

**2019 SVS OMB Supporting Statement Attachments – Table of Contents**

Attachment 1: BJS authorizing statute; Title 34, United States Code, Section 10132.....2

Attachment 2: 2019 NCVS SVS survey instrument.....15

Attachment 3: *Stalking Victims in the United States – Revised*, BJS Special Report.....41

Attachment 4: NCVS-572(L) Census initial contact letter.....52

Attachment 5: NCVS-573(L) Census follow-up interview letter.....55

Attachment 1:  
BJS authorizing statute; Title 34, United States Code, Section 10132

---

### **34 USC 10132: Bureau of Justice Statistics**

Text contains those laws in effect on August 6, 2018

#### **From Title 34-CRIME CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Subtitle I-Comprehensive Acts

#### **CHAPTER 101-JUSTICE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS** **SUBCHAPTER III-BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS**

##### §10132. Bureau of Justice Statistics

###### (a) Establishment

There is established within the Department of Justice, under the general authority of the Attorney General, a Bureau of Justice Statistics (hereinafter referred to in this subchapter as "Bureau").

###### (b) Appointment of Director; experience; authority; restrictions

The Bureau shall be headed by a Director appointed by the President. The Director shall have had experience in statistical programs. The Director shall have final authority for all grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts awarded by the Bureau. The Director shall be responsible for the integrity of data and statistics and shall protect against improper or illegal use or disclosure. The Director shall report to the Attorney General through the Assistant Attorney General. The Director shall not engage in any other employment than that of serving as Director; nor shall the Director hold any office in, or act in any capacity for, any organization, agency, or institution with which the Bureau makes any contract or other arrangement under this Act.

###### (c) Duties and functions of Bureau

The Bureau is authorized to-

(1) make grants to, or enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with public agencies, institutions of higher education, private organizations, or private individuals for purposes related to this subchapter; grants shall be made subject to continuing compliance with standards for gathering justice statistics set forth in rules and regulations promulgated by the Director;

(2) collect and analyze information concerning criminal victimization, including crimes against the elderly, and civil disputes;

(3) collect and analyze data that will serve as a continuous and comparable national social indication of the prevalence, incidence, rates, extent, distribution, and attributes of crime, juvenile delinquency, civil disputes, and other statistical factors related to crime, civil disputes, and juvenile delinquency, in support of national, State, tribal, and local justice policy and decisionmaking;

(4) collect and analyze statistical information, concerning the operations of the criminal justice system at the Federal, State, tribal, and local levels;

- (5) collect and analyze statistical information concerning the prevalence, incidence, rates, extent, distribution, and attributes of crime, and juvenile delinquency, at the Federal, State, tribal, and local levels;
- (6) analyze the correlates of crime, civil disputes and juvenile delinquency, by the use of statistical information, about criminal and civil justice systems at the Federal, State, tribal, and local levels, and about the extent, distribution and attributes of crime, and juvenile delinquency, in the Nation and at the Federal, State, tribal, and local levels;
- (7) compile, collate, analyze, publish, and disseminate uniform national statistics concerning all aspects of criminal justice and related aspects of civil justice, crime, including crimes against the elderly, juvenile delinquency, criminal offenders, juvenile delinquents, and civil disputes in the various States and in Indian country;
- (8) recommend national standards for justice statistics and for insuring the reliability and validity of justice statistics supplied pursuant to this chapter;
- (9) maintain liaison with the judicial branches of the Federal Government and State and tribal governments in matters relating to justice statistics, and cooperate with the judicial branch in assuring as much uniformity as feasible in statistical systems of the executive and judicial branches;
- (10) provide information to the President, the Congress, the judiciary, State, tribal, and local governments, and the general public on justice statistics;
- (11) establish or assist in the establishment of a system to provide State, tribal, and local governments with access to Federal informational resources useful in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs under this Act;
- (12) conduct or support research relating to methods of gathering or analyzing justice statistics;
- (13) provide for the development of justice information systems programs and assistance to the States, Indian tribes, and units of local government relating to collection, analysis, or dissemination of justice statistics;
- (14) develop and maintain a data processing capability to support the collection, aggregation, analysis and dissemination of information on the incidence of crime and the operation of the criminal justice system;
- (15) collect, analyze and disseminate comprehensive Federal justice transaction statistics (including statistics on issues of Federal justice interest such as public fraud and high technology crime) and to provide technical assistance to and work jointly with other Federal agencies to improve the availability and quality of Federal justice data;

(16) provide for the collection, compilation, analysis, publication and dissemination of information and statistics about the prevalence, incidence, rates, extent, distribution and attributes of drug offenses, drug related offenses and drug dependent offenders and further provide for the establishment of a national clearinghouse to maintain and update a comprehensive and timely data base on all criminal justice aspects of the drug crisis and to disseminate such information;

(17) provide for the collection, analysis, dissemination and publication of statistics on the condition and progress of drug control activities at the Federal, State, tribal, and local levels with particular attention to programs and intervention efforts demonstrated to be of value in the overall national anti-drug strategy and to provide for the establishment of a national clearinghouse for the gathering of data generated by Federal, State, tribal, and local criminal justice agencies on their drug enforcement activities;

(18) provide for the development and enhancement of State, tribal, and local criminal justice information systems, and the standardization of data reporting relating to the collection, analysis or dissemination of data and statistics about drug offenses, drug related offenses, or drug dependent offenders;

(19) provide for improvements in the accuracy, quality, timeliness, immediate accessibility, and integration of State and tribal criminal history and related records, support the development and enhancement of national systems of criminal history and related records including the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, the National Incident-Based Reporting System, and the records of the National Crime Information Center, facilitate State and tribal participation in national records and information systems, and support statistical research for critical analysis of the improvement and utilization of criminal history records;

(20) maintain liaison with State, tribal, and local governments and governments of other nations concerning justice statistics;

(21) cooperate in and participate with national and international organizations in the development of uniform justice statistics;

(22) ensure conformance with security and privacy requirement of section 10231 of this title and identify, analyze, and participate in the development and implementation of privacy, security and information policies which impact on Federal, tribal, and State criminal justice operations and related statistical activities; and

(23) exercise the powers and functions set out in subchapter VII.

(d) Justice statistical collection, analysis, and dissemination

(1) In general

To ensure that all justice statistical collection, analysis, and dissemination is carried out in a coordinated manner, the Director is authorized to-

(A) utilize, with their consent, the services, equipment, records, personnel, information, and facilities of other Federal, State, local, and private agencies and instrumentalities with or without reimbursement therefor, and to enter into agreements with such agencies and instrumentalities for purposes of data collection and analysis;

(B) confer and cooperate with State, municipal, and other local agencies;

(C) request such information, data, and reports from any Federal agency as may be required to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

(D) seek the cooperation of the judicial branch of the Federal Government in gathering data from criminal justice records;

(E) encourage replication, coordination and sharing among justice agencies regarding information systems, information policy, and data; and

(F) confer and cooperate with Federal statistical agencies as needed to carry out the purposes of this subchapter, including by entering into cooperative data sharing agreements in conformity with all laws and regulations applicable to the disclosure and use of data.

## (2) Consultation with Indian tribes

The Director, acting jointly with the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs (acting through the Office of Justice Services) and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, shall work with Indian tribes and tribal law enforcement agencies to establish and implement such tribal data collection systems as the Director determines to be necessary to achieve the purposes of this section.

### (e) Furnishing of information, data, or reports by Federal agencies

Federal agencies requested to furnish information, data, or reports pursuant to subsection (d)(1)(C) shall provide such information to the Bureau as is required to carry out the purposes of this section.

### (f) Consultation with representatives of State, tribal, and local government and judiciary

In recommending standards for gathering justice statistics under this section, the Director shall consult with representatives of State, tribal, and local government, including, where appropriate, representatives of the judiciary.

### (g) Reports

Not later than 1 year after July 29, 2010, and annually thereafter, the Director shall submit to Congress a report describing the data collected and analyzed under this section relating to crimes in Indian country.

(Pub. L. 90–351, title I, §302, as added Pub. L. 96–157, §2, Dec. 27, 1979, 93 Stat. 1176 ; amended Pub. L. 98–473, title II, §605(b), Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 2079 ; Pub. L. 100–690, title VI, §6092(a), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4339 ; Pub. L. 103–322, title XXXIII, §330001(h)(2), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2139 ; Pub. L. 109–162, title XI, §1115(a), Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3103 ; Pub. L. 111–211, title II, §251(b), July 29, 2010, 124 Stat. 2297 ; Pub. L. 112–166, §2(h)(1), Aug. 10, 2012, 126 Stat. 1285 .)

#### References in Text

This Act, referred to in subsecs. (b) and (c)(11), is Pub. L. 90–351, June 19, 1968, 82 Stat. 197 , known as the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1968 Act note set out under section 10101 of this title and Tables.

#### Codification

Section was formerly classified to section 3732 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

#### Prior Provisions

A prior section 302 of Pub. L. 90–351, title I, June 19, 1968, 82 Stat. 200 ; Pub. L. 93–83, §2, Aug. 6, 1973, 87 Stat. 201 ; Pub. L. 94–503, title I, §110, Oct. 15, 1976, 90 Stat. 2412 , related to establishment of State planning agencies to develop comprehensive State plans for grants for law enforcement and criminal justice purposes, prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 96–157.

#### Amendments

2012-Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 112–166 struck out ", by and with the advice and consent of the Senate" before period at end of first sentence.

2010-Subsec. (c)(3) to (6). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(A), inserted "tribal," after "State," wherever appearing.

Subsec. (c)(7). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(B), inserted "and in Indian country" after "States".

Subsec. (c)(9). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(C), substituted "Federal Government and State and tribal governments" for "Federal and State Governments".

Subsec. (c)(10), (11). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(D), inserted ", tribal," after "State".

Subsec. (c)(13). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(E), inserted ", Indian tribes," after "States".

Subsec. (c)(17). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(F), substituted "activities at the Federal, State, tribal, and local" for "activities at the Federal, State and local" and "generated by Federal, State, tribal, and local" for "generated by Federal, State, and local".

Subsec. (c)(18). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(G), substituted "State, tribal, and local" for "State and local".

Subsec. (c)(19). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(H), inserted "and tribal" after "State" in two places.

Subsec. (c)(20). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(I), inserted ", tribal," after "State".

Subsec. (c)(22). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(1)(J), inserted ", tribal," after "Federal".

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(2), designated existing provisions as par. (1), inserted par. (1) heading, substituted "To ensure" for "To insure", redesignated former pars. (1) to (6) as subpars. (A) to (F), respectively, of par. (1), realigned margins, and added par. (2).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(3), substituted "subsection (d)(1)(C)" for "subsection (d)(3)".

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(4)(B), inserted ", tribal," after "State".

Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(4)(A), which directed insertion of ", tribal," after "State" in heading, was executed editorially but could not be executed in original because heading had been editorially supplied.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 111–211, §251(b)(5), added subsec. (g).

2006-Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 109–162, §1115(a)(1), inserted after third sentence "The Director shall be responsible for the integrity of data and statistics and shall protect against improper or illegal use or disclosure."

Subsec. (c)(19). Pub. L. 109–162, §1115(a)(2), amended par. (19) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (19) read as follows: "provide for research and improvements in the accuracy, completeness, and inclusiveness of criminal history record information, information systems, arrest warrant, and stolen vehicle record information and information systems and support research concerning the accuracy, completeness, and inclusiveness of other criminal justice record information;".



Subsec. (d)(6). Pub. L. 109–162, §1115(a)(3), added par. (6).

1994-Subsec. (c)(19). Pub. L. 103–322 substituted a semicolon for period at end.

