



# Idaho Crime Victimization Survey 2003

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# Idaho Crime Victimization Survey 2003

## Introduction

The fifth Idaho Crime Victimization Survey (ICVS) was initiated in the summer 2003 as a means of enhancing our knowledge and understanding of crime victimization in Idaho. The survey instrument was designed to elicit information using standard questions regarding property and violent crimes, and was generally modeled after the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The ICVS departed from the national model to some extent through the inclusion of questions regarding domestic violence, child abuse, sexual harassment in the workplace, hate crime and perceptions of crime and police services.

A random sample of 1,265 Idaho households was surveyed during the months June and July 2003. The respondents were asked crime questions in reference to the twelve months immediately preceding the date of the survey. Only those respondents who were 18 years or older were included in the survey. The sample size represents general views or opinions of adult residents within a +/- 2.75 margin of error at the 95% confidence level.

The findings for this report were based on relative populations and presented in the form of per capita victimization rates and/or rates per every 1,000 persons. Per capita rates can be extended to produce rates per population for the related groups or subgroups; a per capita rate, if multiplied by 1,000, will produce crime or victimization rates pertaining to 1,000 individuals. Also, the data used in this report is based solely on the victims' perceptions of the crime.

This report represents a summary of findings for the main crime categories from the victimization survey. For more detailed findings, including Idaho demographics, firearm ownership, alcohol/drugs use, child abuse, perceptions of safety and more on satisfaction with police services, visit [www.isp.state.id.us/pgr/Research/sac.html](http://www.isp.state.id.us/pgr/Research/sac.html) website.

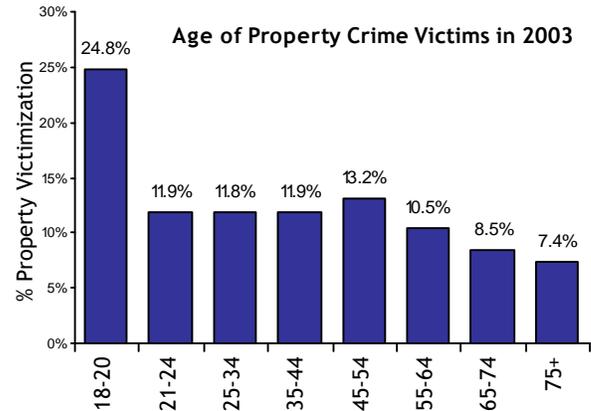
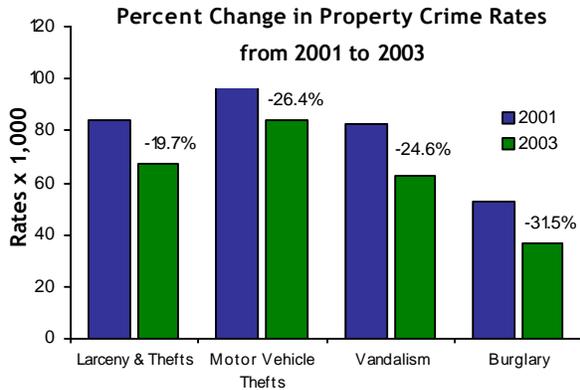
# Property Crime

Property Crime Rates Decreased by 25.1%

Survey results from 2001 to 2003 indicate that property crime rates decreased overall by 25.1%. The property crime rate in 2003 was 249.9 per every 1,000 households.

By crime category, property crime victimization decreased from 2001 by the following amount:

- Larceny and Thefts decreased 19.7%.
- Motor Vehicle Theft decreased 26.4%.
- Vandalism decreased 24.6%.
- Burglary decreased 31.5%.



## Offender Characteristics

All larceny, theft, motor vehicle related theft, vandalism, and burglary offenders were more likely to be male than female.

Type of Property Crime	Male Offender	Female Offender
Larceny & Thefts	86.7%	13.3%
Motor Vehicle Thefts	88.2%	11.8%
Burglary	75.0%	25.0%
Vandalism	85.0%	15.0%

From prior surveys, females are increasingly more participative as offenders of property crime, particularly as burglars.

## Victim Characteristics

- Persons between the ages of 18 and 24 experienced the highest amount of property crime victimization.

Type of Property Crime	Mean Age	Age range
Pocket picking	35.0	15 to 67
Theft of items left outside the home	38.9	5 to 85
Theft of items from inside a vehicle	41.7	15 to 77
Theft of vehicle parts	40.5	13 to 84
Burglary	39.9	2 to 80
Vandalism	56.5	3 to 88

- People living in more urbanized settings experienced 1.5 times more property crime than those living in rural areas.

## Reported to Police in 2003

- 🚓 48.8% of larceny/thefts were reported, up from 43.5% in 2001.
- 🚓 52.7% of motor vehicle related thefts were reported, down from 54.4% in 2001.
- 🚓 50.6% of vandalism incidents were reported, down from 52.7% in 2001.
- 🚓 60.0% of burglaries were reported, down from 76.6% in 2001.

## Reasons for not Reporting Property Crime

- The two main reasons property crime is not reported to the police are: matter too trivial or due to the relationship between the victim and the offender.

# Violent Crime

*Violent Crime Rates Decreased by 30.7%*

The overall rate for violent crimes decreased 30.7% from 143.8 per 1,000 persons 18 years or older in 2001 to 99.6 per 1,000 persons 18 or older in 2003.

For the first time in the last three consecutive surveys, respondents reported fewer sexual assaults, rapes and attempted rapes compared to those in 1999. Murder and murder attempts also remained mostly unchanged from the rates reported in 2001. However, murder threats significantly increased in 2003.

Non-sexual assault had the largest consecutive rate decrease from 1999 to 2003. In 2003, the non-sexual assault rate was 71.1 per 1,000 persons 18 or older, less than half of the 1999 rate (154.5).

## Victim Characteristics

- In 2003, females (56.1%) were slightly more likely to be victims of violent crime than males (43.9%). Adults ages 18 to 20 were the most victimized by violent crime (60.4%). People living in urban areas of the state reported more violent crime (67.2%) than rural areas (32.8%).
- In 2003, 76.8% of violent crime victims were members of households with annual incomes under \$40,000.

## Offender Characteristics

- All offenders of rape and sexual assault were male, averaging 25.0 years old.

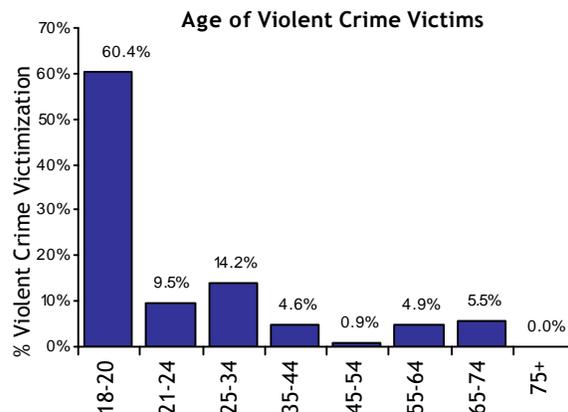
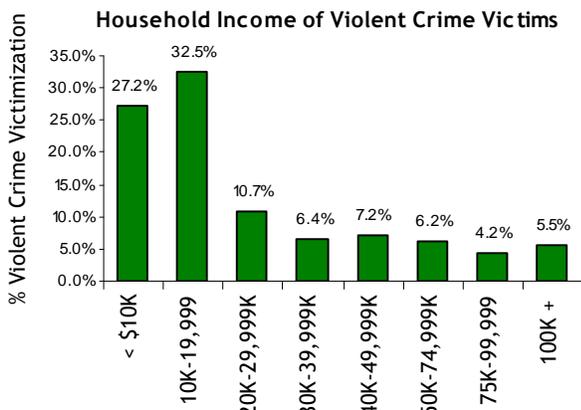
- Most offenders of non-sexual violent crime were male (84.7%), while 15.3% were female. The age range of non-sexual violent crime offenders was 13 to 73, averaging 26.6 years of age.
- Offenders of sexual assault and rape were recognized by the victim 95.2% of the time.
- According to victims of sexual assault or rape, 47.4% of the time the offender was a friend, 21.1% a family member, and 15.8% a neighbor. In comparison, non-sexual assault violent crime offenders were less likely to be related to the victim as friends (28.3%), or family (10.9%), and fairly equally likely to be neighbors (15.2%).

