

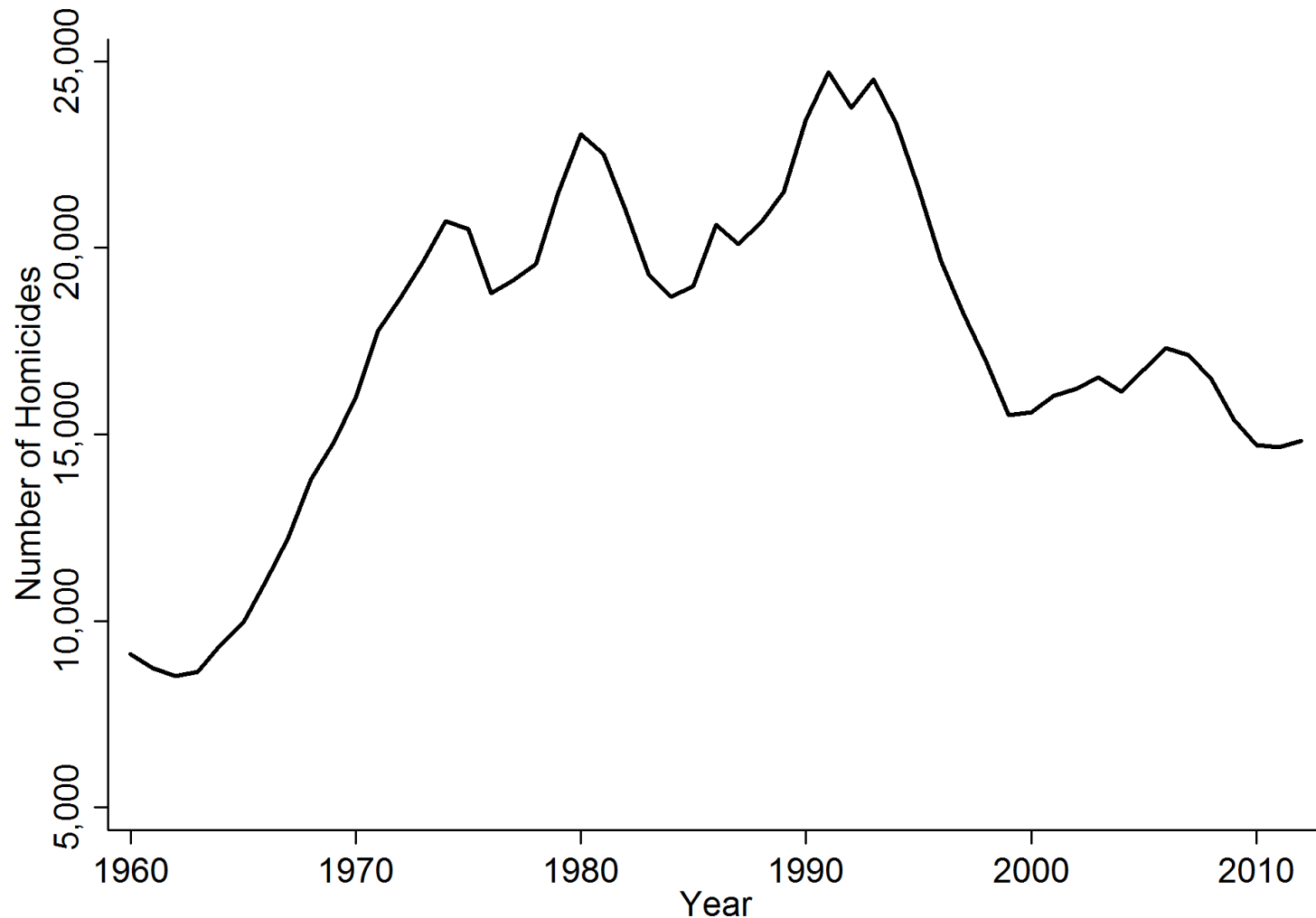
Baumgartner, POLI 203

Spring 2016

Background on US Homicides

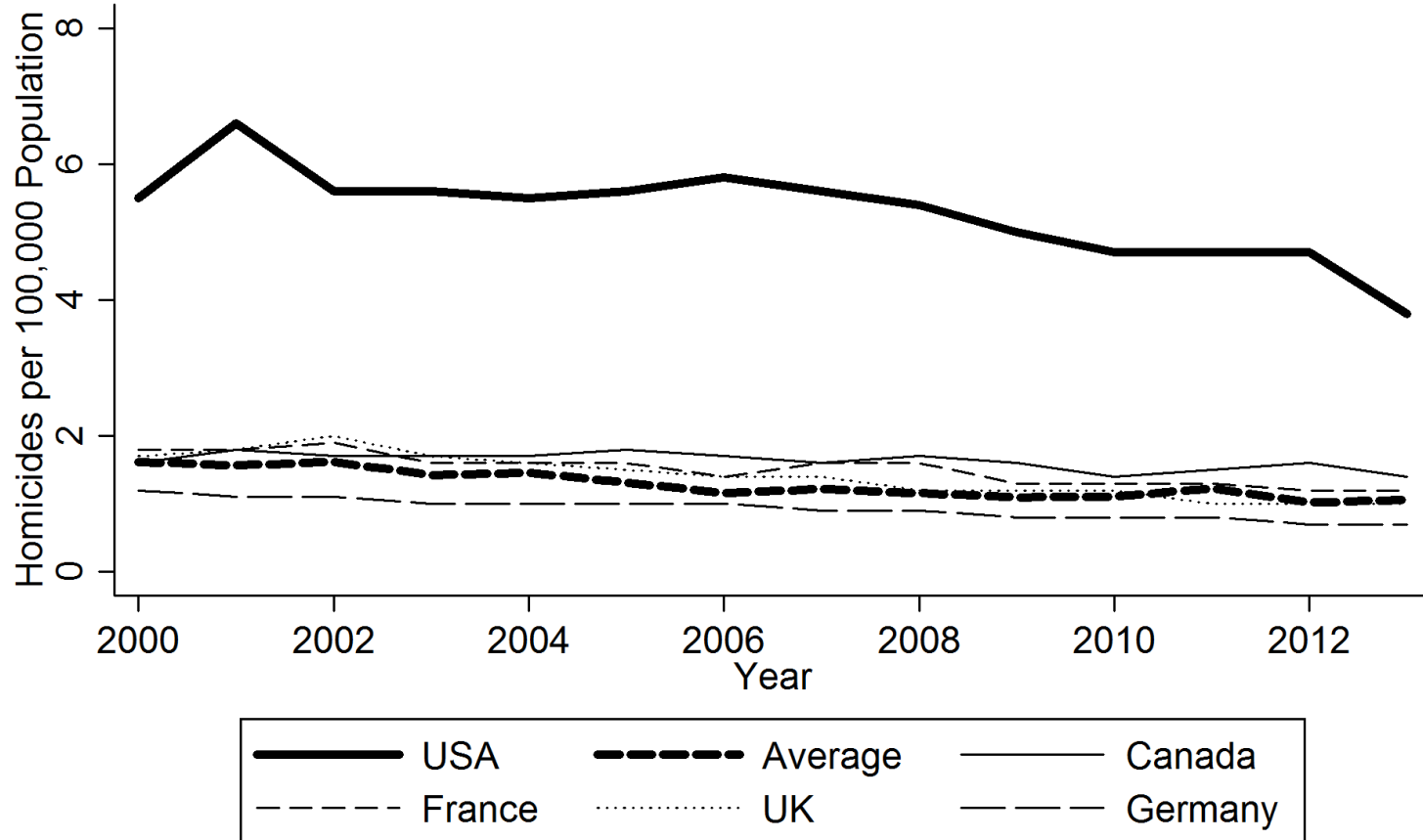
