

# Electronic Monitoring: Making The Most Of A Promising Supervision Tool

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The International Community Corrections Association  
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## Background

- Electronic monitoring (EM) technologies are used and/or piloted in jurisdictions in all 50 states in the U.S.
- Includes home monitoring devices, global positioning systems (GPS), alcohol detection devices, voice/facial recognition systems
- Designed to ensure compliance with the conditions of pre-trial release or community supervision
- Potential to improve public safety, hold offenders accountable, and contain corrections costs
- Proliferation of EM has largely occurred absent research and evaluation demonstrating its use and effectiveness

Source: (if applicable)

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## Current Study

- Launched in March, 2015 by The Pew Charitable Trusts, Public Safety Performance Project together with the Laura and John Arnold Foundation and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology
- Designed to improve our collective understanding of EM and help advance the twin goals of recidivism reduction and cost containment
- Multiple project components -
  - Interviews with EM experts
  - Series of EM white papers
  - Focus groups and public opinion survey
  - National survey of offender tracking technologies
  - Four small-scale site evaluations

Source: (if applicable)

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### National Survey of Offender Tracking Technologies

- More than 91,000 offenders in the United States were estimated to be on GPS monitoring devices in 2009 (DeMichele & Payne, 2009)
  - 24,722 probationers and parolees supervised with GPS at a given point in time (January 1 and December 31) in 2009 (Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) Annual Probation and Parole Survey, 2009)
- National Survey of Offender Tracking Technologies designed to understand the extent of offender tracking usage in U.S.
  - Valid national count of alleged and convicted criminal offenders over a ten year period




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### Methodology

- Electronic survey of manufacturers of offender tracking technologies in the U.S.
  - Offender tracking technologies defined as offender tracking system devices (GPS) and radio frequency (RF) system devices
  - Consulted with experts in the field of offender tracking systems to identify all manufacturers of GPS and RF devices sold in the U.S. (N-11)
  - All numbers reported in aggregate and not associated with individual manufacturers
- Survey created in Survey Monkey and pilot tested with experts
  - Number of GPS and RF devices is a proxy for number of individuals
  - Number of devices in use for a single day (October 31) of each year from 2005 to 2015
  - Number of devices **actively monitoring individuals**
  - Number of devices **manufactured by your company**




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### Survey Launch and Findings

- Survey launched December 14, 2015 – link to electronic survey emailed to points of contact for each manufacturer
- Follow up conducted in January and February, 2016
- Seven manufacturers completed the survey by March, 2016
  - Make up 96 percent of the total market share of offender tracking devices in the U.S.
- Estimated that 131,122 individuals were supervised with offender tracking devices on October 31, 2015




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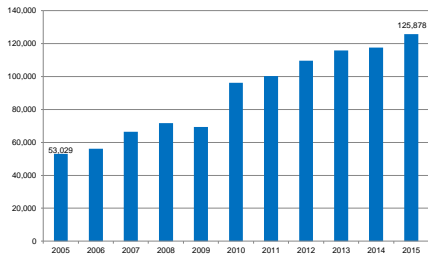
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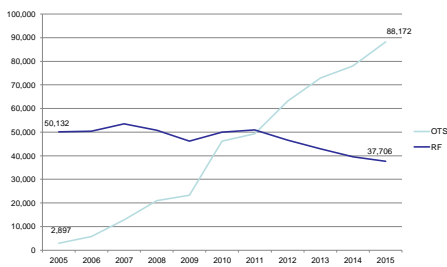
### Numbers Of GPS & RF Devices In Use By Year



\*Some years do not reflect numbers from all participating manufacturers since not all manufacturers produced GPS and/or RF devices for a given year.



### Numbers Of Devices In Use By Type Of Device



\*Some years do not reflect numbers from all participating manufacturers since not all manufacturers produced GPS and/or RF devices for a given year.



### Conclusions/Next Steps

- An estimated 131,122 individuals were supervised with GPS and RF devices on October 31, 2015 – a number that is **more than double** what it was a decade ago
- Use of GPS has far surpassed RF in the last decade
- The number of people supervised with offender tracking devices on a given day represents **less than 3 percent** of the population on community corrections caseloads
  - Cumulative number for each year likely much higher
  - Does not account for mergers and companies that went out of business
- Number of individuals supervised with offender tracking devices by type of crime and by stage of criminal justice process
- Number of individuals supervised with other types of EM technologies