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Administrative data and criminal justice statistics on GBV

Wednesday, 26 April 2023

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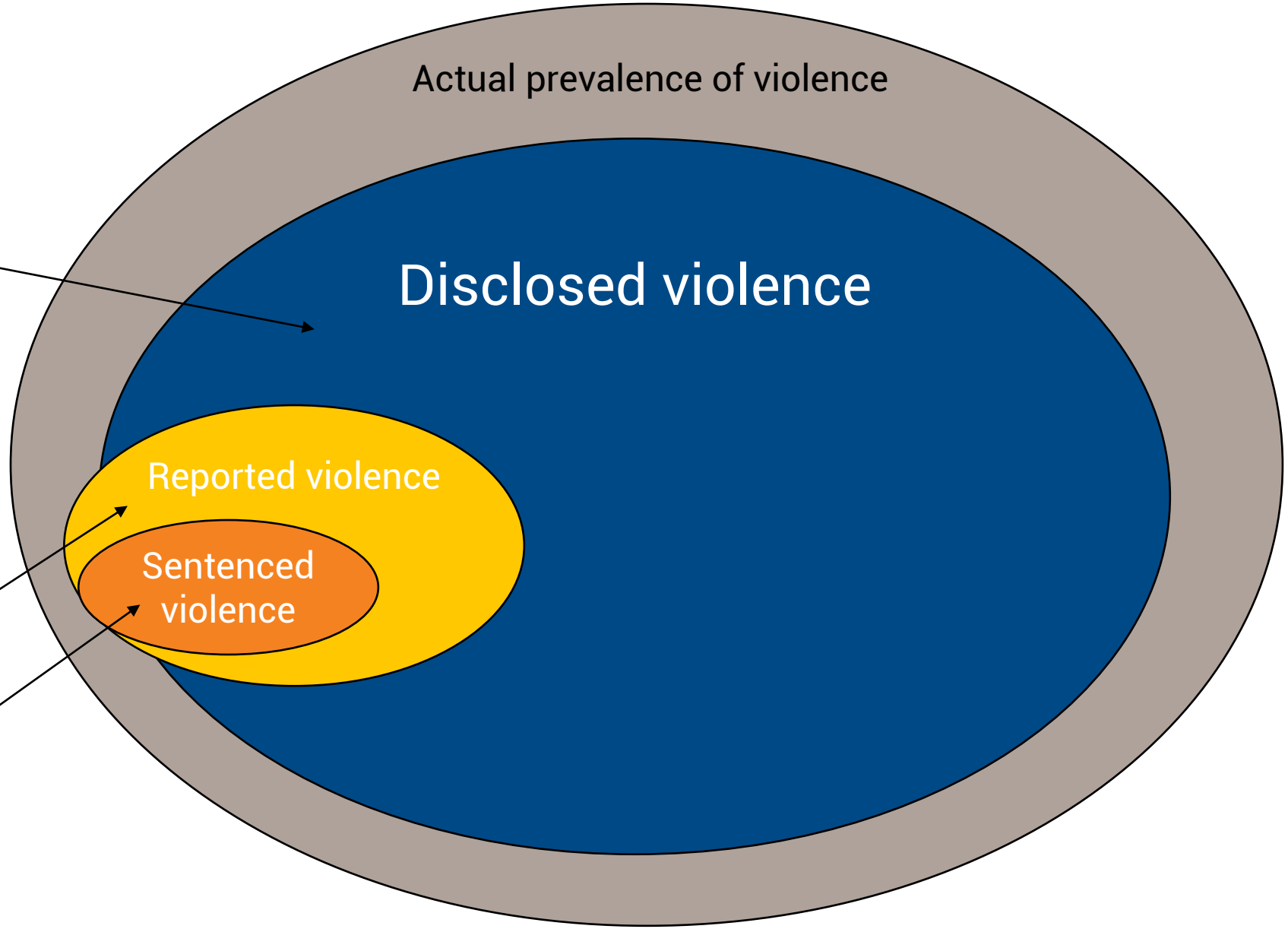
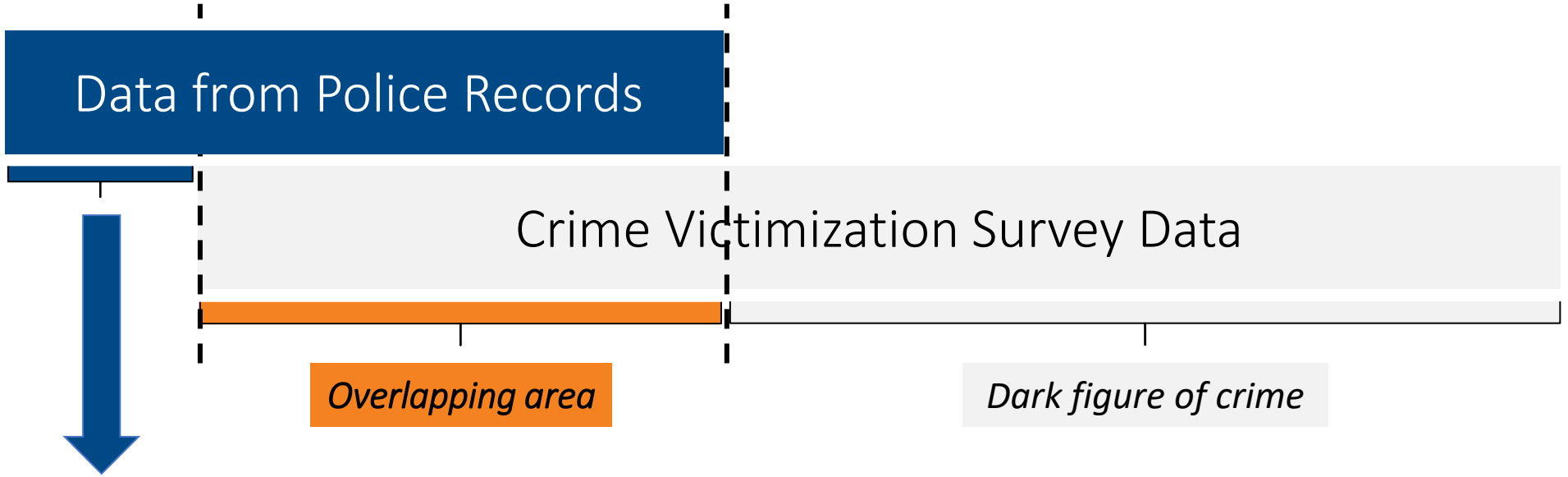
GBV / VAW or other survey