January 27, 2016

US homicides, 1960-2012



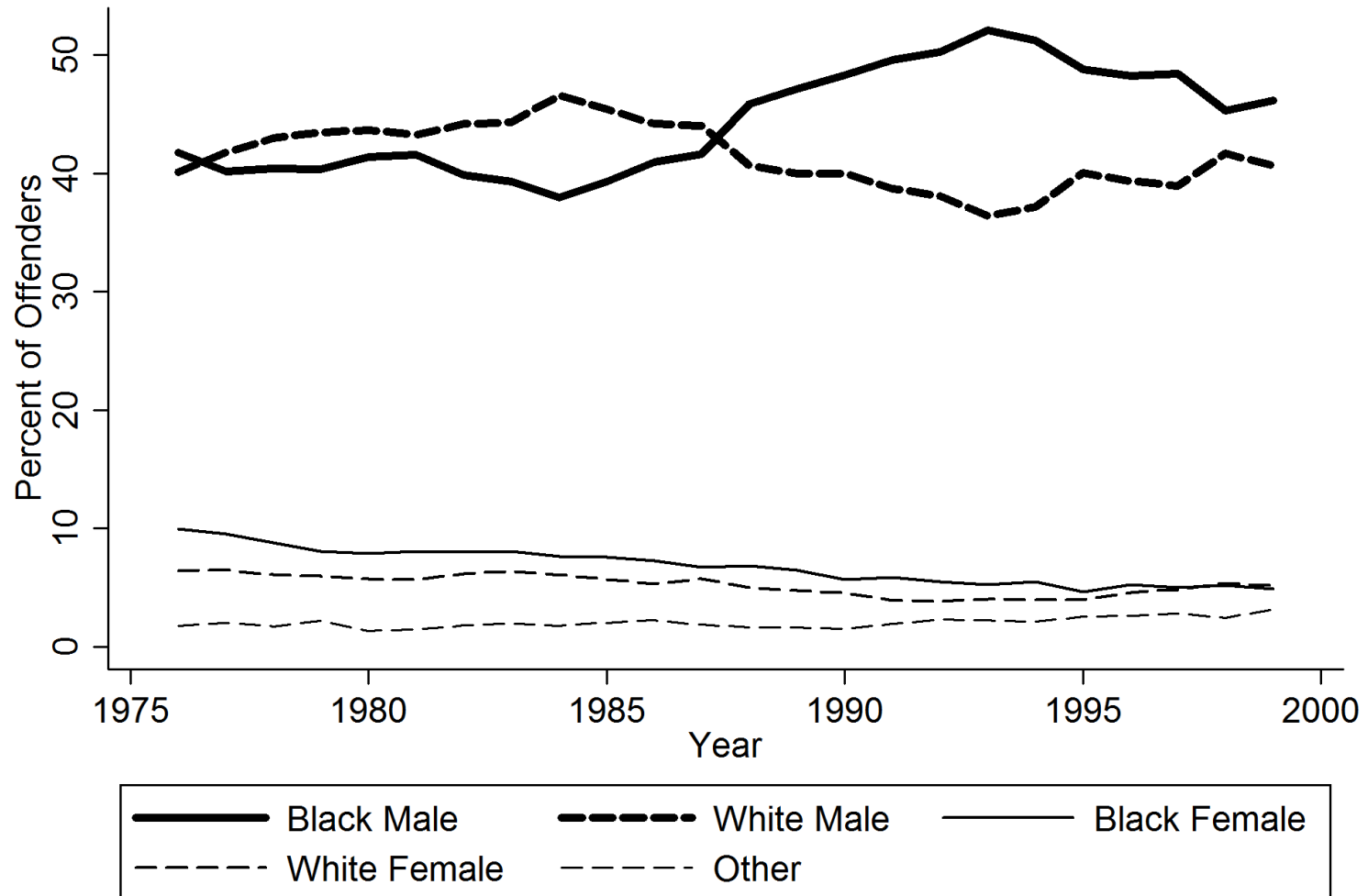
Source: US DOJ, Uniform Crime Reports.

