

Select Statistics on Sexual Violence

From U.S. Government Sources

Compiled & Edited by Robert Max Jackson



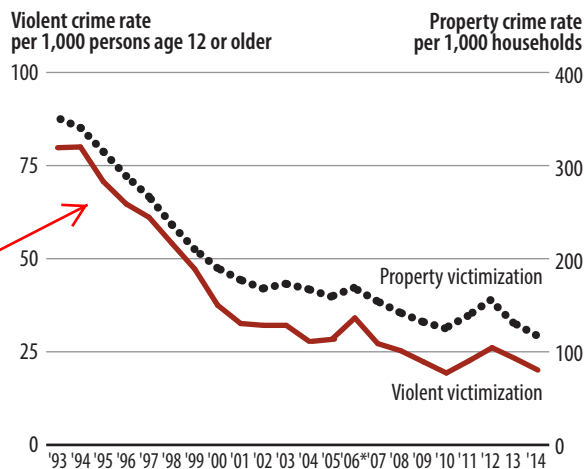
Criminal Victimization, 2014

Jennifer L. Truman, Ph.D., and Lynn Langton, Ph.D., *BJS Statisticians*

In 2014, U.S. residents age 12 or older experienced an estimated 5.4 million violent victimizations and 15.3 million property victimizations, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). There was no significant change in the overall rate of violent crime, defined as rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault, from 2013 (23.2 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older) to 2014 (20.1 per 1,000) (figure 1). However, the rate of violent crime in 2014 was lower than the rate in 2012 (26.1 per 1,000). From 1993 to 2014, the rate of violent crime declined from 79.8 to 20.1 per 1,000.

The overall property crime rate (which includes household burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft) decreased from 131.4 victimizations per 1,000 households in 2013 to 118.1 victimizations per 1,000 in 2014. The decline in theft accounted for the majority of the decrease in property crime. Since 1993, the rate of property crime declined from 351.8 to 118.1 victimizations per 1,000 households.

FIGURE 1
Violent and property victimization, 1993–2014



Note: See appendix table 1 for estimates and standard errors.

*See *Criminal Victimization, 2007* (NCJ 224390, BJS web, December 2008) for information on changes in the 2006 NCVS.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2014.

HIGHLIGHTS

Violent crime

- No significant change occurred in the rate of violent crime from 2013 (23.2 victimizations per 1,000) to 2014 (20.1 per 1,000).
- From 2013 to 2014, no statistically significant change was detected in the rate of serious violence, domestic violence, intimate partner violence, violence resulting in an injury, and violence involving a firearm.
- No significant change was found in the percentage of violent crime reported to police from 2013 to 2014 (46%).
- About 12% of victims of serious violence and 28% of intimate partner violence victims received assistance from a victim service agency.
- No change was observed in the percentage of violent crime victims who received assistance from a victim service agency from 2013 to 2014.

Property crime

- The rate of property crime decreased from 131.4 victimizations per 1,000 households in 2013 to 118.1 per 1,000 in 2014.

Prevalence of crime

- In 2014, 1.1% of all persons age 12 or older (3 million persons) experienced at least one violent victimization.
- An estimated 0.5% (1.2 million persons) experienced at least one serious violent victimization in 2014.
- In 2014, 8% of all households (10.4 million households) experienced one or more property victimizations.
- The prevalence rate of property victimization declined from 9% of all households in 2013 to 8% in 2014.



MARCH 2013

SPECIAL REPORT

NCJ 240655

Female Victims of Sexual Violence, 1994-2010

Michael Planty, Ph.D., and Lynn Langton, Ph.D., *BJS Statisticians*

Christopher Krebs, Ph.D., Marcus Berzofsky, Dr.P.H., and Hope Smiley-McDonald, Ph.D., *RTI International*

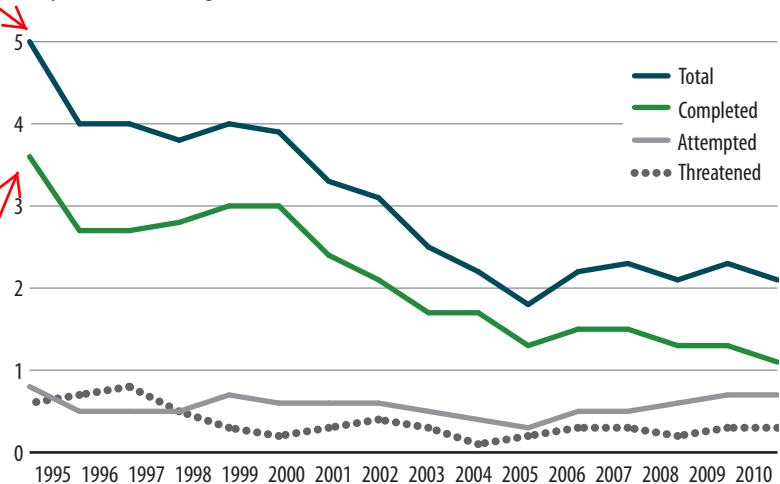
From 1995 to 2005, the total rate of sexual violence committed against U.S. female residents age 12 or older declined 64% from a peak of 5.0 per 1,000 females in 1995 to 1.8 per 1,000 females in 2005 (figure 1, appendix table 1). It then remained unchanged from 2005 to 2010. Sexual violence against females includes completed, attempted, or threatened rape or sexual assault. In 2010, females nationwide experienced about 270,000 rape or sexual assault victimizations, compared to about 556,000 in 1995.

Completed rape or sexual assault accounted for more than 50% of the total rape or sexual violent victimizations in 2010. Between 1995 and 2010, the rate of completed rape or sexual assault declined from 3.6 per 1,000 females to 1.1 per 1,000. Over the same period, the rates of attempted rape or sexual assault and victimizations involving the threat of rape remained relatively stable.

