



Stop the Silence. Help End the Violence.



Annual Report 2025

OK2SAY is Michigan's student safety system

Michigan State Police
7150 Harris Drive
Dimondale, MI 48821



2025 Annual Report Impact Summary

OK2SAY is Michigan's most effective prevention-based reporting system established by the Student Safety Act of 2013. It is designed to **EMPOWER MICHIGAN STUDENTS TO HELP PREVENT VIOLENCE AND MAKE THEIR SCHOOLS SAFER** by confidentially reporting threatening behavior.

Anyone can report tips on criminal activities or potential harm directed at students, school employees, or schools. The hotline is available for use 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

NUMBER OF TIPS

- 10,777 tips in 2025
- 72,496 cumulative tips since 2014

TOP FIVE TIP CATEGORIES IN 2025

1. Other (e.g., anxiety, stress, depression, harassment)
2. Suicide threats
3. Bullying
4. Drugs
5. Sexual assault / misconduct / exploitation

OK2SAY STUDENT SAFETY PRESENTATIONS

In 2025, OK2SAY delivered 930 presentations throughout Michigan, reaching 128,912 students. The impact of the OK2SAY presentations is clearly demonstrated by the overwhelmingly positive responses from school staff—98% said they would recommend these sessions to their colleagues. This strong endorsement reflects both the relevance of the content and the value the system brings to school communities.

MICHIGAN STATE POLICE YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION SUMMITS

The Michigan State Police (MSP) Office of School Safety successfully completed five Youth Violence Prevention Summits, engaging over 600 students from across the state. These impactful gatherings focused on mental health awareness, resilience-building, and proactive violence prevention strategies.

OK2SAY presented at each summit, providing students with critical information about confidential reporting and the power of speaking up. Through interactive discussions, OK2SAY reinforced the vital role students play in helping to prevent harm and support well-being in schools.

OK2SAY CONDUCTS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

OK2SAY participated in 48 conferences and expos across Michigan, reaching thousands of attendees and raising awareness about school safety. These events served as a platform to interact with diverse audiences, including students, educators, parents, law enforcement, mental health professionals, and community leaders.

OUTCOME REPORTS FROM SCHOOL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS

An analysis of 3,247 outcome reports revealed the significant impact of the OK2SAY system:

- 87% of reports confirmed the information in the tip was sufficient to initiate an investigation.
- 72% of respondents were unaware of the issue before receiving the OK2SAY tip, underscoring the system's vital role in uncovering hidden concerns.
- 88% of respondents found OK2SAY a valuable and essential tool in promoting safety and well-being.

These findings highlight the system's effectiveness in bridging critical information gaps and enhancing proactive intervention.

For more information visit www.ok2say.com



Michigan Student Safety Act History

The Michigan Student Safety Act (Public Act 183 of 2013) was signed into law in December 2013.

It required the Michigan Department of Attorney General to collaborate with the MSP, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and the Michigan Department of Education to establish, operate, and staff a hotline that:

- Provides for confidential reports of potential self-harm, harm to others, or criminal acts including but not limited to sexual abuse, assault, or rape directed at students, school employees, or schools in this state;
- Protects the confidentiality of a reporter's identity;
- Operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year; and,
- Promptly provides tip information to appropriate school officials, law enforcement, or other agencies.

Public Act 401 of 2020 amended Public Act 183 of 2013 and consolidated all OK2SAY functions into the MSP available at <https://go.mi.gov/40w7y2616>.

The MSP is responsible for developing, implementing, and reporting on Michigan Student Safety Act initiatives:

- The Michigan Intelligence Operations Center oversees the day-to-day operations of the OK2SAY tipline.
- The Grants and Community Services Division manages the administrative and outreach aspects of the OK2SAY system.

The goal of OK2SAY is to eliminate barriers so struggling students can get the help they need before a situation turns into a tragedy.

SCHOOL STAFF FEEDBACK

"I love that our students utilize OK2SAY to express their concerns. It has truly been a blessing for us, enabling timely intervention based on the valuable information shared by our students. Thank you for offering a secure and user-friendly platform for them to communicate."

Ms. Janie Mitchelson
Reeths-Puffer Middle School

"OK2SAY provides information proactively, allowing people to report concerns without fear of backlash. This allows us to investigate and intervene before a situation becomes critical."

