

SECTION III



Crime Index Offenses Cleared

Law enforcement agencies reporting offenses to the national UCR Program can clear these offenses in one of two ways: by arrest or by exceptional means. However, the administrative closing or “clearing” of a case by a local law enforcement agency does not necessarily mean that the agency can clear an offense according to UCR procedures. To clear an offense within the Program’s guidelines, the reporting agency must adhere to certain criteria.

Cleared by Arrest

In the UCR Program, a reporting law enforcement agency clears, or solves, an offense by arrest only when all of the following conditions are met. At least one person must be:

- Arrested.
- Charged with the commission of an offense.
- Turned over to the court for prosecution.

The UCR Program counts in the clearances the number of offenses and not the number of persons arrested. The arrest of one person may clear several crimes. Conversely, the arrest of many persons may clear only one offense. In addition, the clearances that an agency recorded in a particular calendar year such as 2002 may include offenses that occurred in previous years.

Cleared by Exceptional Means

When elements beyond law enforcement’s control prevent the agency from placing formal charges against the offender, the agency can clear the offense exceptionally. According to UCR Program guidelines, an agency can clear an offense

exceptionally if it adheres to all of the following criteria. The agency must have:

- Identified the offender.
- Gathered enough evidence to support an arrest, make a charge, and turn over the offender to the court for prosecution.
- Identified the offender’s exact location so that law enforcement can make an arrest.
- Encountered a circumstance outside the control of law enforcement that prohibits the agency from arresting, charging, and prosecuting an offender.

Examples of exceptional clearances include, but are not limited to, the death of the offender (suicide, justifiably killed by police or private citizens, etc.); the victim’s refusal to cooperate with the prosecution after having identified the offender; or the denial of extradition because the offender committed a crime in another jurisdiction and is being prosecuted. In the UCR Program, the recovery of property does not clear an offense.

2002 National Clearances

Nationwide, law enforcement agencies in 2002 recorded a 20.0 percent Crime Index clearance rate in 2002. (The Crime Index is an aggregate of murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and larceny-theft.) The Modified Crime Index (the Crime Index offenses plus arson) showed a 20.0 percent clearance rate for the year and included a 16.5 percent clearance rate for arson.

Violent crimes (murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault)

often undergo a more vigorous investigative effort than crimes against property. Additionally, victims and/or witnesses often identify the perpetrators. Consequently, violent crimes tend to have higher clearance rates than property crimes. In 2002, that tendency continued with 46.8 percent of violent crimes cleared compared to 16.5 percent of property crimes cleared (excluding arson). An examination of violent crime clearances showed that the clearance rate for murder was 64.0 percent; for aggravated assault, 56.5 percent; for forcible rape, 44.5 percent, and for robbery, 25.7 percent. A review of the clearances for property crimes indicated that the clearance rate for larceny-theft was 18.0 percent; for motor vehicle theft, 13.8 percent, and for burglary, 13.0 percent. (See Table 25.)

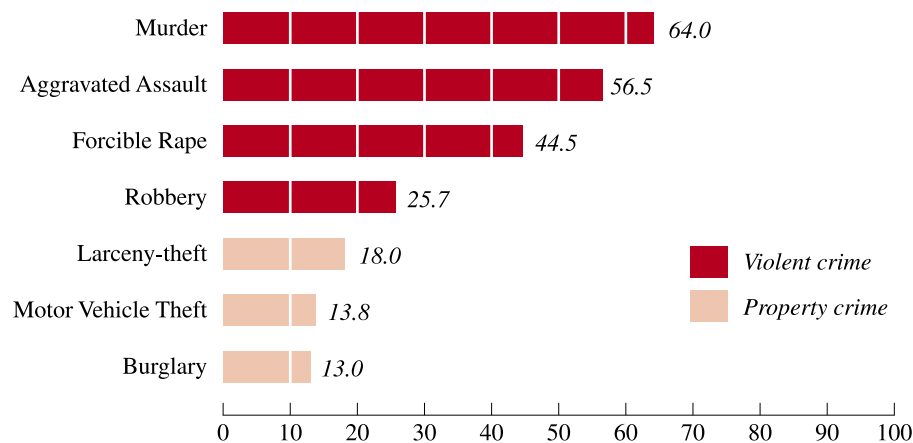
2002 Regional Clearances

An examination of clearance rates by region showed that in 2002 law enforcement agencies in the Northeast recorded the highest Crime Index clearance rate among the regions in the Nation—24.9 percent. The South had a 20.4 percent clearance rate, the Midwest had an 18.5 percent clearance rate, and the West cleared 18.4 percent of reported Crime Index offenses. The Northeast had a 52.2 percent violent crime clearance rate, and the South cleared 47.2 percent of violent crimes, followed by the West at 46.0 percent and the Midwest at 42.9 percent. For property crime, the Northeast and the South showed clearance rates of 21.1 percent and 16.7 percent, respectively. The Midwest cleared 15.8 percent of property crimes and the West recorded a clearance rate of 14.7 percent. (See Table 26.)

