

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

Prepared by
The Catherine Cutler Institute
for the Maine Department of Health and Human Services

2022 MAINE CRIME VICTIMIZATION REPORT:

*Informing Public Policy
for Safer Communities*

July 2022

CATHERINE
CUTLER
INSTITUTE



Acknowledgments

Authors

Clare Murray, Research Assistant, Survey Research Center
Robyn Dumont, Managing Director, Survey Research Center
George Shaler, Senior Research Associate, Maine Statistical Analysis Center

Peer Reviewer

Kris Sahonchik, Director of the Catherine Cutler Institute for Health and Social Policy

Layout & Design

Alexa Plotkin, Policy Analyst, Catherine Cutler Institute for Health and Social Policy

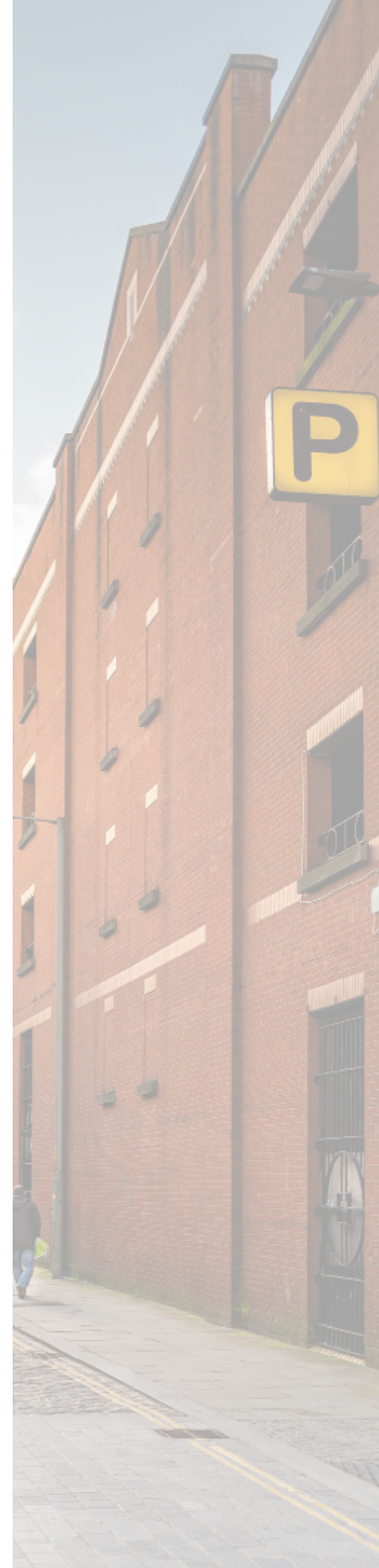
This product was produced by the Catherine Cutler Institute and was supported by the Victims of Crime Act, grant number 2019-V2-GX-0065 awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this product are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Suggested Citation:

Murray, C., Dumont, R., & Shaler, G. (2022). *2022 Maine Crime Victimization Report: Informing Public Policy for Safer Communities*. Maine Statistical Analysis Center. University of Southern Maine.

Contents

Executive Summary	1
Introduction	5
Methodology	6
SAMPLE SELECTION	6
ANALYSIS	6
POINT ESTIMATES, CONFIDENCE INTERVALS, AND CONFIDENCE LEVELS	7
WEIGHTS	7
LIMITATIONS	8
RUCA CLASSIFICATION	8
Sample Overview	9
Survey Findings	10
ANY CRIME	10
PROPERTY CRIME	15
IDENTITY CRIME	19
THREAT OF VIOLENCE	22
VIOLENT CRIME	25
STALKING	27
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	32
HATE CRIMES	35
LIFETIME RAPE	37
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	39
DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF VICTIMS	40
Summary	58
Appendix A – RUCA Designations	60
Appendix B – Survey	63



This page left intentionally blank.

Executive Summary

The purpose of the Maine Crime Victimization Survey (MCVS) is to understand the extent of criminal victimization, crime reporting, and assistance seeking, and to identify differences in rates between demographic groups. A survey patterned after the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) was sent out in January 2022 to randomly selected adult Mainers. A total of 1,363 completed responses were received. The following is a summary of key findings from the 2022 MCVS:

Crime Victimization

Just over one-third (34%) of all respondents (n=1,363) reported having been the victim of at least one crime in the past 12 months.

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

- 17% of respondents reported being the victim of a stalking crime in the previous 12 months.
- 16% of respondents reported being the victim of an identity crime at least once in the previous 12 months.
- 9% of those surveyed reported being the victim of a property crime at least once in the previous 12 months.

Number of Crime Types

The majority (65%) of those who reported experiencing any crime reported just one type of crime (e.g., property, identity, etc.), but an additional 19% experienced two types of crime, and 16% experienced three or more types of crime over the past 12 months.

Domestic Violence

Nearly one in five (18%) of those who reported having experienced any type of crime in the previous 12 months reported that at least one crime was committed by a current or former domestic partner or family member.

Hate Crime

Just over one-fifth (22%) of those who reported having experienced any type of crime in the previous 12 months reported that they believed or suspected that the crime was perpetrated against them due to their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation or identity.

Violent Crime

Approximately one out of 20 respondents (5.3%) indicated they had been the victim of a violent crime (robbery, assault, sexual assault, or rape/attempted rape) in the previous 12 months.

Lifetime Rape

Twenty-three percent (23%) of all respondents reported having experienced rape/attempted rape at least once in their lifetime.

Lifetime Human Trafficking

About three percent (3%) of all survey respondents reported having experienced human trafficking (being forced, tricked, or manipulated into engaging in any type of labor, including commercial sex) at some point in their lifetime.

Reporting to Law Enforcement

More than two-thirds (68%) of all victims who experienced one or more crimes stated that they did not report the crime(s) to law enforcement.

The crimes that were reported to law enforcement most frequently were property crimes, threatening crimes, and violent crimes.

- 57% of all **property crime** victims indicated that they reported at least one crime to law enforcement.
- 46% of all **threatening crime** victims indicated that they reported at least one crime to law enforcement.
- 39% of all **violent crime** victims indicated that they reported at least one crime to law enforcement.

Seeking Victim Services

Of those who answered that they had been a victim of any type of crime (n=468), only 13% sought services from a victim services organization.

The crimes that respondents sought victim services for most frequently were violent crimes, threatening crimes, and property crimes.

- 35% of all victims of **violent crimes** indicated that they sought services from a victim services organization as a result of this type of crime.
- 20% of all victims of **threatening crimes** indicated that they sought services from a victim services organization as a result of this type of crime.
- 12% of all victims of **property crimes** indicated that they sought services from a victim services organization as a result of this type of crime.

Characteristics of Victims

Age

Young people (aged 18 to 34) were more likely to be victimized for every type of crime except identity crime, including property crime, threatening, violent crime, stalking, domestic violence, and hate crimes over the previous 12 months. They were also more likely to have experienced rape/attempted rape and human trafficking at some point in their lifetime.

Race and Ethnicity

Persons of color (American Indian, Asian, biracial, Black, African American, multiracial, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander and/or Hispanic persons) were more likely to be victimized for every type of crime except identity crime, including property crime, threatening, violent crime, stalking, domestic violence, and hate crimes over the past 12 months. They were also more likely to have experienced rape/attempted rape and human trafficking at some point in their lifetime.

Gender

Females were more likely to experience crime in general; more likely to experience lifetime rape/attempted rape and trafficking; and more likely to have experienced stalking, threats of violence, violent crimes (robbery, assault, sexual assault, or rape/attempted rape), domestic violence, and hate crimes than their male counterparts.

Household Income

Those with lower household incomes were more likely than those with higher incomes to experience stalking, domestic violence, hate crimes, threatening, and violent crimes. They were likewise more likely to experience rape/attempted rape within their lifetime as well as being trafficked. Those with higher incomes were more likely to experience identity crime.

Location

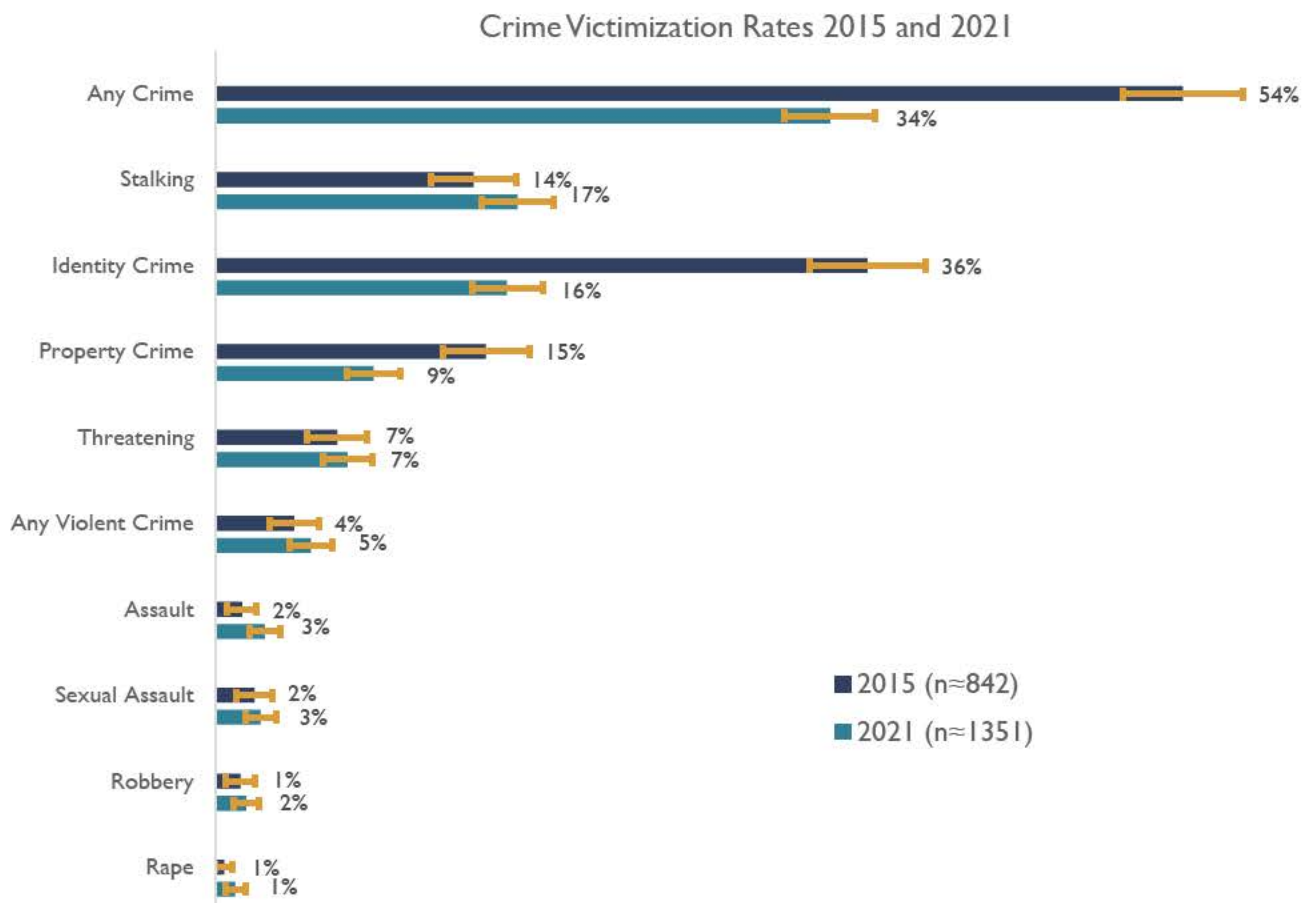
Respondents from urban/suburban areas were more likely to experience domestic violence and violent crime compared with those from rural areas. Those from Cumberland County were more likely than those from other counties to experience property crime and less likely to experience violent and hate crimes. Those in Kennebec County were more likely than those from other counties to experience domestic violence. Those from Penobscot County were more likely to experience domestic violence, violent crime, threatening, and hate crime. Respondents from York County were less likely than those from other counties to experience domestic violence.

Relationship Status

Across nearly all types of crime, respondents without partners were more likely to be a victim than those with partners. Relationship status, however, is correlated with both household income and age. Older respondents tend to have higher household incomes and are more likely to be partnered. After controlling for age and income, those who are unpartnered had higher rates than partnered respondents for lifetime rape/attempted rape, stalking, domestic violence, threats of violence, violent crime, and lifetime trafficking.

Comparison to 2015 MCVS

The overall crime rate has decreased significantly compared to the 2015 study. While this may reflect a decrease in victimization, the wording of some of the current year’s survey questions differed substantively from the previous survey’s, which certainly contributed to this decrease. This being said, the property crime rate decreased from 15% in 2015 to 9% in 2021, which was a statistically significant decrease, and the property crime question remained the same in the current survey.



Note: Numbers for years are approximations; number of respondents varied by crime type.

Figure 1

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 several other states, took this step because the findings from the NCVS could not be reported on a state-by-state basis. The initial MCVS was developed by the Maine SAC as a tool to better understand the frequency and characteristics of criminal victimization in Maine. This current report summarizes the fourth Maine Crime Victimization Survey (MCVS).

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 2011.¹ 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 partnered with the Catherine Cutler Institutes' Survey Research Center to conduct the MCVS for the third time.²

In January of 2022, the fourth iteration of the MCVS was launched by Maine SAC, once again partnering with the Survey Research Center. This year the MCVS was developed with support and sponsorship from the Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) at the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MECASA). It is part of a larger effort to conduct a statewide victim service needs assessment. The information gathered in the MCVS will serve to inform the larger project, which will in turn inform the process of strategic planning for provisions of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and other grant-funded programs and services that are responsive to the needs of victims of crime and victim service providers.

The current year's survey gathered data about respondents' experiences with various crimes over the previous 12 months, the reporting of those crimes to law enforcement, and the seeking of victim services as a result of those crimes. The survey was modified from the previous three years surveys though it is still patterned after the NCVS. These modifications mean that in some areas, comparisons between rates from the current MCVS and rates from the previous survey are not appropriate. This report presents comparison rates whenever appropriate.

Please see Appendix B for a copy of the 2022 survey.

¹Rubin, M., Dodge, J., & Chiasson, E. (2011). *2011 Maine Crime Victimization Report: Informing Public Policy for Safer Communities*. Maine Statistical Analysis Center. University of Southern Maine. https://cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/wpsites.maine.edu/dist/2/115/files/2018/06/2011_Maine_Crime_Victimization_Survey_Report-qqbpmh.pdf

²Dumont, R. & Shaler, G. (2015). *2015 Maine Crime Victimization Report: Informing Public Policy for Safer Communities*. Maine Statistical Analysis Center. University of Southern Maine. https://cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/wpsites.maine.edu/dist/2/115/files/2018/06/2015_Maine_Crime_Victimization_Survey_Report-2hdhnr.pdf

Methodology

Sample Selection

To obtain a random sample of Maine residents for this survey, the Survey Research Center (SRC) obtained an address-based sample frame. This frame included addresses for 12,000 Mainers aged 18 and older, along with landline and cell phone numbers when available so that follow-up calls could be made. The result was a list containing 4,002 records in which a landline number was present, 5,860 records in which a cell phone number was present, 1,710 records in which both phone numbers were present, and 3,848 records in which no phone number was present.

Surveys were mailed out at the beginning of January 2022. The mailing included a cover letter, a two-page two-sided survey in English, and a postage-paid return envelope. The cover letter featured a bold insert containing a list of languages (Arabic, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Somali, and English), each translated into its respective language, along with a weblink in the form of a tiny URL so respondents could complete the survey online in any of the listed languages. Phone follow-up began a week and a half after surveys were mailed, and a total of 3,076 persons were randomly selected and called. Interviewers encouraged respondents to complete the survey over the phone, but if respondents were not able or willing, interviewers asked them to complete the paper or online version instead. Because preliminary analysis on completed surveys showed that respondents were disproportionately older, the SRC opted to utilize an additional online panel³ to obtain more responses from those aged 18 to 34.

The survey was shut down approximately 8 weeks after launch with a total of 1,363 responses. The majority of responses, 87% (n=1,181) were mail responses, 5% (n=72) were phone, 4% (n=58) were panel, and 4% (n=52) were online. Only two online surveys were completed in a language other than English (one in Spanish and one in Arabic). Of the 12,000 surveys mailed, approximately 2,304 (19%) were undeliverable. Interviewers called some of these respondents but not all, resulting in a reduction of 1,835 in the sample frame and an overall response rate of 13%.⁴

Analysis

The goal of this report is to obtain rates of victimization, crime reporting, and assistance seeking and to identify differences in rates between demographic groups. Toward that end, ordinal variables such as age and household income were often regrouped to obtain subgroups with large enough numbers to carry out statistical tests. This grouping was done by exploring the output visually to identify obvious “breakpoints,” which occurred in different places for different measures.

³ Online survey panels are made up of people who have agreed to be contacted on a regular basis to share their experiences and opinions. Participants are recruited from a wide variety of sources, and researchers can specify the demographics for a particular panel (e.g., Maine residents aged 18 to 34). These factors help ensure that the panel will be representative of the population of interest.

⁴ Response rates do not include panel participants in either the numerator or denominator.

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 represented visually along with point estimates in graphs throughout the report. For the questions answered by the entire sample (n=1,363), the confidence interval is $\pm 3\%$.

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 reality, people respond to recruiting efforts in a way that is not random and which results in a sample that is not perfectly representative of the population. Respondents' non-random self-selection becomes apparent when the sample data have demographic distributions that are different from that of the study population.

This is a common occurrence with surveys, and the current survey is no exception. To counteract respondents' non-random self-selection, analysts used a weighting procedure. Survey data were weighted in terms of age, gender, household income, race/ethnicity, and county to match Maine's population distributions as described in Census tables.⁵ The rates reported in this survey are weighted rates unless otherwise stated.

⁵Age, gender, household income, and county data were obtained from the American Community Survey (5-year estimates), while race/ethnicity were obtained from the 2020 Decennial Census.

Limitations

There are several limitations to this study. Some are the result of the tension that exists in any survey between the desire to collect as much data as possible and the need to operate within budget. While the final version of the survey asked respondents whether they had experienced each crime one time or multiple times, it did not ask for specific numbers. As a result, it is not possible to estimate the number of crimes experienced by Mainers, just the number of types of crime (e.g., property, identity, etc.).

Similarly, it is not possible to say which crimes were domestic violence crimes. Respondents who reported at least one crime were asked whether any crimes were committed by an intimate partner or family member, but they were not asked which crimes were committed by them when there were multiple crime types, as was often the case. This same limitation applies to hate crime—it is not possible to say which types of crimes were committed due to a respondent’s race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity when there were multiple crime types, as was also often the case.

Another limitation is the inability to look at respondents aged 18 to 24 separately. This demographic was underrepresented in the sample frame and had a poor response rate compared with older adults. The panel also did not result in enough respondents within this range to analyze them separately. As a result, the youngest age category includes those aged 18 to 34. Also, due to the challenge of obtaining a representative sample frame of those younger than 18 and the ethical constraints of surveying them about victimization, young people were not included in this study.

RUCA Classification

Urban and non-urban areas in this report were calculated using Rural-Urban Commuting Area Codes (RUCAs). RUCAs are determined by Census designation, including consideration of population density and work commuting patterns, and are approximated to individual zip codes. Appendix A lists the Maine zip codes by RUCA designation.⁶

⁶ For more information about RUCAs, see the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Economic Research Service website at <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-commuting-area-codes.aspx>

Sample Overview

A total of 1,363 respondents completed the survey. The following table displays both the unweighted and weighted distributions by demographic attribute. Note that not every respondent provided responses to every demographic question. The proportions reported below are based on the known totals. The known proportion appears next to each attribute. (E.g., 98% of respondents provided a response to the marital status question.)

	u*	w**		u*	w**
Gender † (98%)			Marital Status (98%)		
Female	48%	48%	Single, never married	10%	19%
Male	52%	52%	Married	58%	53%
Age (96%)			Divorced	15%	15%
18-34	9%	25%	Widowed	11%	6%
35-44	8%	14%	Separated	1%	<1%
45-54	12%	17%	Unmarried, cohabitating	4%	6%
55-64	22%	19%	County (96%)		
≥65	49%	25%	Androscoggin	7%	8%
Household Income (93%)			Aroostook	4%	5%
<\$25,000	15%	21%	Cumberland	27%	22%
\$25,000-\$49,999	23%	23%	Franklin	2%	2%
\$50,000-\$74,999	20%	19%	Hancock	4%	4%
\$75,000-\$99,999	15%	14%	Kennebec	9%	9%
≥\$100,000	27%	24%	Knox	3%	3%
Race/Ethnicity†† (97%)			Lincoln	3%	3%
Non-Hispanic White	95%	92%	Oxford	3%	4%
Persons of color	5%	8%	Penobscot	10%	11%
RUCA Designation (96%)			Piscataquis	1%	1%
Urban/suburban	72%	71%	Sagadahoc	4%	3%
Small town/rural	28%	29%	Somerset	3%	4%
			Waldo	3%	3%
			Washington	2%	2%
			York	15%	15%

u*=unweighted w**=weighted

†The numbers reported here reflect the weighting distribution, which is based on dichotomous gender categories provided by the Census. The survey included additional categories for those who felt they did not fit into these categories. While there were too few responses in these categories to report separately, these responses were included in the overall analysis.

††This category includes those who reported any race other than White as well as those who reported being Hispanic/Latino. The terms "persons of color" will be used throughout this report to refer to this combined demographic.

Table 1: Demographic Attributes of Respondents

Survey Findings

Survey respondents were asked whether they had been the victim of five different types of crimes over the past 12-month period. These types included the following:

- Property crime
- Violent crime (including robbery, assault, sexual assault, and rape/attempted rape)
- Threatening with physical violence
- Identity crime
- Stalking (including multiple types of stalking behavior)

Respondents who answered in the affirmative were asked two follow-up questions to determine whether they had reported the crimes to law enforcement and whether they sought services from a victim service organization. Those who reported experiencing crime were asked two more questions to determine whether those crimes were hate crimes and/or domestic violence crimes. Finally, respondents were asked two questions related to their lifetime experience with rape or human trafficking.

Any Crime

Victimization

Just over one-third (34%) of respondents reported having been the victim of at least one crime in the past 12 months. This rate is a 20-percentage point decrease from the rate found in the previous Maine Crime Victimization Survey (MCVS) published in 2015, which was 54%. While this may reflect a decrease in victimization, the wording of some of the current year's survey questions differed substantively from the previous survey's, which certainly contributed to this decrease. These wording changes will be discussed throughout the report where applicable.

The proportion of victims who reported any type of victimization varied by respondent demographic as follows:⁷

- The demographic group most likely to experience crime was those aged 18 to 34, at 52%, compared with 29% of those aged 35 and over.
- Persons of color were more likely than non-Hispanic White people to be the victim of crime, at 51% and 33%, respectively.
- At 38%, females were more likely to be the victim of crime than males, at 30%.

