



CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH ABSTRACTS 2008

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

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Introduction

As the lead criminal justice planning agency for the state of Ohio, the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) is dedicated to working with others to reduce and prevent crime in the state. The OCJS Policy and Research section seeks to improve public policy and practice by providing the state with timely and informative research on topics of interest to the criminal justice community.

OCJS supports research efforts in two ways: through research conducted by local universities or institutions and funded with OCJS-administered grants, and through research and statistical reports generated in-house. In 2008, several innovative criminal justice research projects were funded or undertaken focusing on criminal justice issues such as domestic violence and sexual assault, batterer intervention, mental health courts, violent crime reduction, drug task force trends, offender assessment, jail evaluation, and information-sharing initiatives.

Criminal Justice Research Abstracts 2008 provides readers with summaries of research projects developed or in process during 2008. The report is divided into two sections: 1) OCJS-funded projects, and 2) OCJS in-house projects. The OCJS in-house projects are further divided into evaluation and statistical reports, research summaries, and information requests. Unless otherwise indicated, full reports for all abstracts can be obtained by contacting the OCJS Policy and Research section at (614) 466-7782, or by visiting the OCJS Web site at: www.ocjs.ohio.gov.

OCJS-Funded Research Projects

Four research projects were funded in whole or in part by OCJS-administered grants. Researchers for these projects come from some of Ohio’s finest universities — the University of Cincinnati, the University of Toledo, and Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy.

These projects investigate some of the most current criminal justice issues facing our society. One project takes a look at internal processes of Ohio’s mental health courts. A collaborative project between the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and the University of Cincinnati focuses on developing and implementing a standardized risk/need assessment system for agencies that provide supervision or services to adult offenders. A city-wide crime reduction program in Cincinnati is being evaluated by the University of Cincinnati. And a multi-year evaluation by the University of Toledo focuses on the effectiveness of batterer intervention programs.

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An Exploratory Study of Court-Referred Batterer Intervention Programs in Ohio

University of Toledo

Principal Investigator: Lois A. Ventura

Batterer intervention programs (BIP) have been the subject of considerable research over the past 20 years. While prior research shows a *modest* positive effect, little evidence exists to support the effectiveness of one BIP over another.

This study is Phase II of the Ohio study, building on Phase I, which created an inventory of court-referred batterer intervention programs in Ohio and gathered general descriptive information about them. Phase II is an outcome study that examines programs in context, as part of a larger and more elaborate intervention system, including courts, law enforcement, victim services, socio-medico-legal and other community resources.

The research question for the outcome evaluation is: what BIP strategies work best with whom and under what circumstances. Four outcome indicators are being used:

- Arrest recidivism
- Batterers' self reports on the program's impact on them
- Victims' perceptions of program effectiveness and their sense of safety
- Interviews with key informants on what is necessary to make BIPs effective

The outcome analysis is not complete. However, some preliminary findings are available from the five sites selected for the study. All of them use the Duluth model or Duluth plus additional components. The cost of the programs varies from \$10 per session (the 20-week program results in \$200 total) to \$700 for the whole program.

Comments from key informants on what is necessary to make BIPs effective included:

- Make the program longer (most respondents said this)
- Make the program accessible (transportation) and affordable
- The batterer needs to admit to the act
- Batterers completing homework and being involved in the program
- Accountability for the offenders; non-compliance should result in jail
- Those with stronger ties to the community and employment do better in the program
- Where the batterer is in their life – i.e. is he ready to make a change?

On how to improve BIPs, key informants said:

- The mentality of some probation officers as evidenced is statements such as “There are five fake batterers to every one true batterer.” POs who say such things tend to have very large caseloads and have not been trained on DV. Their comments reflect their – incorrect – understanding of what DV is. Where POs have more manageable caseloads services tend to be better coordinated.
- Additional consequences for non-compliance.
- Longer programs; up to one year according to one informant.
- More accessible, including better hours, less expensive, and a program for indigent batterers.

The study will produce two products, a descriptive report on the programs and an analytic report that includes outcomes.

Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) Evaluation

University of Cincinnati

Principal Investigator: Robin Engel

Research conducted by the University of Cincinnati shows that individuals in violent groups or gangs are disproportionately involved in homicides, either as victims, offenders, or both. In Cincinnati, 0.3% of the population was responsible for nearly three-quarters of all homicides. To reduce homicide and serious violence within the city caused by street groups, the Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) was implemented. CIRV relies on direct communication to violent groups by a partnership of law enforcement, service providers, and community figures. This direct communication takes place in a special meeting, or 'call-in' held at a courthouse. Together the partnership delivers a unified 'no violence' message, explains that violence will bring law enforcement attention to entire groups, offers services and alternatives to group members, and articulates community norms against violence. The immediate availability of social and remedial services and an especially clear articulation of antiviolence norms by respected members of the affected communities bolster the enforcement strategy. Forms of this initiative have been successfully carried out in several other U.S. cities, including Boston, Massachusetts, Indianapolis, Indiana, and High Point, North Carolina.

Researchers from the University of Cincinnati have been tasked with the responsibility of evaluating the CIRV initiative. The formal evaluation has three aims: 1) To review and analyze the CIRV process implemented in Cincinnati; 2) To evaluate the impact of that process on a number of key outcomes measures; and 3) To disseminate the knowledge from this experience statewide through written reports and presentations that will highlight the elements of the Cincinnati model that were successful and those that need to be modified.

After 15 months, there has been a 40% reduction in "gang" homicides. Prior to the first call-in sessions, there was an average of 4.7 group-member involved homicides per month in Cincinnati. Since the start of CIRV, Cincinnati has averaged 2.9 group-member involved homicides per month. Non-fatal firearm woundings have also decreased slightly, from an average of 32.3 per month prior to the CIRV call-ins to 29.0 per month.

