Metrics to Evaluate Pre-Booking Youth Diversion

Introduction

Human Impact Partners (HIP) developed this resource to highlight metrics, indicators, and potential data sources detailed in the *Advancing Racial Equity in Youth Diversion: An Evaluation Framework Informed by Los Angeles County.* The HIP team partnered with the Los Angeles County Office of Youth Diversion and Development (YDD) to produce this evaluation framework.

The framework identifies 5 touchpoints in the pre-booking diversion process where racial inequities may occur:

1. Getting stopped by a law enforcement officer

2. Getting referred by law enforcement to a diversion program

3. Getting enrolled in a diversion program

4. Participating in and completing a diversion program

5. Thriving after a program

How To Use This Document

This resource is organized into tables, each including indicators of racial equity, key metrics, and potential data sources for its respective touchpoint. You can use the information we've gathered to:

* Design youth diversion programs to achieve indicators of racial equity across each touchpoint.

* Identify data to assess racial equity of a youth diversion program. The potential data sources listed in these tables are specific to California and may provide inspiration for what's possible where you are.

* Collaborate with other stakeholders involved in youth diversion to evaluate youth diversion for racial equity.

1. Getting Stopped by a Law Enforcement Officer

Indicators of Racial Equity	Key Metrics	Potential Data Sources
Proportion of youth of each race/ethnicity stopped matches the proportion of youth of each race/ethnicity in the population	• Percent of youth stops by race/ethnicity[1] • Compare to percent of youth of each racial identity in the population • Examine stops geographically to look for disproportionate contact in specific neighborhoods	• Law enforcement agency data[1] • Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) data[2]

[1] Race/ethnicity data is typically entered by officers based on their perception of youth's race, and officers frequently miscode Latinx youth as White. This miscoding can artificially inflate the apparent frequency of stops of White youth and mask potential disparities between Latinx and White youth.

[2] As of April 2019, large police departments in California are required to report data on stops. The RIPA board has not announced when the data will be available to the public.

2. Getting Referred by Law Enforcement to a Diversion Program

Indicators of Racial Equity	Key Metrics	Potential Data Sources
Youth of all racial/ethnic backgrounds are referred to diversion by law enforcement officers for serious alleged offenses, arrested for only very serious alleged offenses, and stopped without further intervention for minor/status alleged offenses at similar rates	Percent of youth, by race/ethnicity, that officers stop and warn with no further intervention, refer to pre-booking diversion, and arrest *Break data out by level (status, misdemeanor, felony) and type (non-violent, violent, etc.) of alleged offense*	• RIPA board[3] • Law enforcement agencies[4] • Providers[5]

[3] The Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) mandates that law enforcement agencies in California collect data on all stops, including the reason for a stop, any actions taken during the stop, and the characteristics of individuals they stop.

[4] In most cases, law enforcement agencies would have to start collecting and sharing data on the number and characteristics of youth they stop and divert. Some agencies, including LAPD, are starting to collect this data.

[5] Providers could compare the alleged offenses of youth referred to their program by youth's race/ethnicity.

3. Getting Enrolled in a Diversion Program

Indicators of Racial Equity	Key Metrics	Potential Data Sources
Of those referred, equal proportions of youth across racial/ethnic groups enroll in diversion	% of caretakers by race/ethnicity declining officer referral to diversion (and reason for doing so)	Law enforcement agencies[6]
	% of youth by race/ethnicity referred whom provider cannot contact	Providers[7]
	% of youth by race/ethnicity deemed ineligible by provider	
	% of youth by race/ethnicity deemed ineligible by provider (and reason for ineligibility)	

[6] Law enforcement agencies would have to start collecting and sharing this data.

[7] Providers may have to start collecting more detailed data on youth whom they are unable to enroll.

4. Participating in and Completing a Diversion Program

Indicators of Racial Equity	Key Metrics	Potential Data Sources
Equal proportions of youth across racial/ethnic groups complete their care plan goals; are offered each type of service; access services they are connected to; and express high satisfaction with the program	% of youth by race/ethnicity completing care plan goals or program	Providers[8]
	% of youth by race/ethnicity connected to supportive services who are able to access those services at least once during the program	
	Youth satisfaction with program, by race/ethnicity	
Agencies should record initial youth arrests in equal proportions across racial/ethnic groups	% of youth by race/ethnicity whose initial arrest is not recorded	Law enforcement agencies[8]

[8] Providers and law enforcement agencies may need to begin collecting this data.

5. Thriving after a Diversion Program

Indicators of Racial Equity	Key Metrics	Potential Data Sources
Equal proportions of youth across racial/ethnic groups show improvement in key areas and don't have further contact with the justice system	% of youth by race/ethnicity with short- and long-term improvement in areas identified as goals in their care plan post-diversion	Providers
	% of youth with short- and long-term improvement in areas targeted by program (e.g., mental health, educational engagement and/or completion, job placement, social skills and connections)	Providers
	% of youth who aren't re-arrested, don't have subsequent petitions filed, and don't have subsequent petitions sustained	Law enforcement agencies

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