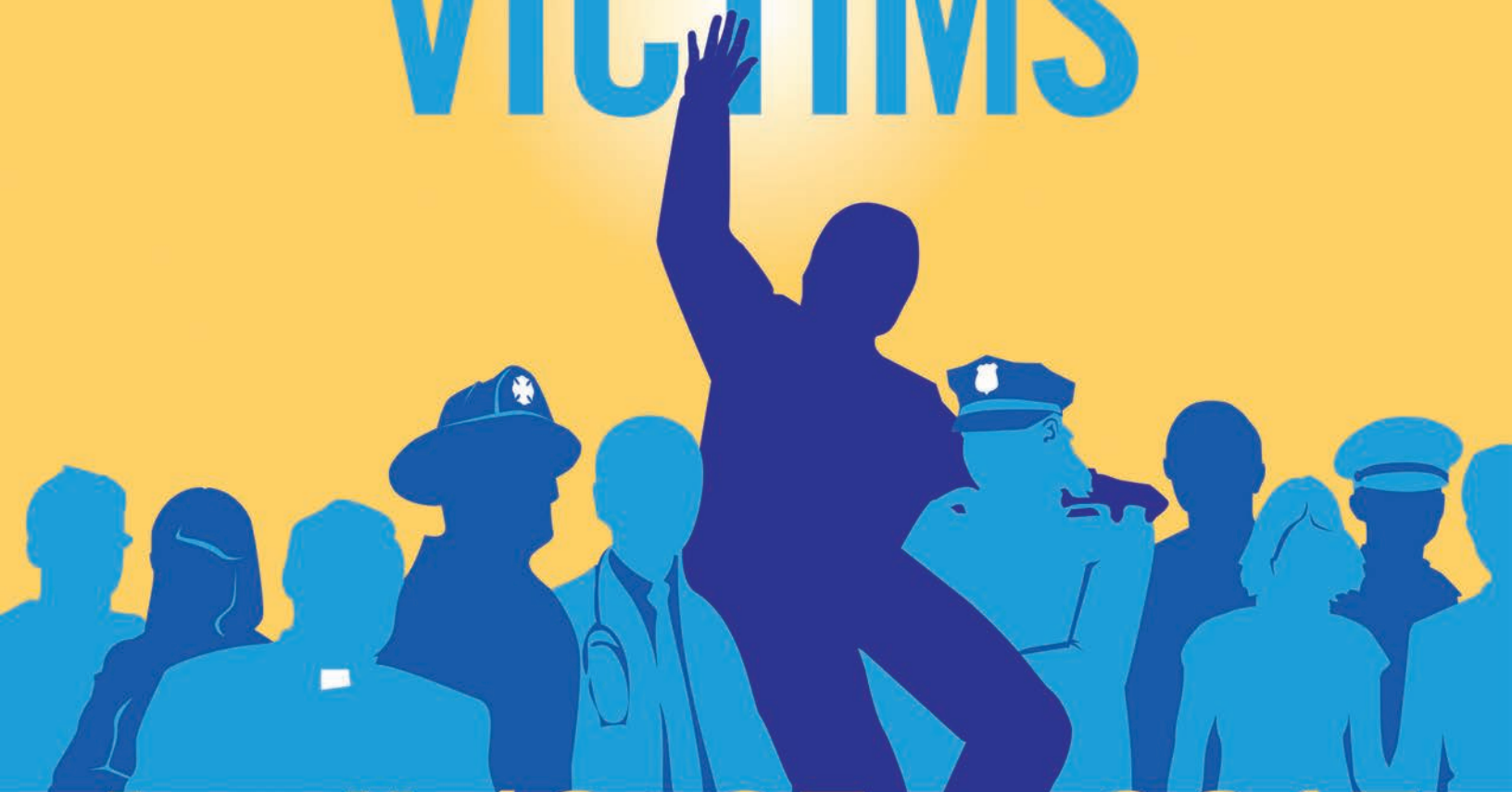


National Crime Victims' Rights Week

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING VICTIMS



April 19-25 ★ 2015



OVC

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
Victims of Crime

www.VictimsofCrime.org

Sponsored by: U.S. Department of Justice • Office of Justice Programs • Office for Victims of Crime



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime

Washington, D.C. 20531

Dear Colleague,

It gives me great pleasure to present the 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide, developed by the Office for Victims of Crime in partnership with the National Center for Victims of Crime.

This year we emphasize our vision of reaching and supporting all victims with the theme *Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims*. As you have demonstrated through your own work, engaging community leaders, organizations, and local partners is critical to meeting victims where they are and empowering them throughout the healing process and as they become survivors.

We know that in order to help victims become survivors, we must first listen and learn in an effort to better understand what they need and how we can best serve them. By working with community leaders and organizations, we can leverage existing community resources to understand the needs of underserved victims and the impact of victimization. Engaging the entire community will enable us to reach more victims and expand their options for services.

Victim empowerment is a central tenant of our work. Victims should be given the information and assistance they need to make informed decisions about their own lives as they recover from crime. An important element in promoting victim empowerment is providing an atmosphere where victims are believed and supported by their community. In such an atmosphere, victims feel safer and are more apt to share that they have been victimized and reach out for assistance. Furthermore, when we engage communities in victim response, they are better prepared to believe victims when they come forward and provide support throughout their journey to healing.

The Office for Victims of Crime looks forward to working with you as you engage your communities and empower victims. These materials are provided to support and enhance your efforts to raise awareness, build new partnerships, and reach additional victims during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 19–25, and throughout the year. We are inspired by your commitment and appreciate all that you do to elevate victims' rights.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joye E. Frost".

Joye E. Frost
Director

Office for Victims of Crime

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
Victims of Crime

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Mai Fernandez

Dear Colleague:

The National Center for Victims of Crime is once again honored to partner with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime, to present the *2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide*.

The resources we have developed are designed to support and inspire your efforts to raise awareness of the rights and interests of crime victims during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 19 – 25, 2015. This year, we recognize and celebrate new efforts to reach more victims by expanding partnerships to new communities.

The theme for 2015—*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.*—provides an opportunity to recommit ourselves to extending our reach through a victim-centered approach. By engaging community leaders and organizations in the work to support crime victims, we provide new avenues for victims and enhance our ability to serve them. When we better learn how to meet the needs of underserved victims—and help new communities understand the impact of victimization and the assistance that is available—we expand victims' options.

At the National Center for Victims of Crime, our mission is to forge a national commitment to help victims of crime rebuild their lives. We understand that this commitment involves partners in every community and that victims can best rebuild their lives when they are empowered to direct their own recovery.

We are proud of the work of victim service providers everywhere who are creatively and intentionally expanding their networks and the response available to victims. We hope that these resources will help you promote this work during 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year.

Sincerely,



Mai Fernandez

Executive Director

National Center for Victims of Crime

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2015 NCVRW Resource Guide: AT A GLANCE

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

Dates: April 19 – 25, 2015

Theme: Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.

Colors: Dark Blue and Gold

Font: Trade Gothic (condensed and regular)

This Year's Format

The Office for Victims of Crime of the U.S. Department of Justice and the National Center for Victims of Crime are pleased to present the *2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide*. With a practical and visually striking array of promotional items and outreach products, how-to's, sample communications tools, updated statistics, and more, this year's Resource Guide can help inform, brand, and promote your outreach efforts during National Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year. Please freely use and distribute these resources in your work on behalf of crime victims in your community.

As in previous years, anyone who registered for the Resource Guide will receive, free of charge, both the theme poster and Resource Guide folder (containing the theme artwork, theme DVD, and CD-ROM of the entire guide). To download any of this year's content, including many pieces in Spanish, visit www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015, where you can also order additional copies of the poster or Resource Guide for a small shipping fee.

Resource Guide Contents

- **Theme Poster**
- **Resource Guide Artwork Folder**, including a smaller theme poster, theme artwork, and public awareness posters in English and Spanish.
- **NCVRW Theme DVD**, which highlights the importance of building partnerships with community leaders and organizations to better address all victims' needs and enhance our ability to serve them.
- **Resource Guide CD-ROM**, containing all *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* content, including the theme artwork in three electronic formats (JPEG, fillable PDF, and Adobe Creative Suite files) in both color and black and white.

Resource Guide content also includes:

- Section 1. **Resource Guide Overview**
- Section 2. **Developing Your Campaign:** Partnerships & Strategies (*including updated PowerPoint slide artwork*)
- Section 3. **About the Resource Guide Artwork** (*with a tutorial on making your own QR code*)
- Section 4. **Communicating Your Message:** Media Tips & Tools (*including basics on how to create a social media campaign and a primer on working with the media*)
- Section 5. **Landmarks in Victims' Rights and Services**

- Section 6. **Statistical Overviews** (*with reader-friendly charts*)
- Section 7. **Additional Resources**

Quick Planning Tips

- Review all contents of the Resource Guide. Jot down helpful tips, ideas, or suggestions.
- Identify project partners who can help share the workload and generate more ideas (see “Extending Your Reach through Partnerships” in Section 2).
- Develop a timetable outlining the activities and assignments leading up to your event(s).
- Decide what Resource Guide artwork and information you want to use and what other materials you might need to develop.
- Develop a current list of local and state media as well as key reporters and producers.
- Identify other uses for the Resource Guide, including victim-related observances planned throughout 2015 (see “Commemorative Calendar” in Section 2). ★

Special Announcement

The Attorney General’s National Crime Victims’ Service Awards Ceremony, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice and coordinated by the Office for Victims of Crime, will be held in April 2015. For more information about this special event, including the time and location, please visit http://ovc.gov/awareness/about_ncvrw.html.



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2015 NCVRW Resource Guide: Frequently Asked Questions

This Year's Format

Q. How can I access this year's Resource Guide?

A. The hard-copy *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* is mailed in two parts:

- (1) the 22" x 28" **Theme Poster**, and
- (2) the **Resource Guide folder**, containing:
 - Introductory letters from the Office for Victims of Crime and National Center for Victims of Crime;
 - "At a Glance," a sheet briefly detailing the overall contents of the *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide*;
 - This year's NCVRW-specific artwork;
 - Four public awareness posters highlighting three issues in English and Spanish, as well as color and black and white; and
 - A dual-disc case with the contents of the entire Resource Guide on CD-ROM plus a DVD of the 5-minute Theme Video.

You can also download the entire guide, in English or Spanish, online at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015.

Q. How can I be added to the mailing list for next year's Resource Guide?

A. To be added to the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) distribution list for the NCVRW Resource Guide, please sign up at https://puborder.ncjrs.gov/Listservs/Subscribe_NCVRW.asp. In addition, you will receive:

- E-mail notification when the Resource Guide is available to download from the OVC website, and
- Details concerning the National Crime Victims' Service Award Ceremony.

To unsubscribe, please visit https://puborder.ncjrs.gov/Listservs/Unsubscribe_NCVRW.asp.

Q. How can I receive more copies of this year's Resource Guide?

A. Extra copies of the *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* are available for a small shipping fee. All materials are available for free download from the OVC website at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015. Ordering information is also available on the OVC site. Visit www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015 to access your viewing, printing, sign-up, and ordering options.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I order a Spanish-language version of the theme poster?

- A. A hard-copy of the 2015 NCVRW Theme Poster is available in English only; however, the 11" x 17" color version is available in Spanish and can be customized for your organization before printing. Visit www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015 to access this and other Spanish-language customizable campaign materials.

9300 Lee Highway

Fairfax, VA 22031-6050

Phone: 866-OVC-TTAC (866-682-8822)

Fax: 703-225-2338

E-mail: ttac@ovcttac.org

Website: www.ovcttac.gov

Training & Technical Assistance Online Requests:

<https://www.ovcttac.gov/views/HowWeCanHelp/dspHowWeHelp.cfm>

Technical Assistance Queries

Q. May I reproduce, modify, or repurpose the materials included on the 2015 NCVRW Resource Guide CD-ROM?

- A. Yes! To promote community awareness of crime victims' rights, all NCVRW theme materials developed by the Office for Victims of Crime and the National Center for Victims of Crime are in the public domain, and copyright permission is not required. You may use any Resource Guide text verbatim as well as any of the theme artwork files. Also, all Resource Guide materials may be translated into any language. The entire contents of the *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide*, including Resource Guide Artwork files, are available for download at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015.

Q. How can we arrange for a speaker at our event?

- A. The OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) can help you find expert consultants, victim service professionals, and survivors to speak at a conference; conduct a training designed to meet your organization's specific needs; conduct a needs assessment; or design, implement, and evaluate a training program. Contact OVC TTAC at:

Q. I want to use the 2015 NCVRW Theme Video at a Candlelight Ceremony, but I don't have a DVD player. Is there any other way I can play it?

- A. Yes! Many computers have built-in DVD players that can be used for playback. In addition, the NCVRW DVD can be downloaded onto your computer (right-click on the video file and choose "Save Target As" to save to your hard drive or other device). It is also available at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015 and can be played on a computer monitor or projected from a computer onto a screen or wall. The DVD contents, however, are not available in VHS or Beta format.

Q. How do I search for NCVRW events in my area or publicize an NCVRW event?

- A. Publicize your event with the OVC National Calendar of Crime Victim Assistance-Related Events at <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ovccalendar>. The OVC National Calendar offers a comprehensive list of events to help victims and victim service providers, allied professionals, and other interested individuals plan, promote, and locate events of interest to the victim service community in their area. Your submission will be reviewed and, if approved, posted on the web for public view. There is no charge for posting events.

Q. Where can I find additional information, services and resources related to crime, victim assistance, and public safety?

- A. The National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) is a federally funded resource offering justice and drug-related information to support research, policy, and program development worldwide with a range of services and resources, balancing the information needs of the field with the technological means to receive and access support. Visit <https://www.ncjrs.gov/index.html> to find the following:
- Extensive reference and referral services to help you find answers to your questions about crime and justice-related research, policy, and practice.
 - An information network—stay informed about new publications, grants and funding opportunities, and other news and announcements.
 - RSS feeds.
 - Access to publications and other products through one of the largest criminal and juvenile justice libraries and databases in the world.
 - Conference information—learn about upcoming conferences by searching based on focus areas, geographical location, or dates. Increase exposure and participation at your upcoming conferences by adding your event to the calendar.

Additionally, NCJRS encourages contributions of publications, training curricula, videotapes, and other information resources from your organization.

Using the Artwork

Q. May we add our contact information and logo to the artwork you provided? May we use the artwork from the CD-ROM to create a custom outreach piece or invitation?

- A. Yes! Much of the Resource Guide theme artwork is designed with space to add your organization's contact information or logo, as are all the public awareness posters. PDFs with fillable form fields are also provided so you can easily incorporate your local information, giving victims a place to turn in their own community. (Download the free Adobe Reader at www.adobe.com.) Additionally, all of the artwork in the Resource Guide is available electronically, both on the CD-ROM and online at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015, and can be used to develop custom pieces (with the exception of the outlined fonts and photographs used in the Adobe Creative Suite files, which remain proprietary). Printing companies that use quality presses, inks, and paper will produce the highest-quality products and can often be found through referrals or a quick Internet search. Many local quick-copy vendors and office-supply stores (e.g., FedEx, Staples, Kwik Kopy) can also meet your printing needs and usually will be more cost-effective for smaller quantities. Your local printer or office-supply store staff can also help you format your piece, insert your contact information, or create a custom outreach product.

Q. I need help customizing this year's campaign materials. Where can I get assistance?

- A. If you would like help customizing this year's theme artwork—including button, bookmark, and ribbon card art—we recommend that you contact a local printing company, which can often be found through referrals or a quick Internet search. Choose a company that uses quality presses, inks, and paper, which will produce

the highest-quality products. See above question for recommendations. Unfortunately, alternative versions of the Resource Guide theme artwork and the theme DVD are not available. If you encounter situations where you require versions of these products not included with the Resource Guide, we encourage you to submit your comments through the evaluation survey found at www.victimsofcrime.org/ncvrw/survey. Your input is essential as we develop next year's guide.

Q. Where can I find the NCVRW theme design for use in my organization's own campaign materials?

A. The NCVRW theme design is available electronically and can be found in the "Theme Artwork" folder of the *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* on the CD-ROM and online at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015. All Theme Artwork images (including logos, bookmarks, and letterhead) are available as JPG and PDF files, which may be inserted into your campaign materials. Should you wish to create your own design using specific elements of the 2015 NCVRW theme design, the Adobe Creative Suite source files for these designs are included as well. To access the native theme design elements, please locate the Adobe Illustrator CS6 files in the "Theme Artwork" > "Layout" folders on the CD-ROM.

Q. Is there a way to reprint the 8.5" x 11" public awareness posters and NCVRW-specific artwork in a larger size?

A. The artwork and posters are designed to print at specific dimensions and scaling them up or altering the width-to-height ratio may distort them. If you are thinking about producing a larger piece, contact your local printer or office-supply staff for printing assistance.

Q. Is the theme artwork available in color?

A. Yes! This year's theme artwork—including button, bookmark, and ribbon card art—is again available in color in the mailed Resource Guide Artwork folder, as well as electronically on the CD-ROM (in Illustrator, as PDFs, or as JPEG images). We strongly suggest that you use the original files found online or on the CD-ROM to reproduce materials. Artwork is available at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015. ★



ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING VICTIMS



Section 1. RESOURCE GUIDE OVERVIEW

Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.

The National Center for Victims of Crime and the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, are proud to present the *2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide*.

Since 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) has challenged the nation to confront and remove barriers to full justice for all victims of crime. Each year, communities across the country revisit the history of the victims' rights movement and recommit themselves to advancing the progress already achieved. The *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* includes a wide array of user-friendly outreach tools and sample products, current statistics on victimization, information on the history of victims' rights in the United States, and concrete, practical ideas for engaging your community and empowering victims. Explore and adapt these resources as you plan your public awareness campaign for **National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 19-25, 2015**.

2015 NCVRW Theme and Theme Colors

The 2015 NCVRW theme—*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims*.—emphasizes the role of the entire community, individually and collectively, as we support victims of crime and empower them to direct their own recovery. The 2015 theme colors—deep blue and gold—

are used throughout the Resource Guide. (See "[Match the Colors](#)" box for more details.)

NCVRW Kickoff Event

The Attorney General's National Crime Victims' Service Awards Ceremony, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice and coordinated by the Office for Victims of Crime, will be held in April 2015. For more information about this special event, including the time and location, please visit http://ovc.gov/awareness/about_ncvrw.html.

MATCH THE COLORS

This year's NCVRW theme design is strong and vibrant, an energetic, uplifting call to help ensure all victims of crime know about their rights and have access to appropriate services. For your convenience, we have also included comparable PMS colors, RGB values, and hex codes:

DARK BLUE: C=100, M=100, Y=0, K=0

Comparable Colors:

PMS 2675

R=38, G=34, B=98

HTML #2e3192

GOLD: C=0, M=18, Y=70, K=0

Comparable Colors:

PMS 122

R=247, G=148, B=29

HTML #ffd167

For more information about these color spaces, see "A Printing Primer" in Section 3, "About the Resource Guide Artwork."

En Español!

Many of this year's Resource Guide elements are available online in Spanish. Visit www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015 to access this material.

NCVRW Planning Tips

The following tips will help you enhance your 2015 NCVRW planning and maximize the impact of your efforts:

- Review each section of the Resource Guide before making any plans. Once you have established your outreach goals, select the materials that are most helpful to achieve them.
- Organize an NCVRW planning committee to set goals and priorities, brainstorm activities, and share the workload. Diverse collaborations will help ensure more victims hear your message in a way that resonates with them. Your committee might include leaders of civic organizations, universities, parent-teacher associations, or student organizations; members of criminal and juvenile justice agencies, faith communities, the service industry, or the news media; business or health professionals; and, of course, crime victims, survivors, and victim service providers.
- Create or update mailing lists for event invitations and other materials.
- Draft a timetable that includes committee meetings, tasks, deadlines, and areas of responsibility.
- Develop a list of local media outlets and the appropriate contacts to notify about special events and activities.
- Coordinate planning for 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week with other awareness and prevention campaigns held during April, including National Child Abuse Prevention Month, National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, National Youth Violence Prevention Week, and Global Youth Service Days.

- Think creatively about meaningful ways to engage your community to support all victims affected by crime during this year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year.

2015 NCVRW Resource Guide Contents

Introductory Materials

- Letter from Joye E. Frost, Director of the Office for Victims of Crime
- Letter from Mai Fernandez, Executive Director of the National Center for Victims of Crime
- Resource Guide at a Glance
- Frequently Asked Questions

NCVRW Resource Guide Artwork

- 2015 NCVRW Theme Color Palette
- 2015 NCVRW 11" x 17" Theme Poster*
- Billboard Art
- Bookmarks*
- Buttons, Logos, and Magnets*
- Certificate of Appreciation*
- Facebook Cover and Profile Art
- Letterhead*
- Name Tags and Table Card*
- Information and Referrals Contact List*
- Ribbon Cards*
- Web and E-mail Banners
- Public Awareness Posters in English and Spanish*

* Physical copies are included in the 2015 NCVRW Resource Guide folder, which is available to order for a small shipping fee at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015.

Section 1. Resource Guide Overview

Section 2. Developing Your Campaign: Partnerships & Strategies

- Commemorative Calendar
- Notable Quotables
- Sample Proclamation
- Presentation Tips (*including 2015 NCVRW PowerPoint slide artwork*)
- Extend Your Reach through Partnerships
- Ideas for Special Events
- Sidebar: Theme DVD in Action

Section 3. About the Resource Guide Artwork

- About the Resource Guide Artwork
- How to Create Your Own QR Code
- Sidebar: A Printing Primer

Section 4. Communicating Your Message: Media Tips and Tools

- Sample News Release
- Sample Public Service Announcement (PSA) Scripts
- Sample Letter to the Editor
- Sample Opinion-Editorial
- How to Create a Social Media Campaign
- Sample Social Media Status Updates
- Advocating for Victims with the Media

Section 5. Landmarks in Victims' Rights and Services

Crime Victims' Rights in America: A Historical Overview

Section 6. Statistical Overviews

Statistical Overviews (brief summaries of current crime statistics)—*with graphical representations*

- Crime and Victimization in the United States
- Crime Trends
- Assault
- Burglary, Robbery, and Theft
- Child, Youth, and Teen Victimization
- Crimes against Persons with Disabilities
- DNA—*new!*
- Driving Under the Influence (DUI)—*new!*
- Economic and Financial Crime
- Elder Victimization
- Hate and Bias Crime
- Homicide
- Human Trafficking
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Mass Casualty Shootings
- School and Campus Crime
- Sexual Violence
- Stalking
- Urban and Rural Crime
- Workplace Violence

Section 7. Additional Resources

- Online Resources
- NCVRW Resource Guide Partners
- OVC Online Gallery

Resource Guide CD-ROM

In addition to the entire collection of *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* artwork, the 2015 NCVRW CD-ROM also features PDFs of all Resource Guide contents. Access the entire guide electronically by inserting the CD-ROM into any equipped computer.

The CD includes NCVRW-related artwork, public awareness posters, and PDFs with fillable form fields. Anyone with a computer and a free copy of Adobe Reader (downloadable at www.adobe.com) may add local contact information to many of the art files. The PDFs (as well as JPEG images) are available in both black and white and color. See Section 3, “Resource Guide Artwork,” for more information about this feature.

The artwork is provided in three formats:

- Adobe InDesign layout pages, including the Illustrator images required to correctly open and print the artwork. To view these files, users must have Adobe InDesign CS6 or higher.
- JPEG files available in both black and white and color. These individual images may be placed in graphics programs, in various word processing programs, and on websites.
- PDF files in black and white and color that can be opened with Adobe Reader, available for free download at www.adobe.com.

These three formats help simplify replication of Resource Guide materials and make it easier to incorporate this year’s artwork into any digital or hard-copy piece, including event fliers, slideshow presentations, television broadcasts, public service announcements, and print advertisements among others. For more information on the artwork in this year’s Resource Guide, please refer to Section 3, “Resource Guide Artwork,” on the CD-ROM. To access the entire *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* electronically visit www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015.

Resource Guide DVD

The brief Theme Video, playable from the Theme DVD enclosed with the Resource Guide CD-ROM or from the NCVRW website at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015, is a powerful public awareness tool that highlights the importance of building partnerships with community leaders and organizations to better address all victims’ needs and enhance our ability to serve them. Meeting victims where they are, and wherever they disclose their victimization, helps establish an atmosphere where victims are believed and one in which they are more likely to seek assistance. Consider using the theme video to open ceremonies and luncheons, kick off your public awareness and education events, or motivate local media to cover NCVRW events and topics. Check out the “Theme DVD in Action” sidebar in Section 2, “Developing Your Campaign: Partnerships & Strategies,” for ideas on how to use the Theme Video.

2015 NCVRW Theme Poster

This year’s full-size (22” x 28”) poster depicts a diverse community elevating one of its members in a demonstration of support and unity. The theme—*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.*—stands as a prominent call for communities to work together to meet victims wherever they are, to tell them about their rights and options, and support them in their recovery.

If you signed up for the NCVRW mailing list, you will automatically receive a physical copy of the 2015 NCVRW Theme Poster and the *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide*, containing the 2015 NCVRW Theme DVD and CD-ROM. Also, by signing up at https://puborder.ncjrs.gov/Listservs/Subscribe_NCVRW.asp, you will receive an e-mail notification when the Resource Guide is available to download from the OVC website, as well as details concerning the National Crime Victims’ Service Awards. Download both this year’s and previous years’ Resource Guides, including the Resource Guide artwork and videos, at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw. ★

Acknowledgments

The National Center for Victims of Crime greatly appreciates the opportunity to partner with the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, on the *2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide*, and especially wishes to acknowledge the many contributions and efforts of Kimberly Kelberg, who served as program manager.

This project would not have been possible without the support of Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs, Karol V. Mason; Director of the Office for Victims of Crime, Joye E. Frost; and staff from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, including Maria Acker, Adrian Wilairat, Emily Bauernfeind, and Sheila Mackall.

National Center for Victims of Crime

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Special thanks to Meghan Rogers, Associate Instructor, Department of Criminal Justice and Department of Statistics at Indiana University, and Dr. Lynn Addington, Associate Professor at American University, for their expert contributions to this year's Statistical Overviews.

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ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

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Section 2. DEVELOPING YOUR CAMPAIGN: Partnerships & Strategies

National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) is an annual observance to bring communities together and educate the public about victims' rights, protections, and services. This year's theme—Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.—calls on local communities to prioritize victims' rights and to make services accessible to all victims. Culturally sensitive and appropriate resources and outreach will empower and embrace victims outside the traditional network to help support them as they move forward and participate in their community.

This section, “Developing Your Campaign: Partnerships and Strategies,” is designed to assist in sharing this message of hope and encouragement with victims. The resources provided will help as you plan your community networking and outreach for National Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year. Ideas for special events, presentation tips, sample quotations, or proclamations—are all materials to help you draw on the skills and passion of your local community to take a stand for crime victims.

Commemorative Calendar

Throughout the year, communities gather together to hold events that honor and support victims. These events are an important step toward raising awareness of victims' rights. For example, National Stalking Awareness Month, the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims, and National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month offer unique opportunities to focus on specific issues that affect crime victims. Begin planning your NCVRW events

by researching crime-related observances that take place throughout the nation every year. The Commemorative Calendar lists many of these observances, the dates they will be held, and the contact information for primary sponsors. Use this calendar to plan your events and identify partners for your outreach campaigns.

OVC Events Calendar

The Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, publishes a National Calendar of Victim Assistance-Related Events (<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ovccalendar>). This continually updated calendar offers extensive listings of national, state, and local victim-related events. Browse the calendar to see what communities across the country are doing, and list your own NCVRW meetings, ceremonies, and forums, as well as other victim-related events throughout the year.

Notable Quotables

A key NCVRW goal is to inspire and motivate your community to support victims' rights. Your speeches, announcements, and presentations may benefit from including a few powerful quotations to underscore this message of collective support. The quotations compiled here build on the 2015 NCVRW theme—*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.*—and recognize the importance of communities coming together to support and advocate on behalf of victims.

Sample Proclamation

National Crime Victims' Rights Week ceremonies often include proclamations from public officials—governors, mayors, or county council presidents—to inspire the community, raise awareness of victims' rights, and address unmet needs. Officials often hold public signings of these proclamations and invite sponsoring agencies and the local media to attend. Increase the likelihood that they will issue a proclamation by providing them with the sample that is included in this section; they will appreciate having an example to guide their own proclamations and public statements. Be sure to contact your officials well in advance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week to invite them to speak at your ceremony or to issue a NCVRW proclamation.

Presentation Tips

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is the perfect opportunity to educate your community about victims' issues. You may be invited to speak at assemblies, conferences, or other events to explore the year's theme and promote victims' rights. Getting started on a presentation can be daunting; however, if you break it down into smaller steps, it's easier to tackle the task and prepare a presentation that will inspire and motivate your NCVRW audiences. The presentation tips included in this section will help you clarify your goals, cater to your audience, and choose the best approach for your comments. The section also includes a sample PowerPoint template featuring the 2015 NCVRW theme and design to customize and tailor to your needs. Appeal to your audience by choosing issues that directly affect their local community or by focusing on special services that are available to crime victims in your area. Talk with your colleagues and research local media outlets for local crime trends. You may want to refer to the local crime statistics available on the Bureau of Justice Statistics website, <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=3>, to research data on specific crime topics. By using localized information and statistics, you will show

your audience why crime victims' rights should matter to them.

Extend Your Reach through Partnerships

Partnerships with other organizations and allied professionals can dramatically boost the impact of your campaign. Ask businesses, civic organizations, faith communities, professional associations, and other partners to lend their skills, resources, and staff time to your NCVRW campaign. Once your organization decides to participate in the week's events, identify potential partners, contact them right away, and explore ways to partner for National Crime Victims' Rights Week. By joining forces, you will create a memorable campaign in your community and lay the foundation for future partnerships.

Ideas for Special Events

Communities across the nation adopt unique strategies to observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week. In anticipation of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, your organization has the opportunity to reach out to other local groups and coordinate events that honor crime victims and raise awareness of victim issues within the community. Opening ceremonies, candlelight vigils, school poster competitions, art exhibits, and walk/run events are only a few examples of the many commemorative or educational activities you could organize. Every year, the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators, through a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime, competitively selects agencies, nonprofit programs, community-based victim service organizations, faith-based organizations, and community coalitions to receive Community Awareness Project grants to conduct NCVRW events. This section includes some of the event ideas from the 2014 Community Awareness Project grantees. ★

Build on your NCVRW outreach throughout the year by highlighting relevant awareness days in your community. Posters on a variety of crime issues are available for free download from the gallery of the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, at <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/gallery>. These events and materials help crime victims feel supported and respected by their community year round. Whether for one day or an entire month, these public recognitions are powerful tools to engage communities and empower victims.

The NCVRW Commemorative Calendar below lists occasions and organizations you may want to promote throughout the year. For additional events, periodically visit OVC's National Calendar of Victim Assistance-Related Events at <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ovccalendar>. You may also add your own events to OVC's national calendar.

January

National Mentoring Month

MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership
617-303-4600

www.nationalmentoringmonth.org

National Stalking Awareness Month

Stalking Resource Center
National Center for Victims of Crime
202-467-8700

www.stalkingawarenessmonth.org/about

February

National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

Break the Cycle
310-286-3383 (Los Angeles)
202-824-0707 (Washington, DC)

www.teendvmonth.org

March

National Youth Violence Prevention Week

National Association of Students Against Violence
Everywhere

March 23 – March 27, 2015

866-343-SAVE

www.nationalsave.org/what-we-do/save-events/national-youth-violence-prevention-week

April

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
800-394-3366

www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth

National Sexual Assault Awareness Month

National Sexual Violence Resource Center
877-739-3895

www.nsvrc.org/saam/sexual-assault-awareness-month-home

Global Youth Service Days

Youth Service America
April 17 – April 19, 2015
202-296-2992

www.gysd.org

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

Office for Victims of Crime
U.S. Department of Justice
April 19 – April 25, 2015
800-851-3420
www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015

May

Older Americans Month

Administration for Community Living
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
202-619-0724
www.acl.gov

National Law Day

American Bar Association
May 1, 2015
312-988-5720
www.lawday.org

National Correctional Officers' and Employees' Week

American Correctional Association
May 3 – May 9, 2015
800-222-5646
www.aca.org

National Police Week

Concerns of Police Survivors
May 11 – May 15, 2015
573-346-4911
www.policeweek.org
www.nationalcops.org

National Peace Officers' Memorial Day

Concerns of Police Survivors
May 15, 2015
573-346-4911
www.policeweek.org
www.nationalcops.org

National Missing Children's Day

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
May 25, 2015
800-THE-LOST (800-843-5678)
www.missingkids.com/May25

July

Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week

American Probation and Parole Association
July 12 – July 18, 2015
859-244-8203
www.appa-net.org

August

National Night Out

National Association of Town Watch
August 4, 2015
800-NITE-OUT (800-648-3688)
www.natw.org

September

National Campus Safety Awareness Month

Clery Center for Security on Campus
484-580-8754
www.clerycenter.org/national-campus-safety-awareness-month

National Suicide Prevention Week

American Association of Suicidology
September 7 – September 13, 2015
202-237-2280
www.suicidology.org

World Suicide Prevention Day

International Association of Suicide Prevention
September 10, 2015
www.iasp.info

National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims

National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children
September 25, 2015
513-721-5683
www.pomc.org

October

National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month

PACER Center
888-248-0822
952-838-9000
www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm

National Crime Prevention Month

National Crime Prevention Council
202-466-6272
www.ncpc.org/programs/crime-prevention-month

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
303-839-1852
www.ncadv.org/takeaction/DomesticViolenceAwarenessMonth.php

America's Safe Schools Week

National School Safety Center
October 18 – October 24, 2015
805-373-9977
www.schoolsafety.us

November

Tie One on for Safety

Mothers Against Drunk Driving
November 26, 2015 – January 1, 2016
877-ASK-MADD
www.madd.org

December

National Impaired Driving Prevention Month

Mothers Against Drunk Driving
877-ASK-MADD
www.madd.org ★



Notable Quotables

The 2015 theme—*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.*—reminds communities that, by coming together to support victims, we help to make our community a safer and more supportive place. Through community action and service, we all become stronger. As the late poet and activist Maya Angelou said, **“I have found that, among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver.”** The following quotations about the importance of community will help inspire your NCVRW audiences to promote crime victims’ rights and services.

“The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life.”

—**JANE ADDAMS** (1860 – 1935)

“No man is an island, entire of itself. . . any man’s death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls for thee.”

—**JOHN DONNE** (1572 – 1631)

“This is the duty of our generation as we enter the twenty-first century—solidarity with the weak, the persecuted, the lonely, the sick, and those in despair. It is expressed by the desire to give a noble and humanizing meaning to a community in which all members will define themselves not by their own identity but by that of others.”

—**ELIE WIESEL** (1928 –)

“The world is so empty if one thinks only of mountains, rivers and cities; but to know someone who thinks and feels with us, and who, though distant, is close to us in spirit, this makes the earth for us an inhabited garden.”

—**JOHANN WOLFGANG VON GOETHE** (1749 – 1832)

“We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community.”

—**DOROTHY DAY** (1897 – 1980)

“We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibers connect us with our fellow men.”

—**HERMAN MELVILLE** (1819 – 1891)

“This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in.”

—**THEODORE ROOSEVELT** (1858 – 1909)

“I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.”

—**GEORGE BERNARD SHAW** (1856 – 1950)

“I am a part of all that I have met.”

—**LORD TENNYSON** (1809 – 1892)

“The universal brotherhood of man is our most precious possession.”

—**MARK TWAIN** (1835 – 1910)

“We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.”

—**FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT** (1882 – 1945)

“A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm.”

—**HENRIK IBSEN** (1828 – 1906)

“For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people’s love and concern for each other.”

—**MILLARD FULLER** (1935 – 2009)

“True belonging is born of relationships not only to one another but to a place of shared responsibilities and benefits. We love not so much what we have acquired as what we have made and whom we have made it with.”

— **ROBERT FINCH** (1925 – 1995)

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

— **WINSTON CHURCHILL** (1874 – 1965)

“Individuality doesn’t just mean individualism—standing alone. It means developing one’s unique gifts, and being able to share them for the enjoyment of oneself and others.”

— **FRANCES MOORE LAPPE** (1944 –)

“Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.”

— **ALBERT EINSTEIN** (1897 – 1955)

“I don’t know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.”

— **ALBERT SCHWEITZER** (1875 – 1965)

“He who wishes to secure the good of others has already secured his own.”

— **CONFUCIUS** (551 – 479 BC)

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”

— **MAHATMA GANDHI** (1869 – 1948)

“Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve.”

— **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.** (1929 – 1968)

“Responsibility does not only lie with the leaders of our countries or with those who have been appointed or elected to do a particular job. It lies with each of us individually. Peace, for example, starts within each one of us. When we have inner peace, we can be at peace with those around us. When our community is in a state of peace, it can share that peace with neighboring communities, and so on.”

— **DALAI LAMA** (1950 –)

“Everything can be taken from man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms—to choose one’s attitude in any given set of circumstances, the ability to choose one’s own way.”

— **VIKTOR E. FRANKL** (1905 – 1997)

“You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it.”

— **MAYA ANGELOU** (1928 – 2014) ★



National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 19-25, 2015

- Whereas, Americans are the victims of more than 26 million crimes each year,¹ and crime can touch the lives of anyone regardless of age, national origin, race, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, immigration, or economic status;
- Whereas, Many victims face challenges in finding appropriate services, including victims with disabilities, young victims of color, Deaf and hard of hearing victims, LGBTQ victims, tribal victims, elder victims, victims with mental illness, immigrant victims, teen victims, victims with limited English proficiency, and others;
- Whereas, The entire community has a role to play;
- Whereas, Involving survivors helps victim service providers and criminal justice professionals understand the culture, values, and expectations of under- and unserved victims who seek assistance and justice;
- Whereas, Engaging victims' communities and learning from leaders about their unique needs helps service providers foster a supportive and culturally relevant atmosphere in which victims seek help and healing;
- Whereas, Incorporating communities' existing experts and trusted sources of support into efforts to fully serve survivors will develop a criminal justice system response that is truly accessible and appropriate for all victims of crime;
- Whereas, Victims know best how to direct and manage their own lives, and true recovery from crime will incorporate a victim's cultural, religious, economic, social, and personal interests;
- Whereas, With the full weight of their community and victim service providers behind them, survivors will feel empowered to face their grief, loss, fear, anger, and shame, without fear of judgment and will feel understood and worthy of support;
- Whereas, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 19-25, 2015, is an opportune time to commit to ensuring that all victims of crime—even those who are challenging to reach or serve—are offered culturally and linguistically accessible and appropriate services in the aftermath of crime; and
- Whereas, (*Your organization*) is hereby dedicated to building partnerships with trusted sources of support, including community leaders, religious groups, schools, and other agencies to better reach and serve all victims of crime, no matter their community;

Now, therefore, I, _____, as (*Governor/County Executive/Mayor, Other Title*) of _____, do hereby proclaim the week of April 19-25, 2015, as

Crime Victims' Rights Week

And reaffirm this (*City/County/Parish/State/Tribe's*) commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime during Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year; and to

Express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace.

_____ (signature)

_____ (date)

¹ Lynn Langton, Michael Planty, and Jennifer L. Truman, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), 1, accessed October 1, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=4781>.

Presentations are unique opportunities to educate your community about victims' rights and services during National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Civic groups, schools, or businesses may ask you to speak to their members or other audiences about challenges faced by victims and what individuals in the community can do to help. Check newspaper headlines and talk to your colleagues and community members about pressing issues in your area. What are the most common crimes? What do victims need? What does your community provide for victims, and do any of these services rely on the Crime Victims Fund? How do local services fall short? What can your community do to improve its response to victims? Focus on crimes that affect your audience, and make your presentation interactive to involve them in ways the community can help support victims.

Planning Your Presentation

Audience

The success of your presentation depends on your ability to engage your audience. When you are invited to speak, find out:

- Who is your audience?
- Why have you been invited to speak?
- What do they want to know about crime and victimization? Which issues concern them most?
- How can you help them be more responsive and better serve victims in their community?

For a student audience, become familiar with what's happening in the school community—dating violence, bullying, or gun violence? Ask the students what community means to them. For civic groups, think about the crimes that take place out of the public eye. Is domestic violence a major problem? How does this violence affect families and the community? How can community groups join forces to address these issues? If you start by asking such questions, your presentation will engage the audience in areas of concern and may even facilitate dialogue about possible solutions.

Message

Determine the overall message of your presentation based on your audience and the topics you've been asked to

address. What do you want your audience to take away from the presentation? Perhaps your message targets everyone's responsibility to report child sexual abuse—or the need to spot and help prevent financial crime. The message could suggest that the audience can help prevent violence against children and also help child victims grow into non-violent adults. Decide on your theme before you begin outlining, writing, or preparing your PowerPoint slides. Think about how your theme relates to National Crime Victims' Rights Week and the invitation to speak. Choose a presentation title that captures your main idea, and refer to your theme in the beginning, body, and conclusion of your talk. As in a speech, begin by telling your audience what you are going to say, remind them of your theme as you develop your sub-themes, and then recap your main idea as you conclude.

Presentation Roadmap

Next, plan how you will organize the overall structure of the presentation. How will you start and end your remarks? Limit yourself to three ideas that support your key message, and weave these ideas into a narrative that matters to your audience.

1. Opening:

Grab your audience's attention right away. Tell a quick, compelling story about a crime in your community, cite a surprising statistic, or ask your audience to guess the facts about a specific crime (e.g., Fact or Fiction? Two-thirds of children in the United States are exposed to violence,

Presentation Tips

crime, or abuse dramatically affecting their wellbeing and future potential). Then relate your story or statistics back to your main message (e.g., breaking the cycle of fear and violence among young people will create secure youth and safe, thriving communities).

2. Structure:

Build your presentation around three supporting ideas, placed in a logical pattern that leads to a clear conclusion. Typical idea development structures include:²

- **Chronological:** Past, present, future
- **Sequential:** Step-by-step process (e.g., for project rollout)
- **Climactic:** Least to most important
- **Problem–Solution:** Problem, solution, benefits
- **Compare–Contrast:** Similarities and differences of specific factors
- **Cause and Effect:** Causes and results of specific situations
- **Advantage–Disadvantage:** Information arranged into “good” or “bad” categories to help audience see both sides of an issue.

Once you have selected your organizational structure, jot down supporting ideas and evidence, illustrations, or stories to support your main message. If your goal is to persuade your audience that they can help solve a problem (e.g., children exposed to violence), you might organize your presentation as follows:

a. Problem: More than two-thirds of children living in the United States are exposed to violence in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods every year. Many are victims of violence, but many more witness violent crimes or share in the trauma when family member or friends experience violence and abuse. These children are more likely to suffer

from depression and anxiety, abuse drugs and alcohol, or have difficulty in school. They may even go on to commit crimes themselves, continuing the cycle of violence.

b. Solution: Listen to young people and actively engage in their lives. Be aware of the warning signs of a child affected by crime, including changes in sleeping and eating habits, withdrawing from friends and adults, school absenteeism, or unexplained fearfulness. Help children understand that the violence they have witnessed or experienced is not their fault, and that safe environments such as school, after-school groups, community organizations, and many others can provide support when they are in need and activities to keep them active and engaged.

c. Benefits: By forging a new commitment to protect children and reduce their exposure to violence of all kinds, we will not only create safer communities but will also increase the likelihood that all children will realize their potential and contribute to the future wellbeing of themselves, their families, and their community.

3. Conclusion:

End your presentation by restating your theme and solution. For example, you might say the problem of youth victimization affects all of us. Every single one of us must participate in the cause to effectively address youth violence in our communities. Consider concluding with a call to action, such as “take action to protect, defend, and support all of our children from violence and abuse.”

Using PowerPoint

For many speakers, PowerPoint or other slide-based presentations have become the norm. Presenters use this tool as a “roadmap” for their audience and as a way to remind themselves of their main points. Well-planned slides add color and variety to your presentation and appeal to visual learners. PowerPoint is also a great planning tool because you can experiment with different images and

² Nancy Duarte, *Resonate: Present Visual Stories That Transform Audiences*, (Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2010), 129.

arrangements for your talk. As you plan, focus on keywords and avoid crowding your slides with long phrases or paragraphs that will overwhelm your audience.

Experts suggest the following guidelines for preparing effective slides:³

- **Design:** Choose a simple, uncluttered design and solid colors.
- **Bullets:** Limit yourself to 6 bullets per slide, 6 to 8 words per bullet (3 or 4 is better).
- **Font:** Use sans serif fonts (e.g., Arial, Verdana) for readability.
- **Uppercase:** Avoid all-uppercase letters (except for titles).
- **Italics:** Use italics sparingly (harder to read).
- **Point Size:** Use at least 24-point type.
- **Contrast:** Use dark text on light backgrounds.
- **Consistency:** Use the same background design on every slide; use similar text styling (headings, body text, bullets) across all slides; use one color grouping on charts.
- **Graphics, Charts, and Photos:** Use simple graphics and photos that are visible to the audience.
- **Animation:** Limit use of animation and sound effects.
- **Video:** Use video sparingly, to support theme; embed your videos into PowerPoint rather than stream them from the Internet.
- **Notes:** Use the “notes” section of the slides to expand your list of ideas (avoid putting too much on one slide).
- **Parallel Structure:** Begin each bullet point with the same structural pattern (e.g., list of nouns, phrase beginning with active verb).
- **Spelling and Grammar:** Use spell check and proofread your slides several times.
- **Preview:** Preview every slide before the presentation.

Practice your presentation until you feel comfortable. Never read your slides but use them as a guide. As you rehearse, track how long it takes you to go through all the slides, and adjust your presentation to meet the time requirements for the talk.

Communicating Effectively

Public speaking makes everyone somewhat nervous. You can overcome your anxieties by preparing carefully and concentrating on the audience when you speak. Your presentation is about them—not you. Your goal is to tell a story about a problem and let your audience know how they can help solve it. Share your enthusiasm about your theme, perhaps by interweaving an uplifting story about how an individual helped a child exposed to violence and abuse receive the necessary support to heal.

Speak in a positive, enthusiastic, warm tone. Smile, make eye contact, and focus on the audience. Try to vary your tone and facial expressions. Avoid mannerisms and physical gestures, and concentrate on the message. The more you practice, the less likely you will be to fall back on “fillers” such as “um” and “like” between your sentences. Be prepared for interruptions because if you are doing well, your audience will ask many questions. If you prefer to take questions at the end, tell your audience at the beginning. Also, let your audience know whether they may use social media during your presentation. Some presenters may encourage live tweeting during their presentation while others may find it distracting.

Prepare the Room

Check the room for any features that may disrupt your presentation, such as loud air conditioning or window glare. Make a list of these items and visit the room in advance to prepare for (and if possible, eliminate) potential distractions. Check the size, the layout, any physical obstacles, the location of the doors, and the amount of seating. Make sure your technology works. Check your

³ Nancy Duarte, *Resonate*, 129.

Presentation Tips

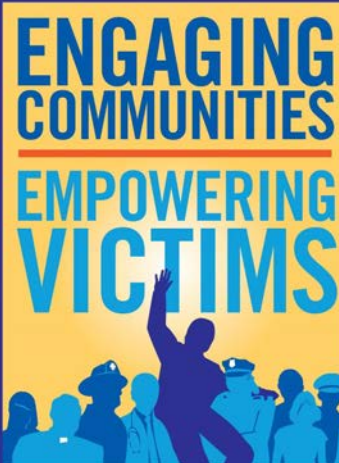
computer, projector, screen, and microphones, and ask someone to tell you if your voice is audible. Load your presentation onto the computer, and run through the entire presentation to make sure the computer and projector are working properly. It's always a good idea to have a backup copy of your presentation on another computer, in an accessible email account, or on a removable drive. Also make a hard copy in case of unexpected technical problems. Arrive at least one hour before the presentation to check the equipment again and make sure you are comfortable before you speak. ★

SAMPLE POWERPOINT TEMPLATE

Accompanying this section is a sample PowerPoint template featuring the 2015 NCVRW theme and graphic design. You may use the template to prepare and customize your own NCVRW PowerPoint presentations. Images of the master title and content slides appear on this page, and you will find the actual PowerPoint file on the NCVRW CD-ROM.

[Content Slide]

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**ENGAGING
COMMUNITIES** | **EMPOWERING
VICTIMS**

National Crime Victims'
Rights Week April 19-25 ★ 2015

National Crime Victims' Rights Week | April 19-25 ★ 2015

The power of partnerships launched the crime victims' rights movement and the achievements we celebrate every year. Families of murdered children and victims of sexual assault, drunk driving, domestic violence, and other crimes mobilized at the grassroots level, joining forces to demand justice for victims of crime. The National Campaign for Victims' Rights founded by these partners led to President Ronald Reagan's reforms on behalf of crime victims, his declaration of the first National Crime Victims' Rights Week, and the creation of the Victims of Crime Act and Crime Victims Fund, whose anniversary we celebrate this week. Through our partnerships and community building, we have made history.

Community Partner Ideas

ALLIED PROFESSIONALS

Victim Service Agencies
Law Enforcement Professionals, Prosecutors, and Institutional and Community Corrections Professionals
Healthcare Professionals
Mental Health Professionals

ART AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS

BUSINESSES AND CORPORATIONS

Business and Professional Associations
Fitness Clubs
Grocery Stores and Restaurants
Visitors' and Convention Bureaus

CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

FAITH COMMUNITIES

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS

Agencies Serving Seniors and Persons with Disabilities
Community Liaison Offices
Consumer Protection Agencies
Libraries
Public Officials
Schools

MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT/JOB-SEARCH CENTERS

TRIBAL AUTHORITIES

YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS

National Crime Victims' Rights Week offers an opportunity to renew and strengthen our partnerships, and to highlight the collaborative approaches that are integral to engaging communities and empowering victims. The *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* is the product of a partnership between OVC and the National Center for Victims of Crime, and is supported by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the partner organizations listed in Section 7, "Additional Resources," of this Resource Guide. Through partnerships, organizations more effectively mobilize their experience, skills, messages, resources, and stakeholders to help plan a powerful NCVRW strategy.

This section includes ideas for partnerships to form as you plan your community's 2015 NCVRW activities. Use these ideas to expand your reach, distribute the workload, and build partnerships that will engage the community throughout the year.

Allied Professionals

Partner with other victim service agencies such as: law enforcement and social services professionals; healthcare providers; consumer agencies; and community groups whose mission involves working with crime victims. These professionals understand the impact of crime on victims and the need to invest in serving victims effectively. Partnerships with allied professionals may also lead to collaboration in other areas—such as fundraisers, public awareness campaigns, and coordinated community responses to victims in your area.

Victim Service Agencies

Rape crisis centers, domestic violence shelters, district attorney's victim advocates, and homicide support organizations often work side by side in the same jurisdiction. Collaborating with other victim service agencies that share your mission and challenges will produce wider audiences and a more powerful impact for your events. A jointly planned NCVRW information fair for local officials, for example, would showcase each agency's role in helping victims, and also pinpoint the current gaps in the community's response capacity.

Law Enforcement Professionals, Prosecutors, and Institutional and Community Corrections Professionals

Criminal justice professionals offer powerful resources for outreach campaigns. Some law enforcement agencies have crime victim specialists to assess victims' needs, provide crisis intervention, help with safety planning, accompany victims through the criminal justice process, provide information about their cases, and refer them to victim services. Police departments may publish or distribute booklets or resource cards to help crime victims

in the aftermath of crimes. Criminal justice agencies can help publicize your NCVRW events through their own communications networks and their ties to community institutions, such as businesses and schools. Invite police officers, school resource officers, corrections officials, or prosecutors to speak at your events. Honor public officials and criminal justice professionals who have shown particular concern for crime victims.

Healthcare Professionals

Because victims often sustain injuries, medical professionals have firsthand knowledge about victimization and help educate the community about the impact of crime. Primary care and emergency room physicians and nurses treat injured crime victims and regularly screen patients for signs of abuse. Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) care for sexual assault victims, and school nurses serve children who have been hurt or exposed to violence. These professionals play a key role in victims' ability to recover from crime and have a strong interest

in preventing crime. Invite your local hospital, medical and dental society, nurses' association, and physical and occupational therapists to help plan your NCVRW activities. These organizations can provide speakers for your educational programs and publicize your activities in their offices and through their communications networks.

Mental Health Professionals

The mental health impact of crime can be severe and long-lasting. Victims may hesitate to resume their normal routines for fear of being victimized again. They may suffer from depression, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), alcoholism, and a range of other problems. Child and teenage victims may have a variety of problems negotiating the journey to adulthood. Most victims never receive the psychological help they need. In planning your NCVRW

Honor public officials and criminal justice professionals who have shown particular concern for victims

events, contact your community mental health associations and other mental health professionals' societies. You might also work with drug treatment facilities, which seek to protect their clients from being victimized by crime. Give these organizations information about crime victim compensation, safety planning, and other services to share through their communications networks.

Art and Cultural Organizations

Art and cultural organizations are often gathering places and social hubs of the community and can attract wide audiences. Art organizations such as galleries, art and music education programs, arts councils, and dance schools can contribute unique skills and resources to your NCVRW campaigns. They can host art exhibits, design flyers and media outreach, perform at events, and promote your observances to their members, patrons, and students. As you begin planning your campaign, contact the communications offices of your local organizations, propose an NCVRW partnership, and describe how such partnerships have worked successfully in other communities (see "Ideas for Special Events").

Businesses and Corporations

Every year, businesses lose billions of dollars to crime, facing huge losses from shoplifting, vandalism, robbery, check fraud, and cybercrime. Business owners spend millions each year to protect themselves and their customers. Throughout the nation, businesses are forming their own coalitions, such as Business Improvement Districts, to beautify their business districts, attract customers, and prevent crime. Identify potential partners by researching which businesses have launched such initiatives, formed partnerships with law enforcement, or

encouraged their employees to get involved in community service with at-risk youth or crime victims. Invite these businesses to become your NCVRW planning partners—to share resources, volunteers, marketing skills, and communications networks that can help develop your NCVRW events. Be sure to feature their leaders as speakers and honor their contributions to your community's NCVRW events.

Business and Professional Associations

Business associations, which promote their members' interests and help revitalize communities, make great NCVRW partners. Work with your local Chamber of Commerce, Better Business Bureau, civic improvement societies (business–resident partnerships), insurance roundtables, and professional associations (e.g., bar association, information technology professionals association), or unions representing workers from various trades and professions. Contact officials from these organizations, explain how National Crime Victims' Rights Week advances their mission and enhances the community's well-being, and invite them to help plan your events. Build on these partnerships throughout the year to mobilize your community on behalf of crime victims.

Fitness Clubs

Fitness clubs, which often operate from early morning until late evening or even around the clock, may have trouble protecting the safety and property of their customers. Theft from customers' cars and lockers are common, and patrons leaving the gym after dark are vulnerable to assault. Contact local fitness centers and their parent companies and invite them to join in planning and publicizing National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Fitness clubs offer a great opportunity for sharing information to help protect their

Identify potential partners by researching which businesses have formed Business Improvement Districts or encourage community service

customers from crime. Encourage them to build awareness about their business by sponsoring your walk/run or other athletic events for victims' rights.

Grocery Stores and Restaurants

Because almost everyone patronizes grocery stores and restaurants, these businesses will connect your NCVRW campaign to the entire community. Grocery stores can distribute NCVRW messages on their community bulletin boards and advertising flyers. Restaurants can use NCVRW placemats to build awareness about the week's events and donate food for your events. When you print your outreach products in a variety of languages, you can reach groups that might not otherwise receive NCVRW messages. Contact individual stores and restaurants and their associations, propose an NCVRW partnership, and plan how to involve your entire community in your NCVRW observance.

Visitors' and Convention Bureaus

To attract tourists, communities must be safe, secure places to visit. Visitors' and convention bureaus and hotel associations, which have a strong interest in public safety, can be resourceful NCVRW partners. Reach out to your local tourism-related agencies and alert them about protecting their customers and preventing crime. Hotels, for example, may appreciate receiving the latest updates on hackers using hotel Wi-Fi connections to steal personal information from their guests. Encourage them to join you in observing National Crime Victims' Rights Week. They can provide marketing and publicity for your campaign and help provide information on resources for crime victims in your area.

Civic Organizations

Civic organizations play a crucial role in shaping communities' priorities and can lend support, prestige, and enthusiasm to NCVRW events. Reach out to organizations such as Kiwanis, Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, Soroptimist International, and other community organizations—as well as parent–teacher organizations, schools and university alumni groups, neighborhood and crime watch associations, retirees' groups, ethnic and cultural organizations, and even hobby groups such as photography and garden clubs.

Civic groups may provide translators to reach specific audiences, share volunteers, and offer guidance on the best ways to include their communities in NCVRW events

Members can help you plan and host events, design outreach materials, and volunteer. Organizations representing underserved victims (e.g., ethnic communities, victims with disabilities, and seniors) can provide volunteers to help

disseminate information about crime victims' rights and services. Some groups may provide translators to reach specific audiences, share volunteers, and offer guidance on the best ways to include their communities in NCVRW events.

Colleges and Universities

Colleges and universities play integral roles in the local community and can host a wide range of NCVRW activities, such as art exhibits, rallies, and walk/run events. These institutions can provide space for events; they may also contribute design and media experts, subject matter scholars, donors and patrons, and enthusiastic student volunteers and participants to help with your NCVRW campaigns and events. Contact the communications offices of your local colleges and universities when you begin event planning. Ask them to partner with you and to suggest ways to enhance your campaign. Make sure you recognize their contributions in your ceremonies and outreach materials.

Faith Communities

Local churches, synagogues, mosques, and their affiliate organizations have strong commitments to protecting their community members and supporting victims. Invite members of the clergy, lay leaders, and religious service organizations (e.g., the Knights of Columbus, American Friends Service Committee, B’Nai B’rith) and charities to join your NCVRW preparations. Assess the crime-related issues affecting the local neighborhoods around these religious institutions or ask religious leaders what kinds of information and help these communities might need. Ask their help in hosting events, mobilizing volunteers, and speaking at your NCVRW events.

Government Agencies and Officials

Government agencies can powerfully boost the scope and impact of your NCVRW outreach with their broad distribution networks. Public safety departments often employ victim advocates (e.g., police departments, prosecutors’ offices, and family justice centers), who can be valuable resources for reaching out to victims in the community. Additionally, partner with government consumer protection agencies, libraries, agencies for seniors, commissions for women and youth, and ethnic community liaison offices to publicize events and contribute resources and volunteers. Partnerships with such agencies will also lay the groundwork for coordinated community responses to crime and other forms of collaboration throughout the year.

Agencies Serving Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

Seniors and persons with disabilities are vulnerable populations and are frequently targeted for certain

types of crime, such as scams, fraud, and abuse. These groups benefit from knowing their rights and the services available to them. Area Agencies on Aging, senior centers, adult protective services, commissions on aging, and community college senior education programs, as well as agencies serving persons with disabilities, offer outreach opportunities, community education, volunteers, and alliances to improve the safety of seniors and persons with disabilities in your community.

Community Liaison Offices

Victims of crime in various ethnic groups may urgently need support from larger community agencies that serve as liaisons to ethnic groups. These offices can bring your NCVRW messages to communities that often do not know their rights or the services available to them as crime victims, regardless of their citizenship status. These offices share information about

criminal justice procedures and reduce their community members’ fear of reporting crime—a common problem among recent immigrants. National Crime Victims’ Rights Week offers a great opportunity to involve the leaders of these communities who can help identify the greatest educational needs and devise useful strategies to better engage these vulnerable populations.

Consumer Protection Agencies

Some county, state, and even local governments have agencies to protect their citizens from fraud, theft, and irresponsible business practices. Consumer protection staffs provide the latest information about scams and other forms of financial abuse in their communities. These agencies may offer speakers for your events, facts about recent patterns of financial crimes in your area, and information about how victims of scams or abusive practices can seek their assistance.

Ask community liaison officers to help you better engage local underserved populations

Libraries

Public libraries offer unique access to a wide range of community members. Students, seniors, neighborhood leaders, and patrons from every demographic use libraries and their websites to find information and connect with the community. Libraries can host meetings and educational forums, display NCVRW posters, post announcements, or present multimedia displays on crime victims' rights or victim assistance.

