



EQUITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA COLLECTION, USE, AND TRANSPARENCY

A Report by the

CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP of the
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

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About the Office of Science and Technology Policy

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About the National Science and Technology Council

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) is the principal means by which the Executive Branch coordinates science and technology policy across the diverse entities that make up the federal research and development enterprise. A primary objective of the NSTC is to ensure science and technology policy decisions and programs are consistent with the President's stated goals. The NSTC prepares research and development strategies that are coordinated across federal agencies aimed at accomplishing multiple national goals. The work of the NSTC is organized under committees that oversee subcommittees and working groups focused on different aspects of science and technology. More information is available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/nstc>.

About the NSTC Criminal Justice Statistics Interagency Working Group

On May 25, 2022, the second anniversary of the murder of George Floyd by Minnesota police officer Derek Chauvin, President Biden signed Executive Order 14074 on *Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety*. The Executive Order specifies that the Equitable Data Working Group established in Executive Order 13985 shall work with the National Science and Technology Council to create a Working Group on Criminal Justice Statistics.

This Working Group brought subject matter experts and data leaders from across federal agencies to work closely together, often for the first time. Beginning in January 2023, the Criminal Justice Statistics Interagency Working Group met regularly and heard from over 200 representatives from the federal government; law enforcement; software vendors; nonprofit organizations focused on data privacy, victim advocacy, civil rights, legal defense, and legal prosecution; and academics.

About this Document

This document presents a report to the President aligned with Section 18(c)(i) of Executive Order 14074, which specifies:

“(i) Within 365 days of the date of this order, the Working Group and the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy shall issue a report to the President that assesses current data collection, use, and data transparency practices with respect to law enforcement activities, including calls for service, searches, stops, frisks, seizures, arrests, complaints, law enforcement demographics, and civil asset forfeiture.”

The assessment identified in Section 18(c)(ii) of the Executive Order will be addressed separately from this report.

This report builds on the recommendation that the Office of Science and Technology Policy engage with records management system vendors to identify barriers to law enforcement agencies transitioning to the National Incident-Based Reporting System.¹

Reference to non-U.S. Government datasets in this report does not constitute or imply official U.S. Government or OSTP endorsement of or responsibility for the opinions, ideas, data, or products presented at those locations or guarantee the validity of the information provided.

Reference in this report to any written works (i.e., books, articles, papers) is not an endorsement and does not imply official government sanction or endorsement of those entities or their views.

Focus on State, Tribal, local, territorial (non-federal) law enforcement

The Interagency Working Group focused its efforts on law enforcement agencies that are not part of the federal government, including State, Tribal, local, territorial, campus, municipal, special, and all other non-federal agencies.²

Throughout this report, these law enforcement agencies are referenced as *non-federal law enforcement* or simply as *law enforcement*. Federal law enforcement agencies are mentioned in certain statistics and counts, but the focus of this report is on non-federal agencies.

Gathering data on the whole of policing

Throughout our stakeholder engagement process, stakeholders consistently emphasized that understanding a community's experience with law enforcement required considering crime data in relation to a broad range of data about community-police interactions. Therefore, the Interagency Working Group considered a range of datasets, such as reported crime incidents and the use of force, and datasets like proactive community engagement and citizen satisfaction surveys. Detailed data about a broader range of police-community interactions can reveal important nuances about a community's experience with law enforcement and enable a more robust understanding of the impacts of policing.

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1 U.S. Department of Justice. (2023). The Report of the Attorney General Pursuant to Section 18(a) of Executive Order 14074: Department of Justice Review of the Transition of Law Enforcement Agencies to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/file/1563061/download>

2 Following the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) operational definition of a law enforcement agency as denoted in their Census of Law Enforcement Agencies (CSLLEA) data collection, a "law enforcement agency" is a publicly-funded government entity responsible for enforcing laws, maintaining order, and promoting public safety, and includes, for example, state, county, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies.²

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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
Introduction.....	4
<i>Criminal Justice Statistics Interagency Working Group</i>	4
<i>Guiding Principles</i>	6
Status of Collection, Use, and Transparency of Policing Data	7
<i>Key Datasets</i>	7
<i>Data Collection Ecosystem</i>	15
Critical Barriers to Effective Collection, Use, and Transparency of Policing Data.....	17
<i>Absence of National Data Standards and Guidance</i>	16
<i>Internal Capacity and Vendor Barriers</i>	17
<i>Fear of Mischaracterization</i>	18
<i>Lack of Accessibility and Culturally-Informed Practices</i>	19
<i>Inconsistency of State Data Reporting Mandates</i>	19
Federal Levers for Progress	21
Additional Opportunities for Data-Driven Policymaking about Policing.....	27
Roadmap for Action.....	29
Appendix.....	30
<i>Appendix A: Summary of Actions</i>	30
<i>Appendix B: Timeline of Major Federal Efforts to Improve Data Collection</i>	31
<i>Appendix C: Examples of Data Compilations by Civil Society, Academia, and the Media</i>	36

Executive Summary

The President's Executive Order on *Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety* underscored the importance of robust data collection, analysis, and transparency at non-federal law enforcement agencies for improving trust and accountability in policing.³ Data on policing activity provides the foundation to ensure that our justice system respects the dignity and rights of all persons and provides equal treatment to all. This report sheds light on the status of data about policing nationwide. It provides a roadmap to ensure all Americans have complete, accurate, and reliable data about the full range of police activities.

A Lack of Data

The United States has an opportunity to use data to paint a comprehensive picture of the impact of policing across the nation's approximately 18,000 law enforcement agencies. Through extensive public engagement to develop this report, it became clear that stakeholders from law enforcement, civil society, software companies, and federal agencies are in remarkable agreement about the need to improve data collection, use, and transparency at law enforcement agencies. For decades, the federal government, law enforcement, and civil society have worked to improve data systems, build open data portals, and increase technical and data capacity.

Nevertheless, there is still work to do. The United States has varied police data standards that produce police data of uneven quality. There are significant gaps in participation in federal police data collections. For example, only 67% of law enforcement agencies submitted crime data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) as of January 1, 2023. Only 47% of agencies provided data to the FBI's Use-of-Force Data Collection in 2022. More law enforcement agencies could publish detailed data on police activities, such as calls for service, searches, stops, frisks, arrests, and complaints. In addition, police datasets often do not include demographic, geographic, and other variables necessary to advance more equitable policing outcomes.

Five Actions to Improve Data About Policing

This report recommends five key actions the federal government, lawmakers, law enforcement, the tech industry, and advocates should take to address these challenges and increase the quality of data about law enforcement activities:

- 1. Local leaders should encourage law enforcement to collect detailed data, use it to design more equitable policies, and regularly share data to promote accountability.** Organizational change starts from leadership at the top, and policing is inherently local. To advance public safety, elected officials should inspire a more transparent data culture within their law enforcement jurisdictions.
- 2. States should mandate and support detailed data collection and sharing about police activities.** States that require law enforcement participation in national databases, data publishing, or the collection of traffic stop data broken down by race and ethnicity (while enacting data privacy and confidentiality protections) have the most comprehensive policing data. These states can serve as models for collecting and publishing police data.

³ Biden, J. (2022, May 25). Executive Order on Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety. The White House. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/05/25/executive-order-on-advancing-effective-accountable-policing-and-criminal-justice-practices-to-enhance-public-trust-and-public-safety/>

- 3. Federal agencies should collaborate to simplify, standardize, and modernize the collection of law enforcement data.** Over 100 data collections involve criminal justice data, operated by 30 federal agencies. Simplifying, standardizing, and modernizing these collections would reduce the burden of data collection, especially for small and rural law enforcement agencies.
- 4. State, Tribal, local, and territorial law enforcement agencies should build the technical capacity to consistently report data to federal collections and share data publicly.** As outlined in the report below, federal agencies can take actions to help law enforcement, especially smaller jurisdictions, select software vendors compliant with reporting requirements.
- 5. All levels of government should consult with data and technical experts and civil society, as appropriate, to inform decision-making about law enforcement data collection and sharing.** Civil society groups have advanced transparency in policing data, and technologists have built data systems to improve policing. Engaging technology companies and civil society groups actively across agencies, advisory boards, and at the decision-making table (such as involving victim advocacy organizations in discussions about privacy) enables better data collection strategies, systems design, and policy choices. In addition, involving communities affected by police data practices in policy-making bolsters public trust and accountability.

Data Americans Can Count On

Improving the collection and sharing of data about policing and criminal justice practices is essential to enhancing public trust and public safety. This report recommends actions across all levels of government and the broader police data ecosystem. It builds on leading federal, state, and local efforts to catalyze positive change in police data systems.

Detailed data on searches, stops, and frisks can inform more constructive engagement between police and the communities they serve. Detailed calls for service data can help communities identify unmet needs around issues such as mental health. Greater participation in the federal data collection of arrests can help a local community understand how their homicide rates compare to others nationwide.

Together these data provide law enforcement a foundation for decision-making and a tool to build the public trust that is critical to public safety; offer advocates tools to influence policy at the local and national levels; and provide communities with visibility into policing practices which can advance equity and enable robust public oversight—all of which are essential for policing in a democratic society.

These recommended actions will provide critical building blocks to advance fairness and accountability in our criminal justice system. The American people deserve nothing less.

Introduction

The Criminal Justice Statistics Interagency Working Group

On May 25, 2022, the President signed Executive Order 14074. The Executive Order established the Criminal Justice Statistics Interagency Working Group. It mandated that the Working Group and the Domestic Policy Council produce a report on the current status of law enforcement data collection, use, and transparency with respect to law enforcement activities, including calls for service, searches, stops, frisks, arrests, complaints, law enforcement demographics, and civil asset forfeiture.⁴ This report responds to that mandate and outlines the opportunity to use equitable data to inform action and policy that can advance effective, fair, and accountable policing.

The need for more complete and detailed data on the full range of law enforcement activity is clear. Americans experience policing differently, depending on where they live, their race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, immigration status, language proficiency, disability status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, and other characteristics. The summer of 2020 put a spotlight on these disparities, especially after the police killing of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, which sparked protests across the United States and the world.

Law enforcement policies and practices should promote public safety, community trust, and equitable outcomes. Unfortunately, some policing policies and practices undermine those goals. The United States must have accurate data to understand the full impact of police activity. When, where, and why is force used, and to what degree is it warranted? What are the demographic profiles of people most often stopped and searched by the police, and what are the consequences for public safety, equity, and community trust? Are certain types of 911 calls for service more likely to be dismissed as “unfounded?”

While big-city police departments are most often in the news, almost 70% of the approximately 18,000 federal, state, Tribal, local, territorial, campus, and other law enforcement agencies across the United States have fewer than 25 sworn personnel.⁵ Federal action to support equitable and accountable policing through improved data collection, use, and transparency must account for the needs of all sizes and types of agencies, including rural and less well-resourced communities.

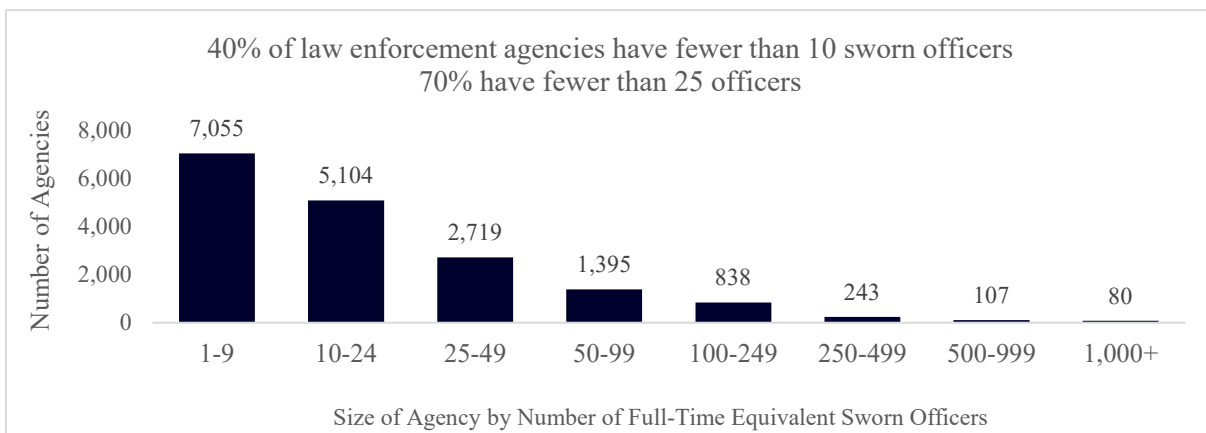


Figure 1. Distribution of Full-Time Equivalent Sworn Officers by Size of Agency⁶

⁴ Ibid., 2.

