



***MEASURING INCARCERATION IN
HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS***

INVITATIONAL FORUM

January 26 & 27, 2012
Office of Justice Programs
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC

Today's forum features a group of leading scholars, federal data providers, and policy makers that will assess existing measures of incarceration on federal and other household surveys. The group will work together to develop ways these measures might be adapted for use in other existing surveys that do not currently (or adequately) capture incarceration. Particular emphasis will be placed on substantive issues, such as which aspects of the incarceration experience should be measured (e.g., number, timing, duration, or type of incarceration). At the same time, group discussions will be grounded

in the practical exigencies that pertain to all data collection efforts: constraints imposed by budgets, time burden on respondents, overall survey design (e.g., cross-sectional versus longitudinal) and related factors that will ultimately shape the recommendations of the group. There will be an opportunity after the conference for the group's recommendations to be piloted on a survey of the U.S. population sponsored by the NCFMR and administered by KnowledgeNetworks. The results of this pilot survey will be summarized in a final report that will include recommended measures for use in future household surveys.

OPENING REMARKS

AJAY CHAUDRY

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

JOHN H. LAUB

Director, National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice

JAMES P. LYNCH

Director, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice



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Thursday, January 26, 2012

Morning

- 8:30 - 9:00 Registration
9:00 - 9:15 Welcome
9:15 - 12:00 Session 1:
Assessing Existing Measures of
Incarceration in Household Surveys

10:15-10:45 Break

Afternoon

- 12:00 - 1:30 Lunch
1:30 - 2:45 Session 2:
Adapting Measures for
Household Surveys
2:45 - 3:15 Break
3:15 - 4:30 Session 3:
Recommendations for Future Data
Collection Efforts

Friday, January 27, 2012

Morning

- 9:00 - 11:00 Special Topic:
Linking Administrative Records
Data to Household Surveys

ASSESSING EXISTING MEASURES OF INCARCERATION IN HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS

Goal: Overview and assess the strengths and weaknesses of measures currently used in large surveys to tap into the incarceration experience.

PRESENTERS

BRUCE WESTERN

*Professor, Department of Sociology, Harvard University
Director, Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy,
Harvard University*

SHAWN BUSHWAY

*Associate Professor, School of Criminal Justice and Rockefeller
College of Public Affairs & Policy, University at Albany*

CHRISTY VISHER

*Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice,
University of Delaware
Director, The Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies,
University of Delaware*

ADAPTING MEASURES FOR HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS

Goal: Address whether and how existing measures can be modified for use in other data collections. Additionally, new measures may be proposed and assessed.

PRESENTERS

RUCKER JOHNSON

*Associate Professor, Public Policy, Goldman School of Public
Policy, University of California, Berkeley*

HOLLY FOSTER

*Associate Professor, Department of Sociology,
Texas A & M University*

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE DATA COLLECTION EFFORTS

Goal: Synthesize the key points that arose from earlier sessions to yield a group recommendation about how the incarceration experience should be measured in a general population survey.

PRESENTERS

BECKY PETTIT

Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Washington

SAMUEL MYERS

Roy Wilkins Professor and Director, Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice, University of Minnesota

LINKING ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS DATA TO HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS

Goal: Explore the feasibility of linking administrative records data on incarceration, and other criminal justice involvement, to survey data.

PRESENTERS

JAMES P. LYNCH

Director, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice

ROBERT M. GOERGE

Senior Research Fellow, Chapin Hall, University of Chicago

AMY O'HARA

Acting Chief, Center for Administrative Records Research and Applications, U.S. Census Bureau

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ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- National Center for Family & Marriage Research
- U.S. Department of Commerce/Census Bureau
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 - Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
- U.S. Department of Justice/Office of Justice Programs
 - Bureau of Justice Statistics
 - National Institute of Justice

The National Center for Family & Marriage Research, established in 2007 by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provides scientific leadership, intellectual energy, and administrative assistance to support inter-disciplinary, policy-relevant research on U.S. families.



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