

# Race and Equity Plan for Juveniles in Criminal Justice

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# Race Equity Plan for Juveniles

## History

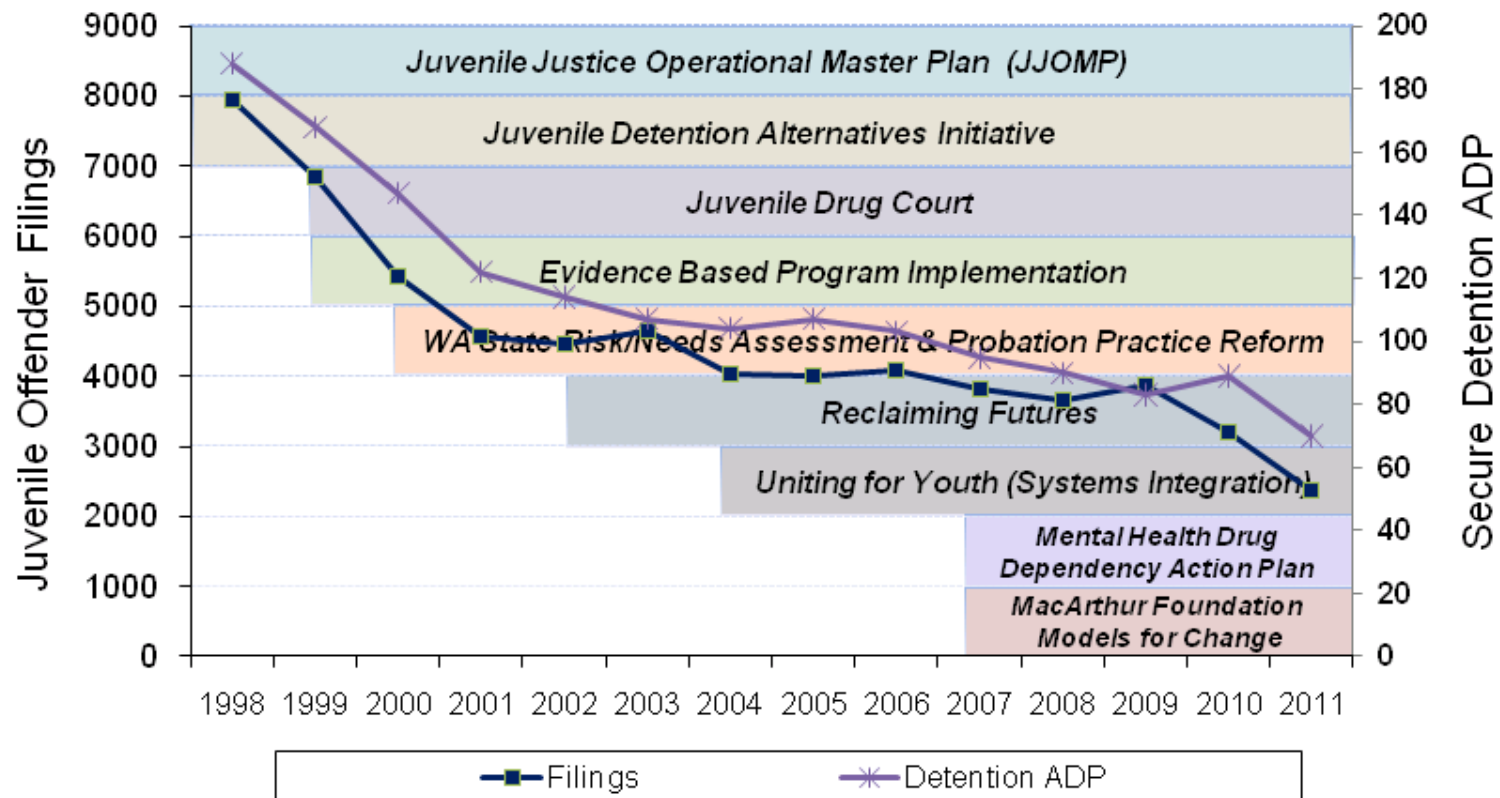
- Life of current Youth Services Center Facilities
- History of programs to reduce juvenile detention population