Figure 3.1

Crimes Cleared by Arrest

Percent of crimes cleared by arrest, 2002



2002 Community Clearances

Among community types, cities collectively cleared 19.7 percent of Crime Index offenses, 44.5 percent of violent crimes, and 16.4 percent of property crimes. Among city groupings, cities with populations of 10,000 to 24,999 had the highest clearance rate for offenses that make up the Crime Index—23.9 percent. In 2002, these cities collectively also had the highest property crime clearance rate—21.1 percent. The highest percentage of violent crimes cleared—58.9 percent—occurred in cities with less than 10,000 inhabitants. Of the remaining community

types, law enforcement in suburban counties cleared 20.8 percent of Crime Index offenses, 54.0 percent of violent crimes, and 16.4 percent of property crimes. Rural county law enforcement agencies recorded a 23.2 percent clearance rate for Crime Index offenses. Additionally, rural counties had a violent crime clearance rate of 61.4 percent and a property crime clearance rate of 18.3 percent. (See Table 25.)

Clearances Involving Only Persons Under 18 Years of Age

When an offender under the age of 18 is cited to appear in juvenile

court or before other juvenile authorities, even though a physical arrest may not have occurred, the UCR Program considers that incident as a clearance by arrest. In addition, according to Program definitions, clearances involving both adult and juvenile offenders are classified as adult clearances. Therefore, because the juvenile clearance percentages in this publication include only the offenses in which there were no adults involved, these figures underestimate juvenile involvement in crime.

Of the Crime Index offenses law enforcement cleared, 18.0 percent involved only juveniles. In addition, juvenile offenders accounted for 11.9 percent of violent crime clearances and 20.3 percent of property crime clearances. Murder clearances showed the lowest percentage of juvenile involvement at 5.0 percent, and arson clearances showed the highest percentage of juvenile involvement at 43.0 percent. (See Table 28.)

By region, the Midwest had the largest percentage of Crime Index offenses involving only juveniles, clearing 22.7 percent. In the West, juveniles alone accounted for 20.0 percent of the clearances; in the Northeast, 16.2 percent; and in the South, 15.3 percent.

Table 25

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means

by Population Group, 2002
[2002 estimated population]

| <i>Population group</i> | <i>Crime Index</i> | <i>Modified Crime Index¹</i> | <i>Violent crime²</i> | <i>Property crime³</i> | <i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i> | <i>Forcible rape</i> | <i>Robbery</i> | <i>Aggravated assault</i> | <i>Burglary</i> | <i>Larceny-theft</i> | <i>Motor vehicle theft</i> | <i>Arson⁴</i> |
|---|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| TOTAL ALL AGENCIES: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12,862 agencies; population 240,070,262 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 10,121,721 | 10,192,984 | 1,184,453 | 8,937,268 | 13,561 | 80,515 | 343,023 | 747,354 | 1,842,930 | 6,014,290 | 1,080,048 | 71,263 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 20.0 | 20.0 | 46.8 | 16.5 | 64.0 | 44.5 | 25.7 | 56.5 | 13.0 | 18.0 | 13.8 | 16.5 |
| TOTAL CITIES: 9,130 cities; population 159,128,836 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 7,966,962 | 8,020,178 | 934,424 | 7,032,538 | 10,371 | 59,085 | 299,891 | 565,077 | 1,341,162 | 4,812,396 | 878,980 | 53,216 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 19.7 | 19.6 | 44.5 | 16.4 | 62.0 | 43.4 | 25.0 | 54.6 | 12.3 | 18.1 | 12.8 | 15.9 |
| GROUP I | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 65 cities, 250,000 and over; population 40,220,526 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 2,746,733 | 2,769,325 | 425,109 | 2,321,624 | 5,643 | 19,771 | 158,573 | 241,122 | 455,961 | 1,442,526 | 423,137 | 22,592 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 16.8 | 16.7 | 38.6 | 12.8 | 57.8 | 44.0 | 21.4 | 49.1 | 10.5 | 14.3 | 10.3 | 10.5 |
| 8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 13,659,273 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 846,653 | 853,517 | 149,894 | 696,759 | 1,855 | 5,696 | 56,911 | 85,432 | 132,872 | 419,599 | 144,288 | 6,864 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 17.4 | 17.4 | 38.6 | 12.9 | 61.9 | 42.9 | 22.2 | 48.7 | 10.7 | 14.8 | 9.2 | 9.9 |
| 21 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 13,866,854 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 997,046 | 1,004,672 | 145,515 | 851,531 | 2,020 | 7,443 | 52,147 | 83,905 | 170,288 | 539,734 | 141,509 | 7,626 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 15.6 | 15.6 | 37.2 | 11.9 | 54.5 | 43.7 | 19.8 | 47.0 | 9.4 | 13.1 | 10.3 | 10.9 |
| 36 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 12,694,399 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 903,034 | 911,136 | 129,700 | 773,334 | 1,768 | 6,632 | 49,515 | 71,785 | 152,801 | 483,193 | 137,340 | 8,102 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 17.5 | 17.5 | 40.3 | 13.7 | 57.1 | 45.2 | 22.3 | 51.9 | 11.4 | 15.1 | 11.3 | 10.6 |
| GROUP II | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 158 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 23,822,400 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 1,320,491 | 1,329,190 | 145,837 | 1,174,654 | 1,698 | 9,645 | 50,401 | 84,093 | 226,441 | 793,631 | 154,582 | 8,699 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 18.6 | 18.5 | 44.4 | 15.3 | 61.7 | 43.1 | 26.4 | 55.0 | 11.4 | 17.1 | 11.9 | 15.7 |
| GROUP III | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 381 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 26,328,413 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 1,187,713 | 1,194,733 | 126,887 | 1,060,826 | 1,189 | 9,443 | 38,358 | 77,897 | 203,511 | 738,564 | 118,751 | 7,020 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 20.4 | 20.4 | 46.9 | 17.3 | 67.3 | 41.9 | 27.6 | 56.7 | 12.3 | 19.4 | 12.3 | 18.9 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 25

