

**Montana's
Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)
Three Year Strategic Plan**



2018 - 2021

Phase I: Identification

(1) Updated DMC Identification Spreadsheets.

Montana collects, analyzes and enters statewide data and data for 5 county jurisdictions into the DMC Web-Based Data Entry System on an annual basis. The most recent data entered is for calendar year 2017.

Discuss availability of quantifiable data. Prior to 2005, Montana could only provide best available data for the points of contact (POC) necessary to complete OJJDP’s Relative Rate Index (RRI). In May of 2005 data became available for all points of contact that meet with the definitions provided by OJJDP’s Technical Assistance Manual. (OJJDP requires duplicated data as a means of monitoring contacts with the system. Therefore, one youth arrested 5 times is counted as 5 arrests.) Montana developed a new data set in the National DMC Website in 2005 to track the data now provided by the Juvenile Courts Assessment and Tracking System (JCATS) for all data points except pre-adjudicated secure detentions and post-adjudicated secure correctional confinements. JCATS database is maintained by the Office of Courts Administration. The Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) tracks secure detentions and secure correctional placements in the Juvenile Detention Data and Reporting System (JDDRS) that pilots an automated version of a rescored and evaluated detention risk assessment (DRAI) and allows for the collection and reporting of detention data at the point of admission.

(a) Discuss the RRIs and compare the updated data with prior years

Key:	
Statistically significant results	Bold, red font
Results that are not statistically significant	Regular font
Group is less than 1% of the youth population	*
Insufficient number of cases for analysis	**
Missing data for some element of calculation	---

Statistically significant RRI trends for all minorities at the point of arrest

County	Contact Point	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	Arrested	2.81	2.62	3.53	2.56	2.67	3.32	3.35	3.65	3.49	3.31	3.41
Flathead	Arrested								1.41	0.95	0.89	0.86
Hill	Arrested	4.94	4.13	2.33	2.13	2.00	1.88	2.81	2.02	2.17	2.57	3.33
Missoula	Arrested					1.39	1.26	1.79	1.38	1.60	1.46	1.90
Statewide	Arrested	1.52	1.38	1.50	1.19	1.35	1.26	1.35	1.35	5.59	6.29	1.47
Yellowstone	Arrested	2.04	1.81	2.19	1.83	1.72	1.45	1.67	1.84	1.68	1.92	2.11

Cascade County shows an increase from their lowest RRI at 2.81 in 2007 to the current 3.41. The 2017 RRI is a slight increase from the 2016 RRI.

Flathead County shows that minority youth are arrested at a greater rate than white youth but has steadily decreased from 1.41 in 2014 to 0.86 in 2017.

Hill County initially decreased from a high of 4.94 in 2007 to a low of 1.88 in 2012. There was an increase in 2017 from 2016. The fluctuations in RRI values are likely driven by the small numbers of youth in Hill County.

Missoula County has remained consistent. The highest statistically significant RRI rate was 1.79 in 2013. The 2017 RRI rate showed a slight increase to 1.90.

Montana shows a decline from 1.52 in 2007 to 1.35 in 2014; with a sharp RRI in 2015 and 2016. There was a significant decrease in the RRI rate from 6.29 in 2016 to 1.47 in 2017. The statewide rate appears relatively stable during the whole period except for 2015 and 2016.

Yellowstone County had a slight increase from 1.92 in 2016 to 2.11 in 2017, but has demonstrated a consistent reduction over the ten-year timeframe from 2007 through 2016.

Statistically significant RRI trends for NH American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) youth at point of arrest

County	Race/Ethnicity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	American Indian	3.46	5.66	7.32	5.79	5.17	6.26	6.08	6.56	7.64	6.16	6.26
Flathead	American Indian							3.43	2.59	1.30	1.30	1.21
Hill	American Indian	5.28	4.41	2.39	2.02	2.23	2.09	3.22	2.33	2.59	2.92	3.62
Missoula	American Indian	1.57	1.57	1.88	1.67	2.03	1.75	1.87	2.12	1.85	2.32	2.92
Statewide	American Indian	1.73	1.53	1.66	1.51	1.61	1.51	1.61	1.64	1.42	1.55	1.75
Yellowstone	American Indian	3.32	3.25	3.68	3.71	2.54	2.46	2.80	3.11	2.13	2.61	3.14

Cascade County has fluctuated drastically from year to year with a low of 3.47 in 2007, to a high of 7.64 in 2015. They jumped up to 6.26 in 2012, then increased even more to the highest rate of 7.64 in 2015. They experienced a slight decreased to 6.16 in 2016, then a slight increase to 6.26 in 2017.

Flathead County first showed statistically significant DMC for NH American Indian/Alaskan Native youth in 2013 with a value of 3.43; in 2014, the rate declined to 2.59 in 2014 and has continued to decline to 1.21 in 2017.

Hill County's erratic RRI values are likely due to the county's small population numbers; the RRI value was highest in 2007 at 5.28; and lowest in 2010 at 2.02. The county has steadily increased over the past four-year period from 2.33 in 2014 to 2017 at 3.62.

Missoula County has been consistently increased as their youth population as significantly increased each year. The lowest rate was in 2007 at 1.57; and their highest rate was in 2017 at 2.92.

Montana the trend has been relatively flat with a high of 1.75 in 2017, and a low of 1.42 in 2015. The 2017 rate increased slightly when compared to the 2016 rate.

Yellowstone County has fluctuated with a general decrease from 3.32 in 2007 to 3.41 in 2017. The 2017 rate increased slightly when compared to the 2016 rate at 2.61.

Statistically significant RRI trends for Black youth at the point of arrest

County	Race/Ethnicity	Contact Point	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	Black	Arrested	1.49		1.67		1.55	2.83	3.71	4.17	2.13	1.64	3.28
Flathead	Black	Arrested								*	1.43	1.56	*
Hill	Black	Arrested								*	*	*	*
Missoula	Black	Arrested					2.96	3.10	6.12	3.49	5.28	1.98	4.37
Statewide	Black	Arrested					2.10	1.93	2.73	2.51	2.49	1.77	2.90
Yellowstone	Black	Arrested	3.04	1.96	2.15	0.57	2.66			3.10	2.87	3.51	3.43

Cascade County first developed statistically significant DMC for Black youth in 2011 at 1.55. It increased significantly to 4.17 in 2014, decreasing to 1.64 in 2016. There was a significant RRI increase from 2016 to 3.28 in 2017, perhaps due to an increase in black youth population.

Flathead County has a small number of Black youth when compared to their overall youth. Flathead showed DMC for Black youth in 2015 at 1.43 and increased slightly in 2016 at 1.56. There was no statistically significant RRI data for 2017.

Hill County has a small number of Black youth, representing less than 1% of the youth population resulting in no statistically significant RRI data from 2014 through 2017.

Missoula County has demonstrated ups and downs in its RRI data for Black youth starting in 2011 at 2.96. It increased to 6.12 in 2013 and dropped back to 3.49 in 2014. Again, there was a significant RRI increase to 5.28 in 2015; a significant decrease to 1.98 in 2016 with a significant increase to 4.37 in 2017.

Statewide Montana first showed statistically significant DMC for Black youth in 2011 at 2.10 which increased to 2.73 in 2013 and dropped back to 2.51 in 2014, and 2.49 in 2015 and decreased to 1.77 in 2016. There was an increase in 2017 to 2.90.

Yellowstone County showed statistically significant DMC for Black youth in 2007 at 3.04. The RRI dropped back to 2.87 in 2015, increased again to 3.51 in 2016, and decreased slightly to 3.43 in 2017.

Statistically significant RRI trends for Hispanic youth at the point of arrest

County	Race/Ethnicity	Contact Point	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	Hispanic	Arrested		0.50			0.52			0.78	0.47	1.64	0.75
Flathead	Hispanic	Arrested							0.44	0.61	0.76	*	0.84
Hill	Hispanic	Arrested								*	*	*	**
Missoula	Hispanic	Arrested			0.24	0.28				0.58	0.72	*	0.76
Statewide	Hispanic	Arrested	0.69	0.74	0.84	0.70	0.68	0.68	0.70	0.67	0.73	0.77	0.74
Yellowstone	Hispanic	Arrested			1.37	1.43				1.55	1.22	1.24	1.16

Cascade County Hispanic youth DMC data has been consistently low and insignificant with the first RRI recorded in 2008 at 0.50. The lowest RRI was in 2015 at 0.47. There was a significant increase in 2016 to 1.64, and a significant decrease in 2017 to 0.75.

Flathead County Hispanic youth DMC has been insignificant from 2013 through 2017. RRI in 2013 was 0.44 and fluctuated to 0.84 in 2017.

Hill County Hispanic youth represents less than 1% of the youth population and there has been an insignificant number of cases for analysis.

Missoula County Hispanic youth DMC data has been consistently low and insignificant with the first and lowest RRI recorded in 2009 at 0.24. There was a slight increase in future years through 2017 at 0.76.

Statewide Hispanic youth have been consistently under-represented Statewide at the point of arrest at 69% of the rate of NH White youth in 2007 to 69% of the rate of NH White youth in 2014, and a slight decrease in 2015 before a slight increase in 2016 and slight RRI decrease in 2017 at 0.74.

Yellowstone County Hispanic youth DMC data was first recorded in 2009 with an RRI of 1.37. The highest RRI of 1.55 was recorded in 2014 and has decreased until 2017 with an RRI of 1.16.

