

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 4.24.2009

Arsons cleared by arrest and clearances by arrest of persons under 18 years of age^a

By type of target, United States, 2009

(14,693 agencies; 2009 estimated population 260,082,152)

Target	Number of offenses	Percent of offenses cleared by arrest	Percent of clearances by arrest of persons under 18 years of age
Total	51,389	18.7%	34.7%
Total structure	22,867	23.8	32.5
Single occupancy residential	10,859	21.9	23.0
Other residential	3,629	25.7	21.9
Storage	1,525	20.9	36.1
Industrial/manufacturing	209	24.4	39.2
Other commercial	2,009	22.2	24.4
Community/public	2,481	34.2	68.5
Other structure	2,155	21.2	41.7
Total mobile	14,577	9.1	14.3
Motor vehicles	13,846	8.7	12.3
Other mobile	731	16.8	33.3
Other	13,945	20.4	48.5

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.

These data are from the 14,693 agencies that furnished detailed arson reports to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program for 2009. Users should be aware that these data do not represent the Nation's total arson experience and differ from those reported in other arrest tables displaying arson because only arson clearances reported by property classification are included. For the definition of arson, see [Appendix 3](#).

^aIncludes offenses cleared by exceptional means.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2009*, Arson Table 2 [Online]. Available: http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2009/offenses/expanded_information/data/arsontable_02.html [Nov.12, 2010]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.