Statistical Analysis Center Research Reports and Projects Related to Victim Services: 2012-2017

June, 2017
Research/Evaluation

Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence Sentencing Conditions and Recidivism


This study examined the types of sentence conditions imposed on domestic violence offenders, the combination of conditions that formed offenders’ sentences, and the relationship between the type of sentence received and recidivism. Proscriptions, fines, jail, and probation were the most common conditions imposed, each included in over half of all sentences. Results indicated that when compared to offenders who received sentences involving only fines and/or proscriptions, those who also complied with either probation, victim-oriented treatment, or probation and treatment had lower odds of committing another domestic violence offense during the five-year follow-up period.

An Analysis of Domestic Violence and Arrest Patterns in Vermont Using NIBRS Data


This report enumerates domestic violence incidents in Vermont by both county and town. This analysis will be of significant benefit to domestic violence staff in terms of identifying locations where domestic violence education and prevention programs should be focused. The analysis of domestic violence incidents undertaken in this report utilized the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data from the Vermont Criminal Information Center’s Vermont Crime On-Line (VCON) site. The project demonstrates the utility of VCON for both policy and service-related research.

Criminal Justice Consensus Cost-Benefit Working Group: Final Report


One of five goals of this study was to analyze the cost benefits of the Bennington County Integrated Domestic Violence Docket (IDVD) Project, which was initiated in September 2007 as a special docket within the Bennington County Criminal/Family Division Courts. The goal of the IDVD project was to provide an immediate response to domestic violence events by coordinating Family and Criminal Division cases. Dedicated to the idea of One Family, One Judge, the IDVD Project was designed to allow a single judge, one day each week, to have immediate access to all relevant information regardless of the traditional docket and to gather all appropriate players at the table regardless of any traditionally limited roles.

Human Trafficking

National Survey of Residential Programs for Victims of Sex Trafficking

Residential programs around the country were surveyed in order to learn how many residential programs for victims of sex trafficking were in operation. Thirty-three residential programs in the United States were found that offer services to trafficking victims, two of which were in Illinois. Researchers surveyed service providers in order to develop a national program inventory of residential services for trafficking victims (see Appendix B of the report).

Assessing the Scope and Availability for Services for Human Trafficking Victims Among Georgia’s Victims’ Services Providers


The objective of this study is to attempt to capture the number of victims of human trafficking served as well as the services they received. This research study seeks to identify who is currently serving human trafficking victims, how agencies are identifying human trafficking victims, how many victims were served in Georgia during 2012, services that are available to human trafficking victims, and the training that providers currently serving victims are receiving.

An Analysis of Human Trafficking in Iowa


The purpose of this analysis is to gather data on human trafficking incidents in the state of Iowa with particular focus on areas of particular focus such as; founded human trafficking cases and human trafficking trends. The findings suggest that convictions at the state-level for crimes involving human trafficking are rare. However, it is difficult to know whether this finding speaks to the actual prevalence of the crime in Iowa and/or indicates barriers in the tracking of these offenses.

Using U.S. Law-Enforcement Data: Promise and Limits in Measuring Human Trafficking


Over the past decade, federal, state, and local law enforcement have increasingly been called upon to identify and investigate human-trafficking offenses. Numerous efforts have been put in place to track incidents, arrests, and criminal offenses related to human trafficking. In response to directives from the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (2008), the FBI added two new crime categories to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) to capture commercial-sex acts and involuntary servitude. Additionally, in an effort to improve our understanding of the prevalence of human trafficking in the United States, state legislatures have begun to require the collection of data on human trafficking offenses identified by criminal-justice officials. However, despite the promises of standardized data from law enforcement about human trafficking, the numbers of reported human-trafficking offenses and arrests have been low. In this article, we examine official counts of human trafficking collected by criminal-justice-system data programs. We draw on data from a survey of state
crime-reporting agencies and case studies of human trafficking crime reporting conducted in two U.S. states to explore the challenges that local police agencies face reporting human trafficking. Finally, we offer suggestions for improving officially reported data.