Victim of Any Crime (n=1,363)

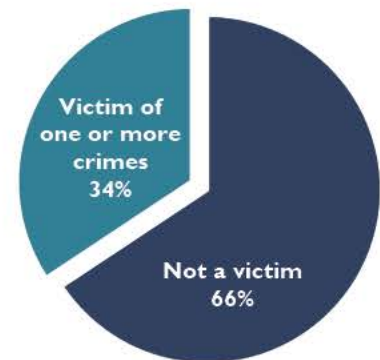


Figure 2

⁷ Age: $\chi^2(1, N=1302)=59.511, p<.001, \Phi=.214$; Race/ethnicity: $\chi^2(1, N=1342)=14.826, p<.001, \Phi=.105$; Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=1327)=8.863, p=.003, \Phi=.082$

Overall Crime Victimization Rates by Demographic

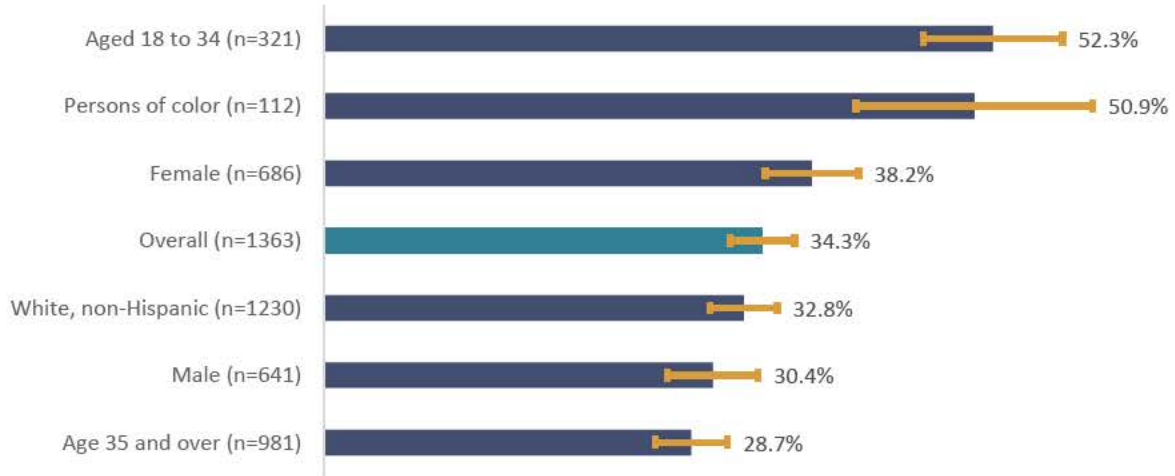


Figure 3

The majority (65%) of those who reported experiencing any crime reported just one type of crime (e.g., property, identity, etc.), but an additional 19% experienced two types of crime, and 16% experienced three or more types of crime over the past 12 months.

Number of Crime Types Experienced by Victims (n=468)

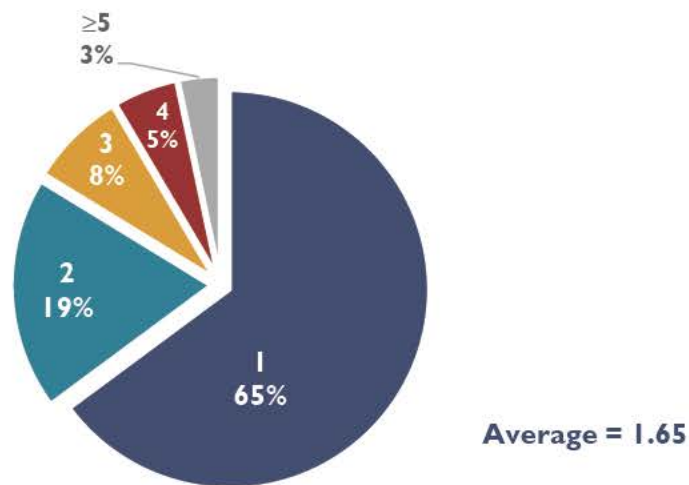


Figure 4

The average number of crime types experienced by those who reported any victimization was 1.65, but this rate varied by respondent attribute. The rate was higher for females (1.86), those with household incomes of \$50,000 or less (1.86), those with no partner (1.97), those aged 18 to 34 (2.06), and highest among persons of color (2.22).

Average Number of Crime Types Experienced by Victims

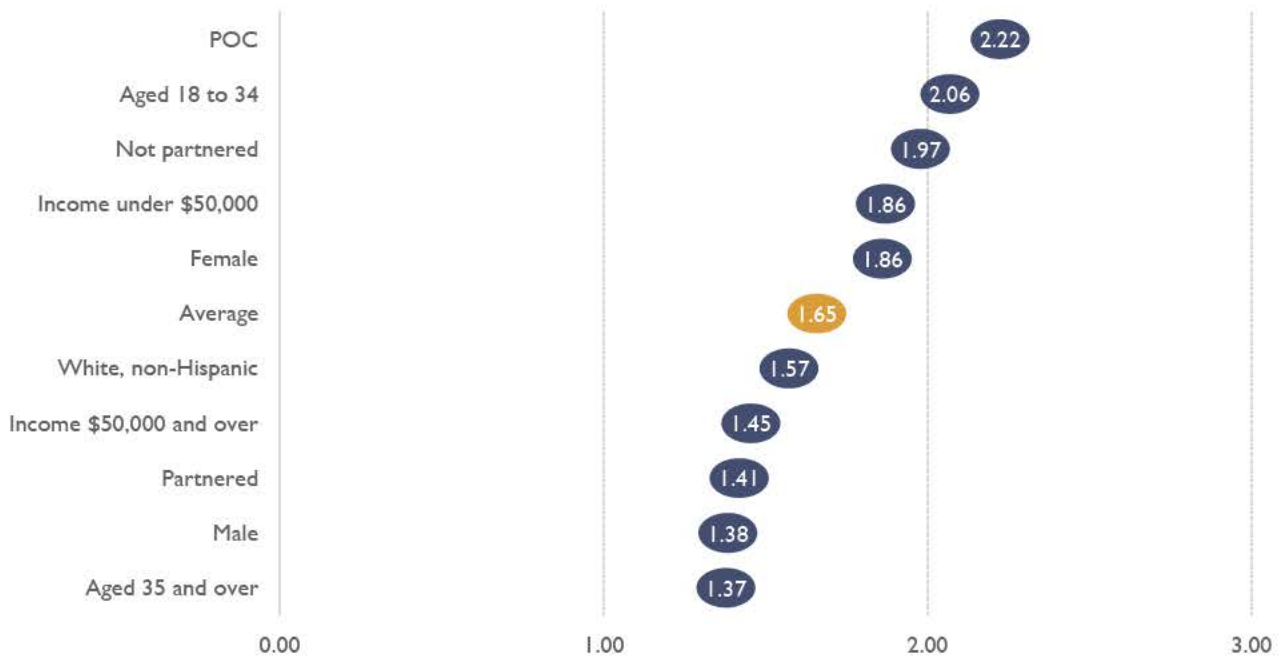


Figure 5

Note: The survey did not ask respondents how many crimes they experienced due to space constraints as well as the difficulty of defining what constitutes a single crime.

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Those who experienced any type of crime were asked whether they reported any of the crimes to law enforcement.

Only a third (32%, n=150) of all victims who experienced one or more crimes stated that they reported at least one crime to law enforcement.

The proportion of victims of any crime who reported crime to law enforcement varied by respondent demographics as follows:⁸

- Victims of color were the most likely to report crime to law enforcement at a rate of 59%, compared with a rate of 29% for non-Hispanic White victims.
- Younger victims—those between the ages of 18 and 34—were more likely to report crime to law enforcement than any other age cohort. Almost half (48%) of the younger group reported crime to law enforcement, while those age 35 and older had a reporting rate of 25%.
- Single, divorced, widowed, and separated victims (hereafter referred to as “unpartnered”) were more likely to report crime than married or cohabitating victims (hereafter referred to as “partnered”) at 39%, compared with 28%.
- Female victims were more likely to report crime to law enforcement, at a rate of 37%, compared with their male counterparts, at only 25%.

Reporting Any Crime to Law Enforcement (n=467)

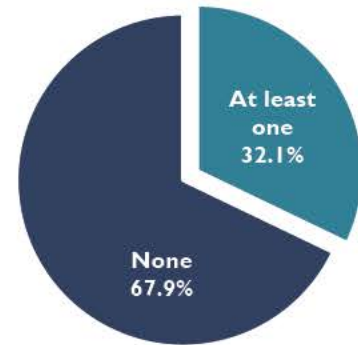


Figure 6

Crime Reporting by Demographics

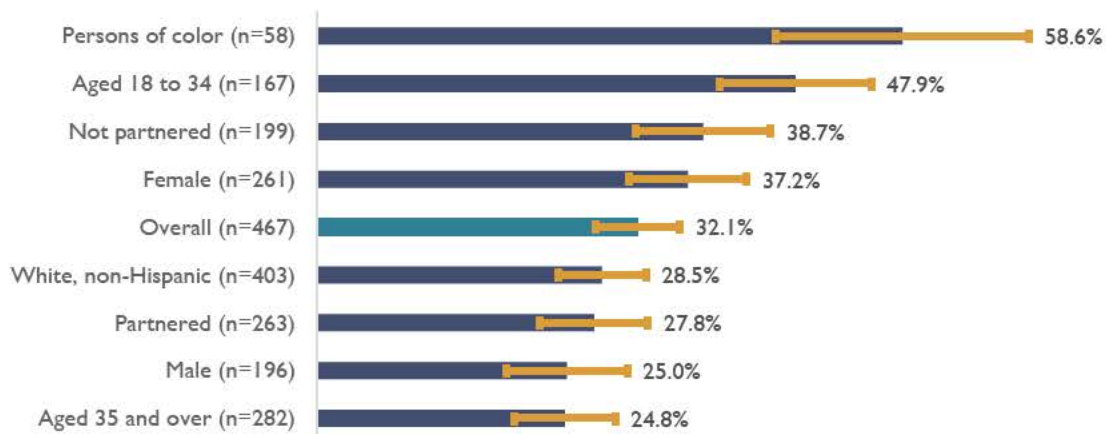


Figure 7

⁸ Race: $\chi^2(1, N=461)=20.979, p<.001, \Phi=.213$; Age: $\chi^2(1, N=449)=25.118, p<.001, \Phi=.237$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=462)=6.180, p=.013, \Phi=.116$; Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=457)=7.619, p=.006, \Phi=.129$

Seeking Victim Services

Those who experienced any type of crime were also asked whether they sought services from a victim services organization. Of those who answered that they had been a victim of any type of crime (n=468), only 13% sought services.

The proportion of victims of any crime who sought victim services varied by respondent demographics as follows:⁹

- Victims from the youngest age group (aged 18 to 34), were the most likely to seek victim services from an organization; 23% of them reported that they had contacted an organization at least once, compared with 7% of victims aged 35 and above.
- Victims in lower household income brackets (less than \$50,000) were twice as inclined, at a rate of 18%, to seek services than those in higher brackets, at 9%.
- Victims who were unpartnered had a higher rate (17%) of seeking victim services than victims who were partnered (10%).
- Female victims, at 16%, were more likely than male victims, at 6%, to seek services.
- Not surprisingly, victims living in an urban/suburban area had a higher likelihood of reaching out to organizations than victims in small town/rural areas, with rates of 16% and 6% respectively. It is highly likely that there are a greater number of services available in urban/suburban areas.

Victim Services for Any Crime (n=468)

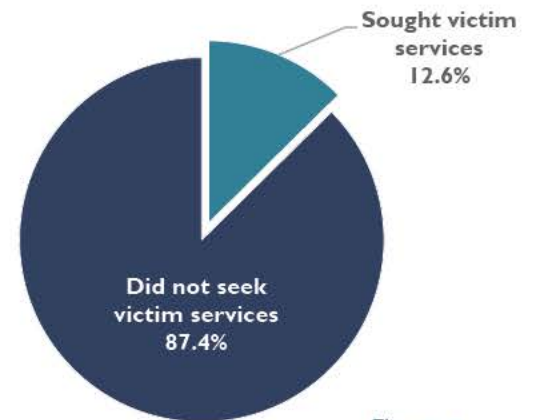


Figure 8

Seeking Victim Services by Demographics

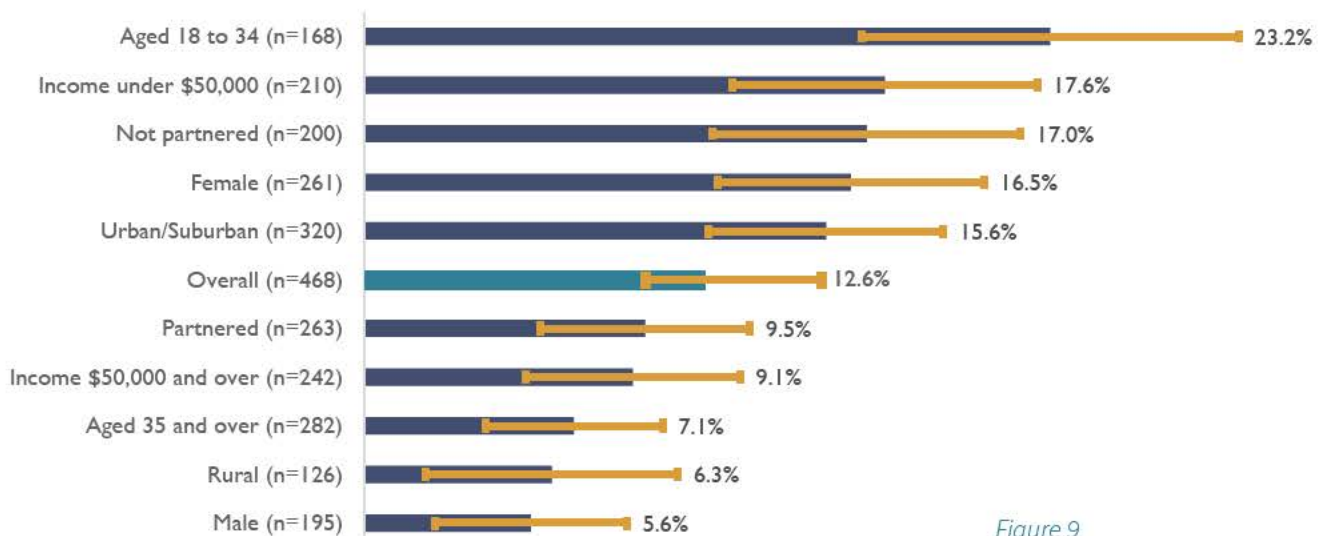


Figure 9

⁹ Age: $\chi^2 (1, N=450)=24.021, p<.001, \Phi=.231$; Income: $\chi^2 (1, N=452)=7.205, p=.007, \Phi=.126$; Relationship: $\chi^2 (1, N=463)=5.738, p=.017, \Phi=.111$; Gender: $\chi^2 (1, N=456)=12.549, p<.001, \Phi=.129$; RUCA: $\chi^2 (1, N=446)=6.875, p=.009, \Phi=.124$.

Property Crime

Victimization

Survey respondents were asked, “In the last 12 months, 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?” Seven percent (7%) of survey respondents stated they had been the victim of one property crime in the previous 12 months, and 2% stated they had been the victim of more than one property crime during this period, resulting in a total of 9%.

Since the question used in the current survey was very similar to that of the previous survey, the 2022 rate can be compared to the 2015 rate. At 9%, the 2022 property crime rate was statistically significantly lower than 2015’s rate, at 15%.¹⁰

Victim of a Property Crime (n=1,362)

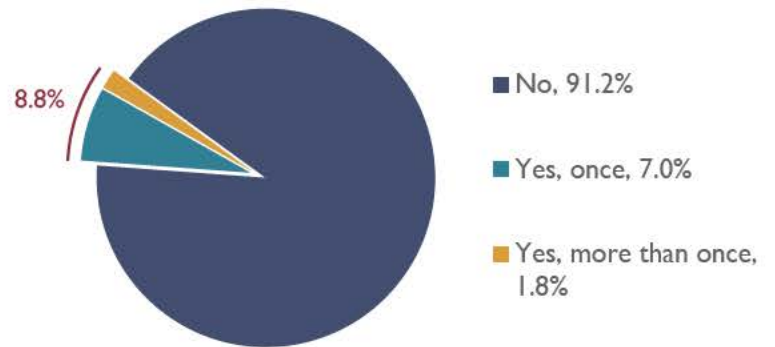


Figure 10

Property Crime Rates



Figure 11

¹⁰ $\chi^2(1, N=2,205)=20.479, p<.001, \Phi=.096$

The proportion of respondents who reported being the victim of a property crime varied by respondent demographic as follows:¹¹

- Persons of color were more likely to experience property crime, at 20%, compared with non-Hispanic White respondents, at 8%.
- Among age groups, the 18 to 34 cohort had the highest rate, at 18%. By comparison, respondents aged 35 and older had a rate of 6%, and those aged 55 to 64 had the lowest rate, at just 2%.
- The rates of each individual county were compared with the rates of the remaining counties to identify geographic differences. The only significant difference was found in Cumberland County; the rate in Cumberland was 12% compared with the combined rate of the remaining counties, which was 8%.
- Unpartnered individuals were more likely to experience property crime (12%) than their partnered counterparts (7%).¹²

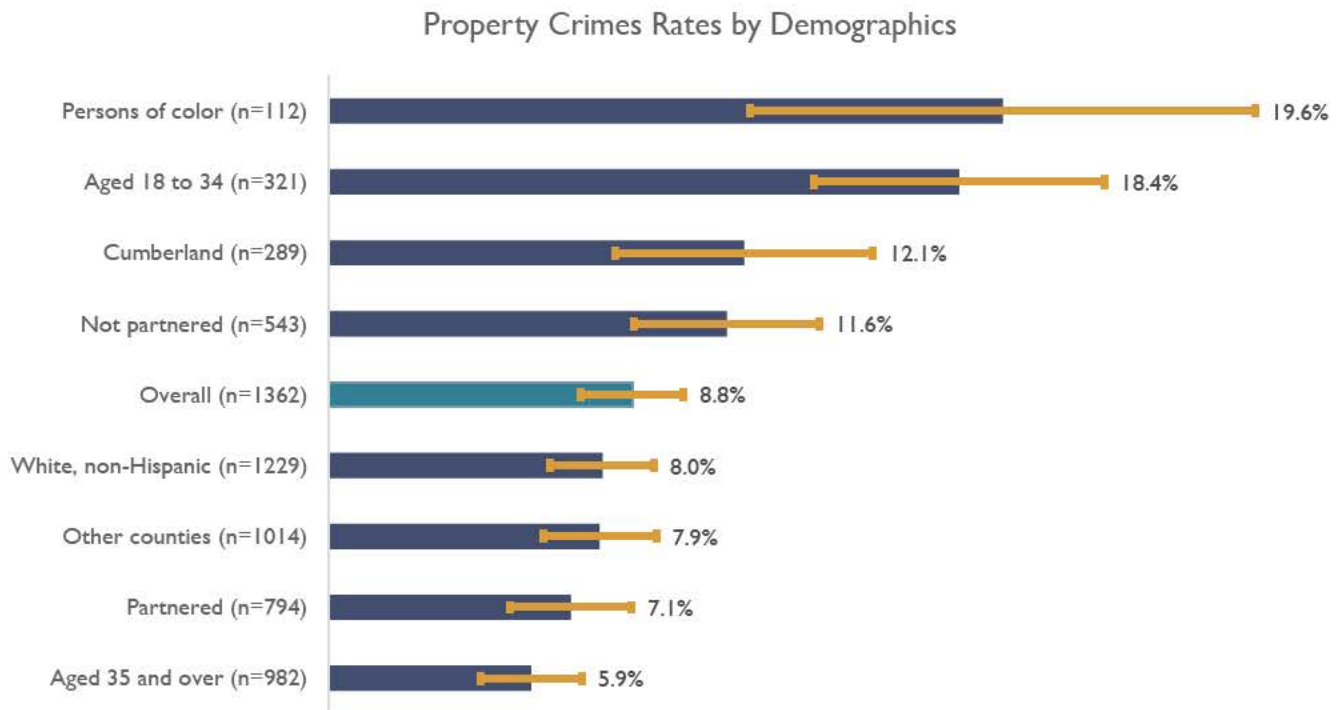


Figure 12

¹¹ Race: $\chi^2(1, N=1,341)=17.154, p<.001, \Phi=.113$; Age: $\chi^2(1, N=1,303)=46.056, p<.001, \Phi=.188$; Cumberland: $\chi^2(1, N=1,303)=4.980, p=.026, \Phi=.062$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=1,337)=8.231, p=.004, \Phi=.078$

¹² The relationship between property crime and being partnered disappears when controlling for income and age.

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Those who reported experiencing one or more property crimes were asked whether they reported any of the crimes to law enforcement. The majority (56%) said that they reported at least one crime to law enforcement. This rate was not statistically different from the rate of 59% reported in 2015.

Property Crimes Reported to Law Enforcement (n=120)

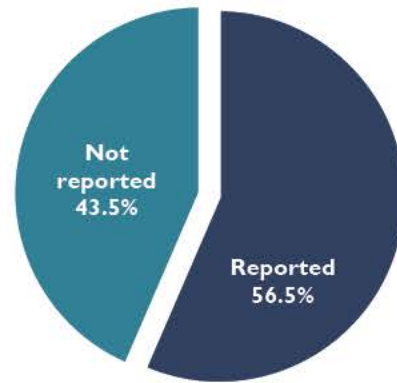


Figure 13

The proportion of property crime victims who reported crime to law enforcement varied by just one demographic attribute—race.

- Persons of color were more likely to report property crimes to law enforcement, with a rate of 86%, compared with 50% of those who were non-Hispanic White.¹³

Property Crime Reporting by Demographics

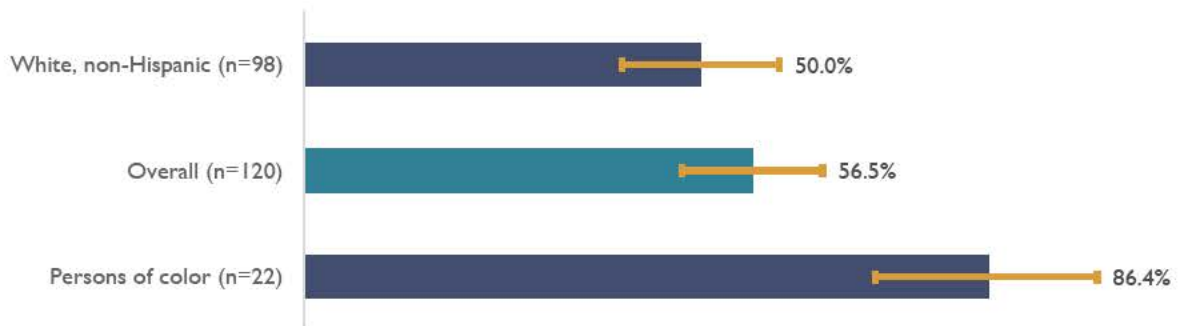


Figure 14

¹³ $\chi^2(1, N=120)=9.675, p=.002, \text{Phi}=.284$

Seeking Victim Services

Those who reported experiencing one or more property crimes were also asked whether they sought services from a victim services organization. Of those who answered that they had been the victim of at least one property crime (n=120), only 12% sought services.

The proportion of property crime victims who sought victim services varied by respondent demographics as follows:¹⁴

- Property victims from the youngest age cohort, aged 18 to 34, were the most likely to seek victim services from an organization; 22% of them reported that they sought services from an organization at least once, compared with 3% of property victims aged 35 and above.
- Female property victims, at 17%, were more likely than male property victims, at 4%, to seek services.
- Nearly one in seven (17%) urban/suburban property crime victims reached out to a victim services organization, while none of the rural property crime victims did so (0%).

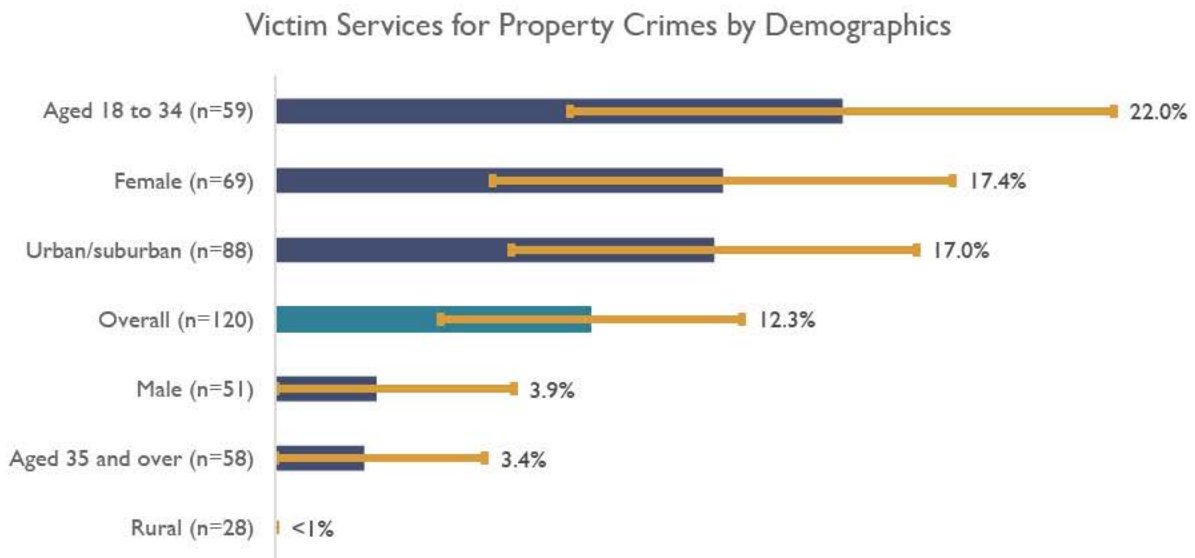


Figure 15

¹⁴Age: $\chi^2(1, N=117)=9.039, p=.003, \Phi=.278$; Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=120)=5.163, p=.023, \Phi=.207$; RUCA: $\chi^2(1, N=116)=5.482, p=.019, \Phi=.217$

Identity Crime

Victimization

Identity crime was the highest reported crime in the 2015 crime victimization study, and it continues to be an issue in 2022. The current survey asked respondents, “In the last 12 months, did you discover that someone had misused your credit cards, personal information, social security number, etc.?” Approximately 16% of all respondents answered in the affirmative. This question is slightly different from the question asked in the previous study, which included additional options to choose from, such as the attempted use of credit cards and bank accounts as well as notification from a bank or store that an account had been compromised. This narrowing of definition at least partially explains the lower rate obtained this year compared with the rate found in the 2015 study (36%).

The proportion of respondents who experienced being the victim of an identity crime varied by respondent demographic as follows:¹⁵

- At 20%, those with a household income level at or above \$75,000 experienced identity crime at a higher rate than those with incomes of less than \$75,000, at 14%.
- Partnered respondents experienced identity crimes at a rate of 19%, compared with unpartnered respondents, at a rate of 13%.¹⁶



Figure 16

¹⁵Income: $\chi^2(1, N=1,278)=6.762, p=.009, \Phi=.073$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=1,336)=8.592, p=.003, \Phi=.080$

¹⁶The relationship between identity crime and being partnered disappears when controlling for income and age.

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Those who reported experiencing one or more identity crimes were asked whether they reported any of the crimes to law enforcement. Approximately one out of five (21%) said that they reported at least one crime to law enforcement. The low rate of reporting may be because there are other avenues for reporting this type of crime, such as reporting to the bank or credit card company.

The proportion of identity crime victims who reported crime to law enforcement varied by respondent demographics as follows:¹⁷

- Victims of color were the most likely to report the identity crime, at a rate of 58%, compared with non-Hispanic White victims, at a rate of 16%.
- Younger victims, aged 18 to 34, had a higher tendency to report identity crime, at a rate of 47%, compared with victims aged 35 and above, who reported at a rate of 12%.
- Victims living in Penobscot County were less likely to report identity crimes to law enforcement, at 3%, and those in Kennebec County were more likely to report identity crimes, at 46%.

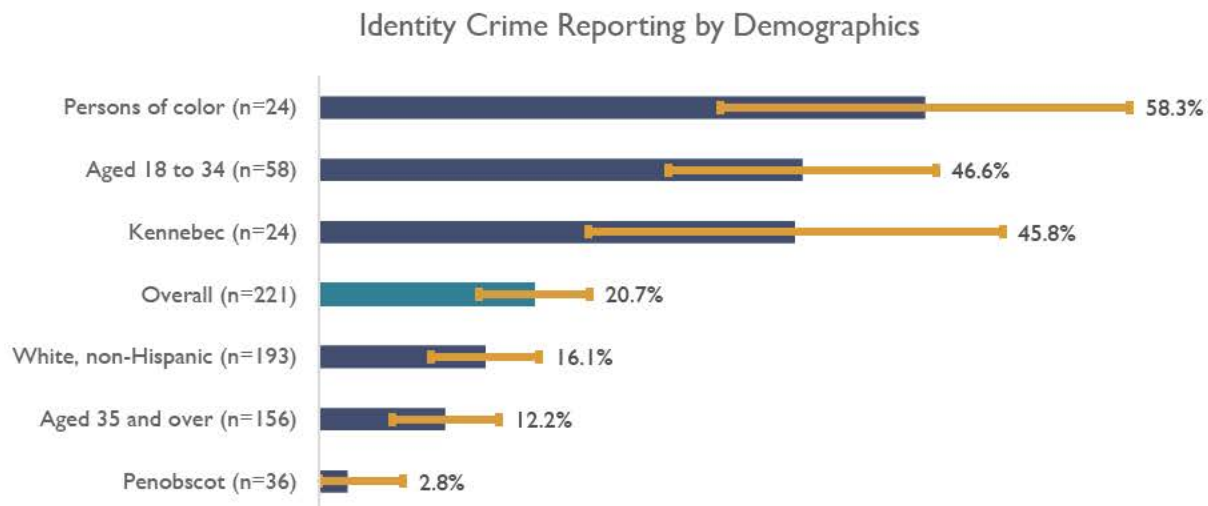


Figure 17

¹⁷Race: $\chi^2(1, N=217)=23.205, p<.001, \text{Phi}=.327$; Age: $\chi^2(1, N=214)=29.602, p<.001, \text{Phi}=.372$; Kennebec: $\chi^2(1, N=218)=9.909, p=.002, \text{Phi}=.213$; Penobscot: $\chi^2(1, N=219)=8.626, p=.003, \text{Phi}=.198$

Seeking Victim Services

Those who reported experiencing one or more identity crimes were also asked whether they sought services from a victim services organization. Of those who answered that they had been the victim of at least one identity crime (n=221), only 11% sought services.

Victim Services for Identity Crime (n=221)

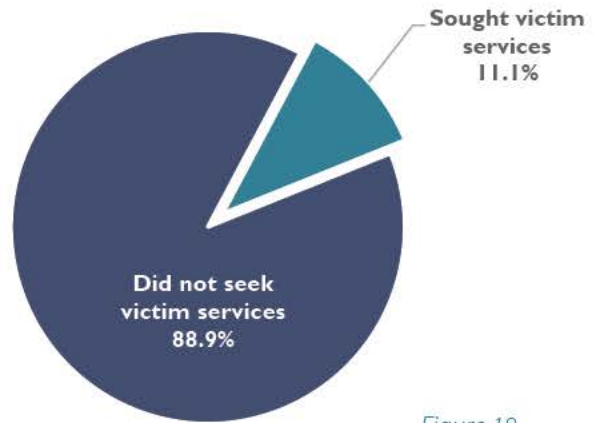


Figure 18

The proportion of identity crime victims who sought victim services varied by just one demographic attribute—age.

- Those under age 45 were more likely to seek victim services than those age 45 and over, at 19% compared with 7%.¹⁸

Victim Services for Identity Crimes by Demographics

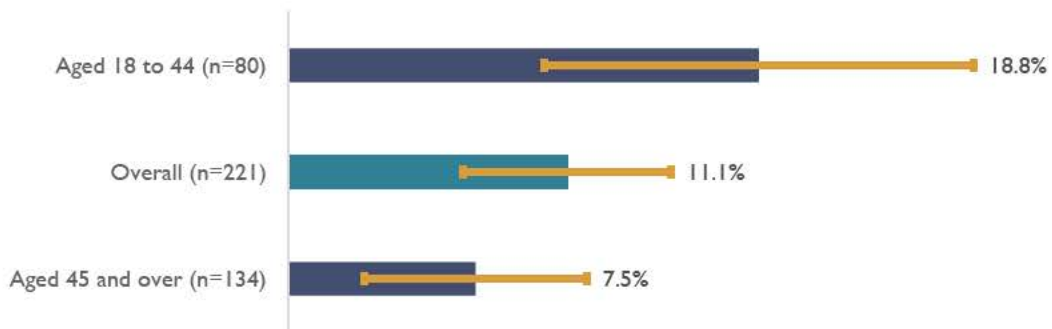


Figure 19

¹⁸ $\chi^2(1, N=214)=6.186, p=.013, \Phi=.170$

Threat of Violence

Victimization

In the MCVS, respondents were asked if someone had threatened to hit, attack, or assault them in the past 12 months. Four percent (4%) of survey respondents reported having been the victim of one threatening incident in the previous 12 months, and 3% reported having been the victim of more than one threatening incident during that time, resulting in a total of 7%. This rate is not statistically significantly different from the 2015 rate, which was also 7%.

The proportion of respondents who reported being threatened with violence varied by respondent demographic as follows:¹⁹

- Nineteen percent (19%) of the youngest cohort, aged 18 to 34, indicated that they had been the victim of a threat of violence at least once in the past year. Those aged 35 and above had a rate of just 4%.
- Persons of color experienced a higher rate of threats than non-Hispanic White respondents, at 19% and 6%, respectively.
- Those in Penobscot County had a higher rate of 12% compared with 7% in the remainder of the state.
- Those without partners reported a higher rate of threatening crimes at 11% compared with their partnered counterparts at 5%.
- Those with a household income under \$75,000 had a higher rate of threatening crimes, at 10%, compared with those making \$75,000 or more, who had a rate of 4%.
- Females experienced the threat of violence at a higher rate of 9% compared with 5% of their male counterparts.

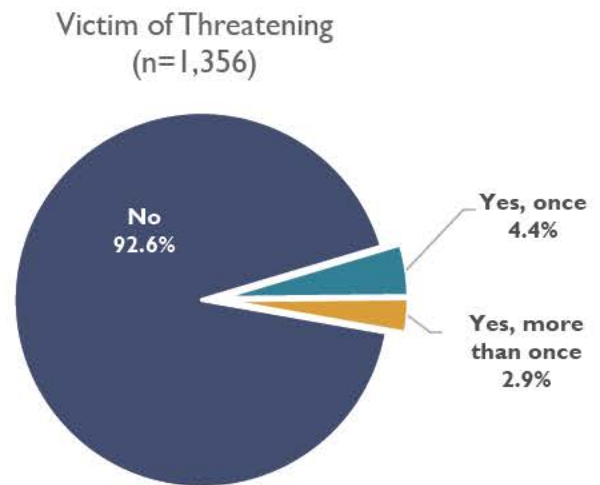


Figure 20

¹⁹ Age: $\chi^2(1, N=1,296)=80.697, p<.001, \Phi=.250$; Race: $\chi^2(1, N=1,338)=22.475, p<.001, \Phi=.130$; Penobscot: $\chi^2(1, N=1,302)=4.664, p=.031, \Phi=.060$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=1,338)=15.124, p<.001, \Phi=.106$; Income: $\chi^2(1, N=1,277)=12.452, p<.001, \Phi=.099$; Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=1,324)=9.652, p=.002, \Phi=.085$

Threatening Crime Rates by Demographics

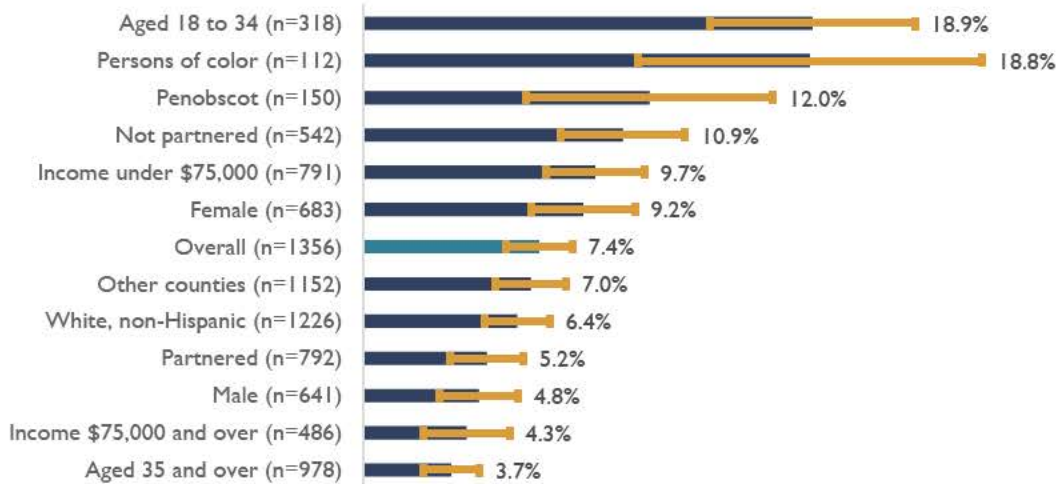


Figure 21

Respondents threatened with violence in the past year were more likely than those not threatened to be the victim of all other types of crime, including property crime, identity crime, stalking, and violent crimes. For example, while 13% of those who did not report a threat in the past year did report being stalked, that rate increased to 61% for those who reported a threat in the past year.

Respondents threatened with violence in the past year were more likely than those not threatened to be the victim of all other types of crime, including property crime, identity crime, stalking, and violent crimes.

Crime Rates by Threatened Victim

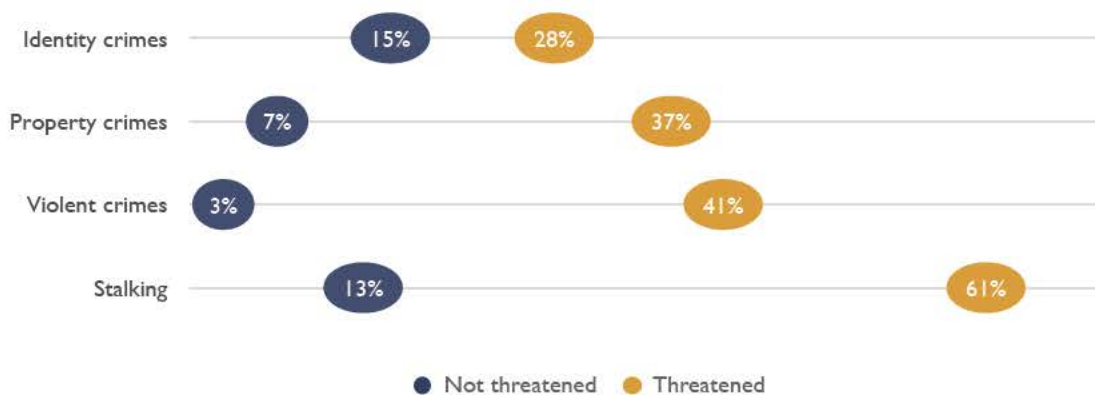


Figure 22

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Those who experienced being threatened on one or more occasions were asked whether they reported any of those incidents to law enforcement. A little under half (46%) said that they reported at least one crime to law enforcement. This rate did not vary by demographic attribute nor was it statistically significantly different from the rate reported in the 2015 study.

Threats Reported to Law Enforcement (n=100)



Figure 23

Seeking Victim Services

Those who reported being threatened on one or more occasions were also asked whether they sought services from a victim services organization. Approximately one out of five (20%) did seek services.

The proportion of threat victims who sought victim services varied by respondent demographic as follows:²⁰

- Unpartnered victims of threatening were the most likely, at 28%, to seek victim services, while 7% of partnered victims of threatening sought services.
- Threatened victims with a lower household income, under \$50,000, sought victim services at a rate of 26%, compared with 10% of threatened victims with household incomes at or above \$50,000.
- Non-Hispanic White victims of threatening sought victim services at a rate of 25%; this is in sharp contrast to victims of color, none of whom (0%) sought victim services.

Victim Services for Threatening Crimes by Demographics

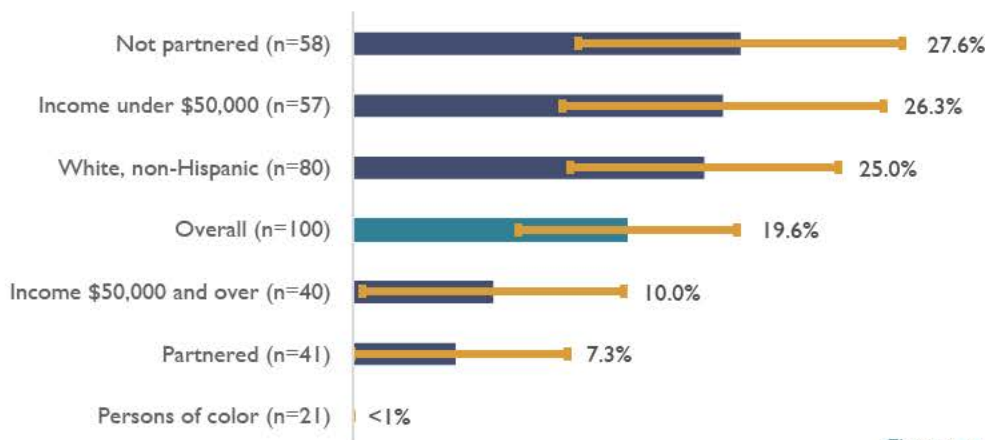


Figure 24

²⁰ Relationship: $\chi^2 (1, N=99)=6.363, p=.012, \Phi=.254$; Income: $\chi^2 (1, N=97)=3.973, p=.046, \Phi=.202$; Race: $\chi^2 (1, N=101)=6.546, p=.011, \Phi=.255$

Violent Crime

Victimization

Respondents were asked questions about four violent crimes (including robbery, assault, sexual assault, and rape/attempted rape), and a small percentage of respondents reported experiencing one or more of these crimes in the last 12 months. Approximately 3% of respondents indicated they had been assaulted, 3% indicated they had been sexually assaulted, 2% indicated they had been robbed, and 1% indicated they had been raped or that some had attempted to.

While small numbers are certainly good in a general sense, they make it difficult to accurately construct estimates for the population. Thus, these four crimes have been combined into a single violent crime category for the remainder of the analysis in this section. The proportion of respondents who experienced any violent crime was 5%, a rate which is not statistically significantly different from the previous survey's findings. Among those who reported experiencing violent crime in the last year, about half (50%) reported experiencing more than one type of violent crime (e.g., robbery and assault).

The proportion of respondents who reported experiencing one or more violent crimes varied by respondent demographic as follows:²¹

- Persons of color had the highest rate of violent crime, at 17%, compared with non-Hispanic White respondents, at 4%.
- Respondents aged 18 to 34 were more likely to experience at least one violent crime, at a rate of 16%, compared with those aged 35 and over, who reported at a rate of 1%.
- Respondents living in Penobscot County were more likely to experience violent crime, at 13%, and those in Cumberland County were less likely to experience violent crime, at 1%.
- At 9%, unpartnered respondents were more likely to experience violent crime than their partnered counterparts, at 3%.
- Females were more likely to experience violent crime, at a rate of 8%, compared with their male counterparts, at a rate of 3%.
- Those with a household income of less than \$50,000 reported violent crimes at a rate of 8%, compared with those with a household income of \$50,000 and over, at 4%.
- Urban/suburban respondents had a higher rate of violent crimes (7%) compared with rural respondents (2%).

Victims of Violent Crimes

Assault	3%
Sexual Assault	3%
Robbery	2%
Rape/Attempted Rape	1%

²¹ Race: $\chi^2(1, N=1,343)=33.615, p<.001, \Phi=.158$; Age: $\chi^2(1, N=1,303)=106.757, p<.001, \Phi=.286$; Penobscot: $\chi^2(1, N=1,305)=22.639, p<.001, \Phi=.132$; Cumberland: $\chi^2(1, N=1,305)=11.082, p=.001, \Phi=.092$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=1,339)=22.471, p<.001, \Phi=.130$; Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=1,328)=19.304, p<.001, \Phi=.121$; Income: $\chi^2(1, N=1,280)=8.268, p=.004, \Phi=.080$; RUCA: $\chi^2(1, N=1,305)=12.542, p<.001, \Phi=.098$

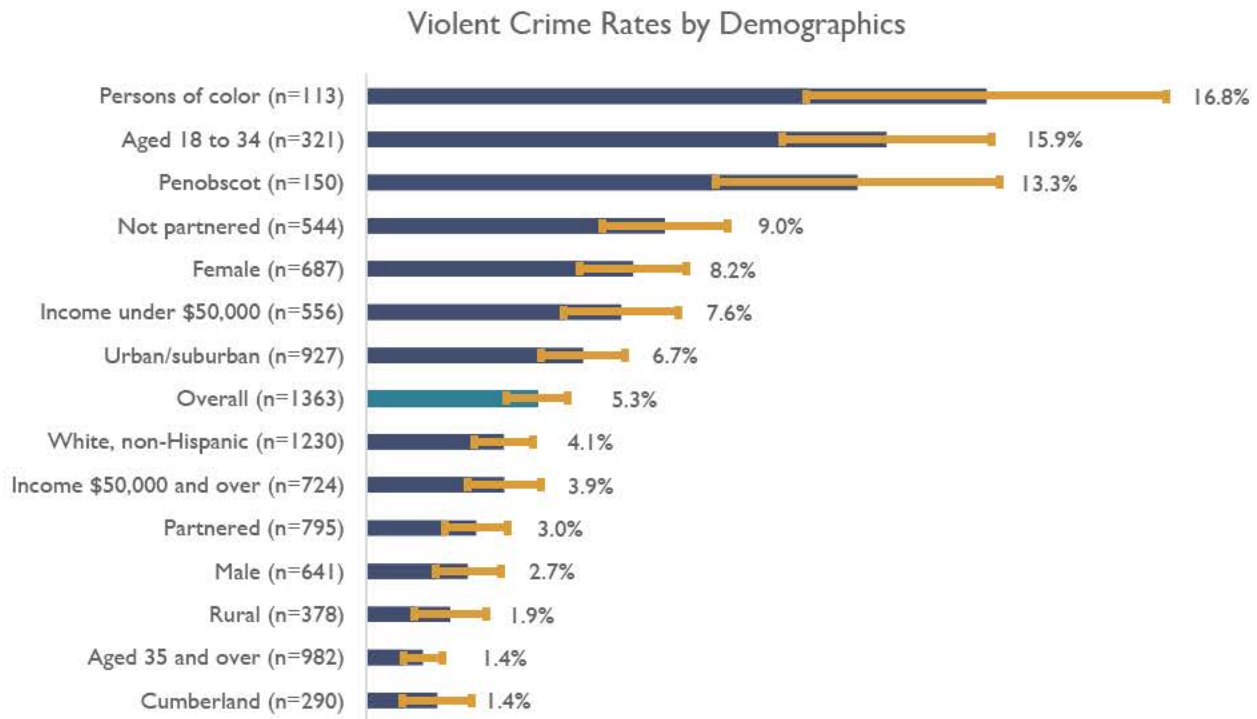


Figure 25

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Those who reported experiencing one or more violent crimes were asked whether they reported any of the incidents to law enforcement. Around two-fifths (39%) of these respondents said they reported at least one crime to law enforcement. This rate was significantly statistically higher than the rate found in 2015, which was 20%.²² This rate did not vary by respondent demographic attribute.

