

Measurement and Evaluation

The Community Justice Institute at Florida Atlantic University

Performance Measurements Project

The Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Project in partnership with the American Prosecutors Research Institute (APRI), and the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) has developed a set of performance outcomes to help ensure accountability of the juvenile justice system to citizens. A grant was awarded by congress to APRI and its partners to carry out a nationwide project to develop and implement performance measures based on the BARJ model in several jurisdictions throughout the country.

Information for these performance measures are collected at case closure, providing immediate, short term performance outcomes. Using these

measures, jurisdictions are able to create a "report card" to see how well their system:

- Reduces juvenile crime
- Serves crime victims
- Involves the community
- Develops the competencies of offenders

The goal is to build a set of juvenile justice performance measures for potential use nationwide. Numerous jurisdictions are planning to join the initial demonstration sites (Deschutes County OR, Allegheny county PA, Cook County IL and the state of South Carolina) in implementing this "juvenile justice system report card."

What the Report Card Measures...

Accountability

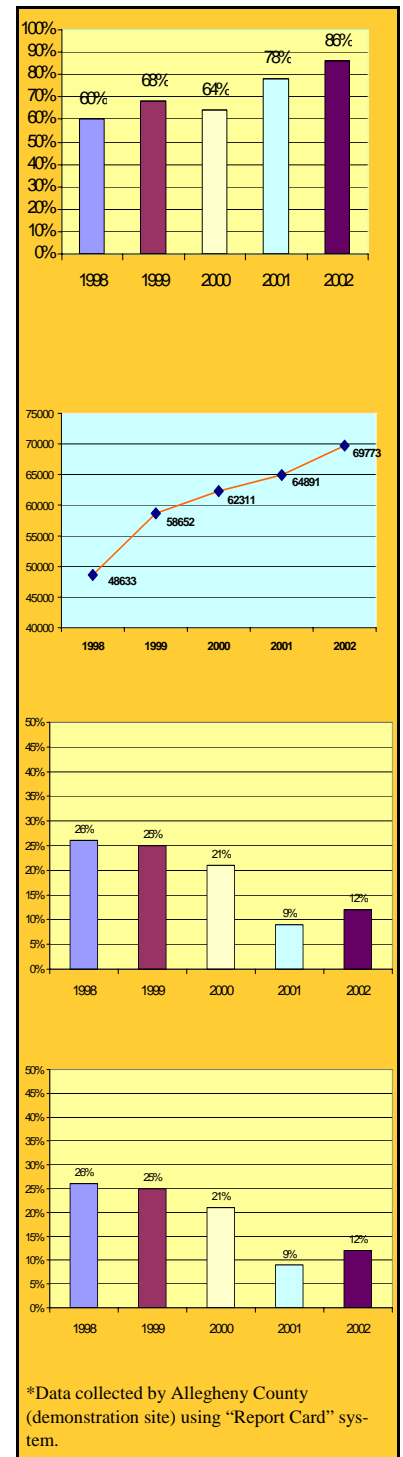
- Payment of Restitution
- Completion of Work Service
- System Accountability to Crime Victims

Competency

- Resistance to drug and alcohol use
- School participation
- Youth Employment
- Community competency
- Crime prevention/citizen participation

Safety

- Juvenile crime
- Law abiding behavior
- Adult criminal convictions
- Victim Involvement and Satisfaction with the System





Program Evaluations

In addition to participating in the national “Performance Measurements for the Juvenile Justice System” project, the CJI also conducts program evaluations for a variety of different programs.

Truancy

The CJI, with the assistance of other Florida Atlantic University Professors, conducted an evaluation of the Broward Sheriff’s Office Truancy Program. The evaluation was designed to assess the intervention’s impact on truancy and delinquent behavior.

Gangs

The CJI conducted an evaluation for the Broward Sheriff’s Office on a school-based gang prevention program used in some Broward County Schools.

Advocacy

The CJI conducted an evaluation of a program funded by the Broward County Children’s Services Council and run by Legal Aid Services to provide legal services and advocacy for girls in the juvenile justice system.

Continuum of Sanctions

A current project of the CJI is an evaluation of the continuum of sanctions in the Broward County Juvenile Justice system with a special focus on diversion options. The CJI is partnering with the local sheriff’s office, the State Attorney’s Office, the state Department of Juvenile Justice and the Children’s Services Council.

School-Based Peer Juries

Another current project is an evaluation of the Peer Jury Program in Chicago Public School System. This evaluation is assessing program implementation and effectiveness as well as the utilization of these programs as alternatives to suspension and other disciplinary responses.

