



**EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL
STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
ASSISTANCE
FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM**

**Calendar Year 2002
State Annual Report**

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OHIO OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES
Edward Byrne Memorial
Annual Report
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) implemented the 2002 Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program (Byrne) to assist local and state government in preventing and controlling illegal drugs, reducing incidents of violent crime, and improving the overall functioning of the criminal justice system. The following *Ohio Programs and Byrne Goals* table notes which programs are relevant to Ohio's Byrne Goals.

Ohio Programs and Byrne Goals At-A-Glance 2002

Program Area	Prevent and Control Illegal Drugs	Reduce Violent Crime	Improve Overall Operations
Law Enforcement Task Forces	✓	✓	
Crime Prevention/COP*	✓	✓	
Corrections*	✓	✓	
Victims		✓	✓
Innovative Approaches	✓	✓	
Criminal Justice Information Systems		✓	✓

* Programs formally evaluated during calendar year 2002

Law Enforcement Task Forces

Thirty-two Law Enforcement Task Forces submitted performance data during 2002. A total of 123 quarterly reports were received for a 96 percent reporting rate. Eight of Ohio's Task Forces report having a special pharmaceutical diversion unit.

Ohio Task Forces At-A-Glance 2002

Activity	Total	Average per Task Force per Quarter
Investigations initiated	5,474	44.5
Arrests	3,572	24
Cocaine seized	192,633 grams	2,028 grams
Crack seized	9,403 grams 4,020 "rocks"	99 grams 42 "rocks"
Marijuana seized	497 pounds	5 pounds
Marijuana plants seized	30,388 plants	320 plants
Heroin seized	948 grams	10 grams
LSD seized	5,693 dosage units	60 dosage units
Amphetamines/ Methamphetamines	7,850 grams 1,739 pills	83 grams 18 pills
Criminal assets seized	\$7,500,804.69	\$60,982.15
Criminal assets forfeited	\$2,066,350.26	\$16,799.60
Sentenced to prison	1,173	13.3
Sentenced to jail	292	3.3

Community Crime Prevention/Community Oriented Policing (COP)

Ohio's Crime Prevention program provides funding for various projects that address the prevention of crime. The 42 projects supported by Byrne funding can be categorized as four types:

1. Projects providing training and/or equipment for law enforcement (most often community oriented policing);
2. Projects addressing youth and young adults (includes school resource officers);
3. Projects addressing specialized sub-groups of crime prevention; and
4. Projects researching prevention issues.

Ohio Crime Prevention At-A-Glance 2002

Activity	Total	Average per Project
Average number of programs per project	Not applicable	13
Average number of people involved per project	Not applicable	525
Approximate number involved statewide	22,000	Not applicable

Corrections

During the period January 1 – December 31, 2002, 34 corrections projects were funded. The projects reported serving 3,651 offenders, an average of 62.9 clients per project per quarter. This indicates that on any given day, an average of 2,139 offenders in Ohio received corrections services through Byrne-funded projects.

Twenty-one projects reported that a total of 1,298 offenders successfully completed the program. The average length of stay for successful clients was 113 days. Another 446 offenders unsuccessfully completed the programs, with an average stay of 128 days in the program. None of these failures involved rearrest, and only four clients were reported as having failed urinalysis tests. Twelve programs reported following up on clients once they left the program.

Victim Services

A total of 23 victim projects submitted 79 quarterly reports for 2002—an 86 percent reporting rate.

Ohio Victim Services At-A-Glance 2002

Activity	Total	Average per Project per Quarter
Clients served	20,442	259
Direct services: justice process	16,977	226
Referrals made: justice process	5,420	72
Direct services: victim recovery	33,345	445
Referrals made: victim recovery	13,546	181

Innovative Approaches to Enforcement, Prosecution, or Adjudication

During this reporting period, OCJS funded five innovative projects. These projects supported numerous possibilities for attempting new ideas, especially those new to Ohio.

Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS)

During this reporting period, OCJS funded a total of 33 CJIS projects. CJIS projects supported the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System, Ohio Computerized Criminal History Programs, and information sharing initiatives among diverse criminal justice systems throughout the state.

Funding was provided to local governments on a competitive basis utilizing the *Ohio Plan*, a distribution formula comprised of two parts crime rate to one part population. Developed in the late 1960s with the advent of the Law Enforcement Assistance Act program, the Ohio Plan ensures the equitable distribution of justice funds to assist local and state drug control efforts in support of national drug control priorities.

Regional Planning Units

In three of Ohio's six metropolitan counties, Regional Planning Units (RPU) conduct comprehensive criminal and juvenile justice planning and administer grant funds locally. Local priorities are established within the parameters of the state strategy, based on the identification of local needs. Each of the RPUs has its own unique way of identifying local needs.

- **Franklin County** conducts a needs assessment survey. The results of the survey are reviewed and presented to a justice planning committee who determines funding priorities based on the survey data.
- **Lucas County** holds public hearings, and later uses information from the hearings to form the foundation for funding priorities for the coming year.
- **Cuyahoga County** has a supervisory board made up of several standing committees. Each committee identifies local problems and concerns, and then forwards recommendations to the supervisory board for prioritization of local needs and subsequent funding.

SECTION I INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS

With the conclusion of the previous statewide strategy, the 2000 Ohio Byrne Strategy revolutionized the way justice priorities were established in the state. Completed in January 2000, the *Byrne Statewide Needs Assessment* guided funding decisions in 2000, 2001, and 2002. Ohio's program areas were significantly changed to more directly match both the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance allowable categories and Ohio criminal categories. Program priorities for 2000 included promoting the COP philosophy; reducing violent crime; making available effective treatment/correctional programming for adjudicated/convicted offenders; promoting the collection and use of justice-related data; promoting restoration of crime victims; sustaining and expanding coordination of multi-jurisdictional enforcement agencies; and promoting equity and efficiency in the administration of criminal justice. During the period of July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2002, OCJS offered six program areas for local justice funding.

Law Enforcement Task Forces

One of the top priorities indicated in the 2000 Needs Assessment, this program contributes to the goal of controlling illegal drugs by identifying, investigating, and arresting drug traffickers operating in multi-jurisdictional areas. By arresting these individuals, Task Forces not only help reduce drugs, guns, and other contraband in the area, but also violent crime associated with trafficking activities.

Community Crime Prevention/Community Oriented Policing (COP)

COP is essential to controlling drugs and violent crime in communities. In addition to COP, projects funded through this program focus on crime prevention activities with youth and young adults as well as specialized community sub-groups such as seniors and businesses.

Corrections

One of the greatest needs discovered through the 2000 Assessment was treatment services—especially mental health and substance abuse services—for offenders. This program supported effective treatment services during 2002 with a special emphasis on substance abuse treatment. By intervening in the drug-crime calendar year, this program contributes to both the goals of controlling illegal drugs and reducing violent crime.

Victim Services

Findings from the 2000 Byrne Needs Assessment were supplemented by OCJS' *2001 Family Violence Needs Assessment*. There is notable variation in domestic violence needs and resources in the state, with both great need and limited resources identified in Ohio's Appalachian counties. Effective victims services, including intervention initiatives, contribute to the long-term operations of the justice system and help reduce violence.

Innovative Approaches to Enforcement, Prosecution, or Adjudication

It is a common refrain among justice professionals that if communities are to truly improve, they cannot continue to just do “more of the same.” This program supports innovative enforcement, prosecution, and adjudication projects that help control drugs and reduce violent crime.

Criminal Justice Information Systems

Accurate and up-to-date information is critical to improving criminal justice, law enforcement, and homeland security operations and systems. Improvement of information systems was also one of the highest priorities identified in the 2000 Needs Assessment.

COORDINATION EFFORTS

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

OCJS worked with the Ohio Family Violence Prevention Center Advisory Council and the OCJS Criminal Justice Advisory Committee to develop recommendations for 2002. Using the Ohio Plan, Ohio awarded approximately \$5,227,132.15 in STOP funds to 57 projects including law enforcement, prosecutors, and direct victim service providers to improve the justice system’s response to violence against women and enhance services to female victims of violent crime.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT)

The RSAT program continues funding residential substance abuse programming at both the state and local level. While RSAT funds are more challenging to administer than Byrne funds for similar treatment services, they provide critical resources for the design and implementation of substance abuse programs in state and local correctional and detention facilities.

Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program (LLEBG)

LLEBG continues to fund Ohio’s Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS), specified as a priority and program area under Law Enforcement Support. In 2002, approximately \$975,268.52 was awarded to 53 law enforcement agencies to pay for overtime to employed law enforcement officers and necessary support personnel, and for procuring equipment, technology, and other material directly related to basic law enforcement functions.

Family Violence Prevention and Services Program (FVPS)

The purpose of the FVPS program is to prevent incidents of family violence and to provide immediate shelter and related assistance for victims of family violence and their dependents. FVPS funding provided temporary refuge and shelter to victims of family violence and their dependents in an effort to prevent future violence.