Public Officials

Your federal, state, and local officials provide visibility, authority, and prestige to NCVRW. Through proclamations, official news releases, and their presence at NCVRW ceremonies, mayors, governors, state's attorneys, and other officials underscore the importance of crime victims' rights and lend the power of their offices to your observances. Contact their staff to invite your elected officials to participate in outreach and events. Your collaboration with elected officials on NCVRW activities may also promote your organization as a resource for legislation and public policy on crime victim issues in your community.

Schools

Schools serve as a trusted resource in the community for supporting and protecting children. Children are more vulnerable to being victimized—domestic violence, bullying, child sexual abuse, and other crimes affect millions of children every year. Partnerships with schools allow you to bring NCVRW messages to children, parents, teachers, administrators, and neighborhoods throughout

the school system. Raise awareness through student art, essays, and public-speaking contests, and honor the winners at NCVRW ceremonies. Engage students by inviting them to plan their own outreach campaigns (using school media and art department resources). Schools

can host educational forums and assemblies, sociodramas, debates, and plays on issues that affect children in your community.

Patrons from every demographic use libraries and their websites to find information and connect with the community

Military Installations

Domestic violence, sexual assault, shootings, and other crimes in military installations have brought military crime victims further into the public consciousness. Although the Uniform Military Code of Justice differs in some respects from other jurisdictions' criminal codes, these military crime victims have rights. These include the right to be treated with fairness and respect, to be notified of court proceedings, to be present at proceedings related to the offense, to be informed about the case, and to receive available restitution. Work with military victim services officers and communications professionals to promote National Crime Victims' Rights Week in military media and print communications. Encourage military installations to hold NCVRW ceremonies and to honor military leaders who have protected the rights of victims under their command.

Tribal Authorities

Native Americans and Alaska Natives experience significantly higher-than-average crime rates. Often remote and isolated from the larger community, these tribal communities should be included when possible in NCVRW events. Ask your local colleagues or leaders from these communities to identify key problems for their populations and how NCVRW

Reach out to tribal authorities, seek their suggestions, and work together to promote the priorities they identify

outreach could help them. Reach out to tribal authorities, seek their suggestions, and work together to promote the priorities they identify.

Workforce Training/Job-Search Centers

Because crime may cause unexpected expenses for victims, its impact on unemployed and underemployed victims can be especially severe. Such victims need to be familiar with their rights and the local services available to them as crime victims. Workforce training centers can post NCVRW information and host events to build awareness about crime and crime victim services in their neighborhoods.

Youth-Serving Organizations

Because young people are more likely than any other age group to be victimized by crime, youth-serving organizations have a strong interest in victims' rights and services. NCVRW partnerships with such agencies will help build awareness about crimes against young people, best practices for prevention and intervention, and local resources to protect children and prevent crime. Potential NCVRW partners include the YMCA and YWCA, Campfire USA, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, City Year, Junior Achievement, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of America, the National Youth Leadership Council, youth athletic leagues, and faith-based youth organizations throughout the nation. Consider partnering with parent-teacher organizations and local mentoring programs to publicize and hold NCVRW events. ★



NCVRW Special Events

ART EXHIBITS AND DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES

BILLBOARD CAMPAIGNS

CANDLELIGHT VIGILS

COMMEMORATIVE DISPLAYS

Balloons and Paper Chains

Garden Ceremonies and Tree Plantings

Interactive Displays

Memorial Walls and Bricks

EDUCATIONAL FORUMS

INFORMATION AND RESOURCE FAIRS

MARCHES AND WALK/RUN EVENTS

MEDIA OUTREACH

NATIVE AMERICAN INITIATIVES AND EDUCATION

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUTH-FOCUSED EVENTS

Art Activities and Contests

Drama, Spoken Word, and Choral Performances

Each year, communities throughout the country develop a variety of creative ways to commemorate National Crime Victims' Rights Week. From festivals to educational forums, art displays to tree plantings, marches to memorials to media outreach, diverse groups with a variety of experiences, knowledge, and skills create their own traditions to honor, engage, and advocate for victims. To support these efforts, the Office for Victims of Crime, in conjunction with the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators, offers funding assistance through its Community Awareness Projects (CAPS) initiative. Each year, the awards are selected based on criteria including collaboration, innovation, community impact, media involvement, and experience with victims' issues. As you plan your 2015 activities, this list of past events from communities around the country will help inspire your ideas and creativity. For additional CAP descriptions from prior years, visit <http://cap.navaa.org/previous.html>.

Art Exhibits and Dramatic Performances

Art is a powerful medium for victims of crime to convey their experiences and build empathy and support.

- **The Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence** held an art exhibit at a local cultural community center in Boise. *Healing the Broken Heart™* (*Sanando el Corazon Lastimado™*) included art pieces from victims of underserved Latino, refugee, Native American, and LGBTQ communities.
- **The Johnson County District Attorney's Office** in Olathe, Kansas, partnered with a local art gallery to host an annual exhibit, which featured art produced by victims of crime. County libraries, city halls, police departments, hospitals, local partner agencies, grocery stores, and restaurants were sent posters promoting the art exhibit.

- **The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office** in Detroit, Michigan, held an event with performers presenting skits on how victims' rights have evolved to restore the balance of justice for each type of victimization. The performers held a sign over their faces to symbolize "voiceless," "faceless," and "right-less" victims. Each performer spoke about a type of victimization, reciting a scenario from the past and present to illustrate how the laws and services have changed.

Billboard Campaigns

Billboard campaigns are among the most effective strategies for showcasing your NCVRW activities because of their wide reach. From signs overlooking high-traffic areas to ads on mass transit, these outlets help spread important messages throughout your community.

- **The City of Beatrice** in Nebraska sponsored four billboards throughout the county. The billboards used artwork from the NCVRW Resource Guide and were customized to list the name and phone number of local victim service programs.
- **You Have the Power**, a state-wide victim advocacy group in Nashville, Tennessee, along with a coalition of community and state organizations, presented rotating billboard messages about crime awareness and victims' rights across the state. These digital billboards raised public awareness about major victims' issues, including human trafficking, domestic violence, elder abuse, and child abuse.
- **Guardian Angel Community Services** in Joliet, Illinois, placed ads on six bus benches to promote National Crime Victims' Rights Week and publish hotline numbers for victims. Three bus benches were written in Spanish, the fourth bus bench targeted victims with disabilities, and two other benches were in English, focusing on victims' rights. The bus bench ads will be up for an entire year.

Candlelight Vigils

- Few activities are as moving and symbolic as candlelight vigils. Communities gather at vigils to honor crime victims and recommit to securing victims' rights. The sight of hundreds of people holding candles in the dark is a powerful symbol of transforming the darkness caused by crime and shedding light on victims' rights. Among the hundreds of organizations that held candlelight vigils were the **Mobile County District Attorney's Office**, in Mobile, Alabama; **Pillsbury United Communities Brian Coyle Center**, in Minneapolis, Minnesota; the **Lauderdale County Victim Services Providers**, in Florence, Alabama; **Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention**, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi; **Avalon: A Center for Women and Children**, in Williamsburg, Virginia; **Against Abuse**,

Inc., in Case Grande, Arizona; and the **Speicher-Rubin Women's Center for Equity and Diversity**, in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Some communities added unique elements to their vigils:

- **The Lorain County Domestic Violence Task Force Subcommittee on Outreach to the Faith Community** in Ohio organized a candlelight vigil and balloon release during National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The vigil focused on all crime victims' rights. Other community agencies were invited to participate in the vigil, and faith leaders representing churches from across the county helped plan the event.
- **CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio)** in Minneapolis, Minnesota, held a community vigil to honor those whose lives were lost as a result of domestic violence, sexual assault, or childhood abuse. CLUES advertised the event with an awareness campaign targeting Latino families to highlight local resources and honor victims in the community.
- **The Riverside County District Attorney's Office** in California organized candlelight vigils in three locations across the county. The vigils began with welcome remarks from the District Attorney and other elected officials, presentation of colors, proclamations, a victim guest-speaker, candle-lighting ceremony, reading of homicide victims' names, a choir performance, and a blessing from tribal members.

Commemorative Displays

Commemorative displays allow communities to remember and honor crime victims in personalized ways. From paper chains to memorial walls, from tree-planting ceremonies to interactive displays, these rich, visual tributes raise public awareness and support victims and loved ones through their recovery.

Balloons and Paper Chains

Balloon releases are a colorful gesture to memorialize crime victims, acting as a visual reminder of the wide-scale impact of crime.

- **The Racine County Victim Witness Assistance Program** in Wisconsin displayed “Breaking the Chains of Victimization,” which consisted of 2,321 paper-linked chains symbolizing a year’s worth of charged felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile crimes.
- **Legacy House** in Indianapolis, Indiana, held a public event where balloons and balloon sculptures in NCVRW colors were created and given away. Additionally, 27 rocking chairs were set up for the public, and “celebrity rockers” rocked to raise awareness for the plight and rights of victims of crime.
- **The Kaw Nation** in Kaw City, Oklahoma, held an awareness event bringing together internal and external agencies, including tribal, state, local, and municipal law enforcement, court representatives, advocates, faith-based partners, survivors of abuse, program staff, and others who are invested in the issue of justice and services for victims. The event featured educational speakers and culminated in the release of balloons to honor victims of abuse.

Garden Ceremonies and Tree Plantings

For many victims and families, gardens symbolize renewal. Nature provides a sense of peace in the face of loss.

- **The Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County** in New Castle, Pennsylvania, partnered with **New Castle YMCA** and **New Visions for Lawrence County** to present a full day of public awareness activities for all ages. Activities included children and families planting seeds for justice in small flower pots where they learned about victims’ rights and services.
- **Victims for Justice** in Anchorage, Alaska, held their annual Tree Ceremony, in conjunction with other local

victims’ rights organizations, to honor all victims of violent crime. The public was invited to tie ribbons of various colors, denoting categories of violent crime, to the tree.

Interactive Displays

Interactive displays are a powerful tool for bringing victims’ rights issues to the forefront of your community.

- **The Eighth Judicial District Attorney’s Office** in Fort Collins, Colorado, displayed “shoe trees” (coat racks with shoes representing victims) along the road during their victims’ rights march. Included on the shoes were statistics and information related to crime victims.
- **The Center for Victims** in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, worked with the **Allegheny County District Attorney** to organize an awareness event, which included activities such as a balance beam, hula-hoops, and balance balls to encourage individuals to “restore their balance” and celebrate NCVRW.

Memorial Walls and Bricks

Memorial walls honor crime victims by displaying the names of people who have lost their lives. They can also be adorned with photos, letters, artwork, and other mementos from families and friends.

- **VictimNet** in Independence, Missouri, displayed a memorial walk featuring a series of survivors of various crimes who shared their individual stories.
- **The New York Crime Victims’ Assistance Task Force** in Saratoga Springs held a brick dedication ceremony, which included participation from victims and service providers throughout New York. An event program was produced to ensure that families and victims who attend the event could locate their individual brick within the walkway. Flowers were purchased for victims and their families to honor their loved ones.

- **The Delaware Victims' Rights Task Force** in Wilmington erected two memorial walls to display artwork made by survivors.
- **The Victim Services Interagency Council of North Carolina** in Raleigh invited family members and loved ones to submit their memories of crime survivors. These submissions were included in a special video presentation that played during NCVRW ceremonies as a way to remember and honor crime victims through name submissions, written expressions, and photos.

Educational Forums

National Crime Victims' Rights Week forums and panels offer an opportunity for experts to analyze and educate the public about the impact of victimization on individuals and the community.

- **The Network for Victim Recovery of the District of Columbia (NVRDC)** in Washington, DC, held several Town Halls and the *Know Your Rights Community Safety Expo* to raise awareness about key crimes affecting the local community and share available services and resources in the aftermath of crime. NVRDC also conducted four Twitter Town Halls, which offered the ability to reach victims who may not have attended a *Know Your Rights Night*.
- **The Cheyenne Police Department Victim Assistance Program** in Wyoming worked with local organizations and community colleges to host a community outreach day featuring presentations from trained law enforcement officers, staff advocates, and guest speakers, including local survivors and victims of crime who shared their stories.
- **The Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Rochester, Inc.**, in New York coordinated a one-day event that featured a panel discussion about crime victims' rights and breakout sessions regarding crime victim resources, identity theft protection, avoiding financial scams, and property protection.
- **Destined to Win Ministries** in Winterville, North Carolina, invited a 20-year educator and a crime victims' activist to speak at a public event about the crimes of conspiracy, abduction, kidnapping, human trafficking, wrongful imprisonment, and robbery. Victims were also provided the opportunity to share their own experiences.

Information and Resource Fairs

Information expos and fairs attract wide audiences, and can offer useful information about victims' rights to communities.

- **The YWCA of Wheeling** in West Virginia invited local service agencies to display their organizational information and materials in the lobby of the YWCA during National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Middle and high school students participating in anti-violence awareness clubs received t-shirts to wear and raised awareness by designing posters to reflect the 2014 NCVRW theme, *30 Years: Restoring the Balance of Justice*. Posters were displayed in the school during National Crime Victims' Rights Week and local newspapers were contacted to highlight the students' participation in recognizing crime victims.
- **The Calvert County Health Department's Crisis Intervention Center** in Maryland hosted the "Cup of Prevention Family Fest." The festival offered seminars in Internet safety and healthy relationships facilitated by experts from local agencies, including the **Sheriff's Department, State Attorney's Office, and the Crisis Intervention Center**. Additionally, a local marital arts center hosted a seminar on adult self-defense and child personal safety.
- **The Brooks' Place Child Advocacy Center of Cullman, Inc.**, in Alabama held a resource fair titled "Crime Victim Awareness/Safe-kids Expo," where community agencies, law enforcement agencies, the victim services division of the District Attorney's Office, the

local domestic violence shelter, the child welfare agency, and numerous additional safety and victim assistance resources had informational booths. Local agencies provided free fingerprinting and photographing of children.

- **The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault** in Midland, Michigan, held a victims' rights event where participants simulated the successes and difficulties of being a crime victim by receiving a card with one of 30 different scenarios (to mark the 30th anniversary of VOCA). Participants visited each table of service providers as they traveled through their recovery process, and providers stamped their cards as they came through, with the first 100 people to complete their card receiving a goodie bag.

Marches and Walk/Run Events

Marches and walk/run events are popular ways to bring communities together for fun and to inspire victims' rights celebration.

- **Hoyleton Ministries** and the **Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois Rescue and Restore Consortium** in Illinois hosted a 5K Glow Run/Walk.
- **The City of Sacramento**, California, held their fifth annual Victims' Rights March, which concluded with a rally in support for crime victims' rights. Marchers signed ribbons with the name of a loved one or a statement of support, then tied the ribbons onto a flower for the march.
- **SAFE-T** and **CASA** in Mount Pleasant, Texas, hosted a Super Hero 5K and Fun Run, which included numerous children's activities, such as face and hair painting and water tattoos.
- **The Office of the District Attorney, 11th District** in Canon City, Colorado, hosted a 5K "Run for Your Rights" event.
- **Lassen Family Services** in Susanville, California, organized and hosted a community walk/run "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" with collaborating partners in support of victims of all types of crime.
- **The Mesilla Valley CASA, Inc.**, in Las Cruces, New Mexico, held a Victims' Rights Week Walk. The walk began with various speakers, including state and federal judges, commissioners, representatives, the District Attorney, and other dignitaries, as well survivors of violent crime.

Media Outreach

Throughout National Crime Victims' Rights Week, powerful media campaigns take many different forms as organizations use media outreach to reach the widest possible audiences.

- **The Berks County District Attorney's Office** in Reading, Pennsylvania, conducted a mass media campaign, which included placing NCVRW artwork and ads: on mass transit; inside bus shelters; in movie theaters; on movie theater websites; on placemats used in local diners throughout the county; and on coffee sleeves used in local coffee shops.
- **The Eau Claire District Attorney's Office Victim Witness Services** in Wisconsin placed table tents in a local family restaurant during National Crime Victims' Rights Week. A billboard commercial was played at a local movie theater, and two segments with the county Sheriff aired during a local television news program.
- **The Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center** in Texas purchased flash drives and lanyards. Preloaded flash drives contained pertinent crime victim's rights information from partnering organizations and were distributed to participants at the NCVRW community ceremony.
- **The Winnemucca Domestic Violence Services** in Winnemucca, Nevada, supported a media campaign building awareness for child abuse, teen dating

violence, elder abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault. The “Restoring the Balance of Justice” campaign was publicized through a city billboard, public service announcements, community presentations, posters, and city banners.

Native American Initiatives and Education

Native Americans experience unusually high levels of crime, and remote tribal lands often mean information and support are scarce. Native American jurisdictions are searching for crucial resources to serve their victim populations.

- **The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians** in Red Lake, Minnesota, hosted two panel discussions: “Crime Victims’ Resources,” presented by a panel consisting of the Red Lake General Crime Advocate, an FBI Victim Witness Specialist, a U.S. Attorney Victim Witness Consultant, a domestic violence/sexual assault victim advocate, the Red Lake Prosecutor’s Office, and victims; and a discussion by law enforcement on police officers as first responders, officer sensitivity to crime victims, and the investigation process. A Native American drum group provided traditional Ojibwe honor songs.
- **The Victim Services Division of Navajo County Attorney’s Office** in Holbrook, Arizona, hosted the 5th Annual Victims’ Rights Symposium. This event focused on educating attendees about victims’ rights and disseminating much-needed information to community victim service providers. In addition, the Navajo County Board of Supervisors adopted a “Navajo County Crime Victims’ Rights Week” proclamation that was circulated through media and other government agencies, encouraging their participation in passing similar proclamations.

Public Service Announcements

Public services announcements (PSAs) are a powerful outreach tool to raise awareness of the needs and rights of crime victims. Each year, victim assistance advocates funnel their passion and creativity into these videos that are often broadcast on local television stations.

- **The Oregon Department of Justice, Crime Victims’ Services Division**, in Salem invited District Attorney Victim Assistance Programs across the state to partner with survivors and community-based victim services programs to produce and air local PSAs. The PSAs were also featured on the partners’ websites.
- **The Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services** in Waterbury showcased available programs for crime victims through 30- and 60-second PSAs. Additionally, a 17-minute video highlighted several long-standing successful victims’ services programs.

Youth-Focused Events

National Crime Victims’ Rights Week events focus heavily on youth, who are disproportionately affected by crime. By involving schools, parents, and students, many organizations make a special effort to involve community youth in advocacy activities, such as art exhibits, drama and chorale performances, and other special events.

Art Activities and Contests

National Crime Victims’ Rights Week art activities help students and communities empathize with the trauma of victimization.

- **The Community Boys & Girls Club** in Wilmington, North Carolina, conducted a poster contest targeting youth. Information on the event was shared in local print, public service announcements, flyers, and at local community organizations. The Club also held training

THEME VIDEO IN ACTION

Last year, Community Awareness Projects found a variety of uses for the Theme Video in their outreach efforts. As you plan your 2015 NCVRW campaigns, you might find some of the following suggestions helpful:

PLANNING

- Brainstorm with your planning team and partners on how to build your NCVRW campaign message and how to best use the Theme Video in your outreach appeals.
- Show the Theme Video to your staff to prepare them for NCVRW activities.
- Use the Theme Video to train and build awareness among your volunteers and interns as well as to educate local students about crime victims' rights and to recruit participation in NCVRW events.

WEB OUTREACH

- Embed the Theme Video in your organization's website.
- Post a link on your site to the Theme Video on the OVC website or YouTube.
- Link to the Theme Video in your social media outreach.
- Produce a localized NCVRW public service announcement to post on your website or use at presentations.

CEREMONIES AND EVENTS

- Show the Theme Video at the beginning of your community's candlelight ceremony.
- Open your NCVRW kickoff ceremony with the Theme Video, and ask your speakers to focus their comments on the key video messages.
- Project the Theme Video on a large screen, to run repeatedly before and after your NCVRW events.

PRESENTATIONS

- Edit the Theme Video to include personal accounts by local victims and survivors and offer the customized video to local advocates or educators for presentations in schools and neighborhoods to demonstrate the impact of crime.
- Present the Theme Video at an educational open house or informational meeting.

The Theme Video is available on DVD as part of the hard-copy mailing or online at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015.

on areas pertinent to youth, such as gang activity, bullying, and cyber bullying.

- **The Office of the District Attorney, 7th Judicial District** in Montrose, Colorado, held an awareness-raising event that centered on elementary school children. The event included a coloring contest based on the NCVRW theme and children received rubber bracelets promoting the event.
- **The District Attorney's Office** in Visalia, California, held a high school art contest. Students from area schools were invited to submit artwork that conveyed their interpretation of victims' rights, their own personal experience as a crime victim, or a friend's or family member's experience. The winning piece of art was included on t-shirts with the NCVRW logo that were given out during marches and ceremonies during National Crime Victims' Rights Week.
- **The Baldwin County District Attorney's Office** in Bay Minette, Alabama, held several contests to involve youth in activities, to raise awareness of crime victims' issues and rights. The contests included creating victim-themed videos, artwork, and posters.

Drama, Spoken Word, and Choral Performances

Performing arts activities deepen the entire community's understanding of what it means to be a crime victim by allowing young people to use their talent to shine a light on the challenges crime victims face.

- **Working Against Violence, Inc.**, in Rapid City, South Dakota, partnered with other local agencies to host a special presentation by Spoofed, a traveling drama troupe from a local high school. The event included original plays and skits on tough subjects affecting today's youth, such as family violence, sexual assault, bullying, and substance abuse.
- **The Center for Hope and Healing, Inc.**, in Lowell, Massachusetts, launched the "Battle for Justice"

in collaboration with its local partners. The contest encouraged youth in the community to express their experiences as victims of crime and share their knowledge through art, music, and words. The goal of the event was to bring all young victims of crime out of the shadows to share information and resources with the entire community.

- **The Miami-Dade Police Department** in Miami held two events with community partners honoring victims and involving the community with victims' rights, services, and community/citizen empowerment programs. Students from area Senior High School music programs provided special performances.
- **The Korean American Family Service Center** in Flushing, New York, promoted crime victims' rights and raised public awareness by partnering with local community organizations holding a "National Crime Victims' Rights Week" rally. The rally showcased a silent drama, which was choreographed and performed by the agency's Youth Community Project Team. ★



ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING VICTIMS



Section 3. ABOUT THE RESOURCE GUIDE ARTWORK

The *2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide* offers a selection of professionally developed, original illustration and other artwork to promote this year's theme—*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.*—and draw attention to your community's NCVRW observance. By using the 2015 Resource Guide artwork, which provides space for you to add your local contact information, you become part of the nationwide effort to raise awareness about crime victims' rights and services during National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

2015 NCVRW Artwork Elements

This year's artwork evokes the communal aspect of the 2015 NCVRW theme—*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.* The **dark blue** and **gold** theme colors are strong and vibrant, an energetic call to help ensure all victims of crime know about their rights and have access to appropriate services. (See "[2015 Theme Colors](#)" on page 3.) The font used throughout the Resource Guide (in varying weights) is **Trade Gothic**. With the exception of the large and small theme posters, all hard-copy artwork in the mailed version of the Resource Guide is 8½" x 11" with a ¼" margin. Print copies of the artwork using the CD-ROM or by downloading for free at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015. Much of the artwork also includes space for adding your organization's contact information. (See "[TIP: Text Fields on Fillable PDFs.](#)")

Artwork on CD-ROM

Almost all print shops today print from digital art files. For flexibility and convenience, the 2015 NCVRW CD-ROM contains electronic artwork in a variety of formats (also downloadable at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015):

- **PDF.** PDFs are widely accessible files that can be opened with Adobe Reader, available for free download at www.adobe.com. The CD-ROM contains PDFs in both black-and-white and process colors.

TIP: TEXT FIELDS ON FILLABLE PDFS

Some of the artwork on this year's CD-ROM contains text fields that allow users to type directly on the PDF in Adobe Reader. On those pieces (e.g., posters, name tags, table cards, certificates of appreciation), you can easily add your contact information or other data. Simply place your cursor over the appropriate region of the artwork. When you are over a "fillable" text field, the cursor will change to an I-beam. Click on the field to change the I-beam to a text cursor, and begin typing. Alternatively, if you want to insert text in different fonts, sizes, or colors, format your text in Microsoft Word and copy and paste it into the PDF text fields.

- **JPEG.** JPEG files are individual images that can be placed in graphics programs, in various word processing programs, and on websites. Each piece that incorporates this year's theme and poster artwork

TIP: USING JPEGS IN WORD

To place JPEG files in Microsoft Word, choose "insert > picture" from the toolbar, and select the desired file from the CD-ROM. To type on top of the image, select the image, go to "format > text wrapping > behind text." Then create a text box and place it over the image. *Make sure the text box does not have a fill or border color selected.*

About the Resource Guide Artwork

is available as a JPEG. The CD-ROM includes both black-and-white and color JPEG images in RGB (display colors viewed on computer monitors; see “[A Printing Primer](#)” on page 5 for more information).

- **Adobe Creative Suite** (CS6 or higher). Adobe Illustrator and InDesign are professional design and layout programs, respectively, used by graphic designers, publishers, and print shops. InDesign CS6 files, as well as the Illustrator CS6 images needed to reproduce this year’s artwork, are available in the Theme Artwork Layout folder on the CD-ROM. Creative Suite files are available in process colors as well as black and white.

These three formats (PDF, JPEG, and Illustrator or InDesign) balance versatility with ease of use, enabling you to incorporate this year’s artwork into all your NCVRW materials, including news releases, event displays, and giveaways.

All of the 2015 NCVRW Resource Guide Artwork is available for free download at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015.

Resource Guide Artwork Contents

Theme Posters

- **2015 NCVRW Theme Poster.** Press artwork for the official 22" x 28" full-size NCVRW Theme Poster.
- **11" x 17" Theme Posters.*** A smaller variation of the official 2015 Theme Poster, this 11" x 17" poster comes in both black and white and color and can be printed on standard tabloid-size paper. This poster contains space to add local contact information.

Theme Artwork

- **Bookmarks.*** Mix and match these bookmark designs to meet your outreach needs. On some designs, space is available to add local contact information. A heavy paper stock, such as 80-pound cover stock, is recommended.
- **Buttons, Logos, and Magnets.*** Use the provided artwork to create giveaways for your events. Always popular, such items help participants demonstrate their support for crime victims’ rights.
- **Certificate of Appreciation.*** Use the certificate of appreciation to honor crime victims and those who serve them. Certificates may be printed on parchment, fine paper, or attractive card stock; they can include the recipient’s name in calligraphy (either handwritten or typed on the fillable PDF), the name of the public figure or organization presenting the certificate, and the date on which it is presented.
- **Letterhead.*** This versatile template is perfect for event fliers, news releases, letters of introduction, and other NCVRW documents. You might also feature the names of NCVRW partners, planning committee members, or sponsoring organizations on the letterhead.
- **Name Tags and Table Card.*** Enhance the formality of your event by using these templates for name tags and table cards at exhibits, ceremonies, conferences, or any other gathering.
- **Information and Referrals Contact List.*** This flier listing toll-free numbers and websites for the nation’s leading victim-serving organizations is a must-have for every social service agency in your community. Post the list in permissible public spaces (e.g., libraries, community centers, grocery stores), distribute hard

* Physical copies are included in the 2015 NCVRW Resource Guide folder, which is available to order for a small shipping fee at www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015.

copies to local businesses (ask to speak to a human resources representative), or e-mail the electronic version to local victim-serving and public-safety agencies (e.g., shelters, police departments, doctors' offices).

- **Ribbon Cards.*** These cards work best printed on a heavy paper stock (at least 80-pound cover). To make ribbons for the cards, cut two eight-inch strands of dark blue and gold ribbon and form a loop; secure the strands to the ribbon card with a two-inch stick pin. Partner with local volunteers (e.g., from schools, civic organizations, or faith-based communities) for help assembling the ribbon cards.
- **2015 Theme Color Palette.** Theme colors and their values in different color systems help you create your own outreach materials.
- **Electronic Billboard Artwork.** Designed for two popular sizes (30' x 10' and 48' x 14'), these digital billboard displays are highly visible ways to publicize National Crime Victims' Rights Week in your community. *Formats vary widely. Contact your local advertising vendor for exact specifications.*
- **Facebook Cover and Profile Images.** These JPGs are perfectly sized for use as cover and profile images on Facebook. The profile image also can be used on other social sites such as Twitter and Google+.
- **Web and E-mail Banners.** Use these NCVRW-themed banners on your website and in your e-mails.

Public Awareness Posters

The *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* features four new public awareness posters (in English and Spanish), highlighting three issues, all with the theme “**Stop Blaming. Start Believing.**” With room for local contact information, the posters are on the following topics and can be used throughout the year:

- **Underserved Crime Victims—*two versions!***
- **Children Exposed to Violence**
- **Financial Fraud**

Join Forces

Look for local partners to help you produce memorable 2015 NCVRW outreach materials. Businesses or colleges may donate paper, copying services, or ad space. Schools and service organizations may provide volunteers for stuffing envelopes and other outreach activities. Correctional agencies often provide printing and assembly services at reduced fees, and government agencies—including law enforcement—may be willing to offer public affairs staff to design pamphlets and fliers. Help tap your community's spirit of unity and build awareness about the importance of crime victims' rights.

2015 Theme Colors

This year's theme art was designed in process colors; their CMYK builds, below, are accompanied by comparable values in other color spaces. (See “[A Printing Primer](#)” on page 5 for more.)

Dark Blue: C=100, M=100, Y=0, K=0

Comparable Colors:

- PMS 2675
- R=38, G=34, B=98
- HTML #2e3192

About the Resource Guide Artwork

Gold: C=0, M=18, Y=70, K=0

Comparable Colors:

- PMS 122
- R=247, G=148, B=29
- HTML #ffd167

Subordinate colors in this year's design have the following values:

Royal Blue: C=75, M=20, Y=0, K=0

- PMS 2925
- R=0, G=160, B=220
- HTML #00a0dc

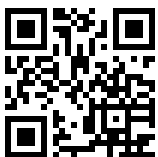
Blue: C=100, M=70, Y=0, K=0

- PMS 2728
- R=43, G=57, B=144
- HTML #005baa

Red: C=0, M=80, Y=95, K=0

- PMS 1665
- R=241, G=90, B=41
- HTML #f15a29

How to Create a QR Code



“QR” (or Quick Response) codes are convenient tools to display information that is usually scanned and processed by mobile devices. You may have seen these square bar codes on marketing

posters, bus ads, or discount mailers. QR codes store useful information such as web URLs, contact cards, e-mail addresses, or even product labels. If you want to use QR codes to capture information to use in your NCVRW outreach (for instance, to send viewers to your organization's homepage), a quick online search will

produce many free QR generators. One suggested method is:

- Go to the Google URL shortener website (<http://goo.gl>). Type in or paste the website URL you need the QR code for.
- Click “Shorten.”
- Copy that new URL (in the blue area) as noted.
- Go to Zend (<http://qrcode.littleidiot.be>) and select “Hyperlink” on the left side of the window.
- Paste the shortened URL in the window.
- Click “Generate B&W” to create a traditional QR code for free.
- Click on the EPS icon for printing or PNG icon for web use. Those files will begin to download.

For maximum compatibility with QR scanners, keep your QR image at least 1 inch large on printed materials. It should also be black on white, or in other high-contrast colors. Be sure to test your code to ensure it works properly and sends users to the correct destination. A number of free QR scanning apps are available for download; search your preferred app store for compatible programs. ★

A PRINTING PRIMER

You may have wondered why materials printed on your home or office color printer often look different from materials printed by a professional press or posted on the web. The answer lies in how different color systems—CMYK, spot colors, and RGB—are generated.

CMYK: Office printers and those used by quick-copy print shops use only four inks—cyan (blue), magenta (red), yellow, and black. These inks are known as CMYK, process inks, or four-color process. These four inks intermix to create a virtually endless range of colors that you see on your printout. There are differences, though, between how these colors appear on a computer monitor and on the printed page (see “RGB” below).

Spot Colors: Professional “offset” print shops can print products designed for CMYK inks. However, they also print designs that use spot-color inks, specific colors that are mixed according to precise formulas—usually set by the Pantone Matching System (PMS), a color system widely used by professional printers and designers. By selecting colors from PMS “swatchbooks” (sample books), designers know exactly what the final printed color will be, regardless of how the design appears onscreen, and can be sure that the colors will be consistent in all products. Organizations often design their logos in spot colors, for example, to eliminate color variations among their printed materials and other branded products. The more spot colors a design requires, the more it costs to print.

RGB: Monitors, which are fundamentally different from printers, display color through varied mixtures of red, green, and blue (RGB) light rather than through pigmented inks. Red, green, and blue light values are added and subtracted to create different perceptions of color, and each monitor is calibrated to display color a little differently. In addition, web browsers often use a very limited RGB spectrum. As a result of these limitations in web browsers and variations in monitor calibrations, online images and websites may appear different to various users.

Each of these three color systems has its own spectrum and distinct color values. It is possible to approximate (but not exactly reproduce) colors from one system (e.g., spot colors) in another color system (e.g., CMYK). For the greatest color consistency when printing or reproducing artwork, use the color system in which the artwork was created.



ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING VICTIMS



Section 4. COMMUNICATING YOUR MESSAGE: Media Tips & Tools

National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) is an opportunity to highlight challenges faced by crime victims and to emphasize the ongoing struggle to establish victims' rights. This year's theme—*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.*—focuses on the role communities play providing victims with the support they need to pursue justice and recovery. It also calls attention to the difficulties experienced by crime victims in underserved communities or in marginalized groups. Engaging communities and empowering victims takes resources, dedication, and persistence to establish a welcoming, compassionate, and supportive environment for all victims to share their stories. Creating a comprehensive public awareness campaign for your NCVRW outreach allows you to engage your members, local organizations, and the wider public in the important work of providing crime victims in our community with both the short- and long-term help they need as they recover on their terms.

The Social Media Landscape

Traditionally, outreach to the public and policy makers meant getting mainstream coverage from newspapers, television news, and local radio. Building relationships with the individual journalists and producers who cover crime stories for these outlets in your media market remains a critical method of educating the public, communicating with policy makers, and influencing coverage of the issues. Increasingly, however, to capture public attention, it is necessary to develop a social media strategy. Social media is often the cheapest, fastest, and most effective way to

reach a wide audience. It is a powerful tool. In addition to alerting traditional journalists to important stories, it is a way to engage with the public and build relationships with succinct messaging that is unfiltered by mainstream media.

Engaging with the Media

Most reporters and producers are searching for current events or “news hooks” for their stories—even if they are planning coverage ahead of time. National Crime Victims' Rights Week is a perfect opportunity to focus the media's attention on crime issues relevant to your local community.

A little basic research goes a long way. Use online search engines to look up local crime victim stories, and note which reporters cover these stories in your area and their contact information. Reporters change their subject focus and outlets often, so make sure you check with the relevant news desk or outlet website for the appropriate contact.

Some reporters include their e-mail address or Twitter handle at the end of their stories. If a particular reporter or news outlet does a good piece on crime victims, send the link around via e-mail or share it on Facebook and Twitter. This way you are both informing people and promoting the work of a reporter or outlet that may be interested in future stories.

If your agency is holding a newsworthy event, either for National Crime Victims' Rights Week or any time during the year, send out social media invitations and alerts, and contact your local reporters by phone and e-mail.

Communicating Your Message

Briefly describe the event and offer yourself as a resource. Reporters are on tight deadlines, so anything you can give them ahead of time is useful. For news stories you may only have a few hours to turn around a comment or other information; investigative or feature pieces may afford more time. Reporters will often ask for a local or human-interest angle. Be prepared for the following types of questions when pitching: Has a local victim triumphed over tragedy or found a way to help other victims restore their lives? Is there a victim who would be willing to share his or her story? Do you have a reliable source for up-to-date statistics on a particular kind of crime? Position your organization as a resource and refer to the “Statistical Overviews” in Section 6 for data points. Have there been any other recent examples of the crime you are discussing in your area or in other communities around the country? Who could brief the reporter on the current status of the law in this area? Can your organization’s director provide an on-the-record comment?

Sample News Release

Use the sample news release in this section as a guide to help write your own NCVRW release or to provide a model for colleagues to use to publicize your local events. The news release announces National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, explores the theme, quotes the director of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime, and encourages your local audience to contact your organization. Be sure to share your releases and media advisories with colleagues, partners, and other professionals who share your mission or have partnered with you to plan NCVRW events.

Send out your NCVRW release well in advance of your events to reporters and partner organizations. Be sure to post the release on your Facebook page and tweet about it. Use a 10-day lead time to follow up with reporters and partner organizations, find spokespeople, answer questions, and create media kits for important events. Media kits should include the organization’s contact information,

names, and e-mails for leadership or spokespeople, the mission statement or description of the organization’s work, and information about your NCVRW activities.

Sample Letter to the Editor

Readers’ letters and comments are often the most read sections of newspapers and news websites. They are great tools for building awareness about National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. Use the sample letter in this section for inspiration. Newspapers generally publish letters that respond to either previous or current articles or discuss news events in the community. Ideally you would cite a reliable recent study, quote statistics about the crime or issue, or stress the need for more research about crimes that are often hidden or underreported. Letters that are endorsed by multiple community groups will receive more attention. Consider asking local law enforcement officers or other organizations to partner with you or write their own letters for National Crime Victims’ Rights Week to highlight the needs of crime victims and how the public can help.

Sample Op-Ed Column

Newspaper editorial pages—both on paper and online—are highly popular among readers. Opinion-editorials are typically longer than letters to the editor and afford the opportunity to delve deeper into the issues. They are persuasive pieces. Research local crime coverage. Which crimes are of particular concern to your community, and how have they affected victims’ lives? Is the local juvenile justice center overloaded? Is the prevalence of sexual assaults on local campuses being addressed? Does your local women’s shelter need more community support? Do the homeless in your community have a warm place to go in the winter? Choose your topic, and scan for coverage in your newspaper or local news websites. Note the length and other guidelines for submitting an opinion-editorial. You might also contact someone you know at the newspaper, explain the importance of National Crime Victims’ Rights

Week, and ask how to maximize the chances of having your op-ed published. The sample included in this section can be used as a model.

Public Service Announcements

Many media outlets offer free airtime for public service announcements (PSAs) to publicize events of interest to the community. Radio stations, in particular, may have significant amounts of time to fill and may be receptive to a request to air your NCVRW PSA. This section includes three sample scripts—for a 15-second, 30-second, and 60-second PSA. Create your own PSA or work with your local stations to produce an announcement about National Crime Victims' Rights Week and your organization's contributions to the community. Be sure to include relevant contact information as well as the organization's name, phone number, and website in your public service announcement. To increase the likelihood that local media will air your PSA, contact them at least two months before National Crime Victims' Rights Week (early February, at the latest). Talk to the producer, explain why the week is so important, and mention that you have already prepared PSAs about the week. When you send your script or PSA to your local reporters or television stations, include a cover letter with your contact information and the reasons why National Crime Victims' Rights Week is important to your community. Follow-up is critical for successful placement of PSAs.

How to Create a Social Media Campaign

Social media is increasingly important in all industries, since some audiences are difficult to reach through traditional channels and are turning to social media and online tools as their primary means of communication and acquiring information. Using social media will help you expand and reinforce your message by reaching larger audiences and including audiences such as young people that are underserved by traditional media. In addition to

now-mature tools like Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube, new tools like Instagram and Vine can help you expand your message even further. Many public agencies and nonprofits have ventured into social media due to its global scope and ability to spread messages quickly. It is also a fantastic way to engage with supporters and constituents. Reporters and the general public often head online to look for information and resources, and it's worth investing some time in learning how to effectively communicate this way. Whatever your organization's goals—building public awareness, reaching victims, attracting donors, or gaining members—social media can supplement your traditional media outreach and help you achieve your objective. This section includes some of the basics to help you get started and guide your use of these highly effective tools.

Sample Social Media Status Updates

This section includes sample status updates that you can post on Facebook and Twitter during National Crime Victims' Rights Week and during the entire month of April. Each update is a brief point of information related to victimization, crime, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, or this year's theme: *Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims*. Only Facebook and Twitter samples are included; however, these can be adapted for numerous other social networks. All sample Twitter updates are limited to 140 characters, so you won't need to edit them before posting. You might also want to substitute status updates about your local NCVRW events and ask your followers to post them on their Facebook pages or retweet them for maximum reach and community engagement. These are only starting points. Feel free to use any or all of these resources throughout the month, but also supplement them with news about your own events and observations to keep your community engaged!

Other Outreach Tips

- Plan a comprehensive strategy that includes traditional media, social media, statements and letters by the public officials, and a series of key messages you want your audiences to receive.
- Contact editors, producers, or station managers by phone, e-mail, or mail *at least a month in advance* of *National Crime Victims' Rights Week* (two months for PSAs). Follow up *two weeks prior* as well.
- Ask local officials to issue NCVRW proclamations, write letters to the editor and opinion editorials (op-eds), speak at your events, and mention National Crime Victims' Rights Week as they conduct their official duties. Thank them for their contributions, tweet and post Facebook updates, and include their participation in your news releases and outreach materials. Retweet and promote any good articles or segments about crime or victims' rights on social media.
- After your NCVRW events, send high-quality video, high-resolution photos or digital images to your local television stations or newspapers with your contact information. Alert them in advance that photos or video are being sent.

Advocating for Victims with the Media

Communicating your message requires working effectively with reporters, while also advocating for and being sensitive to victims' needs. Reporters prioritize collecting information quickly to meet deadlines, and even those who are well meaning may not be aware of the best ways to approach crime victims. Victims who agree to speak with reporters may need information and support to handle interviewers, photographers, and camera-people. Victim advocates play a key role in helping reporters get crucial information while ensuring victims are treated with sensitivity, and that their name, location, or other private information is not revealed without their consent. This section includes tips to help you navigate this process. ★



The purpose of this news release is to generate media coverage for your local National Crime Victims' Rights Week activities. The release below is designed to be customized. Edit the release to reflect issues in your community and to highlight commemoration events.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[Date]

CONTACT:

[Name/Title/Agency]

[Phone number]

[E-mail]

[Your City/Organization] Celebrates National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 19-25

[Customize sub-heading to highlight local events, activities, partnerships]

[City/State] —Every April, the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) helps lead communities throughout the country in their annual observances of National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) by promoting victims' rights and honoring crime victims and those who advocate on their behalf. This year's NCVRW will be held April 19-25 and the theme *Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.* presents the opportunity to highlight the diversity of our communities, expand partnerships to serve victims of crime, enhance efforts to meet victims where they are, and empower crime victims as they pursue justice and recovery.

The U.S. Department of Justice will kick off the week with OVC's annual National Crime Victims' Service Awards Ceremony in Washington, DC to honor outstanding individuals and programs that serve victims of crime. [Your City/County/State/Organization] will observe National Crime Victims' Rights Week with special events and programs, including [include brief descriptions of activities].

[Your City/Organization] will also commemorate the advancement of victims' rights by honoring [name, title] and [name, title], champions in advocating for expanded support and services to communities affected by crime. [Provide brief information about each honoree.]

NCVRW honors and celebrates the achievements of the past thirty years in securing rights, protections, and services for victims. The bipartisan Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), passed by Congress in 1984, created a national fund to ease victims' suffering. Financed by fines and penalties paid by offenders, the Crime Victims Fund supports victim assistance and services, such as rape crisis and domestic violence programs [customize to include local services] and victim compensation programs that pay victims' out-of-pocket expenses such as counseling, funeral expenses, and lost wages. VOCA has also pioneered support efforts for victims of once-hidden crimes such as domestic and sexual violence. Outreach is increasingly focused on previously underserved victim populations, including victims of color, religious and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ victims, and immigrant populations to name a few. Efforts are being made to ensure that all victims, regardless of their background or the crime committed against them, receive the support they deserve.

"Victim empowerment is a central tenant of our work," said Joye E. Frost, Director, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), U.S. Department of Justice. "By engaging the entire community, we are able to maximize and leverage existing resources to better serve *all* victims of crime and provide the necessary support through their journey to healing. This year's NCVRW theme emphasizes that we all have a role to play."

OVC encourages widespread participation in the week's events and in other victim-related observances throughout the year. For additional information about the 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week and how to assist victims in your community, please contact [Agency/Organization] at [area code/telephone number] or visit [Agency's website] at [web address]. For additional ideas on how to support victims of crime, visit the Office for Victims of Crime website, www.ovc.gov.

###

[Your organization's mission statement/boilerplate] ★

Sample Letter to the Editor

Newspapers often print letters in response to previous news items or opinion pieces. By writing a letter to the editor, you can link National Crime Victims' Rights Week to a current local, state, or national issue to show why readers should care about the rights and concerns of crime victims. The following sample cites a news item about identity theft and encourages the public to use National Crime Victims' Rights Week to raise awareness, share prevention tips, and emphasize the impact of all financial crimes.

Focus your letter on a specific crime or trend covered by the newspaper. You might ask a local criminal justice official, such as your district attorney or state attorney general, to write a letter explaining the importance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week from his or her perspective.

Before writing your letter, check your newspaper's submission guidelines. Letters to the editor should be brief, no more than 250 to 300 words. Begin by citing the article to which you are responding, and then state your main point. Write two or three short paragraphs to support your argument, and end your letter with a concluding statement. When you submit the letter, include your contact information so that the newspaper can contact you if it decides to print your letter. If the newspaper does not publish your letter, consider submitting it to a local organization that publishes a newsletter, or you may choose to post it on your website. Also post links to the letter on your Facebook, Twitter, and other social media pages.

Victims of Financial Fraud Are Crime Victims Too

Financial fraud is a serious crime that costs billions of dollars and affects more than 25 million consumers annually. The insightful article from your publication on identity theft raised many issues; however it is important to acknowledge the full scope of financial fraud, which also includes mortgage and lending fraud, investment fraud, and mass marketing schemes. This type of crime receives far less attention than violent crime, but can be as devastating. As an example, elder financial exploitation dramatically increases the risk of premature death.

Financial fraud knows no boundaries and does not discriminate. Victims are young and old, rich and poor. They come from all backgrounds, ranging from infants who have never initiated a financial transaction to retired individuals at the prime of their lives. Common targets include seniors, individuals with physical impairments, victims of domestic violence, those nearing retirement, people experiencing personal hardships, and those who have already been victimized, among others.

Victims of financial fraud experience the same range of emotions as those of violent crime, including loss of trust, guilt, shame, fear, isolation, depression, and anger. Perpetrators hide in plain sight and may hold positions of trust, or they may be perfect strangers using increasingly complex and evolving methods to defraud victims. As a result, justice is sometimes difficult to achieve, leaving victims alone to rebuild their lives.

April 19-25 is National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Let's use this week to raise awareness, share prevention tips, and emphasize the far-reaching impact financial crime has on individuals. We must work together to empower victims to report financial fraud and to provide the necessary support and resources they need to move forward and rebuild their lives.

Name

Organization

City, State ★

Op-eds are a great opportunity to share an opinion with a wide audience, and they do not necessarily have to be in response to another article. Keep your submission to 800 words or less. Be concise and persuasive. This is your chance to influence opinions, affect policy, and highlight the work you or your organization is doing to support crime victims' rights.

Out of the Shadows

Crime victimization is not limited to one specific population, but rather it is something that transcends people of all backgrounds and identities. While crime victims have legally protected rights, many different groups face significant barriers not only in accessing the resources they need and deserve, but also in reaching out.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) is a wonderful opportunity to renew our commitment to underserved crime victims, to create partnerships, and to enhance the services and offerings from local providers to ensure that *all* victims of crime receive the necessary support to address their victimization and begin the healing process on their terms. This year's NCVRW theme is *Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims*. It emphasizes that everyone in the community is an integral part of creating safe, tolerant, and welcoming environments for all individuals regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, living and family situation, disability, immigration status, or anything else for that matter.

Underserved victim groups include homeless people, immigrants, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) victims, persons with disabilities, people of color, victims of sexual assault, runaways, and many more. Often cultural barriers, isolation, language, marginalization, racism, and many other factors create unimaginable obstacles for these populations to access the services they need. These barriers contribute to their hesitation in reporting the crimes committed against them. Unfortunately, for some communities and groups violence has become part of their normal everyday life and individuals become more accepting of its existence.

Underserved populations are also likely targets and at an increased risk for victimization. We know that marginalized populations are disproportionately affected by violence. LGBTQ people of color are more than 3 times as likely to experience injury from hate violence. Persons with disabilities experience violence at a rate twice that of persons without disabilities. Almost half of all women will experience some sort of sexual violence in their lifetime. African Americans makeup close to 13% of the population, however they represent almost half of all homicide victims. We also know that young people, runaways, and homeless people experience higher rates of violence than the general population. [*Highlight local underserved communities.*]

The high rate of victimization among these populations is made worse by the fact that they are often underserved by victim service organizations. There are a variety of factors that may prevent victims from gaining access to services that they need. For example, immigrant victims may be hesitant to approach public services due to possible inquiries of their legal status, victims of domestic violence may be afraid for their lives if they identify the abuse, and LGBTQ people may not be comfortable sharing their sexuality.

There are a myriad of reasons crime victims remain in the shadows, unwilling or afraid to come forward. We must listen to the members of these communities to find out what these underserved victims need and how we can help them find justice and healing. As we commemorate NCVRW and celebrate the achievements of the crime victims' rights movement, we also need to recognize that there is more to accomplish. We must make it a priority to ensure that all crime victims feel comfortable enough to come out from the shadows into the light and receive the respect and recognition they deserve. Together we will engage our communities to empower all victims.

Visit the online Directory of Crime Victim Services at <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/findvictimservices> to find services in your area. The Directory includes more than 10,000 programs and is designed to help service providers and individuals locate crime victim services in the United States and around the world. ★

15-Second PSA

Every year, millions of people's lives are forever changed by crime. They are our families, neighbors, friends, and colleagues. April 19-25 is National Crime Victims' Rights Week, a time to reach out and help crime victims rebuild their lives. We all play a role. Find out how you can help. Call [agency name] at [phone number] or visit www.VictimsofCrime.org.

30-Second PSA

Every year, millions of people's lives are forever changed by crime. They are our families, neighbors, friends, and colleagues. Many will have life-changing injuries or need ongoing care and support. April 19-25 is National Crime Victims' Rights Week. We can all reach out to victims, listen to what they need, and help them rebuild their lives. We all play a role. Find out how you can help. Contact [agency name, number, URL] or visit www.VictimsofCrime.org.

60-Second PSA

Every year, millions of people's lives are forever changed by crime. They are our families, neighbors, friends, and colleagues. Crime victims often struggle to work, pay bills, or support their loved ones. Many have life-changing injuries and need long-term care and support. April 19-25 is National Crime Victims' Rights Week. It's a time we can all reach out to crime victims, listen to what they need, and help them rebuild their lives. We all play a role. Find out how you can help. Call [agency name, number, URL] or visit www.VictimsofCrime.org. ★

WHAT ARE PSAS AND HOW DO I USE THEM?

PSAs (public service announcements) are short video or audio messages given to radio or television stations to broadcast at no cost to the submitting organization.

HOW DO I GET THEM TO AIR?

First, contact your local radio or television stations to inquire about their policies on airing PSAs and their submission guidelines. Broadcast media (radio and television) are required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to serve "the public interest." Most stations donate portions of their commercial time to non-commercial causes.

Find out who is in charge of selecting which PSAs will run. This person could be the public affairs director, traffic director, program director, promotions manager, or station manager.

Once you've made contact with the stations, inform them that you will be sending a PSA to air. Include basic information about your organization in the delivery, such as a cover letter and pamphlet. Follow up with a phone call to ask if the PSA was received and when it will be aired. *Continue to reach out to the station. Persistence is key.*

COMMUNITY ACCESS AND PUBLIC TELEVISION

Many towns have local cable (sometimes called community access) and college stations. Locate the name of the station manager and follow the same procedure as above. Many of these stations also air community calendars with information about local events and activities. Submit yours on a regular basis.

YOUR WEBSITE OR SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

Also upload the PSAs to your website, Facebook, or YouTube account, and use additional outreach efforts (e.g., press releases, social networking status updates) to drive viewers to your site.

Social media offers powerful tools to assist with your outreach goals. Social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, and others provide powerful and extensive forums to publicize events, share information, enlist volunteers, raise funds, and instantly reach communities that share your goals and interests. More than 97 percent of nonprofits now use some form of social media, making it easier for you to reach the communities you want to engage online.

Social media strategies for National Crime Victims' Rights Week will depend on your organization's overall communications goals, the platforms you now use, your staff's knowledge, and the amount of time and resources you are able to invest in building and maintaining your online presence. Nonprofits of any size or staffing situation can benefit from social engagement. Your campaign should use social media to complement rather than replace your website and traditional media outreach. You don't want to miss the advantages offered by these great tools to enhance your NCVRW outreach.

Social Media Platforms

The most important social media platforms for your campaign are available for free, though many allow you to pay for additional reach to get your message to a larger audience. As you develop your strategies and identify your communications goals, you need to keep in mind the strengths and weaknesses of different social networks, the types of audiences you will be able to reach, the investment they require (if any), and the capabilities they offer to your organization. Among the most important tools are:

Facebook

Whatever your goals or your desired audience, you have a great chance of reaching them on Facebook. Because Facebook claims to have 1.32 billion active users, you may want to start with this tool, especially if you have time to maintain only one social media platform. According to the [Pew Research Center](#), 64 percent of all U.S. adults are on Facebook, and 30 percent of them get news from the site.

Facebook business pages must be administered by the personal profile of a designated individual who sets up the business or "fan" page. For instructions on how to complete that process, log in and visit Facebook's [signup instructions page](#). Once you have signed up and established your URL (Uniform Resource Locator), begin posting content, visiting the Facebook pages of organizations in

your field, "liking" them, and perhaps sending messages or (where allowed) posting on their Facebook pages and those of their fans (people who "like" them). Post photos, videos, company content, invitations to upcoming events, and links back to your website, and tag them in relevant posts on your own page. Interacting with others will help build your own community. Also join Facebook groups that are relevant to your interests. With some Facebook groups, you may need to send e-mails to invite them to "like" your Facebook page and become one of your fans. The resulting dialogue will help support and shape your Facebook strategy.

Posting pictures is a powerful way to promote engagement, as pictures tend to garner more views, likes, shares, and comments than text alone. Use this to your advantage in your Facebook strategy by posting pictures of your NCVRW events or promotional photos leading up to events. Facebook also supports hashtags, which can be used to categorize content. Include [#NCVRW2015](#) after your NCVRW posts to help others stay up to date on your events!

Twitter

Twitter is a "microblog," an information-sharing network made up of 140-character messages called "tweets." It's an easy way to send and receive links to the latest news and information. Twitter offers instant communication with an online community. Once you have [set up your](#)

How to Create a Social Media Campaign

[own account](#), choose a Twitter handle (username) that other users will recognize (often the name or nickname of your organization/agency). Use Twitter to establish instant connections with others in your industry or field of interest, and follow a steady stream of ideas, content, links, and resources.

Because Twitter users see themselves as a support network, it is particularly important to begin using the platform by following others and observing what they have to say. It is useful to search for the name of your organization, and search topics and organizations that are of interest. After you set up your account, begin following others, following their followers, retweeting their tweets, and promoting them to your audience. You will then find ways to weigh in on conversations and promote your events, projects, or policies. Learn how to use Follow Friday (#FF) lists that recommend others to follow you. You can also recruit followers by announcing on other platforms (like your Facebook page) that you have joined Twitter, and link back to your Twitter page.

Maximize your Twitter presence by staying engaged in conversations on subjects that are important to you, and by quickly responding to other users' tweets and mentions of your organization or causes. Hashtags are a useful way to become part of a conversation, so make sure to use the most applicable tags, and add [#NCVRW2015](#) to your NCVRW tweets. The most important part of a Twitter campaign is staying engaged with your followers!

YouTube

YouTube, a video platform, is one of the world's most visited Internet sites. You will need a digital camcorder/camera, webcam, or cell phone with video capacity, as well as someone who knows how to use those tools. To begin, set up a [YouTube channel](#) for your organization, which will be linked with any other Google accounts you have. Choose a name that matches your brand, and post your channel URL on your Facebook page and other social network

profiles. If applicable, apply for a [YouTube Nonprofit Program](#) account, which gives you more features, such as the ability to add clickable "asks" on top of videos and upload longer videos.

If you decide to use YouTube, you might begin by posting a video about your work featuring your staff and success stories. Use YouTube to upload recordings of presentations you've given and share presentation slides and videos of interviews with experts or representatives from your organization who can offer subject matter expertise. Post links to these videos (or the videos themselves) on your Facebook page, and tweet about them. Engage with the YouTube community by leaving comments and even uploading video responses to the videos of other organizations. Before, during, and after National Crime Victims' Rights Week, YouTube users post great videos on crime victims' rights, which you can re-post and share throughout all of your social media networks. You can also create playlists on your YouTube channel to display your favorite videos that others have posted. YouTube is an ideal way of showcasing your NCVRW events.

Instagram

Instagram is a highly popular photo-sharing site that enables you to upload and share photos one at a time with your online network. Unlike photo archiving sites like [Flickr](#) and [Picasa](#), Instagram allows users to apply filters and other effects to give their photos special vibrancy or an aged, vintage look. Once you have set up an [Instagram account](#), snap photos of your NCVRW events on your mobile devices and give your followers a sneak peek before you post them on your website. Expand the audience for your photos by "[tagging](#)" them with keywords and hashtags to identify or organize them on Instagram. Be sure to add [#NCVRW2015](#) to your NCVRW posts. If someone in your organization gives an NCVRW presentation, take a photo and post it on Instagram and Facebook, and tweet about it on Twitter. It provides a great opportunity to expand your audience as well as NCVRW publicity.

WordPress or Blogger

If you are interested in sharing more in-depth communications with your community, you may want to consider starting a blog (or weblog). [WordPress](#) and [Blogger](#) are two excellent platforms to host your blog. To maintain the interest of your audience, post at least once or twice a week, and be sure to link to your blog from your Facebook and Twitter pages, and vice versa. If you don't have time for a blog, you can always post statements and information on your website, particularly during National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

LinkedIn

Use LinkedIn, an online professional network, to connect with any of its 259 million members. LinkedIn offers organizations, as well as individuals, the opportunity to set up profiles and network with others, share information, ask questions, participate in discussions, and promote events and causes. LinkedIn users build a presence by inviting others to join their networks and also by joining LinkedIn groups (such as LinkedIn's "Social Media for Nonprofits" group). Search the site for other professionals and organizations in your field, invite them to connect with you, follow them, send messages, ask questions, and join groups (searchable by name and subject area). Be sure to learn and follow LinkedIn [etiquette](#), such as always responding quickly to invitations to connect and LinkedIn's best practices for company pages. Update your profile regularly and arrange your settings so that your connections see each change.

You can also create a [LinkedIn Company Page](#) for your organization. Follow the setup wizard for creating your company profile. Be sure to include a header image and profile image for your page, and focus on keywords from your mission statement throughout your description information. Additionally, [LinkedIn Showcase pages](#) can be used to highlight specific initiatives.

LinkedIn is more of a professional network than Facebook or Twitter, and can be used to ask and answer questions of other professionals in your field. This will bring you the best engagement, and could be a useful way to share ideas about NCVRW events or programming.

Making a Plan

Before diving into social media, meet with your staff to develop a *realistic* social media plan. You may be surprised to learn how much time is required to launch and sustain a robust social media presence. *Social Media for Social Good: A How-to Guide for Nonprofits* shares that large nonprofits with successful social media outreach average 15 hours on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube; 5 hours on photo-sharing sites; and 10 hours on their blogs each week. Such allotments are probably unrealistic for smaller organizations, but it is still possible to launch an effective social media campaign with a much smaller staff. Social media can occupy as much time as you have to dedicate to it. Even devoting a few hours a week to Facebook and Twitter and posting several times a week will help increase connections and exposure.

You should also clarify your goals in using social media to focus your efforts and to help determine which social networks are right for you. What do you want to accomplish? What audiences are you trying to reach, and what do you want them to know? How do you want them to engage? If you want to show off images or video of your NCVRW events, and let your community know what you've been doing, then Facebook and YouTube are probably your best options. If you want to stay engaged in a real time back and forth conversation on trending issues, you should put your efforts into Facebook and Twitter. Do you want to have a Q&A with other professionals in your field? LinkedIn has you covered.

