

Release Date
Sunday
July 1, 1986

JUL 24 1986

Crime in the United States

[illegible]

UNIFORM

CRIME

REPORTS

for the United States

SUMMARY

CRIME INDEX

CRIMES CLEARED

PERSONS ARRESTED

LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL

APPENDICES

PRINTED ANNUALLY — 1985 by:
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20535

ADVISORY: Committee on Uniform Crime Records
International Association of Chiefs of Police;
Committee on Uniform Crime Reporting
National Sheriffs' Association

CRIME FACTORS

The presence of crime in our Nation is a matter of serious concern not only to the law enforcement profession, but to society at large. Historically, the causes and origins of crime have been the subjects of investigation by varied disciplines. Many factors affecting the volume and type of crime occurring from place to place have been delineated. Some of these are as follows:

Population density and degree of urbanization with size of locality and its surrounding area.

Variations in composition of the population, particularly youth concentration.

Stability of population with respect to residents' mobility, commuting patterns, and transient factors.

Modes of transportation and highway system.

Economic conditions, including median income, destitution, and job availability.

Cultural conditions, such as educational, recreational, and religious characteristics.

Family conditions with respect to divorce and family cohesiveness.

Climate.

Effective strength of law enforcement agencies.

Administrative and investigative emphases of law enforcement.

Policies of other components of the criminal justice system (i.e., prosecutorial, judicial, correctional, and probational).

Attitudes of citizenry toward crime.

Crime reporting practices of citizenry.

The Uniform Crime Reports give a nationwide view of crime based on statistics contributed by state and local law enforcement agencies. Population size is the only correlate of crime utilized in this publication. While the other factors listed above are of equal concern, no attempt is made to relate them to the data presented. *The reader is, therefore, cautioned against comparing statistical data of individual reporting units from cities, counties, states, or colleges and universities solely on the basis of their population coverage or student enrollment.*

SECTION IV

PERSONS ARRESTED

Primarily measuring law enforcement's response to crime, arrests also provide useful information on the age, sex, race, and ethnic origin of the perpetrators involved. Arrest practices, policies, and enforcement emphases vary from place to place and even within a community from time to time as, for example, during a local police campaign against residential burglary. Although the arrest volumes for certain unlawful conduct such as drunkenness, disorderly conduct, vagrancy, and related violations may differ among agencies, robbery, burglary, and other serious crime arrests are more likely to result from uniform and consistent practices throughout all jurisdictions. This Program's procedures require that an arrest be counted on each separate occasion a person is taken into custody, notified, or cited. Annual arrest figures do not measure the number of individuals arrested since one person may be arrested several times during the year for the same or different offenses.

In 1985, an estimated 11.9 million arrests for all criminal infractions except traffic violations were recorded nationwide. Relating the arrest volume to the total estimated United States population, the arrest rate was 3,062 per 100,000 inhabitants. Law enforcement agencies in cities with populations over 250,000 showed the highest rate, 7,516 per 100,000. For suburban county agencies overall, the arrest rate was 3,805, and for rural county law enforcement, it was 3,363 per 100,000 inhabitants.

Of the regions, the West recorded the highest arrest rate, 5,902 per 100,000 people, while the lowest rate, 3,996, was registered in the Midwest. Rates in the remaining two regions were 5,191 in the South and 5,110 in the Northeast.

Arrest Trends

Compared to the 1984 total, the number of arrests for all offenses except traffic violations increased 3 percent in 1985. During the same time period, adult arrests were up 2 percent, and those of persons under 18 years of age rose 5 percent. Considering the eight Crime Index offenses collectively, arrests of persons of all ages increased 4 percent, adult arrests rose 3 percent, and juvenile arrests were up 5 percent from 1984. A further examination of arrests for the Index showed overall property crime arrests up 5 percent but violent crime arrests down less than 1 percent.