SECTION II EVALUATION PLAN AND ACTIVITIES

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) publication, *Evaluating Drug Control and System Improvement Projects*, provides the conceptual framework for Ohio's Byrne program evaluation. This NIJ document distinguishes three types of evaluation: implementation, results, and outcomes/impact. The OCJS Evaluation Plan complies with this three-part strategy in the following ways:

1. **Implementation:** OCJS staff assess how well each project is organized and carried out through ongoing project monitoring, including site visits. Monitoring for most projects is also complemented by information collected through the OCJS quarterly performance reports.
2. **Results:** OCJS collects results level data on projects through quarterly performance reports. The reports encompass questions identified by the State Reporting and Evaluation Program (SREP) as well as questions of interest to Ohio policymakers. In 2002, OCJS' Research, Planning and Development Section revised and updated all Byrne performance reports.
3. **Outcomes:** Each grant calendar year, OCJS funds outcome, or impact, evaluations of certain programs based on their strategic interest to the overall state plan and justice system. OCJS researchers conduct a number of these outcome evaluations; however, external evaluators conduct the majority of them, lending not only their technical expertise of evaluation methodologies, but also independent credibility to the findings.

While OCJS' evaluation plan focuses on outcome-level evaluations funded through the Byrne formula grant program, the agency strives to integrate its monitoring and results-level performance reporting programs with outcome-level evaluations. Ohio's annual Byrne report consists largely of data generated from quarterly performance reports. Quarterly reports and monitoring together form the basis for awarding funds to continuation programs. Finally, quarterly performance reports sometimes indicate the need for monitoring visits, technical assistance, or further inquiry about an aspect of funded projects.

In 2002, Ohio set aside two percent of its Byrne pass-through funds for a Program Evaluation Initiative to support evaluations of priority Byrne programs. Research and evaluation studies are also funded through a competitive grant process for six program areas. In 2002, OCJS had four professional researchers on staff, all with masters or doctorate degrees.

Section III

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS FUNDED UNDER BYRNE

Program Area A: Law Enforcement Task Forces

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Area A is open only to law enforcement agencies, and is meant to supplement, not replace, local enforcement activities. Task forces must focus on the trafficking of narcotics, but may also investigate firearms, stolen goods, gangs and other organized forms of criminal activity. In 2002, OCJS funded 32 task forces in the amount of \$5,034,028.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES

Goal

To lessen the impact of drug and firearms traffickers, pharmaceutical diversion, gangs and other organized criminal activity on the health and safety of Ohio citizens through multi-jurisdictional collaboration.

Objectives

- Identify, investigate, and arrest multi-jurisdictional mid and upper level drug traffickers and/or pharmaceutical diverters in Ohio.
- Identify, investigate, arrest, and prosecute offenders illegally diverting pharmaceutical drugs.

Activities and Requirements

Task forces supported through the Ohio program are required to:

- Be multi-jurisdictional and preferably multi-disciplinary.
- Include prosecutors from each county represented by a participating law enforcement agency.
- Include at least one state or federal law enforcement agency as a participating agency.
- Establish a collaboration board to develop policies, allocate financial, personnel and programmatic resources, and approve investigatory and prosecutorial plans for the task force. The collaboration board, composed of representatives of all participating agencies, is responsible for developing policies, allocating resources, and approving investigatory and prosecutorial plans.
- Projects with a pharmaceutical diversion component must include the Ohio State Pharmacy Board in their collaboration memo.
- All task force commanders or a designee are required to attend OCJS sponsored task force commander meetings.

All of Ohio's task forces in 2002 met these requirements. The DEA, ATF, and FBI were participating agencies in over half of Ohio's task forces. Other federal agencies participating in at

least one OCJS-funded task force included the U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Customs; INS; IRS; U.S. Attorney; and U.S. Marshal.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

Program performance measures focus on the number of investigations of drug traffickers, the number of people arrested and prosecuted for drug trafficking, and the amount of narcotics, stolen goods, and/or firearms confiscated.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EVALUATION RESULTS

In 2002, 32 Law Enforcement Task Forces submitted 123 quarterly reports for a 96 percent reporting rate. Eight of the task forces reported having a special pharmaceutical diversion unit.

Ohio Law Enforcement Task Forces

Activity	Total	Average per Task Force per Quarter
Investigations initiated	4,672	38.0
Arrests	3,297	26.8
Cocaine seized	192,633 grams	2,028 grams
Crack seized	9,403 grams + 4,020 "rocks"	99 grams + 42 "rocks"
Marijuana seized	497 pounds	5 pounds
Marijuana plants seized	30,388 plants	320 plants
Heroin seized	948 grams	10 grams
LSD seized	5,693 dosage units	60 dosage units
Amphetamines/ Methamphetamines	7,850 grams + 1,739 pills	83 grams + 18 pills
Criminal assets seized	\$7,500,804.69	\$60,982.15
Criminal assets forfeited	\$2,066,350.26	\$16,799.60
Sentenced to prison	1,173	13.3
Sentenced to jail	292	3.3

NON-PHARMACEUTICAL DIVERSION ACTIVITIES

Task Force Staff

The number of staff varies considerably from one task force to another, and even varies slightly during the course of the year. The following table provides the average number of employees reported by the task forces in 2002. These are not fulltime equivalent numbers; rather, they represent the number of fulltime and part-time staff for each type of employee. If the assumption is made that part-time employees are half time, then the number of fulltime equivalent staff is about 10 per task force.¹

Task Force Employees

Type Employee	Mean	Mean
	Full-time	Part-time
Law Enforcement Officers	5.84	1.65
Prosecutors	0.51	0.56
Administrative Staff	0.93	0.62
Specialists	1.25	0.5
Total	8.53	3.33

Arrests

Ohio's law enforcement task forces are designed to identify, investigate, and arrest mid to upper level drug traffickers and violent offenders. Because these offenders are difficult and often impossible to identify by a single agency working within one jurisdiction, task forces are used to complement local agency efforts. The emphasis on mid to upper level offenders is reflected in 93 percent of those arrested being charged with a trafficking offense. Of the only 7 percent of task force arrestees charged with abuse offenses, most of these arrests were part of building cases against traffickers.

To make arrests, task forces must first identify and investigate offenders operating across jurisdictional boundaries. During 2002, task forces reported initiating 4,672 investigations, an average of 38 per task force per quarter. Combined with a reported average of 48 pending investigations and 30.5 terminated investigations, Ohio's task forces had about 1,781 active investigations on an average day during calendar year 2002. These investigations resulted in a reported 3,297 arrests, or an average of 26.8 arrests per task force per quarter.

¹ Assuming part-time is half-time means that the average Ohio task force staff full-time equivalents are roughly 6.5 law enforcement officers; 0.75 prosecutors; 1.25 administrative staff; and 1.5 specialists. Specialists may also be law enforcement officers.

Task Force Arrestees by Gender and Race

Arrestee	Male	Female	Gender not Reported	Gender Total	Percent
African-American	1,294	203	0	1,497	45.4%
Hispanic	104	16	0	120	3.6%
Caucasian	1,243	389	32	1,664	50.5%
Other Race/Ethnicity	13	2	1	16	0.5%
Total	2,654	610	33	3,297	

Of those arrested in 2002, 83.7 percent were male.² As in past years in Ohio, females represented a higher proportion of Caucasians arrested (23.8%) than African-Americans (13.6%), Hispanics (13.3%), and Other (13.3%). Overall, Caucasians comprised 5.1 percent more of those arrested than African-Americans.

The following table shows that 95.8 percent of those arrested by Ohio's task forces were adults.³ Juveniles comprised the largest percent of Hispanic arrestees (12.2%) compared to African-Americans (2.5%); Caucasians (5.3%); and no "Others."

Task Force Arrestees by Age and Race/Ethnicity

	Under 18 years of Age	18 + Years of Age	Age not Reported
African-American	37	1,458	2
Hispanic	14	101	5
Caucasian	88	1,576	0
Other Race/Ethnicity	0	15	1
Total	139	3,150	8
Percent	4.4%	95.8%	

As identified in the table "Task Force Arrests by Criminal History and Race/Ethnicity," almost half of arrestees for whom criminal history is known are repeat offenders. Since the proportion of arrestees whose criminal history is reported as being unknown is high at 34.5 percent, caution is indicated in assessing criminal history data. As in previous years, the percent of African-Americans who are repeat offenders is higher (65.0%) than for Hispanics (49.4%), Caucasians (36.1%), and Others (44.4%). The percent of African-Americans whose criminal history is reported unknown is also higher, similar to previous years.

² Males comprised 83.7 percent of the arrestees whose gender was reported. Gender was not reported for 33 arrestees, almost all of whom were Caucasian.

³ As with gender, 95.8 percent were adult of those for who age was reported. Age was not reported for 8 of the 3,297 arrestees.

