

SECTION III Offenses Cleared



Offenses Cleared

Law enforcement agencies reporting crime to the FBI can clear, or “close,” the offenses in one of two ways: by arrest or by exceptional means. However, the administrative closing of a case by a local law enforcement agency does not necessarily mean that the agency can clear an offense for UCR purposes. To clear an offense within the Program’s guidelines, the reporting agency must adhere to certain criteria, which are outlined in the following text. (*Note: The UCR Program does not distinguish between offenses cleared by arrest and those cleared by exceptional means in its data presentations. The distinction is made solely for the purpose of a definition and not for data collection and publication.*)

Cleared by Arrest

In the UCR Program, a law enforcement agency reports that an offense is cleared by arrest, or solved for crime reporting purposes, when at least one person is:

- Arrested.
- Charged with the commission of the offense.
- Turned over to the court for prosecution (whether following arrest, court summons, or police notice).

To qualify as a clearance, *all* of the conditions listed above must have been met. In its calculations, the UCR Program counts the number of offenses that are cleared, not the number of arrestees. Therefore, the arrest of one person may clear several crimes, and the arrest of many persons may clear only one offense. In addition, some clearances that an agency records in a particular calendar year, such as 2004, may pertain to offenses that occurred in previous years.

Cleared by Exceptional Means

In certain situations, elements beyond law enforcement’s control prevent the agency from arresting and formally charging the offender. When this occurs, the agency can clear the offense

exceptionally. There are four Program requirements that law enforcement must meet in order to clear an offense by exceptional means. 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 the suspect could be taken into custody immediately.
- Encountered a circumstance outside the control of law enforcement that prohibits the agency from arresting, charging, and prosecuting the offender.

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

National Clearances

A review of the data for 2004 revealed that the percentages of violent and property crime offenses cleared by arrest or exceptional means remained virtually unchanged from the 2003 percentages. In 2004, law enforcement agencies in the United States cleared 46.3 percent of violent crimes (murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and 16.5 percent of property crimes (burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft) brought to their attention. In addition, law enforcement cleared 17.1 percent of arson offenses, which are reported in a slightly different manner than the other property crimes. (More details concerning this offense are furnished in the Arson section.)

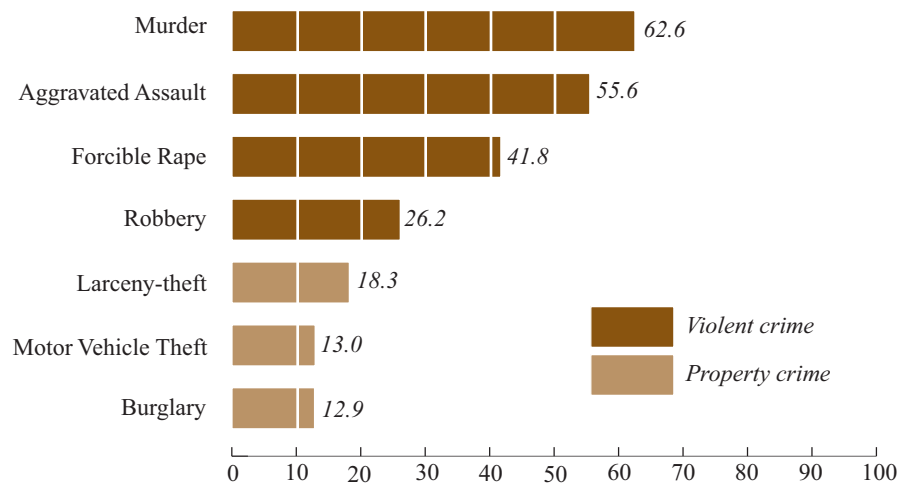
As in most years, law enforcement agencies cleared a higher percentage of violent crimes than property crimes in 2004. As a rule, this long-term trend is attributed to the more vigorous investigative efforts that are given to violent crimes. In addition, violent crimes more often involve victims and/or witnesses who are able to identify the perpetrators.

A breakdown of the clearances for violent crimes for 2004 revealed that the Nation’s law enforcement agencies cleared 62.6 percent of murder offenses, 55.6 percent of aggravated assaults,

Figure 3.1

Crimes Cleared by Arrest

Percent of Crimes Cleared by Arrest, 2004



41.8 percent of forcible rapes, and 26.2 percent of robbery offenses. The data for property crimes showed that agencies cleared 18.3 percent of larceny-theft offenses, 13.0 percent of motor vehicle theft offenses, and 12.9 percent of burglary offenses. (See Table 25.)

