



CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH ABSTRACTS 2007

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 2007, several innovative criminal justice research projects were undertaken, including projects examining batterer intervention programs, offender reentry, a violent crime reduction initiative, human trafficking, drug task force trends, and search and seizure best practices, to name a few.

Criminal Justice Research Abstracts 2007 provides readers with summaries of OCJS research projects developed or in process during 2007. 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. 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

Ten 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. One project evaluates a community-oriented reentry program. Another project assesses participant satisfaction with gang resistance education training of youth and their caregivers. A project in Cincinnati evaluates crime prevention/reduction programs in their city. A project investigating the extent of human trafficking in two Ohio cities is one of the first of its kind in the country. 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 collaborative endeavor between the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the University of Cincinnati investigates the search and seizure activities of Ohio’s troopers. Another project undertaken by the University of Cincinnati assesses measures of quality officers. Finally, Kent State University assesses protocols used by sexual assault programs throughout Ohio.

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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 need to complete 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 is the batterer in his/her life — i.e., is he or she ready to make a change?

On how to improve BIPs, key informants said:

- Changing the mentality of some probation officers (PO), as evidenced in 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 domestic violence (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 should be imposed for non-compliance.
- Longer programs should be implemented; up to one year, according to one informant.
- Programs should be 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 Investigators: Robin Engel, John Eck

The Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) is a citywide program designed to reduce homicide and serious violence within the city caused by street groups. It relies on direct communication to violent groups by a partnership of law enforcement, service providers, and community figures. Together, the partnership delivers a unified 'no violence' message to group members, 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, and High Point, North Carolina.

Researchers from the University of Cincinnati have been tasked with the responsibility of evaluating the CIRV initiative. Initially, the researchers worked closely with the Cincinnati Police Department to conduct a homicide review to determine the nature of the homicides occurring in the city. In addition, they collaborated with law enforcement to identify the network of street groups throughout the city and the 'impact players' who drive the violence.

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 outcome 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.

Preliminary findings indicate that the CIRV initiative is having some success in decreasing the number of group-related homicides. Additionally, the research has documented a substantial number of individuals who have requested or are receiving services as a result of their availability through this program.

Community Oriented Reentry (CORE) Evaluation
Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction
Principal Investigators: Evalyn Parks, Betty Moore
Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services
Principal Investigators: Candace Peters, 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 (ODRC), serving as the lead agency, is collaborating with the 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 experimental group of 198 offenders, 18-35 years old, serving at least 12 consecutive months in prison and a minimum of one year community supervision have been matched on a number of key characteristics to a similar comparison group of offenders. The experimental group began receiving services in January 2003 and the last cohort ended services in December 2006.

CORE is a collaboration between state and local correctional programs. Services for the offender in Phase I begin in the state institutions. Monthly meetings are held with the offender to discuss the Reentry Accountability Plan implementation. Phase II of the program occurs when the offender returns to the community. The offender will continue to meet with a community reentry management team that includes the offender, the community case manager, the parole officer, and other community service providers working with the offender. 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 2008. 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?
- Does 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) Evaluation

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 was designed to evaluate the family component of the GREAT program in Cleveland, Ohio. 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 focused on the first component.

Participation in the program is voluntary and families are selected with an initial contact by their local church administration. 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. Too few people completed the Time 3 survey to provide usable data for this time period.

Findings indicated that just under one-third of the participants considered gang activities not to be a problem in their communities. Twenty-three percent felt 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 indicated 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 Investigators: Jeremy Wilson, Erin Dalton

Human trafficking is a growing global and national concern, but ultimately it is a problem that is identified at the local level. While Ohio may host human trafficking markets, there is little knowledge about trafficking in the state. The purpose of this project was to explore the existence and characteristics of human trafficking in Ohio. The study focused its efforts in Columbus and Toledo. The following methods were used to explore the existence of human trafficking in Ohio:

- **Key Respondent Interviews:** RAND investigators obtained and assessed primary source material by interviewing those who interacted directly with trafficking victims, offenders, and witnesses. Interviews focused 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 examined variables to describe human trafficking.

Findings from the survey indicated two types of trafficking markets: juvenile prostitution, which numerous respondents identified in Toledo, and labor trafficking, which was identified by respondents in Columbus. Significant changes have been made by law enforcement and social services in Toledo, due in part to a few high profile cases that were uncovered in the city. In contrast, there was little awareness of trafficking in Columbus by either law enforcement or social service agencies.

The researchers provided some suggestions to improve the current response to human trafficking:

- Improve awareness and response through training, education, and outreach.
- Improve victim programs and resources.
- Improve law enforcement capacity.
- Improve practitioner collaboration.
- Refine departmental policies.
- Use analyses to develop evidence-based programs and responses.
- Consider and assess legislative, legal, and regulatory changes.

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.

System-wide Risk/Need Assessment Project
University of Cincinnati
Principal Investigators: Chris Lowenkamp, Edward Latessa

This study, conducted by the University of Cincinnati (UC), 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 (in 2006) 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, and medical and addictions studies. 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, research teams traversed across Ohio in 2006-2007 and interviewed offenders who volunteered to participate at each stage of the correctional process — pre-sentence/probation, intake to prison, and release from prison to parole or post-release control. These field test sites included community-based correctional facilities and probation departments from Warren, Franklin, Cuyahoga, Montgomery, Butler, Clermont, Summit, Hancock, Wood, Columbiana, and Mahoning counties. In 2007, the research team visited several prisons (both intake and release facilities) across the state. This resulted in a total of 1,914 offenders interviewed during the entire timeline of the project.

In 2008, the UC research team will be analyzing the data and drafting the assessment tool and working with the participating agencies to create and implement the tool.

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 research involved 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.

Focus Groups. Eight focus group interviews were conducted to gather information regarding the perceived “best practices” currently used by OSHP troopers in determining who and when to search.

Analysis of the focus groups 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.

