



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH ABSTRACTS 2005



**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 Grants Planning and Evaluation team 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 2005, several innovative criminal justice research projects were undertaken, including projects examining specialized dockets, offender reentry, community crime prevention programs, drug task force trends, and citizen perceptions on crime and security preparedness. Research was also conducted on specific types of crimes, including homicide, domestic violence, robbery, and drug offenses.

*Criminal Justice Research Abstracts 2005* provides readers with summaries of OCJS research projects developed in 2005. 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 Grants Planning and Evaluation Section, or by visiting the OCJS web site at [www.ocjs.ohio.gov/research.htm](http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/research.htm).

## OCJS-FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Eight research projects were funded, in whole or in part, by OCJS-administered grants. These projects investigate some of the most current criminal justice issues. Two projects evaluate specialized dockets — an outcome evaluation of a mental health court, and a cost-benefit analysis of drug courts. One project focuses on citizen perceptions of local and personal disaster preparedness. One project funds a criminal justice “extension office” which provides research and evaluation services to the community. Another project examines specific crimes in three Ohio cities. One project assesses the data needs of a local community. Finally, two projects investigate prisoner reentry.

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## **CONSEQUENCES OF MENTAL HEALTH COURT**

Kent State University

Principal Investigators: Chris Ritter, Ph.D., Mark Munetz, M.D.

Project Director: Jennifer Teller, Ph.D.

There is a clear need for implementation of programs that will lead to an increase in appropriate treatment for people who are mentally ill, in crisis, and who, as a result, come to the attention of police officers and the courts. Diversion programs such as mental health court may have the ability to change the lives of individuals. Research on the mental health court is therefore critical to help determine for whom and under what conditions mental health court programs affect consumers' psychological well-being so that behavioral changes occur as a result.

The Akron Municipal Mental Health Court, Ohio's first and longest running mental health court (since 2001), has been undergoing an extensive evaluation conducted by researchers at Kent State University and the Northeastern Ohio University College of Medicine (NEOUCOM) focusing on the consequences of mental health court for consumers. This project is the result of collaboration between these researchers and key agencies, including the Summit County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board, the Akron Municipal Court, the Akron Police Department, and Community Support Services.

The research team is currently collecting data — including data on diagnoses, incarcerations, hospitalizations, use of services, outcomes, and interviews — on those who successfully completed the Akron Mental Health Court Program, and is comparing these data to the data of three other groups: 1) those who failed to complete the court program; 2) those who declined to enter the program; and 3) those who were outpatient civilly committed.

Information from two other Ohio mental health courts is also being collected to determine the effects of mental health court on consumers and to compare and contrast the effects of different mental health courts. Additionally, an assessment will be made regarding the impact of the judge on outcomes over and above policies and procedures of the court.

The results of the evaluation will shed light on the following issues:

- Characteristics of consumers in mental health court.
- Impact of mental health court on future incarcerations and hospitalizations.
- The impact of mental health court versus outpatient commitment on issues of perceived stigma and amount of services received.
- Effect of stigma and amount of services received on long-term consequences such as quality of life, depression, and subsequent encounters with the police.
- Consumers' perceived level of coercion.
- Consumers' perception of procedural justice.
- Potential effects of court-ordered sanctions and rewards on completion of mental health court and on future jail bed days.

## **EVALUATION OF OHIO'S DRUG COURTS: A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS**

University of Cincinnati

Principle Investigator: Edward J. Latessa, Ph.D.

Project Director: Deborah Koetzle Shaffer, M.A.

Research Associate: Kristin Bechtal

Judges in Ohio and elsewhere are increasingly turning to specialized dockets (drug courts) for treating drug-involved offenders and ending the revolving door of drug-involved offenders returning repeatedly to court. As several Ohio judges have said, they turned to drug courts because what they were doing was not working. Ohio has now emerged as a national leader in drug courts and other types of specialized dockets (mental health courts, domestic violence courts, etc.). Some evaluations of drug courts, including the University of Cincinnati's 2002 evaluation of Ohio drug courts, have found the courts to be effective in reducing recidivism rates for the offenders served.

However, even if drug courts are effective in reducing recidivism, are those reductions large enough to warrant the additional costs associated with drug courts? OCJS funded this study by the University of Cincinnati (UC) to answer that question specifically for Ohio's drug courts.

UC approached this study through two sets of measurements. The first set was the treatment effect of lower recidivism for drug court participants. The second set estimated the marginal cost associated with drug court operations. The study used a quasi-experimental design of matched comparison groups. Data were collected from five felony-level drug courts.<sup>1</sup> There were a total of 614 drug court cases filed in those courts in 2002, the year used for this study. Cost estimates were generated for law enforcement, courts (including prosecution and public defenders), probation, and commitment to a half-way house, CBCF, or prison.

The study found overall that felony drug courts in Ohio are effective and cost less than alternative sentences. Every one dollar spent on drug courts yielded a net savings of \$4.73. However, the cost savings varied with the type of sanction. Greater cost savings were found when drug courts were compared to residential programs (CBCFs, half-way houses, and prison). Cost savings were not found when drug courts were compared to probationers that received community-based treatment. The study notes, however, that most comparisons of drug courts to probationers are less restrictive and also include probationers who do not receive community-based treatment.

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<sup>1</sup> Butler County, Hamilton County, Mahoning County, Richland County, and Stark County.

## **CITIZEN ATTITUDES TOWARD HOMELAND SECURITY: RESULTS OF A STATEWIDE SURVEY IN OHIO**

Ohio State University

Principle Investigator: Joseph F. Donnermeyer, Ph.D.

This study surveyed citizen attitudes in Ohio in two areas: (1) citizen's concerns related to homeland security; and, (2) how people have prepared for terrorism or natural disasters. There have been national surveys on these and other issues related to homeland security, however none specific to Ohio. OCJS funded this study for Ohio-specific citizen attitudes to be used by Ohio Homeland Security and other agencies working for a more secure Ohio.

This study consisted of a telephone survey using random-digit dialing to contact 3,328 Ohio citizens. Of these, 577 completed interviews. Those completing the interviews matched Ohio census data on adult population age, median household income, and average persons per household. However, some groups were over-represented in those actually completing the interview, including: females (60 percent vs. 51 percent of the state), Caucasians (90 percent vs. 85 percent of the state), and educational level attained (90 percent graduated high school vs. 85 percent of the state; 28 percent with four-year college degree or higher vs. 21 percent of the state). The interviews were conducted in June and July, 2005.

The main finding of the survey was that most people think there will be more terrorist attacks, but few expect the attacks to be in their neighborhood. Ohio's citizens' concern over terrorist attacks in their neighborhood is low, with 10 percent indicating they worry "very often" or "often" about a terrorist attack. This level of concern is similar to the level of concern of violent crime or gangs in their neighborhood and only slightly higher than concern over property crime. When asked what they worry about most in their neighborhood, more than 50 percent indicated drivers under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The citizens' perceptions of the likelihood of a terrorist attack increased when asked about the state and the nation. More than 40 percent of citizens responding said a terrorist attack in Ohio was "very likely" or "somewhat likely," and 80 percent thought a terrorist attack on the U.S. was likely.

The survey asked if the respondents had taken emergency actions such as storing water or food. The majority have not taken actions specifically to prepare for a terrorist attack. The responses varied by the type of action, ranging from 79 percent saying they store flashlights, candles, or other lighting devices to 7 percent each for storing vitamins, face masks, plastic bags or duct tape. However, the consistent finding was that most of them had taken these actions out of concerns other than terrorist attacks and had done so prior to 9/11.

Fear of terrorist attacks has caused 13 percent of the respondents to go to fewer events that attract large crowds, 7 percent to reduce their trips to shopping malls, and 15 percent to travel less by airplane.

Twenty-two percent believed the efforts of the federal government were "very effective" in reducing the risk of terrorism and another 44 percent said the efforts were "somewhat effective." State government and local governments were rated lower in effectiveness by those who answered the questions. However, large proportions of the respondents indicated they did not know enough about state or local efforts to rate them.

## **CRIME OPPORTUNITY PREVENTION SERVICES**

University of Cincinnati

Principal Investigator: John Eck, Ph.D.

Ohio government agencies, communities, and businesses have no systematic way of drawing upon the latest criminological research and practice to address their local crime and other related crime problems. The Criminal Justice Research Center at the University of Cincinnati has developed the Ohio Service for Crime Opportunity Reduction (OSCOR) to assist communities in moving scientifically grounded crime and disorder analysis and problem-solving techniques into neighborhoods, schools, and businesses. OSCOR is based on the tested principles that crime is: 1) concentrated where facilitating physical and social environments create enduring crime opportunities, and 2) changing these environments in the right way can eliminate crime opportunities and dramatically reduce crime.

OSCOR assists law enforcement, community groups, businesses, schools, universities, and other groups in developing and implementing crime prevention strategies based on “opportunity blocking” principles. OSCOR engages in three types of activities: crime and disorder problem-solving assistance; applied research to improve understanding of when, where, and how crime patterns develop and how they can be prevented; and dissemination of crime opportunity prevention knowledge through web-based materials, conferences, and distance learning.

In 2005, OSCOR was involved in several crime-related projects:

- Neighborhood crime reduction reports were completed and distributed to local collaborative groups in four Cincinnati neighborhoods. These reports contained descriptions of opportunity-blocking interventions that can be used to target the specific crime and disorder problems identified in their neighborhoods. The results also contained methodology that will allow these groups to perform their own crime reduction projects in the future.
- Open-air drug markets were examined throughout Cincinnati. These investigations identified several situational factors that helped to facilitate drug dealing, such as dates/times of market operation, territorial behavior among dealers, methods of communication between market players, access to arterial routes, and the presence of nearby convenience stores. Crime reduction recommendations designed to alter these situational factors were presented in four individual neighborhood reports. Additionally, an executive summary report with recommendations for a city-wide strategy to reduce open-air drug dealing was presented to city officials.
- An evaluation of a university crime prevention awareness program was conducted in 2004 and again in 2005 due to the positive feedback received after the first evaluation. The evaluation revealed that when the intervention program was in place thefts were reduced, but afterwards they returned to their expected levels. This finding resulted in a commitment by the city to supply the resources necessary to replicate the project once a quarter in the targeted residential area. The project and evaluation findings were also the focus of several media reports.
- An evaluation of a traffic barricade used to reduce drug dealing was conducted, and the data was used extensively by the city to decide whether to continue the intervention. The value of this evaluation prompted five additional crime analyst positions to be created and filled by the Cincinnati Police Department.
- OSCOR is also a part of an ongoing effort to establish a college campus consortium to collect data, disseminate information, and develop strategies to address interpersonal violence on college campuses.



## **CRIME IN OHIO: ANALYSES OF OIBRS DATA**

Ohio State University

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

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, the community, the media, and researchers. 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 work with OCJS to examine the growing amount of OIBRS data to provide additional useful and user-friendly information to reporting law enforcement agencies.

The OSU OIBRS project involved developing reports that examined refined categories of crime for specific Ohio jurisdictions. In particular, researchers examined the personal crimes of homicide, assault, and domestic violence, as well as the property crime of larceny, for three different-sized jurisdictions in Ohio. Although the number of jurisdictions in the study was small, a number of interesting findings emerged:

- Most incidents include just a single crime, and one victim and one suspect.
- A large portion of domestic violence and other incidents involve no obvious physical injury.
- Homicides are unique from other violent crimes in that they involve more unknown victim-suspect relationships, more male victims, and are equally likely to occur in public and residential locations.
- Unsolved non-domestic homicides were more likely to involve older (over age 30) victims.
- Killings of young adults were more likely to have known suspects and occur in late summer.

