

What Is the State of Our Knowledge?

Explore current scientific knowledge about crime and justice in the four volumes of essays that make up the *Crime and Justice 2000* series. These volumes were the centerpiece of the Research and Evaluation Conference held in July 2000 in Washington, D.C.

- **Volume 1: *The Nature of Crime: Continuity and Change***

Addresses the extent to which crime and its effects are linked to social, cultural, economic, and physical changes over the past century and into the next.

- **Volume 2: *Boundary Changes in Criminal Justice Organizations***

Seeks to identify and account for fundamental changes in criminal and juvenile justice agencies, their policies, and interrelationships.

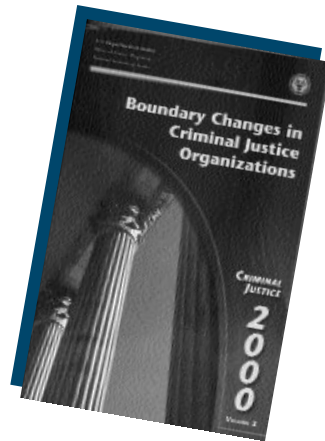
- **Volume 3: *Changes in Decision Making and Discretion in the Criminal Justice System***

Identifies and explains trends in decision processes, the location and exercise of discretion, and research and theory on discretion and decision making in the justice context.

- **Volume 4: *Measurement and Analysis of Crime and Justice***

Describes current knowledge, trends, and future directions in the measurement and analysis of crime and the criminal justice system.

Download copies from the NIJ Web page at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij> or contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) at 1-800-851-3420 and press option



#2 to talk to a publication specialist, or write to NCJRS, P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20849-6000.

Investigator Guides: Explosion/Bombing and Fire/Arson Crime Scenes

This summer, NIJ released two more volumes in a series of hands-on, practical guides for public safety officers who investigate, identify, preserve, and collect forensic evidence. The series, which is designed to enhance the standard of practice in crime scene investigations, is being developed by key experts who handle these types of investigations every day and who are highly experienced in improved investigatory procedures.

The two most recent guides are *A Guide for Explosion and Bombing Scene Investigation* (NCJ 181869) and *Fire and Arson Scene Evidence: A Guide for Public Safety Personnel* (NCJ 181584). Like others in the series, both guides lay out protocols for collecting the kind of evidence that yields successful laboratory analysis and provides the criminal justice system with reliable evidence.

The guides are suitable for both highly complex and visible cases and those that attract less attention and fewer responses but may be just as complex for the investigator. They discuss prioritizing initial response efforts, evaluating the scene, documenting the scene, processing the evidence at the scene, and completing and recording the scene investigation.

Other titles in the series include:

- ***Crime Scene Investigation: A Guide for Law Enforcement***, January 2000, NCJ 178280.

- ***Death Investigation: A Guide for the Scene Investigator***, November 1999, NCJ 167568.

- ***Eyewitness Evidence: A Guide for Law Enforcement***, October 1999, NCJ 178240

Copies are available on NIJ's Web page at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij> or on the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center Web page at <http://www.nlectc.org> or by contacting NCJRS at P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20849-6000.

Evaluation of COPS Now Available

Late in 1994, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) was created to fulfill the congressional mandate of Title I of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (the Crime Act) to put more police officers on the streets.

Title I also required that the COPS program be independently evaluated. Findings are now available from the evaluation of the process COPS has used to achieve its goals. Findings include the following:

- The program accelerated the transition to locally defined versions of community-oriented policing in agencies that already were developing their own programs.
- The 10 percent of jurisdictions that reported the highest murder counts received 50 percent of total COPS awards. On average, core cities received substantially larger awards per 10,000 residents than did the rest of the country, but the average award per 1,000 index crimes was less than two-thirds of that elsewhere.
- By May 1999, 100,500 officers and equivalents had been funded. Of them, preliminary estimates indicate that between 84,700 and 89,400 will have been deployed by 2003. Because some officers will have departed before others begin service, the federally funded increase (based on awards through May 1999) in policing levels will peak in 2001 between 69,000 and 84,600 before falling to 62,700–83,900 in 2003. These estimates will be revised as data collected in mid-2000 are analyzed. The COPS Office has continued to award grants since May 1999.
- The program accelerated transitions to locally defined versions of community policing. COPS funds seem more likely to have fueled movements toward adoption of community policing that were already accelerating than to have caused the acceleration.
- An analysis found that the 1 percent of COPS grantees with the largest 1997 murder counts received 31 percent of all COPS funds awarded through 1997. The 10 percent of grantees with the highest murder counts received 50 percent of total COPS awards.

The complete Research Report, *National Evaluation of the COPS*

Program—Title I of the 1994 Crime Act, details the findings of the independent process evaluation of the program's first 4 years. A shorter Research in Brief, *The COPS Program After 4 Years—National Evaluation*, summarizes the major findings of the full report.

The research team conducted three waves of surveys, site evaluations, and case studies. They found that departments accomplished their goals in one of three ways. Some departments hired police officers to engage in community-oriented policing activities. Other departments redeployed existing officers to community policing by increasing officer productivity through technology acquisition. Still other departments freed up officers for community policing by filling some administrative and specialist positions with civilians.

Visit the NIJ Web site (<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij>) to download copies of the full report, *National Evaluation of the COPS Program—Title I of the 1994 Crime Act* (NCJ 183643), and the shorter Research in Brief, *The COPS Program After 4 Years—National Evaluation* (NCJ 183644). Or obtain hard copies by contacting NCJRS at 1–800–851–3420.

Improved CrimeStat Software Released

A new supplemental statistical tool to aid law enforcement agencies and criminal justice researchers in their crime mapping efforts is now available.

Version 1.1 of *CrimeStat*, a Windows-based spatial statistics software program used in the analysis of crime incident locations, is an update to the program released in November 1999 and includes many improvements that make the software more versatile and user friendly.

General improvements include:

- Problems running in Windows 98 have been fixed. The new version works properly with Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT, and Windows 2000.
- The ability to exclude missing values, such as blank records, has been added.
- The screen resizes itself better for different monitor sizes.
- Graphical output of grid files and *ArcView* 'shp' files has been improved.
- *MapInfo* 'dat' files are supported.
- General ASCII 'grd' files are supported.
- 'Mif' files are restructured, allowing them to be read by *Maptitude*.

Additional statistics include:

- Geometric, harmonic, and triangulated means.
- Modification of the nearest neighbor and Ripley's K routines to allow edge corrections.
- Modification of the K-means clustering routine to allow more user control over initial seed selection.
- A whole new journey to crime module that includes journey to crime calibration and estimation routines.

Additional documentation has been added for these changes, including an entire chapter on the journey to crime (Jtc) estimation, which provides background to the method, the various options for running the routines, and a preliminary evaluation of the accuracy of these types of methods.

To download the free update and the additional documentation, visit the Crime Mapping Research Center Web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/cmrc.

Annual Research and Evaluation Conference Discusses "Change"

More than 890 people attended this year's Annual Conference on Research and Evaluation, sponsored by NIJ and other OJP offices and bureaus. The theme was "Change: Past, Present, and Future."

The theme of the conference reflected the content of four volumes in the newly published *Criminal Justice 2000* series. (See page 35 for a complete description of *Criminal Justice 2000*.)

Plenary panels featured discussions about the nature of crime, policy changes related to incarceration and deinstitutionalization, and new problem-solving paradigms. Acting NIJ Director Julie E. Samuels hosted a question-and-answer session on NIJ issues and future plans.

More than 50 sessions were held during the 3-day meeting.

Keeping Schools Safe

"Security Technologies for School Safety" was the topic of a recent gathering for school principals and administrators, school security personnel, and law enforcement officers.