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means

by Population Group, 2002—Continued

[2002 estimated population]

| <i>Population group</i> | <i>Crime Index</i> | <i>Modified Crime Index¹</i> | <i>Violent crime²</i> | <i>Property crime³</i> | <i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i> | <i>Forcible rape</i> | <i>Robbery</i> | <i>Aggravated assault</i> | <i>Burglary</i> | <i>Larceny-theft</i> | <i>Motor vehicle theft</i> | <i>Arson⁴</i> |
|--|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| GROUP IV | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 682 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 23,803,053 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 965,387 | 971,002 | 87,974 | 877,413 | 746 | 7,388 | 23,742 | 56,098 | 163,955 | 637,193 | 76,265 | 5,615 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 21.7 | 21.6 | 49.8 | 18.8 | 72.3 | 40.4 | 30.9 | 58.7 | 12.8 | 20.8 | 15.4 | 20.1 |
| GROUP V | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,555 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 24,675,220 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 929,803 | 934,563 | 79,815 | 849,988 | 612 | 7,156 | 18,290 | 53,757 | 156,697 | 631,531 | 61,760 | 4,760 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 23.9 | 23.9 | 53.4 | 21.1 | 70.6 | 44.9 | 32.9 | 61.3 | 15.3 | 22.6 | 20.8 | 24.5 |
| GROUP VI | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6,289 cities, under 10,000; population 20,279,224 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 816,835 | 821,365 | 68,802 | 748,033 | 483 | 5,682 | 10,527 | 52,110 | 134,597 | 568,951 | 44,485 | 4,530 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 22.9 | 22.9 | 58.9 | 19.6 | 73.7 | 46.2 | 34.9 | 65.1 | 16.3 | 19.8 | 26.3 | 24.6 |
| SUBURBAN COUNTIES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,279 agencies; population 54,106,364 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 1,636,611 | 1,650,437 | 191,377 | 1,445,234 | 2,227 | 15,051 | 38,727 | 135,372 | 349,563 | 930,563 | 165,108 | 13,826 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 20.8 | 20.7 | 54.0 | 16.4 | 66.6 | 47.0 | 29.5 | 61.6 | 14.0 | 17.4 | 15.7 | 17.1 |
| RURAL COUNTIES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2,453 agencies; population 26,835,062 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 518,148 | 522,369 | 58,652 | 459,496 | 963 | 6,379 | 4,405 | 46,905 | 152,205 | 271,331 | 35,960 | 4,221 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 23.2 | 23.2 | 61.4 | 18.3 | 78.9 | 49.8 | 41.4 | 64.5 | 16.6 | 17.9 | 27.9 | 23.0 |
| SUBURBAN AREA⁴ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6,120 agencies; population 99,561,928 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 3,226,405 | 3,249,065 | 320,382 | 2,906,023 | 3,210 | 25,562 | 71,803 | 219,807 | 604,584 | 2,010,471 | 290,968 | 22,660 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 21.3 | 21.3 | 53.4 | 17.8 | 67.5 | 45.7 | 29.9 | 61.7 | 14.1 | 19.1 | 16.2 | 19.1 |

¹ Because arson is reported to the FBI separately from other offenses, the number of agency reports used in arson clearance rates is less than those used in compiling other Crime Index offense clearance rates. The Modified Crime Index is the sum of the seven offenses making up the Crime Index, with the addition of arson.

² Violent crimes are offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

³ Property crimes are offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft.

⁴ Suburban area includes law enforcement agencies in cities with less than 50,000 inhabitants and county law enforcement agencies that are within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (see Appendix III). Suburban area excludes all metropolitan agencies associated with a central city. The agencies associated with suburban areas also appear in other groups within this table.

