

## DMC Contributing Mechanisms

<b>Mechanism</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Seasonal Mobility	Occurs when a community has an influx of juveniles during a particular season, frequently either a holiday season (spring break) or a vacation season (summer break).
Attractive Nuisance	Applied to a number of commercial or entertainment areas, particularly in urban settings. For example, a shopping mall or entertainment facility may be located in a suburban community or an urban neighborhood that has lower proportions of minority residents but draws youth from across an urban area.
Immigration-and Migration-Related Mobility	May have an impact on communities to create higher levels of DMC, particularly where policies of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services are a major concern.
Institutional Effects	Jurisdictions provide residential or detention capacity for a number of other jurisdictions. For example, if a county operates a regional detention facility, then it might appear that its volume of detention activity is higher than in surrounding counties, and if the county includes these nonresident youth in its RRI calculation, it might create erroneous results.
Indirect effects	Reflects economic status, education, location, and a host of risk factors associated with delinquent behavior, among other factors, that are linked with race and ethnicity. These factors are related to delinquent activity or contact within the justice system.
Specific risk factors	Are correlated with race or ethnicity, may lead to differential offending issues. Risk factors such as poor school performance or living in disorganized neighborhoods are more likely to occur to minority youth, putting them at a greater risk of system involvement.
Programming Access/Eligibility	For example, access to some forms of behavioral health or substance use treatment is often contingent on medical insurance coverage. That coverage is, in turn, often contingent on economic circumstances, which places many minority families at a disadvantage in obtaining such services.
Decision making Factors	For example, a number of studies have indicated that juvenile justice decision makers respond differently to youth from an “intact” two-parent family setting than to youth from a single-parent home.
Access	May be limited by geography, hours of operation, or other means. For example, if a program is located in an area of a community that is not accessible through public transportation, the unintended outcome may be that only families who have access to private automobiles may participate.
Eligibility	May be used in many programs to define a set of youth most likely to benefit from the program or to exclude those youth that program leaders believe will likely disrupt the program or otherwise be less likely to benefit from the program resources.
Implementation	For example, the physical tone of a facility may be inviting or discouraging, may indicate an appreciation of multiple cultures, or may be sterile and institutional.
Effectiveness	The capability to achieve intended outcomes. Many prevention or treatment programs have been developed initially with a particular group of youth in mind, often white youth.
Differential Treatment	Minority youth are processed differently based on intentional or unintentional bias. Intentional bias is overt and operates on stereotypes and assumptions. Unintentional bias is typically indirect and operates through legitimate criteria but disadvantages minority youth.
Differential Processing or Inappropriate Decision making Criteria	An issue in determining program eligibility, implementing diversion programs, and selecting alternative decision outcomes.
Justice by geography	The concept that youth in general, and minority youth in particular, may be processed or handled differently in one jurisdiction than in another within the same state.
Legislation, Policies, and Legal Factors	Policies enacted through legislation or through administrative action may sometimes contain elements that create a disadvantage for minority youth
Simple Accumulation	There may be a higher rate of arrest for minority youth, followed by a lower rate of diversion, higher rates of formal processing as delinquent, etc.
Impacts On Later Decisions	Another example where race and ethnicity may work indirectly through factors that influence decision making is the impact of earlier stages on later stages of the justice system, such as the impact of pre-adjudicatory detention.