



Summary of ICJ State Council Informational Survey – July 2010
Conducted on behalf of the ICJ Regional Representatives

Summary of Findings

The Interstate Compact for Juveniles requires that each member state establish a State Council to facilitate compact activities. State Councils provide the mechanism for empowerment of the Compact process within each state. State Councils ensure that officials are aware of the Compact and that the state is taking full advantage of the Compact's structure and benefits. In addition, State Councils can also assist with the development of statewide policy, acquiring critical resources and operation of the Compact Office.

On July 1, 2010, the ICJ National Office launched the State Council Informational Survey on behalf of the Regional Representatives for ICJ. The ICJ Regional Representatives built this survey to collect the following information regarding State Councils in member states:

- The number of states of who have established active State Councils
- The composition of members for various State Councils
- The types of obstacles that State Councils face
- The progress of states who have not already established a State Council

The ICJ Regional Representatives determined that a national survey would be beneficial to assess ongoing operational information, as well as offer State Council models to those states that have not yet formed their own juvenile entities. Thirty-two (32) unique respondents completed this survey.

Survey Highlights

- Of the thirty two respondents to the survey, sixteen have established active State Councils.
- While all the respondents stated that their State Councils served as advisory boards, the degree of formality amongst state councils varies significantly.
- One of the most common obstacles that State Councils face is meeting logistics. State Councils face difficulty in bringing numerous individuals from all over the state for meetings. As a corollary to this problem, several respondents noted that their State Council has no funding mechanism for travel/meetings.
- Regarding the benefits that State Councils offer, respondents noted that increased awareness, visibility, and collaboration between ICJ and other stakeholders are the most significant benefits to having a State Council.

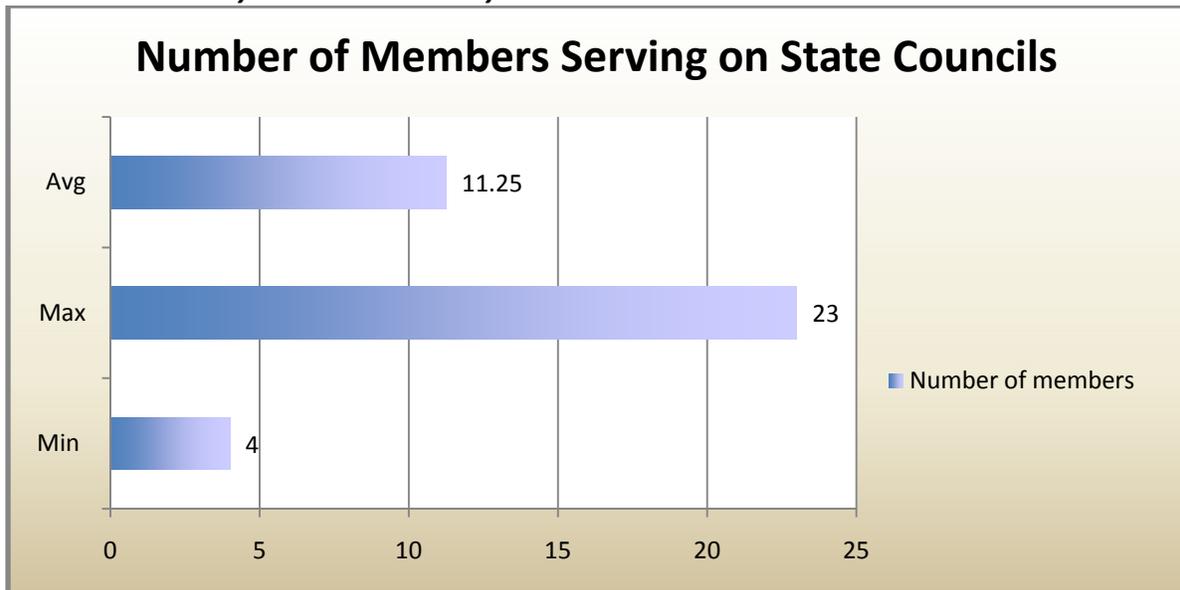
- Some states have established joint State Councils with the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS) or have sought advice from ICAOS representatives regarding the formation of the juvenile entity.

