

Table 3.34.2003

Estimated percent distribution of reasons for reporting personal and property victimizations to police

By type of crime, United States, 2003^a

Reasons for reporting to police	Personal crimes				Property crimes			
	Total ^b	Crimes of violence		Assault	Total	Household burglary	Motor vehicle theft	Theft
		Total ^c	Robbery					
Number of reasons for reporting victimizations ^d	2,420,250	2,332,800	453,770	1,766,070	7,974,010	2,358,230	797,400	4,818,380
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Stop or prevent this incident	18.8	19.4	9.8	22.3	6.6	8.0	3.5 ^e	6.5
Needed help due to injury	2.5	2.6	5.5 ^e	1.7 ^e	0.1	0.0 ^e	0.0 ^e	0.1 ^e
To recover property	4.1	3.4	14.4	0.7 ^e	22.8	19.7	36.5	22.1
To collect insurance	0.8 ^e	0.8 ^e	1.7 ^e	0.5 ^e	5.0	3.5	7.7	5.3
To prevent further crimes by offender against victim	18.1	18.3	10.5	20.0	8.7	13.4	2.6 ^e	7.4
To prevent crime by offender against anyone	8.1	8.3	8.4	8.0	6.3	8.0	3.9 ^e	5.9
To punish offender	7.7	7.8	5.6 ^e	8.0	3.5	3.7	5.1	3.2
To catch or find offender	6.5	6.4	11.7	5.0	6.7	6.5	7.5	6.7
To improve police surveillance	4.7	4.8	6.0 ^e	4.5	6.1	6.9	5.0	5.9
Duty to notify police	5.8	5.6	7.6	5.1	5.9	6.3	4.9	5.8
Because it was a crime	15.6	14.9	14.3	15.2	24.8	21.7	20.2	27.0
Some other reason	6.3	6.5	3.7 ^e	7.7	2.6	1.7	1.6 ^e	3.2
Not available	1.2 ^e	1.3 ^e	0.8 ^e	1.5 ^e	0.8	0.7 ^e	1.6 ^e	0.7

Note: See Note, table 3.1.2003. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 8.

^aDetail may not add to total because of rounding.

^bIncludes crimes of violence and purse snatching/pocket picking not listed separately.

^cIncludes rape and sexual assault not listed separately.

^dSome respondents may have cited more than one reason for reporting victimizations to the police.

^eEstimate is based on about 10 or fewer sample cases.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Criminal Victimization in the United States, 2003 Statistical Tables*, NCJ 207811, Table 101 [Online]. Available: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cvus03.pdf> [Oct. 17, 2005]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.