

# **Developmental Victimization Survey (DVS), 2002-2003**

## **NDACAN Dataset Number 126 USER'S GUIDE**



National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect

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# **Developmental Victimization Survey (DVS), 2002-2003**

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## **Funded by**

US Dept of Justice, Office Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

## **Distributed by**

National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect

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## Preface

The data for *Developmental Victimization Survey (DVS), 2002-2003* have been given to the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) for public distribution by Heather Turner and David Finkelhor. Funding for the project was provided by US Dept of Justice, Office Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (Award Number(s): 2002-JW-BX-0002, 2003-JN-FX-0064, 2005-JL-FX-0048).

## Acknowledgement of Source

Authors should acknowledge the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) and the original collector(s) of the data when publishing manuscripts that use data provided by the Archive. Users of these data are urged to follow some adaptation of the statement below.

The data used in this publication were made available by the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, and have been used with permission. Data from *Developmental Victimization Survey (DVS), 2002-2003* were originally collected by: Heather Turner and David Finkelhor. Funding for the project was provided by US Dept of Justice, Office Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (Award Number(s): 2002-JW-BX-0002, 2003-JN-FX-0064, 2005-JL-FX-0048). The collector(s) of the original data, the funder(s), NDACAN, Cornell University and their agents or employees bear no responsibility for the analyses or interpretations presented here.

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## Publication Submission Requirement

In accordance with the terms of the *Data License* for this dataset, users of these data are required to notify the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect of any published work or report based wholly or in part on these data. A copy of any completed manuscript, thesis abstract, or reprint should be emailed to [NDACANsupport@cornell.edu](mailto:NDACANsupport@cornell.edu). Such copies will be used to provide our funding agency with essential information about the use of NDACAN resources and to facilitate the exchange of information about research activities among data users and contributors.

## **Abstract**

The Developmental Victimization Survey (DVS), was designed to obtain one-year incidence estimates of a comprehensive range of childhood victimizations across gender, race, and developmental stage. Conducted between December 2002, and February 2003, it assessed the experiences of a nationally representative sample of children age 2-17 living in the contiguous United States. The sample selection procedures were based on a list-assisted random digit dial (RDD) telephone survey design. A short interview was conducted with an adult caregiver (usually a parent) to obtain family demographic information. One child was randomly selected from all eligible children living in a household by selecting the child with the most recent birthday. If the selected child was 10-17 years old, the main telephone interview was conducted with the child. If the selected child was 2-9 years old, the interview was conducted with the caregiver who “is most familiar with the child’s daily routine and experiences.”

Interviews were completed with 79.5% of the eligible persons contacted. All procedures were authorized by the Institutional Review Board of the University of New Hampshire. This survey utilized the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire (JVQ), a recently constructed inventory of childhood victimization. The JVQ obtains reports on 34 forms of offenses against youth that cover five general areas of concern: Conventional Crime, Child Maltreatment, Peer and Sibling Victimization, Sexual Assault, and Witnessing and Indirect Victimization. Follow-up questions for each screener item gathered additional information, including perpetrator characteristics, the use of a weapon, whether injury resulted, and whether the event occurred in conjunction with another screener. The final sample represented 2,030 children age 2-17 living in the contiguous United States. Half (50%) of the sample is male; 51% are 2-9 year olds, while 49% are age 10-17. Almost 10% of the sample reported a household income of under \$20,000, while about 34% had annual incomes between \$20,000 and \$50,000. The survey sample is 76% White (non-Hispanic), 11% Black (non-Hispanic), 9% Hispanic (any race) and 3.5% from other races including American Indian and Asian.

# Study Overview

## **Study Identification**

*Developmental Victimization Survey (DVS), 2002-2003*

### **Principal Investigator(s):**

Heather Turner  
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David Finkelhor, Ph.D.  
University of New Hampshire Durham, NH

### **Funded By:**

US Dept of Justice, Office Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

### **Award Number(s):**

2002-JW-BX-0002, 2003-JN-FX-0064, 2005-JL-FX-0048

## **Purpose of the Study**

This research is based on data from the Developmental Victimization Survey (DVS), designed to obtain one-year incidence estimates of a comprehensive range of childhood victimizations across gender, race, and developmental stage.

