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 23 offense categories. (At the recommendation of the Criminal Justice Information Services Advisory Policy Board, the UCR Program combined the offense categories of Sex Offenses [formerly Forcible] and Sex Offenses, Nonforcible. Beginning with the 2018 data, all offense types previously published in those two categories are now published in one category as Sex Offenses.) The Group A Incident Report captures information about these Group A offenses (up to ten per incident) within six data segments: administrative, offense, property, victim, offender, and arrestee. Using a prescribed set of data elements and data values, law enforcement agencies report detailed information 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. 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