

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 2015 Maine Crime Victimization Report

*Informing Public Policy for Safer Communities*

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## Executive Summary

The purpose of the Maine Crime Victimization Survey (MCVS) is to understand the extent of criminal victimization in Maine. This study includes findings from the most recent MCVS and features comparisons with other MCVS surveys done in 2006 and 2011.

Several states do their own crime victimization surveys because findings from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), cannot be analyzed at the state level. As of July 2014, 14 states had developed and administered their own crime victimization surveys. Utah and Idaho have administered their surveys six and four times respectively.

The MCVS supplements other crime findings, most notably the Department of Public Safety's annual *Crime in Maine* reports. What sets the MCVS report apart from other crime reports in Maine is that it includes both reported and unreported crimes and the characteristics of both victims and offenders.

*The following is a summary of key findings from the 2015 survey:*

### Crime Perceptions

- **Most Mainers felt safe in their communities:** A total of 91.0% of survey respondents indicated that they felt safe in the communities in which they lived. Likewise, 86.3% of survey respondents stated they were not fearful of being the victims of a violent crime.
- **Victims of crime felt less safe in their communities:** Only 67.6% of those who were victims of violent crime in the past 12 months felt safe in their communities. Also, 78.1% of respondents who reported being the victim of a property crime in the last 12 months felt safe.
- **More than two-thirds of survey respondents indicated that law enforcement was doing a good job in their communities:** 69.1% of respondents indicated that law enforcement was doing a good job. This figure falls to 34.3% for victims of violent crime in the past 12 months and 48.0% for victims of property crime in the past 12 months.
- **One out of five respondents (20.0%) believed that crime had increased over the past three years:** Among crime victims, however, the rate was higher—41.7% of violent crime victims believed crime in their communities had increased.<sup>1</sup>
- **Mainers feel that drug abuse contributes most to crime:** Over three-quarters of survey respondents (79.2%) held this view. After drugs, respondents identified exposure to domestic violence, lack of parental discipline, alcohol, poverty, and the breakdown of family life as contributors.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the 2011 and 2014 Crime in Maine reports, the total number of Index Crimes in Maine fell 20.4% (Maine Department of Public Safety; 2011, 2014).

## Crime Victimization Rates

**Respondents reported the highest victimization rates for identity theft, property crime, and stalking.**

### **Identity Theft**

36.4% of respondents reported being victimized by identity theft in the previous 12 months.

### **Property Crime**

15.1% of respondents reported being victimized by property crime in the previous 12 months.

### **Stalking**

14.4% of respondents reported being the recipient of unwanted behavior that constitutes stalking in the previous 12 months.

- **More than half (54.0%) of all survey respondents reported being victimized in the past 12 months:** While this rate is higher than previous surveys, it should be noted new victimization types were added to the current survey.
- **Nearly one in every seven respondents indicated they had been the victim of stalking behavior:** Unpartnered female respondents (single, divorced or widowed) reported being the recipients of unwanted stalking behaviors more than twice as often as women who were married or in a relationship (23.9% compared to 9.3%).
- **Stalking is often a precursor to other types of victimization:** Nearly one in five (19.7%) stalking victims was also threatened during the past 12 months. Stalking victims were more than twice as likely as those respondents who were not stalked to be victims of property crime (27.3% compared to 13.0%) and more than four times as likely to be victims of a violent crime (12.5% compared to 3.1%).
- **More than a third of respondents reported being the victim of an identity crime:** This rate reflects an increase since the last MCVS, although the definition of identity crime was expanded in the 2015 survey. Some of the increase may also be attributed to the large number of people who are affected when corporate data breaches occur as well as to the increased frequency of these breaches.

## Crime Reporting

**The crimes that respondents most frequently reported to law enforcement were property crimes, threats of violence, and stalking behaviors/crimes.**

### **Property Crime**

58.5% of all property crime incidents were reported to law enforcement.

### **Threat of Violence**

32.4% of all threats of violence incidents were reported to law enforcement.

### **Stalking Behavior/Crime**

21.4% of all stalking behaviors/crime incidents were reported to law enforcement.

- **Less than a quarter of all incidents were reported to law enforcement:** 22.7% of all incidents that were reported to interviewers were reported to local law enforcement.
- **Less than one in five victims (18.0%) said they were informed of their rights as crime victims by law enforcement or another entity:** When analysis is restricted to those victims who reported their victimizations to police, the rate of victims told of their rights increases to 36.2%.
- **Approximately one out of every ten crime victims (10.6%) reported that they believed they were targeted due to their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or identity:** Among those victims who identified themselves as hate crime victims, 85.5% reported more than one type of crime perpetrated against them. On average, hate crime victims reported 2.4 types of victimization in the previous 12 months while non-hate crime victims reported an average of 1.4 types of victimization.

## Characteristics of Victims

- **Younger respondents were nearly 4 times more likely to be victim of a violent crime:** For those 34 years of age and younger, the violent crime victimization rate was 9.9% compared to 2.5% for those 35 and older. Likewise, younger respondents were nearly 3 times more likely (14.0% to 4.7%) to report being threatened with physical harm.
- **Respondents from households with income of less than \$25,000 were more likely to be stalked:** At 18.5%, respondents who reported the lowest incomes—less than \$25,000—were more likely to experience stalking than those from the highest income range of \$100,000 or more, at 6.5%.
- **Identity theft was more common among those respondents from households with incomes exceeding \$100,000:** A total of 52.4% of respondents from the highest income level (\$100,000 or more) reported being the victim of identity theft compared with 24.9% of respondents from the lowest range (less than \$25,000).

- **Urban and suburban respondents were more likely to report victimization:** A total of 57.7% of urban/suburban residents experienced a crime victimization compared to 47.1% of their rural counterparts.
- **Respondents who were unpartnered (single, divorced or widowed) reported higher victimization rates:** These respondents were more likely to be the victims of property crime (18.6% vs. 11.8%), more likely to be the victims of violent crime (6.9% vs. 2.1%), and more likely to be the victims of stalking (16.9% vs. 12.0%).

## Introduction

In 2006, the Maine Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) launched its first crime victimization survey, patterned after the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), a national survey on criminal victimization and crime trends. The Maine SAC, along with a number of other states, took this step because the findings from the NCVS could not be reported out on a state-by-state basis. As of July 2014, 14 states had developed and administered their own crime victimization surveys. Utah and Idaho have administered their surveys six and four times respectively. This current report summarizes the third Maine Crime Victimization Survey (MCVS).

The initial MCVS was developed by the Maine SAC as a tool to better understand the frequency and characteristics of criminal victimization in Maine. It was developed with support and sponsorship from several statewide organizations including the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group; the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault; the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence; Project Safe Neighborhoods; Volunteers of America – Northern New England; and several state governmental agencies, namely the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Department of Corrections (DOC), and the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

In 2010, the Maine SAC repeated the survey to compare and contrast the findings with those of the first survey. These survey findings were released in report form in early 2011.

Both the 2006 and 2011 survey reports have been used widely by governmental agencies and statewide organizations to advocate for new laws to combat domestic violence, reduce victimization, and provide services for victims of crime.

*In 2014, the Maine SAC decided to launch its third MCVS. This time was chosen for the following reasons:*

- *By the end of 2014, four years would have passed since the last survey, indicating a need for trend updates.*
- *Turnover in the state legislature<sup>2</sup> would have occurred, including legislative leadership and the Standing Committees on Criminal Justice and Public Safety and the Judiciary, both of which would need updated, comprehensive trend information to enhance knowledge of victimization trends and policy implications.*

With funding from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, Department of Justice, the Maine SAC partnered once again with the Muskie School's Survey Research Center (SRC) to conduct the MCVS to determine whether crime victimization rates and perceptions of crime and public safety had changed. Repeating the survey enables the Maine SAC to establish trend data on crime victimization and perceptions of crime.

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<sup>2</sup> Maine has term limits. Representatives and senators can serve up to four two-year terms before they must step down. They can opt to run in the other chamber.

The 2015 MCVS duplicates most of the questions from the previous two surveys and is patterned after the NCVS. Given the changing nature of identity and stalking crimes, some new questions were added to these sections of the 2015 MCVS. These modifications mean that in some areas, comparisons between rates from the current MCVS and rates from the previous two surveys are not appropriate. This report presents comparison rates whenever appropriate.

Please see the Appendix A for a copy of the survey.

## Methodology

### Sample Selection

In order to identify potential participants for the MCVS, the SRC purchased a phone number list from Survey Sampling International.<sup>3</sup> The list was provided as two separate samples. One was a sample of land-line telephone numbers (including unlisted numbers); the other was a sample of wireless (cell phone) numbers. To enhance the random selection of respondents, the SRC interviewers interviewed only one adult (the one with the most recent birthday) per household.

The SRC followed a number of methodological steps to gain as high a degree of representativeness as possible. These steps included utilizing a team of highly trained and experienced telephone survey research interviewers and supervisors, a willingness to schedule call-backs at almost any time that proved convenient for potential respondents, a contact protocol designed to maximize the likelihood of reaching hard to reach respondents<sup>4</sup>, and refusal conversion efforts.

One group not represented on the call list is those people living in Maine who have only a cell phone (no landline) with a **non-Maine** area code.<sup>5</sup> Thus, “new” Mainers with only an out-of-state cell phone will not be represented in the sample. On the one hand, in-migration has been relatively infrequent in Maine—a 2013 New England Economic Partnership study<sup>6</sup> found in-migration to be under 1,000 individuals per year in Maine, which suggests that the number of homes with an out-of-state cell phone number is relatively small. On the other hand, recently arrived residents may experience rates of victimization that differ from the norm, so the inability to include this sub-population in the sample does slightly limit the representativeness of the survey’s findings.

The call list also included some people with a Maine area code cell phone who are no longer living in Maine. These people were eliminated from the sample via initial screening questions.

A total of 843 adults age 18 or older completed the survey.

### Analysis

For most of the analysis in this report, discrete ages were recoded into a categorical variable for ease of analysis. The following six age categories were utilized: 18 to 24, 25 to 34, 35 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 to 64, and 65 and older. Because a number of crimes were reported by a small percentage of people, however, reliable differences could not always be established using the original age categories.

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<sup>3</sup> According to the 2010 US Census, 1.3% of Maine households had no telephone in the home while the national average is 2.4%.

<sup>4</sup> Up to 12 calls on different days of the week and at different times of the day

<sup>5</sup> Maine has just one area code (207) for the entire state.

<sup>6</sup> <http://newenglandcouncil.com/assets/ME-NEEP-FALL-2013.pdf>

Instead, apparent “breakpoints” were identified by visually exploring the output across the original categories, and the data were sorted into two categories around this breakpoint. Breakpoints occur in different places for different measures.

This same procedure was carried out for income and RUCA designation.

### Point Estimates, Confidence Intervals, and Confidence Levels

The purpose of most surveys is to gain information about a population by questioning a subset (or sample) of that population. The rates obtained from this sample are called *point estimates*, and these rates very accurately reflect the sample’s experiences with victimization. They less precisely describe the overall population’s experiences related to victimization. The larger the sample, the greater the likelihood that the sample will be representative of the population and the greater the accuracy of the estimates obtained.

