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Effects of NIBRS on Crime Statistics

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In 1929 the FBI began the Summary Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system, a voluntary program to collect aggregate counts of Index crimes — murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny, and, after 1978, arson.

“... [T]he Summary system of the UCR Program has been very serviceable since its inception in 1929,” the FBI notes, “but it pales next to the capabilities and potential of the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).”¹

“In developing NIBRS, UCR Program managers have provided law enforcement agencies with a standardized, electronic blueprint for storing the NIBRS data within their individual records management systems.... The goals of NIBRS are to enhance the quantity, quality, and timeliness of crime data collection ... and to improve the methodology used in compiling, analyzing, auditing, and publishing the collected crime statistics.”²

As jurisdictions switch from the Summary UCR system to NIBRS, many have expressed concern about

¹FBI, *CJIS Newsletter*, NIBRS edition, 4, 1, p 1.
²*CJIS Newsletter*, p. 2.

Highlights

Differences between Summary UCR and NIBRS

Summary UCR

- Consists of monthly aggregate crime counts for eight Index crimes
- Records one offense per incident as determined by *hierarchy rule*
- *Hierarchy rule* suppresses counts of lesser offenses in multiple-offense incidents
- Does not distinguish between attempted and completed crimes
- Applies *hotel rule* to burglary
- Records rape of females only
- Collects weapon information for murder, robbery, and aggravated assault
- Provides counts on arrests for the 8 Index crimes and 21 other offenses.

NIBRS

- Consists of individual incident records for the 8 Index crimes and 38 other offenses with details on —
 - Offense
 - Victim
 - Offender
 - Property
- Records each offense occurring in incident
- Distinguishes between attempted and completed crimes
- Expands burglary *hotel rule* to include rental storage facilities
- Records rape of males and females
- Restructures definition of assault
- Collects weapon information for all violent offenses
- Provides details on arrests for the 8 Index crimes and 49 other offenses.

Sources of data discrepancies between Summary UCR and NIBRS

Human error

- Misclassifications of —
 - Aggravated assault
 - Motor vehicle theft
 - Larceny

Hierarchy

- Suppression of multiple offenses by *hierarchy rule*

Operational

- Modified offense definitions
- Converting State penal code to FBI crime definitions
- Over-reporting because of State practices
- Recording every possible offense with which offender may be charged

Computer

- Inadequate programming

When comparing data from the same year for the jurisdictions in this study, NIBRS rates differ only slightly from Summary UCR —

- Murder rates are the same
- Rape, robbery, and aggravated assault rates in NIBRS are about 1% higher, on average, than in Summary UCR
- NIBRS burglary rates are lower by an average 0.5%
- NIBRS larceny rates are higher by an average 3.4%
- NIBRS motor vehicle theft rates are higher by an average 4.5%.

Table 1. Agencies with 12 months of NIBRS reporting and nonzero population, by the number of years of reporting, 1991-96

Years	Agencies	Cases
Total	1,131	4,068
1	156	156
2	337	674
3	61	183
4	80	320
5	247	1,235
6	250	1,500

the effects incident-based reporting will have on crime statistics. Under Summary UCR agencies report only the most serious Index offense per incident of crime. Because of the new type of crime classification procedures in NIBRS, in a multiple-offense incident more than one offense will be reported. Jurisdictions are concerned about the effect this more thorough reporting will have on their crime statistics.

Comparing crime rates from Summary UCR and NIBRS

Research for this report measured differences between estimates of the aggravated assault rate, comparing NIBRS to summary format, and identified possible causes of those differences. Differences in the rates for six other Index crime categories are examined to compare with aggravated

assault. Arson, which the FBI reports in the “Modified Index” but not the Index crime figures, is not included.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) selected jurisdictions with full-year NIBRS reporting and nonzero populations (that is, including agencies with a specific population, such as a local police department or sheriff’s office, and generally excluding State or county police). In 1991, 269 agencies, covering a population of 4.1 million, met the criteria. By 1996, full-year NIBRS participation had increased to 1,082 agencies, covering a population of 14.8 million (figure 1). The data came from nine NIBRS-certified States (Idaho, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, North Dakota, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia).

Each agency is represented for each year in which it met the selection criteria. Although 156 agencies had a single year of data, the rest of the agencies met the criteria for more than 1 year (table 1). The term “case” in this report refers to an “agency-year.” A case includes both NIBRS and Summary UCR aggregate crime counts within each agency for each year an agency reported 12 months of NIBRS data. A total of 4,068 cases, comprising 1,131 unique agencies, met these selection criteria.

Two FBI datasets were used. In the first dataset, the FBI provided NIBRS offense counts aggregated by agency from 1991 to 1996. Ten crime categories, as defined in the Summary UCR program, were included (figure 2).

Through a computer program the FBI applied the hierarchy rule and converted the NIBRS counts to Summary UCR counts. This process resulted in two crime counts, NIBRS and Summary UCR, for each crime category, agency, and year.

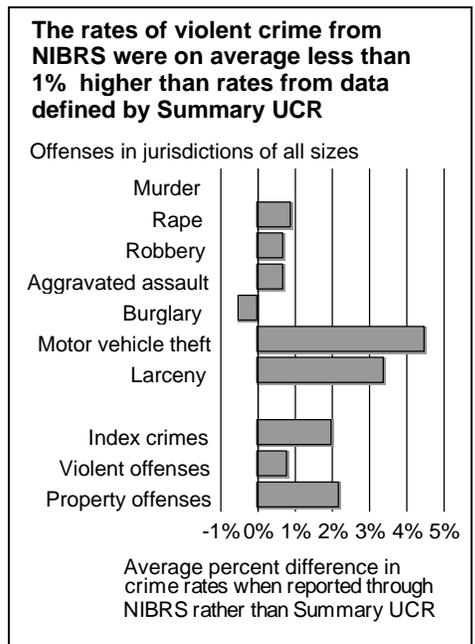


Figure 2

Among law enforcement agencies that reported 12 months of NIBRS data and that were the primary policing agencies for residents, the number grew from 269 agencies serving 4.1 million persons in 1991 to 1,082 agencies serving 14.8 million in 1996

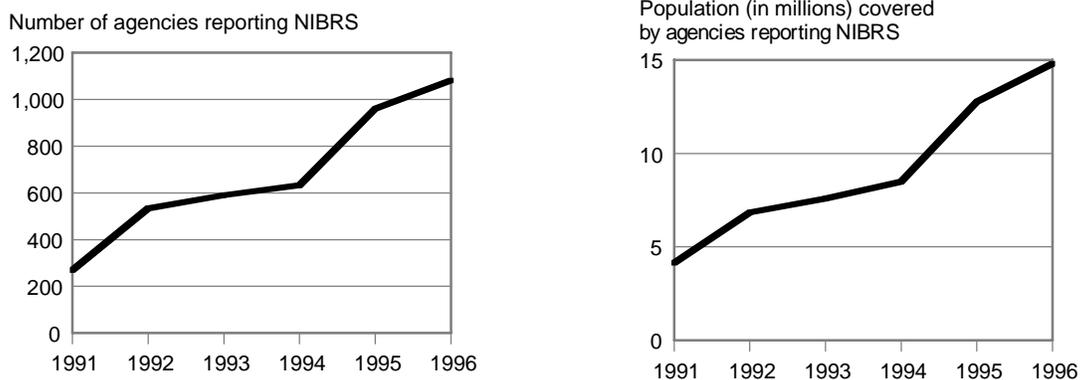


Figure 1

The second data set was the 1996 NIBRS incident file. This file provided detail at the incident level, such as which crimes occurred in combination for multiple offense incidents and the number of victims and offenders. These details help explain some of the crime rate differences.

