

Asian
American/MENA
Data Collection and
Language Access
Hearing

Wednesday, May 24th , 2023



Internal Data Collection: Bilingual Language Skills

Do you ask employees if they have additional language skills?

Positions that require bilingual skills: YES

These include our Interpreter + Immigration Division positions. (Attorney, Paralegal, Caseworker).
A language test is built into the application process.

Positions that do not require bilingual skills: NO

We offer “bilingual pay” for those whose position require the employee to be bilingual. The supervisor must confirm that the translation skills are necessary to operations. To be eligible to for the pay, the applicant must complete a separate verification of language skills.



External Data Collection: Demographic Data

The Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender has access to multiple demographic data sets of our clients;

- We create a data set from interviews from multiple intake sources PSRU, Bond Court and Immigration referrals.
- We have access to a data set found in the Clerk's system

All internal client data sets created by the PD's office includes Asian & Middle Eastern and North African (MENA).

The data mined from the Clerk system is direct from law enforcement and includes a significant number of blank entries.



External Data Collection: Police Station Representation

Demographic data from clients serviced by our Police Station Representation Unit in the last 45 days.

Middle-Eastern,
North-African,
Arab
0.85%

Asian,
Native Hawaiian
or Pacific
Island
1.69%

Black or
African-
American
61.86%

Hispanic
7.63%

Latino/x/a
15.25%

White
9.32%

Two or
More
Races
0.85%

NULL
2.54%



External Data Collection: Clerk Data

Ethnicity	Number of Individuals	Percentage of Total
Arab, Middle-Eastern, or North African	1,753	0.4%
White Hispanic	6,834	1.6%
Spanish American	229	0.1%
Other	4,131	1.0%
Mexican American	77	0.0%
NULL	204,371	47.2%
Black or African American	153,077	35.3%
Hispanic	379	0.1%
White	58,486	13.5%
Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander	5	0.0%
Latino/a/x	880	0.2%
Black Hispanic	392	0.1%
Native American or Alaska Native	114	0.0%
Asian	2,658	0.6%



External Data Collection: Bond Court

We are launching a new protocol for bond court practices that corresponds with the anticipated changes to the law via the Pretrial Fairness Act. The new protocol will also govern our data collection practices on demographics using categories like those we use in the PSRU collection.

Client (1)

Person

TESTCASE1, TESTCASE1
IR#:
Dob:
Address: 2650 California, Chicago, IL 60630 [Mailing]
Telephone:
Gender:
Race: White
Primary Language: Armenian
CB#:

Update + 🔍 ✕

+ Client

Ethnicity

White

- Arab, Middle-Eastern, or North African
- Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander
- Black or African American
- Latino/a/x
- Native American or Alaska Native
- White
- Two or more races
- Other



Language Access

What is the number of bilingual staff and what languages do they speak?

- No specific number on bilingual staff.
- 10 members receive bilingual pay (all Spanish).
- Total employees: 654

Do these bilingual staff provide translation or interpretation skills?

- Yes.

Is your bilingual staff compensated for their translation work?

- Yes, \$100 a month as negotiated as part of the CBA for AFSCME Locals 3315, 3696 and 1767.



Language Access

Please detail the main, scope and amount for any external contract that your office uses for language translation and/or interpretation?

- United Language Group Over-the-Phone Interpreting.
 - 200 languages available.
 - 24/7 access for all our attorneys.
 - In 2022, we spent \$10,985.77.
 - From June 2020 to March 2023, we spent \$26,040.30 with the ULG hotline.

Please detail the main public facing document from your office and if those documents are translated?

- Website is translated in Spanish:
 - frequency asked questions,
 - information on our Divisions,
 - search tools for clients,
 - Public Defender finder tool,
 - guide to Juvenile Court, etc.



QUESTIONS?

