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2.3.c: Decrease percentage of African American, Hispanic and Native American youth in detention from 46% to 41% by July 2017

Reported on September 19, 2016



MEASURE 2.3.C DECREASE PERCENTAGE OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN, HISPANIC/LATINO AND NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH IN DETENTION FROM 46% TO 41% BY JULY 2017

REDUCING RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN JUVENILE JUSTICE

Department of Social and Health Services
Rehabilitation Administration
Juvenile Rehabilitation

Assistant Secretary John Clayton



September 19, 2016

DSHS Rehabilitation Administration (RA)

Rehabilitation Administration includes:

- Juvenile Rehabilitation
- Office of Juvenile Justice
- Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Special Commitment Center

Our Vision

Youth and adults succeed in rehabilitation with the support of an engaged community.

Our Mission

*To **transform lives** by creating pathways to self-sufficiency through effective rehabilitation services and meaningful partnerships.*

We Value

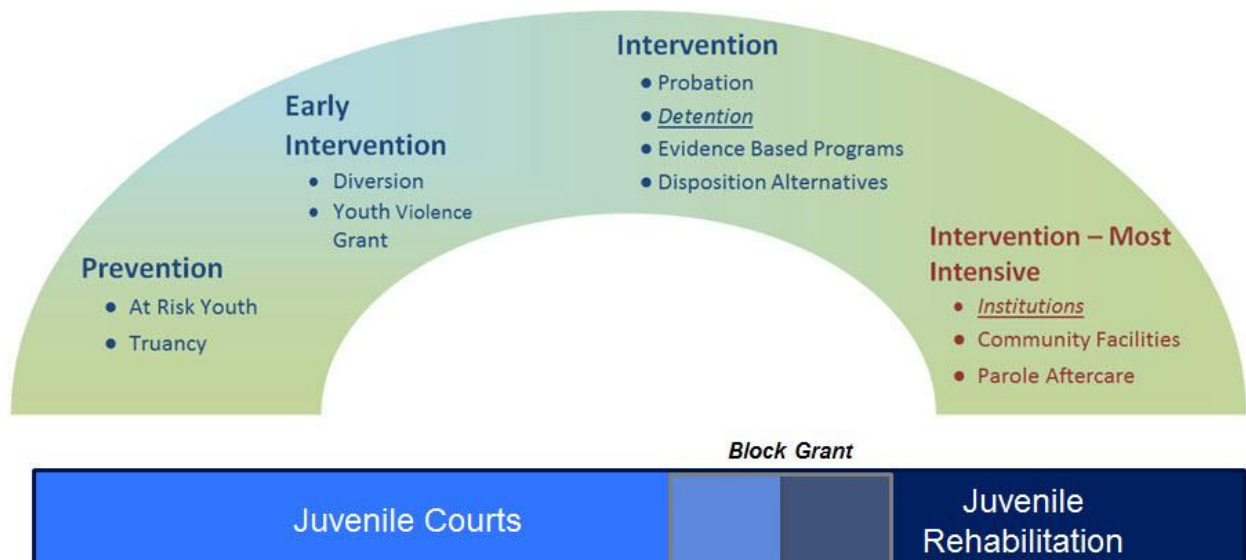
- Collaboration
- Social Justice
- An Outcome Focus
- Opportunities for New Beginnings



One Juvenile Justice System

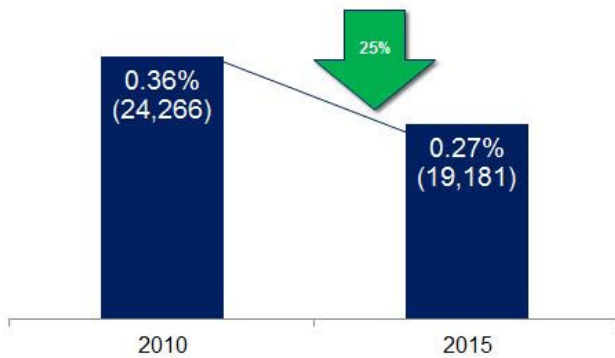
Shared Goal

Public safety while providing rehabilitation to help youth become successful adults, return to the community, and avoid crimes in the future.

