

LA Crime Data

On Safety in Schools

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Data Introduction

Due to our data set being so large, including over 1 million rows of data, we narrowed it down to 270 entries focusing on crimes involving minors aged 10 and under occurring within a school.

➤ The original unedited dataset:

[Data.gov](https://data.gov)

➤ The edited dataset:

[Crime Data against Minors under 10](#)

Data Includes:

- Crime data, 2020-present
- Type of crime
- Age/race of victim
- Weapon used
- Location
- Date/time

Problem Statement

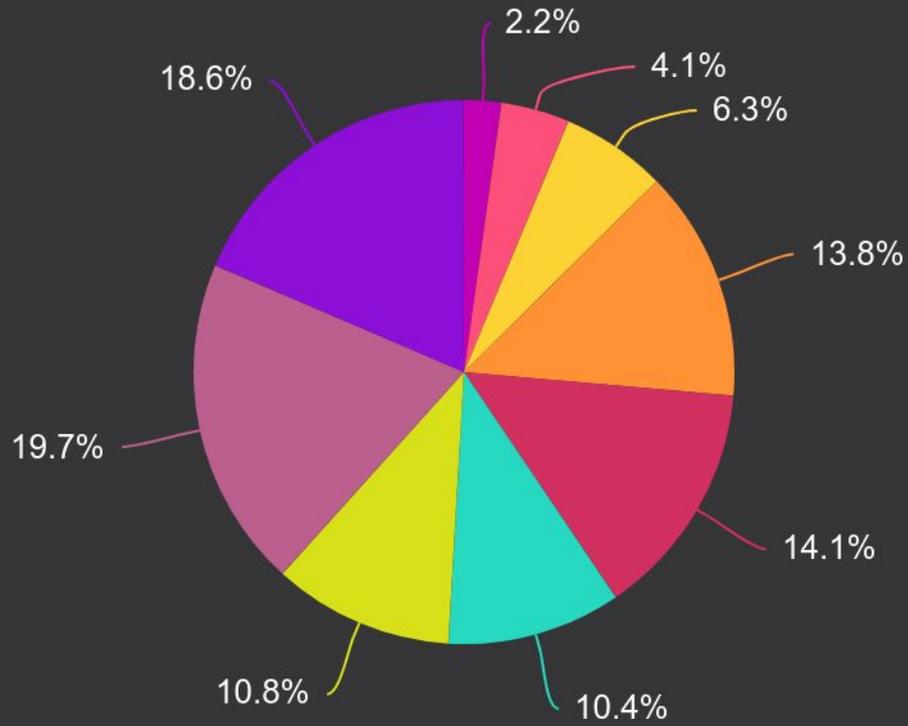
The Los Angeles Crime Data set was designed to create transparency between the LAPD and the public. However, there is a significant lack of information and data collected regarding the perpetrator in comparison to the victims. How do variables such as age, sex, and race, contribute in relation to the perpetrator's connection to victim? How can schools become aware of issues regarding safety for children in schools? And what missing information could be reported that would help to further promote safety practices within school settings?

Data points and Definitions

1. Crm Cd - Crime Code
2. Crm Cd Desc - Description of the crime committed
3. Mocodes - Modus Operandi Codes
4. Vict Age- Victim age
5. Vict Sex - M = male, F = female, X = unknown
6. Premis Cd- The type of location
7. Weapon Used Cd - Weapon Code
8. Weapon Desc- Description of the weapon Used

I	J	K	L	M	O	P	Q	R
Cr	Crn Cd Desc	Mocodes	Vi	Vi	Pre	Premis Desc	Wei	Weapon Desc
	860 BATTERY WITH SEXUAL CONTACT	1258 2151 1815 0400 044	10	F	720	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	860 BATTERY WITH SEXUAL CONTACT	0400 0448 0551	4	F	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	761 BRANDISH WEAPON	1822 0334	8	M	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	107	OTHER FIREARM
	627 CHILD ABUSE (PHYSICAL) - SIMPLE ASSAULT	0913 1258 1811 0416 160	7	M	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	624 BATTERY - SIMPLE ASSAULT	1251 1258 1601 0429 030	8	M	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	627 CHILD ABUSE (PHYSICAL) - SIMPLE ASSAULT	400	3	F	723	PRIVATE SCHOOL/PRESCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	815 SEXUAL PENETRATION W/FOREIGN OBJECT	1257 0503 0541 1402 182	5	M	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	308	STICK
	627 CHILD ABUSE (PHYSICAL) - SIMPLE ASSAULT	0416 1251	2	M	723	PRIVATE SCHOOL/PRESCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	920 KIDNAPPING - GRAND ATTEMPT	1258 1251 0209 0202 182	8	M	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	440 THEFT PLAIN - PETTY (\$950 & UNDER)	1822 0344 1258 2032	9	M	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		
	930 CRIMINAL THREATS - NO WEAPON DISPLAYED	0432 0443 1824 1251 125	5	F	723	PRIVATE SCHOOL/PRESCHOOL	511	VERBAL THREAT
	627 CHILD ABUSE (PHYSICAL) - SIMPLE ASSAULT	1258 0448 0913	9	M	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	815 SEXUAL PENETRATION W/FOREIGN OBJECT	1251 1258 0500 0515 202	6	F	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	627 CHILD ABUSE (PHYSICAL) - SIMPLE ASSAULT	1257 0400 1251 1822	5	M	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)
	624 BATTERY - SIMPLE ASSAULT	0416 1811	8	M	704	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	400	STRONG-ARM (HANDS, FIST, FEET OR BODILY FORCE)

Victim Age



- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

METHOD: READING POIRIER DATA SET

DENOTATIVE READING

- Analyzes of LAPD definition of key variables
- Examination of location and premises code

DECONSTRUCTIVE READING

- Identify missing information
- Analyzes of crime being close to school vs in school

These methods help us determine whether the dataset meaningfully represents school safety



What Data is Missing?

