



**GEORGIA'S THREE YEAR PLAN  
FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE  
2015-2017**

Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council  
Three Year Plan for Juvenile Justice

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**Project Abstract**

The Georgia Formula Grants Program provides funding for delinquency prevention/intervention services to youth in local communities throughout our state. These services are provided to youth at moderate to high risk for recidivating as assessed by Georgia's Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment Instrument (PDRA). In order to receive funding, applicants (local juvenile courts), must apply to serve youth with evidence-based programming that will target their unique criminogenic risk factors and deliver services to fidelity. The goal of each subgrant is to reduce the number of youth receiving out-of-home placements in Georgia and keep youth in their communities. This goal works to strengthen families, improve accountability in the juvenile justice system and increase safety in Georgia's communities.

Additionally, Georgia uses the Formula Grants Program funding to maintain compliance with the core protections for Georgia's juveniles. The Georgia DMC Coordinator works with the DMC Subcommittee to establish goals and follow OJJDP's DMC Reduction Model in order to reduce DMC and racial disparity in Georgia. The Juvenile Detention Compliance Monitor ensures that youth are not held securely with a status offense, in the limited circumstances where a youth is in secure confinement, maintains that youth always have sight and sound separation from adult offenders and that youth who do come into contact with a lockup facility are there for no more than six hours.

Below, is a list of Georgia's focus Program Areas for the FY16 Title II Formula Grant application:

3. Alternatives to Detention
6. Delinquency Prevention
19. Compliance Monitoring
21. Disproportionate Minority Contact
28. Planning and Administration
31. State Advisory Group Activities

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## **Program Narrative**

### **Statement of Problem**

The character and organization of Georgia's juvenile justice system varies widely across the State, while maintaining the overarching goal of protecting and properly servicing youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. Georgia's juvenile justice system is both diverse and somewhat fragmented, consisting of two primary elements: local juvenile courts who serve either single counties or multi-county jurisdictions; and Georgia's Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Together, the two are responsible for serving all youth under the age of 17 who have violated criminal statutes (i.e., delinquents). The Official Georgia's Code Annotated (O.C.G.A) 15-2-10 defines a child as any individual who is: under the age of 18 years; under the age of 17 years when alleged to have committed a delinquent act; under the age of 22 years and in the care of DFCS; under the age of 23 years and eligible for and receiving independent living services through DFCS; or under the age of 21 years who committed an act of delinquency before reaching the age of 17 years and who has been placed under the supervision of the court or on probation to the court for the purpose of enforcing orders of the court. For the purposes of this application, 'child' and 'youth' are interchangeable. Youth 17 years of age and older come under the jurisdiction of the State's adult criminal justice system unless they are already under juvenile court supervision upon reaching age 17. In those instances, the juvenile justice system can retain jurisdiction over a youth until age 21 or until he/she is charged with a new criminal offense. Usually, however, youth exit the juvenile justice system by age 18.

With the passage of HB 182 in 2000, state funding was made available for the first time for the salaries of juvenile court judges. This allowed for the appointment of juvenile court judges in the numerous jurisdictions where Superior Courts had previously heard juvenile cases. Except for a single judicial circuit, Georgia's 159 counties are now served by two different types of juvenile courts, '**independent**' or '**dependent**'.

Independent courts have full or part-time juvenile judges who supervise county-funded probation departments, whereas dependent courts have full or part-time juvenile judges without independent probation departments (i.e., probation services are delivered by Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)). Independent juvenile courts are located in 12 of the state's most populous counties and altogether, have jurisdiction over approximately half of the state's youth population. Independent courts are funded entirely by county commissions and provide intake and probation services through locally controlled and directed probation departments. Due to the structure of independent courts, these courts vary widely in philosophy and practice compared to dependent courts. Dependent juvenile courts are located in 142 counties. In most of these jurisdictions, intake and probation services are provided exclusively through DJJ employees. DJJ continues to pursue a progressive, treatment-oriented approach with a focus on public safety. Highlights of this approach include non-secure alternatives to incarceration, improved educational programming, evidence-based behavioral programs, and continued utilization of comprehensive risk assessment instruments designed to reduce populations in secure detention facilities and ensure the most appropriate placement of committed youth. Because probation

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services in most counties are managed by DJJ, procedures and practices in these jurisdictions are more consistent and often differ from those of independent courts. Thus, there are two distinct juvenile court systems in the state - one is operated independently under the direction of local juvenile court judges (independent), and the other is centrally controlled by DJJ with uniform policies and operational policies (dependent). Regardless, individual judicial philosophies and practices vary a great deal and play a major role in shaping the character of each juvenile court, and despite its structure, create challenges for Georgia's juvenile justice system. One challenge is the integration and standardization of juvenile court practices between independent courts and DJJ. As Georgia's juvenile correctional agency, DJJ is responsible for: all detention services in the state; all youth committed to state custody; and all parole and aftercare services in all of the state's 159 counties.

DJJ operates a variety of community-based alternatives for committed youth. These include high intensity team supervision (HITS) programs in 39 jurisdictions as well as school-based supervision (probation officers) in a number of middle school and high schools across the state. In addition, DJJ contracts with a variety of public and private agencies for residential and outpatient treatment of special needs offenders. These programs include therapeutic communities for substance abusers, outdoor therapeutic programs, sex offender programs, basic care and intermediate level group homes, and long-term psychiatric facilities.

In 2011, the Georgia General Assembly (legislature) created the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform (Council) to improve the state's adult sentencing and corrections system. The Council produced a set of comprehensive, **data-driven** recommendations which the legislature adopted in HB 1176 during the 2012 session. After signing HB 1176, Governor Deal issued an Executive Order extending the Council and expanding its focus to the *juvenile justice system*. Throughout the remainder of 2012, the Council conducted a detailed analysis of Georgia's juvenile justice system and solicited input from a wide variety of stakeholders. As a result of this work, the Council developed policy options that increase public safety, hold offenders accountable, and reduce juvenile justice costs. The Special Council received intensive technical assistance from the Pew Charitable Trusts' Public Safety Performance Project and the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Justice Strategy Group.

The Council found that Georgia taxpayers have not received a sufficient public safety return on their juvenile justice investment. In FY 2013, the DJJ state-appropriated budget was \$300 million annually. Nearly two-thirds of this budget was used to operate out-of-home facilities and the state's secure residential facilities were calculated to cost an average of about \$90,000 per bed per year. Despite these huge expenditures, more than 50% of the adjudicated youth in the juvenile justice system were re-adjudicated delinquent or convicted of a criminal offense within three years of release, a rate that had held steady since 2003. Since the first look at the juvenile justice system in 2013, the State of Georgia has made sweeping reforms in the 2013 legislation and then subsequent revisions to-date.

Additionally, the Council found: misdemeanor and status offenders, many of whom are low risk to reoffend, remain a significant portion of out-of-home-placement; risks and needs assessment

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tools were not being used effectively to inform decision making; many areas of the state had limited community-based programs which leaves judges with few alternative options, and the state struggled to collect uniform data on juvenile offenders. From these findings, the Council made evidence-informed recommendations in order to improve Georgia's juvenile justice system.

The Council's recommendations were unanimously passed in HB 242 in 2013. The new Children's Code came into effect January 2014. In addition, the FY2014 State of Georgia budget included a \$5 million dollars in a fiscal incentive grant program for counties to expand evidence-based community programs and practices. The program has become known as the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program (JJIGP) and in the most recently passed State of Georgia budget, the General Assembly and Georgia's Governor, appropriated \$7.62 million dollars for the program in state fiscal year 2017. The Criminal justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), the State's Designated State Agency (DSA), administers these funds to provide evidence-based alternatives (found on [crimesolutions.gov](http://crimesolutions.gov)) to out-of-home placement in local communities across the state. The current State of Georgia budget also includes 1.7 million to the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ); DJJ provides these services to those counties not covered by the JJIGP. Thus, all 159 counties and their respective juvenile courts have the option of placing youth into evidence-based community programming as an alternative to out-of-home placement.

There are a total of six primary decision points for youth entering Georgia's juvenile justice system: (1) *Arrest*; (2) *Intake*; (3) *Adjudication*; (4) *Detention*; (5) *Disposition*; and (6) *Placement* (for committed youth). At any point in the process, offenders may be, and often are, diverted from further penetration of the system. In addition, chronic or very serious offenders may be transferred to the adult criminal justice system for capital felonies or repeated delinquent offenses.

*Arrest*: Most delinquent offenders enter the system through contact with law enforcement. However, most *status offenders* and some delinquents are referred directly to the court by parents, school officials or other parties filing a petition. When a police officer apprehends a youth suspected of committing an offense the officer can either release the youth or file a juvenile court complaint. If charges are filed, the officer may recommend detention of the youth but must bring the case before a juvenile court intake officer.

*Intake*: State law requires that court-authorized intake officers be available to receive complaints 24 hours a day. When a complaint is received, the intake worker first decides whether to charge the youth or dismiss the case and withdraw the complaint. In 2013, DJJ, in consultation with the Georgia's DSA, began work on developing a Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI) that would meet the statutory requirements of the new law that became effective January 1, 2014. The tool, validated by the National Center for Crime and Delinquency (NCCD), is used across the State, as written in statute, and provides an objective set of detention criteria based on risk, not bias such as race. This represents a major step in Georgia's continued Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) efforts. If the youth is charged, the worker then decides to either informally adjust the

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case or to file a petition for formal processing. If a petition is filed for formal processing, the intake worker then determines whether the youth should be detained pending a detention hearing or released to his family pending adjudication.

*Detention:* No juvenile offender may be placed in secure detention without the authorization of a court intake officer. Detention decisions are based on numerous factors, including the availability and stability of the youth's family, the seriousness of the current offense, the youth's prior court history, and the DAI score. In addition, DJJ created in early 2000 a network of case expeditors charged with reviewing intake decisions and removing appropriate youth from secure detention as soon as possible. These expeditors have access to a much wider range of residential and non-residential options, and while it appears that these measures have reduced the use of secure detention in most areas through the provision of community based alternatives, these options are dependent on the availability of DJJ funding, which has faced significant cuts over the past 5 years.

As mentioned above, the Children's Code restructured the way youth who come into contact with the justice system are treated Georgia. One of the major changes was the reform of status offenders in Georgia. Traditionally, status offenders were grouped as 'unruly' and could be subject to similar sanctions as delinquent offenders. However, Georgia's new Children's Code acknowledges that unlike delinquent offenders, "certain behaviors or conditions occurring within a family or school environment indicate that a child is experiencing serious difficulties and is in need of services and corrective action in order to protect such child from the irreversibility of certain choices and to protect the integrity of such child's family," specifically status offenders (O.C.G.A. 15-11-1). In addition to recognizing the difference between causes and needs of delinquent and status offenders, the code re-categorized youth who were previously known as 'unruly' or status offenders to Children in Need of Services (CHINS). This change allowed for CHINS to be treated accordingly and effectively. The code emphasizes the importance of CHINS receiving services in the least restrictive environment, highlights community and family involvement, and prohibits the use of secure detention, except in limited circumstances. Additionally, Georgia prohibits the detainment of any youth alleged or adjudicated as CHINS or a dependent child in a jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility. An alleged CHINS may be held in: a licensed foster home; a home approved by the court; a home of child's noncustodial parent or relative; a licensed child welfare agency; or a licensed shelter care facility if: pursuant to a court order; or law enforcement officer has reasonable grounds to believe the child is a runaway or circumstances are such as to endanger a child's health or welfare.

A continued custody hearing for a child alleged to be a child in need of service shall be held within five days if the child is placed in foster care; or 72 hours if the child is held in a secure or non-secure residential facility. An alleged child in need of services may be held in secure or non-secure juvenile residential facility for up 24 hours prior to a continued custody hearing being held; provided a detention assessment has been administered and if any of the following apply: the child is a runaway; the child is habitually disobedient and ungovernable; or the child has previously failed to appear at a scheduled hearing.



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At the hearing, the court shall determine if there is probable cause to believe that at the youth committed a status offense or otherwise a child in need of services and if continued custody is necessary. Following a court hearing, the court may detain the youth in a secure or non-secure residential facility for an additional 72 hours only for the purpose of arranging for alternative placement. If the youth is detained following a continued custody hearing, a petition seeking an adjudication should be filed within five days. If the youth was never taken into custody or released at the continued custody hearing, a petition seeking an adjudication should be filed within 30 days of the compliant with the juvenile court intake officer or 30 days after the youth was released from temporary custody.

Georgia prohibits the detainment of a youth alleged or adjudicated as delinquent juvenile in a jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facilities. An alleged delinquent juvenile may be held in: a licensed foster home; a home approved by the court; a home of child's noncustodial parent or relative; a licensed child welfare agency; or a secure or non-secure juvenile residential facility.

In certain circumstances, an alleged delinquent juvenile aged 15 years or older may be held in jail, adult lockup, or other detention facility for the purposes of identification, processing procedures, or awaiting transportation only as long to complete said activity for up to six hours, or for up to 24 hours if the closest secure residential facility is more than 70 miles away. The youth must be detained for a the commission of a crime that would constitute a class A designated felony act, class B designated felony act, or a serious violent felony as defined in Code Section 17-10-6.1; the youth is awaiting a detention hearing; the detention hearing is scheduled within 24 hours after being taken into custody, excluding weekends and legal holidays; there is no existing acceptable alternative placement for the youth; and adult facility provides sight and sound separation for children (O.C.G.A. 15-11-504).

A delinquent juvenile held in the other approved non-adult facilities must have a detention hearing within two days if he or she was taken into without an arrest warrant or five days if the child is taken into custody with an arrest warrant. If the youth is detained following a detention hearing, a petition alleging delinquency shall be filed within 72 hours of the detention hearing. If the youth is never taken into custody or released at the detention hearing, a petition alleging delinquency shall be filed within 30 days of the filing of the compliance or within 30 days after the youth was released from custody.

**The state of Georgia encourages the use of the least restrictive sanctions concerning youth detainment.**

*Adjudication:* Unless a petition is adjusted, dismissed or withdrawn, an adjudicatory hearing will be held for all youth charged with either a delinquent or CHINS. During the adjudicatory hearing, a judge can dismiss or acquit the youth, hold the charge in abeyance, or make a finding of delinquency or unruliness. Under certain circumstances, the judge may also transfer the case to adult court.

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*Disposition:* When a youth is adjudicated delinquent or CHINS, a dispositional hearing is held either immediately following adjudication or through a separate hearing. During disposition, a judge may make one of the following decisions: dismissal/conditional dismissal; unofficial probation; probation; intensive probation; or commitment to DJJ. Occasionally, a juvenile court judge will also order a child into treatment through the State Division of Mental Health or place the child in the joint custody of DJJ and the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS).

Youth having three or more prior court appearances for felonies or charged with aggravated assault, aggravated battery, robbery, and armed robbery without a firearm, kidnapping, arson and several different weapons offenses can also be committed as designated felons. Juvenile court judges now have the authority to sentence these offenders to YDC for up to five years. Youth charged with one of seven violent felonies, including murder, rape, and armed robbery with a firearm, are automatically charged as adults, but can be committed as designated felons if their cases are transferred to juvenile court. Juvenile court judges have the authority to mandate up to 90 days incarceration for any delinquent offender. However, judges cannot mandate incarceration or any other placement for long-term committed youth.

*Placements*

*Probation* - Once adjudicated, all juvenile offenders are subject to a disposition of probation under whatever conditions of supervision the court prescribes. Probation can be ordered for up to two years with a provision for extension. A variety of concurrent actions are also authorized in conjunction with probation for delinquents, including placement in a residential or non-residential program for delinquent children, mandatory restitution, community service work, monetary fines and the suspension of a driver's license up to age 18.

Probation conditions range from minimal reporting requirements to close supervision with mandatory curfews and participation in specific rehabilitative activities. Minor offenders are often placed on informal probation but most delinquents are at a minimum given six months to one year of official probation. A variety of specialized programs for probated youth are available in the state's more populous communities and many courts include participation in these programs as a probation condition. Before juvenile reform in Georgia, many such services were not available in many of the state's many rural jurisdictions. With state funds now made available for evidence based community alternatives to detention programs, all 159 counties in Georgia have programs in place for these youth. The DSA, along with DJJ, now monitors and reviews all of these evidence based options across the State.

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*90-Day Placement/Short-Term Program (STP):* On July 1, 1994, Juvenile Court Judges were authorized to incarcerate any delinquent offender for up to 90 days in a Youth Development Center (YDC). Many jurisdictions utilize this option as an accountability-based sanction, especially for probation violators. However, youth charged with any offense are subject to this disposition and numerous first time and/or minor offenders have received this disposition. Initially, DJJ established boot camp programs to hold youth sentenced under this provision, both male and female. However, during 2000 all boot camps were replaced with more treatment-oriented 90-day programs. These placements often involved low and medium risk youth who then are placed in detention awaiting placement into a 90-day program. These youth are frequently detained only after disposition, thereby by passing the intake process. Approximately 4,100 90-day placements occur each year across the state, contributing significantly to the high volume of DAI overrides in Georgia. Due to budget constraints faced by the state, beginning in 2006 per SB 134, the maximum amount of time for a STP sentence was reduced to 60 days. In April 2009, HB245 was signed into law and the amount of time for a STP sentence was further limited to 30 days.

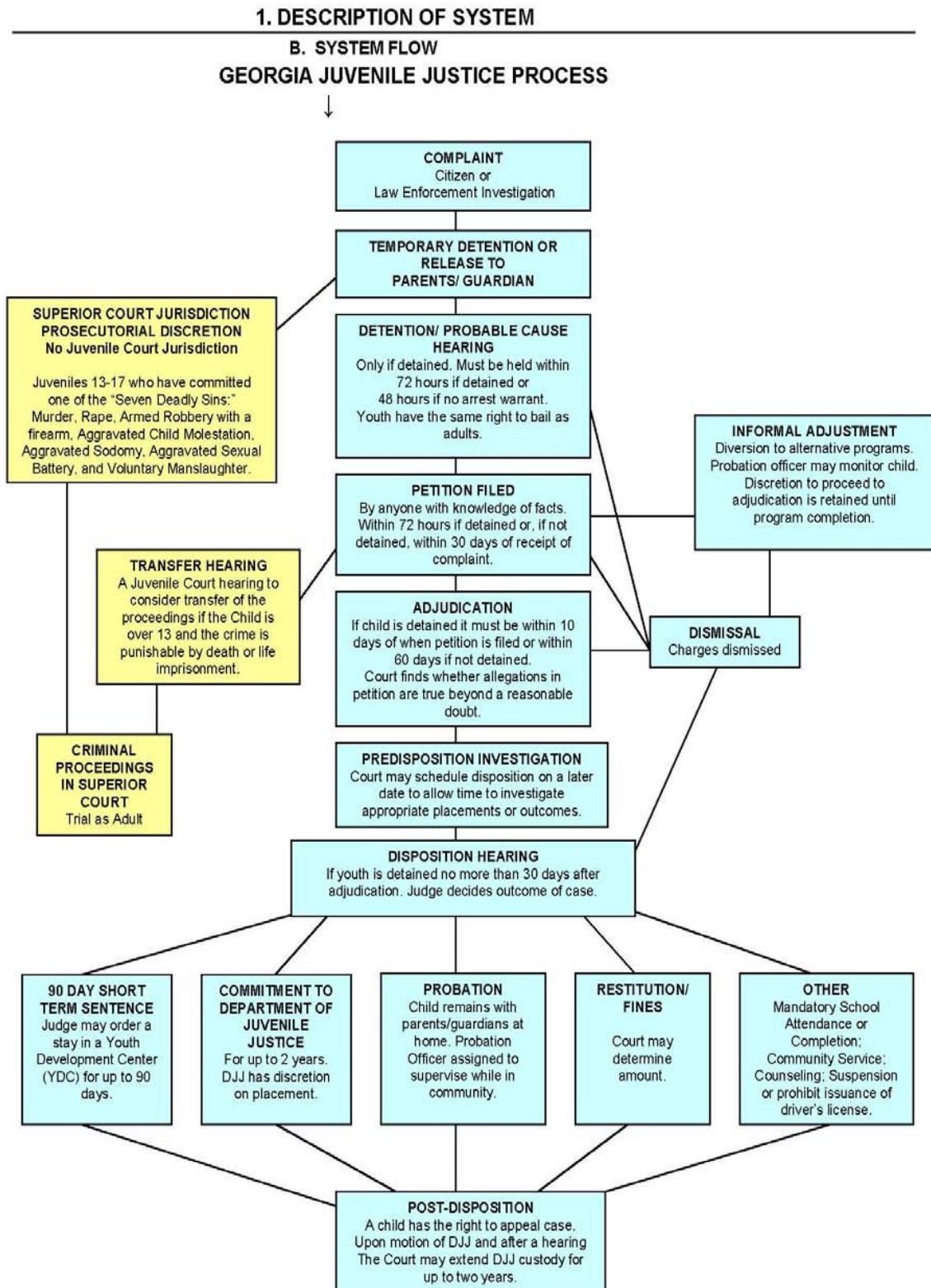
*Commitment/Placement* - Once a youth has been committed to DJJ, a panel of DJJ staff and other professionals is convened to determine the most appropriate placement for the youth. These screening committees consider a number of factors in making placement decisions and utilize a standardized screening instrument. While commitment can lead to incarceration in YDC, more than 60% of all committed youth are currently placed in non-secure programs. It is anticipated that this number will continue to rise in the future as more alternative programs become available. Alternately placed youth are subject to revocation and placement in YDC if they commit new offenses or violate the conditions of their placement.

Youth placed in YDCs are assigned minimum and maximum lengths of stay based primarily on the seriousness of the committing offense(s) and past court involvement. Once released from a YDC or an alternate placement, youth are placed on after-care supervision in their community for an indefinite length of time. After-care is normally terminated when the supervising worker feels the youth has made a satisfactory adjustment within the community or upon the expiration of the youth's commitment order. Commitment orders are valid for two years, except in designated felony cases, when commitment can be ordered for up to five years.

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The following flow chart (Table A) depicts Georgia's juvenile justice system.

**Table A: Georgia Juvenile Justice Process**



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**Georgia's juvenile justice system remains structured to provide effective services to the most youth in the least restrictive and least punitive possible environment.** Only a fraction of all youth coming before the juvenile court system reach the point of commitment. Furthermore, available data indicates that less than 45% of all cases filed with juvenile courts result in a formal court disposition of probation or commitment. **Thus, the vast majority of juvenile offenders are successfully diverted from further delinquency without formal court involvement through local programs and services provided by the schools, mental health therapists, local child serving agencies, and crisis workers.**

DJJ is the 181<sup>st</sup> school district in Georgia and provides educational programs at its institutional facilities, however, most juvenile offenders receive academic services through the state's county and city school systems and the Georgia Department of Education (DOE). A variety of special education, counseling and alternative educational services are offered by local school systems but the quality and quantity of such services vary widely according to each system's tax base. Thus, the State's poorer communities are often incapable of providing specialized services for high-risk youth while such services in urban counties are increasingly insufficient to meet growing demands. In response to this need the State provided large scale funding to local systems for the initiation of alternative schools for youth with chronic and/or severe disciplinary records. This greatly expanded the availability of academic services for juvenile offenders in many communities who were previously suspended or expelled. However, as the economic situation changed and local communities have had to absorb more of these costs, this has led some systems to disband their alternative school and move to an Ombudsman service approach. Ombudsman provides an alternative for students who find that large classes, hallway commotion and personal issues distract them from learning. The program offers an alternative program for students who have dropped out or are at risk of dropping out because of credit deficiency, personal challenges, truancy, suspension, learning disabilities or family obligations. Ombudsman's nontraditional middle and high school programs provide personalized, computer assisted instruction to students based on their needs assessment.

Both DOE & DJJ are committed to improving the educational experience of youth in DJJ custody. Through the interagency partnership of the Children's Cabinet, DOE has agreed to allow DJJ electronic access to student's educational records (and vice versa) providing a seamless continuation of each child's education whether they are in a facility or in the community. This new practice eliminates the loss of valuable instruction time that accompanied the slow transfer of paper transcripts. Over the past four years this partnership has helped youth transition out of facilities in a more coordinated and less demanding way all while keeping their education progress on track.

**Through sweeping juvenile reform, the State of Georgia has worked the last four years to better coordinate the previously fragmented nature of the juvenile justice system across the State.** A wide disparity in the treatment of juvenile offenders across the state has become more centralized by providing grant funding for select evidence based programs shown to be effective with juvenile offenders. However, there is still need for local services for all at-risk children still remain particularly in rural areas, leading, in many instances, to the commitment of youth to DJJ

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primarily because of a lack of local resources. Despite an annual budget of nearly \$286 million and approximately 4,200 employees, DJJ also lacks the necessary resources to adequately address the needs of committed youth and probated youth at the community level. This is particularly true for youth with severe substance abuse or mental health problems.

The agency's mental health resources have expanded over the past 4 years and mental health programming, particularly diagnostic services, in YDCs and RYDCs have improved significantly. Thus, the Department has reduced its dependence on state and local mental health agencies (who used to furnish on-call services to institutions), and provides a mental health system for its institutions. However, DJJ's community services offices remain dependent on private providers and the state mental health system. The state Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) has approximately 9,000 local and state employees with an annual budget of approximately \$989 million and is charged with providing behavioral health services to citizens of Georgia. Until recently, however, more than 50% of their budget was allocated to the state's seven regional mental hospitals, which serve primarily adult patients with "chronic" and severe problems. During the past decade years, hospital capacity for children and adolescents has been reduced approximately 95% but community resources have not been increased accordingly. Recent reform efforts have started pushing closer to eliminating the chronic shortage of residential mental health services throughout the state.

Furthermore, most community mental health therapists serve predominantly adult caseloads. While the DBHDD is, in theory, charged with providing services to all of the state's children and youth, only a small percentage of its funding is allocated for child and adolescent therapists and adolescent substance abuse treatment. Thus, DBHDD attempts to meet the needs of DJJ and juvenile court clients but often lacks the capacity to provide treatment for these youth in a timely and comprehensive fashion. Indeed, many community mental health centers have no therapists trained to work with children and adolescents, and less than 100 bed spaces for adolescents are available statewide through DBHDD for residential substance abuse treatment. Long-term psychiatric care for severely disturbed adolescents is even more limited. In 2010 the state hospitals closed all child and adolescent services and there are no residential slots for this purpose available statewide. Instead, the State's mental hospitals primarily provide children and adolescents long-term care on an outpatient basis. Beginning in the mid 90's, the state's mental health system entered an era of dramatic change with the creation of regional mental health boards intended to eventually assume control of most of the state's mental health services. The ultimate objective of this initiative was to dramatically reduce centralized state control of mental health services and allow communities to determine, through their regional boards, local priorities for mental health services and funding. This transformation has been accompanied by significant service disruptions in numerous locations and a variety of funding issues. It now appears that access to services for adolescents may have been restricted rather than improved by regionalization, particularly for juvenile offenders. DJJ, the courts, and DBHDD rely primarily on private hospitals and non-profit outpatient treatment programs to provide residential treatment for juvenile offenders. However, funding for such programs is often unavailable unless a youth's family possesses adequate insurance coverage. Approximately 30 intensive and intermediate care facilities are available across the state, which provide long-term treatment for adolescents,

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including delinquent and status offenders. Although most of these programs are non-profit, they are costly to operate. The number of these programs has grown to the point where statewide capacity may be sufficient to meet the needs of all youth in the system. However, funding for the placement of juvenile offenders in these programs remains quite inadequate. Thus, youth often remain on waiting lists for up to a year or more awaiting placement in appropriate treatment programs. However, under the terms of DJJ's Memorandum of Agreement with the Justice Department, funding for the purchase of specialized treatment services rose significantly since 1999. This allowed increasing numbers of youth with serious mental health issues to be served in residential treatment facilities. Likewise, funding for the purchase of mental health evaluations and outpatient treatment services for DJJ clients had steadily increased since 2000.

Unfortunately, the state's Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) is the Department of Human Services (DHS) agency and budget cuts of more than 10% each year over the past 4 years has resulted in significant reduced funding. The DFCS is charged with providing child protective services, foster care and welfare assistance. DFCS serves court-involved youth primarily through foster care placements that are in extremely short supply for adolescents and often simply unavailable.

The first attempt to address the critical developmental differences between youth and adults who encounter the justice system occurred in 1971 when Georgia created a separate juvenile section from the adult criminal code. Since then, Georgia has worked to improve the system to best address the needs of youth who come into contact with juvenile justice system. As briefly mentioned above, the state of Georgia's juvenile justice system has dramatically changed with sweeping reform since passing the 'Children's Code.' The 'Children's Code', or HB 242, was passed with unanimous support from the House and Senate floors. HB 242 was signed into law by Governor Deal in May 2013 and came into effect January 1, 2014. The creation of a new 'Children's Code' was the first substantial overhaul of Georgia's juvenile code in over 40 years.

Positive impacts of this legislation include:

- Elimination of confusing and contradictory language in previous juvenile code.
- Brings Georgia in line with best practices in juvenile justice & child welfare nationwide (Restorative Justice, Family Conferencing, Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders)
- Status offender designation eliminated. Children under 18 who become truants, runaways or unruly will be considered "children in need of services" and are not be detained. The focus of the court will be on addressing problems that led to behavior.
- Alternatives to detention are enhanced. Children who need to be detained will be, but wherever possible alternatives to detention will be found for those who will benefit from more focused treatment. The time detained will be limited.
- Mediation tools will be strengthened. Although some juvenile courts in Georgia have mediation programs, they are not used routinely in delinquency cases. The new law encourages this practice.

