Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety

Quarterly Report
Q3, FY2024

Submitted by
Dr. David A. Makin
Executive Director

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

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 citizens can use for agency, county, and state-level analysis.

This quarterly report supplies insight into the project's scope and development process for data collection, data governance, the visualization platform, officer training programs, and other milestones.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overall, WADEPS project development is on track, and progress is being made on all fronts. To reduce the reporting burden on officers and agencies, WADEPS continues to collect technology surveys from agencies across the state and meet with vendors about collaboration and data integration.

Our subject matter expert group—comprised of experts in policing, law, criminal justice research, and community activity—addresses how data sets are collated into common terms (the data manual or data dictionary). Another data governance subgroup has been established, and individuals have been confirmed.

WADEPS also continues to collect Transparency and Accountability Inventory responses from agencies, refining the data contextualization process. This will help the data be meaningful by enabling citizens, policymakers, and law enforcement agencies to make apples-to-apples assessments and compare benchmarking.

Community and law enforcement focus groups held during the development stage are providing valuable feedback on citizen expectations, officer protocol, and, repeatedly, the platform's importance in creating trust and transparency.

Data privacy and intellectual property rights complexities brought risk management to the forefront this quarter, resulting in contract delays with subcontractors and a revision to the proposed

network architecture. WADEPS will need to take on some deliverables, and costs initially allocated for managed services from the technology partner will be shifted to WADEPS personnel.

Of the 16 milestones due in FY24-Q3, eleven were completed. The other five were impacted by the technology contract delays and were moved forward.

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PROJECT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

TECHNOLOGY PARTNER CONTRACT

The contracting delays experienced by WSU in this project are because WSU and its initially identified technology partner reached an impasse on intellectual property after months of negotiating because the technology partner wanted a royalty-free commercial license for any purpose. There were also misunderstandings about how the flow-down terms applied to the technology partner and the order of precedent. We could not reach a mutually acceptable agreement, and the original technology partner could not accept the terms and conditions associated with the governing prime agreement, resulting in the termination of the partnership.

FLOW-DOWN TERMS AND ARCHITECTURE

As WSU is bound to the prime agreement with the state, all subcontractors must agree to the flow-down terms. This remains an existing challenge. WSU's newly identified technology partners have also expressed concerns, specifically regarding the definition of the term "the Platform" in the WSU and the WA AGO agreement. The main concern expressed by potential technology partners has been whether each company can adequately protect its background intellectual property. WSU is finalizing the scope of works and budgets with its now-identified technology partners and negotiating the contracting terms.

Additionally, there have been delays in reaching an understanding of how to draft the payment provisions with the newly identified technology partners because some of the services required for the WADEPS project are offered by the partners only on a subscription basis. In particular, these delays have affected three milestones: usability testing of the electronic fillable form, beta testing of the electronic infrastructure, and independent security assessment.

We redesigned the network architecture to mitigate the subscription-based challenges, implementing three lessons from our prior unsuccessful contracting phase. First, co-development work resulting in shared intellectual property (IP) is mitigated by compartmentalizing the network architecture. Second, WSU will hire a systems integrator with extensive experience in cloud infrastructure architecture and direct knowledge and experience working within the WSU environment. Third, we have expanded our engagement with Acadis/Vector Solutions, leveraging the existing

relationship with the Criminal Justice Training Commission. Their familiarity with law enforcement personnel across the state will enable WADEPS to continue meeting project milestones and provide an improved supervisory review.

[SEE APPENDIX A: COMPARTMENTALIZED NETWORK ARCHITECTURE]

CAD AUTOMATION

WSU continues collaborating with law enforcement software vendors to minimize the resource burden on agencies.

Another challenge in this quarter was the delay in establishing methods for collecting CAD data automatically from agencies to prepopulate the WADEPS use-of-force reporting form. Automating the collection of CAD data necessitates working with third parties—that is, data collection vendors working with agencies. Conversations started last quarter, bringing one vendor to the automated solution. We are continuing to coordinate with other vendors to identify automation solutions. As a backup until full automation is established, we developed a manual spreadsheet solution that each law enforcement agency would complete monthly and then submit to WADEPS for uploading to the data exchange. It is important to note that this manual approach increases lag time in data collection and does not allow the use of force reports to be pre-populated to minimize duplicative entries for officers.

As a mitigation strategy, WSU convened an automation working group representing the largest law enforcement agencies statewide to help develop agency-friendly solutions. This group differs from the 60 agencies invited to the beta testers group. Participants will serve as coordinators, working with agency personnel and vendors to identify effective and cost-efficient solutions for transferring police incident data to WADEPS. Of note, while some vendors have indicated they will provide a no-cost solution to their agency clients, one vendor indicated they would offer a purchasable upgrade to its agency clients. For this reason, the automation working group will also inform the refinement of the standardized spreadsheet, enabling agencies to upload the specified CAD data elements to the WADEPS data exchange.

Our partnership with the Washington State Emergency Management Division has provided remarkable insights into challenges experienced by the emergency dispatch centers in releasing data. As the managing entities for CAD data, each agency must sign a release authorizing the release of the

limited CAD data elements. As such, WSU has developed a Data Prime Agreement combining a memorandum of understanding and a data use agreement detailing how these records will be treated, the deidentification process used for five key data elements (Incident ID, Primary Unit, Units Dispatched ID, and Location Address), data security requirements, and period of data sharing.

Given this contracting challenge, the partnership with WA-EMD streamlines communication with dispatch centers and their respective agencies. The beta tester and automation working groups will assist with refining the Data Prime Agreement, which will connect the 77 dispatch centers and their respective agencies to the data exchange. This agreement will also include, as applicable, the transfer of the use of force data elements via automated protocols.

COMPLIANCE AND PRIVACY

Another factor contributing to data collection delays concerns the possibility of public records requests for access to raw data. The collection and potential release of the incident address presents a privacy and safety risk to Washingtonians. De-identification is necessary to ensure the privacy of the officers and those with whom they interact.

A key differentiator of WSU and SU's proposal was collecting and modernizing privacy-related data elements, which enabled Washington state agencies and their communities to pursue evidence-based practices.

All WSU-related research and its associated data management plan must be approved by the Institutional Review Board of Washington State University. WADEPS's approval (#20031-001) included a certificate for exemption regarding the treatment of the raw data and the de-identification process for the five data above elements. Collecting these elements is essential to better contextualizing police contacts, agency workload, and community characteristics. Releasing these elements in their identified form would allow for reverse identification with relative ease. For example, a public records request to the Criminal Justice Training Commission for an officer's CJTC ID # and name would make the effort placed into data obfuscation meaningless.

WADEPS is sensitive in that a searchable database for all police contacts at a specified location is not what the governor or the legislature envisioned. While WADEPS tries to obfuscate those records properly, requests via the Public Records Request (PRR) process would release this sensitive

information. In speaking with law enforcement agencies, it would be a resource burden and costly for agencies to geocode addresses to an appropriate level of obfuscation before releasing them to WADEPS. The geocoding service provided by WADEPS is a resource law enforcement agencies expected to use for operational purposes.

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

Revising the network architecture requires shifting responsibilities from the technology vendors to internal personnel. Overall, these changes will produce cost savings for the project. For example, the estimate for a vendor-managed ticketing service is estimated to cost more than $300,000 per year; when managed internally using an existing WSU contract for Jira/Confluence for ticket and help desk management software, the cost to WADEPS is one 0.50 full-time equivalent (FTE) expenditure. We plan to staff this position by expanding our current executive assistant position from 0.50 FTE to 1.0 FTE. Once the WADEPS platform is operational, the WADEPS Jira administrator will be responsible for managing and routing all tickets submitted by law enforcement agencies and the public to the appropriate resource and will continue managing team communications, scheduling, travel arrangements, grant management, and other project management tasks that are needed.

With the change in vendors and the costs of managed services, WADEPS will take on more responsibility for managing the communication deliverables. Initially, this was included in the scope of work for the original technology partner. The aligned deliverables include website management, content creation, and dashboard configuration. As with the prior change, this modification does not increase the project's costs. Instead, it shifts costs initially allocated to the technology partner for a managed service to WADEPS personnel.