1988-Subsec. (c)(16) to (23). Pub. L. 100–690 added pars. (16) to (19) and redesignated former pars. (16) to (19) as (20) to (23), respectively.

1984-Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 98–473, §605(b)(1), inserted provision requiring Director to report to Attorney General through Assistant Attorney General.

Subsec. (c)(13). Pub. L. 98–473, §605(b)(2)(A), (C), added par. (13) and struck out former par. (13) relating to provision of financial and technical assistance to States and units of local government relating to collection, analysis, or dissemination of justice statistics.

Subsec. (c)(14), (15). Pub. L. 98–473, §605(b)(2)(C), added pars. (14) and (15). Former pars. (14) and (15) redesignated (16) and (17), respectively.

Subsec. (c)(16). Pub. L. 98–473, §605(b)(2)(A), (B), redesignated par. (14) as (16) and struck out former par. (16) relating to insuring conformance with security and privacy regulations issued under section 10231 of this title.

Subsec. (c)(17). Pub. L. 98–473, §605(b)(2)(B), redesignated par. (15) as (17). Former par. (17) redesignated (19).

Subsec. (c)(18). Pub. L. 98–473, §605(b)(2)(D), added par. (18).

Subsec. (c)(19). Pub. L. 98–473, §605(b)(2)(B), redesignated former par. (17) as (19).

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 98–473, §605(b)(3)(A), inserted ", and to enter into agreements with such agencies and instrumentalities for purposes of data collection and analysis".

Subsec. (d)(5). Pub. L. 98–473, §605(b)(3)(B)–(D), added par. (5).

#### Effective Date of 2012 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 112–166 effective 60 days after Aug. 10, 2012, and applicable to appointments made on and after that effective date, including any nomination pending in the Senate on that date, see section 6(a) of Pub. L. 112–166, set out as a note under section 113 of Title 6, Domestic Security.

#### Effective Date of 1984 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 98–473 effective Oct. 12, 1984, see section 609AA(a) of Pub. L. 98–473, set out as an Effective Date note under section 10101 of this title.

#### Construction of 2010 Amendment

Pub. L. 111–211, title II, §251(c), July 29, 2010, 124 Stat. 2298 , provided that: "Nothing in this section [amending this section and section 41507 of this title] or any amendment made by this section-

"(1) allows the grant to be made to, or used by, an entity for law enforcement activities that the entity lacks jurisdiction to perform; or

"(2) has any effect other than to authorize, award, or deny a grant of funds to a federally recognized Indian tribe for the purposes described in the relevant grant program."

[For definition of "Indian tribe" as used in section 251(c) of Pub. L. 111–211, set out above, see section 203(a) of Pub. L. 111–211, set out as a note under section 2801 of Title 25, Indians.]

#### Inclusion of Honor Violence in National Crime Victimization Survey

Pub. L. 113–235, div. B, title II, Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2191 , provided in part: "That beginning not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act [div. B of Pub. L. 113–235, Dec. 16, 2014], as part of each National Crime Victimization Survey, the Attorney General shall include statistics relating to honor violence".

#### Study of Crimes Against Seniors

Pub. L. 106–534, §5, Nov. 22, 2000, 114 Stat. 2557 , provided that:

"(a) In General.-The Attorney General shall conduct a study relating to crimes against seniors, in order to assist in developing new strategies to prevent and otherwise reduce the incidence of those crimes.

"(b) Issues Addressed.-The study conducted under this section shall include an analysis of-

"(1) the nature and type of crimes perpetrated against seniors, with special focus on-

"(A) the most common types of crimes that affect seniors;

"(B) the nature and extent of telemarketing, sweepstakes, and repair fraud against seniors; and

"(C) the nature and extent of financial and material fraud targeted at seniors;

"(2) the risk factors associated with seniors who have been victimized;

"(3) the manner in which the Federal and State criminal justice systems respond to crimes against seniors;

"(4) the feasibility of States establishing and maintaining a centralized computer database on the incidence of crimes against seniors that will promote the uniform identification and reporting of such crimes;

"(5) the effectiveness of damage awards in court actions and other means by which seniors receive reimbursement and other damages after fraud has been established; and

"(6) other effective ways to prevent or reduce the occurrence of crimes against seniors."

#### Inclusion of Seniors in National Crime Victimization Survey

Pub. L. 106–534, §6, Nov. 22, 2000, 114 Stat. 2557 , provided that: "Beginning not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act [Nov. 22, 2000], as part of each National Crime Victimization Survey, the Attorney General shall include statistics relating to-

"(1) crimes targeting or disproportionately affecting seniors;

"(2) crime risk factors for seniors, including the times and locations at which crimes victimizing seniors are most likely to occur; and

"(3) specific characteristics of the victims of crimes who are seniors, including age, gender, race or ethnicity, and socioeconomic status."

#### Crime Victims With Disabilities Awareness

Pub. L. 105–301, Oct. 27, 1998, 112 Stat. 2838 , as amended by Pub. L. 106–402, title IV, §401(b)(10), Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1739 , provided that:

"SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

"This Act may be cited as the 'Crime Victims With Disabilities Awareness Act'.

"SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.

"(a) Findings.-Congress finds that-

"(1) although research conducted abroad demonstrates that individuals with developmental disabilities are at a 4 to 10 times higher risk of becoming crime victims than those without disabilities, there have been no significant studies on this subject conducted in the United States;

"(2) in fact, the National Crime Victim's Survey, conducted annually by the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the Department of Justice, does not specifically collect data relating to crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities;

"(3) studies in Canada, Australia, and Great Britain consistently show that victims with developmental disabilities suffer repeated victimization because so few of the crimes against them are reported, and even when they are, there is sometimes a reluctance by police, prosecutors, and judges to rely on the testimony of a disabled individual, making individuals with developmental disabilities a target for criminal predators;

"(4) research in the United States needs to be done to-

"(A) understand the nature and extent of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities;

"(B) describe the manner in which the justice system responds to crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities; and

"(C) identify programs, policies, or laws that hold promises for making the justice system more responsive to crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities; and

"(5) the National Academy of Science Committee on Law and Justice of the National Research Council is a premier research institution with unique experience in developing seminal, multidisciplinary studies to establish a strong research base from which to make public policy.

"(b) Purposes.-The purposes of this Act are-

"(1) to increase public awareness of the plight of victims of crime who are individuals with developmental disabilities;

"(2) to collect data to measure the extent of the problem of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities;  
and

"(3) to develop a basis to find new strategies to address the safety and justice needs of victims of crime who are individuals with developmental disabilities.

"SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY.

"In this Act, the term 'developmental disability' has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 [42 U.S.C. 15002].

"SEC. 4. STUDY.

"(a) In General.-The Attorney General shall conduct a study to increase knowledge and information about crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities that will be useful in developing new strategies to reduce the incidence of crimes against those individuals.

"(b) Issues Addressed.-The study conducted under this section shall address such issues as-

"(1) the nature and extent of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities;

"(2) the risk factors associated with victimization of individuals with developmental disabilities;

"(3) the manner in which the justice system responds to crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities; and

"(4) the means by which States may establish and maintain a centralized computer database on the incidence of crimes against individuals with disabilities within a State.

"(c) National Academy of Sciences.-In carrying out this section, the Attorney General shall consider contracting with the Committee on Law and Justice of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to provide research for the study conducted under this section.

"(d) Report.-Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 27, 1998], the Attorney General shall submit to the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report describing the results of the study conducted under this section.

"SEC. 5. NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM'S SURVEY.

"Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, as part of each National Crime Victim's Survey, the Attorney General shall include statistics relating to-

"(1) the nature of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities; and

"(2) the specific characteristics of the victims of those crimes."

Attachment 2:  
2019 NCVS SVS survey instrument

---

# 2019 SUPPLEMENTAL VICTIMIZATION SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

**INTRO\_1** - From time to time, the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice collects information on special topics. We are currently collecting information on unwanted contacts or behaviors you may have experienced. We estimate these questions will take between 3 to 18 minutes depending on your circumstances. The U.S. Census Bureau is required by law to keep your information confidential.

## SECTION I. NCVS SVS SCREENER QUESTIONS

Now, I would like to ask you some questions about times when you may have experienced unwanted contacts or behaviors. I want to remind you that the information you provide is confidential. When answering, please think about anyone who may have done these things, including current or former spouses or partners, other people you may know, or strangers. However, please **DO NOT** include bill collectors, solicitors, or other sales people.

**SQ1.** In the past 12 months, have you experienced any unwanted contacts or behaviors?

By that I mean has anyone –

### **SQ\_FOLLOWED**

a. Followed you around and watched you?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

### **SQ\_SNEAKED**

b. [Has anyone] Snuck into your home, car, or any place else and done unwanted things to let you know they had been there?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

### **SQ\_WAITED**

c. [Has anyone] Waited for you at your home, work, school, or any place else when you didn't want them to?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

Still thinking about unwanted contacts and behaviors, in the past 12 months, has anyone...

### **SQ\_SHOWEDUP**

d. Shown up, ridden or driven by places where you were when they had no business being there?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

### **SQ\_ITEMS**

e. [Has anyone] Left or sent unwanted items, such as cards, letters, presents, flowers, or any other unwanted items?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

### **SQ\_HARASSED**

f. [Has anyone] Harassed or repeatedly asked your friends or family for information about you or your whereabouts?

- 1  Yes  
2  No



<p>Now I want to ask about unwanted contacts or behaviors using various technologies, such as your phone, the Internet, or social media apps. Again, please <b>DO NOT</b> include bill collectors, solicitors, or other sales people. In the past 12 months, has anyone...</p> <p><b>SQ_TELEPHONE</b> g. Made unwanted phone calls to you, left voice messages, sent text messages, or used the phone excessively to contact you?</p> <hr/> <p><b>SQ_TECHNOLOGY</b> h. [Has anyone] Spied on you or monitored your activities using technologies such as a listening device, camera, or computer or cell phone monitoring software?</p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <hr/> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p>Still thinking about unwanted contacts and behaviors, in the past 12 months, has anyone...</p> <p><b>SQ_APPLICATION</b> i. Tracked your whereabouts with an electronic tracking device or application, such as GPS or an application on your cell phone?</p> <hr/> <p><b>SQ_POSTS</b> j. [Has anyone] Posted or threatened to post inappropriate, unwanted, or personal information about you on the Internet, including private photographs, videos, or spreading rumors?</p> <hr/> <p><b>SQ_WEBSITES</b> k. [Has anyone] Sent you unwanted e-mails or messages using the Internet, for example, using social media apps or websites like Instagram, Twitter, or Facebook?</p> <hr/> <p><b>SQ_SOCIALMEDIA</b> l. [Has anyone] Monitored your activities using social media apps like Instagram, Twitter, or Facebook?</p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <hr/> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <hr/> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p>CHECK ITEM 1: If R answered "Yes" to one or more of <b>SQ_FOLLOWED-SQ_SOCIALMEDIA</b>, then skip to SQ2 (<b>SQ_REPETITION</b>). If R did not answer "Yes" to any of the above items, then skip to END INTERVIEW TEXT on page 4.</p>	
<p><b>SQ_REPETITION</b> SQ2. Has anyone done (this/any of these things) to you more than once in the past 12 months?</p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes [skip to SQ3a (<b>SQ_FEAR</b>)] 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No [skip to CHECK ITEM 2]</p>
<p>CHECK ITEM 2: If R answered "Yes" to more than one of <b>SQ_FOLLOWED - SQ_SOCIALMEDIA</b>, then skip to SQ3a (<b>SQ_FEAR</b>). If R answered "Yes" to only one of <b>SQ_FOLLOWED - SQ_SOCIALMEDIA</b>, then skip to END INTERVIEW TEXT on page 4.</p>	
<p><b>SQ_FEAR</b> SQ3a. Did any of these unwanted contacts or behaviors make you fear for your safety or the safety of someone close to you?</p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>SQ_DISTRESS</b> SQ3b. Did any of these unwanted contacts or behaviors cause you substantial emotional distress?</p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

