

Maine Juvenile Justice System Assessment and Reinvestment Task Force Community Survey Questions

The Maine Juvenile Justice System Assessment and Reinvestment Task Force is studying how our state responds to youth in the juvenile justice system. The Task Force will recommend ways that Maine can help young people avoid involvement with the justice system and develop into healthy and productive adults. For more information and to take the survey on-line, go to the Task Force website at: www.mainejjtaskforce.org.

If you are completing a paper copy of this survey, please mail it to the Center for Children’s Law and Policy, which is assisting the Task Force with its work:

Center for Children’s Law and Policy
ATTN: Maine JJ Task Force
1701 K St. NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20006

Thank you for sharing your opinions with the Task Force!

1. What do you think are the biggest needs young people face in your community? Please rank these services and supports in terms of importance to young people using a 6-point scale, with 1 = most important and 6 = least important.
 - a. Quality education
 - b. Work/economic opportunity
 - c. Activities during non-school hours
 - d. Mental health services
 - e. Substance abuse services
 - f. Supports for parent/caregivers
 - g. Other (you may fill in a need not listed here):

2. Please rank your agreement or disagreement with the following statements. Rank using a 5-point scale, with 1 = strongly agree and 5 = strongly disagree.
 - a. When it comes to youth in the juvenile justice system, the biggest priority should be making sure that they get back on track and are less likely to commit another offense.
 - b. Maine’s juvenile justice system should rely on programs and services that are cost effective and that reduce future juvenile crime.
 - c. The juvenile justice system should focus on holding young people accountable for their actions.
 - d. Teaching youth who commit an offense to take responsibility for his or her actions does not require incarceration.

3. What should be the primary purpose of Maine's juvenile justice system?
Rank the following from 1 to 6, with 1 = most important and 6 = least important.
- a. To rehabilitate youth so they may become productive citizens.
 - b. To deter future crimes.
 - c. To punish youth.
 - d. To keep the youth locked up in order to protect society from crimes he or she might commit.
 - e. To provide justice for victims of crime.
 - f. To provide mental health treatment for youth with psychological or emotional problems when they get into trouble.
4. Please finish the following sentence: "If we want to help young people in the juvenile justice system develop into healthy and productive adults, Maine should _____ .
5. What is one thing Maine's juvenile justice system does well? Briefly explain your answer.
6. What is one thing the juvenile justice system should or could do better? Briefly explain your answer?
7. If you could invest more in communities to help them work with youth, what investments would you make and why?

8. What is your gender?
- a. Male
 - b. Female
 - c. Non-binary or prefer to self-describe:
 - d. Prefer not to say

9. What is your race?
- a. White
 - b. Black or African-American
 - c. American Indian or Alaska Native
 - d. Asian
 - e. Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 - f. Other

10. Are you Hispanic/Latino?
- a. Yes
 - b. No

11. What is your age?
- a. Under 18
 - b. 18-25
 - c. 26-35
 - d. 36-45
 - e. 46-55
 - f. 56-65
 - g. 66-75
 - h. 76 or older

12. What is your Zip code?