

FBI Crime Data Explorer

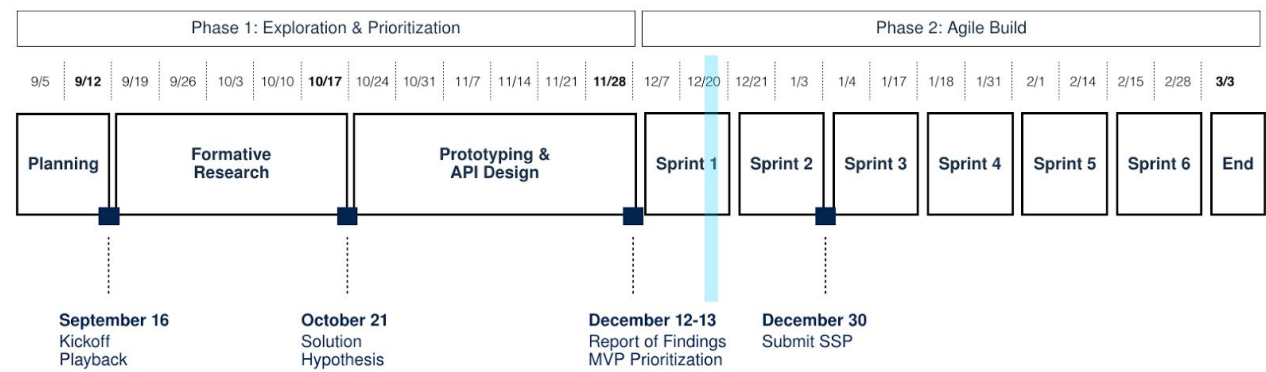
Status Report

(12/19)

18F

Project plan

The project team has outlined a two-part approach for designing, building, and deploying the Crime Data Explorer (CDE). Part 1 will focus on establishing parameters and identifying priorities for the minimum viable product (MVP). Part 2 will focus on implementing features based on the resulting product roadmap and ongoing user and stakeholder feedback.



Overall progress will be communicated through these status reports and weekly check-ins with the FBI project core team.

Executive Summary of Activities:

Last week 18F traveled to CJIS to present the vision and direction for the Crime Data Explorer. Prior to this discussion 18F conducted a workshop with core team members to prioritize the highest value opportunities for the MVP and develop a high-level product roadmap. These activities allowed for the differentiation between what is core to the CDE and what are “nice to haves” and provide a framework for evolving the product over the long-term. A copy of the presentation and the roadmap was sent along with this status report.

While much of the team’s recent focus has been on preparing for and conducting the aforementioned presentations, 18F has started production of the CDE and is already nearing the end of its first development sprint. As the first of 6 iterations, this sprint has been aimed at laying the **foundation for the CDE** by reading designs for implementation, making technical decisions about which tools and frameworks to use, and putting the necessary infrastructure in place to build on top of.

As a foundational sprint, much of the technical work over the last 2-weeks is not user-facing, so the focus of this week’s sprint-review will be on the latest designs and user flows that will guide development. For the same reasons we will not conduct user testing this week, but will

incorporate the feedback we received from last week's presentations and this week's design review in our planning for sprints 2 and 3. You can view what the team is working on at anytime by accessing our repos on GitHub.

On a related, but separate note, the team is aiming to complete most of the core documentation for the FedRAMP ATO by the end of the year.

Development Approach:

The team will continue to take an iterative and user-centered approach to designing and building the CDE. However, unlike prototyping, our focus will be on enabling the highest-value user experiences rather than exploring what the product could be. This means that our pace will be more deliberate than during prototyping and you may notice less dramatic changes in design and direction in between sprints.

Over the next 3 months 18F will build the CDE as a series of components - by first putting the necessary infrastructure in place to build on top of and then adding selected components (different types of charts and graphs, glossaries, navigation elements, etc.) to add capability across the site. Once core functionality is in place, the team will work to add details and polish, while incorporating user feedback to refine selected elements. This modular approach to building the site is a best practice in software development and will allow us to more easily adapt and maintain the CDE over the long-term.

To provide a sense of where the team's focus will be over the 6 development sprints please see the outline below:

- Sprint 1 - prepare initial designs for implementation; technical infrastructure
- Sprint 2 - basic navigational structure for site; "data downloads" experience
- Sprint 3 - "explorer view" - charts & navigation
- Sprint 4 - contextual data & refinements
- Sprint 5 - "about the data section", glossary
- Sprint 6 - refinements & prepare for launch

Please note that the aforementioned list is meant for directional purposes only. It is not a fixed implementation plan, as priorities may change as new information (about user needs and or technical complexity) is learned.

Open Issues:

The following items may require action from the FBI core team in order to resolve:

- Larry to work with Sammy & Lori to develop opportunities for the FBI/CJIS to help with recruitment for future user testing sessions.
- Lori to look into getting the ZenHub plugin for Github approved so that the team can more easily share what it's working on and ask for feedback.
- Lori & Sammy to provide a more detailed breakdown of the browsers used (their versions) when accessing the UCR website so that the team can recommend a browser matrix for the CDE.
- Larry & Jeremia to speak with Melissa Livengood to better understand what security scans will need to be completed by the FBI prior to the release of the CDE and how these scans may affect our ATO timeline.

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?