



Criminal Victimization in the United States, 2002 Statistical Tables

National Crime Victimization Survey

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Survey Methodology

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Place of occurrence, 61

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Reporting to police, 91

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head of household, 97

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value of loss, 100

reason for, 101

reasons for not, 102, 105

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PROPERTY CRIMES, (continued)

Time of occurrence, 59

Victims (head of household)

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age, 19

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Definition)

Agency type providing assistance to victim, 109

Loss

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property stolen, 84

recovery of, 86

theft, 84-86

value of, 85

Number of incidents, 26

Place of occurrence, 61

Police

activity during initial contact, 108

response to reported incident, 106

Reporting to police, 91

Victims

age, 96

ethnicity, 92

gender, 92

race, 92

reasons for, 101

reasons for not, 102-103

Series victimizations, 110 (See Definition)

Time of occurrence, 59

Victims

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distance from home, 65

ethnicity, 7-8, 54

family income, 14-15

gender, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12-13, 54

head of household, 13

marital status, 11-12

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- property recovery, 86
- residence
 - ownership of (tenure), 97
 - urban, suburban, rural, 55-56
- theft, 16, 18, 22, 55-56, 82, 85-86, 88, 90, 97, 105
- time from work, 88, 90
- value of loss, 85

Violent crimes, 5, 42, 48

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- days lost from work, 88, 90
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- family income, 15, 75
- gender, 6, 10, 30, 54, 69, 75
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- medical
 - care, 79-80
 - expenses, 77
 - insurance coverage, 78
- property recovery, 86
- police
 - reasons for not reporting, 103, 105
 - reporting to, 91b, 92, 94, 97
- self-protective measures, 69, 71
- theft loss, 85-86
- urban, suburban, rural, 54
- value of loss, 85
- victim-offender relationship
 - nonstrangers, 43a, 75, 94
 - strangers, 30, 35, 43a, 75, 94

Weapons used, 71

RAPE/SEXUAL ASSAULT, (See Definition)

Agency type providing assistance to victim, 109

Loss

- economic, 81-82
- time from work, 87-89

Number of incidents, 26-27

Offender

- age, 39, 45
- alcohol/drug use, 32
- gender, 38, 44
- multiple-victimizations, 44-46, 49
- number of, 37
- race, 40, 42, 46
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- ethnicity, 95
- gender, 93
- race, 94, 103
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Time of occurrence, 59

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Agency type providing assistance to victim, 109

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- property stolen, 84
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- theft, 85-86
- time from work, 87-89
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Number of incidents, 26-27

Offender

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Physical force, who used first, 67
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Victims
activity at time of incident, 64
age, 3-4, 9-10, 29, 41, 47, 69, 75, 79, 96
distance from home, 65
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gender, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12-13, 29-31, 43a, 54, 69, 75, 79-80, 93
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Victims
activity at time of incident, 64
age, 3-4, 9-10, 29, 35, 69, 96
distance from home, 65
ethnicity, 7-8, 43a, 54, 95
family income, 14-15, 35
gender, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12-13, 29-31, 35, 43a, 54, 69, 93
head of household, 13
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- Gender, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12-13, 29-31, 35, 43a, 54, 69, 71, 75, 78-80, 82
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 - nonstrangers, 27, 43a, 68, 75, 77, 79-80, 93-95
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Table 110. Personal and property crimes, 2002:

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**Number and percent distribution of series victimizations
and of victimizations not in series, by type of crime**

