

# Newark's Young Men of Color

*If you could use one word to describe your experience growing up in Newark, what would it be?*

***“Strange”***  
***“Unique”***  
***“Bittersweet”***  
***“Challenges”***  
***“Awakening”***  
***“Fun”***  
***“Difficult”***  
***“Competitive”***  
***“Weird”***  
***“Different”***  
***“Motivation”***  
***“Inspiration”***  
***“Hazard”***  
***“Fluctuating”***  
***“Rollercoaster”***  
***“Unexpected”***  
***“One-of-a-kind”***

## Introduction

This special section attempts to identify how young men of color in Newark specifically respond to some of the opportunities and challenges faced by teens and young adults. As Kids Count data on page 40 indicate, Newark as a whole has a higher percentage of its population living in poverty compared to Essex County or the state of New Jersey. There is little doubt that poverty impacts many Newark residents—regardless of gender. However, the data in this special section of Newark Kids Count indicate that young men begin to experience differences from young women in education, health care access and exposure to violence and the juvenile justice system at an early age. To better understand the experiences of boys and young men of color, we must not only look at the disparities in the data but also the causes and implications of systemic inequality.

Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ), in partnership with My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Newark, held several conversations with young men and asked them to reflect on their experiences living in and growing up in Newark. Their words are highlighted in quotations throughout the special section. From these conversations, several key themes emerged:

*“I'm in the process of going to Rutgers [to become] a psychologist, drug/alcohol counselor, because I grew up in an environment where that was going on, so that's basically why I'm going to school.... A lot of people need that counseling.... That's why I'm going to Rutgers. I could've gone to any college I want outside of Newark but [being] born and raised [in Newark]—lived here 28 years, graduated high school, graduated college—this is home for me.”*

## ■ Young men in Newark have aspirations for themselves and their city.

When asked *“What do you see for your future?”*, young men of color talked about their aspirations for themselves and the city of Newark. Like all young people, they have dreams of pursuing meaningful careers. Older youth spoke about their desire to give back to the city, making their families proud and being role models for younger youth, while high-school-aged participants expressed a strong desire to leave Newark and seek opportunities in other cities.

### ■ Young men in Newark say growing up in the city is like a rollercoaster.

When asked to use *one word* to describe their experiences growing up in Newark, many spoke about how life in Newark can be unpredictable, for better or worse, and knowing how to adapt quickly is key. From walking through neighborhoods to walking down school hallways, the threat of danger and violence at any moment made them feel that they needed to be ready to defend themselves. However, some indicated that the hardships of living in Newark pushed them to be resilient and strive for success; they found life in the city to be an inspiration.

Despite the perceived threat of violence, mistrust of police is common. Participants generally did not feel protected by police. Some of the young men talked about positive interactions with police, while others spoke about a perceived lack of compassion or care amongst police and how their presence escalated tense situations.

*"I don't know if at [a young] age you can really appreciate what it means to grow up in an urban area. You have challenges but then you have opportunities. Hardships make you a stronger individual.... Growing up in Newark.... You have to be like a chameleon in a sense. Every day is something different.... You have to be able to adapt. And that principle, adaptation, will be important for whatever profession or whatever path you choose in life."*

### ■ Young men in Newark want to be challenged, respected and valued.

■ **Young men expressed a desire to be challenged and engaged in the classroom.** They offered various recommendations to improve school culture such as focusing on building camaraderie amongst students and strengthening curriculum with opportunities for taking personal and professional development courses. Participants also expressed the importance of having teachers who are able to respond to their experiences, and some stated that having more male teachers of color would add value to their educational experience.

A number of young men expressed frustration with the subjects currently taught in high school and stressed the need for opportunities to learn about:

- entrepreneurship,
- public speaking,
- advanced technology,
- networking
- and financial literacy.

Some young men acknowledged that improvements are needed to connect subjects perceived as boring or irrelevant to real-life applications. They also spoke about receiving college preparation earlier and being able to have real input in their class selection process.

### ■ School discipline measures are perceived as harsh and do not help students address the root causes of behavior.

One participant stated that he would like to be *disciplined respectfully*. A number of individuals felt that disciplinary consequences were issued indiscriminately with little consideration for the individual student. Young men described the need for personnel to connect with students and to understand the reasons for students' actions. As one young man

described—30 different students might skip detention, but they may have 30 different reasons, such as needing to go to work or to help their mother. Yet, several individuals reflected positively on trusted teachers, administrators and guidance counselors who helped them stay on track and held them accountable. They described their appreciation for school staff who checked in on them and who took notice when they were having a bad day.

■ **Participants identified a need for more advocates, mentors and people with whom they could develop genuine connections.** Some felt very strongly about having more black male representation among school faculty; others cared more about the strength of the relationship. A few spoke about the effects of being bullied in school and reflected how a mentor might have helped combat this. Not all young men we spoke with used the term “mentor” explicitly. The idea of someone “watching your back” came up in a multitude of ways—from more fathers at home to more black male mentors to a stronger sense of brotherhood among peers.

When asked “*What do you see as something that would have been good for you two years ago?*”, one participant articulated why he thinks it is important to have an advocate: “*Probably someone in their corner that they know genuinely has love for them.... Not just in the school setting, because somebody in the streets, if they know someone genuinely have love for them... [t]hey're going to strive to be better because they're going to realize, 'I got people that care for me, that actually want to see me do good.' If you know somebody genuinely have love for you, you're not going to let them down.*”

## Recommendations:

Newark youth are closest to these issues and, therefore, best able to identify solutions. We asked young men “*What would help young men in Newark succeed today?*” Based on their responses, ACNJ and MBK Newark identified the following needs:

- Greater access to mental health services and outlets to build up motivation.
- More access to mentors, advocates and caring adults. Although multiple participants mentioned a desire for more mentors and advocates who were also men of color, others said that race and gender were less important than an adult who made an effort to connect to and understand their experiences.
- Quality personal and professional development opportunities to expand knowledge of entrepreneurship, leadership, public speaking, advanced technology, networking and financial literacy.
- More information about a wide range of career and college options throughout middle and high school.

*“We're not given any options coming out of high school... you get your diploma and that's it. They should be teaching you about, if you want to go to college, they should be giving you all the information you need in order to go to whatever school you want to go to and learn whatever you want.... And if you don't want to go to college, they should be showing you how to get a trade or some sort of thing, because at the end of the day, we need money, we need to survive, that's what's most important.”*

## Defining the Population

Young people ages 15-24 comprise close to 15 percent of Newark's total population, with young men being 52 percent of the city's 15- to 24-year-old population. About half of Newark's male population in this age group is black or African American, followed by about 35 percent who identify as Hispanic. For the purposes of this report, breakdowns of the 15- to 24-year-old population by gender are provided in most instances. In some cases, data are available by race and gender as well; however, in those instances in which they are not, it is important to remember that black and Hispanic youth comprise the bulk of this teen and young adult population.

According to American Community Survey data, a slightly higher percentage of Newark males ages 15-24 were foreign-born compared to their female counterparts. Foreign-born status may have several implications such as limited English proficiency (depending upon the individual's country of origin) or, if the individual lacks documentation, limited access to financial aid for out-of-state college and reduced options in terms of finding and securing employment.

Of Newark males ages 16-24, 33 percent were employed, 15 percent were unemployed and 53 percent were not in the labor force (see box: *What is the Labor Force?* on page 10 for more information). Some of the high percentage of young men not in the labor force may be attributed to the fact that much of this age group are full-time students and may not have jobs as a result.

**A Note on Five-Year Estimates:** In this special section, American Community Survey data are 5-year estimates. These are used when looking at smaller populations and sub-groups.

### Newark Population by Gender, 2013-2017

	Male	Female	Total
Total population	139,738	143,065	282,803
Population ages 15-24	21,746	20,165	41,911
Percentage of Total Population	16	14	15

### Population Ages 15-24 by Gender, 2013-2017

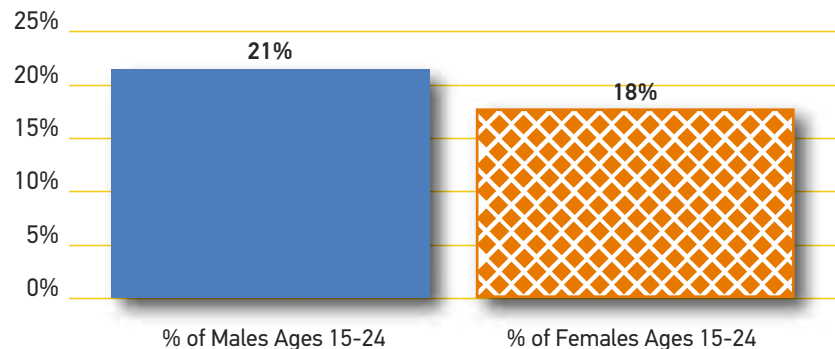
	Male	Female	Total
Newark	21,746	20,165	41,911
Essex	53,786	52,621	106,407
New Jersey	590,968	559,748	1,150,716
Newark's % of Essex	40	38	39
Newark's % of NJ	4	4	4

### Newark Population Ages 15-24, by Race and Gender, 2013-2017

	Male % males 15-24	Female % females 15-24	Both Genders % males and females 15-24
Black or African American	50	54	52
White, non-Hispanic	12	8	10
Hispanic	35	34	34
Other	19	18	18

Note: Total percentages may exceed 100% because Hispanics could be of any race.

