U6614: Assignment 3: Subway Fare Evasion Microdata

Sample Solutions

2022-09-27

Please submit your knitted .pdf file along with the corresponding R markdown (.rmd) via Courseworks by 11:59pm on Monday, October 4th.

1 Load libraries.

```
#remember to make sure these packaged are installed before trying to load
library(tidyverse)
library(fastDummies)
```

2 Load and inspect the two public defender client datasets (BDS & LAS).

• Get a good look at the data, but don't print long, clunky output here; one approach is to call the str() function for each dataset but to suppress the included list of attributes by including the option give.attr = FALSE.

```
arrests_bds <- read_csv("microdata_BDS_inclass.csv", na = "")</pre>
arrests_las <- read_csv("microdata_LAS_inclass.csv", na = "")</pre>
str(arrests_bds, give.attr = FALSE)
## spec_tbl_df [2,246 x 8] (S3: spec_tbl_df/tbl_df/tbl/data.frame)
## $ client_zip: num [1:2246] 11205 11385 11226 11207 11225 ...
               : num [1:2246] 25 20 19 17 21 52 59 32 22 19 ...
## $ ethnicity : chr [1:2246] "Hispanic" "Hispanic" "Non-Hispanic" "Non-Hispanic" ...
               : chr [1:2246] "White" "Black" "Black" "Black" ...
               : num [1:2246] 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 ...
## $ male
               : chr [1:2246] "jefferson st l line station" "myrtle - wyckoff avs station" "winthrop s
## $ loc2
## $ st_id
              : num [1:2246] 100 119 156 156 156 156 156 156 156 ...
               : num [1:2246] 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 ...
str(arrests_las, give.attr = FALSE)
```

```
## spec_tbl_df [1,965 x 9] (S3: spec_tbl_df/tbl_df/tbl/data.frame)
                 : num [1:1965] 11222 10016 11236 11236 NA ...
   $ client zip
   $ las race key : chr [1:1965] "Black" "Asian or Pacific Islander" "Black" "Black" ...
   $ hispanic_flag: chr [1:1965] "N" "N" "N" "N" ...
##
##
   $ age
                   : num [1:1965] 32 47 20 64 23 29 26 52 52 22 ...
                   : num [1:1965] 2016 2016 2016 2016 2016 ...
##
   $ year
                   : num [1:1965] 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 ...
   $ male
   $ dismissal
                   : num [1:1965] 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 ...
##
##
   $ loc2
                   : chr [1:1965] "kingston - throop avs" "avenue h q subway" "nostrand ave and fulton
                   : num [1:1965] 106 28 131 150 131 27 68 44 85 31 ...
   $ st_id
```

2a) Give a brief overview of the data. The aim is not be exhaustive, but to paint a picture of they key features of the data with respect to the policy questions you'll be exploring.

The BDS data includes 2246 observations (client arrest records), and the LAS data includes another 1965 observations. Both datasets include basic demographic information on age, sex, race, ethnicity (coded differently in each dataset), as well as information on the location/subway station where the arrest occurred. The LAS data also includes information on case dismissal rates.

2b) For each dataset, what is the unit of observation and population represented by this "sample"? Do you think this sample does a good job representing the population of interest? Why or why not?

In each raw dataset, the unit of observation is the arrested individual (client). On the surface the representative population is all individuals arrested by the NYPD for subway fare evasion in Brooklyn during 2016 who are represented by public defenders. If nearly all individuals arrested for fare evasion are represented by public defenders, then this sample comes close to the universe of subway fare evasion arrests in Brooklyn in 2016. This is difficult to argue convincingly without additional information, but is supported anecdotally by court observers.

2c) Inspect and describe the coding of race and ethnicity in each dataset.

```
##
                           0
                                            Am Indian Asian/Pacific Islander
                          35
##
                                                     1
                                                                              21
##
                                                Other
                                                                        Unknown
                      Black
##
                       1465
                                                    32
                                                                               2
##
                      White
                                                 NA's
##
                        533
                                                  157
```

```
summary(arrests_las$race)
```

```
## Asian or Pacific Islander
                                                     Black
                                                                              Hispanic
##
                                                      1247
                                                                                     21
                            11
##
                       Latino
                                                     Other
                                                                               Unknown
##
                             2
                                                                                     10
                                                        20
##
                         White
                                                      NA's
##
                           426
                                                       228
#compare Hispanic/ethnicity coding
  summary(arrests_bds$ethnicity)
```

0 Hispanic Non-Hispanic Other NA's ## 33 493 1558 5 157

summary(arrests_las\$ethnicity)

```
## N Y NA's
## 1619 189 157
```

Race information is generally stored in one variable, Hispanic identity in a second variable. To work towards consistent variable names and coding in both datasets, let's first recode the raw race and ethnicity information into two separate columns of data (factors) named race and ethnicity.