## Reported to Police in 2003

- 🚓 66.7% of sexual assault and rape incidents were reported to police. This percent is more than double the number of rapes reported in 2001 (33%).
- 🚓 51.9% of non-sexual assault incidents were reported to police. This percent is up 4% from the number of non-sexual assault incidents reported in 2001.

## Reasons for not Reporting Violent Crime

- Did not want to involve police (40.0%)
- Due to relationship with offender (20.0%)
- Nothing could be done (20.0%)
- Matter too trivial (15.0%)



# Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence Increased by 82.5%

The rate of domestic violence increased from the 2001 survey by 82.5%, from 26.4 per 1,000 persons 18 or older to 48.2 in 2003. However, this rate is only 12.1% higher than the domestic violence rate in 2000 (43.0 per 1,000 persons 18 years or older).

Victims of domestic violence had experienced an average of 15 abusive episodes in the last year.

About 15.1% of incidents of domestic violence were reported to the police. In 88.9% of the reported incidents, the offender was arrested or removed from the premises.

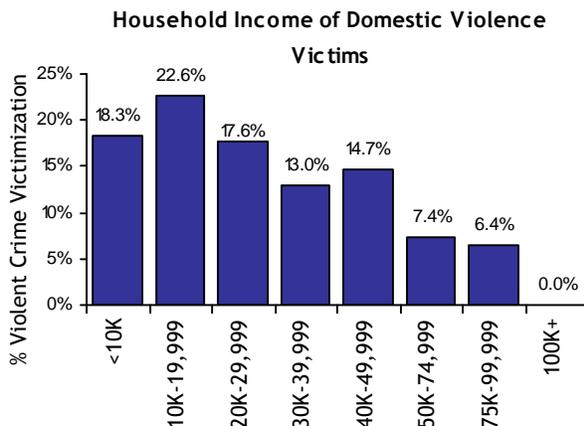
About one third of victims of domestic violence continued residing with the person who abused them.

About 75.0% of persons experiencing domestic violence at least once in their life were female, 25.0% were male.

Children were present in 48.0% of domestic violence incidents, an improvement from 2001 where children were present in 52.5% of incidents.

## Victim Characteristics

- In 2003, females in intimate relationships were at greater risk of being victims of domestic violence than males (76.7% versus 23.3%).
- Domestic violence victims ranged in age between 21 and 74. Over half (53.7%) of the victims were between the ages of 21 and 34.
- 71.2% of domestic violence victims reported an annual household income of \$40,000 or less.



## Offender Characteristics

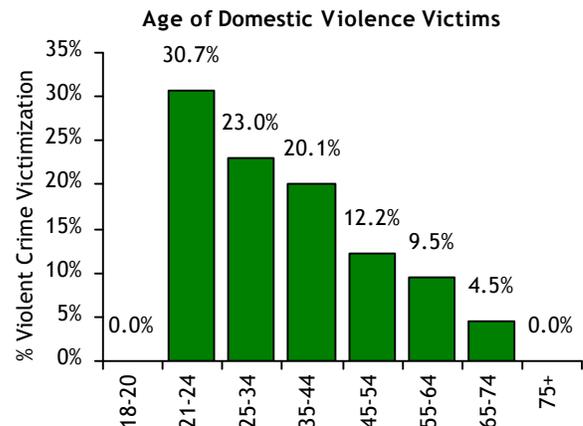
- Offenders on average were slightly older (aged 43.0 years) compared to victims (aged 42.5 years).
- Victims reported that 37.5% of offenders were under the influence of drugs, alcohol or both at the time of the incident.
- 73.8% of offenders of domestic violence had not received any counseling or other type of help since the incident.

## Reported to Police in 2003

- In 2003 there was a 3.5% increase in the number of incidents of domestic violence reported to the police, from 40.3% in 2001 to 43.8% in 2003.

## Reasons for not Reporting Domestic Violence

- Police wouldn't do anything (26.7%)
- Private matter (20.0%)
- Abuse not that bad (13.3%)
- Offender would not allow a report (8.9%)
- Abuse would get worse (2.2%)
- Abuse was my fault (2.2%)
- Combination of other reasons (26.7%)



# Child Abuse

Child Abuse Decreased by 48.5%

## Children Under 13

Approximately 16 of every 1,000 children were victims of child abuse in 2003. This is a 48.5% decrease from 2001, where 30.7 of every 1,000 children were victimized.

