

Identity Theft Victim Complaint Data

Figures and Trends
January 1- December 31, 2002

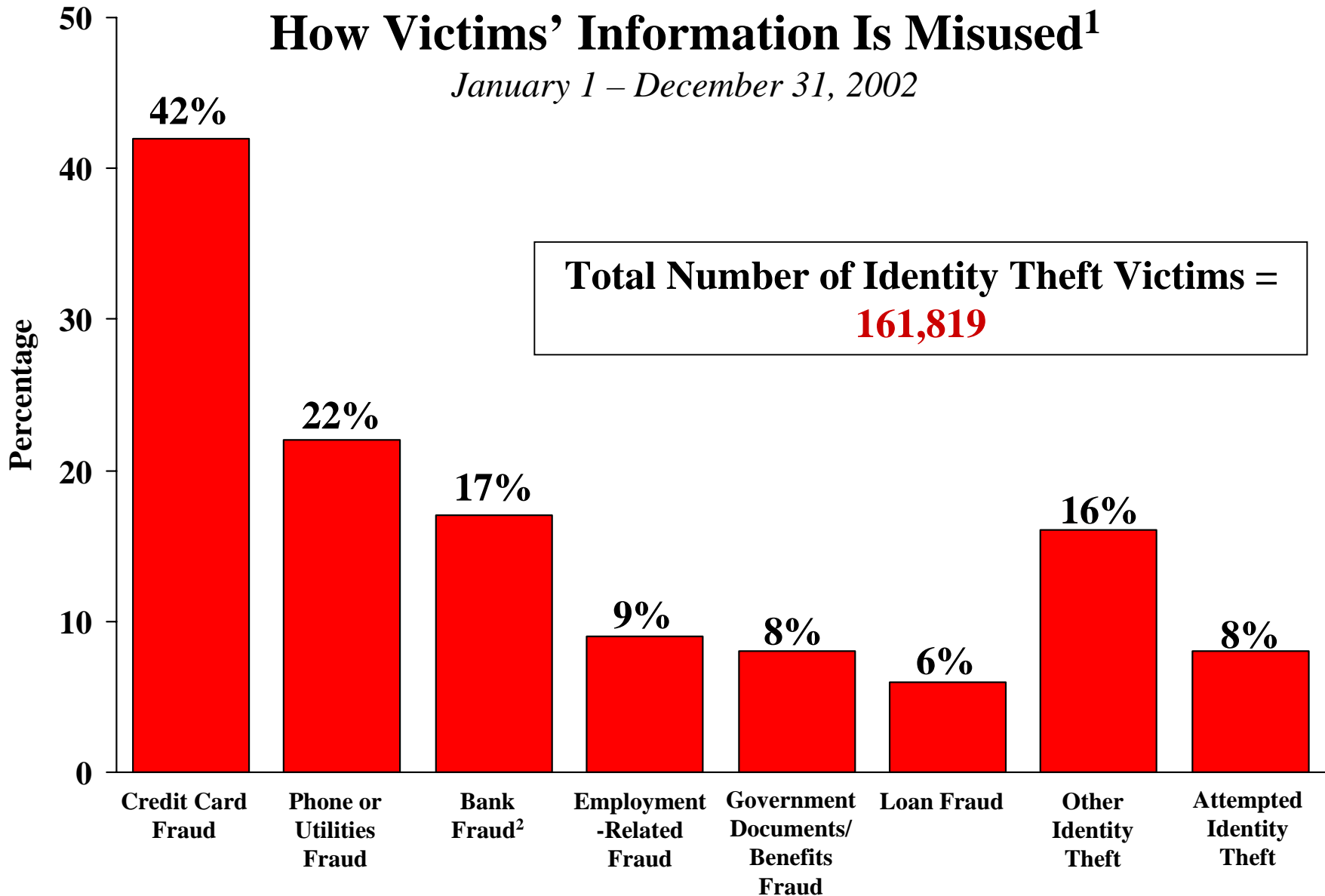


Federal Trade Commission
Washington, DC

Figure 1

How Victims' Information Is Misused¹

January 1 – December 31, 2002



Total Number of Identity Theft Victims =
161,819

¹Percentages are based on the 161,819 total victims reporting. Percentages add to more than 100 because approximately 22% of victims reported experiencing more than one type of identity theft. All victims reported experiencing at least one type of identity theft.

