



U.S. Department of Justice  
*Office of Justice Programs*

# **Department of Justice Statistical Data Collections Related to Gun Violence**

## **The Inaugural Ingram Olkin Statistics Serving Society Forum on Gun Violence**

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**Bureau of Justice Statistics**



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# **BJS's National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)**



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# BJS's National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)

- Annual national data collection on the frequency, characteristics, and consequences of criminal victimization in the United States
- Self-report survey administered to approximately 240,000 persons age 12 or older from a nationally representative sample of more than 145,000 U.S. households

*Data collected on nonfatal criminal victimization reported and not reported to police*

- Nonfatal personal crimes—rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated and simple assault, and personal larceny
- Household property crimes—burglary, motor vehicle theft, and other theft

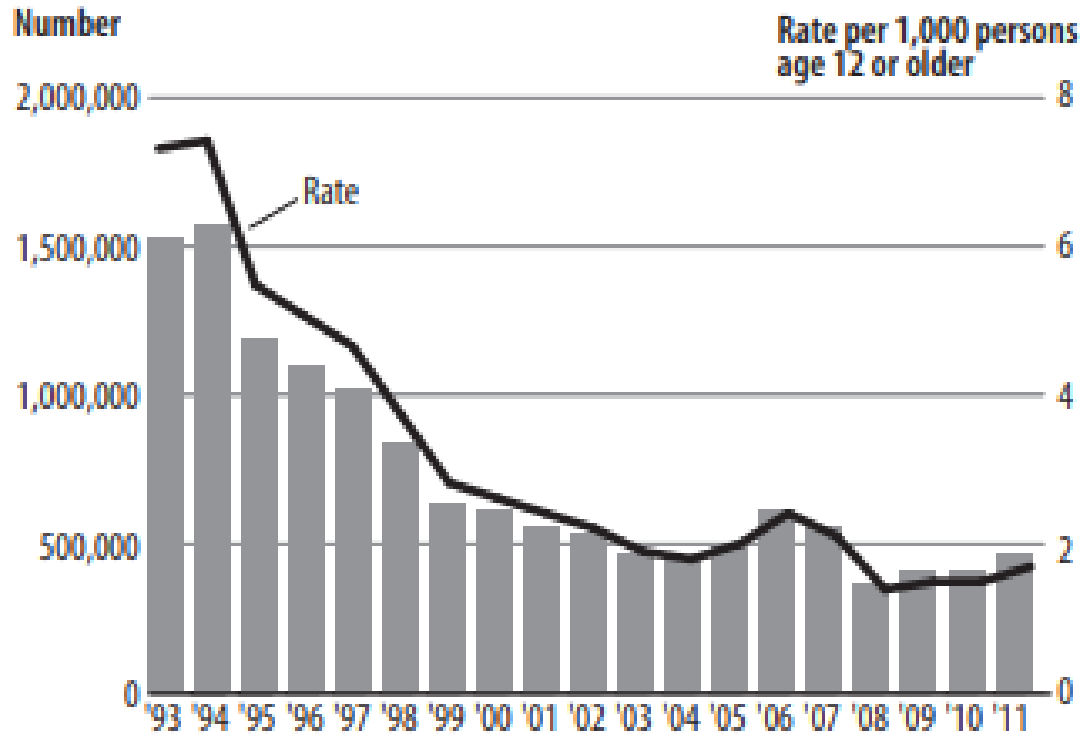
*Other data collected*

- Victim and offender information—age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, marital status, education level, income, victim-offender relationship
- Characteristics of the crime—time and place of occurrence, **use of weapons**, nature of injury, and economic consequences
- Victim experiences with the criminal justice system

# BJS's National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)

**FIGURE 2**

**Nonfatal firearm victimizations, 1993–2011**



Note: See appendix table 2 for numbers, rates, and standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–2011.

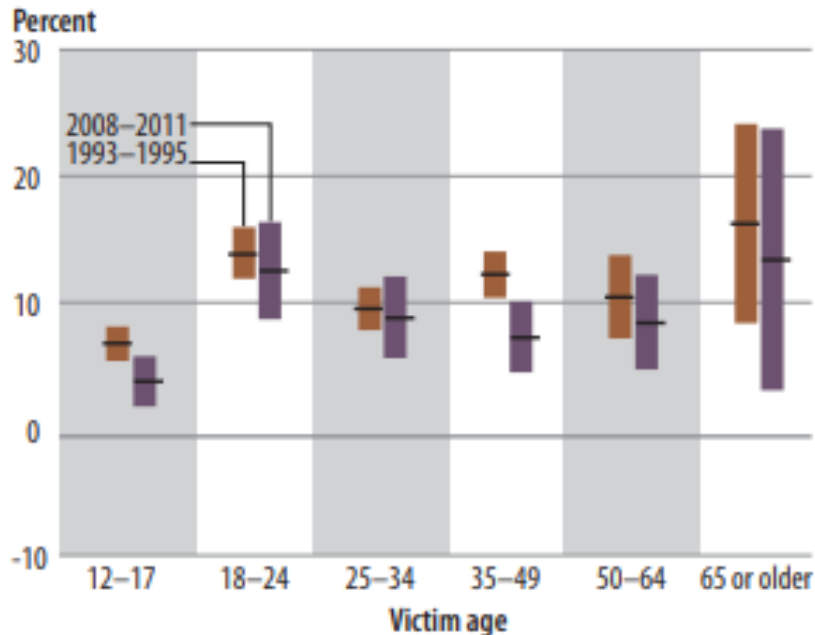
National statistics on the number and rate of nonfatal crimes involving firearms

- Recent boost in sample will allow for state-level estimates in 22 states
- Small-area estimation work to examine feasibility of generating estimates at various levels of geography, including MSA

# BJS's National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)

**FIGURE 17**

Level for nonfatal violent victimizations of males involving a firearm, by victim age with confidence intervals at 95%, 1993–1995 and 2008–2011

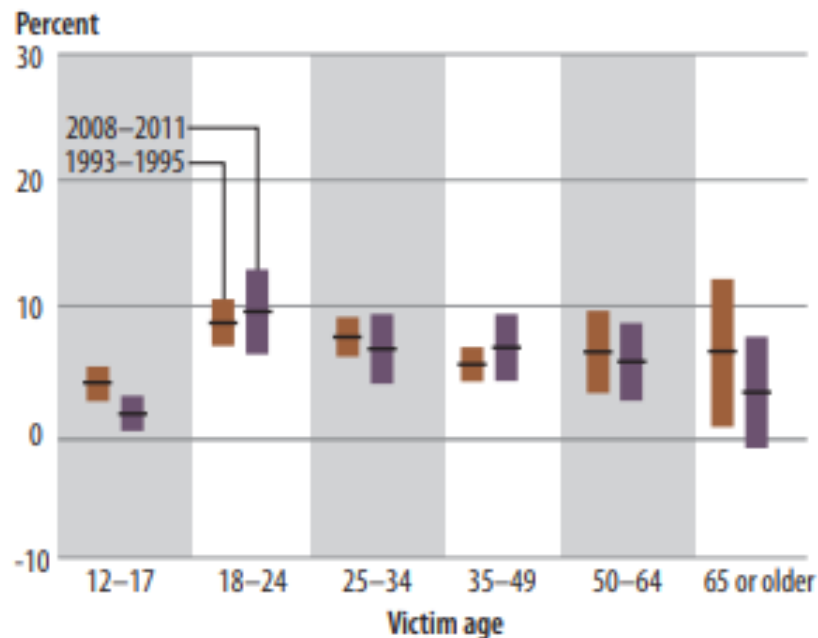


Note: Each vertical bar shows the range within which the true victimization rate was likely to fall.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–1995 and 2008–2011.

**FIGURE 18**

Level for nonfatal violent victimizations of females involving a firearm, by victim age with confidence intervals at 95%, 1993–1995 and 2008–2011



Note: Each vertical bar shows the range within which the true victimization rate was likely to fall.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993–1995 and 2008–2011.

