



Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report

July 1997, NCJ-162031

Age Patterns of Victims of Serious Violent Crime

By Craig A. Perkins
BJS Statistician

Vulnerability to violent crime victimization varies across the age spectrum. The victimization rate increases through the teenage years, crests at around age 20, and steadily decreases through the remaining years. This pattern, with some exceptions, exists across all race, sex, and ethnic groups.

For 1992-94, the rate of serious violent crime ranged from 37 per 1,000 persons age 12 to 14, to 50 per 1,000 persons age 18 to 21, to 3 violent crimes per 1,000 persons age 65 or older. Crime rates for individuals age 18 to 21 were 17 times higher than for persons age 65 or older.

This report examines serious violent crime across different age groups, focusing on persons younger than 25 from 1992 through 1994. It highlights key facts about serious violent crime, grouped by age, race, and sex.

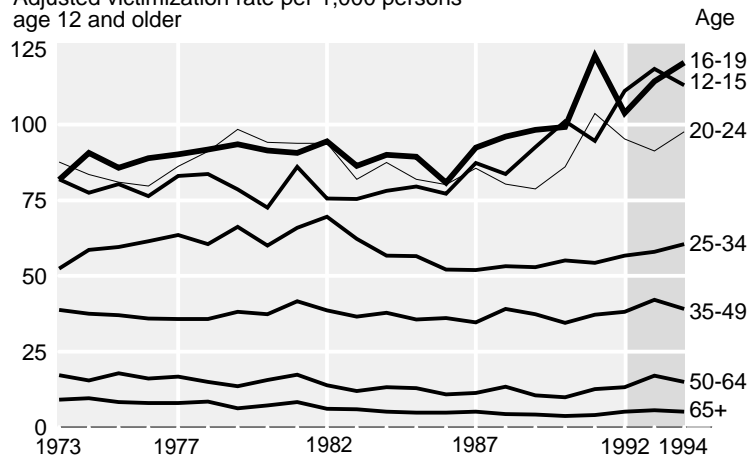
Serious violent crimes include rape and sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault, as measured by the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), and murders from data reported by law enforcement agencies to the FBI.

Highlights

- Persons age 12 to 24 comprised: 22% of the population, 35% of murder victims, and 49% of serious violent crime victims.
- Persons age 25 to 49 constituted: 47% of the population, 53% of murder victims, and 44% of serious violent crime victims.
- Persons age 50 or older made up: 30% of the population, 12% of murder victims, and 7% of serious violent crime victims.
- Persons age 18 to 21 were the most likely to experience a serious violent crime, and blacks in that age group were the most vulnerable: 72 victimizations per 1,000 blacks, 50 victimizations per 1,000 Hispanics, and 46 victimizations per 1,000 whites.
- More than 52% of all rape/sexual assault victims were females younger than 25.
- Almost 1 in 10 murder victims age 18 to 21 were black.

Violent crime rates by age

Adjusted victimization rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and older



Note: Violent crimes included are homicide, rape, robbery, and both simple and aggravated assault. The light gray area indicates that because of changes made to the victimization survey, data prior to 1992 are adjusted to make them comparable to data collected under the redesigned methodology. The adjustment methods are described in *Criminal Victimization 1973-95*.

The Bureau of the Census, under the supervision of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), conducts the NCVS which interviews approximately 50,000 households. Annually the NCVS measures crimes not reported as well as those reported to police.

Each year between 1992 and 1994, U.S. residents age 12 or older experienced about 4.3 million serious violent victimizations on average. Persons age 12 to 24 suffered about 49% (2 million) of the total, although they made up less than a quarter of the U.S. population age 12 or older. Individuals age 40 or older were 47% of the general population but sustained 19% of the serious violent victimizations.

Persons younger than 25 were the most vulnerable to serious violent crime, regardless of how age patterns were analyzed. Rates controlling for population show the young with the highest number of victimizations per 1,000 individuals. Considering only adolescents and adults, the average age of violent crime victims is almost 11 years below the average age of the whole population, because of the overrepresentation of the young among crime victims.

The *Highlights* graph of trends presents age categories usually used in BJS reports; however, the remaining findings have age groupings identified with stages of life in the United States. This modified grouping is meant to help account for different life styles:

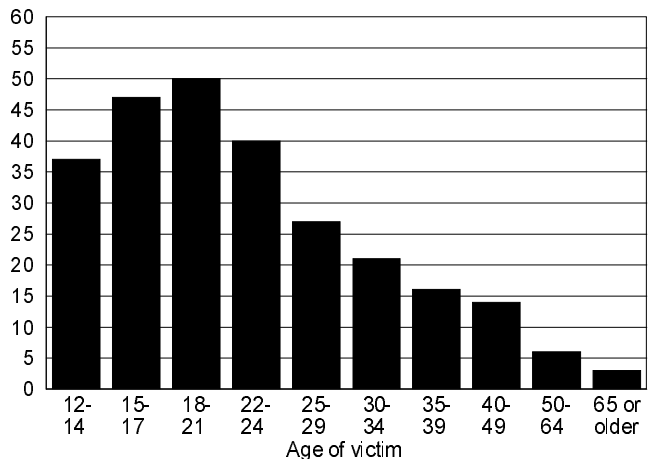
- Persons age 12 to 14 are generally in junior high school.
- Youth age 15 to 17 are in high school.
- Ages 18 to 21 include persons who have left high school and are enrolled in college or technical school or are seeking or starting jobs.
- Young adults age 22 to 24 are those individuals who have left college and are just beginning a career.
- Persons age 65 or older represent residents who have probably retired.

