

What Can You Do About DMC?

Learn More — You can find DMC information on these websites:

- Alaska Division of Juvenile Justice
www.hss.state.ak.us/djj/dmc/
- Federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dmc/

Take Responsibility — You can examine your role, and the role of your group or agency, in the DMC issue.

Speak Up — You can talk about DMC with other concerned citizens and leaders.

Take Action — You can join, or help create, a local DMC reduction initiative.

Statewide DMC Contact —
Alaska Division of Juvenile Justice
(907) 465-2212



You can make a difference!

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State of Alaska

Department of Health and Social Services

Division of Juvenile Justice

Alaska Juvenile Justice
Advisory Committee

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Division of Juvenile Justice

Disproportionate Minority Contact in Alaska



What is Disproportionate Minority Contact?

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) exists when minority youth have a rate of contact with the juvenile justice system that is significantly different from the rate of contact for white youth.

Why Do We Have DMC?

There is no single cause of DMC. It can be created in many ways, including:

- Minority youth may have less access to prevention and treatment services.
- Minority youth may have more involvement in some illegal activities.
- Minority families may have fewer education and job opportunities.
- Communities may have inadequate resources for serving minority youth.
- Agencies may use decision-making criteria with unintended DMC impact.
- Governments may pass laws with unintended DMC impact.



I used to avoid talking about DMC because it just made me feel guilty, but now I know we can do something about it.”

—Juvenile Probation Officer Tracy Dompeling

How Does DMC Affect Alaskans?

DMC affects all minority youth in Alaska. In general, the minority groups with the highest DMC rates are:

- Alaska Native youth,
- African-American youth,
- Pacific Islander youth, and
- Mixed Race youth.

DMC exists throughout the Alaska juvenile justice system. In general, the highest DMC rates are at:

- Arrest,
- Detention,
- Diversion from court, and
- Petition to court



What is the System doing about DMC?

The Alaska Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and the Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (AJJAC) are working to reduce DMC by:

- Developing a data-based understanding of how DMC is created in Alaska and how it can be reduced,
- Increasing statewide DMC reduction efforts through public education, staff training, and system improvements,
- Supporting community-based DMC reduction activities, including research, public education and direct services to minority youth,
- Accessing the DMC reduction resources of the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and reporting to that agency annually on Alaska's DMC reduction achievements,
- And ... asking you to join the DMC reduction effort.