

# Proceedings of the 8th Annual Federal Depository Library Conference April 12 - 15, 1999

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## U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics Web Site

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Welcome to a tour of the BJS Web site: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/tour/intro.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/tour/intro.htm)>.

Just click on the screen images to go to the next stop on the tour.

The tour starts at the White House: <[www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Welcome.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Welcome.html)>.

The White House is the gateway to the Federal Government. The Executive Office of the President provides access to current Federal social statistics and links to information and data produced by a number of Federal agencies in the Federal Statistical Briefing Rooms.

Many users get to the BJS Web site from the White House site—home of the Statistics Briefing Rooms.

\* Statistical briefing rooms for economic and social statistics are available on the White House Web site: <[www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr/ssbr.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr/ssbr.html)>.

The indicators which are presented there come from the Federal agencies responsible for the data. For example, the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The responsible agency updates these indicators automatically. The White House knows the new information when the public knows, not before.

The Social Statistics Briefing Room contains materials on several topics including crime.

The crime indicators come from both BJS and the FBI: <[www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr](http://www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr)>.

Each of the six indicators has a thumbnail chart, a statement about recent trends, the most recent figures, and links to the agency home pages. The thumbnail charts are linked to a larger version of the chart which is on the BJS Web site.

\* The first thumbnail chart links to a larger version of trends in the number of violent crimes committed from 1973 to 1997: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/glance/cv2.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/glance/cv2.htm)>.

Serious violent crime levels declined between 1996 and 1997 as measured by the National Crime Victimization Survey and the Uniform Crime Reports.

The larger version of the chart is linked to a text table of the data used in the chart.

o You can view or reuse the data that was used to create the graphics:  
<[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/glance/4meastbl.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/glance/4meastbl.htm)>.

The text data tables which are linked from each indicators' chart are parsable into spreadsheets.

All of the charts from the Social Statistics Briefing Room are a part of the Key Facts at a Glance section of the BJS Web site <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/glance.htm#Crime](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/glance.htm#Crime)>.

These graphics along with many more comprise this section. Many other topics on crime and criminal justice are also presented, including trends in Federal investigations and prosecutions, trends in felony convictions in State courts, corrections trends, and expenditure trends.

Additional charts and data tables are available for each crime type and many victim characteristics: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/gvc.htm#Violence](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/gvc.htm#Violence)>.

Currently, this section of the BJS site houses 26 charts with data trends over time, and most are based on data from the National Crime Victimization Survey.

The BJS Web site has been organized to allow users to get information on a topical basis: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/welcome.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/welcome.html)>

The primary list of topics can be found on the home page under "Statistics about."

o Each of the topical sections contains summary findings with the latest data about the topic, information about the data collections (including questionnaires), and a list of related sites: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict.htm) >.

For example, the Crime and Victims section contains basic facts about crime; information about the National Criminal Victimization Survey, and links to several sites including the FBI and the victimization pages at the Online Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics.

o Many of the topical areas are broken down into subtopics:  
<[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict\\_v.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict_v.htm)>.

From the Crime and Victims page you can go to several subtopics including Victim Characteristics, which includes information about female victims, elderly victims, and teenage victims. More detailed summary findings are presented at this level.

In addition, you will find links to all of the publications that we have published which relate to the subject of the page: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict\\_v.htm#publications](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict_v.htm#publications)>.

For example, the Victim Characteristics page has links to our report American Indians and Crime.

Every publication has its own abstract with links to the electronic versions of reports: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/aic](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/aic)>.

Each abstract also contains links to:

- o any press releases about the publication
- o supporting spreadsheets or ASCII tables
- o a discussion of the source data
- o relevant datasets at the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data
- o a help page for using some of the downloadable formats.

The text versions of BJS publications are available: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/ascii/aic.txt](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/ascii/aic.txt)>.

ASCII versions of publications do not include graphics and large tables.

Publications are also available in Adobe Acrobat pdf format: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/aic.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/aic.pdf)>.

PDF files look like the printed publications and include all the graphics, text and tables. PDF files must be viewed in the free Adobe Acrobat reader.