US Compared to others



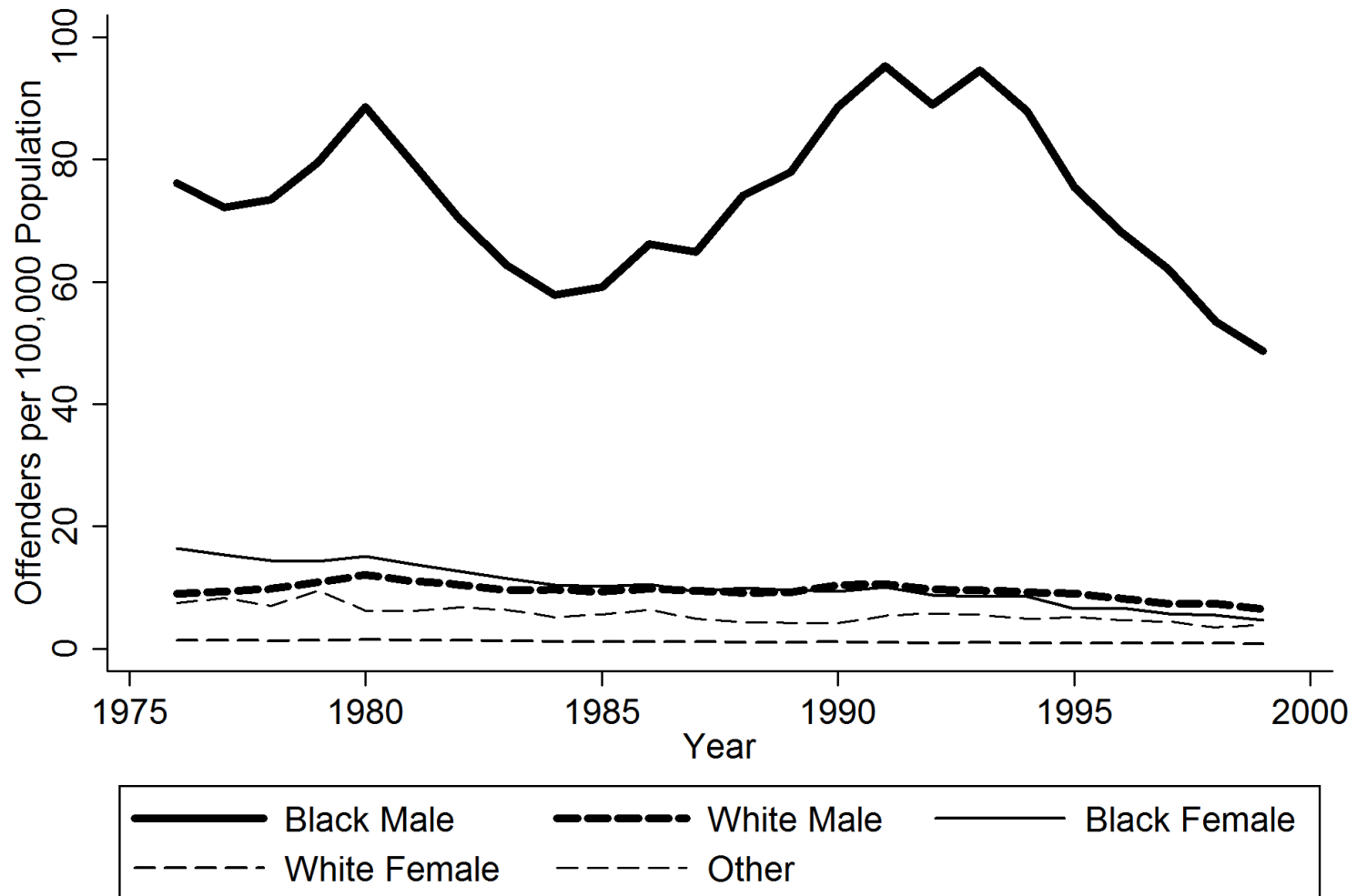
Source: UN Office of Crime Reporting. Average includes the following countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK.

Who Commits Homicide?



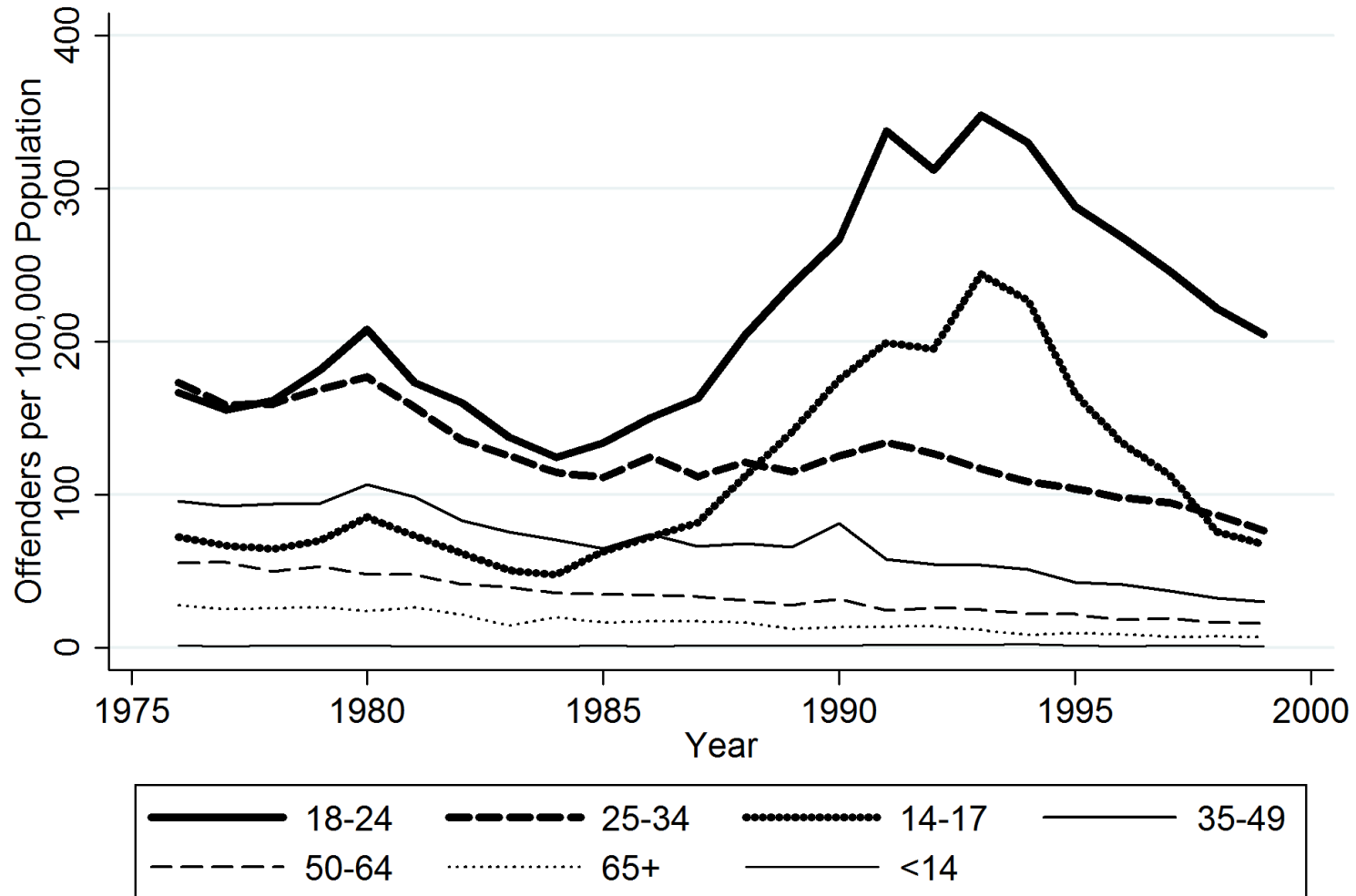
Source: Calculated from Fox 2001.

