

Appendix A: R/ED Data Measures and Youth Development Research Links

Racial and Ethnic Disparity (R/ED)

Formerly known as Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

In December 2018, the [Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act \(JJDP\)](#) was reauthorized and updated for the first time in 16 years. The JJDP set forth four core protections which states must adhere to in order to receive federal funds;

1. Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders
2. Adult Jail and Lock-Up Removal
3. Sight and Sound Protection
4. Racial and Ethnic Disparities

The JJDP requires states to assess and address racial and ethnic disparities in every aspect of their juvenile justice systems. H.R. 6964 changed the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) requirements to Racial and Ethnic Disparities. Under the new requirements, states must collect and analyze data on racial and ethnic disparities in their juvenile justice system and create action plans to address these issues through data-driven proposals. For purposes of this requirement, OJJDP has defined minority populations as American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islanders.

R/ED

R/ED refers to the overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system at all points in the juvenile justice process. Nationally, African American and Hispanic youth are likely to be overrepresented at each stage of the juvenile justice process.

Each year, Massachusetts submits an R/ED plan using a three-pronged, research-driven, outcome-based strategy for their R/ED work. The table below is directly from the FY2023 R/ED plan and includes statewide FY22 data at key juvenile justice decision points. For each decision point, the table shows the percent of youth in each racial/ethnic group compared to the general population in the most recent U.S. Census.

As show, compared to White youth, Black youth and Hispanic/Latinx youth were more likely to be arrested, held in pretrial detention, securely confined, and the subject of a youthful offender filing (transferred to criminal court). The data suggest that the juvenile justice system continues to use more methods of custodial control and out-of-home placement (e.g., custodial arrest, pretrial detention) for Black and Hispanic/Latinx youth than White youth, and that Black and Hispanic/Latinx youth are more likely to be advanced through the juvenile justice system rather than diverted compared to white youth.

Massachusetts JUVENILE JUSTICE PROCESS POINT DATA BY RACE/ETHNICITY (FY22)

Race		Black/African American	Hispanic/Latinx	White	Other
Population ¹		60,123	85,050	372,085	41,530
Arrest (Custodial Arrest) ²	Number	975	1,028	1,250	130
	Percentage	1.62%	1.21%	0.34%	0.31%
Pretrial Detention Admissions ³	Number	260	310	120	38
	Percentage	0.43%	0.36%	0.03%	0.09%
Secure Confinement (Commitments to DYS) ³	Number	52	99	41	14
	Percentage	0.09%	0.12%	0.01%	0.03%
Adult Transfer (Youthful Offender Filings) ^{4,5}	Number	50	31	15	5
	Percentage	0.08%	0.04%	0.00%	0.01%

¹ Massachusetts youth population data is based on CY20 estimates provided by OJJDP (ages 12-17): Puzanzhera, C., Sladky, A. and Kang, W. (2021). "Easy Access to Juvenile Populations: 1990-2020." Online. Available: <https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/>

² Juvenile Justice Policy and Data Board, Massachusetts Juvenile Justice System: 2022 Annual Report. <https://www.mass.gov/doc/jypad-2022-annual-report/download>

³ Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, Research Department, 2024.

