Using Family Violence Data to Build Support for Prevention

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Outline

Overview
• What is “family violence” data?
• Why should I use data?

Results
• Ohio
• Counties

How to use data
• Grant-writing/Awareness vs. Planning/Evaluation
• Themes
• Proper ways to quote data
• Demonstration (with volunteers)

Discussion/Q&A
What is Family Violence Data?
Information about the risk factors for, scope of, and consequences of family violence in Ohio.

- child maltreatment
- intimate partner violence
- elder abuse
Selected sources of quantitative FV data in Ohio

- **Case reports**
  - Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS)
  - Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS)

- **Case tallies**
  - Adult protective services management summary reports (ODJFS)
  - Police call data (BCI)
  - Shelter data (AGO)
  - Civil protection orders (SCO)

- **Surveys**
  - Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS): teen dating violence
  - Ohio Family Health Survey (OFHS): physical IPV
  - National Incidence Study - 4: child maltreatment
  - National Elder Mistreatment Study
Two Principles

1. Keep it local
   - county
2 principles

1. Keep it local
   - county

2. Put it in context
   - Compared to what?
Context

• Period
  – How does my county compare to last year?

• Place
  – How does my county compare to others?

• Problem
  – How does elder abuse compare to other problems in my county?
Why Use Data?
I didn't have any accurate numbers so I just made up this one.

Studies have shown that accurate numbers aren't any more useful than the ones you make up.

How many studies showed that?

Eighty-seven.
I don’t care what the research says, we need to do [X]!

Quantitative studies suppress victims’ voices.

The study’s not valid because it didn’t include emotional abuse.

The study’s not valid because it didn’t include Latinas.

The numbers don’t capture what’s really going on here.

The study’s not valid because it didn’t include women who didn’t seek help.

You can get statistics to say anything you want.

I don’t care what the research says, we need to do [X]!

I’m afraid to use statistics because I don’t really get them.

I’ve helped fill out the forms these data are based on. I know they’re flawed.
Why don’t we use data?

• Every source is imperfect
  – especially for complex issues like FV

• Different “case” definitions
  – fear of undercounting

• Difficult to find and report
  – Access local level data
  – Skills to report findings accurately
So - Why bother…?

- “If you don’t count it, it doesn’t count”
  - others use data

- “the numbers favor FV”

- Builds credibility
Results

http://www.hpio.net/OFVPP_CountyProfiles.html
These data describe common types of violence perpetrated by family members or caregivers in our state each year. We present the best available, most recent estimates. Nonetheless, our figures are conservative and represent only part of the burden family violence places on our families and communities. All figures are estimates or annual averages.

Each year in our state...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children abused or neglected</td>
<td>38,000 – 56,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports of abuse or neglect filed with children’s services</td>
<td>105,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children placed in custody</td>
<td>26,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults abused by a current or former intimate partner</td>
<td>88,000 – 115,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People arrested for intimate partner violence</td>
<td>21,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People file petitions for civil protection orders</td>
<td>18,822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults seeking shelter in domestic violence shelters in the county</td>
<td>3,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors in the community abused, neglected or financially exploited</td>
<td>90,000 – 115,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation filed for seniors in LTC facilities</td>
<td>6,900 – 13,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation filed for seniors in the community</td>
<td>7,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation filed for seniors in LTC facilities</td>
<td>3,163</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- It is difficult to measure the true prevalence of family violence; many victims never come to the attention of authorities.
- Reports to local children’s service agencies typically exceed the estimated number of abused or neglected children. This is likely due to multiple reports filed for a single child. Also, many children are placed in custody for reasons other than abuse or neglect (e.g., delinquency).
- Elder abuse/neglect figures exclude self-neglect and victims <60 years old. (LTC = long term care)

This profile is part of an 88-county series provided by the Ohio Family Violence Prevention Project – a collaborative project of the Health Policy Institute of Ohio and the Ohio State University College of Public Health with support from the HealthPath Foundation of Ohio. For additional copies and a detailed description of how we calculated these figures, please visit: www.healthpolicyohio.org/OFVPP_CountyProfiles.html

In Ohio, how does family violence compare to other threats among ...?

