

Keeping Watch

1999 Minnesota Crime Survey

MINNESOTA PLANNING



Minnesota Planning develops long-range plans for the state, stimulates public participation in Minnesota's future and coordinates activities among state agencies, the Minnesota Legislature and other units of government.

The Criminal Justice Statistics Center provides criminal and juvenile justice information, conducts research and maintains databases for policy development.

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Upon request, *Keeping Watch: The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey*, will be made available in an alternate format such as Braille, large print or audio tape. For TTY, contact the Minnesota Relay at 800-627-3529 and ask for Minnesota Planning.

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For additional information or copies of this report, contact:

MINNESOTA PLANNING



658 Cedar St.
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-3985
Fax 651-296-3698

An electronic copy of *Keeping Watch: The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey*, is available on the Minnesota Planning Web site at www.mnplan.state.mn.us

Keeping Watch

The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey

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Glossary

These are generally accepted definitions for terms used in this report:

Aggravated assault The attempted or actual use of force, through the use of a weapon or physical attack, intended to inflict severe bodily injury upon another person.

Burglary The unlawful or forcible entry of any structure such as a public building, factory, apartment, house, trailer, ship or warehouse to commit a felony or theft.

Hate crime A crime where the responding officer, the victim or both believe the offender was motivated to commit the crime because of the victim's perceived or actual age, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation.

Minnesota Milestones This 30-year plan sets 19 goals for the state's future and uses 70 indicators to track progress toward the goals.

Motor vehicle theft The attempted or actual theft of a motor vehicle; such as a car, truck, motorcycle or snowmobile.

Property crime Stealing or attempting to steal a motor vehicle such as a car, truck, motorcycle or snowmobile; breaking into or trying to break into a home or some other building or property; stealing something that belonged to someone from inside their car or truck, such as packages or clothing; damaging or vandalizing someone's property.

Rape Carnal knowledge of a female or male forcibly and against her or his will, including assaults and attempts to rape.

Robbery The threatened, attempted or actual taking of other people's property against their will by using force or threat of force.

Self-identified victims Respondents who answered questions addressed to "victims of crime in 1998," regardless of their answer to one or more of the survey victimization or stalking questions.

Stalking Intentionally acting in a way that causes the victim to feel frightened, threatened, oppressed, persecuted or intimidated.

Survey-defined victims Respondents who answered positively to one or more of the survey victimization questions, excluding stalking questions.

Trigger-lock A device which locks onto the trigger portion of a firearm, preventing the trigger from being pulled, and which may not be removed without the proper key.

Uniform Crime Reporting Program A city, county and state law enforcement program that provides a nationwide view of crime based on the submission of statistics by law enforcement agencies throughout the country.

Vandalism Willful or malicious destruction, injury, disfigurement or defacement of any public or private property, real or personal, without consent of the owner or person with custody or control by cutting, tearing, breaking, marking, painting, drawing, covering with filth or any other such means.

Violent crime Taking or attempting to take something directly from an individual by force, such as by a stick-up, mugging or threat; injuring an individual, by use of knife, gun or weapon; hitting, attacking or beating up an individual by use of hands, fists or feet; threatening with or without a weapon to hit, attack or beat someone up; forcing or attempting to force someone to have sexual intercourse; injuring a household or family member with an object or weapon or by hitting, slapping, pushing or kicking.

Summary

Most Minnesotans feel safe in their community. More than 90 percent of respondents to the 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey said they feel always or almost always safe in the community where they live. *Keeping Watch: The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey* reports the perceptions of some state citizens about crime in their community, law enforcement performance and victimization experiences.

The 1999 crime survey includes areas not covered in the 1996 and 1993 surveys. New questions explore costs incurred due to a crime, domestic abuse victimization and living status as renter or owner (and its relationship to other questions about crime and perceptions). Findings from these new questions include:

- Thirty-seven percent of individuals who have a firearm in their home and who have children under age 16 living in their home did not keep the firearm in a stored place or trigger-locked.
- Ninety percent of all respondents who were victims of domestic abuse in 1998 did not report one or more incidents to police.
- Twenty-two percent of victims of violent crime in 1998 described their living status as renter in 1999, almost double the percentage of renters in the survey population.
- There were 398 counts of costs made out-of-pocket or by insurance companies toward property repair, medical treatment and legal matters due to a crime against respondents in 1998. Thirty-eight percent of those counts were for more than \$500.
- Of all respondents who said that in 1998 they carried a firearm outside their home to make them feel safe, more than three-quarters were male.

Other findings include:

- Thirty-four percent of violent crime victims in 1998 and 6 percent of all individuals felt that one or more of the actions committed against them were hate or bias motivated.
- Sixty-seven percent of 1998 crime victims did not report one or more incidents to the police, compared to 63 percent of 1995 crime victims.

Measuring crime in Minnesota's communities

The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey is the third crime survey conducted by Minnesota Planning. The crime survey was designed to monitor the progress of Minnesota's communities in meeting the *Minnesota Milestones* goal to be safe, friendly and caring. The survey has been mailed

out every three years since 1993, asking respondents to answer questions about their current perceptions of crime and safety, as well as victimization experiences in the previous year.

A mailing to 10,043 individuals resulted in 4,501 survey responses. The survey sample was taken from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety database of individuals issued a Minnesota driver's license or identification card. While driver's licenses cannot be issued until an individual is age 16 or older, the survey sample could have included individuals of any age as there is no age restriction on state identification cards.

To make survey questions more understandable, nontechnical terms were used. Instead of asking if the respondent was a victim of robbery, for example, one question read: "In 1998, did anyone take something directly from you by using force – such as by a stick-up, mugging or threat?"

Depending on life experiences, survey questions could be interpreted differently by respondents and therefore affect responses. Respondents' personal definition of words or phrases in the survey, such as "community," adds an element of subjectivity that should be considered in the findings. Other influences on results may include sample selection, question ordering and major events occurring at the time a respondent filled out the survey.

Perceptions and opinions of crime may be influenced by many factors, such as news about crime in media. Two crime-related local stories received statewide media attention during the roughly three months that the crime survey was being conducted. One was the abduction of a convenience store clerk and the second was the arrest of a St. Paul resident on charges of conspiring to kill Los Angeles police officers. In another high-profile national incident in mid-April, dozens of students were killed or injured in a high school shooting in Colorado.

Some findings from the 1999 crime survey are compared to those of the 1993 and 1996 crime surveys. Comparisons are limited, however, due to changes in the wording of questions and answer choices in the 1999 survey from the earlier surveys. Some questions asked in previous surveys were excluded and new questions were added. Although some changes to the 1999 survey did not allow comparison to past surveys, the goal was for the current survey to improve reliability of the information.

Due to the small number of respondents who self-identified as Hispanic or as African American, American Indian or Asian American, it was not possible to do reliable analysis of ethnicity or race.

Perceptions and attitudes

Although people in Minnesota tend to view their communities as safe, many also believe violent crime is increasing. The 1999 crime survey asked participants about perceptions of crime in Minnesota communities and attitudes about law enforcement.

