



# Training and Technical Assistance Webinar Series

# INCIDENT-BASED DATA AS AN ANALYTICAL TOOL TO ADDRESS POLICY

March 27, 2014

Justice Research and Statistics Association  
720 7th Street, NW, Third Floor  
Washington, DC 20001  
[www.jrsa.org](http://www.jrsa.org)

# Background

- South Carolina has a documented history of disproportionate minority contact in juvenile justice.
- We didn't know much about DMC beyond measuring the degree to which racial disproportionality existed at various decision points in the process.
- The decision point at which disproportionality was greatest was arrest.

# Data Sources

- Census data – Detailed population estimates for 2008 and 2009 were provided by the Office of Research and Statistics.
- SCIBRS – NIBRS compatible, 100% reporting. Juvenile arrests and offenses for the same years. Provided by the State Law Enforcement Division.

# Defining Racial/Ethnicity Categories

For both census estimates and SCIBRS data, a combined racial/ethnic category was created. Ethnicity was used to categorize Hispanics, race was used to categorize Non-Hispanics.

# SC Juvenile Population

- Slightly more than a million juveniles (age  $\leq$  16) in South Carolina.
- Racial/ethnic distribution - 57.8% White, 32.7% Black, 7.4% Hispanic, 1.6% Asian/Pacific Islander, 0.5% Native American.

# Measuring Disproportionality

- Used Relative Rate Index (RRI) which is calculated by dividing the arrest or offense rate of a group of interest by the rate for the comparison group.
- Used White juveniles as the comparison group.
- RRI scores: an RRI score  $< 1$  signifies a lower arrest rate than White juveniles, an RRI score  $> 1$  signifies a higher arrest rate than White juveniles.

# Operational Definition of Arrest

Arrest reports must be completed any time law enforcement takes a juvenile into custody, **regardless** of whether the juvenile was warned and released or actually charged/referred. The only exception is when a juvenile is taken into custody for their own protection.

# Arrest Disproportionality

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>RRI</b>
Asian/Pacific Islander	23.8	0.2
Black	288.9	2.8
Hispanic	78.8	0.8
Native American	33.5	0.3
White	105.1	1.0

Note: all rates are expressed per 10,000 juveniles



# Disproportionality by Sex

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>RRI</b>
Minority		
Female	151.2	2.2
Male	324.0	2.3
White		
Female	69.6	1.0
Male	138.6	1.0

# Offense Categories

Created seven hierarchical offense categories:

Serious Violent	5.9%
Weapons Offenses	3.4%
Lesser Violent	19.2%
Property Offenses	25.9%
Drug Offenses	8.7%
Status Offenses	4.0%
All Other Offenses	32.8%

# Disproportionality by Offense Category

<b>Offense Category</b>	<b>Black RRI</b>	<b>Hispanic RRI</b>
Serious Violent	4.7	0.7
Weapons Offenses	2.5	0.9
Lesser Violent	3.9	0.9
Property Offenses	2.4	0.7
Drug Offenses	1.3	0.5
Status Offenses	1.4	0.9
All Other Offenses	3.1	0.8

# Type of Arrest by Race/Ethnicity

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>On-site</b>	<b>Ticket</b>	<b>Warrant</b>
Black	66.5%	14.1%	19.3%
Hispanic	63.2%	19.6%	17.2%
White	58.0%	21.7%	20.3%

# Type of Referral by Race/Ethnicity

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>External</b>	<b>Internal</b>
Black	58.3%	41.7%
Hispanic	61.6%	38.4%
White	59.7%	40.3%

# Juvenile Offenders by Premise Type

<b>Premise</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Commercial	2.8%
Highway/Streets	11.3%
Other	6.2%
Parking Lots	3.4%
Residences	38.8%
Retail	12.4%
School	25.1%

# Disproportionality by Premise Type

<b>Premise</b>	<b>Black RRI</b>	<b>Hispanic RRI</b>
Commercial	2.2	0.6
Highway/Streets	7.4	0.6
Other	4.8	0.5
Parking Lots	5.0	0.4
Residences	4.7	0.8
Retail	5.2	0.7
School	6.7	0.8

# Disproportionality by County

- Two of forty-six counties had an annual RRI of 1 or less for Black juveniles.
- Forty-two counties had an annual RRI of 2 or greater for Black juveniles.
- Annual RRIs among counties for Black juveniles ranged from 0.6 to 12.7.



# Key Findings

- SCIBRS provides no support for officer discretion as a factor in disproportionate arrest rates.
- Geographic variation is limited, disproportionality is not concentrated in any county or region.
- Disproportionality is a problem among Black juveniles but not among Hispanic juveniles.

# Key Findings Continued

- Gender is not a moderating factor for racial/ethnic disproportionality.
- Disproportionality was highest among arrests for violent offenses (both categories) and lowest among arrests for drug and status offenses.
- More than half of juvenile arrests were for all other (33%) or property (26%) offenses.

# Key Findings Continued

- Nearly two-thirds of juvenile crime occurred at private residences (39%) or schools (25%).
- Disproportionality was greatest for offenses at residences and at schools.

# Implications

- Important to verify law enforcement is adhering to juvenile arrest reporting requirements.
- More detailed analysis needs to be done looking at disproportionality within offense categories.
- Additional analysis needs to be done concerning disproportionality and juvenile crime at schools.

