Interpreting Crime Statistics

The following statistical overviews represent a snapshot of the most recent findings about the status of crime in the United States. This section includes an overview on crime trends and data on 15 selected categories of crime: assault; burglary, robbery, and theft; children, youth, and teen victimization; crimes against persons with disabilities; economic and financial crime; elder victimization; hate and bias crime; homicide; human trafficking; intimate partner violence; school and campus crime; sexual violence; stalking; urban and rural crime; and workplace violence.

Using these statistics effectively requires understanding their sources. Among the most heavily cited authorities in this section are two studies from the U.S. Department of Justice—the FBI’s Uniform Crime Report (UCR) and the Bureau of Justice Statistics’ National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). These studies measure the scope, magnitude, and impact of crime in the United States, but they differ in methodology, focus, and information produced.

The UCR compiles crimes known to law enforcement, including victims of all ages, while the NCVS is based on a large, national sample of Americans age 12 and older; the NCVS offers important insights into what criminologists call the “dark figure of crime,” or crimes that have not been reported. Criminologists compare, contrast, and analyze data from these two sources to identify and assess current crime trends in the United States. Taken as a whole, these studies represent a highly useful but nonetheless incomplete picture of crime in our nation.

Statistical Overviews

CRIME TRENDS
ASSAULT
BURGLARY, ROBBERY, AND THEFT
CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND TEEN VICTIMIZATION
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIME
ELDER VICTIMIZATION
HATE AND BIAS CRIME
HOMICIDE
HUMAN TRAFFICKING
INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
SCHOOL AND CAMPUS CRIME
SEXUAL VIOLENCE
STALKING
URBAN AND RURAL CRIME
WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

Uniform Crime Report

The UCR, launched in 1929, collects information reported to law enforcement agencies on the following crimes: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Law enforcement agencies also report arrest data for 21 additional crime categories (e.g., forgery and counterfeiting, drug abuse violations, disorderly conduct, vagrancy). Each year, the FBI issues a report on the main UCR findings, titled Crime in the United States, as well as several other reports (e.g., Hate Crimes 2010 and In the Line of Duty: Law Enforcement

Note: The most recent national statistics lag several years behind the calendar year. For example, in 2013, the latest official national statistics are those collected in 2011, which were published in 2012. This lag results from the amount of time and the number of resources required to collect, analyze, and publish information from nationwide reports and interviews about crime and victimization.

Introduction

Officers Killed and Assaulted, 2010). The UCR presents crime counts for the entire nation, as well as for regions, states, counties, cities, towns, tribal law enforcement, and colleges and universities. Its primary purpose is to provide reliable criminal justice statistics for law enforcement administration and management.

National Crime Victimization Survey

The methodology for the NCVS, which began in 1973, differs from that of the UCR. The NCVS is based on interviews with a nationally representative sample of U.S. households and is conducted by U.S. Census Bureau personnel at six-month intervals for three years. All household members age 12 and older are interviewed. The NCVS collects information on the frequency and nature of crimes of rape, sexual assault, personal robbery, aggravated and simple assault, household burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft; it does not, however, measure homicide or commercial crimes. It gathers information on crimes both reported and not reported to the police, estimates the proportion of each crime reported to law enforcement, and describes the reasons victims gave for reporting or not reporting. The NCVS also includes questions about victims’ experiences with the criminal justice system, possible substance abuse by offenders, and how victims sought to protect themselves.

The NCVS collects periodic age and demographic information about both victims and offenders (e.g., age, sex, race, ethnicity, marital status, income, and educational level, as well as offenders’ relationships to their victims), and includes information about the crimes (time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, and economic impact). The NCVS also publishes supplements on specific crime issues such as stalking or school crime and provides previously unavailable data about crime that has not been reported.

Differences between the UCR and NCVS

Although the categories of crime covered by the UCR and NCVS overlap, their methodologies differ, and the studies serve different purposes. The UCR covers all victims of reported crime, but the NCVS gathers data on crimes against people ages 12 and older. The UCR covers homicide, arson, and commercial crimes, which the NCVS does not measure. The studies use somewhat different definitions of some crimes, and they report crime using different bases, e.g., per capita—crimes per 100,000 persons (UCR) versus crimes per 1,000 households (NCVS). The UCR measures crimes actually reported to law enforcement nationwide, and the NCVS addresses crimes not reported to law enforcement, as well as other specified crimes against people ages 12 and older.

What We Know about Crime in the United States

In general (and despite occasional variations), crime in the United States has declined measurably for decades. Between 1993 and 2010, for example, “the violent crime victimization rate declined steadily from 49.9 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older in 1993 to 14.9 per 1,000 in 2010, a decline of 70 percent.” During that same interval, “the property crime victimization rate declined 50 percent from 318.9 per 1,000 households in 1993 to 159.0 per 1,000 households in 2002, and to 120.2 per 1,000 households in 2010.

As the statistical overviews in this section demonstrate, we can make the following generalizations about other important crime patterns and trends:

- Overall, crime is disproportionately committed by males (see “Homicide”).
- Some crimes (e.g., stalking, intimate partner violence, sexual assault), are predominantly

4 Federal Bureau of Investigation, “The Nation’s Two Crime Measures.”
5 Ibid.
7 Ibid., 3.
8 Ibid., 7.
committed by males against females (see “Stalking,” “Intimate Partner Violence”).

- Although crime tends to disproportionately affect racial and ethnic minorities (both as victims and offenders), most crimes are committed by whites against whites.9

- Certain populations are disproportionately affected by crime, not necessarily because of the sheer numbers of victims but as a result of crime's greater impact on these groups (see “Elder Victimization,” “Crime against Persons with Disabilities,” “Children, Youth, and Teen Victimization”).

- Young people (16-24) are the population group most victimized by crime. They also commit the most crimes (see “Children, Youth, and Teen Victimization”).

**What We Don’t Know about Crime**

- **The “big picture” on many important issues.**
  We can’t analyze or report on crimes that we don’t measure. Because many important issues have not been the subjects of annual national studies, sufficient data on these subjects is not available for general analysis and for inclusion in the National Crime Victims’ Rights Week Resource Guide. For example, we do not have enough information about human trafficking, crimes against LGBTQ individuals, elder victimization, crimes against those with disabilities, the mental health effects of crime, victimization and offending by the same individuals, and the relation of socioeconomic status, as well as substance abuse, to crime.

- **Why crime has decreased so significantly.**
  Although the decrease in crime has been steady and remarkably consistent, criminologists have reached no widely held conclusions about the reasons for these patterns.

- **How increased attention to certain crimes (e.g., child sexual abuse, elder abuse) affects what we know about them.** For example, we know anecdotally that increasing awareness about child sexual abuse builds support for more research and education about the crime, its present and past prevalence, and the best ways to work with victims and prevent future crimes. But we do not know the precise impact of this increased attention on our knowledge about and response to these crimes. Further research is needed to clarify these issues.

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Although the day-to-day activities of the criminal justice system focus necessarily on immediate events, it is important to take a broad look at changes in criminal victimization across time to understand the context in which individual crimes take place. Criminologists compare and contrast the data from two key sets of national data that are gathered consistently from year to year—the Uniform Crime Reports and the National Crime Victimization Survey—to identify and assess our nation’s important crime trends. Both these sources show that crime has decreased substantially, particularly in comparison to crime rates from the 1970s and 80s. Data from the last decade, as well, have continued to demonstrate a downward trend, although there were (and still are) occasional fluctuations in some numbers. While experts find it difficult to identify the reasons for declining crime rates, this trend is undoubtedly good news for the victim services field. At the same time, however, there is still much work to do. Rates of victimization have decreased, but the population continues to increase and millions of crimes still occur every year. The criminal justice system continually faces significant challenges in meeting the needs of victims as they work to restore their lives and build for the future.

**Violent Crime**

- In 1973, the rate of violent crimes reported by victims was 4,770 per 100,000. It reached its peak at 5,230 per 100,000 persons in 1981 and dropped to 1,690 per 100,000 persons in 2009.2

- By comparison, the rate of violent crime reported to law enforcement in 1973 was 417.4 per 100,000 persons. It reached a peak in 1991 at 758.2 and fell to 431.9 per 100,000 persons in 2009.3

- Historically, males have higher rates of violent victimization compared to females. For example, in 1994 males experienced a rate of violent victimization of 59.6 per 1,000 while the rate for females was 42.5 per 1,000. However, in 2010 the rates of violent victimization were 15.7 per 1,000 for males and 14.2 per 1,000 for females, indicating a continuing convergence of male and female victimization.4

- The percentage of victims of violent crimes who suffered an injury during the victimizations declined slightly from 2001 to 2008, as reported by victims; however there was an increase from 24 percent in 2008 to 29 percent in 2010.5

- In 2010, victims reported that about 50 percent of all violent victimizations were reported to police. Over the past 10 years, this percentage has remained stable.6

**Assault**

- In 1973, the rate of aggravated assault reported by victims7 was 1,250 per 100,000. It reached its peak at 1,290 per 100,000 persons in 1,974 and dropped to 320 per 100,000 persons in 2009.8

- By comparison, the rate of aggravated assault reported to law enforcement was 200.5 per 100,000 persons in 1973. It reached its peak in 1992 at 441.9 per 100,000 persons and dropped to 264.7 per 100,000 persons in 2009.9

- In 1973, the rate of simple assault reported by victims was 2,590 per 100,000. It reached its peak at 3,150 per 100,000 persons in 1994 and dropped to 1,130 per 100,000 persons in 2009.10

**Rape**

- In 1973, the rate of rapes reported by victims was 250 per 100,000. It reached its peak at 280 per 100,000 persons in 1979 and dropped to 30 per 100,000 persons in 2009.11

- By comparison, the rate of rapes reported to law enforcement in 1973 was 24.5 per 100,000 persons and reached its peak in 1992 at 42.8. In 2009, the rate dropped to 29.1 per 100,000 persons.12

