INTRODUCTION

The Program

The Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program was established as a result of the Uniform Criminal Statistics Act of 1970 (71 P.S. 307.8 and 307.9). Powers and duties concerning criminal statistics were given to the Office of Attorney General. In October 1973, the Uniform Crime Reporting duties set forth in the Act were transferred to the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police by Reorganization Plan No. 7 of 1973 (71 P.S. 755-7).

The counterpart to the Pennsylvania UCR Program is the National UCR Program, under the direction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). This national program is the result of a need for nationwide and uniform compilation of law enforcement data. Uniform Crime Reports, developed by a committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), were first collected in 1930. The IACP continues to serve in an advisory capacity to the FBI in its operation of the national program. The UCR Committee of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association was instrumental in the development of our State program.

The primary objectives of the Pennsylvania UCR Program are to inform the Governor, Legislature, other governmental officials, and the public as to the nature of the crime problem in Pennsylvania, and to provide law enforcement administrators with criminal statistics for administrative and operational purposes.

There are many factors which will affect the type and volume of crime that occurs from place to place. Some of these are listed in "*Crime in the United States*," and are reprinted in this report.

United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. Crime in the United States, 2013. Retrieved from http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/ucr-statistics-their-proper-use.

Crime Factors

- Population density and degree of urbanization of locality and its surrounding area.
- Variations in composition of the population, particularly youth concentration.
- Stability of population with respect of residents' mobility, commuting patterns, and transient factors.
- Modes of transportation and highway systems.
- Economic conditions, including median income, destitution, and job availability.
- Cultural conditions, such as 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).
- Attitudes of citizenry toward crime.
- Crime reporting practices of citizenry.

Classification Of Offenses

Uniformity in reporting under the Pennsylvania system is based upon the proper classifications of offenses by police. The adoption of the Federal system of reporting included the utilization of the offense classifications of that system. Law enforcement personnel in this State have made accurate application of those classifications in the reports submitted to the program.

In view of the need for compatibility with the Federal system, the categories of offense classification employed in this program remain the same as those employed on the national level. Care must be taken by police officers in classifying because of the conflicts between this system and the Pennsylvania Crimes Code.

Part I Offenses

Offense data consists of information that has been extracted from reports of crimes that have come to the attention of Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies. In general, Part I Offenses are those serious crimes that are usually reported to law enforcement agencies. It consists of the following offenses:

(1) **Criminal Homicide**

1a. **Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter** - The unlawful, nonnegligent killing of a human being, by another.

General rule - Any death due to a fight, argument, quarrel, assault or commission of a crime.

1b. **Manslaughter by Negligence** - The killing of another person through gross negligence.
General rule - The killing may result from the commission of an unlawful act or from a lawful act performed with gross negligence. Deaths resulting from traffic crashes are not included in this classification.

(2) **Rape**

2a. **Rape** - 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.
2b. **Assault to Rape** - Attempts - All assaults and attempts to rape.

(3) **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 and/or by putting the victim in fear.

3a. **Firearm** - Any firearm used as a weapon or employed as a means of force to threaten the victim or put him in fear.
3b. **Knife or Cutting Instrument** - Any knife, broken bottle, razor, or other cutting instrument employed as a weapon or as a means of force to threaten the victim or put him in fear.
3c. **Other Dangerous Weapon** - Any club, acid, explosive, brass knuckles, or other dangerous weapon employed as a means of force to threaten the victim or put him in fear.
3d. **Strong Arm** - Mugging, yoking, and similar offenses where no weapon is used, but strong-arm tactics are employed to deprive a victim of his property. This is limited to personal weapons, such as hands, fists, feet, teeth.

(4) **Assault** - An assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another.
General rule - All assaults will be classified in the following categories, excluding assaults with intent to rob or rape.