Deputy Shane Helmer
Osceola County Sheriff's Office



Tipster's Identity Is Protected By Law

The Student Safety Act generally prohibits the disclosure of tipster information. Confidentiality of the tipster's identity is a hallmark of OK2SAY. Without it, those who report would not be as willing to come forward and share information. The identity of the tipster is statutorily protected. It can only be released with permission of the tipster, the tipster's parents if they are a minor, or through a court order. This information is also specifically exempt from the Michigan Freedom of Information Act.



OK2SAY TIP PROCESS

1. **Submit a Tip:** Anyone who witnesses or becomes aware of a potential safety threat can submit a confidential tip to OK2SAY. Tips can be submitted through the OK2SAY website, phone, email, text, or the mobile app.
2. **Expert Analysis and Triage:** A highly trained OK2SAY technician receives and carefully analyzes every tip. These professionals are skilled in risk assessment, crisis intervention, and information gathering. They determine the urgency and potential severity of the tip to prioritize response.
3. **Gathering Crucial Details:** The technician may initiate a confidential dialogue with the tipster to gather details, assess the severity of the concern, and determine an appropriate response.
4. **Connecting with Responders:** Once all relevant information is gathered, OK2SAY forwards the tip to the appropriate responding agency such as a school or a mental health or law enforcement agency.
5. **Investigation and Intervention:** The responding agency will investigate the reported issue, take the necessary precautions, provide support and resources, and implement interventions to address the concern and reduce potential risks.
6. **Feedback and Resolution:** After completing their investigation, the responding agency is encouraged to submit an outcome report to OK2SAY. The tip is marked as resolved within the OK2SAY system.



Metrics Analysis

OK2SAY Records SECOND-HIGHEST TIP VOLUME in System History.

During the past year, OK2SAY received 10,777 tips, marking the second-highest annual total since the tipline began. While this represents a modest 8% decrease from the record-setting volume in 2024, it reinforces OK2SAY’s position as a vital, high-utilization component of Michigan’s student safety infrastructure. This demonstrates a tangible shift toward a more proactive and supportive environment, where students are empowered to voice concerns so that safety issues can be addressed before they escalate.

See Appendix A for 2025 OK2SAY Tip Totals.

Top Five Tip Categories in 2025

Category	Number of Tips
Other (e.g., anxiety, stress, depression, harassment)	1,816
Suicide threats	1,767
Bullying	1,576
Drugs	1,153
Sexual assault / misconduct / exploitation	1,036

Tips versus Incidents

For comprehensive metrics, analysis, and reporting, OK2SAY distinguishes between “tips” and “incidents” when recording incoming contacts.

An OK2SAY “tip” is information provided through communication to OK2SAY technicians which may involve a series of communications with the reporting individual to clarify details and gather sufficient information for referral to the appropriate responding agency. All related communications pertaining to that specific report are counted as a single “tip.”

An OK2SAY “incident” is a specific, singular event. It is common for multiple individuals to report the same incident independently. Duplicate tips about the same incident indicate a healthy reporting culture within a community.

In 2025, OK2SAY logged 10,777 tips regarding 8,242 incidents.



2025 Referrals

When a tip is received, OK2SAY technicians gather available details and share the information with the appropriate responding agency or agencies. Because a single incident may be referred to multiple organizations, the total number of referrals may exceed the number of reported incidents. Tips lacking sufficient detail may not be eligible for referral or follow-up action.

In 2025, OK2SAY technicians forwarded or referred:

- **5,538 incidents to school officials;**
- **1,405 incidents to law enforcement;**
- **671 incidents to online resources, counseling, or crisis lines;**
- **176 incidents to Child Protective Services; and**
- **No tips were referred to community mental health services.**



Intervention

An intervention is the action taken by schools, law enforcement, or support services after receiving and assessing an OK2SAY tip. These responses are often coordinated between multiple agencies and may include investigations, wellness checks, counseling support, threat assessments, conflict resolution, parent or guardian notification, safety planning, medical assistance, or emergency response measures. The type and level of intervention depends on the details of the tip, the urgency of the situation, school policies, available resources, and the collaborative evaluation conducted by responding officials.

Based upon the 3,247 submitted outcome reports, most tips result in multiple interventions.

