

## RELATIVE RATE INDEX (RRI)

The Relative Rate Index (RRI) is a measure of Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) with the juvenile justice system. It is a standardized tool for measuring how youth of color compare with white youth at various contact points (court referral, diversion, etc.). The RRI was developed by the National Center for Juvenile Justice, with funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), part of the Office of Justice Programs within the U.S. Department of Justice.

## DEFINITIONS FOR KEY CONTACT POINTS

The definitions below describe each key contact point included in the tables that follow, along with a brief explanation of each point. Understanding each contact point and how it is defined in the calculations will provide the basis for proper interpretation of the rates. Though not a 'contact point,' the general youth population is included because it is a key data point for calculating the rate of contact.

Contact Point	Definition
<b>Population</b>	Population of youth ages 11-17 as of July 2024. Source: MD Dept. of Planning. <i>Note: DJS uses 11-17 as a population denominator due to the low number of cases under 11.</i>
<b>Referrals to Juvenile Court/Intake</b>	Juvenile complaints referred to DJS intake, from police or other sources, including delinquent & non-delinquent offenses, recorded in ASSIST. Rate is based on youth in the general population.
<b>Diversion</b>	Complaints diverted by DJS Intake (resolved or informally adjusted to pre-court supervision) without formal petition. Rate is per referral.
<b>Detention</b>	Cases resulting in pre-disposition detention. Rate is per referral.
<b>Petitioned</b>	Complaints resulting in juvenile court petitions. Rate is per referral.
<b>Delinquent</b>	Complaints resulting in delinquent findings. Rate is per petition.
<b>Probation</b>	Probation dispositions. Rate is per delinquent finding.
<b>Confinement</b>	Youth placed in hardware-secure state-operated treatment programs or staff- and hardware-secure private out-of-state programs. Rate is per delinquent finding.
<b>Transferred</b>	Juvenile petitions waived up to adult court. Does not include charges under original adult jurisdiction. Rate is per delinquent finding.

The data presented here show the RRI for youth of color compared to white youth. The RRI for each decision point is based on the number of youth of each race/ethnicity represented at that point compared with the number at the previous decision point.

## RRI's FOR ALL YOUTH OF COLOR COMPARED WITH WHITE YOUTH, AT KEY CONTACT POINTS<sup>1</sup>, FY 2025

County	Referred to Juvenile Court/ Intake	Cases Diverted	Cases Involved Secure Detention	Cases Petitioned	Cases Resulting in Delinquent Findings	Cases Resulting in Probation Placement	Cases Resulting in Confinement in Secure Juvenile Correctional	Cases Transferred to Adult Court
Allegany	3.11	0.75	**	1.37	0.66	**	**	**
Anne Arundel	2.93	0.89	0.67	1.13	1.07	0.87	**	**
Baltimore City	3.79	1.15	2.32	0.95	2.19	**	**	**
Baltimore County	4.20	0.90	1.27	1.13	0.80	1.09	**	**
Calvert	2.10	0.95	**	1.30	**	**	**	**
Caroline	2.09	1.24	**	0.66	**	**	**	**
Carroll	1.83	0.93	**	1.26	0.73	**	**	**
Cecil	1.69	0.81	**	1.32	0.74	**	**	**
Charles	2.13	0.97	**	1.11	**	**	**	**
Dorchester	7.54	0.77	**	2.21	**	**	**	**
Frederick	2.73	0.90	**	1.14	1.14	**	**	**
Garrett	2.87	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Harford	3.01	0.92	1.09	1.10	0.84	0.92	**	**
Howard	3.58	0.99	0.76	1.01	0.84	**	**	**
Kent	4.86	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Montgomery	3.79	0.66	1.03	1.78	0.67	1.55	**	**
Prince George's	2.82	0.50	**	2.87	**	**	**	**
Queen Anne's	6.00	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Somerset	2.95	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
St. Mary's	3.85	0.94	**	1.30	**	**	**	**
Talbot	2.19	0.88	**	1.22	**	**	**	**
Washington	1.71	0.77	**	1.38	1.01	**	**	**
Wicomico	4.94	1.06	**	0.91	**	**	**	**
Worcester	1.91	0.91	**	1.35	1.37	**	**	**
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>2.27</b>	<b>0.77</b>	<b>2.36</b>	<b>1.42</b>	1.02	<b>0.91</b>	<b>2.98</b>	**

<sup>1</sup> At all decision points youth of color include: African American, Asian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Hispanic/Latino and Other/Unknown youth.

<sup>2</sup> Cases diverted include pre-court supervision and resolved at intake.

- Statistically significant results are shown in red.
- Insufficient number of cases for analysis are shown as \*\*; an RRI of 1.0 indicates no disproportional contact. A rate higher than 1.0 indicates that youth of color are over-represented at that decision point, and a rate below 1.0 shows they are under-represented.