²Includes fraud involving checking and saving accounts and electronic fund transfers.

Figure 2

How Victims' Information Is Misused¹

Total Number of Identity Theft Victims = **161,819**

January 1 – December 31, 2002

Credit Card Fraud: 42%

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>Percent of All Victims</i>
New Accounts	24.4%
Existing Accounts	12.1
Unspecified	5.4

Phone or Utilities Fraud: 22%

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>Percent of All Victims</i>
Wireless - New	10.5%
Telephone - New	5.2
Utilities - New	3.0
Unauthorized Charges to Existing Accounts	0.7
Unspecified	2.2

Bank Fraud²: 17%

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>Percent of All Victims</i>
Existing Accounts	8.1%
New Accounts	3.7
Electronic Fund Transfer	3.1
Unspecified	2.0

Employment-Related Fraud: 9%

<i>Theft Subtype</i>	<i>Percent of All Victims</i>
Employment-Related Fraud	9.3%



Attempted Identity Theft: 8%

<i>Theft Subtype</i>	<i>Percent of All Victims</i>
Attempted Identity Theft	8.3%

Government

Documents or Benefits Fraud: 8%

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>Percent of All Victims</i>
Driver's License Issued / Forged	3.0%
Fraudulent Tax Return	1.9
Social Security Card Issued / Forged	1.7
Gov't Benefits Applied For / Received	0.8
Other Gov't Docs Issued / Forged	0.3
Unspecified	0.1

Loan Fraud: 6%

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>Percent of All Victims</i>
Business / Personal / Student Loan	2.6%
Auto Loan / Lease	2.1
Real Estate Loan	0.9
Unspecified	0.5

Other Identity Theft: 16%

<i>Theft Subtypes</i>	<i>Percent of All Victims</i>
Other	9.1%
Illegal / Criminal	2.0
Medical	1.7
Internet / E-Mail	1.4
Apartment / House Rented	1.0
Bankruptcy	0.4
Securities / Other Investments	0.2

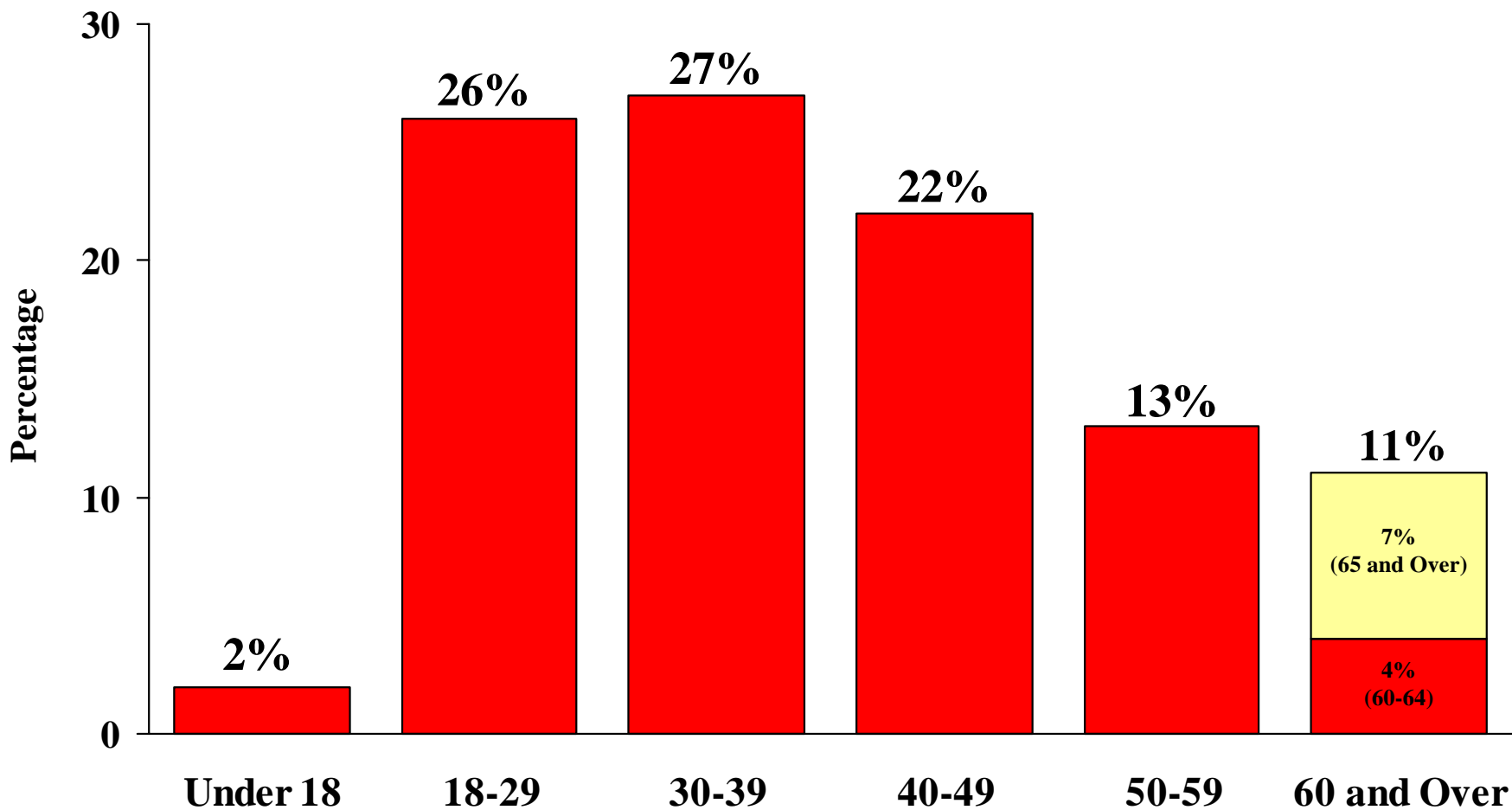
¹Percentages are based on the 161,819 total victims reporting. Percentages add to more than 100 because approximately 22% of victims reported experiencing more than one type of identity theft. All victims reported experiencing at least one type of identity theft.

