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## **A Capitol Concern: The disproportionate impact of the justice system on low-income communities in D.C.**

**July 2010**

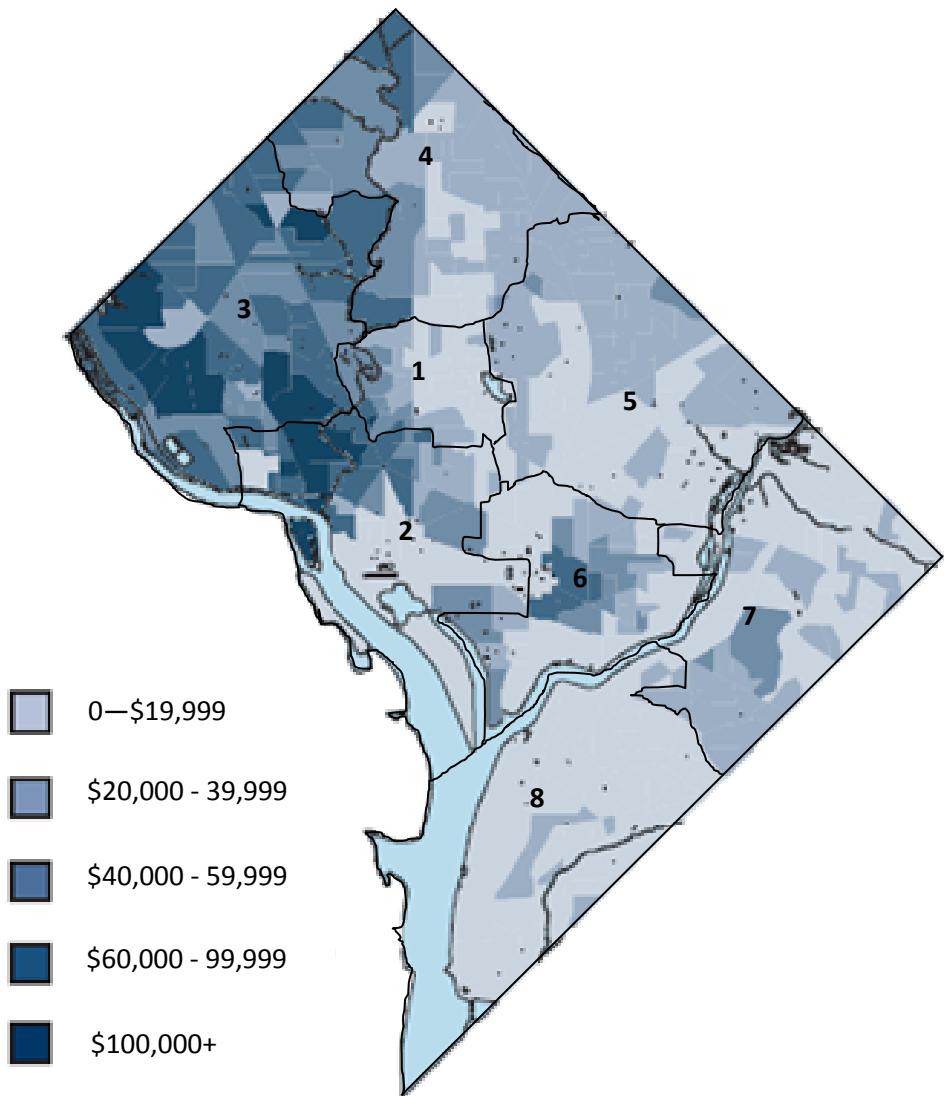
### **Introduction**

Poverty does not create crime, nor is limited wealth and income necessarily a predictor of involvement in the justice system; however, evidence shows that people with the fewest financial resources are more likely to end up in prison or jail. And during an economic crisis like the one we are now experiencing, people at the lower end of the income and wealth spectrum frequently bear a disproportionate share of the consequences.

This brief focuses on how socio-economic status intersects with the criminal justice system in the District of Columbia. The justice system's impact on low-income communities is complicated, interrelated, and difficult to isolate. The high cost of living makes Washington a challenging place for many to live. The city has a median income higher than the national average, but some communities, mainly the wards or neighborhoods that are primarily made up of people of color, have some of the highest poverty and unemployment rates in the country. The District has the greatest income inequality of any major city in the country, with the average income of the top fifth of the District's households 31 times higher than the average income of the bottom fifth of households.<sup>1</sup>

D.C. is broken up into four quadrants and eight wards. The Northwest quadrant consists roughly of Wards (neighborhoods) 1, 2, 3, and 4. Wards 3 and 4 have the highest median household income and lowest percentage of people of color in the entire District. Wards 7 and 8 in the Southeast quadrant are home to residents who are primarily people of color, particularly African Americans. These areas, while boasting a vibrant culture and great historical significance also have the lowest median income of the city as well as the highest unemployment rates. It is impossible to disentangle resource allocation from race and ethnicity: the marginalization of communities of color is closely tied to income and wealth, which in turn contributes to the disproportionate impact of the criminal justice system on communities of color.

