

The Judicial Council will be providing psychology continuing education (CE) credit for this workshop. The American Psychological Association (APA) requires that all workshops providing those CE credits adhere to criteria set forth by the APA. These criteria include collecting the following information about each workshop that will be offering psychology CE credits.

Workshop Coordinators: Please complete the top portion of this form and ask faculty to complete the bottom portion.

1. Workshop Title:	Using Data to Improve Juvenile Justice Policy and Practice
2. Date:	December 2, 2015
3. Workshop Description:	Every day, juvenile justice system actors from judges through law enforcement, attorneys, and probation personnel are responsible for protecting public safety, holding youth accountable, containing costs, and improving outcomes for hundreds of thousands of youth and their families – all while being accountable to taxpayers for the results. How can we be sure that the decisions we are making yield the best possible outcomes for public safety and for the youth and families in the juvenile justice system while being efficient with time and resources? Juvenile justice systems across the country are turning to evidence-based policies and performance measures to help them to better understand their system, develop research-driven reforms, and evaluate outcomes. In this session, learn from experts from the Pew Charitable Trusts Public Safety Performance Project (PSPP) and the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) about how juvenile justice systems are collecting, reporting, and using data to drive system reform efforts. There will be a focus on the specific policy reforms undertaken in PSPP states and the complexities of using recidivism as a performance measure.
4. Learning Objectives: Participants will be able to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize the national juvenile justice landscape and how various states have utilized data to drive system improvement; • Describe the work of the Public Safety Performance Project around system-level reform and performance measures and the work of the National Center for Juvenile Justice to empower jurisdictions through effective use of data; • Discuss strategies for understanding and addressing issues with performance measures, including measures of recidivism in juvenile justice, through examples from several states and jurisdictions; and • Discuss how data can help with system reform in each participant's jurisdiction.

Pursuant to CE Credit requirements, please provide reference materials or citations for your presentation:

[Indefensible: The Lack of Juvenile Defense Data](#)

This StateScan publication is the 5th in a series that distills important knowledge from NCJJ's new Juvenile Justice Geography, Policy, Practice & Statistics website. The author, Andrew Wachter, organizes results from an online search for available juvenile defense data. This publication highlights the limited amount of data available, suggests possible reasons for the lack of data, and highlights examples from a few states that report comprehensively. This original analysis illustrates that very few states collect and report data to monitor or evaluate the performance of the juvenile defense field; rather most simply report to describe a work product for public defender agencies.

[Measuring Subsequent Offending in Juvenile Probation](#)

This StateScan publication is the 6th in a series that distills important knowledge from NCJJ's new Juvenile Justice Geography, Policy, Practice & Statistics website. The authors organize results from an online search for available state-level recidivism reports. Most reports located focused on juvenile correction populations,

but 14 reports were reviewed that included measures of reoffending for youth under probation supervision. This publication explores the different ways reoffending is measured for this population, including the various marker events and follow up periods used. This original analysis also emphasizes the need to measure reoffending among probationers given that most court involved youth are served by probation departments.

[U.S. Age Boundaries of Delinquency](#)

This StateScan publication is the 8th in a series that distills knowledge from NCJJ's Juvenile Justice Geography, Policy, Practice & Statistics website. The publication summarizes the results of an analysis of 2014 juvenile statutes for U.S. age boundaries of delinquency, and compares upper, lower, and extended ages of original juvenile court jurisdiction for all 50 United States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands). The author provides a brief overview of how age boundaries for delinquency create the foundation for juvenile justice, controversy and trends among the states, and the larger schema of youth crime and other violations subject to the jurisdiction of other courts.

[Juvenile Court Statistics 2013](#)

Juvenile Court Statistics 2013 draws on data from the National Juvenile Court Data Archive (Archive) to profile nearly 1.1 million delinquency cases and 109,000 petitioned status offense cases handled in 2013 by U.S. courts with juvenile jurisdiction. The report also tracks trends in delinquency cases between 1985 and 2013 and in status offense cases processed between 1995 and 2013. The data used in this report were contributed to the Archive by more than 2,400 courts with jurisdiction over 84% of the juvenile population in 2013.

