



Interviewing Conditions in the National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2013

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Abstract

Interviewing Conditions in the National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2013, describes the circumstances under which interviews are conducted with persons in the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) from 1993 to 2013. This BJS Working Paper focuses on two types of interview conditions: data collection mode and privacy. Data collection mode is how the interview is conducted—whether in person, during a face-to-face contact, or by telephone. Interview privacy describes whether a person is interviewed alone or in the presence of others during an in-person interview. The Working Paper describes the level and pattern of interviewing conditions in the NCVS over time, highlighting variations among select survey respondent characteristics. Findings cover the percentage of NCVS interviews conducted in person, the percentage of in-person interviews conducted privately, and how these conditions vary by characteristics of survey respondents. This BJS Working Paper provides information on the unweighted distribution of interviewing characteristics and the demographic characteristics of sample respondents who responded to NCVS interviews. In addition, weighted data are used to examine the association among interviewing conditions, crime rates, and household composition.

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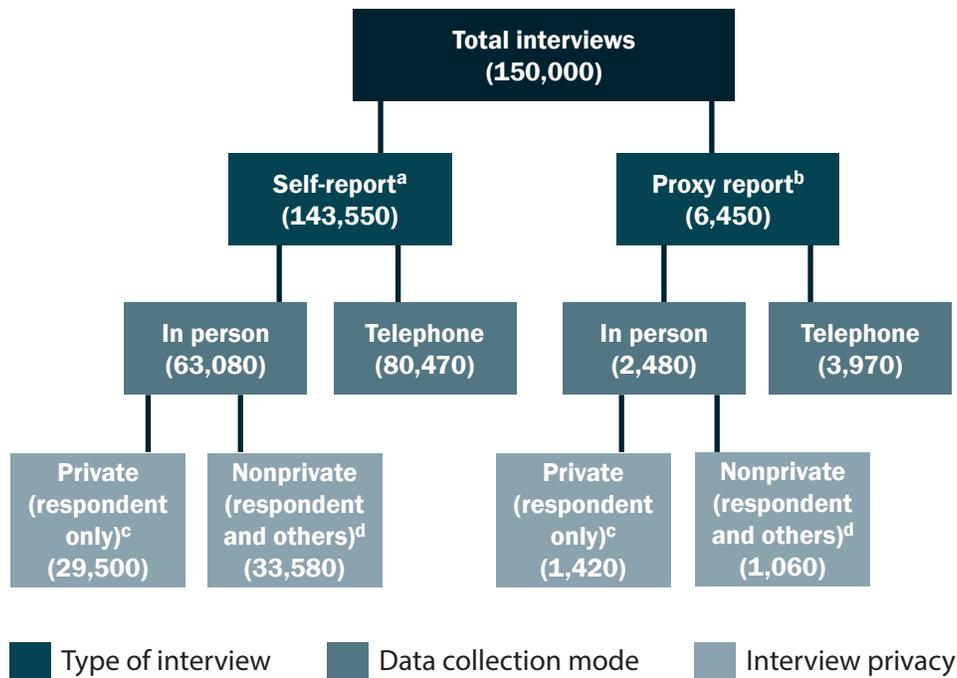
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Introduction

This report is part of the Bureau of Justice Statistics’ (BJS) working paper series, which is released to inform interested parties of research and to encourage discussion on the topic. It focuses on two types of interviewing conditions: data collection mode and privacy. Interviewing conditions are the circumstances under which interviews are conducted with persons in the NCVS. This report describes the distribution of two interviewing conditions—data collection mode and interview privacy—in the NCVS. Data collection mode is how the interview is conducted—either in person during a face-to-face contact or by telephone. Privacy describes whether a person is interviewed alone or in the presence of others during an in-person interview. Interviewing conditions vary for self-completed and proxy interviews (figure 1). These interviewing conditions may also vary by the sample characteristics and may be affected by changes in survey administration over time. They are important to understand because they can affect the quality of information collected from persons in a survey and, consequently, the survey estimates. This report focuses on self-completed interviews.

Figure 1. Average annual type of interview, data collection mode, and interview privacy in the NCVS, 2009–13



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data.

^aIn self-report interviews, respondents are asked directly about their experiences.

^bIn proxy interviews, another household member answers questions in the place of the person for whom the interview is being conducted.

^cOnly the interviewer is present with the respondent.

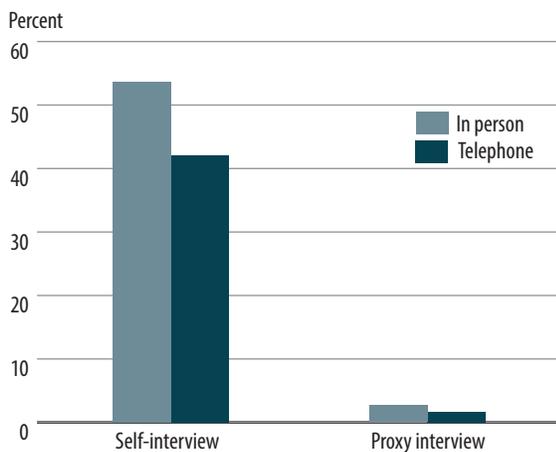
^dOthers present during an interview may include the respondent spouse.

Interviewing Conditions in the National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2013

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

For the period 2009 to 2013, 42% of National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) self-completed interviews were conducted in person and 54% were conducted by telephone (figure 2). In some instances, if the household member could not complete the interview, a proxy respondent was selected to respond to questions in the place of that person (4%). Of those self-completed interviews that were conducted in person, 47% were conducted privately and 53% were conducted in a nonprivate setting with others present (figure 3). Privacy can only be determined by an interviewer during an in-person interview and not for telephone interviews.¹

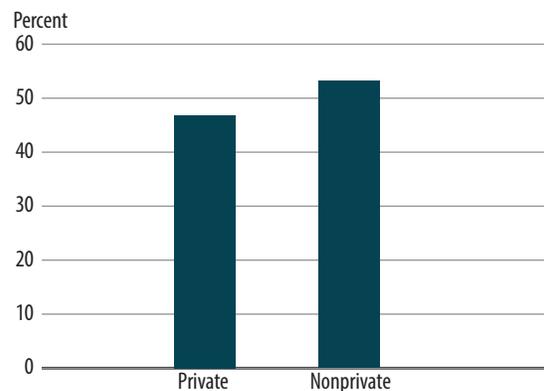
Figure 2. NCVS interviews, by type of interview and whether interview was conducted in person or by telephone, 2009–13



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. See appendix table 1 for estimates.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

Figure 3. In-person interviews conducted with NCVS sample respondents, by whether interview was conducted under private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 2009–13



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. See appendix table 2 for estimates. Only the interviewer is present with respondent. Others present during an interview may include the respondent's spouse, other household members, and nonhousehold members.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2009–2013.

¹ When the interview is conducted by telephone, although FRs are instructed to encourage respondents to complete the interview in a private setting, FRs are unable to verify whether the respondent is alone or if anyone else other than the respondent is present for any part of the interview.

1. Interviewing Conditions in the NCVS

1.1 Data collection mode and interview privacy

The NCVS is a nationally representative, address-based survey in which eligible persons age 12 or older living in a sampled household are asked to self-report about the number and characteristics of victimizations experienced during the previous 6 months. Persons may be interviewed up to seven times over a 3-year period.

The NCVS is an interviewer-administered survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Interviewers, also known as field representatives, read the survey questions out loud and enter the person's answer onto the data collection form. A person selected to participate in the NCVS is referred to as an eligible sample member. When a person agrees to participate in the NCVS and completes an interview, he or she is referred to as a survey respondent. Respondent is used to refer to survey respondents of the NCVS in the remainder of the report.

NCVS interviews are conducted either in person or over the telephone. An FR's first contact with a sample household is always attempted in person at the eligible sample member's home. The first interview with a household may be conducted during this initial face-to-face contact or sample members may request a telephone interview at a later time. Subsequent interviews with the household may be conducted either in person or by telephone.

NCVS FRs are trained to conduct all in-person interviews under private conditions. For the NCVS, a private interview means that only the person being interviewed and the FR were present, while a nonprivate interview means that other persons (usually other members of the family or household) were also present. Because interviews are conducted with all eligible members of a household, it is not always possible to interview all household members under private interviewing conditions. Information on the presence of others during an interview is determined by an FR when an in-person interview is conducted (**figure 1**).

1.2 Changes in interviewing conditions over time

Several key aspects of NCVS survey administration have changed over time, potentially affecting interviewing conditions. One aspect of survey administration is whether information collected during an interview is recorded using a paper and pencil interviewing (PAPI) method or a computer-assisted interviewing (CAI) method. From 1993 to 2006, the NCVS used a combination of a paper survey (FRs wrote the survey respondent's information directly onto paper forms) and computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) (Census Bureau telephone interviewers conducted interviews from centralized telephone facilities). However, from 2006 to the present, the NCVS has used only CAI methods, in which FRs enter the responses directly into a computer during both in-person and telephone interviews. In an interviewer-administered survey like the NCVS that relies on in-person and telephone interviews under CAI conditions, the survey questionnaire is programmed into a laptop and the FR reads the questions as they are presented on the computer screen.

Over the 1993 to 2013 period, the NCVS implemented several changes that affected interviewing conditions. Beginning in January 2006, a new sample was introduced to the NCVS based on the 2000 Decennial Census to account for shifts in population that occur over time. This affected the percentage of in-person interviews, as first interviews with new sample households are always attempted in person.² An additional change to the samples was implemented in 2010 and 2011 that potentially affected interviewing conditions: Between October 2010 and June 2011, sample cases that had been previously cut in the mid-2000s were reinstated. The reinstated sample cases amounted to about a 24% increase over the previous sample size, from about 8,500 households per month to 10,500. As in 2006, the introduction of this new sample was associated with an increase in first-time in-person interviews.

A second change to NCVS survey administration involved the move in 2007 from centralized to decentralized telephone interviews. From 1993 through 2007, NCVS CATI interviews were initiated by Census Bureau interviewers located in a centralized call center. CATI from a centralized call center was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007. Beginning in 2008, all NCVS CATI interviews were decentralized, meaning that, like in-person interviews, they are conducted by FRs working in the field.

A third change that potentially affected interviewing conditions was refresher training of NCVS FRs. Beginning in August 2011, refresher training was conducted using an experimental split sample cluster design. Half of the FRs were trained beginning in 2011, while the second half of FRs were trained in 2012. During refresher training, special emphasis was placed on conducting NCVS interviews in private when possible. In addition, following refresher training, new FR performance metrics and enhanced field supervision of FRs were implemented in the NCVS. Refresher training, new performance metrics, and enhanced supervision may be associated with an increase in in-person interviews conducted privately.

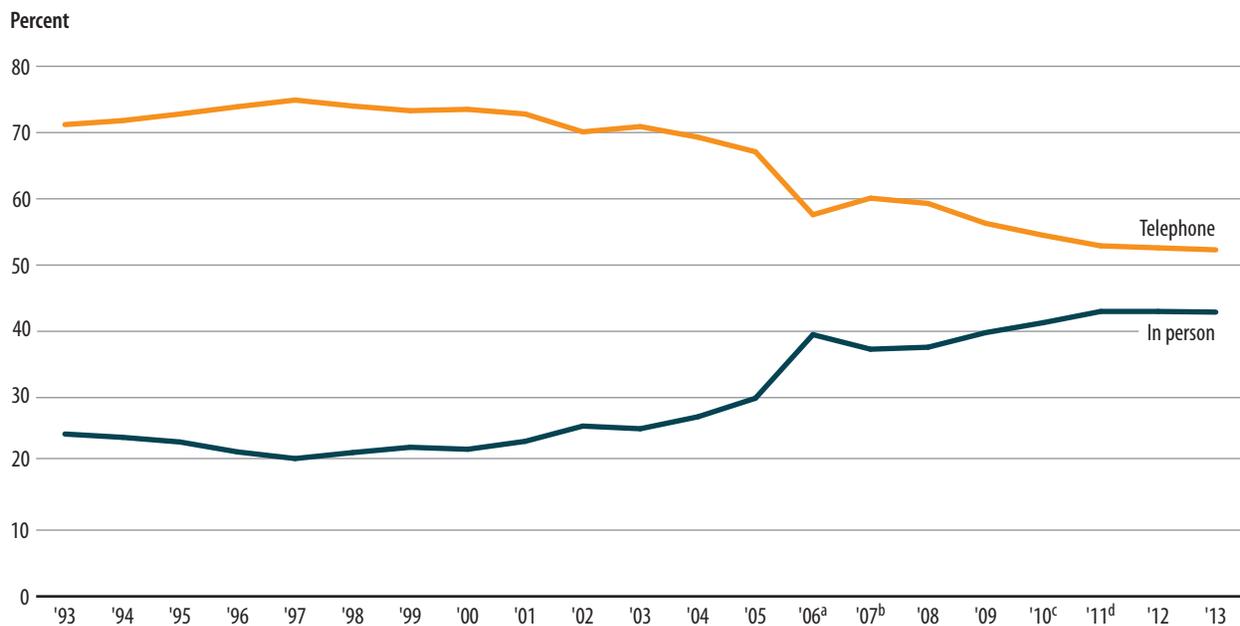
²For more information on methodological changes to the NCVS in 2006 and their effect on victimization estimates, see *Criminal Victimization, 2006* (NCJ 219413. BJS web, December 2007)

2. Data Collection Mode in the NCVS, 1993–2013

From 1993 to 2013, telephone interviews consistently accounted for more than half of all completed NCVS interviews (figure 4). The percentage of in-person interviews during this period fluctuated between 21% and 43%.

In part due to a shift away from centralized call centers, the percentage of NCVS in-person interviews increased in 2006, and 43% of interviews were conducted in person in 2013. About 58% of NCVS interviews were conducted by telephone in 2006, compared to 52% in 2013.

