GOVLAB

TOWARD A NEW PARADIGM

DEVELOPING A TRUSTED FRAMEWORK FOR DATA DRIVEN CRIMINAL JUSTICE INNOVATION

RESULTS OF SURVEYS ON DATA SHARING AND DATA READINESS

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CJCC SURVEY

GOAL

To better understand:

- the role of data-driven decision making in the criminal justice system today
- the availability of and access to data for reform
- the Barriers and impediments to using data

The GovLab in collaboration with the Arnold Foundation and the Justice Management Institute surveyed members of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCC), university researchers, and representatives from criminal justice associations. This 16-question survey focused how jurisdictions currently collect, use, store, and share data. The results were presented during the Data Driven Justice Meeting held at the White House on October 28, 2015.

TAKE AWAY

Initial results from 34 respondents demonstrated a diverse array of data practices. Information is collected on paper and digitally. In some cases, it is anonymized and, in other cases, simply stored security. There's a significant diversity around data analytics as well. Some analyze the data within the agency, some outsource, and some do not perform data analytics at all. Some jurisdictions can use data to trace someone in the system; others cannot. Governance policies and mechanisms differ. In short, there is diversity of experience. In common is only the fact that almost no one posts open data for the public, including researchers, to study and analyze.

See Appendix A for the complete survey

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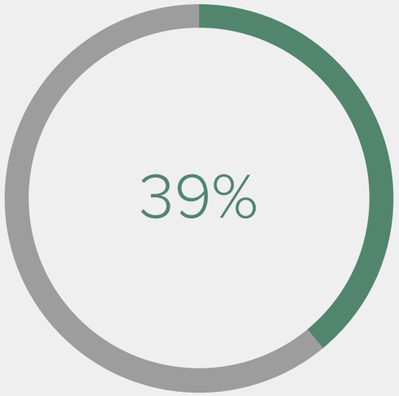
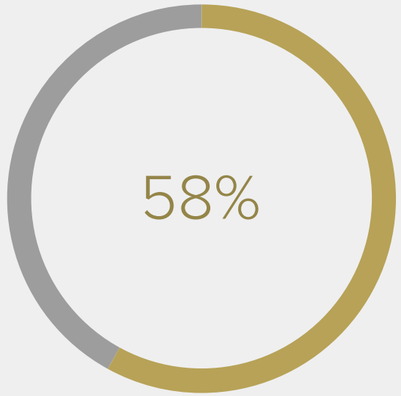
IMPEDIMENTS TO DATA SHARING

A Wide Variety of Data Collection Practices - Data collection continues to include both paper and digital formats

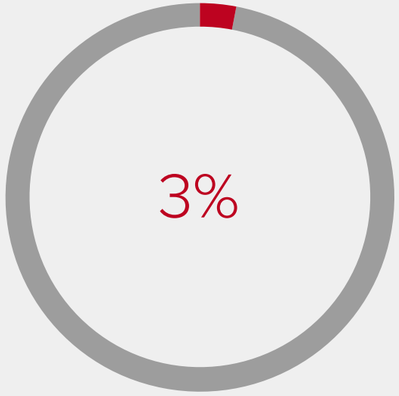
DATA COLLECTION BY CJCC AGENCIES



DIGITALLY



SOME DIGITAL, SOME PAPER
FOR BOTH COLLECTION AND STORAGE



COLLECTED ON PAPER, STORED DIGITALLY

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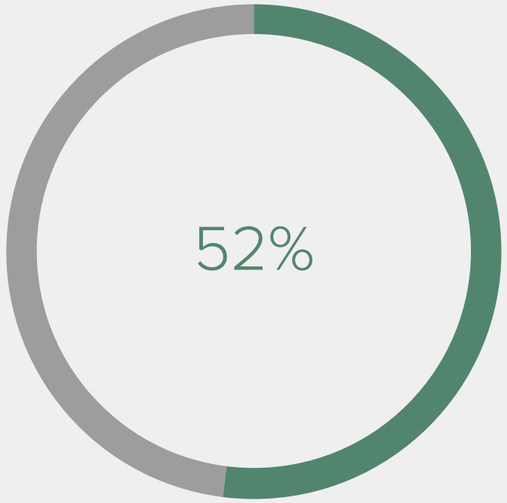
IMPEDIMENTS TO DATA SHARING

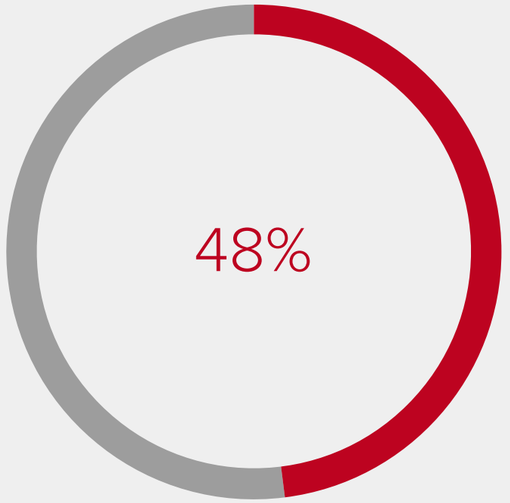
A Wide Variety of Data Storage Practices - Data anonymization practices by CJCC agencies