Regional Clearances

The UCR Program divides the Nation into four regions: the Northeast, the Midwest, the South, and the West. (See Appendix III.) A review of clearance data for 2004 by region showed that agencies in the Northeast cleared the greatest proportion of their violent crime offenses (50.3 percent). Agencies in the West cleared 47.1 percent of their violent crimes, and law enforcement in the South and the Midwest cleared 46.2 percent and 41.8 percent, respectively.

Clearance data for 2004 showed that, among the regions, agencies in the Northeast cleared the highest percentage of their property crimes (20.2 percent). Law enforcement in the South and Midwest cleared 16.9 percent and 16.2 per-

cent, respectively. Agencies in the West cleared 14.6 percent of their property crimes. (See Table 26.)

Clearances by Population Groups

The UCR Program uses the following population group designations in its data presentations: cities (grouped according to population size) and counties (classified as either metropolitan or nonmetropolitan). (A breakdown of these classifications is furnished in Appendix III.)

Cities

In 2004, the clearance data collected showed that law enforcement agencies in the Nation's cities cleared 43.7 percent of their violent crime offenses. Among the city population groups, agencies in the smallest cities, those with populations under 10,000 inhabitants, cleared the greatest proportion of their violent crime offenses (57.7 percent), and law enforcement in the Nation's largest cities, those with 250,000 or more residents, cleared the smallest proportion of their violent crime offenses (38.5

percent). The clearance data for murder, an offense of particular interest to law enforcement, showed that among the city population groups, agencies in cities with populations ranging from 10,000 to 24,999 cleared the greatest percentage of their murders (74.4 percent), Law enforcement in the Nation's largest cities cleared the lowest percentage of their murders (58.0 percent).

A further review of the clearance data for 2004 showed that agencies in the Nation's cities cleared 16.4 percent of their property crime offenses. Law enforcement in cities with populations ranging from 10,000 to 24,999 residents cleared the highest proportion of the property crimes (20.9 percent) brought to their attention, and as with the clearances for violent crime, agencies in the largest cities cleared the smallest proportion of their property crimes (12.9 percent). Of the property crimes known to law enforcement in cities collectively, the highest percentage of offenses cleared was for larceny-theft offenses at 18.4 percent. (See Table 25.)

Metropolitan counties

An examination of clearance data submitted by law enforcement in metropolitan counties in 2004 showed that these agencies cleared 54.5 percent of their violent crime offenses. Of the violent crimes made known to them, law enforcement in metropolitan counties most often cleared their murder offenses, reporting that 64.4 percent of those offenses were cleared. Further, clearance data also showed that law enforcement in metropolitan counties cleared 16.9 percent of their total property crimes. Of the property crimes known to agencies in these counties, the greatest percentage of clearances was for larceny-theft offenses (18.0 percent). (See Table 25.)

Nonmetropolitan counties

Just as for metropolitan counties, clearance figures for non-metropolitan counties showed that these agencies collectively cleared a greater proportion of their violent crimes and property crimes—with the exception of larceny-theft—than did the Nation as a whole in 2004. A further breakdown of the clearance data revealed that agencies in nonmetropolitan counties cleared 60.6 percent of their violent crime offenses, and of the violent crimes known to them, law enforcement in these counties had the highest number of clearances for murder (74.2 percent). A further examination of the clearance data collected also showed that law enforcement in these counties cleared 17.8 percent of their property crime offenses. Among the property crimes known to these agencies, the highest percentage of offenses cleared was for motor vehicle theft at 26.0 percent. In addition, law enforcement in these counties cleared 17.7 percent of their larceny-theft offenses. (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, the UCR Program considers the incident for which the juvenile is being held responsible to be cleared by arrest, although a physical arrest may not have occurred. In addition, according to Program definitions, clearances that include both adult and juvenile offenders are classified as clearances for crimes committed by adults. Therefore, because the clearance percentages for crimes committed by juveniles include only those clearances in which no adults were involved, the figures in this publication should not be used to present a definitive picture of juvenile involvement in crime.

