

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t4192008.pdf

Table 4.19.2008

Offenses known to police and percent cleared by arrest^a

By offense and population group, 2008

(2008 estimated population)

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	
Total all agencies										
14,074 agencies; population 262,319,792:										
Offenses known	1,204,655	14,225	78,919	381,768	729,743	8,628,538	1,978,524	5,781,757	868,257	59,868
Percent cleared by arrest	45.1%	63.6	40.4	26.8	54.9	17.4	12.5	19.9	12.0	17.8
Total cities										
10,155 cities; population 174,772,477:										
Offenses known	945,218	10,795	58,111	327,781	548,531	6,673,088	1,445,576	4,546,371	681,141	44,295
Percent cleared by arrest	43.1%	62.7	39.0	26.4	53.2	17.6	12.0	20.3	11.0	17.7
Group I										
72 cities, 250,000 and over; population 44,176,815:										
Offenses known	401,676	5,433	17,905	163,198	215,140	2,087,161	486,682	1,288,640	311,839	16,532
Percent cleared by arrest	37.9%	58.6	42.2	23.6	47.8	13.2	9.5	15.7	8.6	13.2
8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 14,369,058:										
Offenses known	123,058	1,637	5,246	54,628	61,547	623,701	141,003	378,290	104,408	5,326
Percent cleared by arrest	38.2%	70.1	47.6	25.1	48.2	12.4	8.1	15.2	7.9	10.5
24 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 16,064,157:										
Offenses known	159,727	2,133	6,517	62,423	88,654	831,918	196,850	516,045	119,023	5,507
Percent cleared by arrest	36.9%	53.6	41.6	21.5	47.0	12.3	9.1	14.4	8.7	14.2
40 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 13,743,600:										
Offenses known	118,891	1,663	6,142	46,147	64,939	631,542	148,829	394,305	88,408	5,699
Percent cleared by arrest	38.9%	53.8	38.1	24.7	48.7	15.1	11.3	17.8	9.4	14.9
Group II										
190 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 28,236,007:										
Offenses known	168,868	1,993	10,229	62,075	94,571	1,201,078	269,014	801,783	130,281	7,209
Percent cleared by arrest	42.5%	64.6	38.8	26.2	53.0	16.8	11.3	19.8	9.9	16.4
Group III										
436 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 29,790,618:										
Offenses known	133,570	1,316	9,277	42,981	79,996	1,052,700	223,771	731,207	97,722	6,925
Percent cleared by arrest	45.2%	63.4	35.7	29.0	54.7	19.4	13.2	22.5	11.0	17.9
Group IV										
726 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 24,893,513:										
Offenses known	89,983	804	7,278	26,231	55,670	809,060	161,951	589,635	57,474	4,912
Percent cleared by arrest	48.1%	71.4	35.4	30.9	57.6	20.3	12.5	23.1	13.3	19.7
Group V										
1,623 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 25,613,592:										
Offenses known	81,526	688	7,164	20,738	52,936	808,115	164,708	594,376	49,031	4,372
Percent cleared by arrest	51.6%	70.9	38.4	32.7	60.5	22.2	14.7	24.6	17.9	25.7
Group VI										
7,108 cities under 10,000; population 22,061,932:										
Offenses known	69,595	561	6,258	12,558	50,218	714,974	139,450	540,730	34,794	4,345
Percent cleared by arrest	54.5%	70.8	40.3	34.0	61.2	20.7	16.3	21.7	22.1	26.7
Metropolitan counties										
1,661 agencies; population 63,542,081:										
Offenses known	208,390	2,577	14,963	49,882	140,968	1,551,116	400,225	994,354	156,537	12,241
Percent cleared by arrest	51.2%	65.8	44.0	28.3	59.8	16.7	13.2	18.5	14.3	17.0

See notes at end of table.

Table 4.19.2008

Offenses known to police and percent cleared by arrest^a

By offense and population group, 2008--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										
2,258 agencies; population 24,005,234:										
Offenses known	51,047	853	5,845	4,105	40,244	404,334	132,723	241,032	30,579	3,332
Percent cleared by arrest	57.7%	68.1	44.9	39.0	61.3	17.9	16.0	18.1	23.8	22.1
Suburban areas^c										
7,462 agencies; population 114,616,380:										
Offenses known	353,856	3,783	26,770	89,943	233,360	3,036,247	687,409	2,090,633	258,205	20,465
Percent cleared by arrest	51.1%	66.7	41.4	29.7	60.2	18.6	13.6	20.7	14.6	19.8

Note: These data were compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. On a monthly basis, law enforcement agencies report the number of offenses that become known to them in the following crime categories: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Arrest statistics are compiled as part of this monthly data collection effort. Participating law enforcement agencies are instructed to count one arrest each time a person is taken into custody, notified, or cited for criminal infractions other than traffic violations. Annual arrest figures do not measure the number of individuals taken into custody because one person may be arrested several times during the year for the same type of offense or for different offenses. A juvenile is counted as a person arrested when he/she commits an act that would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult.

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. An offense is also counted as cleared by arrest if certain "exceptional" conditions pertain, including suicide of the offender; double murder; deathbed confession; offender killed by police or citizen; confession by offender already in custody; extradition denied; victim refuses to cooperate in prosecution; warrant is outstanding for felon but prior to arrest the offender dies of natural causes or as a result of an accident, or is killed in the commission of another offense; or, 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 customarily made.

This table presents data from all law enforcement agencies submitting complete reports for at least 6 months in 2008 (Source, Table 25, Data Declaration). 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, 2008*, Table 25 [Online]. Available: http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2008/data/table_25.html [Jan. 22, 2010]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.