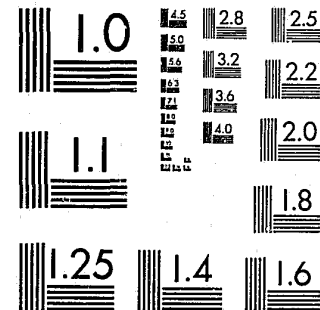


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U. S. Department of Justice  
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

## Analysis of National Crime Victimization Survey Data To Study Serious Delinquent Behavior

### Monograph Two

### Juvenile Criminal Behavior: An Analysis of Rates and Victim Characteristics

74080



U.S. Department of Justice  
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration  
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*Monograph Two*

**Juvenile Criminal Behavior:  
An Analysis of Rates and  
Victim Characteristics**

by

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and

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January 1981

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*Monographs in this series include:*

Juvenile Criminal Behavior in the United States:  
Its Trends and Patterns

Juvenile Criminal Behavior: An Analysis of Rates  
and Victim Characteristics

Juvenile Criminal Behavior in Urban,  
Suburban, and Rural Areas

Juvenile Criminal Behavior and Its Relation  
to Economic Conditions (*forthcoming*)

Juvenile Criminal Behavior and Its Relation to  
Neighborhood Characteristics (*forthcoming*)

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Analysis of National Crime Victimization Survey  
Data to Study Serious Delinquent Behavior

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### Executive Summary

In this monograph the 1973 to 1977 National Crime Survey victimization data are used to address three major questions regarding crimes of rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny committed by juveniles (under 18), youthful offenders (18 to 20), and adults (21 or older). The first question is whether there are variations by offender age in rates of victimization suffered by victims with particular demographic characteristics. For example, do the elderly have a greater risk of being victimized by juvenile offenders than by adult offenders? The second question is whether there are variations in rates of offending attributable to offenders with particular demographic characteristics. For example, when one takes into account the number of potential offenders in the nation (that is, the number of persons under 18, the number of persons 18 to 20, and the number of persons 21 or older), do juveniles, youthful offenders or adults have the highest offending rate? The third general question is whether victims tend to be victimized by offenders with similar or different demographic characteristics. For example, do the young victimize the young?

On the first question, addressed in Section I of the monograph, an analysis of rates of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults showed that:

- 1) In the total population, the risk of being victimized by a juvenile offender was less than one-half the risk of being victimized by an adult offender. Victimitations committed by adults were also more serious than those by juveniles.
- 2) An individual's age is a strong correlate of his or her risk of being victimized by juveniles, youthful offenders, or adults.

- 3) The risk of criminal victimization by juveniles is greater among other juveniles. Young people -- 12 to 19 year olds -- face a far greater risk of being victims of juveniles than of adults. However, when young people are victimized, their victimizations are most serious when adult offenders, not juvenile offenders, are involved.
- 4) The elderly are more than twice as likely to be victimized by adults as by juveniles; moreover, victimizations committed against the elderly were least serious when juvenile offenders were involved.
- 5) Even though women were substantially less likely to be victimized than were men, when women were victimized, their victimizations were about as serious as those suffered by men.
- 6) The relationship between sex and the risk of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults varied somewhat with the age of the victim. In every age group in the United States, the male risk of victimization by youthful offenders and adults was greater than the female risk. However, in every age group over 19 years old, the female risk of victimization by juveniles was greater than the male risk.
- 7) Blacks in the United States had consistently higher rates of total personal victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults than did whites, and they also were consistently victims of more serious crimes. Racial

- differences in the risk of victimization were greatest when adults were the offending group.
- 8) Although there is a strong inverse relationship between family income and the risk of personal victimization by adults, there is no inverse relationship between family income and the risk of personal victimization by juveniles.
  - 9) As family income in the United States increases, the seriousness of criminal victimization decreases, but not substantially.

In Section II, the number of potential offenders in each offender age group -- a factor that was not taken into account in Section I -- was used as the basis for calculating rates of offending. Analysis of rates of offending showed that:

- 1) Males had a rate of offending about four to fifteen times that of females (depending on the offenders' age group); a finding congruent with both arrest and self-reported delinquency data.
- 2) Blacks had a rate of offending about five times that of whites. This is consistent with arrest data, but not with most studies, particularly early studies, that have used self-report methods.
- 3) Racial differences in rates of offending were especially strong for the theft offenses.
- 4) The rate of offending was greatest in the 18 to 20 year old age group.
- 5) For theft crimes committed by juveniles, black



females had a rate of offending slightly greater than that for white males.

- 6) Trend data for the 1973 to 1977 period indicate that the overall decline in juvenile rates of offending (McDermott and Hindelang, 1981: Figure 2) are attributable primarily to a decline in rates of offending among black juveniles.

In Section III, analysis of the characteristics of the offender in conjunction with those of the victim showed that:

- 1) Male offenders victimized males in about 7 out of 10 personal crimes, regardless of offender age. Female offenders increasingly victimized males as age increased -- from 1 in 10 male victims for juvenile female offenders to 3 in 10 male victims for adult female offenders.
- 2) For all personal crimes except larceny, the age of the offender was correlated with the age of the victim.
- 3) Although white offenders victimized whites almost exclusively, black offenders victimized whites in a majority of personal crimes.
- 4) Stranger offending was more likely when the victim was male, older, and of a different race than the offender.

### Introduction

The public perception that juvenile offending in face-to-face personal crimes (rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny) has increased sharply in recent years has been the stimulus for legislative changes that provide for more stringent handling of young offenders. In the first monograph in this series (McDermott and Hindelang, 1981) we used results from victimization surveys to examine trends in offending for the 1973-1977 period. The results suggested that in this period juvenile offending had not increased substantially in such face-to-face crimes for the United States as a whole. Furthermore, we found no evidence that the severity of the consequences of these crimes to victims -- for example, the extent of injury or the amount of financial loss -- increased systematically in this period. In this monograph our focus shifts away from trends to an examination of variations in rates of victimization suffered by victims with particular demographic characteristics and variations in rates of offending attributable to offenders with particular demographic characteristics.

This monograph focuses on three general issues with respect to crimes committed by juveniles (offenders under 18 years old), youthful offenders (18 to 20 year olds), and adult offenders (21 or older). The general question addressed in Section I is, how are the personal crimes they commit distributed among the general population? That is, according to various demographic characteristics (age, race, sex, and so forth), who are the probable victims of juveniles, youthful offenders and adults? In order to study this general question, rates of victimization by juveniles, by youthful offenders, and by adults are examined and compared. In this regard our emphasis is on an individual victim's risk of being victimized (by juveniles, by youthful offenders, or by adults) depending on that person's demographic



characteristics. In this section, the interest in offender characteristics is purely in ascertaining how much of the total risk of victimization of a given group (e.g., the elderly) is attributable to the risk of being victimized by juvenile, youthful, or adult offenders.

It is only in connection with the general question addressed in Section II that concern emerges with how numerous these offending groups are in the population. To what extent are offenders disproportionately found in particular age, race, or sex subgroups? To answer this question it is necessary to determine how many persons in particular age, race, and sex categories were available in the United States during this period as potential offenders. Thus, for example, because the number of 18 to 20 year old persons in the general population is much smaller than the number of persons 21 or older, the rate of offending could be greater for 18 to 20 year olds than for adults even if the absolute number of offenses committed by them were much less than the absolute number committed by adults. That is, rates of offending standardize the number of offenses attributable to a particular group by the number of persons (potential offenders) in that group -- something that is not done in the analysis of rates of victimization.

Section III focuses on the general question whether victims and offenders tend to have similar or different demographic characteristics. For example, to what extent do juveniles victimize other juveniles and to what extent do males victimize males?

The data that form the basis of this monograph were collected by the Bureau of the Census for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration in a continuing survey of the general population of the United States that is designed to ascertain the nature and extent of criminal victimizations that may have been suffered by respondents. These National Crime Survey (NCS) results can shed light on some of the basic questions surrounding serious criminal behavior.

When respondents indicate that they have experienced a criminal victimization they are asked a series of detailed questions relating to every aspect of the offense: exactly what happened, when and where the offense occurred, whether any injury or loss was suffered as a result of the offense, who was present during the offense, whether it was reported to the police, and what the victim perceived to be the offender's sex, race, and age group.

On the basis of these limited offender data, it is possible to pose many important questions, such as the three questions outlined above that are the focus of this monograph. Although victimization survey data are well suited for studying some fundamental questions about offenders, the victimization survey results, as a source of data about offenders, are not without problems. There are four interrelated limitations regarding the use of NCS data in connection with studying offender characteristics. First, because the source of the data is the victim's report, only a small number of visible offender characteristics are available -- sex, race, age group, number of offenders, and relationship (if any) to the victim. Second, little systematic work has been done to date on the accuracy of the victim's reports of these offender variables.<sup>1</sup> Third, because these data depend on reports of victims, the data analyzed include only offenses in which the victim sees the offender: rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny with contact. Fourth, questions related to incidence versus prevalence cannot be resolved with these data; that is, whether the over-abundance of males among offenders is due to a small proportion of males repeatedly offending or due to a large proportion of males offending a smaller number of times cannot be resolved with these data. Even within these limitations, however, the NCS data hold potential that is not found in other major sources of data about offenders, self-report and police arrest data.

Throughout this monograph three age groups of offenders are examined in order to make comparisons among them. The first major group, juvenile offenders, are those offenders perceived by their victims to be under 18 years of age. Occasionally, in order to provide finer age breakdowns, three subgroups of juvenile offenders are differentiated: those under 12, those 12 to 14, and those 15 to 17 years old. The second major group, youthful offenders, are those offenders perceived by their victims to be 18 to 20 years old. The third major group, adult offenders, are those perceived by their victims to be 21 years of age or older. The use of these three major age groupings of offenders will permit analyses of age related differences in offending. Before turning to these findings, however, it is necessary to give some attention to the data to be used in these analyses.

#### Description of the Data

The data in this monograph are from the NCS national sample, collected by the United States Bureau of the Census, in cooperation with the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. In the national survey, probability samples of both housing units and businesses were selected on the basis of a stratified, multistage, cluster design.<sup>2</sup> The data used in this monograph cover the period from 1973 to 1977.<sup>3</sup>

The total annual sample size for the national surveys is about 60,000 households containing about 136,000 individuals and about 15,000 businesses (increased to about 50,000 businesses in July 1975). The total sample is composed of six independently selected subsamples of about 10,000 households with 22,000 individuals and 2,500 businesses (increased to more than 8,000 in July 1975). Each subsample is interviewed twice a year about victimizations suffered in the preceding six months. For example, in January 22,000

individuals (in 10,000 households) and representatives from 8,000 businesses are interviewed. In the following month -- and in each of the next four succeeding months -- an independent probability sample of the same size is interviewed. In July, the housing units and business units originally interviewed in January are revisited and interviews are repeated; likewise, the original February sample units are revisited in August, the March units in September, etc. Each time they are interviewed in the national survey, respondents are asked about victimizations that they may have suffered during the 6 months preceding the month of interview.

Thus, the national survey is conducted using a panel design; the panel consists of addresses. Interviewers return to the same housing and business units every 6 months. If the family or business contacted during the last interview cycle has moved, the new occupants are interviewed. If the unit no longer exists or is condemned, it is dropped from the sample, but new units are added to the sample periodically. For household units this is accomplished by a continuing sample of new construction permits; new business units are added to the samples as they appear in the sampling segments during each month's enumeration. No attempt is made to trace families or businesses that have moved.<sup>4</sup> Housing units in the panel are visited a maximum of seven times, after which they are rotated out of the panel and replaced by a new, independent probability sample; maximum time in the sample for any housing unit, then, is 3 years. There is no provision for the rotation of sampled business units.

The data reported in this monograph represent estimates of victimizations occurring in the United States, based on weighted sample data.<sup>5</sup> It is possible to make these estimates because a probability sample of respondents was surveyed. The interview completion rate in the national

sample is about 95 percent or more of those selected to be interviewed in any given period, and hence population estimates are relatively unbiased.

This monograph is concerned with the personal crimes of rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny. Although the survey also collects data on the household crimes of burglary, larceny from the household, and motor vehicle theft, as well as the commercial crime of burglary, these crimes will not be included here. As indicated above the analysis requires reports from victims regarding what transpired during the event -- particularly regarding offender characteristics such as the perceived age of the offender -- and hence only those crimes generally involving contact between victims and offenders will yield this information. The details about what happened during the event are gathered by means of personal interviews with the victims themselves.

Depending on whether one or more than one offender was reported by the victim to have been involved in the incident, victims are asked one of two series of questions relating to offender characteristics (see NCS household interview schedule in Appendix A). If a lone offender victimized the respondent, that offender's characteristics are simply recorded. If more than one offender was involved, it is of course possible to have offenders of different ages, sexes, and races. Because age is used repeatedly throughout this monograph, Appendix C explains in detail how each of the offender age variables was created. In general, the tables and figures shown in this monograph in which both lone and multiple-offender incidents are included, use the age of the oldest of the multiple offenders. Preliminary analysis shows that more often than not multiple offenders fall into the same age group; for this reason, whether the age of the youngest or the age of the oldest of the multiple offenders is used has little impact on the results.

On the basis of the details of precisely what transpired -- whether force or threat of force was used by the offender, whether some theft was attempted or completed, whether serious injury was sustained, etc. -- crimes are classified according to definitions used in the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) (U.S. Department of Justice, 1978). The elements constituting these definitions are shown in Appendix D for each of the major types of crime used herein.

#### I. The Risk and the Seriousness of Victimization

This section examines the risk and seriousness of personal victimization among various demographic subgroups in the United States, groups defined by characteristics such as age, race, sex, and income. For these subgroups the report analyzes the comparative risk of being victimized by juveniles, by youthful offenders, and by adults. Rates, seriousness-weighted rates, and average seriousness scores are examined and compared. It is important to begin by explaining how the rates, seriousness-weighted rates, and average seriousness scores were calculated and how they can be interpreted.

Data generated from the 1973 to 1977 national samples of the NCS are used in this section of the report to estimate both the population 12 years old or older<sup>6</sup> and the number of victimizations that occurred annually in the United States. Rates reported here are average annual rates of victimization computed from the five years of data. In this section the total rate of victimization suffered by a particular subgroup is broken down into three component parts: the rate of victimization by juveniles, the rate of victimization by youthful offenders, and the rate of victimization by adults. For example, the estimated 1973-1977 average yearly population 12 years old or older in the United States was 169,397,550. In these years, an estimated 1,316,336 personal victimizations were committed annually

by offenders perceived by their victims to be under 18 years old (juveniles). When the estimated annual number of victimizations committed by juveniles is divided by the annual population estimate of persons 12 years old or older, and the result is multiplied by 100,000, the estimated annual rate of personal victimization by juveniles is 777 per 100,000 persons 12 years or older. For youthful offenders (those perceived to be between 18 and 20 years old) and for adults (offenders perceived to be 21 or older) the comparable rates of victimization are 554 and 1,950 per 100,000, respectively.

It must be emphasized that these victimization rates are not standardized for the number of potential offenders in each of the three age groups. For example, compared to the under 18 and 21 or older groups, there are relatively few potential offenders in the 18 to 20 age group; hence when rates of offending are computed for this age group (see text below) this age group will be shown generally to have the highest rate of offending. However, because the absolute number of victimizations committed by 18 to 20 year olds is small -- compared with the absolute number committed by the under 18 and the 21 and older groups -- this age group accounts for a relatively small portion of the total personal victimization rate.

Rates of victimization will be used here to assess the risk of victimization that subgroups of victims face with respect to the three major age groups of offenders. From the data above, it is clear that for the total population in the United States the risk of being victimized -- as it has been operationalized in this section -- by a juvenile is less than one-half of the risk of being victimized by an adult (777 vs. 1,950). Below, one important question is whether this offender-age pattern of comparative risk of victimization is maintained among subgroups of victims in the population. For example, are young people more likely to be victimized by adults

than by juveniles?

Some of the figures and tables in this report also present seriousness-weighted rates of victimization. Previous analyses of victimization survey data suggest that it is necessary to investigate not only the rate of victimization but also the seriousness of the victimizations reported by victims (Hindelang, 1976). An examination of seriousness is important because there is a great deal of heterogeneity within crime categories in the seriousness of criminal events. For example, rapes may be completed or attempted, the offender may be armed or unarmed, the victim may or may not be seriously injured.

Sellin and Wolfgang (1964) developed a scaling technique designed to provide composite seriousness scores for delinquency incidents. Their seriousness scoring system takes into account elements of incidents such as the number of victims of bodily harm and the extent to which these victims are injured, the number of victims intimidated verbally or with a weapon, and the value of property stolen, damaged, or destroyed.<sup>7</sup> The seriousness-weighted rates presented in this report are based on the Sellin-Wolfgang system. However, one modification in their approach is necessary. Instead of scoring incidents, only the consequences suffered by the individual victim are scored.<sup>8</sup> The seriousness-weighted rates reported here sum across victims the seriousness score of each victimization reported.<sup>9</sup> When seriousness-weighted annual rates are computed from the average of the 1973 to 1977 national data, it is seen that annually in the United States the seriousness-weighted rate of victimization by juveniles is 1,744 per 100,000 persons twelve years old or older, while the seriousness-weighted rates by youthful offenders and adults are 1,583 and 6,243 per 100,000 persons twelve years old or older, respectively.

Because the seriousness-weighted rates are a reflection of both the rate and the seriousness of the victimization, they illustrate an important dimension of victimization. For example, it may be the case that although two groups of persons have similar rates of victimization, their seriousness-weighted rates may be very dissimilar. This would indicate that although one group has the same risk of being victimized as the other group, in terms of seriousness the two groups have very different experiences; one group is likely to experience more serious victimizations than the other. In this context, more serious might include elements such as greater weapon use, greater severity of injury, more cash or property stolen, and so forth; in short, the elements scored by the Sellin-Wolfgang procedure.

In addition to the rates and seriousness-weighted rates of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults, average seriousness scores are reported in some instances. These scores were obtained by dividing the seriousness-weighted rates by the rates of victimization, and reflect the average seriousness of victimizations by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults, among categories of victims. As reported earlier, the estimated annual rate of victimization by juveniles is 777 per 100,000; the seriousness-weighted rate derived by application of the Sellin-Wolfgang scores is 1,744 per 100,000. The average seriousness of victimizations by juveniles is 1,744 divided by 777, or 2.24. The average seriousness score of victimizations by youthful offenders was 2.86; among adult offenders, this score was 3.20. Thus, not only was the risk of victimization by juveniles substantially lower than the risk of victimization by adults, but also, when victimization occurred, it was generally more serious if adult offenders were involved.<sup>10</sup>

Victimization survey interviewers collected information on demographic characteristics of all respondents. These survey data make possible an

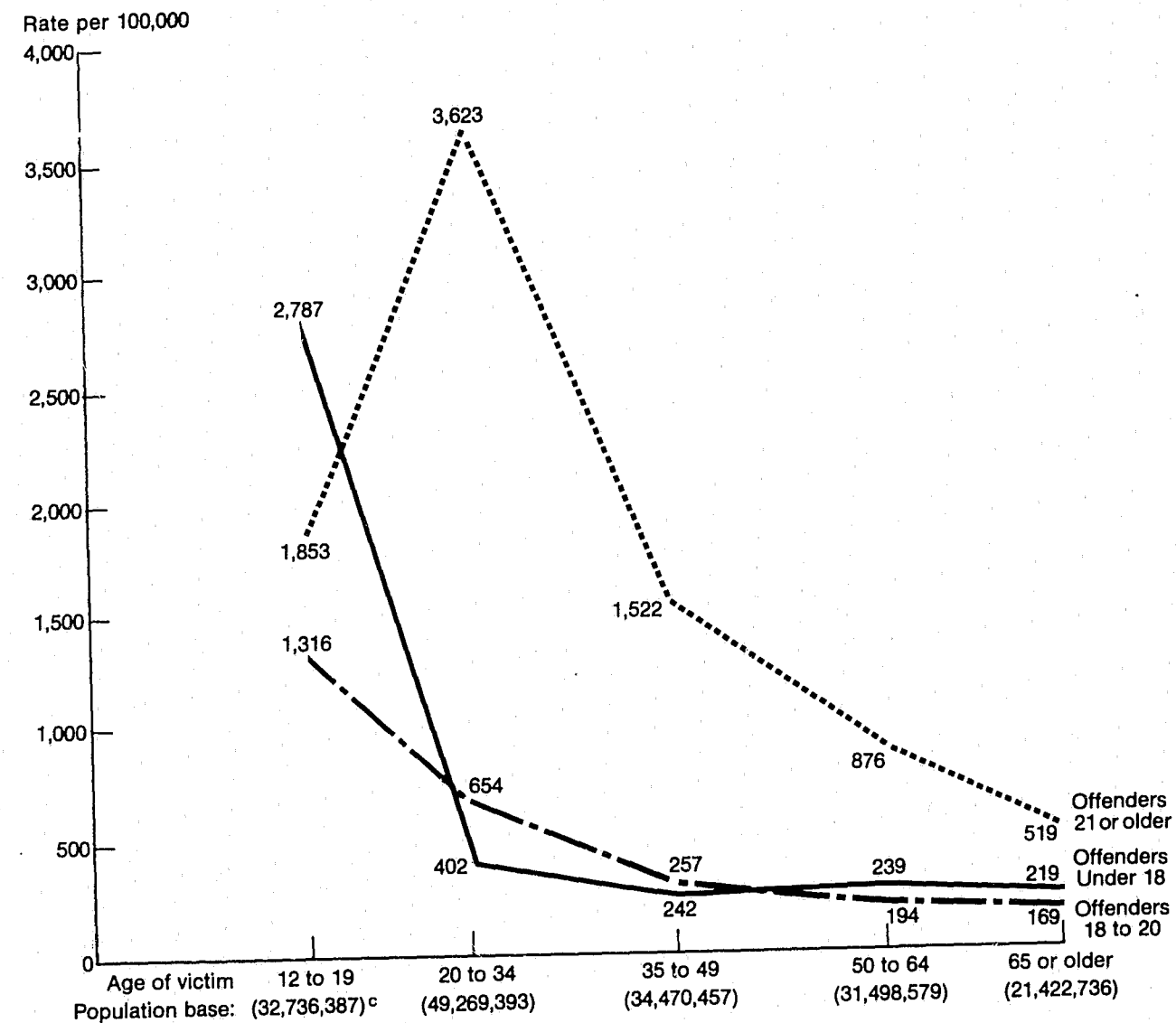
examination and comparison of the risk and seriousness of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults among persons in different age, race, sex, marital status, and family income categories.

#### Age of Victim

As seen above, the risk of being victimized by an adult was more than twice the risk of being victimized by a juvenile. Does this pattern of risk hold equally for young, middle-aged, and elderly persons in the population? There is reason to expect that it may not. For example, in the "lifestyle/exposure" theory of personal victimization (Hindelang, Gottfredson, and Garofalo, 1978: Chapter 11) an individual's risk of being victimized is dependent upon various elements constituting his or her lifestyle as they relate to exposure to the risk of victimization. Within this theoretical model, the authors propose (1978:257) that "an individual's chances of personal victimization are dependent upon the extent to which the individual shares demographic characteristics with the offender." According to nationally available crime and victimization data (Uniform Crime Reports and National Crime Survey Data) both offenders and victims are disproportionately young. In a previous work, Hindelang (1976) demonstrated that victimizations suffered by young people are likely to be committed by young people. Along these lines, it can be expected that the risk of victimization by juveniles would be greater for younger persons than for older persons, and that for youth in the population the risk of victimization by juveniles would be greater than the risk of victimization by adults.

The survey data in Figure 1, presenting annual rates of total personal victimization (including rape, robbery, assault and personal larceny), confirm these expectations. Youth (the 12 to 19 year olds) had the highest overall risk of victimization (5,956 per 100,000 12 to 19 year olds). This

**FIGURE 1** Estimated annual rates of total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons in each population subgroup) by age of victim and age of offender,<sup>a</sup> NCS national data 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup> These figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

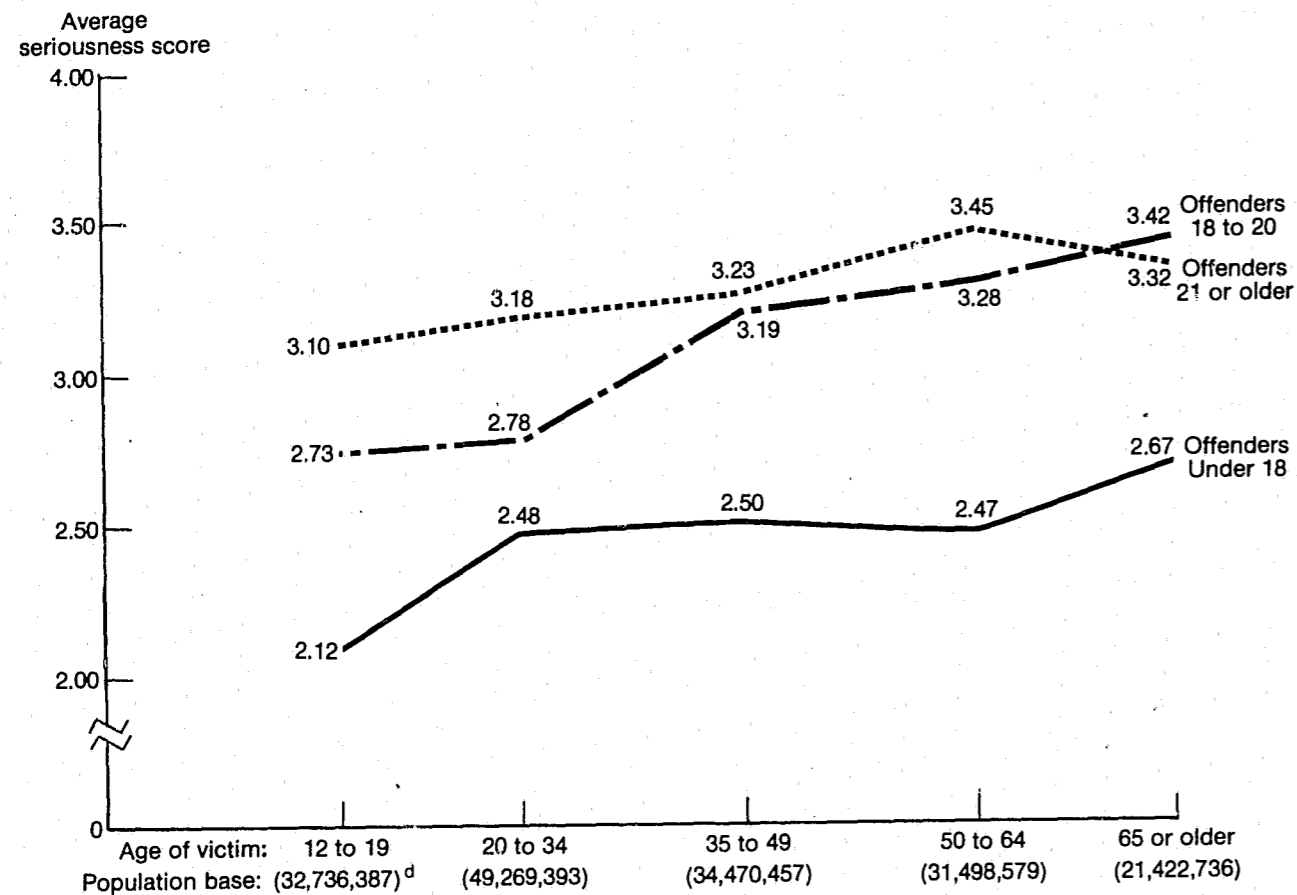
<sup>c</sup> Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.

overall rate of victimization of persons aged 12 to 19 was composed of three additive parts: victimizations by juvenile offenders (2,787 per 100,000 persons aged 12 to 19), youthful offenders (1,316 per 100,000 persons aged 12 to 19) and adult offenders (1,853 per 100,000 persons aged 12 to 19). Thus, persons 12 to 19 years old had the highest risk of victimization by juvenile offenders (2,787 per 100,000), a risk almost seven times the risk for persons in the next age category. In stark contrast, adults between the ages of 20 and 34 had the highest risk of victimization by adult offenders (3,623 per 100,000), a rate about twice the rate of victimization of 12 to 19 year olds by adult offenders (1,853 per 100,000). This figure clearly shows that the risk of victimization by juveniles is greatest among youth in the United States, and that young people face a greater risk of being victims of juvenile offenders than of being victims of adult offenders.

