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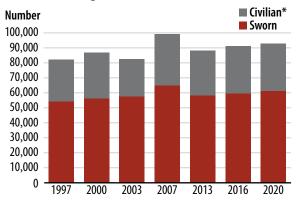
Primary State Law Enforcement Agencies: Personnel, 2020

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s of December 31, 2020, primary state law enforcement agencies employed about 92,900 full-time personnel, including about 61,200 sworn officers and 31,700 civilian personnel (figure 1). From 1997 to 2020, the number of full-time personnel in primary state law enforcement agencies increased 13%, from about 82,300 to 92,900. The number of sworn officers and civilian personnel each increased 13% during this period.

Findings in this report are from the Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS) survey from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). Conducted periodically since 1987, the LEMAS survey collects data on a range of topics from a nationally representative sample of general-purpose state and local law enforcement agencies. (See *Methodology*.) General-purpose law enforcement agencies include municipal, county, and regional police departments; most sheriffs' offices; and primary

FIGURE 1 Full-time personnel in primary state law enforcement agencies, 1997–2020



Note: Estimates for 2007 and 2020 reflect an adjustment factor that accounts for nonresponse and preserves comparability of the national estimate of personnel with other reports in the *Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics* series. See appendix table 1 for estimates and standard errors.

*Includes officers or deputies with limited or no arrest powers and nonsworn personnel.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 1997–2020.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Primary state law enforcement agencies employed about 61,200 full-time sworn officers and almost 31,700 full-time civilian personnel in 2020.
- Nationally, primary state law enforcement agencies employed an average of 22 full-timeequivalent sworn officers per 100,000 residents in 2020.
- In 2020, about 7% of full-time sworn officers and intermediate supervisors in primary state law enforcement agencies were female.
- In 2020, about 10% of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies were Hispanic, and 6% were black.
- More than a quarter (27%) of primary state law enforcement agencies implemented routine COVID-19 testing for officers in 2020.

- About 70% of primary state law enforcement agencies employed bilingual or multilingual staff in 2020.
- In 2020, more than half (52%) of primary state law enforcement agencies had personnel assigned to full-time specialized units focused on impaired drivers.
- About two-thirds (65%) of primary state law enforcement agencies had personnel assigned full-time to special operations units (e.g., SWAT) in 2020.
- In 2020, primary state law enforcement agencies reported a combined total budget of about \$15 billion, with an average of \$317 million per agency.



state and highway patrol agencies. They are distinct from special-purpose agencies, sheriffs' offices with jail and court duties only, and federal law enforcement agencies. Primary state law enforcement agencies operate at the state level and may perform highway patrol, conduct statewide investigations, assist local and county police agencies with matters extending beyond their jurisdictions, and provide primary coverage in areas with no local or county police services. In 2020, a total of 49 states had primary state law enforcement agencies. Sworn officers are those with general arrest powers. Employees who are regularly scheduled to work 35 or more hours per week are considered full time.

Primary state law enforcement agencies employed about 61,200 full-time sworn officers

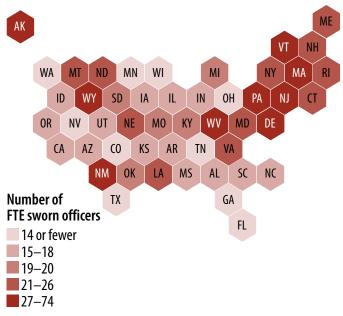
As of December 31, 2020, more than 14,700 general-purpose law enforcement agencies employed about 708,200 full-time sworn officers and 347,900 full-time civilian employees (table 1). The 49 primary state law enforcement agencies accounted for less than 0.5% of state and local law enforcement agencies and employed about 9% (61,200) of full-time sworn officers and 9% (31,700) of full-time civilian personnel. Primary state law enforcement agencies employed almost 1,300 part-time employees, most of whom were civilians (83%).

The number of full-time-equivalent sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies per 100,000 residents ranged from 8 to 74

Nationwide, primary state law enforcement agencies employed an average of 22 full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers per 100,000 residents.² As of December 31, 2020, the Delaware State Police employed the most

officers relative to the population (74 FTE sworn officers per 100,000 state residents) and the Wisconsin State Police had the fewest (8 per 100,000) (map 1). While the California State Highway Patrol had the most (7,000) FTE sworn officers overall, this was equivalent to 18 officers per 100,000 persons living in the state. The North Dakota State Police employed the fewest total officers with 159, which corresponded to 21 officers for every 100,000 state residents.

MAP 1
Full-time-equivalent sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies per 100,000 residents, by state, 2020



Note: The number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers is the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers. Agencies are grouped by the number of FTE sworn officers they employed per 100,000 residents in 2020. Hawaii's Department of Public Safety is excluded from the Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey. See appendix table 3 for estimates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020; and U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019, April 1, 2020, and July 1, 2020 (NST-EST2020).

