

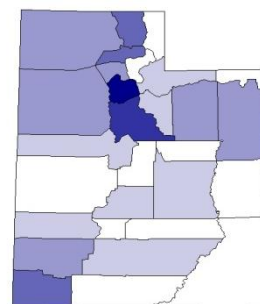


2014 Law Enforcement Transparency Annual Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Utah Law Enforcement Transparency (LET) reporting interface was added to the Utah Criminal Justice Information System (UCJIS) last year. The Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) paid to build the interface on UCJIS using federal grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice - Justice Assistance Grant. Law Enforcement agencies throughout the state utilized the UCJIS-LET site to report forcible entry incidents as they occurred throughout the year. A reportable incident was defined as: **1) anytime a forcible entry is made while servicing a warrant or 2) anytime a "Tactical Group" is deployed (SWAT, Drug Task Force, etc.) and makes a forcible entry with or without a warrant.** CCJJ contacted approximately 166 law enforcement agencies and task forces directing them to report on the UCJIS-LET site regardless of whether or not they had any reportable incidents for the year. 124 of the 166 (75% responded) agencies contacted completed a report in 2014. CCJJ was tasked with summarizing this information. The main findings were as follows:

- **There were 559 unique incidents reported in 2014**, representing agencies from 18 counties.
- **Warrants were utilized in 96 percent of all reported incidents, with forced entry being employed 61 percent of the time.**
- **The vast majority of warrants were those related to drug crime (83%)**, followed by non-violent person crimes (6%). Evidence was seized more than 85 percent of the time across task forces, tactical, and non-tactical groups, with task forces seizing evidence in 99 percent of all reported incidents.
- **"No-Knock-Night" and "Knock & Announce-Day" strategies were utilized in more than 70 percent of all incidents.** Tactical groups utilized forced entry at a higher rate than non-tactical groups.
- **Weapons/firearms were present in 3 of the 559 (0.5%) incidents reported. Less than 1 percent of incidents resulted in officer shots**, with the average number of shots being 12.
- Three civilians were injured and three were killed in 2014 (by tactical groups only), with zero law enforcement fatalities/injuries. No animals were injured or killed.



Background and Organization

This report summarizes the 2014 Law Enforcement Transparency - forcible entry reporting results. Legislation creating this reporting requirement is authorized in 77-7-8.5.¹ CCJJ was tasked with summarizing this information. For general questions about the survey or this report, please contact Richard Ziebarth at (801) 538-1812 or rzebarth@utah.gov.

This report is divided into three parts. Part one summarizes the survey results in the aggregate. The second part examines incident characteristics by county, while the third part analyzes survey results by group type (tactical, non-tactical, or task force). It should be noted that this report only includes incidents that were *reported* in 2014 and the information presented in this report is only as accurate as the information found in the surveys.

1. AGGREGATE ANALYSIS

There were 559 unique incidents reported to the 2014 Law Enforcement Transparency survey representing agencies from 18 counties (see the list of individual agency names in Table 3 on p. 13). 57 agencies reported at least one incident while 67 agencies reported that they had no incidents in 2014 (a total of 124 agencies).

Warrants were obtained in 96 percent of all reported incidents, with forced entry being used 61 percent of the time. 94 percent of warrants were search warrants (arrest warrants=2%, in progress violent crime=3%, suicidal subject=1%). Evidence was seized 94 percent of the time while property was seized in 17 percent of incidents.

A prior threat assessment was conducted in 82 percent of all cases. The average number of arrests per incident was 1.8 and the median was 1, with 15 percent of the reported incidents resulting in zero arrests. A map of total arrests (associated with warrants) in each county is shown in Figure 1. The Figure shows that Salt Lake County and Utah County had the largest number of arrests after incidents ($n > 200$), while the next highest number of arrests after incidents occurred in Washington County (125 arrests in 2014).

Less than 1 percent of incidents resulted in an officer or officers discharging their firearm. The average number of shots police fired in these incidents was 12 (min=1, max=43).² Shots fired by a suspect were identified in one of the reported incidents (4 shots). Suspects had firearms present in 3 of the 559 incidents reported (0.5%), and there were 22 incidents (4%) during which a weapon (non-firearm included) was brandished. Three civilians were injured and three were killed in 2014 (all by tactical groups), with zero law enforcement fatalities/injuries. No animals were injured or killed. Select summary statistics are shown in Table 1.

¹ Available at: <http://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title77/Chapter7/77-7-S8.5.html>.

² It should be noted that one of these incidents resulted in 43 officer shots. Removing this data point from the analysis brings the average number of shots down to 4.