### teenage girls (age 15-19, est. #/year)
- cigarette use: 67,000 - 118,000
- dating violence: 32,000 - 49,000
- pregnancies: 26,228
- motor vehicle crash injuries: 8,697

### adult women (age 18+, est. #/year)
- physical intimate partner violence: 56,000 – 78,000
- motor vehicle crash injuries: 51,007
- mothers without 1st trimester prenatal care: 42,900
- new cancer cases: 30,550

### seniors (age 60+, est. #/year)
- injuries from falls: 66,000 – 128,000
- elder abuse/neglect: 90,000 – 115,000
- new cancer cases: 40,289
- motor vehicle crash injuries: 13,505

• For example: each year in Ohio between 56,000 and 78,000 adult women experience physical intimate partner violence; in comparison, 51,007 adult women are injured in motor vehicle crashes.

### How do different types of counties compare?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County type (# of counties)</th>
<th>Petitions for civil protection orders (per 10,000 adults)</th>
<th>Reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation in LTC facilities (per 100 resident beds)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major metropolitan (6)</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburban (18)</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smaller metropolitan (7)</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian (29)</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Appalachian rural (28)</td>
<td>18.4</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State mean (88)</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Appalachian counties have a higher rate of petitions for civil protection orders (CPO’s).
• Major metropolitan counties have a higher rate of reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation in LTC facilities.
• Differences in data collection limit our ability to compare other indicators of family violence across counties.

### Is family violence increasing?

It is hard to say. Some data sources suggest family violence is increasing; others suggest it is stable or decreasing. Within a location, changes over time are largely due to changes in victims’ ability to access services. This graph, for example, suggests a significant increase in petitions for CPO’s. This trend could reflect a growing awareness or ability of victims to request CPO’s. For a discussion of when differences are noteworthy, please see the introduction.

To talk with someone about family violence, contact:
Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-4-A-CHILD
Ohio Domestic Violence Network 1-800-934-9840
Ohio Area Agencies on Aging: 1-866-243-5678
Counties

http://www.hpio.net/OFVPP_CountyProfiles.html
These data describe common types of violence perpetrated by family members or caregivers in our county each year. We present the best available, most recent estimates. Nonetheless, our figures are conservative and represent only part of the burden family violence places on our families and communities. All figures are estimates or annual averages.

Each year in our county...

- **3,900 - 5,900** children are abused or neglected
- **8,400 - 11,000** adults are physically abused by a current or former intimate partner
- **6,500 - 8,400** seniors in the community are abused, neglected or financially exploited
- **12,883** reports of abuse or neglect are filed with children’s services
- **2,800** people are arrested for intimate partner violence
- **490 - 990** seniors in LTC facilities are abused, neglected or financially exploited
- **5,327** children are placed in custody
- **1,486** people file petitions for civil protection orders
- **778** reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation are filed for seniors in the community
- **249** reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation are filed for seniors in LTC facilities
- **275** adults seek shelter in domestic violence shelters in the county
- **249** reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation are filed for seniors in LTC facilities

- It is difficult to measure the true prevalence of family violence; many victims never come to the attention of authorities.
- Reports to local children’s service agencies typically exceed the estimated number of abused or neglected children. This is likely due to multiple reports filed for a single child. Also, many children are placed in custody for reasons other than abuse or neglect (e.g., delinquency).
- Elder abuse/neglect figures exclude self-neglect and victims <60 years old. (LTC = long term care)
Underlying Prevalence

- Cases that come to authorities’ attention \textit{and} those that do not.

- Interpolated from national data
  - assumes Ohio is similar to US average
  - assumes each county is similar to US average

- Range reflects uncertainty
Family Violence in Franklin County

These data describe common types of violence perpetrated by family members or caregivers in our county each year. We present the best available, most recent estimates. Nonetheless, our figures are conservative and represent only part of the burden family violence places on our families and communities. All figures are estimates or annual averages.

Each year in our county...

- 3,900 - 5,900 children are abused or neglected
- 8,400 - 11,000 adults are physically abused by a current or former intimate partner
- 6,500 - 8,400 seniors in the community are abused, neglected or financially exploited
- 1,486 people file petitions for civil protection orders
- 2,800 people are arrested for intimate partner violence
- 778 reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation are filed for seniors in the community
- 1,486 reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation are filed for seniors in LTC facilities
- 275 adults seek shelter in domestic violence shelters in the county
- 5,327 children are placed in custody
- 249 reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation are filed for seniors in LTC facilities
- 12,883 reports of abuse or neglect are filed with children’s services
- 2,400 adults are physically abused by a current or former intimate partner

• It is difficult to measure the true prevalence of family violence; many victims never come to the attention of authorities.

• Reports to local children’s service agencies typically exceed the estimated number of abused or neglected children. This is likely due to multiple reports filed for a single child. Also, many children are placed in custody for reasons other than abuse or neglect (e.g., delinquency).

