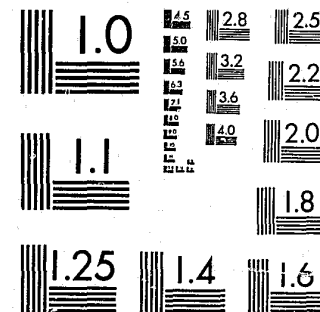


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U.S. Department of Justice
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Analysis of National Crime Victimization Survey Data To Study Serious Delinquent Behavior

Monograph One

Juvenile Criminal Behavior
in the United States:
Its Trends and Patterns

74-079



Monographs in this series include:

Juvenile Criminal Behavior in the United States:
Its Trends and Patterns

Juvenile Criminal Behavior: An Analysis of Rates
and Victim Characteristics

Juvenile Criminal Behavior in Urban,
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Juvenile Criminal Behavior and Its Relation
to Economic Conditions (*forthcoming*)

Juvenile Criminal Behavior and Its Relation to
Neighborhood Characteristics (*forthcoming*)

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Delinquent Behavior**

Monograph One

**Juvenile Criminal Behavior
in the United States:
Its Trends and Patterns**

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Analysis of National Crime Victimization Survey Data to Study Serious Delinquent Behavior

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Executive Summary

In this monograph 1973 to 1977 National Crime Survey victimization data are used to examine trends and patterns in the criminal behavior of juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. The personal crimes of rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny (purse snatch and pocket picking), and the commercial crime of robbery are examined.

With respect to the serious criminal behavior of juveniles, this analysis has led to two major policy-relevant conclusions. First, juvenile crime is less serious -- in terms of weapon use, completion of theft, financial loss, and rate of injury -- than adult crime. Second, over the five year period studied here, juvenile crime did not become increasingly serious.

Some findings include:

- 1) In the period from 1973 to 1977 the total number and rate of personal crimes attributable to juvenile (under 18 years old) and youthful offenders (18 to 20 years old) remained relatively stable, although there was a slight increase in the number and rate of personal crimes attributable to adults (21 or older).
- 2) The vast majority of rapes were committed by adults, whereas the vast majority of personal larcenies were committed by juveniles and youthful offenders.
- 3) Although the number of offenders involved in the incident varied substantially by type of crime, groups of three or more offenders were generally found much more often among juveniles than among adults.

- 4) There was a systematic increase in the use of weapons as the offender age group increased. In personal crimes guns were rarely used by juveniles, and there was no evidence that among juveniles weapon use generally, or gun use specifically, increased between 1973 and 1977.
- 5) Overall, there were no substantial differences in the rate, the seriousness, or the type of injury sustained in crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, or adults. In addition, among all three offender age groups, the rate of physical injury to victims did not increase between 1973 and 1977.
- 6) Among youthful offenders and adults the percent of victimizations involving injury increased as the number of offenders involved in the incident increased.
- 7) In the theft-motivated crimes of robbery (both personal and commercial) and personal larceny, completion of the theft was directly related to the age of offender. In addition, financial losses due to theft of cash or property were least in the theft-motivated crimes by juveniles, and greatest in those by adults.
- 8) Between 1973 and 1977 the percent of completed robberies by youthful offenders increased markedly; however there was no similar increase in completion for juveniles or adults.

- 9) Among all offender age groups, theft occurred most often if two offenders were involved, less often if there were three or more offenders, and least often if only one offender was involved.
- 10) Juvenile involvement in robberies of businesses was substantially less than juvenile involvement in robberies of persons.

Juvenile Criminal Behavior in the United States: Its Trends and Patterns

Introduction

In recent years, problems related to serious criminal behavior among juveniles have been given considerable attention by the media, the public, and various legislative bodies in the United States. For example, there seems to be a trend toward more severe penalties for juveniles who commit serious crimes and an increasing propensity to treat such offenders as adults. These legislative changes have not been accompanied by systematic attempts to examine the nature and consequences of serious juvenile crime, and the extent to which these phenomena are indeed becoming more serious.

Whether it is the theorist attempting to construct an explanation of delinquent or criminal behavior, or a practitioner attempting to have some preventive impact on the extent and social consequences of serious offending behavior, it is fruitless to begin without a firm empirical foundation of the phenomenon of concern. But more than this, the empirical foundation should be as free as possible of systematic biases that may distort the results in such a way as to obscure important aspects of the phenomenon, in this case serious criminal behavior.

Until the late 1950's, researchers interested in the nature, extent, and correlates of delinquent and criminal behavior relied almost exclusively on police and court records of offenses and offenders. With these official data sources, the task of estimating the nature and extent of crime as well as its social location entails certain key assumptions. Most notably, the use of official data assumes that arrested persons are representative of offenders -- i.e., that there are no biases in the selection of offenders for arrest that are associated with the personal characteristics of offenders, with their levels of skill or experience, or with any other factors.

Contrary to this assumption it has been argued, for example, that less powerful groups are disproportionately selected for official processing from among those engaging in criminal behavior (e.g., Chambliss and Seidman, 1971; Quinney, 1970). Because age, race, and sex are variables that have been hypothesized to be differentially related to the probability of detection and arrest, it is crucial to have available a data source that does not reflect any criminal justice system biases that may exist.

With the publication of their pioneering papers, Short and Nye (1957, 1958) introduced an innovative "self-report" technique that does not rely on the selection mechanisms of the criminal justice system for locating and identifying offenders. The self-report method, because it is independent of criminal justice processing, has an important advantage over data from police and court records; however, the self-report method, as it has been used to date, has a critical disadvantage: criminal offenses that are of greatest social concern are not tapped in any meaningful way by this method. This limitation derives from two principal sources. First, serious criminality is sufficiently rare that general population surveys of the sizes typically used by self-report researchers -- generally fewer than 1500 respondents -- yield an insufficient number of serious crimes. Second, many self-report instruments do not contain items that even attempt to tap serious crime. Hence, although the self-report approach has provided some very useful information about minor delinquent offenses, it has not been an acceptable replacement for, or even a very useful supplement to, official data.

Recently, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, in cooperation with the Bureau of the Census, has generated data about crime that, like self-reports, are independent of the selection mechanisms of the criminal justice system but, unlike self-reports, contain information about relatively

serious crimes. These data are generated by surveying very large probability samples of the general population in order to ascertain the nature and extent of criminal victimizations that may have been suffered by respondents. These National Crime Survey (NCS) results can shed important light on some of the basic questions surrounding serious criminal behavior.

When respondents indicate that they have experienced a criminal victimization they are asked a series of detailed questions relating to every aspect of the offense: exactly what happened, when and where the offense occurred, whether any injury or loss was suffered as a result of the offense, who was present during the offense, whether it was reported to the police, and what the victim perceived to be the offender's sex, race, and age group.

On the basis of these limited offender data, it is possible to pose many important questions regarding the basic facts surrounding the offenses of various subgroups of offenders. For a variety of reasons alluded to above (e.g., the lack of serious crime in self-reports and the potential biases in police data), victimization survey data are likely to provide more adequate answers to these questions than either self-reports or police data. This is not to say, however, that victimization survey results as a source of data about offenders are without problems. There are four inter-related limitations regarding the use of NCS data in connection with studying offender characteristics. First, because the source of the data is the victim's report, only a small number of visible offender characteristics are available -- sex, race, age group, number of offenders, and relationship (if any) to the victim. Second, little systematic work has been done to date on the accuracy of the victim's reports of these offender variables.¹ Third, because these data depend on reports of victims, the data include only offenses in which the victim sees the offender: rape, robbery, assault,

and personal larceny with contact between the victim and offender. Fourth, questions related to incidence versus prevalence cannot be resolved with these data; that is, whether the disproportionate number of males among offenders is due to a small proportion of males repeatedly offending or due to a large proportion of males rarely offending cannot be resolved with these data. Even within these limitations, however, the NCS data hold potential that is not found in self-report or official data.

This research monograph is intended to provide a descriptive analysis of serious crimes committed by juvenile offenders and the extent to which characteristics of these crimes and offenders change over time. In particular, analyses will be presented to assess the extent to which patterns of offending have changed over the 1973 to 1977 period. For example, is the proportion of theft offenses due to robbery (in contrast to personal larceny) changing over time? To what extent are groups of offenders involved in serious crimes? What role does weapon use play in these offenses? How prevalent is injury to victims? How substantial are the financial losses incurred? What is the likelihood that both injury and loss will result from a victimization? In terms of these consequences to victims, has the seriousness of criminal victimization changed over time?

Throughout this monograph three age groups of offenders will be examined. The first major group, juvenile offenders, are those offenders perceived by their victims to be under 18 years of age.² Occasionally in order to provide finer age breakdowns, three subgroups of juvenile offenders will be differentiated: those under 12, those 12 to 14, and those 15 to 17 years old. The second major group, youthful offenders, are those offenders perceived by their victims to be 18 to 20 years old. The third major group, adult offenders, are those perceived by their victims to be 21 years of age

or older. The use of these three major age groupings of offenders will permit analyses of age-related differences in offending. Before turning to these findings, however, it is necessary to give some attention to the data to be used in these analyses.

Description of the Data

The data are from the NCS national sample, collected by the United States Bureau of the Census, in cooperation with the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. In the national survey, probability samples of both housing units and businesses were selected on the basis of a stratified, multistage, cluster design. The data used in this monograph cover the period from 1973 to 1977.³

The total annual sample size for the national surveys is about 60,000 households containing about 136,000 individuals and about 15,000 businesses (increased to about 50,000 businesses in July 1975). The total sample is composed of six independently selected subsamples of about 10,000 households with 22,000 individuals and 2,500 businesses (increased to more than 8,000 in July 1975). Each subsample is interviewed twice a year about victimizations suffered in the preceding six months. For example, in January 22,000 individuals (in 10,000 households) and representatives from 8,000 businesses are interviewed. In the following month -- and in each of the next four succeeding months -- an independent probability sample of the same size is interviewed. In July, the housing units and business units originally interviewed in January are revisited and interviews are repeated; likewise, the original February sample units are revisited in August, the March units in September, etc. Each time they are interviewed in the

national survey, respondents are asked about victimizations that they may have suffered during the 6 months preceding the month of interview.

Thus, the national survey is conducted using a panel design; the panel consists of *addresses*. Interviewers return to the same housing and business units every 6 months. If the family or business contacted during the last interview cycle has moved, the new occupants are interviewed. If the unit no longer exists or is condemned, it is dropped from the sample, but new units are added to the sample periodically. For household units this is accomplished by a continuing sample of new construction permits; new business units are added to the samples as they appear in the sampling segments during each month's enumeration. No attempt is made to trace families or businesses that have moved.⁴ Housing units in the panel are visited a maximum of seven times, after which they are rotated out of the panel and replaced by a new, independent probability sample; maximum time in the sample for any housing unit, then, is 3 years. There is no provision for the rotation of sampled business units.

The data reported in this monograph represent estimates of crimes occurring in the United State, based on weighted sample data.⁵ It is possible to make these estimates because a probability sample of respondents was surveyed. The interview completion rate in the national sample is about 95 percent or more of those selected to be interviewed in any given period, and hence population estimates are relatively unbiased.

The bulk of this monograph will be concerned with the personal crimes of rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny (pocket picking and purse snatch). The final section of the monograph examines the commercial crime

of robbery.⁶ Although the survey also collects data on the household crimes of burglary, larceny from the household, and motor vehicle theft as well as the commercial crime of burglary, these crimes will not be included here. As indicated above, the analysis requires reports from victims regarding what transpired during the event -- particularly regarding offender characteristics such as the perceived age of the offender -- and hence only those crimes generally involving contact between victims and offenders will yield this information. The details about what happened during the event are gathered by means of personal interviews with the victims themselves.⁷

Depending on whether one or more than one offender is reported by the victim to have been involved in the incident, victims are asked one of two series of questions relating to offender characteristics (see NCS household interview schedule in Appendix A and the NCS commercial interview schedule in Appendix B). If a lone offender victimized the respondent, that offender's characteristics are simply recorded. If more than one offender was involved it is, of course, possible to have offenders of different ages, sexes, and races. Because age is used repeatedly throughout this monograph, Appendix C explains in detail how each of the offender age variables was created. In general, the tables and figures shown in this monograph in which both lone- and multiple-offender incidents are included, use the age of the oldest of the multiple offenders. Preliminary analysis shows that more often than not multiple offenders fall into the same age group; for this reason, whether the youngest or the oldest of the multiple offenders is used has little impact on the results.

On the basis of the details of precisely what transpired -- whether force or threat of force was used by the offender, whether some theft was

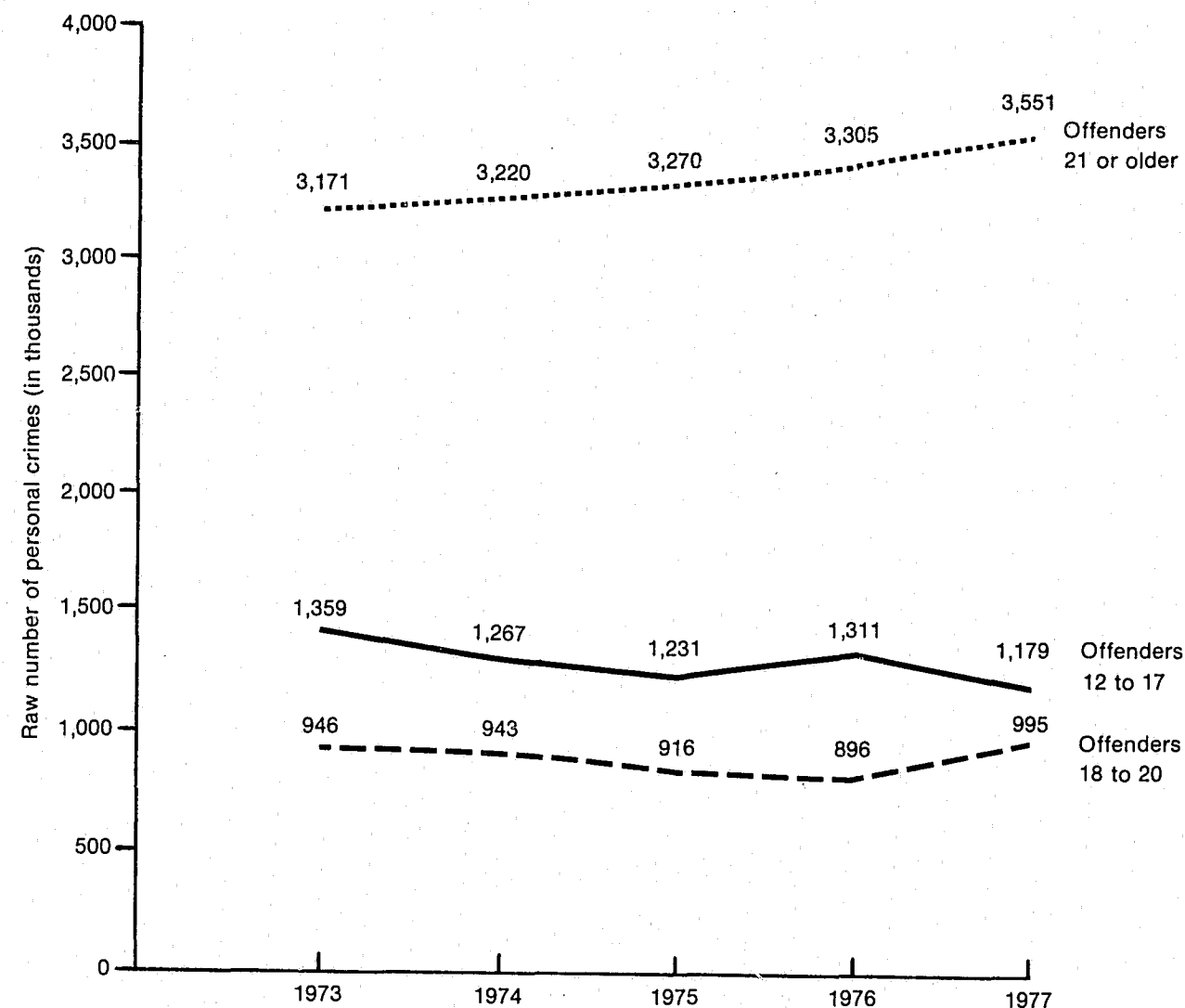
attempted or completed, whether serious injury was sustained, etc. -- crimes are classified according to definitions used in the Uniform Crime Reports (Webster, 1978). The elements constituting these definitions are shown in Appendix D for each of the major types of crime used herein.

Patterns of Offending

With the data available, one of the most general questions to be asked is whether the raw number of victimizations by juveniles has increased substantially in the 1973-1977 period or whether this is an impression, fostered perhaps by the media, but without firm empirical support. A related but distinct question is, among all crimes occurring has the proportion of offenses attributable to juveniles increased markedly? Figure 1 shows that for the 1973 to 1977 time period, the trend lines representing the total raw number of personal victimizations (rapes, robberies, assaults and personal larcenies) attributable to each age group are relatively flat. Although there was in this period a slight gradual increase in the total raw number of crimes attributable to adult offenders (about 12 percent) and an even slighter increase in the total raw number of crimes attributable to youthful offenders (about 5 percent), there was a decrease of more than 13 percent in total raw number of crimes attributable to juvenile offenders. This figure shows the raw number of personal victimizations, but because the number of potential offenders in each of the age groups shown was relatively constant in this period, data on age-specific rates of offending (discussed below, see Figure 2) produce similar conclusions.

As is evident from Figure 1, the aggregate raw number of rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny victimizations accounted for by adults every year was more than that for offenders in the other age groups combined. Juvenile offenders accounted for about one-quarter of the raw number of

FIGURE 1 Total estimated raw number of personal crimes, by age of offender^a and year, NCS national data, 1973-1977^b



^a Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^b These figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender. Also excluded are victimizations (about 1 percent of the total) committed by offenders perceived to be under 12 years of age.

total personal victimizations for 1973 to 1977; youthful offenders accounted for one-sixth and adult offenders for almost three-fifths of these incidents. When the data are disaggregated by type of crime (Table 1) the proportion of incidents of each type (rape, robbery, assault, and larceny) accounted for by the respective age groups is similar across years. However, there is some important variation across type of crime: the age distribution for personal larceny shows substantial involvement of the younger age groups, but the distribution for rape is skewed toward the oldest age group. More specifically, in the 1973 to 1977 period (aggregate data not shown) juvenile offenders accounted for 32 percent of all personal larcenies but only 8 percent of all rapes; adults accounted for 38 percent of the former but 76 percent of the latter.

Owing to the fact that there are, for example, far more adults than persons aged 18-20, it is important to re-cast the data in Figure 1 on the raw number of victimizations committed by each age group into age-specific rates of offending. In Figure 2, the data presented in Figure 1 have been converted to rates of offending per 100,000 of the general population in each age group, by dividing the raw number of victimizations attributed to a given age group by the number of persons in the general population who fall within that age group, times 100,000. For example, in 1977 Figure 1 shows that adult offenders accounted for an estimated 3,551,000 personal crimes. In the general population in 1977 there were an estimated 137,507,165 adults. Thus the 1977 rate of adult offending shown in Figure 2 (2,582) is equal to $(3,551,000 \div 137,507,165) \times 100,000$.

Figure 2 shows that in the 1973 to 1977 period, the age-specific rate of offending for adults evidences a slight increase (4 percent), but the comparable rate for juveniles (aged 12 to 17)⁸ shows a decrease (11 percent).

