

Project 2: Create a sequential intercept model of Maryland’s criminal justice system

Sponsor: Maryland Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention

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Overview:

Over the past two decades, Maryland experienced a decrease in crime. However, its prison population has remained stubbornly high. This has led to an expensive corrections system (\$1.3b in FY2014), while alternatives to incarceration and other treatment options remain underfunded.

Acknowledging these shortcomings, in 2015 the state legislature created the Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council to “develop a statewide framework of sentencing and corrections policies to further reduce the state’s incarcerated population, reduce spending on corrections, and reinvest in strategies to increase public safety and reduce recidivism.” The findings of the Council became the basis of 2016’s Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA), the most comprehensive criminal justice reform in Maryland in a generation.

This holistic reform will change the way that people interact with the justice system and how resources are used. The Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) is in charge of evaluating the JRA’s impacts.

The goal of this project is to map the Maryland criminal justice system to understand how the JRA will affect people, personnel, and financial resource allocation by creating a sequential intercept model. Sequential intercept models identify institutional intercept points for a person progressing through the criminal justice system. They are designed to help policymakers identify opportunities for better resource allocation. Here, your work will also borrow from best practices in describing and mapping system processes. This project will inform GOCCP’s legislative work in the coming years.

Deliverables:

1. A usable and editable, Maryland-specific, criminal justice sequential intercept model.
2. An analysis of how the JRA will affect Maryland’s current criminal justice system.
3. An oral presentation and final report.

Timeline:

September 25: Project memo due

October 2: First draft of intercept model due

October 16: Second draft of intercept model due (model must be user editable)

October 31: Third draft of intercept model due

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November 6: First draft of final report due

November 27: Presentation and final report due

References:

Budgetary Requirements on Location Detention Centers, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, Dec. 2016.

Final Report, Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council, Dec. 2015.

Report of the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board, the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, Jan. 2017.

SAMHSA's Efforts on Criminal and Juvenile Justice Issues, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration, March 2016.

Senate Bill 1005, the Justice Reinvestment Act, Maryland Legislature, 2016.