Although the number of jurisdictions in the study was small, the researchers were able to find useful patterns in the data. In addition, they noted interesting differences across crime types in terms of location.

Aside from providing insight into the character of different types of crime, the analyses suggest additional ways in which OIBRS data are useful, such as furthering problem-oriented policing, which involves bringing public resources other than just the police to bear on crime. Additionally, the ability of OIBRS data to quantify different types of crime will allow them to be tracked over time, enabling agencies to determine how well a particular strategy or policy deals with a particular type of crime.

Ohio State is currently expanding on the OIBRS research conducted in 2005 to more thoroughly investigate the attributes of domestic violence and homicides across different locations. These results will be available in 2007.

## **COUNTY PROFILE PROJECT**

Kent State University and Ohio State University

Principal Investigators: Mark Davis, Ph.D. and Eric Jefferis, Ph.D. (Kent State)

Joseph Donnermeyer, Ph.D. (Ohio State)

There is a shortage of data that state and local officials can use for planning purposes, including strategic and tactical planning, the preparation of funding proposals and required reports to federal and state agencies. The data that are available are not readily accessible to many users, compromising the ability of state and local officials to undertake quality data-driven planning efforts in the criminal justice arena. The purpose of the County Profile Project was to determine the feasibility of developing profiles of Ohio's counties which could be used by OCJS and other state and local justice agencies for planning and strategic development.

The researchers decided to first focus on a single county — Belmont County — which exemplified the challenges represented by Appalachia, but one in which justice system officials had the reputation for being enlightened and proactive in their approach to crime and related issues.

Two phases were undertaken in this project. In the first phase, researchers from Kent State University interviewed local county representatives to determine what county data sources were available and accessible, as well as what data sources were desired but were not available. In addition, they contacted state agencies to determine the accessibility of data at this level of government.

The results of the first phase highlighted the fact that local officials typically do not have awareness of or access to county-specific data beyond what their own agency collects that might be of benefit to them for strategic planning purposes. Furthermore, confidentiality issues were a primary concern that prevented agencies from sharing data. The researchers also found that state agencies had an impressive amount of data available to the public either online or by request. Crime and criminal justice, threats to health and human safety (suicides, accidental deaths, alcohol-related accidents and fatalities), education, and economic assessment data were all available.

The second phase of the project was a citizen attitude survey of Belmont County residents. The purpose was to provide relevant information on citizens' perceptions on justice-related issues. Belmont County residents were asked questions addressing fear of crime in their neighborhoods. They were also asked questions about their behaviors in response to their fear of crime, such as avoiding places that attract large crowds or avoiding walking alone at night. Finally, respondents were asked to provide their opinion about law enforcement and various criminal justice and social services.

The results of the County Profile Project suggested that developing profiles tailored to each of the 88 counties may not be feasible given the concerns many local agencies had regarding information sharing. However, the finding that state agencies do make an impressive amount of data available is something that should be highlighted. As a step to promoting this, OCJS has a listing of links to many state agencies available on its web site.

## **COMMUNITY ORIENTED REENTRY (CORE)**

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

Principal Investigators: Evalyn Parks, Betty Yost, and Candace Peters

In 2002, Ohio was awarded a three-year, \$2 million federal grant under the *Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI)*. The purpose of this grant is to assist in the reintegration of serious and violent offenders into the community. The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction is collaborating with the Ohio Departments of Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, Job and Family Services, Education, the Office of Criminal Justice Services, and local agencies to enact this program.

Ohio's SVORI grant is referred to as the Community Oriented Reentry Program (CORE). The grant targets approximately 200 offenders, ages 18 – 35, in Cuyahoga, Franklin, and Allen counties who have served at least 12 consecutive months and who will be serving a minimum of one-year community supervision.

Services for the offender begin in the state institutions. Identified offenders are asked to participate voluntarily. If they are found eligible, a Reentry Management Team (RMT) meets monthly with the offender while he is still in prison to discuss the Reentry Accountability Plan implementation and address any additional concerns that arise (Phase I). After the offender returns to the community, he will continue to meet with a community RMT (Phase II). 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 (Phase III). Since participation in the program is voluntary, offenders may withdraw at any time in the process.

Because this program is a unique model designed to improve the reintegration of serious and violent offenders into the community, evaluation is an important component of the project. The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the program's implementation and to measure the program's effectiveness. The evaluation is a four-year effort to collect data by following offenders in prison and after they are released from the institution. 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 in 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?
- By offering them employment assistance and by meeting their housing needs, do these services increase the offender's likelihood of success?
- What is the effect of providing specific needs-driven services on an offender's success?

In 2005, data were collected for 180 offenders in the experimental group and 180 offenders in the control group. Data collection will continue through 2006.

## **RETURNING HOME: UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES OF PRISONER REENTRY IN OHIO**

Urban Institute

Principal Investigator: Christy Vishner, Ph.D.

In 2004, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction released 28,177 prisoners from prisons across the state, nearly six times the number of prisoners released in 1980. Ohio has the seventh largest prison population in the country and 22 percent of released prisoners return to Cuyahoga County, with 79 percent of those returning to Cleveland. The sheer number of prisoners being released annually, along with a growing appreciation for the substantial challenges that ex-prisoners face as they reenter society and the fiscal consequences of unsuccessful reintegration, has brought prisoner reentry to the forefront both in Ohio and nationwide.

This project is a multi-year, multi-state study of returning prisoners, their families, and the communities in which they live. The intention of the project is to inform state and local policy regarding prisoner reentry. The study is being implemented in Ohio, Maryland, Illinois, and Texas. In 2005, OCJS funded a portion of the Ohio reentry study involving interviews with prisoners before and after their release and with family members of released prisoners. Focus groups and interviews were also conducted with residents and stakeholders in Cleveland communities that are experiencing the largest concentrations of returning prisoners.

Interviews with 424 offenders were conducted a month before release and a month after release from an institution. Follow-up interviews were completed on 355 offenders at three and six months following release, a 90 percent participation rate. In addition, six community focus groups were conducted for 75 residents. The following highlights some of the findings.

- Most respondents reported long histories of involvement with the criminal justice system.
- Upon entering prison, 45 percent of respondents had no high school degree or its equivalent.
- Although more than two thirds of respondents reported being legally employed in at least one job in the six months before their current prison term, 53 percent reported that at least some of their income came from illegal activity. Interestingly, respondents overwhelmingly felt that employment was going to be an important factor to staying out of prison.
- Alcohol and illegal drug use were very common among respondents in the six months prior to their prison term, with 71 percent reporting use of at least one illicit drug and 60 percent reporting alcoholic intoxication. Despite these findings, only 3 percent participated in drug treatment, 24 percent attended Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous, and 23 percent participated in both.
- Physical and mental health disorders affect at least one quarter of prisoners. Roughly 14 percent reported having been diagnosed with depression and 8 percent reported having other mental health problems.

Family members were central to providing emotional support during the prison term. Most respondents said their family was a source of support during their incarceration, and almost all respondents wanted their families to be involved in their lives. Eighty-three percent also anticipated that their families would be supportive after their release, with most prisoners (78 percent) expecting to live with family after prison and almost half of the respondents (44 percent) expecting that family would be a source of post-prison financial support.

## OCJS IN-HOUSE RESEARCH

The OCJS Grants Planning and Evaluation team includes three researchers. One researcher also serves as the 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.

OCJS researchers created four research and statistical reports in 2005. One such report, which was funded by the Executive Office of Weed and Seed, was an evaluation of the Akron Weed and Seed Program. At the request of Ohio's law enforcement task forces, OCJS researchers also compiled data submitted by the task forces to generate statistical reports on trends in Ohio's multi-jurisdictional law enforcement task forces. In addition, OCJS researchers used incident-based data to create reports profiling Ohio's methamphetamine and heroin arrestees and describing characteristics of Ohio robberies. In order to provide Ohioans with an easily accessible source of federal criminal justice statistics with emphasis on Ohio data, the 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 assisted hundreds of individuals through responding to criminal justice information requests.

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## **EVALUATION OF THE AKRON WEED AND SEED PROGRAM 2000-2004**

Office of Criminal Justice Services  
Principal Investigator: Lisa Shoaf, Ph.D.

Operation Weed and Seed is a strategy sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice that is designed to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug crime, and gang activity in targeted high-crime neighborhoods. The strategy consists of two primary components: a weeding strategy designed to “weed out” individuals contributing to crime in the neighborhood (and to prevent their return), and a seeding strategy that brings services to the neighborhood dedicated to prevention, intervention, treatment, and neighborhood revitalization. Community policing is heavily involved in the Weed and Seed strategy, and its role is to serve as a bridge between the weeding and seeding components. Currently, there are 15 Weed and Seed sites scattered in urban areas across Ohio.

The purpose of this study was to assess the city of Akron’s Weed and Seed program over the last five years of its existence, from 2000 through 2004, with special emphasis on the weeding component of the program. Data sources included, but were not limited to:

- Akron Police Department offense and arrest data for the years 2000-2004.
- 2004 citizen attitude survey of the Weed and Seed area (comparable to a 1997 citizen attitude survey).
- Interviews with key individuals involved in the Akron Weed and Seed program.
- Minutes from the Weed and Seed steering committee.
- Akron City Planning Department land use data.

The data suggested that areas receiving increased law enforcement attention benefited by seeing a reduction in reported crime and in arrests, when compared to other Akron neighborhoods and when compared to Akron as a whole. Data from the citizen attitude survey shed light on residents’ perception of crime and justice in the Weed and Seed area. Compared to a similar survey conducted in 1997, it appears residents feel that crime in their neighborhood worsened; however, despite these perceptions, citizens hold a generally favorable view of the efforts of local law enforcement. Citizens held a less favorable view of some of the social services provided in the Weed and Seed area, however. Lack of awareness on the part of the residents may have contributed to low participation in community activities, suggesting that more advertising was needed to promote the seeding strategy.

## **OHIO MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCES: 2001, 2002, 2003, AND 2004 TREND DATA**

Office of Criminal Justice Services

Principle Investigator: Robert Swisher, M.A.

This study was conducted at the request of the Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force Commanders Association. It builds on an earlier trend analysis requested by the commanders that covered 2001 through 2003. Trend analysis data is used by the commanders in a variety of ways, from planning task force operations, to comparing their task force data 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 Byrne Memorial Block 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. Ohio's task forces of today are using the advantages of their multi-jurisdictional composition for a broad range of crimes and types of offenders.

The overall findings of the four-year trend analysis were that while the number of task forces in Ohio declined during the period 2001 through 2004 and the average amount of funding per task force decreased 6 percent from 2003, most measures of project effectiveness during 2004 increased. The increase is especially true for: (1) the number of investigations and arrests; (2) the amounts of cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine removed, and (3) the value of criminal asset seizures and forfeitures. In terms of the demographics of those arrested, there was a decline in the percent of African-American arrests and an increase in the percent of Caucasians arrested.

The average number of new investigations per task force steadily increased during the 2001 through 2004 period, from 163 new investigations per task force in 2001 to 271 per task force in 2006 (66-percent increase). The new investigations resulted in a substantial increase in the average number of arrests per task force, from 121 in 2001 to 198 in 2004 (a 64-percent increase).

For the most part, those arrested by the task forces from 2001 through 2004 were consistent with the demographic profile of arrestees from the beginning of the Ohio task force program. This is especially true regarding gender (about 80 percent male) and age (about 95 percent adult). The arrestees in each of the four years were more likely to be repeat offenders than first-time offenders. The most notable demographic change was the increase in the percent of Caucasians, from 46 percent in 2001 to 61 percent in 2004. Increases in the percentage of arrests occurred with both Caucasian males (+10 percent) and Caucasian females (+5 percent). Further, all of the increases in the proportion of Caucasians occurred with adult offenders (there was no corresponding change among juvenile arrestees). There have been corresponding decreases in the proportion of African-American arrestees. Some have speculated that the increase in the proportion of Caucasians reflects greater involvement of Caucasians in the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine in Ohio, although methamphetamine arrests do not explain all of this trend.