- **Prevalence of Victimization**

  **American Indian Crime in Idaho: Victims, Offenders, and Arrestees**


  American Indians have the highest victimization rates of all racial/ethnic groups in the United States (Perry, 2004). Despite the unusual disparity in the vulnerability to violent victimization, the pervasiveness of American Indian crime is rarely reported or acknowledged. The focus of this report is on the prevalence, nature, and consequences of crime in Idaho involving American Indians as victims and offenders.

  **An Analysis of Child Kidnapping in Iowa**


  This study was conducted in response to a high-profile kidnapping of two girls and subsequent murder of one. The study showed, over the last ten years Iowa has had very few felony-level child kidnappings (n=17). Even though incidents of child kidnapping are rare and contribute to only a fraction of violent crime experienced by children, a review of the effectiveness of kidnapping laws revealed weaknesses in Iowa’s Criminal Code as the Code does not distinguish between adult and child victims and does not provide for penalty enhancements for repeat offenders. Recommendations for strengthen are presented.

  **An Analysis of Patterns in Interpersonal Violence Using Michigan Incident Crime Reporting**


  The purpose of the current report is to conduct a problem analysis of violent victimization and offending in the State of Michigan, examining patterns in victim, offender, and circumstance characteristics, as well as examine regional variation in violence across the State. These analyses are designed to inform priorities for strategic intervention, highlighting the characteristics of victims at the highest risk of violent crime, the most prevalent offender characteristics, and the contexts in which violent offenses are the most prevalent. Additionally, specific attention is given to differential rates of violent victimization within the counties with the highest rates of general and firearm violence.

  **By Force and Without Consent: A Five Year Overview of Sexual Violence in South Carolina 2008-2012**

This report provides a statistical overview of South Carolina’s sexual violence trends and a description of victims and the circumstances of the victimization over the 2008 to 2012 time period. Particular emphasis has been placed on providing information that might not otherwise be readily available at the local level, with the intent of providing local decision makers with policy relevant information concerning domestic violence. Towards that end, in addition to the state level information, the report provides a section containing county rankings for a variety of measures of domestic violence and as well as a section containing victimization trends and victim profiles for each of the state’s 46 counties.

Alaska Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Case Processing Project: Descriptive Analysis of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Incidents Closed by the Alaska State Troopers, 2008 – 2011


The primary objective of the project is to systematically document the formal processing of sexual assault, sexual abuse of a minor (SA/SAM), and domestic violence (DV) incidents reported to law enforcement agencies in Alaska. The sampling frame used for this study included a complete listing of all Alaska State Troopers (AST) sexual assault, sexual abuse of a minor, and domestic violence case file records that were closed by Troopers between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2011. Cases were selected for inclusion in the analysis samples using a stratified, random sampling procedure. For all three of these offense categories the goal was to achieve sample sizes that were large enough to include case files from each AST detachment so that the findings were geographically representative, and to provide sufficient statistical power for statistical analyses. The final samples averaged 340 sexual assault/sexual abuse of minor cases (combined) for each year of the study period, and 210 domestic violence cases for each year of the study period. Detailed sample assessments are provided at the beginning of each section of this report. Not only did the analysis of the SA/SAM sample reveal marked concentrations of cases in specific AST units, but domestic violence case closures were also highly concentrated.

Delaware Shootings 2014: An Overview of Incidents, Suspects, Victims, and Dispositions in Delaware


This report is the fourth in a series examining criminal, non-accidental shooting incidents in Delaware that resulted in the injury or death of another person. This report focuses on multiple characteristics of shooting incidents that occurred in 2014, victims injured as a result, and suspects involved. An analysis of the dispositions of shooting incidents that occurred in 2011 through 2013 is also presented. The shooting incident-related data included in this report were obtained from Delaware’s Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS). Complaint records filed by law enforcement agencies were downloaded from CJIS for 2014 then filtered, reviewed, and triangulated against a database of information from media and law enforcement agency websites to identify incidents where a criminal, non-accidental discharge of a firearm resulted in the death or injury of one or more victims.

