The N-DEx/Criminal Justice Partnership

The FBI's National Data Exchange (N-DEx)

Why participate

* Nationwide criminal justice data sharing
* Access N-DEx features such as Batch Query, Subscription, Geo-vis, and Link-vis
* Immediate availability of nearly 600 million local, state, tribal, and federal records
* Coordinate investigations across jurisdictions

Contact Information

N-DEx Program Office:
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<www.fbi.gov/ndex>

What is N-DEx

The N-DEx System is a national investigative information-sharing system, enabling local, state, tribal, and federal criminal justice agencies to participate, at no cost. The N-DEx System is developed and managed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI's) Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division. Records in the N-DEx System span the criminal justice lifecycle, and include information related to incident/case reports, arrests, missing persons reports, service calls, booking and incarceration reports, pre-trial, probation and parole reports, warrants, citations/tickets, and field contacts/field interviews. All of this information promotes public safety, from the initial patrol stop, to the supervision of an individual reintegrated into the community. The N-DEx System provides access to nearly 600 million records from more than 5,600 agencies. Federal data includes records from the Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, United States Marshals Service, FBI Field Offices, and the Department of Defense.

Partnership

The N-DEx Program Office seeks to partner with agencies desiring participation in national information sharing. Criminal justice personnel may become users of the N-DEx System with no cost or obligation. Agencies may also contribute their data to the N-DEx System so other agencies are able to 'connect the dots' between seemingly unrelated data.

Users

There are three methods for users to interact with the N-DEx System. First, users may obtain a Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP) account and access the N-DEx System as a service from the portal. Second, agencies that manage their users through their own portal can become an Identity Provider (IdP) to LEEP so that users may log on without having a separate username and password. With these first two options, all of the N-DEx capabilities are available to the user, including features such as Subscription and Notification, Batch Query, Link Visualization, Geo Visualization, Collaboration, and more. Third, the agency can search the N-DEx System using Logical Entity Exchange Specification (LEXS) Search and Retrieve (SR) capability and display the N-DEx results in their own system. In Figure 1 (on back), each of these *User Access Methods* are depicted in a visual image.

Data

There are two methods for agencies to send data from their Record Management System (RMS) to the N-DEx System. The first method involves extracting and packaging data into batches, and using a Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) over the public Internet to submit batches of records to the N-DEx System. The SFTP method is the preferred method for submission of large batches of data to N-DEx. In addition, the N-DEx Program Office offers web services, used to extract and submit data in real-time. Web Service connections are preferred over the public Internet. In Figure 2 (on back), the N-DEx *Data Submission Methods* are depicted in a visual image.

Currently, the N-DEx Program Office offers no-cost assistance to agencies that want to make their data available in the N-DEx System, but do not have the necessary resources. The N-DEx Program Office technical staff can create and provide an 'adapter' that runs on the agency's system, and extracts and submits data to the N-DEx System at configurable intervals. Assistance with system connections is also available. If technical assistance is desired, agency staff can contact the N-DEx Program Office and your request will be provided to the N-DEx Liaison Specialist assigned to your state.

