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# **Sub-Category C-ii: Databases**

**COMPENDIUM OF RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

**1993-2016**

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## Category C: EPIDEMIOLOGY

### ii. Databases

<b>1995-IJ-CX-0001:</b>	<b>Committee on the Assessment of Family Violence Interventions</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$298,851</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Rosemary Chalk</b>
<b>Program Officer:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The Board on Children and Families is seeking to develop a synthesis of the relevant research and expert opinion regarding the strengths and limitations of existing program interventions in the area of family violence. A committee composed of approximately 18 experts from relevant disciplines and practitioner communities has been appointed to oversee the study with the primary tasks of: (1) documenting the impact of family violence on public and private sector services in the United States; (2) synthesizing the relevant research literature and develop a conceptual framework for clarifying and critiquing what is known about roles and relationships among risk and protective factors associated with family violence; and (3) characterizing what is known about both prevention efforts and selected interventions in dealing with family violence. The committee will focus on the range of direct and indirect costs associated with the current array of public and private services designed to prevent or treat family violence in the United States; the identification of policy and program elements that appear to improve or inhibit the development of effective responses to family violence; and improvement of the evaluation of on-going or innovative efforts in this field.

**Product: NCJ# 170627**

**Violence in Families: Assessing Prevention and Treatment Programs (1998) – R. Chalk, P. King**

This research review determined that findings from small-scale studies of family violence intervention programs are often adopted into policy and professional practice without sufficient independent replication or reflection on their possible shortcomings. Identification and treatment interventions predominate over preventive strategies in all areas of family violence, reflecting a current emphasis on after-the-fact interventions rather than proactive approaches. The study also determined that interventions occur in an uncoordinated system of services whose effects interact on the problem of family violence in a way that presents a major challenge to their evaluation. Secondary prevention efforts have emerged in some areas that show some promise of impact on family violence by concentrating services on targeted populations at risk. An increasing emphasis on the need for the integration of services is stimulating interest in comprehensive and cross-problem approaches that can address family violence in the context of other problem behaviors. The duration and intensity of the mental health and social support services needed to influence behavior that result from or contribute to family violence may be greater than initially estimated. Reporting practices, batterer treatment programs, recordkeeping, and collaborative law enforcement strategies should be implemented and constructed in a manner that is consistent with the state of the current research base.

**Additional NCJ Citations: 170635**

<b>1995-IJ-CX-0010:</b>	<b>Assessing the Feasibility of Creating Centralized State Databases on the Incidence of Sexual and Domestic Violence</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$62,268</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Joan Weiss</b>
<b>Program Officer:</b>	<b>Bernard Auchter</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (Pub. L.103-322) required a study on how the States may collect centralized databases on the incidence of sexual and domestic violence offenses within the State. This study was to be in consultation with persons who are expert in the collection of criminal justice data, state statistical administrators, law enforcement personnel, and nonprofit nongovernmental agencies that provide direct services to victims of domestic violence. The researchers focused on the current status of reporting in the states, which could serve as a starting point for future data collection improvement efforts, concentrating primarily on law enforcement-based indicators of domestic and sexual violence offenses. A panel of experts representing criminal justice statistics, law

enforcement, and victim services will meet to provide comments and suggestions to the project staff. Information from States and Territories on their data collection programs and issues will be sought through a survey. The final report will include both objectives of the twofold study: the National Institute of Justice will carry out the study of domestic and sexual violence data collection by the States and the Bureau of Justice Statistics will report on the recordkeeping relating to domestic violence.

**Product: NCJ# 161405**

**Domestic and Sexual Violence Data Collection: A Report to Congress Under the Violence Against Women Act (1996) – J. Zepp**

The report discusses data-collection issues raised by panel members; Federal, State, and local agencies, and survey responses. It suggests further actions for improving and expanding data collection and reporting at the State and Federal level. The study found that the Federal Government and the majority of States currently are collecting some statistics annually on these crimes; 35 States collect data on domestic violence, and 30 gather statistics on sexual violence. Some of these existing State programs can serve as working models for States that currently do not collect data on these crimes. For the future, the study identifies two issues that must be addressed. One is the variation across States in definitions, in types of victims included in reporting requirements, and other elements. This variation makes it difficult to compare or aggregate data at a national level. A second issue is the need to include not only law enforcement statistics but data from other parts of the criminal justice system. The study emphasizes the need for collaborative data collection within the criminal justice system and from other key sources such as health care providers, employers, and schools.