Responses

Question 2: Do you currently have a State Council in place?^a

- 16 respondents answered Yes
- 16 respondents answered No

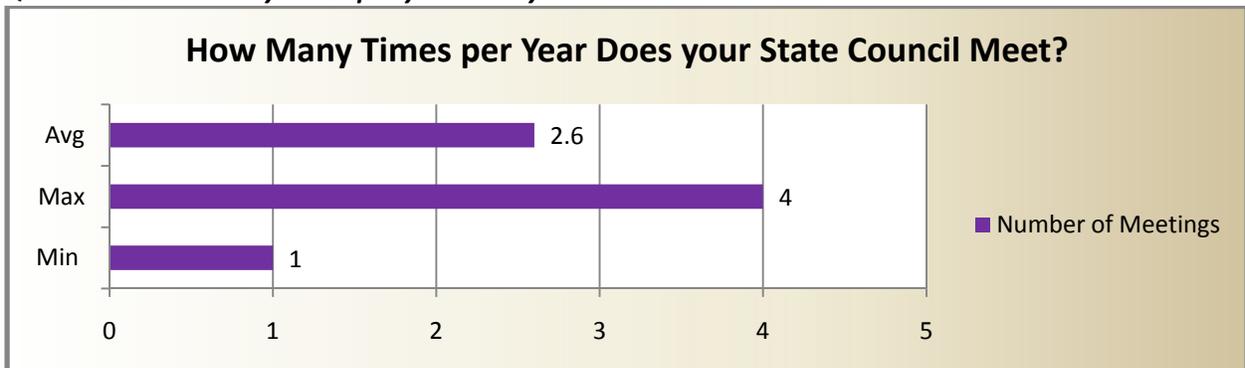
Question 3: How many members serve on your State Council?



Question 4: What is the position of the person who chairs the State Council in your state?

- 9 respondents answered the Commissioner
- Other respondents answered the Compact Administrator, Deputy Compact Administrator, Chief probation Officer of the Courts, and Director of Juvenile Justice

Question 5: How many times per year does your State Council meet?



^a For respondents who answered "No," please see responses for Question 19: "Please describe your state's progress towards creating a State Council."

Question 6: When formed, were State Council responsibilities added to an existing board or group?

- 2 respondents answered Yes
- 14 respondents answered No

Question 7: How many members from the Executive Branch serve on your State Council?

- Minimum: 1 members
- Maximum: 9 members
- Average: 3.19 members

Question 8: How many members from the Legislative Branch serve on your State Council?

- Minimum: 0 members^b
- Maximum: 4 members
- Average: 1.75 members

Question 9: How many members from the Judicial Branch serve on your State Council?

- Minimum: 0 members
- Maximum: 6 members
- Average: 2 members

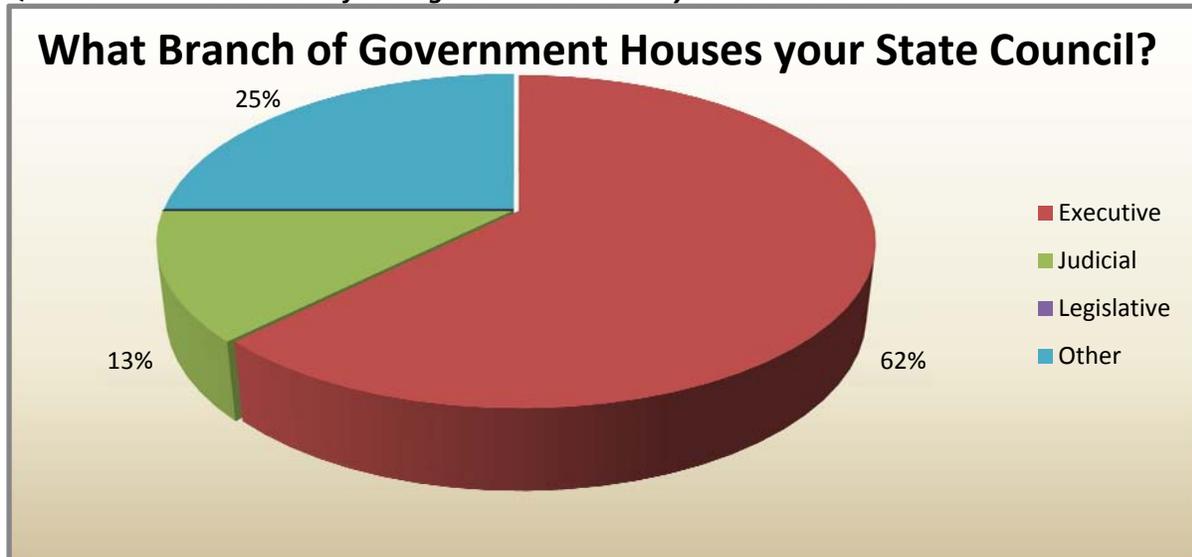
Question 10: How many members from Victims' Representative groups serve on your State Council?

