

RECOMMENDATION TO THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE
FROM THE ALASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Recommendation 5-2018, adopted September 24, 2018:

Expand data sharing capacity, infrastructure, and formalized agreements among agencies to improve behavioral health outcomes.

In order to improve behavioral health outcomes for Alaskans, the Commission recommends increased effort and funding support to further develop the state's data systems infrastructure along with the requisite staff capacity in order to improve data sharing and collaboration between agencies.

Although significant strides have been made to improve data collection and sharing within and across State agencies, challenges remain regarding infrastructure, staff capacity and data sharing agreements. These are required to regularly and consistently collect, analyze and report on criminal justice trends and programs intended to promote rehabilitation and recidivism reduction. Furthermore, increased data sharing capacity promotes greater communication among agencies for the purpose of better identifying and meeting the behavioral health needs of Alaska's justice-involved population. Data sharing also allows analysts to have a more complete picture of aggregate data to identify trends and help inform policy discussions and decisions.