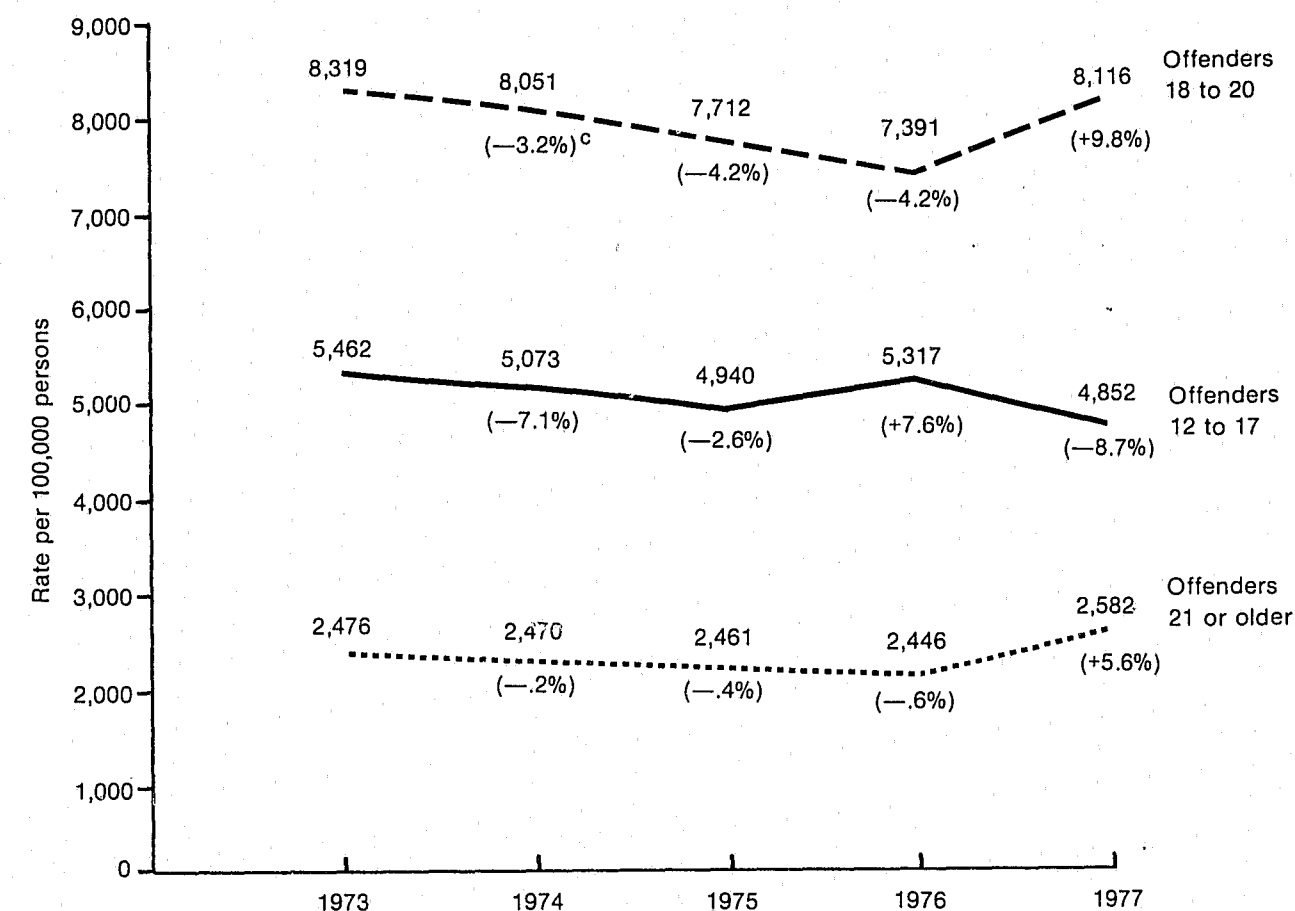
Table 1 Percent distribution of detailed age of offender,^a by type of crime and by year, NCS national data, 1973-1977^b

Year and type of crime	Detailed age of offender						(Estimated number of victimizations)
	Under 12	12 to 14	15 to 17	18 to 20	21 or older	Don't know	
1973:							
Rape	1	2	10	11	73	4	100 % (160,646)
Robbery	0	6	20	19	50	6	100 (1,115,291)
Aggravated assault	1	5	14	16	60	4	100 (1,646,174)
Simple assault	1	9	18	16	56	2	100 (2,516,418)
Personal larceny	4	10	18	21	36	12	100 (297,493)
Total	1	7	17	16	55	4	100 (5,736,021)
1974:							
Rape	0	1	6	13	77	4	100 (163,008)
Robbery	1	7	18	19	50	6	100 (1,174,078)
Aggravated assault	1	5	11	15	64	3	100 (1,663,944)
Simple assault	1	8	17	16	55	2	100 (2,386,931)
Personal larceny	1	9	21	17	40	11	100 (304,934)
Total	1	7	16	17	57	4	100 (5,692,894)
1975:							
Rape	0	0	6	11	77	6	100 (150,633)
Robbery	1	6	16	20	50	7	100 (1,111,219)
Aggravated assault	1	5	10	16	64	4	100 (1,541,278)
Simple assault	1	9	16	15	57	2	100 (2,603,450)
Personal larceny	2	11	24	14	37	11	100 (306,628)
Total	1	7	14	16	57	4	100 (5,713,208)
1976:							
Rape	0	3	4	12	80	1	100 (143,965)
Robbery	0	6	18	18	52	5	100 (1,084,161)
Aggravated assault	0	5	13	15	63	3	100 (1,616,091)
Simple assault	1	8	17	15	57	2	100 (2,611,859)
Personal larceny	1	7	19	21	40	13	100 (289,308)
Total	1	7	16	16	58	4	100 (5,745,384)
1977:							
Rape	0	1	8	13	76	3	100 (153,064)
Robbery	1	6	15	18	54	6	100 (1,058,999)
Aggravated assault	1	5	12	15	64	4	100 (1,654,751)
Simple assault	1	6	14	17	59	2	100 (2,897,037)
Personal larceny	1	7	17	18	41	16	100 (252,237)
Total	1	6	14	16	59	4	100 (6,016,086)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

FIGURE 2 Estimated rates of offending in total personal crimes (per 100,000 persons in each population subgroup), by year and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977^b



Population Base:

12 to 17	24,881,521	24,962,923	24,910,271	24,661,508	24,291,303
18 to 20	11,369,312	11,712,785	11,879,746	12,119,575	12,264,007
21 or older	128,079,370	130,371,553	132,868,762	135,107,961	137,507,165

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThese figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender. Also excluded are victimizations (about 1 percent of the total) committed by offenders perceived to be under 12 years of age.

^cPercent change from previous year.

Thus, the 1973-77 trend of the rate of juvenile offending, as shown in these data, is down, not up. Having said that about the rate trend data, what does Figure 2 show about the comparative rates of offending of the three age groups? The data show that in each year the rate of offending for the 18 to 20 year old group is substantially higher than that for the 12 to 17 year old group, whose rate in turn is higher than that for the adults. Because the relative rate of offending of these three groups is the subject of a subsequent monograph (Hindelang and McDermott, 1981), we will not focus on rates of offending in the rest of this monograph but instead will give attention to patterns of offending and trend aspects in the data.

In sum, with respect to these aspects of the data presented to this point, they suggest slight and generally decreasing variations in juvenile offending by year, and indicate that the vast majority of rapes reported to NCS interviewers are committed by adults, whereas the majority of personal larcenies reported to survey interviewers are committed by youthful and juvenile offenders. Thus, to the extent that recent legislative changes are premised on the assumption of generally increasing involvement of juveniles in violent personal offenses or on the assumption that juveniles constitute an increasing proportion of those committing violent personal offenses, the data presented to this point simply do not support such changes.

It is possible that although neither the extent of juvenile offending nor the proportion of offenses attributable to juveniles has increased markedly, that the seriousness of the personal crimes committed by them has increased. In subsequent sections we will examine elements of the offenses that contribute to seriousness -- weapon use, injury, and financial loss.

Before entering a detailed examination of the seriousness of personal crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults, we will briefly examine the number of offenders involved in these crimes.

Group Involvement

Group involvement (in the sense that the offender has one or more accomplices) is sometimes considered an aggravating circumstance in statutory grading schemes, and in this sense, it may be viewed as an indicator of seriousness. However, in this monograph, group involvement is not analyzed as a dimension of seriousness. Rather, the number of offenders involved in criminal victimizations is examined because it is one of the factors that appears from prior research and theory to differentiate juvenile from adult crime.

Popular conceptions of criminal behavior, particularly juvenile delinquency, give prominence to the role played by companions. From a theoretical point of view the group, gang, or subculture has played a central role in explanations of juvenile and adult criminal behavior. The major twentieth century criminological theorists -- Thrasher, Shaw and McKay, Sutherland, Sellin, Cohen, Matza, and Cloward and Ohlin -- have all emphasized the importance of peer support in the initiation and maintenance of delinquent and criminal behavior. In the NCS survey, victims are asked to report the number of offenders who victimized them. From this information about the number of offenders it is possible to investigate accompanied offending. Although it seems reasonable to infer that offenders who commit their crimes with companions are receiving group support for their illegal behavior, it does not necessarily follow that lone offenders are without peer support for their crimes. That is, lone offenders may receive encouragement, training,

and support from peers despite the fact that they are alone for the execution of the offense. With this limitation in mind, let us turn to the data on companionship in offending.

The first question to be posed with respect to group involvement in offending is simply how frequent is it? Table 2 shows that the number of offenders involved in criminal victimizations varies substantially by type of crime. For example, four-fifths of the rapes but fewer than half of the robberies involve lone offenders. At the other extreme, three or more offenders are relatively infrequently involved together in the same incident. For example, in robbery which shows the highest incidence of "three or more" offending, only about one-quarter of the incidents involve three or more offenders; rape incidents are least likely to involve more than a pair of offenders (10 percent). In sum, offending in groups of three or more is much less common than is lone offending. An examination of changes in the extent of group offending in the 1973 through the 1977 period revealed general stability in patterns of group offending. (Data not shown in tabular form.) For example, for all personal crimes as a whole the proportion of lone offenders ranged only from 63 percent to 68 percent while the proportion of incidents involving three or more offenders was similarly homogeneous across these years, ranging from 17 to 20 percent.

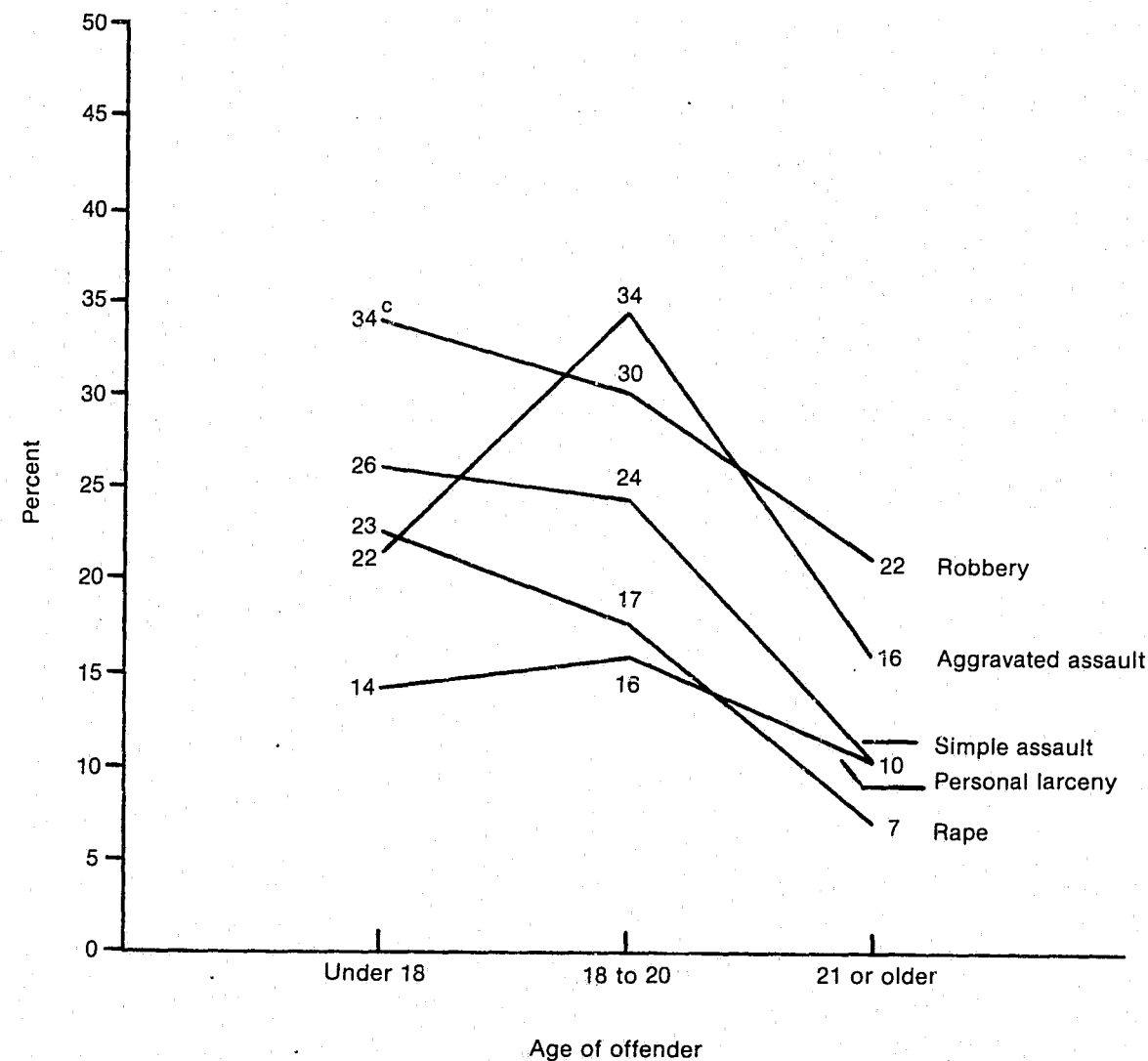
To what extent do these patterns vary by the offender's age? Figure 3 presents percentages that show the relationship between the perceived age of the offender and the percentage of all incidents in a given age group that involved three or more offenders. The figure shows that there is an overall tendency for the number of "three or more" incidents to decrease with age. The decline is steepest for rape where the percentages decrease from 23 for offenders perceived to be under 18 years of age, to 17 for those

Table 2 Percent distribution of the number of offenders in personal victimizations, by type of crime, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^a

Type of crime	Number of offenders			Don't know	(Estimated number of victimizations)
	One	Two	Three or more		
Rape	80	10	10	0	100% (771,316)
Robbery	44	28	27	0	100 (5,543,747)
Aggravated assault	66	13	20	0	100 (8,122,237)
Simple assault	72	11	17	1	100 (13,015,695)
Personal larceny	65	23	12	0	100 (1,450,599)

^aThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

FIGURE 3 Percent of personal victimizations with three or more offenders, by type of crime and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b



^a Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^b These figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^c This percent is based on the estimated number of victimizations committed by lone and multiple offenders in a given crime category.

18 to 20 years of age, to only 7 for adult rapists.⁹ A similar strong decline is apparent for robbery, where the percentages of incidents involving three or more offenders drop from 34, to 30, to 22 across the three age groups. The only exception to this trend is for aggravated assault incidents; for this crime the 18 to 20 year old offenders have the highest proportion of "three or more" offending (34 percent) and adult offenders the lowest (16 percent).

In summary, although group involvement varies substantially by type of crime, groups of three or more offenders are generally found much more often among juveniles than among adult offenders.

Use of Weapons

When the American public reports being fearful of crime, they probably have in mind face-to-face personal confrontation in which there is potential for serious injury or even death. Personal crimes in which deadly weapons such as guns and knives are used undoubtedly engender more fear than those in which weapons are not used. Stereotypically, juvenile offenders rely on the use of force in face-to-face crimes, and media presentations often emphasize the use of deadly weapons by juveniles. It is therefore important to examine the presence of weapons in criminal victimizations committed by juveniles.

The data presented in Table 3 indicate that there is little systematic variation across years in the presence of weapons in personal incidents reported to survey interviewers. For each year, however, there is a systematic increase in the presence of weapons as offender age group increases. For the 1973 to 1977 aggregate, juvenile offenders used a weapon in 27 percent of their incidents, while weapons were used in 36 percent of the incidents

Table 3 Percent of weapon use in personal victimization, by year and age of offender,^a
NCS national data, 1973-1977^b

Age of Offender	Year				
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Under 18	30 ^c (1,408,612) ^d	28 (1,315,793)	24 (1,283,268)	28 (1,344,078)	27 (1,229,930)
18 to 20	38 (945,891)	38 (943,092)	38 (916,220)	34 (895,848)	33 (995,371)
21 or older	41 (3,171,472)	44 (3,220,457)	40 (3,269,915)	40 (3,304,914)	38 (3,550,662)
Don't know	46 (210,046)	40 (213,552)	43 (243,804)	34 (200,544)	39 (240,123)
Total	38 (5,736,021)	39 (5,692,894)	36 (5,713,208)	36 (5,745,384)	35 (6,016,086)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cPercent of weapon use.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with weapon use plus those without weapon use) on which percent shown is based.

by youthful offenders, and in 41 percent of those by adults. (Aggregate data shown in Table 5.) When the data are examined more closely to ascertain weapon type (Table 4), it is apparent that there is little systematic variation across age groups in the proportionate use of knives and other weapons; however, guns are about four times more likely to be used by adults than by juveniles. It is probably the case that guns are more readily available to adults than to juvenile offenders. Across the 1974 to 1977 period there was a gradual decline in the use of guns among adult offenders.

As would be expected, the use of weapons is not independent of type of crime. As Appendix D shows, by definition, personal larceny and simple assault cannot involve the use of a weapon. Also by definition, rape and robbery involve the actual use of force or the threat of force, and it is likely that weapons will be used in these offenses to give credence to such threats. Owing to the relationship between offender's age and type of crime noted in the previous section, it is essential to examine the presence of weapon data by type of crime.

As shown in Table 5, almost all of the aggravated assaults, half of the robberies, one-quarter of the rapes, and (as required definitionally) none of the simple assaults or larcenies, involve weapons. It is interesting to note parenthetically that most of the aggravated assaults do not involve any injury (as will be shown below) and are only classified as aggravated because of the presence of a weapon. Since the proportion of all assaults that are aggravated increases with age, if all assaults were aggregated, the proportionate increase in weapon use with offender age would be apparent for assaults as it is for robbery and rape. When the robbery and aggravated assault data are disaggregated by year (Table 6) it can be seen that the increasing proportionate use of guns with offender age generally maintains

Table 4 Percent of type of weapon used in personal victimization, by year and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977^b

Type of weapon and age of offender	Year				
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Gun:					
Under 18	3 ^c (1,408,612) ^d	5 (1,315,793)	4 (1,283,268)	5 (1,344,078)	4 (1,229,930)
18 to 20	10 (945,891)	9 (943,092)	11 (916,220)	8 (895,848)	9 (995,371)
21 or older	18 (3,171,472)	20 (3,220,457)	16 (3,269,915)	15 (3,304,914)	14 (3,550,662)
Don't know	22 (210,046)	18 (213,552)	22 (243,804)	16 (200,544)	18 (240,123)
Total	13 (5,736,021)	14 (5,692,894)	13 (5,713,208)	12 (5,745,384)	12 (6,016,086)
Knife:					
Under 18	12 (1,408,612)	10 (1,315,793)	8 (1,283,268)	10 (1,344,078)	9 (1,229,930)
18 to 20	14 (945,891)	14 (943,092)	13 (916,220)	9 (895,848)	10 (995,371)
21 or older	11 (3,171,472)	12 (3,220,457)	12 (3,269,915)	12 (3,304,914)	11 (3,550,662)
Don't know	12 (210,046)	10 (213,552)	9 (243,804)	5 (200,544)	7 (240,123)
Total	12 (5,736,021)	12 (5,692,894)	11 (5,713,208)	11 (5,745,384)	10 (6,016,086)
Other weapon:					
Under 18	14 (1,408,612)	12 (1,315,793)	12 (1,283,268)	14 (1,344,078)	13 (1,229,930)
18 to 20	15 (945,891)	15 (943,092)	14 (916,220)	17 (895,848)	15 (995,371)
21 or older	12 (3,171,472)	13 (3,220,457)	13 (3,269,915)	13 (3,304,914)	14 (3,550,662)
Don't know	12 (210,046)	10 (213,552)	10 (243,804)	11 (200,544)	14 (240,123)
Total	13 (5,736,021)	13 (5,692,894)	13 (5,713,208)	14 (5,745,384)	14 (6,016,086)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.^cPercent with particular type of weapon used.^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with type of weapon use plus those without type of weapon use) on which percent shown is based.Table 5 Percent of weapon use in personal victimization, by type of crime and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b

Age of offender	Type of crime					Total
	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Simple Assault	Personal Larceny	
Under 18	11 ^c (62,733) ^d	30 (1,335,536)	95 (1,464,012)	0 (3,274,882)	0 (444,519)	27 (6,581,681)
18 to 20	30 (92,388)	48 (1,043,946)	94 (1,250,659)	0 (2,043,230)	0 (266,199)	36 (4,696,422)
21 or older	30 (588,917)	60 (2,827,631)	94 (5,120,474)	0 (7,421,949)	0 (558,449)	41 (16,517,420)
Don't know	9 (27,278) ^e	51 (336,634)	95 (287,092)	0 (275,635)	0 (181,431)	40 (1,108,070)
Total	28 (771,316)	50 (5,543,747)	95 (8,122,237)	0 (13,015,695)	0 (1,450,599)	37 (28,903,594)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.^cPercent of weapon use.^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with weapon use plus those without weapon use) on which percent shown is based.^eEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

Table 6 Percent of robbery and aggravated assault victimizations in which a gun was used, by year and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977^b

Type of crime and age of offender	Year				
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Robbery:					
Under 18	5 ^c (284,711) ^d	3 (295,028)	5 (251,488)	6 (273,320)	4 (230,989)
18 to 20	20 (208,271)	19 (224,116)	19 (226,887)	10 (193,702)	23 (190,970)
21 or older	32 (552,328)	29 (588,168)	31 (557,093)	26 (560,879)	26 (569,162)
Don't know	20 (69,981)	22 (66,765) ^e	31 (75,750)	16 (56,260) ^e	25 (67,877)
Total	22 (1,115,291)	20 (1,174,078)	23 (1,111,219)	17 (1,084,161)	21 (1,058,999)
Aggravated assault:					
Under 18	9 (336,267)	18 (289,171)	15 (243,348)	16 (304,577)	14 (290,646)
18 to 20	20 (263,971)	17 (254,927)	22 (239,849)	22 (238,948)	18 (252,963)
21 or older	39 (987,705)	41 (1,067,471)	35 (990,761)	33 (1,022,149)	33 (1,052,388)
Don't know	55 (58,229) ^e	46 (52,373) ^e	46 (67,320)	46 (50,417) ^e	40 (58,753) ^e
Total	30 (1,646,174)	34 (1,663,944)	31 (1,541,278)	29 (1,616,091)	27 (1,654,751)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cPercent in which a gun was used.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with a gun used plus those without a gun used) on which percent shown is based.

^eEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

for each type of crime within years, and that the small decline in the use of guns across years by adults (as Table 4 had suggested) is still evident.

Overall, the presence of weapon data indicate that the most deadly weapon, a gun, is rarely used by juveniles in robberies or aggravated assaults. The proportionate gun use and weapon use of youthful offenders generally falls between that of juveniles and adults. There is no evidence that among juveniles weapon use, generally, or gun use, specifically, has been increasing over time; the evidence suggests a small decline in the use of guns among adult offenders.

Injury

One of the more popular notions about personal crimes (rapes, robberies, and assaults) committed by juveniles is that, unlike crimes committed by adults, they entail much gratuitous violence. Beating, stabbing, punching and other forms of physical assault beyond what is necessary to control the victim's behavior are thought to be characteristic of juvenile crime. Thus, juveniles not only steal purses from elderly women, they steal purses and they brutally assault their victims. If this conception of juvenile crime has some basis in fact, that is, if there is much more "capricious" violence in juvenile crimes, then it would be expected that they would involve serious physical injury to victims more often than would crimes committed by adults. Greater injury might also be expected because juveniles, contrasted to adults, more often rely on the use of physical force instead of the threat of weapons to accomplish their ends. It is important, then, to investigate the extent to which crimes committed by juveniles, compared with crimes committed by youthful offenders and adults, result in physical injury to their victims. A separate question is whether over the five year period studied here the injury inflicted in crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and

adults, has increased.

In the NCS interview, victims who were attacked were asked if they suffered any injuries. The victims who reported suffering any kind of injury -- from less serious types of injury such as cuts and bruises to more serious types of injury such as gunshot or knife wounds -- were asked if they were injured to the extent that they needed medical attention. In this context, medical attention is defined as care given by a trained professional medical person (such as a doctor, nurse, medic, or dentist) either on the scene, at an office, or at a hospital.

