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Hispanic Victims of Violent Crime, 1993-2000

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Estimates from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) indicate that Hispanic persons age 12 or older experienced about 690,470 violent crimes (rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated or simple assault) in 2000.

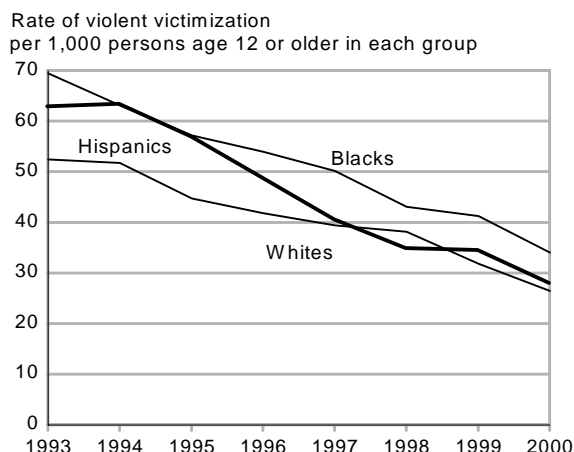
Among Hispanics over the period 1993-2000, those most vulnerable to violent crimes were males (54 victimizations per 1,000 annually), juveniles age 12-17 (90 per 1,000), those with household incomes under \$7,500 (64 per 1,000), and those who had never married (72 per 1,000).

Violence against Hispanics, as with other victims, most often took the form of simple assault (59%). About equal percentages of Hispanics were robbed (20%) or were victims of aggravated assault (19%). Two percent of Hispanic victims of violence sustained a rape or sexual assault in 2000.

From 1993 to 2000 the rate of violent victimization against Hispanics fell from 63 victimizations per 1,000 to 28. Violent crime rates declined for Hispanics across most demographic categories examined — falling most among females, those age 35 to 49, divorced or separated persons, those in households with incomes between \$15,000 and \$24,999, and those in rural areas.

Highlights

The rate of violent crime against Hispanics fell 56% from 1993 to 2000. The rate for whites declined 50%, and for blacks, 51%.



- Persons of Hispanic origin in 2000 experienced 11% of all violent crime against persons age 12 or older in the United States.
- During 2000 Hispanic persons were victims of about 690,470 rapes, sexual assaults, robberies, and aggravated and simple assaults.
- Violence against Hispanics most often took the form of simple assault (59%), followed by robbery (20%), aggravated assault (19%) and rape/sexual assault (2%) in 2000.
- 1993-2000, the rate of violent crime against Hispanics fell, regardless of

gender, age, income, or where they lived. Among Hispanics the largest percent decreases in rates occurred for women, persons age 35-49, divorced or separated persons, those in households with annual incomes between \$15,000 and \$24,999, and those in rural areas.

- 9% of Hispanic victims stated that the offender was an intimate, while 34% described the offender as a friend or acquaintance.
- Hispanics were as likely as whites, blacks, or persons of other races to report to the police that they had been a victim of a violent crime.

Data and definitions

Estimates of violent crime are drawn from National Criminal Victimization Survey (NCVS) data collected by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS).

Respondents to the NCVS who identified themselves as Mexican-American, Chicano, Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American (Spanish-speaking countries) or other Spanish origin are defined as Hispanics in this report. The category "Hispanic" includes persons of any race. Comparison groups include non-Hispanic persons who were white, black, American Indian, or Asian. Thus, in this report the terms "white," "black," "American Indian," and "Asian" refer only to non-Hispanic persons.

Violent acts examined include threatened, attempted and completed rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Only limited homicide data are available.

The National Crime Victimization Survey

The NCVS is the Nation's primary source of information on the frequency, characteristics, and consequences of criminal victimization. One of the largest continuous household surveys conducted by the Federal Government, the NCVS collects information about crimes both reported and not reported to police. The survey provides the largest national forum for victims to describe their experiences of victimization, the impact of crime, and the characteristics of violent offenders.

For the most current overall estimates of criminal victimization in the United States, see *Criminal Victimization 2000: Changes 1999-2000, with Trends 1993-2000* (NCJ 187007).

