



The Interstate Identification Index (III) is an index pointer system that ties computerized criminal history record files of the FBI and the centralized files maintained by each III participating state into a national system. This system serves as the vehicle for data sharing and integration across the country. The final phase of III implementation is decentralization via the National Fingerprint File (NFF) Program. The NFF Program places the management and responsibility for the effective control, collection, maintenance, and dissemination of state criminal record files solely with the state. The NFF states respond to record requests for all authorized purposes, and the FBI ceases to maintain duplicate criminal records. A state must ratify the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Act of 1998 (34 U.S.C. §§ 40311-40316) before it can join the NFF Program.

- *Twenty-five states participate in the III.* These states agree to make their III indexed records available in response to requests from federal and out-of-state criminal justice agencies for criminal justice purposes. The FBI maintains a duplicate record to meet the needs of federal, state, and local noncriminal justice agencies and private entities that use III information for authorized noncriminal justice purposes. These states include Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.
- *Five territories do not participate in the III.* These territories include American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- *Twenty-six states participate in the NFF Program.* The NFF Program is the final stage of III implementation and the decentralization of criminal history records. A state becomes the sole maintainer and provider of its criminal history records. These states include Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.