Figure 4. Percent of NCVS interviews, by in-person or telephone interviewing conditions, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Data include all NCVS interviews, including 3% to 5% of interviews conducted with a proxy respondent. See appendix table 3 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

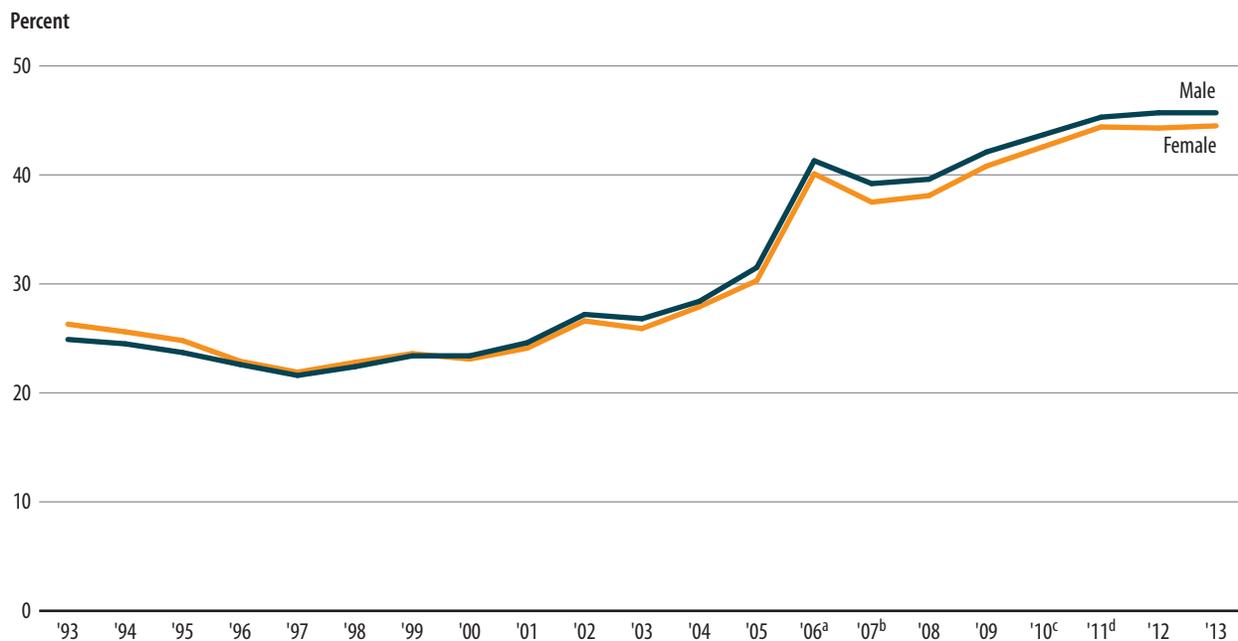
2.1 Respondent characteristics and data collection mode, 1993–2013

Although in-person interviewing in the NCVS increased from 1993 to 2013, the amount of the increase may have varied by the characteristics of the survey respondent. Because differences in interviewing conditions could result in differences in data quality and reported victimization rates, it is important to understand demographic differences in data collection mode over time.

Sex

Following a slight decrease in the percentage of NCVS in-person interviews from 1993 to 1997, the percentage of in-person interviews generally increased at a similar pace for males and females from 1998 to 2013. Among both females and males, in-person interviews accounted for about 25% of interviews conducted in 1993, compared to about 45% in 2013 (figure 5).

Figure 5. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by respondent's sex, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. See appendix table 4 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

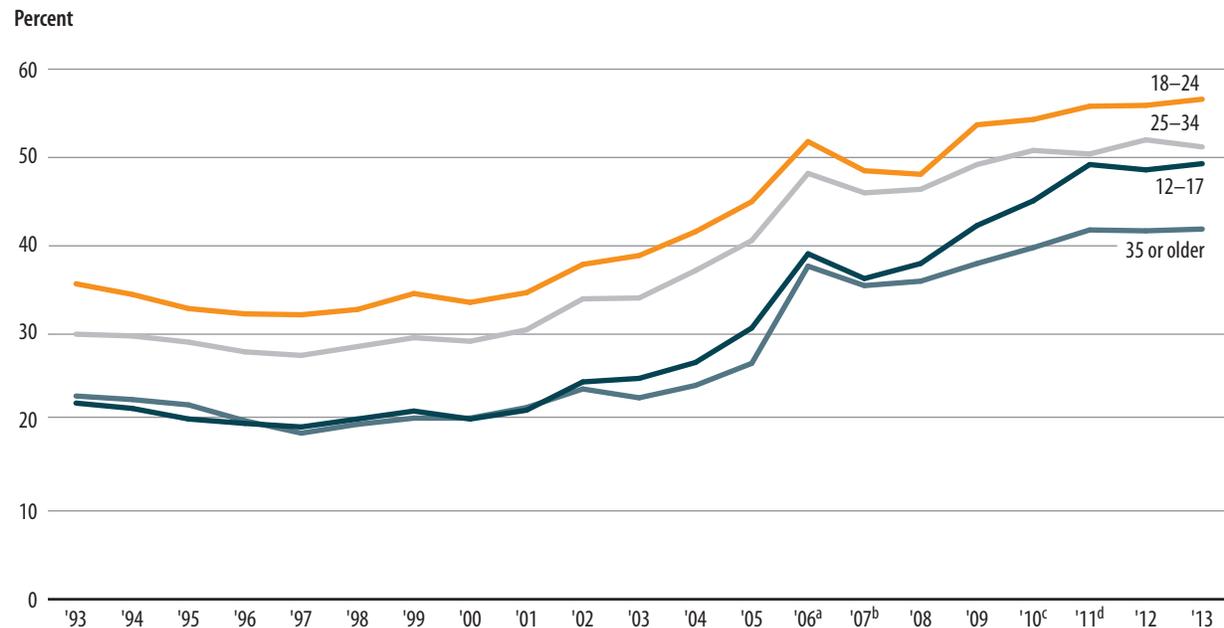
^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Age

From 1993 to 2000, the percentage of NCVS interviews conducted in person was generally stable for all age groups. The highest percentage was observed for persons ages 18 to 24 (32% to 36%), followed by persons ages 25 to 34 (28% to 30%) (figure 6). The percentages were nearly equal for those ages 12 to 17 and age 35 or older.

Figure 6. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by respondent’s age, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. See appendix table 5 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Beginning in 2001 across all age groups, in-person interviewing accounted for an increasingly larger percentage of NCVS interviews. For example, from 2001 to 2013, the number of in-person interviews doubled among persons ages 12 to 17. Twenty-two percent of interviews were conducted in person with this age group in 2001, compared to 49% in 2013. During the same period the rate of in-person interviews increased 82% among persons age 35 or older, from 22% in 2001 to 42% in 2013. In-person interviews also increased among persons ages 18 to 24 and among those ages 25 to 34.

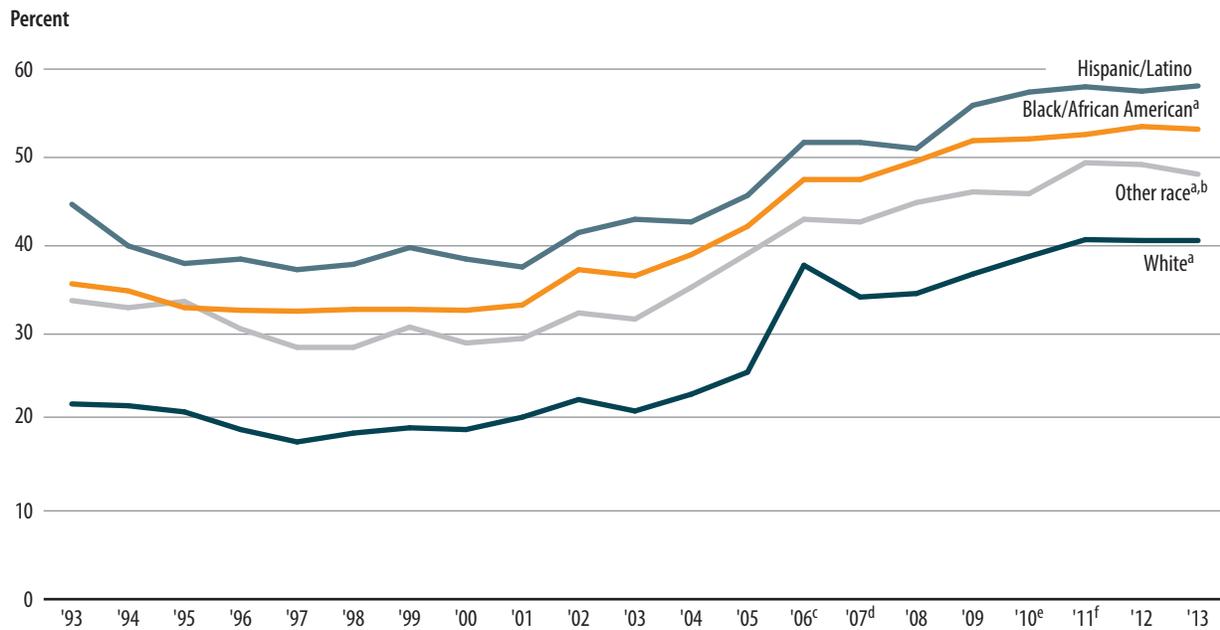
Race and Hispanic origin

From 1993 to 2013, white non-Hispanics consistently had the lowest rates of in-person interviews compared to black non-Hispanics and persons of other races (which includes American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian, and Pacific Islander) (**figure 7**). Although white non-Hispanics accounted for the smallest percentage of in-person interviews in 1993, in-person interviewing among this group nearly doubled between 1993 (18%) and 2013 (41%). Beginning in 2004, the percentage of interviews conducted in person among this group generally increased each year until 2011. From 2011 to 2013, the percentage of in-person interviews among whites remained stable at about 41%.

In contrast, persons of Hispanic or Latino origin consistently had the highest percentage of in-person interviews, followed by blacks and African Americans and persons of other races. Although the highest percentage of in-person interviews was observed among Hispanics, a relatively smaller percentage increase was observed among this group from 1993 to 2013. Among Hispanics, in-person interviews decreased from 45% of all interviews in 1993 to 38% in 1995, and then fluctuated between 37% and 39% from 1996 to 2001. Beginning in 2002, in-person interviews among this group generally increased each year until 2013, when it reached 58% of interviews.

Among blacks, following a period of general stability from 1993 to 2001, in-person interviewing generally increased each year, from 39% in 2004 to 53% in 2013. Among persons of other races, in-person interviews accounted for 29% to 34% of all interviews from 1993 to 2003. By 2013, in-person interviews had increased to account for 48% of NCVS interviews conducted with this group.

Figure 7. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by respondent's race and Hispanic origin, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. See appendix table 6 for estimates.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIncludes American Indians and Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders; and persons of two or more races.

^cIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^dComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^eBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

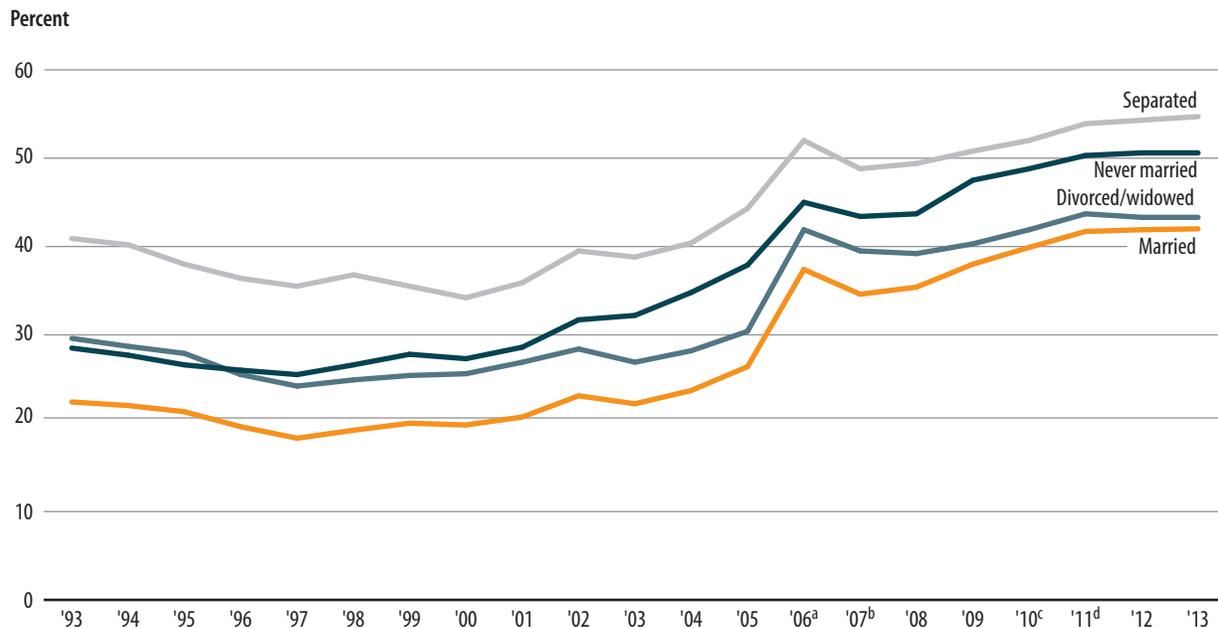
^fBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Marital status

From 1993 to 2013, the highest percentage of in-person interviews was consistently observed among persons who were separated, followed by persons who were never married and those who were divorced or widowed (figure 8).

Figure 8. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by respondent's marital status, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 1% missing data on marital status. See appendix table 7 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

From 1993 to 2001, a similar percentage of in-person interviews were conducted among persons who were never married and divorced or widowed. Beginning in 2002, in-person interviews conducted with persons who were never married began increasing at a faster rate than interviews with persons who were divorced or widowed. By 2013, a higher percentage of persons who were never married were interviewed in person than those who were divorced or widowed.

From 1993 to 2005, the lowest percentage of in-person interviews was consistently observed for persons who were married. Beginning in 2006, in-person interviews of married persons generally increased each year, steadily converging with the percentage of in-person interviews observed for divorced or widowed persons. In 2013, the percentages of in-person interviews observed for married and divorced or widowed persons were about equal, accounting for 42% to 43% of all NCVS interviews conducted with these two groups.

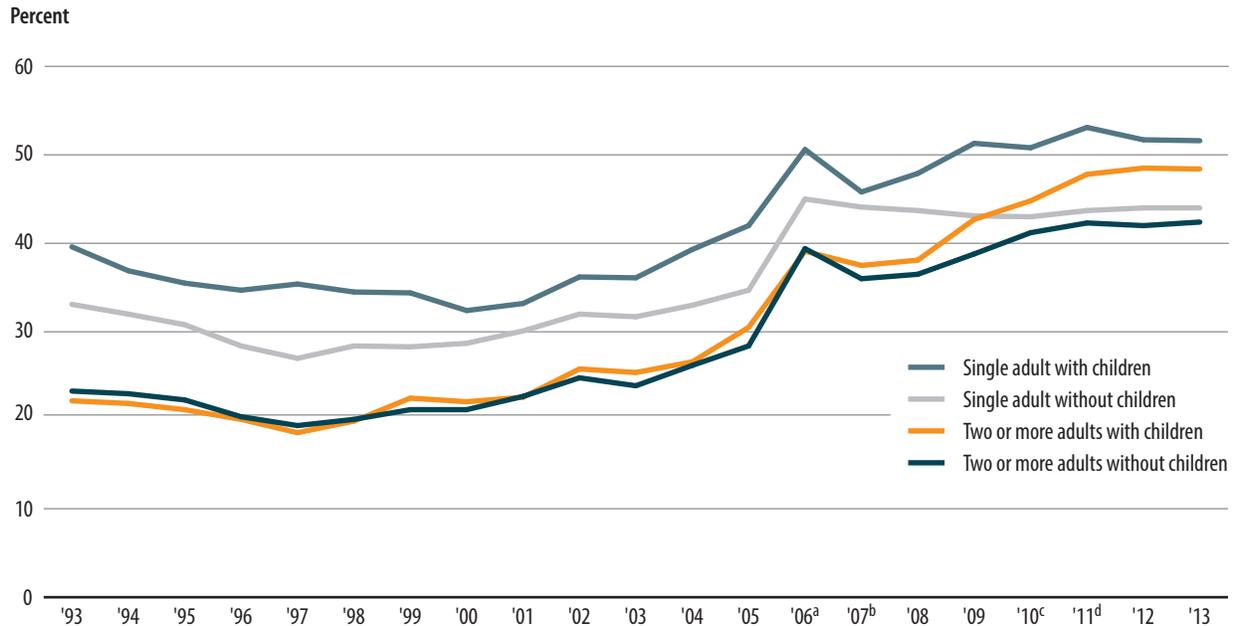
In-person interviews decreased slightly for persons in all marital status groups from 1993 to 1997, and remained generally stable from 1998 to 2000. Beginning in 2001, the percentage of in-person interviews conducted generally increased each year for all marital status groups.