[When Systems Collaborate: How Three Jurisdictions Improved Their Handling of Dual-Status Cases](#)

When Systems Collaborate (19 pages) provides case studies of three jurisdictions trying to coordinate information and services to youth with dual-status in both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. The jurisdictions were selected based on a 50-state survey of efforts to coordinate data and services to dual status youth and selects examples that provide starting places for developing solutions on a complex reform issue. The first example focuses on delinquency referral intake and diversion, the second example focuses on community supervision or probation and the final case study explores efforts in a state to keep both child welfare and juvenile corrections involved in facilitating reentry and aftercare for dual-status youth.

[School Pathways to the Juvenile Justice System Project: A Practice Guide](#)

This practice guide provides thorough and thoughtful guidance on implementing judicially led collaborations to address "school pathways to the juvenile justice system." It is the product of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' School Pathways to the Juvenile Justice System Project. This project is providing technical assistance from experts in the field of juvenile justice and supportive school discipline to 16 demonstration sites across the country interested in developing multi-system, judicially led collaborations to address school discipline referral to the juvenile court.

[Georgia's 2013 Juvenile Justice Reform](#)

[Hawaii's 2014 Juvenile Justice Reform](#)

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[Kentucky's 2014 Juvenile Justice Reform](#)

[Re-examining Juvenile Incarceration](#)

[Public Opinion on Juvenile Justice in America](#)

http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/AOC_Briefing-Defining_Recidivism--Web_Version.pdf


http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/JD_Performance_asEBP.pdf

http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/EBP_Integrating_Justice_Practices_121812.pdf

There are are not limitations or risks associated with applying the information presented in this workshop. (If there are, please discuss here)

This workshop does does not have commercial support or conflicts of interest. (If it does, please discuss here)


If you will be discussing any proprietary or confidential information, how will you safeguard the information?
If this question is not applicable, please check this box: x


 NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE

Using Data to Inform Juvenile Justice Policy and Practice

Teri Deal, M.Ed.
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 National Center for Juvenile Justice

California Beyond the Bench 23
 December 2, 2015


 NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE

WHO IS NCJJ?

- Founded in 1973
- Research Division of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)
- NCJJ is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is *effective justice for children and families through research and technical assistance*

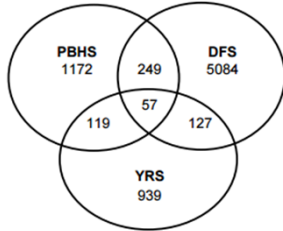

 NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE



The screenshot shows the NCJJ website with a navigation menu (About, Publications, Projects, Make A Donation) and a search bar. The main content area features a report titled "Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2014 National Report" with a summary of findings. Below the report are sections for "Newest Publications", "Quick Links", and "News Feed".

Dual Status Youth

Departmental Client Distribution - August 31, 2015



State of Delaware Department of Services
for Children, Youth, and Their Families



Racial and Ethnic Fairness

- Youth of color are overrepresented in many aspects of JJ
- OJJDP recommends constructing an RRI for 9 decision points to identify points of disparity
- Frequently multiple agency data systems must work together to display the 9 decisions points



Juvenile Court Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

Home | Tracking Update | What the Data Means | 5-year Averages | Breakdown of Mapping Data | Methods & Data Sources | Supreme Court Presentation

State and County 5-year RRI Averages

Below are links to tables containing DMC RRI 5-year averages for Washington State and individual counties for eight decision points in the juvenile justice process.

1. Juvenile Arrests
2. Referrals to Juvenile Court
3. Referrals with a Disposition Offense Category B+ or Higher
4. Referrals with a Diversion Agreement Signed
5. Cases Filed (petitioned referrals)
6. Cases Adjudicated (guilty and deferred dispositions)
7. Adjudicated with JBA Dispositions
8. Cases Transferred to Adult Court

2007 to 2011 Summary of RRIs: Minority youth compared to white, non-Hispanic youth
Decision point: Juvenile Arrests
Data with imputed race/ethnicity

