Ministry of Justice

Justice Data Lab Statistics
July 2014

10th July 2014

Contents

Introduction

This report presents a summary of the requests for re-offending information through the Justice Data Lab for the period 2nd April 2013 to 30th June 2014.

This report has been produced and published in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. This report will be updated and published on the second Thursday of each month for the duration of the Justice Data Lab pilot.

What is the Justice Data Lab initiative and how does it work?

The Justice Data Lab has been launched as a pilot from April 2013. During the pilot, a small team from Analytical Services within the Ministry of Justice (the Justice Data Lab team) is supporting organisations that provide offender services by allowing them easy access to aggregate re-offending data, specific to the group of people they have worked with. This service is intended to support organisations in understanding their effectiveness at reducing re-offending.

Participating organisations supply the Justice Data Lab with details of the offenders who they have worked with, and information about the services they have provided. The Justice Data Lab team matches these individuals to the re-offending datasets held within the Ministry of Justice and uses statistical modelling techniques to generate a matched control group of individuals with very similar characteristics. As a standard output, the Justice Data Lab supplies aggregate one year proven re-offending rates for the group of offenders the organisation has worked with, and those of the matched control group of similar offenders.

The re-offending rates for the organisation's group and the matched control group are also compared using statistical testing to assess the impact of the organisation's work on reducing re-offending. The results are then returned to the organisation with explanations of the key metrics, and any caveats and limitations necessary for interpretation of the results.

Finally, the tailored reports produced for each organisation are published on the Ministry of Justice website to promote transparency and ensure that findings produced through this service can be used by others to improve the rehabilitation of offenders.

Key Findings

To date:

This publication reports on the Justice Data Lab requests received in the fourteen months between the launch of the Justice Data Lab on the 2nd April 2013, and 30th June 2014. During this period there were 87 requests for re-offending information through the Justice Data Lab. Of these requests;

- 61 reports have been published previously. 1 report is being published this month.

- 16 requests could not be answered as the minimum criteria for a Data Lab analysis had not been met.

- 1 request was withdrawn by the submitting organisation.

- The remaining 8 requests will be processed in due course.

The following activity has taken place this month:

- 1 request has been fully answered and is being published this month.

- Last month we reported that we had been working on a substantial request received in a previous month. We have been continuing to work on this request; the results of which will be published in due course.

Table 1: Request being published this month.

	Organisation and Programme	Summary of Programme	Effect on the one year proven re-offending rate	Effect on the frequency of one year proven re-offending
1	Working Chance Employment Support	Working Chance is a charity which supports female offenders into voluntary and paid work with mainstream employers. Working Chance advises candidates on CV writing and provides opportunities to practise for interviews, including how best to present information regarding their offending history and how to prepare for the practicalities of attending interviews and starting work. The work conducted with individuals depends on their needs and engagement. All registrations include a one hour "One2One" session, which is an individual mentoring session with the aim of learning more about the candidate and identifying the support they need. After this session, individuals are given the option to attend training events. The most engaged and active individuals receive further "One2One" support over a 6-9 month period. If candidates are placed into voluntary or paid work, Working Chance continues to check in with them at 1/3/6 month intervals. This analysis relates to female offenders who received the recruitment service run by Working Chance in prison or in the community between 2009 and 2011, which includes individuals that were successfully placed into paid or voluntary employment and those that were not.	This analysis indicates that individuals who received the recruitment service run by Working Chance, experienced a **reduction in re-offending between 0.2 and 13 percentage points** compared to a matched control group.	The frequency of one year proven re-offending for 52 offenders who received the recruitment service run by Working Chance was 0.08 offences per individual, compared with 0.53 per individual in the matched control group. Statistical significance testing has shown that this difference in the re-offending rates **is statistically significant.**

Contact points for further information

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For further guidance about the Justice Data Lab, and how to access the service, please refer to the guidance which can be found at the following link:

www.justice.gov.uk/justice-data-lab