**Robbery, Larceny-theft, and Burglary**

- In 1973, the rate of robbery reported by victims was 670 per 100,000. It reached its peak at 740 per 100,000 persons in 1981 and dropped to 210 per 100,000 persons in 2009.13
Crime Trends

Crime Rates Reported by Victims, 1973 – 2009*

*2006 data omitted in source

Crime Rates Reported to Law Enforcement, 1973 – 2009
By comparison, the rate of robbery reported to law enforcement in 1973 was 183.1 per 100,000 persons. It reached its peak in 1991 at 272.7 per 100,000 persons and fell to 133.1 in 2009.14

The rate of larceny-theft reported to law enforcement was 2,071.9 per 100,000 persons in 1973. It reached its peak in 1991 at 3,229.1 per 100,000 persons and dropped to 2,064.5 per 100,000 persons in 2009.15

The rate of burglary reported to law enforcement in 1973 was 1,222.5 per 100,000 persons. It reached its peak in 1980 at 1,684.1 per 100,000 persons and fell to 717.7 per 100,000 persons in 2009.16

The rate of motor vehicle theft reported to law enforcement in 1973 was 442.6 per 100,000 persons. It reached its peak in 1991 at 659.0 per 100,000 persons and declined to 259.2 per 100,000 persons in 2009.17

Personal theft decreased between 2001 and 2010 by 34 percent.18

Property Crime

The rate of property crime reported to law enforcement was 3,737.0 per 100,000 persons in 1973. It reached its peak in 1980 at 5,353.3 per 100,000 persons and declined to 3,041.3 per 100,000 persons in 2009.19

As reported by victims, between 1993 and 2002, the property crime victimization rate declined by 50 percent (from 31,890 per 100,000 households to 15,900). This rate further declined to 12,020 per 100,000 households in 2010.20

In 2010, as reported by victims, nearly 40 percent of property crimes were reported to the police. Over the past 10 years, this percentage has remained stable.21

Weapons

As reported by victims, from 2001 to 2010, weapon violence declined from 26 percent to 22 percent, and stranger-perpetrated violence declined from 44 percent to 39 percent.22

Between 2001 and 2010, about 6 percent to 9 percent of all violent victimizations reported by victims were committed with firearms. Since 2004, this percentage has remained stable.23

Murder

The rate of murder reported to law enforcement in 1973 was 9.4 per 100,000 persons (19,640 homicides). It reached its peak in 1980 at 10.2 per 100,000 persons (23,040 homicides), and fell to 5.0 per 100,000 persons (15,399 homicides) in 2009.24

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14 Federal Bureau of Investigation, “Crime—National or State Level Data with One Variable.”
15 Ibid.
16 Ibid.
17 Ibid.
18 Truman, Criminal Victimization, 2010, 3.
19 Federal Bureau of Investigation, “Crime—National or State Level Data with One Variable.”
20 Truman, Criminal Victimization, 2010, 7.
21 Ibid., 1.
22 Ibid.
23 Ibid.
24 Federal Bureau of Investigation, “Crime—National or State Level Data with One Variable.”
Although assaults have declined significantly in the past decade, millions of these crimes occur every year. The majority of assaults involve the use of hands, fists, and feet or clubs or blunt objects rather than firearms or knives. Victimization varies in important ways, both by sex and by ethnicity. Males experience more assaults by strangers, and females experience more assaults by intimate partners and other people known to them. American Indian or Alaska Natives, blacks, and Hispanics experience higher rates of assault than whites or Asian or Pacific Islanders.

- In 2010, 58 percent of all serious violent crimes were reported to the police.¹
- The percentage of aggravated assault victimizations reported to the police in 2010 was 60 percent, while the percent of reported simple assaults was 47 percent.²
- In cases where the victim indicated their relationship to the offender, males experienced aggravated assault by a nonstranger (including intimate partner, other relative, and friend/acquaintance) in 49 percent of cases and by a stranger in 37 percent. Females experienced aggravated assault by a nonstranger in 54 percent of cases and by a stranger in 38 percent of cases.³

![Aggravated Assault Cases by Sex and Victim/Offender Relationship](image1)

- In 2010, the rate of aggravated assault incidences known to law enforcement in metropolitan counties was 197.5 per 100,000 inhabitants and the rate in non-metropolitan counties was 156.6 per 100,000.⁴
- In 2010, 318,340 total arrests were made on aggravated assault charges, a rate of 132.6 per 100,000 inhabitants. Other assault cases resulted in 1,008,509 arrests at a rate of 420.0 per 100,000 inhabitants.⁵
- In 2010, of the 678,433 aggravated assaults known to law enforcement, 56 percent were cleared by arrest. In cities with more than 250,000 citizens, 50 percent were cleared by arrest. The percentage was 63 percent in cities with a population under 10,000, and 61 percent in suburban areas.⁶
- From 2001 to 2010, the rate of aggravated assault reported by victims against persons age 12 years or older declined by 47 percent. The rate in 2010 had declined to 2.8 incidents per 1,000 persons; in 2001 it was 5.3 per 1,000 persons.⁷
- In reported cases, females are more likely than males to experience assault by an intimate partner. In aggravated assaults, male victims reported that the offender was an intimate partner in 7 percent of incidents, whereas females reported an intimate partner offender in 24 percent of cases.⁸
- In 2010, violent crime reported by victims declined by 13 percent. Simple assaults accounted for about 82 percent of the total decline.⁹
- For simple assault, in cases where the victim indicated their relationship to the offender, males were victimized by a nonstranger in 42 percent of cases and by a stranger in 46 percent of cases. Females experienced simple assault by a nonstranger in 68 percent of cases and by a stranger in 26 percent of cases.¹⁰

![Simple Assault Cases by Sex and Victim/Offender Relationship](image2)

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² Ibid.
³ Ibid., 9.
⁷ Truman, Criminal Victimization, 2010, 3.
⁸ Ibid., 9.
⁹ Ibid., 1.
¹⁰ Ibid., 9.
• From 2001 to 2010, the rate of simple assault reported by victims against persons age 12 years or older declined by 40.4 percent. The rate of simple assault in 2010 was 9.5 incidents per 1,000 persons; in 2001 it was 15.9 per 1,000 persons.11

• In simple assault cases reported by victims, 4 percent of males were victimized by an intimate partner, compared to 22 percent of females.12

• In 2010, victims experienced 3,148,250 simple and aggravated assaults. Seventy-three percent of these incidents involved no weapons used by an offender; 20 percent involved a weapon, including firearms (6 percent), knives (4 percent), and unknown if a weapon was used (7 percent).13

• In 2010, the rate of aggravated assault reported by victims against American Indian or Alaska Natives was 19.5 per 1,000 people. People of two or more races were victimized at a rate of 8.5, blacks (non-Hispanic) at a rate of 4.7, whites at a rate of 2.6, Hispanics at a rate of 2.3, and Asian or Pacific Islander at a rate less than one per 1,000 people.14

• In 2010, the rate of simple assault reported by victims against people of two or more races was 34.9 per 1,000, American Indian or Alaska Natives at a rate of 18.3, black (non-Hispanic) at a rate of 11.4; Hispanics at a rate of 9.8, whites at a rate of 9.0, and Asian or Pacific Islander at a rate of 4 per 1,000 people.15

• In 2009, the rate of law enforcement officers assaulted in the line of duty was 10.3 assaults per 100 officers.16 This number decreased slightly in 2010 to 10.0 per 100 officers.17

• Of all the officers who were assaulted in 2010, 33 percent were assaulted while responding to disturbance calls, 15 percent while attempting other arrests, and 13 percent while handling or transporting prisoners.18

• In 2010, the types of weapons used during aggravated assaults known to law enforcement included: firearms at 21 percent; personal weapons such as hands, fists, and feet at 27 percent; and knives or other cutting instruments at 19 percent. Other weapons, such as clubs or blunt objects, were used in 33 percent of aggravated assaults.19

• In 2010, 82 percent of law enforcement officers who were assaulted were attacked with personal weapons (e.g. hands, fists, or feet), and 3 percent were assaulted with firearms. Of law enforcement officers who were assaulted, 26 percent sustained injuries.20

• The largest percentage of assaults on officers in 2010, 16 percent, occurred between 12:01 a.m. and 2 a.m. This percentage is consistent with those in the previous 12 years.21

• Of the officers who were assaulted in 2010, 62 percent were assigned to one-officer vehicle patrols and 19 percent were assigned to two-officer vehicle patrols.22

*In cases of simple assault, American Indian and Alaska Native figures are based on a sample size of 10 or fewer. In cases of aggravated assault, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, and “two or more races” figures are based on sample sizes of 10 or fewer. In these instances, the data is less statistically reliable.

