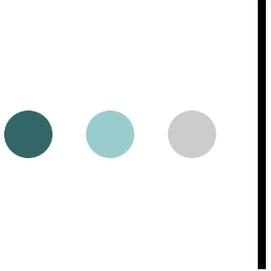




Disparity in Juvenile Justice:

Trends and Solution-Focused Responses

September 29, 2014



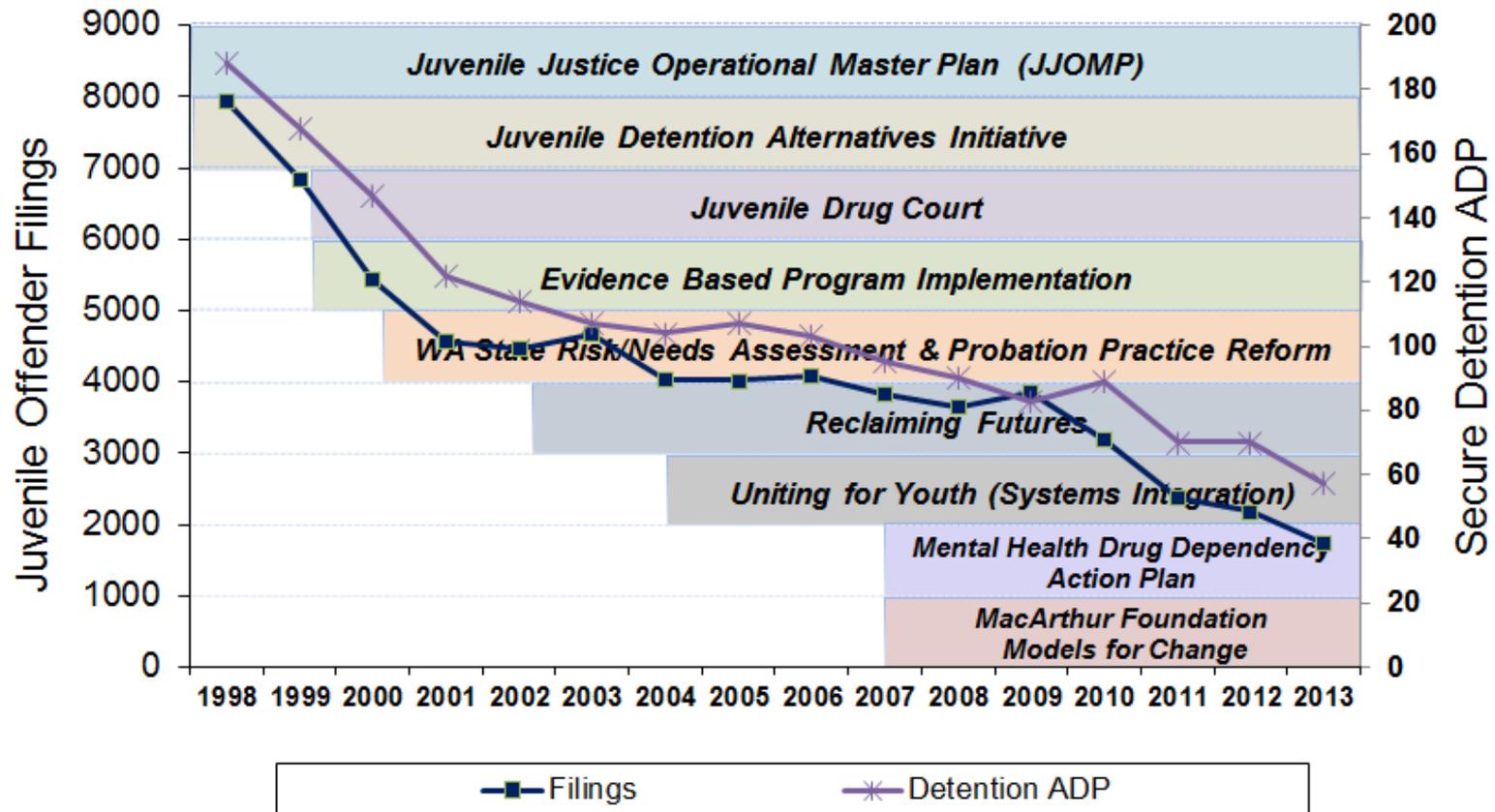
King County Juvenile Court

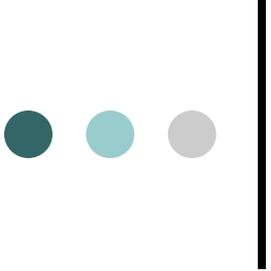
○ 2013 Juvenile Court Statistics

- 180,915 juveniles age 10-17 reside in King County
- 4293 juvenile offender referrals (28% felony)
- 1745 cases filed on (41% felony)
- 57.5 average daily population in secure detention
- 126 juveniles committed to state institutions*
- 3 juvenile offender judges, 1 commissioner (*down from 4 and 2, respectively, because of fewer filings*)

Juvenile Justice Reform Timeline

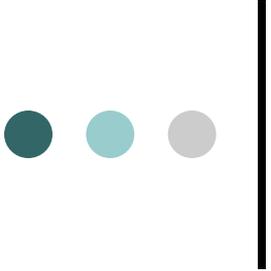
**Juvenile Justice Trends and Initiatives
1998 - 2013**





DMC in Juvenile Justice

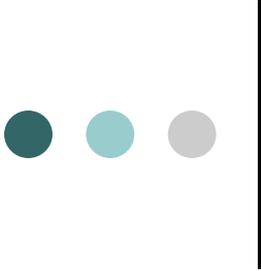
- Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) is priority issue at the national, state, and local level.
- Many reform efforts have a DMC reduction component including:
 - Juvenile Justice Operational Master Plan (JJOMP)
 - Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI)
 - Washington Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice (WA-PCJJ)
 - Reclaiming Futures
 - Uniting for Youth
 - MacArthur Foundation Models for Change
 - Race and Criminal Justice Task Force



Measuring Disparity

King County tracks and measures disparity in several ways, standard reports include:

- Bi-weekly Detention Length of Stay Reports
 - Snapshot reports with race, gender, offense, detention and court status
- Quarterly JDAI Detention Population Reports
 - Race, gender and offense data for secure detention and alternatives
- Quarterly JJOMP/JDOC Juvenile Justice Trend Data
 - Race, gender and offense categories for referral, filing, diversion, etc.
- Annual Relative Rate Index Report
 - Decision point analysis showing involvement compared to white youth
- Ad hoc reports to measure program outcomes or to answer specific questions