Task Force Arrests by Criminal History and Race/Ethnicity

	First Time	Repeat	Criminal History Unknown	History not Reported
African-American	309	575	613	0
Hispanic	39	38	36	7
Caucasian	722	408	482	52
Other Race/Ethnicity	5	4	7	0
Total	1,075	1,025	1,138	59
Percent	32.6%	31.1%	34.5%	1.8%
Percent Where Criminal History is Known	51.2%	48.8%		

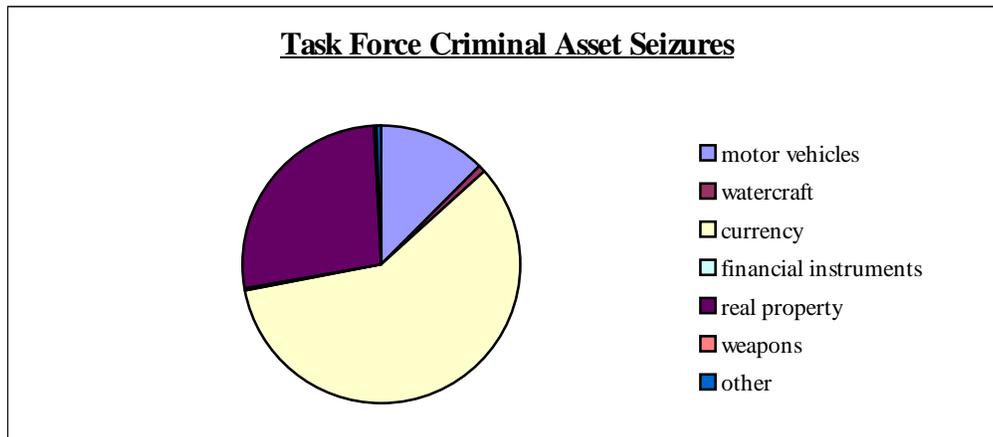
The vast majority of those arrested by OCJS-funded task forces who are incarcerated are sent to prison, and are mid to upper level traffickers. During 2002, 1,173 task force arrestees were sent to prison, or an average of 13.3 per task force per quarter. The average sentence was 44 months. Another 292 task force arrestees were sentenced to jail, an average of 3.3 per task force per quarter.

In addition to arresting offenders, Ohio's task forces purchase drugs in the course of building cases; seize drugs when conducting arrests; confiscate weapons; and seize criminal assets that can be forfeited to the task force after judicial review.

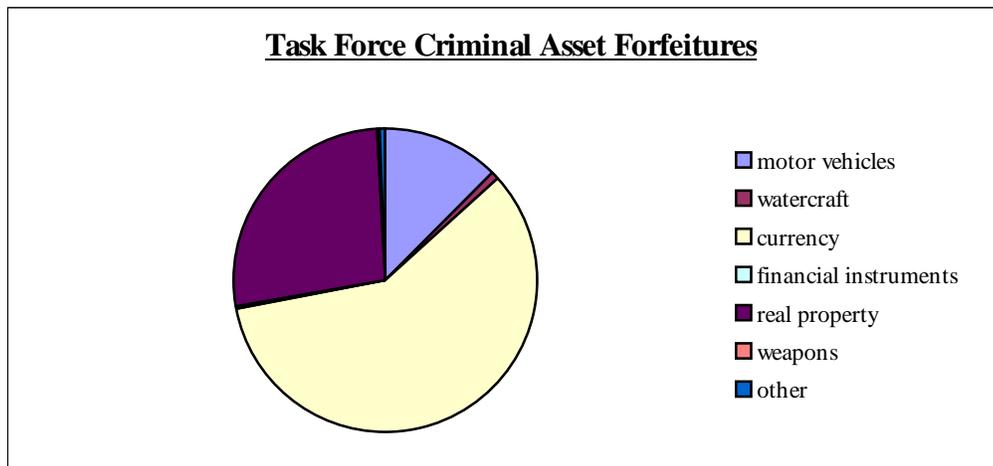
During 2002, Ohio's task forces removed quantities of a variety of drugs through purchase or seizure. Quantities reported for the most common drugs were:

- **Cocaine:** 192,633.27 grams
- **Crack:** 9,402.64 grams, and 4,020 "rocks"
- **Heroin:** 948.05 grams
- **Marijuana:** 497.18 pounds, and 30,388 plants
- **LSD:** 5,693 dosage units
- **Amphetamine/Methamphetamine:** 7,850 grams, and 1,739 pills

Ohio's task forces confiscated 392 weapons; nearly half (46%) were handguns. Other types of weapons confiscated included rifles (28%); shotguns (19%); and Other, such as knives, explosive devices, etc. (7%).



Task forces reported seizing an estimated value of \$7,500,804.69 in criminal assets in 2002, with 85 percent of the seizures being currency and real property. Similarly, currency and real property accounted for 90 percent of the value actually forfeited to the task forces. Forfeitures reported for totaled \$2,066,350.26.



PHARMACEUTICAL DIVERSION

Eight of Ohio's 32 task forces reported having a pharmaceutical diversion unit at some time during 2002. Another three task forces reported activities related to pharmaceutical diversion even though they did not report having a specialized unit.

Task forces involved in pharmaceutical diversion reported per quarter averages of:

- 27.5 pending pharmaceutical diversion investigations
- 25.9 newly initiated investigations
- 24.5 terminated investigations

Taken as a whole, these averages show that Ohio's task forces had approximately 231 active investigations at any one time. The greatest percent of investigations were of members of the general public (86.4%), followed by nurses (5.3%); private physicians (2.6%); pharmacy staff (2.1%); hospital staff (1.3%); nursing home staff (1.2%); and Other (1.2%).

Pharmaceutical diversion investigations resulted in 727 indictments and 275 persons arrested, or an average of 23.5 indictments and 8.9 arrests per task force per quarter in 2002.

Ohio's task forces reported seizing or purchasing 135,877 dosage units—in many cases pills—of illegal drugs that year for an average of 4,383 dosage units per task force per quarter. In addition, task forces reported seizing or purchasing 322 grams of cocaine; 11 grams of heroin; 18.48 pounds of marijuana; and 455 grams of Tussionex. The drugs seized or purchased in dosage units include:

▪ Hydrocodne	51,695
▪ Oxycontin	13,768
▪ Bualbital	7,595
▪ Alprazolam	6,057
▪ Methadone	5,560
▪ Acetaminophen <i>with codeine</i>	5,125
▪ Tramadol	3,764
▪ Carisoprodol	2,491
▪ Vicoprofen	1,080
▪ Other ⁴	34,752

Pharmaceutical diversion efforts for 2002 resulted in \$2,537,269 in criminal assets seized and \$3,400 in forfeitures. Seizures consisted mostly of the typical motor vehicles, currency, and computers. One of the more unusual task force seizures in 2002: 1,000 slot machines.

⁴ The "Other" category contains a variety of drugs, all of which were reported as being less than 1,000 dosage units seized or purchased.

Program Area B: Community Crime Prevention/Community Oriented Policing

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Area B is open to all eligible units of local government except applicants who apply under the Community Oriented Policing grant. Applicants are encouraged to develop crime prevention projects aimed at stopping criminal victimization before it occurs. Crime prevention activities may be directed toward potential victims, potential offenders, or areas that give rise to crime. During this reporting period, OCJS funded 42 community crime prevention projects in the amount of \$1,206,286.45.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES

Goal

To prevent and reduce crime and the fear it brings to communities through collaborative crime prevention in order to maintain order, solve problems, and improve the quality of life for Ohio citizens.

Objectives

- Prevent and reduce the fear of crime through a collaborative crime prevention project that promotes partnership among law enforcement, community groups, and individuals.
- Promote police-citizen cooperation to address the problems of crime and social disorder, while improving the quality of life in the community.

Activities and Requirements

- Community crime prevention programs must include representation from both the community and law enforcement.
- Projects must have Collaboration Boards, consisting of organizations actively participating with the project.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

- Increase the number of community members with crime prevention knowledge.
- Conduct community surveys measuring fear of crime and knowledge of crime prevention techniques before and after collaboration with law enforcement.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EVALUATION RESULTS

Community Crime Prevention

Ohio's Crime Prevention program provides funding for a variety of projects that address the prevention of crime. The 42 projects supported by this program can be categorized as four types:

1. Projects providing training and/or equipment for law enforcement (most often community oriented policing);
2. Projects addressing youth and young adults (includes school resource officers);
3. Projects addressing specialized sub-groups of crime prevention; and
4. Projects researching prevention issues.

The performance data presented below includes the 13 law enforcement, 21 youth/young adult, and 6 specialized sub-group crime prevention projects for 2002. Program Area B research projects are discussed under the Research Section of this report.

Ohio Crime Prevention Projects
2002

Activity	Total	Average per Project
Average number of programs per project	Not applicable	13
Average number of people involved per project	Not applicable	525
Approximate number involved statewide	22,000	Not applicable

Law Enforcement Projects

During calendar year 2002, law enforcement projects reported simultaneously operating an average of five crime prevention programs. These programs include crime prevention activities such as:

- Neighborhood Watch
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Programs tailored to specific elements of the community, or population sub-groups
- Public education
- Homeland Security

All Ohio crime prevention projects funded through Byrne must include a community education component; in 2002, this component focused primarily on crime awareness and public education of community policing initiatives. The projects reported an average of almost eight public education activities per quarter, with programs targeting particular community elements the second most common activity of the non-public education activities provided in 2002.

All project supported through the Ohio crime prevention program must have a collaboration board. While law enforcement partners are the largest percent of representation on the boards of the law enforcement-based prevention projects, they do not comprise the majority of partners.

