

IVINS Survey 2018

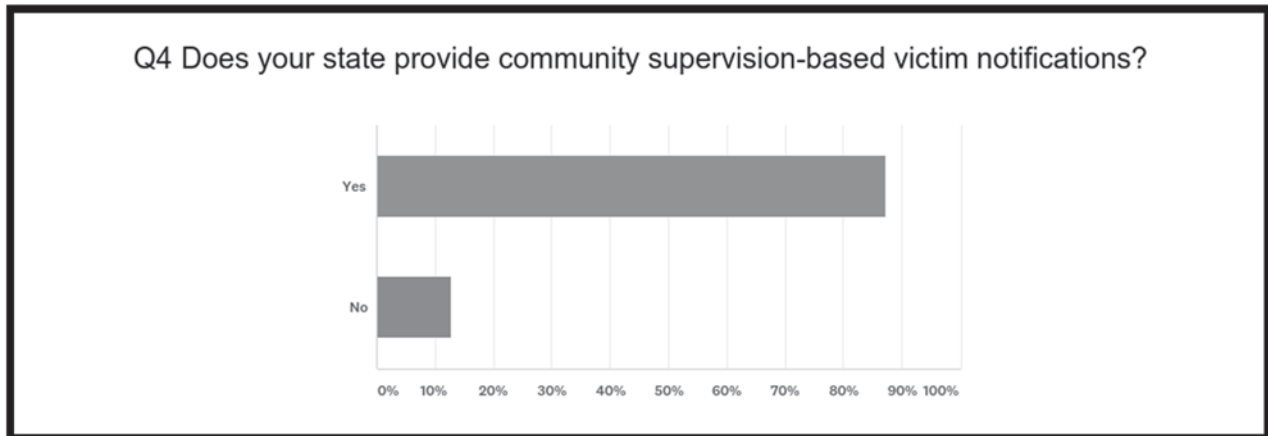
Background: Since its implementation in 2013, the Commission has closely monitored the usage and effectiveness of IVINS/ICOTS VINEWatch to ensure its implementation and operation supports victims of crime. Data surrounding IVINS/ICOTS VINEWatch usage indicates that many states have chosen not to implement it. Additionally, ongoing concerns have prompted the Commission to evaluate whether this product is an effective solution.

Purpose of the survey: This survey's purpose is to provide baseline data from which the Commission can thoughtfully discuss and recommend strategies at the upcoming 2018 Annual Business Meeting regarding IVINS/ICOTS VINEWatch

Responders: Forty-eight (48) responses received from 47 states. States that did not respond include: Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Virgin Islands

Results:

Community supervision-based notification practices



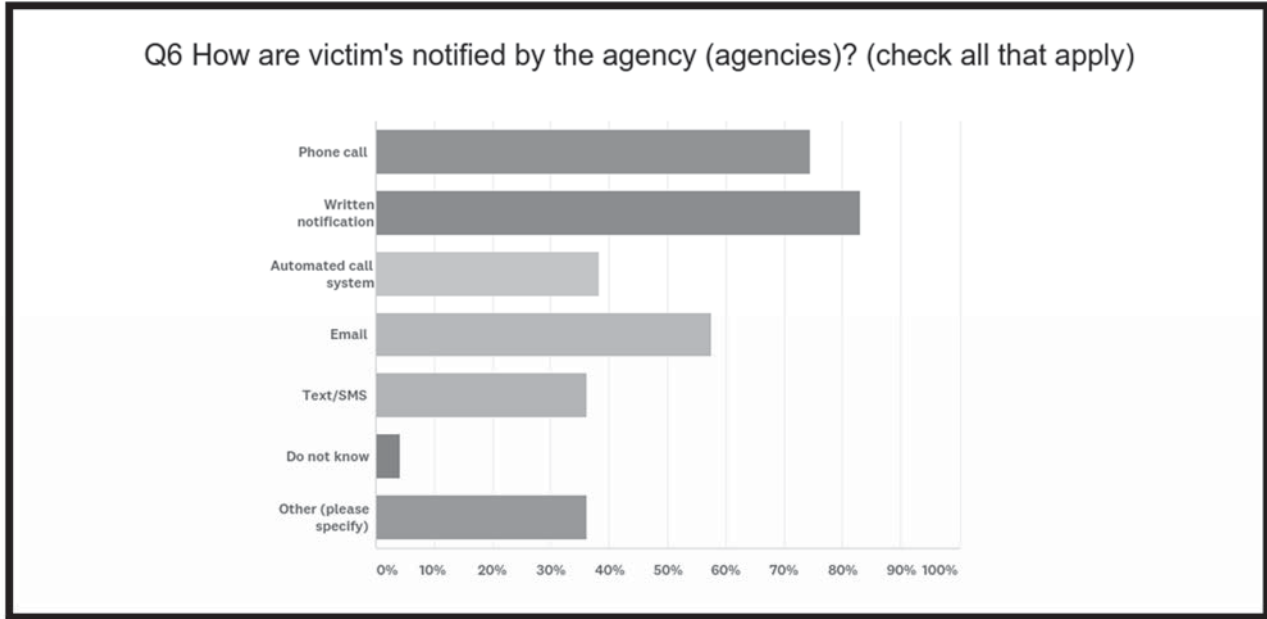
Eighty-eight (88) percent (42 total) indicated their state provides community supervision-based victim notifications. Determination or definition of a crime victim who is required to receive community supervision-based notifications and agencies responsible for such notifications vary widely state to state and for some states it is determined at the local level.*

