Bureau of Justice Statistics

Equity and Law Enforcement Data Collection, Use, and Transparency

National Science and Technology Council
Criminal Justice Statistics Interagency Working Group

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Agenda

1. Executive Order 14074 and the Criminal Justice Statistics Interagency Working Group
2. Guiding Principles
3. Report Findings
4. Recommended Actions
5. Next Steps
6. Q&A

Executive Order on Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety

Sec. 18(c)(i) Collecting Comprehensive Criminal Justice Statistics

"Within 365 days of the date of this order, the [Criminal Justice Statistics] 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."

Criminal Justice Statistics Interagency Working Group

Office of Science and Technology Policy

Domestic Policy Council, Gender Policy Council, White House Counsel

Office of Management and Budget

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Co-Chairs

Denice Ross
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Public and Expert Input From Across Sectors

January:

Launch with 18 federal agencies/components

February-March:

9 Listening Sessions with 60+ participants

IACP, FOP, IADLEST, researchers, civil society, and data experts.

March:

Vendor Engagement Session with 40+ software vendors

April:

Report Co-Drafting

with FBI, BJS, DEA, CDC, and other agencies

May 25:

Report Delivery to the President

Data for Better Policing Outcomes

Guiding Principles

1. **Promote Accountability and Transparency:** public data reporting enables public trust
2. **Prioritize Equity:** prioritizing equity starts with identifying and addressing disparities, including in rural, Tribal, territorial communities
3. **Protect Privacy**: data practices must protect victim, offender, and officer privacy in accordance with state and local laws
4. **Use a Whole-of-Government Approach:** collaborate and coordinate actions to build trust in government

Report Findings

Policing data gaps

To have a complete picture of public safety, more agencies need to report to federal data collections.

Police datasets often do not include demographic, geographic, or other variables needed to understand how to deliver more fair and just policing outcomes.

More agencies should publish detailed data on police activities, like calls for service, searches, stops, frisks, arrests, and complaints

For example:

Tennessee, Minnesota, and Oregon require federal data reporting

California and Texas require detailed stop data that includes race and ethnicity

Baltimore, MD, Seattle, WA, and Portland, OR publish 911 calls and officer-involved shootings

Barriers to policing data

1. Absence of National Data Standards & Guidance
2. Lack of Law Enforcement Capacity & Challenges in Using Vendor Systems
3. Fear of Inaccurate Conclusions by the Public and Media
4. Policing Data is Not Always Easy to Access
5. Inconsistency of State Data Reporting Mandates

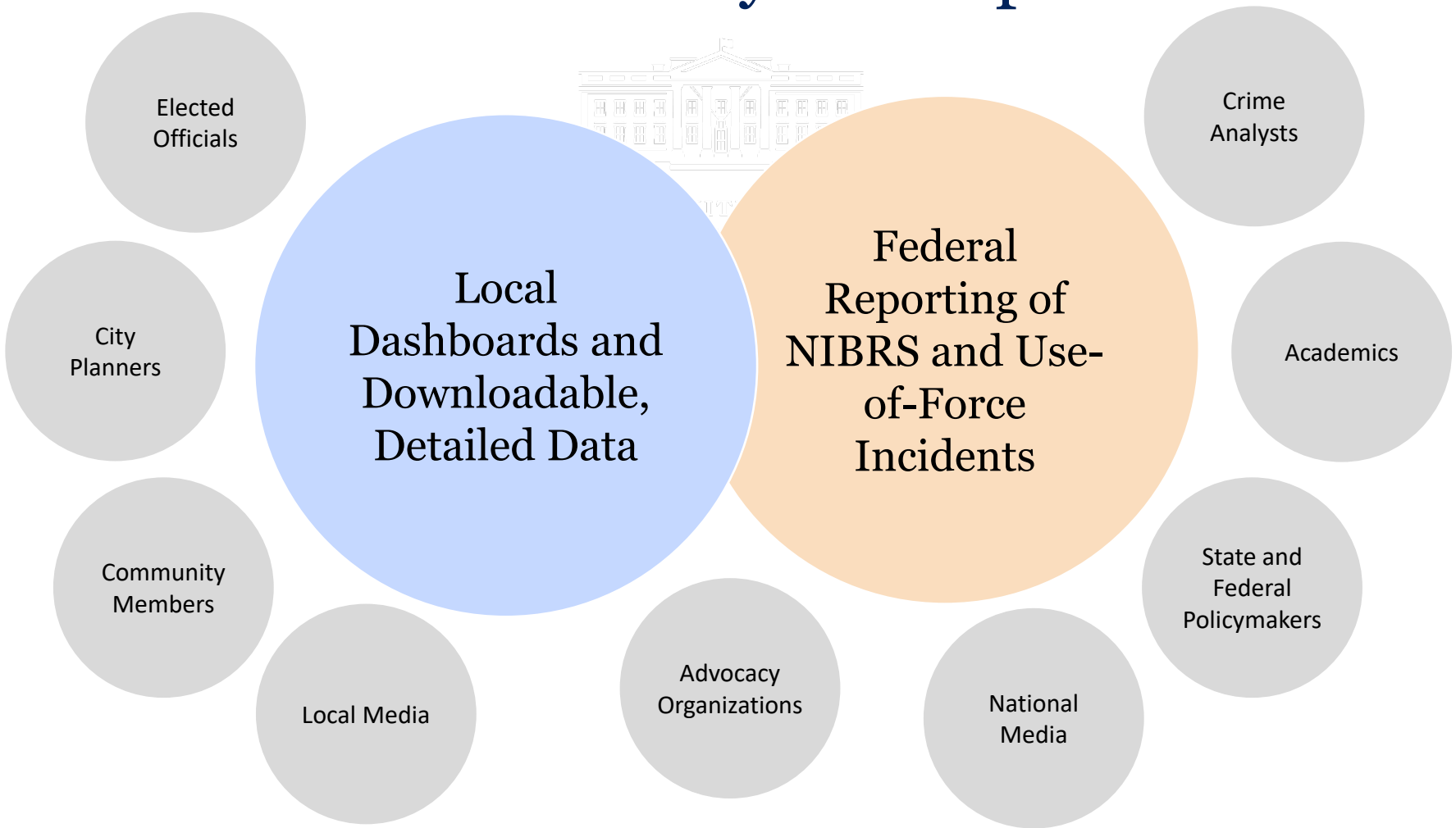
"Greatly simplifying the reporting process in virtually every category of reporting would result in more data being submitted."

