



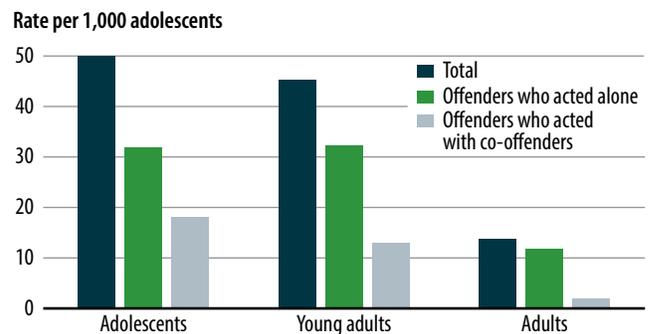
Co-Offending Among Adolescents in Violent Victimizations, 2004–13

Barbara A. Oudekerk, Ph.D., and Rachel E. Morgan, Ph.D., *BJS Statisticians*

For the 10-year period 2004–13, adolescents ages 12 to 17 committed 50.0 nonfatal violent victimizations per 1,000 adolescents (figure 1). In this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17, young adults are persons ages 18 to 29, and adults are persons age 30 or older. The rate of violent victimizations committed by adolescents—or the adolescent violent victimizing rate—was slightly higher than the violent victimizing rate for young adults (45.2 per 1,000 young adults). (See *Calculating rates using the National Crime Victimization Survey* text box for more information.) The violent victimizing rate for adolescents was more than 3.5 times higher than the rate for adults age 30 or older (13.7 victimizations per 1,000 adults).

More nonfatal violent victimizations were committed by adolescents who acted alone than adolescents who acted with co-offenders. Adolescents who acted alone committed 31.8 violent victimizations per 1,000 adolescents. In comparison, adolescents who acted with at least one co-offender committed 18.1 violent victimizations per 1,000 adolescents. However, co-offending violent victimizing rates were higher for adolescents than for young adults (12.9 per 1,000) or adults (1.9 per 1,000).

FIGURE 1
Violent victimizing rates, by offender age group and co-offending status, 2004–13



Note: Violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Victimizing rates are calculated as the number of victimizations committed by a specific age group divided by the total population of that age group. Excludes victimizations in which the offender age group was unknown or all known offenders were age 11 or younger. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17, young adults are persons ages 18 to 29, and adults are persons age 30 or older. See appendix table 1 for estimates and standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

HIGHLIGHTS

This report uses data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) to describe victim, incident, and offender characteristics of nonfatal violent victimizations committed by adolescents ages 12 to 17 acting alone or with co-offenders for the 10-year period 2004 through 2013. Violence includes simple assault and serious violent victimization (rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault):

- Adolescent offenders who acted alone or with others committed 50.0 nonfatal violent victimizations per 1,000 adolescents.
- Adolescent offenders committed 22% of all violent victimizations, while making up 10% of the U.S. population age 12 or older during this period.
- In violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted with at least one other person, co-offenders were most commonly other adolescents (59%) or young adults (28%).
- More violent victimizations were committed by adolescents who acted alone (64%) than those who acted with co-offenders (36%).
- Simple assaults made up a greater percentage of violent victimizations committed by adolescents acting alone (77%) or with other adolescents (71%), compared to victimizations by adolescents acting with young adults (53%).
- A greater percentage of adolescents who acted alone (61%) or with young adults (70%) used a weapon when engaging in serious violence than those who co-offended with other adolescents (50%).
- The rate of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescent offenders decreased 83% from 1994 to 2013.

This report uses data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) to provide detailed information about nonfatal violent victimizations committed by adolescents acting alone or with co-offenders. The NCVS collects data on victims' reports of their experiences. The majority of this report includes only victimizations in which victims reported the perceived age of their offenders and all known offenders were age 12 or older (87% of all violent victimizations from 2004 through 2013).

This report presents aggregate estimates for the period from 2004 through 2013. Trend estimates are based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year from 1993 to 2013. For example, estimates reported for 1994 represent the average estimates for 1993 and 1994. This report refers to all 2-year estimates by the most recent year. Rolling averages and aggregating years increases the reliability and stability of estimates and facilitates comparisons of detailed victimization characteristics.

Calculating rates using the National Crime Victimization Survey

The NCVS produces annual victimization, incident, and prevalence rates for the residential population of the United States based on a sample from that population. It has also been used to generate offending rates.* This report examines victimizing rates, or the rate at which specific groups commit victimizations (rather than offenses or incidents), focusing specifically on adolescent victimizing rates.

The following examples illustrate the difference between adolescent victimizing rates and adolescent offending, victimization, and incident rates. It shows how each rate would be calculated if three adolescent offenders robbed three victims—one adult and two adolescents—at gunpoint.

- **Victimizing rates** are calculated as the number of victimizations committed by a specific group divided by the total population of the group. The victimizing rate does not include the number of offenders who committed the victimizations. The incident above would contribute three victimizations to the adolescent victimizing rate because the adolescents victimized three different people.
- **Offending rates** are calculated as the number of offenders from a specific group who are involved in each incident, summed across all incidents, and divided by the total population of the group. Offenders may commit multiple crimes in a given year, and each offender would be counted separately in each incident. The incident above would contribute three offenders to the adolescent offending rate because three adolescents committed the incident.
- **Victimization rates** are calculated as the number of victimizations committed against a specific group divided by the total population of the group. If a crime incident has more than one victim, each victim is counted separately. The incident above would contribute two victimizations to the adolescent victimization rate because two of the victims were adolescents.

*Lynch, J. P. & Snyder, H. N. (2012). Juvenile crime trends and their implications for understanding. *Understanding the "Whys" Behind Juvenile Crime Trends*, 17-49. Available at <http://whysproject.org/whysFull.pdf>.

- **Incident rates** are calculated as the number of incidents (criminal acts) that occurred within a specific group divided by that population. An incident is counted only once regardless of the number of victims. The robbery above would contribute one incident to the adolescent incident rate because the two adolescents were robbed in the same incident.

Both victimizing and offending rates are based on information about offenders of crime. This report presents victimizing rates because it includes the number and nature of victimizations committed by adolescents, and permits estimates of the amount of victim harm generated by adolescent offenders who acted alone compared to those who acted with others. Offending rates would not accurately achieve these goals.

Offending rates would produce duplicate counts of harm rendered to one victim if the incident was committed by more than one adolescent offender. For example, three adolescents committing serious violence against one victim would be described as "three adolescents committed a serious violent crime" based on the offending rate, but as "one victim seriously victimized by adolescents" based on the victimizing rate. The greater the number of adolescents who committed victimizations with co-offenders and the greater the number of co-offenders per victimization, the greater the count of victim harm. Therefore, offending rates could produce inflated estimates of victim harm.

Offending rates could also underestimate the amount of victim harm caused by adolescents. Offending rates count the number of offenders per incident and not the number of victims. For example, one adolescent who committed serious violence against three victims would be described as "one adolescent committed a serious violent crime" based on the offending rate but "three persons seriously victimized by an adolescent" based on the victimizing rate.