**Based on analysis of survey responses, it is possible some respondents did not interpret 'community supervision-based notifications' consistently or as intended. Comments provided in several responses included information on notifications made for incarcerated (non-community supervision-based) notifications.*

For most respondents, these notifications are required when the individual is determined a victim in a violent crime involving direct or threatened physical harm (e.g. family of homicide victim, sex offense, assault, etc.) and the victim has opted in or registered to receive such notifications.

Most commonly, the state's Victim Services office, local county probation departments, Attorney General's office or Department of Corrections handle notifications for community supervision-based notifications to victims.

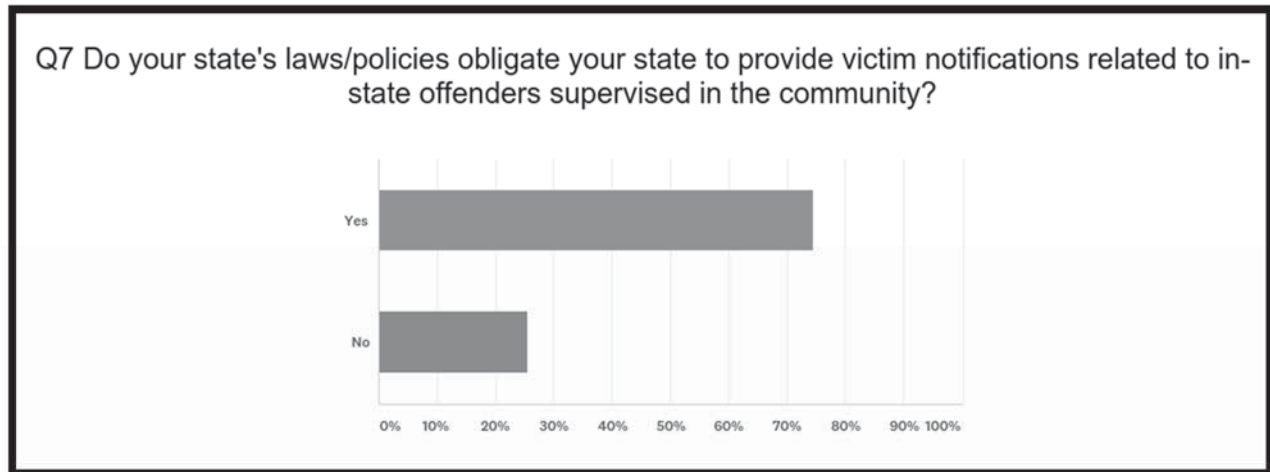
Method of Notification



Most states notify victims via written notification (83%) or direct phone call (75%) through a victim's representative or responsible agency. Forty (40%) of respondents utilize an automated call system (such as VINE or IVINS).

*Most respondents choose the 'other' category to provide additional information regarding this question rather than noting an 'other' type of notification.

