

## Methodology

The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) compiled the following 2013<sup>1</sup> statistical crime report based on data submitted by local and state law enforcement agencies prior to 6/1/2014.

The data represents the most accurate information available, reflecting crime as reported by law enforcement agencies through the Kansas Incident Based Reporting System (KIBRS).

This system enables crime information from standard offense and arrest reports to be reported by the responsible law enforcement agencies. This report does not represent all criminal incidents committed throughout the State of Kansas, as it is dependent on victims reporting crimes to law enforcement agencies and on these agencies submitting incident reports to the KBI. Only reports that were submitted to the KBI were calculated for this report.

Data are gathered by one of three ways:

1. **Manual.** Reports are mailed from law enforcement agency to the KBI and the data is entered manually by KBI staff into the KIBRS system. These reports must pass a variety of edits in order to be accepted by the system.
2. **Electronic.** Agencies that have passed a certification process may submit their reports directly into the system through an electronic gateway. These reports must also pass a series of edits in order to be accepted by the system.
3. **Direct.** Direct reporting, more commonly called summary reporting, involves an agency merely providing the KBI with a count for each crime. This form of reporting is dependent on the agency making proper classification of offenses and does not provide any additional information regarding a case. Direct reporting data was collected on a quarterly basis for 2013.

The following factors should be considered when viewing this data:

1. Beginning with 2005 data, this report distinguishes between agencies who have sent no data and those who sent incomplete data. If an agency does not submit offense and arrest reports or a zero report for at least three months, they are listed as not having submitted data. If an agency is missing data for three or more months it is listed as did not submit complete data.
2. In the event where an individual is arrested on more than one offense, the more heinous offense is typically counted.
3. Since not all crimes are solved at the time they are committed, arrests may be for an incident that happened in a previous year.
4. The FBI defines an arrest as, “all persons processed by arrest, citation, or summons”. This should include; persons arrested and released without formal charges being placed against them, and juveniles taken into custody but merely warned and released to parents.
5. Burglary of a motor vehicle is counted as a theft not a burglary, per FBI guidelines.
6. Beginning with 2011 data, Runaway arrests are no longer tracked by the KBI or FBI.

The final responsibility for data submissions rests with the individual law enforcement agency. Although the KBI makes every effort through its editing procedures, training practices, and correspondence to ensure the validity of the data it receives, the accuracy of the statistics depends primarily on the adherence of each contributor to the established standards of reporting.