The Statewide Juvenile Justice Improvement Initiative in Nevada

First Presentation to Task Force: System Overview and Initial Analysis

July 12, 2016
CSG Justice Center Presenters
Josh Weber, *Program Director, Juvenile Justice*Nina Salomon, *Senior Policy Analyst, Juvenile Justice*







About The Council of State Governments Justice Center



















National nonprofit, nonpartisan membership association of state government officials that engages members of all three branches of state government



Provides practical, nonpartisan advice and evidence-based, consensus-driven strategies to increase public safety and strengthen communities.

About the National Reentry Resource Center





- Authorized by the passage of the Second Chance Act in April 2008
- Launched by The Council of State Governments Justice Center in October 2009
- Administered in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Recent publications on "what works" to improve outcomes for youth involved with the juvenile justice system

Measuring and Using Juvenile Recidivism Data to Inform Policy. Practice, and Resource Allocation

BACKGROUND

uvenile arrest rates, including for violent crimes, fell by approximately 50 percent from 1997 to 2011, to their lowest level in more than 30 years.1 In combination with this sharp drop in arrests, state and local reforms have had an extraordinary impact: from 1997 to 2011, youth confinement rates declined by almost half.2 The juvenile justice field deservedly celebrates this success and continues to push for further reductions in confinement rates. Many states are also striving to ensure that youth who have been diverted from confinement, as well as those returning home after time spent in a facility, receive supervision and services that reduce recidivism and improve other youth outcomes. As such, policymakers are eager to know more about what happens to youth after they have rearrest and reincarceration rates? How do they fare in terms of education, employment, and other important outcome measures while they are under juvenile justice supervision and afterward? To understand to what extent states currently teack recidivism

data for youth involved in the juvenile justice system and use that information to inform policy and funding decisions, the Council of State Governments Justice Center, The Pew Charitable Trusts' Public Safety Performance Project.3 and the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators surveyed juvenile correctional agencies in all 50 states.4 This issue brief highlights the key findings of the survey and provides state and local policymakers with five recommendations for improving their approach to the measurement, analysis, collection, reporting, and use of recidivism data for youth involved with the juvenile justice system. In addition, examples are provided of how select states have translated these recommendations into policy and practice.

The Importance of Measuring **Outcomes beyond Recidivism** Juvenile Justice System

Juvanila justica systems can usa a number of metrics to track outcomes for youth under system supervision, including educational attainment, behavioral health improvements, or skill development and employment, all of which are critical to ensuring a youth's long-term success. The survey focused primarily on the measurement of recidivism, and the reflect that focus. The survey results did, however, indicate that only half of measure youth outcomes beyond whether youth commit future delinquent acts, and only 20 percent of states track these outcomes for youth after they are no longer on supervision. Policymakers and strongly consider including a priority set of positive youth outcomes in the evaluation of system success to determine not only whether the juvenile justice system is helping to prevent youth's subsequent involvement in the system, but also whether it is helping youth transition to a crime-free and productive adulthood.

1.1





Ten Key Questions Judges Can Ask to Improve Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

IUVENILE IUSTICE LEADERS IN NEARLY EVERY STATE have undertaken efforts that have reduced juvenile ncarceration rates nationwide by almost 50 percent since 1997, and arrest rates have dropped to their lowest level in more than 30 years. While such changes have produced substantial savings at no cost to public safety investments in community based services for many states and counties have not resulted in reduced rates of recidivism and improvement in other youth outcomes, such as education and behavioral health. Recent research has identified "what works" to reduce recidivism and improve other youth outcomes, and judges and court personnel have a leadership role to play in ensuring that court decisions and policies are informed by this research.

