



Burglary

Definition

The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program defines burglary as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. To classify an offense as a burglary, the use of force to gain entry need not have occurred. The UCR Program has three subclassifications for burglary: forcible entry, unlawful entry where no force is used, and attempted forcible entry. The UCR definition of "structure" includes apartment, barn, house trailer or houseboat when used as a permanent dwelling, office, railroad car (but not automobile), stable, and vessel (i.e., ship).

Overview

- In 2008, there were an estimated 2,222,196 burglaries—an increase of 2.0 percent when compared with 2007 data.
- There was an increase of 3.6 percent in the number of burglaries in 2008 when compared with the 2004 estimate and an increase of 5.8 percent when compared with the 1999 estimate. (See Tables 1 and 1A.)
- Burglary accounted for 22.7 percent of the estimated number of property crimes committed in 2008. (Based on Table 1.)
- Of all burglaries, 61.2 percent involved forcible entry, 32.3 percent were unlawful entries (without force), and the remainder (6.4 percent) were forcible entry attempts. (See Table 19.)
- Victims of burglary offenses suffered an estimated \$4.6 billion in lost property in 2008; overall, the average dollar loss per burglary offense was \$2,079. (Based on Tables 1 and 23.)
- Burglaries of residential properties accounted for 70.3 percent of all burglary offenses. (See Table 23.)

Expanded burglary data

Expanded offense data are the details of the various offenses that the UCR Program collects beyond the count of how many crimes law enforcement agencies report. These details may include the type of weapon used in a crime, type or value of items stolen, and so forth. In addition, expanded data include trends (for example, 2-year comparisons) and rates per 100,000 inhabitants.

Expanded information regarding burglary is available in the following tables:

Trends (2-year): Tables 12, 13, 14, and 15

Rates (per 100,000 inhabitants): Tables 16, 17, 18, and 19

Offense Analysis: Tables 7 and 23

What you won't find on this page

- Larceny-theft and robbery data.
- Clearance and arrest data for burglary.