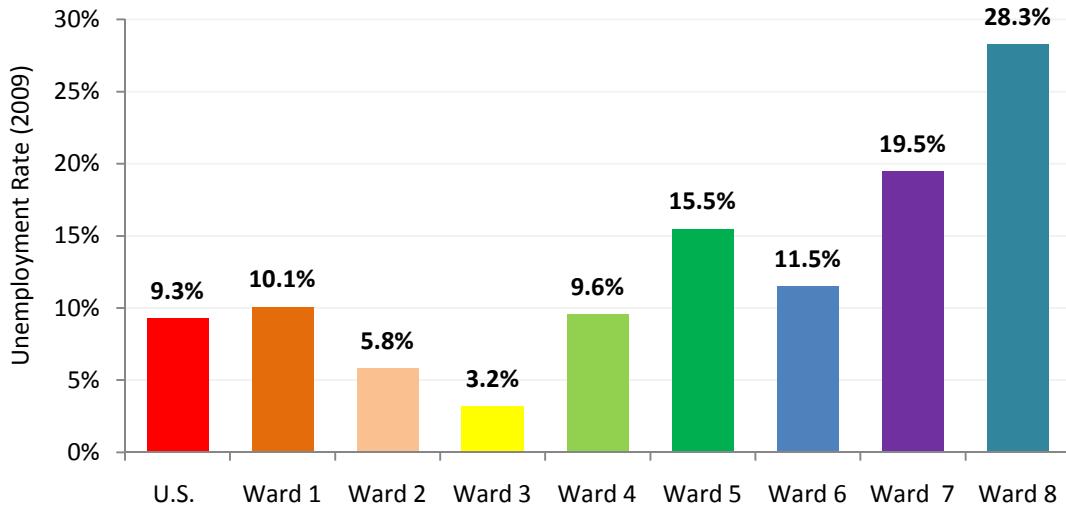
**Per capita income is highest in Northwest D.C.**



Note: Ward numbers and boundaries superimposed on map.

Source: D.C. Office of the Deputy Mayor of Planning and Economic Development

## **Wards 5, 7, and 8 have the highest levels of unemployment in D.C.**



Source: Department of Employment Services, "Ward Unemployment Rates," Accessed May 2010.

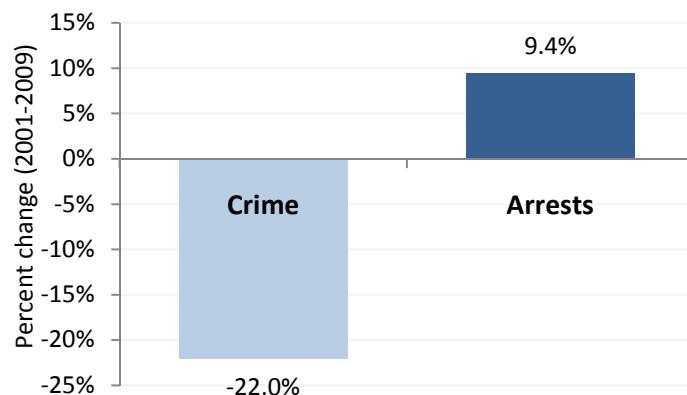
The effects of the economic downturn have been felt throughout D.C. in ways that can be difficult to measure in unemployment figures or census statistics. In times like these, investment in social institutions and supports are at risk here in the District, even as funding for law enforcement and the justice system grows despite the lowest crime levels in 30 years. In this report, JPI examines how protective factors such as housing, education, youth development, employment, health care and treatment affect public safety, the strength and health of communities, and individual life outcomes. The report explores the roles that these factors and the justice system can play in reducing the number of people in prison, increasing public safety and promoting overall community well-being.

A nationally-focused report on the intersection of poverty, race and criminal justice – which includes information on D.C. as its example – will be released in fall 2010; but given the serious and urgent nature of many of the issues in this report to the District, the Justice Policy Institute felt it important to share some of the preliminary findings with the D.C. community as soon as possible. We believe the information presented herein makes the case for greater investments in social institutions that support the communities of D.C. and hope the report will inform the conversation around District politics, community well-being and the justice system.