Adolescents committed 22% of violent victimizations but made up 10% of the U.S. population

During 2004–13, adolescents were offenders in 22% of total violent victimizations known to be committed by persons ages 12 and older (table 1). In comparison, adolescents made up 10% of the U.S. population age 12 or older during this time. Violent victimizations committed by adolescents involved co-offenders 36% of the time (table 2). Co-offenders were most often other adolescents (59%). Another 28% of violent victimizations committed by

co-offending adolescents involved young adult co-offenders. Victimization by co-offending adolescents were less likely to involve co-offending adults (7%) or co-offending children age 11 or younger (4%). Of the average annual 5,647,900 violent victimizations in which victims reported offenders' age, adolescents who acted alone accounted for 14% of victimizations, adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents accounted for 5% of victimizations, and adolescents who co-offended with young adults accounted for 2% of victimizations (table 3).

TABLE 1
Percent of total violent victimizations, by offender age group, 2004–13

| Offender age group | Average annual victimizations | Percent of total | Percent committed by persons ages 12 or older ^a | Average annual U.S. population | Percent of U.S. population age 12 or older |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Violent victimizations committed by persons ages 12 or older^a | 5,647,900 | 87.3% | 100% | 253,004,700 | 100% |
| Any adolescent | 1,251,100 | 19.3 | 22.2 | 25,003,000 | 9.9 |
| Any young adult | 2,274,100 | 35.1 | 40.3 | 50,306,400 | 19.9 |
| Any adult | 2,433,300 | 37.6 | 43.1 | 177,695,400 | 70.2 |
| All children under age 12 | 77,265 | 1.2 | ~ | ~ | ~ |
| Unknown ages | 744,683 | 11.5 | ~ | ~ | ~ |
| Total violent victimizations | 6,469,870 | 100 | ~ | ~ | ~ |

Note: Detail does not sum to total because victimizations can be committed by offenders in more than one age group. Violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17, young adults are persons ages 18 to 29, and adults are persons age 30 or older. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

~Not applicable.

^aExcludes victimizations against persons age 12 or older in which the age of offender was unknown or all known offenders were age 11 or younger.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

TABLE 2
Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by co-offending status, 2004–13

| Adolescent co-offending status | Percent |
|--|-----------|
| All violent victimizations | 100% |
| Acted alone | 63.5 |
| Acted with co-offenders | 36.1 |
| All violent victimizations involving co-offenders | 100% |
| All co-offenders age 17 or younger ^a | 63.1 |
| At least one age 11 or younger | 3.7 |
| All ages 12–17 | 59.3 |
| Oldest co-offender age 18 or older ^a | 34.5 |
| Ages 18–29 | 27.9 |
| Age 30 or older | 6.6 |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 1,251,100 |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. Violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17. See appendix table 3 for standard errors.

^aIncludes only those who co-offended.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

TABLE 3
Percent of violent victimizations, by offender age group and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Offender age group and co-offending status | Average annual victimizations | Percent of total |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Violent victimizations committed by persons ages 12 or older^a | 5,647,900 | 100% |
| Adolescents who— | | |
| Acted alone | 794,000 | 14.1% |
| Acted only with adolescents | 268,100 | 4.7 |
| Acted with young adults | 126,100 | 2.2 |
| Young adults who— | | |
| Acted alone | 1,617,700 | 28.6% |
| Acted with young adults or adults | 491,000 | 8.7 |
| Adults who— | | |
| Acted alone | 2,091,700 | 37.0% |
| Acted with adults | 133,200 | 2.4 |
| Other^b | 126,200 | 2.2% |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. Violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17, young adults are persons ages 18 to 29, and adults are persons age 30 or older. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

^aExcludes victimizations against persons age 12 or older in which the age of offender was unknown or all known offenders were age 11 or younger.

^bIncludes victimizations committed by persons age 11 or younger co-offending with anyone age 12 or older, adolescents co-offending with adults, and victimizations for which only the age of one offender was known.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

Measuring offender age in the National Crime Victimization Survey

The NCVS collects information on nonfatal crimes reported and not reported to the police against persons age 12 or older from a nationally representative sample of U.S. households. It asks respondents who report a victimization to indicate whether the crime was committed by a single or multiple offenders.

When an offender acted alone, the survey asks respondents to indicate whether they perceive the offender was age 11 or younger; ages 12 to 14, 15 to 17, 18 to 20, or 21 to 29; or age 30 or older. When multiple offenders committed the crime, it asks respondents to provide perceived ages of the oldest and youngest offenders using the same age categories. Victimitations in which the victim could not estimate the age of the offenders and victimizations that were committed solely by offenders age 11 or younger were not included in this report. (See *Methodology* for more detail about offenders age 11 or younger and the limitations inherent in measuring offender age based on victim reports.)

In this report, offenders were grouped into three age groups: adolescents ages 12 to 17, young adults ages 18 to 29, and adults ages 30 or older. These larger age categories make it possible to reliably examine co-offending subgroups. In violent victimizations committed by two or more offenders in 2004–13, co-offenders tended to be close in age. For violent

victimizations in which the youngest offender was between ages 12 to 14, the oldest co-offenders were also ages 12 to 14 in about 46% of the victimizations (**table 4**). In another 39% of these victimizations, the oldest co-offenders were ages 15 to 17. Similarly, for violent victimizations in which the age of the youngest offender was 15 to 17, the oldest co-offender was most often ages 15 to 17 (42%) or ages 18 to 20 (35%). The majority (89%) of the youngest co-offenders who committed violent victimizations with young adults were ages 15 to 17 (**table 5**).

TABLE 5
Percent of adolescents who co-offended with young adults, by age of youngest and oldest offenders, 2004–13

| Age of youngest offender | Age of oldest offender | | |
|--|------------------------|--------|--------|
| | 18–29 | 18–20 | 21–29 |
| 12–14 | 11.1% | 10.7% | 12.2% |
| 15–17 | 88.9 | 89.3 | 87.8 |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 126,100 | 91,700 | 34,400 |

Note: Violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

TABLE 4
Percent of co-offenders involved in violent victimizations, by age of oldest and youngest offenders, 2004–13

| Age of oldest offender | Age of youngest offender | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
| | 12–14 | 15–17 | 18–20 | 21–29 | 30 or older |
| 12–14 | 46.2% | ~ | ~ | ~ | ~ |
| 15–17 | 38.7 | 42.4% | ~ | ~ | ~ |
| 18–20 | 5.0 | 34.7 | 31.4% | ~ | ~ |
| 21–29 | 2.1 | 12.8 | 42.2 | 60.2% | ~ |
| 30 or older | 7.2 | 6.5 | 23.4 | 37.2 | 100% |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 197,900 | 236,000 | 238,400 | 266,900 | 133,200 |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and because totals include victimizations for which the victim reported only the age of the youngest or oldest offender. Violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

Co-offending adolescents were generally the same race and sex

During 2004–13, adolescents who acted alone to commit violent victimizations were most often male (72%). When violent victimizations were committed by co-offending adolescents, co-offenders were usually the same sex. Adolescent males were offenders in 62% of violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted with other adolescents (table 6). About 64% of violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted with young adults involved at least one male adolescent offender who acted with all males.