Ten key questions that judges and court personnel should ask to determine whether court policies and practices will increase

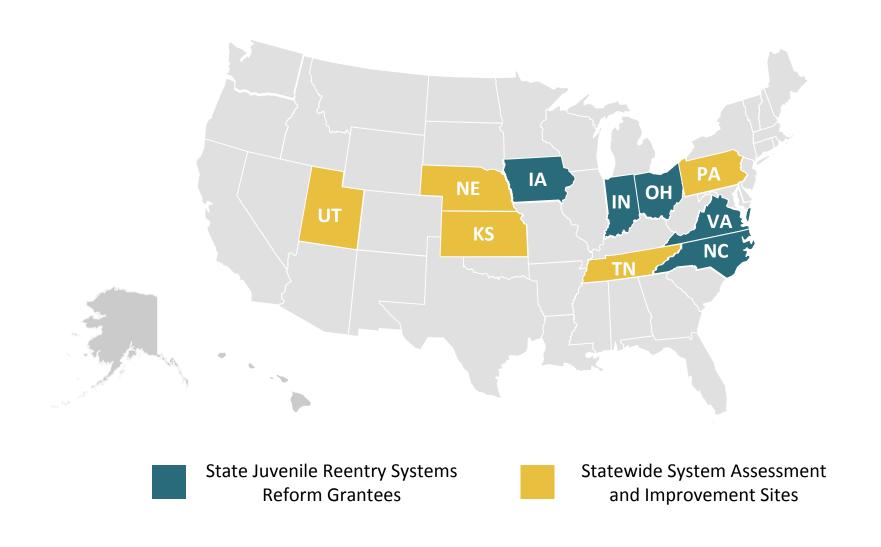
- 1. Do all youth receive a risk assessment prior to disposition to identify their risk of reoffending and key service needs, and are the results shared with the court to inform disposition and service decisions
- 2. Are youth who are assessed as being at a low risk of reoffending diverted from court invo formal system supervision, and does the court reserve the use of incarceration for only those youth assessed as being at a high risk of reoffending and/or who have committed violent offenses?
- 3. Do all youth receive a validated screening for mental health and substance use disorders and if warranted a full assessment prior to disposition, and does the court ensure that youth with treatment needs receive services from the iuvenile iustice and/or behavioral health systems?
- 4. Are lengths of stay for incarcerated youth based on youth's assessed risk of reoffending, the seriousness of the offense, and treatment needs, with the objective of minimizing lengths of stay to 6-12 months
- 5. Are programming and services targeted to address the key needs associated with youth's delinquent behavior, and does the court help facilitate youth and family participation in these services
- 6. Are youth referred to programs and services shown to reduce recidivism and are participation and outcome
- 7. Does the court play a leadership role in helping to coordinate case planning and services across the juvenile justice, education, child welfare, and behavioral health systems by convening system leaders to establish protocols for
- 8. Are youth and families involved in court processes and is their input used to guide court decisions
- 9. Does the court limit the number of conditions a youth must comply with while on supervision to those related to their delinquent behavior, and does it use a graduated response system for technical violations of supervision and minimize the use of detention and incarceration as punishment for noncompliance with conditions of supervision?
- 10. Are key performance indicators for youth in the juvenile justice system identified and are performance results reported to the court annually?







Statewide technical assistance provided by the CSG Justice Center to improve outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system