## ***Welcome to Vermont:***

### **March 25, 2014: -10 Degrees**



## PREVIEW

- Introduction & Background
- Research Methods
- Analysis of domestic violence using key NIBRS variables
- Policy analysis of domestic violence arrest patterns
  - Arrest type
  - Clearance rates: victim refusals
  - Regression analysis: predictors of physical arrest

## INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- Funded by JRSA -- IBR Resource Center Grant
- Collaborative initiative with Vermont Domestic Violence Community:
  - Data for prevention programs
  - Analysis of arrest policies
- Vermont is a 100% NIBRS state pursuant to statute
- Certified since 1994 – 85 agencies reporting



## INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

- Access to NIBRS data:
  - Vermont Crime On-Line (Beyond 20/20)  
<http://vcic.vermont.gov/crime%20statistics/Vermont%20Crime%20On-Line>
  - Data is analyzed using VCON
  - Data can be downloaded in a .csv file

Offense Type	Assault offenses	
Victim to Offender Relati...(09)	Intimate	
Incident Date (02)	2012	
Measures	Number of Victimizations	Number of Victimizations ...
Victim Age	↑ ↓ [i] [b] [m]	↑ ↓ [i] [b]
Total	941	100.00
Under 18	23	2.44
18 - 20	91	9.67
21 - 29	354	37.62
30 - 39	232	24.65
40 - 49	154	16.37
50 - 59	78	8.29
Over 60	9	0.96

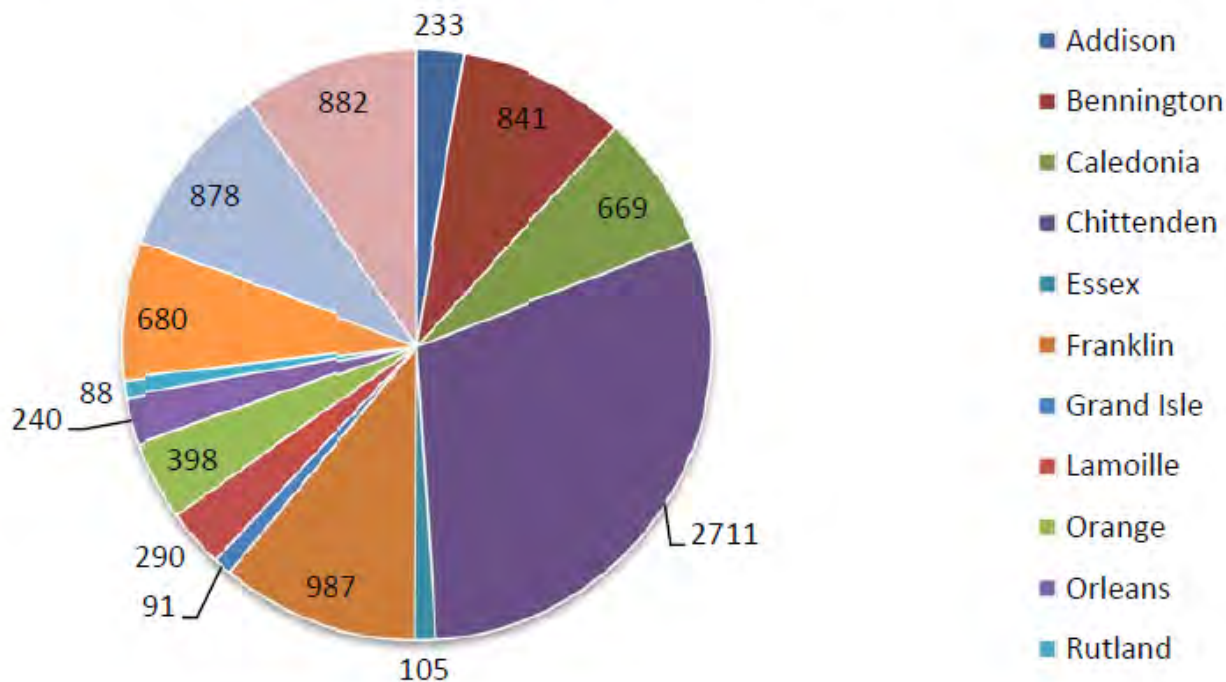


## RESEARCH METHODS

- Analysis focuses on NIBRS victim, arrestee, and crime circumstance data
- Assault offenses
- Intimate or family victim/offender relationship
- 10,048 incidents
- 2007 - 2011