Also, there are too few sampled cases to analyze the age distribution of minority victims of rape or sexual assault (an estimated 1.1 million rapes of white non-Hispanic females, 236,000 rapes of black non-Hispanic females, and 121,000 rapes of Hispanic females for the 3-year period).

Although Hispanics are not a race, they are presented as a separate category within the racial categories.

All serious violent crimes: Murder, rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault

Rates of serious violent crime per 1,000 persons



Rates of serious violent crime for 18-21 year olds — 17 times higher than for persons age 65 or older.

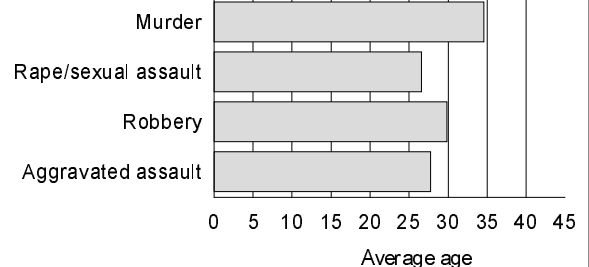
Persons between ages 12 and 24 — less than a fourth of the U.S. population age 12 or older, almost half of all serious victimizations.

Persons age 40 or older — almost half of the population age 12 or older, less than a fifth of the serious violent victimizations.

The average age of U.S. residents age 12 or older was almost 41


Overall U.S. population

The average age of victims of serious violent crimes other than murder was 30 or under



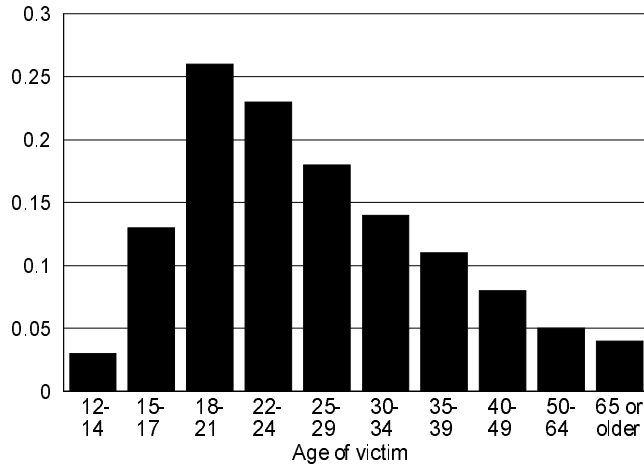
On average each year, from 1992 to 1994, about 1 in 50 persons fell victim to a serious violent crime; among persons age 12 to 24, 1 in 23.

Age of victim	Number of persons in the population for each victim				
	All serious violent crime	Murder	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Aggravated assault
Total	50	9,241	416	164	86
12 to 24	23	5,945	168	83	39
25 to 34	42	6,170	378	132	73
35 to 49	67	10,891	591	219	116
50 or older	424	23,376	4,272	494	424

 Indicates victimization information other than that about age patterns of victims.

Murder

Rates of murder per 1,000 persons



Persons under age 25 — 22% of the general population — account for 35% of murder victims.

The youngest and oldest of the population had the lowest rates of murder — less than 0.05 per 1,000 persons.

The pattern of murder victims resembles that of victims of other serious violent crimes — rates increasing from the very young, cresting at ages 18 to 21, then decreasing.

Murder, the least frequent violent crime, victimized fewer than 1 in 1,000 persons, age 12 or older

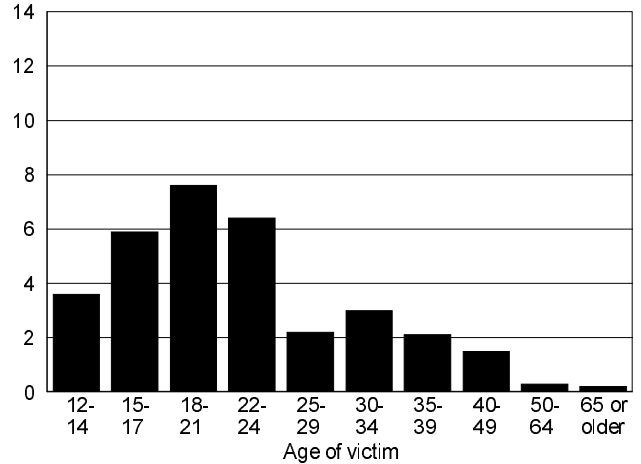


Victims of murder, on average, were the oldest of serious violent crime victims. Over half of all murder victims were age 30 or younger (compared with age 25 for victims of other serious violent crimes).

Serious violent offense	Median age of victim
Murder	29
Rape/sexual assault	23
Robbery	26
Aggravated assault	25

Rape or sexual assault

Rates of rape or sexual assault per 1,000 persons (male and female)



Slightly more than a fifth of all rape/sexual assault victims were age 18 to 21. The average age for victims was 27.