Your overall and NCVRW-related social media goals should also be specific (e.g., reach 200 local Facebook users with NCVRW messages; invite five new groups to your NCVRW

How to Create a Social Media Campaign

events). Aim to make your goals measurable, achievable, important to your organization, and time-limited. For example, in a period of two months, you would like to gain 200 local Facebook fans for your organization and sign them up for an NCVRW event. Think about how you will follow up with these fans throughout the year. Then choose the social media tool that will best suit your goals, assign appropriate staff members to manage these media, and create a balanced [social media policy](#) for your organization. Now you are ready!

If you decide to use social media, you should remember that these tools are two-way communications vehicles for sharing information and supporting users—not a one-way bulletin board to promote your organization. Back and forth conversations and engaging with the content of your followers, rather than simply relaying information, are key to your success. This is especially true for Twitter, where experts suggest tweeting or retweeting at least 10 times for every tweet devoted strictly to your organization's goals. Actively engaging will give you better results and build a community with deeper interest in your work.

Also, the quality of the content you post is the key to your success. Organizations with successful social media campaigns focus on providing content that is new and of

value to their visitors. By posting excellent content, sharing generously, and responding quickly on all your platforms, you will build the community and the reputation you desire.

Note: The National Center for Victims of Crime invites you to share NCVRW photos and information with us, and we will happily post it to our network and retweet your messages to help get the word out about your events. We encourage you to do the same. Message content to us at <https://www.facebook.com/ncvcfan>, or email webmaster@ncvc.org, during the month of April. If you are on Twitter, please follow us at [@CrimeVictimsOrg](https://twitter.com/CrimeVictimsOrg) and tweet using the [#NCVRW2015](#) hashtag. ★



Below are status updates to post on Facebook and Twitter in the lead up to and during National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The Twitter updates are all 140 characters or fewer, and ready to use. You may use these items on any date you choose. We encourage you to also write your own status updates (see [sidebar](#)), especially to alert your audience about your local events.

Facebook Status Updates

Below is a list of status updates to use as Facebook posts. In your posts, also include related photos or graphics (e.g., the 2015 NCVRW logo), as well as your fans' responses.

- This year's NCVRW theme is *Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims*. Learn more here and get involved: www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015
- "When we learn how to meet the needs of underserved victims, and as we help new communities understand the impact of victimization and the assistance that is available, we expand options for victims. Victims become empowered to direct their own path to becoming survivors." Get your resources to be a part of National Crime Victims' Rights Week here: www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015
- Victims with disabilities and victims who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing are often disconnected from mainstream victim service providers. This week we honor leaders and service providers within these communities who have the ability to reach out to and empower those victims.
- National Crime Victims' Rights Week 2015 focuses on "*Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims*." The entire community, individually and collectively, has a role in supporting victims of crime and empowering them to direct their own recovery. [#NCVRW2015](https://twitter.com/NCVRW2015)
- Share photos and announcements about your NCVRW planning and events at www.facebook.com/ncvcfan. The National Center for Victims of Crime will share your posts with other advocates on Facebook and other social media outreach throughout April.
- See past National Crime Victims' Rights Week Community Awareness Projects via the National Association for VOCA Assistance Administrators and find ways to network with advocates in your community. www.navaa.org/cap/previous.html
- National Crime Victims' Rights Week begins April 19. Visit the Office for Victims of Crime National Crime Victims' Rights Week website for information about resources and help in planning events and activities. www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015
- Today marks the beginning of National Crime Victims' Rights Week! How do you plan on commemorating this week? Let us know!
- Certain communities remain outside of the network of those working to support crime victims and, as a result, too many victims are not empowered in their recovery and healing. Work with us this week to engage and empower underserved victims. [#NCVRW2015](https://twitter.com/NCVRW2015)
- Looking for information about victims of assault, domestic violence, stalking, child abuse, sexual assault, and other crimes? Download the Help Series brochures from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. www.ovc.gov/pubs/helpseries/index.html
- How have you used the theme video from National Crime Victims' Rights Week? Tell us in the comments and share your activities with other activists.
- Visit www.victimsofcrime.org/training for updates about the National Center for Victims of Crime's National Conference in Anaheim this September, a

great opportunity to learn from and network with other victim advocates.

- Visit the National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards for information on crime victim compensation in your state: www.nacvcb.org/index.asp?sid=6
- Follow the *National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide* Partners to learn about the activities of other victim advocates and get the resources you need for your NCVRW 2015 activities. See Section 7 for the partner list: www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015
- Share “*Taking Action: An Advocate’s Guide for Assisting Victims of Financial Fraud*” with your followers, and spread the word about the dangers of fraud this National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. www.victimsofcrime.org/taking-action
- April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month! Visit our partners at HHS to get informed and learn how you can help protect kids. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth>
- April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month! Find out how to support victims of sexual assault in our schools, college campuses, workplaces, and the wider community. www.nsvrc.org/saam/sexual-assault-awareness-month-home
- This National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, we reaffirm our commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists *all* victims of crime and to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace. www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2015

Twitter Status Updates

Below is a list of suggested tweets for you to share with your followers:

- National Crime Victims’ Rights Week begins April 19. Visit www.ovc.gov/ncvrw for information about resources and events. #NCVRW2015
- National Crime Victims’ Rights Week is April 19-25, 2015. Search #NCVRW2015 to stay connected!
- Victims should be given the assistance they need to make informed decisions for their own lives! Follow #NCVRW2015 to get involved!
- Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims. Search #NCVRW2015 to learn how you can help victims of crime!
- We reaffirm our commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists ALL victims of crime. #NCVRW2015
- National Crime Victims’ Rights Week 2015 starts today! This year’s theme is “Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.” #NCVRW2015
- Visit <http://1.usa.gov/bJ3d6u> to order a copy of the #NCVRW2015 Resource Guide.
- Download the #NCVRW2015 Resource Guide free at <http://ow.ly/DZOiI> for tips on observing National Crime Victims’ Rights Week.
- Free resources are available to help victims of financial fraud this #NCVRW2015. Download here: <http://ow.ly/q1Nmi>
- Download free awareness posters for your #NCVRW2015 activities! <http://ow.ly/q1NrP>
- Looking for ways to get involved in #NCVRW2015? Find ways to raise awareness here: <http://ow.ly/q1NuA>

- This year, we recognize and celebrate our efforts to reach more victims by expanding partnerships to new communities. #NCVRW2015
- Get statistics and talking points for your #NCVRW2015 activities: <http://ow.ly/q1NAc>
- Do you know any victims of crime? Have you been victimized? Get helpful info from the #NCVRW2015 Resource Guide: <http://ow.ly/DZOil>
- Visit <http://ow.ly/DZOil>, Section 7, to learn more about the National Crime Victims' Rights Week Guide partners. #NCVRW2015
- Need inspiration for your #NCVRW2015 event? See Section 2 of the *NCVRW Resource Guide* for #victim centered quotes. <http://ow.ly/DZOil>
- See Section 2 of the #NCVRW2015 Resource Guide for other key events in 2015 <http://ow.ly/DZOil> and stay active in supporting victims.
- Learn how to protect yourself from fraud this #NCVRW2015 and how to assist others: <http://ow.ly/q1Nmi>
- OVC offers a calendar of upcoming #victim assistance events. Learn more or add your training at <http://ow.ly/q1NDo> #NCVRW2015
- Want to network with #victim advocates? Visit VictimsofCrime.org/training for updates on the @CrimeVictimsOrg National Conference in Anaheim.
- Use this #NCVRW2015 to learn about the power of DNA to help #victims. Visit <http://ow.ly/DZOil> or follow @DNA_Answers.
- OVC hosts a searchable database of victims' rights laws. Learn more: <http://ow.ly/q1NM9> #NCVRW2015
- Stalking is a crime, not a joke. Get the facts: <http://ow.ly/q1NQj> @SRC_NCVc #NCVRW2015
- OVC's TTAC offers free trainings on victim advocacy and assistance. Learn more here: <http://ow.ly/rpGhK> #NCVRW2015
- April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month! Learn more at: <http://ow.ly/rpLET> #NCVRW2015
- April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month! Get resources for your campaign: <http://ow.ly/rpLR7> ★

MORE TIPS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

In addition to Facebook and Twitter status updates, use the following ideas to generate more NCVRW posts on your social media sites.

- Download NCVRW theme artwork from the Resource Guide CD-ROM or the [Office for Victims of Crime](http://www.victimsofcrime.org) website, including NCVRW-specific Facebook cover and profile images.
- Post photos or videos of your organization's NCVRW planning or events.
- Post photos of your NCVRW event speakers on your Facebook page (in advance of the events), and promote them on Twitter and your other social media.
- [Download the app](#) for Instagram, a photo-editing platform for iPhone or Android users that converts your photos to clear, small images and allows you to add filters to those images. Instagram interfaces with Twitter, Facebook, and other platforms.
- Upload posters from the Office for Victims of Crime's [gallery of awareness posters](#) on crime- and victim-related topics to your social media platforms.
- Post links to NCVRW op-eds or news releases in your local newspaper or television station website.
- Post links to the NCVRW statements or proclamations of your local or state officials (and include brief blurbs about these statements).
- Allow other Facebook users to post stories, event reminders, pictures, and updates on your wall. Change your Facebook settings to "open settings," and be sure to monitor your wall consistently for negative or offensive posts.
- Check the Facebook pages of the *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* Partners in Section 7 and "like" these partners or link to them.
- Ask your Facebook fans and Twitter followers to post your status updates on their social media networks.
- Post current and recent NCVRW videos from [YouTube](http://www.youtube.com).

Media coverage of crime greatly influences public perceptions about victims. Particularly in the immediate aftermath of crimes, as reporters rush to meet deadlines, their reporting may not reflect the desired sensitivity to traumatized victims. Because many television and print reporters do not receive training in how to interact with victims, you have an opportunity to help them approach crime stories with sensitivity. As a victim advocate who understands the perspective of victims and knows what reporters need to include their stories, you can play a key role in advocating for victim-sensitive coverage of crime.

Tips for Reporters

In writing news stories about crime, reporters have the difficult task of seeking interviews from victims and conducting those interviews in an ethical manner when victims agree to speak. Advocates can help reporters prepare to speak with victims by offering suggestions about how to approach the victim so that he or she feels comfortable and safe. Educate reporters on how to approach crime victims by sharing the following guidelines.¹

Asking for the Interview

- Recognize that the victim may be coping with shock and trauma;
- Approach the victim without equipment—notebooks, tape recorders, cameras, and lights—and try to make a human connection;
- Introduce yourself as a reporter, give the victim your name and title, and briefly explain what you hope to achieve with your story;
- Express concern for the victim by saying, “I am sorry for what happened to you” or “I am sorry for your loss;”
- Ask victims how they would prefer to be addressed, and observe that preference in all your questions;

- Give the victim a reason to speak with you by explaining the purpose of the story, the fact that it will be published, and why the victim’s participation is important;
- Tell the victim how much time you need and observe that time limit;
- Courteously accept the victim’s refusal if he or she is unwilling to be interviewed;
- If the victim says no, express interest in a future interview, leave a business card, or send an e-mail with your contact information, and ask for the names of others who may be willing to speak.

Logistics and Other Considerations

- Make the victim comfortable—offer a chair or suggest a comfortable, safe place to talk;
- Respect victims’ space—because people in trauma often do not want to be touched, hand the microphone to the victim and explain how to adjust it;
- Ask permission to record the interview;
- Clarify ground rules—explain that anything victims say may be used in the interview and give victims permission to turn off the microphone if they want to say something they do not want included.

¹ Bonnie Bucqueroux and Anne Seymour, *A Guide for Journalists Who Report on Crime and Crime Victims*, (Washington, DC: Justice Solutions, 2009), 2-10, accessed October 23, 2014, <http://www.mediacrimevictimguide.com/journalistguide.pdf>.

Victim Advocacy during Interviews

With the help of victim advocates, reporters can approach the interview with sensitivity toward the victim and the understanding that he or she may be undergoing trauma associated with the crime. Advocates who are present during the interview can step in if the reporter's questions become too pointed or difficult or if the victim seems to be getting upset. By making victims' needs a priority, advocates can keep the interview on track and encourage the reporter to do so as well.

Tips for Victims

Advocating for victims with the media also includes helping victims decide whether to accept interviews, how to minimize invasions of their privacy, and how to exercise their rights and options in dealing with reporters. Advocates can also help victims anticipate questions and prepare how to answer them.

Before the Interview

By giving victims the following checklist of questions and walking through it with them, you can help victims decide whether to participate in an interview:

- *What are your goals in speaking to the media?* What purpose do you hope the interview will serve? Will it help the community learn more about your loved one or understand the impact of crime on victims? Are you willing to answer questions from reporters who might not understand your pain or your point of view?
- *Would the interview invade your privacy?* If you are still struggling with the emotional, physical, or financial impact of the crime, would speaking to a reporter disturb you or make you feel violated? You may want to discuss the pros and cons with a victim advocate before making your decision.
- *Does refusing the interview increase or decrease your control over what is published about the crime?* Denying an interview will not prevent publicity about your case. If the story is newsworthy, the media will publish the story with or without interviewing you. Also, an interview may provide you with an opportunity to offer your perspective on the crime.
- *Would you prefer that someone else speak for you?* If you would rather not be interviewed, you may ask someone else—an attorney, victim advocate, clergy member, another family member, or friend—to represent you in media interviews. That person can also release written statements on your behalf or accompany you to interviews if you decide to accept them.
- *Would granting an interview affect the investigation or prosecution of the crime?* Giving an interview may compromise the investigation or prosecution of a crime. You may want to speak with an advocate or attorney before deciding to grant an interview.
- *Do you want to set conditions for the interview?* Although reporters and producers may not agree to the conditions you suggest, if they want your interview they will most likely comply with reasonable requests. You have the right to ask or express your wishes regarding:
 - » Time and location of the interview
 - » Visiting the set or location before an interview
 - » Advance information about questions, the reporter's angle, or plans for using your interview
 - » Requesting a victim's advocate, lawyer, or support person be present
 - » Issues you will not discuss
 - » Requesting a specific reporter or producer
 - » Protecting your identity (through silhouettes and electronic distortion of your voice)

- » Excluding children and other family members from the interview
- » Excluding photos and other images you find offensive
- » Excluding offenders or other participants to whom you might object

Preparing Victims for the Interview

Share the following tips with victims who agree to interviews:

- Bring someone to provide support.
- Prepare for the interview by having an advocate list questions the reporter may ask and rehearsing responses.
- Refuse to answer a question by:
 - » Polite refusal: “I’m sorry, but I don’t want to talk about that.”
 - » Bridging: Change the subject to what YOU want to talk about. Answer by saying, “what is really important about that issue is...” and then talk about what you think the audience should know.
- Never speak “off the record.” Reporters may publish or broadcast anything you say.
- If you don’t know the answer to a question, simply say you don’t know. Don’t guess or speculate.

- You may request a correction if the article that is published is inaccurate or you are quoted out of context. Newspapers and other outlets may publish corrections and television news may correct serious errors (although the option to do so is theirs). You can also complain to management at the news outlet prior to publication or broadcast if the reporter was aggressive, insensitive, or obtained information dishonestly.
- You may refuse a follow-up interview, even if you have previously agreed to be interviewed a second time.

Victim advocates can play a key role in mediating between reporters and victims, especially when victims are feeling vulnerable and under stress. The victim, his or her family, and the wider community have an important interest in ensuring that media coverage is sensitive, accurate, and does not put the victim under duress or at risk. ★



ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING VICTIMS



Section 5. LANDMARKS IN VICTIMS' RIGHTS AND SERVICES: A Historical Overview

Crime Victims' Rights in America: A Historical Overview

Every year, National Crime Victims' Rights Week creates an opportunity for communities to come together and reflect on the history of crime victims' rights. By celebrating past successes, communities are engaged and victims are empowered.

"Landmarks in Victims' Rights and Services" outlines this progress from 1965 to the present by highlighting the creation and growth of national and community victim service organizations, the passage of key federal and state legislation, notable court decisions, groundbreaking reports and studies, and the advances of victim assistance approaches to helping crime victims. It tells the story of our nation's capacity to help victims rebuild their lives.

Let these milestones inform your speeches, op-ed columns, media interviews, and other education efforts during National Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year. Fifty years later, we have much to celebrate and, still, much to strive for.

KEY FEDERAL VICTIMS' RIGHTS LEGISLATION

1974	Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
1980	Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act
1982	Victim and Witness Protection Act
1982	Missing Children's Act
1984	VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT
1984	Justice Assistance Act
1984	Missing Children's Assistance Act
1984	Family Violence Prevention and Services Act
1985	Children's Justice Act
1988	Drunk Driving Prevention Act
1990	Hate Crime Statistics Act
1990	Victims of Child Abuse Act
1990	Victims' Rights and Restitution Act
1990	National Child Search Assistance Act
1992	Battered Women's Testimony Act
1993	Child Sexual Abuse Registry Act
1994	Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act
1994	VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT
1996	Community Notification Act ("Megan's Law")
1996	Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act
1996	Mandatory Victims' Restitution Act
1997	Victims' Rights Clarification Act
1998	Crime Victims with Disabilities Awareness Act
1998	Identity Theft and Deterrence Act
2000	Trafficking Victims Protection Act
2001	Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act (established September 11th Victim Compensation Fund)
2003	PROTECT Act ("Amber Alert" law)
2003	Prison Rape Elimination Act
2003	Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act
2004	JUSTICE FOR ALL ACT , including Title I The Scott Campbell, Stephanie Roper, Wendy Preston, Louarna Gillis, and Nila Lynn Crime Victims' Rights Act
2006	Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act
2010	Tribal Law and Order Act

*The good we secure for ourselves is **precarious and uncertain** until it is secured **FOR ALL OF US** and incorporated into our **common life**.*

— JANE ADDAMS (1860 – 1935)

1965

- The first crime victim compensation program is established in California.
- By 1970, five additional compensation programs are created in New York, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Maryland, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

1972

- The first three victim assistance programs are established:
 - » Aid for Victims of Crime in St. Louis, Missouri.
 - » Bay Area Women Against Rape in San Francisco, California.
 - » D.C. Rape Crisis Center in Washington, DC.

1973

- The results of the first annual National Crime Victimization Survey are released. The survey, commissioned by the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice, asks U.S. household members about their exposure to crime. It is intended to complement the FBI's annual compilation of crimes reported to law enforcement agencies.

1974

- The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) funds the first victim/witness programs in the Brooklyn and Milwaukee District Attorneys' Offices and seven other offices through a grant given to the National District Attorneys Association to establish model assistance programs for victims, encourage victim cooperation, and improve prosecution.
- The first law enforcement-based victim assistance programs are established in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Indianapolis, Indiana.
- Congress passes the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, which establishes the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect. The new Center establishes an information clearinghouse and provides technical assistance and model programs.

1975

- The first "Victims' Rights Week" is organized by the Philadelphia District Attorney.
- Citizen activists from across the country unite to expand victim services and increase recognition of victims' rights through the formation of the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA).

1976

- The National Organization for Women forms a task force to examine the problem of battering. It calls for research into the problem, along with money for battered women's shelters.
- The first national conference on battered women is sponsored by the Milwaukee Task Force on Women in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- In Fresno County, California, Chief Probation Officer James Rowland creates the first victim impact statement to provide the sentencing court with an objective inventory of victim injuries and losses.
- The first hotline for battered women is started by Women's Advocates in St. Paul, Minnesota.
- Women's Advocates and Haven House in Pasadena, California, establish the first shelters for battered women.
- Nebraska and Wisconsin become the first states to abolish the marital rape exemption.

1977

- The National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards is established by the existing 22 state victim compensation programs to foster a nationwide network of compensation programs.
- Oregon becomes the first state to enact a mandatory arrest law in domestic violence cases.

1978

- The National Coalition Against Sexual Assault is formed to combat sexual violence and promote services for rape victims.

- The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) is organized as a voice for the battered women's movement on a national level.
- Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc. (POMC), a self-help support group, is founded in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Minnesota becomes the first state to allow probable cause (warrantless) arrests in cases of domestic assault, whether or not a protection order has been issued.

1979

- Frank G. Carrington founds the Crime Victims' Legal Advocacy Institute, Inc., to promote the rights of crime victims in the civil and criminal justice systems. The nonprofit organization is renamed VALOR, the Victims' Assistance Legal Organization, in 1981.
- The Office on Domestic Violence is established in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (later closed in 1981).
- The World Society of Victimology is formed to promote research relating to crime victims and victim assistance, advocate for victims' interests, and advance cooperation of international, regional, and local agencies concerned with crime victims' issues.

1980

- Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is founded after the death of 13-year-old Cari Lightner, who was killed by a repeat drunk-driving offender. The first two MADD chapters are established in Sacramento, California, and Annapolis, Maryland.
- Congress passes the Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act of 1980.

Landmarks in Victims' Rights and Services

- Wisconsin passes the first “Crime Victims’ Bill of Rights.”
- The first National Day of Unity is established in October by NCADV to mourn battered women who have died, celebrate women who have survived the violence, and honor all who have worked to end domestic violence.
- The first Victim Impact Panel is sponsored by Remove Intoxicated Drivers (RID) in Oswego County, New York.

1981

- President Ronald Reagan proclaims the first national “Crime Victims Week” in April.
- The abduction and murder of six-year-old Adam Walsh prompts a national campaign to raise public awareness about missing children and enact laws to better protect children.
- The Attorney General’s Task Force on Violent Crime recommends that a separate national task force be created to examine victims’ issues.

1982

- In a Rose Garden ceremony, President Reagan appoints members to the Task Force on Victims of Crime, which holds public hearings in six cities across the nation to focus attention on the needs of crime victims. The Task Force’s Final Report offers 68 recommendations that become the framework for the advancement of new programs and policies. Its final recommendation, to amend the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution to guarantee that “...the victim, in every criminal prosecution, shall have the right to be present and to be heard at all critical stages of judicial proceedings...” becomes a vital source of new energy to secure constitutional amendments for victims’ rights in each state.

- The Victim and Witness Protection Act of 1982 brings “fair treatment standards” to victims and witnesses in the federal criminal justice system.
- California becomes the first state to amend its constitution to address the interests of crime victims by establishing a constitutional right to victim restitution.
- The passage of the Missing Children’s Act of 1982 helps guarantee that identifying information about missing children is promptly entered into the FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) computer system.
- Congress abolishes, through failure of appropriations, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration; many grassroots and system-based victim assistance programs close.

1983

- The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is established by the U.S. Department of Justice within the Office of Justice Programs to implement recommendations from the President’s Task Force on Victims of Crime. OVC establishes a national resource center, trains professionals, and develops model legislation to protect victims’ rights.
- U.S. Attorney General William French Smith establishes a Task Force on Family Violence, which holds six public hearings across the United States.
- U.S. Attorney General Smith issues the first *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance*, which outlines standards for federal victim and witness assistance and the implementation of victims’ rights contained in the federal Victim and Witness Protection Act of 1982.
- In April, President Reagan honors crime victims in a White House Rose Garden ceremony.

- The First National Conference of the Judiciary on Victims of Crime is held at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, with support from the National Institute of Justice. Conferees develop recommendations for the judiciary on victims' rights and services.
- President Reagan proclaims the first National Missing Children's Day in observance of the fourth anniversary of the disappearance of six-year-old Etan Patz.
- Wisconsin passes the first Child Victim and Witness Bill of Rights.
- The International Association of Chiefs of Police Board of Governors adopts a Crime Victims' Bill of Rights and establishes a Victims' Rights Committee to focus attention on the needs of crime victims by law enforcement officials nationwide.

1984

- The passage of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) establishes the Crime Victims Fund, made up of federal criminal fines, penalties, and bond forfeitures, to support state victim compensation and local victim assistance programs.
- President Reagan signs the Justice Assistance Act, which establishes a financial assistance program for state and local government and funds 200 new victim service programs.
- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is established as the national resource agency for missing children. The Center was mandated as part of the Missing Children's Assistance Act of 1984.
- The Task Force on Family Violence presents its report to the U.S. Attorney General with recommendations for action, including improving the criminal justice system's response to battered women and establishing

prevention and awareness activities, education and training, and data collection and reporting.

- The National Minimum Drinking Age Act of 1984 is enacted, providing strong incentives to states to raise the minimum age for drinking to 21, saving thousands of young lives in years to come.
- The Spiritual Dimension in Victim Services in Charleston, South Carolina, is founded to involve the faith community in violence prevention and victim assistance.
- Congress passes the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, which earmarks federal funding for programs serving victims of domestic violence.
- Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) is organized at the first police survivors' seminar held in Washington, DC, by 110 relatives of officers killed in the line of duty.
- A victim/witness notification system is established within the Federal Bureau of Prisons.
- Victim/witness coordinator positions are established in the U.S. Attorneys' Offices within the U.S. Department of Justice.
- California State University, Fresno, initiates the first Victim Services Certificate Program offered for academic credit by a university.
- OVC establishes the National Victims Resource Center, now named the Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center (OVCRC), to serve as a clearinghouse for OVC publications and other resources.

1985

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$68 million.
- The National Victim Center (renamed the National Center for Victims of Crime in 1998) is founded in

honor of Sunny von Bülow to provide a strong national voice on behalf of crime victims and to educate Americans about the devastating effect of crime on our society.

- The United Nations General Assembly adopts the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power that serves as the basis for victim service reform at national and local levels throughout the world.
- President Reagan announces the Child Safety Partnership to enhance private sector efforts to promote child safety, clarify information about child victimization, and increase public awareness of child abuse.
- The U.S. Surgeon General issues a report identifying domestic violence as a major public health problem.

1986

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$62 million.
- OVC awards the first grants to support state victim assistance and compensation programs.
- Two years after its passage, the Victims of Crime Act is amended by the Children's Justice Act to provide funds specifically for the investigation and prosecution of child abuse.
- More than 100 victim advocates meet in Washington, DC, at a forum sponsored by NOVA, and formally agree to seek a federal constitutional amendment on victims' rights.
- Rhode Island passes a victims' rights constitutional amendment granting victims the rights to restitution, to submit victim impact statements, and to be treated with dignity and respect.
- MADD's "Red Ribbon Campaign" enlists motorists to display a red ribbon on their automobiles, signaling a

pledge to drive safely and soberly during the holidays. (This national public awareness effort has since become an annual campaign.)

- By year's end, 35 states have established victim compensation programs.

1987

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$77 million.
- The National Victims' Constitutional Amendment Network and Steering Committee are formed at a meeting hosted by the National Center for Victims of Crime. This initiative becomes instrumental in the passage of victims' rights amendments throughout the United States.
- Security on Campus, Inc., (SOC) is established by Howard and Connie Clery, following the tragic robbery, rape, and murder of their daughter, Jeanne, at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. SOC raises national awareness about crime and victimization on our nation's campuses.
- The American Correctional Association establishes a Task Force on Victims of Crime.
- NCADV establishes the first national toll-free domestic violence hotline.
- October is officially designated as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month to honor battered women and those who serve them.
- In a 5-4 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court rules in *Booth v. Maryland* (482 U.S. 496) that victim impact statements are unconstitutional (in violation of the Eighth Amendment) when applied to the penalty phase of a capital trial because "only the defendant's personal responsibility and moral guilt" may be considered in capital sentencing. Significant dissenting opinions are offered.

- Victims and advocates in Florida, frustrated by five years of inaction by their legislature on a proposed victims' rights constitutional amendment, begin a petition drive. Thousands of citizens sign petitions supporting constitutional protection for victims' rights. The Florida legislature reconsiders, and the constitutional amendment appears on the 1988 ballot.

1988

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$93 million.
- OVC sets aside funds for the Victim Assistance in Indian Country grant program to provide direct services to Native Americans by establishing “on-reservation” victim assistance programs in Indian Country.
- The National Aging Resource Center on Elder Abuse is established by a cooperative agreement among the American Public Welfare Association, the National Association of State Units on Aging, and the University of Delaware. Renamed the National Center on Elder Abuse, it provides information and statistics on this issue of growing concern.
- *State v. Ciskie* is the first case to allow the use of expert testimony to explain the behavior and mental state of an adult rape victim. The testimony is used to show why a victim of repeated physical and sexual assaults by her intimate partner would not immediately call the police or take action. The jury convicts the defendant on four counts of rape.
- The Drunk Driving Prevention Act is passed, and all states raise the minimum drinking age to 21.
- Victims' rights constitutional amendments are introduced in Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Michigan, South Carolina, and Washington. Florida's amendment is placed on the November ballot, where it passes with 90 percent of the vote.

Michigan's amendment passes with more than 80 percent of the vote.

- OVC sponsors the first “Indian Nations: Justice for Victims of Crime” conference in Rapid City, South Dakota.
- Amendments to the Victims of Crime Act legislatively establish the Office for Victims of Crime, elevate the position of Director by making Senate confirmation necessary for appointment, and encourage state compensation programs to cover victims of domestic violence, homicide, and drunk driving. In addition, VOCA amendments, at the behest of MADD and POMC, add a new “priority” category for funding victim assistance programs for “previously underserved victims of violent crime.”
- OVC establishes a Federal Emergency Fund for victims in the federal criminal justice system.

1989

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$133 million.
- In a 5-4 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court reaffirms in *South Carolina v. Gathers* its 1987 decision in *Booth v. Maryland* that victim impact evidence and arguments are unconstitutional when applied to the penalty phase of a capital trial. Again, significant dissenting opinions are offered.
- The legislatures in Texas and Washington pass victims' rights constitutional amendments. Both are ratified by voters.

1990

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$146 million.
- Congress passes the Hate Crime Statistics Act, requiring the U.S. Attorney General to collect data

on the incidence of certain crimes motivated by prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity.

- The Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act, requiring institutions of higher education to disclose murder, rape, robbery, and other crimes on campus, is signed into law by President George H.W. Bush.
- Congress passes the Victims of Child Abuse Act, which features reforms to make the federal criminal justice system less traumatic for child victims and witnesses.
- The Victims' Rights and Restitution Act of 1990 incorporates a Bill of Rights for federal crime victims and codifies services that should be available to victims of crime.
- Congress passes legislation proposed by MADD to prevent drunk drivers and other offenders from filing bankruptcy to avoid paying criminal restitution or civil fines.
- The Arizona petition drive to place the victims' rights constitutional amendment on the ballot succeeds, and the amendment is ratified by voters.
- The first National Incidence Study on Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway Children in America finds that in a one-year period there were as many as 450,000 runaways; 127,000 throwaways; 438,000 children who were lost, injured, or otherwise missing; 4,600 children abducted by nonfamily members; and 114,600 children who were targets of attempted abduction by nonfamily members.
- The National Child Search Assistance Act requires law enforcement to enter reports of missing children and unidentified persons into the FBI's NCIC computer system.
- California becomes the first state in the country to pass a law against stalking, CA Penal Code Section 646.9.

1991

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$128 million.
- U.S. Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) introduces the first Congressional Joint Resolution (H.R.J. Res. 247) to place victims' rights in the U.S. Constitution.
- California State University, Fresno, approves the first bachelor's degree program in victimology in the nation.
- The National Center for Victims of Crime releases *America Speaks Out*, a report on the first national public opinion poll to examine citizens' attitudes about violence and victimization.
- In a 7-2 decision in *Payne v. Tennessee* (501 U.S. 808), the U.S. Supreme Court reverses its earlier decisions in *Booth v. Maryland* (1987) and *South Carolina v. Gathers* (1989) and rules that testimony and prosecutorial arguments commenting on the murder victim's good character, as well as how the victim's death affected his or her survivors, do not violate the defendant's constitutional rights in a capital case.
- U.S. Attorney General William P. Barr issues new comprehensive guidelines that establish procedures for the federal criminal justice system to respond to the needs of crime victims. The 1991 *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance* implement new protections of the Crime Control Act of 1990, integrating requirements of the Crime Victims' Bill of Rights, the Victims of Child Abuse Act, and the Victim and Witness Protection Act.
- The American Probation and Parole Association establishes a Victim Issues Committee to examine victims' issues and concerns related to community corrections.

- The New Jersey legislature passes a victims' rights constitutional amendment, which is ratified by voters in November.
- Colorado legislators introduce a victims' rights constitutional amendment on the first day of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The bill is unanimously passed by both Houses to be placed on the ballot in 1992.
- In an 8-0 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court rules in *Simon & Schuster v. New York Crime Victims Board* that New York's notoriety-for-profit statute was overly broad and unconstitutional. Notoriety-for-profit statutes had been passed by many states by this time to prevent convicted criminals from profiting from the proceeds of depictions of their crimes in the media or publications.
- The Washington Secretary of State implements the nation's first Address Confidentiality Program, which provides victims of domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault an alternative, confidential mailing address and secures the confidentiality of two normally public records—voter registration and motor vehicle records.
- By the end of 1991, seven states have incorporated victims' rights into their state constitutions.
- The Association of Paroling Authorities International establishes a Victim Issues Committee to examine victims' needs, rights, and services in parole processes.
- Congress reauthorizes the Higher Education Bill, which includes the Campus Sexual Assault Victims' Bill of Rights.
- The Battered Women's Testimony Act, which urges states to accept expert testimony in criminal cases involving battered women, is passed by Congress and signed into law by President George H.W. Bush.
- In a unanimous decision, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *R.A.V. v. City of St. Paul*, strikes down a local hate crimes ordinance in Minnesota. The ordinance had prohibited the display of a symbol that one knew or had reason to know "arouses anger, alarm or resentment in others on the basis of race, color, creed, religion or gender," and was found to violate the First Amendment.
- Five states—Colorado, Kansas, Illinois, Missouri, and New Mexico—ratify victims' rights constitutional amendments.
- Twenty-eight states pass anti-stalking laws.
- Massachusetts passes a landmark bill creating a statewide computerized domestic violence registry and requiring judges to check the registry when handling such cases.

1992

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$221 million.
- The National Center for Victims of Crime releases *Rape in America: A Report to the Nation*, a groundbreaking study that includes data on rape frequency, victims' reporting rate to police, the impact of rape on victims' mental health, and the effect of media disclosure of victim identities on reporting rape to law enforcement.

1993

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$144 million.
- Wisconsin ratifies its victims' rights constitutional amendment, bringing the total number of states with these amendments to 14.
- Congress passes the International Parental Kidnapping Act, which makes a federal felony the removal of

Landmarks in Victims' Rights and Services

a child from the United States or keeping a child outside of the United States with the intent to obstruct the lawful exercise of parental rights.

- President William J. Clinton signs the “Brady Bill,” requiring a waiting period for the purchase of handguns.
- Congress passes the Child Sexual Abuse Registry Act, establishing a national repository for information about child sex offenders.
- The National Center for Victims of Crime launches INFOLINK (later renamed the “National Crime Victim Helpline”), a toll-free service that provides trained victim advocacy and support for victims of all types of crime.
- Twenty-two states pass anti-stalking statutes, bringing the total number of states with anti-stalking laws to 50, plus the District of Columbia.

1994

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$185 million.
- The American Correctional Association Victims Committee publishes the landmark *Report and Recommendations on Victims of Juvenile Crime*, which offers guidelines for improving victims' rights and services within the juvenile justice system.
- Six additional states pass victims' rights constitutional amendments—the largest number ever in a single year—bringing the total number of states with amendments to 20. States with new amendments include Alabama, Alaska, Idaho, Maryland, Ohio, and Utah.
- President Clinton signs a comprehensive package of federal victims' rights legislation as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. The Act includes:

- » The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which authorizes more than \$1 billion in funding for programs to combat violence against women.
- » Enhanced VOCA funding provisions.
- » Establishment of a National Child Sex Offender Registry.
- » Enhanced sentences for drunk drivers with child passengers.

- Kentucky becomes the first state to institute automated telephone notification to crime victims of their offender's status, location, and release date.
- OVC establishes the Community Crisis Response program, using the NOVA model, to improve services to victims in communities that have experienced a crime resulting in multiple violent victimizations.

1995

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$233 million.
- Legislatures in three states—Indiana, Nebraska, and North Carolina—pass victims' rights constitutional amendments that will be placed on the ballot in 1996.
- The National Victims' Constitutional Amendment Network proposes the first draft of language for a federal victims' rights constitutional amendment.
- The first class graduates from the National Victim Assistance Academy (NVAA) in Washington, DC. Supported by OVC, NVAA provides an academically credited, 45-hour curriculum on victimology, victims' rights, and other victim-related topics.
- *The Anatomy of Fraud: Report of a Nationwide Survey* by Richard Titus, Fred Heinzelmann, and John M. Boyle is published. The report is based on the first nationwide survey, conducted in 1991 by the National

Institute of Justice, to determine the scope of fraud and its effects, with findings that an estimated \$40 billion is lost to fraud each year. One-third of the people surveyed reported that an attempt to defraud them had occurred in the previous year.

- The U.S. Department of Justice issues the revised *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance*, which increases the accountability of federal criminal justice officials, directing that performance appraisals and reports of best efforts include information on guidelines compliance.
- The Beijing World Conference on Women issues a landmark call for global action to end violence against women.
- The US Department of Justice creates the Violence Against Women Office to provide federal leadership in developing the national capacity to reduce violence against women and administer justice for and strengthen services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

1996

- The Crime Victims Fund reaches an historic high with deposits over \$525 million.
- Federal victims' rights constitutional amendments are introduced in both houses of Congress with bipartisan support.
- Both presidential candidates and Attorney General Janet Reno endorse the concept of a federal victims' rights constitutional amendment.
- Eight states ratify the passage of victims' rights constitutional amendments—raising the total number of such state constitutional amendments to 29 nationwide.
- President Clinton reaffirms his support of federal constitutional rights for crime victims in a Rose

Garden ceremony attended by members of Congress, criminal justice officials, and representatives of local, state, and national victims' rights organizations.

- The Community Notification Act, known as “Megan’s Law,” amends the Child Sexual Abuse Registry law to provide for notifying communities of the location of convicted sex offenders.
- President Clinton signs the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, providing \$1 million to strengthen antiterrorism efforts, make restitution mandatory in violent crime cases, and expand compensation and assistance for victims of terrorism both at home and abroad, including victims in the military.
- OVC uses its new authority under the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act to provide substantial financial assistance to the victims and survivors of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- The Mandatory Victims’ Restitution Act, enacted as Title II of the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, allows federal courts to award “public harm” restitution directly to state VOCA victim assistance programs. The Act makes restitution in federal cases mandatory, regardless of the defendant’s ability to pay. It also requires federal courts to order restitution to victims of fraud.
- The VOCA definition of “crime victim” is expanded to include victims of financial crime, allowing this group to receive counseling, advocacy, and support services.
- The National Domestic Violence Hotline is established by Congress to provide crisis intervention, information, and referrals to victims of domestic violence and their friends and family.
- The Church Arson Prevention Act is enacted to respond to an increasing number of acts of arson against religious institutions around the country.

Landmarks in Victims' Rights and Services

- The Drug-Induced Rape Prevention Act is enacted to address the emerging issue of drug-facilitated rape and drug-facilitated sexual assault.
- The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, within the U.S. Department of Justice, issues the Juvenile Justice Action Plan, which includes recommendations for victims' rights and services within the juvenile justice system for victims of juvenile offenders.
- Due to the large influx of VOCA funds in the previous fiscal year, OVC hosts a series of regional meetings with state VOCA administrators to encourage states to develop multiyear funding strategies to help stabilize local program funding, expand outreach to previously underserved victims, and support the development and implementation of technologies to improve victims' rights and services.
- OVC continues its support of the victims and survivors of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City by funding additional advocates, crisis counseling, and travel expenses for the bombing victims to attend court proceedings. When the venue of the trial is changed to Denver, Colorado, OVC provides funding for a special closed-circuit broadcast to victims and survivors in Oklahoma City.

1997

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$363 million.
- Congress passes the Victims' Rights Clarification Act of 1997 to clarify existing federal law allowing victims to attend a trial and to appear as "impact witnesses" during the sentencing phase of both capital and non-capital cases. President Clinton signs the Act, allowing the victims and survivors of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City in April 1995 to observe the trial and to provide input later at sentencing.
- A federal victims' rights constitutional amendment is reintroduced in the opening days of the 105th Congress with strong bipartisan support. The Senate and House Judiciary Committees conduct hearings on the proposed federal victims' rights constitutional amendment. While not endorsing specific language, Attorney General Janet Reno testifies at the Senate hearing in support of federal constitutional rights for crime victims.
- To fully recognize the sovereignty of Indian Nations, OVC for the first time provides victim assistance grants directly to tribes in Indian Country.
- Congress enacts a federal anti-stalking law as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997.
- OVC releases *New Directions from the Field: Victims' Rights and Services for the 21st Century*, which assesses the nation's progress in meeting the recommendations set forth in the *Final Report of the 1982 President's Task Force on Victims of Crime* and issues over 250 new recommendations from the field for the next millennium.

1998

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$324 million.
- Senate Joint Resolution 44, a new bipartisan version of a federal victims' rights constitutional amendment, is introduced in the Senate by Senators Jon Kyl (R-AZ) and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA). The Senate Judiciary Committee subsequently approves S.J. Res. 44 by an 11-6 vote. No further action is taken on S.J. Res. 44 during the 105th Congress.
- Four new states pass state victims' rights constitutional amendments: Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, and Tennessee. The Supreme Court of

Oregon overturns the Oregon state victims' rights amendment, originally passed in 1996, citing structural deficiencies.

- The Higher Education Amendments of 1998 is passed. Part E of this legislation, "Grants to Combat Violent Crimes Against Women on Campus," is authorized through the year 2003 and appropriates a total of \$10 million in grant funding to the Violence Against Women Grants Office for Fiscal Year 1999. Another primary aim of this legislation is to reduce binge drinking and illegal alcohol consumption on college campuses.
- Congress enacts the Child Protection and Sexual Predator Punishment Act of 1998, providing for numerous sentencing enhancements and other initiatives addressing sex crimes against children, including crimes facilitated by the use of interstate facilities and the Internet.
- Congress passes the Crime Victims with Disabilities Awareness Act, representing the first effort to systematically gather information about the extent of victimization of individuals with disabilities. This legislation directs the U.S. Attorney General to conduct a study on crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities. In addition, the Bureau of Justice Statistics is required to include statistics on the nature of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities and victim characteristics in its annual National Crime Victimization Survey by 2000.
- The Identity Theft and Deterrence Act of 1998 is signed into law. This landmark federal legislation outlaws identity theft and directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to consider various factors in determining penalties, including the number of victims and the value of losses to any individual victim. The Act further authorizes the Federal Trade Commission to log and acknowledge reports of identity theft, provide information to victims, and refer complaints to

appropriate consumer reporting and law enforcement agencies.

- OVC provides funding to the U.S. Department of State to support the development of a Victim Assistance Specialist position to improve the quality and coordination of services provided to U.S. citizens who are victimized abroad.

1999

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$985 million.
- The proposed federal victims' rights constitutional amendment (Senate Joint Resolution 3, identical to S.J. Res. 44) is introduced in the 106th Congress.
- The fifth National Victim Assistance Academy is held at five university locations across the United States, bringing the total number of Academy graduates to nearly 1,000.
- OVC issues the first grants to create State Victim Assistance Academies.
- The National Crime Victim Bar Association is formed by the National Center for Victims of Crime to promote civil justice for victims of crime.

2000

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$777 million.
- Congress passes a new national drunk driving limit of 0.08 blood alcohol concentration (BAC) with the support of MADD, other victim advocacy organizations, and leading highway safety, health, medical, law enforcement, and insurance groups. The new law, passed with bipartisan support, requires states to pass 0.08 "per se intoxication" laws or lose a portion of their annual federal highway funding.

- Congress reauthorizes the Violence Against Women Act of 2000, extending VAWA through 2005 and authorizing funding at \$3.3 billion over the five-year period. In addition to expanding federal stalking statutes to include stalking on the Internet, the Act authorizes:
 - » \$80 million a year for rape prevention and education grants.
 - » \$875 million over five years for battered women's shelters.
 - » \$25 million in 2001 for transitional housing programs.
 - » \$25 million to address violence against older women and women with disabilities.
- The Internet Crime Complaint Center website, www.ic3.gov, is created by the U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the National White Collar Crime Center to combat Internet fraud by giving consumers a convenient way to report violations and by centralizing information about fraud crimes for law enforcement.
- Attorney General Reno revises and reissues the *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance*, which mandates that every Department of Justice employee who comes into contact with crime victims receives at minimum one hour of training about victim rights laws and the guidelines.
- Victimization rates as reported in the National Crime Victimization Survey are the lowest recorded since the survey's creation in 1973.
- The Treasury Department conducts the National Summit on Identity Theft, which addresses prevention techniques, victims' experiences, and remediation in the government and private sector. The summit is the first national-level conference involving law enforcement, victims, industry representatives, and nonprofit organizations interested in the issue. At the summit, Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers unveils four new initiatives to address identity theft.
- A federal victims' rights constitutional amendment is addressed for the first time by the full U.S. Senate. Following two-and-a-half days of debate, the measure (S.J. Res. 3) is withdrawn for further consideration by its cosponsors, Senators Kyl (R-AZ) and Feinstein (D-CA), when it becomes apparent that the measure will not receive the two-thirds majority vote necessary for approval.
- Congress passes and the President signs the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. This new law significantly strengthens criminal enforcement, prosecution, and penalties against traffickers; provides new protections to victims; and enables victims of severe forms of trafficking to seek benefits and services available to other crime victims.

2001

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$544 million.
- The National Crime Victimization Survey reports that victimization rates continue to drop, reaching a new low of 26 million victims for the year 2000.
- On September 11, 2001, two hijacked planes crash into the World Trade Center, another into the Pentagon, and a fourth into a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, killing 2,974 victims and injuring countless others in the worst terrorist attacks on American soil.
- Congress responds to the terrorist acts of September 11 with a raft of new laws providing funding for victim assistance, tax relief for victims, and other accommodations and protections for victims. As part of the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act, a new federal victim compensation program is created specifically for the victims of September 11. The program includes many types of

damages normally available only through civil actions, such as payment for pain and suffering, lifetime lost earnings, and loss of enjoyment of life. To receive compensation, claimants are required to waive their right to bring civil action for damages suffered as a result of the terrorist acts.

- Congress passes and President George W. Bush signs the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001, a package of antiterrorism legislation that includes changes to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), including increasing the percentage of state compensation payments reimbursable by the federal government and allowing OVC to fund compliance and evaluation projects.
- OVC augments state victim compensation funding to aid victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania; offers assistance to victims of the September 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon through the Pentagon Family Assistance Center; and establishes a toll-free telephone number and secure website for victims and their immediate family members.
- The Child Abuse Prevention and Enforcement Act and Jennifer's Law increase the annual Crime Victims Fund set-aside for child abuse victims from \$10 million to a maximum of \$20 million, and allow the use of Byrne grant funds for the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Jennifer's Law authorizes \$2 million per year through Fiscal Year 2002 for states to apply for grants to cover costs associated with entering complete files of unidentified crime victims into the FBI's NCIC database.
- New regulations, policies, and procedures for victims of trafficking dramatically change the response to this class of crime victims by agencies throughout the federal government, including the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and several U.S. Department of Justice agencies (the FBI, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and U.S. Attorneys' Offices).

2002

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$519 million.
- OVC releases final program guidelines and an accompanying application kit for the Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program for Terrorism and Mass Violence Crimes, which provides funding to compensate and assist victims of terrorism and mass violence that occur within and outside the United States.
- The National Crime Victimization Survey continues to show a decline in crime victimization. Violent crime victimization dropped 10 percent from the previous year, and property crime dropped 6 percent.
- President Bush attends the presentation of the National Crime Victims' Rights Week awards and announces the Administration's support for the proposed Crime Victims' Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA) is established. With OVC support, NAVAA provides technical assistance and training to state VOCA assistance administrators.
- OVC makes available the first Helping Outreach Programs to Expand grants to grassroots, nonprofit, community-based victim organizations and coalitions to improve outreach and services to victims of crime through the support of program development, networking, coalition building, and service delivery.
- Congress appropriates approximately \$20 million to fund services to trafficking victims, including shelter, medical and mental health care, legal assistance, interpretation, and advocacy.
- President Bush hosts the first White House Conference on Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children and announces his support for the Hutchison-Feinstein National AMBER Alert Network

Act of 2002, which would help develop, enhance, and coordinate AMBER (America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response). The Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs is designated as the National AMBER Alert Coordinator at the Department of Justice.

- By the end of 2002, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Guam have established crime victim compensation programs.
- *Our Vulnerable Teenagers: Their Victimization, Its Consequences, and Directions for Prevention and Intervention* is released by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency and the National Center for Victims of Crime. This landmark report documents the disproportionate representation of teenagers, ages 12 to 19, as victims of crime, and discusses promising prevention and intervention strategies.
- Congress passes federal legislation making the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), formerly known as the Violence Against Women Office, a permanent part of the Department of Justice with a Presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed Director.

2003

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$361 million.
- The Senate Judiciary Committee passes the federal victims' rights constitutional amendment to ensure basic rights to victims nationwide.
- Congress makes the Office on Violence Against Women (formerly the Violence Against Women Office within the Office of Justice Programs) a permanent, independent office within the U.S. Department of Justice.
- Congress passes and President Bush signs the PROTECT Act of 2003—also known as the “AMBER Alert” law—which creates a national AMBER network to facilitate rapid law enforcement and community response to kidnapped or abducted children.
- The American Society of Victimology (ASV) is established at the first American Symposium on Victimology held in Kansas City, Kansas. The ASV serves as a forum for academics and practitioners on all topics related to victimology in partnership with the World Society of Victimology.
- The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 is enacted to track and address the issue of rape in correctional institutions and develop national standards aimed at reducing prison rape.
- Congress establishes January as National Stalking Awareness Month.
- The National Domestic Violence Hotline, operated by the Texas Council on Family Violence, receives its one millionth call.
- The U.S. Postal Service releases the Stop Family Violence postage stamp to raise money for domestic violence prevention programs.
- Congress appropriates \$22 million for the U.S. Department of Defense's Family Advocacy Program, \$900,000 of which is for the National Domestic Violence Hotline Awareness, Intervention, and Prevention Campaign in the military services.
- The Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 is enacted to provide new protections against identity theft and help victims of identity theft recover their financial losses.
- Congress passes and President Bush signs the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act. Along with reauthorizing programs created under the first TVPA, this legislation strengthens prevention efforts, supports prosecution of offenders, simplifies the process by which victims are certified eligible for benefits, and allows benefits and services to be

available for victims' family members who are legally allowed to come to the United States. The legislation also creates a civil cause of action for victims of forced labor or forced prostitution.

2004

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$834 million.
- The U.S. Department of Defense Task Force on Care for Victims of Sexual Assault releases its report and recommendations for preventing sexual assault in the military and providing a sensitive response to victims. The recommendations include establishing a single office within the U.S. Department of Defense to handle sexual assault matters, launching an information campaign to inform personnel about services available to victims, and convening a summit to update the definition of sexual assault and address victim privacy concerns within the military context.
- The Identity Theft Penalty Enhancement Act is enacted, defining aggravated identity theft as stealing another person's identity in connection with the commission of other specified felonies. The legislation also prohibits the court from ordering an offender's sentence for identity theft to run concurrently with a sentence imposed on the same offender for any other crime.
- Congress passes and President Bush signs the Justice for All Act of 2004, which includes the Scott Campbell, Stephanie Roper, Wendy Preston, Louarna Gillis, and Nila Lynn Crime Victims' Rights Act, providing substantive rights for crime victims. The law provides mechanisms at the federal level to enforce the rights of crime victims, giving victims and prosecutors legal standing to assert victims' rights, authorizing the filing of writs of mandamus to assert a victim's right, and requiring the U.S. Attorney General to establish a victims' rights compliance program within the Department of Justice. The legislation

authorizes \$155 million in funding over the next five years for victim assistance programs at the federal and state level. This omnibus crime legislation also provides funding for DNA testing, crime labs, sexual assault forensic examiners, and programs for post-conviction DNA testing.

- President Bush hosts the first national training conference on human trafficking, which brings together trafficking response teams of federal, state, and local law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, and victim service providers from at least 21 cities with a known concentration of trafficking victims. The conference emphasizes the importance of combating trafficking using a victim-centered approach.
- The National Center for Victims of Crime releases *Repairing the Harm: A New Vision for Crime Victim Compensation in America*, which examines compensation data from all 50 states, the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, and compensation programs in other countries. The report also recommends a framework for strengthening victim compensation in the United States.

2005

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$668 million.
- The U.S. Department of Justice establishes an online national sex offender registry that provides real-time access to public sex offender data nationwide with a single Internet search.
- OVC and the Bureau of Justice Assistance initiate a program to establish teams of law enforcement task forces and victim services to respond to human trafficking. The primary goals of this program are to develop sustainable programs to combat human trafficking through proactive law enforcement and prosecution at all levels of government, to coordinate U.S. Attorneys' Offices' efforts, to collaborate

- with victim service providers, and to increase the identification and rescue of trafficking victims.
- The U.S. House of Representatives establishes the first congressional Victims' Rights Caucus, co-chaired by Representatives Ted Poe (R-TX) and Jim Costa (D-CA). The mission of the Caucus is to elevate crime victim issues in Congress in a bipartisan manner, without infringing on the rights of the accused, and to advocate for crime victims' interests before the Administration and within Congress.
 - The Department of Justice announces more than \$84 million in DNA grants nationwide as part of President Bush's Advancing Justice Through DNA Technology initiative. The initiative is designed to improve the nation's capacity to use DNA evidence by eliminating casework and convicted offender backlogs, funding research and development, improving crime lab capacity, providing training for all stakeholders in the criminal justice system, and conducting testing to identify missing persons.
 - Attorney General Alberto Gonzales issues the revised *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance*. The guidelines incorporate provisions for crime victims' rights and remedies, including those in the Justice for All Act, which had been enacted since the publication of the previous edition. The guidelines also address victim and witness assistance in human trafficking and identity theft cases.
 - The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators releases the Crime Victims Fund Report, which highlights the Crime Victims Fund's contribution to the federal government's efforts to assist victims, analyzes the sources of deposits into the Fund, examines the issues involved in administering the Fund, and explores future challenges to the Fund's capacity to meet victims' needs.
 - The American Bar Association (ABA) releases *Elder Abuse Fatality Review Teams: A Replication Manual*, developed by the ABA Commission on Law and Aging and funded by OVC, providing guidance to communities on establishing elder abuse fatality review teams that review deaths caused by or related to elder abuse.
 - The U.S. Department of Justice issues its final rule implementing the victims' rights compliance provisions of the Crime Victims Rights' Act portion of the Justice for All Act. The rule establishes the Office of the Victims' Rights Ombudsman within the Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) to receive and investigate complaints relating to the provision or violation of the rights of crime victims. The rule also creates procedures for filing complaints, investigating complaints, and imposing disciplinary sanctions against employees when warranted.
 - The U.S. Department of Defense announces a new sexual assault policy. The policy creates a military-wide definition of sexual assault, sets a baseline standard for prevention and response training for the armed services, and requires all military installations to have a sexual assault response coordinator with a staff of victim advocates. The policy also requires the establishment of a senior level of command to handle sexual assault cases and review any administrative discharges of sexual assault victims.
 - Congress passes the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2005 further continuing to strengthen VAWA by providing an increased focus on the access to services for underserved populations and reauthorizing existing VAWA programs. VAWA 2005 also:
 - » Creates the Sexual Assault Services Program, which is the first federal funding stream dedicated to direct services for victims of sexual assault.

- » Provides housing resources to prevent victims from becoming homeless and ensure that victims can access the criminal justice system without jeopardizing their current or future housing.
- » Establishes prevention programs that intervene early with children who have witnessed domestic violence, support young families at risk for violence, and change social norms through targeted interventions with men and youth.
- » Improves the response to violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women, funding research and establishing a tribal registry to track sex offenders and orders of protection.
- » Creates a National Resource Center on Workplace Responses.

whose leadership, vision, and innovation have led to significant changes in public policy and practice that benefit crime victims.

- President Bush signs the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. Along with increasing supervision of sex offenders, this wide-ranging legislation also extends the federal Crime Victims' Rights Act to federal habeas corpus proceedings arising out of state convictions, eliminates the statute of limitations for federal prosecution of certain sexual offenses and child abduction, and extends the civil remedy for child sex crime victims to persons victimized as children, even if their injuries did not surface until the person became an adult.
- Attorney General Gonzales launches Project Safe Childhood, aimed at ending Internet-based child sexual exploitation. This nationwide project creates locally designed partnerships of federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies together with community leaders to develop a coordinated strategy to prevent, investigate, and prosecute sexual predators, abusers, and pornographers who target children. All United States Attorneys are charged with taking the lead in designing a strategic plan for their community.
- The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit decides *Kenna v. U.S. District Court for the Central District of California*, in which the court considered whether the Crime Victims' Rights Act portion of the Justice for All Act gave victims the right to speak at sentencing hearings. The case involved a father and son who swindled dozens of victims. The defendants pled guilty to wire fraud and money laundering. More than 60 victims submitted victim impact statements. At the father's sentencing hearing, several victims spoke about the effects of the crimes, but at the son's sentencing, the judge refused to allow the victims to speak. The court held that the district judge had made a mistake, and made three key

2006

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$650 million.
- Congress passes and President Bush signs the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005. This extension of the Violence Against Women Act includes provisions for early intervention, prevention, and health care, and promotes a national commitment to keep women and children safe from fear and abuse.
- Congress passes and President Bush signs the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005. This law expands the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 by enhancing efforts to fight domestic trafficking in persons.
- During the National Crime Victims' Rights Week ceremony, OVC awards the first Ronald Wilson Reagan Public Policy Awards to honor outstanding individuals

points: (1) in passing the Crime Victims' Rights Act, it was the intent of Congress to allow victims to speak at sentencing hearings, not just to submit victim impact statements; (2) victims have a right to speak even if there is more than one criminal sentencing; and (3) the remedy for a crime victim denied the right to speak at a sentencing hearing is to have the sentence vacated and a new sentencing hearing held in which the victims are allowed to speak.

- The Department of Justice issues its final rule implementing the new International Terrorism Victim Expense Reimbursement Program (ITVERP). This new federally administered program extends crime victim compensation to American victims of terrorism abroad, reimbursing them for direct, out-of-pocket expenses resulting from an act of terror.
- President Bush signs the Older Americans Act Reauthorization (OAA), which includes victim-related provisions. It requires the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to develop a long-term plan for a national response to elder abuse; improves access to programs and services under OAA by addressing the needs of older individuals with limited English proficiency; promotes multidisciplinary responses by states and Indian tribes to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation; and preserves the long-term care ombudsman program.

2007

- For the first time ever, the Crime Victims Fund deposits surpass a billion dollars, totaling \$1.02 billion.
- Attorney General Gonzales and Federal Trade Commission Chairman Deborah Platt Majoras release the President's Identity Theft Task Force strategic plan to combat identity theft. Task Force recommendations include reducing the unnecessary use of Social Security numbers by federal agencies, establishing

national standards requiring private entities to safeguard the personal data they compile and to notify consumers of any breach that poses a significant risk of identity theft, implementing a consumer awareness campaign, and creating a National Identity Theft Law Enforcement Center to coordinate law enforcement efforts and information to improve the investigation and prosecution of identity thieves.

- OVC makes the first payments of the ITVERP program to U.S. victims of international acts of terrorism, including the victims of: the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombings in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; the October 2002 Bali, Indonesia, nightclub bombing; the May 2003 bombing of expatriate housing in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; and the 2003 airport bombing in Davao City, Philippines.
- House and Senate Resolutions establishing September 25 as the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims coincide with the first annual national event held on Capitol Hill.

2008

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$896 million.
- President Bush signs into law the Identity Theft Enhancement and Restitution Act as part of the Former Vice President Protection Act of 2008. This legislation permits courts to order restitution to cybercrime victims for the costs associated with identity theft, including the loss of time and money spent restoring their credit record.
- OVC releases two guides on the rights of victims of perpetrators with mental illness, a long-underserved victim population. *Responding to People Who Have Been Victimized by Individuals with Mental Illnesses* sets out the steps policymakers, advocates, mental health professionals, and others can take to understand and protect the rights and safety of

these crime victims. *A Guide to the Role of Crime Victims in Mental Health Courts* offers practical recommendations to mental health court practitioners about how to engage crime victims in case proceedings. Both publications were developed by the Council of State Governments' Justice Center.