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- Uniform Assessments measuring a child's risk to re-offend will become more important in the court's proceedings. Judges will have more information about each case and more flexibility to balance the interests of public safety and the child's well-being.
- Improve outcomes (Recidivism): Currently, about 65 percent of children released from DJJ detention go on to commit more offenses. By providing funding for community-focused, evidence-based programs that are proven to reduce recidivism for young offenders, state has potential to improve child outcomes and save taxpayer dollars through consolidation and streamlining of services resulting in more efficient government

A helpful summation of all recent changes is contained in the Georgia Criminal Justice Reform Council's Report to the Governor released in January 2014-

<https://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2014-01-10/criminal-justice-reform-report-focuses-offender-re-entry>

Another benefit to Georgia's compliance work comes from the elimination of the detention of status offenders. Currently Georgia law allows the detention of youth charged with status offenses via the Valid Court Order Exception (VCO). In years past, the designated state agency in Georgia has focused on providing additional local services for juvenile offenders and pre-delinquent youth through the initiation of comprehensive, locally supported early intervention programs. However, in January 2008, the state took steps to unite and coordinate the efforts of four agencies responsible for serving Georgia's children and families. This initiative united the Children's Trust Fund Commission (CTFC) with the Children and Youth Coordinating Council (CYCC), creating the newly organized Governor's Office for Children and Families (GOCF), which now funds a spectrum of prevention, intervention, and treatment services for all children. In 2014, the Juvenile Justice Unit of GOCF moved over to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to put all state and federal juvenile justice funding under the same organization and help the state to better coordinate its juvenile justice work.

By focusing on improving outcomes for Georgia's children and youth, the result is a solid, consistent approach to helping local communities, child advocacy groups, and families find solutions to the never-ending challenge of keeping children safe and sound. Towards this end, CJCC is working to build capacity in communities to enable sustainability of activities and services. By strengthening the use of needs assessment and evaluation tools and providing funding for research informed/evidence based practices, CJCC seeks to ensure the proper evaluation and funding of good, effective programs designed to treat juvenile delinquency.

Included as an integral part of this community-based approach is the belief that services should be provided in the least restrictive setting possible, as close to home as possible with family members as full partners in deciding what services are needed. **CJCC is committed to supporting targeted Georgia communities by funding providers, agencies and organizations that operate under these core values and principles.** CJCC will also continue to serve as a link between the State's juvenile court judges and DJJ and seeks to improve the



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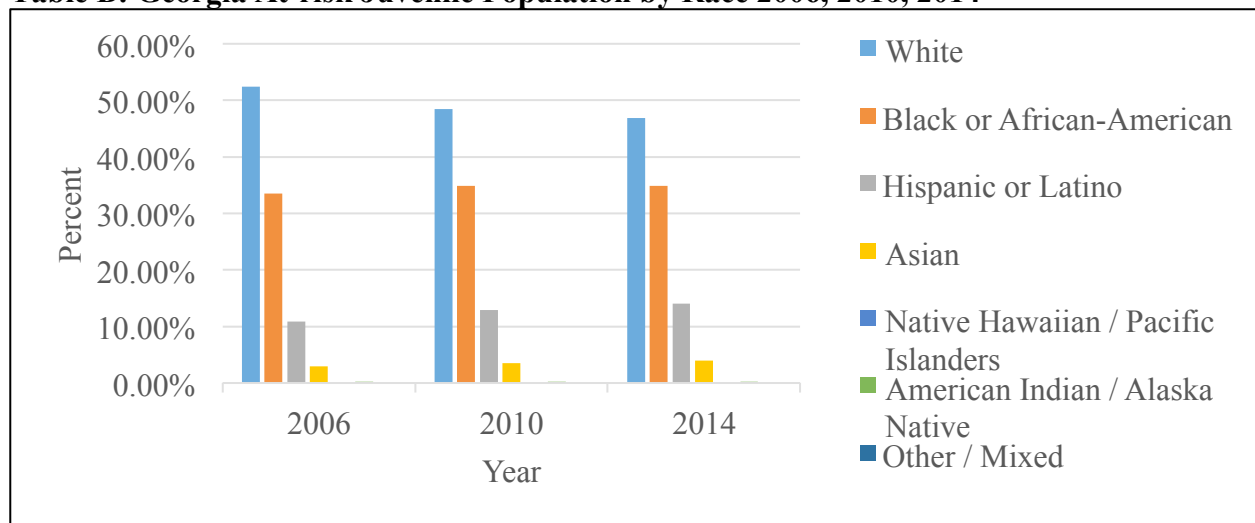
coordination of services between these and other child serving agencies through an on-going series of meetings aimed at developing more integrated services at the local level.

**Youth Crime Analysis and Needs and Problem Statements**

Please note, the most current data available for Georgia is 2014. Data used from the 2014 Summary Report Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program for Georgia only includes data submitted to Georgia Crime Intelligence Center by Georgia’s law enforcement agencies statewide. Data used from the Juvenile Data Clearinghouse only includes data submitted to the Juvenile Data Clearinghouse by DJJ, local courts, and OJJDP “Easy Access to Juvenile Populations”.

In 2014, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated Georgia’s population at 10,097,343<sup>1</sup>. In 2014, the National Center for Juvenile Justice estimated 2,355,257 youth (0 through 16) at-risk in Georgia<sup>2</sup>. Of the at-risk population in Georgia, 46.83% were White, 34.88% were Black, 14.02% were Hispanic or Latino, 4.01% were Asian, and .23% were American Indian/Alaska Native. Since 2006, the largest growing population is Asians (36.21% increase), followed Hispanic or Latino (30.58% increase), and Black or African American (4.95% increase). Both White and American Indian/Alaska Native have decrease in population size since 2006.

**Table B: Georgia At-risk Juvenile Population by Race 2006, 2010, 2014**



<http://juveniledata.georgia.gov/DataReports.aspx?report=RRIDataEntryReport>

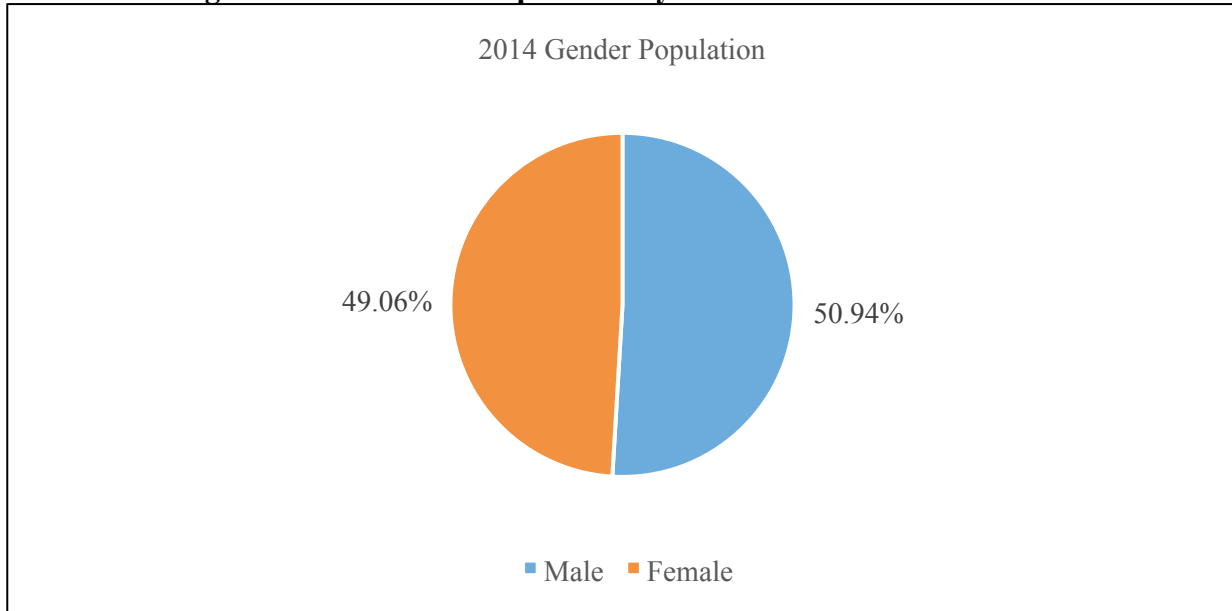
In 2006, males accounted for 51.06% and females accounted 48.94% of the total at-risk population. The percent of total populations have remained fairly constant. In 2014, males accounted for 50.94% and females accounted for 49.06% of the total at-risk population.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST045215/13>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/profile\\_display.asp](http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/profile_display.asp)

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**Table C: Georgia At-risk Juvenile Population by Gender 2014**



[http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/profile\\_display.asp](http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/profile_display.asp)

**Analysis of youth crime problems**

**i. Juvenile arrests by type, gender, age, and race**

Similar to national rates, juvenile arrests have **decreased** overall despite the 5.12% **increase** in Georgia's total population. As reported in the 2014 Summary Report Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program for Georgia, the total number of juvenile arrests declined by 26.71% between 2010 and 2014.

As shown in Table D, juvenile arrests for Part 1 Index arrests, which include murder, robbery, larceny, weapons, etc., overall **decreased** between 2010 and 2014. During this same period, juvenile arrests for run away, disorderly conduct, drunkenness, DUI, liquor laws, curfew and loitering law violations, also **decreased**. We believe this decrease is due to the aggressive stance Georgia has taken on reforming the juvenile justice system as well as the funding support for evidence-based alternatives to detention that we have been able to fund through the Title II Formula program.

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**Table D: Georgia Juvenile Arrest Data 2010-2014**

JUVENILE ARRESTS FOR PART I (INDEX) and PART II (NON-INDEX) ARRESTS - 2010-2014

CHARGE:	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
01A Murder/Non Negligent Manslaughter	50	40	40	92	47
2 Forcible Rape	47	52	33	53	43
3 Robbery	647	549	588	630	629
4 Aggravated Assault	1,309	1,275	1,143	892	922
5 Burglary	2,460	2,392	2,071	1,908	1,908
6 Larceny	8,686	7,954	7,289	6,713	6,689
7 Motor Vehicle Theft	545	479	451	450	492
8 Other Assaults	6,423	5,818	5,566	5,166	5,076
9 Arson	98	93	69	56	61
10 Forgery & Counterfeiting	88	68	91	71	56
11 Fraud	333	269	235	248	191
12 Embezzlement	12	22	9	9	7
13 Stolen Property; Building, Receiving, Possessing	574	451	461	475	419
14 Vandalism	1,005	945	878	639	897
15 Weapons; Carrying, Possessing, etc.	1,166	928	715	755	670
16 Prostitution & Commercialized Vice	280	29	29	25	20
17 Sex Offenses (except Forcible Rape & Prostitution)	655	679	620	507	448
CHARGE:	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
DRUGS: Sale Manufacturing					
18A Opium or Cocaine & Their Derivatives (Morphine, Heroin, Codeine)	75	60	50	46	31
18B Marijuana	437	336	457	434	345
18C Synthetic Narcotics Manufactured Narcotics Which Can Cause True Drug Addiction (Demerol, Methadone)	30	37	41	21	18
18D Other Dangerous Non-Narcotic Drugs (Barbiturates, Benzadrine)	123	114	124	142	166
DRUGS: Possession					
18E Opium or Cocaine & Their Derivatives (Morphine, Heroin, Codeine)	149	109	87	78	72
18F Marijuana	2,758	2,387	2,453	2,447	2,213
18G Synthetic Narcotics Manufactured Narcotics Which Can Cause True Drug Addiction (Demerol, Methadone)	97	147	82	61	60
18H Other Dangerous Non-Narcotic Drugs (Barbiturates, Benzadrine)	125	110	129	89	85
GAMBLING					
19A Bookmaking (Horse & Sport Book)	0	0	0	0	0
19B Numbers & Lottery	2	1	2	0	1
19C All Other Gambling	15	9	11	5	9
OTHER CHARGES					
20 Offenses Against Family & Children	209	256	246	174	197
21 DUI	245	230	216	175	156
22 Liquor Laws	1,253	1,126	1,095	843	728
23 Drunkenness	78	81	60	52	64
24 Disorderly Conduct	5,293	4,385	3,553	4,125	3,366
25 Vagrancy	84	103	218	90	61
26 All Other Offenses (except Traffic)	9,160	8,427	8,078	6,877	6,239
27 Suspicion	46	22	10	6	196
28 Curfew and Loitering Law Violations	725	738	720	709	646
29 Run Away	1,992	1,759	1,847	1,504	1,230
TOTAL:	47,022	42,480	39,767	36,567	34,458

[https://gbi.georgia.gov/sites/gbi.georgia.gov/files/related\\_files/site\\_page/2014CrimeStatisticsSummaryReport.pdf](https://gbi.georgia.gov/sites/gbi.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/2014CrimeStatisticsSummaryReport.pdf)

Additionally, the percent of arrests which juveniles account for has **decreased** between 2010 and 2014. In 2010, juveniles aged 0 – 16 accounted for 13.9% of all arrests in Georgia, in 2014 the same age group accounted for only 11.8%.

**Table E: Georgia Arrest by Age Groups 2010-2014**

REPORTED ARRESTS FOR INDEX CRIMES BY AGE GROUPS - 2010-2014

Age Group	2010	%	2011	%	2012	%	2013	%	2014	%
0-16	9,489	13.9%	9,001	12.7%	8,192	11.9%	7,548	11.6%	7,628	11.8%
17-21	19,373	28.3%	18,625	26.2%	17,283	25.0%	15,781	24.2%	14,806	22.9%
22-29	14,492	21.2%	15,683	22.1%	16,020	23.2%	15,499	23.8%	15,387	23.8%
30-39	11,023	16.1%	12,109	17.1%	12,180	17.6%	11,835	18.1%	12,212	18.9%
40-49	9,005	13.2%	9,651	13.6%	9,258	13.4%	8,606	13.2%	8,389	13.0%
50+	5,040	7.4%	5,898	8.3%	6,124	8.9%	5,961	9.1%	6,229	9.6%
Total	68,422	100.0%	70,967	100.0%	69,057	100.0%	65,230	100.0%	64,651	100.0%

[https://gbi.georgia.gov/sites/gbi.georgia.gov/files/related\\_files/site\\_page/2014CrimeStatisticsSummaryReport.pdf](https://gbi.georgia.gov/sites/gbi.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/2014CrimeStatisticsSummaryReport.pdf)

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The data reported in Table F, G, and I were pulled through Georgia’s UCR data collection portal for juvenile arrests between 2008 and 2014. Juveniles aged 16 and 17 accounted for the largest percentage of arrests within their age group for the past six years. This age group accounted for 45% of all juvenile arrests in 2008, 47% of all juvenile arrests in 2010, 47% of all juvenile arrests in 2012, and 49% of all juvenile arrests in 2014.

**Table F: Georgia Juvenile Arrest by Age and Year**

Number of Juvenile Arrests by Age Category and Year							
Age Category	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Under 10	1349	1106	617	571	441	525	272
10 to 12	7470	6272	5687	5337	4254	3080	2774
13 and 14	14693	13336	11998	11007	9357	8402	7663
15	14679	13480	11939	11000	9201	8188	8148
16	16189	15145	13265	12212	10442	9400	9049
17	15612	15925	13732	12674	10820	9506	9282
Total	69992	65264	57238	52801	44515	39101	37188

Unfortunately, UCR juvenile arrest data becomes problematic when trying to conclude links between race and gender or age. However, one can link arrests with race or arrests with gender or age. Despite the overall decrease in juvenile arrests, Georgia has seen an increase in the percentage of arrests for juvenile males. Males accounted for 56.52% of all juvenile arrests in 2010, despite making up 51.04% of the total juvenile population. By 2014, males accounted for 62.59% of all juvenile arrests, despite making up 50.94% of the total juvenile population. Whereas females accounted for 48.96% of the overall population in 2010 and accounted for only 43.47% of juvenile arrests. In 2014, females accounted for 49.06% of the overall population and only 38.40% of juvenile arrests. UCR data does not allow for one to see the offenses by gender.

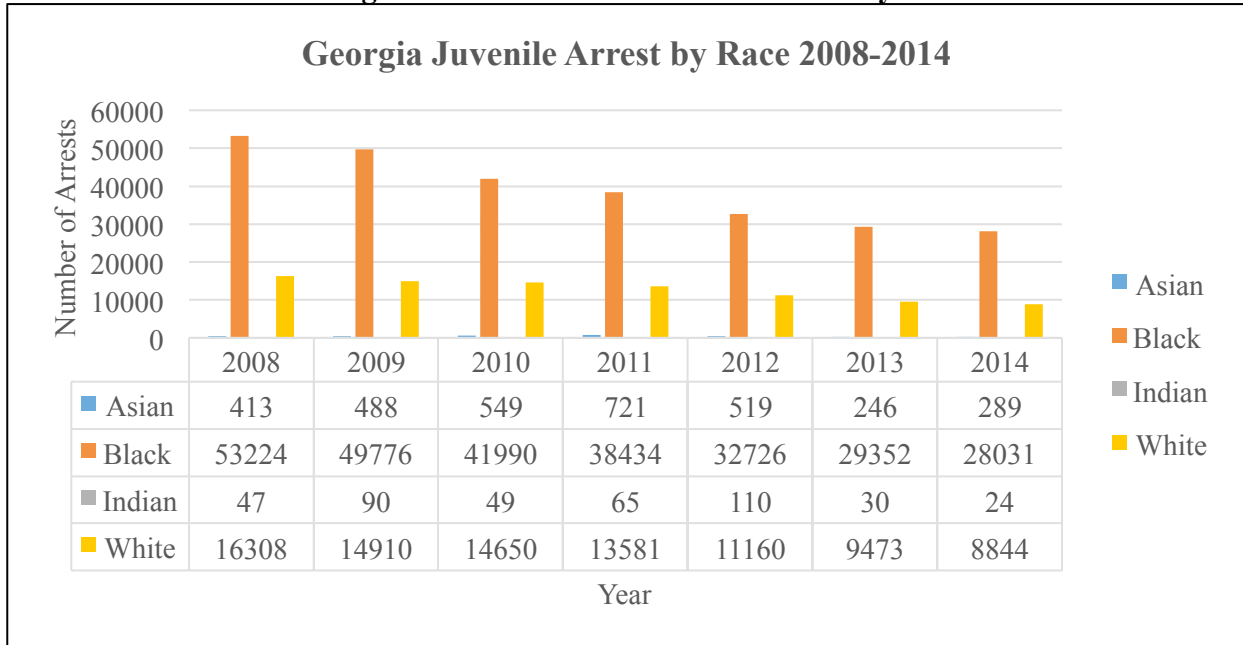
**Table G: Georgia Juvenile Arrests by Gender and Year**

Number of Juvenile Arrests by Gender and Year							
Gender	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Female	29753	27887	24883	22289	17968	15317	13909
Male	40239	37377	32355	30512	26547	23784	23279
Total	69992	65264	57238	52801	44515	39101	37188

As mentioned above, Georgia’s overall population has increased, and specifically the minority population has increased between 2010 and 2014. Please note, UCR data does not identify Hispanic or Latino as a race. Minorities accounted for 74.41% of all juvenile arrests in 2010. Overall this percentage increased to 76.22% in 2014. However, Asian (18.97%) and Indian (24.61%) arrests decreased from 2010 to 2014, whereas Black arrests increased by 2.74%. White arrests decreased by 7.08%. With the increase in the minority population, Georgia continues to monitor efforts surrounding DMC.

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**Table H: Georgia Juvenile Arrest by Race 2008-2014**



Overall, the State of Georgia has had a decline in juvenile arrests. The most significant change from 2010 to 2014 was the increase in juvenile males being arrested and a slight increase in the percentage of juvenile arrests for youth of color.

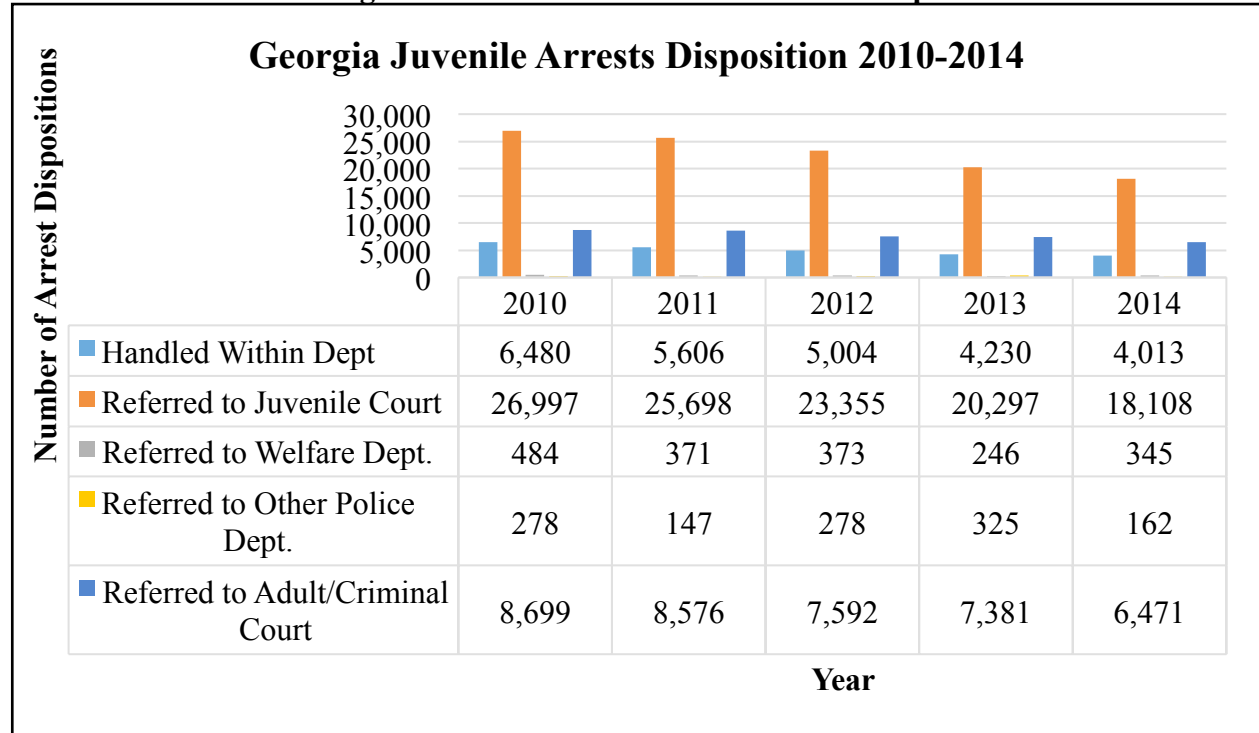
**ii. Number of characteristics by (offense type, gender, race, and age) of juveniles referred to juvenile court, a probation agency, or special intake unit for allegedly omitting a delinquent or status offense.**

As mentioned in the system description, the state of Georgia is divided into ‘independent’ and ‘dependent’ court systems with different data tracking systems. Due to this, statewide data is, at the moment, incomplete and cannot be compared by gender, race, and age. In order to provide accurate data, the following has been pulled from the 2014 Summary Report UCR Program and the Annual Caseload Report for Juvenile Court.

Table J depicts the disposition of juvenile arrests between 2010 and 2014. As shown, the majority of arrest dispositions are referred to the juvenile court. In 2010, 63% of dispositions were referred to juvenile court, 20% were referred to adult/criminal court, 15% were handled within the department, and the remaining (2%) were referred to the welfare department or another police department. In 2014, 62% of dispositions were referred to juvenile court, 22% were referred to adult/criminal court, 14% were handled within the department, and the remaining (2%) were referred to the welfare department or another police department. Although, the dispositions were referred similarly between 2010 and 2014, overall the number of dispositions saw a 32.34% decrease.

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**Table I: Georgia Juvenile Arrest Dispositions 2010-2014**

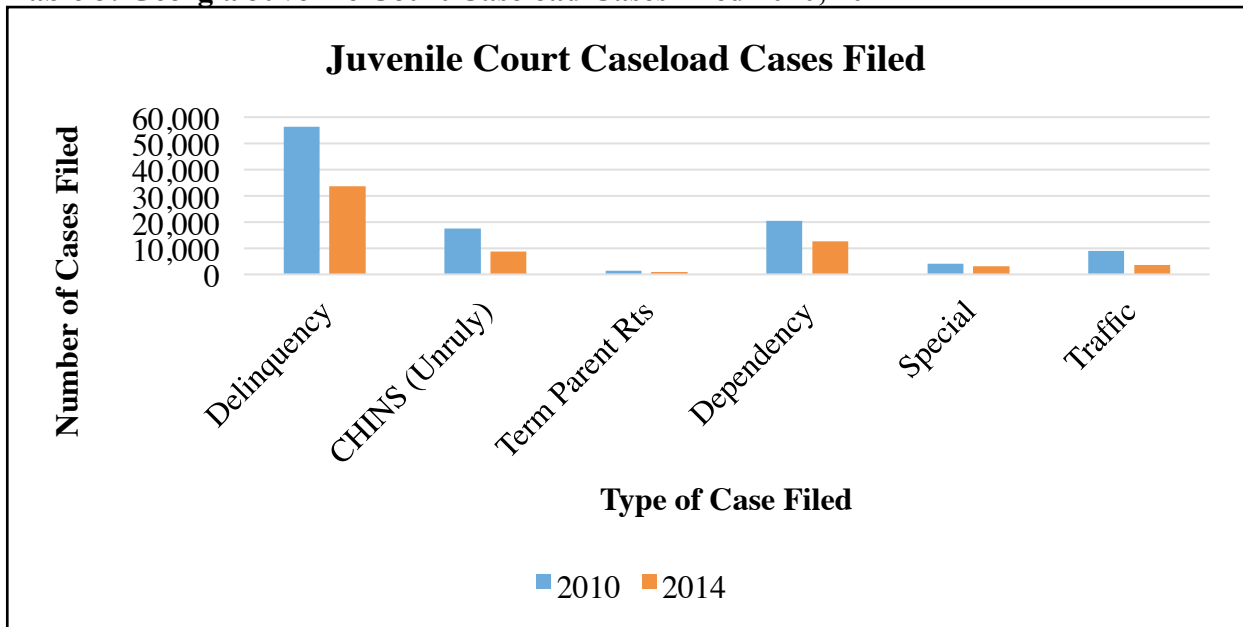


[https://gbi.georgia.gov/sites/gbi.georgia.gov/files/related\\_files/site\\_page/2014CrimeStatisticsSummaryReport.pdf](https://gbi.georgia.gov/sites/gbi.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/2014CrimeStatisticsSummaryReport.pdf)

The Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts conducts an Annual Caseload Report for Juvenile Court. The total number of juvenile court cases filed decreased 42.42% between 2010 and 2014 as shown in Table K. Specifically, in 2010, 56,334 delinquency cases were filed and 17,588 unruly (status, now known as Children In Need of Services (CHINS)) were filed. By 2014, there were only 33,735 delinquency cases filed and 8,824 CHINS filed. Georgia’s juvenile courts saw a 40.11% in decrease in delinquency cases and a 49.82% in CHINS cases.

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**Table J: Georgia Juvenile Court Caseload Cases Filed 2010, 2014**



Please note, these numbers are not complete. They only include the data reported to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). <http://www.georgiacourts.org/content/caseload-reports>

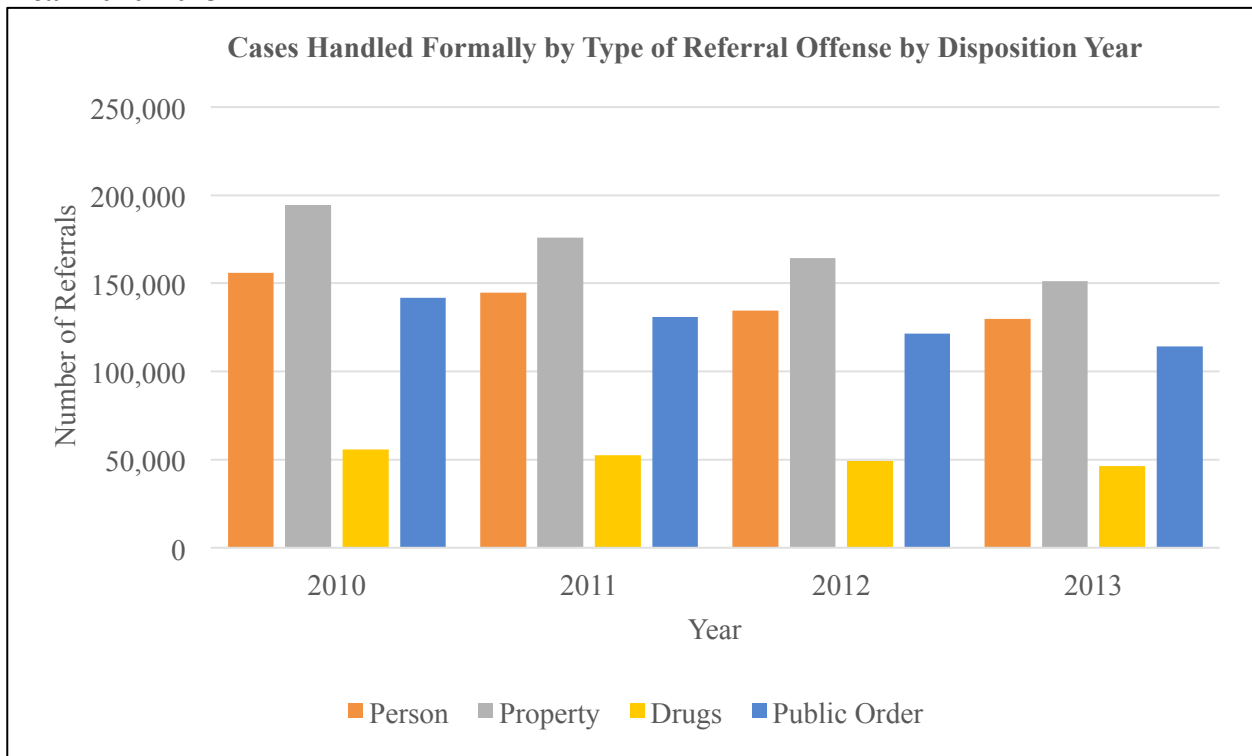
**iii. Number of cases handled informally (non-petitioned) and formally (petitioned) by gender, race, and type of disposition (e.g., diversion, probation, commitment, residential treatment)**

As mentioned in above, the State of Georgia is divided into independent and dependent court systems with different data tracking systems. Due to this, statewide data is at the moment incomplete and cannot be compared by gender, race, and age. In order to provide accurate data, the following has been pulled from OJJDP’s Easy Access to Juvenile Court Statistics: 1985-2013.

Cases can be handled formally or informally. In 2010, the estimated total number of cases handled formally were 547,985. In 2013, this number decreased by 19.38%. Of the cases handled formally in 2013, the majority were property offenses, followed by crimes against a person, public order, and drugs. The majority were also males as shown in Table K. The majority of the formal cases were white youth (56.34%), followed by black youth (40.76%), American Indian youth (1.66%), and Asian/NHPI youth (1.23%) (Table L).