Figure 1. Total Number of Warrant-Related Arrests by County

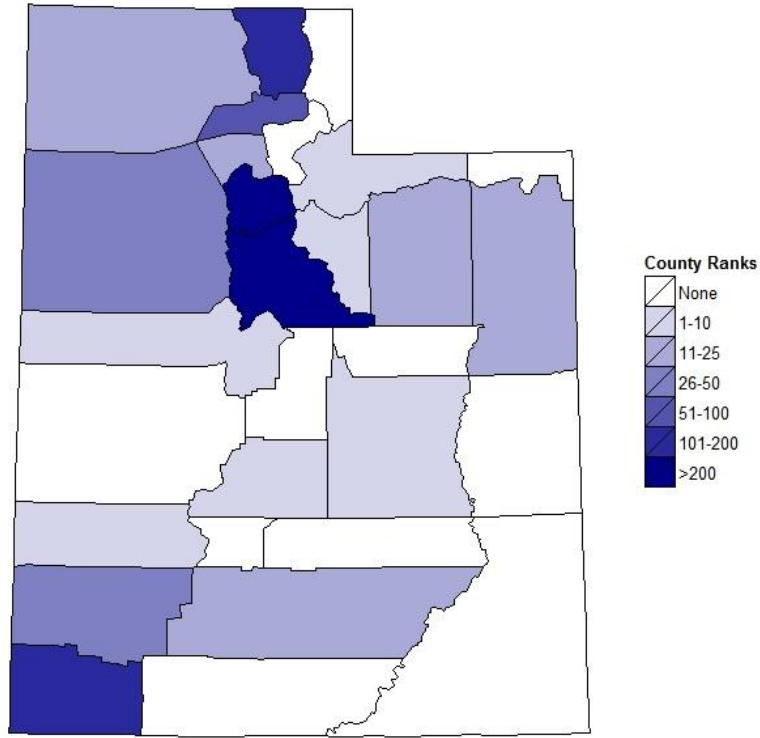


Table 1. Selected Aggregate Statistics (n=559)

Warrants Utilized	Mean # of Arrests per Incident	Forced Entry	Evidence Seized	Weapons/Firearms Utilized
96%	1.8	61%	94%	0.5%

The vast majority of warrants were those related to drug crime (83% as seen in Figure 2). The second largest category was for the seizure of evidence, which occurred in 6 percent of all reported incidents (note that this crime category does not include *violent* person-related crimes). Figure 3 provides the reason for law enforcement deployment, with the highest percentage pertaining to drugs (78%), followed by warrants issued for the sole purpose of gathering evidence (7%).

The warrant types, “No-Knock-Night” (38%), and “Knock & Announce-Day” (36%) were utilized in more than 70 percent of all incidents, followed by “Knock & Announce-Night (18%). Less than two percent of all reported incidents fell into the “Arrest without a search warrant” category.

Figure 2. Reason for Warrant (n=559)

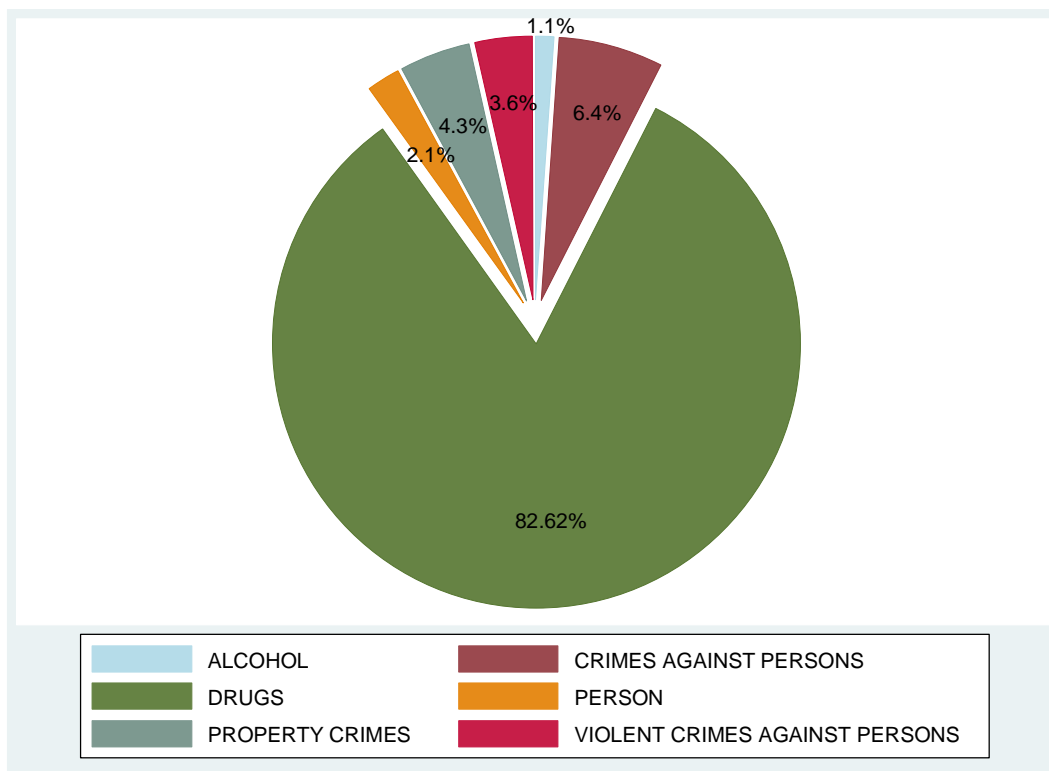


Figure 3. Reason for Law Enforcement Deployment (n=559)

