**SPECIAL POINT OF INTEREST:**
This issue of the OCJS Research Brief highlights findings from the Ohio Crime Victimization Survey (OCVS), which is the first statewide survey of crime victimization in Ohio. Findings from the OCVS provide important information about crimes against persons, crimes against property, and cybercrime in Ohio.

# OCJS

## Office of Criminal Justice Services

**A bulletin of the Ohio Statistical Analysis Center**

# OCJS Research Brief

## An Overview of the 2016 Ohio Crime Victimization Survey

*Kristina Nicholson, M.S.*
*Alan Wedd, M.S.*
*Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services*

All of Ohio's crime data are currently obtained from law enforcement reporting systems. Though these data provide important information about crime in Ohio, other crime data sources are needed because many crimes are not reported to law enforcement. The Ohio Crime Victimization Survey (OCVS) was developed to address this need by gathering information about crime victimization and reporting in Ohio. These data are designed to supplement data that are reported to law enforcement in order to provide a more complete understanding of crime in Ohio.

Researchers from the Office of Criminal Justice Services developed and administered the 2016 OCVS with assistance from Miami University's Applied Research Center and the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The OCVS collected information about crimes against persons (i.e. crimes against an individual's body), crimes against property (i.e. crimes related to the theft or destruction of an individual's property), and cybercrimes (i.e. crimes involving the internet and computer networks), in addition to reporting behaviors and offender characteristics. An overview of results follows.

**Crimes against Persons**[1]: Aggravated assault, forcible fondling, intimidation, rape, robbery, simple assault, or stalking

**Crimes against Property:** Burglary, destruction/damage/vandalism, motor vehicle theft, or theft

**Cybercrime:**

Consumer Fraud[2]: Consumer investment fraud, consumer products and services fraud, employment fraud, prize and grant fraud, phantom debt collection fraud, charity fraud, or relationship and trust fraud

Identity Theft[3]: Fraud or misuse of a new account, fraud or misuse of an existing account, or fraud or misuse of personal information

1 The specific crimes against persons and crimes against property are based on standard UCR/NIBRS definitions. These definitions can be viewed at: https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs/2012/resources/nibrs-offense-definitions and https://ucr.fbi.gov/recent-program-updates/reporting-rape-in-2013-revised.

2 Michael Beals, Marguerite DeLiema, and Martha Deevy. *Framework for a Taxonomy of Fraud: A joint collaboration of the Financial Fraud Research Center at the Stanford Center of Longevity and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation.* Stanford Center on Longevity (Stanford, CA, 2015).

3 Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice. *Victims of Identity Theft*, 2014. Prepared by Erika Harrell (Washington DC: Westat, 2015).

**Figure 1. Frequency of All Crime Victimization**



Percent of Individuals Who Experienced at Least One Crime
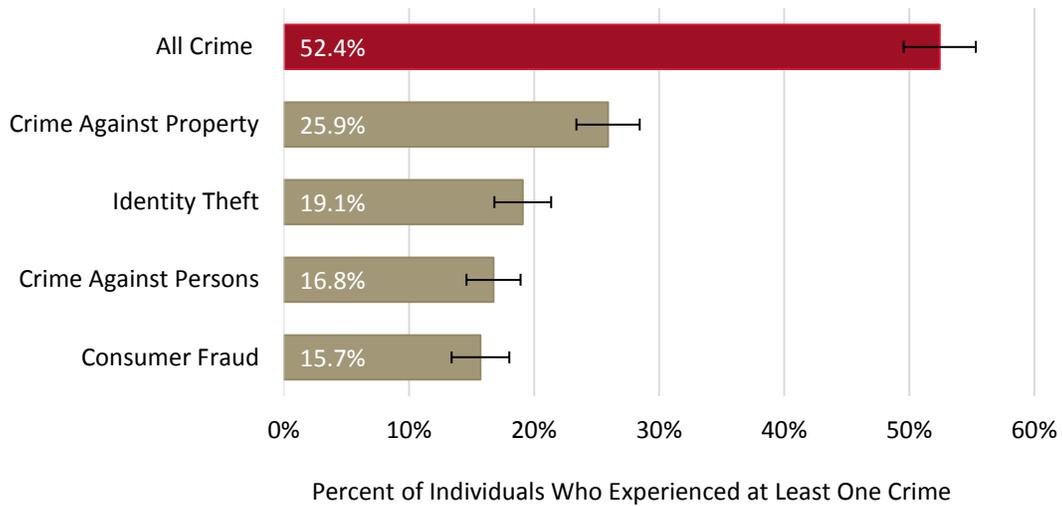
Overall, more than half (52.4%) of individuals surveyed were the victim of at least one crime. Crimes against property were the most frequent crime category, with 25.9% of individuals reporting that they experienced at least one type of property crime (Figure 1).