## Current Efforts

- Aggressive effort to reduce number of beds in and use of detention
- Study factors that contribute to juvenile detention population
- Public Engagement
- Ensure safety and support
- Race equity assessment and community engagement plan

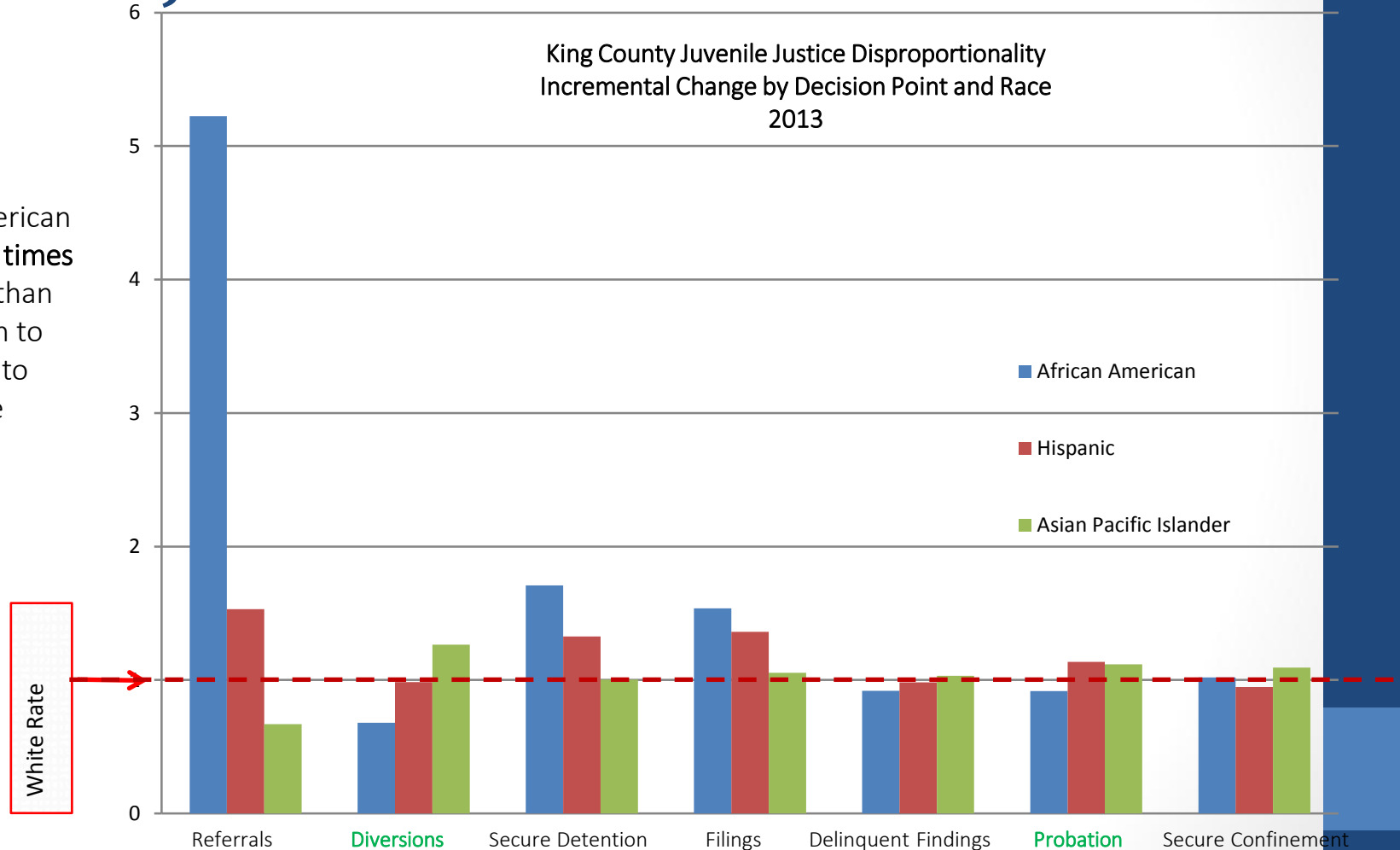
