



Washington State Center for Court Research

Data for Justice

October 3, 2022



Data for Justice—*WHY?*

- End goal—self-managing courts, dedicated to equal justice, effectiveness, responsiveness, and accountability
- Evaluations results flash **CAUTION**
 - Evaluations of court-ordered treatment, therapeutic courts, pretrial reform
 - Even for effective programs, results vary
- Organizations perform better if they volunteer for CQI
- Data for Justice reduces and removes barriers to courts' deploying their own quality improvement efforts
- The state needs good justice system management



Data for Justice Components

- Volunteer courts
- AOC support for data development, reporting, data use
- Education, training, technical assistance
- Court staff development in performance management
- Peer support



Data for Justice Tailwinds

- Courts that want help understanding their program impacts
- Urgent need for an equal and effective justice system
- Entrepreneurial judges and court executives
- Support from the other branches
- Easy (easier) for courts to adopt (if court knows what to expect)
- Higher staff job satisfaction
- Increasingly familiar
- Demonstrably effective



Data for Justice headwinds

- Reliance on laws and rules, neglect of management
- Involves changes for the branch and participating courts
 - Sustained programmatic approach
 - Ongoing training and education
 - Close partnership between judges and court executives
- Promotes transparency
- Increases accountability



Data for Justice IRL

- Thurston County District Court pilot
- Court Improvement Program
- Juvenile Probation
- Juvenile Detention
- Therapeutic courts (started)
- Family Treatment Court (started)
- Early Childhood Court (started)



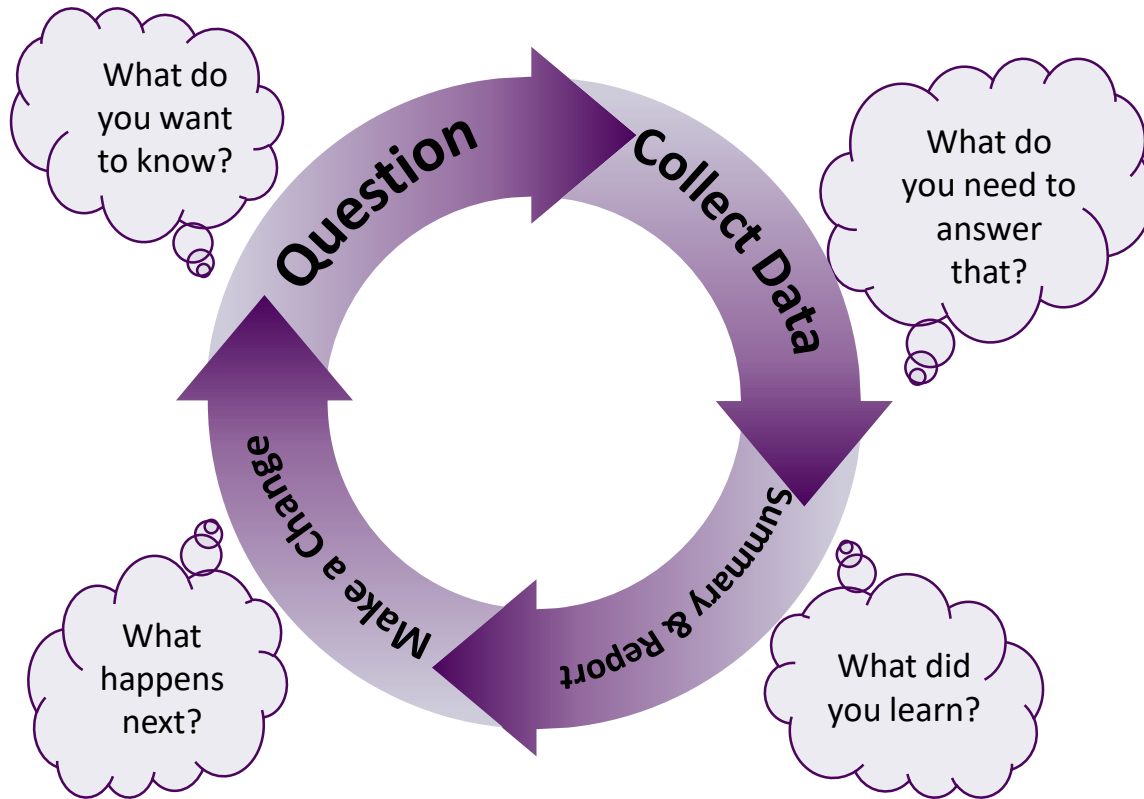
Data for Justice Narratives

- Mikala Meize-Bowers and Adrian Johnson on Data and Using It
- Megan Berry Cohen on Fundamental Gaps in Knowledge
- Amanda Gilman on Expert Consultation in Policy Development
- Arina Gertseva on Support for Courts' Innovations
- Andrew Peterson and Rachael Sanford: From Idea to Application



