

MF1

112561

112561

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

This document has been reproduced exactly as received from the person or organization originating it. Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the National Institute of Justice.

Permission to reproduce this copyrighted material has been granted by

Urban Studies Center
University of Louisville

to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS).

Further reproduction outside of the NCJRS system requires permission of the copyright owner.

KENTUCKY
CRIMINAL
JUSTICE



STATISTICAL ACQUISITIONS
ANALYSIS
CENTER

DAVID L. ARMSTRONG
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 1986

URBAN STUDIES CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

SAC CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

The Second Annual Kentucky Conference on Criminal Justice Research and Statistics was held at the Seelbach Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky on September 4 and 5, 1986.

Attorney General David L. Armstrong welcomed the participants to the conference by noting the uniqueness of the Kentucky SAC, a partnership between government and higher education; the Attorney General's Office and the University of Louisville's Urban Studies Center. He said that nearly all the major issues in the criminal justice system today are touched upon by various panelists and presenters at this conference.

One hundred twenty criminal justice professionals from Kentucky, a 30% increase over the 1985 conference, attended. These included persons from the courts, corrections, law enforcement, social services, the Governor's Office, universities, the Legislative Research Commission, and local officials. Ten of the conference attendees received continuing education credits for jailers. Jail systems represented include Boyd, Breckenridge, Edmonson, Greenup, Laurel, Madison, Mercer and Oldham counties.

Panelists and speakers discussed the victimization and child abuse studies, the Offender Based Tracking System (OBTS) bill and other 1986 criminal justice legislation, the need for a comprehensive criminal justice overview in each state, home incarceration and alternative sentencing, the pros and cons of privatization of prisons, and Persistent Felony Offender (PFO) research.

SAC co-directors, Dr. Knowlton Johnson of the University of Louisville Urban Studies Center and C. Bruce Traughber of the Office of the Attorney General, reviewed SAC's second-year accomplishments and projects planned for its third year.

A brief overview of each session from the 1986 conference follows.

FEATURED SPEAKER

Romano L. Mazzoli, U. S. Representative, 3rd District, spoke about the need for quality data to make accurate

decisions on criminal justice and other important issues. He discussed the increases in revenue for new prisons, the Omnibus Anti-Drug Bill, and the proposed redesign of the FBI Uniform Crime Report.

Mazzoli is chairman of the Immigration, Refugee and International Law Subcommittee and a member of the Crime Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee. The Crime Subcommittee was instrumental in passing the Firearms Owners Protection Act and the Cop Killer Bullets Act.

The Committee's Omnibus Anti-Drug Bill passed the House with amendments since Mazzoli's appearance at the SAC Conference.

continued on page 2

MESSAGE FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL DAVID L. ARMSTRONG

Two recent Bureau of Justice Statistics reports have crossed my desk and provide information that may be of interest to you. The first report is BJS's report titled **State and Federal Prison Population for 1986.**

For the nation as a whole, the state and federal prison population grew by 5.1% from December 31, 1985 to June 30, 1986. In Kentucky, our prison population grew by only 2.2% during this same period. Prison populations ranged from 411 inmates in North Dakota to 55,238 in California. California had about 10% of all prisoners incarcerated in the United States at the end of 1985.

As of June 30, 1986, the United States had an average of 210 sentenced prisoners per 100,000 population, while Kentucky had only 159 prisoners per 100,000 population. The number of sentenced prisoners per 100,000 population for nearby states: Virginia, 210; Ohio, 204; Missouri, 203; Indiana, 176; Tennessee, 149; and West Virginia, 85; indicates clearly that Kentucky incarcerates fewer prisoners per unit of population than do most states in this area of the country.

continued on page 4

VICTIMIZATION AND CHILD ABUSE

Households interviewed in 1985 for the initial victimization study were interviewed again in 1986. In both years, the victimization rate of Kentucky households was 20%. An important finding showed that 41% of those victimized in 1985 were victims again in 1986. Additionally, for those persons reporting a violent crime in 1985, 70% reported a violent or property crime in 1986.

The 1986 study also found the greatest degree of fear of crime (expressed as a feeling of lack of control over the environment) and depression (expressed as feeling at fault for what happened) to occur among those experiencing a violent crime or multiple crimes. In time, depression abates sooner than fear.

The Child Abuse and Neglect study found that child abuse and neglect reporting in Kentucky increased during the late 1970's and early 1980's, although these reports do not necessarily represent the number of children actually abused or neglected.