Additionally, WSU continues receiving large requests for public records regarding WADEPS. We have received twenty-seven public record requests spanning the Request for Information (RFI), Request for Proposal (RFP), and implementation stages of WADEPS. These requests range from quite specific to extensive record requests, such as this received PRR:

> *All documents, records, communications, and data contained in the Microsoft Teams shared folders were established for the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (aka the*

Law enforcement use of force data collection program) authorized by SB 5259 and awarded to WSU by the AGO under RFP #22-05.

To ensure the efficient and timely processing of requests, we propose allocating a halftime position specifically dedicated to managing and expediting the processing of requests. To a person unfamiliar with the process for releasing public records, it would seem simple enough to download the entire channel, create a zip file, and provide a responsive record. However, each record must be carefully reviewed, redactions applied to student information and other items as required by law, and other procedural steps before the record is released. To understand the expansive nature of requests received, *a single* public records request for *one* WADEPS personnel contains 1,749 files and 45 folders, with files ranging from a single email to expansive documents. Each file must be carefully reviewed before release. The position will enable WADEPS to be more responsive while providing resources to improve document management practices, which will help decrease the need for time-intensive redactions. Suppose the volume of requests decreases or the nature of the requests no longer justifies the position. In that case, the duties of a part-time employee can be revised, or the position can be ended. Allocating the budget for this new position is a strategic investment that will uphold our commitment to transparency while decreasing the time to prepare and respond to requests. We believe this position is crucial for the successful management of public records requests and will significantly contribute to the value of our project.

TECHNOLOGY INVENTORY SURVEY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

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. To fill this gap, we created and began distributing a Technology Inventory Survey to verified points of contact within Washington state police agencies to assess the technological status of the departments themselves. We have verified contact details for 251 of the 301 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.

Preliminary Survey Results

As of March 12, 2024, 74 agencies have responded (57 in Q2 and 17 in Q3) for a response rate of approximately 29.5%. As mentioned in the FY24-Q2 report, most agencies use 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)**: 78.4% (n=58) indicated having NIBRS certification.
- **CAD Vendor**: 71 agencies indicated the third-party vendor they currently use for computer-aided dispatch (CAD) data and how long they had used that system. Eighty percent of responding agencies indicated working with one of three major vendors, and more than 90% of responding agencies have been working with the same vendor for more than five years.
- **Published Regular Reports**: 84.7% (n=61) reported regularly publishing crime rates, call volume, and incident type statistics.
- **Incident location data**: 98.6% (n=70) reported that their Records Management System (RMS) recorded the physical location of incidents, with 75.7% (n=53) reporting that their RMS recorded both the physical address and the latitude/longitude of the incident.

- **Published Use-of-Force Policy**: 74.6% (n=53) reported publishing their UOF policy.
- **Use-of-Force Data Vendor**: 31% (n=23) of agencies provided the names of the programs they used to collect and store UOF data.
- **Published Use-of-Force Data:** Of the 32 agencies that reported publishing their UOF data, the most common frequency was yearly (87.1%, n=27).
- **BWC Data and Vendors**: 80.3% (n=57) indicated currently utilizing a BWC program

TABLE 1: FREQUENCY OF AGENCY PUBLICATION OF UOF DATA (N=52)

UOF Data Publication	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Data is published for public and internal purposes	17	32.7%
Data is published for internal purposes only	15	28.8%
Data is published for public review only	0	0
The agency does not publish data	20	38.5%
TOTALS	52	100%

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 52.47, and current employment of sworn officers was an average of 47.9. Agencies also reported that their employment capacity for professional staff was 21.6 individuals, and the current employment of professional staff was an average of 19.15.

Next Steps: We will continue to contact the agency leaders who have not yet responded and newly identified contacts to establish working relationships and provide them with opportunities to complete the TIS.

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY INDEX

Current efforts to address concerns with the state of policing in America focus heavily on transparency and accountability. WADEPS is designed 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 justice initiatives. Our Transparency and Accountability Inventory (TAI) aims to identify the types and amount of information currently available to the public via each agency's public website and evaluate the status of public-facing transparency and accountability data on the website(s) maintained by police agencies of all types and sizes.

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.

Of the 301 police agencies accounted for in Washington state. Our TAI analysis identified:

- 205 city or local police departments
- 40 county sheriff's offices
- 28 tribal police agencies
- 14 state agencies
- 14 special jurisdiction departments including airport, transit, port, and university agencies.

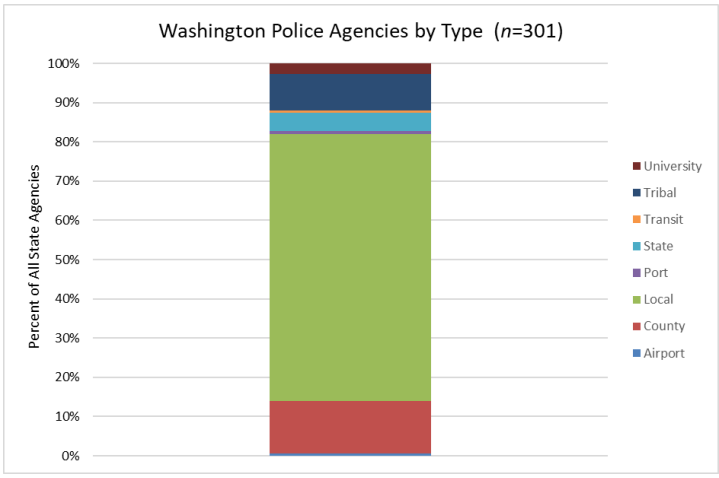


Figure 1: Washington Police Agencies by Type

Following the parameters set by the Office of Justice Programs (2023) and reporting only the agencies who provide the size of their staff on the website, the agencies range in size:

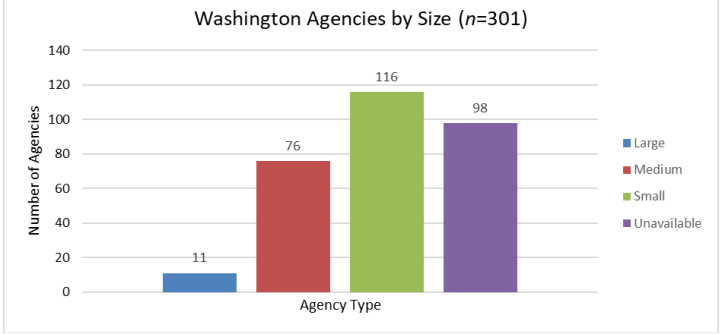


Figure 2: Washington Police Agencies by Size

- 116 small agencies (25 officers or less)
- 76 medium agencies (200 officers or less)
- 11 large agencies (201 or more officers).

Analysis Highlights

- One-third (33%) of Washington police agencies do not provide public-facing information about their department's size and composition.
- Information about special officer roles is minimal.
- When available, the content and style of recruitment materials varied widely. More research is needed on the content of recruitment materials, as this highlights to the public the forward-facing culture that an agency wishes to portray.
- Almost 60% of Washington agencies did not provide public-facing information on how to request or obtain police records.

Conclusions

The small, local nature of police agencies in Washington may present challenges for implementing policies promoting transparency and accountability, particularly in funding for obtaining and operating innovative technology. Several findings regarding transparency and accountability have been made. Basic foundational information about police agencies and what they do is absent, which is challenging for analysis and developing public trust.

Next Steps: Agency size and composition, use of technology and advanced training, and access to police records are three data points that warrant further investigation.

[SEE APPENDIX B: TRANSPARENCY ACCOUNTABILITY INDEX INVENTORY ITEMS]

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. This can provide enhanced contextualization for WADEPS, which will, in turn, provide more localized and detailed information for agencies, researchers, and stakeholders.

The LEMAS national survey is distributed every three to four years to more than 3,000 large law enforcement agencies with 100 or more sworn officers and a sample of smaller agencies selected to ensure national representation. The results provide invaluable insights into personnel dynamics, budget allocations, community engagement, training protocols, hiring practices, equipment inventory, technological advancements, procedural standards, and operational strategies.

The WA-LEMAS survey is designed to collect data that is meticulously tailored to meet the unique needs of Washington State and enrich the decision-making processes. The WA-LEMAS survey will include questions covering in-depth information about salaries, recruitment, gender and diversity, mental/behavioral health response, special populations, officer wellness, accountability procedures, communication strategies, diversion policies, and technology utilization.

