



Criminal Victimization, 2016

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In 2016, about half (51%) of serious violent crimes, including rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault, were reported to police (figure 1).¹ In comparison, 42% of all violent crimes and 36% of property crimes were reported to police.

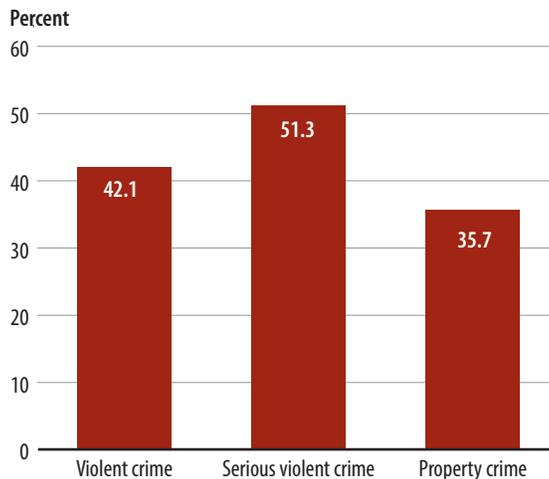
Data are from the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), which collects information on nonfatal crimes against persons age 12 or older from a nationally representative sample of U.S. households. The NCVS measures violent crimes, which include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Property crimes include household burglary, motor vehicle theft, and theft. The survey also measures personal larceny, which includes pickpocketing and purse snatching.²

Victimization is the basic unit of analysis used in most of this report. A victimization is a crime that affects one person or household. For personal crimes, the number of victimizations is equal to the number of victims present during a criminal incident. Each crime against a household is counted as having a single victim—the affected household.

¹Unless otherwise noted, findings in this report are significant at the 95% confidence level.

²For additional estimates excluded from this report, see the [NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool \(NVAT\)](#) on the BJS website.

FIGURE 1
Percent of victimizations reported to police, 2016



Note: Violent crime includes serious violent crime and simple assault. In the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crime includes household burglary, motor vehicle theft, and property theft. See appendix table 1 for estimates and standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

HIGHLIGHTS

Violent crime

- In 2016, U.S. residents age 12 or older experienced 5.7 million violent victimizations—a rate of 21.1 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older.
- The rate of stranger violence (8.2 per 1,000 persons) was higher than the rate of intimate partner violence (2.2 per 1,000).
- Fewer than half (42%) of violent victimizations were reported to police.

Property crime

- In 2016, U.S. households experienced 15.9 million property crimes—a rate of 119.4 per 1,000 households.
- Motor vehicle thefts (80%) were the most likely of all crime types to be reported to police.

Prevalence of crime

- In 2016, a total of 1.3% of all persons age 12 or older experienced one or more violent victimizations.
- A total of 8.8% of all households experienced at least one property victimization.

Trends

- The National Crime Victimization Survey sample went through a routine redesign in 2016, which resulted in the 2016 data not being comparable to data from prior years.
- Among counties that remained in sample from the previous design, there was no measurable change in the rates of violent, serious violent, or property crime from 2015 to 2016.

2016 National Crime Victimization Survey sample redesign

To produce estimates on criminal victimization, the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) collects information from a sample of U.S. households that represents the nation.³ The sample design is periodically changed to maintain the representativeness of the survey. In 2016, the NCVS sample was redesigned for two reasons:

1. to reflect changes in the U.S. population based on the 2010 Decennial Census
2. to make it possible to produce state- and local-level victimization estimates for the largest 22 states and specific metropolitan areas within those states.⁴

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau conducts the official population count of the United States. In 2016, a redesign of the NCVS sample was necessary to account for shifts in the population identified through the 2010 Decennial Census.⁵ From 2000 to 2010, the number of people residing in individual U.S. counties changed.⁶ Almost two-thirds of the nation's 3,143 counties gained population. Most counties along coastlines experienced population growth during this period, while others that lost population were clustered by region and were found in areas such as the Great Plains and Mississippi Delta.

The NCVS sampling process involves selecting primary sampling units (PSUs), which are counties, groups of counties, or large metropolitan areas identified through the Decennial Census and the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey.⁷ Within the PSUs selected, the sampling process identifies addresses to be included in the sample and interviews are conducted with persons and households at those addresses. Sampled households remain in the NCVS sample for seven waves (each wave is a 6-month period). The decennial sample update ensures that the sample reflects current population distributions. This process requires a phased shift of counties included in the 2000 sample design to those selected for the 2010 sample design, resulting in three types of counties in 2016:⁸

- continuing counties—those in both the 2000 and 2010 sample designs
- outgoing counties—those that were in the 2000 sample design, but not the 2010 sample design
- new counties—those that were selected into the 2010 sample design, but were not in the 2000 sample design.

³For more information, see *National Crime Victimization Survey, Technical Documentation* (NCJ 247252, BJS web, September 2014).

⁴Subnational estimates will be available for selected states and localities in future Bureau of Justice Statistics publications.

⁵See *Criminal Victimization, 2006* (NCJ 219243, BJS web, December 2007) for information on the previous NCVS decennial sample redesign in 2006.

⁶For more information, see U.S. Census Bureau. *Population Distribution and Change: 2000 to 2010*. Retrieved from <https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-01.pdf>

⁷For more information, see *National Crime Victimization Survey, Technical Documentation* (NCJ 247252, BJS web, September 2014).

⁸The NCVS decennial redesign will conclude in December 2017.

As part of ongoing efforts to enhance the usefulness and relevance of the NCVS, the sample also was expanded and redistributed to produce state and local estimates of victimization.⁹ Because the primary purpose of the NCVS has been to generate national estimates, the sample was initially designed to be representative of the United States as a whole and not individual states and local areas. To produce reliable estimates for the 22 most populous states and specific metropolitan areas within those states, it was necessary to change the NCVS sample design.

Implications of the 2016 sample redesign

When the 2016 NCVS data collection was complete, a comparison of the 2015 and 2016 victimization estimates showed that the violent and property crime rates had increased. Given recent patterns in NCVS data, these increases seemed too large to be a result of actual growth in crime, suggesting that the sample redesign may have affected the victimization rates. To better understand these results, the 2015 and 2016 victimization rates for new and continuing sample counties were examined separately. These comparisons showed that from 2015 to 2016 there were no statistically significant differences for continuing sample counties in the rates of total property crime, total violent crime, and total serious violent crime (**table 1**). In comparison, rates of total violent crime and total serious violent crime were higher in the new sample counties than in the outgoing sample counties.

⁹National Research Council. (2008). *Surveying Victims: Options for Conducting the National Crime Victimization Survey*. National Academies Press; and National Research Council. (2009). *Ensuring the Quality, Credibility, and Relevance of U.S. Justice Statistics*. National Academies Press.

TABLE 1
Victimization rates in NCVS continuing, outgoing, and new sample counties, 2015 and 2016

Type of crime	Continuing NCVS sample counties		Outgoing NCVS sample counties/ new NCVS sample counties	
	2015*	2016	2015 outgoing**	2016 new
Total violent crime ^a	18.7	19.5	18.3	24.2 †
Serious violent crime ^b	7.3	6.8	5.2	7.5 †
Total property crime ^c	108.1	113.9	118.6	130.0

Note: For violent and serious violent crime, rate is per 1,000 persons age 12 or older. For property crime, rate is per 1,000 households. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

*Comparison group. 2015 continuing sample counties are compared to 2016 continuing sample counties.

**Comparison group. 2015 outgoing sample counties are compared to 2016 new sample counties.

†Significant difference from comparison year at 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault.

^bIn the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

^cIncludes household burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on internal data from the U.S. Census Bureau, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2015–2016.

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2016 National Crime Victimization Survey sample redesign (continued)

Understanding the increase in victimization estimates from 2015 to 2016

The NCVS sample redesign required a substantial addition of new counties to the sample. In 2016, the percentage of new sample counties (46%) was nearly double the percentage in typical survey cycle years, such as 2014 and 2015 (27%). Therefore, BJS needed additional interviewers to conduct interviews with the households in these new sample counties. Prior to the redesign, in typical years NCVS interviewers who were new to the survey conducted 3% to 4% of interviews. In 2016, new NCVS interviewers conducted about 11% of interviews.

Findings from the 2006 NCVS sample redesign, sample redesigns of other federal household surveys, and research on reporting patterns among respondents from the NCVS and other similar surveys were informative for understanding the potential impact of the 2016 NCVS redesign. This research shows that newer interviewers tend to collect more victimizations and generate higher rates of victimization than more experienced interviewers.¹⁰ The addition of new counties to the sample meant that more households were in the sample for the first time in 2016. For efficiency purposes, the new NCVS interviewers were also primarily assigned to households that

were new to the sample. Prior research has demonstrated that NCVS respondents tend to report more victimizations during early interview waves.¹¹ Thus, the effect of having a substantially higher percentage of new interviewers was combined with the effect of having a considerably larger share of new households. To better understand the increase in victimization rates, BJS and its contractors analyzed these and several other factors.

Even after conducting a thorough investigation, it was not possible to isolate the extent to which each factor contributed to the victimization rates, or the degree to which the change in rates from 2015 to 2016 resulted from the sample redesign rather than real changes in U.S. victimization levels. Therefore, data in this report focus primarily on the level and nature of violent and property crime victimization in 2016. Unless otherwise noted, 2016 estimates are based on the total NCVS sample. BJS will continue to monitor victimization estimates in future years to determine whether the impact of the sample redesign is limited to the 2016 estimates. (See *Methodology* for additional information on the impact of the 2016 NCVS sample redesign on victimization estimates.) Following the NCVS 2006 decennial redesign, BJS found that data since 2007 were comparable. (See *Methodology* for more information on the methodological changes to the NCVS in 2006.)