11 Ibid., 3.
12 Ibid. 9.
13 Ibid., 8.
14 Ibid., 11.
15 Ibid.
18 Ibid.
21 Ibid.
22 Ibid.
While robbery, burglary, and theft all involve the loss of items of value, these crimes also differ. Robbery is both a violent crime and one that involves property. Robbery victims are immediately aware of the crime because they are present when it takes place. Burglary, however, is a theft from a dwelling or structure that may or may not be inhabited at the time of the crime (the crime escalates to robbery if someone is present in the structure when it is entered). A disproportionate number of burglaries, robberies, and thefts occur in metropolitan areas. Since 2006, the overall occurrence of these crimes has decreased by more than 9 percent. While the dollar value of these crimes is difficult to pinpoint, especially accounting for the intangible effects of victimization, total losses to victims from property crimes (which include burglary and larceny theft) amount to billions of dollars every year.1

- In 2010, 2,159,878 burglaries occurred in the United States,2 at a rate of 699.6 per 100,000 inhabitants.3
- In 2010, both the volume and rates of burglary per 100,000 people in the United States decreased by 2 percent from 2009.4
- Between 2001 and 2010, the rate of robberies in the United States decreased by 19.7 per 100,000 inhabitants.5 Larceny-theft crimes, the unlawful taking of property, decreased 19.4 percent.6 The rate of overall property victimization declined by 28 percent during this time.7
- Between 2009 and 2010, the rate of robberies decreased by 10.5 percent.8 The estimated number of motor vehicle thefts decreased 7.4 percent; larceny-theft and burglary decreased 2.4 percent and 2 percent, respectively.9
- As reported by victims, in 2010, 72 percent of robberies of male victims were committed by a stranger, and 53 percent of robberies of female victims were committed by a stranger.10
- As reported by victims in 2010, 41 percent of robberies involved no weapons. Firearms were used in 29 percent of robberies, and a knife was used in 10 percent of robberies.11

- In 2010, burglaries occurred at a rate of 636.3 per 100,000 inhabitants in metropolitan counties of more than 100,000. The number of burglaries known was 249,534.12 Metropolitan counties with populations between 25,000 and 99,999 recorded 116,578 known burglaries, or a rate of 530.2 per 100,000 inhabitants. In non-metropolitan counties with more than 25,000 inhabitants, burglaries occurred at a rate of 611.6 per 100,000; the number of known burglaries was 67,432.13
- In 2010, the number of known burglaries by forcible entry was 1,157,212.14 The number of burglaries by unlawful entry known to law enforcement was 634,943.15
- In 2010, 564,161 burglaries were committed at nonresidential (store, office, etc.) locations;16 1,595,717 burglaries occurred in residences in the United States.17 Of the burglaries occurring at residences in 2010, 443,717 of those occurred at night and 821,897 occurred during the day.18
- The rate of robberies per 100,000 inhabitants in the metropolitan counties with over 100,000 inhabitants was 86.7, while the same rate for the most densely populated non-metropolitan counties (with 25,000 or more residents) was 19.7.19

5 Ibid., Table 1A.
8 Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 2010, Table 1A.
9 Ibid.
11 Ibid., 8.
13 Ibid.
17 Ibid.
18 Ibid.
19 Ibid., Table 19.
• 127,521 reported robbery cases involved a firearm, while 129,606 cases involved a strong-arm (the use or threatened use of hands, arms, feet, fists, or teeth as weapons to deprive the victim of property).20

• The rate of robbery involving a firearm was the highest (28.3 per 100,000 inhabitants) in metropolitan counties.21 However, the rate of robberies involving a strong-arm was highest in suburban areas (26.7 per 100,000 inhabitants).

• In 2010, there were an estimated 6,185,867 larceny-thefts nationwide.22

• In metropolitan counties in 2010, there were 616,885 cases of larceny-theft, which is a rate of 1,573 per 100,000 inhabitants.23

• Property crime decreased 2.7 percent from 2009 to 2010. The 5-year trend (see chart below) showed a 9.3 percent decrease between 2006 and 2010.24

• Of all property crimes in 2010, 68 percent were larceny-theft and 24 percent were burglaries.25

• In 2010, victims reported a rate of property crime victimizations of 120.2 per 1,000 households.26

• Motor vehicle theft accounted for 26 percent of all thefts in 2010. Shoplifting accounted for 17 percent.27

• In 2010, victims reported 39 percent of property crimes to police. Law enforcement received reports on 39 percent of burglaries, 83 percent of motor vehicular thefts, and 32 percent of thefts.28

20 Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 2010, Table 19.
21 Ibid.
22 Ibid., “Larceny-theft.”
23 Ibid., Table 18.
25 Ibid.
26 Truman, Criminal Victimization, 2010, 7.
28 Truman, Criminal Victimization, 2010, 10.
Children, youth, and teens experience high levels of victimization. Crimes against young people include abuse, neglect, and homicide, and a majority of children and adolescents have experienced some form of physical assault in their lifetimes. Teenagers, in particular, experience high levels of assault, maltreatment, and property victimization. Large percentages of children, youth, and teens are also regularly exposed to physical and emotional violence in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods. Schools are more aware than other authorities about child victimization, especially because more crimes are committed against children at school than outside of school.

- Of children ages 0 to 17 years, 61 percent experienced at least one direct or indirect victimization in the previous 12 months.¹
- Of the U.S. population of 14- to 17-year-olds, 71 percent had been assaulted, 53 percent had experienced a property victimization (including robbery) 32 percent had been maltreated, and 28 percent had been sexually victimized at some point in their lifetime.²
- In 2008, of children aged 0 to 17, 4.8 percent of males and 7.4 percent of females were sexually victimized, 4.3 percent of males and 4.4 percent of females were physically abused, and 1.7 percent of males and 1.3 percent of females had experienced neglect in the previous year.³
- At some point in their lifetime, 57 percent of children and adolescents (age 0 to 17) experienced some form of physical assault, 51 percent were victims of bullying (emotional or physical), and 10 percent were victims of assault with a weapon.⁴
- Just under one-half (45 percent) of all child victims of maltreatment were white, 22 percent were African American, and 21 percent were Hispanic.⁵
- In 2010, child protective services found approximately 754,000 children were victims of maltreatment (abuse and neglect). Children ages 0 to 3 years account for 34 percent of child maltreatment victims.⁶ Parents are the perpetrators of child maltreatment in 81 percent of the cases.⁷
- During 2010, 62 percent of child maltreatment victims experienced neglect, 14 percent were physically abused, 7 percent were sexually abused, 6 percent were psychologically maltreated, and 2 percent were medically neglected. In addition, 8 percent of child victims experienced other types of maltreatment.⁸
- In 2010, an estimated 1,560 children died as a result of maltreatment. Forty-eight percent of these children were under a year old. Seventy-nine percent of child fatalities were caused by the child’s parents, and 29 percent of fatalities were caused by the mother alone.⁹
- In 2008, data showed that more crimes committed against students ages 12 to 18 occurred at school rather than away from school. This same population experienced 1.2 million nonfatal crimes at school.¹⁰
- Authorities often knew about nonphysical victimizations that occur in school, such as relational aggression (52 percent) and property theft (47 percent), or types of victimization that leave signs a

² Ibid., 1413-1415.
³ Ibid., 1414.
⁴ Ibid., Table 1.
⁶ Ibid.
teacher in a classroom or a doctor in the course of a medical examination might detect, such as neglect (48 percent).11

- School officials were aware of 42 percent of child victimizations cases, while police were aware of only 13 percent and medical personnel were aware of only 2 percent.12

- In 2009, 33 percent of high school students had been in a physical fight one or more times during the previous 12 months, and about 4 percent had been in a fight in which they were injured and had to be treated by a nurse or doctor.13

- In 2010, 10 percent (1,277) of children and youth under 18 years of age were victims of homicide. Of total homicides, 9 percent (890) were males under the age of 18, and 13 percent (386) were female under the age of 18 (the sex of one victim was unknown). Of homicide victims under the age of 18 with known race, 49 percent (622) were black and 48 percent (599) were white. (The race of 56 victims was either “other” or “unknown.”)14

- In 2010, of the 1,277 children under 18 years of age who were murdered, 15 percent (186) were infants under age one, 25 percent (313) were children 1 to 4 years of age, 7 percent (85) were children 5 to 8 years of age, 3 percent (43) were children 9 to 12 years of age, 28 percent (363) were youth 13 to 16 years of age, and 23 percent (287) were teens age 17 to 18.15

- More than 1 in 4 children witnessed an act of violence in their homes, schools, and communities within the previous year. Of children surveyed, 38 percent witnessed an act of violence sometime during their lifetime.16 Eighty-six percent of children who had a lifetime exposure to violence also reported exposure to violence within the previous 12 months.17

- As of November 2009, 22 states and Puerto Rico had enacted legislation addressing the issue of children witnessing domestic violence. Thirteen states provide for enhanced penalties in domestic violence cases when a child is present. Three states require the perpetrator pay for any counseling needed by the child, two states mandate counseling for the offender, and one state requires—in cases where the noncustodial parent had committed domestic violence in the presence of a child—that child visitation be supervised for a period of one to two years.18

- In 2008, 1 in 10 children under the age of 18 had witnessed a family assault in the previous twelve months and 1 in 5 had witnessed a family assault at some point in their lifetime.19

- In the past year, 37 percent of children were exposed to an assault with no weapon or injury, 15 percent witnessed an assault with a weapon and/or an injury, 6 percent experienced sexual assault with no weapon or injury, 15 percent witnessed an assault with a weapon and/or an injury, 6 percent experienced sexual assault with no weapon or injury, and 10 percent experienced child maltreatment.20

- Over 80 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning (LGBTQ) high school students of color hear the word “gay” or “queer” in a negative connotation often or frequently while in school.21


12 Ibid., 1.


15 Ibid.


Persons with disabilities are victimized by crime at much higher rates than the rest of the population, and they are often targeted specifically because of their disabilities. Violent crimes against these victims, the majority of whom are over 50, include rape/sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and intimate partner violence. As compared to other population groups, victims with disabilities experience higher rates of victimization by persons known to them, and they report crime less frequently, often because of the nature of their disabilities, such as mental disabilities or physical or emotional illness. Responding to crime victims with disabilities poses unique challenges to the criminal justice system, which is often not equipped to meet their needs.

- In 2010, the age-adjusted violent victimization rate for persons with disabilities (28 violent victimizations per 1,000) was almost twice the rate among persons without disabilities (15 violent victimizations per 1,000).2

- From 2008 to 2010, the age-adjusted rate of violent crime against persons with disabilities decreased by 30 percent from 40 per 1,000 to 28 per 1,000. By comparison, the rate of violent crime against persons without disabilities decreased by 25 percent from 20 per 1,000 in 2008 to about 15 per 1,000 in 2010.3

- In 2010, offenders were strangers to the victim in 33 percent of violent victimizations against persons with disabilities, compared to 41 percent of violent victimizations against persons without disabilities.5

- In 2010, intimate partner violence accounted for 13 percent of violence against persons with disabilities, similar to the percentage of violence against persons without disabilities, which is 14 percent.6

- The rate of aggravated assault reported against persons with disabilities in 2008 was 6.6 per 1,000. That number increased to 7.0 in 2009 and increased again in 2010 to 8.3.7

- In 2010, among the disability types measured, persons with cognitive disabilities had the highest rate of violent victimization (30 per 1,000).8

- Between 2008 and 2010, reported instances of rape/sexual assault against persons with a disability declined by 13 percent.9

- In 2008, 15 percent of child victims of abuse or neglect had a reported disability.10

- In 2010, about 41 percent of the violent victimizations against persons with disabilities were reported to police, compared to about 53 percent of victimizations against persons without disabilities.11

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2 Ibid., 2.
3 Ibid., calculated from data on p. 3.
4 Ibid.
5 Ibid., 4.
6 Ibid.
7 Ibid., 7.
8 Ibid., 4.
9 Ibid., calculated from data in Table 1.1.
In 2010, persons with disabilities reported to the police 39 percent of robberies and 40 percent of aggravated assaults. Persons without disabilities reported much higher percentages of these crimes: 63 percent of robberies and 65 percent of aggravated assaults.\(^\text{12}\)

Among persons with disabilities, the percentage of violence in which the victim faced an armed offender increased from 20 percent in 2008 to 30 percent in 2010.\(^\text{13}\) The offender was armed with a firearm in about 14 percent of victimizations involving persons with disabilities, compared to 8 percent of victimizations against those without disabilities in 2010.\(^\text{14}\)

In 2007, about 19 percent of violent crime victims with a disability said they believed they had been victimized because of their disability.\(^\text{15}\)

In 2010, a total of 46 anti-disability hate crimes were reported. Twenty-two were motivated by bias against persons with physical disabilities and 24 by bias against those with mental disabilities.\(^\text{16}\)

More than one-half of violent crimes against people with a disability were against those with multiple disabilities.\(^\text{17}\)

In 2010, a total of 43 anti-disability-biased incidents were reported. Of the 43 incidents, 39 were committed against an individual, 1 against a business, 1 against society, and 2 against “other/unknown/multiple.”\(^\text{18}\)

Of the 22 reported offenses against those with physical disabilities in 2010, 4 were aggravated assault, 8 simple assault, 5 intimidation, 1 classified as “other” crime against person, 3 larceny/theft, and 1 crime against society. Of the 24 offenses against those with mental disabilities, 2 were aggravated assault, 12 simple assault, 3 robbery, 1 burglary, 4 larceny/theft, 1 destruction of property/vandalism, and 1 classified as “other” crime against property.\(^\text{19}\)

Between 2003 and 2009, 33 percent of hate crimes were targeted at people with disabilities, compared to 51 percent of hate crimes that were motivated by ethnic bias, 47 percent due to bias against the victim’s associations with persons having particular characteristics, and 46 percent based on bias against the victim’s perceived characteristics.\(^\text{20}\)★

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12 Ibid., 11.
13 Ibid., 5.
14 Ibid.
Economic and financial crimes cost Americans billions of dollars every year. Property crimes such as burglary and theft—which disproportionately victimize lower-income people—constitute only a portion of financial crime. Various forms of fraud—including mortgage, health care, mass marketing, and securities and commodities fraud—also cause massive losses but are often difficult to investigate and prosecute. Successfully prosecuted cases, however, result in billions in criminal restitution, fines and civil settlements, as well as millions in seizures and civil restitution. Technology plays a key role in the commission of many financial crimes. Offenders use Internet-based tools such as spyware, malicious codes, viruses, worms, and malware to commit fraud, scams, identity theft, and other crimes.

- In the first half of 2010, spyware infections prompted 617,000 U.S. households to replace or repair their computers. One of every 11 households surveyed had a major problem due to spyware, with damage totaling $1.2 billion.1

- In 2010, the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) received 303,809 complaints regarding possible online criminal activity, a 9.8 percent decrease from 2009. The IC3 averages 25,317 complaints a month. Of the total number of complaints, 121,710 (or 40 percent) were referred to federal, state, and local law enforcement.2

- IC3 prepared 1,420 cases (representing 42,808 complaints) in 2010. The number of cases prepared by law enforcement was 698 (representing 4,015 complaints). Law enforcement also asked for assistance from the FBI on 598 Internet crime matters. From the referrals prepared by the FBI analysts, 122 open investigations were reported, resulting in 31 arrests, 6 convictions, 17 grand jury subpoenas, and 55 search/seizure warrants.3

- In 2010, non-delivery of payment scams were the number-one Internet scam, accounting for 14.4 percent of all complaints, followed by FBI-related scams at 13.2 percent, and identity theft at 9.8 percent.4

- According to a 2011 report, the median annual cost of cybercrime for 50 large benchmarked organizations is $5.9 million, with a range from $1.5 million to $36.5 million each year per company. The 50 companies studied experienced 72 successful attacks per week.5

- The same study indicated that in 2011 malicious code, denial of service, stolen or hijacked devices, Web-based attacks, and malicious insiders accounted for 75 percent of all cyber crime costs per organization on an annual basis.6

- Twenty-three percent of cybercrime costs were due to malicious code attacks; 17 percent were due to denial of service attacks; 13 percent were due to stolen devices; 13 percent were due to Web-based attacks; 9 percent due to malicious insiders; 9 percent were due to phishing and social engineering; 7 percent were due to viruses, worms, and trojans; 4 percent were due to malware; and 4 percent were due to botnets.7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annualized Percentage Cost of Cyber Crime by Attack Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
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<td>75</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>cost of cyber crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>malware, 4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>phish + social engineering, 9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4%, botnets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%, viruses, worms, + trojans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9%, malicious insiders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>web-based attacks, 13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13%, stolen devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>denial of service, 17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>23%, malicious code</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- In a 2008 report, for crimes both reported and not reported to the police, the total economic loss to victims was $1.14 billion for violent crime and $16.2 billion for property crime.8

- In 2010, an estimated $456 million in losses was attributed to robberies reported to the police. The average dollar value of property stolen per robbery offense was $1,239.9

- In 2010, the average dollar loss due to arson was $17,612.10

- In 2010, households in the lowest income category (less than $7,500 per year) had a higher overall property victimization rate (168.7 per 1,000 households), compared to households earning $75,000 or more (119.3 per 1,000 households).11

- In 2010, the average property loss per burglary was $2,119. The total amount lost to burglaries was an estimated $4.6 billion.12

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3 Ibid.
4 Ibid., 9.
5 Ibid.
6 Ibid.
7 Ibid.
• Economic and Financial Crime

In 2011, the FBI investigated 2,690 cases of healthcare fraud, resulting in 1,676 informations/indictments and 736 convictions of healthcare fraud criminals. These cases also resulted in $1.2 billion in restitution; $1 billion in fines; over $1 billion in civil settlements; $320 million in civil restitution; and $96 million in seizures.17

Financial Penalties for 2,690 Cases of Healthcare Fraud

restitution $1,200
fines $1,000
civil settlements $1,000
civil restitution $320
seizures $96

millions of dollars

By the end of Fiscal Year 2011, the FBI was investigating 1,846 cases of securities and commodities fraud; recorded 520 informations or indictments; achieved 394 convictions; and received $8.8 billion in restitution orders, $36 million in recoveries, $113 million in fines, and $751 million in forfeitures.21

In 2011, the FBI reported a total of 5,014 bank robberies. Of these, 4,495 were commercial banks, 105 savings and loan associations, 398 credit unions, and 16 mutual savings banks.22

In 2011, loot (defined to include cash, securities, and checks including Traveler’s Checks) was taken in 89 percent of the total incidents of bank robbery (4,534 incidents out of 5,086). Of the incidents where loot was taken, law enforcement agencies reported full or partial recovery of loot in 21 percent of cases (973 incidents out of 4,534).23

In 2011, a total of $38,343,501.96 was taken in incidents of bank robbery. Of this amount, law enforcement reported $8,070,886.97 recovered loot.24

17 Ibid., 18.
18 Ibid., 24.
19 Ibid., 26.
20 Ibid., 31.
21 Ibid., 33.
22 Ibid., 13.
23 Ibid.
24 Ibid.
Elder Victimization, like other crimes that are frequently perpetrated by acquaintances, family, friends, or other people known to the victim, often remains hidden. The extent and nature of elder victimization has only recently been recognized as a problem, and, as a result, there are few national-level studies of crimes against the elderly or official statistics. Victimization of older persons spans all types of crime, but financial exploitation has emerged as a particularly difficult problem. Elders are vulnerable to these types of crimes for many reasons, which range from their having more resources to exploit, to medical needs, to diminished capacity. While elders, overall, have the lowest victimization rates of any age category, the nature of elder victimization renders these crimes especially devastating and difficult for many victims.