Similar to the national experience, 2-year trends for city agencies showed a 3-percent increase in total arrests, 1985 over 1984. Suburban county arrests were up 4 percent and rural county arrests, 1 percent.

For the 5-year period, 1981-1985, total arrests increased 4 percent. Adult arrests were up 6 percent and those of persons under 18 years of age dropped 7 percent. Five-year trends for the Crime Index revealed a 3-percent decline in total arrests and a 10-percent drop in arrests of persons under 18 years of age. The volume of adult arrests for Index offenses rose 1 percent. During the same years, overall violent and property crime arrests decreased, 4 and 2 percent, respectively.

Increases in arrests of persons of all ages were recorded for the 10 years, 1976-1985. Arrests for all offenses were up 17 percent; Crime Index arrests, 8 percent; violent crime arrests, 16 percent; and property crime arrests, 6 percent.

In 1985, arrests for drug abuse violations rose 13 percent over the 1984 experience and 23 percent above the 1981 level. The types of drugs involved in violations resulting in arrests during 1985 are shown by geographic region in the accompanying table.

Arrests for Drug Abuse Violations, 1985

[Percent distribution]

	United States total	North-eastern States	Mid-western States	South-ern States	Western States
Total ¹	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sale Manufacture:	23.7	29.9	25.6	24.0	18.2
Heroin or Cocaine and their derivatives ..	8.0	14.0	3.7	6.9	6.2
Marijuana	10.5	12.0	10.0	11.0	9.1
Synthetic or manufactured drugs .....	.8	1.1	1.0	1.0	.2
Other dangerous nonnarcotic drugs	4.4	2.7	10.9	5.2	2.7
Possession:	76.3	70.1	74.4	76.0	81.8
Heroin or Cocaine and their derivatives ..	21.5	20.4	6.7	12.8	35.8
Marijuana	45.1	43.2	58.1	55.1	32.1
Synthetic or manufactured drugs	1.6	2.0	1.7	2.4	.5
Other dangerous nonnarcotic drugs	8.1	4.5	7.9	5.7	13.3

¹Because of rounding, percentages may not add to totals.

Age

Of all arrestees nationwide in 1985, 6 percent were under the age of 15, 17 percent were under 18, 31 percent were under 21, and 50 percent were under 25. Fifty-one percent of arrests in the cities, 45 percent of those in the suburban counties, and 42 percent of those in the rural counties were accounted for by arrestees in the under 25 age group.

Age distribution figures for persons arrested for Crime Index offenses showed 31 percent were under the age of 18; 47 percent were under 21; and 62 percent, under 25. The under 25 age group was also responsible for 50 percent of the violent crime arrests and 65 percent of property crime arrests.

Sex

In 1985, 4 of every 5 arrestees throughout the Nation were males. They also accounted for 79 percent of arrests for Index crimes, 89 percent of those for violent crimes, and 76 percent of those for property crimes. Males were most often arrested for driving under the influence, the offense which accounted for 16 percent of all male arrests.

Larceny-theft was again the crime for which females were most often arrested. This single offense accounted for 81 percent of arrests of women for Index crimes and 20 percent of all female arrests. Of the female larceny-theft arrestees, 56 percent were under 25 years of age.

Both male and female arrests were on the rise from 1984 to 1985. Arrests of males increased 2 percent, while those of females were up 6 percent. From 1981 to 1985, there was a 2-percent increase in overall male arrests and a 13-percent jump in female arrests. Although arrests of females under age 18 rose 1 percent during the 5-year timespan, arrests of males under age 18 dropped 9 percent.