4a. **Firearm** - All assaults and attempted assaults involving the use of any type of firearm, e.g., revolvers, automatic pistols, shotguns, zip guns, rifles, pellet guns, etc.
4b. **Knife or Cutting Instrument** - All assaults and attempted assaults involving the use of cutting or stabbing objects, e.g.,

knife, razor, hatchet, axe, cleaver, scissors, glass, broken bottle, dagger, ice pick, etc.

4c. **Other Dangerous Weapon** - All assaults and attempted assaults, when any other object or thing is used as a weapon, e.g., clubs, bricks, pick handles, bottles, explosives, acid, lye, poison, scalding water and cases of attempted drowning, burning, etc.

4d. **Hands, Fists, Feet, etc.** - Felonious - Assaults which are of a felonious nature when hands, fists, feet, etc., are used. To be classified as felonious assault, the attack must result in serious personal injury.

4e. **Other Assaults - Not Aggravated** - All offenses of simple assault and assault and battery. Crimes of this classification are not considered Index Offenses and appear as another classification (Part II Offenses) in this report.

(5) **Burglary** - Unlawful entry or attempted forcible entry of any structure to commit a felony or theft.
General rule - Any unlawful entry or attempted forcible entry of any dwelling, attached structure, public building, shop, office, factory, storehouse, apartment, house trailer, warehouse, mill, barn, other building, houseboat or railroad car. Note: For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, breaking and entering and larceny are classified only as burglary; the larceny is excluded. Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle is classified as larceny.

5a. **Forcible Entry** - All offenses where force of any kind is used to enter unlawfully a locked structure, with intent to steal or commit a felony. This includes entry by use of a master key, celluloid, or other device that leaves no outward mark, but is used to open a lock. Concealment inside a building followed by the breaking out of the structure is also included.

5b. **Unlawful Entry** - No Force - Any lawful entry without any evidence of forcible entry.

5c. **Attempted Forcible Entry** - When determined that forcible entry has been attempted.

(6) **Larceny - Theft** (except Motor Vehicle Theft) - The unlawful taking of the property of another with intent to deprive him of ownership.
General rule - All larcenies and thefts resulting from pocket-picking, purse snatching, shoplifting, larceny from automobile, larceny of automobile parts and accessories, theft of bicycles, larceny from buildings and from coin-operated machines. Any theft that is not a robbery or the result of breaking and entering is included. Embezzlement, fraud, or bad check cases are excluded.

(7) **Motor Vehicle Theft** - Theft and attempted theft of a motor vehicle. General rule - This includes all vehicles which can be registered as motor vehicles in this State. Excludes cases where there is a lawful access to the vehicle, such as a family situation or unauthorized use by others with lawful access to the vehicle, e.g., chauffeur, employees, etc.

7a. **Automobiles** - The theft of all sedans, station wagons, coupes, convertibles and other similar motor vehicles which serve the sole purpose of transporting people from one place to another.

7b. **Trucks and Buses** - Theft of those vehicles specifically designed to transport people on a commercial basis and to transport cargo.

7c. **Other Vehicles** - Theft of all other motor vehicles limited by the UCR definition such as snowmobiles, motorcycles, motor scooters, trail bikes, etc. Theft of farm equipment, construction equipment or airplanes are considered larceny-theft.

(8) **Arson** - Includes all violations of State laws and municipal ordinances relating to arson and attempted arson. Includes: any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, church, college, jail, vessel, motor vehicle or aircraft, contents of buildings, personal property of another, goods or chattels, crops, trees, fences, gates, grain, vegetable products, lumber, woods, cranberry bogs, marshes, meadows, etc. In the event of a death from arson, the offense would be classified as murder and, if personal injury results, the offense would be classified as assault (4c).

Part II Offenses

Part II Offenses are made up of all other crimes not classified as Part I Offenses. Part II Offenses for UCR purposes are as follows:

(9) **Other Assaults** - This category is comprised of all assaults and attempted assaults which are simple or minor in nature. For reporting purposes, these "Other Assaults" are scored on Return A under item 4e as offenses known to police. However, arrests for this offense are scored in this category.

