Criminal justice

WA ONE Evaluation

The Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) began implementation of a new dynamic risk assessment tool, the Washington ONE (WA ONE), in December 2017. DOC contracted with WSIPP to design a potential multiphase study that will evaluate the impact of WA ONE on various outcomes. This evaluation represents the first phase which will focus on changes in risk level classifications and consequent minimum contact requirements.

A report is due by June 30, 2020.

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Changes in WA’s Juvenile Justice System and Implications for Research

Over the last 20 years, the Washington State Legislature has taken a number of steps to develop an "evidence-based" juvenile justice system. In this report, we will discuss how the populations of court-involved youth and the practices used by Washington State juvenile courts have changed over time. This report will review how the changes in the juvenile justice system have impacted the findings of WSIPP’s research and discuss the challenges of conducting public policy research in the current court environment. Finally, the report will review updates to WSIPP’s reviews of the evidence for juvenile justice programs.

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Exclusive Adult Jurisdiction

The 2018 Washington State Legislature directed WSIPP to assess the impact of changes to the Juvenile Justice Act (JJA), as outlined in E2SSB 6160. To the extent possible, the study should include impacts to community safety, racial disproportionality, recidivism, state expenditures, and youth rehabilitation.

The 2019 Legislature amended WSIPP’s assignment to include an assessment of additional components contained in Sections 2-6 of E2SHB 1646. WSIPP must also conduct a benefit-cost analysis which includes the health impacts and recidivism effects of extending the JJA to include all offenses committed under the age of twenty-one.

A preliminary report is due to the legislature by December 1, 2023 with a final report due December 1, 2031.

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