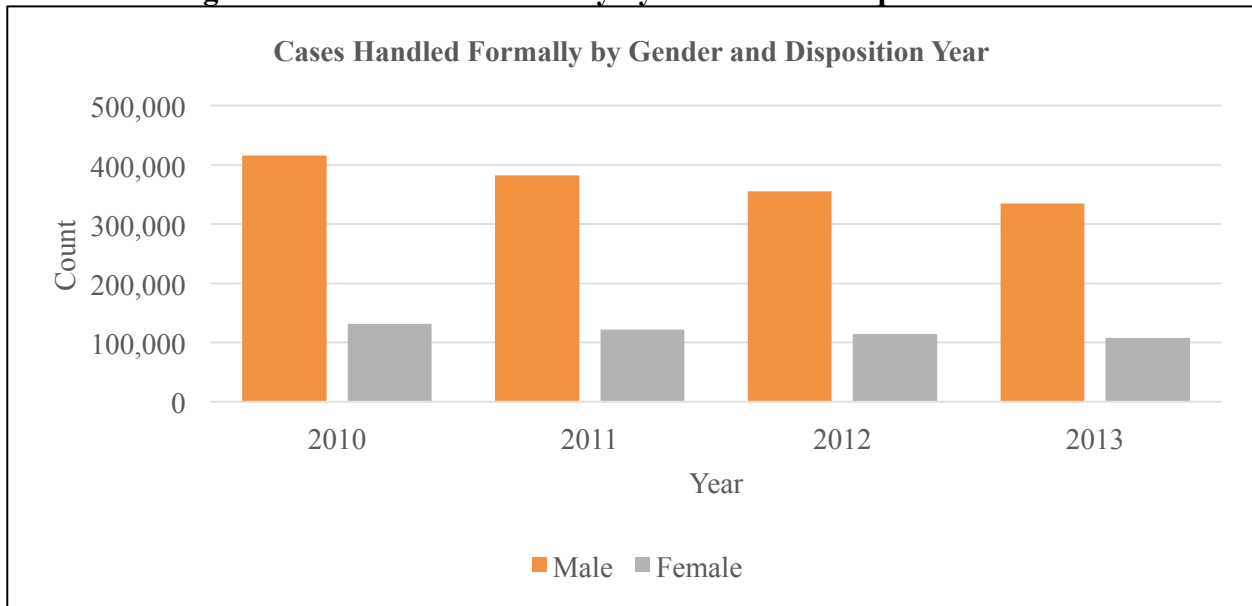
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**Table K: Georgia's Cases Handled Formally by Type of Referral Offense by Disposition Year 2010-2013**



<http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezajcs/asp/display.asp>

**Table L: Georgia's Cases Handled Formally by Gender and Disposition Year 2010-2013**

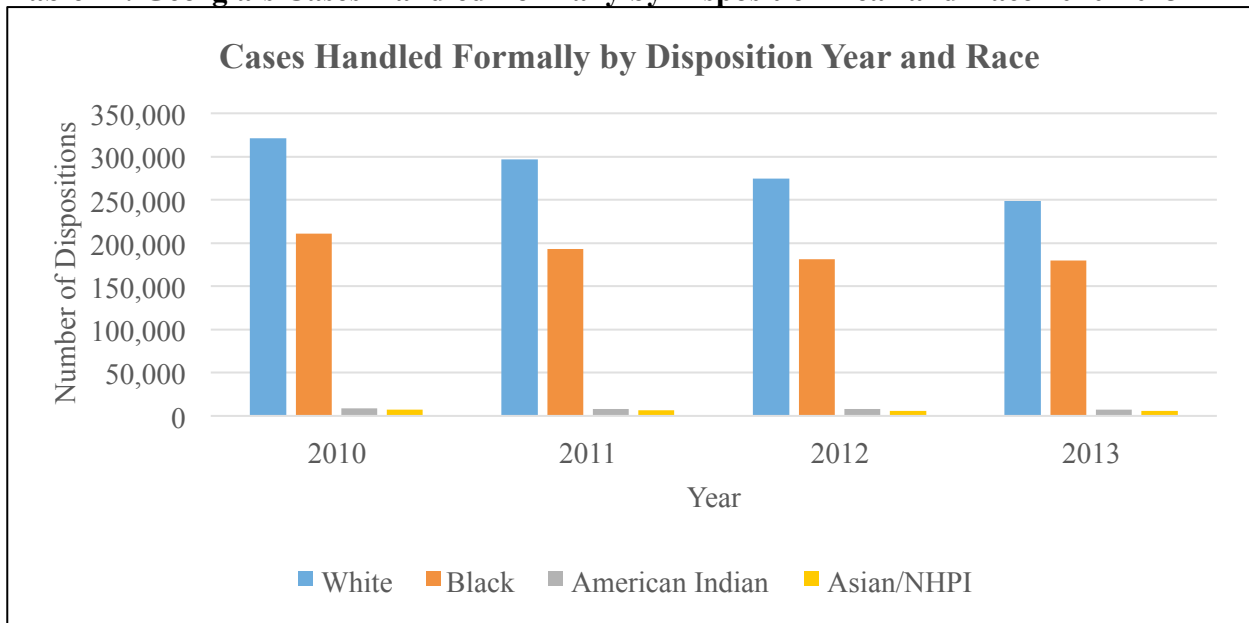


<http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezajcs/asp/display.asp>



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**Table M: Georgia’s Cases Handled Formally by Disposition Year and Race 2010-2013**

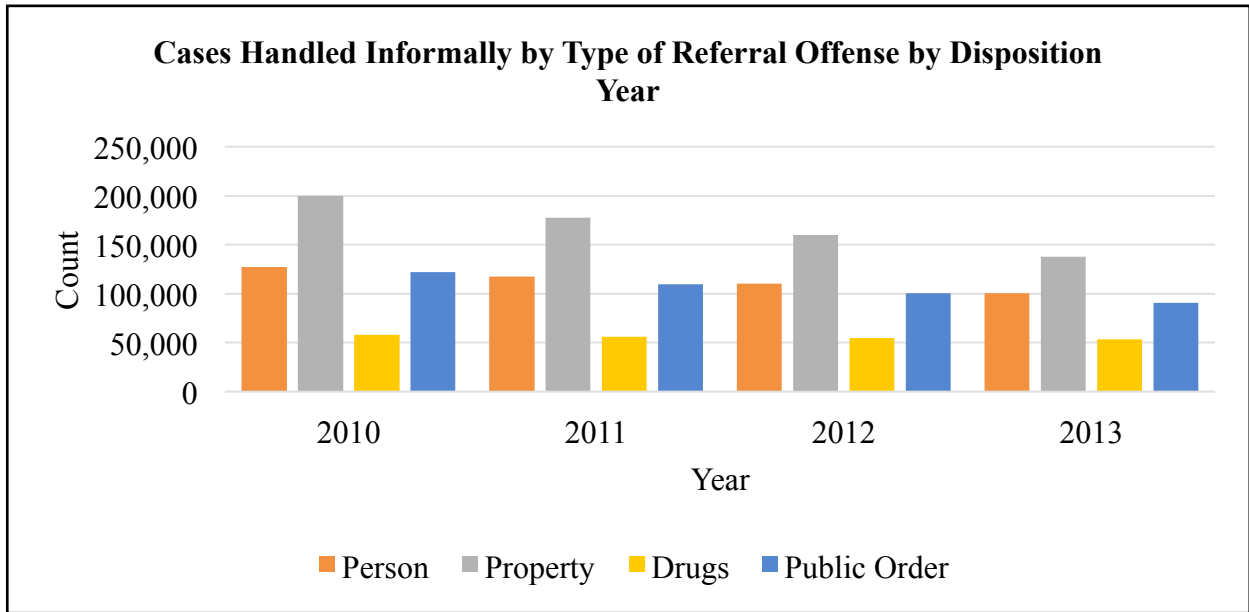


<http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezajcs/asp/display.asp>

As noted, cases can also be handled informally. In 2010 the estimated total number of cases handled informally were 506,951. In 2013, this number decreased by 24.64%. Of the cases handled informally in 2013, the majority were property offenses, followed by crimes against a person, public order, and drugs. The majority were also males as shown in Table K. The majority of the formal cases were white youth (65.13%), followed by black youth (32.18%), American Indian youth (1.60%), and Asian/NHPI youth (1.06%) (Table O).

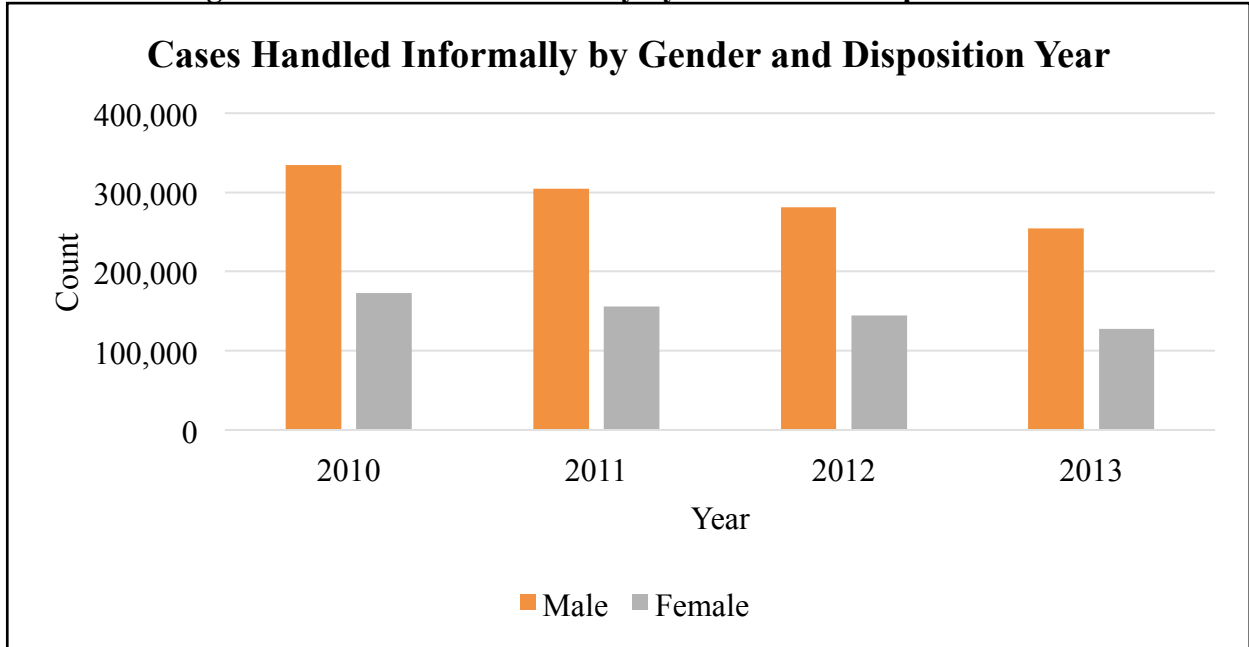
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**Table N: Georgia's Cases Handled Informally by Type of Referral Offense by Disposition Year 2010-2013**



<http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezajcs/asp/display.asp>

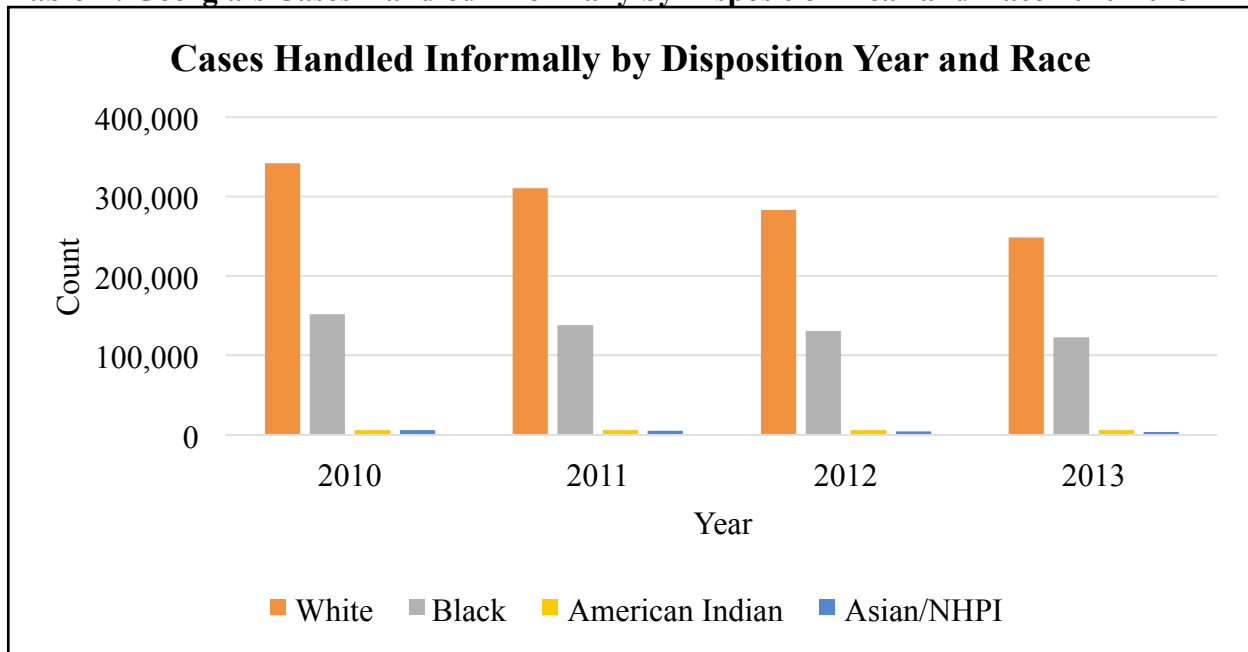
**Table O: Georgia's Cases Handled Informally by Gender and Disposition Year 2010-2013**



<http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezajcs/asp/display.asp>

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**Table P: Georgia's Cases Handled Informally by Disposition Year and Race 2010-2013**



<http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezajcs/asp/display.asp>

iv. **Number of delinquent and status offenders admitted, by gender and race, to juvenile detention facilities and adult jails and lockups (if applicable)**

**Please note in the following sections data is divided and sometimes goes through 2010 and other times through 2013. This is due the separate state data collections systems in Georgia. As noted further in the application, Georgia is working on one unified Juvenile Data Exchange (JDEX). However, at the time of this application, that system is not yet active or available for a data pull.**

Georgia's DJJ is responsible for all detention and confinement for juveniles in the state of Georgia. The total number of juveniles admitted to secure detention at all points has steadily decreased between 2010 and 2013 as shown in Table P

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**Table Q: State of Georgia – Department of Juvenile Justice Statewide Statistics**

Legal Status	Placement	Admissions			
		FY 2013	FY 2012	FY 2011	FY 2010
Intake	At Home Awaiting Adjudication	19296	20014	21230	23697
	Non-Secure Detention	445	417	413	478
	Secure Detention RYDC	12573	13425	14268	16322
	Intake Total	28914	30247	32125	35925
Diversion / Informal	At Home	14581	15129	15766	17794
	Non-secure Residential Treatment	596	637	645	706
	Diversion / Informal Total	14347	14774	15401	17441
Probation	At Home	8009	8477	9522	10019
	Non-secure Residential Treatment	566	616	656	677
	Probation Total	7784	8242	9383	9892
Short Term Program	Non-secure Residential Treatment	68	77	67	93
	RYDC	2390	2437	2602	3139
	YDC	250	325	97	636
	Short Term Program Total	2404	2474	2643	3249
Commitment	At Home	3672	3816	3373	3713
	Non-secure Residential Treatment	970	1352	1228	1388
	RYDC Awaiting Placement	3104	3284	2972	3494
	YDC	575	658	516	827
	Commitment Total				2242

Tables Q through T below break down admission records for youth admitted into the Georgia's juvenile detention centers by race, gender, and type of offenders. According to the data obtained, a number of trends present:

- The detention of delinquent female youth has decreased steadily from 28% in 2003 to 24% in 2010. This contrasts with the detention of status female youth, which has leveled off from 51% in 2003 to 52% in 2010. Female juveniles represent approximately 49% of Georgia's juvenile population and generally are detained for status offenses. Secure confinement rates for this group continued to decline over the 2003 to 2010 period from 23% to 8%.

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- The detention of African-American youth has risen steadily from 60% in 2003 to 66% of all youth detained during calendar year 2010. This trend holds true for both status and delinquent detentions. While African- American youth represent only approximately 35% of Georgia’s juvenile population they account for 66% of all detentions in 2010.
- The disproportion is more pronounced for African-American youth who go on to be admitted to Youth Development Campuses (YDC). Currently 68% of all admissions to a Short Term Treatment (STP) YDC and 81% of all admissions to a Long Term YDC while African-American youth represented only 35% of Georgia’s juvenile population in 2010. This trend has increased over the 2003-2010 period.
- White youth represent 49% of the juvenile population they only represent 25% of youth detained in Georgia in 2010.
- Native American youth do not constitute a significant minority for study in Georgia representing less than 1 % of the juvenile population. The percentage of Asian youth now represents approximately 3% of the population; however, both of these groups continue to be underrepresented in Georgia’s juvenile detention proportions. \Hispanic youth represented 8% of youth detained in Georgia in 2010 while representing approximately 13% of the juvenile population, however this ethnic designation does not allow for easy population cross-checking as some youth identify themselves with multiple races and this may not be statistically valid for comparison.

**Table R: RYDC Admission by Race, Gender, and Offense Type 2003, 2008, 2009, 2010**

Race	Youth in RYDC 2003			Youth in RYDC 2008		
	Delinquent	Status	Total	Delinquent	Status	Total
White Male	3950	421	4371	3240	314	3554
African American Male	7752	604	8356	10219	487	10706
Asian Male	49	8	57	53	4	57
Native American Male	9	0	9	7	0	7
Other Male (Hispanic)	697	88	785	1003	56	1059
White Female	1488	547	2035	967	333	1300
African American Female	2326	524	2850	2619	540	3159
Asian Female	22	7	29	14	5	19
Native American Female	3	0	3	1	0	1
Other Female (Hispanic)	234	92	326	229	93	322

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Race	Youth in RYDC 2009				Youth in RYDC 2010			
	Delinquent	Status	Missing	Total	Delinquent	Status	Missing	Total
White Male	2843	269	31	3143	2763	235	26	3024
African American Male	9182	446	93	9721	8205	371	70	8646
Asian Male	31	6	1	38	29	2	0	31
Native American Male	5	2	0	7	9	0	0	9
Other Male	190	25	0	215	165	26	2	193
Hispanic Male	907	64	985	1956	800	241	9	1050
White Female	871	333	20	1224	2206	407	55	2668
African American Female	2428	490	41	2959	5	1	0	6
Asian Female	15	4	1	20	3	0	0	3
Native American Female	3	0	0	3	86	28	2	116
Other Female	64	26	93	183	1030	58	7	1095
Hispanic Female	231	108	344	683	202	54	4	260

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**Table S: YDC Short Term (STP) Admission by Race, Gender, and Offense Type 2003, 2008, 2009, 2010**

Race	Youth in YDC (STP) 2003			Youth in YDC (STP) 2008		
	Delinquent	Status	Total	Delinquent	Status	Total
White Male	1036	24	1060	642	23	665
African American Male	1880	41	1921	1815	35	1850
Asian Male	19	0	19	12	0	12
Native American Male	5	0	5	1	0	1
Other Male (Hispanic)	170	3	173	33	0	33
White Female	360	25	385	146	20	166
African American Female	492	43	535	396	29	425
Asian Female	3	0	3	1	0	1
Native American Female	2	0	2	0	0	0
Other Female (Hispanic)	42	3	45	7	1	8

Race	Youth in YDC (STP) 2009			Youth in YDC (STP) 2010		
	Delinquent	Status	Total	Delinquent	Status	Total
White Male	1036	24	1060	642	23	665
African American Male	1880	41	1921	1815	35	1850
Asian Male	19	0	19	12	0	12
Native American Male	5	0	5	1	0	1
Other Male (Hispanic)	170	3	173	33	0	33
White Female	360	25	385	146	20	166
African American Female	492	43	535	396	29	425
Asian Female	3	0	3	1	0	1
Native American Female	2	0	2	0	0	0
Other Female (Hispanic)	42	3	45	7	1	8

**Table T: YDC Long Term (LT) Admission by Race, Gender, and Offense Type 2003, 2008, 2009, 2010**

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Race	Youth in YDC (LT) 2003			Youth in YDC (LT) 2008		
	Delinquent	Status	Total	Delinquent	Status	Total
White Male	165	0	165	126	3	129
African American Male	496	2	498	653	2	655
Asian Male	2	0	2	3	0	3
Native American Male	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Male (Hispanic)	27	0	27	33	0	33
White Female	13	1	14	10	1	11
African American Female	53	3	56	80	2	82
Asian Female	0	0	0	0	0	0
Native American Female	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Female (Hispanic)	5	0	5	3	0	3

Race		Youth in YDC (LT) 2009			Youth in YDC (LT) 2010		
		Delinquent	Status	Total	Delinquent	Status	Total
Non-Hispanic	White Male	102	5	107	70	0	70
	African American Male	587	4	591	548	0	548
	Asian Male	4	0	4	2	0	2
	Native American Male	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other Male	10	0	10	6	0	6
	White Female	14	0	14	6	1	7
	African American Female	65	1	66	39	29	68
	Asian Female	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Native American Female	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other Female	3	0	3	1	1	2
Hispanic	Male	36	0	36	32	0	32
	Female	4	0	4	2	0	2

**Table U: RYDC, YDC Short Term (STP), YDC Long Term (LT) Admission by Race and Gender 2011, 2012, 2013**



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Race/Gender	2011				2012			
	YDC LT	RYDC	YDC STP	Total	YDC LT	RYDC	YDC STP	Total
White Male	64	2855	584	3503	76	2660	532	3268
African American Male	333	8033	1505	9871	454	8004	1368	9826
Asian American Male	2	22	2	26	2	27	3	32
Native American Male	0	7	0	7	0	2	1	3
Other Male	3	210	49	262	7	244	47	298
White Female	11	1019	128	1158	7	929	152	1088
African American Female	31	2543	346	2920	39	2324	269	2632
Asian American Female	1	3	1	5	0	3	0	3
Native American Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Female	1	111	10	122	5	147	18	170
Non Hispanic	446	14803	2625	17874	590	14340	2390	17320
Hispanic Male	25	950	171	1146	44	897	169	1110
Hispanic Female	3	254	19	276	2	273	29	304

Race/Gender	2013			
	YDC LT	RYDC	YDC STP	Total
White Male	74	2448	561	3083
African American Male	376	7872	1402	9650
Asian American Male	2	23	4	29
Native American Male	0	4	1	5
Other Male	9	229	41	279
White Female	5	856	110	971
African American Female	45	2069	312	2426
Asian American Female	0	3	1	4
Native American Female	0	1	0	1
Other Female	3	144	23	170
Non Hispanic	514	13649	2455	16618
Hispanic Male	39	824	146	1009
Hispanic Female	4	262	35	301

Please note in Table Q through T status offenders counted in the above tables are listed according to their most serious current offense. That is, these status offenders listed could have prior delinquent offense histories. Data included in Table R through T is from the Department of Juvenile Justice, data included in Table U is from the data contractor. However, the data contractor is currently still working to delineate between delinquent and status offenses.

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**v. Trend data and other social, economic, legal, and organizational conditions considered relevant to delinquency prevention programming.**

In addition to juvenile justice data, it's important to understand other trends when addressing juvenile delinquency in Georgia. In order to provide accurate Georgia information, the following data was pulled from KIDS COUNT. KIDS COUNT provides citizens and policymakers with current reliable data, both online and in print, to inform planning, budget, and policy decisions that impact Georgia's children, families, and communities. KIDS COUNT is a state and national effort funded by Annie E. Casey Foundation to track the status of children.

In the annual KIDS COUNT Data Book, states are ranked 1 – 50 on the overall being (economic, education, health, and family and community). In 1990, Georgia was ranked 49<sup>th</sup>, by 2014 Georgia was ranked 42<sup>nd</sup>, and in 2015 Georgia was 40<sup>th</sup>.

Trend data to note includes:

- In 2014 Georgia reported an unemployment rate of 7.2%, in 2010 the unemployment rate was 10.5%. With that in mind, Georgia also reported 31% of children have parents who lack secure employment in 2014.
- 10% of teens aged 16-19 reported not attending school or working in 2014.
- 426,660 households with children reported receiving food stamps in 2013. This is a 33% increase from 2009 (319,871).
- 26.3% of children (under the age of 18) are living in families with income below the federal poverty line.
- Black or African American and Hispanic or Latino children remain the largest majority of children living in families where no parent has a full-time or year-round employment.
- Black or African American and Hispanic or Latino children remain the largest majority of children living in poverty.
- Georgia saw a decrease of the number of students absent from more than 15 days of School between 2010 (9.7%) and 2014 (8.2%).
- The total number of births in Georgia crease 8.9% between 2009 and 2013.
- The infant mortality rate in 2010 was 6.3 per 1,000. The infant mortality rate in 2014 was 7.7 per 1,000.
- The teen pregnancy rate has decreased in Georgia. In 2010, there were 30.8 births per 1,000 and in 2014, this number decreased to 18.5 per 1,000.

**(b) States Priority juvenile justice needs/problem statements.**

After careful review of the State of Georgia's juvenile crime trends, one can conclude that the level of juvenile crime has remained fairly stable or declined. This is a tremendous accomplishment

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given the population increase that Georgia has experienced. After careful review of the data presented, the Three Year Planning Subcommittee, created by the State Advisory Group (SAG), identified three needs/problem statements that the state should focus on over the next three years (2015-2017). The SAG comprised of key juvenile justice stakeholders across the state of Georgia. The SAG actively communicates with stakeholders across the state to understand the needs of local jurisdictions. These exchanges impact the development of Georgia's Three Year Plan for Juvenile Justice (2015 – 2017). The SAG reviews the plan and adjust accordingly throughout the implementation period. Additionally, four members of the SAG work for local units of government and are actively engaged with their community stakeholders so that they are able to share with us information from the ground up.

1. *We need to continue to educate and promote the use of evidence-based Juvenile Justice Programs and Practices that are in the best interest of the youth, as well as continue to educate stakeholders on the use of universal detention assessment instruments.*
2. *In addition to evidence-based programs targeted at medium to high risk youth, we need to provide trauma, prevention, and accountability programs to youth who are on the front end of the juvenile justice system.*
3. *While communities are gaining an understanding of juvenile reform and best practice, we need to better educate the public on how to appropriately address juvenile justice issues such as Disproportionate Minority Contact, gender-related disparities, and out of date, non-evidence-based programming.*

All of the selected needs/problem statements continue to support Georgia's juvenile justice reform which began in 2013, as stated in previous sections. The State looks forward to continuing work to promote the safety and well-being of youth who are involved in the system.

**FY 2016 UPDATES – Statement of Problem**

In FY2016, the state of Georgia has worked diligently to ensure that all implemented initiatives continue Georgia's commitment to providing safety to the public, reducing recidivism, and acknowledging the needs of youth and providing appropriate services. The state constantly works to find funding opportunities for more evidence-based services for youth involved in the system. In Georgia's 2014 budget the Georgia Assembly appropriated \$5,000,000 to provide "fiscal incentives to communities to create and utilize community-based options for juvenile offenders." This program became known as the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program (JJIGP). In fiscal year 2015, \$6,250,000 was appropriated. In fiscal year 2016 \$7,370,000 was appropriated and most recently, the Georgia Assembly appropriated \$7,620,000 to the JJIGP. The funding has been able to ensure that evidence-based programming continues in Georgia. In this Federal grant period, the State of Georgia applied for the OJJDP FY 16 Smart on Juvenile Justice: Reducing Out-of-Home Placement grant. If awarded, the State aims to target the funding for medium to high risk minority youth who are in need of a community based trauma-informed evidence-based program. Through the JJIGP, applicants are not able to apply for any trauma

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focused cognitive behavioral therapy because they are limited to a list of six evidence-based programs. The Out-of-Home Placement grant, would encourage applicants to target minority youth in need of that type of programming.

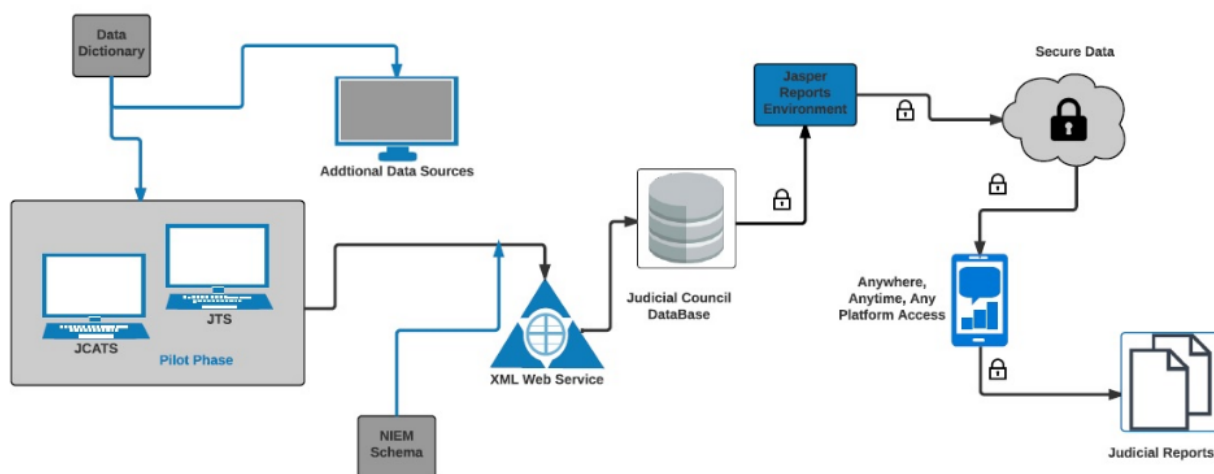
The State of Georgia recognizes evidence-based programs are effective in reducing recidivism in juvenile populations when the programs are delivered as intended by the developers of the models. In Federal fiscal year 2014, Georgia was honored to be named by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention as a Smart on Juvenile Justice State which allowed for our state to receive technical assistance (TA) and training by the Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) on model fidelity. Georgia took this opportunity to hire an in-house Model Fidelity Coordinator who will continue the model fidelity work once the technical assistance provided by CJI is completed. The Coordinator works directly with our Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant grantees and has recently offered assistance to juvenile courts in Georgia working to implement evidence-based programs even if they are not active grantees. The Coordinator's site visit aims to recognize the program's strengths and identify areas for which training, technical assistance, and on-going support can be provided. Based on the findings, the Coordinator works with a local technical assistance provider to provide the additional technical support.