¹⁰Gfroerer, J., Eyerman, J., & Chromy, J., Eds. (2002). Redesigning an ongoing national household survey: Methodological issues. *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies*. DHHS Publication no. SMA 03-3768; and Killion, R.A. (2010). *National Crime and Victimization 2006 Estimate Problems Research: Determining the Effect of the 2006 Methodological Changes to the National Crime Victimization Survey on the 2006 Crime Rate Estimates*. Internal memorandum.

¹¹*Criminal Victimization, 2006* (NCJ 219413, BJS web, December 2007); Neter, J., & Waksberg, J. (1964). A Study of Response Errors in Expenditures Data from Household Surveys. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 59, 17-55; and Biderman, A.D., & Cantor, D. (1984). A Longitudinal Analysis of Bounding, Respondent Conditioning and Mobility as Sources of Panel Bias in the National Crime Survey. *Proceedings of the Section on Survey Research Methods, Joint Statistical Meetings*.

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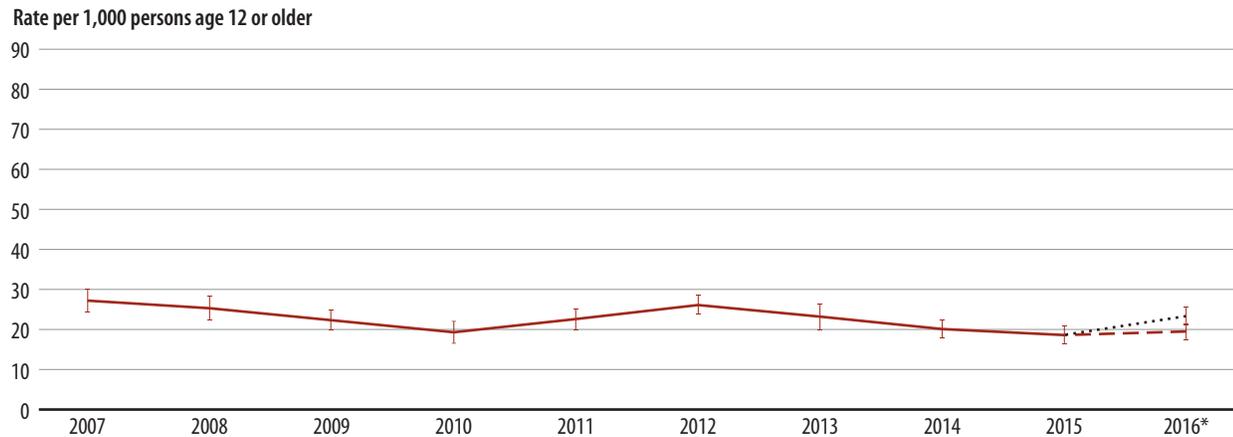
2016 National Crime Victimization Survey sample redesign (continued)

Victimization trends using 2016 continuing sample counties

Based on data from continuing sample counties for 2016, the violent victimization rate declined from 27.2 victimizations

per 1,000 persons age 12 or older in 2007 to 19.5 per 1,000 in 2016 (figure 2). From 2007 to 2016, the rate of property crime victimization declined from 154.9 victimizations per 1,000 households to 113.9 per 1,000 (figure 3).

FIGURE 2
Violent victimization, 2007–2016

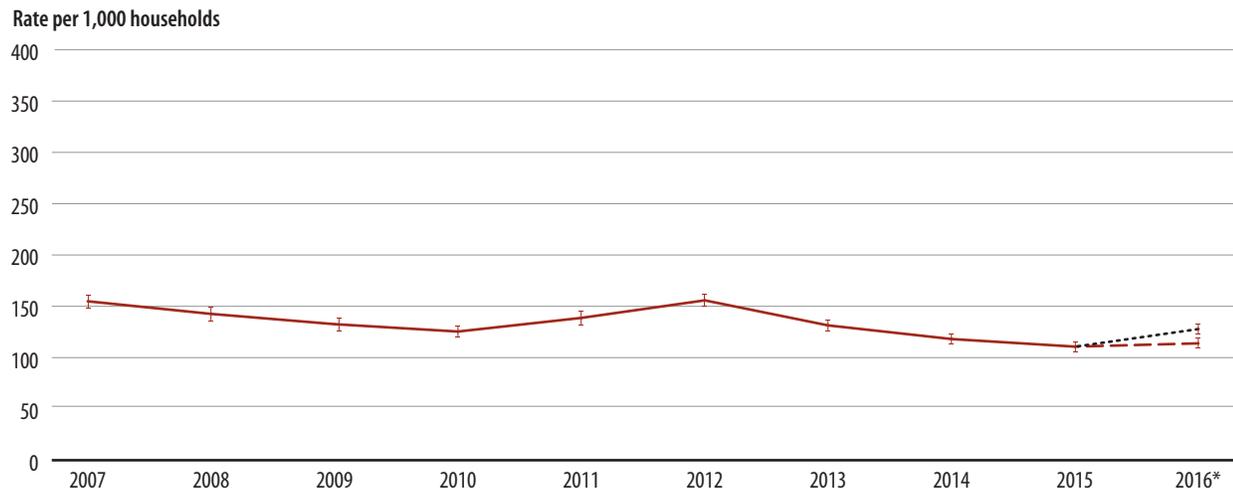


Note: Estimates include 95% confidence intervals. See appendix table 3 for estimates and standard errors.

*Dashed line for 2016 includes continuing sample counties only. Dotted line for 2016 includes new sample counties only and is for illustration only. See *Methodology* for more information on changes in the 2016 NCVS.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2007–2016; and U.S. Census Bureau, National Crime Victimization Survey Internal Data, 2016.

FIGURE 3
Property victimization, 2007–2016



Note: Estimates include 95% confidence intervals. See appendix table 4 for estimates and standard errors.

*Dashed line for 2016 includes continuing sample counties only. Dotted line for 2016 includes new sample counties and is for illustration only. See *Methodology* for more information on changes in the 2016 NCVS.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2007–2016; and U.S. Census Bureau, National Crime Victimization Survey Internal Data, 2016.

The simple assault rate was higher than the rate of serious violent crime in 2016

In 2016, U.S. residents age 12 or older experienced an estimated 5.7 million violent victimizations, of which 1.9 million were serious violent victimizations (table 2). The overall violent crime rate was 21.1 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older, and the overall rate of serious violence was 7.0 victimizations per 1,000. The rate of simple assault (14.1 victimizations per 1,000 persons) was higher than the rates of specific serious violent crimes: rape or sexual assault (1.2 per 1,000), robbery (1.8 per 1,000), and aggravated assault (4.0 per 1,000).

TABLE 2
Violent and property victimization, by type of crime, 2016

Type of crime	Number	Rate per 1,000 ^a
Violent crime^b	5,749,330	21.1
Rape or sexual assault ^c	323,450 †	1.2 †
Robbery	500,680 †	1.8 †
Assault	4,925,200	18.1
Aggravated assault	1,084,340 †	4.0 †
Simple assault*	3,840,860	14.1
Domestic violence ^d	1,109,610	4.1
Intimate partner violence ^e	597,740	2.2
Stranger violence	2,232,260	8.2
Violent crime involving injury	1,366,250	5.0
Serious violent crime^f	1,908,470	7.0
Serious domestic violence ^d	402,430	1.5
Serious intimate partner violence ^e	272,380	1.0
Serious stranger violence	789,370	2.9
Serious violent crime involving a weapon	1,267,810	4.7
Serious violent crime involving injury	746,850	2.7
Property crime	15,917,430	119.4
Burglary	3,291,490 †	24.7 †
Motor vehicle theft	585,500 †	4.4 †
Theft**	12,040,440	90.3

Note: Violent crime classifications include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Other violent crime categories in this table, including domestic violence and violent crime involving injury, are not mutually exclusive from these classifications. Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. Total population age 12 or older was 272,174,080 in 2016. Total number of households was 133,271,310 in 2016. See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

*Comparison group for violent crime. Simple assault is compared to rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

**Comparison group for property crime.

†Significant difference from comparison group at 95% confidence level.

^aFor violent and serious violent crime, rate is per 1,000 persons age 12 or older. For property crime, rate is per 1,000 households.

^bExcludes homicide because the NCVS is based on interviews with victims and cannot measure murder.

^cSee *Methodology* for details on the measurement of rape or sexual assault in the NCVS.

^dIncludes victimization committed by intimate partners and family members.

^eIncludes victimization committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends or girlfriends.

^fIn the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

There were 1.1 million domestic violence victimizations in 2016. Of these, 54% involved intimate partners (597,740) (percentage not shown in table). Domestic violence includes crimes committed by intimate partners (current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends) and family members. In comparison, 2.2 million violent victimizations involved strangers. The victimization rate for stranger violence (8.2 per 1,000) was higher than the rates of domestic violence (4.1 per 1,000) and intimate partner violence (2.2 per 1,000).

In 2016, there were 1.9 million serious violent victimizations. Two-thirds of these victimizations involved a weapon (66%) and 39% involved injury (percentages not shown in table).

U.S. households experienced an estimated 15.9 million property victimizations in 2016, or 119.4 victimizations per 1,000 households. Thefts (12.0 million) accounted for the majority of property crimes. The victimization rate for theft (90.3 victimizations per 1,000 households) was higher than the rates for burglary (24.7 per 1,000) and motor vehicle theft (4.4 per 1,000).

Persons age 12 or older experienced nearly half a million nonfatal firearm victimizations in 2016

An estimated 416,350 nonfatal firearm incidents and 480,940 nonfatal firearm victimizations occurred in 2016 (table 3). An incident is a specific criminal act involving one or more victims or victimizations, while a victimization refers to each person or household involved in the incident. The rate of firearm victimization was 1.8 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older. Sixty percent of all serious violent crimes that involved a firearm were reported to police in 2016.