While each dataset refers to similar race and ethnicity categories, there are different category names in each (including some slightly different spellings).

We also note that Hispanic identity factors into both race and Hispanic variables in the Legal Aid Society (LAS) data; in the BDS data, information on Hispanic identity is only included in the ethnicity variable.

Each dataset also contains a different set of values that seem to convey unknown race/ethnicity information, in addition to true missings (e.g. "0" and "Unknown" in addition to blank entries).

2d) From the outset, are there any data limitations you think are important to note?

It's unclear what processes are used to code race and ethnicity at each public defender group. How much does the information reflect client self-identification rather than identity assigned by police and entered into arrest reports?

It's also important to emphasize what information this data does **not** include that might be relevant to the question of biased fare evasion enforcement:

- fare evasion that resulted in a summons (ticket + fine) rather than an arrest
- fare evasion enforcement on buses

- 3 Clean BDS race and ethnicity data (insert code chunks that only include code you used to recode and very briefly validate your recoding).
- 3a) BDS: race data (generate column race_clean).

```
#identify every combination of race-ethnicity in the raw data
table(arrests bds$race, arrests bds$ethnicity, useNA = "always")
##
##
                               O Hispanic Non-Hispanic Other <NA>
##
                                       1
                                                     3
##
    Am Indian
                              0
                                        Ω
                                                    1
                                                           0
                                                                0
##
    Asian/Pacific Islander
                              0
                                       0
                                                    21
                                                           0
                                                                0
##
    Black
                               2
                                    104
                                                 1358
##
    Other
                              0
                                     20
                                                    11
                              0
                                                           2
                                                                0
##
    Unknown
                                       0
                                                     0
                               0
##
    White
                                      368
                                                   164
                                                           1
                                                                0
##
     <NA>
                                        0
                                                           0 157
#recode as factor in an internally consistent manner (address NAs, specify levels)
arrests_bds.clean <- arrests_bds %>%
 mutate(race_clean = recode(race, "0" = "NA",
```

```
table(arrests_bds.clean$race, arrests_bds.clean$race_clean, useNA = "always")
```

```
##
##
                             Black White Asian/Pacific Islander Other <NA>
                                       0
                                                                          35
##
                                 0
                                                               0
                                                                      0
##
    Am Indian
                                 0
                                                               0
                                                                      1
                                                                           0
    Asian/Pacific Islander
                                                                      0
                                                                           0
##
                                 0
                                       0
                                                              21
```

```
1465
##
     Black
                                                                      0
                                                                             0
##
     Other
                                    0
                                           0
                                                                      0
                                                                            32
##
     Unknown
                                    0
                                           0
                                                                      0
                                                                             0
                                                                                  2
##
                                         533
                                                                      0
                                                                             0
                                                                                  0
     White
                                    0
##
     <NA>
                                    0
                                           0
                                                                      0
                                                                             0
                                                                                157
```

3b) BDS: ethnicity data (generate column ethnicity_clean).

##

<NA>

```
#ok now let's recode to Hispanic, Non-Hispanic, and NA
arrests_bds.clean <- arrests_bds.clean %>%
  mutate(hispanic = recode(ethnicity, "0" = "NA",
                            "Other" = "Non-Hispanic") ) %>%
 mutate(hispanic = factor(hispanic, levels = c("Hispanic", "Non-Hispanic")))
#validation: confirm the recode worked as intended
summary(arrests_bds.clean$hispanic)
##
       Hispanic Non-Hispanic
                                      NA's
##
            493
                        1563
                                       190
table(arrests_bds.clean$race_clean, arrests_bds.clean$hispanic, useNA = "always")
##
##
                            Hispanic Non-Hispanic <NA>
##
     Black
                                  104
                                              1359
##
     White
                                  368
                                               165
                                                      0
##
     Asian/Pacific Islander
                                    0
                                                21
##
     Other
                                   20
                                                13
                                                      0
```

3c) Generate a single race/ethnicity factor variable race_eth with mutually exclusive categories.