Social services are offered to group members at each call-in session. Since July 2007, there have been 377 contacts for CIRV services, primarily for employment and education assistance. Of the 377 initial contacts that were made, 344 assessments have been conducted, 97 individuals have obtained a first job, and 68 have retained employment.

In addition to the results on the ground, CIRV is serving as the model through a partnership with the state of Ohio for other cities in the state. CIRV has also attracted national attention and delegations from other states and jurisdictions and has inspired projects in London, England and Glasgow, Scotland. The CIRV team has been awarded the prestigious 2008 *International Associate of Chiefs of Police / Motorola Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement*, and the 2008 *National Criminal Justice Association's Outstanding Criminal Justice Program Award*.

System-wide Risk/Need Assessment Project
Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Office of Criminal Justice Services and
University of Cincinnati

Principal Investigators: Chris Lowenkamp, Edward Latessa, Linda Janes, Sharon Schnelle

This study, conducted by the University of Cincinnati, focuses on providing a standardized risk/need assessment system for all agencies that provide supervision or services to adult offenders in Ohio. The goal was to develop a risk and need assessment tool to aid in identifying needs of individuals under supervision of the criminal justice system. The project involves three phases: development of the assessment instrument, testing the instrument, and evaluation of the instrument.

The first phase of the project, begun in 2006, involved a comprehensive review of the risk assessment literature, covering academic and professional journals from a multitude of disciplines including psychology, criminology and criminal justice, medical and addictions studies. From this information, a data collection tool and questionnaire were drafted. The data collection tool included a comprehensive collection of questions addressing each criminogenic area. The self report questionnaire is a supplement to the interview process, and was crafted deliberately at a 6th grade reading level.

In 2006 – 2007 both tools were validated on offenders across Ohio involved at each stage of the correctional process – pre-sentence/probation, intake to prison, and release from prison to parole or post-release control. A total of 1,914 offenders were interviewed. The Ohio Universal Risk and Needs Assessment Tool is designed to be utilized throughout the community justice continuum from pre-trial to post-prison to make recommendations for effective placement, supervision, and programming decisions. The tool will also include fields for special needs (sex offender, OMVI, domestic violence, and mental health). The tool will be web-based and there is discussion with the Ohio Supreme Court for potential hosting and integration with the Ohio Court Network.

What are the benefits?

- Provides a consistent tool with consistent meaning across criminal justice continuum
- Reduces the chance of duplication of services
- Enhances the communication between providers on the criminal justice continuum
- Provided free to users

Project milestones

- January 2008 – Pre-trial testing
- February 2008 – Pre-trial tool created
- May 2008 – Probation testing
- June 2008 – Probation tool created
- July 2008 – Prison misconduct testing
- August 2008 – Prison misconduct tool created
- November 2008 – Prison re-entry and post release testing
- December 2008 – Prison re-entry and post release tool created
- January 2009 – Statewide training
- March 2009 – Statewide launch of the Universal Tool

Processes of Mental Health Courts

Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy

Principal Investigators: Christian Ritter and Mark R. Munetz

Research Team: Natalie Bonfine and Jennifer L.S. Teller

This project is the third phase in an ongoing research effort examining the impact of mental health court programs on the individuals involved. The overarching goal is to determine if, for whom, and under what circumstances Ohio mental health courts are successful at reducing involvement of individuals with mental illness in the criminal justice system. The research team has already collected data on the Akron Mental Health Court, and also conducted a survey of the process, structure, and operational procedures used by all adult mental health court programs in Ohio. This third phase assesses the internal operations and dynamics of the mental health court program.

Specifically, the question being asked is, “What are the internal processes of mental health court programs in Ohio?” Through a series of semi-structured interviews with personnel associated with the adult mental health courts, researchers are collecting information on the process of how members of the mental health court treatment relate with the program and with each other. Topics of discussion include: 1) operation of the court program; 2) internal dynamics of the court program; and 3) opinions and attitudes related to the mental health court program. The interviews were conducted throughout the state by researchers from NEOUCOM, Kent State University, University of Akron, and Xavier University.

Preliminary findings suggest that the following characteristics impact local mental health courts:

- Characteristics of the program (including regularly scheduled team meetings and status hearings, court action after program separation, use of rewards and sanctions, criteria for admission, length and type of court supervision)
- Composition of team
- Quantity and quality of communication within team and with other partners
- Collaboration
- Court funding
- Types of services offered, including treatment services, jail services, and community/social services
- Case management
- Public awareness and opinions of the program
- Community support
- Effects of the program on participants and the community

In-House Research Reports, Summaries and Information Requests

The OCJS Policy and Research team consists of four researchers. One researcher also serves as Ohio’s Statistical Analysis Center Director, a federally funded position designed to encourage information dissemination. OCJS researchers focus their efforts on three types of projects: research and statistical reports, summaries of existing research reports, and information requests.

Nine research and statistical reports were generated in 2008. These reports covered a variety of topics, including a drug task force trend analysis, three annual performance reports for grant programs, two information-sharing system surveys, a family violence needs assessment, a drug offender profile, and a jail evaluation.

In order to provide Ohioans with an easily accessible source of federal criminal justice statistics with emphasis on Ohio data, OCJS researchers also generated summaries of existing statistical reports created by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Finally, as the lead criminal justice planning agency for the state of Ohio, OCJS responded to numerous information requests from a variety of sources, such as state agencies, colleges and universities, law enforcement, businesses and non-profit organizations, and the general public. A summary of these information requests is included.

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Ohio Multi-Jurisdictional Law Enforcement Task Forces: Seven-Year Trend Data

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principle Investigator: Sharon Schnelle

This study is part of a series of trend analyses conducted at the request of the Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force Commanders Association (OTFCA). It builds on earlier trend analyses and covers task force performance data from 2001 through 2007.

