

U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Justice Statistics
2019 Survey of Law Enforcement Personnel in Schools (SLEPS)
Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) Survey

In correspondence about this survey, please refer to the Agency ID number printed below. (Please correct any error in name and mailing address in the box below. If the information is correct, please check the box in the bottom right hand corner.)

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INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY	
Name	Title
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- This survey should be completed by a representative who is most knowledgeable about your agency's employment of and policies regarding law enforcement officers working in schools.
- This survey uses the following terms and definitions:
 - School Resource Officer (SRO): a sworn law enforcement officer who is assigned to work in any public K-12 school.
 - SRO program: your agency's employment of one or more sworn law enforcement officer(s) assigned to work in any public K-12 school.
- The Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended (34 U.S.C. § 10132), authorizes this information collection. Although this survey is voluntary, we need your participation to make the results comprehensive, accurate, and timely. We greatly appreciate your assistance.
- If you have any questions about this survey, visit the SLEPS web site at <https://bjslecs.org/sleps2019> or contact Dustin Williams at RTI by telephone at (866) 309-4564 or by email at sleps@rti.org.

BURDEN STATEMENT

Federal agencies may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate, or any other aspects of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Director, Bureau

of Justice Statistics, 810 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20531.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY CHARACTERISTICS

1. Which best describes your agency? *Mark only one.*

- Police department, municipal
- Police department, county
- State/highway department
- Sheriff's Office
- Tribal
- Independent School District
- Other (please specify): _____

2. As of September 1, 2019, how many sworn full-time officers with general arrest powers were employed by your agency? _____

3. Does your agency employ any officers that are primarily assigned to work in any public K-12 school?

- Yes **Go to Question 4**
- No **This completes your response. Please return your survey to RTI.**

4. In what year did your agency start assigning officers to public schools? _____

5. As of September 1, 2019, what are the funding sources for your SRO program? *Mark all that apply.*

- Federal grant
- State/Local grant
- Law enforcement agency
- School district
- Other (please specify): _____

6. How many of the following public schools, including charter schools, are served by your SRO program?

Type of public school:	Number
a. Elementary schools (lowest grade is not higher than grade 3 and the highest grade is not higher than grade 8)	
b. Middle schools (lowest grade is not lower than grade 4 and the highest grade is not higher than grade 9)	
c. High schools (lowest grade is not lower than grade 9 and the highest grade is not higher than grade 12)	
d. Combined schools (e.g., K-8, K-12)	

7. Does your SRO program also serve private schools?

- Yes
- No

8. Do the majority of officers in your SRO program serve on a single permanent assignment (i.e., only serve as an SRO) or rotate to other assignments (e.g., juvenile detective, routine patrol)? *Mark only one.*
- Single permanent assignment
- Rotate to other assignments

9. Does your agency have a departmental policy specifically for your SRO program?

- Yes
- No

10. With how many entities (school districts and/or individual schools) does your agency have an agreement (e.g., memorandum of understanding, contractual or verbal agreement, legislation)? *Enter the number of entities by type of agreement in the table below.*

	Number with formal agreement in place	Number with no formal agreement in place	Not applicable (Independent School District Police Department)
School districts			0
Individual schools			

If your agency does not have a departmental policy specifically for your SRO program (Question 9 was 'No') and does not have any formal agreements in place (you put '0' in Question 10 in the formal agreement column), go to Question 13.

11. Which of the following best describes the type of agreement in place between your agency and the school/school district served by the majority of your SROs? *Mark only one.*
- Memorandum of understanding (MOU)
- Contractual agreement, such as through a grant or other basis
- Legislation
- Verbal agreement
- Other (please specify): _____

12. Are the following SRO program characteristics specified in either your internal departmental policy or in the formal agreement between your agency and the school/school district served by the majority of your SROs?