2015 Maine Crime Victimization Survey Report

The purpose of the Maine Crime Victimization Survey (MCVS) is to understand the extent of criminal victimization in Maine. This study includes findings from the most recent MCVS and features comparisons with other MCVS surveys done in 2006 and 2011. The MCVS supplements other crime findings, most notably the Department of Public Safety’s annual Crime in Maine reports. What sets the MCVS report apart from other crime reports in Maine is that it includes both reported and unreported crimes and the characteristics of both victims and offenders.

**Intimate Partner Violence and Sexual Violence in the State of Alaska: Key Results from the 2015 Alaska Victimization Survey**


The Alaska Victimization Survey provides comprehensive statewide and regional data to guide planning and policy development and to evaluate the impact of prevention and intervention services. A total of 3,027 adult women in Alaska participated in the 2015 survey. Respondents were asked behaviorally specific questions about intimate partner violence (both threats and physical violence). Intimate partners included romantic and sexual partners. Respondents were also asked about sexual violence (both alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault and forcible sexual assault). Half of adult women in Alaska have experienced violence in their lifetime, and 1 in 12 have experienced violence in the past year. Four in 10 have experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime, and 1 in 16 have experienced intimate partner violence in the past year. Three in 10 have experienced sexual violence in their lifetime, and 1 in 34 have experienced sexual violence in the past year. Some women experienced violence more than once.

**Saginaw Community Survey: Patterns of Victimization and Methodological Experiments**


With the support of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the Michigan Justice Statistics Center conducted a survey of residents of Saginaw, Michigan as a way of learning about the victimization experiences as well as the perceptions of residents about their neighborhoods and the police. The survey employed a randomly selected, address-based sample of Saginaw residents. Multiple methods of survey administration were used resulting in a final sample of 829 completed surveys. In addition to greater understanding of resident’s victimization experiences and perceptions, the survey also tested several different strategies intended to increase response rates and to increase the number of respondents completing the survey through more cost efficient web-based survey technology. The current technical report presents details on the survey methodology as well as basic findings on levels of household and personal victimization. It also presents the results of the embedded methodological experiments.

❖ **Needs Assessments**

**Underserved Populations Statewide Training Needs Assessment Survey**
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (n.d.). *Underserved populations statewide training needs assessment survey.*

This report contains results of a statewide needs assessment in Virginia to identify the specific training needs for professionals who provide services to victims of domestic and sexual violence who are elderly, who have disabilities, or who have mental illnesses. The survey also sought to identify training recently received and discover current training curricula available to fill gaps in current training.

**Ohio Family Violence Needs Assessment**


This report details the results of a comprehensive, statewide needs assessment of community-based services for families and individuals affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Information was solicited from direct service providers in law enforcement, courts, prosecution, non-profit organizations and various other agencies. The two-part assessment will be used by OCJS and the Family Violence Prevention Center Advisory Council to establish priorities as they work to increase the safety of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking victims across Ohio.

**Ad Hoc Victim Services Committee Research Report**


To assist the Ad Hoc Victim Services Committee at its convening on January 10 and 11, 2017, ICJIA researchers conducted a study to identify crime victim needs and service gaps and measure the existing capacity of Illinois victim service providers. The study focused on crime victimization throughout the state, including a wide range of crime types and victim service practices. This report synthesizes the information collected, literature reviewed, and data analyzed, and provides a set of recommendations based on the research findings. The recommendations provided in this report are limited to what may be funded through VOCA and VAWA. A complete set of findings that includes a broader discussion about victim needs and services that cannot be addressed by VOCA or VAWA will be made available to the public in early 2017.

**2016 Victim Needs Assessment**


This study provides an initial benchmark reading on the proportion of people in Illinois who are affected by violent crime and what needs result from their victimization. This research also explores how victims’ needs are met by victim services providers in Illinois and where gaps in service delivery currently exist. By periodically repeating this data collection, the State of Illinois will be able to strategically allocate
resources to meet victims’ needs and understand how victims’ needs are met through law enforcement, legal system, health care, trauma and grief counseling, housing, and other types of support services.

