

**Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online**

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t4192004.pdf

Table 4.19.2004

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

By offense and population group, 2004

(2004 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>										
13,612 agencies; population 248,320,178:										
Offenses known	1,152,733	13,662	80,939	329,578	728,554	8,925,398	1,857,700	5,983,710	1,083,988	64,179
Percent cleared by arrest	46.3%	62.6	41.8	26.2	55.6	16.5	12.9	18.3	13.0	17.1
<b>Total cities</b>										
9,591 cities; population 163,702,226:										
Offenses known	904,210	10,425	59,667	287,088	547,030	7,019,644	1,364,970	4,782,585	872,089	46,837
Percent cleared by arrest	43.7%	61.2	40.1	25.3	53.4	16.4	12.1	18.4	12.0	16.3
<b>Group I</b>										
65 cities, 250,000 and over; population 40,653,482:										
Offenses known	393,406	5,519	18,950	145,728	223,209	2,250,785	451,503	1,394,735	404,547	19,003
Percent cleared by arrest	38.5%	58.0	41.2	22.0	48.5	12.9	10.3	14.7	9.4	10.0
8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 13,805,573:										
Offenses known	137,148	1,857	5,773	52,815	76,703	684,380	136,699	408,006	139,675	5,717
Percent cleared by arrest	38.7%	58.9	43.1	22.8	48.8	12.9	10.5	15.2	8.5	7.3
22 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 14,360,988:										
Offenses known	136,556	2,032	6,851	50,293	77,380	855,994	172,529	537,146	146,319	6,733
Percent cleared by arrest	34.8%	55.0	38.7	19.3	44.0	11.4	8.9	12.8	8.8	12.1
35 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 12,486,921:										
Offenses known	119,702	1,630	6,326	42,620	69,126	710,411	142,275	449,583	118,553	6,553
Percent cleared by arrest	42.6%	60.7	42.1	24.3	53.4	14.6	12.0	16.3	11.1	10.1
<b>Group II</b>										
166 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 24,952,758:										
Offenses known	149,237	1,746	9,764	50,345	87,382	1,187,529	232,916	791,691	162,922	7,134
Percent cleared by arrest	41.6%	58.6	38.1	25.2	51.1	14.9	11.0	16.9	10.6	15.5
<b>Group III</b>										
396 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 27,251,708:										
Offenses known	127,288	1,188	9,637	38,255	78,208	1,088,818	216,411	751,816	120,591	6,740
Percent cleared by arrest	45.6%	62.3	38.3	28.0	54.8	17.4	12.1	19.8	12.0	18.7
<b>Group IV</b>										
712 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 24,649,814:										
Offenses known	90,078	815	8,072	24,196	56,995	884,986	168,291	638,155	78,540	5,383
Percent cleared by arrest	49.1%	69.3	38.6	31.1	57.9	18.8	12.8	20.8	15.3	22.2
<b>Group V</b>										
1,602 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 25,318,472:										
Offenses known	77,446	667	7,320	17,881	51,578	861,152	159,776	640,027	61,349	4,487
Percent cleared by arrest	53.0%	74.4	41.3	33.0	61.3	20.9	14.9	22.5	19.4	24.6
<b>Group VI</b>										
6,650 cities under 10,000; population 20,875,992:										
Offenses known	66,755	490	5,924	10,683	49,658	746,374	136,073	566,161	44,140	4,090
Percent cleared by arrest	57.7%	73.5	43.8	34.8	64.1	19.8	16.2	20.3	24.6	26.7
<b>Metropolitan counties</b>										
1,659 agencies; population 59,611,735:										
Offenses known	196,450	2,320	15,236	38,611	140,283	1,480,964	353,610	949,240	178,114	13,434
Percent cleared by arrest	54.5%	64.4	46.8	31.7	61.5	16.9	14.5	18.0	15.4	17.8

See notes at end of table.

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By offense and population group, 2004--Continued

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>Nonmetropolitan counties</b>										
2,362 agencies; population 25,006,217:										
Offenses known	52,073	917	6,036	3,879	41,241	424,790	139,120	251,885	33,785	3,908
Percent cleared by arrest	60.6%	74.2	45.8	40.6	64.4	17.8	15.8	17.7	26.0	24.3
<b>Suburban areas<sup>c</sup></b>										
7,129 agencies; population 108,869,860:										
Offenses known	337,033	3,416	27,386	74,142	232,089	3,032,124	630,165	2,089,745	312,214	22,132
Percent cleared by arrest	53.3%	65.7	44.3	31.4	61.2	17.9	14.3	19.3	15.8	19.8

Note: See Note, table 4.1.2004. "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 2004 (Source, p. 501). 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, 2004* (Washington, DC: USGPO, 2005), pp. 266, 267. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.