Homicide Offense Rates



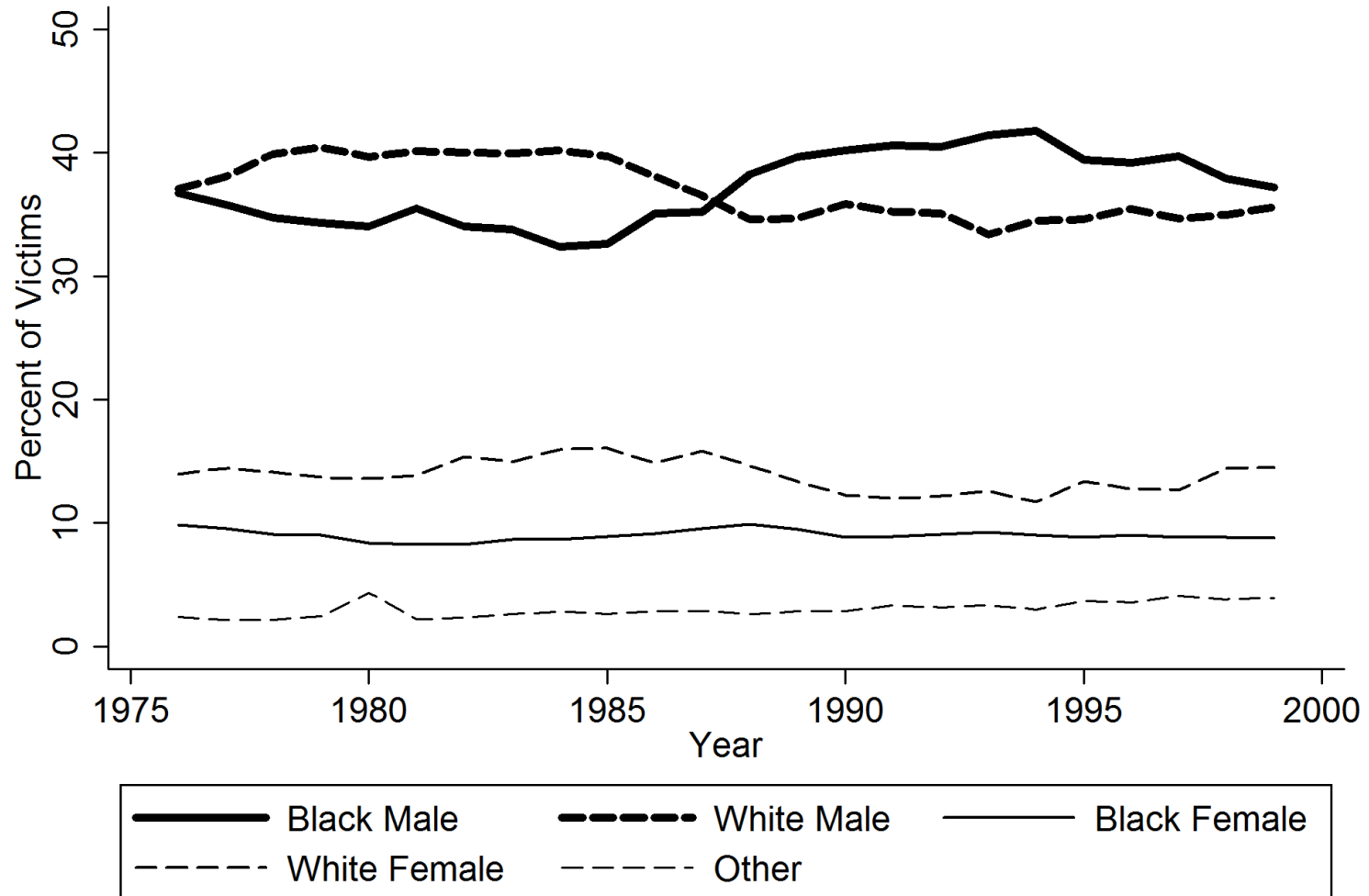
Source: Calculated from Fox 2001.

Young Black Men Surge as Offenders in the 1980s and 1990s



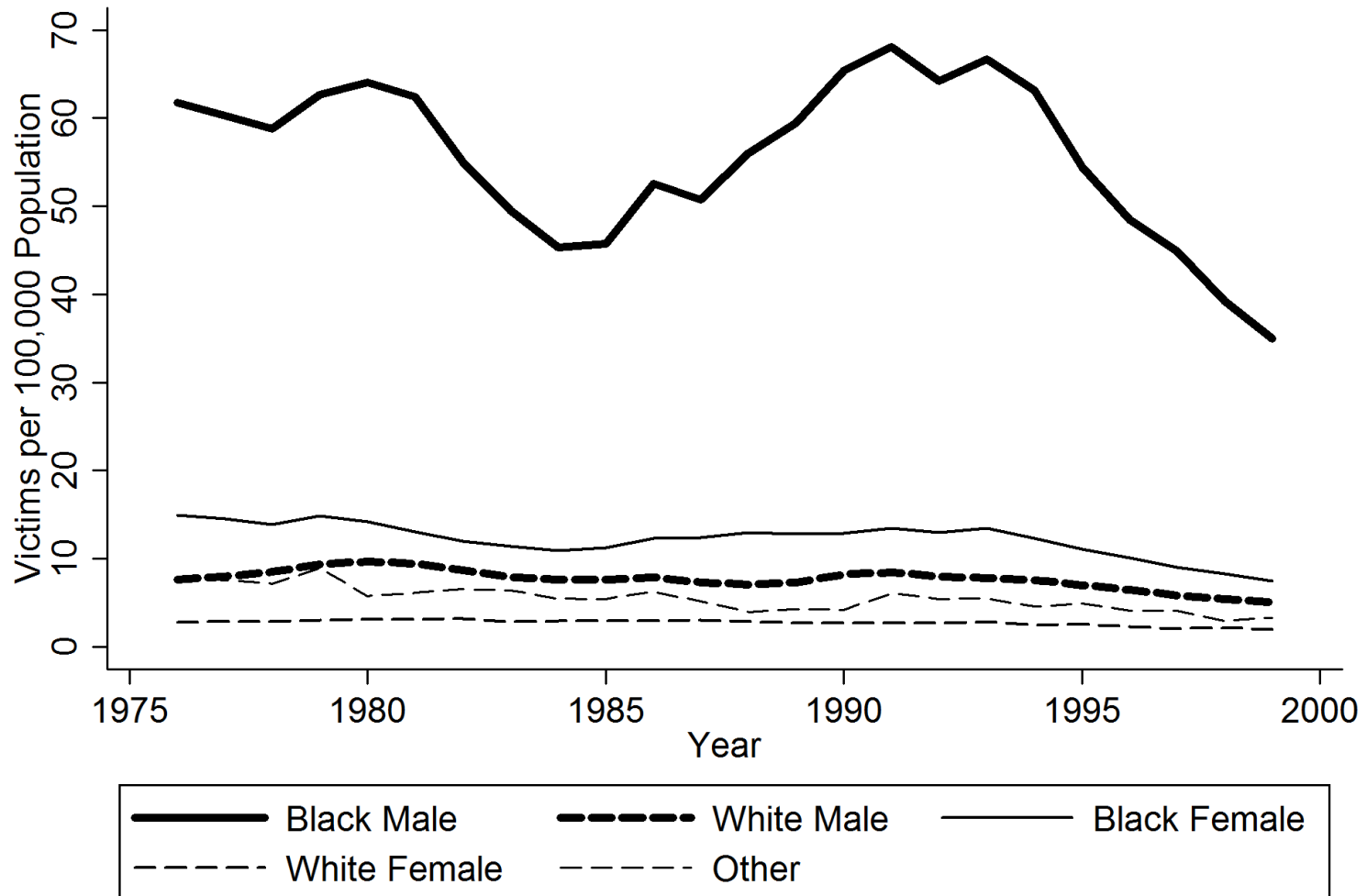
Source: Calculated from Fox 2001.