²Includes fraud involving checking and saving accounts and electronic fund transfers.

Figure 3

Complaints by Victim Age¹

January 1 – December 31, 2002

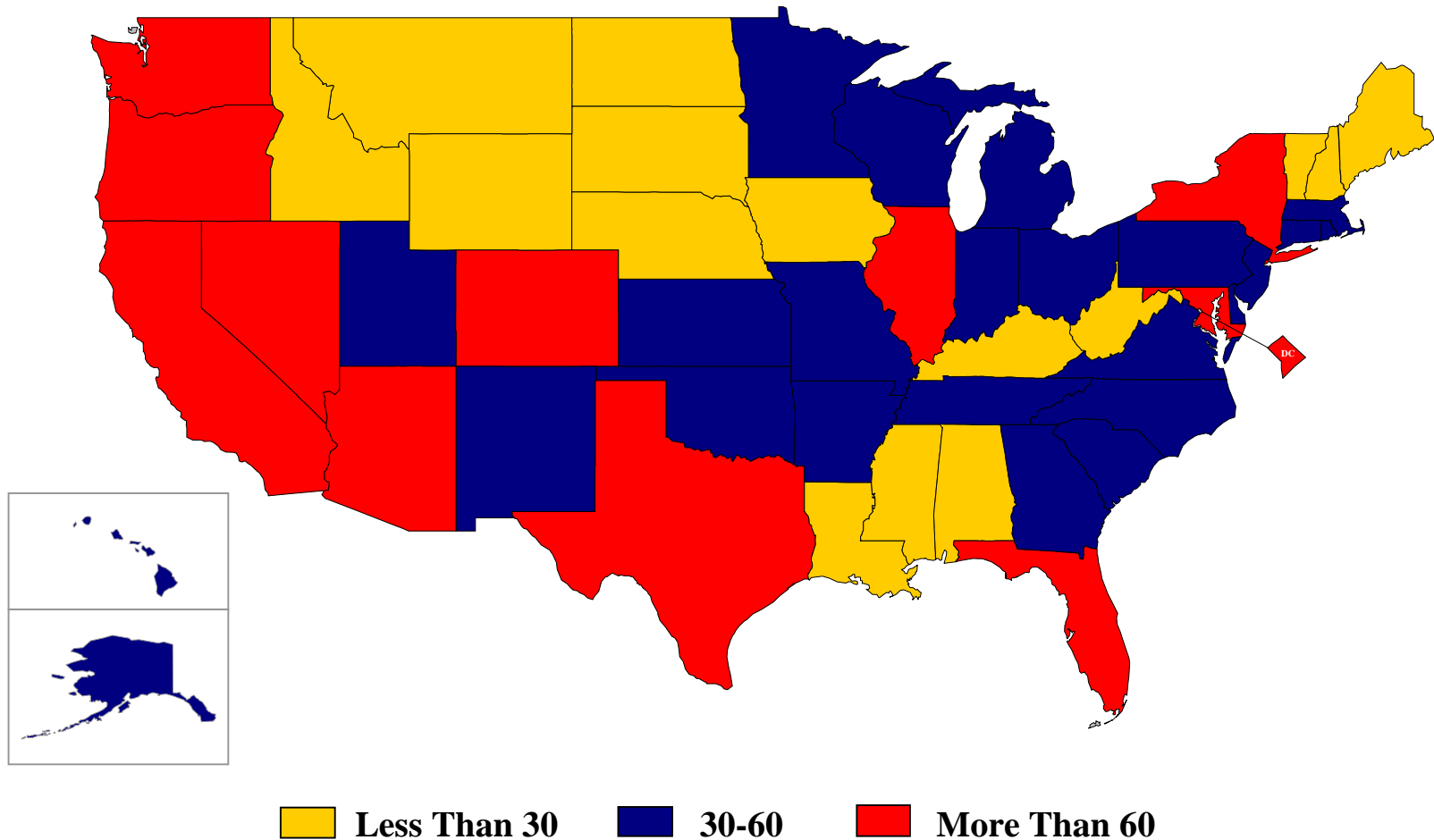


¹Percentages are based on the 130,917 victims who provided their age, which represents 94% of the victims who contacted the Federal Trade Commission directly.

Figure 4a

Identity Theft Victims by State (Per 100,000 Population)¹

January 1 – December 31, 2002



¹Figured using the Census 2000 state population estimates (source: U.S. Census Bureau). 96% of the 161,819 total victims reporting indicated their state of residence.