**Figure 2. Sex, Age, Race and Ethnicity of Victims**



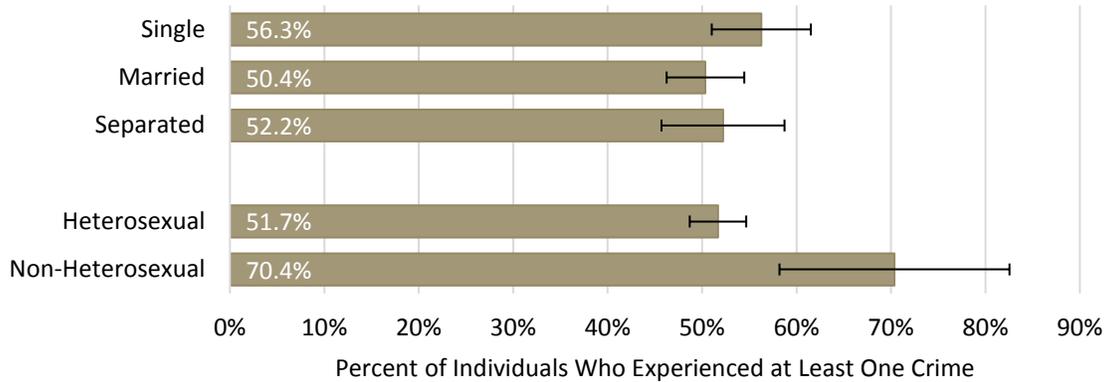Percent of Individuals Who Experienced at Least One Crime
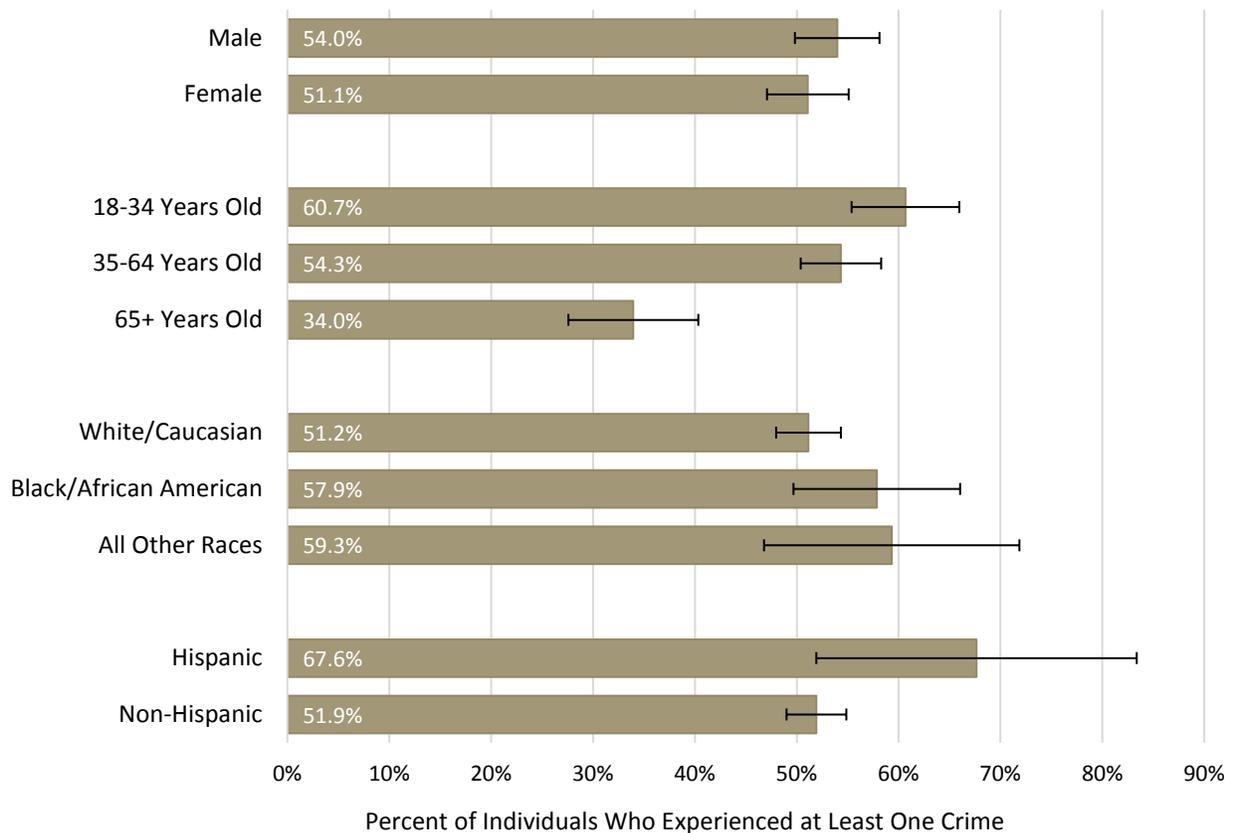
- Males and females experienced crimes at similar frequencies, with 54% of males and 51.1% of females reporting that they had experienced at least one crime in the past twelve months (Figure 2).
- Individuals who were 65 or older experienced less crime (34.0%) compared to those who were 18 to 34 years old (60.7%) or 35 to 64 years of age (54.3%). Individuals who are 18 to 34 years old and 35 to 64 years old experienced victimization at similar frequencies.
- Individuals of different races experienced victimization at similar frequencies. 57.9% of African American/Black Ohioans, 51.2% of Caucasian/White Ohioans, and 59.3% of individuals who fell outside of these two race categories experienced a crime at least once in the past twelve months.
- A total of 67.6% of Hispanics were victimized at least once, while 51.9% of non-Hispanics were victimized; however, this difference was not statistically significant due to the low number of individuals who identified as Hispanic in the OCVS sample.