Law Enforcement Collaboration Boards

Agency Type	Percent
Business community	10%
Concerned citizens	7%
Faith community	5%
Health care	7%
Human service agencies	7%
Law enforcement	29%
Local town or city government	15%
Schools	15%
Volunteer service organizations	2%
Other	2%

The Ohio projects reported an average of 1.5 collaboration board meetings per project per quarter during 2002, with an attendee average of almost 75 percent.

Law enforcement prevention projects reported an average of 47 people per project per quarter involved in the program. Demographic profiles for prevention projects are heavily Caucasian (89%) followed by African-American (3%), Hispanic (2%), and Other Race/Ethnicity Unknown (6%). Males comprised 63 percent of the individuals involved in law enforcement projects.

Youth and Young Adult Projects

Like the law enforcement projects, the 21 youth and young adult prevention projects reported providing a range of programs simultaneously. Targeted programs mostly for youth groups and schools accounted for 80 percent of the activities offered, and 87 percent of the individuals involved in the programs in 2002. Projects reported an average of 16 programs operating, with public education being the second most common activity after the targeted programs.

Youth-based projects must also include a community education component. Distributing printed materials like brochures and flyers, and public service initiatives accounted for over 70 percent of the community education activities by the projects.

While collaboration boards for youth projects are somewhat more oriented toward schools and less toward law enforcement, the overall representation for youth and law enforcement boards are surprisingly similar.

Youth and Young Adult Collaboration Boards

Agency Type	Percent
Business community	9%
Concerned citizens	7%
Faith community	5%
Health care	8%
Human service agencies	9%
Law enforcement	14%
Local town or city government	11%
Schools	15%
Volunteer service organizations	9%
Other	5%

Youth prevention projects reported an average of just under 1.5 collaboration board meetings per project per quarter during 2002, with attendance averaging 77 percent at the meetings.

Not surprisingly, 88 percent of the individuals involved in these projects are juveniles. Projects reported an average of 630 people participating in each of the programs per quarter. Minorities make up a much larger percent of those taking part in these youth projects.

Juveniles Involved in Prevention Projects

Racial/Ethnic Groups	Males	Females	Group Percent
African-American	20%	19%	39%
Caucasian	28%	26%	54%
Hispanic	2%	1%	3%
Other Race/Ethnicity	1%	1%	2%
Race/Ethnicity Unknown	1%	Less than 0.5%	1%

Adult participation in these projects is comprised of a larger percent of Caucasians and a much larger percent of females.

Adults Involved in Youth Prevention Projects

Racial/Ethnic Groups	Males	Females	Group Percent
African-American	7%	7%	14%
Caucasian	24%	59%	83%
Hispanic	2%	Less than 1%	2%
Other Race/Ethnicity	Less than 0.5%	Less than 0.5%	Less than 1%
Race/Ethnicity Unknown	Less than 0.5%	Less than 0.5%	Less than 1%

Specialized Sub-Group Projects

In 2002, these six projects focused on preventing crime among specialized sub-groups, such as the link between substance abuse and domestic violence, or for particular areas within a jurisdiction. Like the law enforcement and youth programs, projects report simultaneous participation in a number of prevention activities at one time. Sub-group community education activities are even more focused on distributing printed material than the other two types of prevention projects.

Sub-group projects reported a greater number of people involved than other prevention projects, averaging 857 participants per project per quarter. Specialized sub-group projects are also the one type of prevention project for which African-Americans represent are the largest racial/ethnic group. Adults comprised 61 percent of sub-group project participants, and juveniles 39 percent.

Individuals Involved in Specialized Sub-Group Projects

Racial/Ethnic Groups	Males	Females	Group Percent
African-American	24%	23%	47%
Caucasian	19%	16%	35%
Hispanic	11%	6%	17%
Other Race/Ethnicity	Less than 0.5%	Less than 0.5%	Less than 0.5%
Race/Ethnicity Unknown	0	0	0

Collaboration boards for the projects were composed of a striking diversity of community agencies, with even less focus on any one type of agency than boards for the other two types of prevention projects.

Specialized Sub-Group Collaboration Boards

Agency Type	Percent
Business community	6%
Concerned citizens	9%
Faith community	6%
Health care	9%
Human service agencies	12%
Law enforcement	12%
Local town or city government	12%
Parent groups	6%
Schools	12%
Volunteer service organizations	9%
Other	3%

Specialized sub-group projects reported an average of slightly fewer than 2.5 collaboration board meetings per project per quarter. Attendance at these board meetings averaged 78 percent.

FORMAL EVALUATION

High Risk Drinking Prevention on College Campuses

The Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS), in conjunction with Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth (OPDFY), has been working with 41 Ohio campuses to reduce student high risk drinking behaviors. While colleges have traditionally addressed binge drinking by providing education to individual students, an alternative approach focuses on a campus-wide prevention strategy. This approach believes the environment, which in turn is modeled by public policy, profoundly shapes individual behavior. By altering environmental factors such as formal/informal policies, rules and regulations, individual drinking behavior can change.

Begun in the fall of 1996 by OPDFY, key elements of the program are the commitment of college presidents, the involvement of campus and community representatives, and recognition of the need to change the environment. Each of the campuses involved in the initiative were charged with forming a diverse coalition to work on the problem, assessing the environmental impact on student drinking, and determining the extent of the problem on their respective campuses.

OPDFY, the Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention, and OCJS developed the evaluation of the program, now in its seventh year. The past two years have been spent on a qualitative study of 36 Ohio campuses to determine factors impacting each college community coalition's ability to implement environmental strategies that change campus culture related to high risk drinking.

Program Areas C, F: Corrections

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Areas C and F address the need for specialized corrections alternatives for non-violent offenders, including drug and alcohol dependent offenders. Program Area C supports offenders committed for non-violent felony offenses released to a non-residential facility based on the offense committed and offender behavior. During this reporting period, the corrections program supported 34 projects with funding of \$1,645,856.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES

Goal

To decrease criminogenic behavior in Ohio by providing effective alternative correction programs including residential and non-residential substance abuse treatment.

Objectives

- Residential Corrections: Identify and address offender needs.
- Non-Residential Corrections: Provide community correction alternatives that focus on providing services to offenders in the least restrictive setting, and to provide treatment services that meet offender needs.

Activities and Requirements

- Collaboration must include probation and/or parole representatives.
- Applicants for substance abuse projects must include either certification from the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, or a statement of review from the local alcohol and drug addiction services board.
- The intake process must be summarized from the point the offender is considered for the program through admission and participation. The applicant must define the criteria for rejecting an offender from the program.
- The applicant must summarize a system designed to assess offenders, refer them to services, monitor offender progress in the project, and define successful completion and sanctions for offender non-compliance.
- Applicants are encouraged to address the state or quality of continuous care that will be provided once the offender is released from the resident program.
- Participants in substance abuse treatment programs in state institutions must have housing and program areas separate from the general population of the institution.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

- The number of rearrests of residential offenders successfully completing the substance abuse program.
- The number of offenders successfully completing the non-residential substance abuse program.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EVALUATION RESULTS

Program Accomplishments

During the period of January 1 – December 31, 2002, 34 corrections projects were funded. Collectively, 27 projects submitted 100 quarterly performance reports, and reported serving 3,651 offenders for an average of 62.9 clients per project per quarter. Based on this data, on any given day in 2002, an average of 2,139 offenders in Ohio received corrections services through Byrne-funded projects.

Clients Served

Twenty-two projects reported information on legal status of their clients; 59 percent reported serving adult offenders, and 41 percent served juveniles.

- 13% Accused Delinquent
- 29% Accused Felony Adults
- 42% Adjudicated Delinquent
- 33% Convicted Adult Felony
- 33% Accused Misdemeanor Adult
- 42% Convicted Adult Misdemeanor
- 13% Unruly Juvenile Offenders

Services Provided

Ohio Byrne corrections projects span a variety of services including:

- 11% Probation
- 14% Intensive Supervision
- 8% Parole/Aftercare
- 22% Other

Two projects reported requiring community service from offenders; one project required vocational training; and six reported other requirements like job placement as part of their treatment program. Many Ohio's corrections projects focus on providing treatment services to substance abusing offenders. In 2002, 17 projects reported offenders using various drugs. The percent of projects where offenders use drugs is:

- 93% Alcohol
- 80% Marijuana & Hashish
- 73% Cocaine/Crack
- 60% Heroin & Opiates
- 40% Hallucinogens
- 13% Depressants
- 20% Stimulants
- 27% Inhalants
- 33% Other

The percent of programs treating offenders with heroin and opiate problems has increased since the previous reporting period. While heroin and opiate offenders were more likely to be adults, offenders using marijuana as their drug of choice were more likely to be juveniles.

Client Success

Twenty-one corrections projects reported that 1,298 offenders successfully completed the program. The average length of stay for successful clients was 113 days. Another 446 offenders unsuccessfully completed programs, with an average stay of 128 days in the program. No project reported a rearrest of an unsuccessful client, and only four clients were reported as having failed urinalysis. Twelve programs reported following upon clients once they left the program.