The average amount of drugs removed per task force substantially increased over the four years for cocaine (+428 percent), heroin (+338 percent) and methamphetamines (+1,018 percent). The amount of LSD (-22 percent) and crack (-49 percent) declined while the number of marijuana plants removed fluctuated.

The pattern for criminal asset seizures/forfeitures is a fairly consistent level of activity punctuated by occasional large busts. Thus, large fluctuations occur both for individual task forces and statewide in the estimated amount of criminal assets seized and the value of criminal assets forfeited. Overall during the four years, the average amounts of assets per task force increased by 121 percent for seizures and 152 percent for forfeitures.

## **OHIO INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM (OIBRS)**

The FBI collects data on crime using the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The UCR Program is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of city, county, and state law enforcement agencies voluntarily reporting data on crimes brought to their attention. The traditional or summary-based UCR reporting has been used for more than 70 years and involves manual data collection on eight major crime categories: murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Incident-based UCR, called the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), was developed by the FBI in the 1980s to allow law enforcement agencies to provide more complete detail and a heightened level of accuracy in crime reporting and to automate the process. Ohio's version of this reporting program, the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS), was begun in the late 1980s, and has replaced traditional summary-based reporting in many areas of the state.

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. From a research standpoint, incident-based reporting allows for a detailed analysis of crime, suspects, victims, arrestees, and property. As of December 31, 2004, 48.8 percent, or approximately 5.8 million, of the Ohio population was covered by OIBRS crime reporting. Because reporting for Ohio is incomplete, caution should be used in interpreting the findings, as the data may reflect more the composition of the OIBRS-reporting jurisdictions than the composition of the state as a whole. Additionally, because the number of agencies submitting OIBRS data increases yearly, no year-to-year comparisons can be made with the data.

Unless otherwise stated, the following reports, *Ohio's Methamphetamine and Heroin Arrestees* and *Robberies in Ohio and the United States* used OIBRS data in the analyses.



## OHIO'S METHAMPHETAMINE AND HEROIN ARRESTEES

Office of Criminal Justice Services  
Principal Investigator: Lisa Shoaf, Ph.D.

Data from the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS) indicates a disturbing increase in methamphetamine and heroin violations. The OIBRS finding is supported by 2001-2003 drug task force analysis which indicates a substantial increase in amphetamine/methamphetamine violations and a large number of heroin violations. OIBRS data were analyzed to gain a better understanding of the characteristics of Ohio citizens being arrested for these drug-related crimes<sup>2</sup>. The crimes investigated fall into two categories: drug possession (ORC section 2925.11) and drug trafficking (ORC section 2925.03 and 2925.05). Specifically, drug possession and trafficking arrests involving methamphetamine or heroin were examined.

While methamphetamine and heroin arrests may be on the rise, they still make up a small proportion of all drug arrests. Arrests for cocaine (including crack and other cocoa derivatives) and for cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and other cannabis derivatives) make up the bulk of drug arrests. From 2002 to 2004, there were 11,241 cocaine possession or trafficking arrests and 22,380 cannabis possession or trafficking arrests. This report gives a snapshot of Ohio methamphetamine and heroin arrests only.

### Ohio's Methamphetamine and Heroin Arrestees

Although the number of arrests is comparable for methamphetamine and heroin, analyses of the arrestee composition (single versus multiple arrestees; age, sex, race of arrestee; location of arrestee) do reveal interesting differences between the two for the crimes being studied: possession and trafficking. A discussion regarding the similarities and differences follows.

#### *Number of Arrests*

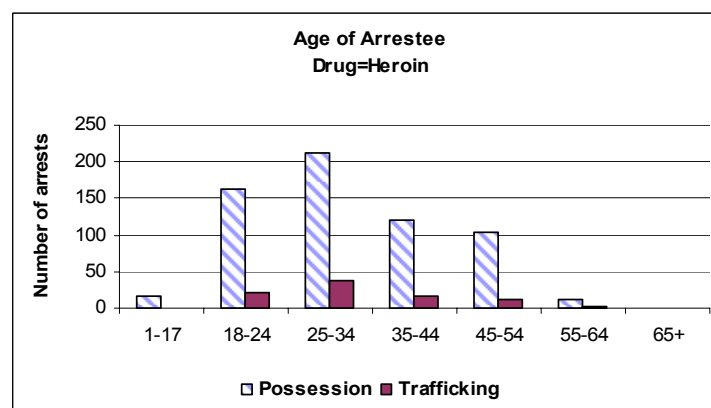
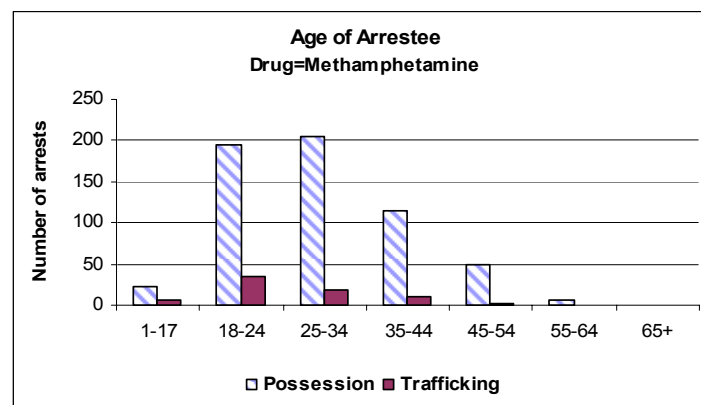
- From 2002 through 2004, there were 1,383 arrests for possession or trafficking of either methamphetamine or heroin.
  - Possession was the more frequent crime, making up 88.1 percent of the total of possession and trafficking arrests.
- Methamphetamine and heroin arrests were relatively similar in magnitude.
  - There were 719 (52 percent) heroin-related arrests and 664 (48 percent) methamphetamine arrests.
  - A slightly higher proportion of heroin arrests (12.8 percent) involved trafficking, as compared to methamphetamine (10.8 percent).
- The bulk of drug-related arrests (possession and trafficking) involved a single individual.
  - Nearly 22 percent of heroin possession arrestees and 24 percent of methamphetamine arrestees involved multiple arrestees.
  - The pattern differs between the two types of drugs in regard to trafficking. One-hundred percent of heroin trafficking arrests involved a single person, whereas 70.8 percent of methamphetamine arrests involved a single person.

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<sup>2</sup> Participation in OIBRS is voluntary; therefore, the data are not representative of the entire state.

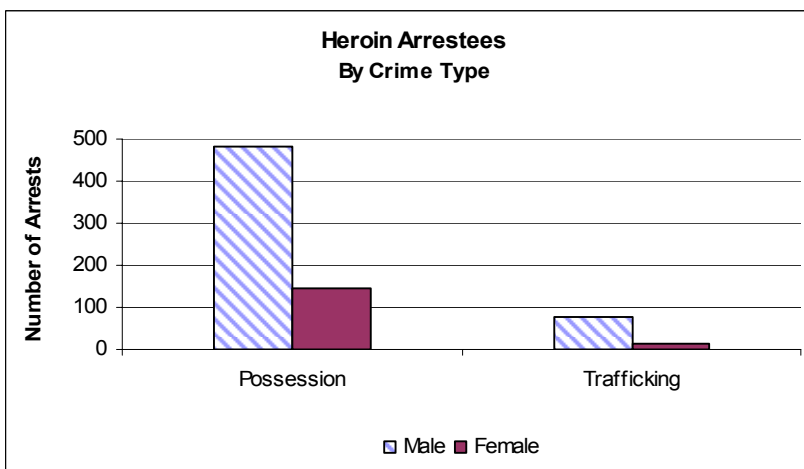
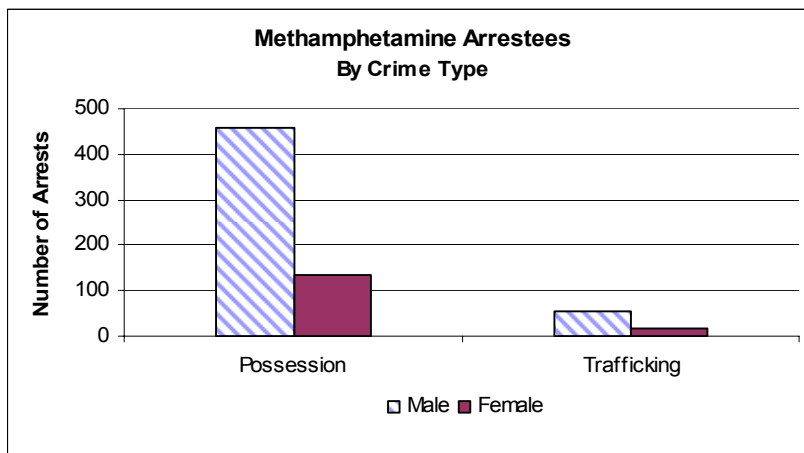
### *Arrestee Characteristics*

- In general, methamphetamine arrestees were slightly younger than their heroin counterparts.
  - The mean age of arrest for methamphetamine possession was 30 years, whereas the mean age of arrest for heroin possession was 33 years.
  - The mean age for trafficking arrestees was lower for both drug types, 26 years for methamphetamine trafficking and 32 years for heroin trafficking.
- A greater proportion of heroin arrestees than methamphetamine arrestees fell into the older (45+) age range.
  - More than 18 percent of those arrested for heroin possession fell in this age range, as compared to 9.4 percent of methamphetamine possession arrestees.
  - Trafficking results showed an even greater disparity between the two, with 16.3 percent of heroin traffickers falling in the 45+ year range as compared to 4.2 percent of methamphetamine traffickers.



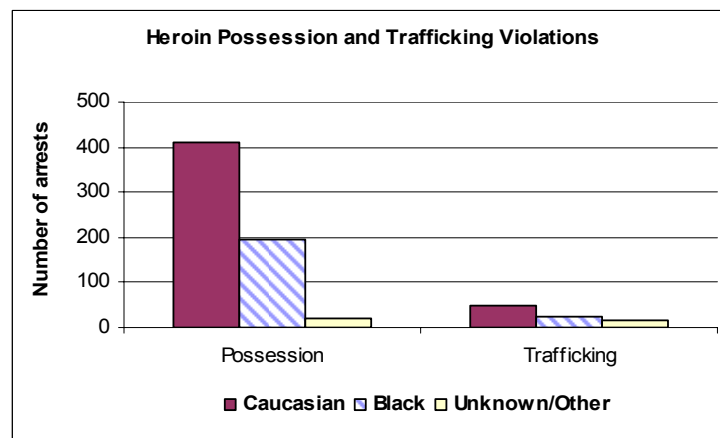
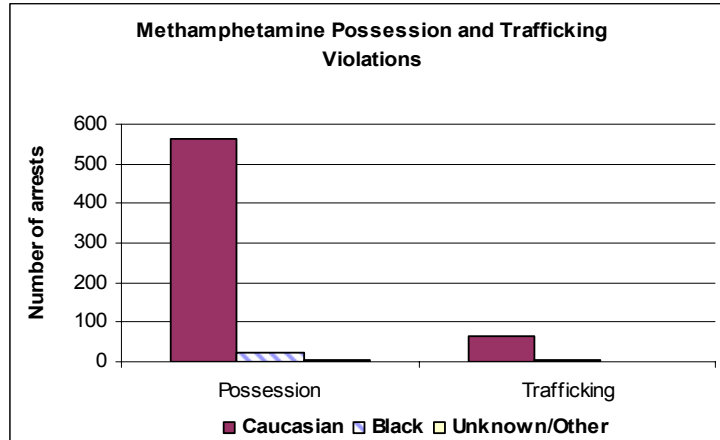
- Significantly more males than females were arrested for drug possession and trafficking.
  - Seventy-seven percent of drug possession arrestees were male, and 82.3 percent of drug trafficking arrestees were male.