**Figure 3. Income, Employment Status and Education Level of Victims**
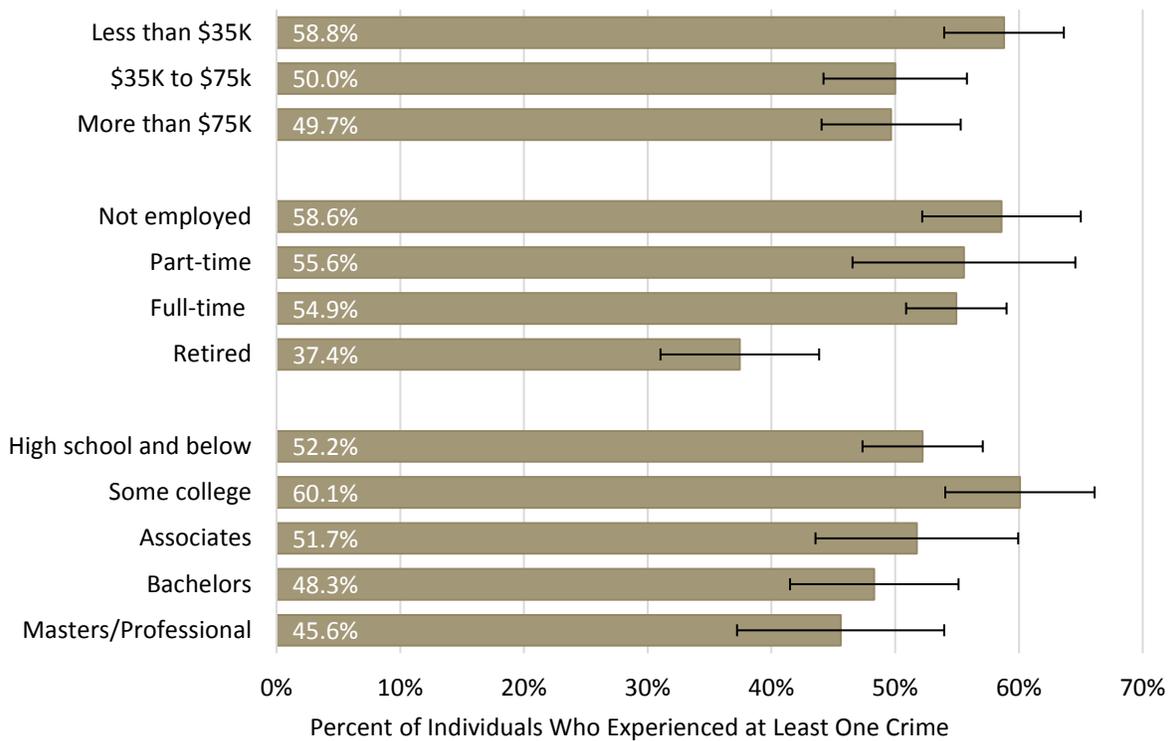


- Individuals who made less than $35,000 (58.8%), individuals who made $35,000 to $74,999 (50.0%), and individuals who made $75,000 or more (49.7%) experienced crime at comparable frequencies (Figure 3).
- Retired individuals experienced significantly less crimes (37.4%) within the previous 12 months compared to all other employment status categories.
- Individuals with varying levels of education experienced crime victimization at similar frequencies, with 52.2% of individuals with a high school degree or below, 60.1% of individuals with some college education, 51.7% of individuals with an associate's degree, 48.3% of individuals with a bachelor's degree and 45.6% of individuals with a Masters or Professional degree experiencing crime at least once in the past twelve months.

**Figure 4. Relationship Status and Sexual Orientation of Victims**

| Category | Percent |
|----------|---------|
| Single | 56.3% |
| Married | 50.4% |
| Separated | 52.2% |
| Heterosexual | 51.7% |
| Non-Heterosexual | 70.4% |

Percent of Individuals Who Experienced at Least One Crime

- Individuals experienced similar levels of victimization regardless if they were single (56.3%), married (50.4%), or divorced, separated, or widowed (52.2%; Figure 4).
- Overall, 70.4% of individuals who identified as gay, lesbian, or bisexual experienced victimization compared to 51.7% of individuals who identified as heterosexual; however, this difference did not meet statistical significance due to the low number of individuals who identified as gay, lesbian, or bisexual in the OCVS sample.

**Figure 5. Crime Victim Reporting Behavior**

| Response | Percent |
|----------|---------|
| Crime reported to law enforcement | 40.0% |
| Dealt with the incident another way | 28.4% |
| Believed the police couldn't do anything | 25.6% |
| Incident was not important | 14.6% |
| Did not want to involve the police | 12.6% |
| The offender was a close family member or friend | 6.8% |
| Felt the crime was due to your own carelessness | 3.1% |
| Didn't know about the crime until later | 2.8% |
| Other | 20.0% |

Percent of Responses

- In total, 40.0% of instances of all of the crimes experienced were reported to law enforcement or other authorities (Figure 5).
