

Vulcan County Vignette

Vulcan is a medium-sized county in the Midwest Milky Way Galaxy. There are two larger urban planets and several smaller, rural planets within Vulcan's borders. The county is still recovering from the recent intergalactic recession. The total youth population in Vulcan County is approximately 50% Vulcan, 30% Klingon, and 20% human. Many families live below the poverty line, and there are few resources in the community.

Mr. Spock was just promoted to director of the Vulcan County Juvenile Justice Division (VCJJD). He knows that Vulcan County's juvenile detention center is overcrowded and that the county has neither the space nor financial resources to expand the building. He decides to convene a high council of local juvenile justice stakeholders to discuss the problem and decide what to do about it.

During the first meeting, the stakeholders quickly realized that Vulcan County did not have a formal purpose of detention for juveniles. After much discussion, the high council agreed on two logical reasons to detain juveniles: (1) Keeping the community safe, including detaining youth who are likely to commit a new offense before their next court hearing; and (2) Holding youth responsible for their actions, including detaining youth who are likely to travel at warp speed to an uncharted galaxy before their next court hearing.

After the high council agreed on a purpose of detention, Mr. Spock suggested that the next logical course of action would be to create and pilot a detention risk assessment. The workgroup agreed to the pilot, with a stipulation that they would all reconvene after six months to examine the initial data and make any changes or adjustments necessary.

Six months have gone by, and you are part of the VCJJD high council. In small groups, review the materials provided to you by the data analysts and identify any issues you would like to bring up at the high council meeting.

Vulcan County Pilot Assessment Overview

Component	Minimum Score	Maximum Score
Most serious current offense	3	10
Warrant	0	4
Legal history	0	5
Current case status	0	3
Substances	0	5
Aggravating factors	0	3
Mitigating factors	-3	0

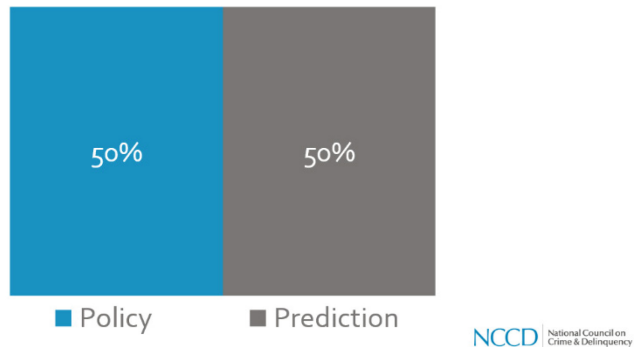
Scored Detention Decision	
Release	0-3
Release with conditions	4-9
Detain	10+

Override scored detention decision? (Requires supervisor signature) **Yes** **No**

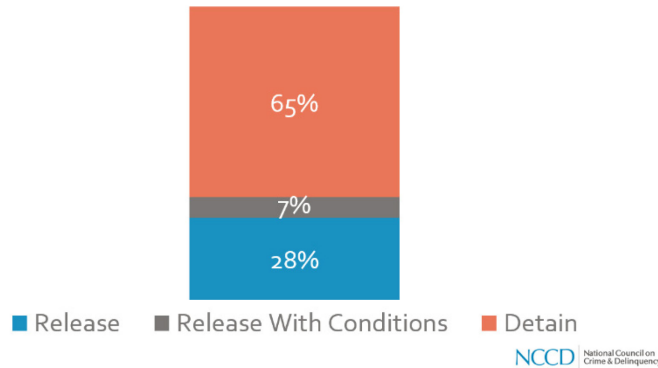
Vulcan County Data

These charts represent the current functioning of the VCJJD detention assessment six months after implementation.

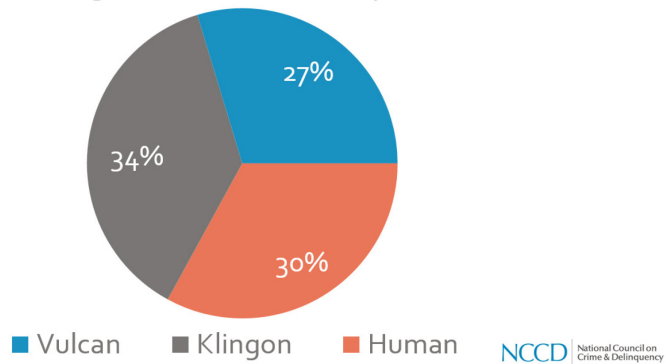
Balance: The number of items on the assessment related to local policy versus predictive capacity.



Distribution: The percentage of total youth who are released, released with conditions, or detained.



Equity: The percentage of youth of each alien race who are detained.



Adherence: The percentage of scored detention decisions that are overridden by staff.

