



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH ABSTRACTS 2006

**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 2006, several innovative criminal justice research projects were undertaken, including projects examining batterer intervention programs, offender reentry, mental health courts, gang resistance education and training, human trafficking, homeland security and safety perceptions, drug task force trends, and search and seizure best practices. In addition, a risk/needs assessment system was developed for the use of agencies that provide supervision to adult offenders. Research was also conducted on specific types of crimes, including homicide, domestic violence and stalking.

*Criminal Justice Research Abstracts 2006* provides readers with summaries of OCJS research projects developed in 2006. The report is divided into two sections: 1) OCJS-funded research, and 2) OCJS in-house research. The research conducted in-house is further divided into evaluation and statistical reports, research summaries, and information requests. 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](http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov).

## OCJS-Funded Research Projects

Nine 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, Kent State University, and the University of Toledo — as well as a highly regarded research institution, RAND.

These projects investigate some of the most current criminal justice issues facing our society. Two projects focus on domestic violence — one looks at the scope and forms of domestic violence in Ohio, while the other looks at batterer intervention programs as a type of response to domestic violence. One project evaluates a community-oriented reentry program. An extensive mental health court evaluation focuses on the consequences of mental health court for consumers. Another project assesses participant satisfaction with gang resistance education training of youth and their caregivers. A project investigating the extent of human trafficking in two cities in Ohio is one of the first of its kind in the country. A homeland security project gathers the perceptions of the Muslim-American community on issues related to safety and security in the aftermath of 9/11. 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. Finally, a collaborative endeavor between the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the University of Cincinnati investigates the search and seizure activities of Ohio’s troopers.

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

University of Toledo

Principal Investigators: Lois A. Ventura and Gabrielle Davis

Batterer intervention programs (BIP) have been the subject of considerable research over the past 20 years. What emerges is a growing recognition that static variables, such as batterer profiles and demographics, or the particular length, design or approach of batterer intervention programs, have not yielded significant findings of effectiveness, such as the reduced likelihood to re-offend or increased safety of abused women. While prior research shows a *modest* positive effect, little evidence exists to support the effectiveness of one BIP over another.

One of the few consistent findings in prior research is that the success of batterer intervention programs depends, to some degree, on how embedded they are within the community response to domestic violence. Consequently, there is a growing interest to examine 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. This study created an inventory of court-referred batterer intervention programs in Ohio and gathered general descriptive information about them. The following highlights emerged from the study.

- Probation officers reported that a substantial number of their probationers have a history of domestic violence.
- More than three-quarters of all batterer intervention programs operate as part of a larger agency. Most programs are part of a larger mental health agency or community service organization.
- The surveyed batterer intervention programs predominantly served Caucasian male offenders between the ages of 28 and 35. Some or most of the program's participants are parents.
- More than 80 percent of the batterer intervention programs surveyed employ elements of the Duluth and/or cognitive-behavioral models.
- More than 90 percent of the surveyed programs reportedly address power and control, personal responsibility, male socialization, social responsibility, sexism, patriarchy, and anger management as a standard part of their curriculum.
- More than half of the programs report a completion rate of 76 percent or better. Analysis of factors associated with program completion suggests that the less rigorous the demands on the participant, the greater the program's completion rate.

This study is the precursor to future studies that will examine more closely the extent to which court-referred batterer intervention programs in Ohio are integrated into larger domestic violence intervention systems and what effect that integration has on victim safety and violence reduction. The goal of future investigation will be to develop evidence-based policies for integrated batterer intervention systems in Ohio.

## **Crime in Ohio: Analyses of OIBRS Data**

Ohio State University

Principal Investigators: Danielle C. Payne, Michael D. Maltz,  
Ruth Peterson, Lauren Krivo

The Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS) is a recent innovation in crime reporting designed to facilitate law enforcement management and policing strategies, as well as to provide a foundation of knowledge suitable to address the information needs of law enforcement, government entities, the community, the media, and researchers, to name a few. As the repository for OIBRS, the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) seeks to provide useful and user-friendly information to agencies involved in OIBRS reporting as one way of demonstrating payoffs for investing in the system. The primary goal of this project was to use OIBRS data to provide a snapshot of domestic violence in Ohio as reported to police. Specifically, the research was designed to increase understanding of the scope of domestic violence in Ohio as well as the forms of domestic violence and how it varies across different types of communities.

Researchers used OIBRS data to analyze domestic violence incidents from 160 jurisdictions in Ohio based on age, sex, relationship, and various other characteristics. Some of their main findings include the following:

- Most domestic violence incidents take place at home, are intraracial, and involve female victims.
- Domestic violence rates tend to decline as household income levels increase.
- Domestic violence rates tend to increase as poverty rates and percentage of racial minorities increase.
- Partner domestic violence cases significantly outnumber family domestic violence cases.
- There are two general age patterns of domestic violence — one in which the victim and the accused are both in their early 20s, and another in which the accused is an older teenager who victimizes a person in their mid-30s.
- The frequency of domestic violence tapers off as the accused ages, thus confirming the general age distribution of crime.

This project represents one of the first attempts to demonstrate the utility of OIBRS data, and it is hoped that expanded coverage will provide a more complete picture in the future.

## **Consequences of Mental Health Court**

Kent State University

Principal Investigators: Christian Ritter and Mark R. Munetz

Project Director: Jennifer L.S. Teller

Research Associate: Natalie Bonfine

The Akron Mental Health Court, which started in 2001, is Ohio's first and longest running mental health court. It has undergone a research investigation by researchers at Kent State University. The focus of this research is on the consequences of mental health court for consumers and the mechanisms by which they operate, the characteristics of the people for whom they are effective, and recidivism rates. Since 2002, the researchers have collected data on the following:

- Incarcerations (both state and local) before, during, and after mental health court participation.
- Hospitalizations before, during, and after mental health court participation.
- Effects of sanctions on participation.
- Effects of individual characteristics (such as diagnosis, substance abuse, and services received) on participation.
- Effects of treatment timing.
- Perceptions of quality of life, coercion, stigma, procedural justice by consumers of mental health services.

In addition to collecting data on successful mental health court clients, they have collected data on four comparison groups: 1) those who failed to complete the court program; 2) those who declined to enter the program; 3) those who were outpatient civilly committed; and 4) those who were clients of treatment providers.

The following are some highlights of the program:

- After entering the program, mental health court clients had a significantly lower proportion of days spent in jail and prison than those who were eligible but declined to participate in the court.
- There was no difference between mental health court clients and those who declined participation in mental health court in the proportion of days hospitalized.
- In comparison to those who were not in the mental health court, successful completers of mental health court and of outpatient commitment experienced reduced incarcerations after separation from the program.
- In comparison to successful completers of mental health court, unsuccessful mental health court completers experienced increased incarcerations after they were separated from the program.
- In comparison to other groups, successful mental health court completers experienced a higher quality of life than those in other groups because they perceived themselves as less stigmatized.
- Unsuccessful completers differ from successful completers in history of alcohol treatment.
- There are no differences between successful and unsuccessful completers in psychiatric or substance diagnoses.

**Community Oriented Reentry (CORE)**  
Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction and  
Office of Criminal Justice Services  
Principal Investigators: Evalyn Parks, Betty Moore, and Sharon Schnelle

In 2002, Ohio was awarded a three-year, \$2 million federal grant under the *Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI)*. The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, serving as the lead agency, is collaborating with Ohio Department of Mental Health, Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Ohio Department of Education and the Office of Criminal Justice Services. These partners, in conjunction with the local coordinators, serve on a reentry steering committee that oversees the implementation of the grant. The local partners include the Cuyahoga County Department of Justice Affairs for the Cleveland area and Community Connection for Ohio Offenders in Franklin and Allen counties.

Ohio's SVORI grant is referred to as the Community-Oriented Reentry Program (CORE). The grant targets approximately 200 offenders who have served at least 12 consecutive months in prison and who are in the age range of 18-35 years old and will be serving a minimum of one-year community supervision. The staff began identifying and serving the target population in January 2003.