- Of those individuals that did not report crimes to authorities, the most frequent reason given for not reporting was that the individual "dealt with the incident in another way" (28.4%).

For additional information on survey development, methodology and results, please see the full report online HERE.

# Stalking in Ohio – 2015

*Anjolie Harland, M.S.*
*Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services*

Similar to other states' laws, the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) statute 2903.211, Menacing by Stalking, characterizes stalking as engaging in a pattern of conduct that knowingly causes a person to believe that he or she will be physically harmed or will endure mental distress. Stalking in and of itself is considered a crime. The victim and the offender do not have to have a relationship or even know each other in order for stalking to occur. It is important to note however that stalking can be masked and charged as other crimes such as criminal trespass, burglary, or domestic violence, especially if the pattern of behavior has not been established for law enforcement. This report details the characteristics of stalking specific to ORC 2903.211.

One tool that can be used to examine stalking in Ohio is the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS). OIBRS is a voluntary crime reporting program in which Ohio law enforcement agencies can submit crime statistics directly to the state and federal government in an automated format. At the end of 2015, 552 agencies covering approximately 77 percent of the Ohio population were reporting OIBRS data. The use of OIBRS data allows for detailed information to be obtained on the nature of the offense, the victim, the suspect/arrestee, weapon use, and property involved.

In 2015, the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System agencies reported 1,380 incidents of stalking. The majority of stalking incidents were reported as occurring at a person's residence; however incidents were reported in numerous public areas as well.

**Age:** The average age of stalking victims was 33 years and approximately 52 percent of victims were between the ages of 18 and 34 years.

**Gender:** Eighty-one percent of victims were female.

**Race:** About 77 percent of victims were White, 23 percent were Black and less than one percent fell within the 'Other' category. White females made up 76 percent of all female stalking victims and White males made up 79 percent of all male stalking victims.



