

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs



Bureau of Justice Statistics Fiscal Year 1996: At a Glance

COVER 1: Printer: Please reverse covers 1 and 4 out of solid red PMS 200C with full bleed, EXCEPT for seal on upper right corner of cover 1. See attached sample for color, format, paper.

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs



Bureau of Justice Statistics Fiscal Year 1996: At a Glance

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TITLE

U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Justice Statistics

Jan M. Chaiken, Ph.D.
Director

This Bureau of Justice Statistics report was prepared by Maureen A. Henneberg and Lisa Price-Grear. Tom Hester and Rhonda Keith edited and produced it. Lawrence A Greenfeld provided additional analysis.

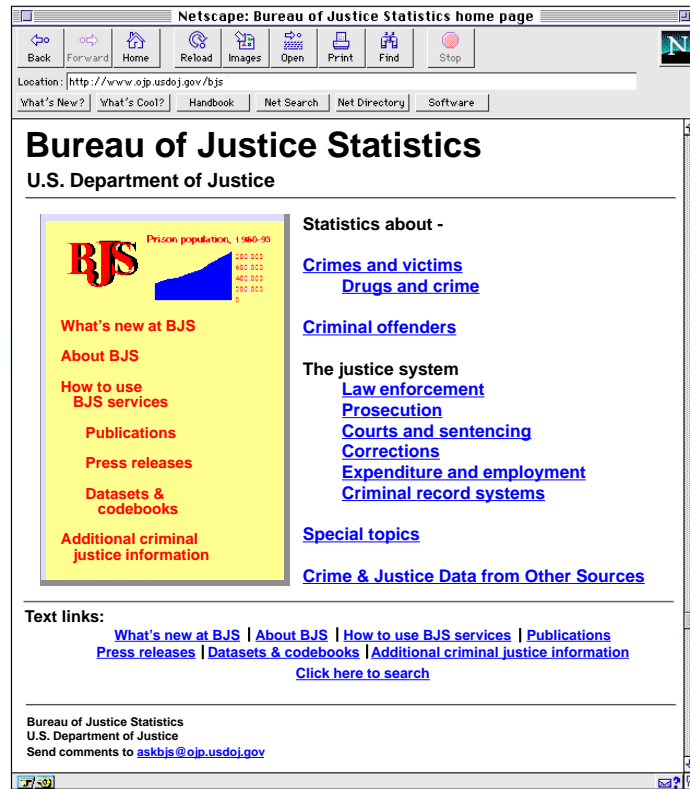
BJS staff are grateful to everyone who participates in our surveys.

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Introducing the homepage of the Bureau of Justice Statistics on the World Wide Web

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>



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“Though texts of most BJS reports have been available electronically since the early 1990's,” states BJS Director Jan Chaiken, “now we provide a single place for anyone in the world to get an electronic copy that includes all the graphics....The Internet is the most efficient way we can make our information accessible to those who need it instantly.”

At a Glance 1

About the Bureau of Justice Statistics

BJS, a component of the Office of Justice Programs in the U.S. Department of Justice, is the United States' primary source for criminal justice statistics. BJS collects, analyzes, publishes, and disseminates information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operation of justice systems at all levels of government. These data are critical to Federal, State, and local policymakers in combating crime and ensuring that justice is both efficient and evenhanded.

This year BJS will:

Interview more than 100,000 citizens in 50,000 households about any experiences they may have had as crime victims during the year.

Describe characteristics and consequences of over 43 million criminal victimizations.

Analyze operations of some 50,000 agencies, offices, courts, and institutions that together comprise the justice system.

Count populations and conduct sample surveys among the more than 5 million adults who during an average day are subject to the care, custody, or control of criminal justice authorities.

Maintain more than two dozen major data collection series from which it publishes and distributes reports nationwide.

Data are published annually on —

- Criminal victimization
- Populations under correctional supervision
- Federal criminal offenders and case processing

Periodic data series include —

- Felony convictions
- State court case processing
- Characteristics of correctional populations
- Prosecutorial practices and policies
- Administration of law enforcement agencies and correctional facilities
- Criminal justice expenditures and employment
- Civil cases in state courts
- Special studies on other criminal justice topics

A description of the various BJS data series can be found under the topical sections of this report.

Many of BJS's data collection activities are carried out by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. BJS staff also coordinate with other Department of Justice statistical programs, such as the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting program and National Incident-Based Reporting System.

The BJS Federal Justice Statistics Program collects data from other Federal agencies, including the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the U.S. Sentencing Commission, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

BJS offers technical and financial support to State governments for the establishment and operation of State-level Statistical Analysis Centers (SAC) to collect, analyze, and

report statistics on crime and justice to Federal, State, and local levels of government and to share State-level information nationally. The information produced by SACs and their involvement in criminal justice projects are critical to State, local, and Federal criminal justice agencies and community organizations in their efforts to combat drugs and crime.

BJS also administers the National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP), which implements the grant provisions of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act and the National Child Protection Act of 1993. NCHIP grants will help States speed up their participation in the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), which will enable all States to have immediate access to other States' criminal history records.

How to use Bureau of Justice Statistics services

The **BJS Clearinghouse**, a component of the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) provides information about crime and justice statistics. The clearinghouse offers products and services tailored to the needs of the criminal justice professional.

Clearinghouse staff who specialize in BJS statistical resources can assist you in locating data that best meet your particular information needs. BJS specialists also have access to a variety of other criminal justice data and can direct you to those resources.

In the United States, the BJS Clearinghouse offers tollfree access to BJS statistical information and reports. By calling 800-732-3277, you can receive —

- BJS reports and BJS mailing list information
- Criminal justice statistics over the phone
- Custom literature searches of the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS)
- Database referrals to other sources of crime data
- Data assistance from information specialists at the clearinghouse.

The BJS Clearinghouse responds to data requests from a variety of audiences:

- Federal policymakers and practitioners
- State and local criminal justice practitioners
- Private organizations
- Faculty and students
- Media and the public.

The Clearinghouse has developed several products to assist researchers, policymakers, and other professionals:

- CD-ROM products
- Statistical information packages
- Slide presentations
- Topical searches
- Topical bibliographies.

Contact the Clearinghouse to request information or to order publications and products.

