

Delaware 2019 DMC Plan

OJJDP FY 2019 Title II Compliance Data Submission and DMC Plans

(Submit in the [Compliance Monitoring Tool](#) as part of Category 2 – OJJDP-2019-14924)

States must submit their compliance data for fiscal year 2018 (**October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018**) and their DMC plans electronically to the OJJDP Compliance Reporting Tool separately from the application no later than February 28, 2019, unless the state has received a written extension of this deadline from the OJJDP Administrator.

Plan for compliance with the disproportionate minority contact (DMC) core requirement applicable to Category 2. Pursuant to the JJDP Act at 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(22), states and territories must “address juvenile delinquency prevention efforts and system improvement efforts designed to reduce, without establishing or requiring numerical standards or quotas, the disproportionate number of juvenile members of minority groups, who come into contact with the juvenile justice system.” DMC exists if a specific minority group’s rate of contact at a particular point in the juvenile justice system is different than the rate of contact for non-Hispanic whites or other minority groups.

States achieve compliance with this core requirement when they address DMC through the following: identification, development of an action plan, and an outcome-based evaluation.

For FY 2019, states are required to provide DMC plans using a three-pronged, research-driven, outcomes-based strategy for their DMC work:

- I. Identify statewide data at research-based points of potential disparity. Data collection must occur for at least four of the five points below. At each data point, your state must provide percent of population data using the most recent U.S. Census data.**

Data collection points:

1. Arrest
2. Diversion (filing of charges)
3. Pre-trial detention (both secure and nonsecure)
4. Disposition commitments (secure and nonsecure)
5. Adult transfer

Delaware collects data via the Delaware Justice Information System (DELJIS). DELJIS captures juvenile arrests; Cases diverted following charging; pre-trial detention (secure and non-secure); disposition commitments (secure and non-secure); and cases transferred to the adult court system.

Note: States can provide more data collection points but must provide four of the five listed above. Also, this plan does not disallow the use of the Relative Rate Index (RRI) but is not required and should not be used in lieu of the data required above.

II. Develop an Action Plan.

Provide answers to the questions below.

1. What do your DMC numbers tell you about your jurisdiction?
2. What would success in DMC reduction look like for your state?
3. How much do you want to reduce DMC next year?
4. Is that reasonable? If yes, why?
5. What do you need from OJJDP to be successful with your plan?

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6. What safeguards will you put in place to ensure that as you work to reduce DMC, you are still protecting the public, holding youth accountable, and equipping youth to live crime-free, productive lives?

Delaware RED numbers reveal point of arrest as an area with the highest disparity between African Americans and whites. African American juveniles are four and a half times more likely to be arrested than their white counterparts. African American juveniles are half as likely to have their cases diverted following an arrest than their white counterparts. Hispanic or Latinos are nearly one and a quarter times more likely to have their cases result in a delinquent finding than their white counterparts.

Delaware success in RED would resemble further shortening the gap between arrests of minority juvenile populations and the white juvenile population. Also it would place the rate of diversion at a more equitable number between the minority juvenile population and our white juvenile population.

Delaware would like to reduce the RED ratio by 1 point via the Relative Rate Index. We're not sure we'll reach that goal, but there are a couple different programs currently being implemented statewide that we hope will have a meaningful impact on RED. With that said, we hope a 1 point reduction in the RRI in juvenile arrests between African American juveniles compared to white juveniles is achievable.

We believe we are currently supported well and have access to our OJJDP contacts for the administration of our projects. An increase in funding would be most helpful because it would allow our state to fund more prevention-based programs. The majority of juvenile arrests in Delaware coincide with the most population dense communities. Those communities also have the highest percentage of minority presence. With additional funding we could target those communities which would certainly have a significant impact on RED.

One of the most sensitive areas of concentration around RED in Delaware involves the balance between reducing disparate contact gaps with the juvenile criminal justice system while equally protecting the public at large from serious juvenile delinquent behavior. Our state attempts to ensure that violent delinquent behavior or delinquent behavior that provides a significant threat to the safety and welfare of the public is referred to the appropriate level of care within our juvenile justice system. Delaware safeguards within our juvenile diversion programs and our civil citation program by carefully selecting the eligibility criteria for participation and monitoring program participants closely. We also ensure that the individuals held for secure detention receive targeted services and resources in an attempt to provide the most successful outcome once they return to the community. As a state we are consistently researching the latest evidence-based practices and models being executed throughout the country as a way to strengthen our juvenile justice system while also maintaining the safest communities possible.

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

Note: In FY 2020, states must address the following questions designed to assist in determining progress toward reductions:

1. What are your new numbers?
2. Did you meet your goal?
3. If yes, what worked? What drove the success?
If no, what were the barriers? How might you overcome those next year?
What partners do you need?

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4. How can OJJDP help you next year? What do you need from us?
5. How did you protect the public, hold kids accountable, and equip them to live crime-free?
6. What are your goals for next year?