



**STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

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**OJJPD FY 2019 Title II DMC Plan**

Plan for compliance with the disproportionate minority contact (DMC) core requirement applicable to Category 2.

**II. Develop an Action Plan**

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

Wisconsin has included data for the 5 reporting categories from 5 local jurisdictions in our state.

1. Dane County
2. La Crosse County
3. Milwaukee County
4. Racine County
5. Rock County

Decision points for arrest, diversion, pre-trial, dispositions and transfer to adult are all a matter of local jurisdictions and with the exception of Juvenile Arrests are the sources for our data collection.

**Review of the numbers:**

Milwaukee County is the only population dynamic that shows above 50% population of minorities versus the white population. The remaining counties have a majority white population.

For each category a comparison was done based on the Total Youth for each data collection point and the percentage of representation of that group that was a minority population.

For example –

Racine County has a 12% population rate of minority in their communities but more than 50% of their youth are represented in all 5 data points.

In Milwaukee County which has a higher population of minority members, at 66%, their Disposition Commitments are at a rate of 90% for minorities.

La Crosse County has a 16% minority population but represents over 50% in both Pre-trial detention and disposition commitments.

In review of the summary of the data on the last tab of the DMC Data Collection spreadsheet we can see the two areas that need immediate focus are Pre-trial detentions and Disposition commitments. There is greater disparity found in these two areas for all of the localities we collected data.

## **2. What would success in DMC reduction look like for your state?**

I believe that evidence based decision making is the path forward for improving disparity. In order to gain this knowledge we need to gain a wider understanding of the disparity in our state. The 5 localities we collected from are a good starter sample but I would like WI DOJ to increase our capacity for data collection and thereby make smarter more informed decisions about how to impact disparity statewide.

## **3. How much do you want to reduce DMC next year?**

That is a challenging questions to answer when I believe reduction occurs when there is data and information to make well informed decisions, funding to support evidenced based models of reform for our youth justice system and systemic support to push the change forward. All of this involves a multi-disciplinary collaboration to push forward and legislative support to change the culture and environment of our youth justice system.

For Wisconsin, I would like to see us develop a statewide advisory body made up of a multi-disciplinary team to focus on the issues of racial disparity in our state. This group would focus on the systemic problems that are specific to our state and to regions of our state and develop action items for consideration to affect change and reduce DMC in the coming years.

## **4. Is that reasonable? If yes, why?**

Yes and No – this requires commitment on the part of both state and federal partners to change the culture of our youth justice system. It will take education and training. And it will take time to bring people together at a state level, create an environment of collaboration and buy-in for a unified goal.

## **5. What do you need from OJJDP to be successful with your plan?**

We have established similar advisory groups at the state level for the adult criminal justice side of the house. This was accomplished through technical assistance provided by the National Institute of Corrections. For this next year, if OJJDP could provide this level of technical assistance to help our WI DOJ build a statewide team and lead us through a system mapping process to help identify the major target points to reduce disparity in our state.