

**Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online**

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t4192005.pdf

Table 4.19.2005

**Offenses known to police and percent cleared by arrest<sup>a</sup>**

By offense and population group, 2005

(2005 estimated population)

Population group	Violent crime					Property crime				
	Total	Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Total	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor vehicle theft	Arson <sup>b</sup>
<b>Total all agencies</b>										
13,441 agencies; population 255,115,278:										
Offenses known	1,197,089	14,430	82,118	353,050	747,491	8,935,714	1,906,980	5,915,843	1,112,891	64,231
Percent cleared by arrest	45.5%	62.1	41.3	25.4	55.2	16.3	12.7	18.0	13.0	17.9
<b>Total cities</b>										
9,618 cities; population 167,119,985:										
Offenses known	934,954	11,125	60,170	304,134	559,525	6,961,634	1,392,315	4,683,212	886,107	46,897
Percent cleared by arrest	42.9%	60.7	39.8	24.9	52.7	16.2	12.2	18.3	11.9	17.3
<b>Group I</b>										
67 cities, 250,000 and over; population 41,685,502:										
Offenses known	408,875	5,783	19,367	156,850	226,875	2,206,861	464,882	1,326,142	415,837	18,801
Percent cleared by arrest	36.2%	56.5	39.0	21.2	45.8	12.5	10.2	14.2	9.4	12.6
8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 13,896,753:										
Offenses known	127,623	1,904	5,681	53,623	66,415	669,625	135,906	394,296	139,423	6,045
Percent cleared by arrest	34.9%	61.1	43.5	21.7	44.1	12.2	10.4	14.2	8.2	8.9
22 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 14,442,520:										
Offenses known	149,233	2,120	6,724	55,512	84,877	809,352	175,359	486,968	147,025	6,122
Percent cleared by arrest	33.8%	54.1	35.6	18.9	43.0	11.6	9.2	13.1	9.6	16.9
37 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 13,366,229:										
Offenses known	132,019	1,759	6,962	47,715	75,583	727,884	153,617	444,878	129,389	6,634
Percent cleared by arrest	40.2%	54.5	38.7	23.4	50.6	13.6	11.2	15.4	10.4	11.8
<b>Group II</b>										
173 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 25,983,746:										
Offenses known	158,668	1,970	9,759	53,201	93,738	1,192,615	239,579	788,916	164,120	7,603
Percent cleared by arrest	41.8%	63.5	39.7	25.0	51.1	15.0	11.0	17.1	10.7	15.8
<b>Group III</b>										
416 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 28,490,290:										
Offenses known	133,966	1,362	9,855	40,637	82,112	1,107,071	226,543	758,923	121,605	6,596
Percent cleared by arrest	46.0%	58.1	38.3	28.3	55.5	17.3	12.2	19.7	11.8	18.3
<b>Group IV</b>										
714 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 24,684,401:										
Offenses known	90,994	835	7,926	25,096	57,137	886,669	169,837	637,075	79,757	5,348
Percent cleared by arrest	49.7%	69.2	38.9	31.2	59.0	18.7	12.7	20.6	15.5	20.0
<b>Group V</b>										
1,597 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 25,289,898:										
Offenses known	75,281	643	7,218	17,675	49,745	828,044	155,566	611,433	61,045	4,405
Percent cleared by arrest	54.0%	74.2	42.0	33.8	62.7	21.0	15.6	22.5	19.1	26.4
<b>Group VI</b>										
6,651 cities under 10,000; population 20,986,148:										
Offenses known	67,170	532	6,045	10,675	49,918	740,374	135,908	560,723	43,743	4,144
Percent cleared by arrest	58.6%	72.7	43.8	36.0	65.1	19.7	16.4	20.2	23.9	27.0
<b>Metropolitan counties</b>										
1,598 agencies; population 63,038,742:										
Offenses known	208,839	2,422	15,576	45,051	145,790	1,551,069	378,400	981,519	191,150	13,365
Percent cleared by arrest	53.1%	63.2	45.1	27.1	61.8	16.0	13.5	17.0	15.5	18.0

See notes at end of table.

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**Offenses known to police and percent cleared by arrest<sup>a</sup>**

By offense and population group, 2005--Continued

Population group	Violent crime					Property crime				Arson <sup>b</sup>
	Total	Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Total	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor vehicle theft	
<b>Nonmetropolitan counties</b> 2,225 agencies; population 24,956,551:										
Offenses known	53,296	883	6,372	3,865	42,176	423,011	136,265	251,112	35,634	3,969
Percent cleared by arrest	61.6%	76.7	46.0	41.7	65.5	18.0	16.3	17.8	26.0	24.7
<b>Suburban areas<sup>c</sup></b> 6,688 agencies; population 109,688,618:										
Offenses known	350,472	3,581	27,650	81,090	238,151	3,099,019	660,524	2,112,131	326,364	22,067
Percent cleared by arrest	52.9%	65.0	43.6	29.0	61.9	17.4	13.8	18.8	15.8	20.0

Note: See Note, table 4.1.2005. "An offense is 'cleared by arrest' or solved for crime reporting purposes when at least one person is: (1) arrested; (2) charged with the commission of the offense; and (3) turned over to the court for prosecution." The prosecution can follow arrest, court summons, or police notice. An offense is also counted as cleared by arrest if any of the following "exceptional" conditions pertain: (1) suicide of the offender; (2) double murder; (3) deathbed confession; (4) offender killed by police or citizen; (5) confession by offender already in custody or serving a sentence; (6) an offender prosecuted in another jurisdiction for a different offense and that jurisdiction does not release offender to first jurisdiction; (7) extradition denied; (8) victim refuses to cooperate in prosecution; (9) warrant is outstanding for felon but before arrest the offender dies of natural causes or as a result of an accident, or is killed in the commission of another offense; or, (10) handling of a juvenile offender either orally or by written notice to parents in instances involving minor offenses where no referral to juvenile court is made as a matter of publicly accepted police policy. (U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook*, pp. 81, 150 [Online]. Available: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/handbook/ucrhandbook04.pdf> [Nov. 6, 2006].) It should be noted that the arrest of one person can clear several crimes or several persons may be arrested to clear one crime.

This table presents data from all law enforcement agencies submitting complete reports for at least 6 months in 2005 (Source, Table 25). Beginning with publication of the 2003 data, the "rural" county designation was changed to "nonmetropolitan" county. Population figures are estimates calculated from U.S. Census Bureau data. For definitions of offenses, city and suburban areas, and nonmetropolitan counties, see Appendix 3.

<sup>a</sup>Includes offenses cleared by exceptional means.

<sup>b</sup>The number of agency reports used in arson clearance rates is less than those used in compiling other offense clearance rates because arson is reported to the FBI separately from other offenses.

<sup>c</sup>Includes law enforcement agencies in cities with less than 50,000 inhabitants and county law enforcement agencies that are within a Metropolitan Statistical Area; excludes all metropolitan agencies associated with a principal city. The agencies associated with suburban areas also will appear in other groups within this table.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2005*, Table 25 [Online]. Available: [http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/05cius/data/table\\_25.html](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/05cius/data/table_25.html) [Oct. 12, 2006]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.