Table 26

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means

by Geographic Region and Division, 2002

[2002 estimated population]

| <i>Geographic region/division</i> | <i>Crime Index</i> | <i>Modified Crime Index¹</i> | <i>Violent crime²</i> | <i>Property crime³</i> | <i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i> | <i>Forcible rape</i> | <i>Robbery</i> | <i>Aggravated assault</i> | <i>Burglary</i> | <i>Larceny-theft</i> | <i>Motor vehicle theft</i> | <i>Arson⁴</i> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| TOTAL ALL AGENCIES: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12,862 agencies; | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 240,070,262 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 10,121,721 | 10,192,984 | 1,184,453 | 8,937,268 | 13,561 | 80,515 | 343,023 | 747,354 | 1,842,930 | 6,014,290 | 1,080,048 | 71,263 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 20.0 | 20.0 | 46.8 | 16.5 | 64.0 | 44.5 | 25.7 | 56.5 | 13.0 | 18.0 | 13.8 | 16.5 |
| NEW ENGLAND | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 761 agencies; | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 11,657,696 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 327,937 | 330,012 | 36,786 | 291,151 | 281 | 3,089 | 10,335 | 23,081 | 54,723 | 201,459 | 34,969 | 2,075 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 21.1 | 21.0 | 51.0 | 17.3 | 61.6 | 42.2 | 27.0 | 62.8 | 14.2 | 18.6 | 14.3 | 17.4 |
| MIDDLE ATLANTIC | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,934 agencies; | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 28,460,160 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 805,251 | 811,181 | 103,821 | 701,430 | 1,203 | 6,569 | 38,295 | 57,754 | 132,198 | 485,894 | 83,338 | 5,930 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 26.5 | 26.4 | 52.6 | 22.6 | 77.3 | 54.7 | 32.1 | 65.4 | 19.2 | 24.7 | 16.2 | 20.6 |
| NORTHEAST | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2,695 agencies; | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 40,117,856 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 1,133,188 | 1,141,193 | 140,607 | 992,581 | 1,484 | 9,658 | 48,630 | 80,835 | 186,921 | 687,353 | 118,307 | 8,005 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 24.9 | 24.9 | 52.2 | 21.1 | 74.3 | 50.7 | 31.0 | 64.7 | 17.7 | 22.9 | 15.7 | 19.8 |
| EAST NORTH CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,594 agencies; | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 28,041,819 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 1,131,786 | 1,142,662 | 119,161 | 1,012,625 | 1,559 | 12,013 | 38,528 | 67,061 | 213,619 | 683,068 | 115,938 | 10,876 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 16.7 | 16.6 | 36.9 | 14.3 | 50.4 | 36.6 | 19.0 | 47.0 | 10.0 | 15.8 | 13.0 | 12.7 |
| WEST NORTH CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,712 agencies; | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 17,287,696 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 646,246 | 651,021 | 57,263 | 588,983 | 526 | 5,451 | 11,337 | 39,949 | 104,790 | 431,723 | 52,470 | 4,775 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 21.7 | 21.7 | 55.4 | 18.4 | 74.0 | 45.0 | 29.9 | 63.9 | 13.1 | 19.6 | 19.2 | 19.5 |
| MIDWEST | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3,306 agencies; | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 45,329,515 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 1,778,032 | 1,793,683 | 176,424 | 1,601,608 | 2,085 | 17,464 | 49,865 | 107,010 | 318,409 | 1,114,791 | 168,408 | 15,651 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 18.5 | 18.5 | 42.9 | 15.8 | 56.3 | 39.2 | 21.5 | 53.3 | 11.0 | 17.3 | 14.9 | 14.8 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 26

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means

by Geographic Region and Division, 2002—Continued

[2002 estimated population]

| <i>Geographic region/division</i> | <i>Crime Index</i> | <i>Modified Crime Index¹</i> | <i>Violent crime²</i> | <i>Property crime³</i> | <i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i> | <i>Forcible rape</i> | <i>Robbery</i> | <i>Aggravated assault</i> | <i>Burglary</i> | <i>Larceny-theft</i> | <i>Motor vehicle theft</i> | <i>Arson¹</i> |
|--|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| SOUTH ATLANTIC | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2,569 agencies; population 49,147,598 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 2,308,418 | 2,320,488 | 298,964 | 2,009,454 | 3,346 | 15,558 | 84,173 | 195,887 | 444,889 | 1,347,608 | 216,957 | 12,070 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 21.4 | 21.4 | 49.3 | 17.2 | 64.7 | 51.3 | 26.3 | 58.7 | 14.8 | 18.3 | 15.9 | 19.7 |
| EAST SOUTH CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 814 agencies; population 12,043,974 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 585,742 | 588,288 | 68,775 | 516,967 | 885 | 4,686 | 18,549 | 44,655 | 124,081 | 344,455 | 48,431 | 2,546 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 18.8 | 18.8 | 41.9 | 15.7 | 70.5 | 37.9 | 23.0 | 49.6 | 11.3 | 17.4 | 15.2 | 17.6 |
| WEST SOUTH CENTRAL | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,625 agencies; population 31,725,162 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 1,600,557 | 1,611,457 | 180,150 | 1,420,407 | 2,161 | 12,137 | 49,469 | 116,383 | 309,213 | 970,928 | 140,266 | 10,900 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 19.5 | 19.5 | 45.9 | 16.2 | 70.4 | 48.8 | 26.6 | 53.3 | 12.2 | 17.6 | 15.2 | 18.3 |
| SOUTH | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5,008 agencies; population 92,916,734 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 4,494,717 | 4,520,233 | 547,889 | 3,946,828 | 6,392 | 32,381 | 152,191 | 356,925 | 878,183 | 2,662,991 | 405,654 | 25,516 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 20.4 | 20.4 | 47.2 | 16.7 | 67.4 | 48.4 | 26.0 | 55.8 | 13.4 | 17.9 | 15.6 | 18.9 |
| MOUNTAIN | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 735 agencies; population 17,875,995 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 879,016 | 883,998 | 81,454 | 797,562 | 961 | 6,931 | 19,841 | 53,721 | 147,067 | 536,222 | 114,273 | 4,982 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 18.4 | 18.4 | 43.6 | 15.8 | 56.6 | 35.9 | 22.8 | 52.1 | 11.3 | 17.7 | 12.9 | 19.4 |
| PACIFIC | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,118 agencies; population 43,830,162 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 1,836,768 | 1,853,877 | 238,079 | 1,598,689 | 2,639 | 14,081 | 72,496 | 148,863 | 312,350 | 1,012,933 | 273,406 | 17,109 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 18.4 | 18.3 | 46.8 | 14.2 | 58.6 | 42.2 | 25.2 | 57.5 | 12.0 | 16.0 | 9.9 | 12.3 |
| WEST | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,853 agencies; population 61,706,157 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 2,715,784 | 2,737,875 | 319,533 | 2,396,251 | 3,600 | 21,012 | 92,337 | 202,584 | 459,417 | 1,549,155 | 387,679 | 22,091 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 18.4 | 18.4 | 46.0 | 14.7 | 58.1 | 40.1 | 24.7 | 56.1 | 11.8 | 16.6 | 10.8 | 13.9 |