## JURISDICTION: COUNTY

Chart 5: Number of Incidents by County



## VICTIM & OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS

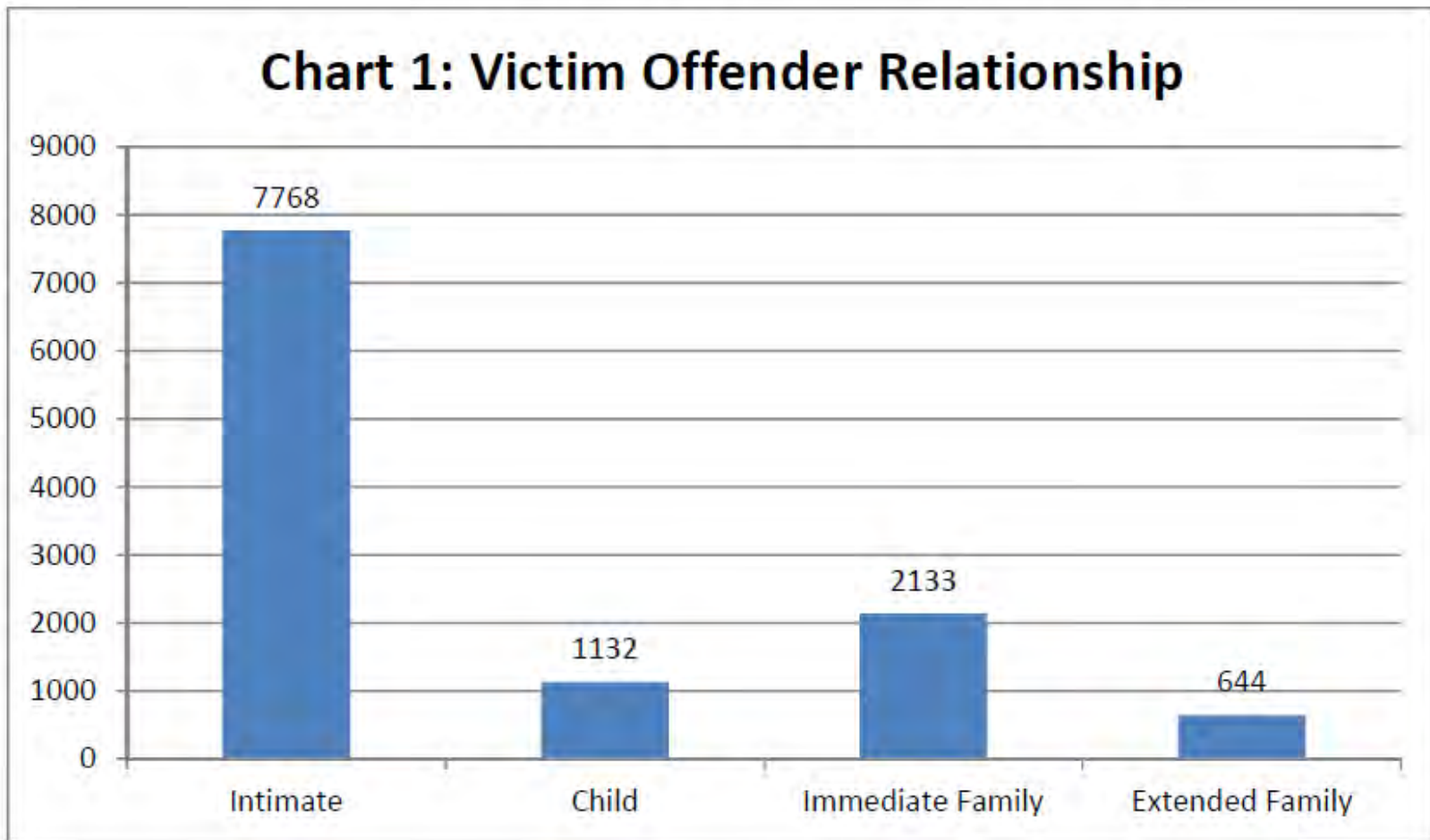
### • VICTIMS

- Mean Age = 31
- Median Age = 29
- 71% female
- 93% white
- 2.4% African American
- 12% under 18