Not only is Georgia committed to staying on top of best practices and research around evidence-based models through the hiring (state funds), of a Model Fidelity Coordinator, Georgia has also committed state funds to provide technical assistance and program training to grantees. On top to those trainings, counties that are not active grantees will also be able to receive assistance if requested. As mentioned before, Georgia is also committed to constant evaluation of the grant programs and has hired (state funds), an external evaluator to measure the JJIG program success. This has been in place for four years since the implementation of the program. Last, Georgia recently applied for a grant through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to evaluate recidivism rates and the use of Georgia's risk assessment instrument to measure the impact of the state's reform efforts.

In addition to expanding evidence-based programming and ensuring adherence to the model, Georgia is diligently working to improve the collection of juvenile data. As mentioned, the State of Georgia is served through either dependent or independent juvenile courts and each use their own case management system. As a result, juvenile judges are unable to make informed decisions about youth who may have encountered the justice system in other jurisdictions. In order to address this issue, the State of Georgia has contracted with the Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts for the Juvenile Data Exchange (JDEX) project. JDEX creates a statewide data repository of juvenile data for the entire state of Georgia and will vastly improve the sharing of data and making informed judicial decisions. Additionally, Georgia's including the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Family and Children Services, to the maximum extent possible, routinely communicate about any case or information that may be found in the JDEX system (when built, and the current JTS system) when a child is court-involved.

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**GEORGIA'S JUVENILE DATA EXCHANGE**



### Coordination of State Efforts

The State of Georgia is constantly looking for ways to improve the current juvenile justice system. As noted above, the state in the past few years has undergone dramatic changes to improve Georgia's juvenile justice system. This includes reforming juvenile law to reflect data-driven and best practices and providing resources to local communities to provide community evidence-based programming.

*Overview:* In 2008, the state took steps to unite and coordinate the efforts of four agencies responsible for serving Georgia's children and families. This initiative united the Children's Trust Fund Commission (CTFC) with the Children and Youth Coordinating Council (CYCC), creating the newly organized Governor's Office for Children and Families (GOCF), which funded a spectrum of prevention, intervention, and treatment services for all children.

By 2014, the Juvenile Justice Division of GOCF and Title II Funding, was transferred to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). Created by the Georgia General Assembly in 1981 as an Executive Branch agency, the CJCC represents the culmination of many efforts to establish a statewide body that would build consensus and unity among the State's diverse and interdependent, criminal justice system components. CJCC is legislatively charged with eleven areas of criminal justice coordination. Among those responsibilities, CJCC serves as the statewide clearinghouse for criminal justice information and research; develops criminal justice legislative and executive policy proposals; and serves in an advisory capacity to the Governor on issues impacting the criminal justice system. In addition, CJCC is the Designated State Agency

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(DSA) for numerous federal formula and competitive grant programs. The transfer of the Juvenile Justice Unit under CJCC's umbrella allowed for all juvenile justice funding in the State to be managed under one roof. This allows the State to better coordinate, distribute grant funding to local communities, and implement activities stated in Georgia's Three Year Plan for Juvenile Justice.

CJCC Juvenile Justice Unit continues to support and strengthen families by offering grant funding that supports a community-based system of prevention and intervention services. Towards this end, CJCC is working to help communities build capacity to enable sustainability of activities and services. By strengthening the use of needs assessment and evaluation tools and providing funding for research-informed practices, CJCC seeks to ensure the proper evaluation and funding of good, effective programs designed to prevent and treat juvenile delinquency.

Included as an integral part of this community-based approach is the belief that services should be provided in the least restrictive setting possible, as close to home as possible with family members as full partners in deciding what services are needed. The CJCC is committed to supporting targeted Georgia communities by funding providers, agencies and organizations that operate under these core values and principles. The CJCC will also continue to serve as a link between the State's juvenile court judges and DJJ and seeks to improve the coordination of services between these and other child-serving agencies through an on-going series of meetings aimed at developing more integrated services at the local level.

The Juvenile Justice Unit currently sits on the following committees: DJJ Juvenile Reentry, DJJ Detention Assessment Instrument Committee, Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment Stakeholders Group, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative and a number of nonprofit and privately funded boards. Our agency plans to continue to coordinate and join other committees/task forces as the reform work continues in our state. The agency has also supported a number of local *Summits* addressing juvenile justice issues ranging from *the School to Prison Pipeline* to *School Climate*, educating local stakeholders on the impact of their decisions and Disproportionate Minority Contact. This partnership with local communities helps garner strong relationships between the local and state stakeholders. The agency plans to continue to lead and support local communities as they promote overall youth well-being.

As previously discussed, through sweeping juvenile reform, the State of Georgia has worked the last three years to better coordinate the previously fragmented nature of the juvenile system across the state. Previous challenges included a wide disparity in the treatment of juvenile offenders and a lack of a comprehensive data collection system. The State targets both State and formula grant funding to address the wide disparity and treatment by funding select evidence-based programs shown to be effective with juvenile offenders. Additionally, the state has created JDEX, which is a data repository system for juvenile data. By directly overseeing all juvenile justice funding in the State and being heavily involved with work groups/task forces across Georgia, the DSA is better able to coordinate stakeholders and promote "best practice" in juvenile justice.

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**FY 2016 UPDATES- Coordination of State Efforts**

The coordination of state efforts is crucial, transferring the Juvenile Justice Unit to the CJCC has allowed for the State to better coordinate and distribute funding. The Juvenile Justice Unit continues to sit on DJJ Juvenile Reentry, DJJ Detention Assessment Instrument Committee, Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment Stakeholders Group, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative and a number of nonprofit and privately funded boards. All of the committees play various important roles for juvenile reform across the state.

The CJCC continues to promote youth development and well-being through our website (<http://cjcc.georgia.gov/juvenile-justice-incentive-grant>), juvenile data clearinghouse (<http://www.juveniledata.georgia.gov/>), and on social media sites such as its twitter page (<http://www.wtoc.com/story/28635347/school-justice-partnership-summit-looks-to-reduce-juvenile-crime>). The CJCC website is provides information surrounding Georgia's juvenile reform, the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant, Disproportionate Minority Contact, Core Requirements Compliance Monitoring, and Model Fidelity.

The DSA continued to offer both formula and JABG grants that provide prevention and intervention services to juvenile probationers. As these local projects meet their goals related to juvenile referrals and recidivism, they have the potential to directly impact the overall caseloads of juvenile probation officers. As these local projects meet their goals related to juvenile referrals and recidivism, they have the potential to directly impact the overall caseloads of juvenile probation officers throughout the state of Georgia.

Additionally, as previously mentioned, the state of Georgia is served through either dependent or independent juvenile courts and each use their own case management system. As a result, juvenile judges are unable to make informed decisions about youth who may have encountered the justice system in other jurisdictions. JDEX creates a statewide data repository of juvenile data for the entire state of Georgia and will vastly improve the sharing of data and making informed judicial decisions. Again, allowing for increased coordination across the state.

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**Goals and Objectives**

The State of Georgia’s goals and objects are derived from and respond to the needs and problems identified by the SAG.

Problem Statement	Goal	Objective	Formula Grant Program Area
<p><i>We need to continue to educate and promote the use of evidence based Juvenile Justice Programs and Practices that are in the best interest of the youth, as well as continue to educate stakeholders on the use of universal detention assessment instruments.</i></p>	<p>Improve cooperation and coordination among the partners in Georgia’s juvenile justice system (DJJ, DFCS, mental health, school systems, juvenile courts &amp; law enforcement) and increase support for diversion programming.</p>	<p>Support local juvenile justice diversion initiatives in Georgia.</p>	<p>3. Alternatives to Detention</p>
<p><i>In addition to evidence based programs targeted at <b>medium to high risk youth</b>, we need to provide trauma, prevention, and accountability programs to youth who are on the front end of the juvenile justice system.</i></p>	<p>Increase the number and percent of youth completing program requirements.</p> <p>Increase the use of evidence-based practices in Georgia's juvenile justice system by initiating community-based juvenile justice programs.</p> <p>Reduce the recidivism rate of youth involved with Georgia's juvenile justice system.</p>	<p>To support local juvenile justice prevention initiatives in Georgia</p>	<p>6. Delinquency Prevention</p> <p>3. Alternatives to Detention</p>



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<p><i>While communities are gaining an understanding of juvenile reform and best practice, we need to better educate the public on how to appropriately address juvenile justice issues such as Disproportionate Minority Contact, gender-related disparities, and out of date, non-evidence based programming.</i></p>	<p>To improve Georgia’s juvenile justice system</p>	<p>To support juvenile justice system improvement in Georgia and state and local prevention and intervention efforts by providing effective activities associated with planning and administration of Georgia’s Formula Grant Program.</p> <p>To support juvenile justice system improvement in Georgia and state and local prevention and intervention efforts by providing effective State Advisory Group Activities in Georgia.</p>	<p>28. Planning and Administration</p> <p>31. State Advisory Group Activities</p>
	<p>Improve the state’s ability to accurately and adequately monitor compliance with the JJDP Act.</p>	<p>To support the first three core protections of the JJDP Act in Georgia.</p> <p>To support the DMC core protection of the JJDP Act in Georgia.</p>	<p>19. Compliance Monitoring</p> <p>21. Disproportionate Minority Contact</p>

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**FY 2016 UPDATES- Goals and Objectives**

Georgia is constantly striving to reach the outlined goals and objectives. Although all of the goals ongoing and can always be improved, listed below are some of the highlights of the activities:

- The state of Georgia implemented a Pre-Dispositional Risk Assessment (PDRA). The risk assessment was created in collaboration with the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) and involved various juvenile justice stakeholders across the state. The State continues to provide TA to local courts as needed.
- The Juvenile Justice Unit continues to sit on the Juvenile Reentry, Detention Assessment Instrument Implementation, Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment Implementation, Juvenile Needs Assessment Development, Council of Juvenile Court Judges, Accountability Courts, Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Department of Juvenile Justice, and a number of nonprofit and privately funded boards.
- Through the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant, 1,122 youth were served through evidence based programming in the first year of programming and 1,666 youth were served in the second year of programming. Additionally, in year one the total number of evidence based program sessions delivered across all grantee programs was 14,320, and in the second year this increased to 23,031 sessions.
- The state has continued to improve the state's ability to accurately and adequately monitor compliance with the JJDP Act through the Compliance Monitor and DMC Coordinator. In 2016, the CJCC hosted a DMC TA Training provided by OJJDP.

**Implementation (Activities and Services)**

The State of Georgia has various activities, services, and projects in order to achieve the goals listed above. These activities and services are listed below in the chart.

Georgia is still examining data for the best way to target resources for gender-specific services. At this time, youth served by the JJIGP follow model fidelity best practices for gender specific group-based services and mixed gender groups are not held unless there is an appropriate amount of youth of both genders referred. Also, the gender breakdown of youth served by the JJIGP is reflective of the gender breakdown for all youth receiving out-of-home placements in Georgia. Moving forward, as funding becomes available, the SAG plans to investigate the need for female targeted interventions as more females become involved with the juvenile justice system.

In Georgia, youth in rural areas that do not receive a JJIGP, are eligible for evidence-based services (the same programs through the JJIGP), through the funding appropriated to the Georgia DJJ. Rural courts that do not receive a grant (the JJIGP serves 70% of Georgia's at-risk population), are able to make referrals through their local DJJ office.

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Additionally, the State of Georgia appropriated funding this fiscal year to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities for juvenile competency evaluations (forensic evaluations). We will continue to coordinate and work on mental health services for youth in the juvenile justice system. Many of the cognitive behavioral therapies provided through the JJIGP are considered mental health therapies by Medicaid and other third-party insurance providers. However, with the growing need for mental health services, we intend to continue this discussion with the SAG.

Goal	Activities and Services Planned	Formula Grant Program Area
<p>Improve cooperation and coordination among the partners in Georgia's juvenile justice system (DJJ, DFCS, mental health, school systems, juvenile courts &amp; law enforcement) and increase support for diversion programming.</p>	<p>CJCC will provide training and technical assistance, hold meetings among partner agencies, and provide grant funding to support the development of juvenile diversion programs throughout Georgia. Funding will go to support the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program (JJIGP). The JJIGP funds local juvenile justice projects that demonstrate potential cost-savings to taxpayers by reducing the number of youth served out of home and creating community-based alternative to detention.</p>	<p>3. Alternatives to Detention</p>
<p>Increase the number and percent of youth completing program requirements.</p> <p>Increase the use of evidence-based practices in Georgia's juvenile justice system by initiating community-based juvenile justice programs.</p> <p>Reduce the recidivism rate of youth involved with Georgia's juvenile justice system.</p>	<p>CJCC will provide training and technical assistance, hold meetings among partner agencies, and provide grant funding to support the development of evidence based juvenile prevention programs. The aim for all proposed renewal projects for this funding are be to improve juvenile accountability for offending behaviors through increased accountability programming for juvenile offenders and improved juvenile justice system accountability to juvenile offenders. CJCC currently funds over 20 programs using evidenced based juvenile prevention programs across our state.</p>	<p>6. Delinquency Prevention</p> <p>3. Alternatives to Detention</p>

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<p>To improve Georgia's juvenile justice system</p>	<p>The state's juvenile justice system was dramatically changed with sweeping reform and the model known as the "The Children's Code". In 1971 Georgia created a separate juvenile section from the adult criminal code to address the critical developmental differences between children and adults. The 2013 legislative session was the code came to passage, garnering unanimous support on the House and Senate floors. HB 242 was signed into law by Governor Deal in May 2013 creating a new Children's Code; this first substantial overhaul of our juvenile code in over 40 years has become effective as of January 1, 2014.</p>	<p>28. Planning and Administration 31. State Advisory Group Activities</p>
<p>Improve the state's ability to accurately and adequately monitor compliance with the JJDP Act.</p>	<p>CJCC has acquired a new compliance monitor. The new compliance monitor is training with the former compliance monitor. Will request technical assistance from OJJDP state representative to ensure proper compliance monitor training takes place.</p> <p>CJCC has requested technical assistance from OJJDP state representatives to ensure compliance. Our federal partners conducted a DMC/RED Training in August 2016. will be visiting in July 2015. CJCC has ramped up its DMC plans to include DMC Statewide Forums' and DMC specific course training for all law enforcement across the State (see additional information on DMC plans in the Plan for Compliance with Disproportionate Minority Contact Core Requirement).</p>	<p>19. Compliance Monitoring 21. Disproportionate Minority Contact</p>

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**FY 2016 UPDATES- Implementation (Activities and Services)**

CJCC has and continues to conduct the proposed activities above. Below are some updates of the activities conducted thus far.

*Goal: Improve cooperation and coordination among the partners in Georgia's juvenile justice system (DJJ, DFCS, mental health, school systems, juvenile courts & law enforcement) and increase support for diversion programming.*

CJCC completed a Request for Proposal in FY16 to participate in Vera's Status Offense Reform initiative and was selected by the Vera Institute to receive technical assistance in one Georgia county for best practices for CHINS cases. The Vera Institute was able to offer this project for proposals after receiving an award from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Additionally, the Juvenile Justice Unit sits on number taskforces and committees and participates in other cooperative activities.

*Goal: Increase the number and percent of youth completing program requirements.*

Of the 1,666 youth served FY15 through the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant, 63% received successful completion; 24% dismissal/removal; and 13% administratively discharged. We are currently in FY16 and are unable to provide the total number youth completing the program. Georgia aims for this to increase as the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant progresses.

*Goal: Increase the use of evidence-based practices in Georgia's juvenile justice system by initiating community-based juvenile justice programs.*

In FY16, 28 juvenile courts received grants to implement evidence-based programs (EBPs) as a way to avoid incarceration of adjudicated youth and reduce recidivism. These 28 courts (three were federally funded), serve a total of 48 counties and 70% of Georgia's juvenile at-risk population. Additionally, in FY14 the total number of evidence based program sessions delivered across all grantee programs was 14,320, and FY14 the number increased to 23,031 sessions. We are currently in FY16 and are unable to provide the total number of evidence based program sessions delivered. Additionally, the State has applied for OJJDP FY 16 Smart on Juvenile Justice: Reducing Out-of-Home Placement grant. If awarded the State aims to target the funding for medium to high risk minority youth who are in need of a community based trauma-informed evidence based program.

*Goal: Reduce the recidivism rate of youth involved with Georgia's juvenile justice system.*

This is an ongoing overall arching goal of Georgia's Juvenile Reform. The Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant is currently in its third year of implementation (ending June 30, 2016). The CJCC has contracted with UGA's Carl Vinson Institute of Government to collect individual participate data on youth who received programming in the first year to measure recidivism data. Please note, the DSA is committed to protecting the privacy of all youth served. This is done

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through requirements in any RFP's and through making sure contractors adhere to the policy and procedures required by the Institutional Review Board (IRB).

*Goal: To improve Georgia's juvenile justice system*

All of the activities listed in other goals contribute to this. Additionally, Georgia received 100% compliance ratings for PREA on all facilities audited by the Department of Justice for the 2016 reporting. Georgia continues to improve Georgia's juvenile justice system.

*Goal: Improve the state's ability to accurately and adequately monitor compliance with the JJDP Act.*

The Juvenile Justice Unit and the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) in the CJCC have partnered to examine the issue of disproportionate minority contact (DMC) in Georgia through a DMC Assessment. Additionally, the state has hired a new DMC Coordinator. The DMC Coordinator will be attending the 2016 CJJ Conference in Washington, D.C. in April 2016, and will also be attending the DMC Conference in Baltimore, Maryland in December. The DMC Coordinator was previously the Compliance Monitor and was trained by the previous DMC Coordinator. The state has also hired a new Compliance Monitor, as the old Compliance Monitor has become the DMC Coordinator. The Compliance Monitor will start on June 1, 2016 and will be trained by the old Compliance Monitor. As mentioned, the DSA is committed to protecting the privacy of youth served. Due to the nature of the duties, both the DMC Coordinator and Compliance Monitor are Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) certified.

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**Performance Measures**

All programs receiving funds are required to provide a quarterly report on their established outputs and outcomes. Additionally, all are required to provide an annual progress report that gives a complete overview of the impact and effectiveness (or lack thereof) of their individual project. Projects funded with federal juvenile justice monies are required to use the mandatory

OJJDP performance measures and is reported via DCTAT and GMS according to established schedules.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Performance Measure - Output Measures</b>	<b>Performance Measure - Outcome Measures</b>
To support local juvenile justice diversion initiatives in Georgia.	1. Formula grant funds awarded for services 2. Number of program youth served 3. Formula grant funds awarded for services	1. Number and percent of program youth completing program requirements 2. Number and percent of program youth who offend/re-offend during the reporting period 3. Cost savings per youth
To support juvenile justice system improvement in Georgia and state and local prevention and intervention efforts by providing effective activities associated with planning and administration of Georgia's Formula Grant Program.  To support juvenile justice system improvement in Georgia and state and local prevention and intervention efforts by providing effective State Advisory Group Activities in Georgia.	1. Formula grant funds awarded for services 2. Number of sub grants awarded 3. Number and percentage of programs monitored 4. Number of planning activities conducted 5. Number of sub grants awarded 6. Number of SAG meetings held 7. Number of grant applications reviewed	1. Number and percentage of programs in line with 3 year plan 2. Number and percentage of programs evaluated 3. Average time from receipt of sub grant application to date of award 4. Number and percentage of plan recommendations implemented 5. Number of previously funded programs sustained after 3 years

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<p>To support the first three core protections of the JJDP Act in Georgia.</p> <p>To support the DMC core protection of the JJDP Act in Georgia</p>	<p>1. Funds allocated to adhere to SECTION 223 (A) (14) OF THE JJDP ACT OF 2002</p>	<p>1. Submission of Complete Annual Monitoring Report to OJJDP</p> <p>2. Submission of complete Annual DMC Report to OJJDP</p>
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CJCC Staff reviews reports on a quarterly and annual basis for program effectiveness and projects not meeting a majority of their program outcomes are discontinued from funding. On at least an annual basis, OJJDP required output and outcome data is pulled from individual grantee reports and uploaded into the DCTAT and GMS systems each December. Progress for all these projects can be found in those previously submitted reports.

**FY 2016 UPDATES- Performance Measures**

There are no updates in this section.

**Additional Information**

**Collecting and Sharing Juvenile Justice Information**

CJCC will continue to utilize formula Grant funds to facilitate meetings between local juvenile justice offices and local child protection offices to increase the collection and sharing of juvenile justice information.

In relation to data collecting and sharing, Georgia is diligently working to improve the collection of juvenile data. As mentioned, the state of Georgia is served through either dependent or independent juvenile courts and each use their own case management system. Dependent courts use the Juvenile Tracking System (JTS). JTS provides a simple way to process juvenile records and is an online, interactive, menu driven system that permits the user to add, update or view juvenile records or to gather juvenile data. Juvenile information entered via JTS immediately creates or updates a record. JTS facilitates the generation, organization and availability of juvenile records throughout the DJJ field of operations. Independent courts use their own management system and only use JTS if the youth is committed to the department of juvenile justice. Thus, state of Georgia is served through either dependent or independent juvenile courts who use their own case management system. In order to address this issue, the state of Georgia has contracted with the Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts for the Juvenile Data Exchange (JDEX) project. JDEX creates a statewide data repository of juvenile data for the entire state of Georgia and will vastly improve the sharing of data and making informed judicial decisions. As of now, the CJCC hosts the most comprehensive juvenile data system and is available for public use. The Georgia's Juvenile Justice Data Clearinghouse



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(<http://juveniledata.georgia.gov/>) provides the most current and accurate juvenile crime data available and also provides the most complete data ever available for the juvenile justice decision points (statewide and for all 159 Counties) from calendar years 2006-2014. Additionally, as shown in the crime analysis section, juvenile justice data is also collected by the Administrative Office of the Courts and by Georgia's Bureau of Investigation.

Fortunately, there are no state statutes or departmental regulations that prohibit the sharing of information in the state. While every state and locality seems to have the universal experience of friction between child welfare and juvenile justice agencies, Georgia has been able to overcome much of this reluctance to share information required by OJJDP and, over the past 10 years, greatly improve the accuracy and completeness of our data.

### **FY 2016 UPDATES Additional Information**

The State of Georgia continues to work improve the collection and sharing of juvenile justice information. Of all the ongoing efforts, the largest project is JDEX. This project will vastly improve the sharing of data and collection across the state.

### **Plans for Compliance with the Core Requirements of the JJDP Act**

The State of Georgia is in compliance with *all* of the Core Requirements of the JJDP Act. Status of Compliance with the four required, core protections of the JJDP Act as of FY2016:

- 1) The state of Georgia's instance rate of non-compliance with Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) in 2015 was 5.26. Due to Georgia's rate being below 5.8 per 100,000 juvenile populations under *De Minimis* compliance Option 1, Georgia is in compliance. In pursuant to Section 233(a)(11) of JJDP Act, the state of Georgia does not place status offenders and non-offenders in secure detention or secure correctional facilities except as allowed under exceptions. This can be found in Georgia Code at O.C.G.A. 15-11-135 and 15-11-412.
- 2) The state of Georgia's instance rate of non-compliance with Jail Removal in 2015 was 1.40. Due to Georgia's rate being above 0 and below 9.0 per 100,000 juvenile populations under De Minimis option 1, Georgia is in compliance. In pursuant to Section 223(a)(13) of the JJDP Act, the state of Georgia shall not detain status offenders, non-offenders, and delinquent juveniles in an adult jail, adult lockup, or detention center except as allowed under exceptions. There are no exceptions allowing status offenders or non-offenders to be detained in an adult jail, adult lock up, or adult detention center. This can be found in Georgia Code at O.C.G.A.15-11-135 and 15-11-412.
- 3) The state of Georgia's instances of juvenile Separation non-compliance in 2014 was 2. Due to Georgia meeting all 4 conditions under *De Minimis* compliance option 1, Georgia is in compliance. In pursuant to Section 233(a)(12) of JJDP Act, the state of Georgia shall

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not detain youth alleged or found to be delinquent, status offenders, and non-offenders in which they have contact with an adult inmate. This can be found in Georgia Code at O.C.G.A. 15-11-135 and 15-11-412.

- 4) Georgia assesses and addresses the disproportionate contact of youth of color at key decisions points in the juvenile justice system. Through data collection, educational forums and curriculum, and community-based programs, Georgia has shown its commitment to addressing DMC.

**Plan for Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (Removal of Status Offenders and Non-Offenders from Secure Detention and Correctional Facilities)**

Pursuant to Section 233(a) (11) of JJDP Act, the State of Georgia shall not detain status offenders and non-offenders in secure detention or secure correctional facilities except as allowed under exceptions.

Since 1990, Georgia Code (O.C.G.A) has prohibited the detention of status offenders who have not been previously adjudicated for a status offense. In pursuit of a more protective juvenile justice system, Georgia House Bill (HB) 242 came into effect January 1, 2014. HB 242 incorporated status offenders and unruly offenses in a new category called ‘Children in Need of Services’ (CHINS). This can be found in O.C.G.A. 15-11-2(11). The CHINS definition includes youth who: are truant; are habitually disobedient and ungovernable; are runaways; commit status offenses; wander or loiter after curfew; disobey the terms of supervision contained in a court order; patronize any bar where alcoholic beverages are sold unaccompanied by a parent or guardian; or a child who committed a delinquent act and is adjudicated to be in the need of supervision, but not in need of treatment or rehabilitation. A non-offender in Georgia law is called a ‘Dependent Child’. The ‘Dependent child’ definition includes a youth who has been abused or neglected and is in need of protection of the court; placed for care or adoption in violation of law; or is without his or her parent, guardian, or legal custodian. This can be found in O.C.G.A. 15-11-2(22). Georgia’s approach towards CHINS comes from evidence based research and best practices.

In Georgia, CHINS and a ‘Dependent Child’ shall not be detained in any adult jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility, secure or unsecure juvenile residential facility except under allowed exceptions. There are no exceptions for a ‘Dependent Child.’ Georgia law permits CHINS to be held in a secure or non-secure residential juvenile facility until a hearing is held provided that a detention assessment has been administered, the youth is not held for more than 24 hours, and one of the follow apply: runaway; habitually disobedient and ungovernable; or previously failed to appear at a scheduled hearing. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-135 and 15-11-412.

Georgia has been in *De Minimus* compliance with Section 223(a)(12)(A) of the OJJDP Act since the late 1980s. The DSO rate declined from the 8.67 in 2013, to 4.41 in 2014 and in 2015 the rate was 5.26. There were a total of 2 instances of DSO non-compliance. HB 242 dramatically

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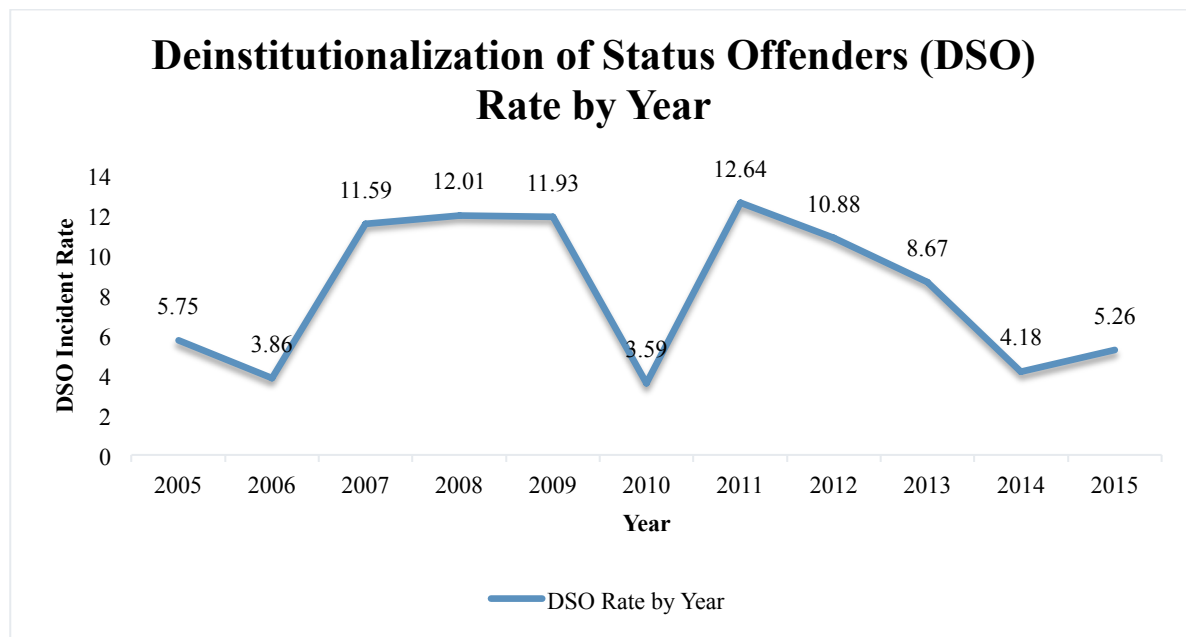
impacted the DSO rate in Georgia. It is anticipated that this rate will decline in future years as the legislation is now into effect. While these incidents did not indicate a pattern or practice, Georgia's DSA will remain ever vigilant and will continue to monitor this closely. The State of Georgia aims to be in full compliance by 2020.

Of the instances of DSO non-compliance, the majority in Georgia have been due to miscalculations of the 24-hour exception in secure detention facilities. In 2015, there were 132 status offenders held in secure juvenile detention centers exceeding the 24-hour exception.

