What Is the National Crime Victimization Survey?

The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) is a nationwide survey based on a sample of households. The survey collects detailed information about people's experiences with and responses to personal and property crimes, like theft, burglary, and assault.

Did you know...?

The NCVS provides information used by law enforcement, law makers, courts, and correctional agencies to improve their effectiveness and planning. Academics and researchers use the NCVS data to prepare reports and scholarly publications, which are used in a number of academic disciplines, including sociology, criminology, psychology, and political science.

In 2015, the majority of violent and property crimes were not reported to police

Assaults are the most prevalent type of violent crime committed against persons age 12 or older. In 2015, they accounted for 82% of all violent victimizations.

In 2015, the majority of victims of violent crime knew the offender.

Renters had higher rates of property crime victimization than homeowners in 2015

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2014–2015.

What information comes from this survey?

Details of crimes including:

- Characteristics of victims and offenders
- When and where crimes occur
- Types and amount of crimes experienced
- Consequences to victims, including economic
- losses and injuries
- Whether the offender had a weapon
- Whether the police were notified

Victim Resources

National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE thehotline.org

National Center for Victims of Crime 1-202-467-8700 victimsofcrime.org

> Child Help National Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-4-A-CHILD childhelp.org

> > Eldercare Locator 1-800-677-1116 eldercare.gov

> > Victim Connect 1-855-4-VICTIM victimconnect.org

For more information about the National Crime Victimization Survey, visit www.bjs.gov