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Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Victims of Crime

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Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders were victims of approximately 105,000 nonfatal violent crimes (rape, sexual assault, aggravated assault, and simple assault) on average per year between 2002 and 2006. An average of about 471,000 property crimes (household burglary, motor vehicle theft, and theft) were committed against Asian, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islander households per year during that period. While Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders accounted for 4% of the U.S. population, they were victims in 2% of nonfatal violent crimes and 3% of property crimes between 2002 and 2006. These findings are based on data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics' National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR), Supplementary Homicide Reports.

From 2002 through 2006, comparative nonfatal violent and property victimizations showed—

- Asians had the lowest rate of violent victimization among all racial or ethnic groups.¹
- Asian males were at a slightly higher risk of violent victimization than Asian females.
- Among victims, Asians were more likely than non-Asians to be violently victimized by a stranger.
- Asian households had the lowest rate of property victimization among households of all racial or ethnic groups.
- Property crimes against Asian households were as likely to be reported to the police as property crimes against white, black, or Hispanic households.

This report focuses on the victimization experiences of Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders in the United States. It examines nonfatal and fatal violent victimization and property victimization. It also includes

Table 1. Average annual numbers and rates of violent and household property victimization for Asians/Native Hawaiians/other Pacific Islanders and non-Asians, by type of crime, 2002-2006

	Asian ^a	Non-Asian ^b
	Number	
Nonfatal violent crimes	104,980	5,574,590
Household property crimes	470,870	18,011,160
	Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older or per 1,000 households	
Total violent crime	10.6	24.1*
Serious violent crime	4.7	8.4*
Rape/sexual assault	0.4 [^]	1.0*
Robbery	2.1	2.5
Aggravated assault	2.2	4.9*
Simple assault	5.9	15.7*
Total property crime	115.3	162.3*
Household burglary	15.8	30.1*
Motor vehicle theft	9.2	8.7
Theft	90.3	123.5*

Note: The average annual population age 12 or older from 2002 to 2006 was 9,857,920 for Asians and 231,009,550 for non-Asians. The average annual number of households between 2002 and 2006 was 4,083,610 for Asians and 110,955,300 for non-Asians.

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.

[^]Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

^aIncludes Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Excludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

^bIncludes whites, blacks/African Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Hispanics/Latinos of any race, and persons identifying two or more races.

comparisons between the victimization of Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders and other racial or ethnic groups, as well as information on victimization trends.

From 2002 through 2006, the average annual rate of nonfatal violent victimization against Asians was about 11 violent victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older, compared to 24 per 1,000 persons for non-Asians (table 1). Asians were less vulnerable than non-Asians for nearly all types of

¹Throughout this report, the terms "Asians" and "Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders" are used interchangeably.

nonfatal violent crime. For simple assault, the rate among Asians was less than half that for non-Asians. There was no statistically significant difference between Asians and non-Asians in their rates of robbery.

The average annual rate of property victimization among Asian households was 115 property crimes per 1,000 households, compared to 162 per 1,000 non-Asian households from 2002 through 2006. Asian and non-Asian households were equally likely to experience motor vehicle theft during this period. Asian households were half as likely as non-Asian households to experience household burglary.

Changes to the NCVS methodology affected crime estimates in 2006

Major changes were introduced to the NCVS methodology in 2006. Due to these changes, estimates of the amounts and rates of crime are not comparable to NCVS estimates from previous years. For more information, see *Criminal Victimization, 2006* at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cv06.pdf>.

As a result, crime estimates for 2006 are not included in the discussion of crime trends in this report. Because relative proportions of crime experienced among various demographic groups did not change, data for 2006 are included in the presentation of average annual rates and percentages.