Services for Victims

Multisite Evaluation of the Multidisciplinary Team Approach to Violence Against Women


This evaluation examined the operation of multidisciplinary team (MDT) programs currently operating in McLean, Kankakee, St. Clair and Peoria counties in Illinois. Multidisciplinary teams aim to bring together several components of the criminal justice and victim service systems in a coordinated approach to effectively process cases and provide support and service to victims. The study assesses to what extent the programs operated collaboratively, how victims were served and what efforts were made to hold the offender accountable.

An Outcome Evaluation of the Special Investigation Units Established Under the Sexual Violence Prevention Act of 2006


In 1992 Chittenden County opened Vermont’s first Special Investigation Unit (CSIU). The core of the CUSI is its multi-disciplinary team of investigators, social workers, prosecutors and victim advocates. SIUs hope to reduce jury trials, increase conviction rates, decrease investigation time, and decrease the time from filing charges until conviction. Further, the team approach is meant to reduce the investigation time by reducing the number of interviews required for substantiation and coordinating investigative services for prosecution. This report evaluates the case processing outcomes of the SIUs established after the Sexual Violence Prevention Act of 2006.

Crime Victim Rights Act Compliance in North Carolina


This study examines the services provided to victims of crime by law enforcement, prosecution, and crime victim service agencies. Specifically, law enforcement agencies, district attorney’s offices and agencies designed to offer specialized assistance to the victims of crimes were surveyed. The delivery of CVRA related information and services such as crisis hot-lines, victim safety, information about the investigation and prosecution process, and specific information concerning an offenders’ custody and any potential release are addressed in this study.

Evaluation of the 2014 Community Violence Prevention Program’s Parent Program
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (Authority) researchers conducted an evaluation of the Community Violence Prevention Program’s (CVPP) Parent Program. The program, which ended August 2014, sought to increase protective factors to reduce child maltreatment by employing and training nearly 1,000 Chicago-area parents to lead service projects to help other parents in 20 communities. The Center for the Study of Social Policy stated that effective parenting programs to prevent child maltreatment attempt to improve parent understanding of child development and teach child management (2003). In addition, those that are parent-led promote parental resilience and inter-parent connections. Authority researchers administered pre- and post-tests to program participants to measure changes on scores on the protective factors before and after the program. Based on pre- and post-test scores of 300 program participants, all four protective factors had a small increase in average scores. However, two protective had very small changes in the mean scores (social and concrete support; child development and knowledge of parenting); therefore, improvement could be made in those areas of program instruction, particularly as it relates to addressing the protective factors.

Safe From the Start Year 13: 2001-2014


This evaluation report reflects the assessment and service provision activities for 4,691 children predominantly ages 0 to 5 exposed to violence, along with their caregivers, who sought treatment at the 11 Illinois sites participating in the Safe From the Start (SFS) program between July 2001 and June 2014. Treatment services could include individual child and adult therapy, family therapy, family support services, psycho-education, and case management. The objectives of the evaluation were to: identify the characteristics of children exposed to violence; identify the types of violence that children are exposed to; assess the impact of violence on young children; identify risk factors for children at the individual, family and community level; identify the characteristics and experiences of caregivers of young children exposed to violence; document the identification and referral process of children exposed to violence; document the types of services children and their caregivers receive; and assess the impact of service provision for young children and their caregivers.

Probable Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in a Sample of Urban Jail Detainees


This study investigates probable PTSD among men in jail. Detainees generally come from disorderly environments that are plagued by unemployment, housing instability, crime, violence, and other adverse conditions that can precipitate episodes of psychiatric illness among those with genetic or other susceptibilities. These impoverished communities place detainees at high risk of exposure to a host of events that can lead to trauma and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Overall, the study suggests that PTSD among male detainees must be considered in the development of jail-based behavioral healthcare services.
Transitional Housing for Victims of Intimate Partner Violence


Many victims of intimate partner violence find themselves at increased risk for homelessness as they make efforts to escape violence. The lack of stable, safe, and affordable housing is associated with negative outcomes for these victims. This article describes the relationship between housing instability and victim health and well-being, issues to consider when addressing housing stability for this population, and recommendations for policy and practice.