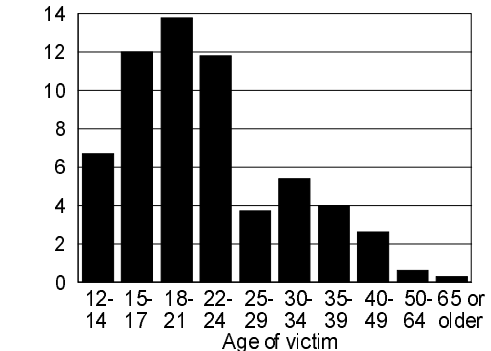
Rates of rape/sexual assault for individuals 18 to 21 were almost 2½ times higher than those for age 25 to 29.

Persons age 50 or older — almost a third of the general population age 12 or older — comprised 3% of rape/sexual assault victims.

Rape or sexual assault (female)

1 in 89 females 12-24 were rape/sexual assault victims

Rates per 1,000 females

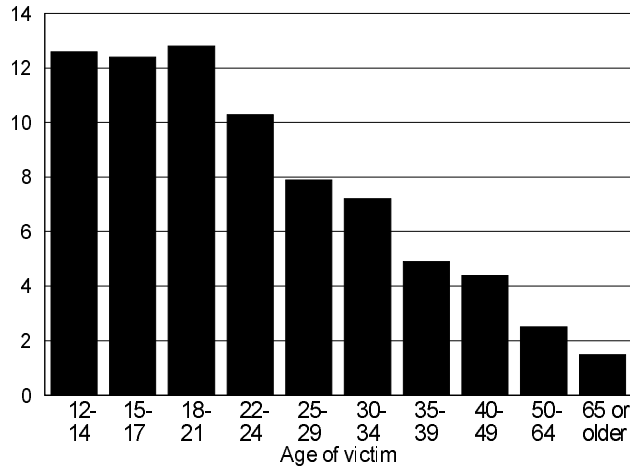


Persons under 25 made up almost 50% of everyone suffering a serious violent crime and almost 56% of rape/sexual assault victims.

Age of victim	Percent of population	Percent of victims		
		All violent crime	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
12 to 14	5%	10%	8%	11%
15 to 17	5	12	12	10
18 to 21	7	17	21	14
22 to 24	5	11	14	9
25 to 29	9	13	9	12
30 to 34	11	11	13	12
35 to 39	10	8	9	8
40 to 49	17	12	10	12
50 to 64	16	5	2	6
65 or older	15	2	1	4

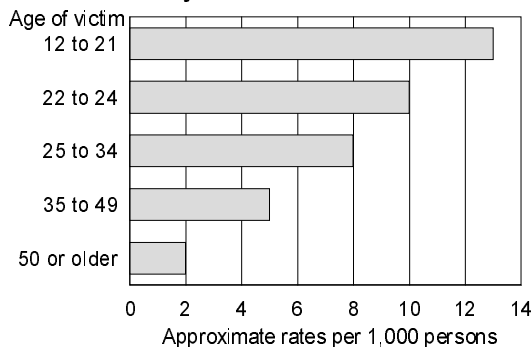
Robbery

Rates of robbery per 1,000 persons



Robbery is completed or attempted theft, directly from a person, by force or threat of force, with or without a weapon, and with or without injury. Half of all robbery victims were age 26 or younger; the most vulnerable to robbery were the young. Persons age 21 or younger — slightly less than a fifth of the general population — suffered close to half of all robberies.

Age patterns of robbery victims fall into 5 distinct ranges: The 12-21 robbery rate is 6 times that of 50 or older.

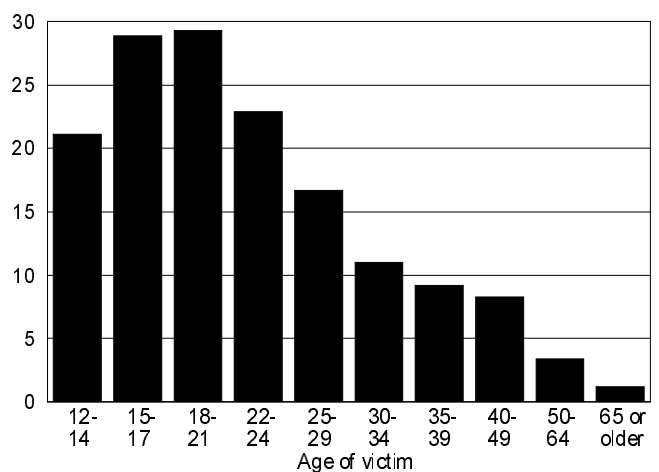


1 in every 79 persons age 12 to 21 were robbery victims, compared to 1 in every 211, age 22 or older. Between 1992 and 1994, U.S. residents age 12 or older experienced an annual average of about 1.3 million robberies.

The average number of robberies each year was —
 457,000 among persons age 12-21
 118,000 for age 22-24
 319,000 for age 25-34
 263,000 for age 35-49, and
 130,000 for age 50 or older.

