



State Support for Pretrial Justice Initiatives

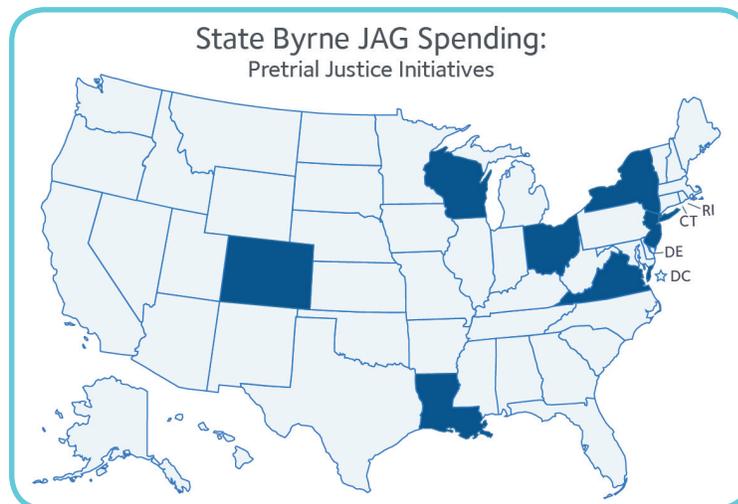
State Formula Spending for the Byrne JAG Program

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program

The cornerstone of federal support for state and local justice systems, the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant program (Byrne JAG) is a federal-state-local partnership enabling communities to target resources to their most pressing local needs. The Byrne JAG program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, provides grant funding to thousands of justice and public safety agencies and projects each year. Sixty percent of the overall Byrne JAG funding goes through the state criminal justice planning agencies known as State Administering Agencies (SAAs) while the remaining 40 percent goes to local direct award recipients. Designed to be flexible, Byrne JAG funds are used for a wide variety of public safety programming from prevention through reentry. To learn more about Byrne JAG, visit ncjp.org/byrne_jag.

Byrne JAG Support for Pretrial Justice Initiatives

The 7 states highlighted in dark blue on the map below are among the states that reported using Byrne JAG funding for pretrial justice related projects in 2013–2014. These initiatives include pretrial diversion programs and pretrial services. Please note, this information is self-reported and there may be additional states using Byrne JAG funds for this purpose.



Examples of Pretrial Justice Projects

- In Louisiana, Byrne JAG funds were used for personnel, operations, and supplies at an adult drug court in Orleans Parish Criminal District Court and a juvenile drug court in the 16th Judicial District. Funds were also used for an adult and juvenile pretrial diversion intervention program in the 36th Judicial District’s Attorney’s Office. This program serves a rural area of the state with limited community resources. These programs have provided prevention skills and education to youth and adults as well as appropriate services and case-management resulting in reduced recidivism.

ABOUT BYRNE JAG

The Byrne JAG program was funded at \$376 million in FY14. For many years funding levels hovered around \$500 million. Since FY10 funding for the program has been cut by one-third in the name of deficit reduction.

BYRNE JAG & PRETRIAL JUSTICE

At least 7 states fund pretrial justice related initiatives with the state formula portion of Byrne JAG funding. These initiatives include pretrial diversion programs and pretrial services.



ABOUT NCJP

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- In New York, Byrne JAG funds support public defense projects in Erie, Onondaga, Monroe, Nassau, and Suffolk counties, as well as in New York City. These projects support enhancements to public defense that include expansion of indigent defense services, legal and case management services to reduce pretrial incarceration, representation and advocacy for treatment alternatives for non-violent offenders, and representation of those charged with sex crimes in a specialized Sex Offender court.
- In Virginia, Byrne JAG funds were used to start new pretrial services programs which serve the City of Petersburg, Westmoreland County, Richmond County, Northumberland County and Lancaster County.
- In addition, Virginia used Byrne JAG funds to support the development of the Pretrial Initiative on Mental Illness (PIMI) at the Middle River Regional Jail. PIMI is a post-booking, pretrial jail diversion effort targeting recently arrested defendants at the Middle River Regional Jail with serious mental health issues or co-occurring mental illness with substance abuse disorders. Using evidence-based methods, this initiative identifies eligible participants and provides transition services to community-based treatment services.
- In Wisconsin, Byrne JAG funds support the implementation and expansion of pretrial diversion programs throughout the state as part of the state's Treatment Alternatives to Diversion (TAD) program. Byrne JAG funds support six prosecutor-led pretrial diversion programs in Milwaukee, Dane, Fond du Lac, St. Croix, Winnebago and Walworth Counties.
- In addition, Wisconsin used Byrne JAG funds to support the development of the Comprehensive Outcome, Research, and Evaluation (CORE) Reporting System, a web-based data collection and reporting system for use by specialty courts and pretrial diversion programs funded through Byrne JAG and the state's Treatment Alternatives to Diversion (TAD) program. This new data management will give researchers a unified data set upon which to build their evaluation efforts.

2013-2014 Byrne JAG Spending Study

Financial estimates and program examples were gathered as part of the 2013-2014 Byrne JAG Spending Study conducted by the NCJA Center for Justice Planning. Financial data was submitted by and qualitative interviews were conducted with all 50 states and the District of Columbia.