### • OFFENDERS

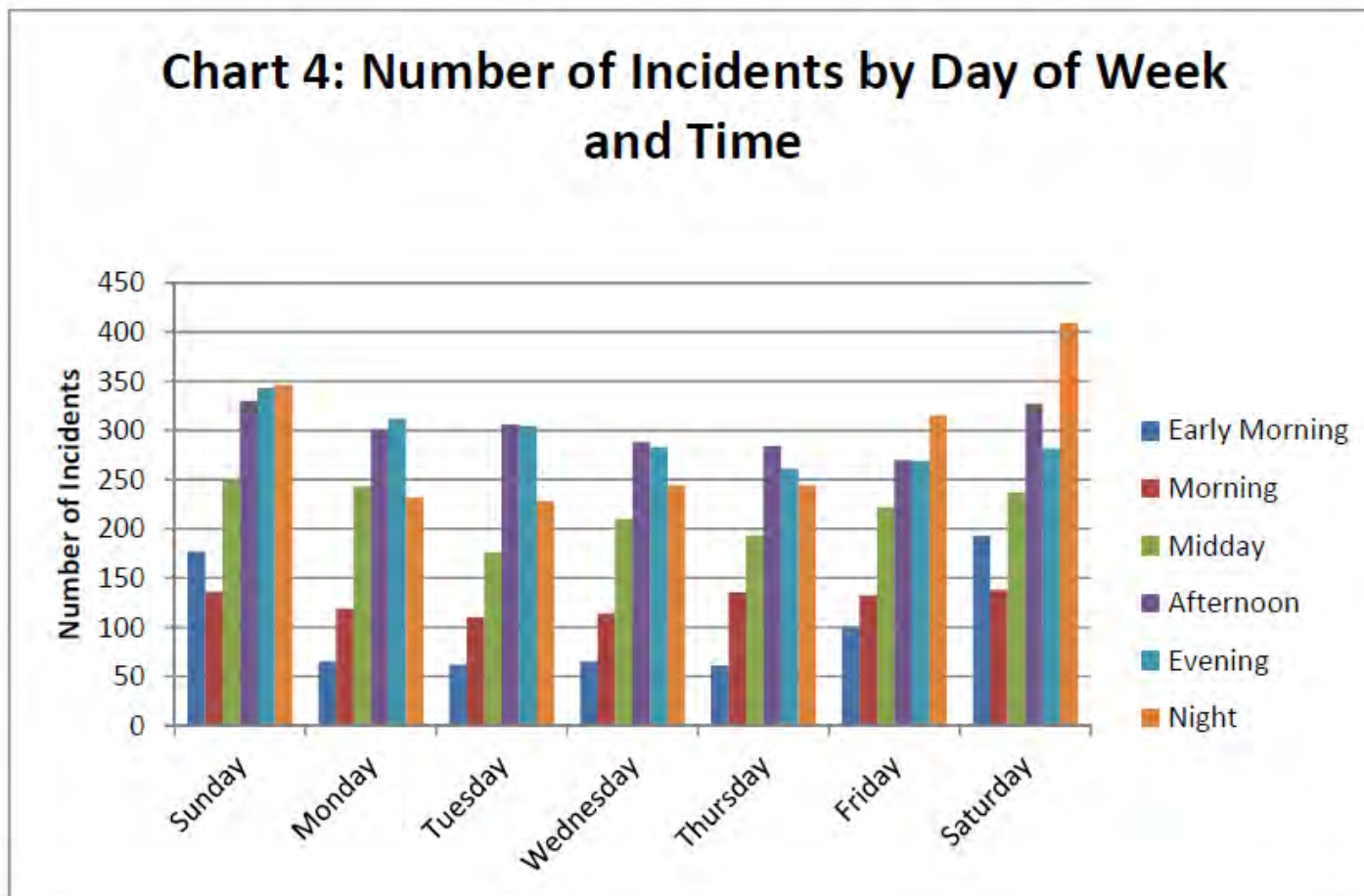
- Mean Age = 32
- Median = 30
- 72% male
- 92% white
- 5% African Americans