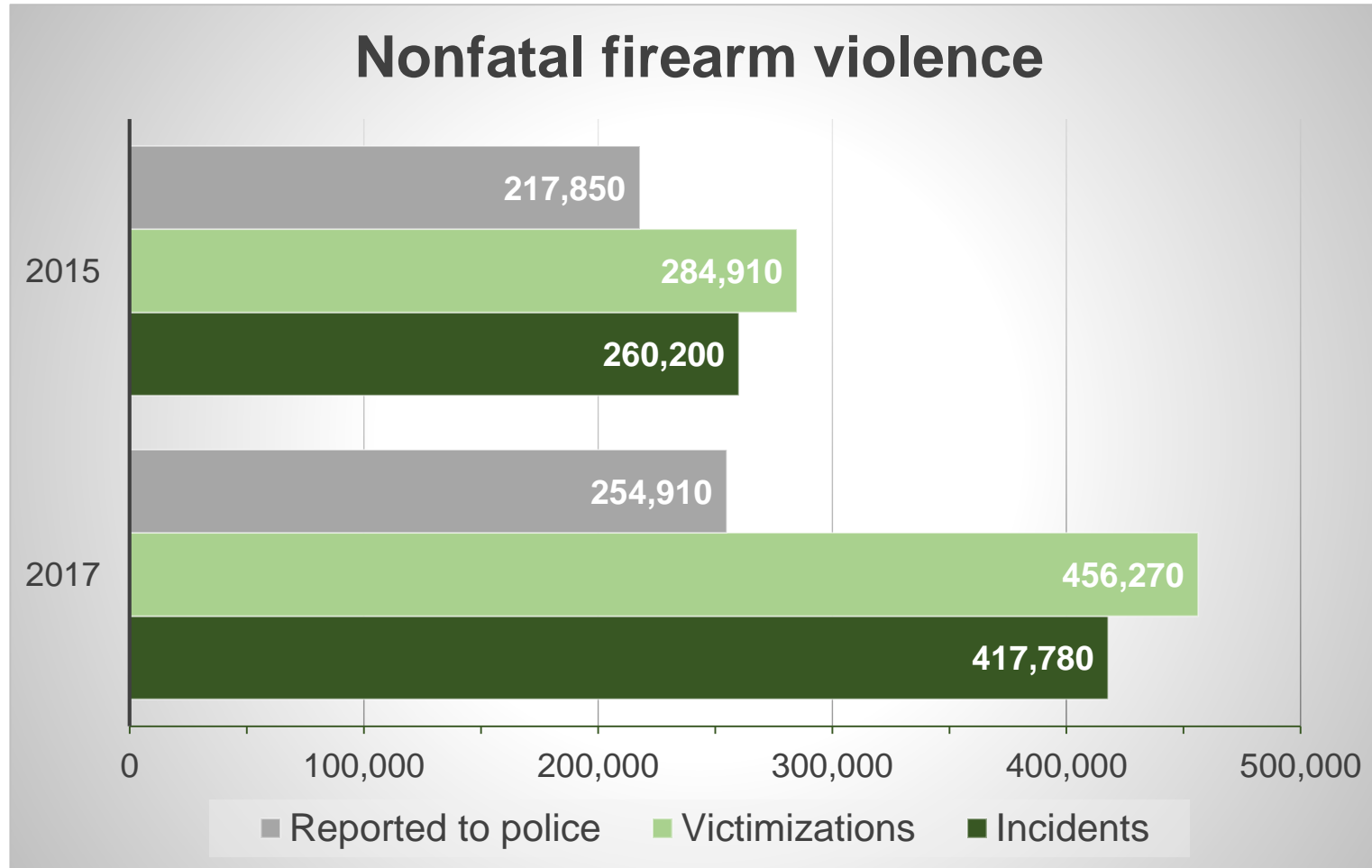
The proportion of nonfatal violent victimizations involving a firearm has been stable, regardless of victim sex and age.

Some exceptions—

- males ages 12 to 17
- females ages 12 to 17
- males ages 35 to 49

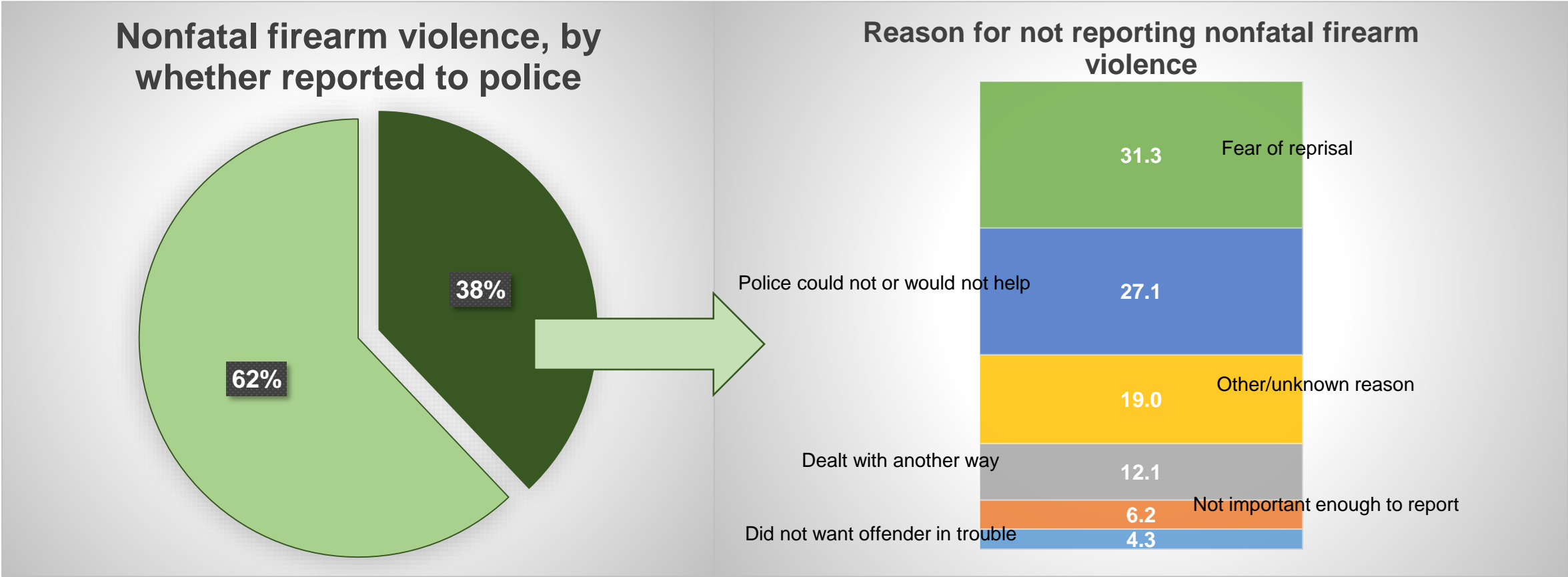
Each of the above groups experienced a decrease in the percentage of nonfatal violence involving a firearm.

# BJS's National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)



- Increase from 2015 to 2017 in the number of incidents and victimizations involving a firearm
- Decrease in percentage of victimizations that were reported to police—76.5% in 2015 compared to 55.9% in 2017

# BJS's National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)





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# **FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)**



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# FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)

Part of the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program of the FBI

Incident-specific data is collected on approximately 90% of homicide incidents recorded by police annually

Includes—

- Information on the reporting agency and its residential population;
- County and Metropolitan Statistical Area designations;
- Geographical division and population group;
- Victim and offender information, such as sex, age, and race, and victim-offender relationship;
- Incident characteristics such as weapon use, location of the incident, and circumstance of the crime.

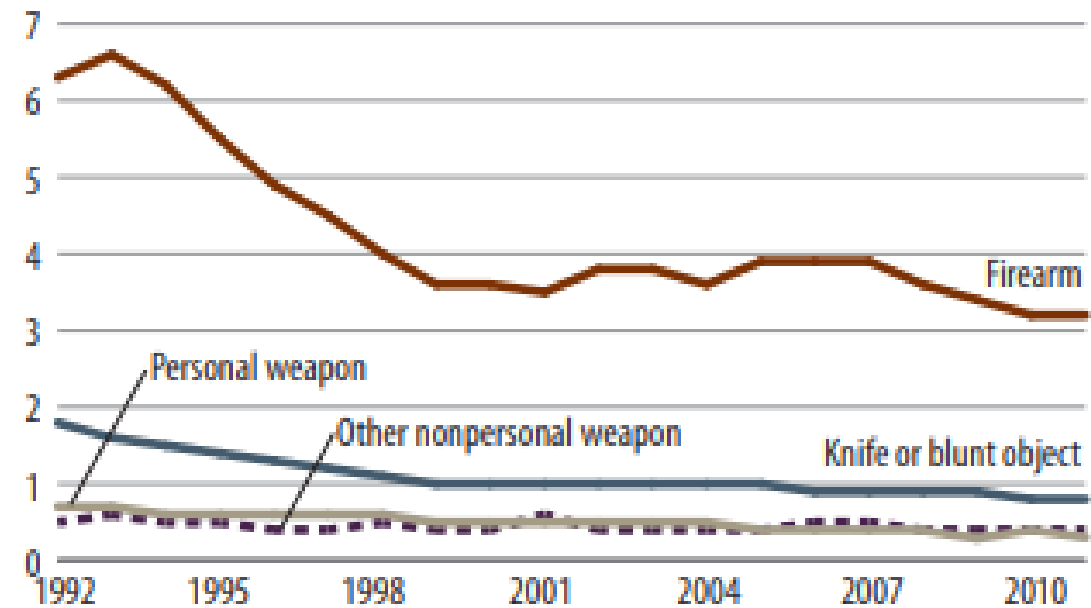
# FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)

- Examine weapon use, including firearm use, in homicides over time and by place
- Able to generate population-based rates by weapon type
- Can disaggregate rates by victim characteristics, among other things

**FIGURE 7**

## Homicide rates, by weapon type, 1992–2011

Rate per 100,000 U.S. residents

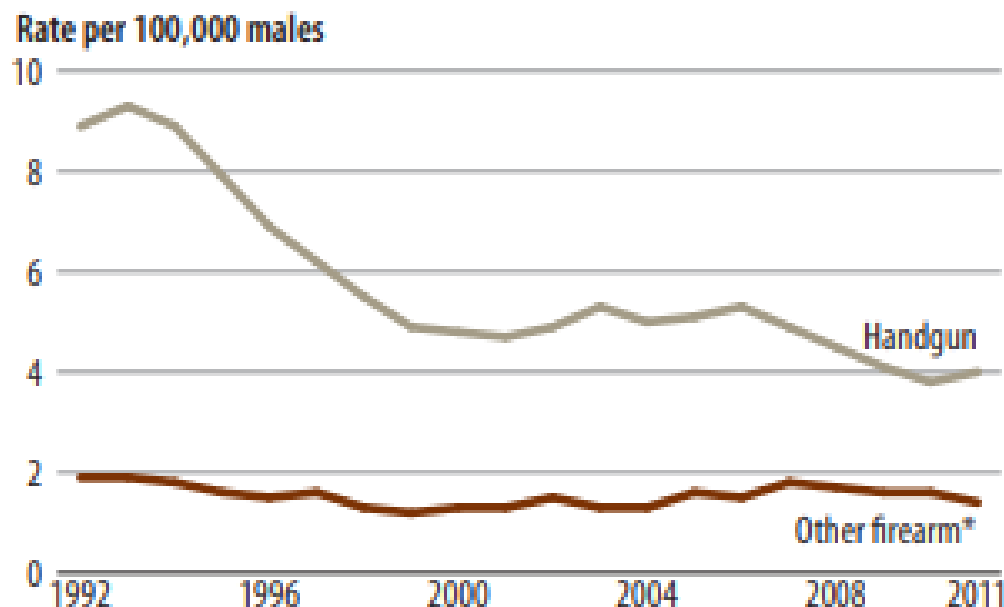


Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1992–2011.

# FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)

**FIGURE 9**

**Rate of male homicides involving a firearm, by firearm type, 2002–2011**

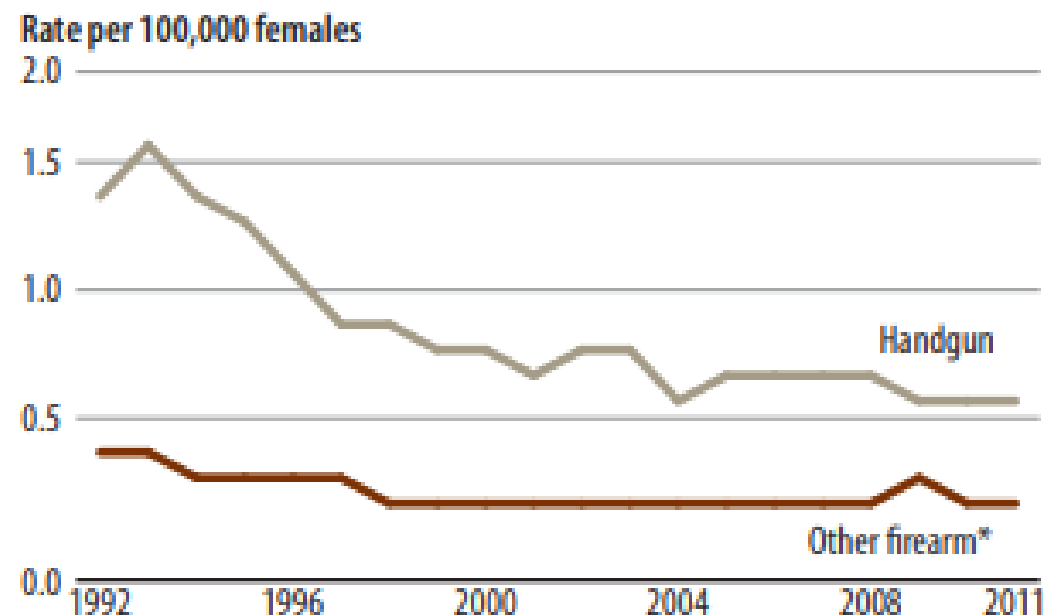


\*Includes rifles, shotguns, and firearms of unspecified type, including automatic weapons.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2002–2011.

**FIGURE 10**

**Rate of female homicides involving a firearm, by firearm type, 2002–2011**



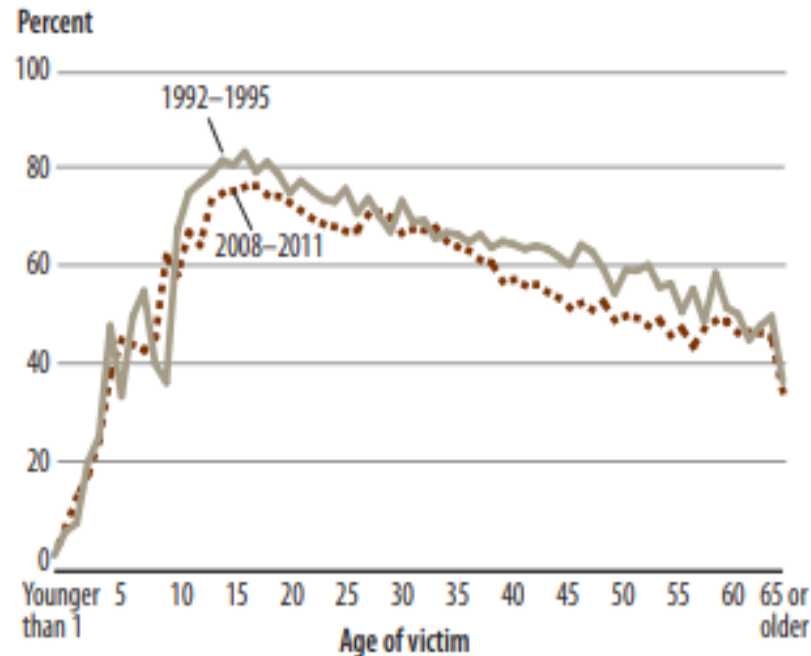
\*Includes rifles, shotguns, and firearms of unspecified type, including automatic weapons.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2002–2011.

# FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)

**FIGURE 13**

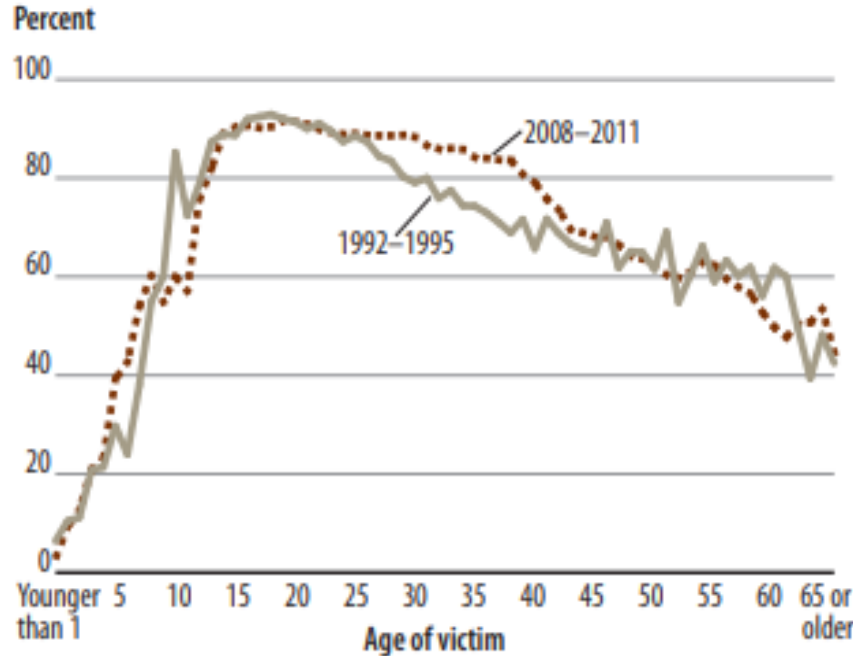
Percent of white male homicides involving a firearm, by victim age, 1992–1995 and 2008–2011



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1992–1995 and 2008–2011.

**FIGURE 15**

Percent of black male homicides involving a firearm, by victim age, 1992–1995 and 2008–2011



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1992–1995 and 2008–2011.

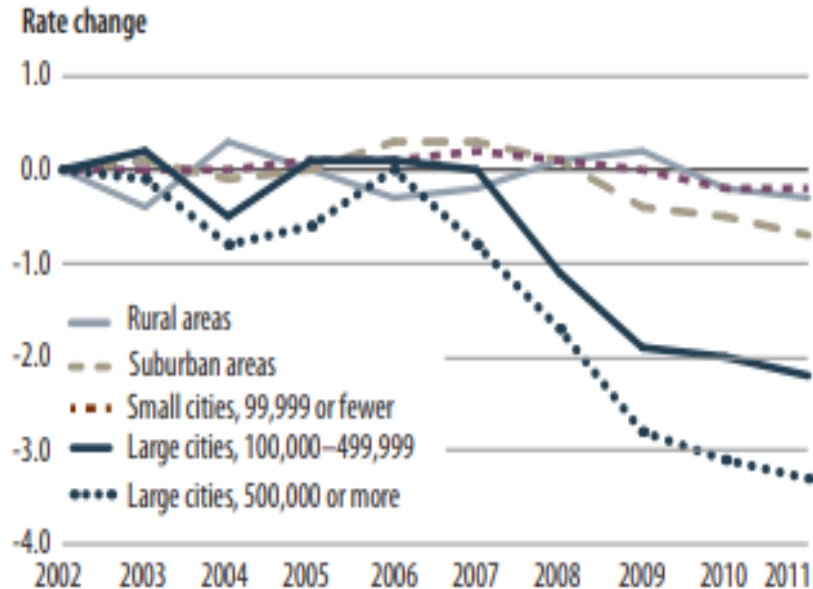
**Number and rate of homicides have decreased, but the nature of firearm use in homicides has not changed.**

- White males were the only demographic category to have a noticeable decrease in the percentage of homicides involving a firearm from the early to mid-1990s to the late 2000s.
- The percentage of firearm-involved homicides was nearly the same during the two periods for white females, black males, and black females.

# FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)

**FIGURE 20**

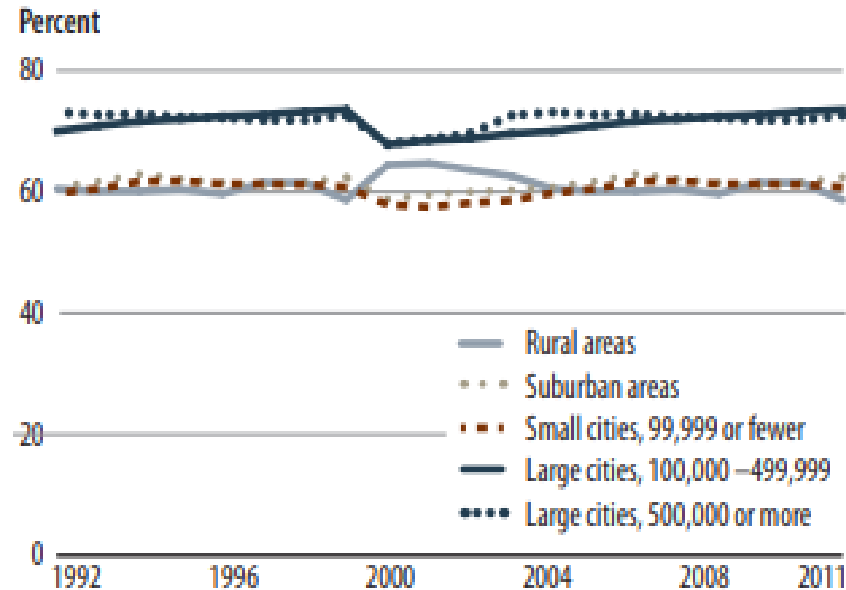
Homicide rate change, by community type, 2002–2011



Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2002–2011.

**FIGURE 21**

Homicides involving a firearm, by community type, 1992–2011



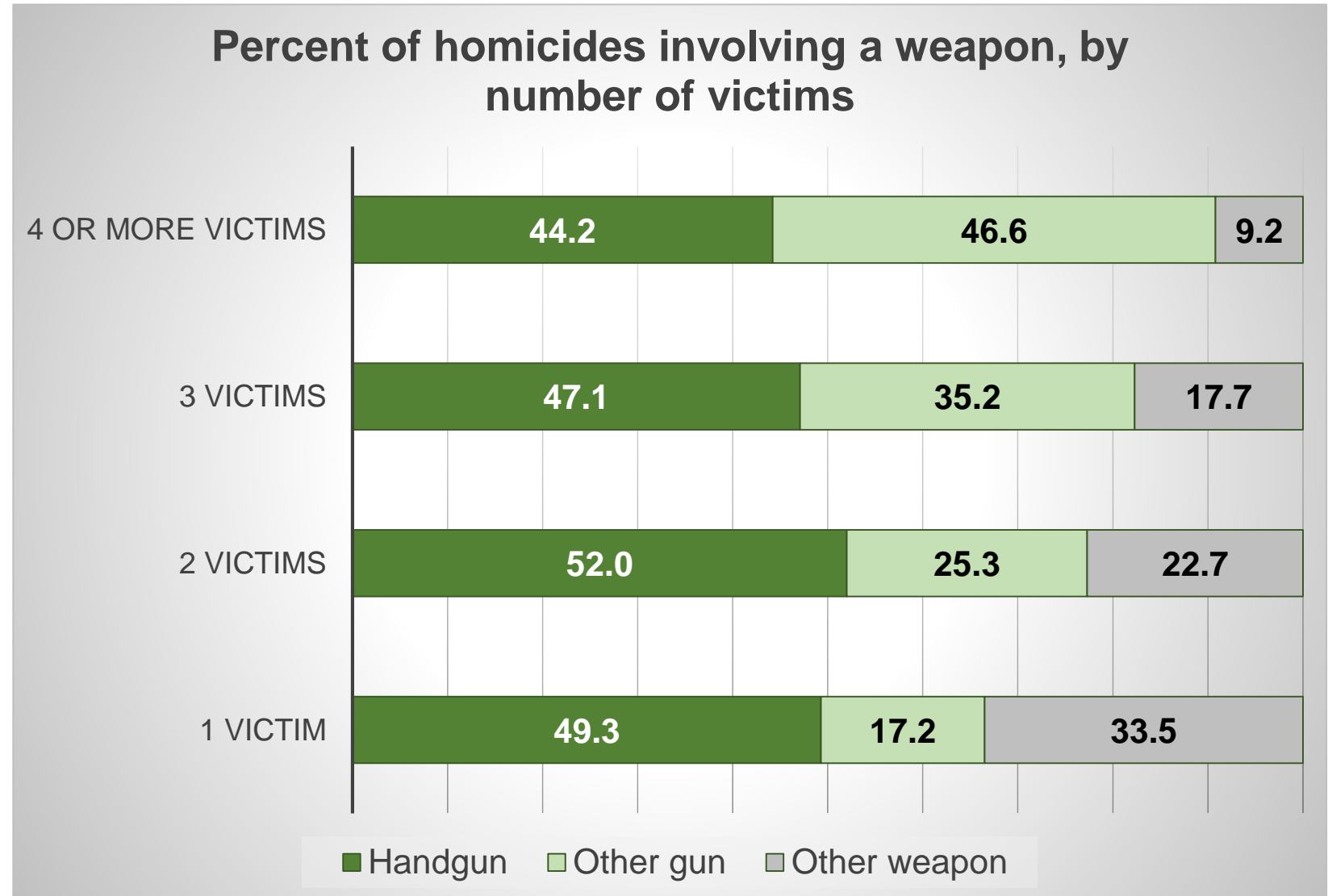
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on data from the FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1992–2011.

- Fairly dramatic decrease in the homicide rate in large cities.
- Percentage of homicides involving a firearm was relatively unchanged.

# FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)

Overall, 79% of homicides involving 2 or more victims involved a firearm.

- Use of “other gun” increases with the number of victims killed in the incident
- Other gun includes automatic weapons





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# **BJS's 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI)**



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# BJS's 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI)

SPI is a periodic, cross-sectional survey that provides national statistics of the state and sentenced federal prison populations across a variety of domains:

- Demographic characteristics
- Current offense, sentence, and incident characteristics
- Firearm possession and sources
- Criminal history
- Socioeconomic characteristics and family background
- Drug and alcohol use and treatment
- Mental and physical health and treatment
- Facility programs participation
- Facility rule violations



# BJS's 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI)

Survey elements specific to firearms—

- firearm possession during the prison sentence controlling offense
- how the firearm was used during the crime
- type of firearm possessed
- methods, sources, and processes by which they obtained the firearm

Self-reported criminal history, including on weapons offenses and weapons use

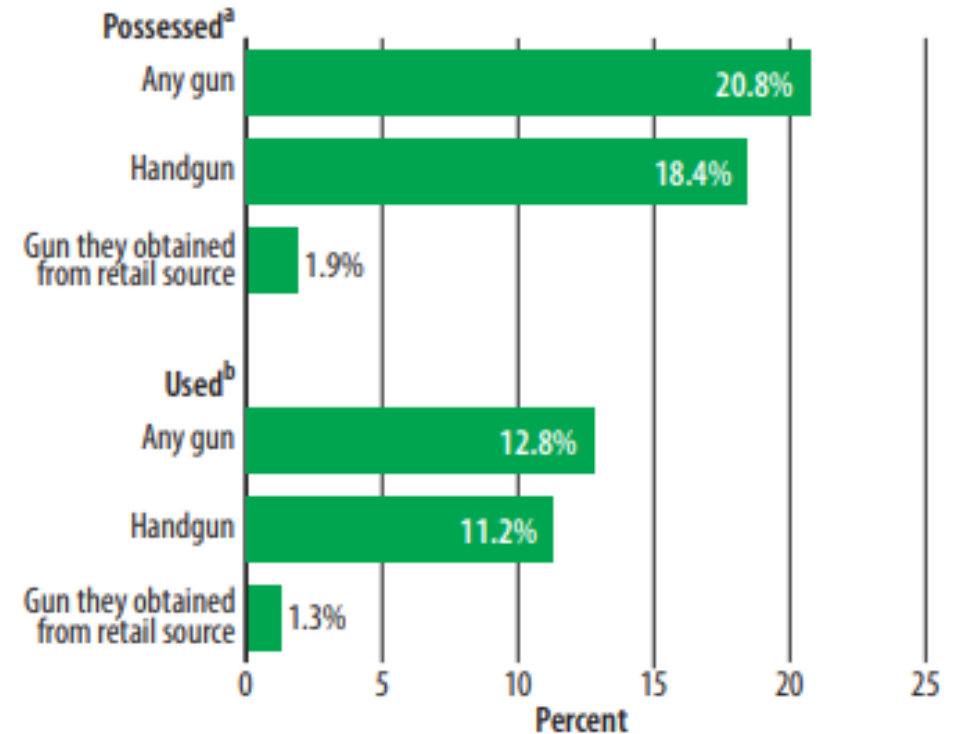
Electronic criminal history collected through III

# BJS's 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI)

- About 21% of prisoners said they possessed a gun during their offense.
- About 29% of state and 36% of federal prisoners serving time for a violent offense possessed a gun during the offense.
- About 13% of prisoners showed, pointed, or discharged a firearm during their offense; most of those guns were handguns.