### Percentage of Population Ages 15-24 That Are Foreign-Born, 2013-2017

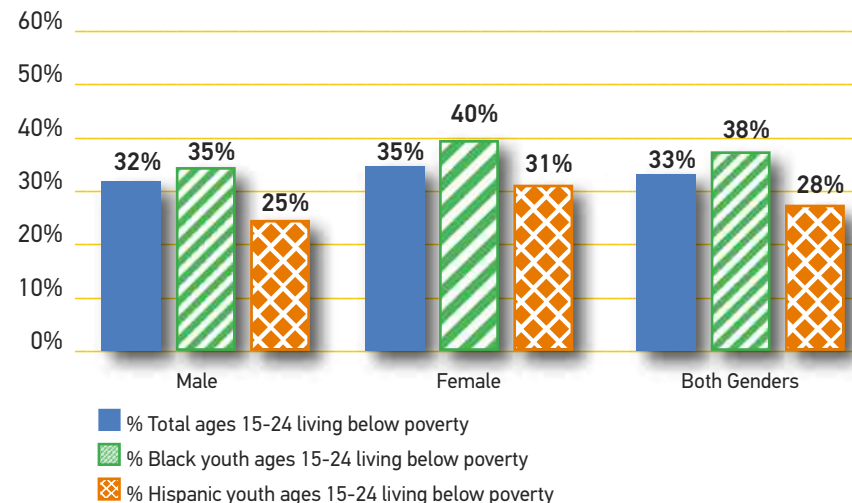


*"I tried to go to jobs and I remember this...I went to McDonald's. The guy said I did the interview right, but I wasn't dressed right. And, me thinking back, I didn't have a male figure to teach me how to dress up to go to an interview. I went with regular clothes."*

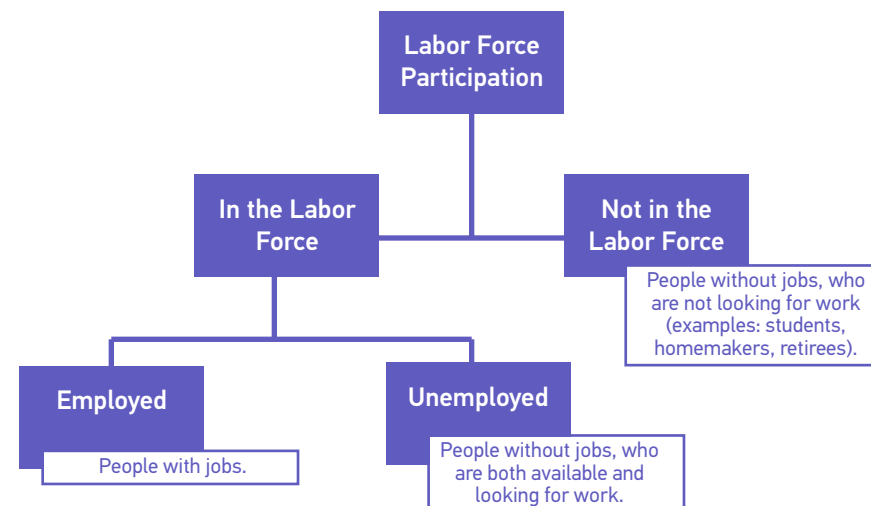
### Labor Force Participation Ages 16-24, 2013-2017

	#	Male % out of males 16-24	#	Female % out of females 16-24
Employed	6,546	33	6,634	36
Unemployed	2,905	15	3,006	16
Not in the labor force	10,581	53	8,590	47

### Newark Youth Ages 15-24 Living Below the Poverty Level, 2013-2017



### What is the Labor Force?\*



\*According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

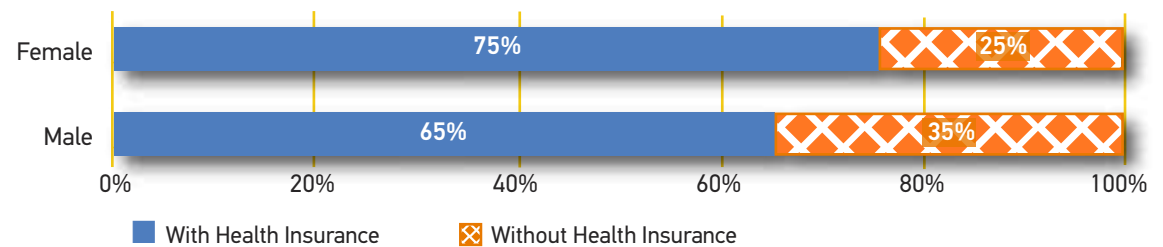
## Health and Safety

Uninsured rates have decreased throughout New Jersey, in large part due to NJ FamilyCare. Despite this statewide increase, approximately 35 percent of Newark males ages 19-25 were without insurance. This compares to 25 percent of young women within the city.

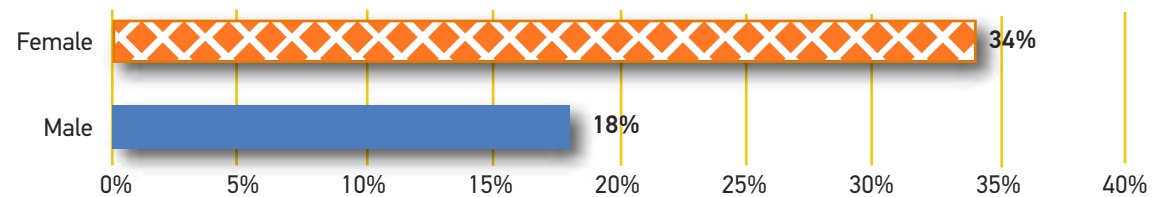
As of 2017, a higher number of Newark females 15-24 were diagnosed with a sexually transmitted disease than their male counterparts.

*"I feel like there should be more of an emphasis on mental health... people feel like they have to bottle stuff up and they don't have somebody to talk to...they go home with a lot of baggage. And they might have baggage from home that they bring to school. So having that all together just bound up into them, it's difficult when they have to go to school, focus, and then come out successful by some means."*

**Percentage of Newark Youth Ages 19-25 with Health Insurance, 2013-2017**



**Percentage of Newark Youth Ages 19- 25 with Public Health Insurance, 2013- 2017**

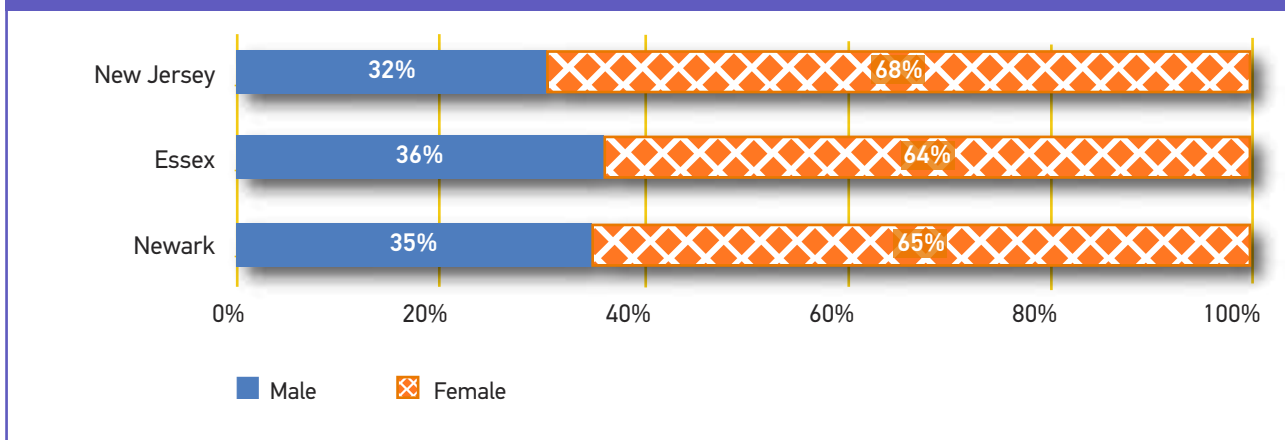


*"I mean, people don't really want to go to the doctor because they don't want to be told bad news.... They don't believe that being sick is an issue, they can like power through it. Especially when we're like from low-income households, you can't afford to have sick days because you always have to make them hours to pay the bills."*

*Youth Ages 15-24 Diagnosed with A Sexually Transmitted Disease, by Gender, 2017*

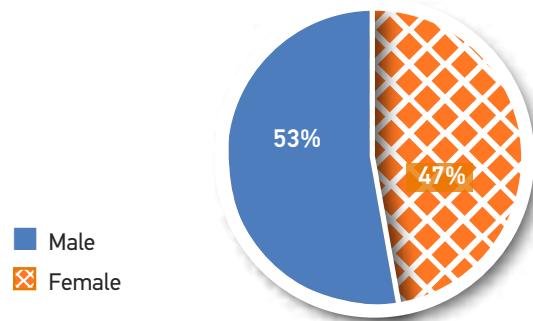
	Newark	Essex	New Jersey
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,912</b>	<b>5,215</b>	<b>27,503</b>
Male	1,029	1,858	8,840
Female	1,883	3,357	18,663

*Percentage of Youth Ages 15-24 Diagnosed with a Sexually Transmitted Disease, by Gender, 2017*





### Newark Public Schools Homeless Students by Gender, All Grades, 2017-18



Note: Data do not include charter schools.