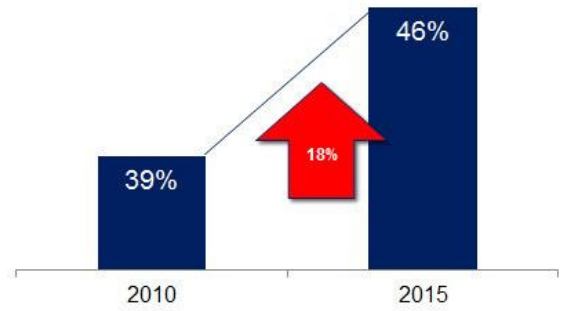


Background: *Overall improvement with fewer identified youth in juvenile justice, but increase in percentage of identified youth of color*

Fewer percent of all youth are securely held (county and state)

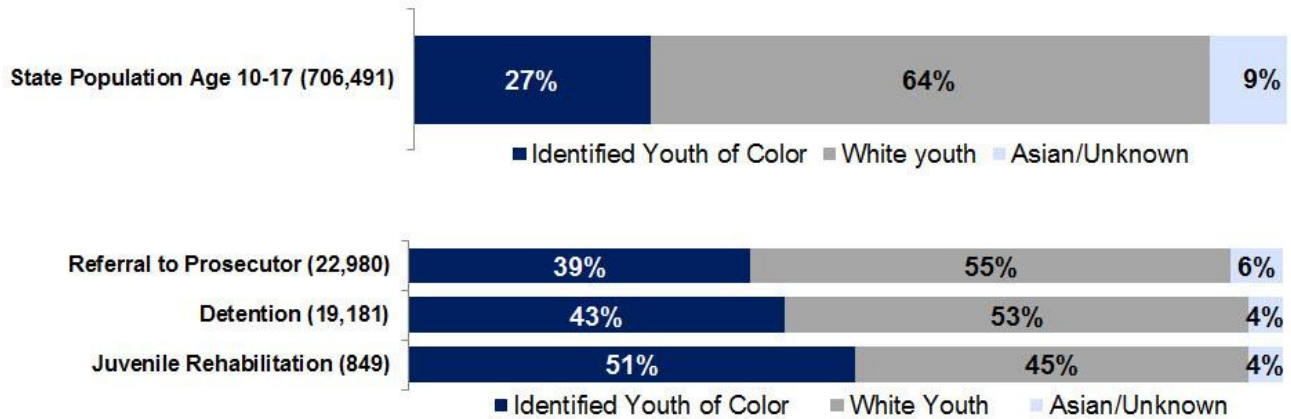


Higher percent of identified youth of color are securely held as compared to other populations (county and state)



Source: Partnership Council for Juvenile Justice and Juvenile Rehabilitation

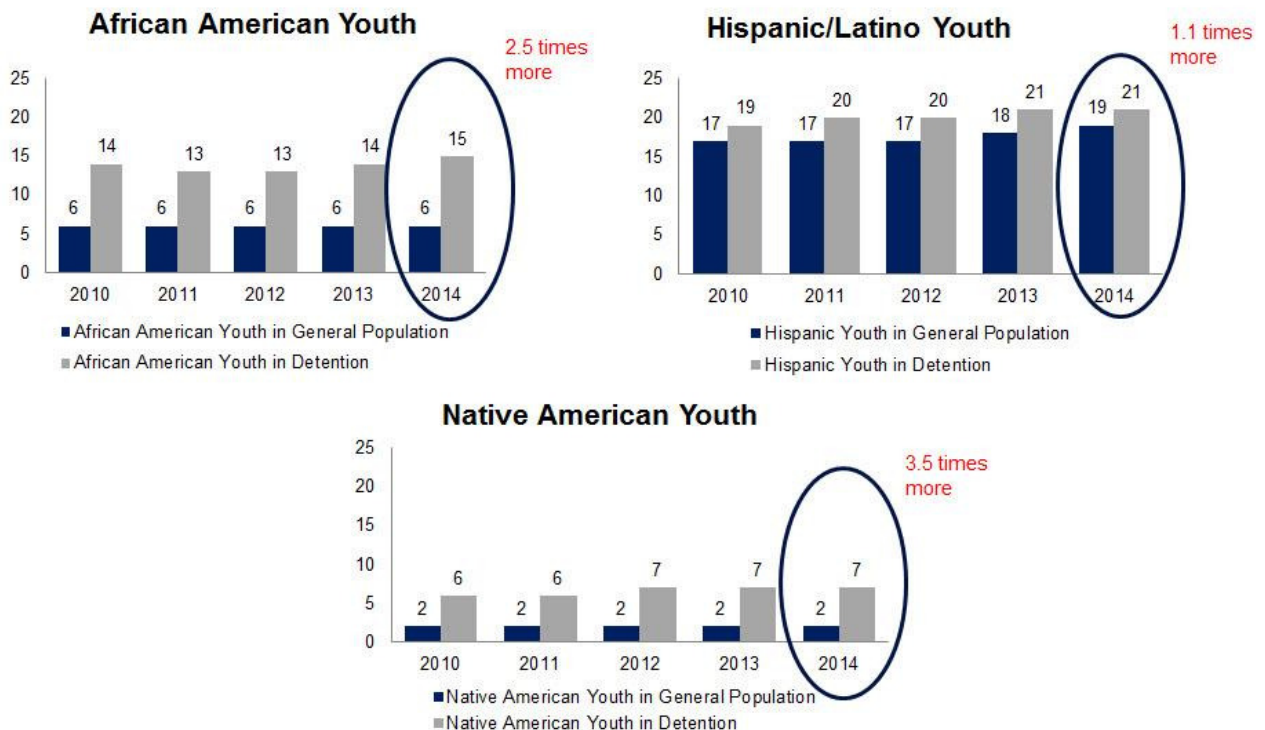
Current State: Racial and ethnic disparity exists and increases at each level of the juvenile justice system