About 250 people attended the July conference in Dallas to learn more about strategies and special programs, gain better understanding of the appropriate and inappropriate uses of security technologies, and inspect a wide range of security technologies.

The conference was the first national forum for school administrators to focus on the application of security technology. The 3-day gathering was cosponsored by NIJ, the Depart-

Fourth Annual International Crime Mapping Research Conference

**December 9-12, 2000
San Diego, California**

To what degree does location influence crime rates? Are certain areas more prone to criminal activities simply because of where they are? Find out at "Wheredunit? Investigating the Role of Place in Crime and Criminality," the 4th Annual International Crime Mapping Research Conference.

This year's conference includes workshops, plenary sessions, and panels on a variety of topics. From beginner to expert, analyst to manager, there are sessions that will educate you and keep you on the cutting edge of spatial analysis in criminal justice.

For more information about the conference and the Crime Mapping Research Center, visit the Center's Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/cmrc>.

**Register now at
<http://www.nijpcs.org/wheredunit>**

The 4th Annual International Crime Mapping Research Conference

WHERE DUNIT?
INVESTIGATING THE ROLE OF PLACE IN CRIME AND CRIMINALITY

DECEMBER 9-12, 2000
Paradise Point
San Diego, California

Sponsored by
Crime Mapping Research Center
National Institute of Justice
U.S. Department of Justice

ments of Education and Energy, and Sandia National Laboratories.

Using DNA for Investigations

Law Enforcement Summit. In July, NIJ hosted the National Law Enforcement Summit on DNA

Technology to discuss the concerns law enforcement agencies have about integrating DNA evidence into the investigative process.

The summit was held in response to a recent recommendation by the National Commission on the Future of DNA Evidence. (See the January 1999 issue of the *NIJ Journal* for more

about the DNA Commission. Go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/journals>.)

More than 100 police chiefs, sheriffs, and other law enforcement officials attended the Summit to learn more about funding opportunities, educational resources, and investigative models.

IACP Conference. NIJ will sponsor a DNA-related program at the annual conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) in November. The program will offer guidelines on the application of DNA technology to old or cold cases. Participants will learn how to collect evidence not ordinarily considered when looking for DNA but which can yield valuable DNA results.

Also at the IACP conference will be an exhibit of NIJ's National Law

Enforcement and Corrections Technology Centers.

International ADAM Holds 3rd Annual Meeting

The countries participating in the International Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (I-ADAM) program are working to standardize drug surveillance systems across nations so that comparative research can be conducted on the prevalence, incidence, and consequences of drug use. Seven countries are actively collecting I-ADAM data. They are: Australia, Chile, England, Malaysia, Scotland, South Africa, and the United States.

I-ADAM held its 3rd Annual Conference on September 21–23 in Washington, D.C. The NIJ-

sponsored event provided a forum for the I-ADAM partners to assemble, share experiences, and discuss strategic planning issues.