What about other age groups? In the mid-70's victimization of the elderly became a matter of widespread public concern. Previous analyses of the NCS data (Hindelang, 1976; Hochstedler, in press) have shown that the elderly have by far the lowest risk of personal victimization. This is demonstrated in Figure 1. Here, it is also seen that the elderly have a risk of victimization by adults that is more than twice their risk of victimization by juveniles: for individuals 65 or older, the rate of victimization by adults was 519 per 100,000; the rate of victimization by juveniles was 219 per 100,000.

What happens when we begin to examine the seriousness of these victimizations? Figure 2 shows, by age of victim, the average seriousness scores of criminal victimizations committed by juvenile offenders, youthful offenders, and adult offenders. From these data, two things are clear. First, in each victim age category the criminal victimizations committed by adults

**FIGURE 2 Estimated annual average seriousness scores<sup>a</sup> for total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons in each population subgroup), by age of victim and age of offender,<sup>b</sup> NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>c</sup>**



<sup>a</sup> Average seriousness scores are obtained by dividing the seriousness-weighted rates by the total personal victimization rates.

<sup>b</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>c</sup> These figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

<sup>d</sup> Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.

and youthful offenders are on the average more serious than those committed by juveniles. With the exception of elderly victims, for whom victimizations by youthful offenders were about as serious as those by adults, there is a pattern of increasing seriousness with increases in the age group of the offender. This is due to a variety of factors. As the examination shifts from juvenile offenders to youthful offenders to adult offenders, there is an increase in the offender's weapon use, especially gun use. The survey data show that increases in offender age are also generally related to increases in the proportion of completed thefts, increases in the value of the money or property stolen, and increases in physical injury to victims.<sup>11</sup>

The second pattern evidenced by the data in Figure 2 is a slight general tendency toward increasing seriousness with successive increases in the age group of victims. Among juvenile offenders, average seriousness of victimizations increased from 2.1 to 2.7 from the youngest to the oldest victims. This means that although of all age groups the elderly had the lowest overall risk of being victimized, when they were victims of personal crimes, their victimizations were slightly more serious than those of victims in any other age group. Conversely, although young people -- those between the ages of 12 and 19 -- had the highest overall risk of being victimized, particularly by juvenile offenders, these youth also suffered the least serious victimizations, particularly when they were victimized by other youths. However, it must be stressed that the changes in seriousness scores by victims' age are very small, never in excess of seven-tenths of a unit from the youngest to the oldest victims (among juvenile offenders) and as small as two-tenths of a unit from the youngest to the oldest victims (among adult offenders).

Up to this point the analysis and discussion have centered on total personal victimizations, including rape, robbery, aggravated and simple



Table 1 Estimated annual rates and seriousness-weighted rates of total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons in each population subgroup), by age of victim, type of crime, and age of offender. NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>a</sup>

Type of crime and age of offender	Age of victim					Total
	12 to 19	20 to 34	35 to 49	50 to 64	65 to 99	
Population base:	32,736,387 <sup>c</sup>	49,269,393	34,470,457	31,498,579	21,422,736	169,397,552
<b>Rape:</b>						
Under 18	26 <sup>d</sup> 92 <sup>e</sup>	5 15	2 6	0 0	5 32	7 27
18 to 20	38 264 <sup>f</sup>	10 <sup>g</sup> 55	3 9	0 0	0 0	11 69
21 or older	110 738	142 1,034	16 111	15 146	6 48	70 499
Don't know	8 44	4 44	1 23	2 23	0 0	3 30
Total	182 1,138	161 1,147	23 149	17 170	11 80	91 626
<b>Robbery:</b>						
Under 18	543 1,511	78 302	52 180	62 236	63 260	158 493
18 to 20	219 830	136 579	82 375	77 376	83 394	123 525
21 or older	263 1,216	537 2,722	297 1,511	231 1,251	185 915	334 1,682
Don't know	41 159	32 182	43 200	42 239	49 223	40 497
Total	1,067 3,716	782 3,786	474 2,266	411 2,102	380 1,792	655 2,898
<b>Aggravated Assault:</b>						
Under 18	652 2,228	88 327	52 193	39 138	26 95	173 603
18 to 20	421 1,530	161 618	57 226	33 128	12 59	168 553
21 or older	638 2,420	1,173 4,635	459 1,913	200 842	77 299	605 2,399
Don't know	61 237	51 219	23 106	12 42	5 19	34 141
Total	1,772 6,415	1,473 5,800	591 2,438	283 1,150	120 472	959 3,696
<b>Simple Assault:</b>						
Under 18	1,485 2,002	193 314	101 185	79 148	64 126	387 559
18 to 20	612 928	318 526	90 168	47 77	28 54	241 388
21 or older	810 1,318	1,703 3,015	680 1,266	357 667	155 301	876 1,551
Don't know	64 111	44 77	17 31	13 23	10 22	33 57
Total	2,972 4,359	2,258 3,932	888 1,650	496 915	258 504	1,537 2,556
<b>Personal Larceny:</b>						
Under 18	81 101	30 41	35 42	59 68	61 71	52 62
18 to 20	26 44	29 42	25 42	38 55	45 70	31 48
21 or older	32 48	68 122	70 119	73 118	96 158	66 111
Don't know	17 25	30 52	18 37	23 42	12 23	21 38
Total	155 217	166 256	148 240	193 282	214 323	171 259

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

<sup>c</sup>Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.

<sup>d</sup>Estimated rate per 100,000.

<sup>e</sup>Seriousness-weighted rates per 100,000 are obtained by multiplying each victimization by its Sellin-Wolfgang seriousness score, summing the weighted victimizations, then dividing this sum by the estimated population and multiplying the result by 100,000.

assault, and personal larceny. The relationships between victim age and the risk and seriousness of victimization vary considerably by type of crime (See Table 1). Examining the youngest persons in the general population first, in robbery, the assaults, and personal larceny, the risk of being victimized by a juvenile offender is higher than the risk of being victimized by an adult offender. The offender-age difference in risk is highest in simple assault; among 12 to 19 year olds, the rate of simple assault by juvenile offenders was 1,485 per 100,000, compared with a simple assault rate by adult offenders of 810 per 100,000. However, rape is largely a crime committed by adults. The 12 to 19 year olds had a rate of rape victimization by adults more than four times their rate of rape victimization by juveniles (110 compared with 26 per 100,000).

When average seriousness scores are computed, it is seen that in every type of crime committed against the 12 to 19 year olds, the crimes committed by adults were more serious than those committed by juveniles. Among these youthful victims, rapes and robberies committed by adults were about twice as serious as those committed by juveniles.

Returning to the issue of juvenile victimization of the elderly, the data in this table show that -- by the risk criterion adapted for this section -- the elderly had a much greater chance of being assaulted or robbed by adults than by juveniles. Among those 65 or older, the rate of aggravated assault by adults was three times the rate by juvenile offenders and the rate of simple assault by adults was twice the rate by juveniles.

#### Sex of Victim

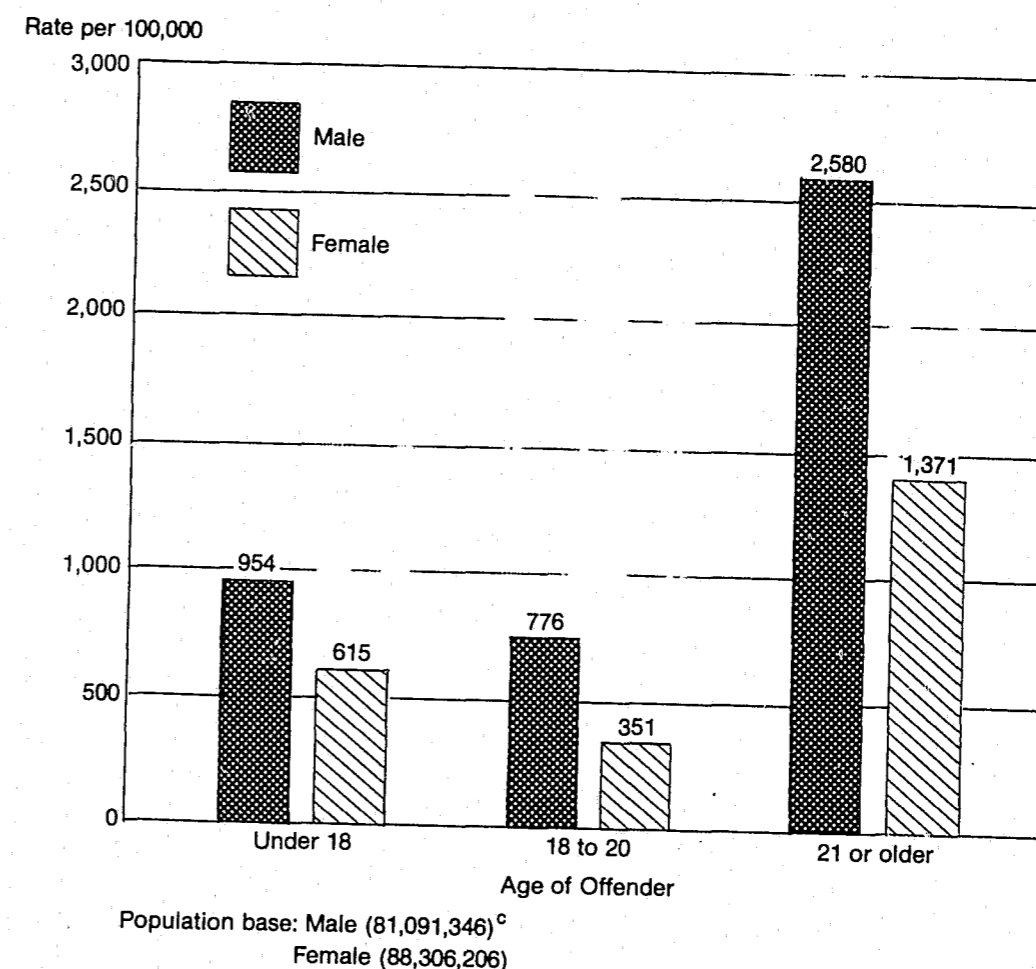
One of the well-known facts about criminal victimization in face-to-face personal crimes is that men have a much greater likelihood of being victimized than do women. Although crimes such as rape and spouse abuse

are virtually always against female victims, these types of crimes appear in survey data with sufficient rarity that women have considerably lower total rates of personal victimization. Sex, like age, has been linked to victimization through the notions of lifestyle and exposure; the theory is that men are more often exposed to the risk of victimization than women (Hindelang, Gottfredson, and Garofalo, 1978).

The victimization survey data indicate that for total personal victimization (including rape, robbery, the assaults, and personal larceny) in all three offender age groups the rate of victimization among men is higher than the rate among women. Figure 3 illustrates the difference between male and female rates of total personal victimization by juveniles, by youthful offenders, and by adults. It is clear that the risk of victimization in all offender age groups is greater among men than among women. However, the relative difference between male and female rates of victimization is not consistent across offender age groups. Although men have a greater risk of victimization than women in all offender age categories, the difference between their likelihood of being victimized and the likelihood of women being victimized is least if juvenile offenders are involved and greatest when youthful offenders are involved.

When these rates of victimization are weighted with Sellin-Wolfgang scores, the seriousness-weighted rate of victimization by juveniles is 2,260 per 100,000 in the male population and 1,270 per 100,000 in the female population. These figures convert to average seriousness scores of 2.4 and 2.1 for male and female victimization, respectively, by juveniles. For the total victimization by youthful offenders, the average serious scores for male and female victimization were virtually identical: 2.9 for male victims and 2.8 for female victims, and the average seriousness scores of male and female victimization by adults were both 3.2 (data not shown). Generally, then, among all offender age groups victimizations of women were about as serious as victimizations of men, even

**FIGURE 3** Estimated annual rates of total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons 12 years or older), by sex of victim and age of offender,<sup>a</sup> NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup> These figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

<sup>c</sup> Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.

though women weren't as likely as men to be victimized.

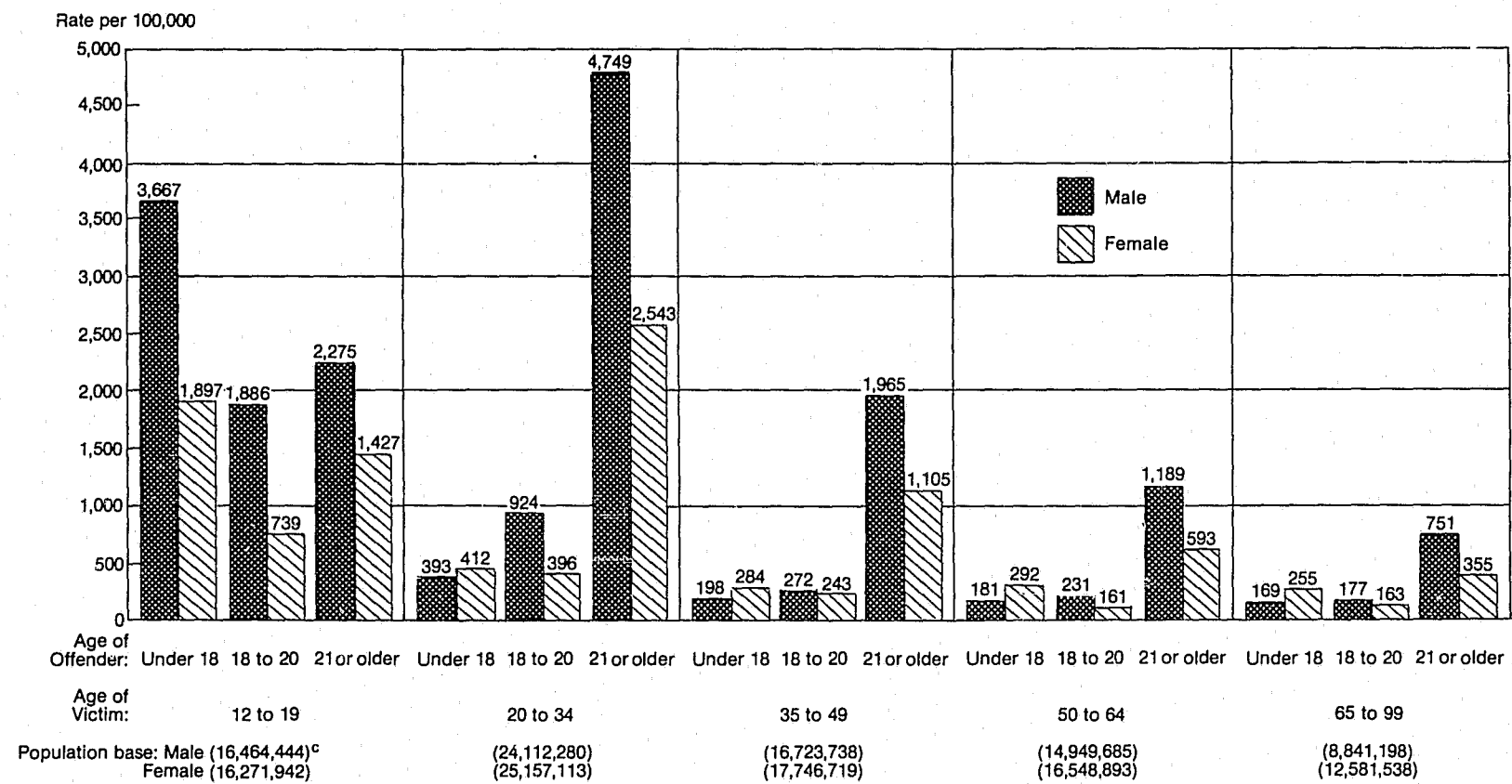
The male versus female difference in risk of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults varied, however, by age of victim (see Figure 4). In all groups in the population the male risk of victimization by youthful offenders and by adults was consistently higher than the female risk of victimization. However, the risk of victimization by juveniles was only higher for men than for women among the youngest victims, those between the ages of 12 and 19 years old. For every age grouping over 19, the female risk of victimization by juveniles was greater than the male risk of victimization by juveniles, and there was a tendency for the relative sex difference in risk to increase with increases in the age of the victim. The ratio of the male rate of victimization to the female rate of victimization by juveniles decreased from 1.9:1 among the 12 to 19 year olds to .95:1 among the 20 to 34 year olds to .7:1 among the 65 or older group.

#### Race of Victim

Another well-documented fact of victimization is that blacks in the United States are disproportionately victims of serious personal crimes; that is, the proportion of total victimizations suffered by blacks exceeds their proportionate representation in the population. The analysis here focuses on race-related patterns of risk and seriousness of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. A subsequent section examines the question of interracial versus intraracial victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults.

In the NCS there are three categories of respondent and offender race: white, black, and other. Survey interviewers record interviewed persons of Latin-American descent as "white," unless the respondents consider themselves as black or another nonwhite race. The category "other"

**FIGURE 4** Estimated annual rates of total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons in each population subgroup), by sex of victim, age of victim, and age of offender,<sup>a</sup> NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>



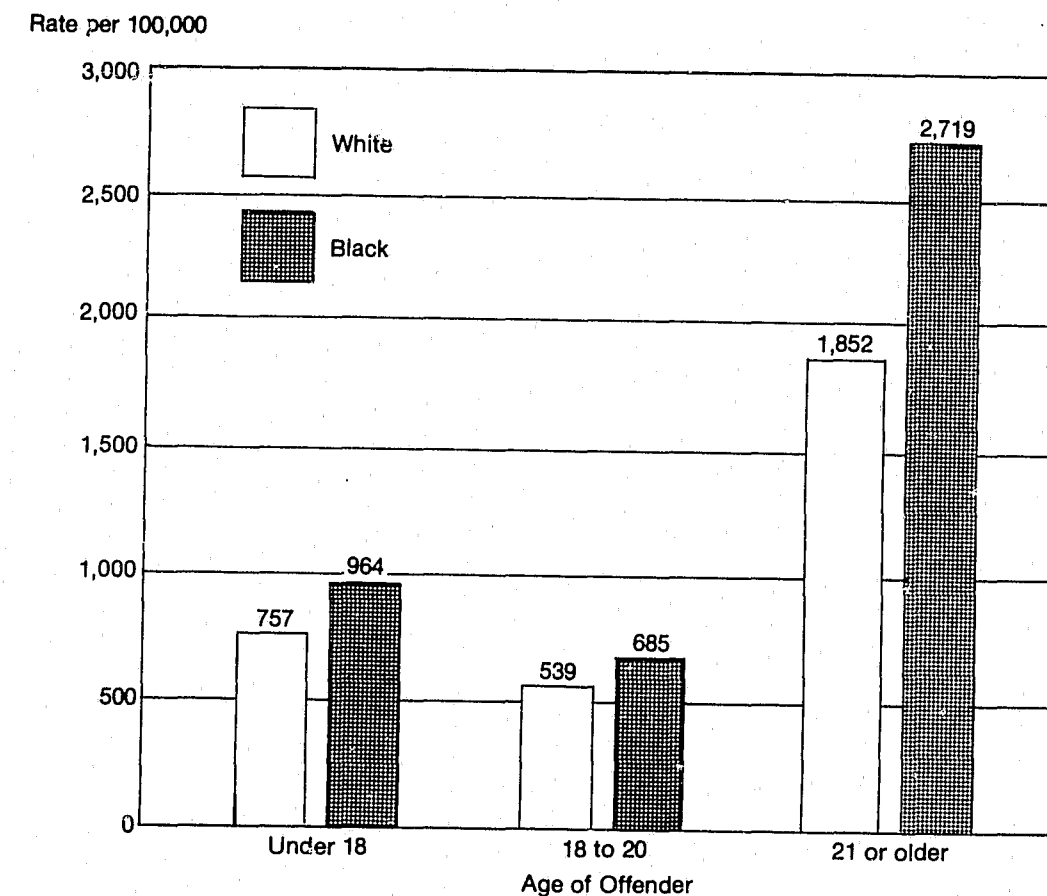
<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.  
<sup>b</sup> These figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.  
<sup>c</sup> Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.

includes persons of races other than white or black such as Japanese, Chinese, American Indian, and so forth. In the years 1973 to 1977, whites comprised 88 percent of the United States population 12 years old or older, blacks comprised 11 percent, and persons of other races comprised 1 percent. Because races other than white and black constituted such a small portion of the population, much of the analysis here focuses only on comparisons of rates and seriousness-weighted rates of victimization among white and black individuals.

In Figure 5 estimated annual rates of personal victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults are shown for the racial subgroups in the population. It is immediately apparent that the risk of personal victimization by offenders in all age groups is higher for blacks than for whites. For example, the risk of victimization by juveniles is 964 per 100,000 among blacks, but only 757 per 100,000 among whites. The comparable difference between the black and white risks of victimization is greatest when adults are the offending group.

Not only do blacks have higher rates of victimization than whites, but they also are consistently victims of more serious crimes. Although the black rate of victimization by juveniles is about one and one-quarter times the white rate, the seriousness-weighted rate of victimization by juveniles among blacks is about one and one-half times the seriousness-weighted rate among whites (2,399 compared with 1,483 per 100,000). Average seriousness scores (data not shown) indicate that by every offender age group, victimizations of blacks are more serious than those of whites. Among both blacks and whites, the average seriousness of personal victimizations increases with increases in the age group of the offender. Among the black victims, the seriousness of victimizations by adults was about 1.6 times the serious-

**FIGURE 5** Estimated annual rates of total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons 12 years or older), by race of victim and age of offender,<sup>a</sup> NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>



Population base: White (148,810,423)<sup>c</sup>  
Black (18,378,920)

<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup> These figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

<sup>c</sup> Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.

ness of victimizations by juveniles (4.0 compared with 2.6).

When the rate data are broken out by type of crime there are important exceptions to the general pattern of a higher rate of victimization among blacks than among whites (see Table 2). In the serious crimes of rape, robbery, and aggravated assault the risk of victimization among blacks is greater than the risk among whites. For example, among blacks the rate of aggravated assault by juveniles is 244 per 100,000, whereas the white rate of aggravated assault by juveniles is 165 per 100,000. However, in simple assault the rate of victimization among whites is higher than the rate among blacks. The rate of simple assault by juveniles is 394 per 100,000 among whites, but 339 per 100,000 among blacks. Whites, then, have a greater risk of being victims of the less serious assaults, those that, by definition, involve neither weapon use nor serious bodily injury.

#### Family Income of Victim

In the NCS interview the total family income is recorded for all survey respondents. Total family income includes the income of the household head plus that of all his or her relatives 12 years of age or older who are household members at the time. Hence, in this analysis "income" means family income and does not necessarily refer to an individual respondent's earnings or income. Prior analyses of the NCS data have shown that in general, the lower a person's family income, the higher the risk of being a victim of a personal crime. This section examines this income/risk relationship specifically in terms of the risk of being victimized by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults.

The 1973-1977 average annual rate of total personal victimization (including rape, robbery, the assaults, and personal larceny) declines markedly as the income group of persons in the population increases. However, although this

Table 2 Estimated annual rates and seriousness-weighted rates of total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons 12 years or older), by race of victim, type of crime, and age of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

Type of crime and age of offender	Race of victim		Total <sup>c</sup>
	White	Black	
Population base:	146,810,423 <sup>d</sup>	18,378,920	169,397,552
Rape:			
Under 18	8 <sup>e</sup> 24 <sup>f</sup>	7 57	7 27
18 to 20	10 61	17 140	11 69
21 or older	63 429	125 1,118	70 499
Don't know	3 29	3 21	3 30
Total	84 543	152 1,336	91 626
Robbery:			
Under 18	144 439	270 938	158 493
18 to 20	109 450	235 1,125	125 525
21 or older	283 1,359	749 4,338	334 1,682
Don't know	30 151	109 536	40 197
Total	366 2,398	1,363 6,938	655 2,898
Aggravated Assault:			
Under 18	165 570	244 877	173 603
18 to 20	142 530	198 757	148 553
21 or older	563 2,209	935 3,891	605 2,399
Don't know	30 122	68 296	34 141
Total	900 3,432	1,445 5,822	959 3,696
Simple Assault:			
Under 18	394 578	339 440	387 539
18 to 20	250 401	176 280	241 388
21 or older	896 1,580	717 1,306	876 1,551
Don't know	33 58	25 57	33 57
Total	1,572 2,617	1,257 2,083	1,237 2,556
Personal Larceny:			
Under 18	46 51	105 147	52 62
18 to 20	28 42	58 97	31 48
21 or older	48 78	193 336	64 111
Don't know	17 30	58 104	21 38
Total	139 201	414 704	171 259

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

<sup>c</sup>Total includes individuals of races other than white and black.

<sup>d</sup>Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.

<sup>e</sup>Estimated rate per 100,000.

