Beyond Realignment: Counties’ Large Disparities in Imprisonment Underlie Ongoing Prison Crisis

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Data limitations and necessity

• Determining success…

• Lack of statewide leadership

• Statewide databases
  (DOJ, CDCR, BSCC, CPOC)

• More accurate data available locally?
Prison population plateauing

New prison admissions rising
Fewer new admissions for non-violent crimes...

...but proportion differs by county
New admissions per 1,000 felony arrests

Percentage of felony arrests resulting in prison admissions
15 most state-dependent counties

• 49% of adult felony arrests
• 60% of new prison admissions
• 62% of new prison admissions for non-violent offenses

If admitted at the average rate statewide:
• $190 million saved
• 3,700 fewer prisoners

If admitted at the rate of San Francisco:
• $820 million saved
• 16,000 fewer prisoners
Recommendations

• Define success and measurable metrics

• Coordinate local agency data systems

• Increase accessibility and transparency

• Document everything!

For more information

Visit CJCJ’s California Sentencing Institute: http://casi.cjcj.org/

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