



Program Update:

Bureau of Justice Statistics

Overview of the National Crime Victimization Survey Redesign Process

20 January 2010

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National Crime Victimization Survey Overview

- Measures national incidence of violent and property crimes and describes characteristics and consequences of victimization
- Rotating Panel Survey:
 - Six month reporting cycle: 41,000 households; 73,000 individuals
 - Sample households participate for seven periods/waves
 - Interviews all household members age 12 and older
- In-Person and phone interviewing via CAPI
- Stratified, multistage cluster design
- High response rate (about 90 percent)
- Ongoing since 1972
- Redesigned in 1992



Redesign Motivations

- Reasons for Redesign:
 - Survey not sustainable at historical funding levels
 - National Research Council recommendations
 - Requests for subnational data
 - Recent new funding
- Objectives of Redesign:
 - Operational and statistical efficiency
 - Reduce costs, streamline operations
 - Increase survey precision
 - Create ability to measure incidence at sub-national level
 - Monitor and improve data quality
 - Improve flexibility to address emerging crimes
 - Create data linkages for design and reporting



Challenges Faced: Survey Constraints

Inherent Issues	Potential Solutions
Sensitivity of Content	- New methods of interviewing - New sampling methods
Low Incidence Rate	- New sampling methods - Piggyback on other surveys - Small area estimation
Accuracy	- Quality improvement studies
Cost	- Build congressional and state support - Explore lower cost enumeration options



Challenges Faced: Process Constraints

- Process Constraints:
 - Balancing competing objectives
 - Level of geography: city, state, or national level?
 - How often: Yearly estimates or multiyear averages?
 - What is measured?
 - Best practices vary by objective
 - Depth (understanding victimization)
 - Count (type, level and frequency).
 - Law enforcement sensitivity to production of city level estimates beyond UCR program.



Redesign Research

- Research underway in six major areas:
 - Local area estimation (synthetic estimation)
 - Interview mode
 - Sample design
 - Survey reference period
 - Non-response bias
 - Crime screener analysis



Current Status

- 2010
 - Continue panel meetings
 - Conduct sample studies
 - Collect new para-data
 - Design redesign research/field tests and prepare solicitations/IAs
 - Develop on-going data quality program
- 2011-2012
 - Field testing of new methods
 - Synthesis of findings
- 2013-2014
 - Finalize design and begin implementation of new program



Agency, Survey, and Redesign Budget

Budget Component	FY 2009 Enacted Amount	President's FY 2010 Request	FY 2010 House Mark (HR 2847)	FY 2010 Senate Mark (HR 2847)
Criminal Justice Statistics Program	\$19.0 M	\$19.0 M	\$19.0 M	\$5.0 M
NCVS	\$26.0 M	\$26.0 M	\$26.0 M	\$20.0 M
NCVS Redesign		\$15.0 M	\$15.0 M	\$15.0 M
Subtotal	\$45.0 M	\$60.0 M	\$60.0 M	\$40.0 M