



Validating the Public Safety Assessment

Multnomah County

Justice System Partners
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WHAT DO WE WANT TO BETTER UNDERSTAND?

1. Is the PSA valid for predicting failure to appear, new crime, and new violent crime for the overall pretrial release population?
2. Is the PSA valid for predicting failure to appear, new crime, and new violent crime for unique subpopulations?
3. Does the Release Condition Matrix enhance the impact of the PSA?

Validation Limitations

1. Validation will focus on the validity of the PSA and should not be used to generalize to the effectiveness of Multnomah County's pretrial system.
2. A validation study will only apply to those individuals who were released during the pretrial phase. There may be a significant number of people held for the duration of their pretrial case—releasing a portion of these may have a substantive impact on the validity of the instrument.
3. The validity of the instrument is contingent on the system's response to behavior.

How Will This Be Accomplished?

1. Examine the population differences between individuals who were released compared to those who were held to determine what the differences were between the two populations.
2. Examine the validity of each Public Safety Assessment scale on the overall population as well as within race/ethnicity, gender, and pretrial interventions.
3. Examine the validity of each Public Safety Assessment risk factor.
4. Explore the impacts of the pretrial system on the validity of the Public Safety Assessment.



Questions?

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