Responses to WA-LEMAS will be contextualized with the police data, providing relevancy, accuracy, and informed interpretation of agency information and enabling stakeholders to reach reasoned conclusions by acquiring a detailed and holistic perspective.

[SEE APPENDIX I: ENHANCED CONTEXTUALIZATION INSTRUMENT (WA-LEMAS)]

DATA GOVERNANCE AND DATA MANUAL

During this period, work progressed on standing up the Community and Law Enforcement data governance subgroups. Invitations were extended to ACLU-WA, WA Coalition for Police Accountability, community members interested in the use of force data collection, and others. Professionals working in oversight roles were asked for suggestions/recommendations. Invitations were extended to data-conscious law enforcement community members, with one officer from a large agency and a crime analyst from another large agency obtaining approval to participate.

A decision was made to combine the community and law enforcement subgroups, with the thinking that this would lead to richer discussions and greater efficiency. The current plan is to hold a kick-off meeting as soon as possible, at which time introductions and a general briefing on the project's current status will be provided. Documents will be distributed, including the key RCWs, data manual, and related documentation. A lengthier, more formal meeting would be scheduled for June and twice annually thereafter, with informal work between meetings.

The following members are confirmed for the community/law enforcement data governance committee:

- Edward Byrnes, PhD – professor of social work, Eastern Washington University
- Shira Idris – policy analyst, ACLU-WA
- Deborah Jacobs – police oversight professional
- James Kim – sergeant, Seattle Police Department
- Megan Yerxa – crime analyst, Tacoma Police Department
- Dominic Campese – WA Coalition for Police Accountability

During this period, the Subject Matter Expert (SME) group addressed the question of a “freeze” period for the data dictionary. This discussion balanced the desire/need to change the data dictionary overtime against the burden on agencies/officers. The group also took up the issue of proposed legislation that would have added assaults on officers and prosecutorial decision-making to the WADEPS data collection. The group also discussed the need to incorporate data from correctional settings. The SME group will next meet in June.

Planning is underway for the “Data for Action” demonstration project. This law clinic, focused on police reform, will be delivered at the SU School of Law by adjunct faculty member Nikkita Oliver. The project aims to demonstrate the utility of the WADEPS data for supporting police reform efforts. Intense preparations are anticipated to begin in the fall semester of 2024, with the law clinic launching in the spring semester of 2025.

Based upon an anticipated need to collect data on the use of force within correctional settings, we are exploring setting up an additional data governance group or adding SMEs focused on the use of force in corrections. Some background research on correctional use of force and informal conversations with administrative personnel who track the use of force in correctional settings (specifically about existing data systems and data elements that are currently captured) has been ongoing.

In preparation for training with beta-tester agencies, the data manual has been revised slightly to include additional details on specific types of force. These changes also eliminated one redundant item, leading to a cleaner and more streamlined process.

FOCUS GROUPS

WADEPS led three focus groups during Q3:

- In Spokane, hosted by the local League of Women Voters organization
- In Pullman, with the local Police Advisory Council
- In Shelton, during the monthly Mason County Sheriff's Breakfast.

Each event included a 30-40-minute presentation on WADEPS followed by 20 minutes of questions from participants. Topics included:

- Data collection: automation and verification steps, race determination, and other demographics
- Agency adoption: timeline and rollout process, initial and long-term cost to agencies
- Data dashboard: access, cost to the public, prioritizing requests
- Privacy: concerns about locations/address information

When informed that the project will collect use-of-force policies for agencies and make them publicly available, the group highly supported this inclusion. It was stated that this can help the public understand better what use of force is to help with transparency.

Suggestions from attendees included adding Fentanyl deaths, as this data is difficult for communities to get and often takes months.

Importance of WADEPS

It should be noted that outside of data collection concerns, suggestions, and dashboard questions, several individuals expressed how vital the dashboard is for communities, particularly those completely disenfranchised. The concept was described as an essential step to "pulling people back in the community," breaking down barriers, and rebuilding trust, particularly in the relationship between the Black community and law enforcement. As one attendee stated, "Any time we can bring community together with police is important."

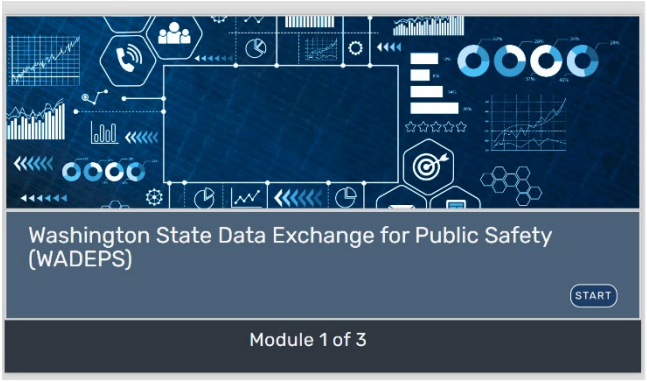
To help highlight the importance of WADEPS for communities, it was suggested that communication materials focus on the value to communities first and clarify that WADEPS is not only

focused on the use of force. As the potential benefits are far-reaching, emphasizing this can help better communicate the value and engage community audiences.

[SEE APPENDIX J: FOCUS GROUPS]

TRAINING MATERIALS

The training team is working to complete training materials for beta testing by the end of Q3 (March). To achieve this goal, we have met with ACADIS biweekly at the beginning of the quarter and weekly toward the end of the quarter. Module 1 (legislative requirements) is complete and uploaded into ACADIS for team testing. Module 2 (WADEPS requirements) will be completed at the beginning of the next quarter and uploaded into ACADIS for team testing at the end of the quarter to make final edits and adjustments before beta testing. The third module, which will focus on practicing entering data in the WADEPS system, will be developed when the system is available.



The online training has been developed using Adobe Captivate software based on recommendations of ACADIS. The team has put significant effort into learning the new Adobe Captivate software and developing training that is both informative and engaging for officers. This effort includes significant hours of Captivate training, meetings with ACADIS on best practices, and reviewing multiple training courses for government and non-government agencies to develop the best possible training for WADEPS. The team has custom-designed the training, sourcing appropriate images and programming modules to ensure proper navigation and meeting with the data manual team to identify how to explain specific concepts for clarity. Additionally, the team has added voiceovers and subtitles for accessibility, developed quizzes to assess knowledge, built a final feedback survey for further training improvement, and revised Module 2 to accommodate data manual revisions. Some of these revisions occurred toward the end of the quarter.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

It is critical that the various stakeholder groups apply appropriate statistical techniques for analyzing the policing data and correctly interpret the results from the analyses. The Center for Interdisciplinary Statistical Education and Research is currently working on developing resources for analyzing data and interpreting the results. Elizabeth Thompson and Wooyoung Kim, graduate students in the WSU Department of Mathematics and Statistics and research assistants for this project, are working, under the guidance of Dr. Bala Krishnamoorthy and Dr. Dean Johnson, to develop these statistical resources that can used to aid stakeholders in analysis and interpretation.

In August of 2024, the plan is for a post-doctoral research associate to come on board to work on the police project. This person will join a team of researchers whose mission is to modernize public safety data collection through standardization, automation, and evaluation. The project involves law enforcement agencies, state and local policymakers, researchers, and the public in data exploration and discovery. This effort will be accomplished partly by offering education and training opportunities to foster community-focused policing and collaborative learning sessions. The post-doc (statistical scientist) in this role will develop comprehensive educational materials, workshops, online courses, and training manuals designed to equip and empower law enforcement agencies, state and local policymakers, researchers, and the public with data and statistical literacy skills that will enable them to maximize the utility of the data project.

WEBSITE AND COMMUNICATIONS OVERVIEW

The initial public-facing website is available at http://go.wsu.edu/wadeps. The Washington State University web group has secured the “wadeps.org” domain, and a staging website has been made available for development.

A draft navigation structure was constructed, reviewed by the WADEPS team leads, and added to the staging website. **[SEE APPENDIX K: WADEPS WEBSITE NAVIGATION]** Development (research and writing) of the informational content for the website is ongoing. Meetings were held with each team lead to learn more about each area and assess what elements and information would be appropriate for the public website.

The website's informational content will include sections about the project’s history, the governance process, policing data technology integration, potential benefits for agencies and communities, and items specified by the AGO in the project contract.