TABLE 1Personnel in general-purpose state and local law enforcement agencies, by type of agency, 2020

		F	ull-time personn	el	Part-time personnel			
Type of agency	Number of agencies	Total	Sworn	Civiliana	Total	Sworn	Civiliana	
Total	14,726	1,056,038	708,153	347,885	85,716	37,734	47,981	
Local police	11,788	598,620	473,102	125,518	59,182	28,117	31,066	
Sheriffs' officesb	2,889	364,533	173,899	190,634	25,267	9,400	15,867	
Primary state ^c	49	92,886	61,153	31,733	1,266	217	1,048	

Note: Estimates are as of December 31, 2020. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Estimates reflect an adjustment factor that accounts for nonresponse and preserves comparability of the national estimate of personnel with other reports in the Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS) series. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

¹Hawaii has a Department of Public Safety (DPS) that includes a Narcotics Enforcement Division and a Sheriff Division, but these are not included in this report because the DPS does not conduct statewide patrol.

²The number of FTE sworn officers is the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers.

^aIncludes officers or deputies with limited or no arrest powers and nonsworn personnel.

^bExcludes sheriffs' offices without primary law enforcement jurisdiction in the counties they serve.

^CHawaii's Department of Public Safety is excluded from the LEMAS survey.

60% of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies worked in agencies that employed 1,500 or more FTE sworn officers

In 2020, about 1 in 3 full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies worked in the South (33%) (table 2).³ More than a quarter worked in the Northeast (27%), and about a fifth were in the West (22%).

Personnel were further examined by agency size. Sixty percent of full-time sworn officers and 57% of full-time civilian personnel worked in agencies that employed 1,500 or more FTE sworn officers.

7% of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies were female

In 2020, about 93% of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies were male and 7% were

female (table 3). Agencies in the Northeast (8%) and Midwest (8%) employed slightly larger percentages of female full-time sworn officers than agencies in the South (6%) or West (6%). Agencies with 449 or fewer FTE sworn officers had a higher proportion of female sworn officers (8%) than larger agencies.

TABLE 3
Sex of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies, by region and size of agency, 2020

	Male	Female
Total	93.0%	7.0%
Region		
South	93.6%	6.4%
Northeast	92.0	8.0
West	93.8	6.2
Midwest	92.2	7.8
Size of agency*		
1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	92.6%	7.4%
750–1,499	94.6	5.4
450-749	92.7	7.3
449 or fewer	91.6	8.4

Note: Excludes agencies that did not respond to the survey or provide counts of officers by sex: two agencies in 2020 (New Hampshire and South Dakota).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020.

TABLE 2Full-time personnel in primary state law enforcement agencies, by region and size of agency, 2020

	Age	ncies	Full-time sv	worn officers	Full-time civilian personnela	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	49	100%	61,153	100%	31,733	100%
Region						
South	16	32.7%	20,070	32.8%	13,578	42.8%
Northeast	9	18.4	16,631	27.2	5,097	16.1
West	12	24.5	13,579	22.2	7,235	22.8
Midwest	12	24.5	10,873	17.8	5,823	18.3
Size of agency ^b						
1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	12	24.5%	36,985	60.5%	18,201	57.4%
750–1,499	12	24.5	12,986	21.2	7,779	24.5
450–749	13	26.5	8,023	13.1	4,358	13.7
449 or fewer	12	24.5	3,159	5.2	1,394	4.4

Note: Estimates are as of December 31, 2020. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Estimates of full-time sworn and civilian personnel in this table reflect an adjustment factor that accounts for nonresponse and preserves comparability of the national estimate of personnel with other reports in the Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics series. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

³Based on U.S. Census Bureau definitions, the Midwest includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. The Northeast region includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The South includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. The West includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

^{*}Size of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

^aIncludes officers or deputies with limited or no arrest powers and nonsworn personnel.

bSize of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

About 10% of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies were Hispanic

Among all primary state law enforcement agencies in 2020, about 80% of full-time sworn officers were white, 10% were Hispanic, 6% were black, and 2% were of another race (Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander; American Indian or Alaska Native; or two or more races) (table 4). Agencies in the South employed

larger percentages of black full-time sworn officers (11%) than agencies in the Midwest (5%), Northeast (5%), or West (3%). Twenty percent of officers in agencies in the West were Hispanic. Agencies with 449 or fewer FTE sworn officers employed a larger percentage of white full-time sworn officers (91%) than larger agencies did. Agencies with 1,500 or more FTE sworn officers employed the largest percentage of Hispanic full-time sworn officers (14%).

TABLE 4Race or Hispanic origin of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies, by region and size of agency, 2020

	White ^a	Black ^a	Hispanic	Other ^{a,b}	Unknown
Total	80.2%	6.5%	10.4%	2.4%	0.6%
Region					
South	75.3%	11.3%	11.0%	2.3%	0.2%
Northeast	87.4	4.5	6.1	1.7	0.2
West	71.5	2.7	20.4	3.8	1.6
Midwest	89.0	5.0	3.5	1.9	0.5
Size of agency ^c					
1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	77.6%	6.0%	13.5%	2.4%	0.5%
750–1,499	84.5	9.1	4.1	1.9	0.4
450–749	80.8	5.9	8.5	3.5	1.4
449 or fewer	91.0	2.2	4.2	2.4	0.2

Note: Excludes agencies that did not respond to the survey or provide counts of officers by sex: two agencies in 2020 (New Hampshire and South Dakota).

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic white persons and "black" refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians or Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

^CSize of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

In 2020, about three-quarters of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies were white males

In 2020, about 75% of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies were white males, 9% were Hispanic males, 6% were black males, and 2% were males of another race (table 5). White females accounted for about 5% of full-time sworn officers, Hispanic females for about 1%, and black females and females of other races for less than 1% each. Primary state law enforcement agencies in the South employed a larger percentage of black males (10%) than agencies in the Midwest (4%), Northeast (4%), or West (3%). About 19% of full-time sworn officers in the West were Hispanic males. About 12% of full-time sworn officers were Hispanic males.

