



Female Victims of Sexual Violence, 1994-2010

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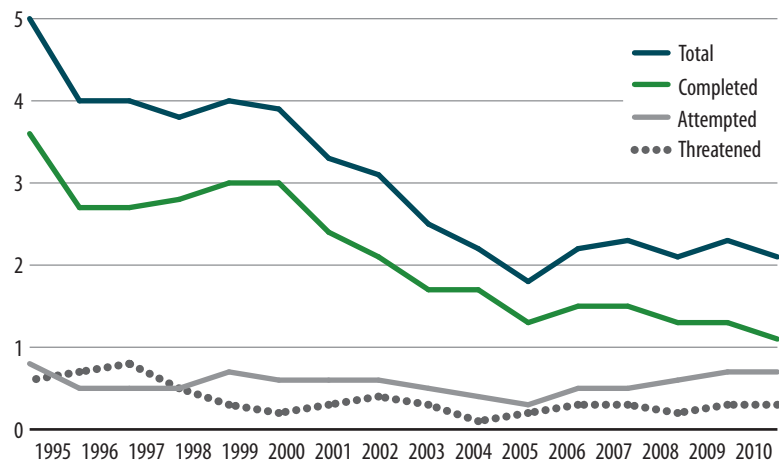
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From 1995 to 2005, the total rate of sexual violence committed against U.S. female residents age 12 or older declined 64% from a peak of 5.0 per 1,000 females in 1995 to 1.8 per 1,000 females in 2005 (figure 1, appendix table 1). It then remained unchanged from 2005 to 2010. Sexual violence against females includes completed, attempted, or threatened rape or sexual assault. In 2010, females nationwide experienced about 270,000 rape or sexual assault victimizations, compared to about 556,000 in 1995.

Completed rape or sexual assault accounted for more than 50% of the total rape or sexual violent victimizations in 2010. Between 1995 and 2010, the rate of completed rape or sexual assault declined from 3.6 per 1,000 females to 1.1 per 1,000. Over the same period, the rates of attempted rape or sexual assault and victimizations involving the threat of rape remained relatively stable.

FIGURE 1
Rape and sexual assault victimization rates among females, 1995–2010

Rate per 1,000 females age 12 or older



Note: Estimates based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010

HIGHLIGHTS

- From 1995 to 2010, the estimated annual rate of female rape or sexual assault victimizations declined 58%, from 5.0 victimizations per 1,000 females age 12 or older to 2.1 per 1,000.
- In 2005-10, females who were age 34 or younger, who lived in lower income households, and who lived in rural areas experienced some of the highest rates of sexual violence.
- In 2005-10, 78% of sexual violence involved an offender who was a family member, intimate partner, friend, or acquaintance.
- In 2005-10, the offender was armed with a gun, knife, or other weapon in 11% of rape or sexual assault victimizations.
- The percentage of rape or sexual assault victimizations reported to police increased to a high of 59% in 2003 before declining to 32% in 2009 and 2010.
- The percentage of females who were injured during a rape or sexual assault and received some type of treatment for their injuries increased from 26% in 1994-98 to 35% in 2005-10.
- In 2005-10, about 80% of female rape or sexual assault victims treated for injuries received care in a hospital, doctor's office, or emergency room, compared to 65% in 1994-98.
- In 2005-10, about 1 in 4 (23%) rape or sexual assault victims received help or advice from a victim service agency.

The data in this report were drawn from the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The NCVS collects information on nonfatal crimes reported and not reported to the police from a nationally representative sample of persons age 12 or older who live in U.S. households. Persons are interviewed every 6 months over 3 years with the first interview conducted in person and follow-up interviews conducted either in person or by phone.

The NCVS produces national rates and levels of violent and property victimization, as well as information on the characteristics of crimes and victims and the consequences of victimization. Because the NCVS collects information from victims, it does not measure homicide.

Unless noted, this report presents estimates for the aggregate of rape or sexual assault victimizations. The term sexual violence is used throughout to refer to rape or sexual assault victimizations, including attempts and threats. Victimization is the basic unit of analysis used throughout the report, and the number of victimizations is equal to the number of victims present during a criminal incident.

Trend estimates are based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. For example, estimates reported for 2010 represent the average estimates for 2009 and 2010. For other tables in this report, the focus is on aggregate data from 1994 through 1998, 1999 through 2004, and 2005 through 2010. These methods of analysis improves the reliability and stability of comparisons over time and between subgroups. For additional estimates not included in this report, see the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool (NVAT) on the BJS website.

Measuring sexual violence using the NCVS

This report focuses on sexual violence that includes completed, attempted, and threatened rape or sexual assault. NCVS survey respondents are asked to respond to a series of questions about the nature and characteristics of their victimization. The NCVS classifies victimizations as rape or sexual assault even if other crimes, such as robbery or assault occur at the same time. The NCVS then uses the following rape and sexual assault definitions:

Rape is the unlawful penetration of a person against the will of the victim, with use or threatened use of force, or attempting such an act. Rape includes psychological coercion and physical force, and forced sexual intercourse means vaginal, anal, or oral penetration by the offender. Rape also includes incidents where penetration is from a foreign object (e.g., a bottle), victimizations against male and female victims, and both heterosexual and homosexual rape. Attempted rape includes verbal threats of rape.

Sexual assault is defined across a wide range of victimizations, separate from rape or attempted rape. These crimes include attacks or attempted attacks generally involving unwanted sexual contact between a victim and offender. Sexual assault may or may not involve force and includes grabbing or fondling. Sexual assault also includes verbal threats.