Most feel safe in their community

Sense of safety in the community was high among all demographic areas studied. Overall, 92 percent felt always or almost always safe when asked, "How safe do you feel in the community where you live?" Of victimized respondents, 85 percent answered always or almost always safe. Individuals who live in a city had a slightly higher sense of safety; 87 percent answered they felt always or almost always safe.

When asked, "To what degree do you think crime is a problem in your community," 36 percent believed crime was almost never or never a problem and 58 percent said crime was sometimes a problem. Overall, when analyzed

Most Minnesotans feel safe in their community

Percent of all respondents in each category

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

	Always or almost always safe	Sometimes safe	Never or almost never safe
Total	92%	7%	1%
Victims of crime	85	14	2
SEX			
Female	91	8	1
Male	93	6	0
AGE			
15 to 24	89	10	1
25 to 49	92	7	0
50 or older	93	6	1
COMMUNITY			
City	87	12	1
Suburb	94	5	1
Rural area	94	6	0
Town	95	5	0
COUNTY			
Hennepin and Ramsey counties	89	9	1
Other 85 counties	93	6	0

Notes: Categories with 0 percent had less than half of 1 percent. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

by age, sex, community and geographical area, over half of respondents said crime was sometimes a problem.

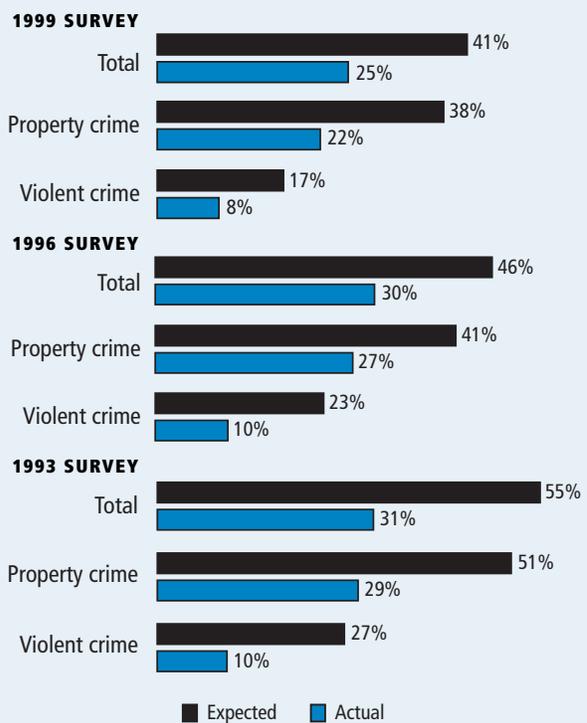
When asked about community, respondents had varying answers between sense of safety and the problem of crime. Of those who felt crime was always or almost always a problem in their community, 55 percent answered that they always or almost always felt safe in the community where they live. Of that 55 percent, 41 percent — 13 percentage points higher than all survey respondents — identified their community as a city, rather than a suburb, rural area or town.

Violent crime not expected to decline

More than half of all respondents believed violent crime has stayed the same over the past three years, 31 percent said it has greatly or somewhat increased and 17 percent said it has greatly or somewhat decreased. This trend was fairly consistent among sex and age groups but community and geographical areas had slight differences. Of all individuals who classified their community as a city,

Decline in expectations and experiences of crime

Percent of all respondents



While the range between the expectation and the actual occurrence of victimization has changed little from the 1996 survey, the percentage of people in either category has consistently dropped.

Notes: Total refers to both violent and property crimes. See glossary for violent and property crime definitions. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

42 percent believed violent crime has stayed the same and 24 percent believed it has greatly or somewhat decreased. Of individuals from Hennepin and Ramsey counties, only 23 percent thought violent crime has greatly or somewhat increased – 8 percentage points lower than the overall belief – and 24 percent said it has greatly or somewhat decreased – 7 percentage points higher than the overall trend.

Murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault are the four offense-types which make up violent crime, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Reporting Program. In Minnesota, violent crimes known or reported to law enforcement have declined in number over the past three years. In the most populated counties of Hennepin and Ramsey, violent crime decreased from a rate of 724 per 100,000 in 1996 to 623 per 100,000 in 1998. Over the past three years, the rate has slightly increased in the other 85 counties of Minnesota, from a rate of 166 per 100,000 in 1996 to 173 per 100,000 in 1998. These rates are based on reported crime statistics from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension at the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Respondents were less optimistic about the future of violent crime. During the next three years 45 percent believe violent crime will stay the same and 41 percent believe it will greatly or somewhat increase. Males and

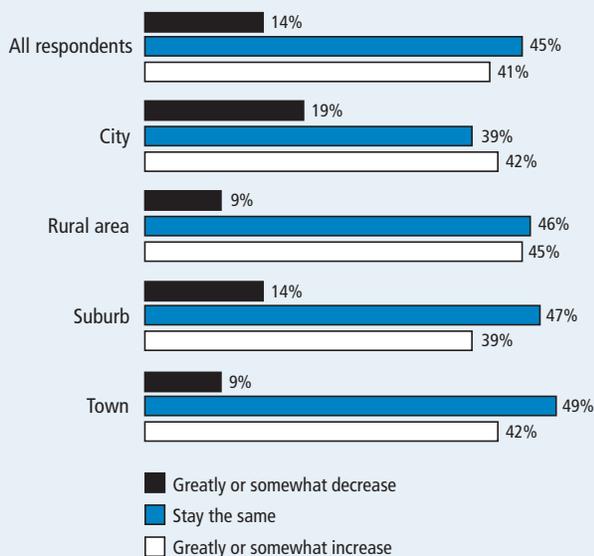
females had similar opinions about violent crime in the next three years, as did respondents by geographical area and age group; however, opinions varied slightly by community (city, suburb, town or rural area). Nearly 20 percent of those who defined their community as city, felt crime would greatly or somewhat decrease over the next three years, 5 to 10 percentage points higher than respondents living in a suburb, town or rural area.

Most fear walking alone at night

A question in the 1996 crime survey read: “Is there any area right around your home – that is, within a mile – where you would be afraid to walk alone at night?” Forty-six percent of all 1996 respondents and 54 percent of victims answered yes to the question. In the 1999 crime survey, this question was slightly reworded to: “Is there any area within a mile of your home where you would be afraid to walk alone at night?” More than half of all

City dwellers most likely to view violent crime as decreasing during the next three years

Percent within each category



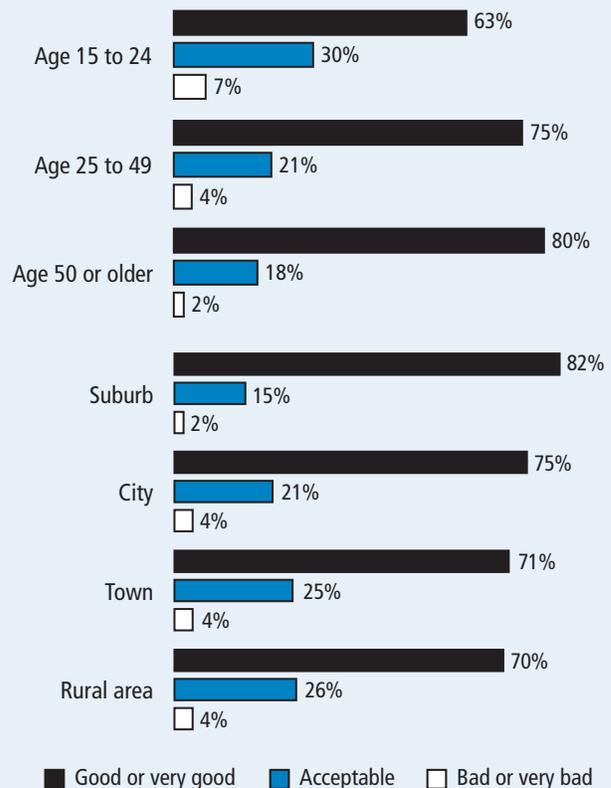
Though they were the most often victimized in 1998, city residents had the most optimistic view that violent crime will decline over the next three years.

