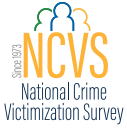


Dear Resident,

Your address has been selected to participate in the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS).

What is the NCVS?



The NCVS asks people about crimes they may have experienced in the past 6 months. We are interested in hearing about crimes, even those that were not reported to the police. Even if you have not experienced any crimes, we would like to speak with you.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics sponsors the survey, and the U.S. Census Bureau conducts the interviews. Since 1973, the NCVS has been used to show crime trends and patterns in the United States. To learn more, visit <<https://bjs.ojp.gov/ncvs-participant>>.

What should I expect?



A Census Bureau interviewer will call or visit your home to invite you to participate.

- The interviewer will ask you or another person in the household a few questions about you and the people who live here.
- All household members who are 12 years or older will be invited to complete the survey.

Are my answers confidential?



Everything you say during the interview will stay completely private and confidential, as required by federal law. Your responses will be combined with those from other people who respond to the survey to produce statistical data summaries. The data will not include any information that could be used to identify you, your household, or other residents.

Why should I participate?

By participating, you will represent hundreds of households like yours. You can also help:



- **Your community.** Communities across the nation can use NCVS data to support people affected by crime.
- **Schools.** The U.S. Department of Education uses these data to measure crime, violence, and safety in schools.
- **Employers.** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services uses NCVS data to understand violence in the workplace.
- **Law enforcement.** Law enforcement agencies can use NCVS data to strengthen awareness of crimes that aren't reported to police and to develop prevention programs.
- **Many others.** News organizations, students, and researchers use NCVS data to examine various issues related to crime and safety.

Your address cannot be replaced. To make sure the NCVS results are accurate and reliable, we need your help.

Thank you for participating in this important survey.

Sincerely,

Alexis R. Piquero, Ph.D.
Director, Bureau of Justice Statistics
U.S. Department of Justice

Frequently Asked Questions

How was I chosen for this survey?

The U.S. Census Bureau used a scientific process to randomly select certain addresses, including yours, from all addresses in the United States. This process ensures that selected addresses represent all households in the United States. We cannot swap one address for another. If we did, the survey results would not accurately reflect crime in the country.

Why not get this information from the police?

NCVS data show that over half of all crimes go unreported to the police. This survey is the only way to find out about these crimes across the nation. It also provides more detailed information than we get from the police.

I have not been a victim of a crime. Why should I participate in a crime survey?

Whether you experienced a crime or not, you are helping the nation understand crime and safety issues—*your experience matters*. We need a clearer picture of who's impacted by crime and how these impacts vary for different people and households. Your participation is key to this understanding.

How often will I be contacted for this survey? How long will an interview take?

Census Bureau representatives contact household members at selected addresses every 6 months for a total of seven interviews. If you move away during that time, we will interview the residents who move in. We expect each interview to take about 25 minutes, but you may need less time or more.

I thought the Census Bureau counts people every 10 years. Why are you doing this survey now?

Besides the decennial census conducted every 10 years, the Census Bureau collects a variety of information through other censuses and surveys, such as the NCVS. These surveys provide current information on topics such as housing, crime, unemployment, business, and education. This survey is collected for the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

How will my information be protected?

The Census Bureau and the Bureau of Justice Statistics are required by law to protect your information. The Census Bureau and the Bureau of Justice Statistics are not permitted to publicly release your responses in a way that could identify you or your household. The Census Bureau is conducting this survey for the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice under the authority of law (Title 13, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 8). The Bureau of Justice Statistics is authorized to collect this survey information by law (Title 34, U.S.C., Section 10132). Federal law protects your privacy and keeps your answers confidential (Title 13, U.S.C., Section 9 and Title 34, U.S.C., Sections 10231 and 10134). Per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the systems that transmit your data. This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB Number: 1121-0111). If this number were not displayed, we could not conduct this survey. Your voluntary participation in this survey is important, however, you may decline to answer any or all questions.

How are the data used?

NCVS data provide information on many topics, including crime in schools, trends in violent crime, costs associated with crime, and law enforcement responses to reports of criminal victimization. Examples of NCVS data products can be found on the Bureau of Justice Statistics' website at <https://bjs.ojp.gov/programs/ncvs>.

How do I ask questions about this survey?

You can ask the Census Bureau interviewer any questions you have. You can also contact the Bureau of Justice Statistics with questions or feedback at askBJS@usdoj.gov; by phone at 202-307-0765; or by mail: Chief, Victimization Statistics Unit, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 810 Seventh Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20531. To ensure that the person contacting you about the survey is a Census Bureau employee or for more information, visit www.census.gov/ncvs.