- In 2010, people 65 years and older made up 15 percent of the U.S. population. This age group experienced the lowest rate of violent victimization at 2.4 such victimizations per 1,000, compared to 18-20 year olds, who experienced the most violent victimizations at 33.9 per 1,000.1

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- In one state, between the years of 2005-2009, adults 65 or older were violently victimized at a rate of 204.5 per 100,000 residents per year. The rate of violent victimization of white adults 65 and older was 145.4 per 1,000; 744.9 per 1,000 black adults over 65 were violently victimized; 239.6 per 1,000 American Indian/Alaska Native adults over the age of 65 were victims of a violent crime; and 131.9 percent of Asian/Pacific Islander adults over the age of 65 were victims.2

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- In adults ages 60 and older, 1.6 percent reported that they had experienced physical mistreatment in the past year and 5 percent were currently being financially exploited by family members.4 Less than 1 percent reported sexual mistreatment in the past year. Of those who were sexually abused, 16 percent reported to police and 53 percent said they were sexually mistreated by a family member.5

- A 2010 Federal Trade Commission study discovered a trend in the increasing number of incidents of Internet crime reported by those individuals in the 50 to 59 and 60 and older categories.6

- Contextual factors associated with increased or decreased risk of elder mistreatment include the following: being unemployed or retired (81 percent); a prior traumatic event (62 percent); low household income (46 percent had less than $35,000 per year combined for all members of the household); low levels of social support (44 percent); use of social services (41 percent); needing assistance with activities of daily living (38 percent); and poor health (22 percent).8

- Elder Victimization

2 This statistical overview cites a study of elder victimization in only one state because comprehensive national-level data on this topic were not available.
5 Ibid., 46.
6 Smith, Violent Crime against the Elderly, 1.
• Adults between 60 and 70 are at 3 times the risk of being emotionally abused compared to adults over the age of 70.\(^{10}\)

• About 5 percent (or 1 in 20) of adults 60 years of age and older reported emotional mistreatment in the past year. Of those, only 8 percent reported to law enforcement.\(^{11}\)

• Perpetrators of emotional abuse towards older adults were most likely family members, such as partners/spouses (25 percent), children/grandchildren (19 percent), and other relatives (13 percent). Twenty-five percent of perpetrators of emotional abuse were acquaintances, and 9 percent were strangers.\(^{12}\)

• In one state, the rate of elderly victimizations by male offenders was three times higher than the rate of elderly victimizations by female offenders.\(^{15}\)

• In one state between 2005 and 2009, violent victimization by a stranger was two times greater for elderly men (65.5 per 100,000) than for elderly women (29.2 per 100,000).\(^{16}\)

• In one state between 2005 and 2009, 85 percent of reported violence against adults 65 years old and older was intraracial.\(^{17}\)

• In one study of adults reported to protective services for suspected physical elder abuse, 72 percent of older adults who had been abused within 30 days prior to examination had bruises; of those, 90 percent knew the cause of their bruises. In the same study, 56 percent of the abused older adults had at least one bruise 5 cm or larger compared to only 7 percent of subjects who were not abused.\(^{18}\)

• In one state, about 4 out of 10 victims of a violent crime who were 65 or older were physically injured during the incident. Overall, 33 percent experienced a minor physical injury, 6.5 percent experienced a major physical injury such as death, rape, or sexual assault, and 60 percent were not physically injured.\(^{19}\)

• In one survey, fewer than one percent of older adults reported sexual mistreatment in the past year. Approximately 16 percent of respondents had reported sexual mistreatment to the police. Family members accounted for about half of the reported sexual mistreatments, with partners and spouses making up 40 percent.\(^{20}\)

• In 2010, 585 people aged 65 or older were murdered, or 4.6 percent of all murder victims whose ages are known.\(^{21}\)

• In one state between 2005 and 2009, 3 of 10 victims over the age of 65 who had reported violence were victimized by their own child or grandchild. Also, 38 percent of violent victimizations of female victims over the age of 65 involved the victim’s child or grandchild, while 23 percent of male victims over the age of 65 involved the victim’s child or grandchild.\(^{24}\)

• In one state between the years of 2005-2009, 3 of 10 victims over the age of 65 who had reported violence were victimized by their own child or grandchild. Also, 38 percent of violent victimizations of female victims over the age of 65 involved the victim’s child or grandchild, while 23 percent of male victims over the age of 65 involved the victim’s child or grandchild.\(^{24}\)

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10 Ibid., 7.
11 Ibid., 38.
12 Ibid., 7.
13 Ibid., 9.
14 Smith, Violent Crime against the Elderly, 1.
Hate and Bias Crime

Hate crimes are criminal offenses “against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender’s bias against a race, religion, disability, ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.” Hate crimes are not merely hate speech, which is generally protected by the Constitution, but rather are criminal acts which, in addition to being illegal, carry additional penalties because of the bias motivation. While hate crime legislation varies from state to state, hate crime statutes share in the recognition that bias-motivated crimes not only affect the victim because of a real or perceived membership in a class of people, but have an indirect victimization effect on the class of people targeted.

- From 2003 to 2009, the rate of violent hate crime victimizations in the United States per 1,000 persons age 12 or older decreased from 0.8 to 0.5.1
- From 2003 to 2009, hate crime victimizations accounted for less than 1 percent of the total victimizations captured by the NCVS.2
- Police were notified of fewer than half (45 percent) of all hate crime victimizations.3
- In 2010, 6,628 hate crime incidents, involving 7,699 offenses and 8,208 victims, were reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation by local law enforcement agencies.4
- In 2010, the race of 4,432 offenders of bias-motivated crimes was known. The majority of these offenders were white (72 percent), and 20 percent were black.5
- In about 37 percent of violent hate crimes the offender knew the victim; in violent nonhate crimes, half of all victims knew the offender.6
- In 2010, there were 3,978 incidences of hate crimes against persons (as opposed to property). Of these, 45 percent were intimidation, 37 percent were simple assault, and 17 percent were aggravated assault. Seven murders and four forcible rapes were reported as hate crimes.7
- In nearly 90 percent of hate crime victimizations occurring between 2003 and 2009, the victim suspected the offender was motivated by racial or ethnic prejudice.8
- Four in ten violent hate crimes against white victims between 2003 and 2009 involved a white offender and two in ten violent hate crimes against black victims involved a black offender. During this same timeframe, more than seven in ten violent crimes against white victims involving no apparent bias were perpetrated by white offenders and more than eight in ten violent crimes with no bias against black victims were perpetrated by black offenders.9

3 Ibid., 3.
4 Ibid., 6.
8 Federal Bureau of Investigation, Hate Crime Statistics, 2010, calculated from data in Table 1.
11 Ibid., 9.
• Of the 3,135 single-bias incidents that were motivated by race, 70 percent were incidents of an anti-black bias; an anti-white bias motivated crimes against 18 percent; an anti-Asian/Pacific Islander bias motivated crimes against 5 percent; and 1 percent were incidents of an anti-American Indian/Alaska Native bias.12

![Hate Crimes Motivated by Racial Bias](image)

- Single-bias anti-Hispanic incidents accounted for 63 percent of 847 reported incidents of ethnicity-based bias in 2010.13

- Of the 1,322 incidents involving religious bias-related incidences, 67 percent were incidents of an anti-Jewish bias; anti-Islamic bias motivated crimes against 12 percent of incidents in 2010.14

![Hate Crimes Motivated by Religious Bias](image)

- In 2010, 2,503 hate and bias incidents against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or HIV-affected (LGBTQH) victims were reported to the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP)—a 15 percent increase over incidents reported in 2009.16

• NCAVP documented 27 anti-LGBTQH murders in 2010, the second highest yearly total recorded in a decade, and a 23 percent increase from the 22 people murdered in 2009.17

• Of the 1,277 reported incidents of sexual-orientation bias in 2010, 58 percent were because of a bias against gay males.18

• In 2010, LGBTQH victims reported 89 sexual assaults, 74 sexual harassment incidents, and 199 assaults with a weapon.19

12 Federal Bureau of Investigation, Hate Crime Statistics, 2010, calculated from data in Table 1.
13 Ibid.
14 Ibid.
15 LGBTQH: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and HIV-affected communities.
17 Ibid., 17.
18 Federal Bureau of Investigation, Hate Crime Statistics, 2010, calculated from data in Table 1.
19 National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, Hate Violence Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and HIV-Affected Communities, 30.
In 2010, the most recent year for homicide data, there were 14,748 homicides in the United States. This rate of 4.8 homicides per 100,000 people is a decrease from 2009, and down substantially from 1991 when the homicide rate was more than twice as high. Overall, homicide victims are primarily male, as are homicide offenders. Minorities are disproportionately affected by homicide; although only 13 percent of the U.S. population is black, about one-half of homicide victims are black. Homicide also disproportionately affects younger people. By and large, homicide is perpetrated by someone known to the victim.

- In 2010, 77 percent of murder victims were male and 23 percent female.\(^2\)
- The sex of the offender was known in 73 percent of homicides in 2010. Among those cases, 90 percent of offenders were male and 10 percent were female.\(^3\)

- An estimated 14,748 persons were murdered nationwide in 2010—a 4 percent decline from 2009.\(^4\)

- In 2010, 47 percent of homicide victims were white and 50 percent were black. For 4 percent of victims, race was classified as “other” or “unknown.”\(^5\)
- In 2010, homicide was generally intra-racial in cases where the race of the victim and offender were known: white offenders murdered 83 percent of white victims, and black offenders murdered 90 percent of black victims.\(^6\)

- In 2010, for homicides in which the age of the victim was known, 10 percent of homicide victims were under 18; 33 percent were between the ages of 20 and 29; 20 percent were between the ages of 30 and 39; 13 percent were between 40 and 49; 12 percent were between 50 and 64; and 5 percent were ages 65 and older.\(^7\)
- For homicides in which the age of the victim was known, teenagers (ages 13 to 19) accounted for 12 percent of victims in 2010.\(^8\)
- In 2010, in the majority of homicide cases in which the age of the offender was known, most offenders (92 percent) were 18 or older.\(^9\)
- In 2010, for homicides in which the type of weapon was known, 68 percent were committed with firearms.\(^10\)
- Knives or cutting instruments were used in 13 percent of murders, and personal weapons (e.g., hands, fists, feet, etc.) were used in approximately 6 percent of murders.\(^11\)

\(^7\) Ibid., calculated from data in Expanded Homicide Data Table 2.
\(^8\) Ibid.
\(^9\) Ibid., calculated from data in Expanded Homicide Data Table 3.
\(^11\) Ibid.
• In 2010, where the victim-offender relationship was known, 38 percent of homicide victims were killed by an acquaintance, 22 percent were killed by a stranger, 18 percent were killed by an intimate partner (husband, wife, boyfriend, or girlfriend), 15 percent were killed by a family member, and 5 percent were killed by a friend.\footnote{Ibid., calculated from data in Expanded Homicide Data Table 10, accessed August 29, 2012, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2010/crime-in-the-u.s.-2010/table/10shartbl10.xls.}

• In 2010, homicides occurred in connection with another felony (such as rape, robbery, or arson) in at least 15 percent of incidents.\footnote{Ibid.}

• At least 6 percent of murder victims in 2010 were robbed in conjunction with being killed.\footnote{Ibid.}


• In 2009, 48 law enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty; 47 were male and 1 was female.\footnote{Federal Bureau of Investigation, Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assualted, 2009, (Washington, DC; U.S. Department of Justice, 2010), accessed August 29, 2012, http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/killed/2009/summary_lesoa.html.}

• Of the 48 officers feloniously killed in 2009, 15 of the slain officers were ambushed; 8 were involved in arrest situations; 8 were performing traffic stops; 6 were answering disturbance calls; 5 were involved in tactical situations (e.g., high-risk entry); 4 were investigating suspicious persons/circumstances; and 2 were handling, transporting, or maintaining custody of prisoners.\footnote{Ibid.}
Collecting statistics on human trafficking—the illegal trading of human beings for commercial sexual exploitation or forced labor—is particularly difficult because of the hidden nature of trafficking activities. Although the majority of labor trafficking victims are undocumented or qualified aliens, the majority of sex trafficking victims in the U.S. are U.S. citizens. Recently, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)-led task forces have conducted hundreds of investigations of suspected traffickers, and the DOJ filed charges in a record number of cases, most of which involved sex trafficking. Victimization patterns vary by age, sex (most are female), and ethnicity. Although allegations generally involve one type of trafficking, investigations have identified a range of types of trafficking per incident.

- In 2011, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) charged a total of 118 defendants in forced labor and adult sex trafficking cases, representing a 19 percent increase over the number of defendants charged in the previous year and the highest number ever charged in a single year. The same year DOJ prosecuted 125 total human trafficking cases (including sex trafficking of minors) and convicted 70.

- In 2011, the combined number of federal trafficking convictions—including cases involving forced labor, sex trafficking of adults, and sex trafficking of minors—totaled 151, compared to 141 in 2010.

- Of confirmed labor trafficking victims, 62 percent were age 25 or older, compared to 13 percent of confirmed sex trafficking victims.

- Of confirmed sex trafficking victims whose race was known, 26 percent were white and 40 percent were black. Of confirmed labor trafficking victims, 56 percent were Hispanic and 15 percent were Asian.

- In 2011, 40 Department of Justice-led task forces reported over 900 investigations that involved more than 1,350 suspects in cases possibly involving human trafficking.

- By September 2012, all states except Wyoming had enacted anti-trafficking legislation.

- U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement reported investigating 722 cases possibly involving human trafficking.

- Approximately 8 in 10 of the suspected incidents of human trafficking investigated by federally funded task forces were classified as sex trafficking, and about 1 in 10 incidents were classified as labor trafficking.

- Between January 2008 and June 2010, 2,515 trafficking incidents were investigated by federally funded task forces. Of these incidents, 82 percent involved sex trafficking allegations, of which, nearly one-half (48 percent) involved allegations of adult prostitution and 40 percent prostitution or sexual exploitation of a child.


2 Ibid.


4 Ibid., calculated from data on p. 1.


6 Ibid.

7 Ibid.

8 Banks and Kyckelhahn, Characteristics of Suspected Human Trafficking Incidents, 1.

9 Ibid., 3.
• Most confirmed sex trafficking victims in cases investigated by federally funded task forces were female (94 percent). Of the 63 confirmed labor trafficking victims, 32 percent were male and 68 percent were female.10

• Four-fifths (83 percent) of victims in confirmed sex trafficking incidents were identified as U.S. citizens, while 67 percent of labor trafficking victims were classified as undocumented aliens and 28 percent as qualified aliens.11

• Among trafficking incidents opened for at least one year by federally funded task forces, 30 percent were confirmed to be human trafficking, 38 percent confirmed not to be human trafficking, and the remaining incidents were still open at the end of the study period.12

• The confirmed human trafficking cases open for at least a year by federally funded task forces led to 144 known arrests.13

• Task forces may have entered multiple types of human trafficking per incident. Among the incidents described in this report, up to six different types of trafficking were identified per incident, although most (77 percent) incidents involved allegations of one type of human trafficking.14

• Nine percent of incidents involved allegations of an unknown human trafficking type or allegations such as purchasing of mail-order brides, child selling, and unspecified Internet solicitations that could not be defined as either labor or sex trafficking.15

• Eighty-seven victims identified in confirmed human trafficking incidents by federally funded task forces open for at least a year were described as undocumented or qualified aliens. Of these foreign victims, 21 received T-visas, while 46 visa applications were still pending or had unknown status.16

10 Ibid., 6.
11 Ibid., 1.
12 Ibid.
13 Ibid.
14 Ibid., 3.
15 Ibid.
16 Ibid., 9.
Domestic violence statutes vary from state to state, but the crime is generally understood as abuse within the context of an intimate relationship, regardless of marital status. Intimate partner violence is gendered; these crimes are most often committed by men against women. Victims of intimate partner violence in other contexts, such as male victims and victims in same-sex relationships, may require specialized services. Like many other crimes, domestic violence has decreased over the last few decades. Nevertheless, the seriousness of the crime, the effects on victims and their families, and the difficulties in the criminal justice system response require continued resources.

- In 2010, violent crimes by intimate partners (both male and female) totaled 509,230 and accounted for 13 percent of violent crimes.1

- Of female murder victims in 2010, 38 percent were killed by a husband or boyfriend.2

- In 2009, 14 percent of state and 16 percent of local firearms application rejections were due to a domestic violence misdemeanor conviction or restraining order.3

- In 2009, 25 percent of all adult victims compensated by victim compensation programs were domestic violence victims. These claims represented 40 percent of all assault claims.4

- The rate of intimate partner violence for females decreased from 4.2 victimizations per 1,000 in 2009 to 3.1 per 1,000 in 2010. There was no substantial difference in the rates of intimate partner violence for males during the same time period, which were 1.0 per 1,000 in 2009 and 0.8 per 1,000 in 2010.5

- In 2008, 51 percent of LGBTQ domestic violence victims were women, 42 percent men, and 5 percent transgender.7

- In cases where the age of the victim was recorded, 64 percent of LGBTQ domestic violence victims were over the age of 30, while 36 percent were under 30.8

- At some point during their lifetime, 36 percent of women—or approximately 42.4 million—were victims of rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner.9

- In one year, 4 percent of women were slapped, pushed, or shoved by an intimate partner; 30 percent were slapped, pushed, or shoved by an intimate partner at some point during their lifetime.10

- During a one-year period, 14 percent of women and 18 percent of men reported having experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner at some point in the last year.11

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5. Truman, Criminal Victimization, 2010, Table 6.
7. Ibid., 20.
8. Ibid., 23.
10. Ibid., 44.
11. Ibid., 46.
Rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner have resulted in injury to 15 percent of women and 4 percent of men during their lifetimes.\(^\text{12}\)

Violence in a relationship with an intimate partner caused 6 of 10 female and 1 of 6 male victims to be concerned for their safety.\(^\text{13}\)

Of female victims, 64 percent experienced violence by an intimate partner during their lifetimes. Of these women, 57 percent experienced physical violence alone, and 36 percent experienced physical violence in combination with another type of violence.\(^\text{14}\)

\(\text{Female Victims’ Lifetime Experience of Intimate Partner Violence}\)

\(\begin{array}{|c|c|}
\hline
\text{percent} & \text{percent} \\
\hline
50 & 23.1% \\
75 & 12.5% \\
100 & 56.8% \\
\hline
\end{array}\)

\(^\text{12}\) Ibid., 55.

\(^\text{13}\) Ibid., 56.

\(^\text{14}\) Ibid., 41.
Schools and college campuses—where young people spend part or all of their day—are often assumed to be safe places. Yet children 12 to 18 still experience and witness numerous acts of violence in their schools, negatively affecting their emotional security and education. They experience fighting, bullying, and property crimes; many students feel unsafe in school because of their sexual orientation, yet they often hesitate to report harassment to school officials. On college campuses—where young people face new pressures and dangers for the first time—students experience increasing targeted violence (attacks by known or knowable attackers) such as forcible rape, aggravated assault, and robberies, as enrollment in institutions of higher learning rises. The majority of crimes—which are property crimes such as burglary and motor vehicle theft—take place on campuses rather than off campus.

- In 2010, 92,695 crimes were reported to college and university campus police. Of these reported crimes, 97 percent were property crimes, and 3 percent were violent crimes.  
- Of the violent crimes reported on college and university campuses, 53 percent were aggravated assaults, 29 percent were robberies, 18 percent were forcible rapes, and 0.2 percent were murder or non-negligent manslaughter.  
- In nearly three-quarters of the incidents (73 percent) of targeted violence on college and university campuses, subjects targeted one or more specifically named individuals.  
- From 1909-2008, a majority of incidents of targeted violence occurred on campus (79 percent) while approximately one-fifth were off campus.  
- Of the sex offenses reported under the Clery Act in 2010, 88 percent were on campus and 12 percent were not on campus.  
- Of the property crimes, 86 percent were thefts, followed by burglaries at 12 percent, motor vehicle thefts at 2 percent, and arson at 0.3 percent.