### Newark Public Schools Homeless Students by Race and Gender, All Grades, 2017-18

	Male	Female
Asian	0	1
Black	224	211
Hispanic	177	142
Unknown	0	1
Native American	0	2
Pacific Islander	0	1
White	12	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>363</b>

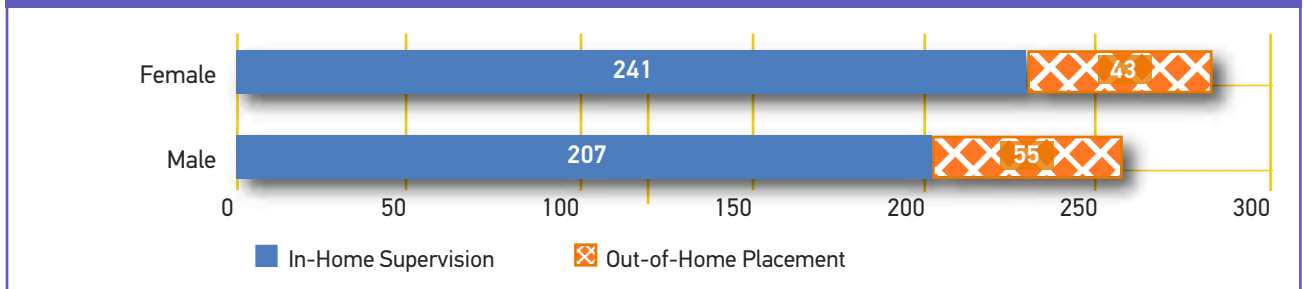
## Child Protection

According to data from the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P) supervised slightly more young women than young men ages 15-21 in 2018; however, a higher number of young men were in out-of-home placements than young women for the same period. Of the 2017 reports for abuse and neglect among Newark youth ages 15-17, 58 percent were for young women, compared to 42 percent for young men. Rates of substantiated or established cases of abuse and neglect were also higher for young women, at 9.3 percent, compared to 6.5 percent for their male counterparts.

### Youth Ages 15-21 Under CP&P Supervision, by Gender, 2018

	Male	Female	Total
Newark	262	284	546
Essex	428	487	915
New Jersey	3,886	4,397	8,283

### Newark Youth Ages 15-21 Under CP&P Supervision, by Gender, 2018





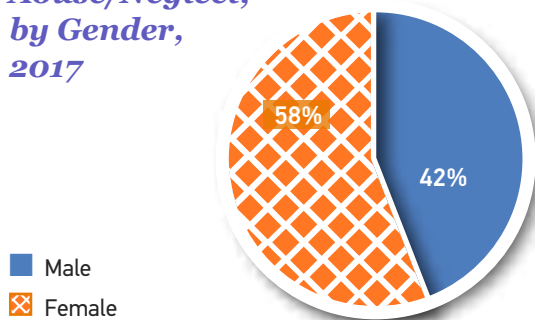
*Youth Ages 15-17 Reported for Abuse/Neglect, 2017*

	Male	Female
Newark	293	398
Essex	521	721
New Jersey	4,947	6,493

*Youth Ages 15-17 with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2017*

	#	Male %	#	Female %
Newark	19	6.5	37	9.3
Essex	36	6.9	60	8.3
New Jersey	269	5.4	442	6.8

*Percentage of Newark Youth Ages 15-17 Reported for Abuse/Neglect, by Gender, 2017*



## The Safety of Young Men in Newark

Data relating to issues of safety and well-being exhibit some of the widest gaps in experience between young men and women living in Newark, and in some cases, between Newark's young men and those living statewide. Over a five-year period (2012-2016), 122 young men in Newark fell victim to homicide; equaling 75 percent of injury-related fatalities to Newark's young men ages 15-24. This compares to 11 female victims of homicide ages 15-24, or 50 percent of injury-related fatalities to young women. The statewide data for the same period and age group show that homicides accounted for 27 percent of all injury-related fatalities of young men, with the leading cause being unintentional injury.

In 2017, there were 2,424 arrests to Newark youth ages 18-24, 82 percent of which were to young men. Similar disparities existed for Newark youth admitted to Essex County detention, with 88 percent being males, and 91 percent of total admissions for both genders to African American youth. Newark males ages 15-24 comprise roughly 40 percent of Essex County's total 15- to 24-year-old male population (see page 9).

## The Newark Community Street Team: Who Are They?

The Newark Community Street Team (NCST) is a group of outreach workers who seek to minimize violence in the South and West Wards of the city. In partnership with the City of Newark, the NCST began in 2015 in an effort to involve individuals from the community, some of whom were formerly gang-affiliated or recently released from prison, to fill in gaps within the city's public safety system.<sup>1</sup> The NCST acts as a resource to neighborhoods by building trust with individuals in the community, guiding students to and from school safely and resolving active conflicts that may arise.

### *All Fatalities to Youth (Ages 15-24), by Gender, 2012- 2016*

	Male	Female	Total
Newark	188	53	241
Essex	333	111	444
New Jersey	2,538	875	3,413
Newark's % of Essex	56	48	54
Newark's % of New Jersey	7	6	7

*"In our communities, what's respected? Strength, toughness; violence is respected... so being strong in front of your peers becomes your primary concern, even more than education."*

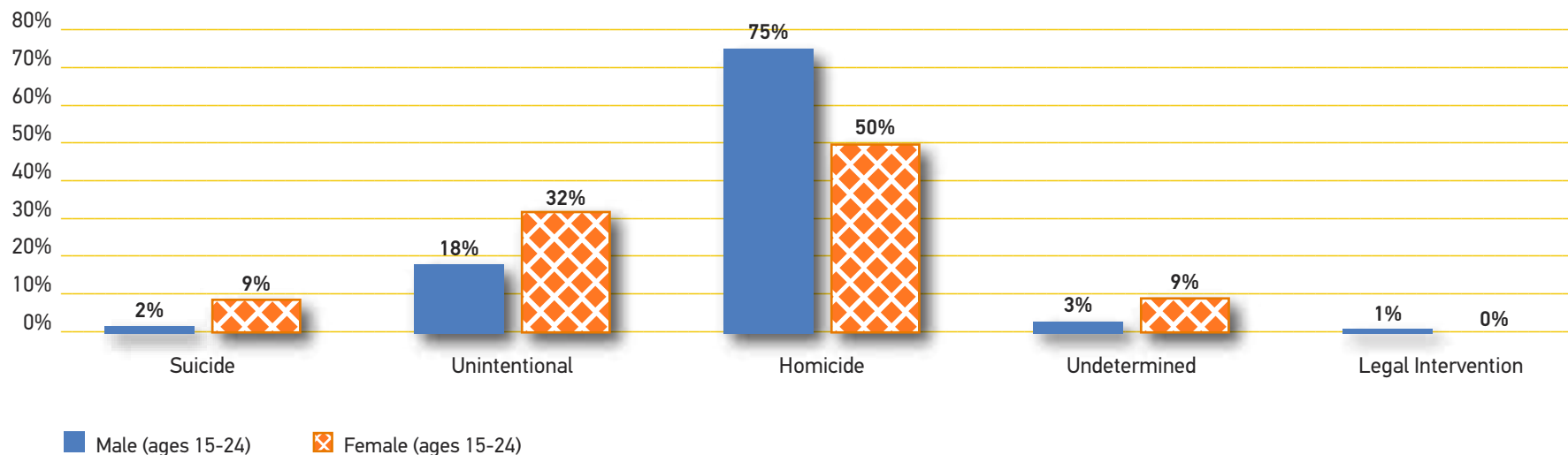
### *Newark Deaths by Injury (Ages 15-24), by Gender, 2012-2016*

	Suicide	Unintentional	Homicide	Undetermined	Legal Intervention	Total
Male	4	29	122	5	2	162
Female	2	7	11	2	0	22