Mail: BJS Clearinghouse/NCJRS
P.O. Box 179
Annapolis Junction, Maryland 20701-0179

Visit: BJS Clearinghouse/NCJRS
1600 Research Boulevard
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Call: 1-800-732-3277

FAX orders: 1-410-792-4358

Access Fax-on-Demand-System: 301-251-5550

Access the NCJRS Bulletin Board System via modem:
Telnet to ncjrsbbs.aspensys.com or by telephone
at 301-738-8895 (set at 8-N-1, 9600 baud, select
BJS)

Ask NCJRS questions via Internet: BJS gopher
gopher://www.ojp.usdoj.gov:70/11/bjs/

The Drugs and Crime Clearinghouse, funded by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and managed by BJS, provides current data about illegal drugs. The Clearinghouse —

Disseminates ONDCP, BJS and other Department of Justice publications relating to drugs and crime;

Serves as the sole repository with public access for the BJA State Drug Control Strategies and the individual U.S. attorneys' reports;

Distributes data summaries and reading lists on specific drugs-and-crime topics;

Maintains a database of some 1,500 annotated bibliographies of statistical and research reports, books, and journal articles on drugs and crime;

Searches the bibliographic database to fill requests for data on specific topics;

Produces national directories of State and local drug-related agencies, topical fact sheets, bibliographies, and other special reports;

Advises requestors on data availability and usefulness and of other data sources that may meet their needs; and

Maintains a reading room where visitors can use the clearinghouse collection of more than 1,000 documents on drugs and crime.

Contact the clearinghouse to request information or order publications and products.

Write or visit: Drugs and Crime Clearinghouse
 1600 Research Boulevard
 Rockville, Maryland 20850

Call: 1-800-666-3332

FAX orders: 1-410-792-4358

Ask the clearinghouse questions via Internet:

<http://www.ncjrs.org/drgshome.htm>

Access the clearinghouse through the NCJRS Bulletin Board System via modem: Telnet to ncjrsbbs.aspensys.com or by telephone at 301-738-8895 (set at 8-N-1, 9600 baud, select BJS)

National Archive of Criminal Justice Data, on behalf of BJS, archives data files, documents them, and makes them available to researchers, scholars, journalists, and other users. Established in 1978, NACJD headquarters are located with the central staff of Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) in the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan.

The central mission of NACJD is to facilitate and encourage research in the field of criminal justice through the sharing of data resources. Specific goals include —

Providing machine-readable data for the quantitative study of crime and the criminal justice system through the development of a central data archive

Supplying technical assistance in analyzing data collections and the computer hardware and software for analyzing data efficiently and effectively

Offering training in quantitative methods of social science research to facilitate secondary analysis of criminal justice data.

NACJD routinely receives data from four agencies within the U.S. Department of Justice: BJS, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Individual scholars and researchers in the criminal justice field may also deposit data with NACJD, and interested individuals should contact NACJD staff for more information on this process.

Data files that are maintained by the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data are available at no charge for search and download from the NACJD site on the Internet.

Write or call: National Archive of Criminal Justice Data
ICPSR
Institute for Social Research
P.O. Box 1248
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106
1-800-999-0960
1-313-763-5011

Ask Archive staff questions via Internet:
<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/home.html>

The United Nations Crime and Justice Information Network

The United Nations World Crime Survey and other criminal justice data sets are available online from the United Nations Crime and Justice Information Network (UNCJIN), which was established in 1989 and was supported by BJS from 1990 to 1995. UNCJIN's goal is to establish a world wide network to enhance dissemination and the exchange of information concerning criminal justice and crime prevention issues. By August 1995 UNCJIN had attracted an enthusiastic membership from around the world and was transferred by BJS to the United Nations Criminal Justice and Crime Prevention Branch in Vienna, Austria.

In addition to its World Wide Web page, UNCJIN maintains a ListServ on which anyone with an interest in international criminal justice can exchange information and participate in discussion groups. To join, send the following message:

Subscribe UNCJIN-L your-first-name your-last-name
to ListServ@Lserv.un.or.at.

The ListServ program will respond to your mail with a welcome message and further instructions.

National Clearinghouse for Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS)

CJIS was created in 1976 to serve as a clearinghouse for information on criminal justice information system resources and to promote and facilitate the transfer of automated public domain criminal justice information systems.

The clearinghouse —

- Disseminates information about public domain and proprietary criminal justice information systems

- Maintains an index of criminal justice software

- Facilitates communication among criminal justice practitioners nationwide.

The clearinghouse is supported by BJS and is operated by SEARCH Group, Inc., a consortium of the States, dedicated to improving the administration of justice through information technology.

A national resource to criminal justice agencies and professionals, the clearinghouse is accessible through the Internet at <http://www.search.org/> and the SEARCH Bulletin Board (BBS) which can be reached by telephone at 916-392-4640/4641/4642 and by telnet to search.org (set at 8-N-1, Full Duplex, terminal = VT100).

The Clearinghouse provides online access to —

- the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

- opinions of the United States Supreme Court

- all four volumes of the National Incident-Based Reporting System specifications published by the FBI
- publications from other agencies and associations.

Online databases available on the bulletin board include —

- the Automated Index of Criminal Justice Information Systems
- Calendar of Events
- Criminal Justice Bulletin Board Systems List
- National Employment Listing Service
- Planning Abstract Listing Service
- Training Facilities Database
- Training Consultants Database.

A library of hundreds of criminal justice shareware programs is online as well.

For more information about the Clearinghouse call 916-392-2550, or send e-mail to webmaster@search.org.

Database of State Activities and Research

Maintained by the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA), this database covers the activities of State criminal justice statistical agencies, including current Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) activities, research efforts and statistical programs, abstracts of SAC publications, information on publications in the JRSA library, and data from the SAC Skills Survey.

The JRSA staff can search the database for specific topics using key words and provide printouts of search results. Call 202-624-8560 or e-mail requests to cjinfo@jrsa.org.

What's Available on the Net

The BJS World Wide Web home page is located at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

Providing BJS information on the Internet has proven to be the most efficient way BJS can make its data accessible to those who need it instantly. BJS information will be updated frequently. In addition, this Web site has links to many other criminal justice statistical sources.

What's new at BJS — The most recent information from BJS is highlighted in this section. Much of this information is available in electronic formats that are accessible through the Internet.

About BJS — An overview of BJS is provided describing its mission and responsibilities, criminal justice areas covered

by data collection programs, and dissemination programs maintained.

