

Crime definitions

Violent Crimes

Murder: The Federal Bureau of Investigation's uniform crime reporting system encompasses murder (the willful killing of a person) and nonnegligent manslaughter (the death of a person caused by gross negligence of an individual other than the victim). The comparable crimes under Illinois law are first- and second-degree murder; the National Incident Based Reporting system groups them as criminal homicide.

Rape: The carnal knowledge of a female, forcibly and against her will, including attempted rape. These sex offenses are known as criminal sexual assault under Illinois law.

Robbery: The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence. The definition includes attempted robbery.

Assault: The intentional causing of serious bodily harm or the intentional attempt or threat of serious bodily injury or death. This includes the Illinois crimes of attempted murder, aggravated assault, aggravated battery and criminal mutilation.

Property Crimes

Burglary: The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The category includes residential burglary, home invasion, burglary from motor vehicle and related crimes.

Theft: The unlawful taking or stealing of property or articles without the use of force, violence, or fraud.

Auto theft: The unlawful taking or stealing of a motor vehicle. The report includes attempted vehicle theft.

Arson: The willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle, aircraft, or personal property of another. The Illinois crimes are arson and aggravated arson.

Sources: Illinois State Police, Uniform Crime Reporting Program; U.S. Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics

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