About *Crime in the United States, 2019*

Since 1996, editions of *Crime in the United States* have been available on the FBI's Web site, www.fbi.gov. Although first released in Portable Document Format (PDF) files, more recent editions have been published as Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) files. The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program staff are committed to improving annual publications so that the data they collect can better meet the needs of law enforcement, criminologists, sociologists, legislators, municipal planners, the media, and other students of criminal justice who use the statistics for varied administrative, research, and planning purposes. For more information about how the UCR Program collects data, see About the Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

Data provided

Crime in the United States, 2019, presents data tables containing information on the topics listed below. Data users can download Microsoft Excel spreadsheets of the data tables and PDFs of most of the text.

Offenses Known to Law Enforcement—Includes information about violent crime offenses (murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and property crime offenses (burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson).

Expanded offense data—Provides additional data that the program collects on the eight offenses. Depending on the offense, these details may include the type of weapons used and the type and value of items stolen. For the offense of murder, expanded homicide data include information about murder victims, offenders, and weapons that are collected as supplemental homicide data.

Clearances—Furnishes information about crimes "solved" either by arrest or exceptional means.

Persons Arrested—Provides the number of arrests made by law enforcement and the age, race, and ethnicity of arrestees for the 28 offenses (see Offense Definitions) for which the UCR Program publishes arrest data.

Police Employee Data—Supplies information regarding sworn officers and civilian law enforcement personnel.

Agency counts

The table below shows the number of law enforcement agencies eligible to participate in the UCR Program within each population group for 2019. Information published in *Crime in the United States, 2019,* reflects data from these agencies.

Population Group	Number of Agencies	Population Covered
I (250,000 inhabitants and more)	88	64,003,500
II (100,000 to 249,999 inhabitants)	230	33,897,711
III (50,000 to 99,999 inhabitants)	503	35,110,698
IV (25,000 to 49,999 inhabitants)	927	32,059,200
V (10,000 to 24,999 inhabitants)	1,932	30,716,223
VI (Less than 10,000 inhabitants)[1,2]	9,901	26,406,623
VIII (Nonmetropolitan County)[2]	2,230	78,906,132
IX (Metropolitan County)[2]	2,856	27,139,436
Total	18,667	328,239,523

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

[2]Includes state police to which no population is attributed.

National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) participation

In 2019, approximately 51 percent of the law enforcement agencies that participated in the UCR Program submitted their data via NIBRS. The populations of these agencies represented approximately 46 percent of the population covered by agencies that submitted data to the UCR Program. Of the 39 states that the FBI has certified to report

via NIBRS, 18 states submitted 100% of their data via NIBRS; the other NIBRS-certified states submitted data through both NIBRS and the Summary Reporting System. Among states still working toward NIBRS-certification, a few agencies submitted NIBRS data through direct contributions to the FBI.

As recommended by the Criminal Justice Information Services Advisory Policy Board and approved by the FBI Director, "The FBI UCR Program will transition to a NIBRS-only data collection by January 1, 2021...." The change from summary statistics to NIBRS will improve the overall crime data collection and provide a more detailed accounting of crime. While the number of NIBRS participants has increased slightly over the last few years, the FBI anticipates much greater growth in the 2020 and 2021 reporting years as thousands of law enforcement agencies fulfill their current commitments to transition to NIBRS by January 1, 2021.

What do you think?

The E-Government Act of 2002 (E-Gov), enacted by Congress, promotes more efficient uses of information technology by the federal government. This Web publication is a result of the UCR Program's response to that act. We welcome your feedback via our evaluation form. Your comments will help us improve the presentation of future releases of *Crime in the United States*.

What you won't find in this publication

Rankings by crime levels—Any comparisons of crime among different locales should take into consideration numerous other factors besides the areas' crime statistics. Therefore, the UCR Program does not provide rankings of localities by crime levels. Caution Against Ranking provides more details concerning the proper use of UCR statistics.

Information about unreported crime—*Crime in the United States* features data collected from law enforcement agencies regarding only those offenses known to police. However, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), another agency within the Department of Justice, administers the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). Using data from the NCVS, the BJS publishes information regarding crimes not reported to the

police. For more information about the NCVS and how its data differ from information presented in *Crime in the United States,* see The Nation's Two Crime Measures.

County crime totals and "raw data"—*Crime in the United States* offers crime data from local and county law enforcement agencies in separate tables. These data, which are also presented individually within a county (Crime by County), and other 2019 "raw data" from the UCR Program's master files will be available sometime after the release of the 2019 publication. For more information, contact the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Division at https://forms.fbi.gov/assistance-with-uniform-crime-statistics-information.

Special studies—In previous years, *Crime in the United States* included special studies analyzing UCR data. Such studies are now released separately from the publication as monographs on www.fbi.gov.

Crime data for 2020—Preliminary statistics for January through June 2020 were released on the Crime Data Explorer (CDE) on September 14, 2020. Final 2020 statistics will be released on the CDE in the fall of 2021.

Suggested reference citation

The following is a suggested citation style for data users who need to reference information from this report:

United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (September 2020). *Crime in the United States, 2019.* Retrieved (insert date), from (insert URL for data cited).