TABLE 3
Firearm violence, 2016

	Estimate
Firearm incidents	416,350
Firearm victimizations	480,940
Rate of firearm violence*	1.8
Percent of firearm victimizations reported to police	60.5%

Note: Includes violent incidents and victimizations in which the offender had, showed, or used a firearm. An incident is a specific criminal act involving one or more victims or victimizations, while a victimization refers to each person or household involved in the incident. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

*Per 1,000 persons age 12 or older.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

Differences in rates of reporting to police in the UCR and NCVS

For 2016, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program showed that 3.9 serious violent crimes per 1,000 persons and 24.5 property crimes per 1,000 persons were known to law enforcement (table 4).¹² According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 3.6 serious violent crimes per 1,000 persons age 12 or older and 42.6 property crimes per 1,000 households were reported to law enforcement during this same year.

Because the NCVS and UCR measure an overlapping, but not identical, set of offenses and use different methodologies, congruity is not expected between estimates from these two data sources. Restricting the NCVS to serious violence reported to police keeps the measures as similar as possible. However, significant methodological and definitional differences remain between serious violent crimes in the NCVS and the UCR:

- The UCR includes homicide and commercial crimes, while the NCVS excludes these crime types.
- The UCR excludes sexual assault, which the NCVS includes.¹³
- NCVS estimates are based on interviews with a nationally representative sample of persons in U.S. households. UCR estimates are based on counts of crimes reported by an incomplete census of law enforcement agencies and are weighted to compensate for the incomplete reporting.
- The NCVS excludes crimes against children age 11 or younger and persons in institutions (e.g., nursing homes and correctional institutions). It may also exclude highly mobile populations and persons who are homeless. Victimization against these persons are included in the UCR.

¹²NCVS and UCR crime rates are calculated differently. UCR crime rates are normally reported per 100,000 persons but were recalculated to align with the reporting of NCVS crime rates. In this report, UCR rates are calculated per 1,000 persons within the U.S. resident population. NCVS violent crime rates are calculated per 1,000 persons age 12 or older, and NCVS property crime rates are calculated per 1,000 households.

¹³Sexual assaults include attacks or attempted attacks generally involving unwanted sexual contact between the victim and offender that may involve force.

Given these differences, the two measures of crime should not be compared but should be viewed as complementary sources, which together provide a more comprehensive picture of crime in the United States. For additional information about the differences between the two programs, see *The Nation's Two Crime Measures* (NCJ 246832, BJS web, September 2014).

TABLE 4
Rate of crime reported to police in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program and National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016

Type of crime	UCR rate per 1,000 residents ^a	NCVS rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older
Serious violent crime^b	3.9	3.6
Murder	0.1	~
Rape ^c	0.4	0.3
Robbery	1.0	1.0
Aggravated assault	2.5	2.3
	UCR rate per 1,000 residents ^a	NCVS rate per 1,000 households
Property crime	24.5	42.6
Burglary	4.7	12.3
Motor vehicle theft	2.4	3.5

Note: See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

~Not applicable.

^aIncludes crimes against persons age 12 or younger, persons who are homeless, persons who are institutionalized, and crimes against commercial establishments. These populations are out of sample for the NCVS.

^bIn addition to rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, the NCVS includes sexual assault.

^cThe NCVS estimate includes sexual assault. See *Methodology* for details on the measurement of rape or sexual assault in the NCVS. The UCR estimate is based on the revised definition of rape.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016; and FBI, *Crime in the United States, 2016*, <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2016/crime-in-the-u.s.-2016/topic-pages/tables/table-1>.

42% of violent victimizations were reported to police in 2016

The NCVS allows for examination of crimes reported and not reported to police.¹⁴ Victims may not report a victimization for a variety of reasons, including fear of reprisal or getting the offender in trouble, believing that police would not or could not do anything to help, and believing the crime to be a personal issue or too trivial to report. Police notification may come from the victim, a third party (including witnesses, other victims, household members, or other officials, such as school officials or workplace managers), or police at the scene of the incident. Police notification may occur during or immediately following a criminal incident or at a later date.

In 2016, fewer than half (42%) of violent victimizations were reported to police (**table 5**). Aggravated assault (58%) and robbery (54%) were more likely to be reported to police than simple assault (38%). However, rape or sexual assault (23%) was less likely to be reported to police than simple assault (38%). The percentages of stranger violence (45%), domestic violence (49%), and intimate partner violence (47%) that were reported to police were not significantly different.

Household crime types showed some variation in reporting patterns. In 2016, motor vehicle thefts (80%) were the most likely of all household crime types to be reported to police, followed by household burglaries (50%) and thefts (30%).

¹⁴Includes municipal police departments, sheriffs' offices, or other state or local law enforcement agencies.

TABLE 5
Percent of victimizations reported to police, by type of crime, 2016

Type of crime	Percent
Violent crime^a	42.1%
Rape or sexual assault ^b	22.9 †
Robbery	54.0 †
Assault	42.2
Aggravated assault	58.5 †
Simple assault*	37.5
Domestic violence ^c	49.1
Intimate partner violence ^d	46.9
Stranger violence	44.7
Violent crime involving injury	47.4
Serious violent crime^e	51.3%
Serious domestic violence ^c	52.6
Serious intimate partner violence ^d	51.9
Serious stranger violence	57.1
Serious violent crime involving a weapon	60.1
Serious violent crime involving injury	50.2
Property crime	35.7%
Household burglary	49.7 †
Motor vehicle theft	79.9 †
Theft**	29.7

Note: Violent crime classifications include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Other violent crime categories in this table, including domestic violence and violent crime involving injury, are not mutually exclusive from these classifications. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

*Comparison group for violent crime. Simple assault is compared to rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

**Comparison group for property crime.

†Significant difference from comparison group at 95% confidence level.

^aExcludes homicide because the NCVS is based on interviews with victims and cannot measure murder.

^bSee *Methodology* for details on the measurement of rape and sexual assault in the NCVS.

^cIncludes victimization committed by intimate partners and family members.

^dIncludes victimization committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends.

^eIn the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

For aggravated assault, the rate of reported crime was higher than the rate of unreported crime

Overall in 2016, the rate of violent crime not reported to police (11.8 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older) was higher than the rate of violent crime that was reported to police (8.9 per 1,000) (table 6). However, rates of reporting and not reporting differed by crime type. For aggravated assault, for instance, the rate of reported crime (2.3 per 1,000) was higher than the rate of unreported crime (1.6 per 1,000). In comparison, the rate of unreported crime for rape or sexual assault (0.9 per 1,000) was higher than the rate of reported crime (0.3 per 1,000). Similarly, for simple assault, the rate of unreported crime (8.6 per 1,000) exceeded the rate of reported crime (5.3 per 1,000). Rates of reported crime were higher than rates of unreported crime for serious violence involving a stranger (90% confidence level) or weapon.

TABLE 6
Rate of victimization reported and not reported to police, by type of crime, 2016

Type of crime	Reported to police*	Not reported to police
Violent crime^a	8.9	11.8 †
Rape or sexual assault ^b	0.3	0.9 †
Robbery	1.0	0.7
Assault	7.6	10.2 †
Aggravated assault	2.3	1.6 †
Simple assault	5.3	8.6 †
Domestic violence ^c	2.0	1.9
Intimate partner violence ^d	1.0	1.1
Stranger violence	3.7	4.4
Violent crime involving injury	2.4	2.5
Serious violent crime^e	3.6	3.2
Serious domestic violence ^c	0.8	0.6
Serious intimate partner violence ^d	0.5	0.5
Serious stranger violence	1.7	1.2 ‡
Serious violent crime involving a weapon	2.8	1.7 †
Serious violent crime involving injury	1.4	1.3
Property crime	42.6	75.2 †
Household burglary	12.3	12.1
Motor vehicle theft	3.5	0.8 †
Theft	26.9	62.3 †

Note: Violent crime classifications include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Other violent crime categories in this table, including domestic violence and violent crime involving injury, are not mutually exclusive from these classifications. Victimization rates are per 1,000 persons age 12 or older for violent crime or per 1,000 households for property crime. See appendix table 9 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Significant difference from comparison group at 95% confidence level.

‡Significant difference from comparison group at 90% confidence level.

^aExcludes homicide because the NCVS is based on interviews with victims and cannot measure murder.

^bSee *Methodology* for details on the measurement of rape and sexual assault in the NCVS.

^cIncludes victimization committed by intimate partners and family members.

^dIncludes victimization committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends.

^eIn the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

For overall property crime, the rate of unreported crime (75.2 victimizations per 1,000 households) was higher than the rate of reported crime (42.6 per 1,000) in 2016. However, patterns varied among specific property crime types. For example, the rate of reported motor vehicle theft (3.5 per 1,000) exceeded the rate of unreported motor vehicle theft (0.8 per 1,000).

Victim services were received in 10% of violent crime victimizations in 2016

Victim service providers are publicly or privately funded organizations that provide victims with support and services to aid their physical and emotional recovery, offer protection from future victimizations, guide them through the criminal justice system process, and assist them in obtaining restitution. Victims may not receive services because they do not seek out or know about assistance, they do not qualify, or services may not be available.

In 2016, victims received victim services in 10% of violent crime victimizations (table 7). A greater percentage of violent violent victimizations (12%) than simple assault victimizations (8%) resulted in the victim receiving services. Victims received assistance from victim service providers in about a quarter (26%) of intimate partner violent victimizations. In 2016, victims received services in 13% of violent victimizations involving injury to the victim and 14% of violent victimizations involving a weapon.

TABLE 7
Percent of violent victimizations in which victims received assistance from a victim service agency, by type of crime, 2016

Type of crime	Percent
Violent crime^a	9.5%
Serious violent crime ^{b*}	12.2
Simple assault	8.1 †
Intimate partner violence^c	25.5%
Violent crime involving injury	12.7%
Violent crime involving a weapon	13.6%

Note: See appendix table 10 for standard errors.