About 6% of first-line supervisors and 7% of intermediate supervisors in primary state law enforcement agencies were female

In 2020, about 6% of sergeants or first-line supervisors in primary state law enforcement agencies were female **(table 6)**. Agencies in the Midwest employed a slightly higher percentage of female first-line supervisors (7%)

TABLE 6Intermediate supervisors and first-line supervisors in primary state law enforcement agencies who were female, by region and size of agency, 2020

	Intermediate supervisor ^a	Sergeant/first- line supervisor
Total	6.9%	6.1%
Region		
South	6.0%	5.9%
Northeast	6.6	6.1
West	7.4	5.5
Midwest	8.5	6.6
Size of agency ^b		
1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	7.7%	6.4%
750–1,499	5.0	4.7
450–749	7.2	6.8
449 or fewer	4.5	6.4

Note: Excludes agencies that did not respond to the survey or provide counts of officers by sex: three agencies in 2020 (Alaska, New Hampshire, and South Dakota).

^aIncludes positions (e.g., deputy chief, lieutenant, or captain) below chief executive and above sergeant or first-line supervisor. Ranks may vary across agencies.

^bSize of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020.

TABLE 5Sex and race or Hispanic origin of full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies, by region and size of agency, 2020

		Male					Female			
	Whitea	Blacka	Hispanic	Other ^{a,b}	Unknown	Whitea	Blacka	Hispanic	Other ^{a,b}	Unknown
Total	74.9%	5.9%	9.4%	2.2%	0.5%	5.3%	0.6%	1.0%	0.2%	0.0%
Region										
South	71.2%	10.3%	9.7%	2.2%	0.2%	4.1%	0.9%	1.2%	0.1%	0.0%
Northeast	80.7	4.1	5.4	1.6	0.2	6.7	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.0
West	67.3	2.6	19.0	3.5	1.5	4.1	0.2	1.4	0.3	0.1
Midwest	82.4	4.4	3.1	1.8	0.5	6.7	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.0
Size of agency ^c										
1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	72.3%	5.4%	12.2%	2.2%	0.4%	5.3%	0.6%	1.3%	0.2%	0.0%
750-1,499	80.3	8.3	3.9	1.7	0.3	4.2	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.1
450-749	75.0	5.5	7.8	3.2	1.3	5.8	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.1
449 or fewer	83.5	2.0	3.8	2.0	0.2	7.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.0

Note: Excludes agencies that did not respond to the survey or provide counts of officers by race or Hispanic origin: two agencies in 2020 (New Hampshire and South Dakota). Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic white persons and "black" refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians or Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

CSize of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

than agencies in other regions. About 7% of intermediate supervisors (those below chief and above sergeants or first-line supervisors) in primary state law enforcement agencies were female. Agencies with 1,500 or more FTE sworn officers employed the largest percentage of female intermediate supervisors (8%), followed by agencies with 450 to 749 FTE sworn officers (7%). About 9% of chief executives of primary state law enforcement agencies were female (not shown in tables).⁴

About 5% of first-line supervisors and 7% of intermediate supervisors in primary state law enforcement agencies were black

In primary state law enforcement agencies in 2020, about 84% of first-line supervisors were white, 8% were Hispanic, 5% were black, and 2% were of another race

(table 7). Agencies in the West (13%) and South (12%) employed greater percentages of Hispanic first-line supervisors than agencies in other regions. Hispanic persons accounted for a greater percentage of first-line supervisors in agencies with 1,500 or more FTE sworn officers (11%) than in smaller agencies.

In 2020, about 84% of intermediate supervisors were white, 7% were black, 7% were Hispanic, and 2% were of another race. Agencies in the South (10%) employed a greater percentage of black intermediate supervisors than agencies in other regions, while agencies in the West (15%) employed a greater percentage of Hispanic intermediate supervisors than agencies in other regions. Overall, 83% of chief executives in primary state law enforcement agencies were white, 15% were black, and 2% were of another race (not shown in tables).

TABLE 7Race or Hispanic origin of intermediate supervisors and first-line supervisors in primary state law enforcement agencies, by region and size of agency, 2020

		Inte	rmediate supe	rvisors		First-line supervisors				
	Whitea	Blacka	Hispanic	Other ^{a,b}	Unknown	Whitea	Blacka	Hispanic	Other ^{a,b}	Unknown
Total	84.4%	6.9%	6.8%	1.6%	0.3%	84.2%	5.4%	8.0%	2.0%	0.4%
Region										
South	81.4%	9.7%	7.3%	1.6%	0.0%	76.7%	8.8%	12.4%	2.0%	0.1%
Northeast	89.5	4.9	4.4	1.2	0.0	91.4	3.8	3.6	1.2	0.0
West	78.1	3.1	14.5	2.6	1.6	79.3	2.4	13.2	3.6	1.5
Midwest	88.1	6.9	3.4	1.3	0.3	90.2	4.6	3.0	1.8	0.5
Size of agency ^c										
1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	82.0%	6.9%	9.2%	1.6%	0.3%	81.5%	5.0%	11.2%	2.0%	0.4%
750-1,499	88.4	8.0	2.0	1.2	0.3	88.5	7.3	2.0	1.8	0.5
450-749	83.2	6.9	6.9	2.6	0.5	85.2	5.0	6.4	2.9	0.4
449 or fewer	96.7	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.0	96.5	1.4	1.4	0.5	0.2

Note: Excludes agencies that did not respond to the survey or provide counts of supervisors by race or Hispanic origin: three agencies in 2020 (Alaska, New Hampshire, and South Dakota).

