2024 Census of Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies

October 2023

The 2024 Census of Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies (2024 CTLEA), conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the principal statistical agency for the U.S. Department of Justice, will collect information from all tribal law enforcement agencies serving federally recognized tribes. This collection will provide tribal, federal, state, and local governments with current crime and justice data to inform policymaking and support safer communities.

BJS is working with National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago (NORC), the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and IACP's Indian Country Law Enforcement Section (ICLES) on the 2024 CTLEA.

Working with tribal communities to develop the CTLEA survey questions

NORC, IACP, and ICLES will host a series of webinars to learn from tribal leaders and the tribal justice community to seek valuable input on data gaps and needs. A panel of tribal justice experts will also inform development of the CTLEA survey and data collection protocols.

The goal of the CTLEA is to provide information to tribal justice agencies, state and local agencies, policymakers, and the public about the activities of tribal law enforcement agencies.

What data will the CTLEA collect?

The 2024 CTLEA will collect information from tribal law enforcement agencies on:

- administrative structure and jurisdiction
- staffing and budgets
- number and types of arrest/calls for service.

The survey will also ask questions recommended by tribal leaders and tribal justice experts, including a tribal justice panel.

Why is the CTLEA important?

This is the second CTLEA data collection effort to be carried out by BJS. The results of the CTLEA survey will provide valuable information to tribal leaders and law enforcement agencies by:

- filling in data needs identified by tribal leaders and tribal justice experts
- providing updated data to measure changes in tribal law enforcement agencies and their functions
- identifying the resources and training needs of tribal law enforcement agencies.

When will data collection begin?

BJS anticipates that tribal law enforcement agencies data collection will begin in Spring 2025, and participants will be asked questions about calendar year 2024.

Where can I find the results from previous tribal law enforcement collections?

This collection is a follow-up to the 2019 Census of Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies. *Tribal Law Enforcement in the United States, 2018*, was released in July 2023. The report is available on the BJS website at: https://bjs.ojp.gov/topics/tribal-crime-and-justice/tribal-law-enforcement.

How can you contact us?

If you have questions regarding CTLEA data collection, please contact NORC at CTLEA@norc.org or BJS at askbjs@ojp.usdoj.gov.