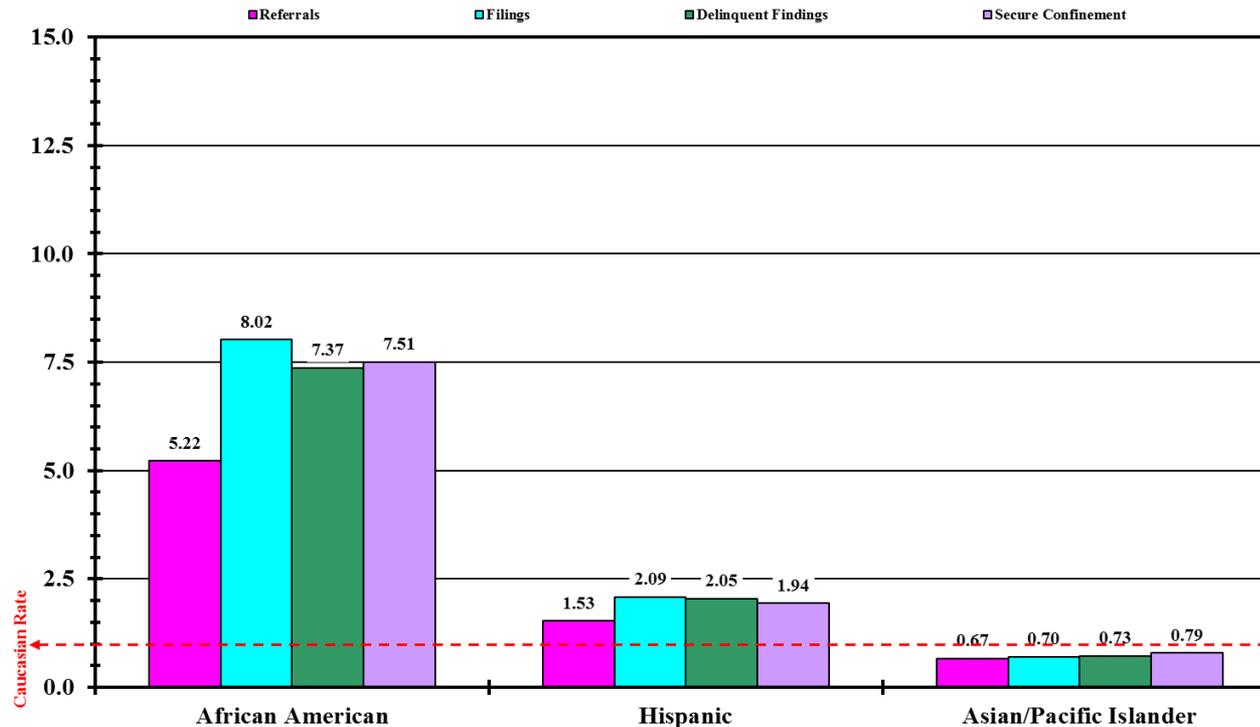
Reducing Racial Disparity

How do we define success?

- Develop and implement strategies to reduce disparity at specifically targeted juvenile justice decision points for similarly situated youth.
- ***Determine success by eliminating disparity measured at those decision points.***
- Track DMC trends in broader juvenile justice system indicators such as detention population to inform additional efforts to reduce disparity.

DMC in Juvenile Justice

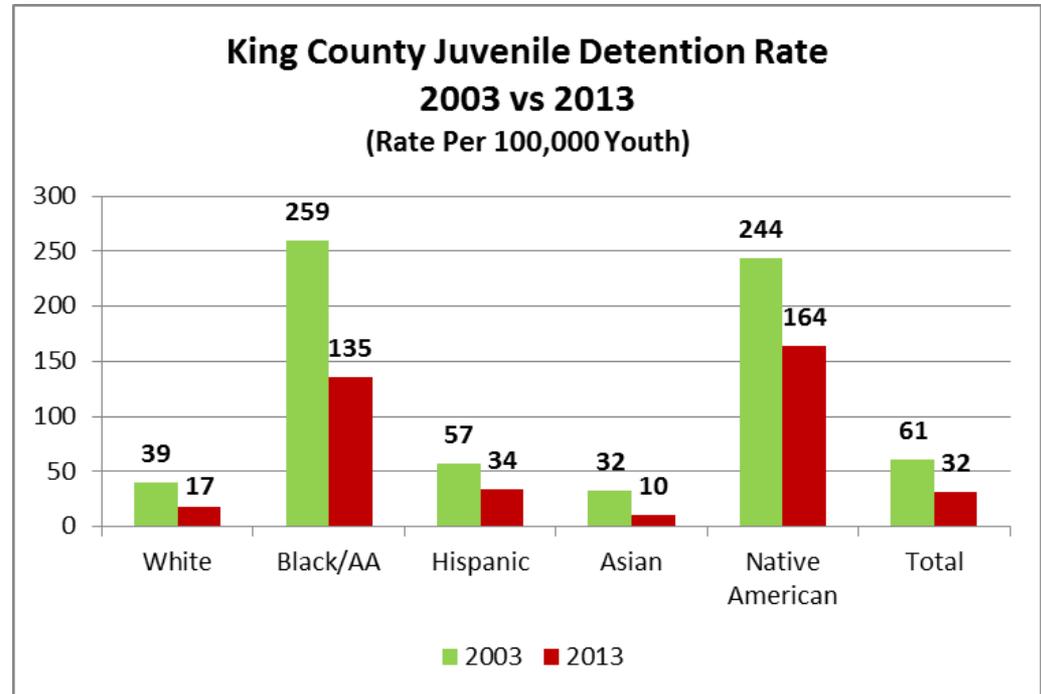
King County Juvenile Justice Disproportionality Race/Ethnicity by Decision Point - 2013 Cumulative