Aggravated assault

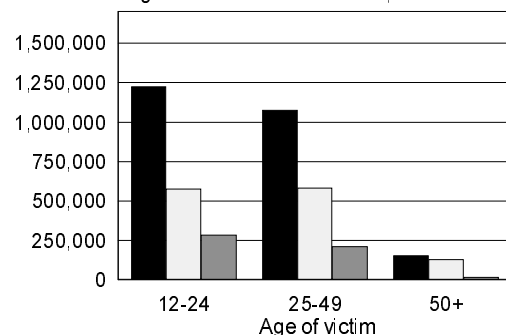
Rates of aggravated assault per 1,000 persons



Aggravated assault includes attacks with a weapon, with or without injury and attacks without a weapon that result in serious injury such as broken bones, loss of teeth, internal injuries, or loss of consciousness — or an undetermined injury requiring 2 or more days of hospitalization.

Aggravated assault, the most frequent serious violent crime, made up over half of all such crimes. On average between 1992 and 1994, about 1 in every 2 persons who reported an aggravated assault was younger than 25. Persons age 50 or older — almost a third of the population over age 11 — were 6% of aggravated assault victims. Each year 1992-94, on average, persons age 12 to 24 sustained about 1,200,000 aggravated assaults, compared to 1,100,000 for persons age 25 to 49, and 151,000 for those 50 or older.

Annual average number of victimizations, 1992-94

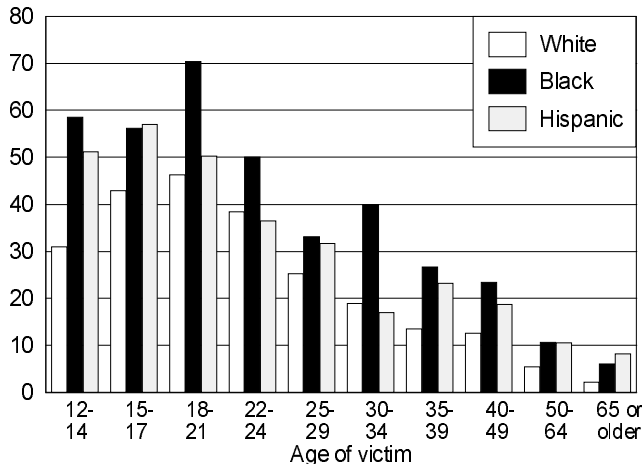


Legend: ■ Aggravated assault □ Robbery ■ Rape/sexual assault

Murder (not shown): 8,021, 12,129, and 2,743 victims for each age category.

Serious violent crime, by race and Hispanic origin

Rates of serious violent crime per 1,000 persons



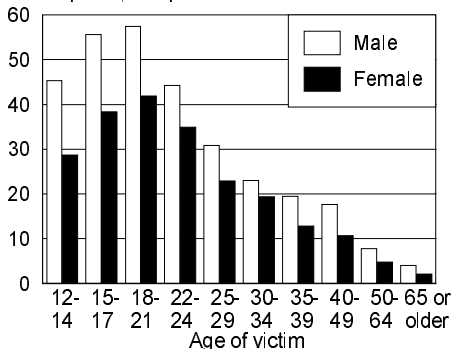
Blacks and Hispanics across all age groups were more at risk from violence than whites of comparable age — 1 in 30 blacks, 1 in 35 Hispanics, and 1 in 58 whites, from 1992 to 1994.

For 18-to-21 year olds, 1 in 14 blacks, 1 in 20 Hispanics, and 1 in 22 whites experienced a serious violent victimization.

Serious violent crime, by sex of victim

1 in 41 males and 1 in 62 females were violent crime victims

Rates per 1,000 persons



Blacks and to a lesser degree Hispanics were over-represented among victims, relative to their proportion of the general population age 12 or older.

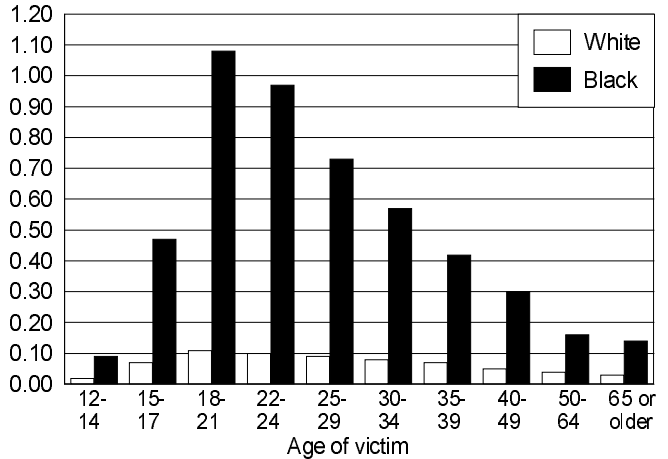
Racial/ethnic groups	Percent		Rates per 1,000
	Population age 12 or older	Victims of serious violence	
Total	100%	100%	20
White	77%	65%	17
Black	12	20	34
Other	3	4	24
Hispanic	8	12	29

Note: Whites, blacks, and others exclude Hispanics.



Murder, by race

Rates of murder per 1,000 persons



For whites and blacks, persons 18 to 21 were most at risk of becoming a murder victim.

