

## Arrests with PL 221 (Offenses Involving Marijuana) as Top Charge<sup>1</sup>, by County, by Race for New York State

2000-2018 DCJS Data, Compiled by NYCLU

### I. Statewide Arrests for Offenses Involving Marijuana

	PL 221 ARRESTS, STATE TOTAL				
	Black	Hispanic	White	Black & Hispanic	Total
% of state pop.	14%	18%	58%	32%	100%
PL 221 arrests	469,084	277,661	133,374	746,745	905,825
% of total PL 221 arrests	52%	31%	15%	82%	100%
1 in every X people were arrested	6	12	85	8	21
X more likely than white to be arrested	14	7	-	10	-

### II. Counties with Highest Enforcement and Racial Disparities for Offences Involving Marijuana

Most PL 221 Top Charge Arrests, 2000-2018 (Excluding NYC Counties)		
Rank	County	N Arrests
1	Suffolk	29,372
2	Nassau	18,020
3	Westchester	17,296
4	Erie	14,193
5	Monroe	7,402
6	Albany	4,487
7	Orange	4,010
8	Onondaga	3,924
9	Rockland	1,830
10	Niagara	1,732

Most PL 221 Top Charge Arrests, 2000-2018		
Rank	County	N Arrests
1	Kings	240,219
2	Bronx	209,209
3	New York	186,745
4	Queens	118,386
5	Suffolk	29,372
6	Richmond	23,141
7	Nassau	18,020
8	Westchester	17,296
9	Erie	14,193
10	Monroe	7,402

<sup>1</sup> Note that these numbers do not include arrests where the top charge was PL 221.05 (violation level possession), as DCJS does not get data for this subsection. Similarly, these numbers do not include arrests where PL 221 was not the top charge.

**Most PL 221 Top Charge Arrests,  
Controlling for Pop, 2000-2018**  
(Excluding NYC Counties)

Rank	County	1 in X ppl
1	St. Lawrence	29
2	Suffolk	51
3	Westchester	55
4	Franklin	63
5	Erie	65
6	Albany	68
7	Nassau	74
8	Seneca	88
9	Hamilton	90
10	Orange	93

**Most PL 221 Top Charge Arrests,  
Controlling for Pop, 2000-2018**

Rank	County	1 in X ppl
1	Bronx	7
2	New York	8
3	Kings	10
4	Queens	19
5	Richmond	20
6	St. Lawrence	29
7	Suffolk	51
8	Westchester	55
9	Franklin	63
10	Erie	65

**Most PL 221 Top Charge Arrests of  
Black People,  
Controlling for Pop, 2000-2018**  
(Excluding NYC Counties)

Rank	County	1 in X black ppl
1	Schenectady	6
2	Seneca	9
3	Suffolk	11
4	Erie	13
5	Delaware	13
6	Montgomery	14
7	Cortland	14
8	Westchester	14
9	Herkimer	16
10	Albany	16

**Most PL 221 Top Charge Arrests of  
Black People,  
Controlling for Pop, 2000-2018**

Rank	County	1 in X black ppl
1	New York	3
2	Bronx	4
3	Richmond	5
4	Kings	5
5	Schenectady	6
6	Queens	7
7	Seneca	9
8	Suffolk	11
9	Erie	13
10	Delaware	13

**Largest Black to White Disparities in PL 221 Top Charge  
Arrests, Controlling for Pop, 2000-2018**

Rank	County	Black x times more likely than white
1	Schenectady	74
2	Monroe	16
3	Herkimer	15
4	Delaware	15
5	Erie	13
6	Columbia	12
7	New York	12
8	Cortland	11
9	Westchester	11
10	Seneca	11

### III. Counties That Have or Are Considering Passing Marijuana Sales Opt-Out Legislation

	<b>CHEMUNG</b>				
	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black &amp; Hispanic</b>	<b>Total</b>
Resident population	5,528	2,240	77,643	7,768	88,830
% of pop	6%	3%	87%	9%	100%
PL 221 arrests	161	14	316	175	496
% of arrests	32%	3%	64%	35%	100%
1 in every X people were arrested	34	160	246	44	179
X times more likely than white to be arrested (controlling for pop)	7	2	-	6	-
Misdemeanor arrests	133	7	236	140	380

