

U.S. residents experienced 5.8 million violent victimizations each year during the 4-year aggregated period from 2012 to 2015. Violent victimization includes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Half (51%) of these victimizations involved victims and offenders of the same race or Hispanic origin (intraracial). Forty-one percent of violent victimizations during the period involved victims and offenders of different races or Hispanic origin (interracial), and the race of the offender was unknown or the number of offenders was unknown in 8% of violent crimes.

The percentage of intraracial victimization was higher than the percentage of interracial victimization for rape or sexual assault, aggravated assault, and simple assault. The percentages of intraracial and interracial victimization were similar for robbery.

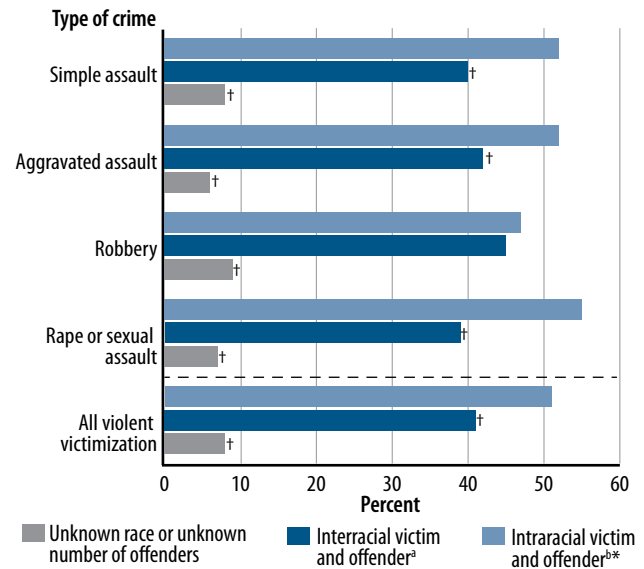
Violent victimization offenders

Of the nearly 3.7 million violent victimizations committed against white victims during 2012-15, a total of 57% were committed by white offenders, 15% by black offenders, and 11% by Hispanic offenders. Similarly, the majority of the 850,720 violent victimizations committed against black victims involved black offenders (63%), followed by white (11%) and Hispanic (7%) offenders. Forty percent of violent victimizations committed against Hispanic victims were committed by Hispanic offenders, while white and black offenders each committed 20% of victimizations against Hispanic victims.

Victimization rates

During 2012-15, the rate of white-on-white violent crime (12.0 per 1,000 white persons) was about four times higher than black-on-white violent crime (3.1 per 1,000). The rate of black-on-black violent crime (16.5 per 1,000 black persons) was more than five times higher than white-on-black violent crime (2.8 per 1,000). The rate of Hispanic-on-Hispanic violent crime (8.3 per 1,000 Hispanic persons) was about double the rate of white-on-Hispanic (4.1 per 1,000) and black-on-Hispanic (4.2 per 1,000) violent crime. As with violent crime, the rates of serious violent crime and simple assault were higher for intraracial victimizations than interracial victimizations.

Percent of intraracial and interracial victims and offenders of violent victimizations, by type of crime, 2012-2015



*Comparison group.

†Significant difference from the comparison group at the 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes victims and single offenders of two or more races, multiple offenders of various races (mixed race group), and victims and offenders who were neither the same race nor were both of Hispanic origin.

^bBoth victims and offenders were the same race or both were of Hispanic origin.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2012-2015.

Victim-offender relationships

While stranger violence accounted for the largest proportion of interracial violence, domestic violence was more likely to be intraracial. The percentage of violence committed against white victims by a white offender (31%) was more often domestic violence than the percentage committed by a black (6%) or Hispanic (7%) offender. This was similar for black and Hispanic victims. The percentage of violence committed against a white victim by a white offender who was a stranger (27%) was lower than the percentage committed by a black (64%) or Hispanic (55%) offender who was a stranger. Similarly, the percentage of violence committed against a black victim by a white offender who was a stranger (50%) was higher than the percentage committed by a black offender who was a stranger (38%).

The full report (*Race and Hispanic Origin of Victims and Offenders, 2012-15*, NCJ 250747), related documents, and additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics can be found at www.bjs.gov.