Of the clearances for violent crime that were reported in the Nation in 2004, 12.1 percent involved only juveniles, a rate

that remained virtually unchanged from the previous year's statistics. In addition, 18.9 percent of clearances for property crime in 2004 involved only juveniles, down slightly from the 19.3 percent of clearances for property crime in 2003. Of all the crime categories—for both violent crime and property crime—clearances for murder offenses had the lowest percentage of involvement solely by juveniles (4.7 percent), and arson clearances involving only juveniles comprised the highest percentage (42.7 percent).

Clearance data broken down by population groups revealed that in cities collectively 12.3 percent of the clearances for violent crime involved juveniles only. Of the city groups, law enforcement agencies in cities with populations ranging from 25,000 to 49,999 inhabitants reported the largest percentage of clearances for violent crime that involved only juvenile offenders (14.2 percent). During 2004, 12.3 percent of clearances for violent crime in metropolitan counties and 9.3 percent of clearances for violent crimes in nonmetropolitan counties exclusively involved juveniles.

Clearance data collected for property crime offenses committed in the Nation's cities showed that 19.6 percent of these clearances solely involved juveniles. Law enforcement agencies in cities with populations ranging from 50,000 to 99,999 inhabitants reported the largest percentage of property crime clearances exclusively involving juveniles (21.7 percent). In metropolitan counties, 16.4 percent of the property crime clearances involved juveniles only, and in nonmetropolitan counties, 14.8 percent of property crime clearances involved juveniles only. (See Table 28.)

Advisory

Information regarding the UCR Program's statistical methodology and table construction can be found in Appendix I.

Table 25

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means

by Population Group, 2004
[2004 estimated population]

<i>Population group</i>	<i>Violent crime</i>	<i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i>	<i>Forcible rape</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Aggravated assault</i>	<i>Property crime</i>	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Larceny-theft</i>	<i>Motor vehicle theft</i>	<i>Arson¹</i>
TOTAL ALL AGENCIES:										
13,612 agencies; population 248,320,178										
Offenses known	1,152,733	13,662	80,939	329,578	728,554	8,925,398	1,857,700	5,983,710	1,083,988	64,179
Percent cleared by arrest	46.3	62.6	41.8	26.2	55.6	16.5	12.9	18.3	13.0	17.1
TOTAL CITIES: 9,591 cities;										
population 163,702,226										
Offenses known	904,210	10,425	59,667	287,088	547,030	7,019,644	1,364,970	4,782,585	872,089	46,837
Percent cleared by arrest	43.7	61.2	40.1	25.3	53.4	16.4	12.1	18.4	12.0	16.3
GROUP I										
65 cities, 250,000 and over; population 40,653,482										
Offenses known	393,406	5,519	18,950	145,728	223,209	2,250,785	451,503	1,394,735	404,547	19,003
Percent cleared by arrest	38.5	58.0	41.2	22.0	48.5	12.9	10.3	14.7	9.4	10.0
8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 13,805,573										
Offenses known	137,148	1,857	5,773	52,815	76,703	684,380	136,699	408,006	139,675	5,717
Percent cleared by arrest	38.7	58.9	43.1	22.8	48.8	12.9	10.5	15.2	8.5	7.3
22 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 14,360,988										
Offenses known	136,556	2,032	6,851	50,293	77,380	855,994	172,529	537,146	146,319	6,733
Percent cleared by arrest	34.8	55.0	38.7	19.3	44.0	11.4	8.9	12.8	8.8	12.1
35 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 12,486,921										
Offenses known	119,702	1,630	6,326	42,620	69,126	710,411	142,275	449,583	118,553	6,553
Percent cleared by arrest	42.6	60.7	42.1	24.3	53.4	14.6	12.0	16.3	11.1	10.1
GROUP II										
166 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 24,952,758										
Offenses known	149,237	1,746	9,764	50,345	87,382	1,187,529	232,916	791,691	162,922	7,134
Percent cleared by arrest	41.6	58.6	38.1	25.2	51.1	14.9	11.0	16.9	10.6	15.5
GROUP III										
396 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 27,251,708										
Offenses known	127,288	1,188	9,637	38,255	78,208	1,088,818	216,411	751,816	120,591	6,740
Percent cleared by arrest	45.6	62.3	38.3	28.0	54.8	17.4	12.1	19.8	12.0	18.7
GROUP IV										
712 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 24,649,814										
Offenses known	90,078	815	8,072	24,196	56,995	884,986	168,291	638,155	78,540	5,383
Percent cleared by arrest	49.1	69.3	38.6	31.1	57.9	18.8	12.8	20.8	15.3	22.2
GROUP V										
1,602 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 25,318,472										
Offenses known	77,446	667	7,320	17,881	51,578	861,152	159,776	640,027	61,349	4,487
Percent cleared by arrest	53.0	74.4	41.3	33.0	61.3	20.9	14.9	22.5	19.4	24.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 25

