

PC 12031
Charges for
carrying a
LOADED
firearm

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 Links to:

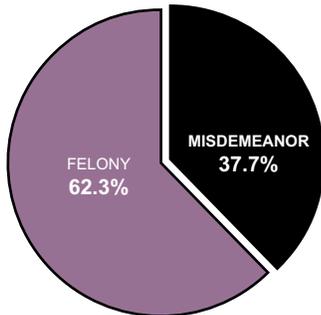
[Preface](#) [PC 12025 \(Concealed Firearm\)](#)
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Table N-10
PC 12031
 By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003

Level of charged offense	Number	Percent
Total	2,140	100.0
Felony	1,334	62.3
Misdemeanor	806	37.7

Chart 14
PC 12031
 By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003



Prior to January 1, 2000, existing law generally provided that carrying a loaded firearm was punishable as a misdemeanor and, under certain circumstances, a felony. In 1999, PC section 12031 was amended to increase the number of circumstances when an offense could be charged. The following additional circumstance may be charged as either a felony or a misdemeanor:

- When a person carries a loaded firearm on his/her person or in a vehicle on any public street and that person is not listed with the DOJ as the registered owner of the firearm.

In FY 2003, of 2,140 charges for PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 62.3 percent (1,334).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 37.7 percent (806).

In FY 2003, over 60 percent of the charges for PC section 12031 were filed at the felony level.

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GENDER BY LEVEL OF CHARGED OFFENSE

In FY 2003,

Of the 2,048 males charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 63.0 percent (1,290).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 37.0 percent (758).

Of the 92 females charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 47.8 percent (44).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 52.2 percent (48).

Males were charged with more felony-level than misdemeanor-level PC section 12031 offenses; the inverse was true for females.

Table N-11
PC 12031
 Gender of Person Charged
 By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003

Gender of person charged	Total		Felony		Misdemeanor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	2,140	100.0	1,334	62.3	806	37.7
Male	2,048	100.0	1,290	63.0	758	37.0
Female	92	100.0	44	47.8	48	52.2

Chart 15
PC 12031
 Gender of Person Charged
 By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003



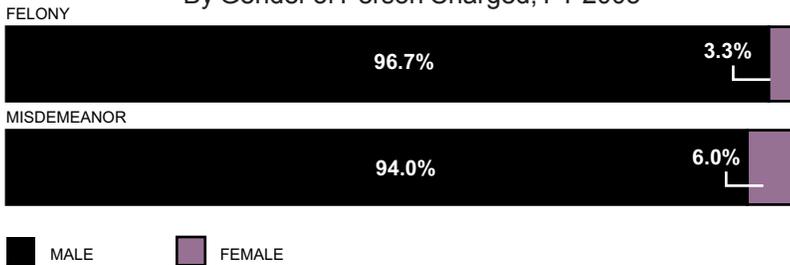
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LEVEL OF CHARGED OFFENSE BY GENDER

Table N-12
PC 12031
 Level of Charged Offense
 By Gender of Person Charged, FY 2003

Gender of person charged	Total		Felony		Misdemeanor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	2,140	100.0	1,334	100.0	806	100.0
Male	2,048	95.7	1,290	96.7	758	94.0
Female	92	4.3	44	3.3	48	6.0

Chart 16
PC 12031
 Level of Charged Offense
 By Gender of Person Charged, FY 2003



In FY 2003,

Of 1,334 felony-level filings for PC section 12031:

- Males accounted for 96.7 percent (1,290).
- Females accounted for 3.3 percent (44).

Of 806 misdemeanor-level filings for PC section 12031:

- Males accounted for 94.0 percent (758).
- Females accounted for 6.0 percent (48).

Regardless of filing level, almost all of those charged with PC section 12031 were male (95.7 percent).

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RACE/ETHNIC GROUP BY LEVEL OF CHARGED OFFENSE

In FY 2003,

Of the 506 whites charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 38.7 percent (196).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 61.3 percent (310).

Of the 999 Hispanics charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 70.1 percent (700).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 29.9 percent (299).

Of the 514 blacks charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 73.0 percent (375).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 27.0 percent (139).