DATA ANONYMIZATION PRACTICES BY CJCC AGENCIES



ANONYMIZE DATA

VIA TOOLS OR BY REMOVING IDENTIFIERS



DO NOT ANONYMIZE DATA

DATA IS “STORED SECURELY”

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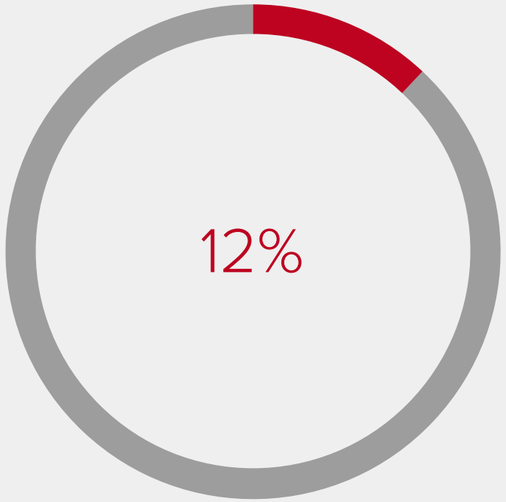
IMPEDIMENTS TO DATA SHARING

DATA ANONYMIZATION PRACTICES BY CJCC AGENCIES



Only 12% of CJCC respondents reported that all member agencies use a common platform for collecting and storing data

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IMPEDIMENTS TO DATA SHARING

CJCC ABILITY TO TRACK INDIVIDUALS THROUGH THE PARTICIAPTING CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

YES
IN REAL TIME

YES
NOT IN REAL TIME

YES
AS PART OF A SPECIFIC STUDY OR EVALUATION EFFORT

NO

CJCC ability to track individuals through the participating criminal justice system

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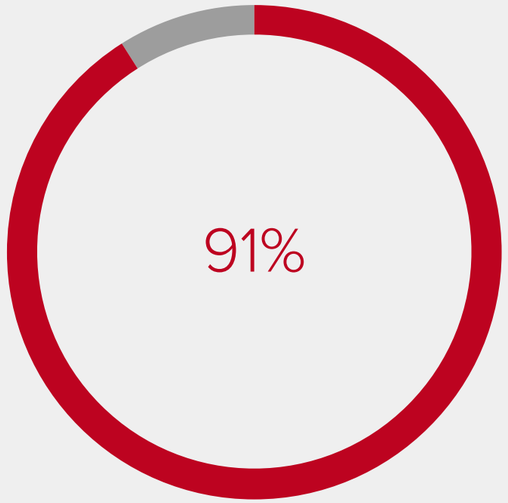

91% of CJCC Respondents Reported

they do not post anonymized data for analysis and use by third-parties such as researchers

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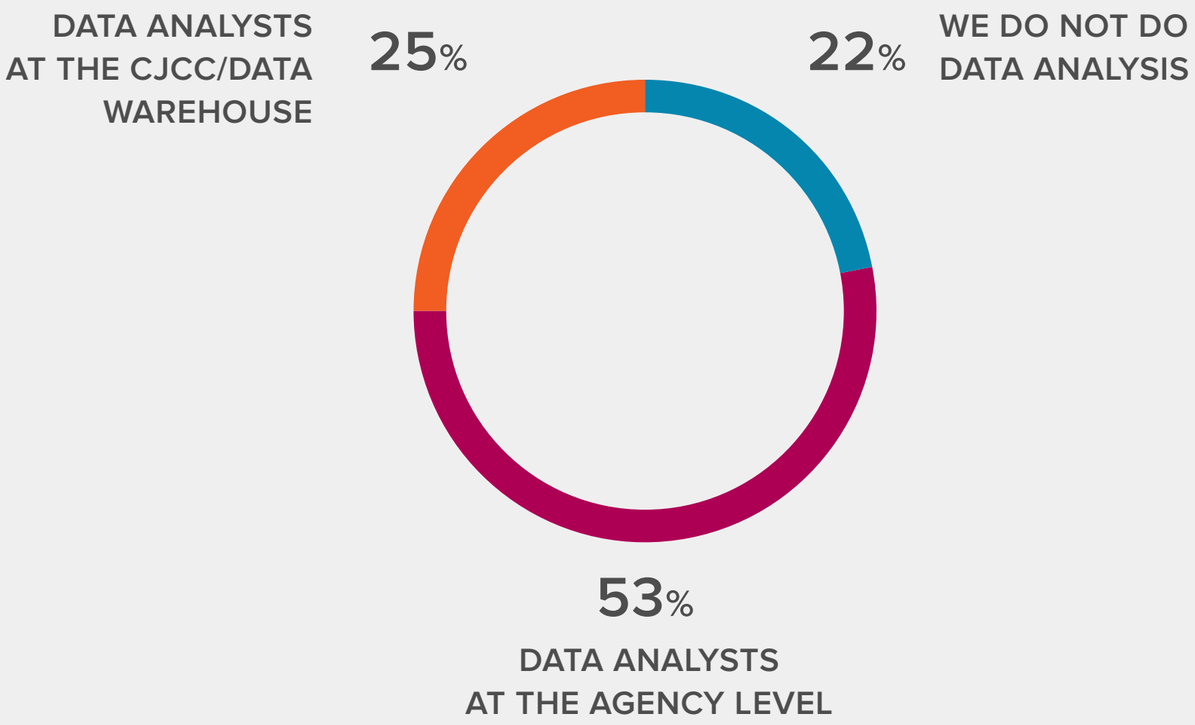
WHO ANALYZES DATA FOR YOU?



