

The Effects of School Integration: Evidence from a Randomized Desegregation Program

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Overview

- *De facto* segregation persists
 - Dorsey, 2013; Fiel, 2013; Reardon, 2013
- Segregation is associated with adverse outcomes
 - cf. Ludwig et al., 2012
- School resources, peer quality and performance implications
 - e.g. Vigdor, 2007, Reber, 2010; Johnson, 2011

Research question

- How does access to lower-minority share, higher-resourced school districts improve longer-run outcomes?

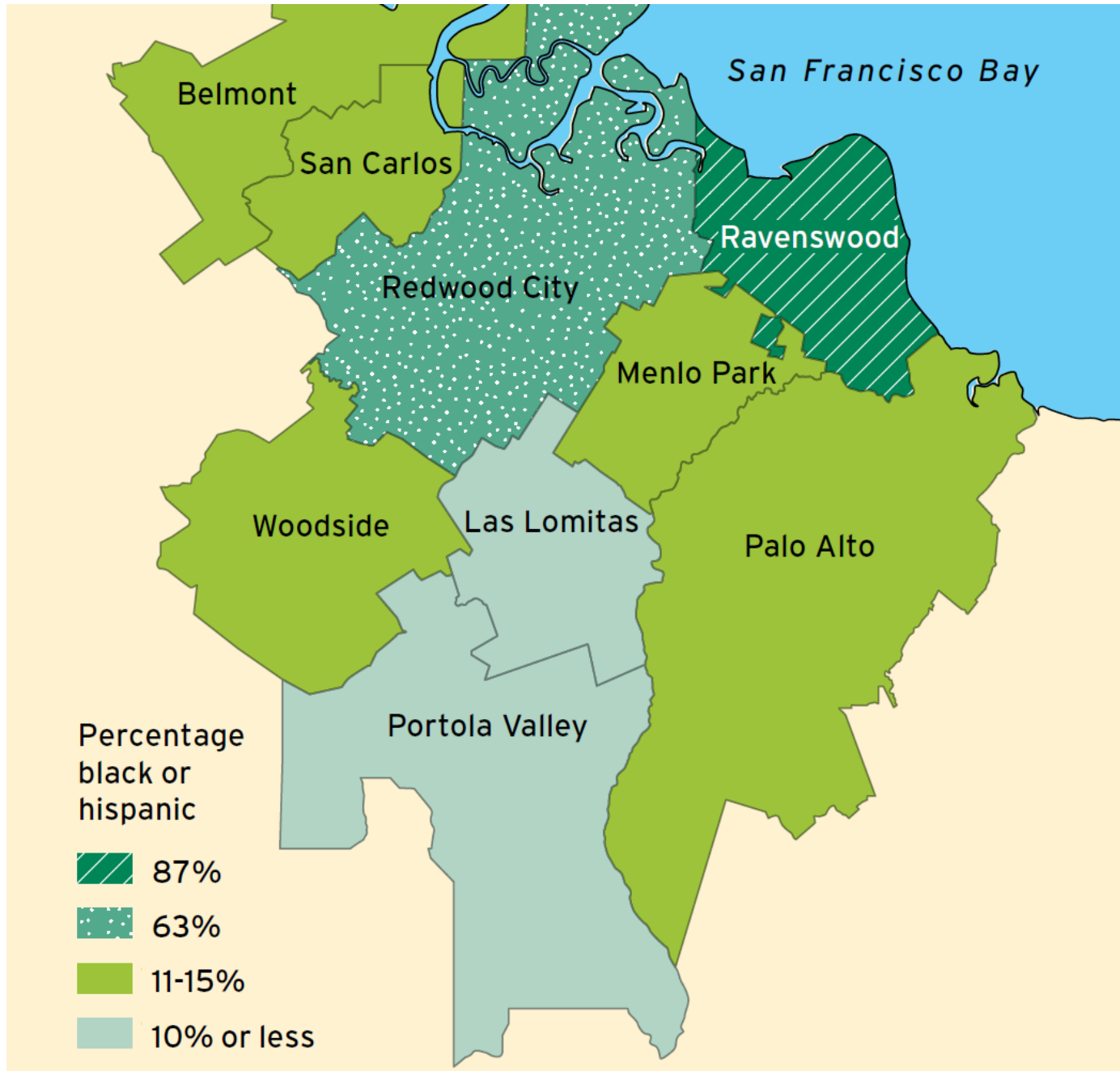
This paper

- Ongoing integration program in the Bay Area, CA
- Transfers students *across* districts at early age
- Offer to transfer assigned by lottery
- Study effects on college enrollment and arrests

Program Description

- Minority students can transfer to other local school districts
- Roughly 166 slots
- Transfer primarily for start of kindergarten
- Can continue through all grades offered
- Must live within sending district throughout
- Free transportation

“Reduce the racial isolation of students of color in the Palo Alto, Ravenswood, and other San Mateo County School Districts”



Panel A.