FIGURE 1

Rape and sexual assault victimization rates among females, 1995–2010

Rate per 1,000 females age 12 or older



Note: Estimates based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010

HIGHLIGHTS

- From 1995 to 2010, the estimated annual rate of female rape or sexual assault victimizations declined 58%, from 5.0 victimizations per 1,000 females age 12 or older to 2.1 per 1,000.
- In 2005-10, females who were age 34 or younger, who lived in lower income households, and who lived in rural areas experienced some of the highest rates of sexual violence.
- In 2005-10, 78% of sexual violence involved an offender who was a family member, intimate partner, friend, or acquaintance.
- In 2005-10, the offender was armed with a gun, knife, or other weapon in 11% of rape or sexual assault victimizations.
- The percentage of rape or sexual assault victimizations reported to police increased to a high of 56% in 2003 before declining to 35% in 2010, a level last seen in 1995.
- The percentage of females who were injured during a rape or sexual assault and received some type of treatment for their injuries increased from 26% in 1994-98 to 35% in 2005-10.
- In 2005-10, about 80% of female rape or sexual assault victims treated for injuries received care in a hospital, doctor's office, or emergency room, compared to 65% in 1994-98.
- In 2005-10, about 1 in 4 (23%) rape or sexual assault victims received help or advice from a victim service agency.



NOVEMBER 2013

SPECIAL REPORT

NCJ 243300

Intimate Partner Violence: Attributes of Victimization, 1993–2011

Shannan Catalano, Ph.D., *BJS Statistician*

This report examines nonfatal intimate partner violence, including rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault committed by the victim's current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend. It focuses on the attributes of intimate partner victimization as measured by the type of crime, type of attack, whether the victim was threatened before the attack, weapon use by the offender, victim injury, and medical treatment received for injuries. The report presents these characteristics as measures of the seriousness or severity of the incident. For example, victimizations involving a physical injury are considered more severe than those without a physical injury.

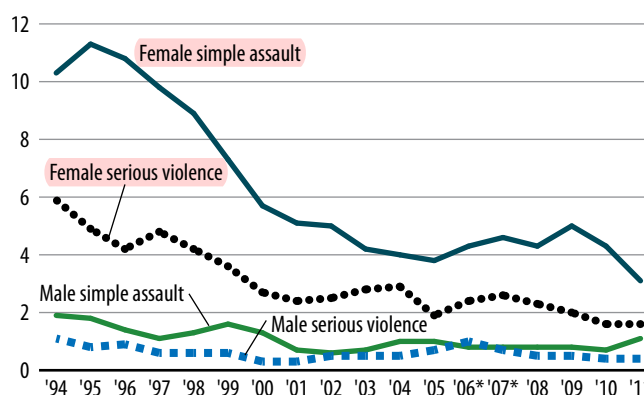
The rate of serious intimate partner violence (rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault) against females declined by 72%, from 5.9 victimizations per 1,000 females age 12 or older in 1994 to 1.6 per 1,000 in 2011 (figure 1).

The majority of the decline occurred from 1994 to 2001, when the rate of serious intimate partner violence against females declined by 59%. The rate fluctuated between 2 and 3 victimizations per 1,000 from 2001 to 2011. Similar to the rate of serious intimate partner violence, the rate of simple assault against females by an intimate partner declined by 70%, from 10.3 victimizations per 1,000 females in 1994 to 3.1 per 1,000 in 2011. (See definition of intimate partner violence and crime types in *Methodology*.)

FIGURE 1

Rate of intimate partner violence, by victim's sex, 1994–2011

Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older



Note: Estimates based on 2-year rolling averages beginning in 1993. Serious violent crime includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. Intimates include current or former spouses, boyfriends, and girlfriends. See appendix table 1 for populations, counts, and rates, and appendix table 2 for standard errors.

*Due to methodological changes, use caution when comparing 2006 NCVS criminal victimization estimates to other years. See *Criminal Victimization, 2007*, NCJ 224390, BJS website, December 2008, for more information.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2011.

HIGHLIGHTS

- From 1994 to 2011, the rate of serious intimate partner violence declined 72% for females and 64% for males.
- Nonfatal serious violence comprised more than a third of intimate partner violence against females and males during the most recent 10-year period (2002–11).
- An estimated two-thirds of female and male intimate partner victimizations involved a physical attack in 2002–11; the remaining third involved an attempted attack or verbal threat of harm.
- In 2002–11, 8% of female intimate partner victimizations involved some form of sexual violence during the incident.
- About 4% of females and 8% of males who were victimized by an intimate partner were shot at, stabbed, or hit with a weapon in 2002–11.
- In 2002–11, a larger percentage of male (27%) than female (18%) intimate partner victimizations involved a weapon.
- In 2002–11, 5% of females and 19% of males were hit by an object their intimate partner held or threw at them.
- An estimated 50% of females victimized by an intimate partner, compared to 44% of males, suffered an injury in 2002–11.
- In 2002–11, a greater percentage of female (13%) than male (5%) intimate partner victimizations resulted in a serious injury such as internal injury, unconsciousness, or broken bones.
- An average of 18% of females and 11% of males were medically treated for injuries sustained during intimate partner violent victimizations in 2002–11.

In 2005-10, females who were age 34 or younger, who lived in lower income households, and who lived in rural areas had some of the highest rates of sexual violence

The rate of sexual violence against females declined with age. In 2005-10, sexual violence was committed against females ages 12 to 34 at a rate of about 4 victimizations per 1,000, compared to a rate of 1.5 victimization per 1,000 for females ages 35 to 64 and 0.2 per 1,000 for age 65 or older (table 1). This pattern was consistent across all three aggregate time periods. Over time, the rate of sexual violence declined for both the 12-to-17 and 18-to-24 age groups. Females ages 12 to 17 had the largest decline, from 11.3 per 1,000 in 1994-98 to 4.1 in 2005-10.

For all racial and ethnic groups, the rate of sexual violence was lower in 2005-10 than it was in 1994-98. Within each time period, few differences existed in the rates of sexual violence across racial and ethnic groups. Non-Hispanic white females and black and Hispanic females had a similar rate of sexual violence over time. However, Hispanic females had lower rates of sexual violence than black females in 1999-04 and in 2005-10. Although American Indians and Alaska Natives appeared to experience rape or sexual assault victimization at rates higher than other racial and ethnic groups, these rates were based on small sample sizes and are not reliable.

