

1. Oregon Statewide Data at Key Juvenile Justice Decision Points

The Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) Reduction Plan to address and reduce racial and ethnic disparities statewide in the State of Oregon uses reports produced by the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS): <http://ww.oregon.gov/oyapages/jjis.aspx>. JJIS is the central information and data collection tracking mechanism for all juvenile offenders in the State of Oregon. JJIS provides reports on juvenile crime, treatment, sanctions, accountability, and dispositions at every level of youth involvement in the Oregon Juvenile Justice System. JJIS supplies comprehensive case information about juvenile offenders to authorized entities and the services juveniles receive from Oregon’s State and county juvenile justice agencies. The information provided by JJIS also include demographic information on juveniles served by Oregon’s State and county juvenile justice agencies. Data received by JJIS contain a series of annual reports with information that support public safety and assist in the plans employed to facilitate the reduction of Juvenile crime and racial and ethnic disparities.

The State of Oregon uses the “referral” contact point as a proxy for “arrest”. [ORS 419C.091](#) states that “Custody under [ORS 419C.080](#) and [419C.088](#) shall not be deemed an arrest so far as the youth is concerned. All peace officers shall keep a record of youths taken into custody and shall promptly notify the juvenile court or counselor of all youths taken into custody.”

The most recent available data reported in the table below are for the period from **January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022:**

FY 2022 Percentages Based on population (10-17 Year Old)	Race:	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian
Population		264643	14458	90372	5774	22614
Arrest / Referral	Number	3587	569	1494	166	127
	Percentage	1.36%	3.94%	1.65%	2.87%	0.56%
Diversion	Number	2750	425	1175	116	94

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	Percentage	76.67%	74.69%	78.65%	69.88%	74.02%
Pretrial Detention	Number	1240	206	446	95	48
	Percentage	34.57%	36.20%	29.85%	57.23%	37.80%
Secure Confinement	Number	81	24	48	11	5
	Percentage	2.26%	4.22%	3.21%	6.63%	3.94%
Adult Transfer	Number	6	0	2	0	0
	Percentage	0.17%	0.00%	0.13%	0.00%	0.00%

In the table below are data reported last year for the period from **January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021:**

FY 2021	Race:	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian
Percentages Based on Population (10-17 Year Old)						
Population		264643	14458	90372	5774	22614
Arrest	Number	2884	449	999	143	105
	Percentage	1.09%	3.11%	1.11%	2.48%	0.46%
Diversion	Number	1366	195	441	48	42
	Percentage	47.36%	43.43%	44.14%	33.57%	40.00%
Pretrial Detention	Number	1188	189	389	96	62
	Percentage	41.19%	42.09%	38.94%	67.13%	59.05%
Secure Confinement	Number	154	33	69	18	9
	Percentage	5.34%	7.35%	6.91%	12.59%	8.57%
Adult Transfer	Number	5	0	2	0	0
	Percentage	0.17%	0.00%	0.20%	0.00%	0.00%

II. Develop an Action Plan

1. *What do your R/ED numbers tell you about your jurisdiction? (Response should reflect an analysis of the state's data.)*

The FY 2022 data shown in the Oregon State's data table demonstrate that African American/Black, and American Indian/Native American youth are overrepresented at the referral decision point. African American/Black youth (3.94%) are referred at a rate of two and a half times compared to White youth (1.36%), and American Indian/Native American youth (2.87%) are referred to the juvenile justice system at a rate of one and a half times compared to White youth (1.36%).

At the diversion decision point, Hispanic youth are diverted at the highest percentage rate (78.65%). However, all other racial and ethnic groups are diverted at a lesser percentage rate than White youth (76.67%). American Indian/Native American youth (69.88%) were diverted at the lowest level, followed by Asian youth (74.02%) and African American/Black (74.69%) youth. This also was demonstrated at the pretrial detention decision point. At the pretrial detention point, Hispanic youth had the lowest percentage of pretrial detention among all youth (29.85%). All other racial and ethnic youth groups had higher rates of pretrial detention in comparison to White youth (34.57%). American Indian/Native American (57.23%) showed the highest levels of pretrial detention, followed by Asian (37.80%) and African American/Black youth (36.20%).