- The percentage of females arrested for possession of heroin was identical to the percentage of females arrested for possession of methamphetamine, 23 percent. In contrast, the percentage of females arrested for trafficking differed depending on the drug. More than 22 percent of those arrested for methamphetamine trafficking were female, but only 14.1 percent of those arrested for heroin trafficking were female.



- The racial composition of drug possession arrestees differs depending on the drug type.
  - More than 31 percent of those arrested for heroin possession were black, compared to 4 percent of blacks arrested for methamphetamine possession.
  - Likewise, 65.7 percent of heroin possession arrestees were white, while 94.9 percent of methamphetamine possession arrestees were white.
- The racial composition of drug trafficking arrestees shows a pattern similar to that of the possession arrestees.
  - Fifty-two percent of heroin trafficking arrestees were white and 28.3 percent were black. Nearly 20 percent were of “unknown” race.

- Nearly 92 percent of methamphetamine traffickers were white, and 8.3 percent were black.



- White males dominate the number of arrestees for methamphetamine violations.
  - Nearly three-fourths (73 percent) of methamphetamine possession arrestees and 70.8 percent of methamphetamine trafficking arrestees are white males.

The percentage of white male methamphetamine arrestees overall is much higher than white male heroin arrestees — 72.7 percent and 45.2 percent, respectively.

### ***Geographic Location***

- Of those jurisdictions who reported OIBRS drug crimes to OCJS in 2004, the data revealed that the majority of arrests for heroin and methamphetamine possession and trafficking occurred in metropolitan areas. However, in comparing methamphetamine to heroin arrests within the same reporting jurisdictions, different patterns were revealed<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> Data on geographical location of drug arrests are limited due to the voluntary nature of OIBRS reporting, and must be interpreted in perspective.

- Overall, a greater proportion of heroin arrests occurred in counties with more than 500,000 population. Out of all methamphetamine and heroin possession and trafficking arrests combined, 80.5 percent of heroin arrests occurred in major metropolitan counties, compared to 68.6 percent of all methamphetamine arrests.
- In contrast, 11.7 percent of methamphetamine arrests occurred in counties with a total population of fewer than 100,000, as compared to only 3.5 percent of heroin arrests occurring in these small counties.

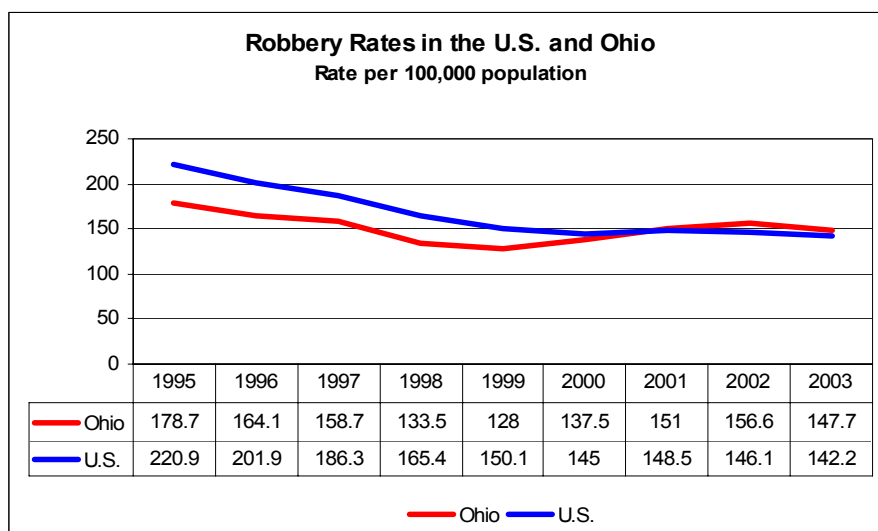
## ROBBERY IN OHIO AND THE UNITED STATES

Office of Criminal Justice Services  
Principal Investigator: Lisa Shoaf, Ph.D.

Robbery is defined by the FBI as the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or putting the victim in fear. It is considered a violent crime because it involves force or threat of force. According to the FBI's UCR program, in 2003 the U.S. experienced 413,402 robberies — 29.9 percent of all violent crimes in 2003.

UCR data show that the nation's rate of robbery in 2003 was 142.2 per 100,000. Of all U.S. regions, the Midwestern states<sup>4</sup> experienced the lowest robbery rate, at 118.5 per 100,000 population. Despite the low robbery rate in the Midwest, Ohio's robbery rate of 147.7 was higher than both the Midwest rate and the U.S. rate, and was surpassed in the Midwest only by Illinois (188.2).

UCR data show that from 1995 to 1999, Ohio experienced a decreasing robbery rate which mirrored that of the U.S., albeit at a lower rate. However, while the U.S. rate remained relatively steady from there on, the robbery rate in Ohio began to increase, surpassing that of the nation in 2001 and peaking in 2002 before beginning to decline in 2003.



Source: FBI's Uniform Crime Reports, 1995-2003.

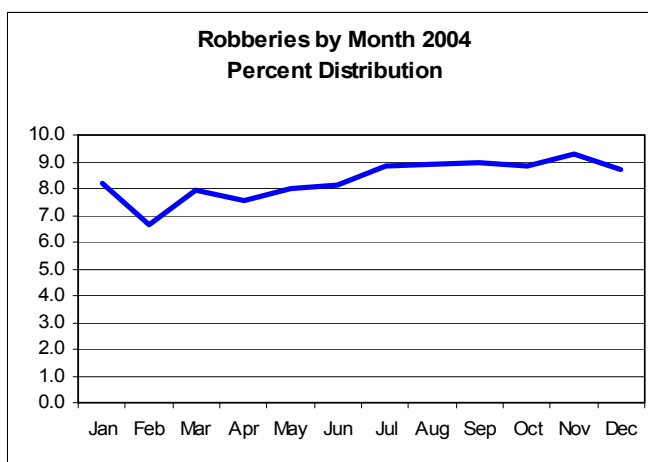
<sup>4</sup> For the UCR program, the Midwestern states include Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota

## Analysis of 2004 Robberies in Ohio

### Characteristics of Robberies

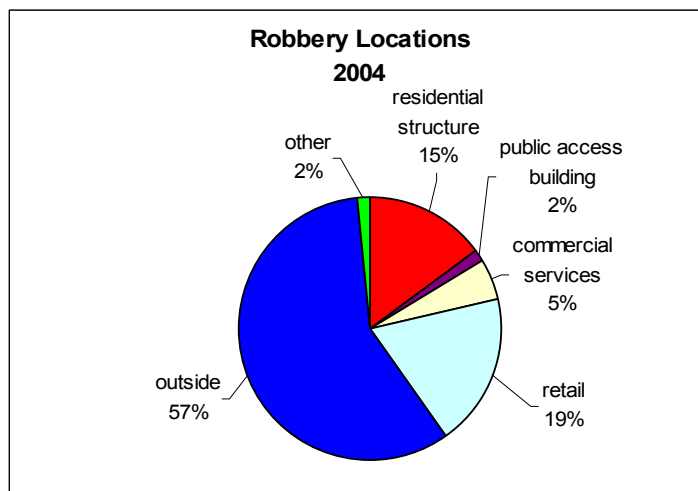
In 2004, Ohio's OIBRS agencies reported 12,327 robberies. Nearly 92 percent of these robberies were completed. The following characterize these offenses.

**By Month.** Robberies occurred least frequently in the cold winter months in Ohio. The robbery rate increased from a low in February to a steady high throughout the summer months. In the autumn months, the rate rose slightly higher before beginning its descent. UCR summary data show that this pattern has been found for the U.S. as well.



Source: 2004 OIBRS data.

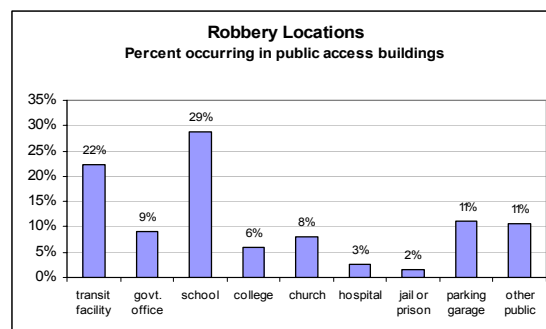
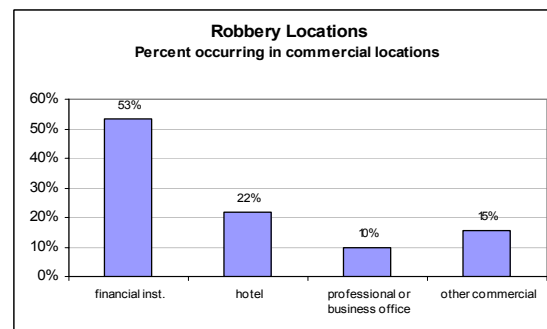
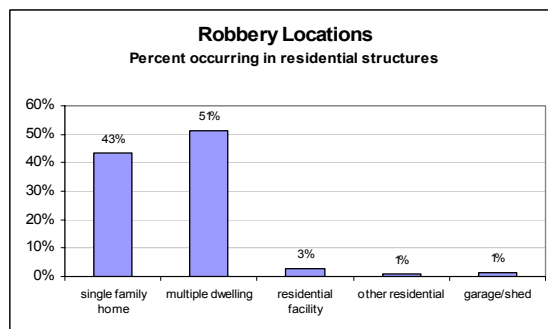
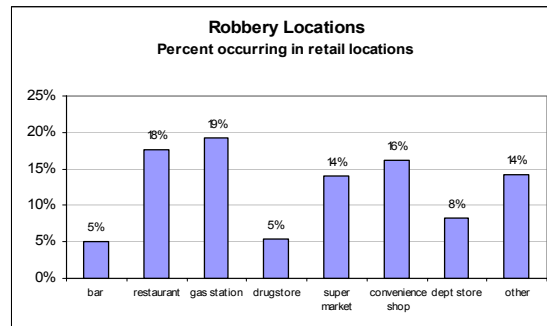
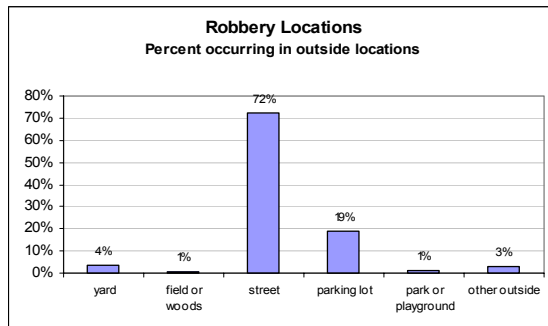
**By Location.** In Ohio, the majority — 57 percent — of robberies occurred in outside locations, followed by retail establishments (19 percent) and residential structures (15 percent).



Source: 2004 OIBRS data.

