

# YSU ranks safest in FBI university crime report

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In a re-released FBI statistics report, YSU was rated as having the lowest crime rate of eight state-supported universities in Ohio last year.

The FBI's annual Uniform Crime Report, including crimes reported by campus police forces, indicated four violent crimes on the YSU campus last year, compared with 11 at the University of Akron, 17 at Kent State University and 26 at Bowling Green University.

Among the state-supported schools that did not submit

reports to the FBI were the University of Cincinnati, Ohio University, Wright State and Central State universities.

YSU had four aggravated assaults last year, property crimes totaling 225, burglaries amounting to nine, larceny-theft incidents at 211 and automobile thefts at 5.

Out of YSU's approximate total of 12,000 students, the FBI statistics figured one crime for each 3,000 students.

Dr. Neil D. Humphrey, University president, said he is pleased to see YSU ranking as the lowest, however, he "wishes to be lower."

"One assault is one too many," Humphrey said.

He cited many factors that rate YSU as one of the safest including a well-lit campus, a well-staffed Campus Security force and student use of Campus Escorts.

Student awareness of possible crime is important, Humphrey said, but at the same time students should not be paranoid about the issue.

"Students here have lots of common sense," Humphrey said of their crime awareness.

Richard Turkiewicz, director of Campus Security, said YSU's crime rate continues to drop despite the large number of students.

"The students are the key,"  
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Violent crimes reported to the FBI, the number of students at each university and the per-capita figure are:

•**Akron:** (11) two forcible rapes, four robberies, five aggravated assaults; 19,300 students, one crime for each 1,755 students:

•**Bowling Green:** (8) three forcible rapes, two robberies, three aggravated assaults; 15,600 students, one crime for each 1,950 students:

•**Cleveland State:** (13) seven robberies, six aggravated assaults; 12,300 students, one crime for each 946 students:

•**Kent:** (17) 16 assaults, one

robbery 16,700 students, one crime for each 1,035 students:

•**University of Miami:** (12) one forcible rape, one robbery, 10 aggravated assaults; 14,600 students, one crime for each 1,216 students:

•**OSU:** (25) one murder, one non-negligent manslaughter, one forcible rape, 12 robberies, 11 aggravated assaults; 46,600 students, one crime for each 1,856:

•**Toledo:** (11) three robberies, eight aggravated assaults; 16,000 students, one crime for each 1,455 students.

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he said. "They are the ones who really care. They prove this by being good witnesses and reporters, alerting Campus Security to any suspicious activities."

Dr. Calvin Swank, professor in the criminal justice department, feels however encouraging the statistics concerning YSU's ranking are, "they might

not hold true with all of the 12 universities." He does feel that YSU has taken a "much more aggressive stance towards campus crime" in recent years.

Sgt. Frank A. Yannucci, Campus Security, said he feels the high visibility of Campus Security officers attributes greatly to the low crime rate.

"We try to deter crime wherever possible," Yannucci said. "Many think we are security guards although we are police officers."

Yannucci said an additional reason is that a lot of student activities take place off-campus as compared to resident colleges where the majority of student activities occurs on-campus.

The fact that student's don't spend a lot of time on-campus helps, Yannucci said.

"Officers can spend their time patrolling campus where people are walking," he said.