STALKING IN OHIO, 2016 - 2023

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Stalking Offenses - Overview and Method

This report summarizes law enforcement reports of stalking offenses for the State of Ohio during the years 2016-2023. We also summarize characteristics of crime incidents and victims. We provide stalking rates throughout this report, and it is important to understand how we calculated these rates and what they mean.

First, we calculate offense totals by counting the number of stalking victimizations documented within each law enforcement incident report. Stalking victimization totals do not necessarily represent unique victims. For example, a suspect could stalk the same individual during a different incident, or a victim could report multiple stalking offenses by the same suspect during a single incident. Therefore, it is almost certain that the offense total is larger than the number of individuals who were victims of stalking.

Next, we calculate the rate of stalking by dividing the total count of offenses by the population total[1] and then multiplying the resulting number (the quotient) by 100,000. This yields a stalking crime rate per 100,000 persons. We provide Ohio's overall stalking crime rates over time, and we also compare rates of stalking for Ohio's standard demographic groups (e.g., age, sex, race). Rates can vary significantly depending on how many victimizations a group experienced compared to the size of one group versus another. For example, the stalking victimization rate was much higher for female Ohioans than males, because the number of female stalking incidents was much larger than males' and females made up about half of Ohio's population. Further, while most stalking victims were White females (because over 75% of Ohio's population is White), Black females had the highest victimization *rate* because their victimization total was large while their overall population size was small (i.e., about 7% of the state population was Black and female during 2016-2023).

Overall Findings

Between 2016 and 2023:

- The stalking victimization rate increased by 27.5%.

- Most victims of stalking (53.5%) knew the suspect, but were not friends with the suspect[2].

- Intimate partners were victimized in 32.5% of incidents.

- Most instances (63.9%) of stalking occurred at residential structures, which can include single family homes, apartment buildings, residential facilities, or any other structure used for living purposes[3].

Executive Summary continues on next page

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[1]Since OIBRS data do not cover the entire population of Ohio, rates were created using the Ohio population covered by agencies that submit complete data to OIBRS for each specific year to adjust population denominators for calculations. Between 2016-2023, on average, 77% of the Ohio population was covered by complete reporting agencies. Please see the 'Data' section and the 'Methodology for Rates' section in the Appendix for further explanation.

[2]Known, but not a friend is defined as 'Teacher', 'Student', 'Employer', 'Employee', 'Babysittee(the baby/child)', 'Neighbor', 'Otherwise Known Individual', 'Acquaintance'. See the 'Definitions' section of the Appendix for full relationship categories breakdown.

[3]Refer to the 'Definitions' section in the Appendix for breakdown of how location types are categorized.

Executive Summary (continued)

Victim Characteristics

- Most victims of stalking were female, White, and between 26-35 years of age[4].

- The victimization rates were, on average, 2 times higher for Black individuals compared to White individuals, and 6 times higher compared to Other[5] individuals.

- The victimization rate for females was, on average, 4 times higher compared to the rate for males.

    – The rates for Black females were, on average, 2 times higher than White females, and 6.5 times higher than Other females.

- The victimization rate was higher for Black victims across all age groups compared to rates for White and Other individuals.

- The highest victimization rates across all races occurred between the ages of 18-35 years.

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[4]Over 75% of the population of Ohio is White. In 2023, 83% of the population identified themselves as White and the lowest Census estimate within the years 2016-2023 was 76% in 2020. See Section 5: Tables – Methodology for Rates for Census data details.

[5]The 'Other' race category includes: 'American Indian or Alaskan Native', 'Asian', and 'Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander'.

Introduction

Stalking is a pattern of conduct directed at another person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress[6]. Anyone can become a victim of stalking, though women are twice as likely to be victims than men (a third of women experience stalking compared to a sixth of men[7]). In severe cases, stalking can lead to violent behaviors resulting in assault, robbery, or homicide[8], and can happen in the context of intimate partner violence.

Stalking tactics include unwanted actions against victims such as following and watching, spying, making repeated contacts, and making threats of violence[9]. Stalking behaviors can look non-threatening to an outside observer (e.g., sending unwanted gifts, such as flowers or cards)[10]. Victim reactions to stalking can also be difficult to understand and can change when victims identify new stalking actions. For example, victims may seek out help, report the stalking incidents to law enforcement, create changes in their routine, and other self-protective factors to deter the stalker[11]. Regardless, stalking can lead the victim to fear not knowing what will happen next and how serious they should take the threats. Stalking victims often suffer higher rates of anxiety, insomnia, depression, and social dysfunction compared to people in the general population[12],[13].

According to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), an estimated 13.5 million people were victims of stalking during a one-year period in the United Status[14]. Like other types of interpersonal violence, stalking is an under-reported crime. Victims may experience stalking alone or as part of other crimes (e.g., intimate partner or sexual violence). Due to the prevalence and subsequent effects stalking has on victims, the Office of Victims of Crime recommends that stalking prevention efforts are strengthened, survivors are given proper services, and stalkers are held accountable for their actions. The Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) helps those affected by stalking with funding for law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, victim service providers, and other organizations providing direct services through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG), the Violence Against Women Act Program (VAWA), and the Family Violence Prevention & Services Act Grant Program (FVPSA).

The goal of this report is to use data from Ohio's Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS) to provide accurate and detailed information about stalking in Ohio from January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2023. This is only a statistical report; it does not attempt to explain why these incidents occurred or make policy recommendations to address stalking. It is meant to inform the public about current trends in stalking behaviors in Ohio.

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[6]Stalking. (2019, May 16). Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). https://www.justice.gov/ovw/stalking

[7]Smith, S.G., Zhang, X., Basile, K.C., Merrick, M.T., Wang, J., Kresnow, M., Chen, J. (2018). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2015 Data Brief – Updated Release. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[8]Rai A, Villarreal-Otalora T, Blackburn J, Choi Y. (2020). Correlates of intimate partner stalking precipitated homicides in the United States. J Fam Violence, 35:705-16

[9]Smith, S.G., Basile, K.C., & Kresnow, M. (2022). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2016/2017 Report on Stalking. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease control and Prevention.

[10]Smith, S.G., Zhang, X., Basile, K.C., Merrick, M.T., Wang, J., Kresnow, M., Chen, J. (2018). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2015 Data Brief – Updated Release. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[11]Randa, R., Reyns, B. W., & Fansher, A. (2022). Victim reactions to being stalked: Examining the effects of perceived offender characteristics and motivations. Behavioral Sciences & the Law, 40(5), 715-731.

[12]Logan T. (2020). Examining stalking experiences and outcomes for men and women stalked by (ex)partners and non-partners. J Fam Violence, 35:729-39.

[13]Dressing H, Kuehner C, Gass P. (2005). Lifetime prevalence and impact of stalking in a European population. Br J Psychiatry, 187(2):168-72.

[14]Smith, S.G., Basile, K.C., & Kresnow, M. (2022). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2016/2017 Report on Stalking. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease control and Prevention.

Data

Data from this report are taken from the Ohio Incident Based-Reporting System (OIBRS), a voluntary crime reporting program that enables law enforcement agencies in Ohio to submit crime data directly to the state and federal government. OIBRS contains detailed information about criminal incidents, and is used to generate official crime statistics for the state of Ohio. Participation in OIBRS has increased over the years. Figure 1 shows the percent of the state population covered by law enforcement agencies that participated in OIBRS(i.e. submitted at least one incident report to the system), as well as the agencies that reported complete data to the system for a full year.

This report contains data from agencies that provided complete data to OIBRS for individual years between 2016 - 2023. Data from unfounded incidents are excluded from this report.
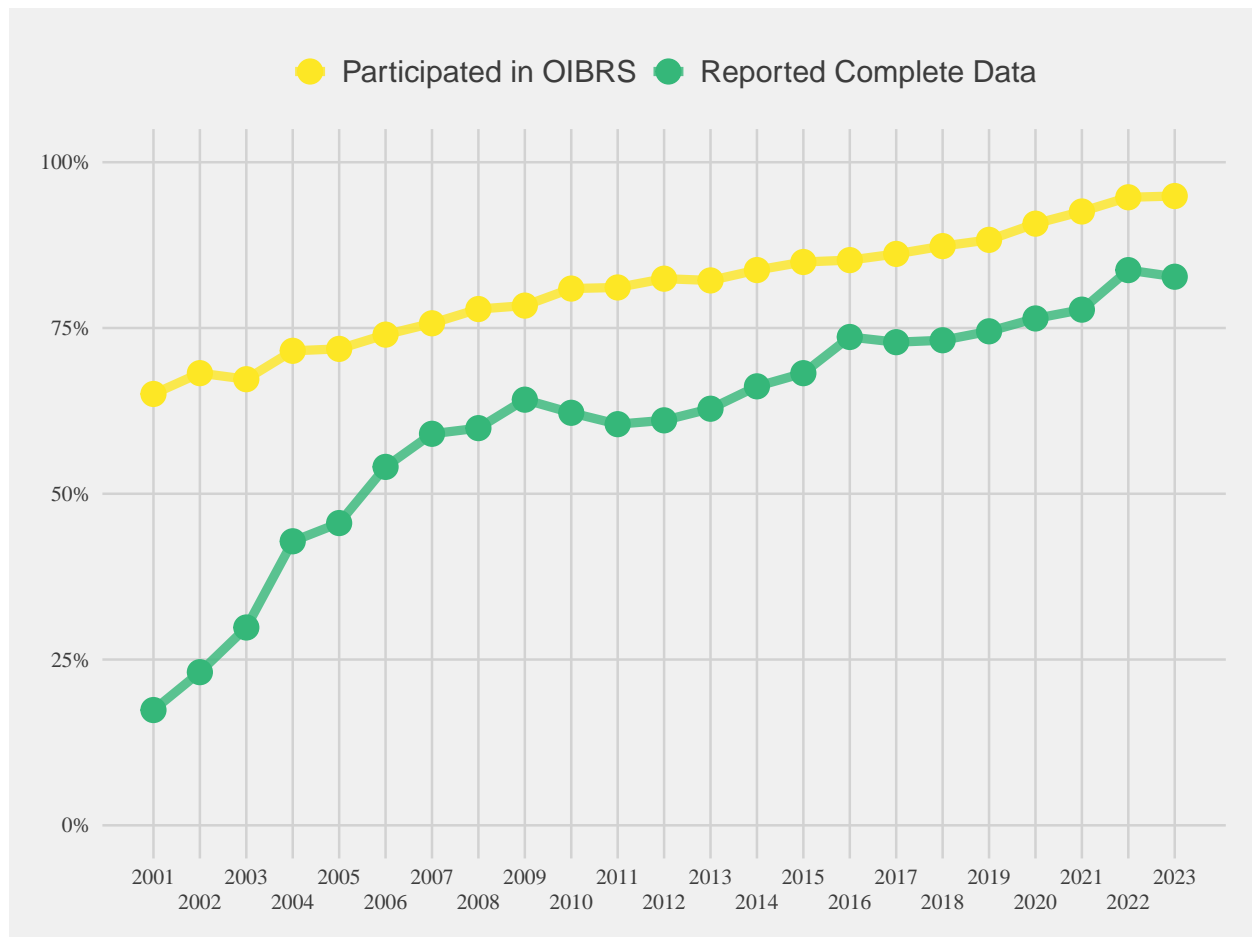

Figure 1: OIBRS Participation, 2001 - 2023

Definition of Stalking

In this report, stalking is defined based on the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), 2903.211, Menacing by Stalking statute. Incidents reported to OIBRS were considered to be stalking based on the following criteria:

1. Incidents containing ORC 2903.211 (Menacing by Stalking) which is defined as[15]:
   - (A)(1) No person by engaging in a pattern of conduct shall knowingly cause another person to believe that the offender will cause physical harm to the other person or a family or household member of the other person or cause mental distress to the other person or a family or household member of the other person. In addition to any other basis for the other person's belief that the offender will cause physical harm to the other person or the other person's family or household member or mental distress to the other person or the other person's family or household member, the other person's belief or mental distress may be based on words or conduct of the offender that are directed at or identify a corporation, association, or other organization that employs the other person or to which the other person belongs.
   - (2) No person, through the use of any form of written communication or any electronic method of remotely transferring information, including, but not limited to, any computer, computer network, computer program, computer system, or telecommunication device shall post a message or use any intentionally written or verbal graphic gesture with purpose to do either of the following: violate division this section, urge or incite another to commit a violation of this section.
   - No person, with a sexual motivation, shall violate division (A)(1) or (2) of this section.
   - Whoever violates this section is guilty of menacing by stalking.