Incidents where the victim was subject to inappropriate touching of sexually sensitive areas; such as breasts, buttocks or genital areas decreased 77.1% from 2001.

Neglecting to meet the child's need for food, drink, shelter, safety, supervision, or a clean environment decreased 11.2% from 2001. Children experiencing physical harm, such as a hit, push, kick, grab or shake, decreased 80.2% from reported abuse in 2001.

Not included in the overall rate of child abuse but still important; exposure to sexually explicit materials via the internet increased by 21.4%. In addition, exposure to other sexually explicit materials or sexual acts; (including magazines, movies, cable TV, etc.) more than doubled from the rates in 2001.

## Victim Characteristics

- Victims of child abuse under age 13 were more likely to be female (52.7%) than male (47.4%).
- The average age of the child victim was 6.7.
- Child abuse occurred an average of 2.5 times before the abuse was reported to the police.
- 87.5% of the victims of child abuse were abused by the same offender each time.

## Offender Characteristics

- In 2003, males (55.6%) were more likely to be offenders of child abuse than females (44.4%)
- The average age of offenders was 39.9.

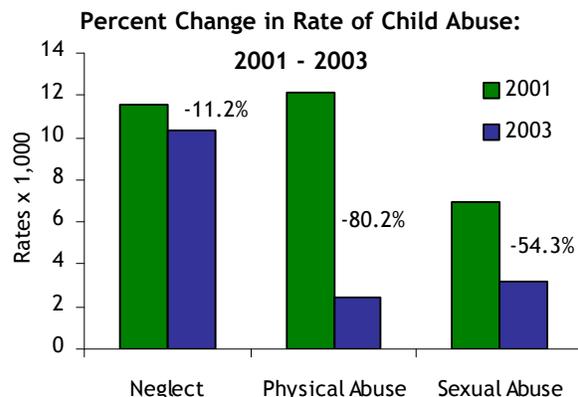
- 93.8% of the offenders were recognized by their victims. Most recognized offenders were family members (71.4%), rather than neighbors (7.1%), friends (7.1%), or other (14.3%).
- 46.7% of offenders were under the influence of alcohol (26.7%) or drugs (20%) at the time of the abuse. None were under the influence of both. However, for one-third of the offenders, the respondent did not know if the perpetrator was using alcohol or drugs.

## Reported to Police in 2003

- 🚓 43.8% of the incidents were reported to the police, typically by a parent, friend or a neighbor.
- 🚓 In 66.7% of the reported incidents, the police did nothing, in 33.4% they conducted a 'welfare check' or contacted Health and Welfare.

## Reasons for not Reporting Child Abuse

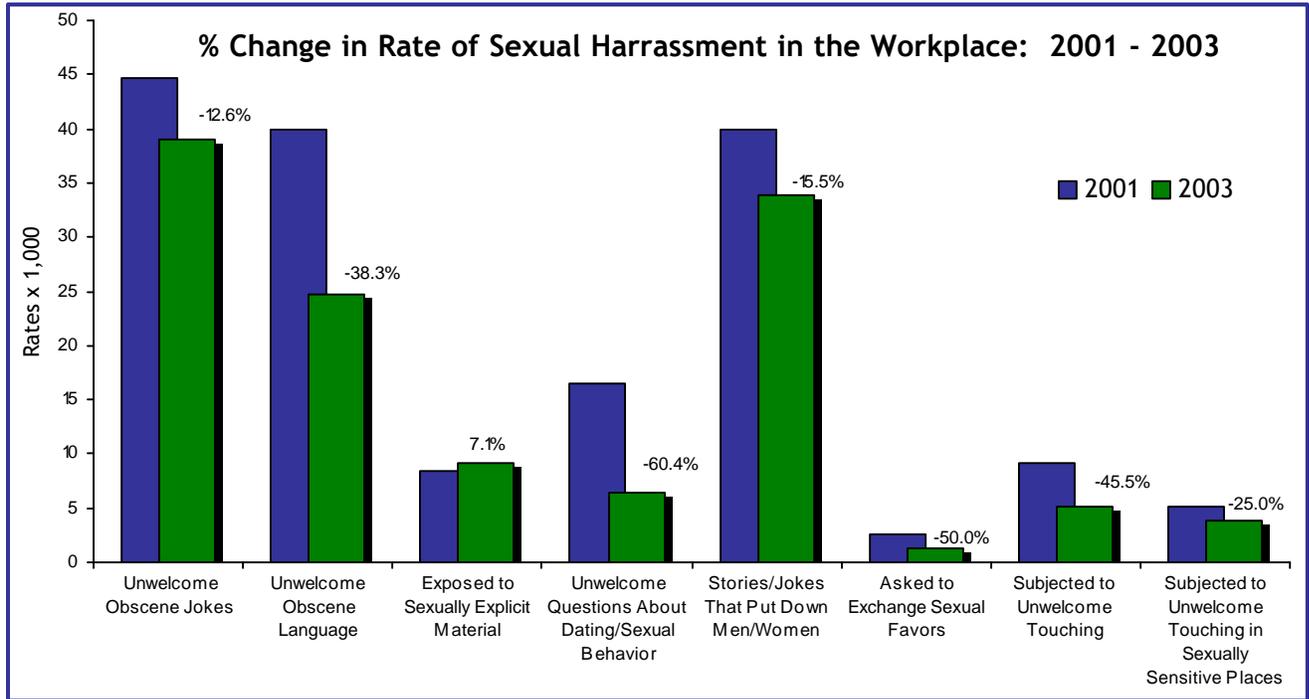
- Private matter (42.9%)
- Family would split (7.1%)
- Discouraged by family (7.1%)
- Fear of jail (7.1%)
- Worried what others would think (7.1%)
- Combinations of other reasons (28.6%)



# Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

*Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Decreased by 17%*

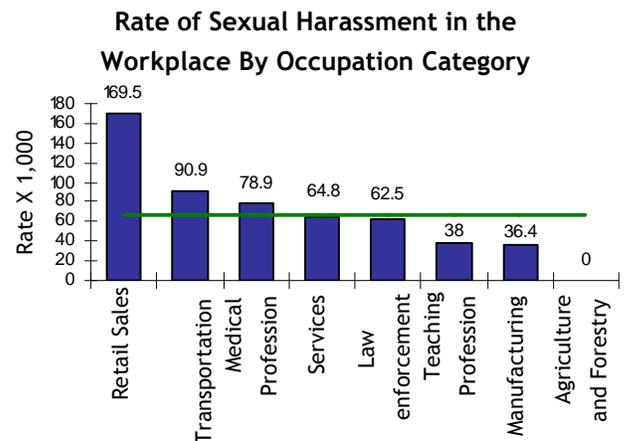
Overall sexual harassment in the workplace decreased 17% from 2001, to its lowest since 1999. The rate of sexual harassment in 2003 was 190.9 per thousand working people 18 years or older. Sexual harassment was classified into eight subcategories, as represented by the following chart.



All categories of sexual harassment in the workplace decreased from 2001, with the exception of a 7% increase in the rate of victims being exposed to a display of offensive sexually explicit materials while on the job.

The amount of harassment in the workplace varied for each of the job categories. Respondents working in retail sales occupations reported most of the sexual harassment in the workplace at rates of 170 incidents for every 1,000 persons working in retail. The rest of the occupations had reported sexual harassment rates lower than 100 for every 1,000 people working within the occupation.

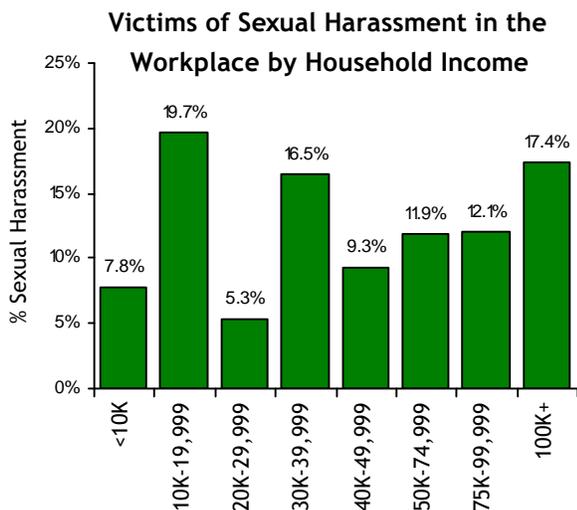
Occupation	%Harassment
Retail Sales	31.3%
Transportation	16.8%
Medical Profession	14.6%
Services	12.0%
Law Enforcement	11.6%
Teaching Profession	7.0%
Manufacturing	6.7%
Agriculture	0.0%



## Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Cont.