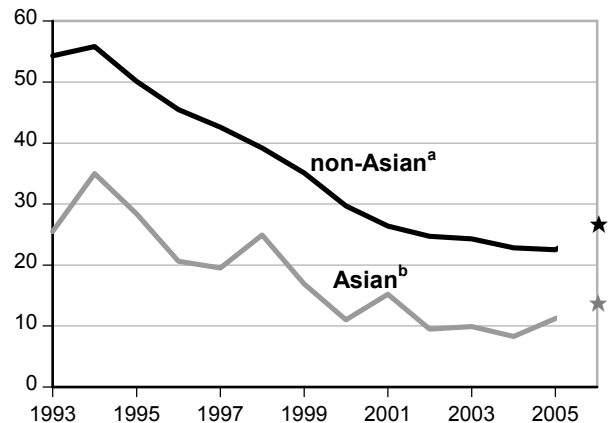
Violent victimization rates for Asians and non-Asians declined from 1993 to 2002 and remained stable from 2002 through 2005

During the 10-year period from 1993 through 2002, the overall rate of nonfatal violent victimization against Asians declined 63%, from about 26 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older in 1993 to about 10 per 1,000 persons in 2002 (figure 1). The rate for non-Asians declined about 55% during this period, from about 54 victimizations per 1,000 persons to about 25 per 1,000 persons.

Among Asians the rate of nonfatal violent victimization of males and females declined between 1993 and 2002 (figure 2). Between 2002 and 2005 the rate remained stable for both Asian males and females.

Violent victimization of Asians and non-Asians, 1993-2006

Rate of nonfatal violent victimization per 1,000 persons age 12 or older



Note: Asterisks indicate estimates for 2006 which are a break in series from 2005. For details see *Criminal Victimization, 2006* at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cv06.pdf>.

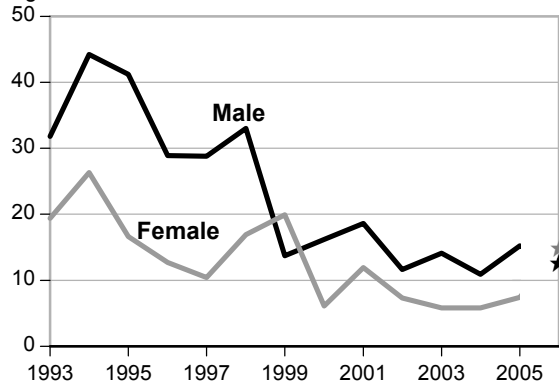
^aIncludes whites, blacks/African Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Hispanics/Latinos of any race, and persons identifying two or more races.

^bIncludes Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Excludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

Figure 1

Violent victimization of Asians, by victim gender, 1993-2006

Rate of nonfatal violent victimization per 1,000 persons age 12 or older



Note: Asterisks indicate estimates for 2006 which are a break in series from 2005. For details see *Criminal Victimization, 2006* at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cv06.pdf>.

Includes Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Excludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

Figure 2

The Asian, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander population

Asians refer to persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam. Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders refer to persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

From 2002 through 2006, Asians had the lowest risk of being violently victimized among all racial or ethnic groups

From 2002 through 2006, the average annual rate of total nonfatal violent crime against Asians was lower than that of all other racial or ethnic groups (table 2). Asians were the least likely of all racial or ethnic groups to experience aggravated assault or simple assault. While Asians were as likely as whites to be robbery victims, they were at a lower risk than blacks or Hispanics.

Asians were least likely to experience serious violence among all racial or ethnic groups

From 2002 through 2006, the average annual rate of serious violent crime against Asians was about 5 serious violent crimes per 1,000 persons aged 12 or older, the lowest rate among all racial or ethnic groups. Serious violent victimization consists of rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. It usually involves serious injury to the victim or an offender armed with a weapon. These crimes accounted for about 44% of all nonfatal violent crimes against Asians from 2002 through 2006, a percentage higher than the percentage for whites and similar to the percentages for blacks and Hispanics. Asians had about half the risk of serious violence as Hispanics.