Statistically significant RRI trends for all minority youth at the point of diversion

County	Race/Ethnicity	Contact Point	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	All Minorities	Diverted	0.95	0.82	0.86	0.92				0.78	0.83	0.99	0.93
Flathead	All Minorities	Diverted							0.63	0.77	1.04	*	**
Hill	All Minorities	Diverted	0.84		0.75					0.86	0.94	0.89	0.92
Missoula	All Minorities	Diverted	0.71	0.79						0.75	0.87	0.97	0.72
Statewide	All Minorities	Diverted	0.91	0.85	0.84	0.89	0.88		0.85	0.82	0.86	0.93	--
Yellowstone	All Minorities	Diverted	0.81	0.73	0.77	0.81	0.75			0.79	0.90	0.77	0.79

Cascade County likely diverted all minority youth at 78% of the rate of NH White youth in 2014, compared with 91% in 2005. The 2015 rate was slightly higher at 0.83 and rose again in 2016 to 0.99. The RRI declined slightly in 2017 to 0.93.

Flathead County likely diverted all minority youth at 77% of the rate of NH White youth in 2014 and increased to 1.04 in 2015. In 2016 and 2017 the minority youth group was less than 1% of the total youth population causing an insufficient number of cases for analysis.

Hill County had a 2015 diversion rate of 0.94; slightly higher than the 2014 rate of 0.86, dropping slightly to 0.89 in 2016 and raising insignificantly to 0.92 in 2017.

Missoula County had a 2014 diversion rate of 0.75, raising slightly in 2015 and 2016, and leveling insignificantly at 0.72 in 2017.

Montana likely diverted all minority youth at 82% the rate of NH White youth in 2014. The 2015 and 2016 rates increased slightly and the 2017 rate was missing calculation elements and could not be determined.

Yellowstone County likely diverted all minority youth at 79% of the rate of NH White youth in 2014, compared with 86% in 2006. The 2015 rate was 0.90 and dipped to 0.77 in 2016 and 0.79 in 2017.

Statistically significant RRI trends for NH AI/AN youth at the point of diversion

County	Race/Ethnicity	Contact Point	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	American Indian	Diverted	0.91	0.79	0.85					0.73	0.79	0.99	0.96
Flathead	American Indian	Diverted								**	**	*	**
Hill	American Indian	Diverted	0.83		0.70					0.85	0.93	0.87	0.90
Missoula	American Indian	Diverted	0.62		0.80	0.73				0.67	0.83	0.97	0.58
Statewide	American Indian	Diverted	0.90	0.87	0.80	0.89	0.88	0.92	0.87	0.81	0.83	0.90	--
Yellowstone	American Indian	Diverted	0.78	0.78	0.67	0.78	0.70			0.69	0.93	0.74	0.66

In 2014 statistically significant DMC for NH AI/AN youth existed in Cascade and Yellowstone Counties and on a statewide basis. The statewide trend started in 2007 with AI/AN youth being diverted at 90% of NH White and decreased to NH AI/AN youth being diverted at 81% of the NH White rate in 2014. The 2015 rate was slightly higher for all sites except for Hill County and continued to increase in 2016. The 2017 rate remained insignificantly level for Cascade and Hill Counties and lowered slightly for Missoula and Yellowstone Counties. Statewide data elements were missing in 2017 and the rate was unable to be determined.

Statistically significant RRI trends for NH Black youth at the point of diversion

County	Race/Ethnicity	Point of Contact	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	Black	Diverted			0.78					0.87	**	*	**
Flathead	Black	Diverted								*	**	*	*
Hill	Black	Diverted								*	---	*	*
Missoula	Black	Diverted								**	0.94	*	0.99
Statewide	Black	Diverted							0.74	0.75	0.95	0.92	--
Yellowstone	Black	Diverted	0.66	0.61	0.76					**	0.80	0.64	0.81

Neither the local sites nor the state have any statistically significant RRI trends for NH Black youth at diversion. Statewide, the statistically significant RRI for NH Black youth diverted in 2015 was 95% of NH White youth diverted and decreased slightly to 92 percent in 2016. There was no statewide data able to be determined for 2017 due to missing data elements.

Statistically significant RRI trends for Hispanic youth at the point of diversion

County	Race/Ethnicity	Juvenile System POC	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	Hispanic	Diverted				0.71		1.72		**	**	*	**
Flathead	Hispanic	Diverted								**	**	*	**
Hill	Hispanic	Diverted								**	---	*	--
Missoula	Hispanic	Diverted								**	**	*	**
Statewide	Hispanic	Diverted		0.74		0.83				0.95	0.85	0.90	--
Yellowstone	Hispanic	Diverted		0.72						1.02	0.88	0.87	0.96

No statistically significant RRI trends have developed for Hispanic youth at diversion in any of the counties or statewide except for Yellowstone where the rate from 2016 rose from 0.87 to 0.96 in 2017. The 2016 statewide data rate increased slightly from 0.85 in 2015 to 0.90 in 2016, but in 2017 data elements were missing and a rate was unable to be determined.

Statistically significant RRI trends for all minority youth at the point of secure detention

County	Race/Ethnicity	Point of Contact	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	All Minorities	Securely Detained	1.35	2.09			1.40	1.29		1.27	1.13	*	0.93
Flathead	All Minorities	Securely Detained							2.19	1.89	1.60	*	**
Hill	All Minorities	Securely Detained			3.19			0.58		0.86	0.87	1.26	0.92
Missoula	All Minorities	Securely Detained		3.09	4.29	4.22		1.33		0.86	0.65	1.36	0.72
Statewide	All Minorities	Securely Detained	1.86	1.96	1.73	1.37	1.95	1.73	1.56	1.46	1.58	1.79	--
Yellowstone	All Minorities	Securely Detained	2.11	2.07	1.56	1.66	1.71	1.92	1.54	1.58	1.56	1.46	0.79

Four sites show statistically significant DMC trends for All Minority youth at POC detention: Cascade, Hill, Missoula and Yellowstone Counties.

Cascade County has had a general decrease from 1.64 in 2006 to 1.13 in 2015 and 0.93 in 2017.

Flathead County had their first statistically significant DMC occur in 2013 at 2.19, decreasing to 1.60 in 2015. Because of low minorities population, there was an insufficient number of cases for analysis in 2016 and 2017.

Hill County had their first statistically significant DMC occur in 2009 at 3.19. The only other years DMC occurred was in 2012, and 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 with a DMC rate of 0.92.

Missoula County has been sporadic from 2009 with their highest DMC in 2009 at 4.29 and the lowest in 2015 at 0.65. The county climb again in 2016 posting a rate of 1.36, then decreased to 0.72 in 2017.

Statewide there has been a general increase from 1.86 in 2007 to 1.79 in 2016. In 2017 data elements were missing and a rate was unable to be determined.

Yellowstone County has had a significant decrease overall from 2.11 in 2007 to 1.46 in 2016; then a continued significant decrease in 2017 to 0.79.

Statistically significant RRI trends for AI/AN youth at the point of secure detention

County	Race/Ethnicity	Point of Contact	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	American Indian	Securely Detained	1.34	2.19			1.31			1.16	1.16	1.04	0.96
Flathead	American Indian	Securely Detained								**	**	*	**
Hill	American Indian	Securely Detained			2.44					2.10	0.89	1.31	0.61
Missoula	American Indian	Securely Detained		3.40	3.74	5.17		1.68		0.82	0.89	0.81	0.83
Statewide	American Indian	Securely Detained	1.89	1.92	1.62	1.34	2.14	1.80	1.37	1.26	1.77	1.85	2.34
Yellowstone	American Indian	Securely Detained	1.82	1.86	1.56		2.13	1.71		1.20	1.66	1.44	1.72

The only ongoing statistically significant RRI trend for NH AI/AN youth at secure detention is Statewide. The rate has bounced back in forth from a rate 2.14 in 2011 to a current 2017 high rate of 2.34.

Statistically significant RRI trends for all minority youth at the point of petitions filed

County	Race/Ethnicity	Point of Contact	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	All Minorities	Petitions (Charges) Filed		2.18	1.74	1.45				1.27	1.07	0.99	1.27
Flathead	All Minorities	Petitions (Charges) Filed								1.81	1.55	*	**
Hill	All Minorities	Petitions (Charges) Filed			2.46					2.38	0.63	*	**
Missoula	All Minorities	Petitions (Charges) Filed	1.68				1.44	1.48	1.65	1.09	1.52	1.07	1.23
Statewide	All Minorities	Petitions (Charges) Filed	1.31	1.54	1.55		1.33		1.39	1.46	1.23	1.31	1.72
Yellowstone	All Minorities	Petitions (Charges) Filed	1.8	2.07	1.53	1.32	2.14			1.76	0.81	1.32	1.27

The only sites with an ongoing statistically significant RRI trend for all minority youth at petitions filed are Cascade County, Missoula County and Yellowstone County.

Cascade County has had statistically significant RRIs for all minority youth at petitions filed for 7 of the 11 years analyzed, generally declining from 2.18 in 2008 to 0.99 in 2016, then raising slightly to 1.27 in 2017.

Missoula County has had statistically significant RRIs for all minority youth at petitions filed for 7 of the 11 years analyzed, generally staying consistent from 1.68 in 2007 to 1.07 in 2016, then increasing slightly in 2017 to 1.23.