SRO program characteristic:	Yes	No
a. Expectations for SROs when working with students	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Expectations regarding citations and arrests by SROs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Expectations regarding collaboration between school officials and SROs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Goals of the SRO program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Number of officers in your SRO program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Primary functions (e.g., law enforcement, teaching, mentoring/counseling) of SROs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Procedures for resolving disagreements between school officials and SROs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Requirement of regular meetings between school officials and SROs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Responsibilities/duties of the school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Role of SROs with school discipline	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. Schedule (e.g., before the school day begins, the full school day, etc.) that officers in your SRO program will spend at school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
l. Supervision or administrative control of SROs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
m. Use of firearms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
n. Use of less-lethal equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13. Are SROs required to inform school executive staff about any of the following actions occurring on a school campus?

Action:	Yes	No
a. Arrest of school employee during school hours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Arrest of student during school hours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Conduct criminal investigation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Question school employees during school hours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Question students during school hours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Search premises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Search student	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Use of firearms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Use of less-lethal equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Use of restraint on student that does not result in arrest	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. Are SROs allowed to conduct interviews of students outside the presence of a parent or guardian without first obtaining permission from a parent or guardian?

- Yes
 No

SRO RECRUITMENT, TRAINING, AND SUPERVISION

15. Do schools participate in the selection process when your agency recruits and hires SROs?

- Yes
- No **Go to Question 17**

16. How does the school participate? *Mark all that apply.*

- By providing feedback on SROs after placement to help determine a “good fit”
- By reviewing SRO candidates prior to selection
- Through active recruitment of officers
- Through participation in requirements/selection criteria
- Other (please specify):

17. How does your agency select officers for the SRO program? *Mark all that apply.*

- As a result of input and/or recommendations by school(s)/school district
- By nomination of officers from within the department
- Through an application process external to the department (i.e. officers are hired specifically to be SROs)
- Through an application process from within the department
- Through assignment as part of regular duty schedule
- Other (please specify):

18. How often do supervisors visit schools to observe SROs?

- At least once a week
- Several times a month
- Once a month
- Several times a year
- Once a year
- Never
- Other (please specify): _____

19. Does your agency have access to data (e.g., number or type of incident) on any of the following measures related to SRO activities in the schools they serve?

Activity:	Yes	No
a. Arrests made by SRO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Citations issued by SRO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Classes/programs taught by SRO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Mentoring activities performed by SRO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Mentoring of faculty/staff performed by SRO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Mentoring of parents/community performed by SRO	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Property crimes reported at school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Reports of violence at school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Substance violations recorded at school (e.g., possession, use, buying/selling)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Suspensions recorded at school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. Use of force incidents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. As of September 1, 2019, how many of the following personnel are primarily assigned to any public K-12 schools?

Type of personnel:	Number
a. Sworn officers	
b. Nonsworn employees	
c. Total	

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FOR THE SWORN OFFICERS WHO SERVE YOUR SRO PROGRAM.

21. Please provide the number of sworn SROs in your agency by race and ethnicity. *The total number by race and the total number by ethnicity should match the number provided in Question 20a.*

Race:	Number
a. White	
b. Black or African American	
c. American Indian or Alaska Native	
d. Asian	
e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
f. Race not known	
g. TOTAL (SUM OF A-F)	
Ethnicity:	
h. Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	
i. Not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	

j. Ethnicity not known	
k. TOTAL (SUM of H-J)	

22. Please provide the number of sworn SROs in your agency by sex. The total number should match the number provided in 20a.

Sex:	Number
a. Male	
b. Female	
c. TOTAL (SUM of A-B)	

23. Do the **sworn officers** who are primarily assigned to public K-12 schools...

Characteristic:	All	Some	None
a. have arrest powers?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. receive specialized SRO training?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If none of your agency's sworn officers who are primarily assigned to schools receive specialized SRO training, go to Question 24.