*Comparison group. Serious violent crime is compared to simple assault.

†Significant difference from comparison group at 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Excludes homicide because the NCVS is based on interviews with victims and cannot measure murder.

^bIn the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

^cIncludes victimization committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

In 2016, rates of violent victimization were higher for persons ages 12 to 34 than for those age 35 or older

In 2016, rates of violent victimization were higher for younger than older persons. Specifically, each of the rates of violent victimization committed against persons ages 12 to 34 was higher than the rates for those age 35 or older (table 8). The rate of violent victimization was higher for persons who were never married (29.8 victimizations per 1,000) than for those who were married (12.4 per 1,000) or widowed (10.7 per 1,000). Persons who were separated (67.5 per 1,000) had the highest rate of violence of all marital status categories. In 2016, the rate of violent victimization was higher for persons in households earning less than \$25,000 annually than for those in households earning \$25,000 or more annually.

There were no statistically significant differences in violent crime rates by victim's sex, race, or Hispanic origin in 2016.

The rates of serious violent victimization committed against persons ages 18 to 34 were higher than the rates for those age 35 or older. However, there was no statistically significant difference in the rate of serious violent victimization for persons ages 12 to 17 compared to persons ages 35 to 49. Similar to rates of violent victimization, the rate of serious violent victimization was higher for persons who were never married (10.7 per 1,000) than for those who were married (3.3 per 1,000) or widowed (2.6 per 1,000). Persons who were separated had the highest rate of serious violence of all marital status categories (20.0 per 1,000) (90% confidence level for divorced persons).

TABLE 8
Rate of violent victimization and serious violent victimization and percent reported to police, by demographic characteristics of victims, 2016

Victim demographic characteristic	Rate of total violence per 1,000 persons age 12 or older		Percent of violence reported to police	
	Violent crime ^a	Serious violent crime ^b	Violent crime ^a	Serious violent crime ^b
Total	21.1	7.0	42.1%	51.3%
Sex				
Male*	21.4	6.5	44.3%	60.5%
Female	20.8	7.5	40.0	43.7 †
Race/Hispanic origin^c				
White	20.5	6.3	40.1%	45.0% †
Black*	24.1	8.2	39.8	59.8
Hispanic	20.2	8.2	51.6 †	64.8
Other ^d	23.0	8.5	42.9	47.8
Age				
12-17	30.9	8.6	27.7%	48.1%
18-24*	30.9	11.0	35.7	51.5
25-34	31.8	12.8	38.9	37.8 ‡
35-49	22.9 †	6.8 †	49.8 †	58.6
50-64	16.1 †	5.2 †	49.1 †	65.2 ‡
65 or older	4.4 †	1.1 †	60.4 †	62.0
Marital status				
Never married*	29.8	10.7	33.5%	45.8%
Married	12.4 †	3.3 †	50.8 †	62.9 †
Widowed	10.7 †	2.6 †	48.1 ‡	60.5
Divorced	30.1	11.9	53.8 †	56.0
Separated	67.5 †	20.0 †	43.2	39.7
Household income				
Less than \$10,000*	35.8	13.0	47.3%	37.3%
\$10,000-\$14,999	35.6	13.9	50.2	54.8 ‡
\$15,000-\$24,999	32.9	14.0	45.3	52.0 ‡
\$25,000-\$34,999	21.0 †	6.3 †	44.2	57.9 †
\$35,000-\$49,999	20.4 †	6.8 †	34.0 †	43.9
\$50,000-\$74,999	17.6 †	5.8 †	42.4	57.1 †
\$75,000 or more	15.7 †	4.1 †	39.4	54.3 †

Note: Victimization rates are per 1,000 persons age 12 or older. See appendix table 11 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Significant difference from comparison group at 95% confidence level.

‡Significant difference from comparison group at 90% confidence level.

^aIncludes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Excludes homicide because the NCVS is based on interviews with victims and cannot measure murder.

^bIn the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

^cWhite, black, and other race categories exclude persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^dIncludes American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander; and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

In 2016, similar percentages of violent victimizations committed against males and females were reported to police. However, serious violent victimizations committed against males (60%) were significantly more likely to be reported to police than serious violent victimizations committed against females (44%). Violent victimizations committed against Hispanics (52%) were more likely to be reported to police than those committed against blacks or whites (40% each).¹⁵ For serious violence, victimizations committed against Hispanics (65%) and blacks (60%) were more likely to be reported to police than victimizations committed against whites (45%).

Violent victimizations committed against persons age 34 or younger were less likely to be reported to police than victimizations committed against older persons in 2016.

¹⁵White, black, and other race categories exclude persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, unless specified.

About half of serious violent victimizations committed against persons ages 18 to 24 (51%) were reported to police, which was higher than the percentage of reported victimizations for persons ages 25 to 34 (38%, 90% confidence level), but lower than for persons ages 50 to 64 (65%, 90% confidence level). Violent victimizations against persons who were never married (33%) were less likely to be reported to police than victimizations committed against persons who were married (51%), widowed (48%, 90% confidence level), or divorced (54%). Serious violent victimizations against persons who were never married (46%) were also less likely to be reported to police compared to victimizations committed against persons who were married (63%).

In 2016, the rate of violence against blacks (24.1 per 1,000) was higher than the rate against Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders (13.9 per 1,000)

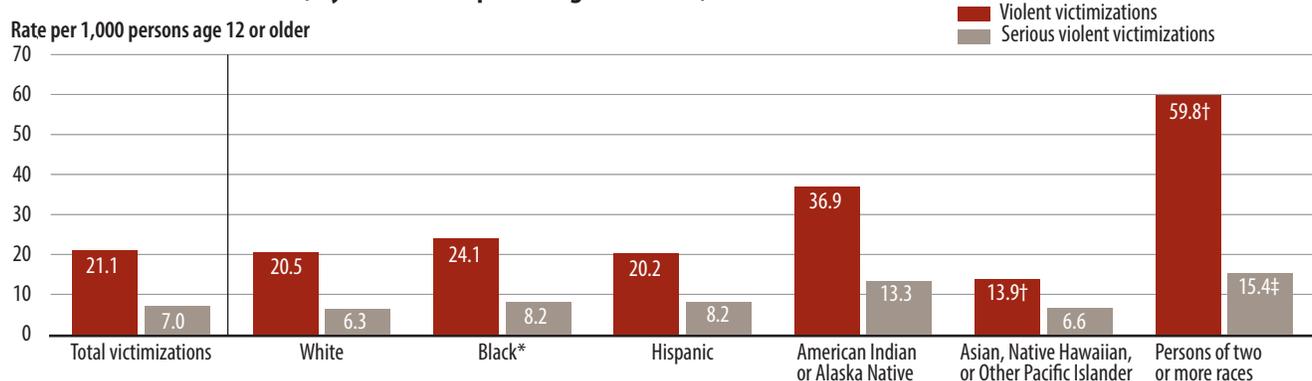
In 2016, the rate of violent victimization committed against blacks (24.1 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older) was higher than the rate committed against Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders (13.9 per 1,000) (figure 4).¹⁶ Persons in both of these race categories had lower rates of violent victimization than persons of two or more races (59.8 per 1,000). Rates of violence were higher for persons of two or more races than for persons of all other races or Hispanic origin (90% confidence level for American Indians or Alaska Natives). There were no statistically significant differences in the violent

victimization rate for blacks (24.1 per 1,000) compared to whites (20.5 per 1,000), American Indians or Alaska Natives (36.9 per 1,000), and Hispanics (20.2 per 1,000) in 2016.

The rate of serious violent victimization committed against blacks (8.2 victimizations per 1,000 persons) was lower than the rate committed against persons of two or more races (15.4 per 1,000, 90% confidence level) in 2016. There were no statistically significant differences in rates of serious violent victimization between blacks and whites (6.3 per 1,000); American Indians or Alaska Natives (13.3 per 1,000); Asians, Native Hawaiians, or Other Pacific Islanders (6.6 per 1,000); and Hispanics (8.2 per 1,000) in 2016.

¹⁶White, black, and other race categories exclude persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, unless specified.

FIGURE 4
Rate of violent victimization, by race and Hispanic origin of victim, 2016



Note: Violent victimization includes serious violent victimization (rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault) and simple assault. White; black; American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander; and persons of two or more race categories exclude persons of Hispanic or Latino origin. See appendix table 12 for estimates and standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Significant difference from comparison group at the 95% confidence level.

‡Significant difference from comparison group at the 90% confidence level.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

In 2016, similar percentages of violent victimizations were reported to police across income brackets. However, victimizations committed against persons in households that earned \$35,000 to \$49,999 per year (34%) were less likely to be reported to police than victimizations committed against persons in households that earned less than \$10,000 per year (47%). For serious violence, victimizations committed against persons in households that earned less than \$10,000 annually (37%) were less likely to be reported to police than victimizations committed against persons in households in all other income categories (52% to 58%) (90% confidence level for \$10,000-\$14,999 and \$15,000-\$24,999), except for households that earned \$35,000 to \$49,999 annually (44%).

Violent, serious violent, and property crimes were higher in urban areas than in suburban and rural areas in 2016

Rates of violent victimization, serious violent victimization, and property victimization were higher in urban areas than in suburban and rural areas in 2016 (table 9). The rate of violent victimization in urban areas was 29.9 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older, compared to 15.4 per 1,000 in suburban and 21.7 per 1,000 in rural areas. The rate of serious violent victimization in urban areas was 10.7 per 1,000, compared to 5.1 per 1,000 in suburban and 5.6 per 1,000 in rural areas. For property crimes, the rate of victimization in urban areas was 150.5 victimizations per 1,000 households, compared to 97.0 per 1,000 in suburban and 125.0 per 1,000 in rural areas.

