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.

State and federal-level agencies participating in the UCR Program are transitioning 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.”

Other advantages to SIBRS include: data are collected for 53 crimes (compared to eight in summary); arrests and clearances are linked to incidents; attempted crimes are separated from completed crimes; the Hierarchy Rule does not apply; and the definition of rape was expanded.

An estimated 88.8% of agencies that reported crime data in 2017 participated in SIBRS; however, those agencies served just 47.5% of the state’s population and reported just 32.7% of all index crimes in 2017.

Of the 402 reporting agencies, 357 (88.8%) contributed crime information through SIBRS, including 69 of 76 sheriffs’ offices (90.8%), 258 of 289 police departments (89.3%), 19 of 26 school/university police departments (73.1%), 8 tribal police departments, and 3 state agencies.

Based on population estimates provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 47.5% of Oklahomans lived in a SIBRS reporting jurisdiction in 2017, and 32.7% of index crimes reported by law enforcement occurred in a SIBRS jurisdiction.

Many agencies that submitted data to SIBRS in 2017 served smaller jurisdictions in Oklahoma.

Of the 327 SIBRS reporting agencies (excluding schools/universities, state agencies, and tribal agencies), 295 served populations of less than 15,000. Fifteen agencies served populations of at least 25,000 or more. The largest SIBRS reporting agencies were Norman and Stillwater. Oklahoma’s largest jurisdictions reported crime data in summary format.