Race/Hispanic origin of victims	Serious violent crime as a percent of violent crime, 2002-2006
Asian/Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander ^a	44.3%
White ^a	31.3*
Black/African American ^a	47.1
Hispanic/Latino	40.0
American Indian/Alaska Native ^a	34.0

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

Among Asians, males and youth were the most vulnerable to violent victimization

Among males and females, Asians were less likely than non-Asians to be victims of violent crime between 2002 and 2006 (table 3). Both Asian and non-Asian males experienced higher violent victimization rates than females.

With the exception of persons age 65 or older, Asians had a lower risk of violent crime in all age categories than non-Asians. Among never-married persons, married persons, and persons who were divorced or separated, Asians had lower rates of violent crime than non-Asians.

Table 2. Average annual violent victimization rate, by race/Hispanic origin and type of crime, 2002-2006

Race/Hispanic origin	Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older					
	Total violent crime	Serious violent crime ^a	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Simple assault
Asian ^{b,c}	10.6	4.7	0.4 [^]	2.1	2.2	5.9
White ^b	22.6*	7.1*	0.9*	2.0	4.2*	15.5*
Black/African American ^b	29.1*	13.7*	1.7*	4.3*	7.7*	15.4*
Hispanic/Latino	24.1*	9.7*	0.8	3.6*	5.3*	14.5*
American Indian/Alaska Native ^d	56.4*	19.2*	1.2 [^]	6.6 [^]	11.4*	37.2*

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.

[^]Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

^aIncludes rape/sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. Excludes simple assault.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

^cIncludes Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent.

Table 3. Violent victimization rate for Asians and non-Asians, by gender, age, and marital status, 2002-2006

Victim characteristic	Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older	
	Asian ^a	Non-Asian ^b
Total	10.6	24.1*
Gender		
Male	13.0	27.4*
Female	8.4	21.1*
Age		
12-15	15.4	50.5*
16-19	30.4	53.3*
20-24	16.3	48.2*
25-34	14.8	29.3*
35-49	7.2	19.9*
50-64	3.2 [^]	12.2*
65 or older	2.0 [^]	2.8
Marital Status		
Never married	19.0	43.2*
Married	5.8	11.2*
Widowed	1.5 [^]	5.2
Divorced or separated	16.9	38.3*

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.

[^]Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

^aIncludes Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Excludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

^bIncludes whites, blacks/African Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Hispanics/Latinos of any race, and persons identifying two or more races.

Among Asians the risk of violent crime did not vary by annual household income or by region from 2002 through 2006

While non-Asians living in lower income households were at a greater risk of violence than those living in higher income households, Asians were equally likely to be victims of violent crime regardless of their annual household income (table 4). In every U.S. region, Asians were less vulnerable to violent crime than non-Asians.

Most nonfatal violent crimes against Asians were committed by strangers

From 2002 through 2006, 77% of violent crimes against Asian males and about half of violent crimes against Asian females were committed by strangers. Among victims, Asian males and females were more likely to experience violence committed by a stranger than their non-Asian counterparts (table 5). Intimate partner violence (current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends, including same-sex relationships) accounted for about 13% of violent victimizations against Asian females, which was lower than the percentage found for non-Asian females.

Asians were as likely or less likely than other racial or ethnic groups to be violently victimized by an offender under the influence of alcohol or drugs

From 2002 through 2006, the percentage of Asian victims who faced an offender under the influence of alcohol or drugs was somewhat lower than the percentage of American Indian victims and similar to the percentage of other racial or ethnic groups. About 27% of nonfatal violence against Asians involved an offender perceived to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Race/Hispanic origin of victims who perceived offender to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs	Percent of violent crime, 2002-2006
Asian/Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander ^a	26.8%
White ^a	31.4
Black/African American ^a	24.9
Hispanic/Latino	27.3
American Indian/Alaska Native ^a	41.5*

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 90%-confidence level.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

Table 4. Violent victimization rate for Asians and non-Asians, by annual household income and region, 2002-2006

Victim characteristic	Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older	
	Asian ^a	Non-Asian ^b
Total	10.6	24.1*
Annual household income		
Less than \$7,500	14.7 [^]	50.3*
\$7,500 to \$14,999	8.6 [^]	36.3*
\$15,000 to \$24,999	14.1	29.9*
\$25,000 to \$34,999	14.8	28.4*
\$35,000 to \$49,999	9.0	24.3*
\$50,000 to \$74,999	12.9	23.2*
\$75,000 or more	10.1	17.7*
Region		
Northeast	7.7	20.4*
Midwest	9.6	25.9*
South	13.4	21.9*
West	11.1	29.3*

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.

