

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<sup>a</sup>

Reasons for not reporting to police	Personal crimes				Property crimes			
	Total <sup>b</sup>	Crimes of violence			Total	Household burglary	Motor vehicle theft	Theft
		Total <sup>c</sup>	Robbery	Assault				
Number of reasons for not reporting victimizations <sup>d</sup>	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 <sup>e</sup>	17.1	9.5	4.4	4.1 <sup>e</sup>	10.5
Private or personal matter	18.0	18.7	10.0 <sup>e</sup>	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 <sup>e</sup>	5.6	3.8	6.0	6.3 <sup>e</sup>	3.3
Insurance would not cover	0.1 <sup>e</sup>	0.1 <sup>e</sup>	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	0.1 <sup>e</sup>	2.0	2.1	3.1 <sup>e</sup>	1.9
Not aware crime occurred until later	0.9 <sup>e</sup>	0.7 <sup>e</sup>	4.9 <sup>e</sup>	0.1 <sup>e</sup>	5.8	7.8	8.0 <sup>e</sup>	5.4
Unable to recover property; no ID number	0.6 <sup>e</sup>	0.3 <sup>e</sup>	2.8 <sup>e</sup>	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	6.7	4.7	2.7 <sup>e</sup>	7.2
Lack of proof	4.3	4.1	10.6 <sup>e</sup>	3.5	11.0	13.2	11.6	10.6
Police would not want to be bothered	4.8	4.5	7.4 <sup>e</sup>	4.3	8.3	9.6	7.1 <sup>e</sup>	8.2
Police inefficient, ineffective, or biased	4.6	4.7	3.7 <sup>b</sup>	4.4	3.0	2.7	2.3 <sup>e</sup>	3.0
Fear of reprisal	4.0	4.2	11.2	2.7	0.3	0.1 <sup>e</sup>	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	0.3
Too inconvenient or time consuming	3.3	3.1	3.7 <sup>e</sup>	3.2	3.7	2.3	5.3 <sup>e</sup>	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.

<sup>a</sup>Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Includes crimes of violence and purse snatching/pocket picking not listed separately.

<sup>c</sup>Includes rape and sexual assault not listed separately.

<sup>d</sup>Some respondents may have cited more than one reason for not reporting victimizations to the police.

<sup>e</sup>Estimate 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.