CORE is a collaboration between state and local correctional programs. Services for the offender in Phase I begin in the state institutions. Identified offenders are provided with information about the program, asked if they would like to participate, and asked to complete a screening form. Participation is voluntary. If they are found eligible, a reentry management team (RMT) consisting of an institutional case manager, the parole officer, and the community reentry case manager meets with the offender. The team meets monthly with the offender to discuss the Reentry Accountability Plan implementation and address any additional concerns that arise. Phase II of the program occurs when the offender returns to the community. The offender will continue to meet with a community RMT that includes the offender, the community case manager, the parole officer, and other community service providers working with the offender. Phase II lasts for the time the offender is on community supervision. Phase III begins once the offender is off community supervision. The local community case manager will monitor the offender's progress and continue to provide services as needed. Since participation in the program is voluntary, offenders may withdraw at any time.

This program is a unique model for addressing the issue of serious and violent offenders reintegrating into the community. A four-year evaluation to measure program implementation and effectiveness follows offenders released from the institution. It is anticipated that the evaluation will be complete in August 2007. The evaluation should provide information on the following:

- Do serious offenders reintegrate into the community better with community case managers in addition to parole officers?
- Do intensive treatment in institutions and the community reduce the incidence of substance abuse?
- Do increased mental health services in the community increase the offender's compliance with medication and treatment?
- Does increased employment services and meeting housing needs increase the offender's likelihood of success?
- What is the effect on offender success of providing services linked to needs?

## **Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT)**

Kent State University

Principal Investigator: Eric Jefferis

The Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) project is the largest federally funded youth violence and gang prevention program in the country. GREAT is provided by police agencies in more than 2,000 communities across the United States. The GREAT program uses certified law enforcement officers who are specially trained to provide three program components: elementary and middle school curricula, summer activities, and GREAT Families.

This research project is designed to evaluate the family component of the GREAT program. The primary goal of the GREAT Families program is to promote healthy and safe communities by strengthening family relationships and preventing risk-taking behavior among adolescents. GREAT Families is designed for parents and their children ages 10-17 who have not yet shown problems that require intervention. The program consists of two component features, the first addressing communication and other issues common to most families, and the second addressing local resources and programs available to families. This evaluation focuses on the first component.

Participation in the program is voluntary and families are selected with an initial contact by their local church administrations. The selection procedures are solely under the discretion of local churches. Three sets of questionnaires were developed for each of two groups — the parents and the children — covering three time periods — one survey prior to training, one right after completion of the program, and one two months after the program. Seventy-one participants completed the Time 1 survey, and because not all families finished the program, 48 completed the Time 2 survey.

Preliminary findings indicate that just under one-third of the participants consider gang activities not to be a problem in their communities. Twenty-three percent feel gang activities are a major problem.

Of those participants who completed questionnaires both before the program began and after the program ended, parents and children alike expressed high satisfaction with the program. The primary reason that both groups cited high satisfaction rates was due to the parent-child interaction that the program promoted. Both groups also noted an appreciation of the knowledge they gained through the program.

The findings indicate that there was a 10-percent increase in participants' feelings about togetherness in their family, and a 10-percent decrease in family fights (15-percent decrease in physical violence and throwing things). While the program was in session, the attention that family members gave to one another increased significantly.

**Human Trafficking in Ohio**  
Rand Corporation  
Principal Investigator: Jeremy Wilson

Human trafficking is a growing global and national concern, but ultimately it is a problem that is identified at the local level. Ohio has several characteristics that may be conducive to sex and labor trafficking. However, while Ohio may host human trafficking markets, there is little knowledge about trafficking in the state. The purpose of this project is to explore the existence and characteristics of human trafficking in Ohio. The study focuses its efforts in Columbus and Toledo. The following methods are used to explore the existence of human trafficking in Ohio:

- **Key Respondent Interviews:** RAND investigators obtain and assess primary source material by interviewing those who interact directly with trafficking victims, offenders, and witnesses. Interviews focus on: (1) understanding the nature and extent of the trafficking market; (2) the response of the criminal justice (and social services) systems to human trafficking victims and offenders, and (3) detailing the primary needs of trafficking victims in these communities.
- **Local Newspaper Content Analysis:** Human trafficking is a crime that would likely garner media attention when an arrest is made. Given this, investigators conducted a content analysis of news reports from the major newspapers in each case study site (study date January 1, 2003 – June 30, 2006). Consistent with previous human trafficking research that used this approach, investigators are examining variables to describe human trafficking.

The insight gained from this exploratory study can be used to derive policy lessons about whether and how the state of Ohio and its law enforcement community should proceed in its response to human trafficking. It also provides a conservative indication of the extent to which trafficking is a problem in Ohio's urban communities and identifies specific areas where intervention (policies or programs) can improve the ability of Ohio's criminal justice system to prevent, control, and respond to human trafficking. A final report will be completed by the fall of 2007.

**Homeland Security Survey**  
Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services  
Principal Investigators: Robert Swisher, Lisa Contos Shoaf

The Multi-Cultural Affairs Office of Ohio Homeland Security seeks to promote cooperation, understanding, mutual respect, and harmony between law enforcement agencies and the diverse communities across Ohio to ensure the state is as prepared as possible to prevent, protect, respond to, and recover from potential acts of terrorism. As part of this effort, Ohio Homeland Security is partnering with the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Ohio) and with OCJS to seek input from Ohio's Muslim community on issues related to safety and security. The purpose of the survey is to allow Ohio Homeland Security to better understand the concerns and perceptions of Ohio's Muslim community in the aftermath of 9/11.

This web-based survey will be distributed to the Ohio Muslim community through CAIR-Ohio. Questions on the survey cover several issues, including:

- Involvement in the Muslim community and in American society as a whole.
- Relationship between the Muslim community and law enforcement.
- Racial/religious/ethnic victimization.
- Homeland security and emergency response planning.

The survey will be administered in the spring of 2007, and results will be available in the summer of 2007.

## **System-wide Risk/Need Assessment Project**

University of Cincinnati

Principal Investigators: Chris Lowenkamp and Edward Latessa

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 is 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, field testing and modification of the instrument, and statewide implementation of the instrument.

The first phase of the project involved a comprehensive review of the risk assessment literature. This review covered academic and professional journals from a multitude of disciplines including psychology, criminology and criminal justice, medical and addictions studies. Literature that discussed behaviors or characteristics empirically shown to be related to engaging in crime (criminogenic risks) were evaluated and germane questions that targeted these specific risks were included on the draft assessment.

In addition, a review of existing risk and need assessments was also conducted. This review included more than 100 different types of tools/scales addressing criminal behavior, addictive behavior, physical and sexual abuse, employment, education, empathy, anger, depression, dependency issues, grandiosity, criminal thinking patterns, motivation both for change and for treatment, sex offender behavior, mental illness and medication compliance, residential stability, antisocial peers, antisocial attitudes, impulsivity, etc.

From this information, a data collection tool and questionnaire were drafted. The data collection tool is a comprehensive collection of questions that address each criminogenic area with multiple measures in order to limit the biasing influence of how a particular question is worded. The self report questionnaire is a supplement to the interview process, and was crafted deliberately at a sixth-grade reading level. Using these two tools, a standardized interview process generates the data needed to construct the final risk and need assessment.

The tool is being developed so that the assessment itself is based on an accumulation of information at each stage of the correctional process — pre-sentence/probation, intake to prison, and release from prison to parole or post-release control. Therefore, a sampling process of different types of supervision was planned, including probation departments, community-based correctional facilities, prisons, parole, and people under pretrial supervision. These field test sites included CBCFs and probation departments from Warren, Franklin, Cuyahoga, Montgomery, Butler, Clermont, Summit, Hancock, Wood, Columbiana, and Mahoning counties.

As of the end of 2006, the University of Cincinnati research team visited six different counties and the corresponding probation agencies, community-based correctional facilities and pretrial agencies. From these facilities, they have collected a total of 436 offender interviews and 47 pretrial interviews.