Trend analysis data is used by the commanders in a variety of ways, from planning task force operations, to comparing their task force to statewide averages, to demonstrating the value of the task forces. Most of Ohio's multi-jurisdictional law enforcement task forces originated with support from the U.S. Department of Justice's JAG/Byrne grant program. The purpose was for the task forces to identify, investigate, and apprehend multi-jurisdictional drug traffickers. However, over time it became obvious that task force activities needed to be expanded beyond drugs. Today's Ohio task forces are using the advantages of their multi-jurisdictional composition to cover a broad range of crimes and type of offenders.

The number of task forces funded each year has decreased from 35 in 2001 to 27 in 2007. To some extent this reflects consolidation of task forces. Because the number of task forces varies per year, task force data in the report is primarily reported in terms of an average per task force.

The average number of new investigations per task force is slightly down from the figures reported in 2006, but is the third largest total over the seven-year period. The average number of new investigations for 2007 is 281, as compared to 321 in 2006. Despite fewer investigations, the number of arrests and the average number per task force increased 42 percent from 2006. There have been a total of 39,997 arrests during the seven-year period, an average of 203 arrests per task force per year.

Ohio's task forces are actively involved in investigating both non-pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical diversion and arresting offenders. Enforcement by Ohio's task forces resulted in 3,999 persons charged with felony offenses during 2007. The largest group of arrestees was charged with Felony 5 offenses. However, 819 arrestees were charged with Felonies 1 or 2.

2007 was an unusual year in terms of the drugs removed by the task forces. The amounts of the three most common drugs - cocaine, crack, and marijuana - all decreased from 2006, while at the same time the amount of three less common drugs (heroin, LSD, and methamphetamine) reached six-year highs and increased substantially from 2006. The percent increase for heroin and LSD was very similar (243 percent and 246 percent respectively). The amount of methamphetamine increased 591 percent. Some task force commanders indicate that increasing amounts of methamphetamine are from foreign sources and decreasing amounts are from labs in Ohio.

Pharmaceuticals cover such a broad range of drugs that come in and out of favor that it is difficult to find any general pattern. The two drugs that have consistently been the largest quantities seized have been Hydrocodone (aka Vicodin or Loritab) and Oxycodone (aka Percocet or OxyContin). During 2007, Hydrocodone (Vicodin/Loritab) and Oxycodone (Percocet/OxyContin) both increased almost 200 percent over the three-year period from 2005 - 2007. However, the greatest percent increase has been Carisoprodol (aka Soma), with the amphetamine mixture Adderall and Methylphenidate (aka Ritalin) both increasing over 1,000 percent.

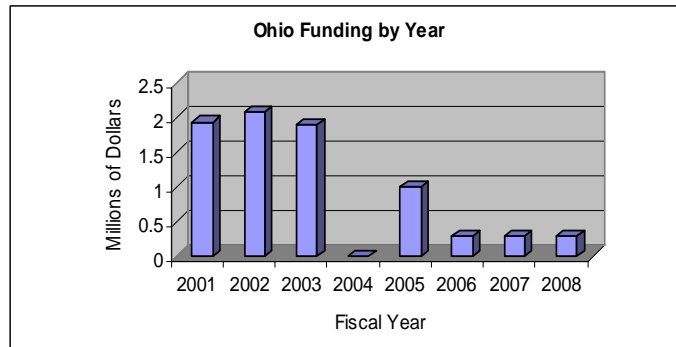
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Annual Report

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principal Investigator: Sharon Schnelle

OCJS administers the RSAT block grant program, which provides \$287,146 annually for residential treatment services for offenders. When the program first began, 21 programs received funding in both state and local facilities. During FY 2008, six programs were funded: MonDay, Alvis House, Northeast Ohio Community Alternative Program (NEOCAP), Talbert House, Greene County's Greene Leaf Therapeutic Community, and East Ohio Corrections Center.

The funding for the RSAT program has been steadily declining since 1998 when Ohio's allocation for RSAT programming was \$2,209,736. In 2008 Ohio received only \$287,146 to fund RSAT programs.



OCJS has been collecting detailed information on offenders receiving these services to comply with federal reporting requirements and to provide a foundation for evaluation. In federal fiscal year 2008, 131 offenders received services equal to 17,875 treatment days supported through RSAT funding. The average cost per day for residential services was \$21.32.

Summary of Discharges		FY2008		All Years	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Type of discharge	Successful completion both time and goals	88	67.2%	3069	60.7%
	Successful complete time but not goals	5	3.8%	386	7.6%
	Unsuccessful completion disciplinary	15	11.5%	659	13.0%
	Voluntary withdrawal from program	5	3.8%	188	3.7%
	Escape abscond	4	3.1%	227	4.5%
	Unable to participate due to medical reclassify/out to court	2	1.5%	211	4.2%
	Arrested for new crime	0	0%	35	< 1%
	Convicted of a new crime	0	0%	42	< 1%
	Probation parole violation	0	0%	6	< 1%
	Judicial release	0	0%	93	1.8%
	Expired sentence	0	0%	5	< 1%
	Other	12	9.2%	135	2.7%
Total		131	100%	5056	100%

Ohio JAG/Byrne Grant Program Annual Report

Ohio Department of Public Safety
Office of Criminal Justice Services

The Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) administers Ohio JAG/Byrne program. This federal grant program addresses three goals: to prevent and control illegal drugs, to reduce violent crime, and to improve justice system operations. To achieve these goals, projects are funded in five program areas:

- Prevention and Education
- Law Enforcement
- Prosecution, Court and Victim Services
- Corrections and Community Corrections
- Research, Evaluation and Technology Improvement

Performance data is collected on all projects funded through JAG/Byrne. This data is reported to the U.S. Department of Justice where it is combined with data from other states to assess the nationwide impact of the JAG/Byrne program. OCJS also uses this data to establish program areas eligible for funding and in the review of applications for funding.

