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Intimate Partner Violence

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Estimates from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) indicate that in 1998 about 1 million violent crimes were committed against persons by their current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends. Such crimes, termed *intimate partner violence*, are committed primarily against women. About 85% of victimizations by intimate partners in 1998, about 876,340, were against women.

Intimate partner violence made up 22% of violent crime against women between 1993 and 1998. By contrast, during this period intimate partners committed 3% of the violence against men.

Women experienced intimate partner violence at lower rates in 1998 than in 1993. From 1993 to 1997 the rate of intimate partner violence fell from 9.8 to 7.5 per 1,000 women. In 1998 the rate was virtually unchanged from that in 1997 (7.7 per 1,000 women). Males experienced intimate partner violence at similar rates in 1993 and 1998 (1.6 and 1.5 per 1,000 men, respectively).

In 1998 about 1,830 murders were attributable to intimate partners, down substantially from the 3,000 murders in 1976.

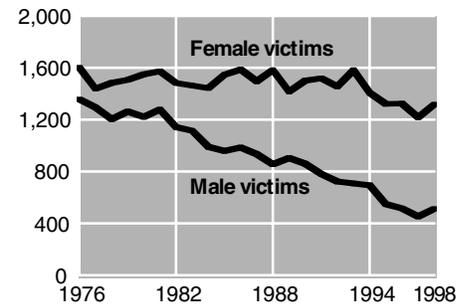
Highlights

Intimate partners: current or former spouses, boyfriends, and girlfriends

Violent crimes include lethal (homicide) and nonlethal (rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault) offenses.

Lethal

Number of victims murdered
by an intimate partner



Note: Data for graphical figures are on page 10.

- Intimate partners committed fewer murders in each of the 3 years 1996, 1997, and 1998 than in any other year since 1976.
- Between 1976 and 1998, the number of male victims of intimate partner homicide fell an average 4% per year and the number of female victims fell an average 1%.
- In 1998 women were nearly 3 out of 4 victims of the 1,830 murders attributable to intimate partners. In 1976 women were just over half the approximate 3,000 victims.
- The percentage of female murder victims killed by intimate partners has remained at about 30% since 1976.

Nonlethal

- The number of female victims of intimate violence declined from 1993 to 1998. In 1998 women experienced about 900,000 violent offenses at the hands of an intimate, down from 1.1 million in 1993.
- In both 1993 and 1998, men were victims of about 160,000 violent crimes by an intimate partner.
- Considered by age category, 1993-98, women ages 16 to 24 experienced the highest per capita rates of intimate violence (19.6 per 1,000 women).
- About half the intimate partner violence against women, 1993-98, was reported to the police; black women were more likely than other women to report such violence.
- About 4 of 10 female victims of intimate partner violence lived in households with children under age 12. Population estimates suggest that 27% of U.S. households were home to children under 12.
- Half of female victims of intimate partner violence reported a physical injury. About 4 in 10 of these victims sought professional medical treatment.

Measuring intimate partner victimization

This report updates findings presented in *Violence by Intimates* (March 1998, NCJ 167237) and provides more complete statistics of intimate partner violence against men.

Data

Findings regarding violent crime came from National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) data collected by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The NCVS collects data about criminal victimizations from an ongoing nationally representative sample of households in the United States. Homicide data were collected by the FBI, under the Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR) of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR).

Definitions

As defined in this report, intimate relationships involve current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends. These individuals may be of the same gender.

Violent acts examined include murder, rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Definitions of these violent crimes are provided in the definitions section on page 9.

Rate of violence by an intimate partner, by gender, 1993-98

Number of victimizations by an intimate partner per 1,000 persons of each gender age 12 or older

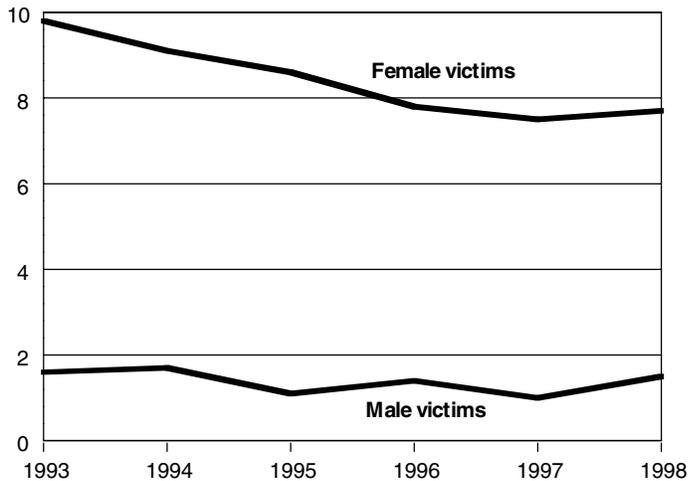


Figure 1

Intimate partner violence in 1998

In 1998 women were victims in about 876,340 violent crimes and men were victims in about 157,330 violent crimes committed by an intimate partner (table 1). Women were victims of intimate partner violence at a rate about 5 times that of males (767 versus 146 per 100,000 persons, respectively). Women were more likely to be victimized by a nonstranger, which includes a friend, family member, or intimate partner, while men were more likely to be victimized by a stranger (appendix table 3, page 10). Sixty-five percent of all intimate partner violence against women and 68% of intimate partner violence against men involved a simple assault, the least serious form of violence studied.