Overall results

When the crime rates were calculated from NIBRS and Summary UCR data, the average difference between estimates was small. On average the NIBRS Index crime rate was 2% higher (figure 2). The violent crime rate was higher by less than 1%, and the property crime rate was higher by slightly more than 2%, on average.

For murder, rates from NIBRS and Summary UCR are the same because both systems count each homicide and manslaughter victim and exclude justifiable homicide.

Rape, robbery, and aggravated assault rates each had an average difference of less than 1% between NIBRS and Summary UCR statistics.

NIBRS burglary rates were lower an average of 0.5%. Burglary is the only individual crime category in which the NIBRS rate can be lower than Summary UCR. (See page 5.) Larceny rates were higher by slightly more than 3% and motor vehicle theft rates by 4.5%, on average.

Individually, most cases studied showed only slight differences between NIBRS and Summary UCR estimates. For murder, 100% of the cases had identical murder rates from the two counting methods.

NIBRS crime rates differ from Summary UCR by 5.5% or less

	Number of cases*	Percent of all cases
All Index offenses	3,661	90%
Violent offenses	3,937	97
Murder	4,068	100
Rape	3,957	97
Robbery	3,954	97
Assault	3,970	98
Property offenses	3,643	90
Burglary	3,953	97
Motor vehicle theft	3,234	80
Larceny	3,569	88

*Cases are "agency-years" — agencies that submitted 12 months of NIBRS data for a year.

In 3,970 cases of aggravated assault, 98% of all cases, the difference between the rates from NIBRS and Summary UCR was 5.5% or less. Results for rape, robbery and total violent crime were similar, with 97% of cases showing differences of 5.5% or less

The results for property crime varied. The proportion of cases having a rate change of 5.5% or less was 97% for burglary, 80% for motor vehicle theft, and 88% for larceny. Overall, 90% of cases showed rate changes of 5.5% or less for both total property and total index crime.

Jurisdictions with little crime tend to show exaggerated changes in crime rates. For example, a jurisdiction that experienced in a year two robberies, one of which was in conjunction with a murder, would count one robbery under Summary UCR and two under NIBRS. Though the actual count differed by one, the percent difference was 100%. Such jurisdictions should rely on the actual numbers rather than percent differences to express changes in measurement or over time.

Summary UCR	NIBRS
Offenses and arrests are reported for the following, listed in hierarchical order: Part I (Index) offenses	Offenses and arrests are reported for the following, for which a hierarchy does not apply: Group A offenses
Murder	Arson
Forcible rape	Assault offenses
Robbery	Bribery
Aggravated assault	Burglary/breaking and entering
Burglary — breaking or entering	Counterfeiting/forgery
Motor vehicle theft	Destruction/damage/vandalism of property
Larceny	Drug/narcotic offenses
Arson (not subject to the hierarchy rule)	Embezzlement
Arrests only are reported for the following: Part II offenses	Extortion/blackmail
Curfew and loitering law violations	Fraud offenses
Disorderly conduct	Gambling offenses
Driving under the influence	Homicide offenses
Drug abuse violations	Kidnaping/abduction
Drunkness	Larceny/theft offenses
Embezzlement	Motor vehicle theft
Forgery and counterfeiting	Pornography/obscene material
Fraud	Prostitution offenses
Gambling	Robbery
Liquor laws	Sex offenses, forcible
Offenses against family and children	Sex offenses, nonforcible
Other assaults	Stolen property offenses
Prostitution and commercial vice	Weapon law violations
Runaways	Arrests only are reported for the following: Group B offenses
Sex offenses (except forcible rape and prostitution)	Bad checks
Stolen property: buying, receiving, possessing	Curfew/loitering/vagrancy
Suspicion	Disorderly conduct
Vagrancy	Driving under the influence
Vandalism	Drunkness
Weapons: carrying, possessing, other	Nonviolent family offenses
All other offenses (except traffic)	Peeping Tom
	Runaways
	Trespassing
	All other offenses

Differences in data collection and crime classification between NIBRS and Summary UCR

Data collection

In Summary UCR, for each of the seven Index crime classifications monthly totals are reported on five elements: offenses reported or known to police (including “unfounded” offenses and attempts); unfounded, that is, false or baseless complaints; number of actual offenses (including attempts); total offenses cleared by arrest or exceptional means; and number of clearances involving only persons under age 18.

UCR collects weapon information for murder, robbery, and aggravated assault. Attempts are distinguished from completed crimes only for forcible rape. Murder attempts are reported as aggravated assault for both Summary UCR and NIBRS. Both systems also count each victim of violent offenses. For example, if an offender with a weapon simultaneously injures two victims in an assault, both systems would record two aggravated assaults.

In incidents with multiple offenses, Summary UCR records only the most serious offense, as determined by the hierarchy rule (table 2). Reported separately, arson is not subject to the hierarchy rule and is not included in this study.

Collected information on stolen property provides the number of offenses and the monetary value of property stolen for each Index crime. These totals are recorded by where a robbery took place; whether a burglary occurred at a residence or nonresidence, night or day; nature of larcenies; recovery of motor vehicles. Summary UCR collects monetary value of stolen and recovered property by type of property on a supplemental form.

Arrest data are collected for 21 Part II offenses as well as the 8 Index crimes.

Instead of collecting aggregate counts by offense category, NIBRS collects detailed information by crime incident, including offense, victim, offender, property and arrest information (table 3). Each incident is assigned a number for identifying all information that pertains to it.

Details are collected for each occurrence within 8 Index and 38 other specific Group A offenses in NIBRS. (For a list of specific Part I, Part II, Group A, and Group B offenses, see appendix table 1.) These details include information on weapons, location, time of day, alcohol or drug use by offender and hate/bias motivation. Attempts are distinguished from completed crimes for all offenses. In incidents with multiple offenses, all offenses are reported.

Data collected on each victim, offender, and arrestee include age, sex, and race. Relationship of victim to offender is noted. NIBRS also collects detailed information on type, value, description and recovery of property; type and

quantity of drugs; and number of stolen and recovered motor vehicles.

Arrest data are collected for 11 Group B offenses in addition to the 22 Group A offense categories.

Crime classification

Summary UCR and NIBRS differ in how they classify or define several types of crimes. (See appendix table 2.)

Justifiable homicide is first recorded as murder in Summary UCR, then as unfounded. NIBRS records justifiable homicide separately, not including it with murder and manslaughter. Neither includes justifiable homicide in total counts, so that homicide statistics are not affected.

Other differences affect numbers of specific offenses. NIBRS includes male victims of female offenders in forcible rape, which would account for part of the higher rate that was observed.

