

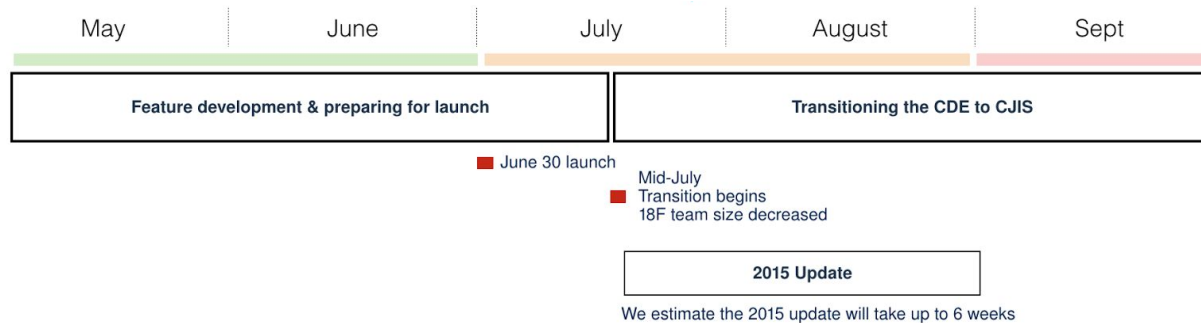
FBI Crime Data Explorer

# Status Report (8/3)

18F

## Project plan

The remainder of the project will consist of the following phases: 1) preparing the CDE for launch and 2) transitioning ownership of the CDE to CJIS. Below is a high-level overview of the project approach and it's key milestones:



## Executive Summary of Activities:

This week 18F completed sprint 17, the first full sprint in support of the transition phase. The team has been focused on the following:

- Working with elements of the transition team (primarily Sarah and Brandon, but now Jacob Wentz) to get them acquainted with the CDE codebase and 18F's working methods. Collaboration between the 18F/CJIS teams is progressing well - the team is communicating daily via Slack and "pairing" on specific tasks to promote knowledge transfer.
- Conducting the 2015 data transfer with a goal of completing this process by August 21st. The effort is ongoing, but the team remains on track to meet the target delivery date.
- Preparing for next week's transition workshop at CJIS. The workshop will be a 2-day event, with the first focused on big picture topics like the future direction of the CDE and the second being more technical in nature.
- Monitoring the site for performance/stability issues and responding to user feedback as necessary. Over the course of the sprint we've addressed the following issues, some of which are bugs, while others are optimizations:
  - #261 (P1) An issue where multiple trend lines would display simultaneously based on the states selected. This issue is now resolved on production with the latest release.
  - #984 (P2) An optimization that makes navigating within the Explorer view easier on mobile devices.
  - #267 (P2) An issue where the feedback from was improperly caching submitted responses.

- #259 (P0): We learned that the CDE front-end was using the wrong API endpoint to generate the total number of incidents presented for NIBRS states and agencies. This number was actually based on the number of offenders associated with the incident data reported by those entities for a given time range, not the number of incidents. This was not only misleading as written, but led to confusion around how the total was related to the supporting dimensions presented by the CDE. This number is now based on the number of “offenses” reported for a given crime type and time range, not incidents. The CDE currently does not have the capability to generate the number of incidents reported dynamically within the Explorer because it lacks an incident API. This is a feature that is fairly expensive to implement, but is worth keeping on the product roadmap for future consideration.
- #233 (P2): An issue where the mini trends for the agency view were not displaying correctly in IE.

For more detail on what the team is currently working on see the “to do” and “in progress” columns on our Waffle board: <https://waffle.io/18F/crime-data-explorer>.

## 2015 data update:

Expected delivery date: August 21st, 2017

Status: **On track, but slightly behind our target pace.** We are currently finishing the NIBRS update for 2015. Once that is complete we'll start updating the other RETA datasets and can expose the new data to the front end for review. Assuming we stay on schedule we'll review and optimize this process with the transition team to facilitate future updates.

*Background & disclaimer: We estimate that updating the CDE with 2015 data will take approximately 6 weeks to complete. This process involves several steps (see below) and includes documenting and automating selected aspects in order to make future updates easier. While we have confidence in hitting the August 21st delivery date, this is the first time 18F has attempted this process and so there are still unknowns. 18F recommends that CJIS sets expectations appropriately with senior management based on weekly progress towards this goal.*

Key steps for the 2015 update:

- Our first step is to upload the 2015 data provided by CJIS to the 18F database that powers the CDE. This can be time-consuming, as we'll look to automate several aspects of the process to make future updates faster. To complete the upload we'll need to make sure that the new data matches our schema and handle any irregularities as they are identified. - **COMPLETE**
- Once the data is completely loaded, we'll repurpose and run our transformation scripts to process only the new 2015 data. This process will take time because of the amount of

computational resources required to complete it. Also, careful steps must be taken to minimize downtime of the CDE. If downtime is required, we'll need to coordinate with CJIS so that relevant stakeholders are aware of any disruptions in service. - **WE ARE HERE.**

- When the new aggregated data is built we will need to verify the results.
- Once verified, we can expose the new data to the Explorer web interface.
- Finally, we'll wrap-up the process by documenting key aspects for future updates. This will be an excellent opportunity to collaborate with the transition team so that they understand how this process should work in the future.

## Open Issues:

- 18F has implemented a solution that will scan feedback submitted through the CDE using a set of predefined keywords provided by CJIS. If feedback containing these keywords is detected the system will alert the FBI of potential threats via email. To complete these feature we need to establish FBI email addresses to send and receive the notifications from. Mike is currently working on this issue.
- The CDE currently has a non-standard URL that doesn't identify it as an FBI product and which may confuse prospective users. CJIS is coordinating with OPA to secure an "FBI.gov" URL.
- OPA is conducting an assessment of the CDE and will issue a written report citing potential vulnerabilities with a month. Once we receive the report we'll respond to any issues as appropriate.
- CJIS has asked about extending support past September. This support would largely consist of "light consultations", or "reachback", and would drawn from a limited bucket of hours for a yet undetermined period of time. More discussions on this topic are needed.

## Key Risks

- **Managing expectations:** There are many stakeholders involved in this project and different perspectives on what the CDE should do and why. Aligning around what is both feasible and of highest value to users will be key to achieving the best possible result and managing expectations going forward.
- **Limited opportunity:** The CDE is limited to *presenting* the data that's available from the FBI. It will not directly affect the volume, quality, or timeliness of the data it displays.
- **Dealing with uncertainty:** There is uncertainty around what data will be available, what it can support, and how it will be updated.

- **Agile, user-centered design, and open data:** 18F works in ways that are new to the FBI and may present organizational and cultural challenges.
- **Providing visibility around decision-making and approval:** How might shared responsibilities among the project core team, the FBI's ATO process and the Office of Public Affairs influence our ability to make decisions in a timely manner?