The measurement of rape and sexual assault presents many challenges. Victims may not be willing to reveal or share their experiences with an interviewer. The level and type of sexual violence reported by victims is sensitive to how items are worded, definitions used, data collection mode, and a variety of other factors related to the interview process. In addition, the legal definitions of rape and sexual assault vary across jurisdictions. The NCVS presents one approach to measuring and enumerating these incidents as well as other forms of violence and property crime. (For more information about the technical aspects of the NCVS, see *Methodology*.)

In 2005-10, females who were age 34 or younger, who lived in lower income households, and who lived in rural areas had some of the highest rates of sexual violence

The rate of sexual violence against females declined with age. In 2005-10, sexual violence was committed against females ages 12 to 34 at a rate of about 4 victimizations per 1,000, compared to a rate of 1.5 victimization per 1,000 for females ages 35 to 64 and 0.2 per 1,000 for age 65 or older (table 1). This pattern was consistent across all three aggregate time periods. Over time, the rate of sexual violence declined for both the 12-to-17 and 18-to-24 age groups. Females ages 12 to 17 had the largest decline, from 11.3 per 1,000 in 1994-98 to 4.1 in 2005-10.

For all racial and ethnic groups, the rate of sexual violence was lower in 2005-10 than it was in 1994-98. Within each time period, few differences existed in the rates of sexual violence across racial and ethnic groups. Non-Hispanic white females and black and Hispanic females had a similar rate of sexual violence over time. However, Hispanic females had lower rates of sexual violence than black females in 1999-04 and in 2005-10. Although American Indians and Alaska Natives appeared to experience rape or sexual assault victimization at rates higher than other racial and ethnic groups, these rates were based on small sample sizes and are not reliable.

Across all three time periods between 1994 and 2010, females who had never been married or who were divorced or separated at the time of the interview had higher rates of rape or sexual assault victimization than females who were married or widowed.¹ From 1994 to 2010, females who had never been married, those who were divorced or separated, and those who were married experienced about a 50% decline in the rate of sexual violence.

¹The NCVS collects information on respondent's marital status at the time of the interview, but it does not obtain marital status at the time of the incident or whether a change in marital status occurred after the incident.

TABLE 1
Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by victim characteristics, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Victim characteristic	Rate per 1,000 females age 12 or older		
	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	4.2	3.1	2.1
Age			
12–17	11.3	7.6	4.1
18–34	7.0	5.3	3.7
35–64	2.3	1.8	1.5
65 or older	0.1!	0.2!	0.2!
Race/Hispanic origin			
White ^a	4.3	3.1	2.2
Black ^a	4.2	4.1	2.8
Hispanic/Latina	4.3	1.8	1.4
American Indian/Alaska Native ^a	6.4!	4.8!	4.5!
Asian/Pacific Islander ^a	2.5	1.2	0.7!
Two or more races ^a	~	6.6!	5.1!
Marital status ^b			
Never married	8.6	6.6	4.1
Married	1.3	0.7	0.6
Widowed	0.8	0.2!	0.8
Divorced or separated	9.0	6.3	4.4
Household income			
Less than \$25,000	6.1	5.6	3.5
\$25,000–\$49,999	3.3	2.7	1.9
\$50,000 or more	2.9	2.0	1.8
Unknown	3.5	2.1	1.8
Location of residence			
Urban	5.1	4.0	2.2
Suburban	3.9	2.7	1.8
Rural	3.9	2.5	3.0

Note: See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

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

~Not applicable.

^aExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

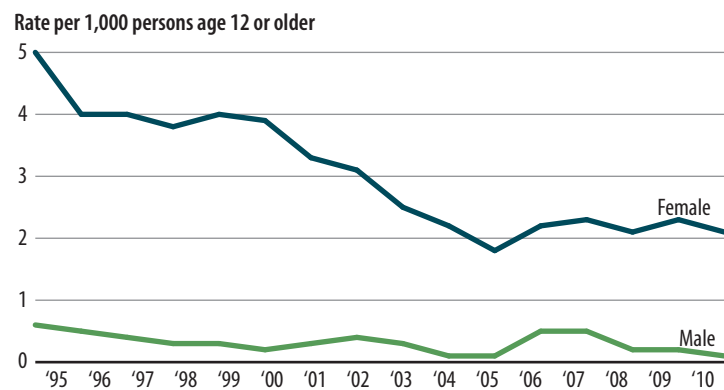
^bThe NCVS collects information on respondent's marital status at the time of the interview, but it does not obtain marital status at the time of the incident or whether a change in marital status occurred after the incident.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

Males had lower rates of rape or sexual assault than females from 1995 to 2010

From 1995 to 2010, approximately 9% of all rape or sexual assault victimizations recorded in the NCVS involved male victims (figure 2). In 2010, the male rate of rape or sexual assault was 0.1 per 1,000 males compared to a rate of 2.1 per 1,000 for females (appendix table 3). Due to the relatively small number of sample cases, coupled with a low rate of victimization, estimates of male sexual violence from the NCVS cannot be used reliably for further disaggregation by victim and incident characteristics. Therefore, this report focuses exclusively on females.

FIGURE 2
Rape and sexual assault victimizations, by sex of victim, 1995–2010



Note: Estimates based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

Consistently across all three time periods, females living in households in the lowest income bracket (less than \$25,000 annually) experienced rape or sexual assault victimization at higher rates than females in higher income brackets. In 2005-10, females in households earning less than \$25,000 per year experienced 3.5 rape or sexual assault victimizations per 1,000 females, compared to 1.9 per 1,000 in households earning between \$25,000 and \$49,999 and 1.8 per 1,000 in households earning \$50,000 or more.

In 1994-98, the rate of rape or sexual assault victimization for females living in urban areas (5.1 per 1,000) was higher than the rate for females in suburban (3.9 per 1,000) and rural (3.9 per 1,000) areas. In 2005-10 this pattern reversed, and the rate of sexual violence for females in rural areas (3.0 per 1,000) was higher than the rate of sexual violence for females in urban (2.2 per 1,000) and suburban (1.8 per 1,000) areas.

