

# Numbers Now.....

## Criminal Justice in Oklahoma

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## Upcoming Projects for Oklahoma SAC

The Oklahoma Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) is housed in the Office of Criminal Justice Statistics at the OSBI with partial funding from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and support from the Justice Research and Statistics Association. The SAC serves as a clearinghouse for Oklahoma state criminal justice information and is the central contact point for federal, state, and local criminal justice agencies.

In addition to answering research requests from law enforcement agencies, state and local researchers, and the public, SAC Staff also works on grant-funded projects throughout the year. In 2011, SAC Staff completed the Oklahoma Crime Victimization Survey. Unit staff continued to collect data on all arrest-related deaths in Oklahoma; data collected by the unit is submitted to the Bureau of Justice Statistics for inclusion in the national database. Finally, staff continued to maintain the unit's link on the main OSBI Website.

In 2012, SAC Staff will continue to maintain the unit's link on the main website and collect data on arrest-related deaths in Oklahoma. In addition to the ongoing projects, the Oklahoma SAC will work with the Investigative Services Division and Oklahoma FUSION Center to develop a process to produce timely intelligence. The overarching goal of *Turning Information into Intelligence* is to assist in the development and implementation of a program that seeks to identify high-risk repeat offenders at the county level, identify best practices, and offer recommendations for improvement of the program.

For more information about the Oklahoma Statistical Analysis Center, please visit the unit's link on the OSBI website.

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## Update: Oklahoma Crime Victimization Survey

The Oklahoma SAC completed the second statewide crime victimization survey (the first survey was published in 2011). The purpose of the Oklahoma Crime Victimization Survey (OCVS) is to generate statewide crime estimates for Oklahoma. Victimization Surveys are designed to elicit information from citizens about crime – both reported and unreported; survey results are often used to complement data collected by the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Survey results are based on 794 completed phone interviews; of the 794 participants, 258 (32.5%) reported they were a victim of crime in 2011. Survey participants reported overall satisfaction with the efforts of law enforcement. The majority of participants felt safe in their communities. When asked, the majority of participants identified “the economy” as the biggest contributor to crime in 2011 (compared to “drug, alcohol or other substance abuse” in 2010).

The final report will be published online this fall.

### National No Bully Week Signs of Bullying

- Withdrawal
- Drop in Grades
- Torn Clothing
- Loss of Friends
- Avoidance of School/Activities
- Bruises
- Need for Extra Money/Supplies

#### Reminder...

The Office of Criminal Justice Statistics can assist you and your agency with statistics for grant applications or any other research requests.

Please visit: [www.ok.gov/osbi/Statistical\\_Analysis\\_Center](http://www.ok.gov/osbi/Statistical_Analysis_Center)

### Oklahoma Violent Death Reporting System

Oklahoma is one of 18 states that participate in the National Violent Death Reporting System, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The project is a collaborative effort between the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH), Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, and the OSBI. The Bureau contributes law enforcement data to the project.

For purposes of this data collection, violent deaths include homicides, suicides, deaths from legal intervention, unintentional firearm deaths, deaths of an undetermined manner, and deaths from terrorism. For each death, program staff collects data about the victim, suspect, weapon, circumstances surrounding the death, as well as many other variables.

Information collected through the surveillance-based system is used by state and local violence prevention practitioners to assist in prevention programs and policy changes. Using data collected by the program, OSDH periodically publishes the *Summary of Violent Deaths in Oklahoma*.

[http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease,\\_Prevention,\\_Preparedness/Injury\\_Prevention\\_Service/Oklahoma\\_Violent\\_Death\\_Reporting\\_System/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease,_Prevention,_Preparedness/Injury_Prevention_Service/Oklahoma_Violent_Death_Reporting_System/index.html)

## Arrest-Related Deaths in Oklahoma, 2011

Annually, the Oklahoma SAC collects and submits data on all arrest-related deaths to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. For purposes of this data collection, an arrest-related death includes *all persons in the physical custody, or under physical restraint of law enforcement officers, even if the person was not formally under arrest at the time of death*. We also collect data on deaths attributed to intoxication, suicide, accidental injury (including police pursuits), illness and natural causes. For this data collection, the key factor in determining an arrest-related death is: did law enforcement make contact (attempted or successful) with the decedent? Officers involved in deaths that occurred while the officer was off-duty are also included in the data collection.

