



Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, 2024

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Introduction

In fiscal year (FY) 2024, a total of \$270,254,592 was available to be awarded through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program, the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions ([figure 1](#)). The JAG program provides states, territories, tribes, and local governments with critical funding necessary to support a range of criminal justice areas.

JAG awards may be used for—

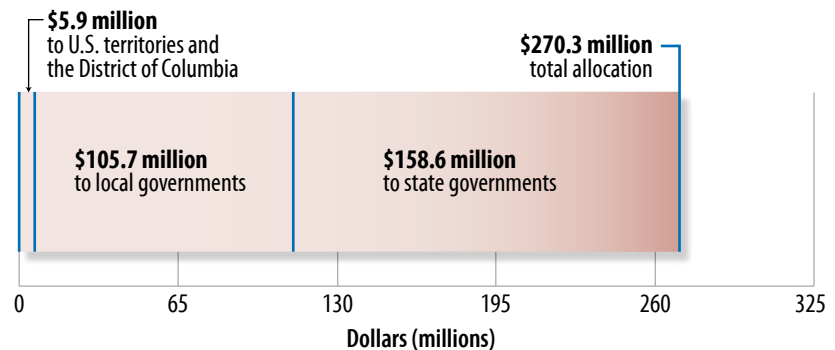
- law enforcement
- prosecution and courts
- prevention and education
- corrections and community corrections
- drug treatment
- planning, evaluation, and technology improvement
- crime victim and witness programs.

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) administers the JAG program, and the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) calculates the JAG formula-based award amounts using specifications outlined in the 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Act. This report describes the steps in the JAG award calculation process and presents summary results of the 2024 JAG formula calculations. Please note that some calculations in this report are based on rounded numbers and percentages, while totals reflect precise dollar figures.

HIGHLIGHTS

FIGURE 1

Distribution of fiscal year 2024 Justice Assistance Grant program awards



Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics calculations based on crime data from the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting program and population data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

- The total allocation for the 2024 JAG funding was approximately \$270.3 million, of which \$264.4 million went to states and \$5.9 million to U.S. territories and the District of Columbia.
- The five states with the largest total allocations were California (\$30.2 million), Texas (\$22.6 million), Florida (\$16.0 million), New York (\$13.8 million), and Illinois (\$9.9 million).
- A total of 1,489 local governments were eligible for awards, either directly or through a joint award with other governments within their county. The five local governments eligible to receive the largest awards were New York City (\$4.0 million), Los Angeles (\$2.0 million), Houston (\$1.9 million), Chicago (\$1.7 million), and Philadelphia (\$1.6 million).
- Two states had 100 or more local governments eligible to receive award funds either directly or through a shared award: California (204) and Florida (117).

Overview of process

Once the fiscal year JAG allocation has been determined, BJS begins its four-step award calculation process:

1. Compute an initial allocation for each state and U.S. territory, based on its share of violent crime as reported to the FBI and its U.S. Census Bureau population (weighted equally).
2. Review the initial allocation amount to determine if it is less than the minimum (de minimis) award amount defined in the JAG legislation (0.25% of the total). If this is the case, the state or U.S. territory is funded at the minimum level, and the funds required for this are deducted from the overall pool of funds. Each of the remaining states receives the minimum award plus an amount based on the state's share of the total U.S. violent crime and population.
3. Divide each state's final amount at a share of 60% for the state government and 40% for local governments.
4. Determine local award allocations, which are based on a jurisdiction's proportion of the state's 3-year violent crime average. If a local jurisdiction's calculated award is less than \$10,000, the funds are returned to the state to distribute. If the calculated local award is \$10,000 or more, then the local government is eligible to apply for an award.

Award calculation process

Step 1: Initial allocation to states and U.S. territories

[Legislative mandate: 34 U.S.C. §§ 10151–10158]

Using the congressional appropriation and formula for the 2024 JAG program, BJS calculates the initial allocation amounts for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. BJS allocates half of the available funds based on a state's or U.S. territory's share of violent crime and half of the funds based on its share of the nation's population. The most recent 3-year period of official violent crime data for states and U.S. territories from the FBI covered 2018 to 2020.¹ The population shares for the 50 states, District of Columbia, and U.S. territories were based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 midyear population estimates.

Examples—

- For FY 2024, the total allocation for JAG was \$270.3 million. Half of the total (\$135,127,296) was allocated to states and U.S. territories based on their proportion of violent crime, and the other half of the total was allocated based on their proportion of the nation's population.
- New York accounts for 5.45% of the nation's total violent crime and 5.78% of the nation's total population. Therefore, New York's initial allocation equals 5.45% of \$135,127,296 plus 5.78% of \$135,127,296, totaling \$15,186,387.

¹Although the most recent 3-year period of official violent crime data is 2020 to 2023, changes in the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting program led to more missing data beginning in 2021. See *Methodology*.