⁴The title of the chief executive can vary across agencies. Examples include chief, colonel, director, commissioner, and superintendent.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., "white" refers to non-Hispanic white persons and "black" refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

bIncludes Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders; American Indians or Alaska Natives; and persons of two or more races.

^CSize of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

Almost all full-time sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies were assigned to operations, while half of full-time civilian personnel were in support roles

In 2020, almost all (95%) full-time sworn officers were assigned to operations, including 70% as officers and

11% as detectives **(table 8)**. Less than 5% of full-time sworn officers were in administration (4%) or support roles (1%). More than half (53%) of full-time civilian personnel were in support roles, including 17% in dispatch. About a fifth (22%) of full-time civilian personnel were in administrative roles.

TABLE 8Primary job responsibility of full-time personnel in primary state law enforcement agencies, by region and size of agency, 2020

		Region				Size of agency ^a				
Primary responsibility	Total	South	Northeast	West	Midwest	1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	750-1,499	450-749	449 or fewer	
Full-time sworn										
officers	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Administration	4.5%	4.4%	4.1%	5.7%	3.6%	4.4%	4.9%	3.5%	6.2%	
Operations	94.7%	94.9%	95.6%	94.0%	93.7%	94.6%	94.0%	96.3%	93.7%	
Officers	70.2	72.5	64.3	76.7	66.9	68.9	72.8	72.8	67.8	
Detectives/										
investigators	11.5	10.7	15.2	5.3	14.9	12.8	7.6	11.2	12.7	
Other operations	13.0	11.7	16.0	12.0	11.8	12.9	13.5	12.3	13.2	
Support	0.8%	0.7%	0.3%	0.3%	2.2%	0.8%	1.1%	0.2%	0.0%	
Dispatch	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Other support										
personnel	8.0	0.7	0.3	0.3	2.2	0.8	1.1	0.2	0.0	
Other	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Full-time civilian										
personnel ^b	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Administration	21.5%	19.3%	29.1%	20.8%	20.6%	24.7%	17.1%	14.3%	24.2%	
Operations	13.8%	14.6%	4.6%	23.8%	7.8%	17.0%	6.0%	11.7%	20.1%	
Officers	1.1	0.9	3.9	0.0	0.6	1.2	0.4	2.3	0.9	
Detectives/										
investigators	1.5	3.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.0	4.1	0.7	
Other operations	11.1	10.0	0.5	23.8	7.2	14.5	4.7	5.2	18.6	
Support	53.0%	43.7%	64.9%	49.8%	66.9%	41.4%	74.6%	64.8%	54.4%	
Dispatch	16.7	12.6	22.1	19.3	17.4	15.2	17.2	22.6	15.6	
Other support										
personnel	36.3	31.0	42.8	30.5	49.5	26.2	57.4	42.2	38.8	
Other	11.7%	22.4%	1.5%	5.6%	4.7%	16.9%	2.3%	9.2%	1.3%	

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

^aSize of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

^bIncludes officers or deputies with limited or no arrest powers and nonsworn personnel.

All primary state law enforcement agencies adopted policies for officers on COVID-19 exposure procedures

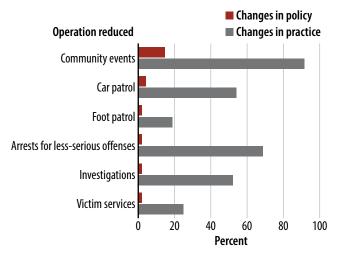
The 2020 Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey asked how agencies adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. It also asked whether they experienced any reduction in service, either as part of policy or practice as of December 31, 2020.

In 2020, all primary state law enforcement agencies had policies for officers on COVID-19 exposure procedures and on increased cleaning or disinfecting of the station, common areas, and patrol cars (figure 2). Almost all (98%) agencies had policies for officer self-screening and wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) during patrol and in the station or common areas. Most agencies had policies about providing PPE to persons in custody (83%) and on intake procedures for symptomatic persons (81%). About a quarter (27%) of agencies had policies for routine COVID-19 testing for officers.

Primary state law enforcement agencies were more likely to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with changes in practice than with changes in policy. Most agencies reduced community events as a matter of practice (92%), but fewer did as a matter of policy (15%) (figure 3). About 4% of agencies reduced car patrols as a matter of policy, and 54% reduced them in practice. In practice, 69% of agencies reduced arrests for less-serious offenses, 52% reduced investigations, 25% reduced victim services, and 19% reduced foot patrol, while 2% of agencies changed their policies to reduce these activities due to COVID-19.