Victim of Stalking by age and race
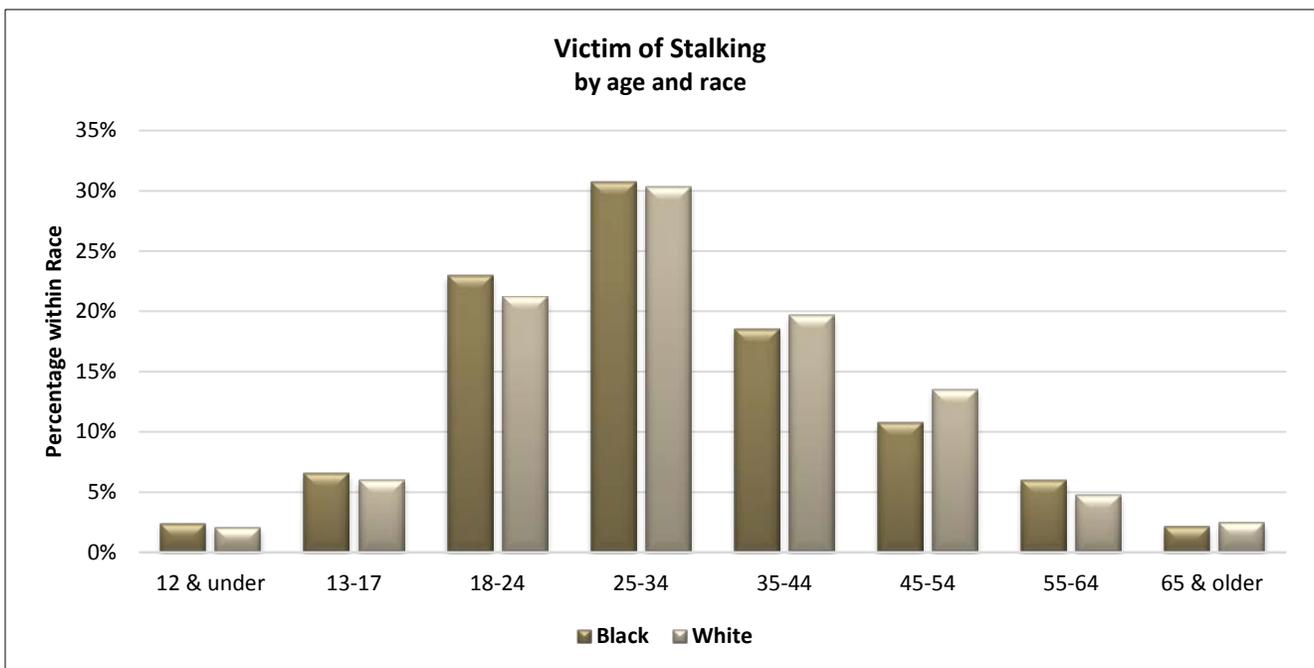
Of the single-victim/single-suspect cases for which relationship data was known and reported (approximately 88 percent), the data show that stalking victims nearly always knew their stalker – only seven percent of victims reported the stalker as a stranger.

For the full report, click HERE.

**Stalking Victim-Suspect Relationship by Victim Gender**
"(Male/Female) Victim is __ of offender"
(fill in the blank with relationship)



# Ohio Multi-jurisdictional Task Force Report – 2016

*Lydia Hoogerhyde B.A.*
*Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services*

The Office of Criminal Justice Services provides funds to Ohio's multi-jurisdictional task forces through the federal Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and the state Drug Law Enforcement Fund. These task forces consist of a variety of representatives from local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, and prosecutors. OCJS collects reports semi-annually from each grant-funded task force operating in Ohio to evaluate the amount of street drug activity, pharmaceutical drug diversion, seizures and forfeitures occurring across the state.

## Street Drug Activity

In 2016, forty-one task forces reported working 9,550 new non-pharmaceutical cases. A case is based on individuals, not charges. The task forces executed a total of 3,715 search warrants in 2016. A search warrant includes court ordered warrants, GPS attachments, cell phone analyses and searches completed on people, places and things where contraband may be recovered.

The task forces indicted 4,991 individuals in 2016 and nearly 44 percent of these indictments were Felony 1, Felony 2 or Felony 3 level indictments. The majority of indictments were for trafficking (N=3,042), followed by possession (N=2,730). Manufacturing/chemical assembly accounted for approximately 7 percent of illegal drug indictments (N=452) and was primarily for methamphetamine (94%). Likewise, cultivation (N=103) was primarily tied to marijuana (96%).



