

FBI reports serious crime up in suburbs, rural areas

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(AP) — Serious crimes rose 6 per cent in the United States last year with the biggest increases in suburbs and rural areas, the FBI reported Thursday.
The annual Uniform Crime Reports reflected increases in the number of offenses reported to police in all seven crime categories last year. The highest increase was 10 per cent for rape, the lowest 2 per cent for robbery.
Increases were reported for all sections of the country and for cities, suburbs and rural areas alike.
In all categories, the urban dweller was more likely to be a crime victim than the suburbanite or rural resident. However, the largest cities, those with more than one million residents, recorded an over-all decrease of one-half of one per cent. Suburban areas reported an average increase of 9 per cent and rural areas 10 per cent.
The FBI figures, comparing the volume and rate of crime in 1973 with the figures for the previous year, are based on reports from nearly all state and local police agencies.

According to the report, Americans in 1973 reported 8.6 million cases of murder, assault, rape, robbery, burglary, larceny, and auto theft — the seven categories for which statistics are collected. In 1972, there were 8.1 million reported crimes.
Adjusted for population growth, the statistics show a national crime rate increase of about 5 per cent. The 1973 crime rate indicates that about four out of every 100 citizens was a victim of serious crime.
Broken down by category, the report shows that the murder rate rose 4 per cent last year and 35 per cent over the past five years.
In big cities, 21 of every 100,000 residents were slain.
The number of rapes increased 10 per cent, the highest of any crime category, but the total comprised less than 1 per cent of all serious crimes, the report said.
Like murder, assault occurred most often within families, and the national rate increased 6 per cent last year and 40 per cent in the past five years.
The four categories of violent

crime — murder, assault, rape and robbery — collectively rose 5 per cent but totaled only 869,470 while all three categories of property crimes added up to 7.8 million.
Copper wiring 'pot of gold' for Dallas thieves
DALLAS (AP) — Police say the current copper shortage has sparked the thefts of up to \$500,000 in copper wire in recent months. Thieves are also stealing trucks to haul away the heavy wire rolls.
"Every time a construction company gets a shipment of copper wire they get burglarized," said police detective Earl Sawyer.
Sawyer said officers noticed an increase in copper thefts last autumn. But the thefts took a big upswing about two months ago when the government announced a growing shortage of copper pennies.
He said the burglars hit mobile warehouses used by construction men. He said there were a dozen such burglaries reported over the Labor Day weekend involving hundreds of thousands of pounds of copper wire.
The wire sells for \$40 to \$52 per 1,000 feet.
Sawyer said thieves have taken to stealing trucks from the construction sites and warehouses in order to cart off their booty.

The figures are not considered a totally accurate measure of crime. Most critics suggest that total crime is much greater than the offenses reported to police.
The 1973 increase was a return to an upward trend broken only once in 15 years, when the 1972 figures reflected a 4 per cent decrease. The only 1974 figures available show a 15 per cent over-all increase for January through March.
For the past five years, serious crime is up 30 per cent and since 1960 the increase is 120 per cent.
As is customary, the FBI report offers no explanation for the trends in the 282 pages of statistics and charts.

Bulletin Board
MONDAY
MODERN DANCE CLUB will meet at 8 p.m. in Room 201, C. Belle White Coliseum. This is an organizational and instructional meeting.
SCUBA DIVING CLUB will meet at 9 p.m. in Room 146, Physics Bldg. This is an organizational meeting.
FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION will meet at 7:30 in the SG Office, second floor MSC.

Gynecologist needed but difficult to find
"With 6,000 women on campus, you're bound to have a need for a gynecologist," said Vice President of Student Services John Koldus.
But no gynecologist has been hired because non-competitive salaries and fringe benefits make health center positions hard to fill, said Koldus.
Three of the five positions for staff physicians are presently filled. Dr. Claude Goswick, director of the Health Center, called the center miserably under-staffed but hasn't given up hope of finding a gynecologist.
He mentioned the possibility of hiring another general practitioner with a special interest in gynecology.
The center currently arranges free off-campus appointments for women needing special treatment with Dr. Benbow, consultant gynecologist.
Last spring, the center began conducting weekly contraceptive clinics which will continue on Wednesday afternoons. The Health Center prescribes but does not dispense contraceptives.


Student radio board changes station name
The name of the Student Government radio station was changed to TAMU Student Radio in an SG radio board meeting Thursday.
In further action the board decided to elect a chairman rather than being run by the executive director of student projects. Radio board members are: Barry Brooks, SG Vice president for student affairs; Curt Marsh, SG Vice president for finance; Bo Booty, off-campus senator; and Hal Brunson.
The board announced openings for general manager, program director, and news director. Applications may be picked up in the Student Government Offices. Anyone interested in student radio was asked to attend the next meeting Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the MSC conference room.

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