Of the 121 other race/ethnic groups charged with PC section 12031:

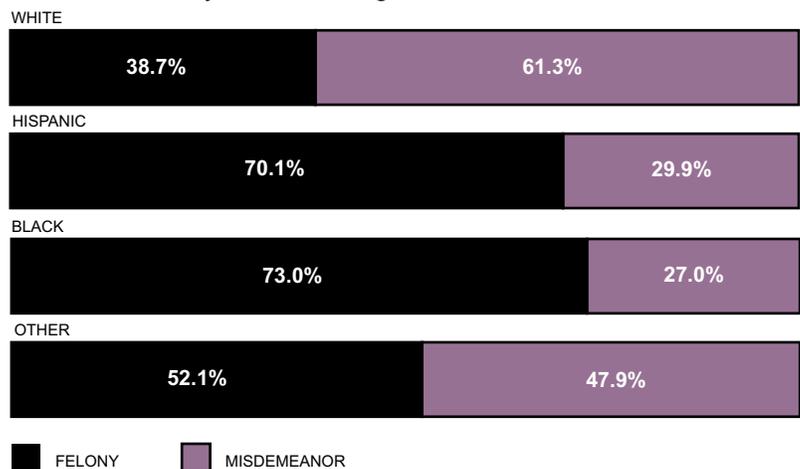
- Felony-level filings accounted for 52.1 percent (63).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 47.9 percent (58).

The percentage of whites charged with felony-level PC section 12031 was less than the percentages of Hispanics, blacks, and other race/ethnic groups charged at the felony level.

Table N-13
PC 12031
Race/Ethnic Group of Person Charged
By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003

Race/ethnic group of person charged	Total		Felony		Misdemeanor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	2,140	100.0	1,334	62.3	806	37.7
White	506	100.0	196	38.7	310	61.3
Hispanic.....	999	100.0	700	70.1	299	29.9
Black	514	100.0	375	73.0	139	27.0
Other	121	100.0	63	52.1	58	47.9

Chart 17
PC 12031
Race/Ethnic Group of Person Charged
By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003



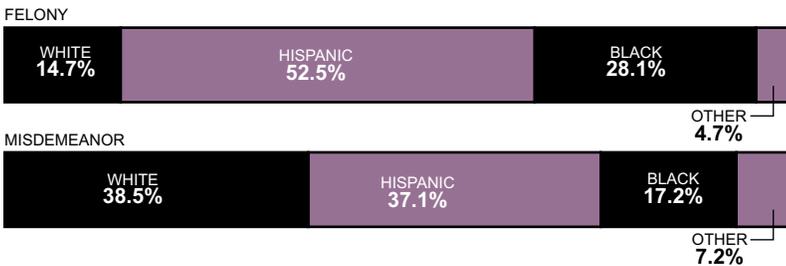
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LEVEL OF CHARGED OFFENSE BY RACE/ETHNIC GROUP

Table N-14
PC 12031
 Level of Charged Offense
 By Race/Ethnic Group of Person Charged, FY 2003

Race/ethnic group of person charged	Total		Felony		Misdemeanor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	2,140	100.0	1,334	100.0	806	100.0
White	506	23.6	196	14.7	310	38.5
Hispanic.....	999	46.7	700	52.5	299	37.1
Black	514	24.0	375	28.1	139	17.2
Other	121	5.7	63	4.7	58	7.2

Chart 18
PC 12031
 Level of Charged Offense
 By Race/Ethnic Group of Person Charged, FY 2003



In FY 2003,

Of 1,334 felony-level filings for PC section 12031:

- Whites accounted for 14.7 percent (196).
- Hispanics accounted for 52.5 percent (700).
- Blacks accounted for 28.1 percent (375).
- Other race/ethnic groups accounted for 4.7 percent (63).

Of 806 misdemeanor-level filings for PC section 12031:

- Whites accounted for 38.5 percent (310).
- Hispanics accounted for 37.1 percent (299).
- Blacks accounted for 17.2 percent (139).
- Other race/ethnic groups accounted for 7.2 percent (58).

The subjectivity of the classification and labeling process must be considered in the analysis of race/ethnic group data. As commonly used, race refers to large populations that share certain similar physical characteristics such as skin color. Because these physical characteristics can vary greatly within groups as well as between groups, determination of race is frequently, by necessity, subjective. Ethnicity refers to cultural heritage and can cross racial lines. For example, the ethnic designation "Hispanic" includes persons of any race. Most commonly, self-identification of race/ethnicity is used in the classification and labeling process.

AGE BY LEVEL OF CHARGED OFFENSE

In FY 2003,

Of the 69 persons under age 18 charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 75.4 percent (52).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 24.6 percent (17).