The Compliance Monitor previously has convened multiple regional training events, all of the sessions were well attended. Specific training for intake and court personnel occurred in 1995, 1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2010, 2015, and will occur in 2016. During the trainings, all core requirements are thoroughly discussed, including DSO. The Compliance Monitor also keeps open communication with the Georgia Sheriff's Association and Georgia's Jail Association. The Compliance Monitor conducted a 1-hour Peace Officer Standards and Training certified course on JJDP Act Compliance at the Georgia Jail Association Conference in June 2015. The Compliance Monitor is currently scheduling a training to be held in Fall 2016. This training will be a collaborate effort with Georgia's Sheriff's Association. Additionally, CJCC, Governor's Office and Children and Families (GOCF), juvenile courts, State Advisory Group (SAG), and Department of the Juvenile Justice (DJJ) will continue to educate law enforcement, jail administration, courts, and intake personnel on the federal and State requirements.

Georgia's SAG meets on a quarterly basis. At these meetings, the Compliance Monitor reports the status update and any instances regarding compliance monitoring in relation to the JJDP Act.

Georgia will continue to remain in compliance with Section 223(a)(11)(A) of JJDP Act.



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**Georgia's most recent plan for DSO was approved by OJJDP in Georgia's Three Year Plan 2015-2017.**

**Plan for Separation of Juveniles and Adult Offenders (Separation)**

Pursuant to Section 233(a) (12) of JJDP Act, the State of Georgia shall not detain youth alleged or found to be delinquent, status offender, and non-offender in which they have sight or sound contact with an adult inmate.

Georgia law prohibits CHINS and a 'Dependent Child' from being detained in any adult jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility. There are no exceptions. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-135 and 15-11-412. Georgia law prohibits any juvenile delinquent from being detained in an adult jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility except under the allowed exception. Georgia law permits a juvenile delinquent aged 15 years or older to be detained for up to 6 hours in an adult jail, adult lockup, or adult detention facility for the purpose of identification, processing, or awaiting transporting if the juvenile committed a crime that would constitute a class A designated felony act, class B designated felony act, or serious violent felony (murder, rape, aggravated sodomy, aggravated child molestation, aggravated sexual battery, armed robbery, and kidnapping). During this time, Georgia law requires for total separation such that there is no verbal, visual, or physical contact. This includes separation during program activities such as: recreation, education, counseling, health care, dining, sleeping, and general living activities. Georgia also requires these facilities to provide separate staff for children and adults, specifically direct care staff such as recreation, education, and counseling. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-504 and 15-11-504 (5)(D).

Georgia has been in *De Minimus* compliance with Section 223(a)(12)(A) of the OJJDP Act since early 2000's. Over the past four years, Georgia's instances non-compliance with Separation have continually remained low. In 2015, the State of Georgia reported a rate of 2.00 instances of non-compliance involving juvenile delinquents. The number of instances is a result of increased educational efforts, as previously discussed. While these incidents did not indicate a pattern or practice, Georgia's DSA will remain ever vigilant and will continue to monitor this closely. The State of Georgia aims to be in full compliance by 2020.

Pursuant to Section 233(a) (12) of JJDP Act, the State of Georgia is already implementing new processes to monitor all juvenile court holding facilities in Georgia. Outreach has been done and staff are actively making sure that for next year's report the separation requirement from the Act, as it pertains to court holding facilities, is also monitored. Over the past few months, the Juvenile Detention Compliance Monitor has contacted all juvenile courts in Georgia in order to formalize monthly reporting for juvenile holding facilities. Moving forward, court holding facilities will be required to keep a monthly log of youth who are placed in court holding cells/rooms. As we work with our local juvenile courts and jail monitors, we will have monthly reports submitted in future reports.

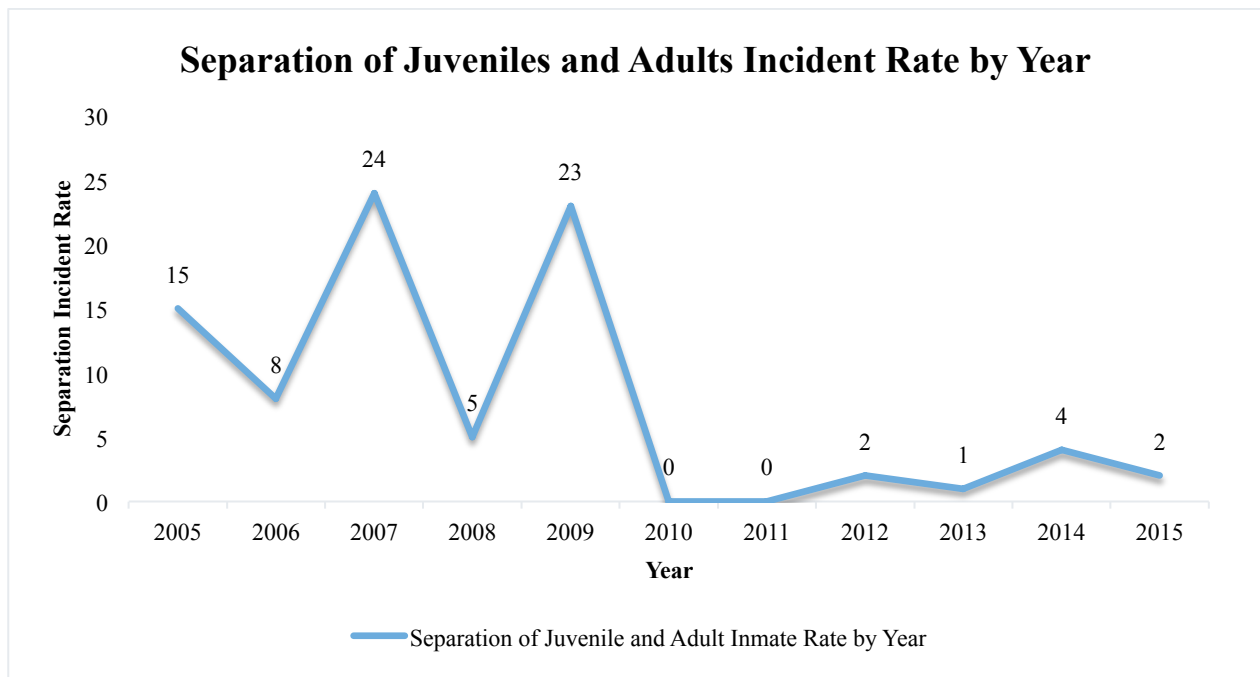
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Georgia reported 2 instances of non-compliance with Separation. Both of these instances involved a juvenile providing the wrong date of birth. Once the juvenile was discovered, the juvenile was removed and separated. The instances of non-compliance do not indicate a pattern or practice, but rather constitute isolated instances in Georgia. The instances are all in violation of State law.

As mentioned, the Compliance Monitor convened and organized trainings for both intake, sheriff, and jail administration staff. During the trainings separation is addressed. In regards to law, Georgia's juvenile justice reform bill, HB 242, came into effect in 2014 has been the largest push to eliminate non-compliant incidents. CJCC, GOCF, juvenile courts, SAG, and DJJ will continue to educate law enforcement, jail administration, courts, and intake personnel on the federal and State requirements.

Georgia's SAG meets on a quarterly basis. At these meetings, the Compliance Monitor reports the status update and any instances regarding compliance monitoring in relation to the JJDP Act.

Georgia will continue to remain in compliance with Section 223(a)(12)(A) of JJDP Act.



**Georgia's most recent plan for Separation was approved by OJJDP in Georgia's Three Year Plan 2015-2017.**

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**Plan for Removal of Juveniles from Adult Jails and Lockups (Jail Removal)**

Pursuant to Section 223(a)(13) of the JJDP Act, the State of Georgia shall not detain status offenders, non-offenders, and delinquent juveniles in an adult jail, adult lockup, or other detention facility except under allowed exceptions. There are no exceptions allowing status offenders or non-offenders to be detained in an adult jail, adult lock up, or other adult detention facility. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-135, 15-11-2 (22), and 15-11-412.

Juvenile delinquents shall not be detained in an adult jail, adult lock up, or adult detention center except under allowed exceptions. A juvenile delinquent shall only be detained in a: licensed foster home; home provided by the court; home of child's non-custodial parent/relative; licensed child welfare agency; or secure/non-secure juvenile residential facility. A juvenile aged 15 years or older who committed a crime that would constitute a class A designated felony act, class B designated felony act, or a serious violent felony (murder, rape, aggravated sodomy, aggravated child molestation, aggravated sexual battery, armed robbery, and kidnapping) may be detained for up to 6 hours in an adult jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility for the purpose of identification, processing, or awaiting transportation. There must be: a hearing scheduled within 24 hours of being held (excluding weekends and holidays); no existing acceptable alternative placement; complete sight and sound separation; and separate staff for children and adults. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-504, 15-11-504 (5)(D), and 15-11-560.

Georgia has been in *De Minimus* compliance with Section 223(a)(13)(A) or (B) of the JJDP Act.

Georgia's Jail Removal Rate has remained fairly constant over the past 5 years with the exception in 2011. Over the past three years, the rate has continued to remain low; in 2015 the reported rate was 1.40. All instances were in violation of State law.

In 2015, Georgia reported 9 instances of youth who were accused of delinquent offenses and held in an adult facility in excess of 6 hours. The Compliance Monitor contacted the facilities where the violations occurred. The number of instances were in violation due to the time constraint of six hours regarding transportation from the adult facilities to secure juvenile detention or correctional facilities. The instances of non-compliance with jail removal were unintentional and isolated. The instances do not indicate a pattern or practice. In efforts to eradicate such violations, State and local staff took immediate action to provide information to local facilities to ensure they understand the requirements of federal and State law and to prevent the violation from reoccurring.

In 2015, Georgia reported 24 instances of youth who were accused of status offenses for any period of time in an adult jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility. The number of instances are a result of status offenders being kept awaiting arrival of their parents, held for court hearing or being transferred to a Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC). In efforts to eradicate such violations, State and local staff took immediate action to provide information to local facilities to ensure they understand the requirements of federal and State law and to prevent

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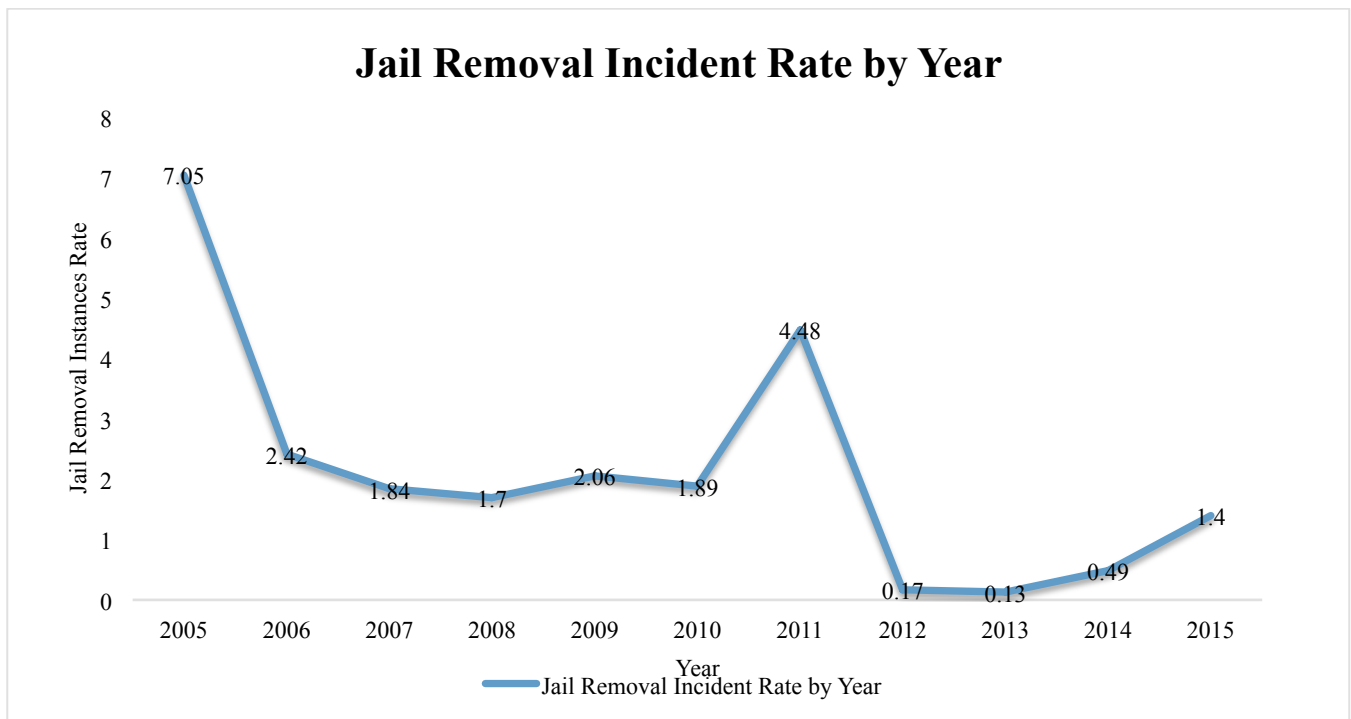
the violation from reoccurring. A site is currently being scheduled to ensure the facilities are in compliance.

In all of these instances, both at the adult jail or juvenile detention facilities, State and local staff take immediate action to determine the exact causes and to provide information to local facilities to ensure they understand the changes in both federal and State law. While these incidents did not indicate a pattern or practice, Georgia's DSA will remain ever vigilant and will continue to monitor this closely. The State of Georgia aims to be in full compliance by 2020.

During the previously mentioned trainings, jail removal is addressed. During the onsite visits, the Compliance Monitor discusses alternatives places where a facility can hold a juvenile once the 6-hour exception has been reached. In regards to law, Georgia's juvenile justice reform bill, HB 242, came into effect in 2014 has been the largest push to eliminate non-compliant incidents. CJCC, GOFCF, juvenile courts, SAG, and DJJ will continue to educate law enforcement, jail administration, courts, and intake personnel on the federal and State requirements.

Georgia's SAG meets on a quarterly basis. At these meetings, the Compliance Monitor reports the status update and any instances regarding compliance monitoring in relation to the JJDP Act.

Georgia will remain in compliance with Section 223(a)(13)(A) of JJDP Act.



**Georgia's most recent plan for Jail Removal was approved by OJJDP in Georgia's Three Year Plan 2015-2017.**

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## Page References for Compliance Monitoring Manual

In 1987, the DSA developed and disseminated a comprehensive policy and procedures manual covering status offender and jail detention monitoring procedures. This manual was revised extensively in 2005, then recently in 2015 and can be accessed publicly at <https://cjcc.georgia.gov/juvenile-justice-compliance-monitoring>.

Each of the following ten elements of an adequate compliance monitoring system are detailed in various sections of Georgia's Compliance Manual. Below is where each can be found.

1. **Policy and procedures:** The policy and procedures can be found in: *Section 3.1.2.3. Policies, page 10; Section 3.1.2.4. Procedures, page 11; Section 3.1.3.3. Policies, page 16; Section 3.1.3.4. Procedures, page 17.*
2. **Monitoring authority:** The monitoring authority can be found in: *Section 2.1 Compliance Monitoring Authority, page 4.*
3. **Monitoring timeline:** The monitoring timeline can be found in: *Section 2.2. Monitoring Timeline, page 5.*
4. **Violation procedures:** The violation procedures can be found in: *Section 3.3 Compliance Monitoring Violation Procedures, page 20-21.*
5. **Barriers and strategies:** The barriers and strategies can be found in: *Section 3.1.5 Monitoring Barriers and Strategies, page 18-19.*
6. **Definition of terms:** The definition of terms can be found throughout: *Section 3.1. Monitoring Universe Classification, page 6-18.*
7. **Identification of monitoring universe:** The identification of the monitoring universe can be found in: *3.2.1. Monitoring Universe Identification, page 19.*
8. **Classification of monitoring universe:** The classification of monitoring universe can be found in: *3.1.1. Monitoring Universe Classification, page 6.*
9. **Inspection of facilities:** The inspection of facilities can be found in: *Section 3.1.2.4. Procedures, page 11; Section 3.1.3.4. Procedures, page 17; Section 3.2.2.1. Audit Inspections, page 20.*
10. **Data collection and verification:** The data collection and verification can be found in: *Section 3.2.2. Data, page 19-21.*

Georgia's plan (which details the resources needed to maintain compliance) is on file and available for review. Georgia will notify OJJDP if circumstances arise or if resources are lost that would jeopardize our maintenance of compliance.



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**Legal Standard for Compliance Monitoring**

**Legal Standard for:**

**Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) Compliance**

*The state of Georgia's instance rate of non-compliance with the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) in 2015 was 4.63. Due to Georgia's rate being below 5.8 per 100,000 juvenile population under De Minimis compliance Option 1, Georgia is in compliance.*

**Separation**

*The state of Georgia's instances of juvenile Separation non-compliance in 2015 was 2.00. Due to Georgia meeting all 4 conditions under De Minimis compliance option 1, Georgia is in compliance.*

**Jail Removal**

*The state of Georgia's instance rate of non-compliance with Jail Removal in 2015 was 1.23. Due to Georgia's rate being above 0 and below 9.0 per 100,000 juvenile population under De Minimis option 1, Georgia is in compliance.*

**Legal Standard for Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) Compliance**

The state of Georgia's instance rate of non-compliance with the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) in 2015 was 4.63. Due to Georgia's rate being below 5.8 per 100,000 juvenile populations under De Minimis Compliance Option 1, Georgia is in compliance.

**Legal Standard for Separation Compliance**

The state of Georgia's instances of juvenile Separation non-compliance in 2015 was 2.00. Due to Georgia meeting all 4 conditions under De Minimis Compliance Option 1, Georgia is in compliance.

In 2015, Georgia reported two instances of juvenile Separation non-compliance. The state of Georgia is seeking to be found in compliance under the *De Minimis* Compliance Option 1.

*De Minimis* Compliance Option 1:

State reports number of instances of non-compliance  $\geq 1$  but demonstrates it meets all 4 conditions below:

1. "The instances of non-compliance do not indicate a pattern or practice but rather constitute isolated instances;"

The instances of non-compliance do not indicate a pattern or practice, but rather constitute isolated instances in Georgia. Georgia reported two instances of non-compliance with

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Separation. Both of these instances involved a juvenile delinquent providing the wrong date of birth. Once the juvenile was discovered, the juvenile was removed and separated.

Georgia and federal law prohibits status, non-offenders, and juvenile delinquents from being detained in an adult jail, adult lock up, or other adult detention facility except under allowed exceptions. There is no exception for status of non-offenders to be detained in an adult jail, adult lock up, or other adult detention facility. A juvenile delinquent aged 15 or older may be detained for up to six hours in an adult jail, adult lockup, or adult detention facility for the purpose of identification, processing, or awaiting transporting if the juvenile committed a crime that would constitute a class A designated felony act, class B designated felony act, or a serious violent felony (murder, aggravated child molestation rape, armed robbery with a firearm, aggravated sodomy, aggravated sexual battery, and kidnapping). There must be: a hearing scheduled within 24 hours of being held (excluding weekends and holidays); no existing acceptable alternative placement; complete sight and sound separation; and separate staff for children and adults. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-135, 15-11-412, and 15-11-504. The instances of non-compliance with Separation were unintentional and isolated. The instances do not indicate a pattern or practice.

2. “All instances of non-compliance reported were in violation of or departure from State law, rule, or policy that clearly prohibits the detention or confinement, or placement in a secure correctional facility or a secure detention facility, of juvenile offenders or non-offenders, in circumstances that would result in instances of non-compliance with [Section 223\(a\)\(12\);](#)”

The instances of non-compliance reported were in violation of State law. In Georgia, status offenders and non-offenders are prohibited from being detained in any adult jail, adult lock up, or other adult detention facility. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-135 and 15-11-412. Georgia’s juvenile delinquents are prohibited from being detained in any adult jail, adult lock up, or other adult detention facility unless they are 15 years of age or older; the detention is for the purpose of identification, processing, or awaiting transportation; and for less than six hours. The juvenile must be detained for the commission of a crime that would constitute a class A designated felony act, class B designated felony act, or a serious violent felony. During this time, Georgia law requires for total sight and sound separation for juvenile offenders. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-504. The instances of Separation non-compliance reported were in violation of Georgia’s State law.

3. “Existing enforcement mechanisms are such that the instances of non-compliance are unlikely to recur in the future; AND”

All of the instances of non-compliance with Separation were unintentional and isolated instances in Georgia. Georgia reported two instances of non-compliance with Separation. Both of these instances involved a juvenile providing the wrong date of birth. Once the juvenile was discovered, the juvenile was removed and separated. The instances of non-compliance do not indicate a pattern or practice, but rather constitute isolated instances in Georgia. The instances are all in violation of state law.

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As a part of the Juvenile Detention Compliance Monitor position, conducting onsite field visit to all the facilities reported in the annual and monthly jail reports as an audit-like inspection is required. By doing these visits, the state verifies that detention facilities are in compliance; verifies the accuracy of detention-related data; and builds stronger relationships between state and local government. When a violation occurs, the Designated State Agency (DSA) makes sure to discuss, learn, and educate the facility on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act requirements, research, and alternative holding areas to prevent the violation from reoccurring.

Additionally, to improve Georgia's efforts, the Juvenile Detention Compliance Monitor will also collect annual report data from every court holding facility. Every court holding facility will now be required to keep a monthly log with juvenile's signing in and out of the court holding cells/room. This data will be collected when the local Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) field monitor conducts annual visits and submit both monthly and annual reports to the DSA. A large percentage of Georgia's juvenile and superior courts are held in separate buildings. If the courts are held in the same building, juvenile and superior court are held on separate days. As a result of this procedure, juveniles are ensured to be kept sight and sound separate from adult inmates.

Georgia ensures instances of non-compliance are unlikely to recur in the future.

4. "That the state has in effect a policy requiring that individuals who work with both juveniles and adult inmates, including in collocated facilities, have been trained and certified to work with juveniles."

Georgia law permits a juvenile delinquent aged 15 years or older to be detained for up to six hours in an adult jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility for the purpose of identification, processing, or awaiting transporting if the juvenile committed a crime that would constitute a class A designated felony act, class B designated felony act, or a serious violent felony. There must be: a hearing scheduled within 24 hours of being held (excluding weekends and holidays); no existing acceptable alternative placement; complete sight and sound separation; and separate staff for children and adults. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-504, 15-11-504 (5)(D), and 15-11-560.

During this time, Georgia law requires for total separation such that there is no verbal, visual, or physical contact. This includes separation during program activities such as: recreation, education, counseling, health care, dining, sleeping, and general living activities. Georgia also requires these facilities to provide separate staff for children and adults, specifically direct care staff such as recreation, education, and counseling. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-504 and 15-11-504 (5)(D).

### **Legal Standard for Jail Removal**

*The state of Georgia's instance rate of non-compliance with Jail Removal in 2015 was 1.23. Due to Georgia's rate being above 0 and below 9.0 per 100,000 juvenile population under De Minimis Option 1, Georgia is in compliance.*

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In 2015, Georgia reported an instance rate of non-compliance with jail removal of 1.23. The state of Georgia is seeking to be found in compliance under the *De Minimis* Compliance Option 1.

*De Minimis* Compliance Option 1:

Rate is above 0 and is at or below 9.0 per 100,000 juvenile population:

1. State is in compliance for numerical *De Minimus* if the state has developed an acceptable plan to eliminate non-compliant incidents through the enactment or enforcement of state law, rule, or state-wide executive judicial policy, education, the provision of alternatives, or other effective means.

In 2015, Georgia reported an instance rate of 1.23. While these incidents did not indicate a pattern or practice, Georgia's DSA will remain ever vigilant and will continue to monitor this closely.

In order to continue eliminate instances of non-compliance, Georgia has passed a juvenile justice reform bill, continues to provide education and training, and continues to keep open communication with local sheriffs and jail staff.

In pursuant to Section 223(a)(13) of the JJDP Act, the state of Georgia shall not detain status offenders, non-offenders, and delinquent juveniles in an adult jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility except under allowed exceptions. There are no exceptions allowing status offenders or non-offenders to be detained in an adult jail, adult lock up, or adult detention center. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-135, 15-11-2 (22), and 15-11-412.

In 2015, Georgia reported 24 instances of youth who were accused of status offenses for any period of time in an adult jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility. The number of instances are a result of status offenders being kept awaiting arrival of their parents, held for court hearing or being transferred to a Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC). In efforts to eradicate such violations, state and local staff took immediate action to provide information to local facilities to ensure they understand the requirements of federal and state law and to prevent the violation from reoccurring. A site is currently being scheduled to ensure the facilities are in compliance.

Juvenile delinquents shall not be detained in an adult jail, adult lock up, or adult detention facility except under allowed exceptions. A juvenile delinquent shall only be detained in a: licensed foster home; home provided by the court; home of child's non-custodial parent/relative; licensed child welfare agency; or secure/non-secure juvenile residential facility. A juvenile aged 15 years or older who committed a crime that would constitute a class A designated felony, class B designated felony act, or a serious violent felony (murder, aggravated child molestation rape, armed robbery with a firearm, aggravated sodomy, aggravated sexual battery, and kidnapping). may be detained for up to six hours in an adult jail, adult lockup, or other adult detention facility for the purpose of identification, processing, or awaiting transportation. There must be: a hearing

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scheduled within 24 hours of being held (excluding weekends and holidays); no existing acceptable alternative placement; complete sight and sound separation; and separate staff for children and adults. This can be found at O.C.G.A. 15-11-504, 15-11-504 (5)(D), and 15-11-560.

In 2015, Georgia reported nine instances of youth who were accused of delinquent offenses in excess of six hours. The Compliance Monitor contacted the facilities where violations occurred. The number of instances were in violation due to the time constraint of six hours regarding transportation from the adult facilities to secure juvenile detention or correctional facilities. The instances of non-compliance with jail removal were unintentional and isolated. The instances do not indicate a pattern or practice. In efforts to eradicate such violations, state and local staff took immediate action to provide information to local facilities to ensure they understand the requirements of federal and state law and to prevent the violation from reoccurring.

Also, a DJJ field monitor conducts annual visits, while submitted both monthly and annual reports to the DSA. As previously mentioned, the DSA appointed a Juvenile Detention Compliance Monitor who conducts audit-like field visits to all the facilities reported in the annual and monthly jail reports. These visits serve as another means to educate and ensure compliance, while also confirming submitted data. The visit includes discussing alternatives places where a facility can hold a juvenile once the six hour exception has been reached and non-secure areas a juvenile can be placed.

The Compliance Monitor has convened multiple regional training events, all of the sessions were well attended. Specific training for intake and court personnel occurred in 1995, 1997, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2010, and will occur in 2016. During the trainings, all core requirements are thoroughly discussed. The Compliance Monitor also keeps open communication with the Georgia Sheriff's Association and Georgia's Jail Association. The Compliance Monitor is scheduled to conduct a 1-hour Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T) certified course on JJDP A Compliance at the Georgia Jail Association Conference in 2016.

The DSA, the Governor's Office and Children and Family Services (GOCFS), juvenile courts, the State Advisory Group (SAG), and the DJJ will continue to educate law enforcement, jail administration, courts, and intake personnel on the federal and state requirements to ensure and maintain compliance.

Georgia's SAG meets on a quarterly basis. At these meetings, the Compliance Monitor reports the status update and any instances regarding compliance monitoring in relation to the JJDP A.

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**Plan for Reducing Disproportionate Representation of Minority Youth**

**Phase I. Identification**

**DMC Data Discussion**

Georgia has improved and updated its Relative Rate Index (RRI) data collection and now has CY 2006-2014 data available statewide. Since 2006, the Designated State Agency (DSA) has worked with partner state agencies, such as Georgia Council of Juvenile Court Judges, Georgia's Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Georgia Public Defender Standards Council, to collect and analyze juvenile justice data in Georgia. Georgia's Juvenile Data Clearinghouse was developed to collect and present disproportionate minority contact (DMC) data in the state of Georgia. Due to waiting on the service provider to "clean" the data, there is currently some delay in the 2015 data, as the service provider is ensuring the data is "clean." The 2015 data should be up on Georgia's Juvenile Data Clearinghouse ([www.juveniledata.georgia.gov](http://www.juveniledata.georgia.gov)) soon and will be uploaded to the DMC Web-based Data Entry System accordingly.

This is the ninth year of the RRI study, and Georgia will continue to use the RRI as a baseline measure to examine trends over past and future years. Please note, RRI values that are more than and less than 1.00 reflects disproportionate contact in the juvenile justice system. Georgia's RRI is formed based on aggregate data containing both duplicated and unduplicated count, depending on the decision point.

In past years, DMC was assessed collectively statewide and separately in the counties of Fulton, DeKalb, and Gwinnett. Statistically, these three counties contain the state's largest concentration of minority juvenile populations; however, we have been unable to provide funding for Gwinnett County due to non-compliance with service delivery standards and have substituted a comparable metropolitan county, Clayton, as a permanent replacement.

Georgia's statewide RRI data identifies where DMC may exist within the juvenile justice system. The DMC Subcommittee and State Advisory Group (SAG) determine where efforts should be targeted based on the data collected. With our growing population in Georgia, it is important to address promptly the increasing disparity within the system.

**Statewide**

In 2014, four minority groups qualified under the 1% rule: White, African American, Hispanic, and Asian youth. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Other/Mixed did not meet the 1% rule. This data reflects the same four minority groups that met the 1% rule in Georgia since 2011.

Data from 2014 show differences in the rate of contact based on race or ethnicity. The two stages where differences are more pronounced in the justice system for all minorities include cases

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resulting in probation placement and cases transferred to adult court. In 2010, minority youth were 1.98 times more likely than White youth to have a case result in probation placement, and in 2014, the likelihood dropped to 1.68. In 2010, minority youth were 3.35 times more likely than White youth to be transferred to adult court, and in 2014, the likelihood was 1.99. We believe this decrease is a reflection of the passing of the new Children's Code, as well as funding support for DMC efforts that have been available through the Title II Formula Program.