## Many D.C. residents are affected by the criminal justice system, but communities of color and low-income communities are disproportionately affected.

Incarceration is one of the least effective and most expensive public safety strategies, yet D.C. and other communities continue to rely on this failed tactic. Criminal justice involvement is associated with poorer life outcomes. Decreased opportunities for success after conviction because of housing and job discrimination as well as other challenges can trap individuals in poverty. Trends show that even when crime is down in the District, arrests and incarceration continue to climb. Despite the recent drop in crime, police resources continue to increase, leading to increased arrests for low-level and nonviolent offenses. In D.C., and across the country, the impact of these arrest policies and the criminal justice system disproportionately affects communities of color and low-income communities. This is despite people of different races and ethnicities self-reporting engaging in one of the most common illegal behaviors and drivers of justice involvement, drug use.<sup>2</sup>

### Crime is down in the District, but arrests continue to increase



Source: Metropolitan Police Department, Annual Index Crime Totals 2001-2009; Metropolitan Police Department, Office of Research & Analytical Services July 2010.

- **D.C. has the highest incarceration rate in the country and the third highest rate of criminal justice control.**<sup>3</sup> The U.S. incarcerates about one out of every 100 people; D.C.'s rate is twice that, at one out of every 50 people.
- **About 5 percent of the D.C. population is under some form of criminal justice control.**<sup>4</sup> One out of every 21 people in D.C. was in jail or prison or on probation or parole in 2007.
- **Despite a 22 percent decrease in crime in D.C. from 2001 to 2009,<sup>5</sup> arrests increased 9.4 percent during this time,** mostly due to arrests for drug and nonviolent offenses. Arrests for misdemeanor offenses increased 83 percent during this time.<sup>6</sup> 81 percent of arrests in 2008 were for nonviolent offenses, including 4,229 arrests for release violations.<sup>7</sup>
- **The greatest increases in arrests have been in Wards 5 and 7 (27 and 34 percent, respectively).**<sup>8</sup> These two wards have some of the highest percentages of people of color in the District<sup>9</sup> and the highest unemployment rates.<sup>10</sup>

- **The number of women arrested in D.C. has increased 19 percent since 2001, including a 78 percent increase in drug arrests.<sup>11</sup>** Many women in the criminal justice system are mothers and the impact on children left behind while their mothers are incarcerated is immeasurable.
- **Nine out of 10 people in D.C.'s Department of Corrections (DOC) are African American, despite only making up 54 percent of the total population.<sup>12</sup>** About 72 percent of men and 82 percent of women in the DOC are incarcerated for nonviolent offenses.
- **Youth arrests have increased 42 percent from 2001 to 2009, mainly for misdemeanor offenses, which rose 183 percent during this time.<sup>13</sup>** The law enforcement focus on these and other low-level offenses takes away resources from more serious or violent offenses that still present a challenge for many D.C. communities. Youth self-report using and selling drugs at similar rates regardless of race or ethnicity,<sup>14</sup> but targeting youth of color for arrests is leading to higher rates of contact with the justice system for youth from these communities.



challenge for many D.C. communities. Youth self-report using and selling drugs at similar rates regardless of race or ethnicity,<sup>14</sup> but targeting youth of color for arrests is leading to higher rates of contact with the justice system for youth from these communities.