Type of Intervention	Number	Percentage
Parents notified	2,192	67.5%
Continued to monitor the situation	1,403	43.2%
School counseling	1,226	37.8%
Law enforcement involved	939	28.9%
School disciplinary action	445	13.7%
Welfare check	421	13.0%
Ongoing investigation	367	11.3%
Outside resources recommended	356	11.0%
Restorative practices / peer mediation	354	10.9%
Citation / apprehended	33	1.0%

Highlights of OK2SAY in 2025:

- 57 tips led to the immediate transport or hospitalization of a student due to suicidal thoughts or actions.
- 41 tips involved a weapon.
- 220 tips involved the seizure of drugs or alcohol.
- 445 schools conducted formal behavioral threat or suicide assessments following an OK2SAY tip, ensuring that at-risk students received structured support and oversight.
- Behavioral threat and suicide assessments increased by 89% in 2025 compared to 2024.

Outcome Reports

Schools and local law enforcement agencies are asked to complete an outcome report after each tip investigation. These reports help assess the overall effectiveness of the OK2SAY system, guide improvements to protocols and training, support student safety efforts, and track trends or emerging threats.

Outcome reports also reveal recurring themes in student safety concerns, which directly inform the content of educational presentations. This ensures the system remains relevant, responsive, and focused on the real-world challenges students face.

OUTCOME REPORTS FROM SCHOOL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS

An analysis of 3,247 submitted outcome reports revealed the significant impact of the OK2SAY system:

- 87% of reports confirmed that the information in the tip was sufficient to initiate an investigation.
- 72% of respondents were previously unaware of the issue before receiving the OK2SAY tip, underscoring the system's vital role in uncovering hidden concerns.
- 88% of respondents found OK2SAY a valuable and essential tool in promoting safety and well-being.

These findings highlight the system's effectiveness in bridging critical information gaps and enhancing proactive intervention.



OK2SAY Findings

Increase in Mental Health Tips – Decrease in Bullying Tips

OK2SAY observed a notable shift in tip trends, with mental health-related concerns continuing to rise. Approximately one in three tips involved some form of mental health challenge, highlighting the growing need for early intervention and student support services.

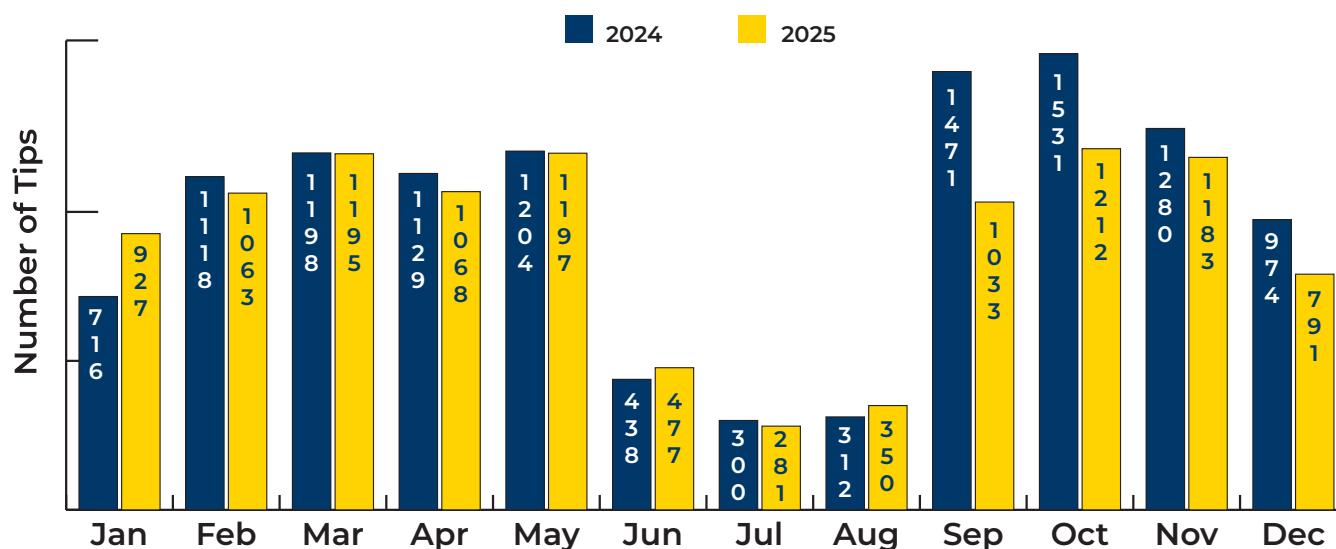
At the same time, bullying—historically, one of the most frequently reported categories—has declined, now accounting for approximately 15% of all OK2SAY tips.



