



Forcible Rape

Definition

Forcible rape, as defined in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Assaults and attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.

Data collection

- The UCR Program counts one offense for each female victim of a forcible rape, attempted forcible rape, or assault with intent to rape, regardless of the victim's age. A rape by force involving a female victim and a familial offender is counted as a forcible rape not an act of incest. The Program collects only arrest statistics concerning all other crimes of a sexual nature. The offense of statutory rape, in which no force is used but the female victim is under the age of consent, is included in the arrest total for the sex offenses category. Sexual attacks on males are counted as aggravated assaults or sex offenses, depending on the circumstances and the extent of any injuries.
- For this overview only, the FBI deviated from standard procedure and manually calculated the 2006 rate of female rapes based upon the national female population provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Overview

- In 2006, there were an estimated 92,455 forcible rapes reported to law enforcement, a 2.0-percent decrease from the 2005 estimate.
- When compared with 2002 data, the estimated number of forcible rapes decreased 2.9 percent; when compared with 1997 data, the number of forcible rape offenses declined 3.8 percent. (See Tables 1 and 1A.)

- The rate of forcible rapes in 2006 was estimated at 60.9 offenses per 100,000 female inhabitants, a 2.9-percent decrease when compared with the 2005 estimate of 62.7 forcible rapes per 100,000 female inhabitants.
- Based on the number of rape offenses reported to the UCR Program in 2006, rapes by force comprised 91.9 percent of reported rape offenses, and assaults to rape attempts accounted for 8.1 percent of reported rape offenses. This equated to 56.0 rapes by force per 100,000 female inhabitants and 4.9 assaults to rape attempts per 100,000 females in 2006. (Based on Tables 1 and 19.)

Expanded forcible rape data

Expanded offense data are the details of the various offenses that the Program collects beyond the count of how many crimes law enforcement agencies report. These details may include the type of weapons used in a crime, type or value of items stolen, and so forth. In addition, expanded data include trends (for example, 2-year comparisons) and rates per 100,000 inhabitants.

Expanded information regarding forcible rape is available in the following tables:

Trends (2-year): Tables 12, 13, 14, and 15

Rates (per 100,000 inhabitants): Tables 16, 17, 18, and 19

What you won't find on this page

Clearance and arrest data for forcible rape.