<p>Now I have some additional questions about the time someone {behavior<sub>1</sub>}, {behavior<sub>2</sub>}, and {behavior<sub>x...</sub>}.</p> <p>Thinking about the person or persons who committed these unwanted contacts or behaviors in the <u>past 12 months</u>, did any of the following occur –</p> <p><b>SQ_PROPERTY</b>  <b>SQ4. Did this person or these people damage or attempt to damage or destroy property belonging to you or someone else in your household?</b></p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>SQ5.</b> [Thinking about the person or persons who committed these unwanted contacts or behaviors in the <u>past 12 months...</u>]  <b>Did this person or these people...</b></p> <p><b>SQ_ATTACK_SELF</b>  <b>Physically attack you?</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>SQ_ATTEMPT_SELF</b>  <b>Attempt to physically attack you?</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>SQ_THREAT_SELF</b>  <b>Threaten to physically attack you?</b></p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <hr/> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <hr/> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>SQ6.</b> [Thinking about the person or persons who committed these unwanted contacts or behaviors in the <u>past 12 months...</u>]  <b>Did this person or these people...</b></p> <p><b>SQ_ATTACK_OTH</b>  <b>Physically attack someone close to you or a pet?</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>SQ_ATTEMPT_OTH</b>  <b>Attempt to physically attack someone close to you or a pet?</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>SQ_THREAT_OTH</b>  <b>Threaten to physically attack someone close to you or a pet?</b></p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <hr/> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <hr/> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

**SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS:** See the table below for all combinations of the questions used to determine when the survey should be ended or continued on to the questions about the incident.

**NOTE:** This information is programmed into the CAPI instrument and skip patterns are driven automatically.

Number of Behaviors (SQ1a-I)	Repetition (SQ2)	Actual Fear or Emotional Distress (If SQ3a and SQ3b eq 'No' / If SQ3a or SQ3b eq 'Yes')	Reasonable Fear (If SQ4, all SQ5, and all SQ6 eq 'No' / If SQ4, any SQ5, or any SQ6 eq 'Yes')	Included in stalking estimate/survey continuation?
1	No	N/A	N/A	No – end interview
1	Yes	No	No	No – end interview
1	Yes	No	Yes	Yes – continue
1	Yes	Yes	No	Yes – continue
1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes – continue
2+	No	No	No	No – end interview
2+	No	No	Yes	Yes – continue
2+	No	Yes	No	Yes – continue
2+	No	Yes	Yes	Yes – continue
2+	Yes	No	No	No – end interview
2+	Yes	No	Yes	Yes – continue
2+	Yes	Yes	No	Yes – continue
2+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes – continue

If survey instructions lead to “No – end interview”, then skip to **SUPPLEMENTEND\_SVS**. Else, if survey instructions lead to “Yes – continue”, then skip to Q1 (**OFFENDER\_NUMB**).

**SECTION II. NCVS SVS OFFENDER INFORMATION**

**OFFENDER\_NUMB**  
**OFFENDER\_NUMBSP**

**Q1. Thinking about the unwanted contacts or behaviors you experienced in the past 12 months, how many different people have done these things to you?**

- 1  One [skip to Q3 (**OFFENDER1\_SEX**)]
- 2  Two [skip to Q2a (**OFFENDER\_ACT**)]
- 3  Three or more – Enter number of people \_\_\_\_\_  
[skip to Q2a (**OFFENDER\_ACT**)]
- 4  Don't know [skip to INTRO TEXT A]

**OFFENDER\_ACT**

**Q2a. Did these people act alone or together as a team?**

- 1  Alone [skip to INTRO TEXT A]
- 2  Together [skip to Q2b (**OFFENDER\_MOST**)]
- 3  Don't know [skip to INTRO TEXT A]

**OFFENDER\_MOST**

**Q2b. Of the people who did these things to you, is there ONE person who you would consider to be the MOST responsible for these unwanted contacts or behaviors?**

- 1  Yes [skip to Q3 (**OFFENDER1\_SEX**)]
- 2  No [skip to Q8a (**OFFENDERS\_SEX**)]

**SECTION III. SINGLE OFFENDER**

**INTRO TEXT A. Thinking about the person who has done this most recently...**

**OFFENDER1\_SEX**

**Q3. Is this person male or female?**

- 1  Male
- 2  Female

**OFFENDER1\_AGE**

**Q4. How old would you say this person is?**

- 1  Under 15
- 2  15-17
- 3  18-20
- 4  21-24
- 5  25-34
- 6  35-49
- 7  50-64
- 8  65+
- 9  Don't know

**OFFENDER1\_HISP**

**Q5. Is this person Hispanic or Latino/a?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No
- 3  Don't know

**OFFENDER1\_RACE**

**Q6. What race or races is this person? You may select more than one. Is this person... [Select one or more]**

- 1  White?
- 2  Black or African American?
- 3  American Indian or Alaska Native?
- 4  Asian?
- 5  Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander?
- 6  Don't know

**OFFENDER1\_REL**  
**OFFENDER1\_RELSP**  
**OFFENDER1\_NONSP**

**Q7. What was your relationship to the person who committed these unwanted contacts or behaviors when they first began?**

*[Instruction: Record the relationship at the time the unwanted contacts or behaviors began and not at the time of the interview.]*

- RELATIVE – offender was the respondent’s –
- 01  Spouse or partner
  - 02  Ex-spouse or ex-partner
  - 03  Parent or step-parent
  - 04  Own child or step-child
  - 05  Sibling/step-sibling
  - 06  Other relative – Specify \_\_\_\_\_

- NONRELATIVE – offender was the respondent’s –
- 07  Boyfriend or girlfriend
  - 08  Ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend
  - 09  Other current romantic or sexual partner
  - 10  Other former romantic or sexual partner
  - 11  Friend or ex-friend
  - 12  Acquaintance
  - 13  In-laws or relative of spouse or ex-spouse
  - 14  Roommate, housemate, boarder
  - 15  Schoolmate
  - 16  Neighbor
  - 17  Customer/client
  - 18  Student
  - 19  Patient
  - 20  Supervisor (current or former)
  - 21  Employee (current or former)
  - 22  Co-worker (current or former)
  - 23  Teacher/school staff
  - 24  Stranger
  - 25  Other nonrelative – Specify \_\_\_\_\_
  - 26  Unable to identify the person

[skip to Q14a (**INC\_DURATION**)]

**SECTION IV. MULTIPLE OFFENDERS**

**OFFENDERS\_SEX**

**Q8a. Are these people male or female?**

- 1  All male [skip to Q9 (**OFFENDERS\_AGE**)]
- 2  All female [skip to Q9 (**OFFENDERS\_AGE**)]
- 3  Don't know sex of any offenders  
[skip to Q9 (**OFFENDERS\_AGE**)]
- 4  Both male and female [skip to CHECK ITEM 3]

CHECK ITEM 3: If only two offenders (**OFFENDER\_NUMB=2**), then skip to Q9 (**OFFENDERS\_AGE**). If more than two offenders (**OFFENDER\_NUMB=3**), then skip to Q8b (**OFFENDERS\_SEX2**).

**OFFENDERS\_SEX2**

**Q8b. Are most of these people male or female?**

- 1  Most are male
- 2  Most are female
- 3  Evenly divided
- 4  Don't know

<p><b>OFFENDERS_AGE</b>  <b>Q9. How old would you say these people are? [Mark all that apply]</b></p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Under 15  2 <input type="checkbox"/> 15-17  3 <input type="checkbox"/> 18-20  4 <input type="checkbox"/> 21-24  5 <input type="checkbox"/> 25-34  6 <input type="checkbox"/> 35-49  7 <input type="checkbox"/> 50-64  8 <input type="checkbox"/> 65+  9 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p><b>OFFENDERS_HISP</b>  <b>Q10a. Are any of these people Hispanic or Latino/a?</b></p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes [skip to Q10b (<b>OFFENDERS_HISP2</b>)]  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No [skip to Q11a (<b>OFFENDERS_RACE</b>)]  3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know [skip to Q11a (<b>OFFENDERS_RACE</b>)]</p>
<p><b>OFFENDERS_HISP2</b>  <b>Q10b. Are most of these people Hispanic, non-Hispanic, or are there an equal number of Hispanic and non-Hispanic people?</b></p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Most are Hispanic or Latino/a  2 <input type="checkbox"/> Most are non-Hispanic  3 <input type="checkbox"/> Equal number of Hispanic and non-Hispanic  4 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p><b>OFFENDERS_RACE</b>  <b>Q11a. What race or races are these people? Are they...</b>  [Select one or more]</p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>White?</b>  2 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Black or African American?</b>  3 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>American Indian or Alaska Native?</b>  4 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Asian?</b>  5 <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander?</b>  6 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p>CHECK ITEM 4: If more than one selection at Q11a (<b>OFFENDERS_RACE</b>), then skip to Q11b (<b>OFFENDERS_RACE_MOST</b>).  If only one selection at Q11a (<b>OFFENDERS_RACE</b>), then skip to Q12 (<b>OFFENDERS_REL</b>).</p>	
<p><b>OFFENDERS_RACE_MOST</b>  <b>Q11b. What race are most of these people?</b></p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Most are White  2 <input type="checkbox"/> Most are Black or African American  3 <input type="checkbox"/> Most are American Indian or Alaska Native  4 <input type="checkbox"/> Most are Asian  5 <input type="checkbox"/> Most are Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  6 <input type="checkbox"/> Equal number of each race  7 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>

**OFFENDERS\_REL**  
**OFFENDERS\_RELSP**  
**OFFENDERS\_NONSP**

**Q12. What was your relationship to the people who committed these unwanted contacts or behaviors when they first began?** [Mark all that apply]

*[Instruction: Record the relationship at the time the unwanted contacts or behaviors began and not at the time of the interview.]*

- RELATIVE – offenders were the respondent's –
- 01  Spouse or partner
  - 02  Ex-spouse or ex-partner
  - 03  Parent or step-parent
  - 04  Own child or step-child
  - 05  Sibling/step-sibling
  - 06  Other relative – Specify \_\_\_\_\_

- NONRELATIVE – offenders were the respondent's –
- 07  Boyfriend or girlfriend
  - 08  Ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend
  - 09  Other current romantic or sexual partner
  - 10  Other former romantic or sexual partner
  - 11  Friend or ex-friend
  - 12  Acquaintance
  - 13  In-laws or relative of spouse or ex-spouse
  - 14  Friends of one of the offenders
  - 15  Roommate, housemate, boarder
  - 16  Schoolmate
  - 17  Neighbor
  - 18  Customer/client
  - 19  Student
  - 20  Patient
  - 21  Supervisor (current or former)
  - 22  Employee (current or former)
  - 23  Co-worker (current or former)
  - 24  Teacher/school staff
  - 25  Stranger
  - 26  Other nonrelative – Specify \_\_\_\_\_
  - 27  Unable to identify the person

**OFFENDERS\_EACH**  
**OFFENDERS\_EACHSP**

**Q13. How do the people who committed these unwanted contacts or behaviors know each other? Are they...** [Mark all that apply]

- 1  Friends?
- 2  Classmates or peers?
- 3  Co-workers?
- 4  In-laws or family members?
- 5  Members of a Fraternity or Sorority?
- 6  Members of a gang or other organized crime group?
- 7  Or do they know each other in some other way?  
– Specify \_\_\_\_\_