Table 3. Information that NIBRS records on each crime incident

Administrative segment:		26	Type of victim
1	ORI number	27	Age of victim
2	Incident number	28	Sex of victim
3	Incident date/hour	29	Race of victim
4	Exceptional clearance indicator	30	Ethnicity of victim
5	Exceptional clearance date	31	Resident status of victim
Offense segment:		32	Homicide/assault circumstances
6	UCR offense code	33	Justifiable homicide circumstances
7	Attempted/completed code	34	Type of injury
8	Alcohol/drug use by offender	35	Related offender number
9	Type of location	36	Relationship of victim to offender
10	Number of premises entered	Offender segment:	
11	Method of entry	37	Offender number
12	Type of criminal activity	38	Age of offender
13	Type of weapon/force used	39	Sex of offender
14	Bias crime code	40	Race of offender
Property segment:		Arrestee segment:	
15	Type of property loss	41	Arrestee number
16	Property description	42	Transaction number
17	Property value	43	Arrest date
18	Recovery date	44	Type of arrest
19	Number of stolen motor vehicles	45	Multiple clearance indicator
20	Number of recovered motor vehicles	46	UCR arrest offense code
21	Suspected drug type	47	Arrestee armed indicator
22	Estimated drug quantity	48	Age of arrestee
23	Drug measurement unit	49	Sex of arrestee
Victim segment:		50	Race of arrestee
24	Victim number	51	Ethnicity of arrestee
25	Victim UCR offense code	52	Resident status of arrestee
		53	Disposition of arrestee under 18

There was a difference of 2.5% or less between Summary UCR and NIBRS in the Index crime rate in over three-quarters of the cases

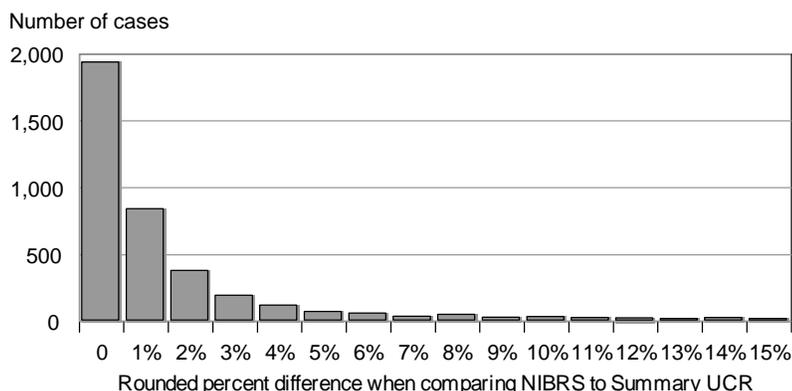


Figure 3

The rates of violent crime from Summary UCR and NIBRS differed 0.5% or less in over 84% of the cases

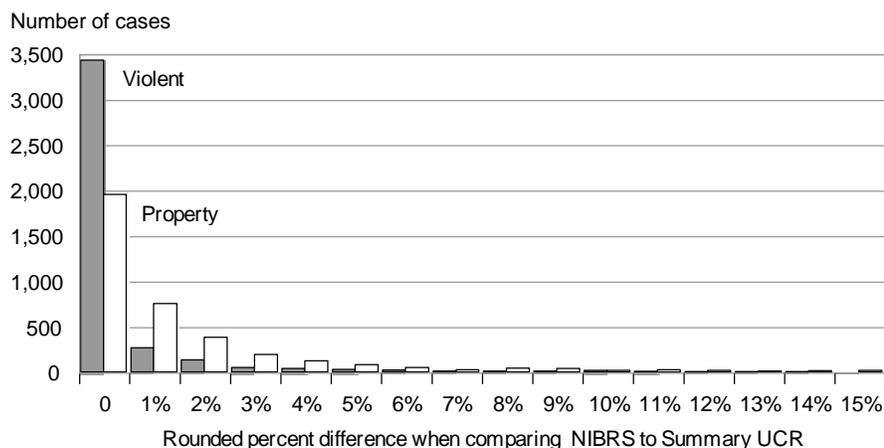


Figure 4

Because assault is integral to all violent offenses, it is unaffected by the hierarchy rule in single-victim incidents. Moreover, the definition of aggravated assault is essentially the same for both reporting systems. The difference in treatment of aggravated assault by the two systems lies in classification and recording. Summary UCR collects assaults in five categories: firearm; knife or cutting instrument; other dangerous weapon; hands, fists, feet, and so on; and other — simple, not aggravated. Though presence of a weapon indicates aggravated assault, if an incident results in only minor injuries and no information about the weapon is recorded, then it may be misclassified as a simple assault.

NIBRS restructures assault into three categories: aggravated, simple, and

intimidation. The collection of these characteristics by incident and a broader collection of weapon information reduce the possibility of misclassification.

Expanding the hotel rule for NIBRS had more impact on crime statistics. The hotel rule applies to “[b]urglaries of hotels, motels, lodging houses, and other places where lodging of transients is the main purpose . . . This principle of scoring dictates that if a number of dwelling units under a single manager are burglarized and the offenses are most likely to be reported to the police by the manager rather than the individual tenants, the burglary should be scored as one offense.”³

³FBI, *UCR Handbook*, 1984, p.20.

NIBRS expands the hotel rule to include temporary rental storage facilities, such as “mini-storage” and “self-storage” buildings.⁴ If some mini-storage lockers under the same management are broken into, Summary UCR would count each as a separate burglary whereas NIBRS could count them as one. The lower burglary rates in NIBRS indicate the frequency of this type of break-in.

Distributions

For total Index crime, the distribution of rate changes shows that 92.5% of the cases have rate difference between -0.5% and 15.5% (figure 3). Burglary rates that were lower in NIBRS than in Summary UCR could influence total property and total Index crime rates to the degree that they also could have negative values. Almost 48% of the cases differed from -0.5% to +0.5% in crime rates, comparing NIBRS to Summary UCR; 39% of all cases had no change. Cases whose rate was lower when comparing NIBRS counts to Summary UCR counts comprised 4.9% of all cases studied. Overall, 96.4% of all cases had an index crime rate difference of +15.5% or less.

For violent crime, the distribution of rate differences show that 98.9% of cases have differences between 0 and 15.5% for total violent crime (figure 4). Cases with a difference from 0 to 0.5% were 84.3% of the total; 82.2% of all cases had no difference.

For total property crime, rates were -0.5% to +15.5% higher for 91.7%. In 48% of the cases the difference between the rates resulting from the two reporting systems was -0.5% to 0.5%, 40.1% of all cases having no difference. Cases whose rate was lower when comparing NIBRS counts to Summary UCR counts comprised 5.1% of all cases studied. Overall, a total of 95.8% of cases showed a property crime rate difference of +15.5% or less.

⁴FBI, *UCR Handbook*, NIBRS ed., 1992, p.13.