- Minimum: 0 members
- Maximum: 2 members
- Average: 0.94 members

Question 11: How many ex officio members serve on your State Council?

- Minimum: 0 members
- Maximum: 9 members
- Average: 2.14 members

Question 12: What branch of state government houses your State Council?

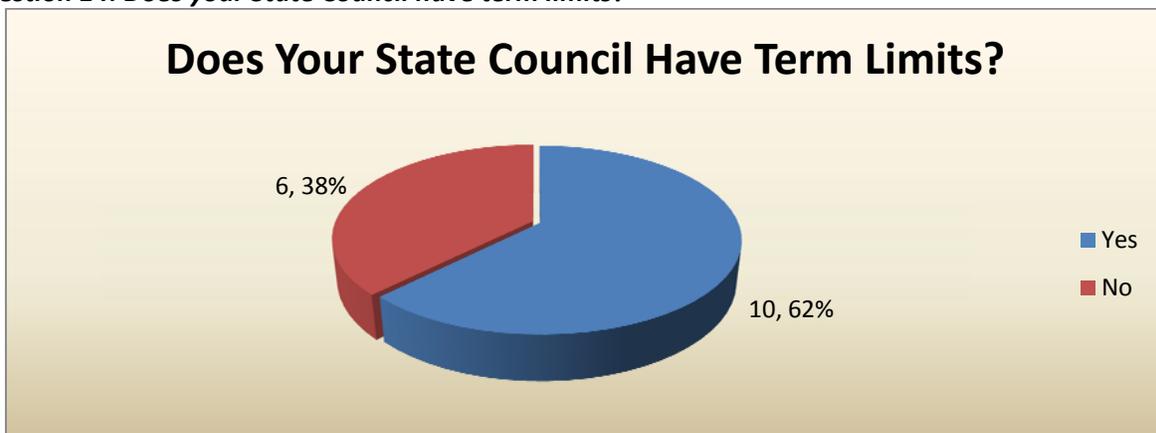


^b A "0" response reflects data from a state that has established a state council, yet is still in the process of securing the mandatory members provided by the Interstate Compact for Juveniles.

Question 13: Does every member of your State Council have voting rights? If no, please explain who does have voting rights and who does not.

- 10 respondents answered Yes
- 5 respondents answered No
- Some respondents reported the following types of voting rights:
 - o The seven members required by statute vote. Two ex-officio members added by the Council do not vote
 - o State council is informal and decisions are made by consensus
 - o Ex Officio member does not have voting rights
 - o We invite some staff to the meetings as a resource but they do not vote
- 1 respondent answered that this will be addressed at the next meeting

Question 14: Does your State Council have term limits?