All Ohio JAG/Byrne data presented below is for calendar year 2007. These data are highlights; additional data are available from OCJS upon request.

Prevention – Projects provided crime prevention and education programs for 37,000 people, including 16,000 youth. There were 84 prevention and awareness trainings specifically for law enforcement officers.

Enforcement – Multi-jurisdictional law enforcement projects arrested 9,165 offenders. They conducted 173 meth investigations that resulted in mitigation of 93 meth labs. Fifteen specialized gang units/task forces were made operational.

Drugs Seized – Ohio's law enforcement projects seized 271,477 grams of cocaine, 11,802 grams of crack, 14,784 pounds of processed marijuana, and 12,896 marijuana plants. They also seized 5,098 grams of meth and 25,043 grams of meth precursors.

Courts and Corrections - Specialized court dockets served 275 drug court participants. Overall, corrections projects served 2,511 offenders, 2,116 of whom were served in community corrections programs. Community corrections programs saved an average of 130 bed days per offender. Eighty percent of the offenders successfully completed their correctional programs.

Victims – Projects served 18,429 crime victims through shelter, advocacy, treatment, and referral programs. Seventy-eight percent were victims of violent crime.

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Annual Report

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principal Investigator: Monica Ellis

As the lead justice planning and assistance office for the state of Ohio, OCJS was designated by Governor Ted Strickland to administer the federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) funds in Ohio for 2008. FVPSA funds are awarded to programs to prevent incidents of family violence and to provide immediate shelter and related assistance for victims of family violence and their dependents.

OCJS received \$2,647,024 in federal funds to distribute in 2008. Seventy-four applications were received totaling \$3,173,454.39 in requested funds. Of the applications submitted, 65 were for continuation projects and nine were for new projects. Sixty-one projects were funded for a total of \$2,514,572.80. All funded projects were previously FVPSA-funded with one being a newly funded project.

FVPSA Categories	Number of Projects Funded by Category	Percent of Funds Disbursed by Category
Shelter Service	24	41%
Related Assistance	5	10%
Shelter and Related Assistance	32	49%

Many domestic violence shelters are able to keep their facilities open and staffed 24 hours a day year-round as a result of FVPSA funding, which supports shelter coordinators as well as weekend and evening staff. Many shelters not only provide victims with a safe place to stay, they also offer case management, general advocacy, safety planning, transportation, and job placement services. Other related services and assistance include alcohol and drug abuse programs, mental health services, and individual as well as group counseling opportunities.

The table below illustrates the number of individuals served through funded shelters in 2008 in addition to the average length of stay.

Shelters and Shelter Programs	
Women	3,819
Young Children (birth – 12 years of age)	2,675
Adolescent and Young Adults (13 – 18 years of age)	585
Men	22
Elderly (55+)	99
Average Length of Stay	49.7 days
Persons Referred to Another Shelter due to Lack of Space	1,447

Task Force Information Services Survey
Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services
Principal Investigator: Lisa Contos Shoaf

The Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) conducted a survey to assess the utility of the Task Force Information System (TFIS) to Ohio's multi-jurisdictional task forces. The survey identified task forces that use TFIS and inquired about their satisfaction with the system. The survey also requested feedback as to why some task forces do not use TFIS.

A total of 24 task force commanders responded to the survey. Recommendations were provided by many task forces on ways in which TFIS could be improved. Several task forces noted that the information-sharing concept of TFIS is appealing and that the system would have greater value if a greater number of task forces used it. However, one of the primary reasons TFIS is not used by more task forces is that they use other systems that appear to serve the same purpose.

**Computerized Criminal History Project: Improving State Criminal History
Records Through Analysis: Profiling Drug Offenders**

Office of Criminal Justice Services
Principal Investigator: Lisa Contos Shoaf

Through a partnership between the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI&I) and the Office of Criminal Justice Services, OCJS was able to gain access to a portion of the computerized criminal history (CCH) database. The database contains over 2.3 million names and 3.3 million arrest records specifying 4.2 million charges. The purpose of this project was three-fold: 1) to work with BCI&I to identify and better understand the complex data the CCH contains and how the data can be used for analysis purposes; 2) to identify potential limitations of the CCH database; 3) to engage in a research project that demonstrates the utility of the data being collected in the CCH database.

The research project focused on individuals in Ohio arrested during 2006 for a drug-related charge. Such charges included possession, sale, manufacturing, distribution/trafficking, and possession of paraphernalia. Over 46,000 drug crime arrests involving approximately 36,500 individuals were included in this study. Demographic information was obtained for the drug arrestees as well as the type of drug crime in which they were engaged. In addition, a sampling of the arrestees was used to generate data on prior criminal arrests. Of the 3,000 arrestees sampled, 72 percent had at least one prior arrest, and many of these charges were for drug crimes.

Ohio Local Law Enforcement Information Sharing Network (OLLEISN) Survey

Office of Criminal Justice Services
Principal Investigator: Lisa Contos Shoaf

The purpose of this survey was to gain a better understanding of the interest on the part of law enforcement officers and management to sustain the Ohio Local Law Enforcement Information Sharing Network (OLLEISN). Three different surveys were administered to three groups of law enforcement: line officers, chiefs and sheriffs, and representatives of Ohio's homeland security regions.

Each survey inquired about the frequency with which OLLEISN was used and for what purposes it was being used. A series of questions also asked about features of OLLEISN that are not currently available but that would be desirable. Finally, questions were asked of executive level officers about their willingness to financially sustain OLLEISN.

A total of 662 individuals responded to the OLLEISN survey: 406 line officers, 239 chiefs and sheriffs, and 17 homeland security region representatives.