Findings from the NCVS are also on the BJS website <www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

Table 1. Number and rate of violent victimization, by type of crime, race, and Hispanic origin, 2000

	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic			
		White	Black	American Indian	Asian
Number of victimizations					
Total violent crime	690,470	4,363,350	929,860	50,970	68,880
Rape/sexual assault	13,810	183,180	39,760	7,540	1,990
Robbery	140,450	400,290	176,810	2,510	15,300
Aggravated assault	131,150	871,900	164,480	15,880	7,680
Simple assault	405,060	2,907,980	548,800	25,050	43,910
Rate of victimizations per 1,000 in each group					
Total violent crime	27.9	26.5	34.1	52.3	8.4
Rape/sexual assault	0.6	1.1	1.5	7.7	0.2
Robbery	5.7	2.4	6.5	2.6	1.9
Aggravated assault	5.3	5.3	6.0	16.3	0.9
Simple assault	16.4	17.7	20.1	25.7	5.4

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

Violence against Hispanics, 2000

During 2000 persons of Hispanic origin experienced 11% of all violent crime against persons age 12 or older in the United States, and they were about 10% of the general population. In total during 2000, Hispanic persons were victims of about 690,470 rapes, sexual assaults, robberies, and aggravated and simple assaults. As a rate, there were 28 violent victimizations per 1,000 persons of Hispanic ethnicity (table 1).

As with other victims, most violence against Hispanic persons was simple assault (59%), an offense committed without a weapon and resulting in, at most, minor injury. Twenty percent of Hispanic victims were robbed, and 19% were victims of an aggravated assault, an offense committed with a weapon or resulting in serious injury or

both. Rapes and sexual assaults accounted for 2% of all violence against persons of Hispanic origin.

During 2000 Hispanics were victims of rape and sexual assault at rates lower than those for whites, blacks, and American Indians. The Hispanic rates of rape and sexual assault were similar to those of Asians.

Hispanics and blacks were robbed at similar rates, and those rates were the highest of the groups examined. In 2000 the robbery rate was 6 victimizations per 1,000 Hispanics.

Hispanics were victims of aggravated assault at a rate similar to those for whites and blacks. American Indians experienced aggravated assault at the highest rate, and Asians experienced aggravated assault at the lowest rate during 2000.

Hispanic homicide victims

The Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) of the FBI collects information about homicide from local and State law enforcement agencies. Many jurisdictions do not obtain information on the Hispanic origin of the victim, so that national UCR data on Hispanic homicide victims are not available.

The National Vital Statistics System (NVSS), maintained by the National Center for Health Statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, collects information on homicides of Hispanics from death certificates filed in State vital statistics offices.

Between 1993 and 1999 (the year of most recent data) the NVSS recorded an annual average of 409 Hispanics being killed — a rate of 12.6 homicides per 100,000 Hispanics. The national homicide rate was 8.9 per 100,000.

Whites, blacks, and Hispanics were victims of simple assault at similar rates during 2000. Simple assaults were experienced by American Indians at the highest rate, and by Asians at the lowest during 2000.

Victim characteristics, 1993-2000

Though all persons are vulnerable to violent crime, data demonstrate that some groups are victimized at different rates. For example, for the various demographic characteristics, Hispanics were generally victims of crime at rates higher than those of Asians but lower than those of American Indians (table 2).^{*} Rates also varied among Hispanics in different demographic categories.

Gender

As within the racial groups, Hispanic males experienced violent crime at a rate higher than that for Hispanic females. Among males, Hispanics were victims of violent crime at a rate greater than that for whites, but similar to that for blacks. Among females, Hispanics were violently victimized at a rate similar to that for whites but at a rate lower than that for blacks.

Age

For Hispanics, 1993-2000, the young were more likely than older persons to be victims of violent crime: 90 per 1,000 Hispanics age 12 to 17, 70 per 1,000 Hispanics age 18 to 24, 7 per 1,000 Hispanics age 65 or older were victims of violent crime each year.