5 188

1

```
#let's investigate a bit
table(arrests_bds.clean$race_clean, arrests_bds.clean$hispanic, useNA = "always")
##
##
                             Hispanic Non-Hispanic <NA>
##
     Black
                                   104
                                                1359
                                                        2
##
     White
                                   368
                                                 165
                                                        0
     Asian/Pacific Islander
##
                                     0
                                                  21
                                                        0
##
     Other
                                    20
                                                  13
                                                        0
##
     <NA>
                                     1
                                                   5
                                                      188
```

```
#generate race_eth column (as a factor) in steps
arrests_bds.clean <- arrests_bds.clean %>%
  mutate(race_clean_char = as.character(race_clean)) %>% #work with characters
  mutate(hispanic_char = as.character(hispanic))  %>% #work with characters
  mutate(race_eth = ifelse(hispanic_char %in% "Hispanic",
```

```
##
##
                              Hispanic Non-Hispanic <NA>
##
     Asian/Pacific Islander
                                                    21
##
     Black
                                      0
                                                  1359
                                                          2
                                    493
##
     Hispanic
                                                     0
                                                          0
##
     Non-Hispanic White
                                      0
                                                  165
                                                          0
##
     Other
                                      0
                                                    13
                                                          0
##
     <NA>
                                      0
                                                     5
                                                        188
```

arrests_bds.clean %>% count(race_eth, sort = TRUE)

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
     race_eth
##
                                 n
##
     <fct>
                             <int>
## 1 Black
                              1361
## 2 Hispanic
                               493
## 3 <NA>
                               193
## 4 Non-Hispanic White
                               165
## 5 Asian/Pacific Islander
                                21
## 6 Other
                                13
```

Note that race_eth assigns individuals who identify as both Hispanic and a race other than white as Hispanic. This means, for example, that an individual who identifies as both Black and Hispanic appears as Hispanic in the race_eth column.

4 Clean LAS race and ethnicity data

4a) Follow your own steps to end up at a comparably coded race_eth variable for the LAS data.

NOTE: you may be able to do everything in a single pipe, depending on your approach, (but you certainly don't have to).

```
#inspect race/ethnicity coding in LAS data
table(arrests_las$las_race_key, arrests_las$hispanic_flag, useNA = "always")
##
##
                                        Y <NA>
                                  N
##
     Asian or Pacific Islander
                                 11
                                        0
##
                                1201
     Black
                                       46
##
     Hispanic
                                  20
                                        1
                                  2
##
     Latino
                                        0
##
     Other
                                  11
                                        9
##
     Unknown
                                  10
                                        0
                                             0
##
     White
                                 294 132
                                             0
##
     <NA>
                                  70
                                        1
                                          157
#qenerate race_eth column as a factor
arrests_las.clean <- arrests_las %>%
 mutate(race_eth = recode(las_race_key, "Asian or Pacific Islander" = "Asian/Pacific Islander",
                                          "Unknown" = "NA",
                                          "Latino" = "Hispanic",
                                          "White" = "Non-Hispanic White")) %>%
  mutate(race_eth = ifelse(hispanic_flag %in% "Y", "Hispanic", race_eth) ) %>%
  mutate(race_eth = factor(race_eth,
                           levels = c("Black",
                                       "Hispanic",
                                       "Non-Hispanic White",
                                       "Asian/Pacific Islander",
                                       "Other")))
#validate
arrests_las.clean %>% count(race_eth, sort = TRUE)
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
##
     race_eth
                                 n
     <fct>
                             <int>
## 1 Black
                              1201
## 2 Non-Hispanic White
                               294
## 3 <NA>
                               237
## 4 Hispanic
                               211
```

table(arrests_las.clean\$race_eth, arrests_las.clean\$hispanic_flag, useNA = "always")

11

11

6 Other

5 Asian/Pacific Islander

```
##
                                       Y <NA>
                                 N
##
     Black
                              1201
                                       0
##
     Hispanic
                                22
                                     189
##
     Non-Hispanic White
                               294
                                       0
##
     Asian/Pacific Islander
                                11
                                       0
##
     Other
                                       0
                                11
                                            0
                                       0 157
##
     <NA>
                                80
```

5 Combining (appending) the BDS and LAS microdata

5a) Create a column (pd) to identify public defender data source.

