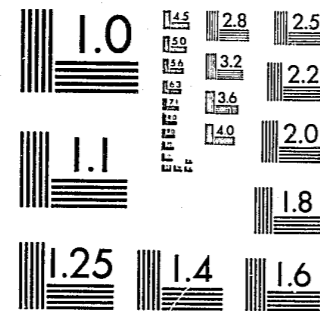


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# Criminal Victimization in the United States

## A Comparison of 1975 and 1976 Findings

A National Crime Survey Report  
SD-NCS-N-8

November 1977

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Law Enforcement  
Assistance Administration  
National Criminal Justice  
Information and Statistics Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration

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PREFACE

This study is another in a series of reports from the National Crime Survey program to discuss changes in victimization rates for selected crimes of violence and theft. It is based on a study of variations between 1975 and 1976 in the rates at which persons age 12 and over, households, and businesses across the Nation were victimized. Individuals in a representative national sample of up to 61,000 households and 15,000 commercial firms, (augmented to 42,000 commercial firms in 1976), were asked in personal interviews to relate their experiences, if any, with these crimes. A limited comparison of victimization rates for the years 1973-76 also is included.

Victimization surveys have the potential for supplying criminal justice officials with new insights into crime, its victims, and the impact of criminal behavior on society. The surveys also can furnish a means for developing profiles of victims and, for certain sectors of society, indicating the relative risk of being victimized. Victimization surveys are able to distinguish between stranger-to-stranger crime and domestic violence, and between armed and strong-arm assaults and robberies. They can tally some of the costs of crime in terms of injury or economic loss sustained, and they provide a basis for understanding why certain criminal acts are not reported to law enforcement authorities. The surveys are designed and carried out for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration by the U. S. Bureau of the Census.

Discussion in this report centers on changes in victimization rates for those crimes of major interest to the public that are measured by the National Crime Survey. Findings about the use of weapons in the commission of crimes and about the reporting of crimes to the police also are noted.

The surveys focus on crimes that victims are able and willing to report to interviewers. For individuals, these are rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny; for households, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft; and for commercial establishments, burglary and robbery. Murder and kidnaping are not covered. Neither are commercial larcenies (e.g., employee theft and shoplifting) nor the so-called victimless crimes, such as drunkenness, drug abuse, or

prostitution. Nor are crimes of which the victim may be unaware, such as buying stolen property, or crimes in which the victim has shown a willingness to participate in illegal activity, such as gambling.

Eliminated from consideration are crimes reported as occurring to U.S. residents outside the country and those involving foreign visitors to this country; it can be assumed, however, that the number of such crimes is extremely small. Also excluded from this report are "series victimizations." These are groups of three or more similar crimes incurred by a victim unable to identify separately the details of each event, such as the specific time and place of occurrence.

Attempts to compare information in this report with data collected from police departments by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and published in its annual report, *Crime in the United States, Uniform Crime Reports*, are inappropriate because of substantial differences in coverage between the surveys and police statistics. A major difference arises from the fact that police statistics on the incidence of crime derive principally from reports that persons make to the police, whereas survey data include crimes not reported to the police, as well as those that are brought to official attention. Personal crimes covered in the surveys relate only to persons age 12 and over; police statistics include victims of all ages. The surveys do not measure some offenses, e.g., homicide, kidnaping, white-collar crimes, and commercial larceny that are included in police statistics, and the counting and classifying rules for the two programs are not fully compatible. Moreover, unlike the crime rates developed from police statistics, which are based on incidents, those cited in this report are based on victimizations. A victimization is a specific criminal act as it affects a single victim. For crimes against persons, the number of victimizations is somewhat greater than the number of incidents because some crimes are committed simultaneously against more than one victim.

All data in this report are estimates and are subject to errors arising from the fact that the information was obtained from a sample survey rather than a complete census and to errors associated with the collection and processing of data. The sources of error for the household surveys and technical data on survey design and estimation procedures are given in Appendix II. Appendix III contains a similar discussion for the commercial surveys. The data tables in Appendix I provide all the information on which the analysis is based.

Unless appropriately qualified, all statements in this report have met the statistical test that the differences were at least

equal to 2.0 standard errors, or, in other words, that the chances were at least 95 out of 100 that a difference did not result solely from sampling variability. Statements qualified by such phrases as "less conclusive," "less categorical," and "less explicit" have met the statistical test that the differences were between 1.6 and 2.0 standard errors or that the chances were at least 90 out of 100 that a difference did not result solely from sampling variability. In most cases, apparent differences that did not meet these criteria have not been discussed; where they are discussed, the differences are explicitly identified as lacking statistical significance by the use of such terms as "no significant change," "stable," and "apparently unchanged," or a specific level of confidence below 90 percent is indicated. The use of such words as stable and unchanged in discussing differences in rates or percents between years should be understood in the strict sense of having no statistical significance; it does not mean that they are necessarily the same or even very close together.

The majority of the comparisons in this report are between a victimization rate (or a percent involving weapons use or reporting to the police) for a specific crime in 1975 and its rate in 1976. These comparisons are either for crime totals or for various population groups within each crime (e.g., females, persons age 12-15, married persons, etc.). No statement is made with regard to the relative size of a change in the rate or percent for one crime as compared with that for another, and none is implied.

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## GENERAL FINDINGS

The victimization rate for motor vehicle theft was the only rate for the major crimes measured by the National Crime Survey to show a definite change in 1976 over 1975, declining by 15 percent. Rates for rape, personal or commercial robbery, assault, personal crimes of theft, household or commercial burglary, and household larceny did not exhibit changes that were significant at the 90 percent confidence level, the minimum standard adopted for analyzing survey results. However, an 87 percent confidence level was attached to the apparent 3 percent decrease in the overall rate for household burglary, and there was a clear reduction of 7 percent in the rate for those burglaries involving unlawful entry. For purse snatching, one of the less common personal crimes of theft, the decrease in the victimization rate, amounting to 20 percent, was not as conclusive, although meeting the prescribed 90 percent confidence level.

Relative stability in victimization rates for the 2 years also was reflected in the levels of crime recorded. Approximately 41,171,000 victimizations<sup>1</sup> were tallied for 1976, compared with 41,064,000 for 1975, but the difference between the totals was not sufficiently large to rule out sampling variability as the cause of the apparent slight increase.

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<sup>1</sup>Each victimization is counted only once, and is classified by the most serious act that took place. Following the pattern used by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in ranking personal crimes, the order of seriousness used in the surveys, beginning with the most serious, is rape, robbery, assault, and larceny. Thus, in the case of a person who was both robbed and assaulted, the event would be classified as a robbery. None of the measured household crimes involves personal confrontation. If such confrontation occurred, the crime would be a personal crime. For example, if a household member caught a burglar who, in turn, demanded money or property, the burglary would become a robbery.

Viewed over a longer perspective, findings from the National Crime Survey showed that victimization rates for personal robbery, household burglary, and motor vehicle theft all were lower in 1976 than in 1974, by 10, 5, and 13 percent, respectively (Table A). None of the other measured crimes experienced rate changes for 1976 vs. 1974 that were significant at the 90 percent confidence level. When 1976 data were compared with those for 1973, the 1976 rate for motor vehicle theft was shown to be some 14 percent below that for 1973, whereas 1976 rates for personal crimes of theft (including personal larceny without contact) and for household larceny were higher than those for 1973, by 6 and 16 percent, respectively. Of less conclusive significance, although meeting the minimum confidence level, was the 7 percent increase in the 1976 rate for commercial burglary over that for 1973. Higher rates in 1976 than in 1973 for the indicated crimes resulted almost entirely from rate increases that occurred between 1973 and 1974, as the rates for these crimes did not change significantly in the years 1974-76.

Table A. Personal, household, and commercial crimes: Comparison of changes in victimization rates, by type of crime, 1973-76, 1974-76, and 1975-76.

Type of crime	Percent change		
	1973-76	1974-76	1975-76
Crimes of violence	+0.1	-1.2	-0.8
Rape	-11.6	-14.3	-7.7
Robbery	-4.2	*-10.0	-4.4
Assault	+1.6	+1.8	+0.4
Crimes of theft	*+5.5	+1.0	+0.1
Personal larceny with contact	-5.9	-7.1	-6.5
Personal larceny without contact	*+5.9	+1.3	+0.3
Household burglary	-3.0	*-4.5	-3.0
Household larceny	*+16.0	+0.2	-1.0
Motor vehicle theft	*-13.7	*-12.5	*-15.5
Commercial burglary	**+6.7	-3.9	-4.9
Commercial robbery	-0.9	-0.8	-2.4

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

## PERSONAL CRIMES OF VIOLENCE

The 1976 victimization rate for personal crimes of violence (the sum of rape, robbery, and assault) was not significantly different from that for 1975. Nor were 1976 rates for the separate component crimes significantly changed from those for 1975. This overall lack of change was not common to all of the specific population groups under study, however. Although no group exhibited a significantly higher rate in 1976, lower rates were registered in 1976, by females age 65 and over, by widows in general, and by suburban residents of central cities with between ½ and 1 million inhabitants. A less categorical decrease also was found among women of Spanish origin.

The greatest number of significant changes for the individual crimes of violence occurred for robbery and its components, robbery with injury and robbery without injury. Elderly women (age 65 and over) and widows had a lower 1976 victimization rate for total personal robbery.<sup>2</sup> Other groups experiencing a reduction in the personal robbery rate included males age 16-19, females age 12-15, men of Spanish origin, and persons living in the suburbs of cities with ½ to 1 million inhabitants. For these last-mentioned groups, however, the decrease was not as conclusive as that for elderly or widowed women.

Suburban residents of central cities with ½ to 1 million population had a lower rate in 1976 than in 1975 for robbery with injury. An identical, although less categorical, finding was determined for blacks victimized by strangers, for black males in general, for men of Spanish origin, for all married men, and for males age 20-24. In robbery victimizations where injury did not occur, the 1976 rate was lower among elderly women, widows, and, less certainly, males 16-19, and white persons victimized by strangers.

With one exception among the surveyed groups, rates for assault and its subcategories either were lower in 1976 than in 1975 or were not significantly changed. The exception involved suburban residents of localities in the ¼ to ½ million size class, where a higher 1976 rate for total assault was significant at the 90 percent confidence level. Decreases of a similar significance occurred among women of Spanish origin and among all persons age 50-64.

<sup>2</sup>A substantial overlap in coverage exists between women age 65 and over and widows, although in both 1975 and 1976 widows had a higher robbery victimization rate than women age 65 and over.



For the simple form of assault, 1976 rates were lower than those in 1975 among men age 50-64 and among all women of Spanish origin. Less conclusive were the rate reductions indicated for all persons of Spanish heritage and for all residents of suburbs of cities with ½ to 1 million population. Inhabitants of cities in the 50,000-250,000 size class had a lower 1976 rate for aggravated assault, as did widows, but the latter finding was significant only at the minimum prescribed level.

Married women experienced a decline in the victimization rate for rape from 1975 to 1976, as did white victims of rape where the offender was an acquaintance or relative. Less conclusive was the finding that white women in general had a lower rape rate in 1976. With respect to place of residence, the rape rate was down in 1976 in cities of 1 million or more population; the evidence that it also declined in nonmetropolitan areas was less explicit, although significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

#### PERSONAL CRIMES OF THEFT

Although the overall victimization rate for personal crimes of theft remained stable at approximately 96 per 1,000 persons age 12 and over, there were significant changes between 1975 and 1976 in rates for some of the groups under study. For personal crimes of theft as a whole and for that category's main component, personal larceny without contact, these changes were about equally divided between increases and decreases. In contrast, lower rates in 1976 than in 1975 were the rule for changes in rates for personal larceny with contact.

Among those groups for whom the rate for personal crimes of theft was higher in 1976 than in 1975 were men of Spanish origin, men in the 50-64 group, women age 25-34, and suburban residents of small cities (50,000-250,000 inhabitants). In addition, a rate increase significant at the 90 percent confidence level was recorded for low-income families (less than \$3,000 per year). The same groups exhibiting higher 1976 rates for personal crimes of theft had higher 1976 rates for personal larceny without contact. Also among those with higher 1976 rates for personal larceny without contact, although the increase was less clear cut, were separated and divorced women and widowers.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>These two groups also registered rate increases for personal crimes of theft, but the increases were associated with levels of confidence of 83 percent and 88 percent, respectively.

Lower victimization rates in 1976 than in 1975 for personal crimes of theft were reported for all males in the two youngest age groups (12-15 and 16-19), for males who had never been married, and for suburban residents of central cities of from ½ to 1 million population. Of a less conclusive nature were the rate decreases shown for black males and for persons with an annual family income between \$7,500 and \$15,000. With a few exceptions, those groups experiencing a decline in 1976 in their rates for personal crimes of theft also had lower 1976 rates for personal larceny without contact.

For personal larceny with contact, lower rates in 1976 than in 1975 were common to residents of suburban areas of cities with ½ to 1 million inhabitants and, with less certainty, to residents of nonmetropolitan areas, and to separated and divorced women.

#### HOUSEHOLD CRIMES

More significant rate changes were associated with motor vehicle theft than with either of the two other household crimes--burglary and larceny. The victimization rate for motor vehicle theft fell from 19 per 1,000 households in 1975 to 16 in 1976, and this decline in the overall rate was reflected in decreases reported for a number of the population groups under study. By contrast, the rates for household burglary and household larceny, although appearing to decline, did not exhibit change that was significant at the minimum prescribed confidence level. As a consequence, there were many fewer groups experiencing rate changes for these two crimes.

Lower victimization rates in 1976 than in 1975 for motor vehicle theft were recorded for households headed by both blacks and whites, for those whose head was age 20-34, for white homeowners and renters, for households in which annual family income was less than \$7,500, and for households in central cities and in nonmetropolitan areas. Several other groups experienced rate decreases that were significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

For groups experiencing change between 1975 and 1976 in their burglary victimization rate, the change, like that for motor vehicle theft, was in the form of lower 1976 rates. Included among these groups were households whose head was in the 35-49 age bracket, white homeowners, and householders in suburban areas of cities with 1 million or more residents. A rate decrease for households located in nonmetropolitan areas was of a less conclusive nature.

The significant changes between 1975 and 1976 in the rate for household larceny were about equally divided between increases and decreases, unlike the 1973-74 period, when a substantial increase in the overall victimization rate was reflected in higher rates for many of the groups under study. A clear-cut increase was found among households in the suburbs of cities of  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  million residents; the increase among households in central cities of this size and among suburban households as a whole was less categorical. Lower 1976 rates for household larceny were common to households in nonmetropolitan areas and to those headed by persons under 20 years of age. The same held true at the 90 percent confidence level for households in cities of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 million population and for households headed by persons of Spanish origin whose annual family earnings were between \$7,500 and \$15,000.

### COMMERCIAL CRIMES

Between 1975 and 1976, there was a clear-cut 13 percent drop in the victimization rate for attempted commercial burglary, although the apparent reduction in the overall rate for commercial burglary was not significant at the prescribed minimum confidence level.<sup>4</sup> An indicated decrease in the overall commercial robbery rate also failed to meet this standard.

Retail businesses as a group, and such retail firms as food stores and eating and drinking establishments, had lower burglary rates in 1976 than in 1975, whereas the opposite was true for wholesale houses. Registering decreases that were significant at the 90 percent confidence level were all businesses with 1 to 3 paid employees and all firms with gross annual receipts of \$1 million or more.

The commercial robbery rate was down in 1976 over 1975 in firms with 8-19 paid employees and, less certainly, in those with no paid help.

### WEAPONS USE

The use of weapons in the commission of personal crimes of violence and commercial robberies, as well as the prevalence of firearms in such incidents, can be traced from year to year by the

<sup>4</sup>An 82 percent confidence level was associated with the 5 percent decrease in the 1976 commercial burglary rate.

National Crime Survey. From 1975 to 1976, there was a distinct decline of 11 percent in the proportion of personal robbery incidents in which a weapon was used, chiefly reflecting a 27 percent drop in weapons use in that form of robbery resulting in injury to the victim. Moreover, firearms were not as commonly used in 1976 in incidents of personal robbery with injury; a similar finding with respect to all robbery incidents was of less conclusive significance.

### REPORTING CRIMES TO THE POLICE

Few changes were noted between 1975 and 1976 in patterns of reporting crimes to the police. Rape, personal or commercial robbery, personal crimes of theft, household burglary, household larceny, and motor vehicle theft were reported to the police in neither significantly higher nor lower proportions in 1976 than in 1975. However, the 1976 reporting rate for commercial burglary was 9 percent below the 1975 level, and the finding for assault, although of a less conclusive nature, indicated that, in relative terms, 5 percent more assaults had been brought to police attention in 1976 than in 1975.<sup>5</sup> There was an increase in the proportion of attempted assaults with a weapon that had been reported to the police; on the other hand, there was a tentative decline in the proportion of forcible entry burglaries reported, although the overall rate for reporting household burglaries was not significantly changed.

When the race of the victimized individual was examined, it was shown that a contrasting pattern emerged with respect to assault. Thus, whites were more likely in 1976 than in 1975 to have reported aggravated assault victimizations to the police and, less conclusively, assault as a whole, whereas blacks, had a lower reporting rate for aggravated assault in 1976, although this decrease was not clearcut. Blacks also notified the police of relatively fewer household larcenies and forcible entry burglaries in 1976 than in 1975.

<sup>5</sup>In addition, an 81 percent level of confidence was associated with the 3 percent increase in the proportion of crimes of violence reported to the police.