The percentage of rape or sexual assault victimizations that occurred at or near the victim's home increased over time

In 2005-10, about 55% of rape or sexual assault victimizations occurred at or near the victim's home, and another 12% occurred at or near the home of a friend, relative, or acquaintance (table 2). The percentage of sexual violence that occurred at or near the home of the victim increased from 49% in 1994-98 to 55% in 2005-10. In comparison, the percentage of sexual violence that occurred

at or near the home of a friend or in a commercial place or parking lot declined between 1994-98 and 2005-10. The number of rape or sexual assault victimizations occurring at or near the victim's home declined at a slower rate over time compared to the number of victimizations that occurred outside the home (not shown in table).

Over all three periods, between 41% and 48% of victims of sexual violence were undertaking activities at or around their homes at the time of the incident. In 2005-10, 12% of rape or sexual assault victimizations against females occurred while the victim was working, and 7% occurred while the victim was attending school. Another 29% of sexual violence occurred while the victim went to or from work or school, was out shopping, or was engaged in leisure activities away from the home.

About 3 in 4 victims of sexual violence knew the offender

About 90% of rape or sexual assault victimizations involved one offender, a percentage that was stable across the three periods (table 3). In 2005-10, most rape or sexual assault victims (78%) knew the offender. About 34% of all rape or sexual assault victimizations were committed by an intimate partner (former or current spouse, girlfriend, or boyfriend), 6% by a relative or family member, and 38% by a friend or acquaintance. Strangers committed about 22% of sexual violence, a percentage that was also unchanged from 1994 to 2010.

TABLE 2
Activity and location of female victims when rape or sexual assault victimization occurred, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Location and activity	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Location where crime occurred	100%	100%	100%
At or near victim's home	49	42	55
At or near home of friend/relative/acquaintance	17	18	12
Commercial place/parking lot or garage	16	15	10
School	5	12	8
Open areas/public transportation/other*	14	14	15
Activity when crime occurred	100%	100%	100%
Working	12	9	12
Attending school	4	9	7
Sleeping/other activities at home	46	41	48
Traveling to or from work, school, other place/shopping or errands/leisure activity away from home	30	35	29
Other/unknown	8	6	5

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

*Includes locations such as an apartment yard; a park, field, or playground not on school property; a location on the street other than that immediately adjacent to home of the victim, a relative, or a friend; on public transportation; in a station or depot for bus or train; on a plane; or in an airport.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

TABLE 3
Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by number of offenders and victim-offender relationship, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Offender characteristic	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Number of offenders	100%	100%	100%
One	93	91	90
Two or more	7	9	10
Victim-offender relationship ^a	100%	100%	100%
Stranger	21	25	22
Nonstranger	79	75	78
Intimate partner ^b	28	30	34
Relative	9	3	6
Well-known/casual acquaintance	42	42	38

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

^aDoes not include a small percentage of victimizations in which the victim-offender relationship was unknown.

^bIncludes former or current spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

In 2005-10, about half of rape or sexual assault victimizations were committed by an offender age 30 or older (table 4). Fifteen percent of offenders were age 17 or younger and 34% were ages 18 to 29. These percentages were stable across the three periods from 1994 to 2010.

Across all three periods, white males committed the majority of sexual violence.² Over time, the percentage of sexual violence committed by white offenders declined from 70% in 1994-98 to 57% in 2005-10. The percentage of black offenders increased from 18% in 1994-98 to 27% in 2005-10. White males consistently accounted for more than 82% of the total U.S. male population and black males accounted for 11%. The NCVS did not collect information on the ethnicity of the offender. Therefore, Hispanic offenders make up an unknown portion of the white, black, and other race of offender categories.

Consistent across all three periods, about 40% of victims believed the offender had been drinking or using drugs prior to the victimization. In 2005-10, in 30% of the victimizations the victim did not believe the offender had been drinking or using drugs, and in 30% the victim did not know whether there had been substance use.

About 1 in 10 rape or sexual assault victimizations involved a weapon

Across all three periods, the offender in the majority of rape or sexual assault victimizations did not have a weapon (table 5). In 2005-10, victims reported that the offender possessed or used a weapon in 11% of all sexual violence. The victim reported that the offender had a firearm in 6% of victimizations and a knife in 4%. The percentage of offenders armed with a weapon increased from 6% in 1994-98 to 11% in the two later periods. The NCVS does not ask victims if they were incapacitated in some manner, such as being drugged or intoxicated.

²Males committed about 95% of all sexual violence against females.

TABLE 4

Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by perceived offender characteristics, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Offender characteristics	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Age	100%	100%	100%
17 or younger	12	14	15
18–20	9	11	9
21–29	24	28	25
30 or older	51	43	48
Other ^a	3	2	2
Race ^b	100%	100%	100%
White	70	60	57
Black	18	26	27
Other	8	10	6
Mixed group	1	1!	1!
Unknown	2	3	8
Alcohol/drug use at time of incident	100%	100%	100%
Yes	40	37	39
No	38	31	30
Unknown	22	32	30

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

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

^aIncludes multiple offenders of varying ages and offenders of unknown age.

^bThe NCVS did not collect information on the ethnicity of the offender. Therefore, Hispanic offenders make up some portion of the white, black, and other race of offender categories.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

TABLE 5

Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by offender weapon possession, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Weapon present	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	100%	100%	100%
No weapon	88%	83%	83%
Weapon	6%	11%	11%
Firearm	3	2	6
Knife	2	5	4
Other/unknown type	1!	4!	1!
Don't know	5%	6%	6%

Note: See appendix table 9 for standard errors.

