INTRODUCTION

The Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting Program (I-UCR) was developed in 1971 and implemented on January1, 1972. The Illinois State Police was given the responsibility to act as the central repository for collecting crime statistics.

Reporting crime statistics is mandated by Chapter 20 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, 2630/8.

> *2630/8. Crime Statistics.* The Department shall be a central repository and custodian of crime statistics for the State and it shall have all power incident thereto to carry out the purposes of this Act, including the power to demand and receive cooperation in the submission of crime statistics from all units of government.

Reporting agencies submit data on a monthly basis to the I-UCR Program. Participating jurisdictions include villages, municipalities, counties, colleges, universities, park districts, railroads, forest preserves, hospitals, and other miscellaneous agencies throughout Illinois.

Crime index offenses, crime index arrests, and drug arrests are required to be reported by local law enforcement agencies. In April 1996, the Illinois State Police began the collection of additional crime statistics mandated by state statutes. These include Domestic Violence, Attacks Against School Personnel, and Hate Crimes. Crimes Against Children are also being voluntarily reported to the I-UCR Program.

Under the current reporting program, participating agencies submit a monthly total of crime index offenses. The I-UCR Progam is currently exploring methods to facilitate a move toward an incident-based reporting structure that permits the collection of more detailed information on crimes.

Please note: The 1999 figures reported in this publication may not reflect the figures published in *Crime in Illinois 1999* due to submission of late and/or adjusted data.

Crime Index data is also used by other agencies. For more information, browse the following websites:

> www.icjia.org
> www.ilchiefs.org

Considerations for Interpretation

When comparing the crime statistics of one agency with another, many factors should be taken into consideration before conclusions are made. Some of the conditions affecting the type and volume of crime are:

- Population density and degree of urbanization;
- 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, poverty level and job availability;
- Cultural factors and 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);
- Citizens' attitudes toward crime; and
- Crime reporting practices of citizens.[1]

Direct agency-to-agency comparisons should be guarded against when analyzing I-UCR statistics. Such comparisons could be misleading unless demographic differences between jurisdictions are taken into account. Every community has unique social, ethnic, and economic factors which may affect its crime statistics. These dissimilarities may bias the results of any comparative analysis between agencies. A jurisdiction's crime situation is complex and cannot always be treated superficially, as it might be in direct agency-to-agency comparisons. Keep in mind that some agencies' jurisdictions, such as railroads, are comprised of non-geographical areas.

In general, the decision to use any indicator for analysis purposes must be made with care. The I-UCR indicators discussed within this publication have utility for law enforcement administrators; however, they must be used with caution. No single indicator is sufficient for thorough crime analysis. Instead, decisions that law enforcement administrators are called upon to make require a multifaceted analytical approach.

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[1] Crime in the United States - 1999, United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, p.iv.

In 2000, there were 1,082 law enforcement agencies in Illinois, of which 916 reported crime statistics directly to the Illinois State Police. The remaining agencies reported their crime statistics through an intermediary agency (sheriff's office, police department, etc.).

Agency Type	Total Agencies
Police Departments	687
Sheriffs' Offices	102
Colleges & Universities	32
Secretary of State	1
Illinois State Police (Districts, MEG Units, Etc.)	56
Hospitals	2
Railroads	13
Park Districts	8
Airports	3
Forest Preserves	5
Arson/Fire Departments	1
Other Agencies	6
Total Direct Reporting	916
Total Indirect Reporting	166
Total	1,082

The Crime Index

Most of the offense and arrest statistics in this publication focus primarily on what is known as the Crime Index. When taken together, the eight crime categories that make up this index provide some indication of how much serious crime has occurred in the jurisdiction, region, or state. Four of the crime index categories collected by the I-UCR Program include violent crimes - murder, criminal sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault/battery (includes attempted murder); and four include property crimes - burglary, larceny/theft (including burglary from motor vehicle), motor vehicle theft, and arson.

The I-UCR Program's crime index translates into the FBI's National Program's eight Crime Index offenses as:

Violent Crimes

Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter - The willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another.
Forcible Rape - The carnal knowledge of a female, forcibly and against her will - includes attempted rape. Illinois reports criminal sexual assault offenses rather than rape offenses under this category.
Robbery - The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence - includes attempted robbery.
Aggravated Assault - The intentional causing of serious bodily harm or the intentional attempt or threat of serious bodily injury or death - includes aggravated battery, attempted murder and ritual mutilation.

Property Crimes

Burglary - The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft - includes attempted burglary.
Theft - The unlawful taking or stealing of property or articles without the use of force, violence, or fraud - includes burglary from a motor vehicle and attempts.
Motor Vehicle Theft - The unlawful taking or stealing of a motor vehicle - includes attempted motor vehicle theft.
Arson - The willful or malicious burning or attempts to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building or any building, motor vehicle, aircraft, or personal property of another.

The Crime Rate

The crime rate indicates the prevalence of crime occurring across a given population. It is generally defined as the total number of index crimes per 100,000 inhabitants and is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Crime Index} \ \ \text{x} \ \ 100,000}{\text{jurisdictional population}} = \text{crime rate}$$

The jurisdictional population can be that of a city, town, village, state, or nation.

The Percent Change

The percent change indicates the increase or decrease of the volume of data represented.

$$\frac{\text{Current Figure - Previous Figure}}{\text{Previous Figure}} \ \text{X} \ 100 = \text{Percent Change}$$

	ILLINOIS CLASSIFICATIONS	*FBI-UCR CLASSIFICATIONS*
VIOLENT CRIMES	First Degree Murder (ILCS 720-5/9-1) Second Degree Murder (ILCS 720-5/9-2)	Murder & Nonnegligent Manslaughter
	Criminal Sexual Assault (ILCS 720-5/12-13, 14 & 16)	Forcible Rape
	Robbery (ILCS 720-5/18-1-5)	Robbery
	Attempted Murder Aggravated Assault (ILCS 720-5/12-2) Aggravated Battery (ILCS 720-5/12-4, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 & 4.6) Ritual Mutilation (ILCS 720-5/12-32)	Aggravated Assault
PROPERTY CRIMES	Burglary (ILCS 720-5/12-11, 19-1 & 3)	Burglary
	Theft (ILCS 720-5/16-1 & 16A-3 & 16E-3 & 16-5) Burglary From Motor Vehicle (ILCS 625-5/4-102 & 103, 720-5/12-11.1, 16-1 & 19-1)	Larceny/Theft
	Motor Vehicle Theft (ILCS 720-5/16-1 & 625-5/4-103)	Motor Vehicle Theft
	Arson (ILCS 720-5/20-1, 1.1 & 20-2)	Arson