Using Data

Mikala Meize-Bowers and Adrian Johnson



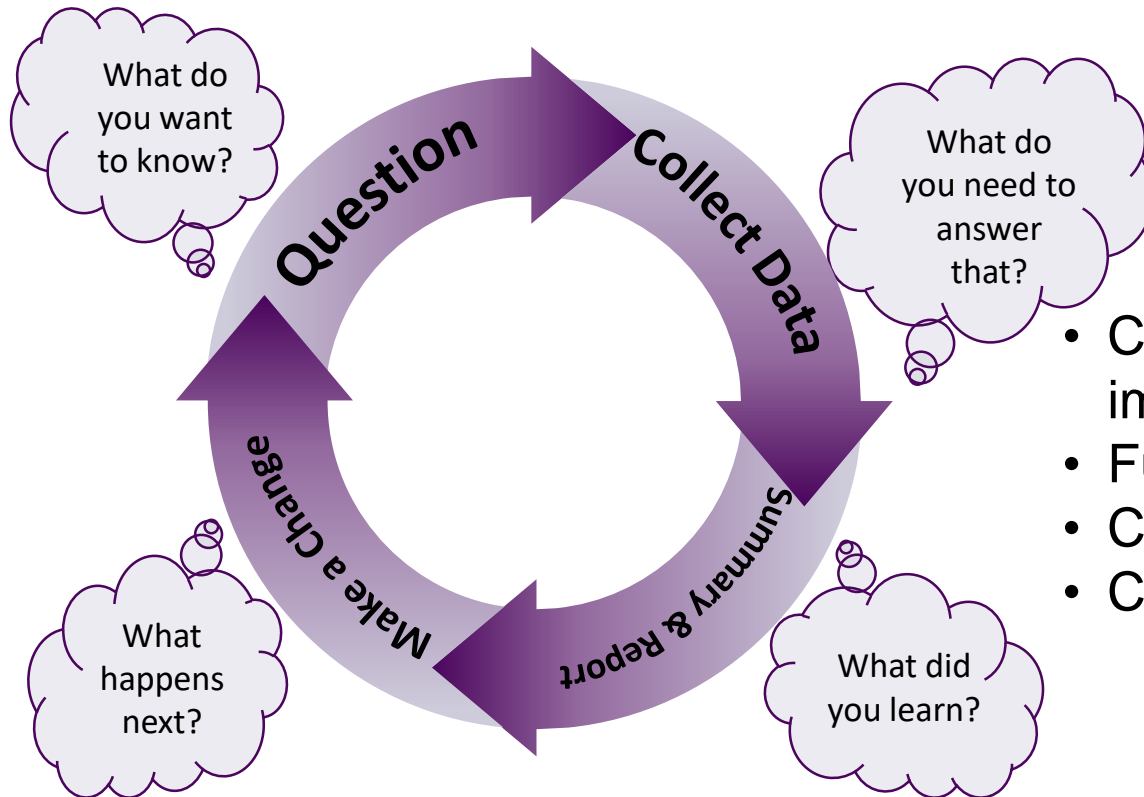
Example questions:

- What is the rate of successful completion for the last 5 years?
- Are there inequities in referrals by race, ethnicity, or gender?
- Are there inequities in outcomes by race, ethnicity, or gender?
- How did COVID-19 impact court operations?
- Is the program meeting Best Practices? Where can operations be improved?



Using Data

Mikala Meize-Bowers and Adrian Johnson



- Continuous quality improvement (CQI)
- Funding/Program justification
- Committee meetings
- Community support

Recent presentations on use of data in local court programs: [Beyond Counting: Strategies to Collect and \(Actually\) Use Your FTC Data – Children and Family Futures \(cffutures.org\)](#)
[2022-WSADCP-Treatment-Court-Data-annotated-slides.pdf](#)



Data Development

- We want to use Evidence-Based Practices.
 - But data (or “evidence”) is mostly limited or incomplete.
- Courts lack the capacity for systematic data collection.
 - This limits what AOC can do in support of local management.
 - Some courts lack even basics:
 - Number of participants/families served
 - Number of graduates/successful outcomes
 - Number of terminations/unsuccessful outcomes
- AOC and court 1-on-1 technical assistance meets courts where they are--
 - Some courts are still using paper files, so we have to help them within that limited realm
 - Some courts have a moderate amount of data, and need help with interpreting what they have on hand
 - Some courts have their own case management system, but it’s on temporary/grant funding, so they stop entering data if/when funding is not guaranteed long-term.
- Local courts *want* to use data, but must grow the ability to do so.



