enforced against African-Americans, representing nearly two-thirds of all violations and exclusions. In contrast, overwhelmingly White methamphetamine related arrestees were rarely excluded. Due to this racial bias, the practice was terminated.

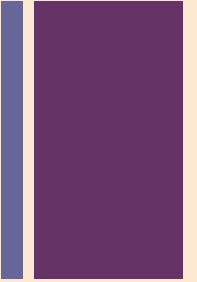


The Justice System



- A 2000 analysis of patterns of arrest, prosecution, sentencing and supervision in Multnomah County revealed over-representation of racial/ethnic minorities permeated most crime categories. Disparities exist at each stage of the criminal justice system: arrest, prosecution, verdicts, and sentencing.
- African Americans had the highest degree of over-representation in arrests for drug crimes, but were also disproportionately represented in other categories as well. While African Americans made up less than ten percent of the population of Multnomah County, they accounted for 21.7% of the Justice Department's active adult caseload. At that time, African Americans in the County were over three times more likely to be represented in the Justice system than they were represented in the population as a whole.
- In addition, disparity existed in terms of supervision. In Multnomah County in 2009, Black, non-Hispanic adults made up 5.2% of the population and 24.11% of the population under supervision; White, non-Hispanic adults made up 73.35% of the population and 65.47% of the population under supervision.

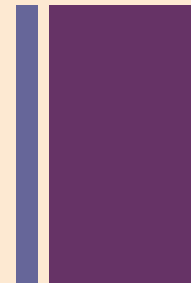
+ Criminal Justice: Adults



- Black adults make up 27% of the ‘under supervision’ population of Multnomah County, but only 5% of the population, and are more likely to be policed, charged, and sentenced.



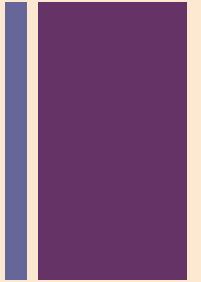
Criminal Justice: Juveniles and Measure 11



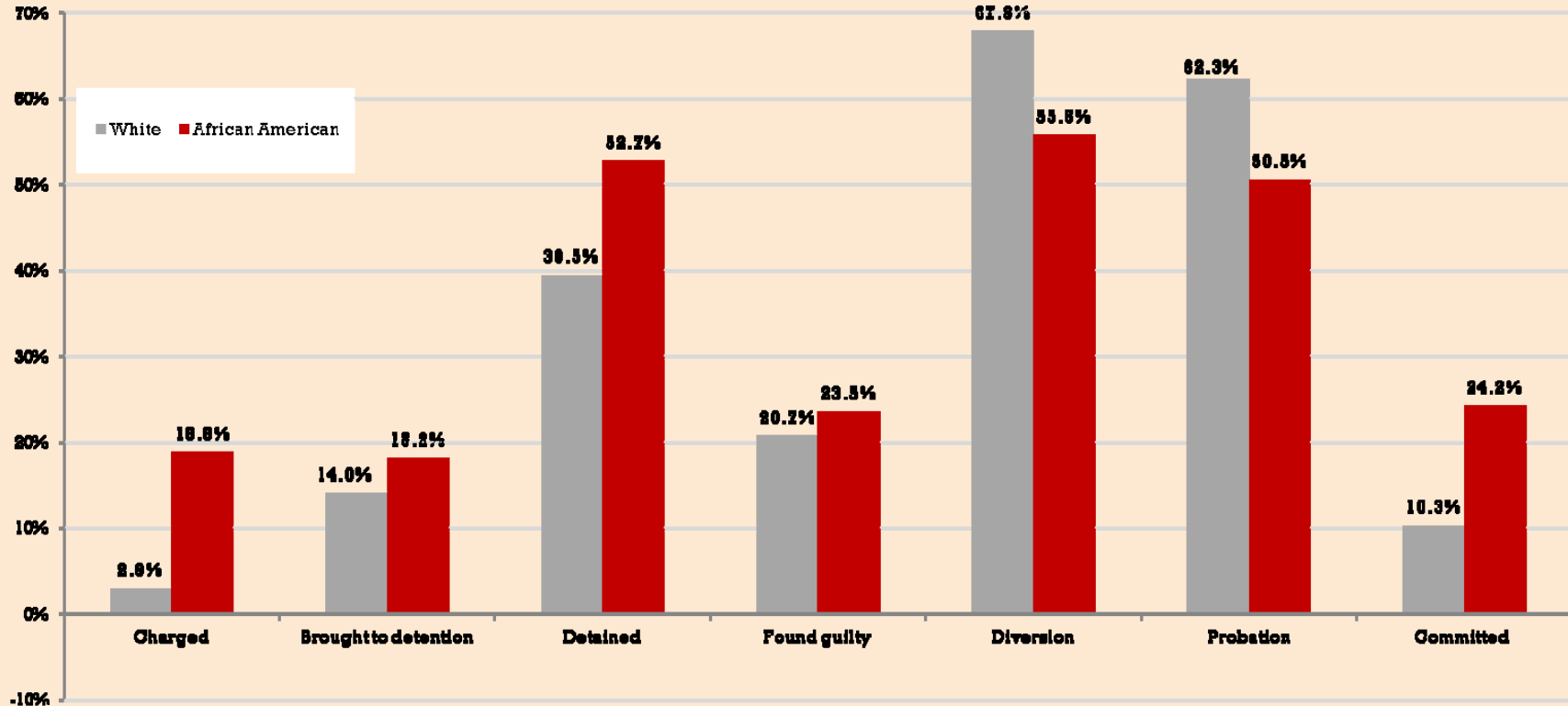
- African American Youth are over-represented in the juvenile justice system and more likely to be given custodial sentences.
- African American Youth charged under Measure 11 enter the adult system
 - African-Americans are 11% of the youth population, but 45% of the Measure 11 indictments.