For those who were never married, in-person interviews increased from 29% of all interviews in 2001 to 51% in 2013. From 2001 to 2013, the percentage of NCVS interviews conducted in person also increased for persons who were separated and divorced or widowed.

Household composition

From 1993 to 2013, the highest percentage of in-person interviews was consistently observed for households composed of a single adult with children (**figure 9**). From 1993 to 2008, households composed of a single adult without children had the second largest percentage of in-person interviews. Beginning in 2007, the percentage of in-person interviews among households composed of a single adult without children stabilized, accounting for 43% to 45% of all their interviews until 2013. From 2007 to 2013, the percentage of in-person interviews among households composed of two or more adults with children steadily increased, from 38% in 2007 to 48% in 2013. From 2010 to 2013, a higher percentage of in-person interviews were conducted with households composed of two or more adults with children than with households composed of a single adult without children.

Figure 9. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by household composition, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 0.5% missing data on household composition. See appendix table 8 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

In comparison, the percentages of in-person interviews conducted with households composed of two or more adults and two or more adults with children were about equal from 1993 to 2008. Beginning in 2008, in-person interviews increased at a faster rate for households composed of two or more adults with children than for two-adult households. By 2013, the two groups were no longer similar in their percentage of in-person interviews.

Although in-person interviews increased for all household composition groups, the greatest percentage increase was observed for households composed of two or more adults and two or more adults with children. Among these households, the percentage of in-person interviews decreased slightly from 1993 to 1997 and then generally increased each year until 2006. After a slight decrease in 2007, the percentage of in-person interviews generally increased each year from 2008 to 2011 before stabilizing in 2012 and 2013.

From 2001 to 2011, in-person interviews among two-person households increased, from 23% in 2001 to 42% in 2011. From 2011 to 2013, NCVS interviews conducted in person accounted for 42% of interviews among these households.

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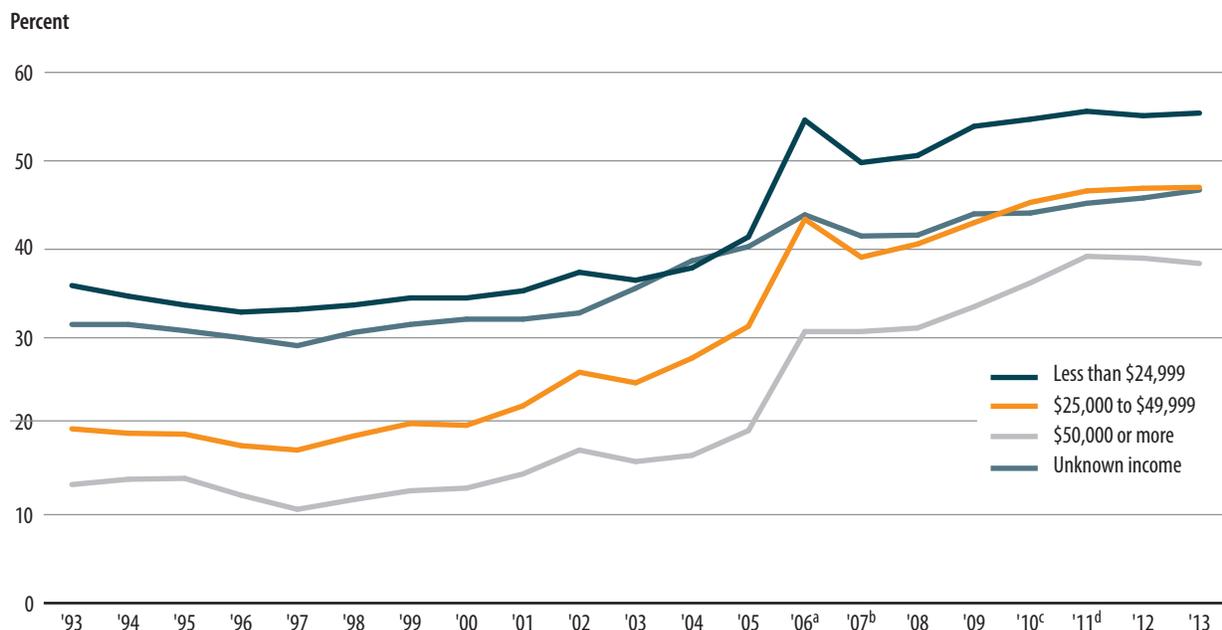
During the same period, in-person interviews among households composed of two or more adults with children increased more than twofold, from 23% in 2001 to 48% in 2011. From 2011 to 2013, NCVS interviews conducted in person accounted for 48% of interviews among these households.

In-person interviews conducted in households composed of a single adult without children decreased from 33% in 1993 to 27% in 1997. From 1998 to 2000, in-person interviews accounted for about 28% of all interviews conducted in these households, compared to 30% in 2001 and 45% in 2006. In-person interviews among households composed of a single adult with no children did not increase from 2007 to 2013, but fluctuated between 43% and 44%.

Household income

From 1993 to 2013, the lowest percentage of in-person interviews was consistently observed for households earning \$50,000 or more annually while the highest percentage of in-person interviews was generally observed for households earning less than \$24,999 annually (figure 10).

Figure 10. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by household income, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. See appendix table 9 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discounted for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Observed differences among household income categories were generally stable from 1993 to 2002, but began converging among some income category groups by 2003. For example, from 1993 to 2002, households earning \$24,999 or less annually had a higher percentage of in-person interviews, compared to households of other income categories. From 2003 to 2005, similar annual percentages of in-person interviews were observed for households earning \$24,999 or less and households with unknown annual income. Beginning in 2006, in-person interviews among households earning \$24,999 or less annually generally increased each year and remained higher than households of other income categories through 2013.

A similar pattern was observed among households whose income was unknown. From 1993 to 2005, these households had consistently higher percentages of in-person interviews than households earning \$25,000 or more annually. However from 2006 to 2013, similar annual percentages of in-person interviews were observed among households with unknown income and households earning \$25,000 to \$49,999 annually.

From 1993 to 2013, the greatest percentage increase was observed among households earning \$50,000 or more annually. Among these households, in-person interviews increased nearly threefold, from 13% in 1993 to 38% in 2013. During the same period, in-person interviews among households earning \$25,000 to \$49,999 annually increased more than twofold, from 20% of all interviews conducted with these households in 1993 to 47% in 2013.

The percentage of NCVS interviews conducted in person also increased among households earning less than \$24,999 annually (up 54%). Compared to other household income groups, the smallest increase between 1993 and 2013 was observed among households whose income level was unknown (up 48%).³

³ Although more than half of NCVS interviews were conducted by telephone from 2009 to 2013, the type of interview varied by the survey respondent's characteristics. Some persons were interviewed more frequently in person than by telephone. See appendix table 10 for more detailed information about demographic subgroups for 2009 to 2013.

Proxy Interviews in the NCVS

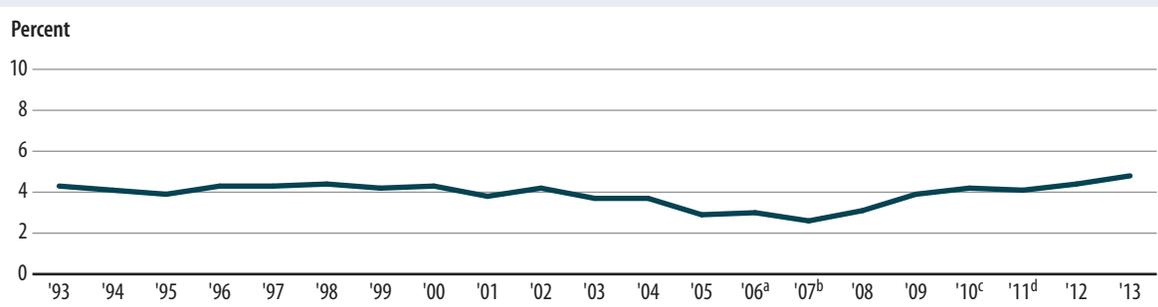
The NCVS is a self-report survey in which respondents are asked directly about their experiences with criminal victimization. In some instances, a person in the household is allowed to answer questions for another household member in what is called a proxy interview. During data collection, a decision can be made to use proxy interviewing instead of direct interviewing for the following reasons:

- A parent or guardian refuses to allow a child age 12 or 13 to be interviewed. In this case, any knowledgeable household member who is at least age 18 can be a proxy respondent for the child.
- A household member is temporarily absent and will not return to the address until after the data collection period for the household has ended.
- A household member is considered physically or mentally incapacitated. To qualify as physically or mentally incapacitated, the household member must have health or mental illness problems that are continuous throughout the interview period and make it impossible for the person to be interviewed.

In a proxy interview, the interviewer asks a proxy respondent questions and the proxy respondent answers the questions in the place of the person for whom the interview is being conducted. The quality of data gathered from a proxy respondent is associated with the proxy’s knowledge of the event, the proxy’s relationship to the respondent, and the saliency of the event being reported.

The percentage of proxy interviews conducted in the NCVS has remained generally stable over time, comprising 3% to 5% of all completed interviews from 1993 to 2013 (**figure 11**). Similar to self-report interviews, proxy interviews in the NCVS can be conducted in person or by telephone. For the period 2009 to 2013, 2% of all interviews conducted that were by proxy were in person and 3% were by telephone (appendix table 1). Proxy interviews are most common in larger households and among persons ages 12 to 17 and those age 65 or older (not shown). Proxy interviews are not allowed for non-English interviews in the absence of a suitable interpreter.

Figure 11. Proxy interviews conducted in the NCVS, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Proxy interviews may be conducted in person or by telephone. Data include all NCVS interviews, including 95% to 97% of self-report interviews conducted with respondents. See appendix table 11 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Non-English Interviews in the NCVS, 2011–13

NCVS questionnaires are available in English and Spanish but interviews can be conducted in other languages if an interpreter is available. For all non-English interviews, field representatives (FRs) may use an interpreter if it is acceptable to the person being interviewed. An interpreter may be a family member, a neighbor of the person being interviewed, an official interpreter, or the FR if he or she is fluent in the language of the person being interviewed. If it is difficult to find a suitable interpreter, field supervisors may help FRs obtain assistance in completing a non-English interview. Information on interview language was added to the NCVS in 2011 but is not available in the public-use files collected before 2011.

For the period 2011 to 2013, an average of about 6,700 non-English interviews (4.3% of all NCVS interviews) were conducted annually (**table 1**). About 85% of non-English NCVS interviews were conducted in Spanish and 5% were conducted in Chinese, while Vietnamese (2%), Russian (1%), and Korean (1%) accounted for smaller percentages of non-English interviews. Six percent of non-English interviews were conducted in other languages.

Table 1. NCVS interviews conducted in non-English language, 2011–2013

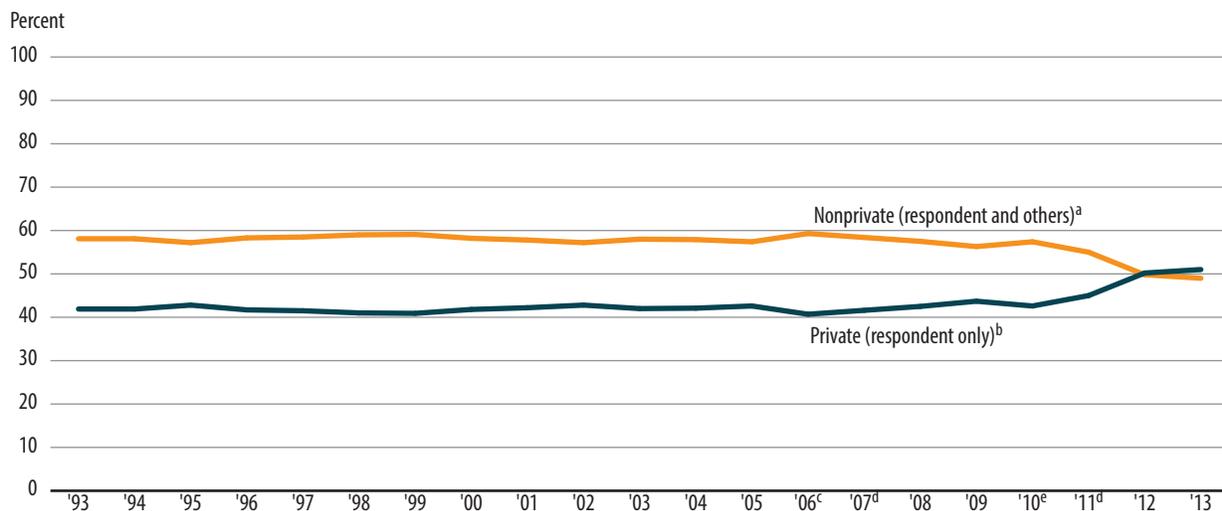
Non-English language	Percent
Total non-English	100%
Spanish	85.1
Chinese	4.6
Vietnamese	1.6
Russian	1.2
Korean	1.2
Other language	6.3
Average annual number of non-English language interviews	6,670
Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data.	
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2011–2013.	

3. Interview Privacy in the NCVS, 1993–2013

NCVS interviewing protocols require FRs to interview respondents privately when possible to ensure that respondents are able to provide what is often personal and sensitive information about their experiences. However, a private interview is not always feasible, such as when a person refuses to be interviewed privately, when multiple persons reside in a small space such as a studio apartment, or when others (such as the parent of a 12-year-old child) refuse to allow the respondent to be interviewed privately. In other cases, a parent or another person may be caring for a young child or an older relative, or may have other caregiver responsibilities.

From 1993 to 2011, 41% to 45% of in-person interviews were conducted privately (figure 12). The percentage increased in 2011, and in 2012 and 2013 the percentages conducted under private and nonprivate interviewing conditions were about equal. The increase in interviews conducted in private may be attributed to NCVS refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced field supervision of FRs implemented in the NCVS beginning in 2011. In 2013, 51% of in-person interviews were conducted privately with the respondent and 49% were conducted under nonprivate interviewing conditions, with the person being interviewed in the presence of others.

Figure 12. Percent of NCVS in-person interviews, by private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 1.5% of cases from 1993 to 2006 for which the presence of others during the interview was missing. See appendix table 12 for estimates.

^aOthers present during an interview may include the respondent’s spouse, other household members, and nonhousehold members.

