Data Declaration

Table 14

Crime Trends, by Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties by Population Group, 2008-2009

The FBI collects these data through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

General comments

- This 2-year trend table provides the number of offenses for 2008 and 2009 and the percent change between these 2 years for metropolitan counties and nonmetropolitan counties.

- Metropolitan counties include sheriffs' offices and county law enforcement agencies associated with a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

- Nonmetropolitan counties include sheriffs' offices and county law enforcement agencies that are not associated with an MSA.

- Offenses from state police agencies are not included in this table.

Methodology

- The data used in creating this table were from all law enforcement agencies submitting at least 6 common months of complete offense reports for 2008 and 2009.

- A crime trend represents the percentage change in crime based on data reported in a prior equivalent period. In calculating trends, the UCR Program includes only common reported months for individual agencies.

Population estimation

For the 2009 population estimates used in this table, the FBI computed individual rates of growth from one year to the next for every city/town and county using 2000 decennial

population counts and 2001 through 2008 population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Each agency's rates of growth were averaged; that average was then applied and added to its 2008 Census population estimate to derive the agency's 2009 population estimate.