Crime Against Persons with Disabilities, 2009-2014 - Statistical Tables

Bureau of Justice Statistics

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n 2014, the rate of violent victimization against persons with disabilities (31.7 victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older) was 2.5 times higher than the age-adjusted rate for persons without disabilities (12.5 per 1,000). Every year between 2009 and 2014, the rate of violent victimization against persons with disabilities was at least twice that for persons without disabilities. After an increase in the rate of violent victimization for both persons with and without disabilities between 2011 and 2012, the rate remained steady through 2014.

Type of crime

The violent victimization rate against persons with disabilities (30.7 per 1,000) was more than twice the rate for persons without disabilities (12.8 per 1,000) in 2010-14. Serious violent crime (rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault) accounted for a greater percentage of violence against persons with disabilities (41%) than violence against persons without disabilities (31%). The rate of serious violent crime for persons with disabilities (12.7 per 1,000) was more than three times the rate for persons without disabilities (3.9 per 1,000) in 2010-14. Similarly, the rate of simple assault against persons with disabilities (18.0 per 1,000) was more than twice the rate for persons without disabilities (8.8 per 1,000) during that period. One in 5 violent crime victims with disabilities believed they were targeted because of their disability.

Victim characteristics

In 2010-14, for each age group measured except persons age 65 or older, the rate of violent victimization against persons with disabilities was at least double the rate for those without disabilities. Persons ages 12 to 15 had the highest rates of violent victimization among those with disabilities, except for persons ages 16 to 19. When examining the rate of violent victimization by sex, males with disabilities (31.2 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older) experienced violence more often than males without disabilities (14.8 per 1,000). For females with disabilities, the rate of violent victimization was 30.3 per 1,000, compared to 11.0 per 1,000 females without disabilities.

For each racial and ethnic group measured, persons with disabilities had higher violent victimization rates than persons without disabilities. For both persons with



Note: Based on the noninstitutionalized U.S. residential population age 12 or older. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages. For each year, rates for persons without disabilities were adjusted using direct standardization with the population with disabilities as the standard population. Rates for persons with disabilities were unadjusted.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2008–2014, and U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2008–2014.

disabilities (101.4 per 1,000) and without disabilities (30.4 per 1,000), persons of two or more races had the highest rates of violent victimization. There was no statistically significant difference in the violent victimization rates of whites (29.7 per 1,000), blacks (28.8 per 1,000), Hispanics (28.6 per 1,000), and persons of other races (28.0 per 1,000) with disabilities.

Disability types

In 2010-14, persons with cognitive disabilities had the highest rates of total violent crime (56.6 per 1,000), serious violent crime (24.0 per 1,000), and simple assault (32.6 per 1,000) among the disability types measured. Those with hearing disabilities (15.5 per 1,000) had the lowest rates of total violent victimization during that period. More than half (53%) of violence against persons with disabilities and more than two-thirds (69%) of rapes or sexual assaults against persons with disabilities were committed against those with multiple disabilities.

The full report (*Crime Against Persons with Disabilities, 2009-2014 - Statistical Tables,* NCJ 250200), related documents, and additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics can be found at www.bjs.gov.