Property victimizations that occurred in urban areas (34%) were less likely to be reported to police than those that occurred in suburban areas (38%) in 2016. In 2016, there were no differences in the percentages of violent or serious violent victimizations reported to police by the victim’s location of residence.

In 2016, rates of violent victimization were lower in the Northeast (16.7 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older) and the South (16.3 per 1,000) than in the Midwest (27.0 per 1,000) and the West (26.6 per 1,000). The rate of serious violent victimization was lower in the Northeast (4.6 per 1,000) than the Midwest (9.7 per 1,000) and the West (7.6 per 1,000). The rate of serious violent victimization in the Northeast was not statistically different than the rate in the South (6.2 per 1,000). The Northeast had a lower rate of property crime than all other regions in 2016.

Violent victimizations in the Northeast were more likely to be reported to police (45%) than victimizations in the Midwest (35%). Serious violent victimizations in the South (58%) were more likely to be reported to police compared to those in the Midwest (45%). Property crime victimizations in the Northeast (32%) were less likely to be reported to police compared to property victimizations in the South (40%).

TABLE 9
Rate of total victimization and percent of victimizations reported to police, by type of crime and household location, 2016

Household location	Rate of total victimization			Percent of victimizations reported to police		
	Violent crime ^a	Serious violent crime ^b	Property crime ^c	Violent crime ^a	Serious violent crime ^b	Property crime ^c
Total	21.1	7.0	119.4	42.1%	51.3%	35.7%
Region						
Northeast*	16.7	4.6	76.6	44.8%	57.6%	32.0%
Midwest	27.0 †	9.7 †	114.1 †	34.6 †	45.2	33.7
South	16.3	6.2	115.5 †	48.1	57.7	40.3 †
West	26.6 †	7.6 †	165.3 †	42.1	47.1	33.0
Location of residence						
Urban*	29.9	10.7	150.5	41.9%	52.6%	34.1%
Suburban	15.4 †	5.1 †	97.0 †	42.6	50.9	37.9 †
Rural	21.7 †	5.6 †	125.0 †	41.4	46.8	34.4

Note: Victimization rates are per 1,000 persons age 12 or older for violent crime and per 1,000 households for property crime. See appendix table 13 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Significant difference from comparison group at 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Excludes homicide because the NCVS is based on interviews with victims and cannot measure murder.

^bIn the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

^cIncludes household burglary, motor vehicle theft, and theft.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

Prevalence of crime

Annual estimates of a population's risk for criminal victimization may be examined using victimization or prevalence rates. Historically, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) reports based on National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) data rely on victimization rates, which measure the extent to which victimizations occur in a specified population during a specific time. Victimization rates are used throughout this report. For crimes affecting persons, NCVS victimization rates are estimated by dividing the number of victimizations that occur during a specified time (T) by the population at risk for those victimizations and multiplying the rate by 1,000.

$$\text{Victimization rate}_{\tau} = \frac{\text{Number of victimizations experienced by a specified population}_{\tau}}{\text{Number of persons in the specified population}_{\tau}} \times 1,000$$

Prevalence rates also describe the level of victimization but are based on the number of unique persons (or households) in the population experiencing at least one victimization during a specified time. The key distinction between a victimization and prevalence rate is whether the numerator consists of the number of victimizations or victims. For example, a person who experienced two robberies on separate occasions within the past year would be counted twice in the victimization rate but once in the prevalence rate. Prevalence rates are estimated by dividing the number of victims in the specified population by the total number of persons in the population and multiplying the rate by 100. This is the percentage of the population victimized at least once in a given period.

$$\text{Prevalence rate}_{\tau} = \frac{\text{Number of victims in a specified population}_{\tau}}{\text{Number of persons in the specified population}_{\tau}} \times 100$$

Victimization and prevalence rates may also be produced for household crimes, such as burglary. In these instances, numerators and denominators are adjusted to reflect households rather than persons. To better understand the percentage of the population that is victimized at least once in a given period, prevalence rates are presented by type of crime and certain demographic characteristics. (For further information about measuring prevalence in the NCVS, see *Measuring the Prevalence of Crime with the National Crime Victimization Survey*, NCJ 241656, BJS web, September 2013.)

1.3% of all persons age 12 or older experienced violence in 2016

In 2016, an estimated 1.3% (3.6 million) of persons age 12 or older experienced at least one violent victimization and 0.5% (1.4 million) experienced at least one serious violent victimization (table 10). The prevalence rate of simple assault was higher (0.9%) than the rates of rape or sexual assault (0.1%), robbery (0.2%), and aggravated assault (0.3%) in 2016. The prevalence rate of stranger violence (0.6%) was higher than the rates of domestic violence (0.2%) and intimate partner violence (0.1%).

TABLE 10
Number of victims and prevalence rate, by type of crime, 2016

Type of crime	Number ^a	Prevalence rate ^b
Violent crime^c	3,629,180	1.33%
Rape or sexual assault	205,680 †	0.08 †
Robbery	417,190 †	0.15 †
Assault	3,136,760	1.15
Aggravated assault	784,600 †	0.29 †
Simple assault*	2,450,840	0.90
Domestic violence ^d	630,720	0.23
Intimate partner violence ^e	309,030	0.11
Stranger violence	1,588,430	0.58
Violent crime involving injury	864,900	0.32
Serious violent crime^f	1,354,370	0.50%
Serious domestic violence ^d	246,360	0.09
Serious intimate partner violence ^e	146,310	0.05
Serious stranger violence	627,310	0.23
Serious violent crime involving a weapon	896,350	0.33
Serious violent crime involving injury	509,680	0.19
Property crime	11,715,650	8.79%
Household burglary	2,569,980 †	1.93 †
Motor vehicle theft	546,180 †	0.41 †
Theft**	9,323,510	7.00

Note: Violent crime classifications include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Other violent crime categories in this table, including domestic violence and violent crime involving injury, are not mutually exclusive from these classifications. Detail may not sum to total because a person or household may experience multiple types of crime. See appendix table 14 for standard errors.

*Comparison group for violent crime. Simple assault is compared to rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

**Comparison group for property crime.

†Significant difference from comparison group at 95% confidence level.

^aNumber of persons age 12 or older who experienced at least one victimization during the year for violent crime, and number of households that experienced at least one victimization during the year for property crime.

^bPercent of persons age 12 or older who experienced at least one victimization during the year for violent crime, and percent of households that experienced at least one victimization during the year for property crime.

^cExcludes homicide because the NCVS is based on interviews with victims and cannot measure murder.

^dIncludes victimization committed by intimate partners and family members.

^eIncludes victimization committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends.

^fIn the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

Continued on next page

Prevalence of crime (continued)

In 2016, a total of 8.8% (11.7 million) of all households experienced at least one property victimization. About 1.9% (2.6 million) of all households experienced a burglary and 7.0% (9.3 million) of all households experienced a theft. An estimated 0.4% (546,180) of all households experienced a motor vehicle theft. In 2016, the prevalence rate for theft was higher (7.0%) than the rate for household burglary (1.9%) and motor vehicle theft (0.4%).

Prevalence of violent crime was higher among males than females in 2016

In 2016, a total of 1.4% (1.9 million) of males age 12 or older experienced at least one violent victimization (table 11). The prevalence rate for males was higher than the rate for females (1.3%), although the numbers of males and females who were victimized in 2016 were not statistically different. While the number of blacks (485,670) experiencing at least one violent victimization was lower than the number of whites (2.3 million), prevalence rates by race and Hispanic origin were not significantly different in 2016.¹⁷

The prevalence rate of violent crime was higher for persons ages 18 to 24 (1.9%) than persons ages 35 to 49 (1.5%), ages 50 to 64 (1.0%), and age 65 or older (0.4%). Persons who were never married (1.9%) had a higher prevalence rate of violence than those who were married (0.8%) or widowed (0.6%), and a lower prevalence rate than those who were separated (2.8%).

¹⁷White, black, and other race categories exclude persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, unless specified.

TABLE 11
Prevalence of violent crime, by demographic characteristics of victims, 2016

Victim demographic characteristic	Number of persons victimized ^a	Prevalence rate ^b
Total	3,629,180	1.33%
Sex		
Male*	1,872,700	1.41%
Female	1,756,490	1.26 †
Race/Hispanic origin^c		
White	2,318,090 †	1.34%
Black*	485,670	1.44
Hispanic	540,690	1.21
Other ^d	284,730 †	1.34
Age		
12–17	469,490	1.88%
18–24*	565,950	1.86
25–34	861,490 †	1.95
35–49	901,440 †	1.47 †
50–64	646,900	1.02 †
65 or older	183,910 †	0.38 †
Marital status		
Never married*	1,822,230	1.90%
Married	1,027,340 †	0.80 †
Widowed	96,920 †	0.64 †
Divorced	533,160 †	1.98
Separated	140,290 †	2.79 †

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. See appendix table 15 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

†Significant difference from comparison group at 95% confidence level.

^aNumber of persons age 12 or older who experienced at least one victimization during the year for violent crime.

^bPercent of persons age 12 or older who experienced at least one victimization during the year for violent crime.

^cWhite, black, and other race categories exclude persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^dIncludes American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander; and persons of two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

Methodology

Survey coverage

The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) is an annual data collection conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The NCVS is a self-report survey in which interviewed persons are asked about the number and characteristics of victimizations experienced during the previous 6 months. The NCVS collects information on nonfatal personal crimes (rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated and simple assault, and personal larceny) and household property crimes (burglary, motor vehicle theft, and other theft) both reported and not reported to police. In addition to providing annual level and change estimates on criminal victimization, the NCVS is the primary source of information on the nature of criminal victimization incidents.

