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## The profile of households victims of burglary

4.8% of households in mainland France were victims of a burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force at their main residence between 2005/2006 and 2012/2013<sup>1</sup>.

Of these households, and according to their socio-demographic characteristics, it is believed that the households least affected by this type of offence are those that, for the most part, are one-person households in a disadvantaged socio-economic position (economically inactive or unemployed and with low incomes). Around 4.5% of these households were victims, compared with 5.3% of couple households in a favourable socio-economic position.

The proportion of victims is also related to the type of accommodation of the household. Just 4.2% of households identified as tenants of a small apartment reported being victims. On the other hand, 5.3% of owners (or tenants) of large detached houses reported having been victims of this type of offence.

Lastly, the proportion of victims varies according to the type of neighbourhood. The largest proportions of victims live in densely populated areas or residential suburban areas, with 5.4% of households reporting being victims compared with 4.5% of households in densely-populated areas and in shared accommodation in the city centre and 4.7% in rural areas and peri-urban areas with a low population density and comprised of individual housing.

Around 132,000 households were surveyed during the "living environment and security" surveys conducted between 2007 and 2014. Once weighted, this sample is representative of households in mainland France over the period covered by the survey. During the course of these surveys, it was estimated that 4.8% of households declared that they had been victims of burglary (1.7%), attempted burglary (1.6%) or unlawful entry without force (1.7%) at their main residence in the two years prior to the survey<sup>2</sup>.

Apart from information on the offences suffered by households, the CVS survey provides information that can be used to describe households and their environment, in particular on 1) the socio-demographic characteristics of the household and its head of household, 2) the neighbourhood and 3) the accommodation at the time of the offence, where applicable<sup>3</sup>. [1]

Based on these three types of characteristics, the study proposes a typology analysis that can be used to draw up a profile of households in mainland France and to provide the rate of victimisation for the offences analysed in this document for each resulting household profile.

### 1 Variables used in relation to the characteristics of the household, accommodation and neighbourhood



Qualifications of head of household  
Household income  
Marital status  
Type of household  
Profession and socio-professional category of head of household  
Employment status  
Age of head of household



Owner/tenant  
Surface area  
Building supervisor present  
Number of security features  
Presence of a dog  
Type of accommodation



Centrality  
Size of the urban unit  
Type of neighbourhood  
Sensitive Urban Zone  
Awareness of burglary

(1) This category of offences was introduced in the ONDRP [Annual Report for 2014](#) (p. 317) with the aim of producing an indicator comparable to the English language definition of "burglary".  
(2) The rates of victimisation stated in parentheses are not added since a given household that has experienced an attempted burglary and unlawful entry without force, for example, will count towards each rate of victimisation.  
(3) All of the variables and characteristics are brought together in an Excel document attached to this publication and published online. Readers can access all statistics used in the preparation of this study and which are necessary to understand the results.

# The creation of a typology

The creation of a typology<sup>4</sup>, which would consist of a reduction in the number of characteristics of a group of individuals, would make it easier to process statistical data and to summarise the results obtained from the same. The volume of information available obtained in relation to households and their environment through the CVS survey renders the analysis of each characteristic cumbersome and difficult to interpret. Thus, out of 17 variables and 70 modalities, the classification creates 11 groups based on three types of characteristics: neighbourhood, accommodation and household.

The table below summarises the information contained in each group created by the classification. The description associated with each group describes the characteristics most often observed within these groups. Using these groups, we can present the structure of the population of households in mainland France and the rate of victimisation for households associated with burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force.