Surveys. Two surveys were developed based on the findings from the focus groups. The surveys were distributed departmentwide to two groups — troopers with road duties and sergeants. Troopers were asked for feedback on the following issues: 1) job-related priorities; 2) perception of and attitudes toward interdiction activities; 3) search and seizure activity and perceptions regarding racial differences in search success rates; and 4) recommendations for improving interdiction work.

Search Data. Analyses were conducted on both stops made and searches made. Descriptions of traffic stops involving searches, of occupants searched during stops, and of contraband seizures during stops were some of the data elements collected. Search data include descriptions of types of searches made (mandatory, discretionary, and consent-only) and descriptions of occupants searched. One of the most important analyses conducted on the search data involved the search success rate for traffic stops resulting in discretionary searches.

Based on the findings from the three data sources, recommendations were made in the areas of training, data collection, field supervision, and administration/policy.

Hiring of Quality Officers Project
University of Cincinnati
Principal Investigator: James Frank

Policing is a labor intensive enterprise and the selection of effective officers is critical. Law enforcement could benefit from developing a system for identifying which officers will be successful during the selection process. The goal of this study was to create an assessment instrument for predicting which recruits will successfully adjust to the job of police officer. The findings of the study will enable police administrators to develop selection systems that can be scientifically shown to produce higher quality candidates.

Researchers from the University of Cincinnati teamed up with the Cincinnati Police Department to identify correlates of several measures of quality officers. The research sampled officers hired over a 10-year period. Demographic and test data were collected on these officers, and were correlated with various officer performance measures, such as number and disposition of internal and external complaints, nature of the complaints, number of automobile accidents, number of commendations, and annual police department evaluation scores.

While the assessment focused on the Cincinnati Police Department, the findings should be generalizable to other municipal law enforcement agencies.

Law Enforcement Training Assessment
Law Enforcement Foundation,
in cooperation with the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police

Ohio does not have a body of law enforcement professionals that annually makes recommendations for in-service training. There is no resource in Ohio or nationally that assists departments in making decisions about allocating training dollars in a priority chosen by the local agency. Members of the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) have asked for assistance in providing a tool to achieve the following goals:

- Identify and inventory all standard (common) and specialized law enforcement positions/assignments that exist in Ohio.
- Identify the knowledge, skills, and abilities that are necessary to perform these common and specialized jobs.
- Identify training modules and learning objectives that represent ideal training structures for all identified positions.

The Law Enforcement Foundation, in collaboration with a 10-member steering committee and an industrial/organizational consultant, surveyed subject matter experts from across the state to identify common and specialized positions and titles. Assessments were then conducted of the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities required for these positions. Finally, subject matter experts identified training modules for each position as well as learning objectives for each identified training module.

The final report from this committee provides a training template for 20 police positions and implementation recommendations. It is intended to serve as a framework for agency executives, training officers and individuals to manage and make sound training decisions that support the agency's mission.

The final report for this project is available on the OACP web site, www.oacp.org.

The Use of Sexual Assault Protocols, Response and Multidisciplinary Teams in Ohio: Findings from a Statewide Needs Assessment

Kent State University

Principal Investigators: Tina L. Kandakai, Kele Ding

Principal Investigator: Kathleen Nichols

Sexual assault remains a significant public health threat to the safety of women. A recent sexual assault protocol evaluation indicated that it would be ideal to have a SANE and a SART program in every county across the state and within every hospital or emergency facility to aide in a more integrated and coordinated response to victims of sexual assault. To better understand the existence of cross-county differences in the provision of SANE and SART services, the Ohio Sexual Assault Task Force developed an assessment tool designed to identify the needs of agencies and organizations that function to provide services to sexual assault victims.

A database of potential respondents was created from multiple social service and law enforcement agencies in Ohio. In July 2007, an online survey was administered to service providers across the state asking them to expound on their experiences with policies, procedures, and sexual assault protocols and response teams. The results of the survey showed that among the 320 deliverable online surveys, 232 recipients completed the survey, rendering a response rate of 72 percent. More than 85 percent of the 88 counties in Ohio were represented in the assessment. Law enforcement officers (36 percent), administrators (32 percent), and victims advocates (25 percent) were among the majority of respondents. Of 205 individuals who responded to the question, 131 (64 percent) reported that the agency in which they work has a written sexual assault protocol in place. One hundred percent of the respondents agreed that it is important for service providers to receive training on sexual assault protocols. However, only 60 percent of the respondents' agencies required such training. Thirty-eight percent of respondents report having received 0-4 hours of training on sexual assault protocols. Two-thirds of the respondents reported that their representative agency does not have a SART or MDT in place. Among the agencies that have a team, the majority (59 percent) are SART only, while 22 percent have both SART and MDT teams. By all accounts, it appears that counties located in the northeast and northwest regions of the state were least likely to have sexual assault protocols, SARTs, or MDTs in place and that respondents from urban (17 percent) areas were least likely represented than were those from rural (41 percent) or suburban (29 percent) communities.

Three areas of concern consistently surfaced as being among the greatest challenges for those attempting to use a team approach to responding to sexual victimization:

- Of primary concern (47-53 percent of respondents) was the poor collaboration and coordination that exists among SART/MDT team members with other agencies that respond to sexual assault victimization, and with members of the criminal justice system (i.e., law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and first responders).
- Secondly, respondents were concerned regarding the lack of training (20-24 percent of respondents) on sexual assault response protocol. The greatest concern was expressed regarding the preparation for members of the criminal justice system (i.e., law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and first responders).
- Finally, funding (16-20 percent of respondents) surfaced among the top three areas of concern. Respondents seemed concerned regarding the need for funding to train individuals on sexual assault protocols. The greatest need seemed to focus on training prosecutors and law enforcement officers. Additionally, there was an expressed need for funding to sustain current efforts and to improve staffing demands.

The significance of these challenges remained consistent regardless of the county represented, the type of community served (i.e., urban, suburban, rural), or the number of years that coordinated response efforts have been in place.