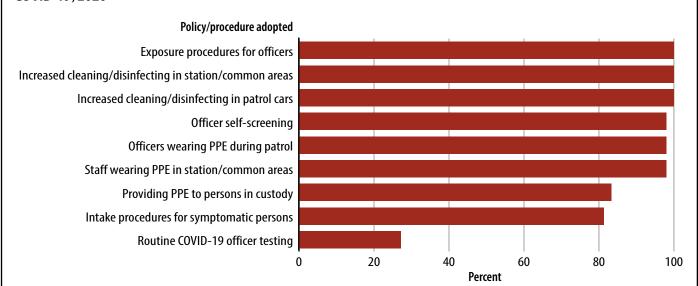
FIGURE 3

Percent of primary state law enforcement agencies that reported a reduction in operations due to changes in policy or practice as a result of COVID-19, 2020



Note: Agencies could indicate reductions in operations due to changes in both policy and practice. See appendix table 6 for estimates. Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020.

FIGURE 2 Percent of primary state law enforcement agencies that adopted selected policies and procedures to address COVID-19, 2020



Note: PPE denotes personal protective equipment. See appendix table 5 for estimates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020.

More than two-thirds of primary state law enforcement agencies employed bilingual or multilingual staff

In 2020, about 70% of primary state law enforcement agencies employed bilingual or multilingual personnel **(table 9)**. About 7% (3,900) of full-time sworn officers and 3% (800) of full-time civilian personnel were bilingual or multilingual. Agencies with 1,500 or more FTE sworn officers employed greater percentages of bilingual or multilingual sworn officers (10%) or civilian personnel (4%) than smaller agencies.

More than half of primary state law enforcement agencies had personnel assigned full time to specialized units focused on impaired drivers

Agencies were asked about resources to address specific crime-related issues, including designated personnel and full-time specialized units. In 2020, most (85%) primary state law enforcement agencies had personnel designated to focus on impaired drivers, including 52% that had personnel assigned full time to specialized units (table 10). About 81% of agencies had personnel designated for terrorism and homeland security. About 7 in 10 agencies had personnel designated for cybercrime (73%) or firearms (71%), while 6 in 10 agencies had personnel designated for opioids (65%), human trafficking (60%), child abuse (58%), methamphetamine labs (56%), or sexual assault (56%).

Agencies with 750 or more FTE sworn officers were more likely than smaller agencies to have personnel designated for terrorism (92%), cybercrime (83%), firearms (79%), gangs (79%), opioids (79%), methamphetamine labs (67%), missing children (67%), human trafficking (63%), sexual assault (63%), bias or hate crime (50%), school safety (50%), mental health or crisis intervention (46%), or juvenile crimes (29%). Agencies with 749 or fewer FTE sworn officers were more likely to have personnel designated to impaired drivers (88%), domestic violence (42%), or homelessness (17%) than larger agencies were.

All primary state law enforcement agencies had personnel designated to internal affairs and special operations (e.g., SWAT)

Additionally, agencies were asked about resources for functional areas. In 2020, all agencies had personnel designated to internal affairs and special operations (e.g., SWAT). Most agencies had personnel designated to traffic enforcement (96%), public relations (90%), research and planning (85%), agency standards (81%), or crime analysis (77%) (table 11). About two-thirds (65%) of agencies had designated personnel for bomb or explosive disposal. Less than half of agencies had personnel designated for victim assistance (46%), community policing (42%), or parking enforcement (15%).

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TABLE 9Full-time personnel in primary state law enforcement agencies who were bilingual or multilingual, by region and size of agency, 2020

		_	Bili	ngual/multilingua	personnel who we	re—
	Agencies with bilingual	or multilingual personnel	Sw	rorn	Civilian ^a	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	30	69.8%	3,932	7.0%	822	2.8%
Region						
South	11	78.6%	1,468	8.7%	81	0.7%
Northeast	6	85.7	1,061	6.7	293	6.0
West	6	54.5	1,227	9.4	370	5.4
Midwest	7	63.6	176	1.7	78	1.4
Size of agency ^b						
1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	10	90.9%	3,532	10.3%	624	3.6%
750-1,499	7	63.6	164	1.4	117	1.7
450-749	7	58.3	100	1.4	55	1.4
449 or fewer	6	66.7	136	5.5	26	2.4

Note: Excludes agencies that did not report the number of bilingual or multilingual staff (Alaska, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, and New Hampshire). alncludes officers or deputies with limited or no arrest powers and nonsworn personnel.

bSize of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

TABLE 10
Primary state law enforcement agencies with personnel designated to address specific crime-related issues, by size of agency, 2020

