WADEPS

Washington State

Data Exchange

for Public Safety

Quarterly Report

Q2, FY2024

Submitted by

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Executive Director

Executive Summary

The Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) is an online platform that will serve as the central hub for collecting, analyzing, and sharing law enforcement interaction data with agencies and the public. Currently in development, WADEPS's primary focus will be to help law enforcement agencies meet new statewide use-of-force reporting and public accessibility requirements established in May 2021 by RCW 10.118.01. The platform will include innovative tools and resources that agencies and public citizens can use for agency, county, and state-level analysis.

This quarterly report supplies insight into the scope of work and the development process, preliminary results for the technology survey, focus group feedback, and milestones for the data schema for the incident level data collection, training for officers, and external communications.

History

The passage of [Chapter 10.118 RCW](#) recognized data collection as an "essential tool to allow the public, law enforcement, and policymakers to analyze the effectiveness of existing police practices, determine which policies and training work and do not work, and avoid unintended consequences by supporting policy decisions with clear and relevant data."

An RFP was issued by the state Attorney General's office in November 2022 to "contract with an institution of higher education to implement the statewide use-of-force data program" and develop a system for law enforcement agencies to report, collect, and publish the use of force data reports specified in RCW 10.118.030, and make the data available to the public. In August 2023, Washington State University (WSU), in partnership with Seattle University (SU), accepted the responsibility to fulfill the contract and serve as the data custodian of police use-of-force and incident-level data for law enforcement.

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Project Overview

Significant progress was made during the first full quarter of operations for WADEPS.

FY2024 Quarter 2 milestones include:

1. Introduce WADEPS to law enforcement agencies.
2. Establish an informational website and set up an email address.
3. Conduct focus groups with law enforcement representatives and community members to gather feedback on expectations for the data program.
4. Conduct a technology inventory survey of law enforcement agencies.
5. Establish collaborations with state agencies and technology partners.
6. Establish a subject-matter expert advisor group in data governance.
7. Develop a process for collecting, aggregating, and operationalizing computer-aided dispatch data.
8. Draft data manual identifying who (officer/agency/autogenerated) is responsible for completing data elements and items that must be refined/updated.
9. Develop instrument(s) for enhanced contextualization.
10. Begin developing training materials for law enforcement officers.

All required project deliverables were completed within the specified performance period.

Technology Partnerships

WADEPS is collaborating with technology companies and government agencies to develop automated solutions for data collection and to support the standardization of reliable individual-level data. WADEPS recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Data Use Agreements (DUAs) with the Washington State **Criminal Justice Training Commission** (CJTC) and the Washington State **Department of Emergency Management Division** in coordination with **Motorola.** Together, our teams are working toward solutions to automate the transmission of incident-level data, officer information, and use of force data for agencies using Spillman™ and SmartForce™ technologies. WADEPS will continue to conduct outreach with other law enforcement software vendors to determine the resources and costs for automating the transmission of records to the exchange. (See Addendum [3] for details.)

Following several rounds of negotiation, the contract with IBM, our technology partner, has been incredibly productive, and we anticipate it being signed by both entities early in January 2024. Although

not ideal, the added time allowed both parties to identify sustainable practices for the life of the project while reducing overall costs. A two-day working retreat with IBM and WADEPS personnel to set standards, review architecture, and discuss opportunities to maximize user experience, initially planned for Q2, will be held on the WSU Pullman campus during Q4.

Mindfulness-Based Anti-Racism Training

In Q2, the majority of project personnel completed a three-part Mindfulness-Based Anti-Racism (MBAR) training examining strategies to reduce unconscious biases, increase empathy, and foster engaged discussion; the training is related to complex topics (such as systemic racism and unconscious bias) while being mindful of the impact those topics/discussions might have on oneself and others. Session one examined mindfulness-based strategies to lean into intergroup anxiety and micro-aggressions while being cognizant of how those topics/discussions might affect oneself and others. Sessions two and three focused on developing strategies to identify and address micro-aggressions and helpful ways to approach uncomfortable topics in a workplace setting. Weekly homework provided access to documentaries and mental health and sociology experts and to reflect on personal experiences. An additional MBAR training is scheduled for Q3 and will be required for new personnel.

The MBAR training is led by the special assistant to the provost for inclusive excellence within the Office of the Provost & Executive Vice President at Washington State University.

Financial Summary

In Q2, most expenses went to salaries and wages, benefits, and facilities and administration for team members working on the project. The goods and services expenses were mainly for office desks and computer equipment for graduate students working on the project. A small portion of travel funds were expensed for multiple team members attending the Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs (WASPC) conference in Kennewick, WA, in November to present and conduct focus groups with attendees. (See Addendum [2] for details.)

Project Management and Team Leads

In recognition of the project's complex nature and scope, WADEPS embraces [Holistic Project Management](#) (HPM). HPM emphasizes a positive and collaborative work environment, empowering project staff to offer suggestions for improving project management and providing feedback on project deliverables. HPM is very effective for highly interconnected projects where sustainability relies upon stakeholder engagement and continuous improvement to achieve programmatic success.

WADEPS uses Microsoft Teams for real-time collaboration, including dedicated channels for each team lead. Project personnel can access all folders to stay updated on status updates and internal communications. Working documents and materials are housed within the centralized Teams environment, offering a suite of tools for security and compliance standards and file sharing.

The Team Leads meet weekly to discuss progress on deliverables, share challenges and successes, and consider suggestions. Agendas are available upon request.

WADEPS Team Leads

David Makin
Executive Director
- Director, Complex Social Interaction Lab
- Associate Professor, WSU Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

Matt Hickman
Data Governance Lead
- Professor, SU Department of Criminal Justice, Criminology, and Forensics

Season Hoard
- **Training and Focus Group Lead**
  Interim Associate Director, WSU Division of Governmental Studies and Services
- Associate Professor, WSU School of Politics, Philosophy, and Public Affairs

Dean Johnson
Data Literacy Lead
- Director, WSU Center for Interdisciplinary Statistical Education and Research
- Professor, Career Track, WSU Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Bala Krishnamoorthy
Statistical Analysis and Data Optimization Lead
- Professor, WSU Department of Math and Statistics

Christina Sanders
Project Manager
- Director, WSU Division of Governmental Studies and Services

Joanna Steward
Communications Lead
- Director of Communications, WSU College of Arts and Sciences

Dale Willits
Contextualization Lead
- Interim Chair and Associate Professor, WSU Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

(See Addendum [1] for details.)

Introducing WADEPS

Establishing partnerships with each of the 288 law enforcement agencies across the state of Washington is vital to the success of the WADEPS platform. The WADEPS Data Contextualization Team found and confirmed email contacts for 187 of Washington state's 288 known law enforcement agencies. These agencies include local, state, tribal, airport, university police, sheriff's departments, and state agencies such as Parks and Recreation, the Gambling Commission, and the Liquor and Cannabis Board.

On November 3, 2023, an email was sent to these chiefs and sheriffs to introduce the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety and invite them to participate in focus groups at the Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs (WASPC) conference the following week. David Makin and Matt Hickman were invited to present an overview of WADEPS at the conference's opening breakfast (PPT slides available upon request). Makin, Hickman, and several other WADEPS personnel also had the opportunity to meet individually with agency leaders and other stakeholders attending the conference. (See Addendum [7A & 7B] for details.)

Following the WASPC conference, agency leaders received an email requesting participation in the WADEPS Technology Inventory Survey. Each email included a link and a PIN to access the survey. (See Addendum [4] for details.)

As expected with any new venture, several agencies had questions or requested clarification and assistance. In addition to providing a more detailed overview of WADEPS and the value of the technology inventory to WASPC *(see Addendum #7C)*, which the executive director shared with the membership, we added two pages to the [WADEPS website](#) with additional information about the technology inventory and the benefits of integrating CAD data.

We are working to build a complete library of leaders and contact information for all 288 agencies and plan to extend the introduction and TIS to the additional agencies throughout the coming year.

Technology Inventory Survey

Despite the high volume of police research in contemporary criminal justice scholarship, a comprehensive inventory of police agencies and their technological infrastructures within Washington State does not yet exist.

This absence is a noteworthy obstacle to the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) program as it prohibits the thorough understanding of the technology resources used by police agencies necessary to intake their data efficiently. To fill this gap, we created and distributed an online survey to verify points of contact within police agencies in Washington state to gather this information from law enforcement agencies in Washington.

The TIS includes 30 questions, divided into three sections, and uses a mixture of multiple-choice and fill-in-the-blank response options. (See Addendum [3] for details.)

The Data Collection and Technology Infrastructure section is the survey's most significant and critical portion. We must know how agencies collect data to design the WADEPS system to work with existing technology.

Preliminary Results

 As of December 5, 2023, 57 agencies submitted responses to the TIS (n=57) for a response rate of 30.5%. Most agencies reported using technology to collect accurate data for record management and crime reporting purposes. Most also reported making crime statistics data available to the public. However, a slim majority of respondents indicated that their agencies did not publish data specifically regarding the use of force.

Highlights include:

- **National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)**: 82.5% (n=47) indicated having NIBRS certification.

- **Use-of-Force Data Vendor**: 16 agencies initially responded that they utilized a third-party vendor; however, 20 agencies provided the names of the programs they used to collect and store UOF data.

- **Published Regular Reports**: 89.5% (n=51) reported regular crime rates, call volume, and incident type statistics.

- **Published Use-of-Force Policy**: 75.4% (n=43) reported that their UOF policy is published.

- **Published Use-of-Force Data**

Of the 26 agencies that reported publishing their UOF data, the most common frequency was yearly (80.8%, n=21).

Table 1: Frequency of Agency Publication of UOF Data

UOF Data Publication	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Data is published for public and internal purposes	12	28.6%
Data is published for internal purposes only	14	33.33%
Data is published for public review only	0	0
The agency does not publish data	16	38.1%
TOTALS	42	100%

Next Steps

We will continue to reach out to the agency leaders who have not yet responded and to newly identified contacts to establish a working relationship and provide them with opportunities to complete the TIS.