Fundamental Gaps in Knowledge

Megan Berry-Cohen

- Defining Juvenile Detention Alternatives
 - There are common themes across detention alternative definitions, but there is a lot of variation in how those components are interpreted and used by individual courts and we don't know what that looks like
 - Developing survey to start to fill that gap – will help facilitate data development
- Example of data development and analysis of detention alternative data – Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM) reporting project
 - Working with juvenile courts and DCYF/JR to start collecting and looking at data about youth on EHM
 - Current status of EHM data development is uneven across state
 - Can describe trends to some extent, but our ability to use data meaningfully is limited until we facilitate data coordination and data standards



Consultation and Subject Matter Expertise

Amanda Gilman

Courts can be overwhelmed when sorting through all the “evidence” re: best practice

WSCCR staff can help. Examples:

- Juvenile Probation Quality Assurance -David S.
- Juvenile Dependency Processes -Matt O.
- Girls Court Advisory Committee -Arina G.
- Therapeutic Courts -Mikala M.B.
- Pretrial process and reforms -Andrew P.
- Juvenile Detention Quality Assurance Committee (DQAC) -Amanda G.



Mental Health Screening and Assessment in Juvenile Detention

DQAC's Goal: all county detention centers across the state adopt a standardized and validated mental health risk assessment.

- Better service delivery inside and more appropriate referrals outside
- Safer environment for youth and staff
- Can use data to improve policy and practice locally and statewide



Mental Health Screening and Assessment in Juvenile Detention

Method:

1. Take inventory of tools currently being used in facilities
2. Review existing research re: best practice
3. Provide review of literature and recommendations
4. Work with DQAC to assess feasibility of recommendations
5. Facilitate training and technical assistance
6. Implementation and tracking



Workplace Harassment Study: Research Spurs Court Innovations

Arina Gertseva

- Research identified areas where the branch (and courts) need assistance
- Analysis of evidence suggested the need for system transformation
- G&J Implementation Committee is developing a statewide implementation plan and a roadmap with recommendations for action, including bridging the research–practice gap
- Courts and researchers should work together to design and evaluate court-based innovations
- Evidence and local court knowledge should be integrated into innovation planning



Recommendations for Implementation of Respectful Workplace

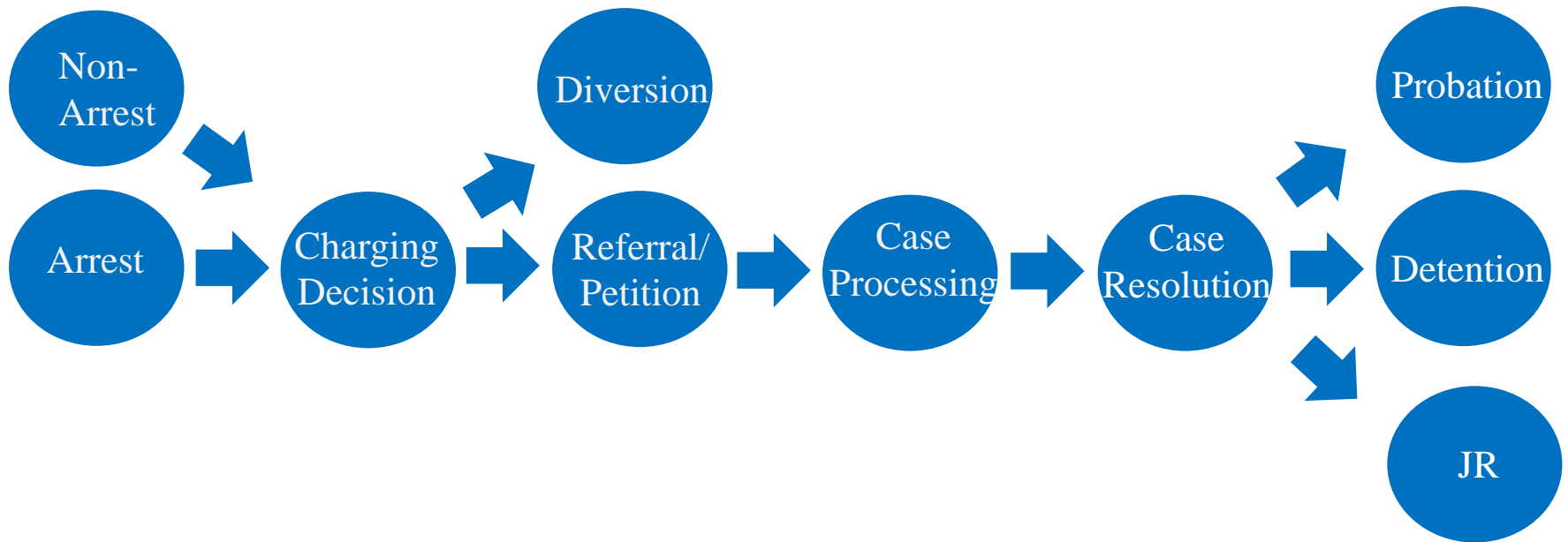
(an example of one study)