Ohio Family Violence Needs Assessment and Focus Group Project

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principal Investigator: Monica Ellis

The Office of Criminal Justice Services through the Family Violence Prevention Center completed a statewide needs assessment focusing on domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The overall goal of the study was to identify gaps in Ohio services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking so necessary resources could be provided.

The needs assessment was completed in two parts. Initially, a survey was distributed to direct service providers across the state of Ohio to assess their perceptions of existing gaps in servicing victims. Using information gained from their responses, six focus groups were held across Ohio with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking to learn firsthand of troubles and successes they experienced in their time of need.

Various agencies were represented in the direct service provider arena including court-based providers, prosecution-based providers, law enforcement, non-profit, and sexual assault nurse examiners. Generally for each type of offense, regardless of geographic location, the immediate response to all victims was sufficient. This includes access to 24-hour crisis hotlines, housing, medical care, hospital accompaniment, safety planning, and child care. As for intermediate and long-term needs such as transitional housing, financial assistance, access to interpreters, and job placement, service providers acknowledged their communities were unable to sufficiently meet the needs of victims.

In addition to providing a list of services they had difficulty providing to victims, direct service providers explained what groups of victims they had difficulty servicing. These responses guided the selection of focus groups for the second part of the needs assessment. The following groups were included:

- Deaf victims
- Latina, Spanish-speaking victims
- Gay victims
- African-American victims
- Elderly victims
- Victims from large, medium, and rural Ohio counties

Key findings from the focus groups:

- Victims residing in rural areas had limited or no access to transportation if they did not own a personal vehicle. This made receiving services, maintaining employment, and attending court hearings challenging.
- In general, victims were unsatisfied with law enforcement response and found them to be insensitive and unhelpful.
- Limited English Proficient victims were less likely to seek help from agencies due to their language barriers.
- All groups expressed a need for continuous counseling immediately following their victimization in addition to months and years later.
- Victims would like their length of stay at domestic violence shelters extended if the need arises. At times, victims feel as though they are being forced out before they are adequately prepared.

Ohio Comprehensive Jail Evaluation Study

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principle Investigators: Sharon Schnelle, Brian Kowalski, Brian Martin, Butch Hunyadi

In Fall 2008, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction's Bureau of Adult Detention issued a hiatus on conducting annual jail audits and inspections. This was specifically issued so that the Bureau, along with a research team from ODRC, Office of Criminal Justice Services, and the National Institute of Corrections could conduct a comprehensive jail evaluation looking at many different aspects of jail administration in an effort to revisit the current jail standards and make recommendations for revision.

The multi-phased study will include focus group data collection and analysis, correctional officer task analysis, individual-level jail data collection, staff attitudinal surveys, and inmate surveys. The focus group portion of the study was conducted from November 2008 through January 2009. The Correctional Officer Task Analysis was completed in March 2009. The individual-level jail data collection will begin in March 2009, and should be completed by April 2009. Intensive data collection for 20 selected jail sites will begin in May 2009 and run through July 2009.

The types of information collected through this study have never been collected any where in the country. Ohio will serve as a pioneer in the area of jail research. The information will be gathered and analyzed so that recommendations can be made about the content of future correctional officer training courses. The National Institute of Corrections is also interested in the outcome of the evaluation and how it might have relevance on a national level.

Overall, the study will be helpful in providing empirical support for the 288 standards that currently exist to oversee jail operations in Ohio. Depending on the outcome of this study, these standards may be revised to be reflective of a more efficient way of providing oversight and accountability to operations of jails in Ohio.

Crime in the United States 2007

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In September 2008, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released *Crime in the United States 2007*. This annual publication is a compilation of statistics collected by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program, which is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of more than 17,000 city, university and college, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies voluntarily reporting data on crimes brought to their attention. During 2007, law enforcement agencies active in the UCR program represented 94.6 percent of the total population. Data for Ohio, the East North Central region of the Midwest¹, and the U.S. are summarized below.

Violent Crime. Violent crime includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The overall rate (per 100,000 population) of violent crime in the U.S. decreased 1.4 percent from 2006 to 2007. The East North Central region showed a rate decrease of 1.5 percent. In Ohio, the rate decreased 2.0 percent, from 350.3 per 100,000 population to 343.2 per 100,000 population, still much lower than the nation's rate of 466.9.

- Murder and non-negligent manslaughter. Murder decreased 1.3 percent in the U.S. and 3.3 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the murder rate decreased 4.2 percent.
- Forcible rape. Rape decreased 3.2 percent in the U.S. and 4.6 percent in the East North Central region. The rape rate decreased 2.0 percent in Ohio.
- Robbery. Robbery rates decreased 1.2 percent in the U.S. and 2.7 percent in the East North Central region. Ohio showed a decrease of 4.6 percent in robbery from 166.8 to 159.2 per 100,000 population. Ohio's rate is higher than that of the U.S. (147.6) and the region (147.0).
- Aggravated Assault. Aggravated assault decreased 1.3 percent in the U.S. and 0.3 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the aggravated assault rate increased 1.1 percent to 140.7, which is less than that of the region (243.1) and less than half that of the U.S. (283.8).

Property Crime. Property crime consists of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft². The property crime rate in the U.S. decreased 2.1 percent, from 3,334.5 per 100,000 to 3,263.5 per 100,000. In the East North Central region, property crime decreased 3.8 percent. In Ohio, the overall property crime rate decreased 6.1 percent.

- Burglary. Burglary decreased 0.9 percent in the U.S., 2.2 percent in the East North Central region, and 5.6 percent in Ohio. Ohio's rate of 859.1 per 100,000 population is higher than that of the U.S. (722.5) and is the highest in the East North Central region.
- Larceny-theft. Larceny-theft rates decreased 1.3 percent in the U.S. and 3.1 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the larceny-theft rate decreased 5.8 percent.
- Motor vehicle theft. Motor vehicle theft decreased 8.8 percent in the U.S. and 11.4 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the rate decreased 9.7 percent to 294.6 per 100,000—a rate lower than that of the East North Central region (308.2) and the U.S. (363.3).