Of the 1,039 persons aged 18-24 charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 69.0 percent (717).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 31.0 percent (322).

Of the 357 persons aged 25-29 charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 67.2 percent (240).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 32.8 percent (117).

Of the 382 persons aged 30-39 charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 57.3 percent (219).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 42.7 percent (163).

Of the 202 persons aged 40-49 charged with PC section 12031:

- Felony-level filings accounted for 41.6 percent (84).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 58.4 percent (118).

Of the 91 persons aged 50 and over charged with PC section 12031:

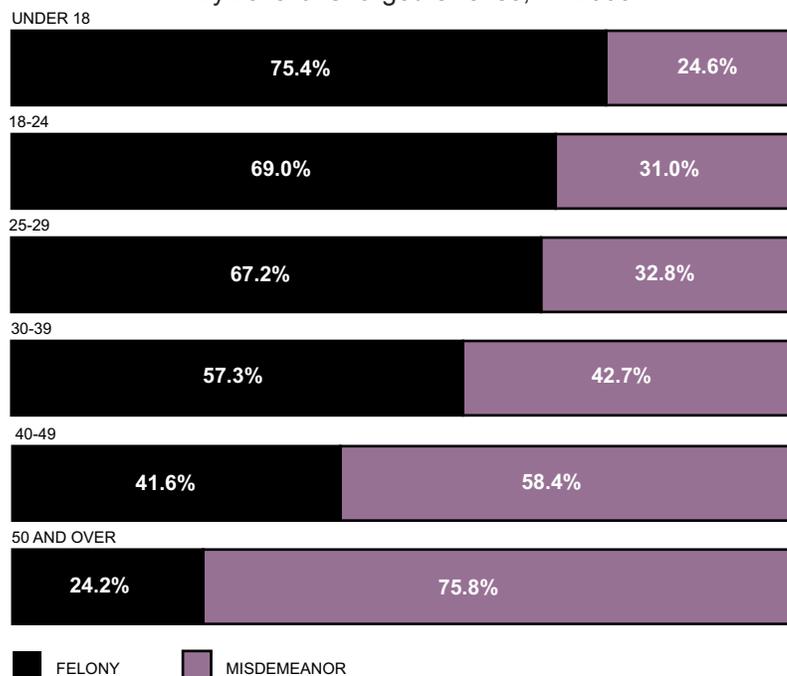
- Felony-level filings accounted for 24.2 percent (22).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 75.8 percent (69).

The percentage of persons charged with felony-level PC section 12031 was highest (75.4 percent) for the youngest age group shown (under 18) and lowest (24.2 percent) for the oldest age group shown (50 and over).

Table N-15
PC 12031
 Age of Person Charged
 By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003

Age of person charged	Total		Felony		Misdemeanor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	2,140	100.0	1,334	62.3	806	37.7
Under 18	69	100.0	52	75.4	17	24.6
18-24	1,039	100.0	717	69.0	322	31.0
25-29	357	100.0	240	67.2	117	32.8
30-39	382	100.0	219	57.3	163	42.7
40-49	202	100.0	84	41.6	118	58.4
50 and over ..	91	100.0	22	24.2	69	75.8

Chart 19
PC 12031
 Age of Person Charged
 By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003



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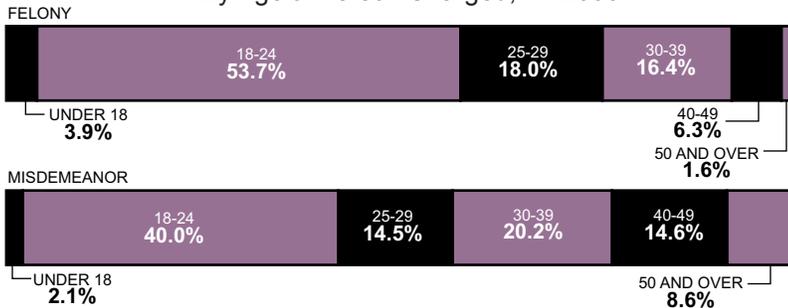
LEVEL OF CHARGED OFFENSE BY AGE

Table N-16
PC 12031
Level of Charged Offense
By Age of Person Charged, FY 2003

Age of person charged	Total		Felony		Misdemeanor	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	2,140	100.0	1,334	100.0	806	100.0
Under 18	69	3.2	52	3.9	17	2.1
18-24	1,039	48.6	717	53.7	322	40.0
25-29	357	16.7	240	18.0	117	14.5
30-39	382	17.9	219	16.4	163	20.2
40-49	202	9.4	84	6.3	118	14.6
50 and over ..	91	4.3	22	1.6	69	8.6

Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

Chart 20
PC 12031
Level of Charged Offense
By Age of Person Charged, FY 2003



Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

In FY 2003,

Of 1,334 felony-level filings for PC section 12031:

- Persons under age 18 accounted for 3.9 percent (52).
- Persons aged 18-24 accounted for 53.7 percent (717).
- Persons aged 25-29 accounted for 18.0 percent (240).
- Persons aged 30-39 accounted for 16.4 percent (219).
- Persons aged 40-49 accounted for 6.3 percent (84).
- Persons aged 50 and over accounted for 1.6 percent (22).

Of 806 misdemeanor-level filings for PC section 12031:

- Persons under age 18 accounted for 2.1 percent (17).
- Persons aged 18-24 accounted for 40.0 percent (322).
- Persons aged 25-29 accounted for 14.5 percent (117).
- Persons aged 30-39 accounted for 20.2 percent (163).
- Persons aged 40-49 accounted for 14.6 percent (118).
- Persons aged 50 and over accounted for 8.6 percent (69).

Regardless of filing level, the largest percentage of those charged with PC section 12031 were aged 18-24.

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CHARGES IN ADDITION TO FELONY PC 12031

In FY 2003, there were 1,512 charges filed in addition to a primary charge of *felony* PC section 12031. Of these additional charges:

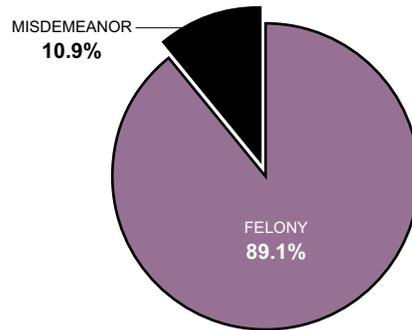
- Felony-level filings accounted for 89.1 percent (1,347).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 10.9 percent (165).

Table N-17
**CHARGES IN ADDITION TO
 FELONY PC 12031**
 By Level and Type of Charged Offense, FY 2003

Level and type of charged offense	Number	Percent of total	Percent of level
Total	1,512	100.0	
Felony	1,347	89.1	100.0
Violent offenses	211		15.7
Property offenses	175		13.0
Drug offenses	222		16.5
Weapons offenses	646		48.0
All other	93		6.9
Misdemeanor	165	10.9	100.0
Assault and battery	50		30.3
Theft offenses	4		2.4
Drug offenses	18		10.9
Weapons offenses	28		17.0
All other	65		39.4

Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

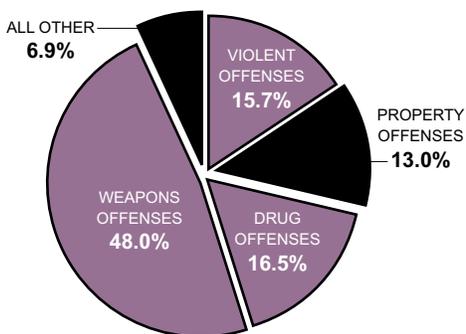
Chart 21
**CHARGES IN ADDITION TO
 FELONY PC 12031**
 By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003



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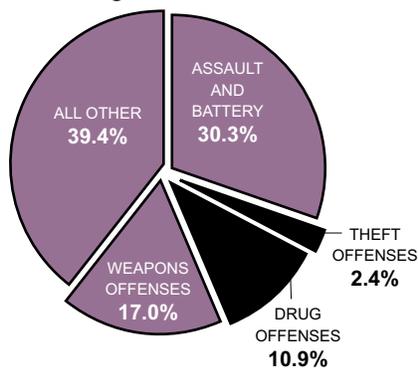


Chart 22
**FELONY CHARGES IN ADDITION TO
 FELONY PC 12031**
 By Type of Charged Offense, FY 2003



Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

Chart 23
**MISDEMEANOR CHARGES IN ADDITION TO
 FELONY PC 12031**
 By Type of Charged Offense, FY 2003



In FY 2003,

Of 1,347 felony-level filings in addition to a primary charge of *felony* PC section 12031:

- Violent offenses accounted for 15.7 percent (211).
- Property offenses accounted for 13.0 percent (175).
- Drug offenses accounted for 16.5 percent (222).
- Weapons offenses accounted for 48.0 percent (646).
- All other felony offenses accounted for 6.9 percent (93).