Across all three time periods between 1994 and 2010, females who had never been married or who were divorced or separated at the time of the interview had higher rates of rape or sexual assault victimization than females who were married or widowed.¹ From 1994 to 2010, females who had never been married, those who were divorced or separated, and those who were married experienced about a 50% decline in the rate of sexual violence.

¹The NCVS collects information on respondent's marital status at the time of the interview, but it does not obtain marital status at the time of the incident or whether a change in marital status occurred after the incident.

TABLE 1

Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by victim characteristics, 1994-1998, 1999-2004, and 2005-2010

Victim characteristic	Rate per 1,000 females age 12 or older		
	1994-1998	1999-2004	2005-2010
Total	4.2	3.1	2.1
Age			
12-17	11.3	7.6	4.1
18-34	7.0	5.3	3.7
35-64	2.3	1.8	1.5
65 or older	0.1!	0.2!	0.2!
Race/Hispanic origin			
White ^a	4.3	3.1	2.2
Black ^a	4.2	4.1	2.8
Hispanic/Latina	4.3	1.8	1.4
American Indian/Alaska Native ^a	6.4!	4.8!	4.5!
Asian/Pacific Islander ^a	2.5	1.2	0.7!
Two or more races ^a	~	6.6!	5.1!
Marital status^b			
Never married	8.6	6.6	4.1
Married	1.3	0.7	0.6
Widowed	0.8	0.2!	0.8
Divorced or separated	9.0	6.3	4.4
Household income			
Less than \$25,000	6.1	5.6	3.5
\$25,000-\$49,999	3.3	2.7	1.9
\$50,000 or more	2.9	2.0	1.8
Unknown	3.5	2.1	1.8
Location of residence			
Urban	5.1	4.0	2.2
Suburban	3.9	2.7	1.8
Rural	3.9	2.5	3.0

shows rates decline, teens more vulnerable

unmarried more vulnerable

poor more vulnerable

Note: See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

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

~Not applicable.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bThe NCVS collects information on respondent's marital status at the time of the interview, but it does not obtain marital status at the time of the incident or whether a change in marital status occurred after the incident.

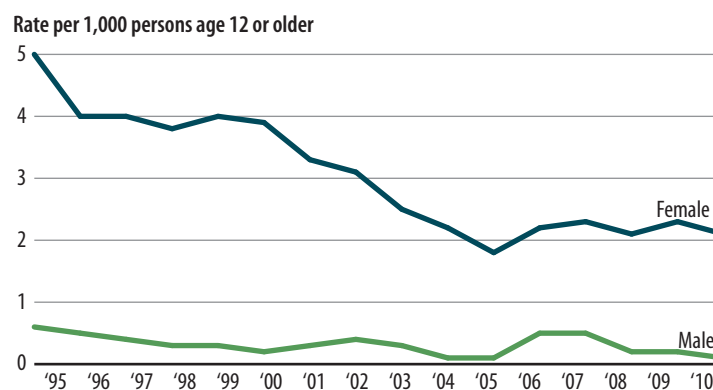
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994-2010.

Males had lower rates of rape or sexual assault than females from 1995 to 2010

From 1995 to 2010, approximately 9% of all rape or sexual assault victimizations recorded in the NCVS involved male victims (figure 2). In 2010, the male rate of rape or sexual assault was 0.1 per 1,000 males compared to a rate of 2.1 per 1,000 for females (appendix table 3). Due to the relatively small number of sample cases, coupled with a low rate of victimization, estimates of male sexual violence from the NCVS cannot be used reliably for further disaggregation by victim and incident characteristics. Therefore, this report focuses exclusively on females.

FIGURE 2

Rape and sexual assault victimizations, by sex of victim, 1995-2010



Note: Estimates based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994-2010.

Consistently across all three time periods, females living in households in the lowest income bracket (less than \$25,000 annually) experienced rape or sexual assault victimization at higher rates than females in higher income brackets. In 2005-10, females in households earning less than \$25,000 per year experienced 3.5 rape or sexual assault victimizations per 1,000 females, compared to 1.9 per 1,000 in households earning between \$25,000 and \$49,999 and 1.8 per 1,000 in households earning \$50,000 or more.

In 1994-98, the rate of rape or sexual assault victimization for females living in urban areas (5.1 per 1,000) was higher than the rate for females in suburban (3.9 per 1,000) and rural (3.9 per 1,000) areas. In 2005-10 this pattern reversed, and the rate of sexual violence for females in rural areas (3.0 per 1,000) was higher than the rate of sexual violence for females in urban (2.2 per 1,000) and suburban (1.8 per 1,000) areas.

The percentage of rape or sexual assault victimizations that occurred at or near the victim's home increased over time

In 2005-10, about 55% of rape or sexual assault victimizations occurred at or near the victim's home, and another 12% occurred at or near the home of a friend, relative, or acquaintance (table 2). The percentage of sexual violence that occurred at or near the home of the victim increased from 49% in 1994-98 to 55% in 2005-10. In comparison, the percentage of sexual violence that occurred

at or near the home of a friend or in a commercial place or parking lot declined between 1994-98 and 2005-10. The number of rape or sexual assault victimizations occurring at or near the victim's home declined at a slower rate over time compared to the number of victimizations that occurred outside the home (not shown in table).

Over all three periods, between 41% and 48% of victims of sexual violence were undertaking activities at or around their homes at the time of the incident. In 2005-10, 12% of rape or sexual assault victimizations against females occurred while the victim was working, and 7% occurred while the victim was attending school. Another 29% of sexual violence occurred while the victim went to or from work or school, was out shopping, or was engaged in leisure activities away from the home.

About 3 in 4 victims of sexual violence knew the offender

About 90% of rape or sexual assault victimizations involved one offender, a percentage that was stable across the three periods (table 3). In 2005-10, most rape or sexual assault victims (78%) knew the offender. About 34% of all rape or sexual assault victimizations were committed by an intimate partner (former or current spouse, girlfriend, or boyfriend), 6% by a relative or family member, and 38% by a friend or acquaintance. Strangers committed about 22% of sexual violence, a percentage that was also unchanged from 1994 to 2010.

