

State of Vermont

# Division of Racial Justice Statistics

Presented to the House Committee on Judiciary by:

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# DRJS Team

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# DRJS Goals and Priorities

## Develop data governance

Provide the foundation for reporting, collecting, and sharing data within a robust framework.

## Strengthen data capacity

Support State and local agencies in applying best practices for collecting relevant data.

## Analyze and present data

Implementation of vetted methods to assess racial bias and development of public-facing dashboards.

01

Annual  
Report

# Gap Analysis utilizing Functional Analysis

3 V.S.A. §5012(a)(4) requires the Division “maintain an inventory of justice technology assets and data dictionary” and conduct a gap analysis of data systems and information sharing

## Methodology:

- Project team was developed with information professionals across state government
- Identified stakeholder groups through leveraging RO database (DGAP)
- Developed survey based on generally accepted record keeping principles and information governance maturity and implemented this across three cohort groups
- Review survey results, identify systems, and present areas of opportunities

# What is functional analysis?

**Legislation** mandates **public agencies** to perform certain functions (**domain + activity**).

Functions are comprised of transactions , which result in different **types of records**.

Activity	Domain	Department/ Agency	Statutory/Legal Mandate
Managing	Inmates	Corrections, Dept. of	<u>28 V.S.A. § 101</u>
Supervising	Probationers	Corrections, Dept. of	28 V.S.A. § 202
Registering	Sex Offenders	Corrections, Dept. of + Public Safety, Dept. of	<u>CVR 13-130-025 / 13 V.S.A. § 5402</u>

# Project Objectives and DRJS Research Question

## DRJS Gap Analysis Research Questions:

1. **How** do agencies and departments create, manage, and share criminal justice-related data?
2. **What challenges** may limit the accuracy, accessibility, or equity of such data?
3. **What opportunities** exist to improve data quality, streamline processes, and support coordination across state agencies and departments?



SYSTEM NAME	DATA OWNER	VENDOR NAME	LEGACY SYSTEM	NOTES
Acadis System	VCJC	Vector Solutions	Skills Manager	
Advologix	ODG	Mitratech	JustWare ODG	
Collect	CCVS	ComTech	Paper document processes	Hybrid paper and digital files and moving towards being all digital
Computerized Crime Victim Compensation System (CCVCS)	CCVS	CCVC Inc	Paper document processes	
CorrecTek (EHR)	DOC	DOC	Paper document processes	DOC took over the contract from the healthcare provider Vitalcore in 2023 and now manage the contract
Focus Student Information System (SIS)	DOC	Focus School Software	PAS	
FSD Net	DCF	SOV/ADS	N/A	
JustWare SAS	SAS	Journal Technologies	Paper document processes	No longer vendor supported
LawManager	AGO	Bridgeway Solutions	N/A	No longer vendor supported
Matrix (Prosecutor)	SAS	Matrix Point	JustWare SAS	Migrating into Matrix from JW(SAS) likely in early 2026

## Findings —identifying current and legacy systems across the criminal legal landscape

Some systems remain to be verified, and we plan to update this chart as things evolve

Matrix (Prosecutor)	AGO	Matrix Point	LawManager	Migrating into Matrix from LawManager likely in early 2026
NIBRS	Federal	<i>unconfirmed</i>	<i>unconfirmed</i>	DPS feeds into NIBRS
Offender Management System (OMS)	DOC	JailTracker	TinyTerm	Current contract is ending and new RFP will be going out in 2026.
Sex Offender Registry	DPS	Watch Systems	N/A	DOC also has access to this system
SharePoint	SOV	Microsoft	Local Drives and Paper document processes	Nearly every entity we talked to included SharePoint as one of their repositories for data and information
Social Services Management Information System (SSMIS)	DCF	SOV/ADS	N/A	
Spillman	DPS	Flex/Motorola	Paper document processes	No longer vendor supported; used by fewer than 5 LEAs
Valcour	DPS	Crosswind Technology	Spillman	
Vision	SOV	<i>unconfirmed</i>		Used by CCVS