In statistics, the level of precision is typically communicated in terms of *confidence levels* and *confidence intervals*. Confidence levels state a level of certainty about the interval. Typically, surveys employ a 95% confidence level, which means that there is a one in twenty chance (5%) that the confidence interval does not, after all, contain the true population rate. This survey has a 95% confidence level, and (because confidence intervals depend upon the number of responses and the distribution of answers) it has varying confidence intervals. These intervals are presented along with point estimates throughout the report. For questions answered by the entire sample (n=843), the confidence interval is  $\pm 3.4\%$ .

Another issue associated with confidence intervals that bears mentioning here is that when samples are small, confidence intervals become large, and they become particularly large when the rates themselves are small. There are instances throughout this report where rates *appear* to be quite different, but due to the small number of responses, *it cannot be conclusively stated that they are*.

### Weights

In theory, a study utilizing a random sampling design should result in a representative sample, but in actuality, people respond to recruiting efforts in a way that isn’t random and which results in a sample that isn’t perfectly representative of the population. Respondents’ non-random self-selection becomes apparent when sample data have demographic distributions that are different from the population’s.

This is a common occurrence with surveys and the MCVS was no exception. In order to counteract respondents’ non-random self-selection, SAC analysts used a weighting procedure. Survey data were weighted in terms of age, gender, income, and marital status to match Maine’s population distributions as described in the US Census 2009 – 2013 American Community Survey.

## RUCA Classification

Urban and non-urban areas in this report were calculated using Rural-Urban Commuting Area Codes (RUCAs). RUCAs are a census tract-based classification scheme that uses the standard Bureau of Census Urbanized Area and Urban Cluster definitions in combination with work commuting information to characterize all of the nation's census tracts regarding their rural and urban status and relationships.

A ZIP Code RUCA approximation was developed by linking each census tract to the surrounding zip code. This typology was employed in 2015, as it was in 2011, to identify respondents' location as either urban, suburban, large rural town, or small town/isolated rural. Appendix B lists the Maine zip codes by RUCA designation.

The table on the next page contains key demographic and descriptive information about survey participants.

### Demographic Distributions

	U*	W**		U*	W**
<b>Age</b>			<b>Household Income</b>		
18 to 24	5%	10%	<10,000	3%	5%
25 to 34	12%	14%	10,000-15,000	5%	5%
35 to 44	15%	15%	15,000-25,000	12%	16%
45 to 54	22%	21%	25,000-35,000	11%	10%
55 to 64	23%	19%	35,000-50,000	17%	15%
65 and older	23%	21%	50,000-75,000	22%	19%
<b>Gender</b>			75,000-100,000	13%	13%
Female	55%	52%	>100,000	17%	17%
Male	45%	48%	<b>Employment Status</b>		
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			Employed full-time	47%	47%
White, non-Hispanic	95%	95%	Employed part-time	13%	13%
Other	5%	5%	Student	3%	4%
<b>Marital Status</b>			Homemaker	3%	3%
Single	18%	27%	Unemployed	4%	5%
Married	58%	48%	Retired	22%	19%
Divorced	11%	14%	Disabled	8%	8%
Widowed	7%	6%	<b>How Long Living in Maine</b>		
Separated	1%	1%	Less than 5 years	3%	4%
Unmarried partner	4%	3%	5-9 years	5%	5%
<b>Educational Attainment</b>			10-19 years	11%	11%
8th grade or less	<1%	<1%	20 years or more	80%	80%
Some high school, not graduated	3%	3%	<b>RUCA Designation</b>		
High school graduate or GED	28%	29%	Urban	45%	47%
Some college or 2-year degree	31%	31%	Suburban	23%	23%
4-year college degree	23%	23%	Large rural town	12%	11%
More than 4-year college degree	14%	13%	Small town/isolated rural	20%	19%
u* = unweighted      w** = weighted					

## Section I - General Perceptions

The majority of survey respondents indicated that they felt safe in their communities (91.0%), did not fear violent crime (86.3%), and believed law enforcement does a good job (69.1%). These rates, however, are lower among crime victims. The majority of respondents (79.2%) thought that drugs were a contributing factor to Maine’s crime problem, followed by exposure to domestic violence in the home (65.0%), lack of parental discipline (61.1%), alcohol (59.3%), poverty (58.7%), and the breakdown of family life (58.5%).

How safe do you feel in the community where you live?

A total of 91.0% of survey respondents indicated that they felt safe in the communities in which they live. An additional 5.5% gave a neutral answer, and 3.5% indicated that they felt unsafe. There were no differences

by gender, age, income, education, or geographical designation.

Proportions who feel safe (as indicated by an answer of 4 or 5)<sup>7</sup>

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
<b>Overall (n=843)<sup>8</sup></b>	91.0%	89.0% - 92.9%
<b>Crime victim (n=456)</b>	87.9%	84.9% - 90.9%
<b>Not a crime victim (n=388)</b>	94.3%	92.0% - 96.6%
<b>Violent crime victim (n=37)</b>	67.6%	52.5% - 82.7%
<b>Not a violent crime victim (n=801)</b>	92.3%	90.4% - 94.1%
<b>Property crime victim (n=127)</b>	78.1%	70.7% - 85.2%
<b>Not a property crime victim (n=715)</b>	93.4%	91.6% - 95.2%
<b>Threat victim (n=58)</b>	79.3%	68.9% - 89.7%
<b>Not a threat victim (n=785)</b>	91.7%	89.8% - 93.6%

There were, however, differences in feeling safe between those who reported crime

victimization within the last 12 months and those who did not. A total of 87.9% of those who reported any recent crime victimization indicated that they felt safe in their communities, while 94.3% of those who did not report recent crime victimization reported that they felt safe. The difference was even greater between those who reported having been victims of a violent crime and those who did not.

<sup>7</sup> Survey respondents were asked a series of questions regarding their perceptions on a number of issues. Each of these questions took the form of a 5-category Likert scale. In the interest of time, interviewers defined only the end points of each scale—in the question about safety, for instance, 1 was “very unsafe” and 5 was “very safe.” The midpoint of each scale was judged by analysts to be a neutral answer, so in this example, answers of 4 or 5 were interpreted as “safe.” Please see Appendix X for a list of survey questions.

<sup>8</sup> Numbers in parentheses represent the number of people who answered the question.

While 67.6% of those who reported having been victims of a violent crime in the last 12 months reported that they felt safe in their communities, 92.3% of those who did not report violent victimization reported that they felt safe.

Being the victim of a property crime also made a difference in feelings of safety. A total of 78.0% of those who reported recent property crime victimization said they felt safe in their communities, compared to 93.4% of those who reported no recent property crime victimization. Lastly, being threatened made a difference in feelings of safety. While 79.3% of those who reported having been threatened within the last 12 months reported that they felt safe, 91.7% of those who reported no recent threats reported that they felt safe.

### How fearful are you of being the victim of a violent crime?

A total of 86.3% of survey respondents indicated that they were not fearful of being the victim of a violent crime. An additional 9.0% gave a neutral answer, and 4.7% indicated that they were fearful.

There were no differences by gender, age, education, or geographical designation, but there were differences between those who reported crime victimization within the last 12 months and those who did not. A total of 82.5% of those who reported any recent crime victimization indicated that they were unfearful, while 90.7% of those who did not report recent crime victimization indicated that they were unfearful. The difference was even greater between those who reported having been victims of a violent crime and those who did not. While 67.6% of those who reported having been victims of a violent crime in the last 12 months reported that they were unfearful, 87.1% of those who did not report violent crime victimization reported that they were unfearful. Being the victim of a property crime also made a difference in fear of violent crime victimization. A total of 78.0% of those who reported recent property crime victimization said they were unfearful, compared to 87.7% of those who reported no recent property crime victimization. Being threatened made the biggest difference in feelings of fear. While 63.2% of those who reported having been threatened within the last 12 months reported that they were unfearful, 88.0% of those who reported no recent threats reported that they were unfearful.



Being the victim of stalking also made a difference. A total of 71.1% of those who reported recent stalking victimization said they were unfearful, compared to 89.0% of those who reported no recent stalking victimization.

Lastly, income level made a difference in feelings of fear. While 81.1% of those who reported incomes of less than \$50,000 reported being unfearful, 91.3% of those who reported incomes of more than \$50,000 said they were unfearful.

Proportions who do not feel fearful of being the victim of a violent crime  
(as indicated by an answer of 4 or 5)

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=842)	86.3%	83.9% - 88.6%
Crime victim (n=456)	82.5%	79.0% - 85.9%
Not a crime victim (n=387)	90.7%	87.8% - 93.6%
Violent crime victim (n=37)	67.6%	52.5% - 82.7%
Not a violent crime victim (n=801)	87.1%	84.8% - 89.5%
Property crime victim (n=127)	78.0%	70.7% - 85.2%
Not a property crime victim (n=715)	87.7%	85.3% - 90.1%
Threat victim (n=57)	63.2%	50.6% - 75.7%
Not a threat victim (n=784)	88.0%	85.7% - 90.3%
Stalking victim (n=121)	71.1%	63.0% - 79.2%
Not a stalking victim (n=720)	89.0%	86.7% - 91.3%
Income < 50K (n=375)	81.1%	77.1% - 85.0%
Income > 50K (n=355)	91.3%	88.3% - 94.2%

How would you rate the job law enforcement is doing in your community?

Survey respondents were asked to rate the performance of law enforcement in their communities. The majority of respondents, 69.1%, reported favorable ratings. Not surprisingly, ratings reported by crime victims were less favorable than ratings reported by non-victims. A total of 63.8% of crime



victims reported favorable ratings, compared to 75.4% of non-victims. Rates likewise varied depending upon the type of victimization: 48.0% of property crime victims reported favorable ratings, 43.9% of threat victims reported favorable ratings, and 34.3% of violent crime victims reported favorable ratings of law enforcement.

Another factor that made a difference in how respondents viewed the job of law enforcement in their communities was age. While 64.6% of those aged 18 to 54 viewed law enforcement favorably, 75.7% of those 55 and older reported viewing them favorably. Given that young people are more likely to be victims, however, the difference in how younger and older respondents view law enforcement may be due not to age but rather to the higher rate of victimization within the younger cohort. In order to separate the effect of age, analysis was done separately for victims and non-victims.

Interestingly, the difference between younger and older respondents disappeared for non-victims but persisted for victims. That is, non-victims of any age and older victims reported similar rates and greater favorability than younger victims.