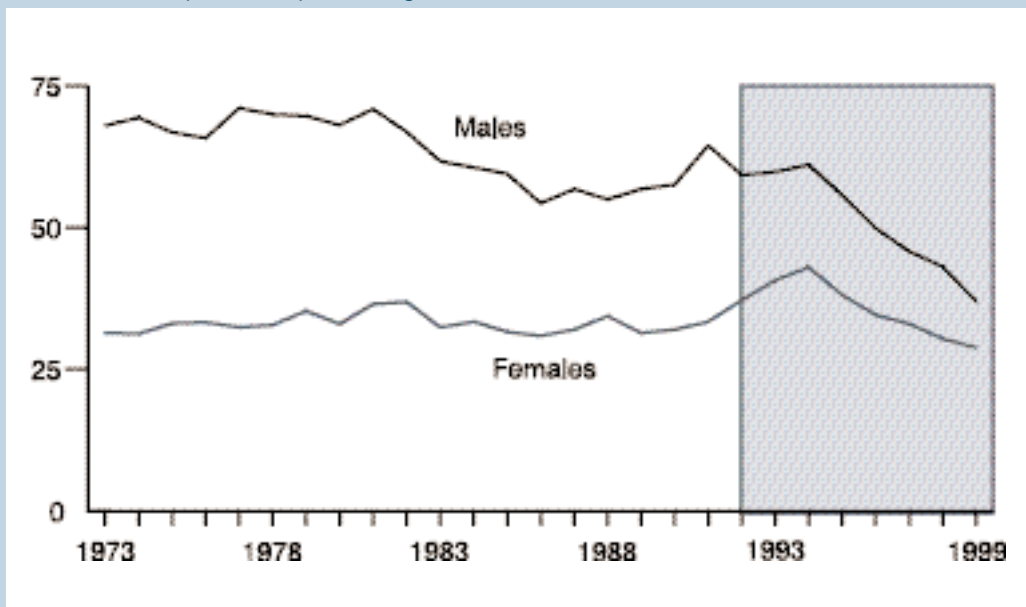
In addition to the individual country status reports from each I-ADAM partner, meeting attendees focused on recent I-ADAM research findings, analysis of I-ADAM data, data availability and sharing, I-ADAM instrument enhancement and developments, cross-site comparability and training issues, different laboratory methods of drug testing, and future directions for I-ADAM.

For more information about I-ADAM, contact Bruce Taylor, Deputy Director, ADAM, at 202–305–1764, taylorb@ojp.usdoj.gov, or visit the I-ADAM Web site at <http://www.adam-nij.net/iadam.htm>.

Violent Crime Rates by Gender of Victim

Violent crime levels declined between 1998 and 1999. Rates for men and women are getting closer.

Adjusted victimation rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over.*



Sources: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey; and FBI Uniform Crime Reports. Visit the Bureau of Justice Statistics Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs>.

Note: Violent crimes included are homicides, rape, robbery, and both simple and aggravated assault.

* The National Crime Victimization Survey redesign was implemented in 1993; the area without shading is before the redesign and the shaded area after the redesign. The data before 1993 are adjusted to make them comparable with data collected since the redesign.

Solicitations & Awards

Graduate Research Fellows 2000 Announced

NIJ's Graduate Research Fellowship Program provides dissertation research support to outstanding doctoral students undertaking independent research on issues in crime and justice. The Graduate Research Fellows for 2000 are:

- Edward Allen
Hindelang Criminal Justice
Research Center
State University of New York at
Albany
*Policing by Injunction: Problem-
Oriented Characteristics of Civil
Gang Abatement*
James R. Acker, Ph.D.,
Faculty Advisor
- Sarah Dugan Goodrum
Department of Sociology
University of Texas at Austin
*Homicide Bereavement and the
Criminal Justice System*
Mark Stafford, Ph.D.,
Faculty Advisor
- Caterina Gouvis
School of Public Affairs
American University
*Routine Activities of Youth: The
Importance of Place and Time in
Understanding Victimization In
and Around Schools*
James P. Lynch, Ph.D.,
Faculty Advisor
- Jarret S. Lovell
Rutgers, State University of New
Jersey
*Media Power and Information
Control: A Study of Police
Organizations and Media
Relations*
George L. Kelling, Ph.D.,
Faculty Advisor
- Jeff Maahs
Department of Criminal Justice
University of Cincinnati
*Maternal Risk Factors, Early Life
Events, and Deviant Outcomes:
Assessing Pathways From Birth
Through Adolescence*
Paul Mazerolle, Ph.D.,
Faculty Advisor

First W.E.B. DuBois Fellow Announced

NIJ's first W.E.B. DuBois Fellow is Becky Tatum, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Georgia State University, Department of Criminal Justice, for her proposal "The Role of Social Support on Adolescent Crime: Identifying Race, Class, and Gender Variations."

The W.E.B. DuBois Fellowship supports innovative research that will enhance justice and advance public policy decision making on issues related to crime, violence, and the administration of justice. Fellows are selected because they make a clear contribution to the effort to advance the field of knowledge regarding the confluence of crime, justice, and culture in various societal contexts.

