Background

- What is UCR?
- Purpose of UCR
- UCR History
- Crime Data Collection
- UCR Publications
- Types of Crime Statistics
- Jurisdiction
What is Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)?

Uniform Crime Reporting is a collective effort on the part of city, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies to present a nationwide view of crime.
What is **Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)**?

Agencies throughout the country participating in the **Uniform Crime Reporting** Program provide summarized reports on eight Part I offenses known to law enforcement and reports on persons arrested.
What is the Purpose of UCR?

• Produce a nationwide view of crime based upon statistics

• Provide a common language for the states’ criminal statutes

• Allow for publication of the collected statistics
UCR History

1927 - International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), developed a system for collecting uniform police statistics. To avoid problems and provide nationwide uniformity in crime reporting, standardized offense definitions by which law enforcement agencies were to submit data without regard for local statutes was formulated.
1930 - IACP developed and instituted a voluntary national data collection effort using the method which today we call the Summary Reporting System (SRS).
1930 – At the urging of the IACP, Congress enacted legislation authorizing the Attorney General to gather crime information. The Attorney General, in turn, designated the FBI to serve as the national clearinghouse for the data collected, and the FBI assumed responsibility for managing the UCR Program in September 1930.
1966 - National Sheriff’s Association (NSA) established a UCR committee to assist Sheriff’s throughout the U.S. to fully participate in the UCR Summary Reporting System.
Background

UCR History
1980s – Law enforcement called for a complete overhaul and modernization of the UCR Program. The result was a national data collection system that would gather information about each crime incident.
UCR History

1988 - FBI received overwhelming consensus to implement the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).
Background

UCR History

Today - Approximately 17,000 agencies offering law enforcement service to over 94 percent of the Nation's population voluntarily participate in the UCR Program.
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Crime Data Collection

Crime data is reported to the National UCR Program by State UCR programs or directly to the FBI by law enforcement agencies on a monthly basis.
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City County State Tribal Law Enforcement

FBI's UCR Section

State UCR Programs

Crime in the U.S., Law Enforcement Officers Killed & Assaulted, Hate Crimes, Trend Releases, and archiving of all data

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Public

Academic Community

Judiciary

Legislators
Agencies Use 1 of 2 Types of UCR Data Collection Systems

- **Summary Reporting System (SRS)**
- **National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)**
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Background

Uniform Crime Reporting Publications

Hate Crime Statistics 2006

Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted 2006
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Uniform Crime Reporting Publications
Trend Releases
Types of Crime Statistics

There are a variety of statistics which could be used in the portrayal of crime in the United States e.g. penal, prosecutorial, arrest, victim, etc.
To best depict total crime and provide meaningful data to police administrators, it was determined SRS would collect data on Known Offenses and Persons Arrested.
Seriousness and Frequency of occurrence resulted in the following offenses being selected to portray crime in the United States (Offenses Known to Law Enforcement):

**Part I Offenses**

- Criminal homicide
- Robbery
- Burglary
- Motor vehicle theft

- Forcible rape
- Aggravated assault
- Larceny-theft
- Arson (1982)
“Return A” collects the following information on these 8 acts which became known to law enforcement during the monthly reporting period:

- Offenses Reported - Unfounded Complaints
- Number of Actual Offenses - Total Offenses Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means - Adult
- Number of Clearances Involving only persons under 18
The number of persons arrested (as well as their specific age range, sex, and race) are collected for all violations including DUI and Vehicular Manslaughter (all other traffic violations excluded)
Persons Arrested
Age, Sex and Race Forms

Adult

Juvenile
Jurisdiction
To make certain that an offense or arrest is not counted more than once by overlapping jurisdictions, the following guidelines have been established:
City law enforcement agencies should report offenses that occur within their city.
County or state law enforcement agencies should report offenses that take place in the county outside the limits of the city.
Jurisdiction

Agencies must report only those arrests made for offenses committed within their own jurisdictions.
Jurisdiction

The recovery of property should be reported only by the agency from whose jurisdiction it was stolen, regardless of who or which agency recovered it.
Jurisdiction

The purpose of establishing appropriate jurisdiction is to depict the nature and volume of crime in a particular community, not for an agency to claim or take credit for the number of investigations, arrests, etc., or to serve as a measurement of agency workload.