

# **“Reported Crimes in the Nation, 2024” Frequently Asked Questions**

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## **About the 2024 release**

### **Q. What information will be released in “Reported Crimes in the Nation, 2024”?**

Through “Reported Crimes in the Nation, 2024,” the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program will publish the following annual reports:

- “Crime in the United States (CIUS), 2024”
- “National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), 2024”
- “Hate Crime Statistics, 2024”
- “Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA), 2024” assault tables
- “UCR Summary of Reported Crimes in the Nation, 2024”

### **Q. Why did the compilation’s name change from “Crime in the Nation” to “Reported Crimes in the Nation”?**

The compilation’s name has been changed to “Reported Crimes in the Nation,” or “RCN,” to reflect law enforcement reporting agencies as the primary data submitter. National crime data can be collected and measured in various ways; “RCN, 2024” reflects data reported to the FBI’s UCR Program by 86.3 percent of law enforcement agencies (LEAs) representing 95.6 percent of the population.

### **Q. When will the 2024 data be available?**

“Reported Crimes in the Nation, 2024” will be released to the public on August 5, 2025.

### **Q. Where will 2024 data be released?**

“Reported Crimes in the Nation, 2024” will be released on the FBI’s Crime Data Explorer at <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov>. The downloadable tables are available on the CDE Documents and Downloads page at <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/downloads>.

### **Q. Did crime increase or decrease in 2024?**

Overall, national violent crime decreased an estimated 4.5% in 2024 when compared with estimates for 2023. Violent crime includes estimates for the offenses of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

National property crime (made up of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft) decreased an estimated 8.1% in 2024.

### **Q. How is the violent crime estimate established?**

The violent crime estimate published as part of “Crime in the United States” is comprised of murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault offenses. For the first time, the 2013 through 2024 violent crime estimates are based on the rape offenses reported using the 2013 revised rape

definition. The violent crime figures will still be based on the legacy rape definition for years 2005 to 2012. The revised rape definition (<https://le.fbi.gov/cjis-division/cjis-link/ucr-program-changes-definition-of-rape>) encompasses additional circumstances beyond the parameters of the legacy definition. In 2016, the FBI Director approved the recommendation to discontinue the reporting of rape data using the UCR legacy definition beginning in 2017. Since 2017, table one of the “Crime in the United States” was the only table using the legacy definition to publish the historic trend. This year’s change streamlines the publication of reported rape.

**Q. How many agencies submitted data through either the National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS) or the Summary Reporting System (also called SRS) in 2024, and what was their overall population coverage?**

In 2024, 16,675 agencies covering a population of 325,100,512 submitted UCR data through either NIBRS or SRS. These agencies represented 95.6% of the population served by the agencies eligible to participate in the UCR Program.

NIBRS has improved the snapshot of reported crimes in the nation by providing more information about offenses, victims, offenders, persons arrested, circumstances, and other details that were not available through the SRS.

**Q. How many agencies submitted Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data via the National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS) in 2024, and what was their overall population coverage?**

In 2024, 14,601 agencies covering a population of 296,527,998 submitted UCR data via NIBRS.

**Q. How many agencies submitted Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data via the Summary Reporting System (also called SRS) in 2024, and what was their overall population coverage?**

In 2024, 2,074 agencies covering a population of 28,572,514 submitted UCR data via SRS.

**Q. Will I be able to tell whether an agency submitted their data via the National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS) or the Summary Reporting System (also called SRS) in 2024?**

- “Reported Crimes in the Nation, 2024” will not provide details on the reporting status of individual agencies.
- The FBI’s CDE provides information about the reporting status of participating agencies.
- For additional questions about specific agencies, contact either the state UCR Program or the respective agency.

**Q. Why did the FBI continue to accept Summary Reporting System (also called SRS) data in 2024 after the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program’s transition to a National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS)-only crime data collection in 2021?**

- Despite more than 11,500 law enforcement agencies submitting NIBRS data for 2021, participation remained below an acceptable level to be nationally representative using the FBI’s UCR Program’s traditional trending analyses.
- To resume providing nationally representative data for the 2022, 2023, and 2024 data years, the FBI accepted SRS data submissions from agencies that had not yet transitioned to NIBRS.
- With these data, the FBI’s UCR Program was able to look at trends and the full compilation of data available in the traditional view of crime alongside NIBRS data.
- These measures will help ensure continuity to the FBI’s UCR Program’s crime statistics as more agencies make the transition to NIBRS.