![Diagram of Crimes Reported on College and University Campuses](image-url)

**Reported Crimes, on and off Campus**

3. Ibid.
4. Ibid.
6. Ibid., 13.
7. Ibid., 11, 17.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid.
12. Ibid.
School and Campus Crime

- Hate and bias crimes reported on school and college campuses made up 11 percent of all hate and bias crimes reported in the United States in 2009.\(^\text{14}\)

- In one survey, 30 percent of respondents had missed at least one day of school in the past month because they felt unsafe or uncomfortable in 2009.\(^\text{15}\)

- In the 2007 to 2008 school year, 17 percent of all public schools reported one or more serious violent crimes such as rape, sexual battery other than rape, robbery with or without a weapon, threat of physical attack with a weapon, or fight or physical attack with a weapon.\(^\text{16}\)

- During the 2007-2008 school year, 94 percent of both middle and high schools reported violent incidents at school, compared to 65 percent of elementary (primary) schools.\(^\text{17}\)

- In 2008, students ages 12 to 18 were victims of 113,300 non-fatal serious violent crimes at school, which was a 55 percent decrease from the number of serious violent crimes in 1998.\(^\text{18}\)

- In 2009, 31 percent of students in grades 9 through 12 reported they had been in a physical fight anywhere at least once during the previous 12 months, and 11 percent said they had been in a fight on school property during the previous 12 months.\(^\text{19}\)

- In 2009, 18 percent of students in grades 9 through 12 had carried a weapon in the previous 30 days. In the same year, about 6 percent of students had carried a gun.\(^\text{20}\)

- For school-age youth (5 to 18) in the 2008 to 2009 school year, there were 15 homicides at school.\(^\text{21}\)

- In 2009, 8 percent of students in grades 9 through 12 reported having been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property.\(^\text{22}\)

- In 2009, 23 percent of students in grades 9 through 12—including 26 percent of males and 19 percent of females—reported that drugs had been made available to them on school property during the previous 12 months.\(^\text{23}\)

- In 2007, 23 percent of students ages 12 to 18 reported that gangs were present at their schools,\(^\text{24}\) and 32 percent of students ages 12 to 18 reported having been bullied at school.\(^\text{25}\)

- In a 2009 study that included youth in grades 6 through 12, 61 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) respondents said they felt unsafe in school because of their sexual orientation, and 40 percent felt unsafe because of their gender expression.\(^\text{26}\)

- In 2009, 85 percent of LGBT youth respondents had been verbally harassed at school because of their sexual orientation, 40 percent had been physically harassed (e.g., pushed or shoved), and 19 percent had been physically assaulted because of their sexual orientation.\(^\text{27}\)

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\(^{17}\) Ibid.


\(^{19}\) Ibid., v.


\(^{21}\) Robers, Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2010, iii, 7.

\(^{22}\) Ibid., iii, iv.

\(^{23}\) Ibid., 36.

\(^{24}\) Ibid., 34.

\(^{25}\) Ibid., 42.

\(^{26}\) Kosciw, The 2009 National School Climate Survey, xvi.

\(^{27}\) Ibid., xvi.
Sexual Violence

Sexual violence encompasses a variety of criminal acts, ranging from sexual threats to unwanted contact to rape. These crimes are extremely underreported because of the stigma associated with sexual assault—and are therefore difficult to count in official statistics. Forcible rapes known to law enforcement have declined sharply since 1979, when they were at an all-time high. Nevertheless, the recent National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey shows that sexual violence, in many forms, remains pervasive and traumatizing to its victims. Most of these crimes are committed by males against females, and by offenders who are known to victims.

• In 2010, victims ages 12 or older experienced a total of 188,380 rapes or sexual assaults.2

• In 2010, 92 percent of rape or sexual assault victims were female.3

• In 2010, 35 percent of rape or sexual assault victims were female.3

• In 2010, 0.2 percent of all arrests were for forcible rape.7

• During fiscal year 2010, there were 3,158 reports of sexual assault involving military service members—representing a 2-percent decrease from fiscal year 2009. Of these reports, 2,410 were “unrestricted” reports, which is a 4-percent decrease from fiscal year 2009.9

• In 2010, the Armed Services received 882 restricted reports of sexual assault, but at the request of the victim, 134 of these were converted from “restricted” to “unrestricted” reports, which allow an official investigation.11

• In fiscal year 2010, 56 percent of unrestricted reports in the Armed Services involved service member-on-service member sexual assault.12

• In 2010, 40 percent of reported forcible rapes were cleared by law enforcement.13

• Just under 10 percent of former state prisoners reported having experienced sexual victimization during their most recent period of incarceration. Rates of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization were more than 3 times higher for females (14 percent) than for males (4 percent).14

• A recent study found that, of a nationwide sample of 2,000 Latinas, 17 percent had been sexually assaulted at some point during their lifetime. The majority of these sexual assault victims (88 percent) had also experienced another type of victimization (physical, threat, stalking, or witnessing abuse).15


3 Ibid., calculated from data in Table 5.

4 Ibid.

5 Ibid., 6.


8 Under the armed forces Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, “unrestricted” reporting involves a victim reporting the sexual assault to the military command and law enforcement; the crime will be investigated, and the offender may be prosecuted.


10 Under the armed forces Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, “restricted” reporting involves a victim making a confidential report to specified sexual assault response personnel; the assault is not reported to the command or law enforcement; the crime will not be investigated or prosecuted; and the victim may receive specified support and medical services.

11 Department of Defense Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military, 64.

12 Ibid., 68.


Nearly 1 in 5—or 22 million—women in the United States have been raped in their lifetimes.\textsuperscript{16}

Approximately 1 in 71 men in the United States reports having been raped in his lifetime, which equals roughly 1.6 million men.\textsuperscript{17}

Non-contact, unwanted sexual experiences were the most common form of sexual violence experienced by both men and women; about 40 million women and 14 million men have had this experience during their lifetimes.\textsuperscript{18}

Approximately 1 in 5 black and white non-Hispanic women, and 1 in 7 Hispanic women have experienced rape at some point in their lives. More than one-quarter of women who identified as Native American/Alaska Native reported rape victimization in their lifetimes.\textsuperscript{19}

Between one-fifth and one-quarter of black, white, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native men experienced sexual violence other than rape in their lifetimes.\textsuperscript{20}

More than one-quarter of male victims of completed rape (28 percent) were first raped when they were 10 years old or younger.\textsuperscript{21}

More than one-half of female victims of rape (51 percent) reported that at least one perpetrator was a current or former intimate partner.\textsuperscript{22}

Of female victims, 41 percent reported having been raped by an acquaintance, while 13 percent reported having been raped by a family member. About 14 percent reported having been raped by a stranger.\textsuperscript{23}

Three-quarters (75 percent) of female victims of sexual coercion reported perpetration by an intimate partner, and 46 percent of unwanted sexual contact victims reported perpetration by an acquaintance.\textsuperscript{24}

Nearly 1 in 10 women (just over 9 percent) has been raped by an intimate partner in her lifetime.\textsuperscript{25}

Of female victims of sexual violence other than rape, 92 percent reported only male perpetrators. Of male victims of the same type of victimization, 79 percent reported only female perpetrators.\textsuperscript{26}

More than three-quarters of female victims of completed rape (80 percent) were first raped before their 25\textsuperscript{th} birthday, with 42 percent experiencing their first completed rape before the age of 18.\textsuperscript{27}

Of the women who reported a completed rape before the age of 18, 35 percent also experienced a completed rape as an adult, compared to 14 percent of the women who did not report being raped prior to age 18.\textsuperscript{28}

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{17} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{18} Ibid., 20.
\item \textsuperscript{19} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{20} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{21} Ibid., 25.
\item \textsuperscript{22} Ibid., 21.
\item \textsuperscript{23} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{24} Ibid.
\item \textsuperscript{25} Ibid., 39.
\item \textsuperscript{26} Ibid., 24.
\item \textsuperscript{27} Ibid., 25.
\item \textsuperscript{28} Ibid.
\end{itemize}
Stalking is a complex crime that is often misunderstood and under-reported. Although the first stalking law was not passed until 1990, all 50 states and the District of Columbia currently have stalking laws. The statutes vary widely, however, and lack a common definition of stalking. Unlike other crimes that are defined as an incident, stalking is a course of conduct that may comprise individual acts that may—in isolation—seem benign or noncriminal. Knowledge about stalking has developed significantly, and research continues to yield important insights about the crime. Yet only three major national studies of crime have looked at stalking. The most recent, the newly published National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), provides data on the national scope and magnitude of the crime. This study supports earlier findings about its seriousness, expands our awareness of its prevalence, and underscores that more women than men are victimized by stalking.

