

Welcome to the “National Crime Victimization Survey Knowledge Corner.” This short video will focus on the Custom Graphics pages of the NCVS Dashboard, or N-DASH.

## **Home page**

In our first video on the N-DASH, we covered the basics of how you can use the Custom Graphics section to examine NCVS data best suited to your question. In this video, we will go over each page in more detail.

From the N-DASH home page, you can either click directly on any of the six Custom Graphics pages, or start with the Custom Graphics home page. In this video, we’ll start with the Custom Graphics home page.

## **Custom Graphics home page**

As mentioned in our previous video, Custom Graphics has three sections: Multi-Year Trend Comparison, Single-Year Comparison, and Year-to-Year Comparison. Each section has two pages: one that focuses on comparing data between crime types, and the other focusing on comparing between victim or incident characteristics, such as violent victimization by victim sex or whether the incident was reported to police. If you’re unsure about which page might best suit your needs, each of the three sections has a brief description of what types of graphics are included, and there’s an example under each page. For example, if you’re interested in examining the violent victimization rate for Hispanic youth over time, then the Multi-Year Trends: Crime Type page would be the best page for you. Let’s create that graphic, shall we?

## **Multi-Year Crime Type**

Each Custom Graphics page has a Display Settings section and a Data Filter Settings section. Display Settings contain options for how the data are displayed, such as crime category (whether you want to analyze person or property crime types), unit displayed (number of victimizations versus rate of victimizations per 1,000 persons), or turning on the confidence intervals. These options may change depending on the page.

Data Filter Settings can be used to filter what types of incidents are included or not included in your graphics. Stemming from our earlier example, we can choose ‘Victim race/Hispanic origin’ under Filter Characteristic A, and then choose ‘Hispanic’ under Filter Characteristic A Value. When I scroll down, I can see that the chart has been populated with this information and see the violent victimization rate for Hispanic persons over time. I can hover my mouse over the most recent data point to see that in 2021, there were about 15.9 violent victimizations per 1,000 Hispanic persons. If I scroll down, I can see the victimization rate by different crime types.

Back up in the Display Settings, I can change the Unit from ‘Rate’ to ‘Number’ to find the chart has now changed to show the number of violent victimizations for Hispanic persons. I can also add another filter in Filter Characteristic B such as ‘Victim Age’ if I was specifically interested in violence against Hispanic youth age 12 to 14.

## **Multi-Year Characteristic**

The Multi-Year Trends: Characteristic page has a similar set of Display and Data Filter Settings, but also some key differences. Under Display Settings there is now a Comparison Characteristic option. If I choose 'Victim race/Hispanic origin' rather than the tool filtering only for Hispanic persons, it displays the rate of violent victimization for each race/Hispanic origin group side by side. In Data Filter Settings, you can filter your results by another characteristic, such as 'Victim age' similar to the first example. The third chart for Hispanic persons is equivalent to what we saw in the first example when examining these data for Hispanic persons age 12 to 14. You can also change the Crime Type in the Data Filter Settings.

## **Single-Year Crime Type**

Both the Single-Year Comparison: Crime Type and Single-Year Comparison: Characteristic pages have a similar set of settings and options for you to choose from, with some new settings that we'll go over. These two pages are useful if you're interested in victimization for one particular year.

The Single-Year Comparison: Crime Type page is particularly helpful for examining information by crime type. Under Display Settings we now have a Crime Type selection option where I can check and un-check crimes for inclusion in the graphic below. For comparison characteristic, I'll select 'Medical treatment' for physical injuries, which will give me the percent of victimizations where the victim was not injured, not treated, and treated by crime type in 2021. I can change the year under Data Filter Settings.

## **Single-Year Characteristic**

On the Single-Year Comparison: Characteristic page, you can more easily compare between multiple victim or incident characteristics for a particular year and crime type. If I select 'Medical treatment for physical injuries' under Comparison Characteristic A and 'Victim services use' under Comparison Characteristic B, I can then view the percentage of violent victimizations by both treatment type and if victim services were used. Similar to the Single-Year Crime Type page, I can change the year and Data Filter Settings. I can also change the Crime Type if I am interested in something more specific than overall violent crime.

## **Year-to-Year Crime Type and Characteristic pages**

The display for the Year-to-Year Comparison: Crime Type and Year-to-Year Comparison: Characteristic pages are very similar to the Single-Year pages in the Custom Graphics. All of the options are the same or similar to other pages we've already discussed. The only significant difference is being able to select between two different years in the Data Filter Settings, rather than only one. For example, if we wanted to look at how property victimization rates have changed between 2008 and 2021, we would first select 'Property' in the crime category and then change Year Selection 1 to 2008. The chart below has updated automatically, and if we wanted to only focus on burglary, we can change the selection under Crime Type.

## **Any questions?**

If you have any further questions about this video, the User's Guide and Terms & Definitions contain more information on how to use the N-DASH and terminology used. If you have any additional questions, please email [AskBJS@usdoj.gov](mailto:AskBJS@usdoj.gov) with the subject line "N-DASH". Thank you.