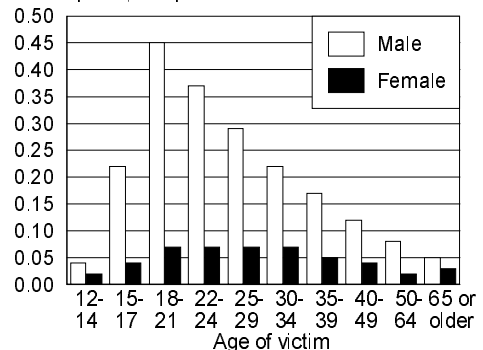
Murder rates for blacks were 8 times higher than for whites — 1 in every 894 and 1 in every 7,334 persons, respectively.

Blacks, about 12% of general population, comprised 51% of murder victims. Almost 1 in 10 of black murder victims were age 18 to 21.

Murder, by sex of victim

1 in 10 murder victims were males, 18 to 21

Rates per 1,000 persons



Murder rates for males 18 to 21 were 6 times higher than for their female counterparts. Rates for men 65 or older were 1½ times higher than for their female counterparts.

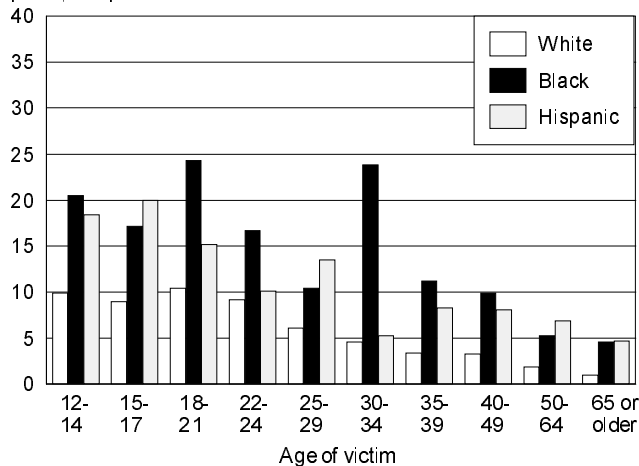
The average age for male murder victims was 32, compared to the female murder victim's average age of 37.

White murder victims had an average age of 35, while black murder victims had an average age of 30.

Over half of black murder victims were 29 or younger, compared to over half of white victims, 32 or older.

Robbery, by race and Hispanic origin

Rates of robbery per 1,000 persons



Blacks and Hispanics under age 22 had robbery rates approximately twice those for whites — 1 in 48, 1 in 57, and 1 in 101 respectively, from 1992 to 1994.

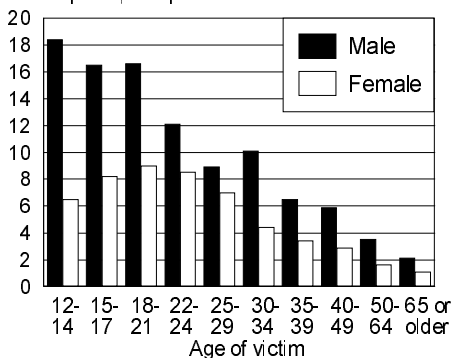
Robbery rates for blacks peaked twice, for ages 18 to 21 and 30 to 34, at 24 robberies per 1,000 blacks — at 5 times the rate for age 50 or older, 5 per 1,000.

The average age for robbery victims was about 30 for whites and blacks, and 28 for Hispanics.

Robbery, by sex of victim

Almost 1 in 10 robbery victims were males 18 to 21

Rates per 1,000 persons



Boys 12 to 14 and young women 18 to 21 reported the highest rates for robbery.

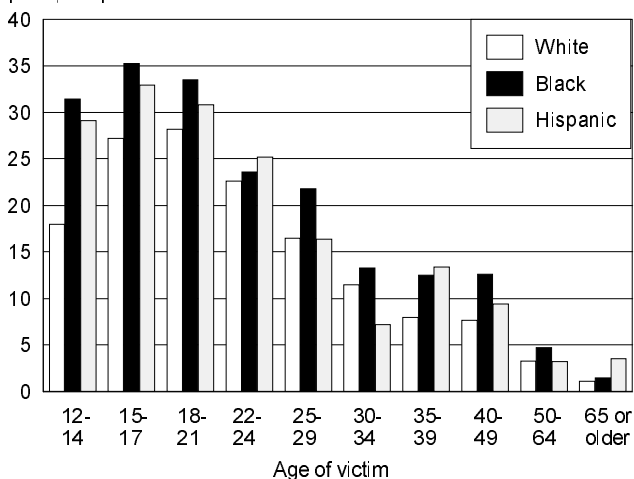
About 1 in every 54 boys age 12 to 14 was a robbery victim, compared to 1 in every 473 men age 65 or older.

The average ages for male and female robbery victims were at least 10 years younger than the average age of males and females in the general population.

	Average age	
	Male	Female
General population 12 or older	40 yrs	42 yrs
Robbery victims	30	31

Aggravated assault, by race and Hispanic origin

Rates of aggravated assault per 1,000 persons



Slightly more than 1 in every 60 blacks, 1 in every 63 Hispanics, and 1 in every 96 whites were aggravated assault victims.