- Delaware accounts for 0.33% of the nation's total violent crime and 0.30% of the nation's total population. Delaware's initial allocation is 0.33% of \$135,127,296 plus 0.30% of \$135,127,296, totaling \$851,581.

Step 2: De minimis awards

[Legislative mandate: 34 U.S.C. § 10156(a)(2)]

The JAG legislation requires that each state or U.S. territory be awarded a minimum allocation equal to 0.25% of the total JAG allocation (\$675,636, after rounding, in 2024), regardless of its population or crime average. If a state's or U.S. territory's initial allocation based on crime and population is less than the minimum amount, that state or U.S. territory receives the minimum award amount as its total JAG allocation. If a state's or U.S. territory's initial allocation exceeds the minimum amount, it receives the minimum award plus the amount based on its share of violent crime and population.

Congress has made one exception to this rule: American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands are required to split one minimum award, with American Samoa receiving 67% (\$452,676) and the Northern Mariana Islands receiving 33% (\$222,960). (See *Methodology*.)

In 2024, three states (North Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming) and four U.S. territories (American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) received only the minimum award as their total JAG allocation. The remainder of the states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico were all awarded the minimum award plus an additional allocation. A total of \$37,160,006 was allocated for minimum awards under the 2024 JAG program.

Examples—

- Vermont's initial allocation of \$382,962 is less than the minimum value, so Vermont's total JAG allocation is the minimum amount of \$675,636.
- New York's initial allocation of \$15,186,387 exceeds the minimum value, so New York receives the minimum award plus an award based on its share of total violent crime and population.

To compute the additional amounts, the crime and population data for states and U.S. territories receiving only the minimum award are removed from the pool. The remaining JAG funds are reallocated to the rest of the states based on violent crime and population, as in Step 1. The total amount to be awarded for JAG 2024 is \$233.1 million, which equals the original \$270.3 million award allocation minus the \$37.2 million minimum allocation.

Examples—

- Vermont receives only the minimum award, so its crime and population data are removed from the pool.
- After removing the crime and population data for the states and U.S. territories receiving only the minimum award, New York accounts for 5.47% of violent crime and 5.83% of the nation's population. New York's new JAG allocation is thus equal to \$6,380,528 (based on the share of violent crime) plus \$6,789,482 (based on the share of the U.S. population), plus the minimum award amount of \$675,636. These three components equal \$13,845,646.

Step 3: 60%/40% split to state and local governments

[Legislative mandate: 34 U.S.C. § 10156(b)]

Except for the U.S. territories and the District of Columbia, 60% of the total allocation to a state is retained by the state government, and 40% is set aside to be allocated to local governments.

Examples—

- New York's state government retains 60% of \$13,845,646, or \$8,307,388. The remaining 40%, or \$5,538,259, is set aside for distribution to local governments in New York.
- Vermont's state government retains 60% of the minimum award of \$675,636, or \$405,382. The remaining 40%, or \$270,255, is set aside for distribution to local governments in Vermont.

Step 4: Local award allocations

[Legislative mandate: 34 U.S.C. §§ 10156(c)–10156(h)]

To allocate local awards, BJS determines which jurisdictions should be included in the calculation of the 3-year violent crime averages upon which local awards are based. These crime averages are computed using data reported to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. To be eligible, a jurisdiction must have provided the UCR program with a count of Part I violent crimes known to law enforcement each year for a minimum of 3 years during the past 10 years. Jurisdictions that have not met the reporting requirements are excluded from the calculations and are not eligible to receive an award.

After determining which law enforcement agencies have the 3 years of reported violent crime data required to be included in the calculations, BJS computes the average number of violent crimes reported by those agencies based on the most complete or most recent 3 years of data reported within the past 10 years. Because awards to local governments are based on their share of all violent crimes reported by the law enforcement agencies in their state, BJS computes the sum of these averages within each state to determine the jurisdiction's share of the total local award allocation.

Examples—

- New York has \$5.5 million set aside for local awards. The sum of the 3-year average violent crimes reported by local jurisdictions in New York equals 72,064.30 crimes. Dividing the amount set aside (\$5.5 million) by the state crime total (72,064.30) results in the number of dollars available per crime (\$76.85). Therefore, a local New York jurisdiction needs a 3-year violent crime average of at least 130.12 violent crimes (\$10,000 divided by \$76.85) to be eligible for a direct award.
- Vermont has \$270,255 set aside for local governments. The sum of 3-year average violent crimes reported is 966.36. The ratio of dollars per crime in Vermont equals \$270,255 divided by 966.36 crimes, or \$279.66 per crime (after rounding). The threshold is 35.76 violent crimes (\$10,000 divided by \$279.66) to be eligible for a direct award.