“Identified Youth of Color” used throughout this presentation includes African-American, Hispanic/Latino and Native American youth

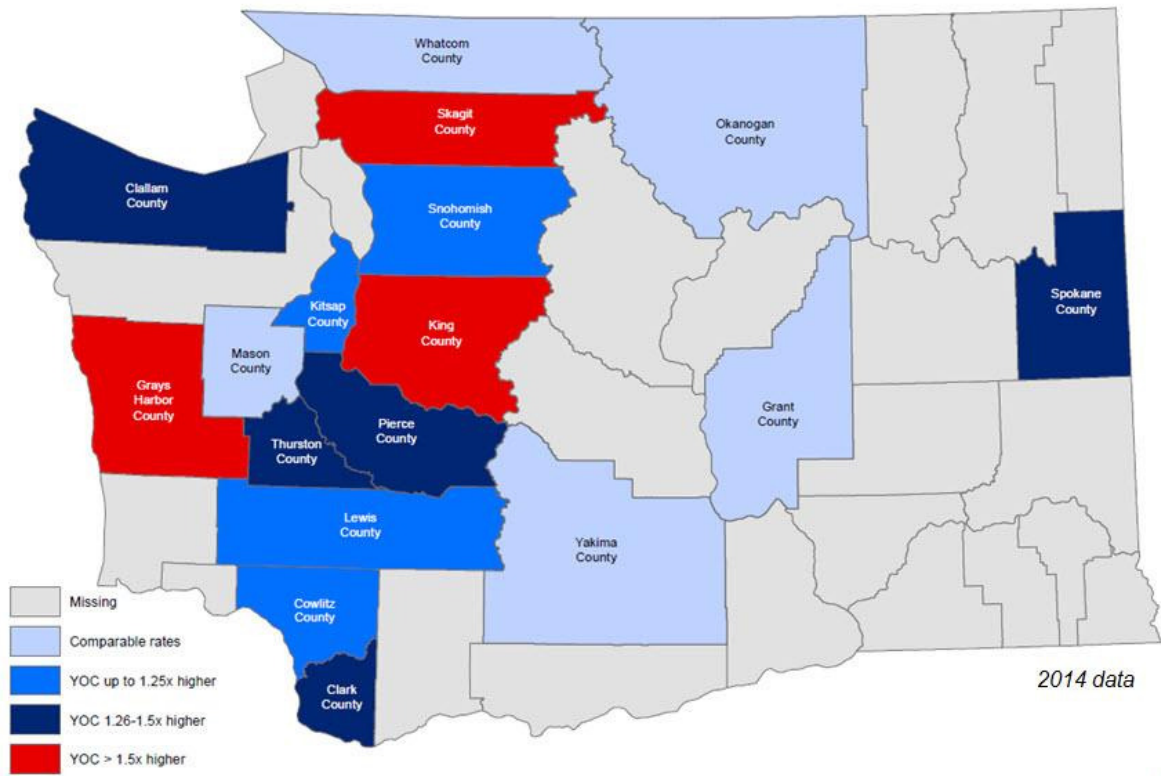
Source: Partnership Council for Juvenile Justice and Juvenile Rehabilitation

Current State: The identified racial and ethnic groups have higher detention percentages than their percent of the general population