Registered statistics:
- Police
- Prosecution
- Courts
- Prisons



Administrative vs. survey data



Only covered by police records:

- Uncommon crimes, homicides
- Crimes without an evident victim (state, business, ..)
- Victims in the age of < 18
- Non residents

Only covered by a Victimization Survey:

- Crimes not *reported* to the Police
- Crimes not *recorded* by the Police
- Crimes recorded as minor offenses

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GBV administrative data

Criminal justice system

- Police
- Prosecution
- Courts
- Prisons

Civil statistics

Health statistics

Other agencies

Specific GBV-relevant data

- Victim-perpetrator relationship
- Context of the crime
- Description of the victim
- Description of the perpetrator
- Type of violence
- Etc.

Criminal justice process

Police
- Investigate allegations of criminal conduct, gather evidence and file charges.

Prosecution
- Provided with evidence, prepares case for court and conducts prosecution.

Courts
- Hears the case, including testimony and other evidence, determines the case, convicts the accused if found guilty

Prison
- Hold those convicted of a crime

Criminal justice statistics

- Organized and systematized data to understand the criminal landscape and the application of justice in relation to:
  - Criminal acts
  - Victims
  - Offenders
  - Circumstances
  - Final decisions
  - Prisoners
  - Judicial system personnel

Use of criminal justice statistics

- Operational
  - To deal with a specific crime or case
  - To fight crime more broadly
- Managerial
  - Monitor the performance of criminal justice agencies
- Research and policy development
  - Better understand crime trends and patterns
  - Formulate evidence-based crime prevention policies

Police statistics

- First step for most victims
- Offer complete picture of reported crime
- Reliable information on offender and often on victim
- Not always correctly classified as GBV
- Influenced by willingness to report and investigative decisions

Data can reveal, for example, how many women were victims of intentional homicide and, in particular, how many of those could be classified as femicide

Prosecution statistics

- Reveal how many reported cases are acted upon (attrition)
- Can give an idea of the length of proceedings
- Is GBV associated with other crimes?
- How many people are prosecuted and under what charges?
- Recidivism

Court statistics

Information on sentenced offenders

- Sociodemographic characteristics, charge and sentence details

Measures taken to protect victim

Compensation for victim

Data models need to be flexible, single case can relate to:

- One or more charges (of different types)
- One of more victims
- One or more offenders

Advantages

Criminal justice institutions produce administrative data

- Collected in their day-to-day business

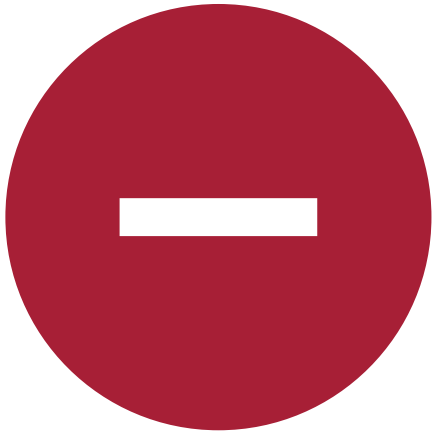
These data can be leveraged for official statistical purposes:

- Lower costs
- Higher frequency
- Timeliness
- Highly detailed

Challenges

Challenges (among others):

- Incoherent use of statistical concepts and definitions
- Cooperation between data providers
- Ensuring privacy and confidentiality
- Inconsistencies between sources
- Data do not capture the dark figure of crime