## **Search and Seizure: Best Practices**

University of Cincinnati

Principal Investigator: Robin Engel

A number of studies nationwide have reported patterns of differential treatment in post-stop outcomes for minority drivers. Specifically, minority motorists are stopped and searched at higher rates compared to Caucasian motorists, yet contraband is less likely to be discovered during searches of minority drivers. In order to better understand the patterns and practices related to search and seizure activities during traffic stops, the University of Cincinnati Policing Institute (UCPI) engaged in research with the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP). The planned research involves a three-stage approach: 1) focus groups with OSHP troopers, 2) a survey of all troopers with routine patrol and/or criminal interdiction responsibilities, and 3) comparisons of data generated from the focus groups and survey results with actual search and seizure activity by troopers.

Eight focus group interviews were conducted in February 2006 with a total of 63 troopers and sergeants employed by the OSHP; an additional 10 sergeants were interviewed in a separate focus group in September 2006. The purpose of conducting focus groups was to gather information regarding the perceived “best practices” currently used by OSHP troopers in determining who and when to search. Participation in the focus groups was based on productivity, accuracy, and professionalism in search and seizure-related activities.

Once the focus groups were completed, the information was transcribed from the digital recordings to documents for content analysis by independent coders. The content analysis produced several themes, including: 1) cues of suspicion prior to and during the stop, including the accuracy of such cues and the importance of considering the totality of circumstances; 2) the types of investigative techniques used by troopers; 3) factors contributing to successful searches, with a specific focus on searches of minorities; 4) general impediments to effective search and seizure practices; 5) the utility of, and access to, canine officers; 6) training and its effectiveness in search and seizure success; and 7) recommendations for change suggested by the participants. Based on this information, a number of policy and training recommendations were provided. In addition, a survey was developed and is currently being distributed to all OSHP troopers with road duties. A final report documenting the research findings will be produced in June 2007.

## 2006 In-House Research Summaries

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

Four research and statistical reports were created in 2006. One report is a drug trend analysis based on data submitted by Ohio’s multijurisdictional task forces. Another is an analysis of clients involved in the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) program. The last two reports are analyses of specific crimes, namely homicides and stalking.

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: Five-Year Trend Data**

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principle Investigator: Robert Swisher

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 in 2004 (Three-Year Trend Analysis) and 2005 (Four-Year Trend Analysis). This report covers task force performance data from 2001 through 2005.

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 task forces were formed because single jurisdictions operating alone had difficulty building cases against drug traffickers who worked in multiple jurisdictions. Thus, the purpose at that time 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. For example, a substantial number of drug traffickers were also trafficking in firearms and involved in various types of violent crime. 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.

Despite the number of task forces declining during the period 2001 through 2005 and a decrease in JAG/Byrne funding, overall virtually all measures of project effectiveness increased during 2005. The increase is especially true for: (1) the number of investigations and arrests; (2) the amounts of cocaine, crack, marijuana, and methamphetamine removed; and (3) the value of criminal asset seizures and forfeitures. The demographic profile of those arrested by the task forces from 2001 through 2005 was generally consistent with the arrestees from the beginning of the Ohio task force program. This is especially true regarding gender (81 percent male) and age (about 96 percent adult).

The average number of new investigations per task force steadily increased during the five years, resulting in a 98 percent increase from 2001 to 2005. A total of 32,754 new investigations were reported for the entirety of the five-year period. The new investigations resulted in the average number of arrests per task force also increasing steadily from 2001 to 2005. Arrests per task force increased 108 percent over the five-year period. There were a total of 24,604 arrests during the five-year period. During 2005, 4,686 of the arrestees were charged with felony offenses.

The amount of drugs seized in 2005 was a five-year high for cocaine, crack, marijuana (non-plants), and methamphetamine. The average amount of drugs removed per task force increased over the five years for cocaine (+ 565 percent), crack (+ 607 percent), heroin (+ 66 percent), marijuana (non-plants increased by 294 percent and marijuana plants by 171 percent), and methamphetamines (+ 1,600 percent). Ohio's task forces are actively involved in pharmaceutical diversion enforcement. During 2005, Hydrocodone (such as Vicodin, Loritab) and Oxycodone (such as Percocet, OxyContin) comprised the bulk of the pharmaceutical drugs involving the task forces.

Criminal asset seizures increased by 471 percent and forfeitures increased by 271 percent over the period 2001 through 2005. The pattern for criminal asset seizures/forfeitures is a fairly consistent low level of baseline activity punctuated by occasional large busts.

## Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT)

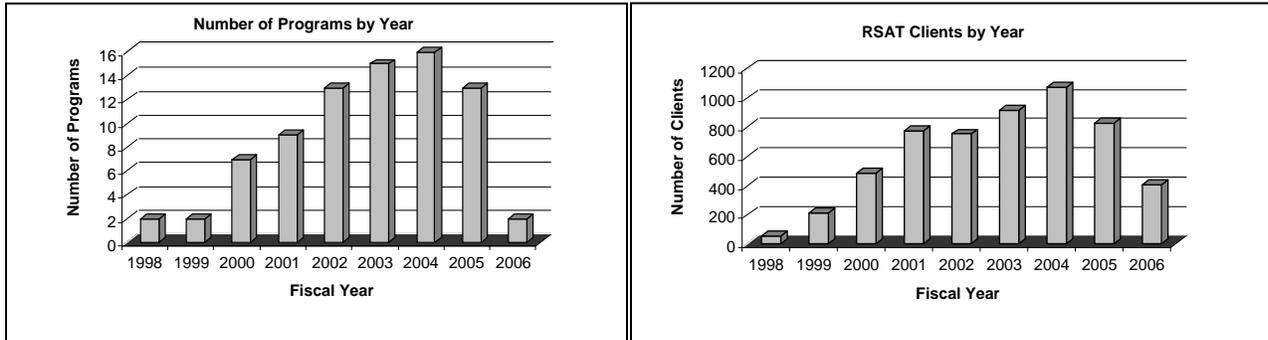
Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principal Investigator: Sharon Schnelle

Ohio started funding substance abuse treatment in secure correctional facilities in 1998 through the federal Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program. Today, OCJS administers the RSAT block grant program, which provides \$1.2 million annually for residential treatment services for offenders. Since its beginning, 21 programs have received funding in both state and local facilities. In 2006, 11 programs were funded.

Since the start of the program, OCJS has been collecting detailed information on offenders receiving RSAT services in order to comply with federal reporting requirements and to provide a foundation for evaluation. Analysis of the offender data can provide information on what types of offenders are more likely to experience success in RSAT programs. Information can also indicate whether the facilities are meeting their goals. OCJS is developing an annual report to provide more detailed information on clients served.

The funding for the RSAT program has been steadily declining since 1998 when Ohio's allocation for RSAT programming was \$2,209,736. In 2006, Ohio received only \$293,132 to fund RSAT programs. Despite the significantly reduced funds, in federal fiscal year 2006, 486 treatment beds providing 89,068 treatment days and 3,267 aftercare treatment days were supported through RSAT funding. The average cost per day for residential services was \$22.66.