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

The percentage of female victims of sexual violence who received medical treatment increased between 1994-98 and 2005-10

In 2005-10, 58% of female victims of sexual violence suffered a physical injury during the victimization, such as cuts, bruises, internal injuries, broken bones, gunshot wounds, or rape injuries (table 6). Of the females who suffered an injury in 2005-10, 35% said that they received some type of treatment for their injuries, an increase from 26% in 1994-98. About 80% of victims who received treatment for their injuries in 2005-10 received this care in a hospital, doctor's office, or emergency room. The other 20% were treated at the scene, in their home, at a neighbor or friend's house, or in some other location. In comparison, in 1994-98, 65% of treated victims received care in a hospital, doctor's office, or emergency room, while 35% received first aid or treatment at the scene, at home, at a neighbor or friend's house, or in some other location.

In 2005-10, about 1 in 4 victims of sexual violence received help or advice from a private or public victim service agency (table 7). This percentage remained stable over the three periods.

TABLE 6
Injured female victims of rape and sexual assault who received treatment, 1994-1998, 1999-2004, and 2005-2010

Injury	1994-1998	1999-2004	2005-2010
No injury	47%	46%	42%
Injury	53	54	58
Treatment for injury ^a	100%	100%	100%
No treatment	74	59	65
Any treatment	26	41	35
Treatment setting ^b	100%	100%	100%
At scene or home of victim/ neighbor/friend	33	35	19
In doctor's office/hospital emergency room/overnight hospital	65	62	80
In other location/unknown	2!	3!	1!

Note: See appendix table 10 for standard errors.
 ! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.
^aIncludes only victims who were injured.
^bIncludes only victims who were injured and received treatment.
 Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994-2010.

The percentage of sexual violence reported to police increased to a high of 59% in 2003 before dropping to 32% in 2009 and 2010

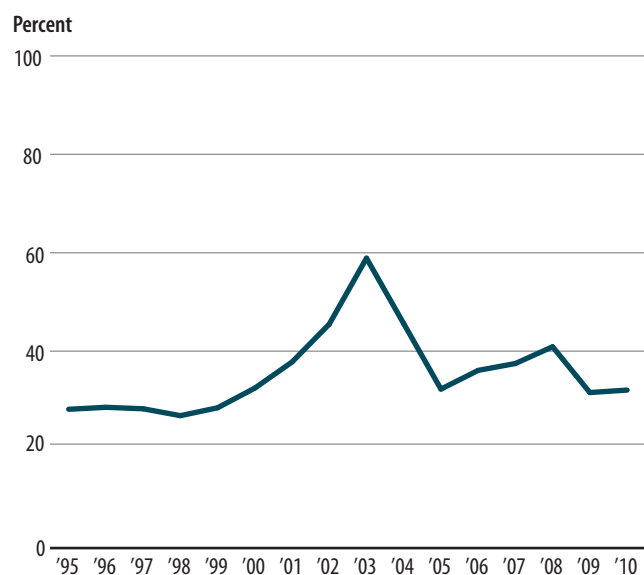
In 1995, 28% of rape or sexual assault victimizations against females were reported to police (figure 3). This percentage increased to 59% in 2003 before declining to 32% in 2009 and 2010.

TABLE 7
Female victims of rape and sexual assault who received assistance from a victim service agency, 1994-1998, 1999-2004, and 2005-2010

	1994-1998	1999-2004	2005-2010
Total	100%	100%	100%
Received assistance	24%	28%	23%
Did not receive assistance	76	72	77

Note: Victim service agencies include publicly or privately funded organizations that provide victims with support and services to aid their recovery, offer protection, guide them through the criminal justice system process, and assist with obtaining restitution. See appendix table 11 for standard errors.
 Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994-2010.

FIGURE 3
Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females reported to police, 1995-2010



Note: Estimates based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 12 for standard errors.
 Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994-2010.

Of the 36% of rape or sexual assault victimizations reported to police in 2005-10, about 64% were reported directly by the victims, an increase from 50% in 1994-98 (table 8). The percentage of victimizations known to police because they were reported by another household member declined from 26% in 1994-98 to 10% in 2005-10, while the percentage reported by an official other than the police increased from 4% to 14%.

Of the rape or sexual assault victimizations that were reported to police in 2005-10, 28% were reported in an attempt to protect the victim from future victimizations, and 25% were reported to try to stop or prevent escalation of the victimization as it was occurring (table 9). Among rape or sexual assault victimizations that went unreported, the most common reason victims gave for not reporting the crime during 2005-10 was fear of reprisal (20%). The percentage of victimizations that went unreported because the victim considered the incident a personal matter declined from 23% in 1994-98 to 13% in 2005-10.

TABLE 8
Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females reported and not reported to police, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Reporting to police	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	100%	100%	100%
Not reported	71%	59%	64%
Reported	29%	41%	36%
Source of report	100	100	100
Victim	50	57	64
Other household member	26	14	10
An official other than police	4	10	14
Someone else	11	10	10
Police were at crime scene	1!	4!	1!
Other	7	5!	1!

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. See appendix table 13 for standard errors.

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

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

TABLE 9
Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females reported and not reported to police, by most important reason for reporting or not reporting, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	100%	100%	100%
Reported	29%	41%	36%
Reason reported	100%	100%	100%
To stop incident or prevent recurrence or escalation	17	15	25
To get help or recover loss	2!	2!	3!
To protect respondent and household from further crimes by the offender	18	18	28
To catch/punish/prevent offender from reoffending	14	20	17
To improve police surveillance/duty to tell police/because it was a crime	27	22	21
Other/unknown/not one most important reason	21	22	6!
Not reported	71%	59%	64%
Reason not reported	100%	100%	100%
Reported to different official	10	10	8
Personal matter	23	19	13
Not important enough to respondent	7	7	8
Police could not do anything to help	2	2!	2!
Police would not do anything to help	6	8	13
Did not want to get offender in trouble with law	5	4	7
Advised not to report	1!	--!	--!
Fear of reprisal	17	16	20
Other/unknown/not one most important reason	29	34	30

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. Reason for reporting or not reporting represents the reason the victim stated was most important. See appendix table 14 for standard errors.