- Congress passes the Reconnecting Homeless Youth Act of 2008, which amends the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. This legislation extends funding for various programs to serve homeless youth, including programs to prevent the sexual abuse of youth. It includes a requirement for regular statistical reports on the problem.
- OVC releases the *Resource Guide for Serving U.S. Citizens Victimized Abroad*, an online guide to help U.S.-based victim service providers deliver comprehensive and effective services to victims of overseas crime. The guide helps service providers access resources abroad and in the United States.
- The Government Accountability Office (GAO) releases a report on the federal Crime Victims' Rights Act (CVRA). The report makes a number of recommendations to improve CVRA implementation, including making efforts to increase victims' awareness of mechanisms to enforce their rights, restructuring the complaint investigation process to promote greater independence and impartiality of investigators, and identifying performance measures regarding victims' rights.
- President Bush signs legislation requiring the Department of Justice to develop and implement a National Strategy on Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute child predators.

2009

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$1.75 billion.
- U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics releases the first national statistics on the prevalence of stalking in America. *Stalking Victimization in the United States* finds that 3.4 million persons identified themselves as victims of stalking in a 12-month period.
- President Barack Obama signs the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which includes supplemental funding for crime victim assistance and compensation, STOP (Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors) Violence Against Women formula grants, and transitional housing programs for domestic violence victims.
- President Obama issues the first White House Proclamation of National Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- President Obama names Lynn Rosenthal to the newly created position of White House Advisor on Violence Against Women.
- Congress passes and the President signs the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009 (FERA), expanding federal fraud laws to cover mortgage fraud, additional forms of securities fraud, and certain money laundering; and authorizing additional funding for investigation and prosecution of such fraud. The new law also establishes a Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission to examine the causes of the current financial and economic crisis in the United States and present its findings to the President and Congress in 2010.
- President Obama and the House of Representatives recognize the 15th anniversary of the passage of the Violence Against Women Act through a Presidential Proclamation and House Resolution.

- The Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, releases the first national report on crimes against persons with disabilities, based on the National Crime Victimization Survey. The report finds that the rate of nonfatal violent crime against persons with disabilities was 1.5 times higher than the rate for persons without disabilities. The report fulfilled the mandate of the Crime Victims with Disabilities Awareness Act.
- The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice, releases a report on a national survey on children's exposure to violence, the most comprehensive survey to date on this issue. The report includes findings regarding children's direct and indirect exposure to specific categories of violence, how exposure to violence changes as children grow up, and the prevalence and incidence of multiple and cumulative exposures to violence.
- President Obama establishes the Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force, comprising more than 20 agencies, 94 U.S. Attorneys' Offices, and state and local partners, to examine mortgage fraud, Ponzi schemes, tax fraud, predatory lending, credit card fraud, and more. Its goal is to improve efforts to investigate and prosecute significant financial crimes, ensure just and effective punishment for those who perpetrate financial crimes, recover proceeds for victims, and address financial discrimination in the lending and financial markets.
- Congress passes and the President signs the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010. The Act extends the definition of federal hate crimes to include crimes based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability; authorizes the Attorney General to provide assistance to state, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies in investigating and prosecuting hate crimes; and

amends the Hate Crimes Statistics Act to include crimes motivated by gender and gender identity, as well as hate crimes committed by and against juveniles.

2010

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$2.4 billion.
- The Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force launches StopFraud.gov, which combines resources from federal agencies on ways consumers can protect themselves from fraud and report fraudulent activity. It also includes information about the task force activities.
- President Obama signs the Cruise Vessel Security and Safety Act of 2010, legislation that mandates that cruise ship personnel promptly report serious crime on board ships to both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Coast Guard, requires the cruise industry to comply with certain security provisions, and requires ships to be equipped with a video surveillance system and maintain a log book to record reporting of deaths, missing individuals, thefts, and other crimes.
- President Obama signs the Tribal Law and Order Act, designed to increase Tribal law enforcement agencies' power to combat crime on reservations and to increase the accountability of federal agencies responsible for public safety in Indian Country. The Act requires federal prosecutors to keep data on criminal cases in Indian Country that they decline to prosecute, and to support prosecutions in Tribal court by sharing evidence. It also increases the maximum sentence that a Tribal court can impose from one to three years in prison, expands training of Tribal law enforcement officers on handling domestic violence and sexual assault cases, calls for standardized protocols for investigating and prosecuting sexual assault, and provides Tribal police greater access to criminal history databases.

- The Department of Justice releases its first National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction, designed to: increase coordination among the nation's investigators; better train investigators and prosecutors; advance law enforcement's technological capabilities; and enhance research to inform decisions on deterrence, incarceration, and monitoring. The strategy also includes a renewed commitment to public awareness and community outreach. The effort includes relaunching Project Safe Childhood, which marshals federal, state, Tribal, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute those who exploit children via the Internet, and to identify and rescue victims.
- President Obama signs the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010, which includes a requirement that the Coast Guard submit an annual report to Congress on sexual assaults involving members of the Coast Guard.

new claims related to health injuries associated with debris removal at the crash sites.

- President Obama signs the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011, which strengthens the military's response to sexual assault by requiring the development of a comprehensive policy for sexual assault prevention and response, and issues standards to evaluate the effectiveness of prevention and response programs in each military branch.
- OVC launches Vision 21: Transforming Victim Services, an initiative to expand the vision and impact of the crime victim services field.
- President Obama signs the Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act, which requires the Peace Corps to develop a comprehensive sexual assault policy, create an Office of Victim Advocacy and a Sexual Assault Advisory Council, and institute volunteer training on sexual assault, risk reduction, and response.
- President Obama signs the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012, which includes provisions to prevent and respond to military sexual assault. The Act ensures that members and dependents who are victims of sexual assault have access to legal assistance and sexual assault advocates, whether the victim chooses unrestricted or confidential reporting of the assault. The Act also calls for timely action on a sexual assault victim's application for consideration of a change of station or unit to reduce the possibility of retaliation for reporting the assault, requires the development of training in sexual assault prevention and response, and makes other related changes.
- Attorney General Eric H. Holder revises and reissues Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance, the standards for officers and employees of the Department of Justice investigative,

2011

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total nearly \$2 billion.¹
- President Obama issues the first White House proclamation of National Stalking Awareness Month. The President calls on all Americans to learn to recognize the signs of stalking, acknowledge stalking as a serious crime, and urge victims not to be afraid to speak out or ask for help.
- President Obama signs the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, to provide health benefits for those who suffered health injuries from living or working near the site of the collapsed World Trade Center or for first responders and cleanup workers at any of the sites of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. It also extends the 9/11 victims' compensation fund for five years to allow the filing of

¹ Actual deposits total \$1,998,220,205.15.

prosecutorial, correctional, and parole components in the treatment of victims of and witnesses to crime. The revisions clarified DOJ's responsibilities to provide mandated rights and services enumerated in the Crime Victims' Rights Act (CVRA) and the Victims' Rights and Restitution Act (VRRRA) as well as other statutory requirements.

2012

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$2.79 billion.
- Congress passes and President Obama signs the Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011, removing the requirement of Senate confirmation for 170 executive positions, including that of the Office for Victims of Crime Director.
- Attorney General Eric H. Holder revises and reissues the *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance* to include guidelines that examine the unique requirements of vulnerable victims, including an update to address the scope of the federal child abuse reporting requirement under section 13031 of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990.
- The Bureau of Justice Statistics, with funding from the Office for Victims of Crime, embarks on a landmark three-year research study on the victimization of persons with disabilities who are in institutional settings.
- Attorney General Eric H. Holder releases a final rule to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse in confinement facilities, in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA). This landmark rule sets national standards for four categories of facilities: adult prisons and jails, lockups, community confinement facilities, and juvenile facilities. The rule is the first-ever federal effort to set standards aimed at protecting inmates in all such facilities at the federal,

state, and local levels. Highlights include access to free forensic medical exams to all victims of sexual abuse and access to a victim advocate from a rape crisis center.

- The Unified Crime Report (UCR) definition of rape changes to include any gender of victim or perpetrator, as well as instances in which the victim is incapable of giving consent because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (including due to the influence of drugs or alcohol or because of age). The UCR definition is used by the FBI to collect information from local law enforcement agencies about reported rapes.

2013

- The Crime Victims Fund deposits total \$8.95 billion.
- OVC releases the final report of its *Vision 21: Transforming Victim Services* initiative. The report creates a framework for addressing the challenges for the victim services field, making recommendations in four broad categories: support for the development of research; continued strategic planning in the victim assistance field; ensuring the statutory, policy, and programmatic flexibility necessary to address enduring and emerging crime victim issues; and expanding the field's capacity to meet the demands of the 21st century.
- Congress passes and President Obama signs the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA 2013). The measure expands protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender survivors, Native American and Native Alaskan survivors, and teens and young adults. The reauthorization allows grant funds to be used to develop and promote legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to violence against women. It adds stalking to several grant programs, including Grants to Encourage Arrests, and to campus safety provisions

for the first time. It ensures that sexual assault victims do not incur the cost of forensic exams by requiring jurisdictions to provide exams to victims free of charge and without any out-of-pocket expense (rather than victims being reimbursed after paying the cost themselves, permissible previously). The law also, for the first time, provides that Tribes will be able to exercise their sovereign power to investigate, prosecute, convict, and sentence non-Indians who assault Indian spouses or dating partners or violate a protection order in Indian Country.

- Included in VAWA 2013 is the SAFER Act, which requires the U.S. Department of Justice to ensure that at least 75 percent of the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant funds are used to analyze backlogged sexual assault kits and expand the capacity of labs to test such evidence. It allows Debbie Smith grants to be used to conduct audits of untested sexual assault kits in law enforcement custody, as well as untested kits held by the labs. It also requires that protocols for the effective processing of DNA evidence be established within 18 months.
- The Trafficking Victims Protection Act Reauthorization is also adopted as part of VAWA 2013. Along with reauthorizing important grant programs, the law makes it a crime to destroy, conceal, or confiscate someone's passport for more than 48 hours for the purpose of smuggling or controlling that person. It also requires that state plans for foster care and adoption assistance include prevention measures and responses to the trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children.
- Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel in August releases a memo directing the immediate implementation of various measures to strengthen the military's sexual assault prevention and response programs. Victim-related measures include creating a program to provide legal representation to sexual assault victims throughout the justice process; providing commanders

with options to assign or transfer a service member accused of committing sexual assault; and changing the Manual for Courts-Martial to allow victims to give input to the post-trial action phase of courts-martial.

- OVC releases updated regulations for the VOCA Assistance formula grants. The new regulations are designed to increase the effectiveness of such funding, through increased flexibility, a reduction in the administrative burden relating to the funding, broadening the types of services that can be funded, drawing attention to previously underserved populations of victims, and supporting the training of volunteers who provide direct services to victims.

2014

- The Crime Victims' Fund deposits total \$3.59 billion in Fiscal Year 2014.
- President Obama signs the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014, which contains numerous reforms to address sexual assault in the military, including: requiring independent review of decisions not to refer charges for trial and limiting command discretion to modify court-martial findings; removing the statute of limitations on sexual assault; creating a Special Victims' Counsel to provide independent legal assistance to sexual assault victims; implementing anti-retaliation policies for victims who report sexual assault; and allowing victims to apply for a permanent change of station or unit transfer.
- The White House announces the release of the *Federal Strategic Action Plan on Services for Victims of Human Trafficking in the United States*. The plan outlines steps federal agencies will take to identify all victims of human trafficking and implement a victim services network that is comprehensive, trauma-informed, and responsive.

- In January 2014, the White House Council on Women and Girls releases its report, "Rape and Sexual Assault: A Renewed Call to Action." This report analyzes the most recent data on rape and sexual assault in the United States. It identifies who is at risk of victimization, examines the cost of sexual violence (to both survivors and communities), and outlines the criminal justice response. The report describes the steps that the Administration has taken to combat rape and sexual assault and provides recommendations for further action.
- Under a provision of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA 2013), the Department of Justice selects three American Indian Tribes for a pilot program to extend criminal jurisdiction in Indian country. VAWA 2013 recognizes that tribes have a right to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over certain defendants, regardless of their Indian or non-Indian status, who commit acts of domestic or dating violence in Indian country. This provision takes effect in 2015, but the pilot project allows selected tribes to begin exercising special jurisdiction sooner.
- President Obama issues a Presidential Memorandum to establish the "White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault." The task force has begun to share best practices to increase transparency, enforcement, public awareness, and interagency coordination to prevent violence and support victims of sexual assault on college campuses. In April, the task force released its first report "Not Alone," which provides recommendations to school administrations.
- President Obama signs the Kilahe Davenport Child Protection Act of 2013. This legislation directs the U.S. Attorney General to issue a state-by-state report on child abuse laws within six months, with a particular focus on penalties for cases of severe child abuse. The law also amends the federal criminal code to enhance penalties for child abuse committed by habitual offenders.
- President Obama launched the My Brother's Keeper initiative to address persistent opportunity gaps faced by boys and young men of color and to ensure that all young people can reach their full potential. The initiative comprises six milestones, the last one being "Keeping Kids on Track and Giving Them Second Chances." A key goal of this milestone is to address the overrepresentation of African American and Latino men in the criminal and juvenile justice systems and reduce the rates of violence and victimization for all young people. All children should be safe from violent crime.
- Congress appropriates funding to implement some of the recommendations in *Vision 21: Transforming Victim Services*. For the first time ever, OVC made awards to support initiatives such as capacity building at the state level and access to services for American citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents at the national and international level through innovative technology.
- President Obama signs the Sean and David Goldman International Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act of 2014. This Act directs the Secretary of State to report annually to Congress on international child abduction cases and ensure that U.S. diplomatic and consular missions properly report these abduction cases. The Secretary of State will also establish Memoranda of Understanding with countries that are unlikely to join the Hague Abduction Convention and advise the president on countries that do not cooperate in or fail to resolve abduction cases.
- On August 8, 2014, President Obama signs the Victims of Child Abuse Reauthorization Act of 2013. This Act authorizes appropriations for children's advocacy centers and the development of multidisciplinary child abuse investigation and prosecution programs. Additionally, the Act authorizes

appropriations to national organizations that provide technical assistance and training to attorneys and professionals working with the criminal prosecution of child abuse cases.

- President Obama is joined by Vice President Biden, leaders from institutions of higher education, media companies, grassroots organizations, and celebrities to launch the It's on Us public service campaign, which includes a personal commitment to help keep men and women safe from sexual assault. It is a pledge not to be a bystander, but to be part of the solution, to recognize that non-consensual sex is sexual assault, to identify situations in which sexual assault may occur, to intervene in situations where consent has not or cannot be given, and to create an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported. It's On Us raises awareness about the problem of sexual assault on college campuses and invites everyone to be part of the solution. ★



ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING VICTIMS



Section 6. STATISTICAL OVERVIEWS

Crime and Victimization in the United States

When considering crime and victimization statistics, we can only analyze or report on crimes that are measured or counted in some way. The United States has long-standing national data collections for serious violent crimes, such as homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, as well as property crimes such as burglary. Crime in the United States has declined measurably for decades. Between 1993 and 2012, the violent crime rate declined 67.3 percent from 79.8 to 26.1 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older. During that same time period, the total property crime rate declined 55.7 percent from 351.8 to 155.8 per 1,000 households. Although the decrease in crime has been steady and remarkably consistent, criminologists have reached no widely held conclusions about the reasons for these patterns.

There are however some general patterns. Males disproportionately commit criminal offenses, particularly violent crime (see "[Homicide](#)"), and certain crimes are predominately committed by men against women (see "[Stalking](#)," "[Intimate Partner Violence](#)," and "[Sexual Violence](#)"). Young people (age 16–24) experience the most crime both in terms of victimization and offending as compared to other age groups (see "[Child, Youth, and Teen Victimization](#)").

Our national crime statistics provide an important resource for our understanding about crime and victimization, but these statistics do not cover all crimes

CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES

CRIME TRENDS

ASSAULT

BURGLARY, ROBBERY, AND THEFT

CHILD, YOUTH, AND TEEN VICTIMIZATION

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

DNA — *NEW!*

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (DUI) — *NEW!*

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIME

ELDER VICTIMIZATION

HATE AND BIAS CRIME

HOMICIDE

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

MASS CASUALTY SHOOTINGS

SCHOOL AND CAMPUS CRIME

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

STALKING

URBAN AND RURAL CRIME

WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

or all victims. While the scope of crimes included in national collection efforts continues to grow, gaps in our knowledge still exist, particularly for emerging crimes, including elder victimization, human trafficking, financial crimes (especially Internet-based frauds), stalking, and mass casualty crimes. An additional issue concerns our

understanding of the broader effects of crime, especially measuring the direct and indirect harm to victims caused by crime and identifying the impact of exposure to violence, particularly for children. The limitations in our knowledge of these areas should not be interpreted as diminishing the importance of these crimes or the harm experienced by these victims but rather should signal the need for continued work by researchers.

Uniform Crime Report

The Uniform Crime Report (UCR), launched in 1929, collects information reported to law enforcement agencies on the following crimes: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Law enforcement agencies also report arrest data for 21 additional crime categories (e.g., forgery and counterfeiting, drug abuse violations, disorderly conduct, vagrancy). Each year, the FBI issues a report on the main UCR findings, titled *Crime in the United States*, as well as several other reports (e.g., *Hate Crimes 2012* and *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted, 2012*).¹ The UCR presents crime counts for the entire nation, as well as for regions, states, counties, cities, towns, tribal law enforcement, and colleges and universities. Its primary purpose is to provide reliable criminal justice statistics for law enforcement administration and management.²

National Crime Victimization Survey

The methodology for the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), which began in 1973, differs from that of the UCR. The NCVS is based on interviews with a nationally representative sample of U.S. households and is conducted by U.S. Census Bureau personnel at six-month

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT THE STATISTICS IN THIS OVERVIEW

The information presented in the following statistical overviews reflects the findings in the reports and other sources cited for each topic. The data are based on the best available information as of August 2014. Since then, updated data have become available. The latest Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) study, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, is available online at www.bjs.gov. The latest FBI statistics, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, and additional statistical tables are available online at www.fbi.gov. The information included in the Resource Guide relies primarily on reports published by BJS and the FBI, as well as statistics calculated using online data tools available from both BJS and the FBI. These data tools are freely available and can be accessed online at www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat (for the NCVS data tool) and www.bjs.gov/ucrdata (for the UCR data tool). These tools are user-friendly resources that permit interested readers to generate additional statistical tables that suit their particular interests.

Each statistical overview includes both text and graphics. Graphics are included in this year's Resource Guide to provide a visual representation of the data. Please note that, on the charts and graphs that accompany the statistics, the percentages do not always add up to 100 because the numbers have been rounded.

intervals for three years. All household members age 12 and older are interviewed. The NCVS collects information on the frequency and nature of the crimes of rape, sexual assault, personal robbery, aggravated and simple assault, household burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft; it does not, however, measure homicide or commercial crimes. It gathers information on crimes both reported and not reported to the police, estimates the proportion of each crime reported to law enforcement, and describes the reasons victims gave for reporting or not reporting. The NCVS also includes questions about victims' experiences with the criminal justice system, possible substance abuse by offenders, and how victims sought to protect themselves.

The NCVS collects periodic age and demographic information about both victims and offenders (e.g., age, sex, race, ethnicity, marital status, income, and educational level, as well as offenders' relationships to their victims), and includes information about the crimes (time and

¹ Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Uniform Crime Reports," (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), accessed September 3, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr>.

² Federal Bureau of Investigation, "The Nation's Two Crime Measures," *Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2009), accessed September 2, 2014, <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/ucrdata/twom8/easures.cfm>.

place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, and economic impact).³ The NCVS also publishes supplements on specific crime issues such as stalking or school crime.

Differences between the UCR and NCVS

Although the categories of crime covered by the UCR and NCVS overlap, their methodologies differ, and the studies serve different purposes. The UCR covers all victims of reported crime (including non-persons such as businesses as well as persons of all ages), but the NCVS gathers data on crimes against people age 12 and older. The UCR covers homicide, arson, and commercial crimes, which the NCVS does not measure. The studies use somewhat different definitions of some crimes, and they report crime using different bases, e.g., per capita—crimes per 100,000 persons (UCR) versus crimes per 1,000 households (NCVS). The UCR measures crimes actually reported to law enforcement nationwide, and the NCVS addresses crimes not reported to law enforcement. ★



3 Ibid.

CRIME TRENDS

Trends in criminal victimization over time can provide useful insights by situating annual data into a broader context. To estimate these trends, criminologists rely on the two national sources of crime data: the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) and the Bureau of Justice Statistics' National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). These two measures vary in the way they collect crime data with the most significant difference being the source upon which each relies. The UCR measures crimes known to local and state law enforcement and includes victims of all ages as well as non-individual victims (such as commercial entities). The NCVS relies on victim reports and is based on a large, nationally representative household-based sample that gathers victimization information from individuals age 12 and older. The NCVS provides a complementary measure to the UCR and offers important insights into what criminologists call the "dark figure of crime," or crimes that go unreported. As both the UCR and NCVS have been collected for years, these two sources provide the necessary data to better understand crime trends in the United States. Trend data from both sources indicate that crime has decreased substantially, particularly in comparison to crime rates from the 1970s and 80s. UCR and NCVS data from the 2000s also continue to demonstrate a downward trend, although occasional fluctuations occur for some crimes, including a recent uptick in violent crime beginning in 2011 and continuing into 2012.¹

- The FBI's UCR data also indicate a decline over time. The rate of fatal and non-fatal violent crime known to law enforcement in 1993 was 747.1 per 100,000 persons. By 2012, rates had declined to a low of 386.9 per 100,000.³
- Historically, males have higher rates of violent victimization compared to females. For example, in 1993 the rate of violent victimization for males reported through the NCVS was 96.9 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older, while the rate reported by females was 63.7 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older. In 2012, the rates of violent victimization were 29.1 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older for males and 23.3 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older for females.⁴
- The percentage of victims of violent crimes who reported through the NCVS that they suffered an injury remained relatively stable from 1993 to 2012, ranging from 26 percent in 1992 to 23 percent in 2012.⁵
- In 2012, 44.2 percent of all violent victimizations were reported to police according to the NCVS. Over the past 10 years, this percentage has remained fairly stable.⁶

Violent Crime

- In 1993, the rate of non-fatal violent crimes reported by victims through the NCVS was 7,980 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older. Rates continued to decline until 2010, reaching a low of 1,930 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older. However, data shows increases in both 2011 and 2012 from 2,250 in 2011 to 2,610 in 2012 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older.²

¹ This increase in violent and property crime continued in 2012. See Lynn Langton, Michael Planty, and Jennifer Truman, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=4781>.

² "Reported by victims" means reported to interviewers for the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). Crimes reported to NCVS interviewers were not necessarily reported to law enforcement. Non-fatal violent crimes include rape and sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. *Calculated from*

Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Violent Victimization, 1993–2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

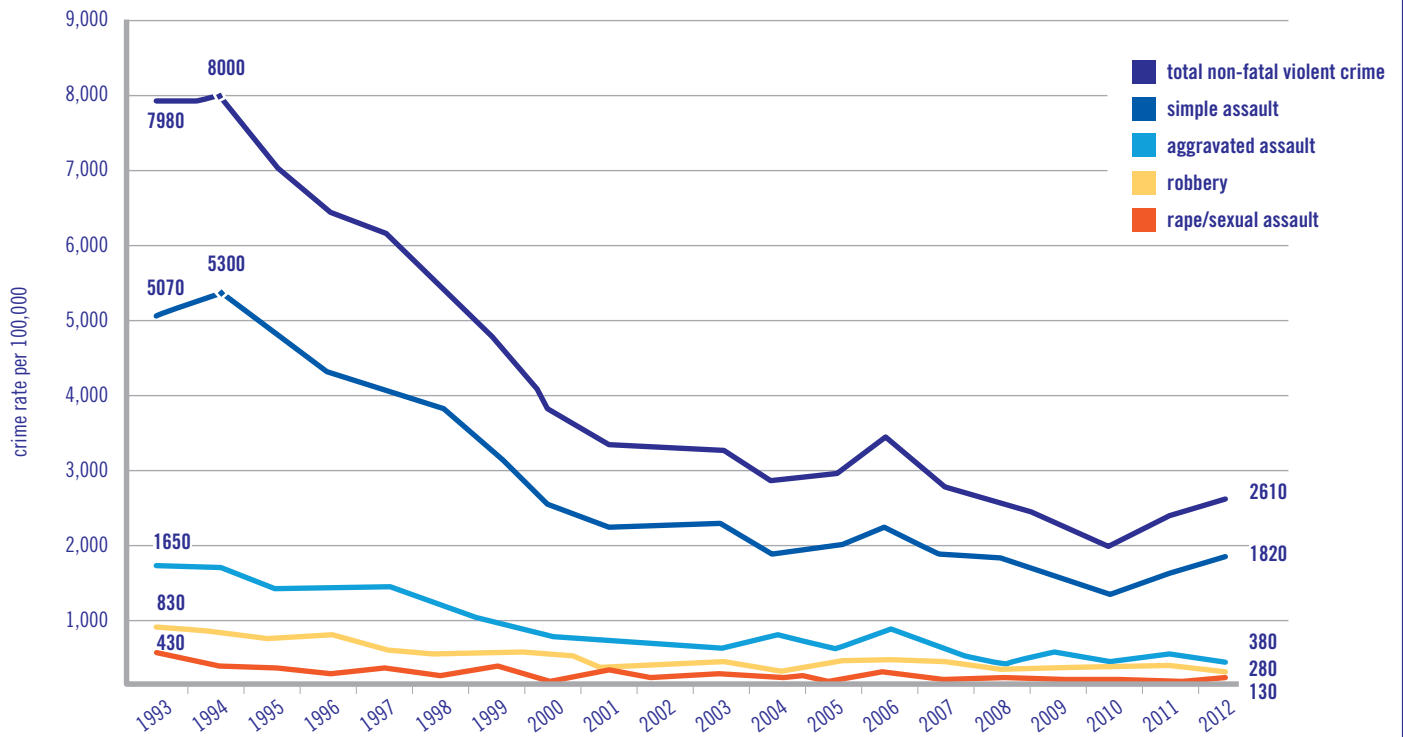
³ Fatal and non-fatal violent crimes include murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Crime—National or State Level Data with One Variable," *Uniform Reporting Statistics*, (U.S. Department of Justice, 2010), retrieved through tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://bjs.gov/ucrdata/Search/Crime/State/TrendsInOneVar.cfm>.

⁴ *Calculated from* Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Violent Victimization, 1993–2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

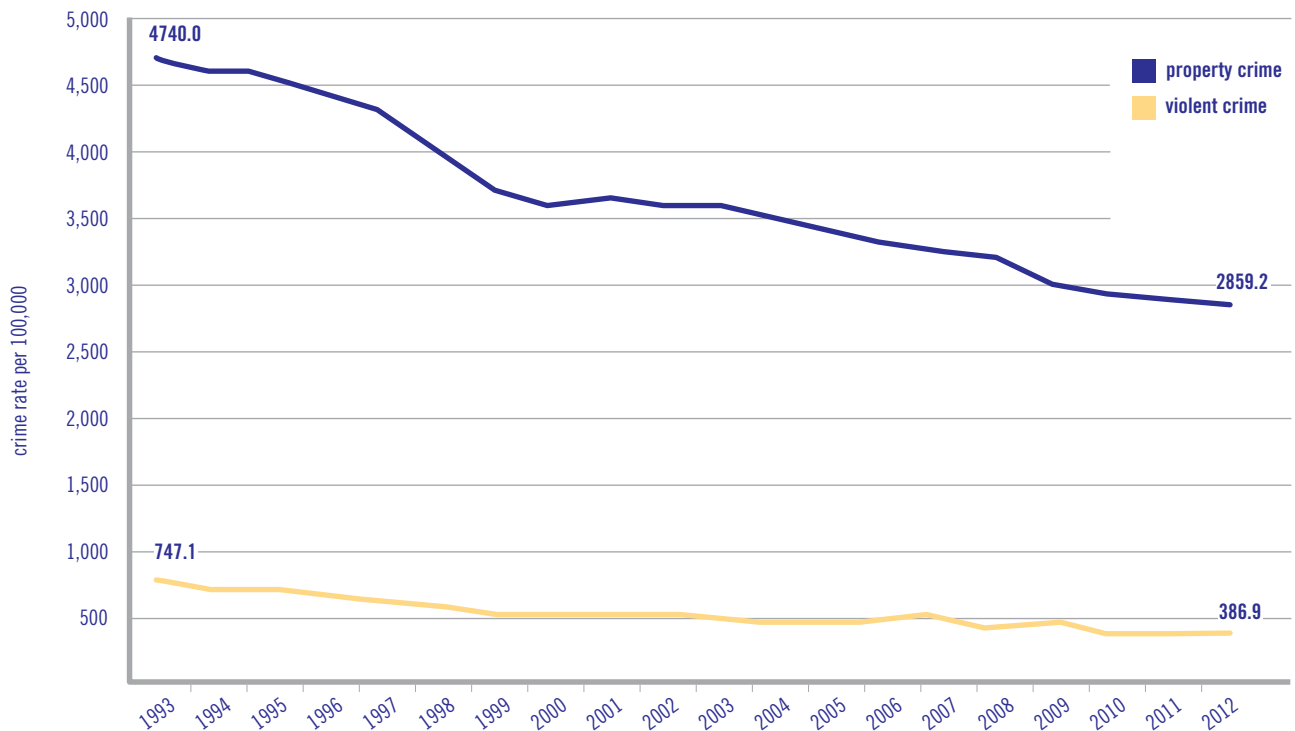
⁵ *Calculated from* Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Percent of Violent Victimization by Injury, 1993–2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

⁶ *Calculated from* Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Percent of Violent Victimization by Reporting to the Police, 1993–2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

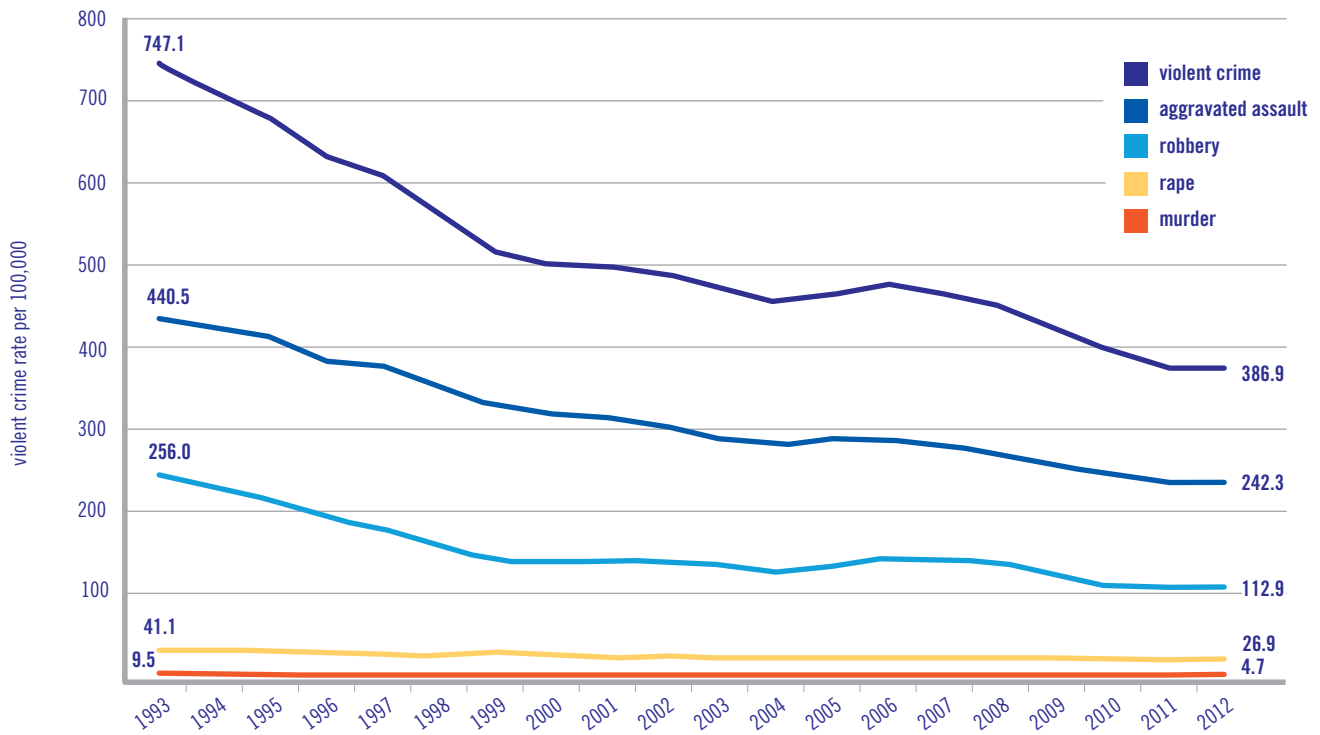
CRIME RATES REPORTED BY VICTIMS, NCVS 1993 – 2012



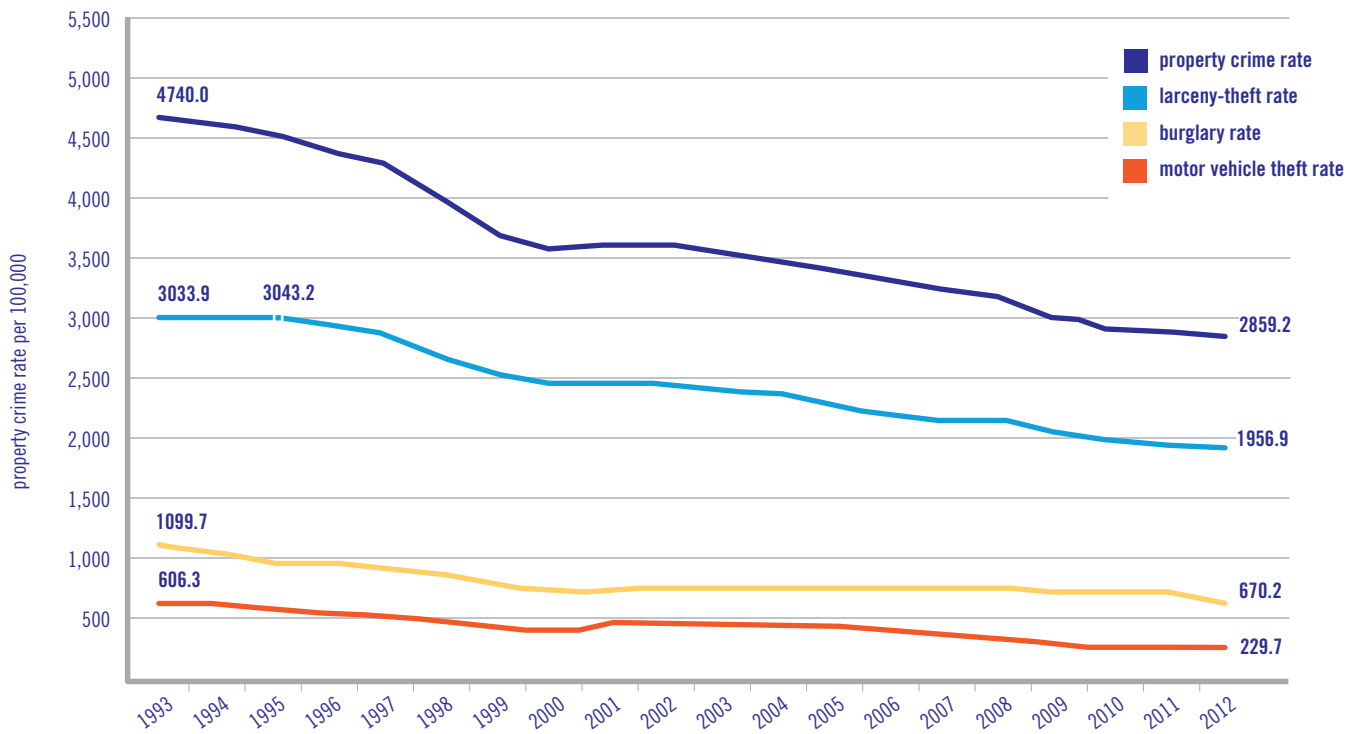
CRIME RATES KNOWN TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, UCR 1993 – 2012



VIOLENT CRIME RATES KNOWN TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, UCR 1993 – 2012



PROPERTY CRIME RATES KNOWN TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, UCR 1993 – 2012



Homicide

- Data from the UCR indicate the rate of murder and non-negligent manslaughter known to law enforcement in 1993 was 9.5 per 100,000 persons. This rate declined and then remained fairly steady through the 2000s before reaching a low rate of 4.7 per 100,000 persons in 2012. The rate of murder and non-negligent manslaughter remained stable between 2011 and 2012, at 4.7 per 100,000 persons for both years.⁷
- The number of incidents referred to, variously, as “Active Shooter Events,” “mass murder,” and “Active Shooter Cases” has increased in recent years. The inclusion of these fatalities in homicide statistics can significantly affect rates at the city level but not at the national level, because these rare events make up a small percentage of the national murder rate.⁸

Rape

- The rate of rape/sexual assault reported by victims through the NCVS has declined in the last 10 years, going from 150 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in 2002 to 90 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in 2011. A 44.4 percent increase between 2011 and 2012 is observed with 130 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older reporting rape/sexual assault to the NCVS in 2012.⁹

- Using a different definition, the FBI’s UCR data report the rate of forcible rapes known to law enforcement was 33.1 per 100,000 persons in 2002 and down to 26.9 per 100,000 persons in 2012.¹⁰
- Rape and sexual assault crimes are challenging to collect under both the NCVS and UCR because of the different methodologies and definitions utilized. Additionally, we know that rape and sexual assault are underreported because of the stigma associated with these types of victimization. According to the NCVS in 2012, only 28 percent of the respondents who were classified as victims of rape or sexual assault reported their victimization to the police.¹¹ Moreover, it is not possible to know the number of victims who are surveyed as part of the NCVS who choose not to identify as a victim of rape or sexual assault.¹²
- A 2013 National Research Council Report suggests that the incidence of rape and sexual assault has been significantly undercounted by the NCVS due in part to its role as an omnibus survey designed to provide annual estimates and trend data for a variety of violent and property crimes.¹³

⁷ “Crime—National or State Level Data with One Variable,” *Uniform Reporting Statistics*, (U.S. Department of Justice, 2010), *retrieved through tool*, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://bjs.gov/ucrdata/Search/Crime/State/TrendsInOneVar.cfm>.

⁸ For more information about “Active Shooter Event,” “mass murder,” and “Active Shooter Cases” definitions, see the section on [Mass Casualty Shootings](#). J. Pete Blair and M. Hunter Martaindale, “United States Active Shooter Events from 2000 to 2010: Training and Equipment Implications,” (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training, Texas State University, 2013), 3, accessed November 1, 2014, <http://alerrt.org/files/research/ActiveShooterEvents.pdf>; Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2011*, table 1; Raymond W. Kelly, “Active Shooter: Recommendations and Analysis for Risk Mitigation, 2012 Edition,” (New York City Police Department, 2012), 4, accessed November 1, 2014, <http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/downloads/pdf/courterterrorism/ActiveShooter.pdf>.

⁹ Rape/sexual assault is defined in the NCVS as forced sexual intercourse including psychological coercion as well as physical force. Forced sexual intercourse means vaginal, anal, or oral penetration by the offender(s). It also includes incidents where the penetration is from a foreign object. It includes attempted rapes, male as well as female victims, and both heterosexual and homosexual rape. Attempted rape includes verbal threats of rape. Sexual assault is also included in this category, which includes 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 assault may or may not involve force and includes such things as grabbing and fondling. Sexual assault also includes verbal threats. Bureau of Justice Statistics, *NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool*.

¹⁰ Forcible rape is defined here as “the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts or assaults to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.” Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 1, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012>.

¹¹ *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, Table 4.

¹² Michael R. Rand and Callie Marie Rennison, “Bigger Is Not Better: An Analysis of Violence Against Women Estimates from the National Crime Victimization Survey and the National Violence Against Women Survey,” *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 21, no. 3 (2005): 267-91, accessed September 5, 2014. For additional information regarding the underreporting of rape victimization please also see James Lynch and Lynn Addington, *Understanding Crime Statistics: Revisiting the Divergence of the NCVS and UCR*, (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007).

¹³ National Research Council, *Estimating the Incidence of Rape and Sexual Assault*, (Washington DC: The National Academies Press, 2013), accessed September 11, 2014, http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=18605&page=R5.

- Estimates of rape and sexual assault vary depending upon the definition used. Since its implementation in the 1930s, the UCR defined forcible rape as only involving female victims and requiring force.¹⁴ In early 2012, the FBI changed its definition of “forcible rape” to one of “rape,” which now includes victims of either gender and removes the force requirement.¹⁵ As this change did not go into effect until January 1, 2013, the FBI has not yet issued any national data using this new definition.

Assault

- The rate of aggravated assault reported by victims through the NCVS has declined in the last 10 years, going from 580 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in 2002 to 380 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in 2012.¹⁶
- The FBI’s UCR data also indicated a decline with the rate of aggravated assault known to law enforcement, going from 309.5 per 100,000 persons in 2002 down to 242.3 per 100,000 persons in 2012.¹⁷
- Rates of simple assaults reported by victims to the NCVS follow a similar trend, going from 2,210 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in 2002 to 1,810 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in 2012.¹⁸

Robbery

- The rate of robbery reported by victims through the NCVS has increased slightly in the last 10 years, going from 270 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in 2002 to 280 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in 2012.¹⁹
- Data from the UCR, however, reflected a decline in the rate of robbery known to law enforcement in 2002, going from 146.1 per 100,000 persons to 112.9 per 100,000 persons in 2012.²⁰

Weapon-Related Violent Crime

- As reported by victims through the NCVS, from 2002 to 2012 the rate of serious violent crimes involving weapons declined from 6.9 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older to 5.4 persons age 12 or older.²¹
- Between 2002 and 2012, the percentage of all violent victimizations reported by victims through the NCVS that were committed with firearms remained stable between 7 and 8 percent.²²

Property Crime

- The FBI’s UCR data show the rate of property crime known to law enforcement was 4,740.0 per 100,000 persons in 1993. The rate decreased through the 1990s and 2000s, reaching a low rate of 2,859.2 per 100,000 persons in 2012.²³

14 Ibid.

15 Specifically the definition states, “Penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.” Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Frequently Asked Questions about the Change in the UCR Definition of Rape*, (2013), accessed November 11, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/recent-program-updates/new-rape-definition-frequently-asked-questions>.

16 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rate of Aggravated Assaults, 1993-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

17 Federal Bureau of Investigation, “Crime—National or State Level Data with One Variable.”

18 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rate of Simple Assaults, 1993-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

19 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rate of Robberies, 1993-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

20 Federal Bureau of Investigation, “Crime—National or State Level Data with One Variable.”

21 Serious violent victimization are defined as rape/sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rate of Serious Violent Victimization by Weapon Use, 1993-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

22 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rate of Serious Violent Victimization by Weapon Category, 1993-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

23 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 1.

- As reported by victims through the NCVS, between 2002 and 2012 the property crime victimization rate declined 7.4 percent (from 168.2 per 1,000 households to 155.8 per 1,000 households).²⁴
- In 2012, the NCVS indicated that 34 percent of property crimes were reported to the police. Over the past 10 years, this percentage has remained fairly stable.²⁵
- The personal theft rate reported by victims to the NCVS decreased between 2002 and 2011 by 19 percent, going from 129.5 per 1,000 households to 120.9 per 1,000 households.³⁰ ★

Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Theft

- The rate of household burglary reported by victims through the NCVS has remained fairly constant in the last 10 years with the 2002 and 2011 rates being approximately 29.9 per 1,000 households.²⁶
- Data from the UCR report the rate of burglary known to law enforcement has decreased in the last 10 years, going from 747.0 per 100,000 persons in 2002 to 670.2 per 100,000 persons in 2012.²⁷
- Data from the UCR indicate the rate of motor vehicle theft known to law enforcement in 1993 was 606.3 per 100,000 persons. This rate has declined, reaching a low of 229.7 per 100,000 persons in 2012.²⁸
- The FBI's UCR data report the rate of larceny-theft known to law enforcement has decreased in the last 10 years, going from 2,450.7 per 100,000 persons in 2002 to 1,959.3 per 100,000 persons in 2012.²⁹

²⁴ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rate of Property Victimization, 1993-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

²⁵ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rate of Property Victimization by Reporting to the Police, 1993-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

²⁶ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rate of Household Burglaries, 1993-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

²⁷ Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Crime—National or State Level Data with One Variable."

²⁸ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 1.

²⁹ Ibid. Larceny-theft is defined by the UCR as the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Examples are thefts of bicycles, thefts of motor vehicle parts and accessories, shoplifting, pocket-picking, or the stealing of any property or article that is not taken by force and violence or by fraud.



³⁰ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rate of Thefts, 1993-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed August 7, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

ASSAULT

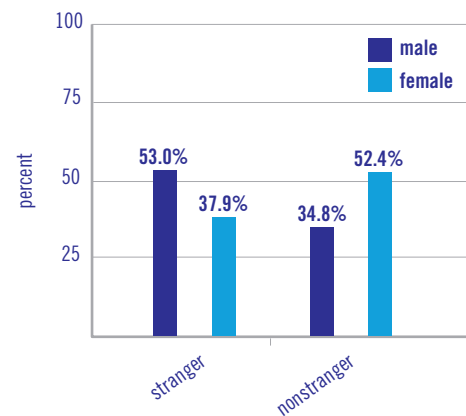
National statistics are collected on two types of assault: aggravated and simple. Completed, attempted, or threatened aggravated assault is defined as an attack with a weapon, an attack that causes serious bodily harm, or threatened assault with a weapon.¹ Completed or threatened simple assault is defined as an unlawful attack or threat of an attack that does not cause seriously bodily harm.² Both forms of assault share similarities with regard to trends and characteristics. Assault victimization varies in important ways, both by sex and by ethnicity. Males experience more assaults by strangers, while females experience more assaults by intimate partners and other people known to them. However in recent years, females have experienced an increase in assaults by strangers.³ American Indian or Alaska Natives, blacks, and Hispanics experience higher rates of assault than whites or Asian or Pacific Islanders.⁴ Another important group of assault victims are those assaulted in the line of duty, including emergency room nurses and law enforcement officers.

Aggravated Assault

- The percentage of aggravated assault victimizations reported to the police in 2012 was 62 percent.⁵ During the same period of time, 54 percent of all serious violent crimes were reported to the police.⁶
- From 2003 to 2012, the rate of aggravated assault reported to the police by victims against persons age 12 years or older declined by 25 percent. The rate in 2012 had declined to 2.4 incidents per 1,000 persons; in 2003 it was 3.2 per 1,000 persons.⁷

- In cases in 2012 where victims indicated their relationship to the offender, males experienced aggravated assault by a nonstranger (including intimate partner, other relative, and friend/acquaintance) in 34.8 percent of cases and by a stranger in 53.0 percent. Females experienced aggravated assault by a nonstranger in 52.4 percent of cases and by a stranger in 37.9 percent.⁸

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT CASES BY SEX AND VICTIM/OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP, 2012



- In reported cases, females are more likely than males to experience assault by an intimate partner. In aggravated assaults, male victims reported that the offender was an intimate partner in 4.9 percent of incidents, whereas females reported an intimate partner offender in 23.0 percent of cases.⁹
- As reported by victims in 2012, the rate of aggravated assault against people of two or more races was 5.6 per 1,000 people. American Indians or Alaska Natives were assaulted at a rate of 8.6, blacks (non-Hispanic) at a rate of 5.6, whites (non-Hispanic) at a rate of 3.1, Hispanics at a rate of 5.3, and Asian or Pacific Islanders at a rate of 2.7 per 1,000 people.

1 Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Violent Crime*, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=31#terms_def.

2 Ibid.

3 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Number of Aggravated Assaults by Victim-Offender Relationship and Sex, 2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 3, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

4 It should be noted that for American Indian or Alaska Natives and Asian or Pacific Islanders there are often less than 10 cases reported, resulting in data that should be interpreted with caution.

5 Ibid.

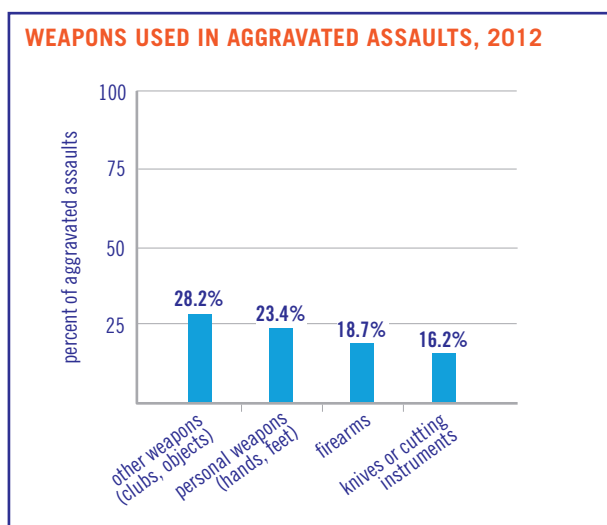
6 Jennifer L. Truman, Lynn Langton, and Michael Planty, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 4, accessed June 3, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cv12.pdf>.

7 Ibid.

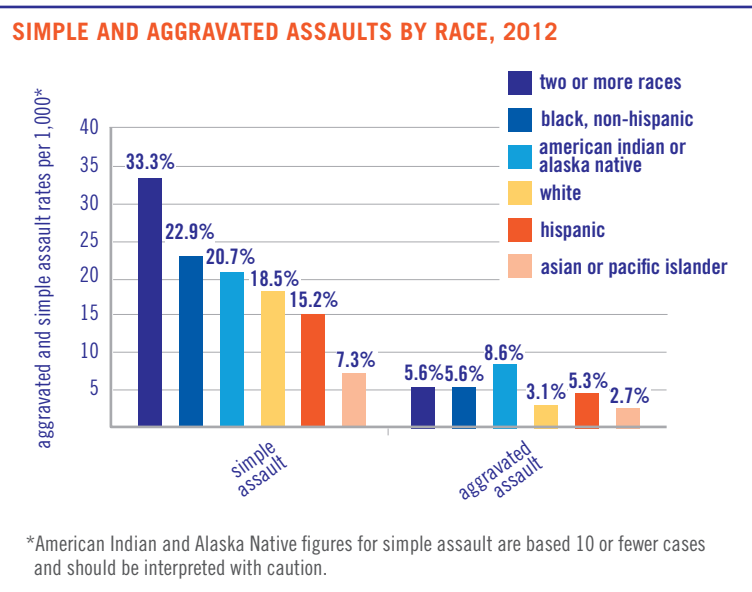
8 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Number of Aggravated Assaults by Victim-Offender Relationship and Sex, 2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 3, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

9 Ibid.

- Victims experienced 996,106 aggravated assaults in 2012. Of these incidents, 5.2 percent did not involve a weapon, and 94.8 percent involved a weapon, including firearms (24.1 percent of all incidents), knives (23.8 percent), other weapons (36.2 percent), and unidentified weapons (10.7 percent).¹⁰
- In 2012, the types of weapons used during aggravated assaults known to law enforcement included: personal weapons such as hands, fists, and feet at 23.4 percent; firearms at 18.7 percent; and knives or other cutting instruments at 16.2 percent. Other weapons, such as clubs or blunt objects, were used in 28.2 percent of aggravated assaults.¹¹



- The rate of aggravated assault incidences in 2012 known to law enforcement in metropolitan counties was 250.2 per 100,000 inhabitants, and the rate in non-metropolitan counties was 139.7 per 100,000.¹²



- In 2012, 301,065 total arrests were made on aggravated assault charges, a rate of 123.9 per 100,000 inhabitants.¹³
- Of the 668,457 aggravated assaults known to law enforcement in 2012, 55.8 percent were cleared by arrest. In cities with more than 250,000 citizens, 47.7 percent were cleared by arrest. The percentage was 63.3 percent in cities with a population under 10,000 and 62.1 percent in suburban areas.¹⁴

Simple Assault

- The percentage of simple assault victimizations reported to the police in 2012 was 40 percent.¹⁵ From 2011 to 2012, the rate of violent crime reported by victims decreased by 15.5 percent. Simple assault rates increased by 18.2 percent.¹⁶

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 15, accessed June 3, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/15tabledatadecpdf/table_15_additional_information_selected_offenses_2011_2012.xls.

¹² Ibid., Table 2, accessed June 3, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/2tabledatadecviewpdf/table_2_crime_in_the_united_states_by_community_type_2012.xls.

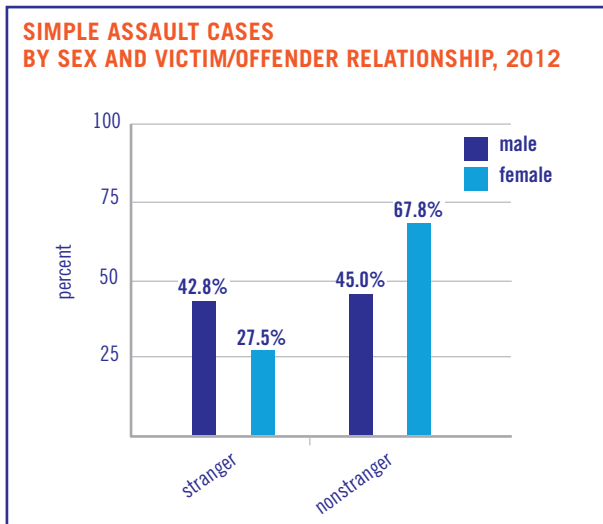
¹³ Ibid., Table 31, accessed September 30, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/31tabledatadecpdf>.

¹⁴ Ibid., Table 25, accessed June 3, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/table25>.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Truman, Langton, and Planty, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, calculated using Table 1.

- From 2003 to 2012, the rate of simple assault reported by victims against persons age 12 years or older declined by 17.6 percent. The rate of simple assault in 2012 was 18.2 incidents per 1,000 persons; in 2003 it was 22.1 per 1,000 persons.¹⁷
- For simple assault, in cases where the victims indicated their relationship to the offender, males were victimized by a nonstranger in 45.0 percent of cases and by a stranger in 42.8 percent of cases. Females experienced simple assault by a nonstranger in 67.8 percent of cases and by a stranger in 27.5 percent of cases.¹⁸



- In simple assault cases reported by victims, 3.2 percent of males were victimized by an intimate partner, compared to 20.4 percent of females.¹⁹
- As reported by victims in 2012, the rate of simple assault against people of two or more races was 33.3 per 1,000 people. American Indians or Alaska Natives were assaulted at a rate of 20.7, Hispanics at a rate of 15.2, blacks (non-Hispanic) at a rate of 22.9, whites (non-Hispanic) at a rate of 18.5, and Asian or Pacific Islanders at a rate of 7.3 per 1,000 people.²⁰

- In 2012, 930,210 arrests were made for simple assault, a rate of 382.9 per 100,000 inhabitants.²¹

Assault Against Emergency Responders

- The rate of law enforcement officers assaulted in the line of duty was 10.2 assaults per 100 officers in 2012.²²
- Of all the officers who were assaulted in 2012, 32.5 percent were assaulted while responding to disturbance calls, 15.2 percent while attempting other arrests, and 13.6 percent while handling or transporting prisoners.²³
- In 2012, 80.2 percent of law enforcement officers who were assaulted were attacked with personal weapons (e.g., hands, fists, or feet), and 4.3 percent were assaulted with firearms. Of law enforcement officers who were assaulted, 27.7 percent sustained injuries.²⁴
- The largest percentage of assaults on officers in 2012, 15.2 percent, occurred between 12:01 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. This percentage is consistent with those in the previous 13 years.²⁵
- Of the officers who were assaulted in 2012, 64.1 percent were assigned to one-officer vehicle patrols, and 16.0 percent were assigned to two-officer vehicle patrols.²⁶

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Number of Simple Assaults by Victim-Offender Relationship and Sex, 2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 3, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid., Table 31, accessed November 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/31tabledatadecpdf/table_31_number_and_rate_of_arrests_by_population_group_2012.xls.

²² Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted, 2012*, (Washington, DC; U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 65, accessed September 30, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/leoka/2012/tables/table_65_leos_asltd_region_and_geographic_division_2012.xls.

²³ Ibid., Table 68, accessed November 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/leoka/2012/tables/table_68_leos_asltd_circum_at_scene_of_incident_by_population_group_and_percent_cleared_2012.xls.

²⁴ Ibid., Table 73, accessed November 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/leoka/2012/tables/table_73_leos_asltd_circum_at_scene_of_incident_by_type_of_weapon_and_percent_distribution_2012.xls.

²⁵ Ibid., Table 67, accessed November 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/leoka/2012/tables/table_67_leos_asltd_time_of_incident_by_number_of_assaults_and_percent_distribution_2003-2012.xls.

²⁶ Ibid., Table 69, accessed November 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/leoka/2012/tables/table_69_leos_asltd_circum_at_scene_of_incident_by_type_of_assignment_and_percent_distribution_2012.xls.

- According to a study by the Emergency Nurses Association, 43 percent of emergency nurses reported having experienced only verbal abuse from a patient or visitor during a seven-day calendar period in which the nurses worked an average of 36.9 hours; 11 percent reported both physical abuse and verbal abuse; and 1 percent reported physical abuse alone.²⁷
- According to the same study, 62 percent of emergency room nurses who reported being victims of physical violence in the workplace experienced more than one incident of physical violence from a patient or visitor during a seven-day period.²⁸ ★



²⁷ Emergency Nurses Association, *Emergency Department Violence Surveillance Study*, (Des Plaines, IL: 2011), 16, accessed October 3, 2014, <http://www.ena.org/practice-research/research/Documents/ENAEDVSRReportNovember2011.pdf>.

²⁸ Ibid.

BURGLARY, ROBBERY, AND THEFT

Robbery, burglary, and theft all involve the loss of valuable items. However, these crimes differ: Robbery, a violent crime involving the loss of property, occurs when the victim is present and a theft or attempted theft occurs. The offender can use force or threaten force, with or without a weapon or injury to the victim.¹ Burglary, a property crime, is when a theft occurs from a dwelling or structure that may or may not be inhabited at the time of the crime.² (If someone is present in the structure when it is entered, then the victimization is defined as a robbery.) Theft, often known as larceny theft, occurs when there is an unlawful taking of property, by stealth and without force.³ Since 2003, the overall occurrence of household property crimes (household burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, and thefts) has decreased by 10 percent and robberies have decreased by approximately 7 percent. While the dollar value of these crimes is difficult to pinpoint, especially accounting for the intangible effects of victimization, total losses to victims from property crimes (which include burglary and larceny theft) amount to billions of dollars every year.⁴

Burglary

- In 2012, 2,103,787 burglaries were reported to the police in the United States, at a rate of 670.2 per 100,000 inhabitants.⁵
- Between 2011 and 2012, the volume of burglary known to police in the United States decreased by 3.7 percent, and the rate per 100,000 people decreased by 4.4 percent.⁶

1 Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Robbery*, accessed June 18, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=313>.

2 Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Burglary*, accessed June 18, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=321>.

3 Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Property Crime*, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=32#terms_def.

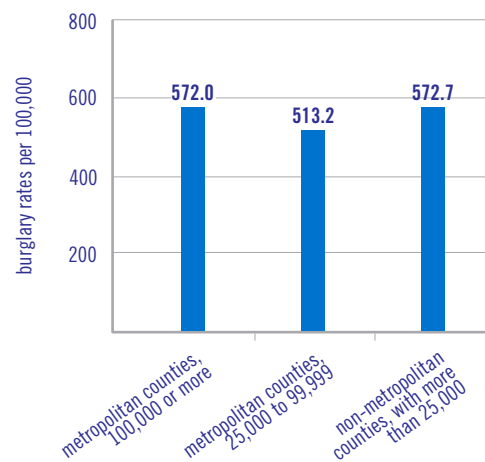
4 Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Criminal Victimization in the United States, 2007," (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, report update 1), Table 82, accessed October 7, 2014, <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/cvus07.pdf>. This report on crimes both reported and not reported to police stated the cost of property crime at more than \$16 billion.