**Proportions who feel law enforcement is doing a good job in their communities  
(as indicated by an answer of 4 or 5)**

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=830)	69.1%	66.0% - 72.3%
Crime victim (n=448)	63.8%	59.4% - 68.3%
Not a crime victim (n=382)	75.4%	71.1% - 79.7%
Violent crime victim (n=35)	34.3%	18.6% - 50.0%
Not a violent crime victim (n=790)	70.9%	67.7% - 74.1%
Property crime victim (n=125)	48.0%	39.2% - 56.8%
Not a property crime victim (n=704)	72.9%	69.6% - 76.2%
Threat victim (n=57)	43.9%	31.0% - 56.7%
Not a threat victim (n=773)	71.0%	67.8% - 74.2%
Ages 18 to 54 (n=478)	64.6%	60.4% - 68.9%
Ages 55 and older (n=317)	75.7%	71.0% - 80.4%

How do you feel about the amount of crime in your community over the past three years?

Survey participants were asked if they felt the amount of crime in their communities had increased or decreased in the past three years. One out of five respondents (20.0%) felt that crime had increased.<sup>9</sup>



Among crime victims, however, the rate was higher—41.7% of violent crime victims felt as though crime in their communities had increased.

Income made a difference as well. While 28.5% of those in the lowest income bracket (under \$25,000) said they felt crime had increased, only 11.5% of those in the highest income bracket (over \$100,000) reported the same.

**Proportions who feel the amount of crime in their neighborhoods has increased  
(as indicated by an answer of 1 or 2)**

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=821)	20.0%	17.3% - 22.8%
Violent crime victim (n=36)	41.7%	25.6% - 57.8%
Not a violent crime victim (n=780)	19.1%	16.3% - 21.9%
Income < 25K (n=186)	28.5%	22.0% - 35.0%
Income > 100K (n=122)	11.5%	5.8% - 17.1%

<sup>9</sup> From 2011 to 2014, the total number of Index Crimes in Maine fell 20.4% (Maine Department of Public Safety; 2011, 2014).

## Perceptions of Factors Contributing to Crime

Survey respondents were asked to indicate how much they thought each of the following factors contributed to crime problems in Maine: lack of parental discipline; the breakdown of family life; illegal drugs; gangs; moral decay; TV, movie, or video game violence; alcohol; exposure to domestic violence in the home; a criminal system that is too lenient; availability of guns; and poverty.

The frequencies with which respondents identified factors as contributors varied, and in many cases the confidence intervals for factor rates overlap. While this prevents a conclusive ranking of the individual factors, the frequencies do fall into four distinct tiers:

**Perceived Contributing Factors**

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
<b>Tier 1 (76% - 82%)</b>		
Illegal drugs (n=779)	79.2%	76.4% - 82.1%
<b>Tier 2 (55% - 68%)</b>		
Exposure to domestic violence (DV) in the home (n=763)	65.0%	61.5% - 68.3%
Lack of parental discipline (n=824)	61.1%	57.8% - 64.4%
Alcohol (n=779)	59.3%	55.9% - 62.8%
Poverty (n=778)	58.7%	55.2% - 62.1%
Breakdown of family life (n=780)	58.5%	55.0% - 61.9%
<b>Tier 3 (31% - 50%)</b>		
Moral decay (n=764)	45.9%	42.3% - 49.4%
Availability of guns (n=771)	38.9%	35.4% - 42.3%
TV, movie, or video game violence (n=776)	37.7%	34.3% - 41.1%
A criminal justice system that is too lenient (n=765)	34.6%	31.2% - 38.0%
<b>Tier 4 (21% - 27%)</b>		
Gangs (n=746)	23.9%	20.8% - 26.9%

### Tier 1

The factor most frequently identified as contributing to Maine's crime problem was illegal drugs. A little over three-quarters of survey respondents (79.2%) indicated that this factor was a contributor.

### Tier 2

After drugs, survey respondents identified exposure to domestic violence, lack of parental discipline, alcohol, poverty, and the breakdown of family life. Between half and two-thirds of survey respondents (58.5% - 65.0%) indicated that these factors were contributors.

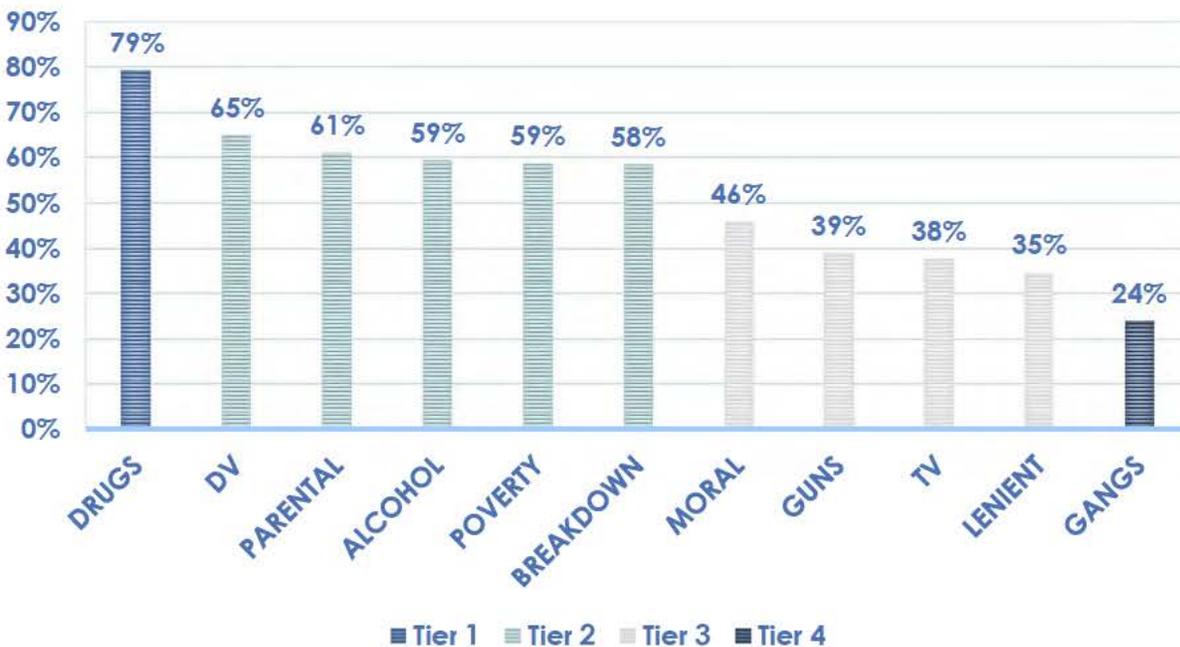
### Tier 3

Between one-third and one-half (34.6% - 45.9%) of respondents thought moral decay; the availability of guns; TV, movie, or video game violence; and a criminal justice system that is too lenient were contributing factors to Maine's crime problem.

### Tier 4

Less than a quarter of survey respondents (23.9%) thought that gangs were a contributing factor.

Contributing Factor Tiers



### **Drugs<sup>10</sup>**

While 79.2% of survey respondents indicated that they thought drugs were a contributing factor to Maine's crime problem, there were slight differences by gender and age. More females than males indicated that they thought drugs were a factor (84.0% compared to 74.2%), and more respondents over age 44 indicated they thought drugs were a factor than their younger counterparts (83.7% compared to 74.7%).

### **Exposure to Domestic Violence in the Home**

A total of 65.0% of all respondents indicated that they thought domestic violence in the home was a contributing factor to Maine's crime problem. At 69.7%, the rate for females was higher than the rate for males (60.0%). Stalking victims were also more likely to indicate that domestic violence was a contributing factor; 75.5% of stalking victims reported they believed it was a factor compared to 63.2% of those who were not stalking victims.

### **Lack of Parental Discipline**

Overall, 61.1% of respondents viewed a lack of parental discipline as a contributing factor to crime in Maine. There was a difference, however, between those who were victims of violent crime and those who were not. A total of 78.4% of violent crime victims indicated that they thought a lack of parental discipline was a factor, compared to 60.1% of those who were not violent crime victims. There was also a difference between those who were property crime victims and those who were not. While 73.0% of property crime victims reported that they thought a lack of parental discipline was a contributing factor, 59.0% of those who were not property crime victims reported the same.

### **Alcohol**

A total of 59.3% of respondents indicated that they thought alcohol was a contributing factor to Maine's crime problem. Interestingly, the only attribute that served to create a difference in rates was stalking victimization. Those who were the victims of stalking were more likely than those who were not to view alcohol as a contributing factor (70.5% versus 57.5%, respectively).

### **Poverty**

Overall, 58.7% of respondents indicated that they thought poverty was a contributing factor to crime in Maine. There was a difference in rates depending on income, with more of those from the lowest income bracket (less than \$25,000) reporting that poverty contributed (68.6%) than those from other brackets combined (56.7%).

### **Breakdown of Family Life**

A total of 58.5% of all respondents indicated that they thought the breakdown of family life was a contributing factor to crime in Maine. There were no demographic differences nor differences between victims and non-victims of any of the crime categories explored in MCVS for this factor.

### **Moral Decay**

A minority of respondents, 45.9%, indicated that they thought moral decay was a contributing factor to Maine's crime problem. A slightly higher proportion of respondents ages 35 and older (49.7%), reported that they thought it was a factor compared to their younger counterparts (35.0%).

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<sup>10</sup> Factors were considered to be "contributing" if survey participants responded to survey questions (see Appendix A) with answers of 1 or 2.

\* \* \*

The remaining elements that respondents were asked to consider were identified as factors by less than 40% of the respondents. The rates for each of these elements is given in table below, but differences in rates are difficult to establish when base numbers are small, which precludes further analysis for the remaining elements.

### Contributing Factors to Maine's Crime Problem

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
<b>Drugs</b>		
Overall (n=779)	79.2%	76.4% - 82.1%
Female (n=399)	84.0%	80.4% - 87.6%
Male (n=380)	74.2%	69.8% - 78.6%
Ages 45 and older (n=449)	83.7%	80.3% - 87.2%
Ages 18 to 44 (n=296)	74.7%	69.7% - 79.6%
<b>Domestic violence in the home</b>		
Overall (n=763)	65.0%	61.6% - 68.3%
Female (n=393)	69.7%	65.2% - 74.3%
Male (n=370)	60.0%	55.0% - 65.0%
Stalking victim (n=110)	75.5%	67.4% - 83.5%
Not a stalking victim (n=653)	63.2%	59.5% - 66.9%
<b>Lack of parental discipline</b>		
Overall (n=824)	61.1%	57.8% - 64.4%
Violent crime victim (n=37)	78.4%	65.1% - 91.6%
Not a violent crime victim (n=784)	60.1%	56.6% - 63.5%
Property crime victim (n=122)	73.0%	65.1% - 80.8%
Not a property crime victim (n=702)	59.0%	55.3% - 62.6%
<b>Alcohol</b>		
Overall (n=779)	59.3%	55.9% - 62.8%
Stalking victim (n=112)	70.5%	62.1% - 79.0%
Not a stalking victim (n=666)	57.5%	53.8% - 61.3%
<b>Poverty</b>		
Overall (n=778)	58.7%	55.2% - 62.1%
Income < \$25K (n=175)	68.6%	61.7% - 75.4%
Income > \$25K (n=503)	56.7%	52.3% - 61.0%
<b>Breakdown of family life</b>		
Overall (n=780)	58.5%	55.0% - 61.9%
<b>Moral decay</b>		
Overall (n=764)	45.9%	42.3% - 49.4%
Ages 34 and younger (n=177)	35.0%	28.0% - 42.1%
Ages 35 and older (n=553)	49.7%	45.6% - 53.9%

## Section II – Crime Victimization Rates

Over half (54.0%) of all respondents report being victimized in the previous 12 months in Maine. This rate exceeds the rate of 36.2% in 2011. It is important to note that the 2015 rate includes some new stalking and identity crime behaviors. It is also important to keep in mind that Maine's crime victimization rate includes threats of violence, identity theft, and stalking which are not found in other states' crime victimization surveys. When the crime victimization rate is restricted to property and violent crimes, the Maine rate falls to 17.3%, comparable to or lower than what other states are reporting.