Statistical Reports

❖ Compensation for Victims


This Fact Sheet presents data from the Alaska Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) on claims made and compensation granted to victims of violent crime for state fiscal years 2004-2014. The fact sheet presents data on new claims filed, types of crimes and types of expenses for which compensation was granted, and compensation totals (adjusted to 2014 U.S. dollars). On average, the five most common violent crimes resulting in applications for compensation were sexual abuse of a minor, assault, domestic violence, sexual assault of adults, and homicide.

❖ Family/Domestic Violence

Family Violence Study 2012


This brief report provides information on person crimes where the victim and offender had a familial relationship. The scope of this study was limited to offenses occurring in 2012 as reported to the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS) where the incident was cited as domestically related. Of the offenses noted as domestic violence, only familial relationships were examined closely in the current report. The innate nature of domestic violence is its tendency to be violence between persons.

Domestic Violence Statistics 2013-2015


In an effort to gain more insight into the problem of domestic violence within Tennessee, this study analyzes crime data collected from the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS). Utilizing
these TIBRS crime data, offenses flagged as domestic related from 2013-2015 were examined. Among the findings were that 71.6% of the 232,031 victims during this period were female and the majority in each year were white. Simple assault was by far the most frequently reported offense, accounting for 68.1% of all domestic violence offenses and outnumbering all other offenses by more than 3 to 1. A total of 23,142 juveniles, were reported as victims during the study period, accounting for approximately 10% of all victims.

**Domestic Violence in Idaho: 2008-2013**


The purpose of this report is to inform the criminal justice community and other interested parties about the prevalence and characteristics of intimate partner violence and court cases often associated with domestic violence within the state of Idaho. This report presents information on police-reported violence between intimate partners and domestic violence related court cases during 2008 through 2013. Information on intimate partner violence (IPV) comes from police incidents reports submitted to the Idaho Incident Based Reporting System (IIBRS). IPV refers to violent crimes reported to the police where the victim was an offender's spouse, ex-spouse, common-law spouse, or boy/girlfriend, as provided in police incident reports. As a result, data from IIBRS does not necessarily reflect the statutory definition of domestic violence in the state of Idaho. Domestic violence is defined by statute as a battery or assault of another household member (i.e. spouse, former spouse, child in common, or a cohabitant). Included in the analysis of court data are crimes associated with domestic violence: stalking, attempted strangulation, protection order violations, violations of no contact orders, as well as domestic violence-assault/battery.

**Alaska Trauma Registry: Trauma Admissions Involving Firearms, 2009–2014**


The Alaska Trauma Registry (ATR) is an active surveillance system that collects data pertaining to hospitalizations of the most seriously injured patients in Alaska. Data collected include patient demographics, and information about the injury event, patient transport, treatment, and outcomes. The ATR is a surveillance system of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), Division of Public Health.

- **Management of Sex Offenders**

**Iowa Sex Offender Research Council: Report to the Iowa General Assembly January 2013**


This report covers several topics on sex offenders and sex offender legislation in Iowa, including sex offense trends for adult and juvenile offenders, community supervision, and treatment and recidivism. The report also includes a discussion of descriptive statistics and policy and practice recommendations. The main recommendation called for an amendment to Iowa code to establish a
minimum number of years on post-sentence parole a sex offender must serve, a review of their progress and risk for some defined number of years, and review of risk of sexual and violent reoffense for parole extensions.