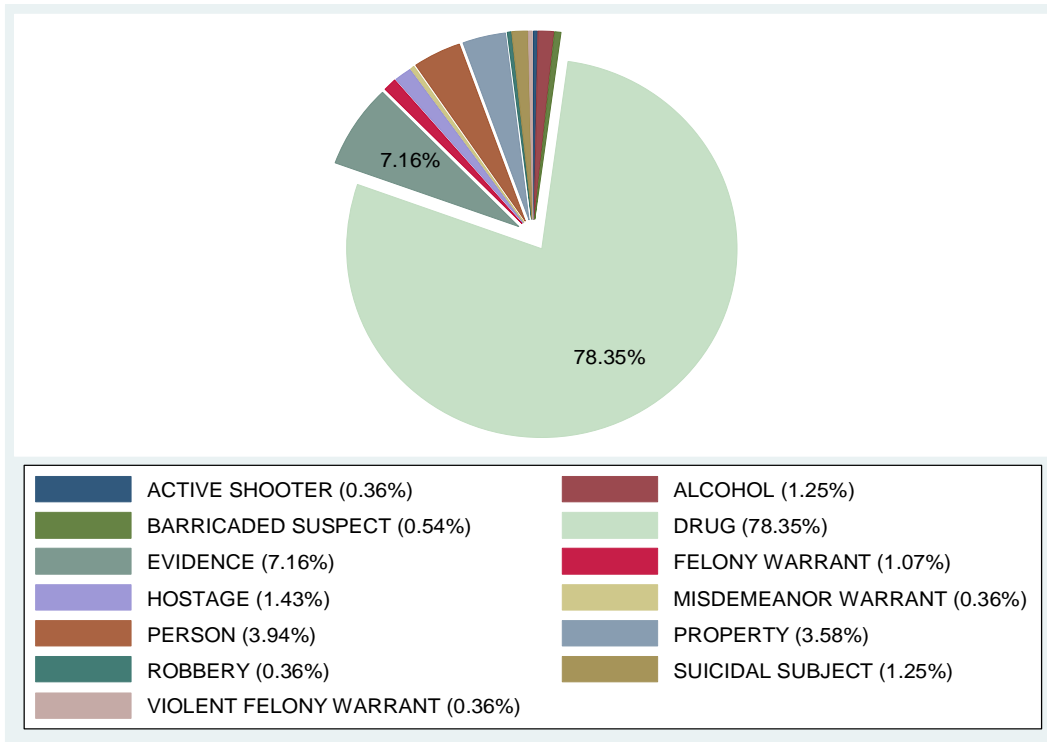
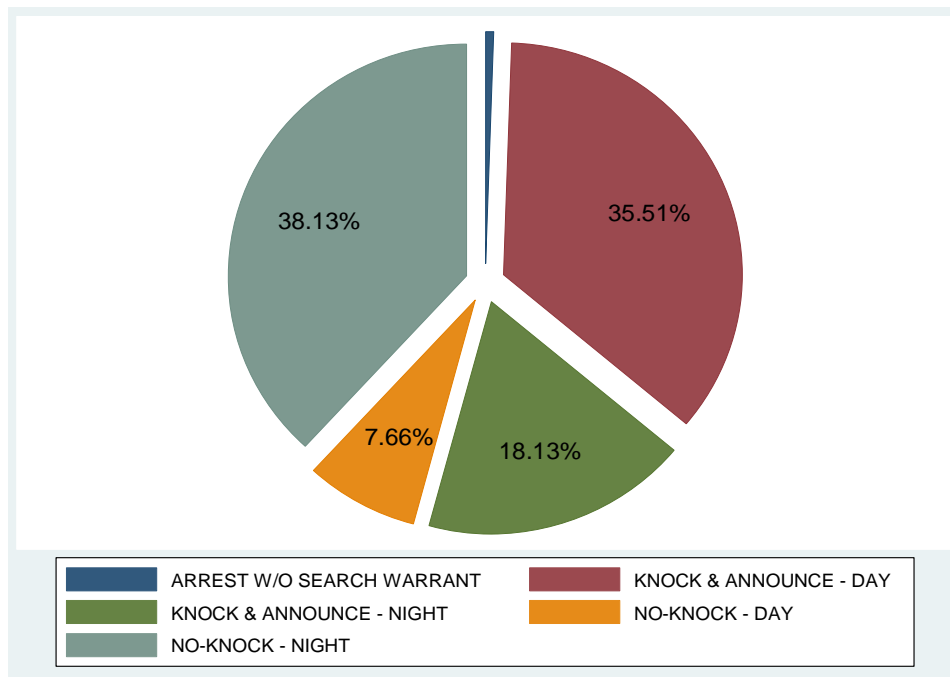


Figure 4. Warrant Type (n=559)



