



CRIME IN IDAHO

2008

"You Can't Manage
What You Can't Measure"

Uniform Crime Report
Sheriff Offices
Police Departments
State Police

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Foreword



I am pleased to forward to you the 2008 edition of *Crime in Idaho* which is the compilation of Uniform Crime Reporting data supplied by Idaho's law enforcement agencies at the local and state levels.

Contained in this publication is information about the nature and volume of crime in our State. The document's accuracy continues to be dependent upon the information provided by the contributors.

Statistical information depicts offenses reported to law enforcement after confirmation of a call for service or a complaint clearly indicating the commission of a crime. However, it does not reflect dispositions by a coroner, prosecutor, or court.

This publication is prepared with the hope of providing a valuable tool to assist law enforcement administrators in determining their priorities in the fight against crime. It should also prove to be a vital resource to legislators, researchers, educators, and other public and private agencies involved with criminal justice in Idaho.

The success and viability of this publication is the direct result of a joint venture between the Idaho State Police and all contributors. The collection and publication of crime statistics increases awareness for all citizens and establishes a greater understanding of the problems facing law enforcement. We remain fully committed to working closely with the criminal justice community and all concerned citizens on addressing the problems associated with criminal activity in our state.

Colonel G. Jerry Russell

Law Enforcement Participation in 2008

In compliance with Idaho Code 67-3006 and 67-2915, the Idaho State Police and fellow law enforcement agencies throughout Idaho submit crime data under the Idaho Uniform Crime Reporting Program. A special note of acknowledgment and gratitude is extended to the local law enforcement agencies listed below for their participation. Idaho's crime reporting success is greatly attributed to their dedication in providing accurate and complete crime data.

Police Departments

Aberdeen	Garden City	Moscow	Rupert
American Falls	Gooding	Mountain Home	St. Anthony
Blackfoot	Grangeville	Nampa	St. Maries
Bellevue Marshal	Hagerman	Orofino	Salmon
Boise	Hailey	Osburn	Sandpoint
Bonnars Ferry	Heyburn	Parma	Shelley
Buhl	Idaho Falls	Payette	Soda Springs
Caldwell	Jerome	Pinehurst	Spirit Lake
Cascade	Kamiah Marshal	Pocatello	Sun Valley
Challis	Kellogg	Ponderay	Twin Falls
Chubbuck	Ketchum	Post Falls	Weiser
Coeur d'Alene	Kimberly	Preston	Wendell
Cottonwood	Lewiston	Priest River	Wilder
Emmett	McCall	Rathdrum	
Filer	Meridian	Rexburg	
Fruitland	Montpelier	Rigby	

Sheriff Offices

Ada	Butte	Gem	Minidoka
Adams	Camas	Gooding	Nez Perce
Bannock	Canyon	Idaho	Oneida
Bear Lake	Caribou	Jefferson	Owyhee
Benewah	Cassia	Jerome	Payette
Bingham	Clark	Kootenai	Power
Blaine	Clearwater	Latah	Shoshone
Boise	Custer	Lemhi	Teton
Bonner	Elmore	Lewis	Twin Falls
Bonneville	Franklin	Lincoln	Valley
Boundary	Fremont	Madison	Washington

Population Coverage: Crime data, reported by 106 Idaho law enforcement agencies, represents 99.7% of the population of Idaho for the year 2008. Statewide rates are calculated on an adjusted population base of 1,519,264.

Population figures for reporting agencies are furnished by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Idaho Uniform Crime Reporting Program

Since 1974, Idaho has participated in the National Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. This program is a nationwide statistical collaboration designed to collect accurate crime data from all law enforcement agencies in a “uniform” manner. The Idaho UCR Program adopted the expanded and enhanced method of crime reporting, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS), in 1991. Reporting definitions, rules, and guidelines are based on the Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook, NIBRS Edition, provided by the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Objectives: The program’s primary objective is to provide a reliable set of criminal statistics for law enforcement purposes. Law enforcement administrators can utilize these statistics for operational use, such as determination of manpower and training needs, proper focus of enforcement efforts and deterrence programs, budgets, and grant proposals. Furthermore, these statistics can provide valuable information to assist law enforcement in identifying specific crime activity facing law enforcement, such as juvenile crime activity, domestic violence, child abuse, crime motivated by hate, property crime, and drug/alcohol related crime.

The program’s secondary objective is to inform all government officials and the public as to the nature of the crime problems in Idaho, its magnitude and trends. Historically, statistics generated from this collection of crime data have proven to be a vital resource to legislators, educators, municipal planners, criminologists, media, advocate groups, and other public and private agencies involved with criminal justice throughout our country.

Verification Procedures: An obvious concern in the collection of crime statistics is the validity and uniformity of the data received. Uniform guidelines and statewide training is available to all contributors. Each incoming report is examined for mathematical accuracy and, perhaps of even more importance, for reasonableness as a possible indication of errors. Adjustments or unusual variations are brought to the attention of the submitting agency and, if necessary, corrections are made.