Who are the Victims? (Same as the Offenders)



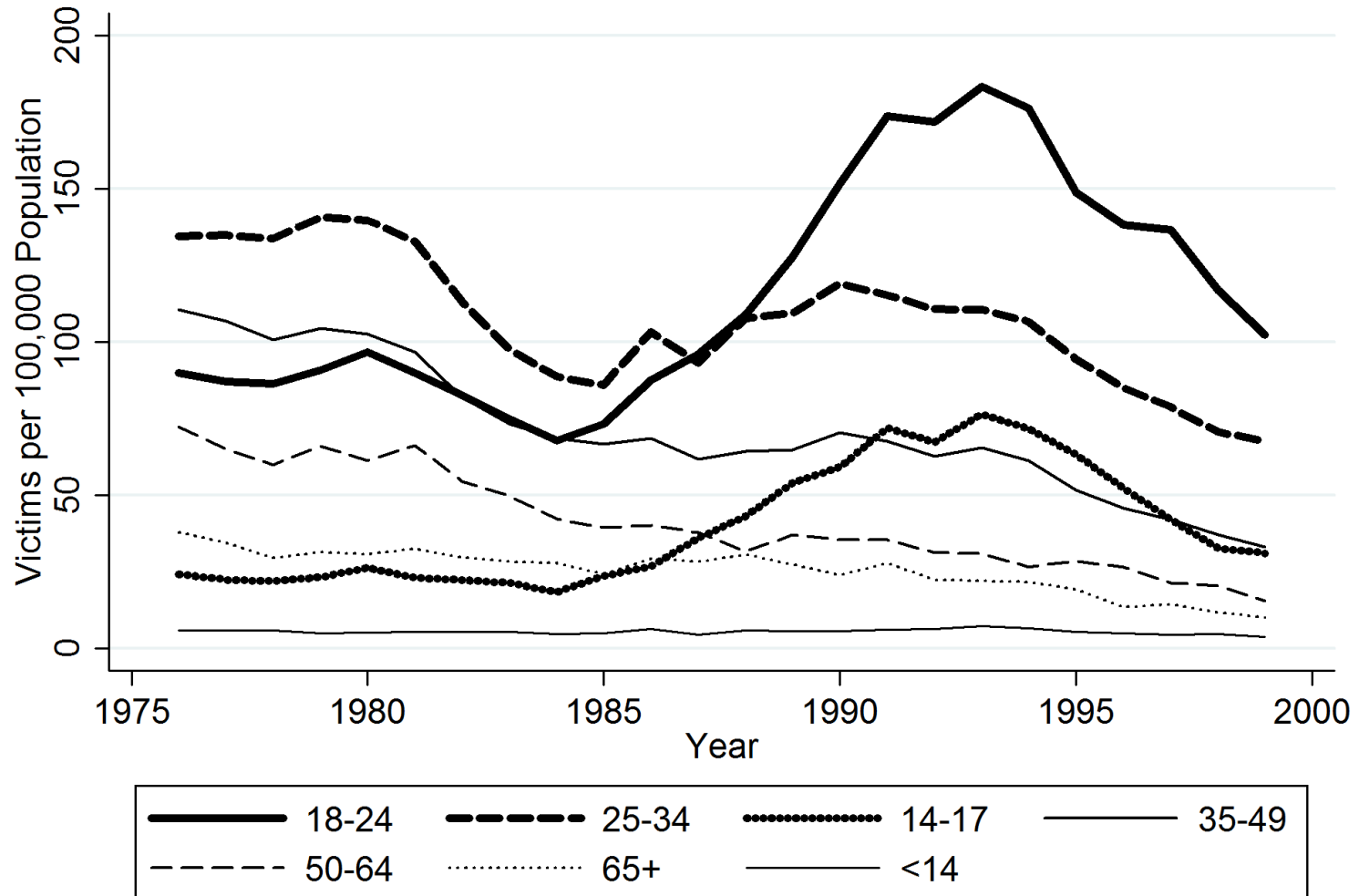
Source: Calculated from Fox 2001.