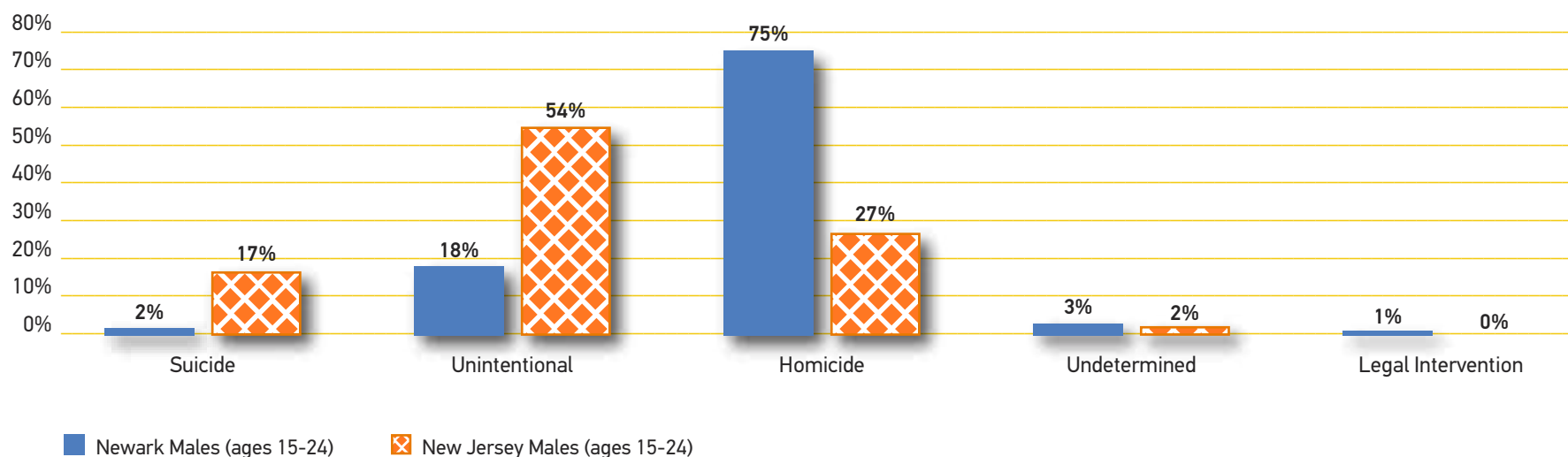
*"If you know about [that school], [gang members] be right outside the school. As soon as you come out the building, they're right there. And there be grown-ups. So I had to actually stop playing at [that school] after my junior year because some of the older guys would come wait for me after school. And it sucked.... You're from X neighborhood, you don't go to this school. If you [are] from over here, you don't go to West Side; you don't go to Weequahic; you don't go to Shabazz. If you [are] from over there, you don't go to Central, or East Side."*

*"...because even though [there's] a lot of crime in the city and you do have to watch over your shoulder 90 percent of the time... I do have a lot of experience[s] in this city that were good."*

*% of Newark Deaths by Injury by Gender and Injury Intention, 2012-2016*



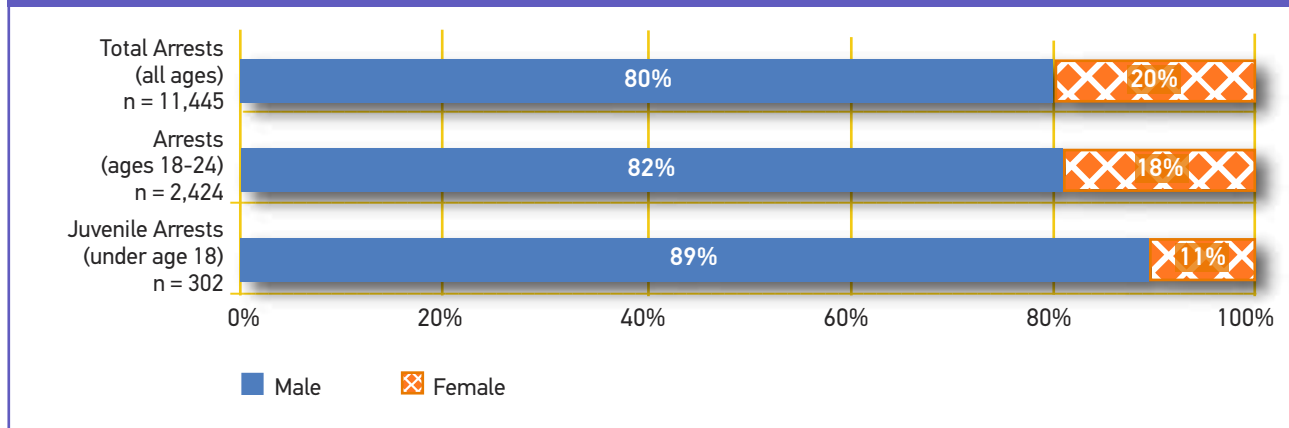
*% of Deaths by Injury to Males by Geography and Injury Intention, 2012-2016*



### Deaths by Injury to Newark Males by Race and Injury Type (Ages 15-24), 2012-2016

	Suicide	Unintentional	Homicide	Undetermined	Legal Intervention	Total
White, non-Hispanic	1	4	0	1	0	6
Black, non-Hispanic	3	16	111	3	1	134
Hispanic	0	8	10	1	1	20
Two or More Races, non-Hispanic	0	1	1	0	0	2

### Newark Arrests, by Gender, 2017



“...[s]ince they [cops] have the authority to shoot anybody that holds a gun or [anything] that looks like a gun, I guess they feel as though...they don't have no fear to do to whatever they want and have regrets about it. I seen cops do things to people that I never seen before. Some really crazy stuff.”

“...I was in the wrong, because I was outside too late. And I was up to no good, but mind you, the cops, they had caught me, so I was like, in the act. I could've been doing some time right now, but like, if it was up to that cop I could've been locked up. But, he had the strength to let me go and like, I don't know how else to put it...I was a knucklehead being outside late...that's how he looked at it.”

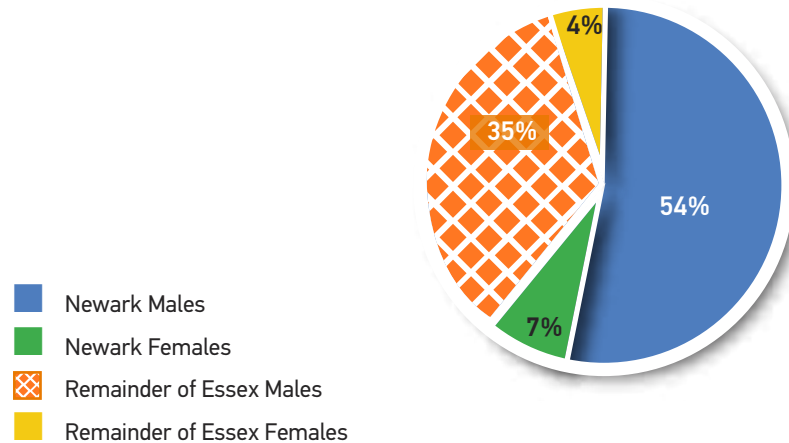
### Admissions to Detention by Race/Ethnicity, 2017

	African-American	Caucasian	Hispanic	Other	Total
Newark	277	3	24	0	304
Essex	434	9	54	1	498

### Admissions to Detention by Gender, 2017

	Male	Female	Total
Newark	268	36	304
Essex	443	55	498

### Percentage of Essex County Admissions by Gender and Location, 2017



### What is a Stationhouse Adjustment?

A stationhouse adjustment allows first-time juvenile offenders the opportunity to avoid a formal record with the criminal justice system by resolving the matter quickly and locally.<sup>2</sup> When a young person commits a minor first-time offense, such as drinking while underage, disobeying municipal curfews or shoplifting, a law enforcement officer discusses the effect it might have on their future with both the young person and their parent or guardian. If there is a victim involved, they must agree to the terms of the stationhouse adjustment. As a consequence for their actions, a young person may be referred for additional services, required to pay a fee for stolen or damaged property or complete community service hours. Municipalities in all 21 counties in New Jersey are required to provide a quarterly report of aggregate stationhouse adjustment data to their county prosecutor's office.

## Education and Opportunity

Aggregate enrollment in high schools (both traditional and charter) show roughly equal break-downs between male and female students. When we take a closer look at different high schools, however, differences in enrollment become clear. Male students are overrepresented in comprehensive Newark Public Schools (NPS) high schools and underrepresented in NPS magnet schools and charter high schools. Although the gender break-down for NPS alternative high schools remains mostly equal, disaggregated data by gender *and* race indicate that black male and female students combined comprise more than 80 percent of enrollment.

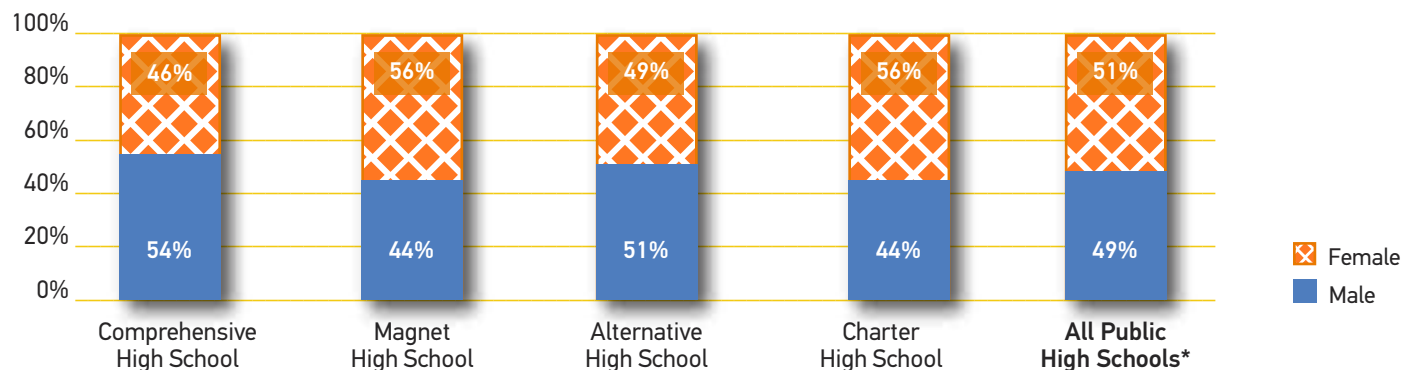
Performance on the most recent Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) data show varied results for both male and female students. Overall, on high school English Language Arts PARCC exams, female NPS students tended to outperform their male peers. Yet, results on high school math exams showed smaller margins between the percentages of male and female students meeting and exceeding expectations. For example, ninth grade English Language Arts results showed 43 percent of female students meeting or exceeding expectations compared to 25 percent of male students. The gender disparity still remained for Algebra I, but the gap was smaller—29 percent of female students and 21 percent of male students met or exceeded expectations.