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**Prevalence of Victimization**

**2012 Alaska Dashboard: Key Indicators Impacting Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**


This report provides information on the issues that are corollary or collateral to domestic violence. This report also provides at-a-glance information on key population indicators related to a gubernatorial initiative to end the epidemic if domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska. Nine different categories of indicators have been identified: (1) childhood exposure to domestic violence; (2) child and youth victimization; (3) reports of harm for children and youth; (4) adult and elder victimization; (5) reports of harm for adults and elders; (6) primary prevention and protective factors; (7) reports to law enforcement; (8) utilization of services; (9) offender accountability.

**Analysis of College Rape and Sexual Assault Reports, 2000-2011**


This report examines the characteristics of 446 cases of college campus rape and sexual assault reported by medical providers in Massachusetts between the years 2000 and 2011. The results of this analysis reinforce much of the salient research to date, finding that females are most often victimized by familiar, non-intimate, male assailants. The victim-offender relationship was related to many factors of the case, including crime location, use of weapons and force, victim injuries, and the reporting of the offense to law enforcement.

**Patterns of Childhood Sexual Victimization in Michigan: MICR 2013 Report**

In an effort to shed light on the problem of childhood sexual victimization in the state of Michigan, Michigan Incident Based Reporting Statistics were utilized to study patterns of childhood victimization, offender characteristics and the relationship between victims and offenders. During 2013, there were over 8,000 incidents in the state of Michigan with 8,350 unique victims and 7,295 unique offenders. Females are the victims in the vast majority of cases and males are the offenders in the overwhelming number of cases. Males tend to be at greatest risk for victimization at young ages, although females are at greatest risk at all ages. A sizable portion of victimization involves offenders who are close in age to the victim but there are also large numbers of incidents that involve offenders considerably older than the victims. Most sexual offenses committed against children involve offenders known to the victim. Offenses committed by strangers are rare. Parents, guardians, and other youth care providers should be aware that if childhood sexual victimization occurs or is suspected, it is most likely committed by someone known to the youth and often involve an adult caregiver.

**Sexual Violence Committed Against University of Alaska Students, by Gender**


This Fact Sheet presents past year estimates of sexual misconduct and sexual assault victimization against University of Alaska (UA) students both on and off campus. Gender-specific estimates are provided for the UA system as a whole only. The results presented here are based on the survey responses of a randomly selected sample of 1,982 undergraduate and graduate students who were enrolled during spring semester 2016.

**The Reporting of Sexual Assault in Arizona, CY 2004-2013**


The ACJC is required to report on law enforcement reporting, charges, and subsequent case disposition findings (e.g., convictions, acquittals, court dismissals) and sentencing of sexual assault charges and false reporting of sexual assault of a spouse charges. In addition to the mandatory sexual assault statutes, data in the report include violent sexual assault arrest and disposition information reported to the ACCH. This report summarizes some of the latest findings in year-over-year change from CY 2004 to CY 2013 for all sexual assault-related arrest and disposition information available from the Arizona Computerized Criminal History (ACCH) repository.

Data used to complete this report are extracted by the DPS from the Arizona Computerized Criminal History (ACCH) repository and provided to the ACJC annually. By statute, local law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and the courts are required to submit to the ACCH repository information on all arrests and subsequent case disposition information for felonies, sexual offenses, driving under the influence offenses, and domestic violence-related offenses. This report focuses on arrests made from calendar years (CY) 2004 to 2013.

**Domestic Homicide in New York State 2015**

This report, compiled by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), presents a statistical account of domestic homicide reported by state and local police in New York State during 2015. Domestic homicides among intimate partner and other family members are compared with all other homicides statewide and by region. Regional homicide data are presented for the five counties of New York City and the rest of the state. Statistics are presented on demographic characteristics of homicide victims, the circumstances surrounding the homicide, and the types of weapons used. Special attention is given to intimate partner homicide, which is the most frequent type of domestic homicide. In addition, relevant findings from the analysis of homicides involving minor child victims and other family member victims are also presented. Domestic homicide trends across the five-year period from 2011 to 2015 are detailed in an additional section of this report. Finally, appendices detail domestic homicide by county and region.

