

Center for the Analysis of Crime Statistics

State Data Brief

July 2011. CACS 2011-01-01DPS

Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program in Nevada, 2005-10

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In 2005, the Federal government began providing financial support to state and local governments through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The JAG program is a combination of two older Federal programs: the Local Law Enforcement Block Grants (LLEBG) and Edward Byrne Memorial Grant Program.

The JAG program aims to control violent crime as well as to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system overall by supporting state and local initiatives related to one of seven program areas:

- Law Enforcement
- Prosecution and Court
- Prevention and Education
- Corrections and Community Corrections
- Drug Treatment and Enforcement
- Planning, Evaluation, and Technology Improvement
- Crime Victim and Witness Programs

Congressional appropriations determine the amount of JAG money available each year and the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) administers the JAG program (see Hickman, 2005). State JAG awards are based on calculations performed by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), using violent crime rates and population figures (See Cooper & Reaves, 2011; Hickman, 2005). Forty percent of a state's award is set aside for local governments, whose portion of the grant is also based on crime and population totals.

Nevada's Department of Public Safety (DPS) administers the state JAG award each year. Historically, JAG funding in Nevada has been used predominantly to combat drug-related crimes and gang activity through the support of multi-jurisdictional narcotic and gang task forces. Task forces and other projects/programs are funded through a competitive sub-grant process.

This State Data Brief provides an overview of JAG funding received by the state of Nevada between FY2005 and FY2010. State funding levels in Nevada are compared regionally, as well as to national levels. Local government allocations are also examined and details of programmatic activity and spending in FY2010 are provided.

Highlights

- On average, between FY2005 and FY2010, Nevada received more than \$4.2 million in state and local JAG funds.
- As a result of the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*, Nevada received about \$23 million in additional JAG stimulus money in FY2009.
- Over the past six years, JAG funds to local governments in Nevada increased 20%.
- In FY2010, 21 of the 26 JAG sub-awards funded Law Enforcement program area projects, totaling about \$2 million.
- This year, JAG-funded task forces in Nevada made over 1,400 felony arrests and seized over 18kg of commercial grade marijuana.
- This year, JAG-funded task force activities produced 64 federal/state forfeitures, including over \$1.2 million in cash forfeitures alone.

State Funding, 2005

Nationally, in FY2005, over \$481,000,000 was awarded to states and local municipalities under the JAG program (Hickman, 2005). Nevada received nearly 1% of this total, or about \$150 dollars for every violent crime recorded in the state and reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) under the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program (Table 1).

Table 1. Allocation of JAG funds in FY 2005.

State	Allocation	Pct. of total	Dollars per crime
All states	\$481,572,100	100.0	--
California	\$58,359,716	12.1	\$111.04
Arizona	\$9,519,902	2.0	\$117.39
Oregon	\$5,468,670	1.1	\$192.76
Nevada	\$4,655,415	1.0	\$151.59
Utah	\$3,767,930	0.8	\$279.39
Idaho	\$2,720,187	0.6	\$318.90
All others	\$397,080,280	82.5	--

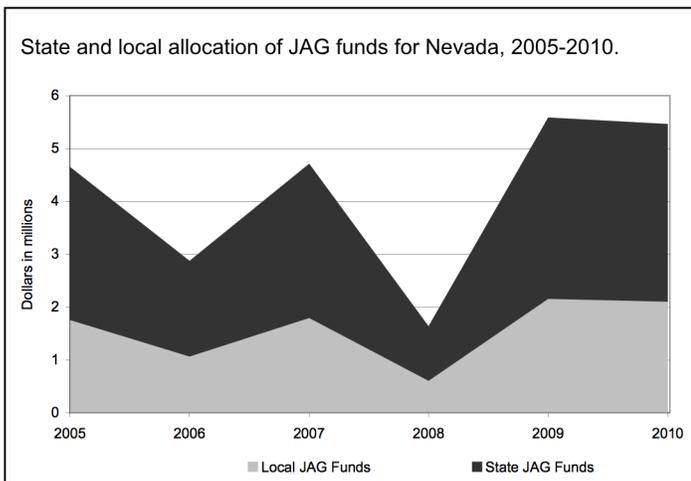
Source: Hickman (2005).

Fiscal year (FY) runs from July through June.