**FIGURE 1**

**Percent of all state and federal prisoners who had possessed or used a firearm during their offense, 2016**



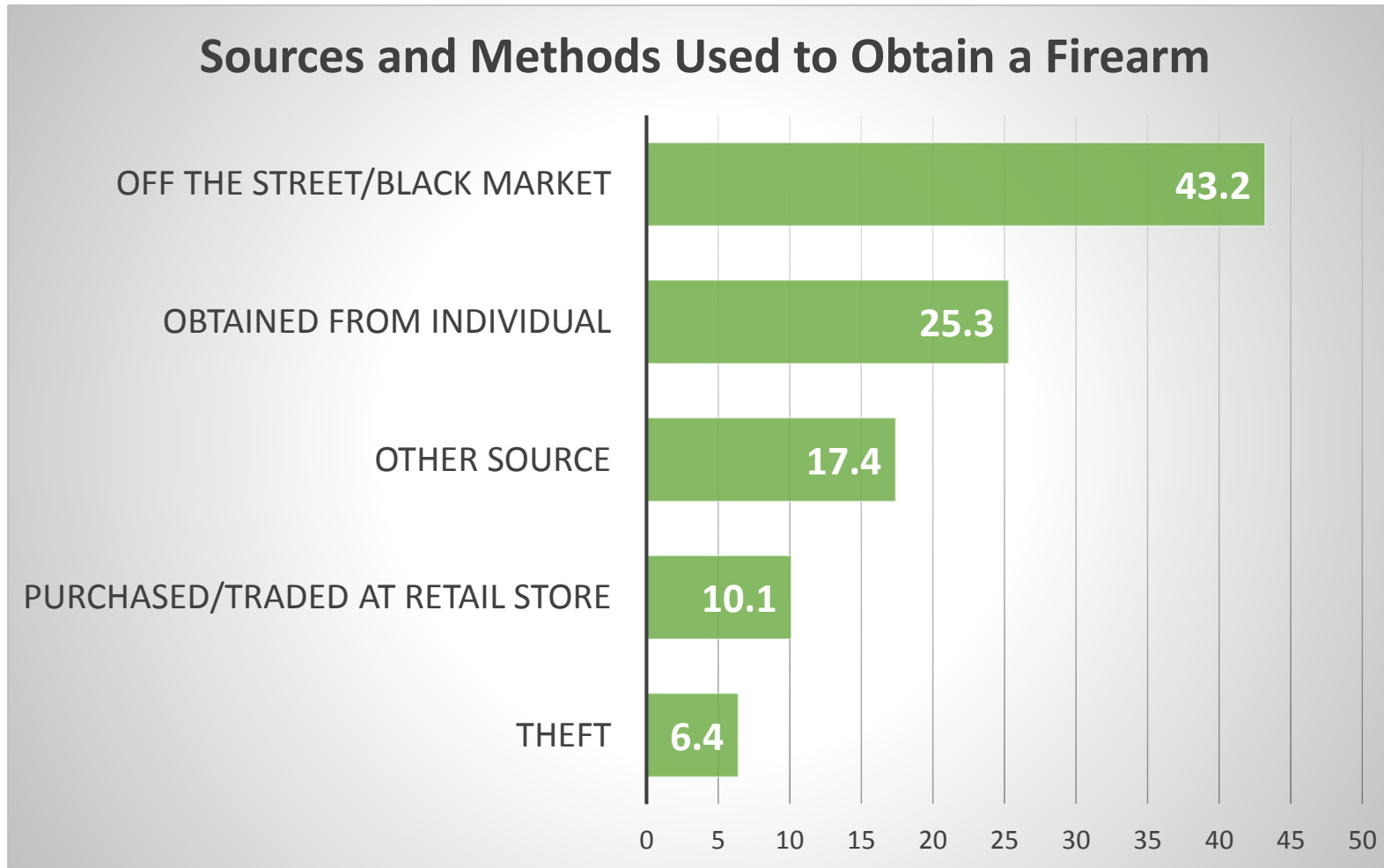
Note: See appendix table 1 for standard errors.

<sup>a</sup>Includes prisoners who carried or possessed a firearm during the offense.

<sup>b</sup>Includes prisoners who showed, pointed, or discharged a firearm during the offense.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016.

# BJS's 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI)



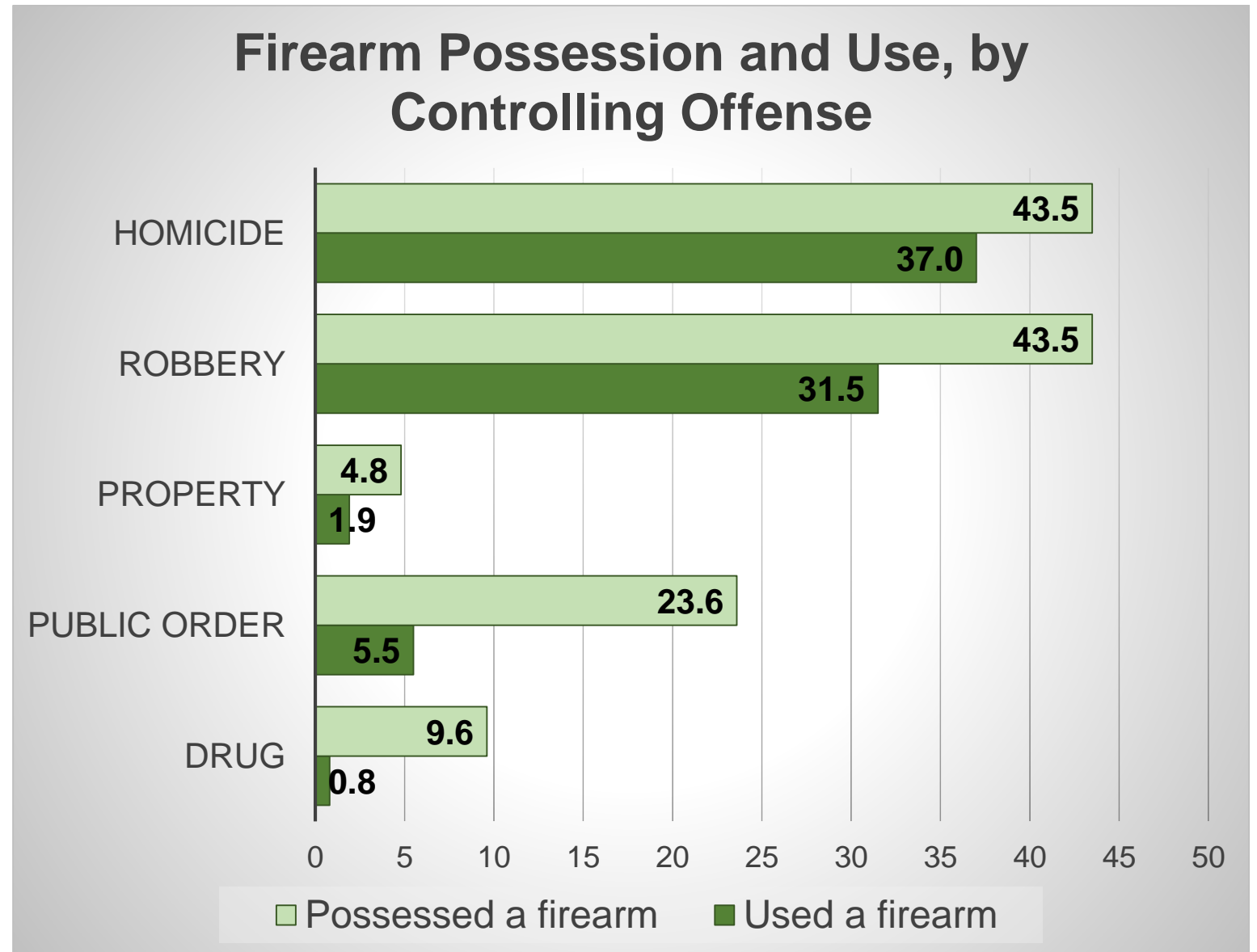
Among prisoners who possessed a gun during their offense—

- 90% did not obtain it from a retail source.
- About half obtained the gun illegally.

# BJS's 2016 Survey of Prison Inmates (SPI)

Violent offenders in possession of a firearm at the time of the offense were more likely to use that weapon during the commission of the crime.