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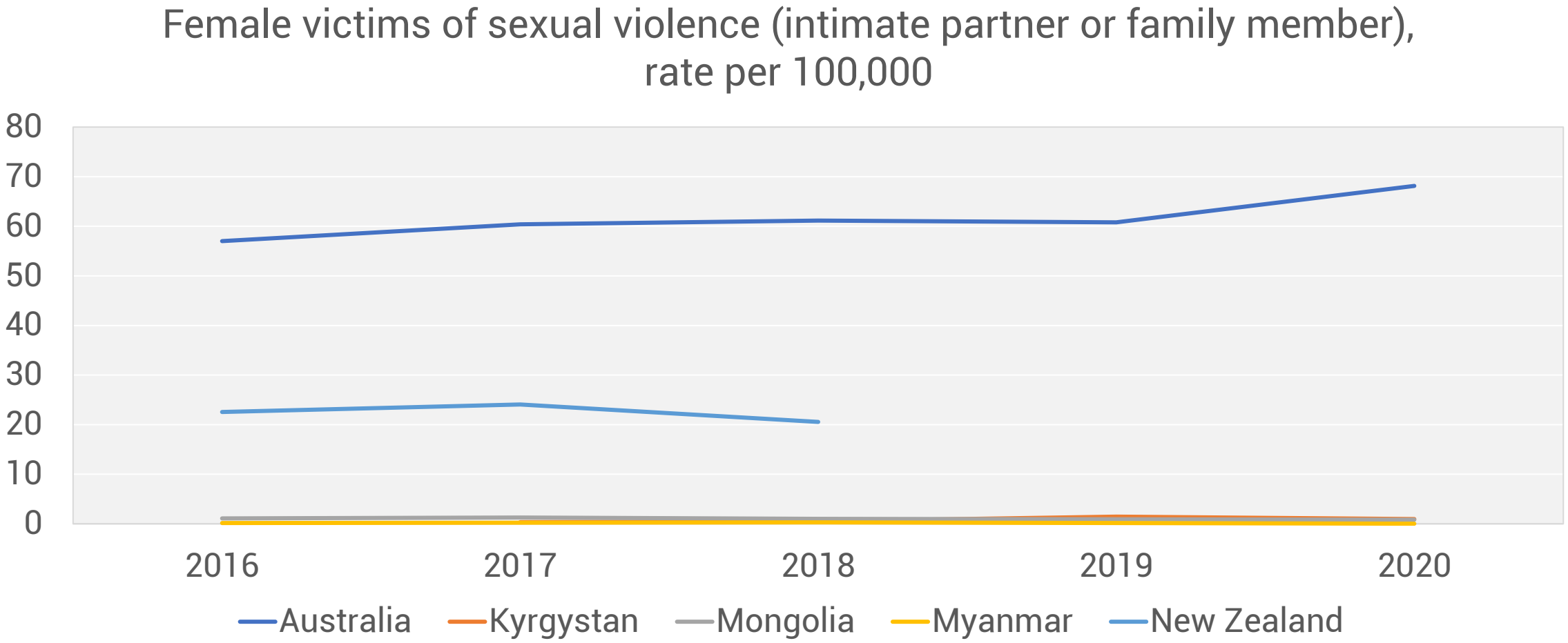
Example – UNODC data portal



Source: UNODC, Data Portal. Available at https://dataunodc.un.org/

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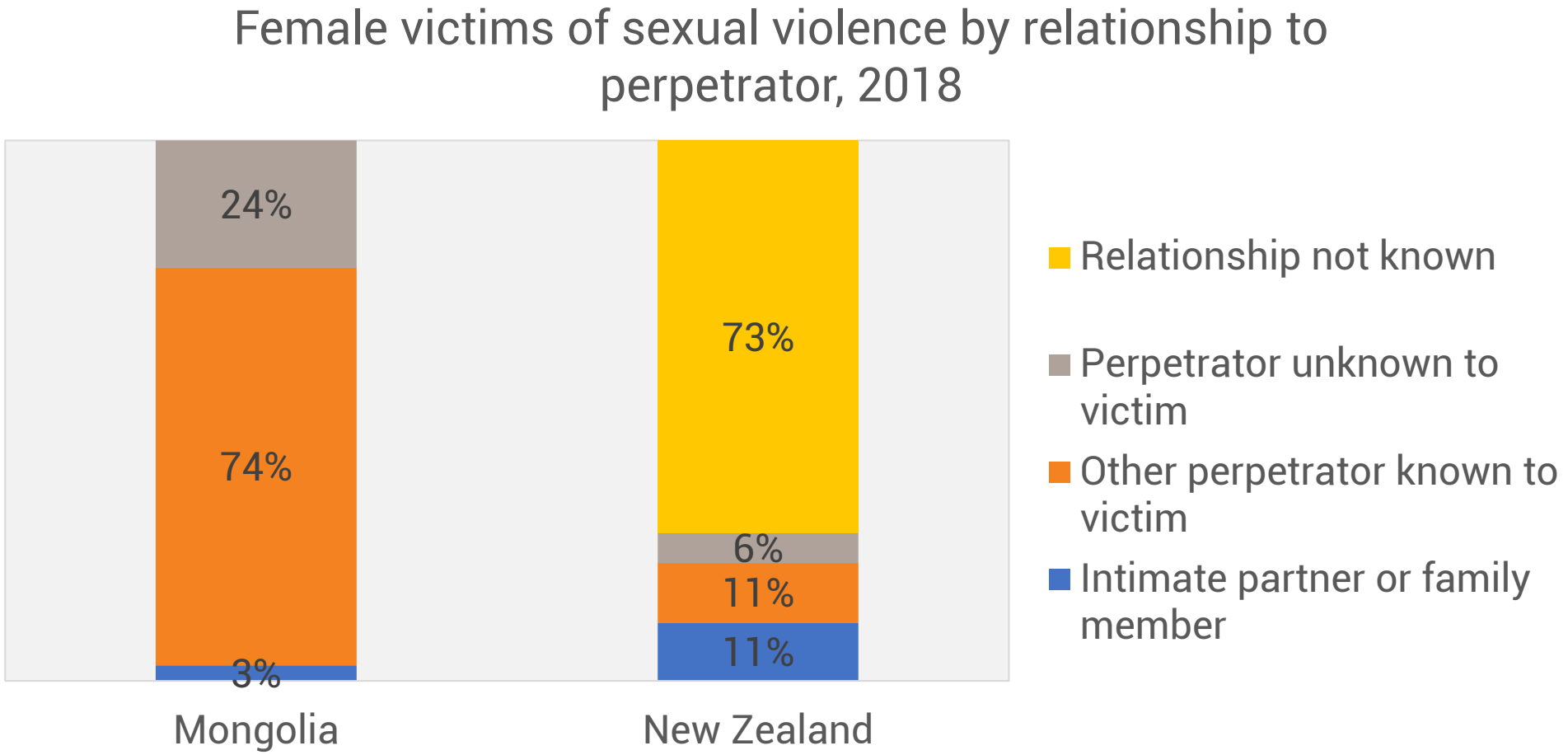