Comparatively, in FY2005, Idaho received \$319, Utah received \$279, Oregon received \$193, Arizona received \$117, and California received \$111 in JAG funding per violent crime.

State and Local Funding, 2005-10

On average, between FY2005 and FY2010, Nevada received more than \$4.2 million in state and local JAG funds. Figure 1 shows JAG funding awards to state and local governments during this time frame.



In FY2005, Nevada agencies received the first JAG awards totaling \$4.7 million. In FY2008, Nevada received 65% less in JAG award money. Since the FY2008 funding cycle, however, JAG allocations to Nevada have steadily increased.¹ For example, between FY2008 and FY2010, state JAG funds for Nevada rose 247% and local funding climbed 226%.

State Funding, 2010

Details of the FY2010 JAG allocation to Nevada are presented in Table 2 and show that the state received more than 1% of all Federal JAG funding or approximately \$117 per violent crime in the most recent JAG funding cycle.

Table 2. Allocation of JAG funds in FY 2010.

State	Allocation	Pct. of total	Dollars per crime
All states	\$445,875,252	100.0	--
California	\$51,148,405	11.5	\$108.92
Arizona	\$9,866,535	2.2	\$123.83
Nevada	\$5,464,840	1.2	\$116.71
Oregon	\$5,026,817	1.1	\$197.23
Utah	\$3,761,665	0.8	\$250.78
Idaho	\$2,643,122	0.6	\$286.75
All others	\$367,963,868	82.5	--

Source: Cooper & Reaves (2011).

Federal fiscal year (FY) runs from July through June.

Comparatively, in FY2010, Idaho received \$287, Utah received \$251, Oregon received \$197, Arizona received \$124, and California received \$109 in JAG funding for each violent crime.

Stimulus Funding, 2009

In addition to the standard, annual JAG allocation, in FY2009 states received "stimulus" JAG funding as a result of Congress passing the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*. Nevada received about \$23 million in additional JAG stimulus money in FY2009, which was more than 3 times the normal FY2009 JAG allocation to the state.

Table 3 provides details of the state and local JAG stimulus allocation to Nevada and shows that the majority of funds provided to local governments went to Clark County/Las Vegas (83%), followed by Reno (12%), Carson City (1%), Nye County (1%), and Lyon County (1%).

Table 3. Allocation of Recovery Act JAG funds in Nevada, FY2009.

Allocation	2009
Total	\$22,912,332
State	\$13,801,023
Localities	\$9,111,309
Clark Co./Las Vegas	\$7,558,206
Reno	\$1,101,607
Carson City	\$123,248
Nye Co.	\$62,245
Lyon Co.	\$50,186
Douglas Co.	\$42,206
Elko	\$36,177
Humboldt Co.	\$29,792
Pershing Co.	\$28,728
Churchill Co.	\$25,359
White Pine Co.	\$15,073
Carlin	\$14,187
Fallon	\$12,236
Winnemucca	\$12,059

Source: Bureau of Justice Assistance (2011).

Since population size is a key component of how JAG funding is allocated, the majority of local government funds awarded in Nevada go to Clark County/Las Vegas. For example, in FY2010, Clark County/Las Vegas received 74% of all local government allocations, followed by North Las Vegas (9%), and Reno (8%).

In addition to county, municipal, and joint government awards, JAG funding may be awarded to Tribal governments. Since FY2005, only one Tribal award to Nevada's Tribal governments has been made. Specifically, in FY2007, more than \$13 thousand was allocated to the Washoe Tribe.

Programmatic Activity, 2010

Local law enforcement and state agencies that receive JAG sub-awards from Nevada's DPS are awarded funds within one of the seven categories described above. Historically, Nevada has largely allocated funds to law enforcement programs focused on combating drug and gang problems, as well as to prevention and training programs. A portion of Nevada's funding has also been used to fund drug courts within the state. JAG-funded programmatic activity in FY2010 is provided by quarter in Table 5 and is summarized in the following sections.²

Local Funding, 2005-10

From FY2005 to FY2010, the allocation of JAG funds to local governments in Nevada increased 20% (Table 4), outpacing the increase in state funding (16%) over the same time period. Although funding to local governments in Nevada reached a low of about \$600 thousand in FY2008, in the most recent funding cycle it exceeded \$2 million.

Table 4. Local allocation of Nevada JAG funds, FY 2005-10.