In 1998 intimate partner homicides accounted for about 11% of all murders nationwide. Of the 1,830 persons murdered by intimates in 1998, 72% or 1,320 were women. Female murder victims were substantially more likely than male murder victims to have been killed by an intimate partner. In 1998 intimate partner homicides comprised about 33% of the murders of women but about 4% of the murders of men.

Trends in violence against intimate partners, 1993-98

The rate of intimate partner violence against women decreased 21% from 1993 to 1998. The estimated number of violent crimes against women by intimate partners decreased from the 1993 level of about 1.1 million to 848,480 in 1997. The victimization rate over the same period fell from 9.8 to 7.5 per 1,000 women. A nominal but not statistically significant increase in female intimate partner violence rates occurred from 1997 to 1998 (7.5 to 7.7 per 1,000 women) (figure 1, table 2, appendix table 3).

Intimate partner victimization rates for males were similar in 1993 and 1998 (1.6 and 1.5 men victimized per 1,000 males), despite some fluctuation during intervening years. The rate of victimization of male intimate partners in 1998 represented an increase from 1.0 per 1,000 in 1997.

Table 1. Violence by intimate partners, by type of crime and gender, 1998

	Intimate partner violence by gender					
	Total		Female		Male	
	Number	Rate per 100,000 persons	Number	Rate per 100,000 persons	Number	Rate per 100,000 persons
Overall violent crime	1,033,660	465.9	876,340	766.8	157,330	146.2
Murder	1,830	0.8	1,320	1.2	510	0.5
Rape/sexual assault	63,490	28.6	63,490	55.6	--	--
Robbery	103,940	46.8	101,830	89.1	--	--
Aggravated assault	187,970	84.7	140,050	122.5	47,910	44.5
Simple assault	676,440	304.9	569,650	498.4	106,790	99.2

Note: Rates for this table only are the number of victimizations per 100,000 persons. Rates reported in other tables are the number of victimizations per 1,000 persons. Populations for calculation of rates are presented in appendix table 9, page 11. The difference in male and female intimate partner victimization rates is significant at the 95%-confidence level within each victimization category presented.

--Based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

Homicide of intimate partners, 1976-98

Overall, the number of women killed by an intimate partner was stable between 1976 and 1993 and then declined 23% between 1993 and 1997. The number of women murdered by an intimate partner increased 8% between 1997 and 1998. The number of men murdered by an intimate partner fell 60% from 1976 to 1998 (*Highlights* figure, page 1 and page 10).

Most victims of intimate partner homicide are killed by their spouses, although much less so in recent years. In 1998 murders by spouses represented 53% of all intimate partner homicides, down from 75% in 1976 (figure 2).

White females represent the only category of victims for whom intimate partner homicide has not decreased substantially since 1976 (figure 3). The number of intimate partner homicides for all other racial and gender groups declined during the period. The number of black females killed by intimates dropped 45%; black males, 74%; and white males, 44%. Between 1997 and

Table 2. Violence by intimate partners, by gender, 1993-98

Year	Violent victimization by intimate partners			
	Female victims		Male victims	
	Number	Rate per 1,000	Number	Rate per 1,000
1993	1,072,090	9.8	163,570	1.6
1994	1,003,180	9.1	176,180	1.7
1995	953,700	8.6	115,490	1.1
1996	879,290	7.8	150,730	1.4
1997	848,480	7.5	107,850	1.0
1998	876,340	7.7	157,330	1.5

Note: See appendix table 10, page 11, for the populations used to calculate rates.

The difference between male and female rates of intimate partner victimization for every year is significant at the 95%-confidence level. The rates for males in 1993 and 1998 were not significantly different. Male intimate partner victimization rates fell significantly between 1994 and 1995, fell slightly between 1996 and 1997, and increased significantly between 1997 and 1998. Rates of intimate partner violence against females declined from 1994 to 1997 and slightly between 1994 and 1998.

Homicides of intimate partners, by victim-offender relationship, 1976-98

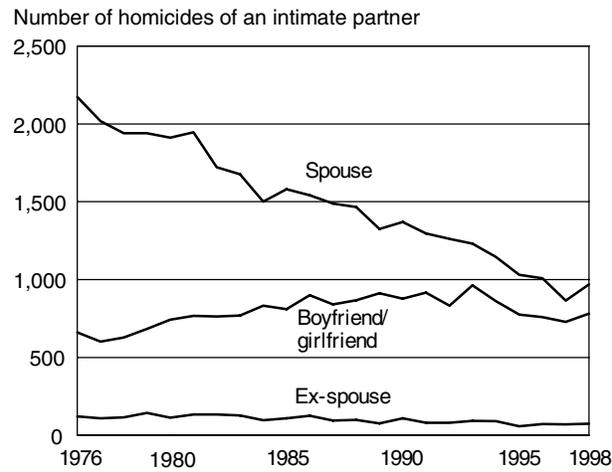


Figure 2

1998 the number of white females killed by an intimate partner increased 15%.

For additional information on trends of intimate partner homicide, refer to the BJS website: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/homicide/intimates.htm>

Characteristics of intimate partner violence victims, 1993-98

Regardless of the demographic characteristics considered, women experienced intimate partner violence

at higher rates than men between 1993 and 1998.* Among women, being black, young, divorced or separated, earning lower incomes, living in rental housing, and living in an urban area were all associated with higher rates of intimate partner victimization between 1993 and 1998. Men who were young, black, divorced or separated, or living in rented housing had significantly higher rates of intimate partner violence than other men.