Projects

- Programs

Anne’s House: A Residential Program for Trafficking Victims


Anne's House is a residential home for women and girls who are domestic (non-international) victims of sex trafficking. This publication describes Anne's House during the first 18 months of its operation, including its program services and its participants. The purpose is to share the program model with other jurisdictions.

S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women In Illinois A Multi-Year Plan: FFY14-16


This report features the current STOP VAWA Implementation Plan guide for the use of the STOP VAWA awards received by the State of Illinois for a three-year period, 2014 through 2016. The plan is organized in the format pursuant to the 2013 STOP VAWA reauthorization and explained in the 2014 application. This report also includes programs supported with STOP VAWA funds by purpose area.

- Tools

Review of Lethality Assessment Programs (LAP)

This report describes the experiences of states and localities that have lethality assessment programs in operation, and in particular, what it takes to prepare for implementation of such a program. Recommended first steps to implementing a lethality assessment program within existing or with minimal resources are also discussed. Lethality assessments are risk assessment tools that were developed to provide law enforcement and other first responders with a simple and consistent method to measure the level of danger that a victim of intimate partner domestic violence is in given their current situation.

**CVS Committee: A Focus on Evidence-Based Programs**


This report was written as a research guide for the Crime Victims’ Services Committee (CVS) members as they make grant funding decisions in the state of North Carolina. An included summary chart demonstrates what the staff of the Criminal Justice Analysis Center found regarding various victim-related issues. Findings are presented by topic in ten sections.

**CVS Committee: Evidence-Based Programs for Underserved Victims**


This report was written as a research guide for the North Carolina Crime Victims’ Services Committee members as they make grant funding decisions in the state regarding traditionally underserved victims. Findings are presented by topic in eleven sections. The study found that some underserved victim groups have already been well researched and evidence-based programs are available. Other victim groups do not have this kind of data available.

**Identifying Potential Instances of Human Trafficking: Applying a Novel Template of Indicators to Narratives in Police Incident Reports**


This study surveyed human trafficking literature to construct a novel template—named the Human Trafficking Identification Template. The template is comprised of indicators about the victim, the suspect, and the scene of the crime which, when applied to narratives of police incident reports, can suggest the presence of human trafficking. This preliminary study applied this novel technique to the narratives of police incident case reports from Greenville County, South Carolina.

**Ongoing Activities Funded by BJS Under the State Justice Statistics Program**

- Crimes Against Children
South Carolina Statistical Analysis Center (2015)

The SC SAC is conducting a comprehensive study on crimes against children, those under eighteen years of age, for the purpose of providing more complete information to help decision makers and the general public. The SC SAC is working with the SC State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) to obtain National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) compatible SCIBRS data and gather information on data requests received in past years about crime against children. The report will be published on the SC SAC’s website.

Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (2014)

ICJI is undertaking a study to discover the nature of online child sexual victimization statewide, the types of services current available for both victims and offenders, and the effectiveness of these services. This study will inform a statewide strategy for addressing online child sexual victimization. The project consists of three parts: (1) determine the nature and extent of the problem; (2) examine the effectiveness of enforcement, education, prevention, and treatment programs nationwide; and (3) prepare and implement a statewide strategy.

Kentucky Statistical Analysis Center (2016)

The Kentucky SAC will continue the evaluation of a Vulnerability Assessment Instrument by the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice. Once developed, the instrument will help identify individuals at risk of engaging in or being victim to a sexual and/or physical assault while in a juvenile confinement setting. The SAC will conduct performance evaluations, identify longitudinal trends, examine risk profiles, and answer additional research questions as they arise. The SAC will also conduct the initial phase of a sexual assault study by examining research literature to identify appropriate analytic techniques as well as factors that may impact the likelihood of sexual assault, the willingness of victims to report a sexual assault, the propensity that an investigation or prosecution will occur, and other necessary information.

❖ Domestic Violence

Missouri Statistical Analysis Center (2015)

Using criminal history data from the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the research examines domestic violence reoffending and escalation by examining arrest and conviction data. The study will also explore whether variables such as offender age, race, gender, housing address, prior record, and past incarceration influence specialization or escalation. Neighborhood and tract level variables from census and other databases will be utilized to examine if domestic violence is affected by factors such as aggregate poverty level, housing ownership, racial/ethnic minority distribution, and drug activity.

