

Violent Crimes Committed Against Senior Citizens

Data Set Overview and History

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Criminal Justice Statistics Center (CJSC) collects information on the number of Violent Crimes Committed Against Senior Citizens (VCASC). The VCASC data is collected from various Law Enforcement Entities (LEA) throughout the State on a monthly basis. The data set provides summary statistical data on the total number persons 60 years of age or older who were victims of homicide, rape, robbery, or aggravated assault.

Statutory Authority

The DOJ has the statutory authority to collect DVRCS data pursuant to Penal Code section 13730(a).

Data Characteristics and Known Limitations

1. Reporting (UCR) guidelines. An aggravated assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury, such as broken bones, internal injuries, or cuts requiring stitches.
2. In 2013, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program revised the definition of "forcible rape" (the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will) to "rape" and defined as "penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim." The California Department of Justice implemented this definition change in January 2014, leading to an increase in reported rapes.

Data Elements and Values Defined

Cell Location	Data Element	Description/Definition	Value
A	YEAR	The Year the data was reported for.	A four digit number (YYYY)
B	COUNTY	County of reporting agency.	Numeric (01-58)
C	NCIC_AGENCY_CODE	The number for the reporting Agency.	Four digit alpha-numeric (0100-5899)
D	MONTH	The Month the data was reported for.	Numeric (1-12)

DOJ CJSC VCASC Context

E	SUB_HOMICIDE	The total number of homicides committed against senior citizens.	Numerical count
F	SUB_RAPE	The total number of rapes committed against senior citizens.	Numerical count
G	SUB_ROBBERY	The total number of robberies committed against senior citizens.	Numerical count
H	SUB_ASSAULT	The total number of aggravated assaults committed against senior citizens.	Numerical count