Violent victimizations committed by a group of adolescents involved a greater percentage of female offenders (26%) than those committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults (10%). About a quarter (26%) of victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults involved both male and female offenders.

TABLE 6
Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by offender demographic characteristics and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Offender characteristic | Acted alone* | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|--|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 72.1% | 62.4% † | 63.9% ‡ |
| Female | 27.8 | 26.0 | 10.0 † |
| Male and female | ~ | 10.9 | 25.5 |
| Race | | | |
| White | 59.0% | 46.6% † | 30.6% † |
| Black/African American | 25.6 | 27.9 | 38.9 † |
| Other race ^a | 10.8 | 3.1 † | 8.7 |
| Multiple offenders of various races ^b | ~ | 13.2 | 18.7 |
| Don't know | 4.6 | 6.1 | 0.8 † |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 794,000 | 268,100 † | 126,100 † |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. Violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

~Not applicable.

^aPrior to 2012, offender race categories included white, black or African American, and other race. For 2012 and 2013, offender race categories were expanded to include American Indian or Alaska Native; or Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander; and single offenders of two or more races. Respondents were also asked if the offender was of Hispanic or Latino origin, however this category was excluded from the analysis because it cannot be determined if offenders were of Hispanic or Latino origin prior to 2012. See *Methodology*.

^bIncludes multiple offenders who are of different races. Prior to 2012, this included white, black or African American, and other race. For 2012 and 2013, this included white; black or African American; American Indian or Alaska Native; or Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander. See *Methodology*.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

More than half (59%) of violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted alone were committed by white adolescents, and a quarter (26%) were committed by black adolescents. Co-offenders were all white or all black in three-quarters (75%) of violent victimizations committed by a group of adolescents and in over two-thirds (70%) of victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults. From 2004 to 2013, the majority (66%) of victimizations committed by adolescents who acted with other adolescents involved two or three offenders (table 7). More than half of violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted with young adults involved four or more offenders (56%), compared to 28% of victimizations committed by a group of adolescents. When victimizations were committed by adolescents co-offending with adolescents or young adults, almost half (42% to 50%) of victims did not know whether the adolescents were gang members.

TABLE 7
Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended, by number of co-offenders and gang status, 2004–13

| Offender characteristic | Acted with adolescents* | Acted with young adults |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Number of offenders | | |
| Two | 42.4% | 16.2% † |
| Three | 23.9 | 23.0 |
| Four or more | 27.5 | 56.0 † |
| Gang status | | |
| Yes | 18.9% | 26.9% ‡ |
| No | 39.2 | 23.2 † |
| Don't know | 41.9 | 49.9 |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 268,100 | 126,100 † |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. Violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

Simple assaults made up the majority of violent victimizations committed by adolescents

Violent victimizations committed by adolescents were more likely to be simple assaults than serious violent crimes (rape or sexual assault, robbery, or aggravated assault) if adolescents acted alone (77% for simple assaults compared to 23% for serious violent crimes) or co-offended with other adolescents (71% compared to 29%) (table 8). In comparison, almost half (47%) of violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults were serious crimes. Most serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted alone (14%) or with young adults (27%) were aggravated assaults. In comparison, most serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents were robberies (17%).

Most serious violence committed by adolescents did not result in injury

During 2004–13, a weapon was involved in a greater percentage of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted alone (61%) than serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with adolescents (50%) (table 9). About two-thirds (70%) of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults involved a weapon.

Although more than half of serious violent victimizations involved a weapon across these co-offending subgroups, the majority of adolescent-perpetrated violent victimizations did not involve weapons (73%), as most adolescent-perpetrated violence was simple assault. Among all violent victimizations committed by adolescents, which included serious violence and simple assault, fewer than 1 in 5 (17%) victimizations involved a weapon (not shown).

TABLE 8
Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by type of crime and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Type of crime | Acted alone* | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|--|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Serious violent victimizations ^a | 23.1% | 29.1% † | 46.9% † |
| Robbery | 6.6 | 16.7 † | 18.5 † |
| Aggravated assault | 13.9 | 9.2 † | 26.8 † |
| Simple assault victimizations | 76.9% | 70.9% ‡ | 53.1% † |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations ^a | 183,600 | 78,100 † | 59,200 † |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations | 610,400 | 190,100 † | 66,900 † |

Note: For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 9 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

Most serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents did not result in injury (59% to 70% across subgroups) (table 10). An injury was involved in a greater percentage of serious victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults (41%) than with other adolescents (30%). An injury was involved in a slightly greater percentage of serious victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults (41%) than by those who acted alone (32%).

TABLE 9
Percent of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents involving a weapon, by co-offending status, 2004–13

| Weapon use | Acted alone* | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|--|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Yes | 61.3% | 50.1% † | 70.5% ‡ |
| No | 34.7 | 41.0 | 24.8 † |
| Don't know | 4.0 | 8.9 † | 4.7! |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations involving a weapon | 112,600 | 39,100 † | 41,700 † |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations | 183,600 | 78,100 † | 59,200 † |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. Serious violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 10 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

! Interpret with caution. Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

TABLE 10
Percent of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents involving injury, by injury type and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Victim injury | Acted alone* | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|---|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Yes | 32.2% | 30.4% | 41.0% ‡ |
| Serious injuries ^a | 14.9 | 4.7! † | 16.9 |
| Bruises, cuts, or other minor injuries | 17.3 | 25.7 † | 24.1 ‡ |
| No | 67.2% | 69.6% | 59.0% ‡ |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations involving an injury | 59,200 | 23,700 † | 24,300 † |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations | 183,600 | 78,100 † | 59,200 † |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. Serious violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 11 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes sexual violence injuries, gunshot wounds, knife wounds, internal injuries, unconsciousness, and broken bones.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

This difference was due to a higher percentage of minor injuries in serious violence committed by adolescents who acted with young adults (24%) than alone (17%). The percentages of serious injuries were not significantly different for these two co-offending groups. Most injuries caused by adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents were bruises, cuts, or other minor injuries (26% of serious victimizations). Overall, including simple assaults and serious violence, 24% of total violent victimizations committed by adolescents resulted in an injury (not shown). Of these, 21% involved minor injuries and 3% involved serious injuries (not shown).

Police were notified in 71% of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted with young adults

More than two-thirds (71%) of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults were reported to police during 2004–13 (table 11).

This was higher than in serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents (51%) or acted alone (46%).

Across all offender ages and co-offending subgroups, smaller percentages of simple assault than serious violent victimizations were reported to police. Similar to the pattern of reporting serious violence to police, a greater percentage of simple assaults committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults were reported to police (46%) than adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents (34%) or acted alone (25%). In addition, more simple assaults committed by adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents were reported to police, than those committed by adolescents who acted alone.

TABLE 11
Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents that were reported to police, by type of crime and co-offending status, 2004–13

| | Acted alone* | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|---|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Serious violent victimizations reported to police^a | | | |
| Yes | 46.5% | 50.6% | 70.8% † |
| No | 53.3 | 48.4 | 27.6 † |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations reported to police ^a | 85,300 | 39,500 † | 41,900 † |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations ^a | 183,600 | 78,100 † | 59,200 † |
| Simple assault victimizations reported to police | | | |
| Yes | 24.7% | 33.6% † | 45.7% † |
| No | 73.4 | 65.3 † | 52.5 † |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations reported to police | 150,900 | 63,900 † | 30,600 † |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations | 610,400 | 190,100 † | 66,900 † |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 12 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

A greater percentage of victims were strangers in serious violence committed by co-offending adolescents than by adolescents who acted alone

During 2004–13, across all offender age groups, most serious violent and simple assault victimizations committed by adolescents were committed against an acquaintance or stranger. When adolescents committed domestic violence, they usually offended alone. About 18% of serious violent victimizations and 8% of simple assaults committed by adolescents who acted alone were perpetrated against a current or former intimate partner or family member (table 12).

A greater percentage of serious victimizations committed by adolescents who acted alone (48%) or with other adolescents (42%) were perpetrated against well-known or casual acquaintances than those committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults (21%). Most (67%) serious victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults were perpetrated against strangers. Strangers were victims in a greater percentage of serious violent victimizations committed by groups of adolescents (56%) than adolescents who acted alone (33%). The pattern of differences for victim–offender relationships across co-offending status were generally similar for simple assault and serious violent victimizations during 2004–13.

TABLE 12
Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by type of crime, victim–offender relationship, and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Type of crime and victim–offender relationship | Acted alone* | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|--|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Serious violent victimizations^a | | | |
| Domestic violence ^b | 17.9% | --! | 6.3% †! |
| Well-known or casual acquaintance violence | 47.5 | 42.4% | 21.4 † |
| Stranger violence | 32.7 | 55.7 † | 66.7 † |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations^a | 183,600 | 78,100 † | 59,200 † |
| Simple assault victimizations | | | |
| Domestic violence ^b | 8.4% | 0.9% †! | 0.5% †! |
| Well-known or casual acquaintance violence | 63.4 | 60.4 | 36.1 † |
| Stranger violence | 26.9 | 35.8 † | 59.6 † |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations | 610,400 | 190,100 † | 66,900 † |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 13 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

--Less than 0.05%.

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

^bIncludes current or former intimate partners, immediate family members, and other relatives.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

Adolescents were generally more likely to victimize other adolescents than older persons

When adolescents committed serious violent victimizations, most victims were also adolescents (table 13). Victims were adolescents in 66% of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted alone and in 69% of those committed by adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents. In comparison, victims were adolescents in 37% of serious violence committed by adolescents who acted with young adults. Victims were more likely to be male in serious violence committed by adolescents who acted with other adolescents (64%) or young adults (69%) than by adolescents who acted alone (51%).

A greater percentage of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who acted alone involved white victims (63%) than those by adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents (48%). A greater percentage of victims were black (27%) or Hispanic (23%) in serious violence committed by adolescents who co-offended with

other adolescents than those in which adolescents acted alone (15% each). A greater percentage of victims were Hispanic in serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults (22%) than by adolescents who acted alone (15%).

Most adolescent-perpetrated simple assault victimizations were committed against other adolescents (table 14). Victims were adolescents in the majority of simple assaults committed by adolescents who acted alone (76%) or with other adolescents (79%). In comparison, victims were young adults or older in most victimizations committed by adolescents who acted with young adults (64%). A slightly greater percentage of victims were male in simple assaults committed by adolescents who co-offended with young adults (66%) than by those who acted alone (56%). Victim race or Hispanic origin distributions were relatively similar in simple assaults committed by adolescents who acted alone, with other adolescents, and with young adults.

TABLE 13
Percent of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by victim demographic characteristics and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Victim demographic characteristic | Acted alone* | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|--|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 51.4% | 63.6% † | 68.6% † |
| Female | 48.6 | 36.4 † | 31.4 † |
| Race/Hispanic origin | | | |
| White ^a | 62.8% | 47.7% † | 54.1% ‡ |
| Black/African American ^a | 15.0 | 27.1 † | 21.2 |
| Hispanic/Latino | 14.8 | 23.2 † | 22.2 † |
| Other ^{a,b} | 7.3 | 2.0 †! | 2.5 †! |
| Age group | | | |
| Adolescent | 66.4% | 69.0% | 37.3% † |
| Young adult | 10.2 | 10.7 | 35.7 † |
| Adult | 23.4 | 20.3 | 27.0 |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations | 183,600 | 78,100 † | 59,200 † |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. Serious violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17, young adults are persons ages 18 to 29, and adults are persons age 30 or older. See appendix table 14 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIncludes 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, 2004–13.

TABLE 14
Percent of simple assault victimizations committed by adolescents, by victim demographic characteristics and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Victim demographic characteristic | Acted alone* | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|---|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 56.4% | 55.1% | 66.3% ‡ |
| Female | 43.6 | 44.9 | 33.7 ‡ |
| Race/Hispanic origin | | | |
| White ^a | 66.1% | 69.0% | 72.5% |
| Black/African American ^a | 13.0 | 13.1 | 9.3 |
| Hispanic/Latino | 14.4 | 12.3 | 15.6 |
| Other ^{a,b} | 6.5 | 5.6 | 2.6 †! |
| Age group | | | |
| Adolescent | 76.0% | 78.5% | 35.9% † |
| Young adult | 6.7 | 9.3 | 33.0 † |
| Adult | 17.3 | 12.2 † | 31.1 † |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations | 610,400 | 190,100 † | 66,900 † |

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17, young adults are persons ages 18 to 29, and adults are persons age 30 or older. See appendix table 15 for standard errors.

*Comparison group.

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

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

! Interpret with caution. Estimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

The adolescent serious violent victimizing rate decreased 83% from 1994 to 2013

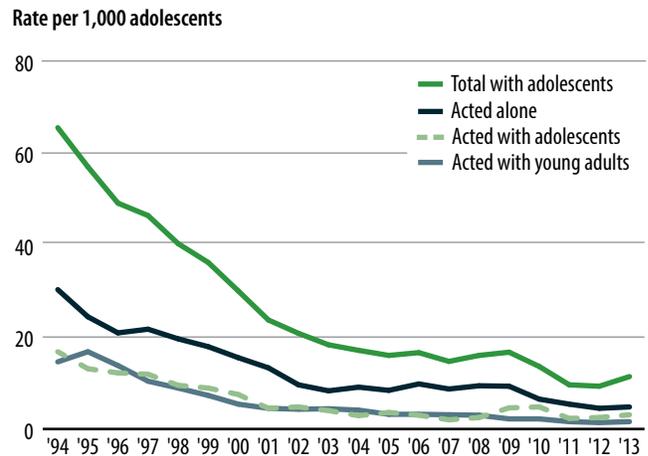
From 1994 to 2013, the adolescent serious violent victimizing rate decreased from 65.5 to 11.4 serious violent victimizations per 1,000 adolescents (figure 2). The serious violent victimizing rate declined similarly from 1994 to 2013 for adolescents who acted alone (30.3 victimizations per 1,000 adolescents) and adolescents who acted with co-offenders of any age (35.2 to 6.6 victimizations per 1,000 adolescents, not shown). From 1994 to 2013, the serious violent victimizing rate also decreased similarly for adolescents who acted with other adolescents (16.8 to 3.1 victimizations per 1,000 adolescents) and for adolescents who acted with young adults (14.6 to 1.6 victimizations per 1,000 adolescents).

The serious violent victimizing rate also decreased 33% from 2004 to 2013. Adolescents committed 17.1 serious victimizations per 1,000 adolescents in 2004, compared to 11.4 serious victimizations per 1,000 adolescents in 2013. The decline from 2004 to 2013 was primarily due to decreases in serious violence committed by adolescents who acted alone (9.1 to 4.8 victimizations per 1,000 adolescents) or with young adults (4.1 to 1.6 victimizations per 1,000 adolescents). The rate of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents did not change significantly during this period.

From 1994 to 2013, the adolescent simple assault victimizing rate decreased 72%, from 139.6 to 38.7 simple assaults per 1,000 adolescents (figure 3). The simple assault victimizing rate declined from 1994 to 2013 more for adolescents who acted alone (92.9 to 21.8 simple assaults per 1,000 adolescents) compared to adolescents who acted with co-offenders of any age (46.7 to 16.9 simple assaults per 1,000 adolescents, not shown). Simple assault victimizing rates declined similarly from 1994 to 2013 for adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents (27.7 to 11.8 simple assaults per 1,000 adolescents) and adolescents who co-offended with young adults (14.9 to 2.4 simple assaults per 1,000 adolescents).

From 2004 to 2013, the simple assault victimizing rate decreased 36% among adolescents who acted alone. Adolescents who acted alone committed 34.1 victimizations per 1,000 in 2004, which decreased to 21.8 simple assaults per 1,000 adolescents in 2013. During the same period, the rate of simple assaults committed by adolescents who co-offended with other adolescents increased 72%, from 6.9 to 11.8 simple assaults per 1,000 adolescents. The simple assault victimizing rate among adolescents who acted with young adults did not change significantly from 2004 to 2013.

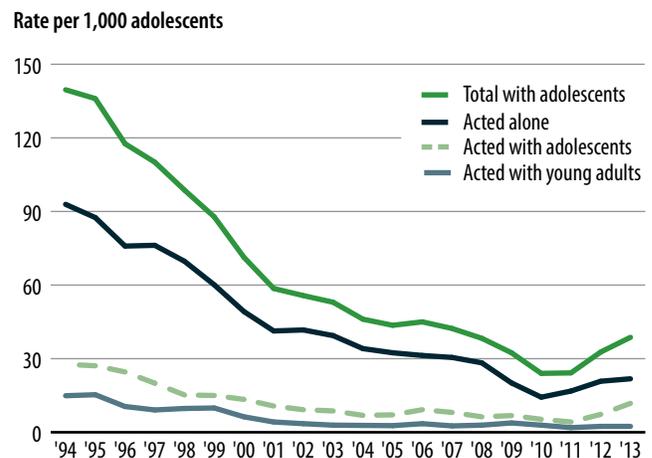
FIGURE 2
Serious violent victimizing rates for adolescent offenders, by co-offending status, 1994–2013



Note: Serious violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. Data are based on 2-year rolling averages centered around the most recent year beginning in 1993. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 16 for estimates and standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2013.

FIGURE 3
Simple assault victimizing rates for adolescent offenders, by co-offending status, 1994–2013



Note: Data are based on 2-year rolling averages centered around the most recent year beginning in 1993. For this report, adolescents are persons ages 12 to 17 and young adults are persons ages 18 to 29. See appendix table 17 for estimates and standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2013.

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 they experienced during the prior 6 months. The NCVS collects information on nonfatal personal crimes (rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, 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., age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, marital status, education level, and income) and whether they experienced a victimization. Information is collected for each victimization incident—about the offender (e.g., age, race and Hispanic origin, sex, 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 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 survey defines a household as a group of persons who 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 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.

Generally, all first interviews are conducted in-person. New households rotate into the sample on an ongoing basis to replace outgoing households that have been in the sample for a 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 individuals who are homeless. (For more information, see *Survey Methodology for Criminal Victimization in the United States, 2008*, NCJ 231173, BJS web, May 2011.)

Weighting adjustments for estimating personal victimization

From 2004 to 2013, an annual average of 144,940 NCVS interviews were conducted with persons age 12 or older. The response rate was 87% for eligible persons. Response rates were lower among adolescents ages 12 to 17 (72%) than among young adults ages 18 to 29 (81%) and adults age 30 or older (90%). Weighting adjustments in the NCVS have been found to produce demographic distributions among adolescents (including sex, race, number of persons in the household) that are comparable to adolescent demographic distributions in the American Community Survey.

Victimizations that occurred outside of the United States were excluded from this report. On average each year from 2004 to 2013, less than 1% of the unweighted violent victimizations occurred outside of the United States and were excluded from the analyses.

Estimates in this report use data from yearly NCVS data files weighted to produce annual estimates of violent victimizations 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 inflate sample point estimates to known population totals and to compensate for survey nonresponse and other aspects of the sample design.

The victimization weights used in this analysis account for the number of persons present during an incident and for repeat victims of series incidents. The weight counts series incidents as the actual number of incidents reported by the victim, up to a maximum of 10 incidents. Series victimizations are victimizations that are similar in type but occur with such frequency that a victim is unable to recall each individual event or to describe each event in detail. Survey procedures allow NCVS interviewers to identify and classify these similar victimizations as series victimizations and collect detailed information on only the most recent incident in the series. In 2013, about 1% of all victimizations and 4% of all violent victimizations were series incidents. Weighting series incidents as the number of incidents up to a maximum of 10 produces more reliable estimates of crime levels, while the cap at 10 minimizes the effect of extreme outliers on the rates. Additional information on the series enumeration is detailed in *Methods for Counting High Frequency Repeat Victimizations in the National Crime Victimization Survey* (NCJ 237308, BJS web, April 2012).

Limitations of using the NCVS to calculate victimizing rates by age of offender

Limitations to calculating violent victimizing rates by age of the offender using data from the NCVS include missing respondent data, bias in survey coverage, and differences in survey response rates by respondent age. This report is based on victimizations in which the victim provided an estimate of the offenders' age. For the period 2004 to 2013, victims did not provide estimates of offender age in 12% of the total violent victimizations they reported. Available data suggest that offenders tend to be close in age to their victims. In 2004–13, there was no measurable difference in the percentage of missing data on offender age for adolescent victims compared to older victims. Data on offender age were missing for 12% of victimizations committed against adolescents ages 12 to 17, 12% of victimizations committed against young adults ages 18 to 29, and 11% of victimizations committed against adults age 30 or older.

This report is also based on victimizations committed by at least one person age 12 or older, and excludes about 1% of total violent victimizations against persons age 12 or older that were committed solely by persons age 11 or younger in 2004–13. These victimizations were excluded due to insufficient sample sizes and because by design the NCVS survey coverage does not include children age 11 and younger. NCVS data likely underestimate the number of victimizations committed by children age 11 and younger because the most likely victims of these crimes (i.e., children age 11 and younger) are excluded from the NCVS sample. Similarly, NCVS data likely underestimate the number of adolescent offenders ages 12 to 14 because some of their victims (children age 11 and younger) are excluded from the NCVS sample.

The NCVS allows for comparisons between adolescent offenders ages 12 to 14 and 15 to 17, but small sample sizes and missing information about co-offenders complicate these analyses. Grouping offender age into more categories resulted in insufficient sample sizes to examine many questions of interest. In victimizations committed by multiple offenders, it was not always clear whether adolescents ages 15 to 17 were involved as offenders. For example, victims might have reported the youngest offender to be age 12 to 14 and the oldest offender to be age 18 to 20. In this scenario, it would not be known if one or more of the offenders were ages 15 to 17. In addition, victims report their perceptions of the offender's age. In some victimizations, particularly those committed by strangers, victims might inaccurately classify the age of the offender.

Calculating victimizing rates by age of offenders is further complicated by missing data on the age of all co-offenders. Respondents are asked to estimate the age of the oldest and

youngest offender. If the youngest offender was reported to be age 11 or younger and the oldest offender was reported to be age 18 or older, the involvement of an adolescent age 12 to 17 is unknown. In 2004–13, this made up less than 0.5% of violent victimizations. During the same period, 0.5% of victimizations were reported to be committed by the youngest offenders (ages 12 to 17) acting with an oldest offender age 30 or older. Therefore, it was not known whether a young adult age 18 to 29 was involved.

Offender race and Hispanic origin in the NCVS

In 2012, BJS changed the manner in which the NCVS collects information about the perceived race of offender. These changes were made to be consistent with the *Office of Management and Budget's Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity* that specify the minimum number of categories for statistical reporting on race.

Information on an offender's race and Hispanic origin is collected from the victim, therefore, it is what the victim perceived it to be. Prior to 2012, the NCVS collected offender race as white, black or African American, other race, and don't know. In 2012, offender race categories were expanded to include American Indian or Alaska Native; or Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander. In 2012, the NCVS also began collecting information on whether the offender was of Hispanic or Latino origin.

Table 6 in this report includes information on the perceived race of offender. The "other race" category in this table includes offenders of other races from 2004–11 but also includes offenders who were American Indian or Alaska Native; or Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander from 2012–13. Respondents were also asked if the offender was of Hispanic or Latino origin. However, since it cannot be determined if an offender was of Hispanic and Latino origin prior to 2012, this category was excluded from the analysis for 2012 and 2013. Hispanic or Latino persons were grouped into their racial category or categories perceived by the victim. Single offenders of two or more races were also included in 2012 and 2013.

The "multiple offenders of various races" category in table 6 includes multiple offenders of different races. Prior to 2012, this included white, black or African American, and other race. In 2012 and 2013, this included white; black or African American; American Indian or Alaska Native; and Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander.

Standard error computations

When national estimates are derived from a sample, as with the NCVS, caution must be taken 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, the estimates that appear to be different may not be statistically different.

The standard error is one measure of the sampling error associated with an estimate and can 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 produced 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 Jackknife Repeated Replication technique. The GVF parameters were used to generate standard errors for each point estimate (such as counts, percentages, and rates) in this report.

BJS conducted tests to determine whether differences in estimated numbers and percentages in this report were statistically significant once sampling error was taken into account. Using statistical programs developed specifically for the NCVS, all comparisons in the text were tested for significance. The Student's t-statistic was the primary test procedure, which tests the difference between two sample estimates.

Data users can use the estimates and the 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 can be used to generate confidence intervals:

In 2004 to 2013, according to the NCVS, the rate of nonfatal violent victimization committed by adolescent offenders ages 12 to 17 was 50.0 victimizations per 1,000 adolescents (see figure 1). Using the GVFs, the estimate has a standard error of 2.3 (see appendix table 1). A confidence interval around the estimate was generated by multiplying ± 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 50.0 estimate from 2004 to 2013 is $50.0 \pm (2.3 \times 1.96)$ or (45.5 to 54.5). In other words, if different samples using the same procedure were taken from the U.S. population from 2004 to 2013, 95% of the time the rate of nonfatal violent victimization committed by adolescent offenders ages 12 to 17 would be between 45.5 and 54.5 victimizations per 1,000 adolescents.

In 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. When the CV was greater than 50%, or the unweighted sample had 10 or fewer cases, the estimate was noted with an exclamation point (! Interpret data with caution. Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%).

APPENDIX TABLE 1

Estimates and standard errors for figure 1: Violent victimizing rates, by offender age group and co-offending status, 2004–13

| | Adolescents* | | Young adults | | Adults | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------|----------------|
| | Rate | Standard error | Rate | Standard error | Rate | Standard error |
| Total | 50.0 | 2.30 | 45.2 ‡ | 1.75 | 13.7 † | 0.55 |
| Offenders who acted alone | 31.8 | 1.71 | 32.2 | 1.40 | 11.8 † | 0.49 |
| Offenders who acted with co-offenders | 18.1 | 1.19 | 12.9 † | 0.77 | 1.9 † | 0.14 |

Note: Violent victimizations include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Victimization rates are calculated as the number of victimizations committed by a specific age group divided by the total population of that age group.

*Comparison group.