## VICTIM OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP

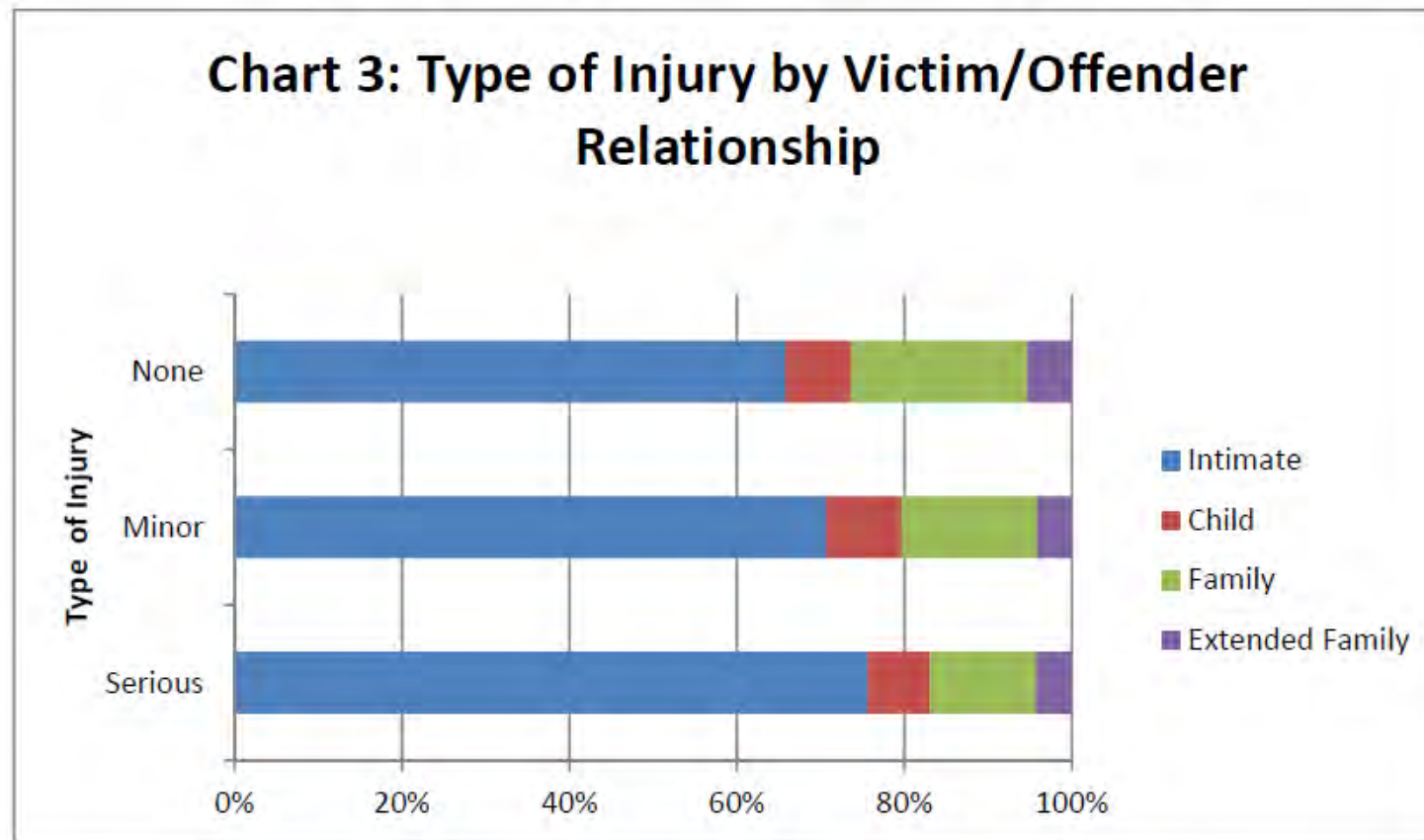


## TIME OF DAY AND DAY OF WEEK

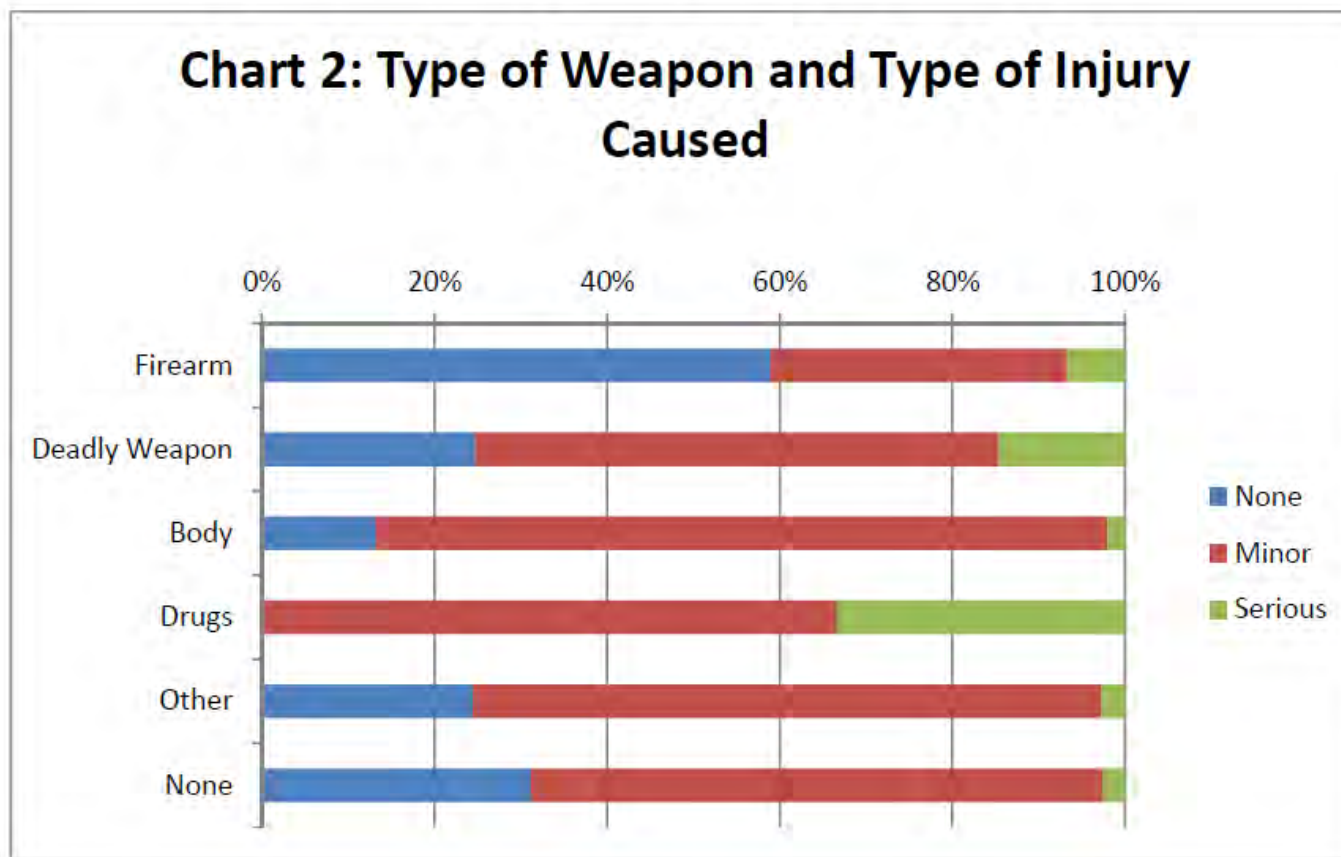
Chart 4: Number of Incidents by Day of Week and Time