#### SECTION V. DURATION OF STALKING

**INC\_DURATION**

**Q14a. How long have these unwanted contacts or behaviors been happening to you?**

- 1  Less than one month
- 2  One month to less than six months
- 3  Six months to less than one year
- 4  One year to less than two years
- 5  Two years to less than three years
- 6  Three years to less than five years
- 7  Five years or more
- 8  Don't know

**INC\_DISCOVER**

**Q14b. How did you find out that these unwanted contacts or behaviors were happening to you?**

- 1  The offender told me
- 2  Someone else told me
- 3  I figured it out on my own
- 4  Don't know, don't remember

**SECTION VI. FREQUENCY OF STALKING**

**INC\_TIMES**

**Q15. In the past 12 months, how many times would you say these unwanted contacts or behaviors occurred? Would you say...**

- 1  **Two to ten times**
- 2  **Eleven to fifty times**
- 3  **More than fifty times**
- 4  Too many times to count
- 5  Don't know, don't remember



**SECTION VII. MOTIVE FOR STALKING**

**Q16. With this next question, I'm going to read a list of 9 possible reasons (this person/these people) started doing these things to you. You can say yes to more than one reason.**

**Do you think it was it because...**

**INC\_REVENGE**

**They wanted retaliation or revenge?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_AFFECTION**

**They wanted affection?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_REJECTED**

**They felt rejected?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_OBSESSED**

**They were obsessed with you?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**Do you think it was because...**

**INC\_PLANNED**

**They planned to commit a crime?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_ALREADY**

**They had already committed a crime?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_POWER**

**They wanted power and control?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_FELT**

**They felt like they could do these things to you?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_OTHER**

**INC\_OTHERSP**

**Any other reason?**

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_  
2  No

CHECK ITEM 5: If offender physically attacked or attempted to attack respondent (**SQ\_ATTACK\_SELF=1** or **SQ\_ATTEMPT\_SELF=1**), then skip to Q17a (**INC\_HIT**). If offender only threatened to attack respondent (**SQ\_THREAT\_SELF=1** and **SQ\_ATTACK\_SELF** ne 1 and **SQ\_ATTEMPT\_SELF** ne 1), then skip to Q18a (**INC\_THREAT\_HIT**). Else, skip to CHECK ITEM 6.

**SECTION VIII. REASONABLE FEAR FOLLOW-UP**

**Q17a. Earlier you indicated that (this person/these people) physically attacked or attempted to physically attack you. Did they attack or attempt to attack you...**

**INC\_HIT**

**By hitting, slapping, pushing, or knocking you down?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_CHOKE**

**By choking or strangling you?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_RAPE**

**By raping or sexually assaulting you?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_VEHICLE**

**By hitting, chasing, or dragging you with a vehicle?**

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_OBJECT**

**By using a weapon or other object?**

- 1  Yes [skip to (INC\_WEAPON)]  
2  No [skip to (INC\_ATTACKOTH)]

**INC\_WEAPON**

**INC\_WEAPONSP**

**Q17b. What was the weapon or object they used to attack or attempt to attack you? Was there any other weapon or object used? [Mark all that apply]**

- 1  Hand gun (pistol, revolver, etc.)  
2  Other gun (rifle, shotgun, etc.)  
3  Knife  
4  Other sharp object (scissors, ice pick, axe, etc.)  
5  Blunt object (rock, club, bat, etc.)  
6  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**INC\_ATTACKOTH**

**INC\_ATTACKOTHSP**

**Q17c. Did they physically attack you in some other way?**

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_  
2  No

CHECK ITEM 5a: If offender threatened to attack respondent (SQ\_THREAT\_SELF=1), then skip to Q18a (INC\_THREAT\_HIT). Else, skip to CHECK ITEM 6.

**Q18a. Earlier you indicated that (this person/these people) threatened to physically attack you. Did they threaten...**

**INC\_THREAT\_HIT**

To hit, slap, push, or knock you down?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_CHOKE**

To choke or strangle you?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_RAPE**

To rape or sexually assault you?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_VEHICLE**

To hit, chase, or drag you with a vehicle?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_KILL**

To kill you?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_OBJECT**

To harm you with a weapon or other object?

- 1  Yes [skip to (INC\_THREAT\_WEAPON)]  
2  No [skip to (INC\_THREAT\_ATTACKOTH)]

**INC\_THREAT\_WEAPON**  
**INC\_THREAT\_WEAPONSP**

**Q18b. What was the weapon or object they threatened to use? Was there any other weapon or object that they threatened to use?** [Mark all that apply]

- 1  Hand gun (pistol, revolver, etc.)  
2  Other gun (rifle, shotgun, etc.)  
3  Knife  
4  Other sharp object (scissors, ice pick, axe, etc.)  
5  Blunt object (rock, club, bat, etc.)  
6  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**INC\_THREAT\_ATTACKOTH**  
**INC\_THREAT\_ATTACKOTHSP**

**Q18c. Did they threaten to physically attack you in some other way?**

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_  
2  No

CHECK ITEM 6: If offender physically attacked or attempted to attack someone close to respondent or a pet (SQ\_ATTACK\_OTH=1 or SQ\_ATTEMPT\_OTH=1) then skip to Q19a. If offender only threatened to attack someone close to respondent or a pet (SQ\_THREAT\_OTH=1 and SQ\_ATTACK\_OTH ne 1 and SQ\_ATTEMPT\_OTH ne 1), then skip to Q19b (INC\_THREAT\_CHILD). Else, skip to Q20 (ASSIST\_CALL).

Q19a. Earlier you indicated that (this person/these people) physically attacked or attempted to physically attack someone close to you or a pet. Was it...

**INC\_ATTACK\_CHILD**

A child?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_ATTACK\_SPOUSE**

A spouse or partner?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_ATTACK\_SIGNOTH**

A boyfriend or girlfriend?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_ATTACK\_FAMILY**

Another family member?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_ATTACK\_FRIEND**

A friend or co-worker?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_ATTACK\_PET**

A pet or companion animal?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_ATTACK\_OTHERPERS**

**INC\_ATTACK\_OTHERPERSSP**

Someone else?

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_  
2  No

CHECK ITEM 6a: If offender threatened to attack someone close to respondent or a pet (**SQ\_THREAT\_OTH=1**), then skip to Q19b (**INC\_THREAT\_CHILD**). Else, skip to Q20 (**ASSIST\_CALL**).

**Q19b. Earlier you indicated that (this person/these people) threatened to physically attack someone close to you or a pet. Was it...**

**INC\_THREAT\_CHILD**

A child?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_SPOUSE**

A spouse or partner?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_SIGNOTH**

A boyfriend or girlfriend?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_FAMILY**

Another family member?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_FRIEND**

A friend or co-worker?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_PET**

A pet or companion animal?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_SELF**

Himself/herself (offender)?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**INC\_THREAT\_OTH**

**INC\_THREAT\_OTHSP**

Someone else?

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_  
2  No

**SECTION IX. HELP-SEEKING**

**ASSIST\_CALL**

**Q20. During the past 12 months did you or someone else call or contact the police to report any of the unwanted contacts or behaviors you experienced?**

- 1  Yes [skip to Q22 (**ASSIST\_YESREPORT**)]  
2  No [skip to Q21 (**ASSIST\_NOTREPORT**)]

**ASSIST\_NOTREPORT**  
**ASSIST\_NOTREPORTSP**

**Q21. What was the reason these unwanted contacts or behaviors were not reported to the police?**

**[Mark all that apply]**

Structured Probe

**Was the reason because it was dealt with in another way, it wasn't important enough, police couldn't do anything, police wouldn't help, fear of the person, or was there some other reason?**

Dealt with it another way

- 01  Reported to another official (guard, apt. manager, employer, hospital official, school official, military official, etc.)
- 02  Private or personal matter (handled myself or family member or friend handled it)
- 03  Told other non-officials (parents, friends, other family members, etc.)

Not important enough to respondent

- 04  Too minor, not a police matter, not serious enough
- 05  Not clear it was a crime
- 06  Not sure that harm was intended

Police couldn't do anything

- 07  Didn't think the police would be able to stop behaviors
- 08  Could not find or identify offender
- 09  Had no legal authority/wrong jurisdiction
- 10  Lacked or had incorrect restraining, protection, or no-contact order
- 11  Not enough evidence/lack of proof

Police wouldn't help

- 12  Police wouldn't believe respondent
- 13  Police would think it was respondent's fault
- 14  Police didn't think it was important enough, wouldn't want to be bothered or get involved
- 15  Offender was a police officer, justice officer
- 16  Police would be inefficient, ineffective
- 17  Had previous negative experience with the police

Feared offender

- 18  Afraid of reprisal or escalation of behavior by the offender or others

Other reasons

- 19  Respondent does not trust or is afraid of police
- 20  Respondent felt ashamed or embarrassed
- 21  Didn't want offender to get in trouble with the law
- 22  Offender was (ex)spouse or (ex)partner
- 23  Respondent obtained a restraining, protection, or no-contact order instead
- 24  Respondent moved away
- 25  Offender moved away
- 26  For the sake of the children
- 27  Unwanted contacts/behaviors stopped
- 28  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 29  Don't know

CHECK ITEM 6b: Skip to Q27 (**ASSIST\_AGENCYSEEK**).

**ASSIST\_YESREPORT**  
**ASSIST\_YESREPORTSP**

**Q22. During the past 12 months, who reported these unwanted contacts or behaviors to the police? Anyone else?**  
[Mark all that apply]

- 01  Respondent
- 02  Respondent's friend
- 03  Neighbor
- 04  Respondent's family, in-laws, spouse, parents, children, relatives
- 05  Respondent's girl/boyfriend, partner
- 06  Doctor, nurse
- 07  Clergy or faith leader
- 08  Social worker, counselor, other mental health professional
- 09  School official, teacher, faculty, or staff
- 10  Boss, employer, co-worker
- 11  Stranger, bystander
- 12  Security guard, security department
- 13  Police on scene
- 14  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 15  Don't know

**ASSIST\_ACTION**  
**ASSIST\_ACTIONSPP**

**Q23. Taking into account all of the times the police were contacted in the past 12 months regarding these unwanted contacts or behaviors, what did the police do? Anything else?** [Mark all that apply]

- 01  Took a report
- 02  Talked to or warned offender
- 03  Arrested the offender or took the offender into custody
- 04  Told respondent to get a restraining, protection, or no-contact order
- 05  Referred respondent to a court or prosecutor's office
- 06  Referred respondent to services, such as victim assistance
- 07  Gave advice on how to protect self
- 08  Took respondent to another location, such as a hospital or shelter
- 09  Asked for more information/evidence
- 10  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 11  Don't know
- 12  Took no action

CHECK ITEM 7: If the police took no action (**ASSIST\_ACTION=12**), then skip to Q24 (**ASSIST\_NOACTION**). Else, skip to Q25a (**ASSIST\_CHARGES**).