### Victim Characteristics

- Victims of sexual harassment in the workplace were usually people with full-time (72.0%) and/or permanent (87.5%) rather than temporary employment.
- Females (75.0%) were more likely to be victims of sexual harassment in the workplace than males (25.0%).
- 86.0% of victims of sexual harassment in the workplace were between 18 to 44 years of age. However, the age group most victimized (52.4%) was between 18 to 24.
- Sexual harassment victimization exists across all income categories. However, nearly half of all victimization occurred among those making less than \$40,000 per year. Sexual harassment for those making \$40,000 and above tended to increase as income increased.



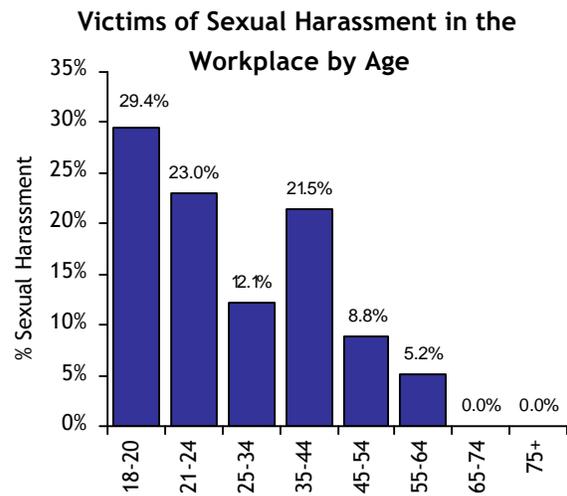
### Offender Characteristics

- More offenders of sexual harassment were male (84%) than female (16%).
- The age range for offenders was 15 to 70, with a mean age of 36.9.
- Most offenders were co-workers of equal status (44%), while supervisor/owner/boss comprised 28% of offenders, and clients 12%.
- Most offenders (85.3%) of sexual harassment in the workplace were not under the influence of alcohol, or drugs at the time of the offense.

### Action Taken Against Harassment

Only 36.6% of respondents sought an action as a result of the harassment. Actions taken included:

- Reported to supervisor/management (69.2%)
- Asked the offender to stop (15.4%)
- Exploring the possibility of lawsuit (7.7%)
- Other (7.7%)



# Hate Crime

Hate Crime Rates Increased by 33.9%

Approximately 90.9 of every 1,000 persons felt vulnerable to hate crime in 2003. This represents a decrease of 1% from 2001 and 1999, when the rate was 91.5. However, only 15 persons of every 1,000 reported actual hate crime victimization, which is a 33.9% increase from 2001.

Reasons people felt vulnerable to hate crime included:

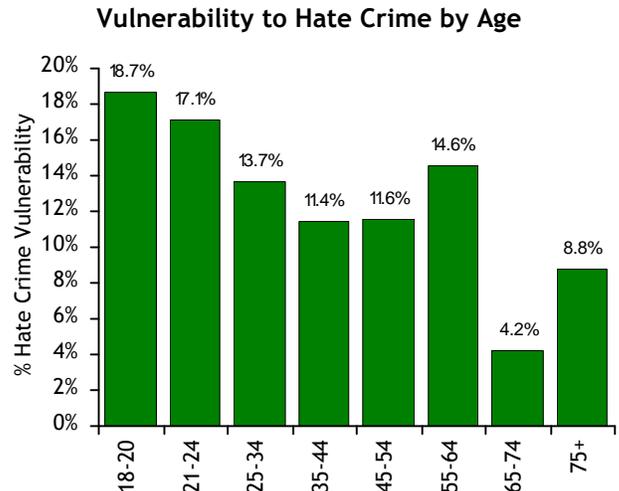
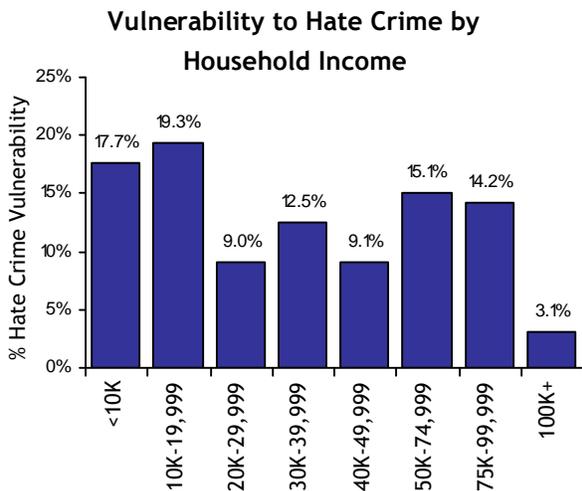
- Race 25.0%
- Religion 17.3%
- Age 6.7%
- Ethnicity 4.8%
- Gender 4.8%
- Sexual Orientation 4.8%
- Physical Disability 2.9%
- Combination of Other Reasons 33.7%

