

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ADULT	For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, a person aged 18 or over.
AMERICAN INDIAN or ALASKAN NATIVE	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
ARREST RATE	The number of arrests for Part I and Part II offenses for each unit of population, generally per 1,000.
ASIAN or PACIFIC ISLANDER	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes for example; China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa.
BLACK	A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa, characterized by dark skin pigmentation.
CLEARANCE	For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, the solution to a particular crime, usually by the arrest of the offender.
CLEARED BY ARREST	For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, an offense is cleared when the offender has been identified, sufficient evidence has been obtained to formally charge and the offender has been ordered to appear in court.
CRIME INDEX	The sum total of seven major offenses used to measure the extent, fluctuation and distribution of crime in a geographical area. The following crimes make up the index: Murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft; these offenses are referred to as Index offenses.
CRIME RATE	The number of Index offenses reported for each unit of population per 1,000.
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS	Consists of the following Index offenses: Murder, rape, and aggravated assault.
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY	Consists of the following Index offenses: Robbery, burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft.
DAY	For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, the hours from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
ETHNIC ORIGIN	Having or originating from racial, linguistic, or cultural ties with a specific group.
EXCEPTIONAL CLEARANCE	For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, an offense is cleared in this manner when an offender has been identified, located and sufficient evidence to charge has been obtained but there is some reason beyond police control which prohibits the offender from being brought before the court.
HIERARCHY RULE	For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, each crime or attempted crime is counted in only one offense category. If several offenses are committed, simply glance down the list of Part I offenses and stop at the first offense you recognize from the facts given; this offense is the correct classification for this criminal activity.
HISPANIC	A person of Mexican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

<b>JUVENILE</b>	For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, a person under the age of <b>18</b> .
<b>JUVENILE CLEARANCE</b>	Those crimes where the offenders are identified as juveniles.
<b>NIGHT</b>	For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, the hours from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.
<b>NONVIOLENT CRIME</b>	Consists of the following Index offenses: Burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft.
<b>UNFOUNDED</b>	Classification of reported crimes that are found to be false or baseless.
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b>	Consists of the following Index offenses: Murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.
<b>WHITE</b>	A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.

## CALCULATIONS OF RATES AND TRENDS

- 1. Crime Rate per 1,000 Inhabitants**—This represents the number of Index offenses per 1,000 inhabitants.

For example: What is the crime rate for a municipality with 513 Index offenses (murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft), with a population of 8,280?

$513 \text{ (Index offenses)} \div 8,280 \text{ (population)} = .061957 \times 1,000 = 62.0 \text{ (crime rate per 1,000 inhabitants)}$

- 2. Crime Trend**—A crime trend shows the extent to which crime increased or decreased. This is done by comparing a period of the current year with the same period of a previous year.

For example: A municipality experienced 264 Index offenses in 1991 and 513 Index offenses in 1992. What is the percent of the increase?

$513 \text{ (1992 Index offenses)} - 264 \text{ (1991 Index offenses)} = 249 \text{ (numerical increase)}$

$249 \text{ (numerical increase)} \div 264 \text{ (previous year)} = .943 \times 100 = +94\% \text{ (percent increase)}$

Note: If there were more Index offenses in 1991 than in 1992, we would have a percentage decrease.

- 3. Number of Police Personnel Per 1,000 Inhabitants**—This is calculated in the same manner as a crime rate.

For example: A municipality with a population of 8,280 and 28 police personnel. How many police officers are there per 1,000 population?

$28 \text{ (police personnel)} \div 8,280 \text{ (population)} = .00338 \times 1,000 = 3.4 \text{ (police personnel per 1,000 inhabitants)}$

Note: This formula can be applied to either total police personnel or just police officers per 1,000 inhabitants.

- 4. Police Assaulted Rate**—This is calculated at a rate per 100 police officers.

For example: A municipality with 25 officers had 5 of them assaulted during the month. What is the police assaulted rate?

$5 \text{ (police officers assaulted)} \div 25 \text{ (police officers)} = .2 \times 100 = 20 \text{ (police assaulted per 100 police officers)}$

- 5. Clearance Rate**—This refers to the percent of Index offenses cleared (solved), over a specified period of time.

For example: A municipality with 513 Index offenses in 1992, cleared 95 of these offenses. What is the clearance rate?

$95 \text{ (Index offenses cleared)} \div 513 \text{ (Index offenses)} = .185 \times 100 = 18.5 \text{ (percent cleared)}$