The data in Table 7 show the extent of injury in total personal victimization (including rape, robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, and personal larceny), by age of offender. A threefold classification of victimizations is used in this table: 1) those in which the victim was not injured, 2) those in which the victim was injured but did not need medical attention, and 3) those in which the victim was injured to the extent that medical attention was necessary. In total personal victimization there was no variation, by age of offender, in the percent of victimizations which resulted in some type of injury. Among all three offender age groups almost 3 out of 10 crimes resulted in some injury to the victim. More often than not, when the victim sustained injury, medical attention was not necessary; thus, the data here also suggest that victims of juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults generally received less serious types of physical injury.¹⁰ There is some variation, by age of offender, in the seriousness of the injury sustained; however, this difference is the opposite of what might have been expected on the basis of popular conceptions of the use of violence by juveniles. Crimes committed by adults resulted in physical injury to the extent that medical attention was necessary slightly more often than those

Table 7 Percent distribution of injury to the extent that medical attention was necessary in personal victimization, by age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b

Age of offender	Injury			(Estimated number of victimizations)
	No injury	Injury, but no medical attention	Injury and medical attention	
Under 18	72	22	7	100% (6,581,681)
18 to 20	71	20	9	100 (4,696,422)
21 or older	71	18	11	100 (16,517,420)
Don't know	72	14	14	100 (1,108,070)
Total	71	19	10	100 (28,903,594)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

committed by juveniles (11 percent compared with 7 percent).

The survey data in Table 8 indicate that the proportion of victims injured during criminal victimizations committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults did not increase in the years from 1973 to 1977. In each offender age group, over the five year period the percent of victims injured to the extent that medical attention was necessary was remarkably stable -- 6 or 7 percent in crimes by juveniles, 9 or 10 percent in crimes by youthful offenders, and 11 or 12 percent in those by adults.

Five-year aggregate data in Table 9 present, by type of crime and age of offender, the percent of victims injured to the extent that medical attention was necessary. Among juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults, the crimes most likely to result in physical injury to the extent that medical attention was necessary were rape (22 percent of the total) and aggravated assault (17 percent of the total). Among all three offender age groups, simple assault least often resulted in physical injury to the extent that medical attention was necessary. (By definition, no injury can occur in personal larceny.) Also, for each type of crime, the pattern shown in Table 8 is present; that is, victims of adult offenders required medical attention slightly more often than did victims of juveniles. The largest difference is in robbery. Fifteen percent of the adult robberies, but only 6 percent of the juvenile robberies, resulted in injury to the extent that the victim required medical attention.

In Table 10, these data on medical attention are broken out by offender age and by year for robbery and the assaults. Although there are a few minor variations by year, no real patterns of increasing or decreasing medical attention emerge. In each year from 1973 to 1977 injury to the extent that medical attention was necessary is most frequent in aggravated

Table 8 Percent injured to the extent that medical attention was necessary in personal victimization, by age of offender,^a and by year, NCS national data, 1973-1977^b

Age of offender	Year				
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Under 18	6 ^c (1,408,612) ^d	7 (1,315,793)	7 (1,283,268)	7 (1,344,078)	7 (1,229,930)
18 to 20	10 (945,891)	9 (943,092)	9 (916,220)	10 (895,848)	9 (995,371)
21 or older	11 (3,171,472)	11 (3,220,457)	12 (3,269,915)	12 (3,304,914)	11 (3,550,662)
Don't know	18 (210,046)	17 (213,552)	12 (243,804)	11 (200,544)	11 (240,123)
Total	10 (5,736,021)	10 (5,692,894)	10 (5,713,208)	10 (5,745,384)	10 (6,016,086)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cPercent with injury to the extent that medical attention was necessary.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with injury plus those without injury) on which percent shown is based.

Table 9 Percent injured to the extent that medical attention was necessary in personal victimization, by type of crime and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b

Age of offender	Type of Crime					Total
	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Simple assault	Personal larceny	
Under 18	16 ^c (62,733) ^d	6 (1,335,536)	15 (1,464,012)	4 (3,274,882)	0 (444,519)	7 (6,581,681)
18 to 20	15 (92,388)	13 (1,043,946)	16 (1,250,659)	4 (2,043,230)	0 (266,199)	9 (4,696,422)
21 or older	22 (588,917)	15 (2,827,631)	18 (5,120,474)	6 (7,421,949)	0 (558,449)	11 (16,517,420)
Don't know	44 (27,278) ^e	19 (336,634)	20 (287,092)	6 (275,635)	0 (181,431)	14 (1,108,070)
Total	22 (771,316)	12 (5,543,747)	17 (8,122,237)	5 (13,015,695)	0 (1,450,599)	10 (28,903,594)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cPercent injured to the extent that medical attention was necessary.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with injury plus those without injury) on which percent shown is based.

^eEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

Table 10 Percent injured to the extent that medical attention was necessary in personal victimization, by type of crime, by year, and by age of offender, NCS national data, 1973-1977

Type of crime and age of offender	Year				
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Robbery:					
Under 18	7 ^c (284,711) ^d	5 (295,028)	5 (251,489)	8 (273,320)	3 (230,989)
18 to 20	14 (208,271)	10 (224,116)	11 (226,887)	18 (193,702)	11 (190,970)
21 or older	13 (552,328)	14 (588,168)	15 (557,093)	14 (560,879)	16 (569,162)
Don't know	27 (69,981)	24 (66,765) ^e	14 (75,750)	18 (56,260) ^e	15 (67,877)
Total	13 (1,115,291)	12 (1,174,078)	12 (1,111,219)	13 (1,084,161)	12 (1,058,999)
Aggravated assault:					
Under 18	14 (336,268)	15 (289,172)	17 (243,348)	13 (304,578)	15 (290,646)
18 to 20	16 (263,971)	17 (254,927)	13 (239,849)	17 (238,948)	17 (252,963)
21 or older	18 (987,705)	17 (1,067,471)	18 (990,761)	20 (1,022,149)	17 (1,052,388)
Don't know	21 (58,229) ^e	25 (52,373) ^e	21 (67,320)	16 (50,417) ^e	13 (58,753) ^e
Total	17 (1,646,174)	17 (1,663,944)	17 (1,541,278)	18 (1,616,091)	16 (1,654,751)
Simple assault:					
Under 18	3 (673,700)	5 (624,017)	4 (665,579)	4 (679,016)	5 (632,570)
18 to 20	4 (393,087)	4 (391,425)	6 (389,275)	3 (384,397)	5 (485,046)
21 or older	5 (1,408,917)	6 (1,318,001)	7 (1,491,520)	5 (1,492,533)	6 (1,710,980)
Don't know	3 (40,715) ^e	12 (53,488) ^e	0 (57,076) ^e	7 (55,914) ^e	9 (68,441)
Total	4 (2,516,418)	5 (2,386,931)	6 (2,603,450)	5 (2,611,859)	6 (2,897,037)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cPercent injured to the extent that medical attention was necessary.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with injury plus those without injury) on which percent shown is based.

^eEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

assault and least frequent in simple assault.¹¹ In each year, for each type of crime, victims of adults required medical attention more often than victims of juveniles. The largest offender age differences are in robbery; for example in 1977 medical attention was required by 16 percent of the robbery victims of adults but only 3 percent of the robbery victims of juveniles.

So far the analysis has shown slight differences among juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults in the percent of victims injured seriously enough to require medical attention. In order to explore the question of seriousness further, the amount of hospital medical care received by victims will be examined. The survey victims who were injured to the extent that medical attention was necessary were asked if they received any treatment at a hospital, either emergency room treatment only or medical care requiring hospitalization overnight or longer. In this analysis, hospital treatment is an indicator of serious physical injury. In Table 11, the percent of seriously injured victims (victims receiving some hospital treatment, either emergency room or more) is shown by type of crime and age of offender for the five year aggregate. These data show that when serious physical injury is examined, the patterns which emerged in the above tables are not altered. Although there are no substantial differences, victims of adults are slightly more likely to sustain serious physical injury than victims of juveniles (9 percent compared with 4 percent in total personal victimization). Among all three offender age groups, rape and aggravated assault were the types of crime that most often resulted in injury that required some hospital treatment.

Injured victims were asked in the survey to report in detail the types of injury they sustained. The injuries reported by victims fall into one or more of seven major categories: rape injuries, attempted rape injuries,

Table 11 Percent receiving hospital treatment (emergency room or more) in personal victimization, by type of crime and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b

Age of offender	Type of crime					Total
	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Simple assault	Personal larceny	
Under 18	8 ^c (62,733) ^d	4 (1,335,536)	10 (1,464,012)	2 (3,274,882)	0 (444,519)	4 (6,581,681)
18 to 20	8 (92,388)	9 (1,043,946)	12 (1,250,659)	3 (2,043,230)	0 (266,199)	7 (4,696,422)
21 or older	18 (588,917)	11 (2,827,631)	14 (5,120,474)	4 (7,421,949)	0 (558,449)	9 (16,517,420)
Don't know	27 (27,278) ^e	16 (336,634)	17 (287,092)	4 (275,635)	0 (181,431)	11 (1,108,070)
Total	16 (771,316)	9 (5,543,747)	13 (8,122,237)	3 (13,015,695)	0 (1,450,599)	7 (28,903,594)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cPercent receiving hospital treatment (emergency room or more).

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those receiving hospital treatment plus those not receiving hospital treatment) on which percent shown is based.

^eEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

knife or gunshot wounds, broken bones or teeth knocked out, internal injuries or knocked unconscious, minor injuries (such as bruises, cuts, and scratches), and other injuries. Table 12 shows in detail, by type of crime, the types of injury reported by victims of juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. Most of the injuries reported by injured victims of all three offender age groups were minor injuries such as bruises, cuts, and scratches. Hence, it is not surprising that most of the victims who were injured did not require medical attention (recall Table 7). Of those victims who were injured, minor injuries were reported by 6 out of 10 of the victims of rape, more than 8 out of 10 of the victims of robbery, three-quarters of the victims of aggravated assault, and 9 out of 10 of the simple assault victims. Although the most severe kinds of injury -- knife or gunshot wounds, broken bones, or internal injuries -- were rare, in robbery and aggravated assault these types of injury were reported slightly more often by injured victims of adults than by injured victims of juveniles. Generally, however, there is no strong relationship between type of injury sustained by victims who are injured and the age of the offender.

Some general summary statements can be made about the nature and extent of physical injury in personal crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults.

- 1) Overall, there were no substantial differences in the proportion of injured victims, the seriousness, or the type of injury sustained in victimizations committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. Adult offenders slightly more often than juveniles committed crimes resulting in injury to the extent that medical attention was necessary, and victims of adults were

Table 12 Percent distribution of injury and type of injury in personal victimization, by type of crime and age of offender, ^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate ^b

Type of crime and age of offender	Injury			Type of injury							(Estimated number ^c of victimizations)
	No	Yes	(Estimated number of victimizations)	Rape injury	Attempted rape injury	Knife or gunshot wounds	Broken bones or teeth knocked out	Internal injuries or knocked unconscious	Bruises, cuts, scratches	Other injury	
Rape:											
Under 18	68	32	100 (62,733)	28	43	0	0	6	58	22	(19,910) ^d
18 to 20	53	47	100 (92,388)	52	19	0	4	12	41	26	(43,148) ^d
21 or older	45	55	100 (588,917)	52	26	2	4	6	60	14	(326,282)
Don't know	44	56	100 (27,278) ^d	84	8	0	0	15	55	7	(15,335) ^d
Total	48	52	100 (771,316)	52	26	1	4	7	58	15	(404,675)
Robbery:											
Under 18	73	27	100 (1,335,536)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	2	2	2	86	21	(360,624)
18 to 20	66	34	100 (1,043,946)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	5	6	8	87	11	(356,150)
21 or older	66	34	100 (2,827,631)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	7	10	9	81	17	(967,345)
Don't know	56	44	100 (336,634)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	7	12	20	86	16	(147,064)
Total	67	33	100 (5,543,747)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	6	8	8	84	17	(1,831,183)
Aggravated assault:											
Under 18	61	39	100 (1,464,012)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	9	11	9	76	18	(568,796)
18 to 20	66	34	100 (1,250,659)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	8	16	10	77	17	(430,161)
21 or older	68	32	100 (5,120,474)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	14	18	14	76	15	(1,625,474)
Don't know	67	33	100 (287,092)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	15	18	18	72	19	(94,772)
Total	67	33	100 (8,122,237)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	12	16	12	76	16	(2,719,203)
Simple assault:											
Under 18	71	29	100 (3,274,882)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	90	17	(912,855)
18 to 20	74	26	100 (2,043,230)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	92	17	(522,964)
21 or older	75	25	100 (7,421,949)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	90	18	(1,870,044)
Don't know	82	18	100 (275,635)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	85	20	(48,666) ^d
Total	74	26	100 (13,015,695)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	(by def- inition this type of crime cannot occur)	90	18	(3,354,530)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cEstimated number of victimizations with injury. Percents may not total to 100, because this is a multiple response question.

^dEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

slightly more likely to require hospital medical treatment than victims of juveniles.

- 2) The rate of physical injury to victims of personal crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults did not change in the five year period from 1973 to 1977.

Theft

Theft of cash, property, or both is the intent of juveniles, youthful offenders, and adult criminals who commit the crimes of robbery, purse snatch, and pocket picking. Although it is not generally a theft-motivated crime, the crime of rape sometimes includes a theft component. This section examines the extent to which theft occurred in personal crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults.

There are several reasons for expecting that the theft-motivated crimes (robbery and personal larceny) committed by juveniles would less often result in a theft actually occurring than those committed by adults. In traditional criminological theory, the juvenile delinquent commits a wide variety of delinquencies; he or she does not specialize. Juvenile offenders have also been portrayed as not fully committed to a criminal way of life. It would seem likely that the delinquent's apparent lack of specialization would result in an absence of any real criminal sophistication. Furthermore, just as vocational skills are learned (i.e., acquired with age) in the law-abiding population, vocational (and avocational) skills are also learned in the law-violating population. It is probable, then, that youth in and of itself may make for relatively unskilled criminal behavior.

The first question of interest, then, is whether there is any relationship between the age of the offender and the extent to which various crimes

result in something being stolen from the victim. If adult criminals are more skilled in what they do, it would be anticipated that the theft-motivated crimes committed by adults would be more successful, that is, these adult crimes would more often result in something being stolen from the victim.

Five-year aggregate data in Table 13 show the percent of victimizations in which something was stolen, by type of crime and age of offender. In robbery and personal larceny, the data indicate a direct relationship between the age of the offender and the percent of victimizations in which something was stolen. Fifty-three percent of the robberies committed by juveniles, 58 percent of the robberies by youthful offenders, and 64 percent of the robberies by adults resulted in something (money and/or property) being stolen from the victim. In personal larceny the comparable figures are 70 percent among the juveniles, 76 percent among the youthful offenders, and 85 percent among the adults. Adding together the robbery and personal larceny columns in Table 13 and recomputing the percentages it is found that a theft occurred in 58 percent of the theft-motivated crimes by youthful offenders and adults. It appears, then, that as attention shifts from juveniles to youthful offenders to adults the probability of completion of theft increases in the theft-motivated crimes.

Although theft was relatively rare in rape, the percent of rapes in which something was stolen also varied somewhat by age of offender. Six percent of the rapes by juveniles, 12 percent of the rapes by youthful offenders, and 10 percent of the rapes by adults involved a theft.

From the last column in Table 13 it can be seen that in total personal victimization (including rape, robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, and personal larceny) the percent of crimes that resulted in theft did not

Table 13 Percent of personal victimizations in which something was stolen, by type of crime and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b

Age of offender	Type of crime					Total
	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Simple assault	Personal larceny	
Under 18	6 ^c (62,733) ^d	53 (1,335,536)	0 (1,464,012)	0 (3,274,882)	70 (444,519)	16 (6,581,681)
18 to 20	12 (92,388)	58 (1,043,946)	0 (1,250,659)	0 (2,043,230)	76 (266,199)	17 (4,696,422)
21 or older	10 (588,917)	64 (2,827,631)	0 (5,120,474)	0 (7,421,949)	85 (558,449)	14 (16,517,420)
Don't know	18 (27,278) ^e	70 (336,634)	0 (287,092)	0 (275,635)	93 (181,431)	37 (1,108,070)
Total	10 (771,316)	60 (5,543,747)	0 (8,122,237)	0 (13,015,695)	80 (1,450,599)	16 (28,903,594)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cPercent with something stolen.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with something stolen plus those without something stolen) on which percent shown is based.

^eEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

vary substantially by age of offender. Thus, although in the theft-motivated offenses there was a positive relationship between the occurrence of theft and age of offender (the older the offender, the more often something was stolen), there is no relationship between theft and age of offender in the total personal victimization. This lack of variation for total personal victimizations is due to differences in patterns of crime-mix among juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults.

Another question of interest is whether the proportion of completed theft changed over the five year period from 1973 to 1977. The victimization survey data in Table 14 show, by year, the percent of completed theft in the theft-motivated crimes (robbery and personal larceny) committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. The only clear trend is found among the youthful offenders. In 1973, 57 percent of the theft-motivated crimes by youthful offenders resulted in theft; by 1977 this figure was 67 percent. Among juveniles the percent of theft-motivated crimes in which something was stolen fluctuated between 1973 and 1977, but there was no overall trend. Among adult offenders, the percent with theft was fairly stable across the five year period.

In Table 15 trends in the percent of theft are shown separately for the two theft-motivated crimes. Looking first at robbery, among the juveniles and adults there are some minor variations by year in the percent of robberies in which something was stolen but there is no distinct pattern. Similarly, in the total robbery victimization there is little change by year in the percent with theft. However, among the youthful offenders (those perceived to be between 18 and 20 years old) the percent of robberies in which something was stolen increased steadily from 53 percent in 1973 to 66 percent in 1977. It appears that the overall increase in theft by

Table 14 Percent of theft-motivated crimes^a in personal victimization in which something was stolen, by age of offender^b and year, NCS national data, 1973-1977^c

Age of offender	Year				
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Under 18	53 ^d (379,377) ^e	61 (391,870)	59 (364,871)	55 (350,018)	60 (293,920)
18 to 20	57 (270,842)	58 (275,490)	59 (271,119)	67 (255,305)	67 (237,388)
21 or older	68 (657,993)	67 (710,012)	68 (671,427)	67 (675,091)	65 (671,557)
Don't know	73 (104,572)	78 (101,639)	81 (110,429)	80 (93,055)	78 (108,370)
Total	62 (1,412,784)	65 (1,479,012)	65 (1,417,847)	65 (1,373,469)	65 (1,311,236)

^aIncludes robbery and personal larceny.

^bIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^cThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^dPercent with something stolen.

^eNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with something stolen plus those without something stolen) on which percent shown is based.

Table 15 Percent of robbery and personal larceny victimizations in which something was stolen, by year and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977^b

Type of crime and age of offender	Year				
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Robbery:					
Under 18	50 ^c (284,711) ^d	59 (295,028)	53 (251,489)	52 (273,320)	53 (230,989)
18 to 20	53 (208,271)	54 (224,116)	56 (226,887)	61 (193,702)	66 (190,970)
21 or older	64 (552,328)	64 (588,168)	65 (557,093)	63 (560,879)	62 (569,162)
Don't know	63 (69,981)	71 (66,765) ^e	75 (75,750)	76 (56,260) ^e	67 (67,877)
Total	58 (1,115,291)	61 (1,174,078)	61 (1,111,219)	60 (1,084,161)	61 (1,058,999)
Personal larceny:					
Under 18	63 (94,666)	70 (96,842)	74 (113,382)	65 (76,698)	81 (62,931) ^e
18 to 20	71 (62,571) ^e	78 (51,374) ^e	75 (44,232) ^e	86 (61,603) ^e	70 (46,418) ^e
21 or older	87 (105,665)	83 (121,844)	85 (114,334)	87 (114,212)	84 (102,395)
Don't know	94 (34,591) ^e	93 (34,874) ^e	93 (34,679) ^e	87 (36,795) ^e	97 (40,493) ^e
Total	77 (297,493)	79 (304,934)	80 (306,628)	81 (289,308)	82 (252,237)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cPercent with something stolen.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with something stolen plus those without something stolen) on which percent shown is based.

^eEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

youthful offenders (shown in Table 14) is due to increases in completed robberies by these offenders. In personal larceny, no marked overall trend is found; however, there are substantial fluctuations (generally increasing with time) in the percent of personal larcenies by youthful offenders (in the 1973 to 1976 period only) that resulted in an actual theft.

Up to this point the discussion has focused on the completion of theft in personal crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. In the NCS interview, victims are asked whether cash or property was taken. Victims who report that property was stolen are asked, "What was taken?" This section examines what kind of property was taken in robberies and personal larcenies by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. Unfortunately, the more refined "what was taken" categories in the survey instrument are of limited utility in answering this question. (See Appendix A, source code 160). The victim's response to the "what was taken" question fell into one or more of the following categories: purse, wallet, car, other motor vehicle, part of car (hubcap, tape-deck, etc.), or "other."

The five year aggregate data in Table 16 show, by age of offender, what was stolen in robbery and in personal larceny. Looking first at robbery it is seen that of the total robbery victimizations, 60 percent involved theft. Cash only was stolen in 32 percent of the robberies with theft. In the robberies in which something was stolen, 12 percent involved theft of a purse, 21 percent involved theft of a wallet, 5 percent involved theft of a car, other motor vehicle, or part of a car, and 50 percent involved theft of "other" property. Because a substantial percentage of the robberies with theft involved theft of property simply classified as "other" it cannot be determined exactly what kind of property was taken. However, because many robberies occur in public locations such as streets or parks,

Table 16 Percent distribution of what was stolen in personal theft victimizations, by type of crime and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b

Type of crime and age of offender	Theft			What was stolen					(Estimated ^e number of victimizations)
	No	Yes	(Estimated number of victimizations)	Cash ^c only	Purse	Wallet	Motor ^d vehicle	Other	
Robbery:									
Under 18	47	53	100% (1,335,536)	31	14	11	2	56	(713,082)
18 to 20	42	58	100 (1,043,946)	29	19	23	4	48	(600,496)
21 or older	36	64	100 (2,827,631)	32	9	22	6	49	(1,795,314)
Don't know	30	70	100 (336,634)	33	15	31	4	44	(236,732)
Total	40	60	100 (5,543,747)	32	12	21	5	50	(3,345,624)
Personal larceny:									
Under 18	30	70	100 (444,519)	25	46	44	0	24	(311,974)
18 to 20	24	76	100 (266,199)	15	54	54	0	36	(203,404)
21 or older	15	85	100 (558,449)	33	25	47	1	20	(475,980)
Don't know	7	93	100 (181,431)	20	25	61	0	25	(168,389)
Total	20	80	100 (1,450,599)	26	36	49	0	25	(1,159,746)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^c"Cash only" victimizations involved no theft of property. However, cash, in addition to property, may have been stolen in victimizations in which purses, wallets, motor vehicles, and other property was stolen. See footnote "e" below.

