



# ***National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Certification***

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Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program  
Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division  
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

# ***Critical First Steps***

Map state statutes to the corresponding NIBRS offense codes.

- The UCR program should map and maintain the state statutes master list.
- The UCR program should make the master list available to all participating agencies.
- Law enforcement agencies (LEAs) should map local ordinances.

Provide the required technical specification.

- The UCR program should determine which technical specification will be used; the FBI specification or a state-specific specification.
- The technical specification should be made available to all local agencies.

# ***Certification Criteria***

## **Requirements to Meet**

- **System Appropriateness**
- **Update Capability and Responsiveness**
- **Error Rate**
- **Statistical Reasonableness**

# ***System Appropriateness***

A UCR program or LEA must demonstrate their NIBRS reporting system is compatible with the FBI's UCR system and follows the current NIBRS Technical Specification.

## System compatibility

- Submission structure
  - Extensible Markup Language (XML)
  - Flat file
- Segment relationships
- Number of offenses collected per incident

Crime categories and offenses

# ***Update Capability and Responsiveness***

A UCR program or LEA must demonstrate its ability to update submissions, meet deadlines, respond to FBI queries and requests, and correct errors in a timely manner.

## **Demonstrate Update Capability and Responsiveness**

- Correct and resubmit erred data
- Address data reasonableness issues
  - Verify data
  - Correct data
  - Resubmit data

**Meet FBI deadlines**

# ***Error Rate***

Data submissions must be logical and consistent.

- The FBI measures logic by the percentage of Group A incident records containing an error.
- The error rate is defined as the number of rejected records over the number of records submitted.
- An error rate of 4 percent or less for three consecutive data submissions should be sustained.

Errors are identified in the NIBRS Technical Specification.

# ***Statistical Reasonableness***

Data submissions must be statistically reasonable. The aggregate data are evaluated for percent distribution, data trends, volume, and monthly fluctuations. A minimum of six months of data (preferably six consecutive months) are needed for the statistical review.

Data are reviewed in two formats:

- Converted incident-based data
- Incident-based data

Other evaluations:

- Data comparisons
- Ratio of arrests to exceptional clearances
- Other reporting requirements:
  - Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted data
  - Cargo Theft data
  - Zero reports
  - Group B arrests
  - Recently implemented initiatives such as Animal Cruelty.
- Review specific offense, incident, and data element inconsistencies or improbabilities.

# ***Other Factors***

- For UCR Programs, there is no minimum number of agencies required for testing.
- During testing, an agency should continue to submit Summary Reporting System (SRS) data.
- Other considerations:
  - Personnel devoted to NIBRS
  - A system administrator
  - Basic NIBRS training
  - Message the reporting change to the public and the media
  - A plan for onboarding agencies



# ***Expectations after Certification***

- It will no longer be necessary to submit data via the SRS for NIBRS contributors.
- An error rate of 4 percent or less should be maintained.
- Data quality standards should be maintained.
- State UCR Programs are responsible for certifying LEAs within their domain.
- Recertification is necessary when significant enhancements are done or when a records management system is replaced.

# Certification Documentation



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SERVICES (CJIS) DIVISION

### *National Incident-Based Reporting System Certification*

Certificate awarded to:

*This certificate acknowledges the recipient's meeting of four criteria: System Compatibility, System Responsiveness, Statistical Reasonableness, Satisfactory Error Rate*

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Drema Fouch  
NIBRS Coordinator  
FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program  
CJIS Division  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



U.S. Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Clarksburg, WV 26306

August 12, 2016

Mrs. Dana Gotz  
Executive Director  
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension  
Minnesota Justice Information Services  
1430 Maryland Avenue East  
St. Paul, MN 55106-2802

Dear Mrs. Gotz:

I am pleased to inform you the Minnesota Justice Information Services has successfully demonstrated the capability to submit National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data in accordance with FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program certification criteria. The test submissions received from your agency were reviewed and we determined they meet the requirements for System Appropriateness, Update Capability, Error Rate, and Statistical Reasonableness. We will continue to monitor each data submission as part of our quality review process since assuring data quality remains a priority of the FBI UCR Program.