The most common outdoor locations for robberies were streets and parking lots, accounting for 91.5 percent of all outdoor robberies. In retail establishments, gas stations (19 percent), restaurants (18

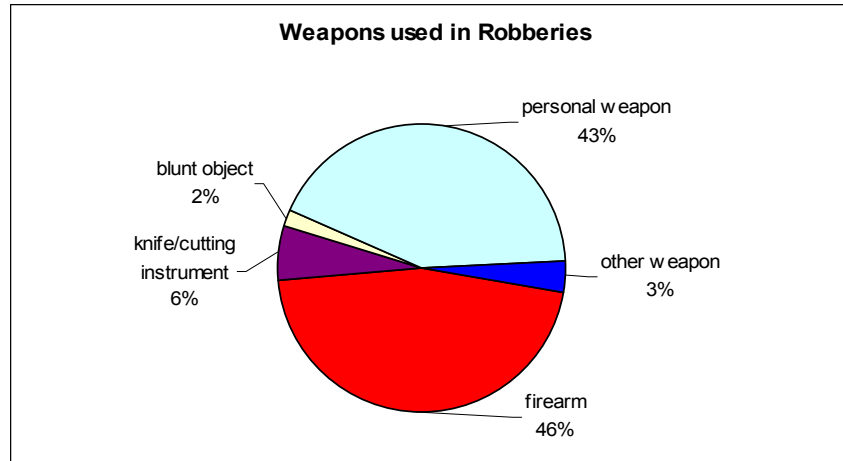
percent), convenience stores (16 percent), and supermarkets (14 percent) were the most frequent targets. Ninety-five percent of residential robberies occurred in single- or multiple-family dwellings. Five percent of robberies occurred in commercial buildings that provide services such as banks, beauty salons, doctor's offices, and hotels. Slightly more than 1 percent occurred in public access buildings, such as schools, churches, hospitals, jails, and government buildings.



Source: 2004 OIBRS data.

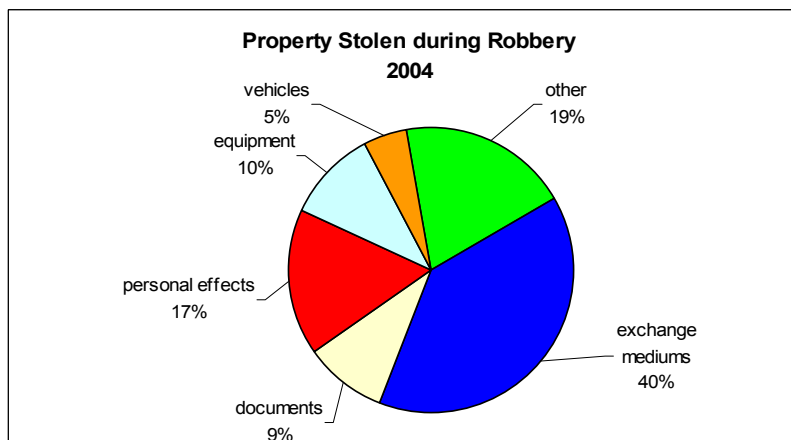
**Weapon Type.** Of the robberies reported in OIBRS in 2004 for which the presence or absence of a weapon is known, a weapon was used in more than 79 percent of the incidents. Of these incidents, firearms were the most frequently reported weapon, accounting for 46 percent of such robberies. Personal weapons (such as hands, feet, and fists) were the second most frequent weapon used, at 43 percent.





Source: 2004 OIBRS data.

**Property Stolen.** Exchange mediums, such as money, credit cards, and negotiable instruments (endorsed checks, money orders, gift certificates, etc.) were the most frequently stolen items during a robbery, making up 40 percent of all stolen property. Personal effects, including purses and wallets, made up 17 percent of all stolen property. Forty-four percent of all equipment stolen was office equipment.



Source: 2004 OIBRS data.

**Victims.** The majority of robbery victims, 83 percent, were individuals. Sixteen percent of victims were classified as businesses, and slightly more than 1 percent were financial institutions such as banks or credit unions.

When the victims were individuals, 69 percent of those for whom the sex was identified were male. Of those victims for whom age information was recorded, 11 percent of victims were juveniles, and nearly 60 percent were age 35 or under. Only approximately 4.5 percent of robbery victims were age 65 or older. Of those victims for whom race information was recorded, 46 percent were black and 53 percent were white.

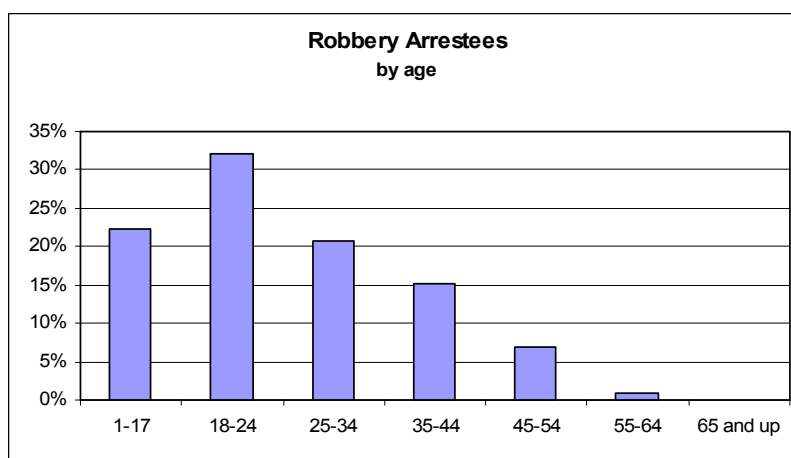
Most victims of robbery — 69 percent — reported having no physical injury as a result of the crime. Approximately 25 percent reported suffering an apparent minor injury, such as scratches and minor cuts or bruising. Slightly more than 1 percent reported sustaining a severe laceration, and nearly 2 percent reported suffering a major injury other than broken bones, internal injuries, tooth loss, or unconsciousness.

## Robbery Arrests in Ohio and the U.S.

UCR data show that in 2003, there were 75,667 arrests for robbery in the U.S. Nearly 90 percent of robbery arrestees were male. More than 23 percent of all robbery arrestees were under the age of 18, and 82.1 percent were under age 35. More than 54 percent were black, and nearly 44 percent were white.

Ohio OIBRS data for 2004 revealed similar patterning of arrestee data. The majority of robbery arrestees, more than 89 percent, were male. Interestingly, there exist differences as a function of race. Across white arrestees, more than 14 percent were female and more than 85 percent were male. Across black arrestees there were fewer females and more males arrested for robbery — 9 percent and 91 percent, respectively.

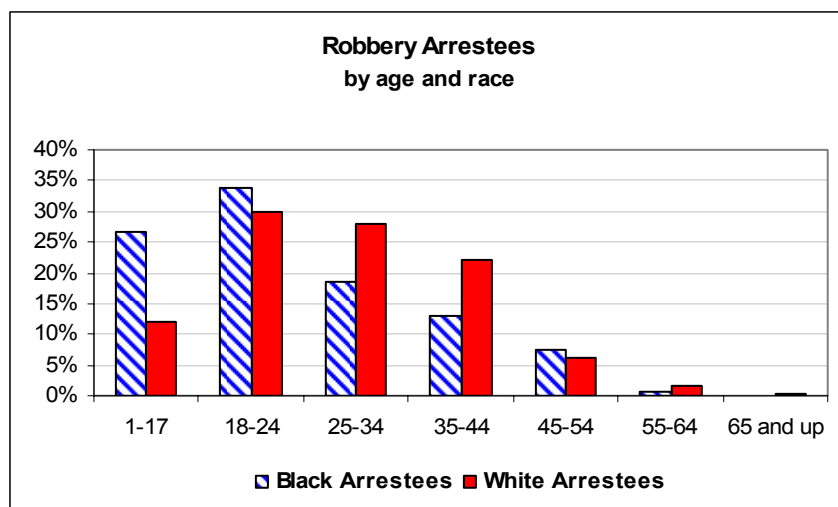
OIBRS data show that more than three-quarters of robbery arrestees were under the age of 35. Additionally, more than 22 percent of all robbery arrestees were juveniles. The number of individuals arrested for robbery steadily decreased beginning with the 25-34 age group.



Source: 2004 OIBRS data.

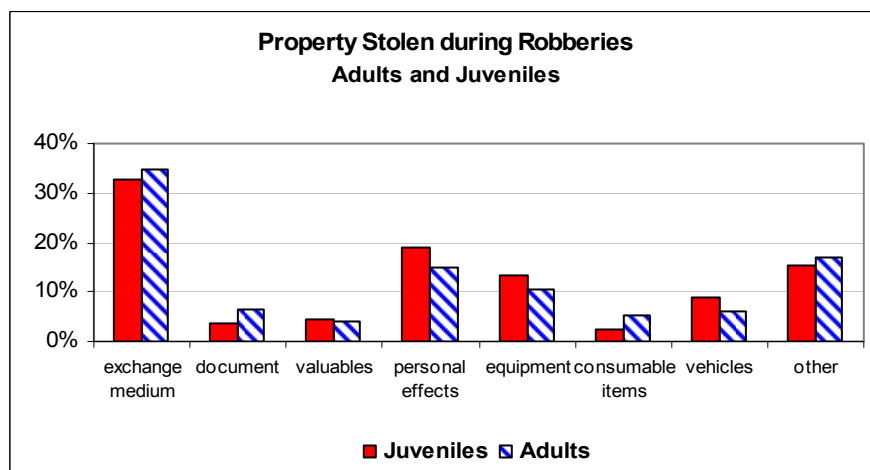
Age differences existed across races. For blacks, the percentage of robbery arrestees under age 35 was 79 percent, while for whites, the percentage was 70 percent. More than 22 percent of white robbery arrestees, but only 13 percent of black arrestees, fell within the 35-44 age category.

In Ohio, juveniles under age 18 made up more than 22 percent of all robbery arrestees, but this number also differs as a function of race. Of all black robbery arrestees, nearly 27 percent were under age 18. Of all white robbery arrestees, 12 percent were under age 18.



Source: 2004 OIBRS data

The types of property that were stolen by arrestees were compared for juveniles and adults. In general, the types of items stolen did not differ much as a function of age. Some minor differences were noted, however. A greater percentage of adults than juveniles stole exchange mediums (money, credit/debit cards, and other such items) and documents, while a greater number of juveniles stole personal effects (including purses and wallets) and equipment.



Source: 2004 OIBRS data

## FBI RESEARCH SUMMARY: CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES 2004

In October 2005, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released *Crime in the United States 2004*. 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 2004, law enforcement agencies active in the UCR program represented 94.2 percent of the total population.

Data for Ohio, the East North Central region of the Midwest<sup>5</sup>, and the U.S. are summarized below. A link to the full report can be found on the FBI's web site: [http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius\\_04/](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius_04/)

**Violent Crime.** Violent crime includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The rate of violent crime (all rates are expressed per 100,000 population) in the U.S. decreased 2.2 percent from 2003 to 2004. The East North Central region showed a similar decrease of 2.7 percent. In Ohio, the rate increased 2.4 percent, from 333.9 per 100,000 population to 341.8 per 100,000 population. Ohio's rate is still much lower than the nation's rate of 465.5.

- Murder and non-negligent manslaughter. The murder rate decreased 3.3 percent for the U.S. and 6.2 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the murder rate decreased 1.9 percent.
- Forcible rape. Rape decreased 0.2 percent in the U.S. and 0.1 percent in the East North Central region. The rape rate decreased 0.5 percent in Ohio.
- Robbery. Robbery rates decreased 4.1 percent in the U.S. and 1.8 percent in the East North Central region. Ohio showed an increase in robbery from 147.7 to 153.1 — a 3.6 percent increase. Ohio's rate is higher than that of the U.S. (136.7) and the region (134.3).
- Aggravated Assault. Aggravated assault rates decreased 1.5 percent in the U.S. and 3.5 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the aggravated assault rate increased 2.0 percent.