^dThis category includes car, other motor vehicle, and part of car.

^eEstimated number of victimizations with theft. Row percents may total to over 100 percent because this is a multiple response question. Some of the thefts of property (purse, wallet, motor vehicle, and other) may have involved theft of cash in addition to property.

or in other places away from the home, it seems reasonable to infer that in many cases the "other" category includes articles such as watches, rings, other jewelry, and similar valuables that people normally wear or carry in public. The data in Table 16 show only small variations in "what was taken" in robbery among the offender age groups.

Also from Table 16, the data show that of the total personal larcenies with theft, about one-quarter involved theft of cash only, more than one-third involved theft of a purse, one-half involved theft of a wallet, and one-quarter involved theft of "other" property. The difference between this distribution in personal larceny and that found in robbery makes sense in light of the nature of the crimes included in personal larceny (purse snatch and pocket picking). Note, however, some interesting differences by age of offender in "what was stolen" in personal larceny. Juveniles and youthful offenders stole purses about as often as they stole wallets; however, adult offenders stole wallets substantially more often than purses. There are a variety of interpretations that can be offered for this finding. Juveniles and youthful offenders (compared with adults) may engage in purse snatch relatively more often than pocket picking because the former requires less skill. The data (not shown in tabular form) indicate that about two-thirds of the personal larcenies by juveniles are purse snatches, whereas two-thirds of the personal larcenies by adults are pocket pickings. Related to this, juveniles and youthful offenders may choose different victims than adults; they may choose women more often than men. This latter question is explored in a companion monograph in this series.¹²

To summarize the major findings of this section of the report:

- 1) In the theft-motivated crimes of robbery and personal larceny, completion of the theft was directly related

to the age of the offender. When success is judged by completion of theft, adults were more successful than youthful offenders, and youthful offenders were more successful than juveniles.

- 2) Offender age was not related to the percent of total personal victimizations that resulted in theft, but this was due to differences in crime-mix patterns across age groups.
- 3) Between 1973 and 1977 the percent of robberies by youthful offenders in which something was stolen increased substantially.
- 4) Analysis of "what was taken" in personal larceny showed that juveniles and youthful offenders stole purses about as often as they stole wallets, and adult offenders stole wallets substantially more often than they stole purses.

Injury and Theft

For victims of personal crimes physical injury and loss of money and/or property are the major consequences of victimization. The two preceding sections have focused in detail on the extent to which injury and theft were components of personal crimes -- rapes, robberies, assaults, and personal larcenies -- committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. In this section injury and theft will be examined jointly in order to characterize the consequences of criminal victimizations committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults more generally.

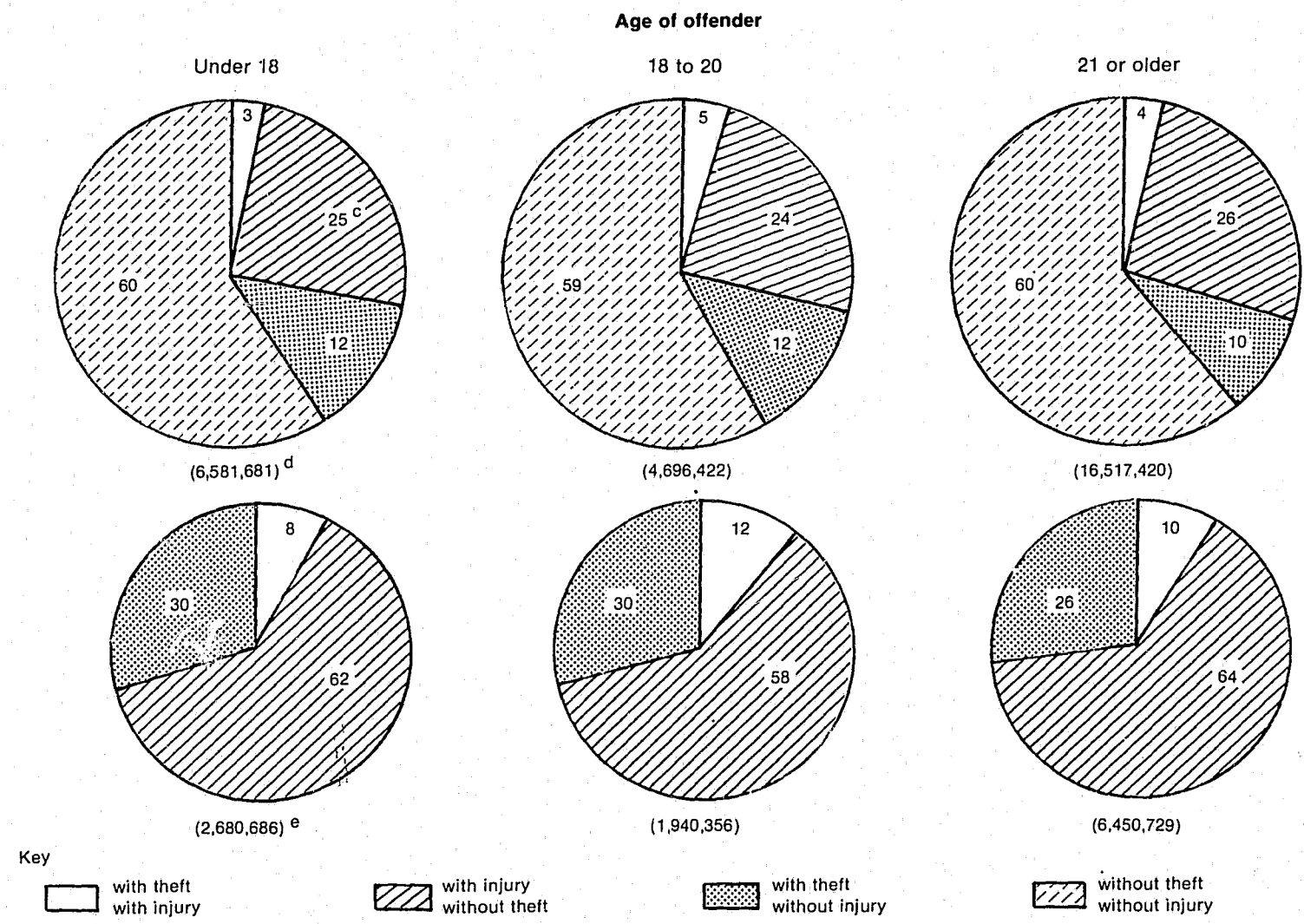
Above it was found that in total personal victimization some physical injury to the victim occurred in about 3 out of 10 of the total crimes

committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. Something was stolen from the victim in 16 percent of the total crimes committed by juveniles, 17 percent of those committed by youthful offenders, and 14 percent of those committed by adults. (See Table 13.) When physical injury and theft are considered jointly, total personal victimization can be broken into four mutually exclusive outcome categories: 1) with theft and with injury, 2) with theft but without injury, 3) with injury but without theft, and 4) without theft and without injury.

Pie charts with five year aggregate data in Figure 4 illustrate these four outcomes in total personal victimization committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. First, in the upper portion of the figure all personal victimizations are examined. It is readily apparent that there is little difference in outcome among the total crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. Probably the most interesting observation from the top portion of Figure 4 is that among all three offender age groups by far the largest proportion of personal crimes reported to survey interviewers involve neither theft nor injury: six out of ten personal crimes resulted in neither physical injury to the victim nor theft of money or property.

It is perhaps surprising that such a large percentage of personal crimes in the NCS resulted in neither theft nor injury. In order to understand better the data in Figure 4 it is helpful to recall that the NCS data include both completed and attempted crimes. In fact, in the five-year aggregate data (not shown in tabular form) in this report only about 40 percent of the total personal victimizations are classified in the NCS as completed victimizations. This proportion does not vary by age of offender. Forty percent of the total juvenile crimes, 41 percent of those by youth-

FIGURE 4 Percent of personal victimizations with any injury and/or theft, by age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b



^a Includes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.
^b These figures exclude incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.
^c Percent of total victimizations.
^d Estimated total number of victimizations.
^e Estimated number of victimizations with some theft and/or injury outcome.

ful offenders, and 40 percent of those by adults are completed.

In the lower portion of Figure 4 the victimizations involving neither theft nor injury are excluded and the percentages are calculated on a base including only the crimes with some injury and/or theft outcome. When this is done, "with injury without theft" is the most frequent outcome of victimizations committed by all offender age groups. About 6 out of 10 of the victimizations with some theft and/or injury consequence resulted in the victim sustaining some physical injury but having no money or property stolen. This is because together aggravated and simple assault (the crimes that cannot involve theft) constitute approximately 70 percent of the total personal victimizations in NCS. This outcome occurred most often in crimes with theft and/or injury consequences by adults (64 percent) and least often in those by youthful offenders (58 percent).

By definition, both theft and injury can only occur in two types of crime, rape and robbery. (Assaults with theft are classified as robberies and personal larcenies with injury are classified as robberies.) Because rape constituted such a small proportion of total victimization (about 3 percent), and because theft occurred so rarely in rape (about 10 percent), the vast majority of the "with theft with injury" victimizations are robberies. The lower portion of Figure 4 shows that only 1 out of 10 victimizations resulted in both theft and injury. Youthful offenders most often, and juveniles least often, committed crimes which resulted in both injury and theft. Once again, the view that juvenile theft-offenses are characterized by gratuitous attacks on victims is simply not supported by the data.

Are these findings affected by a simultaneous consideration of the number of offenders involved in the crime? The consequences of the victimization to the victim in terms of injury and loss could conceivably

be related to the number of offenders involved. For example, the mere presence of multiple offenders may convince a robbery victim not to resist but rather surrender his or her property. Or, multiple offenders, because of their disproportionate strength, may injure, rape, or assault victims more often than would lone offenders. Table 17 presents data relating to injury and theft in personal victimizations.

The top portion of the table shows the proportion of all personal victims who were injured in the course of their victimization. For offenders perceived by their victims to be under 18 years of age, there is no increase in the proportion of victims who were injured as the number of offenders increases. For offenders in the 18 to 20 range, there is a slight increase in the injury rate as the number of offenders increases; for example, lone offenders in the 18 to 20 age group cause injury to their victims in 27 percent of the incidents compared with 32 percent when there are three or more offenders. Among the adult offenders, the relation of injury to the number of offenders is slightly larger than it is in the 18 to 20 year old group, ranging from 28 percent in the lone offender group to 35 percent in the three or more offenders group.

The middle portion of Table 17 parallels the top portion but its focus is on the proportion of all personal victimizations in which a theft was completed. Although theft was more likely to occur if more than one offender was involved, in each of the three age of offender subgroups, there is a curvilinear relation between the rate of completed theft and the number of offenders. In each age group, victimizations involving two offenders have the highest rate of completed theft, followed by victimizations involving three or more offenders, with lone offenders having the lowest rate of completed theft. Among adult offenders, for example, in the two-offender

Table 17 Percent of personal victimizations that resulted in theft and/or injury, by number of offenders and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b

Percent with theft and/or injury and age of offender	Number of offenders			
	One	Two	Three or more	Don't know
Injury:				
Under 18	28 ^c (3,724,029) ^d	27 (1,097,582)	29 (1,703,716)	30 (56,355) ^e
18 to 20	27 (2,564,689)	28 (824,424)	32 (1,287,146)	40 (20,163) ^e
21 or older	28 (11,937,382)	29 (2,241,309)	35 (2,282,935)	35 (55,794) ^e
Theft:				
Under 18	12 (3,724,029)	23 (1,097,582)	18 (1,703,716)	18 (56,355) ^e
18 to 20	14 (2,564,689)	30 (824,424)	17 (1,287,146)	7 (20,163) ^e
21 or older	9 (11,937,382)	32 (2,241,309)	22 (2,282,935)	26 (55,794) ^e
Injury and theft:				
Under 18	2 (3,724,029)	6 (1,097,582)	5 (1,703,716)	4 (56,355) ^e
18 to 20	3 (2,564,689)	8 (824,424)	6 (1,287,146)	7 (20,163) ^e
21 or older	7 (11,937,382)	2 (2,241,309)	9 (2,282,935)	6 (55,794) ^e

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender. This table also excludes incidents in which the victim did not know the age of offender.

^cPercent with injury.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with injury plus those without injury) on which percent shown is based.

^eEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

victimizations a theft is completed in one-third of the incidents, compared to about one-fifth for three offender victimizations, and one-tenth of the lone offender victimizations. Why this should be the case is not immediately obvious. One explanation for the low completed theft rate of lone offenders is that they are disproportionately involved in rape and assault offenses, in which theft generally is not the motive. Why a pair of offenders should have a higher theft completion rate than a trio or more of offenders is simply not clear from these data.

What do the data look like when we focus on those personal victimizations in which there was both injury and theft? The bottom portion of Table 17 demonstrates that, as noted earlier, the conjoint occurrence of theft and injury is generally rare; in no cell is the conjoint probability of injury and theft greater than 9 percent. The array of percentages in the bottom portion of Table 17 is determined generally by the products of the percentages in the two upper portions of the table. For example, 18 to 20 year old lone offenders injure their victims in 27 percent of the crimes and complete a theft in 14 percent of their crimes; the probability of injury and theft for this group (3 percent) is approximately equal to .27 times .14. This approximation holds generally only for juvenile and youthful offenders, suggesting that since for these two groups of offenders the compound probability of injury and theft is approximately equal to the product of the two simple probabilities, injury and theft are independent events. That is, the occurrence of either one in a victimization does not substantially affect the likelihood of the other's occurring.

In sum, the theft and injury data examined here have shown that:

- 1) Because the NCS data contain a substantial proportion of attempted crimes, in total personal victimization,

for all offender age groups, the most frequent outcome is "neither theft nor injury." However, when the focus shifts to only those victimizations with some theft and/or injury outcome, "with injury without theft" -- the assault outcome -- occurs most often.

- 2) Among youthful offenders and adults, the percent of victimizations involving injury increases as the number of offenders increases. Among all offender age groups theft occurred most often if two offenders were involved, less often if there were three or more offenders, and least often if only one offender was involved.

Loss

In order to explore more fully the consequences of personal crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults, this section examines several types of loss incurred in personal victimization. The central question is whether the crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults are equally costly in terms of dollar loss to victims. Trends in the amount of loss incurred by victims of personal crimes will also be examined.

In the NCS interview victims of personal crimes are asked several questions designed to ascertain the economic consequences of criminal victimization. As was seen above, victims of robbery and personal larceny, and much less frequently victims of rape, sustained losses due to theft. Victims who report in the interview that cash was stolen, are asked how

much cash was stolen; victims who report that property was taken are asked to report the value of the stolen property. In addition, damage to the victim's property, although occurring less often than theft of property,¹³ was also a consequence of criminal victimization; survey victims report repair or replacement costs when damage to their property occurs as a result of victimization.

Five-year aggregate data in Table 18 show, by age of offender, the distribution of the amount of cash stolen in rapes, robberies and personal larcenies. Among all three offender age groups, theft of cash occurred relatively rarely in rape. However, rape victims of youthful offenders and adults were more likely to have their cash stolen than rape victims of juveniles. The data show that cash was taken in 2 percent of the rapes by juveniles, 10 percent of the rapes by youthful offenders, and 9 percent of the rapes by adults. Usually, less than \$50 in cash was taken from the victim. Because rape is generally not a theft-motivated crime, it is not surprising that the amount of cash loss among rape victims is low.

The cash loss sustained by robbery and personal larceny victims was not as minimal, and in both crimes, the older the offender, the greater the cash loss. Cash losses of \$10 or more occurred in only 10 percent of the robberies committed by juveniles, but in 25 percent of the robberies by youthful offenders, and 34 percent of those by adults. Similarly, cash losses of \$10 or more occurred in only 28 percent of the personal larcenies by juveniles, but in 47 percent of those by youthful offenders, and 59 percent of those by adults. The survey data indicate, then, that robberies and personal larcenies committed by adult offenders result in substantially greater cash losses than those by juveniles. One explanation for this finding may lie in variations in victim choice among juveniles, youthful

Table 18 Percent distribution of amount of cash stolen in rape, robbery, and personal larceny, by age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b

Type of crime and age of offender	Amount of cash stolen				Not ascertained	No cash stolen	(Estimated number of victimizations)
	\$1-9	\$10-49	\$50-249	\$250 or more			
Rape:							100 %
Under 18	0	2	0	0	0	98	(62,733)
18 to 20	4	4	0	2	0	90	(92,388)
21 or older	2	4	3	0	0	91	(588,917)
Don't know	5	4	0	0	0	91	(27,278) ^c
Total	2	4	2	0	0	92	(771,316)
Robbery:							100
Under 18	16	6	4	0	1	72	(1,335,536)
18 to 20	12	14	9	2	1	63	(1,043,946)
21 or older	7	16	14	4	1	58	(2,827,631)
Don't know	11	17	14	6	2	49	(336,634)
Total	10	13	11	3	1	62	(5,543,747)
Personal larceny:							100
Under 18	27	17	10	1	2	43	(444,519)
18 to 20	16	30	15	2	1	36	(266,199)
21 or older	14	30	24	5	1	26	(558,449)
Don't know	21	28	25	5	1	20	(181,431)
Total	20	26	18	3	1	32	(1,450,599)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

offenders, and adults. It is possible that the younger offenders more often victimize either persons their own age or elderly men or women, persons who probably do not carry a significant amount of cash.¹⁴

Similar patterns in loss are found in an analysis of the value of stolen property, as shown in Table 19. In this table "no value" refers either to property without monetary value (e.g., letters) or property with no immediate determinable value, (e.g., checks and credit cards). Among all three offender age groups very few rapes entailed theft of property, and losses were generally low. However, losses due to theft of property were much greater in the theft-motivated crimes. As with cash losses, the value of the stolen property also varied directly with the age of offender. For example, the stolen property was worth \$250 or more in 8 percent of the adult robberies, 5 percent of the youthful offender robberies, and only 1 percent of the robberies committed by juveniles. Examining property losses among personal larceny victims, losses of property valued at \$10 or more occurred most often if youthful offenders were involved (39 percent), less often if adult offenders were involved (29 percent), and least often if juveniles were involved (24 percent).

Five year aggregate data (not shown in tabular form) were used to examine dollar losses that occur as a result of damage to property in crimes committed by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. In this context, dollar loss refers to the cost (or estimated cost) of the repair or replacement of property that was damaged in the incident. Most personal crimes did not result in property damage. Property damage occurred in only about 2 out of 10 rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults, in roughly 1 out of 10 simple assaults, and in only about 1 out of 20 personal larcenies. However, in all types of crime (with exception of personal

Table 19 Percent distribution of dollar value of property stolen in rape, robbery, and personal larceny, by age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^b

Type of crime and age of offender	Dollar value of stolen property						No property stolen	(Estimated number of victimizations)
	No value	\$1-9	\$10-49	\$50-249	\$250 or more	Not ascertained		
Rape:								100%
Under 18	0	0	0	2	0	2	96	(62,733) 100
18 to 20	0	2	1	0	3	0	94	(92,388) 100
21 or older	0	0	2	1	1	1	94	(588,917) 100
Don't know	0	0	9	5	4	0	82	(27,278) ^c 100
Total	0	0	2	1	2	1	94	(771,316) 100
Robbery:								100
Under 18	1	12	12	8	1	2	63	(1,335,536) 100
18 to 20	1	10	13	10	5	2	59	(1,043,946) 100
21 or older	1	9	11	11	8	3	57	(2,827,631) 100
Don't know	1	8	11	10	8	9	53	(336,634) 100
Total	1	10	12	10	6	3	59	(5,543,747) 100
Personal larceny:								100
Under 18	1	21	18	6	0	5	47	(444,519) 100
18 to 20	1	23	27	10	2	2	35	(266,199) 100
21 or older	1	22	22	5	2	5	43	(558,449) 100
Don't know	2	31	28	7	2	4	26	(181,431) 100
Total	1	23	23	7	1	4	41	(1,450,599) 100

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

larceny) damage to property occurred slightly more often if adult offenders were involved than if juvenile offenders were involved. For example, the dollar loss due to damage was \$10 or more in 3 percent of the robberies committed by juveniles, 9 percent of the robberies committed by youthful offenders, and 10 percent of those committed by adults.

Up to this point the financial losses due to theft of cash, theft of property, and damage to property have been considered separately. The analysis indicates that particularly in robbery and personal larceny, financial losses incurred by victims are generally greatest when adult offenders are involved and least when juvenile offenders are involved. By way of summary, the analysis now turns to a consideration of trends and patterns of total dollar loss. Total loss here includes the three components above: 1) amount of cash stolen, 2) value of stolen property, and 3) repair or replacement cost of damaged property.

