

Racial and Ethnic Impact Analysis

HB 1815, 2025

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Senate Human Services Committee, March 2025

Washington State Office of Financial Management



Public Safety Policy & Research Center

Racial and Ethnic Impact Statements

- **Purpose:** To provide additional information to policymakers about the potential impacts of a policy change on individuals from different racial and/or ethnic backgrounds to aid in identifying potential unwanted disparities in the criminal justice system.
- **Who/What/When?** PSPRC produces REIS during the legislative session at the request of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission. For more information, [see Criminal Justice Racial and Ethnic Impact Statements \(January, 2025\)](#).
- To date, PSPRC has produced 3 statements:
 - SSB 5056, 2024
 - HB 1178, 2025
 - HB 1815, 2025



Understanding the Issue

2 Secure DCYF Facilities:

Echo Glen Children's Center (EGCC) Snoqualmie

- Males up to age 17
- All females up to age 25, including adult sentences

Green Hill School (GHS) Chehalis

- Older males (17-25)
- End of FY 2024, 75% GHS residents over the age of 18.
- Facing overcapacity issues.

Understanding the Issue

Prison Riot (9.94.010)

For adults: unranked class B felony.

- “Punished by imprisonment in a state correctional institution for not less than one year nor more than ten years.”
- Applies to those aged 18-25 at DCYF facilities.

For juveniles: disposition offense category B.

- Local sanctions for youth with 0, 1 prior adjudication.
- 15-36 weeks for youth with 2 or 3 prior adjudications.
- 52-65 weeks for youth with 4 or more prior adjudications.
- Applies to those aged 17 and younger at DCYF facilities

Understanding the Issue

Escalation in use of prison riot statute, particularly in Lewis County, where Green Hill School is located.

Between 2005 and 2023, Lewis County accounted for 67% of statewide prison riot charges.

	2020	2021	2022	2023
CHELAN	0	0	0	2
CLARK	0	0	0	0
FERRY	0	1	0	0
FRANKLIN	0	0	0	7
GRANT	4	3	0	5
KING	0	6	10	9
LEWIS	38	0	0	87
OKANOGAN	2	0	0	0
PEND OREILLE	0	0	0	0
PIERCE	0	0	0	10
SKAGIT	6	0	11	1
SPOKANE	0	0	0	8
THURSTON	0	0	0	0
WALLA WALLA	0	0	1	0
WHATCOM	0	0	0	0
YAKIMA	0	0	2	0
Total	50	10	24	129

Analyzing Impacts of HB 1815

HB 1815 excludes DCYF and juvenile detention facilities from consideration for prison riot offenses.

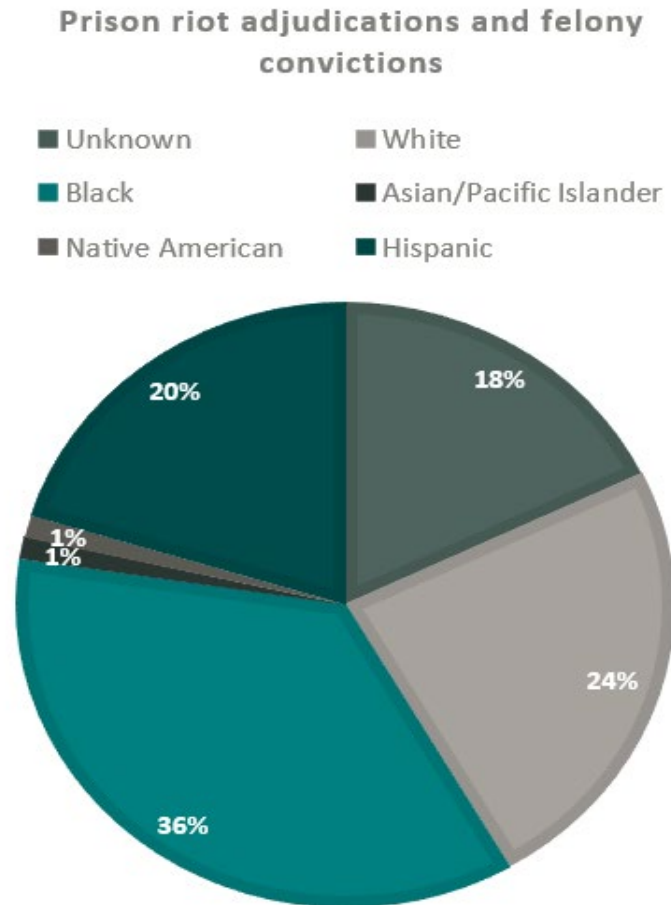
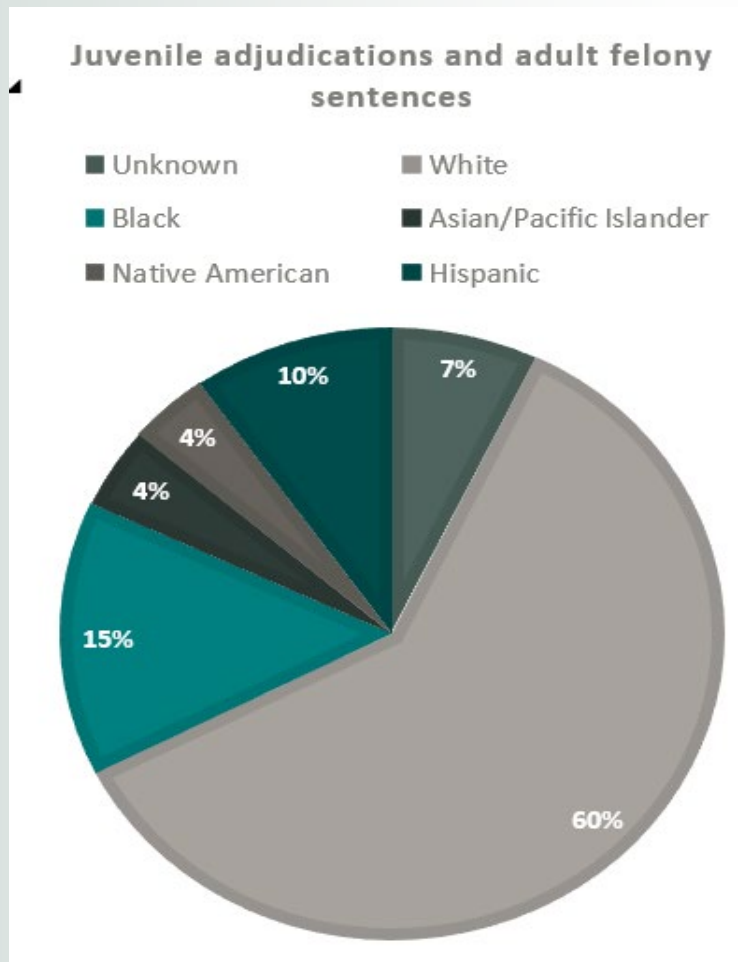
- Our assessment is prospective only.
- Analyzed juvenile adjudications and adult convictions from FY 2024.
- Only have county-level indicators for adult convictions.
- Data do not include facility markers. Assumptions clarified.

