

While Alabama does not have a state law requiring the reporting of deaths in custody, the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) established a condition to all subrecipient awards (except NHTSA and state funded projects) that states the following:

**DEATH IN CUSTODY REPORTING ACT (DCRA)**. The Death in Custody Reporting Act (DCRA) of 2013 requires a State that receives allocations under specified provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to report certain information regarding the death of any person in law enforcement custody. This may include individuals who are detained, arrested, en route to incarceration, or incarcerated in State or local facilities or a boot camp prison. The Subrecipient agrees to notify ADECA of any reportable deaths involving the implementing agency under this agreement. The DCRA reporting form can be found at <https://adeca.alabama.gov/wp-content/uploads/Death-in-Custody-Reporting-Act-DICRA-Form.pdf>. Please contact your ADECA Program Manager, if you have questions regarding applicability of this requirement to your entity.

The state of Alabama strives to have 100% of the law enforcement agencies across the state participate in DCRA reporting. The issue that the State faces is that we have no legal authority or law to compel reporting. ADECA is not sure how many agencies are not currently complying with reporting requirements. ADECA has the subrecipient clause in its contracts that can be used to maintain compliance with DCRA reporting but that only runs on 12-month cycles. ADECA only funds about 6-7% of the law enforcement agencies across the state on an annual basis which means that the subrecipient clause only covers a similar percentage of law enforcement agencies on a 12-month funding cycle. There is no incentive to law enforcement agencies to force compliance other than withholding grant funding.

Facility Type	Number of Facilities
Adult Lockups (including court holding facilities) that detain adult inmates	126
Adult Jails	139
Secure Juvenile Detention Facilities	14
Secure Adult Correctional Facilities (prisons)	14
Secure Juvenile Correctional Facilities	6
Secure Juvenile Detention or Correctional Facilities that are <b>Collocated</b> with an Adult Jail or Lockup <i>Note</i>	4
<b>Facility Totals</b>	<b>285</b>

The state of Alabama has 285 secure confinement facilities. While we strive to train the appropriate entities on the importance of reporting deaths in custody there is no way for us to ensure that all facilities are reporting timely and accurate information. When possible, ADECA provides training to entities on how to accurately report death in custody data. To date we have provided training to the Alabama Coroners Association who is the governing body for all 67 coroners in the state of Alabama. ADECA has also provided training to the Alabama Department of Corrections on DCRA compliance. ADECA does not currently require any assistance or TTA from BJA nor do we have a DCRA website. We have explored the option of developing a site. However, the budget nor manpower for this has not yet

been available. One of the biggest issues ADECA faces is the updating on inaccurate or incomplete records. Once the records are updated (if at all) with cause of death or extra information not included on original report, we update the DCRA record accordingly. This largely depends on the reporting agency and their willingness to send updated records.

ADECA has established a dedicated email address for all DCRA reports to be submitted. After data is submitted the program managers (varies from quarter to quarter) upload the information into the PMT system on a quarterly basis. We have trained the state Department of Corrections and local coroners/medical examiners on how to submit data. The challenge ADECA faces with collecting timely and accurate data is that there is no incentive for locals to submit the data and ADECA does not have any authority over the reporting agencies. Data is provided to ADECA after a death has occurred and within the fiscal quarter that it occurred in.

ADECA designed a fillable PDF document for agencies to report DCRA data. ADECA manually enters data into the PMT system. ADECA tracks all records that are entered into PMT and update with additional info when it becomes available.

ADECA does not require any additional TTA at this time from BJA but would reach out in the future if any items need to be discussed. A possible solution would be to increase the authority of the State Administering Agency to collect this data.