CHARTS

Figure 1. Percent change in victimization rates, by type of crime, 1975-76

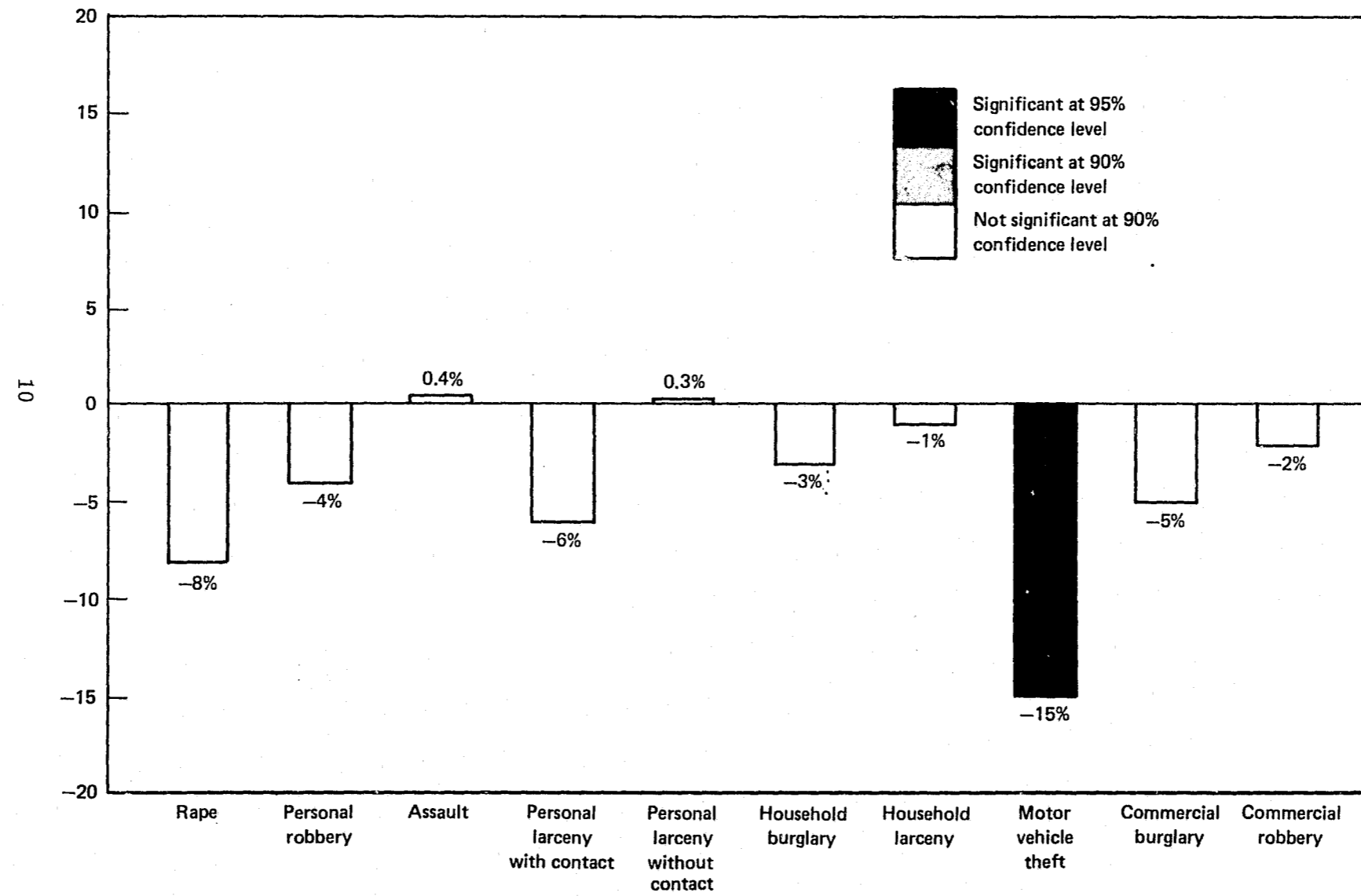


Figure 2. Percent change in victimization rates, by type of crime, 1973-76

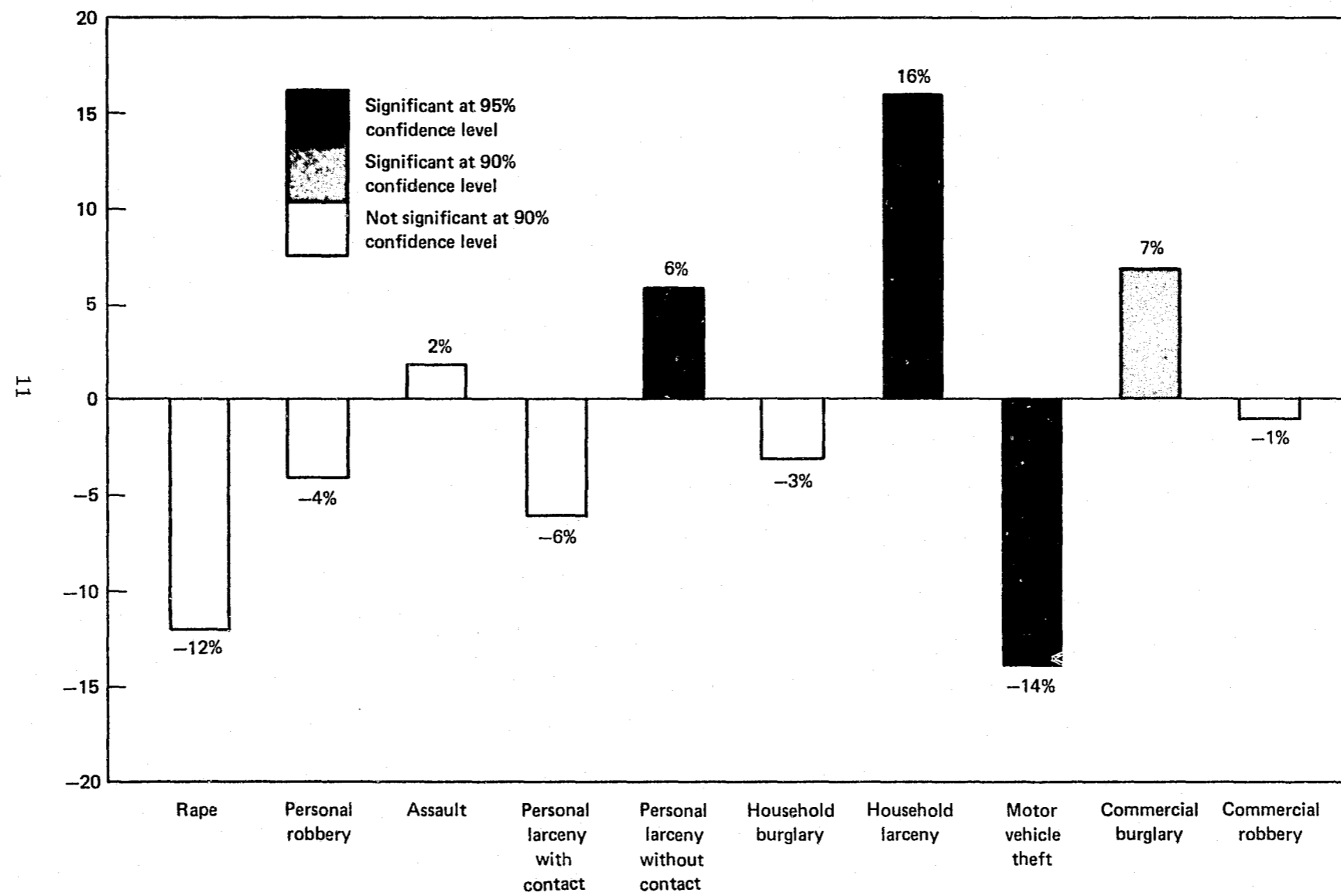


Figure 3. Victimization rates, by type of crime, 1976

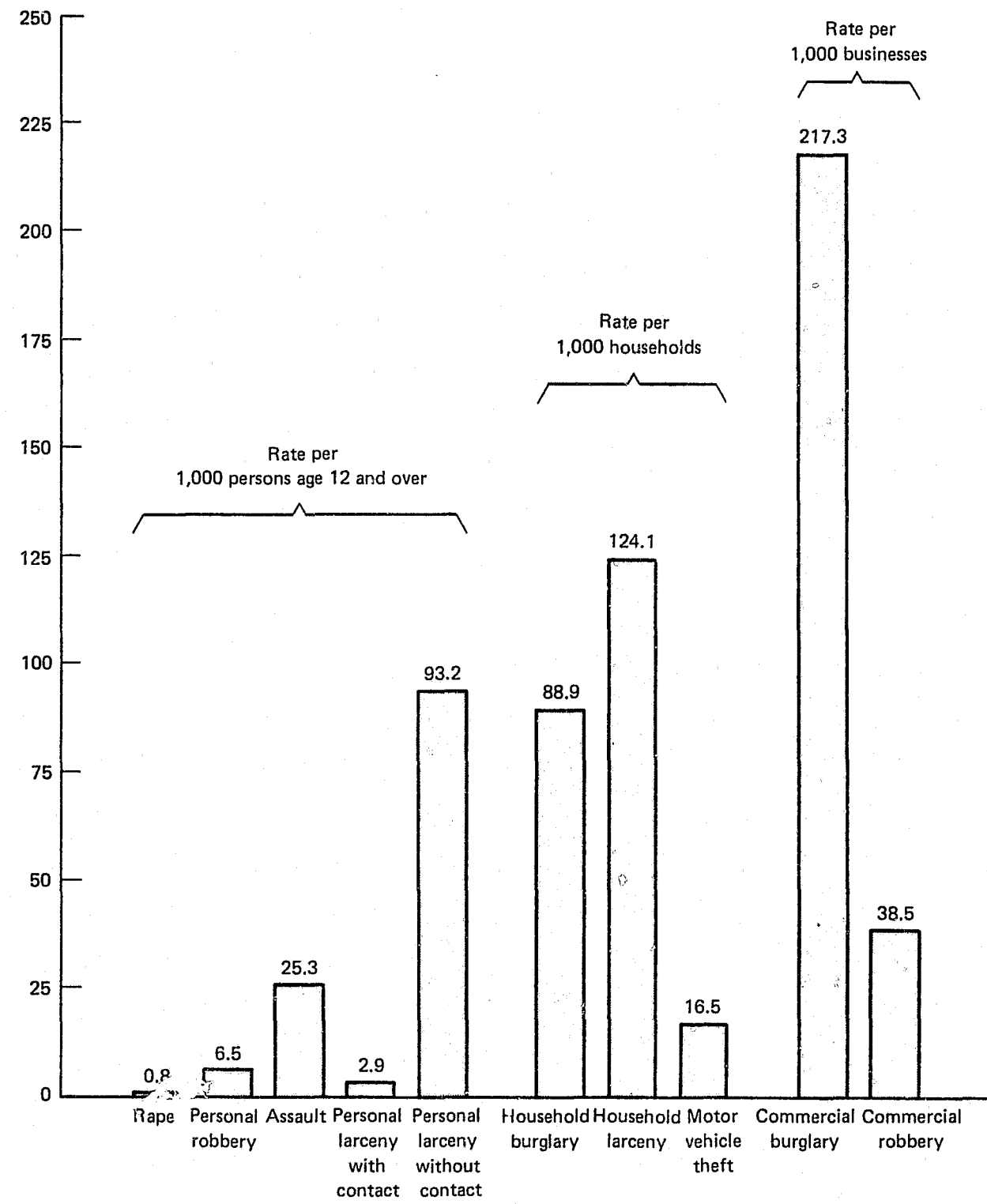


Figure 4. Victimization rates for personal crimes, by type of crime and age, 1976

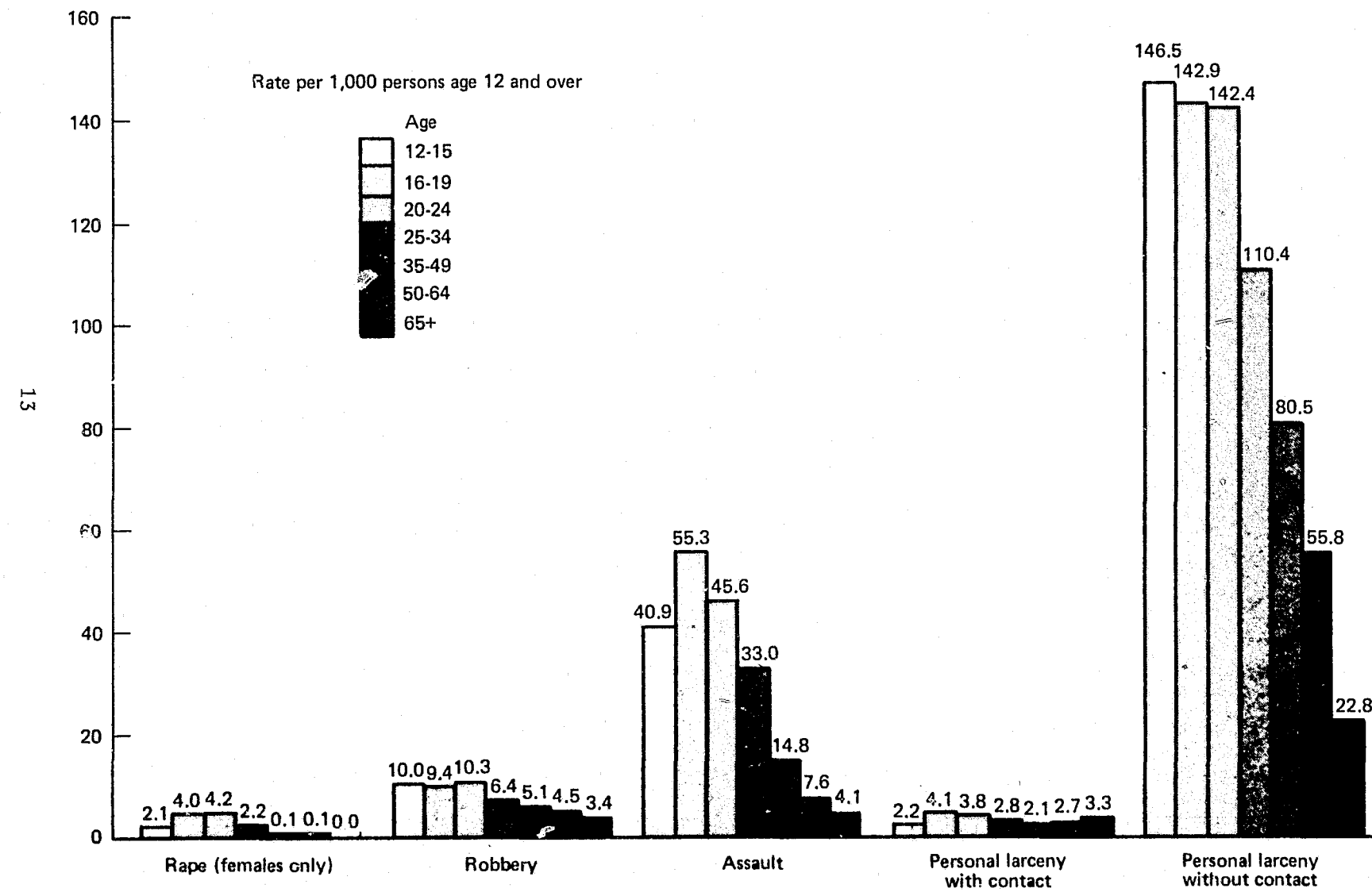


Figure 5. Victimization rates for personal crimes, by type of crime and sex, 1976

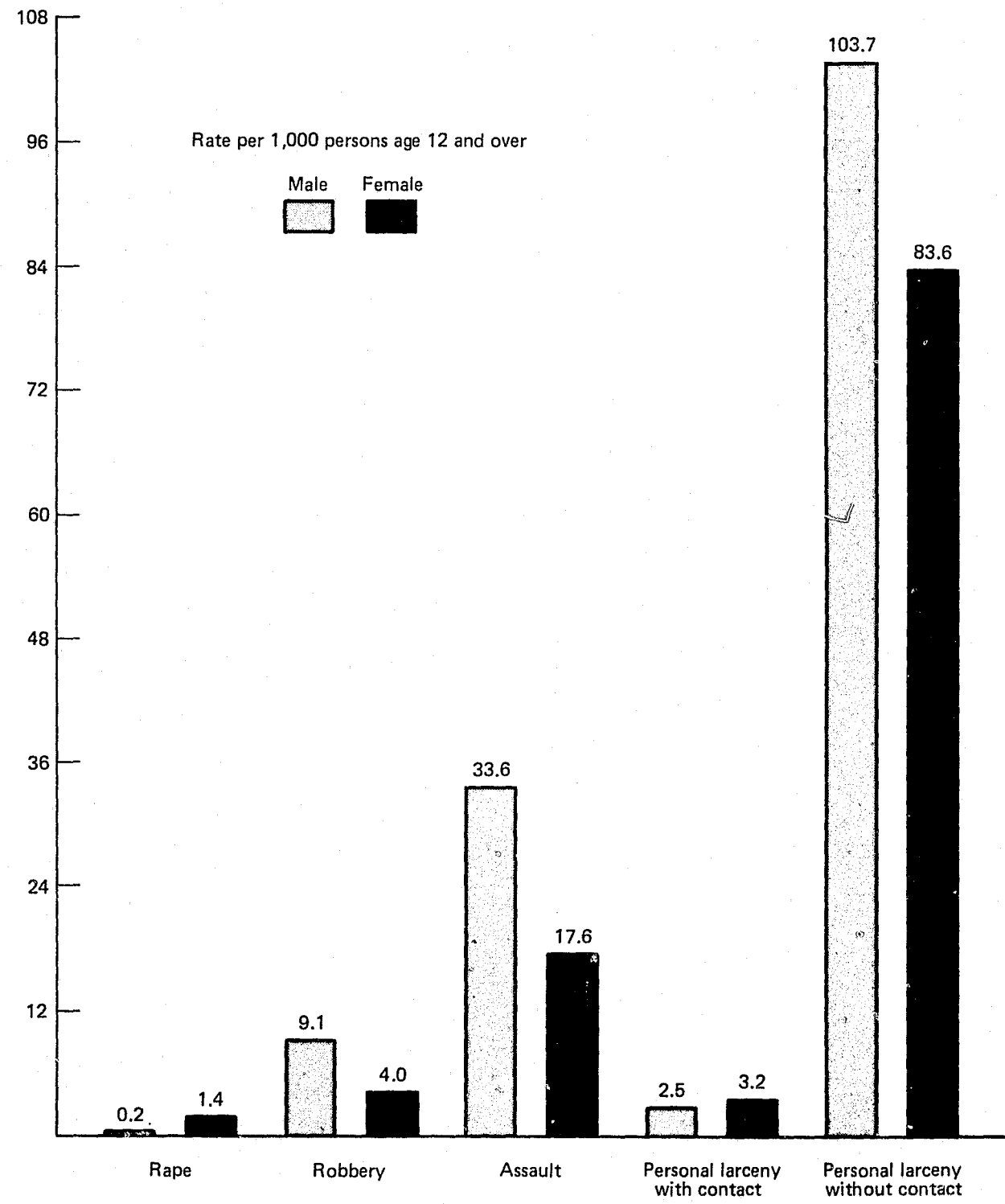


Figure 6. Victimization rates for personal crimes, by type of crime and race, 1976

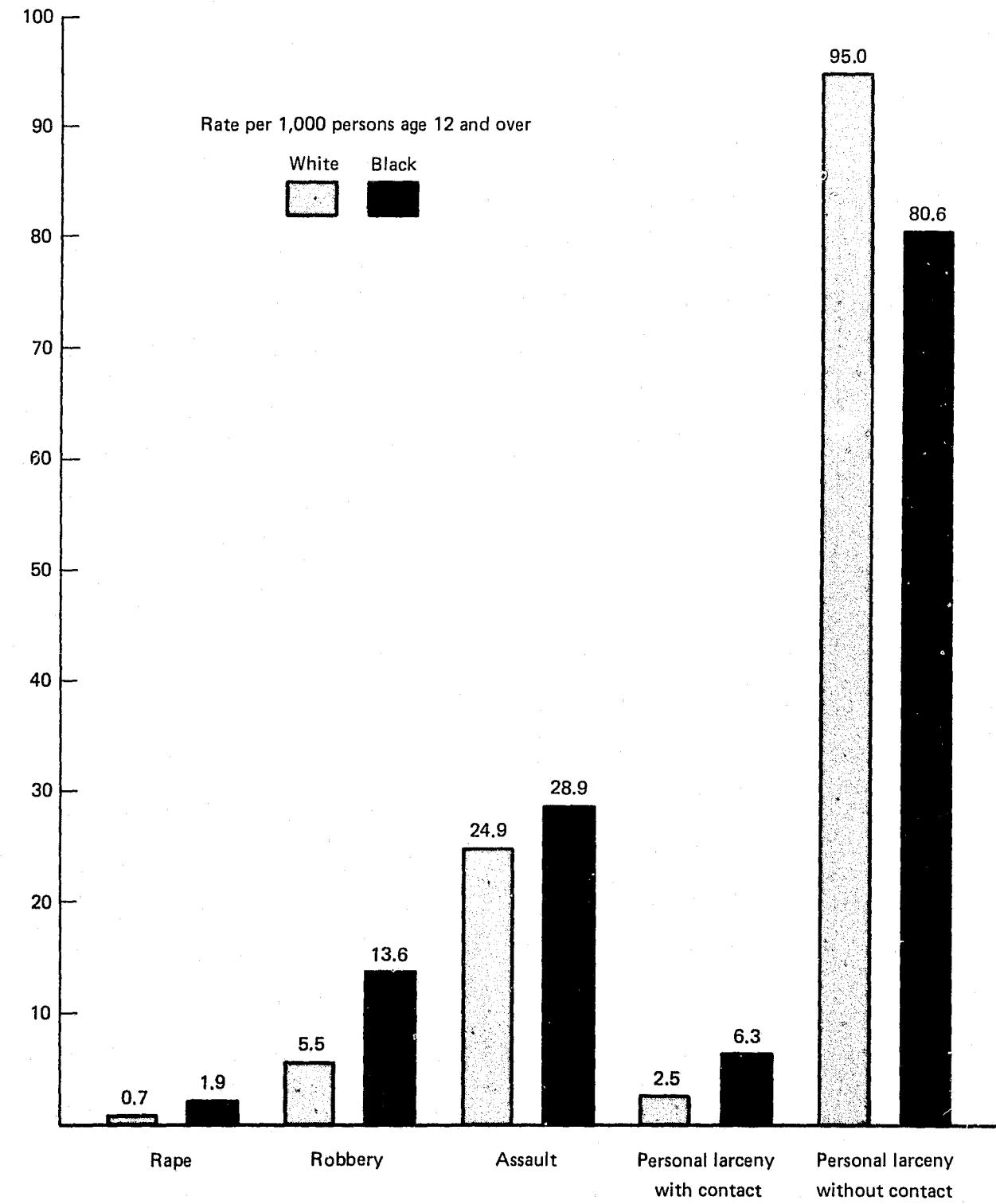




Figure 7. Victimization rates for household crimes, by type of crime and age of household head, 1976

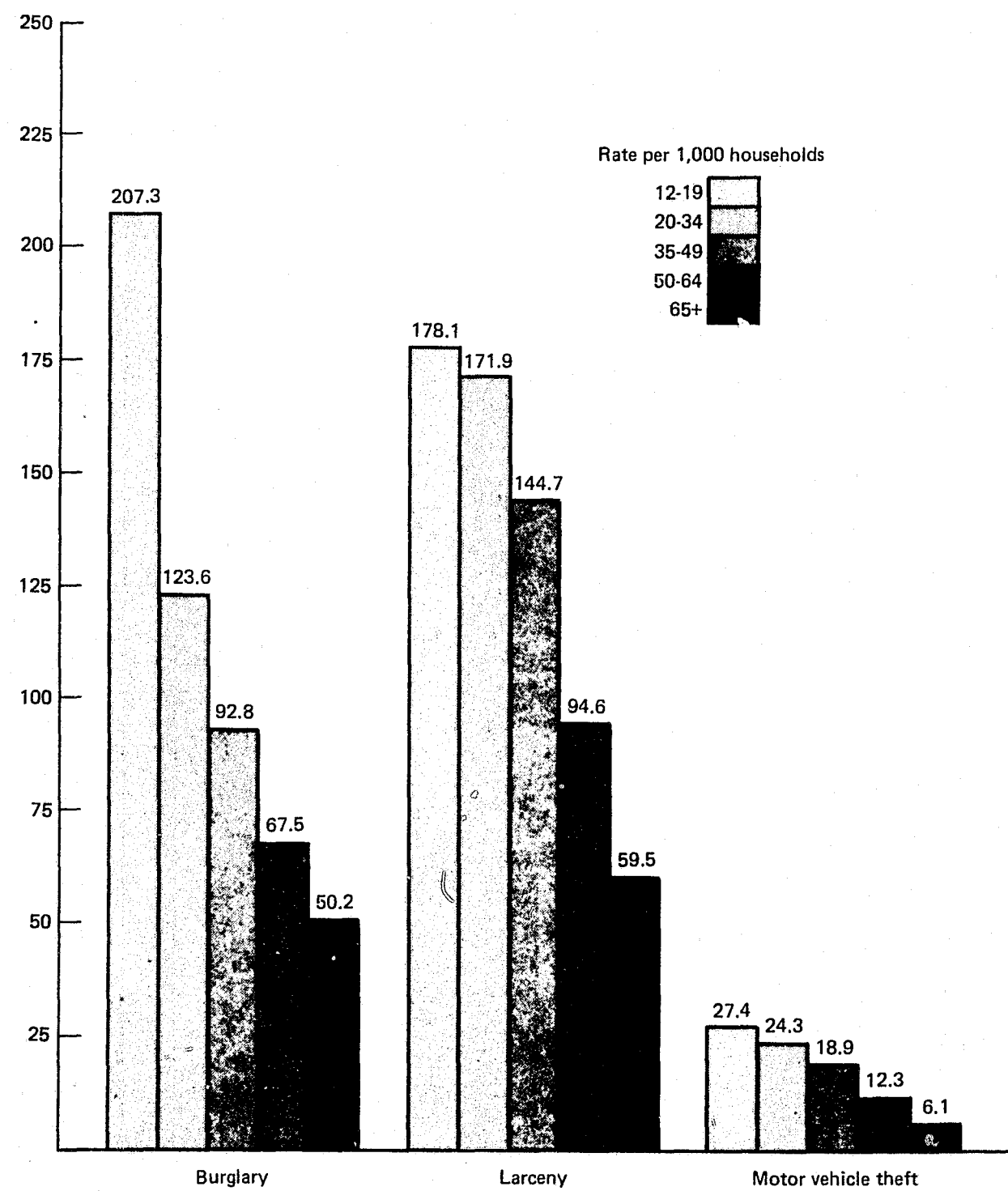


Figure 8. Victimization rates for household crimes, by type of crime and race of household head, 1976