This current project brings forth a general understanding of the scope and depth of the problems associated with the use of sexual assault protocols, SARTs, and MDTs in Ohio. Regardless of the number of years that agencies have been using SARTs and MDTs, collaboration and coordination of services remained the primary obstacle and concern. The lack of consistency in the coordination of services and in the application of the law is a major concern that must be addressed. The greatest concern relative to the collaboration and coordination of services appears to be with members of the criminal justice system, particularly law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and first responders. Given that the majority of respondents are law enforcement officers, among whom 50 percent expressed the need for training, it is recommended that agencies such as the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, the Ohio Prosecutors Association, and the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association work in conjunction with the Ohio Sexual Assault Task Force to develop model strategies to close gaps in the provision of services and in the application of the law.

Additionally, the data suggests that counties located in the northeast and northwest quadrants of the state and those located in urban areas are lacking in the existence of sexual assault protocols, SARTs, and MDTs. As such, agencies providing services to victims of sexual assault should be identified and provided with the technical assistance and training required to improve the consistency and effectiveness of their response.

Finally, this analysis was developed to create an avenue upon which victims of sexual assault can receive relief at the highest level possible. It is critical that further analysis of sexual assault protocols, SARTs, and MDT programs is conducted to obtain a more intricate perspective of gaps that exist in the coordination of services among and between social service agencies and providers. Governmental intervention should be sought to advance research, training, and education for policymakers, supervisors, and the criminal justice system to ensure that the recommendations are promoted and carried out.

In-House Research Summaries

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 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.

Seven research and statistical reports were created in 2007. 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. One is an analysis of violent crime in schools. The *State of Crime and Justice in Ohio* publication is a comprehensive compilation of statistics spanning the entire criminal justice system in Ohio. Finally, the last four reports are surveys conducted for in-house use, including a homeland security survey, a customer satisfaction survey, a law enforcement training needs survey, and a grant funding plan survey.

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: Six-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 Task Force Commanders Association (OTFCA). It builds on earlier trend analyses and covers task force performance data from 2001 through 2006.

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 different types of offenders.

The number of task forces funded each year has gradually decreased from 35 in 2001 to 27 in 2006. 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 steadily increased during the six years, from 163 in 2001 to 321 in 2006, an increase of 97 percent. The new investigations resulted in a 98-percent increase in the average number of arrests per task force, climbing from 121 in 2001 to 240 in 2006. During 2006, 74 percent of those arrested by Ohio's task forces were charged with felony offenses. Female arrestees have comprised a steady 19 to 21 percent of all arrests through the entire study period (males have been 79 to 81 percent). Juveniles peaked at 5 percent of all arrestees in 2002 and 2003, but declined to 2 percent in 2006. Probably the most notable trend in arrestees is in regard to race and ethnicity. African-Americans have declined from 49 percent of task force arrestees in 2001 to 38 percent in 2006. Conversely, Caucasians increased from 46 percent to 57 percent. Latinos have steadily been 3-4 percent of arrestees during the study period.

The amounts of drugs seized in 2006 were six-year highs for cocaine, crack, and marijuana. The average amount of heroin and methamphetamine seized decreased substantially from 2005 to 2006. During 2006, Hydrocodone (Vicodin/Loritab) and Oxycodone (Percocet/OxyContin) comprised 68 percent of all pharmaceutical drugs diverted by Ohio's task forces. No other pharmaceutical accounted for more than 13 percent. Criminal asset seizures and forfeitures varied substantially during the period. This reflects the episodic pattern for asset seizures/forfeitures — a fairly consistent low level of baseline activity punctuated by occasional large busts.

Overall, Ohio's task forces in 2006 continued to increase in the measures that have been increasing and remained stable on the measures that have been stable in the past.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT)

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

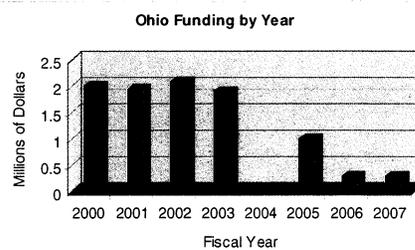
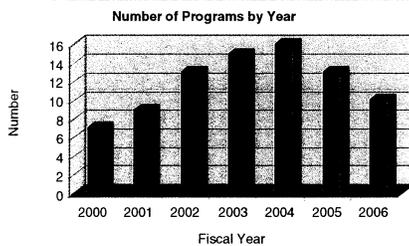
Principal Investigator: Sharon Schnelle

Ohio started funding substance abuse treatment in secure correctional facilities in 1998 through the federal Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program. Today, OCJS administers the RSAT block grant program, which provides \$289,742 annually for residential treatment services for offenders. Since its beginning, 21 different programs have received funding in both state and local facilities. During FY 2007, six programs were funded.

Since the start of the program, OCJS has been collecting detailed information on offenders receiving these services through all programs to comply with federal reporting requirements and to provide a foundation for evaluation. Analysis of the offender data provides information on who seems to be the most successful in these types of services. Information can also be provided on whether the facilities are meeting their goals.

- The first three projects were evaluated by the University of Cincinnati, which resulted in the change of one program to be more effective.
- Since the funding began, 5,916 clients have received treatment through RSAT programs. In federal fiscal year 2007, 117 offenders received services equal to 11,241 treatment days supported through RSAT funding.
- The average cost per day for residential services was \$25.04.
- OCJS is developing an annual report on clients served to provide more detailed information.

The funding for the RSAT program has been steadily declining since 1998 when Ohio's allocation for RSAT programming was \$2,209,736. In 2007, Ohio received only \$289,742 to fund RSAT programs. Despite the significantly reduced funds, in federal fiscal year 2007, 113 treatment beds, providing 11,241 treatment days and 888 aftercare treatment days, were supported through RSAT funding. The average cost per day for residential services was \$23.48.



