

Summary of Criminal Victimization, 2013

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Summary

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) published a report on criminal victimization for 2013. The BJS report is based on data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The data include information on both fatal and nonfatal crimes against persons age 12 and older that were either reported or not reported to the police. The survey data are from a nationally representative sample of households in the US. The NCVS interviews were initially conducted in person and any subsequent interviews occurred either in person or over the phone. In 2013, the response rate was 84% for households and 88% for eligible persons.

The NCVS measures violent crimes, including rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. The NCVS classifies rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault as serious violent crimes. See Figure 1 for specific data on rape and sexual assault. The full report can be found at <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cv13.pdf>

Report Highlights

- No statistically significant change was detected in the rate of serious violent crime (rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault) from 2012 (8.0 per 1,000) to 2013 (7.3 per 1,000).
- In 2013, 46% of violent victimizations were reported to police.
- 1.2% of all persons age 12 or older (3 million persons) experienced at least one violent victimization.
- About 0.4% (1.1 million persons) experienced at least one serious violent victimization.
- The rate of violence declined in urban areas, from 32.4 to 25.9 victimizations per 1,000.
- In 2013, 545,370 persons ages 12 to 17, or about 2.2% of all persons ages 12 to 17, experienced at least one violent crime.
 - **Persons ages 12 to 17 had the highest prevalence of violence of all age groups.**

Figure 1. Number of victims and prevalence rate, by type of crime, 2004, 2012, and 2013.

Year	Total Number of Rape/Sexual Assault Victims	Prevalence Rate of Rape/Sexual Assault	Total Number of Violent Crime Victims	Prevalence Rate of Violent Crime
2004	134,860	0.1%	3,478,620	1.4%
2012	170,400	0.1%	3,575,900	1.4%
2013	173,610	0	3,041,170*	1.2%*

* Significant change from 2012 to 2013 at the 95% confidence level.

Data compiled from National Crime Victimization Surveys.

Figure 2. Violent victimization, by type of violent crime, 2004, 2012, and 2013

Year	Total Number of Rape/Sexual Assault	Rate of Rape/Sexual Assault	Total Violent Crime Victims	Rate of Violent Crime
2004	255,770	1.1	6,726,060	27.8
2012	346,830	1.3	6,842,590	26.1
2013	300,170	1.1	6,126,420	23.2

Data compiled from National Crime Victimization Surveys.