You can also find BJS publications from What's New at BJS, Publications, and the Press Releases: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/)>.

BJS publications are organized:

- o chronologically on the What's New at BJS page
- o alphabetically on the Publications page

BJS press releases are also organized chronologically with the most recent first.

Another feature of the BJS Web site is Data for Analysis: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/welcome.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/welcome.html)>.

- o Data for Analysis has two sections — Crime and Justice Electronic Data Abstracts and Online Tabulations, Datasets & Codebooks: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/)>.
- o This section provides access to datasets and spreadsheets available for analysis.

Crime and Justice Electronic Data Abstracts consists of a series of spreadsheets that put together reusable data: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dtdata.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dtdata.htm)>.

Many of the spreadsheets include trend data by jurisdiction. Currently, there are over 100 spreadsheets available by jurisdiction--Federal, State and County--and trends over time, dating as far back as 1900.

- o These spreadsheets are organized by topic and by jurisdictional coverage: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dtdata.htm#index](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dtdata.htm#index)>.

Some of the holdings include a series of spreadsheets on correctional populations by State over time, and a spreadsheet on the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports indexes crimes from 1960-1996 for each State.

Online tabulations, datasets & codebooks allow for an additional level of detail. Here you can conduct online queries to generate customized statistics and download datasets for more detailed analysis: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/otdc.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/otdc.htm)>.

The data analysis system allows you to subset variables or cases for analyzing or downloading and produce crosstabulations, descriptive statistics, and frequencies.

The Federal Justice Statistics Resource Center <<http://fjsrc.urban.org/>> provides on-line access to the BJS Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP) database. The FJSRC database includes suspects investigated by U.S. attorneys, defendants prosecuted in the Federal courts, defendants sentenced pursuant to the Federal sentencing guidelines, offenders supervised under pretrial release, probation, parole and supervised release, offenders incarcerated in Federal prisons, and offenders appealing some aspect of their case.

+ Machine readable data sets and codebooks are available free from Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR): <[www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/home.html](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/home.html)>.

Visit Related Sites for more links: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/)>.

Related sites gives you access to other Federal sites and to the organizations that assist BJS in disseminating crime and justice statistics: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/sites.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/sites.htm)>.

The National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) disseminates information for all of the Office of Justice Program agencies and the Office of National Drug Control Policy: <[www.ncjrs.org/](http://www.ncjrs.org/)>.

The topical pages usually consist of a list of documents including BJS reports, and a list of additional Web sites, as well as other relevant links.

The Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics is an updated electronic version of the annual book: <[www.albany.edu/sourcebook](http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/)>.

Unlike the book version, tables are updated when they become available. All of the tables are available in Adobe Acrobat format and are accessible by an index similar to that in the book. To see what has been updated, you can visit the What's New page or look up your favorite table in the index and note if there is a New sign next to it.

Fedstats points to the statistical data on the Web from all of the Federal agencies: <[www.fedstats.gov/](http://www.fedstats.gov/)>.

You can find links to data by topic, program area, or agency. This site was intended to provide one-stop-shopping for Federal statistics. BJS participates in Fedstats along with the other Federal statistical agencies although many of the links are to those agencies that have other missions but produce statistics such as the Bureau of Prisons and Drug Enforcement Administration. At Fedstats, users can search the Web sites of all 13 major Federal statistical agencies.

To help you find the information you need, the BJS Web site has a search capability: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/)>

Just enter the key words you are searching for in the box provided: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/bjssrch.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/bjssrch.htm)>.

You can search all of our site or simply select the type of document you are interested in such as press releases, text files, .html pages, or even .pdf files.

You can also expand your search to all of the Office of Justice Program agencies or to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service.

If you want to know how to reach BJS, go to About BJS: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/)>.

About BJS tells you how to write, call, find, or e-mail BJS: <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/aboutbjs.htm#address](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/aboutbjs.htm#address) >.

We value your feedback.

Thank you for taking the tour of the BJS Web site. This tour is available on the BJS Web site at <[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/tour/intro.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/tour/intro.html)>.