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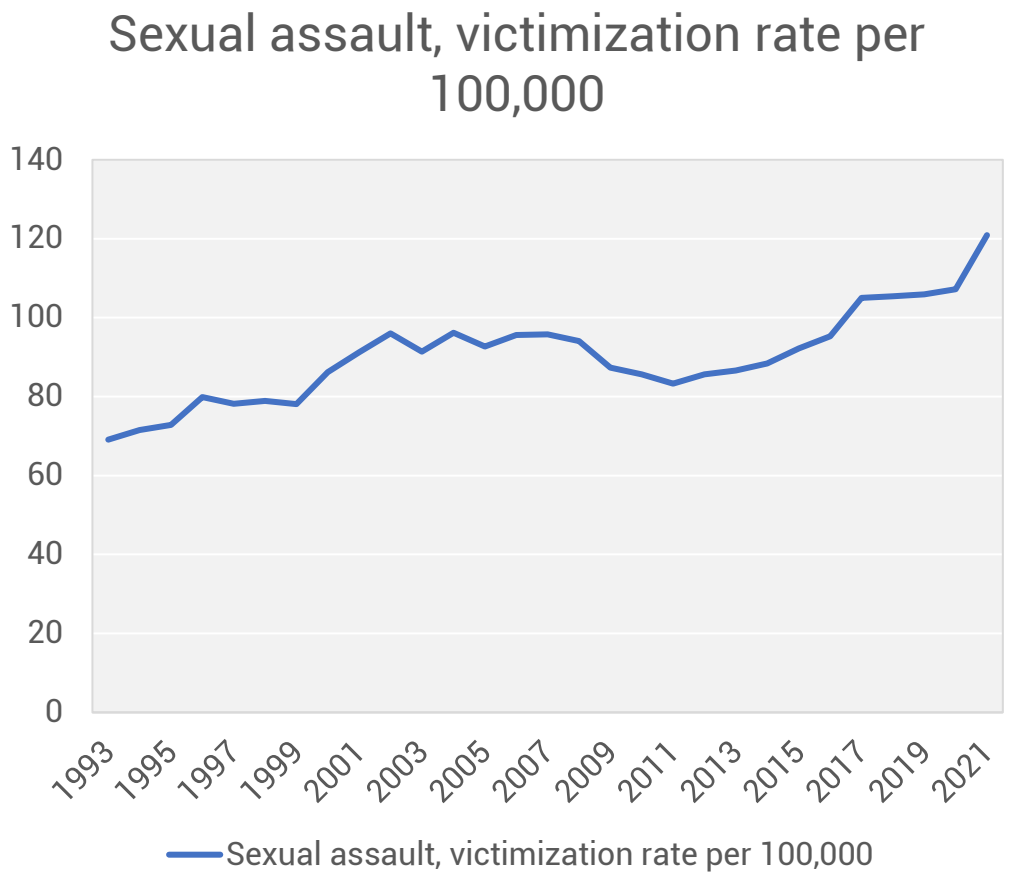
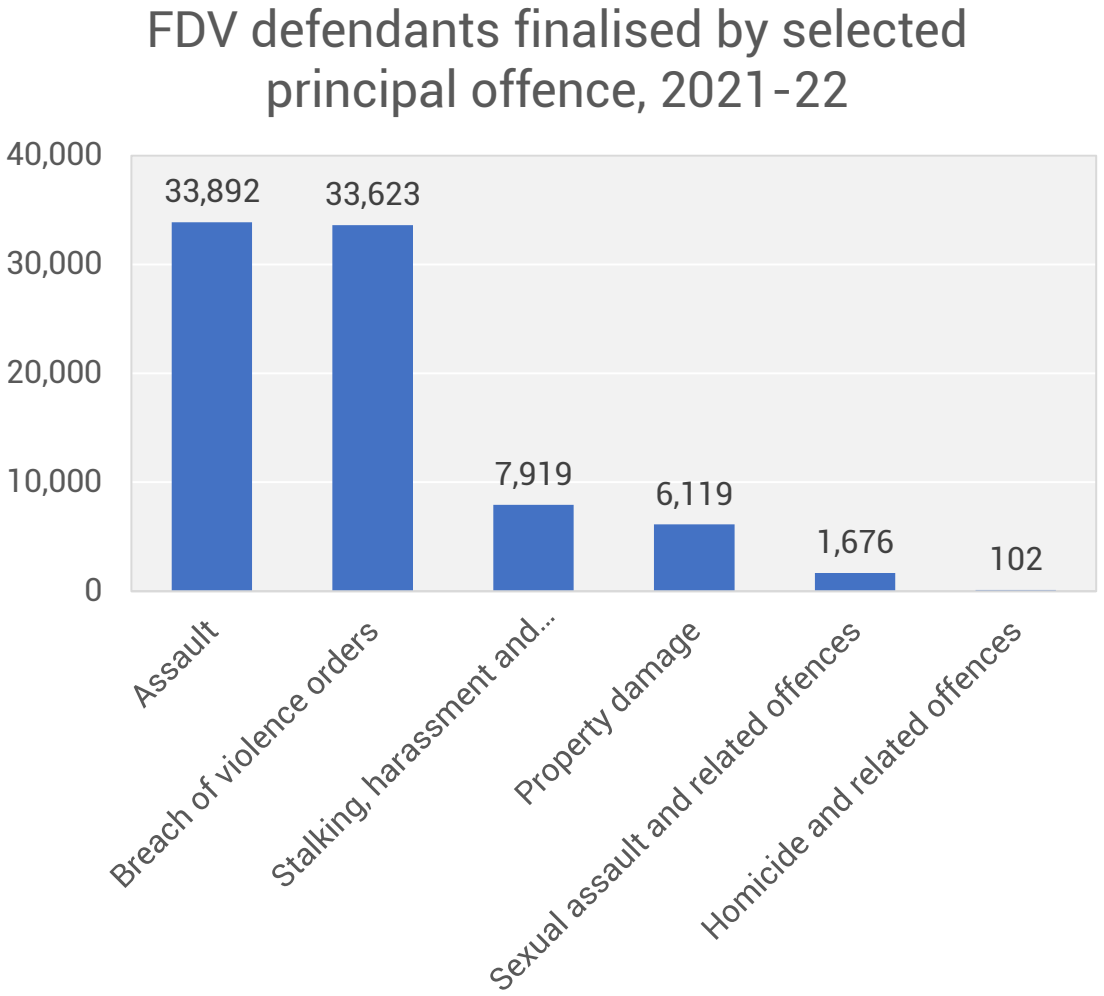
Example – Australia