Overall, Black or African American youth showed statistically significant higher RRI values than other minorities. Data from 2014 shows Black or African American youth are 1.87 times more likely to be arrested than White youth. In comparison, Hispanic or Latino youth are 64% less likely to be arrested than White youth. Between 2010 and 2014, RRI values for Black or African American youth decreased at five of the nine contact stages (cases involving secure detention, cases resulting in delinquent findings, cases resulting in probation placement, cases resulting in secure confinement, and cases transferred to adult court). Hispanic or Latino and Asian youth also saw changes in disproportionality between 2010 and 2014. Hispanic or Latino youth were 1.22 times more likely than White youth to have a case diverted. This is a 47% increase from 2010 (0.75 RRI). In 2010, Asian youth were 3.33 times more likely to have their case referred to juvenile court.

The most complete and accurate data available is at the secure detention stage and it is believed that valid comparisons of disproportionate minority contact can be examined at this point. Thus, this will be examined statewide and in each target county. The likelihood of a case resulting in secure detention for a minority youth was 1.63 in 2010, and by 2014 the likelihood decreased to 1.52.

Although these changes are positive and reflect Georgia's commitment to reducing DMC, they also show that a lot of work must be done to ensure youth, regardless of race or ethnicity, are treated fairly in the juvenile justice system.

### **Fulton County**

In 2014, four minority groups in Fulton County qualified under the 1% rule: White, African American, Hispanic, and Asian youth. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Other/Mixed did not meet the 1% rule. This data reflects the same four minority groups that met the 1% rule in Georgia since 2011. In 2014, the Fulton County juvenile population comprised 9% of Georgia's total juvenile population. Fulton County is a majority-minority county. Minority youth make up the majority of the juvenile population, 146,517 of the 218,622 at-risk youth (67%).

Data from 2014 show differences in the rate of contact based on race or ethnicity. The following compares 2010 data to 2014 data. In 2010, minority youth were 3.26 times more likely than White youth to have a case involving secure detention. By 2014, this decreased to 2.42. This decrease reflects Georgia's commitment to reduce DMC. The stage where the difference is more pronounced in the juvenile justice system for all minorities is when minorities are referred to

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juvenile court. In 2010, the minority youth were 5.56 times more likely than White youth to be referred to juvenile court. In 2014, the likelihood increased to 7.8. With such a significant change, the DMC Subcommittee and the DMC Coordinator will work together to understand and appropriately address this concern.

The most complete and accurate data available is at the secure detention stage, and it is believed that valid comparisons of DMC can be examined at this point. The likelihood of a case resulting in secure detention for a minority youth was 3.26 in 2010, and by 2014 the likelihood decreased to 2.42.

### **Clayton County**

In 2014, four minority groups in Clayton County qualified under the 1% rule: White, African American, Hispanic, and Asian youth. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Other/Mixed did not meet the 1% rule. This data reflects the same four minority groups that met the 1% rule in Clayton County since 2010. In 2014, the Clayton County juvenile population comprised 3% of Georgia's total juvenile population. Clayton County is a majority-minority county. Minority youth make up the majority of the juvenile population, 64,423 of the 71,635 at-risk youth (90%).

Data from 2014 show differences in the rate of contact based on race or ethnicity. The stage where the difference is more pronounced in the justice system for all minorities is when a youth is referred to juvenile court and cases petitioned. In 2010, all minority youth were 1.53 times more likely than White youth to have their case referred to juvenile court. By 2014, this increased to 2.84. With such a significant change, the DMC Subcommittee and the DMC Coordinator will work together to understand and appropriately address this concern.

The most complete and accurate data available is at the secure detention stage, and it is believed that valid comparisons of DMC can be examined at this point. The likelihood of a case resulting in secure detention for a minority youth was 0.88 in 2010, and by 2014, the likelihood decreased to 0.58. This shows that a minority youth is 42% less likely than a White youth to have a case result in secure detention. As noted, all RRI values above or *below* 1.00 reflect disproportionality in contact. The DMC Subcommittee and the DMC Coordinator will work together to discuss and understand this occurrence in Clayton.

### **DeKalb County**

In 2014, four minority groups in DeKalb County qualified under the 1% rule: White, African American, Hispanic, and Asian youth. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Other/Mixed did not meet the 1% rule. This data reflects the same four minority groups that met the 1% rule in DeKalb County since 2010. In 2014, the DeKalb County juvenile population comprised 4% of Georgia's total juvenile at-risk population. DeKalb County is a majority-minority county. Minority youth make up the majority of the juvenile population, 76,985 of the 97,343 at-risk youth (79 %).



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Please note, none of 2014 data were statistically significant, the data presented is from 2013. Data from 2013 show differences in the rate of contact based on race or ethnicity. The stage where the difference is more pronounced in the justice system for all minorities is cases involving secure detention. This is also where the most complete and accurate data is available, and it is believed that valid comparisons of DMC can be examined at this point. The likelihood of a case resulting in secure detention for a minority youth was 8.12 in 2010, and by 2013, the likelihood increased to 11.41. Specifically, Black or African American and Hispanic or Latino youth showed significant differences in cases involving secure detention. In 2011, the RRI value was 9.78; by 2013, the value rose to 14.15. Whereas, in 2010, the Hispanic or Latino youth RRI value was 2.97, by 2013 the value rose to 3.62. With such a significant change, the DMC Subcommittee and the DMC Coordinator will work together to understand and appropriately address this concern.

Although reported data for DeKalb is limited, the service provider and DMC Subcommittee is actively working to address the limited reported data for DeKalb. DeKalb County switched to a juvenile database and has not been able to make the appropriate conversion to the Juvenile Courts Activity Tracking System (JCATS) to provide data for comparisons. Without the missing data, we cannot provide a comprehensive analysis of DMC in DeKalb. Additionally, the state is currently working on the Juvenile Data Exchange (JDEX) project that will further improve the accuracy of juvenile justice data collection by acting as a data repository system. JDEX plans to be live in the fall of 2016. More information can be found at <http://jdex.georgiacourts.gov/>.

Please see Attachment A - RRI Tracking Sheet Georgia 2014.

Each of following sections (statewide, Fulton County, Clayton County, and DeKalb County) contains two charts with 2014 data. The first chart identifies the RRI values that are statistically significant. The second chart shows the difference in the number of contacts necessary between minorities and the juvenile justice stage to be at statistical parity, or statistical equal, with the White non-Hispanic and/or majority youth.

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**Statewide**

Please see Attachment H - RRI Tracking Sheet Georgia 2014, worksheet labeled ‘Statewide.’

The following chart identifies the RRI values statewide that are statistically significant,

Relative Rate Index Compared with :	White							
	White	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders	American Indian or Alaska Native	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	1.00	<b>1.87</b>	<b>0.36</b>	**	*	*	*	<b>1.38</b>
3. Refer to Juvenile Court	1.00	<b>1.49</b>	<b>2.02</b>	**	*	*	*	<b>1.52</b>
4. Cases Diverted	1.00	<b>1.08</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>2.05</b>	*	*	*	<b>1.10</b>
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	1.00	<b>1.52</b>	<b>1.43</b>	<b>1.69</b>	*	*	*	<b>1.52</b>
6. Cases Petitioned	1.00	<b>1.23</b>	<b>1.32</b>	1.02	*	*	*	<b>1.23</b>
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	1.00	<b>0.93</b>	<b>0.86</b>	0.88	*	*	*	<b>0.93</b>
8. Cases resulting in Probation Placement	1.00	<b>1.70</b>	<b>1.35</b>	**	*	*	*	<b>1.68</b>
9. Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure	1.00	0.95	0.90	**	*	*	*	<b>0.94</b>
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	1.00	<b>2.11</b>	1.15	**	*	*	*	<b>1.99</b>
Group meets 1% threshold?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Key:								
Statistically significant results:			<b>Bold font</b>					
Results that are not statistically significant			Regular font					
Group is less than 1% of the youth population			*					
Insufficient number of cases for analysis			**					
Missing data for some element of calculation			---					

The following chart identifies the needed change statewide in contact to achieve statistical parity,

**Changes Needed to reach Statistical Parity with Reference Group Rates of Contact**

Note - All calculated values are shown, including those with non-significant RRI scores.

	White	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Hawaiian or other Pacific	American Indian or Alaskan	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	0	-4853	1421	634	0	13	-431	-3216
3. Refer to Juvenile Court	0	-6903	-1117	-82	0	5	-123	-8220
4. Cases Diverted	0	-538	-151	-29	0	-1	-10	-728
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	0	-2912	-253	-16	0	2	-121	-3302
6. Cases Petitioned	0	-1751	-255	0	0	2	-25	-2030
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	0	456	105	3	0	-1	-19	544
8. Cases resulting in Probation Placement	0	-367	-19	1	0	-1	-20	-406
9. Cases Resulting in Secure Confinement	0	61	12	3	0	-1	-3	72
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	0	-85	-1	0	0	-2	1	-87

The greatest **volume** of disproportionality continues to occur at the juvenile arrest (-4,853) and referrals to juvenile court (-6,903) stages for African American youth, according to 2014 data. Georgia’s DMC Subcommittee initiatives have continued to focus on referrals to juvenile court and establishing better school, law enforcement, and judicial partnerships. Comparatively, in 2010, the juvenile arrest volume of disproportionality was -6,541 and the referrals to juvenile court were -9,013. Georgia is committed to reducing DMC and continuing the success of Georgia’s Juvenile Justice Reform work and will continue to target these areas.

As stated, the most complete and accurate data available is at the secure detention stage, and it is believed that valid comparisons of DMC can be examined at this point. The volume of disproportionality of a case resulting in secure detention for a minority youth was -5,535 in 2010, and by 2014, this decreased to -3,030. Georgia’s Juvenile Justice Reform work has specifically focused on providing community-based alternatives to secure detention that has both diverted

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youth and reduced disproportionality in cases involving secure detention. This aggressive stance on reforming the juvenile justice system, as well as the funding support for evidence-based alternatives provided through Title II Formula program, has positively influenced DMC.

Note: The state has attached the required RRI Analysis and Tracking sheets; however, not all of the OJJDP measures (Statistically Significant, Magnitude, Volume, Comparison, and Contextual Considerations) apply or can be reasonably attributed to DMC, either statewide or in the target jurisdictions. Given that the extent of DMC and its contributing factors varies widely by states and within individual jurisdictions across the states, it is felt that any attempt to compare Georgia's rates to other states would be spurious; therefore, no comparisons will be made.

### Fulton

Please see Attachment A - RRI Tracking Sheet Georgia 2014, worksheet labeled 'Fulton'.

The following chart identifies the RRI values for Fulton that are statistically significant,

Relative Rate Index Compared with :	White							
	White	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders	American Indian or Alaska Native	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
3. Refer to Juvenile Court	1.00	<b>9.41</b>	<b>1.43</b>	**	*	*	*	<b>7.18</b>
4. Cases Diverted	1.00	<b>0.79</b>	0.93	**	*	*	*	<b>0.80</b>
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	1.00	<b>2.51</b>	<b>1.44</b>	**	*	*	*	<b>2.42</b>
6. Cases Petitioned	1.00	<b>1.42</b>	1.14	**	*	*	*	<b>1.39</b>
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	1.00	<b>1.42</b>	1.06	**	*	*	*	<b>1.41</b>
8. Cases resulting in Probation Placement	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
9. Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
Group meets 1% threshold?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	

Key:  
 Statistically significant results: **Bold font**  
 Results that are not statistically significant: Regular font  
 \* Group is less than 1% of the youth population  
 \*\* Insufficient number of cases for analysis  
 --- Missing data for some element of calculation

The following chart identifies the needed change statewide in contact to achieve statistical parity,

#### Changes Needed to reach Statistical Parity with Reference Group Rates of Contact

Note - All calculated values are shown, including those with non-significant RRI scores.

	White	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Hawaiian or other Pacific	American Indian or Alaskan	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Refer to Juvenile Court	0	-3369	-42	56	0	2	-100	-3452
4. Cases Diverted	0	524	7	-1	0	0	-6	523
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	0	-995	-11	0	0	0	12	-995
6. Cases Petitioned	0	-524	-6	1	0	0	7	-523
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	0	-147	-1	0	0	0	-1	-148
8. Cases resulting in Probation Placement	0	-118	-2	0	0	0	-2	-122
9. Cases Resulting in Secure Confinement	0	0	-19	0	0	0	0	-19
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	0	0	-31	0	0	0	0	-31

The greatest **volume** of disproportionality continues to occur at the juvenile referral (-3,369) stage for African American youth, according to 2014 data. Comparatively, in 2010 the volume of

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disproportionality was -3,803, showing a decrease in volume. Georgia's DMC Subcommittee initiatives have continued to focus on referrals to juvenile court and establishing better school, law enforcement, and judicial partnerships. The second largest volume of disproportionality occurs at the cases involving secure detention. This is where the most complete and accurate data available is at and it is believed that valid comparisons of DMC can be examined at this point. In 2010, the volume of disproportionality was -1,316 and in 2014, the volume was -995. Georgia's Juvenile Justice Reform work has specifically focused on providing community-based alternatives to secure detention that has both diverted youth and reduced disproportionality in cases involving secure detention. This aggressive stance on reforming the juvenile justice system, as well as the funding support for evidence-based alternatives through Title II Formula program, has positively influenced DMC.

Fulton County Juvenile Court has had strong representation on the statewide DMC Subcommittee. The Chief Probation Officer of the Fulton County Juvenile Court is a very active member of the DMC Subcommittee. Additionally, the Chief Judge has been very supportive of efforts to address DMC statewide and in Fulton County. The reduction of disproportionality and the commitment of the local jurisdiction further support Georgia's ongoing commitment to reducing DMC and the success of Georgia's Juvenile Justice Reform work. On October 9, 2015, Fulton County partnered with the City of Atlanta to host a School Justice Summit to discuss opportunities for stakeholders to collaborate to address school referrals and school discipline alternatives. The DMC Subcommittee and DSA supported and helped coordinate these efforts, but local stakeholders initiated them. Fulton County is committed to reducing DMC and ensuring all youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system are treated fairly and equally regardless of race.

Note: The state has attached the required RRI Analysis and Tracking sheets; however, not all of the OJJDP measures (Statistically Significant, Magnitude, Volume, Comparison, and Contextual Considerations) apply or can be reasonably attributed to DMC, either statewide or in the target jurisdictions.

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**Clayton**

Please see Attachment A - RRI Tracking Sheet Georgia 2014, worksheet labeled ‘Clayton’

The following chart identifies the RRI values for Clayton that are statistically significant,

Relative Rate Index Compared with :	White							
	White	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders	American Indian or Alaska Native	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
3. Refer to Juvenile Court	1.00	<b>3.52</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.34</b>	*	*	*	<b>2.84</b>
4. Cases Diverted	1.00	<b>0.66</b>	0.88	**	*	*	*	<b>0.68</b>
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	1.00	<b>0.58</b>	<b>0.57</b>	**	*	*	*	<b>0.58</b>
6. Cases Petitioned	1.00	<b>1.99</b>	1.34	**	*	*	*	<b>1.94</b>
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
8. Cases resulting in Probation Placement	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
9. Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
Group meets 1% threshold?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	

Key:  
 Statistically significant results: **Bold font**  
 Results that are not statistically significant: Regular font  
 Group is less than 1% of the youth population: \*  
 Insufficient number of cases for analysis: \*\*  
 Missing data for some element of calculation: ---

The following chart identifies the needed change statewide in contact to achieve statistical parity,

**Changes Needed to reach Statistical Parity with Reference Group Rates of Contact**

Note - All calculated values are shown, including those with non-significant RRI scores.

	White	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Hawaiian or other Pacific	American Indian or Alaskan	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Refer to Juvenile Court	0	-1184	39	20	0	2	-43	-1167
4. Cases Diverted	0	415	8	2	0	0	7	431
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	0	232	14	3	0	0	6	255
6. Cases Petitioned	0	-415	-8	-1	0	0	-7	-431
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	0	-8	7	1	0	0	-2	-2
8. Cases resulting in Probation Placement	0	18	1	0	0	0	1	21
9. Cases Resulting in Secure Confinement	0	-9	0	0	0	0	0	-9
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	0	-4	0	0	0	0	0	-4

The greatest **volume** of disproportionality continues to occur at the juvenile referral (-1,184) stage for Black or African American youth. Georgia’s DMC Subcommittee initiatives have continued to focus on referrals to juvenile court and establishing better school, law enforcement, and judicial partnerships. In 2010, the volume of disproportionality was -2,248. As mentioned, the most complete and accurate data available is at the secure detention stage, and valid comparisons of disproportionate minority contact can be examined at this point. The volume of disproportionality of a case resulting in secure detention for a minority youth was 91 in 2010, and by 2014, it was 255. Unlike other jurisdictions, a minority youth is significantly less likely to have a case involving secure detention than a White youth. The DMC Subcommittee and Coordinator will further examine this occurrence. The reduction of disproportionality and the commitment of the local jurisdiction further support Georgia’s ongoing commitment to reducing DMC and the success of Georgia’s Juvenile Justice Reform work.

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Note: The state has attached the required RRI Analysis and Tracking sheets; however, not all of the OJJD measures (Statistically Significant, Magnitude, Volume, Comparison, and Contextual Considerations) apply or can be reasonably attributed to DMC, either statewide or in the target jurisdictions.

**DeKalb**

Please see Attachment A - RRI Tracking Sheet Georgia 2014, worksheet labeled ‘DeKalb.’

The following chart identifies the RRI values for DeKalb that are statistically significant,

Relative Rate Index Compared with :	White							
	White	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders	American Indian or Alaska Native	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
3. Refer to Juvenile Court	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
4. Cases Diverted	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
6. Cases Petitioned	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
8. Cases resulting in Probation Placement	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
9. Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	**	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
<b>Group meets 1% threshold?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	
Key:								
Statistically significant results:			<b>Bold font</b>					
Results that are not statistically significant			Regular font					
Group is less than 1% of the youth population			*					
Insufficient number of cases for analysis			**					
Missing data for some element of calculation			---					

The following chart identifies the needed change statewide in contact to achieve statistical parity,

**Changes Needed to reach Statistical Parity with Reference Group Rates of Contact**

Note - All calculated values are shown, including those with non-significant RRI scores.

	White	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Hawaiian or other Pacific	American Indian or Alaskan	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Refer to Juvenile Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Cases Diverted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Cases Petitioned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Cases resulting in Probation Placement	0	-106	-9	1	0	-2	-4	-120
9. Cases Resulting in Secure Confinement	0	-49	-3	-1	0	0	-3	-56
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	0	-14	0	0	0	-1	0	-15

The greatest **volume** of disproportionality occurs at the cases resulting in probation placement (-106) for Black or African American youth. Georgia’s DMC Subcommittee initiatives have continued to focus on referrals to juvenile court and establishing better school, law enforcement, and judicial partnerships. In 2010, the volume of disproportionality was -231. This data further emphasizes the need for Georgia to continue efforts for improvement for DMC in Georgia’s Juvenile Justice Reform work.

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One of DeKalb County's Juvenile Court judges is an active member of the statewide DMC Subcommittee and is extremely supportive of efforts to address DMC statewide and in DeKalb County. Their Court participated in a 2013 case review of school referrals where they shared their local data and their efforts with DeKalb School system to reduce school referrals to court with other courts. On November 12, 2015, DeKalb County partnered with the Juvenile Court and local school system to host a School Justice Summit to discuss opportunities for stakeholders to collaborate to address school referrals and school discipline alternatives. The DMC Subcommittee and DSA supported and helped coordinate these efforts, but local stakeholders initiated them.

Note: The state has attached the required RRI Analysis and Tracking sheets; however, not all of the OJJDP measures (Statistically Significant, Magnitude, Volume, Comparison, and Contextual Considerations) apply or can be reasonably attributed to DMC, either statewide or in the target jurisdictions.

## **Phase II. Assessments/Diagnosis**

Previous DMC assessments can be found on Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's DMC homepage, <https://cjcc.georgia.gov/dmc>.

In 2012, Georgia's SAG undertook its sixth study of minority overrepresentation in our state. The Carl Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia published *Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Assessment* in May of 2012. The assessment included a statewide and multi-county targeted analysis of DMC in Georgia. The target counties were Chatham, Clayton, DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, and Newton.

The assessment identified the following:

- At the **state level**, disproportionality occurs most acutely at **sentencing to adult court**, while at the **county level** disproportionality occurs most acutely at the **referral stage**.
- The disproportionality in the target counties is largely explainable through two contributing mechanisms: **mobility effects** and **differential behavior**.
- The current data system that exists for the Georgia juvenile justice system is inadequate for the robust study that DMC requires.
- The development and institution of new policies for the collection of better data are imperative for any conducting of a deeper, more robust DMC study in the future.

The assessment identified the following recommendations:

- While it is difficult to assess the cause of differential offending, prevention and early intervention programs might help lower differential offending.
- Cultural competency training can be used within a police force to heighten awareness about DMC and underscore the importance of eliminating unnecessary juvenile arrests

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and referrals. Sensitivity training may also help front line interactions with youth and reduce differential offending patterns.

- Implementing a policy of more complete and harmonized data across systems would greatly improve DMC analysis and go a long way to helping reduce DMC within Georgia. Simply having harmonized data that includes all decision points at a disaggregated level would be a huge boon for future DMC analyzes.
- Overwhelmingly, referral to court is the decision point with the highest DMC for the six counties (Chatham, Clayton, DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton).

Our 2012 DMC Assessment identified the following areas of concern for **Fulton**:

Fulton County has a number of crime groups that are disproportionately greater for Black youth than for White youth. These are felony property, felony public order, felony and misdemeanor violent, felony violent sex, felony weapons violations, misdemeanor sex non-violent, and misdemeanor and status violation of parole. These crimes have RRI's that range from 13.2 to 41.5. Most of these crimes are either just as severe as their White counterparts or are actually slightly less severe. These crime groups account for 31% of the RRI. Because the crimes are equally severe, this indicates differential offending as a contributing mechanism.

Our 2012 DMC Assessment identified the following areas of concern for **DeKalb**:

DeKalb County has five categories of crimes that are disproportionately greater for

Black youth than for White youth. These are felony drug selling, felony violent, misdemeanor public

order, misdemeanor sex non-violent, and misdemeanor violent. These five crime groups account for 15% of the RRI. When intake occurs for these youth, the same criminal behavior leads to different charges despite minority groups' less severe crimes.

The DMC Assessment did not individually identify areas of concern for Clayton; however, based on the general findings, the State assumes Clayton experiences similar issues, such as differential offending and mobility effects.

As mentioned, the full assessment is available at <https://cjcc.georgia.gov/dmc>.

Due to legislative and demographic changes in Georgia over the past three years, the DSA contracted with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) to conduct a new assessment of DMC in Georgia in 2015. The new assessment will be valuable to identify areas of concern within the state and within the juvenile justice system. We will continue established research methods as outlined by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and expand these methods to compare criminal justice contact between minorities and non-minorities by types of crime. The assessment will then supplement this research with targeted interviews with juveniles and representatives working in the juvenile



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justice system. The goal is to establish a narrative from both sides of the issue about perceptions of the juvenile justice system that is supplemented and enhanced with evidence from secondary data.

The assessment will be made up of two related papers. The first will focus on identifying DMC, as previously mentioned, and the second will examine if specific juvenile justice reforms equalized contact for minority youth. Georgia passed the Juvenile Justice Reform Act in 2013, which aimed to divert and prevent youth from being involved deeper in the system and to appropriately serve youth based on his or her needs. To fully understand DMC, we must look at specific juvenile justice reforms and establish if these policies are changing the dynamic of juvenile contact with the juvenile justice system. The assessment is currently underway, and we expect the preliminary findings to be completed and presented to the DMC Subcommittee by December 2016.

### **Phase III. Intervention**

Georgia's SAG takes into account both Phase I. Identification and Phase II. Assessment/Diagnosis when determining Georgia's DMC intervention plan. Georgia's plan is to continue to support local efforts to mobilize communities to discuss and reduce DMC at the local level. Additionally, Georgia will continue to provide funds for community-based diversion programs as an alternative to secure detention to Georgia's three targeted counties (Fulton, Clayton, DeKalb) and other counties throughout the state.

Since Georgia's 2015 DMC Compliance Plan, we have continued to support and coordinate efforts to reduce DMC at the referrals to juvenile court and secure detention stages through local initiatives. These points of contact all have RRI values that are statistically significant, have high magnitudes ( RRI value of at least 1.5 or above), and have the greatest volume of activity. In efforts to build state-community relationships and DMC awareness, the State, along with key juvenile justice stakeholders, have held DMC focused webinars and forums. Additionally, in 2015, the State held three School Justice Partnerships forums in two of the three DMC targeted counties, Fulton, and DeKalb. A third School Justice Partnerships forum was held in Chatham County. The forums brought together school officials, teachers, police officers, DJJ, and the public to discuss how school and juvenile justice intersect, including a section focused on DMC. The forums and webinars are available at <http://cjcc.georgia.gov/dmc>.

As noted, Georgia will continue to provide funds for community-based diversion programs to Georgia's three targeted counties and other counties throughout the state. Currently, there are two grant programs, the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program (JJIGP) (supported by OJJDP and state funding) and the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Programs Grant (JDPTP) (supported by OJJDP funding).

The JJIGP continues to provide funding to local communities to provide community-based alternatives to detention for moderate- to high-risk delinquent youth with the goal of reducing recidivism. The JDPTP continues to provide funding to local communities to divert low-risk

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delinquent youth in the initial involvement with the juvenile justice system through intervention programming and aims to stop youth from having a delinquent adjudication. Most of these programs serve predominately minority populations and are in essence community-based diversion programs that provide juvenile court judges meaningful alternatives to detention. At any given time, approximately 75% of all projects funded with Formula Grant funds serve predominantly African American communities.

Per our annual Request for Proposals (RFPs) for the programs above, the DSA now requires all applicants to use an evidence-based/informed program listed on the OJJDP Model Programs website, such as Multisystemic Therapy (MST), Thinking for a Change (T4C), or Functional Family Therapy (FFT). More information on these grant program can be found below under the Local Project section and at <https://cjcc.georgia.gov/juvenile-justice-incentive-grant>.

In 2002, DJJ developed a validated Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI) used across the state to ensure consistency in the detention decision-making process. The DAI uses objective factors, such as current/past offenses and risk behaviors, to determine a youth's need for secure detention and allows for informed detention decisions to be made without bias, such as race or ethnicity. In order to further address disparity at the detention stage, in 2013, DJJ, in consultation with the DSA, developed a new instrument, Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment (PDRA), that would meet the statutory requirements of Georgia's new Children's Code (H.B. 242), effective January 1, 2014. The tool, validated by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, is now used across the State, as required in statute, and will provide an objective set of detention criteria based on risk, not race. The tool is conducted pre-disposition post-adjudication. The JJIGP requires all youth served through the grant program to score a moderate to high (score of two or above) on the PDRA. This further supports a major step in Georgia's continued DMC efforts.

In addition to our community and grant efforts that address disproportionality and disparity in Georgia's system, in 2015 Governor Nathan Deal proclaimed Georgia as a statewide Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) site (<http://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2015-07-29/deal-launches-juvenile-justice-committee>). As a result, a state Steering Committee was named and Georgia has begun to work with the Annie E. Casey Foundation to appropriate community support for juvenile offenders to enhance public safety and help misguided youth. One of the eight core strategies of the JDAI model is "combatting racial and ethnic disparities... to ensure a more level playing field for youth regardless of race or ethnicity." We believe this will have a positive effect on DMC in Georgia in the upcoming years. Please note, there are a couple of counties in Georgia, including Clayton and Fulton, which have been JDAI sites since the early 2000s. More information on JDAI can be found at <http://www.aecf.org/work/juvenile-justice/jdai/>.

All of the above mentioned strategies,

- 1) Encouraging community collaboration to reduce referrals and secure detention;
- 2) Providing education and awareness of DMC statewide;

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- 3) Requiring the use of validated assessment instruments for objectivity in decision-making;
- 4) Requiring grantees to use evidence-based programs as alternatives to adjudication for offenders in the beginning stages of juvenile justice involvement; and,
- 5) Requiring grantees to use evidence-based programming to provide alternatives to detention to keep youth in their homes and communities;

aim to ensure equal and fair treatment for all youth, regardless of race or ethnicity, at any point of contact with Georgia's juvenile justice system.

### **DMC Target Counties**

#### **Fulton County**

The Juvenile Court continues to utilize an alternative to detention approach that focuses on assessing a youth's needs and risk, (utilizing the YASI, DAI, PDRA) and referring them to services rather than detaining youth scoring at low or medium on the risk assessment instrument. The Court's primary alternative is referral to their Community Service Learning Program where youth are given the opportunity to learn and provide services while earning a small stipend. This fits in as a part of the Court's overall Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) approach. The Chief Probation Officer is a long-standing and regular contributing member of the statewide DMC Subcommittee. The Chief Probation Officer was also named to Georgia's JDAI Steering Committee. Fulton County also receives a Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant to provide MST and FFT to moderate- to high-risk juvenile offenders in lieu of out-of-home placement. In the 2014 - 2015 grant year, Fulton County served 81 youth in this program and reduced out-of-home placements by 38% from their 2012 baseline number. Fulton County also operates a tutoring and graduation assistance program for youth involved with the juvenile court. They operate this program with funds remaining on the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program. All youth served in this program are minority youth. Additionally, Fulton County is invested in reducing DMC by reducing arrests and referrals. To this end, Fulton County hosted a School Justice Partnership Summit in October 2015. Fulton County's judicial leadership has been very active in the collaboration for the event. For additional details on programming, please see **Local Projects**.

#### **Clayton County**

The Clayton County Juvenile Court continues to utilize an alternative to detention approach that focuses on assessing a youth's needs and risk and referring them to services rather than detaining youth scoring at low or medium on the risk assessment instrument. Judge Steven Teske sits on the SAG and the Director of Programs & Resource Development in Clayton County, Colin Slay, is the Chairman of the DMC Subcommittee. Both are long-standing and regular contributing members of the statewide DMC efforts and are on the JDAI Steering Committee. The Court's primary alternative is referral to their Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program where youth

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receive one service from a menu of options that includes FFT, MST, Aggression Replacement Training (ART), T4C, Seven Challenges (7C), and wraparound services. By offering an assortment of evidence-based programs, Clayton County is able to tailor an individual's service plan to their specific needs. In the 2014-2015 grant year, Clayton County served 88 youth in this program and reduced out-of-home placements by 63% from their 2012 baseline number. They offer a System of Care approach that seeks to restore and rehabilitate youth. Clayton County also spearheaded Georgia's efforts to create strong relationships between juvenile courts and school systems. Judge Teske has spent a lot of time studying and lecturing on the School to Prison Pipeline. He is the Chair of the School Pathways Committee of National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and helps other jurisdictions across the nation develop school-justice partnerships. Research conducted in Clayton County suggests that reducing school-based referrals has a positive impact on DMC.