^bOnly the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^cIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^dComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^eBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^fBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

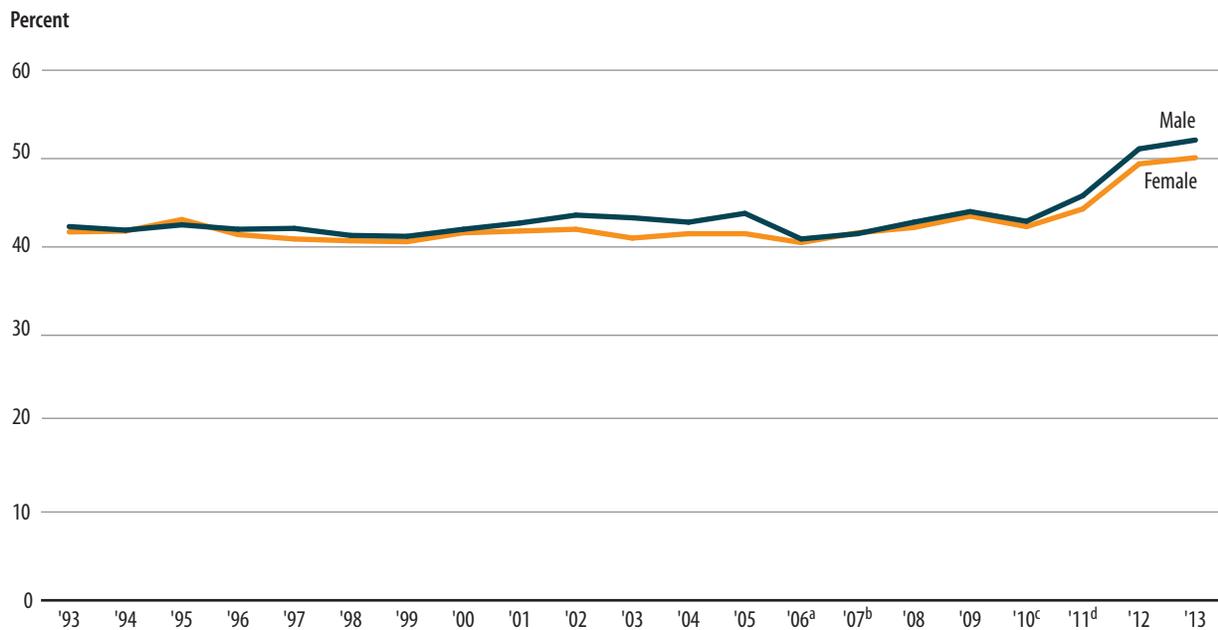
3.1 Respondent characteristics and interview privacy, 1993–2013

Overall interview privacy was generally stable from 1993 until 2006. Beginning in 2007, the percentage of in-person interviews conducted privately generally increased each year until 2013. In addition, privacy during NCVS interviews varied over time according to the characteristics of the survey respondent.

Sex

From 1993 to 2010, 41% to 44% of NCVS interviews with males and females were conducted privately (figure 13). Private interviews increased for males and females between 2010 and 2013. Among males, 43% of interviews were conducted private in 2010, compared to 52% in 2013. Similarly among females, private interviews increased 18% during the same period (from 42% in 2010 to 50% in 2013).

Figure 13. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by respondent’s sex, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent. See appendix table 13 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

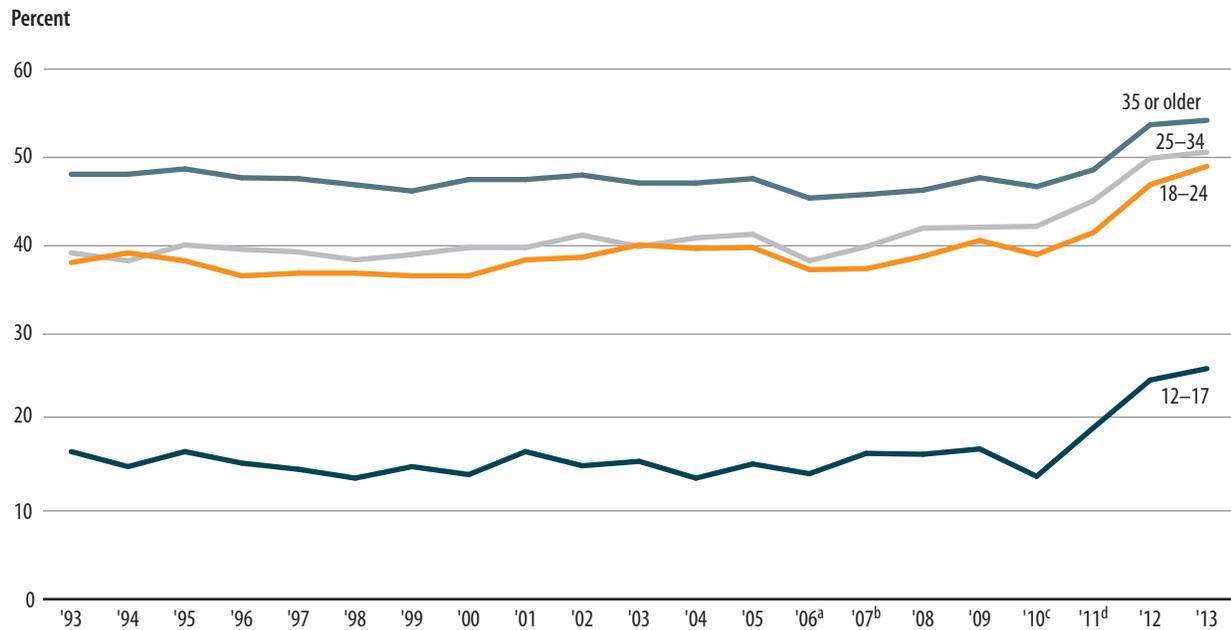
^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Age

From 1993 to 2013, the highest percentage of private interviews was observed for persons age 35 or older, followed by persons ages 18 to 24 and those ages 25 to 34 (figure 14). Private interviews accounted for similar percentages of in-person interviews conducted with persons ages 18 to 24 and those ages 25 to 34. In comparison, the lowest percentage of private interviews was consistently observed for persons ages 12 to 17.

Figure 14. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by respondent’s age, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent. See appendix table 14 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

^eSource: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Among all age groups examined, the percentage of in-person NCVS interviews conducted privately was generally stable from 1993 to 2009, and generally increased each year among all age groups from 2010 to 2013. The largest increase in private interviews was observed among persons ages 12 to 17, from 16% of all interviews in 2008 to 26% in 2013. Private in-person interviews also increased among persons ages 18 to 24 (from 39% in 2008 to 49% in 2013) and among those ages 25 to 34 (from 42% in 2008 to 51% in 2013).

Private interviews also increased among persons age 35 or older. Between 2008 and 2010, the percentage of NCVS interviews conducted privately with this group increased, from 46% of all interviews in 2008 to 54% in 2013.

Race and Hispanic origin

From 1993 to 2013, black and white survey respondents had the highest percentage of private interviews (**figure 15**). During the same period, persons of other races had a lower percentage of private interviews than whites or blacks but a higher percentage than Hispanics. From 1993 to 2013, the lowest percentage of in-person interviews was consistently observed for Hispanic survey respondents.

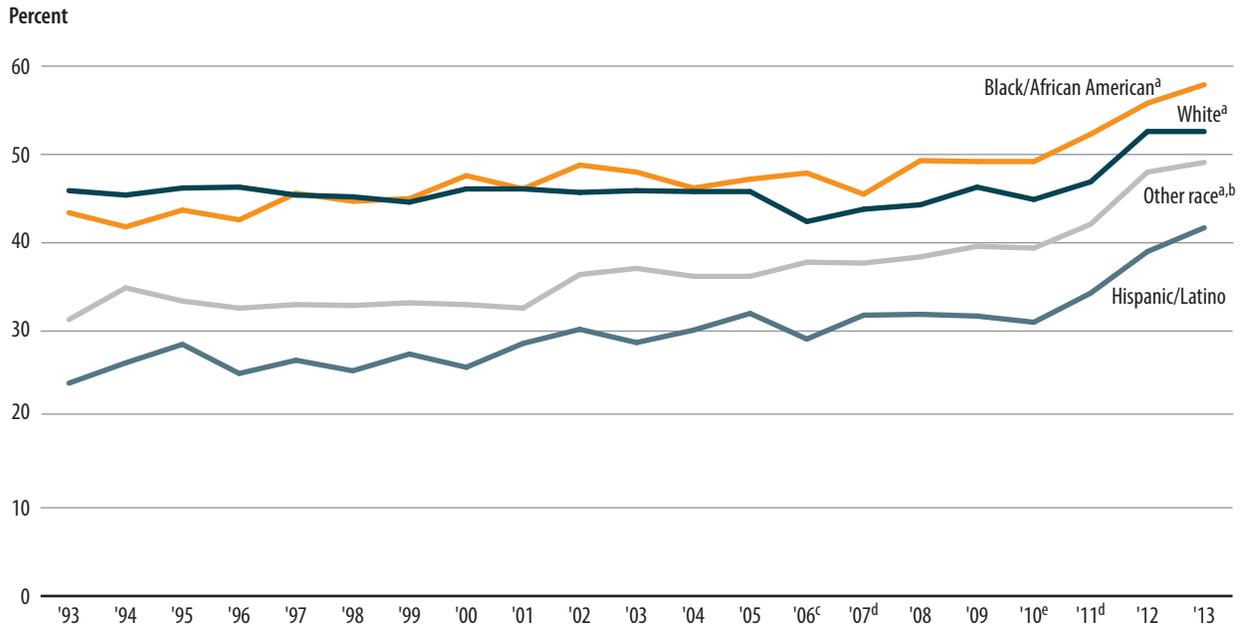
From 1993 to 2011, the percentage of private interviews among whites was generally stable, fluctuating from 42% to 47% of all in-person interviews conducted with this group. However, private interviews increased among whites, from 47% in 2010 to 53% in 2013.

The percentage of privately conducted interviews among blacks increased in 1997 to be similar to whites. From 1997 to 2001, blacks and whites generally had similar percentages of privately conducted interviews annually. The percentage of private interviews among blacks increased from 43% in 1993 to 49% in 2002. From 2002 to 2010, private interviews among blacks fluctuated, accounting for 46% to 49% of all in-person interviews conducted with this group. From 2011 to 2013, private interviews among blacks increased from 52% of all in-person interviews in 2011 to 58% in 2013.

Private interviews also increased among persons of other races and Hispanics. For persons of other races, the percentage of private interviews increased from 31% in 1993 to 35% in 1994. From 1994 to 2001, private interviews among persons of other races accounted for about 33% of all in-person interviews conducted with this group. Between 2001 and 2013, private interviews among persons of other races increased from 33% in 2001 to 49% in 2013.

For Hispanics, private interviews increased from 24% in 1993 to 29% in 1995. From 1996 to 2000, private interviews among Hispanics ranged from 25% to 27% of in-person interviews conducted with this group. However, between 2000 and 2005, private interviews among Hispanics generally increased each year, with private interviews accounting for 29% of all interviews in 2001 and 32% in 2005. From 2005 to 2011, 29% to 34% of all in-person interviews with Hispanics were conducted privately, increasing to 39% in 2012 and 42% in 2013.

Figure 15. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by respondent’s race and Hispanic origin, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent. See appendix table 15 for estimates.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIncludes American Indians and Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders; and persons of two or more races.

^cIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^dComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^eBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

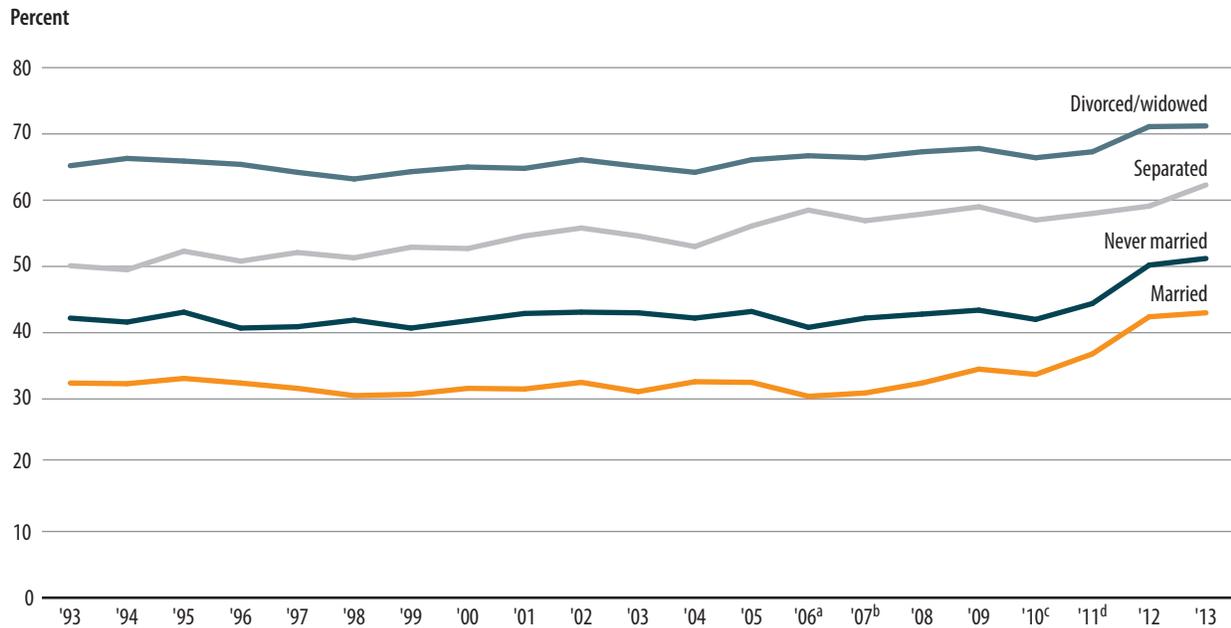
^fBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Marital status

From 1993 to 2013, the highest percentage of private interviews was observed for survey respondents who were divorced or widowed, followed by persons who were separated and those who never married. The lowest percentage of private interviews was consistently observed for persons who were married (figure 16).

Figure 16. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by respondent’s marital status, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 1% missing data on marital status. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent. See appendix table 16 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

From 1993 to 2011, the percentage of private interviews was generally stable among persons who never married and those who were married. During the same period, 41% to 44% of all interviews for persons who never married were conducted privately, which increased to 51% in 2013. For married persons, 30% to 37% of all interviews were private from 1993 to 2011. This increased to 43% in 2013.

Among persons who were separated, the percentage of in-person interviews conducted privately increased steadily from 1993 to 2013, from 50% in 1993 to 55% in 2001 and 59% in 2009. In 2013, 62% of in-person interviews with separated persons were conducted under private interviewing conditions.

From 1993 to 2011, 63% to 68% of NCVS interviews were conducted privately among persons who were divorced or widowed. The percentage of private interviews among this group increased to about 71% in 2012 and 2013.

Household composition

From 1993 to 2013, the lowest percentage of private interviewing was consistently observed for households composed of two or more adults with children (**figure 17**). Among households composed of two or more adults with children, private interviews accounted for 23% to 27% of in-person interviews from 1993 to 2005, before increasing to 30% in 2009. By 2013, private interviews accounted for 38% of in-person interviews conducted among these households.