Montana has had intermittent statistically significant RRIs since 2007, ranging from 1.55 in 2009 to a rate of 1.31 in 2016, and 1.72 in 2017. To achieve parity with White youth in 2016, Montana would have likely had to file 71 fewer minority youth petitions.

Yellowstone County has had significant RRIs since 2007 with the highest in 2011 at 2.14 and the lowest in 2015 at 0.81. The rate climbed in 2017 to 1.27.

Statistically significant RRI trends for AI/AN youth at the point of petitions filed

County	Race/Ethnicity	Point of Contact	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cascade	American Indian	Petitions (Charges) Filed		2.31	1.65					1.42	1.10	1.06	1.39
Flathead	American Indian	Petitions (Charges) Filed								**	**	*	**
Hill	American Indian	Petitions (Charges) Filed			2.69					**	0.64	*	**
Missoula	American Indian	Petitions (Charges) Filed	1.99							1.36	1.41	1.50	1.76
Statewide	American Indian	Petitions (Charges) Filed	1.35	1.39	1.69		1.31		1.35	1.55	1.18	1.39	2.10
Yellowstone	American Indian	Petitions (Charges) Filed	1.87	1.93	1.87	1.42	2.24			1.96	0.42	1.47	1.17

Several sites had ongoing statistically significant RRI trend for NH AI/AN youth at petitions filed through 2016 including an uptick throughout at the state with a 2016 rate of 1.39 then a significant increase in 2017 at 2.10. We are keeping a close watch at the state level, where statistically significant RRIs have been sporadic.

Statistically significant RRI trends at other points of contact

None of the 5 pilot site Counties nor the State of Montana have established SS RRI trends for any point of contact beyond Petitions (Charges)Filed. The reasons for this are likely that the numbers are too small beyond this point in the system to be statistically reliable.

(b) Data discussion using the Relative Rate Index Tracking Sheet to interpret and analyze the values that should drive decision-making for each site:

1. Following are the top three instances of DMC at POC and minority groups to address using the SMV analysis:
 - a) Cascade:
 1. POC Arrest: NH AI/AN
 2. POC Arrest: NH Black
 3. POC Arrest: All Minorities
 - b) Flathead:
 1. POC Arrest: NH AI/AN
 2. POC Detention: All Minorities
 3. POC Petitions: All Minorities

- c) Hill County:
 - 1. POC Arrest: NH AI/AN
 - 2. POC Arrest: All Minorities
 - 3. POC Petitions: NH AI/AN
- d) Missoula County:
 - 1. POC Arrest: NH Black
 - 2. POC Arrest: NH AI/AN
 - 3. POC Arrest: All Minorities
- e) Yellowstone County:
 - 1. POC Arrest: NH Black
 - 2. POC Arrest: NH AI/AN
 - 3. POC Petitions: NH AI/AN
- f) Montana:
 - 1. POC Arrest: NH Black
 - 2. POC Arrest: AI/AN
 - 3. POC Secure detention: Hispanic

Conclusions – OJJDP FY2019 Title II; Compliance Data Submissions and DMC Action Plans

1. What do your DMC numbers tell you about your jurisdiction?

- There are higher DMC numbers in areas with significantly higher minority populations. The specific and most relevant minority group referred to is “American Indian”. The specific areas referred to are Cascade County, Hill County and Yellowstone County.
- Montana needs to develop more specific action plans to address these areas with the highest RRI trends and DMC numbers; specifically Cascade County, Hill County and Yellowstone County.

2. **What would success in DMC reduction look like for your state?**
 - Use Title II and other complimenting funding sources and resources to implement additional culturally-specific youth diversion programs; detention alternatives; mental health services; mentoring programs; substance use and disorders services; wrap around services for families, specially targeted to the areas with higher minority populations; etc.
3. **How much do you want to reduce DMC next year?**
 - A 10 percent statewide reduction in DMC.
4. **Is that reasonable? Why?**
 - We believe it's reasonable because collaboration is already occurring among state, local and community organizations through leadership at the state and local levels. An example of this is the MBCC's successful and effective "Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Demonstration Project".
5. **What do you need from OJJDP to be successful with your plan?**
 - More federal dollars to help implement juvenile programs.
 - Vetted evidence-based youth program opportunities with a tribal focus.
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?**
 - Continuing to implement youth restorative justice and diversion programs.
 - Enhance youth probation resources.
 - Promote increasing focused resources to courts in managing the most serious juvenile offenders.
 - Assist law enforcement and other officials who regularly deal with youth; with an emphasis on minority youth; to gain the adequate knowledge and resources necessary to make the right choices and take the right actions necessary to support DMC reduction and assist youth to succeed in life.

The following logic model sets forth progress implementing Phase I of the OJJDP DMC Reduction Model in Montana:

Montana 2018-2021 3-Year DMC Plan			
Goal to Address the Funding Barrier			
Objective	Short Term Output Measure	Progress Made FY 2018 Outputs (October 1, 2018 1, September 30, 2019)	Action Steps for 2019
To identify alternative funding streams to carry out DMC Plan Goals and Objectives	<p>2-15-2013 Restorative Justice Grants statute.</p> <p>Number of applications for funding submitted.</p> <p>Number of applications for funding awarded.</p>	<p>Montana has secured funds through the Annie Casey foundation for establishing a state wide restorative practices model. The model calls for the Juvenile Justice Specialist to complete Restorative Practices training to become a restorative practices facilitator.</p> <p>The SAG committed \$15,000 for the purpose of establishing a contract with the Community Conferencing Center.</p>	<p>The Board of Crime Control produce a biennial report summarizing the grants.</p> <p>The Board of Crime Control reports annually to the law and justice interim committee regarding the status and performance of restorative justice.</p>
To educate the Legislature, other child-serving agencies, and the public on the need to provide state funds to accomplish Montana's DMC Plan Goals and Objectives.	<p>Number of presentations provided by SPA/SAG on DMC related issues</p> <p>Number DMC related issues covered by media</p> <p>Number of bills introduced/passed to address the lack of mental health, substance abuse, and co-occurring disorders treatment statewide.</p>	The Montana Board of Crime Control is required through 2-15-2013 to provide a report to the Law and Justice interim committee.	Evaluation to occur in 2019

Phase I Goal: Identify DMC

Objective	Short Term Output Measure	Progress Made FY 2018 Outputs (October 1, 2018 1, September 30, 2019)	Objective Status for 2019
SAG will continue to require that all non-tribal programs submit an RRI on an annual basis to receive Title II funding. (JJ Specialist will write the requirement in the RFP's and rubric used by the SAG to make award decisions).	RFP with requirement language will be on file	Language is included in the RFP and applicants submitted RRI's with varying degrees of application to their proposed programs. Title II applicants will be outline their plan(s) for addressing DMC.	Evaluation to occur in 2019

Phase II: Assessment/Diagnosis

Funding has been a challenge for Montana to have a statewide evaluation completed. The Statewide Planning Agency (SPA) partially overcame that barrier in 2011 by collaborating with the State's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) to use a SAC grant to obtain a quantitative and qualitative assessment of DMC in the juvenile justice system for all points of contact (POC) except arrest. (Arrest records are maintained at the local, not statewide level.) The assessment was initiated in 2011 and completed in 2012, presented to the Statewide Advisory Group (SAG) at their September 2012 meeting, presented to the juvenile justice community at the Annual Crime Prevention Conference in October 2012, amended in December 2012 to include the results of a survey on non-JDAI sites; and posted to the SPA's website. Plan will be revisited by the YJC at their June meeting. A copy of the report can be found at the following link:

<http://mbcc.mt.gov/Portals/130/Data/Reports/DMCAssessRep.pdf>

Summary of Findings

The findings in the qualitative data showed that the likelihood of referral to the county attorney was higher among juveniles living in families whose income is greater than \$40,000 per year versus those with family incomes between \$20,000 and \$40,000 and those whose family incomes were less than \$20,000. All cases involving Juveniles living in a non-intact family were less likely to result in a referral to the county attorney and petition for adjudication and were more likely to be diverted prior to petition for adjudication than cases involving juveniles who were living with both the biological father and mother. These findings suggest that juveniles who are living in more economically affluent families are more likely in the data to proceed formally at the referral point of contact while those who are living in non-intact families are less likely to proceed formally at referral, and adjudication.

Case Processing Analysis

- Placement in detention resulted in 17.8% (1296 out of 7286) of the citations that were issued in the four counties from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2010.
- Slightly more than half (51.7%, n=508) of the cases involving detained juveniles resulted in a referral to the county attorney.
- Of the cases referred to the country attorney, 88.6% (n=450) result in a petition filed to bring the case forward to adjudication.
- More than half (53.9%, n=529) of the cases that resulted in the juvenile spending time in detention were diverted through court actions before a petition was filed for adjudication.
- Almost two-thirds (61.8%, n=278) of the cases involving petition, also resulted in delinquency findings as the outcome in the adjudication phase.
- Of the cases for which a delinquency finding was the outcome at adjudication, secure placement resulted in less than one-third (28.4%; n=79) of the decisions.
- Secure placement was rare. These cases comprised less than 6% of the total outcomes for detained juveniles.

