

Table 4.19

Offenses known to police and percent cleared by arrest^a

By offense and population group, 2002

(2002 estimated population)

Population group	Total Crime Index	Violent crime ^b	Property crime ^c	Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor vehicle theft
Total all agencies										
12,862 agencies; population 240,070,262:										
Offenses known	10,121,721	1,184,453	8,937,268	13,561	80,515	343,023	747,354	1,842,930	6,014,290	1,080,048
Percent cleared by arrest	20.0%	46.8	16.5	64.0	44.5	25.7	56.5	13.0	18.0	13.8
Total cities										
9,130 cities; population 159,128,836:										
Offenses known	7,966,962	934,424	7,032,538	10,371	59,085	299,891	565,077	1,341,162	4,812,396	878,980
Percent cleared by arrest	19.7%	44.5	16.4	62.0	43.4	25.0	54.6	12.3	18.1	12.8
Group I										
65 cities, 250,000 and over; population 40,220,526:										
Offenses known	2,746,733	425,109	2,321,624	5,643	19,771	158,573	241,122	455,961	1,442,526	423,137
Percent cleared by arrest	16.8%	38.6	12.8	57.8	44.0	21.4	49.1	10.5	14.3	10.3
8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 13,659,273:										
Offenses known	846,653	149,894	696,759	1,855	5,696	56,911	85,432	132,872	419,599	144,288
Percent cleared by arrest	17.4%	38.6	12.9	61.9	42.9	22.2	48.7	10.7	14.8	9.2
21 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 13,866,854:										
Offenses known	977,046	145,515	851,531	2,020	7,443	52,147	83,905	170,288	539,734	141,509
Percent cleared by arrest	15.6%	37.2	11.9	54.5	43.7	19.8	47.0	9.4	13.1	10.3
36 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 12,694,399:										
Offenses known	903,034	129,700	773,334	1,768	6,632	49,515	71,785	152,801	483,193	137,340
Percent cleared by arrest	17.5%	40.3	13.7	57.1	45.2	22.3	51.9	11.4	15.1	11.3
Group II										
158 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 23,822,400:										
Offenses known	1,320,491	145,837	1,174,654	1,698	9,645	50,401	84,093	226,441	793,631	154,582
Percent cleared by arrest	18.6%	44.4	15.3	61.7	43.1	26.4	55.0	11.4	17.1	11.9
Group III										
381 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 26,328,413:										
Offenses known	1,187,713	126,887	1,060,826	1,189	9,443	38,358	77,897	203,511	738,564	118,751
Percent cleared by arrest	20.4%	46.9	17.3	67.3	41.9	27.6	56.7	12.3	19.4	12.3
Group IV										
682 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 23,803,053:										
Offenses known	965,387	87,974	877,413	746	7,388	23,742	56,098	163,955	637,193	76,265
Percent cleared by arrest	21.7%	49.8	18.8	72.3	40.4	30.9	58.7	12.8	20.8	15.4
Group V										
1,555 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 24,675,220:										
Offenses known	929,803	79,815	849,988	612	7,156	18,290	53,757	156,697	631,531	61,760
Percent cleared by arrest	23.9%	53.4	21.1	70.6	44.9	32.9	61.3	15.3	22.6	20.8
Group VI										
6,289 cities under 10,000; population 20,279,224:										
Offenses known	816,835	68,802	748,033	483	5,682	10,527	52,110	134,597	568,951	44,485
Percent cleared by arrest	22.9%	58.9	19.6	73.7	46.2	34.9	65.1	16.3	19.8	26.3
Suburban counties										
1,279 agencies; population 54,106,364:										
Offenses known	1,636,611	191,377	1,445,234	2,227	15,051	38,727	135,372	349,563	930,563	165,108
Percent cleared by arrest	20.8%	54.0	16.4	66.6	47.0	29.5	61.6	14.0	17.4	15.7

See notes at end of table.

Table 4.19

Offenses known to police and percent cleared by arrest^a

By offense and population group, 2002--Continued

Population group	Total Crime Index	Violent crime ^b	Property crime ^c	Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor vehicle theft
Rural counties										
2,453 agencies; population 26,835,062:										
Offenses known	518,148	58,652	459,496	963	6,379	4,405	46,905	152,205	271,331	35,960
Percent cleared by arrest	23.2%	61.4	18.3	78.9	49.8	41.4	64.5	16.6	17.9	27.9
Suburban areas^d										
6,120 agencies; population 99,561,928:										
Offenses known	3,226,405	320,382	2,906,023	3,210	25,562	71,803	219,807	604,584	2,010,471	290,968
Percent cleared by arrest	21.3%	53.4	17.8	67.5	45.7	29.9	61.7	14.1	19.1	16.2

Note: See Note, table 4.1. "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* (Washington, DC: USGPO, 1984), pp. 41, 42.) It should be noted that the arrest of one person can clear several crimes or several persons may be arrested to clear one crime.

Arson was designated an Index property crime in October 1978. Due to the incompleteness of arson reporting by police for offenses known, arson data are not included in

this table. This table presents data from all law enforcement agencies submitting complete reports for at least 6 months in 2002 (Source, p. 451). Population figures are estimates calculated from U.S. Census Bureau data. For definitions of offenses, city and suburban areas, and rural counties, see Appendix 3.

^aIncludes offenses cleared by exceptional means.

^bViolent crimes are offenses of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

^cProperty crimes are offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft. Data are not included for the property crime of arson.

^dIncludes 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 central 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, 2002* (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2003), pp. 223, 224. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.