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Factors Influencing the Quality and Utility of  
Government-Sponsored Criminal Justice  
Research in the United States, 1975-1986

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Lois Recascino Wise

ICPSR 9089

116538

Factors Influencing the Quality and Utility of Government-Sponsored  
Criminal Justice Research in the United States, 1975-1986

(ICPSR 9089)

Principal Investigator

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116538

U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

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### Acknowledgement of Assistance

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The data (and tabulations) utilized in this (publication) were made available (in part) by the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research. The data for FACTORS INFLUENCING THE QUALITY AND UTILITY OF GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH IN THE UNITED STATES, 1975-1986 were originally collected by Lois Recascino Wise. Neither the collector of the original data nor the Consortium bear any responsibility for the analyses or interpretations presented here.

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Lois Recascino Wise

FACTORS INFLUENCING THE QUALITY AND UTILITY OF GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH IN THE UNITED STATES, 1975-1986 (ICPSR 9089)

**SUMMARY:** This data collection examines the effects of organizational environment and funding level on the utility of criminal justice research projects sponsored by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). The data represent a unique source of information on factors that influence the quality and utility of criminal justice research. Variables describing the research grants include NIJ Office responsible for monitoring the grant (e.g., courts, police, corrections, etc.), organization type receiving the grant (academic or nonuniversity), type of data (collected originally, existing, merged), and priority area (crime, victims, parole, police). The studies are also classified by: (1) sampling method employed, (2) presentation style, (3) statistical analysis employed, (4) type of research design, (5) number of observation points, and (6) unit of analysis. Additional variables provided include whether there was a copy of the study report in the National Criminal Justice Archive, whether the study contained recommendations for policy or practice, and whether the project was completed on time. The data file provides two indices--one that represents quality and one that represents utility. Each measure is generated from a combination of variables in the dataset. CLASS IV

**UNIVERSE:** Research grants in the United States sponsored by the National Institute of Justice.

**SAMPLING:** Random sample.

**NOTE:** These data contain alphabetic codes.

**EXTENT OF COLLECTION:** 1 data file

**DATA FORMAT:** Logical Record Length

**File Structure:** rectangular

**Cases:** 75

**Variables:** 52

**Record Length:** 93

**Records Per Case:** 1

**RELATED PUBLICATION:**

Wise, L.R. "Academics and Entrepreneurs: Factors Affecting the Quality and Utility of Government-Sponsored Research." KNOWLEDGE: CREATION, DIFFUSION, AND UTILIZATION 1:1, forthcoming.

**ABSTRACT**

## ABSTRACT

Lois Recascino Wise

Factors Influencing the Quality and Utility of Government-Sponsored Research

School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University-Bloomington

88-NIJ-84/OJP-86-M-275

### **Purpose of the Study**

This study examines the effects of organizational environment, funding level, and utility of criminal justice research projects sponsored by the National Institute of Justice.

### **Methodology**

#### *Sources of information:*

The data were taken from descriptions of research projects drawn from the automated project management system maintained by the National Institute of Justice.

#### *Sample:*

The sample consisted of 75 randomly selected research grants sponsored by the National Institute of Justice.

#### *Dates of data collection:*

1985-86

### **Summary of Contents**

#### *Special characteristics of the study:*

This data set is a unique source of information on factors that influence the quality and utility of criminal justice research.

#### *Description of variables:*

Variables describing the research grants include NIJ Office (e.g., courts, police, corrections, etc.); organization type (e.g., academic or non-University); type of data (e.g., collected originally, existing, merged); and priority area (e.g., crime, victims, parole, police). The studies are also classified by: (1) sampling method employed (2) presentation style (3) statistical analysis employed (4) type of research design (5) number of observation points and (6) unit of analysis. In addition, measures of whether there was a copy of the study report in the National Criminal Justice Archive, whether the study contains recommendations for policy or practice, and the extent to which projects were completed in time or were overdue are included. The data set

provides two indices--one which represents quality and one which represents utility. Each is an additive combination of variables in the data set.

*Unit of observation:*

Research grants, sponsored by NIJ

**Geographic Coverage:**

United States

**File Structure**

Data files:	1 file
Unit:	Research grants
Variables:	52
Cases:	75

**Reports and Publications**

Wise, L.R. (1988). Academics and entrepreneurs: factors affecting the quality and utility of government-sponsored research. *Knowledge: Creation, Diffusion, and Utilization* 1:1, forthcoming.

