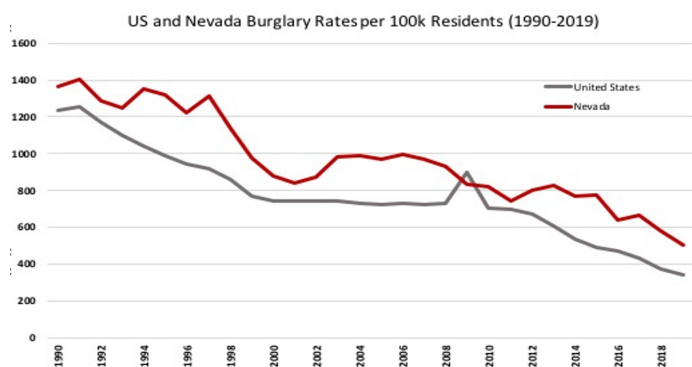


# National and State Burglary Trends (1990-2019)

By: Khaing Lynn and Leobardo Lopez

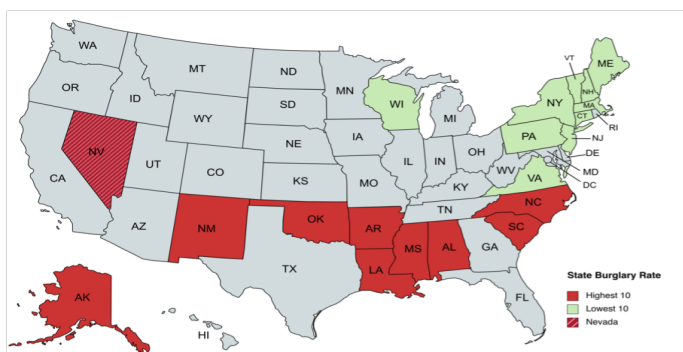
Burglaries are identified as “high property value crimes” due to how commonly police are asked to deal with them. The current document highlights national and Nevada burglary trends from 1990 to 2019. It also outlines some main risk factors associated with burglary.

## Key Stats



### U.S. and Nevada Burglary Rates

This graph indicates that burglary rates in the United States and Nevada have been declining over the past three decades. However, Nevada burglary rates have generally exceeded national rates.



### Burglary Rates by State

This map highlights the 20 states with the highest and lowest burglary rates in 2019. Nevada ranked as the 9<sup>th</sup> highest state.

### Geographical/Population Characteristics

Non-Metro Counties	Residence Location	Cities outside Metro Areas
Under 100k	Population Size	250k – 499k
Northeast	Region	West
65 or older	Age	19 or younger
White	Race	Black/African American
\$75,000 or more	Income	\$7,500 to \$14,999

### Household Characteristics



### Geographical/Population Characteristics

The diagram highlights household and geographical/population characteristics associated with burglary. For example, the highest rates of burglary were found in urban areas with larger populations (250,000 to 500,000) and in households headed by persons under 20 years old.

### Summary

Burglaries represent high property value crimes of great public concern. Overall, the data shows that national and Nevada burglary rates have declined over the past three decades (UCR, 2019). A closer examination at state comparisons of burglary rates reveals a geographical clustering of high and low-rate states. High-rate states cluster in southern and western regions of the country, while low-rate states typically cluster in northeastern regions. Nevada ranked ninth among the top 10 states with the highest burglary rates. Other data on the characteristics of burglary victims indicates that certain households are more at risk than others. According to data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), head of households who are 19 or younger, Black/African American, and are below the poverty level were more likely to be victimized (2019).

### Recommended Resources

1. Cohen, L. E., & Canton, D. (1981). Residential burglary in the United States: Life-style and demographic factors associated with the probability of victimization. *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, 18(1), 113-127.
2. Miethe, T. D., & McDowall, D. (1993). Contextual effects in models of criminal victimization. *Social Forces*, 71(3), 741-759.
3. Bureau of Justice Statistics. (1994). *Criminal Victimization in the United States: 1973-1992*. Bureau of Justice Statistics: Washington D.C.
4. Bureau of Justice Statistics. (2019). *Criminal Victimization, 2019*. Bureau of Justice Statistics: Washington D.C..

### Data Sources and Limitations

Fig. 1:

FBI – UCR: Burglaries in the US (1990-2019)

FBI – UCR: Burglaries in Nevada (1990-2019)

Census: US population (1990 – 2019)

Fig. 2:

FBI – UCR: Burglaries in the US by state (2019)

Fig. 3:

Bureau of Justice Statistics - NCVS (2019)

The FBI data only accounts for reported burglaries and thus only reflects known crimes to the police. Similarly, the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) data only reports on offenses reported by victims themselves. Based on the limitations of these data, some caution is required in interpreting the results in this report.

### Figure Notes (Fig. 2)

#### States with highest burglary rates per 100,000 inhabitants

New Mexico – 696.8  
Oklahoma – 671.7  
Mississippi – 627  
Arkansas – 599.6  
Louisiana – 579  
South Carolina – 533.4  
Alabama – 531.9  
North Carolina – 519.1  
**\*Nevada – 503.5**  
Alaska – 487.1

#### States with lowest burglary rates per 100,000 inhabitants

Wisconsin – 217.6  
Vermont – 204.3  
New Jersey – 184.6  
Pennsylvania – 182.4  
Connecticut – 180.7  
Massachusetts – 179  
Maine – 174.8  
Virginia – 162.8  
New York – 141.9  
New Hampshire – 126.3

For references in this Stat Sheet, see the **CCJP website: [www.unlv.edu/CCJP](http://www.unlv.edu/CCJP)**

*Stat sheets* are produced by the Center for Crime and Justice Policy at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The Center is housed in the Greenspun College of Urban Affairs. *Stat Sheets* provide summaries of various criminal justice practices in Nevada and other states.