```
arrests_bds.clean <- arrests_bds.clean %>% mutate(pd = "bds")
arrests_las.clean <- arrests_las.clean %>% mutate(pd = "las")
```

5b) Append arrests_bds.clean and arrests_las.clean using rbind(). Store as new data frame arrests.clean and inspect for consistency/accuracy.

```
##
      pd
                                 race_eth
                                                                   male
                                                   age
   bds:2246
               Black
                                      :2562
                                              Min. : 0.00
                                                                      :0.0000
                                                              Min.
##
   las:1965
               Hispanic
                                      : 704
                                              1st Qu.:20.00
                                                              1st Qu.:1.0000
                                     : 459
               Non-Hispanic White
                                             Median :26.00
                                                              Median :1.0000
##
##
               Asian/Pacific Islander: 32
                                              Mean
                                                     :29.18
                                                              Mean
                                                                     :0.8748
##
               Other
                                     : 24
                                              3rd Qu.:35.00
                                                              3rd Qu.:1.0000
##
               NA's
                                      : 430
                                              Max.
                                                     :71.00
                                                              Max.
                                                                      :1.0000
##
                                              NA's
                                                              NA's
                                                                      :314
                                                     :317
##
      dismissal
                         st_id
                                                                         loc2
                                                                            : 223
           :0.0000
                            : 223
                                    coney island-stillwell ave
##
  Min.
                     66
##
   1st Qu.:0.0000
                     99
                            : 198
                                     jay st - metrotech
                                                                            : 198
## Median :1.0000
                     150
                            : 143
                                    utica ave and fulton st
                                                                            : 143
           :0.5392
                     70
                                    utica ave and eastern parkway
## Mean
                            : 142
                                                                            : 142
                            : 141
## 3rd Qu.:1.0000
                     114
                                    marcy ave j m z line
                                                                            : 141
                                    nostrand ave and fulton st a c station: 141
## Max.
           :1.0000
                     131
                            : 141
## NA's
           :2529
                     (Other):3223
                                     (Other)
                                                                            :3223
```

5c) What is the total number of subway fare evasion arrest records?

The total number of subway fare evasion arrest records from both BDS and LAS is 4211.

5d) Save arrests.clean as an .RData file, in a folder for next class called Lecture4.

save(list = "arrests.clean", file = "C:/Users/rodri/OneDrive/Escritorio/Columbia/TA - R/R codes/Recitat

6 Descriptive statistics by race/ethnicity

6a) Print the number of arrests for each race/ethnicity category (a frequency table).

```
arrests.clean %>% count(race_eth, sort = TRUE)
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
##
    race_eth
                                 n
##
     <fct>
                             <int>
## 1 Black
                              2562
## 2 Hispanic
                               704
## 3 Non-Hispanic White
                               459
## 4 <NA>
                               430
## 5 Asian/Pacific Islander
                                32
## 6 Other
                                24
```

6b) Print the proportion of total arrests for each race/ethnicity category. How does excluding NAs change the results?

```
#including NAs
prop.table(table(arrests.clean$race_eth, useNA = "always")) %>%
  round(2) %>%
  as.data.frame() %>%
  arrange(desc(Freq)) %>%
  rename(race_eth = Var1)
```

```
## race_eth Freq
## 1 Black 0.61
## 2 Hispanic 0.17
## 3 Non-Hispanic White 0.11
## 4 <NA> 0.10
## 5 Asian/Pacific Islander 0.01
## 6 Other 0.01
```

```
#excluding NAs
prop.table(table(arrests.clean$race_eth)) %>%
  round(2) %>%
  as.data.frame() %>%
  arrange(desc(Freq)) %>%
  rename(race_eth = Var1)
```