District Information

Stud./Teach. Sp. Ed. LEP Spend./Pupil Ave. Perc.

Ravenswood	19.2	7%	65%	7,413	28
Belmont	17.9	10%	4%	7,196	72
Las Lomas	16.8	10%	6%	9,151	90
Menlo Park	18.0	11%	6%	12,014	85
Palo Alto	17.7	11%	5%	11,982	87
Portola Valley	15.8	13%	1%	10,840	89
San Carlos	20.6	7%	2%	12,643	71
Woodside	13.8	8%	4%	15,876	88

Panel B.

Demographic Information

	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Asian</u>	<u>Hispanic</u>	<u>A/PI</u>
Ravenswood	1%	24%	1%	64%	10%
Belmont	64%	3%	16%	11%	1 %
Las Lomas	80%	3%	9%	7%	1%
Menlo Park	78%	4%	6%	8%	3%
Palo Alto	68%	5%	19%	7%	1%
Portola Valley	87%	3%	5%	4%	2%
San Carlos	80%	2%	6%	9%	1%
Woodside	85%	2%	3%	9%	1%

Panel C.

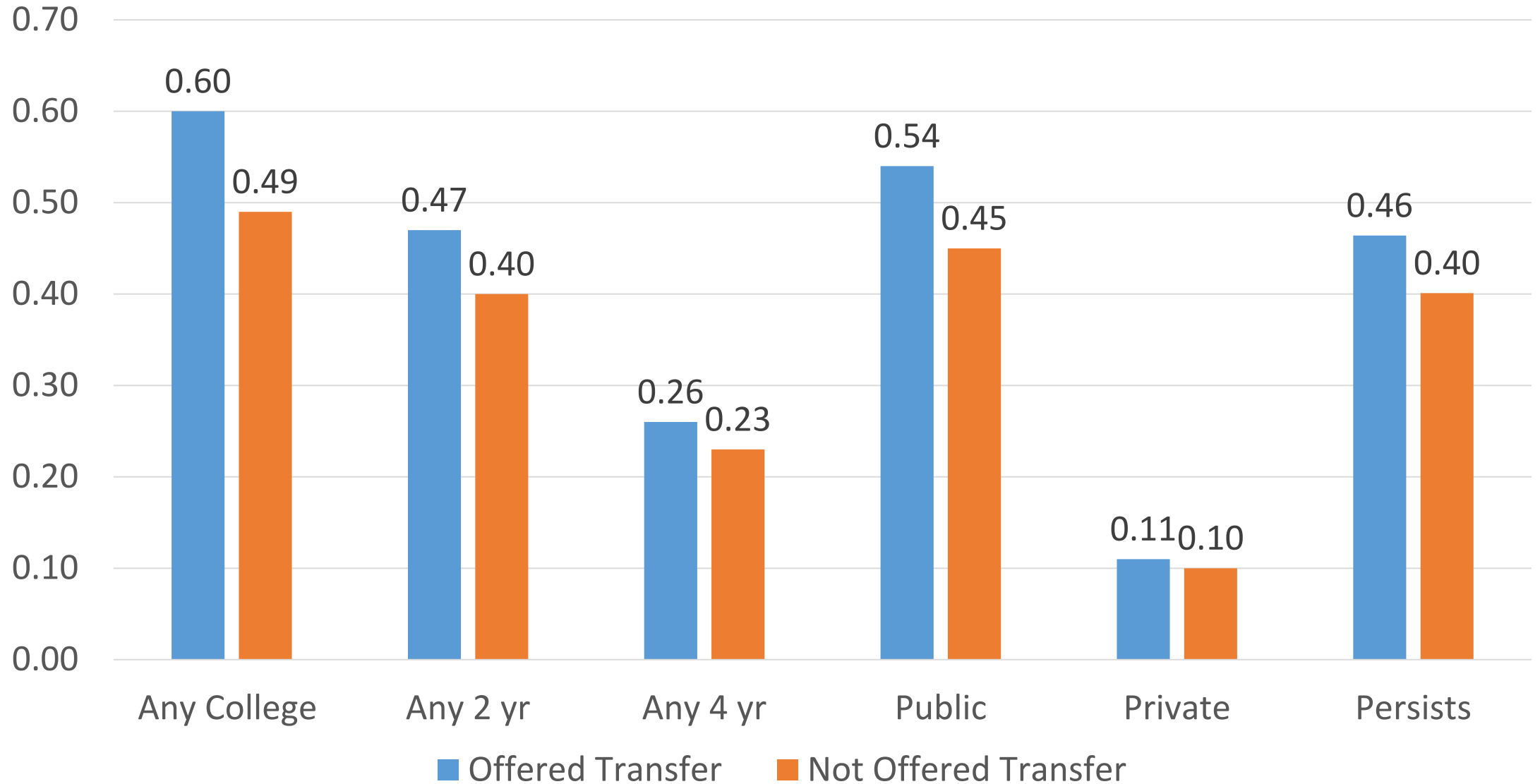
Household Information

	<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Med. Inc.</u>	<u>Poverty</u>	<u>No H.S. Diploma</u>
Ravenswood	3.8	\$45,573	20%	54%
Belmont	2.3	\$87,267	2%	5%
Las Lomas	2.4	\$125,360	0%	4%
Menlo Park	2.3	\$100,827	5%	3%
Palo Alto	2.3	\$87,549	4%	4%
Portola Valley	2.7	\$162,027	2%	3%
San Carlos	2.4	\$87,459	3%	5%
Woodside	2.7	\$149,062	0%	7%