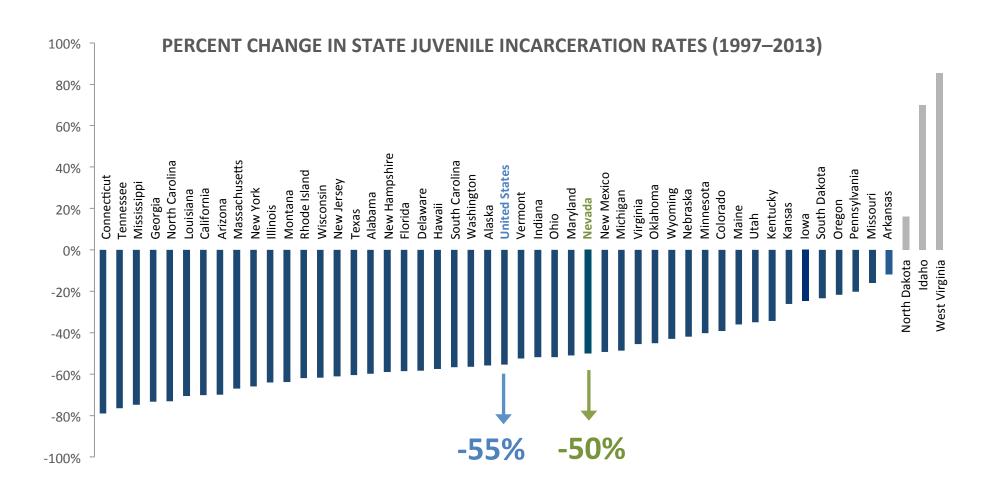




O2 Nevada's Juvenile Justice System at a Glance

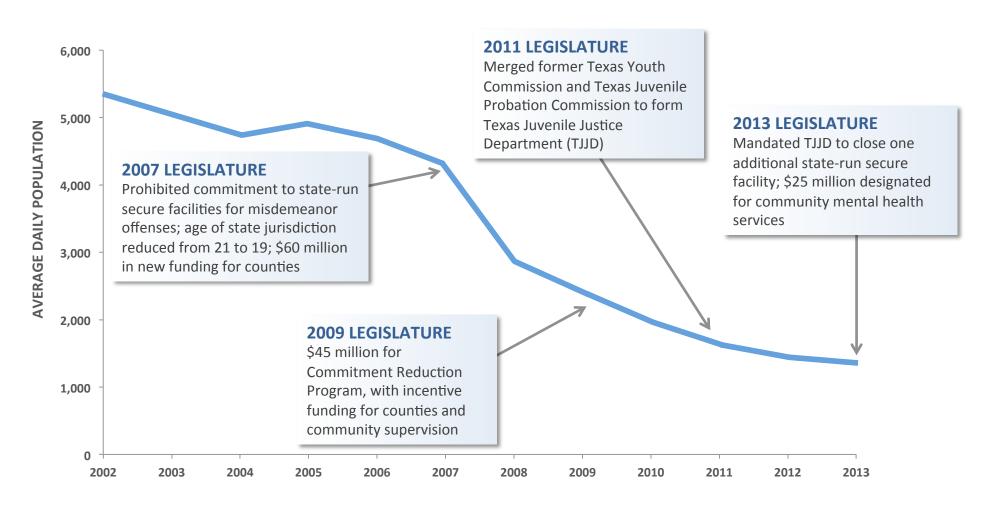
03 Next Steps

States' juvenile incarceration rates have declined dramatically



Texas case study: reforms contributed to decline in juvenile incarceration rates

REFORM HIGHLIGHTS and AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION IN STATE-RUN SECURE JUVENILE FACILITIES



Texas case study: CSG Justice Center used more than 1.3 million records to analyze recidivism rates for similar groups of youth

Juvenile Probation and Secure Confinement Data



Criminal History and Prison
Admission Data



Two Closer-to-Home Study Cohorts

- 899,101 records
- 452,751 juveniles
- Dispositions and secure releases

- 408,312 records
- 242,541 juveniles
- Arrests and incarcerations

- Pre-reform cohort:27,131 juveniles
- Post-reform cohort: 31,371 juveniles

"Apples to apples" comparison of youth eligible for incarceration:

- Youth supervised in the community
- Youth released from state-run secure facilities