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

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 2

Standard errors for table 1: Percent of total violent victimizations, by offender age group, 2004–13

| Offender age group | Average annual victimizations | Percent of total | Percent committed by persons ages 12 or older ^a |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Violent victimizations committed by persons ages 12 or older | 359,384 | 0.78% | |
| Any adolescent | 131,344 | 0.77 | 0.86% |
| Any young adult | 194,611 | 1.00 | 1.09 |
| Any adult | 203,580 | 1.03 | 1.11 |
| All children under age 12 | 23,975 | 0.14 | ~ |
| Unknown ages | 94,067 | 0.58 | ~ |
| Total violent victimizations | 352,541 | | |

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 3

Standard errors for table 2: Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by co-offending status, 2004–13

| Adolescent co-offending status | Percent |
|--|---------|
| All violent victimizations | |
| Acted alone | 1.80% |
| Acted with co-offenders | 1.70 |
| All violent victimizations involving co-offenders | |
| All co-offenders age 17 or younger | 2.55% |
| At least one age 11 or younger | 0.79 |
| All ages 12–17 | 2.58 |
| Oldest co-offender age 18 or older | 2.39 |
| Ages 18–29 | 2.21 |
| Age 30 or older | 1.08 |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 131,344 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 4

Standard errors for table 3: Percent of violent victimizations, by offender age group and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Offender age group and co-offending status | Average annual victimizations | Percent of total |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Violent victimizations committed by persons ages 12 or older | 359,384 | |
| Adolescents who— | | |
| Acted alone | 97,989 | 0.67% |
| Acted only with adolescents | 49,864 | 0.36 |
| Acted with young adults | 31,818 | 0.22 |
| Young adults who— | | |
| Acted alone | 155,370 | 0.96% |
| Acted with young adults or adults | 72,351 | 0.51 |
| Adults who— | | |
| Acted alone | 184,099 | 1.06% |
| Acted with adults | 32,859 | 0.23 |
| Other | 31,841 | 0.22 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 5

Standard errors for table 4: Percent of co-offenders involved in violent victimizations, by age of oldest and youngest offenders, 2004–13

| Age of oldest offender | Age of youngest offender | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|
| | 12–14 | 15–17 | 18–20 | 21–29 | 30 or older |
| 12–14 | 3.49% | ~ | ~ | ~ | ~ |
| 15–17 | 3.37 | 3.22% | ~ | ~ | ~ |
| 18–20 | 1.32 | 3.05 | 2.95% | ~ | ~ |
| 21–29 | 0.84 | 2.00 | 3.20 | 3.12% | ~ |
| 30 or older | 1.61 | 1.41 | 2.63 | 2.97 | ~ |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 41,533 | 46,170 | 46,452 | 49,727 | 32,859 |

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 6

Standard errors for table 5: Percent of adolescents who co-offended with young adults, by age of youngest and oldest offenders, 2004–13

| Age of youngest offender | Age of oldest offender | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--------|--------|
| | 18–20 | 21–29 | 18–29 |
| 12–14 | 2.73% | 4.49% | 2.42% |
| 15–17 | 3.05 | 4.84 | 2.73 |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 26,450 | 15,205 | 31,818 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 7

Standard errors for table 6: Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by offender demographic characteristics and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Offender demographic characteristic | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 1.97% | 3.09% | 4.10% |
| Female | 1.80 | 2.62 | 2.30 |
| Male and female | ~ | 1.75 | 3.52 |
| Race | | | |
| White | 2.12% | 3.12% | 3.76% |
| Black/African American | 1.74 | 2.70 | 4.04 |
| Other race | 1.14 | 0.90 | 2.15 |
| Offenders of multiple races | ~ | 1.93 | 3.09 |
| Don't know | 0.71 | 1.29 | 0.60 |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 97,989 | 49,864 | 31,818 |

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 8

Standard errors for table 7: Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents who co-offended, by number of co-offenders and gang status, 2004–13

| | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Number of offenders | | |
| Two | 3.07% | 2.90% |
| Three | 2.53 | 3.38 |
| Four or more | 2.68 | 4.20 |
| Gang status | | |
| Yes | 2.29% | 3.59% |
| No | 3.01 | 3.39 |
| Don't know | 3.06 | 4.20 |
| Average annual violent victimizations | 49,864 | 31,818 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 9

Standard errors for table 8: Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by type of crime and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Type of crime | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|---|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Serious violent victimizations | 1.23% | 2.02% | 3.08% |
| Robbery | 0.79 | 1.97 | 2.80 |
| Aggravated assault | 0.96 | 1.18 | 2.64 |
| Simple assault victimizations | 1.80% | 2.82% | 4.06% |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations | 29,257 | 17,760 | 15,170 |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations | 79,979 | 39,102 | 21,299 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 10

Standard errors for table 9: Percent of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents involving a weapon, by co-offending status, 2004–13

| Weapon use | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|---|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Yes | 2.64% | 3.76% | 3.91% |
| No | 2.48 | 3.66 | 3.53 |
| Don't know | 0.90 | 1.97 | 1.62 |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations involving a weapon | 21,940 | 12,035 | 12,466 |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations | 29,257 | 17,760 | 15,170 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 11

Standard errors for table 10: Percent of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents involving injury, by injury type and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Victim injury | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|--|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Yes | 2.42% | 3.37% | 4.11% |
| Serious injuries | 1.76 | 1.43 | 3.01 |
| Bruises, cuts, or other minor injuries | 1.88 | 3.17 | 3.49 |
| No | 2.56% | 3.52% | 4.18% |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations involving an injury | 15,169 | 9,137 | 9,251 |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations | 29,257 | 17,760 | 15,170 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 12

Standard errors for table 11: Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents that were reported to police, by type of crime and co-offending status, 2004–13

| | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|---|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Serious violent victimizations reported to police | | | |
| Yes | 2.65% | 3.76% | 3.90% |
| No | 2.68 | 3.75 | 3.67 |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations reported to police | 18,690 | 12,093 | 12,501 |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations | 29,257 | 17,760 | 15,170 |
| Simple assault victimizations reported to police | | | |
| Yes | 1.82% | 3.17% | 5.21% |
| No | 2.05 | 3.34 | 5.25 |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations reported to police | 34,097 | 20,747 | 13,741 |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations | 79,979 | 39,102 | 21,299 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 13

Standard errors for table 12: Percent of violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by type of crime, victim–offender relationship, and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Type of crime and victim–offender relationship | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|--|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Serious violent victimizations | | | |
| Domestic violence | 1.91% | ~ | 1.88% |
| Well-known or casual acquaintance violence | 2.66 | 3.68% | 3.33 |
| Stranger violence | 2.44 | 3.76 | 4.03 |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations | 29,257 | 17,760 | 15,170 |
| Simple assault victimizations | | | |
| Domestic violence | 1.06% | 0.51% | 0.63% |
| Well-known or casual acquaintance violence | 2.21 | 3.42 | 4.96 |
| Stranger violence | 1.88 | 3.24 | 5.19 |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations | 79,979 | 39,102 | 21,299 |

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 14

Standard errors for table 13: Percent of serious violent victimizations committed by adolescents, by victim demographic characteristics and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Victim demographic characteristic | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|--|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 2.67% | 3.66% | 3.98% |
| Female | 2.66 | 3.56 | 3.83 |
| Race/Hispanic origin | | | |
| White | 2.62% | 3.75% | 4.22% |
| Black/African American | 1.76 | 3.24 | 3.31 |
| Hispanic/Latino | 1.75 | 3.05 | 3.38 |
| Other | 1.23 | 0.91 | 1.16 |
| Age group | | | |
| Adolescent | 2.57% | 3.54% | 4.03% |
| Young adult | 1.46 | 2.15 | 3.98 |
| Adult | 2.15 | 2.89 | 3.64 |
| Average annual serious violent victimizations | 29,257 | 17,760 | 15,170 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 15

Standard errors for table 14: Percent of simple assault victimizations committed by adolescents, by victim demographic characteristics and co-offending status, 2004–13

| Victim demographic characteristic | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
|---|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sex | | | |
| Male | 2.25% | 3.45% | 5.03% |
| Female | 2.20 | 3.41 | 4.87 |
| Race/Hispanic origin | | | |
| White | 2.18% | 3.26% | 4.77% |
| Black/African American | 1.34 | 2.13 | 2.82 |
| Hispanic/Latino | 1.41 | 2.06 | 3.60 |
| Other | 0.92 | 1.38 | 1.48 |
| Age group | | | |
| Adolescent | 1.99% | 2.92% | 4.95% |
| Young adult | 0.94 | 1.80 | 4.84 |
| Adult | 1.54 | 2.06 | 4.75 |
| Average annual simple assault victimizations | 79,979 | 39,102 | 21,299 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2004–13.

