Data Declaration

Table 17

Rate: Number of Crimes per 100,000 Inhabitants by Suburban and Nonsuburban Cities by Population Group, 2017

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

Important note about rape data

In 2013, the FBI's UCR Program initiated the collection of rape data under a revised definition within the Summary Based Reporting System. The term "forcible" was removed from the offense name, and the definition was changed to "penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim."

In 2016, the FBI Director approved the recommendation to discontinue the reporting of rape data using the UCR legacy definition beginning in 2017.

General comments

- This table provides the rate per 100,000 inhabitants and the number of offenses known to law enforcement for violent crimes (murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and property crimes (burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft) in suburban and nonsuburban city law enforcement agencies submitting 12 months of complete data for 2017. In addition, the table furnishes the number of agencies meeting the criteria for inclusion in this table and provides the estimated population for each population group.

- 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.

- The UCR Program does not have sufficient data to publish arson offenses in this table. Information about arson can be found in Arson Tables [1] and [2].

Methodology

- The data used in creating this table were from all law enforcement agencies submitting 12 months of complete data (except arson) for 2017.

- Rape data reported by agencies using the UCR legacy definition are not included in this table.

- The FBI derived the offense rates by first dividing the aggregated offense counts by the aggregated populations covered by contributing agencies for which 12 months of complete data were supplied and then multiplying the resulting figure by 100,000.

- The rape rates were calculated using the population of the agencies reporting rape using the revised definition of rape. See table below.

Populations used to calculate rape rates by Suburban and Nonsuburban Cities[1] by Population Group, 2017		
	Agency count and population (based on revised rape data)	
Population Group	**Agency count**	**Population**
Total Suburban Cities	6,269	58,304,681
IV (25,000 to 49,999 inhabitants)	667	23,014,094

V (10,000 to 24,999 inhabitants)	1,337	21,515,149
VI (Less than 10,000 inhabitants)	4,265	13,775,438
Total Nonsuburban Cities	3,519	20,594,950
IV (25,000 to 49,999 inhabitants)	176	6,305,318
V (10,000 to 24,999 inhabitants)	401	6,277,337
VI (Less than 10,000 inhabitants	2,942	8,012,295

[1]Suburban cities include law enforcement agencies in cities with less than 50,000 inhabitants that are within a Metropolitan Statistical Area. Suburban cities exclude all metropolitan agencies associated with a principal city. Nonsuburban cities include law enforcement agencies in cities with less than 50,000 inhabitants that are not associated with a Metropolitan Statistical Area.

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 2017 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 2010 decennial population counts and 2011 through 2016 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 2016 Census population estimate to derive the agency's 2017 population estimate.