FORMAL EVALUATIONS

Ohio Drug Court Evaluation

The OCJS evaluation of Ohio drug courts consisted of three related studies. First, the University of Cincinnati evaluated outcome data to assess drug court impact on recidivism. It used a quasi-experimental design to assess three distinct groups of Ohio drug courts: courts of common pleas; municipal courts; and juvenile courts. Sample sizes included:

- Courts of common pleas: 788 drug court participants and 429 comparison cases
- Municipal courts: 556 drug court participants and 228 comparison cases
- Juvenile courts: 310 drug court participants and 134 comparison cases

Overall, the evaluation found that all three groups of Ohio's drug courts are producing statistically significant reductions in recidivism rates. The impact, however, varies by type of court. The percent reductions in rearrest by type of court were:

- Courts of common pleas: 19 percent
- Municipal courts: 9 percent
- Juvenile courts: 16 percent

The second study found OCJS staff evaluating the impact of drug court on court operations. This study responded to concerns some Ohio judges and court personnel had regarding drug courts.

While these individuals often acknowledged that drug courts can lower recidivism and are cost effective, they opposed them on philosophical or practical grounds, such as the negative impact drug courts might have on dockets, and time and space issues arising from increased hearings. OCJS' research assessed those concerns through a case study methodology with one of the more established Ohio drug courts. The study found that by adding a few staff, specialization of other court staff, and providing one evening court session every two weeks, the court was able to manage a drug court with neutral and even beneficial impact on court operations. The study also found that its drug court produced a number of secondary effects that positively benefited overall court functions including a DUI court; reentry court; improved relations between probation and law enforcement; and improved relations between the court and treatment service providers.

The third part of the drug court evaluation was conducted by The Ohio State University. This study was intended to be more forward looking by identifying and developing indicators of drug court effectiveness. Using focus groups comprised of drug court professionals from around Ohio, participants emphasized the importance of a judge's commitment to the drug court philosophy to the success of the drug court. Participants also emphasized the importance of making sure that all members of the drug court team—from court staff to service providers—are “on the same page” regarding drug court goals and operations, including formal memorandums of agreement specifying relationships. Finally, the focus groups emphasized the importance of participant monitoring and imposition of sanctions as being essential to drug court success. The two greatest concerns for Ohio drug courts identified by the focus groups: funding for treatment services and the sustainability of drug courts.

Evaluation Protocol

OCJS is working with the University of Cincinnati (UC) to develop a procedure for conducting process evaluations of Byrne-funded corrections programs. OCJS program evaluation efforts currently consist of programmatic monitoring by OCJS staff, performance monitoring through quarterly performance reports, and process and/or outcome evaluations of selected projects. A drawback of this approach is that it cannot always provide the depth of information required for meaningful evaluation of the majority of OCJS-funded initiatives.

In Phase I of this evaluation protocol, the University of Cincinnati (UC) trained OCJS staff to administer the Correctional Program Assessment Inventory (CPAI), a standardized scoring instrument that identifies and rates programs according to effective intervention principles. During 2001, UC and OCJS conducted ten of these assessments on Byrne-funded corrections projects. Through the CPAI process, OCJS researchers have become much more involved and familiar with program development and implementation as it relates to correctional treatment programs. OCJS is currently exploring options to develop similar measures for other program areas, including prevention and victim programs.

OCJS believes that the evaluation protocol will allow the office to generate even more accurate data regarding the quality of implementation of the projects it funds, the types of assistance projects need from OCJS to increase the overall quality of their projects, and better evaluation

information that more fully meets the letter and the intent of Congressional evaluation requirements. It is the intention of the OCJS to eventually link CPAI results to the development of program outcomes, thus completing the evaluation continuum for Byrne-funded programs.

Evaluation of Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment Programs

Despite the fact that the number of offenders under correctional supervision has increased over the past few decades, there are interventions that show positive effects in rehabilitation research. One treatment, cognitive-behavioral intervention, has been found to have positive effects, although both the extent of the effects and the best offender candidates for the treatment are unknown. The University of Cincinnati's Division of Criminal Justice received Byrne funding to study the applicability of cognitive-behavioral programs in a variety of treatment settings with various offender populations. Offenders receiving cognitive-behavioral programming from five Talbert House sites will be compared to offenders not receiving treatment. In addition, personal characteristics of offenders receiving cognitive-behavioral treatment will be collected to determine the treatment that works best for different offender types.

Currently, UC has data on 845 offenders, including both treatment and comparison groups. Information on offenders such as demographics, criminal history, intelligence, personality, depression, self-esteem, and a history of sexual abuse have been collected, and UC is in the process of collecting additional data on comparison groups and recidivism data for the entire sample.

Program Area D: Victim Services

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Area D is for programs that assist prosecutors, law enforcement officers, courts, and community-based agencies in providing support services to victims of crime. The program area is designed to establish victim services in areas of Ohio with the greatest needs and fewest resources. Funds assist communities in effectively filling gaps in existing services and promoting replication of effective programs in other areas of the state. Multi-county projects are encouraged in areas where single county efforts are not feasible.

Victim programs eligible for funding include prosecutor, court, or law enforcement-based victim assistance programs; rape crisis centers; domestic violence programs; and other independent victim assistance programs. In 2002, the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services funded 23 victim services projects in the amount of \$485,873.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES

Goal

To provide crime victims with needed services so that they may overcome the trauma of victimization, participate at all critical states of the criminal justice process, and return to full, active lives.

Objectives

- Increase services for jurors and witnesses who have received threats related to a court appearance.
- Provide victims with needed services and information about the criminal justice system.

Activities and Requirements

- Victim services collaboration must include law enforcement, prosecution, and victim service providers. For visitation center projects, the court and children services must be partners.
- Applicants must describe how victims will be notified of their rights; the Ohio Victims of Crime Compensation Program at the Ohio Attorney General's Office; and the Office Victims Services within the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.
- Applicants must describe the process used to ensure victim/juror/witness safety.
- Applicants must indicate that the proposed services are not a duplication of existing services within the community; identify existing services if any, and indicate the gap the project fills.
- Applicants are encouraged to include a community education component and indicate what steps will be taken to improve community awareness.
- Applicants who have applied for VOCA or VAWA funding must include a copy of their applications with their Byrne proposals.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

- The number of victims receiving additional services.
- The number of victims participating in a particular stage of the criminal justice process.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EVALUATION RESULTS

Ohio's victim services program area provides funding for projects supporting both crime victims and witnesses. Because there is a single database for the program, data for victims and witnesses is aggregated, with 23 victim/witness projects submitting performance data in 2002. A total of 79 quarterly reports were submitted by the projects, representing an 86 percent reporting rate.

Ohio Victim Services

Activity	Total	Average per Project per Quarter
Clients reported served	20,442	259
Percent of projects with 24 hr. access	57%	N/A
Direct services: justice process	16,977	226
Referrals made: justice process	5,420	72
Direct services: victim recovery	33,345	445
Referrals made: victim recovery	13,546	181
Average number services per client	3.4	N/A

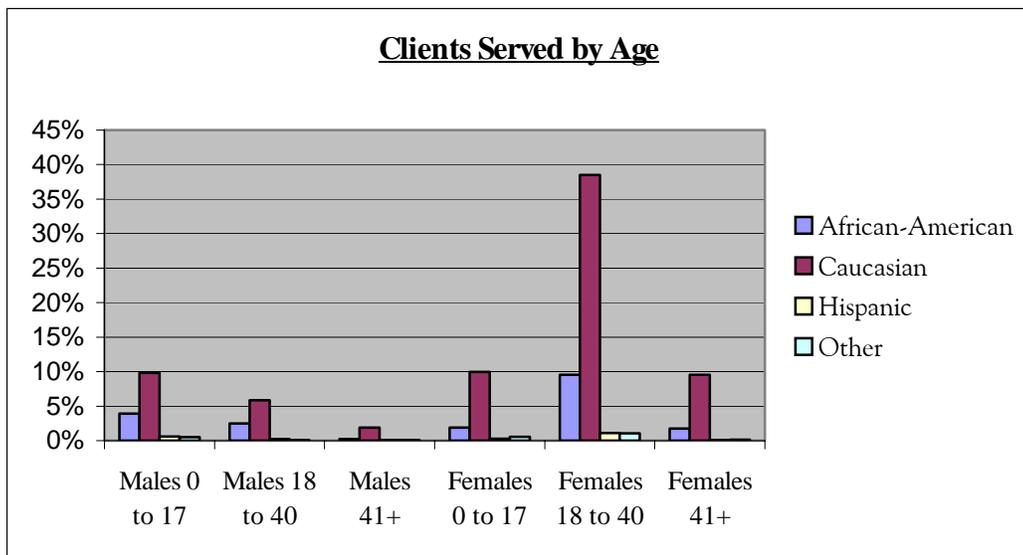
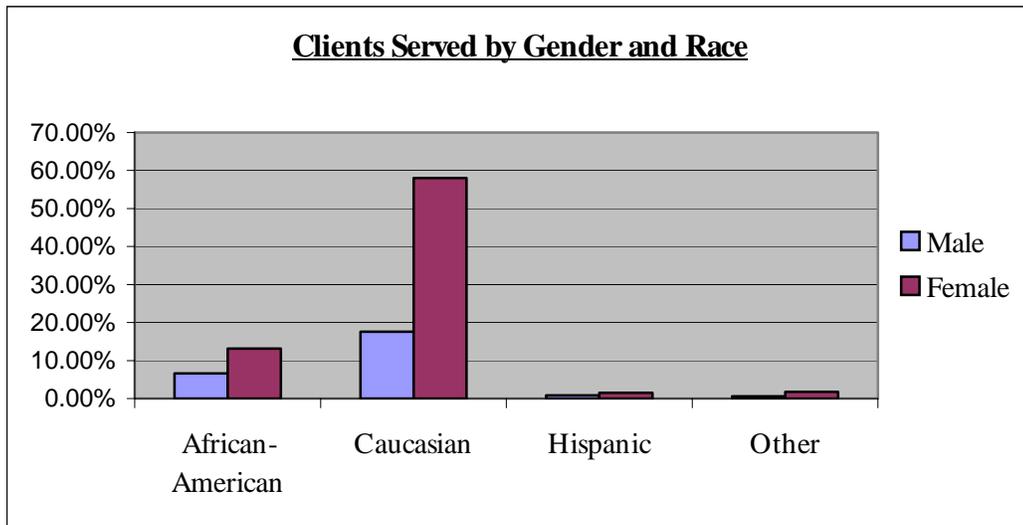
Clients Served