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Available at https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/crime-and-justice/recorded-crime-victims/2021



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Available at https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/crime-and-justice/criminal-courts-australia/2021-22

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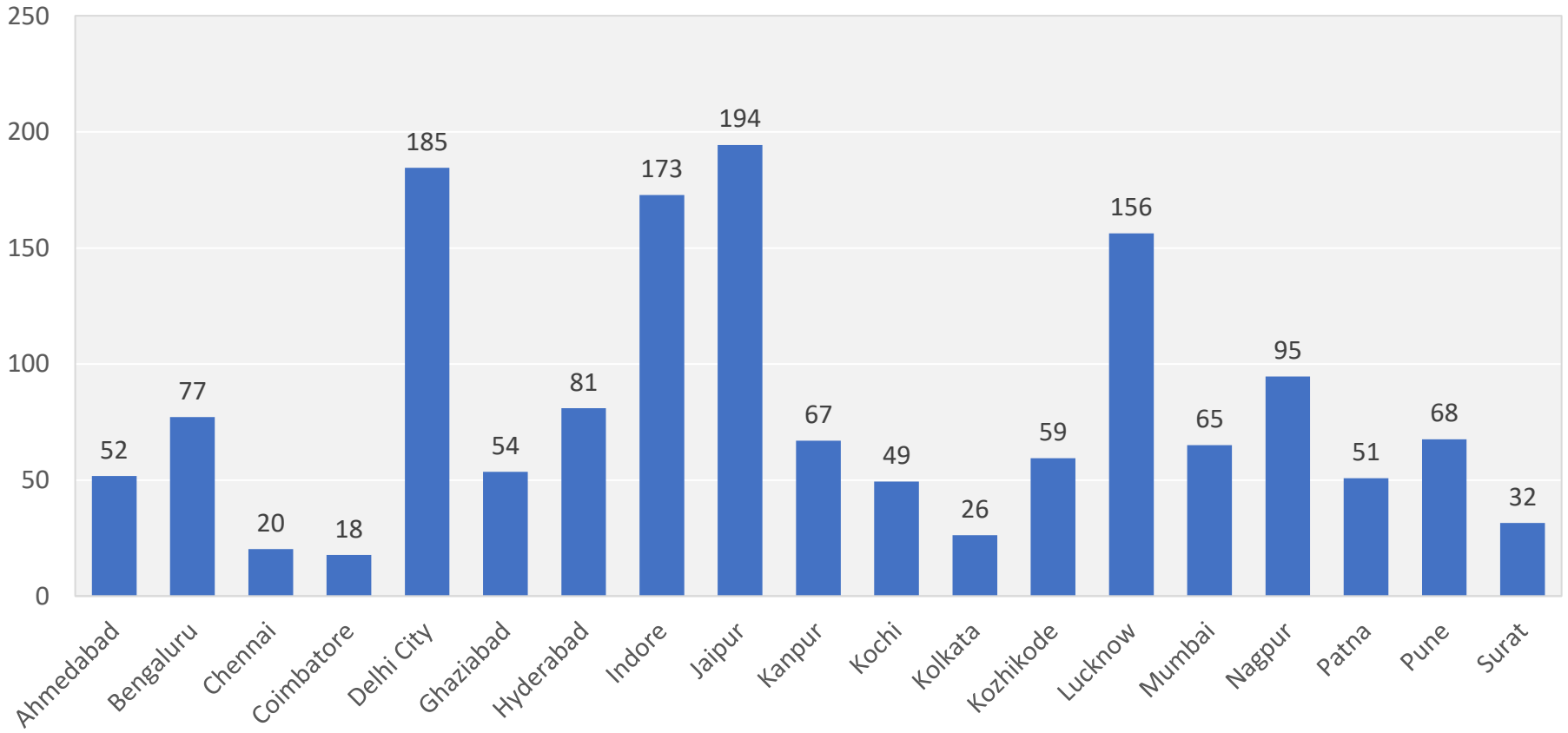