Seeking Victim Services

Those who reported experiencing one or more violent crimes were also asked whether they sought services from a victim services organization. Of those who answered that they had been the victim of at least one violent crime (n=73), 35% sought services. Due to the small sample size, it was not possible to identify differences in seeking services among demographic groups.

Victim Services for Violent Crimes (n=73)

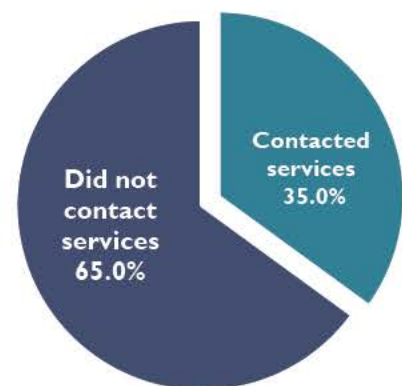


Figure 26

²² $\chi^2(1, N=120)=4.339, p=.037, \text{Phi}=.190$

Stalking

Victimization

Stalking was the most frequently reported crime in this year's MCVS. Roughly one in every six (17%) respondents indicated that they had been the victim of a stalking crime in the past 12 months. The survey asked respondents if they felt threatened by another person (other than bill collectors, telephone solicitors, or other sales people) as a result of any of the following behaviors, followed by a list of eight specific behaviors and an additional write-in ("other") option. These behaviors included:

- 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

It bears mentioning that this point estimate may be an overrepresentation of stalking. The write-in responses in the current survey made it clear that some respondents were interpreting this question broadly and including behaviors that would fit better under identity crimes or under no crime at all. Examples include persistent "phishing" calls as well as phone calls and emails from political parties, which were perceived as harassment but should not have been counted as stalking. Responses that were clearly reported in error were removed, but the confusion may have been more widespread than could be detected through respondents' write-in responses. Care will be taken in any future iterations of this survey to define stalking more clearly. Despite the confusion surrounding the stalking responses, the overall stalking rate found in this study was not statistically significantly different from the rate of 14% found in the 2015 study.

The proportion of respondents who reported being stalked varied by respondent demographic as follows:²³

- Persons of color were more likely than non-Hispanic White persons to have experienced stalking, at a rate of 31% compared with 15%.
- Those aged 18 to 34 had a higher tendency to be the victim of stalking, at 29%, compared with those aged 35 and above, who had a rate of 13%.
- Females were more likely to experience stalking than males, with rates of 23% and 10%, respectively.
- Those with a household income of less than \$50,000 were more likely than those with an income of \$50,000 or more to be a victim of stalking, at rates of 22% and 13%, respectively.
- Unpartnered respondents experienced stalking at a higher rate, 22%, than their partnered counterparts, who had a rate of 13%.

²³ Race: $\chi^2(1, N=1,294)=17.997, p<.001, \Phi=.118$; Age: $\chi^2(1, N=1,254)=42.455, p<.001, \Phi=.184$; Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=1,280)=34.777, p<.001, \Phi=.165$; Income: $\chi^2(1, N=1,235)=18.185, p<.001, \Phi=.121$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=1,290)=17.690, p<.001, \Phi=.117$

Stalking Crime Rates by Demographics

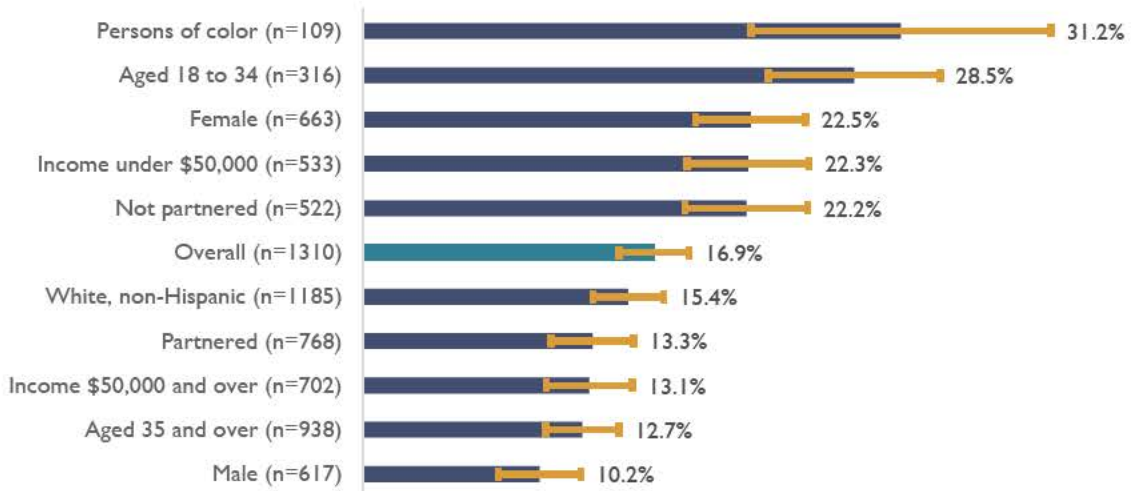


Figure 27

Stalking is often a precursor to other types of victimization, and while this survey did not ask respondents which crimes they experienced first, those who experienced stalking were more likely to experience other crimes as well. Two percent (2%) of those who were not stalked experienced a violent crime, while 25% of those who were stalked experienced a violent crime. Likewise, 3% of those who were not stalked were threatened, while 27% of those who were stalked were threatened. These differences were statistically significant as they were in the 2015 study.

Other Crime Rates by Stalking

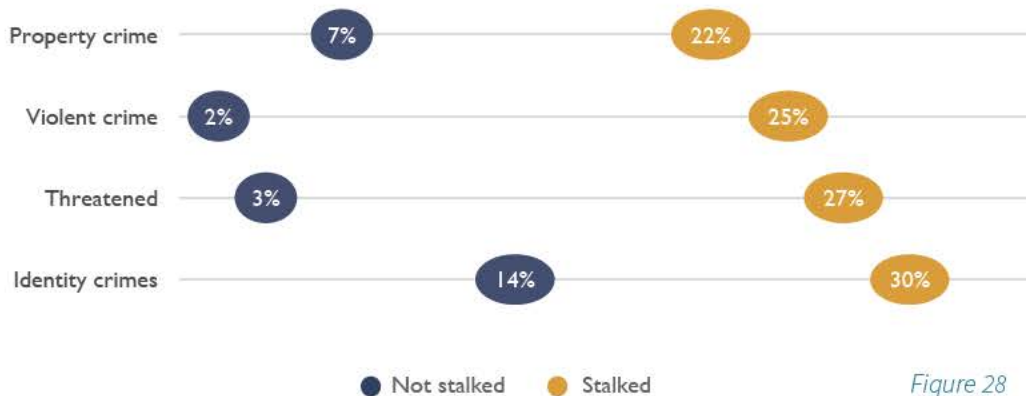


Figure 28

²⁴ Property: $\chi^2(1, N=1,310)=50.393, p<.001, \Phi=.196$; Violent: $\chi^2(1, N=1,310)=192.447, p<.001, \Phi=.383$; Threatened: $\chi^2(1, N=1,308)=148.861, p<.001, \Phi=.337$; Identity: $\chi^2(1, N=1,309)=34.986, p<.001, \Phi=.163$

Stalking Behaviors

Among the specific types of stalking behaviors, the survey found that unsolicited emails, texts, and/or letters was the most common type of stalking behavior at 8%, followed by unsolicited phone calls (7%) and spreading rumors (6%). The rates of different stalking behavior were not statistically significantly different from the rates found in 2015 with the exception of one behavior—unsolicited phone calls—which increased from 5% in 2015 to 7% in 2022.²⁵ This difference may have been due to respondents’ misunderstanding of the question as mentioned previously in this section; because the majority of respondents in the current study completed the survey by mail they did not have the benefit of an interviewer’s explanation as they did in the previous study.



Figure 29

²⁵ $\chi^2(1, N=2,153)=4.258, p=.039, \Phi=.044$

The type of stalking behavior experienced differed by victim gender. In all but one of the stalking behaviors (unsolicited phone calls) the difference between females and males was statistically significant.²⁶ In several cases the difference between genders was quite pronounced (see chart below).

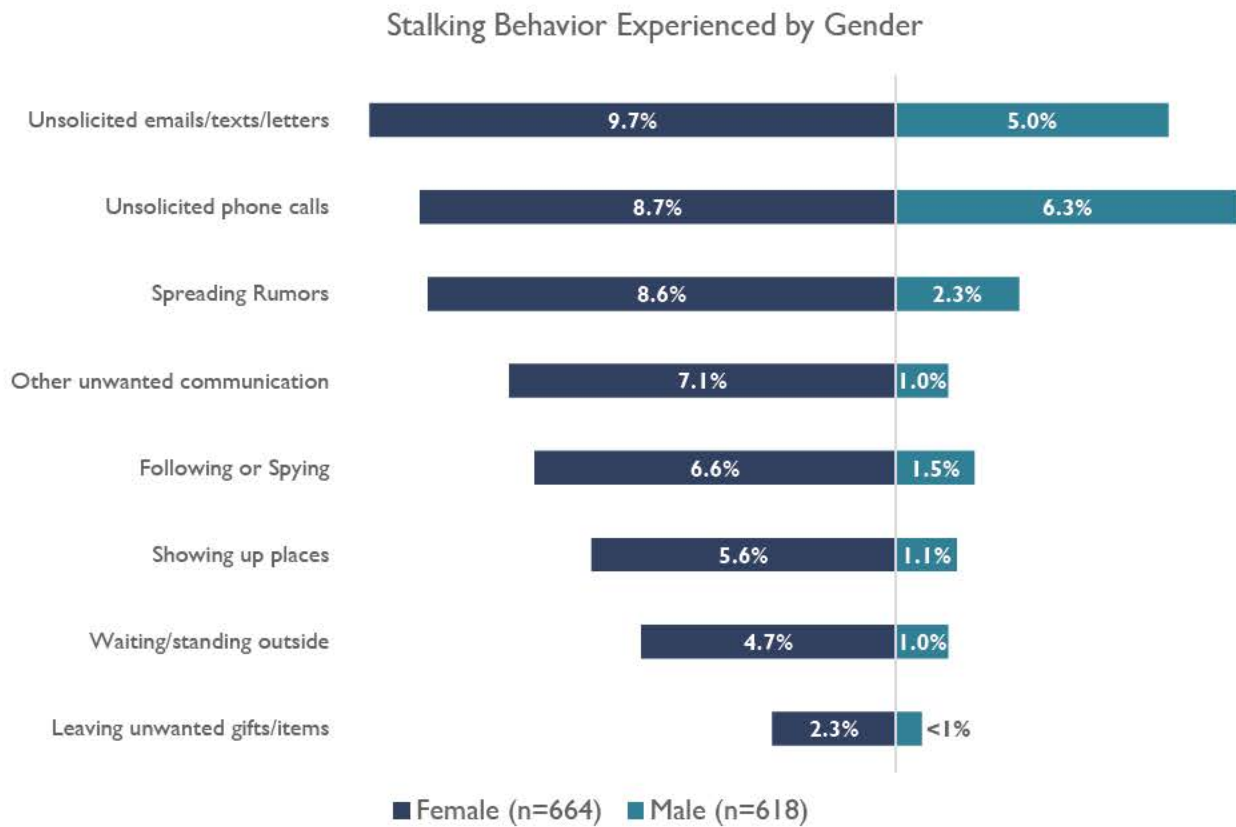


Figure 30

²⁶ Texts: $\chi^2(1, N=1,281)=10.016, p=.002, \Phi=.088$; Rumors: $\chi^2(1, N=1,281)=24.364, p<.001, \Phi=.138$; Other comm: $\chi^2(1, N=1,281)=30.186, p<.001, \Phi=.154$; Following: $\chi^2(1, N=1,282)=21.589, p<.001, \Phi=.130$; Showing up: $\chi^2(1, N=1,281)=19.079, p<.001, \Phi=.122$; Waiting: $\chi^2(1, N=1,281)=15.577, p<.001, \Phi=.110$; Gifts: $\chi^2(1, N=1,281)=7.255, p=.007, \Phi=.075$

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Those who reported experiencing one or more incidents of stalking were asked whether they reported any of the incidents to law enforcement. About a fifth (20%) of these respondents said they reported at least one crime to law enforcement. This rate was not statistically significantly different from the 2015 rate of 21%. This rate did not vary by respondent demographic attribute.

Seeking Victim Services

Those who reported experiencing one or more stalking crimes were also asked whether they sought services from a victim services organization. Of those who answered that they had been the victim of at least one stalking crime, a little more than one in ten (11%) reported that they had sought services.

The proportion of stalking crime victims who sought services varied by respondent demographics as follows:²⁷

- Victims of stalking with household incomes of less than \$25,000 were more likely to seek services, at a rate of 21%, compared with victims with household incomes of \$25,000 and more, at only 8%.
- Unpartnered victims of stalking contacted service organizations at a higher rate (16%) than partnered victims of stalking (5%).
- At 14%, female stalking victims were also more likely to contact a victim services organization than male victims, at a rate of 3%.

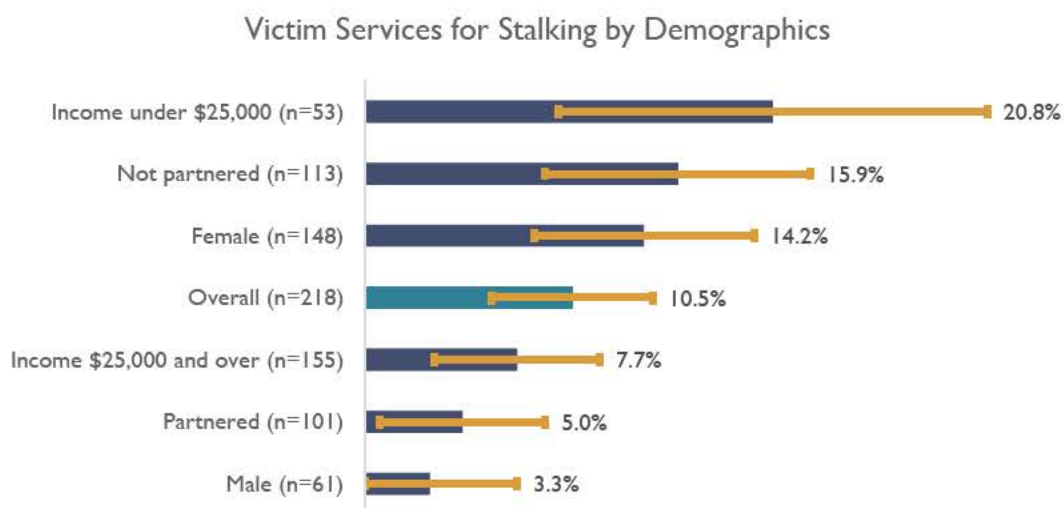


Figure 31

²⁷Income: $\chi^2(1, N=208)=6.800, p=.009, \text{Phi}=.181$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=214)=6.701, p=.010, \text{Phi}=.177$; Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=209)=5.250, p=.022, \text{Phi}=.158$

Domestic Violence

Frequency

Respondents were not asked explicitly 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. Thus, instead of asking directly, the survey asked respondents whether any of the crimes they reported previously in the survey (property crime, identity crime, threatening, violent crime, or stalking) were committed by a current or former intimate/romantic/dating partner and/or a family member.

This is a broader definition of domestic violence than was used in the 2015 study in two ways. First, it encompasses more crimes. The 2015 study did not ask about the relationship between the victim and perpetrator for property or identity crimes; thus, those victimizations were not counted. Also, the 2015 study included two relationship options that counted as domestic violence—a family member, including an unmarried partner living in your home, and a person or people well known to you, excluding family. This did not account for former partners or people who formerly lived with the respondent.

Approximately 6% of all respondents reported having experienced domestic violence in the last 12 months, and 18% of those who reported having experienced any type of crime over that time period reported that the crime was committed by a domestic partner or family member.

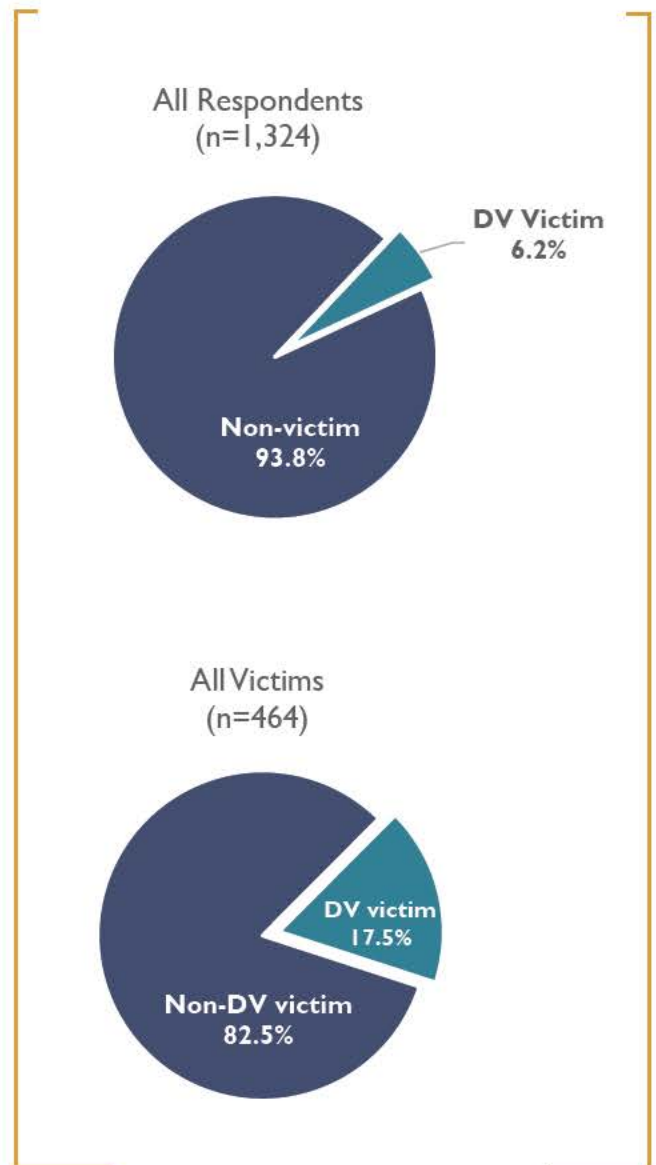


Figure 32: Frequency of Domestic Violence

Types of Crimes

Victims of domestic violence experienced more crime types than other victims. The majority (61%) of domestic violence victims experienced three or more crime types, while the majority (76%) of non-domestic violence victims experienced one type. On average, victims of domestic violence experienced 3.2 types of crimes while non-domestic violence victims experienced 1.2 types.²⁸

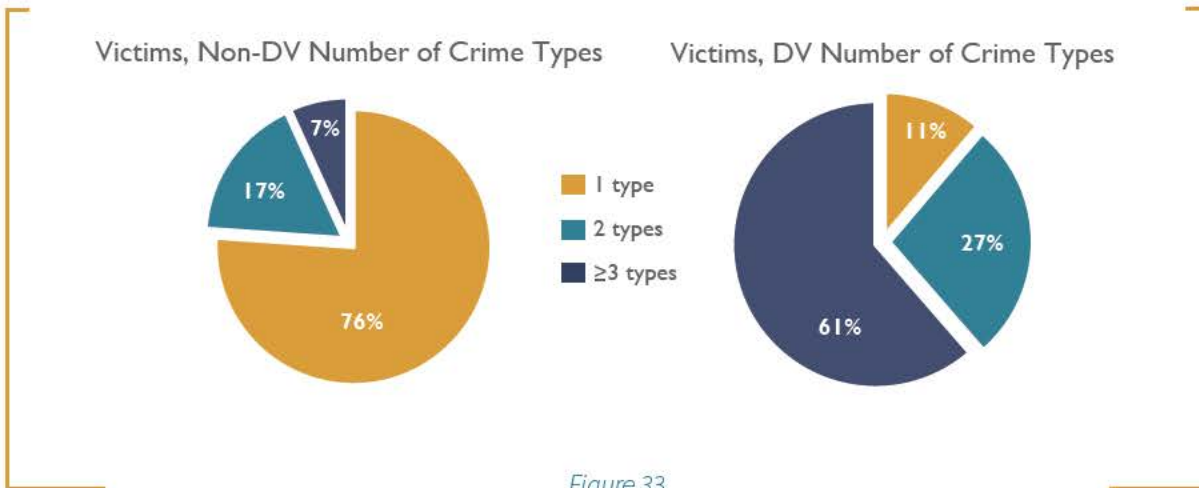


Figure 33

Because respondents could report multiple types of crime and because the survey did not ask which crimes were committed by domestic partners or family members, it is not possible to say definitively which offense types were committed in a domestic violence setting. Thus, the results in this section should be interpreted with caution.

Stalking, threatening, and violent crimes (including robbery, assault, sexual assault, and rape/attempted rape) were the most frequently reported crimes for victims of domestic violence at 79%, 61%, and 53%, respectively. This is in contrast to non-domestic violence victims, whose top three reported crimes were identity crimes, stalking, and property crimes, at 49%, 41%, and 23%, respectively.

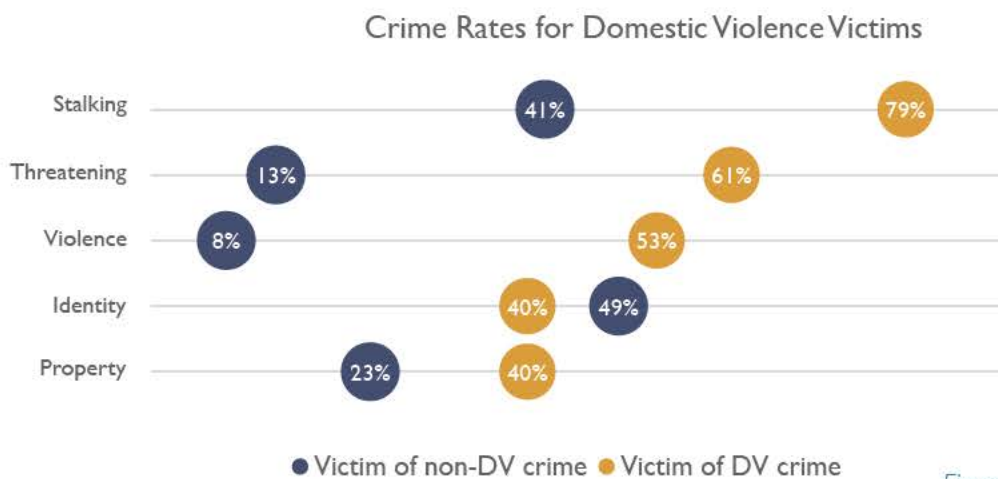


Figure 34

²⁸ DV victim (M=3.18, SD=1.5), Non-DV victim (M=1.33, SD=.691), t(87.7)=10.8, p<.001

Demographics

The proportion of respondents who indicated that crimes had been committed by a partner or family member varied by respondent demographic as follows:²⁹

- Those aged 18 to 34 experienced domestic violence at a higher rate than those aged 35 and older, at 17% and 2% respectively.
- Persons of color experienced domestic violence with three times the frequency (15%) of non-Hispanic White respondents (5%).
- Respondents from Kennebec and Penobscot counties experienced domestic violence at higher rates (15% and 10%) than those from other counties, and respondents from York County experienced domestic violence at a lower rate (<1%) than others.
- Those with a household income below \$25,000 experienced domestic violence at a higher rate (14%) than those with a household income of \$25,000 or greater (4%).
- At 12%, unpartnered respondents experiencing domestic violence at a higher rate than partnered respondents, at 2%.
- Females had a higher rate of domestic violence victimization, at 10%, compared with males, at 1%.
- Urban/suburban respondents experienced domestic violence more frequently than their rural counterparts, at rates of 7% and 4%, respectively.