Allocation	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total	\$1,754,691	\$1,066,513	\$1,795,974	\$605,049	\$2,155,799	\$2,100,933
County						
Clark Co./Las Vegas	\$1,156,066	\$729,448	\$1,240,885	\$441,565	\$1,546,676	\$1,552,085
Lyon	\$12,531	\$0	\$13,206	\$0	\$12,124	\$0
Nye	\$16,473	\$0	\$13,685	\$0	\$15,037	\$14,200
Douglas	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,196	\$0
Municipal						
North Las Vegas	\$194,236	\$108,190	\$155,378	\$56,106	\$206,840	\$198,095
Henderson	\$72,864	\$41,629	\$59,972	\$20,199	\$69,018	\$66,447
Carson City	\$41,485	\$24,960	\$37,134	\$10,709	\$29,775	\$24,587
Tribal allocation						
Washoe Tribe	\$0	\$0	\$13,337	\$0	\$0	\$0
Joint						
Washoe County	--	\$20,360	\$29,681	\$0	\$26,219	\$25,132
Reno City	--	\$112,280	\$185,364	\$61,297	\$193,174	\$175,959
Sparks City	--	\$29,646	\$47,332	\$15,173	\$46,740	\$44,428

Note: Allocations in FY 2009 do not include funds awarded under the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*. See Table 3 for detailed information on allocation of these funds in Nevada.

Source: Bureau of Justice Assistance (2011).

-- Total joint allocation in 2005 equaled 261,036; but details of the allocation were unavailable.

Table 5. JAG funded programmatic activity by quarter, FY 2010.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Law Enforcement					
Personnel ¹	14	22	21	17	74
State and local initiatives ²	2	0	0	0	2
Training ³	\$2,624	\$14,784	\$27,720	\$12,162	\$57,290
Equipment and supplies ⁴	\$5,509	\$75,855	\$56,418	\$50,772	\$188,554
Contractual support ⁵	61	0	0	0	61
Prosecution and Courts					
Personnel ¹	2	2	2	2	8
State and local initiatives ²	0	0	0	0	0
Prevention and Education					
Technical Assistance	\$0	\$3,200	\$3,900	\$3,900	\$11,000
Corrections and Community Corrections					
Personnel ¹	1	1	3	7	12
State and local initiatives ²	41	0	30	62	133
Training ³	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
Equipment and supplies ⁴	\$8,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,800
Drug Treatment and Enforcement					
Personnel ¹	12	21	11	0	44
State and local initiatives ²	48	15	21	0	84
Equipment and supplies ⁴	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Planning, Evaluation, and Technology Improvement					
Equipment and supplies ⁴	\$0	\$22	\$0	\$0	\$22

Source: Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA) online Performance Measurement Tool (PMT).

Note: Programmatic activity reported in Table 5 represents activity funded with both FY2010 JAG allocations as well as FY2009 JAG allocations carried over to FY2010. Information presented in the table does not reflect all performance measure data available in the PMT.

¹Personnel figures represent the number of new personnel hired and/or retained with JAG funds.

²State and local initiative figures represent the total number of new participants receiving services.

³Training figures represent the amount of JAG funds used to provide training.

⁴Equipment and supplies figures represent the amount of JAG funds used to purchase equipment and/or supplies.

⁵Contractual support figures represent the number of hours paid with JAG funds.

⁶Technical assistance figures represent the amount of JAG funds used to provide technical assistance.

Law Enforcement

In FY2010, 21 of the 26 JAG sub-awards issued by Nevada's DPS (Appendix A) funded projects within the Law Enforcement program area. Generally, these funds are used to hire/retain personnel, develop and implement state/local law enforcement initiatives, train law enforcement personnel, and to purchase equipment and supplies (DPS, 2011).

For example, more than six-dozen law enforcement personnel were hired/retained during FY2010 with JAG sub-award money (Table 5). In addition, nearly \$60 thousand were spent on training and nearly \$200 thousand were used to purchase equipment and supplies.

Prosecution and Courts

Churchill County received the only FY2010 JAG sub-award (\$100,000) aimed at supporting prosecution and court programs (DPS, 2011). In FY2010, the

JAG funds received by Churchill County were used to hire/retain two employees.

