Racial Disparities in Consumer Debt Collection

Rate of Debts in Collections Higher in Non-White Communities
- Overall: 31%
- Predominantly Non-White: 42%
- Predominantly White: 26%

Consumers of Color are More Likely to be Contacted by Debt Collectors
- 44% of non-White survey respondents reported being contacted about a debt compared to 29% of White respondents.

Collection Judgments More Common in Majority Black Communities
- In Chicago, Newark, and St. Louis, the risk of judgment was twice as high in majority black census tracts as it was in majority white census tracts.

Majority Black Communities File More Collection Complaints
- Areas with a 75% to 100% black population have a 69% higher rate of debt collection complaints compared to areas in with less than 5% black population.