Survey respondents were asked whether they had been the victims of a variety of crimes over the past 12-month period. The survey asked about five categories of crimes: property crimes, violent crimes (including robbery, assault, sexual assault, and rape), threatening with physical violence, identity crimes, and stalking. Follow up questions were asked whenever respondents indicated that they had been the victims of a crime in the past 12 months. Since some new victimization categories were added to the 2015 MCVS, comparisons with previous surveys are limited.

**Crime Victimization Rates**

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Any crime (n=843)	54.0%	50.7% - 57.4%
Identity crime (n=843)	36.4%	33.2% - 39.7%
Property crime (n=843)	15.1%	12.7% - 17.6%
Stalking (n=843)	14.4%	12.1% - 16.8%
Threatening with violence (n=842)	6.8%	5.1% - 8.5%
All violent crime (n=839)	4.4%	3.0% - 5.8%
Sexual assault (n=840)	2.2%	1.2% - 3.2%
Assault (n=841)	1.5%	0.7% - 2.4%
Robbery (n=843)	1.4%	0.6% - 2.2%
Rape (n=840)	0.5%	<0.1% - 1.0%

More than half (54.0%) of all respondents indicated they had been victimized in the previous 12 months. This rate is higher than the previous survey results, but it should be noted that new victimization types were added to the identity theft and stalking categories and some of the increase in rates is likely due to this expansion. The highest victimization rates were for identity theft (36.4%), followed by property crime (15.1%) and stalking (14.4%).

## Crime Victimization Rates by Demographics

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=843)	54.0%	50.7% - 57.4%
Ages 25 to 34 (n=111)	68.5%	59.8% - 77.1%
Ages 65 and older (n=171)	45.6%	38.1% - 53.1%
Urban/suburban (n=568)	57.5%	53.7% - 61.8%
Rural (n=244)	47.1%	40.9% - 53.4%

Male and female respondents reported nearly the same victimization rates. Likewise, there was no statistical difference among respondents based on relationship status or income. There were differences, however, by age and geographic location. At 68.5%, respondents between the ages of 25 and 34 reported the highest rate of victimization, while those ages 65 and older reported the lowest rate, at 45.6%. Urban/suburban residents also reported higher rates of victimization than their rural counterparts—57.5% and 47.1%, respectively.

### Identity Theft

Identity crime continues to capture headlines here in Maine and nationally. From major corporations reporting data breaches to individual families reporting scamming episodes, identity theft crimes are increasingly becoming commonplace. With a large elderly population, Maine is especially vulnerable to perpetrators who specialize in identity theft crimes.

*This year's MCVS examined the following criminal behaviors:*



- unauthorized use or attempted use of existing credit cards
- unauthorized use or attempted use of other existing accounts such as bank accounts
- unauthorized use of personal information to obtain new credit cards or accounts
- misuse of personal information to obtain services
- unauthorized use of a social security number
- unauthorized access of bank or department store accounts

The last three items bulleted above were newly introduced in this year's survey. With the addition of these three answer choices, the rate of identity theft victimization increased markedly from the rate obtained in 2011. More than a third (36.4%) of 2015 MCVS respondents reported they had been the victims of an identity crime in the previous 12 months. This rate is more than double the rate (15.0%) reported in the 2011.

While some of this increase may be due to the additional information gathered in the most recent survey, some may also be attributed to the large number of people who are affected when corporate data breaches occur as well as to the increased frequency of these breaches.

Since new answer choices were added to this year’s survey, comparisons among survey years are not possible in this section.

7.4% of respondents who were victims of identity theft reported the crime to law enforcement.

A total of 7.4% of 2015 MCVS respondents who were victims of identity theft reported the crime to law enforcement. This rate was down markedly from the previous two surveys, but this decrease may be directly related to the expanded definition of identity crimes in the current survey. For instance, when victims are notified by a bank or other entity that their personal information has been compromised, they may presume that authorities elsewhere are already dealing with the breach and therefore be less likely to notify local law enforcement.

**Identity Theft Rates**

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
<b>Overall (n=843)</b>	36.4%	33.2% - 39.7%
<b>Reported to police (n=304)</b>	7.4%	4.5%-10.4%

Younger respondents—those between the ages of 18 and 24—were less likely to be victimized than any other age cohort.<sup>11</sup> A little more than a fifth (22.9%) of them reported being victimized, while all other age cohorts had rates of 32.7% or higher. This may be due to the fact that this age group tends to have fewer resources than their older counterparts. Not surprisingly, those respondents with household incomes in excess of \$100,000 reported being victims of identity crime at twice the rate of respondents with household incomes of less than \$25,000 (52.4% compared to 24.9%).<sup>12</sup>

Partnered respondents were more likely to be victims of identity crime than unpartnered respondents (42.3% vs. 30.4%),<sup>13</sup> but this correlation is likely a spurious one, since relationship status is correlated with income. In fact, when analysis controls for gender, age, income, and geography (urban vs. non-urban), relationship status is no longer significantly correlated with identity theft victimization. Gender, on the other hand, is. A total of 39.7% of female respondents and 32.9% of male respondents reported being the victims of identity theft, but when these two rates are looked at in isolation, the overlap in their corresponding confidence intervals indicates that the difference between rates may be due to sampling variation.

<sup>11</sup> Significant at  $p = .009$

<sup>12</sup> Significant at  $p < .001$

<sup>13</sup> Significant at  $p < .001$

Logistic regression analysis, however, suggests that females do, in fact, have an increased likelihood of being victimized by identity theft when all other factors are held constant. That is, given a male and a female from the same age bracket, income level, and geographical location, the female has a higher likelihood of being the victim of identity theft.

The difference in response by geography was not statistically significant.

**Identity Theft Rates by Demographics**

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=843)	36.4%	33.2% - 39.7%
18-24 year olds (n=83)	22.9%	13.9% - 31.9%
Household income <\$25,000 (n=189)	24.9%	18.7% - 31.0%
Household income >\$100,000 (n=124)	52.4%	43.6% - 61.2%
Unpartnered (n=408)	30.4%	25.9%-34.9%
Partnered (n=433)	42.3%	37.6%-46.9%

The most common type of identity theft reported by respondents was notice of compromised account (e.g., bank or credit card account). Nearly a third (31.9%) of all respondents reported this type of activity.

About one in eight (12.5%) respondents reported that someone used one (or more) of their existing credit cards without permission.

**Identity Theft Rates by Type**

(n=843)	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Notice of compromised account	31.9%	28.8% - 35.1%
Used existing credit cards without permission	12.5%	10.3% - 14.8%
Used existing accounts (e.g. checking) without permission	5.2%	3.7% - 6.7%
Used your personal information to obtain services	3.1%	1.9% - 4.2%
Used your personal information to obtain new credit cards, etc.	2.3%	1.3% - 3.4%
Used your social security number without permission	1.0%	0.3% - 1.6%

Of the 302 respondents who reported being the victims of an identity crime, 21 (7.1%) reported that the theft resulted in financial losses. Of these respondents, the majority (65.4%) reported losses of less than \$500. In total, 60.5% of all identity theft victims said they were more cautious about financial issues since the incidents. However, less than half (47.3%) of these individuals have taken steps to protect their identity. This apparent contradiction may perhaps be explained by passive

restraint—that is, victims may be more hesitant to make online purchases, etc., but not view that as an active “step taken.”

## Property Crime

Survey respondents were asked, “Were you the victim of a property crime such as someone attempting to steal or stealing your car, breaking into or trying to break into your home, or vandalizing your property?” In total, 15.1% of survey respondents stated they were the victims of a property crime in the previous 12 months. Since the questions used in the current survey were nearly the same as in previous crime victimization surveys, we can compare the 2015 rate to previous rates. The rate remained statistically unchanged between 2011 and 2015.



There were no differences in property crime victimization by gender or by geographical location.

Among age groups, the 25 to 34 cohort had the highest rate at 24.5%. By comparison, respondents 65 and older had the lowest rate at just 7.1%.

**Property Crime Rates**

	2015 Point Estimate	2011 Point Estimate	2006 Point Estimate	Confidence Interval (for 2015)
<b>Overall (n=843)</b>	15.1%	13.8%	14.6%	12.7% - 17.6%
<b>Reported to police (n=122)</b>	58.8%	65.6%	68.7%	50.1% - 67.6%

Those individuals who were single (single, divorced, separated, or widowed, hereafter referred to as “unpartnered”), were more likely to be property crime victims at 18.6% compared to those who were married or living with someone (hereafter referred to as “partnered”) at 11.8%. The difference between these two rates was statistically significant.<sup>14</sup>

Among those who had been property crime victims, a majority (58.8%) reported the crime to police. This rate was statistically comparable to the rates of 65.6% and 68.7% reported in the previous crime victimization surveys. Differences in reporting rates by gender, income, geography, and relationship status were not statistically significantly different.

<sup>14</sup> Significant at  $p = .004$

### Property Crime Rates by Demographics

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=843)	15.1%	12.7% - 17.6%
Ages 25-34 (n=110)	24.5%	16.5% - 32.6%
Ages 65 and older(n=170)	7.1%	3.2% - 10.9%
Unpartnered (n=409)	18.6%	14.8% - 22.4%
Partnered (n=433)	11.8%	8.7% - 14.8%

### Stalking

The MCVS continued to explore stalking behaviors. Roughly one in every seven (14.4%) respondents indicated that they had been the victims of stalking crimes. This could mean the respondent *felt threatened by another person as a result of any of the following behaviors:*



- Following or spying
- Unsolicited e-mails/texts/letters
- Unsolicited phone calls
- Waiting/standing outside
- Showing up places
- Leaving unwanted gifts/items
- Spreading rumors
- Other unwanted communications

While the 2015 stalking rate appears to have increased over the 2011 rate of 12.3%, the difference in rates could be due to sampling variation. Furthermore, a new category of stalking (spreading rumors) was added to the 2015 survey to reflect the expansion of various social media platforms which lend themselves to a relatively new form of online stalking. While this addition reflects social changes in behavior and captures victims' experiences of stalking behaviors more completely, it makes comparisons between the 2015 rate and previous rates problematic.