		Total		Agencies emplo	ying 750 or more FTE swo	orn officers with*—	Agencies employing 749 or fewer FTE sworn officers with*—			
Specific problem/task	Any designated personnel	Personnel assigned full time to specialized unit	Other designated personnel	Any designated personnel	Personnel assigned full time to specialized unit		Any designated personnel	Personnel assigned full time to specialized unit		
Impaired drivers	85.4%	52.1%	33.3%	83.3%	50.0%	33.3%	87.5%	54.2%	33.3%	
Terrorism/ homeland										
security	81.3	64.6	16.7	91.7	79.2	12.5	70.8	50.0	20.8	
Cybercrime	72.9	60.4	12.5	83.3	75.0	8.3	62.5	45.8	16.7	
Firearms	70.8	45.8	25.0	79.2	54.2	25.0	62.5	37.5	25.0	
Opioids	64.6	33.3	31.3	79.2	41.7	37.5	50.0	25.0	25.0	
Human trafficking	60.4	27.1	33.3	62.5	33.3	29.2	58.3	20.8	37.5	
Child abuse/ endangerment	58.3	18.8	39.6	58.3	20.8	37.5	58.3	16.7	41.7	
Methamphetamine labs	56.3	20.8	35.4	66.7	25.0	41.7	45.8	16.7	29.2	
Sexual assault	56.3	16.7	39.6	62.5	8.3	54.2	50.0	25.0	25.0	
Gangs	52.1	31.3	20.8	79.2	54.2	25.0	25.0	8.3	16.7	
Missing children	50.0	22.9	27.1	66.7	33.3	33.3	33.3	12.5	20.8	
Bias/hate crime	41.7	6.3	35.4	50.0	4.2	45.8	33.3	8.3	25.0	
Mental health/crisis intervention	41.7	14.6	27.1	45.8	16.7	29.2	37.5	12.5	25.0	
Domestic violence	39.6	2.1	37.5	37.5	0.0	37.5	41.7	4.2	37.5	
School safety	39.6	20.8	18.8	50.0	20.8	29.2	29.2	20.8	8.3	
Juvenile crimes	22.9	2.1	20.8	29.2	0.0	29.2	16.7	4.2	12.5	
Homelessness	12.5	2.1	10.4	8.3	0.0	8.3	16.7	4.2	12.5	

^{*}Size of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers). Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020.

TABLE 11
Primary state law enforcement agencies with personnel designated to address specific functional areas, by size of agency, 2020

	Total			Agencies emplo	ying 750 or more FTE swo	orn officers with*—	Agencies employing 749 or fewer FTE sworn officers with*—		
Specific functional area	Any designated personnel	Personnel assigned full time to specialized unit		Any designated personnel	Personnel assigned full time to specialized unit		Any designated personnel	Personnel assigned full time to specialized unit	
Internal affairs	100%	93.8%	6.3%	100%	100%	0.0%	100%	87.5%	12.5%
Special operations (e.g., SWAT)	100	64.6	35.4	100	87.5	12.5	100	41.7	58.3
Traffic enforcement	95.8	75.0	20.8	100	70.8	29.2	91.7	79.2	12.5
Public relations	89.6	72.9	16.7	100	95.8	4.2	79.2	50.0	29.2
Research and planning	85.4	68.8	16.7	100	95.8	4.2	70.8	41.7	29.2
Agency standards	81.3	62.5	18.8	87.5	66.7	20.8	75.0	58.3	16.7
Crime analysis	77.1	66.7	10.4	87.5	75.0	12.5	66.7	58.3	8.3
Bomb/explosive disposal	64.6	45.8	18.8	75.0	58.3	16.7	54.2	33.3	20.8
Victim assistance	45.8	27.1	18.8	50.0	29.2	20.8	41.7	25.0	16.7
Community policing	41.7	20.8	20.8	37.5	12.5	25.0	45.8	29.2	16.7
Parking enforcement	14.6	6.3	8.3	12.5	4.2	8.3	16.7	8.3	8.3

^{*}Size of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers). Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020.

Agencies with 749 or fewer FTE sworn officers were more likely to have personnel designated for community policing (46%) or parking enforcement (17%) than larger agencies (38% for community policing and 13% for parking enforcement).

Most (94%) primary state law enforcement agencies had personnel assigned full time to a specialized unit for internal affairs. About three-quarters of agencies had personnel assigned to specialized units for traffic enforcement (75%) or public relations (73%) on a full-time basis. About two-thirds had personnel assigned full time to specialized units for research and planning (69%), crime analysis (67%), or special operations (65%).

Primary state law enforcement agencies reported a combined budget of about \$15 billion

In 2020, the overall average budget for primary state law enforcement agencies was about \$317 million per agency, with a range of about \$60 million for agencies with 449 or fewer FTE sworn officers to \$774 million for agencies with 1,500 or more (table 12). Primary state law enforcement agencies had a budget of about \$250,000 per FTE sworn officer, \$164,000 per FTE employee, and \$46 per resident. Agencies in the Northeast (\$188,000) reported a smaller budget per FTE sworn officer than agencies in other regions.

TABLE 12
Annual operating budgets of primary state law enforcement agencies, by region and size of agency, 2020

	Total	Per agency	Per FTE sworn officera	Per FTE employee ^b	Per resident
All agencies	\$14,918,700,623	\$317,419,162	\$250,018	\$163,665	\$46
Region					
South	\$4,559,262,388	\$284,953,899	\$231,153	\$137,257	\$36
Northeast	\$2,999,895,160	\$428,556,451	\$187,957	\$143,166	\$56
West	\$4,285,095,446	\$357,091,287	\$321,499	\$208,065	\$55
Midwest	\$3,074,447,629	\$256,203,969	\$288,477	\$187,604	\$45
Size of agency ^c					
1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	\$9,290,326,893	\$774,193,908	\$256,426	\$171,536	\$48
750–1,499	\$3,387,499,354	\$282,291,613	\$264,959	\$163,359	\$45
450–749	\$1,644,629,179	\$126,509,937	\$208,432	\$134,607	\$36
449 or fewer	\$596,245,197	\$59,624,520	\$215,640	\$147,585	\$47

Note: Excludes the Maine State Police, which did not report an operating budget to the 2020 Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020; and U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019, April 1, 2020, and July 1, 2020 (NST-EST2020).