User Access Methods

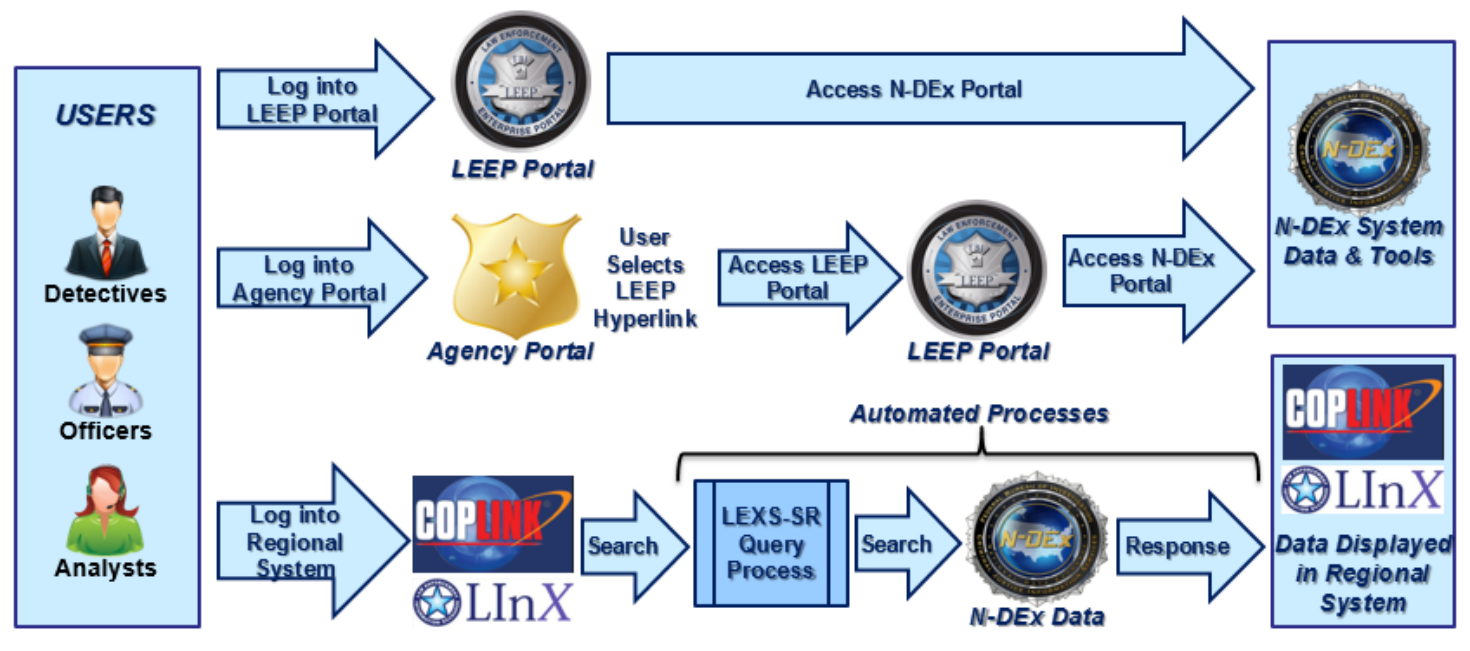

Figure 1

Data Submission Methods

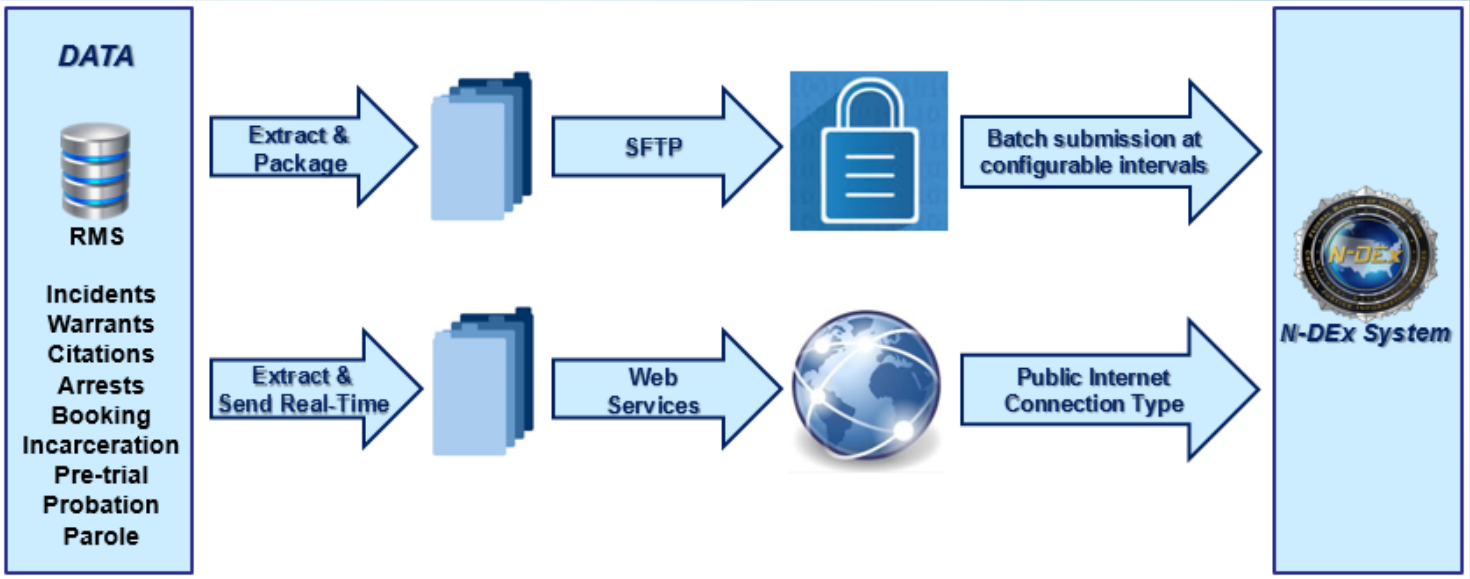

Figure 2

N-DEx Program Office

<www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/n-dex>

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