Colorado Statistical Analysis Center (2014)

This project involves conducting a recidivism study of misdemeanor/felony court cases flagged with domestic violence offenses and comparing this cohort to a group charged with similar offenses (assault, harassment, etc.) without a domestic violence flag. The project also includes an assessment of the completeness of the conviction data in criminal history records on domestic violence offenses using the same domestic violence cohort from the recidivism study.
Victimization Surveys

Michigan Justice Statistics Center, Michigan State University (2016)

The Michigan SAC will conduct a local level victimization survey to increase the understanding of victimization patterns in a high crime urban setting, as well as to address methodological issues of national significance. The survey will be conducted with an address-based sample using mixed methods (phone, mail, and internet) to maximize response rates and representativeness. The second research activity deals with conducting a study of intimate partner violence that will integrate NIBRS data with criminal history information and homicide data from state systems to link commonalities in the data, specifically related to protection orders and/or firearms prohibitions.

Missouri Statistical Analysis Center (2016)

The Missouri SAC will conduct a crime victimization survey. The survey was developed with 2015 SAC program funds and was delivered to the field in May 2016. The results of the survey will document prevalence rates for crime victimization across crime categories as well as for identity theft. Follow-up questions will gather details on the most recent victimization in each crime category, including characteristics of the perpetrator and the use of victim services. The survey includes questions that address the effectiveness, conduct and bias of, and experience with law enforcement. The survey also includes items on perceived neighborhood safety and fear of crime. The sample includes 2,000 households (100 for metro and non-metro households). The data is being collected by the Wyoming Statistical Analysis Center via a phone survey using both cell phones and landlines.

Montana Board of Crime Control (2016)

The Montana SAC will conduct the final year of a three year crime victimization study. The purpose of the project is to collect the data needed to build upon findings from Montana’s 2005 and 2010 state crime victimization surveys in order to better understand victimization trends while also focusing on victimization related to population changes associated with oil development in the Williston Basin Region of northeastern Montana. In addition, the proposed study will provide much needed data on the current state of facilities and services that are available to crime victims in Montana. The study will also provide data on drug-related crime victimization and public perceptions of fear of drug-related crime. The victimization data that is gathered will provide a basis upon which official counts of crimes reported to the police in the state incident-based reporting system can be compared and will provide an estimate of the total amount of crimes that occur in Montana.

West Virginia Office of Research and Strategic Planning (2016)

The West Virginia SAC will continue efforts that began under its 2015 SAC project to conduct a statewide crime victimization survey. In year two, the WV SAC will continue the project by framing the survey as a "community and/or quality of life" survey in an effort to improve response rates. As a predominantly rural state, WV struggles with the issue of unreported crime. Rural cultures tend to be close-knit and self-contained making the idea of reporting victimization to the police or other outsiders difficult. Service options are often limited in these communities as well. This, taken together with the fact that victims are more likely to be acquainted with the perpetrator than in urban areas, leads to low reporting rates. Local domestic violence and sexual assault service providers report contacts with many victims that are not accounted for in official crime data. The SAC will use the National Crime Victimization
Survey (NCVS) to prepare the core questions for the state level survey. The survey will include a screening question to randomly select one adult from each household contacted. The target population will focus on all adults age 18 and older statewide.

- Other

**Maryland Statistical Analysis Center (2016)**

The Maryland SAC will team up with the University of Maryland Medical Center, and the National Study Center for Trauma and Emergency Medical Systems, to conduct a study in order to determine the financial burden that violent crime has on the inpatient hospitals in Maryland, while looking for social and demographic relationships amongst patients admitted into Maryland hospitals for injuries resulting from violent crime. The final deliverable will be a report summarizing the data collected, the analysis conducted, and the findings. Findings will include a breakdown of the hospital charges and costs (in dollars) associated with different types of violent crime.