



U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Criminal Justice Information Services Division



Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program Fact Sheet

Uniform Crime Reporting Background

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program is a nationwide statistical effort of federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies representing more than 98 percent of the total U.S. population. The program is based on voluntary participation to provide a national picture of the nature and scope of crime.

Two collection systems for reporting crime

The FBI UCR Program has two types of collections — Summary Reporting System (SRS) and the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

Summary Reporting System

- The data collection was established in 1930.
- The system divides offenses into Part I and Part II crimes. There are ten Part I offenses in which agencies submit monthly aggregate counts; those offenses cleared by arrest or exceptional means; and the age, sex, and race of persons arrested. Agencies provide only arrest information on the Part II offenses.
 - Part I Offenses consist of ten offenses (criminal homicide, forcible rape, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, human trafficking – commercial sex acts, and human trafficking – involuntary servitude). Part II Offenses are an additional twenty crime classifications not already designated in Part I.
- The SRS is governed by the “Hierarchy Rule” which states the highest offense occurring in an incident should be the only offense reported. For example, in a situation involving a murder and a rape in one incident, only the murder would be reported. Arson and Human Trafficking offenses are exceptions to the hierarchy rule. For example, in an incident involving a murder, rape, and a human trafficking-commercial sex acts, the murder and the human trafficking offense would be reported.
- In the SRS, additional data are collected on:
 - Murder (Weapon/Victim Relationship/Circumstance)
 - Persons Arrested (Age/Sex/Race/Ethnicity)
 - Police Employee Counts (Sworn/Civilian)
 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA) Monthly Assaults

National Incident-Based Reporting System

- The NIBRS is an incident-based reporting system in which agencies collect data on each single crime occurrence.

- The NIBRS collects data on each single incident and arrest within 24 offense categories made up of 52 specific crimes called Group A offenses.
- For each single incident, NIBRS collects detailed data regarding individual crime incidents and arrests using 58 prescribed data elements.
 - A data element is the smallest named item of data, in an incident, that conveys meaningful information or condenses a lengthy description into a short code. Location, weapon information, age, sex, race, and ethnicity of the victim, offender, and arrestee are all examples of data elements collected for each incident.

The FBI UCR Program will transition from the SRS to a NIBRS-only data collection. This transition will improve the nation’s crime data through rich details and greater specificity of offenses. The FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Advisory Policy Board (APB) passed a recommendation to transition all state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies from SRS to NIBRS by January 1, 2021. The recommendation was approved by the FBI Director in February 2016.

It should be noted, the FBI UCR Program collects information on crimes known to law enforcement. In some situations, individuals are missing under circumstances that indicate no crime was committed. Therefore, that information would not be submitted to the FBI UCR Program.

Additional Data Collections

Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted

- LEOKA data includes detailed information on law enforcement officers that are:
 - Feloniously and accidentally killed.
 - Assaulted and injured with a firearm or knife/other cutting instrument.
- LEOKA data are also collected and published on aggregate totals for assaults on federal law enforcement officers.

Hate Crime Statistics

- Hate Crime data is collected on incidents, offenses, victims, and offenders in reported crimes that are motivated in whole or in part by a bias against the victim’s perceived race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability.

National Use-of-Force Data Collection

- The goal of the statistics is to provide an aggregate view of the incidents reported and the circumstances, subjects, and officers involved.
- The FBI is striving to achieve participation thresholds established by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The OMB mandated 40, 60, and 80 percent participation thresholds for publishing use-of-force data.
 - In keeping with these industry standards, at the 40 percent coverage rate, minimal data can be released.
 - At 60 percent participation, the data collection will publish information at the national, federal, regional and state levels. At a minimum, the publication will

- include data for the type of incident, reason for initial contact, type of force applied, and whether resistance was encountered.
- At 80 percent participation, the publication has no conditions that apply to the publication. Information on the incident, the officer, and the subject will be published.

Two avenues to affect change to the UCR Program

Congressional Mandate

- The legislation does not obligate the more than 18,000 law enforcement agencies to report the data.
- The financial burden of new unfunded data collections often falls upon federal, state, local, and tribal agencies. This may limit timely participation for some law enforcement agencies.

Recommendation of the FBI CJIS APB

- The APB is an entity comprised of representatives from criminal justice agencies and national security agencies and organizations from across the country.
- The Advisory Process was established to ensure a “shared management” concept with the nation’s law enforcement community for all criminal justice information systems managed by the CJIS Division.
- The process ensures that law enforcement has the opportunity to discuss and vote on any policy or procedural changes to CJIS systems affecting law enforcement’s ability to provide services to the nation.

Additional information can be found on the FBI UCR Program website:

<https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr>.