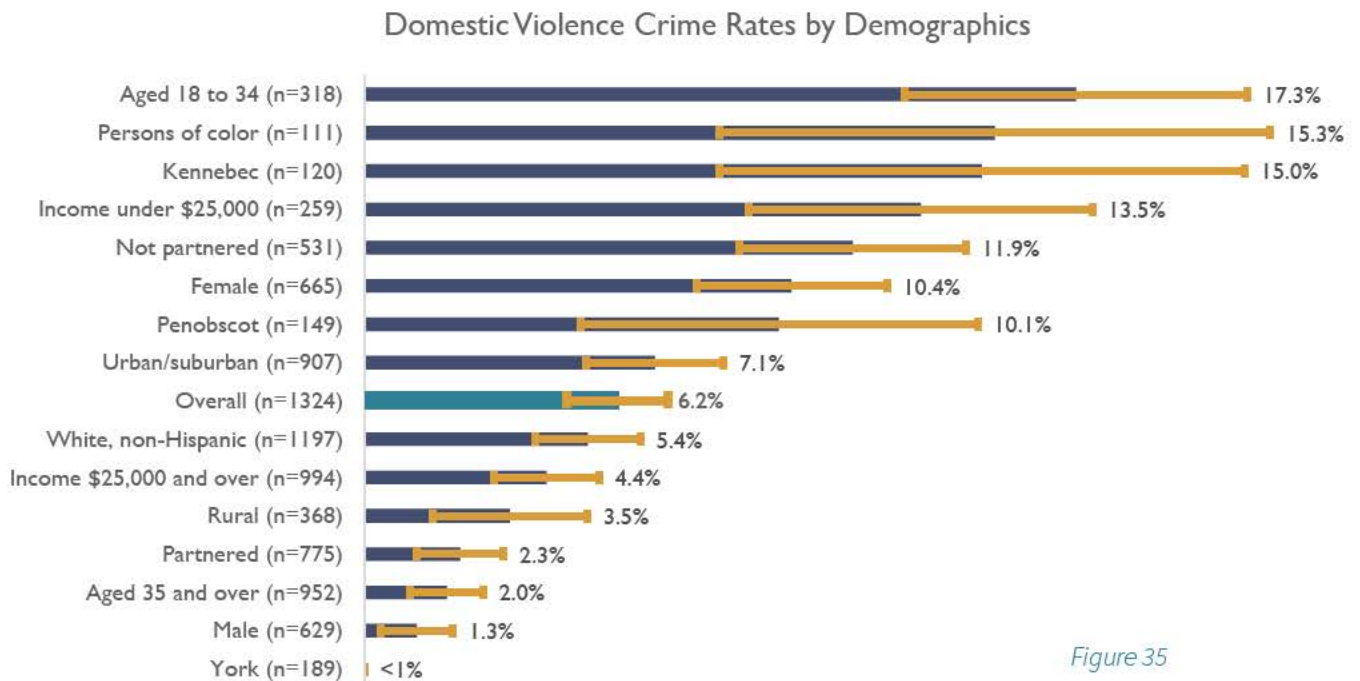


Figure 35

²⁹ Age: $\chi^2(1, N=1,270)=101.690, p<.001, \Phi=.283$; Race: $\chi^2(1, N=1,308)=16.892, p<.001, \Phi=.114$; Kennebec: $\chi^2(1, N=1276)=18.777, p<.001, \Phi=.121$; Penobscot: $\chi^2(1, N=1277)=4.853, p=.028, \Phi=.062$; York: $\chi^2(1, N=1276)=14.248, p<.001, \Phi=.106$; Income: $\chi^2(1, N=1,253)=28.720, p<.001, \Phi=.151$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=1,306)=49.315, p<.001, \Phi=.194$; Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=1,294)=47.874, p<.001, \Phi=.192$; RUCA: $\chi^2(1, N=1,275)=5.728, p=.017, \Phi=.067$

Hate Crimes

Frequency

This year’s MCVS asked respondents whether they believe they were the victim of any of the crimes they reported having experienced *due to their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation or identity*. They were provided with answer choices of *yes, no, and unsure*.

Approximately 4% of all respondents said they were the victim of a hate crime and an additional 3% were unsure, resulting in a total of 7% who either believed or suspected they were targeted due to their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation or identity in the last 12 months. This group of possible hate crime victims made up 22% of all victims.

Types of Crimes

In fact, possible hate crime victims do appear to be victimized more widely than other victims, which may support their assertion that they were targeted by perpetrators rather than randomly selected. The majority (62%) of possible hate crime victims experienced two or more crime types (an average of 2.1), while the majority (64%) of other victims experienced one type (an average of 1.7).³⁰

Because respondents could report multiple types of crime and because the survey did not ask which crime types were hate crimes and which were not, it is not possible to report it definitively here. What can be reported is which types of crime these victims experienced and how that differs from the experience of other victims.

The rates for stalking, threatening, and property crime were statistically significantly higher for possible hate crime victims, while rates for violent crime and identity crimes were not statistically significantly different.³¹

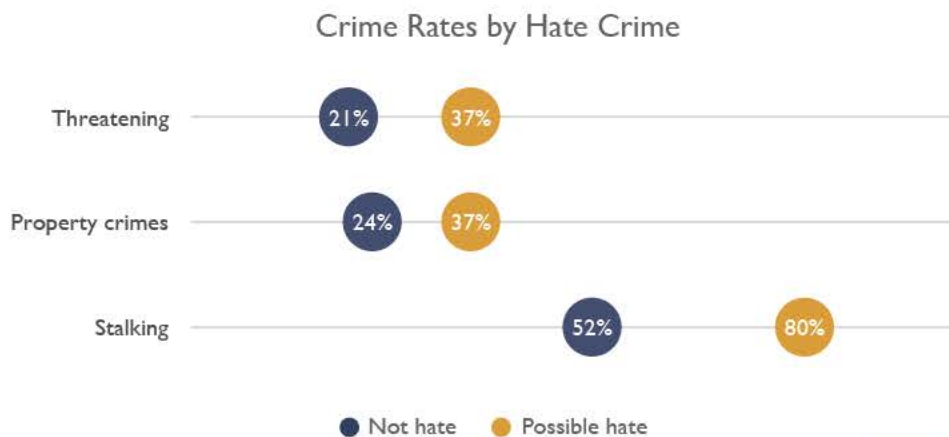


Figure 36

³⁰Hate crime victim (M=2.13, SD=1.233), Non-hate crime victim (M=1.70, SD=.1.194), $t(372)=-2.854, p=.002$.

³¹Threats: $\chi^2(1, N=373)=8.909, p=.003, \Phi=.155$; Property: $\chi^2(1, N=373)=5.438, p=.020, \Phi=.121$; Stalking: $\chi^2(1, N=367)=20.105, p<.001, \Phi=.234$

Demographics

The proportion of respondents who indicated that they suspected or believed they were victimized because of their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation or identity varied by respondent demographic as follows:³²

- Hate crimes were experienced at the highest rate by persons of color, who had a rate of 17%, compared with non-Hispanic White persons, at 6%.
- The rate of hate crimes was higher at 12% in Penobscot County and lower at 3% in Cumberland County.
- Twelve percent (12%) of the youngest cohort, aged 18 to 34, indicated that they had been the victim of a hate crime at least once in the past year. Those aged 35 and above had a rate of just 5%.
- Those with a household income level under \$50,000 had a higher rate of hate crimes, at 10%, compared with those making \$50,000 or more, who had a rate of 4%.
- Unpartnered respondents experienced a higher rate of hate crimes, at 9%, compared with their partnered counterparts, at 5%.
- At 8%, females experienced hate crimes at twice the rate of males, at 4%.

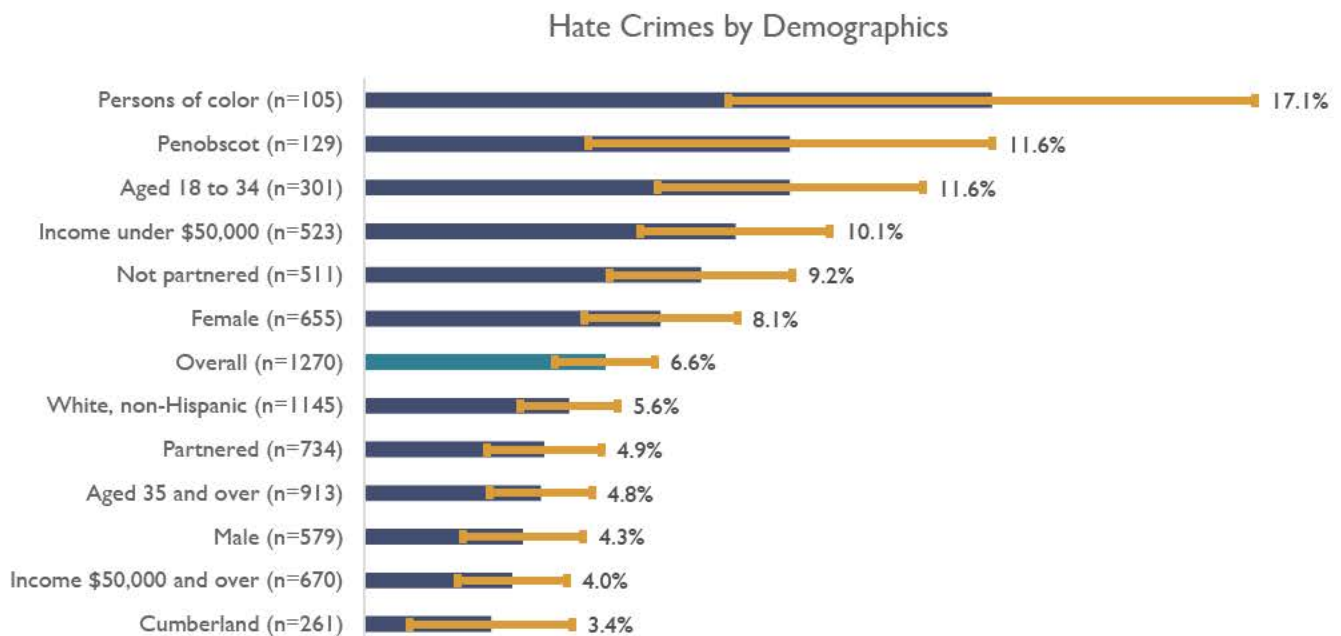


Figure 37

³² Race: $\chi^2(1, N=1,250)=20.944, p<.001, \Phi=.129$; Penobscot: $\chi^2(1, N=1,213)=5.935, p=.015, \Phi=.070$; Cumberland: $\chi^2(1, N=1,214)=5.331, p=.021, \Phi=.066$; Age: $\chi^2(1, N=1,214)=17.249, p<.001, \Phi=.119$; Income: $\chi^2(1, N=1,193)=17.493, p<.001, \Phi=.121$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=1,245)=8.923, p=.003, \Phi=.085$; Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=1,234)=7.392, p=.007, \Phi=.077$

Lifetime Rape

Frequency

The current survey included two “lifetime” questions, including a question about rape and attempted rape. This question asked, “In your lifetime, has anyone forced you, or attempted to force you to have sex with them?” Approximately 12% reported experiencing this once, and an additional 11% reported having experienced it more than once, resulting in a total of 23% of all respondents reporting rape or attempted rape. This rate is not statistically different from the 2015 rate (also 23%).

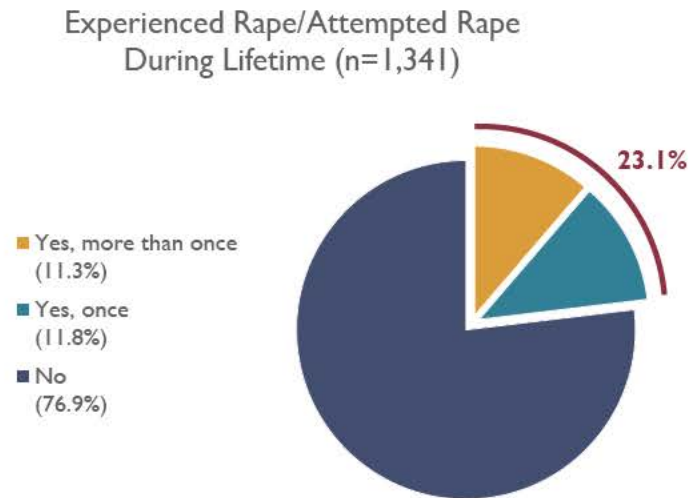


Figure 38

Demographics

The proportion of respondents who reported lifetime rape or attempted rape varied by respondent demographic as follows:³³

- The lifetime rate of rape/attempted rape is four and a half times higher for females (37%) than it is for males (8%).
- Persons of color were more likely to experience rape/attempted rape in their lifetime than non-Hispanic White persons, at 36% and 22%, respectively.
- The lifetime rate of rape was negatively correlated with age. The lifetime rate of rape/attempted rape for the youngest group of respondents, aged 18 to 34, was 32%. For those aged 35-44, the rate was 27%, for those aged 45-54 the rate was 24%, for those aged 55-64 the rate was 20%, and for those aged 65 and over, the rate was 15%. This is counterintuitive given the larger time frame oldest respondents have in which to experience rape. These findings may reflect a difference in how respondents from different ages categories define rape or attempted rape.
- Respondents currently in lower household income brackets (less than \$75,000) were more likely than their counterparts with incomes of \$75,000 or more per year to experience rape/attempted rape in their lifetimes, at 28% compared with 17%.
- Unpartnered respondents were more likely to experience a rape/attempted rape in their lifetime, at 30%, compared with those who are partnered, at 19%.

³³ Gender: $\chi^2(1, N=1,314)=152.523, p<.001, \Phi=.341$; Race: $\chi^2(1, N=1,329)=11.251, p=.001, \Phi=.092$; Age: $\chi^2(4, N=1,286)=29.200, p<.001, \text{Cramer's } V=.151$; Income: $\chi^2(1, N=1,265)=18.003, p<.001, \Phi=.119$; Relationship: $\chi^2(1, N=1,325)=20.205, p<.001, \Phi=.123$

Lifetime Rape/Attempted Rape by Demographics

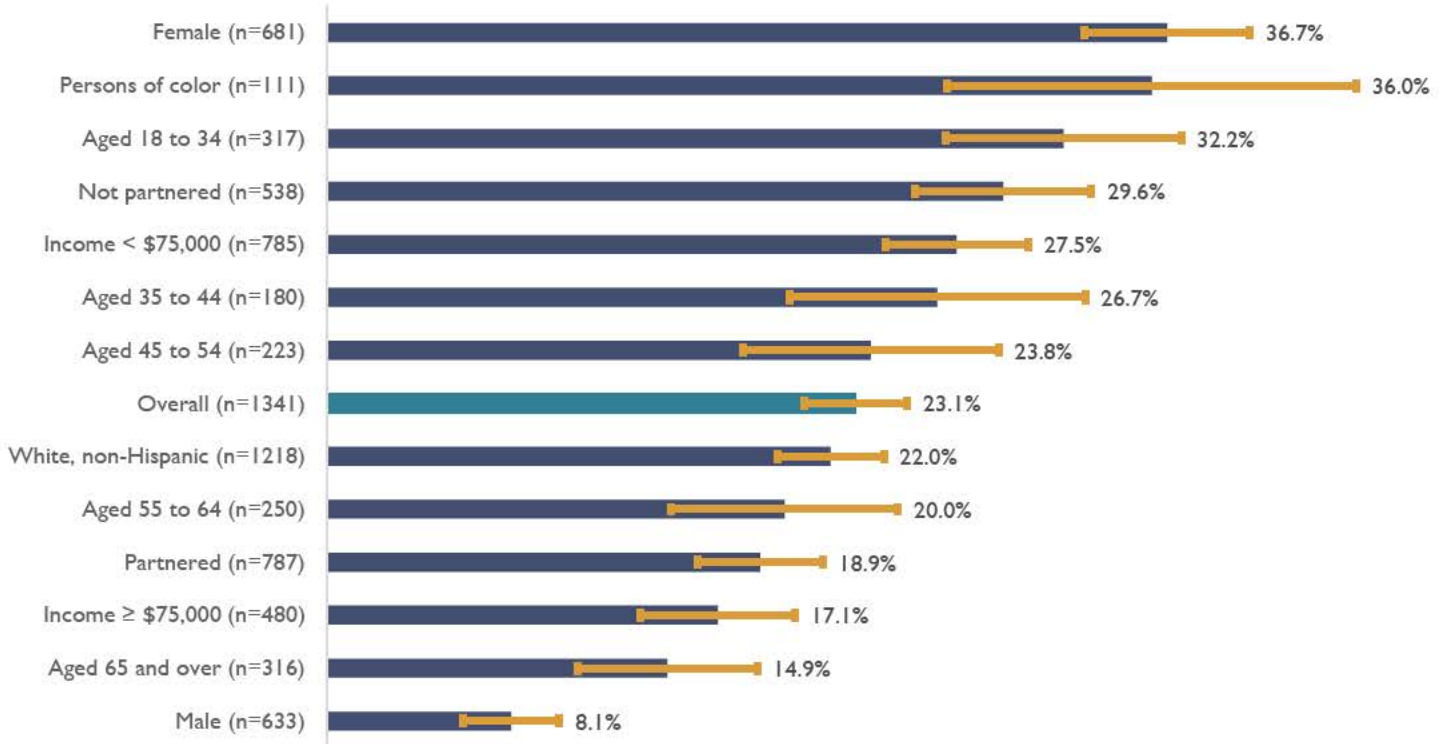


Figure 39

Human Trafficking

Frequency

The current survey included a new question related to human trafficking. It asked, “In your lifetime, have you been forced, tricked, or manipulated into engaging in any type of labor, including commercial sex (trading sex for money, goods, or service)?” A total of 3.2% (n=41) of all survey respondents responded in the affirmative to this question by choosing one of these options: Yes, commercial sex (0.8%); yes, other labor (2.1%); or yes, both commercial sex and other labor (0.3%).

Human trafficking victims were more likely to have been the victim of a crime in the past 12 months, at a rate of 78%, compared with 34% for those who had not been forced into labor in their lifetimes.³⁴

Demographics

The proportion of respondents who indicated that they had been trafficked varied by respondent demographic as follows:³⁵

- Persons of color had a higher rate of lifetime trafficking, at 12%, compared with non-Hispanic White persons, at 2%.
- Respondents with household incomes of less than \$25,000 had a lifetime rate of trafficking of 6%, compared with those with higher incomes, with a rate of 3%.
- Younger respondents, aged 18 to 44, had a higher rate of lifetime trafficking, at 5%, compared with their counterparts aged 45 and older, at 2%. This is counterintuitive given the larger time frame older respondents have in which to experience trafficking. These findings may reflect an increased understanding of trafficking on the part of younger respondents or it may reflect an increase in trafficking in recent years.
- Unpartnered respondents were more likely to have experienced trafficking than their partnered counterparts, at rates of 5% and 2%, respectively.
- Female respondents were more likely to indicate they had been trafficked, at a rate of 5%, compared with their male counterparts, at 2%.

Lifetime Human Trafficking Rates by Demographics

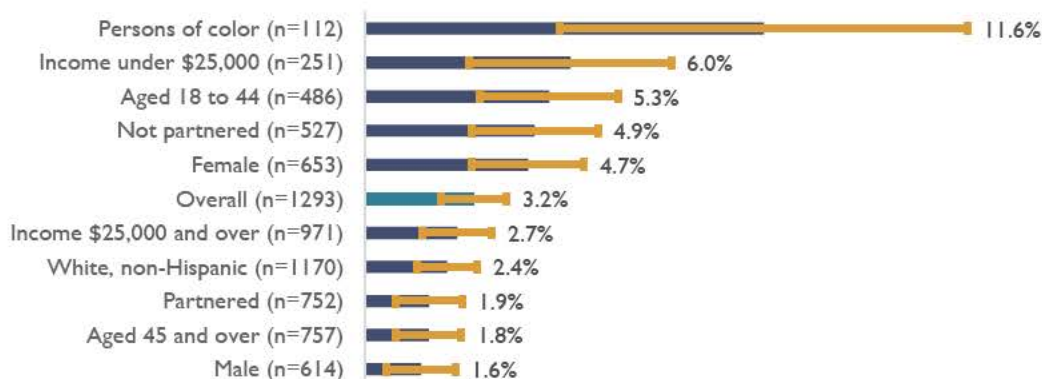


Figure 40

³⁴ $\chi^2 (1, N=1,293)=32.249, p < .001, \text{Phi}=.158.$

³⁵ Race: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,282)=28.031, p < .001, \text{Phi}=.148;$ Income: $\chi^2 (1, N=1222)=6.692, p=.010, \text{Phi}=.074;$ Age: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,243)=11.644, p=.001, \text{Phi}=.097;$ Relationship: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,279)=9.651, p=.002, \text{Phi}=.087;$ Gender: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,267)=9.829, p=.002, \text{Phi}=.088$

Demographic Characteristics of Victims

While the previous section of this report summarizes findings by type of crime, this section summarizes by victim demographic. Several demographic attributes were frequently associated with victimization regardless of crime type. The most frequently observed attributes associated with crime were age and race/ethnicity—younger adults and persons of color were more likely to be victimized for every type of crime except identity crime. Gender was also frequently associated with victimization. Household income was associated with some types of victimization, as was location (RUCA), and relationship status.

Younger adults and persons of color were more likely to be victimized for every type of crime except identity crime.

Several demographic attributes were more frequently associated with reporting crimes to law enforcement and seeking victim services. Younger victims, people of color, those without partners, and females were more likely to report crimes and seek services than their counterparts. Those with lower household incomes were more likely to seek victim services than those in higher income brackets, and those in urban or suburban areas were more likely to seek victim services than those in rural locations.