## 2 Description of groups produced by the typology

Characteristics based on...	Group	Name	Description	Class
Neighbourhood	Q1	Suburban, mixed housing	SUZ in the urban unit (far away); built-up and residential area; suburb; more than 100,000 inhabitants; no particular knowledge of burglaries	22.7
	Q2	Rural / peri-urban, low-density housing	Rural or peri-urban; far away from SUZs; dispersed houses or residential area, fewer than 20,000 inhabitants; extensive knowledge of burglaries in the neighbourhood	44.3
	Q3	City centre, densely populated	SUZ or close to SUZ; town or residential area; city centre; more than 20,000 inhabitants; little knowledge of burglaries	33.1
Residential	L1	Small apartment, protected	Building supervisor present; one or two security features; no dog; property; tenant; 25-70m <sup>2</sup>	33.9
	L2	Small detached house or apartment, unprotected	No building supervisor; no security features; detached house or apartment; tenant; 40-70m <sup>2</sup> ;	12.2
	L3	Terraced house with little protection	No building supervisor; little security; terraced house; owner-occupier or people with the possibility of ownership; 70-100m <sup>2</sup>	20
	L4	Large detached house, no or many security features	No building supervisor; few or no security features; presence of a dog; detached house; owner-occupier or people with the possibility of ownership; more than 70m <sup>2</sup>	33.9
Household	M1	Couple; economically active; average/high income	Couple with no children; married; qualified; intermediate or intellectual profession; in employment; average-high or high incomes; 35-65 years	29.9
	M2	Couple; economically active; low income	Couple with children; few qualifications; artisan, labourer, employed; actively employed; lower and lower-middle class; 25-44 years	20.4
	M3	Single person; higher income; economically active or inactive	Single person or single-parent family; no professions and socio-professional category, intermediate or senior profession; in active employment or economically inactive; upper-middle or upper class; 15-24 years of age and 55 and over	19.5
	M4	Single person, elderly, low income	Single person or single-parent family; few qualifications, artisan, labourer, employed; unemployed or economically inactive; lower or lower-middle class; over 45	30.3

## More victims among economically-active couples with high incomes

Based on households' socio-demographic characteristics, the summary obtained using the classification carried out identifies four groups [2, 3].

- Economically-active couples with average or high incomes (M1) account for 30% of households surveyed according to the classification carried out. The rate of victimisation for households in this group is estimated at 5.3%. This is the highest rate among the four groups of households.

- For the most part, the «M2» category consists of households in a disadvantaged socio-economic position comprised of couples with children and with average to low incomes, and where the head of the household is in employment. This group accounts for some 20% of households surveyed. 4.4% of these households reported having been the victim of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force in the year prior to the survey. While this is the lowest rate of victimisation across all categories, it is not significantly different from the rate for category "M4".
- The category "M3" consists of young single persons in employment, the elderly and economically-inactive persons with high incomes. This category accounts for 20% of households. Of these households, 4.8% reported being victims of the offences studied here in the CVS surveys for 2007-2014.

(4) Readers can access information on the method of classification used to create typologies in [Grand-Angle 33](#). The method used here is similar.

- Single persons over 45 in a disadvantaged socio-economic position make up the category "M4". 30% of all households are part of this group. Of these households, 4.5% report having been victims of the offence that is the focus of this study.

The different rates of victimisation presented for these categories highlight income as a factor and, on a broader level, membership of a higher "social class" (graduate degree and higher socio-professional category) as elements that bear a positive correlation with the rate of victimisation. Conversely, fewer households in a disadvantaged socio-economic position report being victims of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force than

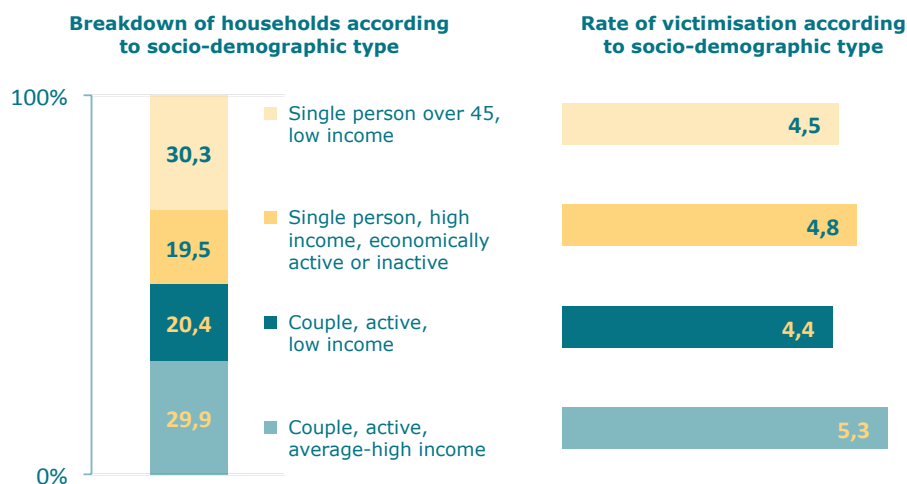
other households.