Victim Notification Laws

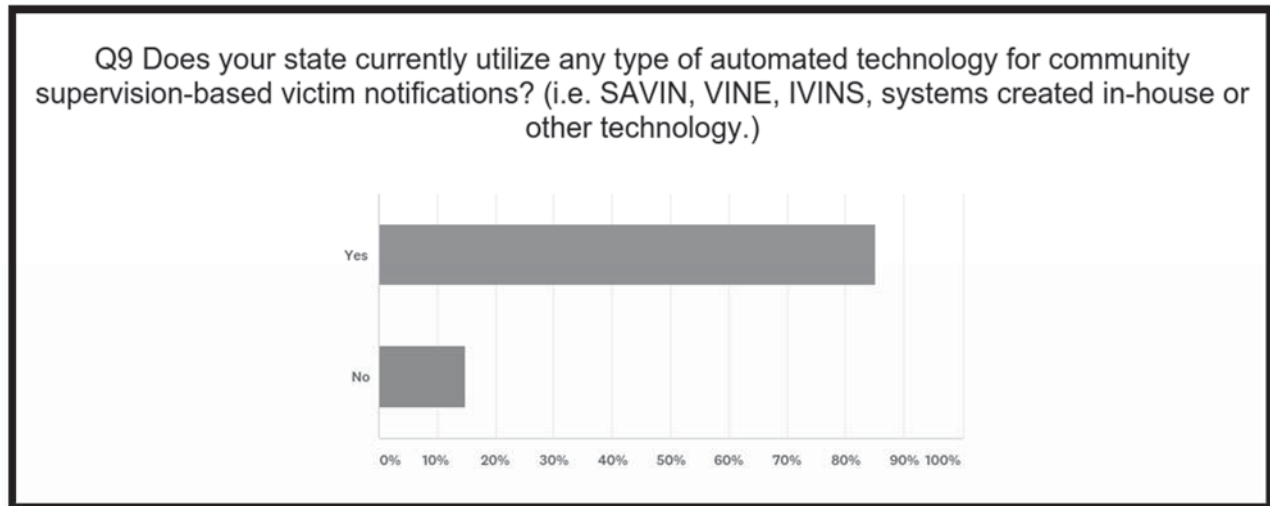


Seventy-five (75%) percent of responding states indicated their state's laws or policies obligate notification to victims based on community supervision-based occurrences. Most commonly, victims are notified when an offender is taken in, released or escapes from custody. Victims are also notified when an offender absconds or term of supervision ends. (Eleven respondents skipped this question)

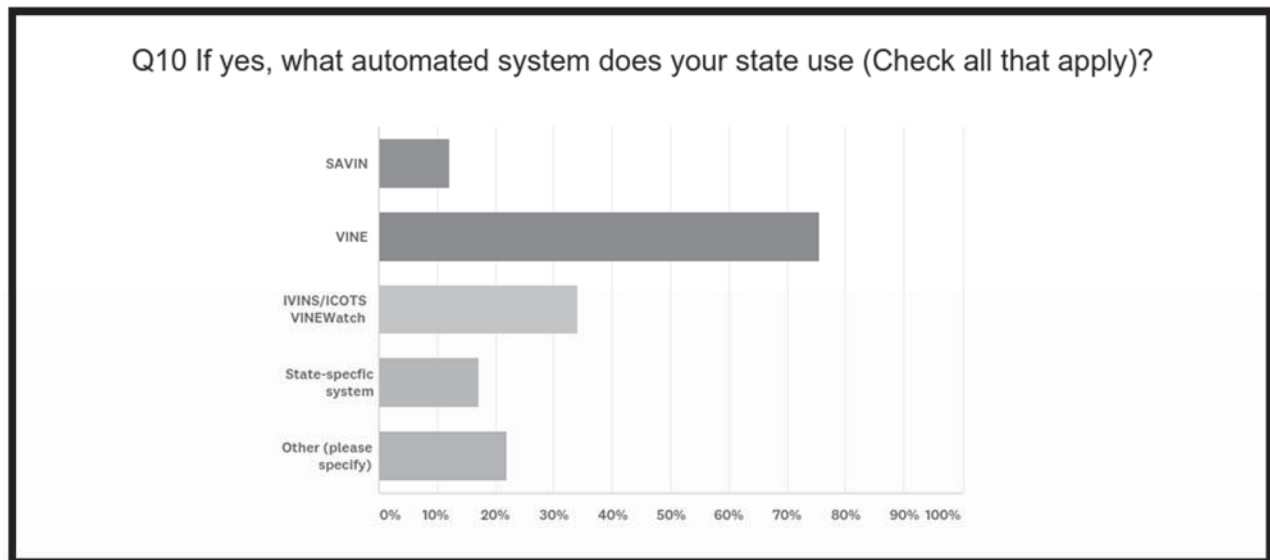
▼ When an offender violates	27.03%	10
▼ When an offender absconds	51.35%	19
▼ When an offender is taken into or released from custody	56.76%	21
▼ When community supervision term ends (probation or parole)	45.95%	17
▼ When an offender's primary residence changes	21.62%	8
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses 56.76%	21

**Many respondents choose the 'other' category to provide additional information regarding this question rather than noting an 'other' type of community supervision-based notification. Analysis of the answers provided in this question also were relevant in determining that some respondents are providing not just community supervision based information regarding victim notification, but also notifications that occur when offenders are incarcerated (non-community supervision-based notifications.)*

Automated Notification Information



Eighty-five (85%) percent of respondents use automated technology for providing community supervision-based notifications. As reported, VINE is the most commonly used technology for community supervision-based notifications (76% or 32 respondents.) Fourteen respondents reported using IVINS/ICOTS VINEWatch. (Six respondents skipped this question)