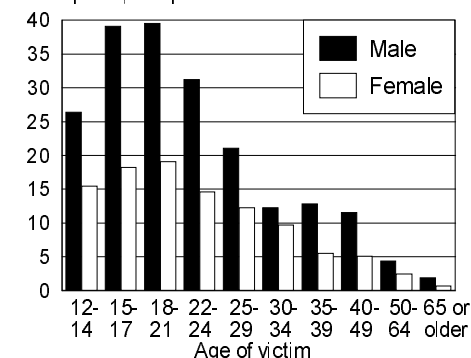
Blacks and Hispanics — 20% of the general population — were about 28% of aggravated assault victims.

The average age of aggravated assault victims was 25 for Hispanics, 26 for blacks, and 29 for whites.

Aggravated assault, by sex of victim

For 18 to 21, men twice as likely as women to be victimized

Rates per 1,000 persons



Minority victims of aggravated assault were relatively younger than white victims.

Aggravated assault victims' race and age	Percent of population		Rates per 1,000
	General	Victim	
White	100%	100%	10
12 to 24	20	47	24
25 to 34	19	25	14
35 to 49	27	21	8
50 or older	33	7	2
Black	100%	100%	17
12 to 24	28	53	31
25 to 34	22	23	17
35 to 49	27	20	13
50 or older	23	5	3
Hispanic	100%	100%	16
12 to 24	33	61	29
25 to 34	26	19	12
35 to 49	24	17	11
50 or older	17	4	3

Methodology

Except for homicide data provided by the Uniform Crime Reports, the tables in this report include data from the redesigned National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) for 1992, 1993, and 1994. The NCVS obtains information about crimes, including incidents not reported to police, from a continuous, nationally representative sample of households in the United States. Approximately 50,000 individuals age 12 or older are interviewed for the survey annually.

Calculations of NCVS rates

The rates in this report were annual average rates for 1992-94. The numerator of a given rate was the sum of the estimated victimizations that occurred for all three years for each respective demographic group; the denominator was the sum of the annual population totals for these same years and demographic groups.

Calculations of NCVS ratios

The ratios in this report were annual average ratios. The numerator of the given ratio was the sum of the annual population totals for all 3 years for each respective demographic group; the denominator was the sum of the estimated victimizations that occurred for all 3 years for each demographic group.

Application of standard errors

The results presented in this report were tested to determine whether the observed difference between groups was statistically significant. Comparisons mentioned in the report passed a hypothesis test at the .05 level of statistical significance (or the 95-percent confidence level), meaning that the estimated difference between comparisons was greater than twice the standard error of the difference.

Although the data in this report were collected over 3 years, some estimates were based on a relatively small number of sample cases, particularly for certain demographic groups.

Caution should be used when comparing estimates not discussed in the text because since seemingly large differences may not be statistically significant.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Jan M. Chaiken, Ph.D., is director.

BJS Special Reports address a specific topic in depth from one or more datasets that cover many topics.

Craig A. Perkins wrote this report. Patsy Klaus provided analytical and programming assistance; Cathy Maston provided statistical review; and Diane Craven reviewed the computer programs. Rhonda Keith produced and edited the report, supervised by Tom Hester. Marilyn Marbrook, assisted by Jayne Robinson and Yvonne Boston, administered final production.

July 1997, NCJ-162031

Links to the data for the graphics of this report can be immediately accessed and viewed on the Internet. This report and many of its data, as well as other reports and statistics, are found at the Bureau of Justice Statistics Internet World Wide Web site:
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

Violent crime rates by age

Adjusted victimization rate per 1,000 persons,
age 12 and older

Year	Age of victim						
	12-15	16-19	20-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
1973	81.8	81.7	87.6	52.4	38.8	17.2	9.1
1974	77.5	90.6	83.5	58.6	37.5	15.5	9.5
1975	80.3	85.7	80.9	59.5	36.9	17.8	8.3
1976	76.4	88.8	79.7	61.5	35.9	16.1	8.1
1977	83.0	90.2	86.2	63.5	35.8	16.8	8.0
1978	83.7	91.7	91.1	60.5	35.8	15.0	8.4
1979	78.5	93.4	98.4	66.3	38.2	13.6	6.2
1980	72.5	91.3	94.1	60.0	37.4	15.6	7.2
1981	86.0	90.7	93.7	65.8	41.6	17.3	8.3
1982	75.6	94.4	93.8	69.6	38.6	13.8	6.1
1983	75.4	86.3	82.0	62.2	36.5	11.9	5.9
1984	78.2	90.0	87.5	56.6	37.9	13.2	5.2
1985	79.6	89.4	82.0	56.5	35.6	13.0	4.8
1986	77.1	80.8	80.1	52.0	36.0	10.8	4.8
1987	87.2	92.4	85.5	51.9	34.7	11.4	5.2
1988	83.7	95.9	80.2	53.2	39.1	13.4	4.4
1989	92.5	98.2	78.8	52.8	37.3	10.5	4.2
1990	101.1	99.1	86.1	55.2	34.4	9.9	3.7
1991	94.5	122.6	103.6	54.3	37.2	12.5	4.0
1992	111.0	103.7	95.2	56.8	38.1	13.2	5.2
1993	118.4	114.2	91.2	57.9	42.1	17.0	5.6
1994	113.0	120.5	97.7	60.4	39.1	15.1	5.1

Note: Violent crimes included are homicide, rape, robbery, and both simple and aggravated assault. The light gray area indicates that because of changes made to the victimization survey, data prior to 1992 are adjusted to make them comparable to data collected under the redesigned methodology. The adjustment methods are described in Criminal Victimization 1973-95.