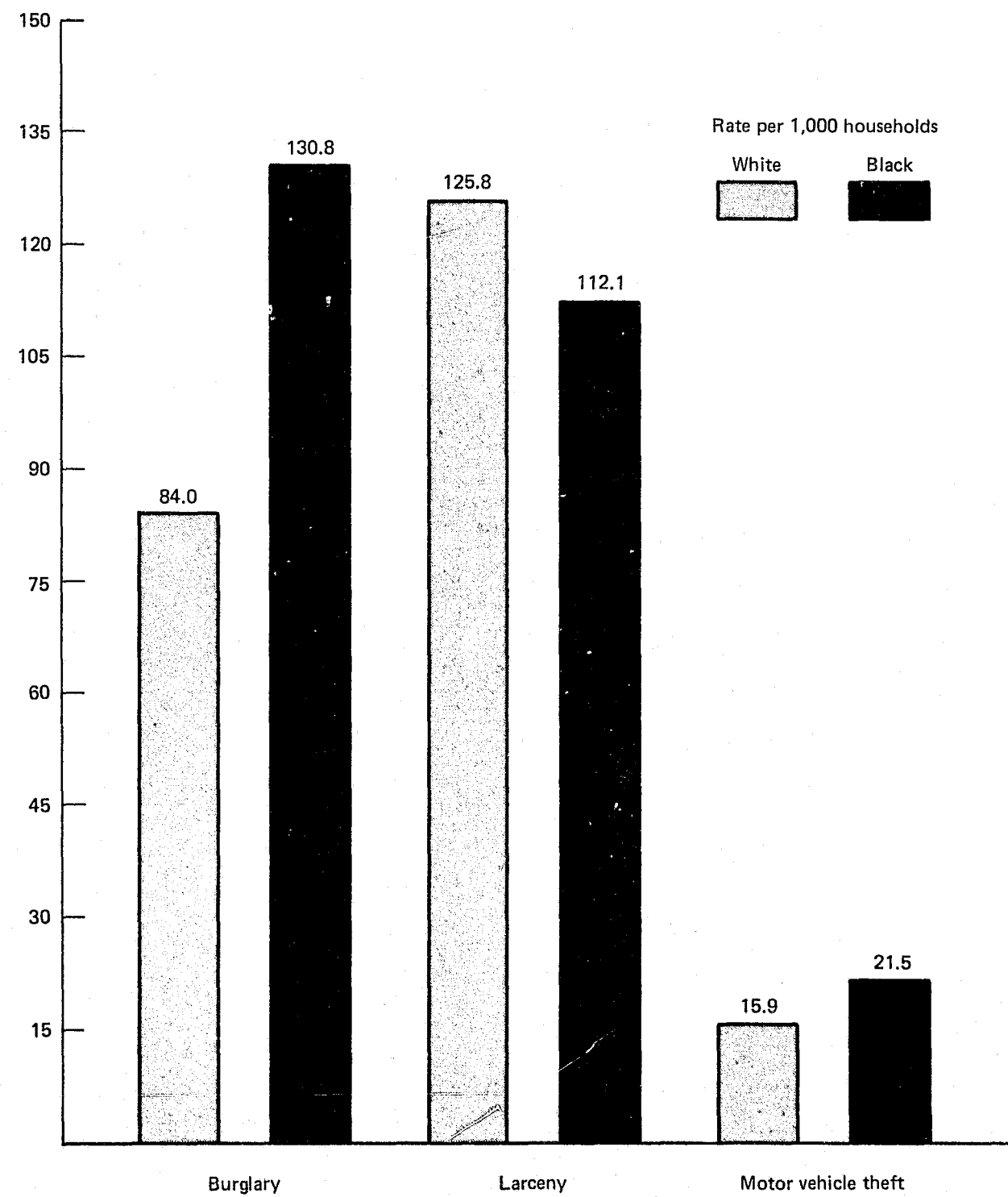


Figure 9. Victimization rates for household crimes, by type of crime and form of household tenure, 1976

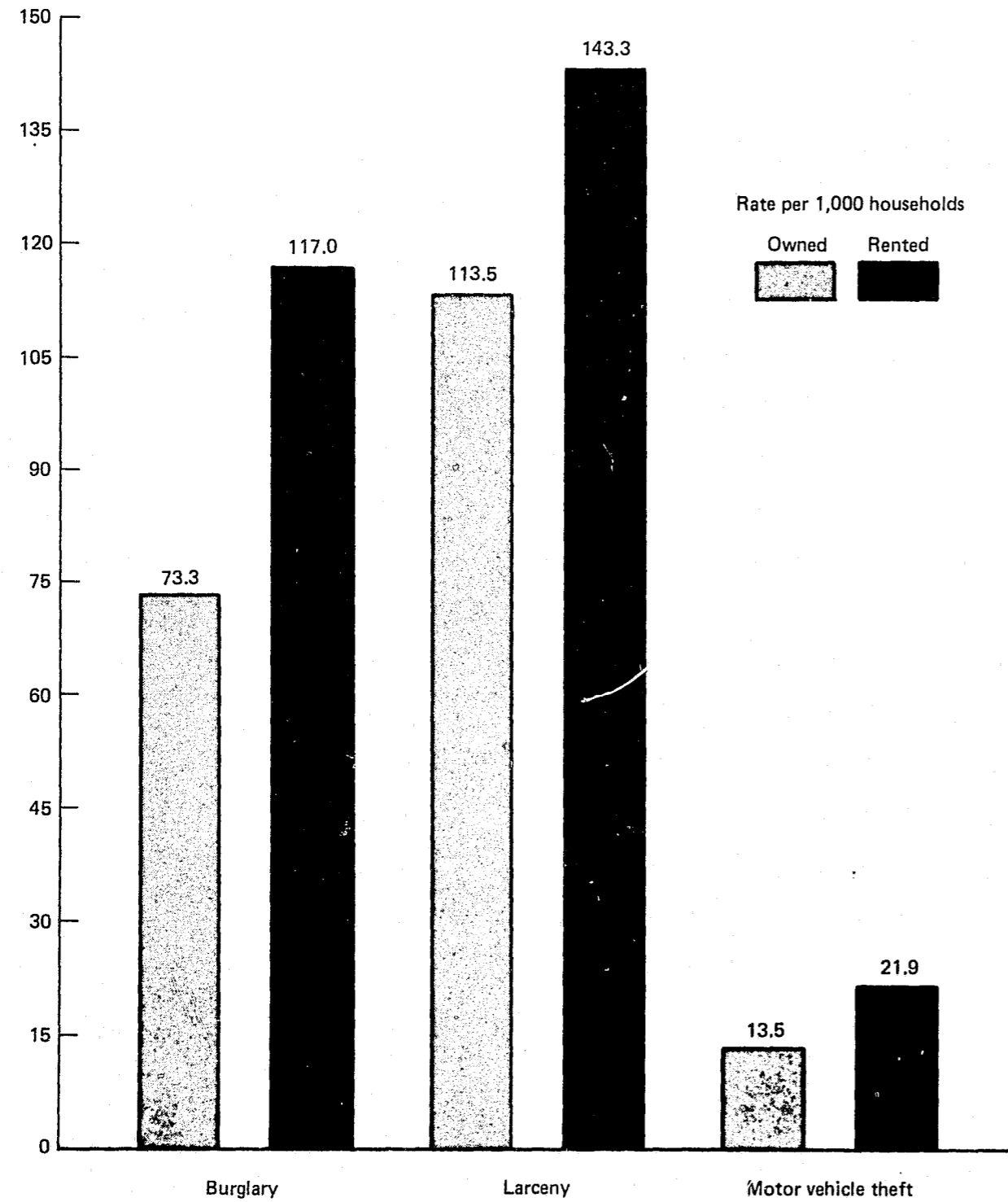


Figure 10. Victimization rates for commercial crimes, by type of crime and number of paid employees, 1976

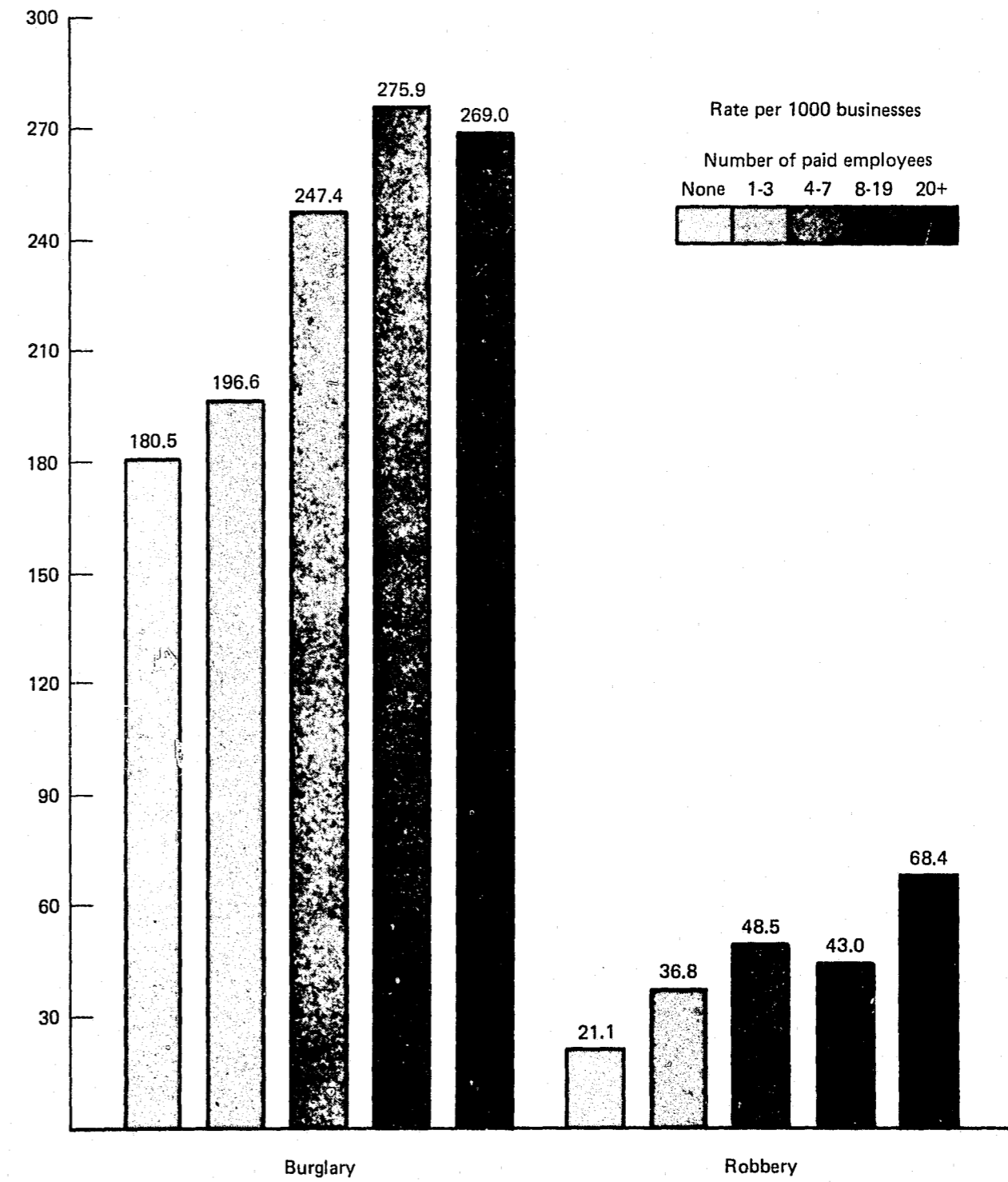


Figure 11. Percent of victimizations reported to the police, by type of crime, 1976

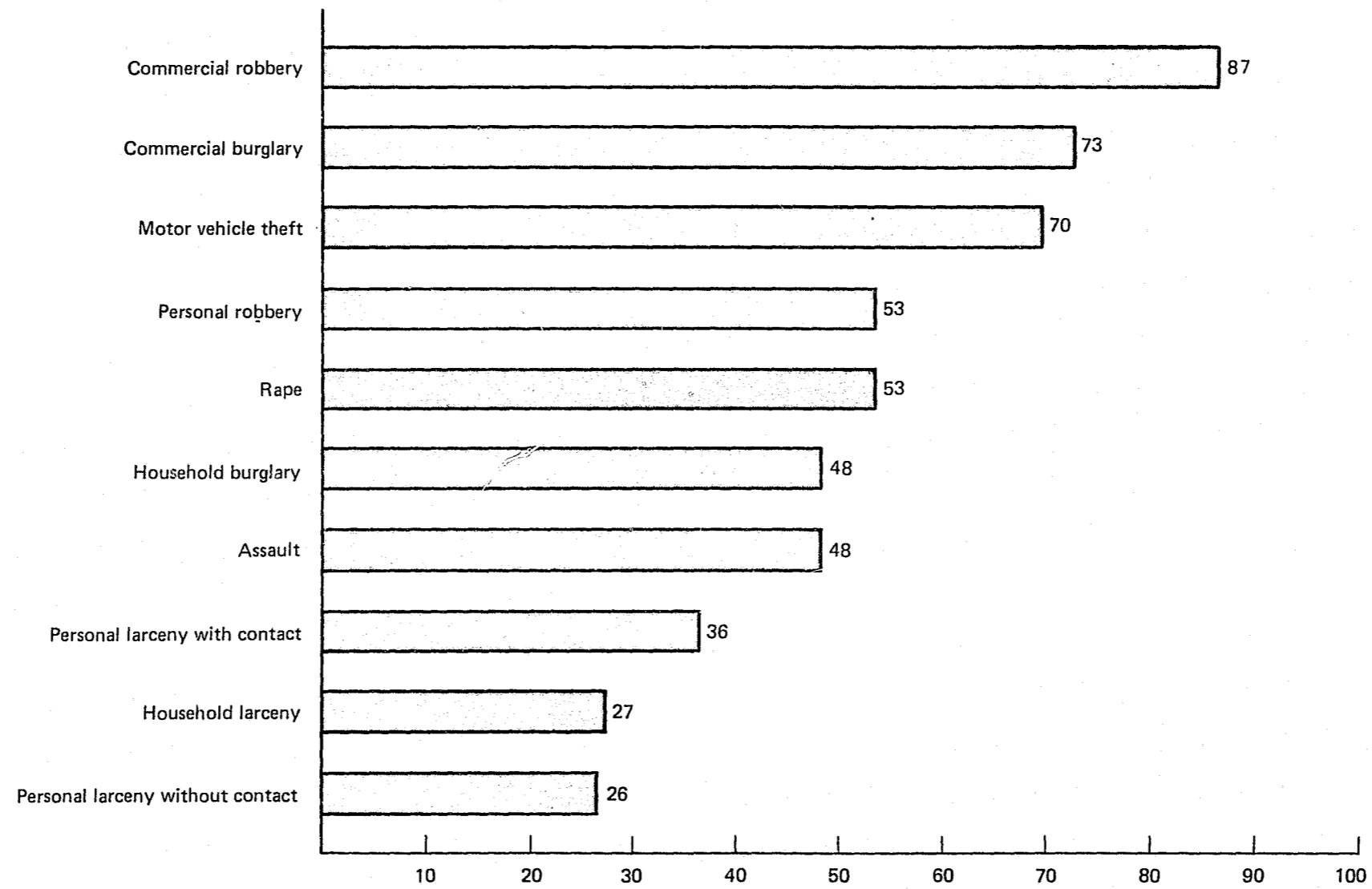
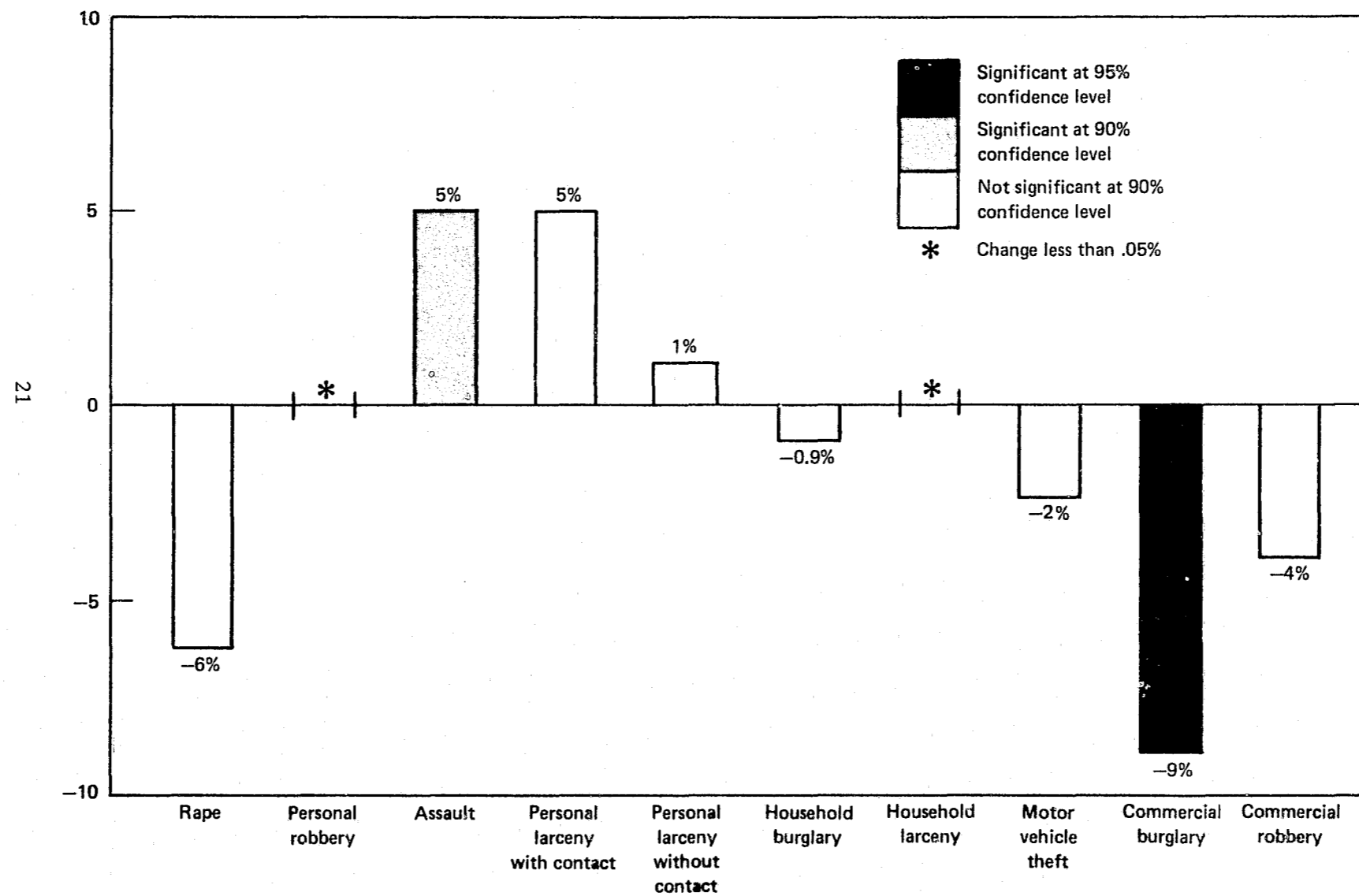


Figure 12. Percent change in reporting victimizations to the police, by type of crime, 1975-76



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## APPENDIX I SURVEY DATA TABLES

The statistical data tables in this appendix contain selected data for the United States from the National Crime Survey comparing 1975 with 1976. There are also three tables depicting changes from 1973 to 1976.

- Tables 1-7 present data on changes in victimization rates for crimes against persons.

- Tables 8-12 provide information on changes in household victimization rates.

- Tables 13-16 contain data on changes in rates for victimizations directed against commercial establishments.

- Tables 17 and 18 present information on changes in the proportion of all weapons and of firearms used in direct contact incidents.

- Table 19 portrays changes in the reporting of crimes to the police for all three sectors--persons, households, and commercial establishments.

- Tables 20-22 indicate changes in victimization rates from 1973 to 1976 for each of the three sectors.

All statistical data gathered by the survey are estimates, which vary in their degree of reliability and are subject to errors associated with the fact that they were developed from a sample survey rather than a complete enumeration. The constraints on interpretation and other uses of these data, as well as guidelines for determining their reliability, are set forth in Appendix II (personal and household sectors) and Appendix III (commercial sector). As a general rule, however, estimates based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases have been considered unreliable, although the standard error of these estimates for the household survey can be determined from the formula given in Appendix II, if desired. Such estimates, qualified by footnotes to the tables, were not used for analytical purposes. The minimum reliable estimates are 10,000 for the personal and household tables and 5,000 for the commercial tables.

All changes have been computed from unrounded rates and percentages. The resulting percent change has been rounded to one decimal point, as have the rates and percents on which the change was based. Tables 1, 8, and 13, the basic tables for the personal, household, and commercial sectors, respectively, contain confidence intervals for each percent change, as do the comparable tables for 1973 to 1976 change. Confidence intervals are also indicated on Table 19 for changes in reporting to the police for all three sectors. These intervals are expressed as percentage points at the 1 standard-error level. Except where explicitly noted, statements of change in the text meet the minimum requirement of being significant at the 1.6 standard-error level (90 percent confidence level), expressed in qualifying language, or at the 2 standard-error level (95 percent confidence level) with no qualification.

Significant changes on all data tables are indicated by either one asterisk, denoting a change at the 2 standard-error level, or two asterisks, for a change at the 1.6 standard-error level.

Each table also contains estimates of the size of every relevant group upon which the rates are based. These estimates reflect adjustments to independent estimates of the population for the personal and household tables; for the commercial sector, the estimates are generated from the survey.

Table 1. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Type of personal crime	Rate		Percent change 1975-1976	Standard error <sup>1</sup>
	1975	1976		
Crimes of violence	32.8	32.6	-0.8	2.3
Rape	0.9	0.8	-7.7	13.5
Robbery	6.8	6.5	-4.4	5.1
Robbery and attempted robbery				
with injury	2.1	2.1	-1.4	9.3
From serious assault	1.3	1.0	** -18.4	10.5
From minor assault	0.9	1.1	+22.7	17.1
Robbery and attempted robbery				
without injury	4.6	4.4	-5.8	6.1
Assault	25.2	25.3	+0.4	2.7
Aggravated assault	9.6	9.9	+2.6	4.5
With injury	3.3	3.4	+4.3	7.8
Attempted assault with weapon	6.3	6.4	+1.7	5.5
Simple assault	15.6	15.4	-1.0	3.4
With injury	4.1	4.0	-2.7	6.6
Attempted assault without weapon	11.4	11.4	-0.4	4.0
Crimes of theft	96.0	96.1	+0.1	1.3
Personal larceny with contact	3.1	2.9	-6.5	7.4
Purse snatching	1.1	0.9	** -20.4	11.1
Pocket picking	2.0	2.0	+1.5	9.8
Personal larceny without contact	92.9	93.2	+0.3	1.4
Total population age 12 and over	169,671,000	171,901,000		

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

<sup>1</sup>The standard error is given in percentage points at the 68 percent confidence level. For an illustration of the use of standard errors for the household survey, see Appendix II.

