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# FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SOURCES ON CRIMES AGAINST BUSINESS

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Domestic and International Business Administration  
Bureau of Domestic Commerce



## PREFACE

It is estimated that crime against business in 1974 will cost American companies \$20.6 billion. This is 30 percent more than the 1971 cost reported in a preliminary staff report published by the Bureau of Domestic Commerce, entitled, *The Economic Impact of Crimes Against Business*. The rapid rise demonstrates the need for a composite of material useful for assessing the impact of crime against business. The main purpose of this study is to bring together in a concise and convenient package such sources of material published by the Government. The sources listed deal with "ordinary" crimes which include burglary, robbery, vandalism, shoplifting, employee theft, bad checks, credit card fraud, and arson.

The information included presents data which are currently being collected or published by the Federal Government on the subject of crimes against business. Based on discussions and correspondence with members of the Interagency Committee on Crimes Against Business and on reports and surveys made by a variety of Federal Agencies, the data reflect the growing concern that both the private and public sectors are showing in the incidence, impact, and cost of such crimes.

This study is organized into four parts, Part I is a summarization of data which are currently collected and published by Federal Agencies while Part II contains data not previously published and not generally available to the public. Part III presents crime data by major sectors of the economy. Also listed are names and addresses of agencies that are, or have been, actively engaged in collecting data on crime against business.

This is the most recent effort to centralize sources of data and programs developed by Federal Agencies on crime. The bibliography was prepared by the Consumer Goods and Services Division, Norris A. Lynch, Director.

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PART I

MAJOR SOURCES FOR PUBLISHED  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DATA  
ON CRIMES AGAINST BUSINESS

1. Agency: Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts  
Title: Annual Report of the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts  
Type of Data: Contains information on the workload of the Federal judiciary system based on reports received from the U.S. courts of appeals, the U.S. district courts, magistrates, and Federal public community defenders. Covers pertinent areas such as case filings and terminations in courts, depositions by U.S. magistrates, and methods of disposition of cases. Specific subjects included are civil cases, criminal cases, probation and bankruptcy.  
Frequency: Annual.  
Comments: The report is updated semi-annually by a study entitled *Semi-Annual Report of the Director*.
2. Agency: Civil Aeronautics Board  
Title: Air Freight Loss and Damage Claims  
Type of Data: Contains data on type of loss (i.e., theft, pilferage, age, robbery, shortage) and loss by commodity. Data are also detailed by carrier and airport. Ratios on losses compared to revenue dollar are also included.  
Frequency: Quarterly.  
Comments: Reporting requirements apply to nearly 100 percent of air cargo industry.
3. Agency: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Domestic Commerce  
Title: X The Economic Impact of Crimes Against Business  
Type of Data: Compilation of data, from numerous sources on the economic impact of ordinary crimes against business by major sectors of the economy in 1971. Ordinary crime includes burglary, robbery, vandalism, shoplifting, employee theft, bad checks and arson.  
Frequency: First published in 1972 and planned to be reissued at irregular intervals.

- Comments: The basic statistics are expressed in dollars. Costs of organized crime and extraordinary crimes such as hijacking and embezzlement are not included.
4. Agency: Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)  
Title: Uniform Crime Reports for the United States  
Type of Data: Number of burglaries committed against nonresidences during the year. Number of robberies committed against banks, service stations, chain stores, and other commercial or business establishments are shown. Other types of crime, i.e., shoplifting, auto theft, are shown, but in lesser detail.  
Frequency: Yearly, first published in 1930.  
Comments: Dollar amounts are not published. Includes only those crimes reported to law enforcement officers. FBI is considering modifying UCR to include cargo statistics.
5. Agency: Department of Justice, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA)  
Title: LEAA Reference List of Publications  
Type of Data: A selected bibliography of material dealing with the various aspects of crime. Items listed cover such subjects as law enforcement, Federal granting, research and development, crime problems, and organized crime.  
Comments: The publications are listed under the originating organizations and deal mostly with personal crime and law enforcement assistance.
6. Agency: Department of Justice, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA)  
Title: National Crime Panel Commercial Victimization Survey  
Type of Data: The survey measures the amount of commercial burglary and robbery. The data includes type of business, number of incidents, value of loss, insurance coverage, offender characteristics, types of security measures, etc.  
Frequency: Quarterly and annual publications for national data. Varying schedule for selected cities.