Texas case study: youth kept closer to home have better outcomes



One-Year Probability of Rearrest

Released from State-Run Secure Facilities 41%

Supervised in the Community 34%



21% more likely to be rearrested

First Recidivism Offense a Felony

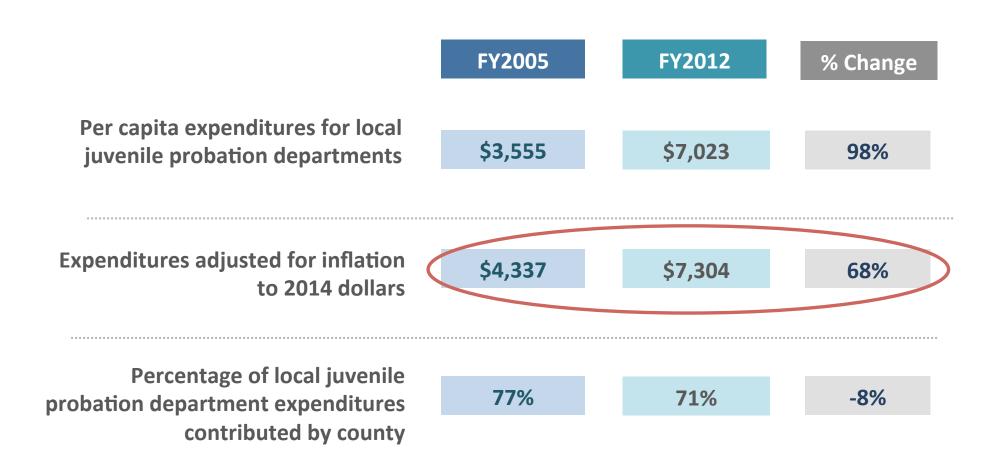
Released from State-Run Secure Facilities 49%

Supervised in the Community 17%



3x more likely to commit a felony when recidivating

Texas case study: per capita funding for county juvenile probation departments increased significantly after reforms



Texas case study: rearrest rates for youth on probation were comparable regardless of the intervention and did not improve after reforms

INTERVENTION TYPE	PRE-REFORM STUDY GROUP One-Year Probability of Rearrest	POST-REFORM STUDY GROUP One-Year Probability of Rearrest
State Incarceration	41%	41%
Skill-Based Program	29%	27%
Treatment Program	28%	30%
Surveillance Program	31%	29%
Secure County Placement	33%	34%
Non-Secure County Placement	35%	35%
No Intervention	33%	32%

The CSG Justice Center hosted a 50-state forum focused on improving outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system

WHO	Four-person interbranch teams of government leaders from every state
WHAT	Convening to develop statewide plans to improve outcomes for youth under juvenile justice supervision
WHERE	Austin, Texas
WHEN	November 9–10, 2015
HOW	Supported by the MacArthur Foundation and conducted in partnership with Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

Nevada State Team

- Justice Nancy Saitta, Judge, Nevada Supreme Court
- First Lady Kathleen Sandoval, Director of Operations, The Children's Cabinet
- John "Jack" Martin, Director, Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services
- Scott Schick, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Douglas County
- Jim Kingera, Chief, Nevada Youth Parole

OJJDP asked the CSG Justice Center to provide technical assistance to states through the Statewide Juvenile Justice Improvement Initiative (SJJII) to address the following questions:

> How well do our resources. policies, and practices align with what the research says works to reduce recidivism and improve other youth outcomes?





What recidivism and other outcome data does our state track for youth under the supervision of the juvenile justice system?



To what extent are leaders from the three branches of state government working together and in partnership with local governments to improve outcomes for youth under juvenile justice supervision?

Nevada state leadership requested technical assistance from the CSG Justice Center through the SJJII to improve juvenile justice policies and practices



I commit to providing legislative staff and resources to participating in this technical assistance opportunity. I agree to help establish and serve on a bipartisan, inter-branch task force, examine and compile data from all juvenile justice service systems and work with all partners to improve policy practices across the juvenile justice continuum.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Hambrick

Speaker, Nevada State Assembly

SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA NANCY M. SAITTA, JUSTICE 201 South Carson Street CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701-4702 (775) 684-1530



I commit the resources and staff to help establish and serve on a bipartisan, interbranch task force, examine and compile data from all juvenile justice systems, and work with each branch to improve policies across the juvenile justice continuum.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nancy M. Saitta

