Appendix A: Script for Telephone Survey on Citizenship Data[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Intro:** I would now like to ask you a few questions about your ability to report the number of non-U.S. citizens held in your facilities. BJS is collecting this information from a selected group of jails across the United States to find the best way to accurately count non-U.S. citizen inmates in local jails. Please note that BJS is interested specifically in current U.S. citizenship status, not immigrant status or place of birth.

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| **Q1** | **First, do you record if an inmate is a U.S. citizen?**  |
| ⭘ Yes Q2 | ⭘ No Q1a | ⭘ Don’t Know End  |

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| **Q1a** | **Why does your agency not record this information?** |
| *[open-ended response]* |

 End after question

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| **Q2** | **I’m going to read a few methods for determining if an inmate is a U.S. citizen. Please indicate yes if this is a method you use at your agency. (You may answer “yes” to more than one method.)** |
| Asking the inmate if he or she is a U.S. citizen. |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No |  ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Using available law enforcement or court documents that accompany the inmate upon admission to jail. |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Using external sources, such as from the Department of Homeland Security or the Social Security Administration. |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Are there any other methods that you use to determine if an inmate is a U.S. citizen?  |
| ⭘ Yes *[open-ended response]* | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |

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| **Q3** | **Are you able to generate a one-day count of non-U.S. citizens confined in your facilities?** |
| ⭘ Yes Q4 | ⭘ No Q3a | ⭘ Don’t Know Q4 |

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| **Q3a** | **I’m going to read a few reasons why you may not be able to generate this count. Please indicate yes if this reason applies. (You may answer “yes” to more than one reason.)** |
| Data system limitations |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Burden, or high level of effort needed by staff |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Jail policy that forbids providing this information |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Legal restrictions |
| ⭘ Yes (Please cite) | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Are there other reasons you could not generate this count? |
| ⭘ Yes *[open-ended response]* | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |

 End after question

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| **Q4** | **More specifically, are you able to generate a one-day count of non-U.S. citizens by conviction status, such as convicted and unconvicted?** |
| ⭘ Yes Q5 | ⭘ No Q4a | ⭘ Don’t Know Q5 |

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| **Q4a** | **I’m going to read a few reasons why you may not be able to generate this count. Please indicate yes if this reason applies.**  **(You may answer “yes” to more than one reason.)** |
| Data system limitations |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Burden, or high level of effort needed by staff |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Jail policy that forbids providing this information |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Legal restrictions |
| ⭘ Yes (Please cite) | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Are there other reasons you would not provide this data? |
| ⭘ Yes *[open-ended response]* | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |

 Go to Q6

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| **Q5** | **I’d like to ask you about more specific categories of conviction status. Are you able to generate a one-day count of non-U.S. citizens who are:** |
| Convicted but unsentenced or awaiting sentencing?  |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Convicted and sentenced? |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Unconvicted and awaiting arraignment?  |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Unconvicted and awaiting trial after arraignment?  |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Awaiting transfer/hold for other authorities? |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |

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| --- | --- |
| **Q6** | **If BJS were to ask your agency to provide a one-day count of non-U.S. citizens in its annual survey, would you provide it?**  |
| ⭘ Yes End  | ⭘ No Q6a | ⭘ Don’t Know End  |

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| **Q6a** | **I’m going to read a few reasons why you might choose not to provide this count. Please indicate yes if this reason applies. (You may answer “yes” to more than one reason.)**  |
| Burden, or high level of effort needed by staff |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Jail policy that forbids providing this information |
| ⭘ Yes | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Legal restrictions |
| ⭘ Yes (Please cite) | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |
| Are there other reasons you would not provide this data? |
| ⭘ Yes *[open-ended response]* | ⭘ No | ⭘ Don’t Know |

End after question

End

**End:** Thank you for your help.

Interviewer proceeds to next DCRP verification screen.

1. This telephone survey will be administered to a sample of 450 jails during the Deaths in Custody Reporting Program-Jails (DCRP-Jails) verification calls, planned for November 2017. Before each DCRP collection, the data collection agent makes calls to jail respondents (about 3,000) to notify them of the upcoming data collection and verify jail operational status and respondent information. The questions on citizenship data will be asked towards the end of the verification call. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)