- **Create diverse, inclusive, and respectful environment:** take visible steps to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion and foster a culture of trust
- **Effective trainings:** deliver regular, research-based workplace harassment prevention trainings that drive real changes
- **Improve transparency and accountability:** the judicial branch and its leaders should be as transparent as possible about how they are handling reports of workplace harassment
- **Measure Progress:** Courts should work with researchers to evaluate systems change efforts



From Idea to Application

Andrew Peterson and Rachael Sanford





Law Enforcement Data Analysis

WA State Juvenile Law Enforcement x +

public.tableau.com/app/profile/wccr/viz/LEDAToolPackagedWorkingCopy/LEDALandingPage?publish=yes

Paused

Other bookmarks

Juvenile (Age 12-17) Law Enforcement Data Analysis by Geography

The shading in the maps below represent the population size behind the rates, with darker colors indicating that the rate is based upon a larger population. We expect that the larger populations will be less volatile due to normal variations in arrest numbers and users should exercise caution in drawing conclusions based on rates derived from areas with low populations. As you narrow your selection using the filters the colors will adjust based on the population for those demographic categories and/or offense categories.

to Landing Page

to Definitions

by Demographics

by County/City Rank

FILTER RULE

When selecting ***All** in a filter, **de-select** all other options. When selecting individual options **de-select *All**.

WA State Totals | Most Recent Year (2020) Compared to 2019

total arrests 6,845 ▼ 39.4% from prior year	state population 570,542 ▲ 1.76% from prior year	arrests per 1000 12.0 ▼ 40.4% from prior year
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WA State Reference

Arrests per 1000: 18.6

Number of Arrests: 41,392

Year

*All Years

2017

2018

2019

2020

Cancel Apply Cancel Apply

Gender

*All Genders

Female

Male

Race

*All Races

American Indian/Alaska Native

Asian

Black

Latino

Cancel Apply

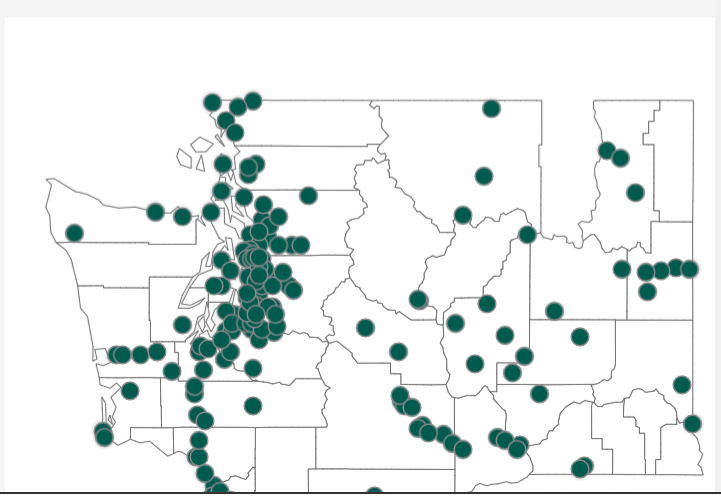
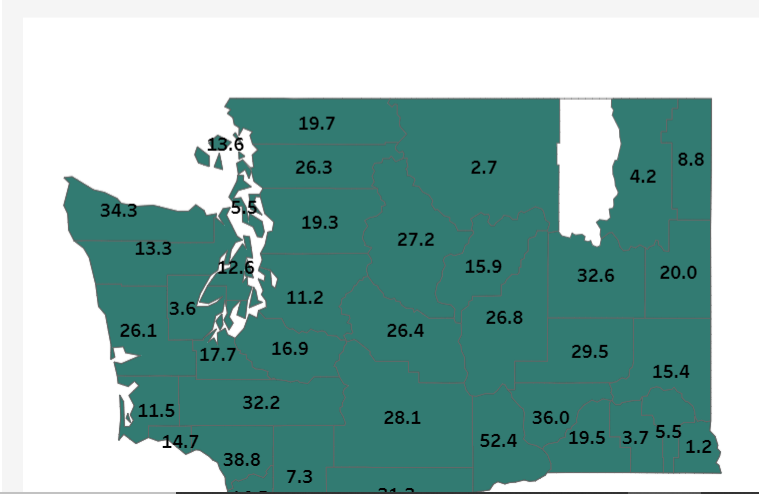
Offense Category

*All Offenses

Additional Other Offenses

Aggravated Assault

Arrests per 1000 by County and City | click on county/counties on the map on the left to display cities on the map on the right. Use CTR+click to select more than one county. Click off the map in the same box to reset the selection filter.