(10) **Forgery and Counterfeiting** - In this category are placed all offenses dealing with the making, altering, uttering or possessing,

with intent to defraud, anything false in the semblance of that which is true.

Includes:

- Altering or forging public or other records.
- Making, altering, forging, or counterfeiting bills, notes, drafts, tickets, checks, credit cards, etc.
- Forging wills, deeds, notes, bonds, seals, trademarks, etc.
- Counterfeiting coins, plates, bank notes, checks, etc.
- Possessing or uttering forged, or counterfeiting instruments.
- Erasures.
- Signing the name of another fictitious person with intent to defraud.
- Using forged labels.
- Possession, manufacture, etc., of counterfeiting apparatus.
- Selling goods with altered, forged or counterfeited trademarks.
- All attempts to commit any of the above.

(11) **Fraud** - Fraudulent conversion and obtaining money or property by false pretense. Includes bad checks, confidence games, etc., except forgeries and counterfeiting.

(12) **Embezzlement** - Misappropriation or misapplication of money or property entrusted to one's care, custody or control.

(13) **Stolen Property; Buying, Receiving, Possession** - Included in this category are all offenses of buying, receiving, and possession of stolen property, as well as all attempts to commit any of these offenses.

(14) **Vandalism** - Included in this category are all willful or malicious destruction, injury, disfigurement or defacement of any public or private property, real or personal, without consent of the owner or person having custody or control, by cutting, tearing, breaking, marking, painting, drawing, covering with filth, or any other such means as may be specified by law or ordinance. This offense covers a wide range of malicious behavior directed at property.

(15) **Weapons; Carrying, Possessing, etc.** - This category deals with violations of weapons laws.

Includes:

- Manufacture, sale, or possession of deadly weapons.
- Carrying deadly weapons.
- Using, manufacturing, etc., silencers.
- Furnishing deadly weapons to minors.
- Aliens possessing deadly weapons.
- All attempts to commit the above.

(16) **Prostitution and Commercialized Vice** - Included in this category are the sex offenses of a commercialized nature.

Includes:

- Prostitution.
- Keeping bawdy house, disorderly house or house of ill repute.
- Pandering, procuring, transporting or detaining women for immoral purposes, etc.
- All attempts to commit any of the above.

(17) **Sex Offenses** - Except forcible rape, prostitution and commercialized vice.

Includes:

- Offenses against chastity, common decency, morals and the like.
- Adultery and fornication.
- Buggery.
- Incest.
- Indecent liberties.
- Indecent exposure.
- Sodomy.
- Seduction.
- Statutory rape - (no force).
- All attempts to commit any of the above.

(18) **Drug Abuse Violations** - Drug abuse violations are reported on the basis of the narcotic involved. Include all violations of state and local ordinances, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing and making of narcotic drugs. The following subdivisions of narcotic drug law violations are classified:

Sale or Manufacture

18a. Opium or cocaine and their derivatives. Morphine, heroin, codeine.

18b. Marijuana.
18c. Synthetic narcotics, manufactured narcotics which can cause true drug addiction. Demerol, methadone.
18d. Dangerous non-narcotic drugs. Barbiturates, benzedrine, inhalants.

Possession

18e. Opium or cocaine and their derivatives. Morphine, heroin, codeine.
18f. Marijuana.
18g. Synthetic narcotics, manufactured narcotics which can cause true drug addiction. Demerol, methadone.
18h. Dangerous non-narcotic drugs. Barbiturates, benzedrine, inhalants.

(19) **Gambling** - All offenses which are related to promoting, permitting, or engaging in gambling. To provide a more refined collection of gambling offenses, the following classifications are used:

19a. Bookmaking (horse and sport books).
19b. Numbers and lottery.
19c. All other.

(20) **Offenses Against the Family and Children** - Included here are all charges of nonsupport and neglect or abuse of family and children.

Includes:

- Desertion, abandonment, or nonsupport.
- Neglect or abuse of child. (If injury is serious, offense is reported as aggravated assault.)
- Nonpayment of alimony.
- All attempts to commit any of the above.

