

Chapter 02

Crime Counts: Methods, Trends, and Correlates

Multiple Choice Questions

1. (p. 31) _____ allows scientists to test hypotheses about how two or more variables are related.

- A.** Experimentation
- B. The case study
- C. The survey
- D. Non-participant observation

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-02 Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the various methods of collecting data

2. (p. 34) A(n) _____ is an analysis of all pertinent aspects of one unit of study, such as an individual, an institution, a group, or a community.

- A. experiment
- B.** case study
- C. survey
- D. participant observation

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-02 Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the various methods of collecting data

3. (p. 36-37) Which of the following statements is NOT true about the UCR?

- A. It provides information on the distribution of law enforcement personnel.
- B. It is used to calculate crime rates.
- C. It includes the number of offences cleared by arrest.
- D.** It tells us about the dark figure of crime.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-03 Compare and contrast the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR and UCR2); victimization surveys; and self-report surveys

4. (p. 40) In Canada, the General Social Survey

- A. is conducted every year.
- B. is conducted every 2 years.
- C.** is conducted every 5 years.
- D. has only been conducted once.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-03 Compare and contrast the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR and UCR2); victimization surveys; and self-report surveys

5. (p. 40) Which of the following about the GSS is false?

- A. Some respondents exaggerate events.
- B. The data reported suffer from the fact that memories may fade over time.
- C. Some respondents telescope events.
- D.** it excludes information about the dark figure of crime.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-03 Compare and contrast the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR and UCR2); victimization surveys; and self-report surveys

6. (p. 42-43) Self-report surveys reveal which of the following?

- A. Only a small percentage of the general population commits crime.
- B. Unrecorded offenders specialize in one type of offence.
- C.** An estimated 90% of youths commit delinquent or criminal acts.
- D. The majority of serious, chronic young offenders are apprehended by the police.

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-03 Compare and contrast the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR and UCR2); victimization surveys; and self-report surveys

7. (p. 43) Which of the following is NOT true of self-report surveys?

- A. The questions are often limited to petty acts.
- B. Many self-report measures lack validity.
- C. The samples may be biased.
- D.** Older adults are overrepresented in the results of these surveys.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-03 Compare and contrast the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR and UCR2); victimization surveys; and self-report surveys

8. (p. 47-48) Which of the following is true of criminal acts in Canada?

- A. Violent victimization rates are lowest in urban areas.
- B. There are no regional differences in crime across the country.
- C. Victimization occurs more frequently in commercial establishments or public places.**
- D. Crime rates are stable throughout the seasons.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-04 Provide an overview of the amount and types of crime in Canada

9. (p. 49-51) When it comes to young adults and crime,

- A. young offender overrepresentation is greatest for violent crimes.
- B. young adults are underrepresented in criminal court statistics.
- C. criminal activity for most crime types increases with age.
- D. the majority of youth are dealt with by a means other than a formal charge being laid.**

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

10. (p. 51) What is the name of the explanation for why criminal activity peaks in the middle or late teens and then declines throughout life?

- A. Aging-out phenomenon**
- B. Mid-life crisis
- C. Life-course persistent offending
- D. The chronic 6 percent phenomenon

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

11. (p. 51) The life-course perspective argues that

- A. factors that lead to onset of offending do not vary.
- B. the number and type of offences committed do not vary.
- C. the frequency of offending may go down for most offenders, but some chronic offenders commit the same amount of crime over time.**
- D. the factors that eventually induce the offender to give up criminal activity do not vary.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

12. (p. 51) To learn how the causes of crime vary at different ages, Alfred Blumstein and his colleagues suggest that criminologists study
- A. age.
 - B. gender.
 - C. socioeconomic status.
 - D. criminal careers.**

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

13. (p. 52) Most of the crime committed by females in Canada tends to consist of
- A. petty offences such as shoplifting.**
 - B. homicide.
 - C. sexual assault.
 - D. aggravated assault.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

14. (p. 57) The 2009 GSS shows that Aboriginals:
- A. are less likely than non-Aboriginals to report being victims of violent victimization.
 - B. are more likely than non-Aboriginals to die from violence.**
 - C. have lower male suicide rates.
 - D. have lower rates of victimization among women.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

15. (p. 53) What type of data source suggests that the gender differences in crime may be narrowing?
- A. self-report surveys**
 - B. police statistics
 - C. victimization surveys
 - D. Uniform Crime Reports

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

16. (p. 51) According to the aging-out phenomenon, which of the following statements is true?

- A. Criminal activity for most crime types increases with age.
- B. The inclination to commit crime peaks in adulthood and then declines.
- C.** The inclination to commit crime peaks in the middle or late teens and then declines.
- D. The inclination to commit crime is constant throughout an individual's lifetime.

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

17. (p. 56) In terms of social class and crime,

- A. researchers agree about the relationship between social class and crime.
- B. social class can be adequately defined by income.
- C.** the association between social class and crime found in arrest rates may be due to police bias.
- D. self-report studies indicate social class is strongly related to crime.

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

True / False Questions

18. (p. 31) The facts and observations that researchers gather for the purpose of a particular study are called secondary data.

FALSE

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-02 Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the various methods of collecting data

19. (p. 30) A hypothesis is a testable proposition that describes how two or more factors are related.

TRUE

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-02 Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the various methods of collecting data

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20. (p. 34) Researchers who take part in many of the activities of the groups they are studying to gain acceptance, while making clear the purpose of their participation, are engaging in participant observation.

TRUE

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-03 Compare and contrast the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR and UCR2); victimization surveys; and self-report surveys

21. (p. 38) In the UCR, there are differences in the way personal and property crimes are counted.

TRUE

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-02 Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the various methods of collecting data

22. (p. 52) Traditionally women have had lower rates of offending than men but now they are almost equal.

FALSE

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals

23. (p. 47) According to the UCR, since 1991 there has been a gradual increase in the crime rate.

FALSE

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-04 Provide an overview of the amount and types of crime in Canada

24. (p. 44) The majority of reported crimes are violent crimes.

FALSE

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-04 Provide an overview of the amount and types of crime in Canada

Essay Questions

25. (p. 30) What is a crime typology and why are they useful? Provide an example.

Answer will vary.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-01 Understand the relevance of crime typologies to the discussion of crime presented in this text

26. (p. 30-35) Discuss the three major reasons for measuring crime. Then, discuss three of the five methods of collecting data mentioned in the text, listing each method's strengths and weaknesses.

Answer will vary.

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-02 Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the various methods of collecting data

27. (p. 36-44) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the Uniform Crime Reports, the General Social Survey, and self-report surveys in estimating the nature and extent of crime in Canada.

Answer will vary.

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-03 Compare and contrast the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR and UCR2); victimization surveys; and self-report surveys

28. (p. 45) In terms of household victimization, outline some of the reasons for the decline in the percentage of victims who report their victimization to the police.

Answer will vary.

Bloom's: Remember

Learning Objective: 02-04 Provide an overview of the amount and types of crime in Canada

Chapter 02 - Crime Counts: Methods, Trends, and Correlates

29. (p. 47-48) Describe the regional differences in the distribution of crime across Canada. What explanations have been offered for those patterns?

Answer will vary.

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-04 Provide an overview of the amount and types of crime in Canada

30. (p. 61) Explain the difference between the aging-out phenomenon and the life-course perspective.

Answer will vary.

Bloom's: Understand

Learning Objective: 02-05 Discuss some of the general characteristics of criminals