Table 4. Difference in the violent crime rate comparing NIBRS and Summary UCR estimates for jurisdictions with 25,000 to 250,000 population

Percent difference in the crime rate	Percent of cases					
	Index	Vio- lent	Mur- der	Rape	Rob- bery	Assault
Under -5.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
-5.5% to -1.6%	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-1.5% to -0.6%	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
-0.5% to 0.5%	31.5	51.9	100.0	84.1	71.4	65.9
0.6% to 1.5%	39.2	29.1	0.0	0.8	10.8	16.9
1.6% to 5.5%	15.8	17.4	0.0	8.0	13.5	14.8
Over 5.5%	7.7	1.6	0.0	7.1	4.2	2.4
Exactly 0%	6.3%	39.2%	100.0%	84.1%	69.8%	51.6%
Highest percent difference	33.8%	10.0%	0.0%	50.0%	22.2%	11.4%

Table 5. Difference in the property crime rate comparing NIBRS and Summary UCR estimates for jurisdictions with 25,000 to 250,000 population

Percent difference in the crime rate	Percent of cases				
	Index	Pro- perty	Burg- lary	Motor vehicle theft	Lar- ceny
Under -5.5%	0.5%	0.5%	9.5%	0.0%	0.0%
-5.5% to -1.6%	5.3	2.9	11.7	0.0	0.0
-1.5% to -0.6%	3.2	2.6	7.1	0.0	0.0
-0.5% to 0.5%	31.5	33.6	37.6	23.8	41.8
0.6% to 1.5%	39.2	34.1	23.5	9.3	30.2
1.6% to 5.5%	15.8	18.0	10.6	36.2	16.6
Over 5.5%	7.7	8.2	0.0	30.7	11.4
Exactly 0%	6.3%	7.9%	24.6%	23.0%	12.2%
Highest percent difference	33.8%	37.5%	4.7%	25.0%	64.9%

Jurisdictions with a population greater than 25,000

The largest jurisdictions in the dataset (1991-96) covered populations between 25,000 and 250,000. The overall results of the 378 cases from these larger jurisdictions are very similar to the results from all jurisdictions studied (the original 4068 cases).

The Index crime rate for NIBRS was about 2% higher than for Summary UCR (figure 5). The NIBRS violent crime rate was higher by less than 1%, and the NIBRS property crime rate was higher by slightly more than 2%, on average. Murder rates from NIBRS

and Summary UCR were the same. The average difference in rates for rape from the two systems was slightly more than 1%. Robbery and aggravated assault rates were higher by an average of less than 1%, going from Summary UCR to NIBRS.

NIBRS burglary rates were lower by an average of slightly more than 1%. NIBRS larceny rates were higher than those from Summary UCR by slightly over 3%, and NIBRS motor vehicle theft rates, higher by just over 4%, on average.

The distribution of the rate differences for large jurisdictions was also similar to the results of all jurisdictions studied. Among cases from large jurisdictions, 92.3% had a difference of 5.5% or less (including any lower rates) in the total index crime rate, as measured by Summary UCR and NIBRS (table 4). Among cases from jurisdictions with nonzero populations, 90.0% had a negligible difference.

The distribution within this range was spread out. For example, 31.5% of these cases experienced an Index crime rate difference from -0.5% to 0.5%. A few large jurisdictions (6.3%) showed no difference, and in 9.8% of the cases the Index crime rate was lower using NIBRS data.

The proportion of cases with a violent crime rate change of 5.5% or less is 98.4% for large jurisdictions. More

than half of the large jurisdictions had a higher rate in 0.5% or less of cases. Nearly 40% experienced no change in the violent crime rate when using NIBRS rather than Summary UCR.

Among cases from populations 25,000 or over, 93.1% experienced a property crime rate change of 5.5% or less, compared to 89.6% of all cases with nonzero populations (table 5). The property crime rate did not differ for nearly 8% and was lower for more than 10% of the large jurisdictions.

Although a smaller proportion of large jurisdictions had no change at all, and a higher proportion showed lower rates compared to all nonzero populations, similar proportions had a 5.5% or less difference in rates, comparing results from NIBRS and Summary UCR. The same pattern holds true for proportions of jurisdictions with a 15.5% or less change in rates.

Results for specific crime categories, 1996

Rates for larceny and motor vehicle theft were found to be substantially higher and that for aggravated assault, a slightly higher, comparing NIBRS to Summary UCR. The 1996 NIBRS incident file was analyzed to see what characteristics coincided with these higher rates. Incidents with more than one victim and/or more than one offender were excluded from this analysis.

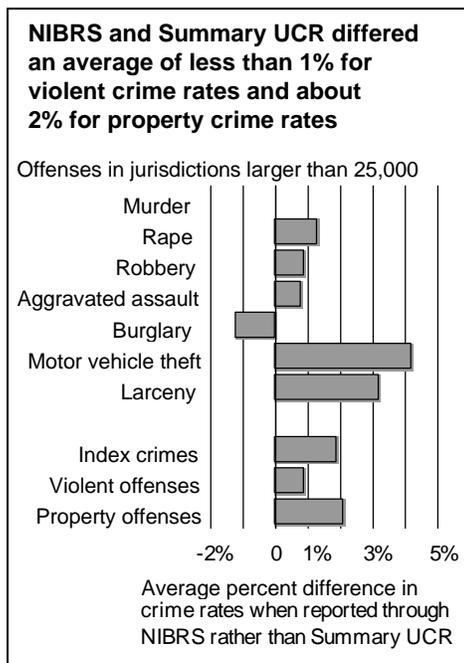


Figure 5

Larceny

There were 381,233 incidents in the study data with at least one count of larceny in NIBRS in 1996 (table 6). These can be broken into two categories: 369,690 single-offense incidents and 11,543 multiple-offense incidents. Of the multiple-offense incidents, 9,601 had a combination of 1 or 2 larcenies and at least 1 other Index crime. The remaining 1,942 multiple-offense incidents involved 2 or 3 counts of larceny and no other Index crime.

Under the hierarchy rule of the Summary UCR, the incidents involving only larceny would each be counted as one incident, regardless of whether there were multiple larcenies. Because larceny is at the bottom of the hierarchy, the 9,601 multiple-offense incidents involving larceny and another Index crime would be counted under the concurrent Index crime, not the larceny.

From the above figures for 1996, 371,632 incidents including larceny were counted under Summary UCR. Under the NIBRS system the number of incidents involving larceny increased 2.6%. This higher rate can be attributed to the hierarchy rule.

The total counts of larceny under NIBRS would be 383,256 (the number of incidents involving 1 larceny, plus twice the number of incidents involving 2 larcenies, plus 3 times the number of incidents involving 3 larcenies, regardless of what other Index crimes may have been concurrent). Under Summary UCR, due to the hierarchy rule, the number of counts of larceny equals the number of incidents that involve only larceny. There was a 3.1% difference between NIBRS larceny counts and Summary UCR larceny counts.

This 0.5% higher level over the number of incidents was due to the reporting of multiple counts of larceny within an incident. Three of the nine States with NIBRS data had a disproportionate rise in larceny rates. The three States together accounted for 17% of all larcenies, but for 80% of the burglary-larceny combinations and for 65% of the larceny-larceny combinations. While the average percent difference in larceny rates for all nine States was 3.4%, the average for the three States was 19.1% (not shown in a table).

In multiple-offense incidents some records from the three States included larceny segments contrary to FBI instructions. For example, the FBI defines burglary as breaking and entering with intent to commit a felony or theft. Theft is included in the definition of *burglary* and should not be reported as a concurrent larceny.⁵

In the 1996 data, more than 8,200 incidents were recorded as

⁵FBI, *Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook*, NIBRS edition, 1992, p. 13.