# Successes and Leverageable Wins

Governance Principle	Action and Application	Next Steps and Ideas
<b>ACCOUNTABILITY</b>	<b>DPS Valcour Governance Board</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Governance oversight within its main data system to support problem solving.</li></ul>	The Valcour Governance Board could be a useful and replicable model to inform other data governance initiatives
<b>TRANSPARENCY</b>	<b>VCJC collaboration with new vendor</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opportunities for staff and system users to receive training.</li><li>• VCJC collaboration with the vendor has facilitated some process automation.</li></ul>	Demonstrates the value of dedicating more attention and resources to transparent operations to promote strong governance across systems.

# Successes and Leverageable Wins

Governance Principle	Action and Application	Next Steps and Ideas
<b>COMPLIANCE</b>	<b>AGO communication and compliance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enables AGO (Criminal Division) to resolve issues quickly.</li><li>• The Criminal Division conducts quarterly reviews of system data as a self-audit to ensure system information is current and AGO processes are followed.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AGO is preparing to migrate legacy case data to a new system.</li><li>• The Criminal Division plans to use the new system to better align information management practices with existing records management schedules.</li></ul>

# 02

## Recommendations & Further Inquiry

# Open Questions and Recommendations

## **Clarity on Data Dictionary Component of 3 V.S.A. §5012**

Provide the Division with a more scoped understanding of what the legislative intent for this resource is and in what format

## **Resource Allocations to Support Better Governance**

Highlighting some stakeholder groups that could benefit from additional resources in order to support better governance structures within their agencies/departments

## **Expanding DRJS Resources to include Policy and Research Analyst**

Expand staffing capacity of the DRJS to include a Policy and Research Analyst that focuses on the criminal legal system

# Clarity on Data Dictionary Component of 3 V.S.A. §5012

- 1. Business Glossary or Systems Data Dictionary?**

“Data Dictionary” is not defined in statute. Many stakeholders asked for clarity from DRJS. Currently proceeding with a business glossary model.
- 2. Scope expands beyond what VT considers “criminal justice agency”**

The functional analysis identified a broad web of entities beyond the criminal legal landscape in VT that intersect in these spaces. Likely connections to: VDOL, AHS, AOE, and more.

# Resource Allocation to Promote Better Governance

Agency/Department	Current Data Landscape	Next Steps and Ideas
<b>DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (DCF)</b>	DCF is currently using the oldest known child welfare system in the country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Investing in a modern child welfare system is essential to supporting DCF services.</li><li>• An outdated system risks information gaps, operational inefficiency, and the perpetuation of harm within the very systems intended to support children.</li></ul>
<b>STATE'S ATTORNEY'S AND SHERIFFS (SAS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Challenges with information access and use tied to disparate Data management processes and outdated data entry systems.</li><li>• Leads to attorneys spending time on data entry rather than casework and risk of errors in records.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SAS needs dedicated staffing to support this transition and promote consistent data management practices across each of the 14 independent offices.</li></ul>

## Resource Allocation to Promote Better Governance cont.

Agency/Department	Current Data Landscape	Next Steps and Ideas
<b>OFFICE OF THE DEFENDER GENERAL (ODG)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delayed and sometimes incomplete information from contractors, leaving the Defender General to rely on caseload formulas to generate aggregate data</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased staffing, including a statistician, would enable the Office to shift data oversight responsibilities from the Defender General and improve data analysis and reporting.</li><li>• Increasing in-house attorney capacity would also reduce reliance on contractors, leading to stronger control of internal case management.</li></ul>

# Resources to support DRJS' statutory mandate

## 1. **2021 RDAP Report indicates DRJS workload requires a minimum of 5 full-time staff**

After three years of operating with three—or fewer—staff, the Division proposes that the legislature consider expanding the DRJS to include a new, additional analyst position, whose scope is focused on criminal legal policy and research.

## 2. **Current Division Operations for Policy and Research**

Division is utilizing one of its analyst positions to focus on policy during the legislative session and supporting research initiatives where there is need throughout the year.