¹ Because arson is reported to the FBI separately from other offenses, the number of agency reports used in arson clearance rates is less than those used in compiling other Crime Index offense clearance rates. The Modified Crime Index is the sum of the seven offenses making up the Crime Index, with the addition of arson.

² Violent crimes are offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

³ Property crimes are offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft.

Table 27

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means

Breakdown of Offenses Known
by Population Group, 2002
[2002 estimated population]

| Population group | Forcible rape | | Robbery | | | | Aggravated assault | | | | Burglary | | | Motor vehicle theft | | | Arson ¹ | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------|--------|
| | Rape by force | Assault to rape-attempts | Firearm | Knife or cutting instrument | Other weapon | Strong-arm | Firearm | Knife or cutting instrument | Other weapon | Hands, fists, feet, etc. | Forcible entry | Unlawful entry | Attempted forcible entry | Autos | Trucks and buses | Other vehicles | Structure | Mobile | Other |
| TOTAL ALL AGENCIES: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12,246 agencies; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 221,558,621 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 66,158 | 6,699 | 129,309 | 26,942 | 27,999 | 119,904 | 126,072 | 115,673 | 218,827 | 186,326 | 1,033,712 | 504,385 | 106,502 | 724,754 | 179,072 | 72,167 | 25,943 | 21,219 | 16,725 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 43.7 | 44.2 | 20.3 | 28.2 | 28.0 | 29.8 | 41.3 | 62.2 | 55.5 | 63.3 | 12.3 | 14.1 | 10.8 | 14.1 | 11.6 | 12.9 | 22.4 | 7.2 | 20.7 |
| TOTAL CITIES: 8,791 cities; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 149,851,350 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 49,715 | 5,401 | 114,535 | 24,235 | 24,673 | 108,368 | 102,154 | 94,871 | 172,141 | 137,495 | 771,293 | 374,776 | 82,678 | 615,915 | 147,974 | 48,424 | 19,758 | 15,270 | 12,398 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 43.0 | 43.6 | 19.8 | 27.4 | 27.1 | 29.2 | 38.2 | 61.0 | 53.9 | 62.5 | 11.7 | 13.6 | 10.3 | 13.1 | 10.8 | 12.6 | 22.1 | 6.9 | 20.3 |
| GROUP I | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 60 cities, 250,000 and over; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 37,824,297 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 16,567 | 2,209 | 65,643 | 12,528 | 12,064 | 55,482 | 55,660 | 41,090 | 76,223 | 43,587 | 289,956 | 108,236 | 23,765 | 288,125 | 90,209 | 18,655 | 7,413 | 7,643 | 3,574 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 43.5 | 45.2 | 17.1 | 23.3 | 23.7 | 25.4 | 32.9 | 57.9 | 50.4 | 58.2 | 9.8 | 11.3 | 9.2 | 10.6 | 8.4 | 10.8 | 18.2 | 4.0 | 15.8 |
| 8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 13,659,273 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 4,870 | 826 | 25,949 | 5,544 | 4,508 | 20,910 | 22,239 | 15,111 | 25,348 | 22,734 | 91,761 | 34,490 | 6,621 | 97,763 | 38,496 | 8,029 | 2,251 | 3,414 | 1,199 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 41.7 | 49.9 | 17.4 | 22.9 | 23.6 | 27.6 | 29.0 | 56.3 | 49.3 | 62.3 | 10.3 | 12.0 | 9.7 | 10.6 | 6.4 | 7.0 | 15.3 | 3.0 | 19.2 |
| 19 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 12,426,573 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 6,176 | 809 | 21,193 | 3,752 | 4,155 | 16,315 | 18,188 | 14,199 | 28,177 | 10,039 | 106,399 | 35,939 | 10,000 | 95,797 | 27,948 | 5,795 | 1,994 | 1,431 | 966 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 42.7 | 39.9 | 14.4 | 22.1 | 21.5 | 22.5 | 33.4 | 55.4 | 47.8 | 49.4 | 8.2 | 9.5 | 8.2 | 9.9 | 9.8 | 4.5 | 25.5 | 6.3 | 14.2 |
| 33 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 11,738,451 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 5,521 | 574 | 18,501 | 3,232 | 3,401 | 18,257 | 15,233 | 11,780 | 22,698 | 10,814 | 91,796 | 37,807 | 7,144 | 94,565 | 23,765 | 4,831 | 3,168 | 2,798 | 1,409 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 45.9 | 46.0 | 19.8 | 25.2 | 26.6 | 25.4 | 38.0 | 63.2 | 54.9 | 58.0 | 11.1 | 12.3 | 10.2 | 11.3 | 10.0 | 24.7 | 15.7 | 3.9 | 14.0 |
| GROUP II | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 147 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 22,100,981 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 8,065 | 810 | 19,545 | 4,162 | 4,584 | 17,681 | 16,367 | 15,039 | 28,404 | 15,537 | 135,452 | 57,819 | 13,420 | 109,806 | 23,537 | 7,092 | 3,380 | 2,740 | 2,040 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 42.6 | 40.9 | 21.4 | 29.1 | 27.2 | 30.2 | 38.9 | 61.4 | 53.3 | 62.1 | 10.8 | 13.1 | 10.0 | 12.1 | 10.9 | 9.0 | 19.8 | 5.6 | 21.0 |
| GROUP III | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 350 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 24,172,113 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 7,794 | 669 | 12,466 | 3,246 | 3,020 | 14,464 | 11,326 | 12,968 | 23,815 | 19,303 | 107,314 | 58,523 | 13,891 | 86,352 | 13,191 | 6,710 | 2,733 | 1,933 | 1,884 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 41.3 | 39.2 | 22.3 | 29.3 | 30.3 | 31.6 | 40.7 | 60.8 | 55.9 | 63.8 | 11.7 | 13.3 | 9.9 | 12.1 | 12.8 | 11.6 | 23.9 | 9.6 | 20.6 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 27**Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means**