Of 165 misdemeanor-level filings in addition to a primary charge of *felony* PC section 12031:

- Assault and battery accounted for 30.3 percent (50).
- Theft offenses accounted for 2.4 percent (4).
- Drug offenses accounted for 10.9 percent (18).
- Weapons offenses accounted for 17.0 percent (28).
- All other misdemeanor offenses accounted for 39.4 percent (65).

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CHARGES IN ADDITION TO MISDEMEANOR PC 12031

In FY 2003, there were 793 charges filed in addition to a primary charge of *misdemeanor* PC section 12031. Of these additional charges:

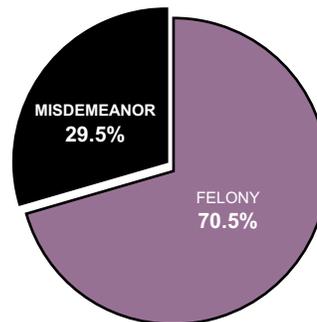
- Felony-level filings accounted for 70.5 percent (559).
- Misdemeanor-level filings accounted for 29.5 percent (234).

Table N-18
**CHARGES IN ADDITION TO
 MISDEMEANOR PC 12031**
 By Level and Type of Charged Offense, FY 2003

Level and type of charged offense	Number	Percent of total	Percent of level
Total	793	100.0	
Felony	559	70.5	100.0
Violent offenses	64		11.4
Property offenses	46		8.2
Drug offenses	119		21.3
Weapons offenses	222		39.7
All other	108		19.3
Misdemeanor	234	29.5	100.0
Assault and battery	45		19.2
Theft offenses	1		0.4
Drug offenses	30		12.8
Weapons offenses	19		8.1
All other	139		59.4

Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

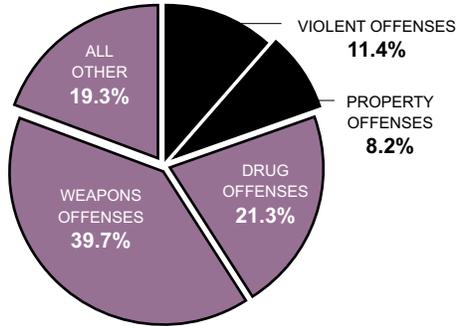
Chart 24
**CHARGES IN ADDITION TO
 MISDEMEANOR PC 12031**
 By Level of Charged Offense, FY 2003



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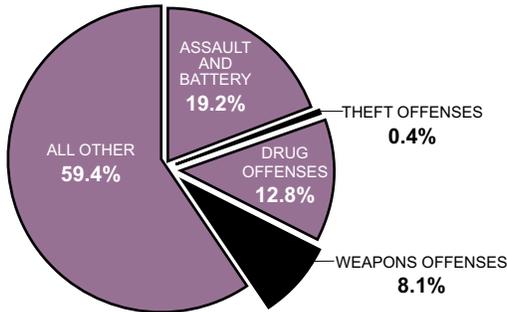


Chart 25
**FELONY CHARGES IN ADDITION TO
 MISDEMEANOR PC 12031**
 By Type of Charged Offense, FY 2003



Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

Chart 26
**MISDEMEANOR CHARGES IN ADDITION TO
 MISDEMEANOR PC 12031**
 By Type of Charged Offense, FY 2003



Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

In FY 2003,

Of 559 felony-level filings in addition to a primary charge of *misdemeanor* PC section 12031:

- Violent offenses accounted for 11.4 percent (64).
- Property offenses accounted for 8.2 percent (46).
- Drug offenses accounted for 21.3 percent (119).
- Weapons offenses accounted for 39.7 percent (222).
- All other felony offenses accounted for 19.3 percent (108).

Of 234 misdemeanor-level filings in addition to a primary charge of *misdemeanor* PC section 12031:

- Assault and battery accounted for 19.2 percent (45).
- Theft offenses accounted for 0.4 percent (1).
- Drug offenses accounted for 12.8 percent (30).
- Weapons offenses accounted for 8.1 percent (19).
- All other misdemeanor offenses accounted for 59.4 percent (139).

 **Links to:**

[Preface](#) [PC 12025 \(Concealed Firearm\)](#)

[Data Tables](#)

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