Dear Vermont Department of Corrections Records Team!

I hope this message finds you well.

We are working with several non-profits on a social good analysis aimed at understanding trends in incarceration for individuals with felony convictions. To complete this analysis, we are looking to acquire data for anyone currently or historically incarcerated with a felony conviction within your state. We are flexible and can accept the data in any format that is most convenient for you.

If possible, we would greatly appreciate data going back to 1980 or 1990. If records are only available from 2000 onward, that would still be extremely helpful, though data from the 1980s or 1990s would be ideal.

For context, Washington State has a Caseload Forecast Council and a Department of Corrections portal that allows for bulk data requests through a formal process. Do you have a similar resource in your state, or could you suggest any contacts or resources that could help us acquire data points like the ones outlined below?

Additionally, could you advise if there are any organizations, agencies, or judicial entities we might contact to obtain judge-level data, such as the full names of judges involved in cases?

These records will be used for statistical analysis, and all data will be handled in compliance with applicable privacy and confidentiality laws. We are conducting this work solely to support second-look initiatives that aid the incarcerated and promote the fair administration of justice. This is a fully pro bono effort, into which we've invested tens of thousands of dollars, with no intention to monetize or sell the data.

If possible, please provide the records in electronic format or let me know if there are specific procedures or forms required to formalize this request. Should there be any associated fees, please inform us in advance.

Thank you very much for your time, guidance, and assistance. We look forward to the opportunity to collaborate on this important initiative.

Warm regards,
Julia

Example Data Points For Each Incarcerated Individual:

- Department of Corrections Number

- Case Number(s)

-

Full Name of the Incarcerated Individual

- Incarcerated Individual's Demographic Information (such as race, gender)

- Sentence Date

- Date of Birth (DOB) of Incarcerated Individuals

- Age at Sentencing

- Judge's Full Name

- County of Conviction

- Offense Date

- Sentencing Date

- Sentencing Details

- Confinement Type

- Confinement Length

- Confinement Date

- Crime Name(s)

- Crime Description(s)

- Charge or Crime Type (if different from Crime Name)

- Location of Confinement

- Co-Defendants or Accomplices

- Type of Representation

-

Probation or Parole History

- Prior Incarceration History

On Thu, Nov 14, 2024 at 10:35 AM Julia Hannula <julia@storytellers.ai> wrote:

> Dear Vermont Department of Corrections Records Team,
>
> I am writing to formally request records pertaining to individuals who currently or historically have been incarcerated with a felony conviction within your state. This request is part of a collaborative project with multiple non-profits, aimed at understanding trends in incarceration for social good analysis.
>
> To comply with your guidelines, I am seeking individual records that include the following details:
>
> - **Full Name** of the incarcerated individual
>
> - **Sentence Date**
>
> - **Date of Birth (DOB)**
>
> - **County** of conviction
>
> - **Offense Date**
>
> - **Confinement Type** and **Confinement Length**
>
> - **Case Number**
>
> - **Department of Corrections Number**
>
> - **Charge or Crime Type**

- **Location** of confinement

- **Demographic Information** (such as race and gender)

These records will be used to conduct statistical analysis and will be handled per all applicable privacy and confidentiality laws.

If possible, please provide the records in electronic format, or let me know of any specific procedures or forms required to formalize this request. Should there be any associated fees, please inform us in advance.

Thank you very much for your guidance and assistance.

Warm regards,

Julia Hannula
Project Manager, Storytellers.ai

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who we are: machine learning and growth leaders trained at the bleeding edge of the Fortune 10. we are focused on democratizing practically applied data science at the intersection of clarity and impact for our clients.

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