Summary of Discharges		FY2005		All Years	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
type of discharge	Successful completion	44	60.3%	3,362	75.1%
	Unsuccessful completion disciplinary	19	26.0%	644	13.5%
	Voluntary withdrawal / Judicial Release	2	2.7%	183	3.8%
	Escape abscond	5	6.9%	223	4.7%
	Unable to participate due to medical reclassify/out to court	3	4.1%	209	4.4%
	Arrested/convicted for new crime	0	0%	35	.7%
	Other	0	0%	123	2.6%
TOTAL		73	100.0%	4,779	100.0%

Violent Crime in Ohio's Primary and Secondary Schools

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principal Investigator: Lisa Contos Shoaf

The presence of violent crime in a school setting can have a dramatic impact on the ability of our children to achieve in school. In order for our schools to make policy decisions on how to effectively address school crime, they need to have a full understanding of the problem. Complete and timely access to crime statistics can provide insight into the nature and extent of school crime.

This report uses Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS) data to investigate violent school crime over a two-year period beginning January 1, 2005, and ending December 31, 2006. OIBRS is a voluntary crime reporting program in which Ohio law enforcement agencies can submit crime statistics directly to the state and federal government in an automated format. The use of OIBRS data allows for detailed information to be obtained on the nature of the offense, the victim, the suspect/arrestee, and the use of weapons. As of mid-2007, 445 agencies representing 64 percent of the Ohio population were reporting OIBRS data. Because not all agencies report OIBRS data, this report is intended to serve as a snapshot of violent crimes occurring in Ohio's schools. It is not representative of the state as a whole.

Highlights of the report indicate the following:

- Two-thirds of the violent crimes reported in Ohio's primary and secondary schools were simple assaults, and one-quarter were intimidation offenses. Sex offenses made up slightly more than 5 percent of the reported violent crimes.
- Nearly half of all violent crime occurring in schools involved the use of weapons, including personal weapons such as hands, fists, feet, etc. Of those offenses in which a weapon was used, 91 percent involved the use of a personal weapon. Four percent of offenses involved the use of a firearm, knife or other cutting instrument, or blunt object.
- Victims of school violence spanned all age groups. Of the victims for whom age information was known, 7 percent were under age 10. Thirty-two percent of victims were between the ages of 13 to 15. Nearly 87 percent of rape victims were between the ages of 13 and 18.
- Overall, the number of male and female victims of school violence was nearly evenly split between the sexes, but differences emerged by crime type. Females were more often victims of sex crimes, whereas males were more frequently victims of robbery and aggravated assault. The number of male and female victims of simple assault and intimidation was more closely aligned.
- More than two-thirds of arrestees were male. Simple assault was the crime for which the most males and females were arrested, followed by intimidation. Simple assault comprised nearly 80 percent of all crimes for which females were arrested.

State of Crime and Justice in Ohio

Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principal Investigators: Danny Aultman, Candace Peters, Diana Ramos-Reardon,
Sharon Schnelle, Lisa Contos Shoaf, Robert Swisher

As the lead criminal justice planning agency for Ohio, the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) is dedicated to working with others to reduce and prevent crime in the state. As part of OCJS' efforts to inform Ohioans on crime and justice issues, OCJS released the *State of Crime and Justice in Ohio*, 4th edition in Fall 2007.

State of Crime and Justice in Ohio incorporates the latest available statistics and research, emphasizing Ohio data whenever possible, to present a comprehensive picture of our criminal justice system. The publication includes detailed information on:

- Violent and property crime.
- Law enforcement and technology.
- Victims of crime.
- The accused.
- The court system.
- Corrections and alternatives to incarceration.
- Juvenile justice.

Also included in *State of Crime and Justice in Ohio* are special features on emerging trends in criminal justice. Examples include articles on human trafficking, gangs and the Internet, mentally ill persons in the criminal justice system, limited English proficiency and the courts, sex offender registration and notification (SORN), and serious youthful offenders.

The success of *State of Crime and Justice in Ohio* is dependent upon the collaborative efforts between OCJS and its numerous partners in the criminal justice field. It is anticipated that *State of Crime and Justice in Ohio* will serve as a reference point for state administration, legislature, law enforcement, members of the criminal justice community, victims groups, and citizens as we work together to enhance public safety in Ohio.

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

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 partnered 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 was to allow Ohio Homeland Security to better understand the concerns and perceptions of Ohio's Muslim community in the aftermath of 9/11.

This online survey was distributed to the Ohio Muslim community through CAIR-Ohio, and paper copies of the survey were distributed at two CAIR-sponsored functions in Cleveland and Columbus. In all, 193 surveys were completed. The survey was exploratory in nature, and the results are not considered representative of the entire Ohio Muslim-American community.

The results were useful in identifying general themes regarding issues of Homeland Security from the 193 individuals who responded. Questions on the survey covered several issues, including involvement in the Muslim community and in American society as a whole; the relationship between the Muslim community and law enforcement, racial/religious/ethnic victimization, and homeland security and emergency response planning.

Results from those who responded to the survey indicated that the overwhelming majority felt that profiling, loss of civil liberties, and ensuring safety and security for all people were important issues. The low response rate to the survey was valuable in revealing the reluctance of the Muslim-American community to provide feedback. The reason for the community's hesitance to share their thoughts and experiences regarding public safety and security matters is unclear, but should be viewed as an indication of the need for increased bridge-building among the law enforcement/public safety community and Ohio's Muslim-American community.

OCJS Customer Satisfaction Survey
Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services
Principal Investigator: Lisa Contos Shoaf

OCJS strives to provide our customers with the highest quality customer service. In order to evaluate how well we are meeting the needs of our customers, OCJS administered a survey to all current grant recipients.

The survey covered the following topics:

- Request for Proposal (RFP) process.
- Application process.
- Awards and denials.
- Orientation training.
- General grant administration.
- Fiscal and programmatic monitoring.

The survey was administered online from September 26, 2007, through October 16, 2007. The survey was described as having a focus on the administration of federal grant programs. One hundred sixty-one individuals responded to the customer satisfaction survey. The respondents represented agencies in 60 of Ohio's 88 counties (some represented more than one county).