[^]Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

^aIncludes Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Excludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

^bIncludes whites, blacks/African Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Hispanics/Latinos of any race, and persons identifying two or more races.

Table 5. Victim/offender relationships in violent crime, Asians and non-Asians, 2002-2006

Victim/offender relationship	Percent of violent victimizations			
	Asian ^a		Non-Asian ^b	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Intimate	1.1 [^]	13.3	3.0*	22.2*
Other relatives	0.7 [^]	6.0	3.6*	7.8
Well known/casual acquaintances	21.2	29.2	34.0*	36.3
Stranger	77.0	51.5	59.4*	33.8*

Note: Excludes data in which the victim/offender relationship was unknown. Detail may not add to 100% due to rounding.

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.

[^]Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

^aIncludes Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Excludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

^bIncludes whites, blacks/African Americans, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Hispanics/Latinos of any race, and persons identifying two or more races.

Among victims, Asians were as likely as blacks and Hispanics to face an offender with a firearm

From 2002 through 2006, about a third of violent crimes against Asian victims involved an offender with a weapon. Weapons included firearms, knives, and other objects used as a weapon. Asian victims were slightly more likely than whites and as likely as black and Hispanic victims to face an offender with a weapon. Asian victims faced an offender with a firearm in about 14% of violent crime against them, which was similar to the percentage for black or Hispanic victims and slightly higher than the percentage for white victims.

Race/Hispanic origin of the victim	Percent of violent crime, 2002-2006	
	Weapon	Firearm
Asian/Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander ^a	31.1%	13.6%
White ^a	21.4**	6.5**
Black/African American ^a	33.9	14.4
Hispanic/Latino	29.3	9.8
American Indian/Alaska Native ^a	22.5	1.4* [^]

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.
 **Estimate different than that for Asians at the 90%-confidence level.
[^]Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases.
^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

The risk of injury due to violent victimization did not differ between Asians and non-Asians

From 2002 through 2006, Asian victims sustained an injury in about 26% of all nonfatal violent crimes. About half of those victims were treated for their injuries.

Race/Hispanic origin of the victim	Percent of victims injured, 2002-2006	Percent of injured victims who received treatment, 2002-2006
Asian/Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander*	26.4%	52.5%
White*	27.5	40.7
Black/African American*	32.4	43.5
Hispanic/Latino	28.3	44.8
American Indian/Alaska Native*	32.1	58.8

*Excludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.

Violence against Asians was as likely to be reported to the police as violence against other racial or ethnic groups

About 49% of violent crimes committed against Asians from 2002 through 2006 were reported to the police, which was similar to the percentages reported for whites and Hispanics (table 6). Among Asians, robbery was more likely to be reported than simple assault and slightly more likely than aggravated assault. About 81% of robberies against Asians were reported, compared to 59% for whites and about 55% for Hispanics. Aggravated assault against Asians was less likely to be reported than aggravated assault against American Indians. Simple assault against Asians was somewhat less likely to be reported to the police than simple assault against American Indians.

While accounting for 4% of the U.S. population, Asians were about 2% of all homicide victims in 2006

Asians accounted for 340 of all homicide victims in 2006 according to the FBI's UCR.² The number of murdered Asian males and females increased between 2005 and 2006 (figure 3). Males accounted for about 74% of Asian homicide victims in 2006, compared to 73% of white homicide victims and 85% of black homicide victims. About 50% of all Asian homicide victims were age 30 or under, which is similar to the percentage of white victims (48%) and less than the percentage of black victims (62%). In single victim and single offender homicides, about 50% of Asian victims were murdered by someone of their race, compared to about 78% of white victims and 92% of black victims.

