

Law Enforcement Performance Measures

Performance measures for law enforcement are based on studies by the National Institute of Justice (Sparrow) and SEARCH (Roberts). In addition, the measures include the first decision-making step in the Relative Rate Index (RRI) designed to address racial and ethnic disparities at arrest.

Traditional Performance Measures *(See page 2)*

- a. Reductions in the number of serious crimes reported, most commonly presented as local comparisons against an immediately preceding time period.
- b. Clearance rates.
- c. Response times.
- d. Measures of enforcement productivity (e.g., numbers of arrests, citations or stop-and-frisk searches).

Modern Performance Measures *(See page 12)*

1. Reducing criminal victimization.
2. Calling offenders to account.
3. Reducing fear and enhancing personal security.
4. Guaranteeing safety in public spaces (including traffic safety).
5. Using financial resources fairly, efficiently and effectively.
6. Using force and authority fairly, efficiently and effectively.
7. Satisfying customer demands/achieving legitimacy with those policed

Relative Rate Index (RRI)

This is a performance measurement model specifically developed by the Safety and Justice Challenge. The RRI provides a comparison of each racial and ethnic group to a reference group. In this case, the reference group is Whites. To calculate the RRI, a rate is calculated for each racial/ethnic group at seven decision-points in the system. The rates for each group are then divided by the rate for Whites. This allows comparisons to be made to assess the extent to which disproportionality, or disparities exist. The seven decision points are:

1. Arrest
2. Prosecutorial Charging
3. Assignment of Counsel
4. Pretrial Release
5. Case Processing
6. Disposition and Sentencing
7. Post-Conviction Supervision

Arrest RRI The first decision point in the model focuses on disparities at the initial contact with law enforcement and the decision to arrest.

Government/Industry/Practitioner Standards

Objective standards for law enforcement performance have not been developed in the U.S. Other countries, such as England and Wales, have developed practitioner standards for law enforcement.