	<b>MONROE</b>				
	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black &amp; Hispanic</b>	<b>Total</b>
Resident population	107,448	54,005	542,034	161,453	744,344
% of pop	14%	7%	73%	22%	100%
PL 221 arrests	5,113	643	1,595	5,756	7,402
% of arrests	69%	9%	22%	78%	100%
1 in every X people were arrested	21	84	340	28	101
X times more likely than white to be arrested (controlling for pop)	16	4	-	12	-
Misdemeanor arrests	4,516	542	1,134	5,058	6,226

	<b>NASSAU</b>				
	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black &amp; Hispanic</b>	<b>Total</b>
Resident population	141,305	195,355	877,309	336,660	1,339,532
% of pop	11%	15%	65%	25%	100%
PL 221 arrests	7,608	2,358	6,390	9,966	18,020
% of arrests	42%	13%	35%	55%	100%
1 in every X people were arrested	19	83	137	34	74
X times more likely than white to be arrested (controlling for pop)	7	2	-	4	-
Misdemeanor arrests	7,222	2,306	5,939	9,528	17,062

	<b>ONONDAGA</b>				
	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black &amp; Hispanic</b>	<b>Total</b>
Resident population	48,696	18,829	370,040	67,525	467,026
% of pop	10%	4%	79%	14%	100%
PL 221 arrests	1,722	332	1,739	2,054	3,924
% of arrests	44%	8%	44%	52%	100%
1 in every X people were arrested	28	57	213	33	119
X times more likely than white to be arrested (controlling for pop)	8	4	-	6	-
Misdemeanor arrests	1,529	285	1,174	1,814	3,055

	<b>PUTNAM</b>				
	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black &amp; Hispanic</b>	<b>Total</b>
Resident population	2,047	11,661	82,709	13,708	99,710
% of pop	2%	12%	83%	14%	100%
PL 221 arrests	61	65	379	126	512
% of arrests	12%	13%	74%	25%	100%
1 in every X people were arrested	34	179	218	109	195
X times more likely than white to be arrested (controlling for pop)	7	1	-	2	-
Misdemeanor arrests	45	48	297	93	393

	<b>ROCKLAND</b>				
	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black &amp; Hispanic</b>	<b>Total</b>
Resident population	34,623	48,783	203,670	83,406	311,687
% of pop	11%	16%	65%	27%	100%
PL 221 arrests	782	368	644	1,150	1,830
% of arrests	43%	20%	35%	63%	100%
1 in every X people were arrested	44	133	316	73	170
X times more likely than white to be arrested (controlling for pop)	7	2	-	4	-
Misdemeanor arrests	568	325	445	893	1,365

	<b>SUFFOLK</b>				
	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black &amp; Hispanic</b>	<b>Total</b>
Resident population	34,623	48,783	203,670	83,406	311,687
% of pop	11%	16%	65%	27%	100%
PL 221 arrests	782	368	644	1,150	1,830
% of arrests	43%	20%	35%	63%	100%
1 in every X people were arrested	44	133	316	73	170
X times more likely than white to be arrested (controlling for pop)	7	2	-	4	-
Misdemeanor arrests	568	325	445	893	1,365

	<b>WESTCHESTER</b>				
	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black &amp; Hispanic</b>	<b>Total</b>
Resident population	126,585	207,032	544,563	333,617	949,113
% of pop	13%	22%	57%	35%	100%
PL 221 arrests	9,111	4,370	3,497	13,481	17,296
% of arrests	53%	25%	20%	78%	100%
1 in every X people were arrested	14	47	156	25	55
X times more likely than white to be arrested (controlling for pop)	11	3	-	6	-
Misdemeanor arrests	8,592	4,086	3,141	12,678	16,103