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[15]Section 2903.211: Menacing by stalking. Section 2903.211 - Ohio Revised Code | Ohio Laws. (2016, August, 16). https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-2903.211.

Report Organization

This report presents stalking data in four detailed sections.

- **Section 1: Introduction and Data** - This section provides a summary of the key findings from the report, an introduction to the crime of stalking, information on the data used in this report, along with a definition of stalking and an overview of how the report is organized.

- **Section 2: Stalking Offenses** - This section provides an overview of stalking crimes in Ohio by including information on:

  1. The total stalking rate per year and month,
  2. the relationship between the victim and suspect, and
  3. the location of stalking offenses.

- **Section 3: Victim Characteristics of Stalking** - This section provides details, including rates, on the victim characteristics of age, race, and sex.

- **Section 4: Appendix** - This section provides the crime rates and counts that were used to create the figures presented in this report, as well an explanation on the methodology for the victim characteristics rates, along with definitions for terms used throughout the report.

Disclaimers

- Some law enforcement agencies do not report their data to OIBRS because it is a voluntary reporting system. For this reason, data are presented as rates instead of totals, and only data from agencies that provided complete annual data are included for a given year.

- The accuracy of these crime statistics is based on the information reported by participating law enforcement agencies. Information in this report may change over time based on updated or new data sent to OIBRS in future crime data submissions.

- This report only contains descriptive data, which means that the information in this report does not explain why crime occurs, what factors cause an increase or decrease in crime, or make recommendations about what should be done to reduce crime.

- Suspect characteristics for most stalking incidents were largely missing. In most cases, the suspect's age, race, and sex were left blank or reported as unknown, leaving only a small number of incidents with viable suspect information to include for analysis. Reporting on such a small number of incidents risks reporting statistics that do not represent the population of Ohio. Therefore, we excluded suspect characteristics from the report at this time. In future iterations of this report, if there is sufficient data reported we will include suspect characteristics. We will also explore this issue further to see if we can include suspect characteristics in other ways.

Section 2: Stalking Offenses
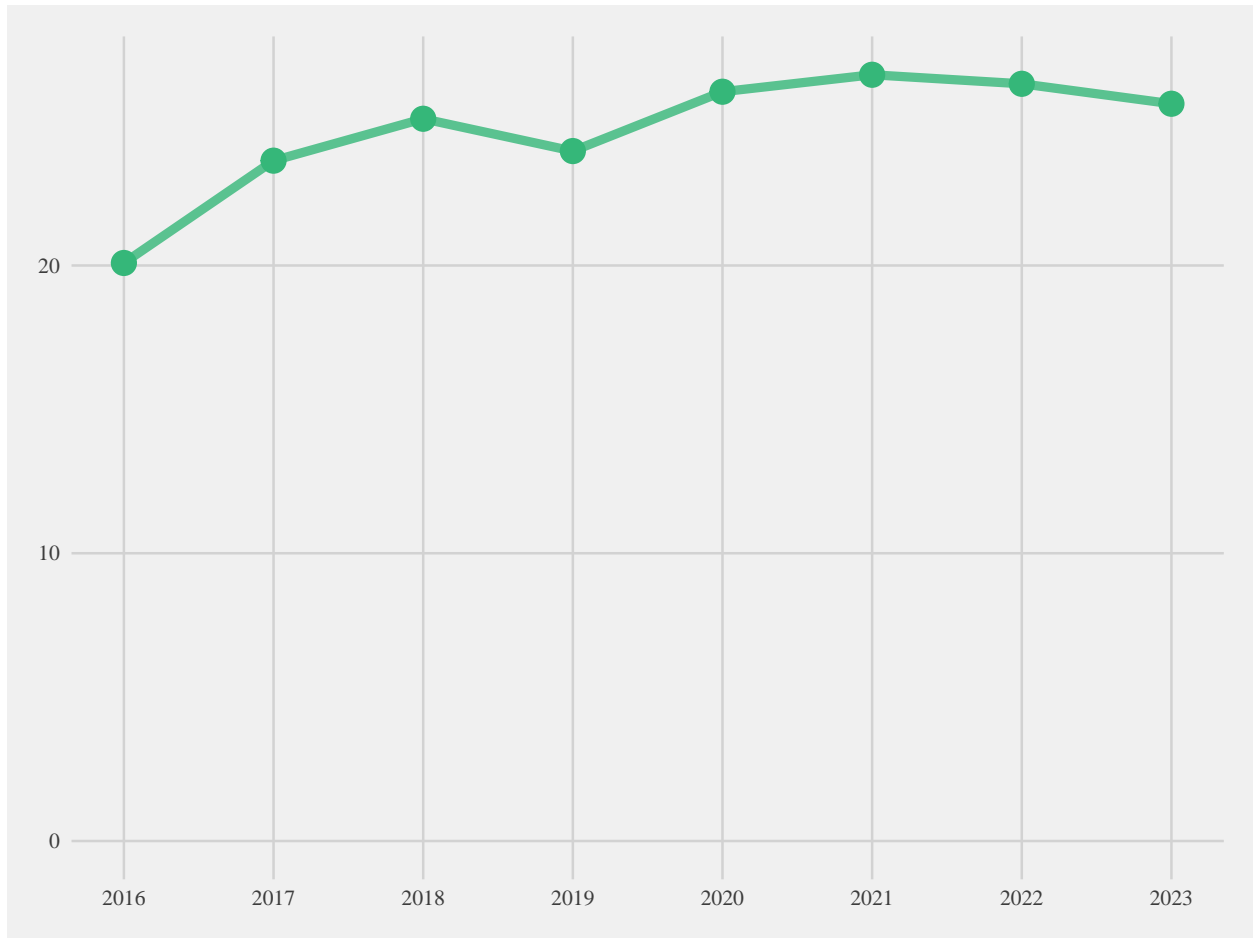
Figure 2: Stalking Victimization Rate per 100,000 People, 2016 - 2023

- Between 2016 and 2023, the stalking victimization rate increased by 27.5%. See Table 7 in the Appendix for rates.
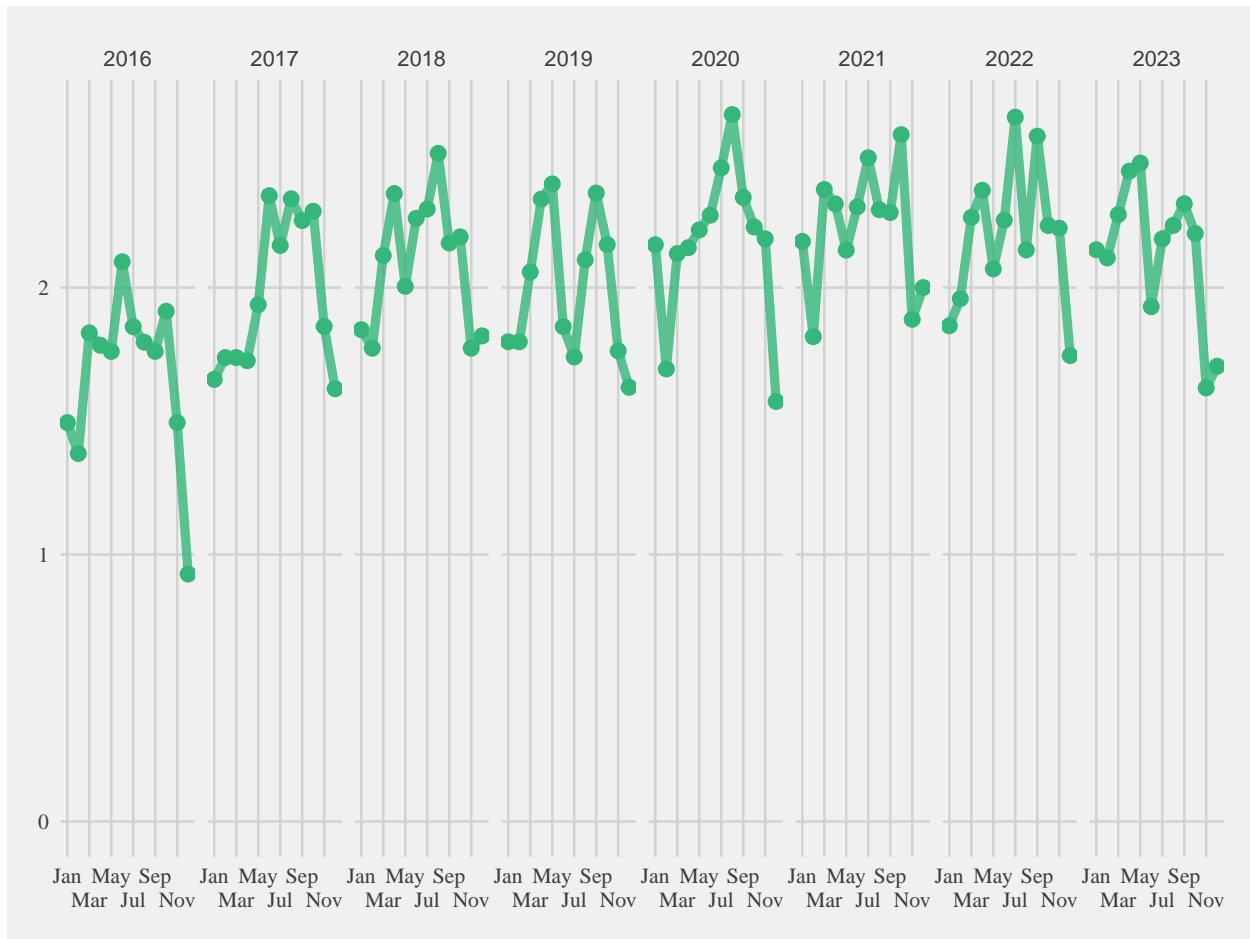
Figure 3: Stalking Victimization Rate per 100,000 People by Month, 2016 - 2023

- There is no definable pattern to stalking offenses. Crime typically follows a seasonal pattern of peaking in the summer (June - August) before declining throughout the rest of the year. However, the crime of stalking does not adhere to this pattern. It should be noted that while stalking did increase over this time frame, the rate of stalking is low, with less than 3 incidents per 100,000 individuals reported each month to law enforcement. See Table 8 in the Appendix for rates.
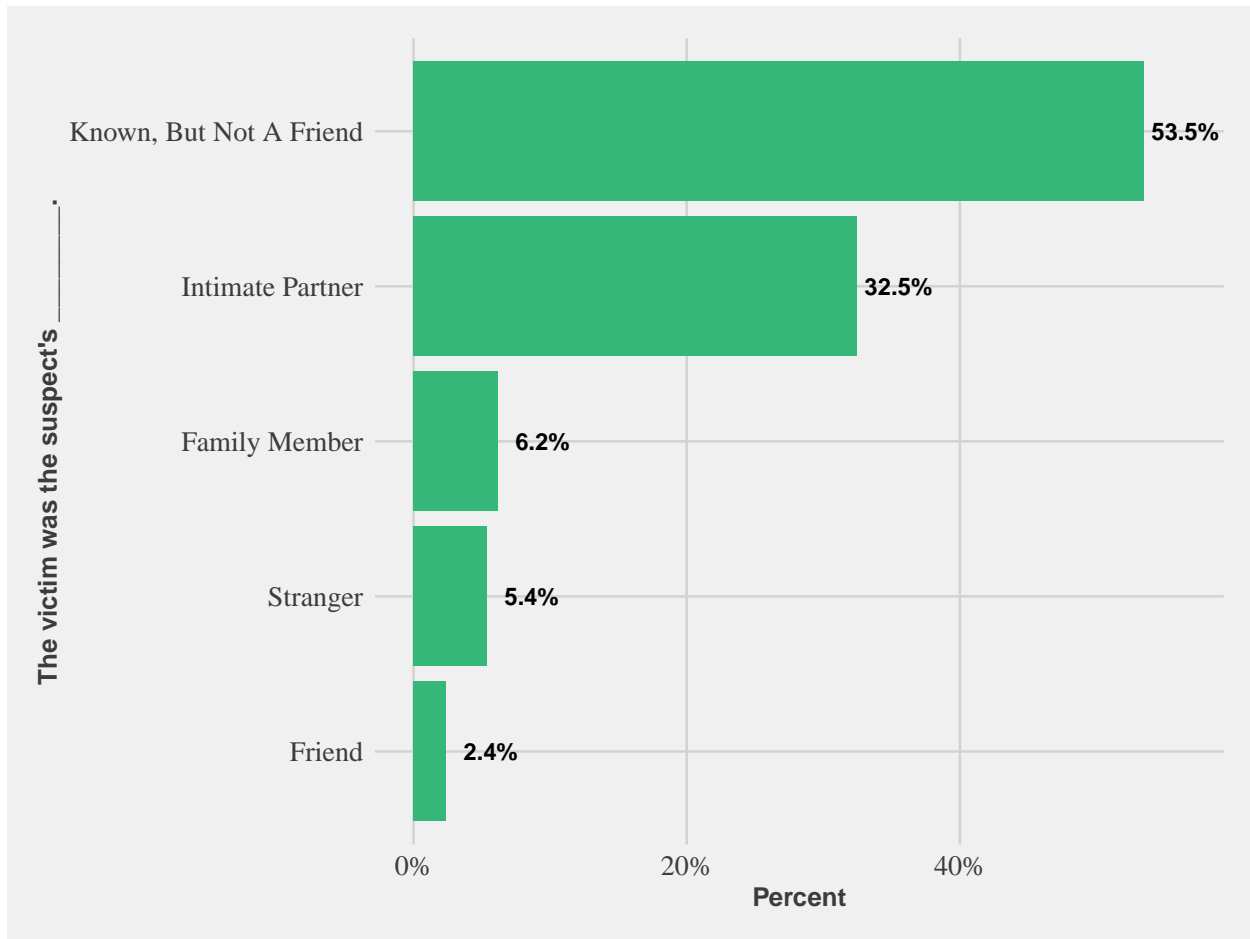
Figure 4: Victim and Suspect Relationship, 2016 - 2023