OK2SAY Findings

Tip Trends and the Potential Impact of Student Mobile Device Restrictions

2024 and 2025 Monthly Tip Totals



Tip activity during the first half of 2025 remained consistent with the elevated reporting patterns observed in 2024. However, overall tip volume declined during the fall of 2025 (September–December) compared to the previous year.

While multiple factors may influence reporting activity, emerging research and operational observations suggest restrictive school cellphone policies may reduce some forms of student-generated reporting by limiting immediate access to personal mobile devices during the school day. A multi-university study involving more than 4,600 schools found classroom cellphone use dropped significantly following implementation of restrictive device policies, demonstrating reduced student access to mobile devices during instructional hours.¹

Although the study did not specifically evaluate tipline usage, several state-level student safety tipline programs reported observing similar declines in lower-level or impulsive reporting activity following implementation of restrictive device policies. During several 2025 National Student Safety Tiplines Zoom conference calls, participating programs, including Colorado, Maryland, Missouri, Oregon, Utah, and Wisconsin discussed observing downward trends in student-generated reporting activity that may correlate with expanded cellphone restrictions.

Lower-level tips—often submitted immediately after witnessing an incident—may be more affected by reduced device access, while higher-risk reports involving mental health crises, self-harm, or threats of violence may remain more stable as students and staff continue prioritizing urgent safety concerns.² Continued monitoring of reporting trends and tip categories will be important to better understand the long-term operational impact of restrictive device policies.

¹ "Timing Patterns of Interpersonal Violence, Mental Health and School Attack Tips Submitted by Youth to a Statewide Anonymous Reporting System," accessed May 20, 2026, <https://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/injuryprev/early/2026/03/13/ip-2024-045510.full.pdf>

² "A Look at State Efforts to Ban Cellphones in Schools and Implications for Youth Mental Health," September 11, 2025, <https://www.kff.org/affordable-care-act/a-look-at-state-efforts-to-ban-cellphones-in-schools-and-implications-for-youth-mental-health>

When you stop the silence, you help end the violence.

Examples of OK2SAY's work in 2025:

- Suicide -

Tip: A student sent text messages to friends expressing suicidal thoughts, "I want to kill myself." The student had a known history of suicide attempts and trauma-related depression, heightening concern for their safety.

Result: OK2SAY immediately contacted the school's designated after-hours emergency contact to obtain the student's home address. Local law enforcement was notified and a welfare check was conducted at the residence. The student's parents transported their child to the hospital for a comprehensive mental health evaluation. The school is continuing to collaborate with the family to coordinate follow-up care, counseling resources, and ongoing support to promote the student's safety and well-being.



- Sexual Misconduct and Digital Evidence -

Tip: A report alleged a student engaged in sexual misconduct on a school bus and possessed inappropriate images of minors on their personal device.

Result: The district initiated the school's protocols and alerted law enforcement. Following a joint inquiry, the student admitted to the allegations. The student was suspended, and formal expulsion proceedings were initiated in accordance with district policy.



- Conflict Escalation and Weapons Access -

Tip: Following a dispute, a student threatened to shoot classmates, claiming access to a newly purchased firearm.

Result: Law enforcement responded and conducted a home visit, where officers located an unsecured weapon in the residence. The student's parents were directed to obtain a gun lock from the police department and were required to remove the firearm from the home by storing it off-site with a relative. In addition, school administrators conducted a thorough review of the broader incident. As a result, two additional students were identified as having contributed to escalating the conflict and were issued suspensions in accordance with school policy.



- Out-of-State Predator Prevention -

Tip: A report indicated that an adult from another state was exposing themselves to minors in Michigan and repeatedly attempting to solicit explicit photos and videos from the children they contacted. The tipster provided specific identifying location information.

Result: The case was referred to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and local law enforcement in the suspect's home state. Authorities were able to identify the individual as someone already known to law enforcement and under investigation for harassing juveniles. The victim's school was also notified to ensure appropriate awareness, safety planning, and support.



- Rapid Medical Response -

Tip: A tip was received reporting that a student was experiencing suicidal thoughts and engaging in self-harm behaviors.

Result: The school principal was able to identify the student. The School Resource Officer (SRO) arrived at the student's home just minutes after the student had ingested twenty pills. This swift coordination allowed emergency medical services to provide life-saving treatment.



More Examples of OK2SAY's Work in 2025

- Narcotics and Illegal Firearm Distribution -

Tip: A report claimed a student was selling marijuana and vaping products and had used a firearm during a crime. The tip further indicated that the student had posted images of firearms on social media, raising concerns about the potential safety risks to the school community.