Prevention and Education

Carson City's District Attorney received the only FY2010 JAG sub-award (\$14,757) aimed at supporting prevention and education programs (DPS, 2011). These funds were used primarily to provide technical assistance. Specifically, more than \$11 thousand were used to provide technical assistance to the community in the form of events and manuals.

Corrections and Community Corrections

In FY2010, Nevada's Department of Corrections (DOC) received the only JAG sub-award (\$100,000) aimed at supporting corrections and/or community corrections programs. These funds were used to hire/retain personnel, develop and implement state/local corrections and community corrections

Table 6. JAG funded task force activities by quarter, FY 2010.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Task Force Activities					
New investigations initiated	512	441	752	1,428	3,133
Federal and/or state search warrants served	106	81	123	34	344
Task force arrests made					
Felony	399	291	533	188	1,411
Misdemeanor	59	68	101	77	305
Task force arrests of gang members only					
Felony	23	17	23	29	92
Misdemeanor	10	13	7	14	44
Drugs seized (in kg)					
Heroin	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.3	2.4
Cocaine	3.2	40.4	0.0	0.1	43.8
Crack	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.6
Marijuana (commercial grade)	6,104.9	6,491.2	89.8	5,442.3	18,128.2
Marijuana (hydroponic)	1.0	0.0	0.0	27.7	28.7
Methamphetamine	45.1	833.9	6.9	15.0	900.9
Methamphetamine (ice)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ecstasy (MDMA)	0.1	18.2	33.1	12.0	63.4
Firearm seizures	63	38	86	76	263
Forfeitures					
Number of federal/state	19	16	15	14	64
Amount of federal/state (in cash)	\$35,531	\$28,938	\$1,132,647	\$13,017	\$1,210,133

Source: Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA) online Performance Measurement Tool (PMT).

Note: Task force activity reported in Table 6 represents activity funded with both FY2010 JAG allocations as well as FY2009 JAG allocations carried over to FY2010. Information presented in the table does not reflect all performance measure data available in the PMT.

initiatives, and to purchase equipment and supplies (DPS, 2011).

Specifically, in FY2010, five employees were hired/retained through the JAG sub-award to Nevada's DOC. In addition, more than 130 state and local initiatives were supported and nearly \$10 thousand worth of equipment and supplies were purchased in FY2010 with JAG funds.

Drug Treatment and Enforcement

The Ridge House, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit social service organization in Reno, Nevada. The Ridge House employs a community-based solution to the issues of reentry designed to change the behavior of offenders, prevent future offending, and make the community safe. The Ridge House received the only FY2010 JAG sub-award (\$45,000) aimed at drug treatment and enforcement (DPS, 2011).

In FY2010, more than 40 employees were hired/retained as a result of the drug treatment and enforcement JAG sub-award and more than 80 state/local initiatives were supported.

Planning, Evaluation, and Technology Improvement

A single FY2010 JAG sub-award totaling \$300,000 was issued to Clark County/Las Vegas. This award was intended to support planning, evaluation, and technology improvements; however, the program did not become operational until the third quarter and limited performance measure data was available at the end of the 2010 fiscal year (DPS, 2011).

Task Force Activity, 2010

As noted above, the large majority of JAG funding in Nevada supports drug and gang task force activities. JAG-funded task force activity in FY2010 is provided by quarter in Table 6 and is summarized in the following sections.

New Investigations and Arrests

Each quarter during the current fiscal year, JAG-funded task forces initiated hundreds of new investigations aimed at addressing problems related to gangs and drugs in Nevada's communities (DPS, 2011). At the end of FY2010, JAG-funded gang and drug task forces had initiated more than 3,100 new investigations (Table 6). These investigations

resulted in 1,411 felony and 305 misdemeanor arrests, including nearly 140 arrests of gang members alone.

Drug and Firearm Seizures

During the current fiscal year, JAG-funded task forces in Nevada seized large quantities of drugs, including more than 18,000kg (1kg=2.2lbs) of commercial grade marijuana, more than 900kg of methamphetamine, and nearly 64kg of ecstasy (DPS, 2011). Smaller quantities of heroin (2.4kg) and crack (1.6kg) were seized by JAG-funded drug task forces during FY2010.

In addition to several kilograms of drugs, dozens of firearms were seized as a result of JAG-funded task force activities this fiscal year. Specifically, since July 2010, Nevada's JAG-funded task forces seized 263 firearms.