<p><b>ASSIST_NOACTION</b> <b>ASSIST_NOACTIONSP</b></p> <p><b>Q24. Why do you think the police took no action? Any other reason?</b> [Mark all that apply]</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Police did not think crime occurred  02 <input type="checkbox"/> Could not find or identify offender  03 <input type="checkbox"/> Had no legal authority/wrong jurisdiction  04 <input type="checkbox"/> Respondent lacked or had incorrect restraining, protection, or no-contact order  05 <input type="checkbox"/> Didn't have evidence/lack of proof  06 <input type="checkbox"/> Didn't believe respondent/take respondent seriously  07 <input type="checkbox"/> Thought it was respondent's fault  08 <input type="checkbox"/> Didn't think it was important enough, didn't want to be bothered or get involved  09 <input type="checkbox"/> Were inefficient, ineffective  10 <input type="checkbox"/> Offender was a police officer, justice officer  11 <input type="checkbox"/> Offender was well-connected in the community, was friend/relative with local authorities  12 <input type="checkbox"/> Respondent was not old enough to file a report (i.e. needed a guardian)  13 <input type="checkbox"/> Other – Specify _____  14 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p><b>ASSIST_CHARGES</b></p> <p><b>Q25a. Were criminal charges filed against the (person/persons) who committed the unwanted contacts or behaviors you experienced?</b></p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes [skip to Q25b (<b>ASSIST_FILED</b>)]  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No [skip to Q27 (<b>ASSIST_AGENCYSEEK</b>)]  3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know [skip to Q27 (<b>ASSIST_AGENCYSEEK</b>)]</p>
<p><b>ASSIST_FILED</b> <b>ASSIST_FILEDSP</b></p> <p><b>Q25b. What were the criminal charges filed?</b> [Mark all that apply]</p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Stalking  2 <input type="checkbox"/> Something else – Specify _____  3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p><b>ASSIST_OUTCOME</b> <b>ASSIST_OUTCOMESP</b></p> <p><b>Q26. What was the final outcome of the criminal charges filed against the (person/persons) who committed these unwanted contacts or behaviors? Anything else?</b> [Mark all that apply.]</p>	<p>01 <input type="checkbox"/> Still pending  02 <input type="checkbox"/> Dismissed/not guilty  03 <input type="checkbox"/> Convicted/guilty  04 <input type="checkbox"/> Plead to lesser charge  05 <input type="checkbox"/> Fined  06 <input type="checkbox"/> Court order intervention/counseling program  07 <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal no-contact order  08 <input type="checkbox"/> Probation  09 <input type="checkbox"/> Jailed/imprisoned  10 <input type="checkbox"/> Other – Specify _____  11 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p><b>ASSIST_AGENCYSEEK</b></p> <p><b>Q27. In the past 12 months, did you seek any help or advice concerning these unwanted contacts or behaviors from any office or agency – other than police – that assists victims of crime?</b></p>	<p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes [skip to Q28a (<b>ASSIST_AGENCYHELP</b>)]  2 <input type="checkbox"/> No [skip to Q29 (<b>ACTION_ACTIVITIES</b>)]  3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know [skip to Q29 (<b>ACTION_ACTIVITIES</b>)]</p>



**ASSIST\_AGENCYHELP**

Q28a. Did you receive any services or assistance from this or these offices or agencies?

- 1  Yes [skip to Q28b (**ASSIST\_HOTLINE**)]
- 2  No [skip to Q28c (**ASSIST\_AREA**)]
- 3  Don't know [skip to Q29 (**ACTION\_ACTIVITIES**)]

Q28b. With this next question, I'm going to read a list of 11 different types of services or assistance you may have received. You can say yes to more than one type.

Did you receive...

**ASSIST\_HOTLINE**

Crisis hotline counseling?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ASSIST\_THERAPY**

Counseling or therapy?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ASSIST\_ORDER**

Assistance getting a restraining, protection, or no-contact order?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ASSIST\_LEGAL**

Legal or court services?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ASSIST\_COMPENSATE**

Federal or state victim compensation?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ASSIST\_FINANCIAL**

Short term or emergency financial assistance?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

Did you receive...

**ASSIST\_SHELTER**

Shelter or safehouse services?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ASSIST\_SAFETY**

Safety planning?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ASSIST\_RISK**

Risk or threat assessment?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ASSIST\_MEDICAL**

Medical advocacy?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ASSIST\_HELP\_OTHER**

**ASSIST\_HELP\_OTHERSP**

Any other services?

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 2  No

CHECK ITEM 8: Skip to Q29 (**ACTION\_ACTIVITIES**).

Q28c. You reported that you sought services from an office or agency that assists victims of crime, but did not receive them. Why did you not receive these services? Was it because...

**ASSIST\_AREA**

Services were not available in your local area?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ASSIST\_TRANSPORT**

You did not have a means of transportation to and from the service provider?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ASSIST\_CHILDCARE**

You did not have childcare to go to get services?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ASSIST\_ACCOMODATE**

The service provider could not accommodate you (for example, there were no beds available in a shelter)?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

Was it because...

**ASSIST\_WORK**

You were unable to take time off of work or school to get services?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ASSIST\_LANGUAGE**

There were language barriers?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ASSIST\_ELIGIBLE**

You were not eligible for services?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ASSIST\_NOHELP\_OTHER**

**ASSIST\_NOHELP\_OTHERSP**

Some other reason?

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_  
2  No

**SECTION X. SELF-PROTECTIVE ACTIONS**

**Q29. There are things that people might try to do to protect themselves or stop unwanted contacts or behaviors from continuing. In the past 12 months, have you done any of the following because of the unwanted contacts or behaviors you experienced? Have you...**

**ACTION\_BLOCKED**

**Blocked unwanted calls, messages, or other communications?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_INFO**

[Have you] **Changed your personal information?**

- 1  Yes [skip to **ACTION\_INFOLST**]
- 2  No [skip to **ACTION\_ORDER**]

**ACTION\_INFOLST**

**ACTION\_INFOLSTSP**

**What personal information did you change?**

[Mark all that apply]

- 1  Change your social security number or name
- 2  Change e-mail address
- 3  Shut down or change information on social media accounts
- 4  Change telephone numbers
- 5  Get a new phone or computer
- 6  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTION\_ORDER**

[Have you] **Applied for a restraining, protection, or no-contact order?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_SECURITY**

[Have you] **Taken self-defensive actions or other security measures?**

- 1  Yes [skip to **ACTION\_SECURITYLST**]
- 2  No [skip to **ACTION\_ACTIVITIES**]

**ACTION\_SECURITYLST**

**ACTION\_SECURITYLSTSP**

**What self-defensive actions or security measures did you take?**

[Mark all that apply]

- 1  Take self-defense or martial arts classes
- 2  Get pepper spray
- 3  Get a gun
- 4  Get any other kind of weapon
- 5  Change or install new locks or a security system
- 6  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTION\_ACTIVITIES**

[Have you] **Changed your day to day activities?**

- 1  Yes [skip to **ACTION\_ACTIVITIESLST**]
- 2  No [skip to **ACTION\_PROTECT**]

**ACTION\_ACTIVITIESLST**

**ACTION\_ACTIVITIESLSTSP**

**What day to day activities did you change?**

[Mark all that apply]

- 1  Take time off from work or school
- 2  Change or quit a job or school
- 3  Change the way (route or method of transportation) you went to work or school
- 4  Avoid relatives, friends, or holiday celebrations
- 5  Change your usual activities outside of work or school
- 6  Stay with friends or relatives or had them stay with you
- 7  Move or change where you live
- 8  Alter your appearance to be unrecognizable
- 9  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTION\_PROTECT**

**ACTION\_PROTECTSP**

**Did you do anything else to protect yourself or stop the unwanted contacts or behaviors from continuing?**

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 2  No

Q30. Some people might ask others for help in order to protect themselves or to stop unwanted contacts or behaviors from continuing. In the past 12 months, did you...

**ACTION\_ADVICE**

Ask for advice or help from friends or family?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_REQUEST**

Ask people not to release information about you?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_INVESTIGATE**

Hire a private investigator?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_ATTORNEY**

Ask for advice or help from an attorney?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_COUNSELOR**

Talk to a counselor or therapist?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_DOCTOR**

Talk to a doctor or nurse?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_FAITH**

Talk to your Clergy or faith leader?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_BOSS**

Talk to your boss or employer?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_SCHOOL**

Talk to your teacher or school official?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_WORKPLACE**

Contact your building or workplace security person?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_CURRENT**

Q31. Are these unwanted contacts or behaviors still going on?

- 1  Yes [skip to Q33 (**ACTION\_PEERS**)]  
2  No [skip to Q32 (**ACTION\_STOPPED**)]  
3  Don't know [skip to Q33 (**ACTION\_PEERS**)]

**ACTION\_STOPPED**  
**ACTION\_STOPPEDSP**  
**ACTION\_STOPPEDSP2**

**Q32. Why do you think these unwanted contacts or behaviors stopped? Anything else? [Mark all that apply]**

Respondent took measures

- 01  Got a restraining, protection, or no-contact order
- 02  Moved
- 03  Changed phone number, e-mail account, or social media account
- 04  Blocked phone number, e-mail account, or social media account
- 05  Got a new phone or computer
- 06  Talked to the offender
- 07  Got married or started a new relationship with someone else

Offender stopped (because he/she...)

- 08  Was arrested
- 09  Was incarcerated
- 10  Started a new relationship with someone else
- 11  Moved
- 12  Died
- 13  Got help/counseling

Others intervened

- 14  Police intervened
- 15  Friend or relative intervened
- 16  Employer intervened
- 17  School official, faculty, or staff intervened
- 18  Clergy or faith leader intervened
- 19  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_

Other reason

- 20  Don't know why it stopped
- 21  Other – Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION XI. COST TO VICTIM**

**Unwanted contacts or behaviors may affect people in different ways. Next I would like to ask you some questions about how the unwanted contacts or behaviors you experienced may have affected you.**

**ACTION\_PEERS**

**Q33. Did experiencing these unwanted contacts or behaviors lead you to have significant problems with your job or schoolwork, or trouble with your boss, coworkers, or peers?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No
- 3  N/A, does not attend school or does not have a job

**ACTION\_FIGHTS**

**Q34. Did experiencing these unwanted contacts or behaviors lead you to have significant problems with family members or friends, including getting into more arguments or fights than you did before, not feeling you could trust them as much, or not feeling as close to them as you did before?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_DISTRESSING**

**Q35. How distressing were these unwanted contacts or behaviors to you? Were they not at all distressing, mildly distressing, moderately distressing, or severely distressing?**

- 1  Not at all distressing
- 2  Mildly distressing
- 3  Moderately distressing
- 4  Severely distressing

Q36a. Considering all of these unwanted contacts or behaviors that have occurred over the past year, did you feel...

**ACTION\_FEARFUL**

Fearful or terrified?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_WORRIED**

[Did you feel] Worried or anxious?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_ANGRY**

[Did you feel] Angry or annoyed?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_SAD**

[Did you feel] Sad or depressed?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_HELPLESS**

[Did you feel] Vulnerable or helpless?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_TRUST**

[Did you feel] Like you couldn't trust people?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

Considering all of these unwanted contacts or behaviors that have occurred over the past year, did you feel...

**ACTION\_SICK**

Sick?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_STRESSED**

[Did you feel] Stressed?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_UNSAFE**

[Did you feel] Unsafe?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_SUICIDAL**

[Did you feel] Suicidal?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

**ACTION\_FEELOTHER**

Or did you feel some other way?

- 1  Yes  
2  No

CHECK ITEM 9: If respondent reported feeling some other way at Q36a (**ACTION\_FEELOTHER=1**), then skip to Q36b (**ACTION\_FEELOTHERSP**). Else, skip to Q37 (**ACTION\_KILLED**).

**ACTION\_FEELOTHERSP**

Q36b. What other way did these unwanted contacts or behaviors make you feel?

Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Q37. What were you afraid of happening as these unwanted contacts or behaviors were occurring? Were you afraid of...**

**ACTION\_KILLED**

Being killed?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_SELFHARM**

[Were you afraid of] Physical or bodily harm?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_OTHARM**

[Were you afraid of] Someone close to you being harmed?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_JOB**

[Were you afraid of] Losing your job or job opportunities?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_SOCIAL**

[Were you afraid of] Losing your social network, peers, or friends?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**What were you afraid of happening as these unwanted contacts or behaviors were occurring? Were you afraid of...**

**ACTION\_FREEDOM**

Losing your freedom?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_FOREVER**

[Were you afraid of] The behaviors never stopping?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_UNSURE**

[Were you afraid of] Not knowing what might happen next?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_MENTAL**

[Were you afraid of] Losing your mind?