<b>1996-IJ-CX-0057:</b>	<b>Domestic Violence &amp; Sexual Assault Data Systems in States</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$137,998</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Stan Orchowsky</b>
<b>Program Officer:</b>	<b>Angela Moore Parmley</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This grant is a follow up to the preliminary study, “Assessing the Feasibility of Creating Centralized State Databases on the Incidence of Sexual and Domestic” through the Justice Research and Statistics Association initiative. This grant consists of three components to: 1) document all databases from which states derive domestic violence and sexual assault data; 2) identify the issues associated with the development and use of the three major types of databases (National Incident Based Reporting Systems (NIBRS), specialized criminal justice, and non-criminal justice) currently being used by the states; and 3) make a detailed analysis of established domestic violence and sexual assault data collection systems in three states. The first component will be accomplished through surveys sent to state database administrators and Statistical Analysis Center Directors. The second component will be accomplished through an expert panel session that will focus on each type of database, and the third component will be accomplished through in-depth study of three states’ systems, one representing each of the three types of data bases. The analytic procedures employed will be descriptive and qualitative.

**Product: NCJ# 192275**

**Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Data Collection Systems in the States (1999) – S. Orchowsky, C. Johnson**

The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 specified that a study be conducted on how states collect centralized databases on the incidence of domestic and sexual violence offenses. The systems are divided into two basic types: law enforcement databases and service provider databases. Twelve states were identified that captured either domestic or sexual violence data statewide via an incident-based crime system. A total of 46 of the 54 States and territories surveyed indicated that they have implemented, or are working toward or planning to meet data collection standards. The state case studies were Iowa’s Incident-Based Crime Reporting System, Connecticut’s Family Violence Reporting Program, and Illinois’ InfoNet System. The Iowa system had problems with non-reporting. An advantage of the Connecticut system was its ability to provide consistent data on family violence over a long period of time. The results from individual agencies in Illinois’ InfoNet System were overwhelmingly positive despite the difficulties of learning this new and complex automated system of data collection. Recommendations include using offense and relationship codes that are compatible with the National Incident-Based Crime Reporting System; implementing incident-based service provider systems; and developing guidance on how to identify and report cases of domestic violence and sexual assault.

<b>2004-WG-BX-0012:</b>	<b>A Proposal to Develop an Online Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Data Resource Center</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$224,131</b>
<b>PI:</b>	<b>Sandy Dayton</b>
<b>Program Officer:</b>	<b>Karen J. Bachar</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 specified that a study be conducted on how the States may collect centralized data bases on the incidence of sexual and domestic violence offenses. As a result, NIJ asked the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) to undertake a study of domestic and sexual violence incident data collection by the States. In response to this request, JRSA produced two reports: Domestic and Sexual Violence Data Collection (July 1996) and Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Data Collection Systems in the States (October 1999). As the information in the October 1999 report is outdated, this project was put forward to update the information from the October 1999 report as well as provide updated information on a project-specific Website that will include a searchable database. JRSA plans to update the report by surveying State Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) directors in order to gather information about data collection efforts and managers of statewide data systems; following-up with SAC-identified managers to determine the status of the data collection efforts; and contacting domestic violence and sexual assault coalition directors in each state to identify victim-based data collection systems.

**Product: NCJ# 221533**

**Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Data Resource Center**

The information displayed on the DVSA-DRC Web site includes State profiles, a national summary, projects, bibliographies, a form library, links and contacts, and available data. As information was collected for each State, summaries were created and posted on the DVSA-DRC. Regarding incident-based law enforcement data in the States, information from the FBI shows that 30 States are certified to report data for the National Incident-Based Reporting System, and 10 are in the testing phase. Six States are currently developing incident-based systems. Nine States collect information on domestic violence beyond what is required by the FBI; four of these States also collect additional information on sexual assault incidents. In these States, agencies complete separate forms for each domestic violence or sexual assault incident. These forms are then submitted to the State Uniform Crime Reporting program. Due to the increased funding to service providers, data systems have been implemented in most States. Information for the DVSA-DRC was collected by interviewing individuals in agencies most likely to collect, use, or report domestic or sexual violence as well as stalking data in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. Questionnaires were developed for a survey of State Uniform Crime Reporting Unit program managers, directors of Statistical Analysis Centers, domestic and sexual violence coalitions, and State government agencies. A total of 304 telephone interviews were conducted using the questionnaires. Appended questionnaires, agency responses by State, 9 data tables, and a final report on the Illinois Web-based information system for victim service providers.

For an index of all grants, go to <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/223572/223572-grants-index.pdf>.