During the period, among persons age 18 to 49, Hispanics were victims of violence at rates lower than those for whites and blacks. Among persons age 12-17 and 50 or older, Hispanics were victimized at rates similar to those for blacks.

^{*}Because of the consistent patterns of relative rates of victimization compared to Hispanics, American Indians and Asians are not discussed in this section of the report, although their rates are presented in the tables. For more information, see *Violent Victimization and Race, 1993-98*, NCJ 176354, and *American Indians and Crime*, NCJ 173386.

Table 2. Rates of violent crime, by Hispanic origin, race, gender, age, marital status, annual household income, and residence, 1993-2000

Characteristic of victim	Average annual victimization rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older				
	Non-Hispanic				
	Hispanic	White	Black	American Indian	Asian
Total	44.8	40.8	51.2	105.0	21.7
Gender					
Male	53.9	48.0	56.6	125.6	28.6
Female	36.0	34.0	46.7	86.4	15.2
Age					
12 to 17	90.1	98.0	99.9	159.1	43.6
18 to 24	70.3	89.7	91.3	153.0	36.2
25 to 34	39.5	53.0	52.9	167.2	22.7
35 to 49	28.5	34.3	39.2	62.4	16.4
50 to 64	14.2	15.9	15.6	42.1	8.5
65 or older	7.1	4.1	7.6	22.8	3.5
Marital status					
Never married	72.3	80.8	76.5	143.7	35.0
Married	22.8	20.1	22.0	56.0	11.9
Widowed	10.4	7.9	11.5	39.3	6.6
Divorced/separated	56.3	69.1	54.3	147.5	49.8
Annual household income					
Less than \$7,500	64.2	83.3	72.4	152.1	28.8
\$7,500 to \$14,999	49.6	51.2	61.7	144.1	30.5
\$15,000 to \$24,999	42.0	45.1	53.8	62.0	22.9
\$25,000 to \$34,999	40.9	44.8	46.6	95.0	23.6
\$35,000 to \$49,999	39.1	40.7	42.0	122.2	15.8
\$50,000 to \$74,999	48.3	37.7	41.8	36.1	18.2
\$75,000 or more	46.7	30.0	51.9	49.7	17.1
Location of residence					
Urban	46.6	55.0	60.8	121.3	22.7
Suburban	43.6	39.2	45.3	103.7	21.1
Rural	41.2	31.1	28.2	70.8	17.9

^{*}Based on 10 or fewer sample cases. See *Methodology*, page 7.

Marital status

From 1993 through 2000 never married, married, widowed, and divorced/separated Hispanics experienced violence at different rates. For Hispanics, as for members of the racial groups examined, persons who had never married or those who were divorced or separated were the most vulnerable to violent crime.

Among persons who had never married and those who were divorced or separated, Hispanics were victimized at a rate lower than that for whites and at a rate similar to that for blacks. Among married persons, Hispanics were victimized at a rate similar to that for blacks and at a rate higher than that for whites. No differences in rates of violence among widowed persons emerged.

Annual household income

For Hispanics, persons in households with an annual income of less than \$7,500 were more likely to be victimized than persons in households at all higher levels of income except one. Only a marginal difference between rates of violent victimization separated persons in households with an annual income of less than \$7,500 from those with an average annual income \$7,500 to \$14,999.

While at some levels of income the rates of violent victimization of Hispanics were different from those of whites and blacks, a consistent pattern of difference was not present.

Location of residence

Hispanics in urban, suburban, and rural areas were violently victimized at statistically similar rates between 1993 and 2000.

Hispanics were victimized in urban areas at a rate lower than those for blacks and whites. In suburban settings, Hispanics were victims of violent crimes at a rate higher than that for whites but lower than that for blacks. In rural areas Hispanics sustained violent victimizations at a rate higher than those for whites and blacks.

Characteristics of the crime event, 1993-2000

Victim-offender relationship

The percentages of Hispanic victims of violence who were victimized by an intimate partner (9%) or some other relative (4%) were similar to those of the non-Hispanic groups examined, 1993-2000 (table 3).