### Stalking Crime Rates

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=843)	14.4%	12.1%-16.8%
Reported to police (n=114)	21.4%	13.9%-28.9%

The differences in stalking victimization by gender, age, and geographic region were not statistically significant. However, among income categories, those respondents from households making less than \$25,000 were nearly three times more likely to be the victims of a stalking crime than a

respondent from a household earning more than \$100,000 (18.5% compared to 6.5%).<sup>15</sup> Likewise, those respondents who were unpartnered were more likely to be stalked than those who were partnered (16.9% compared to 12.0%).<sup>16</sup> While males and females reported being stalked at similar rates, a difference emerged when respondents were broken down further into gender and relationship groups.

Unpartnered females were stalked at a higher rate than partnered females or unpartnered males.

At 23.9%, unpartnered females were the most likely to report being the victim of stalking, although this rate was not statistically significantly different from the next highest rate of victimization of 14.5% for partnered males. However, the higher rate for unpartnered females was found to be statistically significantly different from that of partnered females (9.3%) or unpartnered males (9.5%).

Stalking Crime Rates by Demographics

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=843)	14.4%	12.1% - 16.8%
Household income <\$25,000 (n=189)	18.5%	13.0% - 24.1%
Household income >\$100,000 (n=123)	6.5%	2.1% - 10.9%
Unpartnered (n=408)	16.9%	13.3% - 20.5%
Partnered (n=434)	12.0%	8.9% - 15.0%
Female and unpartnered (n=209)	23.9%	18.1% - 29.7%
Female and partnered (n=226)	9.3%	5.5% - 13.1%
Male and unpartnered (n=199)	9.5%	5.5% - 13.6%
Male and partnered (n=207)	14.5%	9.7% - 19.3%

Looking at specific types of stalking behaviors, the survey found that *unsolicited e-mails, texts, and/or letters* was the most common type of stalking behavior at 5.8%, followed by *unsubstantiated rumors* (5.6%), and *following and/or spying* (5.3%). The 2015 rate for all but one of these stalking behaviors was statistically unchanged from 2006 to 2015. The one behavior that changed—*unsolicited emails/letters/texts*—likely did so as a result of new technology and increased options for transmitting written correspondence. In 2006, 2.4% of survey respondents indicated that they were the victims of this form of stalking; by 2015, 5.9% of survey respondents indicated the same.

<sup>15</sup> Significant at  $p = .023$

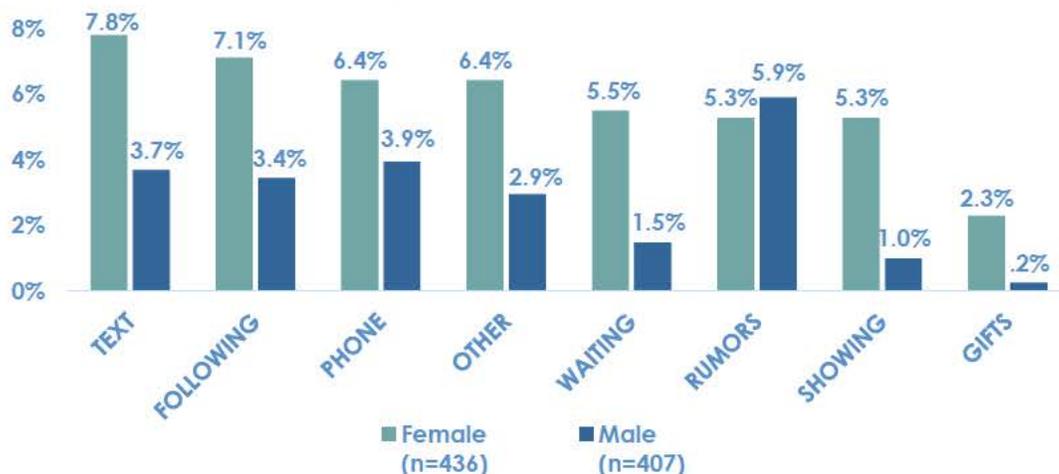
<sup>16</sup> Significant at  $p = .042$

### Stalking Behavior Rates

	2015 Point Estimate	2011 Point Estimate	2006 Point Estimate	2015 Confidence Interval
Unsolicited emails/letters/texts (n=843)	5.9%	5.8%	2.4%	4.3% - 7.4%
Spreading rumors <sup>17</sup> (n=843)	5.6%	N/A	N/A	4.0% - 7.1%
Following or spying (n=843)	5.3%	4.9%	5.4%	3.8% - 6.8%
Unsolicited phone calls (n=843)	5.2%	3.5%	5.7%	3.7% - 6.7%
Other unwanted communication (n=843)	4.7%	3.8%	3.6%	3.2% - 6.1%
Waiting/standing outside (n=843)	3.5%	3.0%	4.2%	2.3% - 4.8%
Showing up where you are (n=843)	3.2%	2.3%	2.4%	2.0% - 4.3%
Leaving unwanted gifts/items (n=843)	1.3%	1.1%	1.7%	0.5% - 2.1%

Stalking behavior differed by victim gender. In all but two of the stalking behaviors (*phone* and *rumors*) the difference between females and males was statistically significant.<sup>18</sup> In several cases (*waiting*, *showing up*, and *other*) the difference between genders was quite pronounced.

### Stalking Behavior Victimization by Gender



Respondents who were stalking victims in the previous 12 months were asked to identify the gender of the persons who stalked them. Females who were stalked were much more likely to be stalked by someone from the opposite gender than males. Below is the gender breakdown.

<sup>17</sup> This answer choice was added in the 2015 survey.

<sup>18</sup> Differences are significant at  $p = .02$  or lower.

### Stalking Behavior Rates by Gender

	Gender of the Person Stalking		
	Male	Female	Both
Female victim (n=64)	71.9%	20.3%	7.8%
Male victim (n=42)	47.6%	35.7%	16.7%

Respondents were asked how long the stalking persisted. More than two-thirds of those who reported having been stalked in the last 12 months (67.3%) reported the stalking lasted a month or more. Nearly a third (31.6%) of those who were stalked indicated the behavior lasted a year or more. More than half (58.8%) indicated that at the time they were surveyed the behavior had stopped, with an additional 19.1% of stalking victim respondents reporting that some of the behavior had stopped. This leaves 22.1% who said the behavior had not stopped at the time the survey was administered.

Somewhat troubling is the decreasing percentage of stalked respondents who reported the stalking to law enforcement. In the 2006 MCVS survey, nearly 40% (39.3%) reported the behavior to law enforcement. The 2015 rate (21.4%) is about half what it was nearly a decade ago. This may be due in part to the proliferation of social media that enables perpetrators to engage in more anonymous types of stalking, which victims may be less apt to report. Also, it could partially explained by the addition of more stalking behaviors (e.g., spreading rumors) in the 2015 survey that are not often reported to law enforcement.

Nearly a third (31.6%) of respondents who were stalked indicated the behavior lasted a year or more.

Stalking is also often a precursor to other types of victimization. For example, nearly one in five (19.7%) stalking victims was also threatened during the past 12 months. Among those respondents who were not stalked, only 4.7% were threatened. Stalking victims were more than twice as likely as those who were not stalked to be victims of property crime as well (27.3% compared to 13.0%). Stalking victims were more than four times as likely to as those who were not stalked to be victims of a violent crime (12.5% compared to 3.1%).<sup>19</sup>

### Threat of Violence

In the MCVS, respondents were asked if someone *had threatened to hit, attack, or assault them* in the past 12 months. In 2015, 6.8% of respondents responded in the affirmative. While this rate appears lower than the 7.4% reported in 2011 and the 8.6% reported in 2006, the rates are not statistically different. Nearly a third (32.4%) reported being threatened to law enforcement. This was comparable to the rates reported in 2011 and 2006. Among those who were threatened in the past year, nearly two-thirds (60.9%) were threatened more than once, and 7.9% of them were threatened with a firearm present.

<sup>19</sup> All differences in this paragraph are statistically significant at  $p < .001$ .

### Threat of Violence Rates

	2015 Point Estimate	2011 Point Estimate	2006 Point Estimate	Confidence Interval (for 2015)
Overall (n=842)	6.8%	7.4%	8.6%	5.1% - 8.5%
Reported to police (n=57)	32.4%	30.7%	44.7%	20.3% - 44.5%

Rates were not statistically significantly different by gender, geography, income, and relationship status. Rates differed, however, by age. Among those 34 and younger, the rate is 14.0% compared to 4.7% for those 35 and older.<sup>20</sup>

Respondents who were threatened were asked to identify categories of people who threatened them. There was no one overwhelming common response to this question, though more people stated “strangers” followed by “casual acquaintance.”

Respondents threatened with violence were far more likely than those not threatened to also be the victims of a violent crime by a wide margin (31.0% compared to 2.6%).<sup>21</sup> Victims who were threatened were also more likely to be victims of a property crime than those respondents who were not threatened (29.8% compared to 12.6%).<sup>22</sup>

### Threat of Violence Rates by Demographics

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=842)	6.8%	5.1% - 8.5%
Ages 34 and younger (n=193)	14.0%	9.1% - 18.9%
Ages 35 and older (n=613)	4.7%	3.1% - 6.4%

### Violent Crime

Similar to previous crime victimization surveys, the 2015 MCVS asked a series of questions about specific crimes. Four of these crime types – robbery, assault, sexual assault, and rape – were classified as violent crimes for this report. Overall, 4.4% of respondents indicated that they were the victims of one or more of these four violent crime types in the previous 12 months. This rate is not statistically different from previous survey findings. One in five (20.1%) violent crimes was reported to law enforcement in the most recent survey, and while it may appear that the rate of reporting has decreased, these rates are based on small numbers and the difference is likely due to sampling variation rather than a true difference in the rate of reporting to police.

<sup>20</sup> Significant at  $p < .001$

<sup>21</sup> Significant at  $p < .001$

<sup>22</sup> Significant at  $p < .001$

### Violent Crime Rates

	2015 Point Estimate	2011 Point Estimate	2006 Point Estimate	Confidence Interval (for 2015)
Overall (n=839)	4.4%	3.8%	4.8%	3.0% - 5.8%
Reported to police (n=47)	20.1%	33.3%	49.6%	8.7% - 31.5%

Age, relationship status, income, and geographic location all influence rates of violent victimization. Younger respondents were much more likely to be the victims of a violent crime than their older counterparts.