Washington State Center for Court Research Staffing and Topic Areas

October 3, 2022



Staffing Changes

- New staff members: Lisette Garcia, Ph.D. (Equity Research), Megan Berry Cohen, Ph. D. (Electronic Home Monitoring), and Adrian Johnson, M.S.W. (Family Treatment Court)
- Reclassification: Amanda Gilman, Ph.D., and Andrew Peterson, Ph.D., from Senior Research Associate to Principal Research Associate
- Staff departure: Lisette Garcia, Ph.D.
- Pending: Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Senior Research Associate; Dependent Children Legal Representation Research Associate; Equity Senior Research Associate

Publications and Presentations 10/2021 – 9/2022

Implementing Kitsap Girls Court Program during Covid-19: Experiences from the Field. Publication. Gertseva, A.

Workplace Harassment Survey: New Washington Research and Recommendations for Change. Presentation at the SCJA and DMCJA Spring Conferences. Gertseva, A.

The Covid-19 Pandemic as an Opportunity for Racial Equity in Juvenile Detention. Presentation at the Society for Prevention Research Annual Conference. Gilman, A.

Washington State 2020 Juvenile Detention Annual Report. Publication. Gilman, A. and Sanford, R.

Beyond Counting: Strategies to Collect and (Actually) Use your FTC Data. Presentation at the Children and Family Futures (CFF) Practice Academy. Meize-Bowers, M.

Interactive Dependency Timeliness Reports. Dashboard. Orme, M.

Dependent Children in Washington State: Case Timeliness and Outcomes. Publication. Orme, M. and Sanford, R.

Thurston County Mental Health and Veterans' Courts: A qualitative and quantitative analysis of process and client outcomes. Publication. Peterson, A.

Washington State Dependency Timeliness Public Dashboard. Dashboard. Sanford, R. and Orme, M.

Washington State Law Enforcement Data Analysis. Dashboard. Sanford, R. and Peterson, A.

Case Management Assessment Process Participant Manual. Publication. Sattler, D.

Washington State Juvenile Court Assessment Tool (JCAT) Manual. Publication. Sattler, D.



General Justice System

- Supreme Court Commissions
- Board for Justice Administration (BJA) Alternatives to Incarceration Taskforce
- BJA (Policy and Planning)
- Court Recovery Taskforce
- Racial Justice Consortium
- Bar Licensing Taskforce
- Data sharing
 - DCYF, DOC, DOH, WASPC



General Trial Court

- Pretrial reform evaluation and research consultation (multi-site)
- Domestic violence workgroup research consultation
- Data for Justice Demonstration Projects (Thurston County District Court)
- Therapeutic court development of continual quality improvement (CQI)
- Judicial Needs Estimates



Dependency

- Dependency CQI (Court Improvement Program, Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Program) performance reporting, technical assistance, development of practices
- Family Treatment Court team implementation including training, technical assistance, researcher-led CQI, court practice community
- Early Childhood Court team implementation including training, technical assistance, researcher-led CQI, court practice community
- Dependent children legal representation expansion: Evaluation and performance reporting



Juvenile Court

- Probation quality assurance, CQI, performance reporting, technical assistance, and program development
- Detention
 - CQI with performance reporting, technical assistance, active engagement;
 - Electronic Home Monitoring and Other Alternatives to Juvenile Detention;
 - The Impact of COVID on Detention (contracted to DCYF / Office of Juvenile Justice)
- Juvenile justice system analysis and reporting (contracted, DCYF / OJJ)
- Juvenile Law Enforcement Data Analysis (contracted, DCYF / OJJ)
- Kitsap Girls' Court Implementation Evaluation
- Recidivism



What's Next?

Selection of Priorities



Options for Priorities

- Improving demographic data collection statewide
- Adult version of Law Enforcement Data Analysis
- Prosecutorial decision-making and plea bargaining
- Juvenile detention alternatives (residential and non-residential)
- Mental health screening data for youth in detention
- Adult community supervision
- Non-justice system outcomes (i.e., education, health, employment)