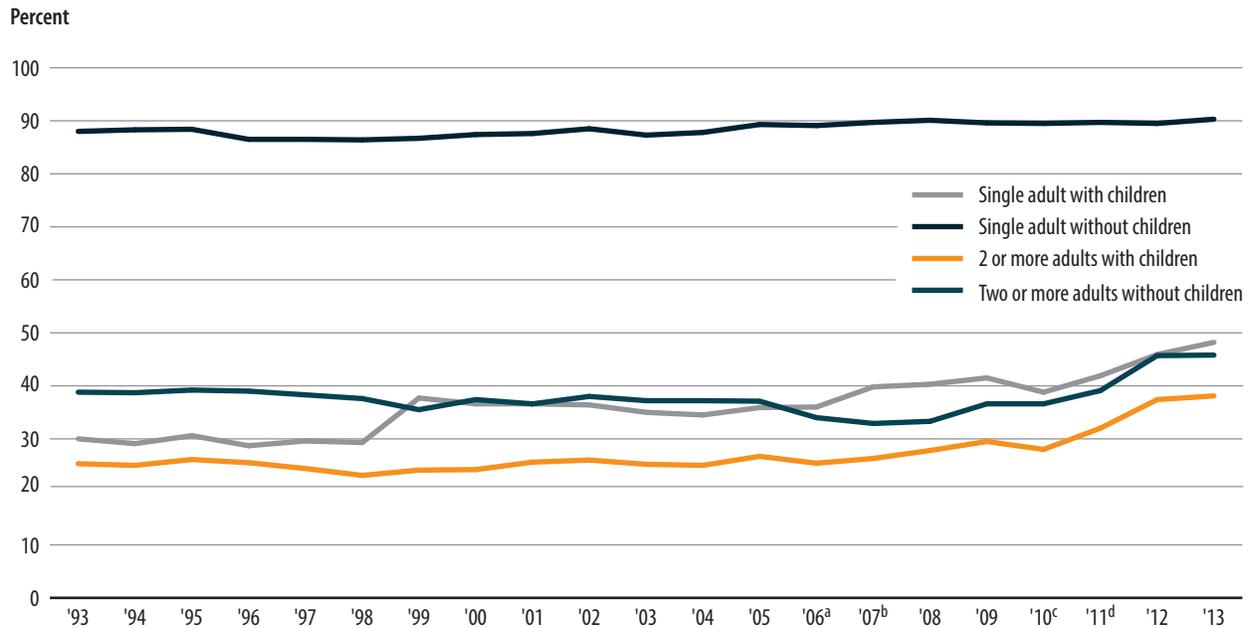
Lower percentages of private interviewing were also observed for households composed of a single adult with children. From 1993 to 1998, the percentage of privately conducted interviews observed for this group was generally stable, ranging from 29-31%. Between 1999 and 2010, the percentage of privately conducted interviews conducted with households composed of a single adult with children ranged from 35% to 42%. Beginning in 2010, private interviewing generally increased each year until 2013 when the percentage of privately conducted interviews among these households increased to 48%.

From 1993 to 2013, the highest percentage of private interviews was observed for survey respondents who resided in households composed of a single adult without children. During this period, about 90% of in-person interviews among these households were conducted under private interviewing conditions, a substantially higher percentage than observed for any other household group.

From 1993 to 2010, among households composed of two or more adults, 33% to 39% of in-person interviews were conducted privately, increasing to 46% in 2012 and 2013.

From 1993 to 1998, among households composed of a single adult with children, 29% to 31% of in-person interviews were conducted privately, which increased to 38% in 1999. From 1999 to 2006, private interviews accounted for 35% to 38% of in-person interviews among these households, and increased to 42% in 2009 and 48% in 2013.

Figure 17. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by household composition, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 0.5% missing data on household composition. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent. See appendix table 17 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

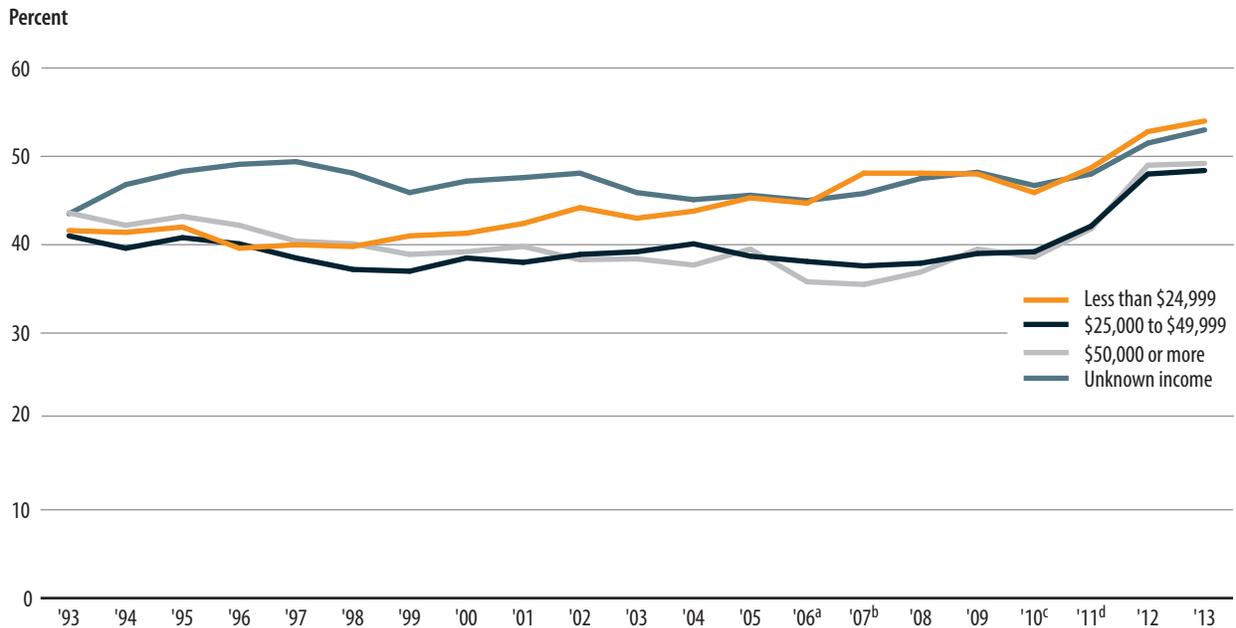
^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Household income

From 1993 to 2004, the highest percentage of private interviews was observed for households with an unknown income level (figure 18). Beginning in 2005, the percentage of private interviews among households earning less than \$24,999 annually was about equal to that observed for households with an unknown income. From 2005 to 2013, households in both of these income categories had the highest percentages of in-person private interviews.

Figure 18. Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by household income, 1993–2013



Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent. See appendix table 18 for estimates.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

From 1993 to 1999, households with incomes of less than \$24,999, \$25,000 to \$49,999, and \$50,000 or more had similar percentages of private interviews. From 2000 to 2013, the percentage of private interviews was lowest among households earning \$25,000 to \$49,999 and \$50,000 or more, while the percentage of private interviews during this period either increased or remained stable among households in other income categories.

Among households earning less than \$24,999 annually, 40% to 42% of in-person interviews were conducted privately from 1993 to 1999. From 1999 to 2007, privately conducted interviews generally increased each year in this income category, accounting for 48% of in-person interviews conducted in 2007. Between 2007 and 2010, 46% to 49% of interviews were conducted privately, increasing to 54% in 2013.

From 1993 to 2011, among households earning \$25,000 to \$49,999, 37% to 42% of interviews were conducted privately. In 2012 and 2013, private interviews accounted for 48% of in-person interviews in this income category.

Among households earning \$50,000 or more annually, the percentage of privately conducted interviews declined from 44% in 1993 to 36% in 2007. From 2007 to 2013, the percentage of private interviews generally increased each year in this income category (40% in 2009, 42% in 2011, and 49% in 2013).

Between 1993 and 2011, among households with an unknown income, 44% to 49% of in-person interviews were conducted privately, increasing to 53% in 2013.⁴

⁴Although 53% of NCVS interviews were conducted nonprivately from 2009 to 2013, the mix of private and nonprivate interviews varied according to the characteristics of the survey respondent. When examined by respondent characteristics, privately conducted interviews accounted for the majority of interviews among certain subgroups. In addition, among some subgroups, private and nonprivate interviews were conducted at about similar percentages. See appendix table 19 for more detailed information about demographic subgroups for 2009 to 2013.

4. Future Research

The variables examined in these analyses may be associated with each other and with other variables not included in the analyses. Additional research could investigate how these complex relationships are associated with survey estimates of criminal victimization. For example, from 2009 to 2013, differential rates of criminal victimization were associated with the data collection mode. From 2009 to 2013, the rate of serious violent crime associated with in-person interviews (11 victimizations per 1,000 persons 12 or older) was more than two times higher than the rate of serious violent crime associated with telephone interviews (5 per 1,000) (table 2). These observed differences may be due to the interviewing conditions or the composition of respondents in each of the mode groups.

Table 2. Rate of violent victimization per 1,000 persons age 12 or older, by in-person or telephone interviewing conditions, 2009–13

Type of crime	Data collection mode			Ratio of in-person to telephone interviews
	Overall	In person	Telephone	
Total violent crime	22.7	30.1	17.4†	1.7
Serious violent crime	7.4	10.5	5.2†	2.0
Rape/sexual assault	1.1	1.6	0.8†	2.0
Robbery	2.4	3.5	1.7†	2.1
Aggravated assault	3.8	5.3	2.7†	2.0
Simple assault	15.3	19.6	12.2†	1.6
Average annual population interviewed under each condition	258,803,560	110,055,930	136,779,490	

Note: Estimates are based on weighted data. Overall estimate includes 4% of interviews conducted with a proxy respondent. See appendix table 20 for standard errors.

†Significant difference between in-person and telephone interviewing conditions at the 95% confidence level.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

Similar associations were found when persons were interviewed alone versus with others. During the period 2009 to 2013, the rate of serious violent crime associated with private interviews (12 per 1,000) was 1.4 times higher than the rate associated with nonprivate interviews (9 per 1,000) (table 3). Higher rates of violent victimization associated with private interviews may occur because respondents choose not to reveal victimizations when others are present, particularly if the offender is another household member or if the victimization reveals sensitive information about the respondent or causes embarrassment.

Table 3. Rate of violent victimization, for in-person interview, by private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 2009–13

Type of crime	All in person	Interview privacy		Ratio of private to nonprivate interviews
		Private (respondent only) ^a	Nonprivate (respondent and others) ^b	
Total violent crime	30.1	36.6	24.6 †	1.5
Serious violent crime	10.5	12.4	8.8 †	1.4
Rape/sexual assault	1.6	2.0	1.3 †	1.5
Robbery	3.5	3.9	3.3	1.2
Aggravated assault	5.3	6.5	4.3 †	1.5
Simple assault	19.6	24.2	15.8 †	1.5
Average annual population interviewed under each condition	110,055,930	50,284,560	59,771,370	

Note: Estimates are based on weighted data. All in person estimate includes 4% of interviews conducted with a proxy respondent. See appendix table 21 for standard errors. Note: Excludes 4% of interviews conducted with proxy respondent. Estimates are based on weighted data. See appendix table 21 for standard errors.

†Significant difference between private and nonprivate interviewing conditions at the 95% confidence level.

^aOnly the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^bOthers present during an interview is anyone else other than the interviewer and respondent.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

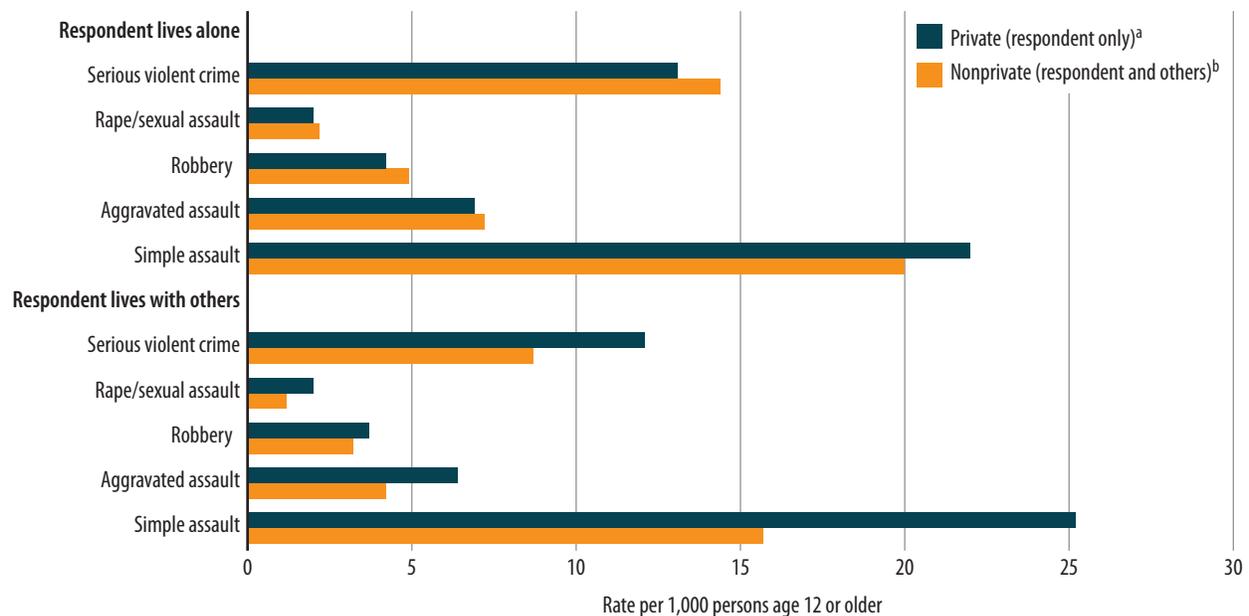
To examine this in more detail, comparisons between victimization rates are made by whether a person lives alone or in a multiperson household with others and whether the interview took place privately or in the presence of others. If interview privacy and household composition are jointly associated with a reduction in the level of reported victimizations on the survey, there should be a difference between victimizations among persons living with others when they are interviewed alone compared to when others are present, but this difference should not be observed between private and nonprivate interviews conducted among persons who live alone.

Among persons living in multiperson households, the overall rate of serious violent victimization was 10 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older (figure 19). However when examined by interview privacy, rates of serious violence were significantly higher among persons who were interviewed privately and significantly lower among persons who were interviewed non-privately.

Among persons residing in multiperson households who were interviewed privately, the rate of violent victimization was 12 per 1,000, or 1.4 times higher than the observed rate of serious violent victimization among persons residing in multiperson households who were interview non-privately (9 per 1,000) (appendix table 22).

In contrast, among respondents who lived alone, no significant differences were observed between in-person private interviews (35 per 1,000) and in-person nonprivate interviews (34 per 1,000). The absence of observed differences in victimization rates for private and nonprivate interviews conducted with persons who live alone can be important because it suggests that household composition accounts for some portion of the association between victimization rates and privacy. These findings suggest that privacy in multi-person households is important and that additional compositional variables, such as the demographic variables examined in these analyses, could also be associated with interviewing conditions and survey response.

