



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

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BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS
Contact: Kara McCarthy (202) 307-1241
After hours: (202) 598-9320

BJS RELEASES API OF NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY DATA

WASHINGTON – The Justice Department’s Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) has published an application programming interface (API) that provides access to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) dataset in open, machine-readable formats.

The NCVS API is a dynamic feed that allows developers and researchers to retrieve information efficiently, in the manner that best suits their needs. The data can automatically feed into mobile applications, websites, or other formats that make crime victimization statistics more immediately accessible to the American people.

This web service provides criminal victimization data obtained from a nationally representative sample of about 79,800 households and 143,120 persons interviewed each year. NCVS data describe the frequency, characteristics and consequences of criminal victimization in the United States.

This BJS API is first in a series that responds to the federal government’s initiative to provide open access to information. You can learn more about the government’s information-centric and customer-centric approaches to sharing information in the recently released [Federal Digital Strategy](#) and [Open Data Policy](#).

The NCVS API can be found at www.bjs.gov/developers/ncvs. It was created by BJS Information Technology staff Joseph Mulako-Wangota and Timothy Kearley, and BJS statisticians Michael G. Planty and Jennifer Truman. Also, Allen Kinlaw and other staff in the Office of Justice Programs’ Office of the Chief Information Officer assisted in the development of the API.

For additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics’ statistical reports and programs, please visit the BJS website at <http://www.bjs.gov/>.

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The Office of Justice Programs (OJP), headed by Acting Assistant Attorney General Mary Lou Leary, provides federal leadership in developing the nation’s capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice, and assist victims. OJP has six components: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking. More information about OJP can be found at <http://www.ojp.gov>.