Summary of Discharges		FY2005		All Years	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Type of discharge	Successful completion	245	70%	3,937	68.5%
	Unsuccessful completion disciplinary	50	14.6%	761	13.2%
	Voluntary withdrawal/judicial release	10	2.6%	307	5.3%
	Escape/abscond	3	0.8%	236	4.1%
	Unable to participate due to medical reclassify/out to court	19	5.4%	241	4.2%
	Arrested/convicted for a new crime	1	0.3%	86	.15%
	Other	22	6.3%	179	3.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>350</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5,747</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

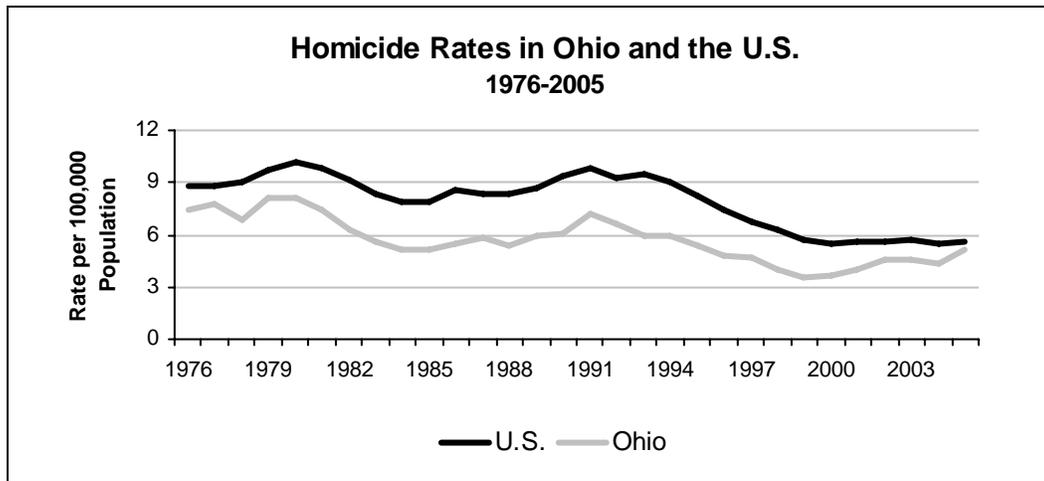
## Homicides in 2004

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principal Investigator: Lisa Contos Shoaf

Homicides in Ohio occur at an annual rate of approximately five per 100,000 population. Over the past 30 years, the rate of homicides has fluctuated from highs in the late 1970s/early 1980s and again in the early- to mid-1990s to lows in the late 1990s. Although the homicide rate increased in 2005, it is still lower than the average rate over the 30 year period.

A comparison of Ohio's homicide rate to that of the U.S. suggests that Ohio is not unique with regard to this crime. Ohio's homicide rate patterns vary in a similar manner to that of the U.S.



Source: *Crime in the United States, 1976-2005*

**Number of Homicides.** There were 460 homicide incidents in Ohio in 2004, resulting in 495 victims. Of the 460 homicides, 95 percent involved the murder of a single victim and 5 percent involved the killing of multiple victims. Of all incidents in which there was a single victim, 56 percent were committed by a single offender, 14 percent were committed by multiple offenders, and 30 percent were committed by an unknown number of offenders.

**Ohio's Homicide Victims.** More than three-quarters of all homicide victims were male. The median male victim age was 29 years and the median age was 36 years for female victims. The early adulthood years are particularly deadly for males. Half of male victims were under age 30.

Nearly 55 percent of all homicide victims were African-American, 45 percent were Caucasian, and less than 1.0 percent were "other" races. When broken down by gender, the discrepancy is even more apparent for African-American males. African-American males were 44 percent of all homicide victims and Caucasian males were 32 percent of all homicide victims. African-American female victims were 10 percent of all homicide victims, whereas Caucasian females were 13 percent of all victims.

**Ohio's Homicide Offenders.** Demographically, Ohio's homicide offenders were quite similar to the homicide victims. Male homicide offenders outnumbered female homicide offenders by six to one. Additionally, males were equal to or outnumbered females across every age category. The median offender age for males was 25, four years younger than the median female offender age of 29. The proportion of male offenders increased dramatically from age 16 through 25, then decreased steadily thereafter. The proportion of female homicide offenders, on the other hand, showed less of a peak and more of an increased range of offending which extended from ages 16 through 55.

African-American offenders made up 60 percent of homicide offenders, and Caucasian offenders made up 40 percent of homicide offenders. When broken down by gender, African-American males were 52 percent of homicide offenders and Caucasian males were 34 percent of all homicide offenders. African-American females were 8 percent of homicide offenders, while Caucasian females were 6 percent of all offenders.

**Characteristics of the Victim-Offender Relationship.** The majority of homicide victims knew their offender, either as a family member, an acquaintance, or an intimate partner. Given that most homicides involve an offender known to the victim, clear patterns of gender and racial relationships are also found between victims and their offenders.

- **Victim-offender gender.** Eighty-six percent of male homicides and 83 percent of female homicides were perpetrated by a male offender. Seventeen percent of female homicides were perpetrated by a female offender.
- **Victim-offender race.** There is a strong tendency for homicide victims and offenders to be of the same race. More than 90 percent of African-American homicide victims were killed by African-American offenders. Likewise, nearly 80 percent of Caucasian homicide victims were killed by Caucasian offenders.

As the following graph shows, only 17 percent of homicide offenders were strangers. In 83 percent of homicides, the victim knew the offender. Of the incidents in which the victim knew the offender, 35 percent of the incidents involved a family member.

**Weapons Used in Homicides.** Firearms were the leading weapon identified in homicide incidents. They made up 66 percent of all identified weapons. The next leading weapon used in homicides was knife/cutting instruments (14 percent), followed closely by personal weapons (13 percent) which include beatings using hands, feet, or other body parts.<sup>1</sup> Six percent of homicides resulted from one of the following weapons: blunt objects, explosives, fire, strangulation, and asphyxiation.

There are differences in weapon use by gender. Males were more likely than females to use firearms. Females were more likely than males to use knives or other cutting instruments.

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<sup>1</sup> Strangulation is not considered a subset of personal weapons.

## Stalking in Ohio

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services  
Principal Investigator: Lisa Contos Shoaf

Similar to other states' laws, the Ohio Revised Code Statute 2903.211 characterizes stalking as engaging in a pattern of conduct that knowingly causes a person to believe that he or she will be physically harmed or will endure mental distress. Stalking in and of itself is considered a crime. The victim and the offender do not have to have a relationship or even know each other in order for stalking to occur.

OIBRS data are used in this report on stalking. However, some limitations must be noted. Because reporting for Ohio is incomplete, caution should be used in interpreting the findings reported in this paper, as the data may reflect the composition of the OIBRS-reporting jurisdictions rather than the composition of the state as a whole. Additionally, because the number of agencies submitting OIBRS data increases yearly, no annual comparisons can be made with the data.

**Stalking in Ohio.** In 2004, Ohio OIBRS agencies reported 1,390 cases of stalking.<sup>2</sup> Stalking incidents in 2004 tended to be lower in the winter months, but not consistently so. The majority of stalking incidents were reported as occurring at a person's residence; however, incidents were reported in numerous public areas as well.

Generally, stalkers did not use or display any sort of weapon. Sixty-two percent of incidents included information on the use (or nonuse) of weapons. Of these incidents, 91 percent involved no weapon and 6 percent reported the use of personal weapons (hands, fists, feet, etc.).

**Victim Characteristics.** Of the stalking victims for whom age information was known, the data indicate that more than 76 percent of victims fell between the ages of 25 and 44. Nearly 85 percent of victims were female. Slightly more than two-thirds of victims were Caucasian and 32 percent were African-American.

**Suspect Characteristics.** Of the suspects for whom demographic information was known, more than three-fourths (76 percent) of stalkers were male. Sixty-four percent of stalking suspects were identified as Caucasian, and 35 percent were identified as African-American. As with the victims, the majority of stalkers fell within the ages of 25 and 44.

**Victim-Suspect Relationship.** Of the cases for which relationship data were known, the data showed that stalking victims nearly always knew their stalker — only 8 percent of victims reported not knowing who their stalker was. Approximately 30 percent of *known* stalkers were an intimate or former intimate (current or former boy/girlfriend, common-law spouse, or spouse). Within the "other known" category, 51 percent were identified as acquaintances, 42.3 percent were identified as "other known," 3.7 percent were neighbors, and 2.1 percent were friends.

Breaking down the victim-suspect relationship data into gender categories revealed that 32 percent of female victims (out of all female victims) had an intimate/former intimate stalker, whereas 23 percent of male victims (out of all male victims) had an intimate/former intimate stalker.

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<sup>2</sup> Stalking incidents used in this report fall under ORC 2903.211 (menacing by stalking) and 2903.214 (petition for protection order to protect victim of menacing by stalking). 98.5 percent of incidents in this report fall under ORC 2903.211.