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means

by Population Group, 2004—Continued

[2004 estimated population]

<i>Population group</i>	<i>Violent crime</i>	<i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i>	<i>Forcible rape</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Aggravated assault</i>	<i>Property crime</i>	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Larceny-theft</i>	<i>Motor vehicle theft</i>	<i>Arson¹</i>
GROUP VI										
6,650 cities, under 10,000; population 20,875,992										
Offenses known	66,755	490	5,924	10,683	49,658	746,374	136,073	566,161	44,140	4,090
Percent cleared by arrest	57.7	73.5	43.8	34.8	64.1	19.8	16.2	20.3	24.6	26.7
METROPOLITAN COUNTIES										
1,659 agencies; population 59,611,735										
Offenses known	196,450	2,320	15,236	38,611	140,283	1,480,964	353,610	949,240	178,114	13,434
Percent cleared by arrest	54.5	64.4	46.8	31.7	61.5	16.9	14.5	18.0	15.4	17.8
NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES										
2,362 agencies; population 25,006,217										
Offenses known	52,073	917	6,036	3,879	41,241	424,790	139,120	251,885	33,785	3,908
Percent cleared by arrest	60.6	74.2	45.8	40.6	64.4	17.8	15.8	17.7	26.0	24.3
SUBURBAN AREA²										
7,129 agencies; population 108,869,860										
Offenses known	337,033	3,416	27,386	74,142	232,089	3,032,124	630,165	2,089,745	312,214	22,132
Percent cleared by arrest	53.3	65.7	44.3	31.4	61.2	17.9	14.3	19.3	15.8	19.8

¹ Not all agencies submit reports for arson to the FBI. As a result, the number of reports the FBI uses to compute the percent of offenses cleared for arson is less than the number it uses to compute the percent of offenses cleared for all other offenses.

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 principal 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, 2004
 [2004 estimated population]

<i>Geographic region/division</i>	<i>Violent crime</i>	<i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i>	<i>Forcible rape</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Aggravated assault</i>	<i>Property crime</i>	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Larceny-theft</i>	<i>Motor vehicle theft</i>	<i>Arson¹</i>
TOTAL ALL AGENCIES:										
13,612 agencies;										
population 248,320,178										
Offenses known	1,152,733	13,662	80,939	329,578	728,554	8,925,398	1,857,700	5,983,710	1,083,988	64,179
Percent cleared by arrest	46.3	62.6	41.8	26.2	55.6	16.5	12.9	18.3	13.0	17.1
NEW ENGLAND										
800 agencies;										
population 12,609,667										
Offenses known	38,533	290	3,223	10,954	24,066	303,307	59,221	209,689	34,397	1,816
Percent cleared by arrest	47.8	52.1	34.1	26.3	59.4	15.4	13.5	16.7	10.8	19.6
MIDDLE ATLANTIC										
1,972 agencies;										
population 30,158,439										
Offenses known	105,311	1,320	6,607	39,435	57,949	713,565	132,342	502,722	78,501	5,466
Percent cleared by arrest	51.2	69.1	51.8	31.2	64.3	22.3	18.7	24.1	16.3	22.2
NORTHEAST										
2,772 agencies;										
population 42,768,106										
Offenses known	143,844	1,610	9,830	50,389	82,015	1,016,872	191,563	712,411	112,898	7,282
Percent cleared by arrest	50.3	66.0	46.0	30.1	62.9	20.2	17.1	21.9	14.7	21.5
EAST NORTH CENTRAL										
1,588 agencies;										
population 28,554,713										
Offenses known	111,472	1,493	11,884	36,690	61,405	969,987	202,148	653,370	114,469	9,167
Percent cleared by arrest	36.8	52.6	31.9	21.0	46.8	14.6	10.3	16.4	11.9	13.2
WEST NORTH CENTRAL										
1,809 agencies;										
population 17,685,122										
Offenses known	56,559	569	5,493	11,098	39,399	577,868	105,135	422,993	49,740	4,576
Percent cleared by arrest	51.6	72.2	42.5	26.7	59.6	18.8	12.8	20.3	18.7	18.7
MIDWEST										
3,397 agencies;										
population 46,239,835										
Offenses known	168,031	2,062	17,377	47,788	100,804	1,547,855	307,283	1,076,363	164,209	13,743
Percent cleared by arrest	41.8	58.1	35.2	22.3	51.9	16.2	11.2	17.9	14.0	15.0
SOUTH ATLANTIC										
2,821 agencies;										
population 50,333,472										
Offenses known	291,642	3,258	15,612	79,315	193,457	1,952,411	430,997	1,311,261	210,153	11,657
Percent cleared by arrest	47.5	63.4	48.1	26.4	55.8	17.6	14.9	18.9	15.2	20.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 26

