



WAPRO

JLARC Public Records Data Collection Reporting Update

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2017 Legislature required public agencies to report public records information



Agencies that spend over \$100,000 fulfilling public records requests must report information to JLARC.



JLARC staff directed to collect and report data from agencies.



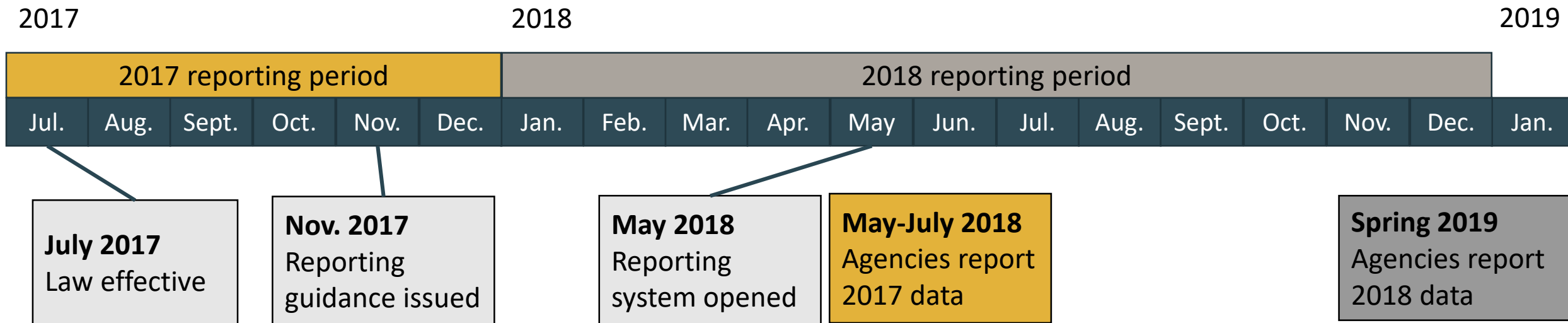
JLARC staff identified 2,310 agencies.

**JLARC
developed
definitions for
metrics,
guidance for
agencies**

JLARC worked with: consultants, advisory group, and work groups.



Agencies began reporting information in 2018



JLARC staff identified 2,310 agencies that may be subject to the reporting requirement

858 agencies reported information to JLARC

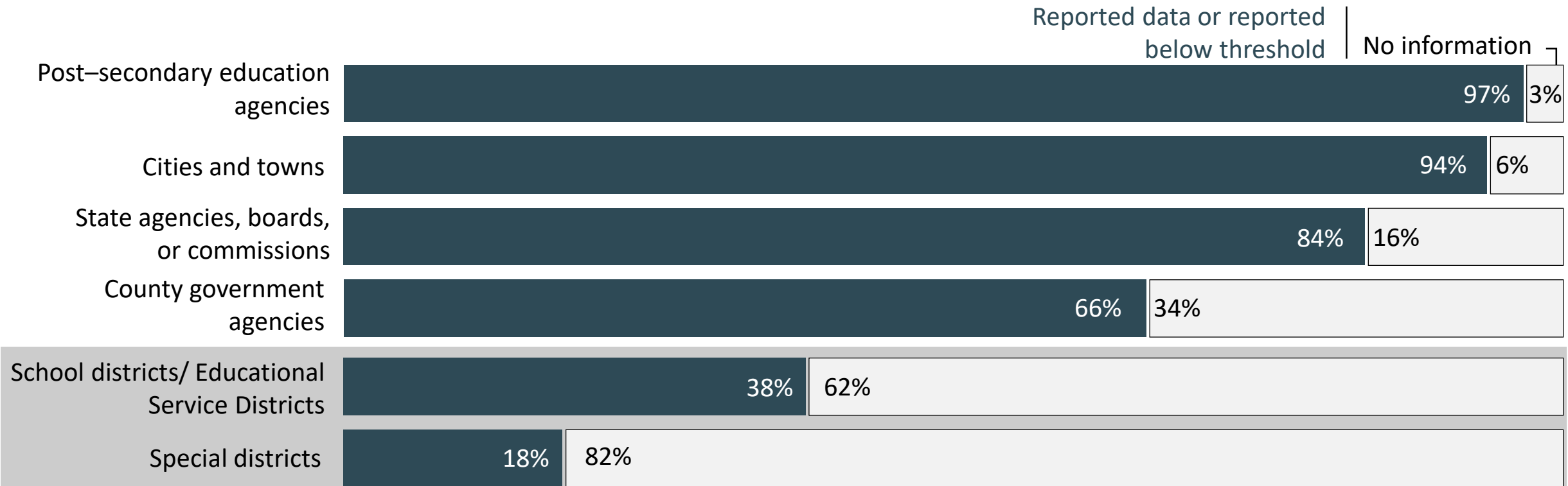


Reported performance data

Below threshold, did not report performance data

Did not report any information

Reporting rates vary



Many school and special districts did not provide information

It's unknown how many agencies with no information are above reporting threshold, but likely many are not.

Data quality inconsistent, but may improve in future as definitions and agency practices are refined

1

Data collected represents a partial calendar year.

2

Due to effective dates of state law, agencies began compiling initial data before complete guidance was available.

3

Statute requires agencies to report averages for some metrics (e.g., average time to respond).

Performance data available online in interactive dashboards

<http://leg.wa.gov/jlarc/reports/2019/pubRecordsDataCollection/default.html>



Overview of metrics

Requests received and closed	2 metrics
Response time	4 metrics
Requests response process data	3 metrics
Response format	2 metrics
Cost and time	4 metrics
Claims	2 metrics
Satisfaction and best practices	2 metrics

Requests open, received, and closed (*Baseline data*)

18,477 public records requests **open** at the start of the reporting period

143,162 public records requests **received** during the reporting period

139,635 public records requests **closed** during the reporting period

Each agency received an **average** of **774 requests**

Average time to respond to requests (*Metric 2*)

State average time to respond: 3.1 days

39 agencies reported less than 1 day to respond to requests

Average number of days from receipt to final disposition of a request (*Metric 4*)

Statewide, the average number of **days to final disposition** was **16 days**

Local government agencies reported the **shortest response time**, with an average of **8 days** to final disposition.

Post-secondary education agencies reported the **longest time** to final disposition, with an average of **43 days**.

Cost of fulfilling records requests (*Metric 13*)

Agencies spent **\$35.8 million** fulfilling records **requests**

This represents a **partial year of costs** for the period of July 23, 2017 to December 31, 2017

The **average cost** per **agency** was **\$196,519** and the **average cost** per **request** was **\$222**.

Costs of managing and retaining records *(Metric 16)*

Agencies spent \$144 **million managing and maintaining** public records

This represents a **partial year of costs** for the period of July 23, 2017 to December 31, 2017

The **average** cost **per agency** was **\$805,815**

Number of records requests denied and common reasons (Metric 7)

3 percent of requests were **fully denied** (5,615 requests)

75 agencies reported **no** requests **fully denied**.

25 percent were **partially denied or redacted** (40,429 requests)

26 agencies reported **no** requests **partially denied**.

Future Reporting

Current legislation could change reporting requirements

- If passed, would remove 3 metrics
- Minor changes to 4 others

Data collection for the next reporting period begins mid-May 2019 and closes July 1, 2019.

- The next reporting period will encompass a full calendar year.

Updated briefing report in January 2020.

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