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IMPEDIMENTS TO DATA SHARING

Lack of Systematic Governance Structures and Policies

STEERING COMMITEE OR GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE AT CJCC IN PLACE TO ADDRESS HOW DATA IS COLLECTED

YES
AND AT LEAST SOME AGENCIES HAVE THEIR OWN

YES
BUT INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES DO NOT

NO
BUT AT LEAST SOME INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES DO

NO
AND NEITHER DO INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES

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BARRIERS TO DATA SHARING

TAKE AWAY

In short, there is diversity of experience. In common is only the fact that data sharing and collaboration are limited and almost no one posts open data for the public, including researchers, to study and analyze.

See Appendix A for the complete survey

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APPENDIX A

Questions of the Criminal Justice & Social Service Data Sharing Survey *(Oct 2015, 34 Respondents)*

1. **As a CJCC member agency, what type of agency do you represent?**

2. **In a few sentences, please describe the types of data your agency collects.**

3. **How is that data collected?**
   Digitally
   Collected on paper and stored digitally
   Some digital, some paper for both collection and storage
   Entirely paper based

4. **We have the ability to track individuals through all parts of the participating criminal justice system:**
   Yes, in real time
   Yes, but not in real time
   Yes, as part of a specific study or evaluation effort
   No

5. **We can track data on the progress of individuals receiving services from these types of entities (choose as many as you like):**
   Government agencies (real-time)
   Government agencies (not real-time)
   Non-Profits (real-time)
   Non-Profits (not real-time)
   Non-Government organizations (real-time)
   Non-Government organizations (not real-time)

6. **Across partner agencies within the CJCC, data elements are:**
   Standardized or use of common data fields
   Standardized within each agency but not across agencies
   Not standardized

7. **In terms of the platforms used by agencies within your CJCC to collect data**
   Each of our agencies uses its own platform for data collection
   All of our agencies use a common platform for data collection
   Some share a common platform, but not all

8. **How is data anonymized in your system?**
   Data is anonymized when collected, but I do not know by what means
   Data is anonymized using different tools such as hiding, hash, permutation, etc.
   Data is anonymized just by removing identifiers such as names and social security numbers
   Data is not anonymized but it is securely stored. People could be identified or re-identified

9. **We post anonymized datasets publicly as downloadable open data**
   Yes
   No

10. **Asking questions or analyzing data across agencies is**
    Fast and easy
    Possible but requires a lot of work, such as writing custom scripts to normalize data
    We can run single lookups but data extraction is hard
    We don't have the capacity to analyze data across agencies

11. **Our data is analyzed by**
    Data analysts at the agency level
    Data analysts at the CJCC/data warehouse
    Data analysts at another government agency
    We do not do data analysis

12. **We allow accredited researchers to access and analyze our data**
    Yes, so long as they use the data within our firewall
    Yes, and they can access the data remotely
    Yes, and they can download the data
    No

13. **To protect against disclosure of personally identifiable information, we**
    Perform due diligence on those using our data
    Ask accredited researchers to sign a non-disclosure agreement/ acceptable use policy or other policy
    Ask accredited researchers to maintain certain levels of data security

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14. **Our CJCC has a steering committee or governance structure in place to address how data is collected**
    Yes, we have a governance structure for the CJCC and at least some of our member agencies have their own governance structures
    Yes, we have a governance structure for the CJCC, but individual agencies do not
15. **No, the CJCC does not have a governance structure, but at least some member agencies do**
16. **No, neither the CJCC nor individual agencies have a governance structure**
17. **Rate the following barriers to data sharing from "not at all challenging" (1) to "most challenging" (10)**
18. **IT systems that don't "talk" to each other**
19. **Data sets too big and unwieldy to manipulate**
20. **Lack of technical capacity to build and maintain a data sharing system**
21. **Lack of ability to analyze cross-system data**
22. **Cost**
23. **Legal/privacy concerns about sharing data**
24. **Legal/policy concerns about how to anonymize data**
25. **Concerns about who can access the data**
26. **If I could easily analyze the data held by member agencies of the CJCC, I would most like to use it to:**