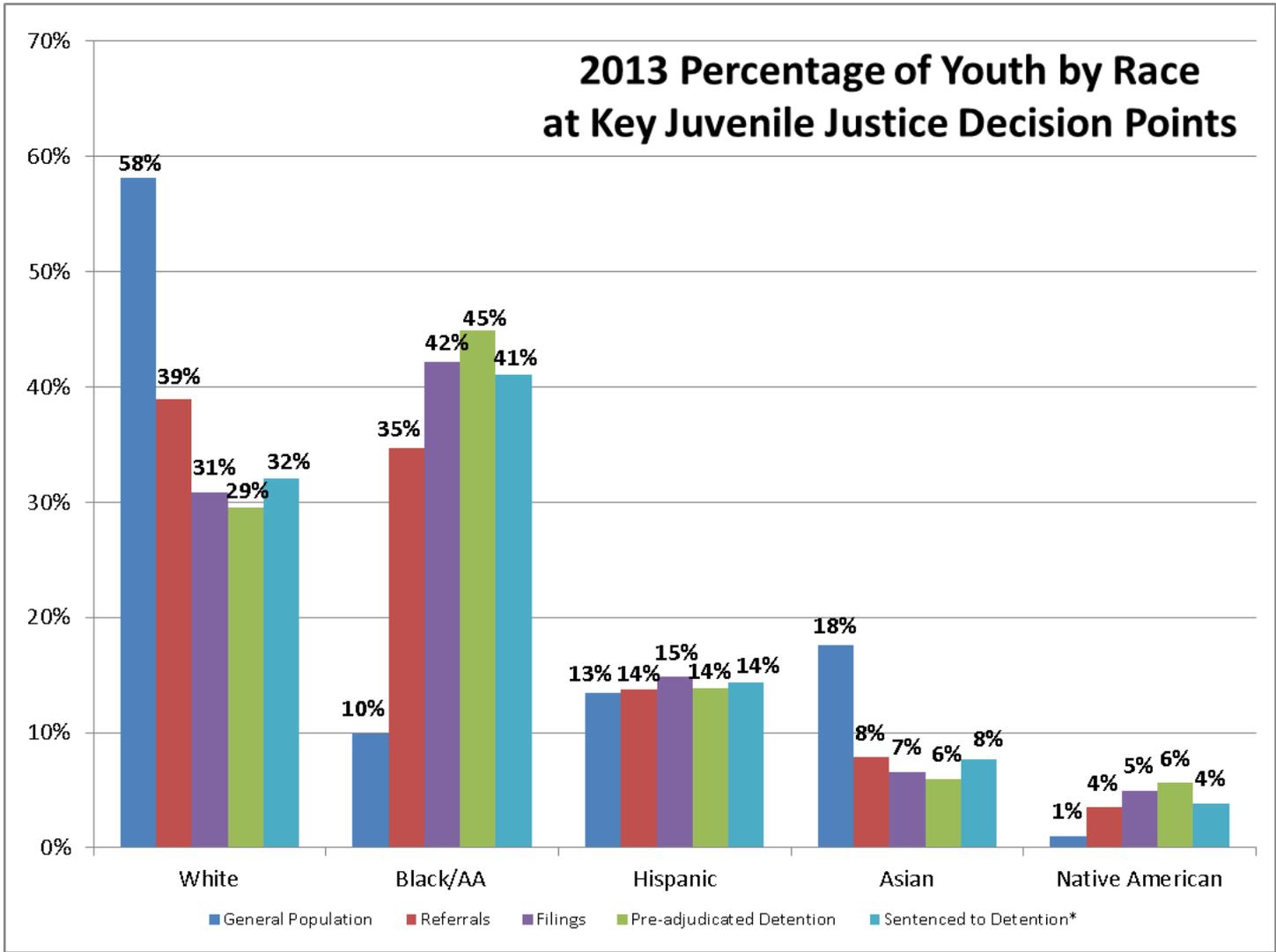
Overall King County's worst disparity occurs for African American youth. African American youth are more than 5 times as likely be referred to the juvenile justice system than Caucasian youth. As youth of color get deeper into the justice system, the disparity continues to increase. The cumulative impact is that African American youth referred to the justice system are over 7 times more likely to end up in secure confinement than white youth.