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Majority give police good rating

Percent within each category

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



Individuals who are older or who live in a suburb have a more favorable rating of law enforcement.

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

respondents and 60 percent of victims answered yes to this question. The rewording of this question does not allow an accurate comparison of responses.

The fear of crime prevented some respondents from doing things they would like to do. Overall, three-fourths of respondents said fear of crime never or almost never prevents them from doing things they would like to do and nearly a quarter said it sometimes does. However, 66 percent of those who live in Hennepin and Ramsey counties answered the fear of crime never or almost never prevents them from doing things they would like to do and 32 percent said it sometimes does. This trend varied among the sexes: 68 percent of females and 82 percent of males said the fear of crime never or almost never prevented them from doing things they would like to do; 30 percent of females and 17 percent of males said they sometimes feared crime to such an extent.

Attitudes toward law enforcement vary

Respondents were asked if they had any contact with local police in the past 12 months. Casual conversation with a police officer was the most likely form of contact at 47 percent, followed by being questioned by a police officer and being asked by the police for information or advice, each at 21 percent. Of all respondents, 64 percent had some form of contact with local police. More than three-fourths of the respondents rated the job law enforcement does in their community as good or very good; however,

favorable ratings dropped when respondents were asked about the effort put forth by police. Just over half of respondents felt the police effort to prevent crime in their community was a lot or quite a lot of work and just over half felt the effort by police to improve safety in their community was a lot or quite a lot of work. Males and females had little difference from these percentages.

People living in a suburb or city were more likely than those in a rural area or town to rate the job law enforcement does in their community as good or very good. When compared to overall trends, victims in 1998 were less likely to have a high rating of the job law enforcement does in their community; 65 percent answered good or very good, more than 10 percentage points lower than the overall rating.

Victims and offenders

The 1999 survey found that a quarter of all female and of all male respondents were crime victims in 1998. The 1996 survey found that 32 percent of all males and 30 percent of all females were crime victims in 1995.

New question measures stalking behavior

A new question designed to measure stalking incidents was added to the 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey. While stalking is a crime, this question was excluded from victim aggregation measures and analyzed separately, due to the possibility of double-counting stalking and other victimization incidents. For example, respondents were asked a stalking-related question: did anyone "vandalize your property or destroy something you valued," which is similar but has different parameters than a question asked earlier about property that had been "damaged or vandalized."

Respondents were asked about eight behaviors described in Minnesota Statutes which may be classified as stalking,

Nearly a quarter of 1998 stalking victims felt terrorized

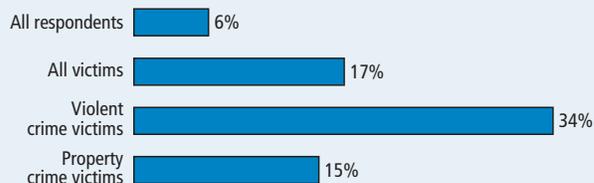
Percent who answered yes to each question

<i>Did you feel terrorized as a result of these behaviors?</i>	22%
<i>Has anyone done any of these things on more than one occasion?</i>	54%
<i>Did you fear bodily harm as a result of these behaviors?</i>	15%
<i>Do you believe that these behaviors were motivated by your actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age or national origin?</i>	11%

Notes: Percentage is based on all respondents who said one or more of eight behaviors classified as stalking had occurred in 1998. Those eight behaviors are follow or spy on you; send you unsolicited (unasked for) letters or written correspondence; make unsolicited (unasked for) phone calls to you; stand outside your home, school or workplace; show up at places you were, even though he or she had no business being there; leave unwanted items for you to find; vandalize your property or destroy something you value; and try to communicate in ways against your will (other than previously mentioned in this question).

Many 1998 victims of violent crime experienced a hate crime

Percent is based on number of individuals within each category that were identified as hate crime victims



Note: Questions about hate crimes and victimization were asked separately; it is not possible to know the specific crime or crimes victims were referring to when answering the hate crime question.

such as following or spying and making unsolicited phone calls to respondents. Twenty-five percent acknowledged one or more of the eight behaviors had occurred in 1998. Of those individuals, 65 percent never reported an incident to the police.

In Minnesota, if the responding officer or victim of a crime believes the offender was motivated to commit the crime because of the victim's age, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation, the crime is identified as a hate or bias-motivated crime. When participants answered that one or more of the eight stalking behaviors had occurred, they were then asked a subsequent question about hate crime. Of all stalking victims, 11 percent thought the offender was motivated to commit the crime because the victim was perceived to or actually did possess one or more of the seven attributes.

Later in the survey another question about hate crime was asked of all respondents, not just stalking victims. Six percent of respondents believed that in at least one crime committed against them in 1998, the offender was motivated to commit the crime because of one or more of the seven attributes. When looking at this separate hate crime question, 75 percent of all hate crime victims were also stalking victims. The hate crime question asked of all respondents was not associated with any specific victimization question, however, so it is not possible to know what crime a victim was referring to when answering.

Victims of aggravated assault with a weapon were most likely to be victims of a hate crime

Percent of all respondents who answered yes to each question and were survey-defined as hate crime victims in 1998

VIOLENT CRIMES

Aggravated assault with a weapon	64%
Unwanted sexual activity or attempt	62
Rape or attempt	48
Robbery	45
Aggravated assault without a weapon	41
Threatened aggravated assault	36
Domestic abuse	33

PROPERTY CRIMES

Motor vehicle theft or attempt	20
Burglary or attempt	19
Theft of things from inside motor vehicle	19
Any other incident of theft	17
Any other damaged or vandalized property	16

Notes: Hate crimes include any crime where the victim or officer believe the offender was motivated by the victim's age, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. Questions about hate crimes and specific offense types were asked separately and may not be related to one another.

Domestic abuse victims account for over a quarter of all violent crime victims

Data on domestic abuse in Minnesota is limited. Domestic abuse is not a category under the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program and often is categorized as an assault-related offense. Also, cases of domestic abuse may not always be reported to police.

To learn more about incidents of domestic abuse, the 1999 survey asked respondents, "In 1998, did your spouse, significant other, partner or other family member injure you with an object or weapon or slap, push or kick you?" Of all survey respondents, 2 percent answered yes to the question; however, domestic abuse victims accounted for 28 percent of all violent crime victims. Of domestic abuse victims, 25 percent were male and 75 percent female. The majority, 64 percent, fell in the 25 to 49 age group; 27 percent were age 15 to 24, and 10 percent were age 50 or older. Of domestic abuse victims who gave information on total household income, 42 percent answered \$30,000 to \$59,999, 35 percent were under \$30,000, and 24 percent said \$60,000 or more. Total income breakouts of all respondents included 28 percent under \$30,000, 38 percent at \$30,000 to \$59,999, and 34 percent with a total income of \$60,000 or more a year.