Table 2. Personal crimes of violence: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by type of crime, victim-offender relationship, and race, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Type of personal crime	Victimizations by strangers								
	For all victims <sup>1</sup>			For white victims			For black victims		
	Rate	Rate	Percent change	Rate	Rate	Percent change	Rate	Rate	Percent change
	1975	1976	1975-1976	1975	1976	1975-1976	1975	1976	1975-1976
Crimes of violence	21.4	20.9	-2.1	20.8	20.5	-1.7	25.7	24.7	-4.0
Rape	0.6	0.6	-7.8	0.6	0.6	-5.2	1.0	1.0	-5.8
Robbery	5.8	5.3	-8.0	5.0	4.5	-9.3	12.0	11.2	-7.1
Robbery and attempted robbery with injury	1.8	1.7	-5.7	1.5	1.5	+1.4	4.3	3.2	** -25.6
From serious assault	1.0	0.8	-18.2	0.8	0.7	-2.6	2.9	1.5	* -48.6
From minor assault	0.8	0.9	+10.4	0.7	0.7	+5.8	1.4	1.7	+20.8
Robbery and attempted robbery without injury	4.0	3.6	-9.3	3.5	3.1	** -13.4	7.7	8.0	+3.6
Assault	15.0	15.1	+0.5	15.3	15.4	+0.9	12.6	12.5	-1.0
Aggravated assault	6.3	6.2	-1.4	6.1	6.2	+1.3	7.1	6.2	-12.4
With injury	2.0	1.9	-2.0	1.9	1.9	+1.6	2.5	2.3	-7.1
Attempted assault with weapon	4.3	4.3	-1.2	4.2	4.3	+1.2	4.6	3.9	-15.5
Simple assault	8.7	8.9	+1.8	9.2	9.2	+0.7	5.5	6.3	+14.0
With injury	1.9	1.9	+0.5	1.9	2.0	+3.7	1.9	1.1	** -38.4
Attempted assault without weapon	6.9	7.0	+2.0	7.3	7.3	-0.1	3.7	5.1	+40.4
Total number of persons in the group	169,671,000	171,901,000		149,011,000	150,725,000		18,452,000	18,797,000	

Type of personal crime	Victimizations by nonstrangers								
	For all victims <sup>1</sup>			For white victims			For black victims		
	Rate	Rate	Percent change	Rate	Rate	Percent change	Rate	Rate	Percent change
	1975	1976	1975-1976	1975	1976	1975-1976	1975	1976	1975-1976
Crimes of violence	11.5	11.6	+1.5	10.7	10.7	-0.7	17.2	19.7	+14.6
Rape	0.3	0.3	-3.7	0.3	0.2	* -37.9	<sup>a</sup> 0.1	0.9	+584.6
Robbery	1.0	1.2	+15.8	0.9	1.0	+16.1	2.1	2.4	+15.7
Robbery and attempted robbery with injury	0.4	0.4	+18.9	0.3	0.4	+11.8	0.7	0.8	+16.4
From serious assault	0.3	0.2	-19.2	0.2	0.2	-9.1	0.6	<sup>a</sup> 0.3	-48.3
From minor assault	0.1	0.2	+100.0	0.1	0.2	+63.6	<sup>a</sup> 0.1	<sup>a</sup> 0.5	+571.4
Robbery and attempted robbery without injury	0.6	0.7	+15.6	0.5	0.6	+18.9	1.5	1.7	+13.0
Assault	10.2	10.2	+0.2	9.6	9.5	-1.1	15.0	16.4	+9.5
Aggravated assault	3.4	3.7	+10.1	2.9	3.0	+4.6	7.4	9.4	+27.0
With injury	1.3	1.5	+13.6	1.1	1.2	+7.1	2.7	3.8	+44.5
Attempted assault with weapon	2.0	2.2	+7.4	1.7	1.8	+3.5	4.7	5.5	+17.1
Simple assault	6.8	6.5	-4.7	6.7	6.5	-3.7	7.6	7.1	-7.5
With injury	2.3	2.1	-5.8	2.1	2.2	+2.8	3.0	1.7	* -41.6
Attempted assault without weapon	4.6	4.4	-4.2	4.6	4.3	-6.5	4.7	5.3	+14.4
Total number of persons in the group	169,671,000	171,901,000		149,011,000	150,725,000		18,452,000	18,797,000	

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.  
 \*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.  
<sup>1</sup>Includes data on "other" races, not shown separately.  
<sup>a</sup>Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.



Table 3. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by sex, race or Spanish origin, and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Sex and race or Spanish origin	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery		Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny		
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated		Simple	With contact	Without contact
<b>Both sexes<sup>1</sup></b>												
1975 rate	169,671,000	32.8	0.9	6.8	2.1	4.6	25.2	9.6	15.6	96.0	3.1	92.9
1976 rate	171,901,000	32.6	0.8	6.5	2.1	4.4	25.3	9.9	15.4	96.1	2.9	93.2
Percent change		-0.8	-7.7	-4.4	-1.4	-5.8	+0.4	+2.6	-1.0	+0.1	-6.5	+0.3
<b>White</b>												
1975 rate	149,011,000	31.6	0.9	5.8	1.8	4.1	24.9	8.9	15.9	97.1	2.6	94.5
1976 rate	150,725,000	31.1	0.7	5.5	1.9	3.7	24.9	9.2	15.7	97.4	2.5	95.0
Percent change		-1.4	-16.1	-5.5	+3.4	-9.4	+0.1	+2.3	-1.2	+0.3	-5.8	+0.5
<b>Black</b>												
1975 rate	18,452,000	42.9	1.2	14.1	5.0	9.2	27.6	14.5	13.1	90.3	7.1	83.2
1976 rate	18,797,000	44.4	1.9	13.6	4.0	9.6	28.9	15.6	13.3	86.8	6.3	80.6
Percent change		+3.4	+59.5	-3.7	-20.0	+4.6	+4.7	+7.6	+1.5	-3.9	-12.5	-3.2
<b>Persons of Spanish origin</b>												
1975 rate	7,924,000	39.6	21.1	10.0	3.9	6.1	28.6	10.4	18.2	77.4	4.1	73.3
1976 rate	8,177,000	34.7	1.3	7.1	2.6	4.5	26.4	12.1	14.3	90.1	4.4	85.7
Percent change		-12.5	+14.7**	-29.1	-34.0	-25.3	-7.7	+16.3	** -21.3	*+16.4	+7.4	*+16.9
<b>Total males<sup>1</sup></b>												
1975 rate	81,233,000	43.6	20.1	9.8	3.0	6.7	33.7	14.2	19.6	108.1	2.9	105.2
1976 rate	82,328,000	42.9	0.2	9.1	2.6	6.5	33.6	14.4	19.2	106.2	2.5	103.7
Percent change		-1.6	+111.1	-6.7	-14.1	-3.4	-0.4	+1.6	-1.9	-1.7	-11.2	-1.5
<b>White males</b>												
1975 rate	71,732,000	42.4	20.1	8.3	2.5	5.8	34.0	13.5	20.6	108.0	2.4	105.6
1976 rate	72,582,000	41.6	0.2	7.8	2.3	5.5	33.6	13.8	19.8	107.2	2.1	105.1
Percent change		-1.9	+216.7	-6.2	-8.0	-5.5	-1.2	+2.6	-3.7	-0.8	-12.6	-0.5

Table 3. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by sex, race or Spanish origin, and type of crime, 1975 and 1976--continued

(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Sex and race or Spanish origin	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny	
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple		With contact	Without contact
Black males												
1975 rate	8,399,000	53.4	<sup>a</sup> 0.4	22.0	7.7	14.3	31.0	18.9	12.1	110.7	7.0	103.7
1976 rate	8,557,000	54.9	<sup>a</sup> 0.2	20.1	5.5	14.6	34.5	19.3	15.2	100.5	6.3	94.2
Percent change		+2.7	-39.5	-8.8	** -28.5	+1.9	+11.3	+2.3	+25.4	** -9.2	-10.2	** -9.2
Males of Spanish origin												
1975 rate	3,837,000	50.0	<sup>a</sup> 0.0	15.0	6.3	8.6	35.0	14.3	20.7	86.2	<sup>a</sup> 1.9	84.3
1976 rate	3,927,000	47.7	<sup>a</sup> 0.0	10.3	3.8	6.6	37.4	17.8	19.6	108.4	4.2	104.2
Percent change		-4.5	0.0**	-30.8	** -39.9	-23.9	+6.7	+24.5	-5.6	* +25.7	+119.2	* +23.6
Total females <sup>1</sup>												
1975 rate	88,439,000	23.0	1.7	4.0	1.3	2.7	17.3	5.4	11.9	84.9	3.3	81.7
1976 rate	89,572,000	23.1	1.4	4.0	1.6	2.4	17.6	5.7	11.9	86.8	3.2	83.6
Percent change		+0.4	-13.3	+0.8	+24.6	-10.8	+1.7	+4.8	+0.3	+2.2	-2.4	+2.4
White females												
1975 rate	77,279,000	21.5	1.6	3.5	1.1	2.4	16.3	4.7	11.6	87.0	2.8	84.2
1976 rate	78,144,000	21.4	1.2	3.4	1.4	2.0	16.7	4.8	11.9	88.4	2.8	85.6
Percent change		-0.5	** -24.5	-3.7	+26.5	-17.5	+2.6	+1.9	+2.8	+1.6	0.0	+1.7
Black females												
1975 rate	10,053,000	34.2	1.8	7.6	2.8	4.8	24.8	10.8	14.0	73.3	7.3	66.1
1976 rate	10,241,000	35.7	3.2	8.2	2.8	5.5	24.2	12.5	11.8	75.4	6.2	69.2
Percent change		+4.4	+77.3	+8.7	-0.4	+14.3	-2.2	+15.3	-15.8	+2.8	-14.4	+4.7
Females of Spanish origin												
1975 rate	4,087,000	29.9	<sup>a</sup> 2.1	5.3	<sup>a</sup> 1.7	3.6	22.5	6.7	15.8	69.1	6.1	63.0
1976 rate	4,251,000	22.7	2.4	4.1	<sup>a</sup> 1.5	2.6	16.2	6.8	9.5	73.2	4.5	68.7
Percent change		** -24.2	+14.2	-23.6	-12.0	-28.5	** -28.0	+1.0	* -40.2	+6.0	-26.4	+9.1

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data on "other" races, not shown separately.

<sup>a</sup>Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 4. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by sex, age, and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 persons in each age group)

Sex and age	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny	
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple		With contact	Without contact
Both sexes												
1975 rate	169,671,000	32.8	0.9	6.8	2.1	4.6	25.2	9.6	15.6	96.0	3.1	92.9
1976 rate	171,901,000	32.6	0.8	6.5	2.1	4.4	25.3	9.9	15.4	96.1	2.9	93.2
Percent change		-0.8	-7.7	-4.4	-1.4	-5.8	+0.4	+2.6	-1.0	+0.1	-6.5	+0.3
12-15												
1975 rate	16,598,000	54.6	0.8	11.4	2.6	8.8	42.5	12.2	30.3	158.5	3.0	155.5
1976 rate	16,350,000	52.0	1.1	10.0	2.1	7.9	40.9	12.6	28.3	148.7	2.2	146.5
Percent change		-4.9	+32.9	-12.1	-20.6	-9.7	-3.7	+3.8	-6.7	*-6.2	-25.3	** -5.8
16-19												
1975 rate	16,371,000	64.4	2.4	10.7	3.5	7.2	51.2	21.5	29.7	162.1	3.3	158.8
1976 rate	16,487,000	66.7	2.1	9.4	3.2	6.1	55.3	23.5	31.8	147.0	4.1	142.9
Percent change		+3.6	-14.0	-12.6	-7.8	-14.8	+7.8	+9.3	+6.8	*-9.3	+23.6	*-10.0
20-24												
1975 rate	18,620,000	59.4	2.6	10.9	3.2	7.6	45.9	18.9	27.1	146.7	4.4	142.3
1976 rate	19,033,000	58.5	2.6	10.3	2.8	7.5	45.6	18.3	27.4	146.3	3.8	142.4
Percent change		-1.4	+0.8	-5.3	-12.7	-2.2	-0.7	-3.3	+1.2	-0.3	-11.7	+0.1
25-34												
1975 rate	30,745,000	39.3	1.2	6.3	2.2	4.1	31.8	11.8	20.1	109.9	2.9	107.0
1976 rate	31,800,000	40.6	1.2	6.4	2.2	4.2	33.0	13.2	19.9	113.2	2.8	110.4
Percent change		+3.3	+1.7	+1.1	-2.7	+3.2	+3.8	+11.9	-0.9	+3.0	-3.8	+3.2
35-49												
1975 rate	34,327,000	20.5	10.3	4.6	1.5	3.1	15.7	6.6	9.1	80.2	2.8	77.4
1976 rate	34,479,000	20.0	1(2)	5.1	1.8	3.3	14.8	5.6	9.2	82.6	2.1	80.5
Percent change		-2.7	*-84.6	+10.9	+17.0	+7.8	-5.4	-15.5	+2.1	+3.0	-22.5	+3.9
50-64												
1975 rate	31,559,000	13.5	10.2	4.4	1.7	2.6	9.0	3.3	5.6	51.3	2.7	48.6
1976 rate	31,825,000	12.2	10.1	4.5	1.9	2.6	7.6	3.4	4.2	58.6	2.7	55.8
Percent change		-9.5	-52.6	+3.9	+10.5	-0.4	** -15.2	+3.0	*-26.1	*+14.0	+0.7	*+14.8
65 and over												
1975 rate	21,452,000	7.8	10.1	4.3	1.2	3.1	3.4	1.5	2.0	24.5	3.3	21.3
1976 rate	21,926,000	7.6	10.1	3.4	1.3	2.1	4.1	1.5	2.7	26.0	3.3	22.8
Percent change		-2.2	-16.7	-20.5	+8.3	** -31.3	+21.1	+1.4	+36.2	+6.0	-0.3	+7.1

Table 4. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by sex, age, and type of crime, 1975 and 1976—continued

(Rate per 1,000 persons in each age group)

Sex and age	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny	
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple		With contact	Without contact
Males												
1975 rate	81,233,000	43.6	10.1	9.8	3.0	6.7	33.7	14.2	19.6	108.1	2.9	105.2
1976 rate	82,328,000	42.9	0.2	9.1	2.6	6.5	33.6	14.4	19.2	106.2	2.5	103.7
Percent change		-1.6	+111.1	-6.7	-14.1	-3.4	-0.4	+1.6	-1.9	-1.7	-11.2	-1.5
12-15												
1975 rate	8,451,000	67.9	10.0	17.4	3.3	14.1	50.6	17.0	33.5	172.7	4.3	168.4
1976 rate	8,338,000	66.7	10.0	16.4	3.1	13.3	50.2	16.5	33.7	158.4	3.5	154.9
Percent change		-1.8	0.0	-5.4	-5.2	-5.5	-0.6	-3.1	+0.7	*-8.3	-18.0	*-8.0
16-19												
1975 rate	8,131,000	87.1	10.2	16.9	5.4	11.6	70.0	31.4	38.6	178.8	4.1	174.7
1976 rate	8,192,000	86.2	10.2	13.1	4.6	8.5	72.9	34.2	38.7	156.5	5.1	151.4
Percent change		-1.1	+5.9	** -22.6	-14.1	** -26.4	+4.1	+8.7	+0.3	*-12.5	+26.2	*-13.4
20-24												
1975 rate	9,087,000	76.1	10.3	14.6	4.6	9.9	61.2	28.5	32.7	168.7	4.5	164.3
1976 rate	9,311,000	72.5	10.9	12.7	3.1	9.6	58.9	27.0	31.9	164.4	3.5	160.9
Percent change		-4.7	+169.7	-12.8	** -33.7	-2.9	-3.7	-5.2	-2.3	-2.6	-21.7	-2.1
25-34												
1975 rate	15,094,000	52.3	10.1	9.0	3.5	5.5	43.2	17.7	25.5	125.2	2.1	123.1
1976 rate	15,606,000	53.1	10.2	8.3	2.7	5.7	44.5	18.9	25.6	122.0	1.9	120.1
Percent change		+1.5	+166.7	-7.4	-23.9	+3.1	+3.0	+6.8	+0.4	-2.5	-7.2	-2.5
35-49												
1975 rate	16,660,000	25.5	10.1	5.7	2.0	3.8	19.7	8.5	11.2	82.6	2.4	80.3
1976 rate	16,729,000	24.8	10.0	6.9	2.0	4.9	17.9	7.6	10.3	86.0	1.6	84.3
Percent change		-2.9	-100.0	+20.1	-1.0	+30.9	-9.0	-10.2	-8.2	+4.0	-31.8	+5.1
50-64												
1975 rate	14,982,000	17.9	10.0	6.4	2.6	3.8	11.4	4.3	7.1	55.3	2.2	53.2
1976 rate	15,124,000	15.8	10.1	5.9	2.3	3.6	9.8	4.9	4.9	65.3	1.9	63.3
Percent change		-11.5	(Y)	-7.6	-12.6	-4.5	-14.3	+14.4	*-31.5	*+17.9	-11.1	*+19.1
65 and over												
1975 rate	8,829,000	9.7	10.0	5.6	1.0	4.6	4.0	2.3	1.8	27.2	2.2	25.0
1976 rate	9,028,000	12.5	10.1	5.9	1.6	4.5	6.5	2.3	4.2	31.4	2.1	29.2
Percent change		+29.1	(Y)	+4.6	+56.7	-7.4	+60.3	+0.9	+136.9	+15.3	-4.5	+17.0

Table 4. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by sex, age, and type of crime, 1975 and 1976—continued

(Rate per 1,000 persons in each age group)

Sex and age	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny	
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple		With contact	Without contact
Females												
1975 rate	88,439,000	23.0	1.7	4.0	1.3	2.7	17.3	5.4	11.9	84.9	3.3	81.7
1976 rate	89,572,000	23.1	1.4	4.0	1.6	2.4	17.6	5.7	11.9	86.8	3.2	83.6
Percent change		+0.4	-13.3	+0.8	+24.6	-10.8	+1.7	+4.8	+0.3	+2.2	-2.4	+2.4
12-15												
1975 rate	8,147,000	40.9	1.6	5.2	2.0	3.2	34.1	7.1	27.0	143.8	1.6	142.2
1976 rate	8,012,000	36.6	2.1	3.3	1.0	2.2	31.2	8.6	22.6	138.7	0.9	137.8
Percent change		-10.4	+32.1	** -36.5	** -46.9	-30.1	-8.5	+20.6	-16.2	-3.6	-45.7	-3.1
16-19												
1975 rate	8,241,000	41.9	4.7	4.5	1.6	2.9	32.7	11.7	21.0	145.7	2.6	143.1
1976 rate	8,296,000	47.5	4.0	5.6	1.8	3.8	37.9	13.0	24.9	137.7	3.1	134.6
Percent change		+13.3	-14.6	+24.2	+13.0	+30.5	+15.7	+11.0	+18.4	-5.5	+19.9	-5.9
20-24												
1975 rate	9,532,000	43.4	4.7	7.3	1.9	5.4	31.4	9.7	21.7	125.6	4.2	121.4
1976 rate	9,722,000	45.1	4.2	8.0	2.6	5.4	32.9	9.9	23.0	128.9	4.2	124.7
Percent change		+3.8	-10.2	+8.5	+36.7	-1.1	+4.8	+1.7	+6.2	+2.6	-1.9	+2.8
25-34												
1975 rate	15,651,000	26.8	2.3	3.7	1.1	2.7	20.9	6.0	14.8	95.2	3.7	91.5
1976 rate	16,194,000	28.7	2.2	4.5	1.7	2.8	22.0	7.6	14.4	104.7	3.6	101.1
Percent change		+6.8	-4.8	+21.4	+64.8	+3.8	+5.5	+26.5	-3.1	*+10.0	-2.2	*+10.5
35-49												
1975 rate	17,668,000	15.9	0.4	3.5	1.1	2.4	11.9	4.9	7.0	77.9	3.1	74.8
1976 rate	17,750,000	15.5	0.1	3.5	1.6	1.8	12.0	3.7	8.3	79.4	2.6	76.8
Percent change		-2.4	*-82.5	-2.5	+47.7	-25.9	+0.3	-24.4	+17.5	+2.0	-16.2	+2.7
50-64												
1975 rate	16,577,000	9.6	0.4	2.5	0.9	1.6	6.7	2.5	4.3	47.7	3.2	44.5
1976 rate	16,702,000	9.0	0.1	3.2	1.6	1.7	5.6	2.1	3.5	52.5	3.5	49.0
Percent change		-6.3	*-71.4	+30.6	+71.4	+8.3	-16.5	-15.0	-17.6	+9.9	+8.1	+10.1
65 and over												
1975 rate	12,623,000	6.5	0.1	3.4	1.3	2.1	3.0	0.9	2.1	22.7	4.0	18.7
1976 rate	12,898,000	4.2	0.0	1.7	1.1	0.6	2.5	0.9	1.6	22.3	4.0	18.3
Percent change		*-34.8	-100.0	*-49.7	-18.3	*-69.1	-15.7	+2.3	-23.2	-1.7	+1.3	-2.4

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Y Not defined.

Z Less than .05.