Clayton County has also been a JDAI site in Georgia since 2003. Using JDAI as a model, Clayton County achieved a 44% reduction in its detention population by inviting juvenile justice stakeholders and child-serving agencies to participate in a collaborative process that provided support to detention reviews (citizen review panels). The success of this initiative led court officials to try a similar approach to address school-based referrals. After working with the community and school officials the court obtained written agreement with the schools that misdemeanor offenses against public order (affray, disorderly conduct) would not result in a complaint unless it constituted the youth's third offense. Overall school-based referrals are down by 52% and school based referrals of African American students are down by 46%. For additional details on programming, please see **Local Projects**.

### **DeKalb County**

The DeKalb County Juvenile Court continues to utilize an alternative to detention approach that focuses on assessing a youth's needs and risk and referring them to services rather than detaining youth scoring at low or medium on the risk assessment instrument. The Court's primary alternative is referral to their Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program where youth receive one service from a menu of options that includes FFT, MST, and T4C. By offering an assortment of evidence-based programs, DeKalb County is able to tailor an individual's service plan to their specific needs. In the 2014-2015 grant year, DeKalb County served 116 youth in this program and reduced out-of-home placements by 42% from their 2012 baseline number. DeKalb County is also invested in reducing DMC by reducing referrals. To this end, DeKalb County hosted a School Justice Partnership Summit in November 2015. DeKalb County's judicial leadership has been very active in the collaboration for the event. One of the DeKalb County Juvenile Court judges is a regular contributing member of the statewide DMC Subcommittee. DeKalb County also operates a tutoring and graduation assistance program for youth involved with the juvenile court. They operate this program with funds remaining on the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program. All youth served in this program are minority youth. For additional details on programming, please see **Local Projects**.

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## Local Projects

### Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program Grants:

#### Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program

Georgia's Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant provides funding to local governments to increase the number of evidence-based programming options for moderate- to high-risk delinquent youth as an alternative to detention. This program is funded primarily through state appropriations and secondly through OJJDP funding. We are specifically targeting reductions in **felony commitments to DJJ and admissions to short-term placement (STP)**. Counties must utilize evidence-based interventions for youth scoring moderate to high on Georgia's PDRA instrument, which measures risk of recidivating. All programs funded have a goal of reducing felony commitments and STP by 20% over their 2012 baseline. After the reduction has been achieved, the goal is to maintain (if not continue to reduce) the number of commitments.

How does this translate into DMC efforts?

In FY 2015, **70% of the youth who received felony commitment sentences or who were admitted to STP were African American youth**. So if we do not widen the net, and continue to focus on community-based services, we are directing our grant efforts to address DMC. By devoting significant state funding (\$5M-2013, \$6,125,000-2014, \$7,370,000-2015) to these grants specifically targeting a reduction in out-of-home placements, Georgia has shown its commitment to reducing DMC. Of the State FY15 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program participants, 69% were Black/African American, 20% were White, 7% were Hispanic, 3% were two or more races, and 1% were other.

Below is a list of the state FY16 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Programs across the state of Georgia:

#### **Athens-Clarke BOC - Y16-8-001**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Athens-Clarke will provide Thinking for a Change to **25 youth** in Clarke County.

#### **Augusta-Richmond BOC - Y16-8-002**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Augusta-Richmond Juvenile Court will provide Multisystemic Therapy to **30 youth** in Richmond County.

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**Baldwin County BOC - Y16-8-003**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Baldwin will provide Thinking for a Change to **25 youth** in Baldwin, Morgan, Greene, Jasper, Putnam, Jones, Wilkinson, and Hancock counties.

**Bibb County BOC - Y16-8-004**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Bibb County Juvenile Court will provide Aggression Replacement Training, Functional Family Therapy, and Botvin LifeSkills to **90 youth** in Bibb County.

**Chatham County BOC - Y16-8-005**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Chatham County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy and Aggression Replacement Training to **168 youth** in Chatham County.

**Cherokee County BOC - N12-8-003**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Cherokee will provide Multisystemic Therapy and Seven Challenges to **52 youth** in Cherokee County.

**Clay County BOC - Y16-8-007**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Clay County will provide the Strengthening Families Program to **16 families** in Clay County.

**Clayton County BOC - N12-8-004/T12-8-001**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Clayton County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy, Multisystemic Therapy, Seven Challenges, Thinking for a Change, and Aggression Replacement Training to **250 youth** in Clayton County.

**Cobb County BOC - T14-8-001**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Cobb County will provide Thinking for a Change, Brief Strategic Family Therapy, and Aggression Replacement Training to **50 youth** in Cobb County.

**Columbia County BOC - Y16-8-010**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Columbia County Juvenile Court will provide the Strengthening Families Program and Aggression Replacement Training to **28 youth** in Columbia County.

**Columbus County BOC - Y16-8-011**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Columbus Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy to **145 youth** in Muscogee County.

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**Coweta County BOC - Y16-8-012**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Coweta County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy to **48 youth** in Coweta, Meriwether, and Heard Counties.

**DeKalb County BOC - Y16-8-013**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- DeKalb County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy, Thinking for a Change, and Multisystemic Therapy to **60 youth** in DeKalb County.

**Dougherty County BOC - Y16-8-014**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Dougherty County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy to **62 youth** in Dougherty County.

**Douglas County BOC Y16-8-015**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Douglas County Juvenile Court will provide Aggression Replacement Training, the Strengthening Families Program, and Botvin LifeSkills to **50 youth** in Douglas County.

**Fayette County BOC - Y16-8-016**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Fayette County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy to **16 youth** in Fayette County.

**Forsyth County BOC - Y16-8-017**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Forsyth County will provide Aggression Replacement Training to **36 youth** in Forsyth County.

**Fulton County BOC Y16-8-018**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Fulton County Juvenile Court will provide Multisystemic Therapy and Functional Family Therapy to **100 youth** in Fulton County.

**Glynn County BOC - Y16-8-019**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Glynn County Juvenile Court will provide Thinking for a Change and Aggression Replacement Training to **50 youth** in Glynn County.

**Gwinnett County BOC - Y16-8-020**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Gwinnett County Juvenile Court will provide Thinking for a Change, Aggression Replacement Training, and Seven Challenges to **60 youth** in Gwinnett County.

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**Hall County BOC - Y16-8-021**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Hall County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy to **64 youth** in Hall County.

**Henry County BOC - Y16-8-022**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Henry County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy and Aggression Replacement Training to **60 youth** in Henry County.

**Houston County BOC - Y16-8-023**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Houston County will provide Multisystemic Therapy to **30 youth** in Houston County.

**Lowndes County BOC - Y16-8-024**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- Lowndes County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy to **96 youth** in Lowndes County.

**Lumpkin County BOC - Y16-8-025**

Project Period: 7/1/15-6/30/16

- The Enotah Judicial Circuit will provide Multidimensional Family Therapy, Botvin LifeSkills Program, and mentoring tutoring to **16 youth** in Lumpkin, Towns, Union, and White counties.

**Rockdale County BOC - Y16-8-026**

Project Period: 7/1/14-6/30/15

- Rockdale County Juvenile Court will provide Functional Family Therapy to **48 youth** in Rockdale County.

**Troup County BOC - Y16-8-027**

Project Period: 7/1/14-6/30/15

- Troup County Juvenile Court will provide Aggression Replacement Training and Thinking for a Change to **55 youth** in Troup County.

**Walker County BOC -Y16-8-028**

Project Period: 7/1/14-6/30/15

- The Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit will provide Connections to **25 youth** in Walker, Catoosa, Chattooga, and Dade counties.

We are currently finishing the Y16 grant year. The FY17 awards are in the process of being awarded; 25 applicants, covering 33 counties, will be awarded a grant. There were no new applications. Once the awards are made, the FY17 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program grantees can be found at <https://cjcc.georgia.gov/awards-2>. In addition to the Juvenile Justice



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Incentive Grant Program, Georgia has funded the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program Grant in FY16 (October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016).

**Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program Grants:**

Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program

Georgia's Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program provides funding to local governments to increase the number of evidenced-based programming options for youth at the initial stages of the juvenile court system. This program is funded through OJJDP. Youth entering into the program must have come into contact with the juvenile court system. Additionally, youth who are brought to court at no fault of their own, Children In Need of Services (CHINS), or dependency cases are not eligible for this programming.

How does this translate into DMC efforts?

Minority youth in Georgia have a higher rate of contact at all early contact points with the juvenile justice system in Georgia. Therefore, if we do not expand our current intake process and continue to focus on community-based services at early intervention, we are directing our grant efforts to address DMC. The majority of this funding goes to serve minority youth.

Below is a list of the state FY16 Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program Grant Programs across the state of Georgia:

**Cherokee County BOC – N13-8-001**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Cherokee County Juvenile Court will provide the Strengthening Families Program to serve **33 youth** in Cherokee County.

**Columbia County BOC - N13-8-002**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Columbia County Juvenile Court will provide Teen Peer Court program to serve **40 youth** in Columbia County.

**Columbus Consolidated Government - T14-8-007**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Columbus Consolidate Government Juvenile Court will provide the Strengthening Families Program to serve **33 youth** in Columbus County.

**Coweta County BOC - N13-8-003**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Coweta County will provide the Strengthening Families Program to serve **24 youth** in Coweta County.

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**Douglas County BOC - T14-8-004**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Douglas County will provide the Strengthening Families Program and Positive Action programs to serve **50 youth** in Douglas County.

**Fayette County BOC - N13-8-004**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Fayette County will provide the Strengthening Families Program to serve **33 youth** in Fayette County.

**Glynn County BOC - T14-8-005**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Glynn County will provide the Strengthening Families Program to serve **30 youth** in Glynn County.

**Gwinnett County BOC - T13-8-002**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Gwinnett County will provide Thinking for a Change, Aggression Replacement Training, Seven Challenges, and the Strengthening Families Program serve **40 youth** in Gwinnett County.

**Lowndes County BOC - T14-8-006**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Lowndes County Juvenile Court will provide the Strengthening Families Program to serve **33 youth** in Newton County.

**Newton County BOC - T14-8-008**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Newton County Juvenile Court will provide Botvin LifeSkills and the Strengthening Families Program to serve **30 youth** in Newton County.

**Rockdale County BOC - T13-8-003**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Rockdale County will provide the Strengthening Families Program to serve **34 youth** in Rockdale County.

**Sumter County BOC - T14-8-009**

Project Period: 10/03/15-09/30/16

- Sumter County Juvenile Court will provide Positive Action program to serve **125 youth** in Newton County.

The JJTDP is supported through OJJDP funding. Unfortunately, due a reduction in funding, the program will not be renewed after the current grant cycle. The DSA will continue to look for alternative funding for prevention and early intervention programming. In addition to the

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Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program Grant, the state has funded two Educational Enhancement Projects in CY16 (January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015).

**Educational Enhancement Project:**

Educational Enhancement Project

Education plays a key role in prevention and reducing juvenile recidivism. The Education Enhancement Projects (EEP) are awarded to Fulton and DeKalb counties to fund alternative educational programs using OJJDP funding. Basic literacy and education skills are fundamental to a youth's success. Programs funded through EEP allow for court involved youth who have become detached or removed from traditional school systems to continue their education through community based services.

How does this translate into DMC efforts?

There are two recipients of the Educational Enhancement Project award, Fulton and DeKalb. Both counties are target counties for Georgia. All youth served in both projects are minority youth.

Below is a list of the state CY16 Educational Enhancement Project:

**DeKalb County BOC – N13-8-005**

**Project Period 1/1/16-12/31/16**

DeKalb County also operates a tutoring and graduation assistance program for youth involved with the juvenile court. They operate this program with funds remaining on the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program. DeKalb County plans to serve 50 youth. All youth served in this program are minority youth.

**Fulton County BOC - N13-8-006**

**Project Period 1/1/16-12/31/16**

Fulton County also operates a tutoring and graduation assistance program for youth involved with the juvenile court. They operate this program with funds remaining on the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program. Fulton County plans to serve 25 youth. All youth served in this program are minority youth.

**Georgia DMC Reduction Plan – Progress FY 2015**

Georgia's DMC Subcommittee continued to meet on a regular basis (at least quarterly) to evaluate DMC activities and further refine the state and local DMC plans. We did not have any unimplemented DMC activities and thus, no obstacles to overcome.

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**Goal A**

**Georgia will collect and analyze available Relative Rate Index (RRI) data for youth statewide and in the three targeted counties (Fulton, DeKalb, Clayton).**

**Objective A**

Allow Georgia to effectively monitor DMC trends and establish a baseline statewide and in three targeted counties (Fulton, DeKalb, Clayton).

**Status Update A:** 2007-2014 RRI data collected and is included in this report. Georgia collects and reports RRI data every year as part of its annual Title II application to OJJDP. The DMC Coordinator presents this information to the DMC Subcommittee and SAG. Georgia developed a publicly accessible website that provides RRI data statewide and for all 159 counties ([www.juveniledata.georgia.gov](http://www.juveniledata.georgia.gov)). The DSA requested DMC technical assistance in 2015. As a result of the DMC technical assistance provided by OJJDP, the DMC Coordinator and DMC Subcommittee are working with Elizabeth Spinney and Dr. Feyerherm. Dr. Feyerherm is providing Georgia with a preliminary analysis of Fulton's RRI data and providing information on similar counties. Additionally, the state is currently working on the JDEX project that will further improve the accuracy of juvenile justice data collection by acting as a data repository system.

**Goal B**

**Georgia will continue to award formula grant funds to projects providing prevention/early intervention services to localities with emphasis on minority youth.**

**Objective B**

Funding of prevention/early intervention projects will have a positive impact on the juvenile Arrest and Referral rate of minority youth.

**Status Update B:** A RFP was issued July 2015, and awards for new projects (based on merits of the application) were made October 2015. The DSA currently funds 14 local juvenile courts across the state. Programming includes: Strengthening Families Program, Botvin Lifeskills, Positive Action, Thinking for a Change, and Teen Peer Court. Georgia's Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program provides funding to local governments to increase the number of evidenced based programming options for youth with a low risk delinquent charge at the initial stages of the juvenile court system to prevent further involvement with the system.

In the spring of 2016, the DSA was awarded the Status Offender Reform System Technical Assistance opportunity provided by the Vera Institute of Justice. The project provides technical assistance to a local jurisdiction in Georgia (Cherokee County) to improve the system in regards

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to status offenders (CHINS). Through this opportunity, we formed a stakeholders group made up of local DJJ employees, judges, court staff, school resource officers, and service providers. The DSA plans to use this opportunity as another opportunity to raise awareness on the local level regarding DMC. Cherokee County has a growing population; between 2010 and 2014, it has seen a 12% increase in the number of at-risk minority youth.

Additionally, the DMC Subcommittee has also taken an active role in assisting with the coordination of School Justice Summits. Chatham, Fulton, and DeKalb Counties, in collaboration with the DMC Coordinator, DMC Subcommittee, Administrative Office of the Courts, and local partners, hosted School Justice Summits in FY15. These Summits consisted of school officials, teachers, DJJ employees, school resource officers, local police, parents, CJCC employees, and other stakeholders to raise awareness on how the school system and juvenile justice interact, including a portion on DMC. This is part of Georgia's on-going efforts to target DMC, specifically at the arrest/referral stage. On July 30, 2013 the DMC Subcommittee also hosted an annual statewide conference in Forsyth County, which targeted school resource officers and administrators in order to reduce DMC in school referrals. The Forum to Increase Evidence-Based Practices by Addressing Disparities in the System Efforts to Eliminate DMC had over 100 participants. In addition, per the request of the LaGrange Juvenile Court, the DMC Subcommittee hosted a DMC Forum on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in Lagrange, GA. Over 85 participants were present, including school resource officers, administrators, teachers, and probation officers.

### **Goal C**

**Georgia will continue to award formula grant funds to projects providing detention diversion services to localities with emphasis on minority youth.**

### **Objective C**

Funding of detention diversion projects that target minority youth will have a positive impact on the juvenile probation and transfer of minority youth to the adult court.

**Status Update C:** In FY16, 28 juvenile courts received grants to implement evidence-based programs (EBPs) as a way to avoid incarceration of adjudicated youth and reduce recidivism. These 28 courts, three of which are federally funded, serve a total of 48 counties and 70% of Georgia's juvenile at-risk population. We are currently in the fourth quarter of the third year of this grant. At the end of the third quarter, a total of 1,394 youth had received services. In March 2016, Georgia issued the FY17 competitive RFP to all counties. Making this the fourth year the state of Georgia has issued this competitive RFP. We are currently in the process of creating awards. The DSA received 25 applications. Additionally, the state has applied for the FY16 OJJDP Smart on Juvenile Justice – Reducing Out-of-Home Placement opportunity to provide a cognitive based trauma informed evidence based programming for minority youth as an alternative to detention.

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**Goal D**

**Georgia will continue to focus on DMC in Georgia and enhance DMC system improvements.**

**Objective D**

Georgia will continue to emphasize DMC as a priority area of the SAG through regular DMC Sub-committee meetings, request for OJJDP DMC technical assistance, and funding of DMC Coordinator position.

**Status Update D:** The DMC Subcommittee continued to have meetings throughout FY 2015 (at least once a quarter). In FY 2015, there were five new appointments to the DMC Subcommittee. The Director of Programs & Resource Development at the Clayton County Juvenile Court, Colin Slay, was appointed as the new DMC Subcommittee Chair. Mr. Slay has been heavily involved in Georgia's juvenile justice reform efforts. He is also on the JDAI Steering Committee. Other appointments include: Polly McKinney, Advocacy Director of Voices for Georgia's Children; Melissa Carter, Executive Director of Emory Barton's Center Child Law and Policy; Representative Ronnie Mabra, State Representative for District 63; and Emily White, Youth SAG member, recent graduate. The SAG, DSA, and DMC Subcommittee are all excited and believe the new appointments will be positive and push forward DMC efforts.

The DSA hosted the requested OJJDP DMC/RED technical assistance training in January 2016. The training was held all day, and both SAG and DMC Subcommittee members were in attendance. As a result of the DMC technical assistance provided by OJJDP, the DMC Coordinator and DMC Subcommittee are working with Elizabeth Spinney and Dr. Feyerherm. Dr. Feyerherm is providing Georgia with a preliminary analysis of Fulton's RRI data and providing information on similar counties.

The DSA also hired a new DMC Coordinator in December. The new DMC Coordinator previously was Georgia's Juvenile Detention Compliance Monitor and is well acquainted with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. The DMC Coordinator attended the 2016 Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) Annual Conference held in April 2016 and will be attending the CJJ DMC Conference in December 2016. The DMC Coordinator works closely with the DMC Subcommittee and SAG to monitor and push forward DMC efforts.

**Goal E**

**Georgia will require the use of validated assessment instruments for objectivity in decision-making.**

**Objective E**

Georgia will use validated assessment instruments for objectivity in decision-making.

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**Status Update E** – In 2013, DJJ, in consultation with the DSA, developed a new validated risk assessment instrument, Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment (PDRA). This is in addition to the DAI. The PDRA is a result of the statutory requirements of Georgia’s new Children’s Code (H.B 242) that went into effect January 1, 2014. The tool was validated by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD), and is used across the state, as required by the statute, and provides an objective set of detention criteria based on risk, not race. In 2016, DJJ plans to collaborate with NCCD to reevaluate and improve the PDRA.

**Phase IV. Evaluation**

As shown in Phase V Intervention, the state of Georgia has exciting, ongoing DMC activities. Georgia’s DMC Subcommittee continues to meet on a regular basis (at least quarterly) to evaluate DMC activities and further refine state and local DMC plans. During these meetings, the Subcommittee will also review and discuss the progress of the above listed activities. In FY15, there were not any unimplemented DMC activities.

The state of Georgia takes into account the data discussion and assessment findings when deciding which activities should be pursued. All current activities are based on the 2012 assessment findings. As mentioned, the DSA has contracted with the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) within the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to conduct a new DMC Assessment. Upon the completion of the assessment, the DMC Coordinator and DMC Subcommittee will review and update appropriately the current DMC activities. In keeping with the 2012 findings, since **referral** seems to be the point at the local level which DMC is most acute, and given the lack of diversion programming in many of our local communities, a focus on diversion programming is in line with SAG strategy to focus funds on diversion. Further, we asked our local DMC Subcommittees to adopt this focus as well. Georgia’s SAG has also prioritized funding for community programming in the hope that this will positively impact the number of youth entering into secure detention/confinement. Additionally, the state plans on making a technical assistance request of OJJDP for effective cultural competency trainings that can be used within a police force to heighten awareness about DMC. Finally, the state will continue efforts to improve juvenile data by continuing support for the Juvenile Data Clearinghouse and the upcoming data repository, JDEX.

The intervention strategies and status update of each of the below goals is listed in Phase V Intervention section under Georgia DMC Reduction Plan – Progress FY 2015.

**Georgia DMC Reduction Plan FY 2015**

**Goal A**

**Georgia will collect and analyze available Relative Rate Index (RRI) data for youth statewide and in the three targeted counties (Fulton, DeKalb, and Clayton).**

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**Objective A**

Allow Georgia to effectively monitor DMC trends and establish a baseline statewide and in the three targeted counties (Fulton, DeKalb, Clayton).

**Activities A**

Georgia developed a publicly available website that provides RRI data statewide and for all 159 counties called the Juvenile Data Clearinghouse ([www.juveniledata.georgia.gov](http://www.juveniledata.georgia.gov)). The DMC Coordinator is responsible for submitting RRI data every year as part of our Title II Formula Grants Application to OJJDP. Currently, RRI data between 2007 and 2014 is available.

As a result of the DMC technical assistance provided by OJJDP, the DMC Coordinator and DMC Subcommittee are working with Elizabeth Spinney and Dr. Feyerherm. Dr. Feyerherm is providing Georgia with a preliminary analysis of Fulton's RRI data and providing information on similar counties. This will be provided in the summer of 2016.

The DMC Subcommittee reviews the RRI data when considering activities and projects. The DMC Subcommittee plans on re-reviewing the newly updated RRI data on July 22, 2016.

Additionally, the state is currently working on the JDEX project that will further improve the accuracy of juvenile justice data collection by acting as a data repository system.

**Goal B**

**Georgia will continue to award formula grant funds to projects providing prevention/early intervention services to localities with emphasis on minority youth.**

**Objective B**

Funding of prevention/early intervention projects will have a positive impact on the juvenile Arrest and Referral rate of minority youth.

**Activities B**

Georgia's Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program provides funding to local governments to increase the number of evidenced-based programming options for youth at the initial stages of the juvenile court system. This program addresses the need for prevention activities for at-risk youth in local communities and serves predominately minority youth. There are currently 14 programs federally funded. Unfortunately, due to decrease funding, this will be the last year. The DSA will continue to research and look for different streams of funding to continue diversion projects at the beginning stages of the system.



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The DMC Subcommittee is constantly looking for awareness opportunities that target the Arrest and Referral stage in the juvenile justice system. These opportunities include conferences, webinars, School Justice Summits, and technical assistance. As mentioned, Georgia has on-going DMC conferences, webinars, and School Justice Summits. Additionally, the DSA asked for DMC technical assistance by OJJDP. The DSA used this opportunity to invite all SAG and DMC Subcommittee members. In spring of 2016, the DSA was awarded Status Offender Reform System Technical Assistance opportunity provided by the Vera Institute of Justice. The DSA will also be using this opportunity to also raise awareness on DMC. Cherokee County has a growing population and between 2010 and 2014 has seen a 12% increase in the number of at-risk minority youth.

**Goal C**

**Georgia will continue to award formula grant funds to projects providing detention diversion services to localities with emphasis on minority youth.**

**Objective C**

Funding of detention diversion projects that target minority youth will have a positive impact on the juvenile probation and transfer of minority youth to the adult court.

**Activities C**

Georgia's Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant provides funding to local governments to increase the number of evidence-based programming options for moderate to high-risk delinquent youth as an alternative to detention. This program addresses the need for community program alternatives to detention in local communities and serves predominately minority youth. There are currently 28 programs funded, serving a total of 48 counties. Three of these programs are federally funded. We are currently in the processes of new grant awards (25 applications) for July 2016 – June 2017.

The DSA applied for the FY16 OJJDP Smart on Juvenile Justice – Reducing Out-of-Home Placement opportunity. If awarded, the funding would provide a cognitive based trauma informed evidence based programming for minority youth as an alternative to detention.

**Goal D**

**Georgia will continue to focus on DMC in Georgia and enhance DMC system improvements.**

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**Objective D**

Georgia will continue to emphasize DMC as a priority area of the SAG through regular DMC Sub-committee meetings, request for OJJDP DMC technical assistance, and funding of DMC Coordinator position.

**Activities D**

The DSA continues to hold quarterly DMC Subcommittee meetings and SAG meetings. The DMC Coordinator presents an update of the DMC Subcommittee and DMC efforts at each quarterly SAG meeting. The DSA has also commissioned a new DMC assessment to be conducted that will help target efforts in the coming year.

**Goal E**

**Georgia will require the use of validated assessment instruments for objectivity in decision-making.**

**Objective E**

Georgia will use validated assessment instruments for objectivity in decision-making.

**Activities E**

The DAI uses objectives factors, such as current/past offenses and risk behaviors, to determine a youth's need for secure detention and allows for informed detention decisions to be made without bias, such as race or ethnicity.

More recently, the PDRA was developed and validated by NCCD. The PDRA is used across the state at the pre-disposition post-adjudication stage. The tool provides an objective set of detention criteria based on risk, not race. The JJIGP requires all youth served through the grant program to score moderate to high on the PDRA.

**DMC Performance Measures - required output, outcome, and/or other**

Please find the required DMC output, outcome, and/or other applicable DMC performance measures listed on <http://www.ojjdp-dctat.org/help/FormulaGrid.pdf>

- Number of program youth served
- Number and percent of program youth who OFFEND during the reporting period (short term) / (long term)
- Number and percent of program youth who RE-OFFEND (short term) / (long term)
- Number of planning activities conducted
- Number of assessment studies conducted

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- Number of data improvement projects implemented
- Number of objective decision-making tools developed
- Substance use (short term) / (long term)
- School attendance
- Family relationships
- Antisocial behavior

### **Phase V. Monitoring**

Georgia is committed to tracking DMC and has provided RRI data (statewide and for three targeted counties) to OJJDP for the past seven years. RRI data is the primary way that the state will monitor and track DMC trends statewide and in the three targeted counties. As mentioned, Georgia's Juvenile Data Clearinghouse houses this data and uses data from the following partner agencies: DJJ; Council of Juvenile Court Judges; Georgia Crime Information Center; and Georgia Public Defenders Standards Council. **The DMC Coordinator (part-time), in conjunction with the Juvenile Justice Specialist, will be responsible for collecting the RRI data and presenting trends to the DMC Sub-committee and SAG.** The DMC Coordinator presents this information annually in conjunction with the quarterly SAG and DMC Subcommittee meetings held in May/June. The collection of RRI data occurs annually in April/May and is included with Georgia's Title II Formula Grant Program application that is due each year at the end of June.

ALL programs receiving funds are required to provide quarterly and annual reports on their established outputs and outcomes. Projects funded with federal juvenile justice monies are required to use the mandatory OJJDP performance measures and is reported via DCTAT and GMS according to established schedules.

CJCC staff reviews these reports on a quarterly and annual basis for program effectiveness and progress. If the program is unable to be implemented to fidelity and meet the program goals during the preceding two-year period, they will not receive future funding. OJJDP has required output data on an annual basis, and outcome data is pulled from individual grantee reports and uploaded into the DCTAT and GMS systems each December. Progress for all these projects can be found in those previously submitted reports.

### **Funding for DMC Strategies**

Georgia will use both state and Federal funds to meet the goals for this year to reduce DMC.

### **Goal A**

**Georgia will collect and analyze available Relative Rate Index (RRI) data for youth statewide and in the three targeted counties (Fulton, DeKalb, and Clayton).**

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**Goal A Timeline**

Georgia collects RRI data and submits the data as part of the Title II Formula Grants Program application each year. This is an ongoing goal.

**Goal A Funding**

- In Georgia's FY16 Title II Formula Grants Program application, \$113,396 was requested for planning and administration. This allocation partially funds both the Juvenile Justice Specialist and the DMC Coordinator. Both work together to gather RRI data and present findings to the SAG and DMC Subcommittee. Georgia used remaining Juvenile Block Accountability Grant funding for maintenance required to sustain the Juvenile Data Clearinghouse (hosts RRI data).

**Goal B Georgia will continue to award formula grant funds to projects providing prevention/early intervention services to localities with emphasis on minority youth.**

**Goal B Timeline**

The Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program (JJPTP) awards funded 14 grantees for the grant year October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016.

**Goal B Funding**

- A combination of Title II Formula funds from FY13 and FY14 will be used along with the funds remaining on the 2013 Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Georgia to fund the JJPTP. In total, 14 awards were made on October 1, 2015 for a total amount of \$1,086,642. Additionally, in Georgia's FY16 Title II Formula Grants Program application, \$100,000 was requested for additional delinquency prevention programming.

**Goal C**

**Georgia will continue to award formula grant funds to projects providing detention diversion services to localities with emphasis on minority youth.**

**Goal C Timeline**

The Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program (JJIGP) FY17 awards will be made to 25 counties covering 33 counties for the grant year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

**Goal C Funding**

- The JJIGP uses a combination of both state and Federal funds to serve grantees that would not be able to be served on state funds alone. The total funding available is \$8,610,389. Of that amount, \$7,620,000 was awarded in state funds and \$990,389 will be made using remaining

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Federal funds. The total state investment to the program for this year was \$7,620,000, with the additional dollars not awarded to subgrantees being used to conduct model fidelity assessments and provide evidence-based trainings and technical assistance.