Unreported crime highest for violent offenses

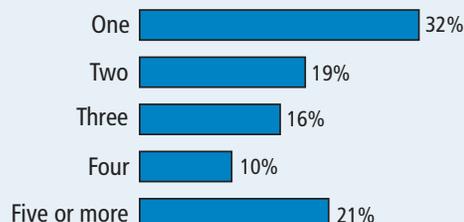
Individuals who said a crime was committed against them failed to report one or more incidents to the police 67 percent of the time. This percentage is higher than the number in the 1996 survey, which found that 63 percent did not report one or more incidents. Of violent crime victims, 83 percent did not report one or more occurrences

Most domestic abuse victims experienced two or more incidents

Percent based on number of domestic abuse incidents

In 1998, did your spouse, significant other, partner or other family member injure you with an object or weapon or hit, push, slap or kick you?

If yes: How many times?



Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding and due to a small percentage of domestic abuse victims who did not give an answer to this part of the question.

to the police. The percent of property crime victims that did not report was 59 percent.

The highest unreported crime type was domestic abuse and unwanted sexual activity or acts; both went unreported 90 percent of the time. Motor vehicle theft was the most likely to be reported, with 60 percent of all victims reporting all incidents to the police.

One quarter of respondents were survey-defined as crime victims and of those individuals, 55 percent had two or more victimization occurrences. Fifty-six percent of the nearly one quarter of respondents who were property crime victims had two or more victimization occurrences. However, nearly 80 percent of violent crime victims had two more crime occurrences, even though they accounted for 8 percent of all respondents.

In Minnesota, responding law enforcement is required, in most cases, to supply crime victims with information about victim services and reparations programs. Nineteen percent of individuals who were survey-defined or self-identified as a victim of crime in 1998 received this information from the responding officer. Of all violent crime and property crime victims, 30 percent and 19 percent respectively, said the responding officer gave information on victim services or programs.

Damaged or vandalized property made up 27 percent of all offenses. Theft from inside a motor vehicle was the next highest at 16 percent and burglary was 15 percent. Rape and the threat of aggravated assault each accounted for 2 percent. The least likely were robbery and aggravated assault with the use of a weapon, each 1 percent.

Domestic abuse and sexual offense crimes are most likely to go unreported

Percent with one or more occurrences unreported to police in 1998

Unwanted sexual activity or attempt	90%
Domestic abuse	90
Rape or attempt	84
Threatened aggravated assault	80
Aggravated assault without a weapon	68
Robbery	60
Aggravated assault with a weapon	55
Theft of things from inside motor vehicle	52
Burglary or attempt	44
Motor vehicle theft or attempt	32
Any other incident of theft	66
Any other damaged or vandalized property	60
All crimes	67%

More than two-thirds of all offenders are adults

Sixty-eight percent of all crime victims' offenders were adults and 29 percent were juveniles. However, these overall percentages varied among age groups. Of victims age 15 to 24, 53 percent of the offenders were adults and 42 percent were juveniles. Among victims age 25 to 49, 75 percent were adults and 22 percent were juveniles. Victims age 50 or older were the most likely to have adult offenders; 82 percent of their offenders were adults and 14 percent were juveniles. For about 3 percent of all offenders the age was unknown.

Victims knew almost three-fourths of all assailants, identifying them as family, casual acquaintances or someone well-known but not related. Within specific offense types, an assailant's relationship to the victim varied. Victims of aggravated assaults that involved a weapon said 52 percent of offenders were family members. About half of the victims of rape or unwanted sexual activity knew the offender as a casual acquaintance.

Fifty-five percent of all crime victims surveyed also knew a friend, family member or neighbor who was the victim of crime in 1998. This is nearly twice as many as all respondents.

Family member least likely offender

Percent based on number of identified offenders

Casual acquaintance	28%
Stranger	27
Well-known but not family	26
Family member	17
Did not see anyone	1

Nearly half of youth age 15 to 24 were victimized in 1998

Percent based on number victimized within listing

AGE	
15 to 24	47%
25 to 49	30
50 and older	16
SEX	
Female	25
Male	25
COMMUNITY	
City	29
Suburb	26
Town	24
Rural area	21
COUNTY	
Hennepin and Ramsey counties	29
Other 85 counties	24

Crime tends to have little impact upon most victims' lives

Of respondents who were survey-defined as crime victims in 1998, 50 percent said the event or events had little or very little impact on their life. Of those who were survey-defined as crime or property crime victims, however, 11 percent did not self-identify as a crime victim in 1998; survey-defined violent crime victims had a similar percentage.

Forty-eight percent of respondents who both self-identified as a victim and were survey-defined as violent crime victims, said the impact was a little or very little, 26 percent said some and 26 percent answered a lot or quite a lot. These numbers varied somewhat with individuals who both self-identified and were survey-defined as property crime victims, as 61 percent answered the event or events had a little or very little impact on their life, 22 percent answered some impact and 17 percent felt there was a lot or quite a lot of impact.

Other characteristics

The 1999 survey asked questions about demographic traits, such as age and sex, in addition to questions on firearm ownership, living status and costs paid because of a crime.

Most firearms for sporting purposes

When asked if a firearm is kept in the home, 46 percent of all respondents said yes – this response rate is almost identical to the findings from the 1996 crime survey. Of those who do keep a firearm in their home, 64 percent keep it for sporting purposes, 25 percent for sporting and protection, 5 percent for protection and 3 percent for other reasons.

Loaded firearms must be kept in a secure place. It is a gross misdemeanor in Minnesota Statutes to store or leave

a loaded firearm in a location where the person knows, or reasonably should know, that a child is likely to gain access. Of survey respondents who had a firearm in their home and children under age 16 living in their home, 37 percent did not store the firearm in a locked place or keep it trigger-locked. This question did not clarify if the firearm was stored without bullets.

Thirty percent of the residents of Hennepin and Ramsey counties said they keep a firearm in their home, compared to more than half of state citizens in the other 85 counties. Individuals who lived in a rural area or town were also more likely to have a firearm in their home, 70 and 51 percent respectively, than those who live in a suburb, 38 percent, or city, 33 percent.

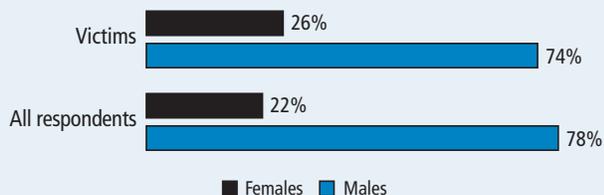
Firearms were less likely to be in the homes of individuals who identified themselves as renters, with 22 percent answering that they owned a firearm, compared to 50 percent who identified their living status as owner. In a third category classified as other — people who did not currently consider themselves as an owner or renter — 45 percent have a firearm in their home. Individuals who kept a firearm in their home and who gave information on yearly total household income, fell into these income breakouts: 41 percent answered \$30,000 to \$59,999, 36 percent said \$60,000 or more, and less than \$30,000 accounted for 22 percent.

