

INTRODUCTION

Purpose: Identify critical tasks needed to perform the job of a police officer well.

- Policing in the United States has drastically changed over the past 10 years.
- To address these changes, many states have conducted a job task analysis to identify the existing tasks of a law enforcement officer.
- We compiled the job task analyses from 11 states to identify how different states quantify being a law enforcement officer.
- This poster will provide a brief overview of required law enforcement tasks across the 11 identified states.
- This data can be used to inform law enforcement agencies on the essential tasks of an officer.

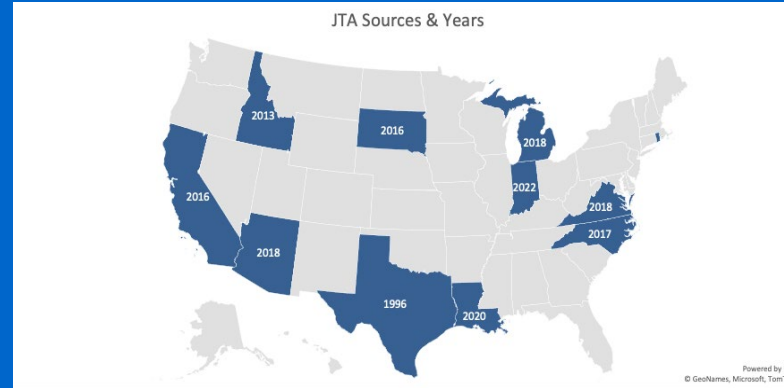
For more information on this project, scan here



What It Takes To Be a Cop

Kendall Summers, Meagan Phimmason & Thomas Jurkanin, Ph.D.

- Recent job task analyses from 11 different states were reviewed and content analyzed
- 26 total codes were identified from the JTA review based on frequency of the code and 1,849 tasks were created



Sample of Patrol Law Enforcement Frequency Chart

Task Statement	Frequency
Advise crime victims of the procedures to pursue prosecution.	9
Investigate suspicious vehicle.	9
Secure crime scene (i.e., establish security perimeter).	9
Dispose of dead or injured animals according to department policy or local ordinance.	1
Organize neighborhood watch groups and conduct meetings.	1
Compile and analyze crime, traffic crash and other statistics	1

Materials and Procedures

We used the following state's job task analyses:

- Arizona (2018), California (2016), Idaho (2013), Indiana (2022), Louisiana (2020), Michigan (2018), North Carolina (2017), Rhode Island (2009), South Dakota (2016), Texas (1996), and Virginia (2018)

Tasks were put into 26 different task codes (categories) based on content.

- Codes with a high number of task statements (200+) include but are not limited to Patrol Law Enforcement, Investigations, and Equipment.
- Codes with a low number of task statements (<50) include but are not limited to Report Writing, General Working Conditions, and Workplace Intervention.

Criminal Justice experts reviewed each state's task statements. High frequency tasks (6 or more states) were used to develop our survey and create task statements for focus groups.

Example:

Code: Patrol Law Enforcement

Resulting Task Statement: protect, maintain, and respond to calls regarding the safety of civilians and other officers by monitoring communications, identifying threats, and enforcing federal and state laws.