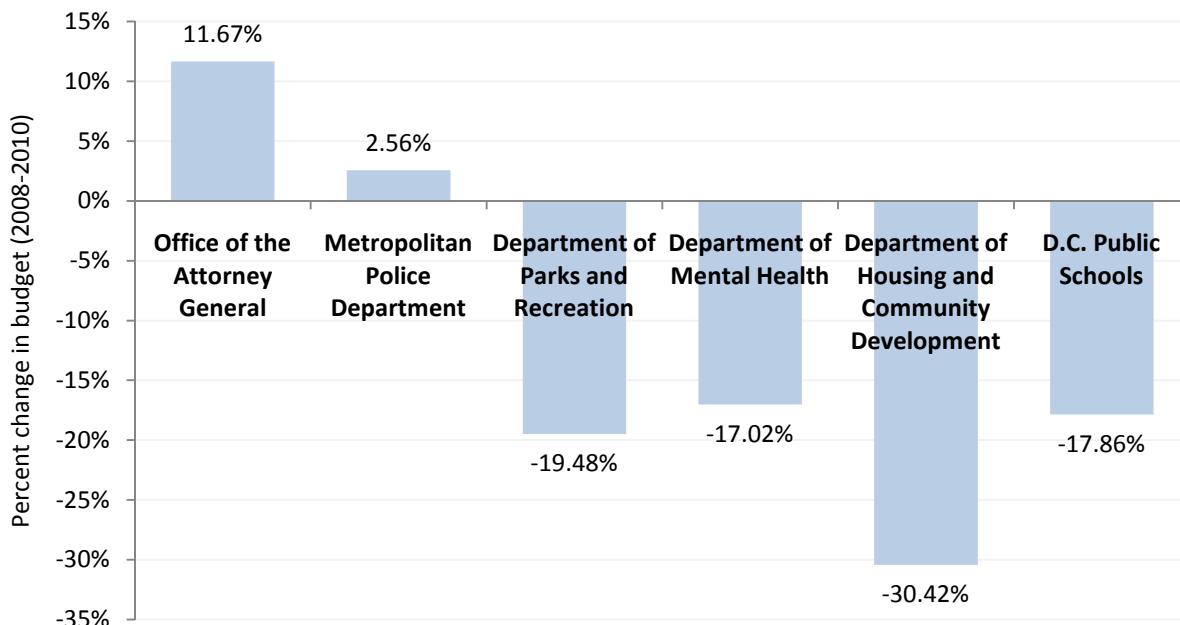
- **Youth arrests make up only 7 percent of all arrests in the District.<sup>15</sup>** The majority of youth arrests occur in Wards 7 and 8 and are for drug offenses and other nonviolent offenses.
- **About 96 percent of youth committed to the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) are African American and 4 percent are Latino.<sup>16</sup>** Over half of youth in DYRS custody were from Wards 7 and 8.<sup>17</sup> These wards are predominantly home to communities of color and have the lowest median household incomes in the city.<sup>18</sup>

### D.C. spending reflects the prioritization of law enforcement over providing vital public programs and social support.

Changes to the city's budget from 2008 to 2010 reveal a powerful statement by city officials about their true priorities. The recession began in 2008 and, during budget strained times, city officials made the choice to cut funding for programs and services such as affordable housing, schools, parks, and mental health care and to increase spending on the policing and court processing of its residents. Spending on the Metropolitan Police Department and the Office of Attorney General increased more than 2 percent and 11 percent respectively from 2008 to 2010;<sup>19</sup> other agencies saw their budgets drop. Research shows that investing in front-end services and programs that keep people out of the justice system is more effective at improving public safety and promoting community well-being.

- The District's Department of Housing experienced a budget loss of more than 30 percent in the last two years, despite an increasing need for affordable and supportive housing for residents during tough economic times. Core housing programs are suffering the most: the Housing Production Trust Fund budget was slashed from \$42 million in 2008 to \$18 million in 2010, a cut of more than 50 percent.<sup>20</sup>
- The total budget of D.C. Public Schools (DCPS) has fallen 17 percent (\$170 million) since 2008.<sup>21</sup> Even though D.C. Public Schools continues to struggle with achieving its goals of providing quality education to every child, spending on education in the District has fallen while funding for police and court processing has increased. Research shows that states that invest more in education have lower crime rates than states that spend less.<sup>22</sup>
- Funding for the Department of Parks and Recreation fell almost 20 percent from 2008 to 2010.<sup>23</sup> The Department of Parks and Recreation provides vital youth programming (such as the Roving Leaders Program for Teens) and maintains safe spaces for children to play.<sup>24</sup> These programs are especially valuable to children and teens whose families cannot afford private camps, classes or after school programs.
- The D.C. Department of Mental Health's budget was cut 17 percent from 2008 to 2010.<sup>25</sup> Despite a clear need for mental health services, especially for low-income populations and at-risk children and teens, the city continues to cut funding in this area. Over 5,000 D.C. children in need of mental health treatment do not receive it.<sup>26</sup>

**Funding for policing D.C. residents increased while funding for positive social programs and services decreased in the last two years.**



Source: Track D.C., <http://track.dc.gov/Agency/>

## **Increasing investments in housing will reduce incarceration rates, improve public safety and promote community well-being**

Lack of quality, affordable housing has been linked with poor life outcomes, including decreased educational performance and exacerbation of health problems.<sup>27</sup> Research shows that states that spend more on housing experience lower incarceration rates than states that spend less.<sup>28</sup> And an increase in spending on housing and community development paired with a decrease in spending on corrections is associated with lower violent crime rates.<sup>29</sup> Having a safe and stable home is the foundation for leading a productive, positive life, but in cities like D.C., housing is increasingly prohibitively expensive.