⁵ The term sworn personnel includes deputies from sheriff's offices.

⁶ Bureau of Justice Statistics. (2018). Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies, 2018. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.

Policing is important to prioritize as part of the Administration’s focus on equitable data. Equitable data in policing means the collection, use, and sharing of detailed data disaggregated by demographic information, geographic information, and other variables—while robustly protecting privacy—to assess whether law enforcement activities are yielding consistently fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals.⁷ Applying an equitable data approach can illuminate opportunities for concrete policy, protocol, and technical changes to improve policing outcomes and the well-being of communities.

For instance, an equitable approach to police data can uncover potential bias in traffic stops or the testing and processing of rape kits, identify opportunities for early interventions to avoid excessive use of force, inform recruitment efforts so that the police can recruit and hire qualified talent across communities, help law enforcement agencies and policymakers access the data in user-friendly formats, and ultimately, strengthen trust in police.⁸

This report organizes the current police data landscape, insights, and opportunities into four sections:

1. Status of Collection, Use, and Transparency of Policing Data
2. Critical Barriers to Effective Collection, Use, and Transparency of Police Data
3. Federal Levers for Progress
4. Additional Opportunities Through Linkage to Alternative Datasets

The Biden-Harris Administration looks forward to working with stakeholders to implement these findings within and beyond the federal government to improve law enforcement data practices to ensure our criminal justice system embodies fair and equal treatment, transparency, and accountability.

⁷ White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. U.S. Office of Management and Budget. (2022). A Vision for Equitable Data: Recommendations from the Equitable Data Working Group. The White House. A Vision for Equitable Data: Recommendations from the Equitable Data Working Group ([whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov))

⁸ As noted by:

President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. (2015). Final report. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice. NCJ Number 248928.

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2020). Modernizing the nation's crime statistics. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing as well as by the National Academies of Sciences Panel on Modernizing the Nation's Crime Statistics

Guiding Principles

Building on the President’s guidance in Executive Order 14074, the following principles guided the Interagency Working Group in curating its membership, engaging stakeholders, crafting the findings of this report, and identifying priorities for the work moving forward.

Promote Accountability and Transparency

Public safety depends on public trust. Public data reporting can promote accountability at all levels and provide transparency to enable local advocacy, including by those with the most frequent interactions with the criminal justice system. Enabling communities to understand and engage with local officials requires data to be promptly accessible and shared. Data also needs to be available to policymakers and researchers to inform changes that promote accountability in policy and practice.

Prioritize Equity

Collecting and sharing data is a necessary first step to identifying and remediating inequities in underserved communities.⁹ Detailed and timely data and meaningful national and other benchmarks, support communities’ efforts to identify and address disparities. Prioritizing equity requires that every law enforcement agency collect, use, and publicly report data disaggregated by demographic and geographic variables. This includes lower-resourced agencies, including those in rural, Tribal, and territorial communities, that need to transition to automated systems.

Protect Privacy

The need for nuanced privacy and confidentiality protections is exceptionally high in criminal justice, where their absence can have a chilling effect on communities. Privacy and confidentiality rules encourage victim reporting—including domestic violence and hate crimes targeting LGBTQI+ people, people of different religions, undocumented individuals, people of color, and more. Improved reporting enables law enforcement to respond to, solve, and prevent crimes. Police officers also have privacy and other interests at stake. The collection, storage, and use of data about police-citizen interactions impact police officers, witnesses, suspects, and victims. Privacy must be protected, even as other values are advanced, including public transparency, constitutional due process, and criminal discovery.

Use a Whole-of-Government Approach

To most effectively engage with law enforcement, the federal government must build on the trust that various federal agencies have built with police. To write this report, the Interagency Working Group and Domestic Policy Council convened subject matter experts, researchers, and data leaders across federal agencies working on police data collection, use, and public sharing. Collaboration across federal agencies was critical to the success of this work, and the federal government must continue to seek opportunities for mutually beneficial exchanges of solutions and coordinated action.

⁹ As emphasized by Executive Order 13985: Biden, J. R. (2021, January 20). Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-on-advancing-racial-equity-and-support-for-underserved-communities-through-the-federal-government/>

Status of Collection, Use, and Transparency of Policing Data

Key Datasets

Historically, policing data have focused more on reported crime and less on the full range of law enforcement activities, such as calls for service, stops, searches, seizures, and civil asset forfeiture. Data on the daily operations of law enforcement can reveal patterns of bias, identify opportunities to adopt evidence-based practices, and support the community oversight that is essential to public trust. For example, if a police district is flagging 911 calls for sexual assault or domestic violence as “unfounded” at a much higher rate than other reports, that would highlight for the department the need to investigate this further to understand if there may be a gender bias in the police response.¹⁰ In response to gender bias, the law enforcement agency could integrate trauma-informed interviewing techniques into officer training programs and implement policies to ensure bias-free domestic and sexual violence investigations.

The Executive Order required an assessment of the current status of data collection, use, and transparency with respect to several published datasets. Many of these were mentioned frequently in public engagement, and they include:

- A. Crime incidents
 - Hate crimes
 - Arrests
- B. Calls for service
- C. Traffic stops, including searches
- D. Officer-initiated (non-motor vehicle) initiated stops
- E. Complaints
- F. Law enforcement demographics
- G. Civil asset forfeiture
- H. Use of force
- I. Citizen contact surveys
- J. Other datasets collected by the federal government
- K. Other important datasets

Law enforcement agencies often publish data in more detail and closer to real-time than federal agencies. Academics, civil rights groups, journalists, and other groups emphasized that federal data collection and local efforts to enable research, advocacy, and public engagement.

A. Crime incidents

The FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program is how the federal government gathers, compiles, and publishes data on crime incidents—including violent crimes, property crimes, law enforcement officers killed and assaulted, and hate crimes. Beginning in 1929, the United States launched the UCR’s Summary Reporting System. In the 1980s, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the FBI developed the NIBRS standard, which significantly improved how the federal government measures and estimates reported crimes. Starting in 1991, NIBRS ran concurrently with the Summary Reporting System. In 2021, NIBRS became the primary system of data collection.¹¹ Compared to the previous system, NIBRS collects data on 47 additional categories of offenses, including hate crimes, stalking, and identity theft, and contains demographic and other characteristics of victims and offenders, and details such as the value

¹⁰ U.S. Department of Justice. Improving Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence by Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-announces-updated-guidance-improving-law-enforcement-response-sexual>

¹¹ In 2015, law enforcement partners recommended the FBI retire the SRS and implement NIBRS. In December 2015, the CJIS Advisory Policy Board endorsed the transition with a deadline of January 1, 2021, and the FBI Director approved the APB recommendation in February 2016.

of property stolen or type and the severity of bodily injury. As such, NIBRS provides a more accurate and complete picture of crime, additional context to understand victimization and offending, and through standardization, supports comparative analyses across jurisdictions.

While many law enforcement agencies have successfully transitioned to NIBRS by January 1, 2021, a third of law enforcement agencies have not. Thus, nationally one-third of law enforcement agencies are not reporting crime data to the FBI. While NIBRS reporting is voluntary for state, Tribal, local, territorial, and campus law enforcement agencies, the lack of participation by these agencies reduces the capacity of police, policymakers, and local communities to understand policing and its impacts. The barriers to NIBRS reporting include technical capacity, operational complexity, and misconceptions about how the greater level of detail about crimes required by NIBRS's standards impacts the calculation of crime rates. The Department of Justice (DOJ) published a separate report on the status of the transition to NIBRS earlier this year.¹²

Latency in publishing federally-collected data is a common challenge in the federal statistical system. For example, the FBI releases its quarterly and annual NIBRS data several months to over a year after incidents occur. This timing reflects, in part, the time it takes to receive and verify the transmittals from thousands of participating agencies and, given the low participation rate, the time to extrapolate and estimate crime statistics for agencies that don't report data to the FBI.

Law enforcement agencies often self-publish the data they report to the FBI, enabling productive local engagement and maximizing the utility of the detailed NIBRS data. However, not all agencies use FBI definitions when self-publishing, leading to the risk of inconsistent comparisons of self-published data. Journalists and academics often amass and analyze crime data from local police agencies through public data portals or records requests to fill these gaps.¹³

Hate crimes

The accurate and adequate reporting of hate crimes is crucial to identifying and reducing inequity. Hate crime reporting is part of NIBRS data collection.¹⁴ In March 2023, the FBI released a supplement to their 2022 crime release that added data from agencies still using the retired Summary Reporting System that they were previously using for reporting. The FBI has committed to continue publishing hate crime data, leading to a higher and more complete accounting of hate crimes.¹⁵ Some law enforcement agencies also publish hate crime data directly on their websites.

Although agency participation rates in the FBI's voluntary hate crime reporting program (when NIBRS and the legacy Summary Reporting System are combined) are high, hate crimes remain undercounted, especially for LGBTQI+ people, religious minorities, and Latino, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander populations.¹⁶ This may be due to the lack of incident-level information regarding bias and hate motivations and hesitancy for victims to report hate incidents due to lack of clarity about the privacy, confidentiality, and security of information shared with police and that law enforcement will take action on the report. The BJS National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) found that almost half of all hate crime victimizations are not reported to the police.¹⁷ In addition, many hate incidents are not legally

¹² Ibid, ii.

¹³ Two examples include:

AH Data Analytics. (n.d.). Uniform Crime Report - Dashboards. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.ahdataanalytics.com/dashboards/ucr> Council on Criminal Justice. (n.d.). Crime Trends Working Group. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://counciloncj.org/crime-trends-working-group/>

¹⁴ Hate Crime: At the federal level, a crime motivated by bias against race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability. Bias or Hate Incident: Acts of prejudice that are not crimes and do not involve violence, threats, or property damage.

¹⁵ FBI National Press Office (2023, March 13). FBI Releases Supplemental 2021 Hate Crime Statistics. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.fbi.gov/news/press-releases/fbi-releases-supplemental-2021-hate-crime-statistics>

¹⁶ Devine, C., Byington, L., News21 Staff (2018, August 16). Millions are victims of hate crimes, though many never report them. The Center for Public Integrity. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://publicintegrity.org/politics/millions-are-victims-of-hate-crimes-though-many-never-report-them/>

¹⁷ Bureau of Justice Statistics. (2021). Hate Crime Victimization, 2005-2019. (NCJ Number: 300954). U.S Department of Justice. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/hate-crime-victimization-2005-2019>

defined as crimes (e.g., posting a racial slur in a social media comment), leading civil society to collect and publish reports of hate incidents directly.¹⁸

Arrests

NIBRS captures arrest data as part of incident-level data. Not every incident will lead to an arrest. Many agencies focus on the ratio of arrests to known offenses, known as the clearance rate. Clearance rate data is most often collected for homicides. Clearance rates are valuable for understanding changes in arrest behavior at the police department level over time or across different kinds of offenses. While locally-published data on arrests is helpful for transparency and public engagement, national numbers provide crucial context. Increased participation in NIBRS would give us a better understanding of arrest data, including homicide and other clearance rates, across the country.¹⁹

B. Calls for service

Calls for service can originate through 911 and non-emergency phone numbers. Sometimes calls for service data include some officer-initiated activity, such as stops and searches. In the United States, 911 call systems operate largely independently of law enforcement and with different code systems, making it challenging to collect an accurate national picture of the entire range of calls for police service, including whether such calls are crime-related. The federal government does not collect calls for service data.²⁰ Many law enforcement agencies publish calls for service data, however, the degree of detail provided varies. Many stakeholders emphasized the importance of “calls for service” datasets. For example, a smaller locality that publishes particularly informative data is, Chandler, AZ, which displays the resolution of the call for service, such as whether a call was referred to law enforcement or another service.^{21,22} Despite many promising local practices, in a 2020 report, Vera Institute found that overall, current “call for service” datasets do not enable understanding on how calls for service are received and handled.²³

C. Traffic stops, including searches

One of the most common police activities is the traffic stop. Some traffic stops lead to warnings, citations, use of force, searches, or arrests. California’s Racial and Identity Profiling Act (“RIPA”) and Connecticut’s Alvin Penn Racial Profiling Prohibition Act have pioneered models of stop datasets that include racial and ethnicity data.²⁴ The federal government does not collect traffic stop data, and there are no federal guidelines on what data law enforcement officers should collect for each stop.