Type of crime	Total victimizations		Series victimizations		Victimizations not in series	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Personal crimes	5,742,320	100.0 %	245,510	4.3 %	5,496,810	95.7 %
Crimes of violence	5,586,920	100.0	245,510	4.4	5,341,410	95.6
Completed violence	1,806,730	100.0	53,640	3.0	1,753,090	97.0
Attempted/threatened violence	3,780,190	100.0	191,870	5.1	3,588,320	94.9
Rape/Sexual assault	258,950	100.0	11,220 *	4.3 *	247,730	95.7
Rape/Attempted rape	170,220	100.0	2,360 *	1.4 *	167,860	98.6
Rape	90,390	100.0	0 *	0.0 *	90,390	100.0
Attempted rape/a	79,830	100.0	2,360 *	3.0 *	77,470	97.0
Sexual assault/b	88,730	100.0	8,860 *	10.0 *	79,870	90.0
Robbery	527,240	100.0	14,750 *	2.8 *	512,490	97.2
Completed/property taken	394,700	100.0	8,830 *	2.2 *	385,880	97.8
With injury	169,980	100.0	0 *	0.0 *	169,980	100.0
Without injury	224,720	100.0	8,830 *	3.9 *	215,890	96.1
Attempted to take property	132,540	100.0	5,930 *	4.5 *	126,610	95.5
With injury	42,600	100.0	0 *	0.0 *	42,600	100.0
Without injury	89,940	100.0	5,930 *	6.6 *	84,020	93.4
Assault	4,800,720	100.0	219,530	4.6	4,581,190	95.4
Aggravated	1,029,620	100.0	39,510	3.8	990,110	96.2
With injury	327,150	100.0	10,890 *	3.3 *	316,260	96.7
Threatened with weapon	702,480	100.0	28,620 *	4.1 *	673,850	95.9
Simple	3,771,100	100.0	180,020	4.8	3,591,090	95.2
With minor injury	931,640	100.0	25,060 *	2.7 *	906,580	97.3
Without injury	2,839,470	100.0	154,960	5.5	2,684,510	94.5
Purse snatching/Pocket picking	155,400	100.0	0 *	0.0 *	155,400	100.0
Completed purse snatching	55,400	100.0	0 *	0.0 *	55,400	100.0
Attempted purse snatching	2,140 *	100.0 *	0 *	0.0 *	2,140 *	100.0 *
Completed pocket picking	97,860	100.0	0 *	0.0 *	97,860	100.0
Property crimes	17,677,440	100.0 %	138,220	0.8 %	17,539,210	99.2 %
Household burglary	3,083,290	100.0	27,570 *	0.9 *	3,055,720	99.1
Completed	2,624,880	100.0	27,570 *	1.1 *	2,597,310	98.9
Forcible entry	1,022,490	100.0	4,830 *	0.5 *	1,017,660	99.5
Unlawful entry without force	1,602,390	100.0	22,740 *	1.4 *	1,579,650	98.6
Attempted forcible entry	458,410	100.0	0 *	0.0 *	458,410	100.0
Motor vehicle theft	992,990	100.0	4,230 *	0.4 *	988,760	99.6
Completed	782,590	100.0	1,960 *	0.2 *	780,630	99.8
Attempted	210,400	100.0	2,280 *	1.1 *	208,120	98.9
Theft	13,601,160	100.0	106,420	0.8	13,494,740	99.2
Completed	13,146,330	100.0	106,420	0.8	13,039,910	99.2
Less than \$50	4,235,280	100.0	48,710	1.2	4,186,570	98.8
\$50 - \$249	4,488,130	100.0	33,060	0.7	4,455,070	99.3
\$250 or more	3,286,860	100.0	16,330 *	0.5 *	3,270,530	99.5
Amount not available	1,136,060	100.0	8,320 *	0.7 *	1,127,740	99.3
Attempted	454,830	100.0	0 *	0.0 *	454,830	100.0

Note: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.

*Estimate is based on about 10 or fewer sample cases.

a/Includes verbal threats of rape.

b/Includes threats.

Criminal Victimization Glossary

Age - The appropriate age category is determined by the respondent's age on the last day of the month before the interview.

Annual household income - The total income of the household head and all members of the household for the 12 months preceding the interview. Includes wages, salaries, net income from businesses or farms, pensions, interest, dividends, rent, and any other form of monetary income.

Aggravated assault - Attack or attempted attack with a weapon, regardless of whether or not an injury occurred and attack without a weapon when serious injury results.

With injury - An attack without a weapon when serious injury results or an attack with a weapon involving any injury. Serious injury includes broken bones, lost teeth, internal injuries, loss of consciousness, and any unspecified injury requiring two or more days of hospitalization.