- Comments: The survey consists of 2,500 monthly personal interviews in a nationwide sample of virtually all types of commercial establishments, supplemented by an independent sample of approximately 2,000 businesses in each selected large city. The data include incidents not reported to law enforcement agencies.
7. Agency: Department of Transportation, Office of Transport Security
- Title: Publication planned.
- Type of Data: The office is currently developing a capability to analyze and disseminate data on the extent, nature and location of cargo theft for all four modes of transportation in U.S. domestic and international trade. Basic cargo loss data is collected by Federal Regulatory Agencies.
- Frequency: Planned quarterly.
- Comments: The first report is expected to be published the 4th quarter of calendar year 1974.
8. Agency: Department of Transportation, Office of Transport Security
- Title: **An Economic Model of Cargo Loss: A Method for Evaluating Cargo Loss Reduction Programs**
- Type of Data: A method for estimating cargo theft and losses by mode, based on systematic survey of transportation industry loss data. The method estimates losses by commodity, cause of loss, and dollar value for each mode and provides basis for development of remedial measures. Calendar year 1970 survey completed and published.
- Frequency: Periodic as determined necessary.
- Comments: Currently being updated for calendar year 1971.
9. Agency: Department of Transportation, Office of Transport Security
- Title: **Increased Profits Through Freight Claim Reduction**
- Type of Data: Presents a technique for managing Cargo Loss Reduction Programs, stressing profit motivation. The key feature of the technique is periodic review and evaluation by comparing results (profits) to stated management goals.

- Frequency: One-time.
- Comments: The technique requires financial and freight claims data available within most companies.
10. Agency: Interstate Commerce Commission
- Title: **Quarterly Freight Loss and Damage Claims Reported by Common and Contract Motor Carriers**
- Type of Data: Contains data on loss and damage claims paid as result of shortage, theft, pilferage, and hijacking. Statistics are detailed by carrier, location of loss and by specific commodity.
- Frequency: Quarterly.
- Comments: Does not include data on intrastate carriers not operating under the Interstate Commerce Commissions' jurisdiction. A proposal for similar data on railroads is under consideration.
11. Agency: Small Business Administration
- Title: **Crime Against Small Business**
- Type of Data: A study of the impact of crime on small business firms. Included is information on robbery, burglary, shoplifting, vandalism, and other criminal activities.
- Frequency: One-time (published in 1969).
- Comments: Small Business Administration completed and transmitted to Senate Select Committee on Small Business. Reprinted by Senate Select Committee.

PART II

MAJOR SOURCES FOR UNPUBLISHED FEDERAL DATA  
ON CRIMES AGAINST BUSINESS

1. Agency: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System  
Type of Data: Number of external crimes by type against State member banks and dollar loss.  
Frequency: Discontinued.  
Comments: Not available for distribution. Currently being collected and compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
2. Agency: Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Type of Data: Information on crime required to be submitted to the Agency on a periodic basis.  
Frequency: Monthly.  
Comments: The monthly reports are used to compile the annual **Uniform Crime Report**.
3. Agency: Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Customs  
Type of Data: Contains data on international cargo losses.  
Frequency: Planned monthly.  
Comments: *At present the information is too broad to portray losses contributed by crime. However, such data might be refined in the future.*
4. Agency: Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service  
Type of Data: Casualty loss, no part of which was covered by insurance.  
Frequency: Yearly until 1970.  
Comments: Casualty loss category changes up to 1970. Shown for corporation on Form 1120; for partnership on Form 1065; and, for proprietorship on Schedule C, Form 1040.
5. Agency: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
Type of Data: Number of external crimes, by type, committed against insured State non-member banks and dollar loss.

6. Agency: Federal Home Loan Bank Board  
Type of Data: Number of external crimes, by type, committed against insured savings and loan associations and dollar loss.  
Frequency: Yearly.  
Comments: Not available for distribution. Currently being collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
7. Agency: Federal Maritime Commission  
Type of Data: Quarterly reports on freight loss and damage claims from ocean common carriers under the Commission's jurisdiction.  
Frequency: Planned quarterly.  
Comments: Publication date held in abeyance pending funding for necessary personnel.