Perpetrator Information:

- Any information related to the perpetrator of each crime committed is missing
- Information such as the perpetrator's race, sex, and age is not reported, but it is for the victims
- Without information about the individual who committed the crime, we cannot conclude motivation or relation between crime, perpetrator, and victim

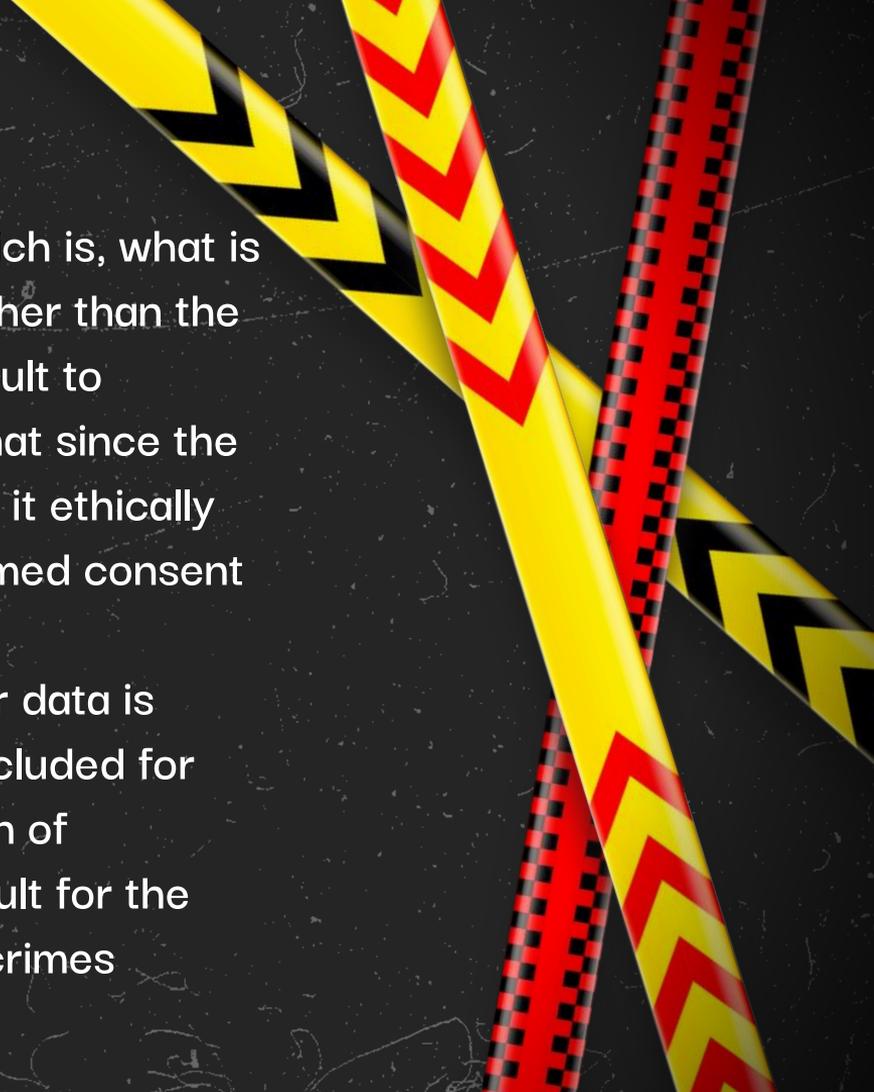
Relation between Victim and Perpetrator:

- Relation between perpetrator and victim is also not reported
- It would be important to see if the crime was committed by a individual that the child was familiar with or not
- Since we focus on crimes committed against children ten years old and younger, and specifically in school settings, it would be important to report on if the child knew the perpetrator, and the relation of this to the location of the crime, whether it be in public or private schools by faculty, peers, parents, or strangers

Connection

This data poses an important question, which is, what is the effect of lessened privacy for the victim rather than the perpetrator? From the data set alone, it is difficult to understand the implications, but we can infer that since the victims of our narrowed dataset are under 18 is it ethically okay to include these individuals because informed consent impaired.

It is also vital to question since perpetrator data is commonly public why is it being deliberately excluded for this dataset. If this data is truly a representation of transparency to the public, why is it more difficult for the average person to get the full picture of these crimes committed?



Interpretation

Referring back to our problem statement, which focuses on crimes involving minors age 10 and under and occurring in schools, we noticed patterns correlating between a victim's age and the type of crime, as well as finding that both girls and boys are almost equally affected.

Conclusion

Without the perpetrator's information, it makes it difficult to recognize patterns, whether that involves relationships between the victim and perpetrator (family member, stranger, or school staff) or a crime motivated by race or bias. In the absence of this info, we lack the ability to identify motives or patterns/trends between the different crimes. In order for the NIBRS to consider this as a document meant to be fully transparent for the public they must provide a good balance between privacy for victims and important data reported.

Citations

Data.gov. (n.d.). *Crime Data from 2020 to Present*. Data Catalog.
Retrieved February 6, 2026, from

<https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/crime-data-from-2020-to-present>

Poirier, L. (2021). Reading datasets: Strategies for interpreting the politics of data signification. *Big Data & Society*, 8(2), 205395172110293.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/20539517211029322>