Threatened with a weapon - Threat or attempted attack by an offender armed with a gun, knife, or other object used as a weapon, not resulting in victim injury.

Assault - An unlawful physical attack or threat of attack. Assaults may be classified as aggravated or simple. Rape, attempted rape, and sexual assaults are excluded from this category, as well as robbery and attempted robbery. The severity of assaults ranges from minor threat to incidents which are nearly fatal.

Burglary (also *Household burglary*) - Unlawful or forcible entry or attempted entry of a residence. This crime usually, but not always, involves theft. The illegal entry may be by force, such as breaking a window or slashing a screen, or may be without force by entering through an unlocked door or an open window. As long as the person entering has no legal right to be present in the structure a burglary has occurred. Furthermore, the structure need not be the house itself for a burglary to take place; illegal entry of a garage, shed, or any other structure on the premises also constitutes household burglary. If breaking and entering occurs in a hotel or vacation residence, it is still classified as a burglary for the household whose member or members were staying there at the time the entry occurred.

Completed burglary - A form of burglary in which a person who has no legal right to be present in the structure successfully gains entry to a residence, by use of force, or without force.

Forcible entry - A form of completed burglary in which force is used to gain entry to a residence. Some examples include breaking a window or slashing a screen.

Unlawful entry without force - A form of completed burglary committed by someone having no legal right to be on the premises, even though no force is used.

Attempted forcible entry - A form of burglary in which force is used in an attempt to gain entry.

Collection year - The set of victimizations reported to NCVS in interviews conducted during the same calendar year. This set may include victimizations which occurred in the previous calendar year, due to the retrospective nature of the NCVS interview. Collection year data are used in tables beginning in 1996. See "Data year."

Commercial crimes - Crimes against commercial establishments of any type are not included in the survey. Commercial establishments include stores, restaurants, businesses, service stations, medical offices or hospitals, or other similar establishments. For victimizations occurring in commercial establishments, the crime is included or not included depending upon whether the survey respondent was threatened or harmed in some way or personal property was taken.

Crime classification - Victimitizations and incidents are classified based upon detailed characteristics of the event provided by the respondent. Neither victims nor interviewers classify crimes at the time of interview. During data processing, a computer program classifies each event into one type of crime, based upon the entries on a number of items on the survey questionnaire. This ensures that similar events will be classified using a standard procedure. The glossary definition for each crime indicates the major characteristics required to be so classified. If an event can be classified as more than one type of crime, a hierarchy is used which classifies the crime according to the most serious event that occurred. The hierarchy is: rape, sexual assault, robbery, assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, theft.

Data year - The set of victimizations reported to NCVS all of which occurred within the same calendar year. For all years prior to 1996, NCVS data are based upon data year. Beginning in 1996 and later years, data are based upon collection year. See "Collection Year."

Ethnicity - A classification based on Hispanic culture and origin, regardless of race.

Head of household - A classification which defines one and only one person in each housing unit as the head. Head of household implies that the person rents or owns (or is in the process of buying), the housing unit. The head of household must be at least 18, unless all members of the household are under 18, or the head is married to someone 18 or older.

Hispanic - A person who describes himself as Mexican-American, Chicano, Mexican, Mexicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central American, South American, or from some other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

Household - A person or group of people meeting either of the following criteria: (1) people whose usual place of residence is the same housing unit, even if they are temporarily absent; (2) people staying in a housing unit who have no usual place of residence elsewhere.

Household Burglary - See burglary.

Incident - A specific criminal act involving one or more victims and offenders. For example, if two people are robbed at the same time and place, this is classified as two robbery victimizations but only one robbery incident.

Marital status - Every person is assigned to one of the following classifications: (1) married, which includes persons in common-law unions and those who are currently living apart for reasons other than marital discord (employment, military service, etc.); (2) separated or divorced, which includes married persons who are legally separated and those who are not living together because of marital discord; (3) widowed; and (4) never married, which includes persons whose marriages have been annulled and those who are living together and not in a common-law union.

Metropolitan area - See "Metropolitan Statistical Area."