States not utilizing IVINS/ICOTS VINEWatch (76% or 32 respondents) noted the service is not used by their state because:

- *Existing state system satisfies their current state law requirements (71%)*
- *The system's design allowing any individual to register creates a public safety issue (26%)*

Additional common concerns included:

- *IVINS/ICOTS VINEWatch does not provide the most effective or accurate information to victims compared to the system they are currently utilizing*

- *The state lacks resources to implement IVINS/ICOTS VINEWatch*

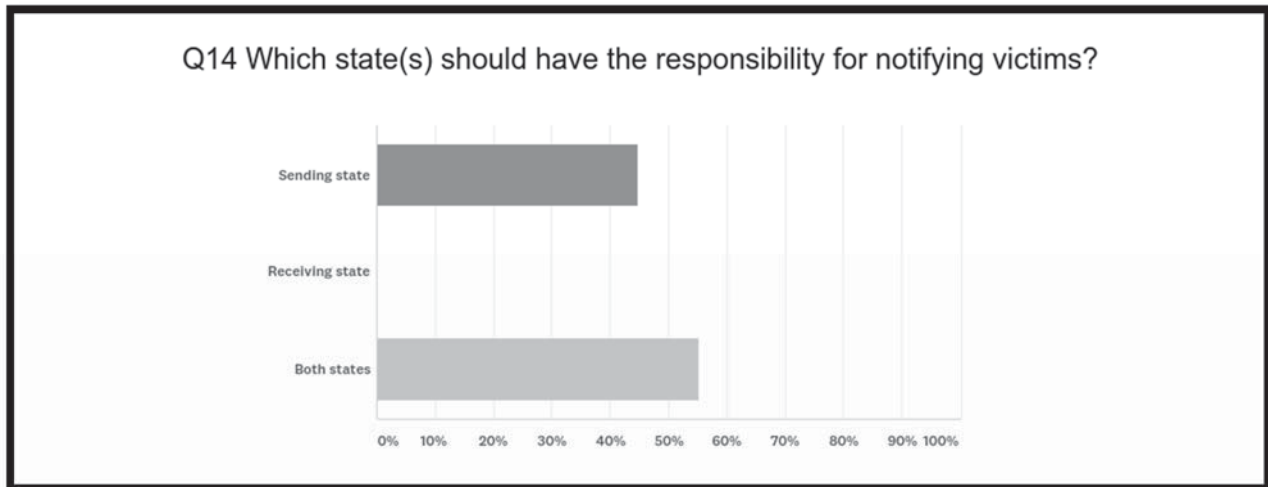
(Seventeen respondents skipped this question)

IVINS Notification Impact to Victim Safety

The following IVINS/ICOTS VINEWatch notifications were ranked in order of impact and importance on victim safety and security:

1. When a violation report is submitted reporting an offender has absconded
(77% - high impact; 11% - no impact)
2. When an arrival notice is submitted indicated the offender arrived/failed to arrive in the receiving state
(66% - high impact; 11% - no impact)
3. When a departure notification is submitted indicating the offender departed the sending state
(49% - high impact; 11% - no impact)
4. When an offender is reported (via violation report) to have engaged in behavior requiring retaking
(42% - high impact; 15% - no impact)
5. When an offender's primary residence is changed in ICOTS
(37% - high impact; 17% - no impact)
6. When a transfer request is accepted by the receiving state
(30% - high impact; 19% - no impact)
7. When a compact case is closed
(29% - high impact; 17% - no impact)
8. When transfer to another state is requested
(26% - high impact; 26% - no impact)
9. When approved reporting instructions are transmitted
(19% - high impact; 28% - no impact)
10. When reporting instructions are requested by the sending state
(13% - high impact; 28% - no impact)
11. When a transfer request is withdrawn by a sending state
(13% - high impact; 33% - no impact)

Victim Notification Responsibilities



Fifty-six (56%) percent of respondents indicated both states should be responsible for notifying victims, while forty-four (44%) percent of respondents noted the sending state should solely be responsible.

Victim Notification Concerns

IVINS/ICOTS VINEWatch allows for self-registration and there is no mechanism provided in the Commission's subscription to prevent the public from registering. The following questions were raised to provide input related to this feature.

*Seventy-three (73%) percent of respondents **disagreed or strongly disagreed** that the general public should be allowed to register for notifications. Meaning 73% believe the ability to register should be limited to the direct crime victim(s).*

*Sixty-seven (67%) percent of respondents **agreed or strongly agreed** that allowing the general public to register creates a public safety issue for law enforcement or the supervising officer.*

*Seventy-five (75%) percent of respondents **agreed or strongly agreed** that allowing the general public to register creates a public safety issue for the offender.*

Detailed Results of this survey can be accessed via the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-SXRSMN3CL/>