Survey respondents provide information about themselves (e.g., sex, race, Hispanic origin, age, marital status, education level, and income) and whether they experienced a victimization. For each victimization incident, the NCVS collects information about the offender (e.g., sex, race, Hispanic origin, age, and victim-offender relationship), characteristics of the crime (including time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, and economic consequences), whether the crime was reported to police, reasons the crime was or was not reported, and victim experiences with the criminal justice system.

The NCVS is administered to persons age 12 or older from a nationally representative sample of households in the United States. The NCVS defines a household as a group of persons who all reside at a sampled address. Persons are considered household members when the sampled address is their usual place of residence at the time of the interview and when they have no usual place of residence elsewhere. Once selected, households generally remain in the sample for 3 years, and eligible persons in these households are interviewed every 6 months either in person or over the phone for a total of seven interviews.

First interviews are typically conducted in person with subsequent interviews conducted either in person or by phone. New households rotate into the sample on an ongoing basis to replace outgoing households that have been in the sample for the 3-year period. The sample includes persons living in group quarters, such as dormitories, rooming houses, and religious group dwellings, and excludes persons living in military barracks and institutional settings such as correctional or hospital facilities, and may exclude highly mobile populations and persons who are homeless.

Nonresponse and weighting adjustments

In 2016, a total of 134,690 households and 224,520 persons age 12 or older were interviewed for the NCVS. In general, each household was interviewed twice during the year. The response rate was 78% for households and 84% for eligible persons.

Victimizations that occurred outside of the United States were excluded from this report. In 2016, fewer than 1% of the unweighted victimizations occurred outside of the United States.

Estimates in this report use data primarily from the 2016 NCVS data files. These data are weighted to produce annual estimates of victimization for persons age 12 or older living in U.S. households. Because the NCVS relies on a sample rather than a census of the entire U.S. population, weights are designed to adjust to known population totals and compensate for survey nonresponse and other aspects of the complex sample design.

NCVS data files include person, household, and victimization weights. Person weights provide an estimate of the population represented by each person in the sample. Household weights provide an estimate of the U.S. household population represented by each household in the sample. After proper adjustment, both household and person weights are also typically used to form the denominator in calculations of crime rates.

Victimization weights used in the analyses in this report account for the number of persons present during an incident and for high-frequency repeat victimizations (i.e., series victimizations). Series victimizations are similar in type but occur with such frequency that a victim is unable to recall each individual event or describe each event in detail. Survey procedures allow NCVS interviewers to identify and classify these similar victimizations as series victimizations and to collect detailed information on only the most recent incident in the series.

The weight counts series victimizations as the actual number of victimizations reported by the victim, up to a maximum of 10. Including series victimizations in national rates results in large increases in the level of violent victimization. However, trends in violent crime are generally similar, regardless of whether series victimizations are included. In 2016, series incidents accounted for fewer than 2% of all victimizations and fewer than 4% of all violent victimizations. Weighting series victimizations as the number of victimizations up to a maximum of 10 victimizations produces more reliable estimates of crime levels, while the cap at 10 minimizes the effect of extreme outliers on rates. Additional information on the enumeration of series victimizations is detailed in the report *Methods for Counting High-Frequency Repeat Victimizations in the National Crime Victimization Survey* (NCJ 237308, BJS web, April 2012).

Standard error computations

When national estimates are derived from a sample, as with the NCVS, caution must be used when comparing one estimate to another or when comparing estimates over time. Although one estimate may be larger than another, estimates based on a sample have some degree of sampling error. The sampling error of an estimate depends on several factors, including the amount of variation in the responses and the size

of the sample. When the sampling error around an estimate is taken into account, estimates that appear different may not be statistically different.

One measure of the sampling error associated with an estimate is the standard error. The standard error may vary from one estimate to the next. Generally, an estimate with a small standard error provides a more reliable approximation of the true value than an estimate with a large standard error. Estimates with relatively large standard errors are associated with less precision and reliability and should be interpreted with caution.

To generate standard errors around numbers and estimates from the NCVS, the Census Bureau produces generalized variance function (GVF) parameters for BJS. The GVFs take into account aspects of the NCVS complex sample design and represent the curve fitted to a selection of individual standard errors based on the Balanced Repeated Replication (BRR) technique. The GVF parameters were used to generate standard errors for each point estimate (e.g., counts, percentages, and rates) in this report.

BJS conducted statistical tests to determine whether differences in estimated numbers, percentages, and rates in this report were statistically significant once sampling error was taken into account. Using statistical analysis programs developed specifically for the NCVS, all comparisons in the text were tested for significance. The primary test procedure was the Student's t-statistic, which tests the difference between two sample estimates. Unless otherwise noted, findings described in this report as higher, lower, or different passed a test at the 0.05 level of statistical significance (95% confidence level). Findings that passed a test at the 0.10 level of significance are noted as such in the text, i.e., (90% confidence level). Caution is required when comparing estimates not explicitly discussed in this report.

Readers may use the estimates and standard errors of the estimates provided in this report to generate a confidence interval around the estimate as a measure of the margin of error. The following example illustrates how standard errors may be used to generate confidence intervals:

According to the NCVS, in 2016 the violent victimization rate among persons age 12 or older was 21.1 per 1,000 persons (see table 2). Using the GVFs, BJS determined that the estimated victimization rate has a standard error of 0.95 (see appendix table 5). A confidence interval around the estimate is generated by multiplying the standard error by ± 1.96 (the t-score of a normal, two-tailed distribution that excludes 2.5% at either end of the distribution). Therefore, the 95% confidence interval around the 21.1 estimate from 2016

is $21.1 \pm (0.95 \times 1.96)$ or (19.24 to 22.96). In other words, if BJS used the same sampling method to select different samples and computed an interval estimate for each sample, it would expect the true population parameter (rate of violent victimization) to fall within the interval estimates 95% of the time.

For this report, BJS also calculated a coefficient of variation (CV) for all estimates, representing the ratio of the standard error to the estimate. CVs provide a measure of reliability and a means for comparing the precision of estimates across measures with differing levels or metrics.

2016 NCVS sample redesign

The 2016 NCVS sample redesign impacted the victimization estimates for 2016. (See *2016 National Crime Victimization Survey sample redesign* textbox for more information on the redesign.) A comparison of the 2015 and 2016 NCVS estimates revealed that increases in violent and property crime were greater than what was likely a result of actual increases in the incidence of crime. To better understand the change, victimization rates were examined for new and continuing sample counties separately. In 2016, total violent and total property victimization rates in the new sample counties were notably higher than in the continuing sample counties (table 12). Thus, BJS determined that further investigation of the 2016 victimization rates was needed. BJS, the U.S. Census Bureau, and researchers from RTI International on contract with BJS worked to quantify the impact of various aspects of the redesign, including higher proportions of new NCVS interviewers and households in the sample, on the victimization estimates.

TABLE 12
Rate of victimization in new, continuing, and total sample counties, 2016

Type of crime	New sample counties ^a	Continuing sample counties	Total sample counties
Total violent crime ^a	24.2	19.5 †	21.1
Serious violent crime ^b	7.5	6.8	7.0
Total property crime ^c	130.0	113.9 †	119.4

Note: Victimization rates are per 1,000 persons age 12 or older for violent crime and per 1,000 households for property crime. See appendix table 16 for standard errors.

^aComparison group. 2016 new sample counties are compared to 2016 continuing sample counties.

†Significant difference from comparison group at 95% confidence level.

^bIncludes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault.

^cIn the NCVS, serious violent crime is a subset of violent crime and includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

^dIncludes household burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016; and U.S. Census Bureau, National Crime Victimization Survey Internal Data, 2016.

Analysis of the sample redesign impact

BJS, the Census Bureau, and RTI examined the impact of the primary factors outlined above and several other subsidiary factors by analyzing whether, and to what extent, these elements affected the 2016 victimization estimates. In addition, we assessed whether it would be feasible to develop a statistical adjustment to account for the impact of these factors. As an initial step to try to control for different factors, BJS and its contractors conducted logistic modeling to predict the reporting of any crime (yes or no) based on several interviewer, survey respondent, and geographic characteristics (table 13). All variables in the model significantly influenced the probability of a respondent experiencing at least one crime. The model results indicated that households and persons with certain characteristics were more likely than others to experience violent and property crimes in 2016.

With the knowledge that multiple factors influenced the increase in victimization rates and because many of these factors are related, or statistically correlated, the Census Bureau and RTI conducted a series of analyses to disentangle the effects of the relevant factors. They examined patterns in the data across recent years (2014 through 2016) among new, continuing, and outgoing sample counties; across interviewers with different experience levels; across groups that had been in the sample for different lengths of time; across different crime types; and across respondent characteristics, such as income and urban/rural status. They also tested different types of potential adjustments to account for the impact of these factors. Results from these investigations were generally mixed. Descriptions of a selected set of the analyses the team conducted follow.

- *Differences by interviewer experience level and respondent characteristics.* New interviewers had a higher proportion of interviews among some types of respondent subgroups that typically experience higher crimes rates, such as persons in low-income households. However, for other characteristics (e.g., households and persons residing in urban areas), newer interviewers had a lower proportion of these interviews than more experienced interviewers. While this analysis found some differences between respondents being interviewed by interviewers with varying experience levels, they were typically small and did not account for the divergence in crime rates by interviewer experience.
- *Differences by interviewer experience level and incident reporting.* The team investigated whether new interviewers elicited victimization reports from a higher prevalence of households/persons or if they obtained more reported incidents for those households/persons that reported any incident. This analysis indicated that newer interviewers were obtaining both a higher proportion of households/persons reporting at least one incident and a higher number of total incidents reported among households/persons with at least one incident reported.

- *Differences by interviewer experience level and crime type.* New interviewers elicited a higher proportion of violent crimes and a lower proportion of household crimes, compared to the distribution of incidents reported to experienced interviewers. These differences in crime type distribution by interviewer experience level were most evident for simple assault, with newer interviewers receiving more reports of this type of crime compared to experienced interviewers. Among incidents classified as person-level crimes, reports obtained by newer interviewers were more likely than incidents reported to experienced interviewers to be classified as attempts or threats (rather than completed crimes).