Congratulations on updating and enhancing your law enforcement agency's ability to report data to the FBI UCR Program. We look forward to working with you in the future, and as a certified NIBRS participant, your agency and the data reported will play a key role to ensuring the NIBRS is the law enforcement standard that will shape the future of crime statistics. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Drema Fouch, FBI NIBRS Coordinator, Crime Data Modernization Team, Module D3, 1000 Custer Hollow Road, Clarksburg, West Virginia 26306; telephone (304) 625-2982; e-mail <drema.fouch@ic.fbi.gov>.

Sincerely yours,

Christopher A. Nicholas  
Section Chief  
Law Enforcement Support Section  
Criminal Justice Information  
Services Division

# ***NIBRS Coordinator***



**Drema Fouch**  
**FBI UCR Program**  
**(304) 625-2982**  
**dfouch@fbi.gov**



# ***Texas Uniform Crime Reporting NIBRS Transition***

Natalie Acevedo, Texas UCR State Program Manager  
Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program  
Texas Department of Public Safety

# ***Texas Statute***

- Govt. Code, Sec. 411.054 – Incident Based Crime Statistics Reporting Goal (84<sup>th</sup> Leg. 09/01/15)
  - Establish September 1, 2019 goal for NIBRS reporting statewide
- Govt. Code, Sec. 411.042 – Bureau of Identification of Records
  - Requires collection of offenses:
    - Family violence
    - Sexual Assault
    - Human Trafficking
    - Prostitution

# ***Texas UCR Timeline***

- 1989 – FBI began accepting NIBRS data
- 1998 – Texas UCR Program becomes FBI NIBRS-certified
- 2015 – Texas passes requirement for NIBRS transition Goal (2019)
- 2016 – Number of Texas agencies reporting NIBRS – **97**
- July 2018 – Number of Texas agencies reporting NIBRS – **231**

# ***NIBRS Contributors***

- Fort Worth PD – NIBRS Certified 2006
  - “We highly recommend the NIBRS reporting method and stand ready to be of any assistance to the other State of Texas agencies seeking to convert to NIBRS reporting.” – Chief Fitzgerald, Fort Worth PD
- Dallas PD – NIBRS Certified May 2018
  - “NIBRS reporting will allow the Dallas Police Department to present a more transparent overview of crime and social issues within the city. Overall, NIBRS reporting will have a cumulative effect on combating crime issues as well as solving quality of life issues.” – DPD Public Service Announcement

**MIP NIBRS Certified –Bedford (1995), DFW Airport (2003), Lewisville (2002)**

## Transition to NIBRS - Overview

<b><u>Committed</u></b>	
Committed to Transition by 2018	15
Committed to Transition by 2019	546
Committed to Transition by 2020	37
Committed to Transition by 2021	50
NIBRS Compliant	231
Total	<b>879</b>
<b><u>Grant Funded</u></b>	
State Grant Funded	194
NCS-X	11
Total	<b>205</b>
<b><u>In Testing</u></b>	
Started Testing Process	4
Testing in Progress	13
Total	<b>17</b>
<b><u>Summary Agencies Remaining</u></b>	
Total	<b>742</b>



# NIBRS Certification Process Overview

Approved vendors must have one month of data at 4% or less error rate.

