

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 3.16.2008

Victim-offender relationship in violent victimization

By type of crime and sex of victim, United States, 2008^a

Relationship of victim to offender	Violent crime		Rape/ sexual assault		Robbery		Aggravated assault		Simple assault	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male victims, total	2,626,000	100%	39,590	100%	328,690	100%	476,390	100%	1,781,330	100%
Nonstranger	1,286,170	49	39,590	100 ^b	112,230	34	241,900	51	892,440	50
Intimate partner ^c	88,120	3	8,310	21 ^b	0	0 ^b	37,430	8 ^b	42,380	2
Other relative	83,630	3	0	0 ^b	0	0 ^b	25,560	5 ^b	58,070	3
Friend/acquaintance	1,114,410	42	31,280	79 ^b	112,230	34	178,910	38	791,990	44
Stranger	1,163,410	44	0	0 ^b	200,150	61	206,300	43	756,970	42
Relationship unknown	176,420	7	0	0 ^b	16,310	5 ^b	28,190	6 ^b	131,920	7
Female victims, total	2,230,500	100	164,240	100	223,140	100	363,550	100	1,479,580	100
Nonstranger	1,556,790	70	102,950	63	118,220	53	250,190	69	1,085,430	73
Intimate partner ^c	504,980	23	29,060	18 ^b	34,830	16 ^b	61,170	17 ^b	379,920	26
Other relative	196,070	9	5,220	3 ^b	33,210	15 ^b	28,150	8 ^b	129,490	9
Friend/acquaintance	855,740	38	68,680	42	50,180	22	160,860	44	576,010	39
Stranger	592,570	27	52,890	32	99,450	45	104,410	29	335,810	23
Relationship unknown	81,150	4	8,390	5 ^b	5,470	2 ^b	8,950	2 ^b	58,340	4 ^b

Note: The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) is conducted annually for the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau. These estimates are based on data derived from a continuous survey of a representative sample of housing units in the United States. For the 2008 survey, approximately 77,852 residents in 42,093 households were interviewed; each household was interviewed twice during the year. Response rates were 90.4% of eligible housing units and 86.2% of eligible individuals in interviewed households. In 2008, the total U.S. population age 12 and older was 252,242,520. The total number of households in the United States in 2008 was 121,141,060. The NCVS is based on interviews with victims and therefore cannot measure murder.

Users should note that due to changes in methodology implemented for the 2006 NCVS, the 2006 estimates are not comparable to NCVS estimates for other years and therefore have been excluded from tables showing trends. NCVS estimates for 2007 and 2008 are consistent with years previous to 2006. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see [Appendix 8](#).

^aDetail may not add to total because of rounding.

^bEstimate is based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

^cIncludes current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Criminal Victimization, 2008*, Bulletin NCJ 227777 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, September 2009), p. 5, Table 6.