BJS then calculates the initial amount of each local award. Each of these is equal to the product of a local jurisdiction's 3-year violent crime average and the ratio of dollars per crime for the state in which it is located. By statute, the minimum award a local jurisdiction may receive is \$10,000. Jurisdictions eligible for an initial award greater than or equal to \$10,000 can apply to receive the funds for their own use. If the initial award is less than \$10,000, the award funds are transferred to the state administering agency for distribution to the state police or any units of local government that were ineligible for a direct award greater than or equal to \$10,000. (See "Allocations under \$10,000," 34 U.S.C. § 10156(e)(2).)

Examples—

- Albany, New York, has a 3-year average of 873.33 violent crimes, which is about 1% of all violent crimes reported by potentially eligible jurisdictions in New York. Albany exceeds the state threshold of 130.12 violent crimes and is eligible for approximately 1% of the \$5.5 million in JAG funds set aside for local governments in New York. This results in about \$67,117, or 873.33 multiplied by \$76.85, the dollars-per-crime rate for New York from the prior example.
- Vergennes, Vermont, has a 3-year average of 3.00 violent crimes. This does not meet the state threshold of 35.76, so the city is ineligible for a direct JAG award. Vergennes' share of JAG funds set aside for local governments in Vermont amounts to about \$839, below the \$10,000 statutory minimum threshold for receiving a direct award. Given that they cannot be disbursed, these funds are transferred to the state administering agency for redistribution.

Results of the calculations for the 2024 JAG program

For the 2024 JAG awards, approximately \$264.4 million of the \$270.3 million available was allocated to the 50 states, with the remainder allocated to the District of Columbia and U.S. territories ([table 1](#)). As required by the legislation, 40% of this amount (\$105.7 million) was initially reserved for local governments. A total of 1,489 local governments had law enforcement agencies with a sufficient number of Part I violent crimes that were reported to the FBI to receive a JAG award—either directly or through a joint award with other governments in their county. These local governments were eligible for a collective total of \$84.9 million. The balance of unawarded local allocations (\$20.8 million) was returned to state governments for redistribution to state law enforcement agencies and local governments. The five local governments eligible to receive the largest awards were New York City (\$4.0 million), Los Angeles (\$2.0 million), Houston (\$1.9 million), Chicago (\$1.7 million), and Philadelphia (\$1.6 million).

