

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t4192003.pdf

Table 4.19.2003

Offenses known to police and percent cleared by arrest^a

By offense and population group, 2003

(2003 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 ^b
Total all agencies										
12,781 agencies; population 236,223,505:										
Offenses known	1,126,180	13,373	76,714	328,951	707,142	8,728,536	1,793,829	5,850,494	1,084,213	65,414
Percent cleared by arrest	46.5%	62.4	44.0	26.3	55.9	16.4	13.1	18.0	13.1	16.7
Total cities										
9,050 cities; population 156,449,643:										
Offenses known	882,189	10,387	56,395	284,361	531,046	6,829,725	1,303,202	4,655,542	870,981	48,102
Percent cleared by arrest	44.7%	61.9	43.4	25.7	54.6	16.3	12.5	18.1	12.3	16.5
Group I										
62 cities, 250,000 and over; population 38,800,523:										
Offenses known	390,601	5,498	17,617	146,873	220,613	2,216,153	429,385	1,378,410	408,358	19,460
Percent cleared by arrest	40.2%	60.1	47.8	23.0	50.6	12.8	11.0	14.2	10.1	10.9
8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 13,684,275:										
Offenses known	143,795	1,899	5,579	56,459	79,858	700,897	136,801	418,599	145,497	6,420
Percent cleared by arrest	41.6%	56.4	48.5	24.1	53.1	12.7	11.3	14.2	9.5	9.3
20 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 13,023,877:										
Offenses known	131,601	1,920	6,176	48,303	75,202	800,072	155,376	506,684	138,012	6,344
Percent cleared by arrest	38.6%	64.9	47.7	21.9	47.9	11.9	10.4	12.9	10.0	13.2
34 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 12,092,371:										
Offenses known	115,205	1,679	5,862	42,111	65,553	715,184	137,208	453,127	124,849	6,696
Percent cleared by arrest	40.3%	58.8	47.3	22.8	50.5	13.9	11.5	15.5	11.0	10.1
Group II										
158 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 23,578,375:										
Offenses known	141,997	1,736	9,414	48,035	82,812	1,146,915	222,807	765,303	158,805	7,885
Percent cleared by arrest	43.1%	58.7	40.0	26.1	53.0	15.3	11.6	17.1	11.2	15.4
Group III										
374 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 25,886,988:										
Offenses known	123,611	1,185	9,172	37,310	75,944	1,038,809	202,977	716,893	118,939	6,746
Percent cleared by arrest	46.0%	63.2	40.4	27.8	55.4	17.2	12.1	19.6	11.5	18.1
Group IV										
693 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 24,075,976:										
Offenses known	84,801	753	7,529	22,856	53,663	855,299	160,746	616,551	78,002	5,300
Percent cleared by arrest	49.0%	66.4	40.2	30.7	57.8	18.7	12.7	20.8	14.7	19.3
Group V										
1,545 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 24,374,785:										
Offenses known	75,908	641	6,897	18,084	50,286	833,892	153,275	619,076	61,541	4,637
Percent cleared by arrest	52.4%	71.8	42.6	31.9	61.0	20.7	15.0	22.2	19.1	26.4
Group VI										
6,218 cities under 10,000; population 19,732,996:										
Offenses known	65,271	574	5,766	11,203	47,728	738,657	134,012	559,309	45,336	4,074
Percent cleared by arrest	57.6%	69.3	45.3	33.6	64.5	19.7	16.5	20.0	24.2	27.6
Metropolitan counties										
1,537 agencies; population 57,457,449:										
Offenses known	198,030	2,260	15,163	41,342	139,265	1,517,290	364,856	968,497	183,937	13,767
Percent cleared by arrest	51.6%	60.0	45.4	29.0	58.8	16.2	13.8	17.4	14.7	16.0

See notes at end of table.

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By offense and population group, 2003--Continued

Population group	Violent crime					Property crime				Arson ^b
	Total	Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Total	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor vehicle theft	
Nonmetropolitan counties										
2,194 agencies; population 22,316,413:										
Offenses known	45,961	726	5,156	3,248	36,831	381,521	125,771	226,455	29,295	3,545
Percent cleared by arrest	59.9%	76.3	46.8	43.1	62.9	17.8	16.3	17.5	27.1	23.5
Suburban areas^c										
6,777 agencies; population 105,694,902:										
Offenses known	338,098	3,434	27,034	77,599	230,031	3,069,739	642,917	2,104,718	322,104	22,911
Percent cleared by arrest	51.4%	62.4	44.3	29.4	59.6	17.4	13.8	18.9	15.2	18.8

Note: See Note, table 4.1.2003. "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.

This table presents data from all law enforcement agencies submitting complete reports for at least 6 months in 2003 (Source, p. 493). Agencies in Arkansas were excluded from this table due to changes in reporting practices. 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.

^aIncludes offenses cleared by exceptional means.

^bThe 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.

^cIncludes 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, 2003* (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2004), pp. 257, 258. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.