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The Crime And Policy Evaluation Research Group Department of Sociology www.lsu.edu/capergroup

Fact Sheet

LSU Police Department Clearance Rates between 2002 and 2015

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INTRODUCTION

This fact sheet describes the clearance rates for violent and property crime on and near the Louisiana State University campus in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The data was obtained from the LSU Police Department (LSUPD) and includes records of all crime incidents reported to LSUPD between June 2002 and May 2015.

KEY FINDINGS

- LSUPD has substantially higher clearance rates for violent crimes than for property crimes.
- Theft (particularly motor vehicle theft) and burglary have the lowest clearance rates.
- Assault and rape have the highest clearance rates.

CLEARANCE RATES

The clearance rates for LSUPD between 2002 and 2015 have been much higher for violent crimes than for property crimes. Assault has the highest clearance rate at 63.16%; rape has a clearance rate of 50.0%; robbery has the lowest clearance rate of the violent crimes at 34.21%.

For property crimes, arson has the highest clearance rate at 25.0%; burglary has a clearance rate of 14.51%; theft has a clearance rate of 12.34%; and motor vehicle theft, specifically, has the lowest clearance rate at 8.96%.



According to FBI's Uniform Crime Reports, LSUPD's clearance rates for those crime types are quite similar to those of the U.S. as a whole.¹

Homicide was excluded from the graph above because only 1 incident of criminal homicide was reported between 2002 and 2015. It was cleared.

¹ https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-inthe-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-knownto-law-enforcement/clearances

ASSAULT AND ROBBERY

The most frequent violent crimes on and near LSU's campus are assault and robbery. Out of 665 total reported incidents of assault, 420 were cleared and 245 were not cleared, resulting in a clearance rate of 63.16%. Out of 114 total reported incidents of robbery, 39 were cleared and 75 were not cleared, resulting in a clearance rate of 34.21%.



THEFT AND BURGLARY

The most common property crimes on and near LSU's campus were theft and burglary. Out of 4,369 total reported incidents of theft, 539 were cleared and 3,830 were not cleared, resulting in a clearance rate of 12.34%. Out of 1,951 total reported incidents of burglary, 283 were cleared and 1,663 were not cleared, resulting in a clearance rate of 14.51%.



DEFINITIONS OF CRIME

The **assault** category contains all police reports involving simple or aggravated assault, simple or aggravated battery, fights, domestic violence, and sexual battery.

The **rape** category contains all police reports involving simple rape, aggravated rape, and forcible rape.

The **robbery** category contains all police reports involving simple or armed robbery, attempted robbery, carjacking, and first-degree robbery.

The **burglary** category contains any police report which involves the burglary of a dwelling, business, automobile, or public building. It also includes unauthorized entries of inhabited dwellings or buildings, which LSUPD classified as an attempted burglary.

The **theft** category contains all police reports involving misdemeanor or felony theft, pickpocketing, theft from a building or the exterior or a car, theft by fraud, purse snatching, or theft of one's belongings in a public area such as Middleton library.

Separate from other theft, **motor vehicle theft** only includes police reports of theft of an automobile.

The **arson** category includes police reports of simple and aggravated arson.

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