House Bill 1815: Prison Riot: Findings

- **May reduce racial disproportionality in confinement.** Black and Hispanic individuals are more likely than White individuals to be adjudicated/convicted of prison riot.
- **Largest impacts** will be with **adjudications/convictions in Lewis County**, but impacts on subsequent **confinement** will affect **both JR and DOC facilities**.
- **Total impact unknown.** Alternative charges may still be filed, but would likely reduce disproportionality as other offenses do not have a mandatory minimum.

Overall adjudications/convictions

FY 2024: 28 juvenile adjudications; 58 adult convictions where prison riot was most serious offense.



State incarcerated populations

If there is disproportionality in the populations that end up confined in state or local institutions, those populations are disproportionately likely to face a prison riot conviction and subsequent, additional confinement time.

	JR Residential Facilities June 2024	DOC Confinement June 2024	Juvenile Prison Riot FY 24	Adult Prison Riot FY 24	All Prison Riot FY 24
White	31%	55%	25%	22%	24%
Black	32%	18%	54%	29%	36%
Hispanic	23%	16%	14%	22%	20%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5%	5%	4%		1%
American Indian	6%	6%	4%		1%
Unknown/Other	2%	1%		26%	18%

Disproportionality understated with these statistics as adult prison riot convictions can apply to those aged 18-25 at Green Hill School.

Lewis County – adult convictions

Ninety percent of adult prison riot convictions in FY 2024 were in Lewis County
(52 out of 58).

Race	GHS Population, June 2024		Lewis Co. Adult Prison Riot Convictions FY 24	
	N	%	N	%
Unknown	5	2%	14	27%
White	68	29%	8	15%
Black	87	37%	17	33%
Hispanic	51	22%	13	25%
API	16	7%		
AIAN	9	4%		

Black individuals were 1.7
times more likely to be
convicted than whites and
Hispanic individuals were 2.2
times more likely to be
convicted than whites.

Prison Riot - Sentencing

FY 2024 Prison Riot average sentences:

- **Adult conviction:** 23 months.
- **Juvenile adjudication** – average range: minimum 28 weeks, maximum 41 weeks.

Increased exposure to DOC. If convicted at age 18 or older, individuals must go to DOC to complete prison riot sentence after completion of sentence at JR.

- **Example:** Juvenile adjudication leading to confinement until age 22. Prison riot conviction at age 19. Upon completing sentence at age 22, they would have to transfer to DOC to serve their sentence for prison riot.

HB 1815 Impacts

Same behaviors could be handled with internal behavior management system or alternative charges:

- **Assault 4 –**
 - **Adult:** Gross Misdemeanor. 0-365 days. Served in local confinement.
 - **Juvenile:** D+ offense category. Local sanctions.
- **Custodial Assault –**
 - **Adult:** Class C felony. Seriousness Level 3. Jail sentence until criminal history score 4+
 - **Juvenile:** C+ offense category. Local sanctions with 0-2 prior adjudications. Sentence range 15-36 weeks for 3 or more prior adjudications.
- Likely that alternative charges would eliminate need for exposure to DOC and/or substantially reduce added confinement time.

For more information

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