Incidents and Offenses

Through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), law enforcement agencies may report up to ten offenses within an incident, offering a more complete picture of crime occurrences than traditional reporting. In NIBRS, an "incident" is defined as one or more offenses committed by the same offender, or group of offenders acting in concert, at the same time and place.

"Acting in concert" means that these individuals actually commit or assist in the commission of the crime(s). Therefore, all of the offenders must be aware of, and consent to, the commission of the crime(s); or, even if nonconsenting, their actions assist in the commission of the offense(s). This is important because all of the offenders in an incident are considered to have committed all of the offenses in the incident. If one or more of the offenders did not act in concert, then there is more than one incident involved.

"Same time and place" means that the time interval between the offenses and the distance between the locations where they occurred was insignificant. Normally, the offenses must have occurred during unbroken time durations and at the same or adjoining location(s). However, incidents can also be comprised of offenses that, by their nature, involve continuing criminal activity by the same offender(s) at different times and places, as long as the activity is deemed to constitute a single criminal transaction.

NIBRS data submissions address crime incidents and all the elements associated with them for 52 Group A offenses in 24 offense categories. The Group A Incident Report captures information about these Group A offenses (up to ten per incident) within six categories: administrative, offense, property, victim, offender, and arrestee. Using a prescribed set of data elements and data values, law enforcement agencies report detailed data regarding individual crime incidents, including location, weapon use, bias motivation, other types of criminal activity, and the offender's use of drugs, alcohol, and/or computers.

Incidents may also have property segments associated with them for certain types of offenses. Property information includes type and value of property stolen or damaged, the number of premises entered, and the method of entry. The property segment also captures any drug information, including type and quantity that may be associated with the incident. With incidents involving a motor vehicle theft offense, this segment also includes the number of stolen and recovered motor vehicles.

In addition to Group A offenses, there are 10 Group B offenses for which only Group B Arrest Reports are made. For a complete listing of Group A and Group B offenses, see Offense Definitions in this publication. Listings of the components of the Group A Incident Report and the Group B Arrest Report follow.

Group A Incident Report

Administrative Segment

ORI

Incident Number Cargo Theft

Incident Date/Report Date Indicator/Hour

Cleared Exceptionally
Exceptional Clearance Date

Exceptional Clearance Offense Code

Offense Segment

UCR Offense Code

Offense Attempted/Completed
Offender Suspected of Using

Bias Motivation Location Type

Number of Premises Entered

Method of Entry

Type Criminal Activity/Gang Information

Type Weapon/Force Involved Automatic Weapon Indicator

Property Segment

Type Property Loss/Etc.
Property Description
Value of Property
Date Recovered

Number of Stolen Motor Vehicles
Number of Recovered Motor Vehicles

Suspected Drug Type
Estimated Drug Quantity
Type Drug Measurement

Victim Segment

Victim Sequence Number

Victim Connected to UCR Offense Code

Type of Victim

Type of Officer Activity/Circumstance

Officer Assignment Type
Officer-ORI Other Jurisdiction

Age, Sex, Race, and Ethnicity of Victim

Resident Status of Victim

Aggravated Assault/Homicide Circumstances Additional Justifiable Homicide Circumstances

Type Injury

Offender Number to be Related Relationship of Victim to Offender

Offender Segment

Offender Sequence Number

Age, Sex, Race, and Ethnicity of Offender

Arrestee Segment

Arrestee Sequence Number
Arrestee Transition Number

Arrest Date
Type of Arrest

Multiple Arrestee Segments Indicator

UCR Arrest Offense Code

Arrestee Was Armed With Automatic Weapon

Indicator

Age, Sex, Race, and Ethnicity of Arrestee

Resident Status of Arrestee

Disposition of Arrestee Under 18

Clearance Indicator
Clearance Offense Code

Group B Arrest Report

ORI
Arrestee Sequence Number
Arrestee Transition Number
Arrest Date
Type of Arrest
Multiple Arrestee Segments Indicator
UCR Arrest Offense Code
Arrestee Was Armed With Automatic
Weapon Indicator
Age, Sex, Race, and Ethnicity of Arrestee
Resident Status of Arrestee
Disposition of Arrestee Under 18