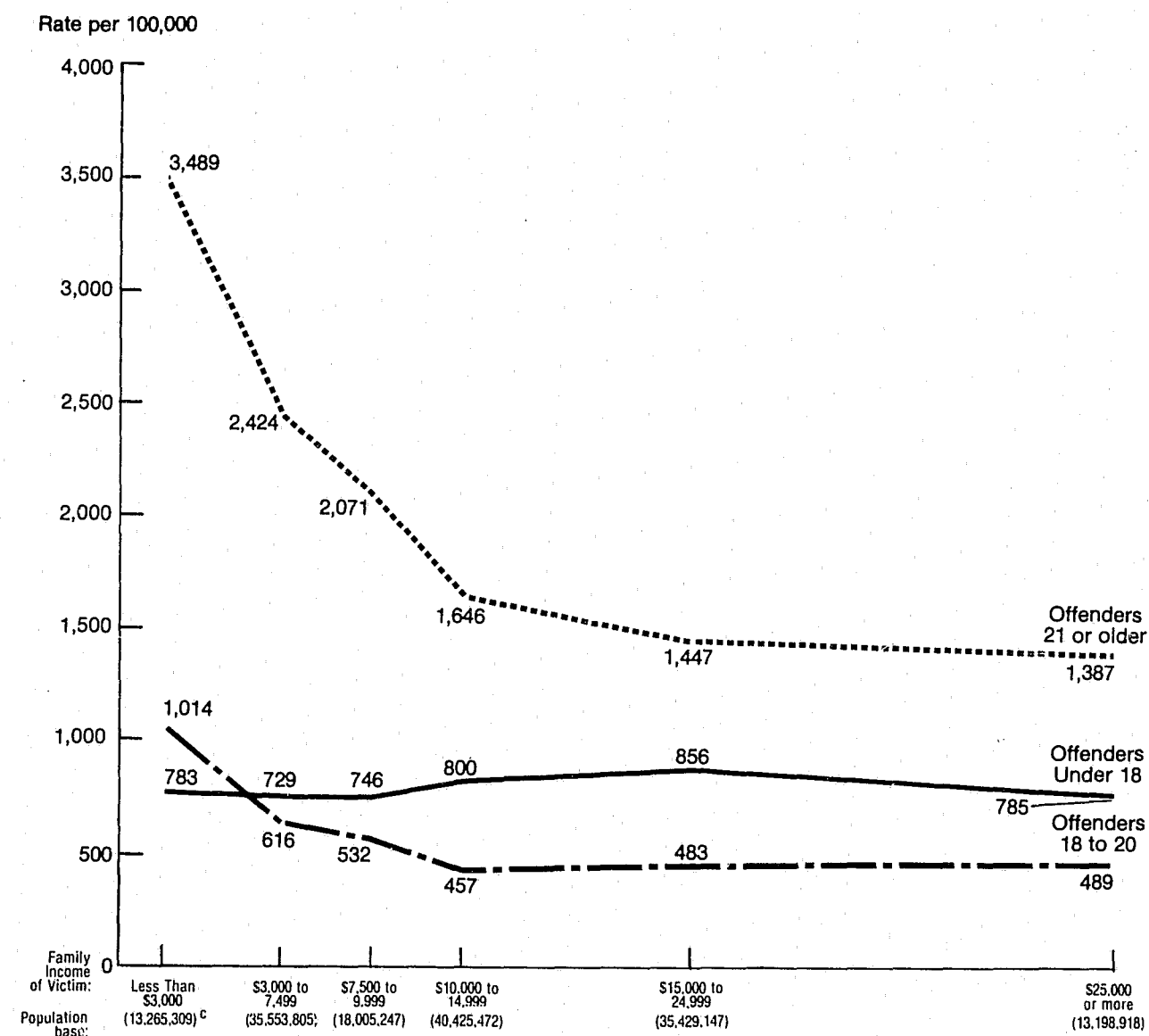
<sup>f</sup>Seriousness-weighted rates per 100,000 are obtained by multiplying each victimization by its Sellin-Wolfgang seriousness score, summing the weighted victimizations, then dividing this sum by the estimated population and multiplying the result by 100,000.

pattern of declining risk with increasing income is quite strong for crimes committed by adults, the pattern is less strong for the risk of victimization by youthful offenders, and there is no inverse relationship between family income and risk of victimization by juveniles. (See Figure 6.) The rate of victimization by adults among individuals with family incomes of less than \$3,000 was about two and one-half times the rate of victimization by adults among those with incomes of \$25,000 or more (3,489 compared with 1,387 per 100,000). However, the rate of victimization by juveniles was about equal among individuals in the lowest and highest income groups (783 compared with 785 per 100,000). In fact, the risk of victimization by juveniles gradually increases between the income group of \$3,000 to \$7,499 (729 per 100,000) and the income group of \$15,000 to \$24,999 (856 per 100,000).

It is also interesting to observe from this figure that while persons in the lowest income category (less than \$3,000) had a rate of victimization by adults that was 4.4 times their rate of victimization by juveniles, persons in the highest income category (\$25,000 or more) had a rate of victimization by adults that was only 1.8 times their rate of victimization by juveniles. In general, the higher the income group in the population, the greater was the comparative risk of being victimized by a juvenile rather than an adult.

What accounts for the finding of no inverse relationship between family income and risk of victimization by juveniles? It is possible that lower income people, compared with higher income people, because of their high risk of being crime victims, are not as likely to report to survey interviewers victimizations by juveniles as they are to report victimizations by adults. This would be particularly likely in areas in which the law-violating behavior of youth was commonplace but not particularly serious, compared with that of adults. By contrast, higher income people, who

**FIGURE 6** Estimated annual rates of total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons 12 years or older), by income of victim and age of offender,<sup>a</sup> NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup> These figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender. Incidents in which the income of the victim was not ascertained are also excluded from this figure.

<sup>c</sup> Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.



generally experience lower risks of criminal victimization, may be more likely to recall and report to survey interviewers their victimizations by young people; even if the experiences are not especially serious, they have greater salience in the lives of people who experience them rarely.

Analysis of the relationship between family income and the seriousness of criminal victimization committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults, shows that overall, as the family income of individuals in the population increases, the seriousness of the victimizations they suffer decreases, but only slightly. (Data not shown in tabular form.) For example, the average seriousness score of total juvenile victimization decreases from 2.6 for persons in the lowest income category to 2.0 for persons in the highest income category.

In Table 3 rates and seriousness-weighted rates of robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, and personal larceny are shown by age of offender and family income of victim. In the more serious crimes -- robbery and aggravated assault -- the rate data indicate a declining but generally uneven risk of victimization by juveniles with increases in the income level of persons in the population. Only for the crime of simple assault is there a consistently increasing risk of victimization by juveniles as family income increases; the rate of simple assault by juveniles is 295 per 100,000 among those with incomes of less than \$3,000, but 453 per 100,000 among those with incomes of \$25,000 or more. By way of comparison, in each type of crime, rates of victimization by adults generally show strong decreases as the income group in the population increases.

#### Marital Status of Victim

Generally, it has been found with the survey data that married persons have a much lower risk of personal victimization than single (never married)

Table 3 Estimated annual rates and seriousness-weighted rates of total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons 12 years or older), by income of victim, type of crime, and age of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

Type of crime and age of offender	Income of victim							Total
	Less than \$3,000	\$3,000 to 7,499	\$7,500 to 9,999	\$10,000 to 14,999	\$15,000 to 24,999	\$25,000 or more	Not ascertained	
Population base:	13,265,309 <sup>c</sup>	35,553,805	18,005,247	40,425,472	35,429,147	13,198,918	13,518,070	169,395,968
Robbery:								
Under 18	178 <sup>d</sup> 618 <sup>e</sup>	166 582	134 410	165 488	148 425	127 336	182 595	158 493
18 to 20	225 987	147 651	128 546	96 407	93 379	83 287	156 678	123 525
21 or older	731 3,682	437 2,277	391 1,884	241 1,240	213 1,067	208 986	316 1,504	334 1,682
Don't know	75 355	54 244	45 240	28 136	23 113	21 122	59 337	40 197
Total	1,209 5,642	804 3,755	699 3,080	528 2,272	477 1,983	439 1,731	713 3,114	655 2,898
Aggravated Assault:								
Under 18	206 724	167 574	199 710	182 615	167 601	168 575	113 412	173 603
18 to 20	268 993	150 551	131 471	143 536	129 485	113 453	143 555	148 553
21 or older	1,019 4,075	809 3,244	618 2,518	503 1,972	441 1,702	390 1,580	585 2,284	605 2,399
Don't know	62 278	36 144	46 205	27 107	30 129	27 108	21 84	34 141
Total	1,555 6,071	1,162 4,513	995 3,904	855 3,230	767 2,916	697 2,716	862 3,334	959 3,696
Simple Assault:								
Under 18	295 458	319 464	352 482	403 592	499 721	453 620	292 429	387 559
18 to 20	445 712	255 436	225 353	197 306	236 382	259 389	156 250	241 388
21 or older	1,356 2,437	992 1,738	919 1,587	821 1,473	722 1,276	698 1,226	788 1,273	876 1,551
Don't know	46 73	28 46	34 56	33 68	27 43	33 71	40 66	33 57
Total	2,143 3,680	1,594 2,739	1,530 2,477	1,454 2,439	1,484 2,422	1,442 2,306	1,276 2,018	1,537 2,556
Personal Larceny:								
Under 18	94 124	71 85	50 57	41 44	35 41	34 40	65 71	52 62
18 to 20	66 119	47 68	37 65	15 23	16 23	20 25	50 71	31 48
21 or older	166 296	87 152	64 108	44 64	35 61	53 75	76 128	66 111
Don't know	29 44	27 48	24 45	16 27	13 22	18 42	39 69	21 38
Total	354 583	232 353	175 274	116 157	99 149	125 182	229 339	171 259

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

<sup>c</sup>Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.

<sup>d</sup>Estimated rate per 100,000.

<sup>e</sup>Seriousness-weighted rates per 100,000 are obtained by multiplying each victimization by its Sellin-Wolfgang seriousness score, summing the weighted victimizations, then dividing this sum by the estimated population and multiplying the result by 100,000.

persons or those who are divorced or separated. Like the other strong correlates of personal victimization, marital status has been linked to the risk of victimization through the lifestyle/exposure hypothesis (Hindelang, Gottfredson, Garofalo, 1978). Presumably, persons who are married, particularly those with at-home family responsibilities, are not as often exposed to the risk of criminal victimization as non-married persons. Of the non-married, persons who are widowed are exceptions largely due to the association of age with a decreasing likelihood of being victimized.

For the various marital status groups, the survey data in Table 4 show rates and seriousness-weighted rates of total personal victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. In each offender age group, rates of victimization are highest among either the single or the divorced/separated persons. Among single individuals, the rate of victimization by juveniles was not substantially different from the rate of victimization by adults (2,039 compared with 2,480 per 100,000). This is undoubtedly because the persons in the 12 to 19 year old age group, the age group containing the highest proportion of single persons, are the persons in the population with the highest rate of victimization by juveniles. Contrariwise, among divorced/separated individuals, the rate of victimization by adults was more than eleven times the rate of victimization by juveniles (5,829 compared with 520 per 100,000).

Married and widowed persons had the lowest rates of victimization by juveniles, by youthful offenders, and by adults. Among married persons, the risk of victimization by adults was more than six times the risk of victimization by juveniles (1,425 compared with 228 per 100,000). Among the widowed, the rate of victimization by adults was more than twice the rate of victimization by juveniles (817 compared with 338 per 100,000).

Table 4 Estimated annual rates and seriousness-weighted rates of total personal victimization (per 100,000 persons 12 years or older), by marital status of victim and age of offender,<sup>a</sup> NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

Age of offender	Marital status of victim					Total
	Single	Married	Divorced, Separated	Widow	Not ascertained	
Population base:	48,821,534 <sup>c</sup>	98,180,467	10,122,960	11,827,116	445,475	169,397,552
Under 18	2,039 <sup>d</sup>	228	520	338	949	777
	4,400 <sup>e</sup>	567	1,372	866	1,873	1,744
18 to 20	1,177	265	723	245	504	554
	3,197	794	2,247	904	1,540	1,583
21 or older	2,480	1,425	5,829	817	1,599	1,950
	7,855	4,386	20,503	2,797	6,233	6,243
Don't know	208	80	273	110	211	131
	684	288	1,158	436	364	464
Total	5,904	1,998	7,346	1,509	3,264	3,413
	16,136	6,034	25,280	5,003	10,010	10,034

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

<sup>c</sup>Five year average estimated number of persons in the population.

<sup>d</sup>Estimated rate per 100,000

<sup>e</sup>Seriousness-weighted rates per 100,000 are obtained by multiplying each victimization by its Sellin-Wolfgang seriousness score, summing the weighted victimizations, then dividing this sum by the estimated population, and multiplying the result by 100,000.

An examination of rates and seriousness-weighted rates of robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, and personal larceny (data not presented) by age of offender and marital status reveal that the patterns observed in Table 4 do not vary considerably by type of crime. With the exception of personal larceny, the risk of personal victimization by juveniles is highest among single persons, and the risk of victimization by adults, in each type of crime, is highest among the divorced/separated.

When average seriousness scores are computed from the data in Table 4 it is seen that in all offender age groups that the most serious victimizations are suffered by the divorced/separated and the widowed. It is probably the case that the somewhat more serious victimizations are committed against the divorced/separated and the widowed because of the association of victim age with the seriousness of victimization. Youth, those most likely to be single, suffer the least serious victimizations.

#### Summary

In this section of the report we have examined characteristics of victims of personal crime by breaking the risk of personal victimization into three component parts: the risk of victimization by juveniles, the risk of victimization by youthful offenders, and the risk of victimization by adults. Some of the major findings of this analysis include:

Age of victim. An individual's age is a strong correlate of his or her comparative risk of being victimized by juveniles, by youthful offenders or by adults. The risk of criminal victimization by juvenile offenders is greatest among youth aged 12 to 19; 12 to 19 year olds face a far greater risk of being victims of juveniles than of adults. However, when young people are victimized, their victimiza-

tions are most serious if adult offenders, not juveniles, are involved. The elderly are more than twice as likely to be victimized by adults as by juveniles and victimizations of the elderly were least serious when juvenile offenders were involved.

Sex of victim. The relationship between sex and the risk of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults, varied somewhat with the age of the victim. In every age group in the United States, the male risk of victimization by youthful offenders and adults was greater than the female risk. However, in every age group over 19 years old, the female risk of victimization by juveniles was greater than the male risk of victimization by juveniles.

Race of victim. Blacks in the United States have consistently higher rates of total personal victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults than do whites, and they are also consistently victims of more serious crimes. Racial differences in the risk of victimization are greatest when adults are the offending group.

Family income. Although there is a strong inverse relationship between family income and the risk of personal victimization by adults, there is no inverse relationship between family income and the risk of personal victimization by juveniles.

Marital status. In each offender age group, rates of personal victimization are highest either among the single or the divorced/separated individuals in the population.

## II. Rates of Offending

To this point in the analysis our examination of offender characteristics has not given attention to the number of potential offenders in particular sex-race-age subgroups. For example, how many persons (potential offenders) 12 to 17 years of age are there who account for the crimes that victims of juvenile offenders suffer? That is, in this monograph we have not yet examined rates of offending. As noted in the introduction, criminologists have traditionally used either data on arrests or self-reports of respondents to study demographic correlates of offending. Although these two sources of data (police arrest data and self-reports) have produced compatible results with respect to sex -- both sources of data show that for juveniles male offending rates are on the order of four or five times greater than female offending rates -- the results for race have been somewhat contradictory. Comparisons of arrest rates for whites and blacks have shown that for Uniform Crime Report index offenses, particularly violent offenses, the black rate of offending is far in excess of that of whites (e.g., U.S. Department of Justice, 1978 (1977 UCR); Wolfgang, Figlio, and Sellin, 1972). On the other hand, some self-report data show a racial difference that is near zero (William and Gold, 1972; Gold and Reimer, 1975; Hirschi, 1969; Gould, 1969) while others (Berger and Simon, 1974; Elliott and Ageton, 1979) show differences only for some offenses.

This apparent discrepancy between police and self-report rates of offending for race may be due to some differences between studies using the

two sources of data. First, most self-report studies simply do not capture offenses of Uniform Crime Report index seriousness. Second, virtually all self-report studies have been done using adolescent samples. Third, self-report samples have typically been inadequate for reliably measuring the rate of black offending in serious crimes (e.g., the largest national sample for studies published to date (Gold and Reimer, 1975) had only 87 black male respondents). Each of these differences may contribute to differences in results when self-report versus police data are used.<sup>12</sup>

Victimization survey data offer a third source of data that may help to resolve the discrepancy between arrest data and self-report data. Reports of victims are independent of the criminal justice system, these reports encompass relatively serious offenses, and they are sufficiently numerous to provide reliable estimates of rates of offending for various demographic subgroups. One limitation of victimization survey data for this purpose is that it is not possible to tell the extent to which a small number of offenders account for a large proportion of offenses. In self-report studies, on the other hand, because there is one interview or questionnaire per subject, the number of offenses attributable to each distinct respondent can be ascertained. However for arrest data published in the Uniform Crime Reports -- and for reports of victims in victimization surveys -- it is not possible to ascertain the number of distinct offenders arrested (or in victimization surveys reported by victims). Hence victimization surveys and published UCR arrest data share this shortcoming. Despite this, the survey data have sufficient compensating advantages to recommend their use for studying rates of offending.

The rates of offending reported in this section are designed to parallel arrest data as closely as possible. That is, given that the survey data

are incapable of providing information on the number of distinct offenders involved in offenses suffered by different victims, the rates of offending reported in this section take into account the total number of offenders in each sex-race-age subgroup theoretically subject to arrest for the offense reported to survey interviewers. This is accomplished by taking into account the total number of offenders in each sex-race-age subgroup for each incident. For example, if one victim reports having been victimized by one white male adult and two white female juveniles and another victim reports having been victimized by one black female adult and one white male adult, the sex-race-age subtotals for these victimizations would be two white male adults, two white female juveniles, and one black female adult. This subtotalling process continues across all incidents reported to survey interviewers and results in a total number of offenders for each sex-race-age subgroup.<sup>13</sup> These subgroup totals serve as the numerators for the rates of offending reported in this section;<sup>14</sup> the denominators are estimates of the number of persons in the general population (i.e., potential offenders) in each sex-race-age subgroup.<sup>15</sup> Rates of offending are reported per 100,000 potential offenders and they convey the extent to which persons with particular demographic characteristics are disproportionately involved as offenders in personal victimizations.

Before proceeding to the analysis, it is necessary to make an important observation with respect to the general population estimates used as the bases of the rates of offending shown in this section. In this section, the general population base for the rate of juvenile offending is persons between 12 and 17 years of age. The victimization data show that fewer than one percent of the survey victimizations are committed by persons perceived by victims to have been under 12 years of age. In light of this and since

general population estimates were not made for persons under 12 because they did not fall within the scope of the survey, the base of the juvenile offending rate is simply the number of 12 to 17 year olds in the general population. That is, the numerators of rates of offending for 12 to 17 year olds include a small proportion of crimes of offenders under 12, whereas the denominators include only persons in the general population aged 12 to 17.

For the adult rate of offending another problem exists. UCR arrest data show that the vast majority of arrestees (about 90 percent) for the personal crimes of concern here are under forty years of age. However, because in the victimization survey data the oldest offender age category is "21 or older," it is not possible to remove from the numerator of the adult rates of offending the small proportion of crimes committed by persons, say, over forty years of age. When the adult offending rate is standardized by the full range of general population adults -- including many older persons who are beyond the effective upper age limit of the offending distribution (about 40 percent of the general population is over forty years of age) -- the result is that the adult offending rate is too low in absolute terms. That is, if most of the offending is done by persons under forty but the rate of offending is divided by all adults -- persons 21 to 99 and even older -- the rate of offending for the crime-prone segment of the adult age range will be underestimated. There is no entirely satisfactory solution to this problem, principally because the oldest offenders cannot be removed from the numerator of the rates. However, as will be apparent in the figures presented below, even if the offending rates for the adults were doubled to compensate for this phenomenon the general patterns in the data (i.e., the adult rate of offending being the lowest) would be

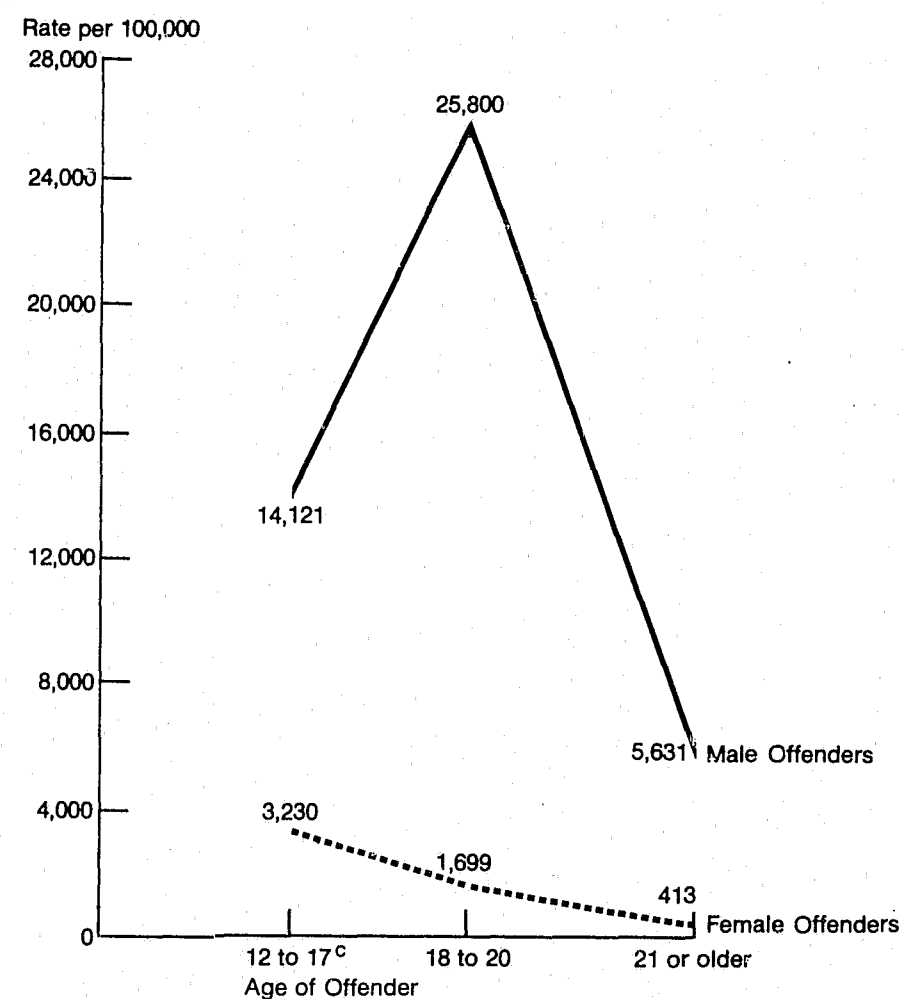
preserved.

In Figure 7 the sex difference in rates of offending for each of the three age groups is shown for total personal victimizations. Among juveniles, the male rate of offending indicates that 14,121 male juveniles were involved as offenders in personal incidents for every 100,000 males 12 to 17 years of age in the general population; the comparable figure for female juvenile offenders is 3,230. Again, it must be emphasized that using victim reports there is simply no way to tell how many distinct offenders were involved in these personal incidents. In all three age groups, the male rates of offending are substantially greater than the female rates. The largest sex difference is found in the 18 to 20 year old age group where the rate of offending for males is more than fifteen times the female rate, while among adults the male to female ratio is similar, about 14:1; among juvenile offenders, the ratio of the male to female offending rate is smallest, about 4:1.

When the racial differences are examined (Figure 8), blacks are found to have a rate of offending that is much higher than that for whites. In each age group, the ratio of the black rate of offending to the white rate of offending in total personal victimizations is about 5:1. Hence, overall, the sex effect (Figure 7) is larger than the race effect, but each effect is very pronounced. Unlike the sex effect, the magnitude of the race effect does not seem to be age dependent.

The simultaneous effects of sex, race, and age group are displayed in Figure 9. Among female offenders, there is a decline in rates of offending in personal crimes as age group increases; black females in each age group are about four to five times as likely as their white counterparts to offend in face-to-face personal crimes. When the data are examined

**FIGURE 7** Estimated annual rates of offending in total personal crimes (per 100,000 potential offenders in each population subgroup), by age of offender<sup>a</sup> and sex of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>



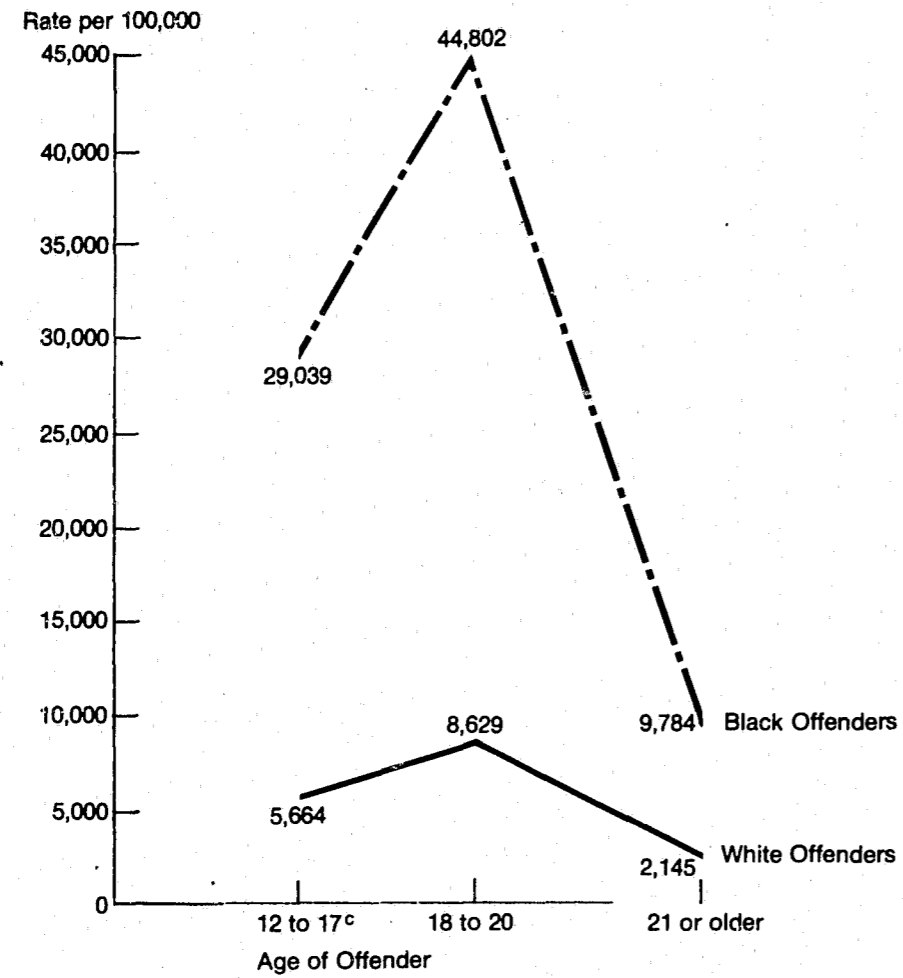
<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup> Excluded are incidents (about 9 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" sexes.

<sup>c</sup> The numerator of the rates of offending for 12 to 17 year olds includes incidents (about 1 percent of the total) in which the offender was perceived by the victim to be under 12 years of age. The denominator of the rate is the number of 12 to 17 year olds in the general population. See population base estimates in Appendix F.