Stop data are often publicly available through law enforcement agencies self-publishing or through intermediaries like the Stanford University Open Policing Project, which amasses stop data through public records requests.²⁵ The Stanford University Open Policing Project data includes demographic information on traffic stops and its research has helped departments understand how their policy regarding where and how to conduct stops can shape the demographics of who is stopped.

¹⁸ For example:

Stop AAPI Hate. (n.d.). Stop AAPI Hate. Retrieved from <https://stopaapihate.org/>

Anti-Defamation League. (2023, January 26). Explainer: ADL’s methodology for gathering and reporting antisemitic incident data. Retrieved from <https://www.adl.org/resources/news/explainer-adls-methodology-gathering-and-reporting-antisemitic-incident-data>

Southern Poverty Law Center. (2023, March 8). Retrieved from <https://www.splcenter.org/reporthat>

¹⁹ Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. (n.d.). Statistics. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.lvmpd.com/en-us/Pages/Statistics.aspx>

²⁰ In December 2003, the FCC began collecting data to build a registry of public safety answering points (PSAPs).

Federal Communications Commission. (2019, February 26). 911 Master PSAP Registry. Retrieved from <https://opendata.fcc.gov/Public-Safety/911-Master-PSAP-Registry/dpq5-ta9j>

²¹ NYC Open Data (2023). NYPD Calls for Service (Year to Date). New York Police Department. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from

<https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Public-Safety/NYPD-Calls-for-Service-Year-to-Date-/n2zq-pubd>

²² Chandler Police Department. (n.d.). Chandler Police Department Open Data. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://data.chandlerpd.com/developers/>

²³ Neusteter, R., O’Toole, M., Khogali, M., Rad, A., Wunschel, F., Scaffidi, S., Sinkewicz, M., Mapolski, M., DeGrandis, P., Bodah, D., Pineda, H. (2020).

Understanding Police Enforcement: A Multicity 911 Analysis. Vera Institute of Justice. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from

<https://www.vera.org/publications/understanding-police-enforcement-911-analysis>

²⁴ California Department of Justice. (2023, May 13). AB 953: The Racial and Identity Profiling Act of 2015. Retrieved from <https://oag.ca.gov/ab953>

Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 54-11 and Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 54-1m

²⁵ The Stanford Open Policing Project (2023). Findings: The results of our nationwide analysis of traffic stops and searches. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from

<https://openpolicing.stanford.edu/findings/>

Recognizing the value of traffic stop data, the U.S. Department of Transportation provides grants to encourage states to maintain and allow public inspection of statistical information on the race and ethnicity of the driver for all motor vehicle stops made on all public roads except local or minor rural roads. The program also supports state efforts to develop and implement programs, public outreach, and training to reduce the disparate impact of traffic stops.

A. Officer-initiated (non-motor vehicle) investigative stops

This is sometimes referred to as stop-and-frisk; stop, question, and frisk; field interview; and field interrogation and observation.

Distinct from traffic stop data are police-initiated, non-motor vehicle stops of individuals. Datasets about these police-initiated interactions go by various names—stop-and-frisk, field interview, etc.—and, similarly to traffic stop data, are not standardized across law enforcement agencies. These datasets provide essential insights into community-police interactions and would benefit from data collection and reporting standards that define data categories and set privacy, confidentiality, quality, and security standards. Stops, frisks, and seizure data are not reported to the federal government. Some jurisdictions publish these data locally. For example, the Boston, MA Police Department publishes data on a wide range of police field interrogations and observations.^{26,27}

B. Complaints

This is also referred to as citizen complaints, police complaints, police personnel complaints, and misconduct complaints.

Significant variability in how complaints are generated, investigated, resolved, and published. The federal government does not collect data on complaints. Some law enforcement agencies, such as the Minneapolis, MN, Police Department, produce a dashboard with a wide range of complaint-related data. Some outside entities, such as the nonprofit Police Scorecard, aggregate and report comparative data on these police-initiated activities from various law enforcement agencies.^{28,29}

C. Law enforcement demographics

Annually, the FBI collects the number of sworn officers and civilians by sex for agencies that report to UCR. And, every four years, the BJS Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS) survey collects data from a sample of over 3,000 law enforcement agencies, including all those that employ 100 or more full-time sworn officers and a nationally representative sample of smaller agencies. LEMAS captures race, ethnicity, and sex of full-time sworn officers broken down by supervisory rank (i.e., chief executive, intermediate supervisor, and sergeant/first-line supervisor).³⁰ BJS is planning public engagement in summer 2023 to inform both what the core set of questions should be for an annual LEMAS (such as staffing, including demographics and hires and separations) and also to develop rotating modules that answer emergent questions.³¹

Biannually, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission collects data from law enforcement agencies with 100 or more employees. This data includes demographic data by race/ethnicity, sex, job category, and salary band on all employees.³²

²⁶ Boston Globe Editorial Board (2020, June 17). City must confront racial bias of stop-and-frisk. Boston Globe. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/06/17/opinion/city-must-confront-racial-bias-stop-and-frisk/>

²⁷ Analyze Boston (2021). BPD Field Interrogation and Observation (FIO). Department of Innovation and Technology. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://data.boston.gov/dataset/boston-police-department-fio>

²⁸ Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights (2023). Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights Office of Police Conduct Review Data Portal. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/resident-services/public-safety/complaints-and-compliments/police-officer-complaint-process/officer-complaint-data/>

²⁹ Police Scorecard (2021). Nationwide Police Scorecard. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://policesscorecard.org/>

³⁰ Collected data includes: agency responsibilities, operating expenditures, job functions of sworn and civilian employees, officer salaries and special pay, weapons policies, and special units.

³¹ As detailed in the report required under Sec. 18(b) of Executive Order 14074

³² Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. (2021, February 1). 2021 EEO-4 (State and Local Government Information Report) Data Collection. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.eeoc.gov/data/2021-eeo-4-state-and-local-government-information-report-data-collection>

Many agencies have recruitment and retention campaigns that rely heavily on internal demographic data, with the goal of building a force that represents the diversity of the communities they serve. Some individual agencies self-publish these data, often in summary form but sometimes disaggregated by demographic and other characteristics.

D. Civil asset forfeiture

Most civil asset forfeiture is initiated and handled by federal law enforcement, and such data are not collected in most local data systems nor reported to NIBRS. Annually, the DOJ shares a summary of the total net deposits from federal civil asset forfeiture with state and local law enforcement agencies.³³ In addition, BJS's LEMAS survey asks law enforcement agencies to report on the total estimated value of money, goods, and property received from asset forfeiture programs. Beyond these data, there is little published data about civil asset forfeiture at the state and local levels. In a 2020 report, the nonprofit organization Institute for Justice used public records requests to gather data about civil forfeiture from states nationwide. They could access data and conduct detailed analyses on less than half of states to estimate civil asset forfeiture. Their analyses suggested that civil asset forfeiture often targeted ordinary people, not major criminal enterprises. This finding underscores the need for more consistent collection, use, and transparency of civil forfeiture data to support fair and equitable policing.³⁴

E. Use of force³⁵

In 2015, the FBI created the National Use-of-Force Data Collection. The Use-of-Force data collection asks law enforcement agencies to voluntarily report on use-of-force incidents that result in serious bodily injury or death and when an officer discharges a firearm at or in the direction of a person.³⁶ It does not include reporting about less serious types of use of force. The FBI began data collection in 2019. Since that time, the Executive Order mandated reporting by federal agencies, and the DOJ is working to increase law enforcement agency participation. In 2022, the most recent reporting year, half of U.S. jurisdictions (representing 69% of federal, state, local, and tribal sworn officers in the nation) participated. Agencies that participate do not necessarily report all incidents.³⁷

Data collected include incident-level data, as well as demographic and other characteristics of the involved officers and subjects.³⁸ Though much detail is collected through this protocol, the FBI and OMB established parameters limiting the level of detail the FBI can publish based on law enforcement agency participation. These parameters are in place to protect the privacy of officers and subjects and to ensure the data published accurately represent use of force incidents across the nation.

In the most recent data release for 2022, the FBI reached the 60% participation threshold and a limited amount of descriptive data elements were released, including the reason the use of force report was written, the type of force used, and the type of resistance encountered. When the 80% participation threshold has been reached, additional data elements will be released.

The National Use-of-Force Data Collection is designed to offer big-picture insights rather than information on specific incidents or law enforcement agencies. Therefore, the data, published quarterly after verifications, is not disaggregated by law enforcement agency.

Many jurisdictions directly disseminate use-of-force data to the public, providing timely access and supporting more detailed analyses. Such reporting better promotes public engagement and accountability. The form and means through which law enforcement agencies publicly share this data vary. Some law

33 U.S. Department of Justice (2023, March 7). Reports. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.justice.gov/afp/reports-0>

34 Institute for Justice. Civil Forfeiture & Transparency. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://ij.org/report/policing-for-profit-2/civil-forfeiture-transparency/>

35 Note: officer-involved shootings is a related dataset

36 For the purpose of the FBI National Use-of-Force data collection, the definition of serious bodily injury is based, in part, on Title 18 United States Code, Section 2246 (4): The term “serious bodily injury” means bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, unconsciousness, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.”

37 Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2022) Crime Data Explorer. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/le/uof>

38 Federal Bureau of Investigation. National Use-of-Force Data Collection. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/more-fbi-services-and-information/ucr/use-of-force>

enforcement agencies offer dashboards or PDF reports with a wide array of information on the use of force but do not provide downloadable data for stakeholders to conduct analyses. Others, like the New Orleans, LA Police Department, publish structured, downloadable data from their records management system daily with details such as the demographics of the officers and the subject.³⁹

Agencies with data analytics capabilities often utilize use of force data that they collect internally for early personnel interventions. For example, officers using force more than their peers might benefit from additional training and supervision on de-escalation techniques.

Without published use-of-force data, researchers, journalists, and community groups rely on public records requests to obtain it. Stakeholders consistently reported that they can wait months or years for responses to public records requests. The inconsistent availability of use of force data has inspired multiple data compilation and web-scraping efforts such as Mapping Police Violence (focused on police killings), the open-source collection by the Washington Post’s Fatal Force project (fatal police shootings), and the University of Southern California’s database (people killed during interactions with the police).⁴⁰

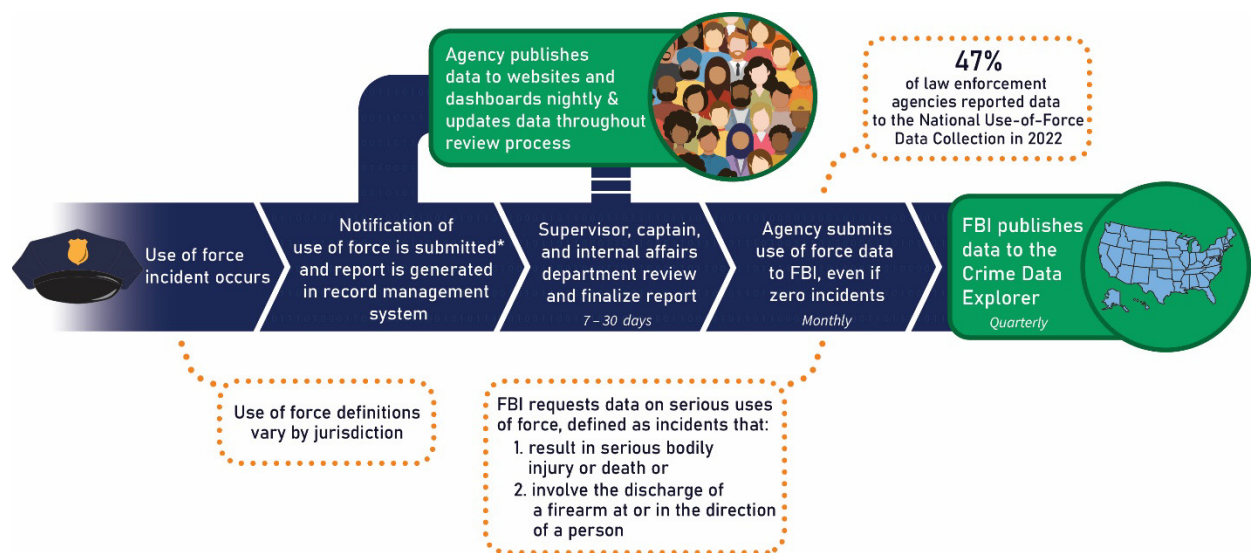


Figure 2. Sample Data Workflow for Use of Force Data Collection, Use, and Transparency⁴¹

This graphic shows an example of the flow of use-of-force data at a large law enforcement agency. Agencies publish data on websites and dashboards at different frequencies. Such data generally includes less-deadly types of force such as hitting, batons, tasers, and data on interactions meeting the federal definition. Different agencies often have a different internal review processes and timing, which can affect updates to agency dashboards with the resolution of the use of force review.

