



## National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS): Data Definitions

Washington State Statistical Analysis Center



### Record Identifiers:

- **COUNTY:** County of law enforcement agency.
- **LOCATION:** Reporting law enforcement agency.
- **YEAR:** Reporting years (2012-2023).
- **POPULATION:** Population of jurisdiction.

### Uniform Crime Reporting:

The Summary Reporting System (SRS) has been a national method of collecting Uniform Crime Reporting statistics for the FBI since the 1930s. The National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) was developed in the 1980s to illustrate the volume, diversity and complexity of crime more effectively than the original SRS method. Washington state became certified to begin submitting NIBRS data to the FBI in December 2006.

As of 2013, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs started reporting data collected by NIBRS. Until the SRS report is phased out, both the SRS and the NIBRS data will be provided. The only counties reporting via SRS as of 2012 were King, Whatcom, Thurston, Spokane, Snohomish, and Pierce. Most of these counties have since phased out SRS data and started reporting completely with NIBRS. NIBRS data cannot be compared to SRS data due to the disparate methods of reporting – including counting offenses and the hierarchy rule.

### National Incident-Based Reporting

- **Source:** Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) collects monthly reported incident-based offense statistics from participating law enforcement agencies. The agencies participate on a voluntary basis as part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting program. County annual totals include the sum of all reported NIBRS offenses known to participating agencies within the county and reported to WASPC. While the SRS data are recorded in a hierarchical fashion based on eight offense types, NIBRS collects information on 23 different offense categories made up of 47 offenses and allows all reportable offenses within an incident to be reported.
- **Variables:**
  - **ANIMAL\_CRUELTY:** Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly taking an action that mistreats or kills any animal without just cause. Included are instances of failure of duty to provide care (food, water, shelter, vet); transporting/confining an animal in a way likely to cause injury/death; causing an animal to fight with another; inflicting excessive or repeated pain/suffering.
  - **ARSON:** To unlawfully and intentionally damage or attempt to damage any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device.
  - **ASSAULT:** Includes the following offenses:
    - **Aggravated Assault:** An attack wherein the offender uses a weapon or displays it threateningly or the victim suffers obvious severe bodily injury and attempts to murder.
    - **Simple Assault:** A physical attack where no weapon is displayed and the victim does not suffer any obvious or suspected severe injury such as those in aggravated assaults.
    - **Intimidation:** To place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual attack. Includes stalking.

- **BRIBERY:** The offering, giving, receiving or soliciting of anything of value to sway the judgment or action of a person in a position of trust or influence.
- **BURGLARY:** The unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a felony or theft.
- **COUNTERFEITING\_FORGERY:** The altering, copying or imitation of something, without authority or right, and passing, selling, buying or possessing with the intent to deceive or defraud.
- **DESTRUCTION\_OF\_PROPERTY:** To willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or person having custody.
- **DRUG\_VIOLATIONS:** Includes the following offenses:
  - **Drug/Narcotic Violations:** The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance. Excludes DUIs.
  - **Drug Equipment Violations:** The unlawful manufacture, sale, purchase, possession or transportation of equipment or devices utilized in preparing and/or using drugs or narcotics.
- **EXTORTION\_BLACKMAIL:** To unlawfully obtain money, property or any other thing of value through the use of threat of force, misuse of authority, threat of criminal prosecution, threat of destruction of reputation or through other coercive means.
- **FORCIBLE\_SEX:** Includes the following offenses:
  - **Forcible Rape:** The carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will.
  - **Forcible Sodomy:** Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will.
  - **Sexual Assault with an Object:** To use an object to unlawfully penetrate the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcible and/or against that person's will.
  - **Forcible Fondling:** The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will.
- **GAMBLING\_VIOLATIONS:** Includes offenses for Betting/Wagering, Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling, Gambling Equipment Violations and Sports Tampering.
- **HUMAN\_TRAFFICKING:** Includes the following offenses:
  - **Commercial Sex Acts** – Inducing a person by force, fraud, or coercion to participate in commercial sex acts or in which the person induced to perform such acts has not attained 18 years of age.
  - **Involuntary Servitude** – Obtaining of a person through recruitment, harboring, transportation or provision and subjecting such person by force, fraud or coercion into involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery (not to include commercial sex acts).
- **KIDNAPPING\_ABDUCTION:** Unlawful seizure, transportation and/or detention of a person against his/her will or of a minor without the consent of his/her custodial guardian. Includes hostage-taking.
- **MANSLAUGHTER:** Negligent Manslaughter is the killing of another person through negligence. Excludes Vehicular Manslaughter.
- **MURDER:** The willful killing of one person by another or the killing of another person. Includes Non-negligent Manslaughter. Note: attempted murders are reported as Aggravated Assaults.
- **NON\_FORCIBLE\_SEX:** Includes the following offenses:

- **Incest:** Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degree where in marriage is prohibited by law.
  - **Statutory Rape:** Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.
- **POPULATION:** The total population for the jurisdiction of the agency, as reported by the agency.
- **PORNOGRAPHY:** The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, publishing, sale, purchase or possession of sexually explicit material.
- **PROSTITUTION:** Includes the following offenses:
  - **Prostitution:** To unlawfully engage in or promote sexual activities for profit.
  - **Assisting or Promoting Prostitution:** To solicit customers or transport persons for prostitution purposes; to own, manage or operate an establishment for the purpose of providing a place where prostitution is performed; to otherwise assist or promote prostitution.
  - **Purchasing Prostitution:** To purchase or trade anything of value for commercial sex acts.
- **PRPRTYRATE:** Number of property offenses reported per 1,000 residents.
- **PRPRTYTOTAL:** Total number of property offenses reported including arson, bribery, burglary, counterfeiting and forgery, destruction of property, extortion/blackmail, robbery, and theft.
- **PRSNRATE:** Number of person offenses reported per 1,000 residents.
- **PRSNTOTAL:** Total number of person offenses reported including murder, manslaughter, forcible sex, assault, intimidation, non-forcible sex, kidnapping/abduction, violation of a no-contact order and human trafficking.
- **RATE:** Number of offenses committed per 1,000 residents.
- **ROBBERY:** The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or the threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.
- **SCTYRATE:** Number of society crimes per 1,000 residents.
- **SCTYTOTAL:** Total number of society offenses reported including drug violations, gambling violations, pornography/prostitution, weapon law violations, and animal cruelty.
- **THEFT:** Includes the following offenses:
  - **Embezzlement:** The unlawful misappropriation by an offender to his/her own use or purpose of money, property or some other thing of value entrusted to his/her care, custody or control.
  - **Fraud:** The intentional perversion of the truth for the purpose of inducing another person or entity in reliance upon it to part with something of value or surrender a legal right. Includes offenses for False Pretense/Swindle/Confidence Game, Credit Card/ATM Machine Fraud, Impersonation, Welfare Fraud and Wire Fraud.
  - **Larceny:** Includes offenses for Pocket-picking, Purse-snatching, Shoplifting, Theft From a Building, Theft From Coin-Operated Machine or Device, Theft From Motor Vehicle, Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories, All Other Thefts.
  - **Motor Vehicle Theft:** The theft of a motor vehicle as defined as a self-propelled vehicle that runs on the surface of land and not on rails.
  - **Stolen Property Offenses:** Receiving, buying, selling, possessing, concealing or transporting any property with the knowledge that it has been unlawfully taken.
- **TOTAL:** Total number of offenses reported by the law enforcement agency.
- **VIOL\_OF\_NO\_CONTACT:** All violations of court ordered no-contact, protection, restraining or anti-harassment orders. May not be domestic violence-related.

- **WEAPON\_LAW\_VIOLATIONS:** The violation of laws prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices or other deadly weapons.