

Overview

Full Job Title: Senior Associate, Data, Public Safety Performance Project (Jail Pretrial Policy)

The Pew Charitable Trusts uses data to make a difference. For more than 70 years, we have focused on serving the public, invigorating civic life, conducting nonpartisan research, advancing effective public policies and practices, and achieving tangible results. Through rigorous inquiry and knowledge sharing, we inform and engage public-spirited citizens and organizations, linking diverse interests to pursue common cause. We are a dedicated team of researchers, communicators, advocates, subject matter experts, and professionals working on today's big challenges – and we know we are more effective and creative collectively than we are individually. With Philadelphia as our home town and the majority of our staff located in Washington, DC, our U.S. and international staff find working at Pew personally and professionally rewarding.

Wise stewardship of resources allows Pew employees to pursue work that strategically furthers our philanthropic mission in significant and measurable ways. We collaborate with a diverse range of philanthropic partners, public and private organizations, and concerned citizens who share our interest in fact-based solutions and goal-driven investments to improve society. Pew attracts top talent, people of integrity who are service-oriented and willing to take on challenging assignments. We provide competitive pay and benefits, a healthy work-life balance, and a respectful and inclusive workplace. Pew employees are proud of their colleagues, proud of where they work, and proud of the institution's reputation.

Project Overview

The public safety performance project was launched in 2006 as an initiative of The Pew Charitable Trusts. The project helps policy makers advance fiscally sound, data-driven policies and practices in criminal and juvenile sentencing and corrections that protect public safety, ensure accountability, and control costs. For more information about this project, visit www.pewpublicsafety.org.

Position Overview

Pew seeks to hire a senior associate to focus on the public safety performance project's jail and pretrial detention policy, while supporting the entire spectrum of activity under the project by working closely with project leadership, government relations and communications staff and other Pew colleagues. The position, in Pew's Washington, DC, office, reports to an associate manager and has a set time frame that could be extended based on the success of the program, funding sources, and board decisions on continued support.

The ideal candidate has an educational and employment background in public-policy-focused data analysis and has experience communicating the written results to a lay audience. Knowledge of the criminal or juvenile justice system, and an understanding of jails and detention, is preferred. Further, candidates with experience using data analysis with issue campaigns and/or state policy reform efforts are encouraged to apply.

Responsibilities

Under the direction of the associate manager and in consultation with colleagues across PSPP and Pew, this position will help:

- Provide high-quality data analysis, effective policy maker and stakeholder education of proposed policies and practices, and development of evidence-based policy options based on the data.
- Assist with the design of data collection instruments, protocols, and processes for working with local, state and national corrections, court, and law enforcement data.
- Perform state- and local-level corrections and court data collection and analysis; and, synthesize data from multiple sources.
- Prepare descriptive analyses of state and local corrections and court data. This includes preparing data for analysis and working with state partners to ensure the use of common definitions and accuracy in analysis and interpretation.
- Produce simulations of policy impacts on jail populations. This includes collaborating with colleagues and contracted partners to develop a model for forecasting facility populations and estimating the impact of specific policy interventions on those populations.
- Prepare reports and deliver presentations for state policy makers, practitioners, and stakeholders about the drivers of the jail population and the impact of policy interventions.
- Develop a framework for other forms of data collection when the needed information is not in a database. For example, creating a file review process, survey development, and more.
- Participate in meetings with local, state and national leaders from the judicial, executive and legislative branches, being able to communicate analyses in an effective and precise manner.
- Support coordination of a multi-state effort that includes collaboration with other PSPP external partners, national and state-based stakeholder organizations, and consultants.
- Develop relationships with respected policy makers in the field and seek out potential partnerships to advance the project's agenda and expertise.
- Maintain and continue to develop an understanding of emerging research and policies surrounding jail populations, its scale and consequences, as well as sentencing and corrections issues through monitoring publications and participating in conferences, seminars, and other professional development activities.
- Prepare for conferences, meetings, and other events.
- Contribute to and participate in tasks of the project, as well as broader Pew projects and activities, as assigned.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree required; advanced degree in public policy or other relevant field preferred. Experience with statistical software packages such as SPSS, SAS, Simul8, and/or STATA also preferred.
- At least four years of applicable experience in criminal or juvenile justice research and data and policy analysis with demonstrated knowledge of at least one of the following areas: probation / parole, courts, law enforcement, corrections, prosecution, or criminal

defense. Experience working with policy makers, criminal or juvenile justice officials, corrections, behavioral health, and criminologists strongly preferred.

- Strong quantitative skills with experience in statistical and economic modeling.
- Demonstrated strong research and analytical skills applied to public policy issues, including an ability to synthesize and summarize large amounts of information, and to focus quickly on the essence of an issue.
- Ability to communicate ideas, thoughts and concepts clearly and concisely and in a compelling way, both written and orally. A clear, effective writing and presentation style.
- A keen understanding of the importance of rigorous, timely, and policy-relevant research, experience commissioning and managing such research, and disseminating it effectively to policymakers, the media, and the public.
- Acute political awareness and non-partisan perspective and approach.
- Outstanding organizational and time-management skills including the ability to handle several projects at different stages simultaneously, and a strong capacity to track details.
- Superior ability to work with people and in a team environment.
- Good project-management skills, a demonstrated ability to meet deadlines, and develop and move projects forward with a high degree of independence and autonomy.
- Ability to thrive in a creative, fast-paced, and highly professional corporate culture that emphasizes excellence, collegiality, and teamwork.
- Demonstrated ability to build relationships among individuals and organizations with a range of interests and perspectives.

Travel

Regular domestic travel (1-2 trips per month) for conferences and meetings.

Total Rewards

We offer a competitive salary and benefit program, including: comprehensive, affordable health care through medical, dental, and vision coverage; financial security with life and disability insurance; opportunities to save using health savings and flexible spending accounts; retirement benefits to help prepare for the future; and work/life benefits to maintain a good balance.

The Pew Charitable Trusts is an equal opportunity employer, committed to a diverse and inclusive workplace. Pew considers qualified applicants for employment without regard to age, sex, ethnicity, religion, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or gender identity, military/veteran status, or any other basis prohibited by applicable law.

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