Table 24.—Total Estimated Arrests¹, United States, 1985

TOTAL²	11,945,200	Fraud	342,600
Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	18,330	Embezzlement	11,400
Forcible rape	36,970	Stolen property; buying, receiving, possessing	127,100
Robbery	136,870	Vandalism	259,600
Aggravated assault	305,390	Weapons; carrying, possessing, etc.	180,900
Burglary	443,300	Prostitution and commercialized vice	113,800
Larceny-theft	1,348,400	Sex offenses (except forcible rape and prostitution)	100,600
Motor vehicle theft	133,900	Drug abuse violations	811,400
Arson	19,500	Gambling	32,100
		Offenses against family and children	58,800
Violent crime ³	497,560	Driving under the influence	1,788,400
Property crime ⁴	1,945,100	Liquor laws	548,600
		Drunkenness	964,800
Crime Index total ⁵	2,442,700	Disorderly conduct	671,700
		Vagrancy	33,800
Other assaults	637,600	All other offenses (except traffic)	2,489,200
Forgery and counterfeiting	87,600	Suspicion (not included in totals)	12,900
		Curfew and loitering law violations	81,500
		Runaways	161,200

¹Arrest totals based on all reporting agencies and estimates for unreported areas.

²Because of rounding, items may not add to totals.

³Violent crimes are offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

⁴Property crimes are offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

⁵Includes arson.

Table 33. — Total Arrests, Distribution by Age, 1985

[11,249 agencies; 1985 estimated population 203,035,000]