The following are highlights taken from the survey:

- Ninety-one percent of respondents reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the service provided by OCJS staff.
- Eighty-nine percent of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with how OCJS administers the grant program.

What OCJS and its staff do well...

- Trainings and seminars are very helpful.
- Staff display willingness to assist subgrantees.
- Staff are professional and knowledgeable.
- Staff are timely and responsive.
- Ability to apply online is appreciated.

What OCJS could improve upon...

- Timeliness in notification of grant awards and denials.
- Timeliness in disbursement of funds.
- Streamlining the application process.
- Reminding subgrantees of important information such as upcoming deadlines, as well as notifying subgrantees promptly of late reports.
- Providing more in-depth grants training, as well as training on the use of the web site.

VAWA Implementation Plan Survey
Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services
Principal Investigator: Lisa Contos Shoaf

The Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) has been designated to administer the S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act Grant Program for the State of Ohio. As part of this responsibility, the state is tasked to develop an implementation plan regarding this grant program. In July 2007, a survey of current and former VAWA recipients was conducted to solicit feedback on current ideas, issues, successes, and obstacles specific to women victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. OCJS received 104 responses to this survey, including representatives from victim services, law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and other agencies.

Service needs

Respondents were asked to describe how they would distribute a limited amount of funding across services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. As a whole, domestic violence was given the most funding, followed by sexual assault. Broken down by agency type, the rank order remains the same.

Training needs

Respondents were asked to rate the importance of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking training for law enforcement, judges, court personnel, and prosecutors. Across all types of crimes against women, training for law enforcement was rated highest in importance. Training for court personnel was consistently rated lowest in importance and was least often given a ranking of 'very important'; however, the difference between the average scores for these two groups was still minimal. Across all groups, domestic violence training was seen as a priority, followed by sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. Overall, however, no type of training received an average score higher than a 1.6 on a scale of 1 to 5 (the lower the score, the higher the importance).

Issues facing women victims of crime

Respondents were asked to rate the seriousness of issues facing women victims of crime. The top five areas identified as most serious were, in order: funding, obtainable affordable housing, inadequate legal representation, inconsistent enforcement of laws, and custody issues.

Special populations

As the earlier Ohio statistics on Ohio's population indicate, our residents are becoming increasingly diverse. Thus it is important to ensure that the needs of these special or underserved populations are being met. Respondents were asked to report on how often they serve different types of special populations. The following lists the percentage of those agencies reporting that they serve these special populations "very often" or "often":

- 53 percent of agencies serve individuals who are mentally or emotionally challenged.
- 32 percent of agencies serve Appalachian individuals.
- 21 percent of agencies serve individuals who are physically or medically challenged.
- 19 percent serve individuals who are immigrants or have limited English proficiency.
- 16 percent serve individuals who are elderly.
- 15 percent serve individuals who are lesbian/gay/bi-sexual/transgender.

Law Enforcement Training Needs Survey
Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services
Principal Investigators: Lisa Contos Shoaf, Danny Aultman

In October 2007, the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) was asked by the Governor's Highway Safety Office (GHSO) to help them assess the needs of law enforcement in their ability to effectively interact with the Limited English Proficient (LEP) community. In response, OCJS designed and implemented an online survey to capture these needs. Surveys were sent to 510 Ohio law enforcement agencies. Of these, 203 agencies responded, a response rate of 40 percent.

Type of LEP population encountered

One-hundred sixty agencies (79 percent) reported encountering LEP populations in their jurisdictions. Spanish was by far the most frequent language encountered, reported by 96 percent of agencies.

Frequency of interaction with LEP population

Of the 160 agencies that reported interacting with the LEP population, the frequency of such interaction varied. Twenty-eight percent reported interacting with an LEP individual at least once a week, while 64 percent reported at least monthly interactions with LEP individuals. Thirty-six percent reported interacting with LEP individuals on an infrequent basis — less than once a month.

Resources currently used

Of the agencies that responded, 70 percent reported having access to at least one resource to help communicate with an LEP individual. Sixty-three agencies reported having access to multiple resources. Thirty percent responded that they have no access to LEP resources.

Training needs

Eighty-one percent of agencies reported a need for training on one or more LEP-related issues. Foreign language training was identified most frequently as the type of training needed. Thirty-eight agencies reported no need for training.

Forty-four agencies reported that their officers have received language or cross-cultural training in the last 12 months. Most of these trainings focused on "survival" Spanish (also called conversational Spanish, street Spanish, or introductory Spanish), while a few concentrated on cultural diversity/sensitivity. These trainings were offered by a variety of entities, including local colleges, state agencies, the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy, and online and computer sources. Several law enforcement agencies noted that they conducted their own trainings.

Agencies were asked to report on their willingness to send staff for various types of training, ranging from a one-day basic foreign language/cross-cultural training to a five-day, in-depth foreign language/cross-cultural training. Of the 191 agencies that responded, 55 percent reported their willingness to send staff to a one- or two-day training.¹

Twenty-one agencies indicated that they would not be able to send staff for LEP-related training. Seventy percent of these stated that they do not have the manpower or other resources to commit to this training, while 25 percent indicated that LEP issues are not relevant to their jurisdiction. One agency simply reported that there was "no need" for such training in his jurisdiction.

¹ It is important to note that these responses reflect the views of the individual participating in the survey, and may not be reflective of the attitudes of those in charge of making such decisions.

Crime in the United States 2006
Federal Bureau of Investigation

In September 2007, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released *Crime in the United States 2006*. 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 2006, 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 Midwest², 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 1.0 percent from 2005 to 2006. The East North Central region showed a rate increase of 0.6 percent. In Ohio, the rate increased 0.1 percent, from 350.1 per 100,000 population to 350.3 per 100,000 population. Ohio's violent crime rate is still much lower than the nation's rate of 473.5.