5 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2014), Table 1, accessed October 7, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/1tabledatadecoverviewpdf/table_1_crime_in_the_united_states_by_volume_and_rate_per_100000_inhabitants_1993-2012.xls.

6 Ibid., Table 1A, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/1tabledatadecoverviewpdf/table_1_crime_in_the_united_states_by_volume_and_rate_per_100000_inhabitants_1993-2012.xls.

- Burglaries occurred at a rate of 572.0 per 100,000 inhabitants in metropolitan counties of more than 100,000 in 2012. The number of burglaries known was 245,668.⁷ Metropolitan counties with populations between 25,000 and 99,999 recorded 119,087 known burglaries, or a rate of 513.2 per 100,000 inhabitants. In non-metropolitan counties with more than 25,000 inhabitants, burglaries occurred at a rate of 572.7 per 100,000; the number of known burglaries was 60,352.⁸

BURGLARY RATES BY COUNTY TYPE, 2012



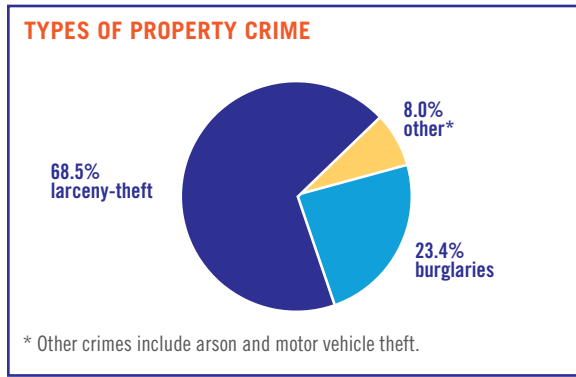
- The number of known burglaries by forcible entry was 1,111,849 or 410.2 per 100,000 population in 2012. The number of burglaries by unlawful entry known to law enforcement was 631,788 or 233.1 per 100,000 population.⁹
- In 2012, 536,729 burglaries known to police were committed at nonresidential (store, office, etc.) locations; 1,567,058 burglaries known to police occurred in residences in the United States. Of those residential burglaries, 428,411 occurred at night (24.2 percent) and 830,518 occurred during the day (47.0 percent).¹⁰

7 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 14, accessed June 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/14tabledatadecpdf/table_14_crime_trends_by_metropolitan_nonmetropolitan_counties_2011_2012.xls.

8 Ibid.

9 Ibid., table 19, accessed June 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/19tabledatadecpdf/table_19_rate_by_selected_offenses_2012.xls.

10 Ibid., Table 7, accessed June 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/7tabledatadecpdf/table_7_



Robbery

- Between 2011 and 2012, the rate of robberies known to the police in the United States decreased 0.8 percent.¹¹ Larceny-theft crimes known to the police decreased 0.7 percent.¹² The rate of overall property victimization known to the police decreased 1.6 percent during this time.
- The robbery victimization rate was 2.8 per 1,000 households in 2012. The rate of theft victimization was 120.9 per 1,000 households. The rate of motor vehicle theft was 5.0 per 1,000 households.¹³
- Between 2011 and 2012, the rate of robbery victimization increased by 22.3 percent. The estimated number of motor vehicle theft victimization decreased 2.0 percent; theft victimization increased 16 percent.¹⁴
- As reported by victims in 2012, 47.6 percent of robberies of male victims were committed by a stranger, and 13.3 percent of robberies of female victims were committed by a stranger.¹⁵

- As reported by victims in 2012, 37.3 percent of robberies involved no weapons. Firearms were used in 29.4 percent of robberies, and a knife was used in 11.8 percent of robberies.¹⁶
- The rate of robberies per 100,000 inhabitants known to police in metropolitan counties with over 100,000 inhabitants was 74.0 in 2012, while the same rate for the most densely populated non-metropolitan counties (with 25,000 or more residents) was 16.0.¹⁷
- Of all reported robbery cases, 122,174 involved a firearm, and 126,600 cases involved a strong-arm (the use or threatened use of hands, arms, feet, fists, or teeth as weapons to deprive the victim of property).¹⁸
- The rate of reported robbery cases involving a firearm was the highest (25.0 per 100,000 inhabitants) in metropolitan counties. However, the rate of robberies known to the police involving a strong-arm was highest in suburban areas (24.5 per 100,000 inhabitants).¹⁹

Theft

- There were an estimated 7,820,909 larceny-thefts known to police nationwide or 3,033.9 per 100,000 population in 2012.²⁰
- In metropolitan counties with over 100,000 inhabitants in 2012, there were 600,680 cases of larceny-theft known to police, which is a rate of 1,447.7 per 100,000 inhabitants.²¹

[offense_analysis_united_states_2008-2012.xls](#).

11 Ibid.

12 Ibid.

13 Jennifer L. Truman, Lynn Langton, and Michael Planty, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 3, accessed June 3, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cv12.pdf>.

14 Calculated from Jennifer L. Truman, Lynn Langton, and Michael Planty, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 3, accessed June 3, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cv12.pdf>.

15 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Number of Robberies by Sex and Victim-Offender Relationship, 2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 5, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

16 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Percent of Robberies by Weapon Use and Weapon Category, 2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 5, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

17 Ibid., Table 14, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/14tabledatadecpdf/table_14_crime_trends_by_metropolitan_nonmetropolitan_counties_2011_2012.xls.

18 Ibid., Table 19, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/19tabledatadecpdf/table_19_rate_by_selected_offenses_2012.xls.

19 Ibid.

20 Ibid., Table 1, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/1tabledatacoverviewpdf/table_1_crime_in_the_united_states_by_volume_and_rate_per_100000_inhabitants_1993-2012.xls.

21 Ibid., Table 18, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/18tabledatadecpdf/table_18_rate_by_counties_2012.xls.

Burglary, Robbery, and Theft

- Property crime decreased 0.9 percent from 2011 to 2012. The five-year trend showed a 8.2 percent decrease between 2008 and 2012.²²
- Of all property crimes in 2012, 64.0 percent were larceny-theft and 23.2 percent were burglaries.²³
- Victims reported a rate of property crime victimizations of 155.8 per 1,000 households in 2012.²⁴
- Of thefts known to police, thefts from motor vehicles accounted for 24.0 percent of all thefts in 2012. Shoplifting accounted for 18.6 percent.²⁵
- Victims reported 34 percent of property crimes to police in 2012. Law enforcement received reports on 55 percent of burglaries, 79 percent of motor vehicular thefts, and 26 percent of thefts.²⁶ ★

²² Ibid., Table 1, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/1tabledataoverviewpdf/table_1_crime_in_the_united_states_by_volume_and_rate_per_100000_inhabitants_1993-2012.xls.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Truman, Langton, and Planty, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, Table 5.

²⁵ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, "Larceny-theft." http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/larceny-theft_table-larceny-theft_percent_distribution_within_region_2012.xls.

²⁶ Truman, Langton, and Planty, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, Table 4.



CHILD, YOUTH, AND TEEN VICTIMIZATION

Children, youth, and teens experience high levels of victimization. Crimes against young people can range from abuse and neglect to assaultive violence and homicide. A majority of children and adolescents have experienced some form of physical assault in their lifetime. Teenagers, in particular, experience high levels of assault, maltreatment, and property victimization. In addition to direct victimization, large percentages of children, youth, and teens are exposed to physical and emotional violence in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods. Children, youth, and teens are victimized in many ways, and a number of youth experience multiple forms of violence (polyvictimization). In addition, exposure to violence increases the chances a youth will also experience other types of violence, and these effects can be cumulative and extremely damaging over time. The exposure to violence also increases the probability of future victimization.¹ Given the amount of time that youth and teens spend at school, victimizations in this particular location constitute an important subset of crime and are addressed in the section devoted to [School Crime](#).

Assaults Against Young Children and Teens

The NCVS only collects information on household members over age 12. Other sources of data must be considered to identify patterns and trends for children under the age of 12. The following section relies on data from the National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence (NatSCEV).

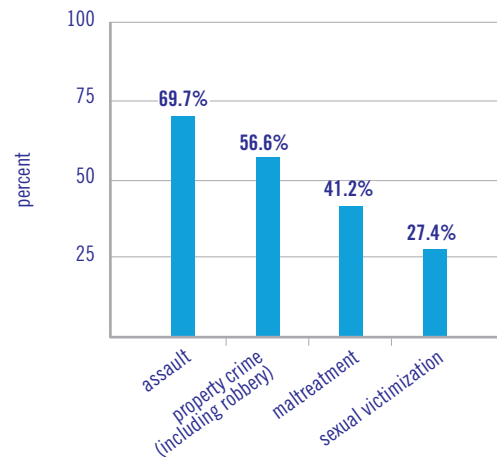
- Of children age 0 to 17 years in 2011, 41.2 percent were physically assaulted in the previous 12 months.²
- Of the U.S. population of 14- to 17-year-olds, 69.7 percent had been assaulted, 56.6 percent had experienced a property victimization (including robbery), 41.2 percent had been maltreated, and 27.4 percent had been sexually victimized at some point in their lifetime.³

1 David Finkelhor, *Polyvictimization: Children's Exposure to Multiple Types of Violence, Crime and Abuse*, (Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, 2011), 2, accessed October 28, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/235504.pdf>.

2 David Finkelhor et al., "Violence, Crime, and Abuse Exposure in a National Sample of Children and Youth: An Update," *Pediatrics* 167, no. 7 (2013): 616, accessed October 7, 2014, <http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1686983&resultClick=3>.

3 Ibid., 616-18.

LIFETIME VICTIMIZATION OF TEENS, AGES 14 – 17, BY TYPE, 2011*



*Note: "Maltreatment" is maltreatment by a caregiver.

- At some point in their lifetime, 54.5 percent of children and adolescents (age 0 to 17) experienced some form of physical assault, 24.6 percent were victims of physical intimidation (i.e., physical bullying), 51.8 percent were victims of relational aggression (i.e., emotional bullying),⁴ and 10.3 percent were victims of assault with a weapon.⁵

Child Maltreatment

The data for the following section was obtained from the official reports in each state to a child protection agency and refer to abuse or neglect by a caregiver.⁶

- There were 686,000 child maltreatment victims or 9.2 per 1,000 children in 2012.⁷
- In 2012, just under one-half (44 percent) of all child victims of maltreatment were white, 21 percent were African American, and 21.8 percent were Hispanic.⁸

4 Finkelhor et al. used the terms physical intimidation and relational aggression instead of the more common terms of physical and emotional bullying because the latter terminology requires a "power imbalance" in the victim-perpetrator relationship.

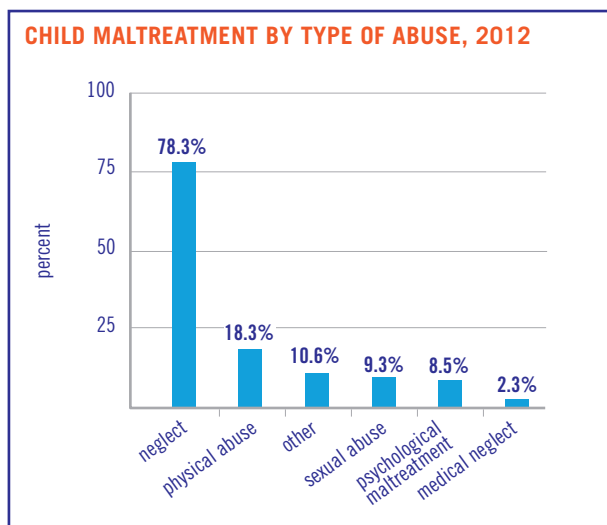
5 Ibid.

6 *Child Maltreatment 2012*, (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, 2013), accessed October 7, 2014, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/research-data-technology/statistics-research/child-maltreatment>.

7 Ibid., Table 3-4.

8 Ibid., Table 3-7.

- Of those children who were victims of maltreatment in 2012, in 36.6 percent the mother was the perpetrator, in 18.7 percent of the cases the father was the perpetrator, and in 12.0 percent of the cases someone other than the parent was the perpetrator.⁹
- During 2012, 78.3 percent of child maltreatment victims experienced neglect, 18.3 percent were physically abused, 9.3 percent were sexually abused, 8.5 percent were psychologically maltreated, and 2.3 percent were medically neglected. In addition, 10.6 percent of child victims experienced other types of maltreatment.¹⁰



- Of those who were defined as having been a victim of abuse in 2012, 21.9 per 1,000 children were less than 1 year of age. With each additional year of age, the risk of victimization decreased. With the exception of the teen years (ages 13, 14, and 15), there is a slight increase.¹¹
- In 2012, for neglect victims (29.7 percent) and physical abuse victims (24.6 percent), children two years old and younger have the highest percent of victimization. Teen's ages 12 to 14 have the highest risk of sexual abuse (26.3 percent).¹²

- In 2012, girls are most often victims of abuse at a rate of 9.5 per 1,000 children. Boys were victims of abuse at a rate of 8.7 per 1,000 children.¹³
- An estimated 1,593 children died as a result of maltreatment, or 2.2 per 100,000 children in 2012. Forty-four percent of these children were under a year old. Eighty percent of child fatalities were caused by the child's parents, and 27.1 percent of fatalities were caused by the mother alone.¹⁴

Polyvictimization

- NatSCEV found that 38.7 percent of children surveyed reported more than one type of direct victimization in the previous year.¹⁵
- Of those who reported any direct victimization 64.5 percent reported multiple types of victimization.¹⁶
- Almost 11 percent or more than 1 in 10 children reported being directly exposed to five or more different types of violence with just over one percent reporting 10 or more victimizations.¹⁷
- A disproportionate number of youth who have been polyvictimized experienced the most serious types of victimizations, including sexual assault and parental maltreatment.¹⁸
- The survey identified four pathways or prior circumstances affecting polyvictimization, including living in a violent family, living in a distressed or chaotic family, living in a violent neighborhood and having preexisting psychological symptoms.¹⁹

⁹ Ibid., Table 3-13.

¹⁰ Ibid., Table 3-8.

¹¹ Ibid., Table 3-C.

¹² Ibid., Table 3-E.

¹³ Ibid., Table 3-6.

¹⁴ Ibid., Tables 4-2, 4-4.

¹⁵ David Finkelhor, *Children's Exposure to Violence: A Comprehensive National Survey*, (Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, 2009), 1, accessed October 25, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojdp/227744.pdf>.

¹⁶ Ibid.

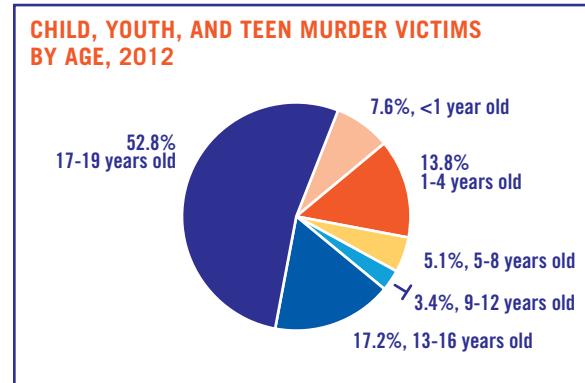
¹⁷ David Finkelhor, *Polyvictimization: Children's Exposure to Multiple Types of Violence, Crime and Abuse*, (Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, 2011), 1, accessed October 28, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojdp/235504.pdf>.

¹⁸ Ibid., 2.

¹⁹ Ibid.

- Polyvictims are slightly more likely to be boys (54 percent) than girls (46 percent).²⁰
- African American youth, as well as youth living in single-parent and stepparent families, displayed higher rates of polyvictimization.²¹
- Youth who are polyvictimized have a far greater level of additional lifetime adversities and distress, including illnesses, accidents, family unemployment, parental substance abuse, and mental illness.²²
- Polyvictims exhibit much higher levels of distress, such as anxiety, depression, anger, and PTSD. They also display higher levels of distress than children who experienced frequent victimizations of a single type.²³

- Of the 1,893 homicide victims ages 0 to 19, 7.6 percent (144) were infants under age one, 13.8 percent (261) were children 1 to 4 years of age, 5.1 percent (96) were children 5 to 8 years of age, 3.4 percent (65) were children 9 to 12 years of age, 17.2 percent (326) were youth 13 to 16 years of age, and 52.8 percent (1,001) were teens age 17 to 19.²⁶



Fatal Violence Against Children and Youth

- The data on fatal violence against children and youth is obtained from the Federal Bureau of Investigations, and therefore, only accounts for violence that has been reported to the police through law enforcement agencies.²⁴
- In 2012, 8.6 percent (1,101) of all homicide victims were children and youth under 18 years of age. Of total homicides, 5.8 percent (736) were males under the age of 18, and 2.9 percent (364) were females under the age of 18. (The sex of one victim was unknown.) Of homicide victims under the age of 18 whose race was known, 46.7 percent (514) were black and 50.3 percent (554) were white. (The race of 33 victims was either “other” or “unknown.”)²⁵

Exposure to Violence²⁷

- In 2011, 22.4 percent of children stated they witnessed an act of violence in their homes, schools, or communities within the previous year, and 3.4 percent stated they had indirect exposure to violence.²⁸
- Of children surveyed, 39.2 percent witnessed an act of violence and 10.1 percent stated they had indirect exposure to violence sometime during their lifetime.²⁹

²⁰ Ibid., 5.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2012), accessed October 25, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s>.

²⁵ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2012), calculated from Expanded Homicide Data Table 2, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded-homicide_data_table_2_murder_victims_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.

²⁶ Ibid.

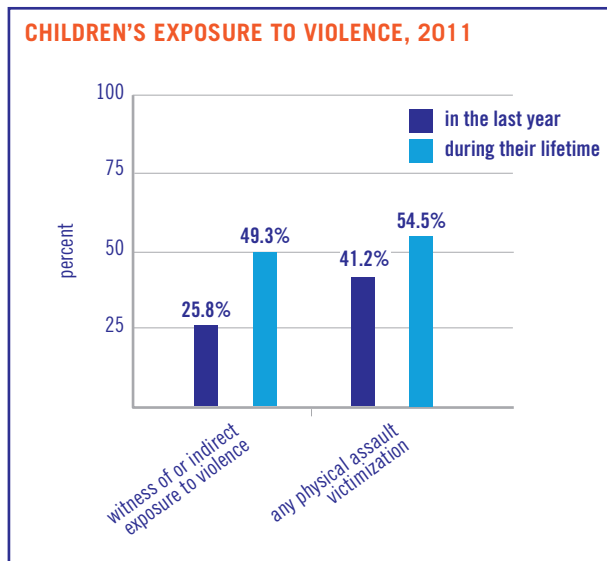
²⁷ The information on exposure to violence was obtained via telephone surveys of children ages 10 to 17 years of age in the United States. This was conducted as part of the NatSCEV. David Finkelhor, *Children's Exposure to Violence: A Comprehensive National Survey*, (Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, 2009), 3, accessed October 25, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/227744.pdf>.

²⁸ “Witnessing” violence includes witnessing the following: an assault by a family member against another family member, an assault on a family member by someone outside the household, an assault outside the home, or a murder. “Indirect exposure to violence” includes exposure to shooting, bombs, or riots; exposure to war or ethnic conflict; being told about or seeing evidence of a violent event in the household or community; theft or burglary from the child’s household; or a credible threat of a bomb or attack against the child’s school; David Finkelhor, *Children's Exposure to Violence: A Comprehensive National Survey*, (Washington, DC: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, 2009), 7, accessed October 7, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/227744.pdf>.

²⁹ David Finkelhor et al., “Violence, Crime, and Abuse Exposure in a National Sample of Children and Youth: An Update,” Table 5.

Child, Youth, and Teen Victimization

- By comparison, 41.2 percent of children stated they were victims of a physical assault within the previous year, and 54.5 percent stated they were victims of a physical assault during their lifetime.³⁰



- In 2011, 8.2 percent of children under the age of 18 had witnessed a family assault in the previous 12 months and 20.8 percent had witnessed a family assault at some point in their lifetime.³¹
- In 2011, 29.8 percent of children were victims of an assault with no weapon or injury, 9.7 percent were victims of an assault with a weapon, 10.1 percent were victims of an assault with an injury, 5.6 percent experienced sexual victimization, and 13.8 percent experienced child maltreatment by a caregiver.³² ★

³⁰ Ibid., Table 1.

³¹ Finkelhor, "Violence, Crime, and Abuse Exposure," Table 5.

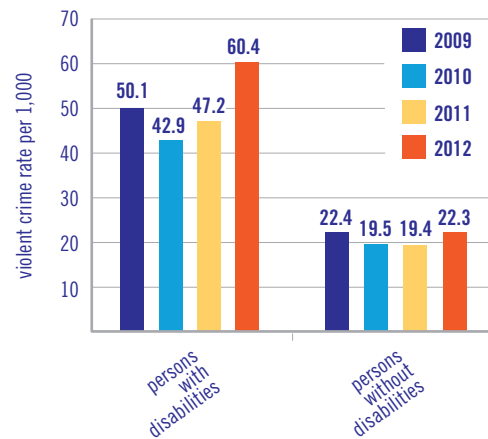
³² Ibid., Tables 1–3.

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Persons with disabilities are victimized by crime at much higher rates than the rest of the population, and they are often targeted specifically because of their disabilities. As compared to other population groups, victims with disabilities experience higher rates of victimization by persons known to them, and they report crime less frequently, often because of the nature of their disabilities, such as cognitive or physical disabilities or mental illness. In addition to violent victimization and property offenses, crimes against persons with disabilities can also constitute a subset of hate crimes. As described more fully in the subsection devoted to hate crimes, these crimes are defined by being motivated by the offender's bias against victims of a particular group, such as those with disabilities. A majority of the information in this section relies on findings from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), which only includes those 12 and older with disabilities living among the general population in household settings. As a result, this may contribute to an underestimation of the level of violence experienced by people with disabilities as it does not take into account people living in institutions, people who are homeless or children under 12. The section concludes with several data points, compiled from a variety of other sources, about violence against children with disabilities as they are at a substantially greater risk than their non-disabled peers of being victimized.¹

- The age-adjusted violent victimization rate for persons with disabilities (60.4 violent victimizations per 1,000) was more than twice the rate among persons without disabilities (22.3 violent victimizations per 1,000) in 2012.²
- From 2009 to 2012, the age-adjusted rate of violent crime increased by 20.6 percent from 50.1 per 1,000 to 60.4 per 1,000. By comparison, the rate of violent crime against persons without disabilities decreased by 0.4 percent from 22.4 per 1,000 in 2009 to about 22.3 per 1,000 in 2012.³

VIOLENT CRIME AGAINST PERSONS WITH AND WITHOUT DISABILITIES



- In 2012, for both males and females, the age-adjusted rate of violent crime was greater for those with disabilities than the rate for those without disabilities. The rate for males with disabilities was 59.0 per 1,000, compared to 25.1 per 1,000 for males without disabilities; for females with disabilities, the rate was 61.8 per 1,000, compared to 19.5 per 1,000 for females without disabilities.⁴
- The rate of aggravated assault reported against persons with disabilities in 2009 was 6.6 per 1,000. That number increased to 10 in 2012. From 2011 to 2012, the aggravated assault rate decreased slightly from 10.5 to 10.0.⁵
- Simple assault (34.1 per 1,000 persons) was the most common form of violence utilized on persons with disabilities in 2012.⁶
- In 2012, those with cognitive disabilities had the highest unadjusted violent victimization rate (63.3 per 1,000 persons), simple assault rate (39.7 per 1,000 persons), and serious violent victimization rate (23.6 per 1,000 persons). This is also true for both male and female victims with disabilities.⁷

1 Lisa Jones et al., "Prevalence and Risk of Violence against Children with Disabilities: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Observational Studies," *Lancet* 380, no. 9845 (2012): 899.

2 Erika Harrell, *Crime Against Persons with Disabilities, 2009 – 2012-Statistical Tables*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2014), Table 1, accessed June 6, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/capd0912st.pdf>.

3 Ibid., calculated from Tables 3 and 4.

4 Ibid., Table 5.

5 Harrell, *Crimes Against Persons with Disabilities, 2009-2012*, Table 3.

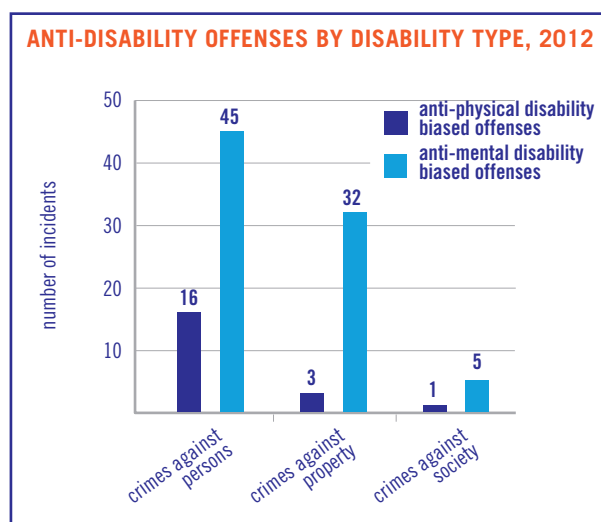
6 Ibid., Table 7.

7 Ibid., Tables 7, 8, and 9.

Crimes Against Persons with Disabilities

- Between 2009 and 2012, reported instances of rape/sexual assault against persons with a disability increased from 1.7 in 2009 to 3.6 in 2012.⁸
- Intimate partner violence accounted for 13 percent of violence against persons with disabilities in 2010, similar to the percentage of violence against persons without disabilities, which is 14 percent.⁹
- Offenders were strangers to the victim in 33 percent of violent victimizations against persons with disabilities in 2010, compared to 41 percent of violent victimizations against persons without disabilities.¹⁰
- Among persons with disabilities, the percentage of violence in which the victim faced an armed offender increased from 20 percent in 2008 to 30 percent in 2010.¹¹ The offender was armed with a firearm in about 14 percent of victimizations involving persons with disabilities, compared to 8 percent of victimizations against those without disabilities in 2010.¹²
- About 41 percent of the violent victimizations against persons with disabilities were reported to police in 2010, compared to about 53 percent of victimizations against persons without disabilities.¹³
- Persons with disabilities reported to the police 39 percent of robberies and 40 percent of aggravated assaults in 2010. Persons without disabilities reported much higher percentages of these crimes: 63 percent of robberies and 65 percent of aggravated assaults.¹⁴
- Crimes against disabled persons can constitute a form of hate crime. In 2007, about 19 percent of violent crime victims with a disability said they believed they had been victimized because of their disability.¹⁵

- A total of 92 anti-disability hate crimes were reported to the police in 2012. Of these, 18 were motivated by bias against persons with physical disabilities and 74 by bias against those with mental disabilities.¹⁶
- In 2012, 52.1 percent of violent crimes against people with a disability were against those with multiple disabilities, down from 56.9 percent in 2010 and up from 41.4 percent in 2009.¹⁷
- Anti-disability-biased incidents involving 102 total victims were reported to police in 2012. Of the 102 victims, 61 experienced crimes against persons, 35 experienced crimes against property, and 6 experienced a crime against society.¹⁸



- Of the 20 reported offenses against those with physical disabilities in 2012, 4 were aggravated assault, 9 simple assault, 3 intimidation, 1 larceny/theft, 1 motor vehicle theft, 1 classified as “other” crimes against property, and 1 classified as crimes against society.¹⁹

⁸ Ibid., Table 1.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Harrell, *Crimes Against Persons with Disabilities, 2008-2010*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2011), Table 4, accessed October 6, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/capd10st.pdf>.

¹¹ Harrell, *Crimes Against Persons with Disabilities, 2008-2010*, Table 5.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid., 5.

¹⁴ Ibid., 11.

¹⁵ Michael R. Rand and Erika Harrell, *Crimes Against People with Disabilities, 2007*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2009), 4, accessed October 6, 2014, <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/capd07.pdf>.

¹⁶ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Hate Crime Statistics, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2012), Table 1, accessed June 6, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/hate-crime/2012/tables-and-data-declarations/1tabledatadecpdf/table_1_incidents_offenses_victims_and_known_offenders_by_bias_motivation_2012.xls.

¹⁷ Harrell, *Crimes Against Persons with Disabilities, 2009-2013*, Table 6.

¹⁸ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *2012 Hate Crime Statistics*, Table 7, accessed June 6, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/hate-crime/2012/tables-and-data-declarations/7tabledatadecpdf/table_7_victims_offense_type_by_bias_motivation_2012.xls. Crimes against society include drug-related offenses, prostitution, and animal cruelty.

¹⁹ Ibid., Table 7.

- Of the 82 offenses against those with mental disabilities, 15 were aggravated assault, 24 simple assault, 5 intimidation, 1 classified as “other” crimes against persons, 1 robbery, 3 burglary, 12 larceny/theft, 11 destruction of property/vandalism, 5 classified as “other” crimes against property, and 5 crimes against society.²⁰
- Between 2004 and 2012, victims identified disability as the perceived offender motivation in hate crimes 11 percent of the time, down from 22 percent in 2011, and the same as 2004 (11 percent).²¹
- In a national survey of over 1,300 people with disabilities and their family members in 2012, over 70 percent reported being victims of abuse. Types of abuse included verbal-emotional (87.2 percent), physical (50.6 percent), sexual (41.6 percent), neglect (37.3 percent), and financial (31.5 percent).²²
- In the same survey, 62.7 percent who reported being victims of abuse did not report the abuse to authorities. When looking at families of victims and victims, 43.3 percent of incidents were not reported to authorities.²³
- In 2012, 3.2 percent of child victims of abuse and neglect had reported a behavioral problem disability, 2.5 percent had an emotional disturbance disability, 1.1 percent reported a learning disability, 1.0 percent a visual or hearing impairment, 0.7 percent a physical disability, 0.5 percent an intellectual disability, and 4.3 percent other medical disability.²⁵
- In a review of the literature, it was estimated approximately 1 in 4 or 26.7 percent of disabled children will be a victim of violence. Of those, 20.4 percent will be victims of physical violence and 13.7 percent victims of sexual violence.²⁶
- In the same study, it was observed that children with psychological or intellectual disabilities are significantly more likely to be victims of sexual assault, compared to children with physical disabilities.²⁷
- In a study of 4,155 students in special education, children with attention deficient hyperactive disorder (ADHD) experienced the greatest risk of victimization compared to children with other disabilities. Children with emotional disturbance were the second group of disabled children most likely to experience bully victimization.²⁸ ★

Crimes Against Children with Disabilities

- In 2012, 13.3 percent of child victims of abuse or neglect had a reported disability based on data collected by the Department of Health and Human Services.²⁴

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Meagan Meuchel, *Hate Crime Victimization, 2004-2012--Statistical Tables*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2014), Table 2, accessed June 8, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/hcv0412st.pdf>.

²² Nora J. Baladerian, Thomas F. Colemand, and Jim Stream, *Findings from the 2012 Survey on Abuse of People with Disabilities*, (Los Angeles, CA: Spectrum Institute, Disability and Abuse Project, 2013), accessed October 6, 2014, <http://www.disabilityandabuse.org/survey/findings.pdf>.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ *Child Maltreatment 2012*, (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau), Table 3-9, accessed October 6, 2014, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/resource/child-maltreatment-2012>.

²⁵ Ibid., Table 3-9.

²⁶ Lisa Jones et al., “Prevalence and Risk of Violence against Children with Disabilities: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Observational Studies,” *Lancet* 380, no. 9845 (2012): 899.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Jamilia J. Blake et al., “Predictors of Bully Victimization in Student with Disabilities: A Longitudinal Examination Using a National Data Set,” *Journal of Disability Policy Studies* (2014): accessed October 19, 2014, <http://dps.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/05/30/1044207314539012.abstract>.

DNA

DNA, or deoxyribonucleic acid, is the fundamental building block for an individual's entire genetic makeup and each person's DNA is different from every other individual's, except for identical twins. It is a component of virtually every cell in the human body, but only one-tenth of a single percent of DNA (about 3 million bases) differs from one person to the next. Scientists can use these variable regions to generate a DNA profile of an individual, using samples from blood, bone, hair, and other body tissues and products. Recent advancements and innovations in DNA technology are enabling law enforcement to solve cases previously thought to be unsolvable and providing the criminal justice field with a powerful tool for convicting the guilty and exonerating the innocent.

Physical evidence is any tangible object that can connect an offender to a crime scene. Biological evidence, which contains DNA, is a type of physical evidence. All biological evidence can be subjected to DNA testing and the resulting profile can then be compared with DNA profiles from convicted offenders and arrestees; DNA recovered from other crimes; and DNA obtained from a suspect. Further, DNA does more than just identify the source of the sample - it can place a known individual at a crime scene, in a home, or in a room where the suspect claimed not to have been. It can refute a claim of self-defense and put a weapon in the suspect's hand. It can change a story from an alibi to one of consent. However, several factors can affect the DNA left at a crime scene, including environmental factors (e.g., heat, sunlight, moisture, bacteria, and mold). Therefore, not all DNA evidence will result in a usable DNA profile.

- The DNA Identification Act of 1994 authorized the creation of the National DNA Index System (NDIS). All 50 states, the District of Columbia, the federal government, the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory, and Puerto Rico participate in NDIS.¹
- NDIS is the national level component of the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) and was created by the FBI in October of 1998.² NDIS contains DNA profiles contributed by federal, state, and local participating forensic laboratories.

1 Federal Bureau of Investigations. *Frequently Asked Questions on the CODIS Program and the National DNA Index System*, accessed August 5, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/lab/biometric-analysis/codis/codis-and-ndis-fact-sheet>.

2 Ibid.

- CODIS is the software that connects NDIS with state and local databases that contain DNA profiles from known criminal offenders (and arrestees, where applicable) and DNA evidence from crime scenes.³ CODIS routinely compares DNA profiles from crime scenes against the DNA profiles of known offenders, searching for matches or “hits” and generating leads for law enforcement to investigate. As of August 2014, the NDIS contains more than 11 million (11,175,266) offender profiles, almost 2 million (1,987,174) arrestee profiles, and 596,263 forensic profiles.⁴
- As of August 2014, CODIS has produced more than 257,921 hits, assisting in more than 246,334 investigations.⁵
- All 50 states require the collection of DNA from felony convicts. In addition, 29 states and the federal government have adopted laws which authorize the collection of DNA from persons arrested for certain crimes.⁶

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners or SANE are employed in some hospitals and are the nurses who handle sexual assault cases and gather evidence through sexual assault kits.

- One study looking at the effectiveness of SANE programs found that the probability of a sexual assault case being prosecuted and an offender being convicted increases when a SANE collects the forensic evidence, despite victim and assault characteristics.⁷

3 Ibid.

4 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *CODIS-NDIS Statistics*, accessed October 15, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/lab/biometric-analysis/codis/ndis-statistics>.

5 Ibid.

6 DNA Saves. “29 States Have Passed the Law,” accessed October 15, 2014, <http://dnasaves.org/states.php>.

7 Rebecca Campbell, Debra Patterson, Deborah Bybee, and Emily R. Dworkin, “Predict Sexual Assault Prosecutions Outcomes: The Role of Medical Forensic Evidence Collected by Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners,” *Criminal Justice and Behavior* 36, no. 7 (2009): accessed August 5, 2014, http://responsesystemspanel.whs.mil/public/docs/meetings/20131107/Background_Materials/Rebecca_Campbell/Predicting_Sx_Asslt_Cases_Outcomes_2009.pdf.

- Another study of 530 sexual assault cases from three jurisdictions, indicated that SANE and SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) programs were beneficial in investigation and prosecutions of sexual assault cases because DNA collection by SANEs is more effective.⁸

Municipalities across the United States are working to identify untested sexual assault kits (SAKs) in law enforcement evidence storage. There is no current national count of how many untested SAKs there are, however, several major U.S. cities have reported having thousands.⁹

- New York City (NYC) was the first city to discover a large number of untested sexual assault kits. In 1999, the city had approximately 17,000 untested SAKs. However, by 2003, NYC was able to eliminate the backlog and 200 sexual assault offenders were arrested.¹⁰
- After the success of the backlog reduction program in NYC, the city adopted a policy of testing every sexual assault kit booked into evidence, and the arrest rate for rape subsequently increased from 40 to 70 percent.¹¹
- In one government study that looked at forensic evidence submission, researchers found that evidence was not submitted in 18 percent of unsolved sexual assaults, 14 percent of unsolved homicides, and 23 percent of unsolved property crimes.¹²

- In May 2014, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, prosecutor's office announced its 100th indictment resulting from the county's efforts to eliminate its rape kit backlog. Out of the 100 indictments, 30 percent involved serial rapists. In 70 percent of the cases, the attacker was a stranger to the victim.¹³
- Some progress has been made in preventing backlogs of SAK kits in the future. For instance, in 2010, Illinois passed the Sexual Assault Evidence Submission Act. The act requires law enforcement officials to submit sexual assault evidence kits to the Illinois State Police within 10 days of receiving the kits, and requires the Illinois State Police to analyze these kits within 10 days.¹⁴
- In 2011, Texas passed a similar law, and in 2013 Colorado did as well.^{15,16} California became the fourth state to pass a mandatory SAK testing law on September 30, 2014.¹⁷

DNA is effective in helping to solve property crimes.

- A pilot study in New York City, the Biotracks program, found that using DNA in burglary cases was effective in identifying suspects and generating leads.¹⁸ As part of the NYC Biotracks program, over 3,430 crime scenes were processed and 6,391 items of DNA related evidence were collected.¹⁹ As of April 2008, 1,558 CODIS-eligible profiles were generated, leading to 692 case-to-offender matches to 548 offenders.²⁰

8 M. Elaine Nugen-Borakove et al., *Testing the efficacy of SANE/SART Program: So they make a difference in sexual assault arrest and prosecutions outcomes?* (Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice, NIJ Award Number 2003-WG-BX-1003), accessed August 5, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/214252.pdf>.

9 Currently there is little government and academic research on this issue. As a result, data for this section is compiled from a variety of sources including Think Tanks, media organizations, and advocacy groups.

10 EndTheBacklog. *The Backlog: New York City*, 1, accessed August 5, 2014, <http://endthebacklog.org/New-York-City>.

11 Ibid.

12 Kevin J. Strom et al., *The 2006 Survey of Law Enforcement Evidence Processing*. (Washington DC: National Institute of Justice, NCJ 228415), vii, accessed November 1, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/228415.pdf>.

13 Timonth J. McGinty, *100th Indictment for DNA Cold Case Task Force Targets Murder and Serial Rapist*, (May 2, 2014), accessed August 6, 2014, <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/1151566-100th-dna-cold-case-indictment-release-5-2-2014.html>.

14 Illinois General Assembly, *Sexual Assault Evidence Submission Act § 725 ILCS 202/5*, accessed October 15, 2014, <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=3240&ChapterID=54>.

15 Texas Government Code § 420.041-.043, .0735.

16 Colorado General Assembly, *Colorado Revised Statute § 24-33.5-113*, accessed October 15, 2014, http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2013a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont/81D352C1BB84F08587257AEE00570221?Open&file=1020_enr.pdf

17 State of California, "An act to amend Section 680 of the Penal Code, relating to DNA evidence," accessed November 5, 2014, http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/13-14/bill/asm/ab_1501-1550/ab_1517_bill_20140930_chaptered.pdf.

18 Joseph Blozis. "Using DNA to Fight Property Crime", *Evidence Technology Magazine*: accessed August 8, 2014, http://www.evidencemagazine.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1031.

19 Ibid.

20 Lisa Calandro, Lynne Burley, Joseph Blozis, Lisa Lane Shade, "Property Crime Sample Processing: Law Enforcement Experiences and Crime Laboratory Efficiencies," *Forensic Magazine*: accessed August 8, 2014, <http://www.forensicmag.com/articles/2010/08/property-crime-sample-processing-law-enforcement-experiences-and-crime-laboratory-efficiencies>.

- An NIJ funded study in five communities focused on using DNA in high-volume crimes (e.g., burglary and automobile theft). According to the study, DNA is five times as likely to result in identifying the suspect compared to fingerprints.²¹
- The same study also found that more than twice as many suspects were identified in property crime cases where DNA evidence was used and entered into CODIS compared to traditional investigations.²²
- Another NIJ study demonstrated that analyzing DNA from property crimes can be useful to police. Miami-Dade County Police, New York City Police and the Palm Beach County Sheriff's office all used DNA analyses and were successful in solving high-volume property crimes.²³
- In Palm Beach County, analysis on DNA profiles from 572 property crimes was uploaded to CODIS and 40 percent matched a suspect.²⁴
- In a similar study, Denver experienced a 41 percent match rate in the CODIS database for property crimes.²⁵
- The eight offenders in Chicago accumulated a total of 21 felony arrests before law enforcement officials were finally able to convict them of violent crimes.²⁸
- By November 2012, just few years after California began collecting DNA from felony arrestees, the clearance and investigations aided rate rose to 67.9 percent, up from 35 percent when the State database program included only convicted offenders.²⁹
- A California Department of Justice study examined 100 cases in which a person's DNA was taken upon felony arrest and was linked to a violent crime, including murder, rape, and robbery. In the majority of these cases, the qualifying crime (for taking DNA upon arrest) was for DUI, fraud, property crimes, and drug offenses.³⁰

DNA can also be used to exonerate those who were wrongfully convicted.

- According to the Innocence Project, 316 people in 36 states have been exonerated through DNA testing in the United States; 249 exonerations since the year 2000.³¹
- In almost half of these cases, the real perpetrator has been identified by DNA.³²
- In Capital cases (death penalty), dating back to 1973, there have been 18 people exonerated because of DNA evidence.³³ ★

Collecting DNA upon arrest can solve and prevent crime.²⁶

- A City of Chicago study in 2005 found that taking DNA upon arrest can prevent crime. Reviewing the criminal history of eight convicted felons uncovered that 60 violent crimes, including 22 murders and 30 rapes, could have been prevented had DNA been collected for a prior felony arrest and compared against the DNA database, thereby identifying and potentially apprehending offenders sooner.²⁷

²¹ John K. Roman et al., *The DNA Field Experiment: Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of the Use of DNA in the Investigation of High-Volume DNA Crimes*, (Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice, NCJ 22318), 4, accessed August 8, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/222318.pdf>.

²² Ibid.

²³ Edwin Zedlewski and Mary B. Murphy, *DNA Analysis For "Minor" Crimes: A Major Benefit for Law Enforcement*, (Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice), accessed August 8, 2014, http://www.nij.gov/journals/253/Pages/dna_analysis.aspx.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Simon Ashikhmin et al., "Using DNA To Solve High-Volume Property Crimes In Denver: Saving Money, Lowering Crime Rates and Making Denver Safer," *The Prosecutor* 42, no. 3 (2008): 34 – 43, accessed August 8, 2014, http://www.denverda.org/DNA_Documents/Denver%20Burg%20Project%20NDAA.pdf.

²⁶ Supreme Court of the United States, *Maryland v. King*, 12-207, S (2013), accessed October 31, 2014, http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/12pdf/12-207_d18e.pdf. The Supreme Court decided 5-4 in favor of allowing police to collect DNA when a suspect is arrested for certain serious crimes.

²⁷ City of Chicago. "Chicago's Study on Preventable Crimes," accessed October 14,

2014, <http://dnasaves.org/files/ChicagoPreventableCrimes.pdf>.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ California Office of the Attorney General, "Effects of the All Adult Arrestees Provision," accessed October 8, 2014, <http://oag.ca.gov/bfs/prop69/faqs>.

³⁰ California Office of the Attorney General, "Arrestee Hits to Violent Crimes: Qualifying Offenses for DNA Collection," accessed October 4, 2014, http://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/bfs/arrestee_2013.pdf.

³¹ The Innocence Project. "DNA Exoneree Case Profiles," accessed August 14, 2014. <http://www.innocenceproject.org/know/>.

³² Ibid.

³³ Death Penalty information Center, *Innocence Database*, accessed August 8, 2014, http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/innocence?inno_name=&exonerated=&state=innocence=All&race=All&dna=1.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Driving under the influence (DUI) can include impairment due to alcohol, drugs, or both. The majority of statistics in this area, though, concern driving under the influence of alcohol. For alcohol-related DUIs, the level of alcohol is measured using the Blood Alcohol Concentration or BAC.¹ In 2012, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico had a law that defined impaired driving at the threshold BAC of 0.08 or higher.² The number of alcohol-impaired driving fatalities has declined over the past decade. The following section provides information on DUIs involving both alcohol and other drugs. The statistics in this section rely on data collected by the United States Department of Transportation, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The United States Department of Transportation (DOT) provides annual statistics for alcohol-impaired traffic fatalities. DOT information is based on the National Automotive Sampling System (NASS), which takes a random sample of police car crash reports. The statistics also include information from special crash investigations, the large truck crash causation study, the national motor vehicle crash causation survey, and the crash injury research and engineering network.³

- In 2012, 10,322 people died in vehicle crashes involving alcohol-impaired driving, a 4.6 percent increase from 2011 when there were 9,865 fatalities.⁴
- Of all the traffic fatalities in 2012, 31 percent were the result of impaired drivers.⁵

1 U.S. Department of Transportation, "Alcohol-Impaired Driving," *Traffic Safety Facts 2012 Data*, 1, accessed August 4, 2014, <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811870.pdf>.

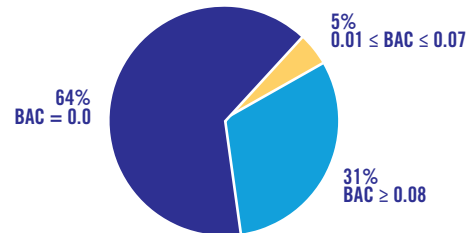
2 Ibid.

3 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, *National Automotive Sampling System Brochure*, 1, accessed October 5, 2014, <http://www.nhtsa.gov/NASS>.

4 U.S. Department of Transportation, "Alcohol-Impaired Driving," 1.

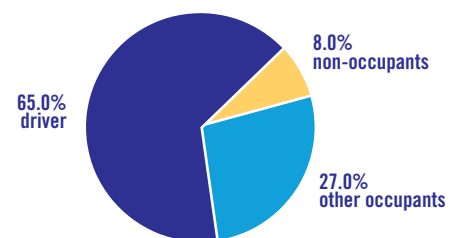
5 Ibid.

BAC LEVEL OF DRIVERS IN FATAL VEHICLE CRASHES, 2012



- Of the 10,322 people who died in alcohol-impaired driving crashes, 65 percent were the drivers with a BAC of 0.08 or higher. The remaining fatalities involved occupants of any motor vehicle, whether it was being driven by the impaired driver or not (27 percent), and non-occupants (8 percent).⁶

DEATHS IN ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED DRIVING, 2012



- With regard to the non-driver occupants, 16 percent were passengers in a car driven by an individual with a BAC of 0.08 or higher and 11 percent were occupants of other vehicles in 2012.⁷
- Since 2003, alcohol-impaired driving fatalities have decreased 21 percent from 13,096 in 2003 to 10,322 in 2012, despite the slight increase in deaths from 2011 to 2012.⁸
- In 2012, 1,168 children age 14 and younger were killed in any motor vehicle traffic crashes. Of those child fatalities, 20 percent occurred in crashes involving alcohol-impaired driving.⁹

6 Ibid.

7 Ibid., Table 1.

8 Ibid., 2.

9 Ibid.

- Of the children age 14 and younger killed in alcohol-impaired crashes, 52 percent were occupants of a vehicle with a driver who had a BAC level of 0.08 or higher, and 38 percent were pedestrians struck by drivers with a BAC level of 0.08 or higher.¹⁰
- From 2003 to 2012, there was a 1 percent decrease in single-vehicle fatal car crashes and a 1 percent increase in multiple-vehicle fatal car crashes where a driver had a BAC of 0.08 or higher.¹¹
- Eighteen percent of single-vehicle crashes where a driver had a BAC of 0.08 were during the daytime, and 46 percent were at night in 2012.¹²
- Six percent of multiple-vehicle crashes where a driver had a BAC of 0.08 or higher were during the daytime, and 22 percent were at night in 2012.¹³
- In 2012, 32 percent of drivers who both were involved in a fatal crash and age 21 to 24 had a BAC of 0.08 or higher, followed by drivers ages 25 to 34 (29 percent) and 35 to 44 (25 percent).¹⁴

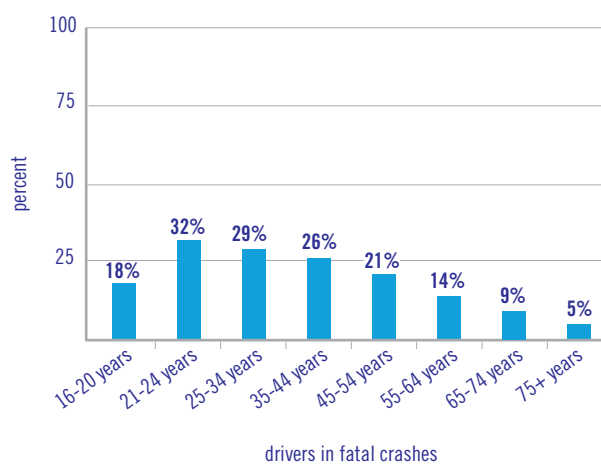
- In 2012, of the alcohol-related vehicle fatalities, 23 percent involved passenger cars, 22 percent involved light trucks, 27 percent involved motorcycles, and 2 percent involved large trucks.¹⁶
- In 2012, drivers with a BAC of 0.08 or higher involved in fatal crashes were 7 times more likely to have previously been convicted for a DUI compared to drivers in fatal crashes where there was no alcohol involved.¹⁷

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services

Administration provides self-reported statistics related to impaired driving. This information is collected from survey respondents who admit to having driven under influence of alcohol, drugs, or both forms of impairment.¹⁸

- An estimated 10.3 million persons in 2012 reported driving under the influence of illicit drugs during the past year, or 3.9 percent of the population age 12 or older.¹⁹
- Overall self-reported driving under the influence of illicit drugs decreased 4.7 percent from 2002 to 2012. Between 2011 and 2012, though, an increase of 3.7 percent was observed.²⁰
- In 2012, 18- to 25-year-olds had the highest self-report of driving under the influence of illicit drugs with 11.9 percent admitting to having driven under the influence of illicit drugs at least once in the past 12 months.²¹
- In 2012, an estimated 11.2 percent of persons age 12 or older drove under the influence of alcohol in the past year based on self-reported data. This percentage translates to approximately 29.1 million persons.²²

DRIVERS IN FATAL VEHICLE CRASHES WITH A BAC ≥ 0.8, BY AGE



- Of the fatal vehicle crashes where a driver had a BAC of 0.08 or higher, 24 percent were male drivers, and 14 percent were female drivers.¹⁵

¹⁰ The other 10 percent is unknown information. Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid., Table 2.

¹² Of the data available figures do not total 100%. Ibid.

¹³ Of the data available figures do not total 100%. Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid., 4, Table 3.

¹⁵ Of the data available figures do not total 100%. Ibid.

¹⁶ Of the data available figures do not total 100%. Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid., 5.

¹⁸ The data sample for the survey is based on the U.S. population age 12 or older.

¹⁹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Results from the 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Summary of National Findings*, (Washington, DC: 2013), 29, accessed August 4, 2014, <http://media.samhsa.gov/data/NSDUH/2012SummNatFindDetTables/NationalFindings/NSDUHresults2012.pdf>.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid., 37.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provide statistics for policies aimed at reducing the amount of drivers under the influence on the roads. These data come from multiple sources compiled by the CDC.

- According to the CDC, sobriety checkpoints may reduce alcohol-related crashes by 9 percent. Sobriety checkpoints are traffic stops where law enforcement officers assess the level of alcohol impairment of drivers.²³
- Ignition interlocks are believed to decrease arrests for impaired driving by 70 percent. Ignition interlocks are devices installed in the vehicle of individuals who have already been convicted of impaired driving. The driver must blow into the device and register a BAC less than 0.02 or 0.04 for the car's ignition to start.²⁴
- Over 1.4 million drivers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics in 2010. This number represents only 1 percent of the self-reported episodes of alcohol-impaired driving among U.S. adults.²⁵
- Eighteen percent of motor vehicle driver deaths were the result of drivers being under the influence of drugs other than alcohol.²⁶

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration provides estimates of the annual cost of DUI's in the United States. The data are obtained from police reports as part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administrations General Estimates System.

- In 2010, estimates of DUIs from alcohol cost the United States approximately \$199 billion a year.²⁷ Cost measurements are based on medical costs, work-loss costs, and selected ancillary costs.

- It is estimated that driving under the influence of alcohol costs each U.S. adult approximately \$800 per year.²⁸

The FBI provides official arrest data on DUIs in the United States each year as part of their annual Crime in the United States report.

- In 2012, 1,282,958 people were arrested for driving under the influence, or 10.5 percent of all arrests in 2012 were for driving under the influence.²⁹
- In 2012, 406.4 per 100,000 persons were charged with driving under the influence.³⁰
- Between 2008 and 2012, there was a 17.4 decrease in the number of arrests for driving under the influence.³¹
- Of those arrested for driving under the influence in 2012, 75.3 percent were males, and 24.7 percent were females.³² ★

²³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Impaired Driving: Get the Facts," *Injury Prevention & Control: Motor Vehicle Safety*, page 1, accessed August 4, 2014, http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehicledsafety/impaired_driving/impaired_drv_factsheet.html.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, *The Economic and Societal Impact of Motor Vehicle Crashes, 2010*, 1, accessed August 4, 2014, <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/812013.pdf>.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 29, accessed August 4, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/29tabledata.pdf>.

³⁰ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 30, accessed August 4, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/30tabledata.pdf>.

³¹ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 35, accessed August 4, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/35tabledatacoveroverview.pdf>.

³² Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 42, accessed August 4, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/42tabledatacoveroverview.pdf>.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRIME

Economic and financial crimes cost American individuals and businesses billions of dollars every year. Official sources of U.S. crime data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) and the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) primarily focus on traditional property crimes such as burglary and theft. The NCVS property crimes include burglary, property theft, and motor vehicle theft that occur against household residents age 12 and older. The UCR property crimes include the NCVS crimes as well as arson and include individuals of all ages as well as non-individual victims such as commercial entities. Bank robberies constitute another form of traditional property crime for which the FBI collects information. Various forms of fraud—including mortgage, health care, mass marketing, and securities and commodities fraud—can generate massive losses to individual and corporate victims. It is widely believed by researchers that financial crime is underreported, and these crimes can be difficult to investigate and prosecute. Successfully prosecuted fraud cases, however, can result in billions of dollars in criminal restitution, fines, and civil settlements, as well as millions of dollars in seizures and civil restitution. As technology expands into all aspects of Americans' daily lives, it also plays a growing role in the commission of many financial crimes. Offenders can use a wide variety of Internet-based tools such as spyware, malicious codes, viruses, worms, and malware to commit fraud, scams, identity theft, and other crimes.

- According to the NCVS in 2012, households in the two lowest income categories (less than \$7,500 per year and \$7,500 to \$14,999 per year) had the highest overall property victimization rates (253.5 and 233.3 per 1,000 households, respectively), compared to households in the two highest income categories (\$50,000 to \$74,999 and \$75,000 or more), which had the lowest overall property victimizations rates (149.4 and 148.1 per 1,000 households, respectively).⁴

Bank Robberies

- The FBI reported a total of 5,014 bank robberies in 2011. Of these, 4,495 were commercial banks, 105 savings and loan associations, 398 credit unions, and 16 mutual savings banks.⁵
- Eighty-nine percent of total incidents of bank robberies resulted in cash, securities, and checks—including traveler's checks—being stolen. Of the incidents where money/negotiable instruments⁶ were taken, law enforcement agencies reported full or partial recovery of these losses in 21 percent of cases (973 incidents out of 4,534).⁷
- A total of \$38,343,502 was taken in these incidents of bank robbery in 2011. Of this amount, law enforcement reported \$8,070,887 in recovered money/negotiable instruments.⁸

Property Crimes

- Property crimes reported to police in 2012 resulted in an estimated \$15.5 billion in losses.¹
- According to the FBI, of all property crimes in 2012, larceny-theft accounted for 68.5 percent.²
- In 2012, the average dollar loss due to arson reported to police was \$12,796.³

1 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, "Property Crime," (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2014), accessed June 17, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/property-crime/property-crime>.

2 Ibid.

3 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, "Arson," (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2014), accessed June 17, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/arson/arson>.

[u.s.-2012/property-crime/arson](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/property-crime/arson).

4 Generated from Bureau of Justice Statistics NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 17, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

5 Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Bank Crime Statistics (BCS)," (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2012), accessed June 17, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/bank-crime-statistics-2011/bank-crime-statistics-2011>.

6 Money/negotiable instruments include cash, securities, checks, food stamps, and other property.

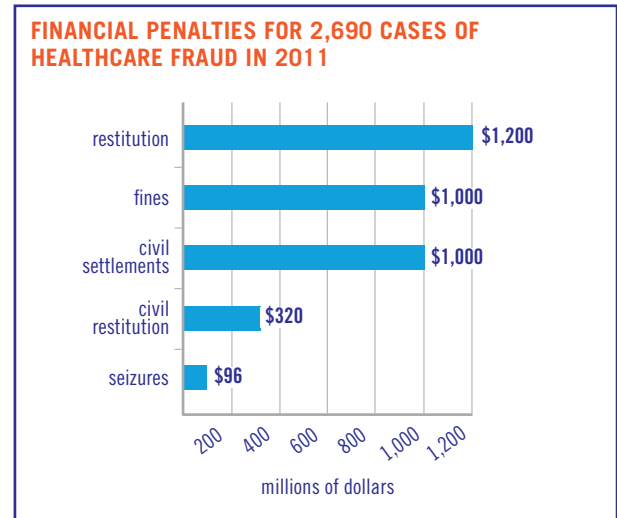
7 Ibid.

8 Ibid.

Fraud

- During 2011, an estimated⁹ 10.8 percent of adults (25.6 million people) were victims of one or more types of fraud for a total of 37.8 million estimated incidents of fraud.¹⁰
- In a survey of 3,638 adults age 18 and over in 2011, respondents who had experienced a serious negative life event¹¹ in the last two years were more than 2.5 times as likely to have experienced fraud as those who did not suffer such an event.¹²
- In 2013, consumers reporting fraud to the Federal Trade Commission lost a total of more than \$1.6 billion dollars.¹³
- In 2011, corporate crime cases investigated by the FBI resulted in 242 indictments filed and 241 individuals convicted of corporate crimes.¹⁴ These cases resulted in \$2.4 billion in restitution orders and \$16.1 million in fines from corporate criminals.¹⁵

- In Fiscal Year 2011, 2,690 healthcare fraud cases investigated by the FBI resulted in 1,676 indictments and 736 individuals convicted of healthcare fraud.¹⁶ These cases resulted in \$1.2 billion in restitution, \$1 billion in fines, over \$1 billion in civil settlements, \$320 million in civil restitution, and \$96 million in seizures.¹⁷



- In the first 10 months of the fiscal year 2013, the FBI filed 2,001 prosecutions of white-collar crime. Of the prosecutions filed, 17.7 percent (355 cases) were financial institution fraud, 17 percent (341 cases) were defined as “other” fraud, 12 percent (240 cases) were mortgage fraud, 11 percent (221 cases) were healthcare fraud, and 4.8 percent (97 cases) were securities fraud.¹⁸
- The number of FBI pending mortgage fraud cases increased from 1,199 cases in Fiscal Year 2007 to 2,691 cases in Fiscal Year 2011. Fiscal Year 2010 had the most cases with 3,129.¹⁹

⁹ The estimate is based on a 2011 survey of 3,638 adults age 18 and older.

¹⁰ Keith B. Anderson, “Consumer Fraud in the United States, 2011: The Third FTC Survey,” (Washington, DC: Bureau of Economics, Federal Trade Commission, 2013), i, http://www.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/documents/reports/consumer-fraud-united-states-2011-third-ftc-survey/130419fraudsurvey_0.pdf.

¹¹ Serious negative life events include divorce, death of a family member or close friend, serious injury or illness in the family, or loss of a job.

¹² Ibid., v.

¹³ Federal Trade Commission, *Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book for January–December 2013*, (Washington, DC: 2014), 8, accessed June 17, 2014, <http://www.ftc.gov/sentinel/reports/sentinel-annual-reports/sentinel-cy2012.pdf>.

