

**Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online**

http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/pdf/t4192009.pdf

Table 4.19.2009

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

By offense and population group, 2009

(2009 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>d</sup>
<b>Total all agencies</b>										
14,274 agencies; population 266,098,836:										
Offenses known	1,142,108	13,242	76,276	352,125	700,465	8,229,516	1,957,825	5,557,560	714,131	53,852
Percent cleared by arrest	47.1%	66.6	41.2	28.2	56.8	18.6	12.5	21.5	12.4	18.5
<b>Total cities</b>										
10,328 cities; population 176,953,431:										
Offenses known	893,944	10,026	55,544	302,854	525,520	6,384,437	1,422,288	4,398,412	563,737	39,818
Percent cleared by arrest	45.1%	65.3	39.8	27.6	55.4	18.7	11.9	21.9	11.2	17.7
<b>Group I</b>										
72 cities, 250,000 and over; population 44,841,811:										
Offenses known	375,293	4,912	17,891	150,550	201,940	1,963,986	475,397	1,237,912	250,677	14,840
Percent cleared by arrest	40.0%	62.8	43.5	24.4	50.8	14.3	9.5	17.3	8.6	13.9
8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 14,623,806:										
Offenses known	114,591	1,440	5,273	50,962	56,916	579,607	132,761	364,507	82,339	4,587
Percent cleared by arrest	38.6%	70.8	45.6	25.1	49.1	13.3	8.2	16.4	7.7	11.4
24 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 16,276,817:										
Offenses known	148,297	1,946	6,455	56,588	83,308	790,337	194,427	500,457	95,453	5,172
Percent cleared by arrest	40.5%	59.8	43.1	22.5	52.1	13.6	9.2	16.2	8.7	15.2
40 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 13,941,188:										
Offenses known	112,405	1,526	6,163	43,000	61,716	594,042	148,209	372,948	72,885	5,081
Percent cleared by arrest	40.8%	59.0	42.1	26.0	50.6	16.3	11.1	19.6	9.6	14.8
<b>Group II</b>										
194 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 28,779,842:										
Offenses known	161,270	1,853	9,874	55,921	93,622	1,165,153	269,953	784,051	111,149	6,574
Percent cleared by arrest	44.5%	62.2	38.9	28.2	54.4	17.9	11.3	21.2	10.2	17.2
<b>Group III</b>										
436 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 29,776,055:										
Offenses known	126,490	1,197	8,585	40,110	76,598	992,763	215,528	695,647	81,588	6,223
Percent cleared by arrest	47.1%	71.9	36.7	30.0	56.9	20.4	12.5	23.9	11.3	17.6
<b>Group IV</b>										
746 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 25,666,623:										
Offenses known	86,602	825	6,785	25,676	53,316	800,848	163,900	587,381	49,567	4,515
Percent cleared by arrest	48.6%	66.8	35.2	31.6	58.2	21.8	12.4	25.2	13.3	19.9
<b>Group V</b>										
1,628 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 25,757,852:										
Offenses known	79,145	684	6,722	19,109	52,630	773,613	161,949	570,470	41,194	3,760
Percent cleared by arrest	54.2%	73.1	39.4	36.1	62.5	23.4	14.8	26.2	18.2	25.1
<b>Group VI</b>										
7,252 cities under 10,000; population 22,131,248:										
Offenses known	65,144	555	5,687	11,488	47,414	688,074	135,561	522,951	29,562	3,906
Percent cleared by arrest	56.3%	72.3	40.6	36.0	62.9	21.4	16.0	22.7	23.3	23.6
<b>Metropolitan counties</b>										
1,667 agencies; population 64,002,204:										
Offenses known	196,862	2,337	14,645	44,988	134,892	1,449,401	395,203	930,444	123,754	10,539
Percent cleared by arrest	52.6%	67.9	44.8	30.8	60.5	18.2	13.7	20.5	15.2	19.4

See notes at end of table.

Table 4.19.2009

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

By offense and population group, 2009--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>										
2,279 agencies; population 25,143,201:										
Offenses known	51,302	879	6,087	4,283	40,053	395,678	140,334	228,704	26,640	3,495
Percent cleared by arrest	60.3 %	77.7	45.5	41.9	64.1	18.3	15.8	19.2	23.6	24.6
<b>Suburban areas<sup>c</sup></b>										
7,540 agencies; population 115,777,741:										
Offenses known	336,082	3,477	25,427	82,599	224,579	2,887,923	675,695	2,002,073	210,155	18,054
Percent cleared by arrest	52.8 %	67.9	42.5	32.1	61.3	19.9	13.9	22.4	15.3	20.8

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 2009 (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](#).

<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, 2009*, Table 25 [Online]. Available: [http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2009/data/table\\_25.html](http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2009/data/table_25.html) [Nov. 12, 2010]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.