Age

Crime Disparity

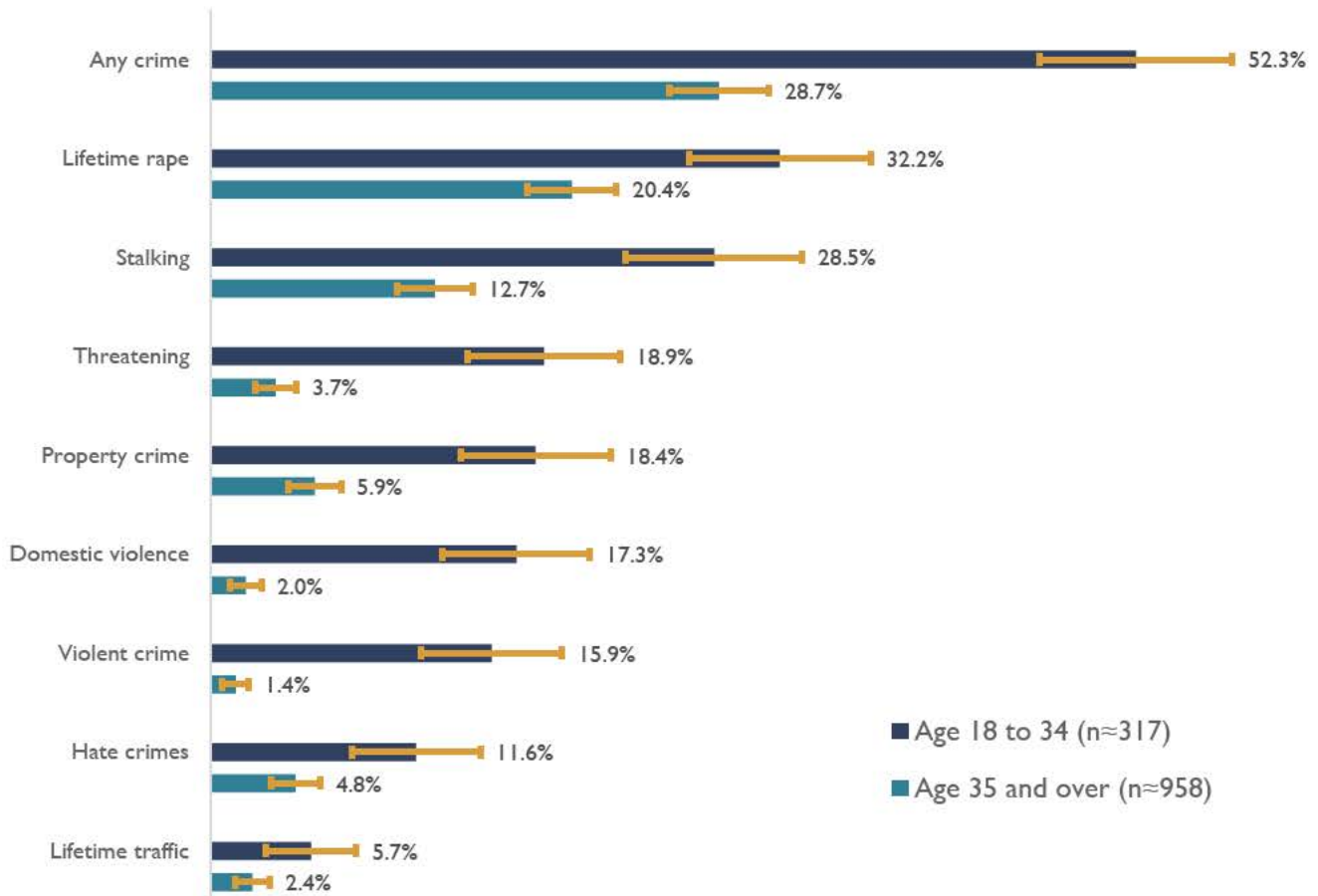
Younger adults were more likely to be the victim of every type of crime except identity crime over the last 12 months:³⁶

- **Overall**, respondents between the ages of 18 and 34 were more likely to experience at least one type of victimization (52%) compared with respondents aged 35 and older (29%).
- Those aged 18 to 34 had a higher rate of **lifetime rape/attempted rape**, at 32%, compared with those aged 35 and over, at 20%.
- Respondents between the ages of 18 and 34 were more likely to have been the victim of **stalking**, at 29%, while their older counterparts had a lower rate, at 13%.
- Those aged 18 to 34 had a higher rate of being **threatened** with violence, at 19%, compared with those aged 35 and over, at 4%.
- Respondents aged 18 to 34 were more likely (18%) to be the victim of **property crime** compared with respondents aged 35 and older (6%).

³⁶Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=1,302)=59.511, p<.001, \Phi=.214$; Lifetime rape: $\chi^2(1, N=1,286)=18.416, p<.001, \Phi=.120$; Stalking: $\chi^2(4, N=1,254)=42.455, p<.001, \Phi=.184$; Threats: $\chi^2(1, N=1,296)=80.697, p<.001, \Phi=.250$; Property: $\chi^2(1, N=1,303)=46.056, p<.001, \Phi=.188$; DV: $\chi^2(1, N=1,270)=101.690, p<.001, \Phi=.283$; Violent crime: $\chi^2(1, N=1,303)=106.757, p<.001, \Phi=.286$; HC: $\chi^2(1, N=1,214)=17.249, p<.001, \Phi=.119$; Lifetime trafficking: $\chi^2(1, N=1,243)=8.355, p=.004, \Phi=.082$

- **Domestic violence** was indicated by a higher percentage of younger adults: those aged 18 to 34 had a rate of 17%, compared with those aged 35 and older, who had a rate of 2%.
- Likewise, younger respondents, aged 18 to 34, were more likely, at 16%, to experience **violent crime** than their older counterparts, aged 35 and older, at 1%.
- Those aged 18 to 34 were more likely to have experienced a **hate crime**, at a rate of 12%, compared with those aged 35 and older, at 5%.
- The youngest cohort, age 18 to 34, were more likely to have been **trafficked** over their lifetime, at a rate of 6%, compared with respondents 35 and older, at 2%.

Crime Disparity by Age



Note: Numbers reported for age groups are approximations; number of respondents varied by crime type.

Figure 41

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Younger victims of crime were more likely to report crimes to law enforcement. This was true of crime in general and of identity crime in particular:³⁷

- Just over half (52%) of **all victims** aged 18 to 34 reported the crime to law enforcement, while victims aged 35 and older had a reporting rate of 29%.
- Younger victims of **identity crime**, aged 18 to 34, had a higher tendency to report that crime, at a rate of 47%, compared with victims aged 35 and above, who reported at a rate of 12%.

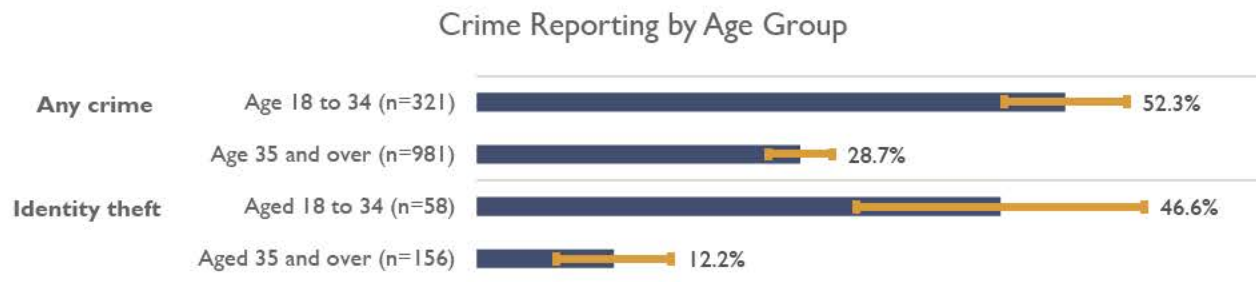


Figure 42

Seeking Victim Services

Younger victims of crime were more likely to seek victim services for crime in general, as well as for property and identity crimes in particular:³⁸

- Almost a quarter (23%) of **all victims** aged 18 to 34 sought victim services, while only 7% of those victims ages 35 and older sought services.
- Younger victims of **property crime**, aged 18 to 34, were more likely to seek victim services; 22% of them reported that they sought services from an organization at least once, compared with 3% of property crime victims aged 35 and above.
- **Identity crime** victims under age 45 were more likely to seek victim services, at a rate of 19%, than those age 45 and over, at a rate of 7%.



Figure 43

³⁷ Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=449)=25.118, p<.001, \Phi=.237$; Identity: $\chi^2(1, N=214)=29.602, p<.001, \Phi=.372$

³⁸ Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=450)=24.021, p<.001, \Phi=.231$; Property: $\chi^2(1, N=117)=9.039, p=.003, \Phi=.278$; Identity: $\chi^2(1, N=214)=6.186, p=.013, \Phi=.170$

Race/Ethnicity

The survey asked respondents to select the one category which best describes their race from the following categories:

- American Indian
- Asian
- Bi-racial or multi-racial
- Black and/or African American
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- White/Caucasian
- Other (respondent could write in another category)

Respondents were asked in a separate question whether they were Hispanic/Latino. Due to the small number of minority races and ethnicities represented in Maine, those who chose a race other than White and those who chose Hispanic/Latino were combined into one group for analysis. For ease of reference, this group is referred to as “persons of color” throughout this report.

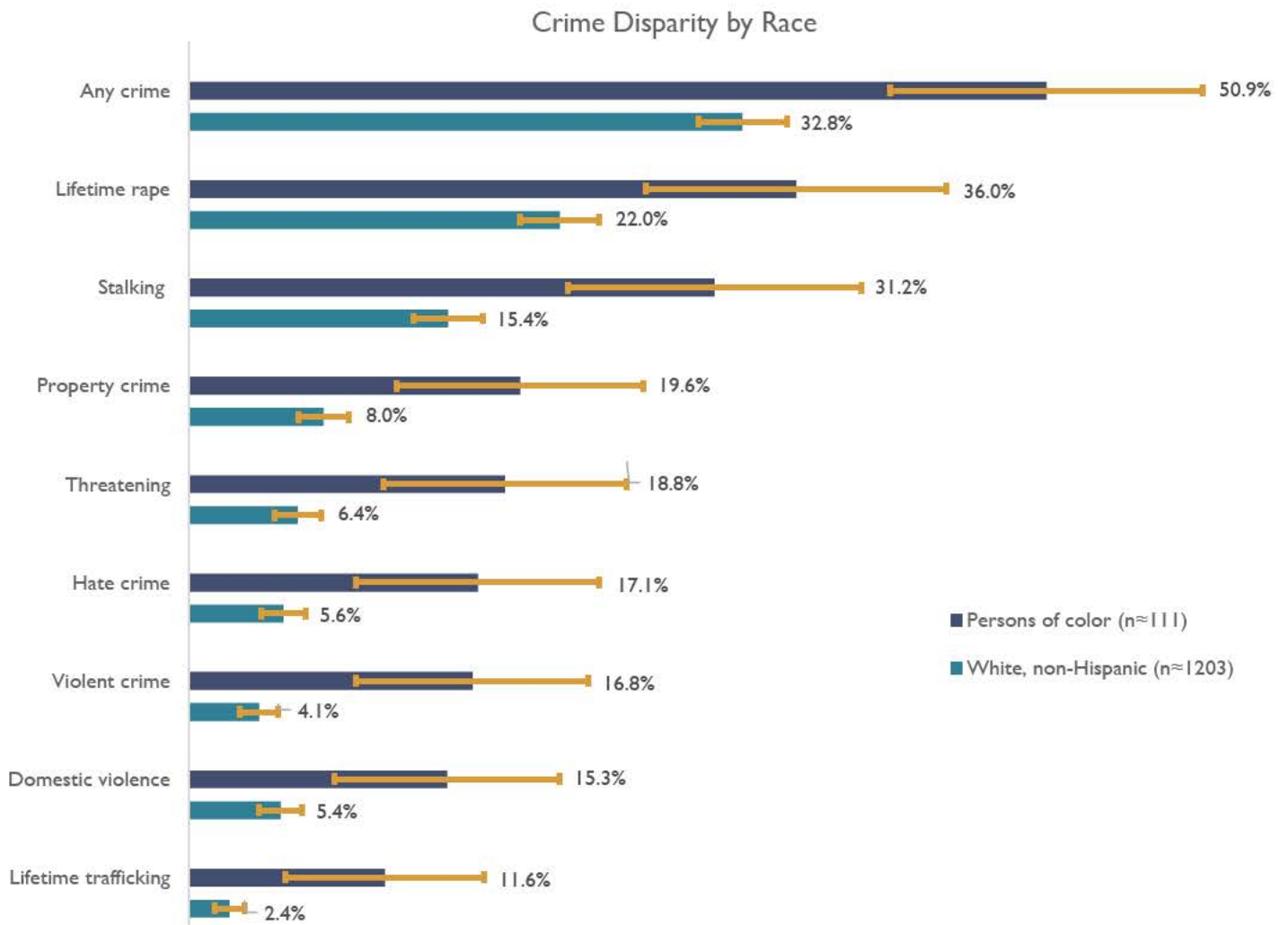
Crime Disparity

Persons of color were more likely to be the victim of every type of crime except identity crimes, as follows:³⁹

- **Overall**, persons of color were more likely than non-Hispanic White persons to experience at least one type of victimization, at a rate of 51% compared with 33%.
- Persons of color were more likely to have experienced **rape** over their lifetime, at 36%, than non-Hispanic White persons, at 22%.
- Persons of color were twice as likely to have experienced **stalking** (31%) than non-Hispanic White persons (15%).
- Persons of color also reported a higher rate of **property crime** (20%) compared with non-Hispanic White respondents (8%).
- Persons of color were nearly three times as likely to be **threatened** with violence than their non-Hispanic White counterparts (19% compared with 6%).
- Persons of color were more likely to have been the victim of a **hate crime**, at 17%, compared with non-Hispanic White persons, at 6%.

³⁹ Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=1,342)=14.826, p<.001, \Phi=.105$; Lifetime Rape: $\chi^2(1, N=1,329)=11.251, p=.001, \Phi=.092$; Stalking: $\chi^2(1, N=1,294)=17.997, p<.001, \Phi=.118$; Property: $\chi^2(1, N=1,341)=17.154, p<.001, \Phi=.113$; Threats: $\chi^2(1, N=1,338)=22.475, p<.001, \Phi=.130$; Hate: $\chi^2(1, N=1,250)=20.944, p<.001, \Phi=.129$; Violent: $\chi^2(1, N=1,343)=33.615, p<.001, \Phi=.158$; DV: $\chi^2(1, N=1,308)=16.892, p<.001, \Phi=.114$; Lifetime traffic: $\chi^2(1, N=1,282)=28.031, p<.001, \Phi=.148$

- Persons of color were four times as likely to report being the victim of some type of **violent crime** in the past 12 months compared with non-Hispanic White respondents (17% compared with 4%).
- Persons of color were also more likely to have experienced **domestic violence**, at 15%, compared with their non-Hispanic White counterparts, at 5%.
- Persons of color were more likely to have experienced **human trafficking** over their lifetime, at a rate of 12%, compared with non-Hispanic White respondents, at 2%.



Note: Numbers reported for racial groups are approximations; number of respondents varied by crime type.

Figure 44

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Victims of color were more likely to report crimes against them in general and more likely to report property crimes and identity crimes in particular:⁴⁰

- Victims of color were more likely to report **any crime** to law enforcement, at a rate of 59%, compared with a rate of 29% for non-Hispanic White victims.
- Victims of color were more likely to report **property crime** to law enforcement, with a rate of 86%, compared with 50% of victims who were non-Hispanic White.
- Victims of color were more likely to report **identity crime** to law enforcement, at a rate of 58%, compared with non-Hispanic White victims, at a rate of 16%.

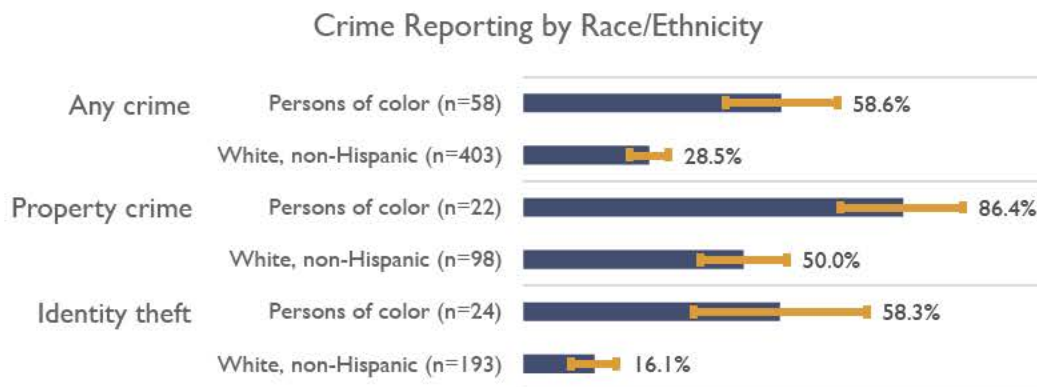


Figure 45

Seeking Victim Services

For most types of crime, victims of color and White victims sought services for those crimes at similar rates. An exception occurs, however, for threats of violence:⁴¹

- Non-Hispanic White victims of **threatening crimes** sought victim services at a rate of 25%; this is in sharp contrast to victims of color, none of whom (0%) sought victim services following crimes of threatening.



Figure 46

⁴⁰ Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=461)=20.979, p<.001, \Phi=.213$; Property: $\chi^2(1, N=120)=9.675, p=.002, \Phi=.284$; Identity: $\chi^2(1, N=217)=23.205, p<.001, \Phi=.327$

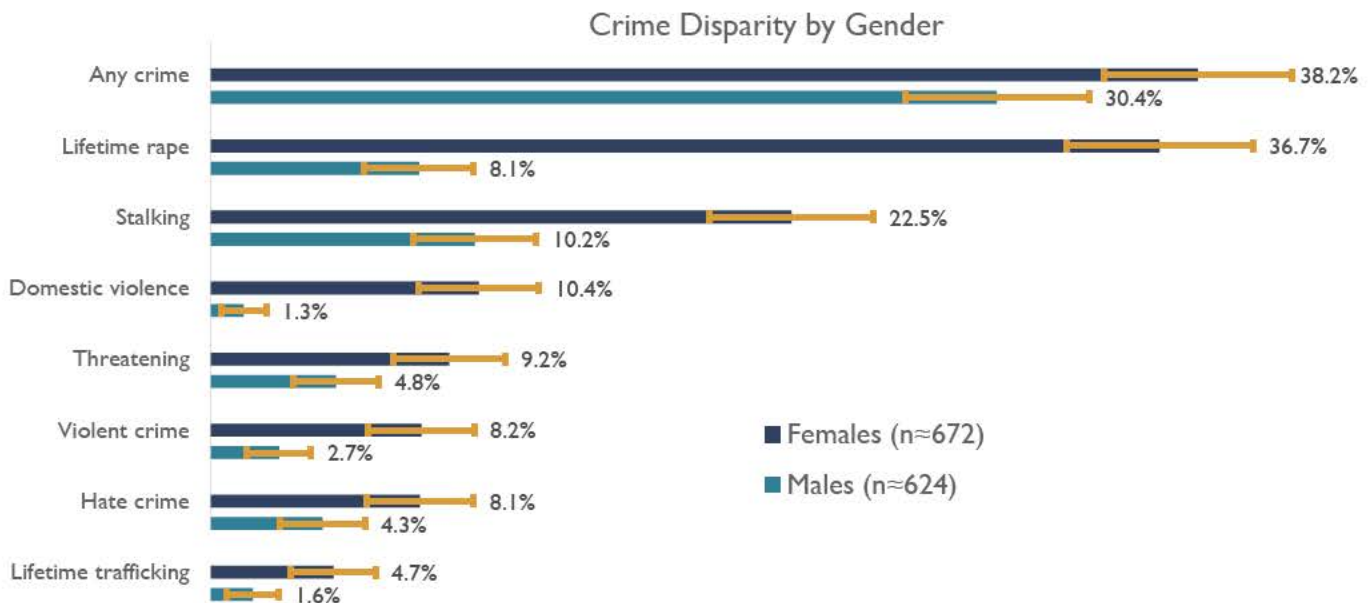
⁴¹ Threats: $\chi^2(1, N=101)=6.546, p=.011, \Phi=.255$

Gender

Crime Disparity

Females were more likely than males to be the victim of every type of crime with the exceptions of property and identity crime:⁴²

- Females had an **overall** victimization rate of 38% compared with 30% for males.
- Females had a higher rate of **lifetime rape/attempted rape**, at 37%, compared with 8% for males.
- Females were more likely to experience **stalking**, at a rate of 22%, compared with 10% for male respondents. This held true across all the types of stalking with the exception of unsolicited phone calls.
- Females were more likely to experience **domestic violence**, at 10%, compared with a rate of 1% for males.
- Females were more likely to experience **threats of violence**, at a rate of 9%, compared with 5% for males.
- Females were more likely to experience **violent crime** (robbery, assault, sexual assault, or rape/attempted rape) during the past 12 months, at a rate of 8%, compared with 3% for males.
- Females also had a higher tendency to be the victim of a **hate crime**, at 8%, compared with a 4% rate for males.
- Females were more likely to be **trafficked** at some point in their lifetimes, at a rate of 5%, compared with 2% for males.



Note: Numbers reported for genders are approximations; number of respondents varied by crime type.

Figure 47

⁴²Overall crime: $\chi^2(1, N=1,327)=8.863, p=.003, \Phi=.082$; Rape: $\chi^2(1, N=1,314)=152.523, p<.001, \Phi=.341$; Stalking: $\chi^2(1, N=1,280)=34.777, p<.001, \Phi=.165$; DV: $\chi^2(1, N=1,294)=47.874, p<.001, \Phi=.192$; Threats: $\chi^2(1, N=1,324)=9.562, p=.002, \Phi=.085$; Violence: $\chi^2(1, N=1,328)=19.304, p<.001, \Phi=.121$; Hate: $\chi^2(1, N=1,234)=7.392, p=.007, \Phi=.077$; Lifetime traffic: $\chi^2(1, N=1,267)=9.829, p=.002, \Phi=.088$

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Female victims were more likely than male victims to report crimes against them in general:⁴³

- Overall, female victims of crime were more likely to report crime to law enforcement, at a rate of 37%, compared with their male counterparts, at only 25%.

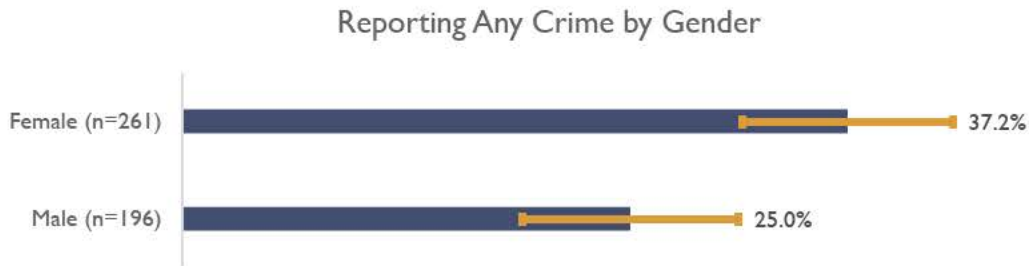


Figure 48

Seeking Victim Services

Female victims of crime were more likely to seek victim services for crime in general as well as for property crime and stalking in particular:⁴⁴

- **Overall**, female victims, at 16%, were more likely than male victims, at 6%, to seek services.
- Female **property crime** victims, at 17%, were more likely than male property crime victims, at 4%, to seek services.
- Female **stalking** victims were more likely to contact a victim services organization than male stalking victims, at a rate of 14% compared with 3%.

