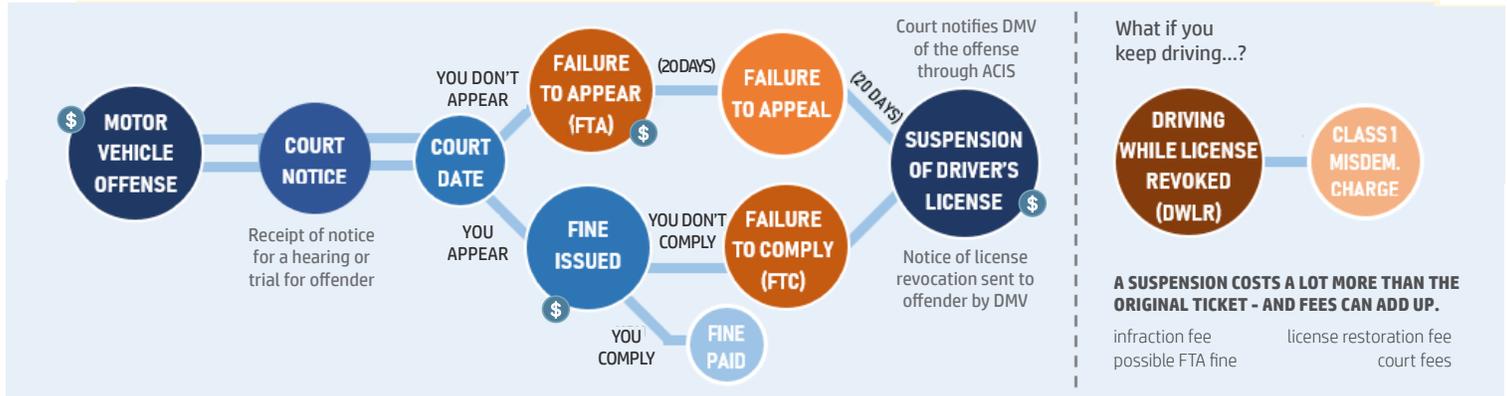




Fact Sheet: Driver's License Suspension in North Carolina

This report examines driver's license suspensions in North Carolina from 1996-2018. There are **1,225,000** active driver's license suspensions in North Carolina for non-driving related reasons relating to failure to comply with traffic and court fines (FTC), and failure to appear in court for traffic offenses (FTA). **Full report at: <https://sites.law.duke.edu/justsciencelab/>**

THE PROCESS:



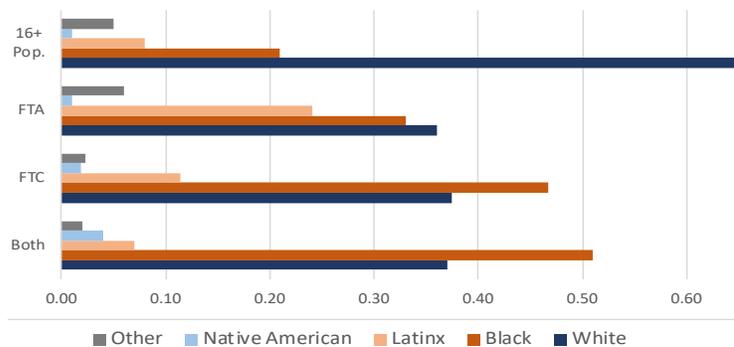
WHAT WE FOUND:

Approximately **1 out of 7** driving-age individuals in the state of North Carolina currently have their license suspended.

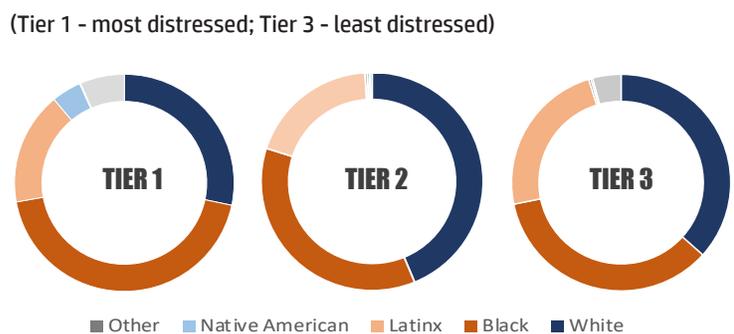


Of those suspensions, **827,000** are for failure to appear in court (FTA), **263,000** for failure to comply with orders to pay traffic fines or court fees, and **135,000** for both.

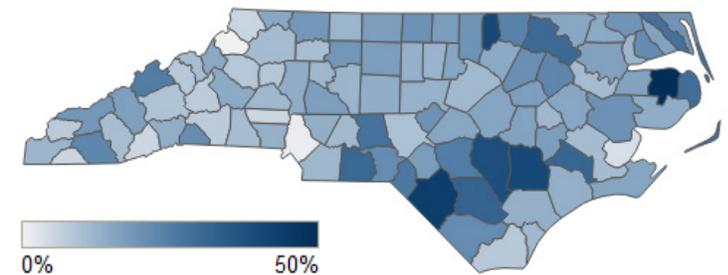
Racial Distribution of Driver's License Suspensions Compared to Overall Driver-Age (16+) Population in North Carolina



Racial Distribution of Overall Suspensions Across NC Counties, Compared to NC Commerce's Economic Distress Categories (Tier 1 - most distressed; Tier 3 - least distressed)



Driver's License Suspensions Expressed as a Percentage of Driver Age (16+) County Population+



Note: Not all suspended drivers are necessarily residents of the county. Thus, this map does not reflect the number of residents in a county with suspended licenses, but instead uses population as an indirect comparison for suspension rates.

Poverty & Race Modeling

This graphic visualizes the number of suspensions per population increase by individuals either **above, or below the poverty line** derived from mixed-model linear regressions.

1 figure = 10 people



SUMMARY:

- Driver's license suspensions are disproportionately imposed on minority residents across categories of offense
- Both race and class matter. The racial disparity observed in suspensions can also be correlated with economic distress.
- Overall, population accounts for most of the variation seen in the frequency of suspensions.

The JustScience Lab and the research presented in this report was supported by the Charles Koch Foundation. The views expressed are those of the authors and to not necessarily represent those of the funders.