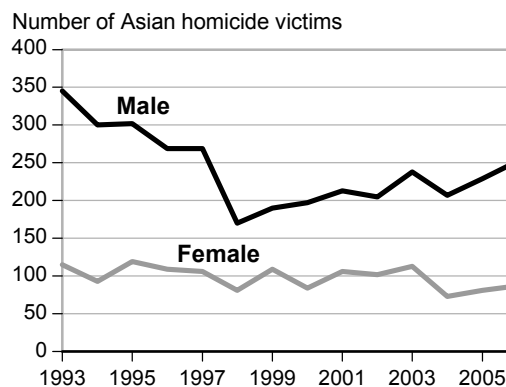
²For overall estimates of homicides, see *Homicide Trends in the United States* <www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/homicide/homtrnd.htm>.

Table 6. Percent of violent victimizations reported to police, by race/Hispanic origin of victim and type of crime, 2002-2006

Race/Hispanic origin of victim	Percent of violent victimizations				
	Total violent crime	Rape/sexual assault	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Simple assault
Asian ^{a,b}	49.2%	36.6%	81.2%	52.9%	36.8%
White ^a	48.1	44.6	59.4*	61.2	43.2
Black/African American ^a	54.5	31.3	62.4**	66.8	48.8
Hispanic/Latino	48.7	52.6	54.5*	59.6	43.2
American Indian/Alaska Native ^a	63.2	40.2 [^]	46.0 [^]	92.2*	58.1**

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.
 **Estimate different than that for Asians at the 90%-confidence level.
[^]Estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases.
^aExcludes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.
^bIncludes Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent.

Asian homicide victims, by gender, 1993-2006



Note: Includes Native Hawaiians, other Pacific Islanders, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Includes persons of Hispanic/Latino origin.
 Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2006.

Figure 3

Property victimization for Asian households dropped by about 68% from 1993 through 2005

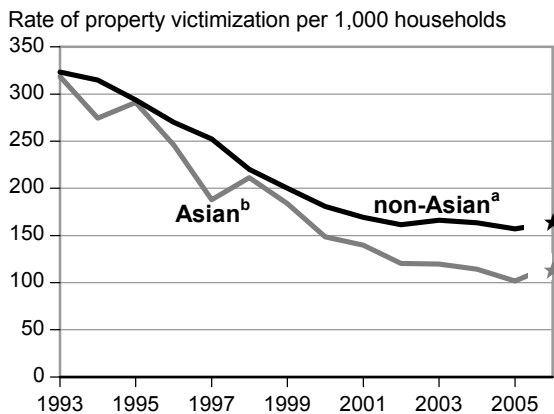
The rate of property crime for Asian households decreased from about 319 property crimes per 1,000 households in 1993 to about 102 per 1,000 households in 2005 (figure 4). During this period, the rate of property victimization for non-Asian households decreased 51%, from about 323 per 1,000 households in 1993 to 157 per 1,000 households in 2005.

Since 1993, a difference in the risk of property victimization of Asian and non-Asian households has emerged. Asian and non-Asian households were equally likely to experience property crime in 1993. In 2005, non-Asian households were more likely to experience property crime than Asian households.

Asians had the lowest risk of household burglary and theft among all racial or ethnic groups

From 2002 through 2006, the rate of household burglary and theft among Asian households was the lowest of all racial or ethnic groups (table 7). Asian households were slightly more vulnerable to motor vehicle theft than white households and less vulnerable than black or Hispanic households.

Property victimization for Asian and non-Asian households, 1993-2006



Note: Asterisks indicate estimates for 2006 which are a break in series from 2005. For details see *Criminal Victimization, 2006* at <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cv06.pdf>>.

