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A Guide to Sources of Texas Criminal Justice Statistics

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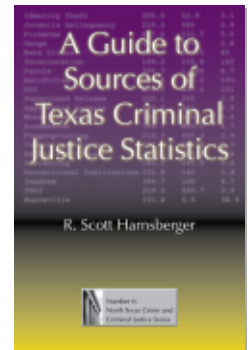
Published by University of North Texas Press

Harnsberger, R. Scott.

A Guide to Sources of Texas Criminal Justice Statistics.

University of North Texas Press, 2011.

Project MUSE.muse.jhu.edu/book/280.



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Chapter 1

Starting Points

Basic Resources

•001 *Crime in Texas*. Austin: Uniform Crime Reporting Section, Crime Information Bureau, Crime Records Service, Texas Department of Public Safety [annual, 1976–date].

<http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/crime_records/pages/crimestatistics.htm> [full report]

<http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/director_staff/public_information/reports.htm> [summary report]

The State of Texas officially adopted the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program on January 1, 1976. The Texas Department of Public Safety has the responsibility for collecting, validating, and tabulating UCR data received from over 1,000 law enforcement agencies in the state. Each annual report is organized as follows:

Chapter 1: The UCR Program;

Chapter 2: Texas Crime Analysis (including the Texas Crime Clock);

Chapter 3: Index Crime Analysis (murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson);

Chapter 4: Selected Non-Index Crimes (DUI arrests, drug abuse arrests, drug seizures, and weapons arrests);

Chapter 5: Family Violence (by jurisdiction);

Chapter 6: Hate Crime (by jurisdiction);

Chapter 7: Law Enforcement Personnel (law enforcement employee data, law enforcement officers assaulted, and law enforcement officers killed);

Chapter 8: Texas Arrest Data (summary by UCR categories, juvenile male arrests, juvenile female arrests, adult male arrests, adult female arrests, arrests by race, and arrests by ethnicity);

Chapter 9: Crime by Jurisdiction (summary, municipal crime by population, county crime by population, and index crimes by agency and county).

Research Note: Reports are available online back to 1999 on the DPS website under the title *The Texas Crime Report*. This designation, however, was dropped from the 2005–2008 print editions. Reports are disseminated in electronic format only beginning with the 2009 edition. The DPS also publishes an annual summary UCR report under the identical title, *Crime in Texas*. The previous annual reports, which were published by the DPS under the title *Texas Crime Report* (1947–1975), cannot always be accurately compared year-to-year because changes in the Texas Penal Code affected the categories of offenses reported during this time period. The DPS is in the process of implementing the Texas Incident-Based Reporting System (TIBRS), which contains all the data elements of the National Incident-Based Reporting System (see entry 002), supplemented with Texas-specific data. The program is currently collecting

data from fifty-six TIBRS-certified jurisdictions, which is then converted to summary data for inclusion in *Crime in Texas*.

•002 *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports*. Washington, D.C.: Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice [annual, 1998–date].

<<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS3082>> [Crime in the United States]

<<http://www.ucrdatatool.gov/>> [UCR Data Tool]

The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program was initiated in 1930 (the title of the annual report was changed beginning with the 1998 edition). The program currently gathers and compiles data reported by over 17,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide on violent crime, property crime, hate crime, persons arrested, offenses cleared by arrest or exceptional means, law enforcement officers feloniously or accidentally killed, law enforcement officers assaulted, and full-time law enforcement employees. The UCR Program divides offenses known to law enforcement into Part I and Part II offenses. Part I offenses, which are also known as index crimes, encompass violent crime (murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and property crime (burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson). Congress designated arson as a Part I offense in October 1978 and data collection began the following year. Part II offenses comprise all other crimes, with the exception of traffic violations, and only arrest data is collected. Hate crime was added as an additional data reporting category in 1990. *Crime in the United States* reports data at the following levels: national, regional, state, county agency, city agency, universities and colleges, cities and counties grouped by size (population groups), and Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The following data is reported at the sub-regional level: offenses known to law enforcement (Part I offenses); type of weapon used for murder, aggravated assault, and robbery (under Expanded Data by Offense); persons arrested (Part I and Part II offenses, under age eighteen and total all ages); hate crime; law enforcement officers feloniously killed; law enforcement officers accidentally killed; law enforcement officers assaulted; and full-time law enforcement employees. In January 1989 the UCR Program began transitioning from a summary reporting system to an enhanced data collection program called the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which includes forty-six Group A crimes organized into twenty-two broad offense categories. Group B comprises eleven offense categories for which only arrest data is reported. Currently thirty-two states, including Texas, are certified to provide their UCR data in the expanded NIBRS format.