**FIGURE 8** Estimated annual rates of offending in total personal crimes (per 100,000 potential offenders in each population subgroup), by age of offender<sup>a</sup> and race of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

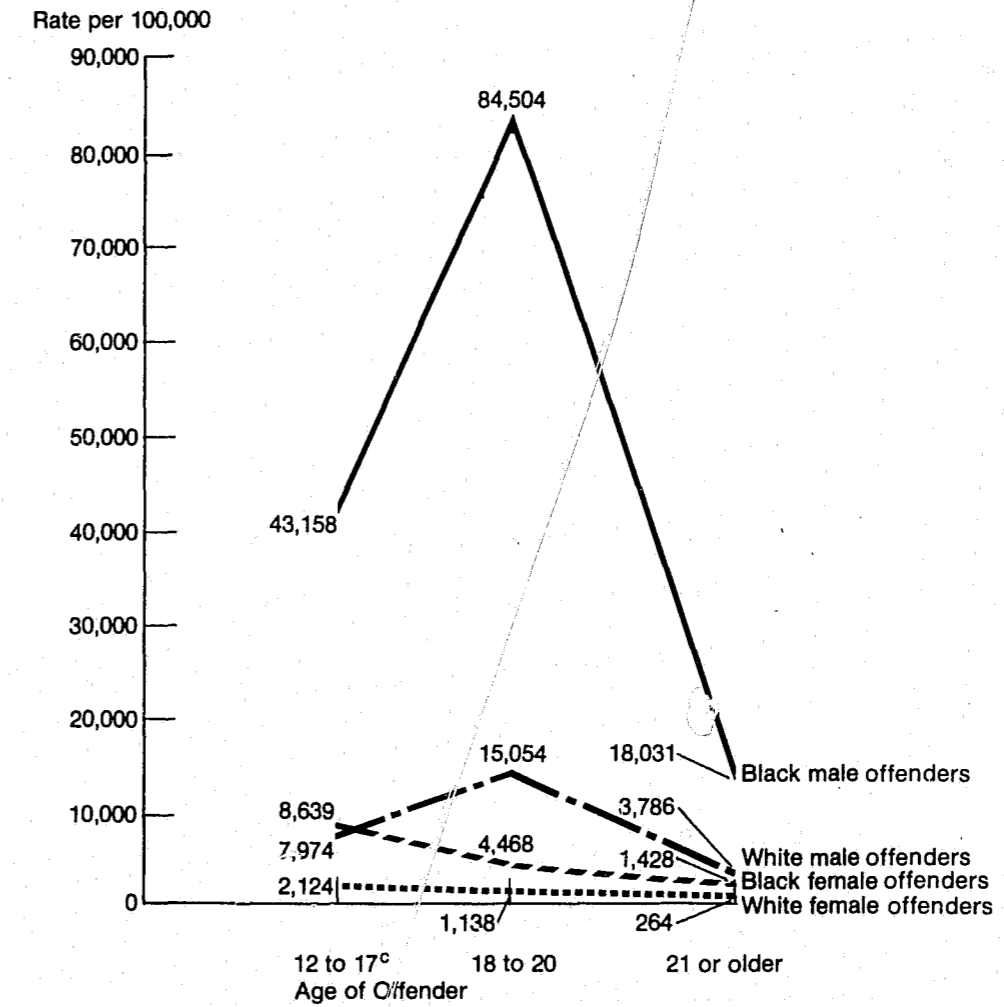


<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup> Excluded are incidents (about 8 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" races.

<sup>c</sup> The numerator of the rates of offending for 12 to 17 year olds includes incidents (about 7 percent of the total) in which the offender was perceived by the victim to be under 12 years of age. The denominator of the rate is the number of 12 to 17 year olds in the general population. See population base estimates in Appendix F.

**FIGURE 9** Estimated annual rates of offending in total personal crimes (per 100,000 potential offenders in each population subgroup), by age of offender<sup>a</sup> and race and sex of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

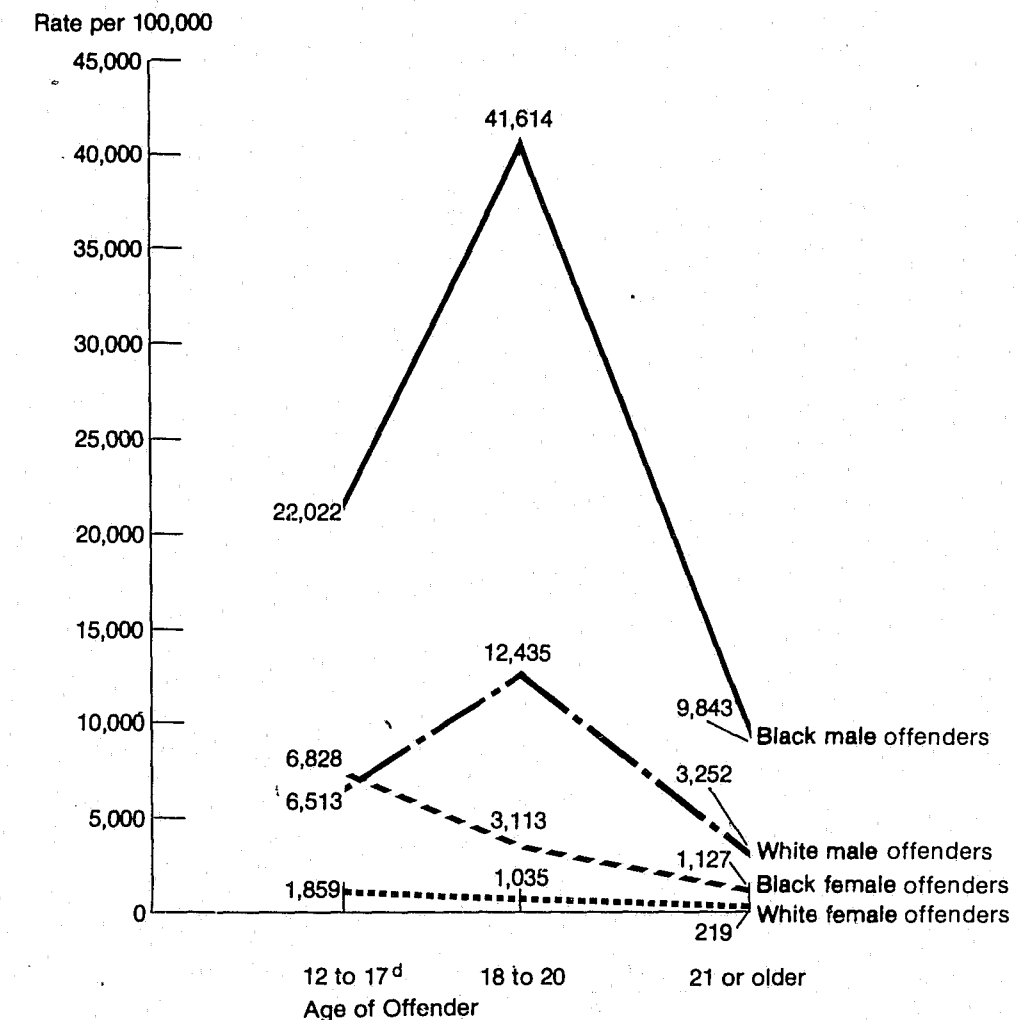
<sup>b</sup> Excluded are incidents (about 11 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender, and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" sexes or "mixed" races.

<sup>c</sup> The numerator of the rates of offending for 12 to 17 year olds includes incidents (about 1 percent of the total) in which the offender was perceived by the victim to be under 12 years of age. The denominator of the rate is the number of 12 to 17 year olds in the general population. See population base estimates in Appendix F.

among the males, the black to white offending rate ratio is also about 5:1. Among the males the curvilinear pattern by age that is evident in Figure 7 is also apparent in Figure 9. For the figure as a whole, in the 18 to 20 and 21 or older age groups, black males have the highest rate of offending, white males the second highest rate, black females the third highest, and white females the lowest rate of offending. The pattern is similar for the 12 to 17 age group except that black females have a rate slightly in excess of the rate for white males.

The pattern of offending in Figure 9 is paralleled in Figure 10 which shows the rate of violent offending by sex, race, and age of offender. In this connection, violent offenses are a simple sum of rape, aggravated assault, and simple assault victimizations. Again, the peak age of offending is 18 to 20 for males, where the rate for black males (41,614 per 100,000) is more than three times that of white males (12,435 per 100,000). The pattern for theft crimes (robbery and personal larceny) in Figure 11 shows that the profiles for white females, black females, and white males "cluster" together while that for black males is elevated far above, showing rates of theft offending eleven to sixteen times that of the next highest group. Finally, in conjunction with figures 10 and 11 it is worth noting that the rate of offending among those 12 to 17 years of age is slightly greater for black females than for white males, as was the case for total personal victimizations in Figure 9; although the data for personal robbery and personal larceny are not shown separately, this higher rate of offending for black female juveniles than for white male juveniles holds for robbery, assault, and larceny. Indeed, for personal larceny the offending rate for black females is almost twice as great as that for white males in each of the three age groups.

**FIGURE 10** Estimated annual rates of offending in total personal violent crimes<sup>a</sup> (per 100,000 potential offenders in each population subgroup), by age of offender<sup>b</sup> and sex and race of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>c</sup>



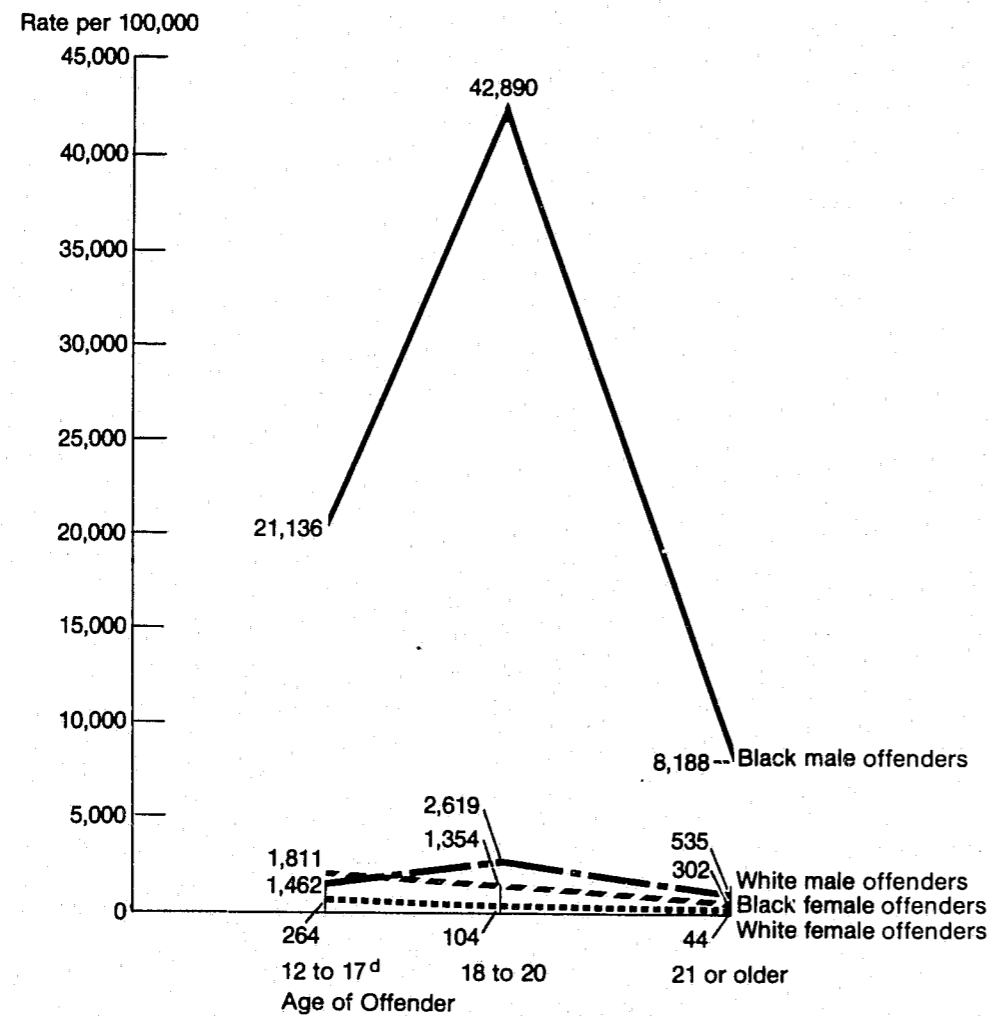
<sup>a</sup> Includes the crimes of rape, aggravated assault, and simple assault.

<sup>b</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>c</sup> Excluded are incidents (about 11 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender, and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" sexes or "mixed" races.

<sup>d</sup> The numerator of the rates of offending for 12 to 17 year olds includes incidents (about 1 percent of the total) in which the offender was perceived by the victim to be under 12 years of age. The denominator of the rate is the number of 12 to 17 year olds in the general population. See population base estimates in Appendix F.

FIGURE 11: Estimated annual rates of offending in total personal theft crimes<sup>a</sup> (per 100,000 potential offenders in each population subgroup), by age of offender<sup>b</sup> and sex and race of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>c</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Includes the crimes of robbery and personal larceny.

<sup>b</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>c</sup> Excluded are incidents (about 11 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender, and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" sexes or "mixed" races.

<sup>d</sup> The numerator of the rates of offending for 12 to 17 year olds includes incidents (about 1 percent of the total) in which the offender was perceived by the victim to be under 12 years of age. The denominator of the rate is the number of 12 to 17 year olds in the general population. See population base estimates in Appendix F.

An examination of rates of offending in commercial robbery (See commercial instrument in Appendix B) shows similar results (Table 5). For each race and sex group, the age group with the highest rate of offending is the 18 to 20 year old group. Among blacks, for example, the rate for this intermediate age group is more than 6 times that of the youngest group and two and one-half times that of the oldest group. Racial differences with blacks showing higher rates are substantial in all subgroups (except among female juveniles where the rates are identical), and increase with the offender's age. For instance, among males the black to white rate ratio increases from 11:1 to 18:1, to 26:1 from the youngest to the oldest offender age groups. A similar pattern is in evidence for the sex rate ratios. For the racial groups combined the male/female rate ratios increased from 25:1, to 61:1, to 70:1 as age increases.

Before leaving the rate of offending data, it is important to explore briefly whether the sex, race, and age effects shown in Figures 7 through 11 maintain from year to year and whether within sex and race groups the trend data show an increase, a decrease, or no change. In an earlier monograph (McDermott and Hindelang, 1981: Figure 2) it was demonstrated that among juveniles, the rate of offending evidenced a modest decline (11 percent) over the 1973 to 1977 period, while the rate of offending data for adults showed a slight (4 percent) increase. What do the temporal patterns look like when examined within sex and race subgroups?

Figure 12 presents data relevant to recent theoretical (e.g., Simon, 1975; Alder, 1975) and empirical (Steffensmeir, 1978; Bowker, 1977) discussion about the nature and extent of increases in female crime as shown in UCR arrest data. Victimization survey data indicate that juvenile female offending has fallen steadily in the 1973 to 1977 period, registering a decline of more than 20 percent over this period. The patterns for 18 to

Table 5 Estimated annual rates of offending in commercial robberies (per 100,000 persons in each population subgroup), by age of offender<sup>a</sup> and sex and race of offender, NCS national data, 1974-1976 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

Age and Sex of Offender	Race of Offender		Total
	White	Black	
<b>12 to 17:<sup>c</sup></b>			
Male	96 <sup>d</sup> (10,702,589) <sup>e</sup>	1,022 (1,765,372)	227 (12,467,961)
Female	9 (10,305,140)	9 (1,766,356)	9 (12,071,529)
Total	53 (21,007,729)	516 (3,531,728)	120 (24,539,457)
<b>18 to 20:</b>			
Male	366 (4,988,226)	6,699 (705,090)	1,151 (5,693,316)
Female	13 (5,204,326)	60 (833,686)	19 (6,038,013)
Total	186 (10,192,552)	3,102 (1,538,776)	568 (11,731,329)
<b>21 or older:</b>			
Male	104 (55,994,443)	2,680 (5,905,102)	349 (61,899,545)
Female	1 (61,723,871)	37 (7,407,924)	5 (69,131,794)
Total	50 (117,718,314)	1,209 (13,313,026)	167 (131,031,339)

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

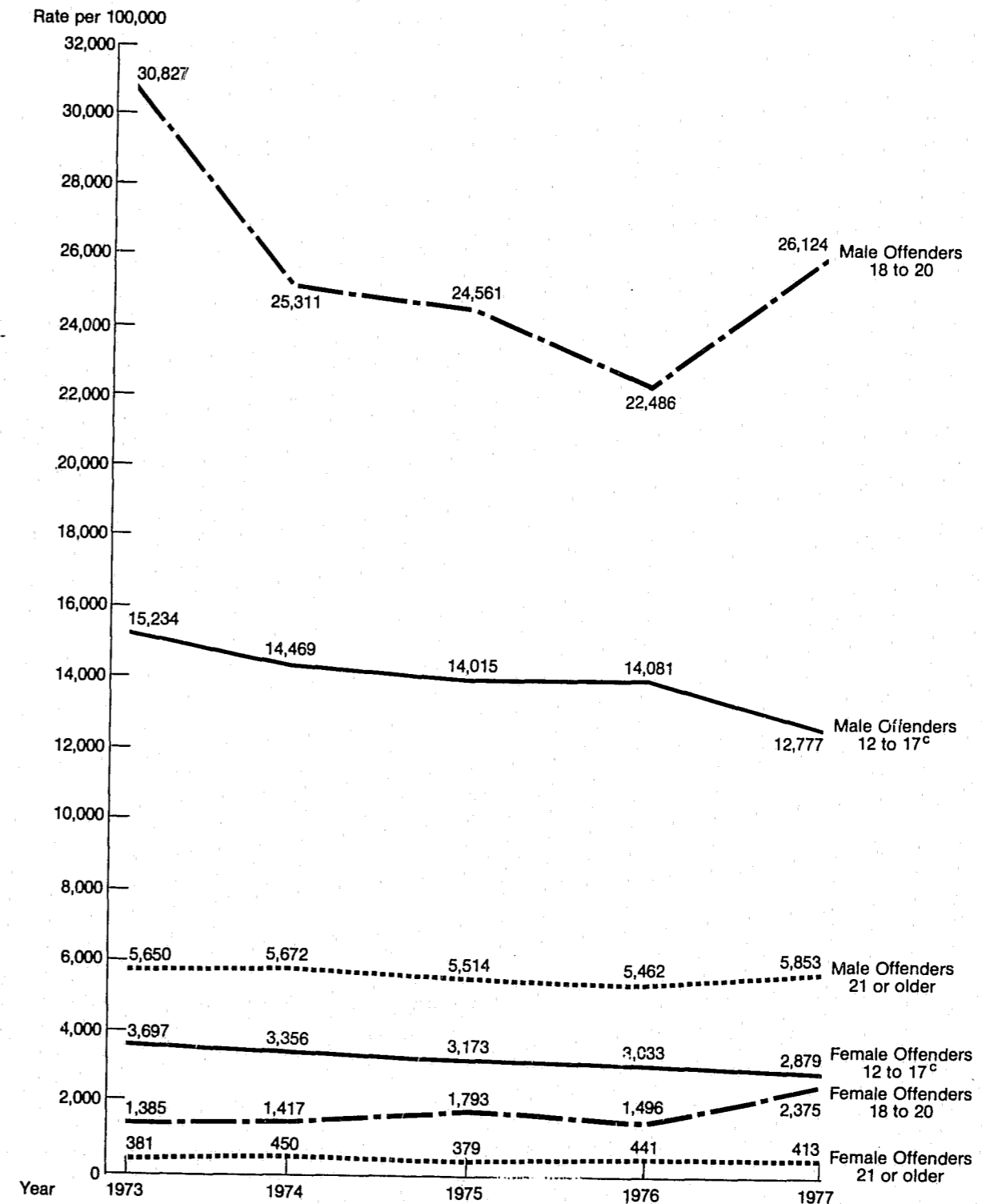
<sup>b</sup>Excluded are incidents (about 13 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender, incidents involving offenders of "mixed" sexes or races.

<sup>c</sup>The numerator of the rates of offending for 12 to 17 year olds includes some incidents (about one percent of the total in which the offender was perceived by the victim to be under 12 years of age. The denominator of the rate is the number of 12 to 17 year olds in the general population.

<sup>d</sup>Estimated rate per 100,000.

<sup>e</sup>Three year average estimated number of persons in the population.

FIGURE 12 Estimated annual rates of offending in total personal crimes (per 100,000 potential offenders in each population subgroup), by year, age of offender<sup>a</sup>, and sex of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977<sup>b</sup>



<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup>Excluded are incidents (about 9 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" sexes.

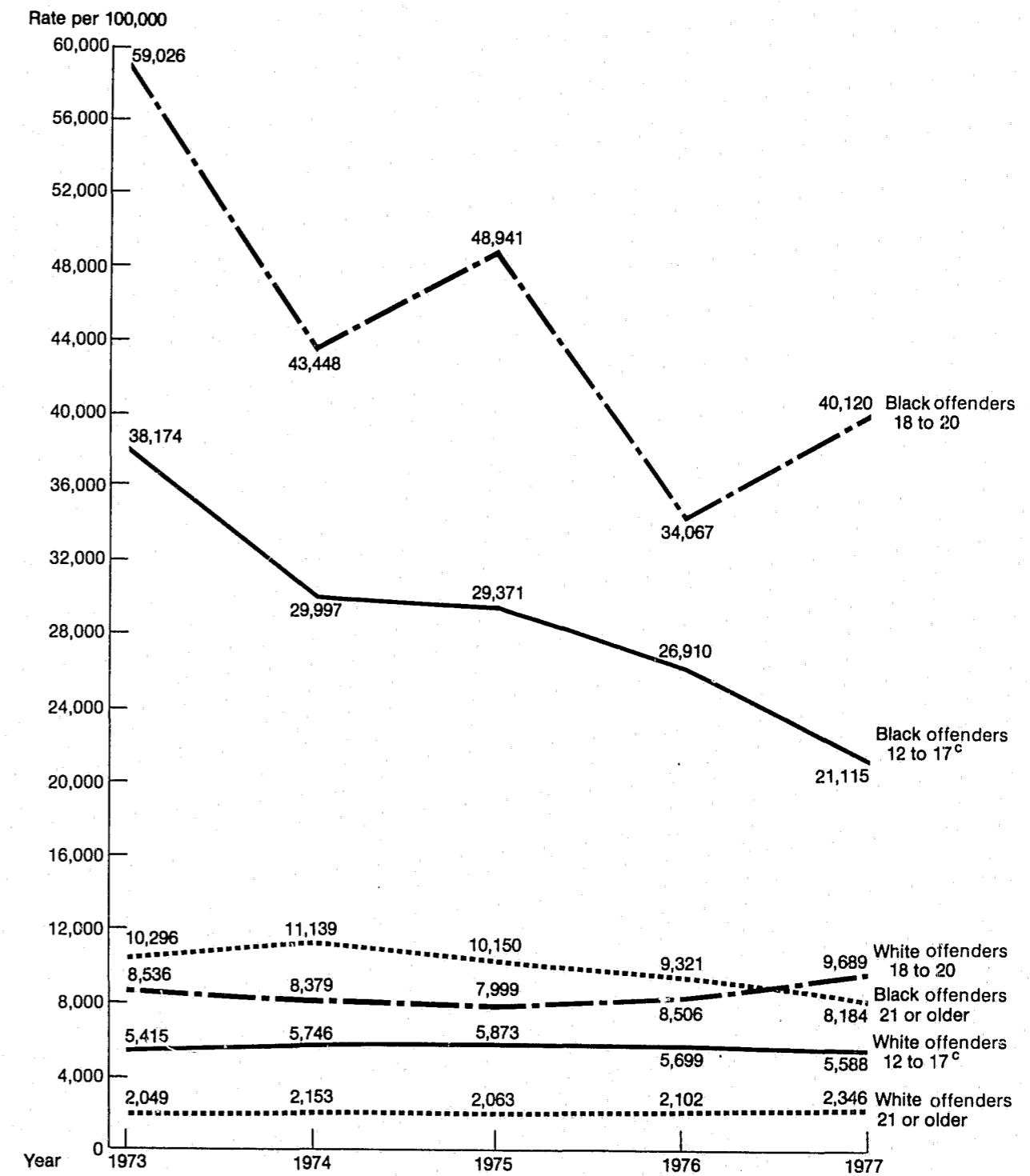
<sup>c</sup>The numerator of the rates of offending for 12 to 17 year olds includes incidents (about 1 percent of the total) in which the offender was perceived by the victim to be under 12 years of age. The denominator of the rate is the number of 12 to 17 year olds in the general population. See population base estimates in Appendix F.

20 year old females and adult females are much less regular, but both show an overall increase: for adult females the increase is about 8 percent and for 18 to 20 year old females it is more than 70 percent, with virtually all of the increase coming in the last year. It should be noted here that due to the relatively small number of 18 to 20 year old females in the general population (and hence in the sample) in conjunction with their relatively low rate of offending and the fact that these data have been disaggregated by year, this particular rate of offending increase must be viewed with special caution.

Among male offenders, the juveniles also show a generally steady decline in rates of offending -- an overall decrease of more than 15 percent. Although 18 to 20 year old offenders show a similar overall decline, adult offenders show an irregular pattern that results in a slight net increase in the 1973 to 1977 period.<sup>16</sup>

Figure 13 decomposes the data by race rather than sex. It is interesting in that it shows that although white juvenile offenders registered a very slight overall increase in their rate of offending (with white 18 to 20 year olds and white adults showing more pronounced increases), black juveniles showed a steady decrease in their rate of offending (more than 40 percent) in this period. Although this decrease is less marked for black offenders in other age groups it is also apparent for offenders over 18 years of age. Unlike the large overall decrease for 18 to 20 year old females which was due almost entirely to the 1977 data, the data showing a decrease for black juvenile offenders is more reliable due to the steady pattern across all years and the much higher rate of black juvenile offending than 18 to 20 year old female offending. In sum, the 1973-1977 decline in juvenile offending is attributable to the decline in rates of offending among black juveniles.

**FIGURE 13** Estimated annual rates of offending in total personal crimes (per 100,000 potential offenders in each population subgroup), by year, age of offender<sup>a</sup>, and race of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977<sup>b</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.  
<sup>b</sup> Excluded are incidents (about 8 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" races.  
<sup>c</sup> The numerator of the rates of offending for 12 to 17 year olds includes incidents (about 1 percent of the total) in which the offender was perceived by the victim to be under 12 years of age. The denominator of the rate is the number of 12 to 17 year olds in the general population. See population base estimates in Appendix F.

Overall, the demographic correlates examined parallel at least crudely the findings from studies using arrests as the offending criterion, and the findings with respect to sex parallel both police and self-report data. For example, despite some recent increases in the proportion of female arrestees for larceny in the United States, females still are vastly under-represented among arrestees in robbery (7 percent), aggravated assault (13 percent), and simple assault (14 percent); they are even still under-represented in larceny (32 percent). Although comparisons with arrest data are limited through the nature of self-report items, self-report studies that have examined sex (e.g., Akers, 1964; Elliott and Voss, 1974; Hirschi, 1969; Kratcoski and Kratcoski, 1975; Short and Nye, 1958; Walberg *et al.*, 1974; Gold and Reimer, 1975; Gold, 1970; Hindelang, 1971; Wechsler and Thum, 1973; and Slocum and Stone, 1963) have produced mean sex ratios -- defined as the ratio of the percentage of males to the percentage of females reporting delinquent involvement -- generally compatible with official data. For example, fist-fighting in these self-report studies produced a mean sex ratio of about 3.6, which is close to that for "other assaults" (5.0 in 1968 and 3.5 in 1972) in Uniform Crime Report juvenile arrests. Similarly, self-reports for theft of items worth more than \$2 produced a mean sex ratio of 3.3, a ratio within the range of the declining of sex ratios for the UCR juvenile arrest data for this period (4.7 in 1964 and 2.5 in 1976).

How compatible are the victimization survey offending rate findings with arrest and self-report findings by race? Police contact data from the Wolfgang, Figlio, and Sellin (1972: Table 5.3) cohort study in Philadelphia indicate that for violent personal crimes the rate of recorded police contact from 7 through 17 years of age was 140 per 1,000 cohort subjects for

nonwhites and 9 for whites. A large racial difference in urban areas had been reported earlier for the 17 cities studied by the President's Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence (Mulvihill, Tumin, and Curtis, 1969:271-83) which found that black offenders constituted 74 percent of the aggravated assault arrestees, 70 percent of the rape arrestees, and 85 percent of the armed robbery arrestees. Further, arrest data for the United States show that black arrestees account for from three to five times their proportionate representation in the general population for the offenses studied here (U.S. Department of Justice, 1978:Table 35).