A smaller percentage of violent victimization of Hispanics than of whites was committed by friends or acquaintances. Apparent differences in the percentages of violent crimes by friends or acquaintances — between Hispanics and blacks, American Indians, or Asians — were not statistically significant. Of victims of violence, a smaller percentage of Hispanics than of whites stated they were victimized by a relative who was not a spouse.

Fifty-two percent of Hispanic victims of violence identified the offender as a stranger. A higher percentage of Asian victims (64%) and a lower percentage of white victims (46%) did the same.

Presence of weapons

Between 1993 and 2000, 34% of Hispanic victims of violence reported that the offender had a weapon during their victimization (table 4). The percentage of Hispanics who faced an armed offender was greater than the percentage of whites (23%), but similar

Table 3. Relationship of victim to violent offender, by race and Hispanic origin of the victim, 1993-2000

Victim-offender relationship	Percent of violent victimizations				
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic			
		White	Black	American Indian	Asian
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Intimate*	9	11	12	12	3
Other relative	4	5	6	6	2
Friend/acquaintance	34	38	38	38	30
Stranger	52	46	45	44	64
Average annual number	942,360	6,631,250	1,318,130	105,690	155,700

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

*Intimates include current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends.

Table 4. Presence and type of weapons, by race and Hispanic origin of the victim, 1993-2000

Presence and type of weapon	Percent of victims of violent crimes				
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic			
		White	Black	American Indian	Asian
Total	100 %	100%	100%	100%	100%
No weapon	59	69	54	66	57
Unknown if weapon was present	8	8	10	7	10
Weapon	34	23	36	26	32
Firearm	14	7	17	11	8
Knife	8	6	8	5	8
Other weapon	10	9	9	13	9
Don't know type of weapon	1	1	1	1*	1*
Average annual number	942,360	6,631,250	1,318,130	105,690	155,700

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

*Based on 10 or fewer sample cases. See *Methodology*, page 7.

Table 5. Injury from crime and treatment of that injury, by race and Hispanic origin of the victim, 1993-2000

Injury and type of treatment	Percent of victims of violent crimes				
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic			
		White	Black	American Indian	Asian
Total	100 %	100%	100%	100%	100%
Not injured	73	75	71	64	77
Injured	27	25	29	36	23
Not treated	15	15	13	16	12
Don't know if treated	0	0*	0	0	0
Treated	12	10	16	20	11
At scene/home	5	4	6	8	4
Doctor's office/clinic	1	1	2	2*	1*
Hospital but not admitted	4	4	7	8	5
Treated other locale	0*	0	0*	0*	0*
Admitted to hospital	1	0	1	1*	0*
Average annual number	942,360	6,631,250	1,318,130	105,690	155,700

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

*Based on 10 or fewer sample cases. See *Methodology*, page 7.

to the percentages among the other racial groups.

A firearm was present in 14% of the violent victimizations of Hispanics.

This percentage exceeded 7% of white victims but did not differ statistically from the percentages of black, American Indian, and Asian victims facing an offender armed with a firearm.

Injuries and treatment

Between 1993 and 2000, 73% of Hispanic victims of violence were not injured (table 5). Similar percentages of victims who were white, black, or Asian were not injured (75%, 71%, and 77%, respectively). A somewhat lower percentage of American Indian victims (64%) escaped injury.

Among the Hispanics injured during a violent crime, 15% did not seek medical treatment for their injuries. This response was similar to that of whites (15%), blacks (13%), American Indians (16%), and Asians (12%).

Alcohol and/or drug use of offender

Twenty-eight percent of Hispanic victims of violent crime perceived the offender to be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, 1993-2000 (table 6). Higher percentages of whites (32%) and American Indians (44%) reported such drug or alcohol use. Compared to Hispanic victims, a slightly lower percentage of blacks and a lower percentage of Asians stated that the offender acted under the influence of drugs or alcohol. A large percentage of victims in each racial/ethnic category state that they did not know if the offender was under the

Table 6. Victim's perception of the violent offender's use of drugs or alcohol, by race and Hispanic origin of the victim, 1993-2000

Victim's perception of drug or alcohol use by the offender	Percent of violent victimizations				
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic			
		White	Black	American Indian	Asian
Total	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %
Using alcohol or drugs	28	32	24	44	19
Not using alcohol or drugs	28	29	29	19	26
Don't know	44	39	47	37	55
Annual average number	927,410	6,553,650	1,303,740	105,410	152,920

Note: The annual average numbers differ from those in other tables because sample cases in which the respondent did not provide an answer were excluded.

influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of the incident.