**2016 Indictments for Illegal Drug Activity**
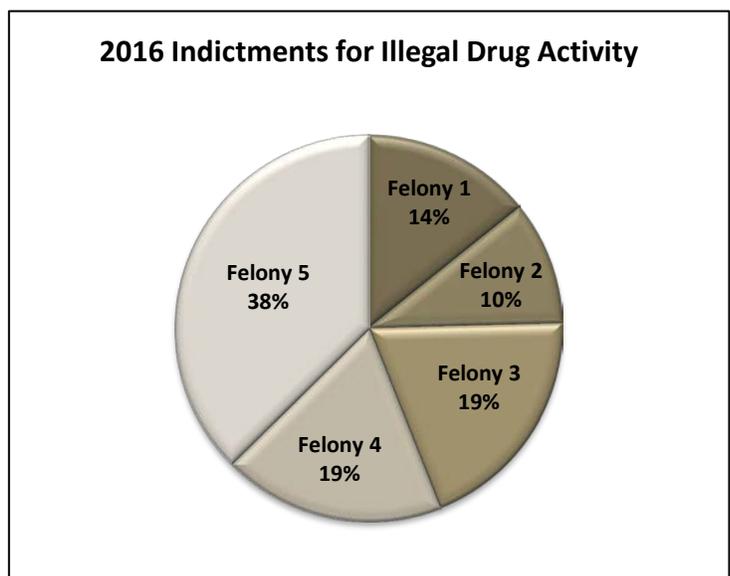
Task forces reported the total amount of drugs they took off the streets in 2016. Marijuana (processed and plants), cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine were seized in the most significant quantities this year. Additionally, 646 meth labs were discovered by the task forces in 2016.

| Street Drugs Removed | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **Amount** | **Median Price per Unit** |
| **Cocaine** | 238,750 grams | $100.00/gram |
| **Crack** | 5,701 grams | $100.00/gram |
| **Heroin** | 98,387 grams | $137.50/gram |
| **Marijuana-processed** | 26,079 pounds | $1,500.00/pound |
| **Marijuana-plants** | 11,120 plants | $1,000.00/plant |
| **LSD** | 3,855 UD | $12.50/UD |
| **Ecstasy** | 4,869 UD | $21.34/UD |
| **Synthetic hallucinogen (K2,spice)** | 1,389 grams | $23.75/gram |
| **Methamphetamine** | 92,147 grams | $100/gram |
| **Psilocybin mushrooms** | 6,385 grams | $46.25/gram |
| **Bath salts** | 639 grams | $35.00/gram |

## Pharmaceutical Diversion

In 2016, Ohio's drug task forces initiated 910 pharmaceutical cases. Five hundred and sixty-three (62%) of these investigations lead to criminal indictments. Thirty-two percent of the pharmaceutical indictments were Felony 1, Felony 2, or Felony 3 indictments. Overall, 71 health care professionals were investigated and 37 of those were indicted for pharmaceutical crimes. A majority of those indicted were nurses (78%).

Individuals were indicted for a variety of crimes including possession, trafficking or sale, theft, forged or altered prescriptions, and doctor shopping. In 2016, there were a total of 1,134 pharmaceutical drug indictments for these crimes and 46% of these were for the trafficking or sale of prescription drugs.