¹⁴ Corporate crimes include falsification of financial information of public and private corporations, self-dealing by corporate insiders, and obstruction of justice designed to conceal these criminal activities. For a detailed list, see pages 6 and 7 of the FBI’s *Financial Crimes Report to the Public, Fiscal Years 2010–2011*.

¹⁵ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Financial Crimes Report to Public: Fiscal Years 2010–2011*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2012), 7, accessed November 1, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/financial-crimes-report-2010-2011/financial-crimes-report-2010-2011.pdf>.

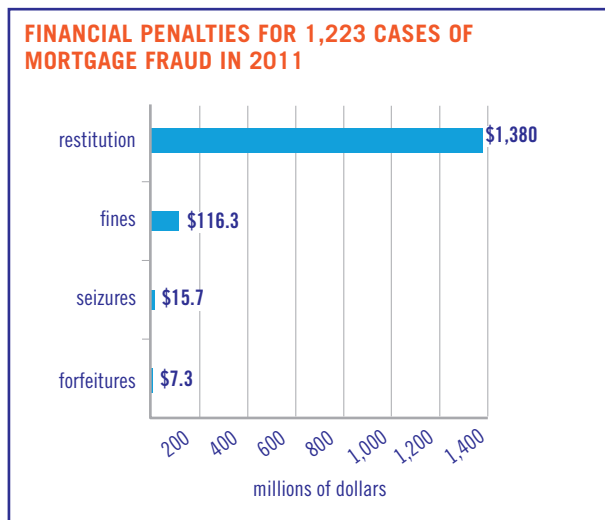
¹⁶ Healthcare fraud includes billing for services not rendered, upcoding of services, upcoding of items, duplicate claims, unbundling, excessive services, medically unnecessary services, and kickbacks. For more details, see pages 19–21 of the FBI’s *Financial Crimes Report to the Public, Fiscal Years 2010–2011*.

¹⁷ Ibid., 18.

¹⁸ Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse, *Slump in FBI White Collar Crime Prosecutions*, Table 2, accessed June 18, 2014, <http://trac.syr.edu/tracreports/crim/331/>.

¹⁹ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Financial Crimes Report to Public: Fiscal Years 2010–2011*, 24.

- In Fiscal Year 2011, 2,691 mortgage fraud cases investigated by the FBI resulted in 1,223 indictments and 1,082 individuals convicted of mortgage fraud.²⁰ These cases resulted in \$1.38 billion in restitution, \$116.3 million in fines, \$15.7 million in seizures, and \$7.33 million in forfeitures.²¹



- In Fiscal Year 2013, the Justice Department opened 1,013 new criminal healthcare fraud investigations involving 2,041 potential defendants. A total of 718 defendants were convicted of healthcare fraud-related crimes and nearly \$2.3 billion in taxpayer dollars was recovered.²²
- In Fiscal Year 2011, 1,719 financial institution fraud cases investigated by the FBI resulted in 521 indictments and 429 individuals convicted of financial institution fraud.²³ These cases resulted in \$1.38 billion in restitution, \$116.3 million in fines, and seizures valued at \$15.7 million.²⁴

- In Fiscal Year 2011, 1,846 securities and commodities fraud cases investigated by the FBI resulted in 520 indictments and 394 individuals convicted of securities and commodities fraud.²⁵ These cases resulted in \$8.8 billion in restitution orders, \$36 million in recoveries, \$113 million in fines, and \$751 million in forfeitures.²⁶
- Prosecutions of white-collar criminals recommended by the FBI are down substantially. From Fiscal Year 2012 to 2013, there was a 6.8 percent decrease in the number of white-collar crime prosecutions. There was a 1.2 percent decrease from 5 years ago and a 45.2 percent decrease in the past 10 years (since 2003).²⁷
- In 2010, the Mortgage Fraud Working Group, comprising federal agencies, conducted a national operation known as Operation Stolen Dreams. In this record-breaking sweep, there were 1,500 criminal defendants and 400 civil fraud defendants that resulted in the recovery of nearly \$200 million dollars.²⁸

Identity Theft

*The definition of identity theft includes the following incidents: unauthorized use or attempted use of an existing account, such as a credit or debit card, checking, savings, telephone, online, or insurance account.*²⁹

- Approximately 16.6 million people, or 7 percent of persons age 16 or older, were victims of identity theft in 2012.³⁰

²⁰ Mortgage fraud includes schemes that employ some type of misstatement, misrepresentation, or omission related to a real estate transaction that is relied on by one or more parties to the transaction. For more details, see page 22 of the FBI's *Financial Crimes Report to the Public, Fiscal Years 2010–2011*.

²¹ *Ibid.*, 26.

²² Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Justice, "Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2013," (2014), 87-88, accessed June 17, 2014, <http://oig.hhs.gov/publications/docs/hcfac/FY2013-hcfac.pdf>.

²³ Financial institution fraud includes insider fraud (embezzlement), check fraud, counterfeit negotiable instruments, checking kiting, and fraud contributing to the failure of financial institutions.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, 31.

²⁵ Securities and commodities fraud includes investment fraud such as Ponzi schemes and pyramid schemes as well as foreign currency exchange fraud, precious metals fraud, market manipulation, and late-day trading. For more details, see pages 11–13 of the FBI's *Financial Crimes Report to the Public, Fiscal Years 2010–2011*.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, 13.

²⁷ Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse, *Slump in FBI White Collar Crime Prosecutions*, Table 1, accessed June 18, 2014, <http://trac.syr.edu/tracreports/crim/331/>.

²⁸ Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force, *First Year Report, 2010*, 3.5, accessed June 18, 2014, <http://www.stopfraud.gov/docs/FFETF-Report-LR.pdf>.

²⁹ Bureau of Justice Statistics, *National Crime Victimization Survey, Identity Theft Supplement, 2012: Victims of Identity Theft*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, December 2013), accessed September 25, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/vit12.pdf>.

³⁰ *Ibid.*

- Eighty-five percent of theft incidents involved the fraudulent use of existing account information, such as credit card or bank account information.³¹
- Victims who had personal information used to open a new account or for other fraudulent purposes were more likely than victims of existing account fraud to experience financial, credit, and relationship problems.³²
- The level of emotional distress victims experienced was related to the length of time spent resolving problems. Forty-seven percent of identity theft victims who spent six months or more resolving financial and credit problems experienced severe emotional distress as a result of the theft.³³
- Persons in households with higher annual incomes (\$75,000 or more) were more likely to experience identity theft than persons in lower-income households.³⁴
- Fewer than 1 in 10 (about 9 percent) of identity theft victims reported the incident to police in 2012.³⁵
- Direct and indirect losses from identity theft totaled \$24.7 billion in 2012.³⁶
- In 2012, 9.2 million American adults were tricked into submitting personal data to criminal websites. Hundreds of thousands of Americans lost money from a bank account as a result.³⁹
- In 2013, the Internet Crime Complaint Center (“IC3”) received 262,813 consumer complaints. Of the filed complaints, 119,457 reported a financial loss. The total estimated loss is \$781.8 million.⁴⁰ The median dollar loss in 2013 was \$510, down slightly from \$600 in 2012.⁴¹
- According to IC3, from 2012-2013, there was a 48.8 percent increase in reported loss as a result of computer crimes.⁴²
- The most common type of complaints according to IC3 are auto-auction fraud—when criminals attempt to sell vehicles they do not own—with 14,169 or 5.4 percent of the complaints. The next most common complaint are real estate rental scams, with 10,384 or 4 percent of the complaints.⁴³
- According to IC3, in 2013 the most costly Internet scams were romance scams (costing approximately \$81.8 million). The next most costly were the auto-auction fraud (costing approximately \$51.6 million).⁴⁴
- According to IC3, the age groups reporting the most computer crimes in 2013 were the 40- to 49-year-olds (21.2 percent of cases) and the 50-59 year olds (21.1 percent).⁴⁵
- IC3 received about 47 complaints per day in 2012 about spam e-mails purportedly sent from the FBI. Victims reported losing more than \$6,600 to this type of scam every day.⁴⁶

Internet-Based Financial Crimes

- A projected 58.2 million American adults had at least one malware infection that affected their home computer in 2012.³⁷ The overall cost of repairing these damages was nearly \$4 billion. In comparison, American adults incurred \$1.2 billion in damages from spyware in 2010.³⁸

31 Ibid.

32 Ibid.

33 Ibid., Figure 9.

34 Ibid.

35 Ibid., Figure 10.

36 Ibid.

37 Consumer Reports, “Consumer Reports Survey: How Safe is Your Home Computer?,” *Consumer Reports Magazine* (May 2013), accessed November 1, 2014, <http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/news/2013/05/consumer-reports-survey-how-safe-is-your-home-computer/index.htm>.

38 Consumer Reports, “State of the Net, 2010,” *Consumer Reports Magazine* (June 2010), accessed November 1, 2014, <http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/magazine-archive/2010/june/electronics-computers/social-insecurity/state-of-the-net-2010/index.htm>.

39 Exact numbers of people who lost money from these scams were not provided. Consumer Reports, “Consumer Reports Survey: How Safe is Your Home Computer?”

40 Internet Crime Complaint Center, *2013 Internet Crime Report*, (National White Collar Crime Center, 2014), 5, accessed June 17, 2014, http://www.ic3.gov/media/annualreport/2013_ic3report.pdf.

41 Ibid., 5.

42 Ibid., 3.

43 Ibid., 8,11.

44 Ibid., 8-9

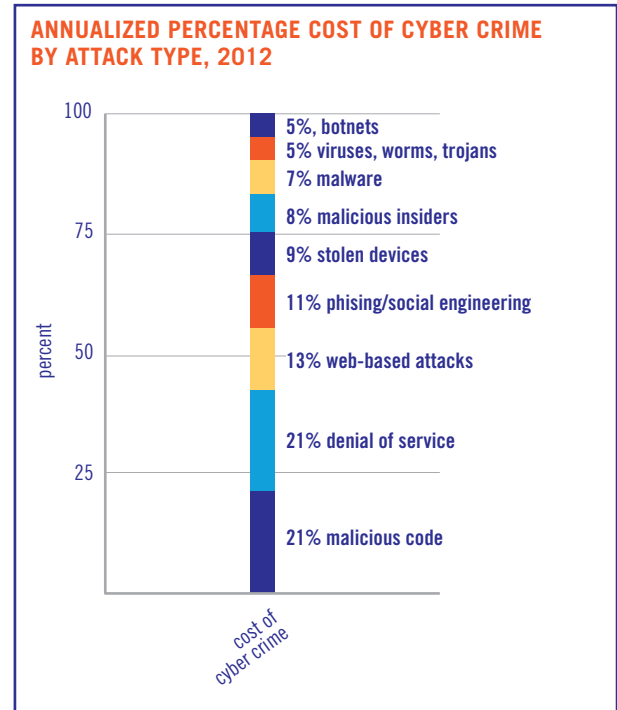
45 Ibid., 6.

46 Consumer Reports, “Consumer Reports Survey: How Safe is Your Home Computer?,” 9.

Economic and Financial Crime

- The Internet was the source of information about fraudulent offers in approximately 33 percent of incidents in 2011, compared to approximately 20 percent in 2005.⁴⁷
- In a 2012 nationally representative survey of over 2,000 adults age 40 and older, 84 percent of respondents reported being solicited to participate in a potentially fraudulent offer. Approximately 11 percent of respondents reported losing what they considered to be a significant amount of money after engaging with an offer.⁴⁸
- According to a 2013 industry-sponsored report, the average annual cost of cyber crime for a sample of 60 large corporations was \$11.6 million, with a range from \$1.3 million to \$58 million per company.⁴⁹ This amount is up from \$8.9 million in 2012 or a 26 percent increase equivalent to \$2.6 million.⁵⁰
- Sixty companies reported approximately 122 successful cyber attacks a week, or 2.0 per company per week. This figure is up from the 2012 report, in which companies reported 102 successful attacks a week.⁵¹

- The costs attributed to these cyber crimes can be divided as follows: 21 percent were due to malicious code attacks; 21 percent were due to denial of service attacks; 13 percent were due to web-based attacks; 11 percent were due to phishing and social engineering; 9 percent were due to stolen devices; 8 percent due to malicious insiders; 7 percent were due to malware; 5 percent were due to viruses, worms, and trojans; and 5 percent were due to botnets.⁵²



- According to the 60 companies surveyed, the most costly form of Internet crime in 2013 was denial of services, which cost approximately \$243,913. The second most costly was malicious insiders, which cost approximately \$198,769.⁵³ ★

⁴⁷ Anderson, *Consumer Fraud in the United States, 2011*, iii.

⁴⁸ "Financial Fraud and Fraud Susceptibility in the United States: Research Report from a 2012 National Study," (New York: Applied Research & Consulting LLC, 2013), 3, accessed November 1, 2014, http://www.finrafoundation.org/web/groups/sai/@sai/documents/sai_original_content/p337731.pdf?utm_source=MM&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Foundation_News_091213_FINAL.

⁴⁹ Ponemon Institute, *2013 Cost of Cyber Crime Study: United States*, (2013), 1, accessed June 17, 2014, http://media.scmagazine.com/documents/54/2013_us_ccc_report_final_6-1_13455.pdf.

⁵⁰ Cyber crimes are defined here as criminal activity conducted via the Internet. *Ibid.*, 1.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*, 1.

⁵² *Ibid.*, Figure 9.

⁵³ *Ibid.*, Figure 10.

ELDER VICTIMIZATION

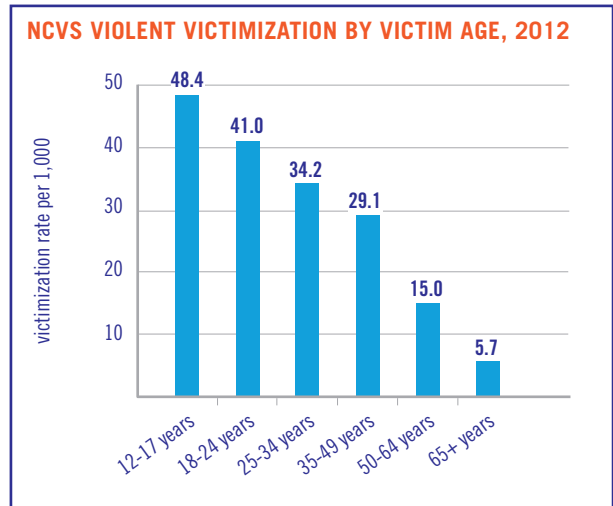
As the U.S. population ages, crimes against older Americans are gaining greater attention by researchers, policymakers, and the general public. Despite this increased interest, one initial—and unresolved—issue is how to best define the age group typically identified by the term “elderly.” While age 65 and above is commonly used, this definition varies across studies, state laws, and service providers such as Adult Protective Services. Another concern is that a single category of “elderly” is too broad no matter what age demarcation is used. Older adults vary widely in factors associated with victimization risk, such as their access to resources and support as well as physical and mental capacity.

Currently, Uniform Crime Report (UCR) data do not provide victim age information on a national level with the exception of certain homicide statistics. Certain incident-based police data do provide age of victim details. As such, studies based on police-based statistics focus on single states or groups of states that collect requisite incident-level information, particularly the age of the victim. In contrast, victimization data from the National Criminal Victimization Survey (NCVS) provide national rates of non-fatal crimes involving elderly victims. NCVS data shows that older adults overall have the lowest reported victimization rates in comparison to other age groups. Both victim- and police-based data indicate that the victimization experiences of older adults span all types of crime.

The UCR and NCVS do not provide information regarding certain crimes against the elderly such as elder abuse and financial exploitation. These incidents are of particular interest for victim service providers and policymakers, and data are available from studies outside of the UCR and NCVS. Isolation, reliance on caregivers, and decreased physical or mental capacity can increase older people’s exposure and vulnerability to physical and mental abuse. In addition, older adults—especially those on the brink of retirement or otherwise viewed as having resources to exploit—may be targeted for these crimes.

Violent Crime

- In 2012, people 65 years and older made up 13.9 percent of the U.S. population.¹ This age group experienced the lowest rate of non-fatal violent victimization reported to the NCVS at 5.7 victimizations per 1,000 persons, compared to 12- to 17-year-olds who experienced the most violent victimizations reported to the NCVS at 48.4 per 1,000 persons.²



- One study examining police-reported homicides in several states highlighted the variation across age groups typically combined as “elderly.” When disaggregating the over-age-65 population into three categories, victim and incident characteristics differ between the “oldest old” victims (age 85 and older) and “young old” victims (age 65 to 74). A higher percentage of the oldest victims are female (60.6 percent compared to 41.0 percent), killed by family members (30.0 percent compared to 15.8 percent), and killed by personal contact weapons (37.5 percent compared to 15.8 percent).³

1 Calculated from U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey, 2012*, generated using the CPS Table Creator, accessed June 24, 2014, <https://www.census.gov/cps/data/cpstablecreator.html>.

2 Jennifer L. Truman, Lynn Langton, and Michael Planty, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 5, accessed June 3, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cv12.pdf>.

3 Lynn A. Addington, “Who Are You Calling Old? Measuring ‘Elderly’ and What It Means for Homicide Research,” *Homicide Studies* 17: 134–53, Tables 1 and 2.

- In one study in Tennessee, 55 percent of elderly victims (65 and older) experienced no injury in an aggravated assault reported to police while 45 percent experienced injuries. Of those who experienced injuries, the majority (47 percent) were apparent minor injuries, followed by severe laceration (20 percent), other major injury (15 percent), possible internal injury (8 percent), and apparent broken bones (7 percent).⁴
- In one study in Michigan between 2005 and 2009, 3 of 10 victims over the age of 65 who had reported violence to the police were victimized by their own child or grandchild. Also, 38 percent of violent victimizations of female victims over the age of 65 involved the victim's child or grandchild, while 23 percent of male victims over the age of 65 involved the victim's child or grandchild.⁵
- According to the FBI in 2012 in the United States, 612 people age 65 or older were murdered, or 4.8 percent of all murder victims whose ages are known.⁶
- Of those 612 homicide victims age 65 or older, 284 (or 46.4 percent) were female. For homicide victims of all ages only 22.2 percent are females.⁷
- Of all victims of non-fatal violent crime in 2012, 3.5 percent were age 65 and older. 1.6 percent were males victims age 65 and older, and 1.9 percent were females age 65 or older.⁸
- In 2012, 3.2 percent of serious non-fatal violent crime victimizations (includes rape/sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault) were age 65 or older. Half of the victims were males age 65 or older, and half female age 65 or older.⁹
- Of all of the simple assault victimizations in 2012, 3.6 percent of simple assault victimizations were age 65 or older. 1.6 percent of those were males age 65 or older, and 2.0 percent females age 65 or older.¹⁰
- In 2012, of those age 65 and older who were victims of simple assault, 1.8 percent said the offender was well known or an acquaintance, and 1.2 percent said the offender was a stranger.¹¹

Elder Abuse

Abuse at Assisted Living Facilities

- A nationally representative study of abuse by staff in assisted living centers estimates that 50 per 1,000 residents experienced aggressive behavior from staff; 41 per 1,000 residents experienced pushing, grabbing, or pinching by staff; and 35 per 1,000 residents experienced a staff member hurting another resident.¹² The most frequent form of abuse experienced was threatening remarks from staff (127 per 1,000 residents).¹³

4 This statistical overview cites a study of elder victimization in only one state, Tennessee, because comprehensive national-level data on this topic were not available. *Calculated from* Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Crime Statistics Unit, *Crimes Against the Elderly Report, 2009–2011*, (Nashville, TN: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Crime Statistics Unit, 2012), 7, accessed September 4, 2014, http://www.tbi.state.tn.us/tn_crime_stats/documents/CrimesAgainstElderlyReport2009_2011.pdf.

5 Erica Smith, *Violent Crime against the Elderly Reported by Law Enforcement in Michigan, 2005–2009*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice 2012), 1, accessed September 4, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/vcerlem0509.pdf>.

6 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Expanded Homicide Data Table 2, accessed September 4, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_2_murder_victims_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.

7 Ibid.

8 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Percent of Violent Crime Victimization by Age and Sex, 2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

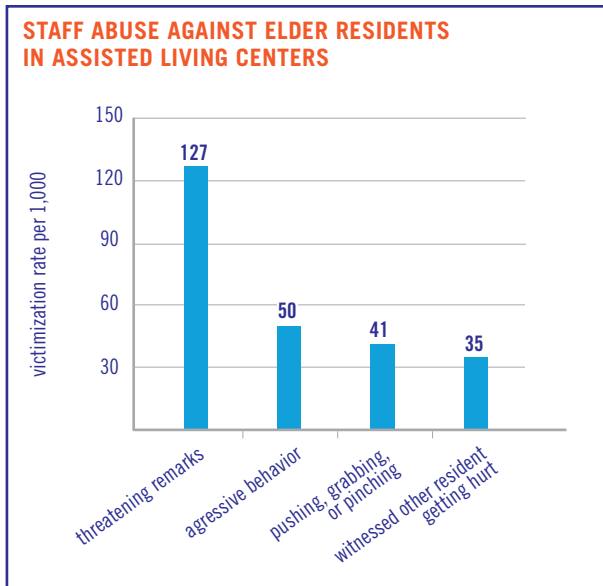
9 *Calculated from* Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Percent of Serious Violent Victimization by Age and Sex, 2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

10 *Calculated from* Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Percent of Simple Assault Victimization by Age and Sex, 2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

11 Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Percent of Simple Assault Victimization by Age and Victim Offender Relationship, 2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed June 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

12 Nicholas Castle, *An Examination of Resident Abuse in Assisted Living Facilities*, (National Institute of Justice), 27-28, accessed June 24, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/241611.pdf>.

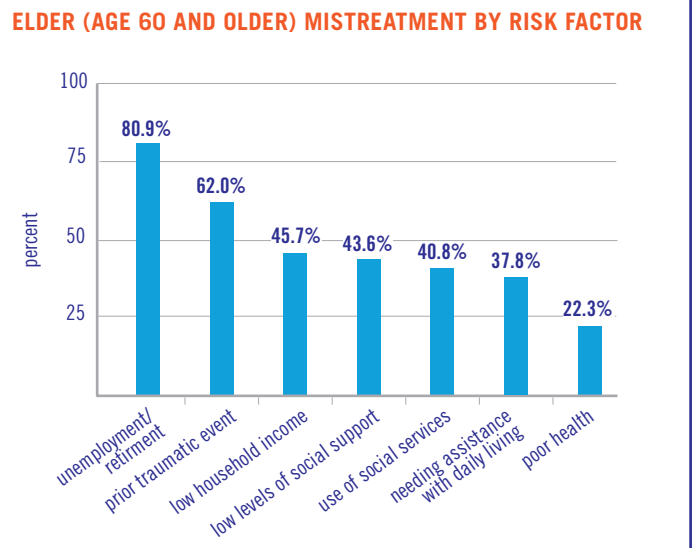
13 Ibid.



Elder Abuse in Non-institutional Settings

- In a nationally representative survey of adults age 60 and older, 1.6 percent reported that they had experienced physical mistreatment in the past year, and 5.2 percent were currently being financially exploited by family members.¹⁸
- In the same nationally representative survey of adults' age 60 and older, the contextual factors associated with risk were found to vary based on the type of abuse. These factors included the following: being unemployed or retired (81 percent); a prior traumatic event (62 percent); low household income (46 percent had less than \$35,000 per year combined for all members of the household); low levels of social support (44 percent); use of social services (41 percent); needing assistance with activities of daily living (38 percent); and poor health (22 percent).¹⁹

- In the same study, the overall conclusion is that abuse from staff is relatively uncommon in assisted living centers.¹⁴
- According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, 50 percent of nursing home staff admitted to physical violence, mental abuse, or neglect of older patients.¹⁵
- According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, of the type of abuse complaints for elders in nursing homes in the United States, 29 percent were physical abuse, 22 percent resident to resident abuse, 21 percent psychological abuse, 14 percent gross neglect, 7 percent sexual abuse, and 7 percent financial exploitation.¹⁶
- According to the National Ombudsman Reporting System, in 2012 there were a total of 190,376 complaints filed against nursing homes in the United States and Washington, DC. Of those complaints, 13,616 (7.1 percent) were for abuse, gross neglect, or exploitation of nursing home residents.¹⁷



¹⁴ Ibid., 37-38.

¹⁵ National Center on Elder Abuse. "Abuse of Residents of Long Term Care Facilities," (Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2013), 1, accessed October 25, 2014, http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/Resources/Publication/docs/NCEA_LTCF_ResearchBrief_2013.pdf.

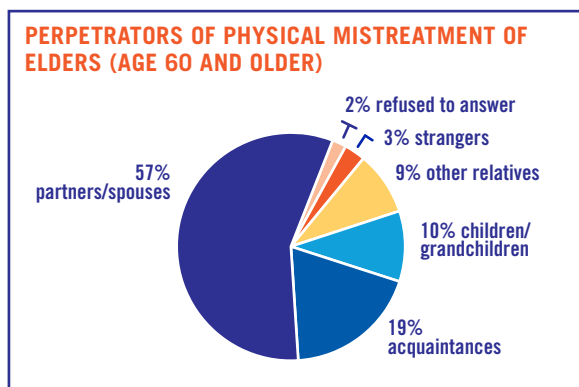
¹⁶ Ibid., 2.

¹⁷ Calculated using Aging Integrated Database, Administration on Aging, accessed October 25, 2014, <http://www.agid.acl.gov/CustomTables/NORS/Complaints/Results/>.

¹⁸ Ron Acierio et al., "National Elder Mistreatment Study," (U.S. Department of Justice grant report, NCJ 226456, March 2009), 5, accessed September 4, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/226456.pdf>.

¹⁹ Social services include senior centers or day programs, physical rehabilitation, meal services, and social services or health services provided in home visits. Ibid.

- According to this study, 76 percent of perpetrators of physical mistreatment were family members. Of those perpetrators, 57 percent were partners or spouses, 10 percent were children or grandchildren, and 9 percent were other relatives. Acquaintances accounted for 19 percent of physical mistreatment, and strangers made up 3 percent.²⁰



- Less than 1 percent reported sexual mistreatment in the past year. Of those who were sexually abused, 16 percent reported the mistreatment to the police and 52 percent said they were sexually mistreated by a family member, with partners and spouses making up 40 percent.²¹
- According to this same survey of adults age 60 and older, adults between 60 and 70 are at three times the risk of being emotionally abused compared to adults over the age of 70.²²
- About 5 percent (or 1 in 20) reported emotional mistreatment in the past year. Of those, only 7.9 percent reported the mistreatment to law enforcement.²³
- According to the survey of adults age 60 and older, perpetrators of emotional abuse were most likely family members, such as partners or spouses (25 percent), children or grandchildren (19 percent), and other relatives (13 percent). Twenty-five percent of perpetrators of emotional abuse were acquaintances, and 9 percent were strangers.²⁴

Local and State-Level Studies of Elder Abuse

- In a localized study of adults age 65 and older who reported suspected physical elder abuse to Adult Protective Services in one county in California, 72 percent who had been abused within 30 days prior to examination had bruises; of those, 90 percent knew the cause of their bruises. In the same study, 56 percent of the abused adults had at least one bruise 5 cm or larger compared to only 7 percent of adults who were not abused.²⁵
- In a recent study of New York State, adults age 60 and older were interviewed regarding whether they experienced a form of abuse in the past year. 76 per 1,000 residents age 60 and older reported being a victim of one of the forms of abuse. Of the residents of New York age 60 and older, 42.1 per 1,000 residents age 60 and older experienced financial exploitation, 22.5 per 1,000 residents age 60 and older experienced physical and/or sexual abuse, 18.3 per 1,000 residents age 60 and older experienced neglect, and 16.4 per 1,000 residents age 60 and older experienced emotional abuse.²⁶
- The study also found that the self-report of elder abuse by those age 60 and older is higher than the documented rates of elder abuse.²⁷
- Of self-reported abuse, 20.3 percent occurred among those age 60 to 64; 38.0 percent for those age 65 to 74; 29.1 percent for those age 75 to 84; and 12.7 percent for those age 85 and older.²⁸
- Additionally, 35.8 percent of the self-reported abuse victims are males; and 64.2 percent are females.²⁹

²⁰ Ibid., 9.

²¹ Ibid., 9, 46.

²² Ibid., 8.

²³ Ibid., 38.

²⁴ Ibid., 7.

²⁵ Aileen Wiglesworth et al., "Bruising as a Marker of Physical Elder Abuse," *Journal of the American Geriatric Society* 57, no. 7 (2009): 1191–94, accessed September 4, 2014, <http://www.pekdadvocacy.com/documents/eldercare/Bruising.pdf>.

²⁶ Mark Lachs et al., *Under the Radar: New York State Elder Abuse Prevalence Study. Self-Reported Prevalence and Documented Case Surveys*, (May 2011), Table 18, accessed June 24, 2014, <http://www.lifespan-roch.org/documents/UndertheRadar051211.pdf>.

²⁷ Ibid., 53.

²⁸ Ibid., Table 20.

²⁹ Ibid.

Financial Crime

- A 2010 study discovered a trend in the increasing number of incidents of Internet crime reported by those individuals in the 50 to 59 and 60 and older categories.³⁰ However, the same study a year later found little change in the age groups that filed complaints between 2010 and 2011.³¹ The 2012 Internet Crime Complaint Center also observed little change between the 2011 and 2012 reports of Internet crime.³²
- Of those who reported both crimes and their age to the Federal Trade Commission in 2013, people 60 and older made 26 percent of fraud complaints compared to 25 percent in 2012, 22 percent in 2011, and 15 percent in 2010.³³ Those 60 and older made 20 percent of the identity theft complaints in 2013, compared to the 19 percent in 2012, 15 percent in 2011, and 13 percent in 2010.³⁴
- In a 2012 nationally representative survey of over 2,000 adults age 40 and older, those age 65 and older were more likely to be targeted by offenders and more likely to lose money once targeted. Upon being solicited for fraud, older respondents were 34 percent more likely to lose money than respondents in their forties.³⁵
- In a study of adults' age 60 and older in Arizona and Florida, 14 percent of the sample were victims of fraud in the past year.³⁶
- In the same study, almost 60 percent of the sample was targeted as a potential victim of fraud, but only 14 percent actually became victims.³⁷
- Of the three types of financial fraud targeting studied, 10.8 percent of the respondents were targeted by a defrauder who said they could pay to improve their finances, 8.8 percent were targeted by a phony business opportunity, and 16.4 percent were tricked into giving financial information in the past year.³⁸ However, less than 1 percent actually fell victim to these types of fraud.³⁹ ★

30 Internet Crime Complaint Center, *2010 Internet Crime Report*, (National White Collar Crime Center, 2011), 6, accessed September 4, 2014, www.ic3.gov/media/annualreport/2010_IC3Report.pdf.

31 Internet Crime Complaint Center, *2011 Internet Crime Report*, (National White Collar Crime Center, 2012), 9, accessed September 4, 2014, http://www.ic3.gov/media/annualreport/2011_IC3Report.pdf.

32 Internet Crime Complaint Center, *2012 Internet Crime Report*, (National White Collar Crime Center, 2013), 7, accessed September 4, 2014, http://www.ic3.gov/media/annualreport/2012_ic3report.pdf.

33 Federal Trade Commission, *Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book for January–December 2013*, (Washington, DC, 2014), 10, accessed June 17, 2014, <http://www.ftc.gov/sentinel/reports/sentinel-annual-reports/sentinel-cy2012.pdf>.

34 Ibid., 14.

35 “Financial Fraud and Fraud Susceptibility in the United States: Research Report from a 2012 National Study,” (New York: Applied Research & Consulting LLC, 2013), 3, accessed September 4, 2014, http://www.finrafoundation.org/web/groups/sai/@sai/documents/sai_original_content/p337731.pdf?utm_source=MM&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Foundation_News_091213_FINAL.

36 Kristy Holtfreter, Michael D. Reisig, Daniel P. Mears, and Scott E. Wolfe, *Financial Exploitation of the Elderly in a Consumer Context*, (U.S. Department of Justice, March 2014), accessed October 25, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/245388.pdf>.

37 Ibid., 55.

38 Ibid., 61.

39 Ibid., Table 13.

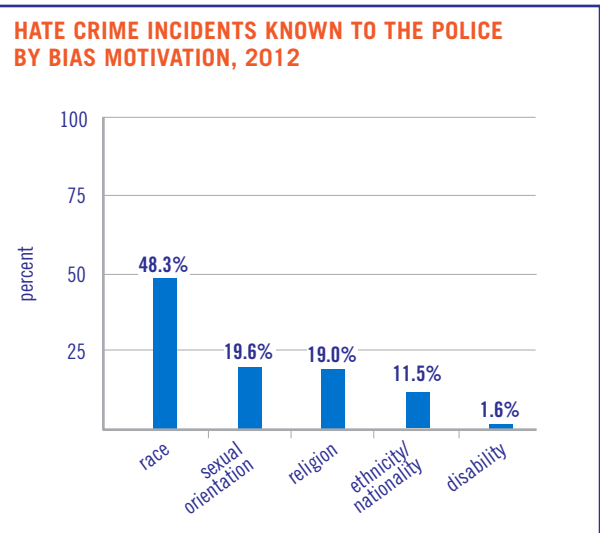
HATE AND BIAS CRIME

While hate crime legislation varies from state to state, especially regarding the specific groups protected, one uniform definition identifies hate crimes as criminal offenses “against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender’s bias against a race, religion, disability, ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.” No matter what definition is used, hate crime statutes share in the recognition that these crimes not only affect the victim because of a real or perceived membership in a class of people, but also indirectly victimize the class of people targeted. As a result, these criminal acts carry additional penalties because of this bias motivation. Both U.S. national measures of hate crime data—the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) from the FBI—capture the extent and nature of bias-based victimization. These data sources indicate that racial-bias motivated hate crimes are the most common. Hate crimes based on sexual orientation and religion also are frequently observed in police data.

Police-Based Statistics According to the FBI

- In 2012, 5,796 hate crime incidents involving 6,718 offenses and 7,164 victims were known to the police.²
- In the same year, 3,258 incidents of hate crimes against persons (as opposed to property) were known to the police. Of these, 41 percent were simple assault, 37.8 percent were intimidation, and 19.8 percent were aggravated assault. Hate crimes involving serious violence are rare. In 2012, five murders and 15 forcible rapes were also reported as hate crimes.³

- The 2012 report indicates the race of 6,718 offenders of bias-motivated crimes was known to the police. The majority of these offenders were white (41.6 percent), 14.8 percent were black, 8.5 percent were of unknown race, and 4.8 percent were of other or multiple race groups. In 2,042 of the offenses, or 30.4 percent of the cases, the offender was unknown.⁴
- Racial bias motivated 48.3 percent of single-bias hate crime incidents known to law enforcement; bias based on sexual orientation motivated 19.6 percent; bias based on religious beliefs motivated 19.0 percent; bias based on ethnicity or nationality motivated 11.5 percent; and bias based on disability motivated 1.6 percent.⁵



- There were 667 ethnicity motivated single-bias incidents known to the police in 2012, 57.6 percent were motivated by anti-Hispanic bias.⁶

1 Federal Bureau of Investigation, “Hate Crime—Overview,” (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2012), accessed September 24, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/civilrights/hate_crimes/overview.

2 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Hate Crime Statistics, 2011*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 1, accessed July 22, 2014, www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/hate-crime/2012.

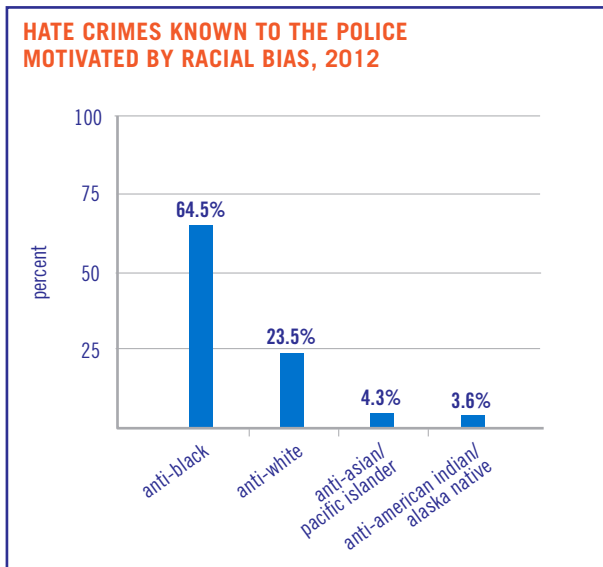
3 The FBI’s definition of forcible rape presented here is “the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts or assaults to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.” This definition was revised in 2012. For more information, see <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/recent-program-updates/new-rape-definition-frequently-asked-questions>. Ibid., calculated from data in Table 2.

4 Ibid., calculated from data in Table 3.

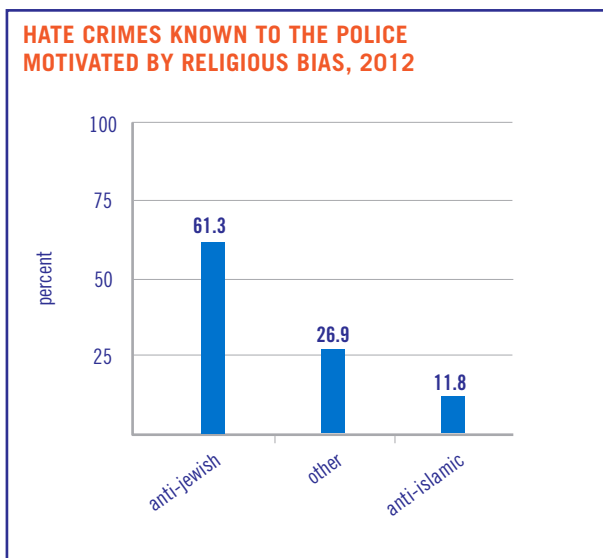
5 Ibid., calculated from data in Table 1.

6 Ibid.

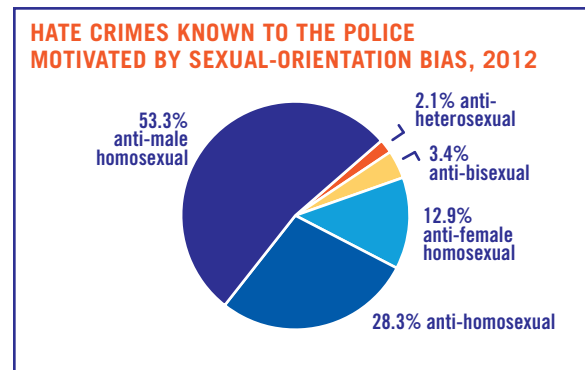
- According to the FBI's analysis of 2,797 race motivated single-bias incidents known to the police in 2012, 64.5 percent were motivated by anti-black bias, 23.5 percent were motivated by anti-white bias, 4.3 percent were motivated by anti-Asian/Pacific Islander bias, and 3.6 percent were motivated by anti-American Indian/Alaska Native bias.⁷



- Of the 1,099 incidents involving religious bias-related incidences known to the police, 61.3 percent were incidents of an anti-Jewish bias and 11.8 percent were of an anti-Islamic bias.⁸



- Of the 1,135 incidents of sexual-orientation bias known to the police in 2012, 53.3 percent were categorized as a bias against male homosexuals, 28.3 percent were categorized as a bias against all homosexuals in general, 12.9 percent were categorized as a bias against female homosexuals, 3.4 percent were categorized as a bias against bisexuals, and 2.1 percent were categorized as anti-heterosexual bias.⁹



- According to the FBI in 2012, 34.4 percent of sexual-orientation bias crimes reported to law enforcement were categorized as simple assault, 19.9 percent as intimidation, 16 percent as aggravated assault, 18.9 percent as property destruction/damage/vandalism, and 3.8 percent as robbery.¹⁰

Victimization-Based Statistics

- From 2004 to 2012, the rate of violent hate crime victimization reported to the NCVS in the United States was 1.0 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older, with little year-to-year variation.¹¹ The year 2004 constitutes one of the first years for which the NCVS reported hate crime data.
- From 2004 to 2012, hate crime victimizations accounted for approximately one percent of the total victimizations captured by the NCVS.¹²

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid., calculated from data in Table 4.

¹¹ Meagan Meuchel Wilson, *Hate Crime Victimization, 2004–2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 1, accessed July 22, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/hcv0412st.pdf>.

¹² Ibid., Table 1.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

- In 2004, victims of hate crimes reported to the NCVS that police were notified of fewer than half (45 percent) of all hate crime victimizations. This number decreased to 25 percent reporting victimization to police in 2011 and 34 percent reporting victimization to the police in 2012.¹³
- In 2004, victims reported to the NCVS that they knew the offender in about 51 percent of violent hate crimes. In 2011, 61 percent reported knowing the offender. In 2012, 53 percent of the victims of violent hate crimes reported knowing the offender.¹⁴
- In 2012, 51 percent of victims of hate crimes reported to the NCVS that the offender was motivated by ethnic prejudice, 46 percent reported the offender was motivated by racial prejudice, 28 percent reported the offender was motivated by religious prejudice, 26 percent reported the offender was motivated by gender prejudice, and 13 percent reported that the offender was motivated by sexual orientation prejudice.¹⁵
- According to victims who reported to the NCVS between 2007 and 2011, 65 percent of victims of violent hate crimes were white, 15 percent Hispanic, 13 percent black, and the rest were categorized as other or multiple race/ethnicities.¹⁶
- According to victims who reported to the NCVS in 2012, 34 percent of perpetrators of violent hate crimes were white, 32 percent were black, 11 percent had unknown race, 6 percent were of various races (in the case of multiple offenders of different races), and 17 percent were other races.¹⁷

LGBTQH Victimization-Based Statistics

- In 2012, 2,016 hate and bias incidents against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or HIV-affected (LGBTQH) victims were reported to the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP)—a 4 percent decrease of incidents compared to 2011.¹⁸
- LGBTQH people of color were 1.82 times as likely to experience physical violence from anti-LGBTQH hate violence compared to white LGBTQH survivors.¹⁹
- Gay men were three times more likely to report incidents of hate violence to police compared to LGBTQH victims who were not gay men.²⁰
- The most common place in which hate crime victimization occurred according to LGBTQH individuals was private residences (38.6 percent). The second common location was the street (24.8 percent).²¹ NCAVP documented 25 anti-LGBTQH murders in 2012. The highest yearly total recorded in a decade, is 30 people murdered in 2011. The second highest yearly total recorded in a decade is 22 people murdered in 2008.²²
- The age group that reported the most victimization in 2012 among LGBTQH individuals was the 19-29 age group with 35.8 percent of the victimizations. The next highest was the 30-39 age group with 25.4 percent of victimizations.²³ ★

¹³ Ibid., Table 5.

¹⁴ Ibid., Table 7.

¹⁵ Ibid., Table 2.

¹⁶ Ibid., Table 8.

¹⁷ Other races, multiple races, and unknown races were based on 10 or fewer cases, and therefore, data should be interpreted with caution. Ibid., Table 7.

¹⁸ National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, *Hate Violence Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and HIV-Affected Communities in the United States in 2012*, (New York: New York City Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, Inc., 2013), 8, accessed July 22, 2014, http://www.avp.org/storage/documents/ncavp_2012_hvreport_final.pdf.

¹⁹ Ibid., 9.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid., 10.

²² Ibid., 21.

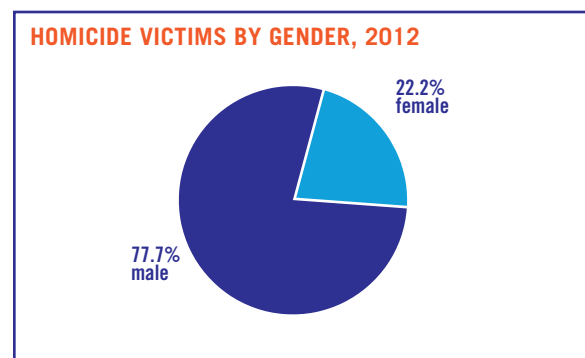
²³ Ibid., 28.

HOMICIDE

Police recorded 14,827 homicides in the United States during 2012, the most recent year for homicide data. While this rate of 4.7 homicides per 100,000 people is a slight increase from the previous two years, it constitutes a decrease from 2009 (5.0 per 100,000 people) and is down substantially from 1993 when the homicide rate was about twice as high.¹ Overall, homicide victims are primarily male (77.7 percent of victims)² as are homicide perpetrators (64.6 percent of offenders).³ Minorities are disproportionately affected by homicide. Although only 12.9 percent of the U.S. population is black,⁴ nearly half of homicide victims are black.⁵ Homicide also disproportionately affects younger people; young adults (ages 20 to 24) constitute the largest percentage of victims in 2012.⁶ Homicides generally are perpetrated by someone known to the victim.⁷ Almost 10 percent of all homicides were known to have been perpetrated by an intimate partner.⁸

Additionally, children under four years of age who died as a result of child abuse or neglect represented a disproportionate number of homicide victims.⁹ More than 60 percent of the murders that occurred in 2012 were solved by arrest or exceptional means.^{10,11} Mass shootings constitute a small subset of homicide but have garnered a great deal of media attention, particularly in recent years. Given the interest in these crimes, a separate section is devoted to [Mass Casualty Shootings](#).

- 1 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2014), Table 1, accessed June 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/1tabledatacoverviewpdf/table_1_crime_in_the_united_states_by_volume_and_rate_per_100000_inhabitants_1993-2012.xls.
- 2 Ibid., Table 2, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_2_murder_victims_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.
- 3 Ibid., Table 3, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_3_murder_offenders_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.
- 4 Calculated from United States Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey, 2012*, generated using the CPS Table Creator, accessed June 23, 2014, <https://www.census.gov/cps/data/cpstablecreator.html>.
- 5 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2014), Table 2, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_2_murder_victims_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.
- 6 Ibid.
- 7 Ibid., Table 10, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_10_murder_circumstances_by_relationship_2012.xls.
- 8 Ibid., *calculated from data in* Expanded Homicide Data, Table 10, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_10_murder_circumstances_by_relationship_2012.xls.



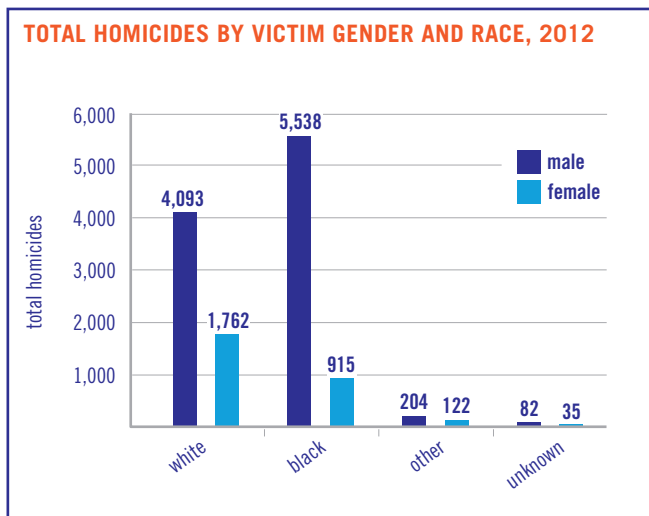
- In 2012, 77.7 percent of murder victims were male and 22.2 percent female.¹²

- 9 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, *Child Maltreatment 2012*, Table 4-3, accessed June 6, 2014, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/research-data-technology/statistics-research/child-maltreatment>.
- 10 For the complete requirements of what qualifies a cleared or closed offense for the purpose of the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program, see Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012, Clearances*, accessed October 27, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/25tabledatacoverviewpdfs/table_25_percent_of_offenses_cleared_by_arrest_or_exceptional_means_by_population_group_2012.xls;
- 11 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 25, accessed June 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/25tabledatacoverviewpdfs/table_25_percent_of_offenses_cleared_by_arrest_or_exceptional_means_by_population_group_2012.xls.
- 12 Ibid., *calculated from data in* Expanded Homicide Data Table 2, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s./2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_2_murder_victims_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.

- The sex of the offender was unknown in 27.8 percent of homicides in 2012. Among those cases, 64.6 percent of offenders were male and 7.5 percent were female.¹³



- An estimated 14,827 persons were murdered nationwide in 2012, constituting a 1.1 percent increase from 2011 and a 10.3 percent decrease from 2003.¹⁴
- In 2012, 45.9 percent of homicide victims were white and 50.6 percent were black. For 3.6 percent of victims, race was classified as “other” or “unknown.”¹⁵



- In 2012, homicide was generally intra-racial in cases where the race of both the victim and offender were known: white victims made up 84 percent of those murdered by white offenders and black victims made up 91 percent of those murdered by black offenders.¹⁶
- For homicides in which the age of the victim was known in 2012, 8.6 percent of homicide victims were under 18; 33.5 percent were between the ages of 20 and 29; 20.3 percent were between the ages of 30 and 39; 13.5 percent were between 40 and 49; 12.4 percent were between 50 and 64; and 4.8 percent were age 65 and older.¹⁷
- In 2012, in the majority of homicide cases in which the age of the offender was known, most offenders (62.4 percent) were 18 or older. Of the homicides committed by offenders 18 or older, 28.5 percent of the homicide offenders were between the ages 20 and 29.¹⁸
- For homicides in which the type of weapon was known in 2012, 69.4 percent were committed with firearms. Of the homicides committed with firearms, 71.9 percent were committed with a handgun; 3.6 percent with rifles; 3.4 percent with shotguns, 1.2 percent with other guns; and 19.8 percent with an unknown firearm type.¹⁹

¹³ Ibid., *calculated from data in* Expanded Homicide Data Table 3, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_3_murder_offenders_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.

¹⁴ Ibid., Table 1A.

¹⁵ Ibid., Expanded Homicide Data Table 2, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_2_murder_victims_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.

¹⁶ Ibid., *calculated from data in* Expanded Homicide Data Table 6, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_6_murder_race_and_sex_of_victim_by_race_and_sex_of_offender_2012.xls.

¹⁷ Ibid., *calculated from data in* Expanded Homicide Data Table 2, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_2_murder_victims_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.

¹⁸ Ibid., *calculated from data in* Expanded Homicide Data, Table 3, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_3_murder_offenders_by_age_sex_and_race_2012.xls.

¹⁹ Ibid., *calculated from data in* Expanded Homicide Data, Table 8, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded_homicide_data_table_8_murder_victims_by_weapon_2008-2012.xls.

- Knives or cutting instruments were used in 12.4 percent of murders; personal weapons (e.g., hands, fists, feet) were used in approximately 5.3 percent of murders; 4.1 percent of murders were committed with blunt objects (e.g., clubs and hammers); and 8.8 percent of murders were committed with other weapons (e.g., poison, fire, strangulation, and explosives).²⁰
- In 2012, 45.1 percent of homicides had an unknown victim-offender relationship; 21.3 percent of homicide victims were killed by an acquaintance; 12.2 percent were killed by a stranger; 9.8 percent were killed by an intimate partner (husband, wife, boyfriend, or girlfriend); 7.9 percent were killed by a family member; 2.7 percent were killed by a friend; and 1.0 percent were killed by someone else (neighbor, employer, or employee).²¹
- In 2012, homicides occurred in connection with another felony (such as rape, robbery, or arson) in at least 14.4 percent of incidents.²²
- Of the homicides that occurred in connection with another felony, 5.1 percent of murder victims in 2012 were robbed in conjunction with being killed.²³
- Law enforcement cleared (by arrest or exceptional means) 62.5 percent of the murders that occurred nationwide in 2012.²⁴

Special Cases of Homicide Involving Children

- An estimated 1,315 children died in 2012 due to child abuse or neglect, according to data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Approximately three-quarters (75.7 percent) of these children were younger than four years of age. Of the children who died due to child abuse or neglect, 44.4 percent were less than 1 years of age.²⁵ ★

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid., *calculated from data in* Expanded Homicide Data, Table 10, accessed June 18, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/offenses-known-to-law-enforcement/expanded-homicide/expanded-homicide_data_table_10_murder_circumstances_by_relationship_2012.xls.

²² Ibid.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 25, accessed June 5, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/25tabledataoverviewpdfs/table_25_percent_of_offenses_cleared_by_arrest_or_exceptional_means_by_population_group_2012.xls.

²⁵ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Child Maltreatment 2012*, Table 4-3, accessed June 6, 2014, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/research-data-technology/statistics-research/child-maltreatment>.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking is a long-standing problem, but there has been a growing awareness and focus from policy makers of the need to devote resources to identifying, investigating, and prosecuting this crime. In 2013, all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and all but one U.S. territory had enacted anti-trafficking laws.¹ Human trafficking takes many forms, with the two broadest categories being sex trafficking and labor trafficking. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) defines trafficking in persons as “sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age” or “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.”² Within the United States, multiple agencies investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases at the federal and state levels.

Limited reliable data are available regarding the nature and extent of human trafficking. Gathering victimization statistics on human trafficking is particularly difficult because of the hidden nature of trafficking activities.³

U.S. Department of Justice-led federal investigations and charges into human trafficking have increased in recent years, but the exact number of trafficking victims in the United States is unknown. Minors involved in commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking are of particular concern because they can be misidentified as offenders rather than being recognized as human trafficking victims.

- According to the U.S. Department of State, in 2013, 44,758 victims of human trafficking were identified internationally by foreign governments.⁴
- According to the same report, in 2013, within the Western Hemisphere (which includes the United States and South America), 7,818 victims were identified.⁵

Human Trafficking Investigations

- The U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations (ICE HSI) reported 1,025 investigations involving human trafficking in 2014. This number represents an increase from the 894 in 2012.⁶
- The FBI formally opened 220 human trafficking investigations with adult and foreign child victims, a decrease from the 306 in 2012.⁷
- The U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Services Human Trafficking Unit reported investigating 159 human trafficking-related cases worldwide in 2013.⁸

Human Trafficking Prosecutions

- According to the U.S. Department of State, in 2013, there were 5,766 convictions out of the 9,460 known prosecutions of human trafficking internationally.⁹
- According to the same report, there were 1,182 known prosecutions with 446 convictions involving human trafficking of adults and minors in the Western Hemisphere in 2013.¹⁰

1 Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, *Trafficking in Persons Report 2013*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of State, 2013), 381, accessed September 8, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/210742.pdf>; Polaris Project, *Wyoming Becomes 50th State to Outlaw Human Trafficking* (Washington, DC: Polaris Project, 2013), accessed September 8, 2014, <http://www.polarisproject.org/media-center/news-and-press/press-releases/742-wyoming-becomes-50th-state-to-outlaw-human-trafficking>.

2 Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, *Trafficking in Persons Report 2013*, 381.

3 When estimates about commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of minors in the United States are presented, they are generally accompanied by qualifiers and caveats. Institute of Medicine and National Research Council of the National Academies, *Confronting Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking of Minors in the United States*, (Washington, DC: Institute of Medicine and National Research Council of the National Academies, 2013), 41, accessed September 8, 2014, http://www.iom.edu/-/media/Files/Report%20Files/2013/Sexual-Exploitation-Sex-Trafficking/sextraffickingminors_rb.pdf.

4 Data is submitted by foreign governments to the Department of State on trafficking investigations, prosecutions, convictions, and sentences in order to be considered in full compliance with the TVPA's minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking (Tier 1). Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. *Trafficking in Persons Report 2014*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of State, 2014), 45, accessed July 21, 2014, <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2014/index.htm>.

5 Ibid., 64.

6 Ibid., 398.

7 Ibid.

8 Ibid.

9 Ibid., 45.

10 Ibid., 64.

- The Department of Justice prosecuted 161 federal human trafficking cases in 2013, charging 253 defendants. Of the 253 defendants, 222 were sex traffickers, and 31 were forced labor traffickers. Often defendants participated in both.¹¹
- The U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division initiated 71 prosecutions for forced labor or sex trafficking in 2013. Of these cases, 53 involved sex trafficking and 18 labor trafficking. Again, most cases included both forms of trafficking.¹²
- In 2013, the Department of Justice convicted 174 traffickers for forced labor and sex trafficking of adults and children. This is a slight increase from 2012, in which there were 138 convictions.¹³
- Of the 174 cases with convictions, 113 were for sex trafficking, and 25 were for labor trafficking. Many of these cases included both sex and labor trafficking. These totals do not include child sex trafficking cases.¹⁴
- In 2013, 16 of the Department of Justice-funded task forces reported 828 investigations with 717 suspects in human trafficking. This number is an increase from the 753 cases, with 736 suspects from 2012.¹⁵
- During Fiscal Year 2012, the Department of Justice filed 128 cases of human trafficking involving labor and sex trafficking of adults and minors, charged a total of 200 defendants in these cases, and convicted 138 individuals.¹⁶
- Of the 200 defendants, 38 were charged with forced labor, and 162 were charged with adult sex trafficking. This number represents a decrease from the previous year (2011), in which, of the 263 defendants, 50 were charged with forced labor, and 213 were charged with adult sex trafficking.¹⁷

- Of the 138 individuals convicted of human trafficking in 2012, 33 were convicted for forced labor, and 105 were convicted for adult sex trafficking.¹⁸
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) investigations initiated 894 cases in Fiscal Year 2012, which is a 24 percent increase from the previous year. Of the 894 cases, there were 967 criminal arrests, 559 indictments, and 381 convictions.¹⁹

Benefits and Services for Foreign National Victims

- During Fiscal Year 2012, 469 certification/eligibility letters were issued to adult and child victims of human trafficking. This number reflects a decrease from the 564 issued for Fiscal Year 2011. These letters allow victims of trafficking who are not U.S. citizens to acquire assistance from federal or state programs, much like a refugee.²⁰
- Of these letters in 2012, 366 (78 percent) were issued to adults. Of the adult victims who received certification, 37 percent were male, a decrease from 2011. Of the child victims who received eligibility, 39 percent were female.²¹
- Of those who received letters in 2012, 67 percent were labor trafficking victims, 25 percent were sex trafficking victims, and 7 percent were both labor and sex trafficking victims.²²
- Of the child victims who received letters, 25 percent were sex trafficking victims, 72 percent were labor trafficking victims, and 3 percent were both labor and sex trafficking victims.²³

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid., 398

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid., 399.

¹⁶ *Attorney General's Annual Report to Congress and Assessment of U.S. Government Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Fiscal Year 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), 47-48, accessed November 5, 2014, <http://traffickingresourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/2012%20AG%20Report.pdf>.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid., 42.

²⁰ A "certification letter" is issued to an adult and an "eligibility letter" is issued to a child. Ibid., 15.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Ibid.

²³ Ibid., 15-16.

- Of the adult victims who received certification letters, 13 percent listed the Philippines as their country of origin, 17 percent listed Thailand as their country of origin, and 24 percent listed Mexico. Of the child victims who received eligibility letters, 28 percent listed Mexico as their country of origin, 32 percent listed Honduras, and 14 percent listed Guatemala.²⁴

Child Victims

- The FBI's 2003 Innocence Lost National Initiative resulted in the creation of 69 Child Exploitation Task Forces to address sex trafficking of children in the United States. Through June 2013, these task forces recovered more than 2,700 missing children, resulting in more than 1,300 convictions of sex traffickers.²⁵
- In Fiscal Year 2012, the FBI investigated 363 cases, made 1,769 arrests, filed 187 indictments, and obtained 302 convictions for offenses related to the commercial sexual exploitations of children, as part of the Innocence Lost National Initiative.²⁶
- In 2012, 547 children victims were identified or located as part of the Innocence Lost National Initiative.²⁷



- The FBI investigated 514 child sex trafficking cases in 2013, an increase from the 440 in 2012.²⁸

Trafficking of Migrant Laborers

- One localized study of unauthorized migrant laborers estimated that 31 percent had experienced at least one incident that met the legal definition for human trafficking.²⁹
- This localized study found evidence that, by occupation, migrant laborers had the highest rates of reporting trafficking violations if they were working in janitorial and cleaning businesses (36 percent reported violations), followed by construction (35 percent), landscaping (27 percent), and agriculture (16 percent).³⁰ ★

²⁴ Ibid., 16.

²⁵ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Innocence Lost*, (Washington, DC: Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2013), accessed September 8, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/vc_majorthefts/cac/innocencelost/.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, *Trafficking in Persons Report 2013*, 398.