Publications — Electronic versions of many BJS reports are also available on the net. To find the publication you are interested in you can look under the appropriate criminal justice topic on the BJS home page. If you know the name of the publication, go to the publications list which is in alphabetical order.

The electronic versions of our publications are presented in two formats: in ASCII without tables and graphics and in Adobe Acrobat as published with graphics and tables. Acrobat files can be viewed and printed on any platform with the free viewer. You can download the appropriate viewer for your computer at the Adobe home page.

Press releases — The most recent press releases from BJS are published on the net at the press release section of the BJS home page.

Data files and codebooks — The BJS archives data files, documents them, and makes them available on the net through National Archive of Criminal Justice Data of the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan.

BJS reports are linked to the raw data used in the report, which can be downloaded from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data. Data users can access over 43 gigabytes of data that have been collected since the mid-1970's covering a range of subjects from crimes reported to the police, criminal victimization, prison populations, Federal

case processing and descriptions of law enforcement agencies and counts of police officers.

Statistics by subject area — The most current statistics are provided by topic with links to descriptions of BJS statistical data collections and surveys, as well as recent reports and data releases.

Additional criminal justice information — Links to other sources of crime and justice data are provided including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, juvenile justice statistics, and international statistics.

Comments and inquiries from users — BJS encourages all users of its homepage to send comments, suggestions, and information inquiries to askbjs@ojp.usdoj.gov.

To order BJS products

Publications

You may order free paper versions of BJS publications through the Bureau of Justice Statistics Clearinghouse, a component of the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS). The latest BJS data releases are available 24 hours a day through the Internet and other electronic mechanisms.

Order online

If you have a forms compatible browser, you can place your order directly through the Internet at the Online Order Form.

Order via Internet e-mail

Send a message with the name of the publication, the NCJ number, and your mailing address to *askncjrs@aspensys.com*.

Order by telephone

In the United States, the BJS Clearinghouse offers tollfree access at 1-800-732-3277.

Order via Fax-on-Demand System

Call 301-251-5550 to order from a touchtone menu which automatically faxes your selection to you.

Order by FAX

FAX your order to the clearinghouse at 410-792-4358. Download an order form in Acrobat format, print it off, complete it, and FAX it to the clearinghouse.

Data files and codebooks

In addition to online Internet access, data files and codebooks can be requested by telephone or mail from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data.

Call or write:

National Archive of Criminal Justice Data

ICPSR

Institute for Social Research

P.O. Box 1248

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106

1-800-999-0960

1-313-763-5011

Ask Archive staff questions via Internet:

nacjd@icpsr.umich.edu

BJS statistical series and programs

Crimes and victims

BJS' **National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)** is the Nation's second largest ongoing household survey. Survey data tell us how many rapes, sexual assaults, robberies, assaults, thefts, household burglaries, and motor vehicle thefts U.S. residents age 12 or older and their households experience each year.

In 1994 U.S. residents age 12 or older experienced approximately 42.4 million crimes. Thirty-one million (73%) were property crimes, 10.9 million (26%) were crimes of violence and (1%) were personal thefts.

The violent crime rate has been essentially unchanged since 1992, following a slight increase between 1985 and 1991. Property crime continued a 15-year decline.

In 1994 for every 1,000 persons age 12 or older, the public experienced:

- 2 rapes or attempted rapes
- 3 assaults with serious injury
- 4 robberies.

The young, blacks, and males were the most vulnerable to violent crime:

- 1 in 9 persons age 12 to 15, compared to 1 in 196 age 65 or older
- 1 in 16 blacks, compared to 1 in 20 whites
- 1 in 17 males, compared to 1 in 24 females

Women age 12 or older sustained 5 million violent victimizations annually in 1992-93. Persons whom the victim knew were responsible for most of these victimizations.

Women were about 6 times more likely than men to experience violence committed by a spouse, ex-spouse, or intimate friend (current or former).

In 1994, violent crime struck:

- 1 in 17 males
- 1 in 24 females

- 1 in 9 young people age 12 to 15
- 1 in 8 teenagers age 16 to 19
- 1 in 10 young adults age 20 to 24
- 1 in 16 persons age 25 to 34
- 1 in 25 persons age 35 to 49
- 1 in 66 persons age 50 to 64
- 1 in 196 persons age 65 or older

- 1 in 20 white residents age 12 or older
- 1 in 16 black residents age 12 or older
- 1 in 17 Hispanic residents age 12 or older

- 1 in 12 persons living in households with household income of less than \$7,500
- 1 in 25 persons living in households with household income of \$75,000 or more

- 1 in 16 urban residents age 12 or older
- 1 in 20 suburban residents age 12 or older
- 1 in 26 rural residents age 12 or older

Source: *Criminal Victimization 1994*, Table 3, p.4.

Ongoing from 1973 and redesigned in 1992, NCVS is the Nation's primary source of information on crime victimization and the victims of crime. It is the only national crime measure that includes both those crimes that people experience but do not report to law enforcement authorities and those that they do report. The survey redesign incorporated many important changes to the questionnaire, including the following: additional cues to help survey participants recall incidents; more direct questions on rape, sexual assault, and other sexual crimes; and new probes to measure victimizations by nonstrangers, including domestic violence.

During a collection year, data are obtained from a nationally representative sample of roughly 49,000 households, comprising more than 100,000 persons on the impact, frequency, and consequences of criminal victimization in the United States. The survey enables BJS to estimate the likelihood of victimization by rape, robbery, assault, larceny, household larceny, household burglary, or motor vehicle theft for segments of the population such as the elderly, members of racial groups, city dwellers, or other groups. The NCVS furnishes the only national forum for victims to describe outcomes of crime and characteristics of violent offenders.

Recent reports —

Criminal Victimization, 1994, released 4/96 (NCJ-158022)

Criminal Victimization in the United States, 1993,
released 5/96 (NCJ-151657)

Criminal Victimization, 1993, released 5/95 (NCJ-151658)

*Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned
National Crime Victimization Survey*, released 8/95
(NCJ-154348)

Emergency Room Statistics on Intentional Violence collects data on intentional injuries, such as domestic violence, rape, and child abuse, from a national sample of hospital emergency rooms.