24. Do any of the following entities provide SRO-specific training to **sworn** officers in your agency?

Entity:	Yes	No
a. Our agency itself (e.g., academy or in-service)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. School district	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. State organization	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. National organization (i.e., National Association of School Resource Officers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Other (please specify): _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

25. On which of the following **law enforcement** topics are **sworn SROs** required to receive training? *Please include both training provided to all sworn officers and training provided specifically for SROs.*

Law enforcement activity/topic:	Yes	No
a. De-escalation strategies and techniques	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Gangs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Procedures for handling juvenile offenders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Responding to incidents in the classroom	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Social media monitoring	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Use of deadly force	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Use of less-lethal force	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

26. On which of the following **prevention and planning** topics are **sworn SROs** required to receive training? *Please include both training provided to all sworn officers and training provided specifically for SROs.*

Prevention and planning topic/activity:	Yes	No
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a. Administering special safety programs (e.g., drugs, legal issues, crime awareness, and distracted driving)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Bullying deterrence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Crisis preparedness planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Security audits/assessments of school campuses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Substance abuse recognition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Truancy intervention	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

27. On which of the following **social and behavioral** topics are **sworn SROs** required to receive training? *Please include both training provided to all sworn officers and training provided specifically for SROs.*

Social and behavioral topic:	Yes	No
a. Child/adolescent psychology/development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Conflict resolution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Cultural sensitivity and/or cultural competency	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Mental health issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Mentoring staff, students, and/or families	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Positive school discipline (e.g., PBIS)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Trauma-informed practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Working with students with disabilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

ACTIVITIES PERFORMED BY SWORN SROs

28. Please indicate whether each law enforcement activity is required of any of your agency's **sworn SROs** while on duty. *Only mark 'yes' if the activity is included in your internal departmental policy, included in a formal agreement with schools/school districts, or expected by department executives.*

Law enforcement activity:	Yes	No
a. Crisis preparedness planning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Issuing criminal citations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Making arrests	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Patrolling school facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Responding to calls for service on the school campus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Responding to incidents in the classroom	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Security audits/assessments of school campuses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Social media monitoring	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

29. Please indicate whether each mentoring activity is required of any of your agency's **sworn SROs** while on duty. *Only mark 'yes' if the activity is included in your internal departmental policy, included in a formal agreement with schools/school districts, or expected by department executives.*

Mentoring activity:	Yes	No
a. Advising school staff, students, or families (e.g., one-on-one, in a group, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Coaching athletic programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Field trip chaperone	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Supervising/coordinating non-athletic extra-curricular activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Truancy intervention	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

30. Please indicate whether each teaching activity is required of any of your agency's **sworn SROs** while on duty. Only mark 'yes' if the activity is included in your internal departmental policy, included in a formal agreement with schools/school districts, or expected by department executives.

Teaching activity:	Yes	No
a. Administering special safety programs (e.g., drugs, legal issues, crime awareness, and distracted driving)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Conflict resolution	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Faculty/staff in-service presentations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Parent organization presentations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

31. Which of the following equipment are issued to **sworn SROs** by your agency and which are allowed while on the school campus? Mark only one per row.

Item:	Issued by agency		Not issued by agency	
	Allowed on campus	Not allowed	Allowed on campus	Not allowed
a. Uniform	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Firearm	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Baton/nightstick	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Body-worn camera	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Conducted energy device (e.g., Taser)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Handheld metal detector wand	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Hobble restraints	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. OC Spray/foam	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Other (please specify): _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

32. In addition to this survey, we provided you with a form to list all of the **sworn** officers from your jurisdiction who are assigned to work in K-12 public schools. We will use this list to randomly select some of these individual officers to receive a survey about activities they perform. Included on the form is guidance for anonymizing the list of officers should you prefer not to provide direct identification of the officers.

A copy of the survey that will be sent to selected SROs is available for your review at <https://bjslecs.org/SRO-Preview.pdf>.

Are you willing to provide this information?

Yes **Go to Question 32 and please complete the Officer Roster Form.**

No **Please indicate why you are not willing to provide this information and return your survey to RTI:**

33. For purposes of administrating the officer survey, we would like to have a single point of contact to distribute the officer survey. Please provide the following contact information for the person who will distribute the officer survey:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

END

Thank You!

Thank you for participating in this survey. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Dustin Williams at RTI by telephone at (866) 309-4564 or by email at sleps@rti.org.