Differential Offending and Differential Treatment Analysis

- Most of cases involved misdemeanor offenses (76.4%; n=749) where the citation involved a crime against person (36.9%, n=362).
- There was a near equal distribution in the percentage of felony cases for White and American Indian Juveniles.
- Felony citations occurred in 17.0% (n=112) of cases involving White juveniles and 17.5% (n=43) of cases involving American Indian juveniles.
- The percentage of cases resulting in referral to the county attorney and petition for adjudication were similar for White and American Indian juveniles and lower for Hispanic/Latino and African American Juveniles.
 - Referrals to the county attorney were made in 52.5% (346 of 659) of the cases for detained White juveniles and 53.3% (131 of 246) of the cases for detained American Indian juveniles.
 - Forwarding of cases to adjudication occurred 89.0% (308 of 346) of the time for cases involving White juveniles and 87.0% (114 out of 131) of the time for cases involving American Indian juveniles.
- The most apparent race/ethnicity differences occurred for likelihood of delinquency findings at adjudication.
 - Cases involving American Indian juveniles (71.9%; 82 of 114) were more likely to be formally adjudicated delinquent when compared to similar levels for White (59.1%; 182 of 308), Hispanic/Latino (55.6%; 10 of 18), and African American (37.5%; 3 of 8) juveniles.
- Cases involving American Indian juveniles were more likely to result in confinement in secure placement as the outcome due to delinquency findings at adjudication than those involving White juveniles.
 - Secure confinement occurred in 30.5% (25 of 82) of the cases involving American Indian juveniles and in 27.5% (50 of 182) of the cases involving White juveniles.

Referral to the County Attorney

- There were few differences based on race/ethnicity. In most of comparisons, cases involving minorities were less likely to be referred to the county attorney than those involving Whites.
- Cases involving felony offenses were nearly seven times more likely than those involving misdemeanors to result in a referral to the county attorney.
- Cases involving males were 71.9% more likely than those involving females to result in a referral to the county attorney.
- Referral to the county attorney was 57.5% more likely for juveniles diagnosed with a mental health issue when compared to those with no mental health diagnosis.

Diversions Prior to Petition

- There were few differences with regard to likelihood of diversion prior to adjudication that could be attributable to race/ethnicity.
- Diversion was more likely for juveniles who reside in a non-intact family and in cases where there was no evidence of prior mental health issues and drug use.
- The most consistent finding pertained to issues associated with the current offense where cases involving misdemeanor offense and offenses other than property offenses were more likely to be diverted.

Petition to Adjudication

- Cases involving American Indian juveniles were more than twice (130.6%) as likely to result in a petition forward to adjudication as cases for White juveniles.
- Petition was 82.9% less likely for cases involving juveniles in non-intact families.
- Petition was 80.2% more likely when the case involved juveniles with mental health issues.

Consent Decree

- Cases involving American Indian juveniles were 50% to 80% less likely to be resolved through a consent decree after petition for adjudication.
- Cases were more likely to result in consent decrees when the juvenile was a school dropout and where the current offense was a felony offense that was something other than an offense against property.
- Consent decree outcomes were less likely when the cases involved male juveniles, juveniles with a history of mental illness, and in cases where the current offense was a drug offense.

Delinquency Findings

- Cases involving American Indian juveniles were 72.0% more likely than those involving White juveniles to result in delinquency findings when a race only model was specified that did not include social, extra-legal, and criminal history factors.
- In the full model which included individual, family and offense factors, cases involving American Indian and Hispanic/Latino juveniles were over twice as likely to result in delinquency findings compared with cases involving White juveniles.
- Cases involving males were almost three times more likely than those involving females to result in delinquency findings at adjudication.

- Delinquency findings were 60% more likely in cases where the juvenile had a history of mental health issues.
- Cases involving juveniles living in a non-intact family were 55% more likely to result in Delinquency findings at adjudication.

Confinement in Secure Placement

- Cases involving American Indian juveniles were 53.5% more likely to result in confinement in secure placement compared to cases involving White juveniles.
- The likelihood of confinement in secure placement was almost six times greater in cases where the juvenile resided in a non-intact family when compared to cases where the juvenile lived with both the biological father and mother.
- Confinement in secure placement is 48% more likely in cases involving juveniles with a history of mental health issues.

The primary objective of the qualitative investigation was to investigate possible explanations for the patterns that emerged in the quantitative findings reported above and to develop a contextual understanding of the mechanisms that contribute to minority overrepresentation in the juvenile justice system. The data was drawn from transcripts taken from focus groups and face-to-face interviews with 54 probation officers, attorneys, and judges who are decision makers across the various decisions points in the case processing analysis outlined above.

In a report such as this, it is simply not feasible to present a full analysis of all the themes and issues that appear in the transcripts data. As a result, the qualitative investigation is a targeted approach that focuses primarily on the most commonly identified issues from the focus groups and the most salient mechanisms that contribute to disproportionate minority contact that were uncovered in the quantitative investigation. It was clear in the early stages of the analysis of the qualitative data that practitioners view disproportionate minority contact as a multidimensional issue that involves cultural, social, and economic dimensions. It was commonly stated that these issues were the most proximate source of influence on minority overrepresentation in the juvenile justice system. Race and

ethnicity were not discussed as being among the primary determinates in the decisions of which juveniles would be dealt with formally. Discussions involving the overlapping of these issues and differences in the degree they impact minority juveniles were common. As a result, it was a challenge to separate the data into discrete categories without losing the context in which the view was expressed.

Culture

- There is a need for a better cultural understanding of issues facing juveniles and more training on how to better address specific issues.
- It is currently difficult to effectively address cultural issues due to structural and procedural constraints.
- More cultural sensitivity training opportunities and training for practitioners is needed as is the need to increase the number of minority professionals working in the juvenile justice system.

Poverty

- Financial disparities are critical disproportionate minority contact mechanisms; this is particularly true for juveniles living in non-intact families.
- There is consistent evidence in the data that supports the increased likelihood of poverty and economic strain among minority juveniles and their families.
- Disproportionate minority contact is an indirect outcome of poverty. The stain associated with poverty diminishes opportunities and negatively impacts juveniles' worldview about prospects for the future.

Family

- The influence of living in a non-intact family was a commonly mentioned conditioning mechanism that influences disproportionate minority contact.
- This is an issue that crosses race/ethnicity boundaries and often results due to minimal alternatives to delinquency that are largely attributable to financial and resource constraints in these homes.
- A primary outcome of family issues is seen in the number of juveniles who are detained and the amount of time that they remain in detention due to the absence or the ability of parents or a primary caregiver to intervene.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse

- Many practitioners took the position that disproportionate minority contact issues were due in large measure to disproportionate substance abuse issues among minority juveniles.
- Alcohol and substance abuse issues were commonly presented, like poverty and family disruption, as a generational issue where juveniles in the justice system live in families where adults were also struggling with similar problems.
- Alcohol and substance abuse problems were also discussed in the context of coping mechanisms that juveniles use to deal with hopelessness and despair.

School

- The role of school was closely connected with the alcohol and substance abuse concerns outlined above.
- Juveniles who attend and are involved with school activities were less likely to come in to contact with the juvenile justice system simply because they do not have unsupervised free time to find “trouble” to get involved in.
- Many practitioners described an increase in juvenile contacts after school and in the summer months when there are no classes.
- The school to prison pipeline is associated with school suspensions and expulsions that heavily impact American Indians.

Mental Health

- Lack of access to affordable mental health services outside of the system is a mechanism that contributes to disproportionate minority contact.
- Economic costs associated with mental health services often serve as barriers to getting effective treatment and may result in disparities in admission to detention for many poor and largely minority juveniles.
- Juveniles may spend significant amounts of time in detention either due to no other options for services or waiting for the limited spaces for treatment outside of detention to become available.

Data Concerns

- Self-selection or assignment of race/ethnicity for juveniles at the initial point of contact at arrest and in official paperwork within the juvenile justice system may bias examinations.
- The degree of movement back and forth between homes and communities are a potential source of bias that may skew disproportionate minority contact results, those at the initial point of contact where the relative rate index scores for arrest are calculated.
- There were concerns raised regarding the degree to which census data and school enrollment data accurately represent the actual number of minority juveniles living in any given community.

Stakeholder Survey Findings

- Respondents were mostly inclined to disagree that there were disparities in the JJS at the initial point of contact with police, advancement through formal court proceedings, and secure placement in Pine Hills or Riverside; more than half reported disagreeing or strongly disagreeing that racial and ethnic disparities are a serious problem.
- Police officers received the highest average potential impact score—almost three quarters of respondents rated the potential impact of police officers on reducing racial and ethnic disparities as significant or very significant.
- Most respondents also rated initial contact with law enforcement as the point of contact that presented the most challenging barrier for reducing racial and ethnic disparities.
- Local judges and probation were rated as having the highest average levels of commitment to reducing racial and ethnic disparities.
- Social mechanisms (family, poverty/disadvantage, school issues) were rated as the most consequential mechanisms contributing to DMC.
- Early intervention service was the top-rated intervention and DMC reduction strategy of the nine that were examined.
- Lack of adequate funding to support DMC interventions was the barrier that was rated as being the most consequential threat to successful DMC interventions.
- Over half of respondents in JDAI counties reported that the initiative has been effective or very effective; respondents who had previously heard about JDAI were more likely to be interested in participating than those who had no previous knowledge of JDAI before taking the survey.
- Lack of adequate funding, lack of knowledge about racial and ethnic disparities, and limited buy in from staff/rank and file were rated as the most significant barriers for successful implementation of JDAI.
- Lack of adequate funding, limited buy-in from administration/management, and limited technical assistance were rated as the most significant barriers for successful implementation of the risk assessment instrument.