## **Study Design**

The sample selection procedures were based on a list-assisted random digit dial (RDD) telephone survey design. "List-assisted" dialing confines the random digit selection from telephone exchanges that have known listed phone numbers. This design increases the rate of contacting eligible respondents by decreasing the rate of dialing business and non-working numbers.

## **Date(s) of Data Collection**

December 1, 2002 to February 1, 2003

## **Geographic Area**

Continental U.S.

## **Unit of Observation**

Child, Household

## **Sample**

Any child 2-17 years of age at the time of survey and any household (located in the contiguous United States) with such a child were eligible to participate. The final sample represented 2,030 children age 2-17 living in the contiguous United States. Half (50%) of the sample is male; 51% are 2-9 year olds, while 49% are age 10-17. Almost 10% of the sample reported a household income of under \$20,000, while about 34% had annual incomes between \$20,000 and \$50,000. The survey sample is 76% White (non-Hispanic), 11% Black (non-Hispanic), 9% Hispanic (any race) and 3.5% from other races including American Indian and Asian.

## **Data Collection Procedures**

Data were collected using a CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interview) system, which gives interviewers questions and instructions on a computer screen, is programmed with algorithms to choose appropriate follow-ups, and prompts interviewers when out-of-range responses are encoded. The use of CATI minimizes recording errors and provides substantial quality control benefits. For this survey, only interviewers who had extensive experience interviewing children and in addressing sensitive topics were chosen.

A short interview was conducted with an adult caregiver (usually a parent) to obtain family demographic information. One child was randomly selected from all eligible children living in a household by selecting the child with the most recent birthday. If the selected child was 10-17 years old, the main telephone interview was conducted with the child. If the selected child was 2-9 years old, the interview was conducted with the caregiver who “is most familiar with the child’s daily routine and experiences.” Caregivers were interviewed as proxies for this age group because the ability of children under the age of 10 to be recruited and participate in phone interviews of this nature has not been well established (Hausman, Spivak, Prothrow-Stith, & Roeber, 1992; Waksberg, 1978), yet such children are still at an age when parents tend to be well informed about their experiences both at and away from home. In 68% of these caretaker interviews, the caretaker was the biological mother, in 24% the biological father, and in 8% some other relative or caretaker. Up to 13 callbacks were made to select and contact a respondent and up to 25 callbacks were made to complete the interview. Consent was obtained prior to the interview.

## **Response Rates**

Cooperation rate is 79.5% of eligible persons contacted.

Response rate on standard guidelines (American Assoc. Public Opinion Research 2004) is 41%. (majority "non-respondents" were households with no answer after up to 25 call attempts)

## **Sources of Information**

Telephone interviews only:

- Household/demographic data from adult caregiver



- Child measures for 2-9 year-olds from primary adult caregiver
- Child measures for 10-17 year-olds from child self-report

## **Type of Data Collected**

Survey

## **Measures**

### ***Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire (JVQ)***

An inventory of childhood victimization. The instrument covers a wide range of events, including non-violent victimizations and events that children and parents do not typically conceptualize as crimes. The JVQ obtains reports on 34 forms of offenses against youth that cover five general areas of concern: Conventional Crime, Child Maltreatment, Peer and Sibling Victimization, Sexual Assault, and Witnessing and Indirect Victimization. The use of simple language and behaviorally specific questions clearly define the types of incidents that children should report. The JVQ is appropriate for self-report by children as young as age 8. The caregiver version, designed for proxy interviews with even younger children, uses wording very similar to the self-report questionnaire, allowing for direct comparability of items across the two versions. Therefore, unlike other victimization instruments, the JVQ permits direct comparisons of victimization experiences across the full range of childhood and adolescence.