Result: TA joint investigation by school administration and law enforcement led to the recovery of a disabled handgun. The investigation further revealed a large-scale drug operation on campus involving thousands of dollars in transactions. The student was expelled from school and faced criminal charges.



- Cyberbullying -

Tip: A report was received of a student being targeted by a group of cyberbullies who were actively pressuring a student to take their own life.

Result: School administration and the SRO launched a joint investigation, successfully identifying both the victim and the primary aggressors. The school convened meetings with the parents of all involved parties, disciplined the responsible students, and connected the targeted student with emotional support and a personalized safety plan.



- Harassment -

Tip: A student deliberately pulled down another student's clothing ("pantsing") at a bus stop, resulting in public humiliation and significant emotional distress.

Result: The school promptly identified the students involved. The student responsible was suspended in accordance with the district's harassment and physical misconduct policies. School officials conducted formal meetings with the parents of all students involved to reinforce the seriousness of the behavior and the district's zero-tolerance stance on harassment.



- Weapon -

Tip: A report indicated that a student brought a weapon onto school grounds with the explicit intent to harm a specific classmate.

Result: The school administration and security personnel immediately located and secured the weapon before any physical confrontation occurred. The district collaborated closely with the student's family to provide additional therapeutic programming and address the underlying intent. While the student was suspended in accordance with the school's code of conduct, the school also implemented a structured support and monitoring plan to prioritize the safety of the targeted classmate and the broader student body.



- Artificial Intelligence (AI) Misuse and Threat Assessment -

Tip: A report indicated that a student used AI tools to generate videos that sexualized and romanticized school shooters.

Result: School administrators investigated the incident and met with the student and their parents to address the seriousness of the behavior. A safety and monitoring plan was implemented to provide oversight of the student's digital activity, reinforce appropriate boundaries, and ensure the situation did not escalate further.



- Unauthorized Access to Firearms -

Tip: A social media post showed a student holding two firearms while making threats.

Result: Law enforcement conducted a home visit and investigation, which determined the student had broken into a relative's locked room to access the weapons for a photo. Law enforcement used the incident as an intervention point, providing the family with intensive education on secure storage and the legal gravity of unauthorized firearm access.



Training and Outreach

Student Safety Presentations

Turning Awareness into Action

Students play a vital role in maintaining safe schools, often being the first to notice warning signs or threats both in person and online. By providing students with the knowledge and confidence to report concerns, schools promote early intervention, build stronger trust within the school community, and foster a culture where students feel empowered and supported to speak up.

The MSP offers free OK2SAY presentations for elementary, middle, and high school students, as well as community seminars for adults and guardians. These sessions teach participants how to recognize warning signs, submit a confidential tip, and understand how reports are reviewed and acted upon. By increasing awareness and explaining the reporting process, the presentations help remove fear and hesitation — replacing them with confidence and action.



Life-Saving Assembly Awareness

Following an OK2SAY school assembly, a student recognized the seriousness of a situation when a peer sent “goodbye” messages and expressed a clear plan to die by suicide. Remembering the information shared during the presentation, the student chose to submit a tip. The report was immediately relayed to local law enforcement, who conducted a welfare check and located the student. The student was transported to the emergency room for evaluation and then to a mental health facility for continued care. School staff later confirmed that the presentation played a critical role in the reporting student’s decision to speak up — leading to timely intervention and potentially saving a life.

This example underscores a powerful truth: awareness leads to action.

OK2SAY is building a strong, connected network of vigilant students, educators, and community members committed to preventing tragedies and protecting one another. By empowering individuals to recognize warning signs and speak up, the system shifts school culture from reactive to proactive. This early-alert approach enables school officials and law enforcement partners to intervene before concerns escalate into crises.

In 2025, OK2SAY delivered 930 presentations throughout Michigan, reaching 128,912 students.

PROMOTIONAL DISTRIBUTION

Promoting OK2SAY in schools is critical to empowering students to report safety concerns in a trusted, confidential, and reliable manner. Consistent awareness ensures students not only recognize the system but also understand how and when to use it.

To strengthen this effort, OK2SAY distributed promotional materials to schools and community organizations across the state. By maintaining visibility, OK2SAY fosters a culture where students feel confident, supported, and encouraged to speak up when safety concerns arise.

