What is Incident-Based Reporting?

The State Incident-Based Reporting System (SIBRS) is an online records management system maintained by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. The web-based program is available to law enforcement agencies that participate in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, which includes two systems: the Summary Reporting System (SRS) and the Incident-Based Reporting System (SIBRS).

In contrast to traditional summary reporting, incident-based reporting provides more details about crime incidents. In addition to offense information, SIBRS captures information about offenders, victims, and events surrounding incidents of crime.

SIBRS is valuable to local law enforcement as they make decisions about funding and resource allocation.

There is an emphasis at the state and federal level to transition agencies participating in the UCR Program to incident-based reporting. SIBRS participation is beneficial to contributing agencies for many reasons. For instance, the system’s crime mapping feature provides agency leaders the capability to identify crime “hot spots.”

There are other advantages to SIBRS. Data are collected for 46 crimes (compared to eight in summary); arrests and clearances are linked to incidents; crimes that were attempted are separated from crimes that were completed; the Hierarchy Rule does not apply; and the definition of rape was expanded.

An estimated 83% of agencies that reported crime data in 2015 participated in SIBRS; however, those agencies served just 41.7% of the state’s population and reported just 27.1% of index crimes reported in 2015.

Of the 308 reporting agencies (not including schools/universities, state agencies, or tribal agencies), 256 (83%) contributed crime information through SIBRS, including 64 of 77 sheriffs’ offices (83%) and 192 of 231 police departments (83%).

Based on population estimates provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 41.1% of Oklahomans lived in a SIBRS reporting jurisdiction in 2015, and 27.1% of index crimes reported by law enforcement occurred in a SIBRS jurisdiction.

Many agencies that submitted data to SIBRS in 2015 served smaller jurisdictions in Oklahoma.

Of the 256 SIBRS agencies, 225 served populations of less than 15,000. Fourteen agencies served populations of at least 25,000 – the largest SIBRS reporting agencies were Muskogee and Stillwater. Oklahoma’s largest jurisdictions reported crime data in summary format.