For 2011, SAC staff reported 38 arrest-related deaths to the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). According to medical examiner reports, the manner of death was ruled homicide in 12 cases, suicide in 12 cases, accident in eight cases, natural in one case, and unknown in two cases. Unit staff is waiting on final reports for the remaining three deaths. There were 37 males and one female. The average age was 34; the oldest was 59, and the youngest was 20. Twenty-five of the decedents were White, nine were Black, three were Hispanic, and one decedent was American Indian. March had the highest number of deaths with 6; no arrest-related deaths occurred during October. Of the 38 deaths, 10 occurred in Oklahoma City, seven occurred in Tulsa, and three occurred in Moore, Oklahoma.

The following table provides a breakdown of arrest-related deaths in Oklahoma since 2003.

Year	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
2003	2	7	5	2	16
2004	8	4	5	3	20
2005	2	5	9	2	18
2006	4	3	2	1	10
2007	0	1	3	2	6
2008	2	4	3	3	12
2009	2	2	2	3	9
2010	6	6	5	3	20
2011	8	11	12	7	38
2012*	7	6	5	**	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>167</b>

\* 2012 numbers are preliminary. See full report in spring 2013

\*\* Data not yet available

# Baker's Dozen

*Angie Baker, SAC Director*

National No Bully Week is observed annually in September. Organized by the National Crime Prevention Council, the weekly event highlights negative effects of bullying – including suicide. According to the Oklahoma State Department of Health, suicide is the third leading cause of death among youth 10-24 years of age in the United States. Below are select statistics related to suicide among young people in Oklahoma.

1. From 2004 to 2007, 286 Oklahoma youths committed suicide;
2. Oklahoma's suicide rate (9.3) was 31% higher than the national rate (7.1);
3. Males accounted for 81% of suicides;
4. The suicide rate among Native American youth (14.4) was 66% higher than the rate among whites and 2.8 times higher than the rate among blacks;
5. Native Americans had the highest rates of suicide compared to other races;
6. Fifty percent of youth suicides involved a firearm; 33% of youth suicides were caused by hanging and strangulation;
7. Among males, firearms were the most common method of suicide; for females, hanging/strangulation and firearms was the most common;
8. Depression (41%) was reported as the most common circumstance surrounding the suicide, followed by intimate partner problems (38%), and a crisis in the two weeks prior to the incident (30%);
9. Among males, depression was the leading circumstance leading up to the suicide; in females, intimate partner problem was reported as the leading circumstance leading up to the suicide;
10. Twenty-eight percent of youths who committed suicide left a suicide note;
11. Twenty-six percent of youths disclosed their intent to commit suicide at some point in the past;
12. For every successful youth suicide, 100-200 attempts occur.
13. For more information, please visit:

[http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease\\_Prevention\\_Preparedness/Injury\\_Prevention\\_Service/IPS\\_Publications/index.html](http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease_Prevention_Preparedness/Injury_Prevention_Service/IPS_Publications/index.html)

*Information adapted from the OK-VDRS Brief Report: Youth Suicide in Oklahoma. Data for report was gathered by the Oklahoma Violent Death Reporting System, which can be accessed at [http://www.ok.gov/health/documents/Suicide\\_Among\\_Youth.pdf](http://www.ok.gov/health/documents/Suicide_Among_Youth.pdf)*

## *Mission*

*To collect, analyze, and disseminate criminal justice research to educate and assist law enforcement and the public in Oklahoma.*