

BJJ's Extracts of Crime Data Reported by Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program

The FBI collects data on crimes known to tribal law enforcement agencies through its Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program and publishes the data in the annual *Crime in the United States* report.¹ Law enforcement, policymakers, and the public use these data for many purposes, such as assessing crime trends, planning, formulating budgets, allocating resources, monitoring law enforcement workloads, and measuring the quality of life in communities.² The FBI strongly warns against using UCR data alone to compare or rank localities because such comparisons should take into account numerous other factors besides the area's crime statistics.

The extract tables of crimes known to tribal law enforcement agencies provide a snapshot of the volume of violent crime (i.e., murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and property crime (i.e., burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft) that individual tribal law enforcement agencies report to the UCR Program each year. The tables include only data from tribal law enforcement agencies that submit a complete 12 months of crime data. Following the FBI's policy, arson counts are not included in the property crime totals; however, they appear in a separate column if the agency provided a complete 12 months of data.

The crime counts reported in these tables should not be interpreted as capturing the total volume of crimes in Indian country known to law enforcement agencies or the total volume of crimes known to tribal law enforcement agencies. Many law enforcement agencies other than tribal law enforcement agencies (i.e., federal, state, and local agencies) have jurisdiction over crimes occurring on tribal lands, and the extract tables do not include the tribal land crimes known by these agencies. Also, many tribal law enforcement agencies do not participate in the UCR Program, or they report data for less than 12 months. Consequently, the counts shown in the extract tables are an undercount of crimes occurring on tribal lands known to tribal law enforcement agencies and do not include crimes occurring on tribal lands known to nontribal law enforcement agencies.

Crime data presented in *Crime in the United States* reflect the UCR's Hierarchy Rule, which classifies a crime incident by the most serious offense in the incident when more than one offense was committed in the incident. In descending order of severity, murder and nonnegligent manslaughter is the most serious offense, followed by rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft. The Hierarchy Rule does not apply to the offense of arson. In crime incidents in which an arson occurs in conjunction with another UCR violent or property crime, both arson and the additional crime are reported.

In 2013, the UCR Program revised its collection rules for the crime of forcible rape. It expanded the definition of crimes that fall into this reporting category and removed the term "forcible" to indicate this change. The UCR's original definition of forcible rape was "the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and

¹ For the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, see: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/>

² For more information on the proper use of UCR data, see: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/ucr-statistics-their-proper-use>

against her will.” The new definition of rape includes (1) the offenses of rape, sodomy, and sexual assault with an object and (2) male victims. The UCR Program’s revised definition of rape is—

Penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. This includes the offenses of rape, sodomy, and sexual assault with an object.