A new question in the 1999 crime survey asked, "In 1998, did you ever carry a firearm outside your home to make you feel safe?" Of the respondents who answered this

Males more likely to have carried a firearm for protection

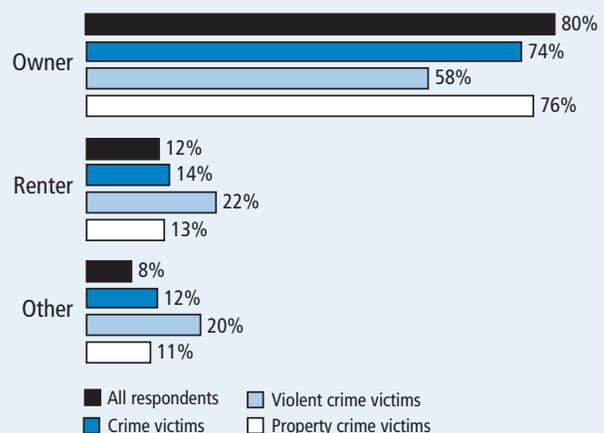
Percent based on number who answered yes

In 1998 did you ever carry a firearm outside your home to make you feel safe?



Note: Only 1 percent of all female victims and of all female respondents answered yes to the question; 4 percent of all male respondents and 6 percent of all male victims answered yes.

Percent of victims of violent crime who were renters nearly double the survey population of renters



Notes: Victimization based on 1998 activities while owner or renter status based on 1999 situations; survey respondents did not identify living status at time of victimization occurrences. Difference in years means any inference may be unrelated. "Other" refers to individuals who did not classify themselves as renters or owners of their current dwelling.

question, 100 people or 2 percent, said they did carry a firearm for safety reasons in 1998. Of those, 78 percent were male and 22 percent female. This breakout compares to an overall survey demographic of 42 percent male and 58 percent female.

Costs due to crime most often in property repair

The 1999 survey included new questions about the amount of money spent by either the respondent or an insurance company due to a crime or crimes against the respondent in 1998. Cost-related questions were categorized by property repairs, medical treatment and legal matters. Of all respondents who answered the questions about costs related to legal matters or medical treatment, 99 percent said neither they nor an insurance company paid any expenses. Of those who answered the property repair question, 92 percent said no money was paid.

Of respondents who paid costs for legal matters, 48 percent spent over \$500, with 38 percent spending \$100 to \$500. Over half who spent money on medical treatment paid more than \$500 and 41 percent paid \$100 to \$500. Forty-four percent of all property repair costs were between \$100 to \$500 and 35 percent were over \$500.

Many victimized respondents filled out comment sheet

The 1999 crime survey was sent with a comment sheet for respondents to write any personal thoughts about crime or comment on questions in the survey. Comments were read and then codified into 19 categories by a researcher at the Criminal Justice Statistics Center. These categories were created based on initial readings of the comments made by respondents. Given that only one researcher codified the comments, subjectivity may be an issue. For a complete list of codified categories, contact the Criminal Justice Statistics Center. Some respondents made more than one comment and all comments were codified. Analysis was based on 1,219 comments from 871 respondents.

Of the 871 respondents who returned a comment sheet with their survey, 51 percent were either crime or stalking victims or had self-identified as crime victims in 1998, 12 percentage points higher than all survey respondents.

Some comments are cited below. It is important to recognize that a statement does not represent all views but is an individual's opinion.

Twenty percent of the 1,219 comments were personal experiences with crime, being frightened or a general life experience. Thirteen percent included detailed information about survey question answers or about the crime survey in general. In response to a question about expecting to be the victim of motor vehicle theft in the coming year, an individual wrote, "A car, a three-wheeler and a motorcycle

has been stolen from our yard in the past, along with a car being torched in our yard."

Of all those who sent in a comment sheet, 13 percent focused on the need for more punishment of law breakers, as well as tougher laws and prisons. These areas were not included in survey questions but could be added in future surveys. One person wrote, "I wish that criminals were prosecuted more quickly and held longer — tougher laws and much tougher penalties for breaking the law."

Seven percent of statements were about juvenile problems. One respondent wrote, "I have noticed more juvenile crimes than anything else." Other comments, 7 percent, expressed feelings of safety or general well-being. One person wrote, "Overall I feel fairly safe in my community but never 100%, especially for my kids."

Six percent of remarks were about feelings that the criminal justice system such as police and courts was corrupt or bad. One individual wrote, "In past years crimes reported by friends, family, and self have gone 90% unresolved or disregarded by police or the judicial system so reporting has not continued to be an option."

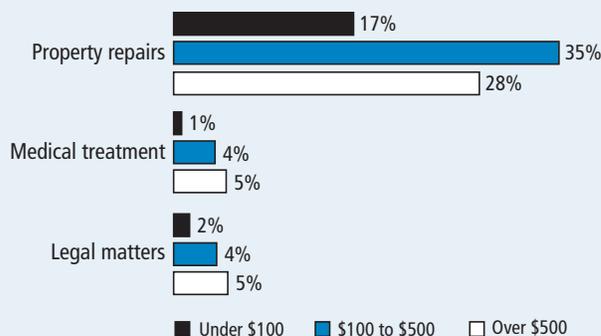
Four percent also said the police are doing a good job. One respondent commented, "Our police department does an excellent job in keeping on top of what is happening here." All other categories made up 1 to 4 percent of all comments.

Safe in Minnesota

The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey shows some positive trends, such as a smaller percentage of victims than in the 1993 and 1996 crime surveys. The majority of residents feel

Property repairs were the majority of all 1998 crime costs

Percent based on 398 counts of costs by respondents who said they were crime victims in 1998 and that they or an insurer incurred costs in at least one area.



Notes: The 398 counts of costs were incurred by 352 respondents. Thirty-eight percent, 151 counts, of all costs due to crime were over \$500. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

safe in their community and believe police are doing a good job. For many 1998 victims, it appears the impact of crime was negligible.

A sense of safety in community is the predominate attitude among Minnesotans; yet, unreported crimes to the police are rising. Findings from the 1996 survey showed that 63 percent of respondents who were victims of a crime did not report one or more of the crimes to police and in the 1999 survey this rose to 67 percent.

Twenty-one percent of respondents survey-defined as victims or stalking victims did not self-identify as victims. This is 12 percentage points higher than the findings of the 1996 survey. It may be that Minnesotans feel safer and report fewer crimes because many victims do not view themselves as victims.

Methodology

The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey was designed to measure citizen perceptions and experiences with crime. Changes to the 1999 survey from both the 1996 and 1993 surveys included new, reworded and eliminated questions. New questions explored domestic abuse experiences and contact with local police. Answer choices to some questions were reworded to give participants a continuum of responses with an indifferent answer also possible. The sampling process used for the 1999 crime survey was slightly different than the 1993 and 1996 crime surveys and should be considered when reviewing any analysis comparisons of the 1999 survey to past ones.

