



Organization Overview

January 2026

Mission and Vision

- Provide research to policymakers, public and private sector clients, and the community.
- Encourage evidence-informed practices to promote a fair and effective justice system.
- Strengthening the justice system to reduce and prevent crime, reduce recidivism, achieve safer and healthier communities, and ensure fairness, justice, and equal treatment under the law

Our Work

CRG is a criminal and juvenile justice research center serving Vermont as independent non-profit that works with state, municipal, and other justice partners to collect, analyze, and disseminate data, and write reports based on those data. We perform our work primarily through a contract with the Department of Public Safety to provide a wide range of services, including policy-relevant research, to further the effective and efficient administration of criminal and juvenile justice programs and systems in Vermont. Through data sharing agreements we have unparalleled access to court and criminal history data.

The research CRG provides essential evidence that policymakers use to guide decision-making. The SACs perform a variety of activities including:

- Collecting, analyzing, and distributing criminal justice data
- Conducting policy-relevant research
- Designing and implementing automated information systems
- Further the use of evidence-based practices in their states
- Promote the effective and efficient administration of criminal and juvenile justice

Our Team

Monica Weeber M.P.A., Executive Director; monicaw@crgvt.org

Monica Weeber joined CRG as Executive Director in January of 2023. She brings over 20 years of well-rounded experience in the criminal justice and non-profit sectors to CRG, with a focus on program implementation, oversight, measurement, and reporting. Prior to joining CRG she held several positions at the VT Department of Corrections where she managed the policy development, research, and offender management system units. She has extensive experience working with criminal justice partners on data-driven initiatives aimed at improving prison administration and reducing recidivism. Weeber holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Vermont as well as a bachelor's degree in anthropology from Rutgers University.

Robin Joy, J.D., Ph.D., Director of Research; robin@crgvt.org

Dr. Joy joined the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) in 2005 and has been, since 2014, the Director of Research for Crime Research Group. She has over 20 years of research experience in Vermont. Prior to the creation of CRG, Dr. Joy was the Research Director at the Vermont Center for Justice Research where she designed and implemented numerous studies that impacted Vermont criminal justice policy. She held lecturer positions at Norwich University, Northeastern University, and the University of Massachusetts. She is responsible for all aspects of research and evaluation for CRG, including program evaluation, research design, developing new ways to merge and analyze administrative records data, as well as developing new data sets, and conducting analysis.

Dr. Joy has won two national awards for her research including for spearheading a collaborative working group of criminal justice data and for work exploring domestic violence case processing by merging multiple administrative data sets.

Her Ph.D. is in Law, Policy, and Society.

Our Services

Research and Partner Services

- We work with federal and state partners through the Bureau of Justice Statistics to explore statewide trends in criminal, juvenile, and social justice issues. We support organizations to develop research designs for grant proposals.

Program Evaluation

- We're experts in creating program evaluation designs to collect and report on process, performance, and outcome data.

Administrative Data Analysis

- We are the only research organization in Vermont that links data sets from law enforcement, judiciary, corrections, and community organizations to evaluate and describe outcomes.

Qualitative Analysis

- We are skilled in developing surveys and focus groups to help explore a specific topic of interest.

Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance

- We help organizations develop data driven plans and implement strategies to achieve your goal. Respond to data requests from both governmental and non-governmental entities, organizations, and individuals using years of cleaned and coded court data.

Data Sets and Questions to Ask

Data Set	Sample Questions
Criminal Court Filings and Dispositions Monthly extract of all charges filed and disposed of in Vermont Criminal Court. Updated every quarter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the sentences for disorderly conduct? • Do the sentences differ by county? • How many charges are filed? How long does it take to resolve them? • How many cases are represented by a public defender?
Juvenile Dispositions Offenses that would be crimes, save for the person's age. Received quarterly and update as needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The same types of questions can be asked of the juvenile data as of the criminal data.
Traffic Data Data from judicial bureau hearings, this includes traffic violations, hunting violations, liquor and marijuana violations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many speeding tickets are reduced at hearing? • What types of offenses are challenged?
Civil Suspensions Data Data about civil suspensions of licenses because of DUI. The data reflect hearings and outcomes of the hearings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many civil suspensions happen each year? • How many Vermonters are subjected to a suspension each year? • How many suspensions are denied? Why?
National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Data Information about most crimes in Vermont. It includes information about the type of crime, who allegedly committed it and who was arrested.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many minor children are victims of violent crimes? • What is the average loss reported in retain theft cases? • How many sexual assaults were cleared by arrest?
Relief From Abuse Filings Biannual extract of relief from abuse filings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many requests were approved/denied? • Were weapons ordered held/relinquished? • How many cases were filed and disposed by county?
Other data sets used for research: DOC Public Used Data Set Census Information Vermont Statutes and Penalties	Risk Surveys Crash Data

Crime Research Group Answers the Question: Is it a data request or is it research?

Question	Research or Data Request	Public Data?	Is it easy for a layperson to answer the question from the data?	Dates Available
What were the sentences for people who committed crime X? (probation, incarceration, splits, deferred)	Data request www.crgvt.org Data Tab – fill out form	No – Court data. CRG has an MOU with the courts to provide answers.	This is not public data.	1990-present. But try to stick to 2005 to the present. (different coding)
What crimes are people incarcerated for in Vermont?	Data Request	Yes - the DOC public use file.	You have to manipulate the data. The data are charge based. https://data.vermont.gov/Public-Safety/DOCPublicUseFile/vf3r-u4kv	2016- present Updated daily
How many people were arrested for X offense?	Data request	Yes - NIBRS data. No for non-NIBRS offenses. CRG has a file with that information.	For NIBRS data go to: https://crime-data-explorer.fr.cloud.gov/ You can also download the raw files, but that requires manipulation.	Vermont has been 100% NIBRS compliant since 1993 and the last year available right now is 2024. For non NIBRS Offenses – we have a historical file that is updated every six months.
How many people did agency X arrest, how many were people of color?	Data Request	Yes - NIBRS Data.	For NIBRS data go to: https://crime-data-explorer.fr.cloud.gov/ You can also download the raw files, but that requires manipulation.	See above.
How many people who used a weapon during the commission of the offense received a sentence of X?	Research	No. This requires matching the incident number from the police data set into the court data.	Not public data.	You would provide the dates you were interested in.
Is there a difference in the way person X is treated from person Y in sentencing?	Research	No. This requires criminal histories, and merging data into NIBRS to get circumstances of the offense.	Not public data, although researchers are allowed access. CRG has developed the tools to turn the data into an analyzable form.	You would provide the dates you were interested in.
What is the recidivism rate for people in program X?	Research	No. This requires criminal histories.	Not public data, although researchers are allowed access. CRG has developed the tools to turn the data into an analyzable form.	You would provide the dates you were interested in.