Justice

Following a national competitive process, Nevada was the only state selected by OJJDP for participation in the SJJII



Key Reasons for Selecting Nevada

- Leadership of Governor Sandoval, First Lady Sandoval, and Supreme Court Justice Saitta
- Strong history of collaboration across branches of government and service systems
- Success of Commission on Statewide Juvenile Justice Reform

Governor Sandoval established the SJJII Task Force to learn more about what steps can be taken to strengthen public safety and improve outcomes for youth

First Lady Kathleen Sandoval, Co-Chair The Children's Cabinet

Justice Nancy Saitta, Co-Chair Supreme Court of Nevada

Ross Armstrong
Department of Child and Family Services

Ben Bianchi Carson City Juvenile Probation Services

Frank Cervantes
Washoe County Department of Juvenile Services

Brigid Duffy Office of the Clark County District Attorney

James Dzurenda Nevada Department of Corrections

Speaker John Hambrick Nevada State Assembly

John "Jack" Martin Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services

Assemblyman James Ohrenschall Nevada State Assembly

Susan Roske
Office of the Clark County Public Defender

Scott Schick
Douglas County Juvenile Probation Department

Judge Thomas Stockard Tenth Judicial District Court

Gianna Verness Washoe County Police Department

Judge William Voy Eighth Judicial District Court

Judge Egan Walker Second Judicial District Court

Richard Whitely
Department of Health and Human Services

Jolee Wickes
Office of the Clark County District Attorney

Mike Willden
Office of Governor Sandoval

The SJJII has three phases designed to identify and advance policies, practices, and funding that will improve outcomes for youth

> Analyze quantitative data

Review policy and practice

Present systemimprovement recommendations and adopt new policies

With support from the CSG Justice Center, the task force will play a critical role in the success of the SJJII

SJJII TASK FORCE RESPONSIBILITIES **CSG JUSTICE CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Oversee SJJII and scope of work

Provide strategic direction on policy option development

Reach consensus on policy options

Identify juvenile justice system priorities

Pass package of policy options in 2017 legislative session

Provide dedicated staff to Nevada's SJJII

Analyze system data and conduct extensive interviews/focus groups

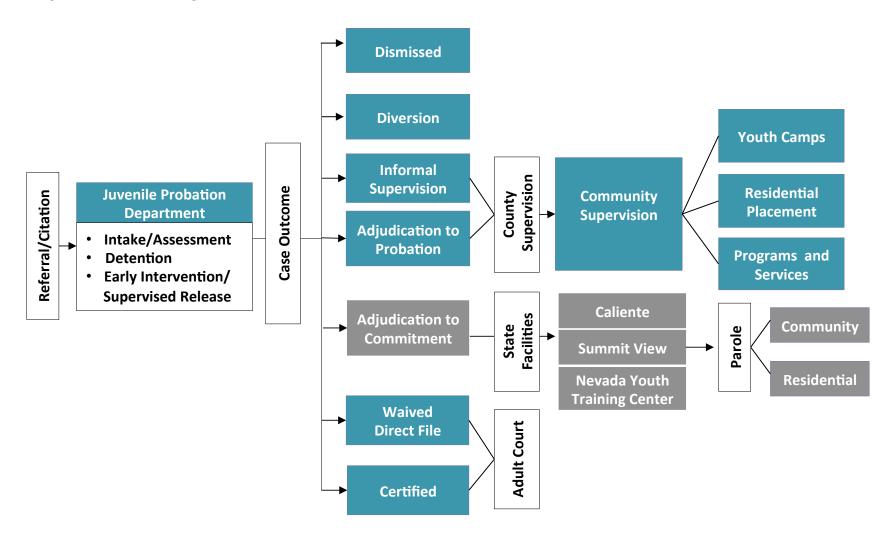
Deliver findings, present recommendations, and assist with legislation