After extensive investigation and discussion with its partners, BJS concluded that it was not possible to isolate or quantify—and therefore adequately adjust for—the impact of each factor contributing to the increases in the victimization rates. BJS determined that the increases were likely due to a confluence of the above factors and decided against applying any type of correction to the 2016 data, given the inconclusive findings of the analyses conducted. Therefore, 2016 victimization estimates are not comparable with NCVS data from prior years. BJS will continue to monitor victimization estimates in the coming years to determine whether the impact of the sample redesign is unique to the 2016 estimates.

TABLE 13
National Crime Victimization Survey crime prediction model effects, 2016

Variable	df ^a	Property crime	Violent crime
		F value ^b	F value ^b
Actual TIS ^c	6	58.2*	23.34*
State	50	158.94*	25.31*
NCVS interviewer experience	1	90.62*	31.24*
MSA/UR status ^d	4	57.04*	24.28*
Household income	2	22.68*	56.36*

* p-value < .0001.

^aThe numerator degrees of freedom (df) is one less than the number of categories for each variable. The denominator df is 160 for all variables.

^bThe F value measures the effect of each variable as the between-group variance divided by the within-group variance.

^cTime in sample (TIS) refers to how long an NCVS respondent has been in the sample.

^dMSA refers to the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area status of the respondent's household as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau. The largest city in each area is designated a "principal city." MSA status and Urban/Rural (UR) status are combined into one variable for this table. This combined variable has 5 different values: (1) principal city of an MSA, (2U) Urban area in balance of MSA, (2R) Rural area in balance of MSA, (3U) Urban area outside an MSA, and (3R) Rural area outside an MSA. For more information on MSA status, see <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro/about.html>. For more information urban/rural status, see <https://www.census.gov/geo/reference/urban-rural.html>.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on internal data from the U.S. Census Bureau, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

Methodological changes to the NCVS in 2006

Methodological changes implemented in 2006, including the decennial sample redesign that also occurred in 2016, may have affected the crime estimates for that year to such an extent that they are not comparable to estimates from other years. Evaluation of 2007 through 2015 data from the NCVS conducted by BJS and the Census Bureau found a high degree of confidence that estimates for 2007 through 2015 are consistent with and comparable to estimates for 2005 and previous years. The reports are available on the BJS website:

- *Criminal Victimization, 2006* (NCJ 219413, December 2007)
- *Criminal Victimization, 2007* (NCJ 224390, December 2008)
- *Criminal Victimization, 2008* (NCJ 227777, September 2009)
- *Criminal Victimization, 2009* (NCJ 231327, October 2010)
- *Criminal Victimization, 2010* (NCJ 235508, September 2011)
- *Criminal Victimization, 2011* (NCJ 239437, October 2012)
- *Criminal Victimization, 2012* (NCJ 243389, October 2013)
- *Criminal Victimization, 2013* (NCJ 247648, September 2014)
- *Criminal Victimization, 2014* (NCJ 248973, August 2015)
- *Criminal Victimization, 2015* (NCJ 250180, October 2016).

NCVS measurement of rape and sexual assault

The NCVS uses a two-stage measurement approach in the screening and classification of criminal victimization, including rape and sexual assault. In the first stage of screening, survey respondents are administered a series of “short-cue” screening questions designed to help respondents think about different experiences they may have had during the reference period (see NCVS-1 at https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ncvs15_bsqr.pdf).

This design improves respondent recall of events, particularly for incidents that may not immediately come to mind as crimes, such as those committed by family members and acquaintances. Respondents who answer affirmatively to any of the short-cue screening items are subsequently administered a crime incident report (CIR) designed to classify incidents into specific crime types (see NCVS-2 at https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/ncvs15_cir.pdf).

First stage of measurement. Two short-cue screening questions are specifically designed to target sexual violence:

1. Other than any incidents already mentioned, has anyone attacked or threatened you in any of these ways—
 - (a) with any weapon, such as a gun or knife
 - (b) with anything like a baseball bat, frying pan, scissors, or stick
 - (c) by something thrown, such as a rock or bottle

- (d) by grabbing, punching, or choking
- (e) any rape, attempted rape, or other types of sexual attack
- (f) any face-to-face threats.

OR

- (g) any attack or threat or use of force by anyone at all? Please mention it even if you are not certain it was a crime.

2. Incidents involving forced or unwanted sexual acts are often difficult to talk about. Other than any incidents already mentioned, have you been forced or coerced to engage in unwanted sexual activity by—

- (a) someone you did not know
- (b) a casual acquaintance

OR

- (c) someone you know well?

Respondents may screen into a CIR if they respond affirmatively to another short-cue screening question. For instance, a separate screening question cues respondents to think of attacks or threats that took place in specific locations, such as at home, work, or school. A respondent who recalled a sexual victimization that occurred at home, work, or school and answered affirmatively would be administered a CIR even if they did not respond affirmatively to the screening question targeting sexual violence.

Second stage of measurement. The CIR is used to collect information on the attributes of each incident. The key attributes of sexual violence that are used to classify a victimization as a rape or sexual assault are the type of attack and physical injury suffered. Victims are asked if “the offender hit you, knock[ed] you down, or actually attack[ed] you in any way;” if “the offender TR[IE]D to attack you;” or if “the offender THREATEN[ED] you with harm in any way?” The survey participant is classified as a victim of rape or sexual assault if he or she responds affirmatively to one of these three questions and then responds that the completed, attempted, or threatened attack was—

- rape
- attempted rape
- sexual assault other than rape or attempted rape
- verbal threat of rape
- verbal threat of sexual assault other than rape
- unwanted sexual contact with force (e.g., grabbing, fondling)
- unwanted sexual contact without force (e.g., grabbing, fondling).

Whether the victim selects one of these response options to describe the attack, he or she is also classified as a victim of rape or sexual assault if the injuries suffered as a result of the incident are described as:

- rape
- attempted rape
- sexual assault other than rape or attempted rape.

Classification of rape and sexual assault in the National Crime Victimization Survey

Measures	Elements of sexual violence
Completed rape	Type of attack = rape Type of injury = rape
Attempted rape	Type of attack = attempted rape Type of injury = attempted rape Type of threat = verbal threat of rape with weapon
Sexual assault	Type of attack = sexual assault other than rape or attempted rape Type of injury = sexual assault other than rape or attempted rape How try attack/threaten = unwanted sexual contact with or without force How try attack/threaten = verbal threat of sexual assault other than rape

Note: Victim is determined to be present in all measures of rape and sexual assault.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

Coercion. Although the CIR does not ask respondents if psychological coercion was used, one screening question targeted to rape and sexual violence asks respondents if force or coercion was used to initiate unwanted sexual activity.

The final classification of incidents by the CIR results in the following definitions of rape and sexual assault used in the NCVS:

Rape. Coerced or forced sexual intercourse. Forced sexual intercourse means vaginal, anal, or oral penetration by the offender(s). This category could include incidents where the penetration was from a foreign object such as a bottle. Includes attempted rapes, male and female victims, and both heterosexual and same-sex rape. Attempted rape includes verbal threats of rape.

Sexual assault. A wide range of victimizations, separate from rape or attempted rape. These crimes include attacks or attempted attacks generally involving unwanted sexual contact between victim and offender. Sexual assaults may or may not involve force and include such things as grabbing or fondling. Sexual assault also includes verbal threats.

Comparison of NCVS estimates to other survey estimates

During the past several decades, a number of other surveys have also been used to study rape and sexual assault in the general population. BJS estimates of rape and sexual assault from the NCVS have typically been lower than estimates derived from other federal and private surveys. However, the NCVS methodology and definitions of rape and sexual assault differ from many of these surveys in important ways that contribute to the variation in estimates of the prevalence and incidence of these victimizations. Additional information about differences in self-report estimates of rape and sexual assault is available on the BJS website. BJS continues an active research program on the collection of rape and sexual assault data in an effort to improve the quality and accuracy of these estimates.

Despite the current differences in methods and estimates that exist between the NCVS and other surveys measuring rape and sexual assault, a strength of the NCVS is its capacity to be used to make comparisons between population subgroups and over time. Methodological differences that exist between the NCVS and the other surveys should not impact NCVS comparisons between groups or in trends over time.

APPENDIX TABLE 1**Estimates and standard errors for figure 1: Percent of victimizations reported to police, 2016**

Type of crime	Percent	Standard error
Violent victimization	42.1%	2.10%
Serious violent victimization	51.3	3.07
Property victimization	35.7	0.88

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 2**Standard errors for table 1: Victimization rates in NCVS continuing, outgoing, and new sample counties, 2015 and 2016**

Type of crime	Continuing NCVS sample counties		Outgoing NCVS sample counties/new NCVS sample counties	
	2015	2016	2015 outgoing	2016 new
Total violent crime	1.25	1.20	2.33	1.26
Serious violent crime	0.66	0.53	0.90	0.61
Total property crime	2.79	3.02	8.71	4.10

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on internal data from the U.S. Census Bureau, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2015–2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 3**Estimates and standard errors for figure 2: Violent victimization, 2007–2016**

Year	Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older	Standard error	95% confidence interval	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
2007	27.2	1.55	24.18	30.26
2008	25.3	1.60	22.21	28.49
2009	22.3	1.31	19.74	24.88
2010	19.3	1.44	16.46	22.11
2011	22.6	1.38	19.86	25.28
2012	26.1	1.20	23.77	28.46
2013	23.2	1.62	20.00	26.34
2014	20.1	1.22	17.70	22.50
2015	18.6	1.16	16.31	20.85
2016 new counties	24.2	1.26	21.73	26.67
2016 continuing counties	19.5	1.20	17.15	21.85