## More owners of large detached homes are victims

A typology of households based on the characteristics of their accommodation has resulted in the creation of four classes of accommodation for residents of mainland France for the period 2007-2014.

- The group "L1" consists of small rented apartments. For the most part, this type of accommodation contains one or two security features and is protected by a building supervisor. This group accounts for 34% of households surveyed. Of these households, an estimated 4.2% reported being victims of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force in the year prior to the survey. This is the lowest rate for all types of accommodation.
- A second category ("L2") is for the most part comprised of small detached houses or rented apartments. For the most part, this type of accommodation has no security features. This category, which is smaller in terms of the number of people, accounted for around 12% of households surveyed. 4.5% of households in this category reported being victims in the CVS survey from 2007 to 2014.
- The third category ("L3") is notable for the frequent presence of terraced houses occupied by first-time homebuyers. In general, homes in this category, which have little protection, are between 70 and 100m<sup>2</sup> in surface area.

### ③ Types of households, proportions and rate of victimisation

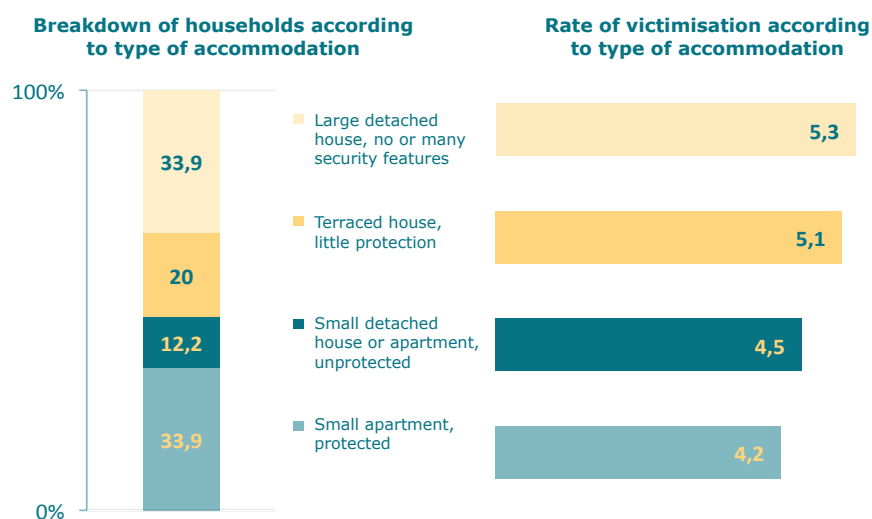


Source: "Living environment and safety" surveys 2007-2014, ONDRP processing  
Scope: Ordinary households, rate of victimisation over two years, mainland France.

This category accounts for 20% of households and, of these, it is estimated that 5.1% reported being victims of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force between 2007 and 2014.

- The final category of accommodation ("L4") consists of large detached houses. In many cases, houses in this category have a dog and, in most cases, are owner-occupied or occupied by people with the possibility of ownership. This category contains accommodation with no or many security features (three or more). Thus, this group in itself does not represent one particular type of accommodation that, for the most part, is characterised by a given level of security. This type of accommodation accounts for 34% of households questioned during the course of the surveys, making up the largest group in terms of size. Within this group, 5.3% of households reported being victims of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force in the year prior to the survey. However, this rate is not significantly different from

### ④ Types of accommodation, proportions and rate of victimisation



Source: "Living environment and safety" surveys 2007-2014, ONDRP processing  
Scope: Ordinary households, rate of victimisation over two years, mainland France.

the rate for the group "L3". The groupings created reveal a distinction between apartments on the one hand and houses on the other, as well as a sliding scale according to the surface area of homes. Rates of victimisation appear to be significantly higher for single households and large households than for collective dwellings. The characterisation

of groups in terms of the number of security features is made difficult by the simultaneous presence of households with no such features and those with many security features in "L4". In this instance, it is impossible to comment on the link between the number of security features and the rate of victimisation.

