Data Declaration

Table 13

Crime Trends, by Suburban and Nonsuburban Cities by Population Group, 2008-2009

The FBI collects these data through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

General comments

- This 2-year trend table provides the number of offenses for 2008 and 2009 and the percent change between these 2 years for suburban and nonsuburban cities.
- Suburban cities include law enforcement agencies in cities with less than 50,000 inhabitants that are within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) but exclude all metropolitan agencies associated with a principal city.
- Nonsuburban cities include law enforcement agencies in cities with less than 50,000 in population that are not associated with an MSA.

Methodology

- The data used in creating this table were from all law enforcement agencies submitting at least 6 common months of complete offense reports for 2008 and 2009.
- A crime trend represents the percentage change in crime based on data reported in a prior equivalent period. In calculating trends, the UCR Program includes only common reported months for individual agencies.

Population groups

The UCR Program uses the following population group designations:

Population Group	Political Label	Population Range
I	City	250,000 and more
II	City	100,000 to 249,999
III	City	50,000 to 99,999
IV	City	25,000 to 49,999
V	City	10,000 to 24,999
VI[1, 2]	City	Less than 10,000
VIII (Nonmetropolitan County)[2]	County	N/A
IX (Metropolitan County)[2]	County	N/A

[1]Includes universities and colleges to which no population is attributed.
[2]Includes state police to which no population is attributed.

Population estimation

For the 2009 population estimates used in this table, the FBI computed individual rates of growth from one year to the next for every city/town and county using 2000 decennial population counts and 2001 through 2008 population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Each agency's rates of growth were averaged; that average was then applied and added to its 2008 Census population estimate to derive the agency's 2009 population estimate.