

**Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online**

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Table 3.0002.2005

**Households experiencing identity theft**

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

Type of identity theft and household characteristics	Number	Percent
Total	6,426,200	5.5%
<b>Type of identity theft</b>		
Unauthorized use of:		
Existing credit cards	2,966,500	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
<b>Dollar amount lost</b>		
Mean		
All types of identity theft	\$1,620	X
Existing credit cards	\$980	X
Misuse of personal information	\$4,850	X
Median		
Existing credit cards or other existing accounts	\$300	X
Misuse of personal information	\$500	X
<b>Age<sup>a</sup></b>		
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
<b>Race<sup>a</sup></b>		
White	5,410,100	5.6
Black	693,700	4.8
Other	255,800	4.9
More than one race	66,600	7.5
<b>Hispanic origin<sup>a</sup></b>		
Hispanic	551,900	4.4
Non-Hispanic	5,850,200	5.6
<b>Household income</b>		
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
<b>Region</b>		
Northeast	997,600	4.7
Midwest	1,394,600	5.0
South	2,157,000	5.0
West	1,877,000	7.4
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	2,010,800	5.8
Suburban	3,548,500	5.9
Rural	866,900	3.9

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](#).

<sup>a</sup>Age, race, and Hispanic origin characteristics are for the household head.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Identity Theft, 2005*, Special Report NCJ 219411 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, November 2007), pp. 1, 2, 3, 6. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.