• Elder abuse/neglect figures exclude self-neglect and victims <60 years old. (LTC = long term care)

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Case Reports & Tallies

• Only cases that come to authorities’ attention.

• “reports” ≠ individuals

• Influenced by…
  – Agency capacity
  – Reporting procedures
  – Underlying prevalence
In Franklin County, how does family violence compare to other threats among ...?

**teenage girls (age 15-19, est. #/year)**
- cigarette use: 6,700-11,800
- dating violence: 3,200-4,900
- pregnancies: 2,946
- motor vehicle crash injuries: 775

**adult women (age 18+, est. #/year)**
- intimate partner violence: 5,500-7,400
- motor vehicle crash injuries: 6,075
- mothers without 1st trimester prenatal care: 5,953
- new cancer cases: 2,584

**seniors (age 60+, est. #/year)**
- injuries from falls: 4,700-9,300
- elder abuse/neglect: 6,500-8,400
- new cancer cases: 2,955
- motor vehicle crash injuries: 1,197

- For example: each year in our county between 5,500 and 7,400 adult women experience physical intimate partner violence; in comparison, 6,075 adult women are injured in motor vehicle crashes.

**How do we compare to other counties?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Franklin County</th>
<th>Mean of 6 major metro counties</th>
<th>State mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil protection order petitions (per 10,000 adults)</td>
<td>17.9</td>
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<td>21.6</td>
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- Franklin County has a lower rate of petitions for civil protection orders (CPO’s) compared to similar counties in Ohio.
- Franklin County has about the same rate of reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation in LTC facilities compared to similar counties in Ohio.
- Differences in data collection limit our ability to compare other indicators of family violence across counties.

**Is family violence increasing?**

It is hard to say. Some data sources suggest family violence is increasing; others suggest it is stable or decreasing. Within a county, changes over time are largely due to changes in victims’ ability to access services. This graph, for example, suggests a significant increase in petitions for CPO’s in our county. This trend could reflect a growing awareness or ability of victims to request CPO’s. For a discussion of when differences are noteworthy, please see the introduction.

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Mean annual rate of petitions for civil protection orders, per 10,000 adults, Franklin County, 2000-2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000-02</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-05</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-08</td>
<td>17.9</td>
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- Franklin County has **about the same rate** of reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation in LTC facilities compared to similar counties in Ohio.
- Differences in data collection limit our ability to compare other indicators of family violence across counties.
When are differences noteworthy?

• Apparent differences are often due to chance

• Calculate a range beyond which we are confident differences are (probably) not due to chance
  – “confidence interval”

• Fewer cases → larger confidence intervals
Is family violence increasing?

It is hard to say. Some data sources suggest family violence is increasing; others suggest it is stable or decreasing. Within a county, changes over time are largely due to changes in victims’ ability to access services. This graph, for example, suggests a significant increase in petitions for CPO’s in our county. This trend could reflect a growing awareness or ability of victims to request CPO’s. For a discussion of when differences are noteworthy, please see the introduction.

Mean annual rate of petitions for civil protection orders, per 10,000 adults, Franklin County, 2000-2008
How To Use OFVPP Data
Ways of Using Data

- Planning
  Use data to find an answer
- Evaluation
- Grant-Writing
  Use data to support your answer
- Advocacy
Using data to show that FV in Ohio is…

• Common

• Consequential

• Changeable
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Child abuse &amp; neglect</th>
<th>Intimate partner violence</th>
<th>Elder abuse &amp; neglect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consequential</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changeable</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Available OFVPP Data

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Common</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consequential</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Changeable</strong></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To show that FV is common…

• Emphasize *past-year* prevalence

• Emphasize local

• Case reports build credibility
Each year in Fairfield County…

• At least 1,100 adults are physically abused by a current or former intimate partner

• A huge direct burden on county agencies
  – 300 arrests for IPV
  – 137 requests for civil protection orders
  – 69 adults seek shelter in DV shelters
To show that FV is common…

- Emphasize *past-year* prevalence
- Emphasize local
- Case reports build credibility
- Put in context of other problems
Selected threats to seniors’ health in Licking County:
Estimated number of cases per year among seniors age 60+

- Injuries from falls: 860-1,700
- Elder abuse/neglect: 1,200-1,500
- New cancer cases: 502
- Motor vehicle crash injuries: 170

Injuries from falls and elder abuse/neglect are based on survey samples and present a low and high estimate.