Reporting to police

The percentages of violent victimizations that were reported to the police between 1993 and 2000 were similar for Hispanics and members of non-Hispanic racial groups (table 7). Forty-four percent of all violence against Hispanic individuals was reported to the police; this compares to 39% for Asian victims, 42% for whites, 45% for American Indians, and 48% for blacks.

Among Hispanics, violence against those who were male, under age 20, or never married was reported at percentages lower than violence against other Hispanic subgroups (table 8).

Violence sustained by Hispanics at different income levels was reported to the police at similar percentages.

Table 8. Percent of violence against Hispanic victims reported to police, by victim characteristics, 1993-2000

Characteristic of victim	Percent of violence against Hispanics reported to the police
Gender	
Male	39%
Female	53
Age	
12 to 17	29%
18 to 24	45
25 to 34	56
35 to 49	55
50 to 64	47
65 or older	43
Marital status	
Never married	38%
Married	55
Widowed	58
Divorced/separated	58
Annual household income	
Less than \$7,500	47%
\$7,500 to \$14,999	45
\$15,000 to \$24,999	45
\$25,000 to \$34,999	41
\$35,000 to \$49,999	40
\$50,000 to \$74,999	42
\$75,000 or more	46
Location of residence	
Urban	46%
Suburban	42
Rural	47

Table 7. Reporting of violence to the police, by race and Hispanic origin of the victim, 1993-2000

Reported violence to police	Percent of victims of violent crimes				
	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic			
		White	Black	American Indian	Asian
Total	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %
Yes	44	42	48	45	39
No	55	56	50	53	61
Don't know	1*	1*	1*	2*	0*
Average annual number	941,750	6,626,660	1,316,660	105,690	155,700

Note: The average annual numbers differ from those in other tables because sample cases in which the respondent did not provide an answer were excluded. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

*Based on 10 or fewer sample cases. See *Methodology*, page 7.

Reasons for not reporting to police

Hispanic men and women emphasized different reasons for not reporting to police the violence they had experienced (table 9). A higher percentage of males than females gave "minor crime" and "lack of proof" as reasons for not reporting to the police. A somewhat higher percentage of males cited "not important to the police." A higher percentage of female than male victims of violence did not report to the police because the victim "feared reprisal" or was "protecting the offender."

Differing racial or ethnic backgrounds were not associated with the most commonly cited reasons for not reporting violence to the police. Victims of all racial or ethnic groups were most likely to say that the violence was not reported because it was a "private or personal matter," or because it was a "minor crime."

Trends in nonfatal violence, 1993-2000

The overall rate of violence against Hispanics decreased 56% between 1993 and 2000 — from 63 to 28 victimizations per 1,000 Hispanics age 12 or older (appendix table). The estimated number of violent crimes against Hispanics decreased from the 1993 level of about 1.1 million to 690,470 in 2000.

Table 9. Reasons for not reporting violence to police, by race or Hispanic origin of victim, 1993-2000

Reason for not reporting to police	Hispanic			Non-Hispanic			
	Total	Male	Female	White	Black	American Indian	Asian
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Private or personal matter	17	16	18	21	20	24	15
Minor crime, no loss	18	20	15	17	15	16	21
Reported to other official	14	13	14	14	13	12	12
Not important to police	5	6	4	6	6	9	6
Fear of reprisal	6	5	8	4	5	5*	6
Not clear a crime occurred	3	3	2	4	3	2*	4
Lack of proof	5	5	3	3	5	2*	6
Protect offender	3	2	4	3	4	4*	2*
Too inconvenient	4	4	4	3	3	3*	6
Child offender	2	2	3	3	3	2*	1*
Other reasons [‡]	24	23	25	22	25	24	21

[‡]Other reasons include no insurance, found out too late, can't recover property, police inefficient or biased, offender was an officer, advised not to report it, and other unspecified reasons.