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_AFRAIDOTHER**

**ACTION\_AFRAIDOTHERSP**

[Were you afraid of] Anything else?

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 2  No

**ACTION\_FIRED**

**Q38. During the past 12 months, have you been fired from or asked to leave a job because of these unwanted contacts or behaviors?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No
- 3  N/A, does not have a job

**ACTION\_INSURANCE**

**Q39. During the past 12 months, did you lose any pay that was not covered by unemployment insurance, paid leave, or some other source because of these unwanted contacts or behaviors?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No
- 3  N/A, does not have a job

**ACTION\_SUSPENDE**

**Q40. During the past 12 months, have you been suspended or expelled from school because of these unwanted contacts or behaviors?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No
- 3  N/A, does not attend school

CHECK ITEM 10: If respondent reported not having a job and not attending school at Q38, Q39, and Q40 (**ACTION\_FIRED=3** and **ACTION\_INSURANCE=3** and **ACTION\_SUSPENDE=3**), then skip to **SUPPLEMENTEND\_SVS**. Else, skip to Q41 (**ACTION\_TIMEFEAR**).

**Q41. Did you lose any time from work or school because of these unwanted contacts or behaviors for things such as...**

**ACTION\_TIMEFEAR**

**Fear or concern for your safety?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_TIMEPOLICE**

**Police-related activities?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_TIMECOURT**

**Court-related activities (such as getting a restraining/protection order or testifying)?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_TIMEPHONE**

**Changing your phone number or personal information?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_TIMEMOVE**

**Moving?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_TIMEPROPERTY**

**Fixing or replacing damaged property?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**ACTION\_TIMEOTHER**

**ACTION\_TIMEOTHERSP**

**Anything else?**

- 1  Yes – Specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 2  No

**SUPPLEMENTEND\_SVS**

**This completes your interview. Thank you for your cooperation.**



Attachment 3:  
*Stalking Victims in the United States – Revised*, BJS Special Report

---



# Stalking Victims in the United States - Revised

Shannan Catalano, Ph.D., *BJS Statistician*

An estimated 3.3 million persons age 18 or older were victims of stalking during a 12-month period. Stalking is defined as a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear. The data for this report are from the Supplemental Victimization Survey (SVS) conducted in 2006 as part of the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The SVS identified seven types of harassing or unwanted behaviors consistent with a course of conduct experienced by stalking victims. The survey classified individuals as stalking victims if they responded that they experienced at least one of these behaviors on at least two separate occasions. In addition, the individuals must have feared for their safety or that of a family member as a result of the course of conduct, or have experienced additional threatening behaviors that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

The SVS measured the following stalking behaviors:

- making unwanted phone calls
- sending unsolicited or unwanted letters or e-mails
- following or spying on the victim
- showing up at places without a legitimate reason
- waiting at places for the victim
- leaving unwanted items, presents, or flowers
- posting information or spreading rumors about the victim on the internet, in a public place, or by word of mouth.

While individually these acts may not be criminal, collectively and repetitively these behaviors may cause a victim to fear for his or her safety or the safety of a family

*Errata:* The original report, released in January 2009, was written by Katrina Baum, Ph.D., Shannan M. Catalano, Ph.D., and Michael R. Rand of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and Kristina Rose of the National Institute of Justice. See page 2 for details about the revisions.

member. These behaviors constitute stalking for the purposes of this study. The federal government, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories have enacted laws making stalking a criminal act, although the elements defining the act of stalking differ across states (see *Stalking Laws* on page 3).

The SVS also identified victims who experienced the behaviors associated with stalking but neither reported feeling fear as a result of such conduct nor experienced actions that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear. This report characterizes such individuals as harassment victims. These instances of harassment might eventually have risen to the definitional requirement for stalking. However, at the time of the interview, the offender's actions and victim's responses did not rise to the threshold of stalking victimization as measured by the SVS.

Few national studies have measured the extent and nature of stalking in the United States. The Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women funded the 2006 SVS to enhance empirical knowledge about stalking (see *Methodology*). The SVS, which represents the largest study of stalking conducted to date, incorporated elements contained in federal and state laws to construct a working definition of stalking.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- During a 12-month period, an estimated 1.5% of persons age 18 or older were victims of stalking.
- The percentage of stalking victims was highest for individuals who were divorced or separated (3.3%), compared to those married, never married, or widowed.
- Nearly 7 in 10 stalking victims knew their offender in some capacity.
- A greater percentage of females were stalked than males; however, females and males were equally likely to experience harassment.

## Revisions to *Stalking Victims in the United States* initially released January 2009

The report *Stalking Victimization in the United States* was initially released in January 2009. Recently, two errors in the analysis were identified: some responses regarding “repetitive and unsolicited communications” were incorrectly classified as stalking or harassment; and the population used to generate percents incorrectly used persons age 12 or older instead of persons age 18 or older. Implementing these corrections resulted in revisions to point estimates of stalking and harassment victim counts and percentages for various demographic and victim characteristics. In addition, previous estimates were presented as victimization rates per 1,000 persons. The revised report presents stalking and harassment as a prevalence estimate. Prevalence is defined as the proportion of the population that experienced an event or condition within a specified period of time.

In the sample selection procedure for the 2009 report, 170 cases where victims reported receiving “repetitive and unsolicited communications” were actually spam email, internet scams, and contacts from telemarketers or bill collectors. The survey respondents were instructed to exclude these types of incidents. A total of 133 cases were erroneously included in the harassment category and 37 cases were incorrectly included in the stalking victimization category (table 1). When these cases are excluded, the estimate of persons who experienced behaviors consistent with either stalking or harassment dropped to 5.3 million from 5.9 million.

In conjunction with the National Crime Victimization Survey, the Supplemental Victimization Survey (SVS), the data source for this report, was administered to persons age 18 or older. However, the estimates presented in the 2009 release were generated using populations for persons age 12 or older. The population base for the two age groups varies by demographic characteristics (table 2). Using populations for persons age 18 or older, the estimated percentage of the population experiencing stalking increased from 1.4% to 1.5%.

This revised report is not a comprehensive update of the original report. The first five tables and figures presented in the original report and the associated text have been revised, reflecting the new numerator and denominator and statistical testing. These tables cover the key stalking and harassment variables. Also, the *Methodology* and some appendix material received slight revision. The original report, tables and other related documents are no longer available on the BJS website or in print. The SVS dataset is available to users at the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data at [www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/NACJD/](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/NACJD/).

**TABLE 1**  
Distribution of spam in unweighted prevalence estimates of stalking and harassment

	All	Stalking	Harassment
Total	1,683	983	700
Not spam	1,513	946	567
Flagged as spam	170	37	133

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

**TABLE 2**  
Populations for persons ages 12 or older and 18 or older by selected characteristics

	Published 12 or older	Revised 18 or older
Overall	246,500,200	220,995,170
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	120,068,420	107,014,170
Female	126,431,780	113,981,000
<b>Race</b>		
White	200,874,080	181,858,650
Black	29,853,700	25,672,890
American Indian/Alaska Native	1,695,400	1,483,760
Asian/Pacific Islander	11,317,780	9,837,830
Two or more races	2,759,240	2,142,040
<b>Hispanic origin</b>		
Hispanic	29,522,670	23,440,950
Non-Hispanic	215,025,170	195,655,390
Unknown	/	1,898,830
<b>Age</b>		
18–19	8,047,540	8,053,370
20–24	20,346,940	20,348,250
25–34	39,835,680	39,760,010
35–49	65,886,490	65,878,490
50–64	51,400,990	51,483,100
65 or older	35,515,670	35,471,950
<b>Household income</b>		
\$7,499 or less	8,418,570	7,702,700
\$7,500–\$14,999	14,562,850	13,236,960
\$15,000–\$24,999	22,428,240	20,221,710
\$25,000–\$34,999	22,862,680	20,373,140
\$35,000–\$49,999	30,345,140	27,910,030
\$50,000–\$74,999	37,956,910	34,011,190
\$75,000 or more	56,633,800	50,709,700
Unknown	/	46,829,750
<b>Marital status</b>		
Never married	79,715,080	54,100,740
Married	123,633,560	124,145,550
Divorced or separated	26,334,200	26,704,680
Widowed	14,318,190	14,179,710
Unknown	/	1,864,500

/Not reported in original report.

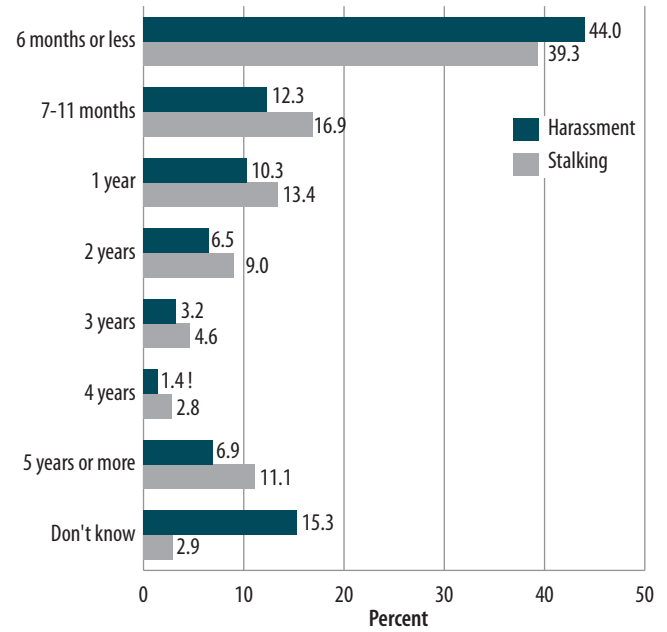
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

This report presents information on stalking victims. Harassment is discussed where appropriate to provide fuller context. Persons interested in viewing the SVS data in its entirety may obtain the data file from the University of Michigan's Archive of Criminal Justice Data at [www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD).

**During a 12-month period, an estimated 1.5% of persons age 18 or older were a victim of stalking**

An estimated 5.3 million U.S. residents age 18 or older experienced behaviors consistent with either stalking or harassment in the 12 months preceding the SVS interview (table 3). Of the 5.3 million victims, more than half experienced behavior that met the definition of stalking. Approximately 1.5% of persons age 18 or older experienced the repetitive behaviors associated with stalking in addition to feeling fear or experiencing behaviors that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear. About 0.9% of persons age 18 or older were classified as victims of harassment who experienced a course of conduct consistent with stalking but who did not report feeling fear. Many victims of stalking reported being stalked over a period of months or years, and 11% of victims said they had been stalked for 5 years or more (figure 1).

**FIGURE 1**  
Duration of stalking and harassment victimization



Note: All victims experienced at least one unwanted behavior in the year before the interview. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.  
 ! Interpret data with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.  
 Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

**TABLE 3**  
Prevalence of stalking and harassment over the 12 months prior to interview

	Published number of victimizations	Revised number of victims	Published victimization rate per 1,000 persons	Revised percent of persons
All victims	5,857,030	5,305,730	23.8	2.4%
Stalking victims	3,424,100	3,300,570	13.9	1.5
Harassment victims	2,432,930	2,005,160	9.9	0.9

Note: The total population age 18 or older was 220,995,170 in 2006. See appendix table 1 for standard errors.  
 Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

**Stalking Laws**

While the federal government, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories have enacted criminal laws to address stalking, the legal definition of stalking varies across jurisdictions. State laws vary regarding the element of victim fear and emotional distress, as well as the requisite intent of the stalker. Some state laws specify that the victim must have been frightened by the stalking, while others require only that the stalking would

have caused a reasonable person to experience fear. In addition, states vary on what level of fear is required. Some state laws require prosecutors to establish fear of death or serious bodily harm, while others require only that prosecutors establish that the victim suffered emotional distress. Interstate stalking is defined by federal law 18 U.S.C. § 2261A.