TABLE 2
Activity and location of female victims when rape or sexual assault victimization occurred, 1994-1998, 1999-2004, and 2005-2010

Location and activity	1994-1998	1999-2004	2005-2010
Location where crime occurred	100%	100%	100%
At or near victim's home	49	42	55
At or near home of friend/relative/acquaintance	17	18	12
Commercial place/parking lot or garage	16	15	10
School	5	12	8
Open areas/public transportation/other*	14	14	15
Activity when crime occurred	100%	100%	100%
Working	12	9	12
Attending school	4	9	7
Sleeping/other activities at home	46	41	48
Traveling to or from work, school, other place/shopping or errands/leisure activity away from home	30	35	29
Other/unknown	8	6	5

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

*Includes locations such as an apartment yard; a park, field, or playground not on school property; a location on the street other than that immediately adjacent to home of the victim, a relative, or a friend; on public transportation; in a station or depot for bus or train; on a plane; or in an airport.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994-2010.

TABLE 3
Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by number of offenders and victim-offender relationship, 1994-1998, 1999-2004, and 2005-2010

Offender characteristic	1994-1998	1999-2004	2005-2010
Number of offenders	100%	100%	100%
One	93	91	90
Two or more	7	9	10
Victim-offender relationship^a	100%	100%	100%
Stranger	21	25	22
Nonstranger	79	75	78
Intimate partner ^b	28	30	34
Relative	9	3	6
Well-known/casual acquaintance	42	42	38

mostly not strangers

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

^aDoes not include a small percentage of victimizations in which the victim-offender relationship was unknown.

^bIncludes former or current spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994-2010.



SEPTEMBER 2012

SPECIAL REPORT

NCJ 224527

Stalking Victims in the United States - Revised

Shannan Catalano, Ph.D., *BJS Statistician*

An estimated 3.3 million persons age 18 or older were victims of stalking during a 12-month period. Stalking is defined as a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear. The data for this report are from the Supplemental Victimization Survey (SVS) conducted in 2006 as part of the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The SVS identified seven types of harassing or unwanted behaviors consistent with a course of conduct experienced by stalking victims. The survey classified individuals as stalking victims if they responded that they experienced at least one of these behaviors on at least two separate occasions. In addition, the individuals must have feared for their safety or that of a family member as a result of the course of conduct, or have experienced additional threatening behaviors that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

The SVS measured the following stalking behaviors:

- making unwanted phone calls
- sending unsolicited or unwanted letters or e-mails
- following or spying on the victim
- showing up at places without a legitimate reason
- waiting at places for the victim
- leaving unwanted items, presents, or flowers
- posting information or spreading rumors about the victim on the internet, in a public place, or by word of mouth.

While individually these acts may not be criminal, collectively and repetitively these behaviors may cause a victim to fear for his or her safety or the safety of a family

Errata: The original report, released in January 2009, was written by Katrina Baum, Ph.D., Shannan M. Catalano, Ph.D., and Michael R. Rand of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and Kristina Rose of the National Institute of Justice. See page 2 for details about the revisions.

member. These behaviors constitute stalking for the purposes of this study. The federal government, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories have enacted laws making stalking a criminal act, although the elements defining the act of stalking differ across states (see *Stalking Laws* on page 3).

The SVS also identified victims who experienced the behaviors associated with stalking but neither reported feeling fear as a result of such conduct nor experienced actions that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear. This report characterizes such individuals as harassment victims. These instances of harassment might eventually have risen to the definitional requirement for stalking. However, at the time of the interview, the offender's actions and victim's responses did not rise to the threshold of stalking victimization as measured by the SVS.

Few national studies have measured the extent and nature of stalking in the United States. The Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women funded the 2006 SVS to enhance empirical knowledge about stalking (see *Methodology*). The SVS, which represents the largest study of stalking conducted to date, incorporated elements contained in federal and state laws to construct a working definition of stalking.

HIGHLIGHTS

- During a 12-month period, an estimated 1.5% of persons age 18 or older were victims of stalking.
- The percentage of stalking victims was highest for individuals who were divorced or separated (3.3%), compared to those married, never married, or widowed.
- Nearly 7 in 10 stalking victims knew their offender in some capacity.
- A greater percentage of females were stalked than males; however, females and males were equally likely to experience harassment.

Unwanted phone calls and message were the most common type of stalking behavior experienced

Stalking victims were about twice as likely to report experiencing following or spying on the victim, showing up at places without a legitimate reason, or waiting outside (or inside) places for the victim than individuals who were harassed. For example, 34% of stalking victims reported that the offender followed or spied on them, compared to 12% of harassment victims who reported experiencing this behavior (table 4). Thirty-two percent of stalking victims reported that the offenders showed up in places where they had no legitimate purpose being; approximately 12% of harassment victims reported this type of unwanted behavior. Also, 29% of stalking victims stated that the offender waited in places for them, while 10% of harassment victims reported this type of behavior.

Risk of victimization varied more for stalking than for harassment

A greater percentage of females experienced stalking than males (table 5). During the study period, 2.2% of females experienced at least one stalking victimization compared to 0.8% of males. Males and females were equally likely to experience harassment.

Age

The percentage of persons stalked diminished with age. Persons ages 18 to 19 and 20 to 24 experienced the highest prevalence of stalking victimization. About 2.9% per 1,000 persons ages 18 to 19 were stalked during the study period, and 2.8% of persons ages 20 to 24 experienced this type of victimization.