W.E.B. DuBois (1868–1963) was one of the foremost early leaders in the struggle for racial equality in the United

States. A founder of the NAACP, he was a scholar as well as an activist; his book *The Souls of Black Folk* is a classic exposition of "the meaning of being black."

As a social scientist, DuBois challenged discriminatory ideologies and institutions and advocated social change. His classic study, "The Philadelphia Negro," published in 1899, was a groundbreaking sociological study of that city's black community, one of the first research projects to combine urban ethnography, social history, and descriptive statistics.

The next W.E.B. DuBois Fellowship Application deadline is February 1, 2001. For information about the program, please contact Cynthia A. Mamalian at 202–514–5981 or mamalian@ojp.usdoj.gov.



- **Stephanie M. Myers**
Hindelang Criminal Justice
Research Center
State University of New York at
Albany
*Policing Juveniles: The Impact of
Officer and Situational Charac-
teristics on the Use of Authority
and Provision of Support*
Robert E. Worden, Ph.D.,
Faculty Advisor

- **Amie Schuck**
Hindelang Criminal Justice
Research Center
State University of New York at
Albany
*Understanding the Role of
Communities in the Long-Term
Criminal Consequences of Child-
hood Maltreatment*
Cathy Spatz Widom, Ph.D.,
Faculty Advisor

- **Thomas Wadsworth**
Department of Sociology
University of Washington
*Neighborhoods, Jobs, and Criminal
Involvement*
Robert Crutchfield, Ph.D.,
Faculty Advisor

The next Graduate Research Fellow-
ship application deadline is January 15.
For information about the program,
visit [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/
funding.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm).

Secondary Data Analysis Solicitation

The NIJ Data Resources Program
was established to ensure the preser-
vation and availability of research and
evaluation data collected through
NIJ-funded research. Data sets col-
lected through NIJ-funded research
are archived and made available
to others in order to support new
research to replicate original find-
ings or test new hypotheses.

The next two deadlines to submit
proposals for analysis of existing
data are January 25 and May 25.
For more information about the
Data Resources Program, visit the
NIJ Web site at [http://www.ojp.
usdoj.gov/nij/dataprogram.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/dataprogram.htm).

More SACSI Sites Selected

The Strategic Approaches to Com-
munity Safety Initiative (SACSI) is
a new way of making communities
safer. It relies on data and informa-
tion analysis, boosts the U.S. Attorney's
role as a key community problem-
solver, and asks researchers to serve
as navigators—observing, analyzing,
and recommending changes in
direction. (For more information
about SACSI, see “Using Knowledge
and Teamwork to Reduce Crime”
in the October 1999 issue of the *NIJ
Journal*, available at [http://www.ojp.
usdoj.gov/nij/journals](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/journals).)

The Department of Justice has
selected 5 additional sites to join the
5 original SACSI sites. The new sites
are: the Eastern District of Missouri
(St. Louis), the Eastern District of
Michigan (Detroit), the Northern
District of Georgia (Atlanta), the
Western District of New York
(Rochester), and the District of New
Mexico (Albuquerque).

NIJ is now in the process of select-
ing research partners at each of the
5 new sites. For more information
about SACSI, contact Erin Dalton
at 202-514-5752.

2001 Solicitation for Investigator-Initiated Research

NIJ has issued open solicitations to the
criminal justice research field to pro-
pose innovative research endeavors.

Under NIJ's investigator-initiated
program, applicants may submit
proposals to explore a wide range of
research and evaluation topics rele-
vant to criminal justice policy or
practice, supporting NIJ's broad
portfolio of both basic and applied
studies.

Awards are usually 1- to 2-year grants
ranging from \$25,000 to \$300,000.

The next applications are due by
January 17, 2001, and will include
research on violence against women.

Visit the NIJ Web site at [http://www.
ojp.usdoj.gov/nij](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij) for the latest infor-
mation on all NIJ's solicitations.