*The remainder of the report examines nonlethal violent victimization, although inclusion of homicides would not affect the findings.

Homicides of intimate partners, by gender and race of the victims, 1976-98

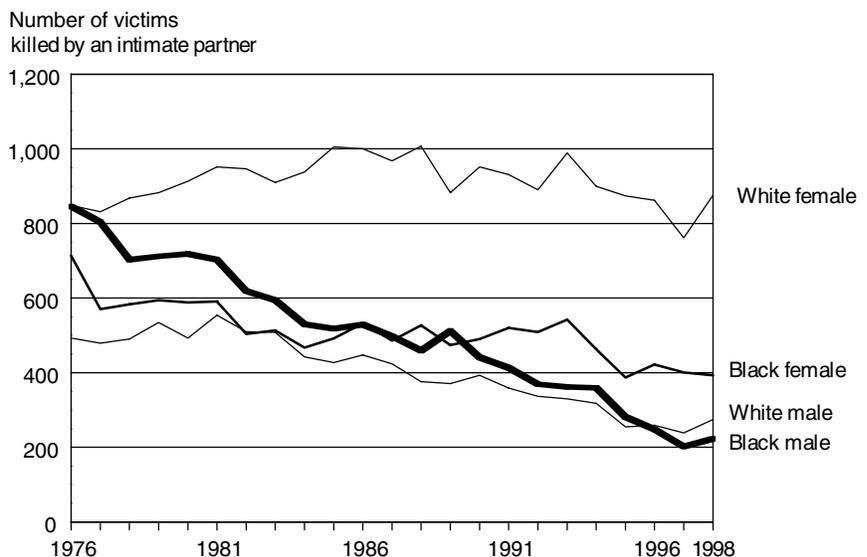


Figure 3

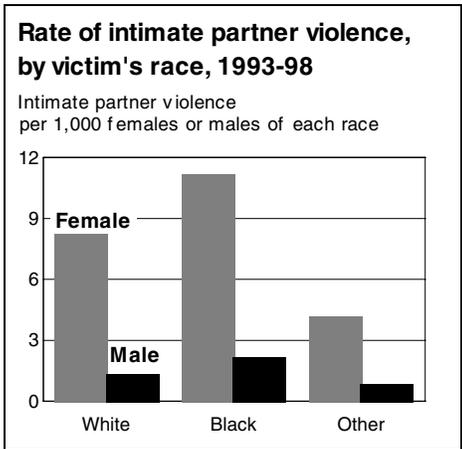


Figure 4

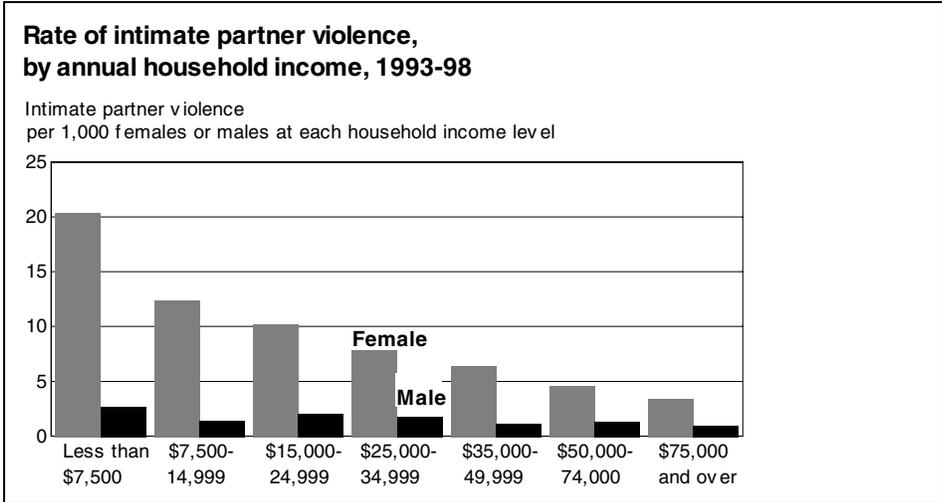


Figure 7

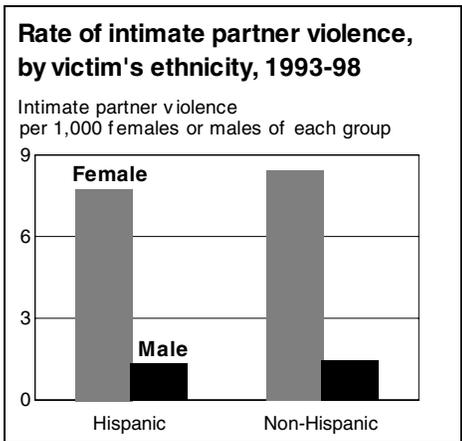


Figure 5

Race and ethnicity

Overall, blacks were victimized by intimate partners at significantly higher rates than persons of any other race between 1993 and 1998 (figure 4, appendix table 4). Black females experienced intimate partner violence

at a rate 35% higher than that of white females, and about 2½ times the rate of women of other races. Black males experienced intimate partner violence at a rate about 62% higher than that of white males and about 2½ times the rate of men of other races.

No difference in intimate partner victimization rates between Hispanic and non-Hispanic persons emerged, regardless of gender (figure 5).

Age

For both women and men, rates of violence by an intimate partner were below 3 victimizations per 1,000 persons under age 16 or over age 50 (figure 6 and appendix table 5). Women ages 20-24 were victimized by an intimate partner at the highest rate, 21 per 1,000 women. This rate was about 8 times the peak rate for men

(3 victimizations per 1,000 men ages 25-34).

