

# Scope and Cost of Victimization

## National

- In 2004, U.S. residents age 12 or older experienced an estimated 24 million violent and property victimizations.
- Youth between the ages of 12 and 15 experienced the highest rate of overall violent victimizations during 2003-2004, with a rate of 50.7 per 1000 persons.
- In 2004, 50 percent of all violent victimizations and 39 percent of all property crimes were reported to the police.
- Law enforcement made an estimated 597,026 arrests for violent crime in the United States in 2003.
- Adolescents and adults in three percent of U.S. households experienced one or more violent crimes in 2003. That same year, 12.7 percent of U.S. households experienced one or more property crimes.
- State compensation programs paid crime victims and their families \$426 million in benefits in federal fiscal year 2004.
- The direct cost of child abuse and neglect in the U.S. totals more than \$24 billion annually (including law enforcement, judicial system, child welfare, and mental and physical health costs).
- Robbery offenders took an estimated \$514 million from their victims in 2003. Among individual property crimes in 2003, estimated dollar losses were \$3.5 billion for burglary, \$4.9 billion for larceny-theft, and \$8.6 billion for motor vehicle theft.
- Since 1982, total justice expenditures more than quadrupled from nearly \$36 billion to over \$167 billion in 2001.
- Many school districts report losses in excess of \$250,000 because of school closings and costs of bomb search squads.

*Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime.  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc)*