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

--Less than 0.5%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

A lower percentage of sexual violence reported to police resulted in arrests in 2005-10 (31%) than in 1994-98 (47%)

The police may take a variety of actions in response to reported rape or sexual assault victimizations. During 2005-10, about 84% of victims stated that police came to the victim after being called, up from 75% during 1994-98 (table 10). About 1 in 10 victims who reported went directly to the police to report the incident, a percentage that has remained stable over time (not shown in table).

Across all three periods, when police responded after being notified, the most common police activity was to take a report from the victim, followed by questioning witnesses or conducting a search for the offender (table 11). In 2005-10, police took the victim's report in 86% of victimizations reported to police, and the police questioned witnesses or conducted a search in 48% of cases. During the same period, about 19% of victims reported that the police collected evidence, up from 8% in 1994-98.

The percentage of reported rape or sexual assault victimizations against females that resulted in an arrest either at the scene or during a follow-up investigation decreased, from 47% in 1994-98 to 31% in 2005-10 (not shown in table). Out of the 283,200 annual average rape or sexual assault victimizations in 2005-10 both reported and not reported to the police, approximately 12% resulted in an arrest at the scene or during a follow-up investigation.

TABLE 10
Rape or sexual assault victimizations against females with police response, by type of response, 1994-1998, 1999-2004, and 2005-2010

	1994-1998	1999-2004	2005-2010
Total	100%	100%	100%
Not reported	71%	59%	64%
Reported	29%	41%	36%
Police came when notified*	100%	100%	100%
Yes	75	84	84
No	19	13	14
Unknown/other	6!	4!	2!

Note: See appendix table 15 for standard errors.

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

*Excludes about 10% of victimizations in which the victim went directly to police and between 1% and 4% in which the police were already on the scene or learned about the victimization in some other way.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994-2010.

TABLE 11
Initial police response to rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, 1994-1998, 1999-2004, and 2005-2010

Initial police response	1994-1998	1999-2004	2005-2010
Made arrest at scene	20%	12%	19%
Promised to investigate and/or promised surveillance	20	38	13
Questioned witnesses and/or searched	44	47	48
Took evidence	8	10	19
Took report	82	72	86
Other	21	17	19

Note: Includes reported rape or sexual assault victimizations to which police responded or the victim went to the police. See appendix table 16 for standard errors. Each period, a small percentage (between 0.5% and 5.1%) of victims stated that they did not know if police performed any activity during the initial response. An additional 2.7% to 4.2% of victims did not provide a valid response regarding the initial police response.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994-2010.

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 prior 6 months. The NCVS collects information on nonfatal personal crimes (rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated and 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 criminal victimization incidents. Survey respondents provide information about themselves (such as age, sex, race and ethnicity, marital status, education level, and income) and whether they experienced victimization. The survey collects information for each victimization incident, including data about the offender (such as age, race and ethnicity, sex, and victim-offender relationship), characteristics of the crime (including time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, and economic consequences), whether the crime was reported to police, reasons why the crime was or was not reported, and experiences with the criminal justice system.

Trained interviewers administer the NCVS 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 members who all reside at a sampled address that is their usual place of residence at the time of the interview and when they have no other usual place of residence. Once selected, households remain in the sample for 3 years, and eligible persons in the households are interviewed every 6 months for a total of seven interviews. 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. Persons living in military barracks and institutional settings, such as correctional or hospital facilities, and the homeless are excluded from the sample. (For more detail, see the Survey Methodology in *Criminal Victimization in the United States, 2008*, NCJ 231173, BJS website, May 2011.)

In 2010, about 81,950 households and 146,570 individuals age 12 or older were interviewed for the NCVS. The response rate was 92.3% of households and 87.5% of eligible individuals. Victimization that occurred outside of the United States were excluded from this report.

Weighting adjustments for estimating household victimization

Estimates in this report use data from the 1994 to 2010 NCVS data files. These files can be 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 total U.S. household population. Both household and person weights, after proper adjustment, are also typically used to form the denominator in calculations of crime rates.

Victimization weights used in this analysis account for the number of persons present during an incident and for repeat victims of series incidents. The weight counts series incidents as the actual number of incidents reported by the victim, up to a maximum of 10 incidents. 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. In 2010, about 3% of all victimizations were series incidents. Weighting series incidents as the number of incidents up to a maximum of 10 incidents produces more reliable estimates of crime levels, while the cap at 10 minimizes the effect of extreme outliers on the rates. Additional information on the series enumeration is detailed in the report *Methods for Counting High Frequency Repeat Victimization in the National Crime Victimization Survey*, NCJ 237308, BJS website, April 2012.

Trend estimates are based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year or three 6-year periods. For example, estimates reported for 2010 represent the average estimates for 2009 and 2010. For other tables in this report, aggregate data for the time from 1994 through 1998, 1999 through 2004, and 2005 through 2010 are the focus. These methods of analysis improves the reliability and stability of estimate comparisons over time.

Standard error computations

When national estimates are derived from a sample, as is the case with the NCVS, caution must be taken 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, the size of the sample, and the size of the subgroup for which the estimate is computed. When the sampling error around the estimates is taken into consideration, the estimates that appear different may not actually 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. In general, for a given metric, an estimate with a smaller standard error provides a more reliable approximation of the true value than an estimate with a larger standard error. Estimates with relatively large standard errors are associated with less precision and reliability and should be interpreted with caution.