2. COUNTY ANALYSIS

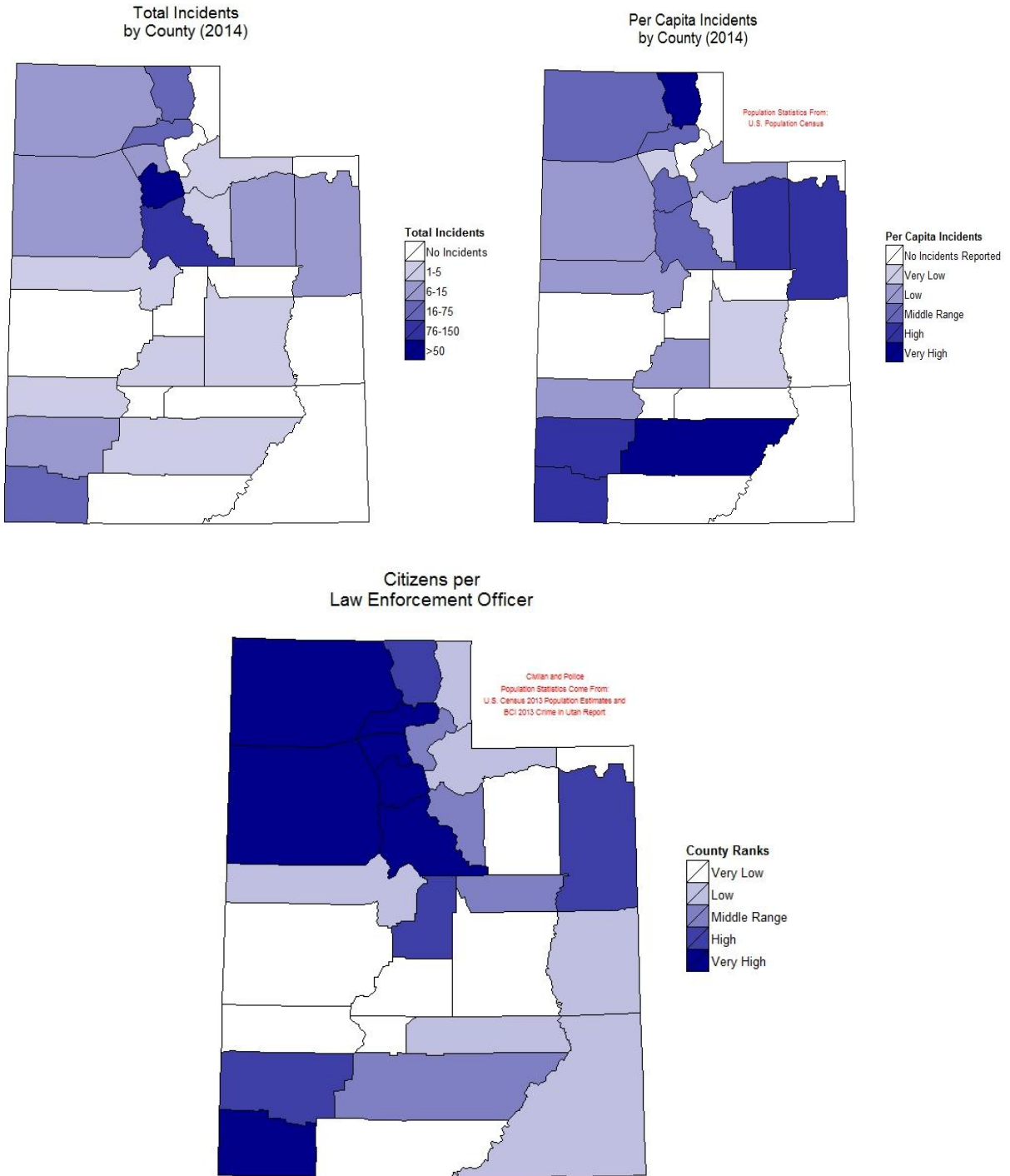
The following Figures show reported incidents by county and the same metrics adjusted to control for county population (Figures 5-7). The largest volume of incidents reported was in the Wasatch front, with Salt Lake County having the highest number of incidents reported (n=192). Adjusting for population, the counties with the highest number of per capita incidents were Washington, Garfield, Cache, and Duchesne County.³ It should be noted that counties with small populations may show higher incidents per capita as a result of having a small population.

Figure 7 reports the number of residents per law enforcement officer in each county across the state of Utah. On average, each law enforcement officer served the needs of 1,132 residents. The largest per officer number served was seen in Washington County, with 3,453 people per law enforcement officer. In contrast, there were only 56 people for every law enforcement officer in 2014 in Daggett County.⁴ A visual comparison of Figures 6 and 7 suggests that there's not a strong relationship between the number of residents per law enforcement officer and per capita incidents.

³ Note that 11 counties reported no incidents in 2014 and were hence, coded as zero (white color).

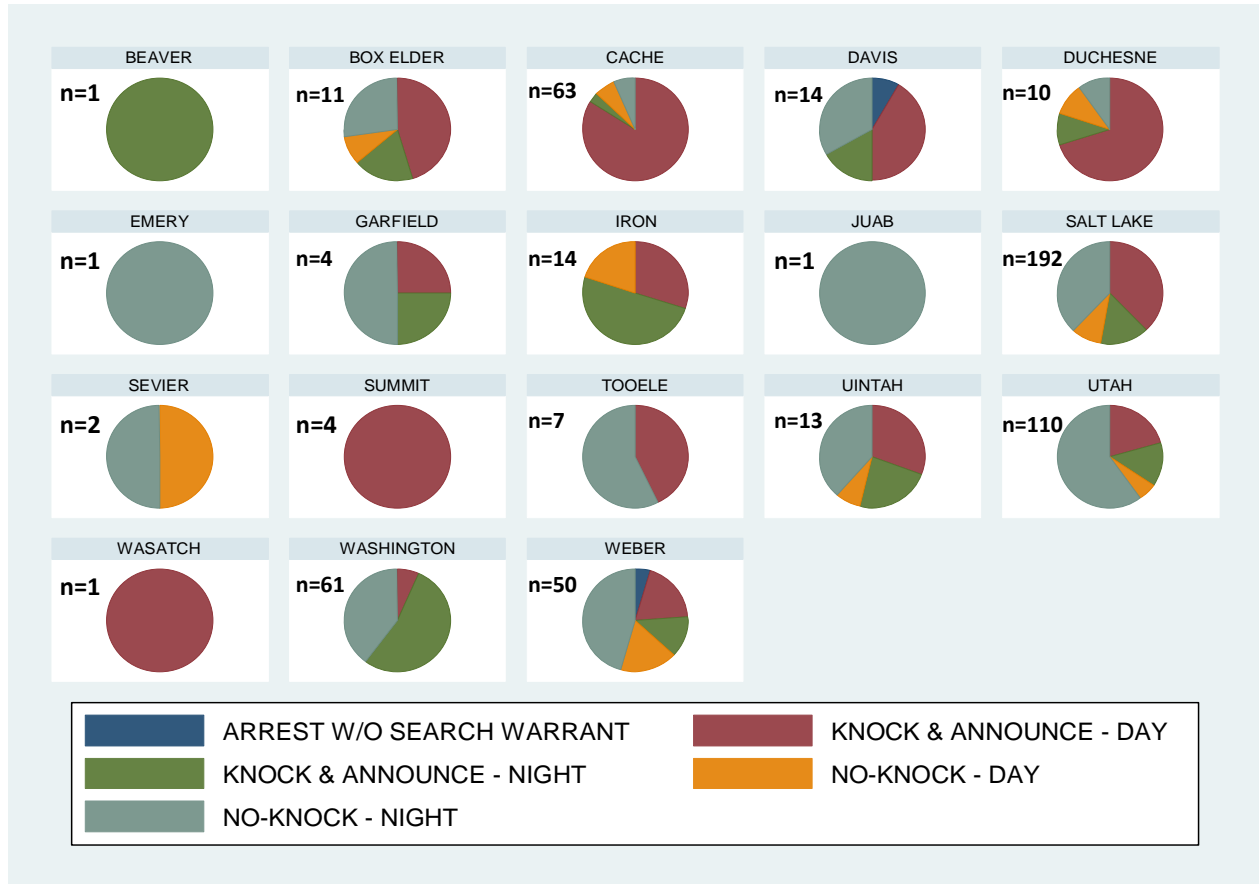
⁴ Population statistics were taken from the U.S. Census Bureau, available at: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html>. Law enforcement officer data was obtained from the 2013 Utah BCI report, available at: <http://bci.utah.gov/utah-crime-statistics/>.