A link to the full report can be found on the FBI's Web site: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2007/index.html>.

¹ The East North Central region consists of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

² Arson is also considered a property crime; however, the UCR program does not have sufficient data to estimate arson offenses.

Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted 2007

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In October 2008, the FBI released its annual *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted* for 2007. The report is based on data submitted to the FBI from agencies participating in the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Program, FBI Field Division and Legal Attaché Office Reports and the Bureau of Justice Assistance Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program. Data is provided for duly sworn city, university and college, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement officers feloniously killed, officers accidentally killed, and officers assaulted, with narrative descriptions provided for incidents where officers were feloniously killed.

National statistics

- 57 law enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty in 2007. The deaths occurred in 51 separate incidents in 25 states and Puerto Rico. In 2006, 48 officers were feloniously killed.
- Characteristics of the feloniously killed officer in 2007:
 - Average age was 37.
 - Average length of service was 10 years.
 - All 57 officers were male.
 - 47 officers were white, 8 were black, and 1 was Asian-Pacific Islander. Race was not reported for 1 officer.
- Characteristics of the incident surrounding the murder:
 - 8 percent occurred in ambush situations.
 - 28 percent occurred in arrest situations.
 - 9 percent occurred during the investigation of disturbance calls.
 - 7 percent occurred while investigating suspicious persons/circumstances.
 - 19 percent occurred during traffic stops/pursuits.
 - 5 percent occurred during tactical situations.
 - 2 percent occurred during an investigative activity.
 - 2 percent occurred during the handling, transport, or custody of prisoners.
- 55 of the 57 victim officers were killed by a firearm, the majority of which were handguns. Sixteen officers attempted to fire their own weapon and 11 fired their own weapon during the incidents. Forty-nine percent of firearm deaths of officers occurred when the distance between the victim and offender was between 0-5 feet.
- Two of the 57 victim officers were intentionally hit by vehicles.
- The average age of identified offenders was 29 years. All were male, 56 percent were white. Ninety-four percent had prior criminal arrests, and 31 percent were under some form of judicial supervision at the time of the felonious incident.
- There were 83 accidental deaths of law enforcement officers in the line of duty in 2007. Fifty-eight of the 83 died as the result of a vehicle-related accident, including car, aircraft, or motorcycle mishaps. Twelve were struck by vehicles (directing or stopping traffic, assisting

motorists). Four were killed by accidental shootings. Two officers drowned, one died as the result of a fall, and six officers died as the result of other causes.

- 59,201 officers were assaulted in the line of duty, a rate of 11.4 per 100 officers. Twenty-six percent of these assaults resulted in an injury.
- Over a 10-year period, 40 percent of felonious killings of officers occurred in the a.m. hours between midnight and noon, while the remaining 60 percent occurred in the p.m. hours. The six-hour stretch between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. accounted for 44 percent of such incidents. Similarly, these were the most active hours for assaults on officers, as 42 percent of all assaults occurred between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m.

Ohio statistics

- In Ohio, two officers were feloniously killed in 2007. One was a 35 year-old detective from Toledo Police Department with 13 years of law enforcement experience. The second was a 31 year-old officer from Cleveland Heights Police Department with seven years of law enforcement experience.
- Since 1998, there have been 14 felonious killings in Ohio.
- Two Ohio officers were accidentally killed in 2007. An officer from Euclid Police Department was killed in an automobile accident. In another incident, an officer from the Massillon post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol was accidentally killed. Since 1998, 15 officers have been accidentally killed.
- During 2007, 144 Ohio agencies reported 472 assaults on officers. Eighty-four percent of the assaults were committed with a personal weapon. Two percent of assaults were committed with a firearm.
- The rate of assault per 100 officers in Ohio in 2007 was 7.8, which is below the U.S. rate of 11.4 per 100 officers.

A link to the full report can be found on the FBI's Web site: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/killed/2007/>.

Hate Crime Statistics 2007

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In October 2008, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released the publication, *Hate Crime Statistics 2007*. Produced in compliance with the federal Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990, the publication has been released annually since 1992.

Hate crimes, also known as bias crimes, are criminal offenses committed against a person, property, or society that are motivated, in part or in whole, by the offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin.

The report is based on data submitted to the FBI's hate crime statistics program through a standardized hate crime supplement to UCR and NIBRS reports. Nationally, 13,241 law enforcement agencies representing 86.3 percent of the nation's population participated in the hate crime reporting program in 2007.

The information contained in this report is subject to strenuous qualifiers. As the FBI report itself states, "Because motivation is subjective, it is difficult to know with certainty whether a crime resulted from the offender's bias." Law enforcement investigation must reveal with sufficient evidence to lead a person to conclude that the offender's actions were motivated in whole or in part by his or her bias.

The following is a brief review of this year's report. Whenever available, Ohio statistics are reported, and may be supplemented by U.S. statistics.