Through the Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, information is obtained on characteristics of the victim and perpetrator, victim-perpetrator relationship, alcohol/drug involvement in the incident, and description of circumstances of injury. In 1995 BJS concluded a 27-month study using the CPSC's national sample of hospital emergency rooms. This study represents a major new area for data collection about intentional violence. It is designed to supplement existing NCVS statistical information.

Data to be released in 1996 indicate that an estimated 1.4 million people were treated in hospital emergency rooms in 1994 for intentionally or possibly intentionally inflicted injuries. Of these injuries, about 7% were inflicted by a spouse or ex-spouse and an additional 8% were inflicted by another relative.

Criminal offenders

BJS collects data about criminal offenders particularly those in prison and jail.

For example —

In general, compared to State inmates, Federal prisoners had less serious criminal backgrounds, were less likely to be serving a sentence for a violent crime, and reported less use in drugs and alcohol.

In 1991 the United States imprisoned about 640 inmates per 100,000 adult residents, compared to 119 per 100,000 in England and Wales.

U.S. inmates received longer sentences than their English and Welsh counterparts, although prisoners in all these jurisdictions had similar criminal histories and personal characteristics.

BJS's data collection programs, primarily corrections and courts and sentencing related, provides a wealth of information on demographic characteristics of offenders, criminal histories, arrest offenses, criminal case processing, and sentencing, as well as data on offender drug and alcohol use, their victims, and their social and economic backgrounds. Refer to the justice system sections for more information.

Recent reports —

Child Victimization: Violent Offenders and Their Victims,
released 3/96 (NCJ-153258)

*Profile of Inmates in the United States and in England and
Wales, 1991*, released 10/94 (NCJ-145863)

Comparing Federal and State Prison Inmates, 1991,
released 9/94 (NCJ-145864)

The Justice System

Law Enforcement

BJS collects data about law enforcement agencies and their activities.

For example —

For 1993 BJS reported agency-level information collected from 411 city police departments, 146 sheriffs' departments, 49 State police departments, 33 county police departments, and 22 special police departments (park police, campus police, and housing police).

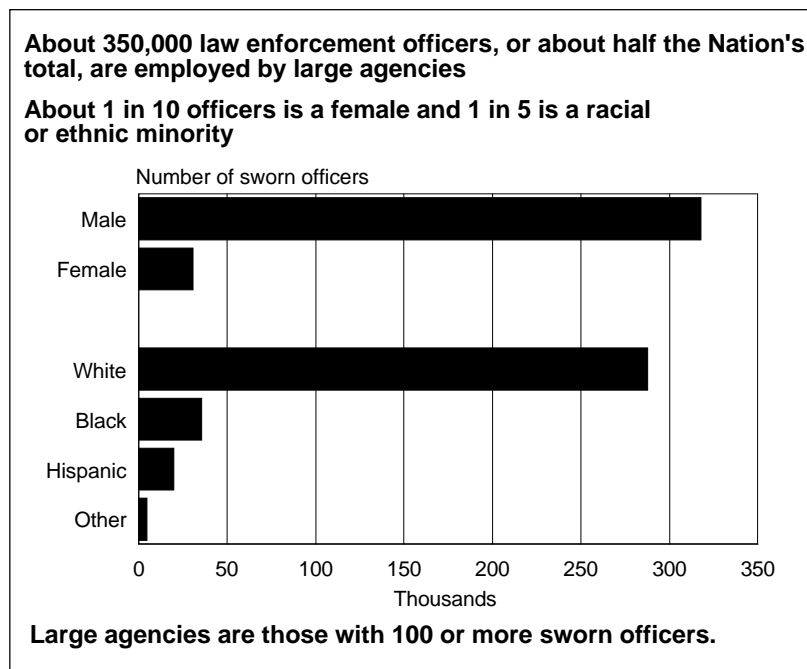
These law enforcement agencies each employed at least 100 sworn personnel, with at least 50 uniformed officers responding to calls for service.

Men made up about 90% of the sworn employees; white, non-Hispanic officers were over 80% of the total number.

The average base starting pay of entry-level officers ranged from \$27,000 a year in special police agencies to \$23,300 in the 49 primary State police agencies.

Of the estimated 69,000 nonmilitary Federal officers with powers of arrest employed full time in 1993, 58% worked in criminal investigation and enforcement and another 16% worked in prisons.

The **Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS)** survey, conducted every 3 to 4 years, collects data from over 3,000 agencies, including all those that employ 100 or more sworn officers and a nationally representative sample of smaller agencies. Data are obtained on the organization and administration of police and sheriffs' departments including agency responsibilities, operating expenditures, job functions of sworn and civilian employees, officer salaries and special pay, demographic characteristics of officers, weapons and armor policies, education and training requirements, computers and information systems, vehicles, special units, drug enforcement activities, and employee drug testing policies.



Published findings from the 1993 LEMAS survey include—
Sheriffs' Departments, 1993, forthcoming (NCJ-148823)
Drug Enforcement by Police and Sheriffs' Departments, 1993,
forthcoming (NCJ-148824)
Local Police Departments, 1993, released 4/96 (NCJ-160802)
Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics,
1993: Data for Individual State and Local Agencies
with 100 or More Officers, released 9/95
(NCJ-148825).

Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies provides national data on State and local law enforcement agencies with arrest and firearms authority. Data collected include the number of officers working in the areas of criminal investigation and enforcement, police patrol and response, security and protection, court operations, and corrections, by agency and State. Latest data are available in *Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies, 1992* (NCJ-142927).

The **Federal Law Enforcement Agency Census**, first conducted by BJS in 1993, obtains data on Federal law enforcement officers with arrest and firearms authority. Data collected include the number of officers working in the areas of criminal investigation and enforcement, police patrol and response, security and protection, court operations, and corrections, by agency and State. Findings from this census are published in *Federal Law Enforcement Officers, 1993* (NCJ-151166).

Campus Law Enforcement Agency Survey is a first-ever special comprehensive survey on campus policing which collected data from approximately 600 4-year universities with 2,500 or more students. Information was obtained on characteristics of campus served, agency operations, personnel characteristics, expenditures and salaries, equipment, computers and information systems, and policies and programs. BJS has recently completed data collection and expects to release findings in the summer of 1996.

Prosecution

BJS collects data about the Nation's criminal prosecutors and the cases they prosecute.