^aIncludes households that identified the head of household as white, black/African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Hispanic/Latino of any race, or a person identifying two or more races.

^bIncludes households that identified the head of household as Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Excludes households that identified the head of household as Hispanic/Latino origin.

Figure 4

Asians had lower rates of household property crime than non-Asians in all regions and at most income levels

At almost all income levels, Asian households had lower rates of property victimization than non-Asian households (table 8). Among households with annual household incomes between \$15,000 and \$24,999, there was no statistically significant difference between Asian and non-Asian households in the rate of property victimization from 2002 through 2006. Among Asian households in the U.S., those located in the southern and western regions had the highest rates of property victimization. Asian households had a lower risk of property crime than non-Asian households in every U.S. region.

Table 7. Average annual rate of property victimization, by race/Hispanic origin of head of household and type of crime, 2002-2006

Race/Hispanic origin of head of household	Rate per 1,000 households			
	Total property crime	Household burglary	Motor vehicle theft	Theft
Asian ^{a,b}	115.3	15.8	9.2	90.3
White ^a	151.9*	27.3*	6.4**	118.2*
Black/African American ^a	177.0*	40.6*	15.3*	121.2*
Hispanic/Latino	209.3*	35.4*	16.8*	157.2*
American Indian/Alaska Native ^a	260.7*	67.3*	21.0*	172.4*

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.

**Estimate different than that for Asians at the 90%-confidence level.

^aExcludes households that identified the head of household as Hispanic/Latino origin.

^bIncludes households that identified the head of household as Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent.

Table 8. Rate of property victimization for Asian and non-Asian households, annual household income, and region, 2002-2006

Household characteristic	Rate per 1,000 households	
	Asian ^a	Non-Asian ^b
Total	115.3	162.3*
Annual household income		
Less than \$7,500	118.6	207.2*
\$7,500 to \$14,999	125.2	179.6*
\$15,000 to \$24,999	158.3	176.4
\$25,000 to \$34,999	101.1	175.6*
\$35,000 to \$49,999	129.8	173.8*
\$50,000 to \$74,999	107.8	166.2*
\$75,000 or more	124.3	174.0*
Region		
Northeast	90.4	113.8*
Midwest	93.5	164.1*
South	111.3	155.1*
West	132.1	217.1*

*Estimate different than that for Asians at the 95%-confidence level.

^aIncludes households that identified the head of household as Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Excludes households that identified the head of household as Hispanic/Latino origin.

^bIncludes households that identified the head of household as white, black/African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Hispanic/Latino of any race, or a person identifying two or more races.

Property crimes against Asian households were as likely as those against white, black, and Hispanic households to be reported to the police

From 2002 through 2006, almost 2 in 5 property crimes against Asian households were reported to the police (table 9). As with other racial or ethnic groups, motor vehicle theft had the highest percentage of reports to the police. About 90% of motor vehicle thefts against Asian households were reported.

Asian and black households had similar percentages of household burglaries reported to the police. The percentage of thefts against Asian households that was reported to the police was marginally higher than the percentage for American Indian households.

Table 9. Percent of property victimizations reported to the police, by race/Hispanic origin of head of household and type of crime, 2002-2006

Race/Hispanic origin of head of household	Percent of property victimizations			
	Total property crime	Household burglary	Motor vehicle theft	Theft
Asian ^{a,b}	38.5%	61.3%	90.4%	29.1%
White ^a	39.3	54.1	83.7	33.5
Black/African American ^a	42.8	59.2	82.2	32.4
Hispanic/Latino	36.8	51.2	80.8	28.8
American Indian/Alaska Native ^a	32.1	50.4	75.7	19.6*

^aEstimate different than that for Asians at the 90%-confidence level.
^aExcludes households that identified the head of household as Hispanic/Latino origin.
^bIncludes households that identified the head of household as Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander, and persons having origin in the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent.