DMC in Juvenile Justice

- The good news is that in King County, fewer of youth of all races are entering the juvenile justice system and being detained. From 1998 to 2013:
 - Referrals from Law Enforcement decreased 69%
 - Offender filings dropped 78%
 - Average daily population in secure detention dropped 69%
 - Commitments to state institutions decreased 68%*
 - Detention rate per 100K youth dropped for all race categories.



*2012 most recent data available from JRA



- Sentenced to Confinement includes both local detention and state institutions.

Source: JIMS, population figures are based on National Center for Health Statistics Bridged-Race Estimates (2012)

King County Secure Detention Data

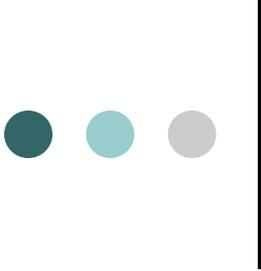
| King County - 2013 | White | African American | Hispanic | Native American | Asian | Total |
|--|----------|------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|---------|
| General Youth Population | 105,147 | 17,920 | 24,271 | 1,829 | 31,748 | 180,915 |
| Detention Admissions | 689 | 898 | 290 | 124 | 138 | 2139 |
| Detention Average Daily Population | 18.31 | 23.65 | 8.31 | 3.12 | 3.27 | 57.00 |
| Detention Average Length of Stay | 10.1 | 10.8 | 11.9 | 9.3 | 9.9 | 10.6 |
| % General Youth Population | 58% | 10% | 13% | 1% | 18% | 100% |
| % Detention Admissions | 32% | 42% | 14% | 6% | 6% | 100% |
| % Detention Average Daily Population | 32% | 42% | 15% | 6% | 6% | 100% |
| Rate of Detention Admissions per 1,000 Youth | 7 | 50 | 12 | 68 | 4 | 12 |
| Chance of Detention Admission | 1 in 153 | 1 in 20 | 1 in 84 | 1 in 15 | 1 in 230 | 1 in 85 |

General Youth Population - U.S. Census Bureau & Modified by the National Center for Health Statistics - 10-17

Detention Admission, Average Daily Population, Average Length of Stay - JDAI and JDOC Reports

Rate of Detention Admissions per 1,000 youth calculated: number of admissions ÷ number of youth in the general population

Chance of Detention Admission calculated: number of youth in general population ÷ number of admissions to detention