For those 34 years of age and younger, the violent crime victimization rate was 9.9% compared to 2.5% for those 35 and older. These two rates are statistically significantly different from one another.<sup>23</sup>

Those individuals who were unpartnered were more than three times as likely to be violent crime victims, at 6.9%, than those who were partnered at 2.1%.<sup>24</sup> At 10.2%, those making less than \$25,000 were more likely to be the victims of a violent crime than those in a higher income bracket (at 2.6%).<sup>25</sup> Lastly, at 5.7%, individuals living in urban and suburban areas were more likely to be victims of a violent crime than those living in rural areas (at 1.7%).<sup>26</sup>

### Violent Crime Rates by Demographics

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
Overall (n=839)	4.4%	3.0% - 5.8%
Ages 34 and younger (n=191)	9.9%	5.7% - 14.2%
Ages 35 and older (n=612)	2.5%	1.2% - 3.7%
Unpartnered (n=408)	6.9%	4.4% - 9.3%
Partnered (n=431)	2.1%	0.7% - 3.4%
Household income <\$25,000 (n=186)	10.2%	5.9% - 14.6%
Household income >\$25,000 (n=540)	2.6%	1.3% - 3.9%
Urban/suburban (n=566)	5.7%	3.8% - 7.6%
Rural (n=242)	1.7%	0.05% - 3.3%

<sup>23</sup> Significant at  $p < .001$

<sup>24</sup> Significant at  $p = .001$

<sup>25</sup> Significant at  $p < .001$

<sup>26</sup> Significant at  $p = .012$

The following sections detail each violent crime separately. Given the small number of “yes” responses, reliable estimates could not be calculated for the proportion of victims who reported each of these types of crimes to the police. Likewise, no statistically significant differences could be identified by gender, age, geography, or partner status.

### **Robbery**

Similar to previous crime victimization surveys, respondents were asked, “*Did anyone take or attempt to take something directly from you by using force or threat of force?*” In the current survey, 1.4% of respondents stated that they had been the victims of a robbery in the previous 12 months. That rate was nearly identical to the rate (1.3%) reported in the 2011 MCVS.

### **Assault**

Respondents were also asked, “*Did anyone injure you with a weapon or with physical force?*” In the current survey, 1.5% respondents answered this in the affirmative. In the previous report, 2.0% of respondents answered “yes” to a similar question—“*Did anyone injure you with a weapon or assault you with physical force?*”

### **Sexual Assault**

Of the 843 respondents, 2.2% answered “yes” when asked, “*Did anyone force you, or attempt to force you, into any unwanted sexual activity such as touching, grabbing, kissing, fondling, etc.?*” Furthermore, while 1.1% selected the answer “yes, once” in response to the question, an equal proportion selected the answer “yes, more than once.” A total of 80% of sexual assault victims reported that they thought they were targeted due to their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or identity (i.e., these were hate crimes).

### **Rape**

When asked “*Did anyone force you, or attempt to force you, to have sex with them?*” less than 1% (0.5%) of all respondents reported that someone had done this within the last 12 months. The survey also asked the respondents whether anyone had attempted to force them into unwanted sexual intercourse *at any point during their lifetime*. Nearly a quarter (23.2%) of all respondents reported they had been raped, similar to the last survey’s rate of 18.2%. The lifetime rate is statistically significantly higher for females (35.7%) than it is for males (10.1%).<sup>27</sup>



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<sup>27</sup> Significant at  $p < .001$

## Domestic Violence



Using these criteria, 3.5% of all respondents indicated they had been the victims of domestic violence crimes. Among all respondents who had been threatened, assaulted, sexually assaulted, raped, and/or stalked, nearly one in five (18.0%) reported that the assailant was a dating partner or a family member. This rate, then, includes all forms of violence that occur within a domestic or family setting, including intimate partner violence, child abuse, incest, and elder abuse. The number who were victims of these specific types of domestic violence cannot be ascertained.

Respondents were not explicitly asked about domestic violence. While asking may appear to be the most direct way to gather this information, victims of domestic violence do not always recognize domestic violence as such. In the MCVS, evaluators classified domestic violence victims as those respondents who indicated they had been threatened, assaulted, sexually assaulted, raped and/or stalked where the perpetrator was a family member or a dating partner. Using

Among all respondents who had been threatened, assaulted, sexually assaulted, raped, and/or stalked, nearly one in five (18.0%) reported that the assailant was a dating partner or a family member.



## Section III – Reporting, Rights, and Treatment

Approximately 1 out of every 5 crime incidents that were reported to interviewers was reported to local law enforcement. A total of 18.0% of victims were informed of their rights as crime victims, but this rate increased to 36.2% when analysis was restricted to those victims who reported their victimization to police. A small percentage of victims, 3.7%, received medical attention as a result of victimization, and a larger percentage, 10.2%, received mental health treatment. Approximately a tenth of victims believed they were targets of hate crimes. Stalking was the most frequently reported crime among those who identified as hate crime victims.

### Reporting Crime

In the most recent survey, 22.7% of all incidents that were reported to interviewers were reported to local law enforcement. This rate is significantly lower than the 2011 and 2006 rates. The difference between the 2015 and 2011 overall reporting rates is due primarily to the difference in identity theft reporting rates. This difference, in turn, is partly attributable to the inclusion of additional types of identity theft on the 2015 survey. While the reporting rates for most other categories appear to have declined from 2011, these differences may be due to sampling variation. The differences between 2015 and 2006 are more easily established. Between these two surveys, stalking and violent crime reporting decreased by 45.5% and 59.5% respectively. The decrease in reporting stalking crime may be partially explained by the additional types of stalking behaviors included on the 2015 survey. The MCVS did not ask victims why they did or did not report crime.

**Rates of Reporting to Local Law Enforcement**

	2015 Point Estimate	2011 Point Estimate	2006 Point Estimate	Confidence Interval (for 2015)
<b>Overall</b>	22.7%	40.4%	52.7%	19.5% - 25.9%
<b>Property crime</b>	58.5%	65.6%	68.7%	50.1% - 67.6%
<b>Violent crime</b>	20.1%	33.3%	49.6%	8.7% - 31.5%
<b>Threat of violence</b>	32.4%	30.7%	44.7%	20.3% - 44.5%
<b>Stalking crime</b>	21.4%	28.6%	39.3%	13.9% - 28.9%
<b>Identity theft</b>	7.4%	20.3%	27.3%	4.5% - 10.4%

### Rights

A total of 18.0% of victims said that they were informed of their rights as crime victims by law enforcement or another entity. Since law enforcement is one source of this information, the low rate may be partially attributable to victims' failure to report their victimizations to the police. When analysis is restricted to those victims who did report their victimizations to police, the rate of victims told of their rights increases to 36.2%.

## Treatment

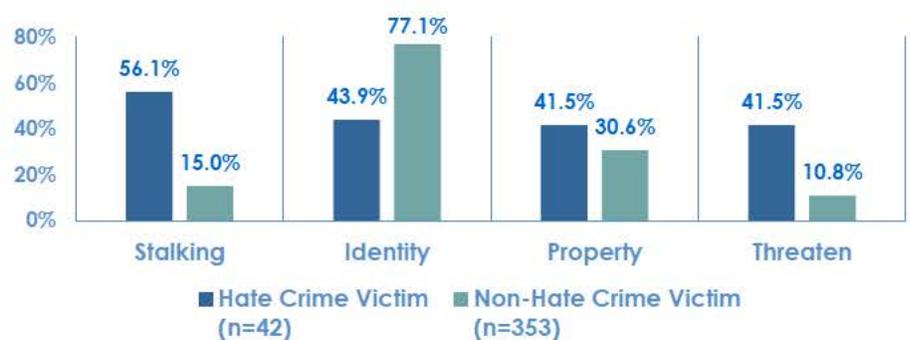
A small percentage of victims, 3.7%, reported that they received medical treatment as a result of being a crime victim in the last 12 months. A greater proportion, 10.2%, reported that they spoke to a psychologist, psychiatrist or other mental health professional as a result of victimization.

## Hate Crimes

Approximately one out of every ten crime victims (10.6%) reported that they believed they were targeted due to their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or identity. In fact, these victims do appear to be victimized more than victims who did not believe their victimization was motivated by hate, which may support their assertion that they were targeted by perpetrators rather than randomly selected. The MCVS asked respondents questions in 9 separate crime areas (identity theft, property crime, robbery, threatening, assault, sexual assault, rape, stalking, and other), and almost a third (31.4%) of those who identified themselves as victims reported more than one type of crime perpetrated against them. Among those victims who identified themselves as hate crime victims, 85.5% reported more than one type of crime perpetrated against them. On average, hate crime victims reported 2.4 types of victimization while non-hate crime victims reported an average of 1.4 types of victimization.

Approximately one out of every ten crime victims (10.6%) reported that they believed they were targeted due to their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or identity.

Identity crimes, property crimes, stalking, and threatening were the top crimes reported by all respondents, and these crime types remained the most frequently reported crimes for both hate crime victims and non-hate crime victims. What varied between these groups was the order and frequency with which these four crimes were reported. For hate crime victims, stalking was the most frequently reported crime. A total of 56.1% of hate crime victims reported being stalked, compared to 15.0% of non-hate crime victims. A total of 43.9% of hate crime victims reported being threatened, compared to 10.8% of non-hate crime victims, and 41.5% of hate crime victims also reported being the victim of a property crime, compared to 30.6% of non-hate crime victims. At 43.9%, identity theft was the second most frequently cited type of victimization for hate crime victims, while it was the most frequently cited type of victimization of non-hate crime victims (77.1%). Of these frequencies, only property crime frequencies were not significantly different between hate crime victims and non-hate crime victims.<sup>28</sup>



<sup>28</sup> Differences significant at  $p < .001$

## Section IV – Demographic Characteristics of Victims

The demographic characteristic most frequently associated with victimization was age. For most types of victimization, young people were more likely to be victimized. Few differences were found between genders, with the exceptions of stalking and identity theft. Unpartnered females were more likely to be stalked and females were more likely to be victims of identity theft. Low income levels were associated with higher stalking rates and higher violent crime rates, while high income levels were associated with higher identity theft rates. Residents in urban and suburban areas were more likely to report violent crime victimization compared to their rural counterparts and more likely to report victimization altogether. Relationship status was correlated with a number of crime rates but also correlated with age and income, and these factors rather than partnership status are likely what influences crime rates.

While section II of this report summarized demographic findings for each type of victimization, this section summarizes those findings by demographic categories.

### Gender

Few gender differences were found in the MCVS. While females were not more likely than males to be stalked, unpartnered females were more likely (23.9%) than partnered females (9.3%) or unpartnered males (9.5%) to be stalked. The rate of stalking for partnered males (14.5%) was not statistically different from the rate of unpartnered females.

Victimization Rates by Gender

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
<b>Stalking</b>		
Female and unpartnered (n=209)	23.9%	18.1% - 29.7%
Female and partnered (n=236)	9.3%	5.5% - 13.1%
Male and unpartnered (n=199)	9.5%	5.5% - 13.6%
Male and partnered (n=207)	14.5%	9.7% - 19.3%

There were also sub-categorical differences found within stalking. Females were more likely to be stalked in all but two categories of stalking behavior—*unsolicited phone calls* and *spreading rumors* (see page 26).

Females were more likely than males to be stalked by someone of the opposite gender. This means that while males were just as likely to be stalked, males were more likely to do the stalking, regardless of victim gender.

Identity theft was another area in which a gender difference emerged. After controlling for the age, income, geography (urban, rural, etc.), and relationship status of victims, females were more likely to be the victims of an identity crime.

