

Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 1996, pages 398, 399

Table 4.19

Offenses known to police and percent cleared by arrest^a

By offense and population group, 1995

(1995 estimated population)

Population group	Total Crime Index	Violent crime ^b	Property crime ^c	Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor vehicle theft
TOTAL ALL AGENCIES										
11,884 agencies; population 220,918,000:										
Offenses known	11,859,129	1,531,703	10,327,426	18,324	82,538	502,352	928,489	2,216,954	6,808,490	1,301,982
Percent cleared by arrest	21.2%	45.4	17.6	64.8	51.1	24.7	55.7	13.4	19.6	14.1
TOTAL CITIES										
8,278 cities; population 148,295,000:										
Offenses known	9,435,902	1,253,227	8,182,675	14,498	61,115	448,659	728,955	1,646,730	5,459,274	1,076,671
Percent cleared by arrest	21.1%	43.5	17.7	63.2	50.8	24.2	54.4	12.8	20.1	13.2
Group I										
59 cities, 250,000 and over; population 41,961,000:										
Offenses known	3,541,050	630,943	2,910,107	8,486	24,842	270,774	326,841	607,076	1,748,249	554,782
Percent cleared by arrest	17.8%	37.2	13.6	57.3	51.3	21.1	49.0	10.7	15.7	10.1
7 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 17,336,000:										
Offenses known	1,231,791	268,503	963,288	3,357	7,145	124,084	133,917	204,178	541,489	217,621
Percent cleared by arrest	17.0%	34.4	12.1	53.0	44.4	19.9	46.8	9.5	15.0	7.6
18 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 12,307,000:										
Offenses known	1,115,717	171,763	943,954	2,526	8,686	73,000	87,551	191,852	589,270	162,832
Percent cleared by arrest	16.4%	36.9	12.7	53.8	56.6	19.9	48.6	10.6	13.8	11.3
34 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 12,319,000:										
Offenses known	1,193,542	190,677	1,002,865	2,603	9,011	73,690	105,373	211,046	617,490	174,329
Percent cleared by arrest	20.0%	41.4	15.9	66.3	51.6	24.2	52.0	11.9	18.3	12.2
Group II										
136 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 19,931,000:										
Offenses known	1,497,023	192,800	1,304,223	2,287	9,960	67,714	112,839	274,369	857,159	172,695
Percent cleared by arrest	21.3%	46.9	17.6	66.8	52.4	27.5	57.6	12.8	19.8	14.0
Group III										
336 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 22,828,000:										
Offenses known	1,367,229	158,398	1,208,831	1,404	8,831	49,375	98,788	245,642	822,317	140,872
Percent cleared by arrest	21.9%	46.0	18.8	71.2	47.5	26.7	55.2	12.9	21.5	12.8
Group IV										
612 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 21,067,000:										
Offenses known	1,093,308	105,547	987,761	889	6,768	29,392	38,498	195,610	701,485	90,666
Percent cleared by arrest	23.2%	50.3	20.3	69.3	49.5	30.4	58.6	13.6	22.7	16.4
Group V										
1,458 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 22,919,000:										
Offenses known	1,049,942	93,449	956,493	824	6,204	20,423	65,998	179,137	706,045	71,311
Percent cleared by arrest	25.9%	53.9	23.1	80.8	49.8	33.0	60.4	15.6	25.2	22.1
Group VI										
5,677 cities under 10,000; population 19,589,000:										
Offenses known	887,350	72,090	815,260	608	4,510	10,981	55,991	144,896	624,019	46,345
Percent cleared by arrest	24.5%	60.6	21.4	81.3	54.0	36.6	65.6	16.6	21.9	28.9
SUBURBAN COUNTIES										
1,234 agencies; population 48,543,000:										
Offenses known	1,887,805	220,290	1,667,515	2,603	15,121	49,329	153,237	407,687	1,067,275	192,553
Percent cleared by arrest	21.0%	52.1	16.9	66.2	52.2	27.9	59.7	15.0	17.8	16.1

See notes at end of table.

Table 4.19

Offenses known to police and percent cleared by arrest^a

By offense and population group, 1995-Continued

Population group	Total Crime Index	Violent crime ^b	Property crime ^c	Murder and non- negligent manslaughter	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggra- vated assault	Burglary	Larceny- theft	Motor vehicle theft
RURAL COUNTIES										
2,372 agencies; population 24,080,000:										
Offenses known	535,422	58,186	477,236	1,223	6,302	4,364	46,297	162,537	281,941	32,758
Percent cleared by arrest	23.2%	60.9	18.7	80.1	51.6	40.3	63.6	16.4	18.3	32.0
SUBURBAN AREAS^d										
5,838 agencies; population 91,405,000:										
Offenses known	3,747,702	378,862	3,368,840	3,801	24,857	89,500	260,704	720,331	2,304,949	343,560
Percent cleared by arrest	22.1%	52.7	18.6	67.9	51.3	29.2	60.6	14.8	20.1	16.8

Note: See Note, table 4.1. "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.

Arson was designated an Index property crime in October 1978. Due to the incompleteness of arson reporting by police for offenses known, arson data are not included in this table. Forcible rape figures furnished by the State-level Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program administered by the Illinois Department of State Police were not in accordance with

national UCR guidelines and were excluded by the Source from the forcible rape, violent crime, and Total Crime Index categories. This table presents data from all law enforcement agencies submitting complete reports for at least 6 months in 1995 (Source, p. 370). Complete data for 1995 were not available for Delaware, Illinois, Kansas, and Montana; therefore, their crime counts were estimated by the Source. Population figures represent U.S. Bureau of the Census July 1, 1995 estimates. For definitions of offenses, city and suburban areas, and rural counties, see Appendix 3.

^aIncludes offenses cleared by exceptional means.

^bViolent crimes are offenses of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

^cProperty crimes are offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft. Data are not included for the property crime of arson.

^dIncludes suburban city and county law enforcement agencies within metropolitan areas. Excludes central cities. Suburban cities and counties also are included in other groups.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 1995* (Washington, DC: USGPO, 1996), pp. 199, 200. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.