Background and Overview

O2 Nevada's Juvenile Justice System at a Glance

Next Steps

Nevada's juvenile justice system is a shared responsibility for the state and counties



Juvenile arrests, including for violent offenses, have declined substantially over the last decade





Nevada Juvenile Arrests by Offense Type CY2006 and CY2014

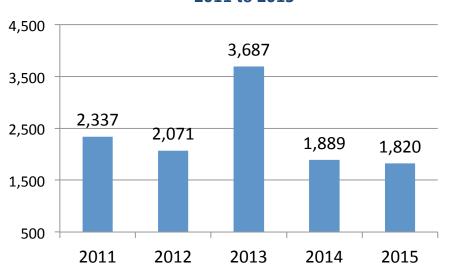
	2006	2014	% change
Violent	2,807	889	-68%
Property	4,783	4,312	-10%
Weapons	513	151	-71%
Drugs	1,454	1,079	-26%
Status	4,926	1,194	-76%
Other	6,480	3,401	-48%
Total Arrests	20,963	11,026	-47%



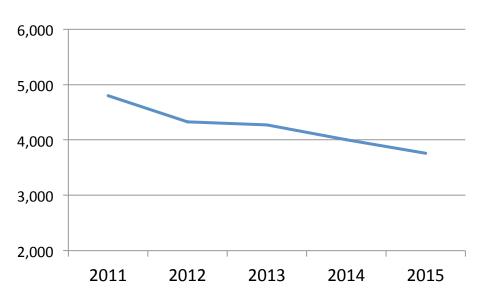
Arrests for violent and weapons offenses decreased by close to 70%

Detention admissions and county probation dispositions have also declined in recent years

Detentions for a Gross Misdemeanor or Felony 2011 to 2015



County Probation Dispositions 2011 to 2015



Detentions for a gross misdemeanor or felony offense **declined 18 percent** between 2011 and 2015

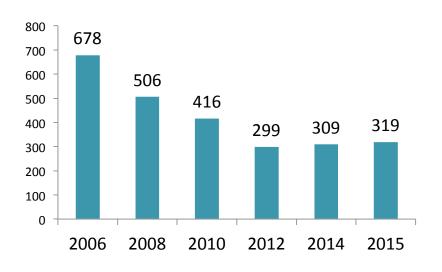
Probation dispositions **declined 22 percent** between 2011 and 2015

Youth camp populations have experienced less of a decline than other types of system supervision

Average Daily Population of Spring Mountain and China Spring Youth Camps FY2013-FY2015		
	China Spring	Spring Mountain
2013	52	98
2014	53	96
2015	57	95

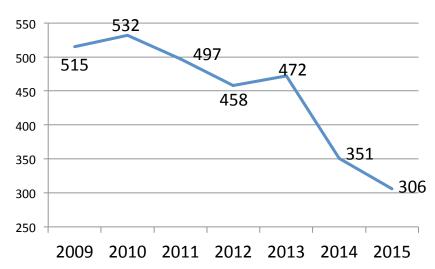
Division of Child & Family Services (DCFS) commitments and the juvenile parole population have declined substantially

Commitments to DCFS by State Fiscal Year



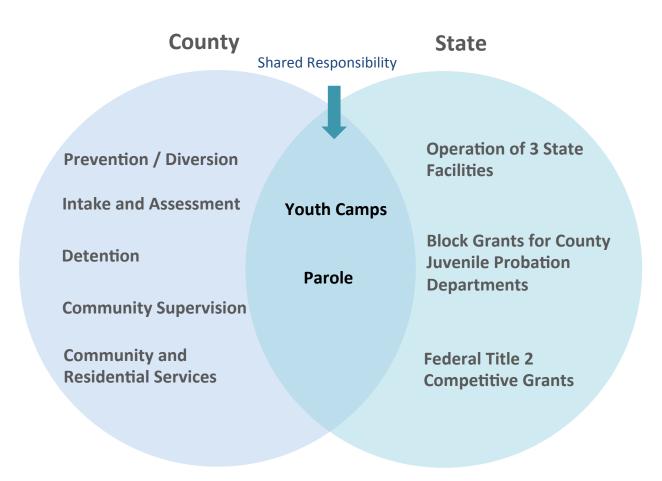
Commitments **decreased by 53 percent** between 2006 and 2015