Transparency and Accountability Index

The goals of the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) include providing transparency and promoting accountability. Allowing everyone—officers, citizens, and agencies alike—access to information about police activity can significantly improve trust and police-community relationships, increase compliance with laws and policies, and elicit more cooperation from citizens during contact with police officers.

Collating from different resources, we estimate that Washington has 288 policing agencies: County: 39, Local: 206, Tribal: 28, University: 7, State Agency: 7, Airport: 1. Nearly all have a dedicated website. Many provide more of a social and community focus over a summary or analysis of data regarding department activities.

Using established research protocols and methodology, WADEPS will be able to provide a transparency and accountability index that the public, agencies, and academic communities can use to

evaluate and compare department policies, performance, and commitment to social justice initiatives.

(See Addendum [4] for the full report.)

The first step in developing the index is to assess what is available online to the average community member. The types and amounts of information available via agencies' public website are categorized and coded using assigned numerical values. This method is straightforward, accurate, and efficient and is a well-established, evidence-based practice in policing research.

WADEPS focused on twenty-three items in public-facing data, including whether annual reports were easily located and available to review and the type of content included.

Table 2: Public-Facing Information: Counts and Proportions (n=282)

Item of Interest	# of Agencies	% of Agencies
BWC Program	18	6.4
Published Annual Report	73	25.9
- Police Activity	57	20.2
- Crime Statistics	51	18.1
- Crimes Against Property	45	16.0
- Crimes Against Persons	43	15.2
- Traffic stops	35	12.4
- Citizen Complaints	31	11.0
- Use of Force	25	8.9
- Race/Ethnicity Demographic Comparison	13	4.6
- Vehicle Pursuits	10	3.5
- Recruitment Data	7	2.9
- Police Vehicle Collisions	5	1.8
Agency Website	275	97.5
- Citizen Complaints	96	34.0
- Police Activity	51	18.1
- Crime Statistics	47	16.7
- Use of Force Report	32	11.3

- Crimes Against Persons	30	10.6
- Crimes Against Property	27	9.6
- Traffic Stops	24	8.5
- Race/Ethnicity Demographic Comparison	8	2.8
- Vehicle Pursuits	5	1.8
- Police Vehicle Collisions	3	1.1
Crime Maps	62	22.0
Language Access Plan	24	8.5

Use of force reporting takes transparency one step further by revealing agency-specific data on when, how, and how much force officers use during public contact. Reports may also include policy explanations of why force is used in specific situations or if certain officers have higher use-of-force rates than others.

Table 3: Use of Force Reporting by Agency Type (n=56 reporting agencies)

Use of Force Reporting	City	County	State	Tribal
Annual Report	22	2	0	0
Agency Website	29	2	1	0

In an era when race relations and bias-based policing are major social justice movements, a racial or ethnic demographic comparison (for the community, the agency, or both) can be informative. Research shows that when officers demographically reflect the citizens they serve and protect, the agency and the community benefit from improved communication and understanding.

Table 4: Race/Ethnic Demographic Comparison by Agency Type (n=20 reporting agencies)

Demographic Comparison	City	County	State	Tribal
Annual Report	12	0	0	0
Agency Website	7	1	0	0

Enhanced Contextualization Instrument (WA-LEMAS)

WADEPS is partnering with the Bureau of Justice Statistics to adapt the national Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS) survey of law enforcement agencies so it is relevant to all Washington state agencies, irrespective of the number of sworn officers.

The national survey covers personnel information, budget, community policing, selection and training, hiring and retention, equipment and operations, technology, policing, and procedures. Collecting that data for large and small agencies and adding Washington-specific questions will enhance WADEPS's toolkit and provide valuable contextualization for other datasets used by agencies, community members, researchers, and other stakeholders.

We aim to create an expanded WA-LEMAS survey that includes sections relevant to salary, recruitment, mental/behavioral health response, gender, and diversity. To design these questions, we are working with Dr. Meisenholder, 30x30's director of gender equity. Among the potential data to be requested in WA-LEMAS:

- Starting salaries for law enforcement employees for the previous five years

- Officer employment life cycle

- Gender-relevant policies (such as lactation, sexual harassment, gender-specific uniforms, and childcare)

- Residency requirements

- Active initiatives towards making their force more gender and racially diverse.

Incident-Level Data

WADEPS is partnering with the Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD) to coordinate collecting and aggregating computer-aided dispatch (CAD) records across the state. Using CAD information to collect the incident-level data required for the new state-wide use-of-force

reporting will aid in automating part of the process, thereby reducing the burden on agencies and officers and standardizing the use of force rates based on police activity, which is a more precise measure than using census population data.

EMD leads and coordinates all aspects of emergency management in Washington state, including mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery efforts for all types of disasters and emergencies. The partnership with EMD will assist in coordinating with the more than 75 Dispatch Centers. As most law enforcement incident data is held at the dispatch level, our partnership with EMD will facilitate the establishment of agreements with and data collection protocols for manual and automated transmission of agency incident-level data. Additionally, as part of this partnership, WADEPS will be able to collect fire dispatch and emergency medical dispatch data using similar data elements. This data will enhance the contextualization of agencies and their cities and be collected without additional cost as part of the routine transmission of incident records.

(See Addendum [5] for a list of incident-level data included in CAD records.)

Data Governance and Data Manual

When fully formed, the Data Governance Committee will eventually comprise three divisions: a subject-matter expert (SME) group, a community group, and a law enforcement group.

The SME group is the first to be established. The expertise of the seven members spans criminal and social justice research, emergency medicine, evidence-based policy, and beyond. The group's primary task is developing and refining the WADEPS data manual. Following a kick-off meeting on October 3, 2023, the group quickly determined that several items from the AGO Advisory Committee list could be moved forward while focusing on just a few items for possible modification or enhancement. Areas related to subject/officer injury and subject actions were identified for enhancement. In addition, a great deal was learned from the law enforcement focus groups conducted at WASPC. There were many

good questions from chiefs and sheriffs related to the types of data that would be collected and many

suggestions for important data elements (such as officer attempts to de-escalate).

A draft data manual incorporating all input from the SME group was completed on November

30, 2023, and the SME group met for its Q2 meeting on December 12, 2023, to discuss.

SME Group members include:

- Geoff Alpert, Professor, University of South Carolina

- Duren Banks, Senior Vice President, Justice Practice Area, Research Triangle Institute

- Cynthia Lum, Professor & Director, Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy, George Mason University

- Joan Smith, State UCR Program Manager, Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs

- Jared Strote, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, University of Washington

- Sema Taheri, Director of Research and Strategic Initiatives, Measures for Justice

- William Terrill, Professor & Associate Dean, Arizona State University

The community and law enforcement groups will be established in Q3. Membership may include

participants from community focus groups, officers, and agency representatives involved in the WASPC

focus groups and subsequent beta testing.

Focus Groups

The WADEPS team hosted five pilot focus groups: three with law enforcement at the

Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) winter meeting in November and two

with community members and organizations in Spokane, Washington, in December.

Law Enforcement Focus Groups

The law enforcement focus groups aim to understand perspectives regarding the WADEPS

project needs of agencies, obtain recommendations for data collection, and, finally, garner suggestions

for the dashboard. To facilitate this, the focus groups were structured as a question-and-answer and open discussion session where law enforcement agencies could ask WADEPS leadership, Drs. David Makin and Matthew Hickman, specific questions on the project.

Across the three focus groups, 55 individuals representing 46 law enforcement agencies participated. *(See Addendum [6] for the full report on both focus groups.)*

In brief, perspectives from law enforcement representatives included:

- Data collection: compatibility with existing collection systems, the potential for "double" work, potential cost (especially from technology vendors), the purpose of collecting CAD data, and its use.

- Use of force policies and how definitions might differ across agencies.

- Timeline for implementation and for reporting incidents

- Legislation vs policy and potential conflicts.

The law enforcement participants offered suggestions for improving data collection tools, addressing circumstances that might impact the 24-hour reporting time frame, providing context for use-of-force incidents, tracking the use of de-escalation tactics, language barriers, and opportunity or access to review data.

When asked for recommendations on additional sources of data, suggestions included suicide prevention hotlines and partnering with Volunteers of America (for hospital and treatment information).

The online dashboard was another topic that raised questions and inspired suggestions. Participants were interested in what data would be presented and how it could be used or manipulated to show a specific narrative, which was a concern across focus groups or explain officer behavior.

Across the law enforcement focus groups, it was repeatedly expressed that the ability to track the effectiveness of technology, techniques, and training would benefit law enforcement.

Community Focus Groups

For the community pilot focus groups in Spokane, the research team identified community organizations active in police transparency issues through online searches of local news sources. These organizations were contacted one month prior to the focus group and invited to attend either an afternoon or an evening session. Snowball sampling was also used to encourage these organizations to let us know who else should be invited or to share the invitation with colleagues and like-minded organizations. *(See Addendum [6] for the full report on both focus groups.)*

In brief, perspectives from community members included:

- Capturing sufficient context: It was noted that factors such as skin tone are important for looking at differences in the use of force *within* race groups, for example. It was also noted that police officers' demeanor toward subjects is important for understanding use of force incidents.

- Misuse of data and the impact of varying definitions of the use of force.

- Ensuring public awareness of the dashboard

The community member participants offered suggestions for managing the overall use, informing decision-making, and supporting community members using the dashboard. Other suggestions stemmed from the concerns regarding the extent to which contextual factors will be collected about the use of force incidents.

Training Materials

WADEPS has acquired Adobe Captivate and is partnering with ACADIS, a cloud-based platform specializing in training for public safety organizations, to create training materials for officers and agency personnel. Two meetings occurred in Q2, and biweekly meetings are planned for Q3.

