

The Loss of Sample Households in the National Crime Victimization Survey

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Impetus for NCVS - 1967 Report

“ If we knew more about the character of both offenders and victims, the nature of their relationships and the circumstances that create a high probability of crime conduct, it seems likely that crime prevention and control programs could be made much more effective.”

The President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. Task Force Report: Crime and Its Impact: An Assessment, 1967

National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)

- Initiated in 1972
(as the National Crime Survey)

Purposes:

- Measure “dark figure of unreported crime”
- Obtain information on characteristics of crime victims and crime events
- Provide estimates of year to year change

NCVS Sample

- Nationally representative stratified multistage sample drawn from Decennial Census
- Household based survey
- Rotating panel design
- Sample interviewed every 6 months
 - 77,200 households
 - 134,000 people

NCVS Sample Design

- First stage:
 - Primary Sampling Units (PSU) are counties, groups of counties, large metropolitan areas
- Second stage:
 - PSUs are grouped into strata
- Third stage:
 - Large PSUs assigned their own strata
 - Remaining PSUs combined into strata

Data Collection

- U.S. Census Bureau Field Representatives (FRs) conduct all interviews
- FRs: 76% female; 24% male
- FRs report to 12 regional field offices throughout the U.S.
- Currently undergoing automation

Weighting Procedures

- Base weight
- Weighting control factor
- Household non-interview adjustment
- Within household non-interview adjustment
- Ratio estimates factors
 - First stage
 - Second stage

Noninterview Types and Procedures

- Type A
 - Eligible household not interviewed
- Type B
 - Sample address vacant or occupied by persons with a usual residence elsewhere
- Type C
 - Permanent removal of sample address
- Type Z
 - Eligible household member not interviewed

Primary Sampling Units Affected by Hurricane Katrina

		6 months pre-Katrina	6 months post-Katrina
	Sept 04-Feb 05	Mar 05-Aug 05	Sept 05-Feb 06
Total PSUs	16	16	22
Self-representing	6	6	6
Non self-representing	10	10	16

Household Counts in FEMA Designated Areas

		6 months pre-Katrina	6 months post-Katrina
	Sept 04-Feb 05	Mar 05-Aug 05	Sept 05-Feb 06
Interviews	567	569	446
Noninterviews	201	199	322
Type A	29	22	34
Type B	172	177	280
Type C	0	0	8
Total	768	768	768

Household Interviewing Status Percent Change

	6 months pre-Katrina	6 months post-Katrina	Percent Change
	Mar 05-Aug 05	Sept 05-Feb 06	
Interviews	569	446	-21.6
Noninterviews	199	322	61.8
Type A	22	34	54.5
Type B	177	280	58.2
Type C	0	8	---
Total	768	768	---

Estimates of Personal Victimization by Region

	2003	2004	2005
South			
All areas	21.6	20.3	19.7
Urban	28.4	28.0	33.0
Suburban	23.6	20.2	19.4
Rural	12.7	14.2	8.8**

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Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 and over

Estimates of Personal Victimization at the National Level

	2003	2004	2005
Personal crimes	22.6	21.4	21.2
Rape/sexual assault	0.8	0.9	0.8
Robbery	2.5	2.1	2.6
Assault	19.3	18.5	17.8
Personal Theft	0.8	0.9	0.9

Conclusions

- **Status of sample household in FEMA areas**
 - little change since 6 months post-Katrina
- **Effect on survey estimates**
 - possible regional effect
 - no effect at national level