Source: Partnership Council for Juvenile Justice and Juvenile Rehabilitation

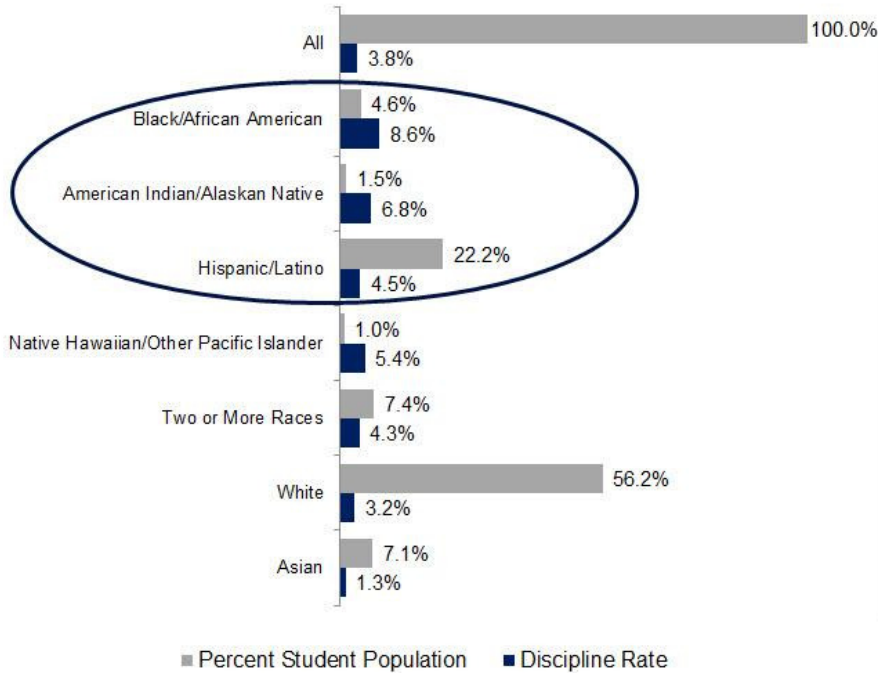
Current State: Racial disparities in county juvenile detention vary



Source: Partnership Council for Juvenile Justice and Juvenile Rehabilitation

Problem: School-to-prison pipeline: suspension and expulsions lead to dropout and arrest

Percent of Students Suspended/Expelled by Race (2014)

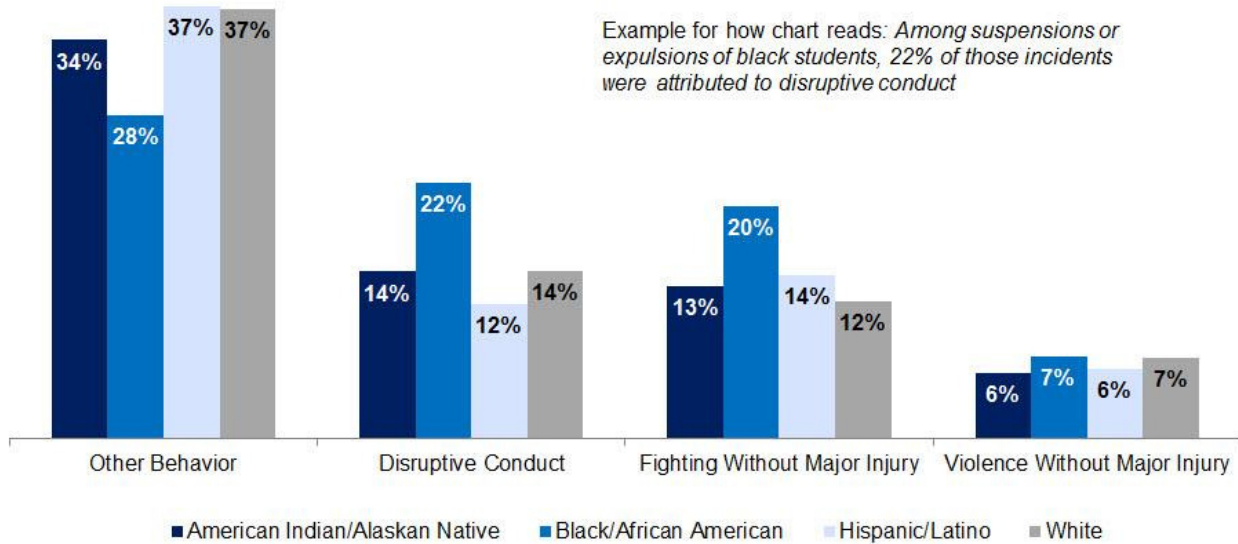


- Being *suspended from school* is a **strong predictor of high school dropout** (stronger than poverty, high number of school moves, or not living with both biological parents)
- Youth who drop out of high school are **3.5 times more likely to be arrested**
- **Identified youth of color students have disproportionately high percentages of dropouts**

From the [Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Performance Data Analytics on Discipline](#)

Problem: *School-to-prison pipeline*

Four Top Behaviors Associated with Suspensions or Expulsions (2013-2015)



