

ICPSR 34650

## **National Crime Victimization Survey, 2012**

Description

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## **Bibliographic Description**

ICPSR Study No.: 34650

Title: National Crime Victimization Survey, 2012

Principal Investigator(s): United States Department of Justice. Office of Justice Programs. Bureau of Justice Statistics

Series: National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) Series

Funding Agency: United States Department of Justice. Office of Justice Programs. Bureau of Justice Statistics

## **Scope of Study**

Summary: The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) Series, previously called the National Crime Surveys (NCS), has been collecting data on personal and household victimization through an ongoing survey of a nationally-representative sample of residential addresses since 1973. The NCVS was designed with four primary objectives: (1) to develop detailed information about the victims and consequences of crime, (2) to estimate the number and types of crimes not reported to the police, (3) to provide uniform measures of selected types of crimes, and (4) to permit comparisons over time and types of areas. The survey categorizes crimes as "personal" or "property." Personal crimes include rape and sexual attack, robbery, aggravated and simple assault, and purse-snatching/pocket-picking, while property crimes include burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and vandalism. Each respondent is asked a series of screen questions designed to determine whether she or he was victimized during the six-month period preceding the first day of the month of the interview. A "household respondent" is also asked to report on crimes against the household as a whole (e.g., burglary, motor vehicle theft). The data include type of crime, month, time, and location of the crime, relationship between victim and offender, characteristics of the offender, self-protective actions taken by the victim during the incident and results of those actions, consequences of the victimization, type of property lost, whether the crime was reported to police and reasons for reporting or not reporting, and offender use of weapons, drugs, and alcohol. Basic demographic information such as age, race, gender, and income is also collected, to enable analysis of crime by various subpopulations. This version of the NCVS, referred to as the collection year, contains records from interviews conducted in the 12 months of the given year.

Subject Term(s): assault, auto theft, burglary, crime, crime costs, crime rates, crime reporting, crime statistics, offenders, offenses, property crimes, rape, reactions to crime, robbery, sex offenses, vandalism, victimization, victims

Smallest Geographic Unit: region

Geographic Coverage: United States

Time Period: • 2012

Date(s) of Collection: • 2012

Unit of Observation: household, individual, crime incident

Universe: All persons in the United States aged 12 and older.

Data Type: survey data

Data Collection Notes: The 2012 Collection Year Incident-Level Extract File was created from the record-type files and includes information on victims of crime; nonvictims are not included. Under the collection year format a crime incident is included based on when the interview is conducted, not on when the crime incident occurred.

The data were collected by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The 2012 data contain replicate weights for household, person, incident, and victimization to facilitate standard error computations given the sampling design of NCVS.

The 2012 data have a change in how the victimization totals are computed. Series crimes are now included with up to 10 occurrences.

## Methodology

Sample: Stratified multistage cluster sample.

Weight: The data files include several weight variables used to calculate national estimates of: households, persons, victimizations, and incidents. The codebook describes how to use the weights.

Mode of Data Collection: computer-assisted personal interview (CAPI)

face-to-face interview

Extent of Processing:    Performed consistency checks.

Created variable labels and/or value labels.

Standardized missing values.

Performed recodes and/or calculated derived variables.

Checked for undocumented or out-of-range codes.

## **Access and Availability**

Note:    A list of the data formats available for this study can be found in the [summary of holdings](#). Detailed file-level information (such as record length, case count, and variable count) is listed in the [file manifest](#).

Restrictions:    This data collection may not be used for any purpose other than statistical reporting and analysis. Use of these data to learn the identity of any person or establishment is prohibited.

Original ICPSR Release:    2013-10-28

Dataset(s):    

- DS1: Address Record-Type File
- DS2: Household Record-Type File
- DS3: Person Record-Type File
- DS4: Incident Record-Type File
- DS5: 2012 Collection Year Incident-Level Extract File