The training outline has been developed, and preliminary training content has been determined. This includes overviews of the legislation, Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS),

the data elements collected based on the draft data manual, and accurate data entry within the system. Additionally, based on information obtained from focus groups, the training plan has been updated to include at least two different "tracks" for initial training. This includes separate training for officers and administrators who have supervisory review responsibilities. While much of this training will align, the data manual identifies data that will be entered by agencies rather than officers, and agencies must verify the data entered by officers. The separate training for agencies will address their specific data-entry and verification role.

Website and Communications

A dedicated email address of wa.deps@wsu.edu has been established for all external communications. This inbox is monitored regularly, and inquiries are routed to the appropriate team member for response.

A temporary public website was established at go.wsu.edu/wadeps to provide general information about the initiative, the RCW legislation signed into law on May 18, 2021, and the technology information survey. Traffic to the website increased significantly when links were included in an informational letter sent to the WASPC executive director, who shared it with the organization's members.

Working within WSU's Executive Policy 21 framework, a request to establish a ".org" domain name was submitted to the WSU web group in mid-November. Specifically, a web address of https://wadeps.org would reflect the interdisciplinary collaboration of the project team, and the end-user experience and brand capital could be maintained over the project's lifetime. The request was approved, and the new domain has been secured.

The external communications strategy for the website's launch is in development, along with a visual logo and other brand assets.

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Addendums

1. Organizational Chart

See attachment - Washington State University Program Management Plan, sheet "Organizational Chart."

2. Budget Snapshot

As of December 10, 2023

Grant	Budget	Expenses	Commitments	Obligations	Total Spend	Available Balance
Grant Total	4,999,789.00	219,442.79	101,789.86	4,017,045.10	4,338,277.75	661,511.25
GR00012518 Makin, D.	4,357,085.00	123,282.21	101,789.86	3,871,729.92	4,096,801.99	260,283.01
GR00012519 Deford, D.	36,585.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36,585.00
GR00012520 Sanders, C.	394,613.00	96,160.58	0.00	145,315.18	241,475.76	153,137.24
GR00012521 Johnson, H.	55,148.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	55,148.00
GR00012522 Makin, D.	61,350.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	61,350.00
GR00012866 Makin, D./Seattle Univ	95,008.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	95,008.00

3. Technology Inventory Survey Report

High-Level Overview

Despite the high volume of police research in contemporary criminal justice scholarship, a comprehensive inventory of police agencies and their technological infrastructures within Washington State does not yet exist. This absence is a noteworthy obstacle to the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) program as it prohibits the thorough understanding of the technology resources used by police agencies necessary to intake their data efficiently. To fill this gap, we created a survey to gather this information from law enforcement agencies in Washington. The Technology Inventory Survey was distributed for this purpose, and preliminary survey results from a subset of law enforcement agencies are presented. Briefly, results suggest that most responding agencies use technologies to collect accurate data for record management and crime reporting purposes. Most agencies also reported making crime statistics data available to the public. However, a slim majority of respondents indicated that their agencies did not publish data specifically regarding the Use of Force.

Technology Inventory Survey

The Technology Inventory Survey (TIS) was distributed to verified points of contact within police agencies in Washington State to assess the technological status of the departments themselves. The TIS is divided into three sections of questions: 1) Survey Information, 2) Data Collection and Technology Infrastructure, and 3) Agency Personnel and Training Preferences. The TIS contains 30 questions and is a mixture of multiple-choice and fill-in-the-blank questions. Not all agencies saw all the questions; some were only displayed if appropriate conditions from previous questions were met. The items included in this preliminary data collection effort are designed to efficiently gather information about agencies while considering respondents' typically busy schedules.

As results from Section 1 and several items from Section 3 are largely unquantifiable (for example, the names of respondents and email addresses of designated agency points of contact) in nature and

contain identifiable information from respondents, this report will discuss only results from Section 2 and select results from Section 3. The complete TIS can be found in *Appendix A.*

Section 1: Survey Information

This section contains three information-gathering questions designed to confirm the name and contact information of the primary supervisor of the agency, typically the sheriff or the chief of police, and provides the opportunity for the respondent to designate an alternative point of contact for the project if needed.

Section 2: Data Collection and Technology Infrastructure

This section is the largest of the three question blocks; it contains 20 questions and is designed to assess the technologies utilized by the agency. Along with questions regarding whether agencies make use of body-worn camera (BWC) systems, this section also assesses whether agencies are certified participants in the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which vendors agencies have purchased computer-aided dispatch (CAD) systems from and whether agencies have published use-of-force (UOF) policies.

Section 3: Agency Personnel and Training Preferences

This last section of the survey collects further information regarding the agency, including agency size and whether the agency employs an individual who analyzes agency data. Additionally, this section allows agencies to choose their preferred training method on WADEPS tools.

Preliminary Survey Results

The WADEPS Data Contextualization Team found and confirmed email contact details for points of contact at 187 of the 288 known law enforcement agencies operating within Washington State. These agencies include local police agencies, state police agencies, tribal policing agencies, airport police agencies, university police agencies, and sheriffs' departments. After confirming these details, the TIS was distributed to these law enforcement agencies. As of December 5, 2023, 57 agencies submitted responses

to the TIS (n=57) for a response rate of approximately 30.5%. Due to the limited sample size and non-response, we cannot assume that the results represent the entire population of law enforcement agencies in Washington State. The data that follows should be considered preliminary.

National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Of the agencies surveyed, 82.5% (n=47) indicated having NIBRS certification. The remaining agencies that responded to the survey indicating interest in obtaining NIBRS certification were split evenly, with three agencies reporting interest in NIBRS certification and three reporting that NIBRS certification was not a priority. One agency reported being in the process of obtaining NIBRS certification, and three agencies abstained from responding to the NIBRS question.

CAD Vendors

This section of the TIS consisted of a question to assess which vendor the agencies utilized for their computer-aided dispatch (CAD) data. Agencies were given a list of popular providers of these services and were provided with the opportunity to enter an option not provided within the list. The following table displays the distribution of CAD vendors across responding agencies:

Table 1: Agency Use of CAD Vendors (n=57)

Vendor Name	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Axon	0	0%
CentralSquare Technologies	1	1.75%
Hexagon Safety & Infrastructure	11	19.3%
Motorola Solutions/Spillman	25	43.9%
Tyler Technologies	11	19.3%
Other	9	15.8%
TOTALS:	57	100%

Among the "Other" vendors indicated by agencies in the survey responses were Omnigo Report Exec (1), Tiburon (3), Mobile Public Safety (MPS) by CivicEye (1), ARMS by End2End (1), and Versaterm (1). One agency indicated that their CAD data system was a state agency's in-house dispatch system; another

indicated they did not utilize a dispatch center. It is important to note that some responding agencies initially selected "Other" when responding to the survey; however, upon providing the name of their CAD vendor, these agencies indicated one of the vendors included in the list by a different name or acronym. These agencies' responses have been removed from the "Other" category and placed in the table's appropriate categories.

Agencies were also asked whether their CAD system was a shared resource with other agencies. 91.2% of responding agencies indicated that their CAD system was a resource shared with at least one other agency.

Furthermore, agencies were asked approximately how many years they had utilized their current CAD system. The results of this question can be seen below:

Table 2: Time of Agency Use of Current CAD Vendor (n=56)

Time of Current CAD Vendor Use	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Less than a year	0	0%
1 to 4 years	5	8.93%
5 to 9 years	11	19.6%
10 to 14 years	11	19.6%
15+ years	29	51.8%
TOTALS:	56	100%

One agency abstained from responding to this question regarding how long their current CAD system had been in use.

Published Regular Reports

Of the agencies that responded to the survey, 89.5% (n=51) reported that they published regular statistical reports regarding crime rates, call volume, and incident type. The remaining six agencies reported that they did not publish reports of this variety at least once a year.

RMS Vendor

In addition to assessing the choices of CAD vendors chosen by agencies, the TIS also included questions that collected information about the Record Management Systems (RMS) vendors employed by responding agencies. The distribution of agencies across some of the more popular RMS vendors can be seen in the following table:

Table 3: Agency Use of RMS Vendors (n=57)

RMS Vendor Name	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Axon	1	1.75%
CentralSquare Technologies	2	3.51%
Motorola Solutions	23	40.4%
SunGard Public Sector (FIS)	0	0%
Tyler Technologies	13	22.8%
Hexagon Safety & Infrastructure	1	1.75%
Other	13	22.8%
The agency does not have an RMS vendor	4	7.02%
TOTALS:	57	100%

The "Other" vendors indicated by responding agencies included the following: Mark43 (1), Omnigo Report Exec (1), Executive Information Services (EIS) (4), DSSI Law Enforcement Systems (1), Tiburon (1), and ARMS by End2End (1). One agency indicated that they were in the process of adopting Axon as an RMS, and three agencies indicated that their RMS were internal or varied based on record type. As with the responses received for the CAD vendor section, some agencies responded "Other" to this question but provided an alternative name or acronym for a vendor already included within the list. These six responses have been recorded in the correct sections.

Incident Location

Of the recorded responses from agencies, 98.2% (n=56) reported that their RMS recorded the physical location of incidents, with 75.4% (n=43) reporting that their RMS recorded both the physical address and the latitude/longitude of the incident. Of the remainder, 21.1% (n=12) reported that their

RMS recorded only the address of the incident, one agency reported that their RMS recorded only the latitude/longitude of the incident, and one agency abstained from answering the question.

Use Of Force Policy

Of the responding agencies, 75.4% (n=43) reported that their Use of Force policy was published. Those agencies indicating a published Use of Force Policy were then asked to upload that policy as part of the survey. When prompted, 88.4% (n=38) of the agencies with published Use of Force policies uploaded files containing this information.

