



National Institute of Justice

Strengthen Research. Advance Justice.



Who Are We

NIJ is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice (34 USC §10122)

Vision

Crime reduction through scientific innovation and evidence-based practice.

Mission

Improving knowledge and understanding of crime and justice issues through science.

Primary Goal

To provide objective and independent knowledge and tools to inform the decision-making of the criminal and juvenile justice communities that reduces crime and advances justice.



NIJ



What We Do

1

Fund and Conduct Research, Development, and Evaluation Activities.

2

Manage National Criminal Justice Initiatives.

3

Publish, Disseminate, and Catalog Information.

4

Lead and Participate in Collaborative Initiatives.

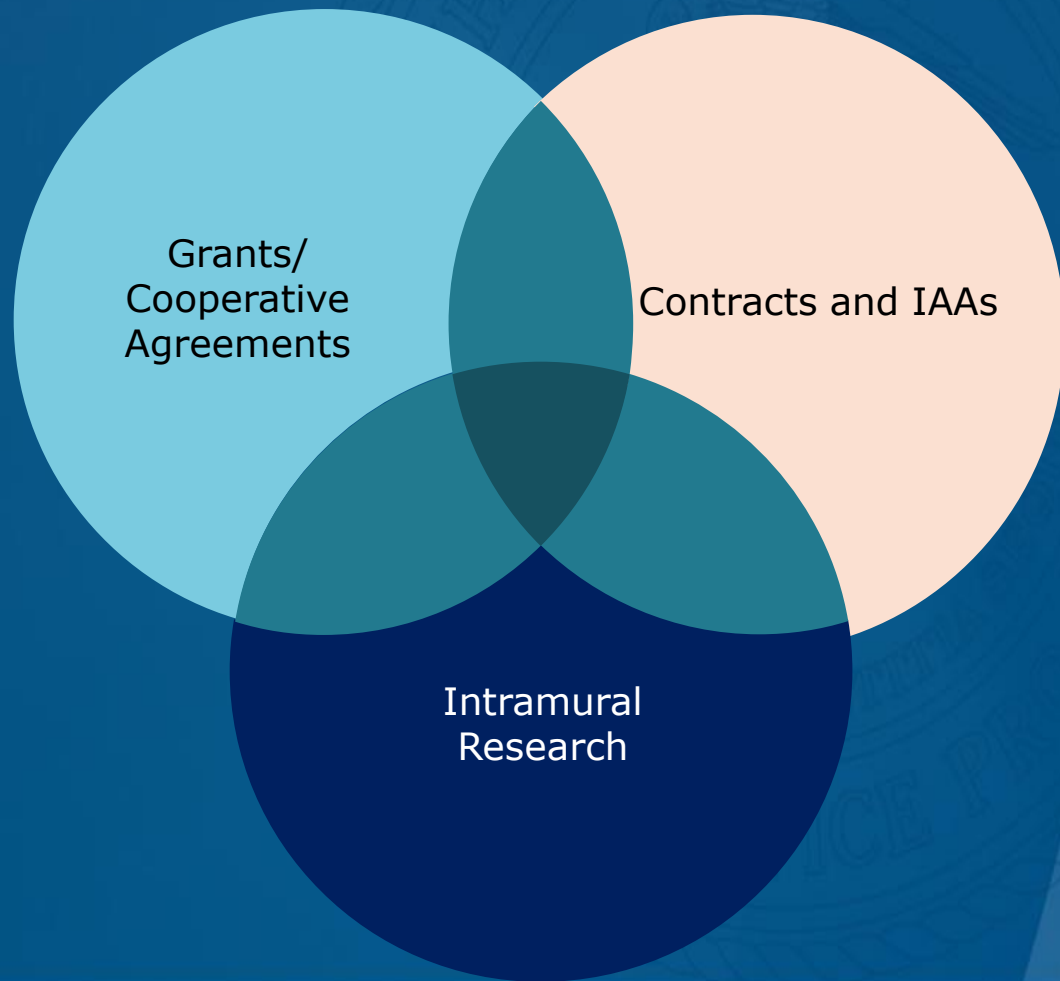


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How We Do It

Scientists and Engineers Guide
Investments and Lead Research
Projects





Our Audience





NIJ Director Priorities

- *Fostering rigorous and inclusive research* that informs efforts to promote safer communities and more equitable justice systems. This includes supporting research that *engages the people closest to the issue* — community members, crime survivors, criminal justice practitioners, people who have experienced incarceration, and business leaders — to guide data collection, help interpret findings, and identify implications of research findings for policy and practice.
- Elevating studies that *apply a racial equity lens*; recognize that race and ethnicity often serve as proxies for structural inequality; and include an assessment of racially disparate impacts of programs, policies, and practices.






NIJ Director Priorities, cont.

- Infusing technology research with a strong *implementation science* component by supporting evaluations of technology's implementation in the field and identify both its impacts and its unintended consequences.
- *Encouraging interdisciplinary research* that includes both quantitative and qualitative inquiries and examines net costs and benefits.
- *Ensuring that research evidence is translated* into actionable information to promote change in the field.



NIJ Budget – 2018 to 2022

NIJ Budget	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
 Enacted	\$36,900,000	\$47,900,000	\$40,933,335	\$202,400,000	\$228,460,000
 Transfers	\$24,257,930	\$22,955,000	\$21,455,000	\$25,543,750	\$-
 Other	\$67,680,355	\$51,864,781	\$51,036,483	\$40,967,482	\$21,754,336
 Assessments	\$(2,946,913)	\$(3,440,006)	\$(2,903,123)	\$(17,772,712)	\$(17,550,630)
 Total	\$125,891,372	\$119,279,775	\$110,521,695	\$251,138,520	\$232,663,706