Victimization Rates per Capita



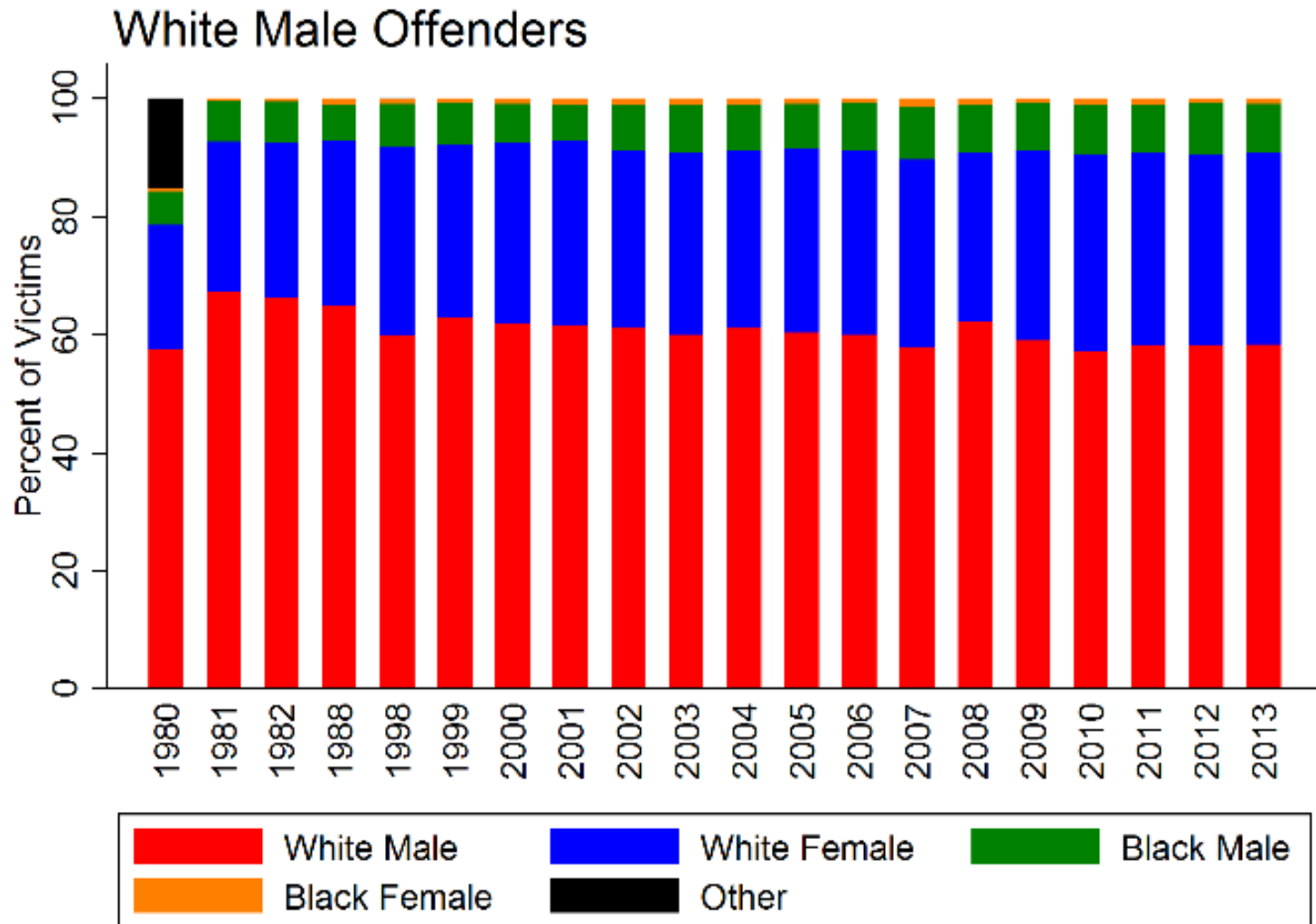
Source: Calculated from Fox 2001.

Victims: Young Black Males...

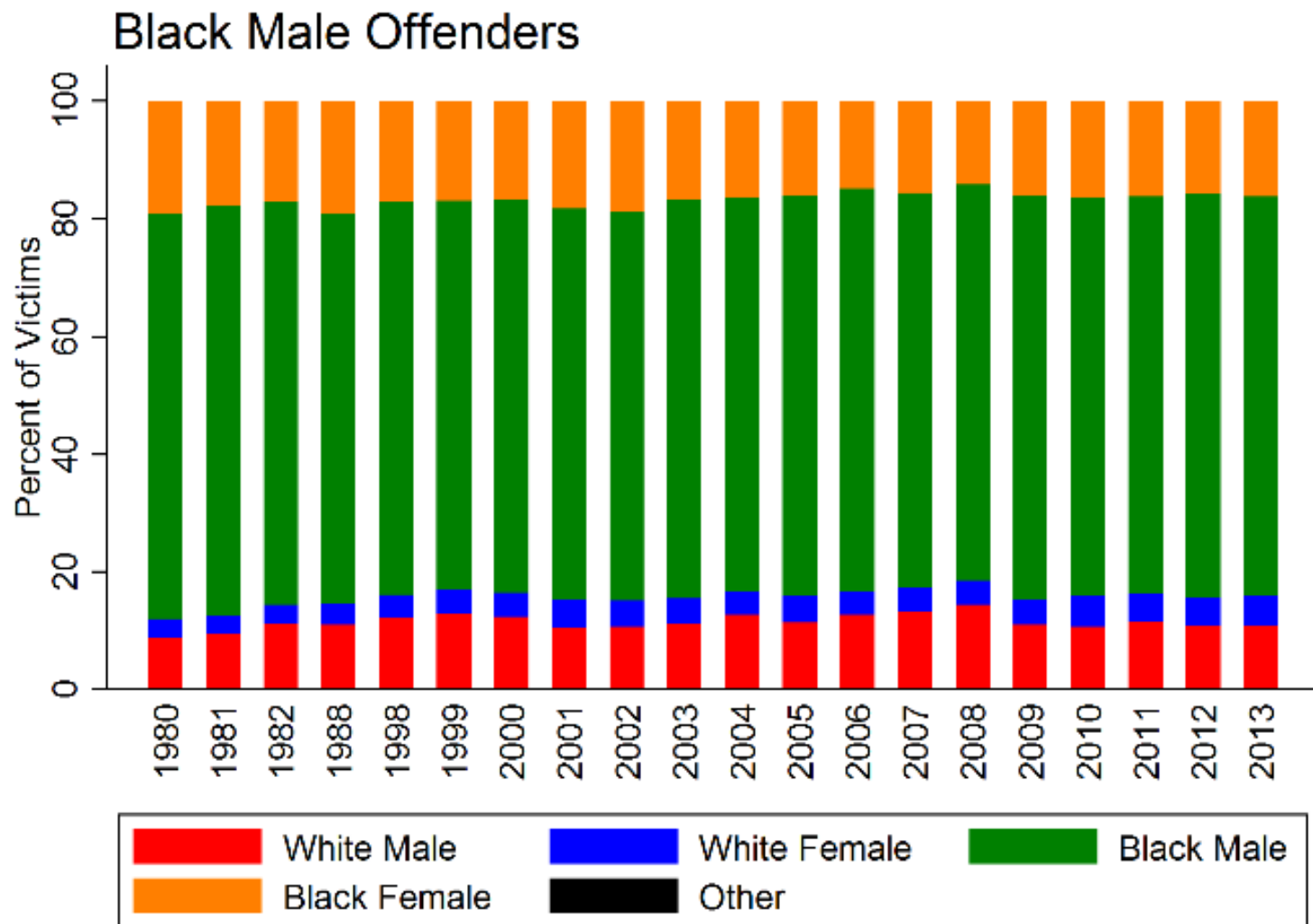


Source: Calculated from Fox 2001.