Use Of Force Data Vendor

Only 16 agencies initially responded that they utilized a third-party vendor; however, 20 agencies provided the names of the programs they used to collect and store UOF data. The following table records the distribution of vendors for this purpose among those 20 agencies:

Table 4: Agency Use of Third-Party UOF System Vendors (n=20)

UOF Third-Party Vendor	Number of Agencies	% of Agencies
Axon	1	5.0%
CentralSquare Technologies	1	5.0%
CI Technologies (IA Pro)	9	45%
Mark43	1	5.0%
Motorola Solutions	1	5.0%
PowerDMS	0	0%
Other	7	35%
TOTALS:	20	100%

The responses received from the "Other" option of this section consisted of the following: LEA Data Technologies (1), LEFTA Systems (4), Benchmark Analytics (1), and Guardian Tracking by Vector Solutions (1). Two agencies have not been included in the above table for the following reasons: One agency abstained from providing which third-party vendor they utilized for the collection of UOF information, and another agency indicated that they would be adopting a new UOF data system in 2024, but that they currently did not utilize one.

Publishing Use of Force Data

Agencies were also asked through the TIS whether they published use of force (UOF) data. The following table displays the distribution of agencies across the options of the question. This data is more incomplete than the items from some other areas of the TIS, as 15 agencies abstained from providing an answer to this question:

Table 5: Frequency of Agency Publication of UOF Data (n=42)

UOF Data Publication	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Data is published for public and internal purposes	12	28.6%
Data is published for internal purposes only	14	33.33%
Data is published for public review only	0	0
The agency does not publish data	16	38.1%
TOTALS	42	100%

Of the agencies that responded to the TIS, 26 reported publishing their UOF data. These 26 agencies were asked an additional question regarding the frequency of these publications. The most common frequency was yearly (80.8%, n=21), followed by daily (7.69%, n=2), monthly (3.85%, n=1), and quarterly (3.85%, n=1). No agencies indicated that they published their UOF data weekly. One agency abstained from responding to the question of publication frequency.

BWC Data and Vendors

Respondents were then asked the status of their agencies regarding the implementation of body-worn camera programs and data. Of the agencies that responded to the TIS, 47 (82.5%) indicated that the agency currently utilizes a BWC program, and five agencies (8.77%) stated that they were pursuing a BWC program. One agency (1.75%) indicated an interest in pursuing a BWC program. Three agencies (5.26%) indicated that BWC programs were not a priority.

The following table represents the breakdown of the vendors currently in the employ of the 47 agencies using BWC programs:

Table 6: Agency Use of BWC Vendors (n=47)

Vendor	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Axon	33	70.2%
BodyWorn by Utility	0	0%
Motorola Solutions/WatchGuard Video	8	17.02%
Panasonic	0	0%
Digital Ally	0	0%
Reveal Media	0	0%
Other	6	12.8%
TOTALS:	47	100%

Among the vendors listed by responding agencies in the "Other" category were Getac (4) and LensLock (2).

Personnel Employment and Capacity

The reported current and maximum employment numbers have been gathered from agencies of varied sizes in many regions. On average, agencies reported that their employment capacity for sworn officers was 46.14, and current employment of sworn officers was an average of 42.68. Agencies also reported that their employment capacity for professional staff was 17.34 individuals, and the current employment of professional staff was an average of 16.33. Below is a brief table of descriptive data from values obtained.

Table 7: Statistical Summary of Sworn and Professional Staff Employment

	Sworn Officer Capacity	Sworn Officer Employment	Professional Staff Capacity	Professional Staff Employment
Minimum	0	4	0	0
Maximum	264	230	300	310
Range	264	226	300	310
Median	22	22	5	4
Mean	46.14	42.68	17.34	16.33

In the agency responses, multiple agencies reported a 0 value for their employment capacity, though they did report that individuals were employed in these categories. The following bar charts visually represent the percentage of employment capacity at which each of the 57 agencies are currently operating. These figures and the table above show that most agencies operate at or under capacity.

Figure 1: Percentage of Agency Operating Capacity for Professional Staff (n=57)
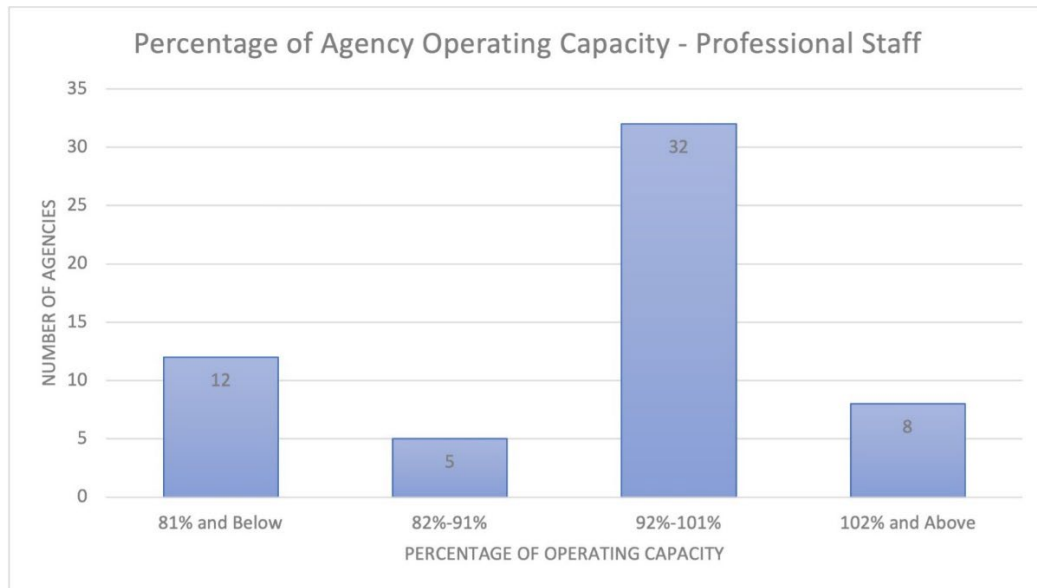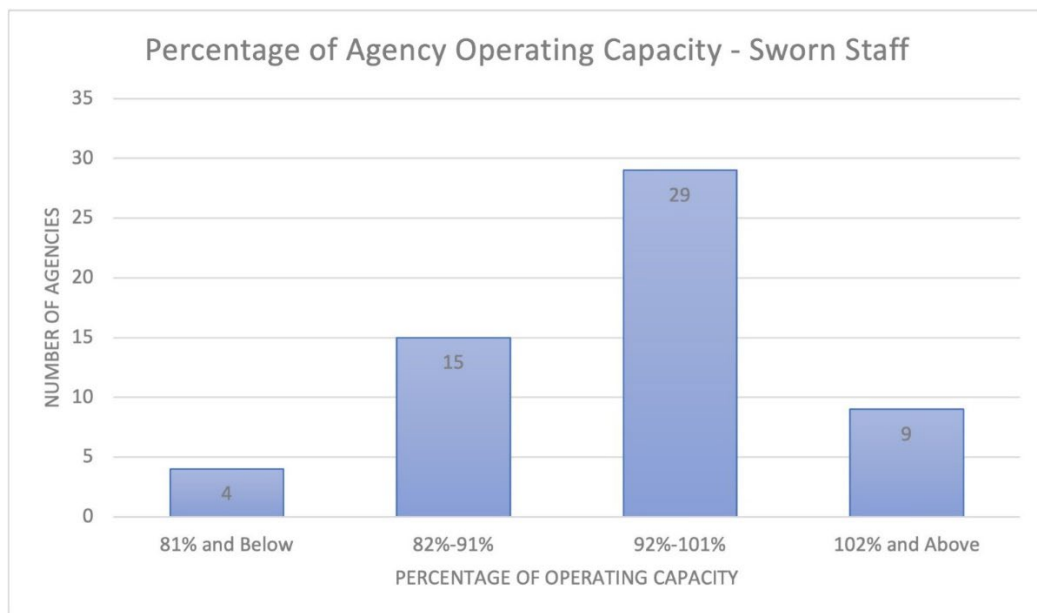

Figure 2: Percentage of Agency Operating Capacity for Sworn Staff (n=57)

Conclusion

The results presented earlier in this document are preliminary and need to reflect the breadth of the technological infrastructure of the law enforcement agencies within Washington State. However, of those agencies that have responded to the survey so far, most have published Use of Force policies, employed RMS vendors that record incident locations, and published regular reports containing items like incident type and crime statistics. These patterns may be maintained with further responses from agencies, though the small size of this subset of agencies means that additional data could easily influence majorities. It is also possible that, due to the self-reported nature of the survey, the results contain inaccuracies regarding the data they were intended to collect.