^aDenominator is the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers, plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

bDenominator is the number of FTE employees (i.e., the number of full-time employees plus half the number of part-time employees).

^CSize of agency is based on the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers (i.e., the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers).

Methodology

Conducted approximately every 4 years since 1987, the Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS) survey collects data on a range of topics from a nationally representative sample of state, county, and local law enforcement agencies. The methodology for past LEMAS surveys can be found on the BJS website.⁵ Results from these surveys may be reproduced using the most current versions of the datasets available through the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data.⁶ Results using these data may differ from previously published tables due to minor revisions to the datasets after publication.

Survey overview

The sample for the 2020 LEMAS survey was derived from the Law Enforcement Agency Roster (LEAR) database, a list of all publicly funded law enforcement agencies operating in the United States. The LEAR is compiled from a variety of sources, including the 2008, 2014, and 2018 Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies (CSLLEA) data collections, in addition to the 2013 and 2016 LEMAS surveys. The LEAR undergoes periodic updates to capture newly created agencies and to remove closed agencies and agencies that are no longer in scope.

The full 2020 LEMAS sample included 3,499 state and local law enforcement agencies. The sample represented all general-purpose state and local law enforcement agencies in the United States with the equivalent of at least one full-time sworn officer, with separate samples drawn for local police departments and sheriffs' offices. Agencies serving special jurisdictions (such as tribal lands, schools, airports, or parks) or with special enforcement responsibilities (such as enforcing conservation laws or alcohol laws) were out of scope for the survey. Sheriffs' offices without primary law enforcement jurisdiction in the counties they served and federal law enforcement agencies were also ineligible for the LEMAS survey. All 49 primary state police agencies were included (Hawaii does not have a primary state police agency).

Agency response rate

Data were collected using two self-administered modes: web and paper surveys. Agencies chose the mode to use. Among primary state law enforcement agencies, 87.5% responded via web and 12.5% submitted paper surveys.

Submitted surveys were considered complete if at least 60% of the questionnaire was filled out. A total of 48 primary state law enforcement agencies completed their 2020 LEMAS questionnaire, for a response rate of 98%.

Unit nonresponse adjustment

For the 2020 LEMAS data, an adjustment factor was used to account for nonresponse. The nonresponse adjustment was multiplied by the respective base weight (1.00 for state police agencies) to create the final analytical weight. For the state law enforcement agencies, the final analytical weight was 1.02. For other LEMAS years in this report, only 2007 had a nonresponse adjustment for state police agencies, and the final analytical weight was 1.09.

In this report, the final analytical weights for the 2007 and 2020 LEMAS data were used in figure 1 and tables 1 and 2 to keep the national estimates of personnel comparable with other reports in the LEMAS series. For all other analyses, results were based on the unweighted responding agencies.

Imputation and data editing

For the one primary state law enforcement agency that did not report the number of full-time sworn officers on the 2020 LEMAS survey, the number of full-time sworn officers reported in the 2018 CSLLEA was used instead.

Multiple responses for overall operating budget were out of the expected range and were edited using data acquired from public sources. Cases were examined if the ratio of operating budget to full-time-equivalent sworn officer count was less than \$35,000 per officer or greater than \$400,000 per officer, which resulted in five primary state law enforcement agencies (Alaska, California, Illinois, Nevada, and Oregon) being reviewed. Public sources, including agency and government budgets reported on public websites and prior survey data (LEMAS 2016 and CSLLEA 2018), were used to edit budget data for the Alaska State Troopers, California Highway Patrol, Nevada Highway Patrol, and Oregon State Police. The budget data for the Illinois State Police did not need updating.

⁵See https://bjs.ojp.gov/data-collection/law-enforcement-management-and-administrative-statistics-lemas.

⁶See https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/NACJD/series/92.

Accuracy of the estimates

The accuracy of the estimates presented in this report depends on nonsampling error. Nonsampling error can be attributed to many sources, such as the inability to obtain information about all cases in the universe, inability to obtain complete and correct information from the administrative records, and processing errors. The full extent of the nonsampling error is difficult to measure in any survey.

Standard error is an important and minimum baseline indicator of the quality of estimates. Standard errors are driven primarily by sample size. Variance and

standard error estimates for the 2020 LEMAS data were generated using the IBM SPSS Complex Samples package. The Taylor Series Linearization method for a "stratified without replacement" design was used for these calculations. (See the appendix tables for estimates of standard errors.)

Standard error may be used to construct confidence intervals around numerical variables, such as personnel counts. For example, the 95% confidence interval around the number of full-time sworn officers was approximately $61,153 \pm 1.96 \times 1,369$ (or approximately 58,470 to 63,836).

APPENDIX TABLE 1

Estimates and standard errors for figure 1: Full-time personnel in primary state law enforcement agencies, 1997–2020

	Estimate			Standard error		
	Total	Sworn	Civilian*	Total	Sworn	Civilian
1997	82,261	54,206	28,055	~	~	~
2000	87,028	56,348	30,680	~	~	~
2003	82,419	57,611	24,808	~	~	~
2007	99,135	64,872	34,263	4,320	2,926	1,689
2013	88,160	58,131	30,029	~	~	~
2016	91,097	59,645	31,452	~	~	~
2020	92,886	61,153	31,733	2,155	1,369	955

Note: Estimates for 2007 and 2020 reflect an adjustment factor that accounts for nonresponse and preserves comparability of the national estimate of personnel with other reports in the Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics series.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 1997–2020.