Forfeitures

Legally, forfeiture is the loss of a criminal defendant's rights to property, which is confiscated by the government when the property was used in the commission of a crime. The seizure by law enforcement officers of an automobile used in the transportation of illegal narcotics, for example, is a criminal forfeiture. During the current fiscal year, JAG-funded task force activities resulted in 64 federal/state forfeitures, including over \$1.2 million in cash forfeitures alone.

Data Source and Limitations

Data used in this State Data Brief were obtained from the Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA) state allocation comparison tables and performance measure data reported to Nevada's Department of Public Safety as part of JAG sub-award requirements.

Performance measure data were accessed online through BJA's Performance Measurement Tool (PMT). Sub-award grant recipients establish performance measures as part of their JAG grant application. Performance measures are reported quarterly throughout the fiscal year. Performance data reported in this State Data Brief do not represent all of the performance data contained in the PMT.

State Data Brief (SDB) Program

As independent research projects, faculty and graduate students in UNLV's Department of Criminal Justice write research reports on major issues in criminal justice in Nevada. These "State Data Briefs" are statistical summaries of various criminal justice system practices in Nevada over time and highlight differences between Nevada and other states. These reports cover all aspects of the criminal justice system, including trends in crime and arrests, police practices, prosecution and pretrial activities, adjudication and sentencing, and corrections.

The data briefs are short in length (2-6 pages), provide several graphs and charts of statewide and national patterns, and are written in an easily readable, non-technical style. They are designed to provide members of the general public, local officials, community organizations, and media outlets a concise and objective statistical profile of current criminal justice practices in Nevada that may serve as a foundation for informed discussions of future crime control policies and practices.

Additional information about the State Data Brief Program can be found at the Center for the Analysis of Crime Statistics' website: <http://www.unlv.edu/centers/crimestats>

References

- Bureau of Justice Assistance (2011). State allocation tables retrieved on February 5, 2011 from <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/jag.html>
- Department of Public Safety (2011). Online data access to the Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA) Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) retrieved on various data from <https://www.bjaperformancetools.org/>
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Appendix A. FY2010 JAG sub-award distributions by program area and recipient.

Program Area/Recipient	Project Period	Amount
Law Enforcement		
Carson City Sheriff's Office	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$270,281
Carson City Sheriff's Office	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$10,000
Carson City Sheriff's Office	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$160,000
Douglas County Sheriff's Office	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$126,000
DPS-Investigation Division	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$111,450
Elko Police Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$159,950
Elko Police Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$80,000
Fallon Police Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$55,000
Henderson Police Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$50,000
Humboldt County Sheriff's Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$50,000
Lander County Sheriff's Office	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$90,000
Lovelock Police Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$85,000
Lyon County Sheriff's Office	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$90,000
Mesquite Police Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$125,000
Nye County Sheriff's Office	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$149,500
Reno Police Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$70,000
Reno Police Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$70,000
Washoe County Sheriff's Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$40,000
Washoe County Sheriff's Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$70,000
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California	Oct 1, 2010 - Mar 30, 2011	\$4,735
White Pine County Sheriff's Department	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$175,000
Prosecution and Courts		
Churchill County	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$100,000
Prevention and Education		
Carson City District Attorney	Oct 1, 2010 - Jun 30, 2011	\$14,757
Corrections and Community Corrections		
Nevada Department of Corrections	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$100,000
Evaluation and Technology Improvement Planning		
Clark County	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$300,000
Drug Treatment and Enforcement		
The Ridge House	Jul 1, 2010 - Sep 30, 2013	\$45,000

Note: As of July 1, 2011, twenty-six sub-awards were funded with the FY2010 state JAG allocation (2010-DJ-BX-0105). These sub-awards represent \$2.60 million of the \$3.36 million awarded to the state.

¹The increase in JAG FY2009 and FY2010 funding was a result of increased Congressional appropriations for the JAG program overall, and was not due to an increase in Nevada's crime rate or a decrease in the state's population.

²Programmatic and task force activities are based on information obtained from the Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA) online Performance Measurement Tool (PMT). As part of all JAG-sub awards, grantees must identify, collect, and report performance measurement data on activities funded by their award through the PMT.

Contact Information

Questions or comments about the information contained in this report, data used to generate this report, or about other resources available related to this topic should be address to:

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