The results of the TIS somewhat match previous values obtained from data gathered by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (WASPC) in 2022 and a survey conducted by the Washington Attorney General's Office (AGO) in 2020. Of course, the number of respondents differs significantly between these three instruments, which may account for the disparity. As these three instruments were gathering distinct types of data, the only comparisons that can be made to a relative degree of accuracy across all three regards officer employment, which can be found broken into intervals below:

Table 8: 3-Survey Comparison of Sworn Officer Employment

Officers Employed by Responding Agency	TIS	TIS (% of response)	AGO	AGO (% of response)	WASPC	WASPC (% of response)
0-10	12	21.1%	31	19.38%	102	37.09%
11-20	12	21.1%	34	21.25%	65	23.64%
21-30	14	24.6%	22	13.75%	34	12.36%
31+	19	33.3%	73	45.63%	74	26.91%
Totals:	57	100%	160	100%	275	100%

We can also compare the distribution of third-party Use of Force data collection vendors between the TIS and the AGO survey. This comparison may be flawed, as the TIS asks that respondents report first

whether they utilize a third-party vendor to store UOF data and then collect the vendor's name. However, the AGO survey invited respondents to list any electronic systems the agencies used to store force records. As a result, the responses to these questions are fundamentally different. A table comparing the TIS data with the AGO survey data can be found below:

Table 9: 2-Survey Comparison of Agency Use of UOF Systems Vendors

Vendor/Technology	AGO Number of Agencies Reporting	AGO % of Responding Agencies	TIS Number of Agencies Reporting	TIS % of Responding Agencies
Axon	-	-	1	4.76%
Benchmark	3	2.7%	1	4.76%
BlueTeam/IA Pro/CI Technologies	28	25.7%	9*	42.9%
CentralSquare Technologies	-	-	1	4.76%
Guardian Tracking	2	1.8%	1*	4.76%
Handwritten or Word/Excel/Adobe System	30	27.5%	1*	4.76%
Laserfische	2	1.83%	-	-
LEA Data Technologies	3	2.75%	1	4.76%
LEFTA/Shield Suite	5	4.59%	4	19.05%
No Records System	9	8.26%	-	-
Mark43	-	-	1	4.76%
Other systems reported by only one agency	11	10.1%	-	-
Smart Force	2	1.83%	-	-
Spillman/Motorola	12	11%	1	4.76%
Tyler	2	1.83%	0	0
Totals	109	100%	21	100%

Those TIS cells marked with an asterisk (*) indicate that at least one agency in the cell labeled "no" in response to a previous question asking whether the agency utilized a third-party vendor for this purpose but answered the request for vendor name with a text value, anyway. Those cells marked with a dash (-) indicate that the vendor was not an option obtained by the survey in which the dash appears.

The total number of TIS respondents in this UOF vendor report differs from earlier in this document due to the AGO's inclusion of Excel as a third-party UOF vendor. To make the comparison more

accurate, the one agency that responded to the TIS using Excel for data purposes was included in this table.

4. Transparency and Accountability Index

Introduction

Current efforts to address concerns with the state of policing in America focus heavily on transparency and accountability. Chanin and Courts (2016) argue that transparency and accountability are critical to developing and maintaining a strong, democratic organization. Transparency promotes accountability by providing access to information, increasing oversight, decreasing corruption, and significantly improving trust between parties (Chanin & Courts, 2016). Current research indicates that police-community relationships in Washington could be improved through greater transparency and accountability, increasing compliance with laws and policies, and eliciting more cooperation from citizens during contact with police officers (Chanin & Courts, 2016).

Research also states that an ideal police department is professional, accountable, transparent, and self-monitoring (Walker, 2014). Professional policing includes a problem-oriented approach, community partnerships, and demographic mirroring (Walker, 2014). Accountable policing is demonstrated through a publicly accessible use-of-force policy, bias-free policing, and a simple and accessible complaint process (Walker, 2014). Transparent policing requires that policies are posted and accessible to the public and that officers are easily identified and contacted (Walker, 2014). A self-monitoring agency regularly reviews and updates policy, conducts internal reviews, and surveys the community for their attitudes and perspectives (Walker, 2014).

The Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) is intended to collect valuable information on police agencies and their activities to provide the public and academic communities with a way to assess a department's policies, performance, and commitment to social justice initiatives. As part

of the effort to establish a public safety data exchange, all police agencies in the state of Washington were assessed for the types and amounts of information available via the agency's public website. This report evaluates public-facing transparency and accountability data on website(s) maintained by police agencies of all types and sizes. This report aims to assess what information is available to average community members when seeking details about the police agencies that serve them.

Methodology

Data on each police agency was collected via an internet search of the department's primary website (Matusiak, Cavanaugh & Stephenson, 2022). Once located, information was taken from the site content and any links or attached documents. Public-facing data was analyzed for twenty-three items and coded into a spreadsheet. Agency size was coded numerically; if information was unavailable on the agency website but available through the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC), that was noted; if agency size was not found, it was coded as missing. All other variables of interest were coded dichotomously, 1 for present and 0 for not present. This coding approach is used frequently in social science research because it is simple, accurate, and efficient. Numeric and dichotomous coding allows for simple statistical analyses to be performed, and this methodology has been established as evidence-based practice in policing research (Boulton, Phythian, Kirby & Dawson (2021).

BWC Systems: Coding for use of a body-worn camera (BWC) system does not indicate whether the agency currently has or is using a BWC system, only if an active program is noted on the agency website. This distinction is important. A*ccountability* requires the public to know that their department has taken this policy step, and *transparency* requires that members of the public know that their interactions with law enforcement will be recorded.

Annual Report: Coding reflects whether the agency's annual report was located easily and available to review, meaning the tab or link is active and successfully brings up the report. *Coding does not indicate*

that the accessible document is a current report issued within the last 12 months. Reports were also coded for content: tables, charts, or narratives detailing numeric agency-specific-data on the following:

1. **Crime statistics** - Crime rates, trends over time, significant changes, areas of concern for the public, types of crime or neighborhoods prioritized by officers, and clearance rates.

2. **Police activity** - Calls for service, officer-initiated contacts, response times, arrests, mental/behavioral health contacts, high-response areas, and referrals to other service providers.

3. **Traffic stops -** Total stops, citations, arrests, multiple units responding, use of force, and shift comparisons.

4. **Crimes against persons** - Crimes where individuals are harmed, including homicide, rape, assault, etc. Rates, trends, and areas of concern.

5. **Crimes against property** - Crimes to obtain money, property, or other benefits, including robbery, burglary, theft, fraud, etc. Rates, trends, and areas of concern.

6. **Use of force report** - Number of incidents, type of force, severity of force, demographics of subjects, incidents per officer, investigations, findings or outcomes, and action taken.

7. Vehicle pursuits: Number, risk level, reason, and outcome.

8. **Police vehicle collisions** - Number, severity, shift comparison, and common contributing factors.

9. **Citizen complaints** - Number, type, investigation details, outcomes (founded, dismissed), and actions taken.

10. **Race/ethnicity demographic comparison** - Community, department, traffic stops, arrests, use of force, and citizen complaints.

11. **Recruitment data** - Hires, terminations, transfers, age, gender, demographics, salary, qualifications, incentives, and outreach efforts.

Website Information: The police agency's primary website and all associated tabs, links, and PDFs were assessed and coded dichotomously for the same content listed above, with recruitment data substituted for:

1. Crime Maps: Coded as "present" if maps were accessible through the agency's website, loaded successfully, and operated appropriately.

2. Language Access Plan: Coded as "present" if the site reflects the availability of translation services in the agency, provides online documents in multiple languages, or offers a translation of the website based on language.

Preliminary Results

Washington has 209 local police agencies, 39 county sheriff's offices, seven state agencies, and 27 tribal police departments for a total of 282 policing agencies. Following the parameters set by the Office of Justice Programs (2023), there are 154 small agencies (25 officers or less), 83 medium agencies (200 officers or less), and 15 large agencies (201 or more officers). Information on agency size was unavailable for 30 agencies. Tables 1, 2, and 3 detail the results of the coding exercise on public-facing data availability.

Table 1: Public-Facing Information: Counts and Proportions (n=282)

Item of Interest	# of Agencies	% of Agencies
BWC Program	18	6.4
Published Annual Report	73	25.9
- Police Activity	57	20.2
- Crime Statistics	51	18.1
- Crimes Against Property	45	16.0
- Crimes Against Persons	43	15.2
- Traffic stops	35	12.4
- Citizen Complaints	31	11.0
- Use of Force	25	8.9
- Race/Ethnicity Demographic Comparison	13	4.6

- Vehicle Pursuits	10	3.5
- Recruitment Data	7	2.9
- Police Vehicle Collisions	5	1.8
Agency Website	275	97.5
- Citizen Complaints	96	34.0
- Police Activity	51	18.1
- Crime Statistics	47	16.7
- Use of Force Report	32	11.3
- Crimes Against Persons	30	10.6
- Crimes Against Property	27	9.6
- Traffic Stops	24	8.5
- Race/Ethnicity Demographic Comparison	8	2.8
- Vehicle Pursuits	5	1.8
- Police Vehicle Collisions	3	1.1
Crime Maps	62	22.0
Language Access Plan	24	8.5

Table 2: Distribution of Agencies with Annual Report by Agency Size (n=282)

	Annual Report		No Annual Report	
Agency Size	# of Agencies	% of Agencies	# of Agencies	% of Agencies
Unknown	10	33.3	20	66.7
Small (1-99)	21	13.6	133	86.2
Medium (100 – 300)	35	37.3	48	62.7
Large (301+)	7	46.7	8	53.3

Table 3: Distribution of Agencies with Annual Report by Agency Type (n=282)

Report Status	Local	County	State	Tribal
Annual Report	59	8	2	0
No Annual Report	150	31	5	27

In terms of annual reports and agency size, larger agencies are more likely (46.7%) to publish annual reports on their websites than medium agencies (37.3%) or agencies of unknown size (33.3%). Small agencies were the least likely to publish an annual report (13.6%). To analyze Washington police agencies in more detail, factors critical to transparency and accountability in policing were isolated and examined. Body-worn camera technology is popular among researchers, practitioners, and the public to increase agency transparency and promote accountability for officers (Alaniz-Saladas, Dodson, & Luo, 2023; Todak, Leban, & James, 2021; Thompson, Peterson, & Lawrence, 2020; Koen & Mathna, 2019; McCluskey, Uchida, Solomon, Wooditch, Connor & Revier, 2019; Maskaly, Donner, Jennings, Ariel, & Sutherland, 2017). Particularly in use-of-force incidents, the ability to release footage of negative encounters with law enforcement can improve public opinions regarding the legitimacy of their police department (Graham, McManus, Cullen, Burton & Johnson, 2019; Thompson et al., 2020; Rossler, 2019).