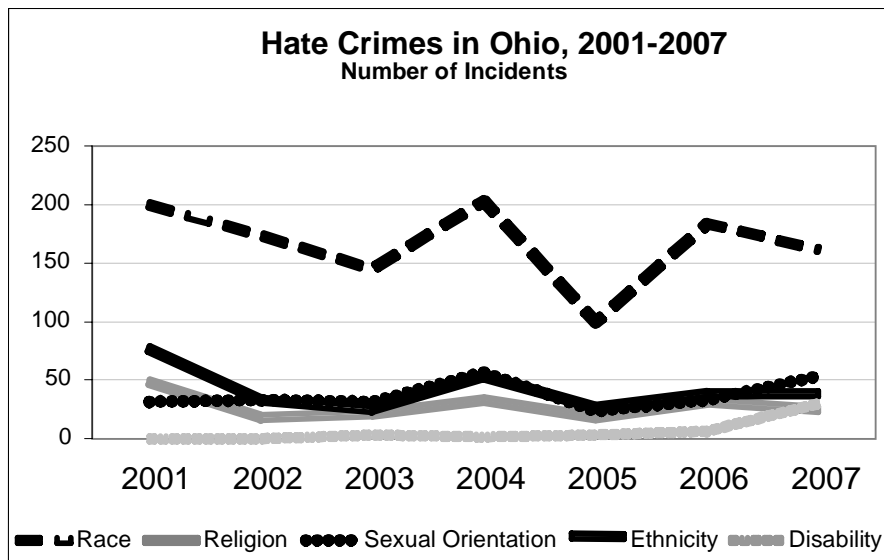
Hate crime reporting

- The number of Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement increased from 493 in 2006 to 534 in 2007, an 8 percent increase.
- In 2007, 76 Ohio law enforcement agencies reported a total of 312 hate crime incidents.
- The Ohio hate crime rate of 3.6 incidents per 100,000 population is above the national average of 2.9 incidents per 100,000 population.
- Of the 534 Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement, 458 reported no incidents of hate crimes in their jurisdictions.
- Nationwide, the majority of hate crime incidents, 51 percent, involved racial bias. The remaining incidents involved religion (18 percent), sexual orientation (17 percent), ethnicity/national origin (13 percent), and disability (1 percent).
- In Ohio, 52 percent of hate crime incidents were related to race, followed by sexual orientation (17 percent), ethnicity/national origin (14 percent), disability (10 percent), and religion (8 percent).
- Nationwide data on the specific types of racial bias show that 69 percent of such incidents were anti-Black and 19 percent were anti-White.
- Fifty-nine percent of ethnicity bias incidents were anti-Hispanic.
- Nationwide data show that 69 percent of religious bias incidents were anti-Jewish, a percentage that has remained steady for the past five years. Eight percent of religious bias incidents were

anti-Islamic. The percentage of anti-Islamic hate crimes was at its highest in 2001 (26%), but decreased and remained steady thereafter.

- Nationwide, 60 percent of all hate crime offenses³ were crimes against persons. The majority of these offenses involved intimidation (47 percent), simple assault (31 percent) and aggravated assault (21 percent). There were nine murders as a result of a hate bias. Of the 40 percent of hate crime offenses committed against property, the overwhelming majority, 81 percent, involved destruction, damage, or vandalism.
- In Ohio, 66 percent of hate crime offenses were crimes against persons and 34 percent were crimes against property. Fifty-five percent of bias crimes against persons involved intimidation, 40 percent involved simple assault, and four percent involved aggravated assault. Of the bias crimes against property, 56 percent involved destruction, damage, or vandalism.

A link to the full report can be found on the FBI's Web site:
<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/hc2007/index.html>.



³ Offenses differ from incidents in that there may be multiple offenses, multiple victims, and/or multiple offenders within one hate crime incident.

Prisoners in 2007

Bureau of Justice Statistics

In December 2008, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the bulletin, *Prisoners in 2007*. This annual report highlights characteristics of the nation's prison population. The following summarizes some key findings of the report, with emphasis on Ohio data wherever possible.

Prison population

- The U.S. prison population grew 1.8 percent in 2007. The total number of prisoners under the jurisdiction of Federal or State adult correctional authorities was 1,598,316 at the end of 2007. Nearly 93 percent were males and 7.2 percent were females.
 - Ohio experienced a 3.2 percent increase in the prison population, from 49,166 to 50,731 from 2006 to 2007. Ohio ranked 6th of all states in total prison population.
- The rate of incarceration in prison at the end of 2007 was 506 sentenced inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents, equivalent to about 1 out of 198 U.S. residents serving a prison term of over one year.
 - At the end of 2007, Ohio had a rate of incarceration of 442 inmates per 100,000 residents.
- At the end of 2007, the Federal prison system, as well as 19 states, was operating at or above their highest capacity.
 - At the end of 2007, Ohio prisons were operating at 25 percent over capacity.

Prisoner demographics

- Nationwide, the number of female prisoners increased 1.7 percent during 2007, or 6.9 percent of all prisoners. The number of male prisoners increased 1.8 percent.
 - In Ohio, the number of female prisoners increased 3.3 percent from 2006 to 2007, while the number of males increased 3.2 percent during this time.
- Nationwide, from 2000-2006, the annual rate of growth of female inmates averaged 3.2 percent, whereas the average rate of increase for male inmates was 1.9 percent.
 - Ohio has averaged a 4.7 percent increase in female inmates from 2000 to 2006, compared to a slight increase of 0.9 percent for male prisoners during the same time period.
- The imprisonment rate for Black inmates (male and female) was higher than that of White or Hispanic/Latino inmates; however, the data indicate an overall declining rate of imprisonment for Black inmates.
 - In 2007, Black males had an imprisonment rate of 3,138 per 100,000 U.S. residents, compared to a rate of 481 for White males and 1,259 for Hispanic or Latino males.
 - Black females had an imprisonment rate of 150 per 100,000 U.S. residents, compared to a rate of 50 per 100,000 for White females and 79 per 100,000 for Hispanic or Latino females.

Offenses committed by prisoners

- The latest data available (yearend 2005) indicate that 53 percent of inmates in state prisons were held for violent offenses. In addition, 19.2 percent were held for various property offenses, 19.5 percent were held for drug offenses, and 7.6 percent were held for public order offenses, which includes but is not limited to: weapons, drunk driving, court offenses, commercialized vice, morals/decency charges, and liquor law violations.

A link to the full report can be found on the BJS Web site: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/p07.pdf>.