Process Recommendations

- The evidence shows differences in the likelihood of cases involving American Indian juveniles when compared to White juveniles in all but the referral to county attorney phase in the case processing analysis. There is a need to further examine the mechanisms that influence these disparities.
- Priority needs to be given to meeting with local stakeholders to discuss the relative rate index scores and their implications for the juvenile justice system and local community.
- Investigate why there are few diversion options that are available at the point of contact with the police and work to increase alternatives to detention.

- Consider the importance associated with the development of trained intake officers and reporting centers where juveniles at the point of arrest can be taken and an evaluation of whether they need to be placed in detention can be made.
- Evaluate existing programs that serve as alternatives to formal outcomes in the juvenile justice system.
- Develop a listing of state and local disproportionate minority contact prevention and intervention strategies that could be implemented.
- Work to increase the coordination and cooperation of the various systems that provide services to juveniles.
- Address the absence of minority practitioners currently working in the juvenile justice system.
- Reserve formal outcomes in the juvenile justice system for those juveniles determined to pose a significant public safety threat or flight risk.
- Developing alternatives for juveniles who are likely to cause self-harm and cannot be dealt with more effectively in a non-formal or existing social service capacity.

Data Recommendations

- Locate and analyze data that addresses concerns about the base used to estimate the initial point of contact at arrest in the relative rate index scores.
- Improve the consistency and reliability with which case processing outcomes across the various decision points can be monitored.
- Address the discrepancies regarding the dates and days that juveniles spend in detention.
- Integrate the Juvenile Court Assessment and Tracking System with systems like “Full Court” that monitor adult activities.
- Discuss and implement plans to increase the comprehensiveness and consistency with which information is entered and how it is archived in the Juvenile Court Assessment and Tracking System.
- Make data accuracy and comprehensiveness a priority.

Administrative Recommendations

- Work to communicate and demonstrate State support for disproportionate minority contact reduction activities while emphasizing the importance of the work occurring at the local level.
- Provide training and technical assistance to stakeholders.
- Encourage legislators to get involved and work toward legislative reforms that address disproportionate minority contact.
- Examine the composition, function, and performance of the statewide disproportionate minority contact and juvenile detention alternatives initiative boards.
- Continue to develop partnerships and work in cooperation with Tribal governments and agencies.

- Lead by example in taking appropriate measures to ensure comprehensive and accurate State-Level data.
- Continue to approach disproportionate minority contact reduction as a process that will require ongoing implementation and evaluation.
- Develop an integrated resource that fully incorporates the previous relative rate index and disproportionate minority contact work that has been done in Montana along with the information in this report.
- Gather and/or collect data from local law enforcement agencies across the State.
- Begin working on the phase three disproportionate minority contact reduction interventions.
- Examine issues in the data collected that were beyond the scope of the work that was reported here.

Conclusion

The findings in this assessment provided answers to critical questions regarding the mechanisms that contribute to disproportionate minority contact in Montana. The results showed that there is very little difference between minority and White juveniles in terms of the types of offenses and juvenile justice system responses to them. The evidence from the logistic regression models show differences in the likelihood of delinquency findings and consent decrees to be the only decision points where there are differences when a race-only model is specified.

Differences between minority and White juveniles were more common across the decision points when social factors pertaining to individual and family influences are accounted for in the examination. The findings from focus groups and interviews suggest that there are a number or often overlapping mechanisms that contribute to DMC. Effective responses and interventions will therefore need to be based on a multidimensional approach that includes cooperation between the JJS and other social institutions that influence and are involved in work with juveniles.

In terms of planning for future DMC work in Montana, there is a need to investigate methods that allow for more accurate counts of juveniles within the counties to be made. The four counties examined in this investigation are regional hubs where juveniles, where American Indian juveniles migrate back and forth to and from other communities where they may also reside. The population of minority juveniles in Montana is sufficiently small enough that over-counting and under-counting pose a significant threat to the initial point of contact data where minority overrepresentation at arrest is based on counts of juveniles living in the counties divided by the number of arrests within each racial/ethnic group. This is an issue that merits primary consideration as Montana moves forward with the developing and evaluation of programs and policies to reduce DMC.

The study moves beyond the comparisons of ratios in the relative rate index scores to examine extra legal and social factors. It incorporates a mixed methods design that includes multivariate analysis of many of the factors that have been found to influence disproportionate minority contact in prior studies. The information presented in this report provides a means of comparison to which future examinations of disproportionate minority contact issues in Montana can be compared and the results from future studies evaluated against.

The findings provide a gauge by which any changes, modifications, and interventions that are made to the process used to target disproportionate minority contact can be evaluated. The reduction of disproportionate minority contact is a process. To have an effective impact research must become a key piece of a continually evolving investigation. As disproportionate minority contact issues have both short-term and long-term implications, it is imperative that future work continues to identify, assess, and refine the strategies that are developed and used to inform subsequent investigations.

MBCC in collaboration with the Alliance for Youth (AFY) and the UMCRG applied for an OJJDP DMC CASP grant to follow-up with an assessment on POC arrest at the local level in Cascade County a local DMC and Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative site. The grant was awarded and the assessment was completed in July 2014. The full report is available on MBCC's web page: http://mbcc.mt.gov/Portals/130/Juvenile%20Justice/DMC/14UM_DMC_Arr_POC_Rpt.pdf

Following is a summary of the findings and recommendations:

Quantitative Findings

- Differential Offending Hypothesis
 - The explanation that overrepresentation of Minority juveniles is due to different levels, or participations in different types, of offenses than White juveniles.
 - DMC can be explained by differing levels in the frequency of offenses, specifically that Minority juveniles commit more crime, more serious crime, and have more prior contacts with the police than White juveniles do.
 - Must be evaluated before moving forward with DMC explanations based on differential treatment within the juvenile justice system (see Pope and Feyerherm 1995; Pope, Lovell, and Hsia 2002; Pope and Leiber 2005 for a review of prior research).
- Offenses by Race/Ethnicity
 - The distribution of citations issued by law enforcement to juveniles in Cascade County by offense category and race/ethnicity in a five-year period starting in January 2009 through the end of December 2013 was examined.
 - During this period, there were a total of 5,514 citations that were archived in the Juvenile Court Accountability and Tracking System.
 - The evidence shows that the distribution of felony, misdemeanor, and status offense citations are similar for American Indian and White juveniles.
 - There is no evidence to explain differences in the RRI scores between American Indian and White juveniles that could be explained by differences in the types of offenses for which citations were issued.

Mobility Impacts on Arrest Point of Contact: DMC estimates in Cascade County

- Mobility Impacts on Arrest Point of Contact RRI Scores

- Census counts may not accurately reflect the current population of any given area, which can skew any sort of rate calculation.
- This has been acknowledged in the criminological literature for many years (Boggs 1965; Harries 1981 see also Andresen and Jenin 2010).
- Seasonal mobility during summer months and school breaks can affect the number of juveniles present and present problems to estimates that use population counts.
- The central location of Cascade County, the population characteristics of Great Falls, and the areas status as a hub of activity and various services for several American Indian tribes mandate that mobility issues be addressed when evaluating DMC in this location.
- A Cascade County Example
 - In 2012, there were 228 citations issued to American Indian juveniles and 544 citations issued to White juveniles by Cascade County law enforcement.
 - Census data estimates show shows 449 American Indian juveniles and 6,287 White juveniles residing in Cascade County in 2012.
 - Estimates based on Office of Public Instruction show 649 American Indian juveniles and 4,357 White juveniles attending schools in Cascade County during 2012.
 - Relative rate of arrest scores are 57% lower (RRI=2.69) when the counts for the number of American Indian and White juveniles is based on Office of Public Instruction data compared to census data (RRI=6.29).
 - The evidence shows that mobility issues impact the validity of estimates for the number of American Indian juveniles in Cascade County and account for some of the difference in the likelihood of arrest when compared to White juveniles.

Qualitative Findings

- Home Life and Parenting Issues
 - Instability and lack of organization within the home is characteristic of the majority of the juveniles in the justice system.
 - Inability to contact a parent of a juvenile often mandates an arrest in a situation that would otherwise result in a release. This situation was cited as particularly prevalent with American Indian juveniles.
 - The connection between home life and parenting issues with involvement in delinquency is well established (see Capaldi and Patterson 1996; Hawkins, Catalano, and Miller 1992; Hay 2003; Herrenkohl, Hill, Hawkins, Chung, and Nagin 2006; Herrenkohl, Maguin, Hill, Hawkins, Abbott, and Catalano 2000).
- Substance Abuse Issues
 - Generational substance abuse is prevalent amongst the families of offenders in the juvenile justice system.
 - Substance abuse significantly contributes to law enforcements inability to contact parents of juveniles.
 - Substance abuse is an underlying cause of poor parenting and home life disruption.

- Substance abuse by parents and juveniles has been shown to be strongly correlated with delinquent involvement (see Brooks, Whiteman, Balka, and Cohen 1995; Carney, Myers, Louw, Lombard, and Flisher 2013; Chassin, Pillow, Curran, Molina, and Barrera 1993; Dishion, Capaldi, and Yoerger 1999; Eiden, Chavez, and Leonard 1999; Fals-Stewart, Kelly, Fincham, Golden, and Logsdon 2004; Ferguson and Meehan 2010; Henry 2007; Kuntsche, Knibbe, Engels, and Gmel 2007; Jacob, Haber, Leonard, and Rushe 2000; Swahn and Donovan 2005; Stone, Becker, Huber, and Catalano 2012).
- **Mobility Issues**
 - Cascade County, particularly Great Falls, is centrally located and is a regional hub for a variety of services and amenities. This creates a steady inflow-and-outflow of individuals in the area.
 - Great Falls is a regional hub between numerous proximal Indian reservations. Mobility is particularly prominent in the American Indian population.
 - Mobility has been consistently shown to be related to a variety of negative issues among juveniles such as, delinquency and drug use (see DeWit 1998: Haynie and South 2005, Herrenkohl et al. 2000: Hoffman and Johnson 1998: Smith, Lizotte, Thornberry, and Krohn 1995: and Stack 1994).