TABLE 1**Allocations to state and local governments, fiscal year 2024**

	Initial allocations		Dollars per crime	Threshold	Eligible local awards		Reallocated to state	Total state government award	Total allocation
	State government	Local governments			Number	Amount			
Total	\$158,622,858	\$105,748,572	~	~	1,489	\$84,921,048	\$20,827,500	\$179,450,358	\$264,371,431
Alabama	2,798,886	1,865,924	93.02	107.50	34	1,286,346	579,578	3,378,464	4,664,810
Alaska	906,376	604,251	130.77	76.47	6	556,739	47,511	953,887	1,510,627
Arizona	3,831,211	2,554,140	74.00	135.13	30	2,317,869	236,271	4,067,482	6,385,351
Arkansas	2,047,433	1,364,955	66.82	149.65	33	972,327	392,628	2,440,061	3,412,388
California	18,126,818	12,084,545	67.04	149.17	204	10,883,394	1,201,151	19,327,969	30,211,364
Colorado	2,902,447	1,934,965	69.99	142.87	28	1,706,716	228,248	3,130,695	4,837,412
Connecticut	1,534,086	1,022,724	174.66	57.26	18	828,217	194,506	1,728,592	2,556,810
Delaware	848,444	565,629	190.04	52.62	10	519,950	45,679	894,123	1,414,073
Florida	9,627,100	6,418,066	81.24	123.09	117	5,808,926	609,140	10,236,240	16,045,166
Georgia	4,772,310	3,181,540	82.08	121.83	57	2,426,185	755,355	5,527,665	7,953,850
Hawaii	904,441	602,961	162.41	61.57	4	602,961	0	904,441	1,507,402
Idaho	1,048,488	698,992	149.66	66.82	14	483,885	215,106	1,263,594	1,747,479
Illinois	5,920,339	3,946,892	144.11	69.39	47	3,103,344	843,548	6,763,887	9,867,231
Indiana	3,191,711	2,127,807	95.28	104.95	24	1,734,327	393,480	3,585,191	5,319,518
Iowa	1,567,032	1,044,688	108.97	91.77	19	633,960	410,727	1,977,759	2,611,719
Kansas	1,695,872	1,130,581	86.00	116.28	16	823,123	307,458	2,003,330	2,826,453
Kentucky	1,918,519	1,279,013	119.50	83.68	6	912,857	366,155	2,284,674	3,197,531
Louisiana	2,841,956	1,894,637	65.75	152.10	33	1,504,050	390,587	3,232,543	4,736,593
Maine	778,794	519,196	366.14	27.31	15	288,888	230,307	1,009,101	1,297,990
Maryland	3,157,415	2,104,943	85.39	117.11	20	1,947,233	157,710	3,315,125	5,262,358
Massachusetts	3,096,157	2,064,105	95.64	104.56	34	1,503,767	560,337	3,656,494	5,160,261
Michigan	4,995,606	3,330,404	73.00	136.99	57	2,628,905	701,499	5,697,105	8,326,010
Minnesota	2,359,403	1,572,935	94.93	105.34	17	1,014,859	558,076	2,917,479	3,932,338
Mississippi	1,462,986	975,324	140.10	71.38	26	600,692	374,631	1,837,617	2,438,310
Missouri	3,429,938	2,286,625	68.98	144.98	23	1,569,376	717,249	4,147,187	5,716,563
Montana	889,955	593,303	114.97	86.98	15	420,050	173,253	1,063,208	1,483,258
Nebraska	1,145,668	763,779	130.27	76.76	7	602,109	161,669	1,307,337	1,909,447
Nevada	1,921,433	1,280,955	88.37	113.16	9	1,221,750	59,205	1,980,638	3,202,388
New Hampshire	817,240	544,826	297.23	33.64	7	277,910	266,916	1,084,156	1,362,066
New Jersey	3,332,813	2,221,875	131.09	76.29	40	1,528,780	693,095	4,025,908	5,554,688
New Mexico	1,785,247	1,190,164	73.41	136.23	16	995,910	194,254	1,979,501	2,975,411
New York	8,307,388	5,538,259	76.85	130.12	24	5,070,775	467,483	8,774,871	13,845,646
North Carolina	4,879,709	3,253,139	73.67	135.74	52	2,494,631	758,508	5,638,217	8,132,848
North Dakota	405,382	270,255	112.34	89.01	7	182,068	88,186	493,568	675,636
Ohio	4,783,594	3,189,063	89.59	111.62	30	2,335,728	853,334	5,636,928	7,972,657
Oklahoma	2,242,085	1,494,723	84.89	117.79	16	1,049,373	445,350	2,687,435	3,736,808
Oregon	1,962,239	1,308,159	94.31	106.04	22	999,208	308,951	2,271,190	3,270,398
Pennsylvania	5,447,639	3,631,760	108.08	92.52	29	2,517,613	1,114,146	6,561,785	9,079,399
Rhode Island	763,908	509,272	242.43	41.25	10	420,219	89,052	852,960	1,273,180
South Carolina	2,978,610	1,985,740	73.07	136.86	45	1,586,042	399,697	3,378,307	4,964,350
South Dakota	806,943	537,962	143.13	69.87	8	383,145	154,816	961,759	1,344,905
Tennessee	4,267,315	2,844,877	61.57	162.42	26	2,195,055	649,821	4,917,136	7,112,192
Texas	13,556,624	9,037,749	68.17	146.69	85	7,598,930	1,438,819	14,995,443	22,594,373
Utah	1,549,015	1,032,677	128.61	77.75	16	754,355	278,321	1,827,336	2,581,691
Vermont	405,382	270,255	279.66	35.76	9	154,372	115,882	521,264	675,636
Virginia	3,193,455	2,128,970	111.45	89.72	38	1,714,473	414,496	3,607,951	5,322,424
Washington	3,302,338	2,201,559	83.00	120.49	38	1,824,291	377,267	3,679,605	5,503,897
West Virginia	1,093,980	729,320	167.53	59.69	22	526,831	202,488	1,296,468	1,823,300
Wisconsin	2,615,752	1,743,835	92.74	107.83	17	1,239,054	504,780	3,120,532	4,359,587
Wyoming	405,382	270,255	220.68	45.31	9	169,480	100,774	506,156	675,636

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics state calculations based on crime data from the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program, 2018–2020, and population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2023; and local calculations based on crime data from the UCR program, 2013–2022.

In addition, the District of Columbia was eligible for \$1.6 million and Puerto Rico was eligible for \$2.3 million (table 2). Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands were each eligible for the minimum award of \$675,636. American Samoa (\$452,676) and the Northern Mariana Islands (\$222,960) split one minimum award.

TABLE 2
Allocations to U.S. territories and the District of Columbia, fiscal year 2024

	Award amount
Total	\$5,883,161
American Samoa	452,676
Guam	675,636
Northern Mariana Islands	222,960
Puerto Rico	2,288,288
U.S. Virgin Islands	675,636
District of Columbia	1,567,964

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics calculations based on crime data from the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting program, 2018–2020, and population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2023.

Additional JAG provisions

Disparate jurisdictions and joint allocations

[Legislative mandate: 34 U.S.C. §§ 10156(d)(3), 10156(d)(4)]

In some cases, as defined by the legislation, a disparity could exist between the funding eligibility of a county and its associated municipalities. Three different types of disparities might exist.