Table 6. Number of incidents, by type of crime and concurrent offense(s), single victim, single offender

Number of offenses in incident	Type of crime							Total
	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Burglary	Motor vehicle theft	Larceny	
One	411	4,068	5,829	35,385	96,399	38,561	369,690	550,343
Two								
Murder	0							0
Rape	2	0						2
Robbery	14	37	0					51
Aggravated assault	3	58	75	0				136
Burglary	4	104	102	294	0			504
Motor vehicle theft	5	5	157	41	723	0		931
Larceny	0	18	35	225	8,077	1,101	1,938	11,394
Three								
Robbery, aggravated assault			2	*	*			2
Robbery, burglary			6	*	*			6
Robbery, motor vehicle theft	2	1	*			*		3
Aggravated assault, burglary		7	2	*	*			9
Aggravated assault, motor vehicle theft			3	*		*		3
Aggravated assault, larceny			1	*			*	1
Burglary, motor vehicle theft		1	5		*	*		6
Burglary, larceny		5	4	12	*		*	21
Motor vehicle theft, larceny			1	1	44	*	*	46
Larceny, larceny					62	15	4	81
Four								
Aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft			1	*	*	*		1
Total incidents								
Summary UCR	441	4,312	6,215	35,958	105,305	39,677	371,632	563,540
NIBRS	441	4,314	6,277	36,110	105,852	40,667	381,233	574,894
Percent difference	0.00%	0.05%	1.00%	0.42%	0.52%	2.50%	2.58%	2.01%
Total multiple-offense incidents								
NIBRS	30	246	448	725	9,453	2,106	11,543	24,551
Total offense counts								
Summary UCR	441	4,312	6,215	35,958	105,305	39,677	371,632	563,540
NIBRS	441	4,314	6,277	36,110	105,852	40,667	383,256	576,917
Percent difference	0.00%	0.05%	1.00%	0.42%	0.52%	2.5%	3.13%	2.37%

Note: To determine the number of incidents involving a specific type of crime, add the figures found in each row and column listing that offense. For example, robbery occurs in 6,277 incidents: 5,829 single-, 420 double-, 26 triple-, and 1 quadruple-offense incidents. *Lesser offenses for incidents with more than two offenses.

burglary-larceny combinations. Though a small number of these may have included a count of larceny distinctly separate from the burglary, the majority of these should have been recorded as burglary only.

These States have penal codes with reporting implications that differ from FBI standards. Some State penal codes define burglary as breaking and entering only and mandate recording larceny if property was stolen. Others mandate recording every crime an arrestee might be charged with. As a consequence, the crime rates produced by NIBRS in these States are erroneously inflated.

Motor vehicle theft

In the 1996 NIBRS incident file, there were 40,667 incidents involving motor vehicle theft; 38,561 were single-offense incidents. There were 2,106 multiple-offense incidents that involved a single motor vehicle theft and 1 or more other Index crimes: 1,162 involved larceny, 774 involved burglary, and 44 involved all 3 property crimes (burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft). Two hundred twenty-three

Motor vehicle theft	
Index crime combinations for 1 victim, 1 offender	Number of incidents
Total	2,106
Violent	
Murder	5
Rape	5
Robbery	157
Assault	41
Murder, robbery	2
Rape, robbery	1
Violent and property	
Rape, burglary	1
Robbery, aggravated assault	3
Robbery, burglary	5
Robbery, larceny	1
Assault, larceny	1
Robbery, aggravated assault, burglary	1
Property	
Burglary	723
Larceny	1,101
Burglary, larceny	44
Larceny, larceny	15

incidents of motor vehicle theft involved one or more violent offenses.

A total of 990 incidents involved motor vehicle theft and what Summary UCR would classify as a more serious offense, so that approximately 2.4% of the motor vehicle thefts would have been suppressed by the hierarchy rule.

Some agencies ranked larceny above motor vehicle theft in the hierarchy. However, incidents involving both motor vehicle theft and larceny are classified as motor vehicle theft in Summary UCR.⁷ These agencies would also show more motor vehicle thefts after correction of this reporting error.

Aggravated assault

There were 36,110 incidents involving aggravated assault in the data file. Of these, 35,385 were single-offense incidents. The 725 multiple-offense incidents involved 1 count of aggravated assault and at least 1 other Index crime.

Aggravated assault	
Index crime combinations for 1 victim, 1 offender	Number of incidents
Total	725
Violent	
Murder	3
Rape	58
Robbery	75
Rape, robbery	2
Violent and property	
Rape, burglary	7
Robbery, burglary	2
Robbery, motor vehicle theft	3
Robbery, larceny	1
Robbery, burglary, motor vehicle theft	1
Property	
Burglary	294
Motor vehicle theft	41
Larceny	225
Burglary, larceny	10
Motor vehicle theft, larceny	3

⁷FBI, *Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook*, 1984, p. 35.

In 152 multiple-offense incidents an aggravated assault was recorded with at least 1 other violent crime. These cases comprised 0.4% of all aggravated assaults and would be suppressed by the hierarchy rule in Summary UCR reporting. Eighty-four multiple-offense incidents involved both aggravated assault and robbery. Because incidents with only one victim and one offender were selected, and assault is one element of robbery, reporting both appears to be either an error or another indication of the influence of State penal code on classification for UCR data.

There were 185,408 incidents involving one or more types of assault, 184,357 with a single count of aggravated assault, simple assault, or intimidation. When multiple-offense cases were selected in the manner described above, 1,051 incidents had some combination of aggravated assault, simple assault, and intimidation. There were 658 incidents of aggravated assault with at least 1 lesser assault, and 393 incidents of simple assault with intimidation.

Combination of assaults that occurred in incidents with one or more assaults for 1 victim, 1 offender	Number of incidents
Total	185,408
Aggravated	35,452
Simple	118,451
Intimidation	30,454
Aggravated, simple	393
Aggravated, intimidation	222
Aggravated, simple, intimidation	43
Simple, intimidation	393

There were 1,072 incidents involving larceny and at least 1 type of assault. Of these, 226 involved an aggravated assault and larceny; 13 involved aggravated assault, at least 1 lesser assault, and larceny; and 833 involved 1 or 2 lesser assaults and larceny.

Combination of assaults that occurred in incidents with larceny for 1 victim, 1 offender	Number of incidents
Total	1,072
Aggravated	226
Simple	707
Intimidation	123
Aggravated, simple	11
Aggravated, intimidation	1
Aggravated, simple, intimidation	1
Simple, intimidation	3

Conclusion

Because of the selection criteria and the voluntary nature of UCR reporting, the cases in this analysis do not constitute a random sample. Although one must be careful in drawing conclusions on a national level, there is no reason to believe the results are skewed. The large sample size (1,131 jurisdictions, 4,068 cases) suggests that results may be applicable to similar jurisdictions.

To accurately compare NIBRS and Summary UCR data, several factors need to be considered: artifactual differences, non-uniform reporting practices, and reporting errors. Artifactual differences between the two reporting systems include expansion of the hotel rule and modified or restructured crime definitions in NIBRS, and the use of the hierarchy rule in Summary UCR.

By design NIBRS measures different aspects of crime than Summary UCR. Where Summary UCR measures the overall number of incidents for an index of crime, NIBRS measures both the overall number of incidents and the occurrence of each type of crime within every incident. NIBRS reporting gives more detail about offenses that occur during the commission of a crime

without reporting significantly higher crime rates in most cases. However, NIBRS is more prone to non-uniform reporting practices and programming errors, whereas Summary UCR is more prone to reporting errors.