Community-Based Intervention

- **Project Venture**
 - Strategy to help American Indian communities prevent the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and related problem behaviors.
 - Targets Cascade and Yellowstone County's largest Minority population(s).
 - Specifically addresses substance abuse while also promoting general pro-social development in youth.
- **Family and Schools Together**
 - Early intervention strategy to prevent later delinquency, violence, substance abuse, and school dropout.
 - Addresses both themes of home life and parenting and substance abuse.
- **PAX Good Behavior Game**
 - Goal is to reduce substance abuse and behavioral problems by improving parenting skills as well as competencies of children.
 - Addresses both themes of home life and parenting and substance abuse.
- **Life Skills Training**
 - Classroom based tobacco, alcohol, and drug abuse prevention program.
 - Specifically addresses the theme of substance abuse.
- **Linking the Interests of Families and Teachers (LIFT)**
 - Preventative program to limit factors that put children at risk for antisocial behavior and delinquency.
 - LIFT is a general approach to delinquency prevention that involves children, families, and schools.

- Short-Term Placement Program
 - As the five programs listed above either require involvement with schools and/or overlap with programs that are currently operating across the five county area, a short-term placement intervention is merited.
 - There is currently no program available where law enforcement officers can place juveniles, on a short-term basis, other than secure placement.
 - Mobility issues, in particular for American Indian juveniles, make contacting parents more challenging.
 - Implementation of Restorative Justice community and school based practices.
 - Some juveniles are issued tickets and arrested for events that would be handled by counsel and release if a parent were available.

Conclusions

- There is no evidence to explain differences in the relative RRI scores between American Indian and White juveniles that could be explained by differences in the types of offenses that citations were issued for.
- Issues related to poor parenting practices, home life disruption of juveniles, and substance use are important considerations for understanding police contact with juveniles and juvenile arrests.
- Mobility issues associated with the back and forth movement of American Indian juveniles between Great Falls and nearby reservations impact and exacerbate RRI scores at the arrest point of contact for American Indian juveniles compared with White juveniles.
- The short-term placement program appears very promising. It is not impacted by complications associated with the five OJJDP-derived best-practices programs outlined above. The consistency with which local officers spoke of the need for short-term alternatives to secure placement suggests it is a program worth investigating.

Recommendations

- Recommendations
 - Work to establish a short-term alternative to secure placement.
 - Explore the possibility of partnering with a local facility currently housing juveniles that could provide officers a short term detention alternative for juveniles who do not pose a public safety threat.
 - Implement Restorative Justice Model that is culturally sensitive.
- Survey of local law enforcement
 - Collection of a more representative perspective on law enforcement issues with juveniles and community-based responses to them.
 - Need for establishing a research basis for developing the survey that is informed by prior studies.
- Collection of law enforcement's informal contacts (counsel and release) with juveniles.

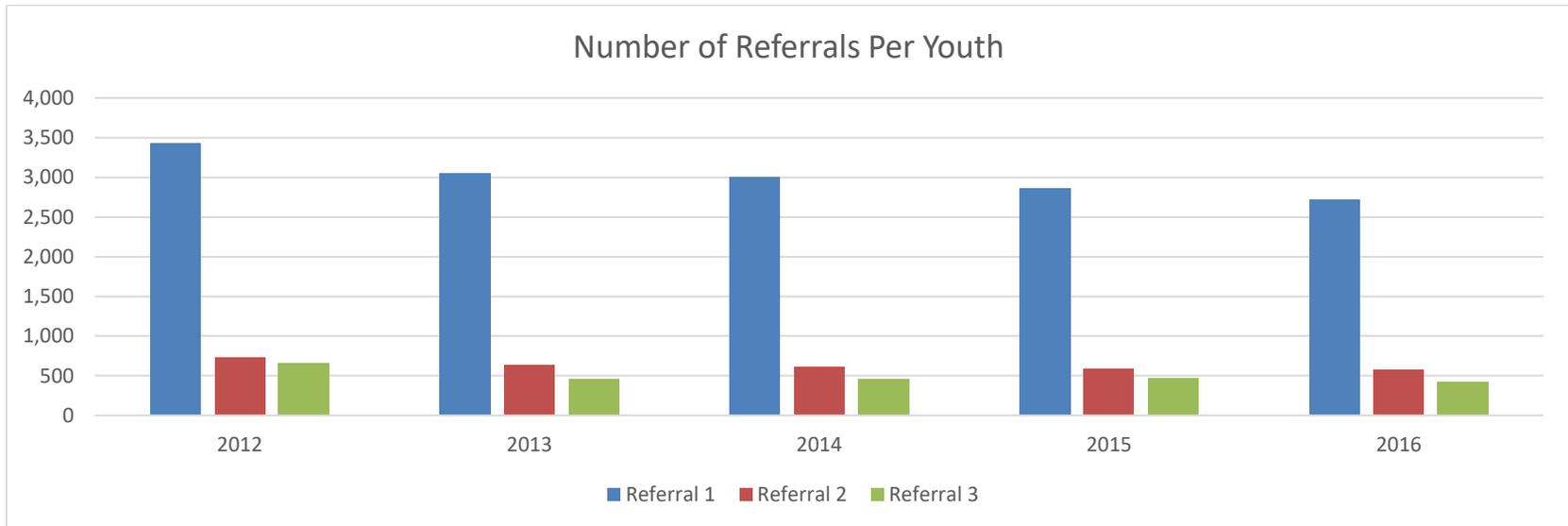
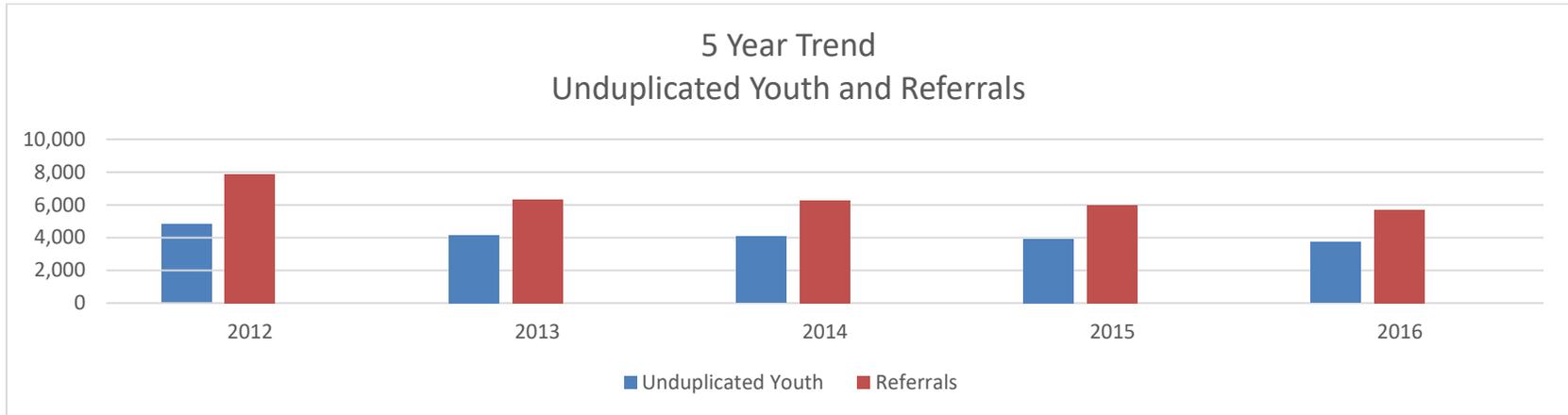
- The absence of this information prevents an examination of the “differential response hypothesis” at the arrest point of contact.
- The ability to provide evidence that addresses differential responses by law enforcement at the arrest point of contact for American Indian and White juveniles is needed.
- There is a need to advocate for the collection of data on “informal contacts” where there is no citation and/or arrest that is issued.
- Survey of JJS stakeholders that specifically asks questions about awareness of alternatives to formal processing of juveniles in Cascade County.
 - Data to gauge how clear the stakeholder knowledge about the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative and existing programs that are alternatives to formal processing of juveniles is important.
- Recommendations for the State of Montana Three-Year DMC Plan
 - Continue advocating a DMC reduction strategy that is grounded upon a systems approach that involves all stakeholders working with juveniles (law enforcement, youth court services, attorneys, judges, correctional services).
- Promote interactions and provide trainings that include all stakeholders in an effort to avoid fragmentation that too heavily focuses on a single stakeholder group.
 - Review and, if necessary, update juvenile statutes to comply with reform efforts and the need for data-driven, evidence-based decision making.
 - Work with local jurisdictions to establish the importance of keeping data about police contacts that do not result in citation/arrest.
 - Promote awareness of and education about alternatives to formal processing of juveniles.
 - Develop strategies that improve coordination between social service agencies that provide services to juveniles and practitioners within the juvenile justice system.
 - Continue to develop juvenile justice system reforms for all 56 counties in an effort to improve the health and well-being of juveniles in Montana.
- Implications for National Efforts
 - Coordination of systems approaches for addressing DMC are a key component of best practices models.
 - Many counties across the country experience mobility issues with juveniles that may impact the validity and reliability of arrest point of contact RRI scores.
 - Need for emphasis on law enforcement involvement in juvenile justice reforms that take place at, or before, the arrest point of contact.
- Future Research
 - Need to investigate methods that allow for more accurate counts of juveniles to be made and how methodological issues are impacting the RRI scores used as evidence of DMC.
- Investigate how many times American Indian juveniles enroll, leave, and reenroll in school during the same academic year.