Figures 5-7. Total and Per Capita Incidents and Citizens per Law Enforcement Officer



The frequency of the various warrant types utilized varied across counties (seen in Figure 8). Counties with the highest number of incidents, SLC and Utah County (n > 100), utilized “No-Knock-Night” and “Knock & Announce-Day” the majority of incidents reported (>75%). Washington (n=61) and Weber (n=50) County relied on the “Knock & Announce-Night” and “No-Knock-Night” respectively approximately 50 percent of the time.

Figure 8. Warrant Type by County



When examining the reason for warrants by county, those with the highest number of reported incidents (SLC, Utah, and Cache) showed a similar pattern as the aggregate, with drug warrants representing more than 80 percent of all warrants (see Figure 9).⁵ The vast majority for the reason for law enforcement deployment in these counties pertained to drugs, followed by warrants issued for the express purpose of gathering evidence (see Figure 10). Incidents in Iron County (n=14) had the highest share of alcohol-related warrants (21%).

⁵ It should be noted that several counties (e.g., Beaver, Emery, Juab, and Wasatch) reported very few incidents. Hence little to no weight should be given to the overall outcome of those specific counties.

Figure 9. Reason for Warrant by County

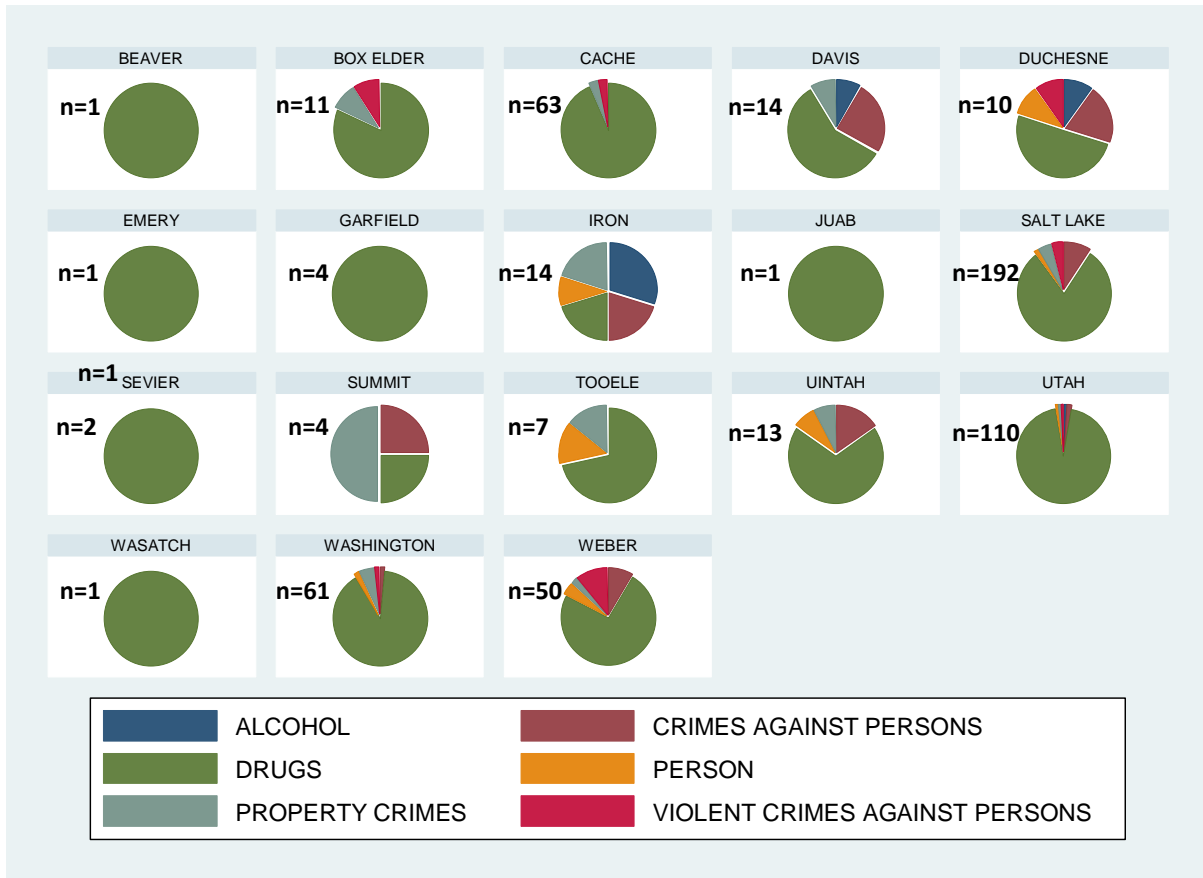
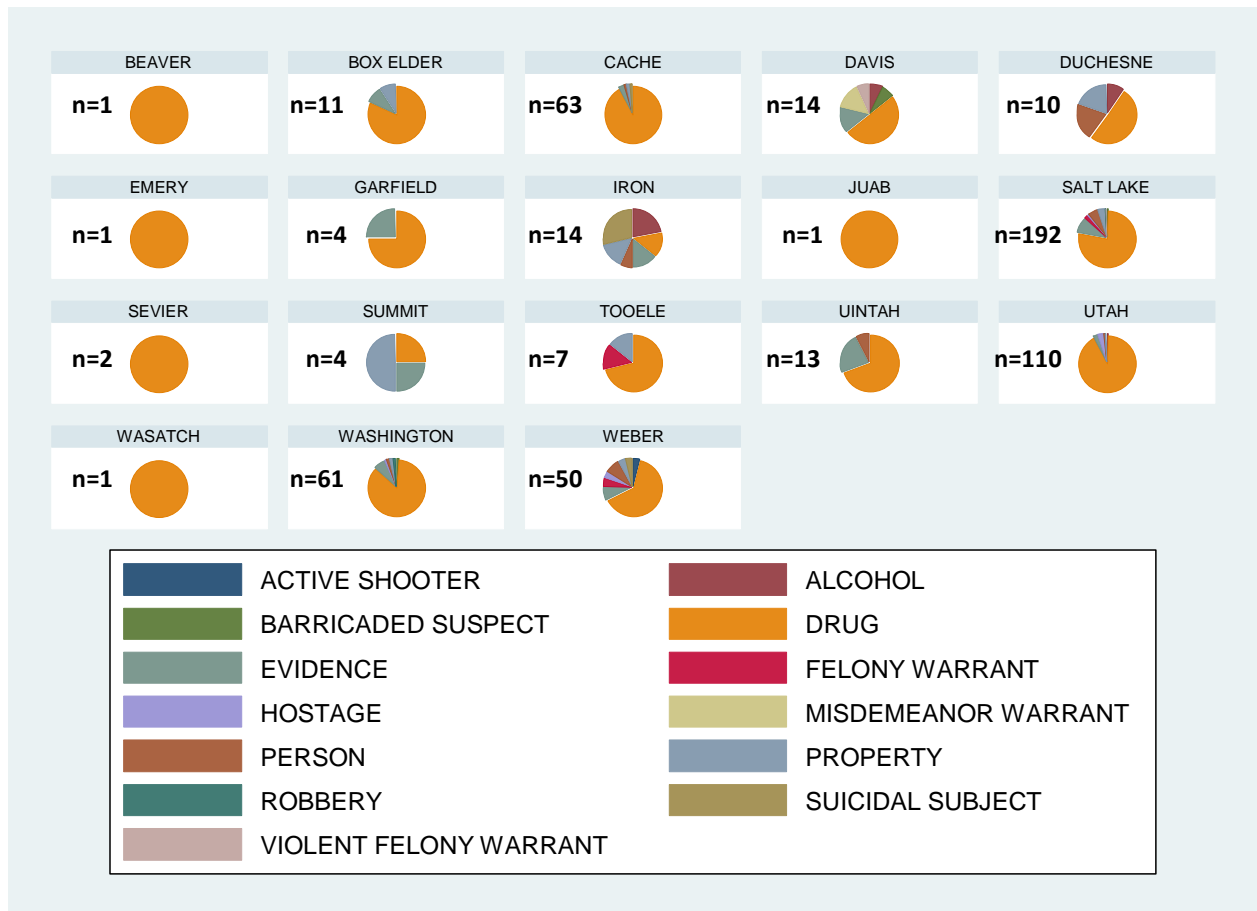


Figure 10. Reason for Law Enforcement Deployment by County



3. GROUP TYPE ANALYSIS

The agency group types that responded in each incident fall into one of three categories: Tactical, Non-Tactical, and Task Forces. The deployment of task forces, non-tactical, and tactical groups was authorized with a warrant 100, 96, and 85 percent of incidents respectively. Forced entry was authorized and used around 60 percent across all groups (Task Forces=62%, Tactical=65%, Non-Tactical=58%).

Evidence was seized in more than 94 percent of incidents, with task forces seizing evidence in 99 percent of incidents. Property was seized less frequently, at approximately 17 percent across all agency group types. The mean number of arrests was less than two arrests per incident across groups.

