

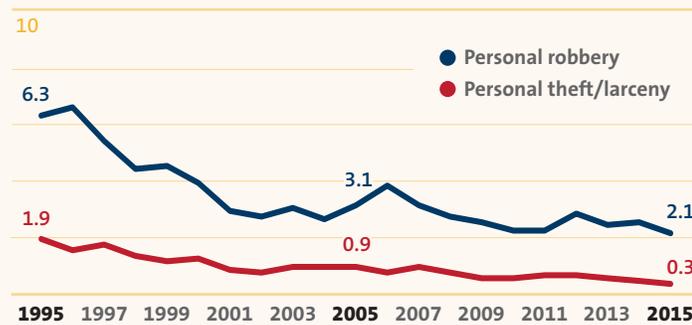
# Burglary, Theft, Robbery

Burglary, theft, and robbery each amount to billions of dollars in total monetary losses each year. Larceny-theft (or simply “theft”) is defined as the unlawful removal of property. Burglary, a property crime, is defined as theft from an unoccupied dwelling. Robbery, unlike theft or burglary, is considered a violent crime and occurs when an individual is present during a theft or attempted theft.

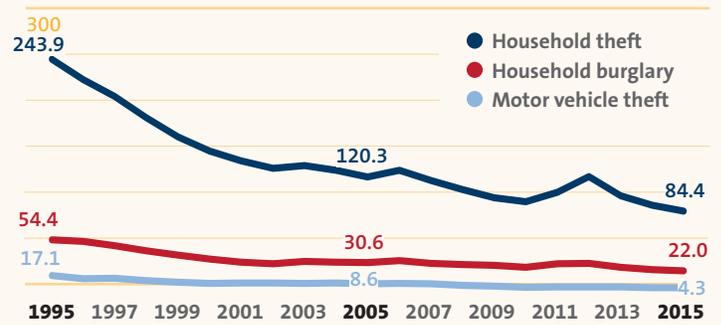
## Trends

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 individuals 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 household burglary and household theft\* have declined 60% and 65%, respectively. The rate of **motor vehicle theft** has also **declined 75%** (from 17.1 to 4.3).<sup>A</sup>

**Personal Robbery and Theft<sup>A</sup>**  
rate per 1,000 people

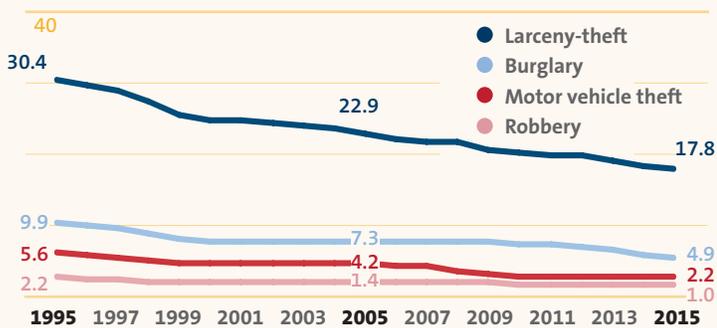


**Household Theft, Burglary, and Motor Vehicle Theft<sup>A</sup>**  
rate per 1,000 people



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. The convergence of these numbers indicates that victims of burglary, robbery, and theft, on average, report their victimization to law enforcement.<sup>B</sup>

**Burglary, Theft, and Robbery Known to Law Enforcement<sup>B</sup>**  
rate per 1,000 people



### Did You Know?

In 2014, **60.9% of robberies** were reported to the police, up 10% since 2005.<sup>A</sup>

**32% of men** robbed in 2014 were robbed by a **stranger**; **23% of women** were robbed by **someone they knew**.<sup>A</sup>

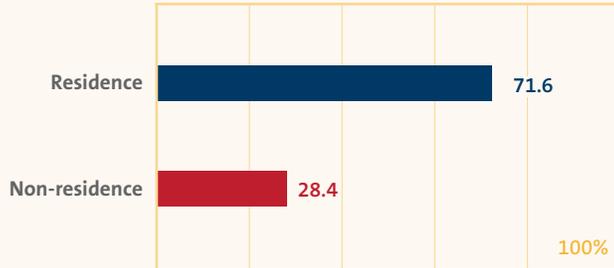
**41%** of robberies involve the use of **strong-arm tactics**, while **38%** involve the use of **firearms**.<sup>B\*\*</sup>

**31** out of 1,000 individuals were victims of burglary by **forcible entry**; **19** out of 1,000 were victims of burglary by **unlawful entry**.<sup>B</sup>

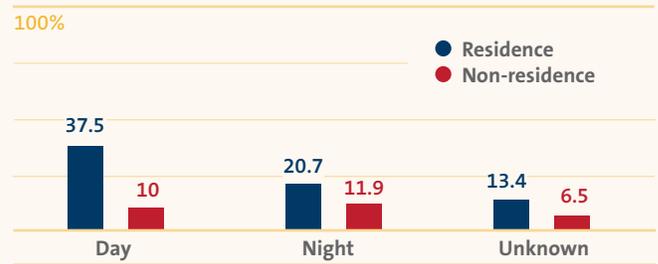
# Current Data on Burglary, Theft, Robbery

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 unknown times throughout the day.<sup>B</sup>

**Location of Burglary<sup>B</sup>**  
by type of residence



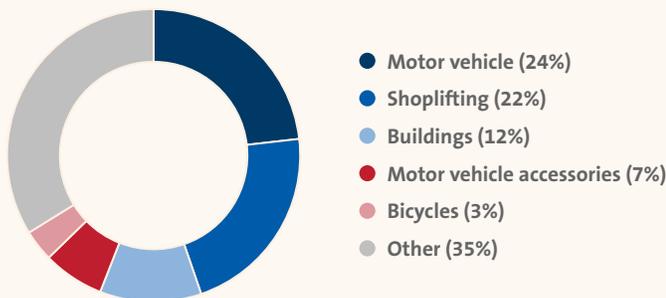
**Burglary by Time of Day<sup>B</sup>**  
and type of residence



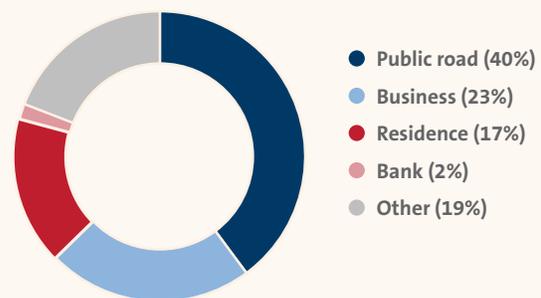
In 2015, **46% of larceny-theft** known to law enforcement was worth **over \$200**. The most commonly reported types of theft include **motor vehicle theft** and **shoplifting**, as well as other forms of larceny-theft not categorized by the UCR. The category “other” includes pick-pocketing, purse-snatching, coin-operated 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>

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>

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



**Location of Robbery<sup>B</sup>**



**NOTES**

- \* 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.
- \*\* 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, 1992-2014*, (U.S. Department of Justice)
- B FBI, *Crime in the United States, 1995 - 2015*, (U.S. Department of Justice), <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2015/crime-in-the-u.s.-2015/tables/table-23>