In order to generate standard errors around numbers and estimates from the NCVS, the Census Bureau produces generalized variance function (GVF) parameters for BJS. The GVFs take into account aspects of the NCVS 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 (such as counts, percentages, and rates) in the report.

BJS conducted tests to determine whether differences in estimated numbers and percentages in this report were statistically significant once 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 used was Student's t-statistic, which tests the difference between two sample estimates. To ensure that the observed differences between estimates were larger than might be expected due to sampling variation, the significance level was set at the 95% confidence level.

Data users can use the estimates and the standard errors of the estimates provided in this report to generate a confidence interval around each 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, from 2005 to 2010, 36.4% of rape or sexual assault victimizations were reported to the police (see table 8). Using the GVFs, BJS determined that the estimate has a standard error of 2.7% (see appendix table 14). 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 confidence interval around the 36.4% estimate is equal to $36.4\% \pm 2.7\% \times 1.96$ (or 31.1% to 41.7%). In other words, if different samples using the same procedures were taken from the U.S. population during the period from 2005 to 2010, 95% of the time the percentage of rape or sexual assault victimizations that were reported to police would fall between 31.1% and 41.7%.

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 where 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 is based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or the coefficient of variation exceeds 50%).

Many of the variables examined in this report may be related to one another and to other variables not included in the analyses. Complex relationships among variables in this report were not fully explored and warrant more extensive analysis. Readers are cautioned not to draw causal inferences based on the results presented.

Methodological changes to the NCVS in 2006

Methodological changes implemented in 2006 may have affected the crime estimates for that year to such an extent that they are not comparable to estimates from other years. Evaluation of 2007 and later data from the NCVS conducted by BJS and the Census Bureau found a high degree of confidence that estimates for 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010 are consistent with and comparable to estimates for 2005 and previous years. The reports, *Criminal Victimization, 2006*, NCJ 219413, December 2007; *Criminal Victimization, 2007*, NCJ 224390, December 2008; *Criminal Victimization, 2008*, NCJ 227777, September 2009; *Criminal Victimization, 2009*, NCJ 231327, October 2010; and *Criminal Victimization, 2010*, NCJ 235508, September 2011, are available on the BJS website. Although caution is warranted when comparing data from 2006 to other years, the aggregation of multiple years of data in this report diminishes the potential variation between 2006 and other years. In general, findings do not change significantly if the year 2006 is excluded from the analyses.

APPENDIX TABLE 1

Female rape and sexual assault victimization rates, 1995–2010

Year	Total		Completed		Attempted		Threatened	
	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*
1995	555,600	5.0	402,000	3.6	83,900	0.8	69,800	0.6
1996	443,300	4.0	304,300	2.7	56,400	0.5	82,600	0.7
1997	450,100	4.0	301,400	2.7	55,200	0.5	93,500	0.8
1998	436,400	3.8	322,100	2.8	62,600	0.5	51,700	0.5
1999	458,900	4.0	346,000	3.0	82,300	0.7	30,600	0.3
2000	452,100	3.9	352,200	3.0	71,300	0.6	28,600	0.2
2001	390,700	3.3	286,400	2.4	67,400	0.6	36,800	0.3
2002	366,200	3.1	244,100	2.1	70,700	0.6	51,400	0.4
2003	304,300	2.5	212,200	1.7	57,900	0.5	34,200	0.3
2004	277,600	2.2	204,500	1.7	55,000	0.4	18,000	0.1
2005	221,100	1.8	158,700	1.3	42,900	0.3	19,500	0.2
2006	276,300	2.2	183,500	1.5	60,200	0.5	32,600	0.3
2007	298,400	2.3	194,200	1.5	68,500	0.5	35,700	0.3
2008	273,500	2.1	168,500	1.3	76,200	0.6	28,900	0.2
2009	297,900	2.3	168,800	1.3	86,300	0.7	42,900	0.3
2010	269,700	2.1	143,300	1.1	89,300	0.7	37,000	0.3

Note: Estimates based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 2 for standard errors.

*Per 1,000 females age 12 or older.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 2

Standard errors for figure 1 and appendix table 1: Female rape and sexual assault victimization rates, 1995–2010

Year	Total		Completed		Attempted		Threatened	
	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*
1995	43,100	0.3	35,800	0.2	15,200	0.1	13,800	0.1
1996	38,300	0.3	31,000	0.2	12,400	0.1	15,200	0.1
1997	41,000	0.3	32,800	0.2	13,100	0.1	17,300	0.1
1998	43,000	0.3	36,100	0.2	14,600	0.1	13,200	0.1
1999	42,600	0.3	36,100	0.2	16,100	0.1	9,400	0.1
2000	40,600	0.3	35,200	0.2	14,500	0.1	8,900	0.1
2001	40,400	0.3	33,800	0.2	15,200	0.1	11,000	0.1
2002	38,500	0.2	30,600	0.2	15,500	0.1	13,000	0.1
2003	32,700	0.2	26,700	0.2	13,200	0.1	10,000	0.1
2004	33,600	0.2	28,400	0.2	14,000	0.1	7,800	--
2005	34,500	0.2	28,800	0.2	14,400	0.1	9,600	0.1
2006	37,000	0.2	29,600	0.2	16,300	0.1	11,800	0.1
2007	40,800	0.2	32,200	0.2	18,300	0.1	12,900	0.1
2008	37,200	0.2	28,400	0.2	18,500	0.1	11,100	0.1
2009	38,900	0.2	28,500	0.2	19,800	0.1	13,700	0.1
2010	37,000	0.2	26,000	0.1	20,100	0.1	12,500	0.1

*Per 1,000 females age 12 or older.

