

NIBRS Tip of the Month

Common Data Quality Issues

Aggravated Assault or Simple Assault: The weapons used or the extent of the victim's injury will be the deciding factors when distinguishing between Aggravated Assault and Simple Assault. Typically, an Aggravated Assault involves a weapon, threat of a weapon, and/or serious bodily injury; Simple Assault involves neither a weapon nor serious injury.

Burglary and Larceny in the Same Incident: Although these offenses can occur in the same incident if the offender takes items outside the burgled structure, for UCR purposes: Larceny/Theft is considered an inherent element of Burglary.

Credit Card/ATM Fraud with the Card as the Property Stolen: The property stolen during this Fraud offense is what was taken as a result of the Fraud: money or other merchandise.

Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Vehicle Parts or Accessories: When an offender damages vehicle parts or accessories, the appropriate property description is the actual vehicle rather than the parts or accessories.

Incidents Occurring at Midnight: When an incident hour is unknown, it should be left blank; the incident hour of "00" equals Midnight. This may require adjustment to the local records management system to accommodate Blank = Unknown.

