

Table 3.34

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

By type of crime, United States, 1994^a

Reasons for not reporting to police	Personal crimes				Property crimes			
	Total	Crimes of violence			Total	Household burglary	Motor vehicle theft	Theft ^b
		Total	Robbery	Assault				
Number of reasons for not reporting victimizations ^c	7,707,770	7,284,220	701,520	6,177,890	24,264,320	3,275,920	467,160	20,521,240
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Reported to another official	11.5	11.5	3.1	13.0	10.2	4.9	4.2 ^d	11.2
Private or personal matter	19.5	20.4	8.7	21.9	5.4	5.3	9.0	5.3
Object recovered; offender unsuccessful	18.9	19.1	17.0	20.3	28.4	21.9	23.6	29.5
Not important enough	5.2	5.2	2.1 ^d	5.5	3.6	4.7	5.7	3.3
Insurance would not cover	0.0 ^d	0.0 ^d	0.0 ^d	0.0 ^d	1.5	1.8	1.7 ^d	1.5
Not aware crime occurred until later	0.7	0.4	1.4 ^d	0.3 ^d	5.2	7.9	7.0	4.7
Unable to recover property; no ID number	0.8	0.4	3.7	0.0 ^d	6.3	5.4	1.0 ^d	6.5
Lack of proof	3.8	3.2	7.4	2.8	10.5	12.8	10.5	10.1
Police would not want to be bothered	5.9	5.9	10.7	5.5	7.9	9.6	7.8	7.6
Police inefficient, ineffective, or biased	4.3	4.2	8.8	3.4	3.5	5.5	6.0	3.1
Fear of reprisal	3.8	3.9	6.5	2.9	0.6	1.1	2.4 ^d	0.5
Too inconvenient or time consuming	3.9	3.9	5.3	3.8	3.2	2.3	4.8	3.4
Other reasons	21.7	22.0	25.4	20.6	13.8	16.6	16.3	13.2

Note: See Note, table 3.1. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 9.

^dEstimate is based on about 10 or fewer sample cases.

^aDetail may not add to total because of rounding.

^bIncludes crimes previously classified as "personal larceny without contact" and "household larceny."

^cSome respondents may have cited more than one reason for not reporting victimizations to the police.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Criminal Victimization in the United States, 1994*, NCJ-162126 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 1997), Table 102. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.