## Crime in the United States 2005

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In September 2006, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released *Crime in the United States* for 2005. 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 2005, law enforcement agencies active in the UCR program represented 94 percent of the total population.

Data for Ohio, the East North Central region of the Midwest,<sup>3</sup> 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. increased 1.3 percent from 2004 to 2005. The East North Central region showed a rate increase of 5.2 percent. In Ohio, the rate increased 3.7 percent, from 338.7 per 100,000 population to 351.3 per 100,000 population. Ohio's violent crime rate is still much lower than the nation's rate of 469.2. In the U.S., the East North Central region as a whole, and Ohio, rates increased for every violent crime category except forcible rape.

- **Murder and non-negligent manslaughter.** The murder rate increased 2.4 percent for the U.S. and 4.6 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the murder rate increased 15.5 percent.
- **Forcible rape.** Rape decreased 2.1 percent in the U.S. and 2.3 percent in the East North Central region. The rape rate decreased 4.1 percent in Ohio.
- **Robbery.** Robbery rates increased 2.9 percent in the U.S. and 7.4 percent in the East North Central region. Ohio showed an increase in robbery rate from 152.2 to 163.1 — a 7.1-percent increase. Ohio's rate is higher than that of the U.S. (140.7) and the region (144.3).
- **Aggravated assault.** Aggravated assault rates increased 0.9 percent in the U.S. and 5.1 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the aggravated assault rate increased 1.9 percent. Ohio's rate (143.4) is less than that of the U.S. (291.1) and the region (247.1).

**Property Crime.** Property crime consists of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft.<sup>4</sup> The property crime rate in the U.S. decreased 2.4 percent, from 3,514.1 per 100,000 to 3,429.8 per 100,000. In the East North Central region, property crime decreased 0.4 percent. In Ohio, the overall property crime rate showed no change from the previous year.

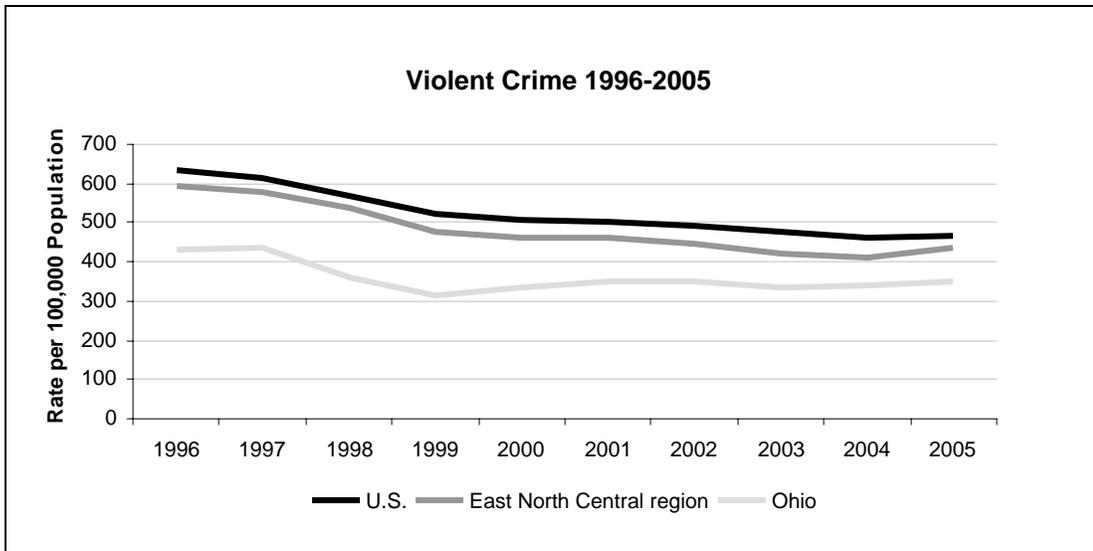
- **Burglary.** The burglary rate decreased 0.5 percent in the U.S. and increased 4.0 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the burglary rate increased 3.5 percent. The burglary rate in Ohio (872.8) is higher than that of the U.S. (726.7) and the East North Central region (685.1).
- **Larceny-theft.** Larceny-theft rates decreased 3.2 percent in the U.S. and 1.7 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the larceny-theft rate decreased 1.4 percent.
- **Motor vehicle theft.** Motor vehicle theft decreased in the U.S. (1.1 percent) and in the East North Central region (0.8 percent). In Ohio, the rate increased 1.7 percent. The Ohio rate of 360.9 per

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<sup>3</sup> The East North Central region consists of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

<sup>4</sup> Arson is also considered a property crime; however, the UCR program does not have sufficient data to estimate arson offenses.

100,000 is comparable to that of the East North Central region (353.7) and lower than that of the U.S. (416.7).



## **Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted 2005**

### Federal Bureau of Investigation

In October 2006, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) released its annual *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted* for 2005. The report is based on data submitted to the FBI from agencies participating in the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Program, FBI Field Division, Legal Attaché Office Reports, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program. Data is grouped by officers feloniously killed, officers accidentally killed, and officers assaulted, with narrative descriptions provided for incidents where officers were feloniously killed.

#### **National Statistics**

- Fifty-five law enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty in 2005. The deaths occurred in 53 separate incidents in 24 states and Puerto Rico. In 2004, 57 officers were feloniously killed.
- Characteristics of the feloniously killed officer in 2005:
  - Average age was 37.
  - Average length of service was 10 years.
  - Fifty-four officers were male and one was female.
  - Forty-seven officers were Caucasian and eight were African-American.
- Characteristics of the incident surrounding the murder:
  - Fifteen percent occurred in ambush situations.
  - Fifteen percent occurred in arrest situations.
  - Thirteen percent occurred during the investigation of a disturbance call.
  - Thirteen percent occurred while investigating suspicious persons/circumstances.
  - Twenty-seven percent occurred during traffic stops/pursuits.
  - Seven percent occurred during investigative activities.
  - Five percent occurred during a high-risk tactical situation.
  - Four percent occurred while handling a mentally deranged individual.
  - Two percent occurred while handling a prisoner.
- Fifty of the 55 victim officers were killed by a firearm, the majority of which were handguns. Five officers were intentionally hit by vehicles.
- There were 67 accidental deaths of law enforcement officers in the line of duty in 2005. Fifty-six of the 67 died as the result of a vehicle-related accident, including car, aircraft, or motorcycle mishaps or other traffic-related incidents (directing or stopping traffic, assisting motorists). Four were killed by accidental shootings. The remaining seven were killed by drowning, falls, or other accidental means.
- There were 57,546 officers assaulted in the line of duty, and 27 percent of these resulted in an injury. Twenty-nine percent of the assaults resulting in injury involved the use of personal weapons (hands, fists, etc.), 9 percent involved firearms, 13 percent involved cutting instruments, and 25 percent involved other dangerous weapons.

## Ohio Statistics

- In Ohio, two officers were feloniously killed in 2005.

**Columbus Police Department.** A 33-year-old officer was shot and killed while working special duty at a bank. The officer had more than eight years of law enforcement experience. The suspect, who had a prior criminal record, was arrested and confessed to the murder of the officer as well as to several robberies. He was charged with murder and four counts of robbery.

**Chillicothe Police Department.** A 44-year-old officer was shot and killed while investigating a suspicious person. The officer was off duty when he observed police activity and a potential suspect in an alley. The officer was believed to have transitioned to on-duty status and, unarmed, pursued the suspect. The suspect fired on the officer, killing him. The officer had 19 years of law enforcement experience. The suspect was a known drug user and was on parole at the time of the incident. He was arrested and confessed to the murder. He was charged with aggravated murder and aggravated robbery.