The first type is a zero-county disparity. This situation exists when at least one municipality within a county is eligible for a direct award and the county is not eligible but is responsible for providing criminal justice services (such as prosecution and incarceration) for the municipality. In this case, the county is entitled to part of the municipality’s award because it shares the cost of criminal justice operations, although the county may not report crime data to the FBI. This disparity type is the most common.

Example—

- Laramie City, Wyoming, is eligible for an award of \$10,299. Albany County (which includes the city of Laramie) is not eligible for a direct award, but it provides criminal justice services to Laramie. In this case, Albany County and Laramie are considered zero-county disparate. Laramie must share its award funds with Albany County through a mutual agreement.

A second type of disparity exists when both a county and municipality within that county qualify for a direct award but the award amount for the municipality is larger than the county’s award amount by 150% or more. The 150% threshold for this disparity type was established by legislative mandate.

Example—

- Dane County, Wisconsin, is eligible for a direct award of \$10,820. The city of Madison in Dane County is eligible for a direct award of \$77,499. Madison’s award amount is more than 150% of Dane County’s award amount. Consequently, the two governments’ awards are pooled together (\$88,319) and shared through a mutual agreement.

The third type of disparity occurs when a county and multiple municipalities within that county are all eligible for direct awards but the sum of the awards for the individual municipalities is larger than the county's award amount by 400% or more. The 400% threshold for this disparity type was established by legislative mandate. In the 2024 JAG calculations, this type of disparity occurred only with another type of disparity within the same county. An example of a situation in which this was the only type of disparity within a county is available in *Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, 2014* (NCJ 247137, BJS, August 2014).

When calculating award eligibility, these three types of disparity are examined in the order described above. If a municipality is found to be disparate in one of these three ways, its award is not included in calculations to test for other disparities. For instance, if a municipality is found to be 150% disparate with the county, its award is set aside and the rest of the municipalities within the same county are checked for 400% disparity. If no other disparity is found, the single municipality and county share the sum of their two awards. However, it is possible for a county to have both a 150% disparity and a 400% disparity. For instance, counties can have one or more municipalities whose individual awards are more than 150% of the county's award and other municipalities whose combined award is more than 400% of the county's award.

Examples—

- Macomb County, Michigan, is eligible for an award of \$19,369. The Macomb County cities of Eastpointe (\$17,958), Roseville (\$18,323), Sterling Heights (\$18,250), Warren (\$51,173), and Clinton (\$27,156) also are eligible for awards. The award for Warren (\$51,173) is individually more than 150% of Macomb County's award, so Warren's award will be pooled together with the county's award. The other four cities' awards sum to \$81,678. This amount is more than 400% of Macomb County's direct award of \$19,369. As a result, the funds for all six jurisdictions (\$152,229, accounting for rounding) are pooled together and must be shared.
- Contra Costa County, California, is eligible for an award of \$23,061. The jurisdictions of Antioch (\$43,462), Concord (\$41,920), Richmond (\$73,227), Brentwood (\$11,955), Pittsburg (\$31,105), and San Pablo (\$13,318) also are eligible for awards. The award amounts for Antioch, Concord, and Richmond are each more than 150% of the award amount for Contra Costa County. The three jurisdictions are disparate with the county, and the four jurisdictions (including the county) will share the combined total of \$181,670. The remaining jurisdictions of Brentwood, Pittsburg, and San Pablo are individually less than 150% of the award amount for Contra Costa County, and the three awards

combined are less than 400% of the county's award. Accordingly, they are eligible for direct awards, and the awards for these three cities will remain separate.

For disparate situations, regardless of the type, the total of all award funds for the separate units of local governments (counties and municipalities) are pooled together and split among the units of local government as agreed upon by the affected jurisdictions. To qualify for payment, the disparate units of local government must submit a joint application for the aggregated funds.

Pass-through requirement

[Legislative mandate: 34 U.S.C. § 10156(c)]

According to the JAG legislation, states may retain only award amounts that bear the same ratio of “(A) total expenditures on criminal justice by the state government in the most recently completed fiscal year to (B) the total expenditure on criminal justice by the state government and units of local government within the state in such year.”

The determination of proportionate criminal justice spending by state and local governments is referred to as the variable pass-through (VPT) process under JAG. The VPT process identifies the amounts each state must pass down to local governments within the state.

The U.S. Census Bureau uses several sources of data to calculate the VPT percentages for state and local governments, including initial expenditure data from the Annual Survey of State and Local Government Finances conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau and federal justice grant data from www.USAspending.gov. Intergovernmental expenditures and grants were removed from the total justice expenditure for the appropriate type of government. The resulting expenditure data were then used to calculate the VPT percentages by comparing the total justice expenditures of all local governments in a state to the expenditures of the state government itself. A simple percentage resulted, which represented the combined local government expenditures within the state divided by the total state criminal justice expenditures. These VPT percentages were used for the 2024 JAG program and can be found on the BJA website at <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/jag-variable-pass-through-vpt-information>.

Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act penalty and compliance bonus funds

[Legislative mandate: 34 U.S.C. §§ 20927(a), 20927(c)]

Penalty

Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 required that the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the five inhabited U.S. territories, and some federally recognized tribes substantially implement the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) by July 27, 2009. Two full-year deadline

extensions were provided, and a final statutory deadline of July 27, 2011, was established. SORNA mandated a 10% reduction in JAG funding for any jurisdictions that failed to substantially implement SORNA by the deadline. That penalty was calculated by subtracting 10% from the state government's allocation (60% of the total award), after deducting the mandatory VPT that states are required to send to local governments. The penalty applies to the portion of JAG funding returned to the state to be shared with local governments that were not eligible for a direct JAG award.

The penalty does not apply to the VPT, which is the portion of JAG funds awarded directly to local law enforcement, as the state cannot retain any portion of that award. Penalizing local agencies would be detrimental to law enforcement efforts, including the investigation, prosecution, and apprehension of sex offenders.

In FY 2024, a total of 34 states and U.S. territories were not compliant with SORNA's requirements. The combined FY 2024 JAG award for these jurisdictions was reduced by \$5,621,952. These jurisdictions were allowed to apply to reallocate the 10% penalty to promote SORNA implementation. Twelve SORNA-noncompliant states did not apply to reallocate the penalty. Per the act, the \$2,210,735 withheld from these jurisdictions will be reallocated to SORNA-compliant states as part of the FY 2025 JAG award.

Bonus funds from FY 2023

Per 34 U.S.C. § 20927(c), as determined by the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART), any state or U.S. territory that has substantially implemented SORNA during the current fiscal year will be eligible to receive compliant bonus funds in addition to its JAG award for the following year. This bonus allocation is calculated using SORNA penalty funds from noncompliant states and U.S. territories during the current fiscal year. For example, any state or U.S. territory that substantially implemented SORNA in FY 2023 would have bonus funds added to its FY 2024 state JAG award, made up of SORNA penalty funds from nonimplementing states and U.S. territories in FY 2023. The amounts available for compliant bonus funds vary from year to year, depending on the amount of SORNA penalty funds from the previous year.

Bonus funds are allocated using the same general approach as the overall JAG award allocation calculations. First, an initial allocation is calculated for each eligible state and U.S. territory using its share of violent crime and population (weighted equally). Next, this initial allocation is reviewed to determine if it is less than the minimum award amount (defined as 0.25% of the total funds available). If this is the case, the state or U.S. territory is allocated 0.25% of the total funds available, and the funds required for this are deducted from the overall pool of funds. These states and U.S. territories are then removed from the calculations. Each of the remaining states and U.S. territories receives the minimum award plus an amount based on its share of violent crime and population for the remaining jurisdictions.

For FY 2024, a total of \$2,487,735 was allocated (after rounding) from the FY 2023 SORNA reductions from the noncompliant states. These funds were distributed to the 22 states and U.S. territories that substantially implemented SORNA during FY 2024. Of these states, Florida (\$464,968) and Michigan (\$235,468) received the largest awards (table 3). Of the eligible U.S. territories, the U.S. Virgin Islands (\$6,219) and Guam (\$6,219) received the largest awards.

For information on the SORNA penalty and bonus funds, including implementation requirements and a list of states and U.S. territories affected in FY 2024, see: <https://smart.ojp.gov/sorna>.

Prison Rape Elimination Act certification reduction and bonus funds

[Legislative mandate: 34 U.S.C. § 30307(e)(2)]

Reduction

The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) dictates that a state whose governor does not certify full compliance with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape (34 U.S.C. § 30307(e)(2)) is subject to the loss of 5% of any DOJ grant funds that it would otherwise receive for prison purposes. However, the state may not lose these funds if the governor submits to the Attorney General an assurance that the 5% will be used only to enable the state to adopt and achieve full compliance with the national PREA standards in future years.

TABLE 3
Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act bonus fund allocations, fiscal year 2024

	Bonus award amount
Total	\$2,487,735
Alabama	125,297
American Samoa*	4,166
Colorado	130,896
Delaware	28,257
Florida	464,968
Guam*	6,219
Kansas	70,744
Louisiana	127,459
Maryland	143,654
Michigan	235,468
Mississippi	59,588
Missouri	156,741
Northern Mariana Islands*	2,052
Nevada	81,664
Ohio	226,484
Oklahoma	97,625
South Carolina	133,548
South Dakota	26,209
Tennessee	197,177
U.S. Virgin Islands*	6,219
Virginia	147,380
Wyoming	15,920

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. All awards were rounded down to the nearest dollar to ensure the total did not exceed the available bonus funds.
*U.S. territory.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics calculations based on data from Justice Assistance Grant awards, fiscal year 2023.

