



# RESEARCH AT A GLANCE

## Gender differences seen in non-fatal violent victimization

Age, marital status, and having children under 18 predicted the likelihood of overall violent victimization for both males and females, but other predictors of overall violent victimization were gender-specific, according to an analysis of 2002 Illinois Crime Victimization Survey data.

Females were more likely to be victimized if they were poor, unmarried, had children, or lived in urban areas (Table 1). Being black or Hispanic increased the odds of overall victimization for males (Table 2).

The predictors for more specific types of violent victimization, such as any assault, aggravated assault, simple assault, or robbery, differed between males and females. Simple assault, the most common type of violent victimization, comprised about 50 percent of these victimizations. Aggravated assaults and robberies made up the rest.

Predictors of nonfatal violent victimization were modeled according to race, age, marital status, having children under 18, educational attainment, employment, being a college student, location, and household income and ownership indicators. Anti-violence outreach could be tailored to address gender differ-

ences, with victimization prevention efforts directed toward young, black, and Hispanic males, impoverished,

urban, single women with children under the age of 18, and female college students.

Table 1

Risk factors of victimized females

Victimization type	Characteristics that affect risk	Change in risk
Overall violent victimization	Increasing age	-
	Widowed	+
	Divorced	+
	Having high school diploma or GED	-
	Having children under 18	+
	Annual income under \$10,000	+
	Urban location	+
Total assault	Increasing age	-
	Urban location	+
Aggravated assault	Increasing age	-
	Urban location	+
Simple assault	Married	-
Robbery	Having children under 18	+
	Having high school diploma or GED	-

- Indicates decrease in likelihood of being victimized.  
+ Indicates increase in likelihood of being victimized.

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Age, marital status, and having children under 18 predicted the likelihood of overall violent victimization for both males and females, but other predictors of overall violent victimization were gender-specific, according to a 2002 Illinois Crime Victimization Survey data analysis.

Outreach aimed at reducing violence could be tailored to address gender differences in victimization.

Table 2

Risk factors of victimized males

Victimization type	Characteristics that affect risk	Change in risk
Overall violent victimization	Increasing age	-
	Race: Hispanic	+
	Race: Black	+
Total assault	Race: White	-
Aggravated assault	Annual income of \$10,000-\$19,999	+
Simple assault	Race: White	-
	Married	-
	Annual income of \$20,000-\$34,999	-
Robbery	Having children under 18	-

- Indicates decrease in likelihood of being victimized.  
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