Offense charged	Total all ages	Ages under 15	Ages under 18	Ages 18 and over	Age									
					Under 10	10-12	13-14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
TOTAL	10,289,609	585,745	1,762,539	8,527,070	47,983	137,146	400,616	335,837	401,239	439,718	480,368	493,216	494,530	492,825
Percent distribution¹	100.0	5.7	17.1	82.9	.5	1.3	3.9	3.3	3.9	4.3	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8
Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	15,777	165	1,311	14,466	3	18	144	216	391	539	674	755	725	833
Forcible rape	31,934	1,676	4,830	27,104	85	351	1,240	969	994	1,191	1,289	1,293	1,412	1,469
Robbery	120,501	7,807	30,154	90,347	255	1,480	6,072	6,092	7,634	8,621	8,405	8,142	7,235	6,959
Aggravated assault	263,120	11,290	36,257	226,863	824	2,721	7,745	6,731	8,421	9,815	9,876	10,802	11,454	11,905
Burglary	381,875	54,402	145,254	236,621	4,304	13,034	37,064	29,241	30,432	31,179	29,017	24,842	20,495	18,040
Larceny-theft	1,179,066	167,897	386,217	792,849	15,604	47,862	104,431	71,438	74,156	72,726	66,126	57,318	49,720	45,033
Motor vehicle theft	115,621	11,026	43,946	71,675	247	1,376	9,403	10,407	11,633	10,880	8,744	7,562	6,201	5,385
Arson	16,777	4,407	6,906	9,871	1,236	1,223	1,948	1,012	773	714	667	517	549	505
Violent crime²	431,332	20,938	72,552	358,780	1,167	4,570	15,201	14,008	17,440	20,166	20,244	20,992	20,826	21,166
Percent distribution¹	100.0	4.9	16.8	83.2	.3	1.1	3.5	3.2	4.0	4.7	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.9
Property crime³	1,693,339	237,732	582,323	1,111,016	21,391	63,495	152,846	112,098	116,994	115,499	104,554	90,239	76,965	68,963
Percent distribution¹	100.0	14.0	34.4	65.6	1.3	3.7	9.0	6.6	6.9	6.8	6.2	5.3	4.5	4.1
Crime Index total⁴	2,124,671	258,670	654,875	1,469,796	22,558	68,065	168,047	126,106	134,434	135,665	124,798	111,231	97,791	90,129
Percent distribution¹	100.0	12.2	30.8	69.2	1.1	3.2	7.9	5.9	6.3	6.4	5.9	5.2	4.6	4.2
Other assaults	550,104	31,339	83,411	466,693	2,545	7,974	20,820	15,538	17,275	19,259	19,430	21,419	23,516	25,576
Forgery and counterfeiting	75,281	1,247	7,821	67,460	26	221	1,000	1,414	2,218	2,942	3,728	4,420	4,306	4,121
Fraud	286,941	7,252	17,780	269,161	199	1,418	5,635	5,890	1,706	2,932	5,676	8,280	10,875	12,536
Embezzlement	9,799	116	696	9,103	5	31	80	75	182	323	489	472	473	509
Stolen property; buying, receiving, possessing	110,415	7,886	27,691	82,724	358	1,497	6,031	5,649	6,545	7,611	7,998	7,510	6,329	5,839
Vandalism	224,046	52,076	100,353	123,693	7,935	15,871	28,270	16,820	16,060	15,397	12,394	10,568	9,577	8,685
Weapons; carrying, possessing, etc.	157,304	7,285	25,863	131,441	258	1,407	5,620	5,177	6,160	7,241	8,108	8,103	7,673	7,733
Prostitution and commercialized vice	101,167	244	2,447	98,720	8	32	204	353	656	1,194	3,375	5,311	5,939	7,437
Sex offenses (except forcible rape and prostitution)	86,861	6,947	14,836	72,025	707	1,728	4,512	2,792	2,526	2,571	2,625	2,816	2,857	3,045
Drug abuse violations	702,882	13,138	80,391	622,491	183	1,373	11,582	15,159	22,771	29,323	37,724	41,244	43,009	43,732
Gambling	28,034	180	754	27,280	11	34	135	123	167	284	427	563	670	737
Offenses against family and children	48,699	1,175	2,400	46,299	549	176	450	372	428	425	1,228	1,406	1,635	1,732
Driving under the influence	1,503,319	611	20,434	1,482,885	152	128	331	905	5,132	13,786	33,338	48,432	59,557	73,610
Liquor laws	467,149	9,821	117,312	349,837	148	636	9,037	17,239	35,471	54,781	67,609	53,433	43,368	20,537
Drunkenness	834,652	3,031	23,888	810,764	253	248	2,530	3,986	6,388	10,483	19,530	25,229	28,437	35,262
Disorderly conduct	583,532	25,339	83,203	500,329	1,911	5,915	17,513	14,926	19,070	23,868	29,497	31,312	32,980	33,525
Vagrancy	29,825	711	2,729	27,096	79	130	502	456	644	918	1,647	1,582	1,431	1,309
All other offenses (except traffic)	2,142,121	77,555	281,477	1,860,644	7,110	16,562	53,883	47,354	74,421	82,147	100,255	109,430	113,654	116,310
Suspicion	11,229	1,075	2,600	8,629	198	244	633	527	524	474	492	455	453	461
Curfew and loitering law violations	71,608	20,403	71,608	.....	584	3,234	16,585	16,837	18,926	15,442	.....	.....	.....	.....
Runaways	139,970	59,644	139,970	.....	2,206	10,222	47,216	38,139	29,535	12,652	.....	.....	.....	.....

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 33. — Total Arrests, Distribution by Age, 1985 — Continued