<sup>1</sup>Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 5. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by sex, marital status, and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Sex and marital status	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny	
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple		With contact	Without contact
Both sexes <sup>1</sup>												
1975 rate	169,671,000	32.8	0.9	6.8	2.1	4.6	25.2	9.6	15.6	96.0	3.1	92.9
1976 rate	171,901,000	32.6	0.8	6.5	2.1	4.4	25.3	9.9	15.4	96.1	2.9	93.2
Percent change		-0.8	-7.7	-4.4	-1.4	-5.8	+0.4	+2.6	-1.0	+0.1	-6.5	+0.3
Never married												
1975 rate	48,764,000	56.3	1.5	11.6	3.3	8.3	43.1	15.3	27.8	148.7	4.0	144.7
1976 rate	49,942,000	56.4	1.7	10.7	3.0	7.7	44.0	16.9	27.2	142.8	4.2	138.5
Percent change		+0.1	+8.4	-8.2	-7.9	-8.2	+2.1	+10.2	-2.4	*-4.0	+4.7	*-4.2
Married												
1975 rate	98,236,000	19.4	0.4	3.5	1.1	2.5	15.5	6.2	9.3	74.4	1.9	72.5
1976 rate	98,884,000	18.6	0.4	3.2	0.9	2.4	15.0	6.0	9.0	75.8	1.6	74.1
Percent change		-4.3	-14.6	-8.3	-18.1	-4.1	-3.2	-2.6	-3.7	+1.9	-15.3	+2.3
Separated or divorced												
1975 rate	10,244,000	72.8	3.0	16.8	7.7	9.1	53.0	23.0	30.0	124.0	8.1	115.9
1976 rate	10,772,000	75.6	2.2	19.9	9.3	10.6	53.5	20.9	32.7	131.5	5.9	125.6
Percent change		+3.8	-27.4	+18.6	+20.5	+17.0	+0.9	-9.3	+8.8	+6.0	**+27.6	**+8.4
Widowed												
1975 rate	11,976,000	13.7	20.5	5.2	1.7	3.6	7.9	3.5	4.4	35.0	4.5	30.5
1976 rate	11,851,000	10.4	20.3	3.8	2.1	1.7	6.3	2.5	3.9	37.8	5.3	32.4
Percent change		*-23.9	-44.4	-27.2	+25.7	*-52.1	-20.4	-30.2	-12.6	+7.9	+18.7	+6.4
Males <sup>2</sup>												
1975 rate	81,233,000	43.6	20.1	9.8	3.0	6.7	33.7	14.2	19.6	108.1	2.9	105.2
1976 rate	82,328,000	42.9	0.2	9.1	2.6	6.5	33.6	14.4	19.2	106.2	2.5	103.7
Percent change		-1.6	+111.1	-6.7	-14.1	-3.4	-0.4	+1.6	-1.9	-1.7	-11.2	-1.5
Never married												
1975 rate	25,810,000	72.3	20.2	16.7	4.5	12.2	55.4	21.7	33.7	164.2	4.7	159.4
1976 rate	26,567,000	70.6	20.1	15.0	4.0	11.1	55.6	23.5	32.1	153.7	4.5	149.3
Percent change		-2.3	-64.7	-9.9	-11.8	-9.4	+0.3	+8.1	-4.8	*-6.4	-5.9	*-6.4
Married												
1975 rate	49,628,000	26.1	2(Z)	4.7	1.4	3.2	21.4	9.4	12.1	78.4	1.5	77.0
1976 rate	49,824,000	24.9	0.2	4.2	1.0	3.2	20.5	8.8	11.8	79.1	1.1	78.0
Percent change		-4.7	+666.7	-10.7	** -30.8	-1.5	-4.3	-6.5	-2.7	+0.8	-23.8	+1.3

Table 5. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by sex, marital status, and type of crime, 1975 and 1976—continued

(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Sex and marital status	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny	
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple		With contact	Without contact
Separated or divorced												
1975 rate	3,688,000	87.1	<sup>2</sup> 0.0	28.9	14.1	14.9	58.1	30.7	27.4	153.1	6.9	146.2
1976 rate	3,888,000	92.1	<sup>2</sup> 0.5	30.2	12.9	17.2	61.4	28.8	32.6	156.2	5.9	150.3
Percent change		+5.8	(Y)	+4.2	-8.0	+15.6	+5.7	-6.3	+19.2	+2.0	-14.1	+2.8
Widowed												
1975 rate	1,890,000	27.5	<sup>2</sup> 0.9	12.3	<sup>2</sup> 4.2	8.2	14.3	6.5	7.8	37.1	6.3	30.8
1976 rate	1,839,000	26.8	<sup>2</sup> 0.6	14.3	5.5	8.8	11.9	5.8	6.1	53.3	6.7	46.6
Percent change		-2.6	-36.4	+16.3	+33.0	+8.1	-16.8	-10.9	-22.0	+43.7	+6.4	**+51.3
Females <sup>1</sup>												
1975 rate	88,439,000	23.0	1.7	4.0	1.3	2.7	17.3	5.4	11.9	84.9	3.3	81.7
1976 rate	89,572,000	23.1	1.4	4.0	1.6	2.4	17.6	5.7	11.9	86.8	3.2	83.6
Percent change		+0.4	-13.3	+0.8	+24.6	-10.8	+1.7	+4.8	+0.3	+2.2	-2.4	+2.4
Never married												
1975 rate	22,954,000	38.3	3.1	5.9	1.9	4.0	29.3	8.1	21.2	131.3	3.3	128.1
1976 rate	23,376,000	40.1	3.5	5.7	1.9	3.8	30.9	9.3	21.6	130.3	4.0	126.4
Percent change		+4.8	+13.6	-3.0	+1.0	-5.0	+5.5	+15.4	+1.7	=0.8	+21.8	-1.3
Married												
1975 rate	48,608,000	12.6	0.8	2.3	0.7	1.7	9.5	2.9	6.5	70.2	2.3	67.9
1976 rate	49,060,000	12.2	0.5	2.3	0.7	1.5	9.5	3.3	6.2	72.4	2.1	70.3
Percent change		-3.4	*-40.7	-3.0	+12.3	-8.9	-0.2	+11.3	-5.4	+3.0	-9.8	+3.5
Separated or divorced												
1975 rate	6,556,000	64.8	4.7	9.9	4.2	5.8	50.2	18.7	31.5	107.7	8.9	98.8
1976 rate	6,884,000	66.3	3.1	14.1	7.2	6.9	49.1	16.4	32.7	117.5	5.9	111.6
Percent change		+2.3	-33.4	+41.9	+74.2	+18.4	-2.2	-12.2	+3.7	+9.2	**+33.3	**+13.0
Widowed												
1975 rate	10,086,000	11.1	<sup>2</sup> 0.5	3.9	1.2	2.7	6.8	2.9	3.8	34.6	4.2	30.5
1976 rate	10,013,000	7.4	<sup>2</sup> 0.3	1.9	1.5	<sup>2</sup> 0.4	5.3	1.8	3.5	34.9	5.1	29.9
Percent change		*-33.3	-47.9	*-52.2	+22.5	*-85.1	-21.4	**+37.8	-8.7	+1.0	+22.1	-2.0

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Y Not defined.

Z Less than .05.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data on persons whose marital status was not ascertained.

<sup>2</sup>Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 6. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by annual family income and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Annual family income	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny	
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple		With contact	Without contact
Total <sup>1</sup>												
1975 rate	169,671,000	32.8	0.9	6.8	2.1	4.6	25.2	9.6	15.6	96.0	3.1	92.9
1976 rate	171,901,000	32.6	0.8	6.5	2.1	4.4	25.3	9.9	15.4	96.1	2.9	93.2
Percent change		-0.8	-7.7	-4.4	-1.4	-5.8	+0.4	+2.6	-1.0	+0.1	-6.5	+0.3
Less than \$3,000												
1975 rate	13,462,000	52.1	2.3	11.9	3.9	8.1	37.8	15.3	22.5	79.0	5.8	73.2
1976 rate	12,093,000	54.2	2.5	14.0	5.3	8.7	37.7	16.1	21.7	86.4	5.7	80.7
Percent change		+4.1	+7.8	+17.3	+37.4	+7.7	-0.3	+4.9	-3.9	**+9.5	-1.2	**+10.3
\$3,000-\$7,499												
1975 rate	35,761,000	38.1	1.1	8.7	2.0	5.7	28.2	12.3	15.9	77.5	4.2	73.3
1976 rate	33,721,000	36.6	1.1	8.4	1.1	5.3	27.1	11.3	15.8	76.0	3.5	72.5
Percent change		-3.8	-2.6	-3.7	+2.0	-6.6	-3.9	-7.9	-0.8	-1.9	-17.2	-1.1
\$7,500-\$9,999												
1975 rate	18,094,000	32.7	1.3	7.0	2.7	4.2	24.4	8.9	15.5	95.9	2.6	93.3
1976 rate	17,017,000	33.4	1.2	6.5	2.1	4.4	25.7	10.6	15.1	89.2	3.0	86.2
Percent change		+2.1	-11.2	-6.2	-22.5	+4.5	+5.2	+19.1	-2.8	**+7.0	+14.2	**+7.6
\$10,000-\$14,999												
1975 rate	41,388,000	29.5	0.6	5.7	1.5	4.2	23.3	8.5	14.7	98.5	2.4	96.1
1976 rate	39,359,000	29.7	0.6	4.9	1.4	3.5	24.3	9.6	14.7	94.2	2.0	92.2
Percent change		+0.8	0.0	-14.2	-10.4	-15.7	+4.5	+12.2	+0.1	**+4.4	-17.5	-4.1
\$15,000-\$24,999												
1975 rate	35,769,000	27.6	0.6	4.6	1.3	3.2	22.4	7.3	15.2	111.8	1.7	110.1
1976 rate	38,955,000	27.5	0.5	4.5	1.5	3.0	22.6	7.9	14.7	111.8	2.2	109.6
Percent rate		-0.2	-15.0	-2.0	+11.3	-7.8	+0.6	+8.3	-3.0	(Z)	+27.1	-0.5
\$25,000 and over												
1975 rate	12,487,000	27.5	<sup>a</sup> 0.8	4.0	0.9	3.1	22.7	7.4	15.3	128.9	2.4	126.5
1976 rate	15,230,000	27.2	<sup>a</sup> 0.6	4.5	0.9	3.6	22.0	7.5	14.5	133.9	2.5	131.3
Percent change		-1.1	-21.5	+14.1	-1.1	+19.3	-3.0	+1.3	-5.0	+3.9	+5.0	+3.9

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Less than .05

<sup>1</sup>Includes data on persons whose income level was not ascertained.

<sup>a</sup>Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.



Table 7. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by place of residence and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Place of residence	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny	
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple		With contact	Without contact
All places of residence												
1975 rate	169,672,000	32.8	0.9	6.8	2.1	4.6	25.2	9.6	15.6	96.0	3.1	92.9
1976 rate	171,901,000	32.6	0.8	6.5	2.1	4.4	25.3	9.9	15.4	96.1	2.9	93.2
Percent change		-0.8	-7.7	-4.4	-1.4	-5.8	+0.4	+2.6	-1.0	+0.1	-6.5	+0.3
Total in metropolitan areas												
Inside central cities												
1975 rate	50,270,000	46.2	1.3	12.5	3.9	8.6	32.4	12.9	19.5	108.7	5.6	103.1
1976 rate	50,195,000	45.9	1.3	12.4	4.1	8.3	32.2	12.8	19.4	109.6	5.6	104.0
Percent change		-0.5	-3.0	-0.4	+4.9	-2.8	-0.5	-0.3	-0.6	+0.9	+1.4	+0.8
Outside central cities												
1975 rate	65,687,000	31.7	0.7	5.6	1.7	3.9	25.4	9.3	16.1	106.4	2.6	103.8
1976 rate	67,196,000	32.3	0.8	5.1	1.7	3.5	26.4	9.8	16.6	107.5	2.4	105.1
Percent change		+1.9	+16.2	-8.7	-2.4	-11.2	+3.9	+4.8	+3.4	+1.0	-7.3	+1.2
Metropolitan areas with central cities of 1,000,000 or more												
Inside central cities												
1975 rate	15,183,000	46.0	1.5	19.1	5.2	13.8	25.4	11.0	14.4	91.5	8.4	83.1
1976 rate	14,990,000	48.5	0.8	18.5	5.6	12.8	29.2	12.7	16.6	91.6	9.5	82.1
Percent change		+5.4	*-48.1	-3.3	+7.4	-7.3	+15.1	+15.1	+15.2	(Z)	+13.0	-1.3
Outside central cities												
1975 rate	14,336,000	36.8	0.7	7.0	2.0	5.1	29.1	10.2	18.9	121.2	3.3	117.9
1976 rate	16,196,000	37.8	+0.5	8.3	3.1	5.2	29.0	10.8	18.2	115.0	3.4	111.5
Percent change		+2.6	-23.9	+17.9	+56.6	+3.2	-0.4	+5.5	-3.6	-5.1	+4.9	-5.4
Metropolitan areas with central cities from 500,000 to 999,999												
Inside central cities												
1975 rate	10,303,000	50.5	1.0	14.4	4.6	9.7	35.1	13.3	21.8	131.5	7.0	124.5
1976 rate	10,329,000	49.7	2.0	13.6	4.0	9.6	34.1	15.1	19.0	128.2	6.2	122.0
Percent change		-1.5	+106.1	-5.1	-13.4	-1.1	-3.0	+12.9	-12.8	-2.6	-12.3	-2.0
Outside central cities												
1975 rate	15,425,000	37.7	1.0	6.9	2.1	4.8	29.8	9.5	20.2	125.0	3.7	121.3
1976 rate	15,839,000	32.5	0.9	5.2	1.0	4.2	26.4	9.5	16.9	112.3	2.4	109.9
Percent change		*-13.6	-10.6	** -24.4	*-53.1	-11.9	-11.2	-0.3	** -16.4	*-10.2	*-36.0	*-9.4

Table 7. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by place of residence and type of crime, 1975 and 1976—continued

(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Place of residence	Number of persons in the group	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault			Crimes of theft	Personal larceny	
				Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple		With contact	Without contact
Metropolitan areas with central cities from 250,000 to 499,999												
Inside central cities												
1975 rate	9,663,000	46.0	1.1	9.9	3.4	6.4	35.1	12.6	22.5	105.3	4.4	100.9
1976 rate	9,894,000	45.3	1.7	9.7	3.2	6.5	33.9	13.9	20.0	114.6	4.5	110.0
Percent change		-1.5	+62.9	-1.5	-7.6	+1.9	-3.4	+10.9	-11.4	+8.8	+2.5	+9.1
Outside central cities												
1975 rate	14,952,000	29.6	10.4	5.3	1.8	3.6	23.8	9.4	14.4	99.2	2.2	97.0
1976 rate	15,055,000	33.1	1.0	4.2	1.5	2.7	27.9	10.7	17.2	106.0	2.2	103.8
Percent change		+12.1	+125.0	-20.3	-14.9	-23.0	**+17.2	+13.4	+19.6	+6.9	+1.4	+7.0
Metropolitan areas with central cities from 50,000 to 249,999												
Inside central cities												
1975 rate	15,120,000	43.5	1.6	6.2	2.2	3.9	35.7	14.6	21.1	112.5	2.4	110.0
1976 rate	14,982,000	41.1	1.0	7.3	3.1	4.2	32.8	10.8	22.1	111.6	2.1	109.5
Percent change		-5.4	-33.3	+18.0	+38.4	+6.4	-8.1	*-26.4	+4.5	-0.8	-12.3	-0.5
Outside central cities												
1975 rate	20,975,000	25.4	0.6	4.0	1.2	2.8	20.8	8.5	12.3	87.8	1.7	86.2
1976 rate	20,106,000	27.1	0.7	3.2	1.1	2.1	23.2	8.5	14.7	98.9	1.8	97.1
Percent change		+7.0	+23.7	-19.3	-3.4	-25.7	+11.5	+0.6	+19.0	*+12.6	+9.6	*+12.6
Total in nonmetropolitan areas												
1975 rate	53,714,000	21.8	0.8	2.8	1.1	1.8	18.2	6.9	11.3	71.5	1.4	70.1
1976 rate	54,510,000	20.6	0.5	2.6	0.9	1.8	17.5	7.2	10.3	69.6	0.9	68.6
Percent change		-5.4	** -36.4	-7.1	-19.0	+0.6	-3.9	+4.3	-9.0	-2.7	** -30.4	-2.1

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Less than .05.

<sup>1</sup>Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 8. Household crimes: Change in victimization rates, by type of crime, 1975 and 1976  
(Rate per 1,000 households)

Type of household crime	Rate		Percent change, 1975-1976	Standard error <sup>1</sup>
	1975	1976		
Burglary	91.7	88.9	-3.0	2.0
Forcible entry	30.9	30.4	-1.7	3.6
Unlawful entry	40.5	37.7	*-6.9	3.0
Attempted forcible entry	20.3	20.8	+2.7	4.7
Household larceny	125.4	124.1	-1.0	1.7
Completed larceny <sup>2</sup>	117.8	115.4	-2.1	1.8
Less than \$50	76.9	74.7	-2.7	2.2
\$50 or more	37.1	36.6	-1.4	3.3
Attempted larceny	7.6	8.7	**+14.9	8.3
Motor vehicle theft	19.5	16.5	*-15.5	4.1
Completed theft	12.5	10.1	*-18.9	5.0
Attempted theft	7.0	6.3	-9.2	7.3
Number of households	73,560,000	74,956,000		

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

<sup>1</sup>The standard error is given in percentage points at the 68 percent confidence level. For an illustration of the use of standard errors for the household survey, see Appendix II.

<sup>2</sup>Includes amount not reported.

Table 9. Household crimes: Change in victimization rates, by age of head of household and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 households)

Age of household head	Number of households in the group	Burglary				Household larceny			Motor vehicle theft		
		Total	Forcible entry	Unlawful entry	Attempted forcible entry	Total	Completed	Attempted	Total	Completed	Attempted
Total											
1975 rate	73,560,000	91.7	30.9	40.5	20.3	125.4	117.8	7.6	19.5	12.5	7.0
1976 rate	74,956,000	88.9	30.4	37.7	20.8	124.1	115.4	8.7	16.5	10.1	6.3
Percent change		-3.0	-1.7	*-6.9	+2.7	-1.0	-2.1	***+14.9	*-15.5	*-18.9	-9.2
12-19											
1975 rate	1,110,000	214.5	39.4	131.0	44.0	221.0	204.1	16.9	32.4	20.9	11.5
1976 rate	1,095,000	207.3	54.6	113.3	39.3	178.1	167.7	10.4	27.4	17.5	9.9
Percent change		-3.3	+38.7	-13.5	-10.7	*-19.4	**+17.9	-38.5	-15.5	-16.1	-14.6
20-34											
1975 rate	21,508,000	122.2	45.2	48.3	28.7	171.5	160.2	11.4	29.7	18.6	11.0
1976 rate	22,092,000	123.6	44.6	48.1	30.9	171.9	159.3	12.6	24.3	15.5	8.8
Percent change		+1.1	-1.4	-0.5	+7.6	+0.2	-0.6	+11.3	*-18.1	*-17.0	*-20.0
35-49											
1975 rate	18,393,000	101.5	32.8	50.0	18.7	148.7	140.5	8.2	21.7	14.2	7.5
1976 rate	18,522,000	92.8	30.4	42.9	19.6	144.7	135.0	9.7	18.9	11.6	7.3
Percent change		*-8.6	-7.6	*-14.2	+4.7	-2.7	-3.9	+18.2	**+13.0	**+18.3	-2.9
50-64											
1975 rate	18,156,000	68.1	23.5	29.4	15.2	94.1	88.6	5.5	15.0	9.8	5.1
1976 rate	18,459,000	67.5	22.8	29.4	15.3	94.6	87.0	7.7	12.3	7.3	5.0
Percent change		-0.8	-3.1	+0.2	+1.0	+0.6	-1.8	***+39.6	**+17.5	*-25.4	-2.3
65 and over											
1975 rate	14,393,000	53.8	15.8	23.8	14.2	58.7	55.6	3.1	6.2	3.9	2.3
1976 rate	14,789,000	50.2	16.9	20.5	12.8	59.5	56.7	2.9	6.1	3.3	2.8
Percent change		-6.7	+7.2	**+13.7	-10.3	+1.4	+2.0	-8.3	-0.7	-15.9	+25.8

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.  
 \*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Table 10. Household crimes: Change in victimization rates, by race of head of household, tenure and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 households)

Race of household head and tenure	Number of households in the group	Burglary				Household larceny			Motor vehicle theft		
		Total	Forcible entry	Unlawful entry	Attempted forcible entry	Total	Completed	Attempted	Total	Completed	Attempted
<b>All races<sup>1</sup></b>											
1975 rate	73,560,000	91.7	30.9	40.5	20.3	125.4	117.8	7.6	19.5	12.5	7.0
1976 rate	74,956,000	88.9	30.4	37.7	20.8	124.1	115.4	8.7	16.5	10.1	6.3
Percent change		-3.0	-1.7	*-6.9	+2.7	-1.0	-2.1	**+14.9	*-15.5	*-18.9	-9.2
<b>Owned or being bought</b>											
1975 rate	46,858,000	77.6	24.8	37.0	15.8	115.6	108.8	6.8	15.7	9.9	5.8
1976 rate	48,207,000	73.3	24.4	33.1	15.8	113.5	105.5	7.9	13.5	8.0	5.5
Percent change		*-5.5	-1.7	*-10.4	-0.1	-1.8	-3.0	+16.8	*-14.0	*-19.3	-4.9
<b>Rented</b>											
1975 rate	26,702,000	116.4	41.6	46.7	28.1	142.6	133.6	9.0	26.2	17.0	9.1
1976 rate	26,749,000	117.0	41.1	46.0	29.9	143.3	133.1	10.2	21.9	14.0	7.9
Percent change		+0.5	-1.0	-1.6	+6.3	+0.5	-0.4	+12.9	*-16.4	*-18.0	-13.7
<b>White</b>											
1975 rate	64,905,000	87.1	27.1	41.1	18.8	126.6	119.0	7.6	18.6	11.7	6.9
1976 rate	66,065,000	84.0	26.8	37.9	19.4	125.8	117.2	8.6	15.9	9.6	6.4
Percent change		-3.5	-1.3	*-7.9	+3.1	-0.6	-1.5	+13.7	*-14.3	*-18.4	-7.3
<b>Owned or being bought</b>											
1975 rate	43,024,000	75.9	22.8	37.6	15.4	115.4	108.5	6.8	14.8	9.3	5.4
1976 rate	44,293,000	70.9	22.4	33.3	15.2	113.8	106.3	7.6	12.8	7.5	5.4
Percent change		*-6.5	-1.7	*-11.3	-1.8	-1.4	-2.1	+10.5	*-13.1	*-19.9	-1.3
<b>Rented</b>											
1975 rate	21,881,000	109.1	35.6	48.0	25.5	148.6	139.5	9.1	26.0	16.4	9.6
1976 rate	21,772,000	110.7	35.6	47.0	28.1	150.2	139.4	10.8	22.1	13.8	8.3
Percent change		+1.5	-0.1	-2.1	+10.2	+1.1	-0.1	+19.3	*-14.8	**+15.6	-13.5
<b>Black</b>											
1975 rate	7,838,000	129.4	61.6	36.2	31.7	114.6	107.9	6.7	26.9	18.5	8.4
1976 rate	8,006,000	130.8	59.2	39.1	32.5	112.1	102.3	9.8	21.5	15.1	6.3
Percent change		+1.1	-3.9	+8.2	+2.7	-2.1	-5.2	+47.2	*-20.2	-18.3	-24.5
<b>Owned or being bought</b>											
1975 rate	3,484,000	99.2	48.5	30.9	19.8	118.3	113.0	5.3	27.0	16.9	10.1
1976 rate	3,541,000	105.8	48.7	33.6	23.5	110.5	98.0	12.5	22.3	15.3	7.0
Percent change		+6.6	+0.6	+8.7	+18.3	-6.6	**+13.3	**+135.5	-17.6	-9.4	-31.0
<b>Rented</b>											
1975 rate	4,354,000	153.6	72.1	40.4	41.1	111.6	103.9	7.8	26.8	19.8	7.0
1976 rate	4,465,000	150.7	67.5	43.5	39.7	113.5	105.7	7.7	20.8	14.9	5.9
Percent change		-1.9	-6.4	+7.8	-3.4	+1.6	+1.8	-0.8	**+22.3	-24.4	-16.1

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.  
 \*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.  
<sup>1</sup>Includes data on "other" races, not shown separately.