Additionally, the state has applied for the FY16 OJJDP Smart on Juvenile Justice – Reducing Out-of-Home Placement opportunity to provide a cognitive based trauma informed evidence based programming for minority youth as an alternative to detention.

**Goal D**

**Georgia will continue to focus on DMC in Georgia and enhance DMC system improvements.**

**Goal D Timeline**

This is an ongoing goal.

**Goal D Funding**

- In Georgia's FY16 Title II application, Georgia requested \$30,000 to be allocated to DMC initiatives. In FY15, this funding was used to assist with the coordination and facilitation of the School Justice Summits and to fund a portion of the new DMC Assessment currently under way. Additionally, Georgia has been able to use in-state resources at no charge to host webinars and statewide forums to provide education surrounding the issue of DMC. For FY16, the State is researching best practices and is planning on using the DMC funding for a pilot program to address DMC.

**Goal E**

**Georgia will require the use of validated assessment instruments for objectivity in decision-making.**

**Goal E Timeline**

Georgia will use validated assessment instruments for objectivity in decision-making. This is an ongoing goal.

**Goal E Funding**

DJJ developed a validated Detention Assessment Instrument (DAI) that has been utilized across the state to ensure consistency in the detention decision-making process. DJJ, in collaboration with the DSA, also developed a validated Pre-Disposition Risk Assessment (PDRA) that has also been used across the state at the pre-disposition post-adjudication stage. Both tools provide an

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objective set of detention criteria based on risk, not race. Both the DAI and PDRA were funded through DJJ.

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Attachment A – RRI Tracking Sheet

**Relative Rate Index (RRI) Analysis and Tracking Sheet - Georgia**

Statewide, Georgia	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaska Native	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	S M V C Cx	S V C Cx	**	*	*	*	S V Cx
3. Referrals to Juvenile Court	S V Cx	S V C Cx	**	*	*	*	S M V Cx
4. Cases Diverted	S V Cx	S V Cx	S V C Cx	*	*	*	S V Cx
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	S M V Cx	S V	S V Cx	*	*	*	S M V Cx
6. Cases Petitioned (Charges Filed)	S V Cx	S V Cx		*	*	*	S V Cx
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	S V C Cx	S V Cx		*	*	*	S V Cx
8. Cases Resulting in Probation Placement	S V C Cx	S V Cx	**	*	*	*	S M V C Cx
9. Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure Juvenile Correctional Facilities			**	*	*	*	S V C Cx
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	S M V Cx		**	*	*	*	S M V C Cx

Key: S = Statically Significant M = Magnitude of RRI (higher RRI than 1.5) V = Volume of Activity

C = Comparative with Other Jurisdictions\* Cx = Contextual Considerations

\* Does not meet 1 percent threshold to be analyzed separated

\*\* Insufficient number of cases for analysis

Results that are not statistically significant are left blank

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**Relative Rate Index (RRI) Analysis and Tracking Sheet - Georgia**

Fulton County, Georgia	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaska Native	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
3. Referrals to Juvenile Court	S M V C Cx	S V Cx	**	*	*	*	S M V C Cx
4. Cases Diverted	S V Cx		**	*	*	*	S V Cx
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	S M V C Cx	S V Cx	**	*	*	*	S M V C Cx
6. Cases Petitioned (Charges Filed)	S V Cx		**	*	*	*	S V Cx
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	S V Cx		**	*	*	*	S V Cx
8. Cases Resulting in Probation Placement	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
9. Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure Juvenile Correctional Facilities	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
	**	**		*	*	*	**
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	**	**	**	*	*	*	**

Key: S = Statically Significant M = Magnitude of RRI (higher RRI than 1.5) V = Volume of Activity  
C = Comparative with Other Jurisdictions\* Cx = Contextual Considerations

\* Does not meet 1 percent threshold to be analyzed separated

\*\* Insufficient number of cases for analysis

Results that are not statistically significant are left blank



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**Relative Rate Index (RRI) Analysis and Tracking Sheet - Georgia**

Clayton County, Georgia	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaska Native	Other/Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
3. Referrals to Juvenile Court	S M V C Cx	S V Cx	S V Cx	*	*	*	S M V C Cx
4. Cases Diverted	S V Cx		**	*	*	*	S V Cx
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	S V Cx	S V Cx	**	*	*	*	S V Cx
6. Cases Petitioned (Charges Filed)	S M V C Cx	**	**	*	*	*	S M V Cx
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
8. Cases Resulting in Probation Placement	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
9. Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure Juvenile Correctional Facilities	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	**	**	**	*	*	*	**

Key: S = Statically Significant M = Magnitude of RRI (higher RRI than 1.5) V = Volume of Activity  
C = Comparative with Other Jurisdictions\* Cx = Contextual Considerations

\* Does not meet 1 percent threshold to be analyzed separated

\*\* Insufficient number of cases for analysis

Results that are not statistically significant are left blank

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**Relative Rate Index (RRI) Analysis and Tracking Sheet - Georgia**

DeKalb County, Georgia	Black or African-American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	American Indian or Alaska Native	Other/ Mixed	All Minorities
2. Juvenile Arrests	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
3. Referrals to Juvenile Court	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
4. Cases Diverted	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
5. Cases Involving Secure Detention	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
6. Cases Petitioned (Charges Filed)	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
7. Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
8. Cases Resulting in Probation Placement	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
9. Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure Juvenile Correctional Facilities	**	**	**	*	*	*	**
10. Cases Transferred to Adult Court	**	**	**	*	*	*	**

Key: S = Stastically Significant M = Magnitude of RRI (higher RRI than 1.5) V = Volume of Activity  
C= Comparative with Other Jurisdictions\* Cx = Contextual Considerations

\* Does not meet 1 percent threshold to be analyzed separated

\*\* Insufficient number of cases for analysis

Results that are not statistically significant are left blank

\*Please note - we do not necessarily agree with the methodology or amount of data used to create the summary above and request no spurious conclusions drawn from the information provided. Many outside factors must also be considering in drawing these conclusions. Please refer to our statewide DMC assessment for more accurate information. The jurisdictions compared were only those counties in Georgia reporting for year 2014. No other comparisions were made. Please also note, lower volumes of activity in certain areas, will reflect a disadvantage of minority youth and must be further analyzed before making an empirically accurate conclusion.

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**Attachment B – Juvenile Justice State Advisory Group Membership List**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Contact Information Email Address</b>
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**Attachment C - FFY 2016 JJDP Formula Grant Application Budget Detail Worksheet**

<b>Program Area(s)</b>	<b>Program Area Title</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>OJJDP Federal Share</b>	<b>State Match</b>
28	Planning and Administration	226,792	113,396	113,396
31	State Advisory Group Allocation	20,000	20,000	0
19	Compliance Monitoring	90,000	90,000	0
21	Disproportionate Minority Contact	35,000	35,000	0
6	Delinquency Prevention	100,000	100,000	0
3	Alternatives to Detention	775,564	775,564	0
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,247,356</b>	<b>1,133,960</b>	<b>113,396</b>

Planning and Administration Expenditures: The anticipated budget period for these funds is October 2016 - September 2017

- Salaries & Fringes for 1.0 FTE employees (refer to staffing plan)
- Supplies, registration fees, printing, office equipment leases, postage, meeting room rental
- Travel for JJDP Staff
- State of GA fees for audit & payroll services (pro-rated)
- Office space rental (pro-rated)
- Telecommunications & computer support services (pro-rated)

State Advisory Group Expenditures:

- Out-of-state conference expenses for SAG members & staff (includes registration fees & travel costs)
- OJJDP training/conferences
- SAG member travel for quarterly board & committee meetings

Compliance Monitoring Expenditures:

- Compliance Monitor salary, travel and training to complete site visits to the lockup facilities in the State and to provide training and technical assistance (including any projects needed to protect the rights of juveniles who come into contact by the Juvenile Justice System)

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Disproportionate Minority Contact Expenditures:

- DMC pilot project to a local community as selected by the DMC Subcommittee

Delinquency Prevention Expenditures:

- Funding for subgrants to local jurisdictions to provide evidence-based prevention programming to youth in their community

Alternatives to Detention Expenditures:

- Funding for subgrants to local jurisdictions to provide evidence-based programming for youth as an alternative to detention

As required by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A) 42 U.S.C. 5633, Section 223(a)(5), more than 66 2/3 per centum of funding will be expended “through programs of units of local government or combinations thereof, to the extent such programs are consistent with the state plan”. The \$910,564 allocated for Disproportionate Minority Contact (\$35,000), Delinquency Prevention (\$100,000), and Alternatives to Detention (\$775,564) accounts for 73% of the total funds (\$1,247,356) listed in the above proposed budget. The allocated funding is awarded to local units of governments to provide programming consistent with Georgia’s Three Year Plan for Juvenile Justice. Currently, there are no programs of local private agencies or Indian Tribes that meet the requirements as required in JJDP A 42 U.S.C. 5633, Section 223(a)(5).

As required by the JJDP A 42 U.S.C. 5633, Section 223(a)(9), 75 percent of the funds available will be expended through programs/ areas listed under JJDP A 42 U.S.C. 5633, Section 223(a)(9). The \$1,000,564 allocated for Compliance Monitoring (\$90,000), Disproportionate Minority Contact (\$35,000), Delinquency Prevention (\$100,000), and Alternatives to Detention (\$775,564) accounts for 80.2% of the total funds (\$1,247,356) listed in the above proposed budget.

As required by the JJDP A 42 U.S.C. 5633, Section 223 (a)(25), no percent of funds will be reserved to provide incentive grants to units of general local government that reduce the caseload of probation officers within such units.

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**Attachment D - Formula Grants Staff**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Employee</b>	<b>Funding Source(s)</b>	<b>% of Time</b>	<b>Job Duties</b>
Juvenile Justice Specialist  1.0 FTE	Samantha Wolf  (25% Title II  25% State Match)	Title II Formula w/ 100% State Match	50%	Serves as Juvenile Justice Specialist; monitors Title II Formula and Title V sub grant recipients; serves as Juvenile Justice Unit Program Director; sits on several stakeholder groups including the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI); supervises Special Projects Coordinator, Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator, Grants Specialist and Compliance Monitor.
	(50% State)	State Funding	50%	
Juvenile Justice Planner  1.0 FTE	Stephanie Larrick  (50% Title II  50% State	Title II Formula (grant funds/DMC)  State Match	50%  50%	Monitors Title II subgrant recipients and statewide initiatives/data collection; serves as DMC Coordinator.
Juvenile Justice Grants Monitor  1.0 FTE	Rachel Furbee  (25% Title II  25% State Match)	Title II Formula w/ 100% State Match	50%	Monitors Title II subgrant recipients and state-funded grant initiatives/data collection.
	50% State	State Funding	50%	

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<p>Juvenile Justice Detention Monitor  1.0 FTE</p>	<p>P' Aris Dokes  (100% Title II)</p>	<p>Title II Formula</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>Monitors state's compliance with jail separation, jail removal, and deinstitutionalization of status offenders; and serves as resource to promote detention alternatives.</p>
<p>Rachel Gage, Juvenile Justice Model Fidelity Coordinator</p>	<p>100% State</p>	<p>State</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>Monitors the fidelity of evidence-based programs in Georgia, including those funded by the Title II Formula program.</p>



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**Attachment E - Assurances of Compliance with the JJDP Act [42 U.S.C. 5633, Section 223(a)]**

The applicant's submission of SF-424 confirms that the state meets the assurances required under the JJDP Act at 42 U.S.C. §5633(a)(15), (16), (18), (20), (24), and (28), and constitutes formal assurance of compliance with all other requirements outlined in this appendix.

The application must provide reasonable evidence that the state complies with each of the following requirements. As noted below, indicate on which application page(s) is found the documentation for each requirement, and submit this Appendix as an attachment to the Plan Update application.

(a) Requirements. In order to receive formula grants under this part, a State shall submit a plan for carrying out its purposes applicable to a 3-year period. Such plan shall be amended annually to include new programs, projects, and activities. The State shall submit annual performance reports to the Administrator which shall describe progress in implementing programs contained in the original plan, and shall describe the status of compliance with State plan requirements. In accordance with regulations which the Administrator shall prescribe, such plan shall—

(1) Designate the state agency as the sole agency for supervising the preparation and administration of the plan; [Page(s): 22]

(2) Contain satisfactory evidence that the State agency designated in accordance with paragraph (1) has or will have authority, by legislation if necessary, to implement such plan in conformity with this part;[Page(s):22]

(3) Provide for an advisory group that—

(A) Shall consist of not less than 15 and not more than 33 members appointed by the chief executive officer of the state—

(i) Which members have training, experience, or special knowledge concerning the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency, the administration of juvenile justice, or the reduction of juvenile delinquency;

(ii) Which members include—

(I) At least one locally elected official representing general purpose local government;

(II) Representatives of law enforcement and juvenile justice agencies, including juvenile and family court judges, prosecutors, counsel for children and youth, and probation workers;

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(III) Representatives of public agencies concerned with delinquency prevention or treatment, such as welfare, social services, mental health, education, special education, recreation, and youth services;

(IV) Representatives of private nonprofit organizations, including persons with a special focus on preserving and strengthening families, parent groups and parent self-help groups, youth development, delinquency prevention and treatment, neglected or dependent children, the quality of juvenile justice, education, and social services for children;

(V) Volunteers who work with delinquents or potential delinquents;

(VI) Youth workers involved with programs that are alternatives to incarceration, including programs providing organized recreation activities;

(VII) Persons with special experience and competence in addressing problems related to school violence and vandalism and alternatives to suspension and expulsion; and

(VIII) Persons with special experience and competence in addressing problems related to learning disabilities, emotional difficulties, child abuse and neglect, and youth violence;

(iii) A majority of which members (including the chairperson) shall not be full-time employees of the federal, state, or local government;

(iv) At least one-fifth of which members shall be under the age of 24 at the time of appointment; and

(v) At least 3 members who have been or are currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system;

(B) Shall participate in the development and review of the state's juvenile justice plan prior to submission to the supervisory board for final action;

(C) Shall be afforded the opportunity to review and comment, not later than 30 days after their submission to the advisory group, on all juvenile justice and delinquency prevention grant applications submitted to the state agency designated under paragraph (1);

(D) Shall, consistent with this title—

(i) Advise the state agency designated under paragraph (1) and its supervisory board;  
and

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(ii) Submit to the chief executive officer and the legislature of the State at least annually recommendations regarding State compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (11), (12), and (13); and

(iii) Contact and seek regular input from juveniles currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system; and

(E) May, consistent with this title—

(i) Advise on state supervisory board and local criminal justice advisory board composition; [and]

(ii) Review progress and accomplishments of projects funded under the state plan. [Page(s):32-35, Attachment D. SAG and CJCC, Appendix D. Executive Orders SAG]

(4) Provide for the active consultation with and participation of units of local government or combinations thereof in the development of a state plan which adequately takes into account the needs and requests of units of local government, except that nothing in the plan requirements, or any regulations promulgated to carry out such requirements, shall be construed to prohibit or impede the State from making grants to, or entering into contracts with, local private agencies or the advisory group; [Page(s): 19-20]

(5) Unless the provisions of this paragraph are waived at the discretion of the Administrator for any state in which the services for delinquent or other youth are organized primarily on a statewide basis, provide that at least 66 2/3 per centum of funds received by the state under section 222 [42 USC § 5632] reduced by the percentage (if any) specified by the state under the authority of paragraph (25) and excluding funds made available to the State advisory group under section 222(d) [42 USC § 5632(d)], shall be expended—

(A) Through programs of units of local government or combinations thereof, to the extent such programs are consistent with the state plan;

(B) Through programs of local private agencies, to the extent such programs are consistent with the state plan, except that direct funding of any local private agency by a State shall be permitted only if such agency requests such funding after it has applied for and been denied funding by any unit of local government or combination thereof; and

(C) To provide funds for programs of Indian tribes that perform law enforcement functions (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior) and that agree to attempt to comply with the requirements specified in paragraphs (11), (12), and (13), applicable to the detention and confinement of juveniles, an amount that bears the same ratio to the aggregate amount to be expended through programs referred to in subparagraphs (A) and (B) as the population under 18 years of age in the geographical areas in which such tribes perform such functions bears to

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the State population under 18 years of age, [Page(s): Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative - 2]

(6) Provide for an equitable distribution of the assistance received under section 222 [42 USC § 5632] within the state, including in rural areas; [Page(s): 26-27]

(7)

(A) Provide for an analysis of juvenile delinquency problems in, and the juvenile delinquency control and delinquency prevention needs (including educational needs) of, the state (including any geographical area in which an Indian tribe performs law enforcement functions), a description of the services to be provided, and a description of performance goals and priorities, including a specific statement of the manner in which programs are expected to meet the identified juvenile crime problems (including the joining of gangs that commit crimes) and juvenile justice and delinquency prevention needs (including educational needs) of the state; and

(B) Contain—

(i) An analysis of gender-specific services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency, including the types of such services available and the need for such services

(ii) A plan for providing needed gender-specific services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency;

(iii) A plan for providing needed services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency in rural areas; and

(iv) A plan for providing needed mental health services to juveniles in the juvenile justice system, including information on how such plan is being implemented and how such services will be targeted to those juveniles in such system who are in greatest need of such services. [Page(s): 26-27]

(8) Provide for the coordination and maximum utilization of existing juvenile delinquency programs, programs operated by public and private agencies and organizations, and other related programs (such as education, special education, recreation, health, and welfare programs) in the state; [Page(s): 22- 24]

(9) Provide that not less than 75 percent of the funds available to the state under section 222 [42 USC § 5632], other than funds made available to the state advisory group under section 222(d) [42 USC § 5632(d)], whether expended directly by the state, by the unit of local government, or by a combination thereof, or through grants and contracts with public or private nonprofit agencies, shall be used for—

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(A) Community-based alternatives (including home-based alternatives) to incarceration and institutionalization including—

- (i) For youth who need temporary placement: crisis intervention, shelter, and after-care; and
- (ii) For youth who need residential placement: a continuum of foster care or group home alternatives that provide access to a comprehensive array of services;

(B) Community-based programs and services to work with—

- (i) Parents and other family members to strengthen families, including parent self-help groups, so that juveniles may be retained in their homes;
- (ii) Juveniles during their incarceration, and with their families, to ensure the safe return of such juveniles to their homes and to strengthen the families; and
- (iii) Parents with limited English-speaking ability, particularly in areas where there is a large population of families with limited-English speaking ability;

(C) Comprehensive juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs that meet the needs of youth through the collaboration of the many local systems before which a youth may appear, including schools, courts, law enforcement agencies, child protection agencies, mental health agencies, welfare services, health care agencies, and private nonprofit agencies offering youth services;

(D) Programs that provide treatment to juvenile offenders who are victims of child abuse or neglect, and to their families, in order to reduce the likelihood that such juvenile offenders will commit subsequent violations of law;

(E) Educational programs or supportive services for delinquent or other juveniles—

- (i) To encourage juveniles to remain in elementary and secondary schools or in alternative learning situations;
- (ii) To provide services to assist juveniles in making the transition to the world of work and self-sufficiency; and
- (iii) Enhance coordination with the local schools that such juveniles would otherwise attend, to ensure that—

(I) The instruction that juveniles receive outside school is closely aligned with the instruction provided in school; and

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(II) Information regarding any learning problems identified in such alternative learning situations are communicated to the schools;

(F) Expanding the use of probation officers—

(i) Particularly for the purpose of permitting nonviolent juvenile offenders (including status offenders) to remain at home with their families as an alternative to incarceration or institutionalization; and

(ii) To ensure that juveniles follow the terms of their probation;

(G) Counseling, training, and mentoring programs, which may be in support of academic tutoring, vocational and technical training, and drug and violence prevention counseling, that are designed to link at-risk juveniles, juvenile offenders, or juveniles who have a parent or legal guardian who is or was incarcerated in a federal, state, or local correctional facility or who is otherwise under the jurisdiction of a federal, state, or local criminal justice system, particularly juveniles residing in low-income and high-crime areas and juveniles experiencing educational failure, with responsible individuals (such as law enforcement officials, Department of Defense personnel, individuals working with local businesses, and individuals working with community-based and faith-based organizations and agencies) who are properly screened and trained;

(H) Programs designed to develop and implement projects relating to juvenile delinquency and learning disabilities, including on-the-job training programs to assist community services, law enforcement, and juvenile justice personnel to more effectively recognize and provide for learning disabled and other juveniles with disabilities;

(I) Projects designed both to deter involvement in illegal activities and to promote involvement in lawful activities on the part of gangs whose membership is substantially composed of youth;

(J) Programs and projects designed to provide for the treatment of youths' dependence on or abuse of alcohol or other addictive or nonaddictive drugs;

(K) Programs for positive youth development that assist delinquent and other at-risk youth in obtaining—

(i) A sense of safety and structure;

(ii) a sense of belonging and membership;

(iii) A sense of self-worth and social contribution;

(iv) A sense of independence and control over one's life; and

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(v) A sense of closeness in interpersonal relationships;

(L) Programs that, in recognition of varying degrees of the seriousness of delinquent behavior and the corresponding gradations in the responses of the juvenile justice system in response to that behavior, are designed to—

(i) Encourage courts to develop and implement a continuum of post-adjudication restraints that bridge the gap between traditional probation and confinement in a correctional setting (including expanded use of probation, mediation, restitution, community service, treatment, home detention, intensive supervision, electronic monitoring, and similar programs, and secure community-based treatment facilities linked to other support services such as health, mental health, education (remedial and special), job training, and recreation); and

(ii) Assist in the provision [by the provision] by the Administrator of information and technical assistance, including technology transfer, to states in the design and utilization of risk assessment mechanisms to aid juvenile justice personnel in determining appropriate sanctions for delinquent behavior;

(M) Community-based programs and services to work with juveniles, their parents, and other family members during and after incarceration in order to strengthen families so that such juveniles may be retained in their homes;

(N) Programs (including referral to literacy programs and social service programs) to assist families with limited English-speaking ability that include delinquent juveniles to overcome language and other barriers that may prevent the complete treatment of such juveniles and the preservation of their families;

(O) Programs designed to prevent and to reduce hate crimes committed by juveniles;

(P) After-school programs that provide at-risk juveniles and juveniles in the juvenile justice system with a range of age-appropriate activities, including tutoring, mentoring, and other educational and enrichment activities;

(Q) Community-based programs that provide follow-up post-placement services to adjudicated juveniles, to promote successful reintegration into the community;

(R) Projects designed to develop and implement programs to protect the rights of juveniles affected by the juvenile justice system; and

(S) Programs designed to provide mental health services for incarcerated juveniles suspected to be in need of such services, including assessment, development of individualized treatment plans, and discharge plans. [Page(s): Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative - 2]

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(10) Provide for the development of an adequate research, training, and evaluation capacity within the state; [Page(s): 21]

(11) Shall, in accordance with rules issued by the Administrator, provide that—

(A) Juveniles who are charged with or who have committed an offense that would not be criminal if committed by an adult, excluding—

(i) Juveniles who are charged with or who have committed a violation of section 922(x)(2) of title 18, United States Code, or of a similar State law;

(ii) Juveniles who are charged with or who have committed a violation of a valid court order; and

(iii) Juveniles who are held in accordance with the Interstate Compact on Juveniles as enacted by the state; shall not be placed in secure detention facilities or secure correctional facilities; and

(B) Juveniles—

(i) Who are not charged with any offense; and

(ii) Who are—

(I) Aliens; or

(II) Alleged to be dependent, neglected, or abused, shall not be placed in secure detention facilities or secure correctional facilities; [Page(s): 30-31]

(12) Provide that—

(A) Juveniles alleged to be or found to be delinquent or juveniles within the purview of paragraph (11) will not be detained or confined in any institution in which they have contact with adult inmates; and

(B) There is in effect in the State a policy that requires individuals who work with both such juveniles and such adult inmates, including in collocated facilities, have been trained and certified to work with juveniles; [Page(s):30-31]

(13) Provide that no juvenile will be detained or confined in any jail or lockup for adults except—

(A) Juveniles who are accused of nonstatus offenses and who are detained in such jail or lockup for a period not to exceed 6 hours—



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- (i) For processing or release;
- (ii) While awaiting transfer to a juvenile facility; or
- (iii) In which period such juveniles make a court appearance; and only if such juveniles do not have contact with adult inmates and only if there is in effect in the state a policy that requires individuals who work with both such juveniles and adult inmates in collocated facilities have been trained and certified to work with juveniles;

(B) Juveniles who are accused of nonstatus offenses, who are awaiting an initial court appearance that will occur within 48 hours after being taken into custody (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays), and who are detained in a jail or lockup—

- (i) In which—
  - (I) Such juveniles do not have contact with adult inmates; and
  - (II) There is in effect in the state a policy that requires individuals who work with both such juveniles and adults inmates in collocated facilities have been trained and certified to work with juveniles; and
- (ii) That—
  - (I) Is located outside a metropolitan statistical area (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget) and has no existing acceptable alternative placement available;
  - (II) Is located where conditions of distance to be traveled or the lack of highway, road, or transportation do not allow for court appearances within 48 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) so that a brief (not to exceed an additional 48 hours) delay is excusable; or
  - (III) Is located where conditions of safety exist (such as severe adverse, life-threatening weather conditions that do not allow for reasonably safe travel), in which case the time for an appearance may be delayed until 24 hours after the time that such conditions allow for reasonable safe travel; [Page(s):30-31]

(14) Provide for an adequate system of monitoring jails, detention facilities, correctional facilities, and nonsecure facilities to insure that the requirements of paragraphs (11), (12), and

(13) are met, and for annual reporting of the results of such monitoring to the Administrator, except that such reporting requirements shall not apply in the case of a State which is in compliance with the other requirements of this paragraph, which is in compliance with the requirements in paragraphs (11) and (12), and which has enacted legislation which conforms to such requirements and which contains, in the opinion of the Administrator, sufficient

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enforcement mechanisms to ensure that such legislation will be administered effectively; [Page(s): 30-31, Georgia's Compliance Monitoring Manual -19]

(15) Provide assurance that youth in the juvenile justice system are treated equitably on the basis of gender, race, family income, and disability; [Page(s): SF-424]

(16) Provide assurance that consideration will be given to and that assistance will be available for approaches designed to strengthen the families of delinquent and other youth to prevent juvenile delinquency (which approaches should include the involvement

of grandparents or other extended family members when possible and appropriate and the provision of family counseling during the incarceration of juvenile family members and coordination of family services when appropriate and feasible); [Page(s): SF-424]

(17) Provide for procedures to be established for protecting the rights of recipients of services and for assuring appropriate privacy with regard to records relating to such services provided to any individual under the state plan; [Page(s): 29]

(18) Provide assurances that—

(A) Any assistance provided under this Act will not cause the displacement (including a partial displacement, such as a reduction in the hours of nonovertime work, wages, or employment benefits) of any currently employed employee;

(B) Activities assisted under this Act will not impair an existing collective bargaining relationship, contract for services, or collective bargaining agreement; and

(C) No such activity that would be inconsistent with the terms of a collective bargaining agreement shall be undertaken without the written concurrence of the labor organization involved; [Page(s): SF-424]

(19) Provide for such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures necessary to assure prudent use, proper disbursement, and accurate accounting of funds received under this title; [Page(s): CJCC Financial Capability]

(20) Provide reasonable assurance that federal funds made available under this part for any period will be so used as to supplement and increase (but not supplant) the level of the state, local, and other nonfederal funds that would in the absence of such federal funds be made available for the programs described in this part, and will in no event replace such state, local, and other nonfederal funds; [Page(s): SF-424]

(21) Provide that the state agency designated under paragraph (1) will—

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(A) To the extent practicable give priority in funding to programs and activities that are based on rigorous, systematic, and objective research that is scientifically based;

(B) From time to time, but not less than annually, review its plan and submit to the Administrator an analysis and evaluation of the effectiveness of the programs and activities carried out under the plan, and any modifications in the plan, including the survey of state and local needs, that it considers necessary; and

(C) Not expend funds to carry out a program if the recipient of funds who carried out such program during the preceding 2-year period fails to demonstrate, before the expiration of such 2-year period, that such program achieved substantial success in achieving the goals specified in the application submitted by such recipient to the state agency; [Page(s): 19, Disclosure of Subgrant Awards]

(22) 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; [Page(s): 23, 25-26,28,30-31]

(23) Provide that if a juvenile is taken into custody for violating a valid court order issued for committing a status offense—

(A) An appropriate public agency shall be promptly notified that such juvenile is held in custody for violating such order;

(B) Not later than 24 hours during which such juvenile is so held, an authorized representative of such agency shall interview, in person, such juvenile; and

(C) Not later than 48 hours during which such juvenile is so held—

(i) Such representative shall submit an assessment to the court that issued such order, regarding the immediate needs of such juvenile; and

(ii) Such court shall conduct a hearing to determine—

(I) Whether there is reasonable cause to believe that such juvenile violated such order; and

(II) The appropriate placement of such juvenile pending disposition of the violation alleged; [Page(s): 30-31, Georgia's Compliance Monitoring Manual-15]

(24) Provide an assurance that if the state receives under section 222 [42 USC § 5632] for any fiscal year an amount that exceeds 105 percent of the amount the state received under such

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section for fiscal year 2000, all of such excess shall be expended through or for programs that are part of a comprehensive and coordinated community system of services; [Page(s): SF-424]

(25) Specify a percentage (if any), not to exceed 5 percent, of funds received by the state under section 222 [42 USC § 5632] (other than funds made available to the State advisory group under section 222(d) [42 USC § 5632(d)]) that the state will reserve for expenditure by the state to provide incentive grants to units of general local government that reduce the caseload of probation officers within such units; [Page(s): Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative]

(26) Provide that the state, to the maximum extent practicable, will implement a system to ensure that if a juvenile is before a court in the juvenile justice system, public child welfare records (including child protective services records) relating to such juvenile that are on file in the geographical area under the jurisdiction of such court will be made known to such court; [Page(s):21]

(27) Establish policies and systems to incorporate relevant child protective services records into juvenile justice records for purposes of establishing and implementing treatment plans for juvenile offenders; [Page(s): 21] and

(28) Provide assurances that juvenile offenders whose placement is funded through section 472 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 672) receive the protections specified in section 471 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 671), including a case plan and case plan review as defined in section 475 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 675). [Page(s): SF-424]