Neglect and physical abuse were the most frequently reported problems. Children under 3 years of age were the main victims of both. The majority of reports of neglect and/or abuse come from relatives, friends, neighbors, and anonymous sources. Over half the reports pertain to children in mother-headed households.

The 5,700 reports of neglect and abuse received during fiscal year 1983 represented 4,900 children, about 4,000 of whom were new to the Child Protective Service. Fifty percent of the reports were confirmed by the agency upon investigation, and half of these resulted in some type of court action on behalf of the child.

An unconfirmed report did not mean that the child in question was not or will not be abused or neglected; only that substantial evidence was not present at the time of the investigation. One fourth of the nonconfirmed cases were later brought to the attention of the agency and required court action.

Panelists for the session included Leo Hobbs, Office of the Attorney General; Bonnie Hommerick, Department of Social Services; Emily Hutchinson, Department for Human Services; Jean Kendell, Department of Social Services; and Gary Wainscott, Justice Cabinet. Moderator was Dr. William Pelfrey, School of Justice Administration Director, University of Louisville.

OFFENDER BASED TRACKING SYSTEM BILL

Ernesto Scorsone, State Representative from the 75th Legislative District and sponsor of House Bill 774, discussed the highlights of the bill and explained the unique process of getting bills passed in the legislature.

Don Manson, Bureau of Justice Statistics, presented a national perspective on the creation of offender based

tracking systems in fourteen states across the country. A twelve minute videotape outlining the process and procedures, as well as the advantage of a tracking system, was previewed (see article on page 3). The videotape was the result of a joint effort of BJS and the Criminal Justice Statistics Association, and will be available for presentations across the state by the staff of the SAC. Contact Jack Ellis at the Urban Studies Center for more information.

Panelists included Pat Sims, Administrative Office of the Courts, and Major Bobby Stallins, Kentucky State Police. Moderator for the session was C. Bruce Traugher.

CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN OHIO

Jeffrey Knowles, Ohio Statistical Analysis Center Director, examined the need for each state to package a comprehensive study of their criminal justice system. This study could then be used by legislators and policymakers to identify and correct gaps and overlaps in the system. Ohio has just completed its study and copies will be available in early 1987.

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING

Dr. Robert Lilly of Northern Kentucky University presented the results of an electronic home incarceration program underway in Kenton County.

The program, which began in April 1985, follows the progress of 39 incarcerated who are being monitored through electronic bracelets or ankle bands. Basically, the electronic monitoring program works well and may prove a viable alternative to incarceration. However, two questions must be raised.

(1) Will the program have an impact on total prison population? At present, it appears that too few incarcerated are eligible, and changes will have to be made in sentencing policy to increase these numbers.

(2) How will this program be augmented? Electronic monitoring is a security technique only; it is not rehabilitative. The program needs to include counseling, treatment, and probation or other officer contact. How these additional services will be provided outside the prison setting need to be determined.

Panelists were Richard Frey, Jefferson County Department of Corrections; Jerry Nichter, Jefferson County Probation and Parole Office; Al Parke, Corrections Cabinet; Dr. Edgar Porter, Director of the Southern Coalition on Jails and Prisons; and Larry Vellani, Director of the North Carolina Prison and Jail Project. Moderator for the session was Dr. Steve Meagher, Jefferson County Public Safety Cabinet.

PRIVATIZATION OF PRISONS

Dr. Ben Cooper, criminal justice planner, gave an overview of the legal and financial considerations involved in making a decision for or against privatization in the criminal justice system.

Legal considerations include the constitutionality of assigning certain public responsibilities to the private sector. Financial considerations include the cost of liability insurance, the cost of duplicating available expertise, cost control and quality control accountability.

One of the most important considerations that cuts across both the legal and financial aspects is the contract itself. The contract must be written to protect both the receivers and the providers of services. The terms of the contract, which specify and assign personal responsibility, should be written in the most careful detail, with all the necessary safeguards; yet be flexible enough to allow for agreed upon changes when circumstances warrant.

Panelists included Larry Jeffers of Prison Health Services, Inc.; Steve Magre, Louisville Alderman 5th Ward; Diana Snelling of Correctional Associates, Inc.; and Carter Wynn, St. Catherine College Instructor. David Musacchio, jail and prison consultant, was moderator.

PERSISTENT FELONY OFFENDER (PFO) RESEARCH

Dr. Gennaro F. Vito, University of Louisville's School of Justice Administration, presented the results of the 1985 study of incarcerated felons in Kentucky. The study compared a 10% sample of first-time and repeat offenders to the entire population of PFO's.