- 85% of homicide offenders and 72% of robbery offenders
- 40% of property offenders
- 23% of public order offenders
- 8% of drug offenders





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# **FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)**



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# FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

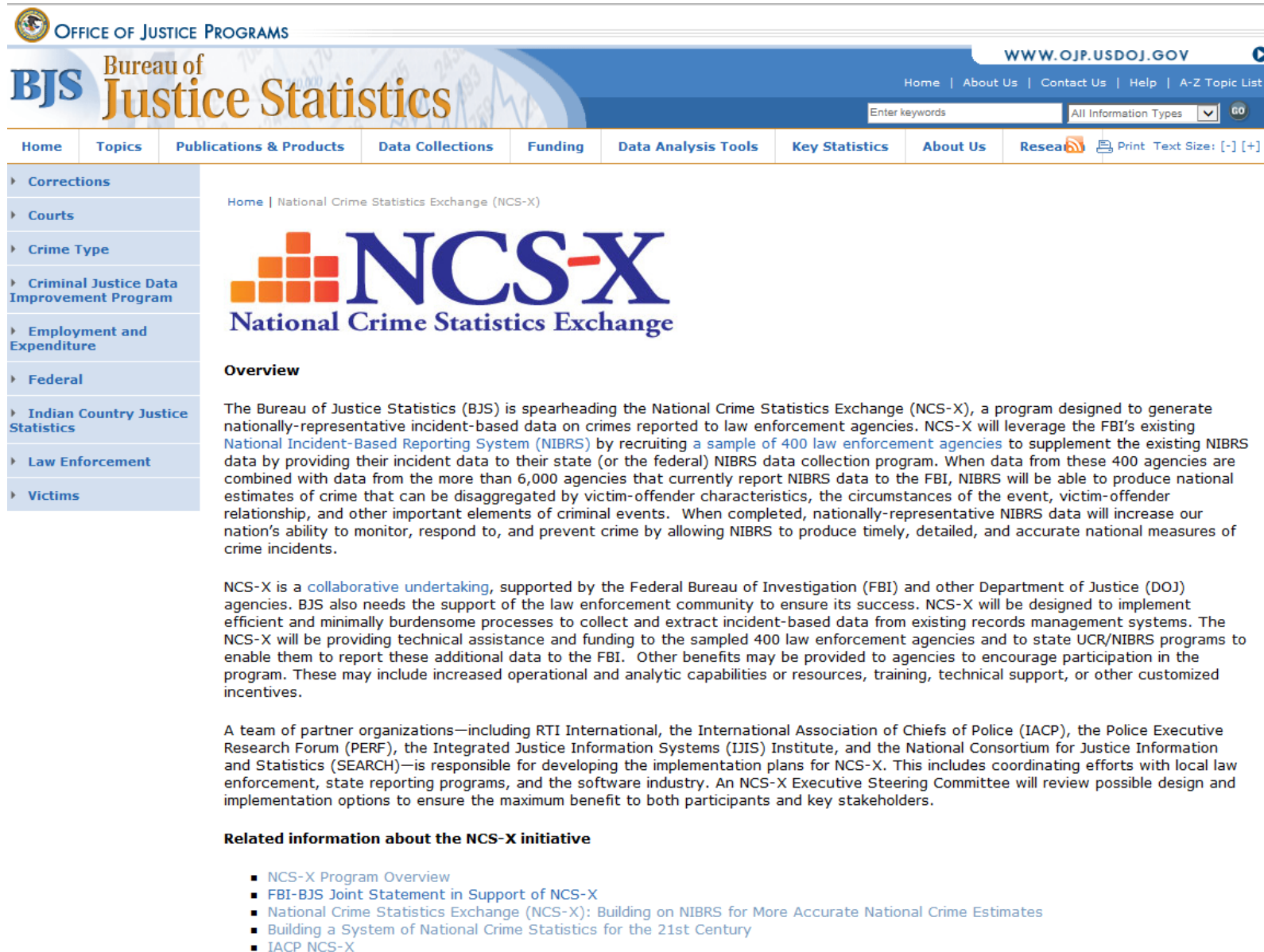
In addition to counts of all crimes and arrests known to law enforcement, NIBRS includes:

- the date, time and location of the incident;
- demographic information on each victim and offender involved in the incident;
- the relationships between each of the victims and the offenders;
- other details of the incident, including victim injury, type of weapon involved, alcohol or drug involvement, property loss, and drugs seized;
- clearance information, including both arrest and clearances by exceptional means; and
- date of arrest and arrestee demographics.

# National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X)

NCS-X is a joint program of BJS & FBI to expand NIBRS reporting into a nationally representative system of incident-based crime statistics.

By adding 400 strategically identified agencies to the approximately 6,800 already reporting to the system, NIBRS will be nationally representative.

A screenshot of the National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X) website. The header includes the "OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS" logo, the "BJS Bureau of Justice Statistics" logo, and the URL "WWW.OJP.USDOJ.GOV". Navigation links for "Home", "About Us", "Contact Us", "Help", and "A-Z Topic List" are present. A search bar and a dropdown menu for "All Information Types" are also visible. The main content area features a sidebar with a list of topics: Corrections, Courts, Crime Type, Criminal Justice Data Improvement Program, Employment and Expenditure, Federal, Indian Country Justice Statistics, Law Enforcement, and Victims. The main text area is titled "Home | National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X)" and displays the NCS-X logo. Below the logo is an "Overview" section with a paragraph describing the program's goals and a "Related information about the NCS-X initiative" section with a list of links: "NCS-X Program Overview", "FBI-BJS Joint Statement in Support of NCS-X", "National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X): Building on NIBRS for More Accurate National Crime Estimates", "Building a System of National Crime Statistics for the 21st Century", and "IACP NCS-X".

# Why NCS-X?

Limited information available from traditional law enforcement and other data sources

- Provide information on “hidden” populations of crime victims that traditional surveys may have trouble identifying, such as the elderly or young children
- Detailed information on the incident
- Ability to examine data across different levels of geography, e.g. state, county, local agency, region
- Follow up information on clearances, including arrest, by incident



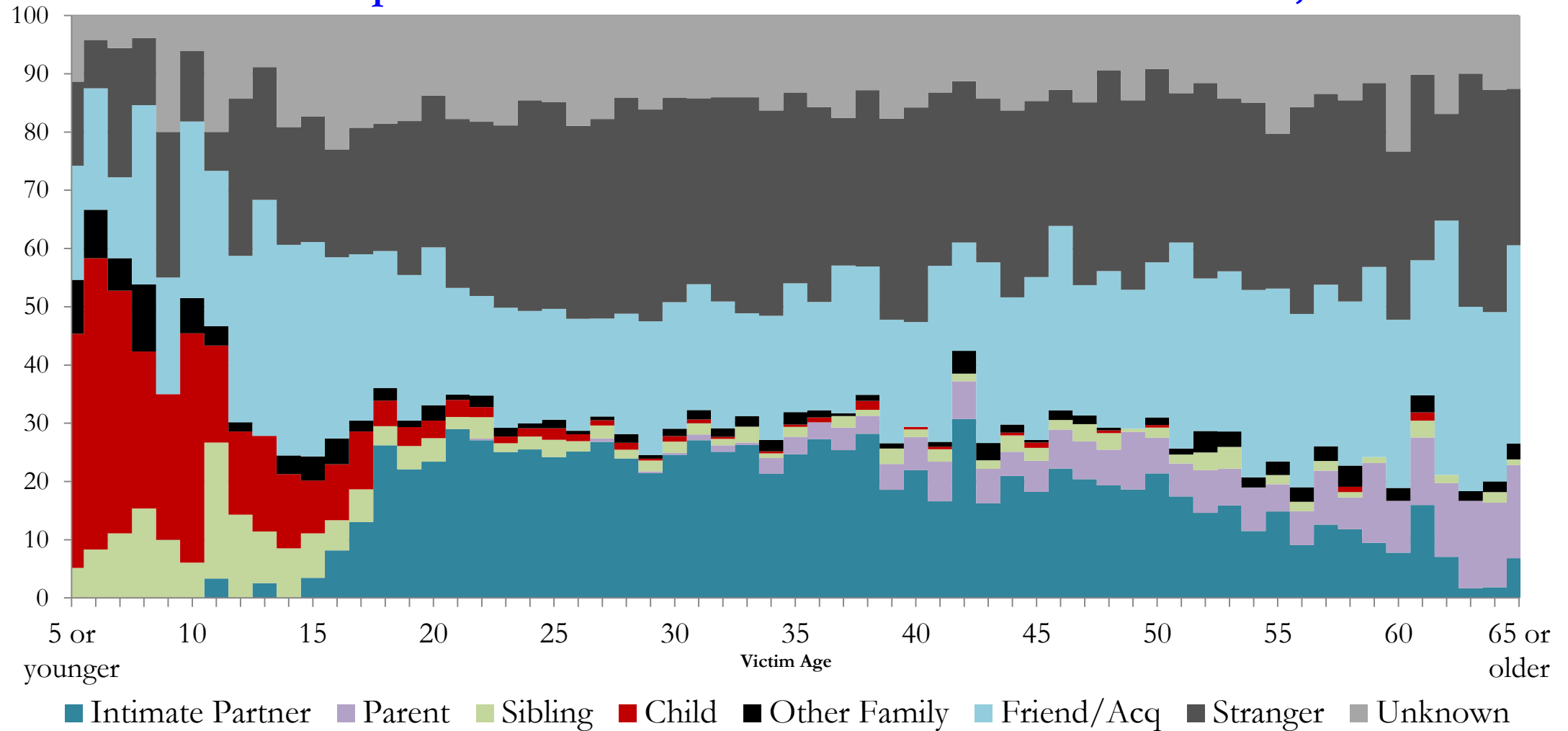
# Estimates of crime that can be generated from NIBRS

- Key indicators of crime known to law enforcement (preliminary)
  - Crime incidents by offense
  - Victimizations by offense and victim demographics
  - Firearm violence
  - Sexual victimizations across victim type and Victim to Offender Relationship (VOR)
  - Crimes against children across location and VOR
  - Domestic violence incidents
  - Stranger violence
  - Property crimes, both personal/residential and commercial
  - Drug crimes
  - Crime incidents cleared (both arrest and exceptional clearance)
  - Arrests by offense and arrestee demographics
- Secondary estimates of crime known to law enforcement
  - Injuries related to criminal victimization
  - VOR for various violent crime types
  - Probability of arrest, by offense, victim demographics, VOR
  - Expanded Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted indicators

