

UVU Campus Theft



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Existing Literature

Police can't prevent every crime

Police react to crime

Police community involvement (Chicago policing initiative)

C.R.A.V.E.D

UVU policing methods

Margin of Error

1. Not enough responses
2. Falsifying info on survey
 - a. Memory recall issues
 - b. Reporting to Police
3. Considering an off campus theft
 - a. Define campus area

How we conducted our research

Composed a survey of 30 questions to be sent out among UVU students who were enrolled full time in school.

Survey was kept open for 3 weeks with a reminder email sent out every monday.

Out of 500 emails sent 84 responses were received, 74 of which were completed surveys.

Hypothesis

Utah Valley University Police cannot be everywhere and cannot prevent every crime.

Due to this fact students need to become involved in making themselves less of a target.

We intend to find ways, if any, that students are using to ensure that they do not become a victim of theft, while looking for a correlation between students who make their property a “hard target”, and those that do not.

Results of our survey

Most items taken from vehicles

The perpetrator was unknown in 73% of cases according to respondents

When the perpetrator was known, it was more likely to be a stranger

Most respondents reported the theft to police, but 28% of respondents did not tell anyone about the theft, with the most common reason being the items stolen did not have a high enough dollar amount to report

The majority of items not reported were worth less than \$100

Results of our survey

54% of students surveyed had items stolen from them.

Of the 54%, 75% had been a victim more than once.

44% of the thefts were electronic devices

46% of reported thefts were valued at less than \$100 and 21% were between \$100 and \$200 dollars, however 35% were worth \$300 or more

52% of thefts including electronics were over \$200

Debit and credit card theft amounts might not be accurate

Students who reported leaving items alone had more than a 10% higher chance of experiencing theft

Results of the our survey, cont.

Most cash thefts were less than \$100

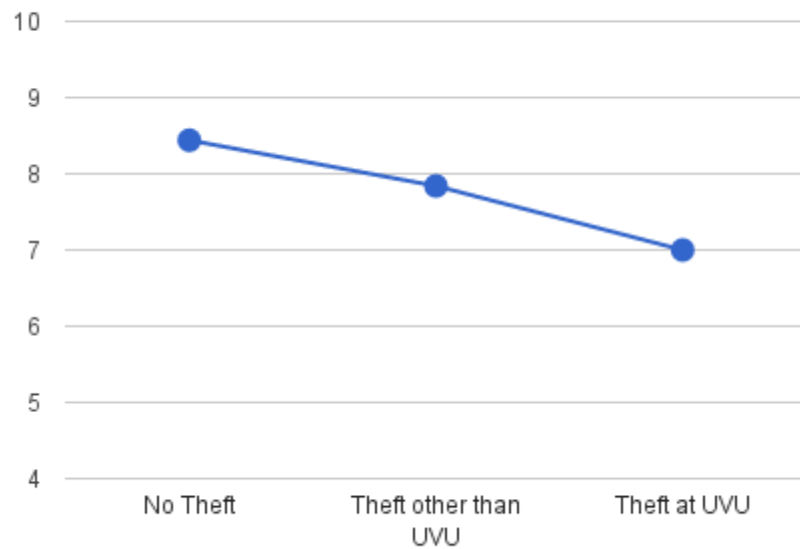
31% of thefts reported were at UVU

Out of thefts reported at UVU, the most thefts happened in the library

While 92% of respondents said they locked their cars, more than half of vehicle thefts were from unlocked cars.

Students who had experienced a theft at UVU reported feeling less safe on campus.

On a scale from 0-10, how safe do you feel on campus at UVU?



Student Safety

75% of the students surveyed feel safe on campus and do not fear becoming a victim to on campus theft.

61% of students feel comfortable reporting the theft to police, with 46% being undecided on the effectiveness of the UVU police.

Current methods used to prevent theft

Keep Items within arms reach

Keeping bags closed when not in use

Leaving expensive items at home, as a high amount of thefts were from vehicles

Lock car and home

Our Suggestions

Signs in library not to leave items unattended

Situational awareness is low, being 44% of students are not aware of the surroundings on a consistent basis.

Homework, watching videos, and multitasking being the biggest reasons why one would not pay attention to their surroundings.

Make yourself a harder target by maintaining control of your valuables.

Conclusion

For the number of responses we got 54%, more than half, had been a victim to theft. If the whole campus were to be surveyed we would assume the same trends to be found, meaning campus theft is a problem at UVU. Police react to crime and do not prevent crime. The only person who can prevent a crime, theft, is the individual. Taking precautions on where they leave items and if the items are secure will prevent the majority of thefts. Not only can you prevent your own things from being stolen, we all need to be vigilant and take matters in our own hands if we witness a theft taking place we should confront the individual and do what is necessary to retrieve the item.