

Table 3.35.2005

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

By type of crime, United States, 2005^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	3,447,480	3,271,670	392,510	2,736,760	14,073,950	2,023,280	211,600	11,839,070
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Reported to another official	13.0	13.2	2.3 ^e	14.5	8.6	4.2	1.3 ^e	9.5
Private or personal matter	19.8	20.3	13.3	21.3	5.1	4.2	9.5 ^e	5.2
Object recovered; offender unsuccessful	20.1	20.1	21.1	20.8	26.7	20.2	31.2	27.8
Not important enough	6.4	6.4	0.0 ^e	7.6	3.9	5.5	0.0 ^e	3.7
Insurance would not cover	0.1 ^e	0.1 ^e	0.0 ^e	0.1 ^e	3.0	4.6	5.5 ^e	2.7
Not aware crime occurred until later	0.8 ^e	0.5 ^e	1.7 ^e	0.3 ^e	5.6	7.6	4.8 ^e	5.3
Unable to recover property; no ID number	0.8 ^e	0.6 ^e	4.6 ^e	0.0 ^e	7.4	7.9	2.3 ^e	7.5
Lack of proof	5.2	4.7	17.5	3.1	13.0	16.4	9.0 ^e	12.5
Police would not want to be bothered	5.8	5.5	9.9	4.4	8.7	7.8	7.9 ^e	8.9
Police inefficient, ineffective, or biased	3.9	4.0	7.7 ^e	3.5	2.9	4.5	6.2 ^e	2.6
Fear of reprisal	3.7	3.8	1.2 ^e	4.2	0.6	0.9 ^e	4.4 ^e	0.5
Too inconvenient or time consuming	4.0	4.2	6.4 ^e	4.1	3.9	3.9	4.1 ^e	3.9
Other reasons	16.3	16.7	14.2	16.2	10.4	12.2	13.8 ^e	10.0

Note: See Note, table 3.1.2005. 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, 2005 Statistical Tables*, NCJ 215244, Table 102 [Online]. Available: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cvus05.pdf> [May 30, 2007]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.