For example —

About 2,400 chief prosecutors try felony cases in the United States. This total does not include U.S. attorneys responsible for Federal matters. Ninety-five percent of the chief prosecutors are elected locally. Half the prosecutors' offices in mid-1992 employed seven or fewer people. In about 30% of the offices, the chief prosecutor was part time.

Over a fourth of the prosecutors' offices had a staff person, usually the chief prosecutor, who had been threatened or assaulted.

All but one prosecutor responding to the survey said that they had engaged in plea negotiations, but about 12% reported having written criteria to guide plea negotiations.

Federal prosecutors have available special criminal statutes that exact extra penalties against those found guilty of racketeering or illegal drug activities. According to an analysis of Federal cases concluded from mid-1987 to mid-1990, the use of anticriminal enterprise prosecution led to more severe sentences.

National Prosecutors Survey Program, a biennial series, collects data on resources, policies, and practices of local prosecutors from a nationally representative sample of 290 prosecutors' offices in State court systems. The survey obtains basic information on staffing and operations and collects data on current topics such as the use of innovative prosecution techniques, intermediate sanctions, plea bargaining, and work related assaults and threats. BJS is currently analyzing data collected from the 1994 Survey with published findings expected in the summer of 1996. Latest published findings are available in *Prosecutors in State Courts, 1992* (NCJ-145319).

Courts and Sentencing

BJS collects data about the Nation's court system, including information about both civil and criminal courts, the cases brought, and their outcomes.

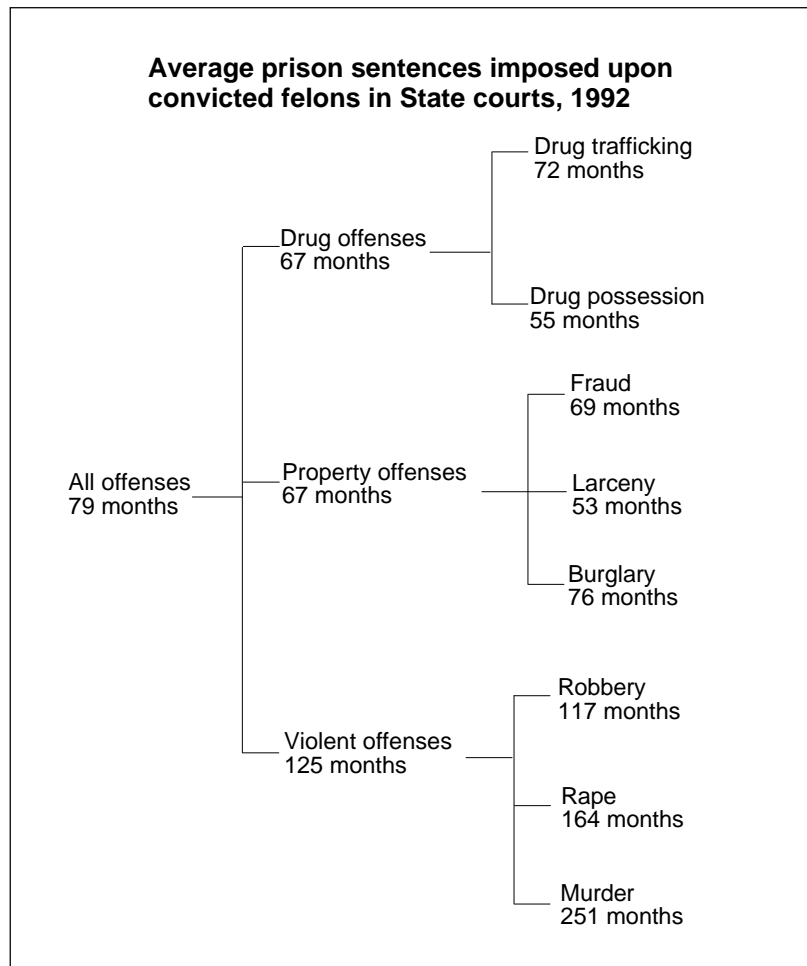
For example —

State courts convicted nearly 893,000 adults of a felony in 1992, an increase of 34% over 4 years. Among offenses, convictions for aggravated assault and drug trafficking had increased the most.

From 1988 to 1992 the number of felony convictions increased faster than the number of arrests.

Seventy percent of those convicted in 1992 were sentenced to incarceration.

Almost two-thirds of defendants charged with a felony in the 75 most populated counties in May 1992 were released from jail pending disposition of their case.



National Judicial Reporting Program, conducted every 2 years, surveys a nationwide sample of county felony trial courts in 300 counties, collecting detailed information on demographic characteristics of felons, conviction offenses, type of sentences, sentence lengths, and amount of time from arrest to conviction and sentencing.

Recent publications include the following —

State Court Sentencing of Convicted Felons, 1992, released 5/96
(NCJ-152696)

Felony Sentences in the United States, 1992, released 5/96
(NCJ-153257)

Felony Sentences in State Courts, 1992, released 1/95
(NCJ-151167)

State Court Processing Statistics (SCPS) (through 1994 known as National Pretrial Reporting Program or NPRP) provides data on the criminal justice processing of persons charged with felonies in 40 jurisdictions representative of the 75 largest counties. These counties account for about half the serious crime nationwide. The program prospectively tracks felony defendants from charging by the prosecutor until disposition of their cases or for a maximum of 12 months. Data are obtained on demographic characteristics, arrest offense, criminal justice status at time of arrest, prior arrests and convictions, bail and pretrial release, court appearance record, rearrests while on pretrial release, type and outcome of adjudication, disposition, and type and length of sentence.

Data are currently being collected for those charged with a felony during May 1996: Records of all subsequent decisions by the criminal justice system regarding these defendants are now being obtained. BJS expects to publish findings from the 1994 data collection in the fall of 1996. Most current data are available in *Felony Defendants in Large Urban Counties, 1992: National Pretrial Reporting Program*, released 7/95 (NCJ-148826).

Civil Justice Survey of State Courts collects civil caseload data for a 1-year period from a sample of counties representative of the Nation's 75 largest counties, including case type, outcome, jury awards, type of parties, legal representation, and dates of filing and disposition.