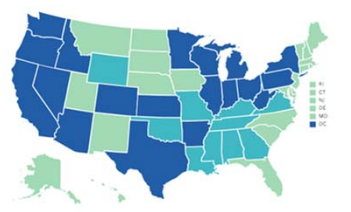
	Black, non-Hispanic	Hispanic	Asian or Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	American Indian or Alaska Native, non-Hispanic	All Minority
Washington	1.83	X	0.32	1.03	0.97
Adams	0.46	X	X	X	0.15
Asotin-Garfield	1.01	X	X	0.57	0.70
Benton-Franklin	1.60	X	0.32	0.14	0.77
Chelan	1.00	X	X	0.25	0.41
Columbia	1.54	X	0.29	0.65	0.73
Clark	2.31	X	0.48	0.23	1.09
Cowlitz	1.51	X	0.47	0.37	0.72
Douglas	1.57	X	X	X	0.52
Ferry-PO-Stevens	3.34	X	X	0.28	0.67
Grant	1.32	X	X	0.46	0.74
Grays Harbor	0.98	X	0.48	0.58	0.64
Island	1.79	X	0.97	0.85	1.26
Jefferson	X	X	X	0.31	0.34
King	3.07	X	0.40	1.15	1.41

Washington Center for Court Research

Structure of Probation

Overall Detention **Probation** Corrections Reentry

Probation: The responsibility for delivering the community supervision activity for youth who receive this disposition from the juvenile court. Probation can encompass many additional responsibilities depending on the state.



Myths of recidivism

1. There is one *right* way to measure recidivism
2. Recidivism rates are always comparable across jurisdictions
3. Increasing recidivism rate always means trouble
4. A one-time recidivism study is good enough



It matters what you measure

Recidivism measured for 12-month follow-up period	States	Average rates across studies	
		Recidivism	Success
Rearrest Delinquent/criminal offenses, juvenile & adult systems	FL, NY, VA	55%	45%
Rereferral to court Delinquent/criminal offenses, juvenile & adult systems	CO, MD	45	55
Reconviction/readjudication Delinquent/criminal offenses, juvenile & adult systems	AK, FL, GA, KY, MD, ND, OK, VA	33	67
Reincarceration/reconfinement Delinquent/criminal offenses, juvenile & adult systems	FL, MD, VA	24	76
All offenses, juvenile & adult systems	AZ, OH, TX	25	75
Delinquent offenses, juvenile system only	AR, MO, NM	12	88



Definitions of recidivism

Definition of recidivism =
population + marker event +
timeframe

Recommendations

1. CJA White Paper
2. CFCC Briefing



Who are you measuring?

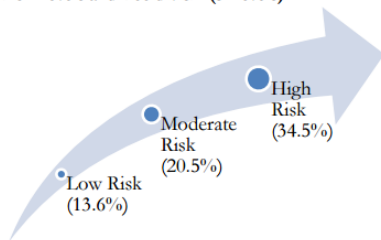
*May depend on who is doing the analyses
or what data are readily available*

- State corrections agencies tend to use corrections release cohorts
- Probation departments tend to use probation release or supervision cohorts
- Programs tend to use program completion cohorts
- **Courts tend to use cohorts based on court events: disposition, adjudication, or referral**
- Birth cohorts used in "career" analyses



Colorado Department of Human Services: Division of Youth Corrections

Figure 4: CJRA Risk Levels and Recidivism (3-Levels)



What event signifies recidivism?

Often can't know when individuals offend, only when they become known to the system.

Measures of recidivism are, thus, under counts.

- Re-arrest—closest to behavior, false arrest issues
- Re-referral—better for courts than corrections
- Re-petition—1st consideration of legal sufficiency
- Re-adjudication—guilt established, longer wait
- Re-commitment—lowest rates, more common for corrections agencies



Maryland Department of Juvenile Services

12-MONTH JUVENILE AND/OR CRIMINAL JUSTICE RECIDIVISM RATES BY DEMOGRAPHICS, FY 2013 RELEASES

Demographics	FY 2013 Releases			
	Total	Recarrests	Reconvictions	Reincarcerations
Race/Ethnicity				
Black	1,054	581 55.1%	207 19.6%	165 15.7%
White	389	168 43.2%	76 19.5%	57 14.7%
Hispanic/Other	87	38 43.7%	19 21.8%	13 14.9%
Sex				
Male	1,309	699 53.4%	272 20.8%	217 16.6%
Female	221	88 39.8%	30 13.6%	18 8.1%
Age at Release				
11 and Under	2	1 50.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
12	4	2 50.0%	1 25.0%	1 25.0%
13	16	10 62.5%	4 25.0%	4 25.0%
14	66	53 80.3%	29 43.9%	26 39.4%
15	169	98 58.0%	47 27.8%	33 19.5%
16	321	164 51.1%	73 22.7%	49 15.3%
17	484	258 53.3%	86 17.8%	63 13.0%
18 or older	468	201 42.9%	62 13.2%	59 12.6%
Total	1,530	787 51.4%	302 19.7%	235 15.4%