For those without a certification of full compliance, the PREA reduction was calculated by subtracting 5% from the state government’s allocation (60% of the total award), after deducting the VPT that states are required to send to local governments. The reduction applies to the portion of JAG funding returned to the state to be shared with local governments that were not eligible for a direct JAG award (jurisdictions whose award would have been less than \$10,000).

The reduction does not apply to the VPT, which is the portion of JAG funds awarded directly to local law enforcement, as the state cannot retain any portion of that award.

Twenty-nine states and U.S. territories were not compliant with PREA in FY 2024. As a result, these jurisdictions sustained a combined \$1,949,235 reduction to their FY 2024 JAG awards. These jurisdictions could apply to reallocate the 5% reduction to achieve compliance with PREA standards and become certified. Four states and two U.S. territories were noncompliant with PREA and did not apply to reallocate the reduction. Per the PREA legislation, the \$252,764 withheld from these jurisdictions was reallocated to jurisdictions that were either certified or working to achieve certification.

Bonus funds

PREA bonus funds are allocated using the same general approach as the overall JAG award allocation calculations. First, an initial allocation is calculated for each eligible state and U.S. territory, using its share of violent crime and population (weighted equally). Next, the initial allocation is reviewed to determine whether it is less than the minimum award amount (0.25% of the total funds available). If it is, the state or U.S. territory is allocated 0.25% of the total funds available, and the required funds are deducted from the overall pool of funds. These states and U.S. territories are then removed from the calculations. Each of the remaining states and U.S. territories receives the minimum award plus an amount based on its share of violent crime and population for the remaining jurisdictions. Finally, each bonus is rounded down to the nearest dollar to ensure that the amount awarded does not exceed the total bonus funds available.

For the FY 2024 JAG awards, a total of \$252,764 was available (after rounding) from PREA reductions from the noncompliant states and U.S. territories. These funds were distributed to the states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories that were PREA certified or were working to become certified. Of the states that were eligible for bonus funds, California (\$29,960) and Texas (\$22,395) received the largest awards (table 4). Of the eligible U.S. territories, Puerto Rico (\$2,232) received the largest bonus award (table 5).

For additional information on PREA reduction and bonus funds, including implementation requirements and a list of states and U.S. territories that were affected in FY 2024, contact the PREA Management Office at PREACompliance@usdoj.gov.

TABLE 4
Prison Rape Elimination Act
bonus fund allocations for states,
fiscal year 2024

	Bonus award amount
Total	\$247,933
Alabama	4,593
Arizona	6,301
California	29,960
Colorado	4,764
Connecticut	2,498
Delaware	1,365
Florida	15,890
Georgia	7,857
Hawaii	1,457
Idaho	1,695
Illinois	9,758
Iowa	2,553
Kansas	2,767
Kentucky	3,134
Louisiana	4,665
Maine	1,249
Maryland	5,186
Massachusetts	5,083
Michigan	8,228
Minnesota	3,864
Mississippi	2,381
Missouri	5,637
Montana	1,433
Nebraska	1,856
Nevada	3,141
New Hampshire	1,312
New Jersey	5,473
New Mexico	2,916
New York	13,707
North Carolina	8,035
North Dakota	631
Ohio	7,875
Oklahoma	3,671
Oregon	3,207
Pennsylvania	8,974
Rhode Island	1,224
South Carolina	4,890
South Dakota	1,296
Tennessee	7,024
Texas	22,395
Vermont	631
Virginia	5,243
Washington	5,424
West Virginia	1,771
Wisconsin	4,288
Wyoming	631

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. All awards were rounded down to the nearest dollar to ensure the total did not exceed the available bonus funds.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics calculations based on data from Justice Assistance Grant awards, fiscal year 2024.

Maximum allocation to units of local government

[Legislative mandate: 34 U.S.C. § 10156(e)(1)]

The JAG legislation prohibits units of local government from receiving a JAG award that “exceeds such unit’s total expenditures on criminal justice services for the most recently completed fiscal year for which data are available.” Award amounts in excess of total expenditures “shall be allocated proportionately among units of local government whose allocations do not exceed their total expenditures on such services.”

TABLE 5
Prison Rape Elimination Act
bonus fund allocations for U.S.
territories and the District of
Columbia, fiscal year 2024

	Bonus award amount
Total	\$4,804
American Samoa	423
Guam	631
Puerto Rico	2,232
District of Columbia	1,518

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. All awards were rounded down to the nearest dollar to ensure the total did not exceed the available bonus funds.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics calculations based on data from Justice Assistance Grant awards, fiscal year 2024.