- Murder and non-negligent manslaughter. The murder rate increased 0.8 percent for the U.S. and 0.2 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the murder rate decreased 8.7 percent.
- Forcible rape. Rape decreased 3.0 percent in the U.S. and 2.1 percent in the East North Central region. The rape rate decreased 2.7 percent in Ohio.
- Robbery. Robbery rates increased 6.1 percent in the U.S. and 4.6 percent in the East North Central region. Ohio showed an increase of 2.5 percent in robbery from 162.8 to 166.8 per 100,000 population. Ohio's rate is higher than that of the U.S. (149.4) and the region (151.2).
- Aggravated Assault. Aggravated assault rates decreased 1.1 percent in the U.S. and 1.3 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the aggravated assault rate decreased 1.6 percent. Ohio's rate (139.2) is less than that of the region (243.7) and less than half that of the U.S. (287.5).

Property Crime. Property crime consists of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft³. The property crime rate in the U.S. decreased 2.8 percent, from 3,431.5 per 100,000 to 3,334.5 per 100,000. In the East North Central region, property crime increased 1.0 percent. In Ohio, the overall property crime rate increased 0.3 percent.

- Burglary. The burglary rate increased 0.3 percent in the U.S. and increased 4.2 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the burglary rate increased 4.2 percent to 909.8 per 100,000 population. This rate is higher than that of the U.S. (729.4) and is the highest in the East North Central region.
- Larceny-theft. Larceny-theft rates decreased 3.5 percent in the U.S. and increased 0.4 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the larceny-theft rate increased 0.4 percent.
- Motor vehicle theft. Motor vehicle theft decreased 4.4 percent in the U.S. and 1.8 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the rate decreased 9.8 percent to 326.1 per 100,000 — a rate lower than that of the East North Central region (347.9) and the U.S. (398.4).

²The East North Central region consists of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

³Arson 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 2006

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In October 2007, the FBI released its annual *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted* for 2006. 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 grouped by officers feloniously killed, officers accidentally killed, and officers assaulted, with narrative descriptions provided for incidents where officers were feloniously killed.

National statistics

- Forty-eight law enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty in 2006. The deaths occurred in 47 separate incidents in 25 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. In 2005, 55 officers were feloniously killed.
- Characteristics of the feloniously killed officer in 2006:
 - Average age was 38.
 - Average length of service was 11 years.
 - Forty-five officers were male, three were female.
 - Thirty-eight officers were white, five were Black, one was Asian-Pacific Islander, and one was American Indian/Alaskan Native. Race was not reported for three officers.
- Characteristics of the incident surrounding the murder:
 - 21 percent occurred in ambush situations.
 - 25 percent occurred in arrest situations.
 - 17 percent occurred during the investigation of disturbance calls.
 - 12 percent occurred while investigating suspicious persons/circumstances.
 - 17 percent occurred during traffic stops/pursuits.
 - 4 percent occurred during high-risk tactical situations.
 - 2 percent occurred while handling persons with mental illness.
 - 2 percent occurred while handling prisoners.
- Forty-six of the 48 victim officers were killed by a firearm, the majority of which were handguns. Eighteen officers fired or attempted to fire their own weapon during the incidents. Sixty-eight percent of firearm deaths of officers occurred when the distance between the victim and offender was 10 feet or less.
- Two of the 48 victim officers were intentionally hit by vehicles.
- The average age of identified offenders was 29 years. Ninety-eight percent were male, 53 percent were Black. Seventy-six percent had prior criminal arrests, and 27 percent were under some form of judicial supervision at the time of the felonious incident.
- There were 66 accidental deaths of law enforcement officers in the line of duty in 2006. Forty-nine of the 66 died as the result of a vehicle-related accident, including car, aircraft, or motorcycle mishaps. Thirteen were struck by vehicles (directing or stopping traffic, assisting motorists). Four were killed by accidental shootings.

- There were 58,634 officers assaulted in the line of duty, and 27 percent of these resulted in an injury.
- Over a 10-year period, 39 percent of felonious killings of officers occurred in the a.m. hours between midnight and noon, while the remaining 61 percent occurred in the p.m. hours. The six-hour stretch between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. accounted for 36 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, one officer was feloniously killed in 2006.

Cleveland Police Department. On August 30, 2006, a 37-year-old officer was shot and killed while attempting to make an arrest. The officer had 10 years of law enforcement experience. The suspect, a 37-year-old known drug dealer with an extensive criminal history, surrendered to officers at the scene and was arrested and charged with aggravated murder, having weapons while under disability, tampering with evidence, rape, gross sexual imposition, kidnapping, felonious assault, and aggravated burglary.

- Since 1997, there have been 16 felonious killings in Ohio.
- Three Ohio officers were accidentally killed in automobile accidents in 2006, one officer in Fairfield County and two officers from the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Since 1997, 14 officers have been accidentally killed.
- During 2006, 150 Ohio agencies reported 495 assaults on officers. Eighty-one percent of the assaults were committed with a personal weapon. One percent of assaults were committed with a firearm.
- The rate of assault per 100 officers in Ohio in 2005 was 9.5, which is below the U.S. rate of 11.8 per 100 officers.

Hate Crime Statistics 2006

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In November 2007, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released the publication, *Hate Crime Statistics 2006*. 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, 12,620 law enforcement agencies representing 85.2 percent of the nation's population participated in the hate crime reporting program in 2006.

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.