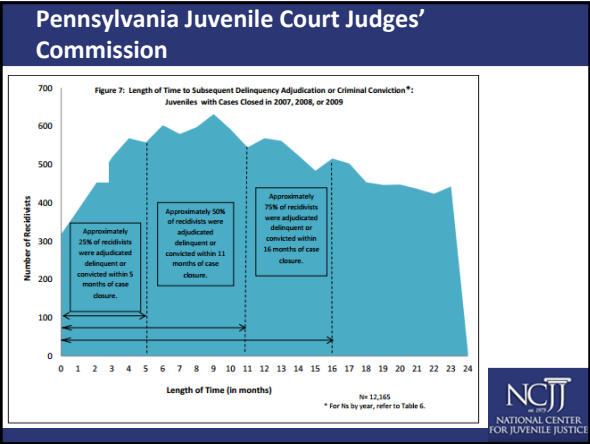


How long are they followed?

The longer the period, the higher the rate

- 12 or 24 months common in juvenile studies, but many use 36 months—will depend on purpose
- Career analyses use 1st offense—age out/death
- Related question—retrospective or prospective?
 - Retro—no wait for results, data may be limited
 - Pro—can tailor data collection, wait for follow-up
- Calendar time vs. “street” time





Oregon JJIS Steering Committee

County	2012 Juvenile Recidivism All Juvenile Offenders By County		No Subsequent Referrals		Subsequent Referrals		Subsequent Referrals			
	Youth	%	Youth	%	Youth	%	1 to 2		3 or More (chronic)	
							Youth	%	Youth	%
Baker	63		42	64.0%	21	33.4%	17	26.2%	4	6.2%
Benton	130		104	80.0%	26	20.0%	21	16.2%	5	3.8%
Clackamas	841		671	79.8%	170	20.2%	130	17.8%	20	2.4%
Clatsop	367		118	32.1%	249	67.9%	36	11.0%	13	3.8%
Columbia	364		115	31.6%	249	68.4%	43	11.8%	6	1.6%
Coos	165		125	75.8%	40	24.2%	34	20.6%	6	3.6%
Cook	112		87	77.7%	25	22.3%	23	20.5%	2	1.8%
Curry	39		40	102.6%	13	33.3%	11	19.0%	2	3.6%
Deschutes	724		551	76.1%	173	23.9%	130	20.7%	23	3.2%
Douglas	264		261	91.7%	3	1.3%	84	23.1%	19	5.2%
Gilliam	6		3	50.0%	3	50.0%	3	50.0%	0	0.0%
Grant	13		10	76.9%	3	23.1%	3	23.1%	0	0.0%
Harney	73		16	21.9%	57	78.1%	6	10.7%	1	1.7%
Heald River	83		64	77.1%	19	22.9%	17	20.5%	2	2.4%
Jackson	812		588	72.4%	224	27.6%	178	21.9%	46	5.7%
Jefferson	137		94	68.6%	43	31.4%	33	23.9%	5	3.6%
Josephine	236		163	69.1%	73	30.9%	38	16.1%	9	4.0%

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How far are they followed?

Follow into criminal court?

- Ideally juvenile offenders would be followed into the criminal (adult) system
- If limited to juvenile system data, rates lower

Follow into other jurisdictions?

- How much do youth cross boundaries?
- Can data sharing MOUs be established & sustained?
If not, rates lower

Follow to the grave?

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What offenses “count” as recidivism?

What offense category?