A prior threat assessment was conducted more than 75 percent of the time across all groups. Task forces performed a threat assessment more frequently than the two other groups (89% vs. 79% of tactical and 78% of non-tactical). Selected summary statistics are shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Selected Summary Statistics by Group Type

Group Type	Had Warrant	Forced Entry	Evidence Seized	Property Seized	Threat Assessment
Task Force (n=189)	100%	62%	99%	16%	89%
Tactical (n=89)	85%	65%	87%	17%	79%
Non-Tactical (n=281)	96%	58%	93%	18%	78%

Task Forces obtained “No-Knock at Night” warrants nearly 50 percent of the time while tactical groups used this same tactic 61 percent of the time (seen in Figure 11), and non-tactical groups utilized it 24 percent of the time, relying primarily on the “Knock & Announce-Day” (>50% of all reported incidents). Non-tactical groups and task forces utilized “Arrest w/o Search Warrants” the least (< 2% across all groups).

Similar to the aggregate, the vast majority of warrants pertained to drugs across the three groups, with task forces obtaining a drug warrant 90 percent of the time (seen in Figure 12). Tactical groups obtained drug warrants 79 percent of the time and had a larger share of warrants related to violent crimes against persons than the other two groups (9% vs. 4% of non-tactical and 1% of task forces).