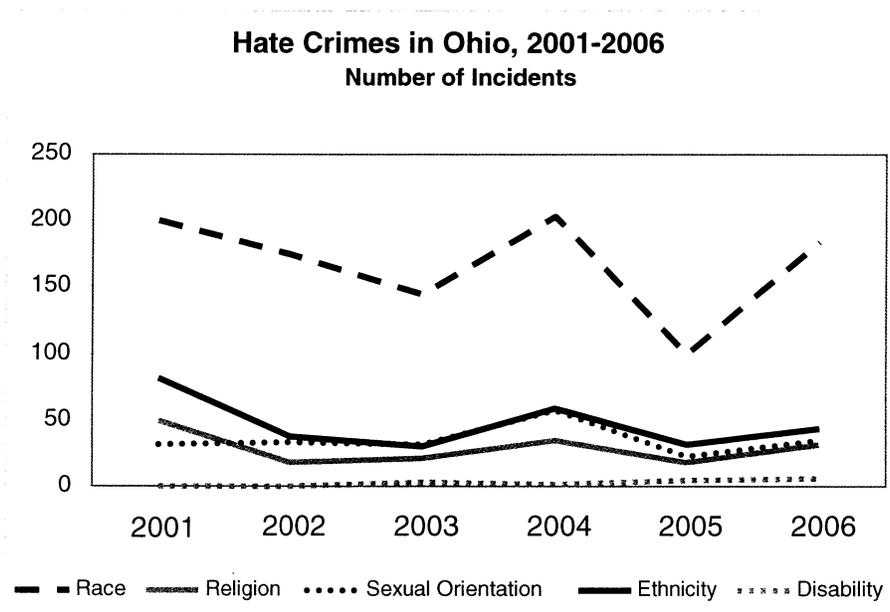
The following is a brief review of this year's report. Whenever available, Ohio statistics are reported, and may be supplemented by U.S. statistics.

- The number of Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement increased from 443 in 2005 to 493 in 2006, an 11 percent increase.
- Of the 493 Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement, 406 reported no incidents of hate crimes in their jurisdictions.
- The number of hate crime incidents reported by Ohio law enforcement has fluctuated drastically over the past several years. In 2006, 87 Ohio law enforcement agencies reported a total of 300 hate crime incidents, an increase of 70 percent over 2005, but still less than 353 incidents reported in 2004. Nationwide statistics show fluctuation as well, but on a much smaller scale than that shown in Ohio.
- The Ohio hate crime rate of 3.5 incidents per 100,000 population is above the national average of 3.0 incidents per 100,000 population.
- Nationwide, the majority of hate crime incidents, 52 percent, involved racial bias. The remaining incidents involved religion (19 percent), sexual orientation (15 percent), ethnicity/national origin (13 percent), and disability (1 percent).

In Ohio, 61 percent of hate crime incidents were related to race, followed by ethnicity/national origin (15 percent), religion (11 percent), sexual orientation (11 percent), and disability (2 percent).

- Nationwide data on the specific types of racial bias show that 66 percent of such incidents were anti-Black and 22 percent were anti-White. Fifty-eight percent of ethnicity bias incidents (or 7 percent of all bias incidents) were anti-Hispanic.

- Nationwide data show that 66 percent of religious bias incidents were anti-Jewish, while 11 percent were anti-Islamic.
- Of the 87 Ohio law enforcement agencies reporting incidents of hate crime in their jurisdictions, Columbus accounted for 27 percent of all the reported incidents.
- Nationwide, 60 percent of all hate crime offenses⁴ were crimes against persons. The majority of these offenses involved intimidation (46 percent), simple assault (32 percent) and aggravated assault (22 percent). There were three murders as a result of a hate bias.
- Nationwide, of the 40 percent of hate crime offenses committed against property, the overwhelming majority, 81 percent, involved destruction, damage, or vandalism.



⁴ Offenses differ from incidents in that there may be multiple offenses, multiple victims, and/or multiple offenders within one hate crime incident.

Prisoners in 2006

Bureau of Justice Statistics

In December 2007, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the bulletin, *Prisoners in 2006*. 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 2.8 percent to 1,570,861, in 2006. This represents an increase in annual growth, which has averaged 1.9 percent from 2000 through 2005. Ohio experienced a 7.2 percent increase in the prison population, from 45,854 at the end of 2005 to 49,166 at the end of 2006.
- The rate of incarceration in prison at the end of 2006 was 501 sentenced inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents, a rate equivalent to about 1 in every 200 U.S. residents serving a prison term of over one year. At the end of 2006, Ohio had a rate of incarceration of 428 inmates per 100,000 residents.
- At the end of 2006, the federal prison system was operating at 37 percent over capacity. In addition, 23 states, including Ohio, were operating at or above their highest capacity.

Prisoner demographics

- By the end of 2006, women accounted for 7.2 percent of all prisoners. The incarceration rate for females in 2006 was 68 per 100,000 population. For males, the incarceration rate was 943 per 100,000 population.
- Nationwide, the number of female prisoners increased 4.5 percent during 2006. The number of male prisoners increased 2.7 percent. In Ohio, the number of female prisoners increased 13.5 percent from 2005 to 2006, while the number of males increased 6.7 percent during this time.
- A greater estimated percentage of Black inmates than White or Hispanic inmates were incarcerated for sentences of more than one year at the end of 2006, but the data indicate an overall declining percentage of Black prisoners from 2000 to 2006.
 - In 2006, Black males made up 38 percent of all male inmates, while White males made up 34 percent and Hispanic inmates made up 21 percent.
 - Forty-eight percent of females sentenced to one or more years in prison in 2006 were White, 28 percent were Black, and 17 percent were Hispanic.

Offenses committed by prisoners

- The latest data available (yearend 2004) indicate that 52 percent of inmates in state prisons were held for violent offenses: murder, robbery, assault, and rape and other sexual assaults, and other violent offenses. In addition,
 - 21 percent were held for various property offenses.
 - 20 percent were held for drug offenses.
 - 7 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.

Crime in the Nation's Households 2005
Bureau of Justice Statistics

In April 2007, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the bulletin *Crime and the Nation's Households, 2005*. This report is based on data collected by the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The survey collects information on crimes reported and unreported to the police, and includes the violent crimes of rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated and simple assault, and the property crimes of purse snatching or pocket picking, household burglary, motor vehicle theft, and property theft.

The following data and table come from this report.

