



Data Declaration

Table 27

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means, Additional Information About Selected Offenses by Population Group, 2009

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

General comments

- This table provides offense breakdowns and the percentages of those crimes that were cleared by arrest or exceptional means for the following offenses:
 - Forcible rape (by force and assault to rape-attempts)
 - Robbery and aggravated assault (weapon used)
 - Burglary (forcible entry, unlawful entry, and attempted forcible entry)
 - Motor vehicle theft (vehicle type)
 - Arson (property type)
- Agencies must report clearances for specific offense breakdowns on either the *Return A* or the *Monthly Return of Arson Offenses Known to Law Enforcement* to be included in this table. However, not all agencies submit these supplemental data to the FBI; therefore, clearance data in this table may differ from those in other clearance tables.
- The number of agencies meeting the criteria for inclusion in this table and the 2009 estimated population for those agencies are included by city population groups, county population groups, and suburban areas.

- Suburban areas include law enforcement agencies in cities with less than 50,000 inhabitants and county law enforcement agencies that are within a Metropolitan Statistical Area.
- Suburban areas exclude all metropolitan agencies associated with a principal city. The agencies associated with suburban areas also appear in other groups within this table.

Methodology

- The data used in creating this table were from all law enforcement agencies submitting at least 6 months of complete offense reports for 2009.
- The FBI bases percent cleared statistics on aggregated offense and clearance totals. The percentage of crimes cleared by arrest is obtained first by dividing the number of offenses cleared by the number of offenses known and then multiplying the resulting figure by 100.

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

¹Includes universities and colleges to which no population is attributed.

²Includes 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.