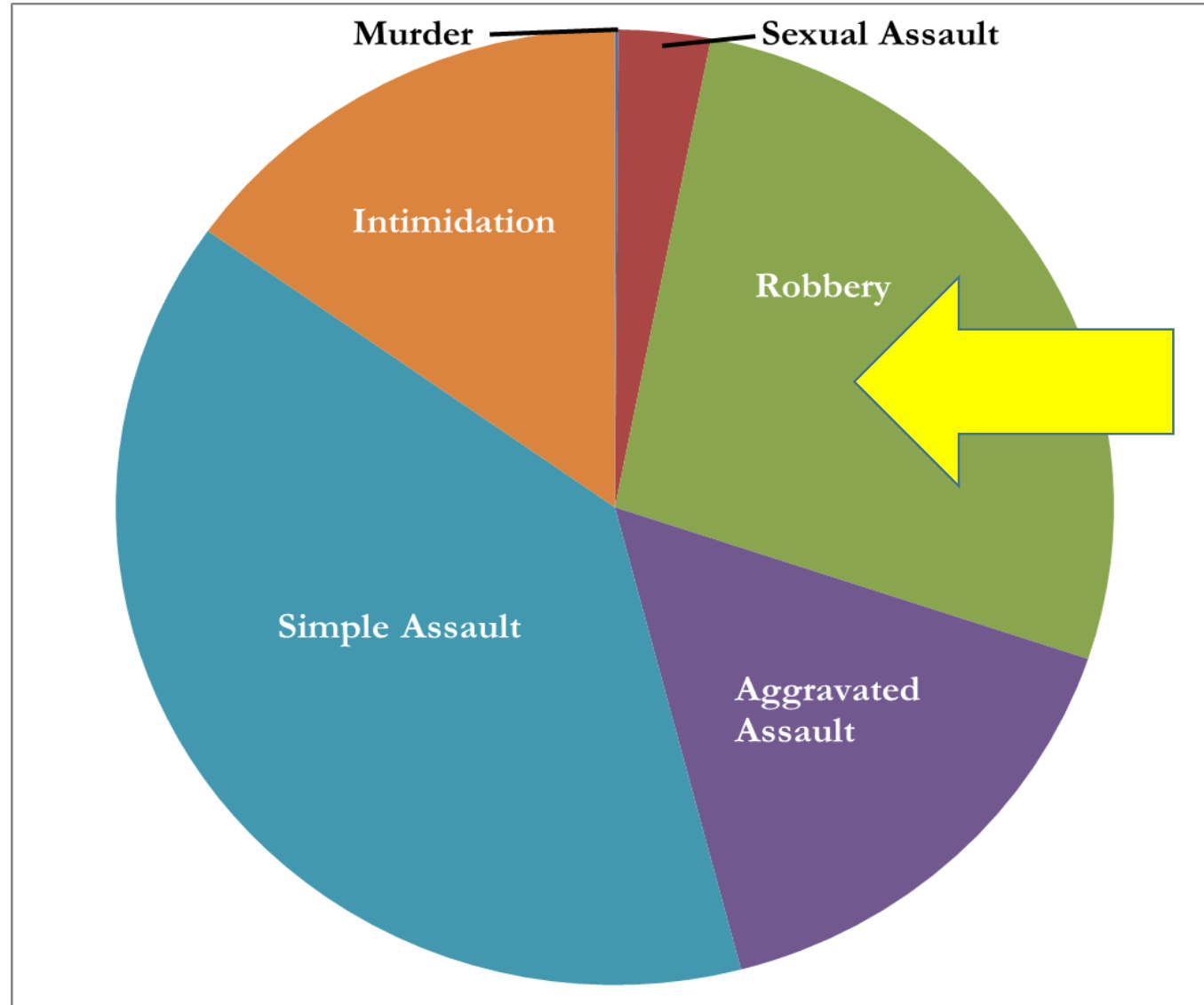
Violent sexual assault of youth age 11 or younger						Violent sexual assault of teens age 12 to 17					
Offender Age	All	Intimate partner	Other family	Friend/Acq	Stranger	Offender Age	All	Intimate partner	Other family	Friend/Acq	Stranger
All	1,000	0	604	379	17	All	1,000	95	260	597	48
<b>Residence</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>18</b>
7 to 11	91	0	49	41	0	7 to 11	3	0	1	2	0
12 to 17	248	0	154	94	1	12 to 17	158	29	29	97	3
18-24	98	0	58	38	2	18-24	202	37	28	131	6
25-34	176	0	123	51	1	25-34	118	5	44	64	5
35-44	122	0	86	35	1	35-44	124	1	75	45	3
45-54	79	0	51	27	1	45-54	62	0	36	26	1
55+	60	0	42	18	0	55+	35	0	23	12	0
<b>Non-residence</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Non-residence</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>30</b>
7 to 11	25	0	3	21	1	7 to 11	3	0	0	2	1
12 to 17	36	0	9	24	2	12 to 17	138	10	3	120	5
18-24	14	0	5	7	2	18-24	72	11	3	50	9
25-34	16	0	9	6	1	25-34	32	1	4	19	7
35-44	13	0	6	6	1	35-44	25	0	7	14	4
45-54	11	0	4	5	2	45-54	16	0	4	9	3
55+	11	0	3	7	1	55+	10	0	2	6	2

# Who is the perpetrator?

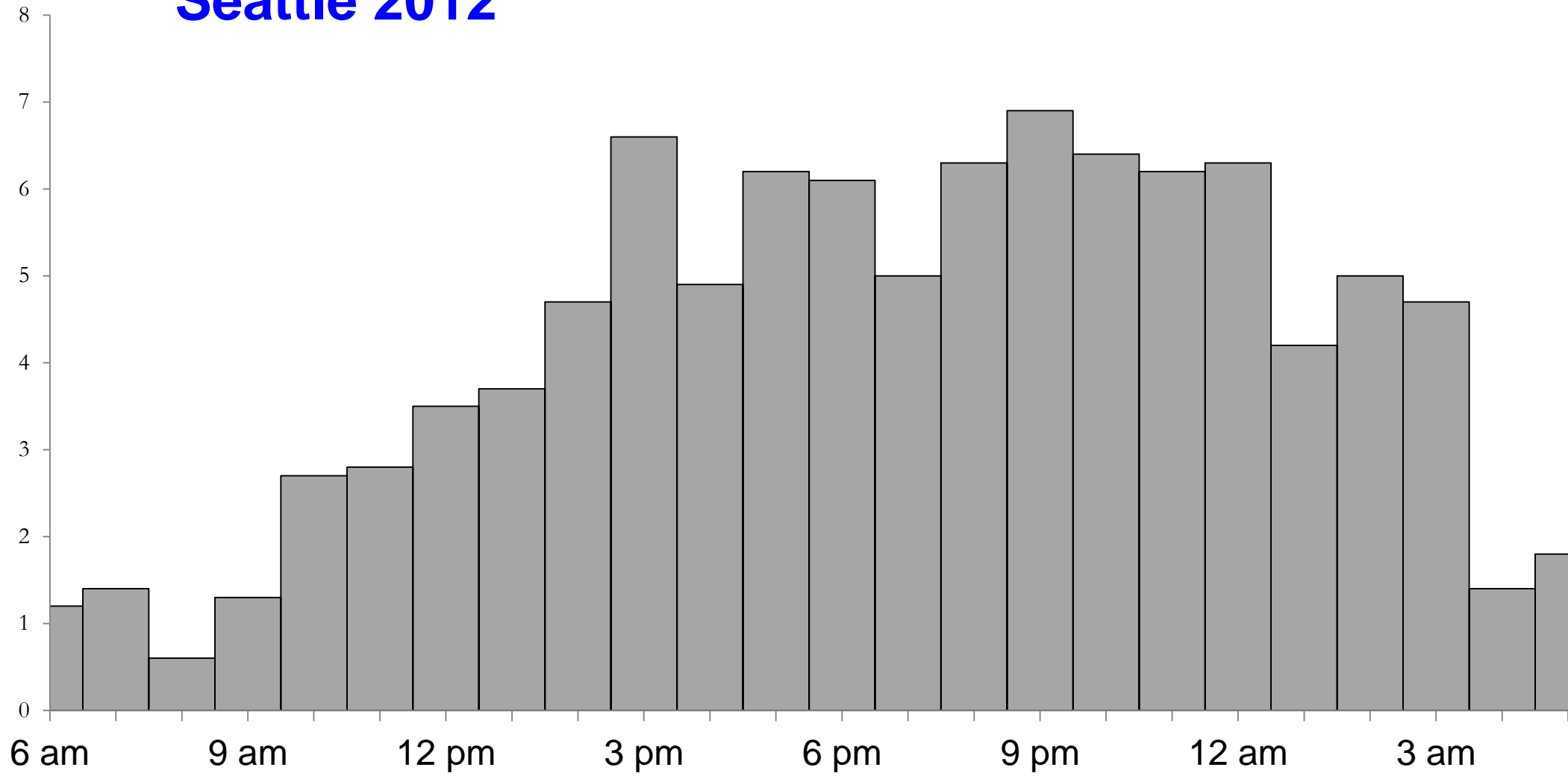
## Relationship of Victim to Offender in Violent Crimes in Seattle, 2012