- Figure 4 shows the relationship between the victim and the suspect in stalking incidents. In the instances of stalking where the suspect's relationship to the victim can be identified[16], the victim could be classified as the suspect's family member, intimate partner, stranger, friend, or known, but not a friend[17]. See the 'Definitions' section (p. 29) in the Appendix for information on how each relationship is categorized.

In reported stalking incidents where the suspect was known and the relationship was reported:

- 53.5% of victims knew the suspect, but were not friends with the suspect.

- 32.5% of victims were an intimate partner of the suspect.

- 6.2% of victims were a family member of the suspect.

- 5.4% of victims were a stranger of the suspect.

- 2.4% of the victims were friends of the suspect.

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[16]If the relationship type was reported as 'Unknown', these incidents were excluded from this analysis.

[17]Known, but not a friend is defined as 'Teacher', 'Student', 'Employer', 'Employee', 'Babysittee(the baby/child)', 'Neighbor', 'Otherwise Known Individual', 'Acquaintance'. See the 'Definitions' section of the Appendix for full relationship categories breakdown.
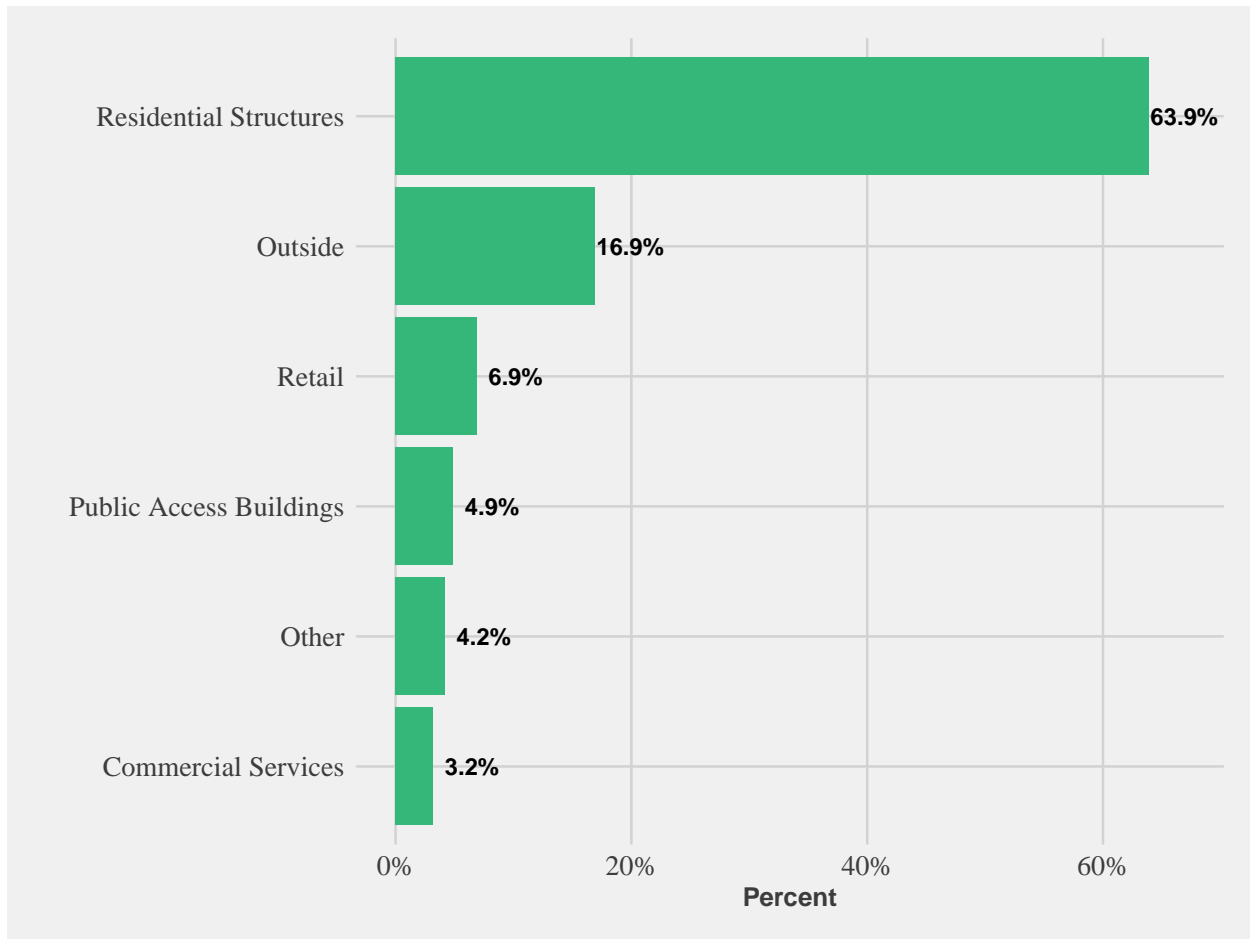
Figure 5: Location of Stalking Incidents, 2016 - 2023

- Figure 5 shows the location of where stalking incidents occurred. See the 'Definitions' section (p. 42) of the Appendix for definitions of what each location category includes.

- Most instances of stalking occurred at residential structures (63.9%), followed by outside locations (16.9%).

- **NOTE: The 'Other' location category includes incidents of stalking that took place online. Online stalking was reported in less than 0.5% of incidents.**

Section 3: Victim Characteristics
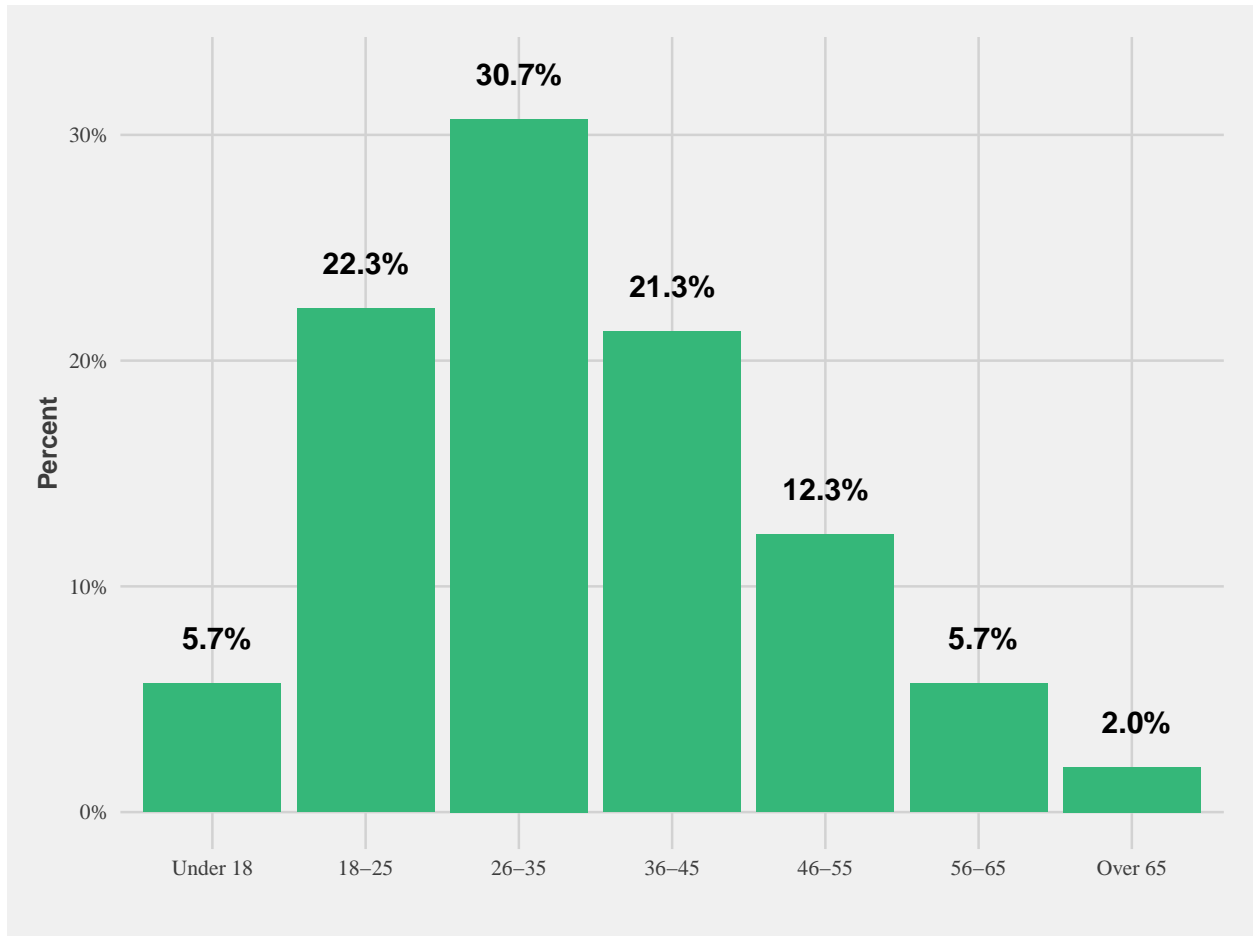
Figure 6: Percent of Stalking Victimization by Age, 2016 - 2023

- The percent of stalking incidents increased from the 'Under 18' age group to the '26-35' age group before steadily decreasing across all other age groups.

