### Households experiencing identity theft

**By type of identity theft and household characteristics, United States, 2005**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of identity theft</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,426,200</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Type of identity theft**

- Unauthorized use of:
  - Existing credit cards: 2,968,500 (2.5%)
  - Other existing accounts: 1,586,500 (1.4%)
  - Misuse of personal information: 1,083,100 (0.9%)

- Multiple types of theft during the same episode: 790,200 (0.7%)

**Dollar amount lost**

- Mean:
  - All types of identity theft: $1,620
  - Existing credit cards: $980
  - Misuse of personal information: $4,850

- Median:
  - Existing credit cards or other existing accounts: $300
  - Misuse of personal information: $500

**Age**

- 18 to 24 years: 545,100 (7.0%)
- 25 to 34 years: 1,225,900 (6.1%)
- 35 to 49 years: 2,240,400 (6.1%)
- 50 to 64 years: 1,725,800 (5.9%)
- 65 years or older: 689,100 (3.0%)

**Race**

- White: 5,410,100 (5.6%)
- Black: 693,700 (4.8%)
- Other: 255,800 (4.9%)
- More than one race: 66,600 (7.5%)

**Hispanic origin**

- Hispanic: 551,900 (4.4%)
- Non-Hispanic: 5,850,200 (5.6%)

**Household income**

- Less than $7,500: 241,900 (4.7%)
- $7,500 to $14,999: 316,900 (3.7%)
- $15,000 to $24,999: 455,600 (3.9%)
- $25,000 to $34,999: 548,400 (4.9%)
- $35,000 to $49,999: 774,300 (5.5%)
- $50,000 to $74,999: 1,056,800 (6.8%)
- $75,000 or more: 2,054,800 (9.6%)

**Region**

- Northeast: 997,600 (4.7%)
- Midwest: 1,394,600 (5.0%)
- South: 2,157,000 (5.0%)
- West: 1,877,000 (7.4%)

**Residence**

- Urban: 2,010,800 (5.8%)
- Suburban: 3,548,500 (5.9%)
- Rural: 866,900 (3.9%)

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Note: These data are from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. In July 2004 new questions were added to the NCVS to provide estimates of identity theft victimization. The 2005 findings shown above represent the first annual prevalence estimates. The 2004 data presented in table 3.0002.2004 are 6-month prevalence estimates, based on NCVS interviews conducted from July to December 2004, and therefore are not comparable to the above figures. For the NCVS, identity theft was defined to include unauthorized use or attempted use of existing credit cards, unauthorized use or attempted use of other existing accounts such as checking accounts, and misuse of personal information to obtain new accounts or loans or to commit other crimes. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 8.

*Age, race, and Hispanic origin characteristics are for the household head.