Household income

Women living in households with lower annual household incomes experienced intimate partner violence at significantly higher rates than women in households with higher annual incomes (figure 7, appendix table 6). Intimate partners victimized women living in households with the lowest annual household income at a rate nearly 7 times that of women living in households with the highest annual household income (20 versus 3 per 1,000). No discernible relationship emerged between intimate partner violence against males and household income.

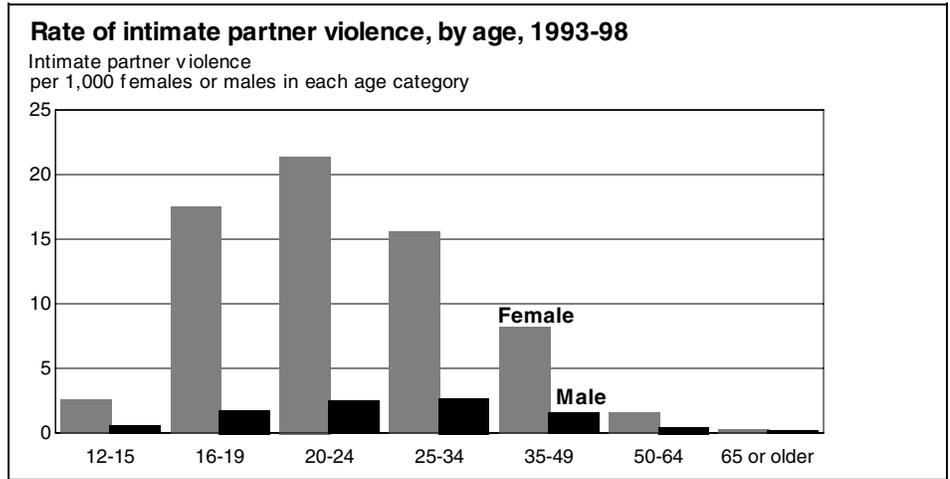


Figure 6

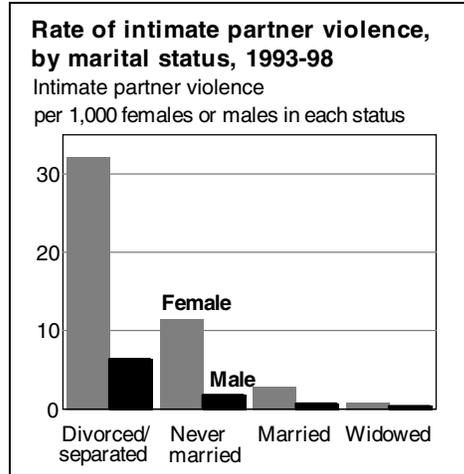


Figure 8

Marital status

For both men and women, divorced or separated persons were subjected to the highest rates of intimate partner victimization, followed by never-married persons (figure 8, appendix table 7). Because the NCVS reflects a respondent's marital status at the time of the interview, it is not possible to determine whether a person was separated or divorced at the time of the victimization or whether separation or divorce followed the violence.

Home ownership

Intimate partner victimization rates were significantly higher for persons living in rental housing regardless of the victim's gender (figure 9, appendix table 8). Females residing in rental housing were victimized by intimate partner violence at more than 3 times the rate of women living in owned housing, and males residing in rental housing were victimized by an intimate partner at more than twice the rate of men living in purchased housing.

Urban, suburban, and rural households

Women in urban areas were victims of intimate partner violence at significantly higher rates than suburban women and at somewhat higher rates than rural women. Ten per thousand urban women were victims of intimate partner violence compared to 8 per 1,000 women in suburban and rural areas between 1993 and 1998.

Urban and suburban males were victims of intimate partner violence at similar rates. Men in urban areas experienced violence at a rate slightly higher than that of men in rural areas. No significant difference emerged between the rates for suburban and rural men.

The nature of intimate partner victimization

Location and time

Between 1993 and 1998 almost two-thirds of intimate partner violence

Rate of intimate partner violence, by home ownership and location of household, 1993-98

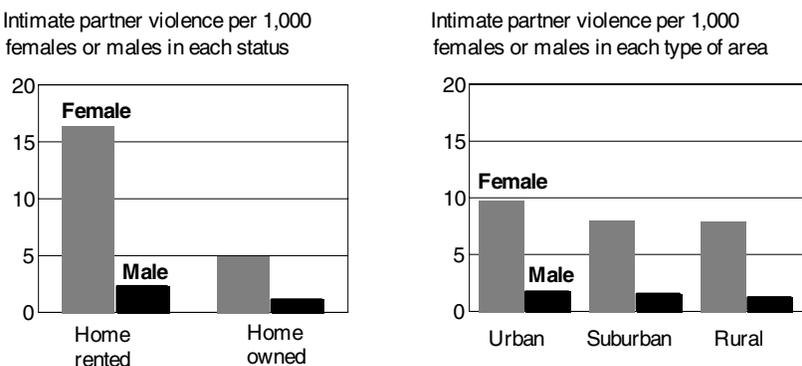


Figure 9

Table 3. Location and time of intimate partner violence, by gender of victim, 1993-98

Location and time	Female average annual		Male average annual	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total intimate partner victims	937,490	100%	144,620	100%
Victim's home	590,030	63%*	74,480	52%
Near victim's home	81,600	9*	23,910	17
Friend/neighbor's home	115,430	12	22,300	15
Commercial place	24,020	3	5,820	4
Parking lot or garage	34,800	4	5,860	4
School	11,350	1	--	--
Other	80,260	9	9,630	7
Daytime (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.)	353,560	38%	58,900	41%
Nighttime	558,130	60	84,910	59
Don't know	25,800	3	--	--

--Based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

*The difference between male and female percentages is significant at the 95%-confidence level.