VARIABLE LOCATION LIST

VARIABLE LOCATION LIST FOR ICPSR 9089

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VARIABLE		START	END	FORMAT	WIDTH	DEC
VAR 1	CASENUM	1	2	NUMERIC	2	0
VAR 2	GRANTNUM	3	12	ALPHAB	10	
VAR 3	NIJOFFCE	13	13	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 4	MONITOR	14	15	NUMERIC	2	0
VAR 5	ORGTYP	16	16	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 6	TYPEDATA	17	17	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 7	PRIOAREA	18	19	NUMERIC	2	0
VAR 8	SCOPE DAT	20	20	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 9	INDIVID	21	21	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 10	SMLLGRP	22	22	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 11	ORGNZTN	23	23	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 12	MULTVRTE	24	24	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 13	DESCRPT	25	25	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 14	RATINGS	26	26	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 15	OBSRV TNS	27	27	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 16	NARRTV	28	28	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 17	IMPRESS	29	29	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 18	QUALQUAN	30	30	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 19	MULTQUAN	31	31	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 20	EXPERMNT	32	32	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 21	CONTROLG	33	33	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 22	TIMEPNTS	34	34	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 23	PARTICOB	35	35	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 24	SERVRECS	36	36	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 25	COLLDOCS	37	37	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 26	INTPROF	38	38	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 27	INTRECIP	39	39	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 28	INTCOMM	40	40	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 29	UNOBMEAS	41	41	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 30	VALIDRSD	42	42	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 31	STRUCTRD	43	43	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 32	NARRATIV	44	44	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 33	CASEHIST	45	45	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 34	POPSAMP	46	46	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 35	SCISAMP	47	47	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 36	DATESTR	48	53	NUMERIC	6	0
VAR 37	DATEFIN	54	59	NUMERIC	6	0
VAR 38	FUNDSTR	60	65	NUMERIC	6	0
VAR 39	FUNDFIN	66	71	NUMERIC	6	0
VAR 40	NUMBEXT	72	73	NUMERIC	2	0
VAR 41	TOTWKEXT	74	76	NUMERIC	3	0
VAR 42	TIMELY	77	77	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 43	STATGRNT	78	78	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 44	POLCYREC	79	79	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 45	RSRCHREC	80	80	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 46	PRELREPT	81	81	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 47	NOREPRT	82	82	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 48	AVAILRPT	83	83	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 49	NIJDATE	84	87	NUMERIC	4	0
VAR 50	RUCDATE	88	91	NUMERIC	4	0
VAR 51	QUALINDX	92	92	NUMERIC	1	0
VAR 52	RELINDX	93	93	NUMERIC	1	0

**CODEBOOK**

**ACADEMIC AND ENTREPRENEURIAL RESEARCH SPONSORED BY  
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE**

- 1 CASE NUMBER
- 2 GRANT NUMBER
- 3 NIJ OFFICE
  - 1 = Courts
  - 2 = Police
  - 3 = Center for Crime Control Research (CCC)
  - 4 = Corrections
  - 5 = Office of Research and Evaluation Methods (OREM)
  - 6 = Office of Program Evaluation (OPE)
  - 7 = Office of Development, Training & Dissemination (ODTD)
- 4 MONITOR [Code number for NIJ project officer in charge]
- 5 ORGANIZATION TYPE
  - 1 = Academic
  - 2 = Non-University
- 6 TYPE OF DATA
  - 0 = Not Available
  - 1 = Collected
  - 2 = NIJ data
  - 3 = Existing
  - 4 = Archived
  - 5 = NIJ data + existing data + some other non-NIJ
  - 6 = Existing data plus new data
  - 7 = Merged together 2 or more files
  - 8 = Coded for computer already, recorded data i.e. FBI, UCR, arrest rates, other items in official reports
  - 9 = Missing
- 7 PRIORITY AREA
  - 0 = Not Available
  - 1 = Crime
  - 2 = Victims
  - 3 = Courts
  - 4 = Parole
  - 5 = Center for Crime Control Research (CCC)
  - 6 = Efficiency/effectiveness
  - 7 = Jail
  - 8 = Intergovernmental
  - 10 = Police
  - 11 = White collar crime