APPENDIX TABLE 2

Standard errors for table 1: Personnel in general-purpose state and local law enforcement agencies, by type of agency, 2020

_		Full-time personne	<u> </u>		Part-time personnel	
Type of agency	Total	Sworn	Civilian	Total	Sworn	Civilian
Total	25,725	17,417	9,929	2,303	1,222	1,862
Local police	21,818	15,841	6,316	1,962	1,073	1,637
Sheriffs' offices	13,457	7,108	7,602	1,205	583	886
Primary state	2,155	1,369	955	54	15	51

[~]Not applicable. No weighting adjustments were made this year.

^{*}Includes officers or deputies with limited or no arrest powers and nonsworn personnel.

APPENDIX TABLE 3Estimates for map 1: Full-time-equivalent sworn officers in primary state law enforcement agencies per 100,000 residents, by state, 2020

State	FTE sworn personnel	State population	FTE sworn officers per 100,000 residents
Alabama	779	4,921,532	16
Alaska	274	731,158	37
Arizona	1,155	7,421,401	16
Arkansas	535	3,030,522	18
California	6,976	39,368,078	18
Colorado	743	5,807,719	13
Connecticut	921	3,557,006	26
Delaware	733	986,809	74
Florida	1,820	21,733,312	8
Georgia	1,044	10,710,017	10
Idaho	294	1,826,913	16
Illinois	1,847	12,587,530	15
Indiana	1,245	6,754,953	18
lowa	560	3,163,561	18
Kansas	481	2,913,805	16
Kentucky	912	4,477,251	20
Louisiana	1,200	4,645,318	26
Maine	341	1,350,141	25
Maryland	1,441	6,055,802	24
Massachusetts	2,249	6,893,574	33
Michigan	1,927	9,966,555	19
Minnesota	601	5,657,342	11
Mississippi	502	2,966,786	17
Missouri	1,219	6,151,548	20
Montana	230	1,080,577	21
Nebraska	444	1,937,552	23
Nevada	429	3,138,259	14
New Hampshire	353	1,366,275	26
New Jersey	2,905	8,882,371	33
New Mexico	682	2,106,319	32
New York	4,758	19,336,776	25
North Carolina	1,715	10,600,823	16
North Dakota	159	765,309	21
Ohio	1,551	11,693,217	13
Oklahoma	714	3,980,783	18
Oregon	706	4,241,507	17
Pennsylvania	4,561	12,783,254	36
Rhode Island	249	1,057,125	24
South Carolina	948	5,218,040	18
South Dakota	174	892,717	19
Tennessee	855	6,886,834	12
Texas	4,060	29,360,759	14
Utah	578	3,249,879	18
Vermont	318	623,347	51
Virginia	1,861	8,590,563	22
Washington	1,067	7,693,612	14
West Virginia	606	1,784,787	34
Wisconsin	450	5,832,655	8
Wyoming	195	582,328	33

Note: The number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) sworn officers is the number of full-time sworn officers plus half the number of part-time sworn officers. Agencies are grouped by the number of FTE sworn officers they employed per 100,000 residents in 2020. Hawaii's Department of Public Safety is excluded from the Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020; and U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019, April 1, 2020, and July 1, 2020 (NST-EST2020).

APPENDIX TABLE 4

Standard errors for table 2: Full-time personnel in primary state law enforcement agencies, by region and size of agency, 2020

	Full-time sv	Full-time sworn officers		Full-time civilian personnel	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total	1,369	~	955	~	
Region					
South	775	1.27%	891	2.81%	
Northeast	1,068	1.75	326	1.03	
West	1,039	1.70	491	1.55	
Midwest	501	0.82	283	0.89	
Size of agency					
1,500 or more FTE sworn officers	1,573	2.57%	1,018	3.21%	
750–1,499	478	0.78	318	1.00	
450–750	279	0.46	167	0.53	
449 or fewer	129	0.21	64	0.20	

[~]Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020.

APPENDIX TABLE 5

Estimates for figure 2: Percent of primary state law enforcement agencies that adopted selected policies and procedures to address COVID-19, 2020

Policy/procedure adopted	Percent
Exposure procedures for officers	100%
Increased cleaning/disinfecting in station/common areas	100
Increased cleaning/disinfecting in patrol cars	100
Officer self-screening	97.9
Officers wearing PPE during patrol	97.9
Staff wearing PPE in station/common areas	97.9
Providing PPE to persons in custody	83.3
Intake procedures for symptomatic persons	81.3
Routine COVID-19 officer testing	27.1

Note: PPE denotes personal protective equipment.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics survey, 2020.

APPENDIX TABLE 6

Estimates for figure 3: Percent of primary state law enforcement agencies that reported a reduction in operations due to changes in policy or practice as a result of COVID-19, 2020

Operation reduced	Changes in policy	Changes in practice
Community events	14.6%	91.7%
Car patrol	4.2	54.2
Foot patrol	2.1	18.8
Arrests for less-serious offenses	2.1	68.8
Investigations	2.1	52.1
Victim services	2.1	25.0

Note: Agencies could indicate reductions in operations due to changes in both policy and practice.



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 Connor Brooks. Lizabeth Remrey verified the report.

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