With the upcoming change of the external technology partner, the scope of the dynamic content located on or hosted by the WSU-managed website will potentially be more complex than initially understood and may require additional specialized staffing. A review of the scope of work is being completed.

The external communications strategy for media relations, brand assets, and a soft and hard website launch is developing. The timing of these activities will depend on successful data collection, successful agency training and adoption, and the final cloud-based technology implementation.

QUARTER 3 MILESTONE UPDATES

Completed Milestones in Q3:

- Update Proposed Program Management Plan
- Mindfulness-Based Anti-Racism (MBAR) Training
- Annual Manual Review
- First Focus Group Report
- WSU Establish LE Agency Point of Contact
- Focus Group: Law Enforcement
- Focus Group: Community Members
- Public-Facing Informational Website Available
- Distribute Enhanced Contextualization Inventory
- Maintain Insurance
- Provide Quarterly Performance Report to AGO

Milestones Moved to Q4:

- Beta Test Ready for Electronic Infrastructure
- Conduct an independent security assessment and report identified gaps to AGO within 30 days
- Conduct Usability Testing on the Project Website and Electronic Fillable Form
- Conduct initial training with Beta Testers

Milestones Moved to Q1 2025:

- Start collection of CAD data from agencies for prepopulating the use of force reporting form

MINDFULNESS-BASED ANTI-RACISM (MBAR) TRAINING

Seven WADEPS personnel participated in the spring Mindfulness-Based Anti-Racism (MBAR) Training. Sessions began on March 20, 2024, and included three sessions of 2.5 hours once each week, ending on April 3. This will complete the MBAR training sessions for the current WADEPS personnel.

WSU ESTABLISH LE AGENCY POINT OF CONTACT

One of our early goals was to establish communication connections with 301 law enforcement organizations in Washington state, including county, regional, tribal, university, state, and airport groups. To communicate with police agencies, we collected and confirmed agencies' points of contact (POC).

Emails and phone calls served as the organization's primary means of communication. We successfully contacted 83.39 percent of the 301 targeted organizations. We confirmed contact with 251 agencies' preferred email addresses (83.39%) and 212 agencies' preferred phone numbers (70.43%).

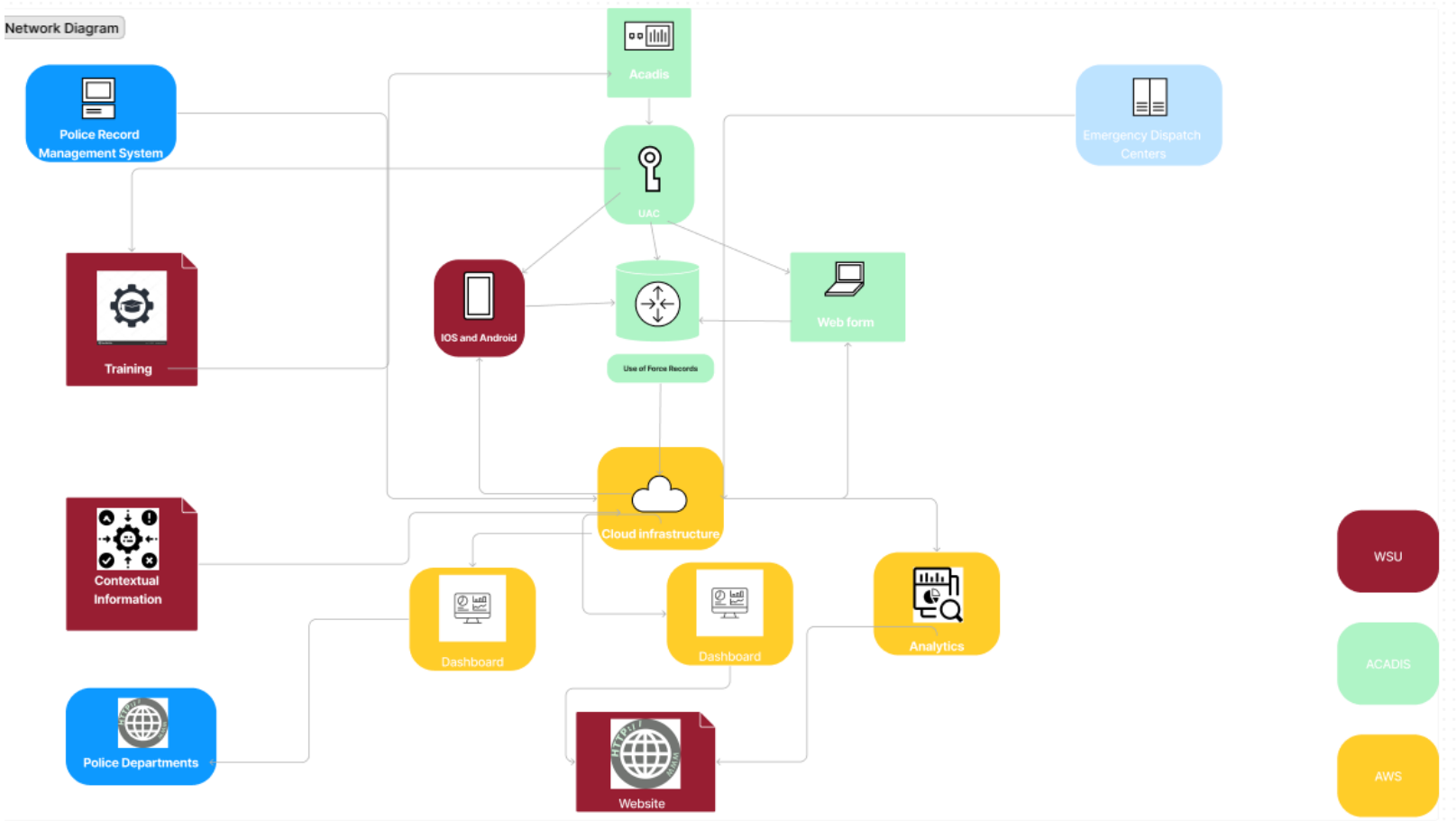
Our approach to collecting points of contact entailed a thorough review of agency websites to gather email addresses and telephone numbers. We followed a defined order and sent up to three emails to each agency for 1-2 months. Once we did not obtain a response three times, we exhausted our email attempts and called agencies. When we attempted the call, we used non-emergency, record division, or the captain's office phone number as primary. The average number of email attempts needed to get a response was 1.567. Phone calls were more effective than email, with an average of 0.337 attempts to confirm contact.

County and university-level agencies verified their points of contact (POC), indicating a remarkably high level of responsiveness (100%). We achieved a high confirmation rate of 92.86% with state agencies. Although lower than county, university, and state agencies, approximately 83.17% of local agencies verified their contact, indicating a generally positive response rate at this level. Tribal agencies had a slightly lower confirmation rate of 64.29%, suggesting potential challenges in communication with tribal-level agencies. Although our target list included only two airport organizations, we achieved moderate success within this niche sector, with 50% of the contacts verified.

We tried our best to confirm the POC and the response level from agencies was relatively high, but there were still some agencies whose contact information we could not confirm. One problem is that some agencies do not have exact contact information or a website. It can be necessary to employ additional approaches to get in touch with these agencies, such as reviewing the information on the website again or looking into different ways to collect the required information.

Our outreach efforts achieved positive results, with most targeted police agencies confirming contact information. The data gathered through this method will serve as a solid foundation for future communication and collaboration efforts with police agencies in Washington State during this project. Moving ahead, additional efforts are required to close any remaining communication gaps and maintain a complete partnership with all relevant agencies.