PART III

AVAILABILITY OF FEDERAL DATA ON CRIME AGAINST BUSINESS BY MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY

Type of Information	Data Availability
<b>1. CONSTRUCTION</b>	
A. Cost of protection service	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	N.A.
D. Dollar loss	N.A.
E. Insured loss	N.A.
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	None
<b>2. MANUFACTURING</b>	
A. Cost of protection service	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	N.A.
D. Dollar loss	N.A.
E. Insured loss	N.A.
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	None
<b>3. TRANSPORTATION</b>	
The Department of Transportation (DOT) is currently developing a capability to analyze and evaluate theft cargo loss data for all four modes of transportation. Collection of cargo theft and loss has been implemented or in advanced planning stage by each involved Federal Regulatory Agency.	
<b>3a. Railroads</b>	
A. Cost of protection service	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	System being promulgated to require railroads to report freight loss and damage claims.
D. Dollar loss	Do.
E. Insured loss	Do.
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	DOT in 1972 established procedures for the issuance of Cargo Security Advisory Standards.

N.A. Not available.

Type of Information	Data Availability
<b>3b. Motor Carriers</b>	
A. Cost of protection service	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	Class 1 motor carriers are required to report quarterly cargo theft and loss statistics.
D. Dollar loss	Do.
E. Insured loss	Data available based on damage claims paid.
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	DOT in 1972 established procedures for the issuance of Cargo Security Advisory Standards.
<b>3c. Water Transport</b>	
A. Cost of protection service	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	Cargo loss and damage being developed to require loss reporting by maritime shippers.
D. Dollar loss	Do.
E. Insured loss	Do.
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	DOT in 1972 established procedures for the issuance of Cargo Security Advisory Standards.
<b>3d. Air Transport</b>	
A. Cost of protection service	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	Certified air cargo carriers are required to report cargo theft and loss statistics.
D. Dollar loss	Do.
E. Insured loss	N.A.
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	DOT in 1972 established procedures for the issuance of Cargo Security Advisory Standards.

*Type of Information*

*Data Availability*

**4. WHOLESALE TRADE**

A. Cost of protection service	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	N.A.
D. Dollar loss	N.A.
E. Insured loss	N.A.
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	None

**5. RETAIL TRADE**

No current published Federal data. The latest data available are those published by the Small Business Administration for 1967, based on a sample survey.

A. Cost of protection service	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	N.A.
D. Dollar loss	N.A.
E. Insured loss	N.A.
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	None

**6. FINANCE**

A. Cost of protection service	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	Data compiled only for banking and credit agencies other than banking.
D. Dollar loss	Do.
E. Insured loss	Yes
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	Required standard under the Bank Protection Act.

*Type of Information*

*Data Availability*

**7. SERVICE TRADES**

A. Cost of protection	N.A.
B. Cost of preventive equipment	N.A.
C. Incident rate	N.A.
D. Dollar loss	N.A.
E. Insured loss	* N.A.
F. Suggested or required Federal security guidelines	None

<sup>1</sup> Current programs within the Federal Government are being implemented to survey the extent of crime against business on a national and selected cities basis, for robberies and burglaries. The amount of detail are not yet determined.

PART IV

FEDERAL AGENCIES WITH DATA ON  
CRIMES AGAINST BUSINESS

Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts  
Supreme Court Building  
One 1st Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20544

Department of Transportation  
Office of Transport Security  
800 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20591

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System  
Federal Reserve Building  
Const. Ave., Bet. 20th & 21st Sts., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20551

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20224

Civil Aeronautics Board  
Universal Building  
1825 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20428

Federal Deposit Insurance  
Corporation  
550 17th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20429

Department of Commerce  
Bureau of Domestic Commerce  
14th St., Bet. Const. & E St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Federal Maritime Commission  
1100 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20573

Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Penn Ave., Bet. 9th & 10th Sts., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Interstate Commerce Commission  
Constitution Ave. & 12th St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423

Department of Justice  
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration  
633 Indiana Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Small Business Administration  
1441 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20416

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