Table 4. Households with children under age 12, by gender of victims of intimate partner violence, 1993-98

Present	Total annual average		Female average annual		Male average annual	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total intimate partner victims	1,082,110	100%	937,490	100%	144,620	100%
Children in household	459,590	43%	424,140	45%	35,450	25%
Children not in household	462,090	43	364,720	39	97,370	67
Unknown	160,430	15	148,630	16	11,800	8

Note: The difference between male and female percentages is significant at the 95%-confidence level for each category shown. The difference in having children as household members and not having them is significant at the 95%-confidence level for both women and men.

against women, and about half of all intimate partner violence against men, occurred in the victim's home (table 3). Intimate partner violence occurred most often between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m., accounting for about 6 in 10 female

and male victimizations by intimate partners (60% and 59%).

Table 5. Percent of threats, attempted attacks, and physical attacks in intimate partner violent crimes, 1993-98

Type of violence	Victims of intimate partners	
	Female	Male
Attempt or threat	31%	35%
Threatened to kill	32	27
Threatened to rape	1	--
Threatened in "other" way	52*	41
Threatened with a weapon	18	22
Threw object at victim	4*	11
Followed/surrounded victim	4	--
Tried to hit, slap, or knock down victim	13	15
Physically attacked	69%	65%

Note: Detail may not add to total because victims may have reported more than one type of threat.

--Based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

*The difference between male and female percentages is significant at the 95%-confidence level.

Children younger than 12 present in the household

Between 1993 and 1998 children under the age of 12 resided in 43% of the households where intimate partner violence occurred (table 4). Population estimates suggest that in general, 27% of households in the United States were home to children under the age 12. This study is not able to determine the extent to which young children witnessed intimate partner violence.

Injuries and treatment

Between 1993 and 1998, about two-thirds of the male and female victims of intimate partner violence were physically attacked (table 5). The remaining third were victims of threats or attempted violence. Though percentages of males and females being attacked were similar, the outcome of these attacks differed (table 6). Fifty percent of female victims of intimate partner violence were injured by an intimate partner versus 32% of male victims.

Percent of intimate partner victimization reported to police, by gender, race, and ethnicity, 1993-98

Percent of intimate partner violence reported to police

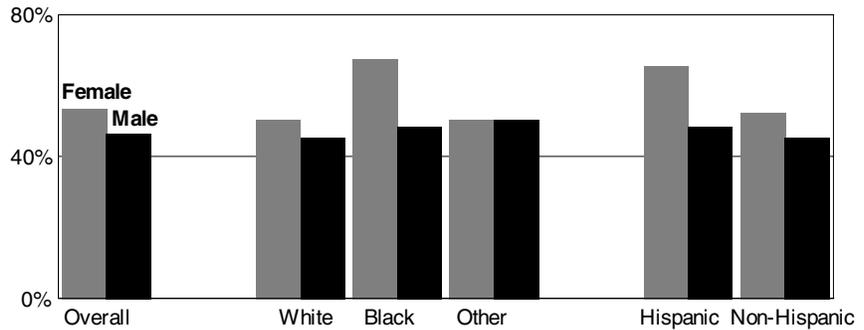


Figure 10

Among those injured, similar percentages of men and women suffered serious injuries (4% and 5%, respectively). A significantly higher percentage of women than men sustained minor injuries (more than 4 in 10 females and fewer than 3 in 10 males).

Most victims injured by an intimate partner did not report seeking profes-

sional medical treatment for their injuries. About 6 in 10 female and male victims of intimate partner violence were injured but not treated. In general, injuries were minor, involving cuts and bruises. Most of those injured who were treated received care at home or at the scene of the victimization (17% of women and 24% of men).

Table 6. Injuries and treatment as a result of intimate partner violence, by gender, 1993-98

Injury and treatment	Female average annual		Male average annual	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total intimate partner victims	937,490	100%	144,620	100%
Not injured	466,380	50%*	97,620	68%
Injured	471,110	50*	47,000	32
Serious injury	43,910	5	6,380	4
Gunshot wound	--	--	--	--
Knife wounds	5,410	1	--	--
Internal injuries	10,170	1	--	--
Broken bones	16,380	2	--	--
Knocked unconscious	9,240	1	--	--
Other serious injuries	--	--	--	--
Rape/sexual assault without additional injuries	33,260	4	--	--
Minor injuries only	392,810	42*	39,690	27
Injuries unknown	--	--	--	--
Injured	471,110	100%	47,000	100%
Injured, not treated	297,800	63	28,090	60
Treated for injury	173,310	37	18,910	40
At scene or home	82,200	17*	11,240	24
Doctor's office or clinic	23,000	5	--	--
Hospital				
Not admitted	16,990	4	--	--
Emergency, not admitted	39,850	8	--	--
Emergency, admitted	5,840	1	--	--
Other locale	5,020	1	--	--
Don't know	--	--	--	--

--Based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

*The difference in male and female percentages is significant at the 95%-confidence level.

Reporting to police

About half of all victims of intimate partner violence between 1993 and 1998 reported the violence to law enforcement authorities (53% of women and 46% of men) (table 7, figure 10, and appendix table 9).

