

Table 3.35.2004

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

By type of crime, United States, 2004<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>	3,126,410	2,949,790	265,740	2,520,070	13,746,400	2,092,470	207,330	11,446,600
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Reported to another official	13.9	13.9	4.7 <sup>e</sup>	15.2	8.6	4.3	2.8 <sup>e</sup>	9.5
Private or personal matter	19.2	19.3	8.7 <sup>e</sup>	20.5	6.6	6.6	8.2 <sup>e</sup>	6.6
Object recovered; offender unsuccessful	20.3	19.9	15.1	21.1	28.2	22.8	32.7	29.1
Not important enough	6.7	6.6	6.5 <sup>e</sup>	7.0	3.5	3.6	3.5 <sup>e</sup>	3.5
Insurance would not cover	0.1 <sup>e</sup>	0.1 <sup>e</sup>	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	2.7	3.2	4.6 <sup>e</sup>	2.5
Not aware crime occurred until later	0.5 <sup>e</sup>	0.4 <sup>e</sup>	1.3 <sup>e</sup>	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	5.2	6.5	2.2 <sup>e</sup>	5.0
Unable to recover property; no ID number	0.5 <sup>e</sup>	0.3 <sup>e</sup>	3.6 <sup>e</sup>	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	5.8	6.5	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	5.8
Lack of proof	2.5	1.9	10.0 <sup>e</sup>	1.1 <sup>e</sup>	11.7	14.1	14.3 <sup>e</sup>	11.2
Police would not want to be bothered	4.8	4.7	7.0 <sup>e</sup>	4.4	8.4	9.4	11.0 <sup>e</sup>	8.2
Police inefficient, ineffective, or biased	3.0	3.2	8.9 <sup>e</sup>	2.5	2.7	4.4	4.5 <sup>e</sup>	2.3
Fear of reprisal	4.6	4.7	10.0 <sup>e</sup>	3.7	0.5	0.9 <sup>e</sup>	0.0 <sup>e</sup>	0.4
Too inconvenient or time consuming	4.1	4.3	8.4 <sup>e</sup>	3.8	3.5	3.8	5.2 <sup>e</sup>	3.4
Other reasons	19.9	20.7	15.7	20.7	12.6	13.9	11.1 <sup>e</sup>	12.4

Note: See Note, table 3.1.2004. 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, 2004 Statistical Tables*, NCJ 213257, Table 102 [Online]. Available: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cvus04.pdf> [Aug. 7, 2006]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.