Findings from the first survey are reported in —

Contract Cases in Large Counties: Civil Justice Survey of State Courts, 1992, released 2/96 (NCJ-156664)

Civil Jury Cases and Verdicts in Large Counties: Civil Justice Survey of State Courts, 1992, released 7/95 (NCJ-154346)

Tort Cases in Large Counties: Civil Justice Survey of State Courts, 1992, released 4/95 (NCJ-153177)

The **Federal Justice Statistics** series provides annual data on workload, activities, and outcomes associated with Federal criminal cases. Information is acquired on all aspects of processing in the Federal justice system, including the number of persons investigated, prosecuted, convicted, incarcerated, sentenced to probation, released pretrial, and under parole or other supervision; initial prosecution decisions; referrals to magistrates; court dispositions; sentencing outcomes; sentence length; and time served. The program collects data from the Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys, the Pretrial Services Agency, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the U.S. Sentencing Commission, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. This ongoing series started in 1979.

Recent or forthcoming reports include —

Noncitizens in the Federal Criminal Justice System, forthcoming (NCJ160934)

Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 1993, forthcoming
(NCJ-160089)

Federal Criminal Case Processing, 1993, forthcoming
(NCJ-160088)

Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 1992 (Internet version only)

Survey of State Court Organization provides basic descriptive information relating to the Nation's State court systems. Information is collected on trial courts — the role of grand juries, peremptory jury challenges, jury verdict rules; appellate courts — case selection, expedited procedures; governance of court systems — budgets, administration; judges and judicial selection — number of judges, mandatory judicial education; and processing of criminal cases — felony definition, mandatory minimum, habitual offender sentencing provisions. Latest data are available in *State Court Organization, 1993* (NCJ-148346).

Corrections

BJS collects data about the Nation's correctional system, including information about prisoners and correctional facilities and agencies.

For example —

State and Federal prisons held 1.1 million prisoners at midyear 1995.

Local jails held about 484,000 adults who were awaiting trial or serving a sentence at yearend 1994.

5.1 million people were on probation, in jail or prison, or on parole at yearend 1994, nearly 2.7% of all U.S. adult residents.

The 3,304 local jails in 1993 held 2.8 inmates for each jail employee. In 1990, the year of the last census of prisons, there were 2.7 inmates per State prison employee.

The correctional system of the United States includes a broad range of agencies and populations. Adequate statistical accounts of the extent and nature of the system require diverse reporting programs.

Some BJS statistical programs have described prison populations or movements for almost two-thirds of a century:

- National Prisoner Statistics, including capital punishment
- National Corrections Reporting Program

Since the early 1980's two BJS programs have reported the total number of persons in jail or on probation or parole:

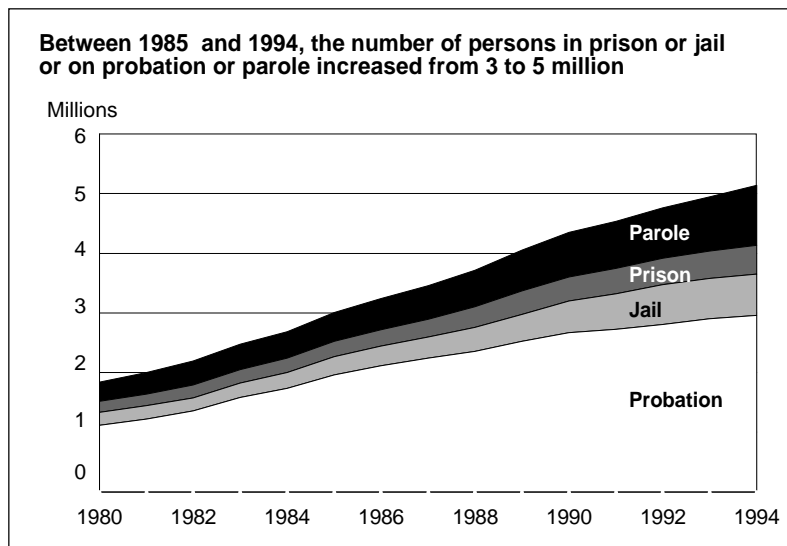
- National Probation and Parole Reporting Program
- Annual Survey of Jails

Censuses, usually conducted every 5 years, describe the agencies that have custody or control of persons serving a criminal sentence:

- Census of Probation and Parole Agencies
- National Jail Census
- Census of State and Federal Adult Correctional Facilities

Through personal interviews, periodic surveys of offenders collect the most accurate data on items like criminal history and drug use:

- Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities
- Survey of Inmates in Local Jails
- Survey of Adults on Probation



Survey of Inmates in Local Jails is periodically administered to collect data on the local jail inmate population that includes persons who belong to all parts of the criminal justice continuum — those awaiting trial, those sentenced to jail and serving their sentence, and those sentenced to prison and awaiting transfer. The survey will obtain information on the personal and family characteristics of jail inmates, past drug and alcohol use, history of physical abuse, and history of contact with the criminal justice system. BJS has just completed conducting the 1995 survey which relies on personal interviews with a nationally representative sample of nearly 6,500 inmates. This set of interviews was the first BJS survey administered with laptop computers, a method that is expected to increase efficiency.

Survey of Inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities is conducted every 5 years, providing information on individual characteristics of prison inmates, current offenses and sentences, characteristics of victims, criminal histories, family background, gun possession and use, prior drug and alcohol use and treatment, educational programs and other services provided while in prison, as well as other personal characteristics. In 1996 BJS is conducting the survey with personal interviews of a nationally representative sample of 14,000 State prison inmates and 3,500 Federal inmates in about 300 State prisons and 40 Federal prisons.

Forthcoming and recent reports using survey data include —

Lifetime Likelihood of Going to State or Federal Prison,
forthcoming, (NCJ-160092)

Probation and Parole Violators in State Prison, 1991,
released 8/95, (NCJ-149076)

Survey of Adults on Probation obtains detailed information on the backgrounds and characteristics of a national sample of probationers representative of the 2.5 million adults under such supervision in the community. Specific areas of inquiry include criminal history, prior drug and alcohol use, participation in drug and alcohol treatment programs, use of firearms, victim characteristics, the conditions of supervision, and the extent of contact with probation authorities. Having recently completed data collection for the first survey, which included approximately 2,000 personal interviews with probationers and a review of administrative records in more than 150 probation departments, BJS expects to release preliminary findings in the fall of 1996.