The 1999 mailings were modeled after the 1993 and 1996 survey mailings. A postcard explaining that the survey should soon arrive was mailed first class to 10,043 addresses. Any postcards returned to Minnesota Planning because of improper addresses, names or both had the corresponding database record removed from future mailings. Next, the survey packet, which included a cover letter, crime survey, additional comments sheet and a postage paid return envelope was mailed bulk rate to the current mailing addresses. A postcard with a reminder notice to return the survey was then sent to all who had not yet been recorded as returning a survey, followed by another survey packet and reminder postcard. Names and addresses from postage returns at any point of the mailing process were excluded from future mailings.

Just over two weeks after the second reminder postcard was mailed, the collection of surveys ended. All survey answers were then scanned and recorded by computer. This type of data collection eliminated human data entry error. Answers from the 1993 and 1996 crime surveys were hand-entered into a database; it is estimated that this process may cause roughly 5 percent data entry error.

Consider sample selection differences when comparing surveys

The 1993 and 1996 crime surveys used a different sample selection method than the 1999 crime survey. The sample for all three surveys was taken from the Minnesota Driver's License Bureau database, which contains names and addresses of individuals registered for a Minnesota driver's license or identification card. For the 1993 and 1996 crime

1999 Crime Survey Sample

	Sample size	Removals	Surveys returned	Percent returned
Minnesota	10,043	2,406	4,501	59%
Hennepin and Ramsey counties	3,499	1,191	1,379	60%
Other 85 counties	6,544	915	3,087	55%

Notes: "Removals" include participants who did not have a current address, were deceased or did not wish to participate in the survey. Percent returned excludes all removals from its calculation. Returned surveys exclude 35 surveys in the county total calculations due to respondents who did not fill in county of residence.

1999 Crime Survey Process

	Sensitizing postcard (mailed June 29)	Survey packet (mailed July 23)	Reminder postcard (mailed August 12)	Second survey packet (mailed September 2)	Second reminder postcard (mailed September 10)	All returned surveys (last day accepted September 27)
Number	10,043	8,836	6,013	4,733	3,566	4,501
Percent of original sample	100%	88%	60%	47%	36%	45%
Percent of all participants with correct address (7,718)	Not applicable	Not applicable	78%	61%	46%	58%

Note: Percent of all participants with correct address excludes people who did not have a current address, were deceased or did not wish to participate in the survey.

survey samples, the Driver's License Bureau randomly selected a record in the database and then retrieved every nth record that followed to retrieve roughly 10 percent of the database. Minnesota Planning then randomly selected a sample size from the 10 percent. For the 1999 Crime Survey sample, the entire driver's license database was downloaded, and 10 percent of the database was randomly selected. Records were sorted by city and then by zip code. A number was randomly selected and then every nth record was selected to create a population sample of 10,043 people.

The 1999 selection method addressed the concern that the database may be organized by last name, which could possibly cause an overrepresentation of a certain race or nationality. This new process was intended to target individuals that represented areas throughout the state. For the past two crime surveys, the sample selection included an over-sampling of certain areas in Hennepin and Ramsey counties that had a high population estimate for minority individuals. The expectation was that this over-sampling would produce more responses from people of color. However, both past crime surveys drew small response rates from minorities and analysis of race could not be used. The 1999 survey tried to rectify this problem but did not receive enough surveys from people of color to analyze by race.

Survey responses can be weighted to more accurately represent the population. If females make up 50 percent of the population but account for 80 percent of a survey sample, for example, a weight can be assigned to each response, so that both sexes have an impact on response findings that reflects their proportion of the population. The 1993 and 1996 survey responses were weighted according to Minnesota population estimates of age group, sex and the geographic area. The 1999 crime survey did not weight responses because 6 percent of the respondents did not answer survey questions of age, sex or geographic area. This group could not be weighted without this information and therefore, their responses would not have been analyzed in findings. Weighting cases can affect the outcome of survey findings and should be considered when comparing the 1999 survey to the past surveys.

Consider survey limitations

The similarity of some questions in the crime survey could have resulted in double counts of victimization experiences. Questions 23, which asked about rape or attempted rape and 25, which inquired about unwanted sexual activity or unwanted sexual acts, for example, could result in double counting. An individual may respond yes to both questions for the same incident, as an unwanted sexual act could also be a rape or attempted rape.

Question 29 on stalking was excluded from any victimization analysis unless otherwise noted.

Any analysis, comparing a respondent's answer from one question to another, should be read with caution. It is not possible to know if two answers are related when questions were asked separately.

The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey asked respondents if there were any children living in the house who were age 11 to 15, age 6 to 10 or under age 5. This wording did not allow respondents to properly identify a 5-year-old child living in their home, possibly causing some respondents' answers to be excluded from analysis. *Keeping Watch: The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey* aggregated individuals "under age 16."

A respondent's age was based on the year born subtracted from the current year. Any analysis of respondent age was made using three age groups: age 15 to 24, 25 to 49 and 50 and older. Individual ages were not studied.

Respondents could fall into more than one victimization category but could only be counted once in each category.

Any comparisons about the number or percentage of victims from one survey to another may be somewhat skewed. If one survey has 10 questions inquiring about victimization and another has 12 questions, for example, the latter may show a higher percentage of victims because it gives respondents more opportunities to identify additional victimization occurrences.

A detailed description of the survey methodology is available from the Criminal Justice Statistics Center at Minnesota Planning.

1999 Minnesota Crime Survey

Respondents who answered yes to crime survey questions were sometimes asked subsequent questions; percentages listed under these sections are calculated from the number of yes answers to the initial question.

To conserve space, some questions show percentages for yes responses only; percent of respondents who answered no may be calculated by subtracting the percentage listed from 100. Percentages for all responses are rounded to the nearest whole number except those under .5 percent.

Copies of the survey are available from the Criminal Justice Statistics Center at 651-296-4852 or online at www.mnplan.state.mn.us/cj/cj-help.html

The 1999 Minnesota Crime Survey Instructions

This survey contains questions about your opinions on crime and the criminal justice system, as well as your personal experience with crime during 1998. Your help in answering these questions will help us learn more about the nature of crime in Minnesota.

Your answers will be treated confidentially by the researchers at the Criminal Justice Statistics Center at Minnesota Planning. The identification number on the survey will only be used to determine where to send reminder notes to fill out and return the survey. All names and addresses used to create mailing labels for this survey will be destroyed and only the answers given on returned surveys will be used in analysis. Your name will not appear anywhere in this survey or in the survey results.

Your responses are strictly confidential.

Please take the time to read and answer every question. If you need additional space to answer a question or if you would like to make comments, please use the separate sheet of paper provided with this survey for that purpose.

To complete this survey you will need to:

- Use a number 2 pencil throughout the survey
- Fill in only one answer circle for each question unless a question is marked otherwise
- Completely fill in the circle which corresponds to your answer
- Completely erase any answer which you accidentally marked
- Keep the survey intact – *do not tape, staple, tear or bend this survey*

Please mail this completed survey in the envelope provided as soon as possible to avoid reminder postcards and additional surveys being mailed to you. If you have any questions, please call the Criminal Justice Center at 651-297-3824.

Thank you for your participation.