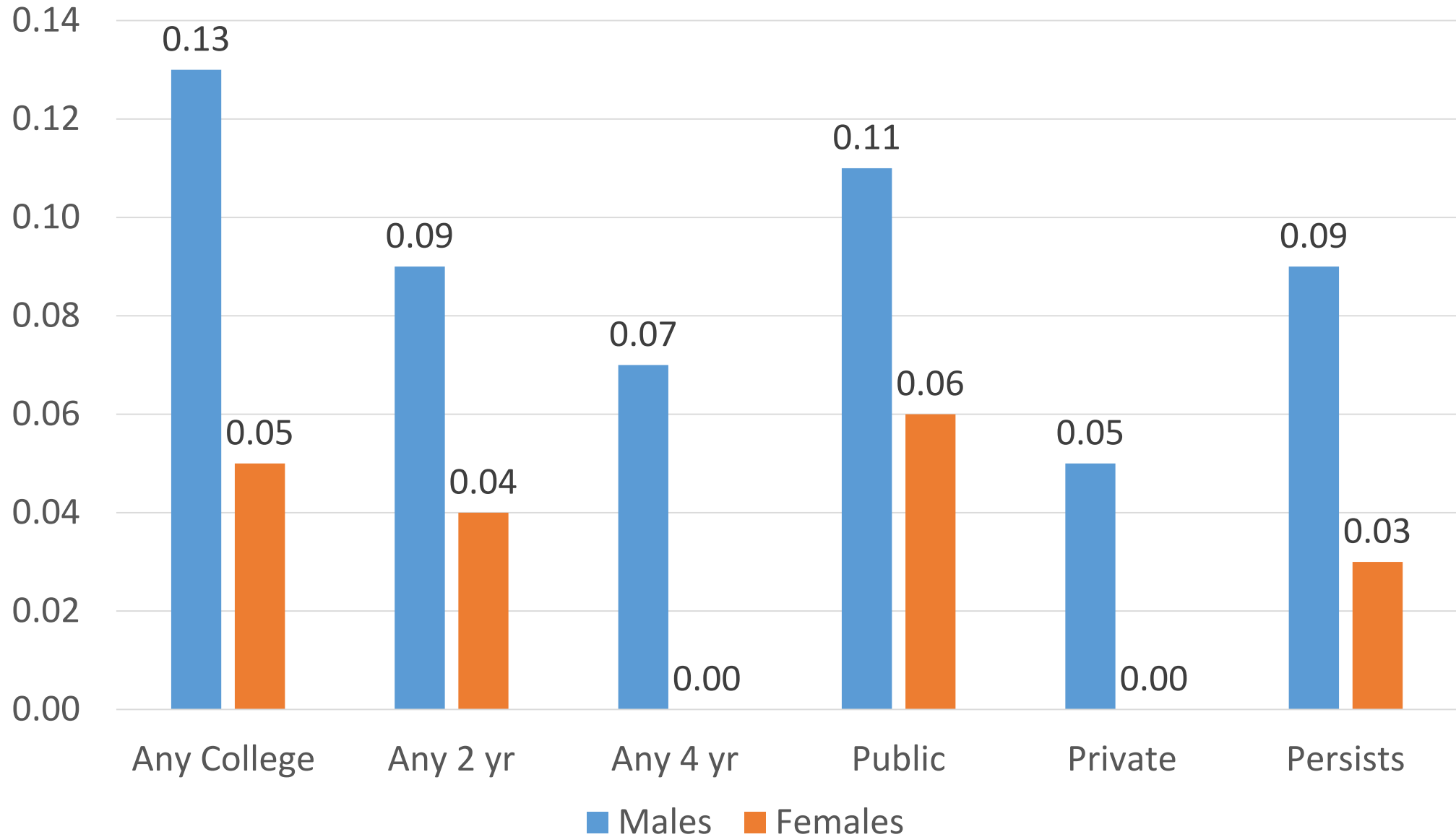
College Outcomes

- College enrollment, nationwide
 - 2-year and 4-year college enrollment
 - Public or private institution
 - Persistence/number of semesters