APPENDIX A: COMPARTMENTALIZED NETWORK ARCHITECTURE



APPENDIX B: TRANSPARENCY ACCOUNTABILITY INDEX INVENTORY ITEMS

Agency Name
ORI #
Agency Type
Agency Point of Contact (Name)
Agency Point of Contact (Email)
Agency Point of Contact (Phone #)
Agency Address
Agency Website URL
Agency Size (#)
# of Sworn Officers
# of Support Staff
Special Units and Officers (Yes/No)
Narcotics (Yes/No)

Gang (Yes/No)
Homicide (Yes/No)
Specialized Task Force (Yes/No)
DRE Officers (Yes/No)
ARIDE Officers (Yes/No)
Property Crime Unit (Yes/No)
Records Management System (RMS) Name

Website of RMS

Documentation (Yes/No)

API Available (Yes/No)
Body-Worn Camera Program (Yes/No)
Year Started
Year Ended
Status (Active/In-Progress/No Intentions/Ended)
BWC Provider Name
BWC Provider Website
Dash Camera (Yes/No)
Year Started
Year Ended
Dashboard Camera Provider Name
Status (Active/In-Progress/No Intentions/Ended)
Dashboard Camera Provider Website

Published Annual Report (Yes/No)
URL of Published Report
Crime Statistics (Yes/No)
Police Activity (Yes/No)
Traffic Stops (Yes/No)
Crimes Against Persons (Yes/No)

Crimes Against Property (Yes/No)

Use of Force Reporting (Yes/No)

Vehicle Pursuits (Yes/No)

Police Vehicle Collisions (Yes/No)
Citizen Complaints (Yes/No)
Race & Ethnicity Demographic Comparison (Yes/No)
Recruitment Data (Yes/No)

Crime Statistics (Website) (Yes/No)
Police Activity (Website) (Yes/No)
Traffic Stops (Website) (Yes/No)
Crimes Against Persons (Website) (Yes/No)
Crimes Against Property (Website) (Yes/No)
Use of Force Reporting (Website) (Yes/No)
Vehicle Pursuits (Website) (Yes/No)

Police Vehicle Collisions (Website) (Yes/No)
Citizen Complaints (Website) (Yes/No)
Race & Ethnicity Demographic Comparison (Website) (Yes/No)
Recruitment Data (Website) (Yes/No)
Crime Analyst (Yes/No)
Technology Specialist (Yes/No)
UAV Operators (Yes/No)
Published Crime Maps (Yes/No)

Language Access Plan (Yes / No)
Contract w/ a Service Provider for Interpretation / Language Service Needs (Yes / No)
Data Collected on Interpretation / Language Services Provided (Yes / No)

APPENDIX C: TEAM LEADS AND PROJECT STAFF

- **Bala Krishnamoorthy**, PhD, Statistical Analysis and Data Optimization, Math and Statistics Faculty Member (WSU)
    - Supported by graduate student Elizabeth Thompson
    - Supported by team members Kaul Abhishek PhD, Xiongzhi Chen PhD, Daryl Deford PhD, and Sergey Lapin PhD – Department of Mathematics and Statistics
- **Christina Sanders**, Project Manager, Director, Division of Governmental Studies and Services (DGSS), Outreach and Engagement, Researcher and Faculty member (WSU)
    - Supported by DGSS faculty members: Hoard, Franklin, Mueller
- **Dale Willits**, PhD, Data Contextualization Lead, Criminal Justice and Criminology Researcher and Faculty Member (WSU)
    - Supported by graduate students Kasi Chatburn, Riti Dwivedi, Annabelle Jacobs, Nayoung Ko, and Mary McMillin
- **David A. Makin**, PhD, Executive Director, Criminal Justice and Criminology Researcher and Faculty Member (WSU)
    - Supported by Principal Assistant Devanie Zinn
- **Dean Johnson**, PhD, Data Literacy Lead, Statistical Consultant, Researcher, Educator, and Faculty Member (WSU)
    - Supported by graduate student Wooyoung Kim
- **Joanna Steward**, Director of Communications, College of Arts and Sciences
    - Supported by CAS colleague S. Robertson
- **Matt Hickman**, PhD, Data Governance Lead, Criminal Justice, Criminology, And Forensics Researcher and Faculty (SU)
- **Season Hoard** PhD, Training, and Focus Group Lead, Policy and Methodology Researcher and Faculty Member (WSU)
    - Supported by team members Travis Franklin, PhD and Danny Mueller, PhD – Division of Governmental Studies and Services

APPENDIX D: BUDGET SNAPSHOT

	Budget	Expenses	Commitments	Obligations	Total Spend	Available Balance
Grant	$4,999,789.00	$505,295.28	$437.29	$4,019,356.28	$4,525,088.85	$474,700.15
GR00012518 Makin/CJC	$4,357,085.00	$274,594.26	$437.29	$3,873,280.04	$4,148,311.59	$208,773.41
GR00012519 Deford/Math	$36,585.00	$13,848.30	$0.00	$15,419.39	$29,267.69	$7,317.31
GR00012520 Sanders/DGSS	$394,613.00	$169,584.80	$0.00	$107,134.19	$276,718.99	$117,894.01
GR00012521 Johnson/Math	$55,148.00	$13,848.30	$0.00	$21,849.39	$35,697.69	$19,450.31
GR00012522 Makin/Comm	$61,350.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$61,350.00
GR00012866 Makin/Seattle University	$95,008.00	$33,419.62	$0.00	$1,673.27	$35,092.89	$59,915.11
Grand Total	$4,999,789.00	$505,295.28	$437.29	$4,019,356.28	$4,525,088.85	$474,700.15

This quarter's expenditures included salaries and benefits for WADEPS personnel and fees paid for necessary annual software subscriptions.

APPENDIX E: POLICE INCIDENT DATA ELEMENTS

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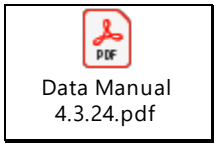
APPENDIX F: USE-OF-FORCE DATA ELEMENTS



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APPENDIX G: TECHNOLOGY INVENTORY SURVEY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT (UPDATED FOR MARCH 2024)

High-Level Overview

A comprehensive inventory of police agencies and their technological infrastructures within Washington State does not yet exist outside of what has been produced by the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS). This absence is a noteworthy obstacle to the 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. This current rendition of the report updates our previous work in this space with 17 new respondents to the survey. 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 agency's primary supervisor, typically the sheriff or police chief. It also allows 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, as well as who their vendor is for UOF data.

Section 3: Agency Personnel and Training Preferences

This last section of the survey collects further information about the agency, including its size and whether it 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 251 of the 301 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 March 12, 2024, 74 agencies submitted responses to the TIS (n=74) for a response rate of approximately 29.5%. 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, 78.4% (n=58) indicated having NIBRS certification. The remaining agencies that responded to the survey indicating interest in obtaining NIBRS certification were split unevenly, with seven 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 five 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 2: AGENCY USE OF CAD VENDORS (N=71)

Vendor Name	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Axon	0	0%
CentralSquare Technologies	2	2.8%
Hexagon Safety & Infrastructure	11	15.5%
Motorola Solutions/Spillman	33	46.5%
Tyler Technologies	13	18.3%
Other	12	16.9%
TOTALS:	71	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 (2), ARMS by End2End (1), and Versaterm (1). Two agencies indicated that their CAD data system was a state agency's in-house dispatch system; two others 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 into the appropriate categories within the table. Three agencies abstained from responding to this question.

Agencies were also asked whether their CAD system was a shared resource with other agencies. 87.8% of responding agencies indicated that their CAD system was a resource shared with at least one other agency. Two agencies abstained from responding to this question.

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 3: TIME OF AGENCY USE OF CURRENT CAD VENDOR (N=71)

Time of Current CAD Vendor Use	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Less than a year	1	1.4%
1 to 4 years	5	7.04%
5 to 9 years	17	23.9%
10 to 14 years	13	18.3%
15+ years	35	49.3%
TOTALS:	71	100%

Three agencies 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, 84.7% (n=61) reported that they published regular statistical reports regarding crime rates, call volume, and incident type. Eleven agencies reported that they did not publish reports of this variety at least once a year, and two agencies abstained from responding to this question.

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 44: AGENCY USE OF RMS VENDORS (N=71)

RMS Vendor Name	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Axon	1	1.41%
CentralSquare Technologies	2	2.82%
Motorola Solutions	31	43.7%
SunGard Public Sector (FIS)	0	0%
Tyler Technologies	15	21.1%

Hexagon Safety & Infrastructure	1	1.41%
Other	15	21.1%
The agency does not have an RMS vendor	6	8.45%
TOTALS:	71	100%

Met with the following vendors in Q3:

- Axon
- Motorolla
- Tyler Technologies

The “Other” vendors indicated by responding agencies included the following: Mark43 (2), Omnigo Report Exec (1), Executive Information Services (EIS) (5), DSSI Law Enforcement Systems (1), Tiburon (1), and ARMS by End2End (1). Two agencies indicated that they were in the process of adopting Axon as an RMS, and two 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, 98.6% (n=70) reported that their RMS recorded the physical location of incidents, with 75.7% (n=53) reporting that their RMS recorded both the physical address and the latitude/longitude of the incident. Of the remainder, 22.8% (n=16) 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 four agencies abstained from answering the question.