### **Affordable housing**

**Across the city, affordable housing shrank by more than one-third from 2000 to 2007.** Low-cost homes have also disappeared; from 2000 to 2007, the number of homes costing less than \$250,000 fell by 75 percent.<sup>30</sup>

One reason for the lack of affordable housing in the District is ongoing gentrification of the city. Gentrification refers to the social and cultural changes that occur when an area is repopulated, generally when people with more wealth move to an area previously inhabited by people with lower income, creating a shift in the culture and economy of the neighborhood or community. Gentrification is a double-edged sword: On one hand, it can bring needed economic development and services such as grocery stores, banks and other businesses to underserved neighborhoods. This may create jobs and improve safety in that community. On the other hand, it can cause rent and property values to rise dramatically so that low-income residents cannot afford to live in their own neighborhood anymore;<sup>31</sup> residents may be forced to move out to areas far from their jobs and social networks.



Gentrification can also cause landlords to remove their housing stock from the “Section 8” public subsidized housing pool, so the units can be sold as condominiums, reducing the availability of affordable housing units for low-income people. Since 2000, D.C. has seen a 15 percent drop in Section 8 housing units and 25,000 people remain on a waiting list for Housing Choice Vouchers.<sup>32</sup>

## **Homelessness**

Access to housing is critical to reducing homelessness, helping people succeed and reducing the number of people involved in the justice system. People who are homeless, particularly youth, face extreme challenges finding food and a safe place to sleep. They are vulnerable to violence and exploitation, and although homelessness is not a crime, people living outside are more likely to be in view of law enforcement and may be more likely to be arrested.

Youth who are homeless frequently face additional challenges in school and may be at increased risk of dropping out. Not only does homelessness contribute to underachievement in schools and malnourishment, but these factors have been shown to increase a youth's chances of involvement in the juvenile justice system.<sup>33</sup>

- **D.C. has one of the highest rates of homelessness in the country;** estimates of the homeless population range from 12,000 to 17,800 over the course of a year.<sup>34</sup>
- **47 percent of homeless people in D.C. are “chronically homeless,”** meaning they lived either in shelters or on the streets for more than a year.<sup>35</sup>
- **Families represent over 30 percent of D.C.’s homeless population;** more than 2,000 homeless families seek shelter in D.C. over the course of a year and the District has more than 2,000 homeless children and youth.<sup>36</sup>
- **The number of homeless people in D.C. has risen by almost 7 percent since 2005,** but the city is nowhere near able to provide even temporary assistance to people in need of shelter.<sup>37</sup> In 2004, there were only 8,875 publicly and privately funded beds, leaving half of the people without homes also without emergency assistance.<sup>38</sup>
- **About 21 percent of people under supervision of the Substance Abuse and Treatment Branch of the Court Service and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) with mental illness do not have a permanent place of residence** and reside in a homeless shelter, halfway house, residential treatment facility, hotel or with relatives/friends.<sup>39</sup> Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania found that providing supportive housing to people with severe mental illness decreased the number of days people with severe mental illness spent in prison or jail 74 and 40 percent, respectively.<sup>40</sup>
- **D.C. public housing rules allow for the exclusion of households where someone has been arrested or incarcerated.** These policies negatively impact not only the person individually, but his or her children, who may have to change schools and may end up homeless.<sup>41</sup>

**Increasing investments in education will reduce incarceration rates, improve public safety and promote community well-being**

Research shows that education has the potential to augment access to employment and desired job markets and increase monetary returns to the individual and the community, which can create a context

where public safety is better realized.<sup>42</sup> The likelihood of criminal justice involvement decreases as education attainment increases. States with higher high school graduation rates and college enrollment have lower crime rates than states with lower educational attainment levels.<sup>43</sup>

While D.C. Public Schools (DCPS) is working towards providing quality education to D.C. children, data indicates that the schools with students who face the most disadvantages continue to encounter barriers to educational attainment. A continued focus of school resources and attention on areas with the lowest income or highest poverty rates can help youth in these areas succeed and have a chance at a better future.