Analysis for this report identified several instances of non-uniform reporting practices. After 1996 the FBI began a series of data edits to help reconcile some of those practices. These edits, which were not in place at the time the data used in this research were collected, identify crime combinations that do not comply with FBI reporting standards. A chart denoting these combinations on page 115 of *Uniform Crime Reporting National Incident-Based Reporting System, Volume 4, Error Message Manual* is reproduced in appendix table 3. Incident reports that contain any of the indicated combinations (occurring to the same victim) are sent back to the reporting agency for correction.

The data edits do not cover the non-uniform reporting practices that had the most impact on the crime statistics in this study. For example, although a combination of burglary and larceny in a single incident is contrary to FBI standards, this combination is not included in the data edits because the FBI makes an allowance for the rare occasion in which this combination may legitimately be reported. This study found this combination in certain jurisdictions because the State or local penal code required it. Consequent to this study the FBI began addressing this issue in its State-level training program.

It is important for jurisdictions to collect and maintain data in compliance with their penal codes. Uniformity is also critical for data submitted for reporting at the national level. Many States have worked on developing a software program that can automatically convert the crime codes as defined by State penal codes to the appropriate NIBRS crime code. At least one State has

successfully implemented an automated State-to-NIBRS crime code conversion system. Others have been unsuccessful due to State codes overlapping more than one NIBRS code. In these cases, the conversion is done manually while the States develop new programs capable of distinguishing the complex codes.

As noted in pages 2 and 8, the reporting errors in Summary UCR identified in this report occur largely from undercounting aggravated assault and misapplying the hierarchy rule for motor vehicle theft. Further study is required to determine how much impact the misapplication of the hierarchy rule has on motor vehicle theft and larceny statistics. The design of NIBRS automatically reduces this type of reporting error. As States and jurisdictions are made aware of these potential errors in Summary UCR reporting, they can be corrected before switching to NIBRS.

Another concern not addressed by this analysis is the effect NIBRS reporting might have on the rate of aggravated assault. The effects of misclassifying aggravated assaults as simple assault depend on the proportion of misclassified aggravated assaults. To study such effects requires having the original Summary UCR reported by an agency. BJS had NIBRS data that had been converted to Summary UCR.

It is not meaningful to compare Summary UCR data from one year to NIBRS data from another. When the two reporting methods are compared within a given year, external variables are controlled for. When one year of data is compared to another, many more variables, such as the prevalence and reporting of crime, or errors in applying the hierarchy rule are introduced. Not all of these variables can be identified or measured, compounding the error in the results. After several years of NIBRS data have been collected, it would then be more meaningful to compare one year of NIBRS data to another.

The FBI has begun publishing a series of topical studies using NIBRS data. The first one, "Juvenile Female Crime: A Special Study" appeared in *Crime in the United States, 1997*, section V; "Incidents of Family Violence" appeared in the 1998 report. Studies covering various topics will be published in other sections of *Crime in the United States* in future years. For the more expansive tables, the FBI currently publishes statistics using only Summary UCR data and NIBRS data that have been converted back to Summary UCR. They are preparing a report that compares data submitted in Summary UCR format to data submitted in NIBRS. Plans for a NIBRS publication comparable to *Crime in the United States* are under development.

Methodology

For comparisons the rate per 100,000 population was calculated for each crime category in each case. For a positive percent change to indicate that the NIBRS rate is higher than the corresponding Summary UCR rate, the following formula was used.

$$100 \times \frac{(\text{NIBRS Rate} - \text{Summary UCR Rate})}{\text{Summary UCR Rate}}$$

In a small number of cases for specific offenses the Summary UCR count was zero, and the NIBRS count was greater than zero. The resulting percent difference was mathematically undefined. These cases were included in the denominators in the calculation of percentages of cases.

Negative changes, indicating that the NIBRS rate is lower than the corresponding Summary UCR rate, are possible for burglary (and consequently for total property crime and total index crime) due to the expansion of the hotel rule in NIBRS.

To clearly see the effect of NIBRS on the crime rates of larger jurisdictions, the same analysis was done using a subset of these 4,068 cases. Jurisdictions with populations over 25,000 and that were not combined reporters were selected. Combined reporters are agencies that report data for at least one other jurisdiction in addition to their own. To ensure this analysis included only jurisdictions with populations over 25,000, combined reporters were excluded. 378 cases were selected. None of the jurisdictions reporting NIBRS data between 1991 and 1996 covered populations over 250,000.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Jan M. Chaiken, Ph.D., is director.

BJS Special Reports address a specific topic in depth from one or more data sets that cover many topics.

Ramona Rantala, BJS Statistician, wrote this report. Thomas Edwards, FBI Systems Analyst, assisted with the assembling of NIBRS data and converting to the Summary UCR format. Victoria Major, Yoshio Akiyama, Sharon Propheter, James Nolan, and Christopher Enourato, all FBI CJIS staff, assisted with reviewing this report. Tom Hester edited and produced the report, assisted by Ellen Goldberg. Jayne Robinson produced the report for final printing.

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This report and related reports and statistics can be obtained from the Internet at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

Data presented in this report can be obtained from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) at the University of Michigan. The Archive can be reached through the BJS website or by telephone, 1-800-999-0960. The study number for NIBRS data at NACJD is 2465.

Appendix table 1. Specific crimes and their offense/arrest codes, Summary UCR and NIBRS

Summary UCR collects offense information for Index offenses (subject to hierarchy rule) and arrest information for all Part I and Part II offenses. NIBRS collects detailed offense information on each occurrence of crimes listed under Group A offenses and arrest information for all Group A and Group B offenses.

Summary UCR		NIBRS	
Part I (Index) offenses		Group A offenses — Index offenses in bold	
Code	Offense	Code	Offense
	Criminal homicide offenses	200	Arson
011	Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter		Assault offenses
012	Manslaughter by negligence	13A	Aggravated assault
02	Forcible rape	13B	Simple assault
03	Robbery	13C	Intimidation
04	Aggravated assault	510	Bribery
05	Burglary — breaking or entering	220	Burglary/breaking and entering
06	Larceny — theft (except motor vehicle theft)	250	Counterfeiting/forgery
07	Motor vehicle theft	290	Destruction/damage/vandalism of property
09	Arson		Drug/narcotic offenses
		35A	Drug/narcotic violations
		35B	Drug equipment violations
Part II offenses		270	Embezzlement
		210	Extortion/blackmail
Code	Offense		Fraud offenses
08	Other assaults		False pretenses/swindle/confidence game
10	Forgery and counterfeiting	26A	Credit card/ATM fraud
11	Fraud	26B	Impersonation
12	Embezzlement	26C	Welfare fraud
13	Stolen property: buying, receiving, possessing	26D	Wire fraud
14	Vandalism	26E	
15	Weapons: carrying, possessing, other		Gambling offenses
16	Prostitution and commercial vice	39A	Betting/wagering
17	Sex offenses (except forcible rape and prostitution)	39B	Operating/promoting/assisting gambling
18	Drug abuse violations	39C	Gambling equipment violations
180	Sale/manufacturing	39D	Sports tampering
18A	Opium or cocaine and their derivatives		Homicide offenses
18B	Marijuana	09A	Murder/nonnegligent manslaughter
18C	Synthetic narcotics	09B	Negligent manslaughter
18D	Other — dangerous nonnarcotic drugs	09C	Justifiable homicide
185	Possession	100	Kidnaping/abduction
18E	Opium or cocaine and their derivatives		Larceny/theft offenses
18F	Marijuana	23A	Pocket picking
18G	Synthetic narcotics	23B	Purse snatching
18H	Other — dangerous nonnarcotic drugs	23C	Shoplifting
190	Gambling	23D	Theft from building
19A	Bookmaking (horse and sport book)	23E	Theft from coin-operated machines
19B	Numbers and lottery	23F	Theft from motor vehicle
19C	All other gambling	23G	Theft of motor vehicle parts/accessories
20	Offenses against family and children	23H	All other larceny
21	Driving under the influence	240	Motor vehicle theft
22	Liquor laws	370	Pornography/obscene material
23	Drunkenness		Prostitution offenses
24	Disorderly conduct	40A	Prostitution
25	Vagrancy	40B	Assisting or promoting prostitution
27	Suspicion	120	
28	Curfew and loitering law violations		Robbery
29	Runaways	11A	Sex offenses, forcible
26	All other offenses (except traffic)	11B	Forcible rape
		11C	Forcible sodomy
		11D	Sexual assault with an object
			Forcible fondling
			Sex offenses, nonforcible
		36A	Incest
		36B	Statutory rape
		280	Stolen property offenses
		520	Weapon law violations
			Group B offenses
		90A	Bad checks
		90B	Curfew/loitering/vagrancy
		90C	Disorderly conduct
		90D	Driving under the influence
		90E	Drunkenness
		90F	Liquor law violations
		90G	Nonviolent family offenses
		90H	Peeping Tom
		90I	Runaways
		90J	Trespassing
		90Z	All other offenses