In Newark's high school grades, data show that high rates of absenteeism exist among both young men and young women. "Chronic absenteeism" is generally defined as missing 10 percent or more of enrolled days for any reason. Male students maintained slightly higher rates of chronic absence in ninth and 10<sup>th</sup> grade, equal rates in 11<sup>th</sup> grade, and in 12<sup>th</sup> grade, young women showed higher rates. Among male NPS students, with the exception of 12<sup>th</sup> grade, black and Hispanic students had higher rates of chronic absenteeism than did white students. In all of the high school grades, chronic absenteeism rates for black male students were more than 50 percent. Yet, absenteeism proved to be a pervasive problem for all male 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, regardless of race.

Across NPS high schools, young women graduated at a higher rate than young men, at 83 percent and 74 percent respectively. Individual high school graduation rates ran the gamut, with some—like Science Park—posting graduation rates that were slightly higher for young men (99 percent) compared to young women (98 percent). One of the highest disparities in graduation rates between male and female students occurred at Malcolm X Shabazz High School, where young women graduated at a rate roughly 22 percentage points higher than young men.

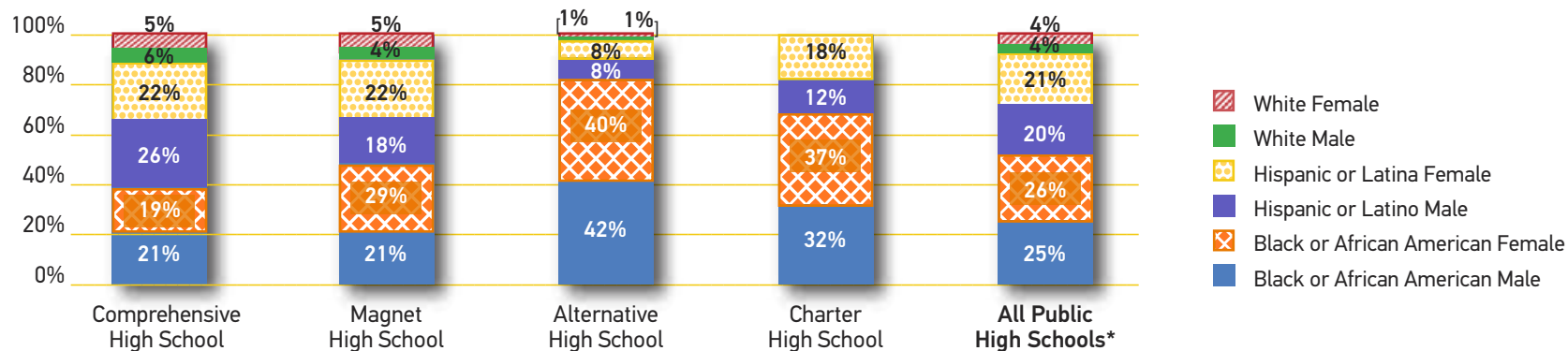
Post-secondary enrollment data also indicated that young women were slightly more likely than young men to enroll in college or graduate school at 29 percent and 28 percent respectively. Young women ages 18-24 were also more likely to complete "some college" than young men and a higher percentage of young women received a Bachelor's degree or higher.

### Newark High School Enrollment by School Type, by Gender, 2017-18



\*All Public High Schools category includes data from all Newark Public Schools enrolling students in grades 9-12, including high school students from Eagle Academy, John F. Kennedy and the N.J. Regional Day School, as well as students from all charter high schools located in Newark.

### Newark High School Student Enrollment by School Type, by Gender and Race, 2017-18



\*All Public High Schools category includes data from all Newark Public Schools enrolling students in grades 9-12, including high school students from Eagle Academy, John F. Kennedy and the N.J. Regional Day School, as well as students from all charter high schools located in Newark.



*9<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18*

	Male	Female
Newark Public Schools	25	43
American History High School	25	48
Arts High School	34	51
Bard Early College High School	44	67
Barringer Academy of S.T.E.A.M	7	15
Barringer Arts High School	4	11
Central High School	6	18
Eagle Academy for Young Men	16	N/A
East Side High School	15	23
Malcolm X Shabazz High School	14	14
Science Park High School	86	91
Technology High School	81	92
University High School	38	46
Weequahic High School	4	19
West Side High School	13	26
<b>Newark Charter Schools</b>		
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	43	53
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	16	27
North Star Academy Charter School	50	74
People's Preparatory Charter School	20	10
TEAM Academy Charter School	31	54

*10<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18*

	Male	Female
Newark Public Schools	26	38
American History High School	51	63
Arts High School	38	53
Bard Early College High School	36	55
Barringer Academy of S.T.E.A.M	3	3
Barringer Arts High School	5	18
Central High School	4	14
Eagle Academy for Young Men	15	N/A
East Side High School	18	27
Malcolm X Shabazz High School	4	15
Science Park High School	85	90
Technology High School	80	89
University High School	36	28
Weequahic High School	4	12
West Side High School	14	27
<b>Newark Charter Schools</b>		
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	38	33
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	25	40
North Star Academy Charter School	18	28
People's Preparatory Charter School	53	66
TEAM Academy Charter School	45	61

## Special Section: Newark's Young Men of Color

### *11<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18*

	Male	Female
Newark Public Schools	28	43
American History High School	48	65
Arts High School	55	70
Bard Early College High School	70	69
Barringer Academy of S.T.E.A.M	7	18
Barringer Arts High School	3	6
Central High School	15	34
Eagle Academy for Young Men	28	N/A
East Side High School	21	32
Malcolm X Shabazz High School	11	31
Science Park High School	78	67
Technology High School	91	92
University High School	32	45
Uplift Academy	*	*
Weequahic High School	14	12
West Side High School	23	34
Newark Charter Schools		
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	43	54
LEAD Charter School	10	*
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	41	51
North Star Academy Charter School	48	66
People's Preparatory Charter School	62	69
TEAM Academy Charter School	47	75

*\*Data suppressed to protect confidentiality of students.*

### *Algebra I PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18*

	Male	Female
Newark Public Schools	21	29
American History High School	21	23
Arts High School	13	28
Bard Early College High School	24	36
Barringer Academy of S.T.E.A.M	9	6
Barringer Arts High School	1	3
Central High School	4	5
Eagle Academy for Young Men	4	N/A
East Side High School	14	14
Malcolm X Shabazz High School	5	7
Science Park High School	79	78
Technology High School	89	83
University High School	20	17
Uplift Academy	7	2
Weequahic High School	0	0
West Side High School	12	16
Newark Charter Schools		
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	39	39
LEAD Charter School	3	0
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	5	8
North Star Academy Charter School	63	75
People's Preparatory Charter School	13	8
TEAM Academy Charter School	31	43

*Note: Newark Public Schools percentage meeting or exceeding expectations includes all students in any grade sitting for Algebra I test, including schools not listed. N/A indicates that data are not available.*

### Geometry PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18

	Male	Female
Newark Public Schools	7	9
American History High School	0	0
Arts High School	12	18
Bard Early College High School	14	22
Barringer Academy of S.T.E.A.M	3	4
Barringer Arts High School	2	0
Central High School	1	2
Eagle Academy for Young Men	0	N/A
East Side High School	5	5
Malcolm X Shabazz High School	2	0
Science Park High School	85	62
Technology High School	35	35
University High School	9	1
Uplift Academy	*	N/A
Weequahic High School	0	0
West Side High School	4	6
Newark Charter Schools		
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	16	5
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	*	N/A
North Star Academy Charter School	32	38
People's Preparatory Charter School	3	9
TEAM Academy Charter School	22	19

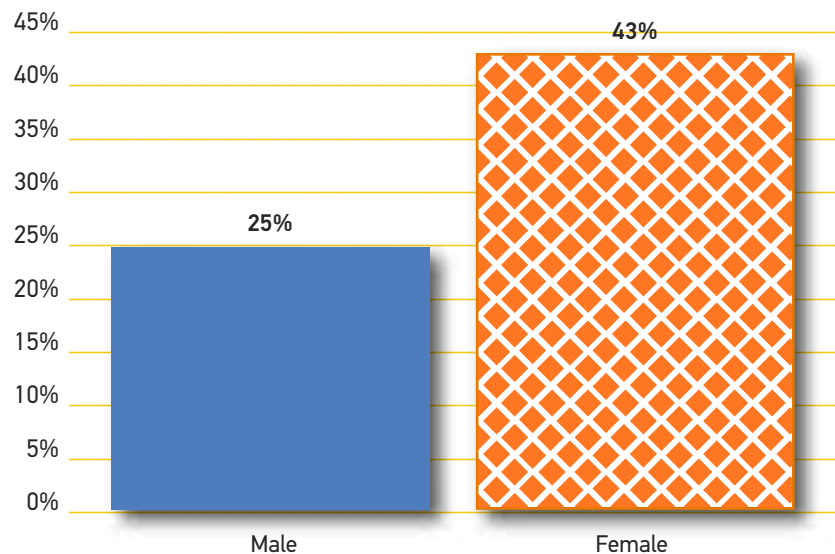
\*Data suppressed to protect confidentiality of students.  
Note: N/A indicates that data are not available.