**8 SCOPE OF DATA**

- 1 = National
- 2 = Regional
- 3 = State wide
- 4 = Test group
- 5 = City wide
- 6 = Neighborhood

**UNIT OF ANALYSIS****9 INDIVIDUALS**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**10 SMALL GROUPS**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**11 ORGANIZATIONS**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**STATISTICAL METHODS****12 MULTIVARIATE**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**13 DESCRIPTIVE**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**14 RATINGS**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**15 OBSERVATIONS**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**16 NARRATIVE**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**17 IMPRESSIONISTIC**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**18 QUALITATIVE OR QUANTITATIVE**

- 0 = Not Available
- 1 = Quantitative
- 2 = Qualitative
- 3 = Even

**19 MULTIVARIATE PLUS QUANTITATIVE**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 3 = Missing
- 4 = Not applicable
- 0 = Not Available

**20 EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

**21 COMPARISON CONTROL GROUP**

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 22 TIME POINTS

- 1 = 1 or 0
- 3 = Two: pre/post
- 2 = Other two
- 4 = Three
- 6 = Four
- 9 = Not applicable

## 23 PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 3 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable
- 9 = Missing data code

## 24 SERVICE RECORDS (Were agency service delivery records, i.e., case reports, interview, counseling records, placement records, etc. used?)

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 25 COLLECT DOCUMENTS

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 26 INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSIONAL (SERVICE PROVIDERS)

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 27 INTERVIEW WITH RECIPIENTS OF SERVICE

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 28 INTERVIEW WITH KNOWLEDGABLE COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 29 UNOBTRUSIVE MEASURES

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 30 VALIDITY RAISED (Does the report speak to the question of its own methodological weaknesses?)

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

METHOD OF COMPILING

## 31 STRUCTURED

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 32 NARRATIVE

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 33 CASE HISTORY

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

USE OF SAMPLING TECHNIQUES

## 34 POPULATION OR SAMPLE

- 1 = Total population
- 2 = Sample
- 9 = Missing
- 0 = Not applicable

## 35 SCIENTIFIC SAMPLE

- 1 = Yes
- 0 = No

## 36 DATE STARTED (year/month/day)

## 37 DATE FINISHED (year/month/day)

38 FUNDING START (amount in thousands)

39 FUNDING FINISH (amount in thousands)

40 NUMBER OF EXTENSIONS

41 TOTAL WEEKS EXTENDED (computed from 37 and 40)

42 TIMELY (computed from 41)

1 = received within 0-20 weeks of due date

0 = Late (more than 20 weeks)

43 STATUS OF GRANT

1 = In progress

2 = Complete

3 = Complete and report

4 = Terminated

5 = Other

6 = Draft

7 = Expired/overdue

9 = Missing

44 REPORT WITH POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1 = Yes

0 = No

9 = Missing

45 RECOMMENDATION FOR RESEARCH (Did report recommend further research?)

1 = Yes

0 = No

9 = Missing

0 = Not applicable

46 PRELIMINARY REPORT

1 = Yes

2 = No

9 = Missing

0 = Not applicable

## 47 NO REPORT

- 1 = Yes, no report was submitted  
2 = No, report was submitted to NIJ

## 48 Report available from NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE (NCJRS)?

- 1 = Yes  
2 = No  
9 = Missing  
0 = Not applicable

49 DATE REPORT RECEIVED BY NIJ (ACTUAL CLOSING DATES) (year/month)  
0 = Not Available

## 50 RUC DATE (RESEARCH UTILIZATION COMMITTEE) (year/month)

- 0 = No RUC

## 51 QUALITY INDEX (Additive index, ranging from 0 to 5, composed of the following dichotomous variables:

Variable	Description	Definition
35	Scientific Sampling?	0 = No 1 = Yes
12	Multivariate?	0 = No 1 = Yes
18	Quantitative	0 = No 1 = Yes
20	Experimental	0 = No 1 = Yes
22	Longitudinal	0 = No 1 = Yes)

## 52 RELEVANCE INDEX (Additive index, ranging from 0 to 3, composed of the following dichotomous variables:

Variable	Description	Definition
41	Timeliness	0 = Report more than 1 year late 1 = Report less than 1 year late
48	Availability	0 = Report not available at NCJRS 1 = Report available through NCJRS
44	Practical Relevance	0 = No policy/implementation recommendations 1 = Policy recommendations offered