



Survey of Pretrial Programs Series: Calculating Rearrest Rates

PJI has recently released the fourth national survey of pretrial services programs. Previous surveys were conducted in 1979, 1989, and 2001.

Listed below are the findings relating to calculating rearrest rates.

It is important that pretrial services programs track defendants who have been rearrested on new charges while the initial charge is still pending, because one goal of pretrial programs is to minimize instances of such rearrests. Only 37 percent of pretrial programs calculate rearrest rates.

As with FTA rates, programs that calculate rearrest rates vary in the population for which they calculate those rates. Eighty-nine percent of the programs that do calculate the rearrest rate do so only for defendants under the program's supervision. Just three percent calculate the rate for all persons released, regardless of the release type, and seven percent do so only for those interviewed by the program who are released on non-financial conditions.