Breakdown of Offenses Known
by Population Group, 2002—Continued
[2002 estimated population]

| Population group | Forcible rape | | Robbery | | | | Aggravated assault | | | | Burglary | | | Motor vehicle theft | | | Arson ¹ | | |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------|-------|
| | Rape by force | Assault to rape-attempts | Firearm | Knife or cutting instrument | Other weapon | Strong-arm | Firearm | Knife or cutting instrument | Other weapon | Hands, fists, feet, etc. | Forcible entry | Unlawful entry | Attempted forcible entry | Autos | Trucks and buses | Other vehicles | Structure | Mobile | Other |
| GROUP IV | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 646 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 22,508,549 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 6,252 | 534 | 7,342 | 1,997 | 2,250 | 9,308 | 7,315 | 9,331 | 16,313 | 17,536 | 85,548 | 51,940 | 11,879 | 54,902 | 8,668 | 5,306 | 2,130 | 1,279 | 1,869 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 40.1 | 46.3 | 25.8 | 32.0 | 32.1 | 35.5 | 46.8 | 64.2 | 57.8 | 62.4 | 12.4 | 13.8 | 9.4 | 15.4 | 16.4 | 12.3 | 24.5 | 10.4 | 21.9 |
| GROUP V | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,481 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 23,534,294 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 6,177 | 573 | 6,057 | 1,423 | 1,791 | 7,131 | 6,166 | 8,728 | 14,886 | 18,386 | 83,057 | 50,855 | 10,250 | 45,388 | 6,869 | 5,264 | 2,105 | 901 | 1,498 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 44.7 | 42.2 | 27.4 | 38.2 | 33.6 | 37.7 | 52.1 | 65.4 | 59.2 | 65.1 | 14.9 | 16.8 | 12.9 | 21.5 | 19.5 | 17.3 | 27.9 | 15.1 | 25.9 |
| GROUP VI | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6,107 cities, under 10,000; population 19,711,116 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 4,860 | 606 | 3,482 | 879 | 964 | 4,302 | 5,320 | 7,715 | 12,500 | 23,146 | 69,966 | 47,403 | 9,473 | 31,342 | 5,500 | 5,397 | 1,997 | 774 | 1,533 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 46.4 | 45.5 | 29.1 | 43.3 | 33.5 | 38.2 | 58.3 | 68.0 | 61.1 | 67.7 | 16.5 | 16.5 | 12.4 | 27.6 | 25.5 | 20.2 | 29.0 | 18.1 | 21.9 |
| SUBURBAN COUNTIES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,127 agencies; population 46,036,211 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 10,868 | 906 | 13,102 | 2,349 | 2,843 | 10,190 | 16,394 | 15,155 | 34,905 | 30,955 | 168,682 | 87,928 | 16,873 | 88,919 | 25,268 | 15,891 | 4,079 | 4,946 | 3,429 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 44.6 | 45.3 | 22.1 | 35.1 | 33.3 | 34.6 | 50.8 | 67.1 | 61.4 | 66.3 | 12.8 | 15.0 | 10.3 | 16.4 | 12.7 | 11.4 | 22.7 | 6.6 | 21.6 |
| RURAL COUNTIES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2,328 agencies; population 25,671,060 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 5,575 | 392 | 1,672 | 358 | 483 | 1,346 | 7,524 | 5,647 | 11,781 | 17,876 | 93,737 | 41,681 | 6,951 | 19,920 | 5,830 | 7,852 | 2,106 | 1,003 | 898 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 48.8 | 49.0 | 38.3 | 39.7 | 44.5 | 43.0 | 62.1 | 69.0 | 62.3 | 63.9 | 16.0 | 16.5 | 17.2 | 31.4 | 26.3 | 17.9 | 25.3 | 15.8 | 22.5 |
| SUBURBAN AREA² | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5,737 agencies; population 89,073,699 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offenses known | 19,562 | 1,841 | 23,775 | 4,904 | 5,759 | 22,811 | 25,040 | 27,269 | 57,125 | 61,223 | 294,622 | 172,469 | 35,227 | 179,863 | 38,871 | 25,971 | 7,542 | 6,745 | 6,517 |
| Percent cleared by arrest | 44.3 | 43.9 | 22.9 | 34.9 | 32.7 | 35.0 | 50.3 | 66.3 | 60.8 | 66.6 | 13.2 | 15.2 | 10.6 | 16.8 | 13.9 | 12.7 | 24.6 | 8.4 | 22.2 |