- **DCPS ranked last in the 2005 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) proficiency** with only 9.8 percent of 4th and 8th graders scoring proficiently or above in math and reading; the national average was about 31 percent.<sup>44</sup>
- **Compared to other large, urban school districts, DCPS is still 7 points below the average.**<sup>45</sup> On the Trial Urban District Assessment, which is considered a fairer snapshot of urban districts' academic achievement, D.C. schools did not fare as well as other districts.
- **68.9 percent of D.C. students are eligible for free or reduced price lunch, the highest percentage of any state in the country,**<sup>46</sup> and a higher proportion of children in this income bracket – under 185 percent of poverty — than in the District as a whole (49.5 percent).<sup>47</sup> This shows that many higher-income families in D.C. are not using the public school system.
- **Wards with the lowest median income and highest percentage of people of color have the lowest math and reading proficiencies and the highest levels of people without high school degrees.**<sup>48</sup> Data from District of Columbia Comprehensive Assessment System (DC CAS) shows that 69 percent of youth in the District were below 50 percent reading proficiency in 2009, but 91 percent of youth in Wards 7 and 8 were below 50 percent. Sixty-five percent of youth in the District were below 50 percent math proficiency in 2009, but 93 percent of youth in Wards 7 and 8 were below 50 percent.
- **Only half of men in the D.C. Department of Corrections custody have a high school education or equivalent.**<sup>49</sup> Increasing access to education for people and communities most likely to be affected by the criminal justice system can improve public safety, reduce incarceration and promote positive life outcomes.

### **Increasing access to mental health or substance abuse treatment services will reduce incarceration rates, improve public safety and promote community well-being**

Access to quality and appropriate mental health and substance abuse treatment can make a critical difference in quality of life for individuals and families; however, this treatment is often out of reach for the over 55,000 people in D.C. without health insurance or the financial resources to pay for it. For those who do receive treatment, frequently it is through the criminal justice system, which is the largest single source of referrals to substance abuse treatment nationally, comprising 37 percent of all admissions.<sup>50</sup>

A disproportionate number of people in the justice system have a mental health or substance abuse problem; over half of people in prisons and jails across the country report mental illness of some kind, compared to 25 percent of the general population.<sup>51</sup> One-half to two-thirds of people in jails and state and federal prisons across the U.S. meet standard diagnostic criteria (DSM-IV) for alcohol/drug dependence or abuse.<sup>52</sup> About 75-93 percent of youth in juvenile justice system have experienced traumatic victimizations, making them more vulnerable to mental, emotional or behavioral disorders.<sup>53</sup>

Currently, access to medical and mental health treatment can be prohibitively expensive and inaccessible for those without quality insurance coverage. To improve public safety, as well as community health and wellness, affordable access to treatment of all kinds is vital.

- **African Americans are 2.5 times more likely and Latinos 8 times more likely than whites to be uninsured in the District.**<sup>54</sup> Despite an overall high rate of health insurance coverage in the District (91.2 percent of D.C. residents are insured), 80 percent of adults and children in D.C. without insurance are people of color,<sup>55</sup> which means that people from some communities are not receiving the treatment they need.
- **Over 5,000 children in D.C. are in need of mental health treatment but do not receive it,** and less than 2 percent of children enrolled in D.C. Medicaid access mental health services for moderate mental health needs.<sup>56</sup>
- **The need for drug abuse treatment was highest in wards with the lowest median incomes;** in Wards 5 and 8, more than 4 percent of people are in need of but not receiving treatment and these two wards have median household incomes that are significantly lower than the city average.<sup>57</sup>
- **From 2005-2006 about 16,000 D.C. residents reported needing but not receiving treatment for substance abuse.**<sup>58</sup> Lack of access to treatment can not only be detrimental to the health of an individual, but also may make them more likely to come into contact with the criminal justice system.
- **About 34 percent of people under supervision of the Substance Abuse Treatment Branch (SATB) of the D.C. Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency have co-occurring substance abuse and mental health conditions.**<sup>59</sup> SATB is the specialized unit that directs CSOSA's mental health referrals and supervises people with mental illnesses and co-occurring disorders. Since 2000, the number of people identified by the SATB with a mental health condition has increased 40 percent.
- **Approximately 25 percent of women supervised by D.C.'s Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) identify as having various mental health conditions.** About 40 percent of CSOSA women reported histories of substance abuse and addiction in 2009.<sup>60</sup>

## **Increasing investments in job training and employment will reduce incarceration rates, improve public safety and promote community well-being**

Increased employment is associated with positive public safety outcomes; states with lower rates of unemployment also have lower crime rates.<sup>61</sup> Conversely, high rates of incarceration in a community are also associated with reduced job opportunities, creating a toxic cycle of poverty, unemployment and incarceration. Creating jobs for people in disadvantaged communities that pay wages that can support a family will improve public safety and promote better life outcomes.