### Algebra II PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18

	Male	Female
Newark Public Schools	12	14
American History High School	2	3
Arts High School	11	12
Barringer Academy of S.T.E.A.M	1	0
Barringer Arts High School	0	0
Central High School	0	4
Eagle Academy for Young Men	0	N/A
East Side High School	4	2
Malcolm X Shabazz High School	2	0
Science Park High School	68	61
Technology High School	50	48
University High School	3	0
Weequahic High School	6	6
West Side High School	3	3
Newark Charter Schools		
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	21	6
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	7	3
North Star Academy Charter School	56	45
People's Preparatory Charter School	0	4
TEAM Academy Charter School	17	15

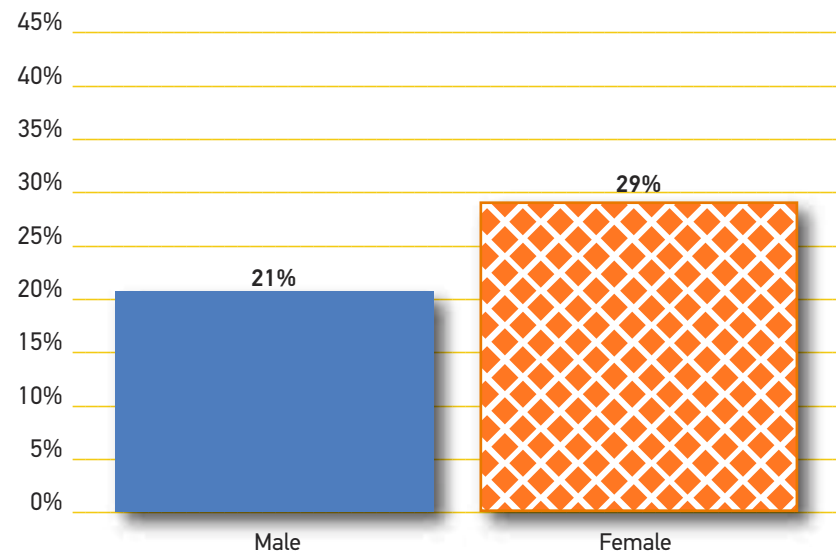
Note: N/A indicates that data are not available.

***Ninth Grade English Language Arts PARCC, % of NPS Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, by Gender, 2017-18\****