Finkelhor, D., Hamby, S. L., Ormrod, R., & Turner, H. (2005). The juvenile victimization questionnaire: Reliability, validity, and national norms. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 29(4), 383-412. Retrieved from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6V7N-4G24XGB-1/2/d02da4e95c667e089864f977c4182abd>

Finkelhor, D., Ormrod, R. K., & Turner, H. A. (2007). Poly-victimization: A neglected component in child victimization. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 31(1), 7-26. Retrieved from: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6V7N-4MV1H3J-1/2/652262ebf6a293c206cda0b28435b74d>

Finkelhor, D., Ormrod, R., Turner, H., & Hamby, S. L. (2005). The victimization of children and youth: A comprehensive, national survey. *Child Maltreatment*, 10(1), 5-25. Retrieved from: <http://cmx.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/10/1/5>

Hamby, S. L., Finkelhor, D., Ormrod, R., & Turner, H. (2004). *The juvenile victimization questionnaire (JVQ): Administration and scoring manual*. Crimes against Children Research Center, University of New Hampshire. Retrieved from: [http://www.unh.edu/ccrc/pdf/CV55\\_2004.pdf](http://www.unh.edu/ccrc/pdf/CV55_2004.pdf)

## **Related Publications and Final Reports**

**Users are strongly encouraged to review published works, based upon these data, before doing analyses. To view a complete list of publications for this dataset, please visit our**

online citations collection called “canDL” at:

<https://www.zotero.org/groups/421939/candl/tags/126-DVS/library> or go to the [child abuse and neglect Digital Library \(canDL\) NDACAN webpage](#).

### **Analytic Considerations**

Using 2002 Census estimates, (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000) investigators applied post-stratification weights to adjust for race proportion differences between our sample and national statistics. It should be noted that, since interviews were conducted in English only, this weighting procedure can only increase representation among English speaking Hispanics. The investigators also applied weights to adjust for within household probability of selection due to variation in the number of eligible children across households and the fact that the experiences of only one child per household were included in the study.

Some of the component weighting variables (rceth\_wt, hh\_wght, pop\_wght) were included with the data just to provide transparency for any user who would like to see how the final weights were derived. For the typical user the weights of interest are tot\_wght (total weight) and scl\_wght (scaled weight). Tot\_wght would be used to project national estimates in terms of numbers or rates of victimization (as of 2002). Scl\_wght would be used for significance testing of weighted data to maintain appropriate n's (scaled weights are directly proportional to total weights, but sum to n = 2,027, the approximate sample size).

Race/Ethnicity Weight (rceth\_wt): post-stratification weights computed to adjust for under-sampling of Black and Hispanic children. Based on July, 2002, census estimates.

Household Weight (hh\_wght): child household sampling weight computed to adjust for number of eligible children in a household (only one child chosen per household).

Population Weight (pop\_wght): multiplier to equate sample total to national child population total. Based on July, 2002, census estimates.

Total Weight (tot\_wght): combination of three previous weights.

Scaled Weight (scl\_wght): total weight scaled to sum to sample total; for use in significance testing to maintain appropriate n's.

### **Confidentiality Protection**

All primary and secondary identifiers were removed by the investigators prior to archiving.

### **Extent of Collection**

This dataset contains a User's Guide, Codebook, Caregiver Survey, Initial Parent Screen, Methodology Report, Self-Report Survey, and the JVQ Manual, and one data file named "DS126\_DVS" in file formats native to SPSS(.sav), Stata(.dta), and SAS(.sas7bdat) as well as import program files for SAS(.sas), SPSS(.sps), and Stata(.do) to read in the text(.dat) data file, and one tab-delimited (.tab) data file for use with spreadsheet programs.

## **Extent of Processing**

NDACAN produced the User's Guide and Codebook, text data file with data import statements, and the text and native data file formats.

## **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

The following abbreviations and acronyms are used in this document:

<b>Acronym/abbreviation</b>	<b>Definition/meaning</b>
canDL	child abuse and neglect Digital Library
CATI	Computer Assisted Telephone Interview
DVS	Developmental Victimization Survey
JVQ	Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire
NDACAN	National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect
R	R open source statistical software program
RDD	Random digit dial
SPSS	IBM SPSS Statistics - software program
SAS	SAS statistical software program
Stata	Stata statistical software program
US	United States

## **Data File Information**

### **File Specifications**

There is one data file named "DS\_126\_DVS" which contains 1,895 variables and 2,030 records. The data file is oriented wide with one record per respondent.

### **Data File Notes**

There are no additional notes.

**Technical support for this dataset is provided by NDACAN.**

**Please send your inquiries to [NDACANsupport@cornell.edu](mailto:NDACANsupport@cornell.edu)**

**Visit the User Support page of the NDACAN website for help documents and videos (<https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/user-support/user-support.cfm>).**