Use Of Force Policy

Of the responding agencies, 74.6% (n=53) 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, 86.8% (n=46) of the agencies with published Use of Force policies uploaded files containing this information.

Use Of Force Data Vendor

Only 19 agencies initially responded that they utilized a third-party vendor; however, 23 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 23 agencies:

TABLE 55: AGENCY USE OF THIRD-PARTY UOF SYSTEM VENDORS (N=23)

UOF Third-Party Vendor	Number of Agencies	% of Agencies
Axon	1	4.0%
CentralSquare Technologies	1	4.0%
CI Technologies/IA Pro/Blue Team	12	48%
Mark43	1	4.0%
Motorola Solutions	1	4.0%
PowerDMS	0	0%
Other	7	36%
TOTALS:	23	100%

The responses received from the "Other" option of this section consisted of the following: LEA Data Technologies (1), LEFTA Systems/Shield Suite (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 question options. This data is more incomplete than the items from some other areas of the TIS, as 22 agencies abstained from providing an answer to this question:

TABLE 66: FREQUENCY OF AGENCY PUBLICATION OF UOF DATA (N=52)

UOF Data Publication	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Data is published for public and internal purposes	17	32.7%
Data is published for internal purposes only	15	28.8%
Data is published for public review only	0	0
The agency does not publish data	20	38.5%
TOTALS	52	100%

Of the agencies that responded to the TIS, 32 reported publishing their UOF data. These 32 agencies were asked an additional question regarding the frequency of these publications. The most common frequency was yearly (87.1%, n=27), followed by daily (6.45%, n=2), monthly (3.23%, n=1), and quarterly (3.23%, 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, 57 (80.3%) indicated that the agency currently utilizes a BWC program, six agencies (8.45%) stated that they were pursuing a BWC program, and three agencies (4.22%) indicated an interest in pursuing a BWC program. Five agencies (7.04%) indicated that BWC programs were not a priority. Three agencies abstained from answering this question regarding BWC programs.

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

TABLE 77: AGENCY USE OF BWC VENDORS (N=57)

Vendor	Number of Agencies	% of Responding Agencies
Axon	40	70.2%
BodyWorn by Utility	0	0%
Motorola Solutions/WatchGuard Video	8	14.03%
Panasonic	0	0%
Digital Ally	0	0%
Reveal Media	0	0%
Other	9	15.8%
TOTALS:	57	100%

Among the vendors listed by responding agencies in the "Other" category were Getac (5), LensLock (2), and VieVu (1). One agency reported utilizing a service described as "Motorola/Avigilon."

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 52.47, and current employment of sworn officers was an average of 47.9. Agencies also reported that their employment capacity for professional staff was 21.6 individuals, and the current employment of professional staff was an average of 19.15. Below is a brief table of descriptive data from values obtained.

TABLE 88: STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF SWORN AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF EMPLOYMENT

	Sworn Officer Capacity	Sworn Officer Employment	Professional Staff Capacity	Professional Staff Employment
Minimum	0	0	0	0
Maximum	795	687	432	381
Range	795	687	432	381
Median	22	21	4	4
Mean	52.47	47.9	21.6	19.15

Multiple agencies reported a 0 value for their employment capacity in the agency responses. However, they noted that individuals were employed in these categories, and four agencies declined to provide employment numbers. The following bar charts visually represent the percentage of

employment capacity at which each of the 70 responding agencies are currently operating. These figures and the table above show that most agencies operate at or under capacity.

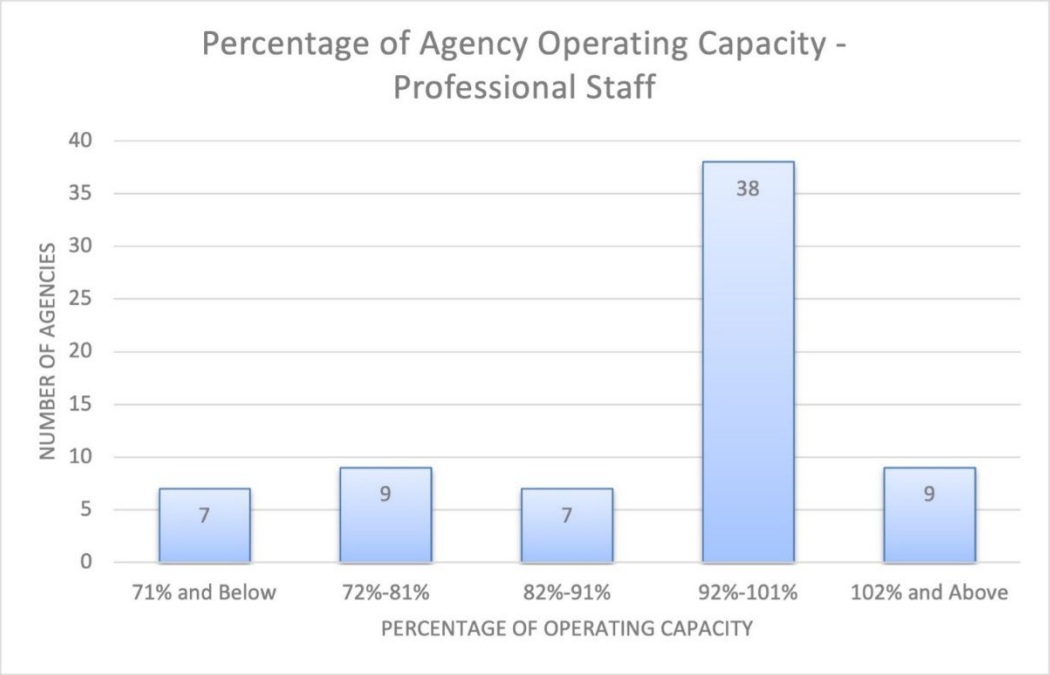

FIGURE 3: PERCENTAGE OF AGENCY OPERATING CAPACITY FOR PROFESSIONAL STAFF (N=70)

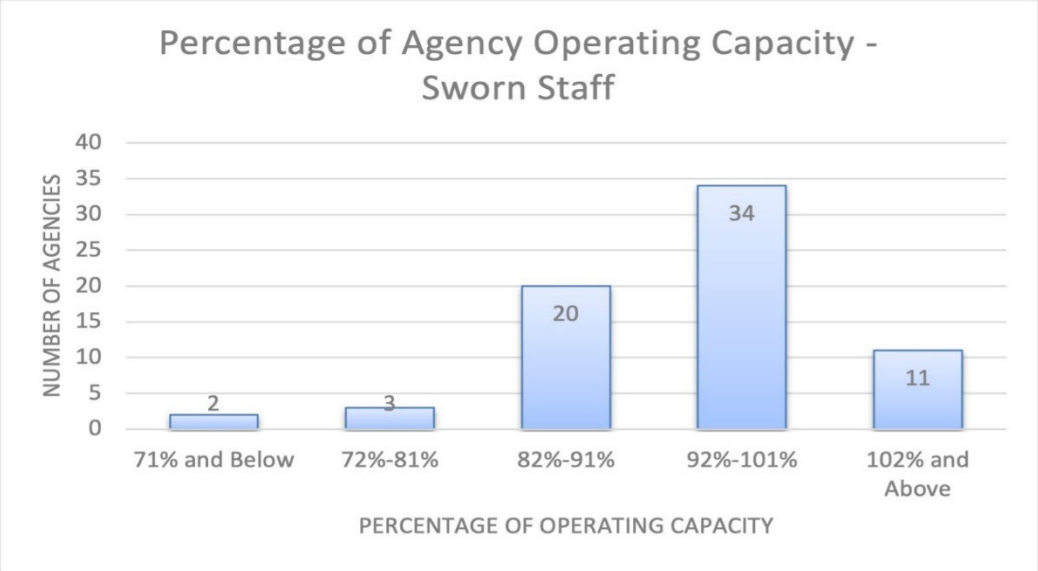

FIGURE 4: PERCENTAGE OF AGENCY OPERATING CAPACITY FOR SWORN STAFF (N=70)