## Age

Age was a relevant factor for a number of crime rates. Respondents between the ages of 25 and 34 were most likely to report victimizations of any type (68.5%), while respondents ages 65 and older were the least likely (45.6%) to report victimizations. Respondents between the ages of 25 and 34 were also most likely (24.5%) to report property crime victimization, while

**Victimization Rates by Age**

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
<b>Any crime victimization</b>		
Ages 25 to 34 (n=111)	68.5%	59.8% - 77.1%
Ages 65 and older (n=171)	45.6%	38.1% - 53.1%
<b>Property crime</b>		
Ages 25 to 34 (n=110)	24.5%	16.5% - 32.6%
Ages 65 and older (n=170)	7.1%	3.2% - 10.9%
<b>Identity theft</b>		
Ages 18 to 24 (n=83)	22.9%	13.9% - 31.9%
Overall rate (n=843)	36.4%	33.2% - 39.7%
<b>Violent crime</b>		
Ages 34 and younger (n=191)	9.9%	5.7% - 14.2%
Ages 35 and older (n=612)	2.5%	1.2% - 3.7%
<b>Threat of violence</b>		
Ages 34 and younger (n=193)	14.0%	9.1% - 18.9%
Ages 35 and older (n=613)	4.7%	3.1% - 6.4%

respondents ages 65 and older were the least likely (7.1%) to report it. Those in the youngest age group, ages 18 to 24, were less likely (22.9%) than those from any of the other age groups to report identity theft. (The overall rate of identity theft was 36.4%).

Age was also a relevant factor for violent crime rates and threat of violence rates. Respondents ages 34 and younger were more likely (9.9%) to report violent crime victimization compared to respondents ages 35 and older (at 2.5%). Likewise, younger respondents, ages 34 and younger, were more likely (14.0%) to report threats of violence than their older counterparts, ages 35 and older (at 4.7%).

## Income

Respondents were asked to indicate their income level, which resulted in 8 income categories as follows:

- <10,000
- 10,000-14,999
- 15,000-24,999
- 25,000-34,999
- 35,000-49,999
- 50,000-74,999
- 75,000-99,999
- ≥100,000

Income was a relevant factor in several crime rates, including stalking and identity theft. For these crimes, the differences in rates became apparent at either end of the income spectrum. At 18.5%, respondents who reported the lowest incomes—less than \$25,000—were more likely to experience stalking than those from the highest income range of \$100,000 or more, at 6.5%. Identity theft, on the other hand, was reported at a higher rate from those from the highest income level.

**Victimization Rates by Income**

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
<b>Stalking</b>		
Household income <\$25K (n=189)	18.5%	13.0% - 24.1%
Household income >\$100K (n=123)	6.5%	2.1% - 10.9%
<b>Identity theft</b>		
Household income <\$25K (n=189)	24.9%	18.7% - 31.0%
Household income >\$100K (n=124)	52.4%	43.6% - 61.2%
<b>Violent crime</b>		
Household income <\$25K (n=186)	10.2%	5.9% - 14.6%
Household income >25K (n=540)	1.6%	0% - 3.9%

A total of 52.4% of respondents from the highest income level (\$100,000 or more) reported being the victim of identity theft compared with 24.9% of respondents from the lowest range (less than \$25,000).

Income also made a difference in violent crime rates. While few respondents indicated that they were victims of this type of crime, more than half of those who did reported incomes of less than \$25,000. Among those whose incomes fell into this category, 10.2% reported being the victim of a violent crime. Among those with higher incomes, only 1.6% reported violent victimization.

## Geography

Residents' geographic location was a relevant factor for two crime rates. First, it was relevant in terms of overall victimization. Those from urban and suburban areas were more likely than those from large rural towns or small towns/isolated rural areas to be the victims of any crime.

A total of 57.7% of urban/suburban residents reported any crime victimization compared to 47.1% of their rural counterparts.

Residents' geographic location was also relevant in terms of violent victimizations, with 5.7% of all urban /suburban residents reporting a violent victimization compared to 1.7% of rural residents.

### Victimization Rates by Geography

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
<b>Any crime</b>		
Urban/suburban (n=568)	57.7%	53.7% - 61.8%
Rural (n=244)	47.1%	40.9% - 53.4%
<b>Violent crime</b>		
Urban/suburban (n=566)	5.7%	3.8% - 7.6%
Rural (n=242)	1.7%	0.05% - 3.3%

### Relationship Status

There were differences between partnered and unpartnered respondents for a number of crime rates. In most of these instances, unpartnered respondents reported higher rates of victimization than their partnered counterparts. They were more likely to be the victims of property crime (18.6% vs. 11.8%), more likely to be the victims of violent crime (6.9% vs. 2.1%), and more likely to be the victims of stalking (16.9% vs. 12.0%). Unpartnered respondents were less likely than their partnered counterparts to be victims of identity theft (30.4% vs. 42.3%). It bears mentioning, however, that relationship status is correlated with both income and age. Older respondents tend to have higher incomes than younger respondents, and they are more likely than young respondents to be partnered. The correlation between relationship status and some forms of victimization may be incidental to correlations between income and/or age and victimization.

### Victimization Rates by Relationship Status

	Point Estimate	Confidence Interval
<b>Property</b>		
Unpartnered (n=409)	18.6%	14.8% - 22.4%
Partnered (n=433)	11.8%	8.7% - 14.8%
<b>Identity</b>		
Unpartnered (n=408)	30.4%	25.9% - 34.9%
Partnered (n=433)	42.3%	37.6% - 46.9%
<b>Violent</b>		
Unpartnered (n=408)	6.9%	4.4% - 9.3%
Partnered (n=431)	2.1%	0.7% - 3.4%
<b>Stalking</b>		
Unpartnered (408)	16.9%	13.3% - 20.5%
Partnered (n=434)	12.0%	8.9% - 15.0%

## Appendix A – Survey Questions

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being very unsafe and 5 being very safe, how safe do you feel in the community where you live?

1 = (very unsafe), 5 = (very safe)

Don't know

N/A

2. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being always fearful and 5 being never fearful, how often are you fearful of being the victim of a violent crime?

1 = (always fearful), 5 = (never fearful)

Don't know

N/A

3. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being exceptional, how would you rate the job law enforcement is doing in your community?

1 = (poor), 5 = (exceptional)

Don't know

N/A

4. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being greatly increased and 5 being greatly decreased, over the past three years, how do you feel about the amount of crime in your community?

1 = (greatly increased), 5 = (greatly decreased)

Don't know

N/A

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe **lack of parental discipline** contributes to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

6. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe the **breakdown of family life** contributes to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

7. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe **illegal drugs** contribute to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe **gangs** contribute to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

9. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe **moral decay** contributes to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

10. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe **TV, movie, or video game violence** contributes to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

11. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe **alcohol** contributes to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

12. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe **exposure to domestic violence in the home** contributes to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

13. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe a **criminal justice system that is too lenient** contributes to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

14. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe **availability of guns** contributes to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

15. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a great deal and 5 being not at all, how much do you believe **poverty** contributes to our crime problems here in Maine?

1 = (a great deal), 5 = (not at all)

Don't know

N/A

16. In general, how safe is your neighborhood? Would you say...

1 = (very unsafe), 4 = (very safe)

Don't know

N/A

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**Following are several questions about events that may have occurred over the last 12 months while you were in Maine. Your responses to these questions will be kept completely confidential.**

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17. Were you the victim of a property crime such as someone attempting to steal or stealing your car, breaking into or trying to break into your home, or vandalizing your property? If yes, did this happen once or more than once?

Yes – once

Yes – more than once

No

Don't know

N/A

18. Did you report it to the police? Did you report the most recent incident to the police?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

19. In the last 12 months, did you discover that someone had done any of the following?  
Did anyone use or attempt to use:

- Existing credit cards without permission
- Existing accounts (e.g.; checking) without permission
- Your social security number without permission
- Personal information to obtain services
- Personal information to obtain new credit cards or accounts, run up debts, etc.
- Did anyone, such as a bank or a department store, etc., notify you that your account had been compromised?
- None of the above happened
- Don't know
- N/A

20. Did you report this misuse (of credit cards, personal information, social security number, etc.) to the police?

- Yes
- No
- Reported some but not all
- Don't know
- N/A

21. Did the identity theft result in financial losses?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

22. Approximately how much was the financial loss?

- Less than \$100
- Between \$10 and \$500
- Between \$500 and \$1000
- More than \$1000
- Don't know
- N/A

23. Would you say that you are more cautious or the same as before in financial issues since the incident?

- More cautious
- Same as before
- Don't know
- N/A

24. Have you taken any steps to protect your identity since the incident(s)?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

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***The next questions are personal but please remember that all of your answers are confidential.  
I am going to read you a list of things that might be done to someone.***

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25. In the last 12 months, while in Maine, did anyone take or attempt to take something directly from you by using force or threat of force? If yes, did this happen once or more than once?

- Yes – once
- Yes – more than once
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

26. Did you report it to the police? / Did you report the most recent incident to the police?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

27. Did the property crime result in any financial losses?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

28. In the past 12 months, did anyone threaten to hit, attack, or assault you? If yes, did this happen once or more than once?

Yes – once

Yes – more than once

No

Don't know

N/A

29. Did you report it to the police? / Did you report the most recent incident to the police?

Yes

No

Don't know

N/A

30. Were you threatened with (check all that apply):

Physical force

A knife

A gun or firearm

A club

Another weapon

Other weapon

Don't know

N/A

31. Was the person who did this to you... (select all that apply):

A stranger

A casual acquaintance

A dating partner

A family member, including an unmarried partner living in your home

A person or people well known to you, excluding family

Multiple people

Don't know

N/A

Was there anyone else involved in that incident?

32. Was the person or people who did this to you...

- Male or
- Female
- Both (for multiple offenders)
- Don't know
- N/A

33. In the past 12 months, while in Maine, did anyone injure you with a weapon or with physical force?

- Yes – once
- Yes – more than once
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

34. Did you report it to the police? / Did you report the most recent incident to the police?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

35. Did you require medical care as a result of the assault?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

36. Was the injury caused by (select all that apply):

- Physical force
- A knife
- A gun or firearm
- A club
- Another weapon
- Don't know
- N/A

37. Was the person who did this to you... (select all that apply):

- A stranger
- A casual acquaintance
- A dating partner
- A family member, including an unmarried partner living in your home
- A person or people well known to you, excluding family
- Multiple people
- Don't know
- N/A

Was there anyone else involved in the incident?

38. Was the person or people who did this to you...

- Male or
- Female
- Both (for multiple offenders)
- Don't know
- N/A

39. Have you ever been assaulted prior to this incident?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

40. In the last 12 months, did anyone force you, or attempt to force you, into any unwanted sexual activity such as touching, grabbing, kissing, fondling, etc.? Did this happen once or more than once?

- Yes – once
- Yes – more than once
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

41. Did you report it to the police? / Did you report the most recent incident to the police?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

42. Did the person or people who did this to you use (check all that apply):

- Physical force
- A knife
- A gun or firearm
- A club
- Another weapon
- Verbal threats
- None of the above
- Don't know
- N/A

43. Was the person who did this to you... (select all that apply):

- A stranger
- A casual acquaintance
- A dating partner
- A family member, including an unmarried partner living in your home
- A person or people well known to you, excluding family
- Multiple people
- Don't know
- N/A

Was there anyone else involved in the incident?