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

"In recent years law enforcement has shown to be very open to collecting new data. ...We need to somehow learn to incorporate accurate and robust data collection into the common workday of law enforcement."

- North Carolina Governor's Crime Commission

Data needs to be shared locally and reported nationally



Types of detailed data to include:

- Age
- Sex
- Race/ethnicity
- National origin/language spoken
- Religion
- Sexual orientation and gender identity
- Geography (including police districts or neighborhoods)
- Veteran status
- Disability
- Substance use disorders or mental health needs
- Housing status

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Recommended Actions

Five actions to improve data about policing

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.
2.	**States**	Should mandate and support detailed data collection and sharing about police activities.
3.	**The Federal Government**	Should simplify, standardize, and modernize the collection of law enforcement data.
4.	**Law Enforcement Agencies**	Should build the technical capacity to consistently and transparently report data to federal collections and share data with communities.
5.	**All Levels of Government**	Should recruit data and technical experts and civil society representatives, as appropriate, to inform decision-making about law enforcement data collection and sharing.

1-year roadmap of federal actions

Equity and Law Enforcement	Near-Term Actions	Medium Term-Actions	Longer-Term Actions
• Report Launch and Rollout	• BJA 1-pager on using federal funds to build data capacity • Convenings on Equitable Data in Law Enforcement • DOJ guide for de-risking police software procurement	• OMB and BJS will assess the total burden of data collection • Collaborate with the APB to add a member to the UCR subcommittee • Grantmakers explore giving priority considerations for data reporting • Federal agencies take steps to increase access to federal statistics • Federal agencies further standardize data collection, usage, and sharing practices	• Interagency identifies mechanisms to support state-level data centers • Engage with leaders like Congress and the Conference of State Legislatures to increase reporting

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The Current 1997 Standards

Self-response, minimum categories:

Are you Hispanic or Latino?

☐ No, not Hispanic or Latino

☐ Yes, Hispanic or Latino

What is your race? *Select one or more.*

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

☐ Asian

☐ Black or African American

☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

☐ White

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Proposed Updates

Proposed Minimum

What is your race or ethnicity?
Select all that apply.

☐ White

☐ Hispanic or Latino

☐ Black or African American

☐ Asian

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

☐ Middle Eastern or North African

☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

EXAMPLE

Q&A

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Let's Get to Work

1. Share the report
2. Take action to advance equity and law enforcement data
3. Share your success stories at our next webinar in the fall

Stay tuned for updates!

Subscribe (https://bjs.ojp.gov/subscribe) to the BJS JustStats newsletter.

Bureau of Justice Statistics

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