All serious violent crimes: Murder, rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault

Rates of serious violent crime per 1,000 persons

Victims' age	Rate
12 to 14	37
15 to 17	47
18 to 21	50
22 to 24	40
25 to 29	27
30 to 34	21
35 to 39	16
40 to 49	14
50 to 64	6
65 or older	3

- The average age of U.S. residents age 12 or older was almost 41.
- The average age of victims of serious violent crimes other than murder was 30 or under.

	Mean	Median
Overall U.S. population	40.9	39
Murder	34.6	30
Rape/sexual assault	26.6	23
Robbery	29.9	26
Aggravated assault	27.8	25

Murder

Rates of murder per 1,000 persons

<u>Victims' age</u>	<u>Rate</u>
12 to 14	0.03
15 to 17	0.13
18 to 21	0.26
22 to 24	0.23
25 to 29	0.18
30 to 34	0.14
35 to 39	0.11
40 to 49	0.08
50 to 64	0.05
65 or older	0.04

Murder, the least frequent violent crime, victimized fewer than 1 in 1,000 persons, age 12 or older.

<u>Violent crime</u>	<u>Total</u>
Murder	0.11
Rape/sexual assault	2.4
Robbery	6.1
Aggravated assault	11.6

Rape or sexual assault

Rates of rape or sexual assault
per 1,000 persons

Victims' age	Rate
12 to 14	3.6
15 to 17	5.9
18 to 21	7.6
22 to 24	6.4
25 to 29	2.2
30 to 34	3.0
35 to 39	2.1
40 to 49	1.5
50 to 64	0.3
65 or older	0.1

Rape or sexual assault

1 in 89 females 12-24 were rape/sexual assault victims

Rates per 1,000 females

<u>Victims' age</u>	<u>Rates</u>
12 to 14	6.7
15 to 17	12
18 to 21	13.8
22 to 24	11.8
25 to 29	3.7
30 to 34	5.4
35 to 39	4.0
40 to 49	2.6
50 to 64	0.6
65 or older	0.3

Robbery

Rates of robbery per 1,000 persons

Victims' age	Rate
12 to 14	12.6
15 to 17	12.4
18 to 21	12.8
22 to 24	10.3
25 to 29	7.9
30 to 34	7.2
35 to 39	4.9
40 to 49	4.4
50 to 64	2.5
65 or older	1.5

Age patterns of robbery victims fall into 5 distinct ranges: The 12-21 robbery rate is 6 times that of 50 or older.

Approximate robbery rates
per 1,000 persons

Victim's age	Rate
12 to 21	13
22 to 24	10
25 to 34	8
35 to 49	5
50 or older	2

Aggravated assault

Rates of aggravated assault
per 1,000 persons

Victims' age	Rate
12 to 14	21.1
15 to 17	28.9
18 to 21	29.3
22 to 24	22.9
25 to 29	16.7
30 to 34	11.0
35 to 39	9.2
40 to 49	8.3
50 to 64	3.4
65 or older	1.2

Annual average number of victimizations, 1992-94

Age	Aggravated assault	Robbery	Rape/sexual assault	Murder
12 to 24	1,225,517	575,131	284,402	8,021
25 to 49	1,075,742	582,215	209,027	12,129
50+	151,236	129,798	15,006	2,743

Serious violent crime, by race and Hispanic origin

Victims' age	Rates of serious violent crime per 1,000 persons		
	White	Black	Hispanic
12 to 14	31.0	58.6	51.2
15 to 17	42.9	56.7	57.0
18 to 21	46.4	71.5	50.3
22 to 24	38.6	50.0	36.5
25 to 29	25.3	33.8	31.7
30 to 34	19.0	40.0	17.0
35 to 39	13.6	27.2	23.3
40 to 49	12.7	23.7	18.8
50 to 64	5.5	10.9	10.5
65 or older	2.3	6.2	8.2

Serious violent crime, by sex of victim

1 in 41 males and 1 in 62 females were violent crime victims

Victims' age	Rates per 1,000 persons	
	Male	Female
12 to 14	45.4	28.7
15 to 17	55.8	38.4
18 to 21	58.0	41.9
22 to 24	44.7	35.0
25 to 29	31.1	23.0
30 to 34	23.2	19.5
35 to 39	19.6	13.0
40 to 49	17.9	10.7
50 to 64	7.9	4.8
65 or older	4.1	2.1

Murder, by race

Victims' age	Rates of murder per 1,000 persons	
	White	Black
12 to 14	0.02	0.09
15 to 17	0.07	0.47
18 to 21	0.11	1.08
22 to 24	0.10	0.97
25 to 29	0.09	0.73
30 to 34	0.08	0.57
35 to 39	0.07	0.42
40 to 49	0.05	0.30
50 to 64	0.04	0.16
65 or older	0.03	0.14