Methodology

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) used population data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 midyear population estimates to calculate Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) allocations to states and U.S. territories. The 2024 JAG calculations included state-level violent crime estimates for 2018 through 2020 that were published through the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program in *Crime in the United States (CIUS)*.

To calculate local JAG allocation amounts, BJS obtained reported UCR data for local jurisdictions in electronic format directly from the FBI and processed the data to link each crime-reporting entity to a local government. The 2024 JAG calculations used local crime data from 2013 through 2022.

The sum of the UCR violent crimes for all local governments within a state for a given year will not equal the estimated crime total published by the FBI for that state. The state-level estimates published by the FBI are based on crimes reported by all state, local, and special district law enforcement agencies within a state, plus a statistical adjustment to account for nonreporting agencies and agencies reporting less than 12 months of data. For more information, see *Methodology in CIUS Estimations, 2023*, which can be downloaded from the FBI's Crime Data Explorer under Documents and Downloads and *Crime in the United States Annual Reports*.

FBI transition to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) and the implications for JAG allocation calculations

On January 1, 2021, the FBI's NIBRS became the law enforcement crime data reporting standard for the

nation. This transition has resulted in more detailed data on the attributes of crime incidents and the characteristics of victims. However, not all law enforcement agencies were able to make the transition by the January 2021 deadline. This gap in crime data coverage impacts the availability and completeness of the data used to calculate the JAG award allocations.

To mitigate any potential negative impact of the FBI's move to NIBRS data reporting on allocation amounts and to maintain consistency and fairness in the calculations, BJS implemented two changes to the JAG formula beginning with FY 2023: (1) using existing state estimates for Step 1 of the award calculation process (initial allocation to states and U.S. territories) and (2) prioritizing complete-year over partial-year data for Step 4 of the process (local award allocations).

Use of existing state estimates for Step 1

For each state and territory, the initial allocation to states and U.S. territories is calculated using the violent crime estimates for each state as published annually by the FBI in *CIUS*. Following the transition to NIBRS, several states did not have enough agencies reporting NIBRS data to generate accurate or reliable state-level crime estimates.² To address this gap in the state data, BJS used the last available complete set of state violent crime estimates, which was years 2018 through 2020.

²In 2021, the states that did not report enough NIBRS data to generate crime estimates were Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Nebraska, New York, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Use of complete-year over partial-year data for Step 4

Byrne JAG funding allocations are tied statutorily to the jurisdiction's proportion of overall state's UCR crime total, and reporting of 3 years of data is a prerequisite for funding eligibility. JAG local award allocations are calculated using the 3 most recent years of violent crime counts reported to the FBI, regardless of whether the data are complete. (Data are considered complete if the law enforcement agency reported data for each of the 12 months of the calendar year and are considered partial if the agency reported 11 or fewer months of data.) If an agency fails to report in a given year, the allocation formula defaults to using an older year of data within the 10-year statutory window. If an agency reports any data at all in a year, that year is included in the formula calculations and no adjustments are made for partial reporting.

Since the January 2021 NIBRS transition date, the number of jurisdictions reporting partial data has increased. Some agencies were not able to report crime data because they had not yet transitioned to NIBRS and their state UCR program could not accept data in the previous format. For example, the Georgia state UCR program became NIBRS certified in late 2019, at which time the program only accepted crime data in the NIBRS format. Therefore, any agency in Georgia that could not submit NIBRS data by late 2019 has either no data or incomplete data in subsequent years, depending on when (or if) the agency became NIBRS-compliant. Additionally, an agency may transition to NIBRS in the middle of a year and thus may not be able to report a complete 12 months of data. As a result, the FBI will receive partial data for that jurisdiction for that year.

To support the transition to NIBRS and avoid penalizing agencies for doing so in the middle of a year, BJS prioritized complete years of data over partial years of data when calculating the local award allocations, only using partial years of data when no complete data were available.

Allocations to U.S. territories

Puerto Rico is the only U.S. territory to receive an initial allocation larger than the minimum amount, and it is

also the only U.S. territory for which violent crime data were available. The JAG calculations for the other U.S. territories are based solely on population data. Because the other U.S. territories have relatively small populations (none exceeding 170,000), it is unlikely the inclusion of crime data would have changed their minimum status.

The JAG legislation specifies that 40% of the total allocation for Puerto Rico be set aside for local awards. However, as of 2024, the

local-level UCR data provided by the FBI did not include any crime data for local jurisdictions in Puerto Rico. Therefore, the local government JAG program allocation in Puerto Rico is \$0.

Sources of additional information

More information about the JAG program and application process can be found on the BJA website at <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview>.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Kevin M. Scott, PhD, is the acting director.

This report was written by Lizabeth Remrey, PhD. Stephanie Mueller verified the report.

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