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2007–2016; and U.S. Census Bureau, National Crime Victimization Survey Internal Data, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 4**Estimates and standard errors for figure 3: Property victimization, 2007–2016**

Year	Rate per 1,000 households	Standard error	95% confidence interval	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
2007	154.9	3.48	148.12	161.77
2008	142.6	3.66	135.45	149.80
2009	132.6	3.32	126.12	139.12
2010	125.4	2.73	120.06	130.77
2011	138.7	3.50	131.82	145.55
2012	155.8	3.08	149.80	161.87
2013	131.4	2.89	125.77	137.10
2014	118.1	2.60	112.96	123.17
2015	110.7	2.65	105.54	115.91
2016 new counties	130.0	4.10	121.96	138.04
2016 continuing counties	113.9	3.02	107.98	119.82

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2007–2016; and U.S. Census Bureau, National Crime Victimization Survey Internal Data, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 5**Standard errors for table 2: Violent and property victimization, by type of crime, 2016**

Type of violent crime	Number	Rate per 1,000
Violent crime	258,919	0.95
Rape/sexual assault	41,162	0.15
Robbery	53,841	0.20
Assault	233,961	0.86
Aggravated assault	87,571	0.32
Simple assault	198,788	0.73
Domestic violence	109,468	0.40
Intimate partner violence	71,779	0.26
Stranger violence	177,138	0.65
Violent crime involving injury	126,288	0.46
Serious violent crime	125,986	0.46
Serious domestic violence	54,970	0.20
Serious intimate partner violence	42,377	0.16
Serious stranger violence	86,719	0.32
Serious violent crime involving a weapon	119,959	0.44
Serious violent crime involving injury	83,508	0.31
Property crime	292,273	2.19
Burglary	126,041	0.95
Motor vehicle theft	49,782	0.37
Theft	253,147	1.90

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 8**Standard errors for table 5: Percent of victimizations reported to police, by type of crime, 2016**

Type of crime	Percent
Violent crime	2.10%
Rape/sexual assault	4.54
Robbery	4.88
Assault	2.21
Aggravated assault	3.70
Simple assault	2.30
Domestic violence	3.67
Intimate partner violence	4.53
Stranger violence	2.87
Violent crime involving injury	3.40
Serious violent crime	3.07%
Serious domestic violence	5.28
Serious intimate partner violence	6.12
Serious stranger violence	4.14
Serious violent crime involving a weapon	3.50
Serious violent crime involving injury	4.22
Property crime	0.88%
Household burglary	1.78
Motor vehicle theft	3.13
Theft	0.93

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 6**Standard errors for table 3: Firearm violence, 2016**

	Estimate
Firearm incidents	56,239
Firearm victimizations	61,968
Rate of firearm violence	0.23
Percent of firearm victimizations reported to police	4.90%

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 7**Standard errors for table 4: Rate of crime reported to police in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program and National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016**

Type of crime	NCVS rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older
Serious violent crime	0.37
Rape	0.07
Robbery	0.15
Aggravated assault	0.27
	NCVS rate per 1,000 households
Property crime	1.37
Burglary	0.66
Motor vehicle theft	0.32

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 9**Standard errors for table 6: Rate of victimization reported and not reported to police, by type of crime, 2016**

Type of crime	Reported to police	Not reported to police
Violent crime	0.69	0.84
Rape/sexual assault	0.07	0.15
Robbery	0.15	0.13
Assault	0.62	0.76
Aggravated assault	0.27	0.21
Simple assault	0.48	0.67
Domestic violence	0.25	0.24
Intimate partner violence	0.16	0.17
Stranger violence	0.37	0.42
Violent crime involving injury	0.28	0.29
Serious violent crime	0.37	0.34
Serious domestic violence	0.13	0.11
Serious intimate partner violence	0.10	0.10
Serious stranger violence	0.22	0.17
Serious violent crime involving a weapon	0.31	0.23
Serious violent crime involving injury	0.19	0.18
Property crime	1.37	1.90
Household burglary	0.66	0.66
Motor vehicle theft	0.32	0.15
Theft	1.05	1.71

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 10**Standard errors for table 7: Percent of violent victimizations in which victims received assistance from a victim service agency, by type of crime, 2016**

Type of crime	Percent
Violent crime	1.03%
Serious violent crime	1.73
Simple assault	1.08
Intimate partner violence	3.76%
Violent crime involving injury	1.99%
Violent crime involving a weapon	2.11%

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 11

Standard errors for table 8: Rate of violent victimization and serious violent victimization and percent reported to police, by demographic characteristics of victims, 2016

Victim demographic characteristic	Rate of total violence per 1,000 persons age 12 or older		Percent of violence reported to police	
	Violent crime	Serious violent crime	Violent crime	Serious violent crime
Total	0.95	0.46	2.10%	3.07%
Sex				
Male	1.54	0.69	2.65%	3.98%
Female	1.49	0.74	2.56	3.67
Race/Hispanic origin				
White	1.39	0.62	2.41%	3.65%
Black	2.51	1.24	3.93	6.03
Hispanic	2.05	1.13	3.95	5.30
Other	2.81	1.49	4.80	7.13
Age				
12–17	3.23	1.41	3.53%	6.68%
18–24	3.04	1.56	3.61	5.65
25–34	2.76	1.52	3.23	4.41
35–49	2.02	0.90	3.40	5.19
50–64	1.58	0.74	3.77	5.53
65 or older	0.74	0.30	6.64	11.74
Marital status				
Never married	2.12	1.06	2.43%	3.73%
Married	1.08	0.44	3.27	5.08
Widowed	1.94	0.80	7.47	13.45
Divorced	3.11	1.71	4.11	5.74
Separated	8.83	4.23	5.51	8.79
Household income				
Less than \$10,000	4.10	2.16	4.62%	6.45%
\$10,000–\$14,999	4.40	2.43	5.07	7.27
\$15,000–\$24,999	3.27	1.89	3.90	5.38
\$25,000–\$34,999	2.40	1.10	4.45	7.10
\$35,000–\$49,999	2.10	1.03	3.69	5.91
\$50,000–\$74,999	1.83	0.88	3.94	6.06
\$75,000 or more	1.37	0.55	3.14	5.29

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 12

Rates and standard errors for figure 4: Rate of violent victimization, by race and Hispanic origin of victim, 2016

Race/Hispanic origin of victim	Violent victimization		Serious violent victimization	
	Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older	Standard error	Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older	Standard error
Total	21.1	0.95	7.0	0.46
White	20.5	1.39	6.3	0.62
Black	24.1	2.51	8.2	1.24
Hispanic	20.2	2.05	8.2	1.13
American Indian or Alaska Native	36.9	9.85	13.3	5.48
Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander	13.9	2.22	6.6	1.40
Persons of two or more races	59.8	9.31	15.4	4.15

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 13

Standard errors for table 9: Rate of total victimization and percent of victimizations reported to police, by type of crime and household location, 2016

Household location	Rate of total victimization			Percent of victimizations reported to police		
	Violent crime	Serious violent crime	Property crime	Violent crime	Serious violent crime	Property crime
Total	0.95	0.46	2.19	2.10%	3.07%	0.88%
Region						
Northeast	1.77	0.76	3.76	4.04%	6.60%	2.14%
Midwest	2.28	1.15	4.19	2.98	4.57	1.63
South	1.39	0.72	3.44	3.20	4.48	1.36
West	2.21	0.96	5.06	3.10	4.89	1.39
Location of residence						
Urban	2.16	1.08	4.10	2.65%	3.86%	1.22%
Suburban	1.21	0.57	2.80	2.85	4.27	1.27
Rural	2.24	0.92	5.17	3.91	6.60	1.89

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 14

Standard errors for table 10: Number of victims and prevalence rate, by type of crime, 2016

Type of crime	Number	Prevalence rate
Violent crime	122,001	0.041%
Rape or sexual assault	21,108	0.008
Robbery	36,301	0.013
Assault	110,135	0.038
Aggravated assault	48,323	0.017
Simple assault	94,766	0.033
Domestic violence	45,445	0.016
Intimate partner violence	25,199	0.009
Stranger violence	64,622	0.023
Violent crime involving injury	50,207	0.018
Serious violent crime	65,413	0.023%
Serious domestic violence	24,984	0.009
Serious intimate partner violence	21,071	0.008
Serious stranger violence	41,679	0.015
Serious violent crime involving a weapon	55,285	0.020
Serious violent crime involving injury	40,026	0.015
Property crime	221,150	0.146%
Household burglary	75,840	0.056
Motor vehicle theft	38,186	0.029
Theft	187,580	0.124

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 16

Standard errors for table 12: Rate of victimization in new, continuing, and total sample counties, 2016

Type of crime	New sample counties	Continuing sample counties	Total sample counties
Total violent crime	1.26	1.20	0.95
Serious violent crime	0.61	0.53	0.46
Total property crime	4.10	3.02	2.19

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016; and U.S. Census Bureau, National Crime Victimization Survey Internal Data, 2016.

APPENDIX TABLE 15

Standard errors for table 11: Prevalence of violent crime, by demographic characteristics of victims, 2016

Victim demographic characteristic	Number of persons victimized	Prevalence rate
Total	122,001	0.041%
Sex		
Male	75,001	0.055%
Female	83,436	0.056
Race/Hispanic origin		
White	101,571	0.052%
Black	43,557	0.116
Hispanic	43,084	0.095
Other	28,099	0.131
Age		
12–17	44,372	0.168%
18–24	43,442	0.142
25–34	49,081	0.107
35–49	52,257	0.081
50–64	36,830	0.058
65 or older	16,566	0.035
Marital status		
Never married	76,245	0.076%
Married	50,967	0.038
Widowed	20,807	0.139
Divorced	37,288	0.131
Separated	18,636	0.359

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2016.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable and valid statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Jeri M. Mulrow is acting director.

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