Table 4: Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Program by Agency Type (n=282)

Program Status	City	County	State	Tribal
BWC Program	17	1	0	0
No BWC Program	192	38	7	27

As displayed in Table 4, no state or tribal police agencies reference BWC technology on their websites. As a reminder, these data represent what is available via the agency website. An agency may have an active BWC program, though it may not make that information readily accessible to the public via the website. One county agency provided information about its program, though more than one county agency is known to use a BWC system. For city agencies, only 8% disclose information regarding their BWC systems on their website. It is important to note that this does not reveal whether the agency does or does not have and use a BWC system, only if they provide information about using that equipment on their primary public-facing website.

Use of force reporting takes accountability one step further by revealing agency-specific data on when, how, and how much force officers use during public contact. Reports may also include policy explanations of why force is used in specific situations or if certain officers have higher use-of-force rates than others. Making use-of-force reports available to the public at regular intervals serves to increase trust between the community and its officers (Kane, 2007; Matusiak et al., 2022; Shane, 2018; O'Brien & Tyler, 2019; Schaap, 2021; Schmidthuber, Ingrams, & Hilgers, 2021). Table 5 below shows the number of agencies, by type, that include use-of-force reports in their annual report or post them separately on their website. Some agencies only release the information in their annual report, others on their website, and others choose to do both.

Table 5: Use of Force Reporting by Agency Type (n=56 reporting agencies)

Use of Force Reporting	City	County	State	Tribal
Annual Report	22	2	0	0
Agency Website	29	2	1	0

Reporting the frequency and nature of citizen complaints, their investigation status, and the investigation results, including any disciplinary action taken, is critical to agency transparency. Washington police agencies varied in their use and reporting on citizen complaint systems. Some agencies include data on citizen complaints in their annual reports (11%), but most agencies utilize their website (34%). Many agencies limit the citizen complaint information on their website to a single electronic form submitted to a general email address (68%). Significantly, few agencies provided a copy of the department's policy regarding how citizen complaints are addressed, and only a small group of agencies provided data specific to their department. Table 6 below depicts the location of citizen complaint forms, policies, or data by agency type for the agencies that made the information available to the public.

Table 6: Citizen Complaints by Agency Type (n=127 reporting agencies)

Citizen Complaints	City	County	State	Tribal
Annual Report	30	1	0	0
Agency Website	79	11	1	5

Finally, in an era when race relations and bias-based policing are major social justice movements, a racial or ethnic demographic comparison (for the community, the agency, or both) demonstrates to the community being served that their police department is taking these issues seriously and making a meaningful effort at actionable steps to determine if officers in their department engage in biased policing practices. While a demographic comparison is not a solution, it is a start. Agencies whose officers demographically mirror the population they serve benefit from improved communication and understanding between the parties (Headley, 2022; Thomassen, 2020). Less than 7% of agencies provide this information through their website or annual reports. This information is displayed by agency type in Table 7 below.

Table 7: Race/Ethnic Demographic Comparison by Agency Type (n=20 reporting agencies)

Demographic Comparison	City	County	State	Tribal
Annual Report	12	0	0	0
Agency Website	7	1	0	0

Analysis & Discussion

1. Over 95% of agencies have a website with, at minimum, contact information for the agency.

    a. Most police agencies without a website available to communicate information, including annual reports, are tribal agencies. Others include port, transit, and airport policing agencies.

2. Only 1 in 4 agencies provides an annual report to the public, and many reflect publication dates that are several years old.

3. Of the annual reports available for review, roughly 10% of agencies *or less* provide information on factors critical to accountability, including use of force reporting, citizen complaints, and demographic analyses.

    a. Only 7.8% of police agencies provide use of force data in the annual report; 10.3% on their agency website.

    b. Only 10.6% of agencies provide data on citizen complaints in their annual report; 28% on their agency website.

    c. Only 4.3% provide a racial demographic analysis in their annual report; 2.5% on their agency website.

4. For the variables of interest, none rise above a 20% reporting rate in the annual report *or* the website, except for citizen complaints (34% of agencies provide a complaint form on their website).

5. Only 6.4% of agencies inform the public of their use of BWCs. None of the state agencies reported this information.

Conclusion

Nearly all agencies have a website of some kind. Unfortunately, many have minimal information available, providing more of a social and community focus over a summary or analysis of data regarding department activities. Roughly 1 in 4 police agencies provide an annual report for review by the public. The contents of those reports vary widely. State policing agencies provide the least public-facing information on policies, procedures, and activities. Tribal agencies are included on the website for the Tribal Council but usually do not have their own site, tab, or link. Locating public-facing data on those agencies is extremely difficult.

4A Transparency Accountability Index Inventory Items

Agency Name	API Available (Yes/No)	Police Vehicle Collisions (Yes/No)
ORI #	Body-Worn Camera Program (Yes/No)	Citizen Complaints (Yes/No)
Agency Type	Year Started	Race & Ethnicity Demographic Comparison (Yes/No)
Agency Point of Contact (Name)	Year Ended	Recruitment Data (Yes/No)
Agency Point of Contact (Email)	Status (Active/In-Progress/No Intentions/Ended)	Crime Statistics (Website) (Yes/No)
Agency Point of Contact (Phone #)	BWC Provider Name	Police Activity (Website) (Yes/No)
Agency Address	BWC Provider Website	Traffic Stops (Website) (Yes/No)
Agency Website URL	Dash Camera (Yes/No)	Crimes Against Persons (Website) (Yes/No)
Agency Size (#)	Year Started	Crimes Against Property (Website) (Yes/No)
# of Sworn Officers	Year Ended	Use of Force Reporting (Website) (Yes/No)
# of Support Staff	Dashboard Camera Provider Name	Vehicle Pursuits (Website) (Yes/No)
Special Units and Officers (Yes/No)	Status (Active/In-Progress/No Intentions/Ended)	Police Vehicle Collisions (Website) (Yes/No)
Narcotics (Yes/No)	Dashboard Camera Provider Website	Citizen Complaints (Website) (Yes/No)
Gang (Yes/No)	Published Annual Report (Yes/No)	Race & Ethnicity Demographic Comparison (Website) (Yes/No)
Homicide (Yes/No)	URL of Published Report	Recruitment Data (Website) (Yes/No)
Specialized Task Force (Yes/No)	Crime Statistics (Yes/No)	Crime Analyst (Yes/No)
DRE Officers (Yes/No)	Police Activity (Yes/No)	Technology Specialist (Yes/No)

5. Contextualization: Incident-Level Data

incident-level data included in CAD records:

- **Incident ID (Unique ID)** - Uniquely identifies each incident for distinct traceability.

- **Agency Unique Identifier (Agency Name or ORI #)** - Distinguishes the handling agency, essential for accountability, coordination, and agency-specific statistical analysis.

- **Record Creation (m/d/yyyy h:mm: ss AM/PM)** - The creation timestamp provides a baseline for measuring response times and assessing reporting system efficiency.

- **Dispatched Status (m/d/yyyy h:mm: ss AM/PM)** - Indicates when an incident was dispatched.

- **En route Status (m/d/yyyy h:mm: ss AM/PM)** - Represents the status where a unit is heading to the location of the reported incident.

- **Arrived Status (m/d/yyyy h:mm: ss AM/PM)** - The arrival time is crucial for assessing response time and effectiveness.

- **Closed Status (m/d/yyyy h:mm: ss AM/PM)** - Indicates when an incident is closed, essential for understanding incident duration and resolution efficiency.

- **Original Call Type Nature of Call (Unique code used by each agency)** - Describes the initial incident classification, which is crucial for understanding the perceived severity and type at the creation of the record.

- **Original Priority Level (A numerical value unique to each agency)** - Reflects the initial priority level assigned, impacting resource allocation and response strategy.

- **Final Call Type Nature of Call (Unique code used by each agency)** - Indicates the final incident classification, offering insights into the accuracy of initial assessments and changes during officer management of the interaction.

- **Final Priority Level (A numerical value unique to each agency)** - Shows the final priority level as determined by the officer/agency after responding to the incident.

- **Beat (Unique code used by each agency)** - Identifies the incident's patrol area or zone.

- **Primary Unit (Unique ID for Personnel Assigned to Record)** - Identifies the initial responsible unit or personnel assigned to the record.

- **Units Dispatched Unit (Unique ID for Added Personnel Assigned to Record)** - Details additional units or personnel associated with the record.

- **Location Address (Street Address or Geolocation Data)** - The incident location using exact and fuzzy matching.

- **Clearance Code (Unique code used by each agency)** - Indicates the resolution of an incident.

6. Focus Groups

6A. Law Enforcement Focus Group Protocol

Please note that the first focus groups were held as a question-and-answer session. After all attendees' questions were asked, then select questions below were used to help prompt discussion. However, for each focus group, questions from law enforcement were the primary focus of discussion.

WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC SAFETY DATA EXCHANGE LAW ENFORCEMENT OPEN DISCUSSIONS

The Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) is a joint effort of WSU, Seattle University, and IBM to provide public safety data for public benefit. In 2021, the Washington State Legislature passed **SB 5259, which requires the collection of use-of-force statistics by Washington State law enforcement agencies, and the WA-DEPS team is leading the development of the public dashboard that will initially include use-of-force** and CAD data. We are meeting with law enforcement across Washington State over the next five years to gather opinions of the Public Safety Data Exchange to improve your experiences using the system. Everything that is said today is **confidential**, and no permanent connection will be made between any comments or viewpoints that you express and your individual identity by our team.

PLAN OF ACTION

INTRODUCTIONS: Moderator introduces the team by name.

WELCOME: We want to thank you for taking the time to be here with us today. We are here to provide an opportunity for you to ask us questions about the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) and share your opinions and concerns. Your feedback will help inform the development of the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety to help make the system easy to use for law enforcement, as well as improve your experiences with the system in the future.

We want to encourage you to be as candid and open as you feel comfortable in sharing your perspectives with us. *If you would like to speak with us separately, we are happy to meet with you individually.*

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT: We want to encourage you to be as candid and open as your comfort level allows in sharing your perspectives with us. Please remember that everyone here has a perspective that is valuable and important. As a reminder, please show respect toward others as we proceed with the focus group so that everyone has the opportunity to be heard.