- **As of March 2010, the unemployment rate in D.C. was 11.6 percent, compared to the national average of 9.7 percent.**<sup>62</sup> Unemployment figures only include people actively looking for work, and neglect to include who have given up looking, often in areas of persistent poverty. There are stark differences in unemployment among the eight wards:
  - **The highest rates of unemployment are in communities of color:** over 28 percent in Ward 8, 20 percent in Ward 7, and 15 percent in Ward 5.
  - In contrast, Wards 2 and 3, which are majority white, have unemployment rates of about 6 and 3 percent, respectively.<sup>63</sup>
- **D.C. has the second highest cost of living in the nation,** and a “basic family budget” for a family of three in D.C. is about \$61,000 per year; a low-wage single earner family making \$10.80 per hour would earn \$22,000 a year, which is only 37 percent of the basic family budget.<sup>64</sup>
- **In 2004, the District had the greatest income inequality of any major city in the country,** with the average income of the top fifth of the District’s households —\$186,830 —31 times higher than the average income of the bottom fifth of households —\$6,126.<sup>65</sup>
- **The poverty rate in D.C. has risen by 19 percent since 2007.** Currently, close to 19 percent of D.C. residents are at or below the poverty line.<sup>66</sup> One in 10 D.C. residents lives at 50 percent of the poverty level, categorized as “extreme poverty.”<sup>67</sup>
- **African Americans residents of the District are 3 times more likely than white residents to live below the poverty line.**<sup>68</sup>
- **Almost 30 percent of D.C. children live in poverty.**<sup>69</sup>

Recent increases in unemployment have not occurred concurrently with increases in crime, which is contrary to traditional thinking that increases in unemployment would increase the crime rate; however, investments in job training and employment over incarceration will bring about long-term positive results for communities and in terms of public safety. Having a job is an important factor in whether a person is successful in re-entering the community from incarceration.

## Recommendations

Healthy and safe communities require more than just examining crime rates. A whole host of issues influence individual life outcomes and family and community prosperity. Addressing the myriad factors contributing to community health and wellness and improving public policies will have a lasting impact on communities. For healthier, stronger and safer communities, the Justice Policy Institute proposes the following recommendations to improve D.C. policies and practices:

**Focus law enforcement resources on addressing serious public safety challenges rather than ensnaring people in the criminal justice system.** Arrest rates are climbing despite falling crime rates and people from communities of color are bearing a disproportionate share of the burden of such policies. An end to targeted policing in low-income communities and communities of color would help reduce the disproportionate representation of people of color in the criminal justice system and better utilize public resources.

1. Focus law enforcement resources on the most serious or violent offenses, rather than low-level and “quality of life” offenses.
2. Consider policy changes that make minor offenses and simple possession of marijuana citations rather than arrests.

**Ensure that all residents have access to quality, affordable housing.** As stable, affordable housing is the foundation for education, employment and access to other social programs and services, people in such living environments are better able to make investments in themselves, their families, and their neighborhoods. With quality, affordable housing, families can afford other necessities such as health care, education and healthy food. Communities with affordable housing enjoy the benefits in public safety, cost savings, and long-term community enrichment.

3. Increase incentives for expanding Section 8 housing unit availability.
4. Increase access to Housing Choice Vouchers.
5. Work with local housing and homelessness organizations to eliminate housing discrimination for households that include people with arrest histories or felony convictions.

**Ensure that all children have access to quality public education in their neighborhood.** A long-term investment in education creates lasting changes for communities in terms of economic development, civic involvement and improved public safety. Quality education, especially for students from low-income families, not only promotes social justice, but it also improves public safety and overall prosperity.

6. Hold schools and school officials accountable for enacting a serious plan to improve student academic achievement and graduation rates, particularly in schools that are facing the greatest challenges.

7. Provide the needed funding to make the improvements in teacher quality and resources that schools need to improve.
8. Increase quality in-school support and counseling services for students who have experienced trauma, or who have learning disabilities and/or emotional disturbances.
9. End over-policing of schools and “zero-tolerance” policies that result in more youth, particularly youth of color and those from lower-income families, in the criminal justice system.

**Create opportunities for all residents to engage in substantial employment as well as increase their job skills through training programs.** People with more employment opportunities and earning potential would be better able to make other investments in their communities, their families and themselves. Ending employment discrimination against people who have been involved in the justice system would enable them to be successful and make the changes necessary to contribute positively to the community.