*Notifications can come from law enforcement employees or from members of the public.

39 Enterprise Information Data Team (2021). NOPD Use of Force Incidents. New Orleans Police Department. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://data.nola.gov/Public-Safety-and-Preparedness/NOPD-Use-of-Force-Incidents/9mnw-mbde>

40 OneAtlanta. Use of Force Dashboard. <https://justicereform.atlantaga.gov/use-of-force>

Mapping Police Violence (2022). 2022 Police Violence Report. <https://policeviolencereport.org/>

The Washington Post (2023, April 16). Fatal Force. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/investigations/police-shootings-database/>

University of Southern California (2023, May 3). Fatal Encounters. <https://fatalencounters.org/>

41 The definition of serious bodily injury is based, in part, upon Title 18 United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 2246 (4), and means bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, unconsciousness, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty. Serious bodily injury would include all gunshot wounds (regardless of whether they are penetrating or grazing), apparent broken bones, possible internal injury, severe laceration, stitches, sutures, chipped teeth, loss of teeth, canine bites requiring medical attention, unconsciousness due to an applied carotid artery hold, and injuries severe enough to require medical intervention and/or hospitalization. The term medical intervention does not include routine evaluation of the subject to determine fitness for arrest or detention by an emergency medical technician or medical staff at a medical facility.

F. Citizen contact surveys

Another source of police contact data/use of force data is the BJS Police-Public Contact Survey (PPCS), a module within the more extensive National Crime Victimization Survey, which collects data on interactions between law enforcement and the public from the perspective of the public, including age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin for offenders and victims; whether the crime was reported to police; and the victim's satisfaction with police response. The PPCS data provides the only national-level estimate of the nature and outcomes of contacts between police and the public and supports research and public oversight. Even with its large sample size and disaggregated tabulation of data elements and comparisons, the survey design of the PPCS makes it unsuitable for understanding police-community relations in small geographic areas, such as neighborhoods. Expanding it would be valuable for local accountability and advocacy efforts.

G. Other datasets collected by the federal government

In addition to these datasets, the federal government collects data from law enforcement agencies about:

- Deaths in custody through the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Death in Custody Reporting Act (DCRA),
- Prison rapes through the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA),
- Officer-involved shootings through the FBI Use-of-Force database,
- Law enforcement officer suicide rates through the FBI's Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection,
- Fatal accidents/crashes through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), and
- Assaults on officers, fatal crashes, and accidental deaths in the line of duty through the FBI Law Enforcement Officer Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) data collection (which also collects data on fatal crashes and accidental deaths in the line of duty).

While all of these data collections are voluntary, DCRA and PREA reporting are tied to funding through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program, which is the leading source of federal criminal justice funding to non-federal agencies, and a penalty could be applied for non-participation/compliance.

The FBI has plans to collect and report aggregate counts of police contacts with the public through the Law Enforcement Public Contact (LEPC) Data Collection.⁴²

H. Other important datasets

Many other important datasets published by law enforcement agencies are not reported to the U.S. government. These include datasets about accidents/crashes (non-fatal), citations, fines and fees, vehicle pursuits, officer training, community engagement, community satisfaction surveys, patrol locations, alternatives responses data (e.g., diverting calls to mental health response units), officer commendations, and body-worn camera and dashboard metadata.

42 OMB Report (n.d.). Law Enforcement Public Contact Data Questionnaire. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://omb.report/icr/202103-1110-005/doc/115554300>

Police Data Ecosystem

The federal data and statistics ecosystem

The decentralized statistical, enforcement, and criminal justice systems in the United States make coordination and standardization of criminal justice data particularly challenging compared to other systems across the world. For example, more than 30 federal agencies currently collect criminal justice data through more than 100 surveys and forms, and stakeholders noted that complexities in data collection can limit reporting. Overall, the lack of standardization raises the administrative burden of reporting for law enforcement and, to a lesser degree, the American public.⁴³ To advance more equitable community outcomes, there needs to be more robust coordination across the federal data and statistical ecosystem to maximize quality, timeliness, and detail while minimizing data reporting burden and duplication of effort.

Across the U.S. government, 13 principal federal statistical agencies (e.g., the DOJ’s Bureau of Justice Statistics) collect information, manage and protect data, and produce and disseminate statistical products.⁴⁴ The integrity of the federal statistical system is grounded on objectivity, relevance, and accuracy, and it has a duty to protect privacy and confidentiality by ensuring that data collected for statistical purposes are not used for enforcement or administrative purposes.⁴⁵

In addition to the federal statistical system, the 2018 Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act created three new leadership roles in cabinet-level and other large agencies to promote the use of data, statistical information, and program evaluation to drive evidence-based policymaking: a Chief Data Officer, a Statistical Official, and an Evaluation Officer. These leaders often work with agency programs to identify priority evidence needed to support programmatic goals and leverage data produced or collected administratively through forms and program implementation to supply it. Agencies incorporate this administratively collected data into evaluation and evidence-building activities and, where appropriate, publish open data.⁴⁶ In addition, agencies are working to incorporate the principles of disaggregating data and enabling equity assessments into both their statistical and data programs, aligned with the April 2022 recommendations of the Equitable Data Working Group.⁴⁷

Many federal data and statistical products, including those related to criminal justice and policing, depend on data reported by non-federal law enforcement agencies. As described above, the quality and completeness of reported data vary widely depending on several factors, including the data capacity of respondents.

One critical change on the horizon is the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs’ (OIRA’s) revision of Statistical Policy Directive No. 15 (SPD 15), which defines OMB’s race and ethnicity statistical standards, with final revisions due to be released by the summer of 2024.⁴⁸ The purpose of SPD 15 is to ensure the comparability of race and ethnicity data across federal datasets and to maximize the quality of that data. To achieve these goals, SPD 15 provides a minimum set of categories that all federal agencies must use if they intend to collect information on race and ethnicity, regardless of the collection mechanism. The initial proposed revisions from the interagency technical working group charged with proposing revisions to the standards reflect some changes that would impact policing if, after public input and further review, they are finalized in their current form by OIRA. One is the addition of “Middle

43 U.S. Department of Justice (2020). President’s Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.justice.gov/archives/ag/file/1347866/download>

44 U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Statistical Programs & Standards. The White House. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/information-regulatory-affairs/statistical-programs-standards/>

45 U.S. Office of Management and Budget. (2014). Statistical Policy Directive No. 1: Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2014-12-02/pdf/2014-28326.pdf>

46 Public Law 115-435 - 115th Congress (2017-2018). Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from Congress.gov. Library of Congress: <https://www.congress.gov/bills/115th-congress/house-bill/4174>

47 The Equitable Data Working Group was established under Executive Order 13985 and its implementation by the OSTP NSTC Subcommittee on Equitable Data by Executive Order 14091.

Biden-Harris Administration. (2022, April 22). A Vision for Equitable Data: Recommendations from the Equitable Data Working Group. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/eo13985-vision-for-equitable-data.pdf>

48 Office of Management and Budget. (n.d.). Federal Interagency Technical Working Group on Race and Ethnicity Standards. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://spd15revision.gov/>

Eastern or North African” as a minimum response category. The other is collecting race and ethnicity as a combined question that includes “Hispanic or Latino” among different categories such as “White” or “Black or African American.” These new categories will change the race categories law enforcement agencies use in federal reporting. Additionally, if non-federal law enforcement agencies want to compare their collected data to census or other federal demographic data, they will need to adjust their categorizations to match any new federal standards.

The data ecosystem outside of the federal government

Policing is inherently local. On the whole, most data collection happens outside of the federal government. Local community access to data about local law enforcement activities is essential for democratic accountability. Law enforcement agencies around the country, like those in Baltimore, MD, Portland, OR, and Seattle, WA, make data about 911 calls for service and officer-involved shootings publicly available. California and Texas collect incident-level data about use of deadly force, including demographics. These data help law enforcement build legitimacy with communities and help communities trust the officers in their neighborhood.

A challenge to local law enforcement data publishing is the lack of access to people with expertise in analytics and technical infrastructure to support publication of police data. Some agencies lack records management systems. To address this, a network of supporting institutions for smaller law enforcement agencies exists, such as the FBI’s Criminal Justice Information Services Division Advisory Policy Board, Uniform Crime Reporting Programs, local and state representatives, state statistical analysis centers, federal and state law enforcement training centers, city and county public safety divisions, and local university partnerships. However, this support cannot make up for antiquated technology, personnel who are not sufficiently trained in modern data science techniques, and the need for resources and support networks to fill in the gaps.

“These data provide information about what is being requested and what actions law enforcement is taking, but they do not speak completely to how an agency conducts its operations. In the 21st century, the public and elected officials want to know not only if crime went up or down but how agencies are operating to fulfill their missions. That is, are agencies operating in a just and equitable manner to achieve these outcomes. Additional datasets are needed to speak to how an agency operates. For example, traffic stop data and use of force data can provide insight into how an agency is conducting itself and many agencies collect traffic stop and use of force data due to state or federal requirements.”

- RTI (Research Triangle Institute) International (a nonprofit research organization)⁵⁰

While crime analysis has existed for decades, there is a need to broaden the use of policing data to inform internal accountability and evidence-based policing that leads to more equitable outcomes for communities. Data and analytics on the full range of law enforcement activities are necessary to understand national and local trends to better inform policy and practice. Building the professional field of police data analytics and ensuring all law enforcement agencies have access to these capabilities is critical to achieving constitutional and procedurally just policing.

⁵⁰ RTI International, Criminal Justice Statistics Request for Information Response, Page 2.

Critical Barriers to Effective Collection, Use, and Transparency of Policing Data

These insights outline the major themes shared by federal staff, law enforcement, civil rights groups, data privacy organizations, technology vendors, and other stakeholders. Moreover, these cross-cutting insights apply across many of the datasets mentioned above and shed light on the underlying factors to understand to improve police data practices.

1. Absence of National Data Standards and Guidance

Criminal justice data is incomplete, inconsistently defined, and siloed.

Timely, detailed, and publicly available criminal justice data can enable informative analysis and evidence-based reform to advance equity. Yet across our stakeholder engagement, law enforcement groups, and others across civil society emphasized that it is challenging to gain uniform, accurate data to identify and remediate bias based on individual characteristics such as skin color, limited English proficiency, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, race, and ethnicity.

One challenge is that data reporting requirements and organizational capacity vary significantly across data collection initiatives and law enforcement agencies. Agencies must constantly meet varied and changing data requirements from federal and state agencies. Law enforcement stakeholders shared that this can make agencies feel like they are “trying to hit a moving target.” Separate data collection systems and requirements make the process “unwieldy” and require extra bandwidth to manually enter data across different datasets. This leads to gaps in the nationwide data needed for benchmarking and measurements.