TABLE 4
Nature of stalking and harassment behaviors experienced by victims

	Percent of victims		
	All	Stalking	Harassment
Unwanted phone calls and messages	63.5%	66.7%	58.3%
Unwanted letters and e-mail	28.4	30.7	24.7
Spreading rumors	31.2	36.3	22.9
Following or spying	26.1	34.4	12.5
Showing up at places	24.1	31.6	11.8
Waiting for victim	21.8	29.3	9.5
Leaving unwanted presents	9.8	12.5	5.5
Number of victims	5,305,730	3,300,570	2,005,160

Note: Detail sums to more than 100% because multiple responses were permitted. See appendix table 3 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

TABLE 5
Characteristics of stalking and harassment victims

Characteristics	Population	Percent of persons age 18 or older		
		All	Stalking	Harassment
Overall	220,995,170	2.4%	1.5%	0.9%
Sex				
Male	107,014,170	1.6%	0.8%	0.9%
Female	113,981,000	3.1	2.2	1.0
Race				
White	181,858,650	2.4%	1.5%	0.9%
Black	25,672,890	2.4	1.4	1.1
American Indian/ Alaska Native	1,483,760	3.8	2.2!	1.5!
Asian/Pacific Islander	9,837,830	1.3	0.6	0.6
Two or more races	2,142,040	6.3	4.1	2.3
Hispanic origin				
Hispanic	23,440,950	1.9%	1.3%	0.6%
Non-Hispanic	195,655,390	2.5	1.5	0.9
Unknown	1,898,830	2.8	1.2!	1.6!
Age				
18–19	8,053,370	4.5%	2.9%	1.6%
20–24	20,348,250	4.4	2.8	1.6
25–34	39,760,010	2.9	2.0	0.9
35–49	65,878,490	2.7	1.7	1.0
50–64	51,483,100	1.7	1.0	0.7
65 or older	35,471,950	0.8	0.3	0.4
Household income				
\$7,499 or less	7,702,700	4.8%	3.3%	1.5%
\$7,500–\$14,999	13,236,960	4.2	2.9	1.3
\$15,000–\$24,999	20,221,710	3.2	2.2	1.0
\$25,000–\$34,999	20,373,140	2.9	1.7	1.1
\$35,000–\$49,999	27,910,030	2.5	1.7	0.8
\$50,000–\$74,999	34,011,190	2.3	1.4	0.9
\$75,000 or more	50,709,700	1.8	1.0	0.8
Unknown	46,829,750	1.6	0.9	0.7
Marital status				
Never married	54,100,740	3.8%	2.4%	1.4%
Married	124,145,550	1.4	0.8	0.6
Divorced or separated	26,704,680	4.8	3.3	1.5
Widowed	14,179,710	1.4	0.7	0.7
Unknown	1,864,500	1.9	1.5!	0.4!

Note: See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

Race and Hispanic origin of victim

A lower percentage of Asians and Pacific Islander (0.6% of persons age 18 or older) experienced stalking than whites (1.5%), blacks (1.4%), and persons of two or more races (4.1%). Non-Hispanics and Hispanics were equally likely to experience stalking. During the study period, 1.5% of non-Hispanics experienced stalking. The percentage for Hispanics during this period was 1.3% for persons age 18 or older.

Marital status

The percentage of individuals who were divorced or separated and stalked was 3.3%—a higher percent than for persons of other marital statuses. A higher percentage of individuals who had never been married (2.4%) were stalked than persons who were married (0.8%) or widowed (0.7%).

Income

As with crime more generally, persons residing in households with higher incomes experienced a lower percentage of stalking than those from households with lower incomes. The percentage of individuals in households with an annual income of \$7,499 or less and those with an income from \$7,500 to \$14,999 experienced about the same percentage of stalking. However, the percentage of individuals living in these households experienced a higher percentage of stalking than persons in households with an annual income at or above \$25,000.

Relationship

Nine percent of victims were stalked by a stranger, and nearly 70% of all victims knew their offender in some capacity (table 6). Stalking victims most often identified the stalker as a former intimate (20%) or a friend, roommate, or neighbor (15%).

TABLE 6
Victim-offender relationship in stalking and harassment

	Percent of victims		
	All	Stalking	Harassment
Total	100%	100%	100%
Known, intimate	24.1%	28.1%	17.4%
Current intimate	7.1	8.2	5.3
Spouse	3.8	5.2	1.4
Boy/girlfriend	3.3	3.0	3.9
Former intimate	17.0	20.0	12.1
Ex-spouse	6.2	7.8	3.6
Ex-boy/girlfriend	10.8	12.2	8.5
Known, other	39%	41.8%	34.4%
Friend/roommate/neighbor	14.6	15.2	13.5
Known from work or school	8.8	9.2	8.2
Acquaintance	8.2	9.1	6.8
Relative	7.4	8.3	5.9
Stranger	9.3%	9.0%	9.7%
Unknown	15.1%	14.2%	16.5%
Victim unable to identify a single offender*	12.5%	6.8%	21.9%
Number of victims	5,305,730	3,300,570	2,005,160

Most stalkers not strangers, but less likely to be an "intimate" than someone a bit more distant

Note: See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

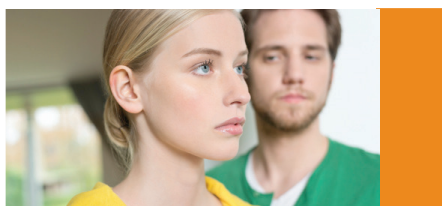
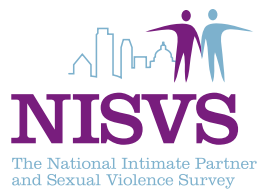
! Interpret data with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

*Includes victims who could not identify a single offender who was most responsible.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

<http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/index.html>

http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/cdc_nisvs_ipv_report_2013_v17_single_a.pdf



Intimate Partner Violence in the United States — 2010

National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
Division of Violence Prevention



2: Prevalence and Frequency of Individual Forms of Intimate Partner Violence

Sexual Violence by an Intimate Partner

Lifetime Prevalence

Nearly 1 in 10 women in the United States (9.4% or approximately 11.2 million) has been raped by an intimate partner in her lifetime (Table 2.1). More specifically, 6.6% of women have experienced completed forced penetration by an intimate partner, 2.5% have experienced attempted forced penetration, and 3.4% have experienced alcohol/drug

facilitated penetration. Too few men reported rape by an intimate partner to produce reliable estimates for overall rape or individual types of rape.

Approximately 1 in 6 women (15.9% or nearly 19 million) and 1 in 12 men in the United States (8.0% or approximately 9 million), have experienced sexual violence other than rape by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Women had a significantly higher lifetime prevalence of sexual violence

Nearly 1 in 10 women in the U.S. has been raped by an intimate partner in her lifetime; 2.2% of U.S. men have been made to penetrate an intimate partner.

