

The Role of the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) in Mapping and the Data Resources Program

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Topics

- Overview of NACJD
 - NIJ Data Resources Program
- Interesting datasets and applications
 - GIS Data
- Access
 - Statistics
 - Data
 - Downloading Data
 - On-Line Analysis
- The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the United States Department of Justice

Overview of NACJD

- NACJD was established in 1978 as part of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), The Institute for Social Research (ISR), and The University of Michigan.
<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/>
- We are sponsored by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the Office for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), and the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.
- We are the official repository of BJS, NIJ, and OJJDP data collections.
- NACJD is the most comprehensive source for crime and justice data.

Our Mission

- The long-term preservation and distribution of crime and justice data collected by federal & state agencies, and investigator-initiated research projects for use in research & statistical analysis.
- The facilitation of research about crime and the justice system through specialized courses and workshops in quantitative analysis of crime and justice data.
- The conducting of research, basic and applied, about crime and the justice system.

NACJD Activities

- Archiving and distributing criminal justice data
 - <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/>
 - Monitoring and updating data collections
- Conducting educational programs
 - 4 week BJS-sponsored seminar
 - 3 and 5 day NIJ-sponsored workshops
- Providing user support
 - 800-999-0960
 - nacjd@icpsr.umich.edu

NACJD is part of ICPSR:

**Over 400,000 discrete files composing
5,700+ studies at ICPSR**

- Anthropology
- **Criminal Justice**
- Demography
- Economics
- Education
- Foreign Policy
- Gerontology
- Health and Medical Policy
- History
- Law/Legal Services
- Political Sciences
- Psychology
- Public Policy
- Sociology

NACJD Includes

- NACJD collection exceeds 1,600 studies
- Data collected by the BJS
 - 300+ sponsored data collections available for download
 - Includes the National Crime Victimization Survey
- Research sponsored by the National Institute of Justice
 - 650+ NIJ sponsored studies available for download
 - Specialized topics
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - NIBRS 1995 - 2004
 - UCR Summary 1960 - 2004
- [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#)
- [U.S. Sentencing Commission](#)
- [Federal Judicial Center](#)

Datasets/Applications – GIS Data

- On-line tutorial for using data collections with ArcGIS 8.1 and MapInfo Professional 6.5
- Case Management and Mapping Application (Study # 2929)
 - Collects case information and links to specific geographic locations
 - Contains programming code to use in Microsoft Access case tracking database and ArcView 3.0
- CrimeMapTutorial
 - Commissioned by NIJ MAPS
 - Enables users to learn crime mapping via distance-learning
 - Can be used with ArcView or MapInfo
- CrimeMap III software available for FREE (Study # 2824)
 - Spatial statistics program for the analysis of crime incident locations
 - Produces output for ArcView/ArcMap, MapInfo, Atlas*GIS, and Surfer for Windows

Datasets/Applications – GIS Data

- Regional Crime Analysis
 - GIS developed as an ESRI MapObjects package to assist in the analysis of crime incident data across jurisdictional boundaries
- Data about the use of GIS applications
 - Examples include ‘Development of Crime Forecasting and Mapping Systems for Use by Police in Pittsburgh, PA and Rochester, NY 1990-2001’ (Study # 4546) and ‘Use of Computerized Crime Mapping by Law Enforcement in the United States 1997-1998’ (Study # 2878)
 - Study # 2878 will be updated within the next year

Datasets/Applications – GIS Data

- Datasets collected for other purposes can have geographic identifiers
 - FIPS County Codes
 - Collection-Specific County Codes
 - Census Tract Numbers
 - ZIP Codes
 - Block Group Numbers
 - Police Precincts / Beats
 - Physical Addresses
 - XY Coordinates (latitude/longitude)

Datasets/Applications – GIS Data

- NACJD also has reference collections to be used in linking geographic identifiers
 - Law Enforcement Agency Identifiers Crosswalk [United States], 1996 (Study # 2876)
 - Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) and Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) State and County Geographic Codes, 1990 (Study # 2565)

Datasets/Applications

- NIBRS
 - Entire dataset split into separate files by segment level
 - Extract files created at the incident, victim, offender, and arrestee level
 - NIBRS tables
 - Based on work of Vicki Majors and Sharon Propher, FBI
 - Standard tables displaying NIBRS-specific information, utilizing the capabilities of NIBRS
 - Ability to drill down to state, county, agency data
 - <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/NIBRStables/tables.html>
- Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS)
- Expenditure and Employment Data for the Criminal Justice System [United States]: CJEE Extracts File
- Resource Guides
 - UCR
 - ORI lookup table
 - NIBRS
 - NIBRS code builder

NIJ's *Data Resources Program*

Ronald Wilson
Program Manager

Data Archiving:

Assist NACJD in collecting data from grantees

Support Research:

NIJ's DRP posts an annual solicitation to support secondary data analysis of NACJD's Data.

Procedures and Policy:

Establishes procedures and policies that NIJ grantees must meet and outlines other policies set by the Federal government.

Improving Data Quality:

Identify methods, techniques and software for identifying, documenting and correcting errors and missingness in new and archived data.

DRP's Support of Research

Up to 4 awards annually

An award may not exceed \$35,000, and only 20% can support indirect costs.

Reproduction, Replication and Extension

- The analysis can be used for reproducing a particular study,
- Replicating another study with archived data or
- Extending a study by asking new questions or merging other data to test new hypothesis

Use of Archived Data

Analysis from the grants must be done with NIJ, BJS, OJJDP or other data that are housed at NACJD. They encourage the use of external data sets that enhance the data set.

Focusing on Themes

Each solicitation encourage a focus on a particular group of data, though it is not mandatory

Accessing Statistics and Data

- Statistics
 - Pre-summarized data
 - Summarized according to specific rules
 - UCR - e.g., Hierarchy, offense counts
 - NCVS - e.g., Series crimes, collection/data year
- Data (microdata)
 - Typically available at the individual, incident or agency level
 - Requires some form of tool to access it – Statistics package (SAS, SPSS, Stata) or Database software (MS Access, Oracle)
 - NACJD makes data available via
 - Download from the Web
 - On-line data analysis

Downloading Data

Statistical Package

Pros

- Most flexible option
- Can merge different datasets
- Most powerful statistical routines are available
- Use preferred data formats

Cons

- Need specialized software
 - Expense
 - Staff/skills needed
- Effort - combining variables, records, and files
- Getting it wrong

On-Line Analysis

Pros

- No specialized software or equipment
- Relatively easy to use
- Some packages have advanced analysis capabilities
- FREE

Cons

- Not all data available in on-line format
- Limitations on what analysis is possible
- Some learning curve required
- Packages are changing

Questions

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss making individual agency or state data available

Stop by our booth in the exhibit hall.

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800-999-0960