



ICPSR 3872

Impact of Immigration on Ethnic-Specific Violence in Miami, Florida, 1997

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User Guide

First ICPSR Version
February 2004



National Institute of Justice
Data Resources Program



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Summary

Does the rate of violent victimization differ across race and ethnic groups? In an effort to answer this question, this study sought to examine the violent victimization rate and the factors influencing ethnic-specific rates of violence in the city of Miami. Administrative data were obtained from the United States Bureau of the Census and the Miami Police Department Research Unit. For the groups of people identified as Afro Americans, Latinos, and Haitians, the numbers who were victims of aggravated assault and robbery in 1997 are included along with the assault and robbery rates for each group. The remaining variables are the percent of female-headed households, percent below poverty line, percent of young males out of the labor force and unemployed, residential instability, vacant and household instability, and the percent of 1980-1990 immigrants.

General Study Overview

Title: Impact of Immigration on Ethnic-Specific Violence in Miami, Florida, 1997

Principal Investigator(s): Ramiro Martinez Jr., Florida International University

Grant Number: 2001-IJ-CX-0012

Purpose of the Study: Does the rate of violent victimization differ across race and ethnic groups? Researchers of urban social problems continue to struggle with this question. The racial and ethnic composition of urban America has changed as a result in large part of increased immigration over the past 20 years, requiring researchers to acknowledge the growth of Latino, Asian, and Afro-Caribbean neighborhoods--many of which are in high crime and high poverty areas. Despite the growth of studies on race and violence over the past two decades that have examined this linkage at the national, metropolitan, and city levels, this issue remains largely overlooked at the neighborhood level. Many studies of Black or White violence are no longer reflections of the nature of racial and ethnic population compositions in many urban communities. The contextual factors that shape neighborhood-level violence have become important to identify since these influences might vary when accounting for racial and ethnic differences in violent crime, even within a single city. This study examined the violent victimization rate and the factors influencing ethnic-specific rates of violence for armed robbery and aggravated assault in the city of Miami. The objective was to better inform analyses of violent crime by outlining the basic contours of race/ethnicity (Latino, African American, and Haitian) in a primarily immigrant city by focusing on serious reported non-lethal violence.

Methods

Study Design: The primary unit of observation for this study was the census tract, or more specifically, the 70 census tracts in the city of Miami that are comprised of 500 or more residents. Census tracts were used as neighborhood proxies because research has shown they are the best unit of analysis below the city level to study the race and violence connection. The minimum population requirement was imposed to help stabilize rates of violence crime and avoid the inclusion of small islands in Biscayne Bay with few residents or containing upscale high-rise hotels or condominiums. Administrative records data were obtained from the United States Bureau of the Census, which provided the 1990 census tract data. These data provide detailed demographic information such as the number of residents, the percentage of tract population living below the poverty level, racial and ethnic composition, and a host of other information. The data for all reported robberies and aggravated assaults for 1997 was obtained from the city of Miami

Police Department Research Unit. The address for each incident and victim race, surname, age, and gender were provided in a raw data file, geocoded into the census tract in which they occurred, aggregated to the tract level, and merged with the census tract information.

- Sources of Information: Data were collected from the United States Bureau of Census and the Miami Police Department Research Unit.
- Sample: The city of Miami was purposively chosen as the city most suited for this study. Researchers chose Miami because it provided an excellent opportunity to examine the race/ethnicity and violence linkage in a high violence city with a racially and ethnically diverse population and a large immigrant population.
- Response Rates: Not applicable.
- Date of Collection: 2001

Summary of Contents

- Description of Variables: For the groups of people identified as Afro Americans, Latinos, and Haitians, the number who were victims of aggravated assault and robbery in 1997 are included along with the assault and robbery rates for each group. The remaining variables are the percent of female-headed households, percent below poverty line, percent of young males out of the labor force and unemployed, residential instability, vacant and household instability, and the percent of 1980-1990 immigrants.
- Presence of Common Scales: None.
- Unit of Observation: census tract
- Geographic Unit: census tract
- Extent of Processing: ICPSR checked for undocumented codes, produced a codebook, generated SAS and SPSS data definition statements, converted the hardcopy documentation to a PDF file, and reformatted the data and documentation.
- Extent of Collection: This data collection contains one data file with a PDF user guide and a codebook in a separate PDF file, and SAS and SPSS data definition statements.
- Data Collection Notes: The user guide and codebook are provided by ICPSR as Portable Document Format (PDF) files. The PDF file format was developed by Adobe Systems Incorporated and can be accessed using PDF reader software, such as the Adobe Acrobat Reader. Information on how to

obtain a copy of the Acrobat Reader is provided on the ICPSR Web site.

File Specifications

<i>Part No.</i>	<i>Part Name</i>	<i>File Structure</i>	<i>Case Count</i>	<i>Variable Count</i>	<i>LRECL</i>	<i>Records Per Case</i>
1	Data file	rectangular	70	28	144	1

Publications

Related Publications: Martinez, Ramiro, Jr. "Impact of Immigration on Ethnic-Specific Violence." NCJ 202471. North Miami, FL: Florida International University, 2003. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/grants/202471.pdf>

Final Reports and Other Publications: The National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) was established in 1972 by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), of the U.S. Department of Justice, to provide research findings to criminal justice professionals and researchers. NCJRS operates specialized clearinghouses that are staffed by information specialists who supply a range of reference, referral, and distribution services. Final reports and other publications describing research conducted on a variety of criminal justice topics are available. Publications can be obtained from NCJRS at NIJ/NCJRS, Box 6000, Rockville, MD, 20849-6000, 800-851-3420 or 301-519-5500. TTY Service for the Hearing Impaired is 877-712-9279 (toll-free) or 301-947-8374 (local). The URL for the NCJRS Web site is:

<http://www.ncjrs.org/>

NIJ Data Resources Program

About the DRP: The National Institute of Justice Data Resources Program (DRP) makes datasets from NIJ-funded research and evaluation projects available to the research community and sponsors research and training activities devoted to secondary data analysis. Datasets are archived by the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) at the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan.

The NACJD maintains a World Wide Web site with instructions for transferring files and sending messages. Criminal justice data funded by the Department of Justice are available via the Internet at this site at no charge to the user. NACJD may be contacted at NACJD/ICPSR, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI, 48106-1248, 800-999-0960 or 734-647-5000. The URL for the NACJD Web site is:

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/>

Data Completeness Report

DATA COMPLETENESS REPORT

This report corresponds to the data file: DA3872

Table 1: Distribution of Variables by Percentage of Missing Values*

```

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Variable Name and Label                                Percent of Cases with
(Total cases=70)                                     Missing Values
-----
78.6% (22 of 28 variables) have 0% Missing Values

0.0% (0 of 28 variables) have > 0% - 1% Missing Values

7.1% (2 of 28 variables) have > 1% - 3% Missing Values

0.0% (0 of 28 variables) have > 3% - 5% Missing Values

0.0% (0 of 28 variables) have > 5% - 10% Missing Values

7.1% (2 of 28 variables) have > 10% - 20% Missing Values

ROBBRATE BLACK ROBBERY RATE                          20.0%
AGGBRATE AFRICAN AMERICAN AGGRAVATED ASSAULT RAT    20.0%

7.1% (2 of 28 variables) have > 20% - 40% Missing Values

AGGHRATE HAITIAN AGGRAVATED ASSAULT RATE            21.4%
ROBHRATE HAITIAN ROBBERY RATE                       21.4%
=====

```

*Variables individually listed only if greater than 5% missing values.
 Data do not contain skip patterns or skip patterns are not reflected
 in the data as coded.