²⁹ Given the lack of victim-based data concerning human trafficking, this local study provides unique insights. While the findings cannot be generalized beyond the jurisdiction studied, they can give a detailed look into the extent and nature of these crimes. For purposes of this study, to meet the legal definition of human trafficking, the victimization must include actual/threatened infringement of freedom of movement or actual/threatened violation of one's physical integrity. Fraudulent and deceptive employment and smuggling practices were excluded from the trafficking violations category. Sheldon X. Zhang, *Trafficking of Migrant Laborers in San Diego County: Looking for a Hidden Population*, (San Diego, CA: San Diego State University), 8, 11, accessed September 8, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/240223.pdf>.

³⁰ Ibid., 12.

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Intimate partner violence (IPV), often called domestic violence, is generally described as abuse within the context of an intimate relationship,¹ where one partner asserts power and control over the other. While legal definitions vary by state, IPV can include physical, sexual, and psychological abuse, as well as economic coercion. It affects millions of individuals in our country regardless of marital status, sexual orientation, race, age, religion, education, or economic status. Because of the seriousness of the crime, the effects on victims and their families, and the difficulties in the criminal justice system response, victims of IPV may require sustained resources, including: access to emergency shelter, as well as housing assistance; protection orders and safety planning; support groups; and financial assistance.

- Violent crimes by intimate partners (both male and female) accounted for almost 11.9 percent of violent crimes reported to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) in 2012 (total 810,790).²
- From 2002 to 2011, 66.6 percent of female victims reported being physically attacked by an intimate partner. Of these victims, 44.6 percent were hit, slapped, or knocked down; 36.1 percent were grabbed, held, tripped, jumped, or pushed; 8.2 percent were attacked sexually; 5.4 percent were hit by an object or knocked down; and 3.8 percent were shot at, stabbed, or hit with a weapon.³
- In that same time frame, 64.6 percent of men reported having been physically attacked by an intimate partner. Of these victims, 43.3 percent were hit, slapped, or knocked down; 19.3 percent were hit by an object held in a hand or thrown; 14.0 percent were grabbed, held, tripped, jumped, or pushed; and 8.2 percent were shot at, stabbed, or hit with a weapon.⁴

- From 2002 to 2011, almost 50 percent of women who reported being physically assaulted by an intimate partner reported an injury. Of those women, 45.7 percent reported bruises, cuts, or other injuries; and 13.0 percent reported a serious injury (sexual violence, gun shot, knife wounds, internal injuries, unconsciousness, and broken bones).⁵
- From 2002 to 2011, 43.5 percent of men who reported being physically assaulted by an intimate partner reported an injury. Of those men 40.7 percent reported they sustained bruises, cuts, or other injuries; and 5.4 percent reported a serious injury.⁶
- According to the same source, of women who reported being physically attacked by an intimate partner, 17.6 percent reported there was a weapon present; 4.7 percent reported a firearm present; 6.2 percent reported a knife present; and 6.7 percent reported another weapon was present (e.g., broken bottles, cookware, household objects, and unknown weapon types).⁷
- Of men who reported being physically attacked by an intimate partner, 27.0 percent reported a weapon was present. For those men, 11.1 percent reported the weapon was a knife, and 15.1 percent reported another weapon was present.⁸
- According to the FBI in 2011, there were 2,283 women murdered by men in single victim/single offender incidents.⁹
- In 2011, 82.6 percent of female homicide victims (1,885 out of 2,283) were murdered by a male perpetrator they knew.¹⁰
- According to the FBI in 2011, 61 percent of female homicide victims who knew their offenders were intimate acquaintances of their killers, including wives, common-law wives, ex-wives, and girlfriends.¹¹

¹ Intimate partner for this publication includes: spouse, common-law spouse, ex-spouse, domestic partner, or girlfriend/boyfriend regardless of cohabitation status.

² Jennifer L. Truman, Lynn Langton, and Michael Planty, *Criminal Victimization, 2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), Table 1, accessed July 9, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/cv12.pdf>.

³ Ibid., Table 3.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid., Table 5.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid., Table 4.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Calculated from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, *Year of Incident by Sex of Victim for United States*, generated using *Easy Access to the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports: 1980-2011*, (Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center, 2013), 3, accessed July 9, 2014, http://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezashr/asp/vic_display.asp.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Violence Policy Center, *When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2011 Homicide Data*, (Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center, 2013), 3, accessed September 24, 2014, <http://www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2013.pdf>.

Intimate Partner Violence

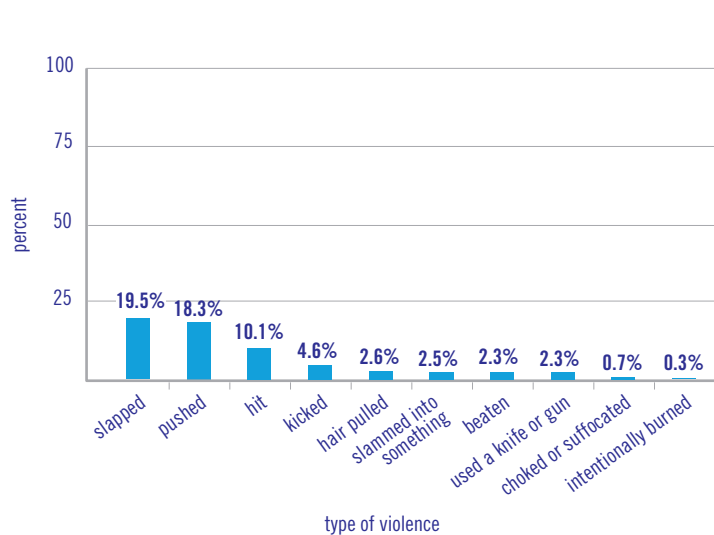
- According to the FBI in 2011, for homicides in which the weapon could be determined and there was one male offender and a female victim (2,283), more female homicides were committed with firearms (51 percent) than with any other weapon.
- Of the homicides committed with firearms, 73 percent were committed with handguns.¹²
- Knives and other cutting instruments accounted for 18 percent of all murders of women, bodily force 11 percent, and murder by blunt object 6 percent.¹³

- In 2010, 10.3 percent of state and 10.4 percent of federal firearms application rejections were due to a domestic violence misdemeanor conviction or restraining order.¹⁴

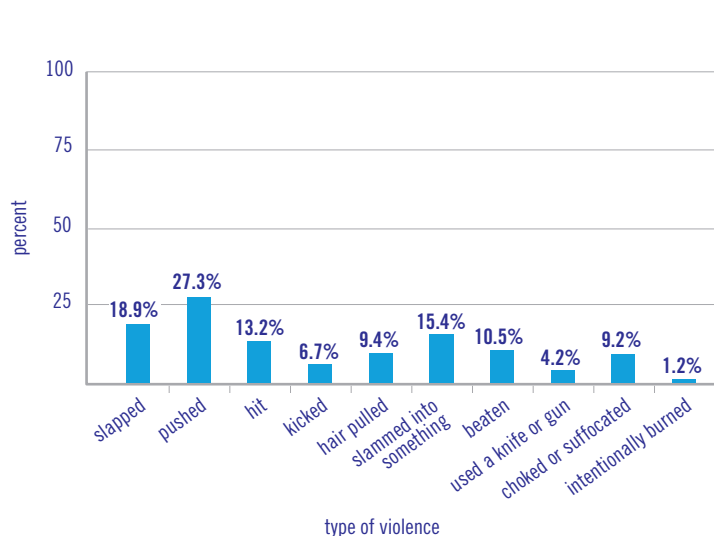
The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2011 gives important lifetime prevalence data.

- The lifetime prevalence of physical violence by an intimate partner is 31.5 percent for women, with 22.3 percent of women experiencing at least one act of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.¹⁵
- The lifetime prevalence of physical violence by an intimate partner is 27.5 percent for men, with 14.0 percent experiencing at least one act of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.¹⁶
- The most common form of intimate partner violence experienced by both men (25.5 percent) and women (29.7 percent) is having been slapped, pushed, or shoved by an intimate partner at least once in their lifetime. Men are more likely to be slapped (18.3 percent), and women are more likely to be pushed and shoved (27.3 percent).¹⁷
- For severe physical violence by intimate partners, men are more likely to be hit with a fist or something hard (10.1 percent), and women are more likely to have been slammed against something (15.4 percent).¹⁸
- Of women who experienced at least one act of intimate partner violence in their lifetime:
 - » 23.7 percent reported they were fearful;
 - » 20.7 percent reported they were concerned for their safety;

MEN'S LIFETIME PREVALENCE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



WOMEN'S LIFETIME PREVALENCE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE



¹² Ibid.

¹³ Calculated from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, *Year of Incident by Sex of Victim for United States*, 3.

¹⁴ Ronald J. Frandsen et al., *Background Checks for Firearm Transfers, 2010—Statistical Tables*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2010), Table 4, accessed September 24, 2014, <http://bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/bcft10st.pdf>.

¹⁵ Matthew J. Breidling et al., *Prevalence and Characteristics of Sexual Violence, Stalking, and Intimate Partner Violence Victimization—National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, United States, 2011*, (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014), Table 6, accessed September 15, 2014, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6308.pdf>.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

- » 20.0 percent experienced one or more PTSD symptom(s);
- » 9.1 percent missed at least one day of work;
- » 8.8 percent needed legal services;
- » 3.6 percent needed housing services;
- » 3.3 percent needed victim advocate services;
- » 2.8 percent had contacted a crisis hotline;
- » 1.7 percent became pregnant as a result of the violence experienced by an intimate partner;
- » 1.3 percent contracted a sexual transmitted infection.¹⁹
- Of men who experienced at least one act of intimate partner violence in their lifetime:
 - » 6.9 percent of men were fearful;
 - » 5.2 percent were concerned for their safety;
 - » 5.2 percent experienced one or more PTSD symptoms;
 - » 4.8 percent missed at least one day of work or school;
 - » 4.0 percent needed legal services;
 - » 3.5 percent were physically injured.²⁰
- According to a CDC survey of youth risk behavior in 2013, approximately 10.3 percent of high school students reported being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months before being surveyed. Of those who reported being hit, slapped, or physically hurt, 13.0 percent were female, and 7.4 percent were male.²¹
- More than a third of all adult victims compensated by victim compensation programs were domestic violence victims. These claims represented half of all assault claims.²²

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Victims of Intimate Partner Violence

- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people (LGBT) reported 2,679 incidents of intimate partner violence to local anti-violence programs in 2012. Twenty-one of these incidents resulted in murder.²³
- Of LGBT people killed by their intimate partner in 2012, 47.6 percent were men, and 28.6 percent were women.²⁴
- Of LGBT intimate partner violence victims who reported to local anti-violence programs in 2012, 32.6 percent were women, and 24.5 percent were men.²⁵
- In cases where the age of the victims was recorded when victims reported to local anti-violence programs, 40.3 percent of LGBT intimate partner violence victims were 19 to 29 years of age, and 1.6 percent were 60 or older.²⁶
- In 2012, 3.7 percent of LGBT intimate partner violence victims sought access to domestic violence shelters. Of those who sought shelter, 14.3 percent were denied access.²⁷
- There was an increase of police arrest of abusive partners in LGBT intimate partner violence cases from 28.4 percent in 2011 to 44 percent in 2012.²⁸ ★

<http://www.nacvcb.org/index.asp?bid=14>.

²³ National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and HIV-Affected Intimate Partner Violence 2012*, (New York: 2013), 8, accessed July 9, 2014, http://www.avp.org/storage/documents/ncavp_2012_ipvreport.final.pdf.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid., 9.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid., 21.

²⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Ibid., 11.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System* online analysis tool, accessed July 9, 2014, <http://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/QuestionsOrLocations.aspx?CategoryId=C1>.

²² National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards, "Crime Victim Compensation: An Overview," (Alexandria, VA), accessed September, 24, 2014,

MASS CASUALTY SHOOTINGS

While mass casualty crimes are rare events, they constitute an important subset of homicides because they garner a great deal of media and public policy attention. The exact number of these events varies by the definition used, but the general trend is that these events have increased in the United States both in terms of frequency as well as the number of people killed. While shootings are the most common form of domestic mass casualty crime, crimes of mass violence include bombings, arson, sabotage, poisonings, chemical weapons, and cyber-attacks as well as events designated as acts of terrorism.¹ This section focuses on mass casualty shootings occurring primarily from 2000 – 2012.²

Three terms are commonly used when considering these types of events: mass murder, active shooter cases, and active shooter events. The FBI uses the term “mass murder,” which refers to the murder of four or more victims occurring during the same incident with no distinctive time period between murders.³ The Department of Homeland Security uses the term “Active Shooter Cases,” which refers to an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area.⁴ One recent study used the term “Active Shooter Event,” which refers to one or more persons engaged in killing or attempting to kill multiple people in a defined area with the primary motive appearing to be mass murder.⁵ The statistics and trends

1 U.S. law defines terrorism as “premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents.” 22 U.S.C. § 2656f(d) (2011).

2 The event at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado on April 20, 1999, where two students killed a teacher and 12 classmates, was a defining moment in the country’s analysis and response to mass casualty killings.

3 Robert J. Morton and Mark A. Hilts, eds., “Serial Murder: Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives for Investigators,” (Washington, DC: Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice, 2005), accessed November 5, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/serial-murder/serial-murder-july-2008-pdf>.

4 Excluded from these Active Shooter Cases are gang-related shootings, shootings occurring solely in a domestic setting, robberies, drive-by shootings, attacks that did not involve a firearm, and attacks categorized primarily as hostage-taking incidents. Furthermore, events were restricted to those that occurred in the United States, resulted in at least one victim or attacker casualty, and were not foiled before the attack occurred. Raymond W. Kelly, “Active Shooter: Recommendations and Analysis for Risk Mitigation, 2012 Edition,” (New York: New York City Police Department, 2012), 4, accessed October 7, 2014, <http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/downloads/pdf/counterterrorism/ActiveShooter.pdf>.

5 More specifically, the area or areas are occupied by multiple, unrelated individuals and at least one of the victims must be unrelated to the shooter. Gang-related shootings are excluded. J. Pete Blair and M. Hunter Martindale, “United States Active Shooter Events from 2000 to 2010: Training and Equipment Implications,” (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training, Texas State University, 2013), 3, accessed October 7, 2014, <http://alert.org/files/research/ActiveShooterEvents.pdf>.

related to mass casualty shootings reported in this section rely on one of these three definitions. In addition to the challenge in defining the underlying crime, the effect of these incidents is difficult to quantify. The statistics below are limited to victim fatalities. The actual harm from mass violence encompasses a much broader circle, including those with non-fatal injuries and those who experience trauma and ongoing mental injury. This impact also extends to the victims’ families and to witnesses, first responders, medical professionals, and the larger community.

- Between 2006 and 2010, victims of mass murders constituted only about 1 percent of all murder victims in the United States based on FBI data.⁶ During this time, 156 mass murders occurred that involved 774 victims. This number compares to 71,945 victims of murder during that same time period.⁷

Active Shooter Events

- According to a recent study, the number of Active Shooter Events has increased over the past 12 years.⁸ However, according to a study published by the PEW Research Center, this may not be an accurate picture of Active Shooter Events due to limitations in the data including timeliness and reliability.⁹
- From 2000 to 2008, Active Shooter Events averaged 1 event every other month or approximately 5 per year.¹⁰

6 Morton and Hilts, “Serial Murder: Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives.”

7 Brad Heath and Megan Hoyer, “Mass Killings Occur in USA Once Every Two Weeks,” *USA Today*, December 18, 2012, *calculated from data in FBI Supplemental Homicide Report*, accessed October 7, 2014, <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2012/12/18/mass-killings-common/1778303/>.

8 J. Pete Blair, M. Hunter Martindale, and Terry Nichols, “Active Shooter Events from 2000 to 2012,” paragraph 10, accessed June 27, 2014, <http://leb.fbi.gov/2014/january/active-shooter-events-from-2000-to-2012>.

9 There are differences in the methodologies between these two studies that may account for the differences in counts of Active Shooter Events/Public Mass Killings. J. Pete Blair and colleagues employed the supplemental homicide reports produced by the FBI as part of the Uniform Crime Report, as well as obtaining information via the Freedom of Information Act, and searching LexisNexis to obtain newspaper accounts of Active Shooter Events. Drew Desilver’s article used the *USA Today* database to obtain counts of Public Mass Killings. Drew Desilver, “Why Timely, Reliable Data on Mass Killings Is Hard to Find,” paragraph 2, accessed June 17, 2014, <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/06/17/why-timely-reliable-data-on-mass-killings-is-hard-to-find/>.

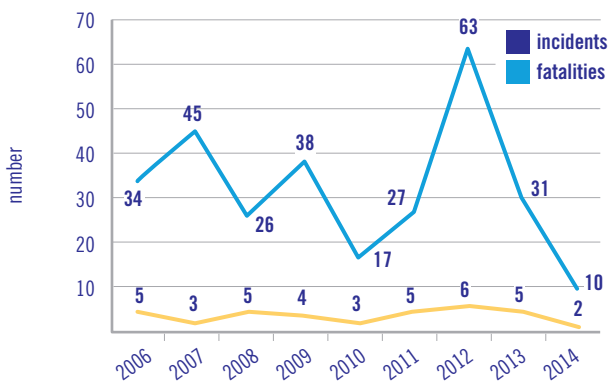
10 J. Pete Blair, “Active Shooter Events,” paragraph 10.

- From 2009 to 2012, the average Active Shooter Events increased to at least 1 or more per month or approximately 16 per year. According to the same study, the increase continued into 2013 with approximately 15 Active Shooter Events.¹¹
- The frequency of Active Shooter Events has increased from 1 in 2000 to 15 in 2013.¹² According to a Pew Research Center tabulation of *USA Today* data, there were only five incidents of public mass killings in 2013.¹³

Characteristics of Active Shooter Events

- According to the same recent study, between 2000 and 2012, 40 percent of active shooter events occurred at businesses, 29 percent at schools, 19 percent outdoors, and 12 percent at other places (including places like military bases and churches).¹⁶
- According to another study of Active Shooter Events in the United States from 2000 to 2012, 94 percent of shooters were male, and 6 percent were female.¹⁷
- According to another study of Active Shooter Events from 2000 to 2012, in 45 percent of events the shooter did not have a connection with the shooting location, and in 55 percent of the events the shooter had a connection with the shooting location.¹⁸
- According to a recent study of Active Shooter Events between 2000 and 2012, 59 percent of the shooter(s) used a pistol, 26 percent of the shooter(s) used a rifle, and 8 percent of the shooter(s) used a shotgun. Moreover, in one-third of cases, the shooter(s) brought multiple weapons.¹⁹

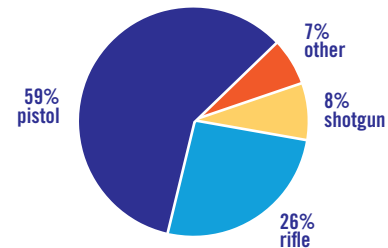
PUBLIC MASS KILLINGS FROM 2006 – 2014*



*Note: 2014 includes all incidents until June 17, 2014. Public mass killings refers to events in public settings with at least 4 victims. While shootings are the majority of the events, data also includes those killed by stabbing, blunt force trauma and smoke inhalation and burns.

- In 2013, there were 72 people shot and 39 killed in Active Shooter Events.¹⁴ According to the same Pew Research Center study there were only 31 fatalities attributed to the five incidents of public mass killings in 2013.¹⁵

TYPE OF GUN USED IN ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS FROM 2000 – 2012



¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Drew Desilver, "Why timely, reliable data on mass killings is hard to find," Figure 1.

¹⁴ J. Pete Blair, "Active Shooter Events," paragraph 10.

¹⁵ Drew Desilver, "Why timely, reliable data on mass killings is hard to find," Figure 1.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ J. Pete Blair, "Active Shooter Events," paragraph 14.

¹⁸ Ibid., paragraph 15.

¹⁹ Ibid., paragraph 17.

SCHOOL AND CAMPUS CRIME

Victimizations occurring at school constitute an important subset of crime, given the amount of time that youth and adolescents spend there. This section is divided in two sub-sections: [School Crime](#), including primary and secondary schooling, and [Campus Crime](#), which reviews crimes occurring in the post-secondary setting. While schools generally are relatively safe places for youth and teens overall, victimization does occur and the risk varies by context. Adolescents, for example, experience more violent victimizations at school but more serious violent victimizations outside of school (see [Child, Youth, and Teen Victimization](#)). Victimizations occurring at school negatively affect students' physical and emotional well-being as well as their learning. The statistics represented in the [School Crime](#) section are drawn from several sources including the NCVS, data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and research studies focusing on particular groups of victims.

School Crime

While more victimizations overall occur at school, more serious violent victimizations occurred outside of school.

- Of youth ages 12 to 18 in 2012, 52.4 per 1,000 students were victimized at school: 28.8 per 1,000 students experienced some form of violent victimization, with 3.4 per 1,000 students experiencing serious violent victimization; and 23.6 per 1,000 students were victims of theft.¹
- Of youth ages 12 to 18 in 2012, 38.0 per 1,000 students were victimized away from school, 18.1 per 1,000 students experienced theft victimization, 20.0 per 1,000 students experienced a violent victimization, and 6.5 per 1,000 students experienced a serious violent victimization.²

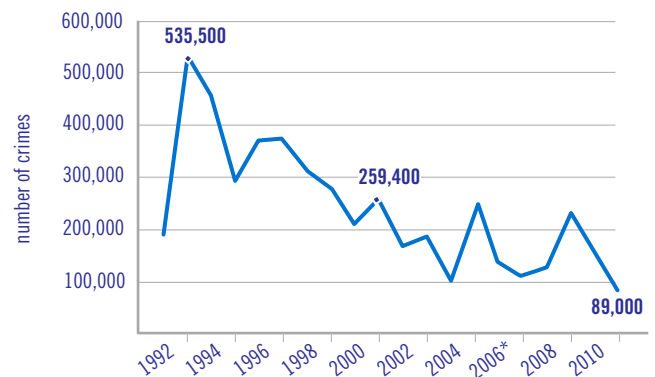
1 Simone Robers et al., *Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2013*, (Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, and Bureau of Justice Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, NCES 2014-042/NCJ 243299, 2014), Table 2.1, accessed June 10, 2014, http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d13/tables/dt13_228.20.asp.

2 Ibid. Table 2.2

Some form of non-fatal criminal violence occurs in nearly three-quarters of U.S. public schools; however, non-fatal serious violence at school is declining overall. Fatal school violence is extremely rare.

- Between 1992 and 2012, non-fatal victimizations at school decreased from 181 to 52 per 1,000 students.³

NON-FATAL SERIOUS VIOLENT CRIMES AT SCHOOL, AGES 12 – 18



*Note: Due to methodological changes in the 2006 survey, those estimates are not comparable with subsequent or prior years.

- In the 2009/2010 school year, 74 percent of all public schools recorded one or more violent crimes such as rape, sexual battery other than rape, robbery with or without a weapon, threat of physical attack with a weapon, or fight or physical attack with a weapon. Only 40 percent of all public schools reported any of these incidents to the police.⁴
- During the 2009/2010 school year, 91 percent of both middle and high schools reported violent incidents at school compared to 64 percent of elementary (primary) schools.⁵
- Students age 12 to 18 were victims of 89,000 non-fatal serious violent crimes at school in 2012, which was a 64.2 percent decrease from the number of serious violent crimes in 2001 and an 84.6 percent decrease from the peak in 1993.⁶

3 Ibid., iv.

4 Ibid., 29.

5 Ibid., 31.

6 Ibid., calculated from data in Table 2.1.

- Thirty-three percent of students in grades 9 through 12 in 2011 reported they had been in a physical fight anywhere at least one time during the previous 12 months compared to 42 percent in 1993. Twelve percent said they had been in a fight on school property during the previous 12 months, compared to 16 percent in 1993.⁷
- An estimated 3.9 percent of students who were injured in a physical fight had to be treated by a nurse or doctor.⁸
- For school-age youth (age 5 to 18) in the 2010/2011 school year, there were 11 homicides at school, or 0.8 percent of homicides for those age 5 to 18 occurred at school.⁹

Bullying is one of the most common forms of non-fatal victimization at school.

- Twenty-eight percent of students age 12 to 18 in 2011 reported being bullied at school during the school year.¹⁰
- In 2011, 18.5 percent of students who reported bullying problems at school indicated that it occurred at least once or twice a month.¹¹
- Of those who were bullied at school, 39.5 percent were reported to an adult.¹²
- Six percent of those who were bullied at school were injured.¹³

Cyber-bullying is also a problem.

- Nine percent of students age 12 to 18 in 2011 reported being cyber-bullied anywhere during the school year.¹⁴

- Of those who were cyber-bullied, 71.9 percent said it occurred once or twice a school year, 19.6 percent once or twice a month, 5.3 percent once or twice a week, and 3.1 percent almost every day.¹⁵
- Of those who were cyber-bullied, 26.1 percent notified an adult.¹⁶

Victimization against students related to sexual orientation and gender expression has gained growing attention.

- An estimated 9.1 percent of students age 12 to 18 in 2011 reported being a target of hate-related words at school. Of those 9.1 percent who had been targets of hate-related words, 4.5 percent were because of race, 2.8 percent were because of ethnicity, 1.4 percent were because of religion, 1.2 percent were because of disability, 1.4 percent were because of gender, and 1.3 percent were because of sexual orientation.¹⁷
- In a 2011 study that included youth in grades 6 through 12, 64 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) respondents said they felt unsafe in school because of their sexual orientation, and 44 percent felt unsafe because of their gender expression.¹⁸
- Approximately 85 percent of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning (LGBTQ) high school students in 2011 heard the word “gay” or “queer” in a negative connotation often or frequently while in school, and over 91 percent reported they felt distressed because of this language.¹⁹
- Of LGBTQ students who had been harassed or assaulted at school, 60 percent did not report the incident to school officials, most commonly because they doubted anything would be done or believed the situation could become worse if reported.²⁰

⁷ Ibid., Table 13.1.

⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2011,” *Surveillance Summaries* 61, no. 4 (2012): 7-8, accessed October 20, 2014, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6104.pdf>.

⁹ Ibid., *calculated using* Table 1.1.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid., Table 11.4.

¹² Ibid., Table 2.1

¹³ Ibid., Table 2.3

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid., Table 3.1

¹⁶ Ibid., Table 3.1

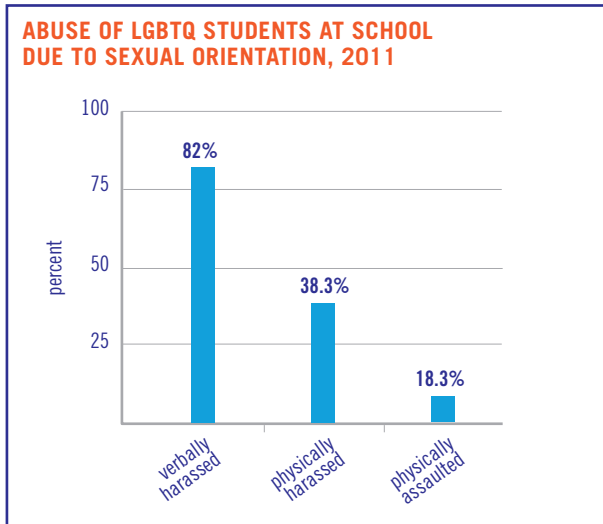
¹⁷ Ibid., Table 10.2.

¹⁸ Joseph Kosciw et al., *The 2011 National School Climate Survey: The Experiences of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth in Our Nation's Schools*, (New York, NY: Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network, 2012), Figure 1.10, accessed October 20, 2014, <http://glsen.org/sites/default/files/2011%20National%20School%20Climate%20Survey%20Full%20Report.pdf>.

¹⁹ Ibid., xiv.

²⁰ Ibid., Figure 1.18 and Table 1.1.

- Eighty-two percent of LGBTQ youth respondents in 2011 had been verbally harassed at school because of their sexual orientation, 38.3 percent had been physically harassed (e.g., pushed or shoved), and 18.3 percent had been physically assaulted because of their sexual orientation.²¹



In addition to victimization experiences, school climate characteristics such as presence of weapons, drugs, and gangs can create a negative learning environment.

- Seventeen percent of students in grades 9 through 12 in 2011 had carried a weapon in the previous 30 days. In the same year, about 5 percent of students had carried a gun.²²
- Of the 17 percent who reported carrying a weapon to school in 2011, 7.5 percent reported carrying a weapon 6 or more days in the past 30 days, 5.6 from 2 to 5 days, and 3.5 for 1 day.²³
- Of those who carried a weapon in the past 30 days, 17.3 percent were in the 9th grade, 16.6 percent were in the 10th grade, 16.2 percent were in the 11th grade, and 15.8 percent were in the 12th grade.²⁴

- In 2011, 7.4 percent of students in grades 9 through 12 reported having been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property. Of those who said they were threatened or injured, 3.1 percent said it occurred 1 time, 1.9 percent 2 or 3 times, 1.4 percent 4 to 11 times, and 1.0 percent 12 or more times.²⁵
- In 2011, 25.6 percent of students in grades 9 through 12—including 29.2 percent of males and 21.7 percent of females—reported that drugs had been made available to them on school property during the previous 12 months.²⁶
- Of those who reported drugs had been made available to them on school property in the previous 12 months, 23.7 percent were in the 9th grade, 27.8 percent were in the 10th grade, 27.0 percent were in the 11th grade, and 23.8 percent were in the 12th grade.²⁷
- In 2011, 17.5 percent of students age 12 to 18 reported that gangs were present at their schools. From 2001 to 2011, there was a 12.9 percent decrease in students reporting gangs present in their school. Moreover, from the peak reports of gangs in the school in 2005, there is a 27.7 percent decrease.²⁸

According to a national study on the historical trends of school violence between 1992 and 2010:

- Of those who are victims of homicide between the age 5 and 18, approximately two percent are killed on school grounds or on their way to school.²⁹
- Most school-associated violence is likely to occur before or after school and during lunch.³⁰
- Firearms used in school-associated homicides are usually obtained from the perpetrator's home or from friends or relatives.³¹

²¹ Ibid., 24–25.

²² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2011," 55, Table 8.

²³ Simone Roberts et al., *Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2013*, Table 14.2.

²⁴ Ibid., Table 14.1.

²⁵ Ibid., Table 4.1.

²⁶ Ibid., Table 9.1.

²⁷ Ibid., Table 9.1.

²⁸ Ibid., *calculated from data in* Table 8.1.

²⁹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *School-Associated Violent Death Study*, (Atlanta, GA: 2014), accessed July 4, 2014, <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence/schoolviolence/savd.html>.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

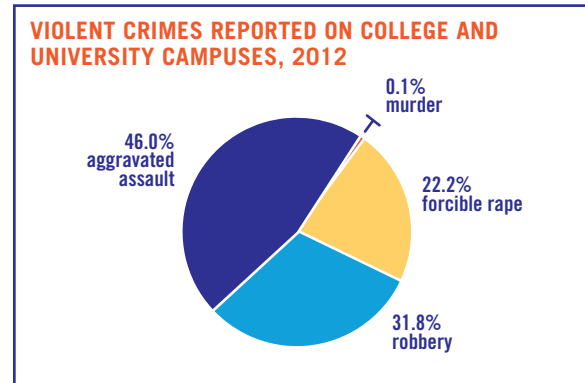
Campus Crime

While college campuses are relatively safe places, they are not immune to incidents of crime and violence. Acts of fatal violence are rare on campus. More common are violent crimes—by both known and unknown offenders—such as forcible rape,³² aggravated assault, and robbery.³³ Stalking is also a widespread but underreported crime on campuses, and national studies suggest that there are higher rates of stalking victimization among college-age women than among the general population.³⁴ Concerns over reporting and preventing rape and sexual assault in particular have led to greater focus by campus administrators and policy makers. The statistics represented in this section are drawn from FBI UCR data, which include reports from campus police as well as local and state law enforcement agencies, campus-specific data collected and reported as a result of the Clery Act,³⁵ and historical data that provide context for these crimes over time.

Data from the FBI showed:

- In 2012, 88,444 crimes were reported to college and university campus police. Of these reported crimes, 96.8 percent were property crimes, and 3.2 percent were violent crimes.³⁶

- Of the violent crimes reported on college and university campuses in 2012, 46.0 percent were aggravated assaults, 31.8 percent were robberies, 22.2 percent were forcible rapes, and 0.1 percent were murders or non-negligent manslaughters.³⁷
- Of property crimes reported on college and university campuses in 2012, 88.2 percent were larceny-thefts, followed by burglaries at 9.9 percent, motor vehicle thefts at 2.0 percent, and arson at 0.4 percent.³⁸



³² The FBI's definition of forcible rape changed in early 2012 but the changes were not implemented into crime statistics until January 2013. The data presented here use the old definition of forcible rape, "the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts or assaults to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded." Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2012), Table 1, accessed October 7, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012>. For more information about the FBI definition of rape, please see <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/recent-program-updates/new-rape-definition-frequently-asked-questions>.

³³ Diana A. Drysdale, William Modzeleski, and Andre B. Simons, *Campus Attacks: Targeted Violence Affecting Institutions of Higher Education*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, U.S. Department of Education; Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice, 2010), 1, 11, accessed October 7, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/campus-attacks/campus-attacks-pdf>.

³⁴ Bonnie S. Fisher, Francis T. Cullen, and Michael G. Turner, "Sexual Victimization of College Women," (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, 2000).

³⁵ The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act requires campuses to keep records and disclose all incidents of campus crime to the federal government. The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA) was signed into law on March 7, 2013, and amended parts of the Clery Act to require colleges and universities to compile statistics for additional crimes including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

³⁶ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), *calculated from data in Table 9*, accessed July

- UCR data for hate and bias crimes are reported for school and college campuses combined, rather than distinguishing post-secondary college campuses from K-12 school locations. Hate and bias crime data for these combined locations indicate that incidents occurring at school and college campuses made up 8.3 percent of all hate and bias crimes reported in the United States in 2012.³⁹

4, 2014.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2011*, *calculated from data in Table 9*, accessed July 4, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/9tabledatadecpdf/table_9_offenses_known_to_law_enforcement_by_state_university_and_college_2012.xls.

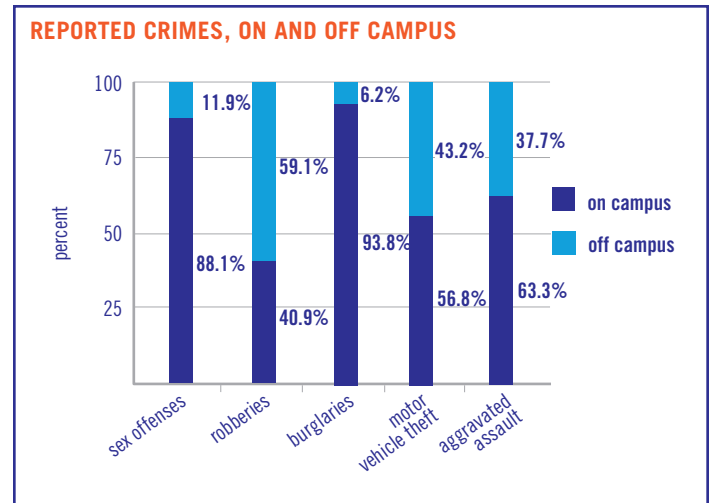
³⁹ Includes counts for "School/college," "School-college/university," and "School-elementary/secondary." Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Hate Crime Statistics, 2012*, *calculated from data in Table 10*, accessed July 4, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/hate-crime/2012/tables-and-data-declarations/10tabledatadecpdf/table_10_incidents_bias_motivation_by_location_2012.xls.

School and Campus Crime

- Of the hate and bias crimes reported on school and college campuses in 2012, 52.0 percent were hate crimes based on race, 20.3 percent were hate crimes based on sexual orientation, 16.8 percent were hate crimes based on religion, 10.1 percent were hate crimes based on ethnicity, and 0.8 percent were hate crimes based on disability.⁴⁰

Clery Act reporting from 2012 showed:

- An estimated 81.6 percent of crimes reported to campus police in 2012 occurred on campus, and 18.3 percent occurred off campus.⁴¹
- Of aggravated assaults reported, 63.3 percent occurred on campus, and 37.7 percent occurred off campus.⁴²
- Of murders reported, 16 occurred on campus, and 21 occurred off campus.⁴³
- Of the sex offenses reported, 88.1 percent occurred on campus, and 11.9 percent occurred off campus.⁴⁴
- Of the robberies reported, 40.9 percent were on campus, and 59.1 percent were off campus. Of the burglaries, 93.8 percent were on campus, and 6.2 percent occurred off campus. Of motor vehicle thefts, 56.8 percent occurred on campus, while 43.2 percent were off campus.⁴⁵



According to a national study on the historical trends of institutions of higher education violence between 1909 and 2008:

- Suspects targeted one or more specifically named individuals in 73 percent of targeted violence incidents⁴⁶ on college and university campuses.⁴⁷
- A majority of incidents of targeted violence occurred on campus (79 percent), while approximately one-fifth were off campus.⁴⁸
- There were 272 targeted violence incidents on campuses between 1909 and 2008. Suspects caused 281 deaths and injured 247 individuals. Of the deaths, at least 190 were students, and at least 72 were employees. Of the injured, at least 144 were students, and at least 35 were employees.⁴⁹ ★

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ *The Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, 2011), 1, accessed July 4, 2014, <http://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/handbook.pdf>. On-campus categories include "On campus" and "On-campus Student Housing Facilities." Off-campus categories include "Noncampus" and "Public Property." *The Campus Safety and Security Data Analysis Cutting Tool*, (U.S. Department of Education), based on calculations, accessed July 4, 2014, <http://ope.ed.gov/security>. For replication purposes: Group Search choices (Any Institution State or Outlying Area, Any Institution Enrollment, Any Type of Institution, Any Instructional Program, U.S. State or Outlying Area, Any Campus Style or Outlying Area).

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ Includes both forcible and non-forcible sex offenses. Ibid.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Targeted violence includes incidents in which the suspect targeted a specific institution of higher education student, employee, or facility/event, or a random student, employee, or facility/event because it matched the suspect's victim profile. Furthermore, the suspect employed or had the present ability to employ lethal force. For more information on the inclusion criteria, see page 8 of <http://www.publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/ohs-SchoolCampusAttacks0410.pdf>. Drysdale, Modzeleski, and Simons, *Campus Attacks*, 19.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ Ibid., 11, 17.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence encompasses a variety of criminal acts, ranging from sexual threats to unwanted contact to rape. It is widely recognized that sexual violence is extremely underreported because of the stigma associated with these crimes. This stigma contributes to the difficulty of measuring sexual violence in official statistics. Other difficulties include inconsistent definitions of sexual assault and rape; differing reporting requirements to local, state, and national law enforcement; and low conviction rates. Sexual violence, however, remains pervasive and traumatizing to its victims. The statistics cited below are drawn from several large, national data sets and reports on various forms of sexual violence and rape. While both men and women can be victims of sexual violence, most of these acts are perpetrated by male offenders against female victims. Most of the offenders are known to the victim in some capacity, including as friends, acquaintances, family members, or intimate partners.

In 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a large national study providing much needed national data about rape and sexual assault. Some of the findings include:

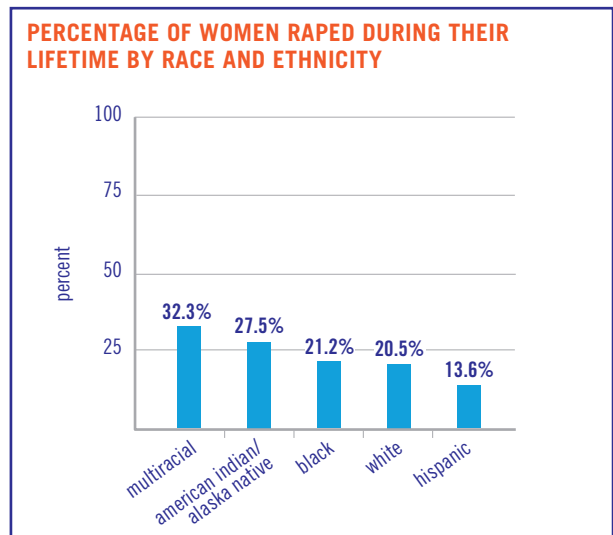
- Nearly 1 in 5 or almost 23 million women in the United States have been raped in their lifetime.¹
- Approximately 1 in 71 or 1.9 million men in the United States have been raped in their lifetime.²
- Of those surveyed, 43.9 percent of all women and 23.4 percent of all men experienced some form of sexual violence during their lifetime, including being made to penetrate, sexual coercion, unwanted sexual contact, and noncontact unwanted sexual experiences.³

1 Matthew J. Breidling et al., *Prevalence and Characteristics of Sexual Violence, Stalking, and Intimate Partner Violence Victimization—National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, United States, 2011*, (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014), Table 1, accessed September 24, 2014, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6308.pdf>.

2 Michelle Black et al., *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 Summary Report*, (Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2011), 19, accessed October 24, 2014, http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/NISVS_Report2010-a.pdf; Matthew J. Breidling, *Prevalence and Characteristics of Sexual Violence*, Table 2.

3 Matthew J. Breidling, *Prevalence and Characteristics of Sexual Violence*, Table 2. Noncontact unwanted sexual experiences include voyeurism, unwanted exposure to pornography, verbal or behavioral sexual harassment, and threats of sexual violence.

- Noncontact unwanted sexual experiences were the most common form of sexual violence experienced by both men and women; about 39 million women and 15 million men have had this experience during their lifetimes.⁴
- An estimated 32.3 percent of multiracial women, 27.5 percent of American Indian/Alaska native women, 21.2 percent of black non-Hispanic women, 20.5 percent of white non-Hispanic women, and 13.6 percent Hispanic women experienced at least one rape victimization in their lifetime.⁵



- An estimated 64.1 percent of multiracial women, 55.0 percent of American Indian or Alaska Native women, 46.9 percent of white non-Hispanic women, 38.2 percent of black non-Hispanic women, 35.6 of Hispanic women, and 31.9 percent of Asian or Pacific Islander women experienced at least one act of other sexual violence in their lifetime.⁶
- An estimated 1.6 percent of non-Hispanic white men were raped during their lifetimes. Lifetime estimates of rape for men by other races/ethnicities were not statistically reliable for reporting because of a small case count.⁷

4 Ibid.

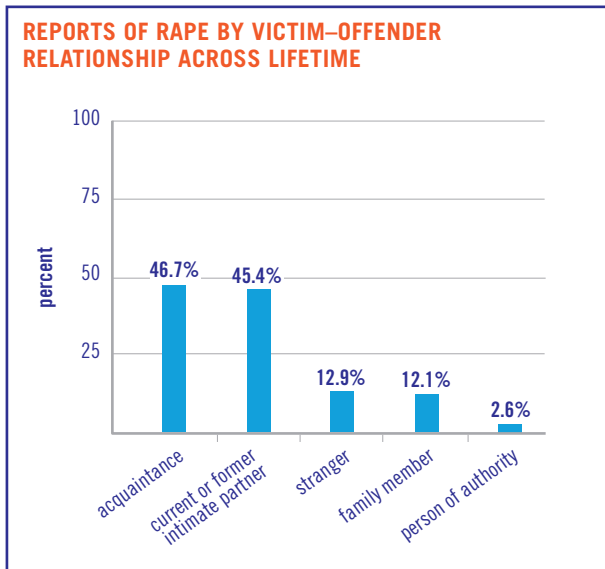
5 Ibid.

6 Ibid.

7 Ibid.

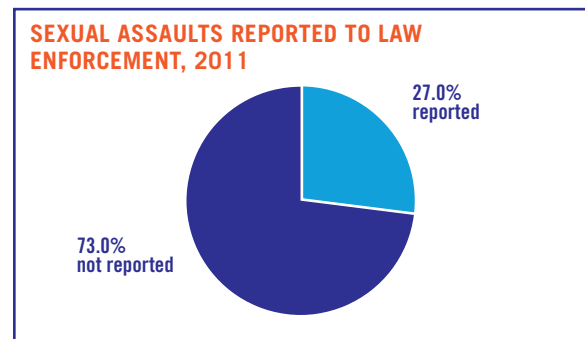
Sexual Violence

- An estimated 39.5 percent of multiracial men, 26.6 Hispanic men, 24.5 percent American Indian or Alaska Native men, 24.4 percent of black non-Hispanic men, 22.2 percent of white non-Hispanic men, and 15.8 percent of Asian or Pacific Islander men were victims of other sexual violence at least once in their lifetime.⁸
- Twenty-eight percent of male victims of rape were first assaulted when they were 10 years old or younger.⁹
- The majority of sexual assault and rape is committed by someone that the victim knows, with 46.7 percent of female rape victims reported having been raped by an acquaintance, 45.4 percent of female rape victims reporting that at least one perpetrator was a current or former intimate partner, 12.9 percent reported having been raped by a stranger, 12.1 percent reported having been raped by a family member, and 2.6 percent having been raped by a person of authority.¹⁰



- Seventy-four percent of female victims of sexual coercion reported perpetration by an intimate partner, and 26.6 percent of victims of unwanted sexual contact reported perpetration by an acquaintance.¹¹

- For many male sexual violence victims, their perpetrator was someone they knew, with 45.6 percent reporting the perpetrator was an acquaintance, 40.7 percent of male victims reported the perpetrator was current or former intimate partner, 27.2 percent reported the perpetrator was a stranger, 6.5 percent reported the perpetrator was a person of authority, and 5.5 percent reported the perpetrator was a family member.¹²
- Ninety-nine percent of female victims of sexual violence other than rape, reported their perpetrators were male. Of male victims, 79 percent reported female perpetrators.¹³
- More than three-quarters of female victims of rape (78.7 percent) were first raped before they were 25 years old and 40.4 percent were raped before the age of 18.¹⁴
- Of the women who reported rape before the age of 18, 35 percent also experienced rape as an adult.¹⁵
- Only 27 percent of rape and sexual assaults were reported to law enforcement between 2010 and 2012.¹⁶



According to FBI data, in 2012:

- Forcible rapes accounted for 6.9 percent of violent crimes reported to law enforcement.¹⁷

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Michelle Black, *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey*, 25.

¹⁰ Matthew J. Bredling, *Prevalence and Characteristics of Sexual Violence*, Table 3. Totals may exceed 100 percent because of the possibility of multiple perpetrators.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid. Totals may exceed 100 percent because of the possibility of multiple perpetrators.

¹³ Ibid., 5.

¹⁴ Ibid., 11.

¹⁵ Michelle Black, *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey*, 25.

¹⁶ Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Percent of Rape/Sexual Assaults by Reporting to the Police, 2010-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed July 6, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

¹⁷ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, calculated

- Law enforcement cleared 40.1 percent of reported forcible rapes.¹⁸
- Forcible rapes accounted for 0.1 percent of all arrests.¹⁹

The CDC maintains a database of all non-fatal injury reports to hospitals. This surveillance data indicates:

- An estimated 80,687 people (25.7 per 100,000 persons) sought medical treatment at a hospital for sexual assault in 2012. Of those, 73,009 (45.8 per 100,000 females) were women, and 7,678 (5.0 per 100,000 males) were men.²⁰ Of those victims, 14,367 were age 15 to 19, and 13,018 were age 20 to 24.²¹

Sexual assault victimization on college campuses is common.²²

- According to the Clery reports in 2012, 13.9 percent of all crimes reported by college campuses were sexual offenses.²³

- Between 2011 and 2012, there was a 17.8 percent increase in the percentage of sexual offenses reported by college campuses in the Clery report, with 11.8 percent of all crimes reported being sexual offenses.²⁴
- From 2002 to 2012, there was an 18.8 percent increase in the sexual offenses reported by college campuses in the Clery report, meaning 11.7 percent of all crimes reported in the 2002 Clery Act were sexual offenses.²⁵

Much more information about youth perpetration and sexual violence is still needed. One study showed:

- Nine percent of youth age 14 to 21 reported being the perpetrator of some type of sexual violence in their lifetime.²⁶
- Four percent of youth age 14 to 21 reported being the perpetrators of attempted or completed rape.²⁷

According to the CDC Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS):

- Of high school age children, 10.4 percent experienced sexual dating violence in 2013.²⁸ Of these victims, 14.4 percent were girls, and 6.2 percent were boys.²⁹
- The same survey of high school age children found that 7.3 percent of students reported being physically forced to have sexual intercourse.³⁰ Of these victims, 10.5 percent were girls, and 4.2 percent were boys.³¹

from data in Table 1, accessed July 6, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/1tabledatacoverviewpdf/table_1_crime_in_the_united_states_by_volume_and_rate_per_100000_inhabitants_1993-2012.xls.

18 Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States 2012*, "Offenses Cleared," Table 25, accessed July 6, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/25tabledatacoverviewpdfs/table_25_percent_of_offenses_cleared_by_arrest_or_exceptional_means_by_population_group_2012.xls.

19 Ibid., calculated from data in Table 29, accessed July 6, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/29tabledatacoverpdf>.

20 Ibid.

21 Ibid.

22 The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) act is an update to the Jeane Clery Act and seeks to increase the transparency, accountability, education, and collaboration between college campuses and the U.S. Department of Justice, Education, and Health and Human Services. For more on the SaVE Act, please see: Clery Center for Security on Campus, *The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act*, accessed July 9, 2014, <http://clerycenter.org/campus-sexual-violence-elimination-save-act>.

23 *The Campus Safety and Security Data Analysis Cutting Tool*, (U.S. Department of Education), based on calculations, accessed July 9, 2014, <http://ope.ed.gov/security>. For replication purposes: Group Search choices (Any Institution State or Outlying Area, Any Institution Enrollment, Any Type of Institution, Any Instructional Program, US State or Outlying Area, Any Campus Style or Outlying Area).

24 Ibid.

25 Ibid.

26 Michele L. Ybarra and Kimberly J. Mitchell, "Prevalence Rates of Male and Female Sexual Violence Perpetrators in a National Sample of Adolescents," *JAMA Pediatrics* (2013), accessed September 24, 2014, <http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=1748355>.

27 Ibid.

28 Experiencing sexual dating violence is defined as one or more times during the 12 months before the survey, includes kissing, touching or being physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to by someone they were dating or going out with among students who dated or went out with someone during the 12 months before the survey. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System* online analysis tool, accessed July 9, 2014, <http://nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline/App/QuestionsOrLocations.aspx?CategoryId=C1>.

29 Ibid.

30 Ibid.

31 Ibid.

The Department of Defense published a report on sexual assault in the military for Fiscal Year 2013. This report provided some important insight into the rates of sexual assault in the military. Some of the findings include:

- Military service members reported 5,061 sexual assaults, representing a 50 percent increase from Fiscal Year 2012. Of these reports, 3,768 were “unrestricted” reports.³²
- Of the 5,061 sexual assaults reported, 54 percent were service-member-on-service-member crimes.³³
- Of the 5,061 sexual assault reports, 10 percent occurred before the member’s military service.³⁴
- Of the 3,768 unrestricted reports of sexual assault, 649 incidents or 20.3 percent involved service members as victims, and 573 incidents or 15.2 percent involved non-service members as victims.³⁵
- The Armed Services received 1,401 “restricted” reports of sexual assault, but at the request of the victim, 208 of these were converted from “restricted” to “unrestricted” reports, which allow an official investigation.³⁶
- Of the restricted reports, 10 percent occurred before the service member had entered the military.³⁷

Rape and sexual assault occur at a high rate in our prisons and jails, although many assaults go unreported to authorities. Several reports show:

- An estimated 7 percent of state and federal prison and jail inmates reported having one or more incidents of sexual victimization by another inmate or facility staff from 2011 to 2012.³⁸
- Inmates who reported their sexual orientation as gay, lesbian, or bisexual were among those reporting the highest rates of sexual victimization in prisons and jails. Of non-heterosexual inmates, an estimated 12.2 percent of prisoners and 8.5 percent of jail inmates reported being sexually victimized by another inmate; 5.4 percent of prisoners and 4.3 percent of jail inmates reported being victimized by staff.³⁹
- From 2011 to 2012, 51 percent of state and federal prisoner reports of sexual victimization involved inmate-on-inmate victimization. About 52 percent of jail inmate reports of sexual victimization involved inmate-on-inmate victimization.⁴⁰
- From 2005 to 2011, there was a 39 percent increase in the reports of sexual victimization in prisons.⁴¹
- Of the 8,763 cases of sexual victimization reported in 2011, 34.1 percent were inmate-on-inmate nonconsensual sexual acts, 16.9 percent were inmate-on-inmate abusive sexual contacts, 32.0 percent were staff sexual misconduct, and 17.1 percent were staff sexual harassment.⁴²

³² Under the Armed Forces’ Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, “unrestricted” reporting involves a victim reporting the sexual assault to the military command and law enforcement; the crime will be investigated, and the offender may be prosecuted. *Department of Defense Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military, Fiscal Year 2013*, (Arlington, VA: Department of Defense, 2015), 2, accessed July 9, 2014, http://sapr.mil/public/docs/reports/FY13_DoD_SAPRO_Annual_Report_on_Sexual_Assault.pdf.

³³ *Ibid.*, 2.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, 2.

³⁵ Sexual assault is defined as rape, aggravated sexual assault and sexual assault, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, wrongful sexual contact, indecent assault, nonconsensual sodomy, and attempts to commit these offenses. *Ibid.*, 75.

³⁶ Under the Armed Forces’ Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, “restricted” reporting involves a victim making a confidential report to specified sexual assault response personnel. The assault is not reported to the command or law enforcement; the crime will not be investigated or prosecuted; and the victim may receive specified support and medical services. *Ibid.*, 96.

³⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁸ Allen J. Beck et al., *Sexual Victimization in Prisons and Jails Reported by Inmates, 2011-12*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), 6, accessed September 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/svpjri1112.pdf>.

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ Sexual victimization under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) involves both willing and unwilling sexual activity and may be categorized as inmate-on-inmate or as staff sexual misconduct. *Ibid.*, *calculated from Table 1*.

⁴¹ Allen J. Beck and Ramona R. Rantala, *Sexual Victimization Reported by Adult Correctional Authorities, 2009-11*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2014), 1, accessed July 9, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/svraca0911.pdf>.

⁴² *Ibid.*, *calculated from Table 3*.

- In 2011, 44.2 percent of intimate-on-inmate sexual victimizations included force or threat of force against the victim, 12.0 percent were the result of persuasion or coercion, 5.3 percent were bribed, blackmailed, or given drugs or alcohol, and 1.9 percent were offered protection.⁴³
- Of those who were victims of inmate-on-inmate sexual victimization in 2011, 77.1 percent were men, and 22.9 percent were women. The perpetrators included 80.6 percent male victims, and 19.4 percent female victims.⁴⁴
- Juveniles incarcerated in youth correctional facilities in 2012 reported 1,720 incidents of sexual victimization. Approximately 17 percent of these reports involved nonconsensual youth-on-youth sexual acts, while almost 81 percent involved incidents of staff sexual misconduct.⁴⁵ ★

⁴³ Ibid., Table 8.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Allen J. Beck et al., *Sexual Victimization in Juvenile Facilities Reported by Youth, 2012*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), *calculated from Table 1*, accessed September 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/svjfry12.pdf>.



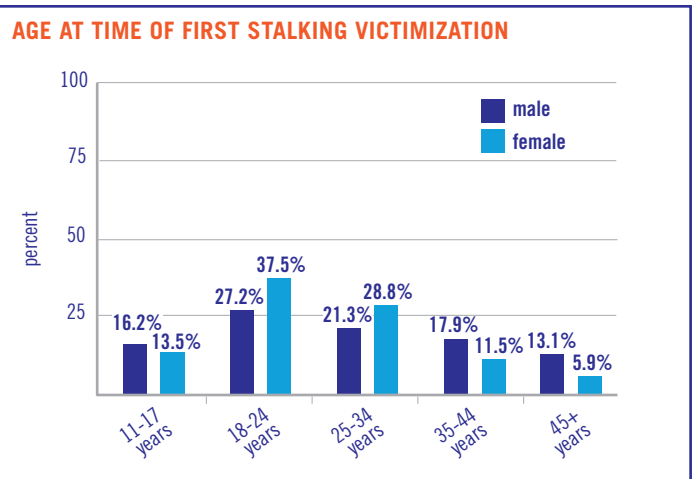
STALKING

Stalking is a complex crime that is often misunderstood and largely underreported. It is a crime under the laws of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Territories, many Tribal Codes, and the federal government, and is also an offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Although it is a crime everywhere in this country, legal statutes vary widely in their definitions of stalking, scope, crime classification, and penalty. Unlike other crimes that are defined as an incident, stalking is a pattern of behavior, often of individual acts that could—in isolation—seem benign or be noncriminal. Advances in technology have made it easier for perpetrators to stalk their victims; stalkers frequently use various technologies to harass, monitor, and track victims. These technologies are common to many people including cellphones, cameras, computers, social networking sites, and Global Positioning Systems (GPS).

Since the first stalking law was passed, knowledge about the crime has developed significantly. Research continues to yield important insights; however, to date there are only a few major national studies that have measured the rates of stalking in the United States. The 2011 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), provided data on the scope and magnitude of the crime of stalking.¹ This study supports earlier findings that show that more women than men are victimized by stalking and that individuals age 18 to 24 face the highest rates of stalking victimization. Moreover, the study demonstrated that stalking is linked to intimate partner violence and sexual assault and that this crime has a significant traumatic effect on its victims.

- During a one-year period, 7.5 million people age 18 or older in the United States were stalked.²

- At some point in their lives, 15.2 percent of women and 5.7 percent of men have experienced stalking victimization in which they felt fearful or believed that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed.³
- At least 53.8 percent of female and 47.7 percent of male victims were stalked before the age of 25.⁴
- An estimated 13.5 percent of female and 16.2 percent of male victims reported having experienced stalking as a minor (between the ages of 11 and 17).⁵



- Of female stalking victims, 88.3 percent reported having been stalked by a male perpetrator and 7.1 percent by another female. For male victims, however, 48 percent reported having been stalked by a male and 44 percent by a female.⁶
- Of women who reported having been stalked during their lifetime, 24.5 percent were American Indian or Alaska Native women, 22.4 percent were multiracial non-Hispanic women, 15.9 percent were white non-Hispanic women, 14.2 percent were Hispanic women, and 13.9 percent were black non-Hispanic women.⁷

¹ For more information about the NISVS, please see Mathew J. Breiding et al, *Prevalence and Characteristics of Sexual Violence, Stalking, and Intimate Partner Violence Victimization—National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, United States, 2011*, (Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2014), 2-4, accessed September 15, 2014, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6308.pdf>.

² Ibid., calculated from 6-7.

³ Ibid., 6-7.

⁴ Ibid., 34.

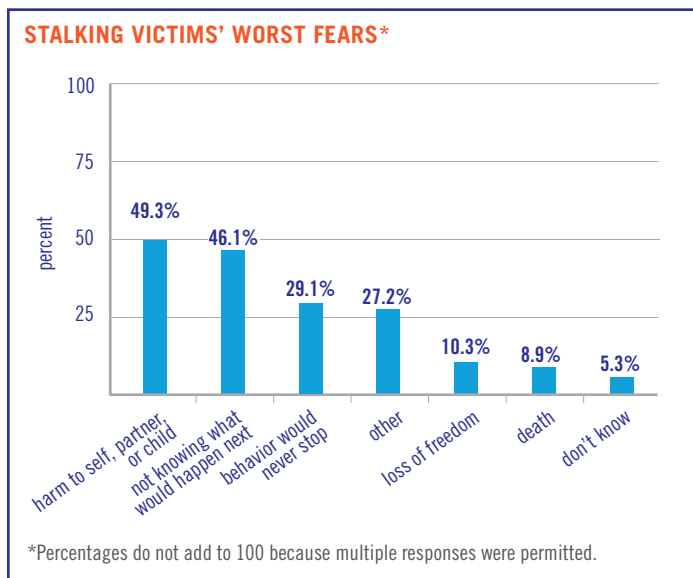
⁵ Ibid., 14.

⁶ Ibid., 9.

⁷ Ibid., Table 4.