Table 11. Household crimes: Change in victimization rates, by race or Spanish origin of head of household, annual family income, and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 households)

Annual family income, race of household head, or Spanish origin	Number of households in the group	Burglary				Household larceny			Motor vehicle theft		
		Total	Forcible entry	Unlawful entry	Attempted forcible entry	Total	Completed	Attempted	Total	Completed	Attempted
All races <sup>1</sup>											
1975 rate	73,560,000	91.7	30.9	40.5	20.3	125.4	117.8	7.6	19.5	12.5	7.0
1976 rate	74,956,000	88.9	30.4	37.7	20.8	124.1	115.4	8.7	16.5	10.1	6.3
Percent change		-3.0	-1.7	*-6.9	+2.7	-1.0	-2.1	**+14.9	*-15.5	*-18.9	-9.2
Less than \$7,500											
1975 rate	26,332,000	101.7	35.0	42.7	24.0	111.5	105.1	6.5	14.8	9.8	5.1
1976 rate	24,913,000	101.3	36.1	41.1	24.1	106.5	100.3	6.2	12.1	8.4	3.7
Percent change		-0.3	+3.3	-3.8	+0.5	-4.5	-4.6	-4.2	*-18.2	-14.1	*-26.1
\$7,500-\$14,999											
1975 rate	24,357,000	83.8	30.2	34.7	18.9	137.4	129.1	8.3	21.5	13.5	8.1
1976 rate	23,563,000	80.7	26.7	33.0	21.0	137.0	126.3	10.8	19.0	11.8	7.2
Percent change		-3.7	** -11.5	-5.0	+11.1	-0.3	-2.2	**+29.7	*-11.8	-12.4	-10.8
\$15,000 and over											
1975 rate	17,210,000	90.7	25.6	46.7	18.5	136.3	127.7	8.6	23.1	14.3	8.7
1976 rate	19,543,000	86.7	27.5	41.4	17.8	140.1	130.1	9.9	19.8	11.0	8.9
Percent change		-4.4	+7.5	*-11.3	-3.6	+2.7	+1.9	+15.5	*-14.1	*-23.6	+1.4
White <sup>2</sup>											
1975 rate	64,905,000	87.1	27.1	41.1	18.8	126.6	119.0	7.6	18.6	11.7	6.9
1976 rate	66,065,000	84.0	26.8	37.9	19.4	125.8	117.2	8.6	15.9	9.6	6.4
Percent change		-3.5	-1.3	*-7.9	+3.1	-0.6	-1.5	+13.7	*-14.3	*-18.4	-7.3
Less than \$7,500											
1975 rate	21,546,000	94.2	28.5	43.6	22.0	113.7	107.0	6.8	14.5	9.2	5.3
1976 rate	20,314,000	94.0	30.8	41.0	22.3	108.4	102.3	6.1	11.6	8.0	3.7
Percent change		-0.2	+7.7	-6.1	+1.3	-4.7	-4.4	-9.9	*-19.6	-12.9	*-31.1
\$7,500-\$14,999											
1975 rate	22,099,000	79.7	27.4	35.0	17.3	137.3	129.3	8.0	19.8	12.0	7.7
1976 rate	21,293,000	76.6	23.6	33.3	19.7	137.1	126.5	10.5	17.5	10.6	6.9
Percent change		-3.8	*-13.9	-4.8	+14.1	-0.2	-2.1	**+31.0	-11.2	-11.7	-10.5
\$15,000 and over											
1975 rate	16,240,000	90.2	24.4	47.6	18.2	136.1	127.5	8.6	21.8	13.8	8.0
1976 rate	18,354,000	85.0	25.7	42.0	17.3	140.7	131.2	9.6	19.3	10.5	8.8
Percent change		-5.8	+5.2	*-11.8	-4.8	+3.4	+2.9	+10.6	-11.6	*-23.9	+9.6

Table 11. Household crimes: Change in victimization rates, by race or Spanish origin of head of household, annual family income, and type of crime, 1975 and 1976--continued

(Rate per 1,000 households)

Annual family income, race of household head, or Spanish origin	Number of households in the group	Burglary			Household larceny			Motor vehicle theft			
		Total	Forcible entry	Unlawful entry	Attempted forcible entry	Total	Completed	Attempted	Total	Completed	Attempted
<b>Black<sup>1</sup></b>											
1975 rate	7,838,000	129.4	61.6	36.2	31.7	114.6	107.9	6.7	26.9	18.5	8.4
1976 rate	8,006,000	130.8	59.2	39.1	32.5	112.1	102.3	9.8	21.5	15.1	6.3
Percent change		+1.1	-3.9	+8.2	+2.7	-2.1	-5.2	+47.2	*-20.2	-18.3	-24.5
<b>Less than \$7,500</b>											
1975 rate	4,488,000	134.4	65.2	36.6	32.6	98.6	94.4	4.2	15.5	11.6	3.9
1976 rate	4,298,000	134.8	59.2	42.8	32.8	97.8	90.6	7.2	12.9	9.7	3.2
Percent change		+0.3	-9.2	+17.0	+0.7	-0.8	-4.0	+72.6	-16.5	-16.0	-17.9
<b>\$7,500-\$14,999</b>											
1975 rate	2,019,000	129.7	60.0	33.7	36.0	135.3	126.0	9.2	42.0	29.2	12.8
1976 rate	2,032,000	125.6	58.5	32.7	34.4	138.2	124.4	13.8	35.6	24.6	11.0
Percent change		-3.2	-2.5	-3.1	-4.5	+2.1	-1.3	+49.6	-15.2	-15.8	-13.9
<b>\$15,000 and over</b>											
1975 rate	764,000	113.4	50.8	37.6	25.0	150.2	142.0	<sup>2</sup> 8.2	48.2	23.6	24.6
1976 rate	944,000	133.2	68.7	35.5	29.0	137.4	122.0	15.4	33.6	20.7	12.8
Percent change		+17.5	+35.3	-5.5	+15.9	-8.5	-14.1	+87.5	-30.4	-12.3	*-47.8
<b>Persons of Spanish origin<sup>1</sup></b>											
1975 rate	3,081,000	97.5	38.7	33.9	24.8	148.4	140.9	7.5	26.4	17.6	8.8
1976 rate	3,186,000	98.5	35.6	35.1	27.8	137.2	126.1	11.1	23.4	15.9	7.5
Percent change		+1.1	-8.0	+3.5	+12.0	-7.6	-10.5	+48.7	-11.3	-9.7	-14.4
<b>Less than \$7,500</b>											
1975 rate	1,514,000	112.9	44.1	36.8	32.0	114.8	110.0	<sup>2</sup> 3.9	20.4	16.2	<sup>2</sup> 4.3
1976 rate	1,468,000	116.0	44.6	44.4	27.1	118.4	106.9	11.5	12.4	7.5	<sup>2</sup> 4.9
Percent change		+2.8	+1.0	+20.5	-15.1	+3.1	-3.7	+196.9	** <sup>2</sup> -39.5	*-53.8	+15.3
<b>\$7,500-\$14,999</b>											
1975 rate	1,000,000	79.5	34.6	28.8	16.0	190.4	175.7	14.7	32.6	15.4	17.2
1976 rate	1,041,000	82.5	24.5	28.7	29.3	154.9	143.0	11.9	40.4	29.9	10.4
Percent change		+3.8	-29.3	-0.3	+82.9	** <sup>2</sup> -18.7	** <sup>2</sup> -18.6	-19.2	+23.8	+94.5	-39.5
<b>\$15,000 and over</b>											
1975 rate	350,000	101.6	34.2	50.0	<sup>2</sup> 17.4	193.9	187.0	<sup>2</sup> 6.9	36.6	<sup>2</sup> 26.6	<sup>2</sup> 10.0
1976 rate	433,000	94.3	25.0	32.9	36.4	176.5	165.3	<sup>2</sup> 11.3	27.8	<sup>2</sup> 16.8	<sup>2</sup> 11.0
Percent change		-7.1	-26.7	-34.2	+109.3	-9.0	-11.6	+62.7	-24.1	-36.9	+10.2

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data on households whose income level was not ascertained. The "all races" category also includes data on "other" races, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup>Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 12. Household crimes: Change in victimization rates, by place of residence and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 households)

Place of residence	Number of households in the group	Burglary				Household larceny			Motor vehicle theft		
		Total	Forcible entry	Unlawful entry	Attempted forcible entry	Total	Completed	Attempted	Total	Completed	Attempted
All places of residence											
1975 rate	73,560,000	91.7	30.9	40.5	20.3	125.4	117.8	7.6	19.5	12.5	7.0
1976 rate	74,956,000	88.9	30.4	37.7	20.8	124.1	115.4	8.7	16.5	10.1	6.3
Percent change		-3.0	-1.7	*-6.9	+2.7	-1.0	-2.1	**+14.9	*-15.5	*-18.9	-9.2
Total in metropolitan areas											
Inside central cities											
1975 rate	23,235,000	117.3	45.9	42.0	29.4	141.9	131.4	10.5	27.7	18.0	9.6
1976 rate	23,321,000	113.4	44.3	40.4	28.7	138.9	128.6	10.3	23.5	15.2	8.3
Percent change		-3.3	-3.5	-3.9	-2.2	-2.1	-2.1	-1.4	*-15.1	*-15.9	-13.7
Outside central cities											
1975 rate	27,350,000	88.3	27.8	40.9	19.6	133.0	125.4	7.6	20.4	12.3	8.1
1976 rate	28,025,000	88.9	28.9	39.1	21.0	139.2	128.8	10.3	18.9	10.6	8.2
Percent change		+0.7	+3.6	-4.4	+7.4	**+4.7	+2.8	*+35.9	-7.4	**+13.8	+2.2
Metropolitan areas with central cities of 1,000,000 or more											
Inside central cities											
1975 rate	7,184,000	97.2	43.7	30.7	22.9	90.0	83.8	6.2	32.9	19.7	13.2
1976 rate	7,127,000	95.6	42.4	28.3	25.0	89.0	82.4	6.6	27.0	16.8	10.2
Percent change		-1.6	-2.9	-7.8	+9.3	-1.1	-1.6	+5.6	**+17.9	-14.6	-22.7
Outside central cities											
1975 rate	5,989,000	100.8	31.6	45.8	23.4	140.1	130.8	9.3	27.8	14.9	12.9
1976 rate	6,724,000	87.1	27.6	37.2	22.4	140.5	126.9	13.7	24.4	13.5	10.9
Percent change		*-13.6	-12.8	*-18.9	-4.3	+0.3	-3.0	+47.3	-12.1	-9.2	-15.4
Metropolitan areas with central cities from 500,000 to 999,999											
Inside central cities											
1975 rate	4,796,000	134.7	47.1	50.1	37.5	177.0	161.4	15.6	32.0	23.0	9.0
1976 rate	4,801,000	130.1	49.3	44.3	36.6	159.6	147.7	11.9	29.7	20.1	9.6
Percent change		-3.4	+4.7	-11.6	-2.5	**+9.8	-8.5	-23.7	-7.3	-12.5	+6.1
Outside central cities											
1975 rate	6,463,000	88.2	31.1	39.7	17.4	131.2	125.3	5.9	24.1	14.4	9.7
1976 rate	6,613,000	86.4	32.1	34.3	20.0	133.5	124.2	9.4	21.7	11.2	10.4
Percent change		-2.1	+3.3	-13.6	+14.6	+1.8	-0.9	+59.3	-10.1	-21.9	+7.4



Table 12. Household crimes: Change in victimization rates, by place of residence and type of crime, 1975 and 1976—continued

(Rate per 1,000 households)

Place of residence	Number of households in the group	Burglary			Household larceny			Motor vehicle theft			
		Total	Forcible entry	Unlawful entry	Attempted forcible entry	Total	Completed	Attempted	Total	Completed	Attempted
Metropolitan areas with central cities from 250,000 to 499,999											
Inside central cities											
1975 rate	4,407,000	128.4	53.1	37.4	37.8	154.1	142.9	11.2	26.4	17.2	9.2
1976 rate	4,504,000	121.7	47.5	42.5	31.7	173.6	159.4	14.2	20.6	13.1	7.5
Percent change		-5.2	-10.7	+13.5	-16.1	**+12.6	**+11.5	+26.5	**+22.1	-23.9	-18.8
Outside central cities											
1975 rate	6,270,000	84.7	26.0	39.5	19.2	137.3	129.8	7.5	18.5	11.8	6.8
1976 rate	6,360,000	93.6	27.7	42.5	23.4	161.9	151.1	10.8	19.8	11.4	8.5
Percent change		+10.5	+6.7	+7.5	+21.6	*+17.9	*+16.4	+43.4	+7.2	-3.3	+25.5
Metropolitan areas with central cities from 50,000 to 249,999											
Inside central cities											
1975 rate	6,849,000	119.2	42.9	51.3	25.0	163.8	152.9	10.9	20.0	13.4	6.7
1976 rate	6,889,000	114.8	40.9	48.8	25.2	153.5	142.9	10.7	17.5	11.4	6.1
Percent change		-3.7	-4.7	-4.9	+0.6	-6.3	-6.5	-2.6	-12.6	-14.5	-8.9
Outside central cities											
1975 rate	8,629,000	82.3	24.1	39.4	18.8	126.2	118.4	7.8	13.8	9.4	4.4
1976 rate	8,329,000	88.9	28.1	41.9	19.0	125.2	117.1	8.1	11.4	7.3	4.2
Percent change		+8.1	+16.4	+6.4	+0.9	-0.8	-1.1	+3.7	-17.4	-22.8	-5.9
Total in nonmetropolitan areas											
1975 rate	22,975,000	69.8	19.4	38.5	11.9	99.7	95.0	4.7	10.1	7.1	3.0
1976 rate	23,610,000	64.6	18.4	33.4	12.8	91.5	86.3	5.2	6.7	4.6	2.1
Percent change		**+7.4	-4.8	*-13.2	+7.3	*-8.2	*-9.2	+12.4	*-33.8	*-35.6	**+29.2

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.  
 \*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Table 14. Commercial crimes: Change in victimization rates for commercial establishments, by kind of establishment and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 businesses)

Kind of establishment	Number of businesses in the group	Burglary			Robbery		
		Total	Completed	Attempted	Total	Completed	Attempted
All businesses							
1975 rate	6,709,000	228.6	167.6	61.0	39.4	30.5	9.0
1976 rate	7,246,000	217.3	164.1	53.2	38.5	28.5	9.9
Percent change		-4.9	-2.1	*-12.7	-2.4	-6.4	+10.9
Retail							
1975 rate	2,275,000	315.9	219.7	96.2	81.3	65.0	16.3
1976 rate	2,381,000	283.0	195.7	83.3	75.9	61.1	14.8
Percent change		*-10.4	*-9.1	*-13.4	-6.6	-5.9	-9.7
Food group							
1975 rate	351,000	357.7	225.9	131.8	145.3	126.3	19.0
1976 rate	355,000	269.4	171.0	98.3	148.7	129.0	19.7
Percent change		*-24.7	*-24.3	*-25.4	+2.3	+2.1	+3.7
Eating and drinking places							
1975 rate	479,000	361.6	259.5	102.2	89.7	65.2	24.5
1976 rate	499,000	300.8	208.9	91.9	79.4	69.6	19.8
Percent change		*-16.8	*-19.5	-10.1	-11.5	+6.8	*-60.1
Wholesale							
1975 rate	377,000	210.6	169.1	41.5	18.7	14.7	14.0
1976 rate	505,000	313.1	272.2	40.9	20.4	12.0	18.4
Percent change		*+48.7	*+61.0	-1.5	+8.9	-18.2	+108.0
Service							
1975 rate	2,677,000	188.7	144.2	44.5	18.1	13.8	4.4
1976 rate	2,848,000	177.5	137.5	40.0	20.0	12.5	7.5
Percent change		-5.9	-4.6	-10.1	+10.0	-9.2	*+70.0
Manufacturing							
1975 rate	331,000	238.6	183.4	55.3	16.8	19.1	17.6
1976 rate	368,000	218.1	163.1	54.9	18.9	14.2	14.7
Percent change		-8.6	-11.0	-0.6	+12.7	+55.1	-38.1
All others							
1975 rate	1,048,000	144.2	108.8	35.4	17.4	10.6	6.8
1976 rate	1,143,000	137.1	108.7	28.4	20.8	12.4	8.5
Percent change		-4.9	-0.2	-19.6	+20.0	+16.7	+25.1

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.  
 †Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 15. Commercial crimes: Change in victimization rates for commercial establishments, by number of paid employees and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 businesses)

Number of paid employees	Number of businesses in the group	Total	Burglary		Total	Robbery		
			Completed	Attempted		Completed	Attempted	
All employees <sup>1</sup>								
1975 rate	6,709,000	228.6	167.6	61.0	39.4	30.5	9.0	
1976 rate	7,246,000	217.3	164.1	53.2	38.5	28.5	9.9	
Percent change		-4.9	-2.1	*-12.7	-2.4	-6.4	+10.9	
No paid employees								
1975 rate	1,664,000	174.1	124.5	49.7	28.2	21.1	7.0	
1976 rate	1,817,000	180.5	133.7	46.8	21.1	13.2	7.9	
Percent change		+3.7	+7.4	-5.6	** -25.1	* -37.5	+12.4	
1-3 employees								
1975 rate	2,490,000	217.3	157.7	59.6	29.2	23.3	5.9	
1976 rate	2,588,000	196.6	144.9	51.7	36.8	26.5	10.3	
Percent change		** -9.5	-8.1	-13.1	+25.9	+13.6	+74.2	
4-7 employees								
1975 rate	1,217,000	239.1	166.9	72.2	48.5	38.4	10.1	
1976 rate	1,369,000	247.4	191.9	55.6	48.5	39.4	9.1	
Percent change		+3.5	+15.0	** -23.0	(2)	+2.6	-9.9	
8-19 employees								
1975 rate	782,000	312.1	241.7	70.4	65.4	49.7	15.7	
1976 rate	825,000	275.9	207.6	68.2	43.0	32.6	10.5	
Percent change		-11.6	-14.1	-3.1	* -34.2	* -34.4	-33.4	
20 or more employees								
1975 rate	542,000	306.8	242.9	63.9	63.8	47.0	16.8	
1976 rate	630,000	269.0	215.2	53.8	68.4	52.5	15.9	
Percent change		-12.3	-11.4	-15.7	+7.1	+11.7	-5.8	

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Less than .05.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data on businesses where the number of paid employees was not ascertained.

Table 16. Commercial crimes: Change in victimization rates for commercial establishments by amount of gross annual receipts and type of crime, 1975 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 businesses)

Amount of gross annual receipts	Number of businesses in the group	Burglary			Robbery		
		Total	Completed	Attempted	Total	Completed	Attempted
Total gross receipts <sup>1</sup>							
1975 rate	6,709,000	228.6	167.6	61.0	39.4	30.5	9.0
1976 rate	7,246,000	217.3	164.1	53.2	38.5	28.5	9.9
Percent change		-4.9	-2.1	*-12.7	-2.4	-6.4	+10.9
No sales							
1975 rate	635,000	156.4	125.1	31.3	12.0	8.8	<sup>a</sup> 3.2
1976 rate	654,000	138.0	109.8	28.1	<sup>a</sup> 2.9	<sup>a</sup> 1.3	<sup>a</sup> 1.5
Percent change		-11.8	-12.2	-10.1	*-76.2	*-84.8	-52.2
Under \$10,000							
1975 rate	949,000	203.8	151.8	52.0	25.8	17.8	8.0
1976 rate	887,000	189.2	136.2	53.0	23.2	11.2	12.1
Percent change		-7.2	-10.3	+1.9	-10.1	-37.2	+50.0
\$10,000-\$24,999							
1975 rate	660,000	252.5	184.2	68.3	33.4	26.4	<sup>a</sup> 7.0
1976 rate	655,000	214.3	162.6	51.7	30.8	20.3	10.5
Percent change		-15.1	-11.7	-24.4	-7.8	-23.2	+50.5
\$25,000-\$49,999							
1975 rate	628,000	261.9	174.9	87.1	30.9	21.1	9.7
1976 rate	645,000	233.8	174.5	59.2	39.3	29.0	10.3
Percent change		-10.7	-0.2	-32.0	+27.4	+37.3	+6.0
\$50,000-\$99,999							
1975 rate	776,000	255.6	184.0	71.7	38.6	31.5	7.2
1976 rate	856,000	251.9	184.0	67.9	55.1	41.9	13.2
Percent change		-1.5	(Z)	-5.3	+42.5	+33.1	+83.2
\$100,000-\$499,999							
1975 rate	1,144,000	270.3	193.7	76.6	59.1	48.0	11.2
1976 rate	1,219,000	256.2	188.9	67.3	56.1	43.3	12.8
Percent change		-5.2	-2.5	-12.2	-5.1	-9.7	+14.8
\$500,000-\$999,999							
1975 rate	273,000	279.0	206.6	72.4	57.8	46.6	<sup>a</sup> 11.2
1976 rate	321,000	303.8	226.7	77.0	46.4	37.4	<sup>a</sup> 9.0
Percent change		+8.9	+9.7	+6.4	-19.7	-19.7	-19.8
\$1,000,000 and more							
1975 rate	444,000	295.5	248.6	46.9	58.3	40.1	18.3
1976 rate	515,000	239.6	194.8	44.8	49.6	37.0	12.6
Percent change		** -18.9	** -21.6	-4.6	-14.9	-7.6	-30.9

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Less than .05.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data on businesses where the amount of gross receipts was not ascertained.

