

Table 3.35.2003

Estimated percent distribution of reasons for not reporting personal and property victimizations to police

By type of crime, United States, 2003^a

Reasons for not 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 not reporting victimizations ^d	3,308,950	3,179,080	295,760	2,736,410	13,873,850	1,925,600	308,120	11,640,130
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Reported to another official	15.8	15.7	7.6 ^e	17.1	9.5	4.4	4.1 ^e	10.5
Private or personal matter	18.0	18.7	10.0 ^e	19.7	5.9	8.1	11.1	5.4
Object recovered; offender unsuccessful	19.0	19.0	18.1	19.5	26.3	23.8	21.4	26.8
Not important enough	5.2	5.2	2.0 ^e	5.6	3.8	6.0	6.3 ^e	3.3
Insurance would not cover	0.1 ^e	0.1 ^e	0.0 ^e	0.1 ^e	2.0	2.1	3.1 ^e	1.9
Not aware crime occurred until later	0.9 ^e	0.7 ^e	4.9 ^e	0.1 ^e	5.8	7.8	8.0 ^e	5.4
Unable to recover property; no ID number	0.6 ^e	0.3 ^e	2.8 ^e	0.0 ^e	6.7	4.7	2.7 ^e	7.2
Lack of proof	4.3	4.1	10.6 ^e	3.5	11.0	13.2	11.6	10.6
Police would not want to be bothered	4.8	4.5	7.4 ^e	4.3	8.3	9.6	7.1 ^e	8.2
Police inefficient, ineffective, or biased	4.6	4.7	3.7 ^b	4.4	3.0	2.7	2.3 ^e	3.0
Fear of reprisal	4.0	4.2	11.2	2.7	0.3	0.1 ^e	0.0 ^e	0.3
Too inconvenient or time consuming	3.3	3.1	3.7 ^e	3.2	3.7	2.3	5.3 ^e	3.9
Other reasons	19.6	19.8	18.0	19.7	13.7	15.2	17.1	13.4

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 not 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 102 [Online]. Available: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cvus03.pdf> [Oct. 17, 2005]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.