The data in Table 20 show by type of crime, by year, and by age of offender the percent of victimizations resulting in a total dollar loss of \$10 or more. Although the data indicate minor variations over time between 1973 and 1977 there are few substantial changes in the percent of victimizations resulting in a total dollar loss of \$10 or more.¹⁵ Three changes over time are worth pointing out. In 1973, 34 percent of the personal larcenies by juveniles resulted in a total dollar loss of \$10 or more; by 1976 and 1977 this figure had risen to 47 percent. Among youthful offenders, total losses of \$10 or more in robbery rose from 39 percent in 1973 to 52 percent in 1977. Again among youthful offenders, total loss of \$10 or more in aggravated assault doubled in this period (6 percent to 12 percent). A closer inspection of this table reveals that generally the variation that exists is greater among juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults than

Table 20 Percent of personal victimizations resulting in a total dollar loss of \$10 or more, by type of crime, year, and age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1973-1977^b

Age of offender and year	Type of crime					Total
	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Simple assault	Personal larceny	
Under 18:						
	0 ^c	23	6	1	34	8
1973	(19,268) ^{d,e}	(284,711)	(336,268)	(673,700)	(94,686)	(1,408,612)
	12	32	6	4	35	13
1974	(10,734) ^e	(295,028)	(289,172)	(624,017)	(96,842)	(1,315,793)
	0	24	3	4	43	12
1975	(9,470) ^e	(251,489)	(243,348)	(665,579)	(113,382)	(1,283,268)
	10	33	3	3	47	11
1976	(10,466) ^e	(273,320)	(304,578)	(679,016)	(76,698)	(1,344,078)
	20	27	6	3	47	11
1977	(12,975) ^e	(230,989)	(290,646)	(632,570)	(62,931) ^e	(1,229,930)
18 to 20:						
	7	39	6	5	59	16
1973	(17,991) ^e	(208,271)	(263,971)	(393,087)	(62,571)	(945,891)
	26	42	6	6	64	18
1974	(21,249) ^e	(224,116)	(254,927)	(391,425)	(51,374) ^e	(943,092)
	28	41	7	5	60	17
1975	(15,977) ^e	(226,887)	(239,849)	(389,275)	(44,232) ^e	(916,220)
	7	47	9	5	77	20
1976	(17,198) ^e	(193,702)	(238,948)	(384,397)	(61,603) ^e	(895,848)
	20	52	12	3	64	19
1977	(19,972) ^e	(290,970)	(252,963)	(485,046)	(46,418) ^e	(995,371)
21 or older:						
	13	50	8	4	67	16
1973	(116,858)	(552,328)	(987,705)	(1,408,917)	(105,665)	(3,171,472)
	28	59	8	5	72	18
1974	(124,974)	(588,168)	(1,067,471)	(1,318,001)	(121,844)	(3,220,457)
	17	56	9	7	73	19
1975	(116,207)	(557,093)	(990,761)	(1,491,520)	(114,334)	(3,269,915)
	12	55	10	8	68	19
1976	(115,142)	(560,879)	(1,022,149)	(1,492,533)	(114,212)	(3,304,914)
	17	54	8	6	66	17
1977	(115,737)	(569,162)	(1,052,388)	(1,710,980)	(102,395)	(3,550,662)
Don't know:						
	17	46	2	3	72	28
1973	(6,530) ^e	(69,981)	(58,229) ^e	(40,715) ^e	(34,591) ^e	(210,046)
	0	55	12	2	62	32
1974	(6,052) ^e	(66,765) ^e	(52,373) ^e	(53,488) ^e	(34,874) ^e	(213,552)
	28	55	16	2	79	34
1975	(8,979) ^e	(75,750)	(67,320)	(57,076) ^e	(34,679) ^e	(243,804)
	0	42	18	0	74	30
1976	(1,158) ^e	(56,260) ^e	(50,417) ^e	(55,914) ^e	(36,795) ^e	(200,544)
	63	61	4	0	78	30
1977	(4,560) ^e	(67,877)	(58,753) ^e	(68,441)	(40,493) ^e	(240,123)
Total:						
	11	41	7	4	57	15
1973	(160,646)	(1,115,291)	(1,646,174)	(2,516,418)	(297,493)	(5,736,021)
	19	43	7	5	58	17
1974	(163,008)	(1,174,078)	(1,663,944)	(2,386,931)	(304,934)	(5,692,894)
	18	46	8	7	62	17
1975	(150,633)	(1,111,219)	(1,541,278)	(2,603,450)	(306,628)	(5,713,208)
	12	48	8	7	66	18
1976	(143,965)	(1,084,161)	(1,616,091)	(2,611,859)	(289,308)	(5,745,384)
	16	48	8	6	62	16
1977	(153,064)	(1,058,999)	(1,654,751)	(2,897,037)	(252,237)	(6,016,086)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender.

^cPercent with total dollar loss of \$10 or more.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with loss of \$10 or more plus those without loss of \$10 or more) on which percent shown is based.

^eEstimate, based on fewer than 50 sample cases, may be statistically unreliable.

over the years in this five year period. Although the full amount of loss distributions are not shown in tabular form, an examination of them revealed patterns consistent with those suggested by the results in Table 20.

By way of summary, the loss data examined here have indicated:

- 1) Financial losses were consistently greater in crimes committed by adult offenders than they were in crimes committed by juveniles or youthful offenders. This finding holds for the amount of cash loss in robbery and personal larceny, the value of stolen property in robbery, and the losses due to damage of property.
- 2) In the period from 1973 to 1977 there were some slight increases in the amount of total loss occurring in crimes committed by juveniles and youthful offenders.

Commercial Robbery

Robbery, unlike the other types of crime examined in this report, may be committed against commercial establishments as well as against persons. The robberies that have been examined thus far in this report have been personal robberies. This section will use 1975 and 1976 aggregate data from the Commercial Victimization Surveys to investigate the comparative involvement of juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults in robberies of businesses.

Above it was seen that if success is defined in terms of completion of theft, robberies by juveniles were less successful than robberies by adults. Juvenile robberies also resulted in a lower dollar loss than adult robberies. Given the general portrayal of juvenile delinquency in the literature -- versatile, inexperienced, and non-professional -- these findings were fully anticipated. If the juvenile robber is indeed less

sophisticated than the adult, it would also be expected that juveniles would be less likely than adults to choose the more difficult and potentially more profitable targets of robbery, the commercial establishments.

Hold-ups at banks, gas stations, liquor stores, supermarkets and other commercial establishments are likely to entail greater risk to the offender than are robberies of persons. In addition to the establishment's employees, there are likely to be a number of other people -- customers, bystanders, even guards -- in or near the business premises. More witnesses to the crime make identification and detection easier for the police. Also, commercial establishments frequently have security measures such as alarms to alert the police in the event of robbery. A number of factors, then make businesses more difficult targets than people for the robber.

From Table 21, showing the detailed age of the commercial robbery offender, it is seen that only 9 percent of the commercial robberies were committed by juveniles, whereas 63 percent were committed by adults. By comparison, in the period from 1973 to 1977 juveniles accounted for 25 percent of the personal robberies, and adults 50 percent. Thus, although both personal and commercial robbery are more often committed by adults than by juveniles, juvenile involvement in robberies of businesses is substantially less than juvenile involvement in robberies of persons.

As with personal robberies, commercial robberies more often involved weapons when adults and youthful offenders were involved (73 percent and 71 percent) than when juveniles were involved (53 percent). (See Table 22). It is interesting to note that the comparable percents of weapon use among adults, youthful offenders, and juveniles in the 1973 to 1977 personal robbery are 60 percent, 48 percent, and 30 percent. All three offender age groups used weapons much more often in commercial robbery than in personal robbery,

Table 21 Percent distribution of detailed age of offender^a in commercial robbery, NCS national data, 1975-1976 aggregate^b

Age of offender						(Estimated number of victimizations)
Under 12	12 to 14	15 to 17	18 to 20	21 or older	Don't know	
0	1	8	16	63	12	100 % (498,062)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 12 percent of the total) in which the number of offenders was not known.

Table 22 Percent of weapon use and type of weapon used in commercial robbery, by age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1975-1976 aggregate^b

Age of offender	Weapon use With weapon	Type of weapon used		
		Gun	Knife	Other
Under 18	53 ^c (43,721) ^d	36 (43,721)	14 (43,721)	5 (43,721)
18 to 20	71 (81,646)	57 (81,646)	12 (81,646)	6 (81,646)
21 or older	73 (313,784)	61 (313,784)	9 (313,784)	4 (313,784)
Don't know	70 (58,911)	58 (58,911)	7 (58,911)	6 (58,911)
Total	71 (498,062)	58 (498,062)	10 (498,062)	5 (498,062)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 12 percent of the total) in which the number of offenders was not known.

^cPercent with weapon use.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with weapon use plus those without weapon use) on which percent shown is based.

which is consistent with the differences in the risk mentioned above. In commercial robbery, guns, the most frequently used weapons by all offender age groups, were used in 61 percent of the business robberies by adults, 57 percent of those by youthful offenders, and 36 percent of those by juveniles. Juveniles were slightly more likely to use knives than were adults (14 percent compared with 9 percent).

The data in Table 23 show that the number of offenders involved in committing commercial robbery was negatively related to the age group of the offender. Adults were more likely to act alone than were youthful offenders (52 percent compared with 40 percent), and juvenile offenders least often were lone offenders (35 percent). Even in commercial robbery, then, group criminality is most often found among the youngest offenders.

A summary of the major consequences of commercial robbery in relation to the age of the offender is shown in Table 24. The first row in this table shows percentages of commercial robbery in which some owner or employee¹⁶ was injured seriously enough to require medical attention. Very few commercial robberies resulted in such injury (only 7 percent) and this percent did not vary by the age of the offender.

Respondents in the commercial victimization surveys were asked if the offender took any money, merchandise, equipment or supplies. The second row of percents in Table 24 shows that the vast majority of commercial robberies resulted in theft; that is, most were completed robberies. Adults were somewhat more likely to complete their thefts than were youthful offenders and juveniles (79 percent compared with 72 percent and 71 percent), but among all three offender age groups completion of theft occurred more often in robberies of businesses than in robberies of persons. In personal robbery, the comparable percents of completion were 64 percent, 58 percent,

Table 23 Percent distribution of the number of offenders in commercial robbery, by age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1975-1976 aggregate^b

Age of offender	Number of offenders				(Estimated number of victimizations)
	One	Two	Three	Four or more	
Under 18	35	40	13	11	100% (43,721)
18 to 20	40	41	12	7	100 (81,646)
21 or older	52	34	10	4	100 (313,784)
Don't know	54	32	11	4	100 (58,911)
Total	49	36	10	5	100 (498,062)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 12 percent of the total) in which the number of offenders was not known.

Table 24 Percent of commercial robbery victimizations that resulted in injury, theft, damage, or time lost, by age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1975-1976 aggregate^b

Consequences	Age of offender				Total
	Under 18	18 to 20	21 or older	Don't know	
Injury	7 ^c (43,721) ^d	6 (81,646)	7 (313,784)	4 (58,911)	7 (498,062)
Theft	71 (43,721)	72 (81,646)	79 (313,784)	76 (58,911)	77 (498,062)
Damage	14 (43,721)	11 (81,646)	8 (313,784)	10 (58,911)	9 (498,062)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 12 percent of the total) in which the number of offenders was not known.

^cPercent with injury.

^dNumber in parentheses shows estimated total number of victimizations (those with injury plus those without injury) on which percent shown is based.

and 53 percent for adults, youthful offenders, and juveniles.

The third row in Table 24 shows the percents of commercial robbery which resulted in some damage to business property or premises. Generally, damage occurred in only a small proportion of the commercial robberies but it occurred somewhat more often when juveniles were involved than when adults were involved (14 percent compared with 8 percent).

Above it was seen that a substantial proportion (77 percent) of commercial robberies resulted in theft of money, merchandise, equipment or supplies. Table 25 shows the percent distribution of the amount of money stolen in commercial robbery. The first column in this table shows the percent of robberies that resulted in no theft, the attempted robberies; the second column indicates those robberies in which theft occurred but no cash was stolen. The "no cash stolen" completed robberies constitute only 13 percent of total robberies. This is undoubtedly due to the nature of robbery; robbers are interested principally in cash, rather than property which has to be converted to cash. The remaining columns in this table indicate how much cash was stolen in commercial robbery. Here it can be seen that greater losses of cash were sustained in the robberies committed by adults than in those committed by juveniles. Fifty-seven percent of the commercial robberies committed by adults resulted in a theft of \$50 or more, but only 41 percent of the commercial robberies committed by juveniles resulted in this amount of cash stolen. Adults stole \$500 or more in cash more than three times as often as juveniles.

The percent distribution of the value of property stolen (not presented in tabular form) shows virtually no differences among juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults in the value of the merchandise, equipment or supplies stolen in commercial robberies. This is in part due to the nature of commercial

Table 25 Percent distribution of the amount of money stolen in commercial robbery, by age of offender,^a NCS national data, 1975-1976 aggregate^b

Age of offender	No theft	No cash stolen	Amount of money stolen					(Estimated number of victimizations)
			\$1-9	\$10-49	\$50-249	\$250-499	\$500 or more	
Under 18	29	15	3	12	28	9	4	100% (43,721)
18 to 20	28	10	2	8	35	10	8	100 (81,646)
21 or older	21	13	0	8	32	11	14	100 (313,784)
Don't know	24	18	2	8	28	9	12	100 (58,911)
Total	23	13	1	9	31	10	12	100 (498,062)

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

^bThis table excludes incidents (about 12 percent of the total) in which the number of offenders was not known.

robbery alluded to above; fewer than one out of three commercial robberies resulted in theft of property. Property valued at \$50 or more was stolen in 10 percent of the commercial robberies by juveniles and adults, and 5 percent of those by youthful offenders.

In summary, the commercial data indicate that:

- 1) Juveniles rob businesses much less often than they rob persons.
- 2) Weapons--especially guns--are used much more often in commercial robbery than in personal robbery. In commercial robbery, as in personal robbery, weapon use increases with offender age.
- 3) Adults were most likely, youthful offenders less likely, and juveniles least likely to act alone in committing commercial robberies.
- 4) As with personal robbery, adults completed commercial robberies more often than juveniles, and their robberies were more lucrative.
- 5) Both injury and damage were infrequent in commercial robbery, although damage occurred slightly more often if juveniles were involved.

Conclusions

In recent years juvenile criminal behavior has been portrayed by the media as both maliciously violent and increasingly common, particularly in urban areas. The past decade has also been characterized by growing public concern with crime, along with legislative action in the form of stiffer penalties for juveniles who commit serious crimes. Because of the groundswell of concern with juvenile crime, it has become more important

than ever before to investigate empirically the nature and extent of this phenomenon. The National Crime Survey data analyzed in this monograph shed important light on the trends and patterns of juvenile, youthful offender, and adult crimes. In many ways this investigation fails to support empirically the popular presentations and opinions of the media, the public, and the legislature.

The NCS data do not support the contention that, for the crimes of rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny, juvenile crime is currently any more serious than it was five years ago. Based on a variety of indicators such as the rate of injury to victims, the use of weapons, and the extent of financial loss, the seriousness of criminal victimizations committed by juvenile offenders showed no substantial or systematic variation between 1973 and 1977 in the United States. Furthermore, the rate of offending for the personal crimes also failed to show any trend over time. To be sure, juvenile involvement in the personal crimes of rape, robbery, assault, and larceny is substantial. However, the NCS data are not consistent with the growing national alarm regarding serious juvenile crime. To the extent that recent legislation that hardens the societal response to juvenile crime is premised on substantial upswings in juvenile crime in recent years, the NCS data cannot provide support for such legislative shifts -- certainly not within the limited time frame for which NCS data are now available.

Another way of viewing the juvenile crime problem is to compare it with youthful offender and adult crime in the same offense categories. In short, do the NCS data support the view that compared with youthful offender and adult crime, juvenile crime is more serious by any of the indicators

available? When crimes committed by the three age groups--juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults--are compared, juvenile crime is shown to be demonstrably less serious than youthful offender and adult crime in three major ways. First, weapon use by juveniles is less prevalent, and even when weapons are used by juveniles they are rarely guns. Second, juvenile offenders are much less successful than adults in the theft-motivated offenses of personal and commercial robbery, pocket picking, and purse snatch. Victims of juvenile offenders are less likely to suffer a completed theft than victims of youthful and adult offenders; moreover, even when a theft is completed, victims of juvenile offenders suffer less financial loss than do victims of youthful and adult offenders.

The third difference between juvenile and adult crime is in the injury sustained by their victims. Victims of juvenile offenders have somewhat lower rates of injury than do victims of youthful offenders or adults. Along these lines the juvenile offender is portrayed stereotypically as inflicting gratuitous violence on victims of personal theft crimes. Quite to the contrary, the NCS data show that of those engaged in theft-oriented crimes (i.e., robbery and personal larceny), juveniles are most likely to choose personal larceny, a crime that relies on stealth rather than force or threat of force to achieve the goal of the crime.

The NCS data offer a potentially rich reservoir of information about the extent and nature of juvenile, youthful offender, and adult crime. Unlike self-reported delinquency data that are often sparse in the details of the delinquencies and rarely available on national probability samples of adequate size or for trend analyses, the NCS data are available for large numbers of serious crimes, in adequate probability samples, and at this date for five full years. The NCS data also do not share the shortcomings

of the official data. UCR arrest data provide virtually no information on the nature of juvenile offenses, and they are subject to various selective biases that may be associated with the demographic characteristics of offenders (e.g., more experienced adult offenders may have a greater likelihood of eluding arrest than less experienced juvenile offenders). Hence, within their limits, the NCS data are perhaps the most appropriate source of data to inform and guide policy that is dependent on information about the nature and extent of criminal offending among various demographic subgroups of offenders. In this vein, it does not appear that the NCS data on rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny are compatible with recent legislative changes that have been implemented to deal more harshly with juvenile crime. Apparently it is an erroneous perception that these juvenile crimes are becoming more serious and/or more frequent. In the future, every effort should be made to subject the assumptions of critical and fundamental statutory changes in juvenile justice to the empirical tests that are available in data sets such as the National Crime Survey.

Notes

- ¹See Appendix C for a discussion of the victim's perceptions of offender age as well as a description of the offender age variables in this study.
- ²In order to present more accurate offending rate data in Figure 2, page 14, it was desirable to restrict the age range of juvenile offenders to 12 to 17 year old offenders. Because Figure 2 was designed to parallel Figure 1, page 12, the juvenile offender data there too were restricted to 12 to 17 year old offenders. Subsequent Tables and Figures use the "under 18" category for juvenile offenders.
- ³See Garofalo and Hindelang (1977) and U.S. Bureau of the Census, undated, for additional detail about design and collection. Business survey results from 1973 have reportedly been permanently lost by the Bureau of the Census and, hence, are not included in this monograph.
- ⁴This procedure does not completely ignore mobile families and businesses. Although no attempt is made to trace families and businesses that move away from an address in the sample, a similarly mobile family or business may move into that address and will be included in the survey.
- ⁵See Garofalo and Hindelang (1977) for more details.
- ⁶The business portion of the national survey has been discontinued. The last full year for which data are available is 1976. Trend analyses of the business data are virtually impossible because of the discontinuation and because the 1973 business data are permanently lost.
- ⁷In a small proportion of cases (victims 12 and 13 years of age and victims who for some physical or mental reason are unable to respond for themselves) interviews are completed by proxy with another household member.
- ⁸Population estimates for the denominators of the rates shown in Figure 2 are derived from the National Crime Survey itself. Because respondents under 12 years of age are not interviewed in the survey their estimated number in the general population cannot be estimated from the survey and hence the youngest age group is from 12 to 17 years of age, rather than under 18 as in subsequent tables. Offenses attributable to the offenders perceived to be under 12 years of age have been excluded from the numerators of the rates for 12 to 17 year olds.
- ⁹It has been demonstrated elsewhere with official data (Amir, 1971) that group rape is generally a youthful phenomenon.
- ¹⁰The types of physical injury sustained by victims will be examined below.

- ¹¹The yearly figures must exclude rape because of its rarity, but the 1973 to 1977 aggregate data indicate that rape is the crime most likely to result in injury requiring medical attention. See text above on this point.
- ¹²See "Juvenile Criminal Behavior: An Analysis of Rates and Victim Characteristics," Hindelang and McDermott (1981).
- ¹³This will be discussed below.
- ¹⁴See "Juvenile Criminal Behavior", note 12 above.
- ¹⁵Note that although there are wide fluctuations in this percent among rapes committed by juveniles and youthful offenders there are too few sample cases for reliable year-by-year analysis.
- ¹⁶See incident question 7a in the CVS questionnaire in Appendix B. This question only asks about injury sustained by owners or employees. Injury sustained during the incident by anyone else--e.g., customers, bystanders --is a personal victimization and is covered in the household section of the NCS.

Appendix A
NCS Household Interview Schedule

FORM NCS-1 AND NCS-2 (4-19-77)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		NATIONAL CRIME SURVEY NATIONAL SAMPLE NCS-1 - BASIC SCREEN QUESTIONNAIRE NCS-2 - CRIME INCIDENT REPORT	
INTERVIEWER: Fill Sample and Control numbers, and items 1, 2, 4, and 9 at time of interview.		NOTICE - Your report to the Census Bureau is confidential by law (U.S. Code 42, Section 3771). All identifiable information will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey, and may not be disclosed or released to others for any purpose.			
1. Interviewer Identification Code Name		Sample (cc 4) JO		Control number (cc 5) PSU Segment Ck Serial	
2. Record of interview Line number of household respondent (cc 12) Date completed		Household number (cc 2)		Land use (cc 9-11)	
3. TYPE Z NONINTERVIEW Interview not obtained for Line number		10. Family income (cc 27)			
NOTE: Fill NCS-7 Noninterview Record, for Types A, B, and C noninterviews.		1 <input type="checkbox"/> Under \$1,000 2 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 to 1,999 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 2,000 to 2,999 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 3,000 to 3,999 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 4,000 to 4,999 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 5,000 to 5,999 7 <input type="checkbox"/> 6,000 to 7,499 8 <input type="checkbox"/> 7,500 to 9,999 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 10,000 to 11,999 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 12,000 to 14,999 11 <input type="checkbox"/> 15,000 to 19,999 12 <input type="checkbox"/> 20,000 to 24,999 13 <input type="checkbox"/> 25,000 to 49,999 14 <input type="checkbox"/> 50,000 and over			
4. Household status		11a. Household members 12 years of age and OVER			
1 <input type="checkbox"/> Same household as last enumeration 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement household since last enumeration 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Previous noninterview or not in sample before		Total number			
5. Special place type code (cc 6c)		b. Household members UNDER 12 years of age			
6. Tenure (cc 8)		Total number			
1 <input type="checkbox"/> Owned or being bought 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Rented for cash 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No cash rent		o <input type="checkbox"/> None			
7. Type of living quarters (cc 15)		12. Crime Incident Reports filled			
Housing unit 1 <input type="checkbox"/> House, apartment, flat 2 <input type="checkbox"/> HU in nontransient hotel, motel, etc. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> HU - Permanent in transient hotel, motel, etc. 4 <input type="checkbox"/> HU in rooming house 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home or trailer 6 <input type="checkbox"/> HU not specified above - Describe		Total number - Fill item 31 on Control Card			
OTHER Unit 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Quarters not HU in rooming or boarding house 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Unit not permanent in transient hotel, motel, etc. 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant tent site or trailer site 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Not specified above - Describe		o <input type="checkbox"/> None			
8. Number of housing units in structure (cc 26)		13a. Use of telephone (cc 25)			
1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-9 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 10 or more 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile home or trailer 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Only OTHER units		Phone in unit (Yes in cc 25a) Phone interview acceptable? (cc 25c or 25d) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes SKIP to next 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No - Refused number applicable item			
9. (Other than the ... business) does anyone in this household operate a business from this address?		Phone elsewhere (Yes in cc 25b) Phone interview acceptable? (cc 25c or 25d) 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes SKIP to next 4 <input type="checkbox"/> No - Refused number applicable item 5 <input type="checkbox"/> No phone (No in cc 25a and 25b)			
1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - What kind of business is that?		13b. Proxy information - Fill for all proxy interviews			
INTERVIEWER: Enter unrecognizable businesses only		(1) Proxy interview obtained for line number			
CENSUS USE ONLY		Proxy respondent name		Line number	
		Reason for proxy interview			
		(2) Proxy interview obtained for line number			
		Proxy respondent name		Line number	
		Reason for proxy interview			
		If more than 2 Proxy Interviews, continue in notes.			
		031		032	
				033	