Appendix Table 2. Summary UCR and NIBRS offense classifications

Offense	Summary UCR ^a	NIBRS ^b
Homicide	<p>The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index offenses, is based solely on police investigation as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body; these are law enforcement statistics. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; and attempts to murder or assaults to murder, which are scored as aggravated assaults.</p> <p>Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter: The willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another.</p> <p>Also excluded in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by justifiable homicides, which are recorded as murder and then unfounded.</p> <p>As a general rule, any death due to injuries received in a fight, argument, quarrel, assault, or commission of a crime is classified in this category. Although offenders may be charged with lesser offenses, e.g., manslaughter, if the killing was "willful" or intentional it must be reported in this category.</p> <p>Manslaughter by negligence: The killing of another person through gross negligence.</p> <p>Does not include traffic fatalities. However, arrests in connection with traffic fatalities should be counted on the Age, Sex, Race, and Ethnic Origin of Persons Arrested form as manslaughter by negligence.</p> <p>Not included in this category are deaths of persons due to their own negligence; accidental deaths not resulting from gross negligence.</p> <p>Justifiable homicide: The killing of a felon by a peace officer in the line of duty, or the killing (during the commission of a felony) of a felon by a private citizen.</p> <p>Recorded as murder and then unfounded, no actual offenses will be counted or recorded for justifiable homicides.</p> <p>In cases of justifiable homicide, a second offense, the crime the felon was committing at the time of death, must also be recorded and cleared by exceptional means.</p>	<p>Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter: The willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another.</p> <p>Negligent manslaughter: The killing of another person through negligence.</p> <p>Does not include accidental traffic fatalities.</p> <p>Justifiable homicide: The killing of a perpetrator of a serious criminal offense by a peace officer in the line of duty; or the killing, during the commission of a serious criminal offense, of a perpetrator by a private individual</p> <p>Justifiable homicide is not an actual "offense" and is not included in an agency's crime counts. The crime that was being committed when the justifiable homicide took place must be reported as a separate incident.</p>
Forcible sex offenses (NIBRS)		<p>Forcible sex offenses: Any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly, and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent. Forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and forcible fondling are included in this category.</p>
Forcible rape	<p>Forcible rape: The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will.</p> <p>a) rape by force b) attempts to commit forcible rape</p> <p>Includes female victims only.</p> <p>In cases where several offenders rape one person, report one forcible rape. Do not count the number of offenders. Assaults or attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded from this classification.</p>	<p>Forcible rape: The carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly, and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of his/her youth).</p> <p>Includes male and female victims. Cases where victim and offender are of the same sex are classified under forcible sodomy.</p>
Robbery	<p>Robbery: The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.</p> <p>a) firearm b) knife or cutting instrument c) other dangerous weapon d) strong-arm – hands, fists, feet, etc.</p> <p>In any instance of robbery, score one offense for <i>each distinct operation</i> including attempts. Do not count the number of victims robbed, those present at the robbery, or the number of offenders. In cases involving pretended weapons or those in which the weapon is not seen by the victim but the robber claims to possess one, classify the incident as armed robbery.</p>	<p>Robbery: The taking, or attempting to take, anything of value under confrontational circumstances from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm.</p> <p>Because some type of assault is an element of the crime of robbery, an assault should not be reported as a separate crime as long as it was performed in the furtherance of the robbery. However, if the injury results in death, a homicide offense must also be reported.</p>

Appendix Table 2. Continued

Offense	Summary UCR ^a	NIBRS ^b
Assault	<p>Assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another.</p> <p>Aggravated assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury; this type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.</p> <p>a) firearm b) knife or cutting instrument c) other dangerous weapon d) hands, fists, feet, etc. (aggravated injury) e) other – simple, not aggravated (see below)</p> <p>It is not necessary that an injury result when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious personal injury.</p> <p>Other assault: e) other – simple, not aggravated Include in this category all assaults which do not involve the use of a firearm, knife, cutting instrument, or other dangerous weapon and in which there were no serious or aggravated injuries to the victims. Include such offenses as simple assault, assault and battery, injury caused by culpable negligence, intimidation, coercion, and all attempts to commit these offenses.</p> <p>Simple assault is not within the Crime Index – it is a Part II offense but is collected as a quality control matter and for the purpose of looking at total assault violence.</p>	<p>Assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another.</p> <p>Aggravated assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another wherein the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness. This also includes assault with disease (as in cases when the offender is aware that he/she is infected with a deadly disease and deliberately attempts to inflict the disease by biting, spitting, etc.).</p> <p>Simple assault: An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.</p> <p>Intimidation: To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.</p>
Burglary	<p>Burglary: The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft (excludes tents, trailers, and other mobile units used for recreational purposes).</p> <p>The use of force to gain entry is not required to classify an offense as burglary. Burglary in this Program is categorized into three subclassifications:</p> <p>a) forcible entry b) unlawful entry – no force c) attempted forcible entry</p> <p>Burglaries of hotels, motels, lodging houses, and other places where lodging of transients is the main purpose are scored under provisions of the “Hotel Rule.” This principle of scoring dictates that if a number of dwelling units under a single manager are burglarized and the offenses are most likely to be reported to the police by the manager rather than the individual tenants, the burglary should be scored as one offense.</p>	<p>Burglary: The unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a felony or a theft (excludes tents, trailers, and other mobile units used for recreational purposes).</p> <p>Because burglary is defined in terms of theft, only the burglary is to be reported, and not the accompanying larceny.</p> <p>Expands the <i>hotel rule</i> to include temporary rental storage facilities, i.e., “mini-storage” and “self-storage” buildings.</p>
Larceny	<p>Larceny: The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession, or constructive possession, of another.</p> <p>Larceny and theft mean the same thing in Uniform Crime Reporting. Motor vehicle theft is not included and is counted as a separate offense because of the great volume of thefts in that particular category. All thefts and attempted thefts are counted. This crime category does not include embezzlement, confidence games, forgery, and worthless checks.</p> <p>Pocket-picking: The theft of articles from a person by stealth where the victim usually does not become immediately aware of the theft.</p> <p>Purse-snatching: The grabbing or snatching of a purse, handbag, etc. from the custody of an individual.</p> <p>Shoplifting: The theft by a person (other than an employee) of goods or merchandise exposed for sale.</p> <p>Thefts from motor vehicles: Except theft of motor vehicle parts and accessories, the theft of articles from a motor vehicle, whether locked or unlocked.</p>	<p>Larceny: The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession, or constructive possession, of another person.</p> <p>Pocket-picking: The theft of articles from another person’s physical possession by stealth where the victim usually does not become immediately aware of the theft.</p> <p>Purse-snatching: The grabbing or snatching of a purse, handbag, etc., from the physical possession of another person.</p> <p>Shoplifting: The theft, by someone other than an employee of the victim, of goods or merchandise exposed for sale.</p> <p>Theft from motor vehicle: The theft of articles from a motor vehicle, whether locked or unlocked.</p>

