

Crime Definitions

Source: [FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program, National Incident-Based Reporting System](#)

Aggravated Assault

An unlawful attack by one person upon another wherein the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness.

In the definition above, a weapon is a commonly known weapon (a gun, knife, club, etc.) or any other item becoming one, although not usually thought of as a weapon, when used in a manner which could cause the types of severe bodily injury described.

Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter

The willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another.

As a general rule, agencies should classify in this category any death due to injuries received in a fight, argument, quarrel, assault, or commission of a crime. Although LEAs may charge offenders with lesser offenses, e.g., Negligent Manslaughter, agencies should report the offense as Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter if the killing was willful or intentional.

Burglary/Breaking & Entering

The unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a felony or a theft.

LEAs should classify offenses locally known as Burglary (any degree), unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or felony, breaking and entering with intent to commit a larceny, housebreaking, and safecracking as burglary. However, because Larceny/Theft is an element of Burglary, agencies should not report the Larceny as a separate offense if it is associated with the unlawful entry of a structure. The element of trespass is essential to the offense of Burglary/ Breaking and Entering.

Larceny/Theft Offenses

The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another person.

Motor Vehicle Theft

The theft of a motor vehicle.

The national UCR Program defines motor vehicle as a motor vehicle is a self-propelled vehicle that runs on the surface of land and not on rails and that fits one of the following descriptions:

- Automobiles—sedans, coupes, station wagons, convertibles, taxicabs, or other similar motor vehicles serving the primary purpose of transporting people

Robbery

The taking or attempting to take anything of value under confrontational circumstances from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm

Robbery involves the offender taking or attempting to take something of value from a victim, usually the property owner or custodian, by the use of force or threat of force. (The victim must be present.) If there is no direct confrontation and the victim is not in fear of immediate harm, LE should report Extortion. Though direct confrontation occurs in Pocket-pickings or Purse-snatchings, force or threat of force is absent. However, if during a Purse-snatching or other such crime, the offender uses force or threat of force to overcome the active resistance of the victim, LE should classify the offense as Robbery.