- Most stalking victims are stalked by someone they know. Among female victims, 60.8 percent were stalked by an intimate partner, and only 16.2 percent were stalked by a stranger.⁸
- Of women who are victimized by an intimate partner, 9.2 percent reported also having been stalked by their intimate partner.⁹
- Women who are victimized are more likely to experience a combination of stalking, physical violence, and rape (13 percent), or stalking and physical violence (14 percent), than stalking alone (3 percent).¹⁰
- According to the same report, more than 62 percent of victims age 18 or older had been stalked in the 12 months prior to the interview while the remaining 38 percent had reported being victims of harassment.¹¹ Females were more likely to report being stalked, while men were slightly more likely to report being harassed.¹²
- Approximately 28 percent of stalking victims age 18 or older in 2006 reported being victimized by a known intimate,¹³ while almost 42 percent reported being stalked by a friend, relative, or acquaintance of some type.¹⁴
- Stalking victims took a variety of protective actions, including changing their day-to-day activities (22 percent), staying with family (18 percent), installing call blocking or caller ID (18 percent), changing their phone number (17 percent), and changing their e-mail address (7 percent).¹⁵

- Thirty-seven percent of male and 41 percent of female stalking victimizations were reported to the police by the victim or by someone else aware of the crime.¹⁶
- Of stalking victims, 16 percent obtained a restraining, protection, or stay-away order.¹⁷



- Forty-six percent of stalking victims experienced at least one unwanted contact per week.¹⁸
- Eleven percent of victims of stalking had been stalked for five years or longer.¹⁹
- When asked to name their worst fear related to the stalking, 46.1 percent of stalking victims reported not knowing what would happen next; 31.1 percent reported harm to child, partner, or other family member; and 30.4 percent report harm to self.²⁰
- One in 8 employed stalking victims lost time from work as a result of the victimization, and of those victims, more than one-half lost five days of work or more.²¹

8 Ibid., 9.

9 Ibid., Table 6.

10 Michelle Black et al., *The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 Summary Report*, (Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2011), Figure 4.1, accessed September 4, 2014, http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/NISVS_Report2010-a.pdf.

11 Shannan Catalano, *Stalking Victims in the United States – Revised*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2012), calculated from data in Table 3, accessed September 4, 2014, http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/svus_rev.pdf.

12 Ibid., Table 5.

13 Known intimate could include a spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, ex-spouse, or ex-boy/girlfriend.

14 Ibid., Table 6.

15 Katrina Baum et al., *Stalking Victimization in the United States*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2009), 6, Table 8, accessed September 4, 2014, <http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/legacy/2012/08/15/bjs-stalking-rpt.pdf>.

16 Ibid., 8.

17 Ibid., Table 9.

18 Ibid., 1.

19 Catalano, *Stalking Victims in the United States*, 3.

20 Baum et al., *Stalking Victimization in the United States*, 7.

21 Ibid.

- One in 7 stalking victims moved as a result of the victimization.²²
- Seventy-six percent of intimate partner femicide (homicide of women) victims had been stalked by their intimate partner in the year prior to their murder.²³
- Of the victims in one state who experienced violations of their domestic violence orders (DVO), 59 percent were stalked six months before their DVO, while 49 percent were stalked six months after their DVO.²⁴
- In one state, 45 percent of rural and 26 percent of urban women reported that stalking occurred during or around the time an emergency protective order (EPO) was filed.²⁵
- In one state, 79 percent of protection order violators in urban areas were charged with stalking in addition to other crimes, compared to 26 percent in rural areas.²⁶
- The use of technology to stalk is increasingly common. A 2013 Pew Research Center telephone survey of 792 Internet-using adults found that those age 18 to 29 are most likely to report being stalked or harassed online, followed by those age 30 to 49 (15 percent), age 65 or older (3 percent), and age 50 to 64 (2 percent).²⁷
- The 2013 Pew Research Center survey also found that 22 percent of those with the lowest household income (under \$30,000) had been stalked or harassed online compared to only 4 percent of those with a household income of \$75,000 or more.²⁸ ★

²² Ibid., 6.

²³ Judith McFarlane et al., "Stalking and Intimate Partner Femicide," *Homicide Studies* 3, no. 4 (1999): 311, accessed September 4, 2014, <http://www.markwynn.net/stalking/stalking-and-intimate-partner-femicide-1999.pdf>.

²⁴ T.K. Logan et al., *The Kentucky Civil Protective Order Study: A Rural and Urban Multiple Perspective Study of Protective Order Violation Consequences, Responses, and Costs*, (Lexington, KY: University of Kentucky, Department of Behavioral Science, 2009), 99, Table 36, accessed September 4, 2014, <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/228350.pdf>.

²⁵ Ibid., 92, Table 29.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Lee Rainie et al., "Anonymity, Privacy, and Security Online," (Washington, DC: Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project, 2013), 23, accessed September 4, 2014, http://www.pewinternet.org/files/old-media/Files/Reports/2013/PIP_AnonymityOnline_090513.pdf.

²⁸ Ibid., 24.



URBAN AND RURAL CRIME

When national crime statistics are reported, they may mask important differences among geographic areas. The FBI's annual *Crime in the United States* relies on Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) data and provides subnational statistical breakdowns for geographic areas by county type (rural, suburban, and urban), city population size, or a combination of both. The Bureau of Justice Statistics' annual report *Criminal Victimization* relies on data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) and provides subnational statistics for geographic areas by rural, suburban, and urban areas. The UCR and NCVS use slightly different sets of definitions in their accountings by geographical area due to the manner in which the data are collected. The UCR data are generated from local and state police agencies. As such, the crimes are known to law enforcement and are located based on where the crime actually occurred. The NCVS data are collected from crime victims and can include those incidents not reported to police, in addition to reported crime. The NCVS crimes are located based on the victim's residence rather than where the incident occurred. The different place definitions and data criteria may result in different statistics that can be difficult to compare.

This section provides crime statistics from both UCR and NCVS data sources. In general, statistics show that crime rates in metropolitan or urban areas, as well as the criminal justice response, differ from those in suburban areas, cities outside metropolitan areas, and non-metropolitan or rural areas. The uneven distribution of crime has implications for responding to crime, supporting victims, and allocating criminal justice system resources. As Americans become more mobile, it becomes increasingly important to understand the impact of geographic differences on crime rates and the ability of local criminal justice systems to protect citizens.

- The FBI reports the 2012 rate of violent crime known to law enforcement within metropolitan areas was 409.4 per 100,000 persons. The rate of violent crime per 100,000 persons in cities outside metropolitan areas was 380.4, and for non-metropolitan counties it was 177.0.¹

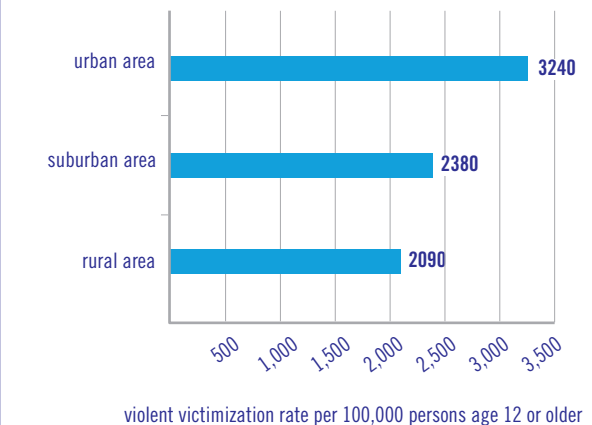
¹ As defined by the FBI, metropolitan areas are cities or urbanized areas of 50,000 or more inhabitants; cities outside metropolitan areas are incorporated areas; and non-metropolitan counties are unincorporated areas. Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, "Area Definitions," (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), accessed July 24, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/resource-pages/area-definitions/areadefinitions>; Table 2, accessed July 24, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/2tabledatadecoverviewpdf/table_2_crime_in_the_united_states_by_community_type_2012.xls.

VIOLENT CRIME RATES KNOWN TO LAW ENFORCEMENT BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA, 2012



- In 2012, the rate of violent victimizations reported by victims to the NCVS was 3,240 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in urban areas, 2,380 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in suburban areas, and 2,090 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in rural areas.²

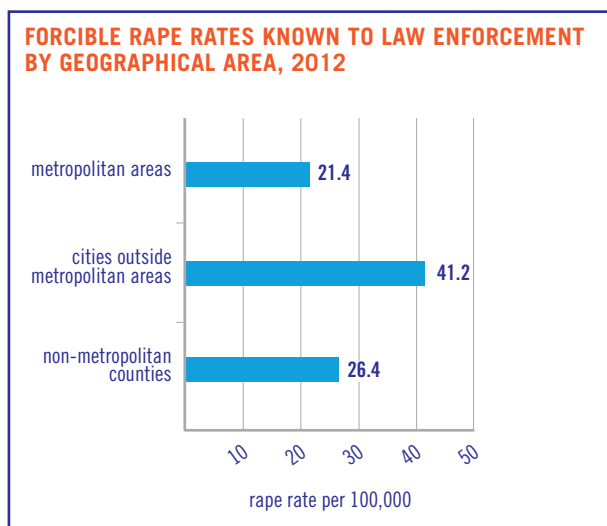
VIOLENT VICTIMIZATION RATES REPORTED BY VICTIMS TO THE NCVS BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA, 2012



² <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/resource-pages/area-definitions/areadefinitions>; Table 2, accessed July 24, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/2tabledatadecoverviewpdf/table_2_crime_in_the_united_states_by_community_type_2012.xls.

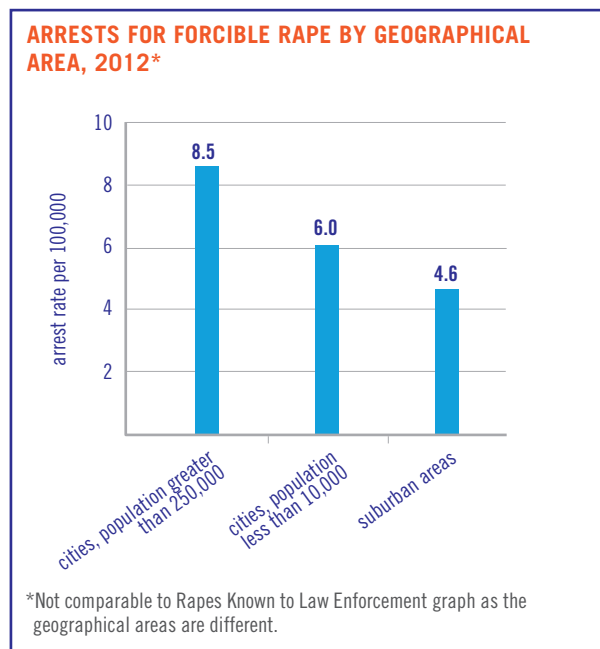
- ² "Reported by victims" means reported to interviewers for the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). Crimes reported to NCVS interviewers were not necessarily reported to law enforcement. As defined by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the urban, suburban, and rural definitions are based on the Office of Management and Budget Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) designations. Urban is the largest city/grouping of cities in a MSA; suburban is a county/counties containing a central city plus any contiguous counties that are linked socially and economically to the central city (i.e., those portions of MSAs outside of "central cities"); rural ranges from sparsely populated areas to cities with populations of less than 50,000 residents (i.e., a place not located in an MSA). Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Violent Victimization by Location of Residence, 2011-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed July 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

- The FBI reports metropolitan cities had a murder and non-negligent manslaughter rate known to law enforcement of 4.9 per 100,000 persons in 2012. Cities outside metropolitan areas had a murder and non-negligent manslaughter rate of 3.8 per 100,000 persons, while non-metropolitan counties had a rate of 3.3 per 100,000 persons.³
- The FBI reports the rate of forcible rape⁴ known to law enforcement within metropolitan areas was 26.4 per 100,000 persons, with no change compared to the 2011 rate. The rate of forcible rape in cities outside metropolitan areas was 41.2 per 100,000. Non-metropolitan counties had a rate of 21.4 per 100,000 persons.⁵



- The 2012 rate of rapes and sexual assaults reported by victims to the NCVS was 180 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in urban areas, 120 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in suburban areas, and 6 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in rural areas.⁶

- The FBI reports the 2012 rate of arrest for forcible rape was 5.8 per 100,000 inhabitants. In cities under 10,000, the rate was 6.0 per 100,000; in suburban areas, the rate was 4.6 per 100,000; and in large cities (populations of 250,000 and more), the rate was 8.5 per 100,000.⁷



- The FBI reports the 2012 aggravated assault rate known to law enforcement within metropolitan areas was 250.2 per 100,000 persons. The rate of aggravated assault in cities outside metropolitan areas was higher at 283.9 per 100,000 persons. The rate of aggravated assault in non-metropolitan counties was lowest at 139.7 per 100,000 persons.⁸
- The 2012 rate of aggravated assault reported by victims to the NCVS was 470 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in urban areas, 360 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in suburban areas, and 260 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in rural areas.⁹

³ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 2.

⁴ The FBI's definition of forcible rape presented here is "the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts or assaults to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded." This definition was revised in 2012. For more information, see <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/recent-program-updates/new-rape-definition-frequently-asked-questions>.

⁵ Ibid.

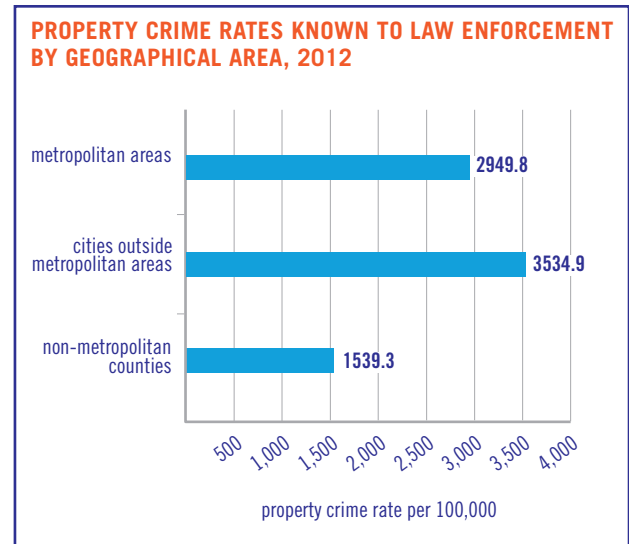
⁶ The rural rape/sexual assaults rates are based on 10 or fewer sample cases, therefore caution should be employed when interpreting. Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Rape/Sexual Assaults by Location of Residence, 2011-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed July 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

⁷ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 31, accessed October 1, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/31tabledataecpdf>.

⁸ Ibid., Table 2.

⁹ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Aggravated Assaults by Location of Residence, 2011-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed July 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nvat>.

- The FBI reports metropolitan areas had a 2012 robbery rate known to law enforcement of 127.9 per 100,000 persons, compared to a rate of 51.6 per 100,000 persons in cities outside metropolitan areas and 12.6 per 100,000 persons in non-metropolitan counties.¹⁰
- The 2012 rate of robberies reported by victims to the NCVS was 490 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in urban areas, 180 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in suburban areas, and 190 per 100,000 persons age 12 or older in rural areas.¹¹
- The FBI reports a total of 5,086 bank robberies were reported to law enforcement in 2011. Of these, 46 percent occurred in metropolitan areas, 34 percent occurred in small cities or towns, 18 percent occurred in suburban areas, and 2 percent occurred in rural areas.¹²
- The FBI reports the national property crime rate known to law enforcement in the United States in 2012 was 2,859.2 per 100,000 persons.¹³
- Cities outside metropolitan areas had the highest property crime rate known to law enforcement in 2012 with a rate of 3,534.8 per 100,000 persons. Metropolitan areas had a property crime rate of 2,949.8 per 100,000 persons, and non-metropolitan counties had a property crime rate of 1,539.3 per 100,000.¹⁴
- The 2011 rate of property victimizations reported by victims to the NCVS was 187.0 per 1,000 households in urban areas, 138.9 per 1,000 households in suburban areas, and 142.9 per 1,000 households in rural areas.¹⁵



- The FBI reports the rate of burglaries known to law enforcement was highest in cities outside of metropolitan areas in 2012 with a rate of 792.1 per 100,000 persons. Burglaries in metropolitan areas occurred at a rate of 676.2 per 100,000 persons, and in non-metropolitan areas, they occurred at 530.0 per 100,000 persons.¹⁶
- The 2012 rate of household burglary reported by victims to the NCVS was 33.9 per 1,000 households in urban areas, 24.3 per 1,000 households in suburban areas, and 39.0 per 1,000 households in rural areas.¹⁷
- The FBI reports the rate of larceny-theft known to law enforcement was highest in cities outside metropolitan areas in 2012 with a rate of 2,696.5 per 100,000 persons. Metropolitan areas had the second highest rate at 2,022.9 per 100,000 persons, followed by non-metropolitan counties at a rate of 915.6 per 100,000 persons.¹⁸
- The 2011 rate of household theft reported by victims to the NCVS was 146.2 per 1,000 households in urban areas, 110.7 per 1,000 households in suburban areas, and 99.4 per 1,000 households in rural areas.¹⁹

¹⁰ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 2.

¹¹ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Robberies by Location of Residences, 2011-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed July 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

¹² Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Bank Crime Statistics (BCS)," (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2012), accessed October 1, 2014, <http://www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/bank-crime-statistics-2011/bank-crime-statistics-2011>.

¹³ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 2.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Property Victimization by Location of Residence, 2011-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed July 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

¹⁶ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 2.

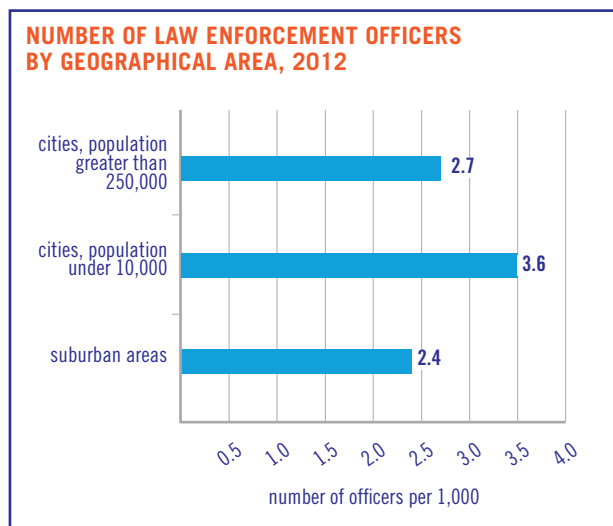
¹⁷ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Household Burglary by Location of Residence, 2011-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed July 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

¹⁸ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 2.

¹⁹ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Thefts by Location of Residence, 2011-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool,

Urban and Rural Crime

- The FBI reports the rate of motor vehicle thefts known to law enforcement was highest in metropolitan areas in 2012 with a rate of 250.7 per 100,000 persons. Cities outside metropolitan areas had the second highest rate at 136.0 per 100,000 persons, and non-metropolitan counties had a rate of 93.8 per 100,000 persons.²⁰
- The 2012 rate of motor vehicle theft reported by victims to the NCVS was 6.9 per 1,000 households in urban areas, 3.9 per 1,000 households in suburban areas, and 4.5 per 1,000 households in rural areas.²¹
- The FBI reports cities with more than 250,000 inhabitants had 2.7 law enforcement officers per 1,000 persons in 2012, cities under 10,000 had 3.6 law enforcement officers per 1,000 persons, and suburban areas had 2.4 law enforcement officers per 1,000 persons.²²
- In 2012—in cities larger than 250,000—72.3 percent of law enforcement officers were male and 27.7 percent were female. Cities under 10,000 people had 79.3 percent male officers and 20.7 percent female officers. The percentage of male and female officers in suburban areas was 73.2 percent and 26.8 percent, respectively.²³



accessed July 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

²⁰ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 2.

²¹ Calculated from Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Rates of Motor Vehicle Thefts by Location of Residences, 2011-2012*, generated using the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool, accessed July 24, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=navat>.

²² Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2012*, Table 71, accessed October 1, 2014, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/71tabledatadecoveriewpdfs/table_71_fulltime_law_enforcement_officers_by_region_geographic_division_by_number_and_rate_per_100000_2012.xls.

²³ Ibid., Table 74, http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/crime-in-the-u.s/2012/crime-in-the-u.s.-2012/tables/74tabledatadecoveriewpdfs/table_74_full_time_law_enforcement_employees_by_population_group_percent_male_and_female_2012.xls.

WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

Many workers experience violence or the threat of violence in their workplaces every year. While these violent crimes can range from physical assaults to robbery and homicide, the most common form of violence is simple assaults. Overall, the number of such crimes has generally declined in recent years. Workers in certain occupations—such as nurses, utility workers, taxi drivers, letter carriers, and especially those who work alone or at night—are particularly vulnerable to workplace violence. Unlike other forms of violence, strangers commit the greatest proportion of these crimes. While homicides in general and at the workplace in particular are rare, workplace homicide is the fourth-leading cause of fatal occupational injury. The majority of workplace homicides are shootings committed by robbers. Despite the overall drop in workplace homicides, the number of workplace homicides of government employees has increased. Decreasing the occurrence of workplace crimes is a growing concern for employers nationwide. The statistics in this section primarily come from data collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

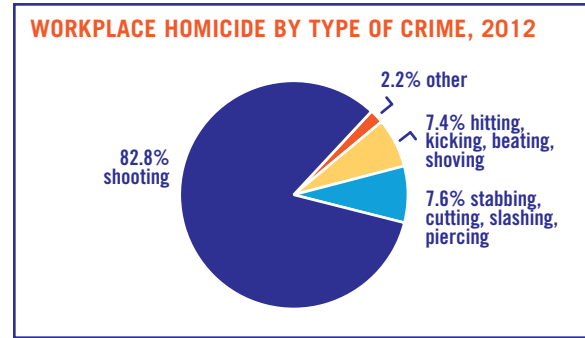
Fatal Violence

- In 2012, 475 workplace homicides occurred, a slight increase from 468 in 2011. Since 1993, the number of workplace homicides declined from 1,068 to 475.¹
- Homicide was the fourth-leading cause of fatal workplace injury (11 percent) in 2012, following roadway incidents involving motorized vehicles (24 percent); falls, slips, and trips (15 percent); and contact with objects and equipment (16 percent).²
- About 80 percent of workplace homicides were shootings in 2012. Other homicides were the result of stabbing, cutting, slashing, or piercing; hitting, kicking, beating, or shoving; strangulation by other persons; and multiple acts by other persons.³

1 Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, "National Consensus of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2012 (Revised)," 1, accessed July 23, 2014, <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/foi/cfch0011.pdf>.

2 Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, "National Consensus of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2012 (Revised)," news release, August 22, 2013, 8, accessed October 3, 2014, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/foi.pdf>.

3 Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Workplace Homicides by Selected Characteristics, 2011-2012," 3, accessed November 6, 2014, http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/foi/work_hom_2012.pdf.



- In 2012, 23 percent of work-related homicides with female victims were committed by robbers; 29 percent by other assailants; 21 percent by relatives or domestic partners; 12 percent by students, patients, or customers/clients; 8 percent by coworkers or work associates; and 6 percent by inmates, detainees, or suspects not yet apprehended.⁴
- Of males who were victims of work-related homicides in 2012, 36 percent were committed by robbers; 27 percent by other assailants; 14 percent by coworkers or work associates; 12 percent by students, patients, or customers/clients; 8 percent by inmates, detainees, or suspects not yet apprehended; and 3 percent by relatives or domestic partners.⁵
- Between 2005 and 2009, about 70 percent of workplace homicides were committed by robbers and other assailants, while about 21 percent were committed by work associates.⁶
- According to a recent national study by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, between 2003 and 2010, the number of homicides experienced by government employees increased 29 percent (from 71 to 86), while homicides for private-sector employees declined 28 percent (from 560 to 432). These trends continued into 2011, with 90 government employee workplace homicides and 367 private-sector employee homicides.⁷

4 Bureau of Labor Statistics, "National Consensus of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2012 (Revised)," 10.

5 Ibid.

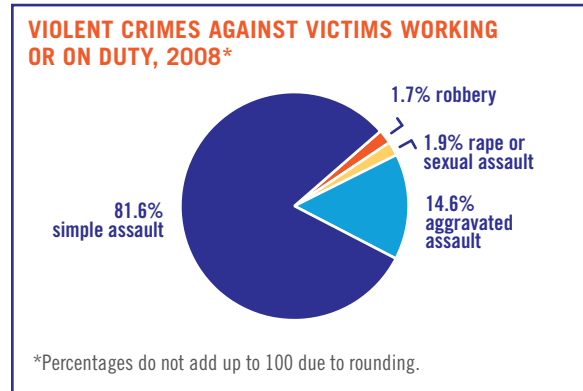
6 Fatal workplace injuries include both accidental and non-accidental events (e.g., accidental fall, motorized vehicle accident, homicide, and suicide). Erika Harrell, *Workplace Violence: 1993-2009*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2011), 1, accessed October 3, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/wv09.pdf>.

7 Erika Harrell, *Workplace Violence Against Government Employees, 1994-2011*, (Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 2013), 5, accessed October 3, 2014, <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/wvage9411.pdf>.

Workplace Violence

- Of those who were victims of work-place homicide in 2012, 20.8 percent were females, and 79.2 percent were males.⁸
- In 2012, 28 percent of the 351 female fatal workplace injuries were homicides compared to 9 percent of the 4,277 male fatal workplace injuries that were homicides.⁹
- Sales and related occupations made up 24.1 percent of workplace homicides in 2012. Protective service occupations (including firefighters and law enforcement officers) made up 30.3 percent of workplace homicides.¹⁰
- Of those who were victims of workplace homicide in 2012, 71.8 percent of the victims were wage or salary based employees, and 29.7 percent were self-employed.¹¹
- Of those who were victims of workplace homicide in 2012, 21.6 percent were between the ages of 35 to 44 years, and 24.4 percent were between the ages of 45 to 54.¹²

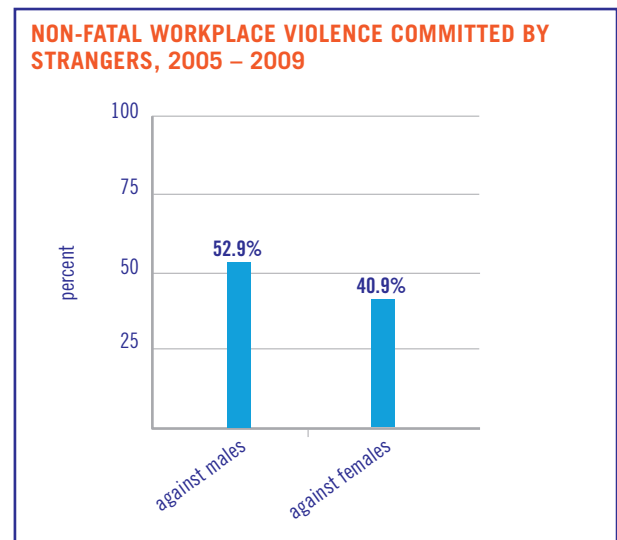
- Of the non-fatal violent crimes committed against victims who were working or on duty in 2008, 81.6 percent were simple assaults, 14.6 percent were aggravated assaults, 1.9 percent were rapes or sexual assaults, and 1.7 percent were robberies.¹⁴



- The average annual rate of workplace violence between 2005 and 2009 (5 violent crimes per 1,000 employed persons age 16 or older) was about one-third the rate of non-workplace violence (16 violent crimes per 1,000 employed persons age 16 or older) and violence against persons not employed (17 violent crimes per 1,000 persons age 16 or older).¹⁵
- Strangers committed the greatest proportion of non-fatal workplace violence against males (52.9 percent) and females (40.9 percent) between 2005 and 2009.¹⁶

Non-Fatal Violence

- In 2008, 15 percent of all non-fatal violent crimes and 15 percent of all property crimes were committed against victims who were at work or on duty at the time. Of non-fatal violent crimes, these percentages were highest for simple assaults (18 percent) and aggravated assaults (13 percent). Of all property crimes, these percentages were highest for household burglaries (24 percent) and thefts (13 percent).¹³



⁸ Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Workplace Homicides by Selected Characteristics, 2011-2012," 1.

⁹ Bureau of Labor Statistics, "National Consensus of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2012 (Revised)," 9.

¹⁰ Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Workplace Homicides by Selected Characteristics, 2011-2012," 12, 15.

¹¹ Ibid., 2.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Criminal Victimization in the United States, 2008: Statistical Tables*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2010), calculated from data in Table 64, accessed October 3, 2014, <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/cvus08.pdf>.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Harrell, *Workplace Violence: 1993–2009*, 1.

¹⁶ Ibid.

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING VICTIMS



Section 7. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The *2015 NCVRW Resource Guide* provides a wealth of information, tools, and ideas to help you plan a meaningful observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. This final section features a directory of sources for accurate, current information about crime victim issues and a list of national organizations that have partnered with us to promote this year's guide. This section also features information about products showcased in the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice (OVC) multimedia gallery, which you can use in your NCVRW campaigns and throughout the year.

- **Online Resources**—Includes reliable facts, statistics, training opportunities, and other information assembled by OVC and the National Center for Victims of Crime.
- **NCVRW Resource Guide Partners**—Presents a list of the 2015 NCVRW Resource Guide partners who are joining us in our commitment to improving victims' rights and raising public awareness throughout the country. You can visit the websites of these organizations to help plan your own work or to find ideas for partners to broaden your own outreach.
- **OVC Gallery**—Includes an online collection of multimedia products featuring select posters, promotional materials, and artwork from past NCVRW observances. Visit www.ovc.gov/gallery.



Online Resources

This time-saving list of reliable websites includes practical, up-to-date information and services for crime victims and those who serve them. When available, toll-free phone numbers are also provided.

National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS)

www.ncjrs.gov

Administered by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice, NCJRS provides information on crime, victim assistance, substance abuse, and public safety to support research, policy, and program development worldwide. Trained content specialists are available to respond to inquiries and direct individuals to appropriate resources. Additional services include:

- 24-hour access to view and order OVC and other [agency publications](#) and resources online;
- A searchable knowledge-base of more than 150 victim-related [questions and answers](#);
- A database of [upcoming events](#);
- An online Library and searchable [Abstracts Database](#), featuring over 30,000 victim-related documents;
- The Justice Information ([JUSTINFO](#)) electronic newsletter containing agency resources, events, funding opportunities, and more.

NCJRS Contact Information:

- Phone: 800-851-3420 or 301-240-7760 (international callers); TTY 301-240-6310
- Online E-mail Contact Form: www.ncjrs.gov/App/QA/SubmitQuestion.aspx

OVC Resource Center (OVCRC)

www.ovc.gov/resourcecenter/index.html

The Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center at NCJRS is a comprehensive repository of information for crime victims and victim service providers. With online services accessible 24 hours a day, OVCRC is the central clearinghouse for crime victim publications and reports from the Office for Victims of Crime. Trained Content Specialists are available to answer your questions. Staff can offer referrals, discuss publications, and search for additional resources.

OVCRC Contact Information:

- Phone: 800-851-3420; TTY 301-240-6310
- Online E-mail Contact Form: <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/askovc>
- Order publications and resources online at: www.ncjrs.gov/App/Publications/AlphaList.aspx

OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC)

www.ovcttac.gov

OVC TTAC is the gateway to current training and technical assistance for victim service providers and allied professionals who serve crime victims. OVC TTAC's aim is building the capacity of victim assistance organizations across the country by supporting professional development and reaching underserved victims through providing training and technical assistance; assessing the needs of key constituencies and identifying resources to meet their needs; monitoring customer satisfaction; and measuring the effectiveness of its training over time.

OVC TTAC draws on the expertise of a network of consultants and seasoned victim service professionals with firsthand experience in designing and delivering customized responses to satisfy a variety of training and technical assistance needs. From its comprehensive database of experts, OVC TTAC provides developmental support, mentoring, and facilitation in such areas as program design and implementation, strategic planning, program management, evaluation, quality improvement, collaboration, and community coordination. OVC TTAC also supports the victim services community by providing professional development scholarships and technical assistance to the state Victim Assistance Academies.

OVC TTAC Contact Information:

- Phone: 866-OVC-TTAC/866-682-8822;
TTY 866-682-8880
- E-mail: ttac@ovcttac.org

Ethics in Victim Services

www.ovcttac.gov/ethics

This downloadable version of the instructor-led *Ethics in Victim Services* training covers common ethical conflicts in providing victim services and how to resolve them by applying ethical standards and decision-making processes. The goal of the training is to increase self-awareness and understanding of how personal attitudes and beliefs influence responses to victims of crime.

Sexual Assault Advocate/Counselor Training (SAACT)

www.ovcttac.gov/saact

SAACT is a downloadable curriculum that uses case studies, role playing, slides, vignettes, and other interactive exercises to help practitioners increase their understanding of sexual assault and gain the skills needed to assist victims of sexual assault.

Victim Impact: Listen and Learn

www.ovcttac.gov/victimimpact

This downloadable curriculum is geared toward helping offenders become more aware of the impact of crime on victims, take responsibility for their actions, and begin to make amends.

Victim Assistance Training *Online* (VAT *Online*)

www.ovcttac.gov/vatonline

VAT *Online* is a foundational web-based victim assistance training program that offers victim service providers and allied professionals the opportunity to acquire the essential skills and knowledge they need to more effectively assist victims of crime. VAT *Online* has four sections: Basics; Core Competencies and Skills; Crimes; and Special Populations. Basics and Core Competencies and Skills are currently available. Modules in the Crimes and Special Populations sections will be available in 2015.

Identity Theft Victim Assistance Online Training: Supporting Victims' Financial and Emotional Recovery

www.ovcttac.gov/identitytheft

The Identity Theft Victim Assistance Online Training is a user-friendly e-learning tool that provides victim service providers and allied professionals with the knowledge and skills they need to more effectively serve victims of identity theft and assist with their financial and emotional recovery. The training includes a reference library of information on types of identity theft, the various forms and paperwork that may need to be completed, referral agencies and resources, and information on victims' rights. The training also includes three case studies that highlight different forms of identity theft. The training is structured so that participants assume the role of victim advocate and interact with victims during each phase of recovery.

OVC Online Directory of Crime Victim Services

<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/findvictimservices>

The OVC Online Directory of Crime Victim Services, which lists more than 10,000 programs nationwide, helps crime victims and service providers locate non-emergency services in the United States and abroad. Add your program to the directory and increase your program profile with providers and crime victims.

OVC National Calendar of Events

<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ovccalendar>

OVC's National Calendar of Victim Assistance-Related Events lists upcoming conferences, workshops, and notable victim assistance-related events. A special feature allows service providers and allied professionals to add their organizations' events to the calendar.

OVC *HELP* for Victim Service Providers Web Forum

<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ovcproviderforum>

The OVC *HELP* for Victim Service Providers Web Forum gives victim service providers and allied professionals a unique opportunity to tap into a national support network, learn about cutting-edge issues and best practices, and gain peer insight through shared challenges and experiences. Through the Guest Host Session series, OVC makes national experts available each month to answer questions on a timely topic.

SART Toolkit: Resources for Sexual Assault Response Teams

www.ovc.gov/sartkit

This toolkit is a compilation of resources for communities that want to develop Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs)—coordinated teams of people who serve victims of sexual assault—and for communities that want to improve

their SART responses. The toolkit reviews the basics, lays out the steps involved in putting together a SART, describes how to retain focus on victims, highlights SART programs throughout the country, and includes sample resources to use when developing and evaluating a SART team.

***Existe Ayuda* Toolkit**

www.ovc.gov/pubs/existeayuda

This toolkit includes replicable Spanish-language tools and resources to help improve the cultural competence of service providers and the accessibility of services for Spanish-speaking victims of sexual violence. Resources include Spanish terms related to sexual assault and trafficking; PowerPoint slides to use in presentations to *promotoras* (community health workers) and victim advocates; and a pocket card, handout, fact sheets, and scripts for public service announcements and outgoing answering machine messages.

VictimLaw

<https://www.victimlaw.info>

VictimLaw is a unique and groundbreaking resource offering the first comprehensive, online database of more than 23,000 victims' rights-related legal provisions, including: federal and state victims' rights statutes, tribal laws, constitutional amendments, court rules, administrative code provisions, attorney general opinions, and case summaries of related court decisions. This user-friendly tool is available free of charge and provides instant access to a wide range of previously hard-to-find, regularly updated legal information.

National Center for Victims of Crime Website

www.victimsofcrime.org

This national advocacy organization supports victims of crime and those who serve them. It provides resources including an online “Connect Directory” of victim service providers and advocates, online “Get Help” bulletins on victim-specific issues, and outreach materials, legislative updates, practice information, and reports for victim service providers and allied professionals on a wide range of topics. The website also features specific topical information in the Stalking Resource Center, DNA Resource Center, and Financial Crime Resource Center, including national and regional training opportunities. (This site is not associated with OVC or NCJRS.) ★



Resource Guide Partners

The following national organizations are official partners of the *2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide*. In addition to working with the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, and the National Center for Victims of Crime to promote the annual observance, each of the following organizations represents additional collaboration opportunities for the field and makes available a wide range of victim-related information that you may be able to integrate into your own outreach and public awareness initiatives.

American Correctional Association

206 N. Washington Street, Suite 200
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-224-0000

Fax: 703-224-0010
Website: www.aca.org
E-mail: aca@aca.org

The American Correctional Association (ACA) is a professional membership organization composed of individuals, agencies, and organizations involved in all facets of the corrections field, including adult and juvenile services, community corrections, probation and parole, and jails. It has approximately 20,000 members in the United States, Canada, and other nations, as well as over 100 chapters and affiliates representing states, professional specialties, or university criminal justice programs. For more than 140 years, the ACA has been the driving force in establishing national correctional policies and advocating safe, humane, and effective correctional operations. Today, the ACA is the world-wide authority on correctional policy and standards, disseminating the latest information and advances to members, policymakers, individual correctional workers, and departments of correction. The ACA was founded in 1870 as the National Prison Association and became the American Prison Association in 1907. At its first meeting in Cincinnati, the assembly elected Rutherford B. Hayes, then governor of Ohio and later U.S. president, as the first president of the Association. At the 1954 annual Congress of Correction in Philadelphia, the name of the American Prison Association was changed to the American Correctional Association, reflecting the changing philosophy of corrections and its increasingly important role in society.

American Probation and Parole Association

PO Box 11910
Lexington, KY 40578-1910
Phone: 859-244-8203

Fax: 859-244-8001
Website: www.appa-net.org
E-mail: appa@csg.org

The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) is an international association composed of members from the United States, Canada, and other countries actively involved with probation, parole, and community-based corrections in both adult and juvenile sectors. All levels of government including local, state/provincial, legislative, executive, judicial, and federal agencies are counted among its constituents.

American Society of Victimology

Center for Peacemaking and Conflict Studies
Fresno Pacific University
1717 S. Chestnut Avenue, #2202
Fresno, CA 93702

Phone: 559-453-3421
Fax: 559-252-4800
Website: <http://american-society-victimology.us>
E-mail: dstanley@ubalt.edu

The American Society of Victimology advances the discipline of victimology by promoting evidence-based practice and providing leadership in research and education.

Association of State Correctional Administrators

1110 Opal Court, Suite 5
Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 301-791-2722

Fax: 301-393-9494
Website: www.asca.net
E-mail: jbrookes@asca.net

The Association of State Correctional Administrators was founded on the belief that each represented correctional jurisdiction is unique with regard to obligatory statutes, policies, structure, incarcerated populations, resources, and burning issues, but that similarities of purpose, responsibilities, principles, and challenges among its member jurisdictions unite them in a quest for public safety, secure and orderly facilities, and professionalism that can be achieved through sharing ideas and vigorously entering into collaborative efforts to persistently improve the corrections profession.

California State University, Fresno

Department of Criminology
2576 E. San Ramon Avenue, MS/ST 104
Fresno, CA 93740-8029
Phone: 559-278-1012

Fax: 559-278-7265
Website: www.csufresno.edu
E-mail: ytakahashi@csufresno.edu

The Department of Criminology at California State University, Fresno, has been a leader in providing academic-based programs for students, victim service practitioners, and allied professionals since 1984. The first academic program consisted of the Victim Services Certificate, followed by the B.S. in Victimology in 1992. Today, the Victimology program has 200 majors and continues to provide professional development programs throughout the United States. Courses are offered in a traditional classroom setting and in fully online formats.

Clery Center for Security On Campus

110 Gallagher Road
Wayne, PA 19087
Phone: 484-588-5373

Fax: 484-580-8759
Website: www.clerycenter.org
E-mail: info@securityoncampus.org

The Clery Center for Security On Campus is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to prevent violence, substance abuse, and other crimes on college and university campuses across the United States, and to compassionately assist the victims of these crimes.

Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance

90 Galapago Street
Denver, CO 80223
Phone: 303-861-1160

Fax: 303-861-1265
Website: www.coloradocrimevictims.org
E-mail: nansutton@aol.com

The Colorado Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA) is a nonprofit, statewide membership organization with over 800 members and a mission to promote fairness and healing for crime victims, their families, and communities through leadership, education, and advocacy, while utilizing inclusivity and compassion to create solutions and positive change for crime victims. COVA's Annual Conference is its largest educational event. The two-and-a-half day conference generally draws 1,000 advocates, crime victims, district attorneys, law enforcement, and court services personnel who attend 72 educational sessions, three keynote addresses, and a variety of other events. The conference also includes five all-day, pre-conference, skill-building sessions on relevant topics. COVA produces the Victims Assistance Academy, which annually provides intensive victim service education to 35 victim service professionals. Additionally, COVA partners with community leaders and organizers to promote and produce public awareness events on specific topics, such as human trafficking and Colorado's event regarding the National Day of Remembrance for Homicide Victims.

Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. (COPS)

P.O. Box 3199 – 846 Old South 5
Camdenton, MO 65020
Phone: 573-346-4911

Fax: 573-346-1414
Website: www.nationalcops.org
E-mail: cops@nationalcops.org

Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., (COPS) provides resources to assist in the rebuilding of the lives of surviving families and co-workers of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. COPS also provides training to law enforcement agencies on survivor victimization issues and educates the public about the need to support the law enforcement profession and the survivors of fallen officers.

Crime Victim Study Center

Department of Criminal Justice
University of New Haven
300 Boston Post Road
West Haven, CT 06516

Phone: 203-479-4591
Fax: 203-931-6071
Website: www.newhaven.edu
E-mail: ttamborra@newhaven.edu

The University of New Haven's Department of Criminal Justice is actively involved in supporting victims of crime. The department mentors and educates students in the areas of Victimology and victims' rights and services. The department has a Victim Services Administration concentration and is home to the Center for Victim Studies. In addition, the university-wide Victimology Club—which sponsors numerous victims' rights awareness events—is mentored by advisees from the Department of Criminal Justice.

Justice Solutions

720 7th Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: 202-448-1710

Fax: 202-448-1723
Website: www.justicesolutions.org
E-mail: info@justicesolutions.org

Justice Solutions is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing rights, resources, and respect for victims and communities hurt by crime; enhancing governmental and societal responses to crime and its consequences on individuals and communities; and strengthening crime prevention initiatives in America. This mission is accomplished through the provision of education, training, and technical assistance; promoting research-to-practice as the foundation for public and justice-related policy development and community safety and victim assistance programs; promoting sound public policy that enhances victims' rights and services, offender accountability, and community protection; and collaborating with others who share the organization's vision and goals.

Legal Momentum

5 Hanover Square, Suite 1502
New York, NY 10004
Phone: 212-925-6635

Website: www.legalmomentum.org
E-mail: lschafran@legalmomentum.org

Legal Momentum is the nation's oldest legal defense and education fund dedicated to advancing the rights of all women and girls. Legal Momentum led the effort to pass the Violence Against Women Act and currently chairs the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Against Women. Through impact litigation, Legal Momentum has expanded the rights of domestic violence and sexual assault victims who face discrimination in employment and housing. In addition, by educating professionals who work with sexual assault victims—especially judges, attorneys, and other justice system professionals—Legal Momentum combats gender bias in the judicial system.

Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center

1001 Prince George's Boulevard, Suite 750
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774
Phone: 301-952-0063

TTY: 877-VICTIM-1 (877-842-8461)
Website: www.mdcrimevictims.org
E-mail: rroper@mdcrimevictims.org

The Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc., provides free, comprehensive (legal, victim, and social work) services to crime victims throughout the state of Maryland that include information and referrals, education about victims' rights, court accompaniment, direct legal representation in criminal court, limited legal services regarding identity theft and fraud, referral to pro bono lawyers for collateral matters upon financial qualification, individual and family counseling, peer grief support groups, and court preparation. Also, the Center advocates for crime victims' rights and laws.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving

511 E. John Carpenter Freeway, Suite 700
Irving, TX 75062
Phone: 877-MADD-HELP (877-623-3435)

Fax: 972-869-2206
Website: www.madd.org
E-mail: victims@madd.org

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is an organization of victims/survivors and non-victims determined to make a difference in the lives of those victimized by substance-impaired driving crashes. MADD recognizes its fundamental responsibility as giving a voice to victims/survivors who have been affected by a substance-impaired driving crash. MADD's mission is to stop drunk driving, to support victims of this violent crime, and to prevent underage drinking. MADD offers victim services free of charge to victims/survivors, and provides emotional support, advocacy, information, and referrals.

National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards

PO Box 16003
Alexandria, VA 22302
Phone: 703-780-3200

Fax: 703-780-3261
Website: www.nacvcb.org
E-mail: dan.eddy@nacvcb.org

The mission of the National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards is to provide leadership, professional development, and collaborative opportunities to our members to strengthen their capacity to improve services to crime victims and survivors. We share a vision of working together so that every victim compensation program is fully funded, optimally staffed, and functioning effectively to help victims cope with the costs of crime. We provide information to victims, advocates, and other individuals and groups about how to access victim compensation.

National Association of Victim Service Professionals in Corrections

c/o Camie Borsdorf
Victim Services Liaison Supervisor
Kansas Department of Corrections
212 S. Market
Wichita, KS 67202

Phone: 651-361-7249
Website: www.navspic.org
E-mail: karin.ho@dys.ohio.gov

The National Association of Victim Service Professionals in Corrections is a national networking organization for anyone providing post-conviction services to crime victims. These services include—but are not limited to—victim notification, safety planning, and victim-offender dialogue.

National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators

5702 Old Sauk Road
Madison, WI 53705
Phone: 608-233-2245
Fax: 815-301-8721

Website: www.navaa.org
E-mail: navaa@navaa.org
cap@navaa.org

The National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators (NAVAA) represents the 56 state agencies designated to administer Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) victim assistance formula grants and advocates for improvement in the treatment of victims of all types of crimes. Under a cooperative agreement with OVC, NAVAA also administers the National Crime Victims' Rights Week Community Awareness Projects (<http://cap.navaa.org>).

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

699 Prince Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-224-2150

Fax: 703-224-2122
Website: www.missingkids.com

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) is the leading 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization working with law enforcement, families, and the professionals who serve them on issues relating to missing and sexually exploited children. Authorized by Congress to serve as the nation's clearinghouse on these issues, NCMEC operates a hotline, 1-800-THE-LOST® (1-800-843-5678), and, through June 2014, has assisted law enforcement in the recovery of more than 199,000 children. NCMEC also operates the CyberTipline, a mechanism for reporting child pornography, child sex trafficking, and other forms of child sexual exploitation. Since it was created in 1998 through June 2014, more than 2.5 million reports of suspected child sexual exploitation have been reviewed, and more than 115 million suspected child pornography image and video files have been analyzed. NCMEC works in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

National Center on Elder Abuse Administration on Aging

University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine
Department of Family Medicine and Geriatrics
1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Unit 22 Bld. A-6
Alhambra, CA 91803

Phone: 855-500-3537
Fax: 626-457-4090
Website: www.ncea.aoa.gov
E-mail: ncea@med.usc.edu

The National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA), directed by the U.S. Administration on Aging, is dedicated to increasing identification and reporting of elder abuse. Our goal is to improve the national response to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and to disseminate useful, state-of-the-art information.

National Children's Alliance

516 C Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: 202-548-0090

Fax: 202-548-0099
Website: www.nationalchildrensalliance.org
E-mail: kday@nca-online.org

National Children's Alliance (NCA) is a membership organization dedicated to helping communities respond to allegations of child abuse in ways that are effective and efficient. NCA provides training, support, technical assistance, and leadership on a national level to local children's and child advocacy centers and communities responding to reports of child abuse and neglect. A children's advocacy center is a child-focused, facility-based program in which representatives from many disciplines, including law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, mental health, medical and victim advocacy, and child advocacy work together to conduct interviews and make decisions about investigation, treatment, management, and prosecution of child abuse cases.

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

One Broadway, Suite 210-B
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: 303-839-1852
TTY/TDD: 303-839-1681

Fax: 303-831-9251
Website: www.ncadv.org
E-mail: mainoffice@ncadv.org

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) serves as a national information and referral center for the general public, media, battered women and their children, and allied and member agencies and organizations. NCADV sponsors national conferences on domestic violence that provide a unique forum within the battered women's movement for networking, dialogue, debate, leadership development, and celebration. NCADV also serves to impact public policy and legislation that affect battered women and their children. NCADV's main office is located in Denver, Colorado, and its public policy office is located in Washington, DC.

National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs

240 West 35th Street, Suite 200
New York, NY 10001
Phone: 212-714-1184
212-714-1141 (24-hour hotline)

Fax: 212-714-2627
Website: www.avp.org/about-avp/national-coalition-of-anti-violence-programs
E-mail: cjindasurat@avp.org

The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) works to prevent, respond to, and end all forms of violence against and within lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and HIV-affected (LGBTQH) communities. NCAVP is a national coalition of local member programs, affiliate organizations, and individuals who create systemic and social change. We strive to increase power, safety, and resources through data analysis, policy advocacy, education, and technical assistance.

National Crime Prevention Council

2001 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 901
Arlington, VA 22202
Phone: 202-466-6272

Fax: 202-296-1356
Website: www.ncpc.org
E-mail: webmaster@ncpc.org

The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) is a private, nonprofit, tax-exempt organization whose primary mission is to be the nation's leader in helping people keep themselves, their families, and their communities safe from crime. NCPC's strategic plan is centered on four goals for the next five years: (1) promote crime prevention; (2) partner with government, law enforcement, the private sector, and communities to prevent crime; (3) protect children, youth, and other vulnerable populations; and (4) anticipate and respond to emerging crime trends.

National Crime Victim Law Institute

310 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 540
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: 503-768-6819

Fax: 866-301-8794
Website: www.ncvli.org
E-mail: ncvli@lclark.edu

The National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI) is a nonprofit research and educational organization dedicated to promoting a fair and balanced criminal justice system through legal education, scholarship, information resources, and legal advocacy. The only national organization dedicated to advancing victims' rights through legal assertion and enforcement in criminal courts, NCVLI is a nationally recognized repository of victims' rights law and analysis, and provider of substantive technical assistance to attorneys, victim advocates, courts, and others. NCVLI trains lawyers, victim advocates, and other criminal justice system professionals regarding enforcement of victims' rights, and also participates in amicus curiae (friend of the court) briefs in cases nationwide.

National Criminal Justice Association

720 Seventh Street, NW, 3rd Floor
Washington DC, 20001
Phone: 202-448-1711

Fax: 202-448-1713
Website: www.ncja.org
E-mail: info@ncja.org

The National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) represents state, tribal, and local governments on crime prevention and crime control issues. Its members represent all facets of the criminal and juvenile justice community, from law enforcement, corrections, prosecution, defense courts, victim-witness services, and educational institutions to federal, state, and local elected officials. As the representative of state, tribal, and local criminal and juvenile justice practitioners, the NCJA works to promote a balanced approach to communities' complex public safety and criminal and juvenile justice system problems.

National District Attorneys Association

99 Canal, Suite 330
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-549-9222

Fax: 703-836-3195
Website: www.ndaa.org
E-mail: ncpca@ndaa.org

The National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse and the National Center for the Prosecution of Violence Against Women—programs of the National District Attorneys Association—serve prosecutors and allied professionals who address crimes of child abuse, child exploitation, human trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, stalking, and dating violence. The two centers provide training and support, including trial support, to those working to serve the survivors of these crimes and to bring offenders to justice. They also provide on-site training specifically tailored to the needs of allied organizations or groups.

National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, Inc.

PO Box 99
515 Lame Deer Avenue
Lame Deer, MT 59043

Phone: 406-477-3896
Fax: 406-477-3898
Website: www.niwrc.org

The National Indigenous Women's Resource Center is dedicated to strengthening the grassroots movement to end violence against Native women and restoring tribal sovereignty to increase the safety of Native women.

National Network to End Domestic Violence

1400 16th Street, NW, Suite 330
 Washington, DC 20036
 Phone: 202-543-5566

Fax: 202-543-5626
 Website: www.nnedv.org
 E-mail: nnedv@nnedv.org

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) is the leading voice for domestic violence victims and their advocates. As a membership and advocacy organization of state domestic violence coalitions, allied organizations, and supportive individuals, NNEDV works closely with its members to understand the ongoing and emerging needs of domestic violence victims and advocacy programs. Then, NNEDV makes sure those needs are heard and understood by policymakers at the national level. NNEDV offers a range of programs and initiatives to address the complex causes and far-reaching consequences of domestic violence. Through cross-sector collaborations and corporate partnerships, NNEDV offers support to victims of domestic violence who are escaping abusive relationships—and empowers survivors to build new lives.

National Organization for Victim Assistance

510 King Street, Suite 424
 Alexandria, VA 22314
 Phone: 703-535-6682

Fax: 703-535-5500
 Website: www.trynova.org
 E-mail: Use contact page on the website

Founded in 1975, the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) is a 501(c)(3) membership organization of victim/witness assistance programs and practitioners, crisis responders, criminal justice agencies and professionals, mental health professionals, researchers, former victims and survivors, and others committed to the recognition and implementation of victim rights and services. NOVA's mission is to promote rights and services for victims of crime and crisis. NOVA is the oldest national group of its kind in the victims' rights movement.

National Organization of Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc.

4960 Ridge Avenue, Suite 2
 Cincinnati, OH 45209
 Satellite Office
 PO Box 625
 Phoenix, AZ 85003

Phone: 888-818-POMC (888-818-7662)
 602-492-9205 (satellite office)
 Fax: 513-345-4489
 Website: www.pomc.org
 E-mail: natlpomc@aol.com

The National Organization of Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc., (POMC) is the only national self-help organization dedicated solely to the aftermath and prevention of murder. POMC makes a difference through ongoing emotional support, education, prevention, advocacy, and awareness. POMC provides emotional support, information, and advocacy for any survivor of homicide, assists in keeping murderers in prison, assists in unsolved cases, and conducts prevention and awareness programs.

National Sexual Violence Resource Center

123 N. Enola Drive
Enola, PA 17025
Phone: 717-909-0710
TTY/TTD: 717-909-0715

Fax: 717-909-0714
Website: www.nsvrc.org
E-mail: resources@nsvrc.org

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) provides resources about all aspects of sexual violence and its prevention. Each April, NSVRC coordinates the national Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaign to educate communities and individuals on how to address and prevent sexual violence.

National Sheriffs' Association

1450 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-838-5317

Fax: 703-683-6541
Website: www.sheriffs.org
E-mail: twoods@sheriffs.org

The National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) is a nonprofit organization with more than 20,000 members from the 3,079 sheriffs' offices across the United States, and also represents the interests of other law enforcement and public safety professionals. NSA has been providing law enforcement training and technical assistance for over 72 years in fulfillment of its mission to support and enhance the professionalism of those whose job it is to serve and protect.

Police Executive Research Forum

1120 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-454-8320

Fax: 202-466-7826
Website: www.policeforum.org
E-mail: sschnitzer@policeforum.org

Founded in 1976 as a nonprofit organization, the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) is a police research organization and a provider of management services, technical assistance, and executive-level education to support law enforcement agencies. PERF helps to improve the delivery of police services through the exercise of strong national leadership, public debate of police and criminal justice issues, and research and policy development.

Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network

National Sexual Assault Hotline
1220 L Street, NW, Suite 505
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-544-1034

Fax: 202-544-3556
Website: www.rainn.org
E-mail: jenw@rainn.org

The Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network is the nation's largest anti-sexual assault organization. RAINN operates the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE and the National Sexual Assault Online Hotline at www.rainn.org, and publicizes the hotline's free, confidential services; educates the public about sexual assault; and leads national efforts to prevent sexual assault and improve services to victims.

Southwest Center for Law and Policy

475 South Stone Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85701
Phone: 520-623-8192

Fax: 520-623-8246
Website: www.swclap.org
E-mail: info@swclap.org

The Southwest Center for Law and Policy (SWCLAP) is a legal training and technical assistance provider for the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice, on issues related to domestic and sexual violence, stalking, abuse of persons with disabilities, elder abuse, protection orders, and federal firearms violations in Indian Country. SWCLAP is the parent organization of the National Tribal Trial College (providing free litigation skills training for Indian Country prosecutors, law enforcement, courts, and advocates), SAFESTAR (Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations, Services, Training, Access, and Resources), and the National Indian Country Clearinghouse on Sexual Assault (NICCSA). SWCLAP delivers customized training and technical assistance on-site to American Indian/Alaska Native communities at low or no cost.

Tribal Law and Policy Institute

1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 305
St. Paul, MN 55104
Phone: 651-644-1125

Fax: 651-644-1157
Website: www.tlpi.org
E-mail: bonnie@tlpi.org

The Tribal Law and Policy Institute is a Native American owned and operated nonprofit corporation organized to design and deliver education, research, training, and technical assistance programs that promote the enhancement of justice in Indian Country and the health, well-being, and culture of Native peoples. Our mission is to enhance and strengthen tribal sovereignty and justice while honoring community values, protecting rights, and promoting well-being.

Unified Solutions Tribal Community Development Group, Inc.

1445 E. Guadalupe Road, Suite 105-A
Tempe, AZ 85283
Phone: 877-216-9914
Fax: 480-966-3599
Website: www.unified-solutions.org

Twitter: www.twitter.com/USTCDGI
Facebook: www.facebook.com/UnifiedSolutions
E-mail: training@unified-solutions.org
contact@unified-solutions.org

Unified Solutions is dedicated to providing training, technical assistance, and human services. In doing so, we advance justice, advocate for victims of crime, and ensure strategies that address challenges experienced by culturally diverse individuals, communities, and organizations.

Witness Justice

PO Box 2516

Rockville, MD 20847-2516

Phone: 301-846-9110

Website: www.witnessjustice.org

E-mail: info@witnessjustice.org

Witness Justice is a national nonprofit organization providing programs and advocacy for survivors of violence and trauma. Our work addresses gaps in services and support that survivors need in the aftermath of violence. ★

Office for Victims of Crime Gallery

The Office for Victims of Crime's **Online Gallery**, a collection of public awareness posters, promotional materials, and images from National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW), is available at www.ovc.gov/gallery.

Packed with materials from previous years' NCVRW Resource Guides and OVC events, the site offers **free materials** for you to download and use in your outreach efforts throughout the year.

Highlights include:

- ★ Posters from the 2003 – 2014 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guides
- ★ Photos of NCVRW and other special events
- ★ NCVRW theme videos from 2005 – 2014
- ★ Photos and bios of award recipients
- ★ Promotional web banners

And more!

Labor Trafficking has many faces



Construction worker.
Housekeeper.
Farm worker.
Dishwasher.

Across America, men, women, and children are trafficked for their labor. Their employers threaten their lives or loved ones; confiscate their IDs or documents; deny them pay, food, or safe working conditions; or force them to work off illegal debts.

To find out more about labor trafficking and what you can do about it, contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline at: 888-373-7888

Is there Elder Abuse in Your Neighborhood?



Older people can be vulnerable to neglect, abuse, and exploitation—even by relatives and others they trust. We can all do more to help. Check on your older neighbors to see if they are okay, listen to them, and help them stay safe.

If you suspect someone is being mistreated, find help via the National Adult Protective Services Association at: www.napsa-now.org.

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THE NATIONAL OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME
www.victimsofcrime.org

Ayudamos a hacer de sus DERECHOS una REALIDAD



- El derecho a ser informado
- El derecho a protección
- El derecho a asistir a enjuiciamientos
- El derecho a ser oído
- El derecho a ser notificado
- El derecho a restitución

Si usted es una víctima del delito, los proveedores de servicios para víctimas pueden ayudarle a mantenerse informado sobre fechas judiciales y otros eventos importantes, pedir órdenes de protección y confeccionar un plan de seguridad, acompañarlo al tribunal, preparar una declaración de impacto de víctima, solicitar compensación para víctimas, y ayudar de muchas otras maneras a hacer de sus derechos legales una realidad.

Estamos aquí para ayudarle. Llámenos.

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THE NATIONAL OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME
www.ovc.org

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