As noted earlier, self-report findings have more often than not failed to substantiate the race findings in arrest data. For example, Gould (1969: 330) found a very weak association ( $\theta = .07$ ) between self-reported delinquency and race showing blacks to have only slightly higher rates of self-reported delinquency than whites; similarly, Hirschi (1969) found only a small self-report difference in having committed at least one delinquent offense (blacks, 49 percent; whites, 44 percent). Williams and Gold (1972) and Gold and Reimer (1975) in national samples found only a small self-report racial difference in frequency of offending, a difference that was slightly greater (black males higher than white males) in both studies when the seriousness of offenses was taken into account. Two more recent studies (Berger and Simon, 1974, and Elliott and Ageton, 1979) have found racial differences (blacks greater than whites) on violent offenses and predatory crimes against the person, respectively, but not on other offenses such as public disorder offenses and drug use. Thus, it is possible that race effects in juvenile offending are crime specific, and not general across all categories of crime.<sup>17</sup> The lack of self-report racial differences in rates of offending found in the earlier self-report studies is not

replicated by these victimization findings; owing to the agreement of the victimization survey with later self-report studies (Berger and Simon, 1974; Elliott and Ageton, 1979) and with police arrest data, it is probably safe to conclude that racial differences in offending behavior do exist for these face-to-face common law crimes and are reflected in arrests as shown for the Uniform Crime Report index offenses.

In sum, the data on rates of offending show that:

- 1) Males were found to have a rate of offending in total personal crimes from four to fifteen times that of females, depending on the offenders' age group.
- 2) Blacks had a rate of offending about five times that of whites, which is consistent with arrest data but not with earlier studies using a self-report criterion.
- 3) Racial differences were especially strong for theft offenses.
- 4) The rate of male offending in total personal victimizations was greatest in the 18 to 20 year old age group but for females there was a consistent decline in rates of offending as age group increased.
- 5) Black juvenile females had a rate of offending slightly greater than that for white males.
- 6) Trend data for the 1973 to 1977 period indicate that the overall decline in juvenile rates of offending (McDermott and Hindelang, 1981:Figure 2) are attributable primarily to a decline in rates of offending among black juveniles.

### III. Victim and Offender Characteristics

In order to understand the dynamics of criminal victimization it is useful to examine the demographic characteristics of the victim-offender dyad. In this connection the third general question in this monograph is whether offenders and victims have similar or different demographic characteristics. For example, do males tend to victimize males or do they victimize males and females equally? Table 6 shows these proportions with respect to the sex of victims and offenders. The table shows, for example, in all offender age groups male offenders victimize males about seven out of ten times in total personal victimizations. For female offenders this stability across offender age groups does not maintain. Among female offenders under 18 years of age, about one in ten victimize males; for youthful female offenders (18 to 20 years of age) and adult female offenders, the proportions victimizing males are about two in ten and three in ten, respectively.

These results are likely to be affected by the type of crime. When the data are broken out for robbery, aggravated and simple assault, and personal larceny it can be seen that except for personal larceny, male offenders in each of the three age groups victimize other males from 66 to 82 percent of the time (see Figure 14). For personal larceny, however -- owing largely to the fact that many of these offenses are purse snatches -- the proportion of male victims is much smaller. Whereas only one-quarter of juvenile male offenders victimize males, more than four out of ten male adult offenders victimize males; this may well be because purse snatch constitutes a rather large proportion of the total personal larcenies by juveniles, whereas pocket picking constitutes a large proportion of the personal larcenies by adults.

As was the case with face-to-face personal crimes overall, female offenders



Table 6 Percent distribution of the sex of victim in total personal victimizations, by age<sup>a</sup> and sex of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

Age and Sex of offender	Sex of victim		(Estimated number of victimizations)
	Male	Female	
Under 18:			
Male	71 <sup>c</sup> 94 <sup>d</sup>	29 56	100 78 (5,147,038)
Female	8 2	92 38	100 17 (1,106,786)
Mixed sex	40 3	60 6	100 4 (277,379)
Don't know	65 1	35 1	100 1 (50,479) <sup>e</sup>
Estimated number of victimizations	59 100 (3,867,509)	41 100 (2,714,173)	100 (6,581,682)
18 to 20:			
Male	71 94	29 76	100 88 (4,145,558)
Female	18 2	82 18	100 7 (339,900)
Mixed sex	56 3	44 5	100 4 (180,941)
Don't know	70 1	30 1	100 1 (30,023) <sup>e</sup>
Estimated number of victimizations	67 100 (3,144,505)	33 100 (1,551,916)	100 (4,696,422)
21 or older:			
Male	67 91	33 79	100 87 (14,320,156)
Female	30 4	70 16	100 8 (1,388,032)
Mixed sex	62 4	38 5	100 4 (739,769)
Don't know	78 1	22 0	100 0 (69,464)
Estimated number of victimizations	63 100 (10,462,359)	37 100 (6,055,061)	100 (16,517,420)

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

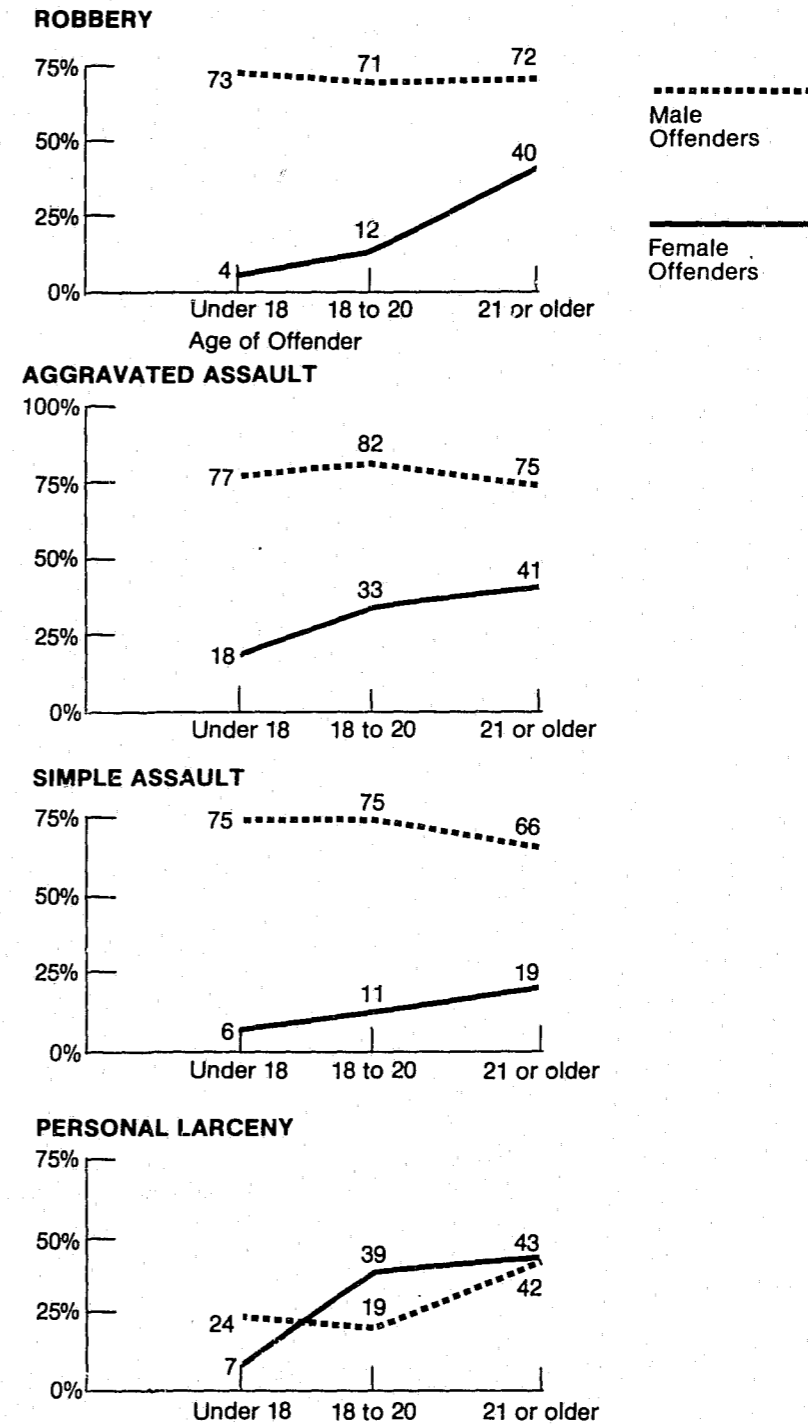
<sup>b</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender. Table also excludes incidents in which the victim did not know the age of offender.

<sup>c</sup>Row percent.

<sup>d</sup>Column percent.

<sup>e</sup>Estimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

FIGURE 14 Percent of male victims in personal victimization, by type of crime and age<sup>a</sup> and sex of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>



<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup>Excluded are incidents (about 9 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender, and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" sexes.

show greater variability by age than males in their selection of males as victims. For example, in robbery, virtually none of the victims of female offenders under 18 years of age are males, but among female adult offenders the proportion of male victims is four in ten. A pattern very similar to that for robbery is evident for the personal larcenies of female offenders; only 7 percent of the victims of female offenders in the youngest age group but 43 percent of those in the oldest age group are males. For the assaultive crimes the pattern of increasing victimization of males by females as the offender age-group increases is also in evidence, although the pattern is much less marked than that for the theft crimes of robbery and larceny.

To what extent are victims and offenders homogeneous with respect to age and to what extent is age homogeneity of the victim-offender dyad variable according to type of crime? Table 7 displays the percent distribution of victims' ages by detailed ages of offenders. The association between the offenders' and the victims' ages is evident, yielding an ordinal measure of association (gamma) of .47. For example, in the 12 to 14 year old offender group 68 percent of the victims are also 12 to 14, and only 21 percent are 21 years of age or older. For adult offenders on the other hand only 2 percent of the victims are 12 to 14 and three quarters are 21 years of age or older. Although this table provides more detail, these findings with respect to victim and offender ages were, of course, foreshadowed by the earlier reported finding (Figure 1) that juvenile victims had the highest risk of victimization by juveniles and adult victims (particularly 20 to 34 year olds) had the highest rate of victimization by adults.

When the ages of victims and offenders are examined for specific types of face-to-face personal crimes the measures of association for each of

Table 7 Percent distribution of the age of victim in total personal victimizations, by age of offender,<sup>a</sup> NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

Age of offender	Age of victim							(Estimated number of victimizations)
	12 to 14	15 to 17	18 to 20	21 to 34	35 to 49	50 to 64	65 to 99	
Under 12	40	5	5	22	13	10	5	100 (234,888)
12 to 14	68	9	2	10	4	4	3	100 (1,924,887)
15 to 17	27	34	7	15	7	6	4	100 (4,421,906)
18 to 20	5	20	28	28	9	6	4	100 (4,696,422)
21 or older	2	6	16	48	16	8	3	100 (16,517,420)
Don't know	8	11	13	32	16	13	7	100 (1,108,070)
Total	12	13	15	36	13	8	4	100 (28,903,594)

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

these is similar to that for personal crimes as a whole: rape, gamma = .35; robbery, gamma = .43; aggravated assault, gamma = .49; and simple assault, gamma = .57. The only offense that departs substantially from this relatively homogeneous age pattern is personal larceny (Table 8), for which the gamma is .07. In this offense, for which the victims are disproportionately women, stealth is (by definition) the means of accomplishing the crime. This makes personal larceny different from rape, robbery, and assault in that all of them require the threat or actual use of force directed at the victim. Because the offender in personal larceny relies primarily on surprise, it is not extraordinary that even very young offenders would be able to victimize adults successfully in a large proportion of the larceny offenses.

Overall, the victim-offender age data indicate that victims and offenders tend to be of similar ages; for most offense types the offender's age group plus and minus one additional victim age group encompasses generally about three-quarters or more of the victims (e.g., 18 to 20 year old offenders in all personal crimes have 18 to 20 year old victims 28 percent of the time, 21 to 34 year old victims 28 percent of the time, and 15 to 17 year old victims 20 percent of the time:  $28 + 28 + 20 = 76$  percent).

The final demographic characteristic of victims and offenders to be examined is race; because too few offenders are of other than white or black races, "other" race offenders will be excluded from the discussion, as will multiple offender groups composed of offenders of more than one racial group (e.g., a trio of two white offenders and one black offender). For total personal crimes (Table 9), white offenders victimize white victims almost exclusively, regardless of offender age group. Black offenders, however, are much more likely to victimize interracial, a tendency that is slightly smaller among offenders in the oldest age group. For instance,

Table 8 Percent distribution of the age of victim in personal larceny victimizations, by age of offender,<sup>a</sup> NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

Age of offender	Age of victim							(Estimated number of victimizations)
	12 to 14	15 to 17	18 to 20	21 to 34	35 to 49	50 to 64	65 to 99	
Under 12	9	0	9	29	22	18	13	100 (27,588) <sup>c</sup>
12 to 14	30	3	6	13	7	21	19	100 (128,673)
15 to 17	9	16	8	19	15	21	13	100 (288,258)
18 to 20	2	5	10	25	16	22	18	100 (266,199)
21 or older	1	4	7	28	22	21	18	100 (558,449)
Don't know	2	9	8	37	17	20	7	100 (181,431)
Total	6	7	8	25	18	21	16	100 (1,450,599)

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

<sup>c</sup>Estimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

Table 9 Relationship between race of victim and the race and age of offender<sup>a</sup> in total personal victimization, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

Age and race of offender	Race of victim			(Estimated number of victimizations)
	White	Black	Other	
Under 18:				
White	97 <sup>c</sup> 63 <sup>d</sup>	2 8	1 32	100 55 (3,619,270)
Black	67 29	31 87	1 44	100 37 (2,462,807)
Other	89 4	5 1	6 20	100 3 (226,539)
Mixed race	90 3	9 2	1 2	100 3 (188,682)
Don't know	84 1	14 1	1 2	100 1 (84,383)
Estimated number of victimizations	86 100 (5,631,893)	13 100 (886,247)	1 100 (63,541) <sup>e</sup>	100 100 (6,581,682)
18 to 20:				
White	97 64	3 12	1 33	100 57 (2,668,854)
Black	67 28	32 84	1 42	100 35 (1,656,689)
Other	87 4	6 2	6 22	100 4 (204,837)
Mixed race	90 2	8 1	2 3	100 2 (108,267)
Don't know	90 1	10 1	0 0	100 1 (57,774) <sup>e</sup>
Estimated number of victimizations	85 100 (4,010,064)	13 100 (629,427)	1 100 (56,932) <sup>e</sup>	100 100 (4,696,422)
21 or older:				
White	96 74	3 12	1 49	100 64 (10,612,925)
Black	55 19	44 83	1 23	100 29 (4,760,769)
Other	86 4	6 2	8 23	100 4 (668,956)
Mixed race	79 2	18 2	3 4	100 2 (317,014)
Don't know	80 1	16 1	3 2	100 1 (157,756)
Estimated number of victimizations	83 100 (13,782,088)	15 100 (2,498,702)	1 100 (236,629)	100 100 (16,517,420)

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender. Table also excludes incidents in which the victim did not know the age of offender.

<sup>c</sup>Row percent.

<sup>d</sup>Column percent.

<sup>e</sup>Estimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

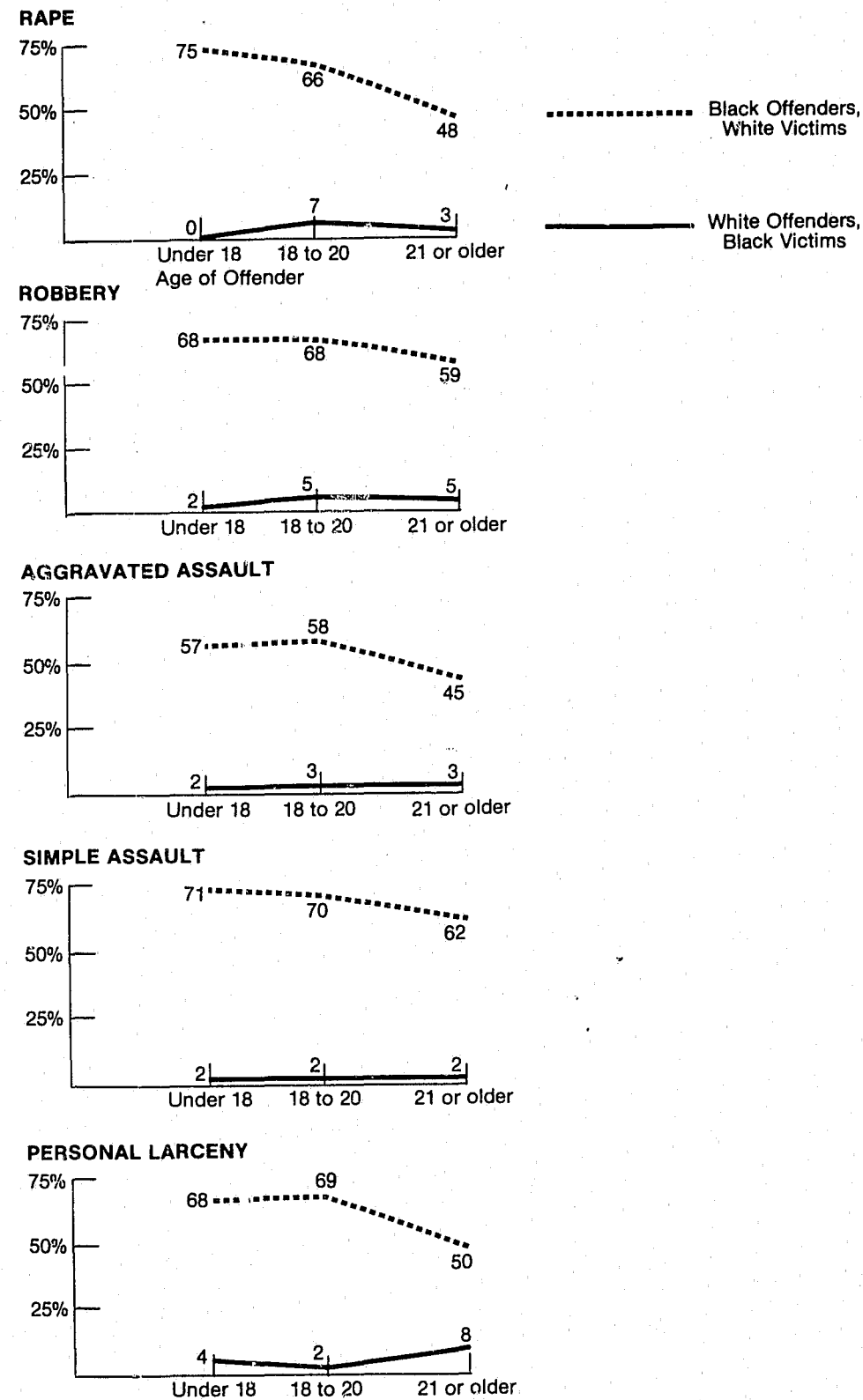
in total personal victimizations, two-thirds of the victims of black offenders under twenty-one years of age and fifty-five percent of the victims of black adult offenders are white. Thus, while only a small minority of the victims of white offenders are black, a majority of the victims of black offenders are white.

Figure 15 shows that this basic pattern maintains when the data are separated by type of crime. Although the percentage of white offenders who victimize blacks is not more than eight percent (among adult offenders in personal larceny) for any age group or any crime, the percentage of black offenders who victimize whites is not less than forty-five (among adult offenders in aggravated assault) for any age group or any crime. Interestingly, in each racial group of offenders, interracial offending occurs about as often proportionately in assaultive crimes (rape and assault) as in theft crimes. In interpreting these data, one fact that cannot be ignored is that for a black offender the potential number of white victims is much greater than is the potential number of black victims for a white offender. An additional factor that should be considered is that the proportion of interracial contacts that American blacks have may be greater than the proportion of interracial contacts for American whites.

#### Prior Relationship of the Victim and the Offender

A question related to the joint distribution of victim and offender characteristics is the extent to which the victims and offenders were previously acquainted with each other. Table 10 shows that for total personal victimizations younger offenders were more likely to be strangers to older

**FIGURE 15** Percent of white victims in black offender personal victimizations and percent of black victims in white offender personal victimizations, by type of crime and age<sup>a</sup> and race of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>



<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup> Excluded are incidents (about 8 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" races.

**Table 10** Percent of stranger-offenders in total personal victimizations, by age of offender<sup>a</sup> and age of victim, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>b</sup>

Age of offender	Age of victim				Total
	Under 18	18 to 20	21 to 34	35 or older	
Under 18	54 <sup>c</sup> (4,289,211) <sup>d</sup>	62 (360,585)	75 (903,881)	82 (1,028,004)	62 (6,581,681)
18 to 20	71 (1,171,562)	63 (1,296,377)	76 (1,298,788)	88 (929,695)	74 (4,696,422)
21 or older	65 (1,447,650)	69 (2,562,766)	63 (7,947,763)	65 (4,559,242)	64 (16,517,420)
Don't know	92 (207,769)	92 (146,105)	96 (353,875)	94 (400,321)	94 (1,108,070)

<sup>a</sup> Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

<sup>b</sup> This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

<sup>c</sup> Percent of offenders that were strangers to the victim.

<sup>d</sup> Number in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with stranger-offenders plus those with non-stranger offenders) on which percent shown is based.



victims than to younger victims. For example, among those offenders under 18 years of age about half of the under 18 year old victims were strangers whereas in the oldest victim age group (35 or older) about eight out of ten victims and offenders were strangers. Interestingly, with respect to the proportion of personal crimes involving persons known to each other, victimizations committed by adult offenders do not show any systematic relationship to the victims' age; in each victim age category for adult offenders, from 63 to 69 percent of the offenders were strangers to their victims.

Data regarding the prior relationship between the victim and offender are presented in Tables 11 and 12 by victims' and offenders' sex and race. Table 11 shows that males are substantially more likely than females to be victimized by strangers (68 percent vs. 46 percent). Female offenders who victimize females are the least likely to be strangers (45 percent) and male victims who victimize males are the most likely to be strangers (72 percent), while sex heterogeneous victim/offender dyads have intermediate proportions of offenses involving strangers.

When the victims' and offenders' races are examined in this connection, the highest proportion of victims and offenders who are strangers is found in interracial victimizations; whether the interracial crime has a white or a black as the offender, more than eight out of ten involve strangers. On the other hand, when the victim-offender pair is racially homogeneous, a smaller proportion -- six out of ten -- involve strangers. Thus, race and sex differ from each other in relation to the proportion of stranger victimizations: racially homogeneous victim-offender pairs (whether black or white) have the lowest proportion of strangers but sexually homogeneous victim-offender pairs only have the lowest percent of strangers for females, while males as both offenders and victims yield the highest proportion of

Table 11 Percent of stranger-offenders in total personal victimizations, by sex of offender and sex of victim, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>a</sup>

Sex of offender	Sex of victim		Total
	Male	Female	
Male	72 <sup>b</sup> (16,661,994) <sup>c</sup>	62 (7,777,134)	68 (24,439,128)
Female	50 (571,644)	45 (2,299,930)	46 (2,871,574)

<sup>a</sup> This table excludes incidents (about 9 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" sexes.

<sup>b</sup> Percent of offenders that were strangers to the victim.

<sup>c</sup> Number in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with stranger-offenders plus those with non-stranger offenders) on which percent shown is based.

Table 12 Percent of stranger-offenders in total personal victimizations, by race of offender and race of victim, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>a</sup>

Race of offender	Race of victim			Total
	White	Black	Other	
White	59 <sup>b</sup> (16,629,615) <sup>c</sup>	83 (453,126)	59 (160,447)	60 (17,243,189)
Black	87 (5,609,344)	57 (3,542,541)	84 (106,736)	76 (9,258,620)
Other	71 (969,844)	83 <sup>d</sup> (68,057)	58 (78,768)	71 (1,116,669)

<sup>a</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 8 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender and incidents involving offenders of "mixed" races.

<sup>b</sup>Percent of offenders that were strangers to the victim.

<sup>c</sup>Number in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with stranger-offenders plus those non-stranger offenders) on which percent shown is based.

<sup>d</sup>Estimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

strangers.

To summarize, the findings with respect to the victim-offender dyad show:

- 1) Male offenders victimize males in about seven of ten personal crimes, regardless of offender age; female offenders increasingly victimize males as age increases -- from 1 in 10 male victims for juvenile female offenders to 3 in 10 male victims for adult female offenders.
- 2) For all personal crimes except larceny, the age of the offender tends to be correlated with the age of the victim.
- 3) Although white offenders victimize whites almost exclusively, black offenders victimize whites in a majority of personal crimes.
- 4) Stranger offending is more likely when the victim is male, is older, and is of a different race than the offender.

#### Summary and Concluding Remarks

In section I of this monograph rates and seriousness-weighted rates of personal victimization were examined. The risk of victimization in the general population and in subgroups in the population was divided into three component parts: the risk of victimization by juveniles, the risk of victimization by youthful offenders, and the risk of victimization by adults. The risk of victimization, as operationalized in this section, did not take into account the number of potential offenders in the respective age groups in the general population. The risk of victimization by adults was found to be more than twice the risk of victimization by juveniles in the total United States population 12 years old or older. This offender-age related pattern of risk in the general population of potential victims

-- that is, that an individual has a much greater chance of being victimized by an adult than by a juvenile -- varied somewhat with the age of the victim.

The individuals most likely to be victimized by juveniles are other juveniles; more specifically, 12 to 19 year olds in the United States face a far greater risk of being victimized by juveniles than by adults. To this it must be immediately added that when they are crime victims, these young people suffer more serious victimizations if adults, not juveniles, are the offenders.

This latter finding -- that crimes by adults are more serious -- was generally true. The use of Sellin-Wolfgang seriousness weights permitted an analysis of the average seriousness of victimizations committed by juveniles, by youthful offenders, and by adults. The results showed that, regardless of victim characteristics, offenses committed by adults were more serious in terms of their consequences to victims than were offenses committed by juveniles. This means, for example, that robberies committed by adults in the United States are not the same qualitatively as those committed by juveniles; in terms of the amount of social harm, robberies committed by adults are considerably more harmful. To the extent that criminal and juvenile justice policy-making decisions are premised on the assumption that serious crimes committed by juveniles are as serious as those committed by adults, such policy is misguided.

In the analysis of rates of victimization one of the more interesting findings concerned male/female differences in the risk of personal victimization. In the United States men are considerably more likely to be victims of personal crimes than are women. However, the survey data indicated that among persons in the population 20 or older the risk of victimization by juveniles was higher for women than for men. As seen above, most of the

victims of juveniles were other juveniles; generally, juveniles "pick on someone their own size." Possibly because of their lesser strength, smaller size, or lesser experience, when juveniles victimize persons older than themselves, they more often choose women than men.

Another noteworthy finding to emerge concerned the relationship between family income and rates of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. Although there was a strong inverse relationship between family income and risk of personal victimization by adults, there was no such relationship between family income and risk of victimization by juveniles. The explanation of this rather surprising finding may lie in the nature of the survey data. It could be that lower income people, because of their generally high risk of victimization, are not as likely to report to survey interviewers victimizations by juveniles as they are to report victimizations by adults. This would seem to be particularly likely in inner city areas in which the criminal behavior of young people is frequent, but not as serious as that of adults. By comparison, higher income people who generally experience a much lower risk of being personal crime victims, may be more likely to recall and report to survey interviewers their victimizations by young people; even if these crimes are not especially serious, they may have greater salience in the lives of people who rarely are victimized.