¹ Because arson is reported to the FBI separately from other offenses, the number of agency reports used in arson clearance rates is less than those used in compiling other Crime Index offense clearance rates. It is necessary to report arson clearances by detailed property classification as specified on the *Monthly Return of Arson Offenses Known to Law Enforcement* to be included in this table; therefore, clearances in this table may differ from other clearance tables.

² Suburban area includes law enforcement agencies in cities with less than 50,000 inhabitants and county law enforcement agencies that are within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (see Appendix III). Suburban area excludes all metropolitan agencies associated with a central city. The agencies associated with suburban areas also appear in other groups within this table.

Table 28

Number of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means
of Persons Under 18 Years of Age
by Population Group, 2002
[2002 estimated population]

| <i>Population group</i> | <i>Crime Index</i> | <i>Modified Crime Index¹</i> | <i>Violent crime²</i> | <i>Property crime³</i> | <i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i> | <i>Forcible rape</i> | <i>Robbery</i> | <i>Aggravated assault</i> | <i>Burglary</i> | <i>Larceny-theft</i> | <i>Motor vehicle theft</i> | <i>Arson⁴</i> |
|--|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| TOTAL ALL AGENCIES: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11,912 agencies; | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 212,703,198 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 1,715,344 | 1,725,968 | 460,834 | 1,254,510 | 7,473 | 30,521 | 73,815 | 349,025 | 199,395 | 929,658 | 125,457 | 10,624 |
| Percent under 18 | 18.0 | 18.2 | 11.9 | 20.3 | 5.0 | 12.0 | 14.1 | 11.6 | 17.3 | 21.2 | 18.2 | 43.0 |
| TOTAL CITIES: 8,647 cities; | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| population 144,084,799 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 1,366,819 | 1,374,546 | 356,903 | 1,009,916 | 5,599 | 22,632 | 64,405 | 264,267 | 142,839 | 769,020 | 98,057 | 7,727 |
| Percent under 18 | 18.6 | 18.8 | 12.1 | 20.9 | 5.4 | 11.6 | 14.2 | 11.7 | 17.3 | 21.9 | 18.5 | 45.6 |
| GROUP I | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 56 cities, 250,000 and over; population 35,189,022 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 391,212 | 393,253 | 138,430 | 252,782 | 2,774 | 7,594 | 29,021 | 99,041 | 39,903 | 175,057 | 37,822 | 2,041 |
| Percent under 18 | 15.2 | 15.3 | 10.2 | 17.8 | 5.1 | 9.1 | 13.8 | 9.4 | 14.4 | 18.3 | 19.3 | 42.1 |
| 8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 13,659,273 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 147,518 | 148,197 | 57,801 | 89,717 | 1,148 | 2,443 | 12,617 | 41,593 | 14,217 | 62,174 | 13,326 | 679 |
| Percent under 18 | 13.8 | 13.9 | 9.2 | 16.8 | 5.1 | 8.5 | 13.8 | 7.9 | 13.2 | 17.6 | 16.8 | 40.4 |
| 15 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 9,791,298 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 101,556 | 102,114 | 34,923 | 66,633 | 680 | 2,355 | 6,396 | 25,492 | 10,067 | 46,297 | 10,269 | 558 |
| Percent under 18 | 14.9 | 15.0 | 10.5 | 17.2 | 3.7 | 8.9 | 14.9 | 9.8 | 14.7 | 16.8 | 21.1 | 45.0 |
| 33 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 11,738,451 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 142,138 | 142,942 | 45,706 | 96,432 | 946 | 2,796 | 10,008 | 31,956 | 15,619 | 66,586 | 14,227 | 804 |
| Percent under 18 | 16.7 | 16.9 | 11.4 | 19.3 | 6.0 | 9.9 | 13.1 | 11.2 | 15.3 | 20.0 | 20.2 | 41.7 |
| GROUP II | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 140 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 21,144,564 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 208,095 | 209,321 | 54,414 | 153,681 | 935 | 3,543 | 11,455 | 38,481 | 22,045 | 116,431 | 15,205 | 1,226 |
| Percent under 18 | 18.2 | 18.3 | 11.6 | 20.5 | 5.7 | 9.4 | 13.8 | 11.3 | 16.2 | 21.8 | 17.1 | 43.4 |
| GROUP III | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 342 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 23,701,295 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 211,407 | 212,629 | 51,078 | 160,329 | 713 | 3,454 | 9,113 | 37,798 | 21,363 | 126,249 | 12,717 | 1,222 |
| Percent under 18 | 21.1 | 21.2 | 13.5 | 23.5 | 5.8 | 13.1 | 16.3 | 13.0 | 17.6 | 25.0 | 19.2 | 44.8 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 28**Number of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means**