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means

by Geographic Region and Division, 2004—Continued

[2004 estimated population]

<i>Geographic region/division</i>	Violent crime	<i>Murder and non-negligent man-slaughter</i>	<i>Forcible rape</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Aggravated assault</i>	Property crime	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Larceny-theft</i>	<i>Motor vehicle theft</i>	<i>Arson¹</i>
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL										
1,150 agencies; population 14,971,572										
Offenses known	70,378	910	5,493	18,266	45,709	567,429	138,237	380,082	49,110	2,302
Percent cleared by arrest	42.4	65.5	37.1	23.9	50.0	16.3	11.1	18.3	15.7	17.5
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL										
1,635 agencies; population 31,982,557										
Offenses known	175,670	2,244	12,292	47,162	113,972	1,422,863	317,685	974,590	130,588	9,431
Percent cleared by arrest	45.7	69.2	45.1	27.0	53.0	16.2	11.6	17.9	14.5	17.6
SOUTH										
5,606 agencies; population 97,287,601										
Offenses known	537,690	6,412	33,397	144,743	353,138	3,942,703	886,919	2,665,933	389,851	23,390
Percent cleared by arrest	46.2	65.7	45.2	26.3	54.2	16.9	13.1	18.4	15.0	18.8
MOUNTAIN										
708 agencies; population 17,306,595										
Offenses known	79,358	1,005	6,812	19,335	52,206	768,378	146,996	506,509	114,873	4,295
Percent cleared by arrest	43.8	59.2	34.6	22.4	52.6	16.0	11.6	18.2	12.0	19.8
PACIFIC										
1,129 agencies; population 44,718,041										
Offenses known	223,810	2,573	13,523	67,323	140,391	1,649,590	324,939	1,022,494	302,157	15,469
Percent cleared by arrest	48.3	58.0	42.5	27.1	58.8	13.9	11.9	15.9	9.6	13.7
WEST										
1,837 agencies; population 62,024,636										
Offenses known	303,168	3,578	20,335	86,658	192,597	2,417,968	471,935	1,529,003	417,030	19,764
Percent cleared by arrest	47.1	58.3	39.9	26.1	57.1	14.6	11.8	16.6	10.2	15.0

¹ Not all agencies submit reports for arson to the FBI. As a result, the number of reports the FBI uses to compute the percent of offenses cleared for arson is less than the number it uses to compute the percent of offenses cleared for all other offenses.

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

Breakdown of Offenses Known
by Population Group, 2004
[2004 estimated population]