*Based on 10 or fewer sample cases. See *Methodology*, page 7.

For every demographic characteristic considered, the rate of violence against Hispanics declined between 1993 and 2000. Some of the largest percentage decreases in rates occurred for females (a 63% decline), those age 35-49 (66% decrease), divorced or separated persons (64% decline), those in households with annual incomes between \$15,000 and \$24,999 (71% decrease), and those in rural areas (71% decline) (see *Highlights* figure on page 1, figures 1, 2, and 3, and appendix table).

Methodology

This report presents data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) of the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The NCVS gathers data about crimes using an ongoing, nationally representative sample of households in the United States. NCVS data include information about crime victims (age, gender, race, ethnicity, income, and educational level), criminal offenders (gender, race, approximate age, and victim-offender relations), and the nature of the crime (time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, and economic consequences). These data include incidents both reported and not reported to police.

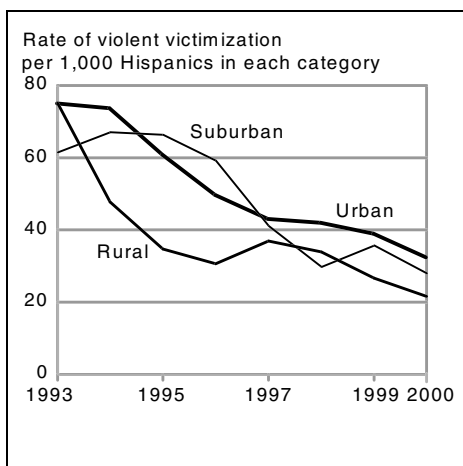


Figure 1

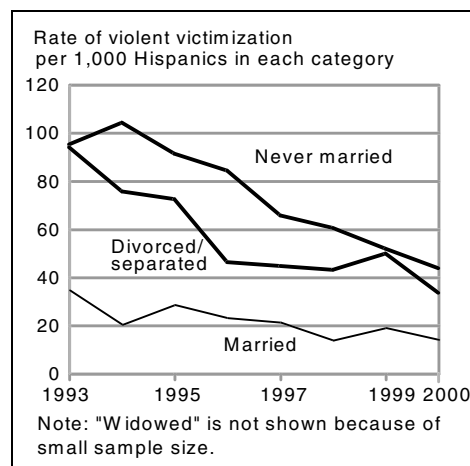


Figure 2

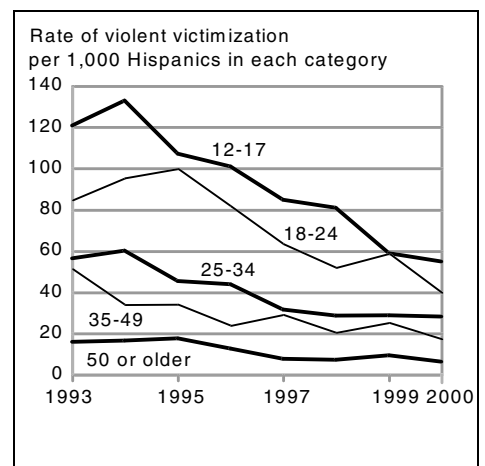


Figure 3

Between 1993 and 2000 about 731,460 individuals of all races and ethnic groups age 12 or older were interviewed. For the NCVS data presented, response rates varied between 89% and 92% of eligible individuals.

Respondents to the NCVS who identified themselves as Mexican-American, Chicano, Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American (Spanish-speaking countries) or other Spanish origin are defined as Hispanics in this report. The category "Hispanic" includes persons of any race. Comparison groups include non-Hispanic persons who were white, black, American Indian, or Asian. Thus, in this report the terms "white," "black," "American Indian," and "Asian" refer only to non-Hispanic persons.

Violent acts examined include threatened, attempted and completed rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault.

