Data Strategy and Evaluation Seminar Series

DATA STRATEGY, PART 2  Mia Bird & Ryan Souza
HOUSEKEEPING/ZOOM
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR DATA-DRIVEN AND EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

Program Inventory & Literature Review
Logic Models & Process Maps
Contracting Practices
Data Strategy & Dashboards
Program Evaluation & Cost Benefit Analysis

Seminar Series 1: Programming
Seminar Series 2: Data Strategy and Evaluation
- Data Strategy, Part 1
  - Accessing County Data (Nov 2020)

- Data Strategy, Part 2
  - Accessing State Data (Jan 2021)

- Data Strategy, Part 3
  - Integrating County and State Data (Mar 2021)

- Data Dashboards
  - Visualizing Data (May 2021)

- Outcomes Evaluation
  - Evaluating Program Outcomes (July 2021)
Accessing State Data

• What key data elements are held at the state level?
• What is the process for accessing these data?
• How might these data better inform county practice?
KEY DATA CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA DOMAINS

- CDCR
- Program Providers
- DOJ
- Sheriff/Jail
- Probation
- Court (or DA)
STATE DATA SOURCES

Criminal Justice
  • California Department of Justice (DOJ)
  • California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)

Additional State Data
  • Health and Behavioral Health
  • Social Services Enrollment
  • Education, Wages, and Employment
DOJ PUBLICLY AVAILABLE DATA

Open Justice Data Portal

• Adult Probation
• Arrests
• Crimes and Clearances
• And numerous other datasets
INDIVIDUAL LEVEL DATA AVAILABLE BY REQUEST

More detailed data are available by request from multiple data systems held by DOJ

Automated Criminal History System (ACHS) Data

- Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) data, capturing statewide criminal history
- By law, DOJ makes these data available to public agencies or bona fide research bodies “concerned with the prevention or control of crime, the quality of criminal justice or the custody of correction offenders”
DOJ DATA ELEMENTS

CORI data

- Individual identifiers
- Demographic characteristics
- Statewide arrests and convictions
- Statewide sentencing information
DOJ RESEARCH REQUEST PROCESS

Steps to request data and access data:

1) Determine how data will be used
2) Determine where data will be stored and who will have access
3) Fill out application and submit to DOJ (datarequests@doj.ca.gov)
4) Complete human subjects approval (if applicable)
5) Complete criminal background check (if applicable)
6) Renew DOJ approval on an annual basis
DOJ RESEARCH REQUEST APPLICATION

Required content

• Provide project outline
• Identify lead researcher, lead IT support, and all staff with data access
• Describe project purpose and background
• Describe methodology
• Explain how the data will be transferred
USING DOJ DATA: DATA DASHBOARDS

Data dashboards allow us to monitor changes in population characteristics and outcomes.

DOJ data may enhance county data dashboards:

• Criminal history characteristics for prior offending in other counties
• Rearrests and reconvictions that occur in other counties
• Particularly important for making comparisons across counties
USING DOJ DATA: EVALUATIONS

Program and policy evaluations improve our ability to identify effective interventions

DOJ data can improve evaluations:

• Allows us to control for differences in statewide criminal history, such as prior arrests, prior convictions, and serious or violent history
• Allows us to evaluate recidivism outcomes using rearrests and reconvictions that occur both within and outside the county
QUESTIONS
CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS AND
REHABILITATION DATA
CDCR PUBLICLY AVAILABLE DATA

Population Reports
- Captures total in-custody populations, by category and institution, including the previous week and year changes. Also includes design and staffed capacity of correctional institutions.

Offender Data Points
- Captures dozens of aggregate and institution-level data points over the previous 24-month period surrounding adult and juvenile offenders covering in-custody, release cohorts, and parolee populations. Examples range from personal demographic details (e.g., age, race) to commitment offenses and risk assessments.

Annual Recidivism Report
- Official CDCR report of offenders released during a given fiscal year from a CDCR adult institutions and which are followed for a three-year follow-up period. Reports include recidivism rates, the type of recidivism, and a discussion of select recidivism topics. The Appendix to the Recidivism Report presents detailed conviction rate data by offender demographics and characteristics.
More detailed data are available by request from multiple data systems held by CDCR

Prison Population Data

• CDCR provides prison population data to government agencies and to researchers through a research request process managed by the Research Oversight Committee (ROC)
CDCR DATA ELEMENTS

- Individual identifiers
- Demographic characteristics
- Admissions and releases
- Risks and needs assessments
- Program and services provided
CDCR RESEARCH REQUEST PROCESS

Steps to request data:

1) Determine how data will be used
2) Determine where data will be stored and who will have access
3) Fill out application and submit to CDCR (Data.Requests@cdcr.ca.gov)
4) Complete human subjects approval (if applicable)
5) Complete criminal background check (if applicable)
6) Approval for data access is for a specified time period
CDCR RESEARCH REQUEST APPLICATION

Required content

- Explain alignment with CDCR mission
- Identify staff and include CVs
- Describe scope of work
- Describe research design/methodology
- Indicate how research products will be used
USING CDCR DATA: DATA DASHBOARDS

Data dashboards allow us to monitor changes in population characteristics and outcomes

CDCR data enhance county data dashboards:

• Characteristics of those sent to prison
• Risk and needs assessments conducted in prison
• Additional indicators of need (e.g., behavioral health treatment)
• Parolees identification (e.g., identifying those booked into jail)
• Returns to prison
Program and policy evaluations improve our ability to identify effective interventions

CDCR data can improve evaluations:

• Control for differences in prison history, risks, and needs
• Adjust for programs and services received while in prison
• Include returns to prison in recidivism analysis
ACCESSING DOJ & CDCR DATA:
COUNTY EFFORTS & SUCCESSES!

Contra Costa County
Office of Reentry and Justice

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QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION
# MATERIALS, GUIDES, AND TEMPLATES

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<tr>
<th>Materials available:</th>
<th>DOJ Data Request Guidance</th>
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<tr>
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<td>DOJ Application</td>
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<tr>
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<td>DOJ Data User Guide</td>
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**Data & Evaluation Series Info:**
https://www.counties.org/framework-seminar-series

**Support Hub Website:**
https://www.counties.org/csac-support-hub
This seminar will provide guidance on developing logic models for key programs in your inventory. Logic models are important in ensuring the program design is clear, key outcomes agreed upon, and assess whether the design is informed by the literature. The seminar will also feature approaches for engaging providers and community organizations around how to structure contracts.
This seminar focuses on strategies to integrate county and state data for the purposes of building data dashboards that monitor populations and outcomes, as well as for policy and program evaluation.
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