In 2002, Byrne victim services projects reported serving 20,442 clients, or an average of 259 clients per project per quarter. Because many of these projects primarily focus on services for victims of domestic or family violence, both client demographics and crime types reflect this type of service.

A full 74 percent of clients served by OCJS-funded victim programs are females.⁵ Caucasian females comprised 58 percent of all the clients served by the Ohio projects.

Juveniles comprised 28 percent of these clients; again, females represented the majority of clients for all age groups. The dominance of Caucasian female clients served by these projects is evident: of clients age 18 – 40, Caucasian females accounted for 39 percent of all individuals served. Adult males of all racial/ethnic groups accounted for only 11 percent of clients served.

⁵ Data on gender, race, and age of the clients is based on all cases where those demographic characteristics are known.

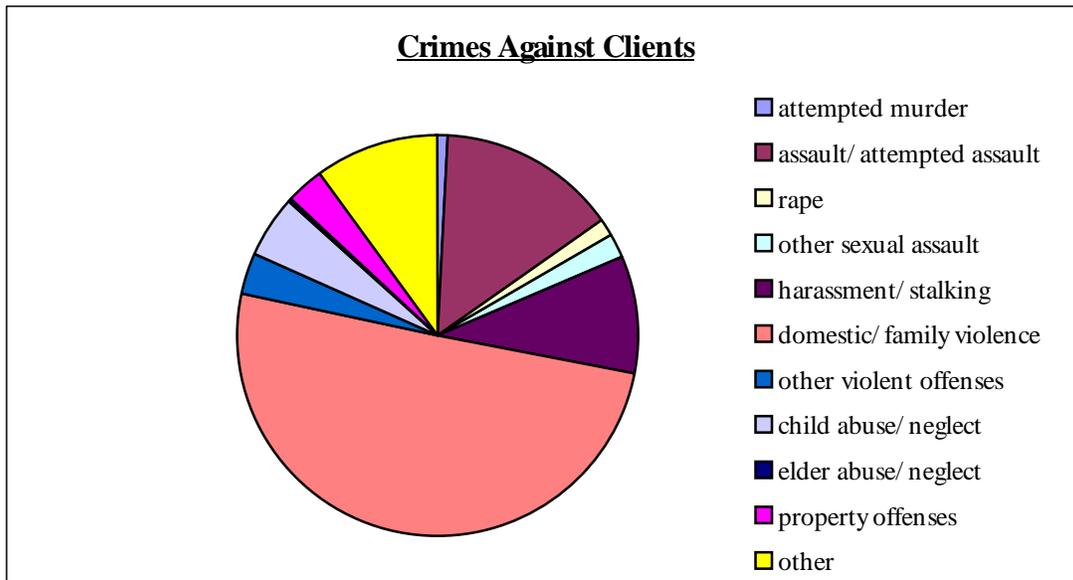


The Ohio program also collects client information on special needs clients. The following table shows, for instance, that Appalachians comprised 55 percent of all the special needs clients served in Ohio during 2002.

Special Needs Populations

Special Needs Group	Percent
Appalachians	55%
At-risk (Prostitutes, Substance Abusers, etc.)	13%
English as a Second Language	1%
Gay men	0.1%
Lesbians	1%
Mentally/Emotionally Challenged	17%
Migrant Farm Workers	< 0.1%
Older Women/Men	2%
Physically/Medically Challenged	3%
Other	8%

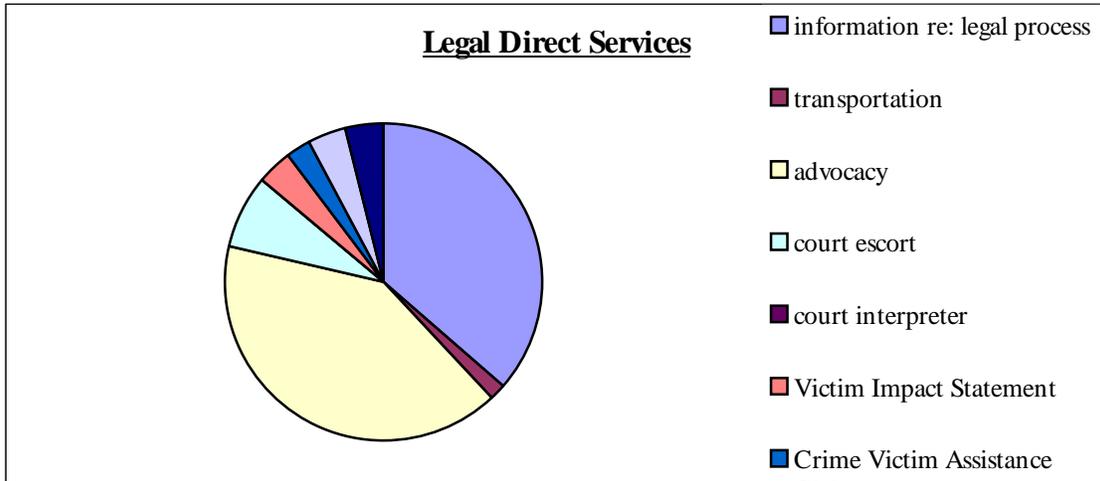
As with demographics, the crimes that resulted in clients seeking services reflected the programmatic orientation toward domestic and family violence, accounting for just over 50 percent of the crimes against the clients. The next most common offenses were assault/attempted assault (15%), harassment/stalking (10%), and other (10%). No other offenses accounted for more than 5 percent of the offenses against the clients served by victim services projects.



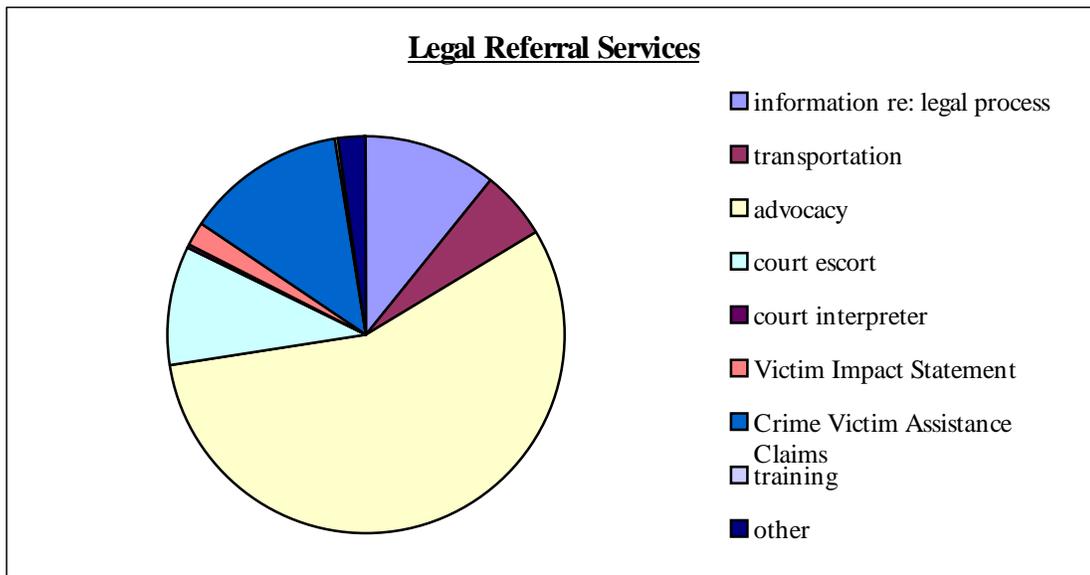
Justice System Services

Thirteen of the 23 projects reported that their services were accessible 24 hours a day in 2002. Two projects reported that they had 24-hour accessibility for part of 2002. Three projects reported being accessible 12 hours a day; two reported 8 hour a day accessibility, and three projects did not identify hours of accessibility.

Data collection by OCJS distinguished two types of services for its victim services program: legal process services and crime victim recovery services. Projects reported providing 16,977 direct services and 5,420 legal service referrals.