Murder, by sex of victim

1 in 10 murder victims were males, 18 to 21

Victims' age	Rates per 1,000 persons	
	Male	Female
12 to 14	0.04	0.02
15 to 17	0.22	0.04
18 to 21	0.45	0.07
22 to 24	0.37	0.07
25 to 29	0.29	0.07
30 to 34	0.22	0.07
35 to 39	0.17	0.05
40 to 49	0.12	0.04
50 to 64	0.08	0.02
65 or older	0.05	0.03

Robbery, by race and Hispanic origin

Victims' age	Rates of robbery per 1,000 persons		
	White	Black	Hispanic
12 to 14	9.9	20.5	18.4
15 to 17	9.0	17.2	20.0
18 to 21	10.4	24.3	15.2
22 to 24	9.2	16.7	10.1
25 to 29	6.1	10.4	13.5
30 to 34	4.6	23.8	5.3
35 to 39	3.4	11.2	8.3
40 to 49	3.3	9.9	8.1
50 to 64	1.9	5.3	6.9
65 or older	1.0	4.6	4.7

Robbery, by sex of victim

**Almost 1 in 10 robbery victims were males
18 to 21**

Victims' age	Rates per 1,000 persons	
	Male	Female
12 to 14	18.4	6.5
15 to 17	16.5	8.2
18 to 21	16.6	9.0
22 to 24	12.1	8.5
25 to 29	8.9	7.0
30 to 34	10.1	4.4
35 to 39	6.5	3.4
40 to 49	5.9	2.9
50 to 64	3.5	1.6
65 or older	2.1	1.1

Aggravated assault, by race and Hispanic origin

Victims' age	Rates of aggravated assault per 1,000 persons		
	White	Black	Hispanic
12 to 14	18.0	31.4	29.1
15 to 17	27.2	35.3	32.9
18 to 21	28.2	33.5	30.8
22 to 24	22.6	23.6	25.2
25 to 29	16.5	21.8	16.4
30 to 34	11.5	13.3	7.2
35 to 39	8.0	12.5	13.4
40 to 49	7.7	12.6	9.4
50 to 64	3.3	4.7	3.2
65 or older	1.1	1.5	3.5

Aggravated assault, by sex of victim

For 18 to 21, men twice as likely as women to be victimized

Victims' age	Rates per 1,000 persons	
	Male	Female
12 to 14	26.4	15.5
15 to 17	39.1	18.2
18 to 21	39.5	19.1
22 to 24	31.2	14.6
25 to 29	21.1	12.3
30 to 34	12.3	9.7
35 to 39	12.8	5.5
40 to 49	11.6	5.1
50 to 64	4.4	2.5
65 or older	1.9	0.7

All serious violent crimes: Murder, rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault

Rates of serious violent crime per 1,000 persons

Victims' age	Rate
12 to 14	37
15 to 17	47
18 to 21	50
22 to 24	40
25 to 29	27
30 to 34	21
35 to 39	16
40 to 49	14
50 to 64	6
65 or older	3

Bureau of Justice Statistics
Age Patterns of Victims of Serious Violent Crime
July 1997, NCJ-162031

Violent crime rates by age

Adjusted victimization rate per 1,000 persons, age 12 and older

Year	Age of victim						
	12-15	16-19	20-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
1973	81.8	81.7	87.6	52.4	38.8	17.2	9.1
1974	77.5	90.6	83.5	58.6	37.5	15.5	9.5
1975	80.3	85.7	80.9	59.5	36.9	17.8	8.3
1976	76.4	88.8	79.7	61.5	35.9	16.1	8.1
1977	83.0	90.2	86.2	63.5	35.8	16.8	8.0
1978	83.7	91.7	91.1	60.5	35.8	15.0	8.4
1979	78.5	93.4	98.4	66.3	38.2	13.6	6.2
1980	72.5	91.3	94.1	60.0	37.4	15.6	7.2
1981	86.0	90.7	93.7	65.8	41.6	17.3	8.3
1982	75.6	94.4	93.8	69.6	38.6	13.8	6.1
1983	75.4	86.3	82.0	62.2	36.5	11.9	5.9
1984	78.2	90.0	87.5	56.6	37.9	13.2	5.2
1985	79.6	89.4	82.0	56.5	35.6	13.0	4.8
1986	77.1	80.8	80.1	52.0	36.0	10.8	4.8
1987	87.2	92.4	85.5	51.9	34.7	11.4	5.2
1988	83.7	95.9	80.2	53.2	39.1	13.4	4.4
1989	92.5	98.2	78.8	52.8	37.3	10.5	4.2
1990	101.1	99.1	86.1	55.2	34.4	9.9	3.7
1991	94.5	122.6	103.6	54.3	37.2	12.5	4.0
1992	111.0	103.7	95.2	56.8	38.1	13.2	5.2
1993	118.4	114.2	91.2	57.9	42.1	17.0	5.6
1994	113.0	120.5	97.7	60.4	39.1	15.1	5.1

Note: Violent crimes included are homicide, rape, robbery, and both simple and aggravated assault. The light gray area indicates that because of changes made to the victimization survey, data prior to 1992 are adjusted to make them comparable to data collected under the redesigned methodology. The adjustment methods are described in Criminal Victimization 1973-95.