



Larceny-theft

Definition

The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program defines larceny-theft as the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Examples are thefts of bicycles, motor vehicle parts and accessories, shoplifting, pocket-picking, or the stealing of any property or article that is not taken by force and violence or by fraud. Attempted larcenies are included. Embezzlement, confidence games, forgery, check fraud, etc., are excluded.

Overview

- There were an estimated 6.6 million (6,588,873) larceny-thefts nationwide in 2008.
- There was a 0.3 percent increase in the estimated number of larceny-thefts in 2008 compared with the 2007 estimate. The 2008 figure showed a 5.3 percent decline compared with the 1999 estimate.
- The estimated rate of larceny-thefts in 2008 was 2,167.0 per 100,000 inhabitants.
- The rate of larceny-thefts declined 0.5 percent from 2007 to 2008, and the rate declined 15.0 percent from 1999 to 2008. (See Tables 1 and 1A.)
- Larceny-thefts accounted for an estimated 67.5 percent of property crimes in 2008. (Based on Table 1.)
- The average value of property taken during larceny-thefts was \$925 per offense. When the average value was applied to the estimated number of larceny-thefts, the loss to victims nationally was nearly \$6.1 billion. (Based on Tables 1 and 23.)
- Thefts of motor vehicle parts, accessories, and contents made up the largest portion of reported larcenies—35.8 percent.

Expanded larceny-theft 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 larceny-theft is available in the following tables:

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

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

Offense Analysis: Tables 7 and 23

Larceny-theft Table, "Larceny-theft, Percent Distribution by Region, 2008"

What you won't find on this page

Statistics about embezzlement, confidence games, forgery, check fraud, etc.

Clearance and arrest data for larceny-theft.