- Since 1996, there have been 20 felonious killings in Ohio.
- No Ohio officers were accidentally killed in 2005. Since 1996, 12 officers were accidentally killed.
- During 2005, 185 Ohio agencies reported 586 assaults on officers. Eighty-four percent of the assaults were committed with a personal weapon. Less than 1.0 percent of assaults were committed with a firearm.
- The rate of assault per 100 officers in Ohio in 2005 was 9.4, which is below the U.S. rate of 11.9 per 100 officers.

## **Hate Crime Statistics 2005**

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In October 2006, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) released the publication, *Hate Crime Statistics for 2005*. 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, 12,417 law enforcement agencies representing 82.7 percent of the nation's population participated in the hate crime reporting program in 2005.

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 was a result of 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. This uncertainty of identifying a crime based on bias is compounded by the newness of hate crime reporting and the limited number of law enforcement agencies participating in the program.

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.

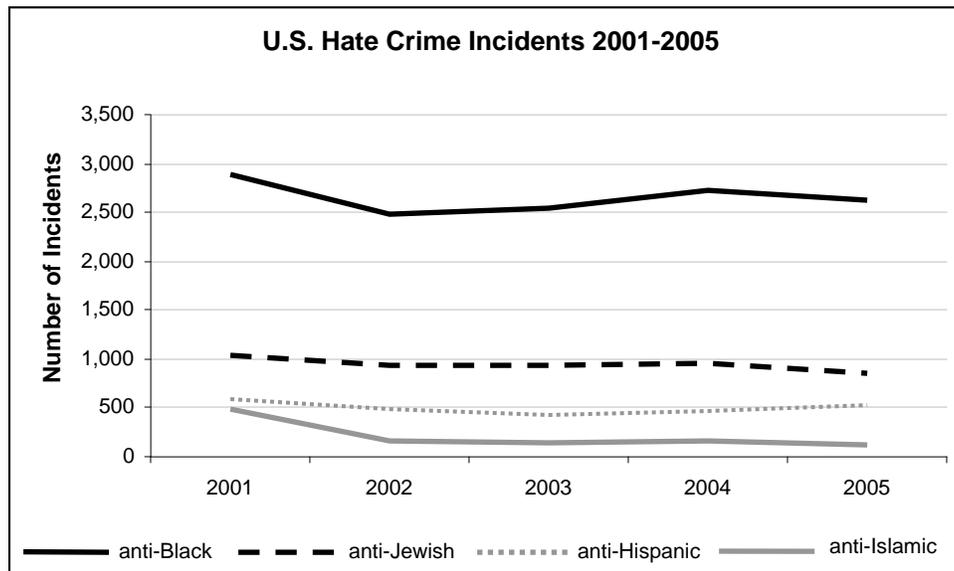
### **Hate Crime Reporting**

- The number of Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement increased from 410 in 2004 to 443 in 2005, an 8-percent increase.
- Of the 443 Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement, 383 reported no incidents of hate crimes in their jurisdictions.
- Sixty Ohio law enforcement agencies reported a total of 176 hate crime incidents during the year. The number of incidents decreased by 50 percent over 2004. Nationwide, the number of reported hate crimes decreased by more than 6 percent.

*Note that in 2004, 353 hate crimes were reported in Ohio, an increase of nearly 53 percent over the previous year.*

- The Ohio hate crime rate of 2.0 incidents per 100,000 population is below the national average of 2.9 incidents per 100,000 population.
- Nationwide, the majority of hate crime incidents, 55 percent, involved racial bias. The remaining incidents involved religion (17 percent), sexual orientation (14 percent), ethnicity/national origin (13 percent), and disability (< 1 percent).
- Compared to 2004, the total number of incidents nationwide decreased in every bias category. Sexual orientation bias showed the largest decrease (-15 percent), followed by religious bias (-11 percent), disability bias (-7 percent), racial bias (-3 percent) and ethnicity bias (-3 percent).
- Nationwide data on the specific types of racial bias show that 67 percent of such incidents were anti-African-American and 21 percent were anti-Caucasian. Fifty-five percent of ethnicity bias incidents were anti-Hispanic.

- Nationwide data show that 69 percent of religious bias incidents were anti-Jewish, while 10 percent were anti-Islamic.
- Of the 60 Ohio law enforcement agencies reporting incidents of hate crime in their jurisdiction, Columbus accounted for 28 percent of all incidents. Taken together, Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Columbus accounted for 40 percent of all hate crime incidents.
- Nationwide, 62 percent of all hate crime offenses<sup>5</sup> were crimes against persons. The majority of these offenses involved intimidation (49 percent), simple assault (30 percent) and aggravated assault (20 percent). There were six murders as a result of a hate bias.
- Nationwide, of the 37 percent of hate crime offenses committed against property, the overwhelming majority, 81 percent, involved destruction, damage, or vandalism.



<sup>5</sup> Offenses differ from incidents in that there may be multiple offenses, multiple victims, and/or multiple offenders within one hate crime incident.

## **Capital Punishment 2005**

Bureau of Justice Statistics

In December 2006, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the report *Capital Punishment in 2005*. This annual report characterizes persons under sentence of death and those executed between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2005. The following summarizes some key findings of the report, with emphasis on Ohio data wherever possible.

### **National Statistics**

- There were 3,254 state and federal death row inmates as of December 31, 2005, which was 66 less than the year before. One hundred twenty-eight inmates across 24 states and the federal prison system entered prison with death sentences during 2005.
  - California (23), Florida (15), Texas (14), and Alabama (12) accounted for half of those receiving a death sentence in 2005.
- As of December 31, 2005, those awaiting execution were 56 percent Caucasian and 42 percent African-American. Among those for whom ethnicity was known, 13 percent were of Hispanic origin. Men made up 98 percent of all prisoners under death sentence. The median educational attainment for these individuals was 11th grade. Across all death row inmates for whom date of arrest information was available, the data show that half were age 20-29 on the date of arrest, and 11 percent were age 19 or under. Less than 1.0 percent was age 55 or older.
- For those death row inmates for whom criminal history information was available, 65 percent had a prior felony conviction, including 8 percent with at least one previous homicide conviction.
- During 2005, 16 states executed 60 prisoners, one more than in 2004. They had been on death row an average of 12 years and 3 months. Fifty-nine of the 60 executed were men. Thirty-eight were Caucasian, 19 were African-American, and three were white Hispanic. All were given lethal injection.
- Twenty-two states and the Federal Bureau of Prisons reported 109 persons whose death sentences were removed or overturned. Of these, 89 received a life sentence, four were resentenced, two were awaiting a new trial, 11 were awaiting resentencing, and one had no action taken after having the death sentence removed. The status was unknown for two inmates.

### **Ohio Statistics**

- In Ohio, a capital offense is indicated when the offense is aggravated murder with at least one of 10 aggravating circumstances (ORC sections 2903.01, 2929.02, 2929.04). Ohio was among 27 states to exclude mentally retarded persons from capital sentencing [ORC 2929.06(A)] and to allow imposition of the death penalty in cases where an appeals court previously vacated a death sentence [ORC 2929.06(E)], effective March 23, 2005.
- The minimum age authorized for capital punishment in Ohio is 18.
- The method of execution in Ohio is lethal injection.
- As of December 31, 2004, there were 202 inmates on death row in Ohio. During 2005:
  - Five death row inmates were received.
  - Four inmates were removed from death row (*not* via execution), including two who died of natural causes and one who committed suicide.
  - Four inmates were executed.

- As of December 31, 2005, Ohio had 199 inmates on death row, the fifth largest death row population in the U.S. Forty-nine percent of those on Ohio's death row (97) were Caucasian, 50 percent (99) were African-American, and 1.0 percent were of races other than white or black. Six Hispanics and two females were under sentence of death.
- Since 1930, Ohio has executed 191 prisoners. Since 1977 (the year after the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of revised state capital punishment laws), Ohio has executed 19 prisoners.
- A preview of 2006 data shows that Ohio had executed five prisoners by lethal injection.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Death sentence prisoners 12/31/04</b>	<b>Death sentence prisoners received in 2005</b>	<b>Prisoners removed from death row (excluding executions)*</b>	<b>Executed</b>	<b>Death sentence prisoners as of 12/31/05</b>
U.S.	3,320	128	134	60	3,254
Ohio	202	5	4	4	199

\* Includes removal or overturning of death sentence and death from natural causes or suicide.