**Pharmaceutical Drug Crime Indictments**
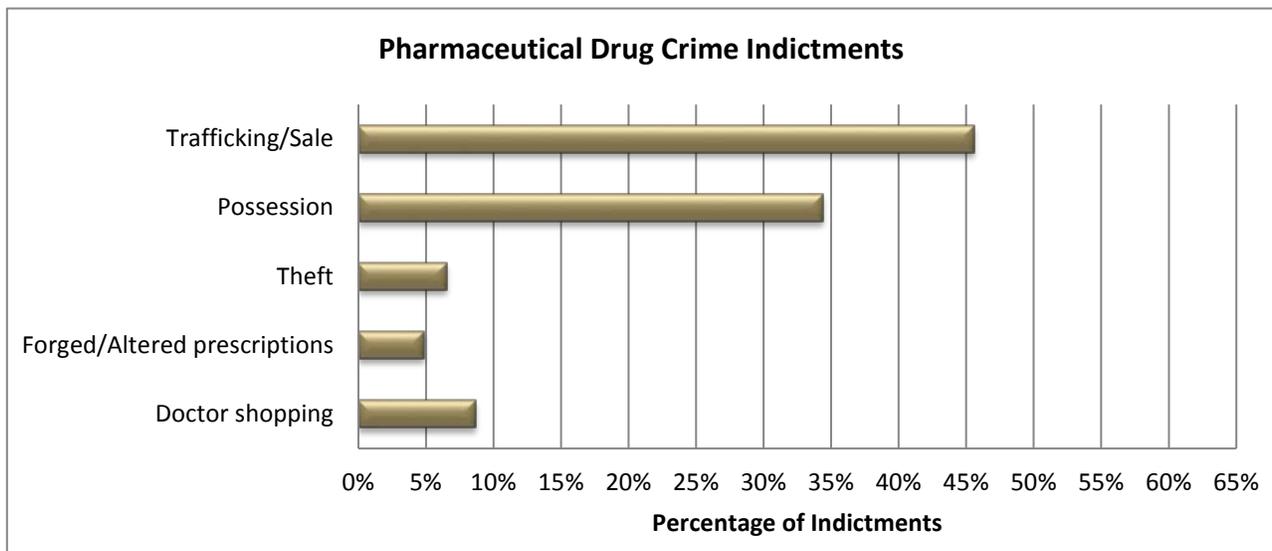
In regards to prescription drugs removed, Oxycodone-ER (Percocet), Oxycodone-IR (OxyContin), Alprazolam (Xanax), Hydrocodone (Vicodin/Lorcet), Buprenorphine (Suboxone) and Tramadol (Ultram/ Ultracet) were the five drugs for which there were the most indictments, seizures and diversions in 2016.

Additionally, 12 task forces reported using nasal naloxone during 2016. A total of 152 administrations were provided and out of these, 143 saves were reported.

## Other Task Force Activity

Drug task forces seized roughly $14.9 million of assets in 2016. Asset seizure refers to the seizure of drug-related assets that have been used to facilitate drug trafficking or are derived from drug trafficking. The estimated value of all assets forfeited was over $5.7 million in 2016. Asset forfeiture refers to those seized assets proven in court to have been used to facilitate drug trafficking or derived from drug trafficking and are thus forfeited to government entities.

Ohio's multi-jurisdictional task forces also initiate and assist in investigations where the focus is not drug-related crime. In 2016, the task forces engaged in 1,453 non-drug related investigations and they confiscated a total of 1,591 firearms in 2016.

For the full report, click HERE.

---

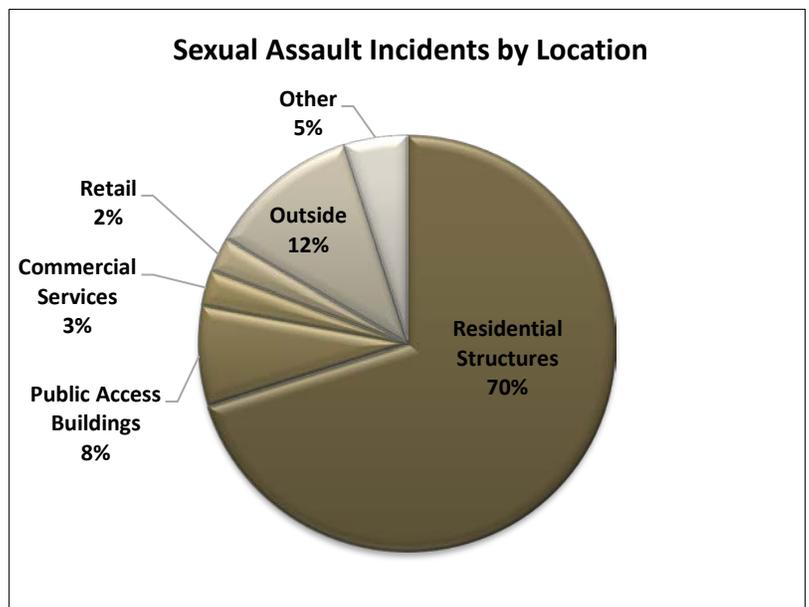# Sexual Assault in Ohio – 2015

*Anjolie Harland, M.S.*
*Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services*

One tool that can be used to examine sexual assault in Ohio is the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS). OIBRS is a voluntary crime reporting program in which Ohio law enforcement agencies can submit crime statistics directly to the state and federal government in an automated format. At the end of 2015, 552 agencies covering approximately 77 percent of the Ohio population were reporting OIBRS data. The use of OIBRS data allows for detailed information to be obtained on the nature of the offense, the victim, the suspect/arrestee, weapon use, and property involved.

