

I. Identify statewide data at research-based points of potential disparity.

When calculating RRIs for West Virginia, the following Four Primary Sources were used:

US Census: Annual census reports provide baseline population numbers

WV State Police: Criminal history records department provides data on juvenile arrests

WV Division of Juvenile Services: OIS database provides data on pre-disposition detentions and post-adjudication secure placements

WV Supreme Court of Appeals: OCMS database provides data on referrals, diversions, petitions, adjudications, probation placements and transfers to adult criminal court

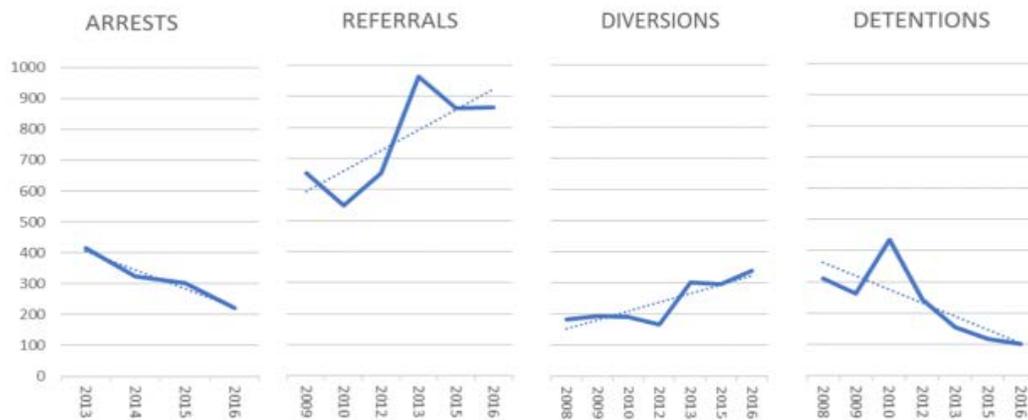
West Virginia Juvenile Justice System Contacts in 2016, by Race							
	Total Youth	White	Native American	Asian or Pacific Islander	African American or Black	Hispanic, Other, or Unknown Race	All Minorities
Population at risk (ages 10 to 17)	172,256	161,555	373	1,530	8,798	3,780	14,481
Juvenile Arrests	898	677	1	4	195	21	221
Referred to Juvenile Court	6,606	5,760	2	7	450	387	846
Cases Diverted from Juvenile Court	4,072	3,732	2	2	178	158	340
Cases Resulting in Pre-disposition Detention	389	287	0	1	64	37	102
Cases Resulting in Petitions	2,923	2,334	0	7	327	255	589
Cases Resulting in Adjudications	771	583	0	2	128	60	188
Cases Resulting in Adjudications with Probation	916	735	0	0	120	59	181
Cases Resulting in Adjudications with Secure Placement	93	57	0	0	21	15	36
Cases Resulting in Transfer or Waiver to Criminal Court	6	4	0	0	2	0	2

Note: Juvenile arrest data was obtained from the West Virginia State Police and there is no option to report "Hispanic" or "Latino" arrests. Any individual identifying as such is reported in the "Unknown" category.

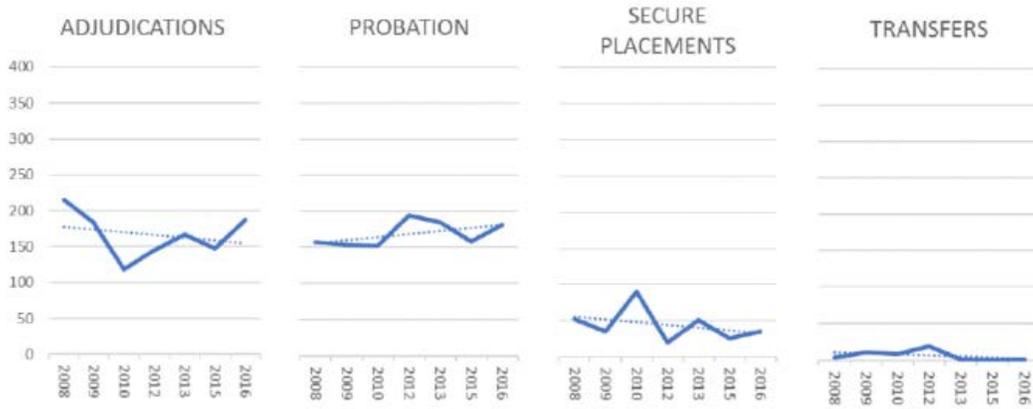
West Virginia 2016 Relative Rate Index Values, by Race					
	Native American	Asian or Pacific Islander	African American or Black	Hispanic, Other, or Unknown Race	All Minorities
Juvenile Arrests	0.64	0.62	5.29	1.33	3.64
Referred to Juvenile Court	0.23	0.20	0.27	2.16	0.44
Cases Diverted from Juvenile Court	1.54	0.44	0.61	0.63	0.62
Cases Resulting in Pre-disposition Detention	0.00	2.86	2.85	1.91	2.41
Cases Resulting in Petitions	0.00	2.46	1.79	1.62	1.71
Cases Resulting in Adjudications	0.00	0.00	1.56	0.94	1.27
Cases Resulting in Adjudications with Probation	0.00	0.00	0.74	0.78	0.76
Cases Resulting in Adjudications with Secure Placement	0.00	0.00	1.67	2.55	1.95
Cases Resulting in Transfer or Waiver to Criminal Court	0.00	0.00	2.27	0.00	2.27

Note: Juvenile arrest data was obtained from the West Virginia State Police and there is no option to report "Hispanic" or "Latino" arrests. Any individual identifying as such is reported in the "Unknown" category.