Appendix Table 2. Continued

Offense	Summary UCR ^a	NIBRS ^b
	<p>Theft of motor vehicle parts and accessories: The theft of any part or accessory attached to the interior or exterior of a motor vehicle in a manner that would make the part an attachment to the vehicle or necessary for the operation of the vehicle.</p> <p>Thefts of bicycles: The unlawful taking of any bicycle, tandem bicycle, unicycle, etc.</p> <p>Thefts from buildings: A theft from within a building that is open to the general public and where the offender has legal access.</p> <p>Thefts from coin-operated device or machine: A theft from a device or machine which is operated or activated by the use of a coin.</p> <p>All other larceny - theft not specifically classified: All thefts that do not fit the definition of the specific categories of larceny listed above.</p>	<p>Theft of motor vehicle parts or accessories: The theft of any part or accessory affixed to the interior or exterior of a motor vehicle in a manner that would make the item an attachment of the vehicle or necessary for its operation.</p> <p>Theft of bicycles: NIBRS does not classify theft of bicycles as a separate type of larceny. Bicycles can be identified by the Property Type data element.</p> <p>Theft from building: A theft from within a building that is either open to the general public or where the offender has legal access.</p> <p>Theft from coin-operated machine or device: A theft from a machine or device that is operated or activated by the use of coins.</p> <p>All other larceny: All thefts that do not fit any of the definitions of the specific subcategories of Larceny/Theft listed above.</p>
Motor vehicle theft	<p>Motor vehicle theft: The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.</p> <p>Motor vehicle theft includes joyriding, excludes the taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by those persons having lawful access. A "motor vehicle" is defined for UCR purposes as a self-propelled vehicle that runs on land surface and not on rails. This offense category includes the stealing of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, snowmobiles, etc. It does not include farm equipment, bulldozers, airplanes, construction equipment, or motorboats.</p> <p>Autos: All sedans, station wagons, coupes, convertibles, and other similar motor vehicles that serve the primary purpose of transporting people from one place to another; also include automobiles used as taxis.</p> <p>Trucks and buses: Vehicles specifically designed to transport people on a commercial basis and to transport cargo; includes pickup trucks and vans regardless of their use; in UCR the self-propelled motor home is a truck.</p> <p>Recreational vehicles are included with trucks and buses.</p> <p>Other vehicles: All other vehicles limited by the UCR definition, such as snowmobiles, motorcycles, motor scooters, trail bikes, mopeds, golf carts, etc.</p>	<p>Motor vehicle theft: The theft of a motor vehicle.</p> <p>Automobiles: Sedans, coupes, station wagons, convertibles, taxicabs, or other similar motor vehicles that serve the primary purpose of transporting people.</p> <p>Trucks: Motor vehicles that are specifically designed (but not necessarily used) to transport cargo on a commercial basis.</p> <p>Buses: Motor vehicles that are specifically designed (but not necessarily used) to transport groups of people on a commercial basis.</p> <p>Recreational vehicles: Motor vehicles that are specifically designed (but not necessarily used) to transport people and also provide them temporary lodging for recreational purposes.</p> <p>Other motor vehicles: Any other motor vehicles, e.g., motorcycles, motor scooters, trail bikes, mopeds, snowmobiles, golf carts, whose primary purpose is to transport people.</p>

^aUniform Crime Reporting Handbook. FBI, 1984; and *Crime in the United States, 1998*. FBI, 1999.

^bUniform Crime Reporting Handbook NIBRS Edition, FBI, 1992; and *Uniform Crime Reporting, National Incident-Based Reporting System, Volume 1, Data Collection Guidelines*, FBI, 1996.

Appendix table 3. Excluded combinations of offenses in criminal incidents

Shaded cells denote a combination of offenses which cannot occur to the same victim in an incident.

09C- Justifiable homicide cannot occur with any other offense.

	09A	09B	11A	11B	11C	11D	120	13A	13B	13C	23A	23B	23C	23D	23E	23F	23G	23H	240	36A	36B	
09A-Murder	Shaded																					
09B-Negligent manslaughter	Shaded																					
11A-Forcible rape			Shaded																		Shaded	Shaded
11B-Forcible sodomy				Shaded																	Shaded	Shaded
11C-Sexual assault with object					Shaded																Shaded	Shaded
11D-Forcible fondling						Shaded															Shaded	Shaded
120-Robbery							Shaded															
13A-Aggravated assault	Shaded							Shaded														
13B-Simple assault	Shaded							Shaded														
13C-Intimidation	Shaded							Shaded														
23A-Pocket-picking											Shaded											
23B-Purse-snatching												Shaded										
23C-Shoplifting													Shaded									
23D-Theft from building														Shaded								
23E-Theft from coin machine															Shaded							
23F-Theft from motor vehicle																Shaded						
23G-Theft of motor vehicle parts																	Shaded					
23H-All other larceny																		Shaded				
240-Motor vehicle theft																			Shaded			
36A-Incest			Shaded																		Shaded	
36B-Statutory rape				Shaded																		Shaded

Source: FBI, UCR NIBRS, Volume 4, Error Message Manual, p. 115 (May 1997).

Appendix table 4. NIBRS reference resources

Related websites

Association of State Uniform Crime Reporting Programs	-----	www.asucrp.org
Bureau of Justice Statistics	-----	www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs
Crime Mapping Research Center	-----	www.ojp.usdoj.gov/cmrc
FBI Uniform Crime Reports	-----	www.fbi.gov/ucr.htm
International Association of Crime Analysts	-----	www.iaca.net
Justice Information Center	-----	www.ncjrs.org
Justice Research and Statistics Association	-----	www.jrsainfo.org
National Archive of Criminal Justice Data	-----	www.icpsr.umich.edu/nacjd
NIBRS Frequently Asked Questions	-----	www.fbi.gov/ucr/nibrs/faqs.htm
SEARCH: The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics	-----	www.search.org/nibrs

Publications

<i>CJIS Newsletter</i> , 4, 1, NIBRS Edition, 2000	-----	www.leo.gov/lesig/cjis/cjisnews/newsmain.html *
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<i>Crime in the United States, 1998</i>	-----	www.fbi.gov/ucr/nibrs/manuals/conversion.pdf
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