--Less than 0.05.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 3

Rape and sexual assault victimization rates, by sex of victim, 1995–2010

Year	All persons		Female		Male	
	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*
1995	618,800	2.9	555,600	5.0	63,100	0.6
1996	500,200	2.3	443,300	4.0	56,900	0.5
1997	495,400	2.3	450,100	4.0	45,200	0.4
1998	472,300	2.1	436,400	3.8	35,900	0.3
1999	491,300	2.2	458,900	4.0	32,400	0.3
2000	479,100	2.1	452,100	3.9	27,100	0.2
2001	421,700	1.8	390,700	3.3	31,000	0.3
2002	413,200	1.8	366,200	3.1	47,000	0.4
2003	337,600	1.4	304,300	2.5	33,300	0.3
2004	290,500	1.2	277,600	2.2	12,900!	0.1!
2005	231,800	1.0	221,100	1.8	10,600!	0.1!
2006	335,700	1.4	276,300	2.2	59,400	0.5
2007	355,900	1.4	298,400	2.3	57,500	0.5
2008	299,000	1.2	273,500	2.1	25,400	0.2
2009	327,600	1.3	297,900	2.3	29,700	0.2
2010	287,100	1.1	269,700	2.1	17,400	0.1

Note: Estimates based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

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

*Per 1,000 persons age 12 or older.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 4

Standard errors for figure 2 and appendix table 3: Rape and sexual assault victimization rates, by sex of victim, 1995–2010

Year	All persons		Female		Male	
	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*	Average annual count	Rate*
1995	45,800	0.2	43,100	0.3	13,100	0.1
1996	41,000	0.1	38,300	0.3	12,500	0.1
1997	43,300	0.1	41,000	0.3	11,800	0.1
1998	45,100	0.2	43,000	0.3	10,900	0.1
1999	44,300	0.1	42,600	0.3	9,700	0.1
2000	42,000	0.1	40,600	0.3	8,600	0.1
2001	42,200	0.1	40,400	0.3	10,000	0.1
2002	41,300	0.1	38,500	0.2	12,400	0.1
2003	34,700	0.1	32,700	0.2	9,800	0.1
2004	34,500	0.1	33,600	0.2	6,600	--
2005	35,400	0.1	34,500	0.2	7,000	0.0
2006	41,200	0.1	37,000	0.2	16,200	0.1
2007	45,100	0.1	40,800	0.2	16,700	0.1
2008	39,100	0.1	37,200	0.2	10,400	0.1
2009	41,100	0.1	38,900	0.2	11,300	0.1
2010	38,400	0.1	37,000	0.2	8,400	--

*Per 1,000 persons age 12 or older.

--Less than 0.05.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 5

Standard errors for table 1: Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by victim characteristics, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Victim characteristic	Rate per 1,000 females		
	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	0.2	0.1	0.1
Age			
12–17	0.8	0.6	0.5
18–34	0.4	0.3	0.3
35–64	0.2	0.1	0.1
65 or older	0.1	0.1	0.1
Race/Hispanic origin			
White	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	0.4	0.4	0.4
Hispanic/Latina	0.5	0.3	0.3
American Indian/Alaska native	2.6	2.1	2.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6	0.4	0.3
Two or more races	~	3.1	1.8
Marital status			
Never married	0.5	0.3	0.3
Married	0.1	0.1	0.1
Widowed	0.2	0.1	0.2
Divorced or separated	0.7	0.5	0.5
Household income			
Less than \$25,000	0.3	0.3	0.4
\$25,000–\$49,999	0.3	0.2	0.3
\$50,000 or more	0.3	0.2	0.2
Unknown	0.4	0.2	0.2
Location of residence			
Urban	0.3	0.3	0.2
Suburban	0.2	0.2	0.2
Rural	0.3	0.2	0.4

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 6

Standard errors for table 2: Activity and location of female victims when rape and sexual assault occurred, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Location and activity	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Location when crime occurred	~	~	~
At or near victim's home	1.9%	1.9%	2.8%
At or near home of friend/relative/acquaintance	1.4	1.4	1.8
Commercial place/parking lot or garage	1.3	1.4	1.7
School	0.8	1.2	1.5
Open areas/public transportation/other	1.3	1.3	2.0
Activity when crime occurred	~	~	~
Working	1.2%	1.1%	1.8%
Attending school	0.7	1.1	1.4
Sleeping/other activities at home	1.9	1.9	2.8
Traveling to or from work, school, other place/shopping or errands/leisure activity away from home	1.7	1.8	2.5
Other/unknown	1.0	0.9	1.2

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 7

Standard errors for table 3: Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by number of offenders and victim-offender relationship, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Offender characteristic	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Number of offenders	~	~	~
One	1.0%	1.1%	1.8%
Two or more	0.9	1.1	1.7
Victim-offender relationship	~	~	~
Stranger	1.5%	1.7%	2.4%
Nonstranger	1.6	1.8	2.4
Intimate partner	1.7	1.8	2.8
Relative	1.1	0.6	1.4
Well-known/casual acquaintance	1.9	2.0	2.8

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 8

Standard errors for table 4: Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by perceived offender characteristics, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Offender characteristics	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Age	~	~	~
17 or younger	1.2%	1.2%	1.8%
18–20	1.1	1.2	1.8
21–29	1.7	1.9	2.7
30 or older	2.0	2.1	3.1
Other	0.5	0.6	1.1
Race	~	~	~
White	1.8%	1.9%	2.8%
Black	1.4	1.7	2.5
Other	1.0	1.1	1.3
Mixed group	0.4	0.3	0.5
Unknown	0.5	0.7	1.5
Alcohol/drug use at time of incident	~	~	~
Yes	1.9%	1.9%	2.8%
No	1.8	1.8	2.7
Unknown	1.5	1.8	2.6