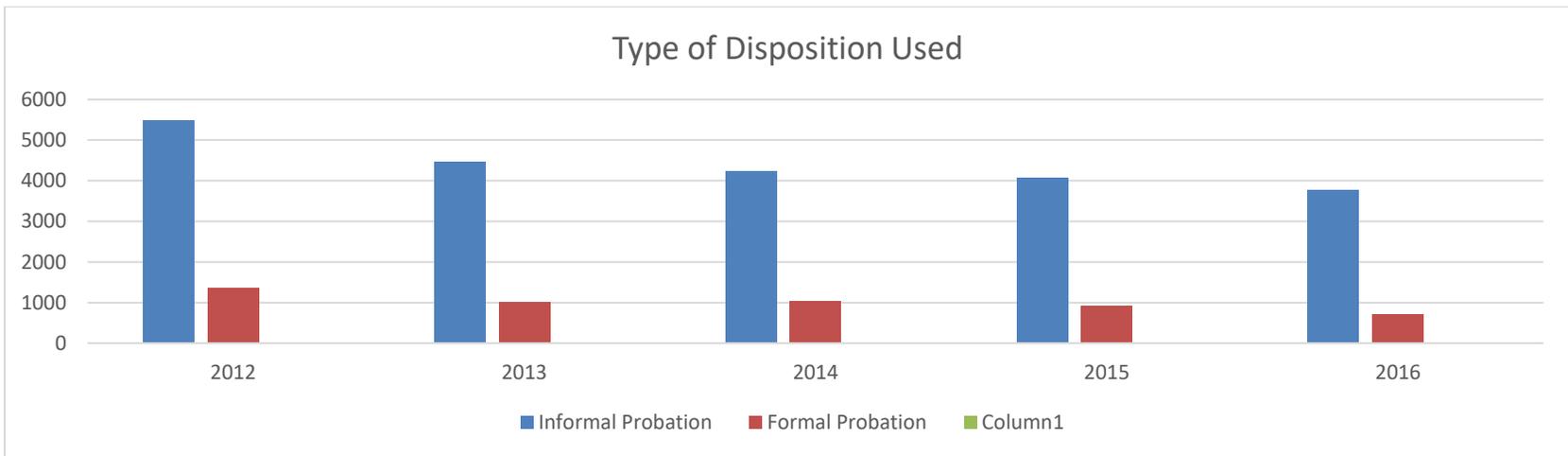
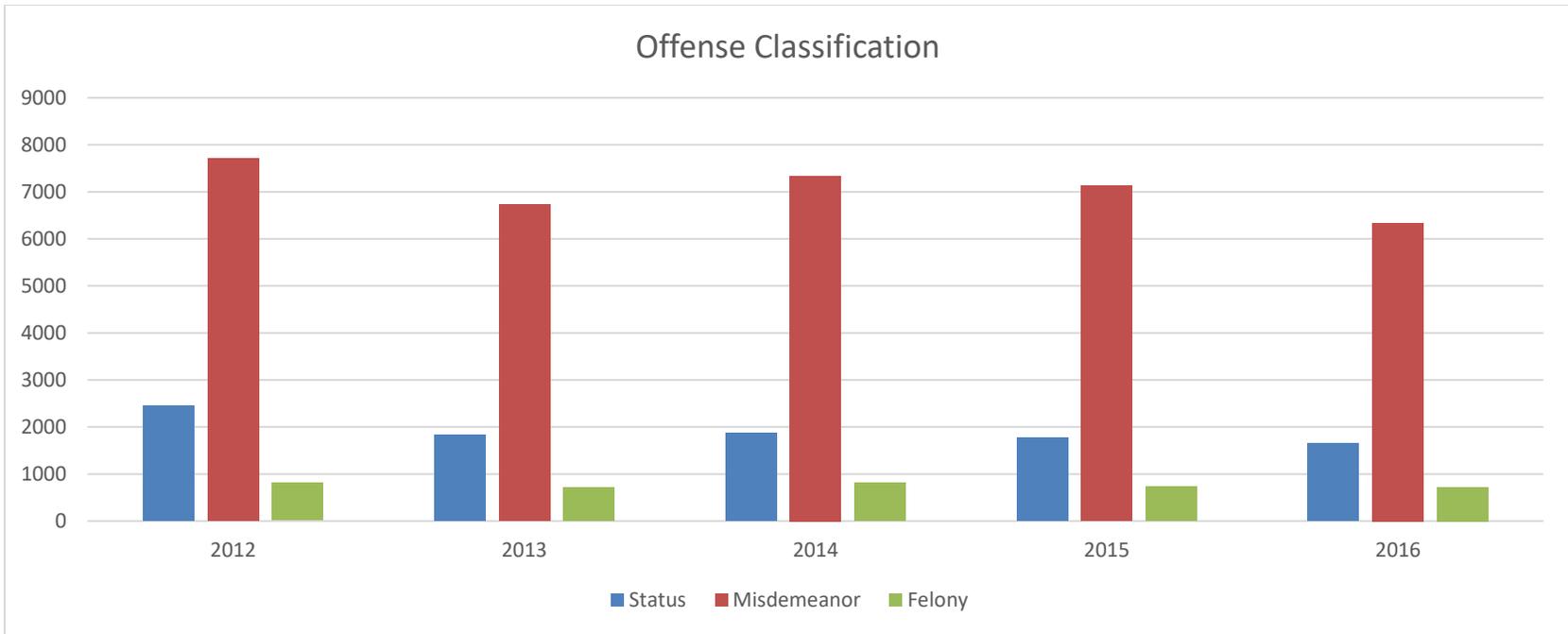
- Examining truancy and days missed during the academic year may prove useful for determining how common movement back and forth between reservation communities and towns and cities off of the reservation.
 - Need to include juveniles and parents in future DMC investigations.
- The Criminology Research Group has not been involved in gathering data about issues and perspectives from the juveniles and their parents.
- The development of future research designs that include interviews with and involvement of juveniles and parents is a priority moving forward.

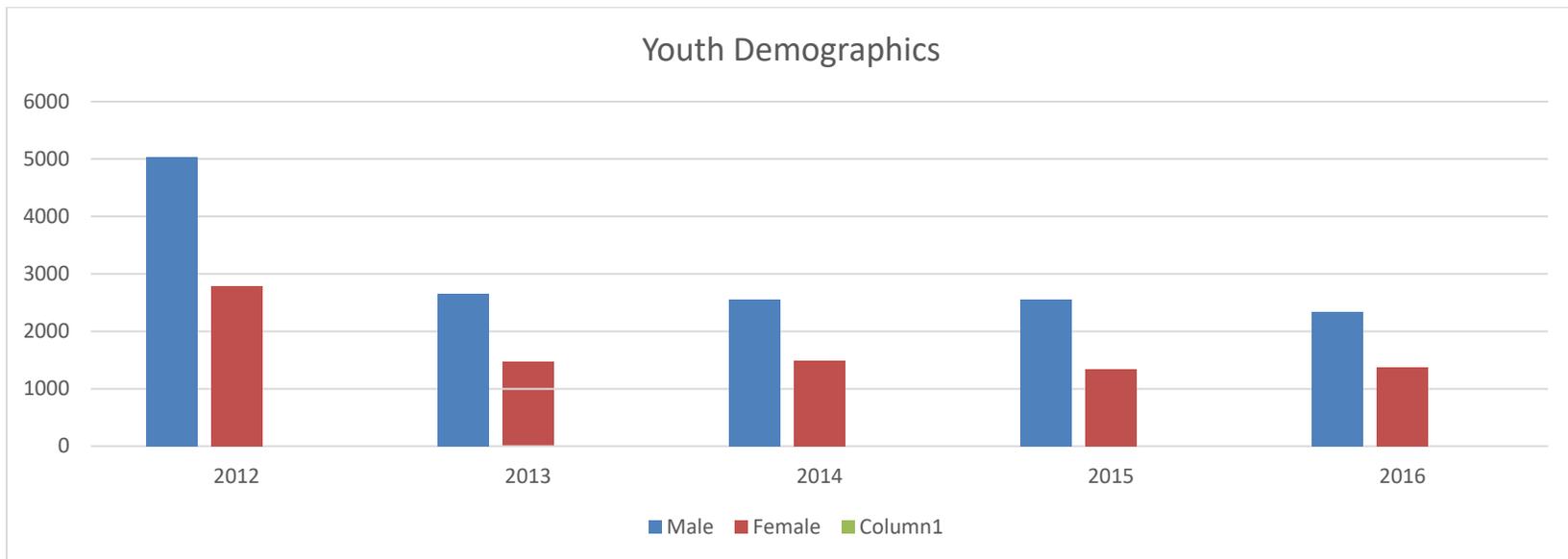
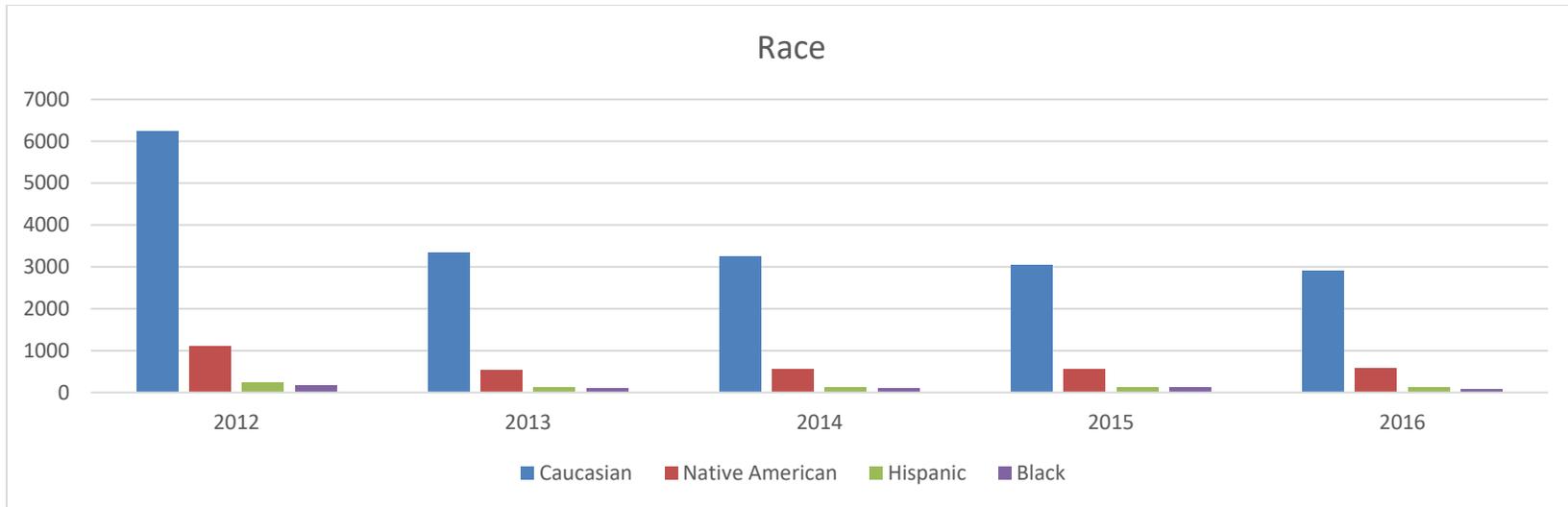
Youth Court Report Card

