# National Vulnerability Database (NVD)

**Estimated Time:** 30 minutes

**Objective:** Use the NVD.

**Description:** The National Vulnerability Database (NVD) is managed by the U.S. government as a repository for vulnerability management data and contains software flaws, misconfigurations, product names, and their impacts. In this project, you will explore the NVD.

**Reflection Assignment:** In your own words, analyze and reflect on the questions and write your thoughts. One or two words is not sufficient.

1. Open your web browser and enter the URL[**https://nvd.nist.gov**](https://nvd.nist.gov) (If you are no longer able to access the site through this web address, use a search engine to search for “NIST NVD".)
2. Click the plus sign next to **General**.
3. Click **FAQ**.
4. Click **General FAQs**.
5. Read through the material.
6. In your own words, how does the MITRE CVE compare with the NIST NVD? When would you use the CVE? When would you use the NVD?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. How frequently is the NVD updated? Is this often enough?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Return to the home page by clicking the Back button as many times as necessary.
2. Click the plus sign next to **General**.
3. Click **NVD Dashboard** to view the latest information.
4. Do the numbers surprise you? How does the number of vulnerabilities under the score distribution compare? Is that what you would have expected?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Scroll through the *Last 20 Scored Vulnerability IDs & Summaries*.
2. Have you heard of any of these vulnerabilities? How will they be distributed to the public at large?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Return to the home page.
2. Click the plus sign next to **General**.
3. Click **Visualizations** to display graphical information.
4. Click **Vulnerabilities – CVE**.
5. Click **Description Summary Word** to display a bar graph of the most common words used as part of a vulnerability description.
6. Hover over the three highest bars to view the three most frequent words used. Is this what you would have expected? Why?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Return to the Vulnerability Visualizations page. Select each of the other graphs and study the information presented.
2. How could a security professional use this information?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Return to the NVD Visualizations page. Click **Products – CPE**.
2. Which vendor has the highest number of total products that appears in the NVD? View other vendors by hovering over the bars. What do you find interesting about this distribution?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Return to the home page by clicking the Back button as many times as necessary.
2. Click the plus sign next to **Other Sites**.
3. Click **Checklist (NCP) Repository**.
4. This displays a form through which you can search for benchmarks/secure configuration guides. Select different parameters to view different guides, and then select one to view in detail. Is this information helpful?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Return to the home page by clicking the Back button as many times as necessary.
2. Click the plus sign next to **Search**.
3. Click **Vulnerability Search**.
4. Enter **passwords**. How many vulnerabilities are found? Select several of these to read through the information.

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Select a different vulnerability to search the NVD database. How useful is this information?

Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Close all windows.

## Assignment Submission

Attach this completed document to the assignment in Blackboard.