OIBRS data are used in this report on sexual assault. However, some limitations must be noted. Readers are cautioned against using the statistics contained in this report as a basis of comparison with other states or other years of data.

In 2015, the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System agencies reported 7,815 incidents of sexual assault. The number of sexual assaults reported peaked in June and thirty-seven percent (N = 3,054) of reported incidents occurred between June and September of 2015.

The majority of sexual assault incidents were reported as occurring at a person's residence. Within residential structures, 72 percent were reported to have occurred in single-family homes and 22 percent in multiple dwellings (i.e. apartment, duplex, condominium, housing project and townhouse). Outside, 57 percent were reported to have taken place in the street or parking lot. Within public access buildings, 49 percent occurred at schools or colleges and 18 percent within jail/prison. Lastly, within commercial services, 64 percent were reported having occurred in a hotel/motel.

**Sexual Assault Incidents by Location**

- Other 5%
- Retail 2%
- Commercial Services 3%
- Public Access Buildings 8%
- Outside 12%
- Residential Structures 70%

## Characteristics of Victims

In 2015, there were a total of 8,447 victims. Ninety-four percent of sexual assault incidents involved a single victim. The average age of sexual assault victims was 18.9 years and approximately 30 percent of victims were between the ages of 12 and 17 years.

Eighty-three percent of victims were female and 33 percent were reported to be between the ages of 12 and 17 years. Thirty-one percent of male victims were between the ages of 6 and 11 years.

**Sexual Assault Victims by Age and Gender**
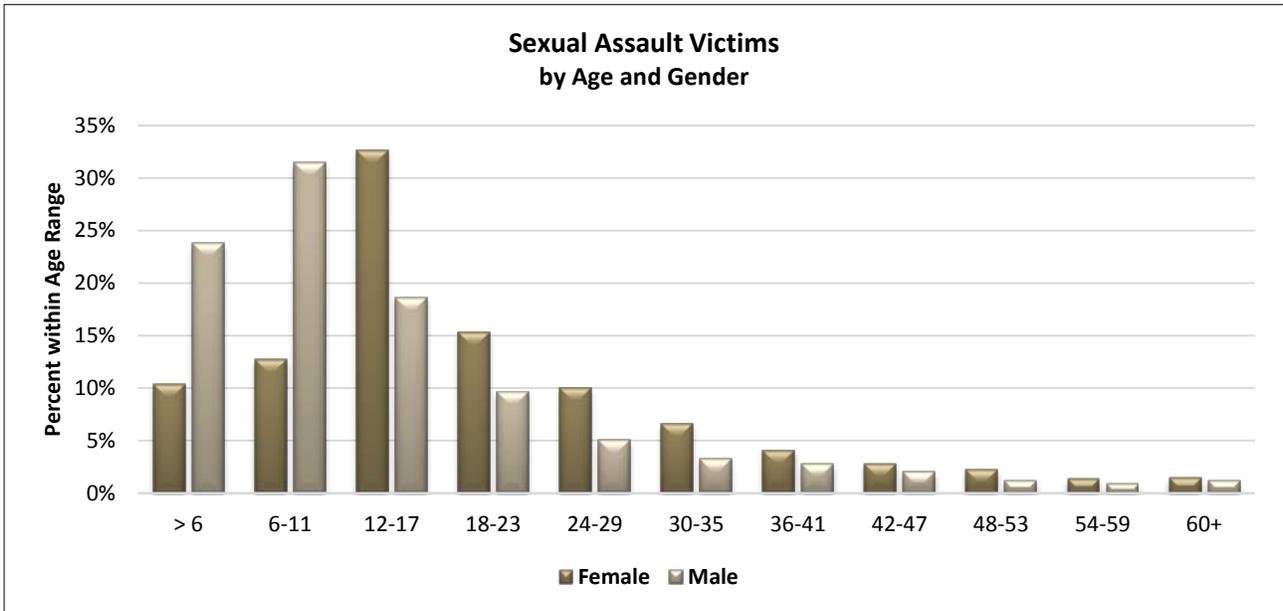


## Victim-Suspect Relationship

- Approximately 87 percent of reports were identified as a single-victim/single-suspect case.
- Nine percent of victims reported the suspect as a stranger.
- Eight percent of victims were identified as an intimate or former intimate (boy/girlfriend, common-law spouse, homosexual partner, or current or former spouse) partner to the suspect.

For the full report, click HERE.