Population group	Forcible rape			Robbery			Aggravated assault			Burglary			Motor vehicle theft			Arson ¹			
	Rape by force attempts	Assault	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:																			
13,008 agencies;																			
population 228,833,146																			
Offenses known	67,000	6,241	119,963	26,377	27,211	117,844	125,307	117,679	214,506	171,202	1,019,513	537,809	102,059	723,425	179,002	83,494	25,496	18,348	15,437
Percent cleared by arrest	41.0	42.6	20.9	28.4	28.0	30.5	39.9	61.1	55.6	64.1	12.2	14.2	10.6	13.4	10.9	11.3	21.5	7.2	20.3
TOTAL CITIES: 9,252 cities;																			
population 153,543,171																			
Offenses known	50,554	4,871	105,432	23,303	23,720	105,631	100,598	95,208	165,424	126,045	761,128	401,404	79,264	604,369	145,058	56,740	19,586	12,810	11,139
Percent cleared by arrest	39.8	41.2	20.4	27.6	27.0	29.8	37.1	59.5	53.5	63.7	11.5	13.6	10.3	12.5	10.1	10.4	20.3	6.1	20.4
GROUP I																			
59 cities, 250,000 and over;																			
population 38,014,637																			
Offenses known	15,887	2,081	58,961	11,246	11,471	51,459	53,249	39,082	69,660	38,507	278,254	111,614	22,191	269,191	87,007	22,932	7,842	6,663	3,066
Percent cleared by arrest	40.8	39.5	18.1	23.8	22.9	26.4	31.9	55.4	49.0	64.6	9.7	11.6	9.4	10.1	7.7	7.0	14.0	2.9	13.6
8 cities, 1,000,000 and over;																			
population 13,805,573																			
Offenses known	4,910	863	23,863	5,141	4,185	19,626	20,245	14,168	23,574	18,716	93,746	36,545	6,408	94,246	37,082	8,347	2,004	2,696	1,017
Percent cleared by arrest	43.4	41.6	18.1	22.7	25.3	27.9	29.0	52.7	46.9	69.5	10.0	11.8	10.0	9.8	5.7	5.5	14.0	1.8	8.9
20 cities, 500,000 to 999,999;																			
population 12,935,737																			
Offenses known	5,679	726	20,150	3,471	4,078	15,489	17,290	13,601	24,546	9,925	103,573	39,249	9,564	95,166	28,169	9,715	3,055	2,054	758
Percent cleared by arrest	38.0	33.7	15.4	23.9	20.4	23.1	30.7	52.9	46.5	47.3	8.1	9.5	8.1	9.3	8.6	3.8	16.0	3.4	17.5
31 cities, 250,000 to 499,999;																			
population 11,273,327																			
Offenses known	5,298	492	14,948	2,634	3,208	16,344	15,714	11,313	21,540	9,866	80,935	35,820	6,219	79,779	21,756	4,870	2,783	1,913	1,291
Percent cleared by arrest	41.5	44.1	21.8	25.8	22.8	27.8	37.0	61.7	54.1	72.5	11.4	13.6	10.9	11.5	9.9	16.0	11.9	4.0	15.0
GROUP II																			
150 cities, 100,000 to 249,999;																			
population 22,497,950																			
Offenses known	7,770	711	18,469	4,117	4,133	17,399	16,561	15,653	28,593	14,274	126,071	64,165	12,866	115,015	22,548	8,614	2,842	2,025	1,649
Percent cleared by arrest	36.7	43.7	20.8	26.8	26.9	29.2	36.6	59.2	52.7	58.9	10.6	12.2	9.4	10.3	10.8	10.0	17.7	7.2	20.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 27

Percent of Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means

Breakdown of Offenses Known by Population Group, 2004—Continued [2004 estimated population]