Figure 19. Rate of violent victimizations for single-person and multiperson households, by whether in-person interview was administered under private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 2009–13



Note: Estimates are based on weighted data. See appendix table 22 for estimates and appendix table 23 for standard errors.

^aOnly the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^bOthers present during an interview is anyone else aside from the interviewer and respondent.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

To examine the association between privacy and single person and multiperson households in more detail, comparisons between victimization rates among respondent who lived with others but were interviewed privately are compared to overall in-person rates of victimization among respondents who lived alone. The overall in-person rate for live alone households was examined because the focus of the comparison is on ascertaining whether victimization rates observed in private interviews with respondents in multiperson households approximate rates observed among respondents in single-person households, regardless of whether the single person household interview was conducted privately.

Among respondents who lived with others, the rate of rape and sexual assault (2 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older) was identical to the observed rate of rape and sexual assault among in-person interviews conducted with respondents who live alone (appendix table 22). Further, no significant differences were observed when comparing rates of robbery, aggravated assault, or simple assault for respondents from multiperson households who were interviewed privately and respondents residing in single-person households. This finding suggests that additional factors, such as household composition, can affect the association between interviewing conditions and rates of victimization. Additional research is needed to better understand the effect of interview privacy on victimization rates in these different contexts.

Further investigations could also examine whether the type of person who is present during a nonprivate interview is associated with differential survey estimates under private and nonprivate interviewing conditions. This report focused on whether someone other than the FR and survey respondent was present during the interview, but the NCVS collects far more detailed information on the exact nature of the other persons who are present, including whether it was the respondent's spouse, other household members, or nonhousehold members. For example, the presence of a parent may influence the responses provided during a teenager's interview, and the presence of a spouse may influence the responses provided by a male or female survey respondent.

In addition, the association between interviewing conditions and NCVS-specific design features deserves further investigation. Survey respondents in the NCVS are interviewed seven times over the course of 3 years, and interviewing conditions (such as mode and privacy) are associated with the interview number in which a person is responding. This report did not examine these types of complex relationships between interviewing conditions, respondent characteristics, survey rates, estimates of crime, and survey design aspects of the NCVS.

A final avenue of research should investigate the quality profile of NCVS data collected under different interviewing conditions. Survey questionnaires can be administered in a number of ways, including face to face, telephone, mail, and internet. Each mode has unique advantages and disadvantages related to cost, data quality, nonresponse, flexibility, and timeliness. An analysis of the data derived from different interviewing conditions can shed light on whether NCVS data quality varies across different interviewing conditions.

Methodology

Survey coverage

The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) is an annual data collection conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The NCVS is a self-report survey in which interviewed persons are asked about the number and characteristics of victimizations experienced during the previous 6 months. The NCVS collects information on nonfatal personal crimes (rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, and personal larceny) and household property crimes (burglary, motor vehicle theft, and other theft) both reported and not reported to police. In addition to providing annual level and change estimates on criminal victimization, the NCVS is the primary source of information on the nature of these incidents.

Persons provide information about themselves (e.g., age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, marital status, education level, and income) and whether they experienced a victimization. For each victimization incident, the NCVS collects information about the offender (e.g., age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, and victim–offender relationship), characteristics of the crime (e.g., time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, and economic consequences), whether the crime was reported to police, reasons the crime was or was not reported, and victim experiences with the criminal justice system.

The NCVS is administered to persons age 12 or older from a nationally representative sample of households in the United States. The NCVS defines a household as a group of persons who all reside at a sampled address. Persons are considered household members when the sampled address is their usual place of residence at the time of the interview and when they have no usual place of residence elsewhere. Once selected, households remain in the sample for 3 years, and eligible persons in these households are interviewed every 6 months either in person or over the phone, for a total of seven interviews.

All first interviews are conducted in person, and subsequent interviews are conducted either in person or by phone. New households rotate into the sample on an ongoing basis to replace outgoing households that have been in the sample for the 3-year period. The sample includes persons living in group quarters (such as dormitories, rooming houses, and religious group dwellings) and excludes persons living in military barracks and institutional settings (such as correctional or hospital facilities) and persons who are homeless.

Describing the NCVS sample

The data presented in Sections 1–3 of this BJS Working Paper describe the unweighted distribution of interviewing conditions in the NCVS and the demographic characteristics of sample respondents who responded to NCVS interviews. Because these descriptive analyses are limited to the NCVS sample, they do not represent a national estimate. As a result, tables describing the NCVS sample are based on unweighted data and all differences are actual.

Nonresponse and weighting adjustments

Estimates in Section 4 of this BJS Working Paper use data from the 1993 to 2013 NCVS data files that were weighted to produce annual estimates of victimization for persons age 12 or older living in U.S. households. Because the NCVS relies on a sample rather than a census of the entire U.S. population, weights are designed to inflate sample point estimates to known population totals and to compensate for survey nonresponse and other aspects of the sample design.

The NCVS data files include both person and household weights. Person weights provide an estimate of the population represented by each person in the sample. Household weights provide an estimate of the U.S. household population represented by each household in the sample.

In 2013, a weighted total of 90,630 households and 160,040 persons age 12 or older were interviewed for the NCVS. Each household was interviewed twice during the year. The response rate was 84% for households and 88% for eligible persons. Victimizations that occurred outside of the United States were excluded from this report. In 2013, less than 1% of the unweighted victimizations occurred outside of the United States and were excluded from the analyses.

Victimization weights used in this analysis account for the number of persons present during an incident and for high-frequency repeat victimizations (i.e., series victimizations). Series victimizations are similar in type but occur with such frequency that a victim is unable to recall each individual event or describe each event in detail. Survey procedures allow NCVS interviewers to identify and classify these similar victimizations as series victimizations and to collect detailed information on only the most recent incident in the series.

The weight includes series incidents as the actual number of incidents reported by the victim, up to a maximum of 10 incidents. Including series victimizations in national rates results in large increases in the level of violent victimization. However, trends in violence are generally similar, regardless of whether series victimizations are included. In 2013, series incidents accounted for about 1% of all victimizations and 4% of all violent victimizations. Weighting series incidents as the number of incidents up to a maximum of 10 produces more reliable estimates of crime levels, while the cap at 10 minimizes the effect of extreme outliers on rates. Additional information on the series enumeration is detailed in the report *Methods for Counting High-Frequency Repeat Victimizations in the National Crime Victimization Survey* (NCJ 237308, BJS web, April 2012).

Standard error computations

When national estimates are derived from a sample, as with the NCVS, it is important to use caution when comparing one estimate to another estimate or when comparing estimates over time. Although one estimate may be larger than another, estimates based on a sample have

some degree of sampling error. The sampling error of an estimate depends on several factors, including the amount of variation in the responses and the size of the sample. When the sampling error around an estimate is taken into account, the estimates that appear different may not be statistically different. One measure of the sampling error associated with an estimate is the standard error. The standard error can vary from one estimate to the next. Generally, an estimate with a small standard error provides a more reliable approximation of the true value than an estimate with a large standard error. Estimates with relatively large standard errors are associated with less precision and reliability and should be interpreted with caution.

To generate standard errors around numbers and estimates from the NCVS, the Census Bureau produced generalized variance function (GVF) parameters for BJS. The GVFs take into account aspects of the NCVS's complex sample design and represent the curve fitted to a selection of individual standard errors based on the Jackknife Repeated Replication technique. The GVF parameters were used to generate standard errors for each point estimate (e.g., counts, percentages, and rates) in this report.

For data presented in Section 4, BJS conducted tests to determine whether differences in estimated numbers, percentages, and rates in this report were statistically significant once the sampling error was taken into account. Using statistical programs developed specifically for the NCVS, all comparisons in the text were tested for significance. The primary test procedure was the Student's t-statistic, which tests the difference between two sample estimates. Differences described as higher, lower, or different passed a test at the 0.05 level of statistical significance (95% confidence level). Differences described as somewhat, slightly, or marginally different, or with some indication of difference, passed a test at the 0.10 level of statistical significance (90% confidence level). Caution must be taken when comparing estimates not explicitly discussed in this report.

Data users can work with the estimates and the standard errors of the estimates provided in this report to generate a confidence interval around the estimate as a measure of the margin of error. The following example illustrates how standard errors can be used to generate confidence intervals:

According to the NCVS, for the period 2009 to 2013, the rate of violent crime for in-person self-interviews was 30.1 per 1,000 persons (see table 2). Using the GVFs, it was determined that the estimated victimization rate has a standard error of 1.5 (see appendix table 20). A confidence interval around the estimate was generated by multiplying the standard errors by ± 1.96 (the t-score of a normal, two-tailed distribution that excludes 2.5% at either end of the distribution). Therefore, the 95% confidence interval around the 30.1 estimate is $30.1 \pm (1.5 \times 1.96)$ or (27.1 to 33.0). In other words, if different samples using the same procedures were taken from the U.S. population, 95% of the time the violent crime rate for in-person interviews would fall between 27.1 and 33.0 per 1,000 persons.

In this report, BJS also calculated a coefficient of variation (CV) for all estimates, representing the ratio of the standard error to the estimate. CVs provide a measure of reliability and a means to compare the precision of estimates across measures with differing levels or metrics. In cases in which the CV was greater than 50%, or the unweighted sample had 10 or fewer cases, the estimate was noted with a “!” symbol (interpret data with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%).

Methodological changes to the NCVS in 2006

It was originally thought that methodological changes implemented in 2006 might have affected the crime estimates for that year to such an extent that they are not comparable to estimates from other years. BJS and the Census Bureau conducted an evaluation of 2007 and later data from the NCVS and found a high degree of confidence that estimates for 2007 through 2013 are consistent with and comparable to estimates for 2005 and previous years. See the *Criminal Victimization* series of reports for 2006 to 2014 on the BJS website.

Appendix table 1. Estimates for figure 2: NCVS interviews, by type of interview and whether interview was conducted in person or by telephone, 2009–13

Data collection mode and type of interview	Percent
Total interviews	100%
In person	
Self-interview	42.1%
Proxy interview	1.7
Telephone	
Self-interview	53.6%
Proxy interview	2.6
Average annual number of NCVS interviews	150,000

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

Appendix table 2. Estimates for figure 3: In-person interviews conducted with NCVS sample respondents, by whether interview was conducted under private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 2009–13

Interview privacy	Percent
Total in-person interviews	100 %
Respondent only	46.8
Respondent and others	53.2
Average annual number of in-person NCVS interviews	63,080

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Only the interviewer is present with respondent. Others present during an interview may include the respondent's spouse, other household members, and nonhousehold members.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

Appendix table 3. Estimates for figure 4: Percent of NCVS interviews, by in-person or telephone interviewing conditions, 1993–2013

Year	Total number of NCVS interviews	Data collection mode	
		In-person	Telephone
1993	136,630	24.5 %	71.2 %
1994	181,210	24.0	71.8
1995	179,820	23.3	72.8
1996	170,660	21.8	73.9
1997	158,940	20.8	74.9
1998	157,800	21.7	74.0
1999	155,500	22.5	73.3
2000	159,420	22.2	73.5
2001	159,900	23.4	72.8
2002	152,110	25.7	70.1
2003	149,040	25.3	70.9
2004	148,580	27.1	69.3
2005	134,040	29.9	67.1
2006 ^a	135,260	39.4	57.6
2007 ^b	147,300	37.3	60.1
2008	134,180	37.6	59.3
2009	137,330	39.8	56.3
2010 ^c	146,570	41.3	54.5
2011 ^d	143,120	43.0	52.9
2012	162,940	43.0	52.6
2013	160,040	42.9	52.3

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Data include all NCVS interviews, including 3% to 5% of interviews conducted with a proxy respondent.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 4. Estimates for figure 5: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by respondent's sex, 1993–2013

Year	Male		Female	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews
1993	60,000	24.9 %	70,760	26.3 %
1994	79,190	24.5	94,510	25.6
1995	78,640	23.7	94,220	24.8
1996	74,390	22.6	88,880	22.9
1997	68,880	21.6	83,180	21.9
1998	68,540	22.4	82,350	22.8
1999	67,790	23.4	81,150	23.6
2000	69,620	23.4	83,010	23.1
2001	70,630	24.6	83,220	24.1
2002	66,500	27.2	79,200	26.6
2003	65,440	26.8	78,050	25.9
2004	65,360	28.4	77,780	27.9
2005	59,540	31.5	70,570	30.3
2006 ^a	60,850	41.3	70,390	40.1
2007 ^b	66,780	39.2	76,710	37.5
2008	60,700	39.6	69,310	38.1
2009	61,820	42.1	70,140	40.8
2010 ^c	65,740	43.7	74,740	42.6
2011 ^d	63,880	45.3	73,310	44.4
2012	72,710	45.7	83,030	44.3
2013	71,210	45.7	81,160	44.5

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 5. Estimates for figure 6: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by respondent's age, 1993–2013

Year	12–17		18–24		25–34		35 or older	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews
1993	12,490	22.2 %	13,790	35.7 %	26,070	30.0 %	78,420	23.0 %
1994	16,570	21.6	17,940	34.5	33,330	29.8	105,870	22.6
1995	16,340	20.4	16,830	32.9	32,610	29.1	107,070	22.0
1996	15,580	19.9	15,480	32.3	30,180	28.0	102,020	20.2
1997	14,140	19.5	14,400	32.2	27,310	27.6	96,210	18.8
1998	13,450	20.4	14,380	32.8	26,430	28.6	96,620	19.8
1999	12,980	21.3	13,820	34.6	25,550	29.6	96,590	20.5
2000	13,250	20.4	14,460	33.6	26,090	29.2	98,830	20.5
2001	13,710	21.4	14,410	34.7	25,850	30.5	99,870	21.7
2002	12,490	24.6	13,670	37.9	23,820	34.0	95,720	23.8
2003	12,300	25.0	13,370	38.9	23,300	34.1	94,520	22.8
2004	11,930	26.8	13,350	41.6	22,920	37.2	94,960	24.2
2005	10,590	30.7	11,720	45.0	20,620	40.6	87,180	26.7
2006 ^a	10,940	39.1	11,600	51.8	19,840	48.2	88,860	37.7
2007 ^b	11,610	36.3	12,500	48.5	21,690	46.0	97,690	35.5
2008	9,790	38.0	11,220	48.1	19,570	46.4	89,440	36.0
2009	9,270	42.3	11,360	53.7	20,250	49.2	91,090	38.0
2010 ^c	9,870	45.1	12,390	54.3	21,930	50.8	96,300	39.8
2011 ^d	9,670	49.2	11,860	55.8	21,000	50.4	94,660	41.8
2012	10,610	48.6	13,400	55.9	23,870	52.0	107,860	41.7
2013	9,950	49.3	12,860	56.6	23,410	51.2	106,150	41.9

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 6. Estimates for figure 7: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by respondent's race and Hispanic origin, 1993–2013

Year	White ^a		Black/African American ^a		Hispanic/Latino		Other race ^{a,b}	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews
1993	102,810	22.1 %	13,290	35.7 %	10,310	44.7 %	4,350	33.8 %
1994	135,940	21.9	17,100	34.9	14,790	40.0	5,870	33.0
1995	134,760	21.2	17,020	33.0	15,140	38.0	5,940	33.7
1996	125,420	19.2	16,480	32.7	15,460	38.5	5,900	30.6
1997	114,650	17.8	15,790	32.6	15,560	37.3	6,060	28.5
1998	113,010	18.8	16,020	32.8	15,560	37.9	6,290	28.5
1999	110,880	19.4	15,520	32.8	16,030	39.8	6,500	30.8
2000	112,440	19.2	16,270	32.7	17,280	38.5	6,640	29.0
2001	112,880	20.6	16,510	33.3	17,900	37.6	6,560	29.5
2002	106,190	22.6	15,630	37.3	17,710	41.5	6,170	32.4
2003	101,950	21.3	15,730	36.6	18,490	43.0	7,320	31.7
2004	101,290	23.2	15,550	39.0	18,670	42.7	7,630	35.3
2005	91,860	25.7	14,020	42.2	17,020	45.7	7,210	39.1
2006 ^c	95,810	37.8	12,620	47.5	15,520	51.7	7,290	43.0
2007 ^d	102,640	34.2	14,440	47.5	18,480	51.7	7,930	42.7
2008	93,200	34.6	13,050	49.6	16,630	51.0	7,130	44.9
2009	93,570	36.8	13,670	51.9	17,350	55.9	7,370	46.1
2010 ^e	98,800	38.8	14,600	52.1	18,870	57.4	8,210	45.9
2011 ^f	95,370	40.7	14,190	52.6	19,130	58.0	8,500	49.4
2012	106,740	40.6	16,610	53.5	22,450	57.5	9,940	49.2
2013	103,590	40.6	16,490	53.2	22,280	58.1	10,010	48.1

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIncludes American Indians and Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders; and persons of two or more races.

^cIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^dComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^eBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^fBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 7. Estimates for figure 8: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by respondent’s marital status, 1993–2013

Year	Never married		Married		Separated		Divorced/widowed	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews
1993	35,930	28.5 %	71,840	22.4 %	3,100	40.9 %	19,620	29.6 %
1994	47,430	27.7	95,320	22.0	3,930	40.2	26,530	28.7
1995	46,790	26.6	94,760	21.3	3,950	38.0	26,830	27.9
1996	44,350	26.0	88,990	19.6	3,670	36.4	25,610	25.5
1997	41,590	25.5	82,270	18.3	3,470	35.5	23,930	24.2
1998	41,140	26.6	81,620	19.2	3,480	36.8	23,770	24.9
1999	40,290	27.8	80,570	20.0	3,280	35.5	23,830	25.4
2000	41,870	27.3	82,360	19.8	3,290	34.2	24,210	25.6
2001	42,570	28.6	82,760	20.7	3,300	35.9	24,210	26.9
2002	40,060	31.7	78,560	23.1	2,960	39.5	23,030	28.4
2003	39,670	32.2	76,830	22.2	2,920	38.8	22,980	26.9
2004	39,540	34.8	76,700	23.7	2,890	40.4	22,840	28.2
2005	35,790	37.9	69,860	26.4	2,480	44.3	20,750	30.4
2006 ^a	35,290	45.0	71,310	37.4	2,460	52.0	21,120	41.9
2007 ^b	38,610	43.4	77,640	34.6	2,750	48.8	23,390	39.5
2008	34,400	43.7	70,770	35.4	2,530	49.4	21,270	39.2
2009	34,840	47.5	71,760	38.0	2,670	50.8	21,530	40.3
2010 ^c	38,280	48.8	75,020	39.9	2,860	52.0	22,980	41.9
2011 ^d	37,850	50.3	72,870	41.7	2,770	53.9	22,600	43.7
2012	43,220	50.6	82,140	41.9	3,150	54.3	26,320	43.3
2013	42,360	50.6	79,850	42.0	3,180	54.7	25,950	43.3

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 1% missing data on marital status.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 8. Estimates for figure 9: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by household composition, 1993–2013

Year	Two or more adults without children		Two or more adults with children		Single adult without children		Single adult with children	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews
1993	53,490	23.3 %	47,670	22.2 %	17,760	33.1 %	11,450	39.6 %
1994	70,940	23.0	62,800	21.9	24,240	32.0	15,290	36.9
1995	70,710	22.3	61,820	21.2	24,560	30.8	15,270	35.5
1996	66,040	20.4	58,690	20.1	23,290	28.4	14,830	34.7
1997	61,060	19.4	54,290	18.6	22,230	27.0	14,040	35.4
1998	61,110	20.1	52,820	19.9	22,550	28.4	13,900	34.5
1999	61,120	21.2	56,890	22.5	22,660	28.3	7,820	34.4
2000	62,450	21.2	58,590	22.1	23,170	28.7	7,850	32.4
2001	63,290	22.7	58,630	22.6	23,440	30.1	7,870	33.2
2002	60,580	24.8	54,710	25.8	22,420	32.0	7,560	36.2
2003	59,350	23.9	53,480	25.4	22,290	31.7	7,750	36.1
2004	59,140	26.2	52,940	26.6	22,810	33.0	7,640	39.3
2005	54,080	28.4	47,610	30.5	21,140	34.7	6,680	42.0
2006 ^a	55,910	39.4	47,850	39.1	20,650	45.0	6,380	50.6
2007 ^b	62,060	36.0	51,240	37.5	23,160	44.1	6,580	45.8
2008	56,750	36.5	45,310	38.1	21,700	43.7	5,850	47.9
2009	58,620	38.8	44,720	42.7	22,310	43.1	5,840	51.3
2010 ^c	62,580	41.2	47,510	44.8	23,660	43.0	6,210	50.8
2011 ^d	61,890	42.3	45,610	47.8	22,980	43.7	6,170	53.1
2012	69,680	42.0	51,370	48.5	27,090	44.0	7,000	51.7
2013	69,170	42.4	48,750	48.4	27,110	44.0	6,720	51.6

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 0.5% missing data on household composition.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 9. Estimates for figure 10: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted in person, by household income, 1993–2013

Year	Less than \$24,999		\$25,000 to \$49,999		\$50,000 or more		Unknown income	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent in-person interviews
1993	48,220	35.9 %	40,410	19.7 %	27,740	13.4 %	14,390	31.5 %
1994	62,670	34.7	52,590	19.2	38,280	14.0	20,160	31.5
1995	58,660	33.7	52,460	19.1	40,970	14.1	20,770	30.8
1996	52,400	32.9	48,140	17.8	42,090	12.2	20,640	30.0
1997	45,170	33.2	43,350	17.3	42,560	10.6	20,970	29.1
1998	41,410	33.7	41,930	18.9	44,230	11.7	23,310	30.6
1999	37,740	34.5	40,060	20.3	45,690	12.7	25,450	31.5
2000	34,860	34.5	39,060	20.1	50,700	13.0	28,020	32.1
2001	32,750	35.3	38,030	22.3	52,780	14.6	30,280	32.1
2002	29,280	37.4	34,220	26.1	50,020	17.3	32,170	32.8
2003	28,490	36.5	33,090	24.9	51,140	16.0	30,780	35.6
2004	27,460	37.9	31,360	27.7	52,200	16.7	32,120	38.7
2005	23,390	41.4	27,800	31.3	48,390	19.5	30,530	40.3
2006 ^a	22,800	54.6	28,000	43.4	49,560	30.7	30,880	43.9
2007 ^b	21,190	49.8	28,430	39.1	52,370	30.7	41,500	41.5
2008	17,960	50.6	25,230	40.6	48,280	31.1	38,530	41.6
2009	19,290	53.9	26,320	43.0	48,390	33.5	37,970	44.0
2010 ^c	21,170	54.7	27,730	45.3	49,710	36.2	41,870	44.1
2011 ^d	20,740	55.6	26,890	46.6	49,640	39.2	39,930	45.2
2012	24,540	55.1	31,890	46.9	57,790	39.0	41,510	45.8
2013	23,100	55.4	31,210	47.0	56,060	38.4	42,000	46.7

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 10. Respondent and household characteristics of NCVS sample members, by in-person or telephone interviewing conditions, 2009–13

Characteristic	Average annual number of interviews	Overall	Data collection mode	
			In-person	Telephone
Overall	143,550	100 %	43.9 %	56.1 %
Sex				
Male	67,070	100 %	44.6 %	55.4 %
Female	76,480	100 %	43.4	56.6
Age				
12–17	9,870	100 %	47.0 %	53.0 %
18–24	12,370	100 %	55.3	44.7
25–34	22,090	100 %	50.8	49.2
35–49	36,180	100 %	45.1	54.9
50–64	36,960	100 %	38.8	61.2
65 or older	26,070	100 %	37.3	62.7
Race/Hispanic origin				
White ^a	99,610	100 %	39.6 %	60.4 %
Black/African American ^a	15,110	100 %	52.7	47.3
Hispanic/Latino	20,020	100 %	57.4	42.6
American Indian/Alaska Native ^a	760	100 %	49.9	50.1
Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander ^a	6,560	100 %	48.3	51.7
More than one race ^a	1,480	100 %	44.8	55.2
Marital status^b				
Never married	39,310	100 %	49.6 %	50.4 %
Married	76,330	100 %	40.7	59.3
Widowed	8,950	100 %	40.3	59.7
Divorced	14,920	100 %	43.9	56.1
Separated	2,930	100 %	53.2	46.8
Household composition^c				
Two or more adults	111,980	100 %	43.6 %	56.4 %
Without children	64,390	100 %	41.4	58.6
With children	47,590	100 %	46.5	53.5
Single adult	31,020	100 %	45.3	54.7
Without children	24,630	100 %	43.6	56.4
With children	6,390	100%	51.7	48.3
Household income				
Less than \$7,500	4,020	100 %	63.2 %	36.8 %
\$7,500–\$14,999	6,850	100 %	55.9	44.1
\$15,000–\$24,999	10,910	100 %	51.3	48.7
\$25,000–\$34,999	12,250	100 %	48.2	51.8
\$35,000–\$49,999	16,550	100 %	44.1	55.9
\$50,000–\$74,999	18,890	100 %	40.2	59.8
\$75,000 or more	33,420	100 %	35.7	64.3
Unknown	40,660	100 %	45.2	54.8

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes 4% of interviews conducted with a proxy respondent.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bExcludes 1% missing data on marital status.

^cExcludes less than 0.5% missing data on household composition.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

**Appendix table 11. Estimates for figure 11:
Proxy interviews conducted in the NCVS,
1993–2013**

Year	Total number of NCVS interviews	Proxy interview
1993	136,630	4.3 %
1994	181,210	4.1
1995	179,820	3.9
1996	170,660	4.3
1997	158,940	4.3
1998	157,800	4.4
1999	155,500	4.2
2000	159,420	4.3
2001	159,900	3.8
2002	152,110	4.2
2003	149,040	3.7
2004	148,580	3.7
2005	134,040	2.9
2006 ^a	135,260	3.0
2007 ^b	147,300	2.6
2008	134,180	3.1
2009	137,330	3.9
2010 ^c	146,570	4.2
2011 ^d	143,120	4.1
2012	162,940	4.4
2013	160,040	4.8

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Proxy interviews may be conducted in person or by telephone. Data include all NCVS interviews, including 95% to 97% of self-report interviews conducted with respondents.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 12. Estimates for figure 12: Percent of NCVS in-person interviews, by private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 1993–2013

Year	Number of NCVS in-person interviews	Interview privacy	
		Private (respondent only) ^a	Nonprivate (respondent and others) ^b
1993	32,890	41.9 %	58.1 %
1994	42,595	41.9	58.1
1995	41,138	42.8	57.2
1996	36,190	41.7	58.3
1997	31,791	41.5	58.5
1998	32,640	41.0	59.0
1999	33,530	40.9	59.1
2000	34,111	41.8	58.2
2001	36,138	42.2	57.8
2002	37,870	42.8	57.2
2003	36,220	42.0	58.0
2004	38,718	42.1	57.9
2005	38,615	42.6	57.4
2006 ^c	51,660	40.7	59.3
2007 ^d	54,798	41.6	58.4
2008	50,396	42.5	57.5
2009	54,631	43.7	56.3
2010	60,594	42.6	57.4
2011	61,541	45.0	55.0
2012	69,999	50.2	49.8
2013	68,615	51.0	49.0

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 1.5% of cases from 1993 to 2006 for which the presence of others during the interview was not ascertained.

^aOnly the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^bOthers present during an interview may include the respondent's spouse, other household members, and nonhousehold members.

^cComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^dBeginning in 2010, two large-scale interventions were implemented in the NCVS. Beginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^eBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 13. Estimates for figure 13: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by respondent's sex, 1993–2013

Year	Male		Female	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)
1993	14,640	42.3 %	18,250	41.7 %
1994	18,930	41.9	23,660	41.8
1995	18,250	42.5	22,890	43.1
1996	16,350	42.0	19,840	41.4
1997	14,310	42.1	17,480	40.9
1998	14,680	41.3	17,960	40.7
1999	15,210	41.2	18,320	40.6
2000	15,710	42.0	18,410	41.6
2001	16,760	42.7	19,380	41.8
2002	17,530	43.6	20,340	42.0
2003	16,830	43.3	19,390	41.0
2004	17,870	42.8	20,850	41.5
2005	18,070	43.8	20,550	41.5
2006 ^a	24,400	40.9	27,260	40.5
2007 ^b	26,090	41.5	28,710	41.6
2008	24,020	42.8	26,380	42.2
2009	26,040	44.0	28,590	43.5
2010 ^c	28,760	42.9	31,830	42.3
2011 ^d	28,970	45.8	32,580	44.3
2012	33,220	51.1	36,780	49.4
2013	32,540	52.1	36,080	50.1

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 14. Estimates for figure 14: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by respondent's age, 1993–2013

Year	12–17		18–24		25–34		35 or older	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)
1993	2,720	16.7 %	4,850	38.1 %	7,690	39.2 %	17,630	48.1 %
1994	3,500	15.0	6,090	39.2	9,740	38.3	23,270	48.1
1995	3,280	16.7	5,450	38.3	9,320	40.1	23,090	48.7
1996	3,020	15.4	4,890	36.6	8,260	39.6	20,020	47.7
1997	2,640	14.7	4,480	36.9	7,300	39.3	17,370	47.6
1998	2,580	13.7	4,550	36.9	7,280	38.4	18,230	46.9
1999	2,650	15.0	4,620	36.6	7,340	39.0	18,930	46.2
2000	2,600	14.1	4,690	36.6	7,360	39.8	19,460	47.5
2001	2,810	16.7	4,850	38.4	7,640	39.8	20,840	47.5
2002	2,990	15.1	5,060	38.7	7,880	41.2	21,950	48.0
2003	2,960	15.6	5,030	40.1	7,670	39.9	20,570	47.1
2004	3,090	13.7	5,390	39.7	8,200	40.9	22,040	47.1
2005	3,160	15.3	5,120	39.8	8,100	41.3	22,240	47.6
2006 ^a	4,150	14.2	5,840	37.3	9,270	38.3	32,410	45.4
2007 ^b	4,200	16.5	6,030	37.4	9,960	39.9	34,610	45.8
2008	3,720	16.4	5,390	38.8	9,070	42.0	32,220	46.3
2009	3,920	17.0	6,100	40.6	9,970	42.1	34,650	47.7
2010 ^c	4,450	13.9	6,730	39.0	11,130	42.2	38,290	46.7
2011 ^d	4,760	19.4	6,620	41.5	10,600	45.1	39,570	48.6
2012	5,160	24.8	7,490	46.9	12,420	49.9	44,940	53.7
2013	4,910	26.1	7,280	49.0	11,990	50.6	44,450	54.2

