



Data Declaration

Incidents Cleared by Offense Category, 2019

The FBI collected these data through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

General Comments

- This table shows the number of incidents that law enforcement agencies cleared by arrest or exceptional means. It also provides the number of incidents cleared for each associated offense category. The 23 offense categories shown are comprised of 52 offense types. (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.)
- For a breakdown of the offense types included in each category, see Crimes Against Persons, Property, and Society in this publication.
- In NIBRS, the submission of arrestee data in connection with an incident automatically clears all offenses within the incident.
- When an incident is cleared by arrest, an individual is taken into custody either with or without a warrant or previous incident report, or the individual is summoned or cited (but not taken into custody).
- When an incident is cleared by exceptional means, it was cleared in some other way than by arrest, i.e., the death of the offender, prosecution was declined for other than lack of probable cause, the offender was already in custody in another jurisdiction, the victim refused to cooperate in the prosecution, or the offender was a juvenile and the crime was handled without taking him/her into custody.

Methodology

To arrive at the totals provided for each column of data, the UCR Program used the following counting rules:

- Total Incidents Cleared—one for each offense type identified within each incident, aggregated by offense category. In multiple-offense incidents, incidents were counted



Uniform Crime Reporting Program
National Incident-Based Reporting System

two or more times when there were two or more offense types in the incident. (For example, if an incident involved both a rape and a robbery, the incident was counted only once in the total. However, the incident is reflected twice in the breakdown because it was counted in both the sex offenses category [rape] and the robbery offense category.)

- Cleared by Arrest—one for each offense type in an incident containing at least one arrestee.
- Cleared by Exceptional Means—one for each offense type in an incident reported as cleared exceptionally.

Note: There is no direct correlation between the numbers in the Total Incidents column and those in the Total Incidents Cleared column. The numbers in the Total Incidents column are included only for informational purposes.