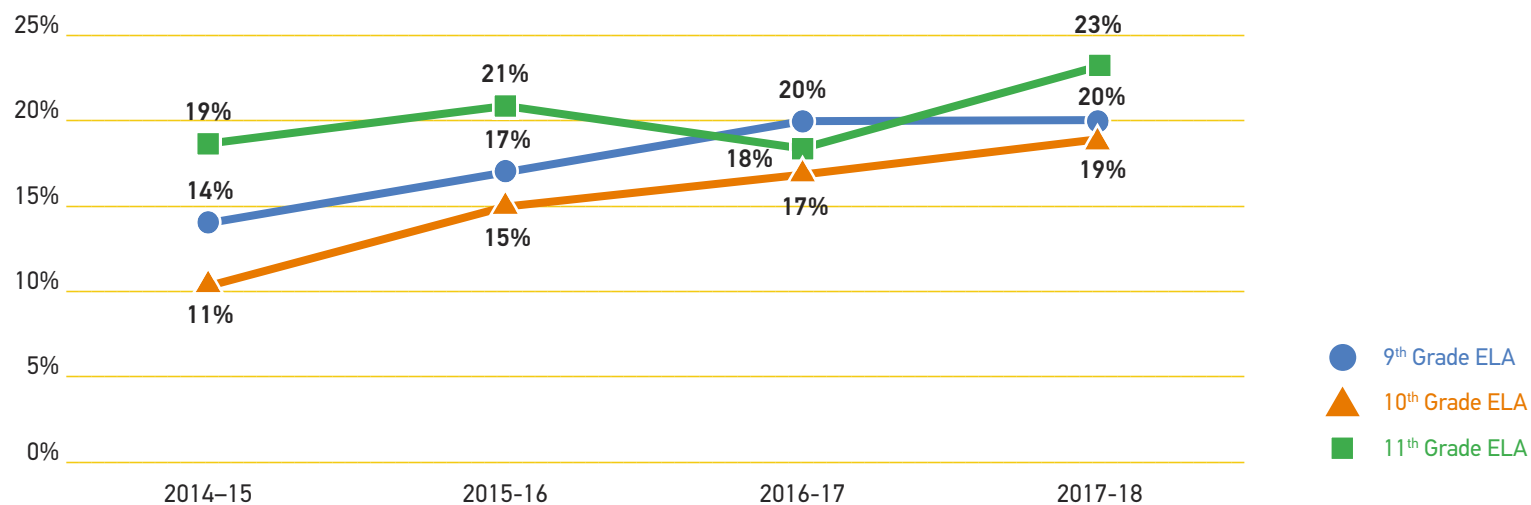
*\*Does not include charter schools.*

***Algebra I PARCC, % of NPS Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, by Gender, 2017-18\****

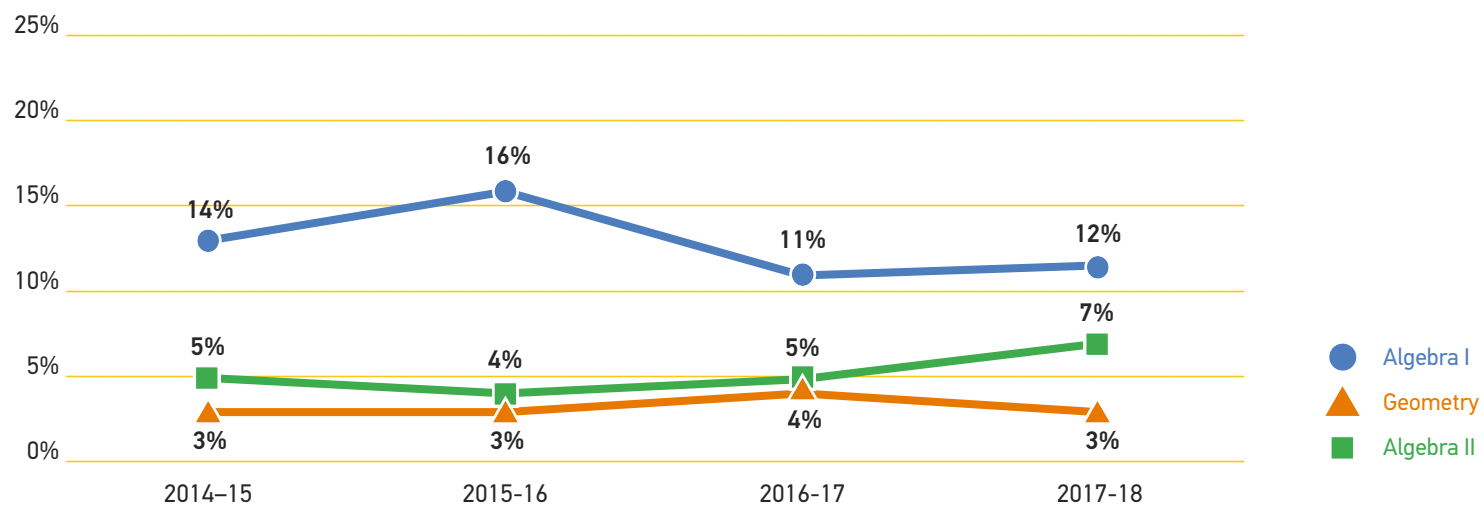


*\*Does not include charter schools.*

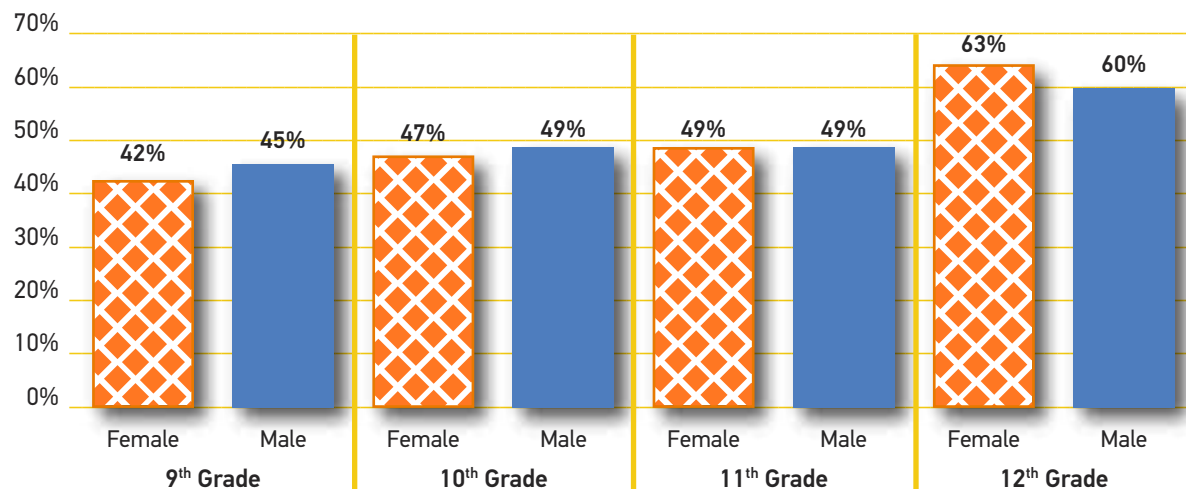
### English Language Arts PARCC % Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, NPS Black Male Students



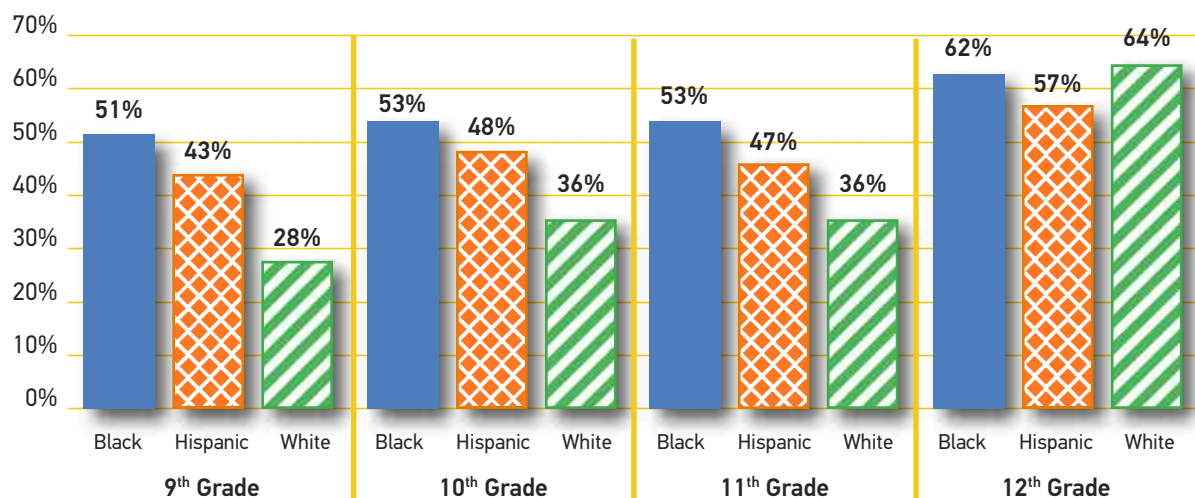
### Math PARCC % Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, NPS Black Male Students



% of NPS Students Chronically Absent, by Gender, 2017-18



% of NPS Male Students Chronically Absent, by Race, 2017-18



## Reflections on School Discipline

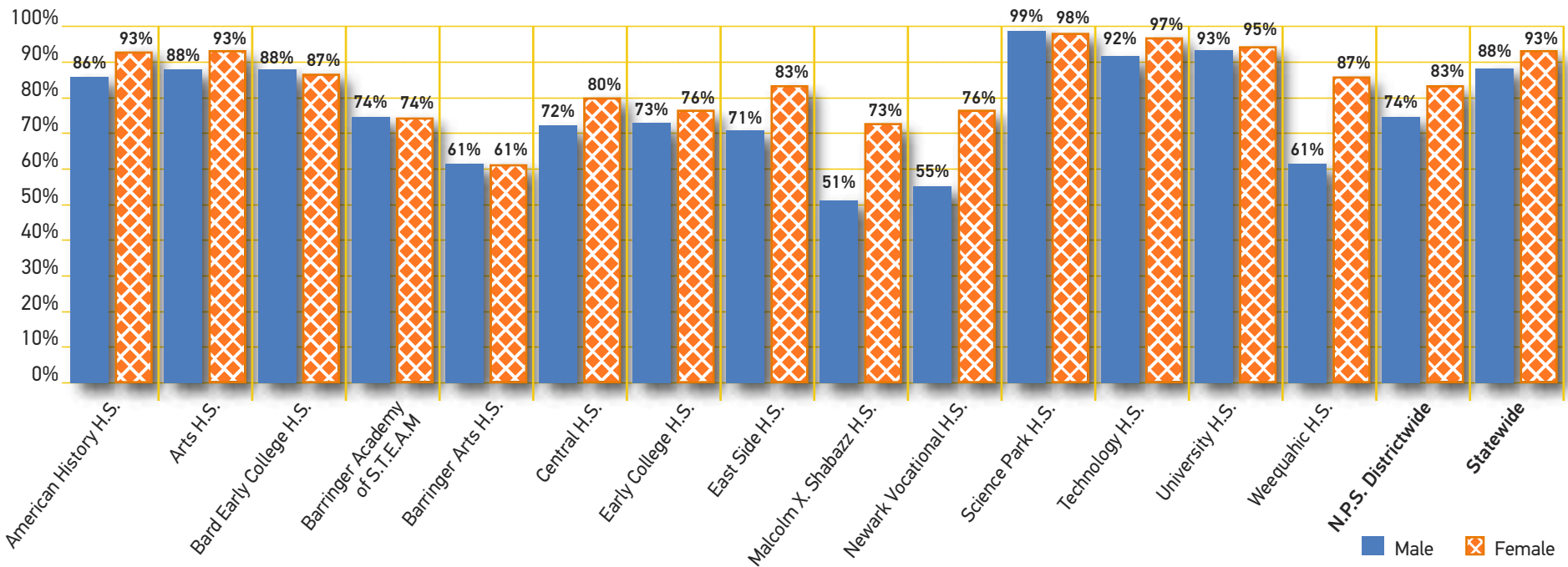
National data from the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights make it clear—school disciplinary measures are more frequently applied to young men and young men of color in particular (for more information, visit: <https://ocrdata.ed.gov/>). We asked some of Newark's young men to share their experiences with and perceptions of school discipline. The following quotes are some of what we heard.

*"...[I]t's kind of harsh now that I think about it. Harsh and more like they don't really try to find out what's happening, really."*

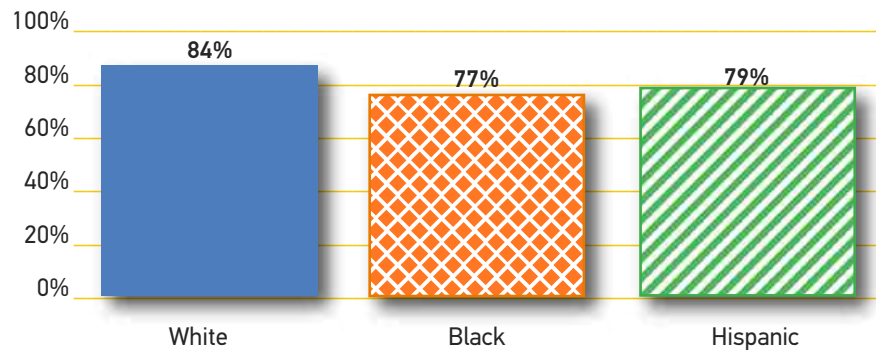
*"...[Y]ou don't have your uniform... you forgot to throw the shirt on, but you threw the hoodie on or whatever. You have the uniform pants, the shoes, the socks, everything, they'll send you right back home. No classes, no nothing, and then you get suspended for that and you get a day or two. Come back, you've got to write a letter of apology, stuff like that; it's too much."*

*"They should be talking to the student... you could have detention, 30 people could skip detention, they could be for different reasons, 'oh, I had to go take care of this; I just didn't feel like going; I had to go help my mother with this; I had an appointment here—a doctor's appointment; I had to go to work.' All different reasons, but you don't care."*

### 2017 Graduation Rates by Gender



### Newark Public Schools Graduation Rates by Race, 2017



*"But also education-wise, I've been prepared for next-level college. And that's not just because of my classes, but because certain teachers were looking out for me.... I began to realize I have a lot of people in my corner backing me, and I feel like that made me better at under-standing not only myself but also the areas around myself and the people around me."*

*"...[W]e had two hours of tutoring each day. And my tutor, she was like my in-school mother. And then the dean of students, she was mad cool, so it's like, any problems I had, those two people I know for sure, I've got help."*



## What is the Newark Opportunity Youth Network?

The Newark Opportunity Youth Network (NOYN) is a public-private partnership working to reconnect young people who are not enrolled in school and not working with education and employment opportunities. In 2016, NOYN opened their Reengagement Center, a place where youth are assessed and placed in further education or job training opportunities. A young person may be referred to NOYN's alternative charter school, LEAD Charter School, or to other community organizations in order to receive help in completing and passing high school equivalency exams. For more information on the NOYN, visit their website: <http://newark-oyyn.org/>.