# Juvenile Justice Reform Timeline

**Juvenile Justice Trends and Initiatives  
1998 - 2011**

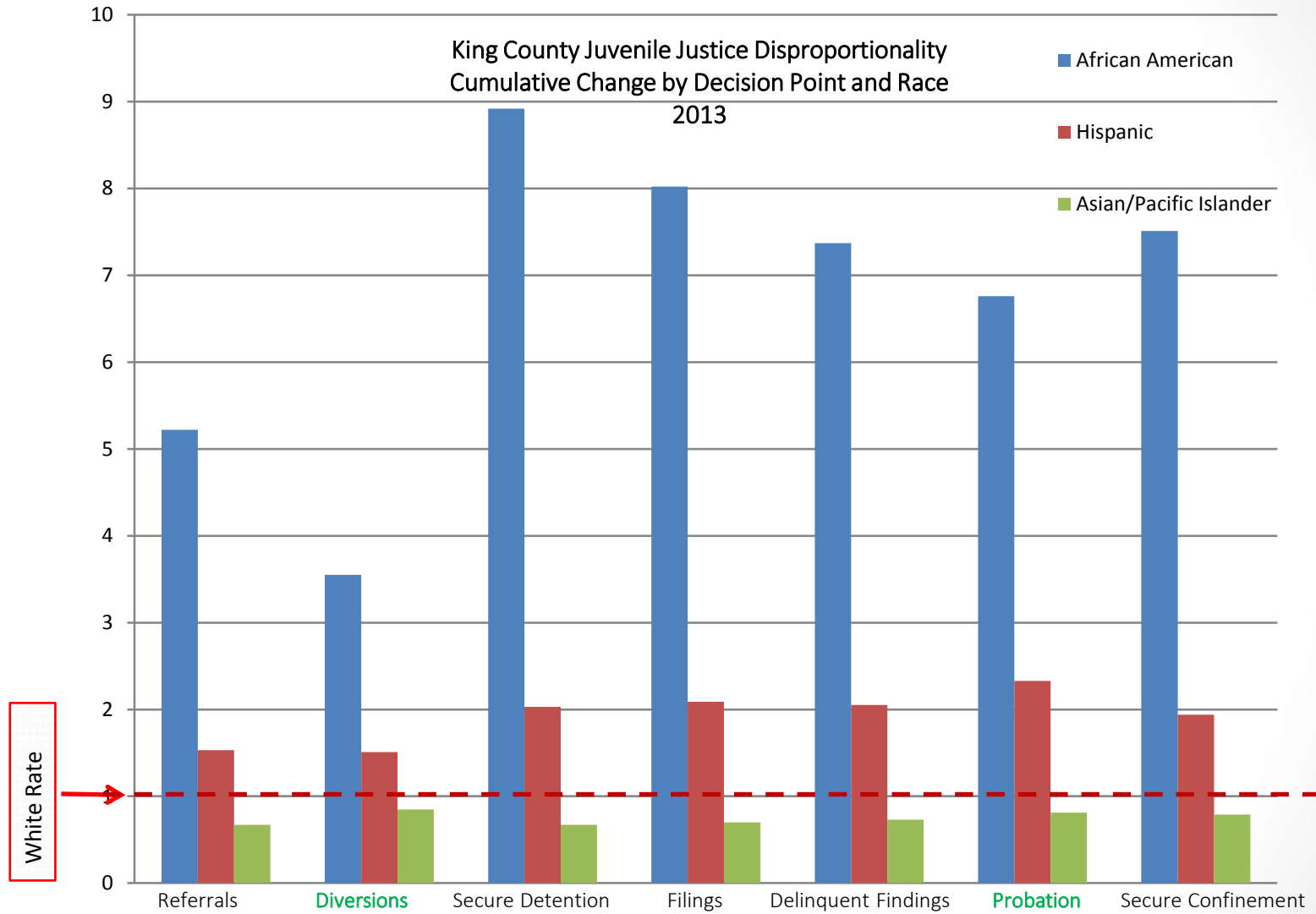


# Despite Success, Inequity Persists in Juvenile Justice

African American Youth are **5 times more likely** than White Youth to be referred to the Juvenile System.



