



CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY  
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel  
School of Applied Social Sciences

Center on Poverty and  
Community Development



neocando

NORTHEAST OHIO  
COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD  
DATA FOR ORGANIZING

## Cleveland Police Data Indicators

### CRIMES in POLICE REPORTS BY THE CLEVELAND POLICE

Counts of criminal incidents are provided for several crime types. Crime types are based on the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports crime definitions. Violent and property crimes reported in NEO CANDO 2010+ are based on Part I, or Index Crimes, as defined by the FBI.

The crime categories that appear in NEO CANDO include:

Violent crimes, which include homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault;

Property crimes, which include burglary, larceny-theft, auto theft, and arson;

Part I crime

Crime data for violent crimes and property crimes are derived from the data on crimes in police reports.

## I. Definitions

**Violent Crime** (Total violent crime includes four offenses: homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault).

**Homicide** consists of murder and non-negligent manslaughter, defined as the willful killing of one human being by another. Not included in the counts for this offense are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder or assaults to murder, which are classified as aggravated assaults.

**Rape**, or forcible rape, is defined as the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Assaults or attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.

**Robbery** is 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.

**Aggravated assault** is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury.

**Property Crime** (Property crimes include the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The offenses involve the taking of money or property, with no force or threat of force against the victims).

**Burglary** is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force is not required to classify an offense as burglary.

**Larceny-theft** is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. No use of force, violence, or fraud occurs.

**Auto theft** is defined as the theft or attempted theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, snowmobiles, etc.

**Arson** is defined as any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle, aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

### **Part I crimes**

Part I crimes include the violent crimes (homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assaults) and property crimes (burglary, larceny-theft, auto theft and arson).

Crime **rates** are defined as the number of crimes divided by the population times 100,000. For example, the **total violent crime rate** is calculated as:

$$\frac{\text{Number of violent crimes reported to the police} \times 100,000}{\text{total population}}$$

### **LOCATION OF CRIMES**

Neighborhood-level counts and rates of crimes are based on the location of the criminal incident. Incidents that occur within a neighborhood are tabulated to give that neighborhood's reported crime rate.

## **II. Counting Methods of Part I Crimes**

**By Incident:** Count the most serious crime committed during any given incident. If an individual committed more than one crime during a given incident, e.g., a murder and robbery, only the most serious crime -- in this case the murder -- is reported.

**By Offense:** Count one offense for each victim of a Crime Against Person (homicide, rape, aggravated assault), one offense for each distinct operation of a Crime Against Property (robbery, burglary, larceny-theft, auto theft and arson).

### III. Precautions and Information regarding use of data

Rates per 100,000 are commonly used when reporting crime related indicators at the national and state levels.

The police data record criminal offense occurrences but not the corresponding judicial action. Therefore, because a person may have been arrested for a crime does not mean that he/she was convicted of that crime.

Police investigation subsequent to the reporting of a crime may indicate that a crime has been determined "unfounded." Unfounded crimes have been excluded.

Crime counts and rates may not exactly match those available from other published sources (e.g., Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Uniform Crime Reports). The crime data in NEO CANDO 2010+, those reported to the FBI, and others generally originate from the same underlying police records; however, not all are generated at the same time and are not necessarily processed and updated in the same manner. However, comparisons across data sources should be expected to yield similar totals.

Crimes of rape and attempted rape both appear under the crime type labeled "Rape."

Vehicular and negligent homicides are excluded from the homicide tabulations.

Roughly 5-10% of the crime incidents that occurred in the city could not be successfully geocoded and assigned to the census tract in which it occurred. Therefore, the total number of violent crimes in the City of Cleveland, for example, may be larger than the sum of violent crimes occurring in each census tract.

Cases which geocoded outside the City of Cleveland are excluded in the City of Cleveland total. These cases are assigned to the Unknown category.

When comparing Cleveland's violence indicators to those of other municipalities in the state and nation, it is important to account for differences in population density, urbanization and other such factors in order to draw meaningful interpretations based on the differences in indicators.

The user should be cautioned about the reliability of rates in non-residential areas. For example, in an area such as Downtown Cleveland the number of people susceptible to victimization is likely greater than the actual residential population. Ideally, in an area such as Downtown, the average daily population including employees and visitors would be the best denominator to use. However, since we do not have this figure, we use the residential population. Therefore, the user must be cautioned when interpreting a crime rate in an area such as Downtown where the average daily population is much greater than the residential population.

### IV. Data source and suggested citation

**Source of Cleveland Police Data:** City of Cleveland Division of Police. Data obtained from The Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS)

**Update Schedule:** Annually in March

**Years Available:** Earliest year available -- 2010

**Geographic Coverage:** City of Cleveland

**Suggested Citation:** The data in the Neighborhood Data Warehouse come from a variety of data sources. All indicators are processed by the Center on Poverty and Community Development. We suggest the following citation format:

[Name of indicator], [geography of indicator],[time period of indicator]. [Data source of indicator]. Summary statistics processed by the Center on Poverty and Community Development, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University. Accessed through the NEOCANDO Neighborhood Data Warehouse, [date accessed]. <http://neocando.case.edu>

An example would be:

Children under age 6 tested for lead with elevated blood lead level, 2015, City of Cleveland. Ohio Department of Health. Summary statistics processed by the Center on Poverty and Community Development, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University. Accessed through the NEOCANDO Neighborhood Data Warehouse, May 24, 2018. <http://neocando.case.edu>