

Research Recap: Increasing data quality and transparency in the Shelby County criminal justice system

June 2025

The Shelby County criminal justice system does not currently report aggregate data on the following four key metrics relative to ***sentencing lengths*** for criminal cases:

Metric 1

Reconvictions

Metric 2

Time served amount

Metric 3

Alternative sentencing length and incarceration length

Metric 4

Sentencing range

Definition

If a sentenced offender has a prior conviction and the offense for which the offender has a prior conviction

Definition

The number of days credited to a defendant's sentence for time spent in jail awaiting case disposition

Definition

A delineation of the length of a sentence that is suspended to be served as probation and the length of the sentence that is to be served incarcerated

Definition

The sentencing range assigned to the defendant during sentencing

Is it reported? Is it collected?

Aggregate data is not reported. The Shelby County Criminal Court Clerk's Office keeps records of all prior convictions.

Is it reported? Is it collected?

Aggregate data is not reported. The number of days credited to a defendant's sentence for time spent in jail awaiting case disposition is collected in the Shelby County Criminal Justice Information System.

Is it reported? Is it collected?

Aggregate data is not reported. This data is recorded on judgement forms kept by the Shelby County Criminal Court Clerk's Office.

Is it reported? Is it collected?

Aggregate data is not reported. This data is recorded on judgement forms kept by the Shelby County Criminal Court Clerk's Office.

The Comptroller's March 2025 report includes recommendations for enhancing the transparency, accessibility, and usability of aggregate data on the operations and outcomes of the Shelby County criminal justice system. See the [full report](#) for more, including all 18 metrics for the system that would increase accountability and transparency. An [executive summary](#) of the full report is also available.