The percentage of victims reporting to police differed by race and ethnicity. Black women (67%) reported their victimization to police at significantly higher percentages than black men (48%), white men (45%), and white women (50%). No difference in white male and female percentages reporting emerged (45% versus 50%). Hispanic females reported intimate partner violence to the police at higher percentages than did non-Hispanic females (65% versus 52%).

Among victims of violence by an intimate partner, the percentage of women who reported the crime was greater in 1998 (59%) than in 1993 (48%). There was no significant difference between 1993 and 1998 in the percentage of men's reporting their victimization to the police.

In 1997 and 1998 a significantly higher percentage of female intimate partner violence victims reported the victimizations to the police than did not. Prior to 1997 similar percentages of females reported and did not report.

For males, for all years but 1997, approximately half the victims did not report their victimization to the police. In 1997 a slightly higher percentage of male victims did not report to the authorities. About half of the male victims' reasons and a third of the female victims' reasons for not reporting their intimate partner victimization to the police was because it was a "private or personal matter" (table 8). While this reason was the most often

Table 7. Percent of reporting intimate partner violence to police, by gender, 1993-98

Type of victim	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1993-98
Female total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Reported	48%	50%	52%	53%	58%	59%	53%
Not reported	52	50	47	46 [†]	42*	41*	47*
Don't know	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Male total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Reported	47%	48%	49%	46%	38%	49%	46%
Not reported	53	50	51	52	60 [†]	51	53
Don't know	0	2	0	2	2	0	1

*The difference in percent of within gender reporting and not reporting is significant at the 95%-confidence level.

[†]The difference in percent of within gender reporting and not reporting is significant at the 90%-confidence level.

Table 8. Reasons intimate partner violence was not reported to the police, by gender of victim, 1993-98

Reasons for not reporting to police	Female average annual		Male average annual	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total victimizations not reported	480,060		85,400	
Private or personal matter	151,900	35%*	39,690	52%
Afraid of reprisal	83,090	19	--	--
Minor crime	29,270	7*	11,480	15
Police will not bother	25,440	6	--	--
Protect offender	13,580	3*	8,400	11
Police biased	12,200	3%	--	--
Inconvenient	14,190	3	--	--
Reported to another official	11,910	3	--	--
Police ineffectiveness	15,290	4	--	--
Not clear a crime occurred	7,010	2	--	--
Don't know why I did not report it	7,100	2%	--	--
Other reason given	109,070	25	14,500	19

Note: Detail may not add to total because victims may have reported more than one reason and because of values not shown in instances in which the sample cases were fewer than 10.

--Based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

*The difference in male and female percentages is significant at the 95%-confidence level.

given by both male and female victims, it was given by male victims in a significantly higher percentage than female victims.

Fear of reprisal by the perpetrator made up 19% of the reasons females did not report their victimization to the police. About 1 in 10 male victims and fewer than 1 in 10 female victims said they did not report the crime to the police because they did not want to get the offender in trouble with the law.

Methodology

Except for homicide data obtained from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, this report presents data from the BJS National Crime Victimization Survey. The NCVS gathers data about crimes using an ongoing, nationally representative sample of households in the United States. NCVS data include information about crime victims (age, gender, race, ethnicity, marital status, income, and educational level), criminal offenders (gender, race, approximate age, and victim-offender relations) and the nature of the crime

(for example, time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, and economic consequences). NCVS victimization data include incidents reported and not reported to police.

Between 1993 and 1998 approximately 293,400 households and 574,000 individuals age 12 or older were interviewed. For the NCVS data presented, response rates varied between 93% and 96% of eligible households, and between 89% and 92% of eligible individuals. The 1998 data presented in this report were collected during the calendar year being estimated. Data for 1993 to 1997 are based on crimes occurring during the year.

Appendix table 1. Average annual number and percentage of series and nonseries violent victimizations, 1993-98

Type of crime	Number of victimizations			Percent of victimizations		
	Total	Nonseries	Series	Total	Nonseries	Series
Violent victimizations	10,098,920	9,493,160	605,770	100%	94%	6%
Rape/sexual assault	394,600	368,430	26,170	100	93	7
Robbery	1,142,380	1,111,500	30,880	100	97	3
Aggravated assault	2,167,920	2,063,920	104,000	100	95	5
Simple assault	6,394,030	5,949,310	444,720	100	93	7
Intimate partner violence						
Female victims	937,490	835,850	101,630	100%	89%	11%
Male victims	144,620	132,030	12,600	100	91	9

Because the NCVS samples households, it does not capture the experiences of homeless individuals or those living in institutional settings such as homeless or battered persons' shelters. The experiences and esti-

mates of intimate partner violence in this report reflect those of the individuals residing in households.

The exact impact of this sampling limitation is unknown. Several studies estimate the impact that intimate partner violence has on homelessness or on residing in shelters for homeless or battered persons. One study suggested that 50% of homeless women and children became homeless after fleeing abuse (Zorza, 1991). A 1998 study conducted in 10 cities in the United States estimated that of 777 homeless parents (most of whom were mothers) 22% stated they left their previous home due to intimate partner violence (*Homes for the Homeless*, 1998). A survey by the U.S. Conference of Mayors suggested that 46% felt that intimate partner violence was a primary cause of homelessness (U.S. Conference of Mayors, 1998).