44. Was the person or people who did this to you...

- Male or
- Female
- Both (multiple assailants)
- Don't know
- N/A

45. In the last 12 months, did anyone force you, or attempt to force you to have sex with them?  
Did this happen once or more than once?

- Yes – once
- Yes – more than once
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

46. Did you report it to the police? / Did you report the most recent incident to the police?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

47. Did the person or people who did this to you use (check all that apply):

- Physical force
- A knife
- A gun or firearm
- A club
- Another weapon
- Verbal threats
- None of the above
- Don't know
- N/A

48. Was the person who did this to you... (select all that apply):

- A stranger
- A casual acquaintance
- A dating partner
- A family member, including an unmarried partner living in your home
- A person or people well known to you, excluding family
- Multiple people
- Don't know
- N/A

49. Was the person or people who did this to you...

- Male or
- Female
- Both (if multiple offenders)
- Don't know
- N/A

50. Did you require medical care as a result of the sexual assault?

- Yes, and received
- Yes, but didn't receive
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

51. In your lifetime has anyone ever forced or attempted to force you to have sex with them?  
(By “sex,” we mean anal or vaginal penetration with a penis or another object.)

- Yes
- No
- Don’t know
- N/A

52. During the past 12 months while in Maine, did you feel threatened by another person (other than bill collectors, telephone solicitors, or other sales people) as a result of any of the following behaviors? (Select all that apply):

- Following or spying
- Unsolicited emails/texts/letters
- Unsolicited phone calls
- Waiting/standing outside
- Showing up places
- Leaving unwanted gifts/items
- Spreading rumors
- Other unwanted communication
- None of the above
- Don’t know
- N/A

53. Did you report any of these incidents to the police?

- Yes
- No
- Don’t know
- N/A

54. Was the person or people who did this to you...

- A stranger
- A casual acquaintance
- A dating partner
- A family member, including an unmarried partner living in your home
- A person or people well known to you, excluding family
- Multiple people
- Don’t know
- N/A

55. Was the person or people who did this to you...

- Male or
- Female
- Both (if multiple offenders)
- Don't know
- N/A

56. Has the behavior ended?

- Yes
- No
- Some stopped, some didn't
- Don't know
- N/A

57. How long did the behavior last?

- Less than a week
- More than a week but less than a month
- A month or more
- A year or more
- Don't know
- N/A

58. During the past 12 months while in Maine, have you been the victim of any other crimes that we have not already discussed?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

59. What was the crime?

60. Did you report it to the police?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

**61.** Other than any of those you just mentioned, over the course of your lifetime, have you ever been the victim of any of the other crimes in this survey? This would include property crimes, identity theft, threatening, and so on.

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

**62.** As a result of being a victim of a crime in the last 12 months, have you received medical treatment?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

**63.** As a result of being a victim of a crime in the last 12 months, have you talked to a psychologist, psychiatrist, or mental health professional?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

**64.** Do you believe you were the victim of a crime due to your race, gender, religion, sexual orientation or identity?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

**65.** Did anyone tell you or your family about your rights as a crime victim, such as what you would be notified about or how you could participate in prosecution, sentencing or corrections decisions?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

66. What gender do you identify as?

- Female
- Male
- Other
- Prefer not to answer
- Don't know
- N/A

67. Which category best describes your racial background?

- White/Caucasian
- African American/Black
- American Indian
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- Bi-racial or multi-racial
- Other (specify)
- Don't know
- N/A

68. Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- N/A

69. What is your marital status?

- Single
- Married
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Separated
- Unmarried partner sharing a home
- Don't know
- N/A

70. What is the highest grade of school or level of education you have completed so far?

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade or less
- Some high school, but did not graduate
- High school graduate or GED
- Some college or 2-year degree
- 4-year college degree
- More than 4-year college degree
- Don't know
- N/A

71. How many children under the age of 18 live at your current residence?

72. For the year 2014, was your total household income from all sources more than \$50,000 or was it less than that?

- More
- Less
- Don't know
- N/A

73. Was your total household income \$75,000 or more (or was it less than that)?

- More
- Less
- Don't know
- N/A

74. Was it \$100,000 or more (or was it less than that)?

- More
- Less
- Don't know
- N/A

75. Was your total household income more than \$35,000 (or was it less than that)?

- More
- Less
- Don't know
- N/A

76. Was your total household income from all sources more than \$25,000 (or was it less than that)?

- More
- Less
- Don't know
- N/A

77. Was your total household income from all sources more than \$15,000 (or was it less than that)?

- More
- Less
- Don't know
- N/A

78. Was your total household income from all sources more than \$10,000 (or was it less than that)?

- More
- Less
- Don't know
- N/A

79. Which of the following best describes your present employment status?

- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Student
- Homemaker
- Unemployed
- Retired
- Disabled
- Don't know
- N/A

80. In what year were you born?

81. How long have you lived in Maine?

- Less than 5 years
- 5-9 years
- 10-19 years
- 20 years or more
- Don't know
- N/A

82. How long have you lived at your current residence? (Years)
83. How long have you lived at your current residence? (Months)
84. What is your zip code?
85. Did I reach you on a land line or a cell phone?

Land line  
Cell phone  
Don't know  
N/A

86. Do you have a cell phone?
87. Do you have a land line phone?



## Appendix B – RUCA Designations

<i>Urban</i>	04049	04110	04418
	04050	04112	04419
00141	04054	04116	04422
03804	04055	04122	04423
03901	04057	04123	04427
03902	04061	04124	04428
03903	04062	04210	04429
03904	04063	04211	04434
03905	04064	04212	04435
03908	04068	04220	04444
03909	04069	04222	04448
03910	04070	04223	04449
03911	04071	04230	04450
04002	04072	04236	04453
04004	04074	04238	04455
04005	04075	04240	04456
04006	04077	04241	04461
04007	04078	04243	04467
04013	04082	04250	04468
04015	04084	04252	04469
04017	04085	04253	04473
04019	04087	04256	04474
04020	04090	04258	04475
04021	04091	04260	04488
04024	04092	04263	04489
04027	04093	04266	04493
04028	04096	04274	04495
04029	04097	04280	04496
04030	04098	04282	04928
04032	04101	04283	04932
04033	04102	04288	04933
04034	04103	04291	04939
04038	04104	04401	04953
04039	04105	04402	04969
04040	04106	04410	
04041	04107	04411	
04042	04108	04412	
04047	04109	04417	
04048			

**Suburban**

	04364	00147	04421
	04530	00151	04424
04001	04548	03906	04426
04003	04562	03907	04430
04008	04565	04009	04431
04011	04567	04010	04438
04053	04579	04016	04441
04056	04841	04022	04442
04066	04846	04037	04443
04073	04854	04051	04454
04076	04858	04088	04457
04079	04861	04216	04460
04083	04864	04217	04463
04086	04901	04219	04464
04095	04903	04221	04472
04259	04910	04224	04476
04265	04917	04225	04478
04284	04918	04226	04479
04287	04926	04227	04481
04330	04927	04231	04485
04332	04935	04234	04490
04333	04937	04237	04491
04336	04944	04239	04492
04338	04962	04255	04535
04341	04963	04261	04536
04343	04975	04262	04537
04344	04989	04267	04538
04345		04270	04539
04346	<b>Small Town/ Isolated Rural</b>	04278	04541
04347		04285	04543
04348		04286	04544
04349	00125	04289	04547
04350	00126	04294	04549
04351	00127	04342	04551
04352	00128	04354	04553
04353	00132	04406	04554
04355	00133	04408	04555
04357	00134	04413	04556
04358	00135	04414	04558
04359	00139	04415	04563
04360	00140	04416	04564
04363	00145	04420	04568

04570	04655	04774	04965
04571	04656	04775	04966
04572	04657	04776	04970
04573	04658	04780	04971
04574	04660	04781	04972
04575	04664	04785	04974
04576	04666	04788	04978
04578	04667	04847	04979
04605	04668	04848	04981
04606	04669	04849	04982
04607	04671	04850	04983
04611	04673	04851	04984
04612	04674	04852	04985
04613	04676	04853	04986
04614	04677	04855	04987
04615	04679	04856	04988
04616	04680	04857	
04617	04681	04859	<i>Large Rural Town</i>
04622	04683	04860	
04623	04684	04862	00130
04624	04685	04863	00137
04625	04686	04865	00138
04626	04691	04911	00148
04627	04693	04912	04014
04628	04694	04920	04043
04629	04732	04922	04046
04630	04737	04923	04094
04631	04739	04925	04228
04634	04740	04929	04254
04635	04741	04930	04257
04637	04742	04936	04268
04640	04743	04942	04271
04642	04744	04943	04275
04643	04745	04945	04276
04645	04746	04947	04281
04646	04747	04954	04290
04648	04750	04955	04292
04649	04751	04956	04451
04650	04759	04957	04459
04652	04768	04958	04462
04653	04770	04961	04471
04654	04772	04964	04487

04497	04973
04609	04976
04619	04992
04644	
04662	
04672	
04675	
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04967	

## **About the Muskie School of Public Service**

The Muskie School of Public Service is Maine's distinguished public policy school, combining an extensive applied research and technical assistance portfolio with rigorous undergraduate and graduate degree programs in geography-anthropology; policy, planning, and management (MPPM); and public health (MPH). The school is nationally recognized for applying innovative knowledge to critical issues in the fields of sustainable development and health and human service policy and management, and is home to the Cutler Institute for Health and Social Policy.

## **About the Cutler Institute for Health and Social Policy**

The Cutler Institute for Health and Social Policy at the Muskie School of Public Service is dedicated to developing innovative, evidence-informed, and practical approaches to pressing health and social challenges faced by individuals, families, and communities.

## **About the Maine Statistical Analysis Center**

The Maine Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) informs policy development and improvement of practice in Maine's criminal and juvenile justice systems. A partnership between the University of Southern Maine Muskie School of Public Service and the Maine Department of Corrections, SAC collaborates with numerous community-based and governmental agencies. SAC conducts applied research, evaluates programs and new initiatives, and provides technical assistance, consultation and organizational development services. The Maine Statistical Analysis Center is funded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and supported by the Justice Research Statistics Association.

## **US Department of Justice**

The Maine Crime Victimization Survey and Report were conducted under the auspices of the State Justice Statistics Program, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), Department of Justice (DOJ). Funding for this initiative was provided by the BJS grant 2014-R2-CX-K039.

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*A member of the University of Maine System*

**Funding for the 2015 Maine Crime  
Victimization Study  
was generously provided by:**

**US DOJ, Bureau of Justice Statistics  
Maine Department of Corrections**

*This report is available on the Maine  
Statistical Analysis Center Web site at:*

[http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/justiceresearch/adult\\_research.html](http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/justiceresearch/adult_research.html)  
or by calling: (207) 780-5871