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) - The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines this as a population nucleus of 50,000 or more, generally consisting of a city and its immediate suburbs, along with adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with the nucleus. MSA's are designated by counties, the smallest geographic units for which a wide range of statistical data can be attained. However, in New England, MSA's are designated by cities and towns since these subcounty units are of great local significance and considerable data is available for them. Currently, an area is defined as an MSA if it meets one of two standards:

(1) a city has a population of at least 50,000; (2) the Census Bureau defines an urbanized area of at least 50,000 people with a total metropolitan population of at least 100,000 (or 75,000 in New England). The Census Bureau's definition of urbanized areas, data on commuting to work, and the strength of the economic and social ties between the surrounding counties and the central city determine which

counties not containing a main city are included in an MSA. For New England, MSA's are determined by a core area and related cities and towns, not counties. A metropolitan statistical area may contain more than one city of 50,000 and may cross State lines.

Motor vehicle - An automobile, truck, motorcycle, or any other motorized vehicle legally allowed on public roads and highways.

Motor vehicle theft - Stealing or unauthorized taking of a motor vehicle, including attempted thefts.

Completed motor vehicle theft - The successful taking of a vehicle by an unauthorized person.

Attempted motor vehicle theft - The unsuccessful attempt by an unauthorized person to take a vehicle.

Multiple offenders - Two or more persons inflicting some direct harm to a victim. The *victim-offender relationship* is determined by the offender with the closest relationship to the victim. The following list ranks the different relationships from closest to most distant: spouse, ex-spouse, parent, child, other relative, nonrelative well-known person, casual acquaintance, or stranger (See *Nonstranger* and *Stranger*).

Non-Hispanic - Persons who report their culture or origin as something other than "Hispanic" as defined above. This distinction is made regardless of race.

Nonstranger - A classification of a crime victim's relationship to the offender. An offender who is either related to, well known to, or casually acquainted with the victim is a nonstranger. For crimes with more than one offender, if any of the offenders are nonstrangers, then the group of offenders as a whole is classified as nonstranger. This category only applies to crimes which involve contact between the victim and the offender; the distinction is not made for crimes of theft since victims of this offense rarely see the offenders.

Offender - The perpetrator of a crime; this term usually applies to crimes involving contact between the victim and the offender.

Offense - A crime. When referring to personal crimes, the term can be used to refer to both victimizations and incidents.

Personal crimes - Rape, sexual assault, personal robbery, assault, purse snatching and pocket picking. This category includes both attempted and completed crimes.

Place of occurrence of crime - The location at which a crime occurred, as specified by the victim. Survey measures of crimes occurring in commercial establishments, restaurants, nightclubs, public transportation and other similar places include only those crimes involving NCVS measured crimes against persons, not the establishments. Crimes against commercial establishments and other places are not measured by the survey.

Property crimes - Property crimes including burglary, motor vehicle theft, or theft. This category includes both attempted and completed crimes.

Purse snatching/Pocket picking - Theft or attempted theft of property or cash directly from the victim by stealth, without force or threat of force.

Race - Racial categories for this survey are white, black, and other. The "other" category is composed mainly of Asian Pacific Islanders, and American Indian, Aleut, and Eskimo. The race of the head of household is used in determining the race of the household for computing household crime demographics.

Rape - Forced sexual intercourse including both psychological coercion as well as physical force. Forced sexual intercourse means vaginal, anal or oral penetration by the offender(s). This category also includes incidents where the penetration is from a foreign object such as a bottle. Includes attempted rapes, male as well as female victims and both heterosexual and homosexual rape. Attempted rape includes verbal threats of rape.

Rate of victimization - see "Victimization rate."

Region - The States have been divided into four groups or census regions:

Midwest - Includes the 12 States of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Northeast - Includes the 9 states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

South - Includes the District of Columbia and the 16 States of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

West - Includes the 13 states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Robbery - Completed or attempted theft, directly from a person, of property or cash by force or threat of force, with or without a weapon, and with or without injury.

Completed/property taken - The successful taking of property from a person by force or threat of force, with or without a weapon, and with or without injury.