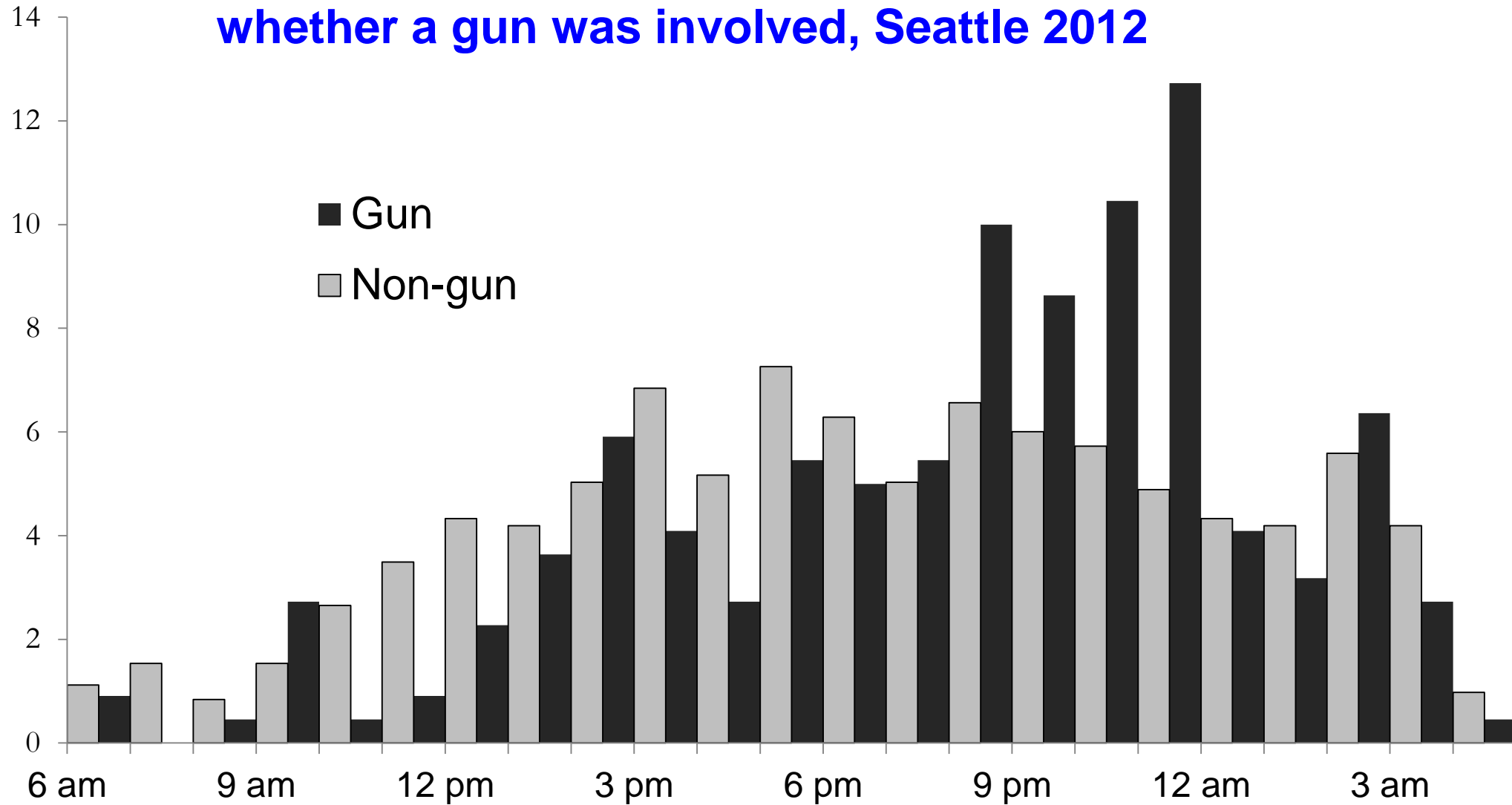
# Types of victimizations committed by strangers, Seattle 2012



## Time of day when robbery by a stranger occurs, Seattle 2012



## Time of day when robbery by a stranger occurs by whether a gun was involved, Seattle 2012



# Unpacking of incident characteristics across place and time

Year	Robbery rate per 100,000 persons in Michigan
2010	114.7
2011	103.7
2012	102.3

## Examine differences in type of offense

	Rate per 100,000 persons in Michigan		
Year	Total robbery	Armed robbery	Unarmed robbery
2010	114.7	63.0	51.6
2011	103.7	57.9	45.8
2012	102.3	57.0	45.3



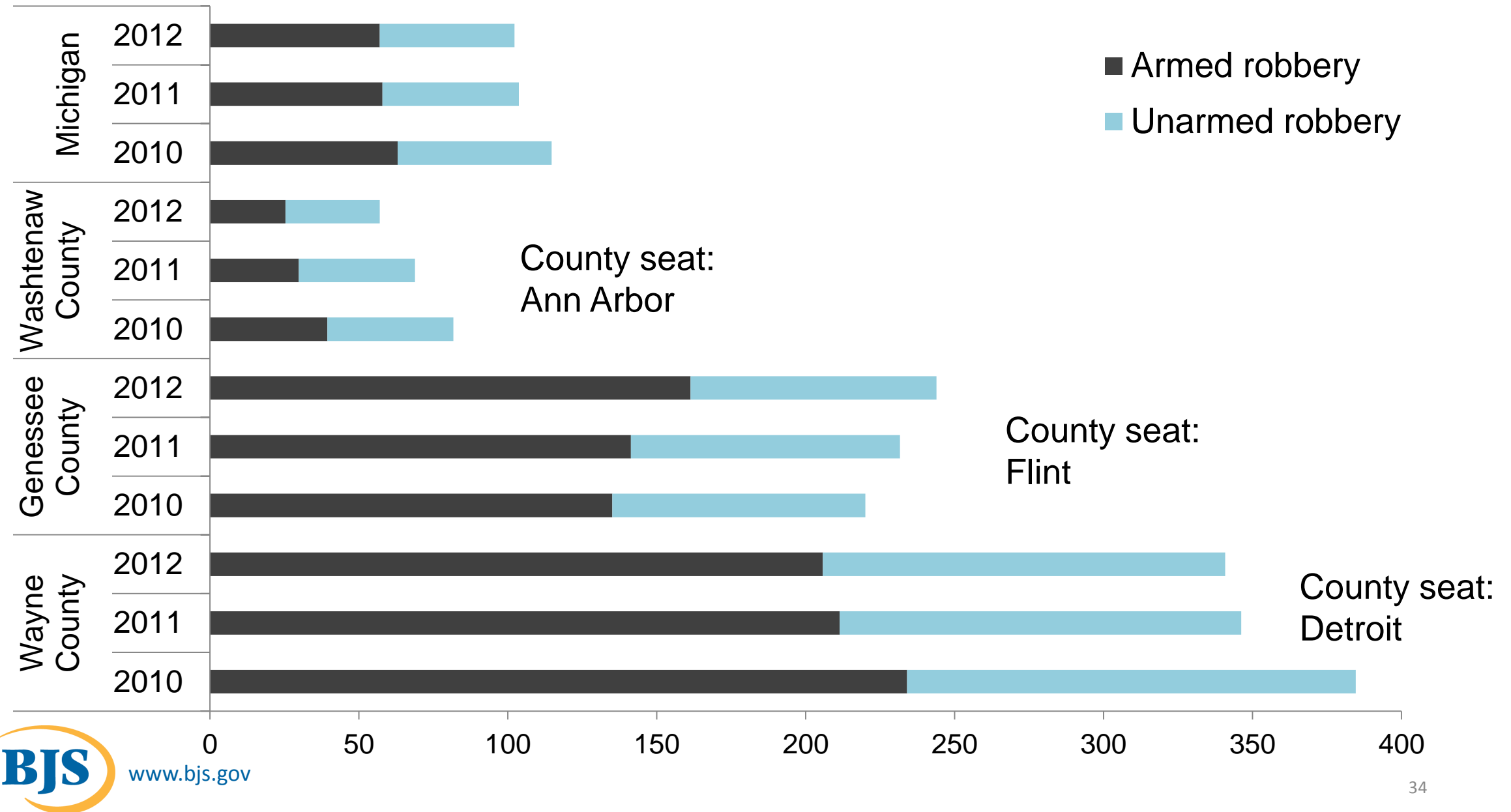
# Examine the same phenomenon across place

	Rate per 100,000 persons in Wayne County, Michigan		
Year	Total robbery	Armed robbery	Unarmed robbery
2010	384.7	234.0	150.6
2011	346.2	211.4	134.8
2012	340.8	205.7	135.1

	Rate per 100,000 persons in Genessee County, Michigan		
Year	Total robbery	Armed robbery	Unarmed robbery
2010	220.0	135.1	84.9
2011	231.7	141.3	90.3
2012	243.9	161.3	82.6

	Rate per 100,000 persons in Washtenaw County, Michigan		
Year	Total robbery	Armed robbery	Unarmed robbery
2010	81.7	39.4	42.3
2011	68.8	29.8	39.0
2012	57.0	25.3	31.6

# Clear differences across place in the same phenomenon





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