Population group	Forcible rape			Robbery			Aggravated assault			Burglary			Motor vehicle theft			Arson ¹			
	Rape by force attempts	Assault	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 III																			
368 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 25,267,148																			
Offenses known	8,285	606	11,644	3,408	3,139	15,147	11,871	13,907	24,094	18,714	113,915	67,265	14,515	86,931	14,835	7,541	2,692	1,666	1,901
Percent cleared by arrest	38.6	39.3	22.9	30.3	30.1	33.0	40.9	60.7	57.5	61.7	11.7	13.6	10.1	12.3	11.6	12.1	23.3	6.7	21.5
GROUP IV																			
674 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 23,292,953																			
Offenses known	6,964	487	7,266	2,088	2,368	9,614	7,521	10,005	16,865	16,251	88,138	54,834	11,305	57,664	8,360	6,223	2,185	1,066	1,829
Percent cleared by arrest	38.2	40.0	25.1	32.2	33.2	33.8	44.5	62.9	57.5	61.1	11.8	14.0	10.2	15.1	15.6	12.5	27.6	10.7	21.3
GROUP V																			
1,529 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 24,158,763																			
Offenses known	6,453	491	5,682	1,557	1,612	7,398	6,179	8,896	14,004	16,994	83,790	54,021	9,807	44,429	7,044	5,830	1,948	811	1,466
Percent cleared by arrest	40.9	43.2	27.1	39.1	35.1	37.5	51.8	66.0	59.7	65.3	14.6	16.2	11.2	20.3	18.8	13.2	27.0	13.9	28.0
GROUP VI																			
6,472 cities, under 10,000; population 20,311,720																			
Offenses known	5,195	495	3,410	887	997	4,614	5,217	7,665	12,208	21,305	70,960	49,505	8,580	31,139	5,264	5,600	2,077	579	1,228
Percent cleared by arrest	43.6	46.3	28.5	38.6	36.7	38.9	55.6	67.5	60.1	68.1	15.9	16.9	13.3	26.4	22.9	17.7	29.9	17.3	24.9
METROPOLITAN COUNTIES																			
1,495 agencies; population 51,192,440																			
Offenses known	11,178	935	13,058	2,752	3,043	10,851	18,004	16,969	38,044	30,505	173,722	94,422	16,679	99,545	28,633	19,261	4,102	4,633	3,274
Percent cleared by arrest	44.3	47.0	23.1	33.8	34.3	35.7	48.0	67.6	62.3	65.9	13.4	15.8	11.3	15.8	12.0	11.7	25.4	8.4	18.4

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Breakdown of Offenses Known
by Population Group, 2004—Continued
[2004 estimated population]

Population group	Forcible rape		Robbery		Aggravated assault			Burglary			Motor vehicle theft			Arson ¹				
	Rape by force	Assault attempts	Firearm	Knife or cutting instrument	Other weapon	Strong-arm	Firearm	Knife or cutting instrument	Hands, fists, feet, etc.	Forcible entry	Unlawful entry	Attempted forcible entry	Autos	Trucks and buses	Other vehicles	Structure	Mobile	Other
NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES																		
2,261 agencies; population 24,097,535	5,268	435	1,473	322	448	1,362	6,705	5,502	14,652	84,663	41,983	6,116	19,511	5,311	7,493	1,808	905	1,024
Offenses known	45.4	48.7	37.9	42.5	40.2	42.0	59.2	66.9	63.8	15.6	16.0	12.6	28.9	25.4	16.5	25.9	16.9	25.2
Percent cleared by arrest																		
SUBURBAN AREA²																		
6,734 agencies; population 97,925,143	21,543	1,749	24,280	5,632	6,202	24,754	27,746	30,886	62,093	310,322	189,567	35,196	196,689	43,230	31,210	7,694	6,240	6,203
Offenses known	42.6	45.5	23.7	33.8	34.4	35.6	48.4	66.7	61.1	13.4	15.6	11.4	16.2	13.3	12.0	25.9	9.4	20.8
Percent cleared by arrest																		

¹ Not all agencies submit reports for arson to the FBI. As a result, the number of reports the FBI uses to compute the percent of offenses cleared for arson is less than the number it uses to compute the percent of offenses cleared for all other offenses. Agencies must 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 principal 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

Percent of Clearances Involving Persons Under 18 Years of Age
by Population Group, 2004
[2004 estimated population]

