



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

History of CrimeSolutions

Crime Control and Safe Streets Act

The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act created the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and what is now the Office of Justice Programs.

1968

Juvenile Crime Prevention Act

The Violent Crime and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 expanded funding for programming in multiple criminal justice areas. The Juvenile Crime Prevention and Reform Act of 1995 required the evaluation of funding initiatives, assigned to NIJ.

1995

Model Programs Guide

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs established the Model Programs Guide as a resource for practitioners and the community to highlight interventions that work, do not work, and are promising.

2000

CrimeSolutions Launched

OJP's evidence-based repository provides evidence-based information on the effectiveness of various criminal justice programs and practices, aiming to inform practitioners and policymakers about intervention effectiveness and improve outcomes.

2011

Practices and School Safety

CrimeSolutions added practices, meta-analyses of similar strategies, to the portfolio allowing the rating of multiple outcomes individually. The Comprehensive School Safety Initiative added over 100 school safety-related interventions in *CrimeSolutions*.

2014

Comprehensive Assessment

CrimeSolutions persisted through multiple administrations, though criticism of its program rating system and use by its intended audience. A comprehensive assessment started, including usability testing, reviewing the rating process, website updates, and outreach to the field.

2023

1979

NIJ and BJS Created

The US Senate passed the Justice Systems Improvement Act, an amendment to the 1968 Crime Control Act. The Improvement Act created four program offices, including the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

1997

The Maryland Report

The University of Maryland won NIJ funding to complete a comprehensive evaluation of funded programs. The seminal report rated research rigor and methodology to determine the effectiveness of the intervention, sharing their findings with Congress in 1997.

2009

Evidence Integration Initiative

OJP initiated the Evidence Integration Initiative (E2I) to better prepare practitioners and policymakers with enhanced tools and information to incorporate evidence into their decision-making process. E2I created an advisory board, diagnostic center, and *CrimeSolutions*.

2012

Transition to NIJ

Administrative responsibility for *CrimeSolutions* is moved from OJP to NIJ.

2016

What Works in Reentry

Created in 2008, the What Works in Reentry Clearinghouse focused on improving outcomes for those reintegrating after incarceration. In 2016, the Clearinghouse merged with *CrimeSolutions*, and all interventions were re-rated, creating a central repository for evidence-based research.

2024

Ratings by Outcome

CrimeSolutions rated programs based on an overall assessment, potentially masking successful components. Program ratings are transitioning to a rating by outcome, aligning with practices and providing additional transparency while reducing subjectivity.