This month’s cover article, “Environmental Factors and Fluctuations in Daily Crime Rates,” explores the relationships between ambient air pollutant levels, weather variables, and crime in four U.S. cities. Analyses were performed to examine the associations between outdoor air concentrations of carbon monoxide, particulate matter, ozone, and sulfur dioxide with several types of crime. The article also looked at the associations between crime and weather variables such as temperature, humidity, visibility, wind speed, precipitation, and cloud cover. The study is the first to look at multiple air pollutants and weather variables in relation to daily crime data. Establishing a clear relationship could provide a starting point for national, state, and local policies and programs aimed at reducing both environmental exposures and crime.

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