- Fourteen percent of households experienced one or more violent or property victimizations in 2005. In 1994, the percent of U.S. households experiencing one or more crimes was 25 percent.
- Violent crimes were experienced by individuals in 3 percent of households, or about one out of every 36 households. Simple assault was the most frequent reported violent crime, experienced by 2 percent of households. Less than 1 percent of households reported rape or sexual assault.
- Property crimes were reported by 12 percent of households. Theft was reported most frequently, at more than 9 percent.
- One in 320 households, less than 1 percent of all households, reported experiencing intimate partner violence during 2005.
- Vandalism, although not reported in the property crime statistics or overall crime statistics, was reported in 5.1 million U.S. households, or 4.4 percent of U.S. households in 2005.
- In 2005, White households (14 percent) were more likely than households of other races (11 percent) to experience crime. Households headed by Hispanics were more likely to experience crime than those headed by non-Hispanics (18 percent vs. 13 percent, respectively).
- Households in urban areas were more likely to experience crime than those in suburban or rural areas (17 percent vs. 13 percent and 12 percent, respectively).
- Households in the West were more likely than those in other regions of the country to experience violent crime or property crime. This finding is primarily the result of property crime.

Probation and Parole in the United States 2006

Bureau of Justice Statistics

In December 2007, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the bulletin *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2006*. Data come from the 2006 Annual Probation Survey and the 2006 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 2006, the total federal, state, and local adult correctional population (incarcerated or in the community) grew 2.3 percent to more than 7.2 million. Offenders under community supervision accounted for over 2/3 of the correctional population.
 - Jail population increased 2.5 percent, to 766,010.
 - Prison population increased 3.1 percent, to 1,492,973.
 - Probation population increased 1.7 percent, to 4,237,023.
 - Parole population increased 2.3 percent, to 798,202.
- About one in every 31 adults were incarcerated or on probation or parole at yearend 2006.

Probation statistics

- At yearend 2006, the probation supervision rate was 1,868 probationers per 100,000 adult U.S. residents.
- Ohio ranked fifth in the total number on probation, with 243,956. This represents an increase of 1.4 percent from January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006.
- Characteristics of probationers in 2006:
 - 24 percent female, 76 percent male.
 - 55 percent White, 29 percent Black, 13 percent Hispanic.
 - 49 percent felony offense, 49 percent misdemeanor offense, 2 percent other infraction.
 - 73 percent of probationers under supervision in 2006 were supervised for a non-violent offense.
 - 27 percent of probationers had a drug law violation as their most serious offense, followed by driving while intoxicated (16 percent), larceny/theft (13 percent), and other assault (9 percent).
 - 57 percent successfully completed probation, 18 percent were incarcerated, 4 percent absconded, and 20 percent did not complete probation for other reasons.

Parole statistics

- In 2006, 352 persons per 100,000 adult residents were under parole supervision, or approximately 1 out of every 284 adults in the U.S.
- Ohio ranked 11th in the total number on parole, with 17,603. This represents a decrease of 9.8 percent from January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006.

- Ohio's parole rate of 202 per 100,000 adult residents was less than the national average of 352 per 100,000 adult residents.
- Characteristics of parolees in 2006:
 - 12 percent female, 88 percent male.
 - 41 percent White, 39 percent Black, 18 percent Hispanic.
 - 94 percent had a sentence length of one year or more.
 - 37 percent had been convicted of a drug offense, 24 percent for a property offense, and 26 percent for a violent offense.
 - 44 percent successfully completed parole, 39 percent returned to incarceration, 11 percent absconded, and 7 percent did not complete for other reasons.

Information Request Summary 2007

In 2007, OCJS handled 195 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 2007, by requestor.

Requestor	Number of Requests Received
State agencies	30
Citizens	46
Businesses	20
Private non-profit organizations	10
Colleges and universities	31
Law enforcement	8
Courts	3
Media	11
Other	24
Unknown/not recorded	12
Total	195

In addition to information requests, OCJS also received 156 requests for agency publications.

Research Directions for 2008

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

- ***Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) evaluation.*** The University of Cincinnati expects to complete their evaluation of the CIRV project in mid-2008. In addition to a final report, the researchers will also develop Best Practices guides to be made available to other communities interested in implementing this crime reduction program in their cities.
- ***Northern Ohio Violent Crime Consortium (NOVCC) evaluation.*** In October 2007, Ohio received a federal grant to initiate the NOVCC comprehensive crime reduction project in eight urban cities in Northern Ohio. This multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency project has as its primary goal a coordinated and effective intelligence-led, data-driven, violent crime reduction strategy focusing on firearms suppression and gun-related crimes. Kent State University has been commissioned to evaluate this project. In addition, the University of Cincinnati will evaluate the Violence Prevention Initiative, a specific program within the NOVCC project that focuses on the reduction of group-related homicides and violent crime.
- ***Computerized Criminal History (CCH) research project.*** OCJS, in collaboration with the Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, will be analyzing information contained in the state's computerized criminal history database. The research will focus on Ohio's drug offending population.
- ***Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative (CAGI) evaluation.*** CAGI is designed to reduce gang crime and violence through the implementation of prosecution/enforcement strategies, prevention/intervention strategies, and prisoner reentry strategies. This initiative is being evaluated by Kent State University.
- ***Batterer Intervention Program (BIP) evaluation.*** The University of Toledo will complete its outcome evaluation of Ohio's Batterer Intervention Programs. The study will assess the influence of community contextual factors as well as services provided in producing the outcomes.
- ***Ohio Domestic Violence Gaps in Services study.*** OCJS is analyzing data from its survey on gaps in services for victims of domestic violence. The survey was developed in collaboration with the Ohio Family Violence Prevention Advisory Council and builds on a similar survey conducted in 2002. Results from this survey of service providers will be distributed during 2008. The survey findings will also provide a basis for focus groups composed of domestic violence survivors that will be conducted during 2008. The overall goal of the study is to direct resources towards filling the gaps in Ohio's services for domestic violence survivors.



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