

FBI Crime in the United States: 2019 overview

- In the nation in 2019, 45.5 percent of violent crimes and 17.2 percent of property crimes were cleared by arrest or exceptional means.
- When considering clearances of violent crimes, 61.4 percent of murder offenses, 52.3 percent of aggravated assault offenses, 32.9 percent of rape offenses, and 30.5 percent of robbery offenses were cleared.
- In New England in 2019, 54.4 percent of murder offenses were cleared by arrest.

Information gathered from this website:

<https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/topic-pages/clearances#:~:text=Overview,by%20arrest%20or%20exceptional%20means>.

https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/tables/table-8/table-8-state-cuts/rhode_island.xls

2019 Rhode Island data:

Providence reported 13 murder offenses

https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/tables/table-8/table-8-state-cuts/rhode_island.xls

2019 Providence population: 179, 762

60.9 percent of murder offenses were cleared in population groups of similar size to Providence

<https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/tables/table-25>

Based on the Providence Police Department's 2019 annual report (page 35), there were 13 total homicides and 9 were cleared:

- ***When compared to population groups of similar size***, Providence's 2019 clearance rate for murder offenses (69.2 percent) was better than average (60.9 percent)
- ***When compared to New England***, Providence's 2019 clearance rate for murder offenses (69.2 percent) was better than average for clearance by arrest (54.4 percent)
- ***When compared to the nation***, Providence's 2019 clearance rate for murder offenses (69.2 percent) was better than average (61.4 percent)

<https://www.providenceri.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2019-Providence-Police-Annual-Report-8-2020.pdf>

Data gathered from news sources

Information gathered from this national reporting website (January 2019 article):

<https://www.thetrace.org/2019/01/gun-murder-solve-rate-understaffed-police-data-analysis>

This article reported on national clearance rates reported by urban police departments.

- The majority of gun murders are not solved. The most recent year of data shows that an estimated 46 percent of firearm homicides were solved, compared to 75 percent of non-firearm homicides. Nonfatal gun assaults are cleared at approximately 30 percent, compared to 52 percent for non-firearm aggravated assaults.
- A gun murder is more likely to be solved if the victim was white. Of firearm murders, 67 percent of murders of white victims are solved, compared to 42 percent of murders with a Black/Hispanic victim.

Information gathered from this local TV website (April 2018 report):

<https://www.wpri.com/news/local-news/providence/43-of-providence-homicides-unsolved-since-2000/>

This report focused on the unsolved murder rate in Providence compared to other New England cities.

- Based on a review of public records between 2000-2013, among New England's seven largest cities, excluding Boston, Providence has the second highest unsolved murder rate.
 - Providence's unsolved murder rate is 43 percent.
 - Hartford's unsolved murder rate, at 45 percent, is the highest.
 - Boston reported 51 percent of its 822 murders were unsolved between 2000 and 2013. Boston's population is approximately three-and-a-half times the size of Providence.

According to gunviolencearchive.org, from the beginning of March through the end of December in Rhode Island:

- Gun deaths increased 100% from 12 in 2019 to 24 in 2020.
- Gun injuries increased 36% from 36 in 2019 to 49 in 2020.
- Combined gun deaths and injuries increased 52% from 48 in 2019 to 73 in 2020.

Note: data from gunviolencearchive.org are likely an undercount because it relies mostly on media reporting. The data includes all gun deaths/injuries regardless of intent (homicide, unintentional, suicide, etc.).