The analysis of rates of offending using National Crime Survey data produced results in substantial agreement with arrest data regarding disproportionate rates of offending by race and sex. The NCS data showed rates of offending among blacks about five times the rate of offending among whites. Although the NCS data are in agreement with official data on this point, many self-report studies report little or no correlation between race and rates of offending. Regarding trends in the 1973-77

period, the rate of offending for black juveniles and female juveniles decreased steadily across these years. The NCS data showed for the 1973-77 aggregate data that the rates of offending among males were about four to fifteen times the rates of offending among females (depending on the offenders' age group); on this issue, both arrest and self-report data generally agree.

In terms of age, rates of offending were found to be highest among the 18 to 20 year olds. Compared with their proportionate representation in the population, 18 to 20 year olds are disproportionately involved in criminal offending. Unfortunately, the highest offender age category in the survey data is simply "21 or older," and thus more refined analysis of age-related rates of offending is not possible.

The third question concerned the extent to which victims and offenders share demographic characteristics. Generally, they do; for example, male offenders of all ages victimize males in about 7 out of 10 of their crimes. There are, however, important exceptions. Female offenders generally victimize females, but as offender age increases there is an increasing propensity among female offenders to victimize males; only 1 out of 10 victims of female juvenile offenders were male, but 3 out of 10 victims of female adult offenders were male.

The NCS data showed a generally high correlation between the age of the victim and the age of the offender. The one noteworthy exception to this pattern is the crime of personal larceny (including pocket picking and purse snatch). Parenthetically, it is interesting to note that personal larceny is the one type of crime in this analysis that by definition cannot involve the use of force or threat. Purse snatch, a crime of stealth, speed, and surprise, is usually committed against women who are older than their offenders. Crimes involving the use of force or threat -- rape, robbery, and assault -- most often involve same-age victims and offenders.

In this monograph we have explored only three of the many questions that can be addressed with the survey data. The NCS data offer a potentially rich reservoir of information about the extent and nature of juvenile, youthful offender, and adult crime.

Of course, there are some measurement problems that may affect the victimization survey results. We now know relatively little about the ability of victims to describe accurately offenders' demographic characteristics. In principle, it would seem that for personal crime the offender's sex would probably be the least difficult for victims to report on, the offender's race the next most difficult, and offenders' age the most difficult on which for victim to report.<sup>18</sup> Hence, only three broad offender age groups (under 18, 18 to 20, and 21 or older) have been used in most of the analyses in order to minimize misclassification of offenders on age. In this connection it is important to point out that many differences across the three age groups were found to be monotonic (e.g., the increasing seriousness of victimizations as offender age group increased) and hence errors in offender age classification have less of an effect on the results than would be the case if many of the results had been non-monotonic.

With respect to victims' reports of the racial characteristics of offenders, it is possible that these reports may be affected by popular stereotypes of the criminal. Furthermore, persons of Spanish heritage may be reported by some victims to be black. Because Spanish heritage persons in the general population are counted as white by Bureau of Census conventions for racial classifications, this potential definitional difference may artificially inflate the disproportionality of blacks among the NCS offenders.

However, the data in Appendix C on the ability of victims to differentiate black and Hispanic offenders, militate against this possibility. Overall

these preliminary data suggest that victims are able to report on offenders' sexes, races, and even ages with very good accuracy when judged against those same characteristics as recorded on police arrest reports.

Victimization survey data can be viewed as an alternative to self-report data and arrest data. Unlike self-report data that are often sparse in the details of delinquencies and rarely available from national samples of adequate size, the NCS data are available for large numbers of serious crimes, adequate probability samples, and at this writing five full years. Furthermore the NCS data do not share the shortcomings of official data. UCR arrest data provide virtually no information on the nature of juvenile offenses, and they are subject to various selective mechanisms (e.g., adult offenders may have a greater likelihood of eluding arrest than juvenile offenders). Hence, within their limits, the NCS data are perhaps the most appropriate source of data to inform and guide criminal and juvenile justice policy.

NOTES

- <sup>1</sup>See Appendix C for a discussion of the victim's perception of offender age as well as a description of the offender age variables in this study.
- <sup>2</sup>See Garofalo and Hindelang (1977) and U.S. Bureau of the Census, undated, for additional detail about design and collection.
- <sup>3</sup>Business survey results from 1973 have reportedly been permanently lost by the Bureau of the Census and, hence, are not included in this monograph. The business portion of the national survey has been discontinued. The last full year for which data are available is 1976.
- <sup>4</sup>This procedure does not completely ignore mobile families and businesses. Although no attempt is made to trace families and businesses that move away from an address in the sample, a similarly mobile family or business may move into that address and will be included in the survey.
- <sup>5</sup>See Garofalo and Hindelang (1977) for more details.
- <sup>6</sup>In the NCS persons under 12 years of age are not eligible to be interviewed.
- <sup>7</sup>See Appendix E for a more detailed description of the Sellin-Wolfgang seriousness scale.
- <sup>8</sup>This modification is necessary because the focus here is the seriousness of the victimization suffered by the given victim, not the seriousness of the incident (which may include more than one victim); see Hindelang, 1976.
- <sup>9</sup>Specifically, the rate per 100,000 for any category of victims (e.g., blacks) is computed by multiplying each victimization by its seriousness score, summing these scores, multiplying that total by 100,000, and dividing by the number of persons at risk in that category in the population (e.g., the estimated number of blacks in the population 12 years old or older).
- <sup>10</sup>In this report we will not investigate the various elements -- weapon use, theft, injury, and so forth -- that together make victimization by adults generally more serious than victimization by juveniles. This is discussed in the first monograph in this series, "Juvenile Criminal Behavior in the United States: Its Trends and Patterns," McDermott and Hindelang, 1981.
- <sup>11</sup>For more detail on these issues, see "Juvenile Criminal Behavior in the United States: Its Trends and Patterns," McDermott and Hindelang, 1981.

<sup>12</sup> Obviously other possible explanations for the discrepant results exist -- most notably racial discrimination by the police. See Hindelang (1978).

<sup>13</sup> Actually, rather than simply cumulating the raw numbers of offenders in each subgroup, the incident weight -- the inverse of the probability that an incident will be sampled -- is cumulated for each sex-race-age subgroup. This is necessary because, owing to the complex design of the survey, not every incident has the same likelihood of appearing in the sample.

<sup>14</sup> Incidents in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender, or in which there was a group of offenders of "mixed" sexes (i.e., in which there were both males and females) or "mixed" races were excluded from analysis. These exclusions constituted about 11 percent of total personal incidents. It was necessary to exclude incidents in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender because in such cases the victim was not asked the sex, race, or age of the offender(s). It was necessary to exclude incidents involving multiple offenders of "mixed" sexes and races because victims were not asked how many offenders were from each sex or race group. When offenders were of "mixed" ages, the age group of the oldest was arbitrarily used in order to prevent the loss of additional cases; treating "mixed" age-group offenders as all in the youngest age group resulted in only minor variations from the results obtained when the oldest age-group rule was used.

<sup>15</sup> See Appendix F for population bases used in constructing the age by sex by race rates of offending reported in Figures below.

<sup>16</sup> See Hindelang (1979) for a more complete discussion of sex of offender in criminal activity as shown in victimization survey data.

<sup>17</sup> See Hindelang, Hirschi, and Weis (1979) for further empirical evidence on this point and an elaboration of this argument.

<sup>18</sup> But see data on New York City rape offenses in Appendix C comparing victims' reports on suspects' characteristics and arrestees' characteristics as shown in police reports.

# CONTINUED

## 1 OF 2

Appendix A

NCS Household Interview Schedule

FORM NCS-1 AND NCS-2 (4-18-77)		NOTICE - Your report to the Census Bureau is confidential by law (U.S. Code 42, Section 3771). All identifiable information will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey, and may not be disclosed or released to others for any purpose.	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE <b>NATIONAL CRIME SURVEY                      NATIONAL SAMPLE</b> NCS-1 - BASIC SCREEN QUESTIONNAIRE NCS-2 - CRIME INCIDENT REPORT		Sample (cc 4) JO _____ Control number (cc 5) PSU Segment Ck Serial Household number (cc 2) _____ Land use (cc 9-14) _____	NCS 1 and 2
INTERVIEWER: Fill Sample and Control numbers, and items 1, 2, 4, and 9 at time of interview.		(026) 10. Family income (cc 27) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Under \$1,000 2 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 to 1,999 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 2,000 to 2,999 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 3,000 to 3,999 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 4,000 to 4,999 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 5,000 to 5,999 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 6,000 to 7,499 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 7,500 to 9,999 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10,000 to 14,999 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 12,000 to 14,999 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 15,000 to 19,999 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 20,000 to 24,999 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 25,000 to 49,999 14 <input type="checkbox"/> 50,000 and over	
(010) 1. Interviewer identification Code Name	(011) 2. Record of interview Line number of household respondent (cc 12) Date completed	(014) 3. TYPE Z NONINTERVIEW Interview not obtained for Line number NOTE: Fill NCS-7 Noninterview Record, for Types A, B, and C noninterviews.	
(020) 4. Household status 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Same household as last enumeration 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement household since last enumeration 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Previous noninterview or not in sample before	(021) 5. Special place type code (cc 6c)	(022) 6. Tenure (cc 8) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Owned or being bought 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Rented for cash 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No cash rent	
(023) 7. Type of living quarters (cc 15) Housing unit 1 <input type="checkbox"/> House, apartment, flat 2 <input type="checkbox"/> HU in nontransient hotel, motel, etc. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> HU - Permanent in transient hotel, motel, etc. 4 <input type="checkbox"/> HU in rooming house 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home or trailer 6 <input type="checkbox"/> HU not specified above - Describe	(024) 8. Number of housing units in structure (cc 26) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1                      5 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-9 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 2                      6 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 or more 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 3                      7 <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home or trailer 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4                      8 <input type="checkbox"/> Only OTHER units	(027) 11a. Household members 12 years of age and OVER Total number b. Household members UNDER 12 years of age Total number 0 <input type="checkbox"/> None	
(025) 9. (Other than the . . . business) does anyone in this household operate a business from this address? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - What kind of business is that?	INTERVIEWER: Enter unrecognizable businesses only	(029) 12. Crime Incident Reports filled Total number - Fill item 31 on Control Card 0 <input type="checkbox"/> None	
(031) CENSUS USE ONLY		(030) 13a. Use of telephone (cc 25) <input type="checkbox"/> Phone in unit (Yes in cc 25a) Phone interview acceptable? (cc 25c or 25d) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes . . . . . SKIP to next applicable item 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No - Refused number <input type="checkbox"/> Phone elsewhere (Yes in cc 25b) Phone interview acceptable? (cc 25c or 25d) 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes . . . . . SKIP to next applicable item 4 <input type="checkbox"/> No - Refused number 5 <input type="checkbox"/> No phone (No in cc 25a and 25b)	
(032)		(033)	
(032)		(033)	



PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS														
14. NAME (of household respondent)	15. TYPE OF INTERVIEW	16. LINE NO.	17. RELATIONSHIP TO HOUSEHOLD HEAD	18. AGE LAST BIRTH-DAY	19. MARITAL STATUS	20a. RACE	20b. ORIGIN	21. SEX	22. ARMED FORCES MEMBER	23. Education - highest grade	24. Education - complete that year?			
KEYER - BEGIN NEW RECORD		(cc 12)	(cc 13b)	(cc 17)	(cc 18)	(cc 19a)	(cc 19b)	(cc 20)	(cc 21)	(cc 22)	(cc 23)			
Last	(034) 1 Per - Self-respondent 2 Tel. - Self-respondent 3 Per - Proxy } <i>Fill 12b on cover page</i> 4 Tel. - Proxy } 5 NI - Fill 16-21	(035) Line No.	(036) 1 Head 2 Wife of head 3 Own child 4 Other relative 5 Non-relative	(037) Age	(038) 1 M. 2 Wd. 3 D. 4 Sep. 5 NM	(039) 1 W. 2 Neg.		Origin	(040) 1 M 2 F	(041) 1 Yes 2 No	(042) Grade	(043) 1 Yes 2 No		
<p>26d. Have you been looking for work during the past 4 weeks?</p> <p>(051) 1 Yes No - When did you last work?            2 Less than 5 years ago - SKIP to 28a            3 5 or more years ago } SKIP to 29            4 Never worked</p> <p>27. Is there any reason why you could not take a job LAST WEEK?</p> <p>(052) 1 No Yes - 2 Already had a job            3 Temporary illness            4 Going to school            5 Other - Specify</p> <p>28a. For whom did you (last) work? (Name of company, business, organization or other employer)</p> <p>(053) x Never worked - SKIP to 29</p> <p>b. What kind of business or industry is this? (E.g.: TV and radio mfg., retail shoe store, State Labor Department, farm)</p> <p>(054) _____</p> <p>c. Were you -</p> <p>(055) 1 An employee of a PRIVATE company, business or individual for wages, salary or commissions?            2 A GOVERNMENT employee (Federal, State, county, or local)?            3 SELF-EMPLOYED in OWN business, professional practice or farm?            4 Working WITHOUT PAY in family business or farm?</p> <p>d. What kind of work were you doing? (E.g.: electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, Armed Forces)</p> <p>(056) _____</p> <p>e. What were your most important activities or duties? (E.g.: typing, keeping account books, selling cars, Armed Forces)</p> <p>(057) _____</p>														
<p>25a. Did you live in this house on April 1, 1970?</p> <p>(044) 1 Yes - SKIP to Check Item B 2 No</p> <p>b. Where did you live on April 1, 1970? (State, foreign country, U.S. possession, etc.)</p> <p>State, etc. _____ County _____</p> <p>c. Did you live inside the limits of a city, town, village, etc.?</p> <p>(045) 1 No 2 Yes - Name of city, town village, etc. _____</p> <p>(046) _____</p> <p>(Ask males 18+ only)</p> <p>d. Were you in the Armed Forces on April 1, 1970?</p> <p>(047) 1 Yes 2 No</p> <p>Is this person 16 years old or older?</p> <p>(048) 1 No - SKIP to 29 2 Yes</p> <p>26a. What were you doing most of LAST WEEK - (working, keeping house, going to school) or something else?</p> <p>(048) 1 Working - SKIP to 28a 6 Unable to work - SKIP to 26d            2 With a job but not at work 7 Retired            3 Looking for work 8 Other - Specify            4 Keeping house            5 Going to school (If Armed Forces, SKIP to 28a)</p> <p>b. Did you do any work at all LAST WEEK, not counting work around the house? (Note If farm or business operator in HH, ask about unpaid work.)</p> <p>(049) 1 No Yes - How many hours? _____ - SKIP to 28a</p> <p>c. Did you have a job or business from which you were temporarily absent or on layoff LAST WEEK?</p> <p>(050) 1 No 2 Yes - Absent - SKIP to 28a            3 Yes - Layoff - SKIP to 27</p>														
Notes														

HOUSEHOLD SCREEN QUESTIONS		
29. How I'd like to ask some questions about crime. They refer only to the last 6 months - between _____, 197____ and _____, 197____. During the last 6 months, did anyone break into or somehow illegally get into your (apartment/home), garage, or another building on your property?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	32. Did anyone take something belonging to you or to any member of this household, from a place where you or they were temporarily staying, such as a friend's or relative's home, a hotel or motel, or a vacation home?
30. (Other than the incident(s) just mentioned) Did you find a door (jimmied, a lock forced, or any other signs of an ATTEMPTED break in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	33. What was the total number of motor vehicles (cars, trucks, etc.) owned by you or any other member of this household during the last 6 months?
31. Was anything at all stolen that is kept outside your home, or happened to be left out, such as a bicycle, a garden hose, or lawn furniture? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	34. Did anyone steal, TRY to steal, or use (it/any of them) without permission?
36. The following questions refer only to things that happened to YOU during the last 6 months - between _____, 197____ and _____, 197____. Did you have your (pocket picked/purse snatched)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	35. Did anyone steal or TRY to steal parts attached to (it/any of them), such as a battery, hubcaps, tape-deck, etc.?
37. Did anyone take something (else) directly from you by using force, such as by a stickup, mugging or threat?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	46. Did you find any evidence that someone ATTEMPTED to steal something that belonged to you? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)
38. Did anyone TRY to rob you by using force or threatening to harm you? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	47. Did you call the police during the last 6 months to report something that happened to YOU which you thought was a crime? (Do not count any calls made to the police concerning the incidents you have just told me about.)
39. Did anyone beat you up, attack you or hit you with something, such as a rock or bottle? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	48. Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)
40. Were you knifed, shot at, or attacked with some other weapon by anyone at all? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	49. Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)
41. Did anyone THREATEN to beat you up or THREATEN you with a knife, gun, or some other weapon, NOT including telephone threats? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	50. Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)
42. Did anyone TRY to attack you in some other way? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	51. Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)
43. During the last 6 months, did anyone steal things that belonged to you from inside ANY car or truck, such as packages or clothing?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	52. Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)
44. Was anything stolen from you while you were away from home, for instance away from work, in a theater or restaurant, or while traveling?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	53. Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)
45. (Other than any incidents you've already mentioned) was anything (else) at all stolen from you during the last 6 months?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No	54. Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (Other than any incidents already mentioned)

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS														
14. NAME	15. TYPE OF INTERVIEW	16. LINE NO.	17. RELATIONSHIP TO HOUSEHOLD HEAD	18. AGE LAST BIRTH-DAY	19. MARITAL STATUS	20a. RACE	20b. ORIGIN	21. SEX	22. ARMED FORCES MEMBER	23. Education - highest grade	24. Education - complete that year?			
KEYER - BEGIN NEW RECORD		(cc 12)	(cc 13b)	(cc 17)	(cc 18)	(cc 19a)	(cc 19b)	(cc 20)	(cc 21)	(cc 22)	(cc 23)			
Last	(034) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Per - Self respondent 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Tel. - Self respondent 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Per. - Proxy 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Tel. - Proxy 5 <input type="checkbox"/> NI - Fill 16-21	(035) Line No.	(036) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Head 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Wife of head 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Own child 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other relative 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Non-relative	(037) Age	(038) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> M. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Wd. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> D. 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Sep. 5 <input type="checkbox"/> NM	(039) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> W. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Neg. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> O.	(040) Origin	(041) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> M 2 <input type="checkbox"/> F	(042) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No	(043) Grade				
First														
<b>CHECK ITEM A</b> Look at item 4 on cover page. Is this the same household as last enumeration? (Box 1 marked) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to Check Item B <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>25a.</b> Did you live in this house on April 1, 1970? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to Check Item B <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>b.</b> Where did you live on April 1, 1970? (State, foreign country, U.S. possession, etc.) State, etc. _____ County _____														
<b>c.</b> Did you live inside the limits of a city, town, village, etc.? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Name of city, town, village, etc. _____														
<b>d.</b> Were you in the Armed Forces on April 1, 1970? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>CHECK ITEM B</b> Is this person 16 years old or older? <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 36 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes														
<b>26a.</b> What were you doing most of LAST WEEK - (working, keeping house, going to school) or something else? <input type="checkbox"/> Working - SKIP to 28a <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to work - SKIP to 26d <input type="checkbox"/> With a job but not at work <input type="checkbox"/> Retired <input type="checkbox"/> Looking for work <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Keeping house <input type="checkbox"/> Going to school (If Armed Forces, SKIP to 28a)														
<b>b.</b> Did you do any work at all LAST WEEK, not counting work around the house? (Note: If farm or business operator in HH, ask about unpaid work.) <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many hours? _____ - SKIP to 28a														
<b>c.</b> Did you have a job or business from which you were temporarily absent or on layoff LAST WEEK? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Absent - SKIP to 28a <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Layoff - SKIP to 27														
<b>26d.</b> Have you been looking for work during the past 4 weeks? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No - When did you last work? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 5 years ago - SKIP to 28a 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 or more years ago - SKIP to 36 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Never worked														
<b>27.</b> Is there any reason why you could not take a job LAST WEEK? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - <input type="checkbox"/> Already had a job <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary illness <input type="checkbox"/> Going to school <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____														
<b>28a.</b> For whom did you (last) work? (Name of company, business, organization or other employer) <input type="checkbox"/> Never worked - SKIP to 36														
<b>b.</b> What kind of business or industry is this? (E.g.: TV and radio mfg., retail shoe store, State Labor Department, farm) <input type="checkbox"/> _____														
<b>c.</b> Were you - <input type="checkbox"/> An employee of a PRIVATE company, business or individual for wages, salary or commissions? <input type="checkbox"/> A GOVERNMENT employee (Federal, State, county, or local)? <input type="checkbox"/> SELF-EMPLOYED in OWN business, professional practice or farm? <input type="checkbox"/> Working WITHOUT PAY in family business or farm?														
<b>d.</b> What kind of work were you doing? (E.g.: electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, Armed Forces) <input type="checkbox"/> _____														
<b>e.</b> What were your most important activities or duties? (E.g.: typing, keeping account books, selling cars, Armed Forces) <input type="checkbox"/> _____														
<b>INDIVIDUAL SCREEN QUESTIONS</b>														
<b>36.</b> The following questions refer only to things that happened to YOU during the last 6 months - between _____, 197____ and _____, 197____. Did you have your (pocket picked/purse snatched)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>37.</b> Did anyone take something (else) directly from you by using force, such as by a stickup, mugging or threat? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>38.</b> Did anyone TRY to rob you by using force or threatening to harm you? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>39.</b> Did anyone beat you up, attack you or hit you with something, such as a rock or bottle? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>40.</b> Were you knifed, shot at, or attacked with some other weapon by anyone at all? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>41.</b> Did anyone THREATEN to beat you up or threaten you with a knife, gun, or some other weapon, NOT including telephone threats? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>42.</b> Did anyone TRY to attack you in some other way? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>43.</b> During the last 6 months, did anyone steal things that belonged to you from inside ANY car or truck, such as packages or clothing? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>44.</b> Was anything stolen from you while you were away from home, for instance at work, in a theater or restaurant, or while traveling? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>45.</b> (Other than any incidents you've already mentioned) Was anything (else) at all stolen from you during the last 6 months? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>46.</b> Did you find any evidence that someone ATTEMPTED to steal something that belonged to you? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>47.</b> Did you call the police during the last 6 months to report something that happened to YOU which you thought was a crime? (Do not count any calls made to the police concerning the incidents you have just told me about.) <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 48 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - What happened? _____														
<b>CHECK ITEM C</b> Look at 47 - Was HH member 12 attacked or threatened, or was something stolen or an attempt made to steal something that belonged to him? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>48.</b> Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to Check Item E <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - What happened? _____														
<b>CHECK ITEM D</b> Look at 48 - Was HH member 12 attacked or threatened, or was something stolen or an attempt made to steal something that belonged to him? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No														
<b>CHECK ITEM E</b> Do any of the screen questions contain any entries for "How many times?" <input type="checkbox"/> No - Interview next HH member. End interview if last respondent, and fill item 12 on cover page. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Fill Crime Incident Reports.														

KEYER - BEGIN NEW RECORD	Notes	NOTICE - Your report to the Census Bureau is confidential by law (U.S. Code 42, Section 3771). All identifiable information will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey, and may not be disclosed or released to others for any purpose.
Line number		FORM NCS-2 (4-19-77) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE <b>CRIME INCIDENT REPORT</b> <b>NATIONAL CRIME SURVEY - NATIONAL SAMPLE</b>
Screen question number		
Incident number		
(101)		
(102)		
(103)		
(104)	<b>1a.</b> You said that during the last 6 months - (Refer to appropriate screen question for description of crime). In what month (did this/did the first) incident happen? (Show flashcard if necessary. Encourage respondent to give exact month.) _____ Month (01-12) Year 197____	<b>5a.</b> Were you a customer, employee, or owner? <input type="checkbox"/> Customer <input type="checkbox"/> Employee <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
(105)	<b>CHECK ITEM A</b> Is this incident report for a series of crimes? <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - (Note: series must have 3 or more similar incidents which respondent can't recall separately)	<b>b.</b> Did the person(s) steal or TRY to steal anything belonging to the store, restaurant, office, factory, etc.? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know } SKIP to Check Item B
(106)	<b>b.</b> In what month(s) did these incidents take place? (Mark all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Spring (March, April, May) <input type="checkbox"/> Summer (June, July, August) <input type="checkbox"/> Fall (September, October, November) <input type="checkbox"/> Winter (December, January, February)	<b>6a.</b> Did the offender(s) live there or have a right to be there, such as a guest or a workman? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to Check Item B <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
(107)	<b>c.</b> How many incidents were involved in this series? <input type="checkbox"/> Three or four <input type="checkbox"/> Five to ten <input type="checkbox"/> Eleven or more <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<b>b.</b> Did the offender(s) actually get in or just TRY to get in the building? <input type="checkbox"/> Actually got in <input type="checkbox"/> Just tried to get in <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
(108)	<b>INTERVIEWER:</b> If this report is for a series, read the following statement. (The following questions refer only to the most recent incident.) <b>2.</b> About what time did (this/the most recent) incident happen? <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> During the day (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.) At night (6 p.m. to 6 a.m.) <input type="checkbox"/> 6 p.m. to midnight <input type="checkbox"/> Midnight to 6 a.m. <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<b>c.</b> Was there any evidence, such as a broken lock or broken window, that the offender(s) forced his way in/TRIED to force his way in) the building? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - What was the evidence? Anything else? (Mark all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Broken lock or window <input type="checkbox"/> Forced door or window <input type="checkbox"/> Slashed screen <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____ } SKIP to Check Item B
(109)	<b>3a.</b> In what State and county did this incident occur? <input type="checkbox"/> Outside U.S. - END INCIDENT REPORT State _____ County _____	<b>d.</b> How did the offender(s) (get in/try to get in)? <input type="checkbox"/> Through unlocked door or window <input type="checkbox"/> Had key <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
(110)	<b>b.</b> Did it happen INSIDE THE LIMITS of a city, town, village, etc.? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Enter name of city, town, etc. _____	<b>CHECK ITEM B</b> Was respondent or any other member of this household present when this incident occurred? (If not sure, ASK) <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 13a <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
(111)	<b>4.</b> Where did this incident take place? <input type="checkbox"/> At or in own dwelling, in garage or other building on property (Includes break-in or attempted break-in) <input type="checkbox"/> At or in a vacation home, hotel/motel <input type="checkbox"/> Inside commercial building such as store, restaurant, bank, gas station, public conveyance or station <input type="checkbox"/> Inside office, factory, or warehouse <input type="checkbox"/> Near own home: yard, sidewalk, driveway, carport, apartment hall (Does not include break-in or attempted break-in) <input type="checkbox"/> On the street, in a park, field, playground, school grounds or parking lot <input type="checkbox"/> Inside school <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____	<b>7a.</b> Did the person(s) have a weapon such as a gun or knife, or something he was using as a weapon, such as a bottle, or wrench? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know Yes - What was the weapon? Anything else? (Mark all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Gun <input type="checkbox"/> Knife <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
(112)	<b>6.</b> On the street, in a park, field, playground, school grounds or parking lot <input type="checkbox"/> On the street, in a park, field, playground, school grounds or parking lot <input type="checkbox"/> Inside school <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____	<b>b.</b> Did the person(s) hit you, knock you down, or actually attack you in any way? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to 7f <input type="checkbox"/> No
(113)		<b>c.</b> Did the person(s) threaten you with harm in any way? <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 7e <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

