

**Oregon Commission on Children & Families**

**Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee**

**Oregon 2003 – 2010 Disproportionate Minority Contact Relative Rate Index (RRI)**

Relative Rate Index (RRI) method involves comparing the relative volume (rate) of activity for each major stage of the juvenile justice system for minority youth with the volume of that activity for white (majority) youth. RRI provides a single index number that indicates the extent to which the volume of that form of contact or activity differs for minority and white youth.

**Referrals**

Race/Ethnicity	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
African American/Black	2.38	2.45	2.91	2.56	2.48	2.30	2.36	2.39
Hispanic/Latino	1.25	1.20	1.71	1.09	1.27	1.23	1.23	1.2
Native American	1.38	1.28	1.59	1.35	1.38	1.43	1.45	1.59

**Secure Detention**

Race/Ethnicity	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
African American/Black	1.08	1.15	1.24	1.43	1.34	1.27	1.22	1.09
Hispanic/Latino	1.00	1.09	n/a	1.19	1.25	1.23	1.24	1.23
Native American	1.80	1.85	2.41	2.45	1.97	1.88	2.01	2.23

**Secure Confinement – OYA Facilities**

Race/Ethnicity	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
African American/Black	0.21	1.71	1.48	2.04	2.62	2.59	2.78	2.29
Hispanic/Latino	1.42	n/a	1.16	1.19	1.39	1.51	1.93	1.55
Native American	n/a	n/a	0.37	1.42	n/a	1.56	.99	2.00

**Cased Transferred to Adult Court**

Race/Ethnicity	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
African American/Black	3.66	4.29	4.11	3.57	2.87	4.07	3.21	5.77
Hispanic/Latino	1.39	1.72	2.17	1.98	n/a	2.27	1.78	1.65
Native American	1.84	n/a	1.86	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.95

Data sources and notes:

2003 – 2009 data from Easy Access to Juvenile Populations, OJJDP

2003-2010 Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) Reports

n/a means that data is either not statistically significant or insufficient number of cases for analysis

## **Oregon 2003 – 2010 Disproportionate Minority Contact Data Conclusions**

1. As a State, Oregon has substantial evidence of disproportionate minority contact (DMC), with African-American youth, Hispanic youth, and Native American youth experiencing significantly higher levels of contact with the juvenile justice system.
2. The experiences of each of these three major racial / ethnic groups of non-white youth are different from one another, with African American youth most likely to experience higher rates of initial contact (referral). Both African-American youth and Hispanic youth have their highest RRI scores (greatest disparities) at the stage of placement into secure confinement. Native youth on the other hand experience their highest disparities at the stage of detention and the filing of a formal petition of delinquency. In other words, the likely contributors to DMC, the mechanisms which create the disparities, and therefore the action steps needed to address DMC, are substantively different for these three groups.
3. The current strategy selected by Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) for addressing DMC is to focus on several significant communities with the highest relative population of African American and Hispanic youth. This strategy is based on the concentrations of these populations in relatively specific (and urbanized) segments of the State. On the other hand, an alternative strategy to address DMC for Native American youth in rural areas of the State needs to be developed.
4. While the Statewide information supports a priority to be placed on DMC, examination of the specific patterns within each of the major counties indicates that the patterns of DMC are not uniform across those counties. In other words, a specific analysis of the DMC issue and a solution for Multnomah County is unlikely to be applicable in other communities in which DMC is located at different stages of the juvenile justice community. Moreover, the fundamental rates of contact and the statistical indicators of the operation of the juvenile justice system differ across counties. It is therefore necessary to conduct assessment activities and provide support for DMC reduction efforts within each major jurisdiction rather than providing a single Statewide solution.

### **The following is a summary of local activities to date:**

#### **Clackamas County: Reducing DMC in Clackamas County**

Project Summary: Clackamas County has implemented strategies that include prevention and intervention direct services for African American and Hispanic/Latino youth; cultural competency training; and technical assistance to contact point personnel, and system and procedural analysis and change.

#### **Malheur County: SEASON Turn-Around**

Project Summary: Harvest House's SEASON Youth Turn-Around is an Alternative to Suspension Diversion Program that provides support and assistance to students of color in Malheur County schools who are in in-school or out-of-school suspension (primarily Hispanic/Latino and Native American youth).

#### **Multnomah County: Culturally Specific Mentoring Program**

Program Summary: Given the current data and trends, the primary goal of this project is to reduce disproportionate minority contact of African American young men in the

juvenile justice system by providing mentoring services to the most needed, and yet underserved populations –gang-involved young men.

Washington County: DMC Analysis and Strategies for Change

Project Summary: Using data trends at key decision points in the juvenile justice system, the project will make recommendations to key stakeholders for strategies, policies, and interventions to address disproportionate minority contact confirmed by data analysis. The project includes pilot testing of some recommendations, including direct service delivery to selected youth.

Marion County: Assessing Juvenile Justice System Minority Contact

Project Summary: Data has been collected from the Juvenile Justice Information System regarding African American and Hispanic/Latino youth to consider factors contributing to their over-representation at key points, and under-representation in key diversion decision points.

Lane County: Disproportionate Minority Contact

Project Summary: The project is designed to implement prevention activities, program delivery, and system change activities to address and reduce DMC levels within specific minority groups in a targeted jurisdiction.

For more information contact

Anya Sekino, Juvenile Crime Prevention Manager and Juvenile Justice Specialist, via phone at 503-378-5115 or email at [anya.sekino@state.or.us](mailto:anya.sekino@state.or.us)

Connie Carley, State DMC Coordinator, via phone at 503-378-5096 or email at [connie.carley@state.or.us](mailto:connie.carley@state.or.us)