## INJURY



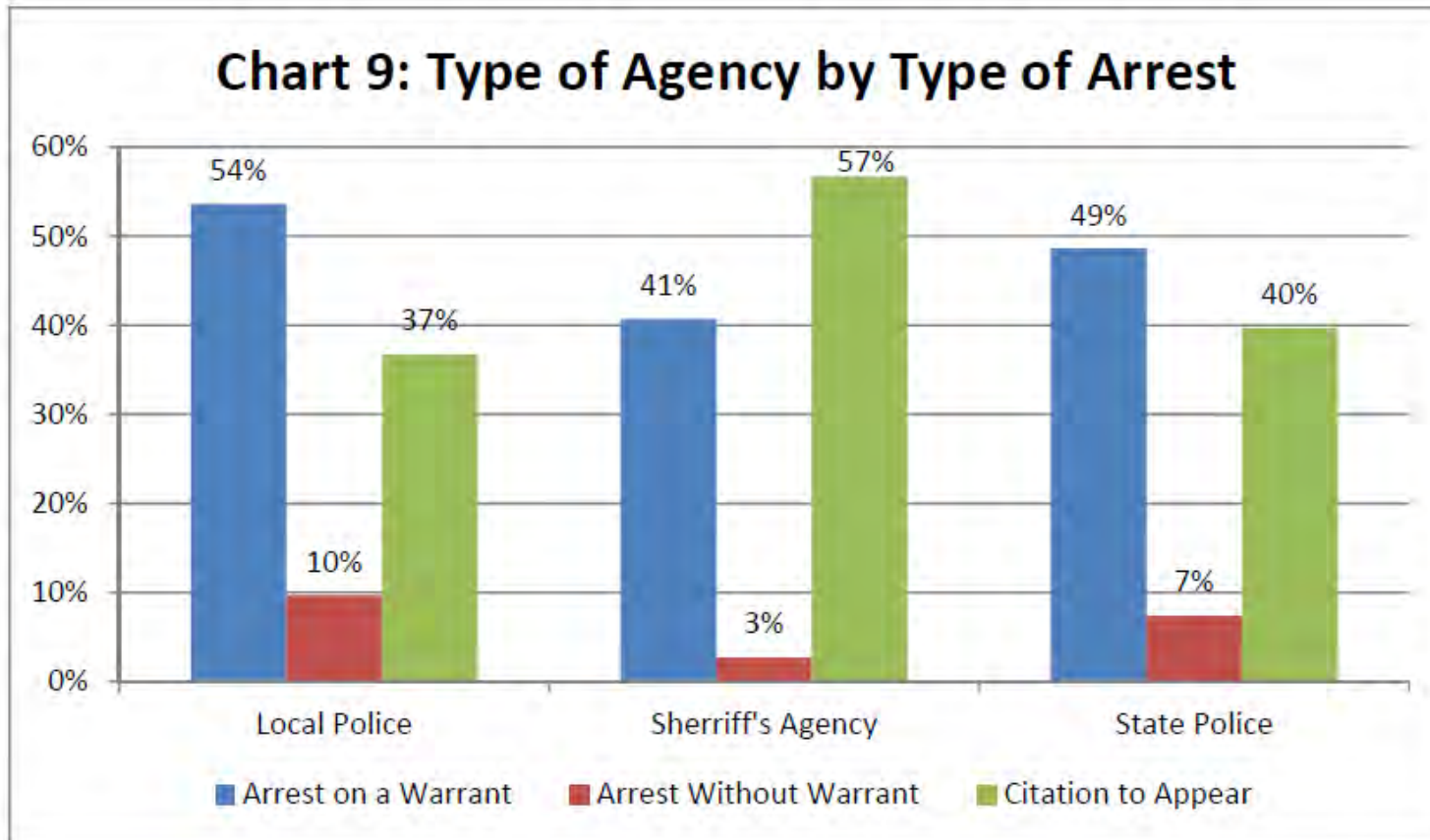
## WEAPON & TYPE OF INJURY



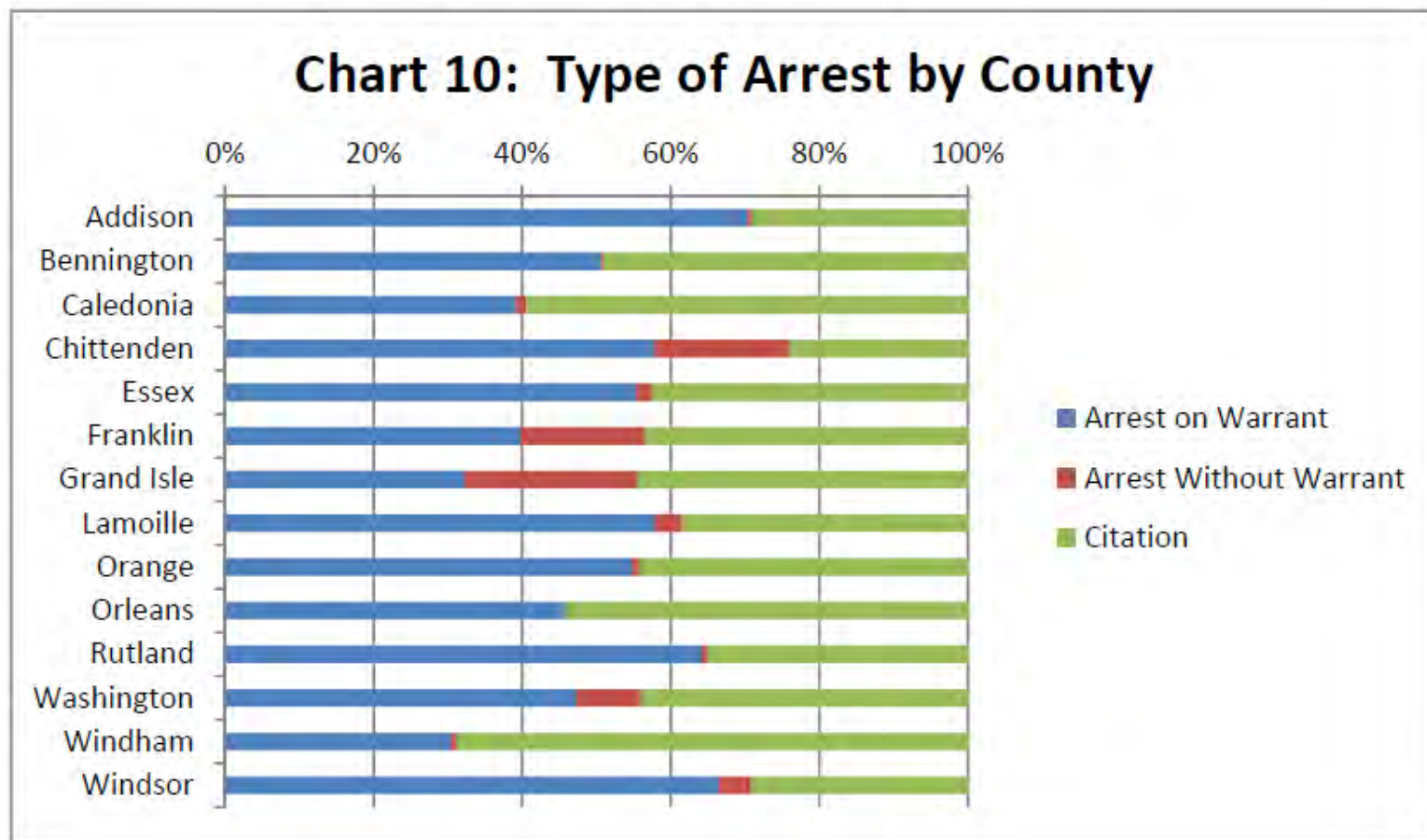
## **POLICY ANALYSIS: *ARREST TYPE***



## ARREST TYPE BY AGENCY

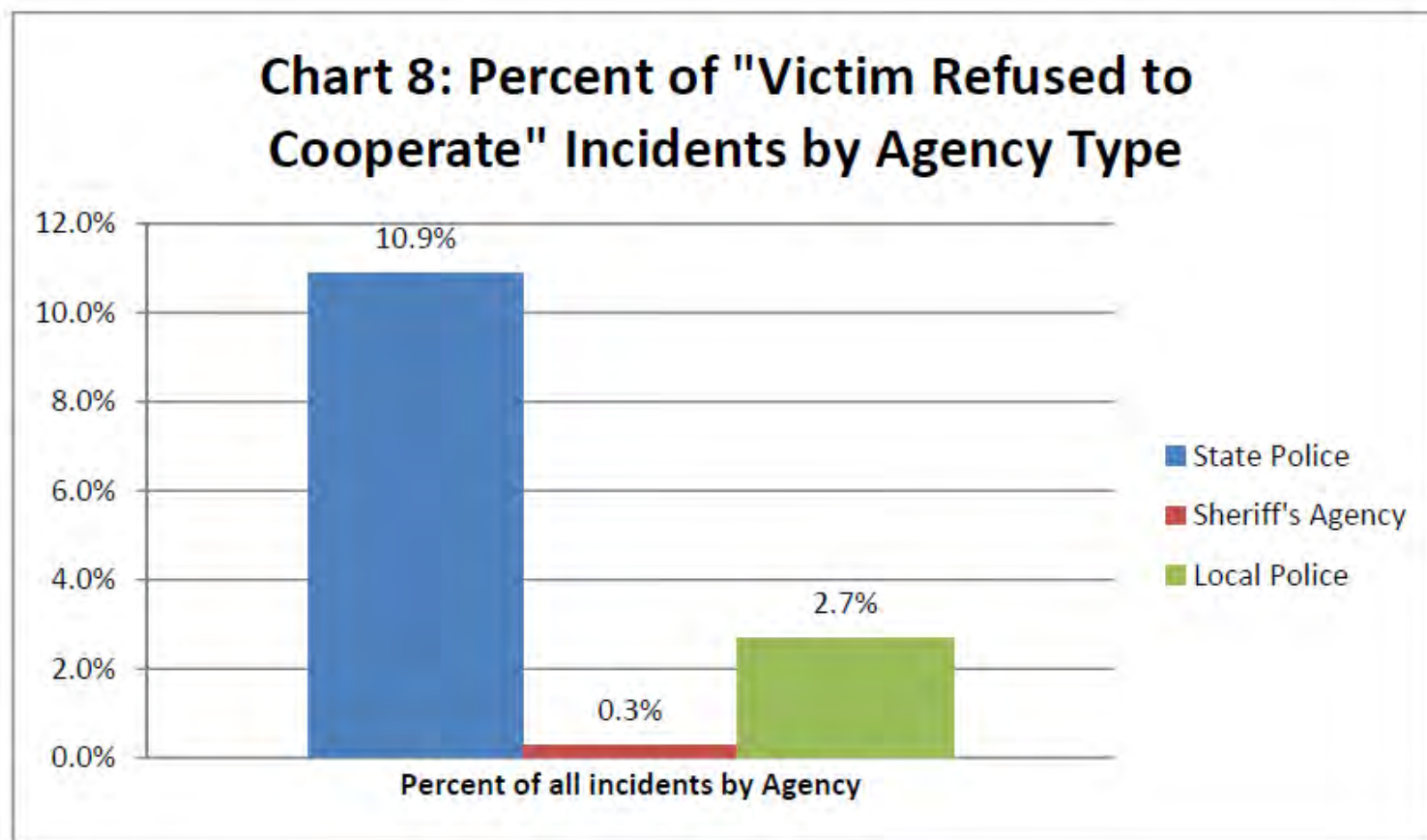


## ARREST TYPE BY COUNTY

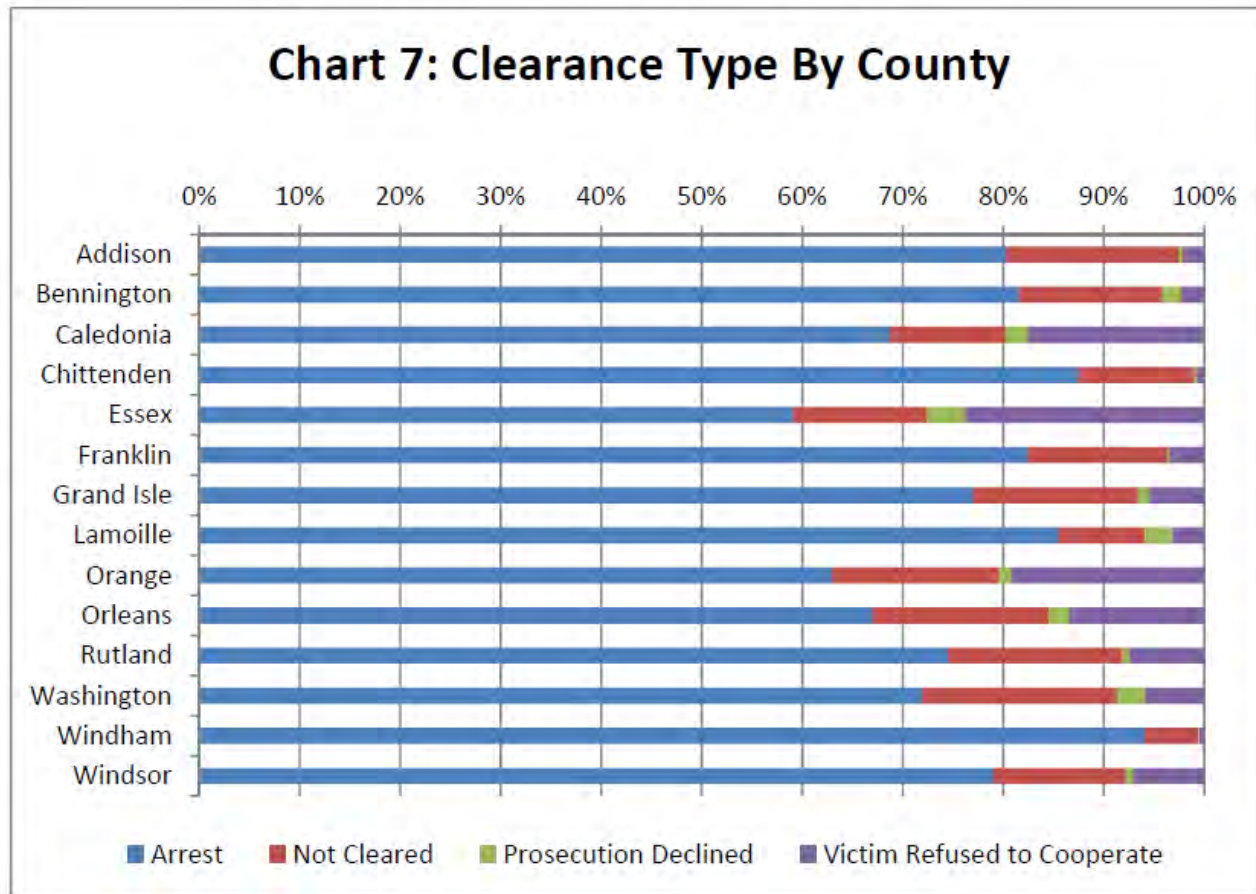


**POLICY ANALYSIS:  
*VICTIM REFUSALS***

## CLEARANCE: VICTIM REFUSED TO COOPERATE



## CLEARANCE: VICTIM REFUSED TO COOPERATE



**POLICY ANALYSIS:  
REGRESSION ANALYSIS –  
PREDICTORS OF PHYSICAL ARREST**

## PREDICTORS OF PHYSICAL ARREST

- Population density (Rural)
- Seriousness of offense
- Use of alcohol by defendant
- Age of the defendant (older defendants)
- Relationship (Intimate)
- Sex of victim (Female)
- Sex of offender (Male)
- Time of day (nighttime)
- Model predicted arrest 84% of the time



# Questions

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**The reports featured in today's webinar can be found on the Incident-Based Reporting Resource Center**

[http://www.jrsa.org/ibrrc/background-status/state\\_reports.shtml](http://www.jrsa.org/ibrrc/background-status/state_reports.shtml)





# Upcoming Webinar

## Using NCVS to Provide Subnational Estimates of Victimization: A BJS Update

April 10<sup>th</sup> 2-3:30 PM EDT

Featuring :

**Dr. Michael Planty**

**Chief of the Victimization Statistics Unit,**

**Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice**