



Criminal Victimization, 2021

SUMMARY | NCJ 305101

SEPTEMBER 2022

The long-term trend in the rate of violent victimization shows a decline from 1993 to 2021, from 79.8 to 16.5 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older. Violent victimization includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. More recently, the rate of violent victimization declined from 26.1 in 2012 to 16.5 victimizations per 1,000 in 2021, despite an increase between 2015 and 2018. Between 2020 and 2021, the violent victimization rate did not change.

Violent victimization

The rate of violent victimization did not change when examined by the victim’s sex, race or Hispanic origin, age, marital status, or household income from 2020 to 2021. Veterans experienced 247,290 violent victimizations in 2021, which was not statistically different from 2020. However, during this period, the violent victimization rate increased from 19.0 to 24.5 victimizations per 1,000 persons in urban areas while remaining unchanged in suburban or rural areas.

In 2021, about 7% of violent victimizations involved a firearm. A larger percentage of victims of violent victimizations in 2021 (9%) than in 2020 (6%) received victim assistance from a victim service provider.

Property victimization

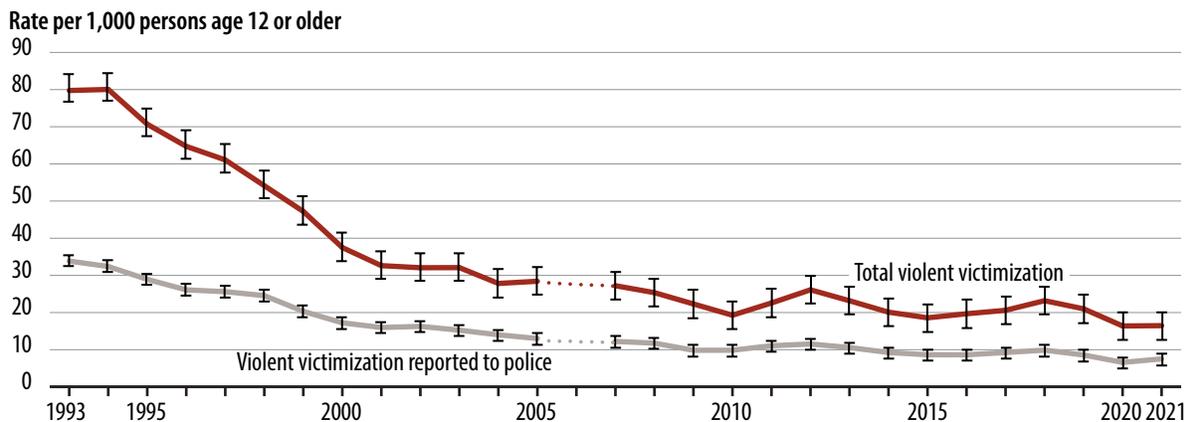
Households in the United States experienced 11.7 million property victimizations in 2021. Property crime includes burglary, trespassing, motor vehicle theft, and other types of household theft. The rate of property victimization in 2021 was 90.3 victimizations per 1,000 households, which was not statistically different from the 2020 rate. The rate of trespassing increased from 4.1 to 5.1 per 1,000 households. However, the rate of other household theft declined during this period, from 76.6 to 72.1 per 1,000.

Reporting to police

The rate of violent victimization reported to police fell from 33.8 victimizations per 1,000 persons in 1993 to 7.5 per 1,000 in 2021. During a more recent period, a greater percentage of violent victimizations were reported to police in 2021 (46%) than in 2020 (40%). The share of violent victimizations reported to police by Hispanic persons rose from 34% to 46%, and the share reported by white persons rose from 40% to 47%.

The full report (*Criminal Victimization, 2021*, NCJ 305101), related documents, and additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics are available on the BJS website at bjs.ojp.gov.

FIGURE 1
Rate of violent victimization and violent victimization reported to police, 1993–2021



Note: Estimates for 2006 should not be compared to other years. See *Criminal Victimization, 2007* (NCJ 224390, BJS, December 2008) for more information on changes to the 2006 National Crime Victimization Survey.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2021.