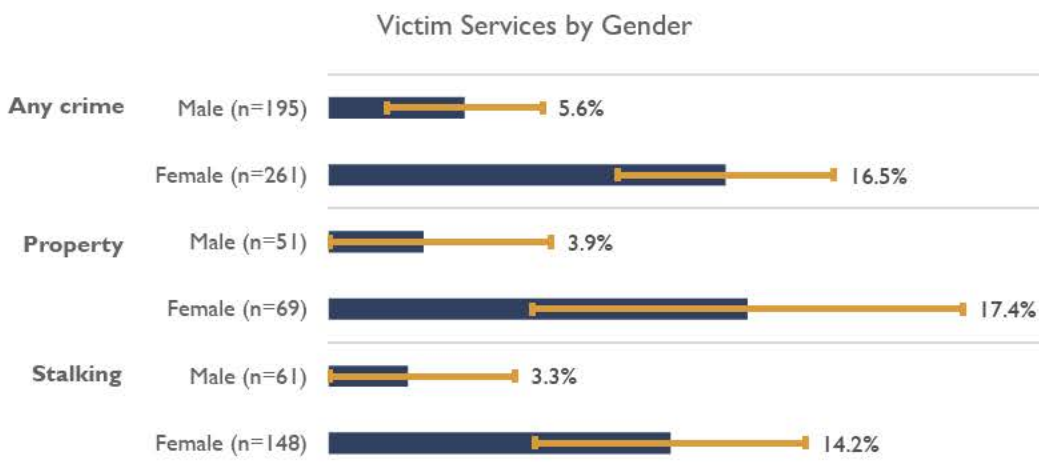


Figure 49

⁴³ Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=457)=7.619, p=.006, \Phi=.129$

⁴⁴ Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=456)=12.549, p<.001, \Phi=.129$; Property: $\chi^2(1, N=120)=5.163, p=.023, \Phi=.207$; Stalking: $\chi^2(1, N=209)=5.250, p=.022, \Phi=.158$

Household Income

Respondents were asked to indicate their total household income from all sources, and could choose from one of the following categories:

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 or more

Crime Disparity

While those with higher household incomes were more likely to be the victim of identity crimes, those with lower household incomes were more likely to be the victim of most other crimes:⁴⁵

- Respondents with household incomes of less than \$75,000 were more likely to experience **rape/ attempted rape** in their lifetimes, at 28%, compared with those with lower incomes, at 17%.
- Respondents with lower household incomes (less than \$50,000) were more likely to experience **stalking**, at 22%, while those with higher household incomes (\$50,000 or more), were less likely to experience stalking, at 13%.
- **Identity crimes**, on the other hand, were experienced at a higher rate by those with higher household incomes. A total of 20% of respondents with household incomes of \$75,000 or more were the victim of an identity crime compared with 14% of respondents with household incomes under \$75,000.
- Respondents with household incomes of under \$25,000 were more likely to experience **domestic violence**, at 14%, compared with those with higher incomes, at 4%.
- Those with household incomes under \$50,000 were more likely to suspect or believe they were targeted for their race, gender, religion, sexual orientation or identity. One out of every ten victims (10%) with lower incomes suspected or believed they were the victim of a **hate crime**, compared with 4% of those with higher incomes.
- In addition, those with lower household incomes (less than \$75,000) were **threatened** with violence at a higher rate (10%) than those with higher incomes (4%).
- While few respondents indicated that they were victims of **violent crime**, a disproportionate number of them came from households with lower incomes. Approximately 8% of those with household incomes of less than \$50,000 experienced a violent crime, compared with 4% of those with higher incomes.
- Respondents with household incomes of under \$25,000 were more likely to have been a victim of **trafficking** in their lifetime, at 6%, than those with higher incomes, at 3%.

⁴⁵ Lifetime rape: $\chi^2(1, N=1265)=18.003, p<.001, \Phi=.119$; Stalking: $\chi^2(1, N=1,235)=18.185, p<.001, \Phi=.121$; Identity: $\chi^2(1, N=1,278)=6.762, p=.009, \Phi=.073$; DV: $\chi^2(1, N=1253)=28.720, p<.001, \Phi=.151$; Hate: $\chi^2(1, N=1,193)=17.493, p<.001, \Phi=.121$; Threats: $\chi^2(1, N=1,277)=12.452, p<.001, \Phi=.099$; Violent: $\chi^2(1, N=1,280)=8.268, p=.004, \Phi=.080$; Lifetime trafficking: $\chi^2(1, N=1222)=6.692, p=.010, \Phi=.074$

Crime Disparity by Household Income

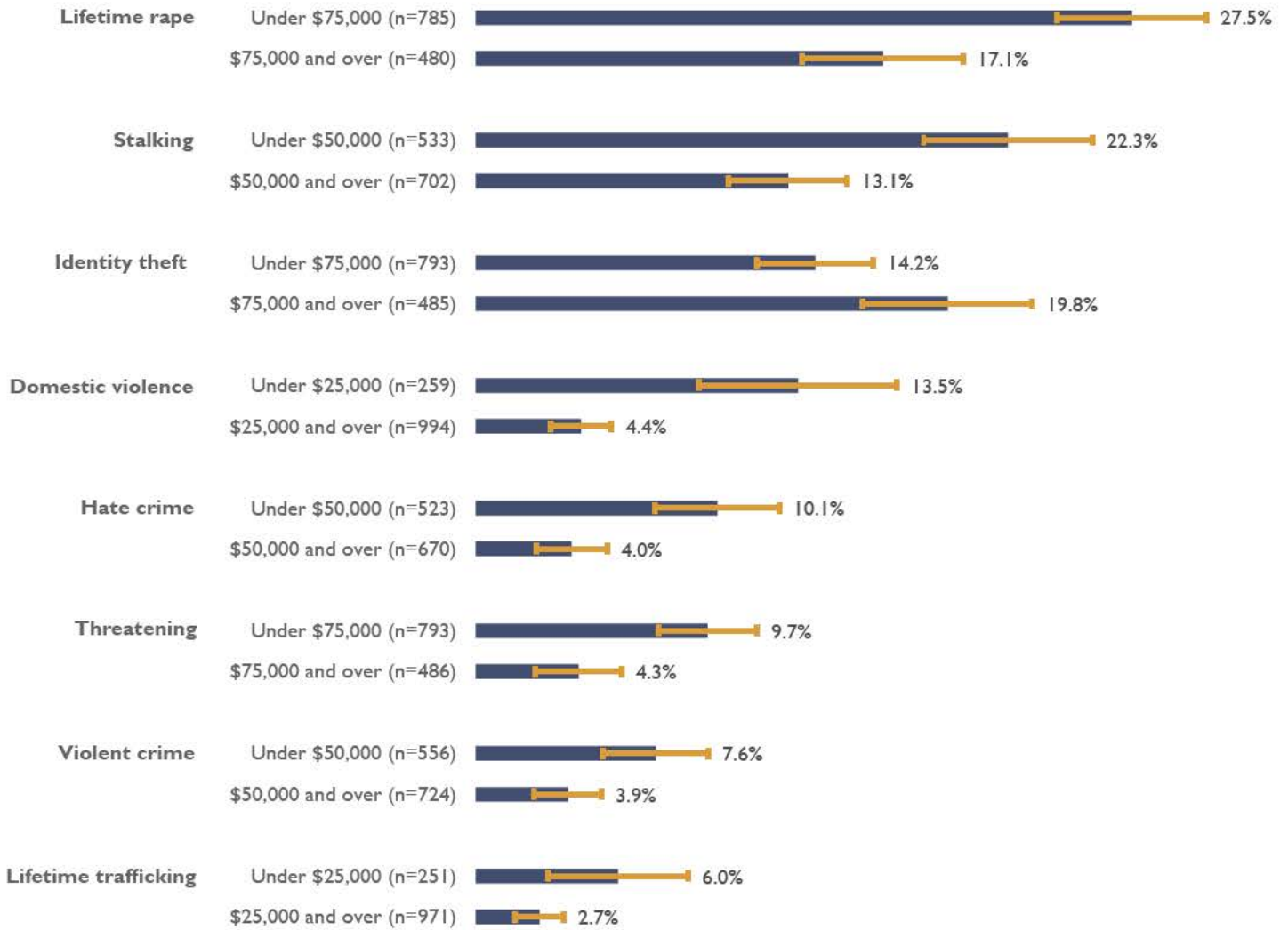


Figure 50

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Victims across the various income levels were equally likely to report the crimes they experienced.

Seeking Victim Services

Victims with lower levels of household income were more likely to seek victim services for crime in general as well as for threats of violence and stalking in particular:⁴⁶

- **Overall**, victims in lower household income brackets (less than \$50,000) were twice as likely, at a rate of 18%, to seek services as those in higher brackets, at 9%.
- **Threatened** victims with a lower household income, under \$50,000, sought victim services at a rate of 26%, compared with 10% of threatened victims with household incomes at or above \$50,000.
- Victims of **stalking** with household incomes of less than \$25,000 were more likely to seek services, at a rate of 21%, compared with stalking victims with household incomes of \$25,000 and more, at only 8%.

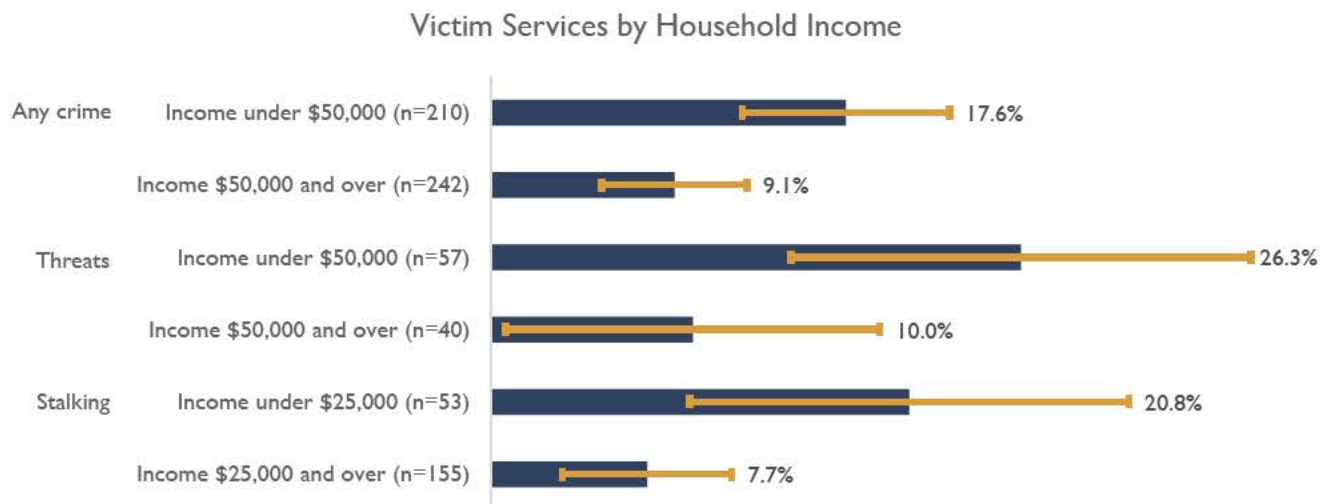


Figure 51

⁴⁶ Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=452)=7.205, p=.007, \Phi=.126$; Threats: $\chi^2(1, N=97)=3.973, p=.046, \Phi=.202$; Stalking: $\chi^2(1, N=208)=6.800, p=.009, \Phi=.181$

Location

Zip codes reported by respondents were broadly categorized as urban/suburban or rural using RUCA classification (see Methodology). Zip codes were also mapped to their respective counties.

Crime Disparity

Respondents from urban/suburban areas were more likely to experience two serious types of crime:^{47,48}

- Urban/suburban respondents experienced **domestic violence** more frequently than their rural counterparts, at rates of 7% and 4%, respectively.
- Urban/suburban respondents had a higher rate of **violent crimes** (7%) compared with rural respondents (2%).

Crime rates also varied by county:

- Cumberland⁴⁹
 - Cumberland respondents were less likely, at 1%, than those from all other counties, at 6%, to experience **violent crime**.
 - Cumberland respondents were less likely, at 3%, than those from all other counties, at 7%, to experience **hate crimes**.
 - Cumberland respondents were more likely, at 12%, than those from all other counties, at 8%, to experience **property crime**.
- Kennebec⁵⁰
 - Kennebec respondents were more likely, at 15%, than those from all other counties, at 5%, to experience **domestic violence**.
- Penobscot⁵¹
 - Penobscot respondents were more likely, at 10%, than those from all other counties, at 5%, to experience **domestic violence**.
 - Penobscot respondents were more likely, at 13%, than those from all other counties, at 4%, to experience **violent crime**.
 - Penobscot respondents were more likely, at 12%, than those from all other counties, at 7%, to experience **threatening**.
 - Penobscot respondents were more likely, at 12%, than those from all other counties, at 6%, to experience **hate crime**.
- York⁵²
 - Respondents from York were less likely than respondents from other counties to experience **domestic violence**; in fact, fewer than 1% of York respondents reported experiencing domestic violence, while 7% of respondents from all other counties did so.

⁴⁷ These findings held true even after controlling for age, income, and race/ethnicity.

⁴⁸ Violent crime: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,305)=12.542, p<.001, \text{Phi}=.098$; DV: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,275)=5.728, p=.017, \text{Phi}=.067$

⁴⁹ Violent crime: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,305)=11.082, p=.001, \text{Phi}=.092$; Hate: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,214)=5.331, p=.021, \text{Phi}=.066$; Property: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,303)=4.980, p=.026, \text{Phi}=.062$

⁵⁰ $\chi^2 (1, N=1276)=18.777, p<.001, \text{Phi}=.121$

⁵¹ DV: $\chi^2 (1, N=1277)=4.853, p=.028, \text{Phi}=.062$; Violent crime: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,305)=22.639, p<.001, \text{Phi}=.132$; Threatening: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,302)=4.664, p=.031, \text{Phi}=.060$; Hate: $\chi^2 (1, N=1,213)=5.935, p=.015, \text{Phi}=.070$

⁵² $\chi^2 (1, N=1276)=14.248, p<.001, \text{Phi}=.106$

Crime Disparity by Location

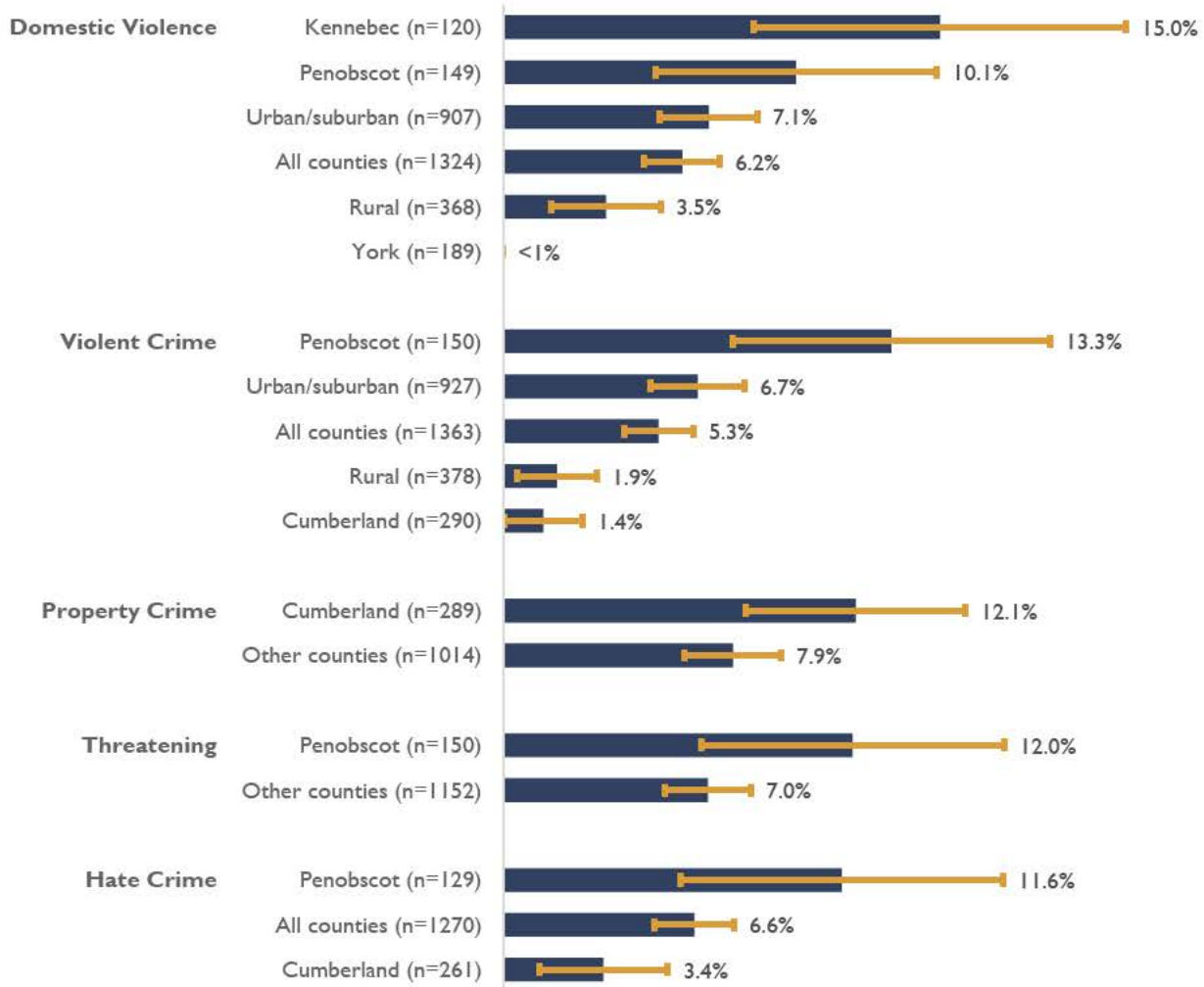


Figure 52

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Victims from urban and rural areas reported crime to law enforcement at similar rates. Victims of identity crimes from two counties, however, reported those crimes at rates different from other counties:⁵³

- The overall rate of reporting to law enforcement for all counties was 21%. Victims of **identity crime** in Penobscot County, however, were less likely to report the crime to law enforcement, at 3%, and victims of identity crime in Kennebec County were more likely to report the identity crime, at 46%.

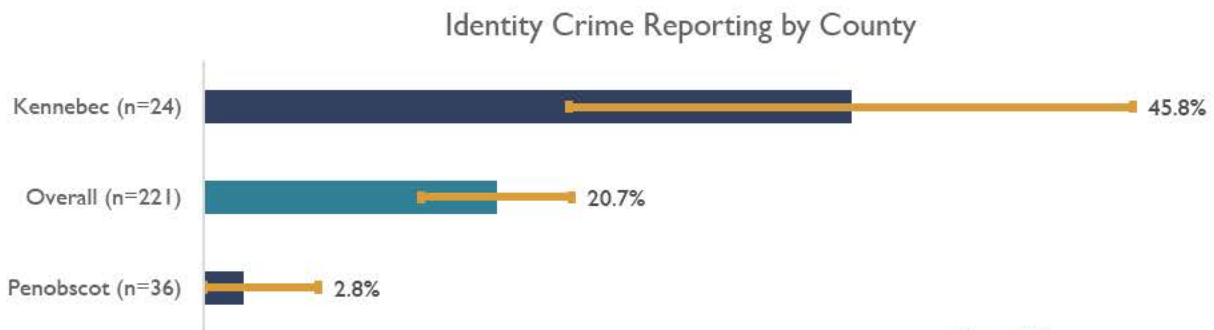


Figure 53

Seeking Victim Services

Urban victims of crime were more likely to seek victim services for crime in general as well as for property crime in particular:⁵⁴

- **Overall**, victims living in an urban/suburban area were more likely to reach out to organizations than victims in small town/rural areas, with rates of 16% and 6%, respectively.
- Nearly one in seven (17%) urban/suburban **property crime** victims reached out to a victim services organization, while none of the rural property crime victims did so (0%).

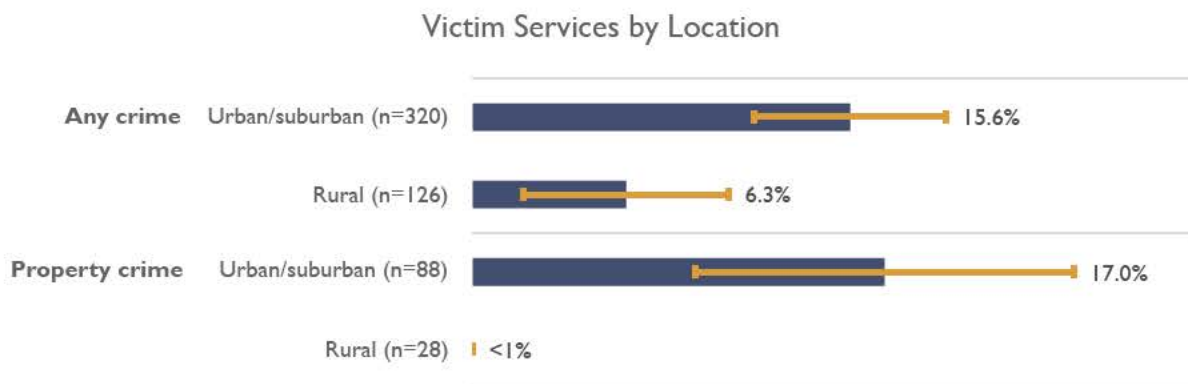


Figure 54

⁵³ Kennebec: $\chi^2 (1, N=218)=9.909, p=.002, \Phi=.213$; Penobscot: $\chi^2 (1, N=219)=8.626, p=.003, \Phi=.198$

⁵⁴ Any crime: $\chi^2 (1, N=446)=6.875, p=.009, \Phi=.124$; Property: $\chi^2 (1, N=116)=5.482, p=.019, \Phi=.217$

Relationship Status

The survey asked respondents “*What is your marital status?*” and provided the following list of responses, with instructions to select one:

- Single, never married
- Married
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Separated
- Unmarried, cohabitating

Responses from this list were condensed into two categories: partnered (married or unmarried, cohabitating) and unpartnered (*single, divorced, widowed, or separated*).