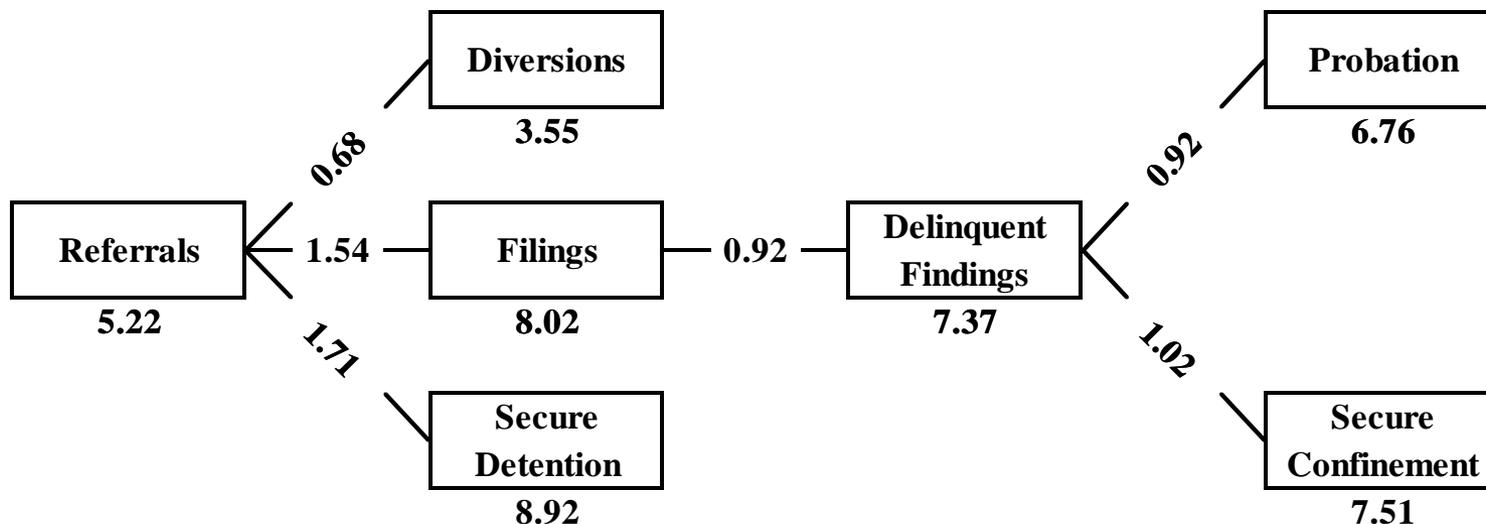
What is a Relative Rate Index (RRI)

- A federal reporting tool that King County has used since 2008
- Used to measure disparity at key decision points in the juvenile justice system.
- Like other aggregate measures is a very high-level indicator. Like taking your temperature, a fever (or high RRI) may indicate a problem, but it doesn't diagnose the problem. More detailed analysis is then indicated.
- ***Incremental RRI*** - shows disproportionality at each individual decision point. The denominator is adjusted based on the prior decision point. For example, the RRI rate of referrals is based on the general population, but the RRI rate of diversion, secure detention, and charges filed are based on the number of referrals. (*Incremental RRI is shown between the decision point boxes in the following chart.*)
- ***Cumulative RRI*** - Shows total disproportionality from referral to a given decision point. It is the accumulation of disproportionality from the referral stage multiplied by the rate of disparity at each subsequent decision point. For example the Secure Detention Cumulative RRI is: Referral RRI X Secure Detention RRI. (*Cumulative RRI is shown under the decision point boxes in the following chart.*)