[INTRODUCING THE WADEPS PROTOTYPE](#): Team shows website, explains current data source (Seattle data), show different things the website can do (templates for analysis, social media sharing, etc.).

LAW ENFORCEMENT QUESTIONS FOR DAVID AND MATT: We wanted to provide an opportunity for you to ask our team any questions and share any concerns you or your department members may have about the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WA-DEPS).

QUESTIONS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT
1. What are your concerns, if any, regarding the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety? *MAY BE ADDRESSED ABOVE.*
2. What are specific ways this transition could be made easier for you? Your agency?
   a. For uploading data to the system?
   b. What information could be pre-filled?
      i. Such as date, time, location, etc.
   c. For collecting data during contacts, traffic stops, etc.?
      i. Such as app for cell phone, tablets
3. What information/data do you think is important to be included on the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety?*
   a. What would be useful for your agency?
4. What types of analyses would you/your agency like to see available on the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety?*
   a. Are there specific types of analyses you would like to be able to conduct?
   b. Are there specific types of comparisons you would like to be able to make with other agencies across the state?

*May be addressed at later focus groups

6B. Community Focus Group Protocol

Please note that the first focus groups were held as a question-and-answer session. After all attendees' questions were asked, then select questions below were used to help prompt discussion.

WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC SAFETY DATE EXCHANGE COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

The Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WA-DEPS) is a joint effort of WSU, Seattle University, and IBM to provide public safety data for public benefit. In 2021, the Washington State Legislature passed **SB 5259** which requires the collection of use of force statistics by Washington State law enforcement agencies and the WADEPS team is leading the development of the public dashboard that will initially include use of force and CAD data. We are meeting with communities across Washington State over the next five years to gather opinions of the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety to improve the Exchange for public use. Everything that is said today is **confidential**, and no permanent connection will be made between any comments or viewpoints that you express and your individual identity. Please feel free to discuss responses to the following questions candidly, and please trust that confidentiality will be strictly protected by the WA-DEPS team.

PLAN OF ACTION

INTRODUCTIONS: Moderator introduces the team.

WELCOME: We want to thank you for taking the time to be here with us today. We are here to provide a safe and inclusive space for you to feel comfortable in voicing your thoughts and opinions on the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS). Your feedback will help inform the

development of the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety to help make the data accessible and usable for communities across Washington State. We will show you the current prototype for the website and some of its features, and we hope you will share with us your opinions on what will make this website the most valuable for your community and how you would like to see this data used.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT: We want to encourage you to be as candid and open as your comfort level allows in sharing your perspectives with us. Please remember that everyone here has a perspective that is valuable and important. As a reminder, please show respect toward others as we proceed so that everyone has the opportunity to be heard. Everything you say with us is confidential. There will be no permanent connection between any of the comments and viewpoints expressed and your individual identity.

INTRODUCING THE WA-DEP PROTOTYPE: Team shows website, explains current data source (Seattle data), show different things the website can do (templates for analysis, social media sharing, etc.).

COMMUNITY QUESTIONS FOR DAVID: We wanted to provide an opportunity for you to ask our team any questions and share any concerns you may have about the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WA-DEPS).

QUESTIONS FOR COMMUNITIES WITH DASHBOARDS
1. What are your overall impressions of the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety?
    a. Are the templates for top 10 visualizations helpful?
    b. Is the social media sharing feature helpful?
    c. What other features would you like to see on the website?
    d. What features would be most valuable for your community?
2. What is your initial reaction to the name: Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety?
3. Has anyone accessed Use of Force Data Dashboard for [Community] Police Department?
    a. What do you like about the [Community] Dashboard?
    b. Is there anything you would improve on the [Community] Dashboard?
4. How do you want to see this data to be used [by the legislature, agencies, others]?
5. What other data would you like to see available in the WADEPS?
6. Are there any concerns about the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety?

QUESTIONS FOR COMMUNITIES WITHOUT DASHBOARDS
1. What are your overall impressions of the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety?
    a. Are the templates for top 10 visualizations helpful?
    b. Is the social media sharing feature helpful?
    c. What other features would you like to see on the website?
    d. What features would be most valuable for your community?
2. What is your initial reaction to the name: Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety?
3. How do you want to see this data to be used [by the legislature, agencies, others]?
4. What other data would you like to see available in the WADEPS?
5. Are there any concerns about the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety?

6C. Focus Group Reports

The team hosted five pilot focus groups: three with law enforcement at the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) winter meeting and two with community members and organizations in Spokane, Washington.

Law Enforcement Focus Groups

The purpose of the law enforcement focus groups is to understand concerns regarding the WADEPS project needs of agencies, to obtain recommendations for data collection, and, finally, to garner suggestions for the dashboard. To facilitate this, the focus groups were structured as a question-and-answer and open discussion session where law enforcement agencies could ask project leadership, Drs. David Makin and Matthew Hickman, specific questions on the project.

Across the three focus groups, 55 individuals representing 46 law enforcement agencies participated.

Data Collection Concerns

Common questions from the LE community included whether agencies could continue to use their current data collection system, whether data transfer from current systems is possible, and whether this would create "double" work for LE personnel. Relatedly, concerns were expressed over potential costs to the agencies, especially whether vendors would charge more to meet additional data collection requirements. There were also questions about whether agencies would use the WADEPS system exclusively and no longer work with their current vendors. There were also some questions on whether the new process would satisfy agency public disclosure requirements.

LE agency representatives also expressed concern over the requested CAD data. The research team was asked whether the CAD data would be high-level or narrative and why CAD data would be collected. There were also concerns regarding the skew in CAD data, such as situations where the initial

call type might not match the end call type. In addition, depending on officer assignments (Patrol, Cold Case, Narcotics, etc.), there may be use-of-force incidents not accompanied by CAD data. There were also questions regarding how the CAD narrative data could be reported globally. Lastly, concerns were expressed over the cost of transferring the CAD data to the research team.

The focus groups also discussed differences in the use of force policies. Participants brought up the differences in use-of-force policies and how to contend with different definitions across agencies, primarily because use-of-force policies are subject to ongoing updates.

The conversation also raised some questions regarding the reporting timeline and at what point incidents would have to be reported by the officer. When informing the participants that the reporting time requirement was twenty-four hours, there were questions about where this requirement was located in policy and whether it was included in the legislation. Some participants also expressed concern about a conflict between the language in the RFP and the law.

Data Collection Suggestions

Based on the focus group conversations, law enforcement participants offered several suggestions for improvement in data collection. For instance, in response to the officer needing to report a use of force incident within 24 hours, it was suggested that a checkbox be added for when an officer could not report within 24 hours due to serious officer injury. Additionally, agencies expressed a need for an alternate method for entering data if the participating officer cannot do so due to extreme circumstances. It was also recommended to add a checkbox to indicate whether or not the use of force was lawful.

Across all the LE focus groups, providing context for use-of-force incidents was much discussed. This included many suggestions for improved data collection to capture context adequately. There was much discussion on tracking the de-escalation tactics that were used. For instance, there were questions on whether and how de-escalation efforts were recorded and quantified. Similarly, several participants

questioned whether multiple levels of resistance and multiple uses of force would be collected. When the research team stated that only the highest level of force and resistance would be captured to reduce officer burden, participants suggested this was a missed opportunity. The discussion of capturing de-escalation tactics, levels of resistance, and use of force centered around helping to identify what is working and what is not working to improve training and approaches. Secondly, some participants raised the concern that critics would assume that officers started at the highest level of force if only the highest level is captured by the data.

There was also discussion about the reporting process with suggestions that agencies be provided with a login to review data. Specifically, some discussion mentioned that use of force data should be reviewed "all the way up" before going into the system. Other data collection suggestions included collecting the totality of circumstances data, language barriers, whether there were criminal charges for the use of force incident, recidivism tracking, or finding a way to capture involuntary commitments. When asked for recommendations on additional sources of data, suggestions included suicide prevention hotlines and partnering with Volunteers of America (for hospital and treatment information). Additionally, it was recommended that the project work with dispatch centers to acquire CAD data efficiently.

Dashboard Questions and Suggestions

There were some questions specific to the dashboard. Using the dashboard to manipulate data to show a specific narrative was a concern across focus groups. Additionally, there was some discussion regarding what would be presented on the dashboard. For instance, one participant asked whether the dashboard would explain to the public the reasons for officer behavior, identify cases where an officer gets in trouble for violating the use of force policy, or will it "only present the facts," such as the number of incidents per year. This concern relates to the additional discussion mentioned above as it often focuses on providing context in which the use of force occurs.

Some participants asked whether there would be differences between what agencies and the public can see on the dashboard. This led to a suggestion that agencies have a separate login for the dashboard to run their own analyses.

Participants also inquired whether the dashboard would allow for specific visualizations by department, whether data could be examined by incident type, and whether the dashboard could be used to track the success and effectiveness of techniques. Across the focus groups, it was repeatedly expressed that the ability to track the effectiveness of technology, techniques, and training would be beneficial to law enforcement.

Community Focus Groups

For the community pilot focus groups in Spokane, the research team identified community organizations active in police transparency issues through online searches of local news sources. These organizations were contacted one month prior to the focus group and were invited to attend one of two focus groups. One focus group was planned for the afternoon and one for the evening to accommodate different schedules to increase participation. Snowball sampling was also used by encouraging these organizations to let us know who else should be invited or sharing the invitation with colleagues and like-minded organizations.

Data Collection Concerns

Some members had concerns that the context surrounding the use of force may not be sufficiently captured in the data. It was noted that factors such as skin tone are important for looking at differences in the use of force *within* race groups, for example. It was also noted that police officers' demeanor toward subjects is important for understanding use of force incidents. Another member indicated that mandatory body cam footage should be captured. At the same time, another was concerned if information about police callouts would capture whether race was part of the description used in the callout.