While the same list of services is used for referrals, the distribution of referral services varies from that of direct legal services. Advocacy accounted for 42 percent of direct services and information regarding the legal process for 37 percent, compared to advocacy accounting for 56 percent of referrals followed by Crime Victim Assistance Claims at 13 percent. Collectively, projects reported providing 22,397 legal services during 2002 for an average of 299 services per project per quarter.



With advocacy such an important component of legal services, various types of advocacy are assessed by Ohio's performance reporting program. At 38 percent for each, court and prosecution advocacy accounted for the majority of both direct services and referrals.



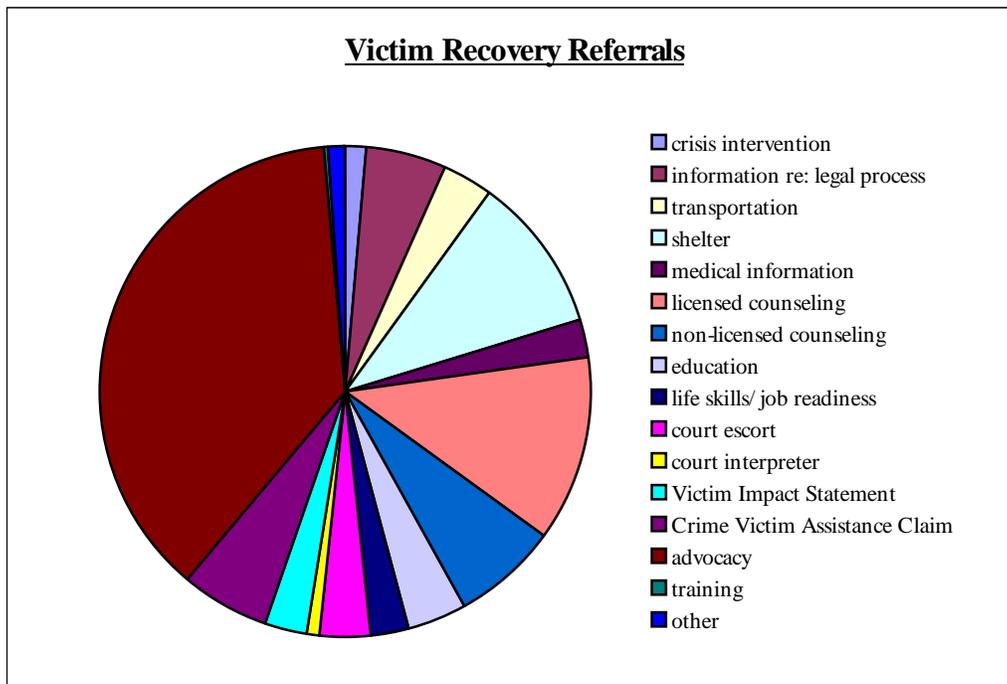
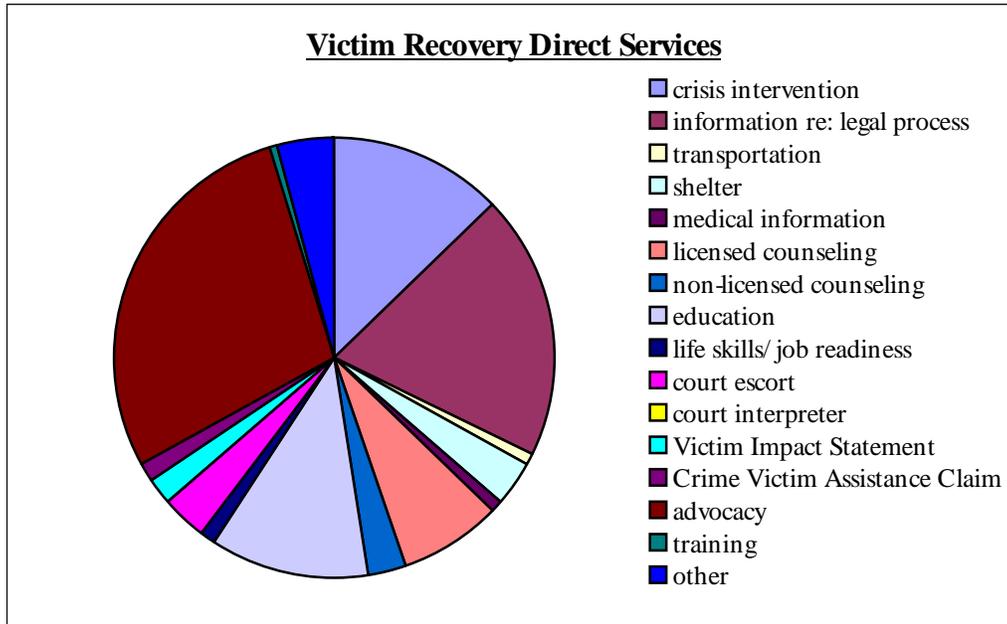
Courts and prosecutors accounted for even greater proportions of referrals for legal advocacy at 41 percent and 49 percent respectively, followed by law enforcement for both direct services (16%) and referrals (9%).



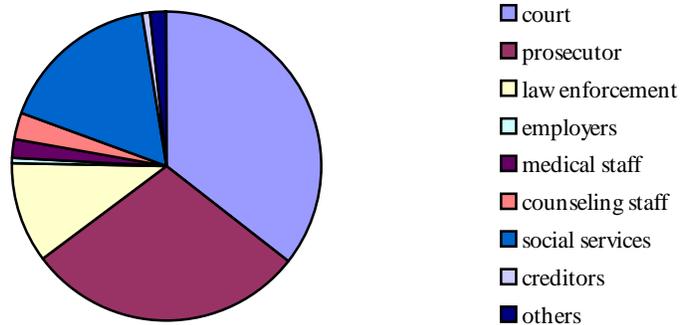
Services Related to Victim Recovery

Services designed to help clients recover from the victimization represent a significant part of Ohio's victim services program. In 2002, the projects reported providing a total of 46,891 recovery-related services for an average of 625 services per project per quarter.

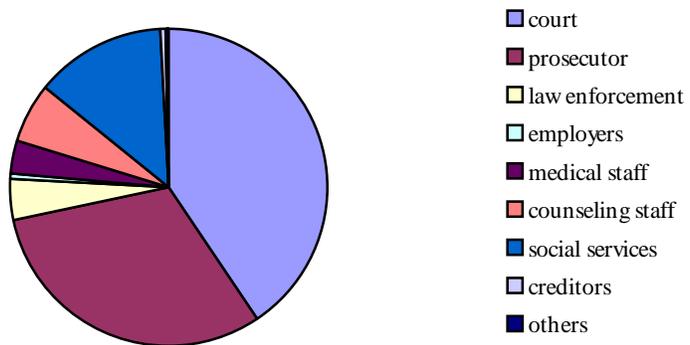
The list of recovery-related services includes many of the justice process-related services plus 10 more such as counseling, life skills/job readiness, etc. Advocacy is again the most common recovery-related service provided, accounting for 28% of the direct services and 35 percent of the referral services.



Victim Recovery Direct Services Advocacy



Victim Recovery Referrals Advocacy



Once again, court and prosecutors were the most frequent recovery-related advocacy service provided, followed by social services advocacy for both direct services (17%) and referrals (13%).

Collaboration

To meet their goals and objectives, Ohio victim services projects collaborate with diverse agencies within their communities. The following table identifies the large proportion of court and prosecution collaborations, as well as children's services, law enforcement, social services, and victim services partners in 2002.

Victim Services Collaboration

Agency Type	Percent
Adult protective services	64%
Children's services	95%
Court personnel	95%
Health agencies	64%
Judicial	68%
Law enforcement	95%
Parole officers	55%
Probation	77%
Prosecution	86%
Social service personnel	86%
Trauma center representatives	50%
Victims services	95%
Other public officials	68%
Other (schools, religious community, legal aid)	45%

Program Area E: Innovative Approaches to Enforcement, Prosecution, or Adjudication

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Ohio's 2000 *Byrne Three Year Strategy* identified a need to provide funding opportunities for innovative approaches to drug and serious crime offenses that do not fit nearly under other approved program areas. Available to law enforcement, prosecutors, and courts, the purpose of Program Area E is to promote the best and most efficient use of resources by supporting innovative programs that have the potential to be replicated and used throughout the state. During this reporting period, the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services funded four innovative law enforcement projects totaling \$204,607, and one innovative adjudication project for \$395,819.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES

Goal

To keep Ohio programs current in their knowledge and response to drug and serious crime trends through the development and implementation of new and innovative approaches to law enforcement, prosecution, and adjudication.

Objectives

- Develop and implement new enforcement approaches to drugs and serious crimes.
- Develop and implement new prosecution approaches to drugs and serious crimes.
- Develop and implement new adjudication approaches to drugs and serious crimes.