Example – India

Crimes against women in metropolitan cities (2021), rate per 100,000



Source: India, Ministry of Home Affairs, National Crime Records Bureau. Available at https://ncrb.gov.in/en/Crime-in-India-2021

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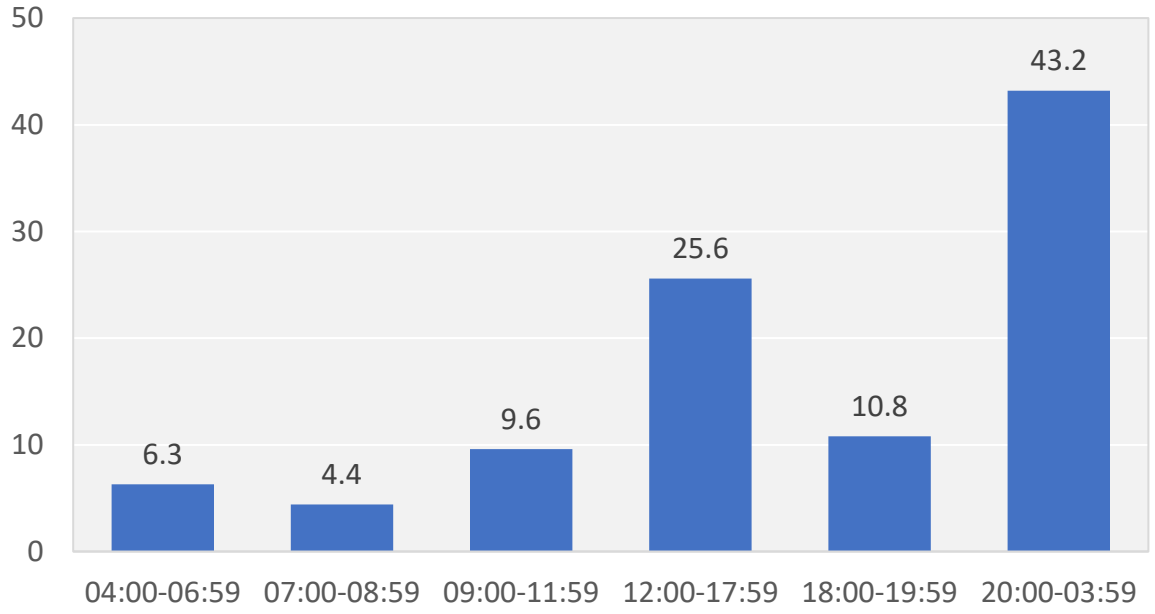
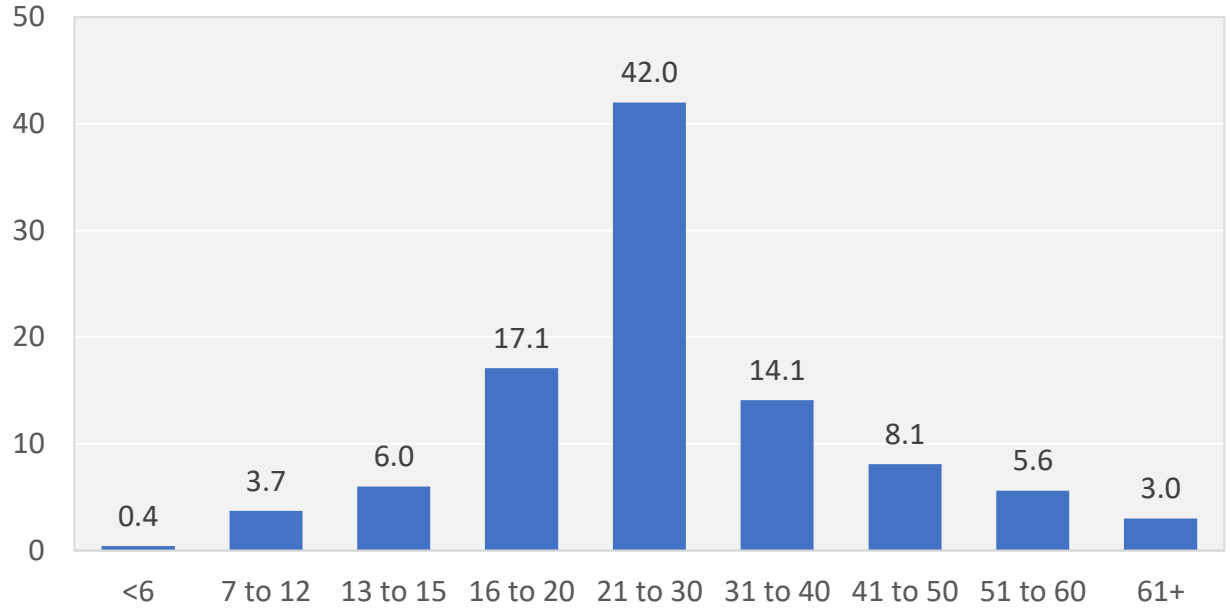
Example – Republic of Korea