Offense charged	Age											
	22	23	24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65 and over
TOTAL	471,486	456,093	446,095	1,803,471	1,226,564	794,079	487,908	310,976	219,376	157,287	101,087	91,709
Percent distribution ¹	4.6	4.4	4.3	17.5	11.9	7.7	4.7	3.0	2.1	1.5	1.0	.9
Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	735	753	723	3,106	2,169	1,446	896	526	402	319	178	226
Forcible rape	1,406	1,396	1,430	6,256	4,325	2,851	1,671	936	558	365	222	225
Robbery	6,426	5,841	5,603	20,466	11,166	5,515	2,304	1,014	556	316	196	203
Aggravated assault	11,872	11,732	12,041	50,670	35,622	23,347	14,425	8,781	5,616	3,887	2,391	2,442
Burglary	15,916	13,881	12,852	47,229	27,148	13,840	6,260	3,095	1,830	1,096	572	508
Larceny-theft	40,993	38,395	36,190	151,986	110,059	69,505	40,177	25,725	19,587	15,411	11,359	15,265
Motor vehicle theft	4,746	4,267	3,840	14,015	7,955	4,245	2,140	1,128	664	378	206	199
Arson	456	491	483	1,924	1,459	1,033	620	443	310	217	107	90
Violent crime ²	20,439	19,722	19,797	80,498	53,282	33,159	19,296	11,257	7,132	4,887	2,987	3,096
Percent distribution ¹	4.7	4.6	4.6	18.7	12.4	7.7	4.5	2.6	1.7	1.1	.7	.7
Property crime ³	62,111	57,034	53,365	215,154	146,621	88,623	49,197	30,391	22,391	17,102	12,244	16,062
Percent distribution ¹	3.7	3.4	3.2	12.7	8.7	5.2	2.9	1.8	1.3	1.0	.7	.9
Crime Index total ⁴	82,550	76,756	73,162	295,652	199,903	121,782	68,493	41,648	29,523	21,989	15,231	19,158
Percent distribution ¹	3.9	3.6	3.4	13.9	9.4	5.7	3.2	2.0	1.4	1.0	.7	.9
Other assaults	26,035	26,079	26,087	110,043	74,308	47,215	27,359	15,880	9,986	6,316	3,837	3,607
Forgery and counterfeiting	3,932	3,943	3,769	15,745	10,992	6,163	2,928	1,551	887	505	272	198
Fraud	13,118	13,487	13,780	62,489	49,395	34,803	20,349	10,701	6,184	3,776	1,968	1,744
Embezzlement	569	485	503	1,917	1,302	1,022	579	298	237	133	85	30
Stolen property, buying, receiving, possessing	5,164	4,609	4,268	16,451	10,608	6,195	3,355	1,863	1,151	665	425	294
Vandalism	7,980	7,099	6,770	25,353	15,307	8,946	4,690	2,541	1,540	1,004	640	599
Weapons, carrying, possessing, etc.	7,417	7,065	6,753	28,135	18,387	12,231	7,495	4,515	3,026	2,076	1,318	1,406
Prostitution and commercialized vice	8,221	7,811	7,600	27,586	13,152	5,826	2,536	1,449	931	655	531	360
Sex offenses (except forcible rape and prostitution)	2,998	3,105	3,145	13,867	11,162	8,884	5,810	3,759	2,664	2,100	1,563	1,625
Drug abuse violations	42,504	41,203	40,061	155,280	90,976	46,052	20,117	9,287	5,192	3,012	1,808	1,290
Gambling	769	845	882	4,483	3,828	3,208	2,916	2,306	1,969	1,513	1,073	1,091
Offenses against family and children	1,831	2,087	2,274	10,719	9,343	6,641	3,658	1,889	909	499	263	185
Driving under the influence	75,202	76,305	76,934	322,803	229,659	163,182	110,499	75,857	54,931	38,787	24,378	19,411
Liquor laws	16,810	14,257	13,030	41,666	26,634	17,853	11,634	8,264	5,770	4,146	2,595	2,231
Drunkenness	33,661	33,520	34,523	153,645	120,388	90,625	69,322	51,097	42,775	33,796	21,557	17,397
Disorderly conduct	31,645	30,309	28,881	105,131	65,764	39,824	24,794	15,435	11,033	8,500	6,391	5,308
Vagrancy	1,158	1,144	1,092	4,775	4,116	3,181	1,972	1,395	959	651	387	297
All other offenses (except traffic)	109,470	105,481	102,124	405,660	269,941	169,586	98,981	60,970	39,571	27,079	16,709	15,423
Suspicion	452	503	457	2,071	1,399	860	421	271	138	85	56	55
Curfew and loitering law violations												
Runaways												

¹Because of rounding, the percentages may not add to total.

²Violent crimes are offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

³Property crimes are offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

⁴Includes arson.