Despite the rate decrease in murder and forcible rape seen in Ohio in 2004, Ohio's overall violent crime rate increased 2.4 percent. Murder and rape occur much less frequently than robberies and aggravated assaults. Therefore, any decreases in murder and rape are essentially washed out by increases in robberies and aggravated assaults, resulting in an increase in the overall violent crime rate.

**Property Crime.** Property crime consists of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft<sup>6</sup>. The property crime rate in the U.S. decreased 2.1 percent, from 3,591.2 per 100,000 to 3,517 per 100,000. In the East North Central region, property crime decreased 2.7 percent. In Ohio, the property crime rate increased 0.6 percent to 3,673.2 per 100,000 population.

- Burglary. The burglary rate decreased 1.5 percent in the U.S. and 2.5 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the burglary rate increased 1.8 percent. The burglary rate in Ohio (846.1) is higher than that of the U.S. (729.9) and the East North Central region (658.9).

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<sup>5</sup> The East North Central region consists of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

<sup>6</sup> Arson is also considered a property crime; however, the UCR program does not have sufficient data to estimate arson offenses.

- Larceny-theft. Larceny-theft rates decreased 2.1 percent in the U.S. and 2.7 percent in the East North Central region. In Ohio, the larceny-theft rate increased a slight 0.4 percent.
- Motor vehicle theft. Motor vehicle theft decreased in the U.S. (2.9 percent), in the East North Central region (3.5 percent) and in Ohio (0.6 percent). The Ohio rate of 356.5 per 100,000 is comparable to that of the East North Central region (356.8) and lower than that of the U.S. (421.3).

The following tables display 2003-2004 crime rate changes for the U.S., the East North Central region, Ohio, and Ohio's largest cities.

**Change in Crime Rate (per 100,000 population) from 2003 to 2004<sup>7</sup>**

OFFENSES	OHIO	NATIONAL/REGIONAL
<b>Violent Crime Totals</b> Ohio: 2.4% increase.	Akron: Decrease of 2.6%. Cincinnati: Increase of 2.2%. Dayton: Decrease of 0.9%. Toledo: Increase of 2.6%. Youngstown: Decrease of 3.9%.	<b>National:</b> Decrease of 2.2%. <b>East North Central:</b> Decrease of 5.8%. All East North Central states except Ohio experienced a decrease in the violent crime total.
Murder Ohio: 1.9% decrease.	Akron: Decrease of 18.0%. Cincinnati: Decrease of 8.1%. Dayton: Increase of 14.9%. Toledo: Increase of 4.7%. Youngstown: Increase of 22.1%.	<b>National:</b> Decrease of 3.3%. <b>East North Central:</b> Decrease of 6.2%. Michigan had the only increase (+4.8%). Wisconsin had the largest decrease (-16.4%).
Forcible Rape Ohio: 0.5% decrease.	Akron: Decrease of 14.3%. Cincinnati: Increase of 3.0%. Dayton: Decrease of 26.8%. Toledo: Decrease of 4.6%. Youngstown: Increase of 4.2%.	<b>National:</b> Decrease of 0.2%. <b>East North Central:</b> Decrease of 0.1%. Wisconsin had the largest decrease (-6.1%) and Indiana had the largest increase (+4.2%).
Robbery Ohio: 3.6% increase.	Akron: Decrease of 2.0%. Cincinnati: Increase of 12.3%. Dayton: Decrease of 3.5%. Toledo: Decrease of 11.8%. Youngstown: Decrease of 3.0%.	<b>National:</b> Decrease of 4.1%. <b>East North Central:</b> Decrease of 1.8%. Michigan (+0.3%) and Ohio reported the only increases.
Aggravated Assault Ohio: 2.0% increase.	Akron: Increase of 2.5%. Cincinnati: Decrease of 17.7%. Dayton: Increase of 11.9%. Toledo: Increase of 15.1%. Youngstown: Decrease of 6.9%.	<b>National:</b> Decrease of 1.5%. <b>East North Central:</b> Decrease of 3.5%. Decreases were noted in all states except Ohio. Indiana reported the largest decrease (-12.4%).

<sup>7</sup> Cleveland and Columbus 2004 data are not comparable to their 2003 data. Therefore, rate changes could not be calculated for these cities.

OFFENSES	OHIO	NATIONAL/REGIONAL
<b>Property Crime Totals</b> Ohio: 0.6% increase.	Akron: Increase of 5.2%. Cincinnati: Decrease of 4.1%. Dayton: Decrease of 3.1%. Toledo: Decrease of 6.4%. Youngstown: Decrease of 11.8%.	<b>National:</b> Decrease of 2.1%. <b>East North Central:</b> Decrease of 2.7%. Wisconsin reported the largest decrease (-7.5%). Ohio and Indiana (+1.2%) reported increases.
Burglary Ohio: 1.8% increase.	Akron: Increase of 3.2%. Cincinnati: Decrease of 4.0%. Dayton: Decrease of 2.7%. Toledo: Decrease of 0.3%. Youngstown: Decrease of 4.7%.	<b>National:</b> Decrease of 1.5%. <b>East North Central:</b> Decrease of 2.5%. Ohio and Indiana (+0.8%) reported increases. Wisconsin reported the largest decrease (-10.7%).
Larceny-Theft Ohio: 0.4% increase.	Akron: Increase of 2.7%. Cincinnati: Decrease of 1.5%. Dayton: Decrease of 3.1%. Toledo: Decrease of 8.0%. Youngstown: Decrease of 15.5%.	<b>National:</b> Decrease of 2.1%. <b>East North Central:</b> Decrease of 2.7%. Michigan reported the largest decrease (-7.1%). Ohio and Indiana (+1.4%) reported increases.
Motor Vehicle Theft Ohio: 0.6% decrease.	Akron: Increase of 26.4%. Cincinnati: Decrease of 15.4%. Dayton: Decrease of 3.7%. Toledo: Decrease of 10.3%. Youngstown: Decrease of 17.4%.	<b>National:</b> Decrease of 2.9%. <b>East North Central:</b> Decrease of 3.5%. Decreases were noted in all states except Indiana.
Arson Ohio: not available.	Akron: Decrease of 7.8%. Cincinnati: Increase of 4.5%. Dayton: Increase of 7.5%. Toledo: Decrease of 20.3%. Youngstown: Decrease of 24.6%.	Arson data are not available for a regional or national comparison.

## **FBI RESEARCH SUMMARY: HATE CRIME STATISTICS 2004**

In November 2005, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released the publication, *Hate Crime Statistics 2004*. 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 which is motivated, in whole or in part, 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, 12,711 law enforcement agencies representing 86.6 percent of the nation's population participated in the hate crime reporting program in 2004.

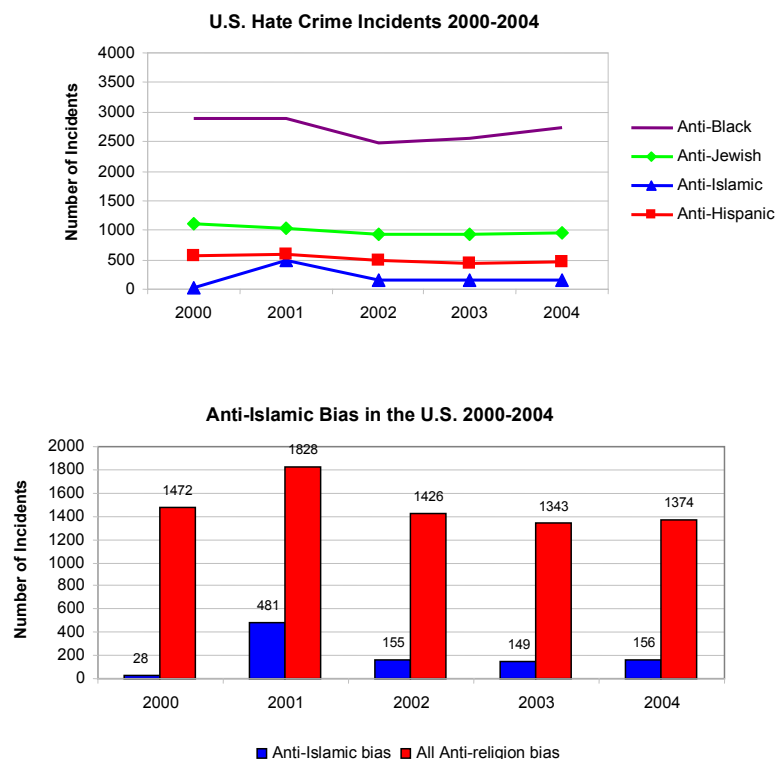
The information contained in this report is subject to strenuous qualifiers. As the FBI report itself states, "Because motivation is subjective, it is difficult to know with certainty whether a crime was a result of the offender's bias." Law enforcement investigation must reveal sufficient evidence to 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 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. A link to this report can be found on the FBI's web site: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/04hc.pdf>

### **Hate Crime Reporting**

- The number of Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement increased from 387 in 2003 to 410 in 2004.
- Of the 410 Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement, 336 reported no incidents of hate crimes in their jurisdiction.
- Seventy-four Ohio law enforcement agencies reported a total of 353 hate crime incidents during the year. This is an increase in number of incidents of nearly 53 percent over 2003. Nationwide, the number of reported hate crime incidents increased by slightly more than 2 percent. *As mentioned earlier, this increase in hate crime incidents in Ohio in part reflects the increase in law enforcement agency participation in hate crime reporting, as well as perhaps a greater understanding of hate crimes.*
- The Ohio hate crime rate of 3.9 incidents per 100,000 population is above the national average of 3.0 incidents per 100,000 population.
- The majority of Ohio's hate crime incidents, 58 percent, involved racial bias. The remaining incidents involved ethnicity (16 percent), sexual orientation (16 percent), religion (10 percent), and disability (<1 percent). Nationwide, race also accounted for the majority of hate crime incidents (53 percent), followed by religion (18 percent), sexual orientation (16 percent), ethnicity (13 percent) and disability (<1 percent).

- Compared to 2003, the total number of bias incidents increased in every category but disability bias. Across all bias categories, the percent of race bias incidents decreased the greatest amount from 2003 to 2004 — 5 percent.
- Nationwide, data on the specific types of race bias show that 67.5 percent of such incidents were anti-black, and 20.5 percent were anti-white. Forty-nine percent of ethnicity-bias incidents were anti-Hispanic.
- Nationwide, data also show that 69 percent of religious bias incidents were anti-Jewish, while 11 percent were anti-Islamic.
- Of the 74 law enforcement agencies reporting incidents of hate crime in their jurisdiction, two agencies — Cleveland (N=39), and Columbus (N=123) — accounted for 46 percent of the total number of incidents. Adding in Cincinnati (N=13), Akron (N=14), and Youngstown (N=9), the percent of hate crime incidents accounted for jumps to 56 percent. *In general, this pattern of urban hate crime is common across the country.*
- Nationwide, 62 percent of all hate crime offenses<sup>8</sup> were crimes against persons. The majority of these offenses involved simple assault (31 percent) and intimidation (50 percent). There were five murders as a result of a hate bias.
- Nationwide, of the 37 percent of hate crime offenses committed against property, the overwhelming majority — 84 percent — involved destruction, damage, or vandalism.



<sup>8</sup> Offenses differ from incidents in that there may be multiple offenses, multiple victims, and/or multiple offenders within one hate crime incident.