Additionally, agencies are often asked or required to contribute to multiple datasets, each with different formatting requirements. For example, higher-capacity jurisdictions are often recruited to provide detailed data for academic research and evidence-building on top of other reporting activities.

“If the ability to input data into either the local system or state system is not easily accessible, then the likelihood of obtaining complete data decreases.”

- Iowa Department of Public Safety⁵¹

“Greatly simplifying the reporting process in virtually every category of reporting would result in more data being submitted.”

- Jerry Garner, Corinth, TX (Chief of Police and 53-year law enforcement veteran)⁵²

Stakeholders pointed out that the burden of data entry discourages law enforcement agencies from participating in data collection efforts. The detailed disaggregated data required for equitable analysis and decision-making further complicate the process, as does the array of federal surveys that agencies use to submit data.

The lack of nationwide guidance and standards (in both data definitions and data governance, including privacy) shifts the burden to each jurisdiction. It leads to more costly software acquisition when vendors are required to create and upgrade custom products and services. This makes it difficult to measure and

⁵¹ Iowa Department of Public Safety, Criminal Justice Statistics Request for Information Response, Page 3.

⁵² Jerry Garner, Criminal Justice Statistics Request for Information Response.

manage data in an “apples-to-apples” way across the country, between states, and even among contiguous jurisdictions.

Where they exist, data definitions vary highly across jurisdictions. For instance, definitions of use of force vary between states, cities, and even within agencies. In addition, some definitions can limit data collection. For example, most of the 21 states that require law enforcement to collect use-of-force data limit those data collections to serious uses of force (see Figure 2).⁵³

Stakeholders frequently mentioned that a lack of national guidance on how to collect detailed data on race and ethnicity is a constant challenge for vendors and law enforcement. For example, data collection protocols are often unclear on whether to collect self-reported race or perceived race.

Notably, there are promising practices across the country. For example, several states, like Missouri, have regular reviews to align NIBRS codes with state-level codes. Adopting standards like the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM), a community-driven, standards-based approach to exchanging information, can reduce the overall cost and additional resources needed to collect and share data. The FBI CJIS Advisory Policy Board strives to overcome standardization challenges by ensuring it takes regular actions to ensure uniformity, quality, and maximum use of the data collected.⁵⁴

2. Lack of Internal Capacity and Vendor Barriers

Law enforcement agencies need to build capacity—in technology, human capital, training, and other resources—to effectively capture, use, and publish data, while software vendors need to lower the barriers to the effective use of their tools.

A significant barrier to improving police data practices is the need for more technical and data resources to be available to police departments. Given the complexities of data entry and the different tools required to conduct meaningful analyses, many stakeholders noted that data management is challenging to prioritize and resource.

Law enforcement agencies with limited resources could share data infrastructure and analytic capabilities to address resource constraints. Some law enforcement agencies partner with other agencies or levels of government to pool resources. Other jurisdictions partner with local universities to embed researchers in law enforcement agencies to provide research and analysis. This can distribute the financial burden across organizations and support more effective data sharing.

Software vendors can help facilitate data collection, use, and reporting compliance by creating products that are informed by the everyday operations of law enforcement officers and are intuitive to use. For example, some systems include features that automate data collection, reduce the time to write reports, and streamline case management. As a result, agencies are able to produce exportable reports, dashboards, and equity analyses. In addition, software systems should protect victim privacy and offer confidential citizen surveys, which can help law enforcement build trust with local communities. For instance, integrating quality assurance processes into law enforcement data collection tools (e.g., checkboxes, drop-down menus) can improve data quality.

⁵³ National Conference of State Legislatures. (n.d.). Use of Force Data and Transparency Database. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.ncsl.org/civil-and-criminal-justice/use-of-force-data-and-transparency-database>

⁵⁴ The Criminal Justice Information Services Division (CJIS) Advisory Process is a federal advisory committee that gathers user advice and input on the development and operation of CJIS Division programs.

Federal Bureau of Investigation. (n.d.). The CJIS Advisory Process. Retrieved from <https://le.fbi.gov/cjis-division/the-cjis-advisory-process>

“It’s somewhat inaccurate to say that law enforcement agencies are unable or unwilling to collect data. In recent years law enforcement has shown to be very open to collecting new data. The issue comes with the technological and time challenges. Basically, collecting statistically accurate and viable data is not in the core mission of law enforcement. Collecting data becomes a burden when it is shoehorned into law enforcements daily workflow. We need to somehow learn to incorporate accurate and robust data collection into the common workday of law enforcement. We also need to make an effort to show law enforcement the value of these data and that the data is not being collected as a ‘gotcha.’”

- North Carolina Governor’s Crime Commission⁵⁵

3. Fear of Mischaracterization

Law enforcement agencies are often reluctant to report data on police activities because they believe that it may not be presented with sufficient context and may lead to misunderstanding or inaccurate conclusions by the public and media.

“We have also seen that while many agencies are reticent to provide information to the public out of concerns that because anyone can take published data and recontextualize it in a way that may be seen as excessively critical by a law enforcement agency, especially when the data is analyzed by others without any context of a community’s social challenges, those agencies who provide important data on a regular and consistent basis will, over time, be recognized as being open and transparent as they work to address any issues of concern they may have regarding the data. Again, over time, this engenders greater public trust in the law enforcement agencies that provide such data.”

- Jensen Hughes (a public safety consulting firm)⁵⁶

Many law enforcement agencies are concerned that the public can misinterpret individual data points in a culture in which information spreads quickly, often without verification. To encourage transparency, stakeholders agreed that data about police interactions need to be presented alongside data on the whole of policing. For example, when reporting officer-involved shootings, sources should contextualize this with data on the total number of police-citizen interactions.

“If an agency were to talk about their efforts to reduce disparities in policing outcomes, they would likely take a beating in the popular press. You don’t get credit for trying to improve in cases where you have to expose that you may not have been perfect in the first round.”

- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)⁵⁷

⁵⁵ North Carolina Governor’s Crime Commission, Criminal Justice Statistics Request for Information Response, page 4.

⁵⁶ Jensen Hughes, Criminal Justice Statistics Request for Information Response, page 4

⁵⁷ International Association of Chiefs of Police, Criminal Justice Statistics Request for Information Response, page 3.

Given the reticence to share data, especially disaggregated by demographics—law enforcement stakeholders emphasized that data needs to be presented in a way that recognizes the important contributions of officers. For example, positive metrics could be included in data reporting, such as police commendations and the amount of time that law enforcement spends doing proactive community engagement.

In addition, some stakeholders noted that transparency about policing activities can build public trust and support more constructive public engagement.

4. Lack of Accessibility and Culturally-Informed Practices

Making data available and accessible to stakeholders and the public is essential to reduce inequities.

In addition to collecting and standardizing data, releasing data to the public in an accessible format and making those data actionable is vital to promote transparency and provide tools to reduce inequitable treatment. Transparency can engender trust over time and provides a common base of information for more productive police engagement with the public.

The release of public data comes in multiple forms: data can be released through publicly accessible dashboards and reports available on agency websites, through online data portals, through a standard and automated data request system for qualified researchers to access, or a tiered approach with varying levels of access based on the user (e.g., public vs. academic researcher). Partnerships between law enforcement and community-based organizations can strengthen data collection practices while promoting public safety through a culturally-informed and equitable lens by balancing confidentiality and privacy issues. Additionally, by helping to build capacity, partnerships can promote data collection practices that are responsive to community needs to improve public safety.

5. Inconsistency of State Data Reporting Mandates

Voluntary federal reporting and a patchwork of different state data reporting mandates have perpetuated gaps in data across the United States.

In the absence of a federal reporting requirement, participation in federal data collections remains limited, despite substantial federal efforts to encourage law enforcement agency participation. The resulting data is insufficient to provide a true nationwide picture of policing in the United States. As of the FBI's 2022 data release, only 67% of federal, state, local, Tribal, and college/university law enforcement agencies reported crime incidents (NIBRS), and 52% of agencies reported use of force.^{58,59} The BJA data collection of deaths in custody, as part of the DCRA, had participation from 40 states in 2021.⁶⁰

Some states, such as Tennessee and Texas, require reporting to federal data collections for NIBRS and Use-of-Force. In addition, many states mandate local law enforcement agencies to report crime data to state agencies.⁶¹ At the federal level, the law requires that recipients of specific grants, such as DOJ's Byrne JAG grants, report data into federal data collections or face penalties, such as the Death in Custody Reporting Act and Prison Rape Elimination Act.

A wide range of non-law enforcement stakeholders recommended making reporting mandatory at the federal or state levels. Some states, including Tennessee, Minnesota, and Oregon, have improved data collection through legislation.⁶² Several law enforcement stakeholders suggested that the federal

58 Ibid., 811.

59 Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2022). Crime Data Explorer. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/le/uof>
60 U.S. Department of Justice. (2022, September 16). Report of the Attorney General Pursuant to Section 6(e) of Executive Order 14074: Department of Justice Implementation of the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2013. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://bja.ojp.gov/doc/DOJ-Implementation-of-DCRA-of-2013.pdf>
61 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2018). Modernizing Crime Statistics—Report 2: New Systems for Measuring Crime. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://doi.org/10.17226/25035>.

62 Akbari, R. (2023, January 31). Senate Bill 1243. Tennessee General Assembly. Retrieved May 5, 2023, from <https://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/113/Bill/SB1243.pdf>
Minnesota. (2020). Minnesota Statutes 626.5534. Retrieved May 5, 2023, from <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/626.5534>
Oregon. (2021). Oregon Revised Statutes 181A.790. Retrieved May 5, 2023, from https://oregon.public.law/statutes/ors_181a.790

government focus on providing guidance, funding, and encouragement but not necessarily mandate participation.

“We have seen where funding streams exist and assistance if cities are willing to make the transition (see NCS-X project.) You also need advocates at the state level and in the state police associations who are pushing this in coordination with national leadership. The two major barriers are RMS vendors not providing full NIBRS reporting in their systems, and there being no federal mandate that agencies participate, leading to a participation rate of just over 60%. Again, the fact that it’s not mandatory gives state and local governments an out.”

- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)⁶³

63 International Association of Chiefs of Police, Criminal Justice Statistics Request for Information Response, page 3.

Federal Levers for Progress

The following federal actions could help improve law enforcement agencies' data practices and contribute to improving trust in police. Several federal agencies could take immediate action to improve the status of data collection, use, and transparency. At the end of this section, this report proposes how to best use a set of these levers in the near and medium term.

The Interagency Working Group (IWG) will serve as the coordinating body for implementing the levers below, aligned with the Administration's focus on equitable data. As part of coordinating agency actions, the Working Group will engage agency partners to expand equitable data frameworks to criminal justice data and statistics through policies such as their Equity Action Plan, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity (SOGI) Data Action Plan, Agency Priority Goals, and Learning Agenda.⁶⁴ For example, the DOJ has the question "How can the Department most effectively increase the reporting of hate crimes?" in its Learning Agenda. This engagement should include areas adjacent to policing, such as assisting people experiencing mental health crises and identifying bias in prosecutorial discretion.

Barrier 1 Levers:

Criminal justice data is incomplete, inconsistently defined, and siloed due to data reporting challenges and a multitude of reporting requirements.

1. **To identify opportunities to reduce burden on law enforcement agencies by streamlining federal data collections, OIRA, working with BJS, other OMB offices, and other federal agencies, will explore conducting an assessment of the total burden on law enforcement agencies of reporting data to state, Tribal, territorial and federal entities.** This assessment would recommend how to minimize duplication while collecting detailed data to enable examination of activities by law enforcement, including their impact on equity.⁶⁵ The scope of the assessment should include administrative, survey, and performance measurement data collected through grants, cooperative agreements, and other types of funding, as well as data reporting requirements to state, Tribal, and territorial governments. Potential findings to improve data collection could include:
 - Identifying opportunities for shared definitions and cross-agency collaborations, such as the FBI's National Use-of-Force Data Collection and BJA's DCRA data collection, both of which collect law enforcement encounters that result in death.
 - Adding race and ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) categories, geography, and disability questions—where appropriate—to data collection instruments that do not yet collect this data.
 - Technology-enabled data creation like web scraping, automated reporting by policing software, and streamlining data sharing agreements between agencies.
 - Identifying opportunities for data-sharing across federal agencies, between levels of government, and across jurisdictions, in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.⁶⁶
 - Developing infrastructure to facilitate record linkage across datasets to allow adding demographic and socioeconomic characteristics to administrative records datasets, helping to fill in missing data and enabling agencies to study additional outcomes.