Hypothesis testing and the NCVS

Standard error computations

Comparisons of estimates discussed in this report were tested to determine if the differences were statistically significant. Differences described as higher, lower, or different passed a hypothesis test at the .05-level of statistical significance (95%-level of confidence). The tested difference was greater than about twice the standard error of that difference. For comparisons of estimates which were statistically significant at the 0.10 level (90%-confidence level), differences are described as somewhat, marginal, or slight.

Caution is required when making comparisons of estimates not explicitly discussed in this report. What may appear to be a large difference in estimates may not test as statistically significant at the 95%- or even the 90%-confidence level. Significance

Appendix table. Rates per 1,000 Hispanic victims of violent crime, by gender, age, marital status, annual household income, and residence, 1993-2000

	Rates per 1,000 Hispanics, 1993-2000							
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total	62.8	63.3	56.8	48.7	40.5	34.8	34.4	27.9
Gender								
Male	72.6	73.0	73.9	56.8	46.8	40.6	43.1	36.3
Female	53.3	53.9	39.9	40.8	34.4	29.1	25.9	19.5
Age								
12-17	120.7	132.8	107.0	100.9	84.7	80.9	58.9	54.9
18-24	84.9	95.6	100.0	82.0	63.7	52.2	59.0	40.1
25-34	56.4	60.4	45.4	43.8	31.6	28.5	28.7	28.1
35-49	51.6	34.3	34.4	24.1	29.4	20.6	25.5	17.6
50-64	19.3	22.2	13.0	18.8	12.2	11.3	10.5	10.2*
65 or older	10.3*	7.2*	24.5*	4.0*	13.2*	0.0*	7.4*	4.6*
Marital status								
Never married	95.1	104.2	91.3	84.3	65.7	60.5	51.7	43.7
Married	34.9	20.6	28.8	23.4	21.5	14.1	19.2	14.3
Widowed	3.8*	3.6*	16.4*	18.1*	8.9*	0.0*	9.4*	20.2*
Divorced/separated	93.9	75.7	72.4	46.2	44.6	43.0	49.7	33.4
Annual household income								
Less than \$7,500	98.5	94.6	65.0	53.2	50.2	43.4	40.9	43.4
\$7,500-\$14,999	66.1	66.0	57.5	58.0	36.2	40.8	31.9	38.0
\$15,000-\$24,999	71.4	48.3	54.1	44.3	40.2	36.1	28.0	20.6
\$25,000-\$34,999	38.7	57.7	57.9	47.2	43.6	29.9	35.5	24.7
\$35,000-\$49,999	40.5	56.1	63.1	43.0	43.6	22.5	38.5	20.8
\$50,000-\$74,999	77.0	66.8	62.9	71.4	45.1	28.5	29.4	33.1
\$75,000 or more	45.8*	80.2	75.0	27.7*	21.2*	46.9	58.6	35.7
Residence								
Urban	63.0	66.6	57.0	47.1	41.4	40.3	37.1	30.5
Suburban	60.4	65.2	61.2	52.4	39.2	28.6	33.2	26.2
Rural	70.0	45.0	38.8	38.3	41.6	38.0	23.3	20.9*

Note: For the population estimates used, please see the files associated with this report on the BJS website <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/hvvc00.htm>>. *Based on 10 or fewer sample cases. See *Methodology*, this page.

testing calculations were conducted at BJS using statistical programs developed specifically for the NCVS by the U.S. Census Bureau. These programs consider the complex NCVS sample design when calculating generalized variance estimates.

Estimates based on 10 or fewer sample cases have high relative standard errors. Because calculated standard errors for such estimates may not be accurate, care should be taken when comparing estimates based on 10 or fewer cases to other estimates. It is not advisable to make comparisons between estimates when both are based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

Testing trends in violent victimization

Unless stated otherwise when a statement is made describing differences in estimates between years, it was tested for significance using a computer program designed specifically for the NCVS. These tests determine whether an estimate in one year differs from that of another, regardless of intervening estimate variation.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Lawrence A. Greenfeld is acting director.

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Callie Marie Rennison, BJS Statistician, wrote this report under the supervision of Michael R. Rand. Cathy T. Maston provided the statistical review. Tom Hester produced and edited the report. Jayne Robinson prepared the report for printing.

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