- Most victims of stalking were 26-35 years of age (30.7%), followed by victims ages 18-25 years (22.3%).
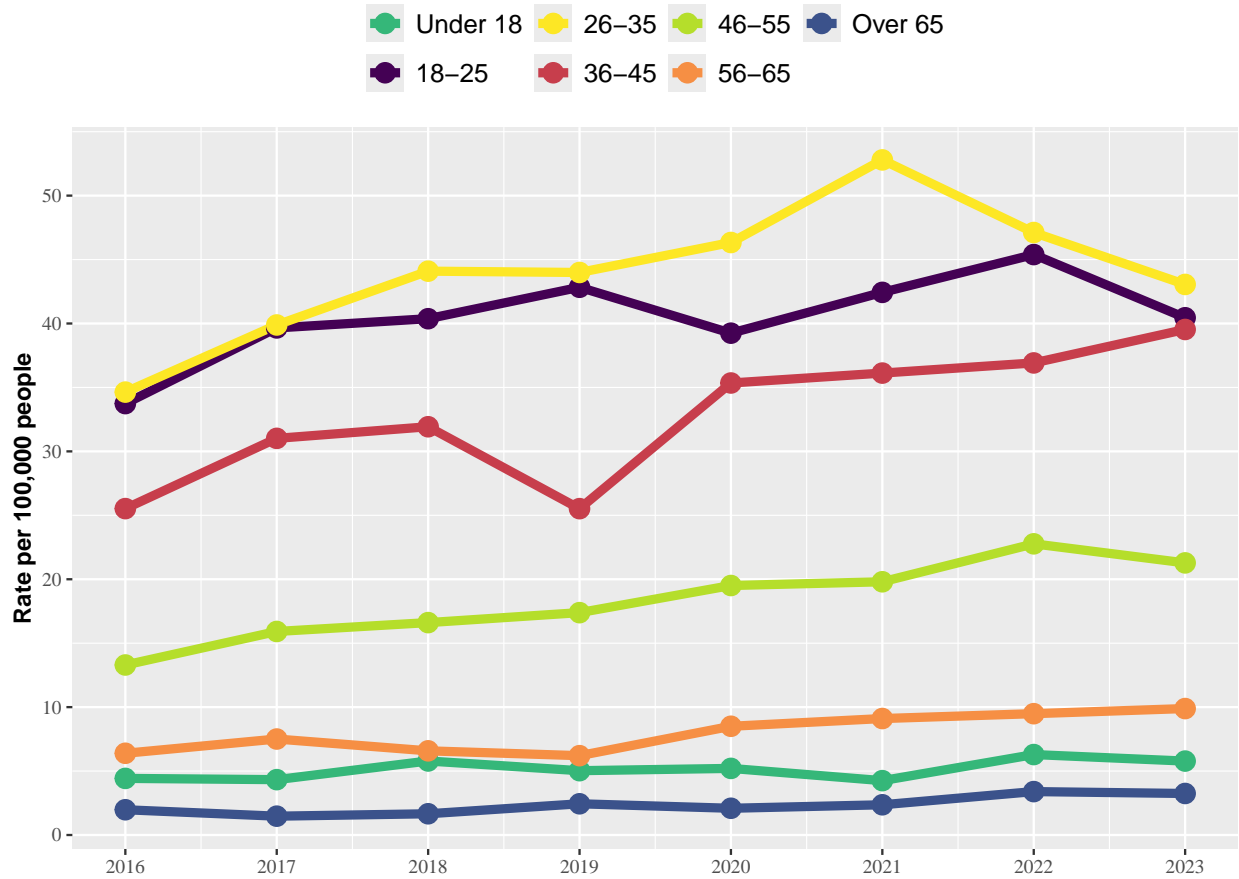
Figure 7: Rate of Stalking Victimization by Age, 2016 - 2023

- The victimization rates were highest for persons 26-35 years of age, followed by those 18-25 years of age. Refer to 'Methodology for Rates' section (p. 28) in the Appendix for an overview of how demographic-specific rates were calculated. See Table 9 in the Appendix for rates.

- While the victimization rates for persons 26-35 years of age were highest out of all other age groups, the rates for those 18-25 years of age were very close to those of persons 26-35 years of age.

- All age groups experienced an increase in rates from 2016 - 2023, but the victimization rate for persons over 65 years of age had the largest increase (64.5%) across all age groups. It is important to note that the rate went from 1.9 per 100,000 people in 2016 to 3.3 per 100,000 people in 2023.

Table 1:	Percent Change (2016 - 2023)
Under 18	increased by 30.6%
18 - 25	increased by 19.9%
26 - 35	increased by 24.3%
36 - 45	increased by 54.9%
46 - 55	increased by 60.1%
56 - 65	increased by 54.7%
Over 65	increased by 64.5%
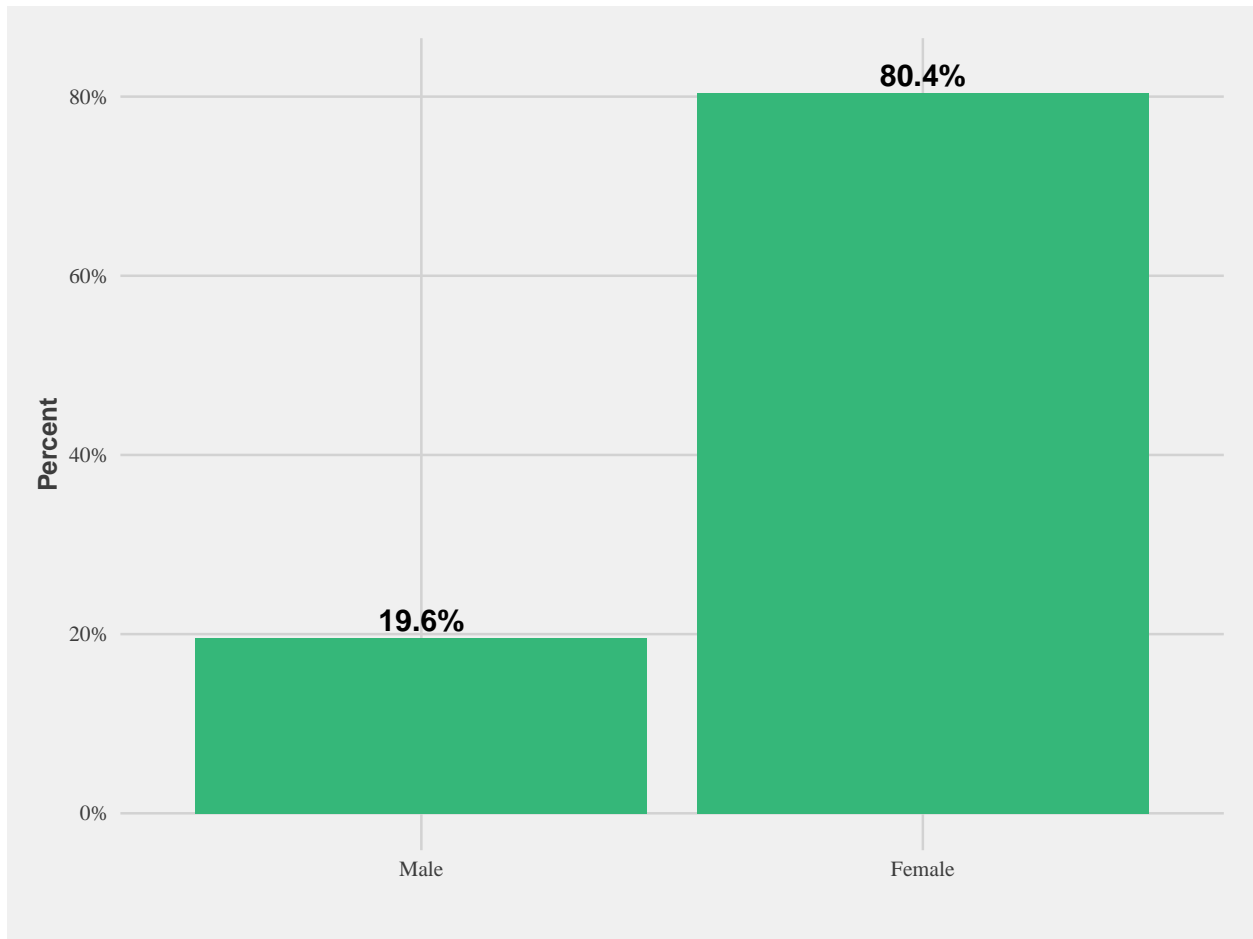
Figure 8: Percent of Stalking Victimization by Sex, 2016 - 2023

- Females accounted for about 4 out of 5 stalking victims (80.4%), while males account for about 1 out of 5 (19.6%).
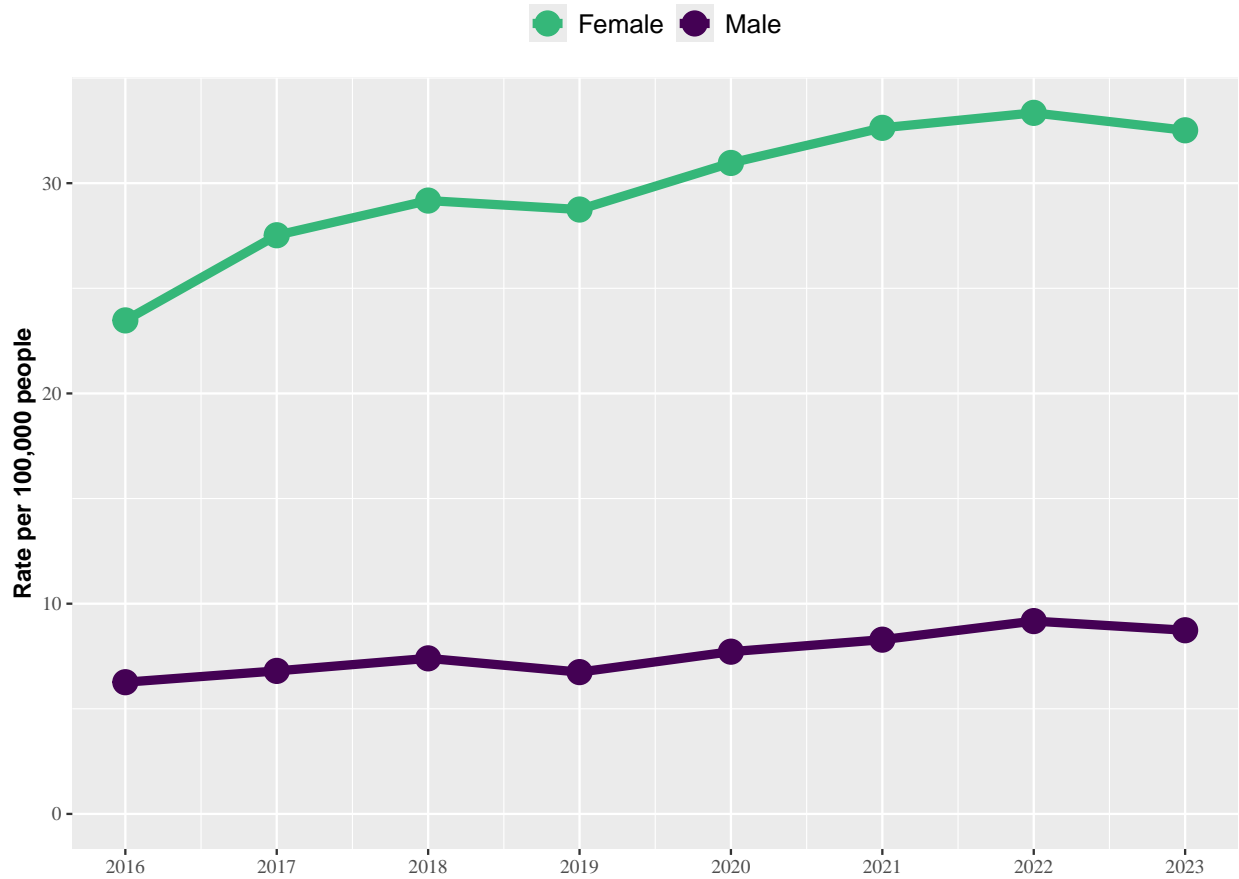
Figure 9: Rate of Stalking Victimization by Sex, 2016 - 2023

- While both female and male stalking victimization rates increased, the stalking victimization rate for females was, on average, 4 times higher compared to the rate for males. See Table 10 in the Appendix for rates.