All racial and ethnic youth groups are overrepresented at the secure confinement decision point in comparison to White youth (2.26%). American Indian/Native American youth (6.63%) were confined at a rate three times greater than White youth (2.26%).

African American/Black youth (4.22%) were securely confined at a rate of two times more than White youth (2.26%). Asian youth (3.94%) are two times more likely to be securely confined than White youth (2.26%). Hispanic youth (3.21%) are one and a half times more than White youth (2.26%) to receive secure confinement.

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Data shown in the Oregon State’s data table did demonstrate that White youth represent the highest percentage of youth at the adult transfer decision point (17%). All other racial and ethnic youth groups with the exception of Hispanic youth (13%) were not represented in this category’s findings.

The State of Oregon continues to examine contributing factors to the disproportionality and disparities as indicated in the state’s data table for juvenile justice. We are determined in our efforts and practices to implement reduction strategies in partnership with state and local partners. Please refer to the action plan below.

2. What would success in R/ED reduction look like for your state? (Response should set forth a strategy and/or a vision and/or a plan, goals, or outcomes that reflect what success looks like.)

Success in R/ED reduction in Oregon are lower rates at the referral, pretrial detention, and secure confinement decision points for American Indian/Native American, African American/Black, Asian, and Hispanic/Latinx youth. Oregon’s plan consists of focusing on prevention, intervention, and reentry through collaboration with all youth serving entities and developing county-specific and Tribal plans that address inequities, cultural strategies and traditional practices as cornerstones to improving outcomes as well as policy development and education to drive systemic transformation.

Through grant making to culturally responsive programs and services, partnerships with state and local juvenile justice and law enforcement agencies – such as Oregon Department of Education, federally recognized Tribal Nations and community-based organizations, we are also providing technical assistance and training on R/ED reduction policies and practices as the driver of R/ED reduction.

3. How much do you want to reduce RED next year? (Response should include a desire to reduce R/ED at the contact point(s) for a specific racial group; no numerical target is required.)

The State of Oregon’s R/ED reduction goal in the next year is to reduce numbers of referrals for African American/Black and American Indian/Native American youth by targeted investments in prevention and intervention efforts.

Youth Development Oregon (YDO) will collaborate with state and local juvenile justice and law enforcement agencies, tribal nations and community based organizations to implement the following strategies and actions at the state, local, and programmatic levels.

At the state level: continue to strengthen existing partnerships and extend coalitions to align R/ED reduction through implementation of systems’ change initiatives with the Oregon Juvenile Department Directors’ Association (OJDDA), Oregon Youth Authority (OYA), Oregon Department of Education (ODE), Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS), and the Oregon Judicial Department.

Strategies and Activities include:

1. Conduct further data analysis to capture contributing factors and causes of disparities at the identified decision points and work closely with our State Advisory Group to inform state juvenile justice entities of any disproportionality.
2. Support, coordinate, and provided training presentations statewide to state agencies, organizations and associations on racial and ethnic disparities in juvenile justice.
3. Continue to build on the progress and gains made in R/ED reduction where it exists.

At the local level: continue to apply support and technical assistance to local county efforts in reducing R/ED. Provide support to Tribal efforts in reducing Native American youth contact with the juvenile justice system. Grow and maintain partnerships with racial and ethnic youth serving organizations in reducing contact with the juvenile justice system for youth.

Strategies and Activities include:

1. Through data analysis, identify local jurisdictions with racial and ethnic disparities and assist with strategies, efforts and county Juvenile Crime Prevention plans to reduce disproportionality at juvenile justice decision points.
2. Coordinate, fund and support R/ED reduction training efforts to county juvenile justice departments on racial equity and existing disparities in the juvenile justice system.
3. Collaborate with Tribal governments on Juvenile Crime Prevention plans to improve outcomes for service delivery for Native American youth through ongoing Tribal Government-to-Government Cluster meetings and Quarterly Tribal Prevention meetings.

At the programmatic level: revise policy, rules and procedural concerns that contribute to and unconsciously promote R/ED at an institutional and systemic level through research and identification of existing barriers. Apply proven evidence-based cultural and traditional appropriate practices to ongoing trainings and technical assistance opportunities. Lastly, allow youth voice, families and communities to participate in developing and evaluating programs and practices.