NCS-2 INCIDENT REPORT

CRIME INCIDENT QUESTIONS - Continued	
<p>7d. How were you threatened? Any other way? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Verbal threat of rape            2 Verbal threat of attack other than rape            3 Weapon present or threatened with weapon            4 Attempted attack with weapon (for example, shot at)            5 Object thrown at person            6 Followed, surrounded            7 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>SKIP to 10a</p>	<p>9c. Did insurance or any health benefits program pay for all or part of the total medical expenses?</p> <p>1 Not yet settled            2 None            3 All            4 Part</p> <p>SKIP to 10a</p>
<p>e. What actually happened? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Something taken without permission            2 Attempted or threatened to take something            3 Harassed, argument, abusive language            4 Forcible entry or attempted forcible entry of house            5 Forcible entry or attempted entry of car            6 Damaged or destroyed property            7 Attempted or threatened to damage or destroy property            8 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>SKIP to 10a</p>	<p>d. How much did insurance or a health benefits program pay?</p> <p>134 \$ _____ 00 (Obtain an estimate, if necessary)</p>
<p>11. Was the crime committed by only one or more than one person?</p> <p>1 Only one            2 Don't know            3 More than one</p> <p>SKIP to 12a</p>	<p>10a. Did you do anything to protect yourself or your property during the incident?</p> <p>1 No - SKIP to 11            2 Yes</p>
<p>f. How did the person(s) attack you? Any other way? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Raped            2 Tried to rape            3 Hit with object held in hand, shot, knifed            4 Hit by thrown object            5 Hit, slapped, knocked down            6 Grabbed, held, tripped, jumped, pushed, etc.            7 Other - Specify _____</p>	<p>b. What did you do? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Used brandished gun or knife            2 Used tried physical force (hit, chased, threw object, used other weapon, etc.)            3 Tried to get help, attract attention, scare offender away (screamed, yelled, called for help, turned on lights, etc.)            4 Threatened, argued, reasoned, etc., with offender            5 Resisted without force, used evasive action (ran/drove away, hid, held property, locked door, ducked, shielded self, etc.)            6 Other - Specify _____</p>
<p>8a. What were the injuries you suffered, if any? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 None - SKIP to 10a            2 Raped            3 Attempted rape            4 Knife or gunshot wounds            5 Broken bones or teeth knocked out            6 Internal injuries, knocked unconscious            7 Bruises, black eye, cuts, scratches, swelling            8 Other - Specify _____</p>	<p>11. Was the crime committed by only one or more than one person?</p> <p>1 Only one            2 Don't know            3 More than one</p> <p>SKIP to 12a</p>
<p>b. Were you injured to the extent that you needed medical attention after the attack?</p> <p>1 No - SKIP to 10a            2 Yes</p>	<p>a. Was this person male or female?</p> <p>1 Male            2 Female            3 Don't know</p>
<p>c. Did you receive any treatment at a hospital?</p> <p>1 No            2 Emergency room treatment only            3 Stayed overnight or longer - How many days? _____</p>	<p>f. How many persons?</p> <p>133 _____</p>
<p>d. What was the total amount of your medical expenses resulting from this incident, INCLUDING anything paid by insurance? Include hospital and doctor bills, medicine, therapy, braces, and any other injury-related medical expenses. INTERVIEWER - If respondent does not know exact amount, encourage him to give an estimate.</p> <p>130 \$ _____ 00            x Don't know</p>	<p>g. Were they male or female?</p> <p>1 All male            2 All female            3 Male and female            4 Don't know</p>
<p>9a. At the time of the incident, were you covered by any medical insurance, or were you eligible for benefits from any other type of health benefits program, such as Medicaid, Veterans' Administration, or Public Welfare?</p> <p>1 No            2 Don't know            3 Yes</p> <p>SKIP to 10a</p>	<p>h. How old would you say the youngest was?</p> <p>135 1 Under 12            2 12-14            3 15-17            4 18-20            5 21 or over            6 Don't know</p>
<p>b. Did you file a claim with any of these insurance companies or programs in order to get part or all of your medical expenses paid?</p> <p>1 No - SKIP to 10a            2 Yes</p>	<p>i. How old would you say the oldest was?</p> <p>136 1 Under 12            2 12-14            3 15-17            4 18-20            5 21 or over            6 Don't know</p>
<p>132</p>	<p>j. Were any of the persons known or related to you or were they all strangers?</p> <p>1 All strangers            2 Don't know            3 All relatives            4 Some relatives            5 All known            6 Some known</p>
<p>137</p>	<p>k. How well were they known? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 By sight only            2 Casual acquaintance(s)            3 Well known</p>
<p>138</p>	<p>l. How were they related to you? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Spouse or ex-spouse            2 Parents            3 Own children            4 Brothers/sisters            5 Other - Specify _____</p>
<p>139</p>	<p>m. Were all of them -</p> <p>1 White?            2 Negro?            3 Other? - Specify _____            4 Combination - Specify _____            5 Don't know</p>
<p>140</p>	<p>d. Was the person a relative of yours?</p> <p>1 No            2 Yes - What relationship?            3 Spouse or ex-spouse            4 Parent            5 Own child            6 Brother or sister            7 Other relative - Specify _____</p>
<p>141</p>	<p>e. Was he/she -</p> <p>1 White?            2 Negro?            3 Other? - Specify _____            4 Don't know</p>

CRIME INCIDENT QUESTIONS - Continued	
<p>12a. Were you the only person there besides the offender(s)?</p> <p>1 Yes - SKIP to 13a            2 No</p>	<p>Was a car or other motor vehicle taken? (Box 3 or 4 marked in 13f)</p> <p>1 No - SKIP to Check Item E            2 Yes</p>
<p>b. How many of these persons, not counting yourself, were robbed, harmed, or threatened? Do not include persons under 12 years of age.</p> <p>132 0 None - SKIP to 13a            _____ Number of persons</p>	<p>14a. Had permission to use the (car/motor vehicle) ever been given to the person who took it?</p> <p>1 No            2 Don't know            3 Yes</p> <p>SKIP to Check Item E</p>
<p>c. Are any of these persons members of your household now? Do not include household members under 12 years of age.</p> <p>133 0 No            Yes - How many, not counting yourself?            _____</p> <p>(ALSO MARK "YES" IN CHECK ITEM I ON PAGE 12)</p>	<p>b. Did the person return the (car/motor vehicle)?</p> <p>1 Yes            2 No</p>
<p>13a. Was something stolen or taken without permission that belonged to you or others in the household? INTERVIEWER - Include anything stolen from unrecognizable business in respondent's home. Do not include anything stolen from a recognizable business in respondent's home or another business, such as merchandise or cash from a register.</p> <p>134 1 Yes - SKIP to 13f            2 No</p>	<p>Is Box 1 or 2 marked in 13f?</p> <p>1 No - SKIP to 15a            2 Yes</p>
<p>b. Did the person(s) ATTEMPT to take something that belonged to you or others in the household?</p> <p>135 1 No - SKIP to 13e            2 Yes</p>	<p>c. Was the (purse/wallet/money) on your person, for instance, in a pocket or being held by you when it was taken?</p> <p>136 1 Yes            2 No</p>
<p>c. What did they try to take? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Purse            2 Wallet or money            3 Car            4 Other motor vehicle            5 Part of car (hubcap, tape-deck, etc.)            6 Don't know            7 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>Did they try to take a purse, wallet, or money? (Box 1 or 2 marked in 13c)</p> <p>137 1 No - SKIP to 18a            2 Yes</p>	<p>Was only cash taken? (Box 0 marked in 13f)</p> <p>1 Yes - SKIP to 16a            2 No</p>
<p>d. Was the (purse/wallet/money) on your person, for instance in a pocket or being held?</p> <p>138 1 Yes            2 No</p> <p>SKIP to 18a</p>	<p>15a. Altogether, what was the value of the PROPERTY that was taken? INTERVIEWER - Exclude stolen cash, and enter \$0 for stolen checks and credit cards, even if they were used.</p> <p>139 \$ _____ 00</p>
<p>e. What did happen? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Attacked            2 Threatened with harm            3 Attempted to break into house or garage            4 Attempted to break into car            5 Harassed, argument, abusive language            6 Damaged or destroyed property            7 Attempted or threatened to damage or destroy property            8 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>SKIP to 18a</p>	<p>b. How did you decide the value of the property that was stolen? Any other way? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Original cost            2 Replacement cost            3 Personal estimate of current value            4 Insurance report estimate            5 Police estimate            6 Don't know            7 Other - Specify _____</p>
<p>f. What was taken that belonged to you or others in the household? Anything else?</p> <p>139 Cash: \$ _____ 00            and/or            Property: (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Purse            2 Wallet            3 Car            4 Other motor vehicle            5 Part of car (hubcap, tape-deck, etc.)            6 Other - Specify _____</p>	<p>16a. Was all or part of the stolen money or property recovered, not counting anything received from insurance?</p> <p>1 None            2 All            3 Part</p> <p>SKIP to 17a</p>
<p>140</p>	<p>b. What was recovered? Anything else?</p> <p>139 Cash \$ _____ 00            and/or            Property (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Cash only recovered - SKIP to 17a            2 Purse            3 Wallet            4 Car            5 Other motor vehicle            6 Part of car (hubcap, tape-deck, etc.)            7 Other - Specify _____</p>
<p>141</p>	<p>c. What was the value of the property recovered (excluding recovered cash)?</p> <p>140 \$ _____ 00</p>

CRIME INCIDENT QUESTIONS - Continued	
<p>170. Was there any insurance against theft?</p> <p>170 <input type="checkbox"/> No ..... } SKIP to 18a  <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>b. Was this loss reported to an insurance company?</p> <p>171 <input type="checkbox"/> No ..... } SKIP to 18a  <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>c. Was any of this loss recovered through insurance?</p> <p>172 <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet settled } SKIP to 18a  <input type="checkbox"/> No .....  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>d. How much was recovered?</p> <p>INTERVIEWER - If property replaced by insurance company instead of cash settlement, ask for estimate of value of the property replaced.</p> <p>173 \$ _____ 00</p>	<p>20a. Were the police informed of this incident in any way?</p> <p>181 <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know - SKIP to Check Item G  Yes - Who told them?  <input type="checkbox"/> Household member } SKIP to Check Item G  <input type="checkbox"/> Someone else  <input type="checkbox"/> Police on scene</p> <p>b. What was the reason this incident was not reported to the police? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>182 <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing could be done - lack of proof  <input type="checkbox"/> Did not think it important enough  <input type="checkbox"/> Police wouldn't want to be bothered  <input type="checkbox"/> Did not want to take time - too inconvenient  <input type="checkbox"/> Private or personal matter, did not want to report it  <input type="checkbox"/> Did not want to get involved  <input type="checkbox"/> Afraid of reprisal  <input type="checkbox"/> Reported to someone else  <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____</p> <p>CHECK ITEM G <input type="checkbox"/> Is this person 16 years or older?  <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to Check Item H  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - ASK 21a</p> <p>21a. Did you have a job at the time this incident happened?</p> <p>183 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to Check Item H  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>b. What was the job?</p> <p>186 <input type="checkbox"/> Same as described in NCS-1 items 28a-e - SKIP to Check Item H  <input type="checkbox"/> Different than described in NCS-1 items 28a-e</p> <p>c. For whom did you work? (Name of company, business, organization or other employer)</p> <p>d. What kind of business or industry is this? (For example: TV and radio mfg., retail shoe store, State Labor Dept., farm)</p> <p>187 _____</p> <p>e. Were you -</p> <p>188 <input type="checkbox"/> An employee of a PRIVATE company, business or individual for wages, salary or commissions?  <input type="checkbox"/> A GOVERNMENT employee (Federal, State, county or local)?  <input type="checkbox"/> SELF-EMPLOYED in OWN business, professional practice or farm?  <input type="checkbox"/> Working WITHOUT PAY in family business or farm?</p> <p>f. What kind of work were you doing? (For example: electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer)</p> <p>189 _____</p> <p>g. What were your most important activities or duties? (For example: typing, keeping account books, selling cars, finishing concrete, etc.)</p> <p>189 _____</p> <p>Summarize this incident or series of incidents.</p> <p>CHECK ITEM H _____  _____  _____  _____  _____</p> <p>Look at 12c on Incident Report. Is there an entry for "How many?"</p> <p>CHECK ITEM I <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Be sure you have an Incident Report for each HH member 12 years of age or over who was robbed, harmed, or threatened in this incident.</p> <p>Is this the last Incident Report to be filled for this person?</p> <p>CHECK ITEM J <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to next Incident Report.  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Is this the last HH member to be interviewed?  <input type="checkbox"/> No - Interview next HH member.  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - END INTERVIEW. Enter total number of Crime Incident Reports filled for this household in Item 12 on the cover of NCS-1.</p>
<p>18a. Did any household member lose any time from work because of this incident?</p> <p>174 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 19a  Yes - How many members? _____</p> <p>b. How much time was lost altogether?</p> <p>175 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 day  <input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 days  <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 days  <input type="checkbox"/> Over 10 days  <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p>19a. Was anything that belonged to you or other members of the household damaged but not taken in this incident? For example, was a lock or window broken, clothing damaged, or damage done to a car, etc.?</p> <p>176 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 20a  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>b. (Was/were) the damaged item(s) repaired or replaced?</p> <p>177 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to 19d  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>c. How much would it cost to repair or replace the damaged item(s)?</p> <p>178 \$ _____ 00 } SKIP to 20a  <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p>d. How much was the repair or replacement cost?</p> <p>179 <input type="checkbox"/> No cost or don't know - SKIP to 20a  <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ 00</p> <p>e. Who paid or will pay for the repairs or replacement? Anyone else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>180 <input type="checkbox"/> Household member  <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord  <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance  <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____</p>	

Appendix B  
NCS Commercial Interview Schedule

**NOTICE** - Your report to the Census Bureau is confidential by law (Public Law 93-83). All identifiable information will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey, and may not be disclosed or released to others for any purpose.

FORM CVS-100  
(4-21-77)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR  
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**COMMERCIAL CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY  
NATIONAL SAMPLE**

1. IDENTIFICATION CODES				
a. PSU	b. Segment	c. Line No	d. Part	e. Panel
f. RO	g. Interviewer code		h. Total number of incidents	

**INTRODUCTION**

Good morning (afternoon). I'm Mr(s.) \_\_\_\_\_ (your name) from the U.S. Bureau of the Census. We are conducting a survey in this area to measure the extent to which businesses are victims of burglaries and/or robberies. The Government needs to know how much crime there is and where it is to plan and administer programs which will have an impact on the crime problem. You can help by answering some questions for me.

**Part I - BUSINESS CHARACTERISTICS**

2a. Did you (the owner) operate this establishment at this location during the entire 6-month period ending \_\_\_\_\_ ?

1 Yes - SKIP to 3a  
2 No - How many months during the designated period? \_\_\_\_\_ Months

b. What were these months?

1. Jan.	4. Apr.	7. July	A. Oct.
2. Feb.	5. May	8. Aug.	B. Nov.
3. Mar.	6. June	9. Sept.	C. Dec.

c. The last time we were here (Mr(s.) \_\_\_\_\_ gave information for) this establishment (was vacant).  
Did anyone else own this establishment during the 6-month period ending \_\_\_\_\_ ?

1 Yes - Enter name \_\_\_\_\_  
2 No  
3 Don't know - Inquire at neighboring establishment.

*INTERVIEWER - Complete additional questionnaire(s) by contacting the former owner(s) or for vacant establishments by contacting neighboring establishments. Complete separate questionnaires to account for all months of reference period.*

3a. Is this establishment owned or operated as an incorporated business?  
1 Yes - SKIP to 4 2 No

b. How is this business owned or operated?

1 Individual proprietorship  
2 Partnership  
3 Government - Continue interview ONLY if liquor store or any type of transportation  
4 Other - Specify \_\_\_\_\_

7. Did anyone else operate any departments or concessions or some other business activity in this establishment during the 6-month period ending \_\_\_\_\_ ?

1 Yes - List each department, concession, or other business activity on a separate line of Section V of the segment folder, if not already listed. Complete a separate questionnaire for each one that falls on a sample line.  
2 No

**DO NOT ASK ITEM 8 UNTIL PART II AND ANY INCIDENT REPORTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED**

8. What were your approximate gross sales of merchandise and/or receipts from services at this establishment for the previous 12 months ending \_\_\_\_\_ ? (Estimate annual sales and/or receipts if not in business for entire 12 months.)

1 None  
2 Under \$10,000  
3 \$10,000 to \$24,999  
4 \$25,000 to \$49,999  
5 \$50,000 to \$99,999  
6 \$100,000 to \$499,999  
7 \$500,000 to \$999,999  
8 \$1,000,000 and over  
9 Other - Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**INTERVIEWER USE ONLY**

9a. Record of interview

(1) Date \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Name of respondent \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Title of respondent \_\_\_\_\_

(4) Telephone Area code Number Extension

\_\_\_\_\_

b. Reason for non-interview

**TYPE A**

1 Occupant in business during survey period but unable to contact  
2 Refusal and in business during survey period  
3 Other Type A - Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE B**

4 Present occupant not in business during survey period  
5 Vacant or closed  
6 Other Type B (Seasonal, etc.) - Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE C**

7 Occupied by non-listable activity  
8 Demolished  
9 Other Type C - Specify \_\_\_\_\_

6a. What do you consider your kind of business to be at this location?

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

b. Mark (X) one box

<b>RETAIL</b>		<b>WHOLESALE</b>	
1 Food		C Durable	
2 Eating and drinking		D Nondurable	
3 General merchandise		<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	
4 Apparel		E Durable	
5 Furniture and appliance		F Nondurable	
6 Lumber, hardware, mobile home dealers		<b>REAL ESTATE</b>	
7 Automotive		G Apartment rental office	
8 Drug and proprietary		H Other real estate	
9 Liquor		I SERVICE	
A Gasoline service stations		J BANKS	
B Other retail		K TRANSPORTATION	
		L ALL OTHERS - Specify _____	

**Part II - SCREENING QUESTIONS**

a. The last time this establishment was interviewed, \_\_\_\_\_ burglary(ies) were reported in \_\_\_\_\_ (month) and \_\_\_\_\_ robbery(ies) were reported in \_\_\_\_\_ (month).

b. Now I'd like to ask some questions about particular kinds of theft or attempted theft. These questions refer only to this establishment for the 6-month period ending \_\_\_\_\_.

10. During this period did anyone break into or somehow illegally get into this place of business?

11. (Other than the incident(s) just mentioned,) during this period did anyone find a door jimmied, a lock forced, or any other signs of an ATTEMPTED break-in?

12. During this period were you, the owner, or any employee held up by anyone using a weapon, force or threat of force on these premises?

13. (Other than the incident(s) already mentioned,) did anyone ATTEMPT to hold up you, the owner, or any employee by using force or threatening to harm you while on these premises?

14. (Other than the incident(s) just mentioned,) during this period were you, the owner, or any employee held up while delivering merchandise or carrying business money outside the business?

15. (Other than the incident(s) just mentioned,) did anyone ATTEMPT to hold up you, the owner, or any employee while delivering merchandise or carrying business money outside the business?

16a. Is this establishment insured against burglary and/or robbery by means other than self-insurance?

b. Does the insurance also cover other types of crime losses, such as vandalism or shoplifting and employee theft?

17a. Has this establishment ever been insured against burglary and/or robbery by means other than self-insurance?

b. Did the insurance also cover other types of crime losses, such as vandalism or shoplifting and employee theft?

c. Did you drop the insurance or did the company cancel your policy?

18. Why hasn't this establishment ever been insured against burglary and/or robbery?

19a. What security measures, if any, are present at this location now, to protect it against burglary and/or robbery?

b. When were these security measures first installed or otherwise undertaken?

20. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM

21. Were there any incidents reported in 10-15?

NOTES

Form Approved: O.M.B. No. 43-R0587

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR  
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMIN.  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TRANSCRIBE THE IDENTIFICATION CODES FROM ITEM 1 OF THE COVER SHEET AND COMPLETE A SEPARATE INCIDENT REPORT FOR EACH INCIDENT.

FORM CVS-100 (4-21-77)

INCIDENT REPORT  
COMMERCIAL CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY - NATIONAL SAMPLE

INCIDENT NUMBER  
Record which incident (1, 2, etc.) is covered by this page

IDENTIFICATION CODE

a. FSU b. Segment c. Line No. d. Part e. Panel f. RO

g. Incident No.

You said that during the 6 months beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_ (refer to screening questions 10-15 for description of crime).

1. In what month did this (did the first) incident happen?

2. About what time did it happen?

3. Where did this incident take place?

4. Were you, the owner, or any employee present while this incident was occurring?

5a. Did the person holding you up have a weapon or something that was used as a weapon, such as a bottle or wrench?

b. What was the weapon? (Mark (X) all that apply)

6a. How many persons were involved in committing the crime?

b. How old would you say the person was?

c. Was the person male or female?

d. Was he (she) -

e. How old would you say the youngest person was?

f. How old would you say the oldest person was?

g. Were they male or female?

h. Were they -

7a. Were you, the owner, or any employee injured in this incident, seriously enough to require medical attention?

b. How many of them stayed in a hospital overnight or longer?

8. Of those receiving treatment in or out of a hospital, did this business pay for any of the medical expenses not covered by a regular health benefits program?

9a. Did any deaths occur as a result of this incident?

b. Who was killed? (Mark (X) all that apply)

c. How many?

10. Did the offender enter, attempt to enter, or remain in this establishment illegally?

11. Did the offender(s) actually get in or just try to get in?

12. Was there a broken window, broken lock, alarm, or any other evidence that the offender(s) forced (tried to force) his (their) way in?

13. What was the evidence? (Mark all that apply)

14. How did the offender(s) get in (try to get in)?



INCIDENT REPORT -- Continued	
<p>15a. Was anything damaged in this incident? For example, a lock or window broken, damaged merchandise, etc.</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No -- SKIP to 16a</p> <p>b. Was (were) the damaged item(s) repaired or replaced?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes -- SKIP to 15d</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>c. How much would it cost to repair or replace the damages? (Estimate)</p> <p>\$ _____</p> <p>X <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don't know } SKIP to 15e</p> <p>d. How much did it cost to repair or replace the damages?</p> <p>\$ _____</p> <p>V <input type="checkbox"/> No cost -- SKIP to 16a</p> <p>X <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p>e. Who paid or will pay for the repairs or replacement? (Mark (X) all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> This business</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Owner of building (landlord)</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other -- Specify _____</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>	<p>18a. Did you, the owner, or any employee here lose any time from work because of this incident?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes -- How many people? → Number _____</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> No -- SKIP to 19a</p> <p>b. How many work days were lost altogether?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 day</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 days</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 days</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Over 10 days -- How many? → Days _____</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p>16a. Did the offender(s) take any money, merchandise, equipment, or supplies?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> No -- SKIP to 18a</p> <p>b. How much money was taken? → \$ _____</p> <p>c. What was the total value of merchandise, equipment, or supplies taken?</p> <p>\$ _____</p> <p>V <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>X <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know } SKIP to 17a</p> <p>d. How was the value (merchandise, equipment, or supplies taken) determined?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Original cost</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement cost</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Other -- Specify _____</p>	<p>19a. Were any security measures taken after this incident to protect the establishment from future incidents?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> No -- SKIP to 20a</p> <p>b. What measures were taken? (Mark (X) all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Alarm system -- outside ringing</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Burglar alarm -- inside ringing</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Central alarm</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Reinforcing devices, grates, gates, bars on window, etc.</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Guard, watchman</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Watch dog</p> <p>7 <input type="checkbox"/> Firearms</p> <p>8 <input type="checkbox"/> Cameras</p> <p>9 <input type="checkbox"/> Mirrors</p> <p>A <input type="checkbox"/> Locks</p> <p>B <input type="checkbox"/> Lights -- outside or additional inside</p> <p>C <input type="checkbox"/> Other -- Specify _____</p>
<p>17a. How much, if any, of the stolen money and/or property was recovered by insurance?</p> <p>\$ _____</p> <p>V <input type="checkbox"/> None -- Why not? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Didn't report it</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Does not have insurance</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Not settled yet</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Policy has a deductible</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Money and/or merchandise was recovered</p> <p>X <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p>b. How much, if any, of the stolen money and/or property was recovered by means other than insurance?</p> <p>\$ _____</p> <p>V <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>X <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know } SKIP to 18a</p> <p>c. By what means was the stolen money and/or property recovered?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Police</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Other -- Specify _____</p>	<p>20a. Were the police informed of this incident in any way?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know -- SKIP to 21</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes -- Who told them? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Owner(s)</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Employee</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Someone else</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Police on scene } SKIP to 21</p> <p>b. What was the reason this incident was not reported to the police? (Mark (X) all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing could be done -- lack of proof</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Did not think it important enough</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Police wouldn't want to be bothered</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Did not want to take the time -- too inconvenient</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Private or personal matter, did not want to report it</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Did not want to get involved</p> <p>7 <input type="checkbox"/> Afraid of reprisal</p> <p>8 <input type="checkbox"/> Reported to someone else</p> <p>9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other -- Specify _____</p>
<p>NOTES</p>	<p>21. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM</p> <p>Are there more incidents to record?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No -- Return to page 1, complete items 8 and 9, and end interview.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes -- Fill the next Incident Report.</p>

Appendix C

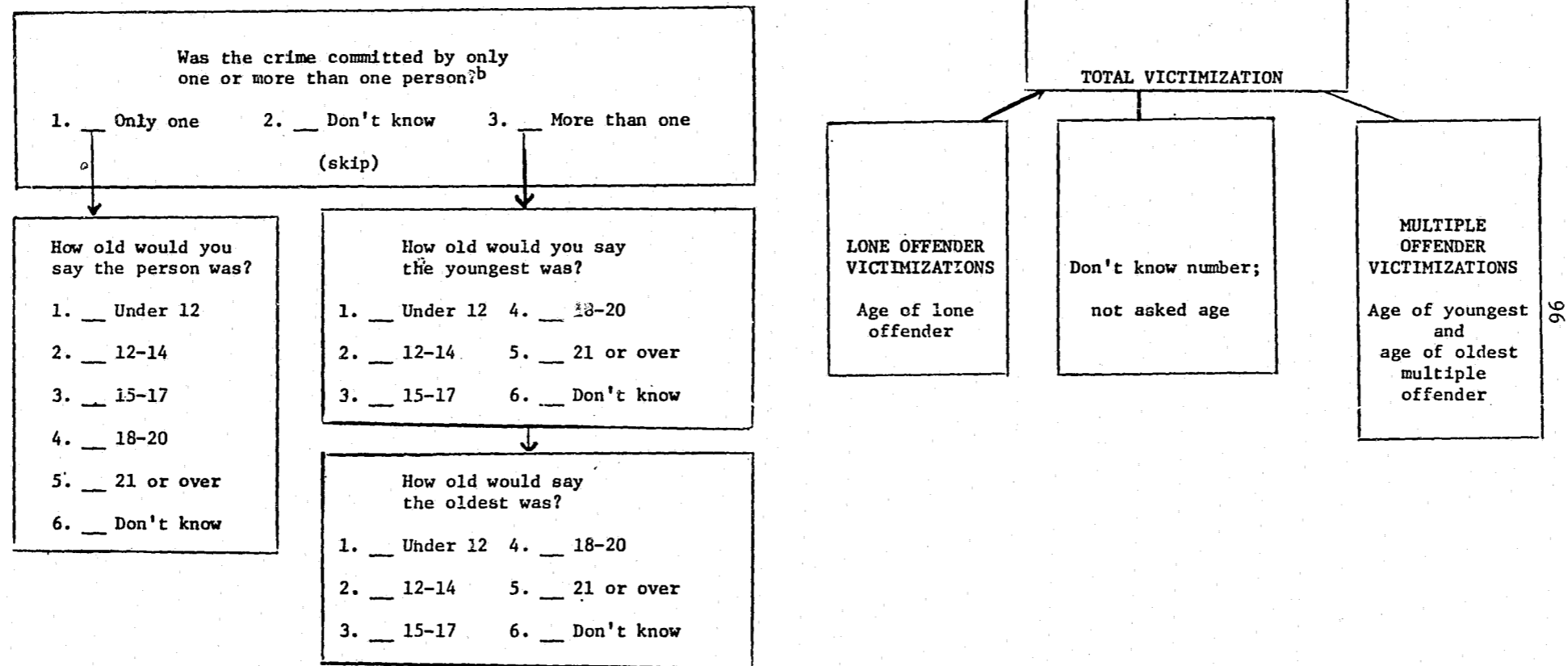
Offender Age in National Crime Survey Data

In the National Crime Survey victims are asked several questions designed to yield information about characteristics of their offenders. Among these questionnaire items, specific questions deal with the victim's perception of the age of his or her offender(s). The victimization survey data collected in response to these offender age questions provide an opportunity to examine variations in criminal victimizations committed by offenders perceived by their victims to be under 18 years old (juveniles), 18 to 20 years old (youthful offenders), or 21 or older (adults). This appendix provides explanation of and documentation for the various offender age variables which were created and used in this report and its companion reports in this series.

