



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF SENTENCING POLICY

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Dear Nevada Criminal Justice Leader:

On August 24, the Nevada Sentencing Commission passed a motion to pursue becoming a Justice Counts Founding State. Joining this program will serve as a useful tool for Nevadans, helping the Department of Sentencing Policy to fulfill their mandate of facilitating the collection of criminal justice data to better evaluate the effectiveness and fiscal impact of policy and make data-driven recommendations for sentencing and corrections.

Justice Counts is a nationwide initiative that aims to equip local and state criminal justice leaders with the tools and technical assistance needed for data-driven decision-making. Helmed by the Nevada Sentencing Commission and the Nevada Department of Sentencing Policy (NDSP), Nevada's use of the tools and resources available through Justice Counts will work toward the goal of providing policymakers, agency leaders, and the public with accurate, accessible, and actionable criminal justice metrics.

As a Founding State, Nevada has the exclusive opportunity to help shape the initiative throughout the implementation process. Justice Counts provides Founding State agencies with hands-on technical assistance—from in-depth work sessions on the metrics methodology to customized evaluation and guidance to onboard your agency to a new digital infrastructure.

Justice Counts is distinct from previous data efforts because of three core components: (1) consensus-driven metrics across seven sectors of the criminal justice system; (2) a novel set of tools to empower agencies to share the metrics; and (3) technical assistance and support to help agencies effectively and efficiently share the data on an ongoing basis. Thanks to leadership and funding from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance, these tools and assistance will further our efforts to achieve our vision of unifying criminal justice data and ensure Nevada criminal justice policies are data-driven and fiscally practical. These tools and assistance are available at no cost to participating agencies, the Department, or the Commission. Justice Counts is also distinct from other initiatives like Justice Reinvestment because it is not a policy initiative; rather, the goal is to get timely criminal justice data into the hands of Nevadans to make decisions that are best for our state.

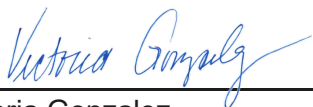
The Justice Counts metrics, which are designed to be both feasible and useful for criminal justice practitioners and decision-makers alike, are customized for the various sectors of the adult

criminal justice system—(1) law enforcement, (2) defense, (3) prosecution, (4) courts and pretrial operations, (5) jails, (6) prisons, and (7) community supervision (probation and parole). Using these metrics, participating agencies in Nevada will have early access to a new, cloud-based digital infrastructure that consolidates and displays each agency’s submitted aggregate-level data via automated visualizations and dashboards to help the user easily see and understand big picture trends. With these tools, Justice Counts aims to streamline and bolster proactive communication between agency staff and key decision-makers by making it easier to share data that is already collected and frequently requested.

Your agency can help us advance data-driven criminal justice policymaking today. To get started with Justice Counts, please complete the opt-in form [available here](#). Staff from NDSP will reach out to you within three business days to plan how best to onboard your agency.

We are thrilled to be a part of this groundbreaking initiative and to establish Nevada as a national leader in criminal justice data. To learn more about Justice Counts, visit the [website](#) or contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to your participation in this important initiative for our state.



Victoria Gonzalez
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Nevada Department of Sentencing Policy