In 2021 a total of 32,898 sexual assault crimes occurred

Time of occurrence, 2021



Victims by age, 2021



Source: Supreme Prosecutors' Office of the Republic of Korea. Available at https://www.spo.go.kr/site/spo/crimeAnalysis.do

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Guidelines

Guidelines aim to offer a basic, international framework

- Relevant, feasible, (relatively) simple
- Clear guidance on what data to collect

Three guidelines (police, prosecution/courts, prisons)

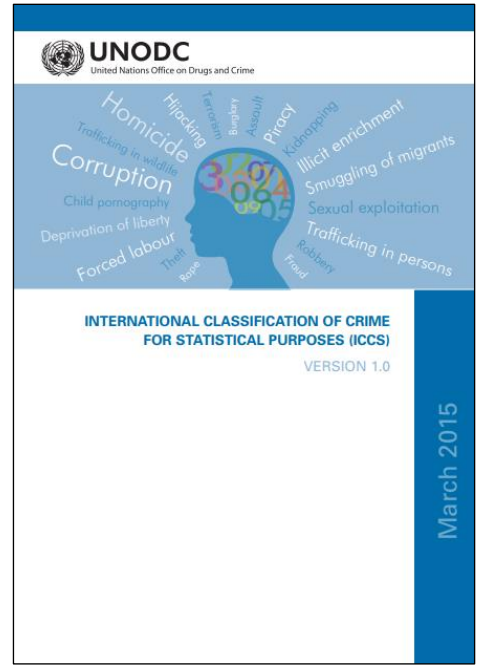
- Focus on the basic set of variables (the 'what')

Fourth guidelines (the 'how')

- How to build statistical system

• Relevant for GBV data

- ICCS disaggregations incorporated throughout
- Systematizes data collection on a range of activities that go far beyond offense data
- Includes data on resources, professional conduct, courts, outreach activities, etc.