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 9

Standard errors for table 5: Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, by offender weapon possession, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Weapon present	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	~	~	~
No weapon	1.2%	1.5%	2.2%
Weapon	0.9%	1.2%	1.7%
Firearm	0.6	0.5	1.3
Knife	0.5	0.8	1.1
Other/unknown type	0.3	0.8	0.5
Don't know	0.8%	0.9%	1.3%

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 10

Standard errors for table 6: Injured female victims of rape and sexual assault who received treatment, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Injury	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
No injury	1.9%	1.9%	2.8%
Any injury	1.9%	2.0%	2.8%
Treatment for injury	~	~	~
No treatment	2.2%	2.6%	3.5%
Any treatment	2.2	2.5	3.5
Treatment setting	~	~	~
At scene or home of victim/neighbor/friend	4.5%	3.8%	4.7%
In doctor's office/hospital/emergency room/overnight hospital	4.6	3.9	4.8
In other location/unknown	1.4	1.3	1.1

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 11

Standard errors for table 7: Female victims of rape and sexual assault who received assistance from a victim service agency, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	~	~	~
Received assistance	1.6%	1.7%	2.4%
Did not receive assistance	1.6	1.8	2.4

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 12

Standard errors for figure 3: Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females reported to police, 1995–2010

Year	Percent	Standard error
1995	28.2%	2.3%
1996	28.6	2.6
1997	28.3	2.7
1998	26.9	2.8
1999	28.5	2.7
2000	32.5	2.7
2001	37.8	3.3
2002	45.5	3.5
2003	58.9	3.6
2004	45.6	4.1
2005	32.3	4.9
2006	36.1	4.3
2007	37.5	4.4
2008	40.9	4.5
2009	31.6	4.1
2010	32.1	4.2

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 13

Standard errors for table 8: Rape and sexual victimizations against females reported and not reported to police, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Reporting to police	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	~	~	~
Not reported	1.7%	1.9%	2.7%
Reported	1.7%	1.9%	2.7%
Source of report	~	~	~
Victim	3.4	3.0	4.4
Other household member	2.9	2.0	2.7
An official other than police	1.3	1.7	3.1
Someone else	2.1	1.8	2.7
Police were at crime scene	0.6	1.1	1.0
Other	1.7	1.3	0.7

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 14

Standard errors for table 9: Rape and sexual assault victimizations against females reported and not reported to police, by most important reason for reporting or not reporting, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	~	~	~
Reported	1.7%	1.9%	2.7%
Reason reported	~	~	~
To stop incident or prevent recurrence or escalation	3.5%	2.8%	4.9%
To get help or recover loss	1.4	1.2	2.0
To protect respondent and household from further crimes by this offender	3.6	2.9	5.1
To catch/punish/prevent offender from reoffending	3.3	3.1	4.2
To improve police surveillance/duty to tell police/because it was a crime	4.2	3.2	4.6
Other/unknown/not one most important reason	3.8	3.2	2.6
Not reported	1.7%	1.9%	2.7%
Reason not reported	~	~	~
Reported to different official	1.3%	1.5%	1.8%
Personal matter	1.8	1.9	2.3
Not important enough to respondent	1.1	1.3	1.8
Police could not do anything to help	0.6	0.6	0.9
Police would not do anything to help	1.0	1.3	2.3
Did not want to get offender in trouble with law	0.9	0.9	1.8
Advised not to report	0.3	--	--
Fear of reprisal	1.6	1.8	2.8
Other/unknown/not one most important reason	2.0	2.3	3.2

~Not applicable.

--Less than 0.05%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 15

Standard errors for table 10: Rape or sexual assault victimization against females, with police response, by type of response, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Responses	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Total	~	~	~
Not reported	1.7%	1.9%	2.7%
Reported	1.7	1.9	2.7
Police came when notified			
Yes	3.2%	2.4%	3.5%
No	2.8	2.1	3.2
Unknown/other	1.7	1.2	1.3

~Not applicable.

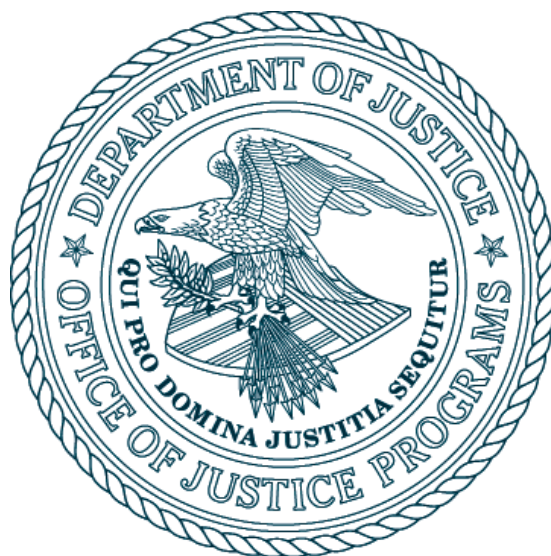
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.

APPENDIX TABLE 16

Standard errors for table 11: Initial police response to rape and sexual assault victimizations against females, 1994–1998, 1999–2004, and 2005–2010

Initial police response	1994–1998	1999–2004	2005–2010
Made arrest at scene	3.1%	2.1%	3.8%
Promised to investigate and/or promised surveillance	3.1	3.2	3.2
Questioned witnesses and/or searched	3.9	3.3	4.9
Took evidence	2.1	1.9	3.8
Took report	3.0	3.0	3.4
Other	3.2	2.4	3.8

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1994–2010.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics is the statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. William J. Sabol is the acting director.

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