Table 2:	Percent Change (2016 - 2023)
Females	increased by 38.5%
Males	increased by 39.4%
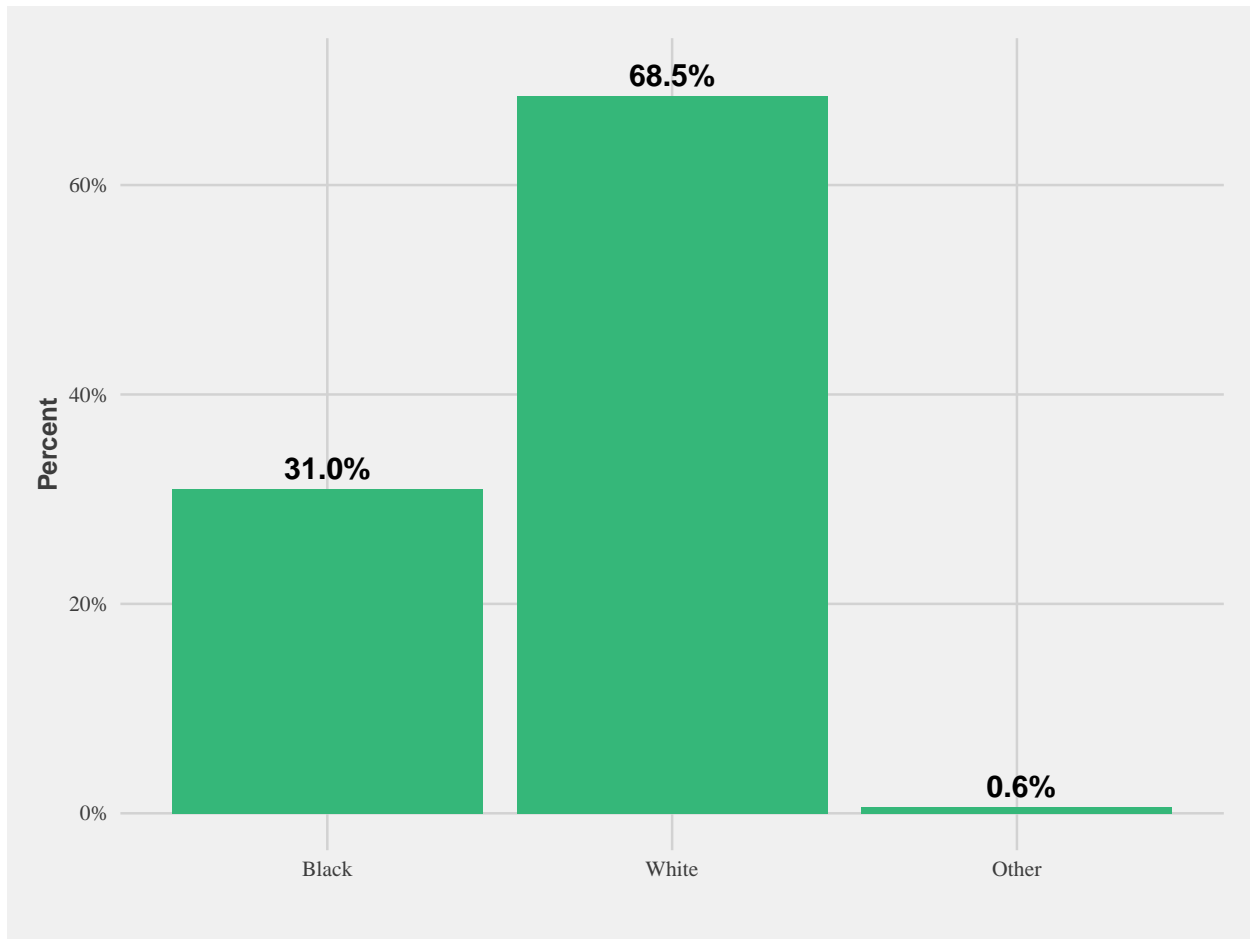
Figure 10: Percent of Stalking Victimization by Race, 2016 - 2023

- 68.5% of victims were White[18], 31.0% were Black, and <1% were Other. The 'Other' race category includes 'American Indian or Alaskan Native', 'Asian', and 'Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander'. If race was categorized as unknown, it was excluded from this analysis.

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[18]Over 75% of the population of Ohio is White. In 2023, 83% of the population identified themselves as White and the lowest Census estimate within the years 2016-2023 was 76% in 2020. See Section 5: Methodology for Rates for Census data details.
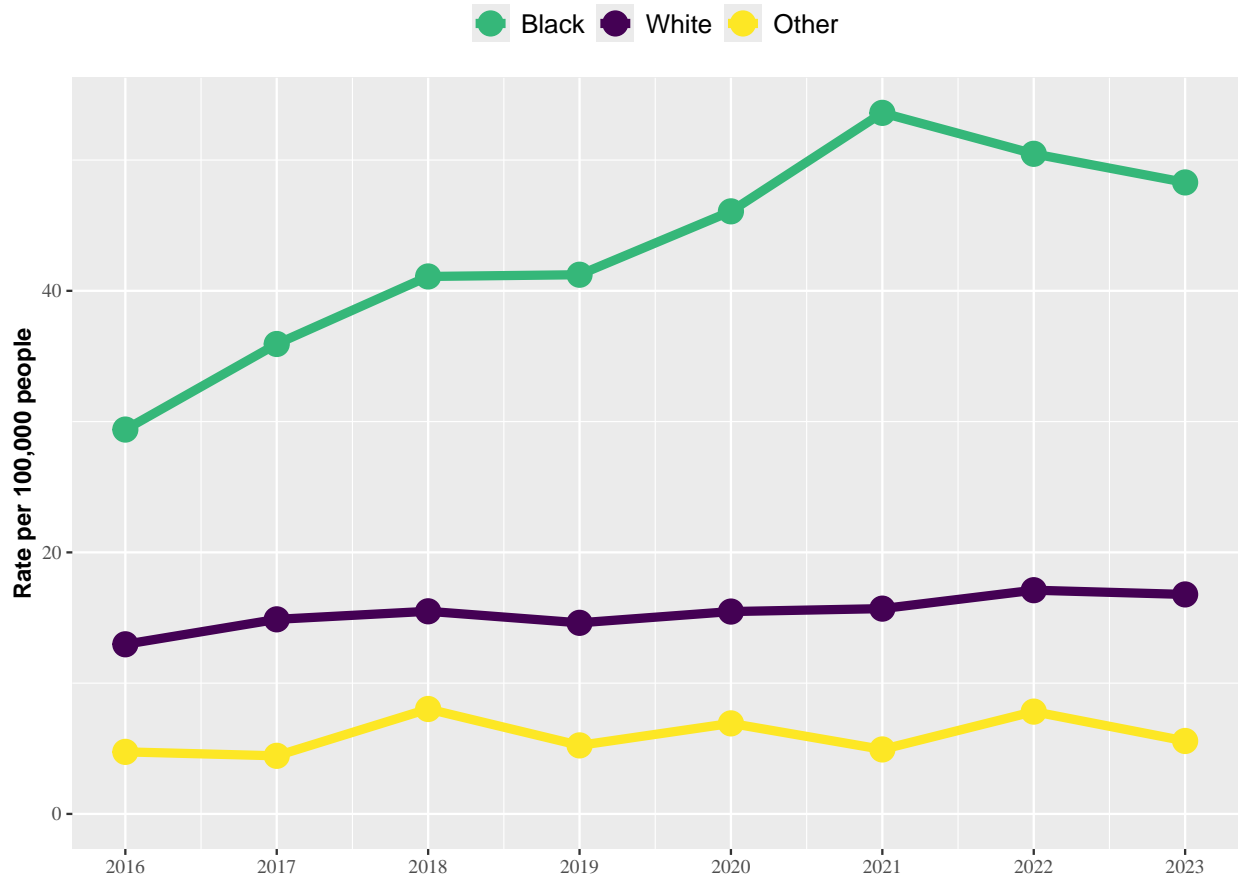
Figure 11: Rate of Stalking Victimization by Race, 2016 - 2023

- The victimization rates for Black individuals were, on average, 2 times higher compared to White individuals, and 6 times higher compared to Other[19] individuals.

- The victimization rates for Black individuals had a sharp increase in rates from 2016 - 2023. See Table 11 in the Appendix for rates.

Table 3:	Percent Change (2016 - 2023)
Black Victims	increased by 64.3%
White Victims	increased by 29.4%
Other Victims	increased by 17.6%

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[19]The 'Other' race category includes: 'American Indian or Alaskan Native', 'Asian', and 'Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander'.
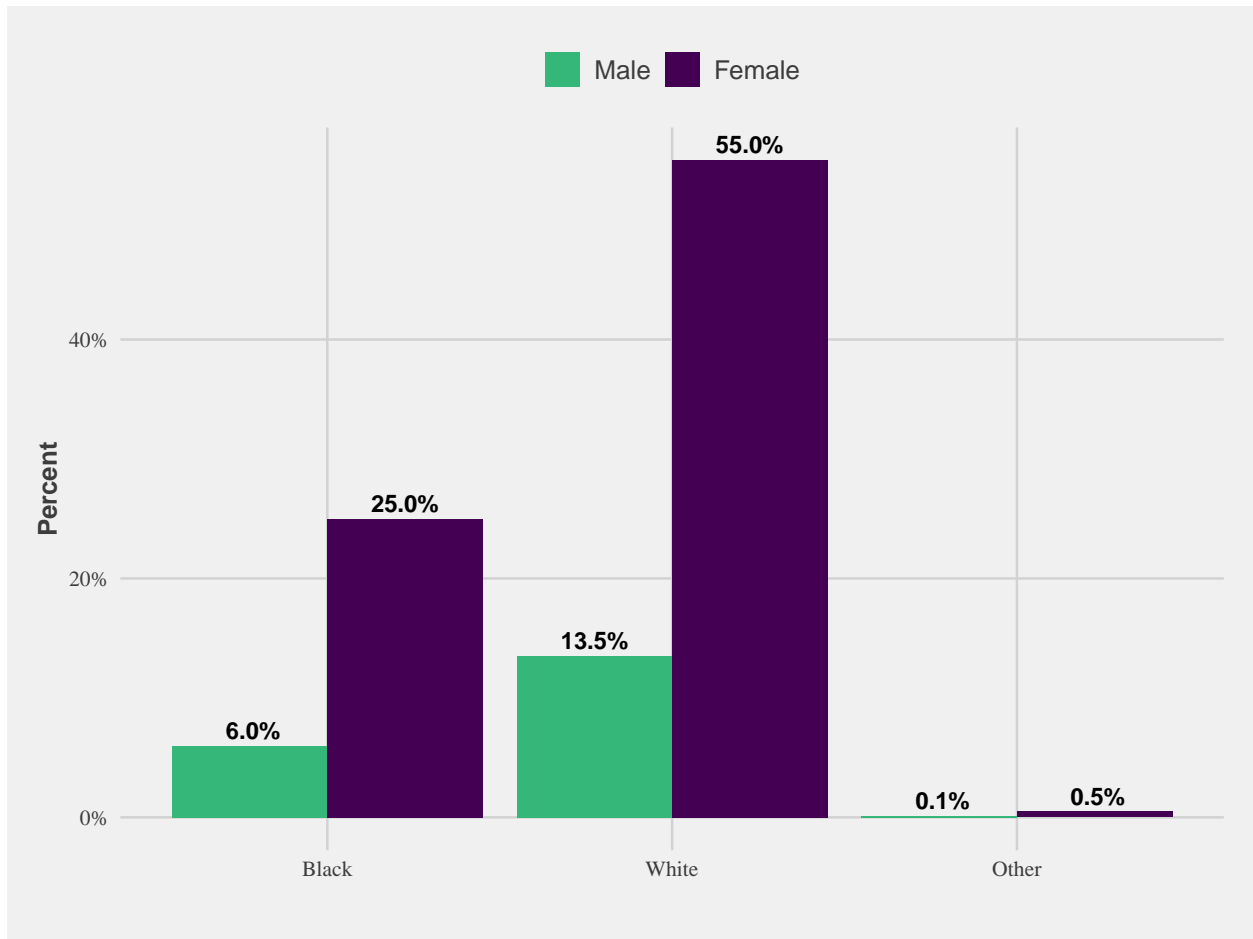
Figure 12: Percent of Stalking Victimization by Sex and Race, 2016 - 2023

- White victims were more frequent than Black and Other[20] victims across both sex categories, while females accounted for the largest percentage across race categories.

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[20]The 'Other' race category includes: 'American Indian or Alaskan Native', 'Asian', and 'Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander'.

Figure 13: Rate of Stalking Victimization by Sex and Race, 2016 - 2023

- **NOTE: In order to visualize changes in rates over time, the y-axis scales are not the same across all race groups.**

- Black females had the highest rates of victimization, followed by White females, and Other[21] females. See Table 12 in the Appendix for rates.

- The rates for Black females were, on average, 2 times higher than White females, and 6.5 times higher than Other females. Black females experienced the largest increase in rates from 2016 - 2023 compared to all other groups.

- The rates for Black males were, on average, 3 times higher than White males, and 9 times higher than Other males.