Strategies and activities include:

1. Providing an equity toolkit for implementation of policies, procedures, and rules on a programmatic level.
2. Render continuous technical assistance in the selection, implementation, and monitoring of R/ED reduction practices and strategies for target populations and jurisdictions and incorporate a local and systematic continuum of service and improvements.
3. Integrate R/ED reduction efforts with local programs and communities providing service to youth disproportionately affected by juvenile justice system involvement.

4. Is the reduction reasonable? If yes, why? (Response should include a jurisdiction (examples, specifics) as to why the intervention is reasonable.)

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The State of Oregon is determined for all youth to have an opportunity to thrive and achieve their full potential. With a commitment to equity and the elimination of disparities across all youth-serving systems, Oregon is focused on creating and maintaining equitable systems of care where all youth have an equal opportunity to excel and become successful adults.

The Youth Development Oregon (YDO), agency staff and State Advisory Group (SAG), are guided by beliefs and values which demand the application of an equity and anti-racist approach to policy implementation and grant making. Equitable access for all youth and equal opportunity with a focus on youth-centered approaches and results are core principles of how we operate and progress in R/ED reduction. Through purposeful inclusion and innovation we put into practice the inherited right of youth to have equitable access to supports, services, and opportunities without disrupting family roles or replacing cultural or traditional value structures.

The increased use of diversion has contributed to less youth of color being moved further into the juvenile justice system. The positive correlation of this can also be noticed in the data table as fewer numbers of Oregon youth of color have moved deeper into the system and have not been placed in secure confinement according to the FY 2022 data.

5. What do you need from OJJDP to be successful with your plan? (Response must identify any support needed from OJJDP or that no support is needed from OJJDP.)

The YDO would appreciate continuing support, partnership, and collaboration in the areas of ongoing communication, technical assistance and training. What is also needed are available funding resources for opportunities to continue to progress and expand the work that has been accomplished in Racial and Ethnic Disparities. Lastly, what is desired from OJJDP is an understanding that this work is not done in a vacuum, there has to be a connection with those in the field and a shared vision to eliminate disproportionality in the juvenile justice system.

6. What safeguards will you put in place to ensure that as you work to reduce R/ED, you are still protecting the public, holding Youth accountable, and equipping Youth to live

crime-free, productive lives? (Response should include discussion of how the mission goals are connected in some way to R/ED.)

Youth Development Oregon's mission is to align systems and invest in communities to ensure equitable and effective services for youth ages 6 through 24. Throughout Oregon and Tribal Nations, we support educational and career success, disrupt youth crime and violence, and affirm youth strengths and safety. Our vision is that all Oregon's youth have the opportunity to thrive and achieve their full potential.

Youth Development Oregon's strategic plan includes a strategy focused on growing "community capacity and justice", and is focused on identifying, addressing, and eliminating disparities and inequities at the individual and systemic levels. We work to ensure that Oregon's youth, regardless of identity or background, thrive in their chosen educational or career paths, and that the systems that serve them are equitable, unbiased, and just.

Youth Development Oregon works to advance a more equitable environment for Oregon's youth by confronting/disrupting systemic inequities through policy/legislative action, grant-making, prioritizing antiracism, valuing lived experience, and elevating youth and community voice.

Real accountability is entrenched in a holistic view and understanding that equitable approaches translate to youth and system accountability. YDO understands the historical marginalization of Oregon's most vulnerable youth populations identified by race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, family composition, and disability. It is through this lens YDO comprehends the importance of all Oregon youth receiving equitable policies, programs, and treatment in the juvenile justice system. Youth who commit delinquent offenses are held accountable for the acts committed and the public are protected. While youth are in Oregon's juvenile justice system they receive education, treatment, job-development and life-skills to help prepare them for a crime-free productive life once they return to their communities. All youth in Oregon are afforded these safeguards regardless of their demographic makeup.

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The YDO are connected to youth and family services through community investment and reengagement grants and policies as well as key stakeholders in the State’s county juvenile justice departments. Our goals are to:

- Foster accountability and continuous improvement through systems alignment and innovation
- Reduce disparities and develop paths to equitable outcomes
- Champion a strength and science based approach to youth development
- Apply a lens grounded in equity, inclusion, and access

The YDO is a supporter of locally focused community investments in the development of appropriate services for youth displaying risky behaviors, and a catalyst of reengagement for youth not in school or employed with education and employment opportunities.