King County Juvenile Justice Disproportionality

African American as Compared to Caucasian for All Offenses/Offense Types

Calendar Year 2013*

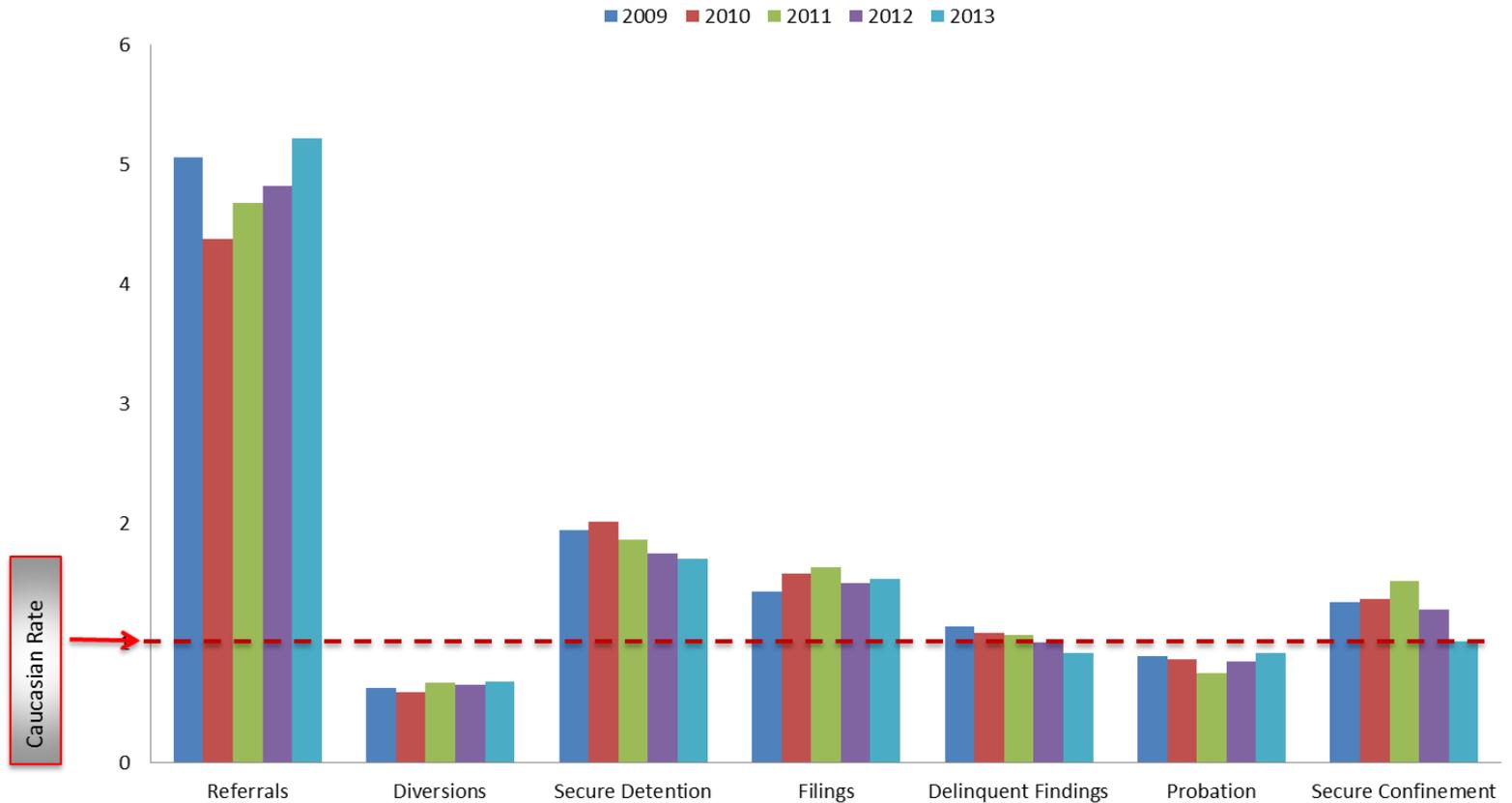


* General Population Updated with 2011 NCHS Estimates

Note: This analysis is strictly a starting point for the discussion on disproportionality. It is an aggregate comparison that includes all offenses/offense types and does not distinguish between differences in the severity of offenses, nor does it factor in gender, age or other differences. The figures above represent the difference between African American youth and Caucasian youth at various stages in the juvenile justice system in King County (disproportionality). The figures under each box represent the cumulative disproportionality at each stage, while the figures in each path represent the incremental change between stages.