## **Criminal Victimization 2005**

Bureau of Justice Statistics

In September 2006, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the bulletin *Criminal Victimization, 2005*. Data come from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), which collects data from a nationally representative sample of U.S. households on nonfatal crimes against persons 12 or older, reported and not reported to the police. The NCVS measures the violent crimes of rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault, and the property crimes of household burglary, motor vehicle theft, and theft. The following highlights come from this report.

### **Criminal Victimization, 2005**

- In 2005, there were an estimated 18 million property crimes and 5.2 million violent crimes. One- and two-year change estimates indicate that national crime rates remain at the lowest overall levels experienced since 1973.
- Males, African-Americans, and persons age 24 or younger were victimized at rates higher than females, Caucasians, and persons age 25 or older.
- Females were more likely victimized by someone familiar to them, whereas males were more likely to be victimized by a stranger. Eighteen percent of offenders of female victims were intimates and 34 percent were strangers. In contrast, 3 percent of offenders of male victims were intimates and 54 percent were strangers.
- Twenty-four percent of all violent crime incidents were committed by an armed offender. The use of a firearm was dependent in part upon the type of crime committed. Twenty-six percent of robberies were committed by an offender with a firearm, as opposed to 3 percent of rapes/sexual assaults.
- Forty-seven percent of all violent victimizations and 40 percent of all property crimes were reported to law enforcement. Across crimes these percentages varied. Aggravated assault was the violent crime most often to be reported to police, and motor vehicle theft was the property crime most frequently reported to police.
- Violent crimes against females were more likely to be reported than those against males. Rates of reporting violent victimizations did not differ across racial and ethnic categories.
- Rates for overall property crime were lowest for households in the Northeast and highest for those in the West.
- Those who owned their home were less likely to experience all types of property crimes than those that rented their home.

### **Criminal Victimization, 2002-03 and 2004-05.<sup>6</sup>**

- Violent crime decreased 6.6 percent when comparing 2002-03 and 2004-05 two-year averages. Rape, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault decreased over this time period.
- Violent victimization rates from 2002-03 to 2004-05 declined for males and females. The decrease for females was significant.
- Violent victimization decreased significantly for individuals 16-19 years old. All other age groups except the 50-64 year-old age group showed nonsignificant decreases in violent crime rates.
- Violent crime rates significantly decreased in suburban areas from 2002-03 to 2004-05.
- The Northeast showed a significant decrease in violent crime of nearly 12 percent over the measured time period.
- Property crimes decreased 2.2 percent when comparing 2002-03 and 2004-05 two-year averages. Motor vehicle theft and theft decreased, while household burglary increased during this time period.

### **Criminal Victimization Trends, 1993-2005**

- The rate of all NCVS-measured violent and property crimes fell significantly between the years of 1993 and 2005.
- The overall violent crime rate decreased a significant 58 percent. Rape or sexual assault fell 69 percent, robbery decreased 57 percent, aggravated assault fell 64 percent, and simple assault fell 54 percent.
- The overall property crime rate fell a significant 52 percent as well. Household burglary decreased 49 percent, motor vehicle theft fell 56 percent, and theft fell 52 percent. All decreases were significant.
- Violent victimization declined in every demographic group over the specified time period. Significant decreases were noted for males, females, Caucasian victims, African-American victims, Hispanic and non-Hispanic victims, and for victims of every category of household income.
- Rates in reporting of violent and property crimes increased for all NCVS-measured crimes with the exception of rape/sexual assault and robbery.

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<sup>6</sup> Due to rising costs in data collection and low crime rates, there is a diminished ability to detect statistically significant year-to-year changes in rates; thus, this report compares two-year average rates.

## **Prisoners in 2005**

Bureau of Justice Statistics

In November 2006, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the bulletin, *Prisoners in 2005*. 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 Rates**

- The U.S. prison population grew 1.9 percent in 2005. This represents a *decrease* in annual growth, which has averaged 3.1 percent since the end of 1995.
  - The total number of prisoners under the jurisdiction of federal or state adult correctional authorities was 1,525,924 at the end of 2005.
  - Ohio experienced a 2.3-percent increase in the prison population, from 44,806 at the end of 2004 to 45,854 at the end of 2005.
- The rate of incarceration in prison at the end of 2005 was 491 sentenced inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents. This is an increase from 411 inmates per 100,000 residents in 1995.
  - During 2005, Ohio had a rate of incarceration of 400 inmates per 100,000 residents.
- At the end of 2005, the federal prison system was operating at 34 percent over capacity. In addition, 23 states, including Ohio, were operating at or above their highest capacity.
  - At the end of 2005, Ohio prisons were operating at 21 percent over capacity.

### **Prisoner Demographics**

- By the end of 2005, women accounted for 7 percent of all prisoners.
- A greater percentage of African-American inmates than Caucasian or Hispanic inmates were incarcerated for sentences of more than one year at the end of 2005.
- 8.1 percent of African-American males age 25 to 29 were in prison at the end of 2005, compared to 2.6 percent of Hispanic males and 1.1 percent of Caucasian males in the same age group.

### **Offenses Committed by Prisoners**

- The latest data available (year-end 2003) indicate that 52 percent of inmates were held for violent offenses: murder, rape and other sexual assaults, robbery, assault, and other violent offenses. In addition,
  - Twenty-one percent were held for various property offenses.
  - Twenty percent were held for drug offenses.
  - Seven 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.

## **Mental Health Problems of Prison and Jail Inmates**

Bureau of Justice Statistics

In September 2006, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the special report *Mental Health Problems of Prison and Jail Inmates*. The following data come from this report.

Interviews with state and federal prisoners and jail inmates indicated that at midyear 2005, more than half of all prison and jail inmates had a mental health problem. Mental health problems were defined to include either a recent history of mental illness (clinical diagnosis or treatment by a mental health professional) or symptoms of a mental health problem (based on criteria specified in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, fourth edition) within 12 months prior to being interviewed. Fifty-six percent of state prisoners, 45 percent of federal prisoners, and 64 percent of jail inmates had a mental health problem.

### **Characteristics of Prison and Jail Inmates with Mental Health Problems**

- Female prison and jail inmates had much higher rates of mental health problems than did male prison and jail inmates.
- Caucasian prison and jail inmates were more likely than African-American or Hispanic prison and jail inmates to have a mental health problem.
- Prison and jail inmates age 24 or younger had the highest rate of mental health problems. Those 55 or older had the lowest rate of mental health problems.
- Prison and jail inmates who had a mental health problem were much more likely to report being physically or mentally abused in the past.
- Prison and jail inmates with a mental health problem were more likely than those without to have a caregiver who was a substance abuser.
- Prison and jail inmates with mental health problems were also shown to have higher rates of substance dependence or abuse than those without a mental health problem. Those with a mental health problem were more likely to report dependence or abuse of drugs than of alcohol.
- Among state prisoners, a slightly higher percentage of individuals with mental health problems had a violent crime as their most serious offense. Across all offenses committed by state prisoners with mental health problems, robbery was the most common serious offense (14 percent), followed by drug trafficking (13 percent) and homicide (12 percent).
- Convicted violent offenders with mental health problems were just as likely as those without to have used a weapon during the offense.
- State prisoners with a mental health problem had the highest rate of mental health treatment, followed by federal prisoners and jail inmates. Medication for the mental health problem was the most common type of treatment inmates received upon admission to prison or jail.
- Prison and jail inmates with a mental health problem were more likely than those without to have been charged with breaking facility rules.