**FBI RESEARCH SUMMARY:  
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED AND ASSAULTED 2004**

In November 2005, the FBI released its annual *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted* report for 2004. 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 are grouped by officers feloniously killed, officers accidentally killed, and officers assaulted, with narrative descriptions provided for incidents where officers were feloniously killed. A copy of the full report can be found on the FBI's web site: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/killed/2004/downloads/LEOKA04.pdf>

**National Statistics**

- Fifty-seven law enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty in 2004. The deaths occurred in 50 separate incidents in 22 states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. In 2003, 52 officers were feloniously killed.
- Characteristics of the feloniously killed officers in 2004:
  - Average age was 39.
  - Average length of service was 12 years.
  - Fifty-four officers were male, three were female.
  - Forty-six officers were white, 10 were black, and one was an Asian/Pacific Islander.
- Characteristics of the incident surrounding the murder:
  - Thirty percent occurred in ambush situations.
  - Twenty-one percent occurred in arrest situations.
  - Eighteen percent occurred during the investigation of a disturbance call.
  - Ten percent occurred while investigating suspicious persons/circumstances.
  - Ten percent occurred during traffic stops/pursuits.
  - 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-four of the 57 victim officers were killed by a firearm, the majority of which were handguns. Two officers were intentionally hit by vehicles, and one officer was stabbed with a knife.
- Fifty-eight alleged assailants were identified in connection with the incidents that claimed the lives of the 57 officers. All but one of the incidents were cleared by arrest or exceptional means.
- There were 82 accidental deaths of law enforcement officers in the line of duty in 2004. Sixty-eight of the 82 died as the result of a vehicle-related accident, including car or motorcycle mishaps or other traffic-related incidents (directing or stopping traffic, assisting motorists). The remainder were killed by accidental shootings, aircraft accidents, drowning, and other situations.

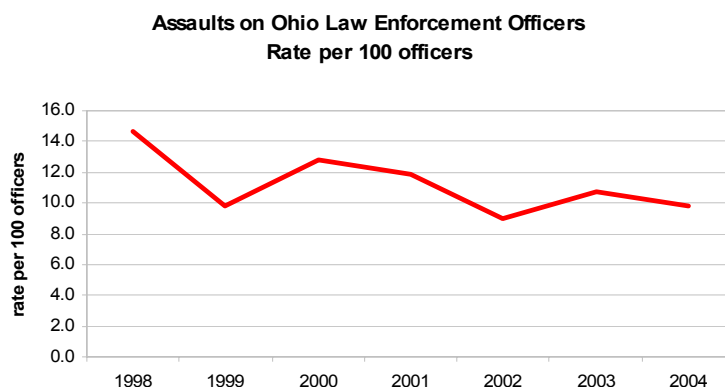
- There were 59,373 officers assaulted in the line of duty, and 28 percent of these resulted in an injury. More than 80 percent of the assaults involved the use of personal weapons (hands, fists, etc.), with the remainder of assaults involving firearms (4 percent), cutting instruments (1.9 percent), and other dangerous weapons (14.5 percent).

## Ohio Statistics

- In Ohio, one officer was feloniously killed in 2004.

**Marion County Sheriff's Office.** A 29-year-old deputy sheriff was investigating an apparently disabled vehicle parked along a state highway. The officer spotted a man walking toward the vehicle and informed the police dispatcher that he was going to assist the man. The dispatcher ran a check on the information that the man had provided to the deputy and discovered the man had given a false name and birthdate. The dispatcher unsuccessfully attempted to warn the officer about the man. Shortly after, the sheriff's cruiser was found lying in a ravine. The officer was fatally shot in the head. The suspect — a known user, dealer, and possessor of drugs — was arrested the next day and charged with aggravated murder.

- Since 1995, there have been 19 felonious killings in Ohio.
- During 2004, one officer was accidentally killed in an automobile accident in Columbus.
- During 2004, 204 Ohio agencies reported 742 assaults on officers. Eighty-five percent of the assaults were committed with a personal weapon. Slightly more than 1 percent of assaults were committed with a firearm.
- The rate of assault per 100 officers in Ohio in 2004 was 9.8, which is below the national rate of 11.9 per 100 officers.



## **BJS RESEARCH SUMMARY: CAPITAL PUNISHMENT 2004**

In November 2005, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the report *Capital Punishment 2004*. This annual report characterizes persons under sentence of death and those executed between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2004. The following summarizes some key findings of the report, with emphasis on Ohio data wherever possible. A link to the full report can be found on the Bureau of Justice Statistics' web site: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cp04.pdf>

### **National Statistics**

- There were 3,315 state and federal death row inmates between January 1, 2004 and December 31, 2004, which were 63 less than the year before. One hundred twenty-five inmates across 29 states and the federal prison system entered prison with death sentences during 2004.
- Texas (23 admissions), California (11), the federal prison system (10), Florida (9), Alabama (7), and Louisiana (6) accounted for more than half of those sentenced in 2004.
- As of December 31, 2004, those awaiting execution were 56 percent white and 42 percent black. Thirteen percent for whom ethnicity was known were of Hispanic origin. Men made up 98 percent of all prisoners under death sentence. The median educational attainment for these individuals was 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Across all death row inmates for whom date of arrest information was available, the data show that about half were age 20-29 on the date of arrest, and 13 percent were age 19 or under.
- During 2004, 12 states executed 59 prisoners, six fewer than in 2003. They had been on death row an average of 11 years. All those executed were men. Thirty-six were white, 19 were black, three were white Hispanic, and one was Asian. All but one were given lethal injection.
- For those death row inmates for whom criminal history information was available, 64 percent had a prior felony conviction, including 8 percent with at least one previous homicide conviction.
- Twenty-two states reported 107 persons whose death sentences were removed or overturned. Of these, 57 received a reduced sentence, 20 were awaiting a new trial, 23 were awaiting resentencing, one had all capital charges dropped, and six had no action taken after having the death sentence removed.

### **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).
- The minimum age authorized for capital punishment in Ohio is 18.
- The method of execution in Ohio is lethal injection.
- As of December 31, 2003, there were 209 inmates on death row in Ohio. During 2004:
  - Five death row inmates were received.
  - Six inmates were removed from death row (*not* via execution), four of whom died of natural causes.
  - Seven inmates were executed, which was second to Texas, which executed 23.

- As of December 31, 2004, Ohio had 201 inmates on death row, the fifth largest death row population in the U.S. Forty-eight percent of those on Ohio's death row (97) were white, and fifty percent (101) were black (the remaining were other races). Five Hispanics and one female were under sentence of death.
- Since 1930, Ohio has executed 187 prisoners. Since 1977 (the year after the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of revised state capital punishment laws), Ohio has executed 15 prisoners.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Death sentence prisoners 12/31/03</b>	<b>Death sentence prisoners received in 2004</b>	<b>Prisoners removed from death row (excluding executions)*</b>	<b>Executed</b>	<b>Death sentence prisoners as of 12/31/04</b>
US	3,378	125	129	59	3,315
Ohio	209	5	6	7	201

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

## **BJS RESEARCH SUMMARY: PRISONERS IN 2004**

In October 2005, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the bulletin, *Prisoners in 2004*. 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. A link to the full report can be found on the Bureau of Justice Statistics' web site: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/p04.pdf>

### **Prison Population Rates**

- The U.S. prison population grew 1.9 percent in 2004. This represents a *decrease* in annual growth, which has averaged 3.2 percent since the end of 1995.
  - The total number of prisoners under the jurisdiction of federal or state adult correctional authorities was 1,496,629 at the end of 2004.
  - Ohio experienced a slight 0.1 percent increase in the prison population, from 44,778 at the end of 2003, to 44,806 at the end of 2004.
- The rate of incarceration in prison at the end of 2004 was 486 sentenced inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents. This is an increase from 411 inmates per 100,000 residents in 1995.
  - During 2004, Ohio had a rate of incarceration of 391 inmates per 100,000 residents.
- At the end of 2004, the federal prison system was operating at 40 percent over capacity. In addition, 24 states, including Ohio, were operating at or above their highest capacity.
  - At the end of 2004, Ohio prisons were operating at 19 percent over capacity.

### **Prisoner Demographics**

- By the end of 2004, women accounted for 7.0 percent of all prisoners.
  - One in every 1,563 women and 1 in every 109 men were incarcerated in a state or federal prison.
  - Nationwide, the number of female prisoners increased 4 percent during 2004. The number of male prisoners increased 1.8 percent.
    - In Ohio, the number of female prisoners increased 9.9 percent from 2003 to 2004.
  - Nationwide, since 1995, the annual rate of growth of female inmates averaged 4.8 percent, whereas the average rate of increase for male inmates was 3.1 percent.
    - Ohio has averaged a 1.5 percent increase in female inmates from 1995 to 2004.
- More black inmates than white or Hispanic inmates were incarcerated for sentences of more than one year at the end of 2004.
  - Black inmates represent an estimated 41 percent of all inmates, white inmates represent 34 percent of all inmates, and Hispanic inmates represent 19 percent of all inmates.
  - Black females were more than twice as likely as Hispanic females and four times as likely as white females to be in prison.
- Racial and ethnic disparities exist when incarceration rates are examined by age group.
  - 8.4 percent of black males age 25 to 29 were in prison at the end of 2004, compared to 2.5 percent of Hispanic males and 1.2 percent of white males in the same age group.

### **Offenses Committed by Prisoners**

- The latest data available (at the end of 2002) indicate that 50 percent of inmates were held for violent offenses: murder, robbery, assault, and rape and other sexual assaults. In addition,
  - Twenty percent were held for various property offenses.
  - Twenty-one 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.

## BJS RESEARCH SUMMARY: CRIMINAL VICTIMIZATION 2004

In September 2005, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) released the report, *Criminal Victimization 2004*. The report is based on data gathered from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), a survey of persons ages 12 and older on nonfatal crimes both reported and not reported to law enforcement. The following data and graphics come from this BJS report. A link to the full report *Criminal Victimization, 2004* can be found on the BJS web site: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cv04.pdf>

### Violent and Property Crime 2004

- U.S. residents age 12 or older experienced an estimated 24 million violent and property victimizations in 2004.

Type of crime	Number of victimizations		Victimization rate (per 1,000 persons age 12 or older or per 1,000 households)	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
All crimes	24,212,800	24,061,140	...	...
<b>Violent crimes*</b>	5,401,720	5,182,670	22.6	21.4
Rape/sexual assault	198,850	209,880	0.8	0.9
Robbery	596,130	501,820	2.5	2.1
Assault	4,606,740	4,470,960	19.3	18.5
Aggravated	1,101,110	1,030,080	4.6	4.3
Simple	3,505,630	3,440,880	14.6	14.2
<b>Property crimes</b>	18,626,380	18,654,400	163.2	161.1
Household burglary	3,395,620	3,427,690	29.8	29.6
Motor vehicle theft	1,032,470	1,014,770	9.0	8.8
Theft	14,198,290	14,211,940	124.4	122.8

Note: The total population age 12 or older was 239,305,990 in 2003 and 241,703,710 in 2004. The total number of households was 114,136,930 in 2003 and 115,775,570 in 2004.  
 ...Not applicable.  
 \*The NCVS is based on interviews with victims and therefore cannot measure murder.  
 See *Survey methodology*, pages 11 and 12.

- **Violent Crime Statistics.**
  - Males and youth were victimized at higher rates than others in 2004.
  - Blacks were victims of overall violence, robbery, and aggravated assault at rates higher than those for whites in 2004. Blacks and whites were equally likely to experience rape/sexual assault, simple assault, and theft. Hispanics were victims of overall violence at rates lower than those of non-Hispanics.
  - Urban residents were violently victimized at higher rates than those for suburban and rural rates.
- **Property Crime Statistics.**
  - Households with incomes below \$7,500 were burglarized at rates higher than those of households with larger incomes.
  - Rates of property crime (overall) were highest for households located in urban areas.
  - Burglary rates were highest for urban areas, followed by rural areas and suburban areas.
  - Households that rented were more likely than households that owned their homes to experience all types of property crime.
- **Characteristics of the Crime Incident.**
  - Females were most often victimized by someone they knew, whereas males were equally likely to be victimized by a stranger or nonstranger.