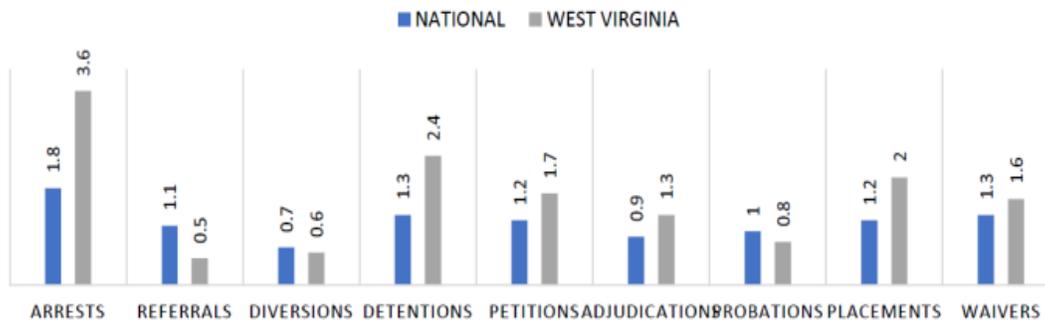
Trends in Juvenile Justice System Contacts, All Minority Youth 2008-2016



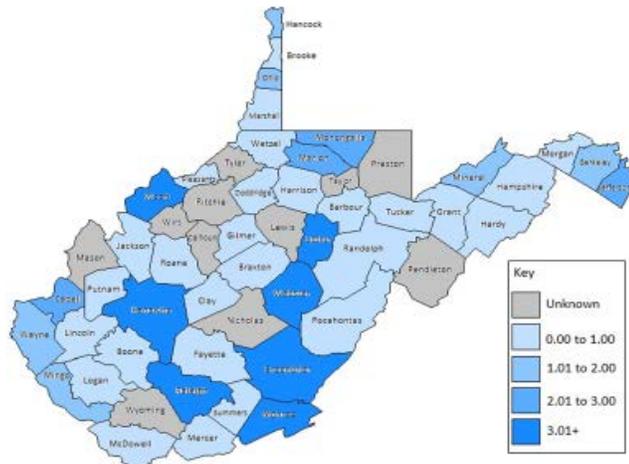
Trends in Juvenile Justice System Contacts, All Minority Youth 2008-2016



RELATIVE RATE INDEX FOR ALL MINORITIES IN WEST VIRGINIA COMPARED TO NATIONAL AVERAGE, 2013



2016 Relative Rate Index for Minority Youth Arrests Per County in West Virginia



Notes: Some counties have an especially low number of minority youths and minority arrests, resulting in significant fluctuations or higher RRI's than other counties with larger populations or more arrests.

II. Develop an Action Plan for DMC

1. Disproportionate minority contact is a significant problem in WV. Although the number of minority juvenile justice system contacts is decreasing for many measures, RRI values remain high, especially for African American youth. RRI values in WV are significantly higher than the national average for arrests, pre-disposition detentions, and secure placements. Everyone must work to increase the availability of programming at all stages of the juvenile justice system, with particular attention to programming at early ages.
2. There is no one fix to reduce disproportionate minority contact in West Virginia. The state acknowledges that it will take many efforts across many points in the juvenile justice system over time to see a reduction. This issue exists through multiple stages of the juvenile justice system and touches many different programs and people. In order to reduce DMC, each person or program should be involved and invested in improving the lives of West Virginia's youth. West Virginia has identified where the highest rates of DMC have occurred; the state has gathered valuable feedback from key stakeholders in our five local counties; and OJJDP has provided resources and research tools for reducing DMC. Now a plan that is comprehensive enough to tackle the problem is needed, including time frames, duties, and identified responsibilities that can be provided by the State Advisory Group. In regard to addressing the causes of DMC, the state has identified a number of strategies to implement that have been successful in other jurisdictions at reducing disparities in justice system outcomes for

minority youth. These include working to develop an institutional culture that emphasizes rehabilitation and treatment rather than punishment, creating alternatives to secure confinement for youth, and increasing collaboration between state and local stakeholders in the juvenile justice system.

3. West Virginia would like to reduce DMC significantly within the next year. Despite the small size of West Virginia's minority youth population, the state is not immune to the racial disparities that affect juvenile justice systems in other states.
4. Yes. Although the size of the minority youth population residing in the state is comparatively small, this does not diminish the significance of DMC for those individuals affected by this issue. Research suggest that even modest reforms are likely to make a noticeable impact on future measures of DMC in West Virginia. By implementing the strategies mentioned above, there are likely to be many opportunities to reduce rates of DMC in the state.
5. OJJDP can assist West Virginia by providing more training to increase the state's access to knowledge and resources.
6. he most recent action on taken in West Virginia to address DMC involved the passage of Senate Bill 393 in 2015. The new law made several changes, including requiring that at least half of program expenditures by state agencies and contracted service providers to fund evidence-based practices by 2017, allows for the diversion of status and nonviolent misdemeanants to restorative justice programs, and prevents first time status and nonviolent misdemeanors offenders form being placed in residential facilities expect for some specific exceptions. West Virginia will continue to emphasize the importance of awareness of the issue of disproportionate minority contact. The state will continue to provide cultural competency training for law enforcement and other justice system staff can help to reduce DMC by teaching participants to recognize the ways in which racial stereotyping and decision-making bias can perpetuate disparities in arrests and other outcomes.

II. Outcome-Based Evaluation (not applicable for FY 2019)