Outreach and Promotions

OK2SAY EXPOS

Throughout 2025, OK2SAY significantly amplified its statewide presence by engaging in 48 conferences and expos across Michigan. These strategic touchpoints facilitated direct dialogue with a broad group of constituents, including students, parents, educators, law enforcement, mental health professionals, and community leaders. Through meaningful dialogue and direct engagement, OK2SAY shared resources, promoted its reporting mechanisms, and built partnerships, reinforcing its critical role in enhancing school safety and student well-being.

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

For the ninth year, OK2SAY teamed up with the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) to promote OK2SAY at high school sports tournaments. This collaboration continues to be a vital way to reach students and families in a community setting.

- Nearly 2.3 million individuals viewed the OK2SAY advertising on the MHSAA website.
- Approximately 1.4 million people heard the OK2SAY message at tournaments.
- Thousands of OK2SAY promotional materials were distributed to students and parents during the various state finals.
- OK2SAY advertising was included in 18,000 printed and digital game programs.



MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS

OK2SAY sponsored the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Great Lakes Broadcast and Sports Media Academy in Detroit and the Michigan Student Broadcasting Awards in Lansing. Approximately 1,600 students interested in broadcasting attended the events.

A key component of this support was the sponsorship of a Public Service Announcement (PSA) contest, challenging students to create impactful audio or video PSAs promoting OK2SAY. These PSAs aimed to raise awareness about the system and its resources. To experience the creativity and talent of these young broadcasters and to view some of the award-winning entries, please visit the PSA section of the official OK2SAY at <https://go.mi.gov/3kccs2594>.



BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD (BCBS) OF MICHIGAN'S BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

Since the fall of 2020, OK2SAY has partnered with the BCBS Building Healthy Communities initiative to support children's health and well-being. This initiative equips teachers, administrators, and students with essential resources, curriculum, equipment, and professional development to foster healthier school environments.

As part of this effort, OK2SAY's resources and messaging have been integrated into the program, reinforcing the shared goal of enhancing student well-being.



Financials

The MSP incurred \$1,761,191 in costs during 2025 under the Michigan School Safety Act, including the operation and administration of the 24/7 tipline. Itemized costs included:

- \$1,412,780 in salary, wages, and benefits;
- \$345,352 for services, supplies, and maintenance; and
- \$3,059 in travel.



2025 Total Tip Numbers

Appendix A

2025 Tip Category	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Alcohol	18	10	10	13	26	7	8	10	14	21	21	4	162
Assault	14	22	26	24	32	8	6	2	18	15	28	17	212
Bullying	135	191	189	180	197	57	11	29	141	194	151	101	1,576
Child abuse	23	23	22	34	33	21	11	11	26	36	37	29	306
Cyberbullying	78	66	99	42	62	25	36	22	76	68	53	39	666
Dating violence	0	3	7	1	4	2	0	2	1	5	1	2	28
Domestic violence	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	0	0	2	10
Drugs	110	110	144	151	123	35	11	22	116	139	109	83	1,153
Explosives (bomb)	7	3	1	3	5	0	1	0	3	4	1	4	32
Fighting	1	6	5	5	9	1	0	0	6	7	8	5	53
Guns	13	9	25	15	19	5	1	6	15	13	25	3	149
Human trafficking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Kidnapping / attempted kidnapping	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	5	2	1	1	13
Planned fights	29	33	31	16	16	9	3	7	23	18	20	17	222
Planned school attack	19	27	32	14	28	9	0	1	48	54	22	11	265
Self-harm	40	43	42	44	27	13	4	9	37	58	58	33	408
Sexting	26	11	7	15	16	4	3	4	10	12	10	14	132
Sexual assault / misconduct / exploitation	94	89	105	109	118	70	45	52	90	97	92	75	1,036
Stalking	1	0	19	8	5	2	0	1	2	2	0	0	40
Stealing	0	6	4	9	8	2	1	1	5	7	2	2	47
Suicide threats	127	178	201	184	208	108	44	66	136	164	205	146	1,767
Threats	62	67	56	41	68	31	4	26	61	74	45	39	574
Vandalism	1	3	5	6	18	2	1	0	10	4	5	4	59
Weapons possession	4	4	6	6	5	2	1	2	9	4	5	2	50
Other (e.g., anxiety, stress, depression, harassment)	125	159	157	147	170	63	89	75	176	214	284	157	1,816
Total	927	1,063	1,195	1,068	1,197	477	281	350	1,033	1,212	1,183	791	10,777





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Download app for Apple and
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