**Q. What did the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program gain by collecting data via the Summary Reporting System (also called SRS) in addition to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS) data submitted for 2024?**

The 14,601 agencies that submitted their data via NIBRS represented 87.2% of the population covered by the 19,328 agencies actively enrolled in the FBI’s UCR Program. By accepting SRS submissions from 2,074 agencies that had not yet transitioned to NIBRS, the FBI’s UCR Program gained coverage for an additional 8.4% of the population. Together, agencies that submitted NIBRS or SRS covered 95.6% of the population of agencies actively enrolled in the FBI’s UCR Program.

**Q. What will be included in “Crime in the United States (CIUS), 2024”?**

“CIUS, 2024” is one of five components within the larger “Reported Crimes in the Nation, 2024” release. “CIUS, 2024” presents data tables containing information on offense estimates, offenses known to law enforcement, arrests, clearances, trends, rates, property stolen and recovered, and law enforcement employee data.

**Q. What was the deadline for agencies to submit data to be included in “Crime in the United States (CIUS), 2024”?**

The deadline for agencies to submit data for inclusion in “CIUS, 2024” was April 1, 2025.

**Q. How will the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting Program account for agencies that did not submit data in 2024?**

“Reported Crimes in the Nation, 2024” includes a set of traditional estimates in tables 1-7 as part of the “Crime in the United States, 2024” portion of the publication. Traditional estimation uses reported data from participating agencies as well as past data and mathematical calculations to approximate expected values for agencies that did not report a complete 12 months of data for the 2024 collection year. This process allows for a comprehensive look at data representing the full scope of crime across the nation. For information on traditional estimates for “Reported

Crimes in the Nation, 2024,” please see the resource pages on the Crime Data Explorer’s Documents and Downloads tab under “CIUS” Annual Reports.

### **About the FBI’s UCR Program**

#### **Q. What is the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program?**

The FBI’s UCR Program has been the nation’s premier crime reporting system since 1929. Non-federal law enforcement agencies from across the country can voluntarily submit their crime and law enforcement data to the program. The FBI publishes the contributed data on the FBI’s Crime Data Explorer website.

The FBI makes every effort through its editing procedures, training practices, and correspondence to ensure the validity of the data it receives. However, individual agencies that contribute data are responsible for adhering to the established standards of reporting, submitting accurate monthly statistics, and correcting errors in the data.

#### **Q. Where does the FBI get the data reported to the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program?**

The FBI’s UCR Program collects data from more than 19,000 city, university and college, county, state, tribal, territorial, and federal law enforcement agencies. Most non-federal agencies participate voluntarily and submit their crime and law enforcement data either through a state UCR program or directly to the FBI’s UCR Program.

#### **Q. What types of data does the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program collect?**

The FBI’s UCR Program collects both crime and law enforcement data from over 19,000 eligible law enforcement agencies.

The FBI’s UCR Program includes the following data collections:

- National Incident-Based Reporting System
- Summary Reporting System
- Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted
- Hate Crime Statistics
- National Use-of-Force Data Collection
- Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection
- Law Enforcement Public Contact Data Collection
- Police Employee Data Collection
- Lawful Access

#### **Q. Does the FBI collect immigration / citizenship status of offenders or victims?**

The FBI’s UCR Program does not collect immigration or citizenship status as part of SRS or NIBRS. NIBRS does provide an option for agencies to report the resident statuses of victims and arrestees; however, resident status does not refer to the immigration or national citizenship status of the individual. Instead, it identifies whether individuals are residents or nonresidents of the jurisdiction in which the incident occurred.

Federal and tribal LEAs can report the following immigration violation offenses to the FBI's UCR Program via NIBRS:

- Illegal Entry into the United States – the attempt to enter the United States at any time or place other than as designated; or eludes examination/inspection by immigration officers.
- False Citizenship – falsely and willfully representing oneself to be a citizen of the United States.
- Smuggling Aliens – to knowingly assist, abet, or aid another person to enter, or try to enter, the United States illegally.
- Re-entry after Deportation – the act of entering, attempting to enter, or being found in the United States after being removed, excluded, deported, or has departed the United States while an order of removal exclusion or deportation is outstanding.

Additionally, federal and tribal LEAs can report the following fugitive offense to the FBI's UCR Program via NIBRS:

- Flight to Avoid Deportation – to knowingly leave the jurisdiction with intent to avoid deportation.