NCS 1 and 2

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS											
14. NAME (of household respondent)	15. TYPE OF INTERVIEW	16. LINE NO.	17. RELATIONSHIP TO HOUSEHOLD HEAD	18. AGE LAST BIRTHDAY	19. MARITAL STATUS	20a. RACE	20b. ORIGIN	21. SEX	22. ARMED FORCES MEMBER	23. Education - highest grade	24. Education - complete that year?
KEYER - BEGIN NEW RECORD		(cc 12)	(cc 13b)	(cc 17)	(cc 18)	(cc 19a)	(cc 19b)	(cc 20)	(cc 21)	(cc 22)	(cc 23)
Last	034 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Per. - Self-respondent 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Tel. - Self-respondent	035	036 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Head 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Wife of head 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Own child 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other relative 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Non-relative	037 Age	038 1 <input type="checkbox"/> M. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> W. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> D. 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Sep. 5 <input type="checkbox"/> NM	039 1 <input type="checkbox"/> W. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Neg. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Ot.	040 Origin	041 1 <input type="checkbox"/> M 2 <input type="checkbox"/> F	042 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No	043 Grade	043 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No
First	034 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Per. - Proxy } Fill 13b on cover page 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Tel. - Proxy 3 <input type="checkbox"/> NI - Fill 16-21	Line No.									
CHECK ITEM A Look at item 4 on cover page. Is this the same household as last enumeration? (Box 1 marked) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to Check Item B <input type="checkbox"/> No											
25a. Did you live in this house on April 1, 1970? 044 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to Check Item B 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No											
b. Where did you live on April 1, 1970? (State, foreign country, U.S. possession, etc.) State, etc. _____ County _____											
c. Did you live inside the limits of a city, town, village, etc. 045 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Name of city, town, village, etc. _____											
d. Were you in the Armed Forces on April 1, 1970? 046 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No											
CHECK ITEM B Is this person 16 years old or older? <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 29 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes											
26a. What were you doing most of LAST WEEK - (working, keeping house, going to school) or something else? 048 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Working - SKIP to 28a 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to work - SKIP to 26d 2 <input type="checkbox"/> With a job but not at work 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Retired 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Looking for work 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____ 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Keeping house 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Going to school (If Armed Forces, SKIP to 28a)											
b. Did you do any work at all LAST WEEK, not counting work around the house? (Note: If farm or business operator in HH, ask about unpaid work.) 049 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many hours? _____ - SKIP to 28a											
c. Did you have a job or business from which you were temporarily absent or on layoff LAST WEEK? 050 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Absent - SKIP to 28a 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Layoff - SKIP to 27											
26d. Have you been looking for work during the past 4 weeks? 051 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes No - When did you last work? 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 5 years ago - SKIP to 28a 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 or more years ago 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Never worked SKIP to 29											
27. Is there any reason why you could not take a job LAST WEEK? 052 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No Yes - 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Already had a job 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary illness 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Going to school 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____											
28a. For whom did you (last) work? (Name of company, business, organization or other employer) 053 x <input type="checkbox"/> Never worked - SKIP to 29											
b. What kind of business or industry is this? (E.g.: TV and radio mfg., retail shoe store, State Labor Department, farm) 054 _____											
c. Were you - 055 1 <input type="checkbox"/> An employee of a PRIVATE company, business or individual for wages, salary or commissions? 2 <input type="checkbox"/> A GOVERNMENT employee (Federal, State, county, or local)? 3 <input type="checkbox"/> SELF-EMPLOYED in OWN business, professional practice or farm? 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Working WITHOUT PAY in family business or farm?											
d. What kind of work were you doing? (E.g.: electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, Armed Forces) 056 _____											
e. What were your most important activities or duties? (E.g.: typing, keeping account books, selling cars, Armed Forces) 056 _____											
Notes											

HOUSEHOLD SCREEN QUESTIONS	
29. Now I'd like to ask some questions about crime. They refer only to the last 6 months - between _____, 197____ and _____, 197____ During the last 6 months, did anyone break into or somehow illegally get into your (apartment/home), garage, or another building on your property?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
30. (Other than the incident(s) just mentioned) Did you find a door jammed, a lock forced, or any other signs of an ATTEMPTED break in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
31. Was anything at all stolen that is kept outside your home, or happened to be left out, such as a bicycle, a garden hose, or lawn furniture? (other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
32. Did anyone take something belonging to you or to any member of this household, from a place where you or they were temporarily staying, such as a friend's or relative's home, a hotel or motel, or a vacation home?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
33. What was the total number of motor vehicles (cars, trucks, etc.) owned by you or any other member of this household during the last 6 months?	057 None - SKIP to 36 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4 or more
34. Did anyone steal, TRY to steal, or use (it/any of them) without permission?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
35. Did anyone steal or TRY to steal parts attached to (it/any of them), such as a battery, hubcaps, tape-deck, etc.?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
INDIVIDUAL SCREEN QUESTIONS	
36. The following questions refer only to things that happened to YOU during the last 6 months - between _____, 197____ and _____, 197____ Did you have your (pocket picked/purse snatched)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
37. Did anyone take something (else) directly from you by using force, such as by a stickup, mugging or threat?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
38. Did anyone TRY to rob you by using force or threatening to harm you? (other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
39. Did anyone beat you up, attack you or hit you with something, such as a rock or bottle? (other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
40. Were you knifed, shot at, or attacked with some other weapon by anyone at all? (other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
41. Did anyone THREATEN to beat you up or THREATEN you with a knife, gun, or some other weapon, NOT including telephone threats? (other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
42. Did anyone TRY to attack you in some other way? (other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
43. During the last 6 months, did anyone steal things that belonged to you from inside ANY car or truck, such as packages or clothing?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
44. Was anything stolen from you while you were away from home, for instance at work, in a theater or restaurant, or while traveling?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
45. (Other than any incidents you've already mentioned) was anything (else) at all stolen from you during the last 6 months?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
46. Did you find any evidence that someone ATTEMPTED to steal something that belonged to you? (other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
47. Did you call the police during the last 6 months to report something that happened to YOU which you thought was a crime? (Do not count any calls made to the police concerning the incidents you have just told me about.)	<input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 48 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - What happened? 058 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
48. Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (other than any incidents already mentioned)	<input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to Check Item E <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - What happened? 059 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
49. Look at 47. Was HH member 12+ attacked or threatened, or was something stolen or an attempt made to steal something that belonged to him?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
50. Look at 48. Was HH member 12+ attacked or threatened, or was something stolen or an attempt made to steal something that belonged to him?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? <input type="checkbox"/> No
51. Do any of the screen questions contain any entries for "How many times?"	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Interview next HH member. End interview if last respondent, and fill item 12 on cover page. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Fill Crime Incident Reports.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS											
14. NAME	15. TYPE OF INTERVIEW	16. LINE NO.	17. RELATIONSHIP TO HOUSEHOLD HEAD	18. AGE LAST BIRTHDAY	19. MARITAL STATUS	20a. RACE	20b. ORIGIN	21. SEX	22. ARMED FORCES MEMBER	23. Education - highest grade	24. Education - complete that year?
KEYER - BEGIN NEW RECORD		(cc 12)	(cc 13b)	(cc 17)	(cc 18)	(cc 19a)	(cc 19b)	(cc 20)	(cc 21)	(cc 22)	(cc 23)
Last	034 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Per - Self-respondent 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Tel. - Self-respondent	035	036 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Head 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Wife of head 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Own child 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other relative 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Non-relative	037 Age	038 1 <input type="checkbox"/> M. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> W. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> D. 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Sep. 5 <input type="checkbox"/> NM	039 1 <input type="checkbox"/> W. 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Neg. 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Ot.	040 Origin	041 1 <input type="checkbox"/> M 2 <input type="checkbox"/> F	042 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No	043 Grade	043 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No
First	3 <input type="checkbox"/> Per. - Proxy } Fill 13b on cover page 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Tel. - Proxy } 5 <input type="checkbox"/> NI - Fill 16-21	Line No.									
CHECK ITEM A Look at item 4 on cover page. Is this the same household as last enumeration? (Box 1 marked) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to Check Item B <input type="checkbox"/> No											
25a. Did you live in this house on April 1, 1970? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to Check Item B 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No											
b. Where did you live on April 1, 1970? (State, foreign country, U.S. possession, etc.) State, etc. _____ County _____											
c. Did you live inside the limits of a city, town, village, etc.? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Name of city, town, village, etc. _____											
d. Were you in the Armed Forces on April 1, 1970? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No											
CHECK ITEM B Is this person 16 years old or older? <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 36 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes											
26a. What were you doing most of LAST WEEK - (working, keeping house, going to school) or something else? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Working - SKIP to 28a 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to work - SKIP to 26d 2 <input type="checkbox"/> With a job but not at work 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Retired 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Looking for work 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____ 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Keeping house 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Going to school (If Armed Forces, SKIP to 28a)											
b. Did you do any work at all LAST WEEK, not counting work around the house? (Note: If farm or business operator in HH, ask about unpaid work.) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No Yes - How many hours? _____ - SKIP to 28a											
c. Did you have a job or business from which you were temporarily absent or on layoff LAST WEEK? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Absent - SKIP to 28a 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Layoff - SKIP to 27											
26d. Have you been looking for work during the past 4 weeks? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes No - When did you last work? 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 5 years ago - SKIP to 28a 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 or more years ago 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Never worked } SKIP to 36											
27. Is there any reason why you could not take a job LAST WEEK? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No Yes - 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Already had a job 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary illness 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Going to school 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____											
28a. For whom did you (last) work? (Name of company, business, organization or other employer) x <input type="checkbox"/> Never worked - SKIP to 36											
b. What kind of business or industry is this? (E.g.: TV and radio mfg., retail shoe store, State Labor Department, farm) _____											
c. Were you - 1 <input type="checkbox"/> An employee of a PRIVATE company, business or individual for wages, salary or commissions? 2 <input type="checkbox"/> A GOVERNMENT employee (Federal, State, county, or local)? 3 <input type="checkbox"/> SELF-EMPLOYED in OWN business, professional practice or farm? 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Working WITHOUT PAY in family business or farm?											
d. What kind of work were you doing? (E.g.: electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer, Armed Forces) _____											
e. What were your most important activities or duties? (E.g.: typing, keeping account books, selling cars, Armed Forces) _____											
INDIVIDUAL SCREEN QUESTIONS											
36. The following questions refer only to things that happened to YOU during the last 6 months - between 1, 197____ and 197____. Did you have your (pocket picked/purse snatched)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
37. Did anyone take something (else) directly from you by using force, such as by a stickup, mugging or threat? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
38. Did anyone TRY to rob you by using force or threatening to harm you? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
39. Did anyone beat you up, attack you or hit you with something, such as a rock or bottle? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
40. Were you knifed, shot at, or attacked with some other weapon by anyone at all? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
41. Did anyone THREATEN to beat you up or threaten you with a knife, gun, or some other weapon, NOT including telephone threats? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
42. Did anyone TRY to attack you in some other way? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
43. During the last 6 months, did anyone steal things that belonged to you from inside ANY car or truck, such as packages or clothing? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
44. Was anything stolen from you while you were away from home, for instance at work, in a theater or restaurant, or while traveling? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
45. (Other than any incidents you've already mentioned) Was anything (else) at all stolen from you during the last 6 months? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
46. Did you find any evidence that someone ATTEMPTED to steal something that belonged to you? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
47. Did you call the police during the last 6 months to report something that happened to YOU which you thought was a crime? (Do not count any calls made to the police concerning the incidents you have just told me about.) <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 48 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - What happened? _____											
CHECK ITEM C Look at 47 - Was HH member 12+ attacked or threatened, or was something stolen or an attempt made to steal something that belonged to him? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
48. Did anything happen to YOU during the last 6 months which you thought was a crime, but did NOT report to the police? (other than any incidents already mentioned) <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to Check Item E <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - What happened? _____											
CHECK ITEM D Look at 48 - Was HH member 12+ attacked or threatened, or was something stolen or an attempt made to steal something that belonged to him? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many times? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No											
CHECK ITEM E Do any of the screen questions contain any entries for "How many times?" <input type="checkbox"/> No - Interview next HH member. End interview if last respondent, and fill item 12 on cover page. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Fill Crime Incident Reports.											

KEYER - BEGIN NEW RECORD		Notes	NOTICE - Your report to the Census Bureau is confidential by law (U.S. Code 42, Section 3771). All identifiable information will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey, and may not be disclosed or released to others for any purpose.
Line number			
Screen question number			
Incident number			
101			FORM NCS-2 (4-19-77)
102			U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
103			CRIME INCIDENT REPORT NATIONAL CRIME SURVEY - NATIONAL SAMPLE
104		1a. You said that during the last 6 months - (Refer to appropriate screen question for description of crime). In what month (did this/did the first) incident happen? (Show flashcard if necessary. Encourage respondent to give exact month.)	5a. Were you a customer, employee, or owner? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Customer 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Employee 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Owner 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
105		Is this incident report for a series of crimes? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 2 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - (Note: series must have 3 or more similar incidents which respondent can't recall separately)	b. Did the person(s) steal or TRY to steal anything belonging to the store, restaurant, office, factory, etc.? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know } SKIP to Check Item B
106		b. In what month(s) did these incidents take place? (Mark all that apply) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Spring (March, April, May) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Summer (June, July, August) 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Fall (September, October, November) 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Winter (December, January, February)	6a. Did the offender(s) live there or have a right to be there, such as a guest or a workman? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to Check Item B 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
107		c. How many incidents were involved in this series? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Three or four 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Five to ten 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Eleven or more 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	b. Did the offender(s) actually get in or just TRY to get in the building? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Actually got in 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Just tried to get in 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
108		INTERVIEWER: If this report is for a series, read the following statement. (The following questions refer only to the most recent incident.) 2. About what time did this/the most recent incident happen? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know 2 <input type="checkbox"/> During the day (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.) At night (6 p.m. to 6 a.m.) 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 p.m. to midnight 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Midnight to 6 a.m. 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	c. Was there any evidence, such as a broken lock or broken window, that the offender(s) forced his way in/TRIED to force his way in the building? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No Yes - What was the evidence? Anything else? (Mark all that apply) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Broken lock or window 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Forced door or window 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Slashed screen 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____ } SKIP to Check Item B
109		3a. In what State and county did this incident occur? <input type="checkbox"/> Outside U.S. - END INCIDENT REPORT State _____ County _____	d. How did the offender(s) get in/try to get in? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Through unlocked door or window 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Had key 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
110		b. Did it happen INSIDE THE LIMITS of a city, town, village, etc.? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Enter name of city, town, etc. _____	CHECK ITEM B Was respondent or any other member of this household present when this incident occurred? (If not sure, ASK) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 13a 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
111		4. Where did this incident take place? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> At or in own dwelling, in garage or other building on property (Includes break-in or attempted break-in) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> At or in a vacation home, hotel/motel 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Inside commercial building such as store, restaurant, bank, gas station, public conveyance or station 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Inside office, factory, or warehouse 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Near own home; yard, sidewalk, driveway, carport, apartment hall (Does not include break-in or attempted break-in) 6 <input type="checkbox"/> On the street, in a park, field, playground, school grounds or parking lot 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Inside school 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____	7a. Did the person(s) have a weapon such as a gun or knife, or something he was using as a weapon, such as a bottle, or wrench? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know Yes - What was the weapon? Anything else? (Mark all that apply) 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Gun 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Knife 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____
112			b. Did the person(s) hit you, knock you down, or actually attack you in any way? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to 7f 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No
113			c. Did the person(s) threaten you with harm in any way? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 7c 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

CRIME INCIDENT QUESTIONS - Continued	
<p>7d. How were you threatened? Any other way? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Verbal threat of rape</p> <p>2 Verbal threat of attack other than rape</p> <p>3 Weapon present or threatened with weapon</p> <p>4 Attempted attack with weapon (for example, shot at)</p> <p>5 Object thrown at person</p> <p>6 Followed, surrounded</p> <p>7 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>SKIP to 10a</p>	<p>9c. Did insurance or any health benefits program pay for all or part of the total medical expenses?</p> <p>1 Not yet settled</p> <p>2 None</p> <p>3 All</p> <p>4 Part</p> <p>SKIP to 10a</p> <p>d. How much did insurance or a health benefits program pay?</p> <p>134 \$ _____ (Obtain an estimate, if necessary)</p>
<p>e. What actually happened? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Something taken without permission</p> <p>2 Attempted or threatened to take something</p> <p>3 Harassed, argument, abusive language</p> <p>4 Forcible entry or attempted forcible entry of house</p> <p>5 Forcible entry or attempted entry of car</p> <p>6 Damaged or destroyed property</p> <p>7 Attempted or threatened to damage or destroy property</p> <p>8 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>SKIP to 10a</p>	<p>10a. Did you do anything to protect yourself or your property during the incident?</p> <p>1 No - SKIP to 11</p> <p>2 Yes</p> <p>b. What did you do? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Used/brandished gun or knife</p> <p>2 Used/tried physical force (hit, chased, threw object, used other weapon, etc.)</p> <p>3 Tried to get help, attract attention, scare offender away (screamed, yelled, called for help, turned on lights, etc.)</p> <p>4 Threatened, argued, reasoned, etc., with offender</p> <p>5 Resisted without force, used evasive action (ran/drove away, hid, held property, locked door, ducked, shielded self, etc.)</p> <p>6 Other - Specify _____</p>
<p>f. How did the person(s) attack you? Any other way? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 Raped</p> <p>2 Tried to rape</p> <p>3 Hit with object held in hand, shot, knifed</p> <p>4 Hit by thrown object</p> <p>5 Hit, slapped, knocked down</p> <p>6 Grabbed, held, tripped, jumped, pushed, etc.</p> <p>7 Other - Specify _____</p>	<p>11. Was the crime committed by only one or more than one person?</p> <p>1 Only one</p> <p>2 Don't know</p> <p>3 More than one</p> <p>SKIP to 12a</p> <p>a. Was this person male or female?</p> <p>138 1 Male</p> <p>2 Female</p> <p>3 Don't know</p> <p>b. How old would you say the person was?</p> <p>139 1 Under 12</p> <p>2 12-14</p> <p>3 15-17</p> <p>4 18-20</p> <p>5 21 or over</p> <p>6 Don't know</p> <p>c. Was the person someone you knew or was he a stranger?</p> <p>140 1 Stranger</p> <p>2 Don't know</p> <p>3 Known by sight only</p> <p>4 Casual acquaintance</p> <p>5 Well known</p> <p>d. Was the person a relative of yours?</p> <p>141 1 No</p> <p>Yes - What relationship?</p> <p>2 Spouse or ex-spouse</p> <p>3 Parent</p> <p>4 Own child</p> <p>5 Brother or sister</p> <p>6 Other relative - Specify _____</p> <p>e. Was he/she -</p> <p>142 1 White?</p> <p>2 Negro?</p> <p>3 Other? - Specify _____</p> <p>4 Don't know</p> <p>SKIP to 12a</p>
<p>8a. What were the injuries you suffered, if any? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 None - SKIP to 10a</p> <p>2 Raped</p> <p>3 Attempted rape</p> <p>4 Knife or gunshot wounds</p> <p>5 Broken bones or teeth knocked out</p> <p>6 Internal injuries, knocked unconscious</p> <p>7 Bruises, black eye, cuts, scratches, swelling</p> <p>8 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>b. Were you injured to the extent that you needed medical attention after the attack?</p> <p>147 1 No - SKIP to 10a</p> <p>2 Yes</p> <p>c. Did you receive any treatment at a hospital?</p> <p>148 1 No</p> <p>2 Emergency room treatment only</p> <p>3 Stayed overnight or longer - How many days? _____</p> <p>d. What was the total amount of your medical expenses resulting from this incident, INCLUDING anything paid by insurance? Include hospital and doctor bills, medicine, therapy, braces, and any other injury-related medical expenses. INTERVIEWER - If respondent does not know exact amount, encourage him to give an estimate.</p> <p>149 0 No cost - SKIP to 10a</p> <p>\$ _____</p> <p>x Don't know</p> <p>9a. At the time of the incident, were you covered by any medical insurance, or were you eligible for benefits from any other type of health benefits program, such as Medicaid, Veterans' Administration, or Public Welfare?</p> <p>150 1 No</p> <p>2 Don't know</p> <p>3 Yes</p> <p>SKIP to 10a</p> <p>b. Did you file a claim with any of these insurance companies or programs in order to get part or all of your medical expenses paid?</p> <p>151 1 No - SKIP to 10a</p> <p>2 Yes</p>	<p>f. How many persons?</p> <p>143 _____</p> <p>g. Were they male or female?</p> <p>144 1 All male</p> <p>2 All female</p> <p>3 Male and female</p> <p>4 Don't know</p> <p>h. How old would you say the youngest was?</p> <p>145 1 Under 12</p> <p>2 12-14</p> <p>3 15-17</p> <p>4 18-20</p> <p>5 21 or over</p> <p>6 Don't know</p> <p>i. How old would you say the oldest was?</p> <p>146 1 Under 12</p> <p>2 12-14</p> <p>3 15-17</p> <p>4 18-20</p> <p>5 21 or over</p> <p>6 Don't know</p> <p>j. Were any of the persons known or related to you or were they all strangers?</p> <p>147 1 All strangers</p> <p>2 Don't know</p> <p>3 All relatives</p> <p>4 Some relatives</p> <p>5 All known</p> <p>6 Some known</p> <p>k. How well were they known? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>148 1 By sight only</p> <p>2 Casual acquaintance(s)</p> <p>3 Well known</p> <p>l. How were they related to you? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>149 1 Spouse or ex-spouse</p> <p>2 Parents</p> <p>3 Own children</p> <p>4 Brothers/sisters</p> <p>5 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>m. Were all of them -</p> <p>150 1 White?</p> <p>2 Negro?</p> <p>3 Other? - Specify _____</p> <p>4 Combination - Specify _____</p> <p>5 Don't know</p>

CRIME INCIDENT QUESTIONS - Continued	
<p>12a. Were you the only person there besides the offender(s)?</p> <p>151 1 Yes - SKIP to 13a</p> <p>2 No</p> <p>b. How many of these persons, not counting yourself, were robbed, harmed, or threatened? Do not include persons under 12 years of age.</p> <p>152 0 None - SKIP to 13a</p> <p>_____ Number of persons</p> <p>c. Are any of these persons members of your household now? Do not include household members under 12 years of age.</p> <p>153 0 No</p> <p>Yes - How many, not counting yourself?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>(ALSO MARK "YES" IN CHECK ITEM I ON PAGE 12)</p> <p>13a. Was something stolen or taken without permission that belonged to you or others in the household? INTERVIEWER - Include anything stolen from unrecognizable business in respondent's home. Do not include anything stolen from a recognizable business in respondent's home or another business, such as merchandise or cash from a register.</p> <p>154 1 Yes - SKIP to 13f</p> <p>2 No</p> <p>b. Did the person(s) ATTEMPT to take something that belonged to you or others in the household?</p> <p>155 1 No - SKIP to 13e</p> <p>2 Yes</p> <p>c. What did they try to take? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>156 1 Purse</p> <p>2 Wallet or money</p> <p>3 Car</p> <p>4 Other motor vehicle</p> <p>5 Part of car (hubcap, tape-deck, etc.)</p> <p>6 Don't know</p> <p>7 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>Did they try to take a purse, wallet, or money? (Box 1 or 2 marked in 13c)</p> <p>CHECK ITEM C 1 No - SKIP to 18a</p> <p>2 Yes</p> <p>d. Was the (purse/wallet/money) on your person, for instance in a pocket or being held?</p> <p>157 1 Yes</p> <p>2 No</p> <p>SKIP to 18a</p> <p>e. What did happen? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>158 1 Attacked</p> <p>2 Threatened with harm</p> <p>3 Attempted to break into house or garage</p> <p>4 Attempted to break into car</p> <p>5 Harassed, argument, abusive language</p> <p>6 Damaged or destroyed property</p> <p>7 Attempted or threatened to damage or destroy property</p> <p>8 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>SKIP to 18a</p> <p>f. What was taken that belonged to you or others in the household? Anything else?</p> <p>159 Cash: \$ _____</p> <p>and/or</p> <p>Property: (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>160 0 Only cash taken - SKIP to 14c</p> <p>1 Purse</p> <p>2 Wallet</p> <p>3 Car</p> <p>4 Other motor vehicle</p> <p>5 Part of car (hubcap, tape-deck, etc.)</p> <p>6 Other - Specify _____</p>	<p>Was a car or other motor vehicle taken? (Box 3 or 4 marked in 13f)</p> <p>CHECK ITEM D 1 No - SKIP to Check Item E</p> <p>2 Yes</p> <p>14a. Had permission to use the (car/motor vehicle) ever been given to the person who took it?</p> <p>161 1 No</p> <p>2 Don't know</p> <p>3 Yes</p> <p>SKIP to Check Item E</p> <p>b. Did the person return the (car/motor vehicle)?</p> <p>162 1 Yes</p> <p>2 No</p> <p>Is Box 1 or 2 marked in 13f?</p> <p>CHECK ITEM E 1 No - SKIP to 15a</p> <p>2 Yes</p> <p>c. Was the (purse/wallet/money) on your person, for instance, in a pocket or being held by you when it was taken?</p> <p>163 1 Yes</p> <p>2 No</p> <p>Was only cash taken? (Box 0 marked in 13f)</p> <p>CHECK ITEM F 1 Yes - SKIP to 16a</p> <p>2 No</p> <p>15a. Altogether, what was the value of the PROPERTY that was taken? INTERVIEWER - Exclude stolen cash, and enter \$0 for stolen checks and credit cards, even if they were used.</p> <p>164 \$ _____</p> <p>b. How did you decide the value of the property that was stolen? Any other way? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>165 1 Original cost</p> <p>2 Replacement cost</p> <p>3 Personal estimate of current value</p> <p>4 Insurance report estimate</p> <p>5 Police estimate</p> <p>6 Don't know</p> <p>7 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>16a. Was all or part of the stolen money or property recovered, not counting anything received from insurance?</p> <p>166 1 None</p> <p>2 All</p> <p>3 Part</p> <p>SKIP to 17a</p> <p>b. What was recovered? Anything else?</p> <p>167 Cash: \$ _____</p> <p>and/or</p> <p>Property: (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>168 0 Cash only recovered - SKIP to 17a</p> <p>1 Purse</p> <p>2 Wallet</p> <p>3 Car</p> <p>4 Other motor vehicle</p> <p>5 Part of car (hubcap, tape-deck, etc.)</p> <p>6 Other - Specify _____</p> <p>c. What was the value of the property recovered (excluding recovered cash)?</p> <p>169 \$ _____</p>

CRIME INCIDENT QUESTIONS - Continued	
<p>17a. Was there any insurance against theft?</p> <p>(170) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No } SKIP to 18a 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>b. Was this loss reported to an insurance company?</p> <p>(171) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No } SKIP to 18a 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>c. Was any of this loss recovered through insurance?</p> <p>(172) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet settled } SKIP to 18a 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>d. How much was recovered?</p> <p>INTERVIEWER - If property replaced by insurance company instead of cash settlement, ask for estimate of value of the property replaced.</p> <p>(173) \$ <input type="text"/> 00</p>	<p>20a. Were the police informed of this incident in any way?</p> <p>(181) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know - SKIP to Check Item G Yes - Who told them? 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Household member } SKIP to Check Item G 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Someone else 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Police on scene</p> <p>b. What was the reason this incident was not reported to the police? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>(182) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing could be done - lack of proof 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Did not think it important enough 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Police wouldn't want to be bothered 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Did not want to take time - too inconvenient 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Private or personal matter, did not want to report it 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Did not want to get involved 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Afraid of reprisal 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Reported to someone else 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____</p> <p>CHECK ITEM G <input type="checkbox"/> Is this person 16 years or older? <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to Check Item H <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - ASK 21a</p> <p>21a. Did you have a job at the time this incident happened?</p> <p>(183) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to Check Item H 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>b. What was the job?</p> <p>(184) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Same as described in NCS-I items 28a-e - SKIP to Check Item H 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Different than described in NCS-I items 28a-e</p> <p>c. For whom did you work? (Name of company, business, organization or other employer)</p> <p>d. What kind of business or industry is this? (For example: TV and radio mfg., retail shoe store, State Labor Dept., farm)</p> <p>(187) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>e. Were you -</p> <p>(188) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> An employee of a PRIVATE company, business or individual for wages, salary or commissions? 2 <input type="checkbox"/> A GOVERNMENT employee (Federal, State, county or local)? 3 <input type="checkbox"/> SELF-EMPLOYED in OWN business, professional practice or farm? 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Working WITHOUT PAY in family business or farm?</p> <p>f. What kind of work were you doing? (For example: electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer)</p> <p>(189) <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>g. What were your most important activities or duties? (For example: typing, keeping account books, selling cars, finishing concrete, etc.)</p> <p>Summarize this incident or series of incidents.</p> <p>CHECK ITEM H <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Look at 12c on Incident Report. Is there an entry for "How many?"</p> <p>CHECK ITEM I <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Be sure you have an Incident Report for each HH member 12 years of age or over who was robbed, harmed, or threatened in this incident.</p> <p>Is this the last Incident Report to be filled for this person?</p> <p>CHECK ITEM J <input type="checkbox"/> No - Go to next Incident Report. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Is this the last HH member to be interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/> No - Interview next HH member. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - END INTERVIEW. Enter total number of Crime Incident Reports filled for this household in Item 12 on the cover of NCS-I.</p>
<p>18a. Did any household member lose any time from work because of this incident?</p> <p>(174) 0 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 19a Yes - How many members? <input type="text"/></p> <p>b. How much time was lost altogether?</p> <p>(175) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 day 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 days 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 days 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Over 10 days 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p>19a. Was anything that belonged to you or other members of the household damaged but not taken in this incident? For example, was a lock or window broken, clothing damaged, or damage done to a car, etc.?</p> <p>(176) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 20a 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>b. (Was/were) the damaged item(s) repaired or replaced?</p> <p>(177) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to 19d 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>c. How much would it cost to repair or replace the damaged item(s)?</p> <p>(178) \$ <input type="text"/> 00 } SKIP to 20a x <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p> <p>d. How much was the repair or replacement cost?</p> <p>(179) x <input type="checkbox"/> No cost or don't know - SKIP to 20a \$ <input type="text"/> 00</p> <p>e. Who paid or will pay for the repairs or replacement? Anyone else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>(180) 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Household member 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____</p>	

Appendix B

NCS Commercial Interview Schedule

NOTICE - Your report to the Census Bureau is confidential by law (Public Law 93-83). All identifiable information will be used only by persons engaged in and for the purposes of the survey, and may not be disclosed or released to others for any purpose.				Form CVS-100 (4-21-77)	
1. IDENTIFICATION CODES				U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
a. PSU	b. Segment	c. Line No	d. Part	e. Panel	COMMERCIAL CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY NATIONAL SAMPLE
f. RO	g. Interviewer code	h. Total number of incidents			

INTRODUCTION

Good morning (afternoon). I'm Mr(s.) _____ (your name) from the U.S. Bureau of the Census. We are conducting a survey in this area to measure the extent to which businesses are victims of burglaries and/or robberies. The Government needs to know how much crime there is and where it is to plan and administer programs which will have an impact on the crime problem. You can help by answering some questions for me.

Part I - BUSINESS CHARACTERISTICS

2a. Did you (the owner) operate this establishment at this location during the entire 6-month period ending _____?

1 ☐ Yes - SKIP to 3a

2 ☐ No - How many months during the designated period? Months

b. What were these months?

1 <input type="checkbox"/> Jan.	4 <input type="checkbox"/> Apr.	7 <input type="checkbox"/> July	A <input type="checkbox"/> Oct.
2 <input type="checkbox"/> Feb.	5 <input type="checkbox"/> May	8 <input type="checkbox"/> Aug.	B <input type="checkbox"/> Nov.
3 <input type="checkbox"/> Mar.	6 <input type="checkbox"/> June	9 <input type="checkbox"/> Sept.	C <input type="checkbox"/> Dec.

c. The last time we were here (Mr(s.) _____ gave information for) this establishment (was vacant).

Did anyone else own this establishment during the 6-month period ending _____?

1 ☐ Yes - Enter name _____

2 ☐ No

3 ☐ Don't know - Inquire at neighboring establishment.

INTERVIEWER - Complete additional questionnaire(s) by contacting the former owner(s) or for vacant establishments by contacting neighboring establishments. Complete separate questionnaires to account for all months of reference period.

3a. Is this establishment owned or operated as an incorporated business?

1 ☐ Yes - SKIP to 4 2 ☐ No

b. How is this business owned or operated?

1 ☐ Individual proprietorship

2 ☐ Partnership

3 ☐ Government - Continue interview ONLY if liquor store or any type of transportation

4 ☐ Other - Specify _____

7. Did anyone else operate any departments or concessions or some other business activity in this establishment during the 6-month period ending _____?

1 ☐ Yes - List each department, concession, or other business activity on a separate line of Section V of the segment folder, if not already listed. Complete a separate questionnaire for each one that falls on a sample line.

2 ☐ No

DO NOT ASK ITEM 8 UNTIL PART II AND ANY INCIDENT REPORTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED

8. What were your approximate gross sales of merchandise and/or receipts from services at this establishment for the previous 12 months ending _____?

(Estimate annual sales and/or receipts if not in business for entire 12 months.)

1 ☐ None

2 ☐ Under \$10,000

3 ☐ \$10,000 to \$24,999

4 ☐ \$25,000 to \$49,999

5 ☐ \$50,000 to \$99,999

6 ☐ \$100,000 to \$499,999

7 ☐ \$500,000 to \$999,999

8 ☐ \$1,000,000 and over

9 ☐ Other - Specify _____

INTERVIEWER USE ONLY

9a. Record of interview

(1) Date _____

(2) Name of respondent _____

(3) Title of respondent _____

(4) Telephone Area code Number Extension

b. Reason for non-interview

TYPE A

1 ☐ Occupant in business during survey period but unable to contact

2 ☐ Refusal and in business during survey period

3 ☐ Other Type A - Specify _____

TYPE B

4 ☐ Present occupant not in business during survey period

5 ☐ Vacant or closed

6 ☐ Other Type B (Seasonal, etc.) - Specify _____

TYPE C

7 ☐ Occupied by nonlistable activity

8 ☐ Demolished

9 ☐ Other Type C - Specify _____

4. Do you (the owner) operate more than one establishment?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

5. Excluding you (the owner) (the partner) how many paid employees did this establishment average during the 6-month period ending _____?

1 ☐ None 4 ☐ 8 to 19

2 ☐ 1 to 3 5 ☐ 20 or more

3 ☐ 4 to 7

6a. What do you consider your kind of business to be at this location?

OFFICE USE ONLY

b. Mark (X) one box

RETAIL 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Food 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Eating and drinking 3 <input type="checkbox"/> General merchandise 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Apparel 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Furniture and appliance 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Lumber, hardware, mobile home dealers 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Automotive 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Drug and proprietary 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Liquor A <input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline service stations B <input type="checkbox"/> Other retail	WHOLESALE C <input type="checkbox"/> Durable D <input type="checkbox"/> Nondurable MANUFACTURING E <input type="checkbox"/> Durable F <input type="checkbox"/> Nondurable REAL ESTATE G <input type="checkbox"/> Apartment rental office H <input type="checkbox"/> Other real estate SERVICE I <input type="checkbox"/> BANKS J <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION K <input type="checkbox"/> L <input type="checkbox"/> ALL OTHERS - Specify _____
--	--

Part II - SCREENING QUESTIONS

a. The last time this establishment was interviewed, _____ burglary(ies) were reported in _____ (month) and _____ robbery(ies) were reported in _____ (month).

b. Now I'd like to ask some questions about particular kinds of theft or attempted theft. These questions refer only to this establishment for the 6-month period ending _____.

10. During this period did anyone break into or somehow illegally get into this place of business?

1 ☐ Yes - How many times? _____ Number
(Fill in Incident Report for each)

2 ☐ No

11. (Other than the incident(s) just mentioned,) during this period did anyone find a door jimmied, a lock forced, or any other signs of an ATTEMPTED break-in?

1 ☐ Yes - How many times? _____ Number
(Fill in Incident Report for each)

2 ☐ No

12. During this period were you, the owner, or any employee held up by anyone using a weapon, force or threat of force on these premises?

1 ☐ Yes - How many times? _____ Number
(Fill in Incident Report for each)

2 ☐ No

13. (Other than the incident(s) already mentioned,) did anyone ATTEMPT to hold up you, the owner, or any employee by using force or threatening to harm you while on these premises?

1 ☐ Yes - How many times? _____ Number
(Fill in Incident Report for each)

2 ☐ No

14. (Other than the incident(s) just mentioned,) during this period were you, the owner, or any employee held up while delivering merchandise or carrying business money outside the business?

1 ☐ Yes - How many times? _____ Number
(Fill in Incident Report for each)

2 ☐ No

15. (Other than the incident(s) just mentioned,) did anyone ATTEMPT to hold up you, the owner, or any employee while delivering merchandise or carrying business money outside the business?

1 ☐ Yes - How many times? _____ Number
(Fill in Incident Report for each)

2 ☐ No

16a. Is this establishment insured against burglary and/or robbery by means other than self-insurance?

1 ☐ Yes } SKIP to 17a
2 ☐ No
3 ☐ Don't know

b. Does the insurance also cover other types of crime losses, such as vandalism or shoplifting and employee theft?

1 ☐ Yes } SKIP to 19a
2 ☐ No
3 ☐ Don't know

17a. Has this establishment ever been insured against burglary and/or robbery by means other than self-insurance?

1 ☐ Yes
2 ☐ No - SKIP to 18
3 ☐ Don't know - SKIP to 19a

b. Did the insurance also cover other types of crime losses, such as vandalism or shoplifting and employee theft?

1 ☐ Yes
2 ☐ No

c. Did you drop the insurance or did the company cancel your policy?

1 ☐ Businessman dropped it } SKIP to 19a
2 ☐ Insurance company cancelled policy

18. Why hasn't this establishment ever been insured against burglary and/or robbery?

1 ☐ Couldn't afford it
2 ☐ Couldn't get anyone to insure you
3 ☐ Didn't need it
4 ☐ Self-insured
5 ☐ Premium too expensive
6 ☐ Other - Specify _____

19a. What security measures, if any, are present at this location now, to protect it against burglary and/or robbery?

a. Mark (X) all that apply

1 ☐ Alarm system - outside ringing, building alarm

2 ☐ Burglar alarm - inside ringing

3 ☐ Central alarm - rings at police department or security agency

4 ☐ Reinforcing devices, such as bars on windows, gates, etc.

5 ☐ Guard, watchman

6 ☐ Watch dog

7 ☐ Firearms

8 ☐ Cameras

9 ☐ Mirrors

A ☐ Locks

B ☐ Comply with National Banking Act (for banks only)

C ☐ Lights - outside or additional inside

D ☐ Other - Specify _____

E ☐ None

b. When were these security measures first installed or otherwise undertaken?

Enter the appropriate code from the list given below.

b. Codes

20. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM

Were there any incidents reported in 10-15?

☐ No - Detach Incident Reports, enter "0" in Item 1b on page 1, and continue with Item 8.

☐ Yes - Enter number of incidents in Item 1b on page 1, and continue with first Incident Report.

NOTES

Codes for use in item 19b

LESS THAN 1 YEAR AGO		MORE THAN 1 YEAR
1 - January	7 - July	D - 1-2 years ago
2 - February	8 - August	E - 2-5 years ago
3 - March	9 - September	F - More than 5 years ago
4 - April	A - October	
5 - May	B - November	
6 - June	C - December	

Form Approved: O.M.B. No. 43-R0587

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMIN.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INCIDENT REPORT
COMMERCIAL CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY - NATIONAL SAMPLE

INCIDENT NUMBER
Record which incident (1, 2, etc.) is covered by this page

IDENTIFICATION CODE

a. PSU	b. Segment	c. Line No.	d. Part	e. Panel	f. RO

1. In what month did this (did the first) incident happen?

1 ☐ Jan. 4 ☐ April 7 ☐ July A ☐ Oct.
2 ☐ Feb. 5 ☐ May 8 ☐ Aug. B ☐ Nov.
3 ☐ Mar. 6 ☐ June 9 ☐ Sept. C ☐ Dec.

2. About what time did it happen?

1 ☐ During the day (6 a.m. - 6 p.m.)
2 ☐ At night (6 p.m. - 6 a.m.)
3 ☐ 6 p.m. - Midnight
4 ☐ Midnight - 6 a.m.
5 ☐ Don't know what time at night
6 ☐ Don't know

3. Where did this incident take place?

1 ☐ At this place of business
2 ☐ On delivery
3 ☐ Enroute to bank
4 ☐ Other - Specify _____

4. Were you, the owner, or any employee present while this incident was occurring?

1 ☐ Yes
2 ☐ No - SKIP to 10
3 ☐ Don't know

5a. Did the person holding you up have a weapon or something that was used as a weapon, such as a bottle or wrench?

1 ☐ Yes
2 ☐ No
3 ☐ Don't know } SKIP to 6a

b. What was the weapon? (Mark (X) all that apply)

1 ☐ Gun
2 ☐ Knife
3 ☐ Other - Specify _____

6a. How many persons were involved in committing the crime?

1 ☐ One - Continue with 6b below
2 ☐ Two
3 ☐ Three } SKIP to 6c
4 ☐ Four or more
5 ☐ Don't know - SKIP to 7a

b. How old would you say the person was?

1 ☐ Under 12 4 ☐ 18-20
2 ☐ 12-14 5 ☐ 21 or over
3 ☐ 15-17 6 ☐ Don't know

c. Was the person male or female?

1 ☐ Male
2 ☐ Female
3 ☐ Don't know

d. Was he (she) -

1 ☐ White?
2 ☐ Black?
3 ☐ Other? - Specify _____ } SKIP to 7a
4 ☐ Don't know

e. How old would you say the youngest person was?

1 ☐ Under 12 4 ☐ 18-20
2 ☐ 12-14 5 ☐ 21 or over - SKIP to 6g
3 ☐ 15-17 6 ☐ Don't know

f. How old would you say the oldest person was?

1 ☐ Under 12 4 ☐ 18-20
2 ☐ 12-14 5 ☐ 21 or over
3 ☐ 15-17 6 ☐ Don't know

g. Were they male or female?

1 ☐ All male 3 ☐ Male and female
2 ☐ All female 4 ☐ Don't know

h. Were they -

1 ☐ Only white?
2 ☐ Only black?
3 ☐ Only other? - Specify _____
4 ☐ Some combination? - Specify _____
5 ☐ Don't know

7a. Were you, the owner, or any employee injured in this incident, seriously enough to require medical attention?

1 ☐ Yes - How many? _____ Number
2 ☐ No - SKIP to 9a

b. How many of them stayed in a hospital overnight or longer?

Number _____

8. Of those receiving treatment in or out of a hospital, did this business pay for any of the medical expenses not covered by a regular health benefits program?

1 ☐ Yes - How much was paid? \$ _____
2 ☐ No
3 ☐ Don't know

9a. Did any deaths occur as a result of this incident?

1 ☐ Yes
2 ☐ No - SKIP to 15a

b. Who was killed? (Mark (X) all that apply)

1 ☐ Owner(s) _____
2 ☐ Employees _____
3 ☐ Customers _____
4 ☐ Innocent bystander(s) _____
5 ☐ Offender(s) _____
6 ☐ Police _____
7 ☐ Other - Specify _____

c. How many? _____

10. Did the offender enter, attempt to enter, or remain in this establishment illegally?

1 ☐ Yes
2 ☐ No

11. Did the offender(s) actually get in or just try to get in?

1 ☐ Actually got in
2 ☐ Just tried to get in

12. Was there a broken window, broken lock, alarm, or any other evidence that the offender(s) forced (tried to force) his (their) way in?

