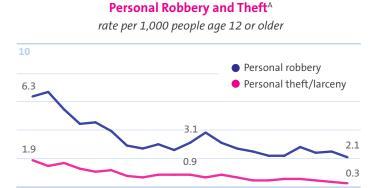


# Burglary, Theft, Robbery

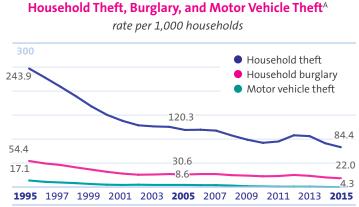
Burglary, theft, and robbery each amount to **billions of dollars in total monetary losses** every year. Larceny-theft (or simply "theft") is defined as the unlawful removal of property. Burglary is defined as the unlawful entry into almost any structure with the intent to commit a crime inside. Robbery, on the other hand, is the violent theft of property or money.

### CRIME TRENDS

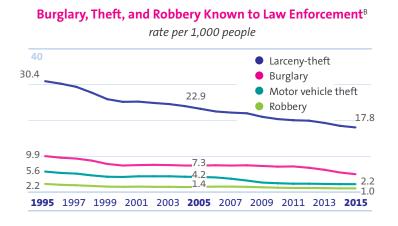
Rates of personal and household burglary, theft, and robbery have decreased consistently over the past two decades. The national rate of personal **robbery has decreased 67%**, from 6.3 victimizations per 1,000 people age 12 or older in 1995 to 2.1 per 1,000 in 2015. Similarly, the rate of personal **theft dropped 84%** (from 1.9 to 0.3), while burglary and household theft<sup>2</sup> have declined 60% and 65%, respectively. The rate of **motor vehicle theft** has also **declined 75%** (from 17.1 to 4.3 per 1,000 households).<sup>A3</sup>



**1995** 1997 1999 2001 2003 **2005** 2007 2009 2011



From 1995 to 2015, the rates of robbery, burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft known to law enforcement have declined. Robbery has decreased from 2.2 per 1,000 individuals to 1. Burglary decreased 50%, from nearly 10 per 1,000 individuals to about 5. Similarly, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft decreased by 41% and 61%, respectively. It is important to note that the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) includes commercial crimes in these estimates, while the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) does not. Despite this difference, the UCR and NCVS have reported comparable changes over the years.<sup>8</sup>



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

In 2014, **60.9%** of robberies were reported to the **police**.<sup>A</sup>

In 2015, more than **50%** of robbery victimizations were committed by **strangers**.<sup>A</sup>

In 2015, 42% of robberies involved the use of **strong-arm** tactics, 41% involved the use of **firearms**, and 8% involved the use of a **knife** or other cutting instrument.<sup>B4</sup>

### CURRENT DATA ON BURGLARY, THEFT, ROBBERY

Bank (2%)Other (19%)

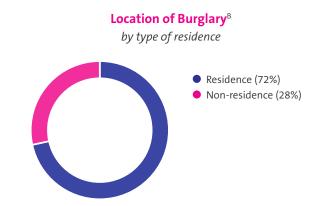
Of the **284,722 robberies** known to law enforcement in 2015, **40%** occurred on **public roads**; **23%** occurred within **businesses**, including gas stations, service stations, and convenience stores; and **19%** occurred at **other locations**, such as within houses of worship, on public transportation, at schools, and within government offices.<sup>B</sup>

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Location of Robbery

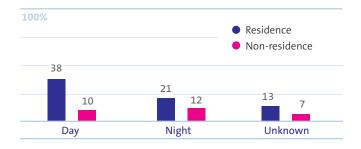
Public road (40%)
Business (23%)
Residence (17%)

Burglaries are more likely to occur at **residential dwellings**, compared to stores, offices, or other non-residential locations.



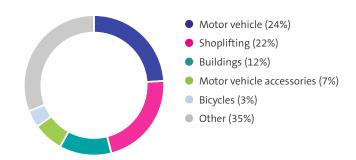
Residential dwellings are also at a greater risk **during the day**, while most non-residential burglaries occur at night.<sup>8</sup>

## **Burglary by Time of Day**<sup>B</sup> and type of residence



In 2015, **46% of larceny-theft** known to law enforcement was worth **over \$200**. The most commonly reported types of theft included **motor vehicle theft** and **shoplifting**. The category "other" included pocket-picking, purse-snatching, coinoperated machine thefts, thefts involving items from behind a fenced enclosure, the theft of animals, outdoor furniture and machinery, boats, jet skis, and airplanes.<sup>B</sup>

### Larceny-Theft by Type<sup>B</sup>



### **NOTES**

- 1 The NCVS measures household burglary.
- 2 Household theft is categorized as the taking (attempted or completed) of property by an individual who has a right to be in the house. Household burglary is categorized as the taking of property by an individual who has no right to be in the house.
- 3 For all trends: In 2006, the NCVS methodology was updated. Please be careful when comparing to other years.
- 4 The FBI defines strong-arm tactics as the use of hands, arms, feet, fists, or teeth as a weapon.

### **SOURCES**

- A Bureau of Justice Statistics, *National Crime Victimization Survey*, Concatenated File, 1992-2015, (U.S. Department of Justice)
- B FBI, *Crime in the United States*, 1995–2015, (U.S. Department of Justice), UCR Data tool, Years 1995–2014; 2015 Violent Crime Tables 1, 23; 2015 Robbery Table 3