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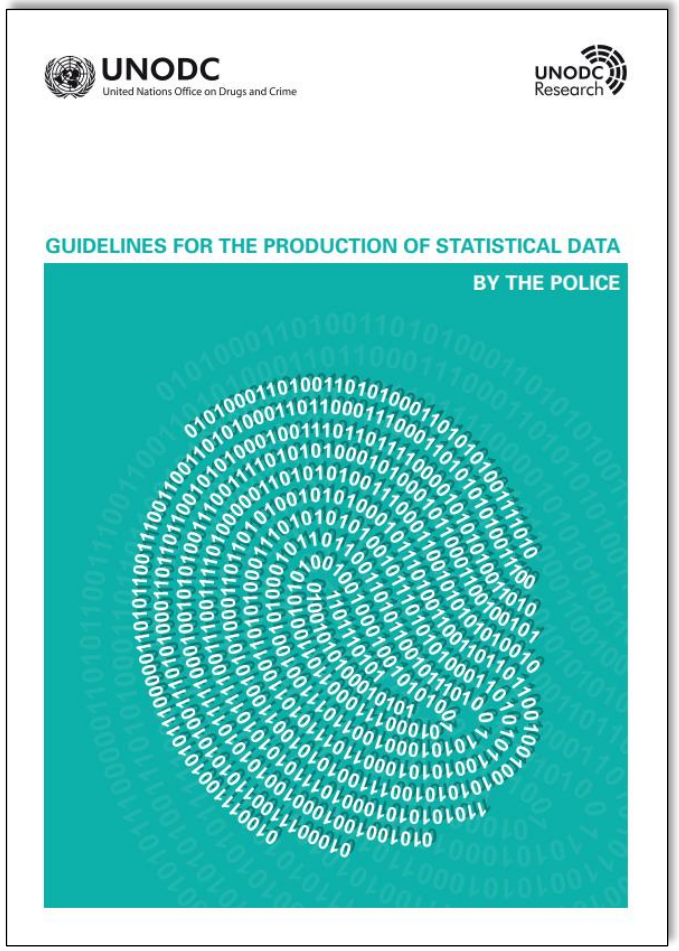
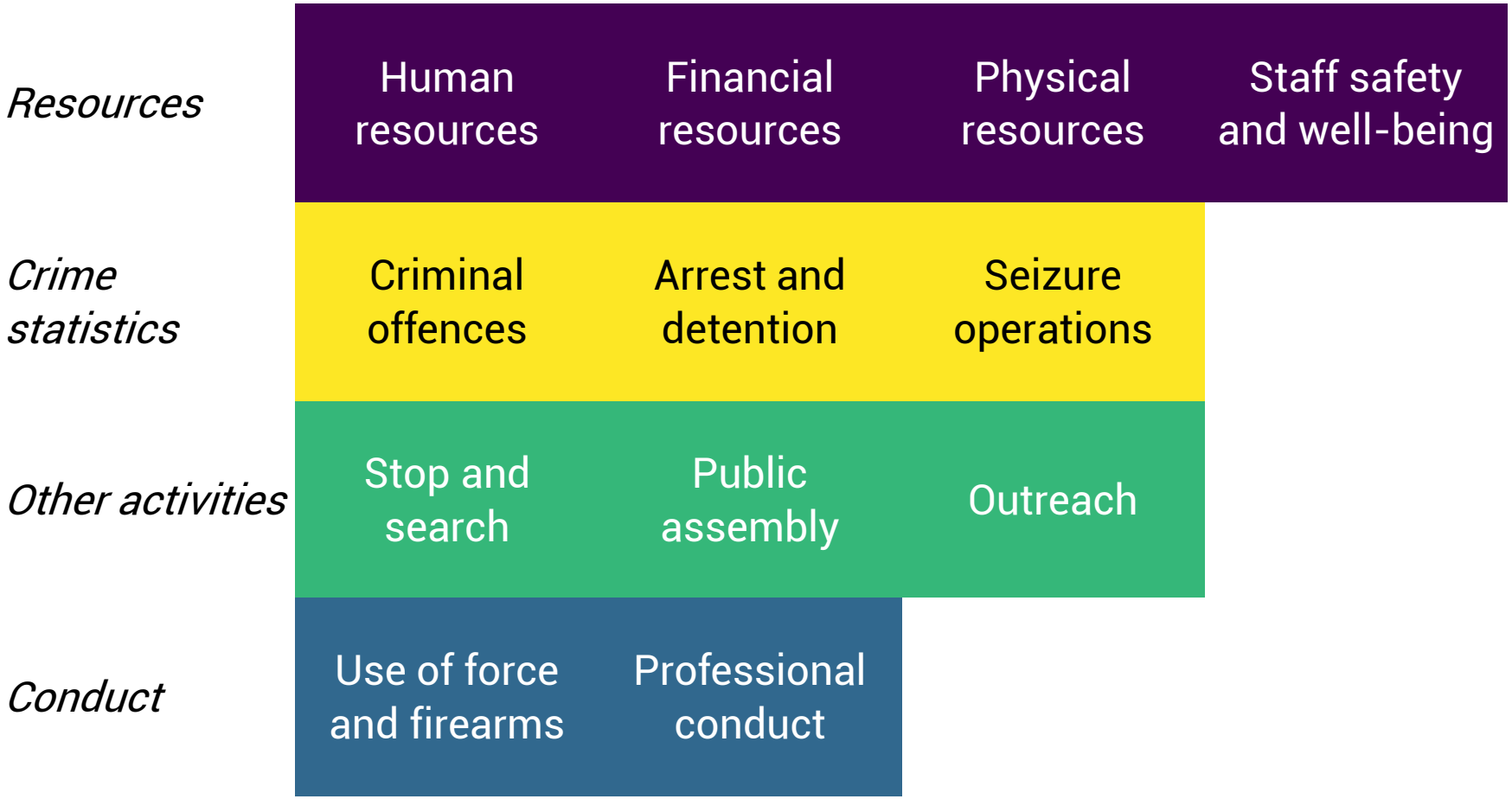
Police guidelines



Available now!

Launched on 28 November 2022

Statistical framework



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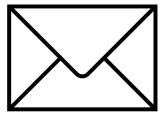
Thank you!



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