- **NOTE: There were no reported incidents for the 'Other Male' category for the years 2016 and 2021, therefore no rates are presented on the graph for those years and no percent changes were created for the 'Other Males' category.**

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[21]The 'Other' race category includes: 'American Indian or Alaskan Native', 'Asian', and 'Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander'.

Table 4:	Percent Change (2016 - 2023)
White Females	increased by 31.5%
White Males	increased by 24%
Black Females	increased by 58.6%
Black Males	increased by 94%
Other Females	increased by 27.5%
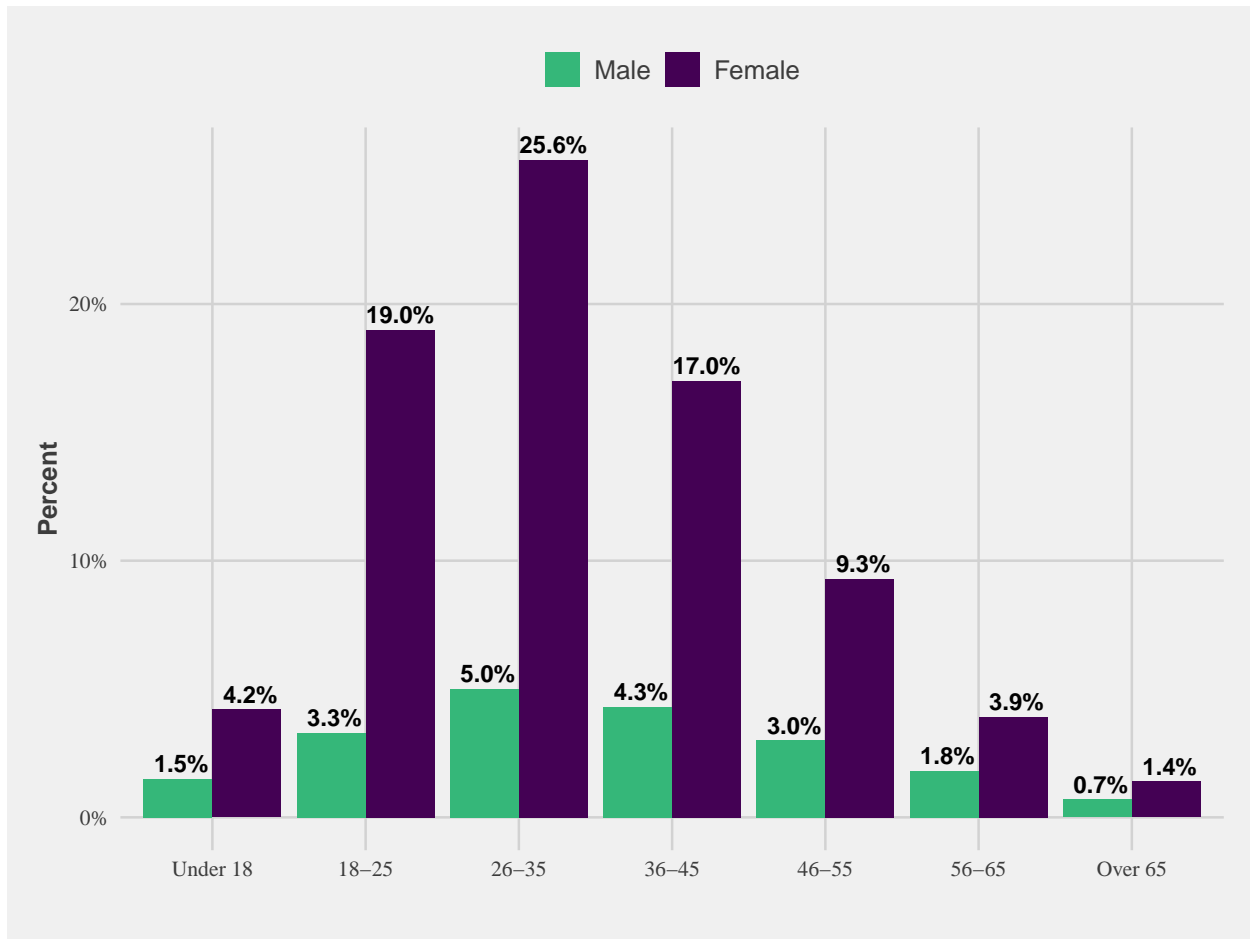
Figure 14: Percent of Stalking Victimization by Sex and Age, 2016 - 2023

- Females accounted for a greater percentage of stalking victims than males across all age groups.

- The percentage of female and male victims increased across each age group until the ages of 26-35. After 35 years of age, the percent of victims declined with each age group and sex category.
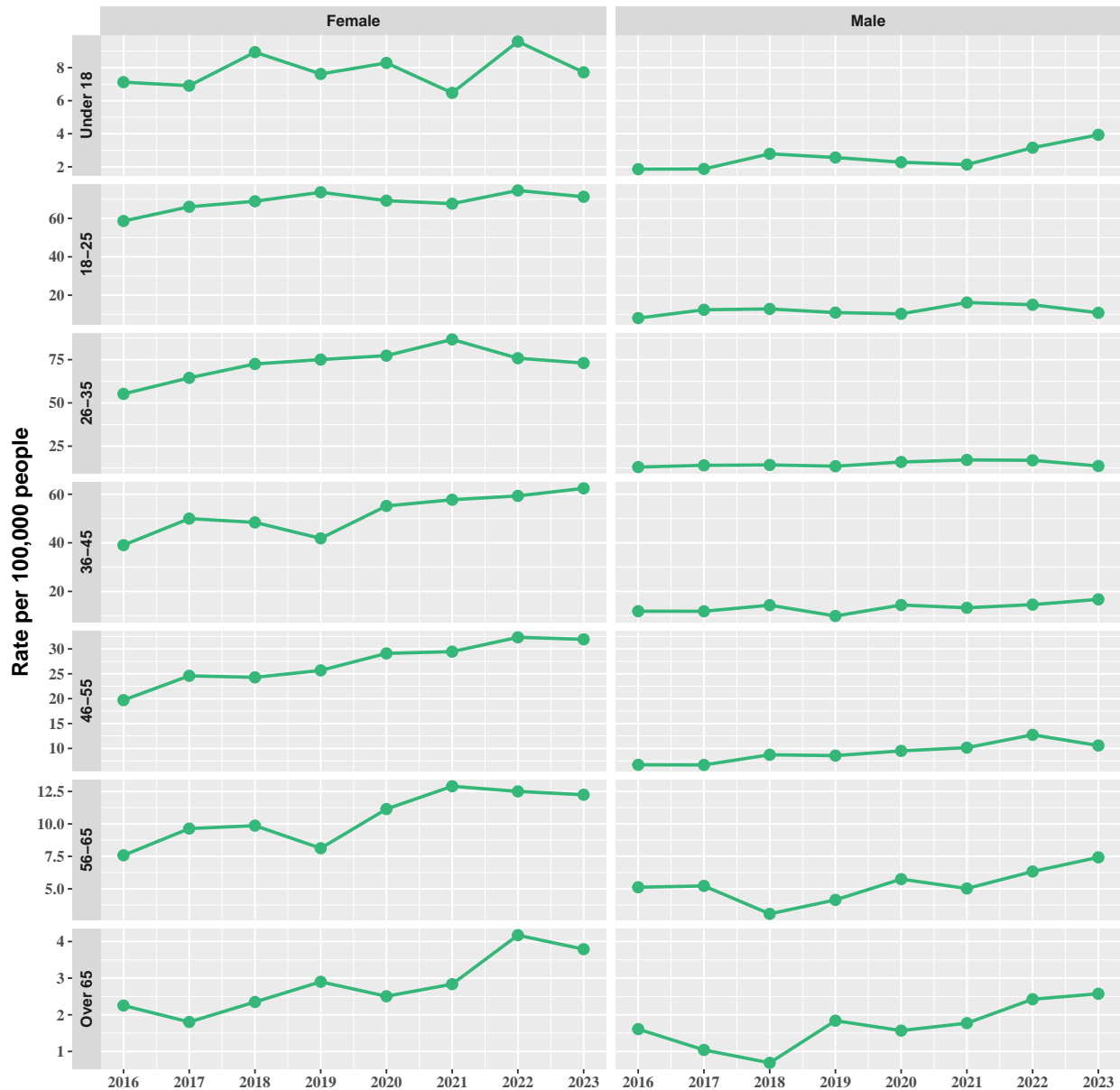
Figure 15: Rate of Stalking Victimization by Sex and Age, 2016 - 2023

- **NOTE: In order to visualize changes in rates over time, the y-axis scales are not the same across all age groups.**

- The victimization rates were highest, across all years, for females aged 18-35 years. See Table 13 in the Appendix for rates.

- While victimization rates increased all age ranges for both sexes, Males under the age of 18 years experienced the largest increase in rates from 2016 to 2023.

Table 5:	Percent Change for Females (2016 - 2023)
Under 18	increased by 8.4%
18 - 25	increased by 21.5%
26 - 35	increased by 32.3%
36 - 45	increased by 59.8%
46 - 55	increased by 62%
56 - 65	increased by 61.5%
Over 65	increased by 68.2%

Table 6:	Percent Change for Males (2016 - 2023)
Under 18	increased by 111.6%
18 - 25	increased by 34.2%
26 - 35	increased by 4.6%
36 - 45	increased by 41.1%
46 - 55	increased by 57.9%
56 - 65	increased by 45%
Over 65	increased by 60%
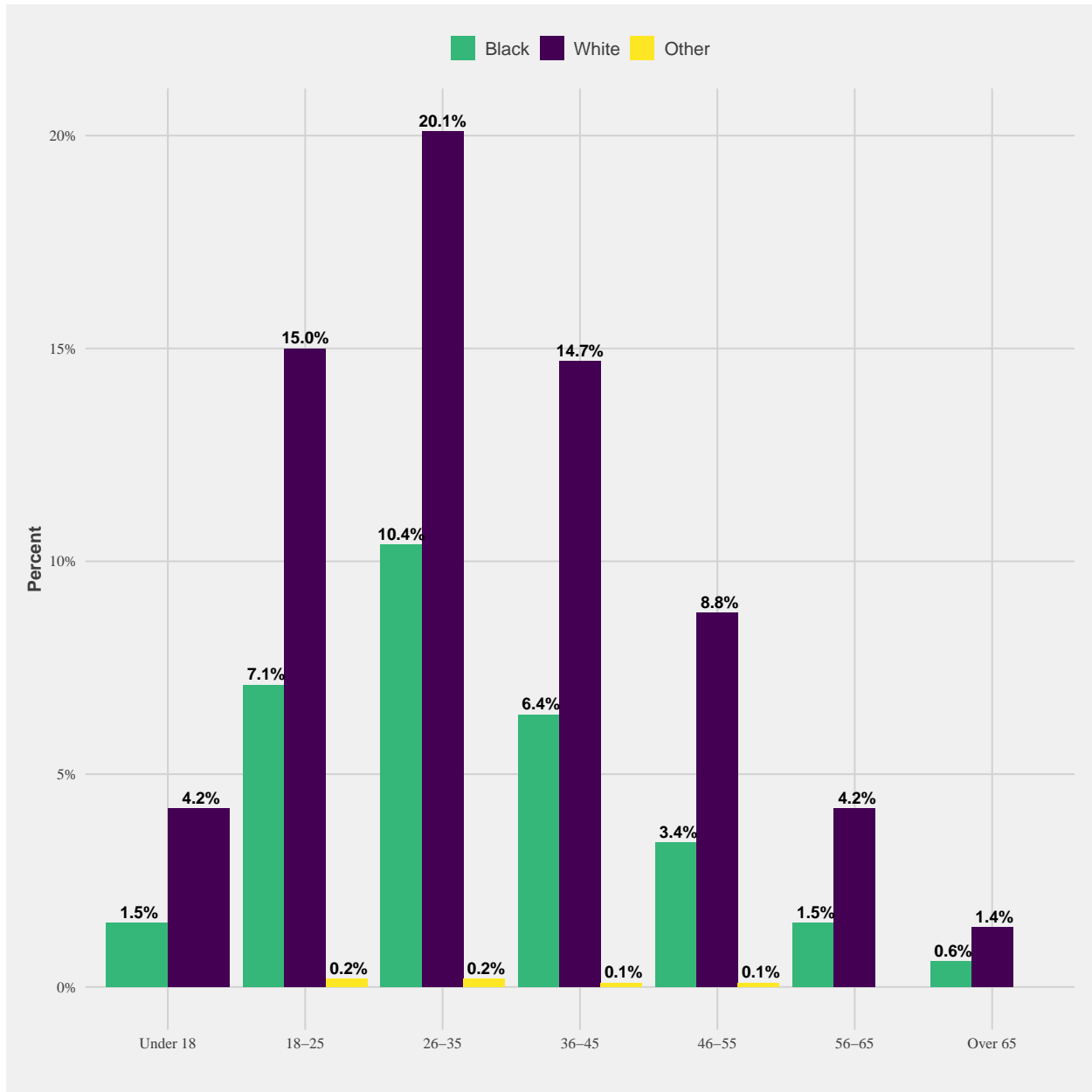
Figure 16: Percent of Stalking Victimization by Age and Race, 2016 - 2023

- **NOTE: Victims in the Other race category Under 18 years and Over 56 years of age are not included on the graph because they made up less than 0.001% of those age categories.**

- Across all age groups, White individuals had higher percentages of stalking victims.