Youth Parole Average End-of-Month Population, FY2009–FY2015



41-percent decline in the average monthly juvenile parole population between 2009 and 2015

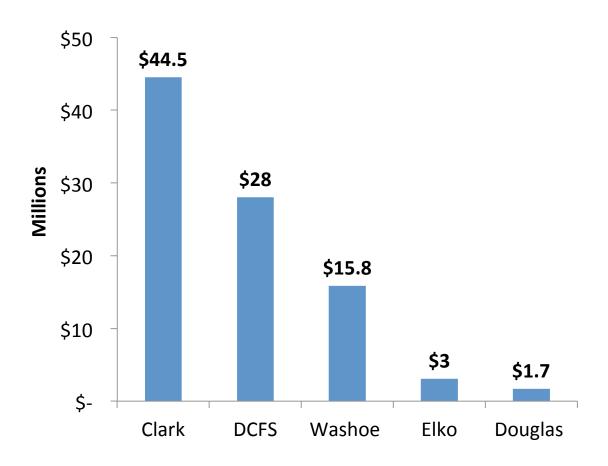
Funding for juvenile justice supervision and services is also a shared state and county responsibility



State/county funding exchanges are based on overall county school-age youth population rather than actual service use or performance targets

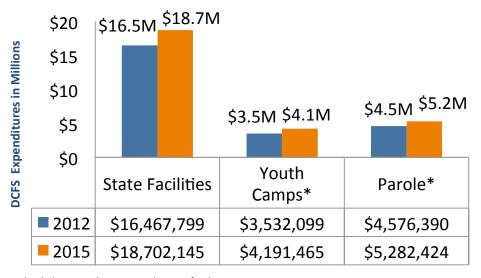
Nevada spent more than \$95 million for juvenile justice supervision and services in 2015

DCFS and County Juvenile Justice Budgets 2015



Costs per day for youth in state custody and youth camps have increased and little is known about the effectiveness of services provided

DCFS Expenditures For State-Run Facilities, Youth Camps, and Parole Fiscal Year 2012 and 2015



Average Cost Per Day		
	FY2012	FY2015
State Facilities	\$206.01	\$237.22
China Spring Youth Camp	\$61.53	\$178.04
Parole	\$27.12	\$47.30

- Average costs per day have increased since 2012 due to declines in the average number of youth in state facilities and on parole and a slight increase in expenditures for youth camps
- Services provided to youth at youth camps, at state facilities, and on parole vary and little is known about their effectiveness

^{*}Includes general revenue and county funds

Limited data are available on youth outcomes, and existing data cannot be used to draw firm conclusions about system performance

- There is no standard statewide definition for juvenile recidivism
- Recidivism and other outcome measures are not routinely calculated or reported for youth on probation or in DCFS custody
- Outcomes currently reported provide limited information on system performance

AVAILABLE SYSTEM MEASURES	Percent in 2014
China Spring/Aurora Pines Youth Terminating Successfully	83%
Commitments that Were the Result of a Probation Violation	25%
Commitments that Were the Result of a Parole Revocation	18%
Youth Reoffending While on Parole	56%
Youth in School and/or Employed While on Parole	36%/12%
Youth on Parole Terminating Successfully	51%

Key takeaways from review of publicly available data

1. Fewer youth are under the supervision of Nevada's juvenile justice system than at any time in the last decade.



2. Nevada is spending significant resources on youth under system supervision, and is unable to determine whether these resources are being used efficiently for supervision and services that improve outcomes for youth.