Table 2.1

Lifetime Prevalence of Sexual Violence by an Intimate Partner — U.S. Women and Men, NISVS 2010

	Women			Men		
	Weighted %	95% CI	Estimated Number of Victims ¹	Weighted %	95% CI	Estimated Number of Victims ¹
Rape	9.4 [#]	8.5 – 10.3	11,162,000	*		
Completed forced penetration	6.6 [#]	5.9 – 7.4	7,859,000	*		
Attempted forced penetration	2.5 [#]	2.1 – 3.0	2,975,000	*		
Completed alcohol/drug facilitated penetration	3.4 [#]	2.9 – 4.0	4,098,000	*		
Other Sexual Violence	15.9 [†]	14.8 – 17.1	18,973,000	8.0	7.1 – 9.0	9,050,000
Made to penetrate	*			2.2 [#]	1.7 – 2.7	2,442,000
Sexual coercion ²	9.8 [†]	8.9 – 10.8	11,681,000	4.2	3.5 – 5.0	4,744,000
Unwanted sexual contact ³	6.4 [†]	5.7 – 7.2	7,633,000	2.6	2.1 – 3.3	2,999,000
Non-contact unwanted sexual experiences ⁴	7.8 [†]	7.0 – 8.7	9,298,000	2.7	2.2 – 3.3	3,049,000

¹ Rounded to the nearest thousand.

² Pressured in a nonphysical way (includes, for example, threatening to end the relationship, using influence or authority).

³ Includes unwanted kissing in a sexual way, fondling, or grabbing sexual body parts.

⁴ Includes someone exposing their sexual body parts, flashing, or masturbating in front of the victim, someone making a victim show his or her body parts, someone making a victim look at or participate in sexual photos or movies, or someone harassing the victim in a public place in a way that made the victim feel unsafe.

* Estimate is not reported; relative standard error > 30% or cell size ≤ 20.

[†] Statistically significant difference (p < .05) in prevalence.

[#] Formal statistical testing was not undertaken because the number experiencing these behaviors was too small to generate a reliable estimate for at least one of the comparison groups.

lifetime (Table 3.4). This translates to 714,000 lesbian women, 2.0 million bisexual women, and 38.3 million heterosexual women. The prevalence of lifetime rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner was significantly higher among bisexual women compared to lesbian and heterosexual women ($p < .05$), whereas there was no significant difference in prevalence between lesbian and heterosexual women.

Prevalence among Men

More than 1 in 4 gay men (26.0%), more than 1 in 3 bisexual men (37.3%), and nearly 3 in 10 heterosexual men (29.0%) have experienced rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner at

some point in their lifetime (Table 3.5). No significant differences in prevalence were found when comparing gay, bisexual, and heterosexual men. This translates to 708,000 gay men, 711,000 bisexual men, and 30.3 million heterosexual men. However, these numbers predominantly represent the experience of physical violence as too few men reported rape, and too few gay and bisexual men reported stalking, to produce reliable estimates. The prevalence of physical violence by an intimate partner was 25.2% among gay men, 37.3% among bisexual men, and 28.7% among heterosexual men.

More detailed information related to the prevalence of intimate

partner violence by sexual orientation is available in *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 Findings on Victimization by Sexual Orientation* (Walters, Chen, & Breiding, 2013).

Twelve-month Prevalence of Intimate Partner Rape, Physical Violence, or Stalking by Current Household Income

Prevalence among Women

The 12-month prevalence of rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner was significantly higher among women with a combined household income of

Table 3.4

Lifetime Prevalence of Rape, Physical Violence, or Stalking by an Intimate Partner, by Sexual Orientation¹ — U.S. Women, NISVS 2010

	Lesbian			Bisexual			Heterosexual		
	Weighted %	95% CI	Estimated Number of Victims ²	Weighted %	95% CI	Estimated Number of Victims ²	Weighted %	95% CI	Estimated Number of Victims ²
Rape ^{HB}		*		22.1	14.9-31.5	731,000	9.1	8.3-10.1	9,984,000
Physical violence ^{HB, BL}	40.4	28.8-53.2	659,000	56.9	46.6-66.7	1,886,000	32.3	30.8-33.9	35,291,000
Stalking ^{HB}		*		31.1	22.0-42.0	1,030,000	10.2	9.3-11.2	11,126,000
Rape, physical violence, or stalking ^{HB, BL}	43.8	31.8-56.6	714,000	61.1	50.7-70.6	2,024,000	35.0	33.5-36.6	38,290,000

¹ Sexual orientation is self-identified.

² Rounded to the nearest thousand.

* Estimate is not reported; relative standard error > 30% or cell size ≤ 20.

HB Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$) in prevalence between heterosexual and bisexual groups.

BL Statistically significant difference ($p < .05$) in prevalence between bisexual and lesbian groups.

Note high rates of victims among bisexuals.



Intimate Partner Violence, 1993–2010

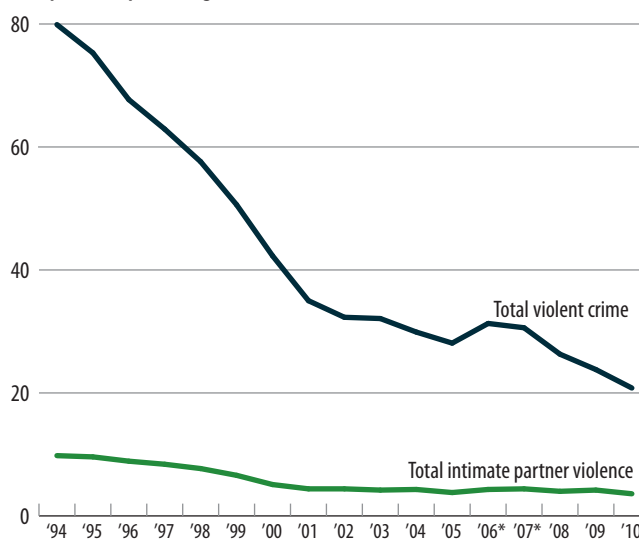
Shannan Catalano, Ph.D., *BJS Statistician*

From 1994 to 2010, the overall rate of intimate partner violence in the United States declined by 64%, from 9.8 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older to 3.6 per 1,000 (figure 1; table 1). The number of intimate partner victimizations also declined, from approximately 2.1 million victimizations in 1994 to around 907,000 in 2010—a decline of about 1.2 million victimizations over the 18-year data collection period. From 1994 to 2000, similar declines were observed for overall violent crime (down 47%) and intimate partner violence (down 48%). However, during the more recent 10-year period from 2001 to 2010, the decline in the overall intimate partner violence rate slowed and stabilized while the overall violent crime rate continued to decline.