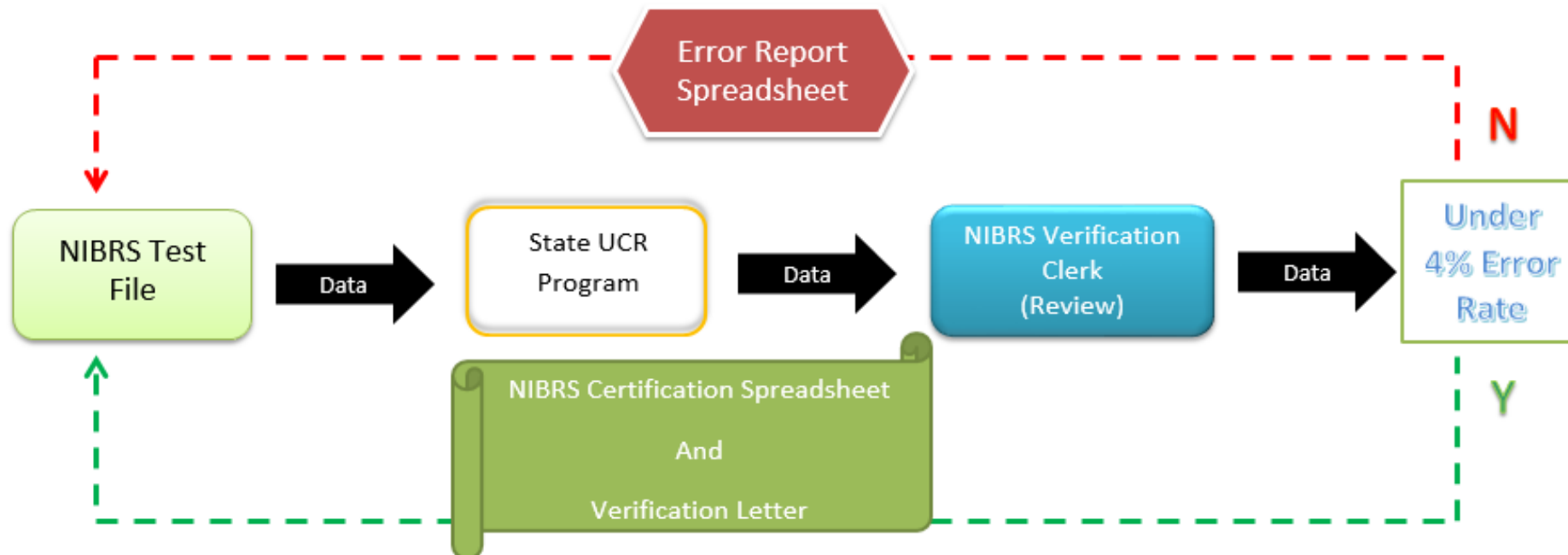
Month 1

Month 2

Month 3

Unapproved vendors must have three consecutive months of data at 4% or less error rate.

Error Report Spreadsheet



# ***NIBRS Grant Funding***

To assist Texas agencies with the cost of NIBRS transition, grant money has been made available from several sources:

- The National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X)
- The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
- The Texas legislature approved \$16.2 million in grant funding to assist local agencies with their NIBRS transitions

# ***Statewide Challenges Transitioning to NIBRS***

- Explaining how NIBRS captures a more accurate and complete measurement of crime, not an inflated one
- Cost
- Obtaining buy-in for change in a voluntary program
- Providing sufficient training for approximately 900 LE contributing agencies with limited resources

# ***Lessons Learned - Texas***

- Recognize challenges that this type of change imposes on the local agency
- Communicate with stakeholders
- Track agency transition target and provide ongoing support
- Develop a training plan and conduct targeted outreach
- Develop tiers of training at the state level based on the status of agencies
- Provide online tools for NIBRS reporting agencies to view and pull back their data, but also provides transparency to the general public

# ***Crime in Texas Online***

- Texas has developed and implemented a new UCR system that included an online portal called *Crime in Texas Online*.

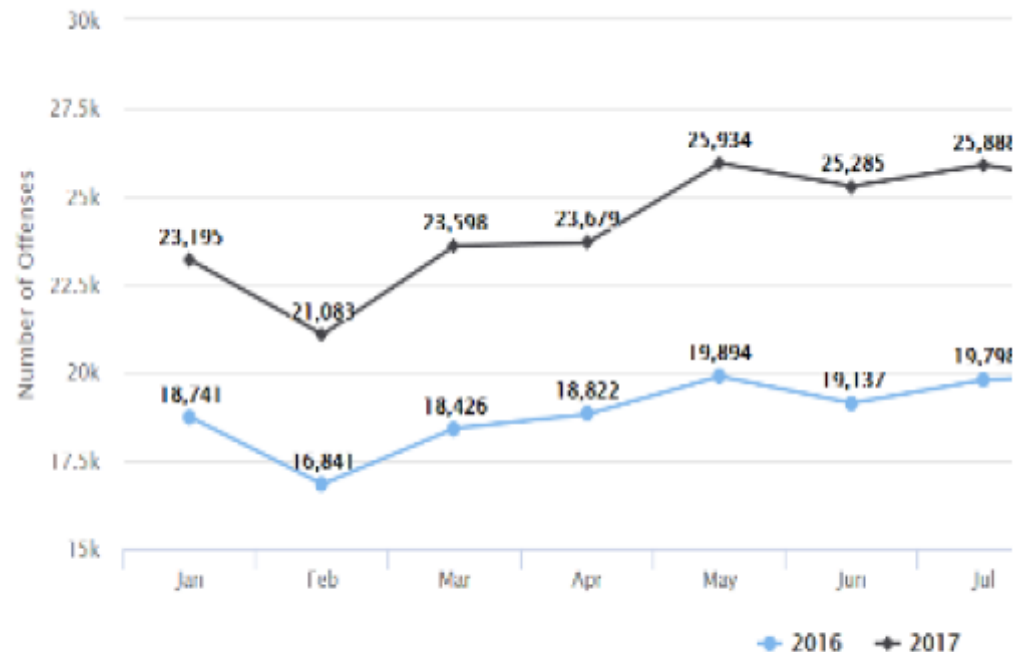
- *Crime in Texas Online* gives users the ability to:

- View quarterly crime data tables
- Query crime data statewide or tailored to the user's agency, county or specified data set
- Create customized graphs, tables and reports
- View crime data statistics on demand and in real time

# Crime in Texas Online (contd.)

## Sample NIBRS Offense Trends Comparison Report

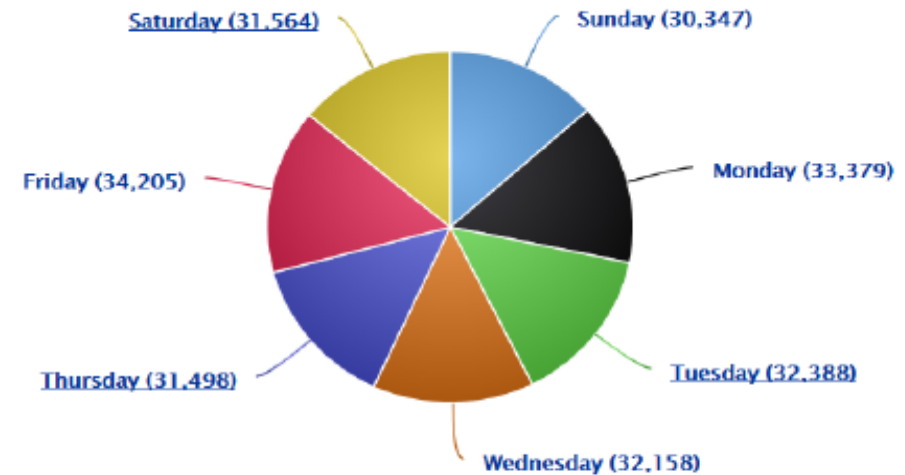
Group A Offenses Trends Comparison



## Sample NIBRS Offense Distribution Breakdown Report

Day of Week by Time of Day for 01/01/2016 - 12/31/2016

Click the slices to view breakdown



\*Counts based on Day of Week or Time of Day may not match counts based solely on the number of offenses or number of victims.

# Crime in Texas Online (contd.)

Ad-hoc Query Tool (NIBRS Agency Data Only)

Search For

Group A Incident



Section	Element	Operator	Value	
Offense	Offense Completed	equal	C = Completed ✕	
Victim	Sex of Victim	equal	F = Female ✕	
Offender	Age of Offender	greater than	15	
Segment 8	Family Violence Indicator	equal	Y = Yes ✕	
Victim	Age of Victim	less than	8	

Search

# Crime in Texas Online (contd.)

ORI	Agency Name	Offense Code	Offense Completed	Sex of Victim	Age of Offender	Family Violence Inc	Age of Victim
TX0160100	BLANCO PD	13B	Completed	Female	28	Yes	7
TX0201000	PEARLAND PD	13B	Completed	Female	21	Yes	0
TX0201000	PEARLAND PD	13B	Completed	Female	32	Yes	2
TX0201000	PEARLAND PD	13B	Completed	Female	33	Yes	0
TX0201000	PEARLAND PD	11D	Completed	Female	36	Yes	4
TX0201000	PEARLAND PD	11D	Completed	Female	43	Yes	5
TX0201000	PEARLAND PD	13B	Completed	Female	38	Yes	1
TX0201000	PEARLAND PD	11D	Completed	Female	64	Yes	6

Download CSV

Download Excel



Questions?

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