65 U.S. Department of Justice. (2020). President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice: "13.1.1 The president should direct the Office of Management and Budget to conduct a one-time review of criminal justice data collections across the government to identify duplication of data collection." Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.justice.gov/archives/ag/file/1347866/download>

66 Including regulations such as the Privacy Act and Circular A-130:

U.S. Congress. (1974). Privacy Act of 1974, Pub. L. No. 93-579, 5 U.S.C. § 552a.

U.S. Office of Management and Budget. (2016). Management of Federal Information Resources. Circular A-130.

2. **The Interagency Working Group will submit proposals through the FBI CJIS Advisory Policy Board (APB) process to increase its focus on data capacity and public data sharing and implement changes to data standards aligned with stakeholder input and nationwide best practices.** As a leading federal agency in criminal justice data collection, the FBI CJIS can involve data leaders and work to increase access to data to address the barriers identified in this report through actions such as:
 - CJIS should develop communication materials for the police data analytics community to ensure they understand the opportunities available to voice their request to enhance data collections or develop additional policies through the CJIS Advisory Process to support equitable data collection and usage.⁶⁷
 - CJIS will collaborate with the leadership of the CJIS APB to include a member of the American Society of Evidence-Based Policing on the UCR Subcommittee as a representative of the law enforcement data professional community to strengthen the data subject matter expertise informing Subcommittee decisions.
 - In addition, proposal topics to the APB might include requests to:
 - Advise on the feasibility of increasing the expected cadence of data reporting within its data collection policies to encourage the timely and regular submission of data;
 - Facilitate the adoption of any revisions to the OMB minimum race and ethnicity standards in SPD 15 to further standardize data collection and reporting;
 - Endorse templates for data collection in collaboration with the law enforcement community, including advisement on collecting more detailed data on attributes such as disability or perceived race/ethnicity;
 - Advise on technical changes and guidance to accelerate and standardize the modernization of data collection and reporting software;⁶⁸
 - Endorse the development and sharing of additional APIs directly to the public, sharing the same data that are reported to the federal government with the public; and
 - Endorse the promotion of usage of lightweight, free, or low-cost tools such as the NIBRS Collection Application (NCA) to all law enforcement agencies.⁶⁹

3. **The Interagency Working Group will work with federal agencies involved in criminal justice data collection to standardize criminal justice data and provide incentives to software vendors and law enforcement agencies to adopt guidance.** With its statutory authority to “recommend national standards for justice statistics and for [ensuring] the reliability and validity of justice statistics,” BJS, in partnership with the FBI and other federal partners, should, in consultation with law enforcement agencies, vendors, and other stakeholders, develop reference standards and guidance on data definitions, data governance, and other criminal justice data issues. In addition, standards development should involve a compliance and testing regime for policing data collections.⁷⁰ These standards should incorporate the recommendations of the Equitable Data Working Group.⁷¹ Specific actions include:

⁶⁷ CJIS Systems Officers administer CJIS programs throughout their states and territories, through CJIS APB Subcommittee members who represent crime reporting experts and through attendance at the public Advisory Policy Board, which is a transparent process that provides opportunities for process improvement. National professional organizations are invited to attend the open APB. Professional organizations have the opportunity to submit potential topics through the CJIS Advisory Process for stakeholder awareness and partner collaboration. These stakeholders can leverage the CJIS Advisory Process to enhance engagement and communication with the criminal justice community regarding the unique challenges presented in supporting equitable collection and usage of law enforcement data.

⁶⁸ Technical changes that would remove barriers to sector-wide modernization include deprecating fixed-width tables and requiring software to align with NIEM standards.

⁶⁹ Federal Bureau of Investigation (2021). UCR Focuses on NIBRS and Other Tools to Make More Relevant Data Available to Users. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs/2019>

⁷⁰ United States Congress. (2023). 34 U.S.C. § 10132. Definitions. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from [https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=\(title:34%20section:10132%20edition:prelim](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=(title:34%20section:10132%20edition:prelim)

⁷¹ Ibid, 5.

- The National Institute of Justice (NIJ), in partnership with BJS and Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), should support the development of valid and more timely measures of community trust in police and police efforts to engage with the community.
- NIJ could create a list of certified vendors that comply with data use standards developed through the FBI and other data collection processes.

Barrier 2 Levers:

Law enforcement agencies need to build capacity—in technology, human capital, training, and other resources—to effectively capture, use, and publish data, while software vendors need to lower the barriers to the effective use of their tools.

4. **Federal grantmakers for law enforcement should consider giving priority consideration for new or existing federal discretionary funding to projects that enhance an agency’s participation in data collection and reporting.** Executive Order 14074, which required this report, also requires DOJ, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Department of Health and Human Services to review and exercise their authority to award federal discretionary grants in a manner that supports and promotes the adoption of policies in the Executive Order. Grantmaking agencies should consider projects that boost law enforcement data capacity as promoting the Executive Order. In addition, federal grantmakers should seek to join the NSTC Subcommittee on Equitable Data’s Federal Funding Interagency Working Group to incorporate emerging practices for conducting equity assessments to identify underserved communities not applying for or receiving assistance and adjust program design to increase access, such as providing pre-grant technical assistance, reducing barriers in the application process, or using trusted partners to raise awareness about the opportunities. Some examples of projects that might boost law enforcement agency capacity include:
 - Hiring law enforcement data analysts at the state, Tribal, local, territorial, and regional levels, such as through the BJA Crime Analysts in Residence Program (CAR), which helps law enforcement agencies expand their analysis and analytics to manage operations;
 - Procurement of police data integration software or NIBRS-compliant records management system software; and
 - Partnerships with data-focused institutions, such as Statistical Analysis Centers, fusion centers, and universities.
5. **The Interagency Working Group will identify ways to maximize the impact of federal funding to state and territorial data programs and centers that facilitate data collection, analysis, and distribution.** Federally-supported state and territorial criminal justice data resources could have a greater impact through closer collaborations with each other, as well as with other state-level integrated data systems, the nonprofit sector, and academia.⁷²
6. **Federal grantmakers should lift up evidence-based practices on analytic data methods and spatial statistics and issue quick guides on how to use federal funds to build law enforcement data and technical capacity.**⁷³ Guides could include case study examples showing

⁷² Supported state data resources include state UCR programs within every state and territory that manage the data collection of law enforcement agencies and work closely with CJIS systems officers or the state government to facilitate data reporting to NIBRS and Use-of-Force. In addition, Statistical Analysis Centers, with 29 states funded by BJS in 2022, collect and analyze statistics on crime and justice to support the work of state and local levels of government and share state-level information nationally. For example, state Statistical Analysis Centers could lead projects that link state administrative data to socioeconomic outcomes available at the Census Bureau to build evidence about the impact of state law enforcement and criminal justice policies on community well-being.

⁷³ In recent years, the FBI, Police Foundation, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) have published similar 1-pagers: Gardner, A., & Aagaard, B. (2020, December). Talking about NIBRS: Messaging about crime data to stakeholders. National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X) Initiative Technical Assistance [Brochure]. https://www.theiacp.org/sites/default/files/NCSX_NIBRS_Messaging_Stakeholders.pdf; Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2018). 30 Questions and Answers about NIBRS Transition. U.S. Department of Justice. <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/ucr/30-faqs-about-nibrs-transition-oct-2018.pdf/view>

how the collection and use of data contributed to crime reduction and more productive engagement between communities and law enforcement; tips on how to leverage existing resources such as city- or county-wide GIS offices, federally supported resources such as state UCR programs and Statistical Analysis Centers, academic partners specializing in criminal justice, and statistical/methodological techniques; and methodological explainers to help agencies decide, for example, what population denominator to use when analyzing traffic stop demographics. Agencies can also issue guidance on how technology and data infrastructure can be included in direct costs for federal grants, how to recruit diverse data talent, and how to leverage enterprise data management software and cloud computing.

- 7. The Department of Justice (BJS, FBI, and the NIJ) will identify a course of action to improve law enforcement agency technical capacity with a de-risking guide for software procurement tailored explicitly to the criminal justice procurement landscape.** DOJ could engage the General Services Administration (GSA) to provide specialized expertise on technology procurement.⁷⁴ This work builds upon ongoing efforts and resources at the FBI, NIJ, and BJS and would include recommendations such as incorporating language into contracts with software vendors that require vendors to include new federal data standards in default offerings and upgrades and information on how to design interoperability across police data systems cost-effectively.⁷⁵

Barrier 3 Levers:

Law enforcement agencies are often reluctant to report data on police activities because they believe that it may not be presented with sufficient context and may lead to misunderstanding or inaccurate conclusions by the public and media.

- 8. The Interagency Working Group will disseminate its findings through convenings with law enforcement on equitable data and data collection.** To engage a broader range of law enforcement stakeholders to gain buy-in to collect and share data and use it to improve services, federal agencies can host regional convenings and join widely attended policing events, such as those hosted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Major Cities Chiefs Association, National Sheriffs' Association, Police Executive Research Forum, National Policing Institute, and the American Society of Evidence-Based Policing. At these convenings, law enforcement agencies could showcase how they disaggregate data to better understand trends, inform decision-making, and share data with community groups and other stakeholders through data dashboards and other tools. Also, agencies could share strategies to build trust with community members and dispel myths or address concerns to ensure data is properly contextualized.

Barrier 4 Levers:

Making data available and accessible to stakeholders and the public is key to promoting transparency and reducing inequities.

- 9. Aligned with the requirements of the Evidence Act, federal agencies that collect criminal justice data will facilitate access to and the findability of federal data and statistics.** Federal agencies should lead by example with actions such as:

⁷⁴ GSA's De-risking guide can serve as a model for these documents focused on criminal-justice data technology: U.S. General Services Administration, 18F. (n.d.). De-risking government technology. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://derisking-guide.18f.gov/>.

⁷⁵ Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2002). Handbook for Acquiring a Records Management System (RMS) That is Compatible with the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). U.S. Department of Justice. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs/nibrshandbook_rms.pdf

National Institute of Justice. (2009). Developing Technology Standards. U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/developing-technology-standards>

- With the expertise of their Chief Data Officers or outside talent brought in through channels such as the Presidential Innovation Fellowship, the U.S. Digital Corps, 18F, and the U.S. Digital Service, federal agencies can publish criminal justice and policing data and improve the accessibility and findability of high-priority datasets.⁷⁶ Such efforts will support researchers, advocates, data journalists, local data practitioners, and communities in advancing fair and just policing.
- As the statistical agency for criminal justice, BJS’s front-door website should link all federal criminal justice-related data, statistics, and tools and minimize the need for researchers, data practitioners, and journalists to understand the federal organizational chart when seeking data.
- Agencies publishing criminal justice data could accelerate structured data on policing and crime and use best practices for search engine optimization and data reuse (such as annotating with schema.org metadata that is machine interpretable by major search engines and AI). By making criminal justice data more machine-readable and interpretable, the most current and best-fit policing data would be more likely to rise to the top of internet searches.
- Agencies should use modern data practices, such as sharing data in a format that enables others to conduct analyses and develop APIs with common standards to increase access to criminal justice statistics and data and data tools for researchers, data journalists, and the public, including readily accessible data visualizations, while using technologies that protect the privacy of those involved in police interactions.

10. **The Interagency Working Group will work with agencies to assess the best approaches to increase access to criminal justice data, including for underrepresented scholars and scholars from lower-resourced or minority-serving institutions to support research to inform policies that advance fair and just policing.**⁷⁷ Agencies publishing criminal justice data should reduce barriers to accessing their data in repositories such as the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data and the Federal Statistical Research Data Centers. They should also prioritize making criminal justice data available through the new standard application process to access confidential data from the nation’s statistical agencies and agree to use the same application for restricted-use data assets.