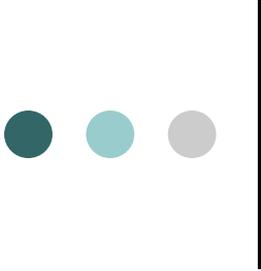
Example: Based upon the general population of youth ages 10 to 17 in King County, African American youth are over 5 times more likely to receive a referral than Caucasian youth. Once referred, they are 54% more likely to be filed on, making the cumulative disproportionality for filings 8.02 (5.22 x 1.54). This means that, based upon the population described above, African American youth are just over 8 times more likely to be filed on than Caucasian youth. Once filed on, they are slightly less likely to be found delinquent as their Caucasian counterparts, but their cumulative rate remains much higher than Caucasian youth at 7.37 (5.22 x 1.54 x 0.92).

King County Juvenile Justice Disproportionality -African American- Incremental Change by Decision Point



*Prepared by: Elizabeth Haumann, M.A., Data & Evaluation Analyst, Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget
Data extracted from King County Juvenile Information System (JJIS) - April 2014*

Trend data shows that while the RRI rate at referral for African American youth has increased over the past four years, the rate of disparity for delinquent findings and pre-sentenced detention has steadily decreased.



Evolution of DMC Efforts

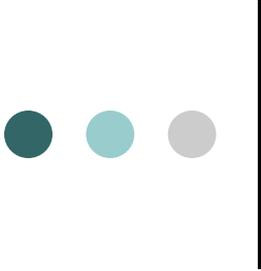
King County's DMC efforts have evolved over time.

- **Systems Approach** – early efforts concentrated on systems change. Policies applied across the board using a DMC lens to review potential impact on disproportionality.
 - Detention Intake Criteria
 - Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI)
- **Cross System Approach** - more effectively sharing information and coordinating services for youth involved in multiple systems was the initial focus of this effort.
 - Crossover Youth Practice Model
 - Pathnet
- **Targeted Approach** – specific focus on areas that directly contribute to DMC or prioritize services for youth of color
 - Felony Drug Offender Study
 - Warrant Prevention Program

Strategies to Reduce DMC

- DMC Oversight Committee and Workgroup
- Community Engagement
- Juvenile Justice 101
- Cultural Competency Initiative
- Expand Alternatives to Secure Detention Programs
- Expediter Process
- Detention Intake Criteria
- Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI)
- Law Enforcement Pre-Booking Placement Option
- Warrant Reminder Calls
- Warrant Prevention Program
- Detention School Transition
- Juvenile Drug Court
- Evidence-Based Programs
- Youth Employment Programs
- Felony Drug Offender Study
- Probation Violation Study
- Court Decision Point Analysis
- Improved data collection and reporting (self-reported ethnicity)
- Race & Ethnic Disparity Symposium focused on restorative justice, school discipline, diversion and probation violations
- Racial Equity Toolkit

See attachment 1a for additional information



Evolution of DMC Efforts – What’s Next?

Outside the Box:

- **Working with Partners in New Ways** – emphasis is now shifting to engaging systems and community partners in broader efforts to help *prevent* juvenile justice involvement and reduce DMC, such as the court’s recent work to help keep kids, especially youth of color, in school and efforts to engage non-traditional system partners to help support court-involved youth and families and to divert youth from the justice system.
 - Juvenile Justice 101 Community Engagement
 - Alternatives to Suspension & Expulsion
 - Alternatives to Juvenile Justice (LE Crisis Response)
- **Racial Equity Tools and Restorative Justice Principles** – new emphasis is also being placed on using structured tools and processes, such as the Racial Equity Toolkit, as an objective lens to review policies and practices. The tools provide a structured way to identify racial impact, gather input and the perspectives of affected stakeholders, change policies to reduce racial disparity, and monitor progress. In addition, the court is actively engaged in developing victim-centered, community-based Restorative Justice programs and incorporating restorative justice principles into the culture of the court.