Census of Jails is conducted every 5 years, obtaining information on each facility, admissions and releases, court orders, programs that offer alternatives to incarceration, amount charged to hold an inmate for another jurisdiction, use of space and crowding, staffing, health care (including prevalence of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis), and drug testing policies and practices. The census furnishes the sampling frame for the nationwide survey of jail inmates. Latest data are available in *Jails and Jail Inmates 1993-94: Census of Jails and Survey of Jails*, released 5/95 (NCJ-151651).

Census of State and Federal Adult Correctional Facilities is conducted every 5 to 6 years, providing detailed information on the types of inmates housed, facility age and type, security level, court orders, programs, health and safety conditions, confinement space, employment, and operating costs. BJS expects to publish findings from the 1995 Census in the fall of 1996.

Census of State and Local Probation and Parole Agencies is a complete census of Federal, State, and locally operated probation and parole agencies. The census gathers data on the agency organizational location, staffing, expenditures, program operation and participation levels, and drug and HIV testing policies and programs. The census serves as the sampling frame for the national survey of adults on probation.

National Prisoner Statistics (NPS) produces annual and semiannual national and State-level data on the numbers of prisoners in State and Federal prison facilities. Since 1926, the Federal government has published data annually on the prisoner count in each State, the District of Columbia, and the Federal prison system.

Recent or forthcoming reports or releases include —

Correctional Populations in the United States, 1994,
forthcoming (NCJ-160091)
HIV in Prison, 1994, released 3/96, (NCJ-158020)
Prisoners at midyear, 1995, data released 11/95,
(NCJ-158021)
Correctional Populations in the United States, 1993,
released 10/95 (NCJ-156241)
Prisoners in 1994, released 8/95 (NCJ-151654)

National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP) collects data annually on all prison admissions and releases and on all parole entries and discharges in participating jurisdictions. Demographic information, conviction offense, sentence length, minimum time to be served, credited jail time, type of admission, type of release, and time served are collected from individual prisoner records.

Recent reports include —

Violent Offenders in State Prison: Sentences and Time Served, 1992-94, released 7/95 (NCJ-154632)
Prison Sentences and Time Served for Violence, released 4/95
(NCJ-153858)

The **Capital Punishment** series yields annual national and State-level data on persons sentenced to death and those executed. Data collected include offender demographic characteristics, prior criminal histories, and criminal justice system status at the time of the capital offense, and time spent on death row. The latest data were reported in *Capital Punishment 1994*, released 2/96 (NCJ-158023).

The **Annual Survey of Jails** collects data that permit intercensal estimates of the number of inmates in the Nation's local jails and data on the relationship between jail populations and capacities. The latest data are available in *Jails and Jail Inmates 1993-94: Census of Jails and Survey of Jails*, released 5/95 (NCJ-151651).

National Probation and Parole Reporting Program gathers annual data on State and Federal probation and parole counts and movements and the characteristics of persons under the supervision of probation and parole agencies. Published data include admissions and releases by method of entry and discharge. Demographic information, time served, and conviction offenses are collected from individual prisoner records. The latest data available are in *Probation and Parole Populations, 1994*, released 9/95 (NCJ-156432).

Expenditure and Employment

BJS collects employment and expenditure data about the Nation's criminal justice system.

For example —

In fiscal 1990 Federal, State, and local governments spent \$74 billion for civil and criminal justice, a 22% increase over 1988. For every resident, the three levels of government together spent \$299.

Three cents of every government dollar went for justice activities, including police protection, jails or prisons, and the courts.

In fiscal 1990 State and local governments combined spent 87% of all justice dollars; the Federal Government spent the rest.

Federal spending per capita for justice increased 128% in constant dollars, from 1971 to 1990, more than twice as fast as the growth in State and local spending for justice.

Criminal Justice Expenditure and Employment Program collects, analyzes and publishes data on the cost of operating the Nation's criminal justice systems. Using extract data from the Census Bureau's ongoing finance and employment survey series, BJS produces national estimates of expenditures and employment relating to major criminal justice activities, including police protection, prosecution, legal services, public defense, and corrections. Surveys were conducted in 1985, 1988, and 1990 for which detailed expenditure and employment data were collected and

analyzed. These data are the basis for calculating variable passthrough estimates needed to distribute the formula funds of the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The latest data will be available in *Justice Expenditure and Employment Extracts, 1992*, forthcoming (NCJ-148821).

General criminal justice statistics

BJS produces a number of statistical documents and other products that cover more than one criminal justice topic.

Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, first published in 1972, is compiled annually from more than 150 separate sources, presented with minimal text and extensive tables. Almost all data are nationwide in scope and, where possible, are displayed by region, State, and city for comparative analyses.

Criminal Justice Agency Survey List is an updated listing of various State and local jurisdictions and criminal justice agencies from which sample surveys are selected.

Access to Public-Use Data Files. In 1995, a review of current procedures to access public use data files was conducted by a task force commissioned by BJS and is described in the publication *Future Directions for the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data: Report of the Task Force*. File transfer protocol (ftp) over the Internet was recommended by the task force and is now available for accessing BJS files archived at the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD). Other recommended alternative mediums of dissemination are also available, such as CD-ROM, diskette, or various magnetic tape media. Users can now access all files created by BJS or archived under BJS funding by accessing World Wide Web sites that have been constructed at BJS and at the University of Michigan. In addition to data files, online documentation and control statements for major statistical software packages are accessible for current and recently issued data files. Future plans are to provide data information for BJS public use files and to

provide explore-and-extract software that would enable users to tabulate or download subsets of files.

Firearms and crime

BJS publishes selected findings on firearms, crimes, and criminal justice representing a collection of national data.

For example —

Weapons arrestees are predominantly male, age 18 or over, and white. However, weapons arrest rates per 100,000 population are highest for teens and blacks.

Surveys of inmates show that they prefer concealable, large caliber guns.

In 1993, of the 4.4 million violent crimes, 1.3 million (29%) victims stated that they faced an offender with a firearm.

Thirty-nine percent of Federal offenders involved with firearms, compared to 16% of those not involved, had been incarcerated in the past for at least 13 months.

BJS is currently publishing a series of reports on firearms and crime.

Firearm Injury from Crime, released 4/96 (NCJ-160093), reports available statistical information on fatal and nonfatal firearm injury that results from crime. Included are descriptions of the characteristics of the victims and the circumstances surrounding the crime. Data about the

number of law enforcement officers injured by firearms, offender involvement in firearm injury, and the costs of firearm injury are also included.

