

ICPSR 9587

Electronic Monitoring of Nonviolent Convicted Felons: An Experiment in Home Detention in Marion County, Indiana, 1986-1988

Description

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Bibliographic Description

ICPSR Study No.: 9587

Title: Electronic Monitoring of Nonviolent Convicted Felons: An Experiment in Home Detention in Marion County, Indiana, 1986-1988

Principal Investigator(s): Terry L. Baumer

Robert I. Mendelsohn

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Scope of Study

Summary: The purpose of the study was to provide information about home detention monitoring systems and to evaluate their effectiveness. The principal investigators sought to determine (1) whether electronic monitoring systems relieved some of the burdens associated with manual monitoring of home detention, such as making telephone calls and field visits, (2) how home detention affected the lifestyles of offenders, (3) whether the methods of monitoring influenced offender behavior during the program, (4) how electronic monitoring differed from manual monitoring in terms of supervision of the offenders, (5) how offenders reacted to electronic monitoring, (6) how offenders' families reacted to electronic monitoring, and (7) whether the method of monitoring influenced the probability of an arrest or subsequent contact with the criminal justice system after release from the program. Part 1 contains demographic information, such as age, race, marital status, number of children, living arrangements, employment, and education for each offender. Also included is information on the offense leading to the current case, including numbers and types of charges and convictions for both felonies and misdemeanors, recommendations and judicial disposition for the current case, and information on the criminal history of the

offender. Part 2 contains data from the intake interview with the offender, such as information on the offender's family, living arrangements, education, employment, past alcohol and drug use, and expectations for the home detention program and monitoring procedures. Part 3 contains information collected in the exit interview and is similar in content to Part 2. Part 4 contains information on the program delivery (type of release from the program, violations of the program, results of tests for alcohol and drug use, errand time, payment, contacts with offenders, and the characteristics and results of the contacts with electronically monitored offenders). Part 5 is a check of criminal histories of offenders for at least one year after their release from the program.

Subject Term(s): alternatives to institutionalization, criminal histories, criminal justice system, electronic monitoring, felony offenses, house arrest, misdemeanor offenses, offenders, program evaluation, supervised liberty

Geographic Coverage: Indiana, United States

Time Period: • November 1986 - December 1988

Date(s) of Collection: • November 1986 - December 1989

Universe: Offenders on probation in Marion County, Indiana.

Data Type: survey data and event/transaction data

Methodology

Sample: This study employed a randomized field experiment design in which 154 offenders participated in a program of home detention as a condition of their probation. Offenders eligible for the experiment were those who had been charged with nonviolent suspendable felonies or misdemeanors, had a median length of sentence of 180 days, were clients of the Marion County Community Corrections Agency, had suspended sentences assigned to home detention as a condition of probation, and had a telephone. The 154 offenders were randomly assigned to one of two methods of monitoring: half were monitored manually through a system of telephone calls and field contacts, and half were monitored electronically with a "programmed" system of contacts.

Sources of Information: personal interviews, probationary records of the Marion County Probation Department, Marion County Community Correction records, and Indianapolis Police Department records

Access and Availability

Note: A list of the data formats available for this study can be found in the [summary of holdings](#). Detailed file-level information (such as record length, case count, and variable count) is listed in the [file manifest](#).

Original ICPSR Release: 1991-10-23

Version History: The last update of this study occurred on 2006-01-12.

2006-01-12 - All files were removed from dataset 6 and flagged as study-level files, so that they will accompany all downloads.

Dataset(s):

- DS1: Basic Offender and Offense Data
- DS2: Offender Intake Interview
- DS3: Offender Exit Interview
- DS4: Program Delivery Information
- DS5: Criminal Histories

Publications

Final Reports and Other Publication Resources: A list of publications related to, or based on, this data collection can be accessed from the study's download page on the NACJD Web site or through the ICPSR Bibliography of Data-Related Literature at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/ICPSR/citations/index.html>. The list of citations includes links to abstracts and publications in Portable Document Format (PDF) files or text files when available.

Final reports and other publications describing research conducted on a variety of criminal justice topics are available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS). NCJRS was established in 1972 by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), an agency of the U.S. Department of Justice, to provide research findings to criminal justice professionals and researchers. NCJRS operates specialized clearinghouses that are staffed by information specialists who supply a range of reference, referral, and distribution services. Publications can be obtained from NCJRS at NIJ/NCJRS, Box 6000, Rockville, MD, 20849-6000, 800-851-3420 or 301-519-5500. TTY Service for the Hearing Impaired is 877-712-9279 (toll-free) or 301-947-8374 (local). The URL for the NCJRS Web site is:

<http://www.ncjrs.gov/>

NIJ Data Resources Program

About the DRP: The National Institute of Justice Data Resources Program (DRP) makes datasets from NIJ-funded research and evaluation projects available to

the research community and sponsors research and training activities devoted to secondary data analysis. Datasets are archived by the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan.

The NACJD maintains a World Wide Web site with instructions for transferring files and sending messages. Criminal justice data funded by the Department of Justice are available via the Internet at this site at no charge to the user. NACJD may be contacted at NACJD/ICPSR, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI, 48106-1248, 800-999-0960. The URL for the NACJD Web site is:

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/>