Standard error computations for NCVS estimates

Comparisons of percentages and rates in this report were tested to determine if differences were statistically significant. Differences described in the text as higher, lower, or different and changes over time characterized as having increased or decreased passed a hypothesis test at the .05 level of statistical significance (95%-confidence level). That is, the tested difference in the estimates was greater than twice the standard error of that difference. For comparisons that were statistically significant at the .10 level of statistical significance (90%-confidence level), the terms *somewhat different*, *marginally different*, or *slight difference* are

Definitions of intimate partner

Intimate partner relationships involve current spouses, former spouses, current boy/girlfriends, or former boy/girlfriends. Individuals involved in an intimate partner relationship may be of the same gender. The FBI does not report former boy/girlfriends in categories separate from current boy/girlfriends. Rather, they are included in the boy/girlfriend category during the data collection process.

The FBI, through the Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR), and BJS, using the NCVS, gather information about the victim's and offender's relationship, using different relationship categories. In this report responses to the victim-offender question from both datasets are collapsed into four relationship groups: intimate, friend/acquaintance, other family, and stranger. These groups are created from the following original response categories:

	NCVS categories	SHR categories
Intimate	Spouse Ex-spouse Boyfriend/girlfriend Ex-girlfriend/ex-boyfriend	Husband/wife Common-law husband or wife Ex-husband/ex-wife Boyfriend/girlfriend Homosexual relationship
Friend/ acquaintance	Friend/ex-friend Roommate/boarder Schoolmate Neighbor Someone at work/customer Other non-relative	Acquaintance Friend Neighbor Employee Employer Other known
Other family	Parent or step parent Own child or stepchild Brother/sister Other relative	Mother/father Son/daughter Brother/sister In-law Stepfather/stepmother Stepson/stepdaughter Other family
Stranger	Stranger Known by sight only	Stranger

used to note the nature of the difference.

Caution is required when comparing estimates not explicitly discussed in the text. What may appear to be large differences may not test as statistically significant at the 95%- or the 90%-confidence level. Significance testing calculations were conducted at the Bureau of Justice Statistics using statistical programs developed specifically for the NCVS by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. These programs take into consideration many aspects of the complex NCVS sample design when calculating generalized variance estimates.

FBI homicide data

Homicide data presented in this report are collected by the FBI, under the Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR) of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR). The homicide data provide incident-level data on about 92% of the homicides in the United States, including the victim and offender relationship.

Definitions

An important consideration in generating intimate partner violence estimates using NCVS data is the treatment of "series data." Series data are defined as six or more incidents similar in nature, for which the victim is unable to furnish details of each incident separately. Because no information for each incident is available, information on the most recent incident in the series is collected. Generally, series victimizations represent 6%-7% of all violent victimizations recorded by the NCVS, though some variation exists among the types of crime and victim characteristics (appendix table 1).

Series crimes are problematic in estimation because how or whether these victimizations should be combined with the other crime incidents is unclear. BJS continues to study how these types of victimizations should be handled in our published estimates. Currently, series victimizations are excluded from the annual BJS estimates but included in Special Reports. In addition, series data are included for analyses where repeat victimization is an important aspect of the subject being analyzed. This report includes series victimizations in estimation of intimate partner violence, counting a series as one victimization.

Violent acts covered in this report include murder, rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated and simple assault. Definitions used in this report are as follows:

- Murder and non-negligent manslaughter is defined as the willful killing of one human being by another.
- Rape is forced sexual intercourse, including both psychological coercion and physical force. Forced sexual intercourse means vaginal, anal, or oral penetration by the offender(s). This category includes incidents where the penetration is from a foreign object such as a bottle. Also included are attempted rapes, male and female victims, and heterosexual and homosexual rape.
- Sexual assault covers a wide range of victimizations, distinct from rape or attempted rape. These crimes include completed or attempted attacks generally involving unwanted sexual contact between the victim and offender. Sexual assaults may or may not involve force and include such things as grabbing or fondling. Sexual assault also includes verbal threats.

- Robbery is a completed or attempted theft directly from a person, of property or cash by force or threat of force, with or without a weapons, and with or without an injury.

- Aggravated assault is defined as a completed or attempted attack with a weapon, regardless of whether or not an injury occurred, and an attack without a weapon in which the victim is seriously injured.

- Simple assault is an attack without a weapon resulting either in no injury, minor injury (such as bruises, black eyes, cuts, scratches, or swelling) or an undetermined injury requiring less than 2 days of hospitalization. Simple assaults also include attempted assaults without a weapon.

References

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Violence by Intimates: Analysis of Data on Crimes by Current or Former Spouses, Boyfriends, and Girlfriends. BJS report, NCJ 167237, March 1998.

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Appendix table 2. Intimate partner homicide, by gender, 1976-98

	Number of victims of intimate partner homicide	
	Male	Female
1976	1,357	1,600
1977	1,294	1,437
1978	1,202	1,482
1979	1,262	1,506
1980	1,221	1,549
1981	1,278	1,572
1982	1,141	1,481
1983	1,113	1,462
1984	989	1,442
1985	957	1,546
1986	985	1,586
1987	933	1,494
1988	854	1,582
1989	903	1,415
1990	859	1,501
1991	779	1,518
1992	722	1,455
1993	708	1,581
1994	692	1,405
1995	547	1,321
1996	515	1,324
1997	451	1,217
1998	512	1,317

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-98. Also found at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/homicide/intimates.htm#intimates>

Appendix table 4. Intimate partner violence, by race and ethnicity, 1993-98

Victims	Rate of nonlethal intimate partner violence (per 1,000 males and females)	
	Female victims	Male victims
Race		
White	8.2	1.3
Black	11.1	2.1
Other race ^a	4.1	--
Ethnicity		
Hispanic ^b	7.7	1.3
Non-Hispanic	8.4	1.4

Note: The difference between male and female intimate partner violence rates is significant at the 95%-confidence level for each race and ethnicity shown. Female intimate partner violence rates among races differ at the 95% level. No difference between Hispanic and non-Hispanic rates emerged. Male intimate partner violence rates differed at the 95%-confidence level between whites and blacks and between blacks and persons of other races. No difference in the rates for white males and other race males emerged.

