

# Vera Institute of Justice

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

**<https://www.vera.org/publications/closing-the-gap-using-criminal-justice-and-public-health-data-to-improve-the-identification-of-mental-illness>**

## Policy Issue Resources

### Publication

Researchers from Veras [Substance Use and Mental Health Program](#) created an unprecedented dataset including records from four Washington, DC criminal justice agencies and the Department of Mental Health to study the mental health needs of people arrested in the District of Columbia in June 2008. The resulting report provides information to improve the identification of mental health needs for this population, improve the delivery of mental health services, support the design of new policies and programs, and establish a baseline against which to measure the effectiveness of new initiatives.

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