

Table 3.34.2007

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

By type of crime, United States, 2007^a

Reasons for reporting to police	Personal crimes				Property crimes			
	Total ^b	Crimes of violence			Total	Household burglary	Motor vehicle theft	Theft
		Total ^c	Robbery	Assault				
Number of reasons for reporting victimizations ^d	2,260,600	2,145,290	425,200	1,626,070	7,742,390	2,023,540	970,640	4,748,220
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Stop or prevent this incident	26.6	27.5	18.9	30.8	11.4	15.0	8.5	10.5
Needed help due to injury	2.7	2.8	2.5 ^e	2.3	0.4 ^e	0.3 ^e	0.6 ^e	0.3 ^e
To recover property	4.7	3.5	17.0	0.1 ^e	24.4	19.2	34.0	24.6
To collect insurance	0.2 ^e	0.3 ^e	0.0 ^e	0.3 ^e	5.5	4.6	10.3	5.0
To prevent further crimes by offender against victim	18.4	19.1	15.2	19.7	9.1	13.8	3.7	8.1
To prevent crime by offender against anyone	8.4	8.3	6.1 ^e	8.3	4.7	4.7	3.1 ^e	5.0
To punish offender	7.6	8.0	8.9	7.3	3.4	3.9	4.8	3.0
To catch or find offender	6.1	6.1	8.1	5.5	5.3	6.5	5.6	4.7
To improve police surveillance	3.6	3.7	4.7 ^e	3.7	6.4	5.7	3.0 ^e	7.5
Duty to notify police	4.0	3.5	3.9 ^e	3.7	5.4	5.2	2.9 ^e	6.0
Because it was a crime	13.7	13.2	14.8	13.0	21.2	19.3	22.0	21.8
Some other reason	3.3	3.4	0.0 ^e	4.4	2.0	1.3 ^e	1.2 ^e	2.5
Not available	0.7 ^e	0.6 ^e	0.0 ^e	0.8 ^e	0.7	0.5 ^e	0.3 ^e	0.9

Note: The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) is conducted annually for the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau. These estimates are based on data derived from a continuous survey of a representative sample of housing units in the United States. For the 2007 survey, approximately 73,650 residents in 41,000 households were interviewed; each household was interviewed twice during the year. Response rates were 90% of eligible housing units and 86% of eligible individuals in interviewed households. In 2007, the total U.S. population age 12 and older was 250,344,870. The total number of households in the United States in 2007 was 119,503,530. The NCVS is based on interviews with victims and therefore cannot measure murder.

Users should note that the 2007 NCVS estimates are comparable to 2005 and previous years but not to 2006 estimates due to changes in methodology implemented for the 2006 NCVS. 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 10 or fewer sample cases.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Criminal Victimization in the United States, 2007 Statistical Tables*, NCJ 227669, Table 101 [Online]. Available: <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/cvus07.pdf> [Mar. 18, 2010]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.