People experiencing hate crime within the last twelve months reported the following types:

- Harassment/Intimidation 47.4%
- Verbal Threats 21.1%
- Vandalism 10.5%
- Murder 5.3%
- Physical Assault 5.3%
- Combination of Other Reasons 10.5%

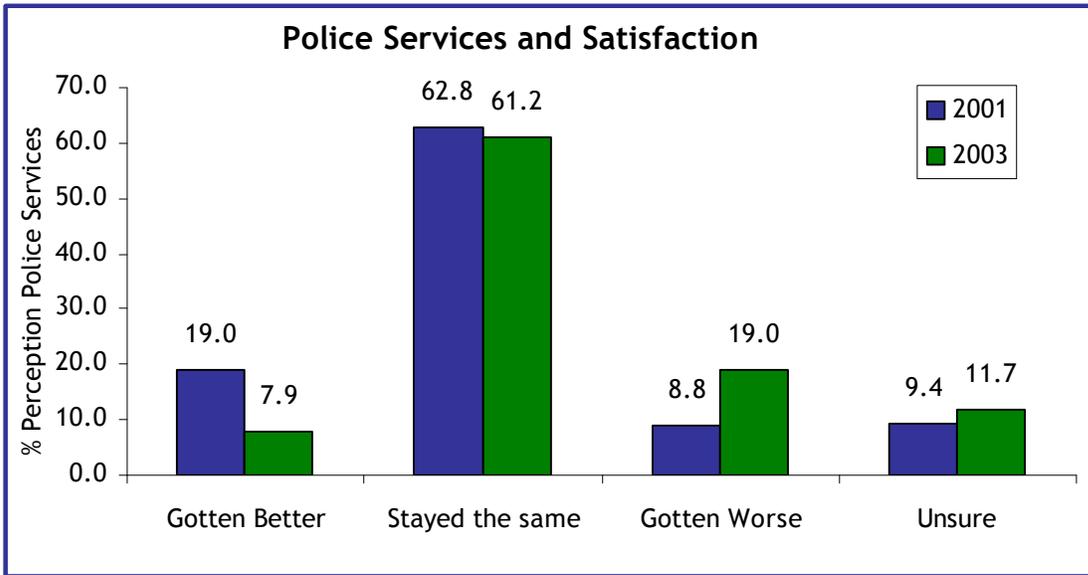
## Victim Characteristics

- In 2003, males reported 1.7 times more hate crime victimization than females, however, females (52.1%) felt more vulnerable to hate crime than males.
- Young adults (18 to 24) felt more vulnerable to hate crime than older adults. However, those in the 55-64 age group felt slightly more vulnerable to hate crime than those from 25 - 54, and those from 65 and older.
- Individuals with annual household incomes of less than \$40,000 were 2.4 times more likely to feel vulnerable to hate crime victimization than individuals whose annual household income was \$40,000 or higher. However, the prospect of becoming a victim of a hate crime is a fear of people in all income categories.



# Police Services and Satisfaction

Police Satisfaction decreased by 6.0%



## Police Services

The respondents' perceptions of police services in Idaho, as shown in the chart above, have remained the same or slightly gotten worse during the last twelve months. The majority of people have indicated little change in satisfaction with police services from 2001 to 2003. However, the percent of people indicating that police services have gotten worse in 2001, more than doubled in 2003, from 8.8% to 19%.

## Police Service Satisfaction

Slightly less than half, or 42.4% of respondents indicated they had direct contact with police during 2003. The majority, or 67.8% of respondents who had contact with law enforcement officers were satisfied to very satisfied with the way officers performed their duties.