College Enrollment Levels



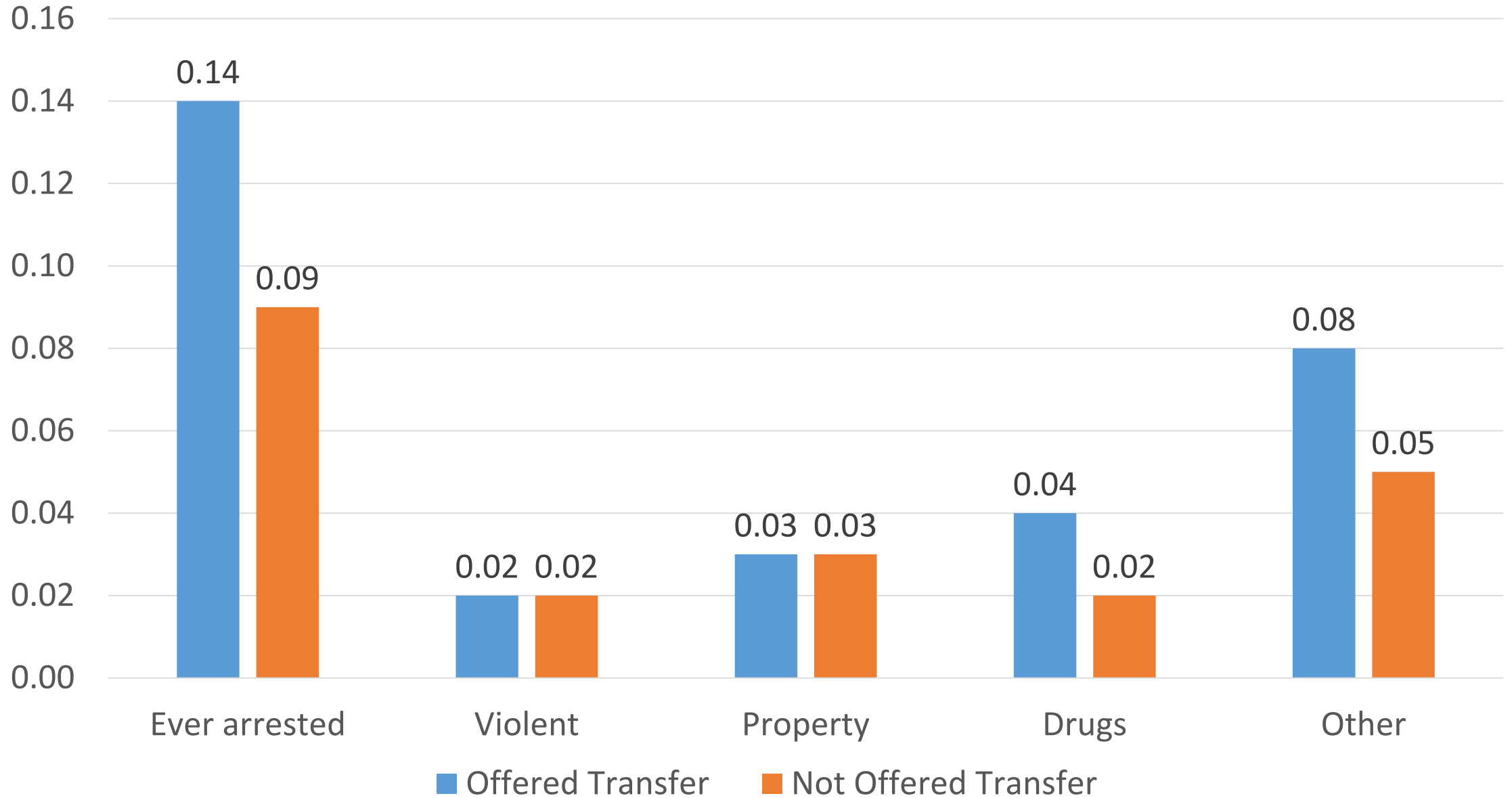
College Enrollment *Changes* by Gender



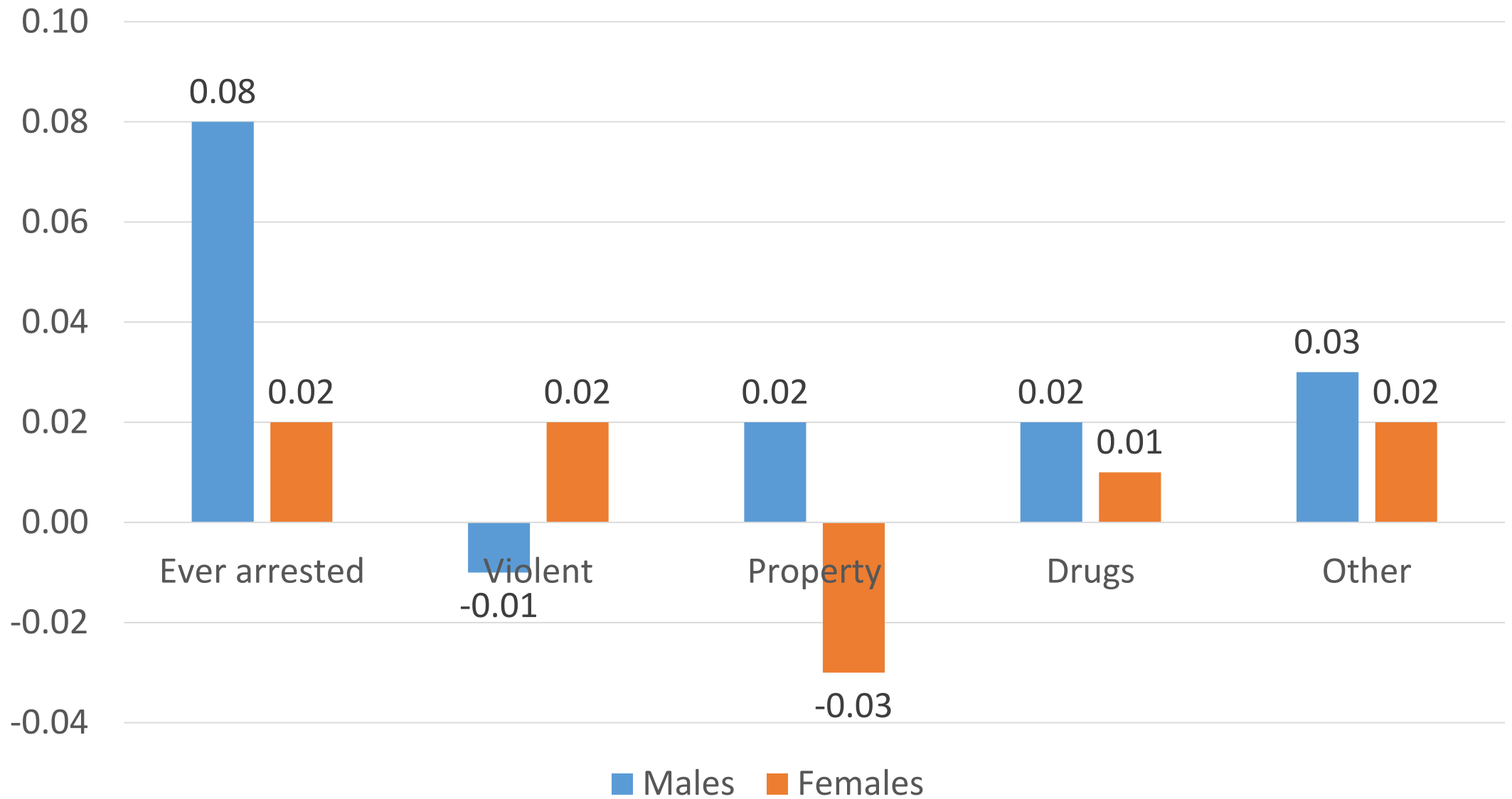
Arrests

- Link to arrests for those aged 18 and above
- Previous research on drastic changes in context:
 - Changes in police resources
 - Changes in potential for profiling
 - Changes in opportunities for crime
- Existing evidence mixed
 - cf. Moving To Opportunity and charter schools

Arrests Levels



Arrests *Changes* by Gender



Conclusions

- Caveats: small program in a particular context
- Difficult to replicate according to race
 - 2007 Supreme Court Case
- But race tightly correlated with SES
 - cf. work by Richard Kahlenberg
- Importance of *intra*-district focus
- Must consider longer-run outcomes