- Delinquency/criminal offenses
- Status offenses
- Summary or traffic offenses
- Technical violations/revocations

- Offense seriousness—look for escalation
- Most serious offense—identify recidivists
- All charges—number of crimes attributed to recidivists



Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

Table 30: Type of Offense Committed on Base Case by Recidivists*: Juveniles with Cases Closed in 2007, 2008, or 2009

Offense Type Committed On Base Case	2007		2008		2009		Three-Year Total	
	Number of Juveniles	Percentage of All Cases Closed	Number of Juveniles	Percentage of All Cases Closed	Number of Juveniles	Percentage of All Cases Closed	Number of Juveniles	Percentage of All Cases Closed
Person	826	22%	894	22%	981	23%	2,701	22%
Property	980	26%	1,008	25%	1,074	26%	3,062	26%
Drug	682	18%	765	19%	761	18%	2,208	18%
Other	1,290	34%	1,384	34%	1,360	33%	4,034	34%
Total	3,778		4,051		4,176		12,005	

*The type of offense committed on the base case of 47 recidivists with a 2007 case closure, 36 recidivists with a 2008 case closure, and 30 recidivists with a 2009 case closure was not reported in the PaJCMS.



Useful comparison groups

- System penetration groups**—diversion vs. probation vs. placement vs. secure confinement
- Risk factor groups**—offense seriousness, prior history, gang involvement, risk assessment level
- Needs groups**—based on assessment of various characteristics: substance use, mental health...
- Demographics**—gender, race/ethnicity, age
- Geography, etc.**—County, city, neighborhood, school, program, community groups



Multistate Study of Subsequent Offending



California
Massachusetts
South Carolina
Utah
Washington



Multistate Study of Subsequent Offending

- **Empower** practitioners to accurately measure system performance and create benchmarks
- Arm states with **research-informed measures** that facilitate defensible comparisons of offender groups
- Provide a baseline for state-to-state assessments where **careful and equivalent comparisons** are possible



California

Project Lead: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)

Data Providers

- Los Angeles County Probation
- Marin County Probation
- CDCR



Massachusetts

State Team

- Massachusetts Department of Youth Services (DYS)
- Massachusetts Court System, Juvenile Court Department
- Office of the Commissioner of Probation



South Carolina

State Team

- South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice
- South Carolina Court Administration



Utah

State Team

- Utah Division of Juvenile Justice Services
- Utah Administration Office of the Courts
- Third District Juvenile Court



Washington

State Team

- Washington State Center for Court Research
- Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration
- Clallam County Juvenile Court



Recommendations

Perfect is the enemy of the good

- Make a commitment to develop measures of subsequent offending, NOW
- Know that they won't be perfect
- There will be "dirty data"—use this as an opportunity to make data quality improvements
- Use the information to improve the juvenile justice system
- Ongoing capacity=compare to past self
- Be brave. Share the information publicly.



Questions?

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7 Key Decisions to Measuring Recidivism

Recidivism is one of the most commonly sought after – and most commonly misunderstood – performance measures in juvenile justice. Before you embark on recidivism research, be sure there is agreement on these seven key decisions.

Decision 1 – Who will you measure?

Most recidivism research is on youth exiting juvenile corrections, but cohorts can include youth on supervision, referrals to court, or youth completing a diversion program. It may depend on who is doing the study or what data are available.

Decision 2 – How long will you track them?

The longer the follow-up period, the higher the recidivism rate. Best practices call for a maximum follow-up period of 2 years, with attention paid to the length of time between when the “clock” starts and the next offense.

Decision 3 – What counts as recidivism?

Whether you choose re-arrest, re-referral, re-petition, re-adjudication, or re-commitment, there are limitations and direct implications to the resulting rate.

Decision 4 – In what other systems will you look?

Many youth will age out of the juvenile system or move during timeframe of recidivism research. Data sharing agreements with the law enforcement, criminal system actors, and neighboring jurisdictions can help improve accuracy.

Decision 5 – What offenses will you count?

Offense type and severity provide useful details on the juveniles who recidivate and patterns of re-offending behavior. Capture technical violations and status offenses in addition to delinquent offenses as long as they can be distinguished.

Decision 6 – Will you count cases or kids?

It's often easier to talk about re-offending behavior of youth rather than cases, however, the purpose of the research may call for analysis of the percentage of cases in which the offender re-offends.

Decision 7 – What measure(s) interest you?

Additional measures, such as re-offending behavior by risk level or severity of initial offense versus subsequent offense can help the research be applied to practice.