10. Create jobs that pay well and increase job training programs in areas of the city that need them the most.
11. Change D.C.’s tax system, which is regressive and taxes low-income residents at a higher rate than high-earning residents.
12. Increase funding and access to unemployment insurance to support families and individuals as they look for a new job.
13. Work to end employment discrimination against formerly incarcerated people.

**Ensure that all people have access to health care, mental health care and substance abuse treatment in their communities.** People who are healthy and have access to treatment for mental illness and substance abuse are more likely to be productive citizens, less likely to participate in illegal activities, and more likely to invest in themselves, their families and their communities.

14. Ensure mental health and substance abuse treatment for those who are uninsured, underinsured, or covered by the city’s insurance plan (D.C. HealthCare Alliance).
15. Encourage doctors and hospitals to increase their locations in underserved areas, such as Wards 7 and 8.
16. Increase reimbursement rates for those who are covered by the city’s public insurance plan so that low-income residents can afford to access care.
17. Support the public/private partnership called Medical Homes D.C. which seeks to improve access to quality primary care in the District’s medically underserved neighborhoods.

**Create more opportunities for youth to be involved in positive activities during after-school time and throughout the summer.** After-school and summer time activities, mentoring programs, and

employment increase a youth's academic, social, and emotional wellbeing and reduce the risk of involvement in illegal behaviors. Youth would have opportunities to help improve their communities, reduce crime and improve public safety.

- 18.** Invest more in city departments, such as Parks and Recreation, which provide critical after-school and summertime programming for youth.
- 19.** Increase affordable and accessible after-school and summertime activities for youth from low-income communities and communities of color.
- 20.** Increase accountability and oversight for the effective operation of the Summer Youth Employment Program.

**Ensure that all community members have access to affordable public transportation options.** Public transportation is particularly critical in low-income neighborhoods where residents may not own cars. Affordable transportation would allow people to access jobs and services that may not be available in their community, improving their quality of life and public safety.

- 21.** Expand affordable public transportation options for people in underserved communities.
- 22.** Evaluate recent changes to Metro fares for their impact on low-income residents.

**Invest in green spaces and recreational facilities for residents to enjoy.** A thoughtful design of the physical environment of a community improves public safety. Abandoned buildings should be repurposed, vacant lots developed for uses such as a community parks and community gardens, street lighting replaced or increased and graffiti removed.

- 23.** Attend community meetings hosted by the Office of Planning to encourage the prioritization of the needs and voices of residents of low-income communities when undertaking "beautification" or "revitalization" projects.
- 24.** Create or refurbish parks, community gardens and playgrounds in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

*The Justice Policy Institute is a non-profit research and public policy organization dedicated to reducing society's reliance on incarceration and promoting fair and effective solutions to social problems. To read the full report and other reports on public safety, please visit [www.justicepolicy.org](http://www.justicepolicy.org).*

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## Appendix

	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Ward 6	Ward 7	Ward 8	All D.C.
<b>% People of Color-2000</b>	75%	39%	20%	85%	92.6%	70%	98.8%	94.9%	72%
<b>Median Household Income-1999</b>	\$59,140	\$130,891	\$187,709	\$81,500	\$54,479	\$67,454	\$45,039	\$35,228	\$78,192
<b>Violent Crime (per 1,000 pop.)-2007</b>	17	13	1.7	12	17	16	16	22	14
<b>Persons Receiving Food Stamps-2009</b>	8,168	3,160	331	10,217	16,407	13,396	24,370	31,570	13,452
<b>Unemployment-2009</b>	10.1%	5.8%	3.2%	9.6%	15.5%	11.5%	19.5%	28.3%	14.4%
<b>Persons Receiving TANF-2009</b>	3,002	892	43	3,608	6284	4,042	11,212	16,053	5,642
<b>% Graduated High School</b>	68%	87%	96%	78%	72%	79%	71%	66%	78%
<b>% Graduated College</b>	39%	64%	79%	33%	21%	44%	13%	8%	39%
<b>Needed But Did Not Receive Treatment For Drug Use-Averages 2004-2006</b>	3.27%	3.03%	1.98%	2.22%	4.43%	2.82%	3.12%	4.23%	3.06%

Sources:

**% People of Color, Median Household Income, Violent Crime, Food Stamps, TANF, % graduated High School, % graduated college:** Neighborhood Info D.C., "Neighborhood Profiles: Council Wards,"

[www.neighborhoodinfodc.org/wards/wards.html](http://www.neighborhoodinfodc.org/wards/wards.html);

**% Graduated High School, % Graduated college:** D.C. Office of Planning, "2000 Educational Level by Ward,"

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