*"I mean high schools definitely have to promote college but they don't really necessarily tell you about what you should do in college—like what you should major in, types of careers there are. Because everyone knows what's a doctor and a lawyer...but no one knows like the other types of jobs...."*

### Newark College Enrollment, 2013-2017

	Male	Female
Individuals ages 15-24 enrolled in college or graduate school	5,994	5,766
% ages 15-24 enrolled in college or graduate school	28	29

### Newark Educational Attainment, Ages 18-24, 2013-2017

	#	Male %	#	Female %
Some College	6,111	38	6,196	42
Associate's	686	4	697	5
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	915	6	1,473	10

## ■ References:

- <sup>1</sup> Carter, B. (March 28, 2017). "Newark Street Team builds trust with youth to prevent violence." NJ.com. Retrieved March 12, 2019 from [https://www.nj.com/essex/2017/03/newark\\_street\\_team\\_builds\\_trust\\_with\\_youth\\_to\\_prev.html](https://www.nj.com/essex/2017/03/newark_street_team_builds_trust_with_youth_to_prev.html).
- <sup>2</sup> Office of the Attorney General, New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety. (2005). Attorney General Guidelines for Stationhouse Adjustment of Juvenile Delinquency Offenses. Retrieved March 12, 2019 from [https://www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/agguide/directives/directives\\_2005/dir-2005-4-stationguide.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/oag/dcj/agguide/directives/directives_2005/dir-2005-4-stationguide.pdf).

## ■ Data Sources and Technical Notes:

### Defining the Population

**Newark Population by Gender, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001, 5-year estimates.

**Population Ages 15-24 by Gender, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001, 5-year estimates.

**Newark Population Ages 15-24, by Race and Gender, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey charts B01001B, B01001H, B01001I, B01001F, 5-year estimates. Black or African American and Other categories may include individuals who identified as Hispanic.

**Percentage of Newark Population Ages 15-24 that Are Foreign-Born, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B05013, 5-year estimates.

**Newark Youth Ages 15-24 Living Below the Poverty Level, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17001, B17001A, B17001B, B17001I, 5-year estimates.

**Labor Force Participation Ages 16-24, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B23001, 5-year estimates.

### Health and Safety

**Percentage of Newark Youth Ages 19-25 with Health Insurance, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B27001, 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Newark Youth Ages 19-25 with Public Health Insurance, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B27003, 5-year estimates.

**Youth Ages 15-24 Diagnosed with A Sexually Transmitted Disease, 2017.** Youth under age 25 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS). Does not include youth whose gender was unknown or unreported. Data accessed as of September 21, 2018.

**Percentage of Youth Ages 15-24 Diagnosed with a Sexually Transmitted Disease by Gender, 2017.** Youth under age 25 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS). Does not include youth whose gender was unknown or unreported. Data from prior reports are not comparable due to a change in age designation. Data accessed as of September 21, 2018.

**Newark Public Schools Homeless Students by Gender, (ALL Grades), 2017-18.** As reported by Newark Public Schools. Data are as of June for each school year listed and do not include charter schools. Represents any student identified as homeless during the given school year.

**Newark Public Schools Homeless Students by Gender and Race, (ALL Grades), 2017-18.** As reported by Newark Public Schools. Data are as of June for each school year listed and do not include charter schools. Represents any student identified as homeless during the given school year.

**Youth Ages 15-21 Under CP&P Supervision, by Gender, 2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30.

**Newark Youth Ages 15-21 Under CP&P Supervision, by Gender, 2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30.

**Youth Ages 15-17 Reported for Abuse/Neglect, 2017.** Number of youth ages 15-17 reported for abuse/neglect. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families for the calendar year.

**Percentage of Newark Youth Ages 15-17 Reported for Abuse/Neglect, by Gender, 2017.** Number of youth ages 15-17 reported for abuse/neglect by gender out of total reports for abuse and neglect. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families for the calendar year.

**Youth Ages 15-17 with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2017.** The number of youth ages 15-17 found to be victims of abuse/neglect. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families for the calendar year. In 2013, the N.J. Department of Children and Families added two possible findings of child abuse/neglect investigations—"established" and "not established". Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was "substantiated" or "unfounded".

**All Fatalities to Youth (Ages 15-24), by Gender, 2012-2016.** The number of youth ages 15-24 who died in that year, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of October 26, 2018.

**Newark Deaths by Injury (Ages 15-24), 2012-2016.** The number of youth ages 15-24 who died in that year by an injury-related cause, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of October 31, 2018.

**Percentage of Newark Deaths by Injury by Gender and Injury Intention, 2012-2016.** The number of youth ages 15-24 who died in that year by an injury-related cause, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of October 31, 2018.

**Percentage of New Jersey Deaths by Injury by Gender and Injury Intention, 2012-2016.** The number of youth ages 15-24 who died in that year by an injury-related cause, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of November 30, 2018.

**Deaths by Injury to Newark Males by Race and Injury Type (Ages 15-24), 2012-2016.** The number of youth ages 15-24 who died in that year by an injury-related cause, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of February 8, 2019.

**Newark Arrests, by Gender, 2017.** As reported by the Newark Police Department.

**Admissions to Detention by Gender, 2017.** The number of youth admitted to detention by gender. As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

**Admissions to Detention by Race/Ethnicity, 2017.** The number of youth admitted to detention by race and ethnicity. As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

**Percentage of Essex County Admissions by Gender and Location, 2017.** As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

### Education and Opportunity

**Newark High School Enrollment by School Type, by Gender, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Enrollment Data. Data include students enrolled in grades 9-12 in both traditional district and charter schools. "All Public High Schools" category includes data from all Newark Public Schools, including high school students from Eagle Academy, John F. Kennedy, and the N.J. Regional Day School, as well as students from all charter high schools located in Newark. Lead Charter School, though an alternative school, is included in charter totals.

**Newark High School Student Enrollment by School Type, by Gender and Race, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Enrollment Data. Data include both traditional district and charter schools. "All Public High Schools" category includes data from all Newark Public Schools, including high school students from Eagle Academy, John F. Kennedy, and the N.J. Regional Day School, as well as students from all charter high schools located in Newark. Lead Charter School, though an alternative school, is included in charter totals.

**Ninth Grade English Language Arts PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey Statewide Assessment Reports. Includes general education students, special education students, and foreign-language students. Data include both traditional district as well as charter schools. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect student confidentiality.

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey Statewide Assessment Reports. Includes general education students, special education students, and foreign-language students. Data include both traditional district as well as charter schools. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect student confidentiality.

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey Statewide Assessment Reports. Includes general education students, special education students, and foreign-language students. Data include both traditional district as well as charter schools. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect student confidentiality.

**Algebra I PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey Statewide Assessment Reports. Includes all general education students, special education students, and foreign-language students sitting for the exam, regardless of grade level. Data include both traditional district as well as charter schools. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect student confidentiality.

**Geometry PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey Statewide Assessment Reports. Includes all general education students, special education students, and foreign-language students sitting for the exam, regardless of grade level. Data include both traditional district as well as charter schools. Data for Uplift Academy and for Marion P. Thomas Charter School were unavailable. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect student confidentiality.

**Algebra II PARCC, Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey Statewide Assessment Reports. Includes all general education students, special education students, and foreign-language students sitting for the exam, regardless of grade level. Data include both traditional district as well as charter schools. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect student confidentiality.

**Ninth Grade English Language Arts PARCC, Percentage of NPS Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, by Gender, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey Statewide Assessment Reports. Includes general education students, special education students, and foreign-language students. Data include traditional district schools only. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect student confidentiality.

**Algebra I PARCC, Percentage of NPS Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, by Gender, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey Statewide Assessment Reports. Includes all general education students, special education students, and foreign-language students sitting for the exam, regardless of grade level. Data include traditional district schools only. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect student confidentiality.

**English Language Arts and Math PARCC % Meeting or Exceeding Expectations, NPS Black Male Students, 2014-15 through 2017-18.** As reported by Newark Public Schools. Data do not include charter schools.

**Percentage of NPS Students Chronically Absent, by Gender, 2017-18.** As reported by Newark Public Schools. Data do not include charter schools.

**Percentage of NPS Male Students Chronically Absent, by Race, 2017-18.** As reported by Newark Public Schools. Data do not include charter schools.

**Graduation Rates by Gender, 2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data do not include charter schools.

**Newark Public Schools Graduation Rates by Race, 2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data do not include charter schools.

**Newark College Enrollment, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B14004, 5-year estimates.

**Newark Educational Attainment, Ages 18-24, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B15001, 5-year estimates.