Guns Used In Crime: Firearms, Crime, and Criminal Justice, released 7/95 (NCJ-148201), represents a national collection of data about the guns used by criminals and provides information on how often guns are used in crime, what categories of firearms are most often used, and what type of guns is preferred by criminals.

Weapons Offenses and Offenders: Firearms, Crime, and Criminal Justice, released 11/95 (NCJ-157795) presents data on how the criminal and juvenile justice systems deal with weapons offenses (violations of statutes or regulations that control deadly weapons) and offenders from arrest through incarceration.

Federal Firearms-Related Offenses, released 7/95 (NCJ-148950), describes offenders whose sentences reflect the involvement of weapons in their offenses. The report describes both persons convicted of specific weapons offenses and violent offenders who receive longer sentences based on the presence of weapons.

International statistics

BJS's **International Statistics Program** encourages universities and research centers to supply data tapes of crime statistics and criminal justice studies conducted in other countries to the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data at the University of Michigan. Annual statistical reports on crime and justice from statistical agencies in other countries are maintained through the National Criminal Justice

Reference Service (NCJRS). Translation of selected reports from non-English speaking countries and dissemination of these data to American scholars and researchers is also accomplished through the NCJRS.

The World Factbook of Criminal Justice Systems, developed under a BJS grant and available electronically through the Internet, provides narrative descriptions of the criminal justice systems of countries around the world. These descriptions are written to a common template so that comparisons of similar functions in different countries can be easily made.

State-level statistical analysis network

BJS offers technical and financial support to **Statistical Analysis Centers (SAC)**, the agencies responsible for statistical activities concerning criminal justice in each State. Since 1972 this program has helped States to establish and operate SACs to collect, analyze, and report statistics on crime and justice, sharing information nationally. Currently 48 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Northern Mariana Islands have SACs. Detailed program and application guidelines available in *State-level Statistical Analysis Centers and Information Network Program: Program Application Guidelines FY 1996*, released 5/96 (NCJ-161134).

Through the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA), BJS offers technical assistance to the State SACs in the development, collection, analysis, use, and dissemination of criminal justice statistics. JRSA, formerly the Criminal Justice Statistics Association, was organized in 1974 by the directors of the State SACs. The association

was formed to promote cooperation and the exchange of information, statistics, and technology among States. In providing technical and liaison services to the SACs for BJS, JRSA maintains a criminal justice information clearinghouse; provides an automated Database of State Activities and Research; and conducts an annual conference on justice statistics, research, and policy analysis.

Criminal records systems

BJS supports several programs aimed at improving criminal records —

Criminal Records Data Quality Program supports surveys, studies, conferences, and technical assistance on issues relating to criminal justice records. Primary emphasis is on accuracy and completeness of records, limitations on dissemination, commingling of juvenile and adult records, data auditing techniques and the interstate exchange of records. Under this program, the 50-State Survey of Criminal History Information Systems is conducted, providing information on the technology, policy, and legislative status of criminal history records.

This year BJS and SEARCH are cosponsoring the National Conference on Juvenile Justice Records: Appropriate Uses in Criminal and Non-criminal Justice Proceedings, May 22-23, 1996, in Washington, D.C. The conference will focus on the appropriate uses of juvenile justice records in juvenile and adult criminal justice proceedings, as well as for noncriminal justice uses, such as background employment checks and licensing.

Recent reports include —

Increasing the Utility of the Criminal History Record: Report of the National Task Force, released 12/95, (NCJ-156922)

Compendium of State Privacy and Security Legislation: 1994 Overview, released 1/95 (NCJ-151262)

National Conference on Criminal History Records: Brady and Beyond, released 1/95 (NCJ-151263)

*Survey of Criminal History Information Systems, 1993,
with Supplementary Information on Presale Firearm
Checks, 1994, released 1/95 (NCJ-148951)*

National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) implements the grant provisions of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act and the National Child Protection Act of 1993 and those provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Street Act of 1968, as amended, and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 which pertain to the establishment, maintenance and use of criminal history records and criminal record systems. The NCHI program assists States in improving the quality of the Nation's criminal history records and supports the timely development of the capability to perform adequate criminal background checks. The national system will permit the immediate identification of persons who are unauthorized to purchase a firearm or to hold positions of responsibility involving children, the elderly, or the disabled. The development of complete and accurate criminal records, which are immediately available on an interstate basis, is also critical to support law enforcement efforts to make determinations regarding pretrial release, career criminal charging, sentencing options, and correctional assignments. Background checks for national security and related purposes are also only as effective as the quality of the records on which they are based.

Every State received an award under the 1995 NCHIP program which covered criminal history records improvements. The 1996 program includes criminal history records improvements and expands to assist States in identifying people who commit felony and serious misdemeanor offenses against children, the elderly and/or the disabled.

It also includes supporting background checks and improving access to domestic violence protection orders. Consistent with the Stalker Reduction provision of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, funds will be provided to assist State and local governments in improving the process for classifying and entering data regarding stalking and domestic violence into local, State, and national crime information databases.

The program announcements for the NCHIP program are:

*National Criminal History Improvement Program: FY 1996
Program Announcement*, released 5/96 (NCJ-161135)

Advanced State Award Program, released 11/95
(NCJ-157795)

*National Criminal History Improvement Program: Program
Announcement*, released 12/94 (NCJ-151173)

BJS also supports a joint FBI/BJS **Study of National Incident-Based Reporting Systems (NIBRS) Reporting in Law Enforcement Agencies**. Through a cooperative agreement with SEARCH Group Inc. and the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, the study will identify the most important impediments to full NIBRS participation and the most promising and cost effective approaches to encouraging wider and more rapid adoption of full NIBRS.

The study will include a brief history of the course of NIBRS implementation over the last decade, including the response of law enforcement agencies, States, the private software industry, Federal agencies, and associations such as the Association of State Uniform Crime Reporting Programs, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the National Sheriffs Association. The current status

of NIBRS will be summarized with input from BJS and the FBI. The impediments to the full implementation of NIBRS will be identified, categorized, and clarified. The concerns expressed by State UCR programs, States that do not have State-level programs, major city and county law enforcement agencies, smaller law enforcement agencies, and major associations will be reviewed. As part of this research effort, specific examples of State and local "advanced" incident-based systems that do not conform to NIBRS will be identified.