The data in this report were developed from the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), which annually collects information on nonfatal victimizations reported and not reported to the police against persons age 12 or older from a nationally representative sample of U.S. households. This special report examines trends in nonfatal intimate partner violence which includes rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault committed by an offender who was the victim's current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend.

FIGURE 1

Total violent crime and intimate partner violence, 1993–2010
Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older



Note: Estimates based on two-year rolling averages beginning in 1993. Includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends. See appendix table 1 for counts and rates, and appendix table 2 for standard errors.

*Due to methodological changes, use caution when comparing 2006 NCVS criminal victimization estimates to other years. See *Criminal Victimization, 2007*, NCJ 224390, BJS website, December 2008, for more information.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2010.

HIGHLIGHTS

- From 1994 to 2010, the overall rate of intimate partner violence in the United States declined by 64%, from 9.8 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older to 3.6 per 1,000.
- Intimate partner violence declined by more than 60% for both males and females from 1994 to 2010.
- From 1994 to 2010, about 4 in 5 victims of intimate partner violence were female.
- Females ages 18 to 24 and 25 to 34 generally experienced the highest rates of intimate partner violence.
- Compared to every other age group, a smaller percentage of female victims ages 12 to 17 were previously victimized by the same offender.
- The rate of intimate partner violence for Hispanic females declined 78%, from 18.8 victimizations per 1,000 in 1994 to 4.1 per 1,000 in 2010.
- Females living in households comprised of one female adult with children experienced intimate partner violence at a rate more than 10 times higher than households with married adults with children and 6 times higher than households with one female only.

APPENDIX TABLE 5

Intimate partner violence against females, by whether victim was previously victimized by the same offender, 2005–2010

	Number	Total	Percent		
			Yes	No	Unknown
Total intimate partner violence	990,590	100%	76.0%	20.1%	3.9%
All females	821,920	100%	76.9%	19.1%	4.0%
12–17	22,180	100%	38.5	58.4	3.1 !
18–24	218,870	100%	77.3	19.4	3.3 !
25–34	260,290	100%	76.1	18.5	5.4
35–49	262,630	100%	81.4	15.3	3.4
50 or older	57,950	100%	72.9	23.5	3.6 !
Total violent crime	6,326,980	100%	38.1%	55.1%	6.8%

Note: Estimates based a six-year average. Includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends, and girlfriends. Includes single and multiple offenders. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

! Interpret data 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, 2005–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 6

Standard errors for appendix table 5: Intimate partner violence against females, by whether victim was previously victimized by the same offender, 2005–2010

	Number	Percent		
		Yes	No	Unknown
Total intimate partner violence	95,220	1.7%	1.5%	0.7%
All females	85,800	1.8%	1.6%	0.8%
12–17	12,640	11.3	11.5	4.0
18–24	41,720	3.3	3.0	1.3
25–34	45,780	3.1	2.7	1.6
35–49	46,000	2.8	2.5	1.2
50 or older	20,730	6.5	6.1	2.7
Total violent crime	266,690	0.8%	0.9%	0.4%

Shows that reports of intimate partner violence usually involves more than one occasion.

APPENDIX TABLE 9

Intimate partner violence against females, by marital status, 1993–2010

	Number					Rate per 1,000 females age 12 or older				
	Total	Never married	Married	Divorced or widowed	Separated	Total	Never married	Married	Divorced or widowed	Separated
1993–94	1,766,700	541,910	327,780	420,580	467,370	16.1	18.2	5.9	19.9	151.4
1994–95	1,785,590	607,840	340,310	418,050	411,760	16.1	20.0	6.2	19.4	136.5
1995–96	1,676,990	634,340	238,630	391,850	407,500	15.0	20.6	4.3	17.9	137.5
1996–97	1,644,100	607,930	272,200	375,750	385,110	14.6	19.5	4.9	17.0	130.9
1997–98	1,499,140	496,890	250,850	343,350	385,100	13.2	15.7	4.5	15.5	128.8
1998–99	1,250,570	416,140	138,790	288,450	384,970	10.9	12.8	2.4	12.9	130.2
1999–00	974,160	377,290	109,300	214,470	273,100	8.4	11.4	1.9	9.6	95.2
2000–01	882,720	311,540	141,330	224,890	188,170	7.5	9.2	2.5	10.0	66.2
2001–02	889,740	282,910	174,040	225,300	190,700	7.5	8.2	3.0	9.9	68.5
2002–03	852,220	272,900	127,060	236,140	216,120	7.0	7.7	2.2	10.2	77.5
2003–04	861,380	311,990	95,520	228,270	225,610	7.0	8.7	1.6	9.6	80.4
2004–05	718,590	287,270	94,140	156,840	180,340	5.8	7.8	1.6	6.6	66.6
2005–06*	842,410	316,040	95,490	229,500	201,380	6.7	8.5	1.6	9.5	75.5
2006–07*	922,380	344,100	90,820	275,620	210,800	7.2	9.1	1.5	11.4	77.1
2007–08	847,700	340,370	68,150	280,060	158,080	6.6	9.0	1.1	11.5	56.3
2008–09	914,480	370,280	145,490	223,430	175,280	7.1	9.6	2.3	9.2	61.5
2009–10	775,650	314,200	128,050	159,670	170,350	5.9	8.0	2.0	6.5	59.6

Note: Estimates based on two-year rolling averages. Detail for some years may not sum to total due to missing data. Because the NCVS reflects a respondent's marital status at the time of the incident, it is not possible to determine whether a person was separated, divorced, or married at the time of the interview or whether the separation, divorce, or marriage followed the violence. Includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends, and girlfriends. See appendix table 10 for standard errors.