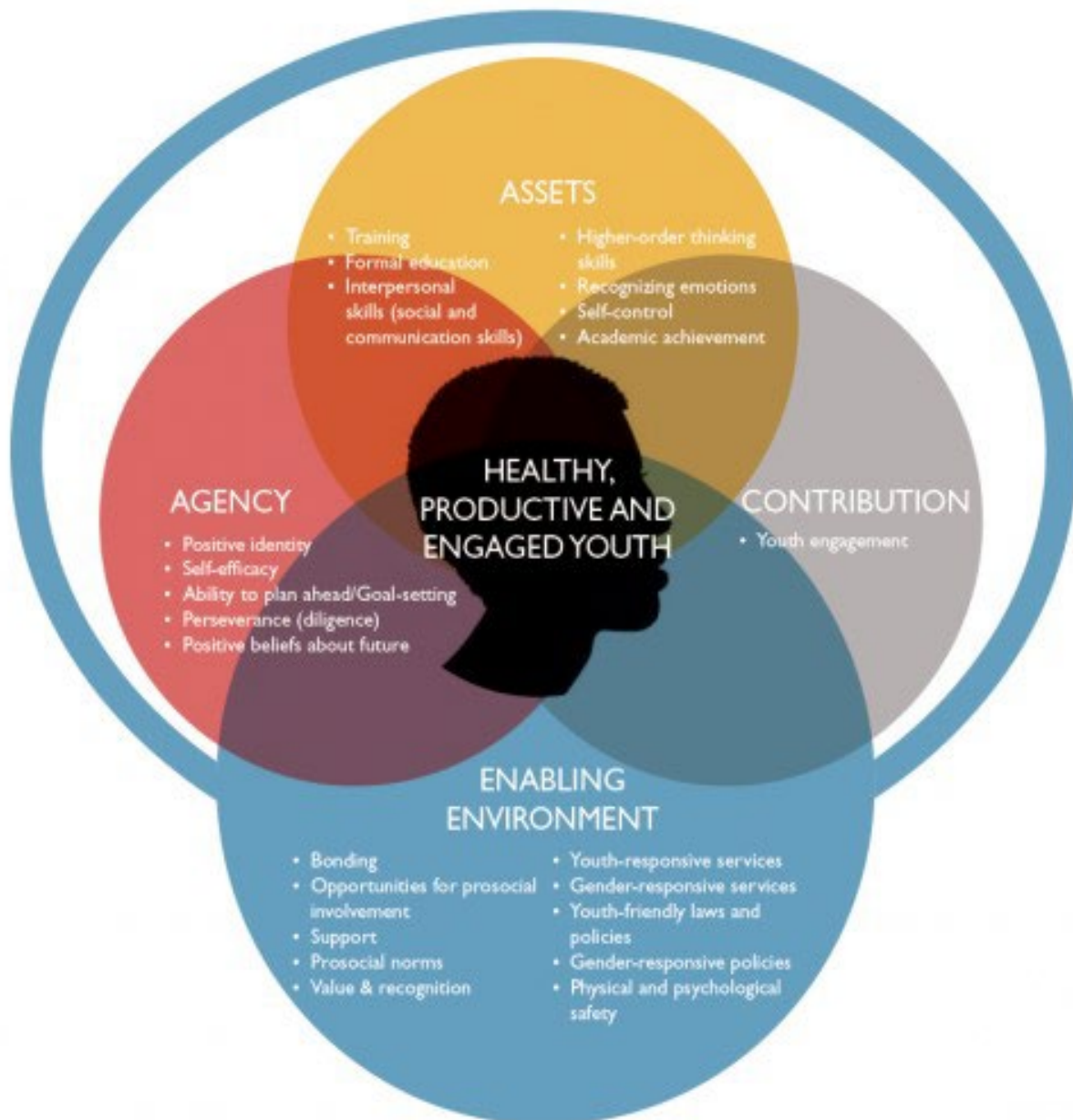
⁴ Massachusetts Trial Court, Department of Research and Planning, 2024.

⁵ https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/drap4687/viz/DemographicsofSelectedJuvenileMatters/JuvenileMattersbyRaceEthn_
 Youthful offender case involves a youth between 14 and 18 years old who is indicted by a grand jury for allegedly committing an offense against a law of the Commonwealth which, if they were an adult, would be punishable by imprisonment in state prison and who meets any of the following criteria: (a) the youth has previously been committed to the Department of Youth Services; (b) the youth has committed an offense which involves the infliction or threat of serious bodily harm in violation of law; (c) the youth has committed certain firearms and weapons offenses.

The R/ED plan includes recommendations provided by the Juvenile Justice Policy and Data (JJPAD) Board to help move the needle in reducing racial and ethnic disparities. Some of these recommendations include improving access to diversion and community-based interventions for justice involved youth, gathering and using data to spot problem areas and improve practice, and reducing disparities through practice and policy change.

Positive Youth Development (PYD) Framework⁶

This framework for measuring PYD illustrates that to achieve the vision of healthy, productive and engaged youth, PYD programs, practices and policies must work with youth to improve their:



⁶ <https://www.youthpower.org/positive-youth-development-pyd-framework>

Positive Youth Development Research Links:

Youth.gov <https://youth.gov/youth-topics/positive-youth-development>

Youthpower.org: Positive Youth Development Measurement Toolkit
<https://www.youthpower.org/positive-youth-development-toolkit>

The Annie E. Casey Foundation: Positive Youth Development
https://www.aecf.org/topics/positive-youth-development?msclkid=6a0c2353ccf315b5c1ba4523b9b48bb3&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=Positive+Youth+Development+-+Topics&utm_term=youth+empowerment&utm_content=Positive+Youth+Development

U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention: Positive Youth Development
<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/safe-supportive-environments/positive-youth-development.htm>

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Family and Youth Services Bureau,
Administration for Children and Families: Positive Youth Development
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/positive-youth-development>