Considerations for Interpretation: Crime activity in a particular community can be deceiving unless specific factors are examined and taken into consideration before conclusions are made. Some conditions affecting the type and volume of crime are:

- * population size, density, and degree of urbanization
- * population variations in composition and stability
- * economic conditions and employment availability
- * cultural factors and educational, recreational, and religious characteristics
- * effective strength of the police force
- * administrative and investigative emphases of law enforcement
- * prosecutorial, judicial, and/or correctional policies
- * values established by family, community, and society in general
- * citizens’ attitude toward crime and police
- * crime reporting practices of citizens

Idaho Uniform Crime Reporting Program

Conditions for State Participation in the National UCR Program: Outlined in the National UCR Handbook, NIBRS Edition are the following conditions which a state program must operate under: “1) The state must conform to the national UCR Program’s standards, definitions, and information requirements; 2) The state criminal justice agency must have a proven, effective, statewide UCR Program and have instituted acceptable quality control procedures; 3) Coverage within the state by a state agency must be, at least, equal to that attained by the national UCR Program; 4) The state agency must have adequate field staff assigned to conduct audits and to assist contributing agencies in record practices and crime reporting procedures; 5) The state agency must furnish to the FBI all of the detailed data regularly collected by the FBI in the form of duplicate returns, computer printouts, and/or magnetic tapes; 6) The state agency must have the proven capability to supply all the statistical data required in time to meet national UCR publication deadlines.”

Submission Options: Each law enforcement agency is responsible for compiling and submitting their crime data to the UCR unit of the Idaho State Police, Bureau of Criminal Identification. State submission options available to Idaho law enforcement agencies are: online entry utilizing the Idaho Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (ILETS); data file submission from a records management system which has acquired state approval for incident based reporting; or submit a hard copy incident based form, which is limited to agencies with less than 50 reportable incidents a month.

Method of Collection: The National UCR Program is administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Crime reporting on the national level is currently accepted under two methods, summary based and incident based. **For uniform purposes, Idaho law enforcement agencies report only under the incident based reporting method.** The summary based method collects the following: Part 1 offenses and arrests data, which consists of eight (8) specific crimes; arrest data only for Part 2 offenses. The incident based method collects the following: Group “A” offenses and arrests data, which includes an additional twenty-two (22) crime categories in conjunction with Part 1 crime; arrest data only on Group “B” offenses.

Group “A” Offenses			Group “B” Offenses (reported only when an arrest is made)
Crimes Against Persons	Crimes Against Property	Crimes Against Society	
Murder Negligent Manslaughter Forcible Rape Forcible Sodomy Sexual Assault w/Object Forcible Fondling Aggravated Assault Simple Assault Intimidation Kidnapping Incest Statutory Rape	Robbery Burglary/Breaking & Entering Larceny/Theft Offenses* Motor Vehicle Theft Arson Destruction of Property Counterfeiting/Forgery Fraud Offenses* Embezzlement Extortion/Blackmail Bribery Stolen Property Offenses	Drug/Narcotic Violations Drug Equipment Violations Gambling Offenses* Pornography Prostitution Offenses* Weapon Law Violations	Bad Checks Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Disorderly Conduct DUI Drunkenness Nonviolent Family Offenses Liquor Law Violations Peeping Tom Trespass of Real Property All Other Offenses Runaways - (not a crime, only reported when law enforcement apprehends juvenile)

*Specific offenses exist within the crime category. Refer to crime category section for additional information.

Idaho Uniform Crime Reporting Program

Data Count: Incident based reporting requires a report to be submitted after preliminary confirmation of a call for service or a complaint establishes that a crime was, in fact, committed. Within a single incident report, all reportable offenses, victims, property, suspect/offender, and arrestee data are submitted. Offenses are categorized by crimes against persons, property, and society. Crimes against persons are counted by each victim within an incident (i.e., three victims of murder committed at the same time and place calculate to three offenses of murder). Crimes against property and society are counted by each distinct incident (i.e., three victims of vandalism committed at the same time and place calculate to one offense of vandalism).

Consider the method of reporting when comparing Idaho crime counts with another state. Incident based reporting, unlike summary based reporting, counts up to ten different offenses committed within a single crime incident. Summary based reporting counts only one offense per incident. Due to the increase of the reportable offenses, the total crime counts and crime rates will be higher based on Group "A" crime vs. Part 1 crime.

Arrest data represents the number of persons arrested, not on charges lodged. One set of arrest data is submitted per person per single apprehension, which will clear one or more offenses within the same incident and/or multiple incidents. The reporting agency determines the most serious offense and reports it as the arresting offense.

Participating agencies should only report those arrests for offenses committed within their own jurisdiction. Likewise, agencies should only report property recovered on items stolen from their own jurisdiction. Traffic violations, except for DUI, Hit and Run (of a person), and Vehicular Manslaughter, are not collected under the UCR program.

Clearance: Under the NIBRS reporting guidelines, offenses are considered "cleared" when at least one offender is arrested for a crime or the reporting agency clears the offenses by exceptional means.

Arrest data is submitted on those persons processed by an arrest (detained with the intention of seeking charges), citation, or summons for committing an offense within the reporting jurisdiction. Juvenile arrests are counted when the circumstances are such that if he or she were an adult, an arrest would be reported. Police or official action not taken beyond a mere interview or warning should not be reported.

An exceptional clearance can only be taken when at least one offender is positively identified (exact age, sex, and race), sufficient probable cause to support an arrest or charge exist, offender's location is known so that an arrest could be made, and a physical arrest is not possible due to specific circumstances outside the control of law enforcement. Those specific circumstances are limited to: death of the offender, prosecution declined, victim refused to cooperate, juvenile/no custody, or extradition denied.

A crime report status of inactive or cases closed does not necessarily "clear" offenses. Unfounded reports, those deemed to be false, without merit, or in fact did not occur, are not counted.

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