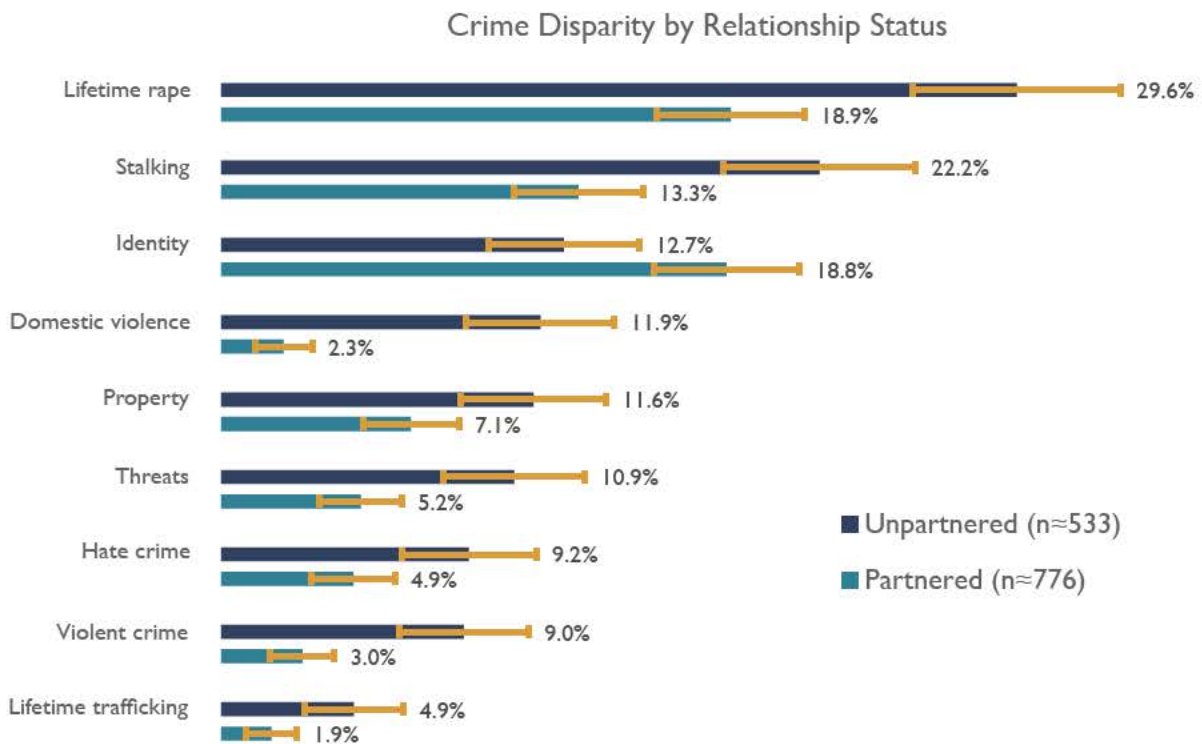
Crime Disparity

There were differences between partnered and unpartnered respondents for a number of crime rates, and in most instances, unpartnered respondents reported higher rates of victimization than those with partners.⁵⁵ It bears mentioning, however, that relationship status is correlated with both household income and age. Older respondents tend to have higher household incomes than younger respondents, and they are more likely to be partnered. The correlation between relationship status and three types of crimes—property, identity, and hate crimes—disappears after controlling for income and age.

- Unpartnered respondents were more likely to experience a **rape/attempted rape** in their lifetime, at 30%, compared with those who are partnered, at 19%.
- Unpartnered respondents were more likely to be the victims of **stalking**, at 22%, compared with partnered respondents, at 13%.
- Unpartnered respondents were less likely than their partnered counterparts to be the victims of **identity crime** (13% vs. 19%).
- At 12%, unpartnered respondents experienced **domestic violence** at a higher rate than partnered respondents, at 2%.
- Unpartnered respondents were also more likely to be the victims of **property crime**, at 12%, compared with partnered respondents, at 7%.
- Unpartnered respondents were more likely to experience **threats** of violence than their partnered counterparts (at 11% and 5%, respectively).

⁵⁵ Lifetime rape: $\chi^2(1, N=1,325)=20.205, p<.001, \Phi=.123$; Stalking: $\chi^2(1, N=1,290)=17.690, p<.001, \Phi=.117$; Identity: $\chi^2(1, N=1,336)=8.592, p=.003, \Phi=.080$; DV: $\chi^2(1, N=1,306)=49.315, p<.001, \Phi=.194$; Property: $\chi^2(1, N=1,337)=8.231, p=.004, \Phi=.078$; Threatening: $\chi^2(1, N=1,334)=15.124, p<.001, \Phi=.106$; Hate: $\chi^2(1, N=1,245)=8.923, p=.003, \Phi=.085$; Violent: $\chi^2(1, N=1,339)=22.471, p<.001, \Phi=.130$; Lifetime trafficking: $\chi^2(1, N=1,279)=9.651, p=.002, \Phi=.087$

- Unpartnered respondents experienced a higher rate of **hate crimes**, at 9%, compared with their partnered counterparts, at 5%.
- Unpartnered respondents had a higher rate (9%) than partnered respondents (3%) of **violent crime** victimization.
- Unpartnered respondents were more likely to have experienced **trafficking** than their partnered counterparts, at rates of 5% and 2%, respectively.



Note: Numbers reported for relationship status categories are approximations; number of respondents varied by crime type.

Figure 55

Reporting to Law Enforcement

Unpartnered victims were more likely to report crimes to law enforcement:⁵⁶

- **Overall**, about 39% of unpartnered victims reported any crime to law enforcement, compared with 28% of partnered victims.

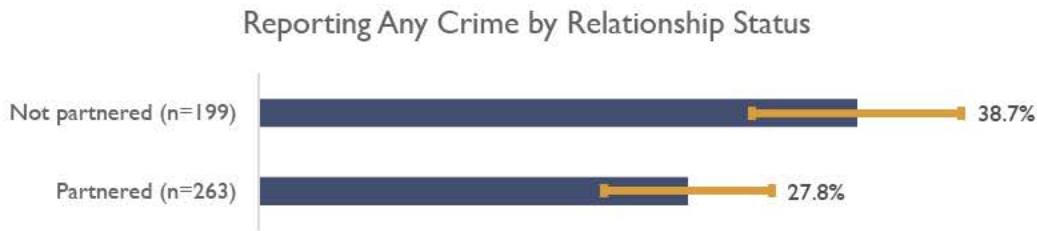


Figure 56

Seeking Victim Services

Unpartnered victims were more likely to seek victim services for crime in general, as well as for threats of violence and stalking in particular:⁵⁷

- **Overall**, unpartnered victims of crime had a higher rate (17%) of seeking victim services than victims who were partnered (10%).
- Unpartnered victims of threatening were more likely, at 28%, to seek victim services than partnered victims of **threatening**, at 7%.
- Unpartnered victims of stalking contacted service organizations at a higher rate (16%) than partnered victims of **stalking** (5%).

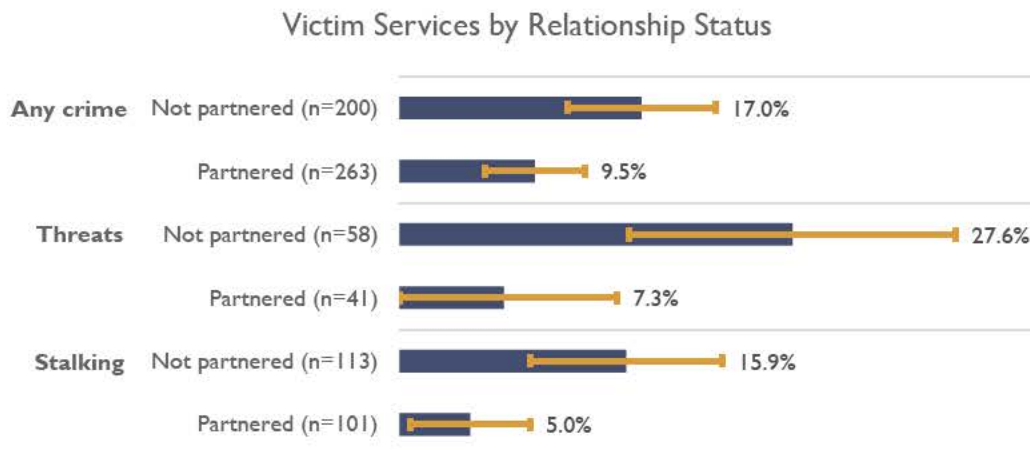


Figure 57

⁵⁶Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=462)=6.180, p=.013, \Phi=.116$

⁵⁷Any crime: $\chi^2(1, N=463)=5.738, p=.017, \Phi=.111$; Threats: $\chi^2(1, N=99)=6.363, p=.012, \Phi=.254$; Stalking: $\chi^2(1, N=214)=6.701, p=.010, \Phi=.177$

Demographic Groups with Highest Victimization Rates
(when statistically significant)

	Age	Race	Gender	Household Income	Location	Relationship Status
Any Crime (n=468)	18-34 years	Persons of color	Female			
Stalking (n=221)	18-34 years	Persons of color	Female	Under \$50K		Not partnered
Identity Crime (n=221)				Over \$75K		Partnered
Property Crime (n=120)	18-34 years	Persons of color			Cumberland	Not partnered
Threatening (n=100)	18-34 years	Persons of color	Female	Under \$75K	Penobscot	Not partnered
Violent Crime (n=73)	18-34 years	Persons of color	Female	Under \$50K	Penobscot Urban/suburban	Not partnered
Domestic Violence (n=81)	18-34 years	Persons of color	Female	Under \$25K	Kennebec Urban/suburban	Not partnered
Hate Crimes (n=83)	18-34 years	Persons of color	Female	Under \$50K	Penobscot	Not partnered
Lifetime Rape (n=310)	18-34 years	Persons of color	Female	Under \$75K	Urban/suburban	Not partnered
Lifetime Trafficking (n=41)	18-34 years	Persons of color	Female	Under \$25K	Urban/suburban	Not partnered

Table 2: Crime Disparity Across Demographic Groups

Summary

According to the findings of this study, crime directly impacted one out of every three adults in the state of Maine in 2021. A little less than one in three victims reported the crime to law enforcement, and only about one in eight sought some type of assistance from victim services.

Thus, the majority of crimes go unreported, and the majority of victims receive no assistance from Maine’s victim services organizations. The reasons for not reporting crime and seeking assistance were not explored in the current study and likely vary depending on the type of crime. In the case of identity crimes, it is possible that victims reported elsewhere—to financial institutions, for example.

Victims may also avoid reporting crimes to protect the perpetrator.⁵⁸ This is most likely when the perpetrator is a loved one—a domestic partner or family member—and the crime is domestic violence. In fact, one out of six victims identified in this study were domestic violence victims. This metric downplays the role of domestic violence in Maine because those who experienced this domestic violence experience more types of crime—3.2 types, in fact, compared with 1.2 types reported by other victims. Furthermore, the three types of crimes a domestic violence victim was likely to experience were stalking, threats of violence, and violence (i.e., robbery, assault, sexual assault, and rape/attempted rape), while the one crime other victims were most likely to experience was identity crime. In other words, domestic violence is, as the terms denotes, more threatening and violent than most crimes. While this is stating the obvious, familiarity with a term can blunt its meaning over time, and studies such as this one provide an opportunity to draw attention to the violence inherent in this type of crime.

This study also sought to understand the extent of hate crimes in Maine. According to the Department of Public Safety’s annual Crime in Maine reports, the number of reported hate crimes has increased substantially in recent years, from 19 in 2019 to 83 in 2020, a 337% increase.^{59,60} These victims were targeted due to their race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation or identity. As may be expected, given this definition of hate crime, this study found that a disproportionate number of hate crime victims were persons of color; persons of color make up about 8% of Maine’s adult population but made up 22% of its hate crime victims. A disproportionate number were also female; females make up about 52% of Maine’s adult population but made up 65% of its hate crime victims.

⁵⁸ Morgan, R.E., Thompson, A. (2020). Criminal Victimization, 2020. *Bulletin*. NCJ 301775, Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Retrieved from <https://bjs.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh236/files/media/document/cv20.pdf>

⁵⁹ Uniform Crime Reporting Division. (2019). Crime in Maine 2019. Maine Department of Public Safety.

⁶⁰ Uniform Crime Reporting Division. (2020). Crime in Maine 2020. Maine Department of Public Safety.

Due to space constraints, this study's survey did not ask about religion or sexual orientation. While it did ask about gender identity, too few people reported in the nonbinary or "other" category to allow for analysis. The Maine SAC will be releasing a report focused on hate crime reporting in the near future.⁶¹

The disproportionate representation of persons of color is not unique to hate crime. Persons of color were more likely to be the victim of any and every type of crime except identity crime, and this remained true even after controlling for differences in income. While one out of every three non-Hispanic White people in Maine were victimized in the last 12 months, one out of every two persons of color were victimized. The differences in rates vary from one type of crime to another, but rates are most divergent when looking at violent crime. Persons of color were four times as likely as non-Hispanic Whites to be the victim of a violent crime in Maine last year.

Violent crimes are relatively infrequent in Maine, and that fact combined with the state's small population makes it difficult to look at the specific crimes (robbery, assault, sexual assault, and rape/attempted rape) in depth. However, while the rate of violent victimization is small, the absolute number of victims is not; thousands of people were directly victimized with violence in a single year. Furthermore, these crimes have a profound impact on society due to the economic toll (e.g., missed work), health care utilization (e.g., emergency room visits), and governmental services (e.g., increase law enforcement presence). A comprehensive accounting would also include the impact on secondary (indirect) victims as well as the long-term impacts of violence.

It is the hope of this research team that these findings will be used to inform the direction of resources to both prevent crime and to improve the provision of services to those who are victimized.

Summary of Crime Victimization Rates 2021

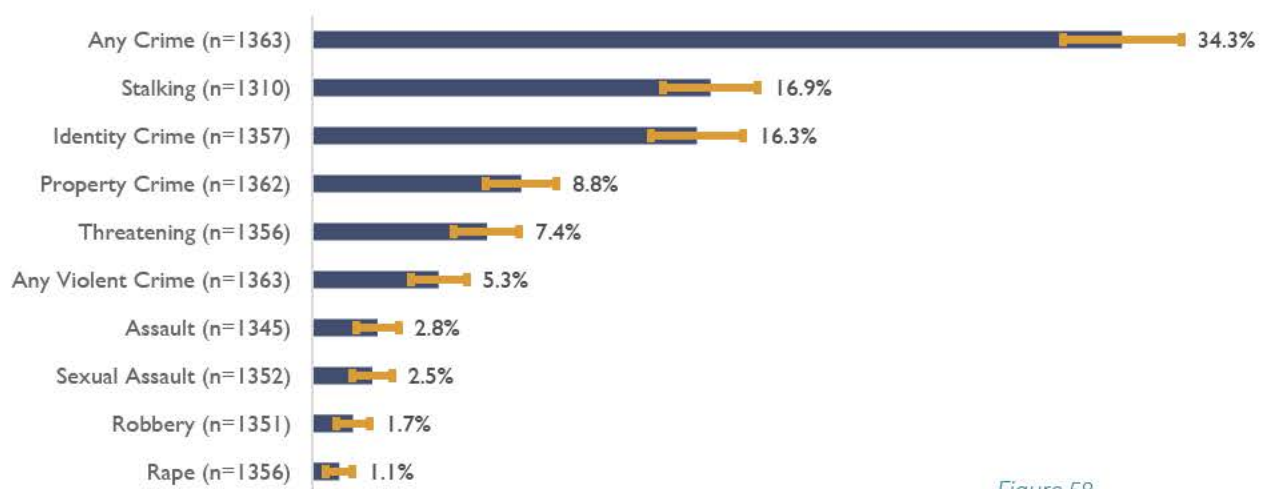


Figure 58

⁶¹Brintlinger, H., Shaler, G., & McDevitt, J. (2022). *Bias and Hate Crimes in Maine Reconciling Reported and Investigated Crimes*. Maine Statistical Analysis Center. University of Southern Maine. <https://cpb-us-w2.wpmucdn.com/wpsites.maine.edu/dist/2/115/files/2017/10/2022-Bias-and-Hate-Crimes-in-Maine-Report.pdf>

Appendix A: RUCA Designations

Urban	04038	04101	04258	04434
03804	04039	04102	04259	04435
03901	04041	04103	04260	04438
03902	04042	04104	04263	04444
03903	04046	04105	04265	04448
03904	04048	04106	04266	04449
03905	04049	04107	04270	04450
03906	04050	04108	04274	04453
03908	04055	04109	04280	04456
03909	04061	04110	04282	04461
03910	04062	04112	04288	04468
03911	04063	04116	04290	04469
04002	04064	04122	04291	04472
04004	04068	04123	04292	04473
04005	04069	04124	04350	04474
04006	04070	04210	04401	04475
04007	04071	04211	04402	04488
04010	04072	04212	04408	04489
04013	04074	04220	04410	04493
04015	04077	04222	04411	04496
04017	04078	04223	04412	04921
04019	04082	04230	04414	04928
04021	04084	04236	04415	04929
04022	04085	04238	04416	04932
04024	04087	04240	04418	04939
04027	04091	04241	04419	04951
04029	04092	04243	04422	04965
04030	04093	04250	04427	04969
04032	04096	04252	04428	04972
04033	04097	04253	04429	04974
04034	04098	04256	04431	04981

Suburban	04355	04986	04915	04255
04001	04357	04987	04938	04261
04003	04358	04988	04940	04262
04008	04359	04989	04967	04267
04011	04360	Small Town	04976	04285
04056	04363	04014	04992	04286
04066	04364	04043	Rural Area	04289
04073	04530	04228	03907	04294
04076	04548	04254	04009	04406
04079	04562	04739	04016	04413
04083	04565	04740	04020	04417
04086	04578	04741	04028	04420
04095	04579	04742	04037	04421
04284	04901	04743	04040	04424
04287	04903	04744	04047	04426
04330	04910	04745	04051	04430
04332	04917	04746	04054	04441
04333	04918	04747	04057	04442
04336	04922	04756	04088	04443
04338	04924	04762	04090	04451
04341	04926	04765	04094	04454
04342	04927	04772	04216	04455
04343	04935	04773	04217	04457
04344	04937	04774	04219	04459
04345	04943	04776	04221	04460
04346	04944	04768	04224	04463
04347	04954	04769	04225	04464
04348	04957	04775	04226	4476
04349	04961	04780	04227	04478
04351	04962	04786	04231	04479
04352	04963	04787	04234	04481
04353	04975	04841	04237	04485
04354	04978	04843	04239	04487

04490	04612	04669	04779	04945
04491	04613	04673	04781	04949
04492	04616	04674	04783	04950
04495	04617	04675	04785	04952
04535	04622	04676	04847	04953
04537	04623	04679	04848	04955
04538	04624	04680	04849	04956
04539	04625	04681	04850	04958
04541	04626	04683	04851	04964
4543	04627	04685	04852	04966
04544	04628	04686	04853	04970
4547	04630	04691	04854	04971
04549	04631	04693	04855	04973
04551	04635	04694	04856	04979
04553	04637	04737	04858	04982
04554	04642	04739	04859	04983
04555	04643	04740	04860	04984
04556	04645	04741	04861	04985
04558	04646	04742	04862	
04563	04648	04743	04863	
04564	04649	04744	04864	
04568	04650	04745	04865	
04570	04652	04746	04911	
04571	04653	04747	04912	
04572	04654	04756	04920	
04573	04655	04762	04923	
04574	04657	04765	04925	
04575	04658	04772	04930	
04576	04660	04773	04933	
04606	4662	04774	04936	
04607	04666	04776	04941	
04611	04668	04777	04942	

Appendix B: Survey

MAINE CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY

Property Crimes

1. In the last 12 months, 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?
 - No (**skip to Q4**)
 - Yes, once
 - Yes, more than once
2. Did you report it to the police?
 - No
 - Yes
 - Reported some but not all (if multiple crimes)
3. Did you seek services from a victim services organization as a result of this crime?
 - No
 - Yes, once
 - Yes, more than once

Identity Crimes

4. In the last 12 months, did you discover that someone had misused your credit cards, personal information, social security number, etc.?
 - No (**skip to Q7**)
 - Yes, once
 - Yes, more than once
5. Did you report this misuse of credit cards, personal information, social security number, etc. to the police?
 - No
 - Yes
 - Reported some but not all (if multiple crimes)
6. Did you seek services from a victim services organization as a result of this crime?
 - No
 - Yes, once
 - Yes, more than once

MAINE CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY

Threatening

7. In the past 12 months, while in Maine, did anyone threaten to hit, attack, or assault you?
- No (skip to Q10)
 - Yes, once
 - Yes, more than once
8. Did you report it to the police?
- No
 - Yes
 - Reported some but not all (if multiple crimes)
9. Did you seek services from a victim services organization as a result of this crime?
- No
 - Yes, once
 - Yes, more than once

Violent Crimes

10. 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?
- No (skip to Q13)
 - Yes, once
 - Yes, more than once
11. Did you report it to the police?
- No
 - Yes
 - Reported some but not all (if multiple crimes)
12. Did you seek services from a victim services organization as a result of this crime?
- No
 - Yes, once
 - Yes, more than once

Assault

13. In the past 12 months, while in Maine, did anyone injure you with a weapon or physical force?
- No (skip to Q16)
 - Yes, once
 - Yes, more than once

MAINE CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY

14. Did you report it to the police?

- No
- Yes
- Reported some but not all (if multiple crimes)

15. Did you seek services from a victim services organization as a result of this crime?

- No
- Yes, once
- Yes, more than once

Sexual Assault

16. In the last 12 months, while in Maine, did anyone force you, or attempt to force you, into any unwanted sexual activity such as touching, grabbing, kissing, fondling, etc.?

- No (**skip to Q19**)
- Yes, once
- Yes, more than once

17. Did you report it to the police?

- No
- Yes
- Reported some but not all (if multiple crimes)

18. Did you seek services from a victim services organization as a result of this crime?

- No
- Yes, once
- Yes, more than once

Rape

19. In the last 12 months, while in Maine, did anyone force you, or attempt to force you to have sex with them?

- No (**skip to Q22**)
- Yes, once
- Yes, more than once

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

- No
- Yes
- Reported some but not all (if multiple crimes)

MAINE CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY

21. Did you seek services from a victim services organization as a result of this crime?

- No
- Yes, once
- Yes, more than once

Stalking

22. 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 phone calls
- Showing up places
- Spreading rumors
- Other (specify) _____
- Unsolicited emails/texts/letters
- Waiting/standing outside
- Leaving unwanted gifts/items
- Other unwanted communication
- None of the above (**skip to Q25**)

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

- No
- Yes
- Reported some but not all (if multiple crimes)

24. Did you seek services from a victim services organization as a result of this crime?

- No
- Yes, once
- Yes, more than once

Domestic Violence

25. Were any of the above crimes against you committed by a current or former intimate/romantic/dating partner and/or family member?

- No
- Yes, once
- Yes, more than once
- Not applicable (no crimes occurred) (**skip to Q27**)

MAINE CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY

Hate Crimes

26. Do you believe you were the victim of any of the above crimes due to your race, gender, religion, sexual orientation or identity?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Lifetime Crime

27. In your lifetime, has anyone forced you, or attempted to force you to have sex with them?

- No
- Yes, once
- Yes, more than once

28. In your lifetime, have you been forced, tricked, or manipulated into engaging in any type of labor, including commercial sex (trading sex for money, goods, or service)?

- No
- Yes, commercial sex
- Yes, other labor
- Yes, both commercial sex and other labor

Demographics

29. What is your gender identity? (Please select one.)

- Male
- Female
- Nonbinary
- Not listed (specify) _____

30. Which category best describes your racial background? (Please select one.)

- American Indian
- Asian
- Bi-racial or multi-racial
- Black and/or African American
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- White/Caucasian
- Other (specify) _____

MAINE CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY

31. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- Yes
- No

32. What is your marital status? (Please select one.)

- Single, never married
- Married
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Separated
- Unmarried, cohabitating

33. For 2020, what was your total household income from all sources? (Please select one.)

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 or more

34. In what year were you born? _____

35. What is your zip code? _____

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.

SURVEY RESEARCH CENTER

The Survey Research Center provides technical expertise and assistance to support the generation, processing, and analysis of quantitative data in the social sciences, human services, and public opinion fields. The Center provides a wide range of research and technical assistance services to federal, state, and municipal governments, private nonprofit agencies, businesses, and University faculty and departments. Services include proposal preparation, market research, needs assessments, program evaluation, policy analysis, and information system design.

CATHERINE CUTLER INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL POLICY

The Catherine 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.

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.