In order to understand fully the nature of the offender age data obtained in the National Crime Survey it is necessary first to review the questions asked of survey respondents who were victimized in face-to-face encounters. Figure C1 illustrates these questions. The first question asked about offender characteristics is whether the crime was committed by only one or more than one person. If the victim reports that there was only one offender, he or she is asked the age of the lone offender. If more than one offender was involved, the victim is asked to report both the age of the youngest multiple offender and the age of the oldest multiple offender.



Figure C1 Offender age questions in the National Crime Survey<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup>See Appendix A: National Crime Survey Household Interview Questionnaire, Incident Report, questions 11, 11b, 11h, and 11i, and Appendix B: National Crime Survey Commercial Interview Questionnaire, Incident Report, questions 6a, 6b, 6e, and 6f.

<sup>b</sup>This question is different in the commercial surveys. See Appendix B Incident question 6a.

A few important considerations emerge from an examination of Figure C1. First, "don't know" offender age responses are obtained from two groups of victims. One group is those who did not know whether the crime was committed by one or more than one offender. Generally, this group does not constitute a large proportion of the total victims. For example, in the NCS national sample for the years 1973 to 1977 in about 6 percent of the total personal victimizations (including rape, robbery, the assaults, and personal larceny) the victim did not know whether one or more than one offender was involved. The second group consists of victims who knew whether there was one or more than one offender, but did not know the offender's age. For this reason, in an additional 4 percent of the incidents the age of the offender was not ascertained.

Second, because victims of more than one offender (multiple offenders) are asked to report both the ages of the youngest and the oldest multiple offender, the survey data have three major offender age variables: 1) the perceived age of the lone offender, 2) the perceived age of the youngest multiple offender, and 3) the perceived age of the oldest multiple offender.

Third, the NCS interview schedules produce rather fine offender age categories only for offenders perceived to be less than 21 years old. From the victims response, the interviewer records the offender age as under 12 years old, 12 to 14, 15 to 17, 18 to 20, or 21 or older. This means that detailed offender age information is available only for victimizations committed by offenders perceived to be less than 21 years old. In the analyses in this report, offenders perceived by their victims to be under 18 years old are juveniles, those perceived to be

between 18 and 20 years old are youthful offenders, and those perceived to be 21 or older are adults.

Table C1 shows the offender age variables that were used in the analysis for this report. Variables A, B, and C are the three major offender age variables in the NCS data: detailed age of lone offender, detailed age of the youngest multiple offender, and detailed age of the oldest multiple offender. Variables AA, BB, CC are ordinary recodes of these variables; they simply categorize together all offenders perceived to be under 18 years old.

The primary focus of much of the analysis in this report is on the incidents of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. Therefore it was necessary to create an offender age variable that would express the percent of the total victimizations (minus the small percentage in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender) attributable to offenders in different age categories, regardless of whether the incident involved lone or multiple offenders. To do this, variable D was created from variables A (detailed age of lone offender) and C (detailed age of oldest multiple offender) in the following manner:

Condition		Value
If A=1, under 12 or if C=1, under 12	then	D=1, under 12
If A=2, 12-14 or if C=2, 12-14	then	D=2, 12-14
If A=3, 15-17 or if C=3, 15-17	then	D=3, 15-17

If A=4, 18-20 or if C=4, 18-20	then	D=4, 18-20
If A=5, 21 or older or if C=5, 21 or older	then	D=5, 21 or older
If A=6, Don't know age or if C=6, Don't know age	then	D=6, Don't know age

Thus, when variable D (see Table C1) has the value of "1", under 12, this includes all lone offender victimizations committed by offenders perceived to be under 12 years old, plus all multiple offender victimizations in which the oldest multiple offender was perceived to be under 12 years old. Variable D makes possible an examination of victimizations committed by offenders in various age groups, whether the incident involved only one or more than one offender. Variable DD is an ordinary recode of the detailed age of offender into juveniles (under 18), youthful offenders (18 to 20), and adults (21 or older).

The detailed age of the oldest multiple offender (variable C), rather than the detailed age of the youngest multiple offender (variable B) was used to create variable D in order to insure that the perceived age of all offenders in any given offender age category did not exceed the upper limit of the age category. This is because there are some incidents in which the age composition of the multiple offender group is varied (e.g. the youngest might be 14 and the oldest might be 18). Table C2 shows that a mixed-age multiple offender group was reported in fewer than one out of three multiple offender victimizations. In two-thirds of the multiple offender victimizations the youngest and oldest multiple offenders were both perceived to be under 18 (28 percent),

Table C1 Offender age variables

Variable name	Values
A. Detailed age of lone offender	1=Under 12, 2=12-14, 3=15-17, 4=18-20, 5=21 or older, 6=Don't know
B. Detailed age of youngest multiple offender	1=Under 12, 2=12-14, 3=15-17, 4=18-20, 5=21 or older, 6=Don't know
C. Detailed age of oldest multiple offender	1=Under 12, 2=12-14, 3=15-17, 4=18-20, 5=21 or older, 6=Don't know
D. Detailed age of offender <sup>a</sup>	1=Under 12, 2=12-14, 3=15-17, 4=18-20, 5=21 or older, 6=Don't know
AA. Age of lone offender	1=Under 18, 2=18-20, 3=21 or older, 4=Don't know
BB. Age of youngest multiple offender	1=Under 18, 2=18-20, 3=21 or older, 4=Don't know
CC. Age of oldest multiple offender	1=Under 18, 2=18-20, 3=21 or older, 4=Don't know
DD. Age of offender <sup>a</sup>	1=Under 18, 2=18-20, 3=21 or older, 4=Don't know

<sup>a</sup>Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

Table C2 Ages of youngest and oldest multiple offenders in personal victimization, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate<sup>a</sup>

Ages of youngest and oldest multiple offender	Percent	Estimated number of victimizations
Both under 18	27.9)	2,821,802
Both 18 to 20	9.6	972,372
Both 21 or older	27.8	2,810,194
Youngest under 18/oldest 18 to 20	11.3	1,140,592
Youngest under 18/oldest 21 or older	5.7	574,249
Youngest 18 to 20/oldest 21 or older	11.3	1,141,134
Error cases <sup>b</sup>	0.2	18,068
Don't know age <sup>c</sup>	6.2	632,558
Total	100.0	10,110,969

<sup>a</sup>This table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender. Also excluded are lone offender victimizations.

<sup>b</sup>In a few cases the youngest offender was recorded in the interview as older than the oldest offender.

<sup>c</sup>Don't know age of youngest, age of oldest, or both.

both 18 to 20 (10 percent), and both 21 or older (28 percent).

Because of the mixed-age multiple offender groups, in order to guarantee that no category of the detailed age of offender variable would include incidents that involved multiple offenders older than the upper limit of the category specified, it was necessary to use the age of the oldest multiple offender. However, because the majority of multiple offender incidents involved same-age offenders, the results of the analysis would not differ substantially if the age of the youngest multiple offender had been used in variable D.

#### Accuracy of Victims' Perceptions of Offenders' Characteristics

Most of the analyses in this monograph depend upon the ability of victims to make at least crude distinctions among offenders of different age groups; to a more limited extent, there is also a dependence upon the victims' ability to make distinctions between offenders of different sexes and races. The research literature that exists in this area is limited almost exclusively to questions relating to the accuracy of victim and witness recall of offender identity (e.g., ability to pick the offender out of a lineup) and descriptions of what transpired during the event, rather than to questions about the offender's basic demographic characteristics such as age, sex, and race. Most of this research involves simulations or staged "crimes," often in front of groups of observers such as college students.<sup>1</sup> Although this research suggests that eye witness testimony regarding the identify of the actors involved and what transpired during the event are subject to substantial error, the research provides virtually no information about the ability of victims

to report accurately about offenders' ages, sexes, and races. Presumably it is much less difficult for a victim simply to report these basic demographic characteristics than it is for a victim to identify a specific "offender" from among a "lineup" group of persons selected for inclusion in the lineup because they are demographically similar to each other. Because the available research literature did not shed much light on the accuracy of victims' perceptions of offenders' ages, sexes, and races, an attempt was made to study a sample of victims' reports of suspect characteristics (age, sex, and race) made at the time that the police took the offense report and the characteristics of arrestees who were subsequently arrested for these crimes. The data below are for rapes and attempted rapes reported to the police in New York City between 1974 and 1977.<sup>2</sup>

Of the three demographic characteristics -- age, race, and sex -- age is probably the most difficult for victims to estimate accurately. Table C3 shows a tabulation of suspect's age group as perceived by the victim at the time that the rape or attempted rape offense report was filed, and the arrestee's age group -- as determined from the arrestee's birth data -- as shown on the police arrest report. Suspect ages were reported for more than twelve thousand suspects and were reported as "don't know" for about nine hundred suspects. For most suspects (more than 8,000 out of 13,000), no arrest was made. Of those suspects for whom an arrest was made, the perceived age group and the arrest report age group are remarkably close. For example, of those arrested suspects perceived by the victim to have been under 14 years old,

Table C3 Correspondence Between Age of Suspect as Reported by Victim and Age of Arrestee as Shown on Police Arrest Records, New York City Rapes and Attempted Rapes, 1974-1977

Suspect's Age	Arrestee's Age								No arrest	Total
	Under 14	14-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-45	Over 45		
Under 14	97.1 <sup>a</sup> (169)	2.9 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-- (76) <sup>b</sup>	100 (174) <sup>c</sup>
14-19	.6 (6)	95.7 (997)	2.7 (28)	.8 (8)	.2 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	.1 (1)	-- (1,224) <sup>b</sup>	100 (1,042) <sup>c</sup>
20-24	.2 (2)	5.4 (56)	89.3 (930)	3.8 (40)	.9 (9)	.3 (3)	0 (0)	.1 (1)	-- (2,196) <sup>b</sup>	100 (1,041) <sup>c</sup>
25-29	.1 (1)	1.1 (11)	5.3 (55)	90.0 (933)	2.4 (25)	.8 (8)	.3 (3)	.1 (1)	-- (1,945) <sup>b</sup>	100 (1,037) <sup>c</sup>
30-34	0 (0)	.5 (3)	1.9 (12)	4.1 (26)	90.4 (577)	1.9 (12)	1.1 (7)	.2 (1)	-- (1,055) <sup>b</sup>	100 (638) <sup>c</sup>
35-39	0 (0)	0 (0)	.9 (4)	1.8 (8)	2.9 (13)	89.4 (397)	3.2 (14)	1.8 (8)	-- (533) <sup>b</sup>	100 (444) <sup>c</sup>
40-45	0 (0)	.7 (2)	.3 (1)	.3 (1)	2.0 (6)	2.0 (6)	91.1 (278)	3.6 (11)	-- (294) <sup>b</sup>	100 (305) <sup>c</sup>
Over 45	0 (0)	.7 (2)	0 (0)	.7 (2)	.3 (1)	.3 (1)	2.1 (6)	95.8 (276)	-- (182) <sup>b</sup>	100 (288) <sup>c</sup>
Don't Know	4.4 (2)	21.7 (10)	13.0 (6)	26.1 (12)	15.2 (7)	4.4 (2)	8.7 (4)	6.5 (3)	-- (848) <sup>b</sup>	100 (46) <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Row percent.

<sup>b</sup>"No Arrests" excluded from row percent.

<sup>c</sup>Excludes "No Arrests."

arrest records showed that 97 percent were actually under 14. For those suspects perceived to be 14 to 19, 95 percent of the arrestees were 14 to 19. In fact, for no suspect age group is the victims' accuracy rate less than 89 percent. The overall ordinal measure of association (Somers' d) between suspect and arrestee's age for arrested rapists is .95.

The age groups for those under 21 are somewhat cruder, and those over 21 are finer, than in the NCS data. Nonetheless, the agreement between victims' perceptions and arrestees' actual ages is remarkable. It is important to note parenthetically that the strength of this relationship does not diminish appreciably when only the victims and offenders who were strangers to each other are included in the analysis.

Because of the sexual nature of the offense of rape, the information on the correspondence between the suspect's and arrestee's sex is of limited value, but it is shown in Table C4. Of those suspects reported by victims to have been males and for whom an arrest was made, virtually all of them (99.8 percent) were male as judged from the police arrest report; of the 34 suspects reported by victims to have been females and for whom an arrest was made, 24 were male as judged by police arrest reports. The measure of association, phi -- the magnitude of which is severely limited owing to the extreme skewness of the sex distributions of suspects and arrestees -- is .73.

The last characteristic to be examined is race/ethnicity (Table C5). The race/ethnicity categories used here are finer than are those available in the NCS data, and hence provide a



Table C4 Correspondence Between Sex of Suspect As Reported by Victim and Sex of Arrestee As Shown on Police Arrest Records, New York City Rapes and Attempted Rapes, 1974-1977

Suspect's Sex	Arrestee's Sex		No Arrest	Total
	Male	Female		
Male	99.8 <sup>a</sup> (5,034)	.2 (8)	-- (8,240) <sup>b</sup>	100 (5,042) <sup>c</sup>
Female	29.4 (10)	70.6 (24)	-- (52) <sup>b</sup>	100 (34) <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Row percent.

<sup>b</sup>"No Arrests" excluded from row percents.

<sup>c</sup>Excludes "No Arrests."

Table C5 Correspondence Between Race of Suspect As Reported by Victim and Race of Arrestee as Shown on Police Arrest Records, New York City Rapes and Attempted Rapes, 1974-1977

Suspect's Race	Arrestee's Race					No Arrest	Total
	White	Black	Hispanic	Oriental	Other		
White	96.1 <sup>a</sup> (597)	1.0 (6)	2.9 (18)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-- (1,244) <sup>b</sup>	100 (621) <sup>c</sup>
Black	.2 (7)	98.9 (3,179)	.8 (26)	0 (1)	0 (0)	-- (5,394) <sup>b</sup>	100 (3,213) <sup>c</sup>
Hispanic	.6 (7)	1.6 (19)	97.7 (1,167)	.1 (1)	0 (0)	-- (1,550) <sup>b</sup>	100 (1,194) <sup>e</sup>
Oriental	9.1 (1)	0 (0)	9.1 (1)	81.8 (9)	0 (0)	-- (28) <sup>b</sup>	100 (11) <sup>c</sup>
Other	0 (0)	7.7 (1)	23.1 (3)	0 (0)	69.2 (9)	-- (16) <sup>b</sup>	100 (13) <sup>c</sup>
Don't Know	33.3 (1)	0 (0)	66.7 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-- (81) <sup>b</sup>	100 (84) <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Row percent.

<sup>b</sup>"No Arrests" excluded from row percents.

<sup>c</sup>Excludes "No Arrests."

stricter test of the ability of victims to report on arrestees' race/ethnicity. Consistent with the age data, these data show that victim's reports of suspects' race/ethnicity are in close agreement with the arrest report data. The agreement is .95 as judged by the nominal measure of association lambda.

Of particular interest in connection with Table C5 is that according to Census Bureau procedures Hispanics are counted as white for purposes of racial classification. Hence in the NCS data, Anglo and Hispanic offenders are not categorized separately (see data collection instrument, Appendix A). It is possible that some victims perceive Hispanics as blacks and/or vice-versa. Thus it is important to note that very few victims misperceive Hispanics as blacks or blacks as Hispanics. Thus, from the New York City rape data this does not appear to be a significant source of measurement error.

These data regarding victims' ability to report on offenders' demographic characteristics are very encouraging. Although future research will have to sample a broader range of crimes and locales, the data suggest that some confidence in victims' reports of offenders' ages, races, and sexes appears justified at this time.

FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>See for example Buckhout (1974), Note (1977), Duncan (1976), Leippe, Wells, Ostrom (1978), Clifford and Scott (1978), and Kuehn (1974).

<sup>2</sup>We are grateful to Dennis Butler of the New York City Police Department for making available these data from his comprehensive study of rape that is currently under way.

## Appendix D

## Type of crime definitions in the National Crime Survey

Type of crime	Definition
Rape	Carnal knowledge through the use of force or the threat of force, including attempts. Statutory rape (without force) is excluded. Includes both heterosexual and homosexual rape.
Robbery	Theft or attempted theft, directly from a person or a business, of property or cash by force or threat of force, with or without a weapon.  This includes both:
Robbery with injury	Theft or attempted theft from a person, accompanied by an attack, either with or without a weapon, resulting in injury. An injury is classified as resulting from a serious assault if a weapon was used in the commission of the crime or, if not, when the extent of the injury was either serious (e.g., broken bones, loss of teeth, internal injuries, loss of consciousness) or undetermined but requiring 2 or more days of hospitalization. An injury is classified as resulting from a minor assault when the extent of the injury was minor (e.g., bruises, black eyes, cuts, scratches, swelling) or undetermined but requiring less than 2 days of hospitalization.  And:
Robbery without injury	Theft or attempted theft from a person, accompanied by force or the threat of force, either with or without a weapon, but not resulting in injury.
Aggravated assault	Attack with a weapon resulting in any injury and attack without a weapon resulting either in serious injury (e.g., broken bones, loss of teeth, internal injuries, loss of consciousness) or in undetermined injury requiring 2 or more days of hospitalization. Also includes attempted assault with a weapon.

Simple assault	Attack without a weapon resulting either in minor injury (e.g., bruises, black eyes, cuts, scratches, swelling) or in undetermined injury requiring less than 2 days of hospitalization. Also includes attempted assault without a weapon.
Personal larceny with contact*	Theft of purse, wallet, or cash by stealth directly from the person of the victim, but without force or the threat of force. Also includes attempted purse snatching.
Personal larceny without contact	Theft or attempted theft, without direct contact between victim and offender, of property or cash from any place other than the victim's home or its immediate vicinity. In rare cases, the victim sees the offender during the commission of the act.

\*In this report personal larceny with contact is referred to simply as "personal larceny." This is a departure from the standard National Crime Survey definitions in which "personal larceny" includes both personal larceny with contact and personal larceny without contact.

## Appendix E

## Sellin-Wolfgang Seriousness Weights

In The Measurement of Delinquency Sellin and Wolfgang (1964) endeavored to remedy some of the classification problems inherent in the Uniform Crime Reports system by constructing a seriousness weighted delinquency index. The focus of Sellin and Wolfgang's research was the nature of harm inflicted in criminal events, regardless of the legal classification of events. A major underlying assumption of Sellin and Wolfgang's work was that a crime index should be constructed from criminal events that inflict some bodily harm on a victim and/or cause property loss by theft, damage, or destruction, and that these effects are more important in this connection than the specific legal labels attached to the events (Sellin and Wolfgang, 1964:295). A second guiding assumption of their work is that each component of a criminal event must be taken into account in evaluation, and not merely the most serious one, as is the UCR practice.

Sellin and Wolfgang originated the construction of their delinquency index by taking a random sample of case records from the Juvenile Aid Division of the Philadelphia Police Department in 1960. Of the original 1,313 offenses drawn, 141 offenses involving injury, theft and damage were extracted. The offense categories were then presented to sample groups consisting of university students, police officers, Juvenile Aid Division officers, and juvenile court judges. The groups were then asked to rate what they perceived to be the seriousness of the criminal events on numerical categorical and magnitude scales.

Each delinquent event consisted of one or more of the following six major elements of harm: the number of victims of bodily harm, of forcible sexual

intercourse, and of intimidation; the number of premises forcibly entered and the number of motor vehicles stolen; and the value of property stolen, damaged, or destroyed. The final seriousness weights ranged from 1 to 26, with a score of 1 representing the forcible entry of premises and 26 representing homicide.

The calculation of Sellin-Wolfgang seriousness scores is intuitively and mechanically straight-forward (see Table E1). For example, if the victim of an assault receives minor injuries the seriousness score assigned is one. If the victim is hospitalized the seriousness score is 7, and if the victim dies the resulting weight is 26. The seriousness scores for the value of property stolen or damaged range from 1 for a loss less than \$10, to a score of 8 for losses exceeding \$80,000. Since the final ratio scale has additive properties, victimizations involving aggravating factors are easily calculated by cumulating the corresponding weights. For example (weights in parentheses), if a woman is raped (10) at gunpoint (2) and then hospitalized (7), the total seriousness score for the event is 19. The seriousness weighted rate per 100,000 persons in a given community can be computed by summing seriousness scores across offense events, dividing by the community population at risk, and multiplying the result by 100,000. The resulting index would allow one to examine the seriousness of harm inflicted upon a community in a given time period.

The Sellin-Wolfgang seriousness scale can easily be adapted to victimization data with one important modification. The focus of this analysis is the seriousness of the victimization suffered by any given victim, and not the total seriousness of victimization incidents. Unlike the Sellin-Wolfgang procedure, our use of the method ignores the number of victims involved in a criminal event. Since all of the elements of the Sellin-Wolfgang offense categories except homicide are available in the NCS data, seriousness weights are assigned to each consequence of victimization reported by survey respondents.

In this monograph all seriousness-weighted rates are reported per 100,000 of the relevant population group. Seriousness-weighted rates of personal victimization are computed by summing across victims the seriousness scores for each victimization, dividing by the population at risk, and multiplying the result by 100,000. For example, the seriousness-weighted rate of total male victimization is calculated by summing the seriousness scores for each victimization of a male, dividing by the male population base, and multiplying by 100,000. An example of the utility of the Sellin-Wolfgang weighting system can be seen when one examines the seriousness-weighted rates and total rates of personal victimization in the United States for black and white victims making less than \$3,000 (data not shown in tabular form). When the age of offender is 21 or older, the white victimization rate is 3,311 per 100,000 and the black victimization rate is somewhat higher, 3,820 per 100,000. When one considers the serious-weighted rates, however, the white seriousness-weighted rate is 10,564, while the black seriousness rate is a much higher 16,331. If blacks and whites suffered equally serious victimizations, the black seriousness-weighted rate would be 12,223 per 100,000. It can be concluded, therefore, that blacks making less than \$3,000 suffer more serious victimizations (in terms of bodily injury and financial loss) than do their white counterparts, even though the risk of victimization is similar for both groups. It is apparent, then, that the application of the Sellin-Wolfgang seriousness scale to victimization survey data can add an important dimension to the analysis of criminal victimization.

Table E1: Sellin-Wolfgang Seriousness Weighting System

<u>Element</u>	<u>Score (Weight)</u>
Minor Injury to Victim	1
Victim Treated and Discharged	4
Victim Hospitalized	7
Victim Killed	26
Victim of Forcible Sexual Intercourse	10
Intimidated by Weapon	add 2
Intimidation of persons in connection with theft, etc. (other than in connection with forcible sex acts):	
Physical or Verbal Only	2
By Weapon	4
Forcible Entry of Premises	1
Value of property stolen and/or damaged:	
Under 10 dollars	1
\$10 - \$250	2
\$251 - \$2,000	3
\$2,001 - \$9,000	4
\$9,001 - \$30,000	5
\$30,001 - \$80,000	6
Over \$80,000	7
Theft of Motor Vehicle (recovered, undamaged)	2

(Source: Sellin and Wolfgang, The Measurement of Delinquency, p. 298.)

Appendix F  
Population Base Estimates

Table 1 Estimated annual population bases by age, race, and sex,  
NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate

Sex and Race	Age		
	12 to 17	18 to 20	21 or older
<u>Male</u>	12,566,108	5,768,354	62,756,885
White	10,657,488	4,969,925	55,989,718
Black	1,755,869	706,813	5,917,737
Other	152,751	91,615	849,430
<u>Female</u>	12,175,397	6,100,731	70,030,077
White	10,265,619	5,194,029	61,733,644
Black	1,759,910	830,048	7,408,542
Other	149,867	76,654	887,891
<u>Male and Female</u>	24,741,505	11,869,085	132,786,962
White	20,923,107	10,163,954	117,723,362
Black	3,515,779	1,536,862	13,326,279
Other	302,618	168,269	1,737,321

Table 2 Estimated population bases by year, age, and sex,  
NCS national data, 1973-1977

Year and age	Sex	
	Male	Female
1973:		
12 to 17	12,629,357	12,252,164
18 to 20	5,491,693	5,877,619
21 or older	60,454,826	67,624,544
Total	78,575,876	85,754,327
1974:		
12 to 17	12,664,569	12,298,354
18 to 20	5,673,450	6,039,335
21 or older	61,620,867	68,750,687
Total	79,958,886	87,068,375
1975:		
12 to 17	12,653,909	12,256,361
18 to 20	5,778,289	6,101,457
21 or older	62,794,480	70,074,282
Total	81,226,678	88,432,100
1976:		
12 to 17	12,541,912	12,119,596
18 to 20	5,919,049	6,200,528
21 or older	63,861,662	71,246,299
Total	82,322,623	89,566,421
1977:		
12 to 17	12,340,793	11,900,510
18 to 20	5,979,287	6,284,719
21 or older	65,052,589	72,454,576
Total	83,372,669	90,689,805

Table 3 Estimated population bases by year, age, and race,  
NCS national data, 1973-1977

Year and age	Race		
	White	Black	Other
1973:			
12 to 17	21,184,457	3,420,492	276,572
18 to 20	9,789,419	1,440,148	139,745
21 or older	113,945,523	12,592,869	1,540,978
Total	144,919,398	17,453,510	1,957,295
1974:			
12 to 17	21,167,562	3,499,880	295,481
18 to 20	10,074,631	1,469,572	168,582
21 or older	115,788,391	12,934,060	1,649,102
Total	147,030,585	17,903,511	2,113,165
1975:			
12 to 17	21,060,795	3,550,198	299,278
18 to 20	10,161,196	1,540,070	178,479
21 or older	117,777,781	13,360,997	1,729,984
Total	148,999,772	18,451,265	2,207,741
1976:			
12 to 17	20,784,828	3,545,407	331,273
18 to 20	10,341,826	1,606,688	171,061
21 or older	119,588,757	13,644,024	1,875,180
Total	150,715,412	18,796,119	2,377,513
1977:			
12 to 17	20,417,894	3,562,919	310,490
18 to 20	10,452,698	1,627,830	183,479
21 or older	121,516,358	14,099,445	1,891,362
Total	152,386,950	19,290,194	2,385,330



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