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 99: 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	21	28.4%	31	19.38%	102	37.09%
11-20	13	17.6%	34	21.25%	65	23.64%
21-30	16	21.6%	22	13.75%	34	12.36%
31+	24	32.4%	73	45.63%	74	26.91%
Totals:	74	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 1010: 2-SURVEY COMPARISON OF AGENCY USE OF UOF SYSTEMS VENDORS

	AGO Number of Agencies Reporting	AGO % of Responding Agencies	TIS Number of Agencies Reporting	TIS % of Responding Agencies
Axon	-	-	1	4.17%
Benchmark	3	2.7%	1	4.17%
BlueTeam/IA Pro/CI Technologies	28	25.7%	12*	50.0%
CentralSquare Technologies	-	-	1	4.17%
Guardian Tracking	2	1.8%	1*	4.17%
Handwritten or Word/Excel/Adobe System	30	27.5%	1*	4.17%
Laserfische	2	1.83%	-	-
LEA Data Technologies	3	2.75%	1	4.17%
LEFTA/Shield Suite	5	4.59%	4	16.67%
No Records System	9	8.26%	-	-
Mark43	-	-	1	4.17%
Other systems reported by only one agency	11	10.1%	-	-
Smart Force	2	1.83%	-	-
Spillman/Motorola	12	11%	1	4.17%
Tyler	2	1.83%	0	0
Totals	109	100%	24	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.

APPENDIX H: TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY INDEX (UPDATED FOR MARCH 2024)

High-Level Overview

The Washington Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) aims to streamline the collection, analysis, and distribution of information to the public by their police agencies. The Transparency and Accountability Inventory (TAI) seeks to identify the types and amount of information currently available to the public for each police department. This report compiles and analyzes public-facing information offered by Washington police agencies in 2023/early 2024. This is a follow-up to the preliminary findings submitted in the previous quarterly report. Conclusions and recommendations are included.

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).

WADEPS is designed 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 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. Once found, information was taken from the site content and any links or attached documents. Public-facing data was analyzed for several items of interest and coded into a spreadsheet. Agency size was coded numerically, as the number of sworn officers and support staff; this data point is only included for those agencies that provide specific staffing information on their website. All other variables of interest were coded dichotomously, 1 for present and 0 for not present.

Data points selected for inclusion in this progress report focus on police agencies' public-facing information related to staffing, organizational structure, recruitment material, and access to agency-specific records. This analysis specifically focuses on the number of sworn officers versus support staff, the availability of specialized officer roles, the agency's use of specialized units, the agency website for recruitment, and the source and means of accessing police records.

Sworn and Support Staff

Sworn officers refer to individuals employed by the agency who have completed the academy and are working for the agency, at least part-time. The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) (2023) defines sworn officers as "those who have taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States, their state, and the laws of their agency's jurisdiction." **Support staff** is a term for individuals employed by the agency who are not police officers and do not possess or attempt to exercise such authority. Examples include dispatchers, office personnel, interns, and volunteers.

Specialized Roles and Units

The availability and use of specialized officers and units allow a police agency to develop more effective approaches targeting a class of crime that is of particular concern to law enforcement and the public. Additional training and certifications may be necessary, whether mandatory or voluntary.

Officers in specialty roles fill agency needs, while specialty units are formed to address public needs. Information regarding these officers' and units' existence, purpose, and duties should be available to the public to promote transparency. **Specialized *roles*** include crime analysts, technology specialists, and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) operators.

- A crime analyst is any person employed by the agency who possesses advanced education or formal specialized training in data analysis and uses agency-specific data to make recommendations for policy improvements that help guide agencies in identifying where and how to invest their limited resources.
- The technology specialist(s) oversee the acquisition, maintenance, policies and practices, and officer training related to new or updated technology actively used by that department.
- UAV operators, commonly called drone pilots, are agency staff with the knowledge and skills necessary to operate unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) defines UAVs as "aircraft without a human pilot onboard that are controlled by an operator remotely or programmed to fly autonomously" (2023).

A **specialized *unit*** is any subset of officers within the agency whose professional efforts are dedicated to responding to, investigating, or resolving a specific class of crimes. The type and size of specialized units vary based on public concerns and law enforcement goals. The specialty units captured in this report include:

- Gang units: Monitor and intervene in illicit activities associated with a group of people classified as or commonly believed to be a criminal organization.
- Homicide investigators: Respond to and investigate cases where homicide is suspected. Homicide, a manner of death in which one person causes the death of another, includes criminal acts like murder as well as incidents deemed justifiable, such as cases of self-defense (Legal Information Institute, 2024).
- Task forces: Broadly defined as "a unit or formation established to work on a single defined task or activity. It is a temporary grouping under one leader to accomplish a definite objective.

In government…, a task force is a temporary organization created to solve a particular problem" (Owsinski, 2024)

- Narcotics units: Monitor and intervene in incidents involving the manufacture, distribution, sale, or possession of controlled substances. It may include K9 officers, dedicated investigators, or warrant execution teams. Certifications may include:
    - **Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE):** First level of advanced training; focused on improving officers' ability to recognize impairment resulting from alcohol, drugs, a combination of those, or an injury or illness that produces similar behaviors (Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, 2024).
    - **Drug Recognition Expert (DRE):** Second level of advanced training; a title received after completion of the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program's (DECP) training program (International Association of Chiefs of Police, 2024). DRE officers are trained to detect signs of impairment and identify the group or single drug causing the impairment (International Association of Chiefs of Police, 2024).
- Property crimes units: Investigate activities involving the theft or destruction of physical property without direct physical harm to the victim. Units may target a single type of property crime plaguing the public, such as car theft, or address all crimes under this classification.

Recruitment Material

Recruitment is essential to staffing in general and key to filling specialty roles and units with the most qualified personnel, especially when policing is heavily scrutinized by the public and agencies are chronically understaffed. For this report, analysis was limited to the availability of recruitment material on the agency's website. The quantity and perceived purpose of recruitment materials, either informational or persuasive, will be analyzed in the final report.

Records Access

Public access to various records is critical to transparency and accountability. The ability to guarantee the authenticity and security of police records, ensure the availability of various request methods, and prioritize technology promoting ease of access can help promote public trust in their police agency. This report examines how agencies in Washington provide this service to the public,

focusing on 1) the availability of records access details on the agency website, 2) the type of agency storing and managing police records, and 3) the use of online portals to increase accessibility for the public.

- Records department: The police agency's records department manages document requests. Requests are made by completing a physical or online form and submitting it to a department representative. Documents are sent by or picked up from the police agency.
- Public records request: Police records are managed by an agency outside the department; physical and electronic requests are submitted to a city or county department; documents other than police records can also be requested.
- Form only: The agency offers the public physical or electronic forms for record requests, but no online access is available.
- Online portal: The agency uses interactive technology, such as a portal, and traditional request methods. Popular service providers include GovQA and NextRequest, both public record management systems that offer secure storage services and specialize in rapidly processing record requests, particularly any documents subject to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

Results

This report includes 14 state agencies, 40 county sheriff's offices, 205 city or local police departments, 28 tribal police agencies, and 14 special jurisdiction departments, including airport, transit, port, and university agencies. There are 301 police agencies accounted for in Washington State. Following the parameters set by the Office of Justice Programs (2023) and reporting only the agencies who provide the size of their staff on the website, there are 116 small agencies (25 officers or less), 76 medium agencies (200 officers or less), and 11 large agencies (201 or more officers). Information on agency size was unavailable for 98 agencies. See Figures 1 to 6 and Tables 1 to 3 below for more detailed information on public-facing data availability.