Background and Overview

O2 Nevada's Juvenile Justice System at a Glance

Next Steps

Emerging priority areas for assessment based on the initial data review and stakeholder conversations include:

1. Matching of youth to appropriate supervision and services based on seriousness of offense and risk of reoffending

2. Availability and effectiveness of services for youth on probation, in facilities, and on parole, and use of state and local resources to support these services

3. Tracking and reporting of system performance and youth outcomes, and use of data to guide policy and funding decisions

Assessment findings will be based on detailed case-level data sought from many sources

Data	Source	Status
Clark County Probation Data	Washoe County Department of Juvenile Services	-Signed MOU -Data Request in Process
Washoe County Probation Data	Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services	-Signed MOU -Data Pull in Process
Youth Camp Data	China Spring Youth Camp, Spring Mountain Youth Camp	-Data Received from China Spring -Awaiting Data from Spring Mountain
Statewide Probation Data	Division of Child and Family Services, Juvenile Justice Services, Juvenile Programs	-Signed MOU -Data Request in Process
Commitment and Parole Data	Division of Child and Family Services, Juvenile Justice Services, Youth Parole Bureau	-Signed MOU -Data Request Submitted
Adult Corrections/Probation and Parole Data	Department of Corrections (Adult)	-DCFS reviewing existing MOU with DPBH for potential amendment

Assessment findings will also reflect feedback from extensive interviews and focus groups with an array of system stakeholders

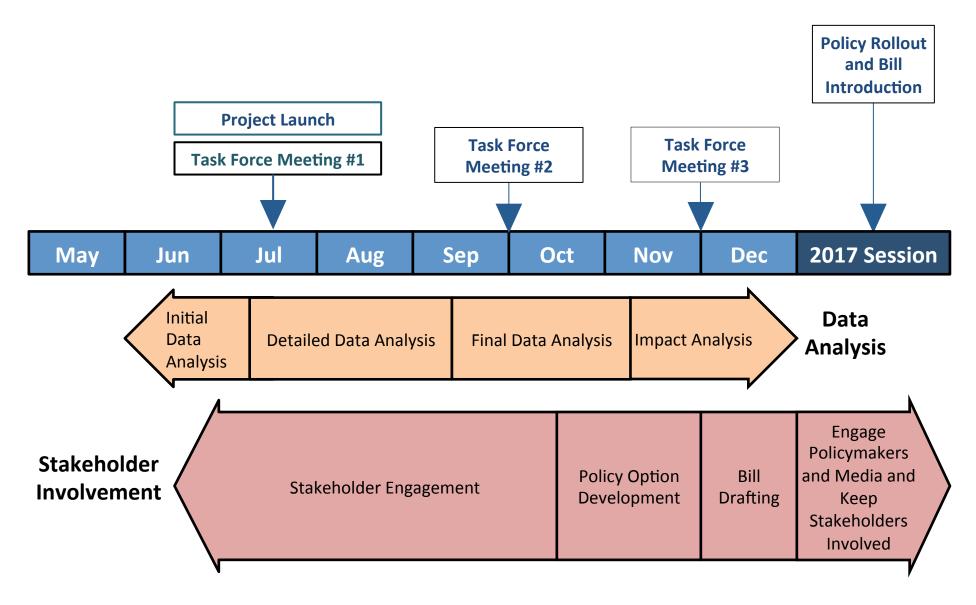
June 2016 Site Visit Carson City/Washoe County

- DCFS/Youth Parole Bureau
- District court judges
- Probation chiefs
- Child welfare/social services/education
- Law enforcement
- District attorneys/public defenders

July 2016 Site Visit Clark and Washoe Counties

- State legislators
- DCFS front-line staff
- Probation chiefs and front-line staff
- District court judges
- Child welfare/social services/education
- District attorneys/public defenders
- Summit View correctional center

Statewide Juvenile Justice Improvement Initiative timeline



Thank you

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