From the [Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Performance Data Analytics on Discipline](#)

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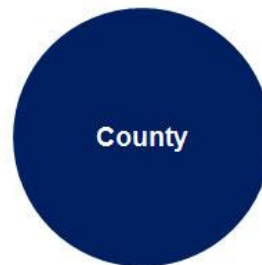
Strategies:

Community, county, state partnerships



- Now**
- **Communities of color engagement**
 - **At-risk youth grants:** community-based grants sponsored by Representative Pettigrew
 - **Local development of school discipline alternatives**

- Future**
- Engage **law enforcement**
 - School districts address **discipline data and policies (HB1541)**



- Now**
- **Data analysis and targeted action** at each county
 - Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative

- Future**
- Implementation of **Block Grant Racial and Ethnic Disparities Plans**
 - Discussion with Court Administrators about **laws that contribute to disparities**

Strategies:

Community, county, state partnerships

State

Now

- **Block grant pass through dollars** requires racial and ethnic disparity reduction plan
- **Reentry focus** supports youth of color being successful upon release
- Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice: **Arrest and Referral focus**
- **HB1541: Student Reengagement Plans, education for suspended youth**

Future

- Professional staff dedicated full-time to Racial and Ethnic Disparities work

Governor

Now

- **Results Washington** attention to disparities
- **Reentry Council** and Executive Order

Future

- Increase **engagement of communities of color**
- **Racial and Ethnic Impact Statements**

Community Partner: *Washington Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Grant recipient*

Alma Rabadan

Youth Services Coordinator

Yakima Police Activity League (Y-PAL)

Y-PAL is designed to support Latino youth development and reduce criminal street gang activity through programs that:

- Strengthen families
- Improve school performance
- Promote pro-social development and success among youths

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Community Partner: *Washington Gang Reduction, Intervention, and Prevention Grant recipient*

Victoria Woodards

President/CEO Tacoma Urban League

Male Involvement Program (MIP)

- MIP is a youth violence prevention program for middle school males of color
- MIP teaches alternate options for:
 - Reducing conflict
 - Managing anger
 - Avoiding violence
- MIP provides:
 - Structured dialogue
 - Culture specific exercises
 - Group mentoring
 - Mentoring and direction from adult males of color

[Video](#)

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Assistance Needed: We all have part of the answer

How can the Goal Council or Governor help?

1. *Provide leadership that fully addresses issues that lead youth to the door of juvenile justice:*
 - *Arrest and referral, school discipline, opportunities for prevention and treatment*
2. *Deepen community engagement and voice in policy-making*
 - *Review and respond to data by race and ethnicity*
 - *Look for unique and direct ways to engage youth of color*
3. *Support changes to legislation that clearly leads to racial and ethnic disparities*
 - *Auto decline*
 - *Penalties instead of services*
4. *Support your own community's implementation of the Education Opportunity Gap bill (HB1541)*
 - *Review discipline and attendance data and participate in School Discipline policy improvement*
 - *Recruit racially diverse teachers*
 - *Enhance culture competence of educators – curriculum review*
 - *Support educators with English as a second language learners*
5. *Read, learn, and act:*
 - *The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander*
 - *Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson*
 - **Act:**
 - *Get involved where you are at*
 - *Be analytical and strategic about addressing the issue*
 - *Take a stand for juvenile justice and improved equity and fairness*



Detailed Action Plan:

Task	Task Lead	Partners	Expected Outcome	Status	Due Date
Work with counties and juvenile courts to come up with a more precise plan to reduce RED – develop creative approaches in future applications for successful RED reduction plans	John Clayton	Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators	Increased awareness of and direct action at county level regarding reducing disparities for youth of color who enter the county juvenile justice system	In progress	2/1/17
Partnership council utilizes limited available funds to target RED reduction in local communities	Director of Office of Juvenile Justice and Gordon Henry, Chair of WA-PCJJ	Clark and Spokane, WA-PCJJ	Pilots in Clark and Spokane expected to show what works/what doesn't with school and law enforcement initiatives.	In progress	6/30/17
Reach out to local jurisdictions to encourage local initiatives, community involvement, and provide seed money	John Clayton, Director of Office of Juvenile Justice	OEO, OSPI, PCJJ	Promote local ownership and action by the communities most impacted by racial inequities in the juvenile justice system.	In progress	6/30/17
Support school- JJ partnerships – convene community partners to discuss efforts and strategies	Kathleen Harvey, Director of Office of Juvenile Justice	OEO, OSPI, Black School Administrators	Identify on-the-ground strategies that support RED reduction	In progress	12/1/16

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For more current information see our updated [Action Trackers](#).

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