Research Note: Previously published under the title *Uniform Crime Reports for the United States* (1930–1997). Editions are available online back to 1995. The 2004 edition was the last to be published in a tangible format (print or CD-ROM). Beginning with the 2005 edition,

Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports is disseminated in electronic format only. Printable files are available for downloading (topic pages, resource pages, data tables, data declarations, data overviews, and figures). Bernan Press reproduces and assembles these files in an unofficial print edition. Hate crime statistics and data on law enforcement officers killed and assaulted (LEOKA), while collected under the auspices of the UCR Program, are currently reported in separate publications linked from the *Crime in the United States* website (see entries 048, 098, and 149). The Crime Index was reported in the 1959 through 2002 editions and discontinued thereafter. Datasets are available through the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan (NIBRS data is archived as thirteen separate data files, which can be merged by using linkage variables).

<<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/series/00057>> [UCR]

<<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/series/00128>> [NIBRS]

•**003** *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics*. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice [1973–date].

<<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS3909>> [current edition]

<<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS320>> [archived editions]

Provides over 1,000 statistical tables based on reports of federal and state agencies, research centers, universities, private companies, and other organizations. The tables are arranged in six sections as follows: characteristics of the criminal justice systems (Sec. 1); public attitudes toward crime and criminal justice-related topics (Sec. 2); nature and distribution of known offenses (Sec. 3); characteristics and distribution of persons arrested (Sec. 4); judicial processing of defendants (Sec. 5); and persons under correctional supervision (Sec. 6).

Research Note: Editions are available online back to 1994. Not all tables contain state-level data. Some tables are adapted or constructed by the sourcebook staff. The 2003 edition was the last to be published in a tangible format (print or CD-ROM). It is now available online only in the form of a continuously updated website sponsored and managed by the Utilization of Criminal Justice Statistics Project, Hindelang Criminal Justice Statistics Project, Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center, School of Criminal Justice, University at Albany.

General Statistical Compendia

•**004** *The Book of the States*. Lexington, Ky: Council of State Governments [annual, 1935–date].

Provides data on state prison populations; sentenced prisoners admitted and released from state and federal jurisdiction; state prison capacities; adults on parole and probation; and capital punishment.

Research Note: See also *Almanac of the 50 States: Comparative Data Profiles and Guide to Government Data*. Woodside, Calif.: Information Publications [annual, 1985–date].

005 *County and City Data Book: A Statistical Abstract Supplement*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce [irregular, 1949–date].

<<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS29932>>

Provides data on violent and property index crimes at the state, county, and city levels.

Research Note: Datasets are available through the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. <<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/series/00023>>

006 *State and Metropolitan Area Data Book*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce [irregular, 1979–date].

<<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS2647>>

Provides crime and corrections data at the state level only.

Research Note: Datasets are available through the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. <<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/series/00134>>

•007 *Statistical Abstract of the United States*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce [annual, 1878–date].

<<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS2878>>

State-level statistics relating to criminal justice are located in the Law Enforcement, Courts, and Prisons section (Sec. 5). See also the Transportation section (Sec. 23) for data on driving under the influence and traffic fatalities; and the Health and Nutrition section (Sec. 3) for data on substance abuse.

008 *Texas Almanac*. Denton, Tex.: Texas State Historical Association; Distributed by Texas A&M University Press Consortium [biennial, 2000–date].

Provides state-level data for the most recent twenty years, and county-level data for the most recent reporting year, for violent and property index crimes. State-level summary statistics are provided for arson, family violence, hate crimes, and law enforcement death and injuries. County-level totals are provided for the number of law enforcement agencies and commissioned personnel.

Research Note: Previously published under the title *Texas Almanac and State Industrial Guide* (1857–1999).

009 *Texas Fact Book*. Austin: Legislative Budget Board [biennial, 1996–date].

<<http://www.lbb.state.tx.us/>>

Provides summary data and state rankings for selected crime and law enforcement categories; also, data on appropriations, federal funds, and person-

nel for state functional areas, including the judiciary and public safety/criminal justice.

Research Note: Editions are available online back to 2004.

010 *USA Counties*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce [annual, 1981-date].

<<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS22642>>

Provides data on violent and property index crimes at the state and county levels.