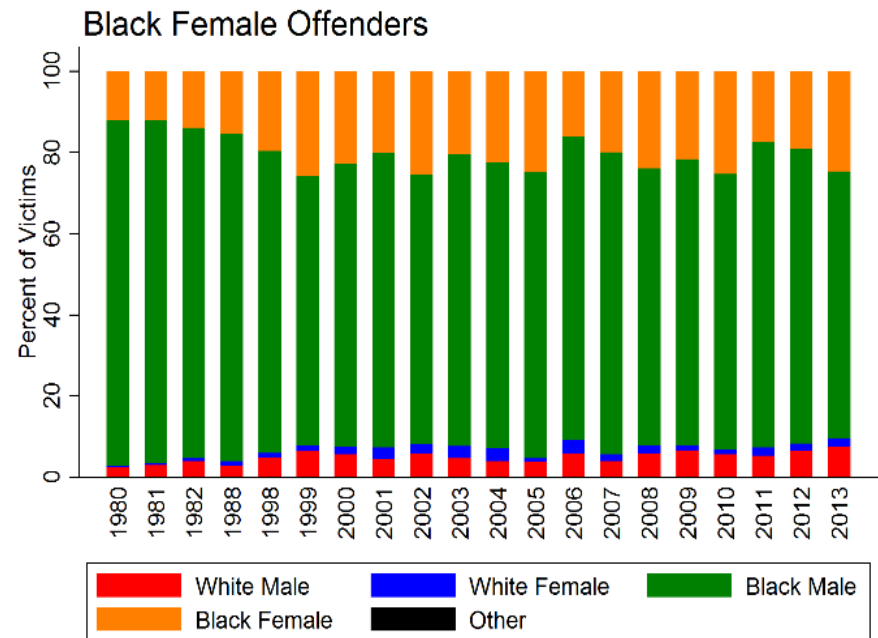
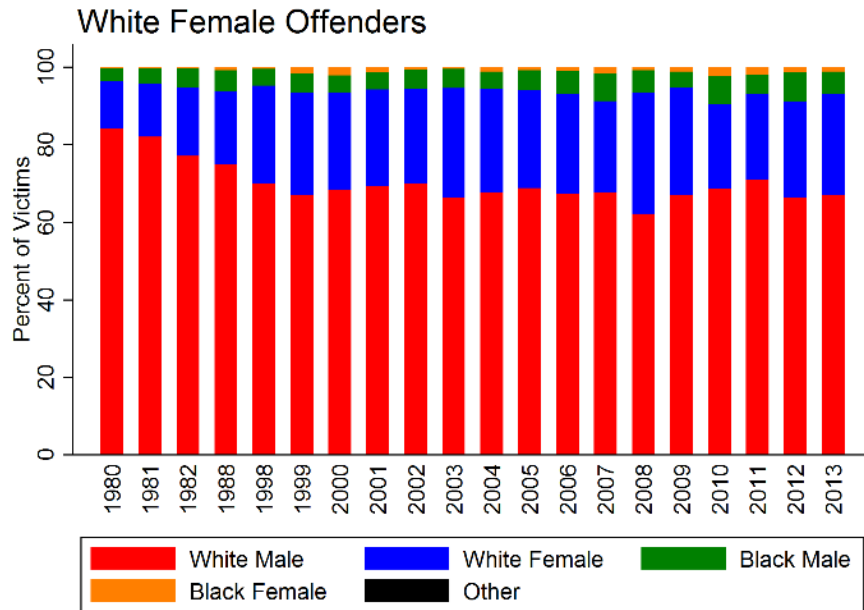
Who Kills Whom? White Male Offenders



Black Male Offenders

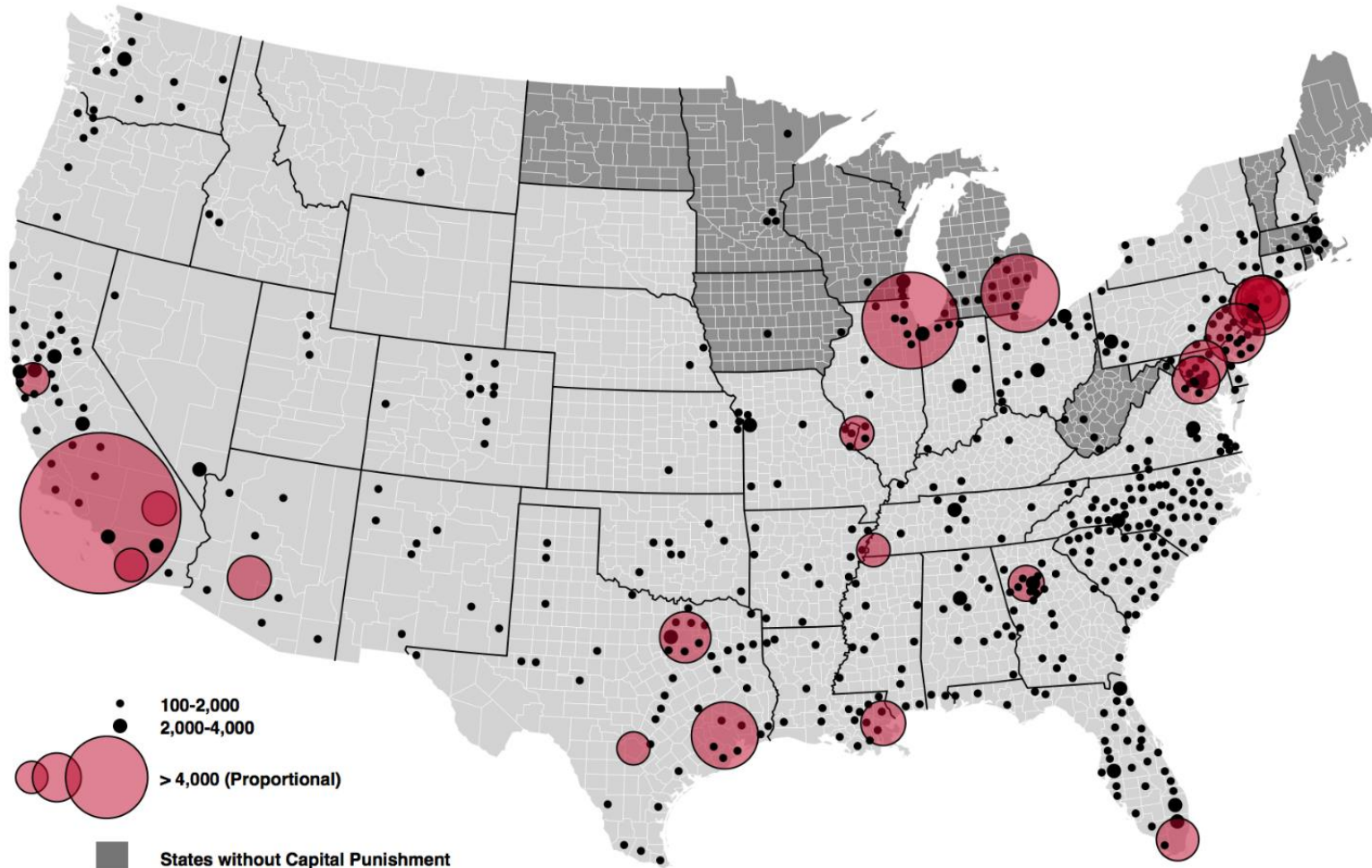


Female Offenders



Where are the Homicides?