Methodology

Data sources

This report presents data on violent and property crimes against non-Hispanic Asians, Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders age 12 or older and their households as measured by the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The terms “Asians” and “Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders” are used interchangeably. These crimes include rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, household burglary, motor vehicle theft, and theft.

The NCVS gathers data on crimes against persons age 12 or older and their households, reported and not reported to the police, from a nationally representative sample of U.S. households. The survey provides information about victims (age, gender, race, Hispanic origin, marital status, income, and educational level), offenders (gender, race, approximate age, and victim-offender relationship), and the nature of the crime (time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, and economic consequences).

Homicide data are from the Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR) to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR), which are collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

From 1993 through 2006, about 2.2 million individuals age 12 or older were interviewed for the NCVS. For the overall population and for the years measured, response rates varied between 84% and 93% of eligible individuals. About 135,000 persons were interviewed for the NCVS in 2006. Of those interviewed, about 320 persons were non-Hispanic Asians or non-Hispanic Pacific Islanders.

Classification by race and Hispanic origin

Because the racial categories were changed in 2003, caution is warranted when examining race over time. Since 2003, two questions on the NCVS obtain information on the respondent’s race and Hispanic origin: (1) whether the respondent is of Hispanic origin, and (2) which race or races they identify with. Respondents may choose white, black/African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander, and other race. Respondents who select other race are asked to specify their race. More than one race may be selected.

Prior to 2003, respondents were asked to identify the racial group they identified with, including white, black, American Indian/Aleut/Eskimo, Asian/Pacific Islander, or other race. Respondents who selected other race were not able to specify a race for the NCVS. They were also not able to select more than one racial group. After respondents were asked the question on race, they were asked if they were of Hispanic origin.

For nonfatal violent crime and property crime discussed in this report, the Asian/Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander category refers to non-Hispanics persons who either chose the Asian/Pacific Islander category prior to 2003 or who chose the Asian or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander category since 2003. Whites refer to non-Hispanic persons who selected the white category. Black and black/African American refer to non-Hispanic persons who chose the black category prior to 2003 and the black/African American category thereafter. Hispanic and Hispanic/Latino categories refer to persons of any race who identified as being of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. American Indians and American Indian/Alaska Natives refer to non-Hispanic persons who selected either the American Indian/Aleut/Eskimo category prior to 2003 or the American Indian/Alaska Native category since 2003.

Respondents who reported more than one race were included in all references to non-Asians but were excluded in the breakdown of race and ethnic origin. Persons who reported more than one race made up about 1% of the U.S. population in 2006.

Asian, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islander households are those for which the head of household reported these categories.



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In this report for homicide data from the Supplementary Homicide Reports, all racial categories include both Hispanic and non-Hispanic persons.

Standard error computations

Comparisons of percentages and rates made in this report were tested to determine if observed differences were statistically significant. Differences described as higher, lower, or different passed a hypothesis test at the 0.05 level of statistical significance (95%-confidence level). The tested difference was greater than twice the standard error of that difference. For comparisons that were statistically significant at the 0.10 level (90%-confidence level), “some-what,” “slightly,” or “marginally” is used to note the difference.

Significance testing calculations were conducted at the Bureau of Justice Statistics using statistical programs developed specifically for the NCVS by the U.S. Census Bureau. These programs take into consideration many aspects of the complex NCVS sample design when calculating estimates.

Estimates based on 10 or fewer sample cases have high relative standard errors. Care should be taken when comparing such estimates to other estimates when both are based on 10 or fewer sample cases.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Michael D. Sinclair is acting director.

This Special Report was written by Erika Harrell, Ph.D., under the supervision of Michael R. Rand. Cathy Maston and Patsy Klaus verified the report. Georgette Walsh and Jill Duncan edited the report, and Jayne E. Robinson and Tina Dorsey produced the report and prepared the report for final printing.

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This report in portable document format and in ASCII and its related statistical data and tables are available at the BJS World Wide Web Internet site: <<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/anhpivc.htm>>.

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