# The Progression of Inequity



High volume of referrals for African American Youth leads to overrepresentation throughout each decision point.

# ARE OUR CHILDREN BEING PUSHED INTO PRISON?

**THE PIPELINE TO PRISON:** THE U.S. HAS THE HIGHEST INCARCERATION RATE IN THE WORLD, AND ITS PRISONS AND JAILS ARE OVERWHELMINGLY FILLED WITH AFRICAN AMERICANS AND LATINOS. THE PATHS TO PRISON FOR YOUNG AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND LATINO MEN ARE MANY, BUT THE STARTING POINTS ARE OFTEN THE SCHOOL AND FOSTER CARE SYSTEMS.

## FROM SCHOOL TO PRISON

STUDENTS OF COLOR FACE HARSHER DISCIPLINE AND ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE PUSHED OUT OF SCHOOL THAN WHITES.

40%



OF STUDENTS **EXPELLED** FROM U.S. SCHOOLS EACH YEAR ARE BLACK.

70%



OF STUDENTS INVOLVED IN "IN-SCHOOL" **ARRESTS** OR REFERRED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT ARE BLACK OR LATINO.

3.5 X



BLACK STUDENTS ARE THREE AND A HALF TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE **SUSPENDED** THAN WHITES.

2 X



BLACK AND LATINO STUDENTS ARE TWICE AS LIKELY TO **NOT GRADUATE** HIGH SCHOOL AS WHITES.

68%

OF ALL MALES IN STATE AND FEDERAL **PRISON** DO NOT HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL **DIPLOMA**.



50%



OF YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVING FOSTER CARE WILL BE **UNEMPLOYED** WITHIN A FEW YEARS AFTER TURNING 18.

70%

OF INMATES IN CALIFORNIA **STATE PRISON** ARE FORMER **FOSTER CARE** YOUTH.

## FROM FOSTER CARE TO PRISON

YOUTH OF COLOR ARE MORE LIKELY THAN WHITES TO BE PLACED IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM, A BREEDING GROUND FOR THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.

50%



OF CHILDREN IN THE **FOSTER CARE SYSTEM** ARE BLACK OR LATINO.

30%



OF FOSTER CARE YOUTH ENTERING THE **JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM** ARE PLACEMENT-RELATED BEHAVIORAL CASES (e.g., RUNNING AWAY FROM A GROUP HOME).

25%



OF YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVING FOSTER CARE WILL BE **INCARCERATED** WITHIN A FEW YEARS AFTER TURNING 18.

## THE COLOR OF MASS INCARCERATION



BLACK OR LATINO



VS



BLACK OR LATINO



OF INCARCERATED POPULATION

OF U.S. POPULATION



ONE OUT OF THREE AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALES WILL BE INCARCERATED IN HIS LIFETIME




ONE OUT OF SIX LATINO MALES WILL BE INCARCERATED IN HIS LIFETIME



# **COLLABORATION:**

Two or more people working  
together towards shared goals



# Vision for King County

- Welcoming, Rigorous Schools
- Supportive, Connected Neighborhoods
- Beyond Treatment
- Transformative Justice
- Collaboration and Equity





# What you can do -



- Understand that unhealthy youth become unhealthy adults
- Understand what your role is and how your agency impacts racial equity and social justice.
- Engage yourself and your colleagues in a conversation around racial equity and social justice.
- Get involved in the movement to address institutional racism
- Utilize the race equity tool to measure your policies and practices
- Be courageous and challenge others to speak up about injustices