--Based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

^aDenotes Asians, Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, Alaska Natives, and American Indians.

^bHispanic or Latino persons could be of any race.

Appendix table 5. Intimate partner violence, by age, 1993-98

Age of victim	Rate of nonlethal intimate partner violence (per 1,000 males and females)	
	Female	Male
12-15	2.5	0.6
16-19	17.4	1.7
20-24	21.3	2.4
25-34	15.5	2.6
35-49	8.1	1.5
50-64	1.5	0.4
65 or older	0.2	--

Note: The difference between male and female intimate partner violence rates is significant at the 95%-confidence level for every age group.

--Based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

Appendix table 6. Intimate partner violence, by household income, 1993-98

Household income of victim	Rate of nonlethal intimate partner violence (per 1,000 males and females)	
	Female	Male
Less than \$7,500	20.3	2.6
\$7,500 to \$14,999	12.3	1.3
\$15,000 to \$24,999	10.1	2.0
\$25,000 to \$34,999	7.8	1.7
\$35,000 to \$49,999	6.3	1.0
\$50,000 to \$74,999	4.5	1.2
\$75,000 or more	3.3	0.9

Note: The difference between male and female intimate partner violence rates is significant at the 95%-confidence level for every income category shown.

Appendix table 3. Victim-offender relationship, by gender, 1993-98

Gender of victim and victim-offender relationship	Rate of violent victimization						
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1993-98
Female victim							
Intimate partners	9.8	9.1	8.6	7.8	7.5	7.7*	8.4
Other relatives	3.3	2.9	2.2	3.0	2.4	2.7	2.8
Friends/acquaintances	17.1	16.7	15.2	14.5	14.1	12.5*	15.0
Stranger	15.4	16.8	13.2	11.8	10.7	9.5*	12.9
Male victim							
Intimate partners	1.6	1.7	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.4
Other relatives	1.6	2.2	2.0	1.3	1.5	2.0	1.8
Friends/acquaintances	23.0	21.5	19.3	19.1	18.5	17.2*	19.7
Stranger	38.8	38.2	33.8	29.2	26.6	24.9*	31.8

*The difference between 1993 and 1998 violent victimization rates is significant at the 95%-confidence level.

Source: BJS, National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), and FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR), 1993-98.

Appendix table 7. Intimate partner violence, by marital status, 1993-98

Victim's marital status	Rate of nonlethal intimate violence (per 1,000 persons)	
	Female	Male
Divorced/separated	31.9	6.2*
Never married	11.3	1.6*
Married	2.6	0.5*
Widowed	0.6	--

--Based on 10 or fewer sample cases.
 *The difference between male and female rates of intimate partner violence is significant at the 95%-confidence level.

Appendix table 8. Intimate partner violence, by urbanization and housing, 1993-98

Area in which victim lives	Rate of nonlethal intimate partner violence (per 1,000 males and females)	
	Female	Male
Home owned	4.8	1.0
Home rented	16.2	2.2
Urban	9.5	1.6
Suburban	7.8	1.4
Rural	8.1	1.1

Note: The difference in male and female intimate partner violence victimization rates for each housing category is significant at the 95%-confidence level. Among females, intimate partner violence rates differ at the 95%-confidence level between urban and suburban areas and at the 90%-confidence level between urban and rural areas. Among males, rural rates differed significantly from urban rates.

Appendix table 9. Reporting intimate partner violence to police, by race and ethnicity, 1993-98

Victim	Female			Male		
	Number reported	Number of victims	Percent	Number reported	Number of victims	Percent
Total	498,210	937,490	53%	67,110	144,620	46%
White	384,030	763,100	50%	53,090	116,830	45%
Black	105,720	157,480	67*	11,910	24,780	48
Other	8,470	16,900	50	--	--	--
Hispanic	50,650	78,390	65%*	6,010	12,470	48%
Non-Hispanic	442,470	847,210	52	58,710	129,060	45

--Based on 10 or fewer sample cases.
 *The difference in male and female percentages is significant at the 95%-confidence level.

Appendix table 10. Resident population of the United States age 12 or older, by gender, 1993-98

	Populations used to calculate victimization rates					
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Total	211,524,770	213,747,270	215,709,450	217,967,370	220,433,520	221,880,960
Female	109,176,670	110,378,010	111,440,640	112,490,440	113,540,360	114,285,430
Male	102,348,090	103,369,260	104,268,820	105,476,930	106,893,170	107,595,530

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Jan M. Chaiken, Ph.D., is director.

BJS Special Reports address a specific topic in depth from one or more datasets that cover many topics.

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Data presented in this report can be obtained from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data at the University of Michigan, 1-800-999-0960. When at the archive site, search for dataset ICPSR 6406.

The archive may also be accessed through the BJS website, where the report, data, and supporting documentation are available: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>