## Unwanted phone calls and message were the most common type of stalking behavior experienced

Stalking victims were about twice as likely to report experiencing following or spying on the victim, showing up at places without a legitimate reason, or waiting outside (or inside) places for the victim than individuals who were harassed. For example, 34% of stalking victims reported that the offender followed or spied on them, compared to 12% of harassment victims who reported experiencing this behavior (table 4). Thirty-two percent of stalking victims reported that the offenders showed up in places where they had no legitimate purpose being; approximately 12% of harassment victims reported this type of unwanted behavior. Also, 29% of stalking victims stated that the offender waited in places for them, while 10% of harassment victims reported this type of behavior.

## Risk of victimization varied more for stalking than for harassment

A greater percentage of females experienced stalking than males (table 5). During the study period, 2.2% of females experienced at least one stalking victimization compared to 0.8% of males. Males and females were equally likely to experience harassment.

### Age

The percentage of persons stalked diminished with age. Persons ages 18 to 19 and 20 to 24 experienced the highest prevalence of stalking victimization. About 2.9% per 1,000 persons ages 18 to 19 were stalked during the study period, and 2.8% of persons ages 20 to 24 experienced this type of victimization.

**TABLE 4**  
Nature of stalking and harassment behaviors experienced by victims

	Percent of victims		
	All	Stalking	Harassment
Unwanted phone calls and messages	63.5%	66.7%	58.3%
Unwanted letters and e-mail	28.4	30.7	24.7
Spreading rumors	31.2	36.3	22.9
Following or spying	26.1	34.4	12.5
Showing up at places	24.1	31.6	11.8
Waiting for victim	21.8	29.3	9.5
Leaving unwanted presents	9.8	12.5	5.5
Number of victims	5,305,730	3,300,570	2,005,160

Note: Detail sums to more than 100% because multiple responses were permitted. See appendix table 3 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

**TABLE 5**  
Characteristics of stalking and harassment victims

Characteristics	Population	Percent of persons age 18 or older		
		All	Stalking	Harassment
<b>Overall</b>	220,995,170	2.4%	1.5%	0.9%
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	107,014,170	1.6%	0.8%	0.9%
Female	113,981,000	3.1	2.2	1.0
<b>Race</b>				
White	181,858,650	2.4%	1.5%	0.9%
Black	25,672,890	2.4	1.4	1.1
American Indian/ Alaska Native	1,483,760	3.8	2.2!	1.5!
Asian/Pacific Islander	9,837,830	1.3	0.6	0.6
Two or more races	2,142,040	6.3	4.1	2.3
<b>Hispanic origin</b>				
Hispanic	23,440,950	1.9%	1.3%	0.6%
Non-Hispanic	195,655,390	2.5	1.5	0.9
Unknown	1,898,830	2.8	1.2!	1.6!
<b>Age</b>				
18–19	8,053,370	4.5%	2.9%	1.6%
20–24	20,348,250	4.4	2.8	1.6
25–34	39,760,010	2.9	2.0	0.9
35–49	65,878,490	2.7	1.7	1.0
50–64	51,483,100	1.7	1.0	0.7
65 or older	35,471,950	0.8	0.3	0.4
<b>Household income</b>				
\$7,499 or less	7,702,700	4.8%	3.3%	1.5%
\$7,500–\$14,999	13,236,960	4.2	2.9	1.3
\$15,000–\$24,999	20,221,710	3.2	2.2	1.0
\$25,000–\$34,999	20,373,140	2.9	1.7	1.1
\$35,000–\$49,999	27,910,030	2.5	1.7	0.8
\$50,000–\$74,999	34,011,190	2.3	1.4	0.9
\$75,000 or more	50,709,700	1.8	1.0	0.8
Unknown	46,829,750	1.6	0.9	0.7
<b>Marital status</b>				
Never married	54,100,740	3.8%	2.4%	1.4%
Married	124,145,550	1.4	0.8	0.6
Divorced or separated	26,704,680	4.8	3.3	1.5
Widowed	14,179,710	1.4	0.7	0.7
Unknown	1,864,500	1.9	1.5!	0.4!

Note: See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

! Interpret data with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

### Race and Hispanic origin of victim

A lower percentage of Asians and Pacific Islander (0.6% of persons age 18 or older) experienced stalking than whites (1.5%), blacks (1.4%), and persons of two or more races (4.1%). Non-Hispanics and Hispanics were equally likely to experience stalking. During the study period, 1.5% of non-Hispanics experienced stalking. The percentage for Hispanics during this period was 1.3% for persons age 18 or older.

### Marital status

The percentage of individuals who were divorced or separated and stalked was 3.3%—a higher percent than for persons of other marital statuses. A higher percentage of individuals who had never been married (2.4%) were stalked than persons who were married (0.8%) or widowed (0.7%).

### Income

As with crime more generally, persons residing in households with higher incomes experienced a lower percentage of stalking than those from households with lower incomes. The percentage of individuals in households with an annual income of \$7,499 or less and those with an income from \$7,500 to \$14,999 experienced about the same percentage of stalking. However, the percentage of individuals living in these households experienced a higher percentage of stalking than persons in households with an annual income at or above \$25,000.

### Relationship

Nine percent of victims were stalked by a stranger, and nearly 70% of all victims knew their offender in some capacity (table 6). Stalking victims most often identified the stalker as a former intimate (20%) or a friend, roommate, or neighbor (15%).

**TABLE 6**  
Victim-offender relationship in stalking and harassment

	Percent of victims		
	All	Stalking	Harassment
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%
<b>Known, intimate</b>	24.1%	28.1%	17.4%
Current intimate	7.1	8.2	5.3
Spouse	3.8	5.2	1.4!
Boy/girlfriend	3.3	3.0	3.9
Former intimate	17.0	20.0	12.1
Ex-spouse	6.2	7.8	3.6
Ex-boy/girlfriend	10.8	12.2	8.5
<b>Known, other</b>	39%	41.8%	34.4%
Friend/roommate/neighbor	14.6	15.2	13.5
Known from work or school	8.8	9.2	8.2
Acquaintance	8.2	9.1	6.8
Relative	7.4	8.3	5.9
<b>Stranger</b>	9.3%	9.0%	9.7%
<b>Unknown</b>	15.1%	14.2%	16.5%
<b>Victim unable to identify a single offender*</b>	12.5%	6.8%	21.9%
<b>Number of victims</b>	5,305,730	3,300,570	2,005,160

Note: See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

! Interpret data with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

\*Includes victims who could not identify a single offender who was most responsible.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, Supplemental Victimization Survey, 2006.

## Methodology

The Supplemental Victimization Survey (SVS) was administered as a supplement to the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) during January through June, 2006. All NCVS respondents age 18 and older were eligible for the supplement. About 65,270 persons participated in the supplemental survey. The response rate for eligible individuals was 83%.

The estimates presented in this report are annual prevalence estimates for persons age 18 or older victimized by stalking or other harassing behaviors during the 12 months prior to the interview. The interviews were conducted during the first 6 months of 2006; therefore, the majority of the stalking behaviors occurred during 2005.

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) and BJS convened a 1-day forum with experts in the area of stalking and violence against women. Researchers, law enforcement officials, prosecutors, and victim advocates comprised the expert group. Also included in the group were representatives from the Census Bureau, the federal agency that carries out survey development and data collection for BJS. The purpose of the 1-day forum was to discuss definitional and methodological issues surrounding the crime of stalking, as well as to determine where gaps in current information on stalking existed and how the SVS could further the research and knowledge regarding this crime.

Following this meeting, a small federal working group was formed with representatives from OVW, BJS, and the Census Bureau. The working group met weekly for approximately 12 months until a satisfactory survey instrument was completed and approved. During the last phase of the survey development, the Census Bureau conducted cognitive interviews with stalking victims around the United States to test the instrument before administering the SVS in the field. Revisions were made to the instrument to incorporate findings from these interviews.

The name of the SVS intentionally does not indicate that the focus of the survey is stalking. This decision was made to avoid biasing the responses of individuals and the subsequent estimates. The respondent had to state that they experienced all of the following in order for a course of behavior to be counted as stalking victimization:

- At least one of the harassing behaviors in the stalking screener
- Harassing behavior more than one time on separate days
- At least one of multiple harassing contacts during the 12 months prior to the interview
- Fear for their own or a family member's safety or experience of another crime committed by the offender that would make a reasonable person fearful (see the Screener questions box).

Victims of harassment met all the requirements for stalking except those associated with induced fear or the commission of additional associated crimes. Harassing acts by bill collectors, telephone solicitors, or other sales people were excluded from the estimates of stalking and harassment.

### Standard error computations

Comparisons of percentages and counts made in this report were tested to determine if observed differences were statistically significant. Differences described as higher, lower, or different passed a test at the .05 level of statistical significance (95% confidence level). Differences described as somewhat, lightly, marginally, or some indication passed a test at the .10 level of statistical significance (90% confidence level). Caution is required when comparing estimates not explicitly discussed in the report.

## Screener questions for stalking behaviors

Now, I would like to ask you some questions about any unwanted contacts or harassing behavior you may have experienced that frightened, concerned, angered, or annoyed you. Please include acts committed by strangers, casual acquaintances, friends, relatives, and even spouses and partners. I want to remind you that the information you provide is confidential.

### 1. Not including bill collectors, telephone solicitors, or other sales people, has anyone, male or female, EVER – frightened, concerned, angered, or annoyed you by ...

- a. making unwanted phone calls to you or leaving messages?
- b. sending unsolicited or unwanted letters, e-mails, or other forms of written correspondence or communication?
- c. following you or spying on you?
- d. waiting outside or inside places for you such as your home, school, workplace, or recreation place?
- e. showing up at places where you were even though he or she had no business being there?
- f. leaving unwanted items, presents, or flowers?
- g. posting information or spreading rumors about you on the Internet, in a public place, or by word of mouth?
- h. none

### Actions that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear

#### 1. In order to frighten or intimidate you, did this person attack or attempt to attack...

- a. a child
- b. another family member
- c. a friend or co-worker
- d. a pet

#### 2. During the last twelve months, did this person attack or attempt to attack you by...

- a. hitting, slapping, or knocking you down
- b. choking or strangling you
- c. raping or sexually assaulting you
- d. attacking you with a weapon
- e. chasing or dragging with a car
- f. attacking you in some other way

#### 3. Other than the attacks or attempted attacks you just told me about, during the last 12 months, did this person threaten to...