Total Number of Homicides by County (1984 - 2012)

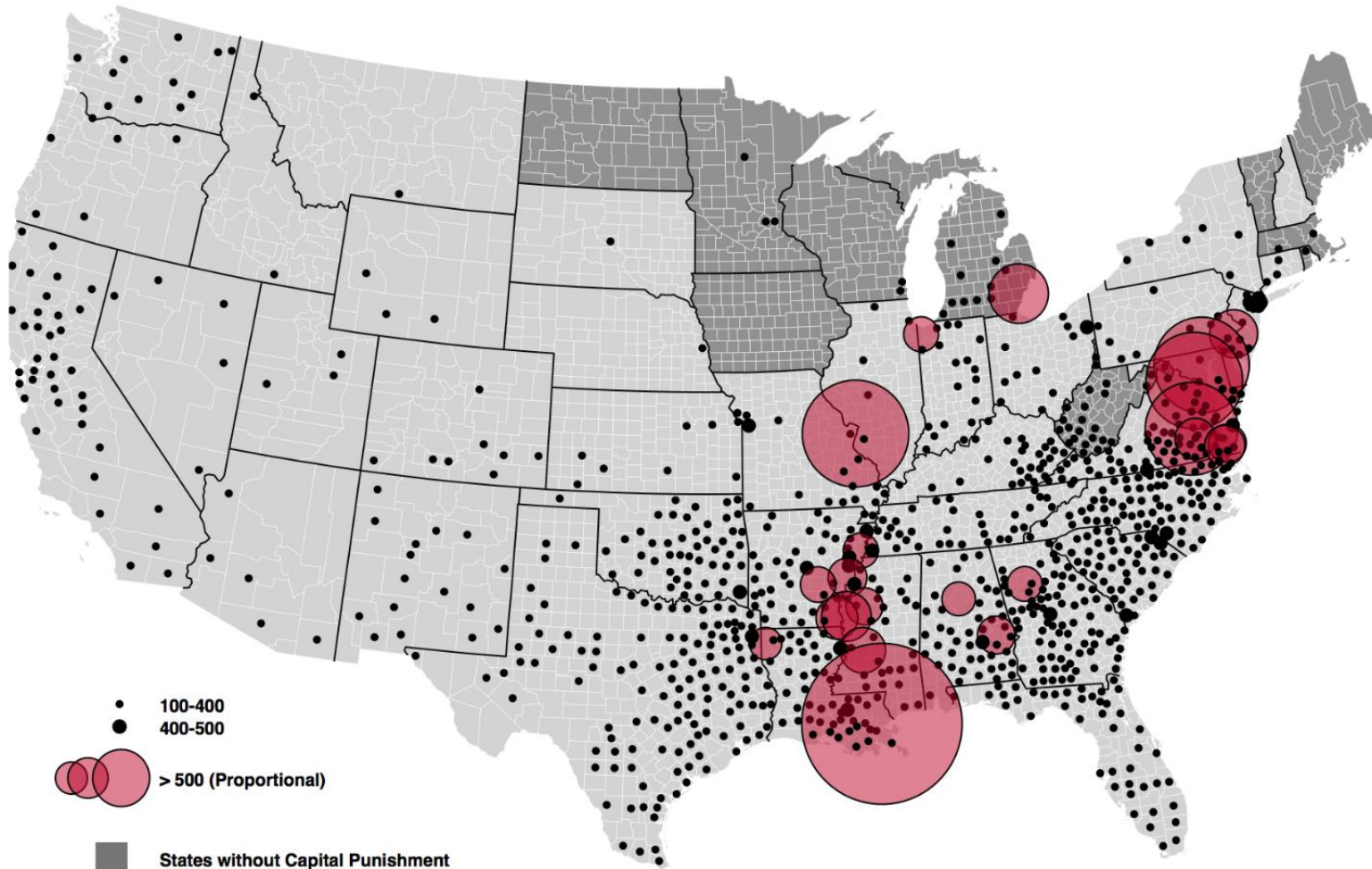


Counties with fewer than 100 homicides are not marked with a dot.

created by Nikhil Kaza

Don't go to New Orleans!

Homicide Rate: Homicides per 100,000 people



Many US counties have fewer than 10,000 people. Some have fewer than 100 homicides. For these counties no rate is calculated and therefore have no dot.

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Top Homicide Rate Counties

County	State	2010 Population	Homicides, 1984-2012	Homicides per 100,000 Population	Annualized Homicide Rate
Caddo	LA	254,969	1,284	504	17.37
Jefferson	AL	658,466	3,416	519	17.89
Fulton	GA	920,581	4,893	531	18.33
Lake	IN	496,005	2,647	534	18.40
Crittenden	AR	50,902	273	535	18.46
Jefferson	AR	77,435	418	539	18.60
Leflore	MS	32,317	181	559	19.29
Macon	AL	21,452	122	568	19.57
Norfolk	VA	242,803	1,387	571	19.70
Phillips	AR	21,757	127	581	20.05
Martinsville	VA	13,821	81	588	20.27
Portsmouth	VA	95,535	574	600	20.70
Petersburg	VA	32,420	197	608	20.98
Chicot	AR	11,800	73	619	21.33
Hinds	MS	245,285	1,626	663	22.86
Philadelphia	PA	1,526,006	10,561	692	23.86
Washington	MS	51,137	364	712	24.55
Wayne	MI	1,820,584	15,111	830	28.62
Richmond	VA	204,214	2,514	1,231	42.44
Baltimore	MD	620,961	7,847	1,264	43.57
District of Columbia	DC	601,723	7,685	1,277	44.04
St. Louis City	MO	319,294	4,462	1,398	48.19
Orleans	LA	343,829	7,041	2,048	70.61

Compare to 2013 data: Brazil (26.5), Colombia (31.8), South Africa (31.9), El Salvador (39.8), or Honduras (84.3).

What to make of this?

- An epidemic
- 750,000 homicides from 1976 to present
- 8,000 death sentences (most overturned, of course!)
- 1,400 executions
- Were those 1,400 executions the “worst of the worst”?
- Don’t drop this course: We’ll investigate!