APPENDIX TABLE 16**Rates and standard errors for figure 2: Serious violent victimizing rates for adolescent offenders, by co-offending status, 1993–2013**

| Year | Rate per 1,000 adolescents | | | | Standard errors | | | |
|------|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Total with adolescents | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults | Total with adolescents | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
| 1994 | 65.5 | 30.3 | 16.8 | 14.6 | 3.83 | 2.38 | 1.65 | 1.52 |
| 1995 | 57.0 | 24.4 | 13.1 | 16.8 | 3.49 | 2.05 | 1.39 | 1.62 |
| 1996 | 49.1 | 20.9 | 12.2 | 13.8 | 3.13 | 1.81 | 1.28 | 1.38 |
| 1997 | 46.4 | 21.7 | 11.9 | 10.4 | 3.36 | 2.06 | 1.40 | 1.29 |
| 1998 | 40.3 | 19.6 | 9.5 | 8.9 | 3.33 | 2.08 | 1.30 | 1.25 |
| 1999 | 36.2 | 17.9 | 8.9 | 7.3 | 3.09 | 1.95 | 1.23 | 1.08 |
| 2000 | 30.0 | 15.5 | 7.5 | 5.4 | 2.75 | 1.78 | 1.12 | 0.90 |
| 2001 | 23.7 | 13.3 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 2.27 | 1.56 | 0.78 | 0.78 |
| 2002 | 20.8 | 9.6 | 4.8 | 4.3 | 2.21 | 1.34 | 0.85 | 0.79 |
| 2003 | 18.3 | 8.3 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 2.05 | 1.22 | 0.75 | 0.80 |
| 2004 | 17.1 | 9.1 | 2.9 | 4.1 | 1.83 | 1.23 | 0.60 | 0.74 |
| 2005 | 16.0 | 8.4 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 1.74 | 1.16 | 0.68 | 0.64 |
| 2006 | 16.6 | 9.8 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 1.69 | 1.20 | 0.58 | 0.59 |
| 2007 | 14.7 | 8.7 | 2.0 | 3.1 | 1.59 | 1.12 | 0.43 | 0.57 |
| 2008 | 16.0 | 9.4 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 1.81 | 1.27 | 0.55 | 0.61 |
| 2009 | 16.7 | 9.3 | 4.6 | 2.2 | 2.15 | 1.49 | 0.96 | 0.61 |
| 2010 | 13.6 | 6.5 | 4.8 | 2.2 | 1.82 | 1.11 | 0.92 | 0.55 |
| 2011 | 9.6 | 5.4 | 2.3 | 1.6 | 1.40 | 0.96 | 0.55 | 0.43 |
| 2012 | 9.3 | 4.5 | 2.5 | 1.4 | 1.26 | 0.81 | 0.55 | 0.39 |
| 2013 | 11.4 | 4.8 | 3.1 | 1.6 | 1.45 | 0.83 | 0.63 | 0.43 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2013.

APPENDIX TABLE 17**Rates and standard errors for figure 3: Simple assault victimizing rates for adolescent offenders, by co-offending status, 1993–2013**

| Year | Rate per 1,000 adolescents | | | | Standard errors | | | |
|------|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Total with adolescents | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults | Total with adolescents | Acted alone | Acted with adolescents | Acted with young adults |
| 1994 | 139.6 | 92.9 | 27.7 | 14.9 | 6.63 | 5.25 | 2.51 | 1.70 |
| 1995 | 136.0 | 87.5 | 27.1 | 15.3 | 5.92 | 4.58 | 2.21 | 1.54 |
| 1996 | 117.6 | 75.9 | 24.6 | 10.5 | 5.61 | 4.30 | 2.10 | 1.22 |
| 1997 | 110.1 | 76.2 | 20.0 | 9.1 | 5.96 | 4.76 | 2.03 | 1.22 |
| 1998 | 98.7 | 69.7 | 15.2 | 9.7 | 6.70 | 5.40 | 2.02 | 1.51 |
| 1999 | 87.8 | 60.1 | 15.0 | 9.9 | 6.04 | 4.76 | 1.93 | 1.47 |
| 2000 | 71.3 | 49.2 | 13.4 | 6.3 | 5.42 | 4.28 | 1.84 | 1.12 |
| 2001 | 58.6 | 41.3 | 10.7 | 4.2 | 4.46 | 3.57 | 1.49 | 0.82 |
| 2002 | 55.7 | 41.7 | 9.2 | 3.5 | 4.68 | 3.88 | 1.44 | 0.77 |
| 2003 | 53.0 | 39.4 | 8.7 | 2.9 | 4.51 | 3.72 | 1.37 | 0.67 |
| 2004 | 46.1 | 34.1 | 6.9 | 2.8 | 3.84 | 3.17 | 1.14 | 0.65 |
| 2005 | 43.6 | 32.4 | 7.1 | 2.7 | 3.67 | 3.04 | 1.16 | 0.64 |
| 2006 | 45.0 | 31.3 | 9.2 | 3.5 | 3.50 | 2.78 | 1.27 | 0.69 |
| 2007 | 42.3 | 30.5 | 8.1 | 2.6 | 3.41 | 2.75 | 1.13 | 0.53 |
| 2008 | 38.3 | 28.3 | 6.3 | 2.9 | 3.44 | 2.82 | 1.05 | 0.63 |
| 2009 | 32.4 | 20.1 | 6.8 | 3.8 | 3.47 | 2.56 | 1.29 | 0.90 |
| 2010 | 24.0 | 14.3 | 5.3 | 2.9 | 2.74 | 1.95 | 1.01 | 0.68 |
| 2011 | 24.2 | 16.8 | 4.2 | 1.9 | 2.57 | 2.02 | 0.80 | 0.48 |
| 2012 | 32.7 | 20.8 | 7.3 | 2.4 | 2.75 | 2.06 | 1.06 | 0.53 |
| 2013 | 38.7 | 21.8 | 11.8 | 2.4 | 3.63 | 2.50 | 1.68 | 0.60 |

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2013.



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.

This report was written by Barbara A. Oudekerk and Rachel E. Morgan, BJS Statisticians. Erika Harrell verified the report.

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