 1. How safe do you feel in the community where you live? n=4,473

Always safe	22 %
Almost always safe	70
Sometimes safe	7
Almost never safe	1
Never safe	0.2

 2. To what degree do you think crime is a problem in your community? n=4,474

Never a problem	2%
Almost never a problem	33
Sometimes a problem	58
Almost always a problem	5
Always a problem	2

 3. How often does fear of crime prevent you from doing things you would like to do? n=4,474

Never	33 %
Almost never	41
Sometimes	25
Almost always	1
Always	0.3

 4. When you leave your home, how often do you think about being robbed or physically assaulted? n=4,474

Never	28%
Almost never	42
Sometimes	26
Almost always	3
Always	1

 5. Is there any area within a mile of your home where you would be afraid to walk alone at night? n=4,458

No	49%
Yes	51

 6. When you leave your home, how often do you think about it being broken into or vandalized while you're away? n=4,477

Never	15%
Almost never	41
Sometimes	36
Almost always	6
Always	2

7. How often do you worry that your loved ones will be hurt by criminals? n=4,473

Never	12%
Almost never	37
Sometimes	44
Almost always	5
Always	2

8. When you're in your home, how often do you feel afraid of being attacked or assaulted? n=4,476

Never	36 %
Almost never	48
Sometimes	15
Almost always	1
Always	0.2

9. How often are you fearful of being the victim of a violent crime? n=4,476

Never	23 %
Almost never	52
Sometimes	24
Almost always	2
Always	0.4

10. Do you think any of the following are likely to happen to you during the NEXT year (mark all that apply)? n=4,166 to 4,245

Someone breaking into your home and taking something or attempting to take something	20%
Someone stealing or attempting to steal a motor vehicle belonging to you	20
Someone stealing other property or valuable things belonging to you	33
Someone taking or attempting to take something from you by force or threat of force	9
Someone beating or attacking you with a knife, gun, club or other weapon	6
Someone threatening you with their fist, feet or other bodily attack	13
Someone forcing you or attempting to force you to have sexual intercourse with them against your will	4
A member of your family or someone in your household beating or attacking you	2

11. In the past 12 months, have you been in contact with the LOCAL police for any of the following reasons (mark all that apply): n=2,356 to 4,214

Casual conversation with a police officer	47%
Questioned by a police officer	11
Officer responding to a call for service	21
Reported a crime to the police	17
Participated in a survey given by the police department	3
Asked the police for information or advice	21
Participated in a community activity that involved the police	16
Involved in a traffic violation, traffic accident or both	16
Other, please specify _____	10

12. How would you rate the job law enforcement is doing in your community? n=4,466

Very good	29%
Good	46
Acceptable	21
Bad	3
Very bad	1

13. Is the effort put forth by police to prevent crime in your community: n=4,393

Quite a lot of work	11%
A lot of work	41
Some work	38
A little work	7
Very little work	3

14. Is the effort put forth by police to improve safety in your community: n=4,387

Quite a lot of work	11%
A lot of work	38
Some work	41
A little work	7
Very little work	4

15. Over the PAST THREE YEARS, do you believe violent crime in your community has: n=4,420

Greatly decreased	3%
Somewhat decreased	14
Stayed the same	52
Somewhat increased	26
Greatly increased	4

16. During the NEXT THREE YEARS, do you believe that violent crime in your community will: n=4,372

Greatly decrease	2%
Somewhat decrease	12
Stay the same	45
Somewhat increase	37
Greatly increase	4

For questions 17 through 36, please describe only events that occurred in 1998 between January 1 and December 31. Your answers will remain anonymous.

17. In 1998, did anyone steal, or attempt to steal, a motor vehicle such as your car, truck, motorcycle or snowmobile? n=4,408

Yes	3%
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IF YES:

How many times did this occur?

Ranged from 1 to 7

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?

Ranged from 0 to 4

18. In 1998, did anyone break into, or try to break into, your home or some other building on your property? n=4,409

Yes 6%

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?

Ranged from 1 to 10 or more

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?

Ranged from 0 to 3

19. In 1998, did anyone take something directly from you by using force — such as by a stick-up, mugging or threat? n=4,408

Yes 1%

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?

Ranged from 1 to 4

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?

Ranged from 0 to 2

Was the most recent of these done by (mark all that apply):

A person or people who are known well to you — excluding family	15%
A family member	25
A stranger	45
A casual acquaintance	25
Did not see anyone	0

To your knowledge, was the assailant — or assailants (mark all that apply):

Juvenile (under age 18)	40%
Adult (age 18 and older)	45
Unknown	5

20. In 1998, did anyone injure you with a knife, gun or weapon OTHER THAN hands, fists or feet? n=4,410

Yes 0.2%

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?

Ranged from 1 to 10 or more

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?

Ranged from 0 to 5

Was the most recent of these done by (mark all that apply):

A person or people who are known well to you — excluding family	27%
A family member	0
A stranger	36
A casual acquaintance	18
Did not see anyone	9

To your knowledge, was the assailant — or assailants (mark all that apply):

Juvenile (under age 18)	27%
Adult (age 18 and older)	45
Unknown	18

21. In 1998, did anyone hit, attack or beat you up by using their hands, fists or feet (this DOES NOT INCLUDE incidents involving a knife, gun or any other weapon)? n=4,452

Yes 2%

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?

Ranged from 1 to 10 or more

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?

Ranged from 0 to 4

Was the most recent of these done by (mark all that apply):

A person or people who are known well to you — excluding family	26%
A family member	35
A stranger	20
A casual acquaintance	21
Did not see anyone	2

To your knowledge, was the assailant — or assailants (mark all that apply):

Juvenile (under age 18)	35%
Adult (age 18 and older)	63
Unknown	3

22. In 1998, did anyone THREATEN — with or without a weapon — to hit, attack, or beat you up? (n=4,460)

Yes 6%

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?

Ranged from 1 to 10 or more

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?

Ranged from 0 to 5

Was the most recent of these done by (mark all that apply):

A person or people who are known well to you — excluding family	27%
A family member	12
A stranger	37
A casual acquaintance	27
Did not see anyone	2

To your knowledge, was the assailant — or assailants (mark all that apply):

Juvenile (under age 18)	30%
Adult (age 18 and older)	67
Unknown	4

23. In 1998, did anyone force you, or attempt to force you, to have sexual intercourse with them? n=4,461

Yes 1%

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?

Ranged from 1 to 8

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?