- Twenty-two percent of all violent crime incidents involved the presence of a weapon. The percentage of incidents involving weapons varied greatly dependent upon the type of crime — for instance, rape and sexual assault incidents were less likely than robberies to be committed by an armed offender (8 percent vs. 46 percent).
- The rate of firearm violence declined significantly between 1993 and 2004, from 5.9 to 1.4 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older.
- **Reporting to the Police.**
  - Fifty percent of all violent crimes and 39 percent of all property crimes were reported to police.

	Percent of crime reported to the police, 2004
Violent crime	49.9%
Rape/sexual assault	35.8
Robbery	61.1
Aggravated assault	64.2
Simple assault	44.9
Personal theft	40.5%
Property crime	39.0%
Burglary	53.0
Motor vehicle theft	84.8
Theft	32.3

- Females were more likely than males to report violent victimizations to the police, whereas males and females were equally likely to report property victimizations.
- Rates of reporting for violent victimizations were the same for males across racial categories; female victims who were black or of other races were more likely to report violent victimizations than were white females.

### **Victimization Trends, 1993-2004**

- Between 1993 and 2004, the violent crime rate decreased 57 percent, from 50 to 21 victimizations per 1,000 persons.
  - Significant declines were seen in the violent crime rates of rape/sexual assault (-64 percent), robbery (-65 percent), aggravated assault (-64 percent), and simple assault (-52 percent).
- Between 1993 and 2004, the property crime rate decreased 50 percent from 319 to 161 victimizations per 1,000 persons.
  - Declines were found for burglary (-49 percent), motor vehicle theft (-54 percent), and theft (-49 percent).
- Between 1993-2004, the violent victimization rate decreased for both males (-58 percent) and females (-56 percent). In 2004, the female violent victimization rate was 18 per 1,000, whereas the rate for males was 25 per 1,000.
- Property crime rates fell for home owners (-50 percent) and for renters (-48 percent) over this time period.
  - Households in the suburbs experienced the greatest decline in property crime rates (-53 percent). Decreases were also noted in urban settings (-47 percent), and in rural areas (-46 percent).
- Overall reporting of violent and property crime to the police increased significantly from 1993 to 2004.
  - Reporting of violent crimes increased from 43 percent to 50 percent.
  - Reporting of property crimes increased from 34 percent to 39 percent.

**BJS RESEARCH SUMMARY:**  
**CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS AGE 65 OR OLDER, 1993-2002**

In January 2005, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released a special report on crimes against persons ages 65 and older. Ten years of data (1993-2002) from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) were used to generate the report. A link to the full report can be found on the Bureau of Justice Statistics' web site: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cpa6502.pdf>

According to the NCVS for the period 1993-2002, persons ages 65 or older generally experienced victimizations at much lower rates than younger groups of people during the 10-year period.<sup>9</sup> The following statistics were noted:

- While nonfatal violence generally declined for most age groups between 1993 and 2002, those 65 or older had the lowest rates of any age group. The elderly experienced nonfatal violent crime (rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated and simple assault) at a rate one-twentieth that of young persons.
- Persons age 65 or older had the lowest rate of murder of all age groups every year between 1993 and 2002.
- Households headed by persons 65 or older experienced property crimes at about one-fourth the rate of that for households headed by persons under age 25.
- Purse snatching/pocket-picking (personal larceny) was the only measured crime for which the elderly were victimized at about the same rates as most other groups. The only group to experience a greater rate of personal larceny was the 12-24 age group.

When persons 65 or older were victimized:

- Ninety-two percent of the crimes were property crimes (household burglary, motor vehicle theft, and theft). In comparison, violent crimes comprised more than half the victimizations experienced by persons ages 12 to 24.
- They were equally likely to face offenders with weapons, were equally likely to suffer serious injuries and were more likely to offer no resistance.
- Their offenders were somewhat more likely to be strangers and were more likely to be age 30 or older.
- About one-fourth of violent crimes committed by the elderly were committed at night, compared to almost half of all violence against persons age 12-64. Similar differences were found for personal larceny and property crime.
- About 46 percent of violent crimes and about 67 percent of property crimes against persons or households headed by persons age 65 or older occurred at or near their homes.
- Compared to younger victims, persons age 65 or older were more likely to report violence and purse snatching/pocket picking to the police. Regardless of age, approximately one-third of all households reported property crimes.

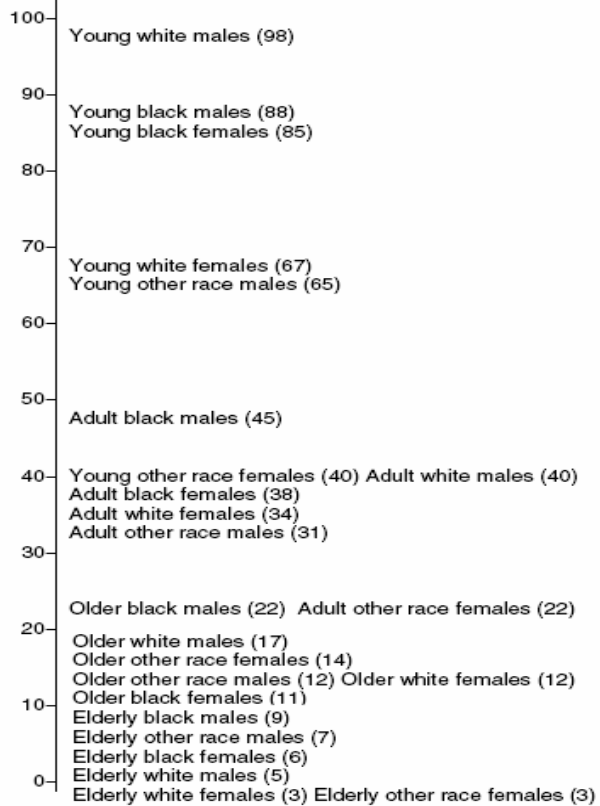
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<sup>9</sup> Interestingly, a 2003 citizen attitude survey conducted by OCJS found that 68 percent of those polled believed that senior citizens are the most likely crime victims.



**The elderly, age 65 or older, had lower violent victimization rates than other age groups, when comparing race and gender**

Average annual rate violent victimization  
per 1,000 persons, 1993-2002



Note: The four age categories used throughout the report are referred to in this chart as 'young,' ages 12-24; 'adult,' ages 25-49; 'older,' ages 50-64; and 'elderly,' age 65 or older. Hispanics do not appear in a separate category but are included in the racial categories shown.

## INFORMATION REQUESTS

In 2005, the OCJS Grants Planning and Evaluation Section handled 197 information requests coming from a variety of sources inside and outside of Ohio. Information typically requested includes annual regional (city, county, state) crime and arrest statistics as well as statistics of specific populations, such as juveniles, minorities, and incarcerated individuals. 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 Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, Department of Youth Services, the Attorney General's Office, and individual law enforcement agencies.

The following table summarizes the requests received in 2005, by requestor.

<b>Requestor</b>	<b>Number of Requests Received</b>
Governor's Office	1
General Assembly	1
State agencies	10
Local elected officials	3
Citizens	92
Businesses	13
Private non-profit organizations	15
Colleges and universities	17
Law enforcement	12
Courts	3
Corrections	1
Media	7
Other	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>197</b>

## RESEARCH DIRECTIONS FOR 2006

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

### OCJS-Funded Research Projects

- ***Batterer Intervention Program Evaluation.*** This project, conducted by researchers at the University of Toledo, has multiple phases. The first phase will identify and survey court-referred batterers' intervention programs used by local probation and courts in Ohio. The second phase will assess what batterer intervention strategies are most effective for which batterers under which circumstances by considering type and structure of program, admission criteria, nature and extent of coordinated services, court supervision, and rates of attendance, termination, and dropouts.
- ***Consequences of Mental Health Court.*** This project is a continuation of Kent State University's Akron Mental Health Court evaluation discussed earlier. The 2006 funding will allow for the collection of more complete data post-termination from the court.
- ***Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Study.*** The GREAT program is traditionally a school-based law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curriculum. Its primary objective is prevention and is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. The GREAT Families program is a family-based crime prevention program facilitated by GREAT officers that seeks to strengthen communities by strengthening families. The Ohio GREAT study, conducted by Kent State University, is unique in that the program is being administered by the faith-based community. Children and their family members chosen by local churches to participate in the program will be surveyed before, immediately after, and two months after program completion. The surveys will assess, among other things, the participants' perceptions on parent-child relationships and parenting style, community safety, and program satisfaction/impact.
- ***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., seeks to assess the extent of human trafficking in Ohio. Two cities, Toledo and Columbus, were chosen for inclusion in the study. The study consists of two concurrent parts. The first is a two-year content analysis of local newspapers to identify those cases that have garnered media attention. The second part consists of interviews with individuals who would interact directly with trafficking victims, offenders, and witnesses, such as law enforcement, the justice system, victim service providers, homeless shelters, and hospitals. The researchers will employ a snowball sampling procedure in which they will solicit the contact information for additional key respondents from those originally interviewed.
- ***Crime in Ohio: Analysis of OIBRS Data.*** This project is a continuation of The Ohio State University OIBRS project discussed earlier. In this second phase of the project, researchers will delve more deeply into the analysis of domestic violence. They will describe the nature and scope of domestic violence for OIBRS reporting agencies, including its characteristics and precipitating events. Also, as part of their intent to show the utility of OIBRS data to law enforcement, the researchers will develop user-friendly procedures to permit OIBRS reporting agencies to analyze their own data.
- ***Search and Seizure: Best Practices.*** This research project, conducted by the University of Cincinnati in conjunction with the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP), aims to provide a better understanding of OSHP troopers' decisions to search vehicles and their occupants during traffic stops, and to determine what suspicion cues are the most accurate indicators of criminal activity. Based on the research findings, specific action policies and training recommendations will be provided. The study will involve focus groups with troopers, a survey of all troopers with routine patrol and/or criminal

interdiction responsibilities, comparisons of data generated from the focus groups, and surveys with actual search and seizure activity by troopers.

- ***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 within Ohio. The project involves three phases: development of the assessment instrument, testing the instrument, and evaluation of the instrument.

### **In-House Projects**

- ***TAMAR Evaluation.*** The TAMAR (Trauma Addiction Mental Health And Recovery) program is a women's jail program designed to reduce recidivism, promote recovery, and improve jail operation and safety. This program is being piloted in two Ohio jails: the Hamilton County Criminal Justice Center and the Lucas County Corrections Center. OCJS researchers will be evaluating the program in terms of post-treatment recidivism, treatment service availability, client satisfaction, and use of crisis tactics such as segregation, use of force, and hospital transfers.
- ***Homeland Security Survey of Muslim and Arab Ohioans.*** The purpose of this survey, conducted by the Ohio Department of Homeland Security in conjunction with OCJS researchers, is to increase the department's awareness of the perceptions of Ohio's Muslim and Arab citizens with regard to issues of safety, satisfaction with anti-terrorism efforts in Ohio, and trustworthiness of Ohio government and law enforcement. The results of this survey will guide the department's efforts in developing a terrorism awareness ("See Something Say Something") campaign.
- ***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 9), is to assess the program's implementation and to measure the program's effectiveness.
- ***Evaluation of Faith-Based Programs.*** The Ohio Legislative Task Force on Faith-Based Correctional Initiatives is completing a year-long investigation of needs for improved programming in the adult and juvenile correctional system. OCJS is assisting in this effort as a member of the task force and providing research as needed. Tasks include locating current research on specific topics and assisting with surveys and focus groups as needed.