



JUVENILE JUSTICE

CAMPAIGN OF THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION COALITION

www.act4jj.org

Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: Iowa

The Iowa Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (JJAC) serves as Iowa's federally-mandated state advisory body. The group administers the state's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) funds and provides the Governor, state legislature, and other policymakers with recommendations for improving and supporting the state's juvenile justice system. The JJAC helps determine how funds granted by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) should be expended, and reports regularly to the Governor and state legislature on the status of the state's compliance with the four core requirements of the JJDP.¹

The federal allocation of grant funding to Iowa has decreased dramatically in recent years. Nationwide, during the 16 years that the JJDP went unauthorized, **federal juvenile justice funding decreased by nearly 42%**.² In Iowa, meanwhile, between FY10 and FY19 alone, the state experienced a 65% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations.³ In FY10 the state received \$551,600 through the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program. For the past five fiscal years, however, that sum has been zeroed out in the federal budget. Iowa also received \$84,945 in Title V funding in FY2010. That funding source, however, has been earmarked for non-JJDP purposes in recent years. The lone remaining source of formula and block grant funding, Title II, has also diminished. In FY10, Iowa received \$600,000 in Title II funding. In FY19, that figure had decreased to \$429,747.

Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY10:
\$1,236,545

Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY19*:
\$429,747

**Decrease of 65% so far
this decade.**

*This number only includes Title II funds; JABG has been zeroed out & Title V funds have been earmarked

¹ The four core requirements of the JJDP are: 1) deinstitutionalization of status offenders, (2) separation of adults and juveniles in secure institutions, 3) jail removal, and 4) reduction of the disproportionate number of minority youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system (disproportionate minority contact, or DMC). Retrieved from http://www.act4jj.org/about_requirements.html.

² Act4JJ. (2020). Juvenile Justice Federal Funding Chart. Retrieved from

<https://www.act4jj.org/sites/default/files/ckfinder/files/Historic%20Funding%20Chart%20-%20FY20.pdf>.

³ All numbers are based upon figures reported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Grant Awards and Past Solicitations. Retrieved from <https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/funding.html#2>.

Federal Dollars in Action:

Even with the decrease in federal funding, Kansas continues to use its federal dollars for programs aimed at ensuring that the JJDPA's core protections are carried out. This has become increasingly difficult as funding has diminished. Most recently, the state has prioritized the following programs:

- **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Intuitive (JDAI).** Iowa has established a team of juvenile justice officials to review the implementation and functionality of the Detention Screening Tool (DST). Iowa uses DST to determine appropriate placements for youth based on their risk levels.
- **"The Talking Wall" project.** This program provides youth in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems the ability to speak out about these systems and learn ways to communicate their ideas constructively to effect positive change within Iowa's juvenile justice and child welfare systems. Youth ideas have been collected from twelve locations and used to identify the top five concerns of youth: communication, Foster Care education, managing relationships, the juvenile justice system, and education.

This fact sheet was prepared by:



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