Figure 11. Warrant Type by Group

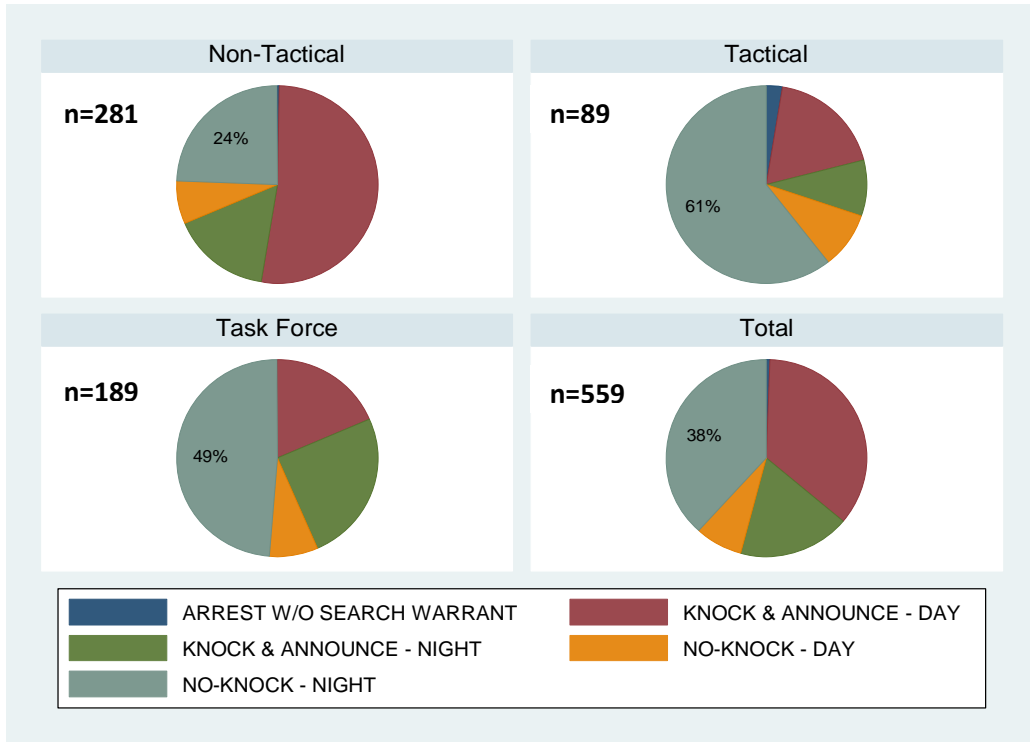


Figure 12. Reason for Warrant by Group

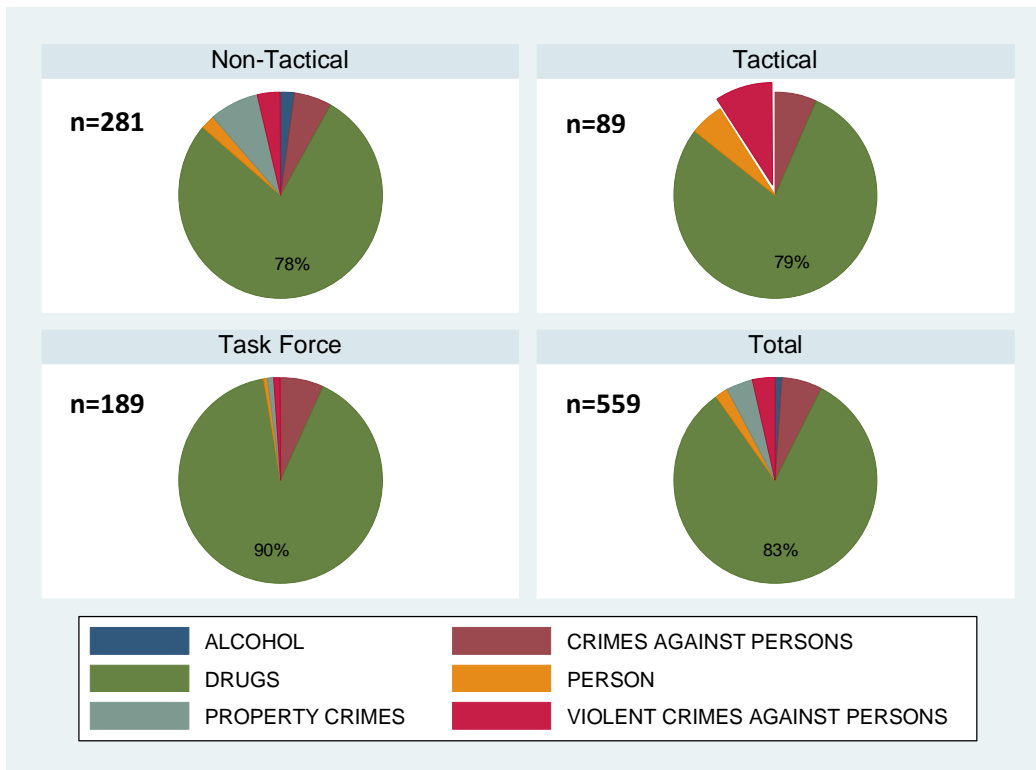


Table 3. List of Reporting Agencies

Agency Name	# of Incidents
AGENCIES THAT REPORTED INCIDENTS	
AMERICAN FORK/CEDAR HILLS PD	5
BEAVER COUNTY SHERIFF	1
BLUFFDALE PD	2
BOX ELDER COUNTY SHERIFF	5
BRIGHAM CITY PD	1
CACHE-RICH DRUG TASK FORCE	56
CEDAR CITY PD	11
COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS PD	2
DAVIS COUNTY TASK FORCE	6
DUCHESNE COUNTY SHERIFF	1
EMERY COUNTY SHERIFF	1
ESCALANTE PD	4
GRANTSVILLE PD	2
HURRICANE PD	2
IRON COUNTY SHERIFF	2
LAYTON PD	3
LEHI PD	6
LOGAN PD	6
LONE PEAK PD	2
MURRAY PD	4
NEPHI PD	1
NORTH OGDEN PD	5
NORTH PARK PD	1
OGDEN PD	25
OREM DPS	3
PARK CITY PD	5
PLEASANT GROVE PD	17
PROVO PD	16
ROOSEVELT PD	8
ROY PD	4
SALEM PD	3
SALT LAKE CITY PD	37
SANDY PD	6
SANTA CLARA IVINS PUBLIC SAFETY	2
SARATOGA SPRINGS PD	3
SEVIER COUNTY SHERIFF	2
SOUTH JORDAN PD	1
SOUTH OGDEN PD	1
SOUTH SALT LAKE PD	7
SPANISH FORK PD	5
SPRINGVILLE PD	14
ST. GEORGE PD	7

SYRACUSE PD	1
TOOELE PD	5
TREMONTON PD	5
UHP SALT LAKE CITY	2
UINTAH COUNTY SHERIFF	2
UNIFIED POLICE DEPT OF GREATER SALT LAKE	95
UTAH ATTY GENERL-SALT LAKE	14
UTAH COUNTY MAJOR CRIMES TASK FORCE	48
UTAH COUNTY SHERIFF	1
VERNAL PD	12
WASATCH COUNTY SHERIFF	1
WASHINGTON COUNTY DRUG TASK FORCE	48
WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF	2
WEBER COUNTY SHERIFF	15
WEST JORDAN PD	4
WEST VALLEY PD	9
AGENCIES THAT REPORTED NO INCIDENTS	