*Due to methodological changes, use caution when comparing 2006 NCVS criminal victimization estimates to other years. See *Criminal Victimization, 2007*, NCJ 224390, BJS website, December 2008, for more information.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2010.

separation suggests conflict, but still the high relative rate stands out

APPENDIX TABLE 10

Standard errors for appendix table 9: Intimate partner violence against females, by marital status, 1993–2010

	Number					Rate per 1,000 females age 12 or older				
	Total	Never married	Married	Divorced or widowed	Separated	Total	Never married	Married	Divorced or widowed	Separated
1993–94	108,990	54,550	41,060	47,240	50,150	0.7	1.3	0.5	1.6	10.6
1994–95	95,830	50,900	36,640	41,130	40,780	0.6	1.2	0.5	1.4	8.9
1995–96	90,030	50,880	29,340	38,690	39,550	0.6	1.2	0.4	1.3	8.8
1996–97	98,110	54,650	34,750	41,600	42,180	0.6	1.3	0.5	1.4	9.5
1997–98	101,120	52,090	35,190	42,070	44,940	0.7	1.2	0.5	1.4	10.0
1998–99	94,190	48,670	25,990	39,350	46,510	0.6	1.1	0.3	1.3	10.5
1999–00	80,030	45,900	22,910	33,300	38,170	0.5	1.0	0.3	1.1	9.1
2000–01	74,540	40,480	25,950	33,640	30,430	0.5	0.9	0.3	1.1	7.4
2001–02	71,120	36,550	27,830	32,150	29,280	0.4	0.8	0.4	1.0	7.3
2002–03	68,690	35,800	23,460	33,020	31,430	0.4	0.7	0.3	1.0	7.8
2003–04	71,770	40,380	21,170	33,970	33,750	0.4	0.8	0.3	1.0	8.3
2004–05	69,360	41,530	22,700	29,860	32,200	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.9	8.2
2005–06	75,870	43,800	22,920	36,760	34,230	0.4	0.9	0.3	1.1	8.8
2006–07	79,730	45,330	21,800	40,030	34,500	0.5	0.9	0.3	1.2	8.7
2007–08	74,130	43,960	18,220	39,400	28,720	0.4	0.9	0.2	1.2	7.2
2008–09	81,510	48,720	29,120	36,810	32,220	0.5	0.9	0.3	1.1	7.9
2009–10	76,310	45,300	27,460	31,010	32,140	0.4	0.9	0.3	0.9	7.9

shows decline over time fairly consistent across household types & high rate for female headed households consistent with high for separated women

APPENDIX TABLE 11

Intimate partner violence against females, by household composition, 1993–2010

	Number							Rate per 1,000 females age 12 or older						
	Total	Married adults without children	Married adults with children	One female adult with children	One male adult with children	One female adult only	Other household composition ^a	Total	Married adults without children	Married adults with children	One female adult with children	One male adult with children	One female adult only	Other household composition ^a
1993–94	1,766,700	44,860	319,420	862,530	71,980	190,270	277,640	16.4	2.1	9.6	73.1	48.1	12.4	10.7
1994–95	1,785,590	59,610	334,790	842,320	71,180	174,490	303,200!	16.1	2.7	10.0	70.6	44.6	11.1	11.6!
1995–96	1,676,990	40,800	278,510	833,900	76,940	162,460	284,370	15.0	1.8	8.2	69.2	46.2	10.3	10.9
1996–97	1,644,100	31,310	297,520	789,410	55,680	191,970	278,210	14.6	1.4	8.7	64.2	33.8	11.9	10.7
1997–98	1,499,130	51,560	269,130	718,990	23,340	172,050	264,070	13.2	2.3	7.9	56.8	14.3	10.4	10.1
1998–99	1,250,570	44,210	144,720	547,890	16,240	126,950	370,560	10.9	1.9	4.6	51.6	16.6	7.6	11.7
1999–00	974,160	44,270	76,590	334,640	5,260!	124,920	388,480	8.4	1.9	2.6	40.0	16.2!	7.3	10.4
2000–01	882,720	40,280	69,490	282,640	3,750!	168,250	318,310	7.5	1.7	2.4	33.8	11.3!	9.6	8.4
2001–02	889,740	21,580	65,280	278,770	—	143,640	380,460	7.5	0.9	2.2	32.6	—	8.1	9.9
2002–03	852,220	22,770	66,230	296,110	—	107,410	359,700	7.0	0.9	2.2	33.4	—	5.9	9.1
2003–04	861,380	32,610	87,830	283,830	1,880!	124,610	330,630	7.0	1.3	3.0	31.2	4.9!	6.7	8.1
2004–05	718,590	17,630!	78,510	234,750	1,880!	106,380	279,440	5.8	0.7!	2.7	25.9	4.6!	5.6	6.8
2005–06 ^b	842,410	9,830!	66,210	253,180	—	144,610	368,570	6.7	0.4!	2.3	28.6	—	7.5	8.6
2006–07 ^b	922,380	16,700!	53,010	295,330	—	187,830	369,510	7.2	0.7!	1.8	35.4	—	9.8	8.1
2007–08	847,700	6,870!	27,900	275,930	—	193,800	343,190	6.6	0.3!	1.0	34.2	—	9.8	7.6
2008–09	914,480	22,160!	72,310	246,310	—	171,000	402,700	7.1	0.8!	2.5	30.3	—	8.4	9.0
2009–10	775,650	25,800!	70,810	257,440	—	94,430	327,180	5.9	0.9!	2.5	31.7	—	4.6	7.1

Note: Estimates based on two-year rolling averages. Includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends, and girlfriends. See appendix table 12 for standard errors.

—Sample cases equal to 0.

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

^aIncludes a combination of children, adult relatives, and other adults not related to household members living together.

^bDue to methodological changes, use caution when comparing 2006 NCVS criminal victimization estimates to other years. See *Criminal Victimization, 2007*, NCJ 224390, BJS website, December 2008, for more information.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2010.