Members were concerned that the data could be unfairly used against police or cause hardships for the police. Concerns included the possibility that the data could be used to disingenuously create a false narrative about police using too much force since the definition of the use of force is broad and captures many forms of force. Concerns were also expressed about officer anonymity, and a member asked if the officers would be identified in the data and inquired about who was funding the data collection. There were also concerns about whether the data collection would be onerous for police.

Some focus group members expressed concern that the public would not use the data dashboard and that the public may not even become aware of the dashboard's existence. Along these lines, a member inquired how information about this database would be disseminated to the public in the broadest way possible. One attendee also raised concerns about dashboard management, suggesting that it will matter who controls and disseminates the data to ensure it is not biased.

There was also some concern about whether the dashboard would make a difference in the prevalence of use-of-force incidents. This member inquired whether such data collection efforts have ever led to policy changes that affected the use of force.

Data Collection Suggestions

There were suggestions surrounding the overall use of the data. One member wanted to ensure the data would be used to address the causes of the use of force and suggested that it should be used to create better experiences for police and citizens. Another indicated that once the context of the use of force incidents in WA is made clear by the data (i.e., the big picture is understood regarding force and how it is used), the project's next step should be examining what needs to be done regarding the use of force. The data collection should be used to inform this purpose.

Other suggestions stemmed from the abovementioned concerns regarding the extent to which contextual factors about the use of force incidents will be collected. Members suggested collecting information about individuals' skin tone to understand better against whom force is used and whether

skin tone affects this decision. Another indicated that the data collection should include information about officers' demeanor toward suspects and indicated that implicit bias training should accompany the data collection efforts.

One focus group member suggested that the dashboard should contain clear contact information for users to email with questions and that this should be monitored closely so users can quickly connect with the people managing the data. This member also suggested ways to disseminate dashboard information to community members without internet access, including mailers and community meetings to discuss the data.

7. Communications

7A: Introductory WASPC email **(View online)**

Washington State
Data Exchange for Public Safety

November 3, 2023

Dear <<Title Name>>,

We are pleased to welcome you and the <<AGENCY>> to the new **Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety** (WADEPS).

Established by the Washington state legislature (RCW **Chapter 10.118**), WADEPS will help your agency meet new use-of-force reporting requirements and provide opportunities to strengthen community relations and engage in evidence-based decision-making.

The state's goal is to modernize public safety data collection, provide analytical resources and tools which will benefit policing agencies and their critical work, and enable citizens to better understand policing events and policies.

WADEPS is managed by Washington State University in collaboration with Seattle University and supported by world-class, cloud-based technology. WADEPS will serve as a central hub for the collection, analysis, and publishing of law enforcement interaction data. A suite of innovative tools and resources will provide agency-level and state-level analysis of use-of-force data and policies as well as computer-aided dispatch (CAD) data, and other information that better contextualizes your agency and your jurisdiction.

Agencies are not expected to implement new data collection systems. The program is grounded in collaboration and shared governance, and our guiding philosophy is to meet each agency where they are currently in collecting and analyzing data and to build from there.

The initiative has the support of Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs (WASPC). **An overview will be presented at the WASPC fall conference in Kennewick on Tuesday, November 7, at 8:00 a.m.**

Washington Association of SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

Additionally, we will be hosting several focus group sessions at the conference on Tuesday to learn about agency needs and concerns. Our team members also will be available on Wednesday to answer your questions. If you will not have a representative at the conference, we would be happy to schedule a meeting at your convenience to introduce the data exchange and learn about your agency.
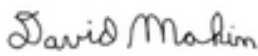
Next steps

Following the WASPC conference, we will provide you with an online technology questionnaire to help us understand the size of your organization and your specific data collection systems and practices. This information will enable the WADEPS team to customize implementation and training across your workforce.

Access to your agency's questionnaire will be provided via email. If you would like to designate a delegate to provide information, please let us know at wa.deps@wsu.edu.

We look forward to speaking with you and are eager to begin working with the <<AGENCY>>.

Sincerely,

David Makin, PhD
Executive Director, Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety
Associate Professor, Washington State University Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology

Matt Hickman, PhD
Data Governance Lead, Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety
Professor, Seattle University Department of Criminal Justice, Criminology, and Forensics

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

SEATTLEU

View in browser

In this first outreach, 185 agencies were contacted. According to the email distribution software, the open rate was 57%, or 106 agencies. An "open" is registered when the recipient downloads the images in the email. However, the text of the email is still visible without downloading the images, so the reach of the email is potentially higher.

7B: WASPC Focus Group flyer

(Front side)

Washington State
Data Exchange for Public Safety

WADEPS is an online platform designed to help law enforcement agencies meet new statewide use-of-force reporting and public accessibility requirements. It will serve as the central hub for collecting, analyzing, and sharing law enforcement interaction data with agencies and the public, and will include a suite of innovative tools and resources for both agency-level and state-level analysis.

WADEPS will:

- Modernize policing data collection
- Provide analytical resources and tools
- Strengthen community-police relations
- Support evidence-based decision-making

The WADEPS Team

The Washington State Date Exchange for Public Safety is managed by Washington State University (WSU) in collaboration with Seattle University (SU) and supported by world-class, cloud-based technology. (See reverse).

Focus Groups

Join us here at the WASPC conference to learn more and provide your input.

Tuesday, November 7
Meeting Room A & B

- 9:00–10:30 a.m.
- 10:30 a.m.–noon
- 1:30–3:00 p.m.

Not able to attend one of the focus groups?
Look for us in the common area on Wednesday.

Can't stay to chat?
Leave your card and we'll contact you after the conference to arrange a time to introduce the program and get your feedback.

Washington Association of
**SHERIFFS &
POLICE CHIEFS**

(Back side)

Washington State
Data Exchange for Public Safety

Our interdisciplinary team includes experts in technology development and criminal justice research, experienced statisticians and data analysts, and communications and training professionals.

Meet our key personnel

David Makin, executive director *
Criminal justice and criminology researcher and faculty member (WSU)

Matt Hickman, data governance lead *
Criminal justice, criminology, and forensics researcher and faculty (SU)

Season Hoard, training and focus group lead *
Policy and methodology researcher and faculty member (WSU)

Dean Johnson, data literacy lead
Statistical consultant, researcher, educator, and faculty member (WSU)

Christina Sanders, project manager *
Emergency management and collaborative government program manager (WSU)

Dale Willits, data contextualization lead *
Criminal justice and criminology researcher and faculty member (WSU)

Attending the WASPC conference and available to meet with you!

Contact us
🔗 go.wsu.edu/wadeps
✉ wa.deps@wsu.edu

RCW 10.118 Findings
Creating a statewide data collection program that creates a publicly accessible database to track metrics will help to promote openness, transparency, and accountability, build stronger police-community relations, improve trust and confidence in policing services, evaluate specific areas of concern such as biased policing and excessive force, and ultimately improve the quality of policing services.

7C: WASPC Follow Up

Text of email sent to WASPC executive director:

November 17, 2024

Steve,

Thank you for sharing membership questions and concerns about the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) and for the opportunity to provide additional information.

A brief summary:

- o In July 2021, [RCW 10.118](#) established the requirement for agencies to collect use-of-force data and provided funding for the development of "a statewide data collection program that creates a publicly accessible database to track metrics, will help to promote openness, transparency, and accountability, [and] build stronger police-community relations."
- o An advisory group of law enforcement representatives and experts in policing and data developed recommendations to balance agency and public needs and privacy concerns.
- o Definitions of use-of-force actions and results and the required data points are included in Section 4 of the law.

Burden of Minimum Reporting

Under the RCW, agencies may provide the minimum information by tallying each of the [20 required data points,](#) including the number of "documented interactions between the police, including but not limited to citizen calls, unit or officer-initiated interactions, and court or Bailiff activities" up to the point of the use of force. For example, a use of force occurring today would require the agency to calculate the number of interactions for the agency from the start of the calendar year to today and provide the number of contacts.

This is likely to create a significant burden for agencies of any size. Most will have to manually identify each use-of-force event, de-identify participants, calculate the data points, and create a format that meets the RCW and public records specifications for each report.

Benefits of Technology

- o [WADEPS](#) is being designed to extract as much of the required information as possible from existing CAD data from any vendor. Automating the process will reduce the reporting burden for all agencies and provide an equitable resource for all policing organizations and communities.

- o **Our request for [information about each agency's technology](#) will enable us to identify the CAD vendors being used by Washington law enforcement agencies so that we can begin developing technology solutions.** We are focused on technology interfaces and will not have any contact or communications with vendors regarding agency contracts or accounts. Additional information in the survey will help us prepare and develop training to meet individual agency needs.

Adding Context

Beyond minimizing the burden of reporting, WADEPS will provide law enforcement agencies and their communities with more than just numbers and data points.

Integrating additional CAD data that is already being collected with population data, policy standards, and the required use-of-force data will enable agencies and their constituents to better understand the context of the information as it pertains to their particular community. Data-informed decisions and evidence-based policing benefit all of Washington and its citizens.

Our team includes experts in criminal justice research, statistics, data analytics, and training development. Our research-based approach has been approved by the Institutional Review Board and meets stringent standards for maintaining privacy of collected data.

Statewide Impact

We are committed to helping improve trust and confidence in policing services across Washington state. We believe WADEPS will enable communities and agencies alike to evaluate specific areas of concern such as biased policing and excessive force and will ultimately improve the quality of policing services.

If you or any of your members have questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at wa.deps@wsu.edu.

Thank you,

David Makin

WADEPS

Executive Director

8. Use of Force Data Dictionary

The Microsoft Excel File - Data Manual - AGO Review contains the Data Dictionary for the Use-of-Force Data Collection.