Juvenile Justice:



Juvenile Justice Decisions, Multnomah County, 2009



Reducing Recidivism Is: Access to Housing, Healthcare, Employment.

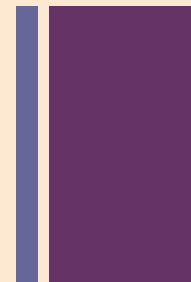


Best Ideas:

- ✓ Employment Opportunities
- ✓ Accessible Healthcare community health, awareness
- ✓ Intern/Apprenticeships programs Carpentry, Construction, Plumbing Electrical (With intent to hire)
- ✓ Housing Resources (Second chance act/Business collaborations)
- ✓ Micro Business Pilot Programs
- ✓ Encouraging Entrepreneurship
- ✓ Service Industry



Criminal and Juvenile Justice: Policy Recommendations



- **We encourage the City to play an active role in the following:**
 - Prevent New Mandatory Minimum Sentences, which have a disproportionate impact on African Americans and other people of color.
 - Evaluate the charging and sentencing practices relating to African American youth and Measure 11 and make changes to reduce their disproportionate representation in the criminal justice system.
 - Support legislation and programs that enable people to successfully transition from prison to the community. Enact antidiscrimination legislation that prevents employers from dismissing job applicants based solely on arrest and conviction history.
 - Expand programs like “Project Clean Slate,” which helps to navigate barriers by providing assistance with driver’s licenses, job training, etc.



Criminal and Juvenile Justice: Policy Recommendations Cont'd.



- Invest in targeted, culturally specific and responsive programs, services and models that achieve measurable outcomes for African Americans—high-risk African American offenders specifically. Resources dedicated for justice Reinvestment through HB3194 should help fund these programs and services.
- Determine how African Americans focused and other culturally-specific organizations can best do business with the City or partners on City initiatives, access City resources and be strong advocates and partners for systemically addressing disproportionality and over-representation in social services systems—criminal justice in particular (youth and adult).
- Name Racial Profiling as a tool to mark out African American citizens, and to namely label them as threats rather than citizens within the City of Portland.



Conclusive Considerations

Gerald Deloney: Co-Chair, Coalitions of
Communities of Color



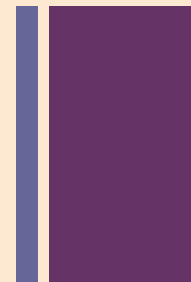
Opportunities Within City of Portland



- **Name racism.** Before us are both the challenge and the opportunity to become engaged with issues of race, racism and whiteness. Racial experiences are a feature of daily life whether we are on the harmful end of such experience or on the beneficiary end of the spectrum. The first step is to stop pretending race and racism does not exist.
- **Disaggregated data.** City of Portland should require that all data is disaggregated. We also want qualitative data that helps us understand how City programs and bureaus most affect African American residents.
- **Disclose race and ethnicity data for mainstream service providers.** Mainstream service providers and government providers continue to have the largest role in service delivery. Accounting for the outcomes of these services for communities of color is essential. We expect each level of service provision to increasingly report on both service usage and service outcomes for communities of color.



Opportunities Within City of Portland Cont'd.



- ***Expand funding for culturally-specific services.*** Designated funds are required, and these funds must be adequate to address needs. Allocation must recognize the size of communities of color, must compensate for the undercounts that exist in population estimates, and must be sufficiently robust to address the complexity of need that are tied to communities of color.
- ***Apply the equity lens internally.*** The City must apply the equity lens internally and hold upper management accountable for its implementation.
- ***Contract with minority businesses.*** The City purchases millions of dollars annually for goods and services with very little going to communities of color. Creative options need to be developed that will enable the resources to flow communities of color.
- ***Equity should be reflected in your budget.*** If equity is not clearly reflected in your budget, you don't mean it.



THANK YOU!