<sup>2</sup>Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 17. Personal crimes of violence and commercial robbery: Change in percent of incidents in which offenders used weapons, by type of crime, 1975 and 1976

Type of crime	1975		1976		Change in percent with weapons, 1975-1976
	Number of incidents	Percent with weapon present	Number of incidents	Percent with weapon present	
Rape	147,000	23.9	136,000	26.8	+11.9
Personal robbery	980,000	50.2	941,000	44.5	*-11.5
With injury	316,000	51.9	312,000	37.7	*-27.4
Without injury	664,000	49.4	629,000	47.9	-3.2
Aggravated assault	1,264,000	94.1	1,313,000	94.0	-0.1
Commercial robbery	264,000	71.5	279,000	65.4	-8.5
Completed	204,000	79.0	207,000	73.9	-6.5
Attempted	60,000	45.7	72,000	40.8	-10.7

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

Table 18. Personal crimes of violence and commercial robbery: Change in percent of incidents (and of armed incidents) in which offenders used firearms, by type of crime, 1975 and 1976

Type of crime	1975		1976		Percent change 1975-1976	1975		1976		Percent change 1975-1976
	Total number of incidents	Percent of incidents with firearm present	Total number of incidents	Percent of incidents with firearm present		Number of incidents with weapon present	Percent of incidents with firearm present	Number of incidents with weapon present	Percent of incidents with firearm present	
Rape	147,000	7.7	136,000	17.0	-9.0	35,000	32.0	36,000	26.0	-18.7
Personal robbery	980,000	18.6	941,000	14.9	** -20.0	492,000	37.1	419,000	33.5	-9.6
With injury	316,000	10.7	312,000	6.1	* -43.3	164,000	20.6	118,000	16.1	-21.8
Without injury	664,000	22.4	629,000	19.3	-13.9	328,000	45.3	301,000	40.3	-11.0
Aggravated assault	1,264,000	29.6	1,313,000	28.9	-2.3	1,190,000	31.5	1,235,000	30.8	-2.2
Commercial robbery	264,000	56.5	279,000	52.4	-7.3	189,000	79.0	182,000	80.1	+1.4
Completed	204,000	63.8	207,000	62.6	-1.9	161,000	80.8	153,000	84.7	+4.9
Attempted	60,000	31.4	72,000	22.9	-26.8	27,000	68.6	29,000	56.2	-18.0

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

<sup>1</sup>Rate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 19. Personal, household, and commercial crimes: Change in reporting to the police, by type of crime and race, 1975 and 1976

Type of crime and race	1975		1976		Percent change 1975-1976	Standard error <sup>1</sup>
	Number of victimizations	Percent reported to the police	Number of victimizations	Percent reported to the police		
All races <sup>2</sup>						
Crimes of violence	5,573,000	47.2	5,599,000	48.8	+3.4	2.6
Rape	154,000	56.2	145,000	52.7	-6.2	12.6
Personal robbery	1,147,000	53.3	1,111,000	53.3	(2)	5.0
Robbery with injury	362,000	65.0	361,000	63.0	-3.2	6.8
From serious assault	213,000	66.8	176,000	66.2	-0.9	9.1
From minor assault	149,000	62.5	185,000	59.9	-4.2	10.6
Robbery without injury	785,000	47.9	750,000	48.6	+1.6	6.8
Assault	4,272,000	45.2	4,344,000	47.5	**+5.1	3.1
Aggravated assault	1,631,000	55.2	1,695,000	58.4	+5.7	4.1
With injury	557,000	65.2	589,000	62.0	-4.9	5.4
Attempted assault						
with weapon	1,074,000	50.0	1,107,000	56.5	*+12.9	5.8
Simple assault	2,641,000	39.1	2,648,000	40.6	+3.9	4.4
With injury	701,000	47.9	692,000	45.7	-4.6	6.9
Attempted assault						
without weapon	1,939,000	35.9	1,957,000	38.8	+8.1	5.7
Crimes of theft	16,294,000	26.3	16,519,000	26.6	+1.1	2.4
Personal larceny with contact	524,000	34.5	497,000	36.2	+5.0	11.2
Purse snatching	182,000	48.7	147,000	51.7	+6.2	14.8
Pocket picking	342,000	27.0	350,000	29.7	+10.3	16.9
Personal larceny without contact	15,770,000	26.0	16,022,000	26.3	+1.1	2.4
Burglary	6,744,000	48.6	6,663,000	48.1	-0.9	2.2
Forcible entry	2,273,000	72.8	2,277,000	70.1	**+3.8	2.3
Unlawful entry	2,980,000	38.0	2,827,000	38.8	+2.0	4.3
Attempted forcible entry	1,490,000	32.8	1,560,000	33.1	+0.9	6.6
Household larceny	9,223,000	27.1	9,301,000	27.0	(2)	3.1
Completed larceny <sup>3</sup>	8,664,000	27.3	8,646,000	27.1	-0.8	3.1
Less than \$50	5,653,000	15.4	5,602,000	15.0	-2.3	3.5
\$50 and over	2,731,000	53.1	2,745,000	52.5	-1.3	3.2
Attempted larceny	559,000	23.1	654,000	26.5	+14.9	14.7
Motor vehicle theft	1,433,000	71.1	1,235,000	69.5	-2.3	3.1
Completed theft	920,000	91.1	760,000	88.6	-2.8	2.0
Attempted theft	513,000	35.3	475,000	38.9	+10.0	11.6
Commercial burglary	1,534,000	79.6	1,575,000	72.5	*-8.9	4.3
Commercial robbery	264,000	50.2	279,000	86.6	-3.9	7.4

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Table 19. Personal, household, and commercial crimes: Change in reporting to the police, by type of crime and race, 1975 and 1976--continued

Type of crime and race	1975		1976		Percent change 1975-1976	Standard error <sup>1</sup>
	Number of victimizations	Percent reported to the police	Number of victimizations	Percent reported to the police		
White						
Crimes of violence	4,703,000	46.4	4,692,000	48.4	+4.4	2.9
Rape	130,000	58.9	110,000	56.3	-4.3	13.5
Robbery	871,000	52.1	832,000	52.1	(2)	5.9
Robbery with injury	266,000	64.9	278,000	62.2	-4.3	7.9
From serious assault	146,000	66.7	142,000	64.0	-4.0	10.4
From minor assault	120,000	62.8	136,000	60.2	-4.1	12.0
Robbery without injury	604,000	46.4	554,000	47.0	+1.2	8.1
Assault	3,702,000	44.6	3,749,000	47.4	**+6.2	3.4
Aggravated assault	1,332,000	53.9	1,380,000	59.5	*+10.3	4.7
With injury	446,000	62.8	467,000	62.8	-0.1	6.4
Attempted assault with weapon	886,000	49.4	912,000	57.8	*+16.8	6.5
Simple assault	2,371,000	39.4	2,370,000	40.4	+2.5	4.6
With injury	604,000	48.6	630,000	44.9	-7.5	7.1
Attempted assault without weapon	1,767,000	36.3	1,740,000	38.8	+6.7	5.9
Crimes of theft	14,468,000	26.2	14,684,000	26.8	+2.2	2.5
Personal larceny with contact	387,000	32.8	370,800	37.2	+13.4	14.3
Purse snatching	126,000	45.8	110,000	51.7	+12.9	19.1
Pocket picking	261,000	26.6	260,000	31.1	+17.2	20.5
Personal larceny without contact	14,081,000	26.0	14,314,000	26.5	+1.9	2.6
Burglary	5,652,000	48.1	5,552,000	47.8	-0.6	2.5
Forcible entry	1,761,000	72.6	1,769,000	71.7	-1.3	2.6
Unlawful entry	2,668,000	38.2	2,500,000	38.7	+1.3	4.5
Attempted forcible entry	1,223,000	34.4	1,283,000	32.7	-5.1	6.8
Household larceny	8,214,000	27.6	8,311,000	27.9	+1.3	3.2
Completed larceny <sup>2</sup>	7,721,000	27.8	7,741,000	28.0	+0.8	3.3
Less than \$50	5,102,000	15.6	5,064,000	15.6	-0.4	5.8
\$50 and over	2,388,000	54.8	2,416,000	54.9	+0.2	3.3
Attempted larceny	493,000	23.8	571,000	26.9	+13.1	15.2
Motor vehicle theft	1,204,000	69.7	1,050,000	67.8	-2.7	3.5
Completed theft	759,000	89.9	631,000	88.0	-2.1	2.4
Attempted theft	445,000	35.1	419,000	37.4	+6.3	12.2

Table 19. Personal, household, and commercial crimes: Change in reporting to the police, by type of crime and race, 1975 and 1976—continued

Type of crime and race	1975		1976		Percent change 1975-1976	Standard error <sup>1</sup>
	Number of victimizations	Percent reported to the police	Number of victimizations	Percent reported to the police		
Black						
Crimes of violence	792,000	52.0	834,000	50.5	-3.0	5.9
Rape	21,000	435.2	35,000	41.2	+17.0	50.8
Robbery	261,000	58.1	256,000	56.8	-2.2	9.4
Robbery with injury	92,000	65.6	75,000	64.0	-2.4	14.2
From serious assault	65,000	66.2	34,000	75.3	+13.8	19.1
From minor assault	28,000	64.2	42,000	54.8	-14.6	21.6
Robbery without injury	168,000	54.0	181,000	53.8	-0.4	12.5
Assault	510,000	49.6	544,000	48.1	-3.1	7.7
Aggravated assault	267,000	61.1	293,000	53.1	** -13.1	8.1
With injury	95,000	71.7	116,000	59.3	** -17.3	10.5
Attempted assault						
with weapon	172,000	55.3	177,000	49.0	-11.3	11.6
Simple assault	242,000	36.9	251,000	42.2	+14.3	16.2
With injury	89,000	44.7	54,000	55.8	+24.8	26.7
Attempted assault without weapon	153,000	32.4	197,000	38.5	+18.7	22.2
Crimes of theft	1,667,000	27.0	1,632,000	25.1	-7.3	6.9
Personal larceny with contact	132,000	40.9	117,000	33.4	-18.3	17.3
Purse snatching	54,000	57.6	34,000	51.4	-10.8	22.9
Pocket picking	78,000	29.3	83,000	25.9	-11.4	28.7
Personal larceny without contact	1,535,000	25.8	1,514,000	24.4	-5.5	7.5
Burglary	1,014,000	51.3	1,047,000	49.7	-3.1	5.3
Forcible entry	483,000	73.9	474,000	64.7	* -12.4	4.8
Unlawful entry	283,000	35.9	313,000	39.5	+10.1	14.7
Attempted forcible entry	248,000	25.0	260,000	34.7	+38.8	24.5
Household larceny	898,000	24.2	898,000	18.6	* -23.3	8.9
Completed larceny <sup>2</sup>	846,000	24.7	819,000	18.1	* -26.8	8.9
Less than \$50	475,000	13.4	484,000	8.9	* -33.8	15.7
\$50 and over	328,000	42.3	303,000	32.7	* -22.6	10.2
Attempted larceny	52,000	*16.3	79,000	23.6	+44.6	68.4
Motor vehicle theft	211,000	77.7	172,000	80.8	+3.9	6.9
Completed theft	145,000	96.5	121,000	94.7	-1.9	3.3
Attempted theft	66,000	36.1	51,000	47.4	+31.2	36.7

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Z Less than .05.

<sup>1</sup>The standard error is given in percentage points at the 68 percent confidence level. For illustrations of the use of standard errors, see Appendixes II and III.

<sup>2</sup>Includes data on "other" races, not shown separately.

<sup>3</sup>Includes amount not reported.

<sup>4</sup>Percent, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.



**CONTINUED**

**1 OF 2**

Table 20. Personal crimes: Change in victimization rates for persons age 12 and over, by type of crime, 1973 and 1976  
(Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over)

Type of personal crime	Rate		Percent change 1973-1976	Standard error <sup>1</sup>
	1973	1976		
Crimes of violence	32.6	32.6	+0.1	2.4
Rape	1.0	0.8	-11.6	12.9
Robbery	6.7	6.5	-4.2	5.1
Robbery and attempted robbery				
with injury	2.4	2.1	-10.6	8.3
From serious assault	1.3	1.0	*-22.1	10.0
From minor assault	1.0	1.1	+3.8	13.9
Robbery and attempted robbery				
without injury	4.4	4.4	-0.9	6.5
Assault	24.9	25.3	+1.6	2.8
Aggravated assault	10.1	9.9	-2.1	4.3
With injury	3.1	3.4	+10.7	8.5
Attempted assault with weapon	7.0	6.4	-7.7	4.9
Simple assault	14.8	15.4	+4.1	3.7
With injury	3.7	4.0	+7.5	7.5
Attempted assault without weapon	11.1	11.4	+3.0	4.2
Crimes of theft	91.1	96.1	*+5.5	1.4
Personal larceny with contact	3.1	2.9	-5.9	7.5
Purse snatching	1.1	0.9	** -20.4	11.2
Pocket picking	2.0	2.0	+2.5	10.0
Personal larceny without contact	88.0	93.2	*+5.9	1.5
Total population age 12 and over	164,363,000	171,901,000		

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

<sup>1</sup>The standard error is given in percentage points at the 68 percent confidence level. For an illustration of the use of standard errors for the household survey, see Appendix II.

Table 21. Household crimes: Change in victimization rates, by type of crime, 1973 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 households)

Type of household crime	Rate		Percent change 1973-1976	Standard error <sup>1</sup>
	1973	1976		
Burglary	91.7	88.9	-3.0	2.0
Forcible entry	29.7	30.4	+2.2	3.9
Unlawful entry	41.9	37.7	*-10.0	2.9
Attempted forcible entry	20.0	20.8	+3.9	4.8
Household larceny	107.0	124.1	*+16.0	2.1
Completed larceny <sup>2</sup>	99.4	115.4	*+16.1	2.2
Less than \$50	68.7	74.7	*+8.8	2.6
\$50 or more	26.9	36.6	*+36.0	5.1
Attempted larceny	7.6	8.7	**+14.7	8.4
Motor vehicle theft	19.1	16.5	*-13.7	4.3
Completed theft	12.6	10.1	*-19.7	5.0
Attempted theft	6.4	6.3	-1.6	8.2
Total households	70,442,000	74,956,000		

\*Statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level.

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

<sup>1</sup>The standard error is given in percentage points at the 68 percent confidence level. For an illustration of the use of standard errors for the household survey, see Appendix II.

<sup>2</sup>Includes amount not reported.

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Table 22. Commercial crimes: Change in victimization rates for commercial establishments, by type of crime, 1973 and 1976

(Rate per 1,000 businesses)

Type of crime	Rate		Percent change 1973-1976	Standard error <sup>1</sup>
	1973	1976		
Burglary	203.7	217.3	**+6.7	3.8
Completed	151.3	164.1	**+8.4	4.4
Attempted	52.3	53.2	+1.7	7.3
Robbery	38.8	38.5	-1.0	9.7
Completed	28.8	28.5	-1.1	11.3
Attempted	10.0	9.9	-0.7	19.4
Number of businesses	6,800,000	7,246,000		

\*\*Statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

<sup>1</sup>The standard error is given in percentage points at the 68 percent confidence level. For an illustration of the use of standard errors for the commercial survey, see Appendix III.

## APPENDIX II HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

### Information on the sample and the reliability of the estimates

With respect to crimes against persons and households, survey results contained in this report are based on data gathered from persons living in households throughout the Nation and from persons living in group quarters, such as dormitories, rooming houses, and religious group dwellings. Crews of merchant vessels, Armed Forces personnel living in military barracks, and institutionalized persons, such as correctional facility inmates, did not fall within the scope of the survey. Also excluded were U.S. citizens residing abroad and foreign visitors to this country. With these exceptions, individuals age 12 and over living in housing units designated for the sample were eligible to be interviewed.

Each interviewer's first contact with a unit selected for the survey was in person, and, if it was not possible to secure interviews with all eligible members of the household during this initial visit, telephone interviews were permissible thereafter. The only exceptions to the requirement for a personal interview applied to 12- and 13-year-olds, where interviewers were instructed to obtain proxy responses from a knowledgeable adult member of the household, and to incapacitated persons and to individuals who were absent from the household during the entire field interviewing period, where a proxy respondent was permitted. Survey records were processed and weighted, yielding results representative both of the Nation's population as a whole and of various sectors within society.

### Sample design and size

Estimates from the survey are based on data obtained from a stratified multistage cluster sample. In designing the sample, the first stage consisted of the formation of primary sampling units comprising counties or groups of counties, including every county in the Nation. Approximately 1,930 of these units were so formed and grouped into 376 strata. Among these strata, 156 represented single areas and thus came into the sample with certainty. These

strata, designated self-representing areas, generally contained the larger metropolitan areas. The remaining 220 strata were formed by combining areas that shared certain characteristics, such as geographic region, population density, population growth rate, proportion of nonwhite population, etc. From each stratum, one area was selected for the sample, the probability of selection having been proportionate to the area's population; areas so chosen are referred to as being non-self-representing.

The remaining stages of sampling were designed to ensure a self-weighting probability sample of dwelling units and group quarters within each of the selected areas.<sup>1</sup> This involved a systematic selection of enumeration districts (geographic areas used for the 1970 Census), with the probability of selection being proportionate to their 1970 population size, followed by the selection of clusters of approximately four housing units from within each enumeration district. To account for units built after the 1970 Census, a sample was drawn, by means of an independent clerical operation, of permits issued for the construction of residential housing. Jurisdictions that do not issue permits were included by means of a sample of area segments. The resulting sample of new construction units, though yielding a relatively small portion of the total sample, will account for an increasing share as the decade progresses.

A total of approximately 74,000 housing units and other living quarters were designated for the sample. For purposes of conducting the field interviews, the sample was divided into six groups, or rotations, each of which contained housing units whose occupants were to be interviewed once every 6 months over a period of 3 years. The initial interview was for purposes of bounding, i.e., establishing a time frame to avoid duplicative recording of information in subsequent interviews. Each rotation group was further divided into six panels. Individuals occupying housing units within one-sixth of each rotation group, or one panel, were interviewed each month during the 6-month period. Because the survey is continuous, additional housing units are selected in the manner described and assigned to rotation groups and panels for subsequent incorporation into the sample. A new rotation group enters the sample every 6 months, replacing a group phased out after being in the sample for 3 years.

Among the 74,000 housing units designated for the sample that were to provide information relating to calendar years 1975 and 1976, interviews were obtained at 6-month intervals from the occupants of

<sup>1</sup>Self-weighting means that each sample household had the same initial probability of being selected.

about 61,000. The large majority of the remaining 13,000 units were found to be vacant, demolished, converted to nonresidential use, or were ineligible for some other reason. However, approximately 2,700 of the 13,000 units were occupied by persons who, although eligible to participate in the survey, were not interviewed because they could not be reached after repeated visits, declined to be interviewed, were temporarily absent, or were otherwise unavailable. Thus, interviews were obtained in about 96 percent of all eligible housing units, and about 98 percent of the occupants of these households participated in the survey.

#### Estimation procedure

In order to enhance the reliability of the estimates presented in this report, the estimation procedure incorporated extensive auxiliary data on those characteristics of the population that are believed to bear on the subject matter of the survey. These auxiliary data were used primarily in the various stages of ratio estimation.

The estimation procedure is performed on a quarterly basis to produce estimates of the volume and rates of victimization. Sample data from 8 months of field interviewing are required to produce a quarterly estimate. For example, as shown on the chart on page 56, data collected during the months of February through September are required to produce an estimate for the first quarter of any given calendar year. In addition, each quarterly estimate is made up of equal numbers of field observations in which a specific month of occurrence was from 1 to 6 months prior to the time of interview. Thus, incidents occurring in January may be reported in a February interview, 1 month ago, or in a March interview, 2 months ago, and so on up to 6 months ago for interviews conducted in July. One purpose of this arrangement is to minimize expected biases associated with the tendency of respondents to place criminal victimizations in more recent months during the 6-month recall period than when they actually occurred. Similarly, annual estimates are derived by accumulating data from the four quarterly estimates which, in turn, are obtained from a total of 17 months of field interviewing, from February of one year through June of the following year.

The first step in the estimation procedure was the inflation of the sample data by the reciprocal of the probability of selection. An adjustment was then made to account for occupied units (and for persons in occupied units) that were eligible for the survey but where it was not possible to obtain an interview.

Month of interview by month of recall

(X's denote months in the 6-month recall period)

Month of interview	Period of reference (or recall)											
	First quarter			Second quarter			Third quarter			Fourth quarter		
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
January												
February	X											
March	X	X										
April	X	X	X									
May	X	X	X	X								
June	X	X	X	X	X							
July	X	X	X	X	X	X						
August		X	X	X	X	X	X					
September			X	X	X	X	X	X				
October				X	X	X	X	X	X			
November					X	X	X	X	X	X		
December						X	X	X	X	X	X	
January							X	X	X	X	X	X
February								X	X	X	X	X
March									X	X	X	X
April										X	X	X
May											X	X
June												X
July												

The distribution of the sample population usually differs somewhat from the distribution of the total population from which the sample was drawn in terms of such characteristics as age, race, sex, residence, etc., characteristics that are closely correlated with crime victimization measurements made from the sample. Because of this, various stages of ratio estimation were employed to bring the distributions of the two populations into closer agreement, hence reducing the variability of the sample estimates. Two stages of ratio estimation were used in producing data relating both to crimes against persons and households.

The first stage of ratio estimation was applied only to data records obtained from sample areas that were non-self-representing. Its purpose was to reduce the error arising from the fact that one area was selected to represent an entire stratum. For various categories of race and residence, ratios were calculated reflecting the relationships between weighted 1970 Census counts for all sample areas in each region and the total population in the non-self-representing parts of the region at the time of the Census.

The second stage of ratio estimation was applied on a person basis and brought the distribution of the persons in the sample into closer agreement with independent current estimates of the distribution of the population by various age-sex-color categories.<sup>2</sup>

Regarding the estimation of crimes against households, characteristics of the wife in a husband-wife household and characteristics of the head of household in other types of households

<sup>2</sup>In 1976, an error was discovered in the second stage of ratio estimation whereby a weighted estimate of noninterviewed persons within interviewed households was incorrectly added to the sample estimate of interviewed persons that already contained a factor to account for persons who were not interviewed. The effect of this double counting was that the estimates of total persons and of the level of personal victimizations were about 1½ percent below what they should have been. The error was smaller for household estimates because of the lower noninterview rate for principal persons. The effect of this error on the estimate of personal and household crime rates is very small since the error occurs in both the numerator and denominator of the fraction and therefore largely cancels out. Corrected rates for 1973, 1974, 1975, and 1976 are used in this report. Differences in 1974 and 1975 rates between this report and those found in the report comparing 1974 and 1975 data are due to this error. However, these differences are too slight to modify the analysis in the earlier report.

were used to determine which second-stage ratio estimate factors were to be applied. This procedure is thought to be more precise than that of uniformly using the characteristics of the head of household, since sample coverage generally is better for females than for males.

In producing estimates of personal incidents (as opposed to those of victimizations), a further adjustment was made in those cases where an incident involved more than one person, thereby allowing for the probability that such incidents had more than a single chance of coming into the sample. Thus, if two persons were victimized during the same incident, the weight assigned to the record for that incident (and associated characteristics) was reduced by one-half in order to avoid double counting of incidents. A comparable adjustment was not made in estimating crimes against households, as each separate criminal act was defined as involving only one household. When a personal crime was reported in the household survey as having occurred simultaneously with a commercial burglary or robbery, it was assumed that the incident was represented in the commercial survey and, therefore, it was not counted as an incident of personal crime. However, the details of the event as they related to the victimized individual were included in the household survey results.

#### Series victimizations

As mentioned in the Preface, victimizations that occurred in series of three or more and for which the victim was unable to describe the details of each event have been excluded from the analysis and data tables in this report. Because respondents had difficulty pinpointing the dates of these acts, this information was recorded by the season (or seasons) of occurrence within the 6-month reference period and tabulated by the quarter of the year in which the data were collected. But, for the majority of crimes, the data were tabulated on the basis of the specific month of occurrence to produce quarterly estimates. Although no direct correspondence exists between the two sets of data, near compatibility between reference periods can be achieved, for example, by comparing the data on series victimizations gathered by interviewers from April 1975 through March 1976 with the regular victimizations for calendar year 1975. This approach results in an 87.5 percent overlap between reporting periods for the two data sets.

An examination of data on series victimizations shows that these crimes tend disproportionately to be either assaults, more often simple than aggravated, or household larcenies for which the amount

of loss was valued at less than \$50. Although series victimizations, if combined with the main body of crime data, would increase the reported levels of crime, it is believed that there would be very little impact on year-to-year change in victimization rates. Efforts are underway to study the nature of series victimizations in greater detail, in order to gauge more accurately their relationship to regular victimizations.

#### Reliability of the estimates

The particular sample employed for this survey was one of a large number of possible samples of equal size that could have been used applying the same sample design and selection procedures. Estimates derived from different samples would differ from each other. The standard error of a survey estimate is a measure of the variation among the estimates from all possible samples and is, therefore, a measure of the precision with which the estimate from a particular sample approximates the average result of all possible samples. The procedure, as illustrated below, provides a method to construct interval estimates such that a known proportion of the intervals would contain the average of all possible samples. For example, the chances are about 68 out of 100 that the survey estimate would differ from the average result for all possible samples by less than one standard error. Similarly, the chances are about 90 out of 100 that the difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error; about 95 out of 100 that it would be less than 2.0 times the standard error; and 99 out of 100 that it would be less than 2.5 times the standard error. The 68 percent confidence interval is defined as the range of values given by the estimate minus the standard error and the estimate plus the standard error; the chances are 68 out of 100 that a figure from a complete census would fall within that range. Likewise, the 95 percent confidence interval is defined as the estimate plus or minus two standard errors.

In addition to sampling error, the estimates presented in this report are subject to nonsampling error. Major sources of such error are related to the ability of respondents to recall victimization experiences that occurred during the 6 months prior to the time of interview. Research on the capacity of victims to recall specific kinds of crime, based on interviewing persons who were victims of offenses drawn from police files, indicates that assault is the least well recalled of the crimes measured by the

National Crime Survey. This may stem in part from the observed tendency of victims not to report crimes committed by offenders known to them, especially if they are relatives. In addition, it is suspected that, among certain groups, crimes that contain the elements of assault are a part of everyday life and, thus, are simply forgotten or are not considered worth mentioning to a survey interviewer. Taken together, these recall problems may result in a substantial understatement of the "true" rate of victimization from assault.