- During a one-year period, 6.6 million people ages 18 or older in the United States were stalked.\(^1\)
- At some point in their lives, 16 percent of women and 5 percent of men have experienced stalking victimization in which they felt fearful or believed that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed. Of stalking victims, 76 percent were female and 24 percent were male.\(^2\)
- At least 53 percent of female and 35 percent of male victims were stalked before the age of 25.\(^3\)
- Twenty percent of female and 7 percent of male victims reported having experienced stalking as a minor (between the ages of 11 and 17).\(^4\)
- Of female stalking victims, 83 percent reported having been stalked by a male perpetrator, and 9 percent by another female. For male victims, however, 44 percent reported having been stalked by a male, and 47 percent by a female.\(^5\)
- Of women who reported having been stalked during their lifetime, 31 percent are multiracial non-Hispanic women, 23 percent are American Indian or Alaska Native women, 20 percent are black non-Hispanic women, 16 percent are white non-Hispanic women and 15 percent are Hispanic women.\(^6\)
- In the lifetime reports of stalking among female victims, 66 percent were stalked by an intimate partner, while 13 percent were stalked by a stranger.\(^7\)
• Women who are victimized by an intimate partner are more likely to experience a combination of stalking, physical violence, and rape (13 percent of such victims), or stalking and physical violence (14 percent of such victims), than stalking alone (3 percent of such victims).8

• Of male stalking victims, 41 percent were stalked by an intimate partner while 19 percent were stalked by a stranger during their lifetime.9

• Stalking victims took a variety of protective actions, including changing their day-to-day activities (22 percent), staying with family (18 percent), installing call blocking or caller ID (18 percent), changing their phone number (17 percent), and changing their e-mail address (7 percent).10

• Thirty-seven percent of male and 41 percent of female stalking victimizations were reported to the police by the victim or someone else aware of the crime.11

• Of stalking victims, 16 percent obtained a restraining, protection, or stay-away order.12

• Forty-six percent of stalking victims experienced at least one unwanted contact per week.13

• Seventy-six percent of intimate partner femicide (homicide of women) victims had been stalked by their intimate partner in the year prior to the femicide.14

• When asked to name their worst fear related to the stalking, 46 percent of stalking victims reported not knowing what would happen next, and 29 percent reported fearing the stalking would never stop.15

• One in 8 employed stalking victims lost time from work as a result of the victimization, and of those victims, more than one-half lost 5 days of work or more.16

• One in 7 stalking victims moved as a result of the victimization.17

• Of the victims in one state who experienced violations of their domestic violence orders (DVO), 59 percent experienced stalking 6 months before their DVO, while 49 percent experienced stalking 6 months after their DVO.18

• In one state, 45 percent of rural and 26 percent of urban women reported that stalking occurred during or around the time an emergency protective order (EPO) was filed.19

• In one state, 79 percent of protection order violators in urban areas were charged with stalking in addition to other crimes, compared to 26 percent in rural areas.20

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8 Ibid., 41, Figure 4.1.
9 Ibid., 32.
11 Ibid., 8.
12 Ibid., 6, Table 9.
13 Ibid., 1.
15 Baum, Stalking Victimization in the United States, 7.
16 Ibid.
17 Ibid., 6.
19 Ibid., 92, Table 29.
20 Ibid.
Urban and Rural Crime

National aggregate crime statistics may mask important differences among subnational geographic areas throughout the country. Statistics show that crime rates in metropolitan areas, as well as the criminal justice response, differ significantly from those in suburban areas, cities outside metropolitan areas, and non-metropolitan counties. The uneven distribution of crime has implications for responding to crime, supporting victims, and allocating criminal justice system resources. As Americans become more mobile, it becomes increasingly important to understand the impact of geographic differences on crime rates and the ability of local criminal justice systems to enforce the law and protect citizens.

- The rate of violent crime known to law enforcement within metropolitan areas is 428.3 per 100,000 persons. The rate of violent crime per 100,000 persons in cities outside metropolitan areas is 399.7, and for non-metropolitan counties, it is 195.1.¹,²

- Metropolitan cities had a murder and nonnegligent manslaughter rate known to law enforcement of 5.0 per 100,000 persons. Cities outside metropolitan areas had a murder and nonnegligent manslaughter rate of 3.6 per 100,000 persons while non-metropolitan counties had a rate of 3.2 per 100,000 persons.³

- In 2010, the rate of arrests for forcible rape was 6.5 per 100,000 inhabitants. In cities under 10,000 the rate was 19.3 per 100,000; in suburban areas, the rate was 24.2 per 100,000; and in large cities (populations 250,000 and over), the rate was 9.1 per 100,000.⁴


2 As defined by the FBI, metropolitan areas are cities or urbanized areas of 50,000 or more inhabitants; cities outside metropolitan areas are incorporated areas; and non-metropolitan counties are unincorporated areas. Ibid., “Area Definitions,” accessed October 10, 2012, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2010/crime-in-the-u.s.-2010/areadefinitions.

3 Ibid., Table 2.

4 Ibid.

Within metropolitan areas, the aggravated assault rate known to law enforcement was 260.3 per 100,000 persons. The rate of aggravated assault in cities outside metropolitan areas is higher at 297.3 per 100,000 persons.  

Metropolitan areas have a robbery rate known to law enforcement of 136.0 per 100,000 persons, compared to a rate of 15.9 per 100,000 persons in non-metropolitan counties.  

In 2011, a total of 5,086 bank robberies occurred as reported to law enforcement. Of these, 46 percent occurred in metropolitan areas, 34 percent occurred in small cities/towns, 18 percent occurred in suburban areas, and 2 percent occurred in rural areas.  

In 2010, the property crime rate known to law enforcement in the United States was 2,941.9 per 100,000 persons.  

Cities outside metropolitan areas had the highest property crime rate known to law enforcement—3,602.3 per 100,000 persons. Metropolitan areas had a property crime rate of 3,046.5 per 100,000 persons, and non-metropolitan counties had a property crime rate of 1,605.8 per 100,000.  

The rate of burglaries known to law enforcement is highest in cities outside of metropolitan areas, at 819.9 per 100,000 persons. Burglaries in metropolitan areas occurred at a rate of 706.5 per 100,000 persons, and in non-metropolitan areas, they occurred at 559.7 per 100,000 persons.  

In 2010, the rate of larceny-theft per 100,000 persons known to law enforcement was highest in cities outside metropolitan areas at a rate of 2,643.5. Metropolitan areas had the second highest rate at 2,077.5, followed by non-metropolitan counties at a rate of 944.4 per 100,000 inhabitants.  

In 2010, motor vehicle thefts known to law enforcement occurred at a rate of 101.7 per 100,000 inhabitants in non-metropolitan counties, 138.9 per 100,000 inhabitants in cities outside metropolitan areas, and 262.5 in metropolitan areas.  

In 2010, cities with more than 250,000 inhabitants had 2.7 law enforcement officers per 1,000 inhabitants, cities under 10,000 had 3.5 law enforcement officers per 1,000 inhabitants, and suburban areas had 2.5.  

![Number of Law Enforcement Officers by Geographical Area](image)

The rate of burglaries known to law enforcement is highest in cities outside of metropolitan areas, at 819.9 per 100,000 persons. Burglaries in metropolitan areas occurred at a rate of 706.5 per 100,000 persons, and in non-metropolitan areas, they occurred at 559.7 per 100,000 persons. 

In 2010—in cities larger than 250,000—83 percent of law enforcement officers were male and 17 percent were female. Cities under 10,000 people had 92 percent male officers and 9 percent female officers. The percentage of male and female officers in suburban areas was 89 percent and 11 percent, respectively.

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6 Ibid., Table 2.  
7 Ibid.  
9 Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 2010, Table 2.  
10 Ibid.  
11 Ibid.  
12 Ibid.  
13 Ibid.  
Workplace Violence

Millions of workers experience violence or the threat of violence in their workplaces every year. These crimes range from physical assaults to robbery and homicide. Although the numbers of such crimes have significantly declined in recent years, workplace violence is the second-leading cause of occupational injury. Workers in certain occupations—such as nurses, utility workers, taxi drivers, letter carriers, and especially those who work alone or at night—are particularly vulnerable. Unlike other crimes, the greatest proportions of these crimes are committed by strangers. The majority of workplace homicides are shootings committed by robbers. Decreasing the occurrence of these crimes is a growing concern for employers and employees nationwide.

- In 2011, 458 workplace homicides occurred, a decrease from 518 in 2010 and 542 in 2009. Since 1993, the number of workplace homicides declined 57 percent from 1,068 to 458.¹
- Between 1997 and 2010, 79 percent of workplace homicides were shootings. Other homicides were the result of stabbing; hitting, kicking, and beating; assaults and violent acts by persons; and other means.²
- In 2011, 456 persons holding management positions were fatally injured in the workplace. Of this total, 108 fatalities resulted from violence and other injuries by persons or animals.³
- In 2008, 15 percent of all nonfatal violent crimes and of all property crimes were committed against victims who were at work or on duty at the time.⁴
- Of the nonfatal violent crimes committed against victims who were working or on duty in 2008, 82 percent were simple assaults, 15 percent were aggravated assaults, 2 percent were rapes or sexual assaults, and 2 percent were robberies.⁵
- In 2011, 21 percent of female fatal work injuries were homicides.⁶ In 40 percent of these female workplace homicides, the perpetrators were relatives—almost all being a spouse or a domestic partner.⁷ Only 9 percent of male fatal work injuries were homicides. In male workplace homicides, 2 percent of the perpetrators were relatives.⁷
- In 2011, 22 percent of female workplace homicides were committed during the commission of a robbery. Robbers were the most common assailants in workplace homicides of male workers.⁸
- Among workplace homicides that occurred between 2005 and 2009, about 28 percent involved victims in sales and related occupations, and about 17 percent involved victims in protective service occupations.⁹
- From 2002 to 2009, the rate of nonfatal workplace violence declined by 35 percent, following a 62-percent decline in the rate from 1993 to 2002.¹⁰

6 Ibid.
7 Ibid.
8 Ibid.
12 Ibid.
The average annual rate of workplace violence between 2005 and 2009 (5 violent crimes per 1,000 employed persons age 16 or older) was about one-third the rate of non-workplace violence (16 violent crimes per 1,000 employed persons age 16 or older) and violence against persons not employed (17 violent crimes per 1,000 persons age 16 or older).\footnote{14}

Strangers committed the greatest proportion of nonfatal workplace violence against males (53 percent) and females (41 percent) between 2005 and 2009.\footnote{15}

More than one-half (55 percent) of emergency nurses reported having experienced physical violence and/or verbal abuse from a patient and/or visitor during a seven-day calendar period in which the nurses worked an average of 36.9 hours.\footnote{16}

Eleven percent of emergency nurses reported both physical and verbal abuse over a seven-day period—and 1 percent reported physical abuse—while 43 percent reported verbal abuse alone in the past seven days.\footnote{17}

Of emergency room nurses who reported being victims of physical violence in the workplace, 62 percent experienced more than one incident of physical violence from a patient or visitor during a seven-day period.\footnote{18}