

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

# Disproportionate Minority Contact Core Requirement in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002

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## Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC) As A Core Requirement of JJDP Act of 1974, as amended in 1992

*Requiring States participating in the JJDP Act's Part B Formula Grants program to "address efforts to reduce the proportion of juveniles detained or confined in secure detention facilities, secure facilities, jails, and lockups who are members of minority groups if such proportion exceeds the proportion such groups represent in the general populations".*

# Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Section 223(a)(22)

Requiring States participating in the JJDP Act's Part B Formula Grants program to "address juvenile delinquency prevention efforts and system improvement efforts designed to reduce, without establishing or requiring numerical standards or quotas, the disproportionate number of juvenile members of minority groups, who come into contact with the juvenile justice system".

# Minority ?

## --Racial & Ethnic Categories

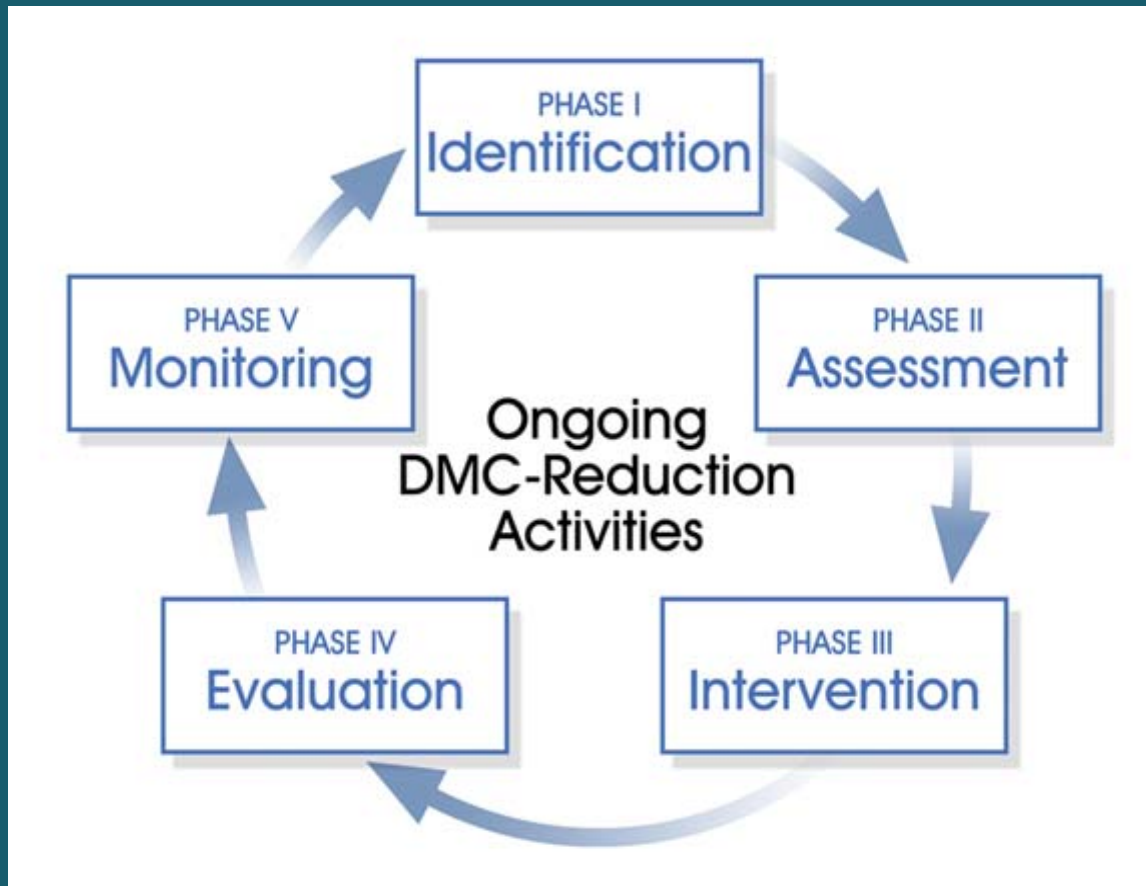
- White
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

# Juvenile Justice System Contact

- Arrest
- Diversion
- Detention
- Referral to juvenile court
- Issuance of petition
- Adjudication as delinquent
- Placement on probation
- Placement in secure juvenile correction
- Transfer to adult court
- Others (e.g., aftercare; revocation of aftercare)

# Phases to Reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

- Identify existence/extent of disproportionality
- Assess the contributing factors to DMC
- Intervene to reduce DMC
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the chosen intervention strategies
- Monitor changes in DMC trends



# Encouraging findings from States' DMC Monitoring Efforts

- **HI**--From 1994 to 2000, reduction of DMC indexes in arrests (3.7 to 1.6), court appearances (3.4 to 2.0), detention (3.4 to 2.7) , & incarceration (4.0 to 3.3) for Samoan youths; slight reduction (1.3 to 1.1) in arrest for Filipinos & incarceration for Hawaiians, the 2 largest minority groups in HI.
- **OR**--From 1990 to 2001, reduction (DMC index 2.3 to 1.7) of AA youth in arrest, also reduction of AA (DMC index 3.5 to 2.9) and Native American Youth ( DMC index 2.9 to 1.7) in correction.
- **VA**--From 1999 to 2002, decrease in detention (2.6 to 2.2) and correction (3.0-2.5) for AA youth.
- **WA**--From 1996-2001, decrease (DMC index 3.0 to 2.8) of AA youth in detention.

**From  
Disproportionate Minority *Confinement*  
to  
Disproportionate Minority *Contact***

The purpose of the DMC core requirement remains the same: *to ensure equal and fair treatment for every youth in the juvenile justice system, regardless of race and ethnicity.*

# OJJDP's Assistance to States in Their Efforts to Comply with the DMC Core Requirement

- Annual determination of State DMC Compliance
- Training
- TA upon requests
- Intensive TA
- Information dissemination (e.g., Profiles of State DMC Efforts, Evaluation Guidebook on DMC Activities, Proposed DMC TA Plan)
- Emphasis on data- and evidence-based programming and evaluation

## Useful Tools from [www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dmc](http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dmc)

- Links to OJJDP DMC-related contractor/grantee sites
- Relevant OJJDP publications
- State DMC Reports
- State & local DMC coordinators/contacts
- Video PowerPoint presentation on the Relative Rate Index
- DMC Identification Excel Spreadsheets & instructions
- *DMC Technical Assistance Manual (to be revised)*
- *Web-based DMC data entry (to be developed)*