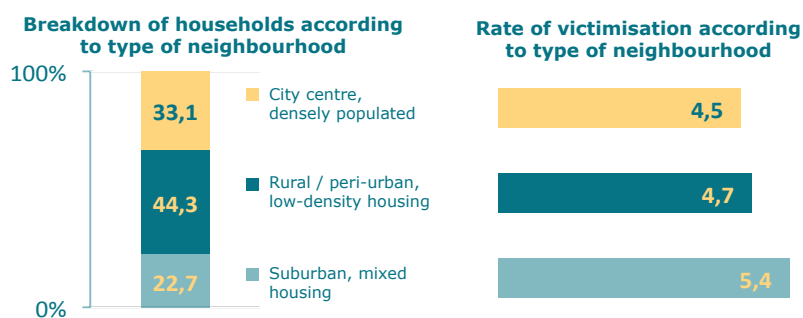
## Fewer households in densely-populated city centres are victims

Groups of neighbourhoods are created based on the size of the urban unit, the level of centrality, type of accommodation and proximity to sensitive urban zones (SUZs) of the household surveyed. In addition, these factors include an indicator of households' awareness of the occurrence of burglaries in the neighbourhood.

Based on these characteristics, the classification proposes that households be grouped together according to the three types of neighbourhood or environment.

- The first neighbourhood group ("Q1") is characterised by mixed housing (buildings and houses) located in the suburbs with a large population<sup>5</sup>. 23 % of respondent households fall into this group. Households in this group, which is the smallest in terms of the number of people, most often reported being victims of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force in the year prior to the survey. Indeed, the rate of victimisation for this group is estimated at 5.4%.
- The second group («Q2») consists of households in rural or peri-urban areas, far away from SUZs, in sparsely-populated areas with small populations. Within this group, households tend to be aware of burglaries that occur around them. This category accounts for 44% of households surveyed and is the largest category in terms of the number of people. Within this group, 4.7% of households report being victims of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force.
- City centres, comprised of a densely-populated area in or near an SUZ and a large population, constitute the third group ("Q3"). These neighbourhoods are also characterised by poor knowledge of the occurrence of burglaries among respondents. Households in this group account for around one-third of households in mainland France (33%). 4.5% of households in this group reported being victims of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force in CVS surveys conducted from 2007 to 2014. This rate is not significantly different from that of the group "Q2".

### ⑤ Types of neighbourhood, proportions and rate of victimisation



Source: "Living environment and safety" survey 2007-2014, ONDRP processing  
Scope: Ordinary households, rate of victimisation over two years, mainland France.

Thus, it would appear that households in the suburbs in large urban communities report being victims of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force most often. Conversely, it is believed that households in city centres and rural areas are less likely to be victims of these offences than other households. The rate of victimisation among households in the suburbs is 0.7 percentage points higher than in rural areas and 0.9 percentage points higher than in city centres.

## A first step in profile analysis

A reading of these results provides a better understanding of the typology of households in mainland France and their chances of being victims of burglary, attempted burglary or unlawful entry without force. This descriptive structural analysis conducted on the basis of three main types of characteristics - household, accommodation, neighbourhood - proposes elements of knowledge on the profile of households that have been victims of burglary in France. The characteristics of these profiles are structurally stable over time.

Rates of victimisation calculated on the basis of characteristics and the groups created here are not additive and an overall descriptive analysis goes beyond the descriptive framework of this study. Particular attention should be paid to the causality of the factors identified on the probability of being a victim of burglary in future research. In particular, this research will highlight the marginal effect of each characteristic, providing a more detailed knowledge of the mechanisms of victimisation and, more specifically, of the effectiveness of security features.

(5) See the file attached for the full definition of the modalities used.