- a. kill you
- b. rape or sexually assault you
- c. harm you with a weapon
- d. hit, slap, or harm you in some other way
- e. harm or kidnap a child
- f. harm another family member
- g. harm a friend or co-worker
- h. harm a pet
- i. harm or kill himself/herself

#### 4. What were you most afraid of happening as these unwanted contacts or behaviors were occurring?

- a. death
- b. physical/bodily harm
- c. harm or kidnap respondent's child
- d. harm current partner/boyfriend/girlfriend
- e. harm other family members
- f. don't know what would happen

### Questions used to measure fear

#### 1. How did the behavior of (this person/these persons) make you feel when it FIRST started? Anything else?

- a. anxious/concerned
- b. annoyed/angry
- c. frightened
- d. depressed
- e. helpless
- f. sick
- g. suicidal
- h. some other way–specify

#### 2. How did you feel as the behavior progressed? Anything else?

- a. no change in feelings
- b. anxious/concerned
- c. annoyed/angry
- d. frightened
- e. depressed
- f. helpless
- g. sick
- h. suicidal
- i. some other way–specify



## APPENDIX TABLE 1

Standard errors for table 3: Prevalence of stalking and harassment over the 12 months prior to interview

	Published number of victimizations	Revised number of victims	Published victimization rate per 1,000 persons	Revised percent of persons
All victims	240,740	226,660	1.0	0.1
Stalking victims	173,320	169,450	0.7	0.1
Harassment victims	140,510	124,810	0.6	0.1

## APPENDIX TABLE 2

Standard errors for figure 1: Duration of stalking and harassment victimization

	Percent of victims		
	All	Stalking	Harassment
6 months or less	1.7%	2.1%	2.6%
7–11 months	1.2	1.5	1.6
1 year	1.1	1.4	1.5
2 years	0.9	1.1	1.2
3 years	0.6	0.8	0.8
4 years	0.4	0.6	0.5
5 years or more	0.9	1.2	1.2
Don't know	0.8	0.6	1.8
Number of victims	226,660	169,450	124,810

~Not applicable.

## APPENDIX TABLE 3

Standard errors for table 4: Nature of stalking and harassment behaviors experienced by victims

	Percent of victims		
	All	Stalking	Harassment
Unwanted phone calls and messages	1.8%	2.1%	2.6%
Unwanted letters and e-mail	1.6	1.9	2.2
Spreading rumors	1.6	2.0	2.1
Following or spying	1.5	2.0	1.6
Showing up at places	1.5	2.0	1.6
Waiting for victim	1.4	1.9	1.4
Leaving unwanted presents	1.0	1.3	1.1
Number of victims	226,660	169,450	124,810

## APPENDIX TABLE 4

Standard errors for table 5: Characteristics of stalking and harassment victims

	Percent of persons age 18 or older		
	All	Stalking	Harassment
<b>Overall</b>	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	0.1	0.1	0.1
Female	0.2	0.1	0.1
<b>Race</b>			
White	0.1	0.1	0.1
Black	0.2	0.2	0.1
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.0	0.8	0.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.2
Two or more races	1.1	0.9	0.7
<b>Hispanic origin</b>			
Hispanic	0.2	0.2	0.1
Non-Hispanic	0.1	0.1	0.1
Unknown	0.8	0.5	0.6
<b>Age</b>			
18–19	0.5	0.4	0.3
20–24	0.4	0.3	0.2
25–34	0.2	0.2	0.1
35–49	0.2	0.1	0.1
50–64	0.1	0.1	0.1
65 or older	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Household income</b>			
\$7,499 or less	0.6	0.5	0.3
\$7,500–\$14,999	0.4	0.3	0.2
\$15,000–\$24,999	0.3	0.2	0.2
\$25,000–\$34,999	0.3	0.2	0.2
\$35,000–\$49,999	0.2	0.2	0.1
\$50,000–\$74,999	0.2	0.2	0.1
\$75,000 or more	0.2	0.1	0.1
Unknown	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Marital status</b>			
Never married	0.2	0.2	0.1
Married	0.1	0.1	0.1
Divorced or separated	0.3	0.3	0.2
Widowed	0.2	0.1	0.2
Unknown	0.6	0.6	0.3

**APPENDIX TABLE 5****Standard errors for table 6: Victim-offender relationship in stalking and harassment**

	Percent of victims		
	All	Stalking	Harassment
<b>Total</b>	~	~	~
<b>Known, intimate</b>	1.5%	1.9%	1.9%
Current intimate	0.8	1.1	1.1
Spouse	0.6	0.8	0.5
Boy/girlfriend	0.5	0.6	0.9
Former intimate	1.3	1.6	1.6
Ex-spouse	0.8	1.0	0.9
Ex-boy/girlfriend	1.0	1.3	1.3
<b>Known, other</b>	1.7	2.1	2.5
Friend/roommate/neighbor	1.2	1.4	1.7
Known from work or school	0.9	1.1	1.3
Acquaintance	0.9	1.1	1.2
Relative	0.8	1.1	1.1
<b>Stranger</b>	0.9	1.1	1.4
<b>Unknown</b>	1.2	1.4	1.9
<b>Victim unable to identify a single offender</b>	1.1	1.0	2.1
<b>Number of victims</b>	226,660	169,450	124,810

~Not applicable.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. James P. Lynch is the director.

This report was revised by Shannan Catalano, Ph.D., and Jennifer L. Truman verified the report. The original report, released in January 2009, was written by Katrina Baum, Ph.D., Shannan Catalano, Ph.D., and Michael Rand, Bureau of Justice Statistics, and Kristina Rose, National Institute of Justice .

Catherine Bird and Jill Thomas edited the report and Barbara Quinn produced the report under the supervision of Doris J. James.

September 2012, NCJ 224527



**Office of Justice Programs**  
**Innovation • Partnerships • Safer Neighborhoods**  
**[www.ojp.usdoj.gov](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov)**

Attachment 4:  
NCVS-572(L) Census initial contact letter

---

**NCVS-572(L) LOS ANGELES  
(12-2017)**



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Economics and Statistics Administration**  
**U.S. Census Bureau**  
Washington, DC 20233-0001  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau...

Dear Resident:

Your address has been selected to participate in the **National Crime Victimization Survey**. The survey collects information about the type and amount of crime committed against people in the United States. The U.S. Census Bureau conducts this survey on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Since many crimes are never reported to the police, information from this survey is used to get a more complete picture of crime occurring in our country. The information you provide will give a better understanding of crime and its impact on victims. The survey results are used to develop programs to aid crime victims and prevent crime.

**The success of this survey depends on your participation.** We cannot substitute another address for yours. Your address is part of a scientifically selected sample of addresses chosen throughout the country. Your answers represent hundreds of other households like yours. Your participation is important even if you have not experienced any crime. By law, the Census Bureau can only use your responses to produce statistics. No information about you or your household can be identified from these statistics.

Answers to frequently asked questions are on the back of this letter. If you would like further information, contact your Census Bureau Regional Office at 1-800-992-3530.

You do not need to take any action at this time. A Census Bureau representative will contact you soon to ask your household to complete the survey.

Thank you for your participation.

### **What is the National Crime Victimization Survey?**

This survey collects data about experiences with crime, both reported and not reported to the police. Periodically, the survey includes additional topics such as crime in schools, contacts with law enforcement, and identity theft.

### **How was I selected for this survey?**

The U.S. Census Bureau chose your address, not you personally, to participate in this survey. We randomly selected a sample of addresses across the country to represent the entire population. We need a response from all persons 12 or older in sampled homes to get a complete picture of the types and amount of crime happening in the United States.

### **Will information I provide be confidential? Is this survey required by law?**

The Census Bureau is required by law to protect your information. The Census Bureau is not permitted to publicly release your responses in a way that could identify you or your household. We are conducting this survey for the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice under the authority of law (Title 13, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 8). The Bureau of Justice Statistics is authorized to collect this survey information by law (Title 34, U.S.C., Section 10132). Federal law protects your privacy and keeps your answers confidential (Title 13, U.S.C., Section 9 and Title 34, U.S.C., Sections 10231 and 10134). Per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the systems that transmit your data. This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB Number: 1121-0111; Expiration Date: 08/31/2018). If this number were not displayed, we could not conduct this survey. Your voluntary participation in this survey is important; however, you may decline to answer any or all questions.

### **How are the data used?**

Data from this survey provide information on many topics related to crime and victimization, including crime in schools, trends in violent crime, costs of crime, and the response of law enforcement to reports of victimization. Examples of reports, tables, and charts that use data from the survey are on the Bureau of Justice Statistics' web site at [www.bjs.gov](http://www.bjs.gov).

### **How long will it take?**

We expect the interview to take about 25 minutes. Your interview may be somewhat shorter or longer than this depending on your circumstances. If you have any comments about this survey or have recommendations for reducing its length, send them to the Chief, Victimization Statistics Branch, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Washington, DC 20531.

### **I thought that the Census Bureau only counts people every 10 years. What is the Census Bureau doing now?**

Besides the decennial census, we collect many different kinds of information through other censuses and surveys. These surveys provide current information on such topics as housing, crime, unemployment rates, health, business, economics and education.

Attachment 5:  
NCVS-573(L) Census follow-up interview letter

---

**NCVS-573(L) LOS ANGELES  
(12-2017)**



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
**U.S. Census Bureau**  
Washington, DC 20233-0001  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau...

Dear Resident:

Several months ago, we contacted residents at your address to participate in the **National Crime Victimization Survey**. The survey collects information about the type and amount of crime committed against people in the United States. The U.S. Census Bureau conducts this survey on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice. We need to interview the current residents of this address, whether we talked with you before or you recently moved to this address.

Since many crimes are never reported to the police, information from this survey is used to get a more complete picture of crime occurring in our country. The information you provide will give a better understanding of crime and its impact on victims. The survey results are used to develop programs to aid crime victims and prevent crime.

**The success of this survey depends on your participation.** We cannot substitute another address for yours. Your address is part of a scientifically selected sample of addresses chosen throughout the country. Your answers represent hundreds of other households like yours. Your participation is important even if you have not experienced any crime. By law, the Census Bureau can only use your responses to produce statistics. No information about you or your household can be identified from these statistics.

Answers to frequently asked questions are on the back of this letter. If you would like further information, contact your Census Bureau Regional Office at 1-800-992-3530.

You do not need to take any action at this time. A Census Bureau representative will contact you soon to ask your household to complete the survey.

Thank you for your participation.



### **What is the National Crime Victimization Survey?**

This survey collects data about experiences with crime, both reported and not reported to the police. Periodically, the survey includes additional topics such as crime in schools, contacts with law enforcement, and identity theft.

### **How was I selected for this survey?**

The U.S. Census Bureau chose your address, not you personally, to participate in this survey. We randomly selected a sample of addresses across the country to represent the entire population. We need a response from all persons 12 or older in sampled homes to get a complete picture of the types and amount of crime happening in the United States.

### **Will information I provide be confidential? Is this survey required by law?**

The Census Bureau is required by law to protect your information. The Census Bureau is not permitted to publicly release your responses in a way that could identify you or your household. We are conducting this survey for the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice under the authority of law (Title 13, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 8). The Bureau of Justice Statistics is authorized to collect this survey information by law (Title 34, U.S.C., Section 10132). Federal law protects your privacy and keeps your answers confidential (Title 13, U.S.C., Section 9 and Title 34, U.S.C., Sections 10231 and 10134). Per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the systems that transmit your data. This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB Number: 1121-0111; Expiration Date: 08/31/2018). If this number were not displayed, we could not conduct this survey. Your voluntary participation in this survey is important; however, you may decline to answer any or all questions.

### **How are the data used?**

Data from this survey provide information on many topics related to crime and victimization, including crime in schools, trends in violent crime, costs of crime, and the response of law enforcement to reports of victimization. Examples of reports, tables, and charts that use data from the survey are on the Bureau of Justice Statistics' web site at [www.bjs.gov](http://www.bjs.gov).

### **How long will it take?**

We expect the interview to take about 25 minutes. Your interview may be somewhat shorter or longer than this depending on your circumstances. If you have any comments about this survey or have recommendations for reducing its length, send them to the Chief, Victimization Statistics Branch, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Washington, DC 20531.

### **I thought that the Census Bureau only counts people every 10 years. What is the Census Bureau doing now?**

Besides the decennial census, we collect many different kinds of information through other censuses and surveys. These surveys provide current information on such topics as housing, crime, unemployment rates, health, business, economics and education.