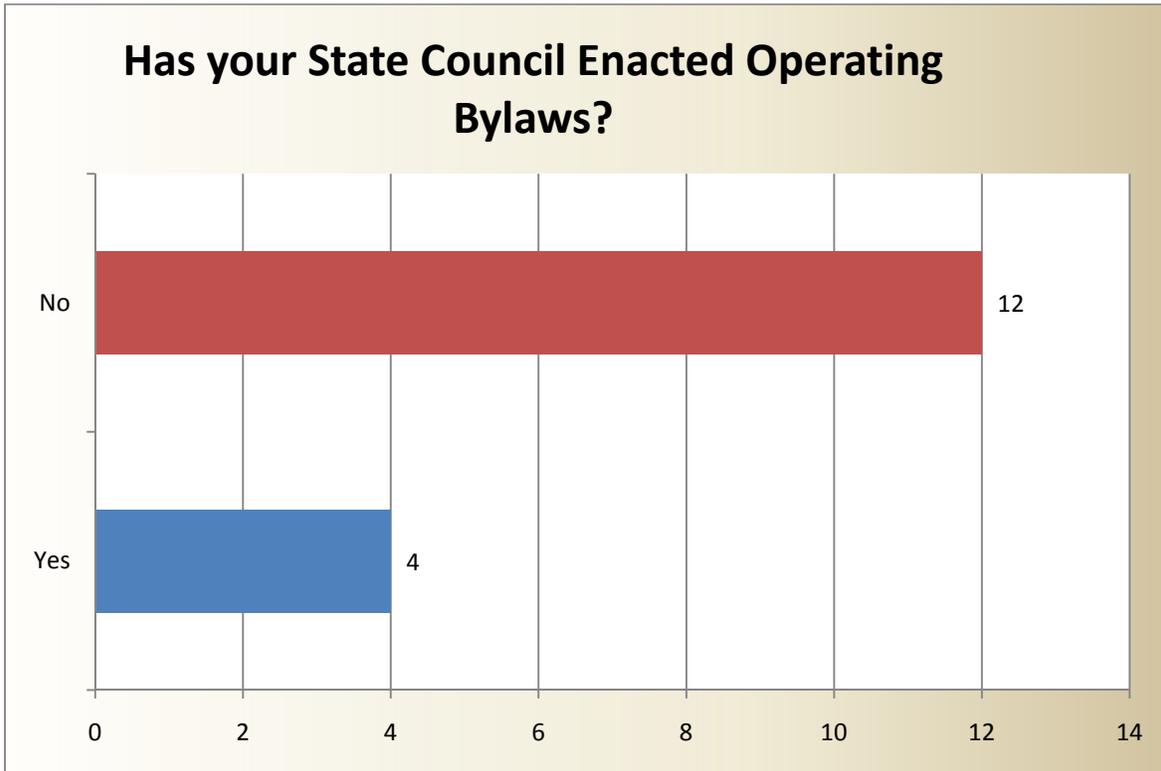


- Some respondents reported the following types of term limits:
 - o Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and Attorney General appoint members to serve 4-year terms, Legislative appointments serve 2 years and the Commissioner of the Juvenile Justice Authority and the ICJ Administrator serve at the pleasure of the Governor. All positions may be reappointed.
 - o 3 years
 - o 4 years
 - o 4-year terms. No more than 2 consecutive terms, except for the Compact Administrator
 - o Two year terms, but members can be reappointed
 - o Commissioner serves 2-year term. All other members serve 4 year terms can serve consecutive terms

Question 15: Does your State Council act as an advisory board or a governing board?

- Of the 16 respondents who reported having a State Council, all indicated their Council acted as an advisory board

Question 16: Has your State Council enacted operating bylaws?



Question 17: In your opinion, what benefits has your state seen as a result of having a State Council?

- Our State Council has made ICJ more visible
- There has been some input from the State Council on the draft rules of the National Commission
- Assistance in obtaining funding for the Annual Assessment
- Awareness and understanding of the Compact and its important role in juvenile justice
- Because of our State Council, we have been able to resolve a long time issue of airport surveillance availability.
- Providing us legal counsel and having representatives from all agencies helps us to ensure that the compact rules are being implemented
- Collaborating on solutions on issues within our state
- Recognition, financial aid, better compliance, additional help
- Getting information out to other stakeholders

Question 18: What obstacles/challenges has your State Council encountered?

- Dealing with compact language that differs from current state law/statute
- Obtaining all of the members on the council required by Compact Statute
- Scheduling
- Huge geographic area and no funds designated for meetings/travel
- Getting the legislative appointees to attend
- Difficulty in meeting in person due to limited funding
- Accepting and enforcing the ICJ rules within the state

Questions 19: If you answered “No” to Question 1, Please describe your state's progress towards creating a State Council.

- Under current state law both the Adult and Juvenile Compact State Councils were combined as one. We will be submitting legislature during the next legislative session to create a separate State Council for both the adult and juvenile compacts.
- Meeting with the Adult Compact representatives regarding our State’s ICJ State Council
- The Adult Compact has approached us to merge with them but we have made no decision.
- Meetings will most likely occur in conjunction with our already active Juvenile Justice Collaborative, as many members will be the same.
- We will form our State Council shortly after the new legislative session begins in February 2011.
- Due to issues stemming from agency budget cuts, the Director had to table the process. We will have to readdress it in the new fiscal year.
- Funding issues placed our plans on hold.
- We are awaiting permission from the Office of the Governor to talk with potential council members and assess their interest in serving.
- We are hoping to put together a State Council before the annual meeting and have an initial organizational meeting. We are exploring whether we can make it a sub group of our OJJDP State Board.
- The statute providing for the State Council does not provide for a method of appointment. I have discussed this matter with the General Counsel of the Governor's Office and it appears that we will need a legislative change to provide for the appointment process. The legislature will meet again in Feb. 2011.

Raw Data

The complete survey results for the ICJ State Council Informational Survey offices are available upon request from the National Office.