



MISSISSIPPI NIBRS CERTIFICATION



VENDOR INFORMATION

The Mississippi NIBRS (MS NIBRS) division of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS) looks forward to working all vendors supporting our Mississippi Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) to transition to NIBRS. In compliance with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR), Mississippi follows the most current documentation supporting NIBRS crime data submissions:

2019.2 NIBRS Technical Specification

Most current release and recommended baseline for NIBRS 2021, applicable as of 05/15/2020

2019.2 NIBRS XML Developer's Guide

Provides information necessary to create proper UCR NIBRS Extensible Markup Language (XML) data submissions. Intended for use in conjunction with the 2019.2 NIBRS IEPD and 2019.2 NIBRS User Manual.

2019.2 NIBRS XML IEPD (zip)

Provides the XML schema and aligns with the 2019.2 NIBRS XML Developer's Guide.

2019.2 NIBRS User Manual

Addresses NIBRS policies, the types of offenses reported via NIBRS, and guidelines for an agency to become certified to submit NIBRS data to the FBI. Aligns with the 2019.2 NIBRS Technical Specification and 2019.2 NIBRS XML Developer's Guide.

Mississippi **does not have** any state specific data elements. The national UCR program suggests that agencies submit NIBRS data using Extensible Markup Language Mississippi's State Repository, Crime Insight will accept both flat and XML data submission files. The above documents are available online by visiting the Mississippi NIBRS website: www.nibrs.dps.ms.gov or on the FBI website: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/technical-specifications>

Pretesting

After ensuring the LEAs' Records Management System is NIBRS compliant, we recommend pretesting data submission files against the NIBRS validation rules. This should be completed before the LEA request to begin the NIBRS certification process.

Two pretest tools are available for flat file submissions:

1. **MS Crime Insight Repository:** <https://mstest.beyond2020.com>

Username and password is required and provided after submission of the MS NIBRS Law Enforcement Contact Form (LEAs) or MS NIBRS Repository Users Form (Vendors)

- 2. NIBRS Pre-Certification Tool (PCT) Login*** <https://www.bjs.gov/content/ncsx.cfm>
*The PCT provides law enforcement agencies that are responsible for submitting incident-based reporting (IBR) data to state Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) programs the ability to test their submissions in Advance of its formal delivery. State UCR programs may also use the NIBRS PCT to test their IBR Submissions before beginning the NIBRS certification process with the FBI. The NIBRS PCT exercises the NIBRS data edit and validation rules and provides formatted output of errors, so that submitters may correct their data submissions and, ultimately, speed the FBI CJIS and/or state IBR certification process. *(Account required - through [National Crime Statistics Exchange](#))*

The tool available to pretest XML files against the NIBRS validation rules:

- 1. NIBRS XML Conformance Testing Assistant (XCOTA) Tool**
<https://datastandards.cjis.gov> *The NIBRS XCOTA (XML Conformance Testing Assistant) Tool is designed to assist agencies and vendors in testing sample XML files during the development phase to gauge the accuracy of the output product before submitting data to the FBI. It performs XML schema validation, as well as NIBRS business rule checks. Please note, the NIBRS XCOTA Tool is only intended to support agencies during their development effort and cannot be used for formal NIBRS certification.*

After you and your LEA have agreed the RMS meets the data quality standards and pretesting submission files reflect an error rate of 4 percent or less, your agency is ready to begin the certification process!

Mississippi National Incident-Based Reporting System Certification Standards

The Mississippi National Incident-Based Reporting System (MS NIBRS) uses the following criteria to grant a Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) Mississippi National Incident-Based Reporting (MS NIBRS) certification:

System Appropriateness

A LEA must provide evidence its NIBRS-reporting system is compatible with the FBI's UCR system and follows NIBRS technical specifications. The national UCR program ensures that the agency reports each of the 58 data elements along with each of the 52 offense categories.

Update Capability and Responsiveness

A LEA must demonstrate its ability to update submissions, meet deadlines, respond to MS NIBRS queries and requests, and correct errors received from the MS UCR Program in a timely manner. A LEA shall have all of their current month's information submitted by the tenth (10th) of the succeeding month. Consistent delinquent data could result in a LEA's NIBRS status being revoked or suspended, requiring a new certification process to once again achieve NIBRS certification. A LEA must, at a minimum, maintain a 2-year database of NIBRS submissions

(retention period) and have the capability to update incidents from the calendar year and the previous calendar year.

Error Rate

Data submissions must be logical and consistent. MS NIBRS measures logic by the percentage of Group A Incident Report submissions containing an error. The MS UCR defines the error rate as the number of rejected reports over the number of reports submitted. MS NIBRS requires a sustained error rate of 4 percent or less for three separate data submissions. The listing/definition of errors are included in the *NIBRS Technical Specification*.

Statistical Reasonableness

Data submissions must be statistically reasonable as a whole (in comparison to national trends). While the error rate assesses the existence of logical mechanical flaws in the data, it does not address data in the aggregate. MS NIBRS evaluates aggregate data submissions in terms of percent distribution, data trend, volume, and monthly fluctuations.

MS NIBRS deems a LEA “NIBRS Certified” when the incident based data they submitted for NIBRS certification has passed the NIBRS certification criteria. “NIBRS Certified” simply means the data submitted during the NIBRS certification process was consistent with the FBI’s UCR Program standards, and the FBI will accept NIBRS data submissions from the UCR program and will be included in the national database.

MS NIBRS expects contributing agencies to satisfy the NIBRS certification criteria as defined to become certified. In addition, LEAs must also demonstrate their ability to comply with the four standards for UCR programs identified in [Section 1.3, UCR State Program and Non-Program Domains](#), in the 2019.1 NIBRS User manual. The FBI UCR Program considers these standards essential for NIBRS certification.

Until an LEA attains NIBRS-certified status, it is essential that they continue to submit SRS data directly to the FBI (if applicable) and submit their NIBRS data submitted to the MS NIBRS for certification.

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