- Black, White, and Other[22] individuals 26-35 years of age had the highest number of victims across all age groups.

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[22]The 'Other' race category includes: 'American Indian or Alaskan Native', 'Asian', and 'Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander'.
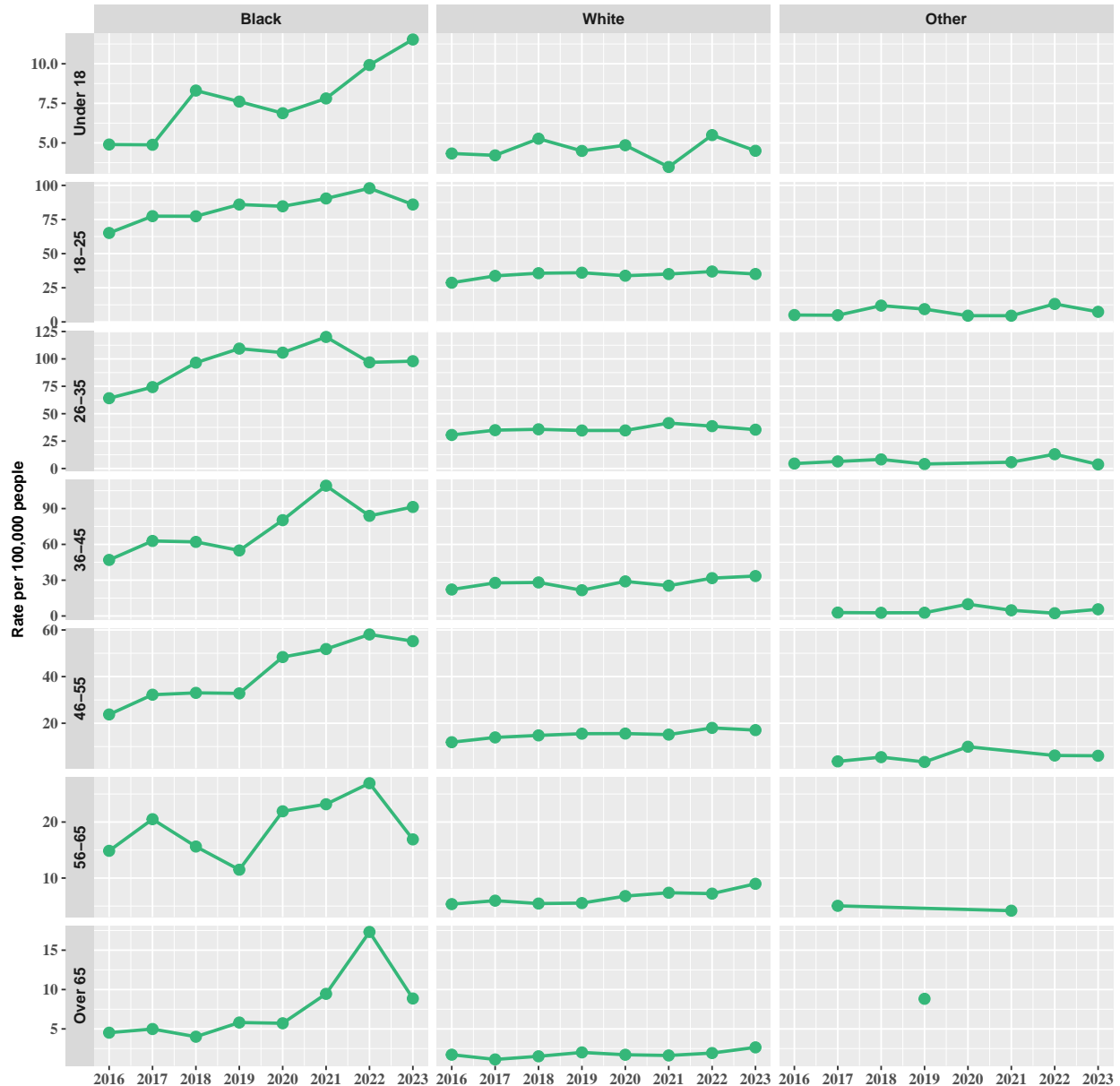
Figure 17: Rate of Stalking Victimization by Age and Race, 2016 - 2023

- **NOTE: Victims in the Other race category across all age categories, except those 18-25, have multiple years of missing rates because no incidents were reported meeting this criteria.**

- The stalking victimization rate was higher for black victims across all age groups. See Table 14 in the Appendix for rates.

- The highest victimization rates across all races occurred between the ages of 18-35 years.

Section 4: Appendix

Methodology for Rates

Census data are used throughout the victim and suspect sections to calculate demographic-specific rates. Since OIBRS data do not cover the entire population of Ohio, census estimates are multiplied by the percentage of the Ohio population covered by OIBRS for each specific year to adjust population denominators for rate calculations. This procedure does not account for the specific demographic characteristics of the population covered by OIBRS, such as ZIP code level. Further analyses are needed to accurately determine which groups are disproportionately affected by stalking.

Crime rates express the number of reported crimes per population size. In this report, rates are expressed per 100,000 persons. For example, the total stalking crime rate for the state of Ohio in 2023 was 25.6 per 100,000 population. This means that there were 25.6 reported stalking crimes for every 100,000 persons in the state of Ohio for that year. Since OIBRS data do not cover the entire population of Ohio, rates were created using the Ohio population covered by agencies that submit complete data to OIBRS for each specific year to adjust population denominators for calculations. Between 2016-2023, on average, 77% of the Ohio population was covered by complete reporting agencies.

Demographic specific rates are important to assess because they allow for the number of crimes to be expressed in relation to demographics such as race, sex, and age. For example, while most victims of stalking in Ohio are White, the rate for Black victims of stalking is much higher compared to White victims when looking at the number of crimes in relation to the population size of Black and White people throughout Ohio.

Population estimates taken from:

U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (2023). *Annual State Resident Population Estimates for 6 Race Groups (5 Race Alone Groups and Two or More Races) by Age, Sex, and Hispanic Origin: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022.* Retrieved 10/2023.

U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (2020). *Annual State Resident Population Estimates for 6 Race Groups (5 Race Alone Groups and Two or More Races) by Age, Sex, and Hispanic Origin: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019.* Retrieved 10/2023.

Definitions

- The definitions for 'Location Type' and 'Relationship' categories are from the OIBRS Data Collections and Submission Specifications Manual. These categories are how law enforcement can report location type and relationship. For purposes of this report, the 'Acquaintance' relationship type was re-categorized. See details in the 'Relationship Categories' section below.

- *Location Type Categories*: The location types can be reported by law enforcement in the categories listed below.

  - **Residential Structures**:
    * Single Family Home - A private residential building designed for occupancy by a single-family unit, which is not physically attached to any other dwelling unit, includes large manufactured homes that are not mobile.
    * Multiple Dwelling - A private residence that is one of two or more dwelling units contained within a single structure; includes apartment, duplex, condominium, housing project and townhouse.
    * Residential Facility - A building used primarily for long term congregate living, may or may not include individual cooking facilities and toilets; includes nursing homes, rooming houses, and dormitories.
    * Other Residential - A structure used for individual, family, or congregate housing on a temporary or mobile basis, including shelters and missions, as well as mobile trailers, truck campers, motor homes, and houseboats used for residential purposes; EXCLUDES hotels and motels.
    * Garage/Shed - A structure designed for storage of automobiles or other personal property adjacent or attached to a dwelling; includes barns and other outbuildings on residential property.

  - **Public Access Buildings**:
    * Transit Facility - building or structure used primarily to shelter air/bus/train passengers in transit; includes stations, terminals, token booths, ticket counters, platforms, and waiting areas.
    * Government Office - A building or structure which primarily houses offices of a local, state, or the federal government; includes post office, courthouse, but EXCLUDES schools and libraries.
    * School - A building or structure used to provide primary and secondary education; includes day care facility, nursery school and grades K through 12, both public and private.
    * College - A building or structure used to provide post-secondary education or training; includes trade and technical schools, junior colleges, and universities; also includes vocational schools.
    * Library - A building or structure used primarily to contain material to borrow for reading, viewing, listening, studying, or for reference. EXCLUDES a library within a school or college.
    * Church - A building or structure used primarily as a place of religious worship; includes Synagogue, Temple, Cathedral, and Mosque.
    * Hospital - A building or structure used for treatment and care of injured persons; includes clinics and psychiatric centers.
    * Jail/Prison - A building or structure used as a correctional or detention facility; includes lock-up, penitentiary, and work camp.
    * Parking Garage - A building or structure designed primarily for the parking or storage of motor vehicles; includes private, public, and commercial parking facilities.
    * Community Center - A building or structure where members of the community may gather for social, educational, or cultural activities.
    * Other Public Access Buildings

  - **Commercial Services**:
    * Auto Shop - A service business primarily engaged in the repair of vehicles.
    * Financial Institution - A service business processing financial transactions; includes commercial banks, savings and loan associations, credit unions, finance companies, and check cashing services.

* Barber/Beauty Shop - A service business engaged primarily in the cutting and styling of hair.
* Hotel/Motel - A service establishment primarily engaged in the rental of sleeping accommodations on a short-term basis.
* Dry Cleaners/Laundry - A service establishment offering laundering and/or dry cleaning and pressing of clothing and other articles.
* Professional Office - A business office engaged primarily in providing legal, accountancy, engineering, architectural, or similar services.
* Doctor's Office - A business office engaged primarily in providing medical services.
* Other Business Office - A business office, other than those above, dealing with the creation and/or distribution of goods and services, may or may not deal directly with the general public; for example, brokerage house, travel agency, real estate or insurance offices.
* Recreation/Entertainment Center - A service establishment primarily engaged in providing recreation or entertainment; includes bowling alley, pool hall, movie theater, and video or pinball arcade.
* Amusement Park - Indoor or outdoor commercial enterprises that offer rides, games, and other entertainment.
* Rental Storage Facility - A service establishment primarily engaged in the rental of secure, relatively small storage spaces of various sizes to the public, EXCLUDING large leased locations under the control of a single firm or individual such as warehouses or shipping terminals.
* ATM Machine Separate from Bank - Machines that provide the ability to make deposits and/or withdrawals using a bank card. If located at a banking facility.
* Daycare Facility - Child or adult care. Facilities designed to provide supervision, recreation, and/or meals during the daytime for adults or children.
* Other Commercial Service Location

– **Retail**:
  * Bar - A retail location serving alcoholic beverages by the drink, may also serve limited menu food and provide entertainment; includes taverns, saloons, and nightclubs.
  * Buy/Sell/Trade Shop - A retail establishment primarily engaged in the sale and purchase of used personal property; includes coin and stamp dealers, precious metal dealers, pawn shops, second hand stores, and "flea markets."
  * Restaurant - A retail location which serves fully prepared food for consumption on the premises, and which may or may not sell food to take out; includes cafeteria, diner, fast food locations, restaurants and coffee shops inside hotels, hospitals, department stores, etc.
  * Gas Station - A retail location selling primarily gasoline, which may or may not also sell other automotive products and may or may not also perform auto repairs.
  * Auto Sales Lot - A retail location primarily engaged in selling either new or used motor vehicles, may or may not include service facilities.
  * Jewelry Store - A retail location selling primarily jewelry; includes watch sellers.
  * Clothing Store - A retail location selling primarily personal apparel; includes furriers, shoe, and lingerie stores.
  * Drugstore - A retail store containing a pharmacy where prescription drugs can be obtained, which usually sells a variety of non-prescription medications and hygiene products as well, EXCLUDES drugstores that are inside supermarkets, thrift, and department stores.
  * Liquor Store - A retail store selling primarily beer, wine, spirits, and other alcoholic beverages; includes a beer and wine drive-thru and carryout stores.
  * Shopping Mall - A grouping of retail stores in one or more buildings having common ownership, shared maintenance, and surrounded by or adjacent to a common parking facility for the use of customers; includes all common areas but not the parking lots or the stores themselves.
  * Sporting Goods - A retail location selling primarily sporting or recreational equipment, may or may not include sports-oriented apparel and service and repair facilities; includes gun shop, boat, bait, and tackle stores.
  * Grocery/Supermarket - A retail store selling a wide variety of fresh and processed food items; includes food markets, corner grocery stores, but EXCLUDES specialized food outlets such as

delicatessen, bakery, and ice cream parlor.