Findings of the report reveal that first-time offenders are more likely to be convicted of a violent crime than are persistent and/or repeat felons and that persistent felony offenders are more likely to receive sentences which are at least 40% longer than those of repeat offenders.

Twenty four percent of the state prison population and 48% of the PFO's were sentenced in Jefferson County. An additional 24% of the persistent felons were sentenced in Fayette County. First-time, repeat, and persistent felony offenders had adult criminal careers which began at an early age.

Panelists included Dr. Deborah G. Wilson, Corrections Cabinet (co-author of the 1985 PFO study); Dr. Paul Blanchard, Eastern Kentucky University Professor; Thomas Smith, 25th Judicial District Commonwealth's Attorney; and Chuck Wolfe, Associated Press Reporter. Penny Warren, Office of the Attorney General, moderated the session.



SAC Publications

- Persistent Felony Offenders in Kentucky: A Profile of the Institutional Population, by Dr. Deborah G. Wilson.
- Child Abuse and Neglect in Kentucky: 1978-1984, by Dr. Gordon Bonham.
- The Aftermath of Criminal Victimization: A Statewide Survey, by Dr. Knowlton Johnson, Dr. Gary Sykes and Ned Snow.
- An Offender-based Tracking System Study of Three Judicial Districts in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by Dr. Gennaro Vito and Jack Ellis.
- Strengthening Kentucky's Capacity to Produce Criminal Justice Statistical Information: A Needs-Use Assessment, by Dr. Knowlton Johnson, Linda Burgess, and Sherry Hutcherson.
- Kentucky Inmate Population: Profile and Projections, by Dr. Knowlton Johnson, Dr. Michael Price, Jack Ellis and Barbara Meredith.
- Persistent Felony Offenders in Kentucky: A Comparison of Incarcerated Felons by Dr. Deborah G. Wilson and Dr. Gennaro Vito.

Executive summaries or complete copies of these reports are available at cost by writing:

Mr. Jack Ellis
Kentucky Criminal Justice SAC
Urban Studies Center
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292

NEW VIDEOTAPE EXPLAINS OBTS

The videotape follows a typical defendant through the criminal justice system from arrest to sentencing or dismissal. The film focuses on reasons for every state to develop a system to track offenders. Kentucky has begun such a program with the passage of H.B. 774.

The film examines uses for the data by focusing on criminal justice agencies and their contribution to the system. The film highlights and gives examples of how the information may be most applicable to police, courts, and other associated agencies. By knowing other agencies' data requirements, criminal justice personnel can better understand reasons for establishing the system.

SAC staff are available to discuss OBTS to groups. This new service will be available effective November 1, 1986 from the Office of Attorney General and SAC. If you wish to have someone speak to your group, contact Jack Ellis, SAC Manager at (502) 588-6626 or write Urban Studies Center, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292.

Attorney General's Message *continued from page 1*

The other study is titled **Justice Expenditures and Employment, 1983**. This is the second BJS report on justice expenditures. Even though this report is three years old, it still contains a volume of vital information about our criminal justice systems across the country.

In this report, 1983 expenditures were combined for federal, state, and local government budgets. Selected percentages of these expenditures follow:

Social Insurance Payments	22.0%
National Defense/International Relations	16.9%
Education	13.1%
Interest on Debt	9.8%
Public Welfare	6.2%
Housing and Environment	5.4%
Hospitals and Health	4.2%
Transportation	3.4%
Justice	2.9%

These "justice" expenditures include federal, state, and local dollars for police, courts, prosecutors, public defense, and corrections.

A comparison of state and local justice system expenditures by state for fiscal year 1983 showed that the

average outlay for all 50 state and local governments was \$148.86 per capita. However, in Kentucky we spent only \$92.25 per capita, which places us 47th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Another interesting table in this report presents the percentage of state and local total direct expenditures for justice activities by state for the fiscal year 1983. The average expenditures for justice activities were 6.2% of state and local government budgets. Kentucky spent 5.0% of its budget for all justice system activities, which ranks us 37th for this item. Of the states bordering Kentucky, only Tennessee and West Virginia spent a smaller percentage of their state and local budgets for justice activities.

If you would like to receive copies of these informative studies or other reports published by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, please contact our SAC office at the Urban Studies Center, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, 40292. Mr. Jack Ellis, our SAC Manager, is available to help you find information that meets your needs. If you work in a judicial district that is covered by one of our 15 pilot affiliate network projects, you may contact the local affiliate person can also refer you to these data resources.

SAC is dedicated to serving the criminal justice community. Use us to your benefit.