*Beginning in fiscal year 2020, all capacity enhancement programs and funding were transferred to the Bureau of Justice Assistance.



Research Focus Areas (1 of 2)

Reducing Violent Crime	Preventing and responding to: firearms violence, violence in communities and schools, hate crime, gang violence, offender supervision and re-entry, and violence in communities and schools. Strengthening policing practices and strategies (including the application of technology).
Reforming Policing	Addressing excessive use-of-force; improving police community relations and accountability; strengthening officer decision-making skills; addressing bias in policing; assessing the impact on crime of diversion of resources from policing.
Reducing Victimization	Preventing and responding to trafficking in persons and to violence against women. Improving victims' services.





Research Focus Areas (2 of 2)

Protecting Public Safety Officers	Addressing the causes of stress and trauma; expanding research to include physiological markers; reducing work-related accidental death and injury; strengthening officer decision-making skills; improving the effectiveness of safety equipment, including performance standards and testing.
Addressing the Drug Epidemic	Developing improved practices and strategies to deter, investigate, prosecute, and address illegal drug trafficking (focus on opioids and meth), markets, and use.
Combating Terrorism	Developing effective strategies to prevent and reduce the likelihood that acts of domestic terrorism will occur. Focusing on disruption of the individual's pathway to committing terrorism.
Enhancing Investigations and Prosecution	Improving the quality and practice of forensic science; the identification, collection, testing, and interpretation of evidence, including processes, strategies, and technology enhancements.





Research Projects in Focus

- Using Artificial Intelligence technology to better predict an offender's risk of recidivating.
- Using machine learning to identify what leads to a successful homicide investigation.
- Using advanced data science techniques (mostly AI/ML) to identify what leads to successful re-entry for individuals released under community supervision.
- How to better measure community sentiment.
- Graduate research fellowships (dissertation funding).



NIJ



Links to NIJ

- NIJ's main website – <https://nij.ojp.gov>
- Current funding – <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/current>
- NIJ's fellowship and student programs – <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/fellowship-programs>



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