

National Stakeholder Partnership Series

Finding Existing Data

As a first step, tap into your stakeholders to identify any recent studies they have participated in, or data they currently collect.

- For those serving adults with substance use issues: are they gathering information about children or family circumstances?
- For those serving children: are they gathering information about family involvement in substance use?

Local hospitals, outpatient clinics, after school programs, schools, and community-based service providers may already have information about their clients such as a community needs assessment that can inform your work. If you have an extensive stakeholder network, consider surveying or interviewing them about the data they collect and whether that information can be shared. You might also consider a focus group of stakeholders, so that they can learn from each other while informing your project.

TIP: Get started by having coffee with your key stakeholders. Find out what data they collect, or what they know about existing data that can help you.



Other sources of data you may find useful:

County Information

The **National Association of Counties** has an interactive [County Explorer](#) website that connects you to basic county demographic information and many specific statistics, including opioid prescribing rate, child poverty rate, HIV rate, and much more. The tool also links to county websites, which may have even more data in areas such as crime, health, transportation, and substance use.

The **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** has compiled [county health data](#) on an easily searchable website. Users can find information about counties, including data on those who are uninsured, premature deaths, poor mental health days, amount of violent crime, and more. Counties are ranked within states on various factors (such as health, health behavior, social and economic, and physical environment).



Census Data

The U.S. Census is another rich source of local data, which can include basic demographics or other information. Their [American Fact Finder](#) website is a user-friendly key to a trove of information including income data, languages spoken, and make up of households.

Overdose deaths

State Vital Statistics. Your state office on vital statistics typically compiles information from medical examiners and issues a monthly report. They often show deaths relating to substance use or related statistics. Search for your state and Office on Vital Statistics.

Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts. You can get basic state level data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which gathers and compiles vital statistics data. They post [Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts](#) under a rapid release program, searchable by map.

Student Substance Use

Youth Risk Behavior Survey. If your state or local school participates in the annual Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), you may be able to get some information about substance use.

- Find out if your [state or locality](#) participated at the high school or middle school level.
- You can then [access data](#) for your state or locality.

Even if you are in a state that participates, high schools and middle schools in your community may not be part of the pool, or the number of local participants may mean you don't have statistics that reliably reflect your local area. If you think this information would be valuable, discuss with your stakeholders about having the survey implemented locally. The CDC makes the [questionnaire available](#) free of charge, and provides information about the administration methods to use. In addition, your state department of education or department of public health may be supportive of local implementation—since it would provide more data the state could use—and they might have resources to assist you.

Crime and Victimization Data

Crime Data Explorer. The FBI is developing its [Crime Data Explorer](#) (CDE) to make its state level crime data more accessible. The CDE includes Uniform Crime Report (UCR) data collected under the traditional summary system on nine basic crime types, as well as the detailed National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) more detailed format. The CDE tool allows users to search, sort, and compare national and state data as well as agency-level crime statistics. It also provides a way to [download](#) selected reports and data. Details

about the CDE and the UCR data included in the tool are available [here](#).

Easy Access to NIBRS. An additional tool to access state level data from the NIBRS is hosted by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The "[Easy Access to NIBRS](#)" data tool focuses specifically on victims of violence and capitalizes on many of the details collected by NIBRS including victim demographics, victim-offender relationship, weapon, and residential location.

Visit the COSSAP Resource Center at www.cossapresources.org.

About the OVC-BJA National Stakeholder Partnership (NSP)

The content provided by this resource is made possible through participation in the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) National Stakeholder Partnership (NSP). This partnership, comprising seven national organizations, leverages expertise on child and youth impacted and victimized by the nation's opioid and broader substance use crisis, with an emphasis on multidisciplinary collaborations, research, and promotion of training and education. Members of the NSP dedicate time and resources to inform the planning, development, and implementation of OVC and BJA initiatives designed to respond to, treat, and support those impacted by the opioid epidemic, specifically young victims. In addition, members participate in informative national conversations regarding children and youth impact and best-practice models that focus on innovative strategies and force-multiplying partnerships.

The overarching goals of this work are to advance awareness and knowledge to help mitigate the traumatization of children and youth and to advance dissemination of innovative practices throughout the field. NSP member organizations are:

- Police, Treatment and Community Collaborative
- National Court Appointed Special Advocates/ Guardians ad Litem Association
- Justice Research and Statistics Associates
- National Children's Advocacy Center
- National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children
- National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
- National Center for State Courts



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