The Montana Supreme Court has composed a Youth Court Report Card every year since 2005 that provides an overview on the state of juvenile justice. The report is an essential part of developing a comprehensive DMC plan to address key indicators for our youth becoming entangled with the juvenile justice system. Juveniles usually enter the juvenile justice system through contact with law enforcement, although they may be referred to juvenile probation by other agencies and parents. Juvenile probation is an integral part of the Youth Court and is overseen by the Youth Court judge within each of the 22 Judicial Districts. Most referrals to the Youth Court's juvenile probation office are in the form of a ticket accompanied by a report from law enforcement. Juvenile probation officers may handle any referral except traffic and fish and game violations, which fall under the jurisdiction of the Justice, Municipal, City, and District Courts. Youth referred to probation must appear in front of the juvenile probation officer with a parent or guardian to answer to the allegations against them. Most youth will never see the Youth Court judge and will work solely through the Youth Court juvenile probation. Approximately 20% of the youth referred to juvenile probation each year are handled formally.

Montana has consistently demonstrated a decline in the number of unduplicated youth and referrals with the exception of Native American youth. The data does not include crimes committed by Native American youth on a federally recognized Reservation.







Goal : Assess/Diagnose DMC

Objective	Short Term Output Measure	Progress Made FY 2018 Outputs (October 1, 2018 1, September 30, 2019)	Objective Status 2019
Requests for proposals, written by JJ Specialist will include an assessment or plan to assess the reasons for DMC in the applicant's county.	RFP with requirement language will be on file	Included in RFP.	Ongoing
	Approved applications, with RRI's identifying DMC, will include an assessment of the causes of DMC or a plan to assess the causes of DMC in the applicant's county.	The Juvenile Justice Specialist will be responsible for providing current information and professional development regarding statewide DMC issues.	Ongoing
The SAG will follow-up on any DMC assessment recommendations to do further or more in-depth assessments.	Number of assessment recommendations for further assessment of DMC that were implemented.	The Juvenile Justice Specialist will be responsible for providing the SAG with the Youth Court Report Card data. A DMC study will be conducted using the Supreme Court youth court data.	Ongoing

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Goal to Address DMC

Objective	Short Term Output Measure	Progress Made FY 2018 Outputs (October 1, 2018 1, September 30, 2019)	Objective Status FY 2018
Funded applications that identify DMC in the applicant's county must include a viable plan to address DMC through an evidenced-based restorative practices model.	Number of funded applications with viable plans to address DMC. At least three local communities will be identified to be targeted for an evidenced based restorative justice pilot model.	Juvenile Justice Specialist is currently being trained as a restorative practices facilitator.	Ongoing
The SAG will develop three restorative practices pilot sites.	Number of sites funded with identified DMC (OJJDP requires minimum of 3)	Funding is provided through AECF, Title II and/or other MBCC supported programs to support pilot sites.	Ongoing
The SAG will implement the recommendations of Statewide (and where applicable local) DMC Assessments.	Number of DMC assessment recommendations implemented.		Ongoing
SAG supported staff will continue to provide annual technical assistance to the tribes on best and promising practices for the prevention and intervention of juvenile delinquency.	Number of TA delivered	YJC Tribal Outreach Committee will develop a strategic plan addressing DMC.	Tribal Outreach Committee will identify a minimum of one tribal nation to

*The DMC Assessment may be found at <http://mbcc.mt.gov/Portals/130/Data/Reports/DMCAssessRep.pdf>

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Goal to Address DMC

Objective	Short Term Output Measure	Progress Made FY 2018 Outputs (October 1, 2018 1, September 30, 2019)	Objective Status FY 2018
	Number of American Indian programs developed using a restorative practices model.	In progress	participate in the restorative justice pilot program.
The SAG will continue to fund tribal applications for promising or best practices prevention or intervention programs as through OJJDP.	The number of funded Tribal Title II applications.	The number of programs funded each year.	The project begins October 1, 2018 and ends September 30, 2019.
The DMC Sub-committee will develop a formal restorative practices model program.	Number of DMC Subcommittee meetings.	The number of evidenced based restorative practices pilot sites implemented.	Ongoing
	New Statewide infrastructure developed to take restorative justice to scale		Ongoing
	Statewide policies developed/amended to address restorative practices.		Ongoing

*The DMC Assessment may be found at <http://mbcc.mt.gov/Portals/130/Data/Reports/DMCAssessRep.pdf>

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Goal to Evaluate DMC

Objective	Short Term Output Measures	Progress Made FY 2018 Outputs (October 1, 2018, September 30, 2019)	Objective Status 2018
The DMC Committee will meet annually in September to monitor the DMC plan and bring forward recommendations for any adjustments to the plan to the December meeting of the YJC for review	Meeting minutes	DMC Committee will be appointed by June, briefed on progress, and will meet by the September 2018 SAG meeting.	Ongoing
DMC Committee will monitor the performance measures of programs funded to address DMC.	Number of Performance reports from DMC Sites on file	TBD	Ongoing
	Number of DMC Performance reports reviewed by the DMC Committee	TBD	Ongoing
DMC Committee will review the most current DMC data.	Number of JDAI Annual Detention Utilization Reports on File	TBD	Ongoing
	Number of JDAI Annual Detention Utilization Reports reviewed by the DMC/JDAI Committee		

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Goal to Monitor DMC (Phase V)

Objective	Short Term Output Measures	Progress Made FY 2018 Outputs (October 1, 2018 1, September 30, 2019)	Objective Status 2018
The DMC Committee will meet annually in September to monitor the DMC plan and bring forward recommendations for any adjustments to the plan to the December meeting of the YJC for review	Meeting minutes	The original DMC was approved in 2015 and monitored at the yearly September meeting.	Ongoing
The DMC Committee will annually review at least 3 sources of data/research identified by the JJ Specialist to monitor trends of the mechanisms known to contribute to DMC in Montana.	Number of data/research identified.	The DMC Committee reviewed data trends in online plan, prioritized sites and points of contact for funding.	Ongoing
The DMC Committee will annually monitor the overall effectiveness of the DMC plan as measured by the number of RRI decision points showing a positive and negative trend for DMC (i.e. a reduction in over-representation at all points of contact (POC's) except diversion and formal probation which should be an increase) or showing no statistically significant DMC.	Number of RRI decision points showing a positive and negative trend for DMC	DMC Committee members will review the RRI data at the September committee meeting. The SAG members will review the DMC plan and RRI data at the June 2018 meeting.	Ongoing
Statewide DMC will be evaluated by reassessing DMC every year.	A statewide assessment of DMC will be completed and on file for CY 2018, 19, and 20.		Ongoing

*The DMC Assessment may be found at <http://mbcc.mt.gov/Portals/130/Data/Reports/DMCAssessRep.pdf>