Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation
Office of Criminal Justice Statistics
Oklahoma Statistical Analysis Center

Office of Criminal Justice Statistics
State Incident-Based Reporting System

September 1, 2021

What is Incident-Based Reporting?

Incident-based reporting is a newer type of crime reporting that allows local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to better track and analyze individual crime incidents to provide a more detailed look into reported crime. In incident-based reporting, data is collected for each individual crime that occurred within a single incident. Incident-based reporting will replace the original Summary Reporting System (SRS) used for crime reporting.

What Advantages Does Incident-Based Reporting Provide?

Incident-based reporting provides detailed crime data that can be essential to local law enforcement as they make decisions about funding and resource allocation. Incident-based reporting also allows arrests and clearances to be linked to incidents, and it separates attempted crimes from completed crimes. In addition to assisting law enforcement with resource allocation, incident-based reporting collects victim and offender demographics, offense, property, and arrest information for each incident. The original SRS format only collected limited data for eight Index Crimes and utilized a Hierarchy Rule (counting only the highest offense in an incident). Incident-based reporting does not utilize the Hierarchy Rule, and it allows for the collection of detailed data for 46 crimes.

Why are Law Enforcement Agencies Transitioning to Incident-Based Reporting?

There is an emphasis at the state and federal level to transition agencies participating in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) (also known as SRS) to incident-based reporting. As of January 1, 2021, SRS data is no longer accepted by the FBI, and the FBI will only accept National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) compatible data. To comply with national standards, the

Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) maintains Oklahoma's State Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS compatible) for local law enforcement agencies to submit their incident-based reporting data. The OSBI worked diligently with local law enforcement agencies to transition their crime reporting from SRS to incident-based reporting in advance of the FBI's deadline.

How Many Agencies Have Transitioned to SIBRS Reporting?

As of December 31, 2020, 91.7% of local law enforcement agencies submitted data into SIBRS, with an area of service covering 69.7% of Oklahoma's population. The remaining agencies (8.3%) were submitting data via UCR, and six of those agencies served populations of 55,000 or more. In 2020, 60.7% of Index Crimes were reported by a SIBRS agency.

Of the 432 agencies reporting crime data in 2020, 70 out of 77 sheriff's offices; 283 out of 307 police departments; 24 out of 29 campus police; 13 out of 13 tribal police, and 6 out of 6 state agencies were submitting data via SIBRS.

Many SIBRS agencies served smaller populations in Oklahoma; in 2020, 84.1% of SIBRS agencies served populations of 10,000 or less. At the time, 15.0% of SIBRS agencies served jurisdictions with populations ranging from 10,000-55,000, and three agencies served populations of 90,000 or more. Those agencies included the Edmond Police Department, the Norman Police Department, and the Oklahoma City Police Department.

As of August 2021, 93.6% of Oklahoma's population is served by a SIBRS reporting agency, and only six agencies remain that have not transitioned to SIBRS reporting. Those agencies have started the transition, and the OSBI is working with all of the agencies to ensure a smooth transition.

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