APPENDIX I: ENHANCED CONTEXTUALIZATION INSTRUMENT (WA-LEMAS)

The enhanced contextualization instrument of Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) is our data collection survey called Washington State Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (tentatively named WALEMAS). It is a comprehensive effort to gather data specifically tailored to the needs of law enforcement agencies in Washington State. By expanding upon the national Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS) survey, WALEMAS seeks to provide more localized and detailed information that can be useful for agencies, researchers, and stakeholders.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) oversees the LEMAS survey, a nationally recognized research tool conducted every three to four years. This survey, distributed via mail to over 3,000 large law enforcement agencies that have 100 or more sworn officers in addition to a sample of smaller agencies selected to ensure national representation, provides invaluable insights into personnel dynamics, budget allocations, community engagement, training protocols, hiring practices, equipment inventory, technological advancements, procedural standards, and operational strategies. To enhance the applicability of this survey to Washington State's diverse law enforcement landscape, the Washington State Data Exchange for Public Safety (WADEPS) has developed the WALEMAS survey. Designed to encompass all agencies within the state, regardless of size or number of sworn personnel, WALEMAS intends to collect data meticulously tailored to meet the unique needs of Washington State. By aligning with the region's specific requirements, WALEMAS aims to furnish agencies, researchers, and stakeholders with comprehensive and pertinent information, thereby enriching decision-making processes and facilitating the integration of diverse datasets within WADEPS.
WA-LEMAS survey has been expanded to include new questions and sections covering more in-depth information about salaries, recruitment, gender and diversity, mental/behavioral health response, special populations, officer wellness, accountability procedures, communication strategies, diversion policies, and technology utilization.

Questions for the salary section will be added to collect data on starting salaries for entry-level sworn officer hires over the past eight years, shedding light on salary trends. Recruitment inquiries will delve into education requirements for potential recruits, aiding in understanding hiring standards. The

Gender and Diversity section will explore agency policies on lactation, sexual harassment, women-specific uniforms, childcare, mentorship programs, and diversity initiatives. The Mental/Behavioral Health Response section will examine response models, training, and community partnerships. Special Population inquiries will focus on interactions with domestic violence victims, sexual violence victims, juvenile offenders, homeless individuals, and undocumented immigrants. Officer Wellness questions will address mental health services, work/life balance, and maternity/paternity/family leave. The Accountability/Accountability Procedures section will scrutinize policies, disciplinary actions, review processes, and review board compositions. Communication strategies will be assessed in the Communications section, while diversion policies and outcomes will be explored in the Diversion section. Lastly, the Technology section will cover CCTV, private recording systems, and potential penalties for exceeding work hours. It is important to note that these questions are preliminary and subject to further refinement.

The data contextualization team of WADEPS is working on ensuring that through contextualizing the police data, there is relevancy, accuracy, and informed interpretation of agency information, enabling stakeholders to reach reasoned conclusions by acquiring a detailed and holistic perspective. The design of questions and sections for the survey are still in progress.

APPENDIX J: FOCUS GROUPS

The team hosted two focus groups, and one law enforcement focus group will be conducted before the end of March (after the submission of this report). Of the focus groups that have been completed, one was a community focus group in Spokane, and the other included law enforcement and community members in Pullman. The last Q2 focus group will be held with law enforcement in Mason County.

The two focus groups that have been conducted included a 40-minute presentation on WADEPS and 20 minutes of questions to understand concerns regarding the WADEPS project, recommendations for data collection and the dashboard, and any other questions that the team could address.

Law Enforcement Focus Groups

The first focus group was conducted in Pullman, Washington, and included 16 law enforcement and community members.

Data Collection Concerns and Suggestions

Most questions were about data collection and suggestions for improvement. These included what would be collected by WADEPS, costs for agencies, and data verification questions. Concern was expressed over costs and how long this would be free to agencies, especially after the five years of funding are completed. Additionally, how data would be verified was discussed. It was mentioned that the annual reporting process allows time to verify department data and how WADEPS would deal with data automation and ensure data accuracy when automated was questioned. In connection to these concerns, it was asked how WADEPS would "build trust that data is accurate and ensure transparency."

Additional questions included a timeline for acquiring department data and rolling out the WADEPS dashboard. Delays due to address issues were discussed, as were concerns about how address information would be used, especially if requested by private companies.

Lastly, we were asked how WADEPS will reconcile requests to add tools to WADEPS, including how requests will be prioritized.

Community Focus Groups

After the Spokane focus groups, the team was contacted by a community organization in Spokane to deliver a presentation on the project to its membership. Ten community members attended this meeting.

Data Collection Concerns and Suggestions

Data collection questions included how police would determine race and other demographic information. Several attendees noted that allowing individuals to select just one race would be an issue.

When informed that the project will collect use-of-force policies for agencies and make them publicly available, the group highly supported this inclusion. It was stated that this can help the public understand better what use of force is to help with transparency.

It was suggested that WADEPS speak with the Ombudsman created in Spokane regarding their experiences moving similar initiatives forward.

Additionally, some attendees mentioned other data that could be included in WADEPS to help communities. This included collecting Fentanyl deaths as this data is difficult for communities to get and often takes months. If WADEPS could provide this information more quickly, it could be helpful for communities.

The timeline for the rollout was discussed, as well as why the system is currently not bringing in CAD data. After explaining the issue, concerns over protecting privacy if address data is provided were expressed. It was asked whether there were alternatives to address data, such as capturing Census tract instead.

Dashboard Questions

Some questions centered around access to the dashboard. For instance, the WADEPS team was asked how people would access the Dashboard and whether it would cost communities to use it. It was also asked what open-source means, which may indicate that this term needs further explanation for communities.

Importance of WADEPS

It should be noted that several individuals expressed how vital the dashboard is for communities outside of data collection concerns and suggestions and dashboard questions. It was mentioned that this

data collection is vital for those who are completely disenfranchised. This is an essential step to "pulling people back into the community." In addition, the relationship between the Black community and law enforcement was discussed, including the great fear of law enforcement among this community and that it is essential to break down barriers and rebuild trust. As stated by one attendee, "Any time we can bring community together with police is important."

To help highlight the importance of WADEPS for communities, it was suggested that communication materials focus on the value to communities first and clarify that WADEPS is not only focused on the use of force. As the potential benefits are far-reaching, emphasizing this can help better communicate the value and engage community audiences.

APPENDIX K: WADEPS WEBSITE NAVIGATION

V1 Draft: Informational website (not connected to live data)

(Revised 2/27/2024—prior to the change in technology partner)

WADEPS Home

[introduction: what it is, why it exists, what data is collected, what will be available as output]

Purpose & Benefits

- Communities
- Law Enforcement Agencies
- Legislature/Policymakers
- Research
- Engagement Metrics
  - Agency Participation [link to data? See 1.4.9-b]
  - Public Use

How it Works

[Overview—generic for now, update w/specifics when data & visualizations are live]

- Data Collection
  - Required by Law
  - Additional Data
  - Industry Integration [work with CAD data providers]
  - Data Validation Schedule
- Sample Reports/Visualizations
  - [test data]
- Analysis
  - [opportunities to look at different aspects or compare agencies and communities]
  - [ask questions and learn from experts]
  - Methodology & Bias
- Data Dictionary [manual]
- Tutorials

Ask the Experts

[explain future resources; link to CISER when form and data are live]

Use of Force Policies

Transparency Analysis

Policy database [290+ documents including date policy adopted]

AGO Use of Force Model Policy [link to external website]

Governance

Subject Matter Experts [include meeting schedules]

Law Enforcement

Community

Data Governance

Focus groups

[purpose, history, maybe option to volunteer/suggest for future?]

State-wide Impact

State Law

[legislative background, AG oversight]

Technology Inventory

[overview, why important, process]

Training for Law Enforcement

[overview, access to see/review training manual]

Beta Testing [why and who]

Presentations

[purpose, audiences, history (list or sample of past events), request?]

News

[press releases, media mentions, brand considerations, etc.]

About Us

Why WSU/SU?

Key Personnel

AGO Personnel

Project Timeline

Evaluation Reports

Annual Reports

Additional Resources

State Center of Court Research [link to external website]

Juvenile Justice Dashboard [link to external website]

Office of Independent Investigations [link to external website]

WADEPS Manuals [opportunity for annual public commenting]

Data Collection

Data Use

Officer Training

FAQ

[accordion sections by topic/area]

Contact Us

General Inquiries

Data Questions & Support

# # #

When the data is live, add the following navigation item:

Get Started

[overview of process and a link/connection to the cloud-based database and visualization tools]

Interactive Dashboard

Data Analysis

Technical Specifications

# # #

APPENDIX L: WEEKLY MEETINGS

- Contextualization Team Meeting
- Project Management
- Team Lead Weekly Meeting
- WADEPS Police Weekly Meeting (Math & Statistics Team)