AIRPORT AUTHORITY-SALT LAKE	0
ALTA MARSHAL	0
BOUNTIFUL PD	0
BYU - PD	0
CARBON COUNTY SHERIFF	0
CENTERVILLE PD	0
CLEARFIELD PD	0
CLINTON PD	0
DAGGETT COUNTY SHERIFF	0
DAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF	0
DEPT PUBLIC SAFETY - MIS	0
EAST CARBON PD	0
ENOCH PD	0
FAIRVIEW PD	0
FARMINGTON PD	0
GARFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF	0
GRANITE SCHOOL DISTRICT PD	0
HARRISVILLE PD	0
HEBER CITY PD	0
HIDEOUT PD INACT NO USERS	0
HILDALE PD	0
IRON COUNTY TASK FORCE	0
JUAB COUNTY SHERIFF	0
KAMAS PD	0
KANAB PD	0
KANE COUNTY SHERIFF	0
KAYSVILLE PD	0
LINDON PD	0
MANTUA PD	0
MAPLETON PD	0

MILLARD COUNTY SHERIFF	0
MOAB PD	0
MONTICELLO PD	0
MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF	0
MT. PLEASANT PD	0
NORTH SALT LAKE PD	0
PAROWAN PD	0
PAYSON PD	0
PERRY PD	0
PIUTE COUNTY SHERIFF	0
PLEASANT VIEW PD	0
PRICE PD	0
RICH COUNTY SHERIFF	0
RICHFIELD PD	0
RIVERDALE PD	0
SALINA PD	0
SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL	0
SAN JUAN COUNTY SHERIFF	0
SANTAQUIN PD	0
SMITHFIELD PD	0
SNOW COLLEGE PD	0
SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY PD	0
SPRINGDALE PD	0
SUMMIT COUNTY SHERIFF	0
SUNSET PD	0
TOOELE COUNTY SHERIFF	0
UHP - BEAVER	0
UHP - CEDAR CITY	0
UHP - KANAB	0
UHP - ST. GEORGE	0
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH PD	0
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY LOGAN	0
WASHINGTON CITY PD	0
WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFF	0
WEST BOUNTIFUL PD	0
WILDLIFE RESOURCE - LED	0
WOODS CROSS PD	0