Another source of nonsampling error related to the recall capacity of respondents is their inability to place the criminal event in the correct month, even though it is placed in the correct reference period. This source of error is partially offset by the requirement for monthly interviewing and by the estimation procedure described earlier. An additional problem involves telescoping, or bringing within the appropriate 6-month period incidents that occurred earlier--or, in a few instances, those that happened after the close of the reference period. The latter is believed to be relatively rare because 75 to 80 percent of the interviewing takes place during the first week of the month following the reference period. In any event, the effect of telescoping is minimized by the bounding procedure described above. The interviewer is provided with a summary of the incidents reported in the preceding interview and, if a similar incident is reported, it can then be determined from discussion with the respondent whether the reported incident is indeed a new one.

Methodological research undertaken in preparation for the National Crime Survey indicated that substantially fewer incidents of crime were reported when one household member reported for all persons residing in the household than when each household member was interviewed individually. Therefore the self-response procedure was adopted as a general rule; allowances for proxy response under the contingencies discussed earlier are the only exceptions to this rule.

Despite these attempts to minimize the effect of victim recall problems, memory lapses inevitably occur. Some evidence of the extent of this problem will be obtained from the findings of a reinterview program in which a sample of approximately 5 percent of the interviewed cases in each month are interviewed a second time by a supervisor or a senior interviewer. Differences between the original interview and the reinterview are reconciled by discussion between the reinterviewer and the respondent. However, no reliable results are yet available from this program.

Additional nonsampling errors can result from incomplete or erroneous responses, systematic mistakes introduced by interviewers, possible biases associated with the sample rotation scheme, and improper coding and processing of data. Many of these errors would also occur in a complete census. Quality control measures, such as interviewer observation and the reinterview program, as well as edit procedures in the field and at the clerical and computer processing stages, are utilized to keep such errors at an acceptably low level. As calculated for this survey, the standard errors partially measure only the random nonsampling errors arising from response and interviewer errors; they do not, however, take into account any systematic biases in the data.

#### Computation and application of standard errors

Specific standard errors for changes in rates and in the percent of crimes reported to the police for the household survey are incorporated in Tables 1, 8, and 19-21 of Appendix I. They are presented in percentage points at the one standard error level of confidence. In order to meet the requirements for statistical reliability adopted for this report, the intervals must be multiplied by 1.6 or 2 to obtain the 90 percent and 95 percent confidence levels, respectively. All differences in rates or percents that meet these criteria have been indicated on the data tables.

The procedure for computing specific standard errors for changes in rates or percents for crimes against persons not indicated on the data tables is given in the following formula:

Standard error of a relative change in victimization rates for personal crimes  $\left( \frac{r_2 - r_1}{r_1} \right)$

$$= \frac{r_2}{r_1} \sqrt{b \left( \frac{1 - r_2}{y_2 r_2} + \frac{1 - r_1}{y_1 r_1} \right)}$$

The symbols are defined as follows:

- $r_1$  - the rate for 1975 expressed in decimals (i.e., a rate of 52 per 1,000 becomes .052).
- $y_1$  - the number of persons in the group on which the 1975 rate is based.



- $r_2$  - the rate for 1976 expressed in decimals.
- $y_2$  - the number of persons in the group on which the 1976 rate is based.
- $b$  - a constant which is based on the full sample and was obtained when generalizing the standard errors ( $b = 1,603$ ).

To illustrate the use of this formula, Table 4 of this report shows that the assault rate for persons 50 to 64 years of age decreased 15.2 percent from 1975 to 1976. Substituting the appropriate victimization rates and population bases in the formula yields:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Standard error of the relative change} \quad \left( \frac{.0076 - .009}{.009} \right) \\
 &= \frac{.0076}{.009} \sqrt{1603 \left( \frac{1 - .0076}{31,825,000(.0076)} + \frac{1 - .009}{31,559,000(.009)} \right)} \\
 &= .84444 \sqrt{1603 \left( \frac{.9924}{241,870} + \frac{.991}{284,031} \right)} \\
 &= .84444 \sqrt{1603 (.00000410303 + .00000348906)} \\
 &= .84444 \sqrt{1603 (.00000759209)} \\
 &= .84444 \sqrt{.01217012} \\
 &= .84444 (.110318) = .0932
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the confidence interval at one standard error is approximately 9.3 percentage points around the decrease of 15.2 percent, or 18.6 percentage points at the two standard error level. The chances are 68 out of 100 that the true percent change lies between -5.9 and -24.5 (-15.2 + 9.3).

The ratio of a relative difference to its standard error is equivalent to its level of statistical significance. For example, a ratio of 2.0 or more denotes that the difference is significant at the 95 percent confidence level; a ratio of from 1.6 to 2.0 indicates that the difference is significant at a confidence level between 90 and 95 percent; and a ratio of less than 1.6 defines a level of confidence below 90 percent. In the above example, the ratio of the difference (15.2) to its standard error (9.3) equals 1.63. It can therefore be concluded that the decline in the assault rate for persons 50 to 64 years of age from 1975 to 1976 was significant at the 90 percent confidence level.

Specific standard errors of change for household crimes may be computed by using the same formula. In Tables 17-19, percents rather than rates are used so that the decimal point should be moved two places to the left, rather than three, when inserting values for  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  in the formula (i.e., 18.7 percent becomes .287).

### APPENDIX III COMMERCIAL SURVEY

#### Information on the sample and the reliability of the estimates

Commercial victimization survey results contained in this publication are based on data personally gathered by interviewers from the operators (usually managers or owners) of places of business and certain other organizational entities throughout the United States. Although focusing on commercial establishments, survey coverage extended to other organizations, such as those engaged in religious, political, and cultural activities. Most units of Federal, State, and local government were excluded. In applicable jurisdictions, however, liquor stores and transportation systems operated by government were within the scope of the survey; these were the only exceptions to the general exclusion of government-operated entities.

#### Sample design and size

Survey estimates were obtained from a stratified multistage cluster sample consisting of a total of 34 sample areas, increased to 58 in 1976 to improve the reliability of the estimates produced. Ten of these areas were selected with certainty and, therefore, were self-representing. The remaining sample areas were chosen from an original total of 240 strata that in 1976 were collapsed into 48 large strata, with areas in each of the latter being as homogeneous as possible with respect to size, geographic region, and metropolitan character. Each of the strata was drawn independently of strata in the monthly current business area sample. Within each large stratum, one area was selected to represent the entire stratum, with sample segments selected within each area. In each of the 10 certainty sample areas, a sample of segments was drawn at the rate of 1 in 24 (or 1 in 6 in 1976) from among those segments not in current use. Interviewers canvassed the selected segments and conducted interviews at all business establishments and other organizational units located within the boundaries of each segment.

The sample for 1976 consisted of an estimated 50,000 places of business designated for interviewing, which yielded about 41,400 establishments interviewed every 6 months. At a large majority of the 8,600 remaining businesses, it was not possible to conduct interviews because the business locations were vacant, buildings had been demolished, or the businesses were otherwise not qualified for interview. Establishments eligible for interview, but where no interviews were obtained because the business was temporarily closed during the interview period, or because the operator refused to grant an interview, amounted to fewer than 1 percent of those eligible for the interviews on which the 1975 and 1976 survey results are based.

For purposes of conducting the interviews, the sample was divided into six panels, one of which was interviewed each month during a given 6-month period. Although the survey is continuing, it differs from the household survey in that a rotation procedure is not employed. Establishment operators are interviewed every 6 months for an indefinite period.

#### Estimation procedure

The estimation procedure is performed on a quarterly basis, as in the household survey, to produce quarterly estimates of burglary and robbery victimizations and of victimization rates for each of those crimes. Annual data represent the accumulation of the appropriate quarterly figures, with rates computed over an average base for the year.

Data records produced from survey interviews were assigned final weights, applied to each usable data record, enabling the tabulation of nationwide estimates. The final weight was the product of the basic weight<sup>1</sup> reflecting each selected establishment's probability of being in the sample, and an adjustment for noninterview. The noninterview adjustment was calculated for each of 17 classes of business; it was equal to the total number of data records required in each class divided by the number of usable records actually collected. This factor was then applied to each usable record in the particular kind of business category.

<sup>1</sup>The basic weight was 500 for the full sample in 1975, and 125 if a certainty PSU and 250 if a noncertainty PSU in 1976.

If an interviewer determined that a business had not operated at the listed address for the entire 6-month reference period, an attempt was made to secure information for the balance of the period from whatever firm previously occupied the location, or in the case of vacancies, from neighboring businesses. However, in cases of failure to account for the full reference period, no further weighting adjustment was made.

Series victimizations were not treated separately in the commercial survey because the availability of records generally enabled respondents to provide details of whatever multiple victimizations may have occurred during the 6-month reference period. Thus, all reported incidents of burglary and robbery against commercial establishments are reflected in the data tables.

#### Reliability of the estimates

Survey results presented in this report concerning the criminal victimization of commercial establishments are estimates that were derived through probability sampling methods rather than from a complete enumeration. The sample used was only one of many of the same size that could have been selected utilizing the same sample design. Although the results obtained from any two samples might differ markedly, the average of a number of different samples would be expected to be in near agreement with the results of a complete enumeration using the same data collection procedures and processing methods. Similarly, the results obtained by averaging data from a number of subsamples of the whole sample would be expected to give an order of magnitude of the variance between any single subsample and the grouping of subsamples. Such a technique, known as the random group method, was used in calculating coefficients of variation, presented in this appendix in the form of standard errors for estimates generated by the surveys. Because the standard errors are the products of calculations involving estimates derived through sampling, each error in turn is subject to sampling variability.

In order to gauge the extent of sampling variability inherent in the commercial survey results, standard errors have been derived for a number of business characteristics. The appendix table displays standard errors from the sample observations for estimated values pertaining to selected characteristics of business establishments. While these standard errors partially gauge the effect of nonsampling error, they do not take into account any biases that may be inherent in the survey results.

When used in conjunction with the survey results, the standard error table permits the construction of intervals containing the average result of all possible samples with a prescribed level of confidence. Chances are about 68 out of 100 that any given survey result would differ from results that would be obtained from a complete enumeration using the same procedures by less than the applicable standard error. Doubling the interval increases the confidence level to 95 chances out of 100 that the estimated value would differ from the results of a complete count by less than twice the standard error.

As in the household survey, estimates of victimizations against businesses are subject to nonsampling errors, principal among these being the problem of recalling victimizations that occurred during the 6 months prior to interview. Because of a number of factors, however, it is likely that these errors were less prevalent in the commercial survey than they were in the household survey. These factors include the greater likelihood of recordkeeping and of reporting to police by businesses, as well as the concentration of the survey on two of the more serious crimes, burglary and robbery. To control for the telescoping problem, a bounding procedure is used whereby respondents are reminded at the beginning of each interview of any incidents that were reported during the previous interview.

A reinterview program also has been instituted in the commercial survey, involving about 3 percent of the establishments interviewed each month. Results to date indicate that differences between the reinterview and the original interview are minimal, well within the margin of sampling error. Another quality control, designed to obtain measures of coverage, involves a recheck of approximately 10 percent of each month's interviewer listing of qualifying establishments.

Other nonsampling errors may have arisen from deficient interviewing and from data processing mistakes. However, quality control measures similar to those used in the household survey were adopted to minimize such errors.

#### Application of standard errors

Specific standard errors for changes in rates and in the percent of crimes reported to the police for the commercial survey are included in Tables 13, 19, and 22 of Appendix I. They are given in percentage points at the 1 standard-error level of confidence. In order to meet the requirements for statistical reliability

adopted for this report, the intervals must be multiplied by 1.6 or 2 to obtain the 90 percent and 95 percent confidence levels, respectively. All differences in rates or percents that meet these criteria have been indicated on the tables containing data from the commercial survey: Tables 13-19 and 22. The table in this appendix contains confidence intervals, at the 1 standard-error level, for rate and percent changes for selected characteristics of business establishments. For example, Table 16 of this report shows that burglary of establishments with gross sales of \$1 million or more decreased by about 19 percent from 1975 to 1976. Table B of this appendix gives a standard error of 10.6 on this estimate. Multiplying this figure by 1.6 to reach the 90 percent confidence level gives a result of 17.0 which is less than the amount of the decrease. Therefore, this difference is statistically significant at the 90 percent confidence level, but not at the 95 percent level. Rough approximations of the standard errors of estimates not shown in Table B may be made by comparing them with estimates in the table for similar rates related to bases of comparable size.

Table B. Commercial crimes: Standard error estimates for percent change, 1975 to 1976, by characteristics of establishments, use of weapons, and type of crime

(68 chances out of 100)

Type of crime	Percent change 1975-1976	Standard error
Total burglary - retail	-10.4	2.6
Total robbery - retail	-6.6	7.8
Completed burglary - retail food group	-24.3	12.3
Total burglary - retail food group	+2.3	10.5
Total burglary - wholesale	+48.7	13.1
Total robbery - service	+10.0	10.6
Total burglary - manufacturing	-8.6	9.5
Total burglary - no paid employees	+3.7	8.8
Completed robbery - 1 to 3 employees	+13.6	18.0
Attempted burglary - 8 to 19 employees	-3.1	19.2
Total burglary - 20 or more employees	-12.3	10.2
Total burglary - no sales	-11.8	14.4
Total burglary - under \$10,000	-7.2	10.1
Total robbery - \$25,000 to \$49,999	+27.4	34.8
Attempted burglary - \$100,000 to \$499,999	-12.2	19.3
Total robbery - \$500,000 to \$999,999	-19.7	24.8
Total burglary - \$1,000,000 or more	-18.9	10.6
Completed robbery - use of weapon in all incidents	-6.5	9.1
Attempted robbery - use of firearms in armed incidents	-18.0	17.5

## GLOSSARY

Age - The appropriate age category is determined by each respondent's age as of the last day of the month preceding the interview.

Aggravated assault - Attack with a weapon resulting in any injury and attack without a weapon resulting either in serious injury (e.g., broken bones, loss of teeth, internal injuries, loss of consciousness) or in undetermined injury requiring 2 or more days of hospitalization. Also includes attempted assault with a weapon.

Annual family income - Includes the income of the household head and all other related persons residing in the same household unit. Covers the 12 months preceding the interview and includes wages, salaries, net income from business or farm, pensions, interest, dividends, rent, and any other form of monetary income. The income of persons unrelated to the head of household is excluded.

Assault - An unlawful physical attack, whether aggravated or simple, upon a person. Includes attempted assault with or without a weapon. Excludes rape and attempted rape, as well as attacks involving theft or attempted theft, which are classified as robbery.

Attempted forcible entry - A form of burglary in which force is used in an attempt to gain entry.

Burglary - Unlawful or forcible entry of a residence or business, usually, but not necessarily, attended by theft. Includes attempted forcible entry.

Central city - The largest city (or "twin cities") of a standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA), defined below.

Commercial crimes - Burglary or robbery of business establishments and certain other organizations, such as those engaged in religious, political, or cultural activities. Includes both completed and attempted acts. Additional details concerning entities covered by the commercial survey appear in the introduction to Appendix III.

Forcible entry - A form of burglary in which force is used to gain entry (e.g., by breaking a window or slashing a screen).

Head of household - For classification purposes, only one individual per household can be the head person. In husband-wife households, the husband arbitrarily is considered to be the head. In other households, the head person is the individual so regarded by its members; generally, that person is the chief breadwinner.

Household - Consists of the occupants of separate living quarters meeting either of the following criteria: (1) Persons, whether present or temporarily absent, whose usual place of residence is the housing unit in question, or (2) Persons staying in the housing unit who have no usual place of residence elsewhere.

Household crimes - Burglary, household larceny, or motor vehicle theft. Includes both completed and attempted acts.

Household larceny - Theft or attempted theft of property or cash from a residence or its immediate vicinity. Forcible entry, attempted forcible entry, or unlawful entry is not involved.

Incident - A specific criminal act involving one or more victims and offenders. In situations where a personal crime occurred during the course of a commercial burglary or robbery, it was assumed that the commercial victimization survey accounted for the incident and, therefore, it was not counted as an incident of personal crime. However, details of the outcome of the event as they related to the victimized individual would be reflected in data on personal victimizations.

Kind of establishment - Determined by the sole or principal activity at each place of business.

Larceny - Theft or attempted theft of property or cash without force. A basic distinction is made between personal larceny and household larceny.

Marital status - Each household member is assigned to one of the following categories: (1) Married, which includes persons having common-law unions and those parted temporarily for reasons other than marital discord (employment, military service, etc.); (2) Separated and divorced. Separated includes married persons who have a legal separation or have parted because of marital discord; (3) Widowed; and (4) Never married, which includes those whose only marriage has been annulled and those living together (excluding common-law unions).

Metropolitan area - Abbreviation for "Standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA)," defined below.

Motor vehicle - Includes automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and any other motorized vehicles legally allowed on public roads and highways.

Motor vehicle theft - Stealing or unauthorized taking of a motor vehicle, including attempts at such acts.

Nonmetropolitan area - A locality not situated within an SMSA. The category covers a variety of localities, ranging from sparsely inhabited rural areas to cities of fewer than 50,000 population.

Nonstranger - With respect to crimes entailing direct contact between victim and offender, victimizations (or incidents) are classified as having involved nonstrangers if victim and offender either are related, well known to, or casually acquainted with one another. In crimes involving a mix of stranger and nonstranger offenders, the events are classified under nonstranger. The distinction between stranger and nonstranger crimes is not made for personal larceny without contact, an offense in which victims rarely see the offender.

Offender - The perpetrator of a crime; the term generally is applied in relation to crimes entailing contact between victim and offender.

Offense - A crime; with respect to personal crimes, the two terms can be used interchangeably irrespective of whether the applicable unit of measure is a victimization or an incident.

Outside central cities - See "Suburban area," below.

Personal crimes - Rape, robbery, assault, personal larceny with contact, or personal larceny without contact. Includes both completed and attempted acts.

Personal crimes of theft - Theft or attempted theft of property or cash, either with contact (but without force or threat of force) or without direct contact between victim and offender. Equivalent to personal larceny.

Personal crimes of violence - Rape, robbery, or assault. Includes both completed and attempted acts.

Personal larceny - Equivalent to personal crimes of theft. A distinction is made between personal larceny with contact and personal larceny without contact.

Personal larceny with contact - Theft of purse, wallet, or cash by stealth directly from the person of the victim, but without force or the threat of force. Also includes attempted purse snatching.

Personal larceny without contact - Theft or attempted theft, without direct contact between victim and offender, of property or cash from any place other than the victim's home or its immediate vicinity. In rare cases, the victim sees the offender during the commission of the act.

Race - Determined by the interviewer upon observation, and asked only about persons not related to the head of the household who were not present at the time of interview. The racial categories distinguished are white and black.

Rape - Carnal knowledge through the use of force or the threat of force, including attempts. Statutory rape (without force) is excluded. Includes both heterosexual and homosexual rape.

Robbery - Theft or attempted theft, directly from a person or a business, of property or cash by force or threat of force, with or without a weapon.

Robbery with injury - Theft or attempted theft from a person, accompanied by an attack, either with or without a weapon, resulting in injury. An injury is classified as resulting from a serious assault if a weapon was used in the commission of the crime, or if not, when the extent of the injury was either serious (e.g., broken bones, loss of teeth, internal injuries, loss of consciousness) or undetermined but requiring 2 or more days of hospitalization. An injury is classified as resulting from a minor assault when the extent of the injury was minor (e.g., bruises, black eyes, cuts, scratches, swelling) or undetermined but requiring less than 2 days of hospitalization.

Robbery without injury - Theft or attempted theft from a person, accompanied by force or the threat of force, either with or without a weapon, but not resulting in injury.

Simple assault - Attack without a weapon resulting either in minor injury (e.g., bruises, black eyes, cuts, scratches, swelling) or in undetermined injury requiring less than 2 days of hospitalization. Also includes attempted assault without a weapon.

Spanish origin - Persons who report themselves as Mexican-Americans, Chicanos, Mexicans, Mexicanos, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Central or South Americans, or of other Spanish origin. Persons of Spanish origin may be of any race.

Standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA) - Except in the New England States, a standard metropolitan statistical area is a county or group of contiguous counties that contains at least

one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more, or "twin cities" with a combined population of at least 50,000.<sup>1</sup> In addition to the county, or counties, containing such a city or cities, contiguous counties are included in an SMSA if, according to certain criteria, they are socially and economically integrated with the central city. In the New England States, SMSA's consist of towns and cities instead of counties. Each SMSA must include at least one central city, and the complete title of an SMSA identifies the central city or cities.

Stranger - With respect to crimes entailing direct contact between victim and offender, victimizations (or incidents) are classified as involving strangers if the victim so stated, or did not see or recognize the offender, or knew the offender only by sight. In crimes involving a mix of stranger and nonstranger offenders, the events are classified under nonstranger. The distinction between stranger and nonstranger crimes is not made for personal larceny without contact, an offense in which victims rarely see the offender.

Suburban area - The county, or counties, containing a central city, plus any contiguous counties that are linked socially and economically to the central city. On data tables, suburban areas are categorized as those portions of metropolitan areas situated "outside central cities."

Tenure - Two forms of household tenancy are distinguished: (1) Owned, which includes dwellings being bought through mortgage, and (2) Rented, which also includes rent-free quarters belonging to a party other than the occupant and situations where rental payments are in services.

Unlawful entry - A form of burglary committed by someone having no legal right to be on the premises even though force is not used.

Victim - The recipient of a criminal act; usually used in relation to personal crimes, but also applicable to households and commercial establishments.

Victimization - A specific criminal act as it affects a single victim, whether a person, household, or commercial establishment. In criminal acts against persons, the number of victimizations is determined by the number of victims of such acts; ordinarily,

<sup>1</sup>This definition is the one used for the 1970 Census. Although it has since been redefined by the Office of Management and Budget, the 1970 definition has been used in the National Crime Survey in order to maintain comparability throughout the decade.

the number of victimizations is somewhat higher than the number of incidents because more than one individual is victimized during certain incidents, as well as because personal victimizations that occurred in conjunction with either commercial burglary or robbery are not counted as incidents of personal crime. Each criminal act against a household or commercial establishment is assumed to involve a single victim, the affected household or establishment.

Victimization rate - For crimes against persons, the victimization rate, a measure of occurrence among population groups at risk, is computed on the basis of the number of victimizations per 1,000 resident population age 12 and over. For crimes against households, victimization rates are calculated on the basis of the number of incidents per 1,000 households. And, for crimes against commercial establishments, victimization rates are derived from the number of incidents per 1,000 establishments.

Victimize - To perpetrate a crime against a person, household, or commercial establishment.

Weapons use - For purposes of tabulation and analysis, the mere presence of a weapon constitutes "use." In other words, expressions such as "weapons use" apply both to situations in which weapons served for purposes of intimidation, or threat, and to those in which they actually were employed as instruments of physical attack.

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