### **Differences in data presentations for 2021 to 2024**

**Q. Why were the 2021 Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data presentations different from other years?**

- In 2015, the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Advisory Policy Board endorsed a recommendation—which was approved by the FBI Director in February 2016—to transition from the historical Summary Reporting System (also called SRS) to the newer National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS) by January 1, 2021.
- In 2021, the FBI's UCR Program transitioned from collecting data from agencies via the SRS to the more comprehensive NIBRS.
- Despite more than 11,500 law enforcement agencies submitting NIBRS data for 2021, participation remained below a statistically acceptable level to be nationally representative for trending analyses.
- To mitigate risks associated with low participation due to the NIBRS transition, the FBI's UCR Program published a limited release of the traditional “CIUS, 2021,” along with a trend study comparing 2020 and 2021 crime data using a selection of the new NIBRS estimation data. This new NIBRS estimation data was a collaboration with the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and was first published for the 2021 data year in a series of downloadable comma-separated values (also known as CSV) files.
- Because not all agencies were represented, traditional methodologies could not be applied to produce 5-, 10-, and 20-year trends comparable to those previously presented.
- NIBRS estimates for the 2024 data year will be available through BJS later this year.

**Q. What is the difference between Summary Reporting System (also called SRS) data and National Incident-Based Reporting System (also called NIBRS) data?**

Unlike data reported through the FBI’s UCR Program’s traditional SRS—an aggregate monthly tally of crimes—NIBRS is much more detailed with its ability to provide information about circumstances and context for crimes like location, time of day, and whether the incident was cleared.

SRS is limited, collecting aggregated (i.e., totaled) data and omitting some data in accordance with its Hierarchy Rule. (The SRS Hierarchy Rule states only the one most serious offense within a criminal incident is counted. For example, if a robbery and a homicide occur in the same incident, SRS will only count the homicide.) NIBRS collects data on up to 10 offenses per incident, and NIBRS collects data on types of offenses SRS does not count at all.

In addition, NIBRS captures details about victims, offenders, arrestees, property types, location, and more, but SRS provides victim and offender data for only for homicide offenses with limited details for only a few other offenses. For example, SRS can tell us how many rapes occurred and how many arrests there were for rape offenses (by age, sex, race, and ethnicity of arrestee) in a jurisdiction. However, NIBRS can tell us how many rapes occurred; the age, sex, race, and ethnicity of the victims, the offenders, and any persons arrested for rape; the date, time, and locations of those offenses; connections to any other offenses that may have occurred in those incidents; and whether or not the offenses were bias motivated.

With its more comprehensive data collection, NIBRS offers more context about crime than SRS.

**NIBRS transition**

**Q. What does it take for an agency to become certified to contribute data via the National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS)?**

- Since every state UCR program is NIBRS-certified, it is the state’s responsibility to certify agencies within their jurisdiction to submit NIBRS data for inclusion in the FBI’s UCR Program database and for publication. To be NIBRS-certified means the data submitted are consistent with the FBI UCR Program’s standards.
- In addition, if federal, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies report directly to the FBI’s UCR Program via the agencies’ records management systems, they must be certified by the FBI.
- LEAs must meet four criteria for NIBRS certification: (1) system appropriateness, (2) update capability and responsiveness, (3) error rate, and (4) statistical reasonableness. These four criteria are met when a state UCR Program or LEA demonstrates its NIBRS reporting system is compatible with the FBI’s UCR system and follows the current “NIBRS Technical Specification,” ensures their data can be updated and resubmitted, and verifies the data are logical and consistent. All state UCR programs follow the FBI’s certification criteria.

**Q. Are all states certified to contribute data via the National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS)?**

Yes, all states and the territory of Guam are now NIBRS certified.

**Q. What is the FBI doing to encourage agencies to contribute their data via the National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS)?**

The FBI engages with all state UCR Programs and their respective law enforcement agencies to assist with transition efforts, which includes data integration support, training, and technical assistance to federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies.

**Q. What are the challenges preventing departments from switching to contributing their data the National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS)?**

- The challenges vary across agencies and states. Some of the more common challenges are funding and technology issues.
- The transition requires technological changes. Departments have reported staffing issues in building the system and training delays regarding software knowledge.
- For larger agencies, there have been delays with the procurement process, whether that be approval for the transition from city council or police agencies.
- Crime perception has been a concern; however, it has been determined this is a misconception. Agencies believe the more complete data may make it appear crime rates have risen. However, additional NIBRS data does not truly mean crime rates are on the rise. NIBRS presents a more complete picture of reported crimes in any individual city or state by eliminating the hierarchy rule and collecting more types of offenses.

**Q. When did the FBI begin collecting data via the National Incident-Based Reporting System (also known as NIBRS)?**

The FBI began collecting NIBRS data in 1989.