



RTI's Policing Research Program Newsletter

Welcome to the [Policing Research Program](#)'s (PRP) second newsletter, a biannual email that provides the latest updates on research, events, and news from our program at RTI International. You're receiving this newsletter because you either signed up for it or have worked with our program in the past. We look forward to providing you with timely and useful information that directly supports your work.

PRP RESEARCH

Commemorating Sexual Assault Awareness Month with New Free Resources Available to Everyone

As part of the [National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative \(SAKI\)](#) project, funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), RTI and its partners released [new digital tools](#) to assist jurisdictions in establishing victim-centered and sustainable best practices for addressing previously unsubmitted sexual assault kits. The [SAKI Toolkit](#) offers hands-on resources tailored for practitioners who are working to respond to sexual assault, including cold case sexual assaults. Toolkit users can explore key categories of sexual assault response, browse topics centered on skill development, and save tools to a customizable dashboard known as a briefcase. The [SAKI Training and Technical Assistance \(TTA\) Virtual Academy's](#) short trainings and other resources provide information about evidence collection, investigation, prosecution, and the provision of trauma-informed care for sexual assault.

Helping Schools Prevent and Respond to Incidents of Violence

In 2017, RTI launched a comprehensive study supported by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to determine how prepared our nation's schools are for violent emergencies such as active shooters, weapon-related incidents, and hostage scenarios. This study examines state-, district-, and school-level data to (1) determine if schools are following federal safety and emergency guidelines, (2) identify school districts and schools with model emergency planning programs, and (3) learn more about the needs of school systems with different characteristics. [Learn more](#) about RTI's school safety research.

Using NIBRS as a Primary Data Source for Policy Evaluation and Crime Analysis

RTI's [Dr. Kevin Strom](#) recently published an [article](#) describing the nation's move to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) and the opportunity this brings not only for tracking and measuring crime but also for informing justice policy. RTI leads the team implementing the National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X). The Bureau of Justice Statistics funds NCS-X, which is designed to assist 400 sampled law enforcement agencies as they transition to incident-based reporting; this number includes all of the nation's largest police and sheriff departments. The NCS-X team provides planning and implementation support—including assessing each agency's current ability to report NIBRS-compliant data, identifying barriers or gaps in reporting capabilities, developing cost and feasibility guidelines for NIBRS implementation, and providing technical assistance and resource guides to assist the transition. [Explore resources](#) for supporting the national transition to NIBRS.

CFS Analytics™

[CFS Analytics](#) presents data from 911 calls for service (CFS) in a visual dashboard that helps managers compare response times, community demand, and other factors. By integrating and harmonizing information across numerous administrative data sources an agency can paint a comprehensive picture of officer activity with CFS Analytics.

IN THE MEDIA

- [It's Time to Build a Better Community Response to Sexual Assault](#)
- [Does Ford's Self-Driving Police Car Patent Mean RoboCop Is Coming to a Highway Near You?](#)
- [New tool to help police agencies and states submit more meaningful crime data](#)
- [Sexual Assault on College Campuses: Are Climate Surveys Still Relevant?](#)
- [Improving how we collect and share data can help prevent sexual assault](#)
- [Sexual Assault Kit Processing: Policies and Resources Needed for Improved Efficiency](#)

SPOTLIGHT: Meet the Experts

The PRP is staffed with criminologists and other leading experts in the field of policing, including those who have worked in law enforcement agencies as patrol officers, criminal investigators, accreditation and training staff members, imbedded researchers, and crime analysts. Our policing research staff members regularly partner with police agencies from across the nation and with other RTI researchers from a variety of fields. Our diversity and novel perspectives can help develop more effective policing policies and practices.



This newsletter spotlights [Dr. Josh A. Hendrix](#), one of our leading experts in school safety, security, and victimization. Dr. Hendrix is the principal investigator of the Comprehension of Emergency Operations Protocols study, an effort funded by the NIJ to assess whether students and school staff know how to effectively respond to active shooter scenarios and other violent emergencies that can occur on school campuses. He is the co-principal investigator of the NIJ-funded School Emergency Preparedness study, which examines the quality and comprehensiveness of school emergency operations plans and the extent to which school plans incorporate recommendations for emergency preparedness developed by federal and state agencies. Dr. Hendrix also leads the Bullying and Violence on the School Bus study, a project funded by the NIJ to examine student victimization on school buses, and the variety and effectiveness of behavioral management strategies used by school districts to reduce bullying, aggressive behavior, and other types of student misconduct on school buses.

[Meet the rest of the PRP team.](#)

EVENTS

Come visit us at the following events:

[CFS Analytics™ Exhibition](#)
[International Association of Chiefs of Police \(IACP\) Technology Conference \(LEIM\)](#)

May 21–23, 2018

Providence, RI www.theiacp.org/Tech-Conference

PRP Staff: [Brian Acken](#) and [Brian Aagaard](#)

Be sure to stop by Booth 405 to learn more about RTI's CFS Analytics, a tool for analyzing call-for-service data to improve operational efficiency.

[George Mason University Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy \(CEBCP\) Annual Symposium](#)

June 21, 2018

Arlington, VA

PRP Presenters: [Dr. Kevin Strom](#) and Dr. Travis Taniguchi

Past Events:

[Law Enforcement and Harm Reduction: Merging Public Safety and Public Health Roles](#)

National Rx Drug Abuse and Heroin Summit

Atlanta, GA

April 3, 2018

PRP Presenters: [Dr. Hope Smiley-McDonald](#) and Nick Richardson

[RTI Policing Research Symposium—Victim-Centered Responses: Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Community Surveys](#)

Durham, NC

February 23, 2018



The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado and the Subsequent Impact on Crime

[ACJS 55th Annual Meeting](#)

February 13–17, 2018

New Orleans, LA

PRP Presenters: Nick Richardson, [Dr. Kelle Barrick](#), [Dr. Josh Hendrix](#), and [Dr. Kevin Strom](#)

[Webinar: Utilize Existing CFS Data to Leverage and Support Data-Driven Decision Making](#)

[Webinar: How to Use Your Agency's CFS Data](#)

Contact us at policing@rti.org

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