Ranged from 0 to 1

Was the most recent of these done by (mark all that apply):

A person or people who are known well to you — excluding family	29%
A family member	19
A stranger	3
A casual acquaintance	45
Did not see anyone	0

To your knowledge, was the assailant — or assailants (mark all that apply):

Juvenile (under age 18)	19%
Adult (age 18 and older)	71
Unknown	0

Was this by (check all that apply):

Threatening you	42%
Holding you down	52
Physically hurting you in some way	23

24. In 1998, did your spouse, significant other, partner or other family member injure you with an object or weapon or hit, slap, push or kick you? n=4,461

Yes	2%
-----	----

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?
Ranged from 1 to 10 or more

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?
Ranged from 0 to 4

To your knowledge, was the assailant — or assailants (mark all that apply):

Juvenile (under age 18)	23%
Adult (age 18 and older)	82
Unknown	1

25. In 1998, did anyone force you, or attempt to force you, into any unwanted sexual activity such as touching, grabbing, kissing or fondling or other unwanted sexual acts? n=4,448

Yes	1%
-----	----

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?
Ranged from 1 to 10 or more

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?
Ranged from 0 to 10 or more

Was the most recent of these done by (mark all that apply):

A person or people who are known well to you — excluding family	32%
A family member	13
A stranger	12
A casual acquaintance	47
Did not see anyone	0

To your knowledge, was the assailant — or assailants (mark all that apply):

Juvenile (under age 18)	27%
Adult (age 18 and older)	72
Unknown	2

26. In 1998, did anyone steal things that belonged to you from INSIDE any car or truck, such as packages or clothing (other than any incidents already mentioned)? n=4,451

Yes	6%
-----	----

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?
Ranged from 1 to 10 or more

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?
Ranged from 0 to 4

27. In 1998, was any of your property damaged or vandalized (other than any incidents already mentioned)? n=4,326

Yes	11%
-----	-----

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?
Ranged from 1 to 10 or more

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?
Ranged from 0 to 8

28. In 1998, was anything else at all stolen from you (other than any incidents already mentioned)? n=4,433

Yes	5%
-----	----

IF YES:

How many times did this occur?
Ranged from 1 to 10 or more

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?
Ranged from 0 to 6

29. In 1998, not including bill collectors, telephone solicitors or other salespeople, did anyone, male or female ever: n=4,282 to 4,327

Follow or spy on you	5%
Send you unsolicited (unasked for) letters or written correspondence	10
Make unsolicited (unasked for) phone calls to you	18
Stand outside your home, school or workplace	3
Show up at places you were, even though he or she had no business being there	3
Leave unwanted items for you to find	2
Vandalize your property or destroy something you valued	6
Try to communicate in other ways against your will (other than previously mentioned in this question)	2

IF YES TO ONE OR MORE of the prior eight behaviors: n=1,125

Has anyone ever done any of these things to you on more than one occasion?	54%
Did you feel terrorized as a result of these behaviors?	22
Did you fear bodily harm as a result of these behaviors?	15
Do you believe that these behaviors were motivated by your actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age or national origin?	11

How many of these incidents did you report to the police?
Ranged from 0 to 10 or more

30. If you were the victim of crime in 1998 — or if you answered yes to any of questions 17 through 29 — how much impact did the event(s) have on your life? n=3,355

Not a victim	62%
Very little	18
A little	8
Some	8
A lot	4
Quite a lot	2

31. If you were the victim of any crime in 1998 — or if you answered yes to any of questions 17 through 29 — do you believe the offender(s) was motivated by your (mark all that apply): n=3,356

Does not apply	92 %
Age	3
Mental disability	0.4
National origin	1
Physical disability	0.2
Race	1
Religion	1
Sensory disability	0.1
Sex	4
Sexual orientation	1

32. Did you or an insurance company pay any costs related to PROPERTY repairs which were needed due to a crime or crimes against you in 1998? n=4,144

No	92%
Yes, under \$100	2
Yes, \$100 to \$500	3
Yes, over \$500	3

33. Did you or an insurance company pay any costs related to MEDICAL treatment due to a crime or crimes against you in 1998? n=4,143

No	99 %
Yes, under \$100	0.1
Yes, \$100 to \$500	0.4
Yes, over \$500	1

34. Did you or an insurance company pay any costs related to LEGAL matters due to a crime or crimes against you in 1998? n=4,143

No	99 %
Yes, under \$100	0.1
Yes, \$100 to \$500	0.4
Yes, over \$500	1

35. If you were the victim of any crime in 1998 — or if you answered yes to any of questions 17 through 29 — did the responding officer(s) ever tell you about any crime victim services or programs? n=3,735

Does not apply	88%
Yes	2
No	10

36. Were any of your friends, family or neighbors victims of crime in 1998? n=3,631 to 3,993

	No	Yes	Unsure
Friends	58%	21%	21%
Family	72	16	12
Neighbors	50	20	31

Questions 37 and 38 are about firearms which include handguns, pistols, rifles, and automatic and semi-automatic weapons.

37. Do you keep a firearm(s) in your home? n=4,342

No	53%
Yes, for protection	2
Yes, for sporting purposes	30
Yes, for both protection and sporting	12
Yes other, please specify _____	3

IF YES:

Are ALL firearms stored in a locked place, stored with a trigger lock or both? n=2,059

Yes	49%
No	45

38. In 1998 did you ever carry a firearm outside your home to make you feel safe? n=4,366

No	98%
Yes	2

These final questions are about your characteristics (answers will NOT be used to identify you):

39. In what year were you born? n=4,260

Age 15 to 24	11%
Age 25 to 49	48
Age 50 or older	42

40. Are you: n=4,395

Female	58%
Male	42%

41. What is your racial background? n=4,377

African American/Black	1 %
American Indian	1
Asian or Pacific Islander	2
Biracial or Multiracial	0.4
White/Caucasian	95
Other, please specify _____	1

42. What is your ethnic background? n=4,089

Hispanic	1%
Non-Hispanic	99

43. What best describes you: n=4,417

Single	18%
Married	66
Partnered	4
Divorced	6
Widowed	6
Separated	1

44. Please indicate if any of the following currently describe you (mark all that apply): n=4,256

Does not apply	94%
Mental disability	1
Physical disability	5
Sensory disability	1

45. Please check the category that best describes your highest level of education: n=4,274

8th grade or less	3%
9th to 12th grade, but no diploma	8
High school graduate or GED	22
Some post high school education	19
Technical-Vocational school certificate or degree	14
Associate degree	6
Bachelor degree	20
Graduate degree	9

46. What best describes your TOTAL HOUSEHOLD income in 1998 before taxes: n=4,141

Less than \$10,000	5%
\$10,000 to \$19,999	10
\$20,000 to \$29,999	13
\$30,000 to \$39,999	14
\$40,000 to \$49,999	13
\$50,000 to \$59,999	12
\$60,000 to \$69,999	8
\$70,000 to \$79,999	8
\$80,000 to \$89,999	5
\$90,000 to \$99,999	4
More than \$100,000	10

47. What best describes your present employment status? n=4,198

Employed full-time	55%
Employed part-time	17
Not employed	14
Other, please specify _____	14

48. Which best describes where you live (mark only one)? n=4,418

City	28%
Rural area	25
Suburb	33
Town	14

49. In 1998, was there anyone living in your home (mark all that apply): n=4,324

Under age 16	36%
Does not apply	64

50. What best describes your place of residence? n=4,456

Apartment building	7%
Condominium	2
Duplex	2
Farm	9
Mobile home or trailer	3
Single family house	71
Townhouse	4
Other	2

51. What best describes your living status? n=4,367

Owner	80%
Renter	12
Other	8

52. What is your zip code? n=4,173

53. In what county do you live (please choose only one)? n=4,466

Hennepin and Ramsey counties	31%
Other 85 counties	69

Thank you for completing this survey. Please *do not* tape, staple, tear or bend this survey. Please place this survey in the envelope provided and drop it in the mail right away.

If you have additional thoughts about crime in your community or the state — or about this survey — please write them on the separate piece of paper provided in the envelope in which this survey arrived.