Completed with injury - The successful taking of property from a person, accompanied by an attack, either with or without a weapon, resulting in injury.

Completed without injury - The successful taking of property from a person by force or the threat of force, either with or without a weapon, but not resulting in injury.

Attempted to take property - The attempt to take property from a person by force or threat of force without success, with or without a weapon, and with or without injury.

Attempted without injury - The attempt to take property from a person by force or the threat of force without success, either with or without a weapon, but not resulting in injury.

Attempted with injury - The attempt to take property from a person without success, accompanied by an attack, either with or without a weapon, resulting in injury.

Rural area - A place not located inside the Metropolitan Statistical Area. This category includes a variety of localities, ranging from sparsely populated rural areas to cities with populations less than 50,000.

Sample - The set of housing units selected by the U. S. Census Bureau to be interviewed for the survey. All occupants of the household age 12 or older are interviewed. See methodology for sample inclusions and exclusions.

Series - Six or more similar but separate events, which the respondent is unable to describe separately in detail to an interviewer.

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

Simple assault - Attack without a weapon resulting either in no injury, minor injury (for example, bruises, black eyes, cuts, scratches or swelling) or in undetermined injury requiring less than 2 days of hospitalization. Also includes attempted assault without a weapon.

With minor injury - An attack without a weapon resulting in such injuries as bruises, black eyes, cuts or in undetermined injury requiring less than 2 days of hospitalization.

Without injury - An attempted assault without a weapon not resulting in injury.

Stranger - A classification of the victim's relationship to the offender for crimes involving direct contact between the two. Incidents are classified as involving strangers if the victim identifies the offender as a stranger, did not see or recognize the offender, or knew the offender only by sight. Crimes involving multiple offenders are classified as involving nonstrangers if any of the offenders was a nonstranger. Since victims of theft without contact rarely see the offender, no distinction is made between strangers and nonstrangers for this crime.

Suburban areas - A county or counties containing a central city, plus any contiguous counties that are linked socially and economically to the central city. On data tables, suburban areas are categorized as those portions of metropolitan areas situated "outside central cities."

Tenure - The NCVS recognizes two forms of household tenancy: (1) owned, which includes dwellings that are mortgaged, and (2) rented, which includes rent-free quarters belonging to a party other than the occupants, and situations where rental payments are in kind or services.

Theft - Completed or attempted theft of property or cash without personal contact. Incidents involving theft of property from within the sample household would classify as theft if the offender has a legal right to be in the house (such as a maid, delivery person, or guest). If the offender has no legal right to be in the house, the incident would classify as a burglary.

Completed - To successfully take without permission property or cash without personal contact between the victim and offender.

Attempted - To unsuccessfully attempt to take property or cash without personal contact.

Urban areas - The largest city (or grouping of cities) in a Metropolitan Statistical Area (see definition of Metropolitan Statistical Area).

Victim - The recipient of a criminal act, usually used in relation to personal crimes, but also applicable to households.

Victimization - A crime as it affects one individual person or household. For personal crimes, the number of victimizations is equal to the number of victims involved. The number of victimizations may be greater than the number of incidents because more than one person may be victimized during an incident. Each crime against a household is assumed to involve a single victim, the affected household.

Victimization rate - A measure of the occurrence of victimizations among a specified population group. For personal crimes, this is based on the number of victimizations per 1,000 residents age 12 or older. For household crimes, the victimization rates are calculated using the number of incidents per 1,000 households.

Victimize - To commit a crime against a person or household.

Violence, crimes of - Rape, sexual assault, personal robbery or assault. This category includes both attempted and completed crimes. It does not include purse snatching and pocket picking. Murder is not measured by the NCVS because of an inability to question the victim.

Completed violence - The sum of all completed rapes, sexual assaults, robberies, and assaults. See individual crime types for definition of completed crimes.

Attempted/threatened violence - The unsuccessful attempt of rape, sexual assault, personal robbery or assault. Includes attempted attacks or sexual assaults by means of verbal threats. See individual crime types for definition of attempted crimes.