* Variety/Convenience Store - A retail store selling a relatively restricted selection of basic, popular food and non-food items, usually open extended hours, may or may not sell gasoline; includes Stop-n-Go, Convenient, United Dairy Farmers (UDF), and Seven-Eleven stores.
* Department/Discount Store - A retail store selling a wide variety of goods, organized into departments by the type of goods.
* Other Retail Store - For example, butcher shop, hardware store, appliance store, and furniture store.
* Factory/Mill/Plant - A business location engaged in the manufacture of goods or the performance of services, separate from the locations at which these are made available to the public.
* Other Building - An indoor location that cannot be assigned to the residential, public access, or commercial location categories.

– **Outside**:
  * Yard - An outside location adjacent o residential property; includes private walkways and driveways.
  * Construction Site - An outside location that is under active development; includes residential building not yet occupied and commercial structure not yet in business.
  * Lake/Waterway - A body of water; includes stream, creek, pond, river, reservoir, canal, marsh, and swamp.
  * Field/Woods - An outside location including private farmland as well as undeveloped public parkland.
  * Street - An outside location used primarily for pedestrian or vehicular traffic; includes public sidewalk, highway, road, and alley.
  * Parking Lot - An outside location used primarily to store motor vehicles; includes private, public, and commercial places, but EXCLUDES street parking.
  * Park/Playground - An outside location developed for recreational use; includes schoolyards, playing fields, and golf courses.
  * Cemetery - An outside location used primarily for the burial of human remains, may or may not include erected memorials or mausoleums.
  * Public Transit - An outside location, (usually street) in which an incident occurs aboard a bus, streetcar, or taxi.
  * Other Vehicle - An outside location, (usually driveway, street, or parking lot) in which an incident occurs within a vehicle, other than a public transit vehicle. This location type should normally be used as a secondary location, with the primary, more general location type reported first.
  * Camp/Campground - Areas used for setting up camps, including tent and recreational vehicle campsites.
  * Rest Area - Designated areas, usually along a highway, where motorists can stop.
  * Other Outside Location - An outside location that cannot be assigned to any of the outside locations listed above.

– **Other**:
  * Abandoned/Condemned Structure - Buildings or structures which are completed but have been abandoned by the owner and are no longer being used.
  * Arena/Stadium/Fairgrounds/Coliseum - Open-air or enclosed amphitheater-type areas designed and used for the presentation of sporting events, concerts, assemblies, etc.
  * Cargo Container - Containers specifically designed to hold freight.
  * Dock/Wharf/Freight/Modal Terminal - Platforms in which trucks, ships, or trains load or unload cargo.
  * Farm Facility - Facilities designed for agricultural production or devoted to the raising and breeding of animals, areas of water devoted to aquaculture, and/or all building or storage structures located there. Includes grain bins.
  * Gambling Facility/Casino/Race Track - Indoor or outdoor facilities used to legally bet on uncertain outcomes of games of chance, contests, and/or races.

* Military Installation - Locations specifically designed and used for military operations.
* Shelter-Mission/Homeless - Establishments that provide temporary housing for homeless individuals and/or families.
* Tribal Lands - Native American reservations, communities, and/or trust lands.
* Cyberspace
* Other Location

- *Relationship Categories*: The victim and suspect relationship types can be reported by law enforcement in the categories listed below.
  - **Intimate Partner**:
    * Spouse
    * Ex-Spouse
    * Boyfriend/Girlfriend
    * Ex-Relationship
    * Common-Law Spouse
  - **Family Member**:
    * Parent
    * Child
    * Sibling
    * Grandparent
    * Grandchild
    * In-Law
    * Stepparent
    * Stepchild
    * Step sibling
    * Other Family Member
  - **Otherwise Known (Known, But Not a Friend)**:
    * Teacher
    * Student
    * Employer
    * Employee
    * Babysittee (the baby/child)
    * Neighbor
    * Otherwise Known Individual
  - **Friend/Acquaintance**:
    * Friend
    * Acquaintance
    * For purposes of this report, the 'Acquaintance' relationship category was combined with the "Otherwise Known" relationship category and this category was renamed"Known, But Not A Friend."
  - **Stranger**:
    * This is used when the individual was seen, but not known.
  - **Unknown**:
    * This is used when the individual was not seen and no characteristics are known.

Tables

Stalking Offenses

Table 7: Stalking Victimization Rate per 100,000 People by Year,
2016 - 2023

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
20.09	23.64	25.1	23.98	26.04	26.63	26.31	25.62

Table 8: Stalking Victimization Rate per 100,000 People by Month
and Year, 2016 - 2023

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
January	1.49	1.66	1.84	1.80	2.16	2.17	1.86	2.14
February	1.38	1.74	1.77	1.80	1.70	1.82	1.96	2.11
March	1.83	1.74	2.12	2.06	2.13	2.37	2.26	2.27
April	1.78	1.73	2.35	2.33	2.15	2.31	2.36	2.44
May	1.76	1.94	2.00	2.39	2.22	2.14	2.07	2.47
June	2.10	2.34	2.26	1.85	2.27	2.30	2.25	1.93
July	1.85	2.16	2.29	1.74	2.45	2.49	2.64	2.18
August	1.80	2.33	2.50	2.10	2.65	2.29	2.14	2.23
September	1.76	2.25	2.17	2.35	2.34	2.28	2.57	2.31
October	1.91	2.29	2.19	2.16	2.23	2.57	2.23	2.20
November	1.49	1.85	1.77	1.76	2.18	1.88	2.22	1.62
December	0.93	1.62	1.82	1.63	1.57	2.00	1.75	1.71

Victim Tables

Table 9: Stalking Victimization Rates per 100,000 individuals by
Age, 2016 - 2023

	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**
Under 18	4.43	4.33	5.79	5.03	5.21	4.25	6.29	5.78
18-25	33.74	39.65	40.37	42.83	39.24	42.43	45.39	40.45
26-35	34.64	39.88	44.09	43.99	46.33	52.79	47.12	43.06
36-45	25.52	31.02	31.93	25.52	35.35	36.12	36.92	39.53
46-55	13.3	15.92	16.61	17.39	19.51	19.8	22.77	21.28
56-65	6.39	7.51	6.58	6.2	8.5	9.11	9.49	9.89
Over 65	1.97	1.47	1.66	2.44	2.09	2.36	3.39	3.25

Table 10: Stalking Victimization Rates per 100,000 individuals by
Sex, 2016 - 2023

	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**
Female	23.47	27.52	29.17	28.75	30.96	32.63	33.35	32.52
Male	6.26	6.8	7.4	6.74	7.72	8.29	9.17	8.74

Table 11: Stalking Victimization Rates per 100,000 individuals by
Race, 2016 - 2023

	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**
Black	29.39	35.93	41.1	41.23	46.08	53.61	50.48	48.29
White	12.97	14.88	15.49	14.61	15.47	15.7	17.11	16.78
Other	4.75	4.44	8.02	5.24	6.92	4.93	7.82	5.58

Table 12: Stalking Victimization Rates per 100,000 individuals by Race and Sex, 2016 - 2023

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Black Female	46.64	55.84	60.49	64.58	70.6	83.22	79.01	73.98
Black Male	10.62	14.28	17.88	15.86	19.63	21.69	19.73	20.61
Other Female	4.75	4.63	8.34	6.93	8.73	4.93	9.12	6.05
White Female	20.1	23.77	24.75	23.53	24.88	25.06	26.49	26.43
White Male	5.6	5.69	5.93	5.4	5.89	6.16	7.54	6.95
Other Male		3.81	7.3	2.36	2.26		2.38	5.09

Table 13: Stalking Victimization Rates per 100,000 Individuals by
Sex and Age, 2016 - 2023

	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**
Female, Under 18	7.12	6.91	8.93	7.62	8.29	6.47	9.58	7.72
Female, 18-25	58.66	66.06	68.95	73.64	69.26	67.69	74.57	71.29
Female, 26-35	55.21	64.49	72.52	75.06	77.33	86.71	75.83	73.05
Female, 36-45	39.04	49.96	48.4	41.83	55.17	57.73	59.31	62.41
Female, 46-55	19.71	24.6	24.29	25.68	29.1	29.46	32.34	31.93
Female, 56-65	7.58	9.64	9.87	8.13	11.14	12.9	12.5	12.25
Female, Over 65	2.25	1.8	2.35	2.9	2.51	2.84	4.17	3.79
Male, Under 18	1.86	1.87	2.79	2.56	2.28	2.14	3.16	3.93
Male, 18-25	8.07	12.41	12.84	10.94	10.29	16.19	15.02	10.83
Male, 26-35	12.93	13.9	14.14	13.39	15.84	17.05	16.82	13.52
Male, 36-45	11.85	11.82	14.32	9.88	14.39	13.25	14.56	16.72
Male, 46-55	6.71	6.68	8.72	8.55	9.5	10.15	12.74	10.59
Male, 56-65	5.12	5.22	3.07	4.15	5.75	5.03	6.33	7.43
Male, Over 65	1.61	1.04	0.69	1.84	1.57	1.77	2.43	2.57

Table 14: Stalking Victimization Rates per 100,000 individuals by
Age and Race, 2016 - 2023

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Black, Under 18	4.9	4.88	8.31	7.61	6.88	7.81	9.92	11.53
Black, 18-25	65.13	77.44	77.37	85.97	84.67	90.39	97.91	85.98
Black, 26-35	64.12	74.27	96.56	109.39	105.71	120.01	96.84	97.93
Black, 36-45	46.98	62.87	62.08	54.89	80.3	109.17	83.91	91.35
Black, 46-55	23.76	32.23	33.03	32.81	48.39	51.82	58.07	55.21
Black, 56-65	14.86	20.51	15.63	11.49	21.92	23.18	26.93	16.9
Black, Over 65	4.52	4.98	4.01	5.81	5.71	9.45	17.32	8.86
White, Under 18	4.33	4.21	5.27	4.49	4.85	3.48	5.49	4.5
White, 18-25	28.67	33.7	35.66	36.03	33.8	35.03	36.89	35.07
White, 26-35	30.59	34.98	35.77	34.67	34.73	41.47	38.63	35.42
White, 36-45	22.18	27.75	28.11	21.57	28.99	25.38	31.72	33.46
White, 46-55	11.87	13.93	14.79	15.53	15.58	15.13	18.01	17.06
White, 56-65	5.35	5.96	5.45	5.53	6.78	7.38	7.22	8.97
White, Over 65	1.72	1.12	1.52	2.01	1.72	1.62	1.93	2.65
Other, 18-25	5.01	4.87	11.92	9.34	4.53	4.52	13.14	7.37
Other, 26-35	4.5	6.43	8.28	4.1		5.75	13.04	3.69
Other, 36-45		2.85	2.68	2.74	9.89	4.77	2.34	5.61
Other, 46-55		3.65	5.47	3.41	9.93		6.17	6.06
Other, 56-65		5.04				4.18		

Table 14: Stalking Victimization Rates per 100,000 individuals by Age and Race, 2016 - 2023

	2016	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**
Other, Over 65				8.82				