## **Probation and Parole in the United States 2005**

Bureau of Justice Statistics

In December 2006, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the bulletin *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2005*. Data come from the 2005 Annual Probation Survey and the 2005 Annual Parole Survey, as well as from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

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 2005, the total federal, state, and local adult correctional population (incarcerated or in the community) grew 0.9 percent to more than seven million. About one in every 32 adults were incarcerated or on probation or parole at year-end 2005.
- The probation population increased 0.5 percent, to 4,162,536.
- The parole population increased 1.6 percent, to 784,408.
- The rate of U.S. adult residents under correctional supervision nearly tripled between 1980 and 2005.
- Despite the increase in total estimated correctional population from 2004 to 2005, the rate of adults under correctional supervision in 2005 (3,156 per 100,000 adult residents) remained about the same as in 2004.
- Although the prison population was the fastest-growing correctional population between 1990 and 2005, probationers accounted for 53 percent of the total increase in the correctional population since 1990.
- Probationers accounted for 58 percent of all persons under correctional supervision in 2005, with the remainder of the correctional population consisting of parolees (11 percent), prisoners (20 percent), and jail inmates (10 percent).

### **Probation Statistics**

- At year-end 2005, the probation supervision rate was 1,858 probationers per 100,000 adult U.S. residents, or approximately one in every 54 adults.
- The probation population increased 0.5 percent in 2005, which is the smallest increase in this population in the last 26 years.
- Texas, California, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Illinois had six of the 10 largest probation populations in the U.S. at year-end 2005, accounting for 37 percent of all probationers.
- Ohio ranked fourth in the total number on probation, with 239,036. This represents an increase of 3.6 percent from January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005.
- In terms of the rate of persons on probation, Ohio ranked fifth. There were 2,745 persons per 100,000 adult U.S. residents under correctional supervision in 2005.

### **Characteristics of Probationers in 2005**

- Twenty-three percent were female, and 77 percent were male.
- Fifty-five percent were Caucasian, 30 percent were African-American, and 13 percent were Hispanic.
- Fifty percent committed felony offenses, 49 percent committed misdemeanor offenses, and 1 percent committed other infractions.
- Seventy-six percent entered probation without incarceration.
- Twenty-eight percent of probationers had a drug law violation as their most serious offense, followed by driving while intoxicated (15 percent), larceny/theft (12 percent), and other assault (10 percent).
- Fifty-nine percent successfully completed probation, 16 percent were incarcerated, 3 percent absconded, and 22 percent did not complete probation for other reasons.

### **Parole Statistics**

- In 2005, 350 persons per 100,000 adult residents were under parole supervision, or approximately one out of every 286 adults in the U.S.
- The parole population increased 1.6 percent in 2005.
- Texas, California, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Illinois were also among the 10 states with the largest parole populations in the U.S. Forty-six percent of all parolees were supervised within these six states.
- Ohio ranked 10th in the total number on parole, with 19,512. This represents an increase of 3.3 percent from January 1, 2005, to December 31, 2005.
- Ohio's parole rate of 224 per 100,000 adult residents was less than the national average of 350 per 100,000 adult residents.

### **Characteristics of Parolees in 2005**

- Twelve percent were female, and 88 percent were male.
- Forty-one percent were Caucasian, 40 percent were African-American, and 18 percent were Hispanic.
- Ninety-four percent had a sentence length of one year or more.
- Thirty-seven percent had been convicted of a drug offense, 25 percent for a property offense, and 25 percent for a violent offense.
- Forty-five percent successfully completed parole, 38 percent returned to incarceration, and 11 percent absconded.

## Information Request Summary 2006

In 2006, OCJS handled 175 information requests coming from a variety of individuals and agencies within and outside of Ohio. Information typically requested includes regional (city, county, state) crime and arrest statistics, as well as statistics of specific populations, such as juveniles, minorities, and incarcerated persons. 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 most frequent referral sources include the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, the Ohio Department of Youth Services, the Ohio Attorney General's Office, and individual law enforcement agencies.

The following table summarizes the requests received in 2006, by requestor.

<b>Requestor</b>	<b>Number of Requests Received</b>
State elected officials	2
Local elected officials	2
General Assembly	4
State agencies	13
Citizens	55
Businesses	18
Private non-profit organizations	16
Colleges and universities	20
Law enforcement	11
Prosecution	2
Courts	4
Corrections	1
Media	5
Other	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>175</b>

## Research Directions for 2007

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

- ***Ohio Peace Officer Task Analysis.*** The Ohio Peace Officer Task Analysis will be a follow-up to subsequent studies completed by OCJS in 2003, 1996, and 1981. The project will involve the systematic collection, processing, and analysis of data regarding peace officers' duties. The study, to be completed in 2007, will enable the State to recommend revisions of law enforcement training, so it reflects the actual tasks officers perform.
- ***Batterer Intervention Programs Study.*** This study, conducted by the University of Toledo, is phase II of an effort begun in 2006 (see description on page 3) to learn what batterer intervention strategies are most effective for which batterers under which circumstances. Phase II will expand the boundaries of investigation to examine the possible effects of participant and programmatic variables on the identified outcomes. The length and level of court supervision on participants will also be a subject of analysis. The analyses will consist of multiple measures of effectiveness, including but not limited to criminal recidivism, batterer self-reports and program information, survivor (victim) self-reports, and reports from other key informants, such as program staff and administrators, judges, probation officers, social service providers, among others. This project will be completed in 2007.
- ***Human Trafficking in Ohio Study.*** This 18-month study, conducted by the RAND Corporation in conjunction with the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc., explores the existence and characteristics of human trafficking in two Ohio cities — Toledo and Columbus. This study, which is currently underway (see description on page 8) will be completed in 2008.
- ***System-wide Risk/Need Assessment.*** 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 project involves three phases: development of the assessment instrument, testing of the instrument, and implementation of the instrument (see description on page 10). This project is expected to be completed in 2007.
- ***Homeland Security Survey of Muslim Ohioans.*** The purpose of this study, conducted by Ohio Homeland Security in conjunction with the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Ohio) and OCJS researchers, is to better understand the concerns and perceptions of Ohio's Muslim community in the aftermath of 9/11 (see description on page 9). This project is expected to be completed in 2007.
- ***Situational and Contextual Factors in the Use of Less-Lethal Technology.*** Law enforcement agencies employ a variety of technologies aimed at securing compliance from a combative suspect. Most recently, electro-muscular disruption (EMD) technology has been introduced as a less-lethal option to apprehend a suspect without resorting to deadly force. Controversy has surrounded the safety of EMD technology, however. This study, conducted by the University of Cincinnati for the Ohio State Highway Patrol, examines the use of EMD technology to assist law enforcement personnel to make informed decisions regarding the use of less-lethal technology. This project will be completed in 2007.
- ***Hiring of Quality Officers.*** The selection of quality police officers is critical, yet law enforcement has never effectively developed a system for identifying which officers will be successful during the hiring process. The intent of this study is to identify the "best practices" for the selection of quality personnel. Using personnel data for a sample of officers hired by the Cincinnati Police Division

between 1995 and 2005, researchers will identify the correlates of several measures of quality officers. This project will be completed in 2007.

- ***CORE Evaluation.*** The Community Oriented Reentry Program (CORE) is designed to improve the reintegration of serious and violent offenders into the community. The purpose of the evaluation, which was begun in 2005 (see description on page 6), is to assess the program's implementation and to measure the program's effectiveness. This project is expected to be completed in 2007.
- ***TAMAR.*** OCJS is working closely with the Ohio Department of Mental Health to conduct an evaluation of the TAMAR (Trauma, Addictions, Mental health, And Recovery) program in a jail setting. The TAMAR program is a voluntary trauma treatment and education program for adults. Results of the evaluation will be used to help determine whether to implement the program statewide.
- ***Ohio Survey of Sexual Assault Protocols and Sexual Assault Response Teams.*** Based upon the results of a recent sexual assault protocol evaluation, the Ohio Sexual Assault Task Force is developing an assessment instrument to look at the policies, procedures, and use of sexual assault protocols and SANE programs across the state. The results of this assessment will allow for identification and subsequent training of agencies and organizations that are functioning with insufficient protocols. By providing such training and technical assistance, the project hopes to improve the consistency and effectiveness of agency response to sexual assault.



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