



**PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE DATA, DATA REQUEST GUIDELINES,
AND DEFINITIONS**

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CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION



PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE DATA

On behalf of the Chicago Police Department, the Research and Development Division makes available aggregate data regarding crime in Chicago and selected operations of the Chicago Police Department. A number of reports that contain crime aggregate data are available on the Chicago Police Department's "CLEARpath" Internet site at: www.chicagopolice.org

Available reports include Chicago Police Department Annual Reports, monthly and quarterly crime summaries, and publications on special topics.

To locate statistical reports on CLEARpath, visit www.chicagopolice.org, select the "News" tab and click on the link labeled "Statistical Reports."

Some of the reports that are available on the CLEARpath website include the following:

Report Type	Years Available	Description
Annual Reports	1965 - 2009	Summary data on numerous topics including index, violent and property crime; case clearances; murder; firearms; arrests; City of Chicago population; domestic violence; traffic safety; juveniles; hate crimes; personnel; and calls for service.
Index Crimes	1999 - 2010	Monthly index crimes by district.
Crime Trends	1991 - 2007	Reports include data on gang motivated murder; murder by gender; domestic violence; and robbery
Crime at a Glance	2007 - 2010	Beat-level data for 2007 – 2010.
Murder Reports	1999 - 2008	Summary data on murders that occurred in Chicago by district, type of location, clearance, day month and time, motive, method, victim, and offender variables.
Juvenile Reports	1991 - 2008	Summary data on juvenile arrestee; juvenile arrests by gender, and murders of youth age 20 and younger.

Additionally, the Chicago Police Department provides the general public with direct access to unofficial crime data through its state-of-the-art internet application known as **CLEARmap**. CLEARmap can be accessed from the CLEARpath website or by visiting <http://gis.chicagopolice.org>. The CLEARmap site allows users to view and analyze up to fourteen days of preliminary crime-incident data over the most recently available 90-day time period.



DATA REQUEST GUIDELINES

Potential requestors should review publically available data to determine if it contains information that will satisfy their needs.

If you are seeking data **that is not available on the CLEARpath website or in CLEARmap**, you may submit a written request to the Research and Development Division – Research and Analysis Section using the Statistical and Crime Data Request form.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

While we make every effort to respond to all requests in a timely manner, requests often require as much as 90 days for review, processing, and response. If we cannot provide you with what you are requesting, we will contact you to discuss alternative options.

Due to the volume of requests submitted to the Chicago Police Department, requests for information will only be reviewed and approved consistent with the guidelines set forth below.

1. The requester must provide a clear written explanation of how they intend to use the data.
2. The use of the data must further the objectives of the Chicago Police Department OR advance a larger criminal justice initiative that is of value to the Chicago Police Department or the community.
3. The requester must provide a clearly defined request that sets forth the exact information desired including all relevant variables. These variable may include:
 - a. Data type (e.g., arrests, criminal or non-criminal incidents, victims, offenders).
 - b. Crime type, if applicable (e.g., criminal sexual assaults, motor vehicle thefts, arsons, robberies)
 - c. Arrest type, if applicable (e.g., general category such as aggravated assaults or specific state statutes or municipal codes)
 - d. Time Frame (e.g., all arrests that occurred between 2008 and 2010)
 - e. Geographic location(s) (e.g., citywide, specific CPD District(s) or Beat(s)).

Examples

“I would like to request the number of incidents of arsons, thefts, and simple assaults for Districts 1, 2, and 3 for 2009 and 2010.”

“I am seeking the number of arrests made for criminal sexual assaults in Beat 1313 for January – June of 2010 by month.”

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4. The requested data must be such that it can be provided without requiring more Department resources than would be appropriate (based upon available resources and the anticipated value of providing the data) and without creating an undue burden on the Department.
5. The requester must sign the Statistical and Crime Data Request Form which includes a statement indicating their agreement to provide the Chicago Police Department with a copy of their final research report or other work product upon its completion.
6. The requester must provide adequate time for the Research and Analysis Section to review, process, and receive approval for the release of the requested information. **Although every effort is made to provide data as quickly as possible, requests generally often require up to 90 days for a response.**

The Statistical and Crime Data Request Form is available at:

<https://portal.chicagopolice.org/portal/page/portal/ClearPath/News/Statistical%20Reports>

Alternately, the form can be found by visiting the CLEARpath website, clicking on “News,” then “Statistical Reports” and the “Statistical Data Request Form” link.

After completing this form, requests can be submitted via:

1. Email - R&Danalysis@chicagopolice.org,
2. Fax - 312-745-6932
3. US mail –

Chicago Police Department
c/o Research and Development Division – Unit 127
ATTN: Research and Analysis Section
3510 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60653.

Right to Alter, Modify, or Waive Specific Requests Guidelines and Guideline Scope

The Director of the Research and Development Division may alter, modify, or waive any of the above specific guidelines when such variation in the above policy is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Chicago Police Department or is necessary due to the availability of resources given the then-current workload within the Research and Analysis Section. All requests continue to be honored at the discretion of the Department as determined by the Director of the Research and Development Division.

NOTE: The guidelines and procedures outlined in this document do not apply to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. Requests may be submitted through the FOIA process. For more information about FOIA, go to the CLEARpath website and enter “FOIA” into the “SEARCH” box.



DEFINITIONS

Index Crime: Eight major crime categories collected as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Index crime categories are split into two major subcategories: violent and property crime.

Violent Index Crime - index crimes committed against a person:

Murder	The willful killing of a person. Murder is a sub-category of the broader index crime category "criminal homicide." Criminal homicide also includes manslaughter by negligence (the killing of a person by gross negligence) and justifiable homicide (killing of a felon by a peace officer; killing of a felon during the commission of the crime by a private citizen). CPD crime reports generally exclude these latter categories; hence our adoption of the term "murder" to denote this distinction.
Criminal Sexual Assault	Until 1984, "rape" was defined as the carnal knowledge of a female, forcibly and against her will. On July 1, 1984, Illinois' sexual assault laws became gender-neutral and the old concept of rape was broadened to include many types of sexual assault. This index crime now includes all sexual assaults, completed and attempted, aggravated and non-aggravated.
Robbery	The taking of, or attempt to take, anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person by force or threat of force or violence.
Aggravated Assault and Battery	The intentional causing of, or the attempt to cause serious bodily harm, or the threat of serious bodily injury or death. This category includes aggravated assault, aggravated battery, and attempted murder. In Illinois, "assault" is a threat while "battery" is an actual attack. "Aggravated" means that serious bodily harm, or the threat of serious bodily harm, is involved.

Property Index Crime - index crimes in which there is no direct threat or harm to a person

Burglary	The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft; this category includes attempted burglary.
Theft	The unlawful taking or stealing of property or articles without the use of force, violence, or fraud. This category includes attempted theft, burglary from a motor vehicle, and attempted burglary from a motor vehicle.
Motor Vehicle Theft	The unlawful taking or stealing of a motor vehicle; the category includes attempted motor vehicle theft. "Motor vehicle" includes automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles.
Arson	The willful or malicious burning or, or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle, aircraft, or personal property of another.