of Persons Under 18 Years of Age
by Population Group, 2002—Continued
[2002 estimated population]

| <i>Population group</i> | <i>Crime Index</i> | <i>Modified Crime Index¹</i> | <i>Violent crime²</i> | <i>Property crime³</i> | <i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i> | <i>Forcible rape</i> | <i>Robbery</i> | <i>Aggravated assault</i> | <i>Burglary</i> | <i>Larceny-theft</i> | <i>Motor vehicle theft</i> | <i>Arson⁴</i> |
|--|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| GROUP IV | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 628 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 21,868,627 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 184,190 | 185,258 | 38,302 | 145,888 | 458 | 2,640 | 6,269 | 28,935 | 18,054 | 117,778 | 10,056 | 1,068 |
| Percent under 18 | 21.1 | 21.2 | 13.9 | 22.9 | 5.9 | 13.3 | 15.2 | 13.7 | 19.4 | 23.8 | 19.2 | 49.0 |
| GROUP V | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,429 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 22,716,911 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 197,861 | 198,958 | 37,283 | 160,578 | 385 | 2,898 | 5,239 | 28,761 | 21,259 | 128,035 | 11,284 | 1,097 |
| Percent under 18 | 20.0 | 20.2 | 13.7 | 21.5 | 5.2 | 16.0 | 13.6 | 13.5 | 18.0 | 22.5 | 17.1 | 47.7 |
| GROUP VI | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6,052 cities, under 10,000; population 19,464,380 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 174,054 | 175,127 | 37,396 | 136,658 | 334 | 2,503 | 3,308 | 31,251 | 20,215 | 105,470 | 10,973 | 1,073 |
| Percent under 18 | 19.6 | 19.8 | 14.2 | 21.1 | 5.7 | 13.2 | 13.5 | 14.5 | 21.5 | 21.3 | 17.6 | 50.3 |
| SUBURBAN COUNTIES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1,053 agencies; population 44,134,049 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 244,872 | 246,881 | 72,856 | 172,016 | 1,185 | 5,088 | 7,968 | 58,615 | 34,919 | 118,309 | 18,788 | 2,009 |
| Percent under 18 | 16.4 | 16.5 | 12.3 | 18.1 | 4.0 | 12.8 | 14.4 | 12.1 | 17.6 | 18.6 | 16.1 | 39.1 |
| RURAL COUNTIES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2,212 agencies; population 24,484,350 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 103,653 | 104,541 | 31,075 | 72,578 | 689 | 2,801 | 1,442 | 26,143 | 21,637 | 42,329 | 8,612 | 888 |
| Percent under 18 | 14.5 | 14.6 | 9.6 | 16.5 | 4.2 | 13.8 | 7.4 | 9.5 | 16.6 | 15.9 | 19.7 | 28.6 |
| SUBURBAN AREA⁴ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5,581 agencies; population 85,992,422 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total clearances | 548,995 | 552,871 | 130,615 | 418,380 | 1,768 | 9,178 | 16,460 | 103,209 | 65,999 | 314,949 | 37,432 | 3,876 |
| Percent under 18 | 18.5 | 18.7 | 13.6 | 20.0 | 4.8 | 13.9 | 14.6 | 13.5 | 18.6 | 20.7 | 16.5 | 45.9 |

¹ Because arson is reported to the FBI separately from other offenses, the number of agency reports used in arson clearance rates is less than those used in compiling other Crime Index offense clearance rates. The Modified Crime Index is the sum of the seven offenses making up the Crime Index, with the addition of arson.

² Violent crimes are offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

³ Property crimes are offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft.

⁴ Suburban area includes law enforcement agencies in cities with less than 50,000 inhabitants and county law enforcement agencies that are within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (see Appendix III). Suburban area excludes all metropolitan agencies associated with a central city. The agencies associated with suburban areas also appear in other groups within this table.