<i>Population group</i>	<i>Violent crime</i>	<i>Murder and non-negligent manslaughter</i>	<i>Forcible rape</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Aggravated assault</i>	<i>Property crime</i>	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Larceny-theft</i>	<i>Motor vehicle theft</i>	<i>Arson¹</i>
TOTAL ALL AGENCIES:										
12,619 agencies;										
population 220,870,888										
Total clearances	449,979	7,357	29,078	73,327	340,217	1,280,650	202,895	956,209	121,546	9,855
Percent under 18	12.1	4.7	12.2	14.4	11.8	18.9	16.0	19.8	16.4	42.7
TOTAL CITIES: 9,077 cities;										
population 149,054,572										
Total clearances	344,990	5,559	21,365	63,277	254,789	1,025,875	144,944	787,669	93,262	6,938
Percent under 18	12.3	4.8	11.4	14.6	12.0	19.6	16.1	20.6	16.7	46.9
GROUP I										
57 cities, 250,000 and over; population 36,660,525										
Total clearances	131,520	2,706	6,965	28,294	93,555	258,253	40,361	183,369	34,523	1,614
Percent under 18	10.5	5.7	8.2	14.3	9.7	16.4	12.5	17.0	17.4	41.4
8 cities, 1,000,000 and over; population 13,805,573										
Total clearances	53,011	1,094	2,489	12,027	37,401	88,344	14,355	62,140	11,849	420
Percent under 18	10.0	6.6	9.4	14.8	8.6	15.1	10.4	16.1	15.5	42.6
18 cities, 500,000 to 999,999; population 11,581,625										
Total clearances	34,363	683	2,061	7,062	24,557	77,484	11,242	55,642	10,600	584
Percent under 18	10.4	3.7	7.3	12.9	10.1	15.4	12.3	15.6	18.0	39.2
31 cities, 250,000 to 499,999; population 11,273,327										
Total clearances	44,146	929	2,415	9,205	31,597	92,425	14,764	65,587	12,074	610
Percent under 18	11.3	6.0	7.7	14.7	10.8	18.4	14.6	19.2	18.9	42.6
GROUP II										
147 cities, 100,000 to 249,999; population 21,938,868										
Total clearances	52,515	896	3,098	10,715	37,806	151,248	21,448	115,141	14,659	968
Percent under 18	12.3	4.8	10.6	15.1	11.8	20.1	16.1	21.5	15.5	51.1
GROUP III										
357 cities, 50,000 to 99,999; population 24,582,264										
Total clearances	51,313	664	3,315	9,331	38,003	169,316	23,050	133,407	12,859	1,154
Percent under 18	13.1	3.5	12.7	14.5	13.0	21.7	16.6	23.0	17.5	48.8
GROUP IV										
658 cities, 25,000 to 49,999; population 22,781,249										
Total clearances	38,600	513	2,812	6,426	28,849	148,855	18,723	119,522	10,610	1,121
Percent under 18	14.2	5.1	14.1	15.6	14.1	21.5	18.0	22.5	16.5	46.4

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Percent of Clearances Involving Persons Under 18 Years of Age
by Population Group, 2004—Continued
[2004 estimated population]

<i>Population group</i>	Violent crime	<i>Murder and non- negligent man- slaughter</i>	<i>Forcible rape</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Aggravated assault</i>	Property crime	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Larceny- theft</i>	<i>Motor vehicle theft</i>	<i>Arson¹</i>
GROUP V										
1,462 cities, 10,000 to 24,999; population 23,162,672										
Total clearances	35,668	440	2,741	5,202	27,285	161,448	21,078	129,906	10,464	1,049
Percent under 18	13.9	1.8	13.8	13.6	14.2	20.0	17.7	20.7	15.9	47.2
GROUP VI										
6,396 cities, under 10,000; population 19,928,994										
Total clearances	35,374	340	2,434	3,309	29,291	136,755	20,284	106,324	10,147	1,032
Percent under 18	14.0	3.5	13.7	15.2	14.0	19.7	19.6	20.2	15.5	49.8
METROPOLITAN COUNTIES										
1,399 agencies; population 49,085,327										
Total clearances	77,519	1,181	5,249	8,708	62,381	187,918	38,450	128,919	20,549	2,042
Percent under 18	12.3	5.8	14.3	13.7	12.1	16.4	15.9	16.7	15.2	35.5
NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES										
2,143 agencies; population 22,730,989										
Total clearances	27,470	617	2,464	1,342	23,047	66,857	19,501	39,621	7,735	875
Percent under 18	9.3	2.3	15.2	6.8	9.0	14.8	15.5	14.2	16.2	26.1
SUBURBAN AREA²										
6,524 agencies; population 94,342,987										
Total clearances	139,608	1,838	9,685	18,072	110,013	446,995	72,083	335,074	39,838	3,880
Percent under 18	13.6	4.8	14.3	14.9	13.4	18.4	17.3	19.1	15.2	42.3

¹ Not all agencies submit reports for arson to the FBI. As a result, the number of reports the FBI uses to compute the percent of offenses cleared for arson is less than the number it uses to compute the percent of offenses cleared for all other offenses.

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 principal city. The agencies associated with suburban areas also appear in other groups within this table.