- Agencies funding research in criminal justice should track funding metrics to identify barriers to scholars from underrepresented communities or at minority-serving institutions and advance equal opportunity in the evidence-building field, especially research on how to reduce disparities in criminal justice.⁷⁸
- The NIJ, responsible for criminal justice research, development, and evaluation in the federal government, could connect agencies with limited analytic capacity to intermediary research organizations to facilitate evidence-building research.
- In addition, NIJ and BJS can focus on capacity-building research programs that serve scholars at minority-serving institutions. This includes specific outreach to stakeholders via webinars, conference presentations, and continued engagement with minority-serving institutions to ensure more equitable access to data.
- The U.S. Census Bureau could expand access to the Federal Statistical Research Data Centers (FSRDC) virtual program for criminal justice researchers not affiliated with FSRDC partner institutions.

⁷⁶ This is in alignment with the mandate to improve access to federal data assets in the Evidence Act of 2018 and the requirement in the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act of 2018 requiring all executive branch agencies to modernize their websites and improve the customer experience, including creating authoritative sources of information.

⁷⁷ Underrepresented scholars align with the 2018 NAS report on diversity and inclusion in the forensic sciences: Here <https://nij.ojp.gov/media/image/10921>

⁷⁸ Such as the WEB DuBois research grant program and Analytics for Equity Initiative: <https://beta.nsf.gov/od/oa/eac/analytics-equity-initiative>, <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-nij-2023-171519>

11. OSTP and DOJ will collaborate to strengthen the police data ecosystem outside of the federal government.

- OSTP, the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and IWG members will work to build a law enforcement data ecosystem to support just and equitable policing by working with federal partners and networks of governors, mayors, state legislatures, chief data officers, philanthropy, and more to provide guidance on equitable data, best practices, and how to support low-capacity jurisdictions to improve technology and delivery capacity at law enforcement agencies. For example, the Administration will work with state legislatures to encourage comprehensive NIBRS reporting and provide funding for implementation.
- In addition, OSTP will encourage independent participation from the private sector, including software vendors and professional organizations, to increase access and the utility of data on police activities.
- DOJ and OSTP will seek to partner with The Opportunity Project (TOP) at the Census Bureau to engage civil society and software vendors to build digital tools that turn police data into insights that can improve policing outcomes.

Barrier 5 Levers:

Voluntary federal reporting and a patchwork of different state data reporting mandates have perpetuated gaps in data across the United States.

12. BJS and the FBI will continue to engage national leaders and associations to increase the reporting of police data.

- Law enforcement agency accreditation entities should require agencies to collect data regarding law enforcement activities as part of the certification process. This could include the submission of data to major federal collections such as those discussed in this report.
- DOJ should create state fact sheets to facilitate messaging from elected leaders about the importance of NIBRS, hate crime, and use-of-force reporting. This builds on the recommendation in the Section 18(a) report of Executive Order 14074.⁷⁹

⁷⁹ Ibid., 8. The report indicates, “Congressional and state-level officials can serve as important and uniquely persuasive local messengers about the value of NIBRS participation. Accordingly, the FBI and BJS should conduct outreach to these stakeholders and encourage them to be supportive and continue to message the importance of NIBRS participation to the law enforcement community.”

Additional Opportunities for Data-Driven Policymaking about Policing

While this report’s mandate focused on police activities, policing involves many types of data. To ensure community well-being, the United States needs to link law enforcement data with data from other systems. Combining data could reduce duplication of effort, put better datasets in the hands of decision-makers, and inspire more robust and informed community engagement and resource allocation. Below are a few illustrative examples.

Prosecutorial data

Collecting, analyzing, and publishing prosecutorial data can reveal potential disparities in the criminal justice system and whether actions are advancing public safety. Unfortunately, limited data exists to understand the decisions prosecutors make at various points in case processing and how those decisions relate to law enforcement data.⁸⁰ Collecting disaggregated data on prosecutors’ case decisions provides a basis for identifying and reducing inequities related to prosecutorial discretion that can help advance equal justice.

For example, Loyola University and Florida International University co-authored a research report on racial and ethnic disparities in prosecutorial outcomes in Florida. The report recommended creating a racial and ethnic equity committee, emphasizing that better data and increased transparency can help give people in communities the power to hold prosecutors and law enforcement accountable.⁸¹

Emergency and medical data

Law enforcement agencies rely on official reports to determine the magnitude of and identify patterns in crime and develop response and prevention strategies. However, data from the NCVS indicates that more than half of violent crimes resulting in injury are unreported.⁸² As a consequence, official police data likely reflect an incomplete and select picture of the magnitude and nature of crimes.

Data from emergency departments offer one potential source of data regarding crimes unknown to police. For example, an emergency department and two urban police departments in the Atlanta metro area linked emergency department data with police data to estimate the percentage of violent injuries occurring in public locations severe enough to be treated in an emergency department that was unknown to police.⁸³ The results indicated that 83% of violent incidents occurring in these two police jurisdictions that were in emergency department records were not reported to the police. Linking these data can provide a more comprehensive understanding of violence.

Social determinants of health data

Demographic disparities in many forms of crime and police activities are well documented.⁸⁴ Research also points to social determinants of health, easily accessible from U.S. Census data sources, driving these

80 Frederick, B., & Stemen, D. (2012). *The Anatomy of Discretion: An Analysis of Prosecutorial Decision Making – Technical Report*. National Institute of Justice. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/240334.pdf>

81 Prosecutorial Performance Indicators (PPI). (2022, November). *Race and Prosecution in Broward County, Florida*. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://prosecutorialperformanceindicators.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/PPI-Race-and-Prosecution-in-Broward-County-Florida-Report.pdf>

82 Morgan, R. E., & Kena, G. (2017). *Criminal Victimization, 2016*. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cv16.pdf>

83 Braga, A. A., Welsh, B. C., & Schnell, C. (2019). The impact of police reform on crime rates: A systematic review. *Criminology & Public Policy*, 18(1), 1-36. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12399>

84 Sampson, R.J., Lauritsen, J.L. (1997) *Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Crime and Criminal Justice in the United States*. *Crime and Justice*, 1997, Vol. 21, Ethnicity, Crime and Immigration: Comparative and Cross-National Perspectives. The University of Chicago Press: 311-374. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/114763>

disparities and hampering community well-being.^{85,86} Themes reflected in these data on social determinants include socioeconomic status, household composition, disability, demographic information, language, housing type, transportation, health care infrastructure and access, and medical vulnerability. For example, one study linked U.S. Census poverty data with data from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) about vital statistics mortality and firearm homicides and suicides.⁸⁷ Consistent with prior research, this study found a strong association between experiencing poverty and becoming a victim of firearm homicide.⁸⁸

By linking multiple datasets to understand trends and identify opportunities, public stakeholders, elected officials, and law enforcement agencies can advocate for evidence-based policies that enhance economic and household stability and reduce family poverty (e.g., temporary assistance to families, childcare subsidies, tax credits, housing assistance, and livable wages) and address physical and social environments (e.g., enhancing and maintaining green spaces, remediating vacant lots/buildings, establishing hospital-community programs, and creating street outreach programs, like Cure Violence).⁸⁹

Other personal data

Knowledge about the circumstances associated with crime (e.g., victim/offender relationship, location, involvement with other crimes, gang involvement, etc.) is critical to inform police response and prevention efforts. For example, personal crimes between family members require a much different response than those involving strangers. One recent example from BJS using disaggregated NIBRS data uncovered stark sex differences among homicide victims when BJS disaggregated the data by victim-offender relationship.⁹⁰

85 U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). Small area income and poverty estimates: 2019. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2020/demo/p30-08.html>

86 Hsieh C-C, Pugh MD. Poverty, income inequality, and violent crime: a meta-analysis of recent aggregate data studies. *Crim Justice Rev* 1993; 18:182–202. doi:10.1177/073401689301800203

87 Kegler SR, Simon TR, Zwald ML, Mercy JA. Vital Signs: Changes in Firearm Homicide and Suicide Rates — United States, 2019–2020. *MMWR* 2022; 71:656–663. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7119e1>external icon

88 Barnes, J. C., & Sternberg, R. J. (1994). Transfer of procedural knowledge from computer programming to everyday life. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 79(4), 539–546. doi:10.1037/0021-9010.79.4.539.

89 Branas, C., Buggs, S., Butts, J.A., (2020). Reducing violence without police: a review of research evidence. New York, NY: John Jay Research Advisory Group on Preventing and Reducing Community Violence. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from https://academicworks.cuny.edu/jj_pubs/349/

90 Smith, E. L. (2022, December). Female murder victims and victim-offender relationship, 2021. Bureau of Justice Statistics. Retrieved March 8, 2023, from <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/fmvvor21.pdf>

Roadmap for Action

The first step set by Executive Order 14074 to advance effective and accountable policing is understanding the current status of data collection, use, and transparency. For almost a century, law enforcement groups, federal and state actors, civil society, and many others have been working to establish and improve police data collection.⁹¹ Yet, the United States does still not have enough data to paint a national picture of police activity. Nevertheless, groups across the country continue to make progress. There are many lessons and effective practices. Also, stakeholders from across the government and stakeholders agree on the need to improve data practices to build trust between law enforcement and the public.

Given the insights and opportunities identified above, there is clear work ahead for the federal government and the nation. Next, federal agencies and the Interagency Working Group need to continue and facilitate implementation.

The Interagency Working Group will be part of the NSTC Subcommittee on Equitable Data and will coordinate progress on implementing key recommendations in this report. The Subcommittee on Equitable Data will report to the White House Steering Committee on Equity in accordance with Executive Order 14091. As part of the Subcommittee on Equitable Data, the Interagency Working Group will update the Steering Committee biannually.⁹²

While there are many actions the federal government can and will take, the federal government cannot do it alone. Law enforcement agencies play a critical role in collecting and reporting data to the federal data collections and their communities and using these data to inform oversight and policy change. Civil society can continue to gather and publish data and hold governments accountable for actions. Communities can advocate, vote, and raise their voices for change. And finally, elected and local leaders can use their positions to ensure that the data collected and the analyses it supports is used to change policy and practice to support more just, equitable, transparent, and accountable policing practices and outcomes.

⁹¹ In 1929, The Committee on Uniform Crime Records International Association of Chiefs of Police published the first-ever crime reporting manual. The first sentence stated: “The urgent need for national crime statistics in the United States is so well recognized as to require no debate.” The statement still holds today. International Association of Chiefs of Police. (1929). Uniform crime reporting: A manual on the uniform classification of offenses and the uniform monthly return of offenses known to the police. Chicago, IL: IACP.