1 ☐ Yes
2 ☐ No - SKIP to 14

13. What was the evidence? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ Broken lock or window
2 ☐ Forced door
3 ☐ Alarm
4 ☐ Other - Specify _____ } SKIP to 15a

14. How did the offender(s) get in (try to get in)?

1 ☐ Through unlocked door or window
2 ☐ Had a key
3 ☐ Other - Specify _____
4 ☐ Don't know

INCIDENT REPORT - Continued	
<p>15a. Was anything damaged in this incident? For example, a lock or window broken, damaged merchandise, etc.</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 16a</p>	<p>18a. Did you, the owner, or any employee here lose any time from work because of this incident?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - How many people? <input type="text"/> Number</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 19a</p>
<p>b. Was (were) the damaged item(s) repaired or replaced?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to 15d</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>b. How many work days were lost altogether?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 day</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 days</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-10 days</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Over 10 days - How many? <input type="text"/> Days</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>
<p>c. How much would it cost to repair or replace the damages? (Estimate)</p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/> SKIP to 15e</p> <p>X <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>	<p>19a. Were any security measures taken after this incident to protect the establishment from future incidents?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 20a</p>
<p>d. How much did it cost to repair or replace the damages?</p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/></p> <p>V <input type="checkbox"/> No cost - SKIP to 16a</p> <p>X <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>	<p>b. What measures were taken? (Mark (X) all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Alarm system - outside ringing</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Burglar alarm - inside ringing</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Central alarm</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Reinforcing devices, grates, gates, bars on window, etc.</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Guard, watchman</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Watch dog</p> <p>7 <input type="checkbox"/> Firearms</p> <p>8 <input type="checkbox"/> Cameras</p> <p>9 <input type="checkbox"/> Mirrors</p> <p>A <input type="checkbox"/> Locks</p> <p>B <input type="checkbox"/> Lights - outside or additional inside</p> <p>C <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <input type="text"/></p>
<p>e. Who paid or will pay for the repairs or replacement? (Mark (X) all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> This business</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Owner of building (landlord)</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <input type="text"/></p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>	<p>20a. Were the police informed of this incident in any way?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know - SKIP to 21</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Who told them? <input type="text"/></p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Owner(s)</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Employee</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Someone else</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Police on scene</p>
<p>16a. Did the offender(s) take any money, merchandise, equipment, or supplies?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 18a</p>	<p>b. What was the reason this incident was not reported to the police? (Mark (X) all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing could be done - lack of proof</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Did not think it important enough</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Police wouldn't want to be bothered</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Did not want to take the time - too inconvenient</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Private or personal matter, did not want to report it</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Did not want to get involved</p> <p>7 <input type="checkbox"/> Afraid of reprisal</p> <p>8 <input type="checkbox"/> Reported to someone else</p> <p>9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <input type="text"/></p>
<p>b. How much money was taken? - \$ <input type="text"/></p>	<p>21. INTERVIEWER CHECK ITEM</p> <p>Are there more incidents to record?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No - Return to page 1, complete items 8 and 9, and end interview.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Fill the next Incident Report.</p>
<p>c. What was the total value of merchandise, equipment, or supplies taken?</p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/></p> <p>V <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>X <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know - SKIP to 17a</p>	
<p>d. How was the value (merchandise, equipment, or supplies taken) determined?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Original cost</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement cost</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <input type="text"/></p>	
<p>17a. How much, if any, of the stolen money and/or property was recovered by insurance?</p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/></p> <p>V <input type="checkbox"/> None - Why not? <input type="text"/></p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Didn't report it</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Does not have insurance</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Not settled yet</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Policy has a deductible</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Money and/or merchandise was recovered</p> <p>X <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>	
<p>b. How much, if any, of the stolen money and/or property was recovered by means other than insurance?</p> <p>\$ <input type="text"/></p> <p>V <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>X <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know - SKIP to 18a</p>	
<p>c. By what means was the stolen money and/or property recovered?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Police</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify <input type="text"/></p>	
<p>NOTES</p>	

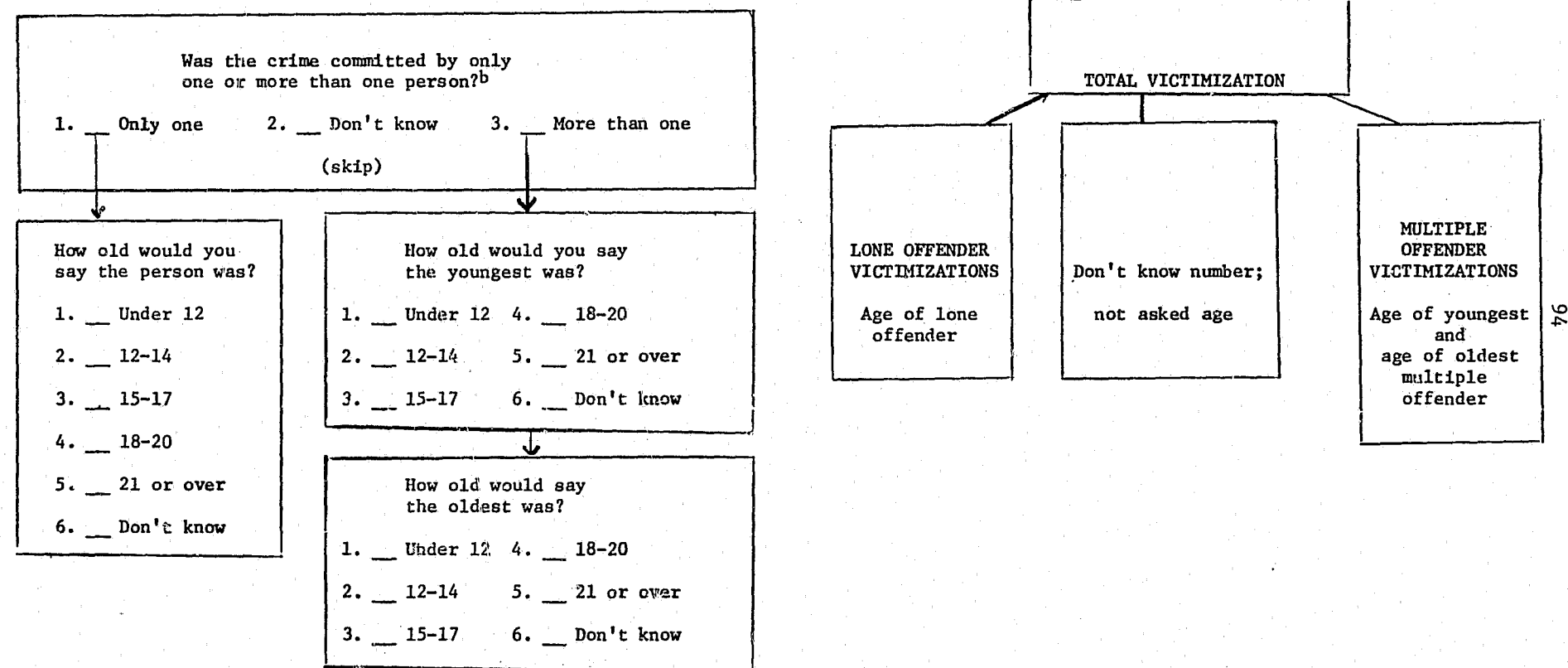
Appendix C

Offender Age in National Crime Survey Data

In the National Crime Survey victims are asked several questions designed to yield information about characteristics of their offenders. Among these questionnaire items, specific questions deal with the victim's perception of the age of the offender(s). The victimization survey data collected in response to these offender age questions provide an opportunity to examine variations in criminal victimizations committed by offenders perceived by their victims to be under 18 years old (juveniles), 18 to 20 years old (youthful offenders), or 21 or older (adults). This appendix provides explanation of and documentation for the various offender age variables which were created and used in this report and its companion reports in this series.

In order to fully understand the nature of the offender age data obtained in the National Crime Survey it is necessary to review the questions asked of survey respondents who were victimized in face-to-face encounters. Figure C1 illustrates these questions. The first question asked about offender characteristics is whether the crime was committed by only one or more than one person. If the victim reports that there was only one offender, he or she is asked the age of the lone offender. If more than one offender was involved, the victim is asked to report both the age of the youngest of the multiple offenders and the age of the oldest of the multiple offenders.

Figure C1 Offender age questions in the National Crime Survey^a



^aSee Appendix A: National Crime Survey Household Interview Questionnaire, Incident Report, questions 11, 11b, 11h, and 11i, and Appendix B : National Crime Survey Commerical Interview Questionnaire, Incident Report, questions 6a, 6b, 6e, and 6f.

^bThis question is different in the commercial surveys. See Appendix B incident question 6a.

Several important considerations emerge from an examination of Figure C1. First, "don't know" offender age responses are obtained from two groups of victims. One group is those who did not know whether the crime was committed by one or more than one offender. Generally, this group does not constitute a large proportion of the total victims. For example, in the NCS national sample for the years 1973 to 1977, in about 6 percent of the total personal victimizations (including rape, robbery, the assaults, and personal larceny) the victim did not know whether one or more than one offender was involved. The second group consists of victims who knew whether there was one or more than one offender, but did not know the offender's age. For this reason, in an additional 4 percent of the incidents the age of the offender was not ascertained.

Second, because victims of more than one offender (multiple offenders) are asked to report both the ages of the youngest and the oldest of multiple offenders, the survey data have three major offender age variables: 1) the perceived age of the lone offender, 2) the perceived age of the youngest of multiple offenders, and 3) the perceived age of the oldest of multiple offenders.

Third, the NCS interview schedules produce rather fine offender age categories only for offenders perceived to be less than 21 years old. From the victims response, the interviewer records the offender age as under 12 years old, 12 to 14, 15 to 17, 18 to 20, or 21 or older. This means that detailed offender age information is available only for victimizations committed by offenders perceived to be less than 21 years old. In the analyses in this report, offenders perceived by their victims to be under 18 years old are juveniles, those perceived to be between 18 and 20 years old are youthful offenders, and those perceived to be 21 or older are adults.

Table C1 shows the offender age variables that were used in the analysis for this report. Variables A, B, and C are the three major offender age variables in the NCS data: detailed age of lone offender, detailed age of the youngest of multiple offenders, and detailed age of the oldest of multiple offenders. Variables AA, BB, CC are ordinary recodes of these variables; they simply categorize together all offenders perceived to be under 18 years old.

The primary focus of much of the analysis in this report is on the incidents of victimization by juveniles, youthful offenders, and adults. Therefore it was necessary to create an offender age variable that would express the percent of the total victimizations (minus the small percentage in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender) attributable to offenders in different age categories, regardless of whether the incident involved lone or multiple offenders. To do this, variable D was created from variables A (detailed age of lone offender) and C (detailed age of oldest multiple offender) in the following manner:

Condition		Value
If A=1, under 12 or if C=1, under 12	then	D=1, under 12
If A=2, 12-14 or if C=2, 12-14	then	D=2, 12-14
If A=3, 15-17 or if C=3, 15-17	then	D=3, 15-17
If A=4, 18-20 or if C=4, 18-20	then	D=4, 18-20
If A=5, 21 or older or if C=5, 21 or older	then	D=5, 21 or older
If A=6, Don't know age or if C=6, Don't know age	then	D=6, Don't know age

Thus, when variable D (see Table C1) has the value of "1", under 12, this includes all lone offender victimizations committed by offenders perceived to be under 12 years old, plus all multiple offender victimizations in which the oldest of the multiple offenders was perceived to be under 12 years old. Variable D makes possible an examination of victimizations committed by offenders in various age groups, whether the incident involved only one or more than one offender. Variable DD is an ordinary recode of the detailed age of offender into juveniles (under 18), youthful offenders (18 to 20), and adults (21 or older).

The detailed age of the oldest of multiple offenders (variable C), rather than the detailed age of the youngest of multiple offenders (variable B) was used to create variable D in order to insure that the perceived age of all offenders in any given offender age category did not exceed the upper limit of the age category. This is because there are some incidents in which the age composition of the multiple offender group is varied (e.g., the youngest might be 14 and the oldest might be 18). Table C2 shows that a mixed-age multiple offender group was reported in fewer than one out of three multiple offender victimizations. In two-thirds of the multiple offender victimizations the youngest and oldest multiple offenders were both perceived to be in the same age category. (Both under 18, 28 percent; both 18 to 20, 10 percent; and both 21 or older, 28 percent.)

Because of the mixed-age multiple offender groups, in order to guarantee that no category of the detailed age of offender variable would include incidents that involved multiple offenders older than the upper limit of the category specified, it was necessary to use the age of the oldest of multiple offenders. However, because the majority of multiple offender incidents involved same-age offenders, the results of the analysis would

Table C1 Offender age variables

Variable name	Values
A. Detailed age of lone offender	1=Under 12, 2=12-14, 3=15-17, 4=18-20, 5=21 or older, 6=Don't know
B. Detailed age of youngest multiple offender	1=Under 12, 2=12-14, 3=15-17, 4=18-20, 5=21 or older, 6=Don't know
C. Detailed age of oldest multiple offender	1=Under 12, 2=12-14, 3=15-17, 4=18-20, 5=21 or older, 6=Don't know
D. Detailed age of offender ^a	1=Under 12, 2=12-14, 3=15-17, 4=18-20, 5=21 or older, 6=Don't know
AA. Age of lone offender	1=Under 18, 2=18-20, 3=21 or older, 4=Don't know
BB. Age of youngest multiple offender	1=Under 18, 2=18-20, 3=21 or older, 4=Don't know
CC. Age of oldest multiple offender	1=Under 18, 2=18-20, 3=21 or older, 4=Don't know
DD. Age of offender ^a	1=Under 18, 2=18-20, 3=21 or older, 4=Don't know

^aIncludes perceived age of lone and perceived age of oldest multiple offender.

Table C2 Ages of youngest and oldest multiple offenders in personal victimization, NCS national data, 1973-1977 aggregate^a

Ages of youngest and oldest multiple offender	Percent	Estimated number of victimizations
Both under 18	27.9	65.3 } 2,821,802
Both 18 to 20	9.6	
Both 21 or older	27.8	
Youngest under 18/oldest 18 to 20	11.3	28.3 } 1,140,592
Youngest under 18/oldest 21 or older	5.7	
Youngest 18 to 20/oldest 21 or older	11.3	
Error cases ^b	0.2	18,068
Don't know age ^c	6.2	632,558
Total	100.0	10,110,969

^aThis table excludes incidents (about 6 percent of the total) in which the victim did not know whether there was one or more than one offender. Also excluded are lone offender victimizations.

^bIn a few cases the youngest offender was recorded in the interview as older than the oldest offender.

^cDon't know age of youngest, age of oldest, or both.

not differ substantially if the age of the youngest multiple offender had been used in variable D.

Accuracy of Victims' Perceptions of Offenders' Characteristics

Most of the analyses in this monograph depend upon the ability of victims to make at least crude distinctions among offenders of different age groups; to a more limited extent, there is also a dependence upon the victims' ability to make distinctions between offenders of different sexes and races. The research literature that exists in this area is limited almost exclusively to questions relating to the accuracy of victim and witness recall of offender identity (e.g., ability to pick the offender out of a lineup) and descriptions of what transpired during the event, rather than to questions about the offender's basic demographic characteristics such as age, sex, and race. Most of this research involves simulations or staged "crimes," often in front of groups of observers such as college students.¹ Although this research suggests that eyewitness testimony regarding the identity of the actors involved and what transpired during the event are subject to substantial error, the research provides virtually no information about the ability of victims to report accurately about offenders' ages, sexes, and races. Presumably it is much less difficult for a victim simply to report these basic demographic characteristics than it is for a victim to identify a specific "offender" from among a "lineup" group of persons selected for inclusion in the lineup because they are demographically similar to each other. Because the available research literature did not shed much light on the accuracy of victims' perceptions of offenders' ages, sexes, and races, an attempt was made to study a sample of victims' reports of suspect characteristics (age, sex, and race) made at the time that the police took the offense report and the characteristics of arrestees who were subsequently

arrested for these crimes. The data below are for rapes and attempted rapes reported to the police in New York City between 1974 and 1977.²

Of the three demographic characteristics -- age, race, and sex -- age is probably the most difficult for victims to estimate accurately. Table C3 shows a tabulation of suspect's age group as perceived by the victim at the time that the rape or attempted rape offense report was filed, and the arrestee's age group -- as determined from the arrestee's birth date -- as shown on the police arrest report. Suspect ages were reported for more than twelve thousand suspects and were reported as "don't know" for about nine hundred suspects. For most suspects (more than 8,000 out of 13,000), no arrest was made. Of those suspects for whom an arrest was made, the perceived age group and the arrest report age group are remarkably close. For example, of those arrested suspects perceived by the victim to have been under 14 years old, arrest records showed that 97 percent were actually under 14. For those suspects perceived to be 14 to 19, 95 percent of the arrestees were 14 to 19. In fact, for no suspect age group is the victims' accuracy rate less than 89 percent. The overall ordinal measure of association (Somers' d) between suspect and arrestee's age for arrested rapists is .95.

The age groups for those under 21 are somewhat cruder, and those over 21 are finer, than in the NCS data. Nonetheless, the agreement between victims' perceptions and arrestees' actual ages is remarkable. It is important to note parenthetically that the strength of this relationship does not diminish appreciably when only the victims and offenders who were strangers to each other are included in the analysis.

Because of the sexual nature of the offense of rape, the information on the correspondence between the suspect's and arrestee's sex is of limited

Table C3 Correspondence Between Age of Suspect as Reported by Victim and Age of Arrestee as Shown on Police Arrest Records, New York City Rapes and Attempted Rapes, 1974-1977

Suspect's Age	Arrestee's Age								No arrest	Total
	Under 14	14-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-45	Over 45		
Under 14	97.1 ^a (169)	2.9 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-- (76) ^b	100% (174) ^c
14-19	.6 (6)	95.7 (997)	2.7 (28)	.8 (8)	.2 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	.1 (1)	-- (1,224) ^b	100 (1,042) ^c
20-24	.2 (2)	5.4 (56)	89.3 (930)	3.8 (40)	.9 (9)	.3 (3)	0 (0)	.1 (1)	-- (2,196) ^b	100 (1,041) ^c
25-29	.1 (1)	1.1 (11)	5.3 (55)	90.0 (933)	2.4 (25)	.8 (8)	.3 (3)	.1 (1)	-- (1,945) ^b	100 (1,037) ^c
30-34	0 (0)	.5 (3)	1.9 (12)	4.1 (26)	90.4 (577)	1.9 (12)	1.1 (7)	.2 (1)	-- (1,055) ^b	100 (638) ^c
35-39	0 (0)	0 (0)	.9 (4)	1.8 (8)	2.9 (13)	89.4 (397)	3.2 (14)	1.8 (8)	-- (533) ^b	100 (444) ^c
40-45	0 (0)	.7 (2)	.3 (1)	.3 (1)	2.0 (6)	2.0 (6)	91.1 (278)	3.6 (11)	-- (294) ^b	100 (305) ^c
Over 45	0 (0)	.7 (2)	0 (0)	.7 (2)	.3 (1)	.3 (1)	2.1 (6)	95.8 (276)	-- (182) ^b	100 (288) ^c
Don't Know	4.4 (2)	21.7 (10)	13.0 (6)	26.1 (12)	15.2 (7)	4.4 (2)	8.7 (4)	6.5 (3)	-- (848) ^b	100 (46) ^c

^aRow percent.

^b"No Arrests" excluded from row percent.

^cExcludes "No Arrests."

value, but it is shown in Table C4. Of those suspects reported by victims to have been males and for whom an arrest was made, virtually all of them (99.8 percent) were male as judged from the police arrest report; of the 34 suspects reported by victims to have been females and for whom an arrest was made, 24 were female as judged by police arrest reports. The measure of association, ϕ -- the magnitude of which is severely limited owing to the extreme skewness of the sex distributions of suspects and arrestees -- is .73.

The last characteristic to be examined is race/ethnicity (Table C5). The race/ethnicity categories used here are finer than are those available in the NCS data, and hence provide a stricter test of the ability of victims to report on arrestees' race/ethnicity. Consistent with the age data, these data show that victim's reports of suspects' race/ethnicity are in close agreement with the arrest report data. The agreement is .95 as judged by the nominal measure of association lambda.

Of particular interest in connection with Table C5 is that according to Census Bureau procedures Hispanics are counted as white for purposes of racial classification. Hence in the NCS data, Anglo and Hispanic offenders are not categorized separately (see data collection instrument, Appendix A). It is possible that some victims perceive Hispanics as blacks or blacks as Hispanics, but it is important to note that very few victims experience this misperception. Thus, from the New York City rape data this does not appear to be a significant source of measurement error.

These data regarding victims' ability to report on offenders' demographic characteristics are very encouraging. Although future research will have to sample a broader range of crimes and locales, the data suggest that some confidence in victims' reports of offenders' ages, races, and sexes appears justified at this time.

Table C4 Correspondence Between Sex of Suspect As Reported by Victim and Sex of Arrestee As Shown on Police Arrest Records, New York City Rapes and Attempted Rapes, 1974-1977

Suspect's Sex	Arrestee's Sex		No Arrest	Total
	Male	Female		
Male	99.8 ^a (5,034)	.2 (8)	-- (8,240) ^b	100 (5,042) ^c
Female	29.4 (10)	70.6 (24)	-- (52) ^b	100 (34) ^c

^aRow percent.

^b"No Arrests" excluded from row percents.

^cExcludes "No Arrests."

Table C5 Correspondence Between Race of Suspect As Reported by Victim
and Race of Arrestee as Shown on Police Arrest Records, New
York City Rapes and Attempted Rapes, 1974-1977

Suspect's Race	Arrestee's Race					No Arrest	Total
	White	Black	Hispanic	Oriental	Other		
White	96.1 ^a (597)	1.0 (6)	2.9 (18)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-- (1,244) ^b	100 (621) ^c
Black	.2 (7)	98.9 (3,179)	.8 (26)	0 (1)	0 (0)	-- (5,394) ^b	100 (3,213) ^c
Hispanic	.6 (7)	1.6 (19)	97.7 (1,167)	.1 (1)	0 (0)	-- (1,550) ^b	100 (1,194) ^e
Oriental	9.1 (1)	0 (0)	9.1 (1)	81.8 (9)	0 (0)	-- (28) ^b	100 (11) ^c
Other	0 (0)	7.7 (1)	23.1 (3)	0 (0)	69.2 (9)	-- (16) ^b	100 (13) ^c
Don't Know	33.3 (1)	0 (0)	66.7 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-- (81) ^b	100 (84) ^c

^aRow percent.

^b"No Arrests" excluded from row percents.

^cExcludes "No Arrests."

FOOTNOTES

¹See for example Buckhout (1974), Note (1977), Duncan (1976), Leippe, Wells, Ostrom (1978), Clifford and Scott (1978), and Kuehn (1974).

²We are grateful to Dennis Butler of the New York City Police Department for making available these data from his comprehensive study of rape that is currently under way.

Appendix D

Table D1 Type of crime definitions in the National Crime Survey

Type of crime	Definition
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. This includes both:
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. And:
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.
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.

Table D1 (continued)

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.
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.

*In this report personal larceny with contact is referred to simply as "personal larceny." This is a departure from the standard National Crime Survey definitions in which "personal larceny" includes both personal larceny with contact and personal larceny without contact.

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