



Overview

Table 25

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means, by Population Group, 2007

- In 2007, law enforcement agencies nationwide collectively cleared 44.5 percent of violent crimes and 16.5 percent of property crimes.
- Of the violent crimes, law enforcement agencies nationwide cleared 61.2 percent of murder offenses, 40.0 percent of forcible rapes, 25.9 percent of robberies, and 54.1 percent of aggravated assaults.
- Of the property crimes, law enforcement agencies nationwide cleared 12.4 percent of burglary offenses, 18.6 percent of larceny-thefts, and 12.6 percent of motor vehicle thefts.
- In 2007, law enforcement agencies nationwide cleared 18.3 percent of arson offenses.
- Law enforcement agencies in the Nation's smallest cities, those with less than 10,000 inhabitants, had the highest percentage of clearances for violent crimes—56.3 percent. Agencies in cities with populations of 10,000 to 24,999 cleared the highest percentage of property crimes—20.6 percent.
- Agencies in cities with populations of less than 10,000 had the highest percentages of clearances among city groups for five of the eight offenses for which clearance data were reported: robbery, 34.0 percent; aggravated assault, 63.1 percent; burglary, 16.1 percent; motor vehicle theft, 23.1 percent; and arson, 26.0 percent.
- Law enforcement agencies in cities with populations of 10,000 to 24,999 had the highest percentages of clearances among city groups for two of the eight offenses

for which clearance data were reported: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, 71.6 percent; and larceny-theft, 22.4 percent.

- The highest percentage of forcible rape clearances (41.2 percent) among the six city population groups were reported in cities with populations of 250,000 and over.
- Law enforcement agencies in metropolitan counties reported clearing 60.7 percent of murders and nonnegligent manslaughters and 58.4 percent of aggravated assaults.
- Nonmetropolitan counties reported clearing 70.9 percent of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter offenses and 60.7 percent of aggravated assault offenses.