Slide prepared by the Ohio Family Violence Prevention Project, a project of the Health Policy Institute of Ohio and The Ohio State University College of Public Health with support from the HealthPath Foundation of Ohio. Contact 614.292.3373 or ofvpp@cph.osu.edu
To show that FV is consequential...

• Association with other outcomes
  – illness & injury
  – disability
  – employment
  – homelessness
  – death

• Cost
  – agency burden
To show that FV is changeable…

• Highlight change over time

• Consider differences across place

• Cite intervention research
# petitions for civil protection orders per 10,000 residents: Allen County, 2000-2008

Source: Supreme Court of Ohio
Slide prepared by the Ohio Family Violence Prevention Project, a project of the Health Policy Institute of Ohio and the Ohio State University College of Public Health. 614.292.3373 ofvpp@cph.osu.edu
We need to acknowledge…

• FV is not equally common everywhere

• FV is not always getting worse

• Not all programs and policies work
Themes
Themes

• Each year, many victims of family violence never come to the attention of authorities.

• Family violence places a tremendous burden on social service agencies.

• Certain types of family violence are every bit as common as other, more widely recognized threats to health and well-being.
Each year, many victims of family violence never come to the attention of authorities.

“According to a recent study, at least 820 elders are abused or neglected each year in Delaware County, yet the local adult protective service agency only received 48 reports.”
Family violence places a tremendous burden on social service agencies.

“Since 2000-02, the number of petitions for civil protection orders in Pickaway County has jumped 129%.”

\[
\frac{(12.8 - 5.6)}{5.6} = 1.29 = 129\%
\]
Certain types of family violence are every bit as common as other, more widely recognized threats to health and well-being.

“One recent study estimated that each year in Knox County, at least 190 teenage girls experience dating violence, compared to 59 who are injured in motor vehicle crashes.”
Quoting A Range

• Can be confusing, unwieldy

• 3 options:
  – between
  – at least
  – as many as
• “…a recent study found that between 3,900 and 5,900 children are abused or neglected in our county each year.”

• “…a recent study found that at least 3,900 children are abused or neglected in our county each year.”

• “…a recent study found that as many as 5,900 children are abused or neglected in our county each year.”
A Plea and a Warning

- Know the details!

- Read the relevant parts of “Sources and Methods”

- Avoid undermining your work and the data
Creating Compelling Graphs
Selected threats to teenage girls’ health in Adams County:
Estimated number of cases per year among 15-19 year old females

- **cigarette use**: 160 (low) to 280 (high)
- **dating violence**: 80 (low) to 120 (high)
- **pregnancies**: 66
- **motor vehicle crash injuries**: 32

Cigarette use and dating violence are based on survey samples and present a low and high estimate.

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teenage girls (age 15-19, est. #/year)

- cigarette use: 160-280
- dating violence: 80-120
- pregnancies: 66
- motor vehicle crash injuries: 32

Pregnancies and motor vehicle crash injuries are based on survey samples and present a low and high estimate.

Cigarette use and dating violence are based on survey samples and present a low and high estimate.

120 - 80 = 40
Selected threats to teenage girls’ health in Adams County:

Estimated number of cases per year among 15-19 year old females

- **cigarette use**: 66 - 280
- **dating violence**: 80 - 120
- **pregnancies**: 66
- **motor vehicle crash injuries**: 32

*cigarette use and dating violence are based on survey samples and present a low and high estimate*

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Demonstration
Selected threats to teenage girls’ health in Adams County:
Estimated number of cases per year among 15-19 year old females

- Cigarette use: 160-280 cases
- Dating violence: 80-120 cases
- Pregnancies: 66 cases
- Motor vehicle crash injuries: 32 cases

Cigarette use and dating violence are based on survey samples and present a low and high estimate.

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Selected threats to women’s health in Adams County:
Estimated number of cases per year among females age 18+

- Physical intimate partner violence: 140 to 190
- Motor vehicle crash injuries: 129
- Mothers without 1st trimester prenatal care: 90
- New cancer cases: 60

Physical intimate partner violence is based on survey samples and presents a low and high estimate.

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Selected threats to seniors’ health in Adams County:
Estimated number of cases per year among seniors age 60+

- Injuries from falls: 170 to 330
- Elder abuse/neglect: 240 to 300
- New cancer cases: 93
- Motor vehicle crash injuries: 34

Injuries from falls and elder abuse/neglect are based on survey samples and present a low and high estimate.
Questions/Comments

What if this makes my agency look bad?
Thank you