(21) **Driving Under the Influence** - This category is limited to the operating of any vehicle while under the influence of alcoholic beverages or narcotic drugs.

(22) **Liquor Laws** - With the exception of "Drunkenness" (Class 23) and "Driving Under the Influence" (Class 21), the liquor law violations, state or local, are placed in this class.

Includes:

- Manufacturing, sale, transporting, furnishing, Bootlegging
- Operating a still.
- Furnishing alcoholic beverages to a minor.
- Using vehicle for illegal transportation of alcoholic beverages.
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages by a minor.

(23) **Drunkenness** - Included in this category are all offenses of drunkenness or intoxication, with the exception of "Driving Under the Influence" (Class 21).

Includes:

- Drunk and disorderly.
- Public intoxication.

(24) **Disorderly Conduct** - In this category are placed all violations of committing a breach of the peace.

Includes:

- Affray
- Unlawful assembly.
- Disturbing the peace.
- Disturbing meetings.
- Disorderly conduct in state institutions, at court, at fairs, on trains or public conveyances, etc.
- Blasphemy, profanity and obscene language.
- Desecrating the flag.
- Refusing to assist an officer.
- All attempts to commit any of the above.

(25) **Vagrancy** - In this category are placed persons who are "suspicious characters" and fail to give good account of themselves.

Includes:

- Vagrancy.
- Begging.
- Loitering (persons 18 and over).
- Vagabondage.

(26) **All Other Offenses** - Include in this category, every other state offense not included in Classes 1 through 25. Violations of local ordinances are not included in this category. Illustrated below is a partial list of offenses.

Includes:

- Abduction and compelling to marry.
- Abortion (Death resulting from abortion is homicide, offense Class 1a).
- Bigamy and polygamy.
- Blackmail and extortion.
- Bribery.
- Contempt of court.
- Discrimination, unfair competition.
- Kidnapping.
- Offenses contributing to juvenile delinquency except as provided for in Classes 1 through 28, such as employment of children in immoral vocations or practices, admitting minors to improper places, etc.
- Perjury and subordination of perjury.
- Possession, repair, manufacture, etc., of burglar's tools.
- Possession or sale of obscene literature.
- Unlawful use, possession, etc., of explosives, etc.

(27) **Curfew and Loitering Laws (Juveniles)** - All violations of local curfew or loitering ordinances are included.

(28) **Runaways (Juveniles)** - Reported in this category are apprehensions for protective custody. Runaways taken into protective custody for other jurisdictions are not included.

Calculation Of Rates

The Uniform Crime Reporting Program provides data for police administrators to measure local problems; but to facilitate this function it is sometimes necessary to convert the data into rates or percentages. Simple formulas are presented to assist in these computations.

Crime Rates

One of the most useful crime statistics is the crime rate which is the number of offenses per 100,000 persons. This rate can be calculated regardless of the number of inhabitants in your jurisdiction. To compute rates, multiply the number of offenses by 100,000 then divide your jurisdiction's population into that answer.

Example:

$$\frac{182 \text{ robberies} \times 100{,}000}{50{,}000 \text{ population}} = \frac{18{,}200{,}000}{50{,}000} = 364$$

Your robbery rate would be 364 per 100,000 population.

Clearance Rates

The percentage of crimes cleared by arrest is obtained by dividing the number of offenses cleared by the number of actual offenses known. This answer is then multiplied by 100.

$$\frac{147 \text{ robberies cleared}}{364 \text{ robberies known}} = 0.404 \times 100 = 40.4\%$$

Your percentage of clearance for robbery is 40.4 percent.

Law Enforcement Employee Rates

These rates are conventionally expressed as the number of employees per 1,000 population. The rate is computed by multiplying the number of employees by 1,000 then dividing the population into that answer.

Example:

$$\frac{102 \text{ employees} \times 1{,}000}{50{,}000 \text{ population}} = \frac{102{,}000}{50{,}000} = 2.04$$

Your rate is 2.04 employees per 1,000 population.