South Carolina Governor’s Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (GJJAC) is committed to raising awareness of the issues and effects of Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) for the citizens of South Carolina.

For more information, please go to scdps.sc.gov/ohsjp/jjgp

**Other helpful Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) links:**

**Annie E. Casey Foundation**  
https://www.aecf.org/

https://www.aecf.org/blog/new-tool-helps-leaders-reduce-racial-and-ethnic-disparities/

**Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) - Safety Opportunity & Success Project**  
www.juvjustice.org/sos

**Federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)**  
https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/programs/racial-and-ethnic-disparities

**US Department of Justice**  
https://nicic.gov/racial-disparities-and-dynamics-criminal-justice-system

The South Carolina Governor’s Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (GJJAC) formed the System Improvement Committee to specifically address Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) and other juvenile justice topics.

This project was supported by Federal Formula Grant # 2017-JF-FX-0044, awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice through the South Carolina Department of Public Safety. The Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, coordinates the activities of the following program offices and bureaus: Bureau of Justice Assistance, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions contained within this document do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Updated October 2020
Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) occurs when minority youth populations are involved at a decision point in the juvenile justice system at disproportionately higher rates than non-minority youth at that decision point. 34 U.S.C. § 11103(41).

**Who is a Minority?**

Minority is defined as any racial group other than White. Ethnicity (Hispanic or non-Hispanic) and race (White, Black, Asian, and Native American) are collected separately by the Census.

**Statewide Statistics**

Minority Youth Make Up 43% of Youth Under 18 in S.C. of 13,648 Juvenile Cases in FY 2019-2020, Minority Youth Represented 63% of the total cases.

**Juvenile Justice Actions by Race/Ethnicity and Gender for FY 2019-2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juveniles Referred</td>
<td>57.63%</td>
<td>36.84%</td>
<td>4.09%</td>
<td>1.45%</td>
<td>67.71%</td>
<td>32.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juveniles Detained</td>
<td>66.98%</td>
<td>27.68%</td>
<td>3.75%</td>
<td>1.58%</td>
<td>76.04%</td>
<td>23.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Evaluation</td>
<td>56.52%</td>
<td>37.12%</td>
<td>3.48%</td>
<td>2.88%</td>
<td>74.70%</td>
<td>25.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Evaluation</td>
<td>61.00%</td>
<td>31.84%</td>
<td>4.99%</td>
<td>2.17%</td>
<td>76.09%</td>
<td>23.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Evaluations</td>
<td>58.56%</td>
<td>34.56%</td>
<td>4.32%</td>
<td>2.56%</td>
<td>77.28%</td>
<td>22.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitments</td>
<td>64.44%</td>
<td>30.79%</td>
<td>3.02%</td>
<td>1.75%</td>
<td>81.75%</td>
<td>18.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>58.78%</td>
<td>33.86%</td>
<td>5.02%</td>
<td>2.33%</td>
<td>72.17%</td>
<td>27.83%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FY 2019-2020 Most Frequent Referral Offenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Simple Assault (fight no injury)</td>
<td>1,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Disorderly Conduct</td>
<td>858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Possession of Marijuana</td>
<td>817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoplifting (less than $1,000)</td>
<td>578</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Did You Know?**

South Carolina Governor’s Juvenile Justice Advisory Council is researching the effects of Racial and Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) in three selected counties.

**AIKEN COUNTY**

Minority Youth Population: Most recently, 42% Of 414 Youth referrals to juvenile court 59% were Minority Youth

**RICHLAND COUNTY**

Minority Youth Population: Most recently, 67% Of 763 Youth referrals to juvenile court 89% were Minority Youth

**YORK COUNTY**

Minority Youth Population: Most recently, 35% Of 610 Youth referrals to juvenile court 51% were Minority Youth

**How Can Communities Help?**

- Become a mentor or family advocate
- Remove barriers to substance abuse and mental health treatment
- Provide access to transportation
- Provide work force training and employment

**PROMISING APPROACHES**

| JDAI | The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice is leading the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) efforts for the State. JDAI is a system-wide change in philosophy, practice and policy, which aims to create a juvenile justice system that detains fewer youth. JDAI relies on proven, family-focused interventions that foster opportunities for positive youth development. Using a model rooted in eight core strategies, JDAI proves effective in helping participating jurisdictions create alternative programs for juvenile offenders to safely reduce detention populations. JDAI’s Eight Core Strategies Focus On:
|      | • Collaboration  
|      | • Data Driven Decision Making  
|      | • Eliminating Racial, Ethnic and Gender Disparities  
|      | • Objective Admissions Screening  
|      | • Alternatives to Detention  
|      | • Expedited Case Processing  
|      | • Special Detention Populations (Truancy, Runaway, Incorrigible)  
|      | • Conditions of Confinement  

For more information about JDAI or how you, your Agency, Organization or Jurisdiction can get involved, visit us online at djj.sc.gov/jdai.

**Keep Connected on JDAIConnect!**

JDAIConnect is a virtual destination created by the Casey Foundation for juvenile justice reformers to talk, find resources and learn. JDAIConnect is available to everyone — practitioners, policymakers, community-based organizations, advocates, youth, families, researchers and any others — who are interested in youth justice. Membership is open to all, whether or not you participate in the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative®. This online community is free of charge. You can join the JDAIConnect virtual community at partners.aecf.org.