```
## race_eth Freq
## 1 Black 0.68
## 2 Hispanic 0.19
## 3 Non-Hispanic White 0.12
## 4 Asian/Pacific Islander 0.01
## 5 Other 0.01
```

6c) Show the average age, share male, and dimissal rate for each race/ethnicity category. Describe any noteworthy findings.

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 5
##
     race_eth
                                  n mean_age mean_male mean_dismissal
##
                                        <dbl>
     <fct>
                              <int>
                                                   <dbl>
                                                                   <dbl>
## 1 Black
                               2562
                                         29.1
                                                   0.875
                                                                   0.514
                                         29.7
## 2 Hispanic
                                704
                                                   0.901
                                                                   0.538
## 3 Non-Hispanic White
                                459
                                         29.7
                                                   0.898
                                                                   0.587
## 4 Asian/Pacific Islander
                                 32
                                         28.9
                                                   0.938
                                                                   0.636
## 5 Other
                                         28.3
                                                   0.833
                                                                   0.444
                                 24
## 6 <NA>
                                430
                                         26.0
                                                   0.603
                                                                   0.75
```

Interestingly, arrested individuals with NA race/ethnicity are 3 to 4 years younger on average, and only 61% male compared to 83 to 94% male for those with race/ethnicity specified in the data.

The dismissal rate is also noticeably higher for API individuals, and lower for NA individuals. However, the sample sizes for these groups are very small by comparison, and the dismissal variable is only included in the LAS data so the samples sizes for that column are even smaller than for the other columns! With such a small number of observations for these groups it is very unlikely that we'd be able to conclude there are true differences in dismissal rates between API and NA individuals and other groups—we could do t-tests to check, more on that next week! Said another way, we can't rule out that the differences we see here are due to sampling variation, and thus should not be emphasizing them as findings at this point.

7 Subway-station level analysis

7a) Create dummy variables for each race/ethnicity category and show summary statistics only for these dummy variables.

```
arrests.clean <- dummy_cols(arrests.clean, select_columns = "race_eth")</pre>
arrests.clean %>%
  summarise(mean_black = round(mean(race_eth_Black, na.rm = TRUE), 2),
            mean_hisp = round(mean(race_eth_Hispanic, na.rm = TRUE), 2),
            mean_nhw = round(mean(`race_eth_Non-Hispanic White`, na.rm = TRUE), 2),
            mean_api = round(mean(`race_eth_Asian/Pacific Islander`, na.rm = TRUE), 2),
            mean oth = round(mean(race_eth_Other, na.rm = TRUE), 2),
            mean_NA = round(mean(race_eth_NA, na.rm = TRUE), 2) )
## # A tibble: 1 x 6
    mean_black mean_hisp mean_nhw mean_api mean_oth mean_NA
##
          <dbl>
                    <dbl>
                             <dbl>
                                      <dbl>
                                                <dbl>
                                                        <dbl>
## 1
           0.68
                     0.19
                              0.12
                                       0.01
                                                0.01
                                                          0.1
```

7b) Aggregate to station-level observations and show a table with the top 10 stations by arrest totals, including the following information for each station:

- station name (loc2)
- station id
- total number of arrests at each station
- total number of arrests for each race_eth category at each station
- sort in descending order by total number of arrests
- remember to only show the top 10 stations
- use kable() in the knitr package for better formatting

loc2	st_id	n	n_black	n_hisp	n_api	n_nhw	n_oth
coney island-stillwell ave	66	223	124	48	5	35	1
jay st - metrotech	99	198	112	43	3	29	0
utica ave and fulton st	150	143	112	19	0	7	0
utica ave and eastern parkway	70	142	118	13	0	5	0
marcy ave j m z line	114	141	55	42	3	34	0
nostrand ave and fulton st a c station	131	141	107	20	0	7	1

loc2	st_id	n	n_black	n_hisp	n_api	n_nhw	n_oth
canarsie rockaway pkwy	54	133	109	4	1	11	2
sutter avenue station l line	147	102	79	12	0	6	0
kingston - throop avs	106	90	69	12	0	6	0
nevins st 2 3 4 5 lines	123	86	63	11	0	6	1

7c) Aggregate to station-level observations (group by loc2), and show a table of stations with at least 50 arrests along with the following information:

- station name (loc2)
- station arrest total
- share of arrests that are Black and Hispanic (excluding race_eth = NA from denominator)
- sorted in ascending order above (of) Black and Hispanic arrest share
- remember to only show stations with at least 50 total arrests
- use kable() in the knitr package for better formatting

loc2	n	n_bh	n_na	sh_bh
marcy ave j m z line	141	97	7	0.72
myrtle av and broadway station	69	53	3	0.80
coney island-stillwell ave	223	172	10	0.81
graham ave l line	54	39	6	0.81
broadway and lorimer st j m station	70	56	2	0.82
clinton - washington avs station	63	48	5	0.83
jay st - metrotech	198	155	11	0.83
hoyt-schermerhorn a c g line	71	55	6	0.85
myrtle - willoughby avs g line	50	39	5	0.87
canarsie rockaway pkwy	133	113	6	0.89
nevins st 2 3 4 5 lines	86	74	5	0.91
hoyt st 2 3	77	70	2	0.93
kingston - throop avs	90	81	3	0.93
nostrand ave and fulton st a c station	141	127	6	0.94
sutter avenue station l line	102	91	5	0.94
utica ave and fulton st	143	131	5	0.95
court st r subway/borough hall 2 subway 3 subway 4 subway 5 subway	59	53	4	0.96
junius st 3 line	75	70	2	0.96
livonia ave l line	75	69	3	0.96

loc2	n	n_bh	n_na	sh_bh
utica ave and eastern parkway	142	131	6	0.96
rockaway ave c line	61	57	3	0.98
sutter av - rutland rd 3 line	68	64	3	0.98
rockaway ave 3 line	61	57	4	1.00

7d) Briefly summarize any noteworthy findings from the table you just generated.

At every single high-arrest subway station, the majority of arrested individuals are Black or Hispanic. This isn't surprising, given that 87 percent of all arrested individuals with coded race/ethnicity are Black or Hispanic.

8 (OPTIONAL) Visualize the distribution of arrests by race/ethnicity at stations with > 100 arrests.

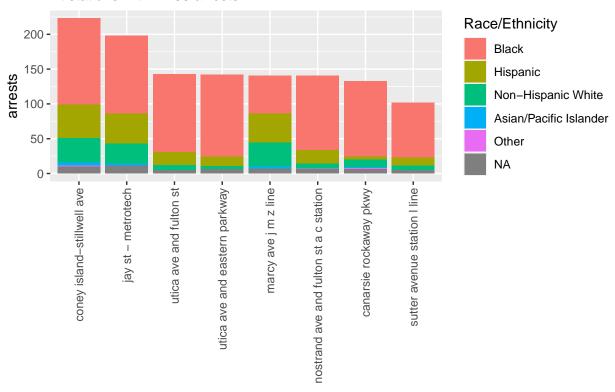
• Hint: see R code from class, section 8

```
#get data frame with obs for every station-race_eth pairings on arrest counts
arrests_stations_race <- arrests.clean %>%
  group_by(loc2) %>%
  mutate(st_arrests = n()) %>%
  ungroup() %>%
  group_by(loc2, race_eth) %>%
  summarise(arrests = n(), st_arrests = first(st_arrests)) %>%
  arrange(desc(st_arrests)) %>%
  filter(st_arrests > 100)
```

```
## # A tibble: 39 x 4
## # Groups: loc2 [8]
##
     loc2
                                 race_eth
                                                        arrests st_arrests
##
      <fct>
                                 <fct>
                                                          <int>
                                                                     <int>
## 1 coney island-stillwell ave Black
                                                            124
                                                                       223
## 2 coney island-stillwell ave Hispanic
                                                             48
                                                                       223
## 3 coney island-stillwell ave Non-Hispanic White
                                                             35
                                                                       223
## 4 coney island-stillwell ave Asian/Pacific Islander
                                                              5
                                                                       223
                                                                       223
## 5 coney island-stillwell ave Other
                                                              1
## 6 coney island-stillwell ave <NA>
                                                             10
                                                                       223
## 7 jay st - metrotech
                                                            112
                                                                       198
                                 Black
## 8 jay st - metrotech
                                 Hispanic
                                                             43
                                                                       198
                                                             29
                                                                       198
## 9 jay st - metrotech
                                 Non-Hispanic White
                                 Asian/Pacific Islander
                                                                       198
## 10 jay st - metrotech
                                                              3
## # ... with 29 more rows
## # i Use 'print(n = ...)' to see more rows
```

Distribution of arrests by race/ethnicity

At stations with > 100 arrests



```
# alternative way, save plot and recall it
# ggsave(g, filename = "g.png")
# knitr::include_graphics("g.png")
```