Probation and Parole in the United States, 2007
Bureau of Justice Statistics

In December 2008 the Bureau of Justice Statistics released *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2007 Statistical Tables*. Data come from the 2007 Annual Probation Survey and the 2007 Annual Parole Survey, as well as from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. The surveys cover the federal system, all 50 states, and the District of Columbia.

Probationers are defined here as criminal offenders who have been sentenced to a period of correctional supervision in the community in lieu of incarceration. Parole is defined as a period of conditional supervised release (determined by a parole board or by mandatory conditional release) following a prison term.

The following are highlights taken from this report.

- In 2007, the total federal, state, and local adult correctional population (incarcerated or in the community) grew 2.0% to over 7.3 million. Offenders under community supervision accounted for nearly 70% of the correctional population.
- About 3.2% of the U.S. adult resident population was under correctional supervision at yearend 2007, and 2.2% of the U.S. adult resident population was under community supervision.

Probation statistics

- The U.S. probation population increased 1.8% in 2007 to 4,293,163 adults on probation.
- At yearend 2007, the probation supervision rate was 1,873 probationers per 100,000 adult U.S. residents.
- Ohio ranked fifth in the total number on probation, with an estimated 254,898. This represents an increase of 4.2% from January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007.
- Ohio's probation rate of 2,917 per 100,000 adult residents was greater than the national rate of 1,873 per 100,000 adult residents.
- Characteristics of probationers in 2007:
 - 23% were female, 77% were male.
 - 55% were White, 29% were Black, 13% were Hispanic or Latino.
 - 47% had a felony offense, 51% had a misdemeanor offense, 3% had some other infraction.
 - 17% of probationers under supervision in 2007 had a violent offense as their most serious offense.
 - 27% of probationers had a drug law violation as their most serious offense, followed by property offense (24%), public-order offense (18%), which includes driving while intoxicated and other traffic offenses only, and other offenses (13%).
 - 70% were under active supervision, and 9% were absconders.

Parole statistics

- The parole population in the U.S. increased 3.2% in 2007, to 824,365 adults on parole.
- In 2007, 360 persons per 100,000 adult U.S. residents were under parole supervision.
- Ohio ranked twelfth in the total number on parole, with 17,575. This represents a decrease of 0.2% from January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007.
- Ohio's parole rate of 201 per 100,000 adult residents was less than the national average of 360 per 100,000 adult residents.
- Characteristics of parolees in 2007:
 - 12% were female, 88% were male.
 - 42% were White, 37% were Black, and 19% were Hispanic or Latino.
 - 96% had a sentence length of one year or more.
 - 37% had been convicted of a drug offense, 26% for a violent offense, and 24% for a property offense.
 - 84% were under active supervision, and 7% had absconded.
- Of the total number of adults leaving parole in 2007, 44.5% successfully completed their time, and 38.0% returned to jail or prison. Of those who returned to jail or prison, over 70% returned with revocation.
 - In Ohio, there were 10,035 adults exiting parole in 2007. Of these, 74.0% successfully completed their term, and 18.7% returned to jail or prison.

A link to the statistical tables can be found on the BJS Web site:
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/ppus07st.pdf>.

Information Request Summary 2008

In 2008, OCJS handled 123 information requests coming from a variety of individuals and agencies within and outside of Ohio⁴. Information typically requested includes regional (city, county, state) crime and arrest statistics, as well as statistics of specific populations, such as juveniles and minorities. A referral contact person or agency is always provided in those instances where the requested information is not held by or available to OCJS.

The following table summarizes the requests received in 2008, by requestor.

Requestor	Number of Requests Received
Colleges and universities	24
Private non-profit organizations	23
Citizens	20
State agencies	19
Law enforcement	15
Businesses	6
Courts	2
State and local officials	2
State legislature	1
Other	11
Total	123

In addition to information requests, OCJS also received 112 separate requests for agency publications.

⁴ This number does not include requests made by the media, as these information requests are handled by a separate department.

Research Directions for 2009

The following research and evaluation projects are currently being conducted in Ohio.

- ***Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction Victim Awareness Program Assessment.*** OCJS will be partnering with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to evaluate their Victim Awareness Program. The voluntary 12-week program is aimed at high-risk offenders housed in an institution or on community supervision through an Adult Parole Authority site. The goals of the program are to increase offender self-accountability, knowledge of victims' rights, and empathy for others. OCJS will be responsible for developing a tool that will measure program participants' changes in attitudes.
- ***Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission Task Analysis.*** The Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission has asked OCJS to complete a job task analysis for Ohio peace officers. The survey will be distributed to a sample of Ohio peace officers seeking to gain information on how important particular skills and knowledge are to officers in addition to how often they complete various tasks. Officers will also be asked to state where tasks and knowledge should be learned and how adequately the information is currently covered in Basic Training. Results will allow for necessary modification of basic training course material not mandated by the Ohio Revised Code that will enhance public and officer safety.
- ***National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health Multi-City Study of the Magnitude and Risk Factors of Workplace Violence among HealthCare Workers and Pharmacists.*** The Ohio Statistical Analysis Center is collaborating with three other state Statistical Analysis Centers to capture information on the nature and extent of homicides, robberies, and assaults of health care workers and pharmacists. The Ohio SAC is working with four police departments—Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, and Toledo—to identify incidents that meet these criteria. Information will be gathered from incident reports and submitted to NIOSH (a division of the Centers for Disease Control) for further evaluation.
- ***Mapping of Incident-Based Data: A Demonstration for Law Enforcement.*** The Statistical Analysis Center at the Office of Criminal Justice Services received a grant to analyze data from Ohio's Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS). Specifically, the SAC will be collaborating with researchers from Ohio State Highway Patrol to analyze and map violent crimes occurring in a large Ohio city. The purpose of this project is to demonstrate to law enforcement the strategic and tactical benefits of mapping incident-based data.

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are needed to see this picture.

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