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 15. Estimates for figure 15: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by respondent's race and Hispanic origin, 1993–2013

Year	White ^a		Black/African American ^a		Hispanic/Latino		Other race ^{a,b}	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)
1993	22,230	45.9 %	4,670	43.4 %	4,530	24.1 %	1,460	31.3 %
1994	29,000	45.4	5,870	41.8	5,830	26.4	1,900	34.9
1995	27,980	46.2	5,510	43.7	5,690	28.5	1,970	33.4
1996	23,300	46.3	5,260	42.6	5,860	25.2	1,770	32.6
1997	19,510	45.4	4,940	45.6	5,670	26.7	1,670	33.0
1998	20,120	45.2	5,050	44.7	5,740	25.5	1,740	32.9
1999	20,510	44.6	4,900	45.0	6,180	27.4	1,940	33.2
2000	20,640	46.1	5,160	47.6	6,460	25.9	1,860	33.0
2001	22,430	46.1	5,330	46.1	6,530	28.6	1,860	32.6
2002	23,130	45.7	5,660	48.8	7,150	30.2	1,940	36.4
2003	20,790	45.9	5,560	48.0	7,640	28.7	2,240	37.1
2004	22,570	45.8	5,860	46.2	7,710	30.1	2,580	36.2
2005	22,640	45.8	5,670	47.2	7,590	32.0	2,720	36.2
2006 ^c	35,030	42.4	5,780	47.9	7,800	29.1	3,050	37.8
2007 ^d	35,070	43.8	6,830	45.5	9,520	31.8	3,380	37.7
2008	32,240	44.3	6,470	49.3	8,490	31.9	3,200	38.4
2009	34,430	46.3	7,100	49.2	9,700	31.7	3,400	39.6
2010 ^e	38,390	44.9	7,610	49.2	10,830	31.0	3,770	39.4
2011 ^f	38,780	46.9	7,470	52.3	11,100	34.3	4,200	42.1
2012	43,320	52.6	8,880	55.8	12,900	39.0	4,890	48.0
2013	42,080	52.6	8,780	57.9	12,950	41.7	4,810	49.1

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^bIncludes American Indians and Alaska Natives; Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders; and persons of two or more races.

^cIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^dComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^eBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^fBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 16. Estimates for figure 16: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by respondent's marital status, 1993–2013

Year	Never married		Married		Separated		Divorced/widowed	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)
1993	10,060	42.2 %	15,780	32.4 %	1,250	50.1 %	5,670	65.2 %
1994	12,890	41.6	20,510	32.3	1,550	49.5	7,400	66.3
1995	12,250	43.1	19,830	33.1	1,470	52.3	7,330	65.9
1996	11,220	40.7	17,030	32.4	1,310	50.8	6,320	65.4
1997	10,240	40.9	14,450	31.6	1,210	52.1	5,550	64.2
1998	10,490	41.9	14,920	30.5	1,240	51.3	5,650	63.2
1999	10,780	40.7	15,410	30.7	1,120	52.9	5,810	64.3
2000	11,030	41.8	15,640	31.6	1,080	52.7	5,970	65.0
2001	11,780	42.9	16,480	31.5	1,140	54.6	6,280	64.8
2002	12,340	43.1	17,540	32.5	1,130	55.8	6,320	66.1
2003	12,330	43.0	16,300	31.1	1,100	54.6	5,920	65.1
2004	13,240	42.2	17,510	32.6	1,130	53.0	6,170	64.2
2005	13,040	43.2	17,810	32.5	1,050	56.1	6,030	66.1
2006 ^a	15,380	40.8	25,820	30.4	1,230	58.5	8,570	66.7
2007 ^b	16,680	42.2	26,820	30.9	1,340	56.9	9,210	66.4
2008	15,020	42.8	25,080	32.4	1,250	57.9	8,350	67.3
2009	16,550	43.4	27,250	34.5	1,360	59.0	8,680	67.8
2010 ^c	18,690	42.0	29,900	33.7	1,490	57.0	9,640	66.4
2011 ^d	19,060	44.4	30,410	36.8	1,490	58.0	9,880	67.3
2012	21,860	50.2	34,430	42.4	1,710	59.1	11,390	71.1
2013	21,420	51.2	33,530	43.0	1,740	62.3	11,240	71.2

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 1% missing data on marital status. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 17. Estimates for figure 17: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by household composition, 1993–2013

Year	Two or more adults without children		Two or more adults with children		Single adult without children		Single adult with children	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)
1993	12,220	38.8 %	10,370	25.3 %	5,750	88.0 %	4,460	30.0 %
1994	15,950	38.7	13,470	25.0	7,550	88.3	5,530	29.1
1995	15,450	39.2	12,850	26.1	7,380	88.4	5,340	30.6
1996	13,110	39.0	11,510	25.5	6,390	86.5	5,060	28.7
1997	11,380	38.3	9,710	24.4	5,760	86.5	4,830	29.6
1998	11,730	37.6	10,050	23.1	6,090	86.4	4,630	29.3
1999	12,430	35.5	12,260	24.1	6,150	86.7	2,600	37.7
2000	12,750	37.4	12,450	24.2	6,350	87.4	2,450	36.6
2001	13,920	36.6	12,770	25.6	6,780	87.6	2,530	36.6
2002	14,520	38.0	13,680	26.0	6,920	88.5	2,660	36.4
2003	13,540	37.2	13,040	25.2	6,760	87.3	2,720	35.0
2004	14,900	37.2	13,630	25.0	7,150	87.8	2,910	34.5
2005	14,800	37.1	14,050	26.7	6,970	89.3	2,680	35.9
2006 ^a	21,280	34.0	18,060	25.4	9,030	89.1	3,150	36.0
2007 ^b	22,290	32.9	19,140	26.3	10,220	89.7	3,000	39.8
2008	20,710	33.3	17,260	27.8	9,480	90.1	2,800	40.3
2009	22,740	36.6	19,120	29.5	9,610	89.6	3,000	41.5
2010 ^c	25,790	36.6	21,270	28.0	10,180	89.5	3,150	38.8
2011 ^d	26,190	39.1	21,800	32.0	10,040	89.7	3,270	41.9
2012	29,280	45.7	24,910	37.4	11,910	89.5	3,620	45.9
2013	29,350	45.8	23,580	38.1	11,940	90.3	3,470	48.2

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Excludes less than 0.5% missing data on household composition. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 18. Estimates for figure 18: Percent of NCVS interviews conducted privately, by household income, 1993–2013

Year	Less than \$24,999		\$25,000 to \$49,999		\$50,000 or more		Unknown income	
	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)	Number of NCVS interviews	Percent private interviews (respondent only)
1993	17,070	41.6 %	7,750	41.0 %	3,620	43.6 %	4,440	43.5 %
1994	21,370	41.4	9,790	39.6	5,230	42.2	6,210	46.8
1995	19,430	42.0	9,800	40.8	5,640	43.2	6,270	48.3
1996	16,870	39.6	8,310	40.1	4,960	42.2	6,050	49.1
1997	14,540	40.0	7,170	38.5	4,230	40.4	5,850	49.4
1998	13,440	39.8	7,550	37.2	4,820	40.1	6,830	48.1
1999	12,610	41.0	7,760	37.0	5,470	38.9	7,690	45.9
2000	11,660	41.3	7,550	38.5	6,270	39.2	8,630	47.2
2001	11,230	42.4	8,190	38.0	7,350	39.8	9,370	47.6
2002	10,650	44.2	8,660	38.9	8,350	38.3	10,220	48.1
2003	10,070	43.0	7,890	39.2	7,740	38.4	10,520	45.9
2004	10,060	43.8	8,390	40.1	8,330	37.7	11,940	45.1
2005	9,350	45.3	8,380	38.7	9,050	39.5	11,830	45.6
2006 ^a	12,150	44.7	11,840	38.1	14,690	35.8	12,980	45.0
2007 ^b	10,530	48.1	11,070	37.6	16,020	35.5	17,170	45.8
2008	9,090	48.1	10,260	37.9	15,020	36.9	16,030	47.5
2009	10,410	48.0	11,310	39.0	16,220	39.5	16,700	48.2
2010 ^c	11,590	45.9	12,570	39.2	17,980	38.6	18,460	46.7
2011 ^d	11,530	48.7	12,530	42.1	19,450	41.8	18,030	48.0
2012	13,510	52.8	14,950	48.0	22,520	49.0	19,020	51.5
2013	12,800	54.0	14,660	48.4	21,540	49.2	19,620	53.0

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data. Only the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^aIn July 2006, the NCVS converted to a fully automated computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) environment, and a new sample design was introduced.

^bComputer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) from centralized call centers was discontinued for the NCVS in July 2007.

^cBeginning in October 2010 and ending in June 2011, the NCVS sample increased by 24%.

^dBetween August 2011 and February 2012, refresher training, new FR performance metrics, and enhanced supervision of FRs were implemented.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1993–2013.

Appendix table 19. Respondent and household characteristics of NCVS sample, by whether in-person interview was conducted under private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 2009–13

Characteristic	Average annual number of in-person interviews	Overall in-person	Interview privacy	
			Private (respondent only) ^a	Nonprivate (respondent and others) ^b
Overall	63,080	100 %	46.8 %	53.2 %
Sex				
Male	29,900	100 %	47.5	52.5 %
Female	33,170	100 %	46.2	53.8
Age				
12–17	4,640	100 %	20.6 %	79.4 %
18–24	6,840	100 %	43.6	56.4
25–34	11,220	100 %	46.2	53.8
35–49	16,300	100 %	47.1	52.9
50–64	14,350	100 %	52.6	47.4
65 or older	9,730	100 %	53.0	47.0
Race/Hispanic origin				
White ^c	39,400	100 %	48.9 %	51.1 %
Black/African American ^c	7,970	100 %	53.2	46.8
Hispanic/Latino	11,500	100 %	36.0	64.0
American Indian/Alaska Native ^c	380	100 %	49.9	50.1
Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Other Pacific Islander ^c	3,170	100 %	42.2	57.8
More than one race ^c	660	100 %	50.4	49.6
Marital status^d				
Never married	19,510	100 %	46.6 %	53.4 %
Married	31,100	100 %	38.4	61.6
Widowed	3,610	100 %	72.0	28.0
Divorced	6,550	100 %	67.2	32.8
Separated	1,560	100 %	59.2	40.8
Household composition^e				
Two or more adults	111,980	100 %	37.6 %	62.4 %
Without children	26,670	100 %	41.1	58.9
With children	22,140	100 %	33.3	66.7
Single adult	14,040	100 %	78.9	21.1
Without children	10,740	100 %	89.7	10.3
With children	3,300	100 %	43.4	56.6
Household income				
Less than \$7,500	2,540	100 %	54.9 %	45.1 %
\$7,500–\$14,999	3,830	100 %	53.5	46.5
\$15,000–\$24,999	5,600	100 %	45.6	54.4
\$25,000–\$34,999	5,910	100 %	44.4	55.6
\$35,000–\$49,999	7,290	100 %	43.2	56.8
\$50,000–\$74,999	7,600	100 %	43.1	56.9
\$75,000 or more	11,940	100 %	44.8	55.2
Unknown	18,360	100 %	49.6	50.4

Note: Estimates are based on unweighted data.

^aOnly the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^bOthers present during an interview may include the respondent's spouse, other household members, and nonhousehold members.

^cExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^dExcludes 1% missing data on marital status.

^eExcludes less than 0.5% missing data on household composition.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

Appendix table 20. Standard errors for table 2: Rate of violent victimization, by in-person or telephone interviewing conditions, 2009–13

Type of crime	Overall	Data collection mode	
		In-person	Telephone
Total violent crime	0.8	1.5	1.0
Serious violent crime	0.3	0.6	0.3
Rape/sexual assault	0.1	0.2	0.1
Robbery	0.2	0.3	0.2
Aggravated assault	0.2	0.4	0.2
Simple assault	0.6	1.1	0.8

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

Appendix table 21. Standard errors for table 3: Rate of violent victimization for in-person interview, by private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 2009–13

Type of crime	Overall in-person	Interview privacy	
		Private (respondent only) ^a	Nonprivate (respondent and others)
Total violent crime	1.5	2.2	1.6
Serious violent crime	0.6	0.8	0.6
Rape/sexual assault	0.2	0.3	0.2
Robbery	0.3	0.4	0.4
Aggravated assault	0.4	0.5	0.4
Simple assault	1.1	1.6	1.1

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

Appendix table 22. Rate of violent victimization for single-person and multiperson households, by whether in-person interview was administered under private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 2009–13

Type of crime	Respondent lives with others				Respondent lives alone			
	Overall in person	Interview privacy		Ratio of private to nonprivate interviews	Overall in person	Interview privacy		Ratio of private to nonprivate interviews
		Private (respondent only) ^a	Nonprivate (respondent and others) ^b			Private (respondent only) ^a	Nonprivate (respondent and others) ^b	
Total violent crime	29.2	37.3	24.4 †	1.5	35.0	35.1	34.4	1.0
Serious violent crime	10.0	12.1	8.7 †	1.4	13.2	13.1	14.4	0.9
Rape/sexual assault	1.5	2.0	1.2 †	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.2 !	0.9
Robbery	3.4	3.7	3.2	1.2	4.3	4.2	4.9	0.9
Aggravated assault	5.0	6.4	4.2 †	1.5	6.9	6.9	7.2	0.9
Simple assault	19.3	25.2	15.7 †	1.6	21.8	22.0	20.0	1.1
Average annual population interviewed under each condition	92,429,090	34,669,600	57,759,490		17,232,780	15,466,520	1,766,260	

Note: Estimates based on weighted data. See appendix table 23 for standard errors.

†Significant difference between private and nonprivate interviewing conditions at the 95% confidence level.

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

^aOnly the interviewer is present with the respondent.

^bOthers present during an interview is anyone else aside from the interviewer and respondent.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.

Appendix table 23. Standard errors for appendix table 22: Rate of violent victimization for single-person and multiperson households, by whether in-person interview was administered under private or nonprivate interviewing conditions, 2009–13

Type of crime	Respondent lives with others			Respondent lives alone		
	Overall in person	Interview privacy		Overall in person	Interview privacy	
		Private (respondent only) ^a	Nonprivate (respondent and others) ^b		Private (respondent only) ^a	Nonprivate (respondent and others) ^b
Total violent crime	1.6	2.4	1.6	2.9	3.0	6.1
Serious violent crime	0.6	0.9	0.6	1.2	1.2	2.8
Rape/sexual assault	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	1.0
Robbery	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.7	1.8
Aggravated assault	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.8	1.9
Simple assault	1.1	1.8	1.1	2.1	2.1	4.3

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 2009–2013.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable and valid statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Jeri M. Mulrow is acting director.

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