⁹² Biden, J. (2023, February 16). Executive Order on Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government. Retrieved May 5, 2023, from <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2023/02/16/executive-order-on-further-advancing-racial-equity-and-support-for-underserved-communities-through-the-federal-government/>

Appendix

Appendix A: Summary of Actions

Below is a time-based summary to support the implementation of actions in this report:

<p>Near-Term</p>	<p>Federal grantmakers should lift up evidence-based practices on analytic data methods and spatial statistics and issue quick guides on how to use federal funds to build law enforcement data and technical capacity. (Lever 6)</p> <p>The Department of Justice (BJS, FBI, and the NIJ) will identify a course of action to improve law enforcement agency technical capacity with a de-risking guide for software procurement tailored explicitly to the criminal justice procurement landscape. (Lever 7)</p> <p>The Interagency Working Group will disseminate its findings through convenings with law enforcement on equitable data and data collection. (Lever 8)</p> <p>OSTP and DOJ will collaborate to strengthen the police data ecosystem outside of the federal government. (Lever 11)</p>
<p>Medium-Term</p>	<p>To identify opportunities to reduce burden on law enforcement agencies by streamlining federal data collections, OIRA, working with BJS, other OMB offices, and other federal agencies, will explore conducting an assessment of the total burden on law enforcement agencies of reporting data to state, Tribal, territorial and federal entities. (Lever 1)</p> <p>The Interagency Working Group will submit proposals through the FBI CJIS Advisory Policy Board (APB) process to increase its focus on data capacity and public data sharing and implement changes to data standards aligned with stakeholder input and nationwide best practices. (Lever 2)</p> <p>The Interagency Working Group will work with federal agencies involved in criminal justice data collection to standardize criminal justice data and provide incentives to software vendors and law enforcement agencies to adopt guidance. (Lever 3)</p> <p>Federal grantmakers for law enforcement should consider giving priority consideration for new or existing federal discretionary funding to projects that enhance an agency’s participation in data collection and reporting. (Lever 4)</p> <p>Aligned with the requirements of the Evidence Act, federal agencies that collect criminal justice data will facilitate access to and the findability of federal data and statistics. (Lever 9)</p> <p>The Interagency Working Group will work with agencies to assess the best approaches to increase access to criminal justice data, including for underrepresented scholars and scholars from lower-resourced or minority-serving institutions to support research to inform policies that advance fair and just policing. (Lever 10)</p>
<p>Longer-Term</p>	<p>The Interagency Working Group will identify ways to maximize the impact of federal funding to state and territorial data programs and centers that facilitate data collection, analysis, and distribution. (Lever 5)</p> <p>BJS and the FBI will continue to engage national leaders and associations to increase the reporting of police data. (Lever 12)</p>

Appendix B: Timeline of Major Federal Efforts to Improve Data Collection on Police Activities

Event	Details
<p>Uniform Crime Reports (1930-2021)</p> <p>National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) (2021 – 2023)</p>	<p>For the most part, the UCR data program focused on eight Part I crimes (murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson), as well as an array of other crimes under the Part II crime designation. The FBI’s report, Crime in the United States, was published every fall, summarizing the previous year’s data, but the data tables did not have a significant level of detail regarding victim and offender characteristics, weapon use, etc., that would enable information necessary for salient research efforts and policy strategies. Plans began for a more effective crime data collection system, NIBRS. The traditional UCR program, often referred to as the Summary Reporting System (SRS), sunset on January 1, 2021. Participating agencies converted their reporting system to the more expansive NIBRS system that included a wider range of data elements in each crime incident. One of the main features of NIBRS, aside from the more detailed level information at the incident level, was that all incidents that occurred within a crime were counted. For example, if a crime event included a theft, a rape, and a homicide, all three offenses would be counted. In contrast, in the original UCR-SRS only the most serious crime (homicide) would be counted.</p>
<p>Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (1990)</p>	<p>The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) was passed by Congress in 1990 (20 U.S.C. § 1092). In 2013, Congress passed the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA), which included additional amendments to the Clery Act. The Clery Act requires all postsecondary institutions that receive federal financial aid to disclose campus crime statistics and other security information to students and the public. Campuses are required to report annually to the Department of Education on all UCR Part I offenses (except larceny), fondling, incest, statutory rape, all hate crimes, and violations related to weapons, liquor, and drugs. The VAWA amendments also require the collection and reporting of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.</p>
<p>Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act (1994)</p>	<p>As part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Congress obligated the Attorney General to “acquire data about the use of excessive force by law enforcement officers” and “publish an annual summary of the data acquired” (see 34 U.S.C. § 12602). In partial fulfillment of this requirement, BJS and the NIJ developed the Police Public Contact Survey (PPCS), a supplement to the NCVS, which collects data from a nationally representative sample of residents aged 16 or older on the nature and characteristics of citizen contacts with law enforcement. The</p>

	<p>PPCS includes information on contacts with law enforcement, such as traffic stops, arrests, handcuffing, and incidents of law enforcement use of force. BJS has administered the survey every two to three years since 1996, most recently in 2022.</p>
<p>Death in Custody Reporting Act (2000 and 2014)</p> <p><i>Note: DCRA reporting is mandatory for federal law enforcement agencies and tied to funding for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for state, Tribal, local, and territorial law enforcement</i></p>	<p>The Death in Custody Reporting Act (DCRA) was passed by Congress in 2000 (P.L. 106-297) and reauthorized in 2014 as the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2013 (P.L. 113-242). DCRA requires states (and, since the 2014 reauthorization, federal law enforcement agencies) to report information on “the death of any person who is detained, under arrest, or is in the process of being arrested, is en route to be incarcerated, or is incarcerated at a municipal or county jail, state prison, state-run boot camp prison, boot camp prison that is contracted out by the state, any state or local contract facility, or other local or state correctional facility (including any juvenile facility).”⁹³ Data to be collected include deceased demographics, date, time and location of death, name of the involved law enforcement agency, and a description of the circumstances of death.</p> <p>The 2014 DCRA reauthorization authorizes the attorney general to withhold up to 10% of JAG program funds from states that do not comply. In 2016, the responsibility for collecting DCRA for state and local agencies was transferred to BJA. The Office of Justice Programs chose BJA as the data collection agent because they administer the JAG program. In its 2022 report on the implementation of DCRA, DOJ noted that “current reporting strategies dictated by DCRA of 2013 have the unintended consequence of limiting the Department’s capacity to collect accurate and complete information.”⁹⁴</p>
<p>Prison Rape Elimination Act (2003)</p> <p><i>Note: Funding penalty tied to BJA's Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program and OJJDP's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Formula Grant Program</i></p>	<p>The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by Congress in 2003 (P.L. 108-79). Among the purposes of PREA are to "increase the available data and information on the incidence of prison rape, consequently improving the management and administration of correctional facilities" and "standardize the definitions used for collecting data on the incidence of prison rape[.]”⁹⁵ PREA's goal is to eliminate rape in correctional facilities, which includes prisons, jails, juvenile facilities, law enforcement lockups, and community-based facilities. PREA requires state governors to certify full compliance with the DOJ National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape (34 U.S.C. § 30307(e)(2)), and failure to do so will subject the state to the loss of 5% of certain DOJ formula grant programs. In 2014, the penalty was implemented for three formula grant programs: (1) BJA’s Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program, (2) OJJDP’s Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Formula Grant Program, and (3) OVW's</p>

93 Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2013. 44 United States Code § 13727, December 18, 2014. <https://www.congress.gov/113/plaws/publ242/PLAW-113publ242.pdf>.

94 Department of Justice Implementation of the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2013, <https://bja.ojp.gov/doc/DOJ-Implementation-of-DCRA-of-2013.pdf>.

95 34 U.S.C. § 30302

	<p>Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program. Since FY 2017, due to legislative changes, OVW's STOP funding is no longer subject to the penalty.</p> <p>As part of the national standards, correctional facilities are required to collect incident-level data on every allegation of sexual abuse. Incident-level data “shall include, at a minimum, the data necessary to answer all questions from the most recent version of the Survey of Sexual Violence (now called the Survey of Sexual Victimization)”⁹⁶ conducted by BJS.</p>
<p>President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing (2014-2015)</p>	<p>On December 18, 2014, President Barack Obama signed Executive Order 13684, which established the Task Force on 21st Century Policing. The President charged the task force to “identify best practices and otherwise make recommendations to the President on how policing practices can promote effective crime reduction while building public trust.” The Task Force made one recommendation and had two action items that spoke directly to data collection on police law enforcement activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Action Item 2.2.4: Policies on use of force should also require agencies to collect, maintain, and report data to the Federal Government on all officer-involved shootings, whether fatal or nonfatal, as well as any in-custody death. 2. Recommendation 2.6: Law enforcement agencies should be encouraged to collect, maintain, and analyze demographic data on all detentions (stops, frisks, searches, summons, and arrests). These data should be disaggregated by school and non-school contacts. 3. Action Item 3.1.4 Local government leaders should develop and implement a formal data-informed collaboration of criminal justice, public health, and social service agencies to reduce the communities’ unmet behavioral health treatment and homeless service needs. <p>Since the Task Force report was published, the FBI added officer-involved shootings to the Use-of-Force data collection and more demographic details to NIBRS (2019), the Bureau of Prisons began submitting detailed data about prisoner deaths (2015); states have passed legislation to improve data on stops, searches, and frisks broken down by race and ethnicity; and several local governments have launched data-informed collaborations.</p>
<p>Police Data Initiative (2015)</p>	<p>On May 18, 2015, the release date of the final report of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing, the Obama Administration announced the launch of the Police Data Initiative (PDI) to garner commitments from local law enforcement agencies to publish at least three datasets on police activities. The initial launch covered data from 21 jurisdictions. By April 2016,</p>

96 U.S. Department of Justice. 2012. Prison Rape Elimination Act Prison and Jail Standards § 115.87 Data collection, <https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/PREA-Prison-Jail-Standards.pdf>

	<p>53 jurisdictions participated in the community of practice and were working toward releasing data. As of April 1, 2023, more than 120 agencies published more than 200 datasets, including 49 datasets on stops, citations, and arrests, 31 on officer-involved shootings, 22 on calls for service, and 19 datasets on use of force. The COPS office is no longer funding the PDI. Many agencies continue to keep data on their websites updated, and others stopped publishing after the Administration change. The PDI showed the promise of open data, and this report builds upon that promise and focuses on embedding changes within federal agencies and institutionalizing equitable data practices.</p>
<p>FBI National Use-of-Force Data Collection (2015)</p>	<p>In June 2015, the FBI’s CJIS APB recommended the FBI develop a new data collection on officer-involved shootings. Later that year, the APB extended the scope of the data collection to all uses of force that result in serious bodily injury. The FBI developed and tested a data collection that gathers information on the incident, the subject of the use of force, and information on the officer(s) who used force. The FBI initiated the data collection at the beginning of 2019. In 2022, 9,712 of 18,514 federal, state, Tribal, local, and territorial law enforcement agencies, representing 69% of sworn officers nationwide, reported data to the Use-of-Force data collection.</p>
<p>President’s Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice (2019-2020)</p>	<p>On October 28, 2019, President Donald Trump signed Executive Order 13896, which established the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. The Task Force made two recommendations directly related to data collection on police law enforcement activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12.1.1 The President should direct the Office of Management and Budget to conduct a one-time review of criminal justice data collections across the government to identify duplication of data collection. • 12.2.1 States should enact legislation that requires criminal justice agencies to collect standardized criminal justice data for reporting to the state and federal governments. <p>Several recommendations were implemented from this report, such as the FBI and BJS collection of police use of force and the BJS collection of police-public encounters. In addition, several states have enacted legislation to collect standardized criminal justice data. Feedback from stakeholders led to the recommendation in this report to implement a similar recommendation (see page 23)</p>

<p>Executive Order on Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety (2022-2023)</p>	<p>On May 25, 2022, President Biden signed Executive Order 14074. Among other actions, the Executive Order directed that the federal government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify methods to encourage submission of data from federal, state, Tribal, local, and territorial LEAs to the FBI’s Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection (Section 4) • Establish the National Law Enforcement Accountability Database as a centralized repository of official records documenting instances of law enforcement officer misconduct as well as commendations and awards (Section 6) • Submit a report summarizing the status of the transition to NIBRS for State, Tribal, local, and territorial LEAs and include recommendations to maximize participation in the NIBRS (Section 18(a)) • Issue a report to the President that assesses current data collection, use, and data transparency practices with respect to law enforcement activities, including calls for service, searches, stops, frisks, seizures, arrests, complaints, law enforcement demographics, and civil asset forfeiture and assess practices and policies governing the acquisition, use, and oversight of advanced surveillance and forensic technologies, including commercial cyber intrusion tools, by federal, state, Tribal, local, and territorial law enforcement, and shall include in the report recommendations based on this assessment that promote equitable, transparent, accountable, constitutional, and effective law enforcement practices (Section 18(c)).
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Appendix C: Select examples of data compilations by civil society, academia, and the media

There are a range of datasets that have been created to fill in many of the gaps that exist within federal crime/policing data collection that use data from counties, cities, agencies, and the nation and are culled from original records as well as curated by third-party sources via aggregation.

- AH Datalytics | YTD Murder Comparison Dashboard
- Cline Center | Systematic Policing Oversight Through Lethal-force Incident Tracking Environment
- Fatal Encounters
- Gun Violence Archive
- Invisible Institute | Citizen's Police Data Project
- Mapping Police Violence
- Measures for Justice Data Portal
- National Police Data Coalition
- Police Data Accessibility Project
- Police Data Initiative
- Policing Project | Use of Force
- Police Scorecard
- The Sentencing Project
- The Stanford Open Policing Project
- the U.S. Police Shootings Database
- The Washington Post | Fatal Force Database
- Vera Institute | What Policing Costs