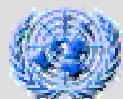


National surveys in the international context

WHY

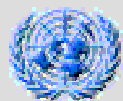
- Improve the international comparability of crime statistics
- Collect methodological experiences, develop guidelines to help countries to better design their own survey



National surveys in the international context

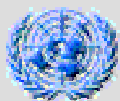
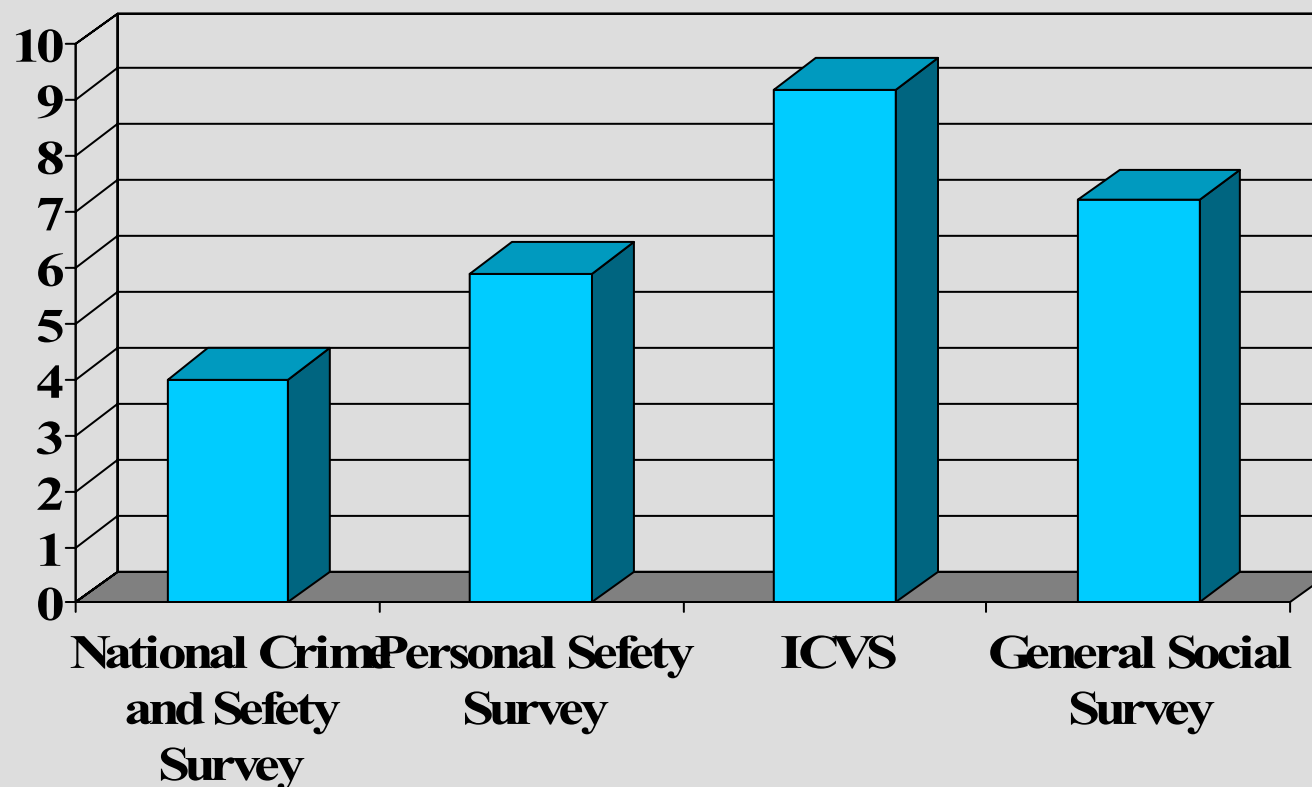
4 Countries experience in Crime Victimization Surveys

- *U.S.A.*
- *U.K.*
- *Italy*
- *Australia*



Australia: Assault Prevalence Rates

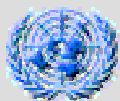
Source: Libreri C. ABS



National surveys in the international context

4 Countries experience in Crime Victimization Surveys

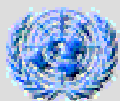
- *Objectives*
- *Methodology*
- *Definitions*
- *Type of crimes*



National surveys in the international context

Objectives

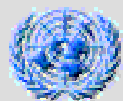
- *Calibration/comparison of administrative records*
- *Measure of victim risk*
- *Crime independently by police*
- *People definition of crimes*
- *Public confidence in police/reporting behaviour*
- *Data for performance management*
- *Feelings of safety/fear of crime*
- *Information on victims and offences*



National surveys in the international context

Objectives

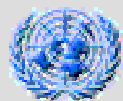
There is a common ground



National surveys in the international context

Methodology: Population

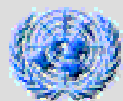
- **USA: 12 years and over**
- **Italy: 14 years and over**
- **Australia: 15 years and over (NCSS)**



National surveys in the international context

Methodology: Population

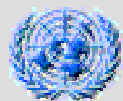
- Data can be provided for a common population (15 years and above)
- Guidelines on how interviewing minors (domestic violence?)



National surveys in the international context

Methodology: Reference Period

- **USA: 6 months**
- **Italy, UK: 12 months**
- **Australia: 12 months (NCSS)**
- **ICVS: 3-15 months**



National surveys in the international context

Methodology: More than a common reference period: *How to deal with the Telescoping effect*

- USA: Bounding and reducing the reference period
- Italy: funnelling + recording month and year of the last event

How many cases the bounding corrects for? Are two consecutive surveys enough for bounding?

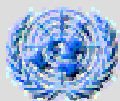


National surveys in the international context

Methodology: Survey Mode

- **USA: personal interviews + CATI**
- **Italy: CATI**
- **Australia: self-compilation, face-to-face interviews + telephone interviews (if respondent requests)**
- **ICVS: CATI**

To have the respondent alone is an issue



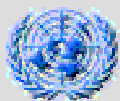
National surveys in the international context

Methodology: Questions design

Put the survey in a **context**

Improvement of the screening to help the respondent to recall and understand the type of crime (give examples of places and circumstances)

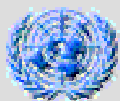
Improvement of the screening for sensitive crimes



National surveys in the international context

Where to go?

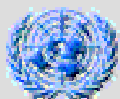
- Compare methods, definitions, coverage of crimes
- Explore the possibility to develop a common minimum set
- Develop international/regional guidelines
- Include victimization surveys into the agenda of official statistics



National surveys in the international context

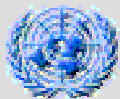
Needed Guidelines

- Telescoping
- Mode of survey (personal contact, respondent alone)
- Reference period
- Question design (particularly for sensitive topics such as sexual assault)
- Interviewer effect (male/female interviewers)
- Definitions of crime
- Consumed/attempted crimes
- Definition of reporting crimes
- Non responses
- Sampling
-



How far can we go?

- Is it possible to identify common definition of (some) crimes covered by national surveys?
- Is it possible to agree on a common reference period (question validity/coverage of crimes)?
- To keep the national specificity and provide a minimum set of comparable data (learning from the ICVS)?



ECE Task Force on Crime Statistics

- **Inventory of victimization surveys**
- **Development of guidelines**