Activities and Requirements

- Applicants must provide a statement of the project's anticipated contribution to criminal justice policy and practice, citing particular issues and concerns of current criminal justice policy that initiated the proposed project and indicating if the project targets courts, prosecution, or enforcement.
- Applicants must provide evidence to support how the project is innovative including a literature review of the project's substantive focus. Applicants must also provide information relevant to the community the project will serve.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

- The number of new approaches developed for enforcement of drugs and serious crimes.
- The number of potential projects developed that will be model programs worthy of replication.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EVALUATION RESULTS

Based on the wide range of innovative designs created by Program Area E projects in 2002, project accomplishments are not easily categorized. The following highlight some of the unique approaches and outcomes of these projects:

- **Computer Crime and Internet Investigations:** Seven courses offered; 71 individuals trained.
- **Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM):** CISM training for first responders; CISM article in a statewide police journal.
- **Ohio Peace Officer Database:** Modification of the existing database to more effectively track training each officer receives including advanced narcotics and homeland security training.
- **Reentry:** Development of a model release-training program, reentry court, and treatment services for offenders returning to communities. In the first phase of the project, 159 eligible offenders were identified, with 218 offenders receiving direct reentry services in 2002.
- **Minority Study:** An initiative designed to help ensure criminal justice rules are applied fairly to minority populations in homicide and capital murder cases in Appalachian Ohio.
- **Sexual Assault and Child Abuse:** Improved investigative methods for sexual assault and child abuse cases, with 97 reports taken and investigated in 2002
- **Alzheimer's Awareness for Law Enforcement:** Materials were designed to assist law enforcement working with persons with Alzheimer's disease. Nearly two-thirds (600) of all Ohio law enforcement agencies were supplied with a packet including a professionally produced video, *Alzheimer's Disease: A Guide for Law Enforcement Officials* booklets, and pocket guides with Alzheimer's Association local and regional chapter contact information.
- **Racial Profiling:** A study reviewing racial profiling issues related to traffic stops.
- **Restorative Justice:** Victim and offender mediations resulted in 828 court-ordered cases screened for mediation; 216 mediation referrals; 18 cases completed; and 99 cases pending.
- **Prosecution Unit:** A multi-jurisdictional prosecutorial unit was established to increase the number of criminal convictions and forfeitures involving economic crimes. In the first six months of the project, nine new cases were filed involving nine defendants and 58 counts;

five cases involving five defendants and eight counts were disposed; and six cases involving six defendants and 23 counts were pending.

Program Area G: Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS)

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Criminal justice data has a profound impact on how law enforcement and other justice professionals can identify and respond to crime. Information regarding individuals arrested or convicted for criminal offenses is key to informed decisions and sentences; for example, incomplete conviction records can result in more lenient sentences than would have been imposed if judges had complete conviction histories available. Ultimately, the ability of state and local government to effectively allocate justice resources relies on the accurateness and accessibility of crime data.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES

Goal

The purpose of Program Area G is to meet the CJIS needs of state and local officials, local law enforcement, and justice professionals. Funding supports the development of statewide systems designed to generate information on criminal arrests or sentences as well as coordinate the exchange of information systems. System projects are also funded based on their adaptability and responsiveness to statewide CJIS policies developed by Ohio's CJIS Policy Board.

Objectives

Projects funded through the CJIS program must achieve at least one of the following objectives:

- Improve the quantity and quality of arrest information reported to the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System.
- Increase the quantity and quality of dispositional information reported to the Ohio Computerized Criminal Histories program.
- Improve the exchange of information among Ohio's criminal justice information systems.

Activities and Requirements

- Projects must show they have achieved compliance with or are working to achieve compliance with federal standards and auditing procedures appropriate to that information system.
- Projects must show they have achieved compliance with or are working to achieve compliance with standards and auditing procedures adopted by Ohio's CJIS Policy Board.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

- The number of Ohio agencies participating in CJIS.
- The number of times Ohio criminal justice agencies access data through CJIS.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EVALUATION RESULTS

The Ohio criminal justice system contains information about crimes, victims, offenders, suspects, property, and cases. To help manage—and share—this vast amount of state and local data, the Governor's Office, Attorney General's Office, and Supreme Court of Ohio established a Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Policy Board in 1994. With its established status as a neutral justice arena for collaboration among law enforcement, corrections, courts and service providers, OCJS was selected to coordinate the efforts of the CJIS Policy Board and the *Ohio CJIS Improvement Plan*.

Tasked with improving the quantity, timeliness, accuracy, and accessibility of criminal justice data; monitoring systems to ensure compatibility; and developing policies for the state's criminal justice systems, the multi-disciplinary Board continues to meet on a regular basis to review and discuss ongoing and upcoming initiatives. Ohio's CJIS Plan is not static: it is a working document that shapes realistic technology policies for information systems and identifies technology gaps and ways to best utilize technology resources at the state and local level. The Plan currently consists of 79 projects, including subtasks, in various stages of development.

Since 1994, OCJS has received federal grant funds for CJIS including Byrne, the National Criminal History Improvement Program, the National Sex Offender Registry Program, and the State Identification System Grant Program. Additionally, General Revenue Funds were allocated to assist with court disposition interfaces and other CJIS initiatives beginning in 1997.

Of Ohio's 79 CJIS projects, 46 are completed; ten are closed; seven are ongoing; six are active; and 10 are in the initial planning stage. The following summarizes the progress of just a few of the state's most significant CJIS projects.

- **Ohio Justice Information Network (OJIN) and Data Architecture (CJIS Tasks 10, 16):** This project will create a statewide data dictionary for law enforcement criminal justice agencies. The network will provide access to information that has never before been readily available. OJIN will become the cornerstone of justice information sharing in the future. With the guidance and support of the OJIN Advisory Board, OCJS has made great strides in establishing a pilot search system that combines several state and county databases. Scheduled to begin in early 2004, the second testing phase will link additional users and databases while improving the overall product and simplifying the search engine.
- **NCIC 2000 (CJIS Tasks 13, 14):** The Ohio Department of Public Safety is upgrading the current LEADS system for National Crime Information Center 2000 Services. Nearing completion, and the project's test phase conclude by the end of 2003.
- **Multi-Agency Radio Communications Service (MARCS) (CJIS Task 15):** MARCS is a statewide voice and data communications system to serve public safety and emergency

management agencies across the state. The technical design of the project began in 1998 and is now operational. MARCS was transferred to the Ohio Department of Administrative Services for ongoing technical assistance and maintenance.

- **Local Integration Interface Development and Pilot Project (CJIS Task 35):** OCJS funded numerous projects designed to integrate multiple local data systems. Stark, Summit, and Tuscarawas Counties have all made progress toward countywide integration, with work continuing in 2003. In addition to their value at the local level, these integration projects also support the OJIN initiative and other state CJIS priorities.
- **Automated Regional Information System Disposition Interfaces (CJIS Tasks 21, 22, 23):** The Cuyahoga Regional Information System (Cleveland) completed an interface to report disposition information in an automated format. OCJS is currently working with the Northwestern Ohio Regional Information System (Toledo) and the Regional Crime Information Center (Cincinnati) to interface their regional hubs with OJIN.
- **Ohio Law Enforcement Officers Toolkit (CJIS Task 36):** Developed entirely in-house by OCJS, the Ohio Law Enforcement Officers Toolkit is a National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) compliant records management system for smaller law enforcement agencies. With over 150 agencies now using the Toolkit, the software provides 24 hour a day records management support to Ohio law enforcement. OCJS is responsible for Toolkit technical assistance, maintenance, and upgrades as well as marketing the product throughout the state.
- **Ohio National Incident Based Reporting System Repository (CJIS Task 59):** OCJS designed and currently administers Ohio's NIBRS Repository. Having received NIBRS certification from the FBI in 1999, over 200 agencies contribute data to the Repository at OCJS, with data then forwarded to the FBI for analysis and annual publications.
- **Juvenile Justice Information System (CJIS Tasks 9, 33, 66):** Although Ohio's original CJIS Plan focused solely on the adult justice system, due to the increasing demand for juvenile offender data, fingerprints, and the ability to track juveniles in detention centers, the CJIS Policy Board determined that a juvenile justice system assessment should be conducted. Recommendations from this assessment have led to the creation of the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) Steering Committee to help shape future juvenile justice policy and technology initiatives.
- **OIBRS Utility Demonstrations:** In its third year of implementation, this OCJS project consists of a utility-based analysis of the Ohio's IBRS (OIBRS) data from Summit County. With the most complete and early reporting record for OIBRS in the state, including data from the Sheriff's Office, City of Akron, and nine other suburban jurisdictions, OCJS' *Statistical Analysis Center* obtained and analyzed an 82,000 incident data set from Summit County for 1998 – 2000. Over 100 Access, Excel and SPSS data sets have been created as

well as numerous analytical runs. OIBRS presentations at regional and national conferences in 2002 helped show—or demonstrate—the utility of OIBRS data to law enforcement and communities for future enforcement, intervention, and prevention strategies.

- **OIBRS Analysis:** Researchers at The Ohio State University were awarded Byrne funding to conduct descriptive studies of crime in 20 Ohio jurisdictions based on each area's OIBRS data. The project's goal: to provide a foundation for local criminal justice agency planning by informing agencies of their most prevalent crimes including whether the crimes were stable, increasing, or declining. The study also demonstrated to non-reporting agencies the valuable information that can be collected from incident-based reporting, to increase OIBRS participation statewide. Project reports can be viewed at: www.sociology.ohio-state.edu/cjrc/oibrs.