Figure 4b

Identity Theft Victims by State (Per 100,000 Population)¹

January 1 – December 31, 2002

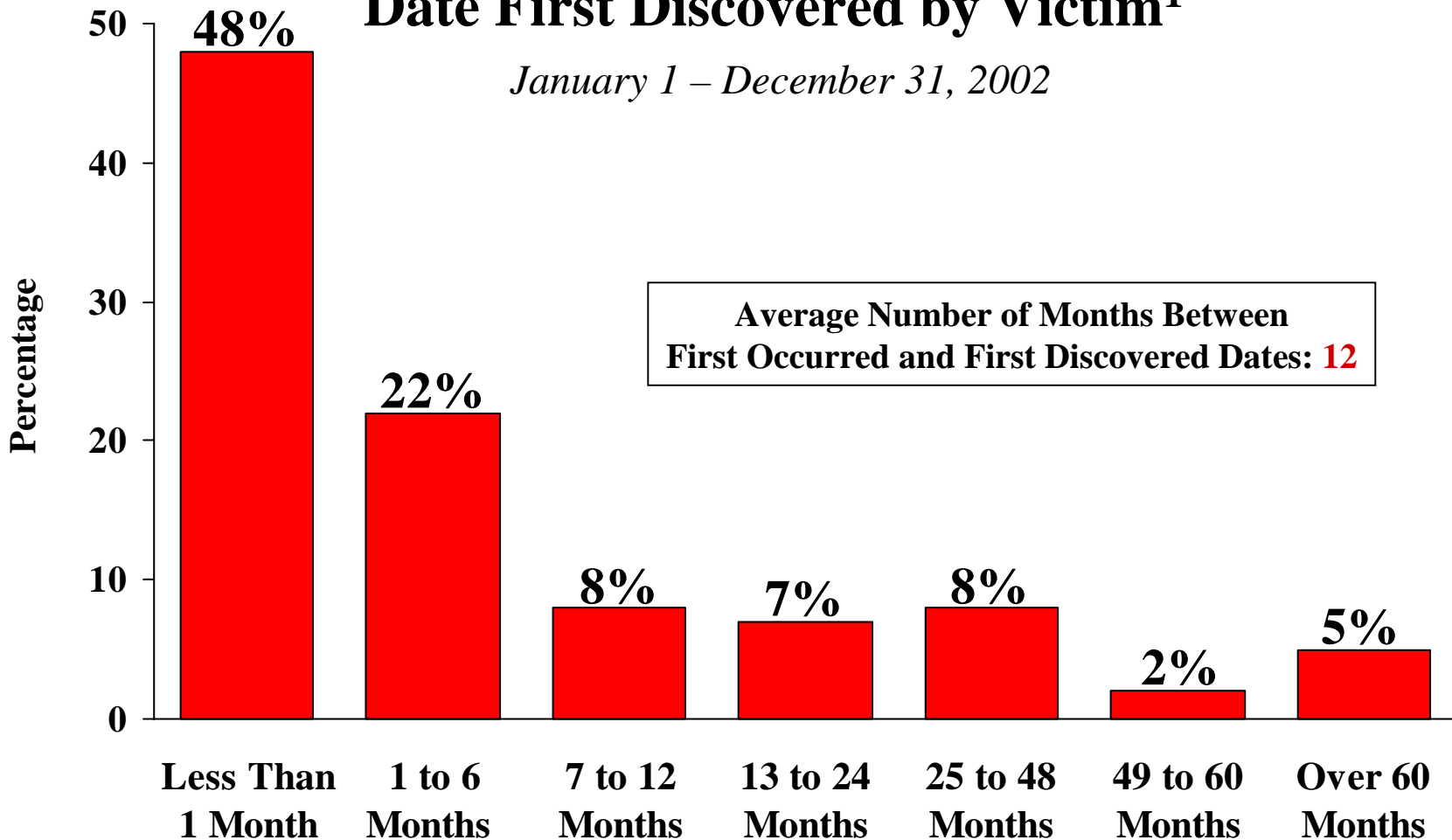
Rank	Victim State	Victims Per 100,000 Population	Number of Victims	Rank	Victim State	Victims Per 100,000 Population	Number of Victims
1	District of Columbia	123.1	704	27	Rhode Island	39.2	411
2	California	90.7	30,738	28	Delaware	38.7	303
3	Arizona	88.0	4,517	29	Minnesota	38.1	1,873
4	Nevada	85.3	1,705	30	Ohio	35.8	4,065
5	Texas	68.9	14,357	31	Tennessee	34.5	1,962
6	Florida	68.2	10,898	32	Kansas	33.2	893
7	New York	66.9	12,698	33	Wisconsin	33.1	1,777
8	Washington	66.1	3,894	34	Oklahoma	32.3	1,115
9	Maryland	66.0	3,497	35	South Carolina	30.9	1,239
10	Oregon	64.3	2,200	36	Arkansas	30.1	806
11	Colorado	61.8	2,660	37	Louisiana	29.7	1,329
12	Illinois	60.2	7,474	38	Alabama	28.7	1,276
13	Georgia	57.5	4,709	39	Mississippi	28.6	814
14	New Jersey	57.1	4,802	40	New Hampshire	28.2	349
15	Hawaii	48.9	593	41	Idaho	27.9	361
16	Virginia	48.0	3,395	42	Nebraska	26.5	454
17	Michigan	46.7	4,640	43	Wyoming	24.9	123
18	Missouri	45.7	2,558	44	Montana	24.5	221
19	New Mexico	45.2	822	45	Maine	24.0	306
20	Indiana	43.0	2,612	46	Kentucky	22.8	923
21	North Carolina	42.0	3,383	47	West Virginia	19.9	360
22	Pennsylvania	41.4	5,080	48	Iowa	18.9	552
23	Massachusetts	40.9	2,597	49	Vermont	17.6	107
24	Connecticut	40.6	1,383	50	South Dakota	16.4	124
25	Utah	39.7	886	51	North Dakota	12.6	81
26	Alaska	39.6	248				

¹Figured using the Census 2000 state population estimates (source: U.S. Census Bureau). 96% of the 161,819 total victims reporting indicated their state of residence.

Figure 5

Number of Months Between Date Identity Theft First Occurred and Date First Discovered by Victim¹

January 1 – December 31, 2002



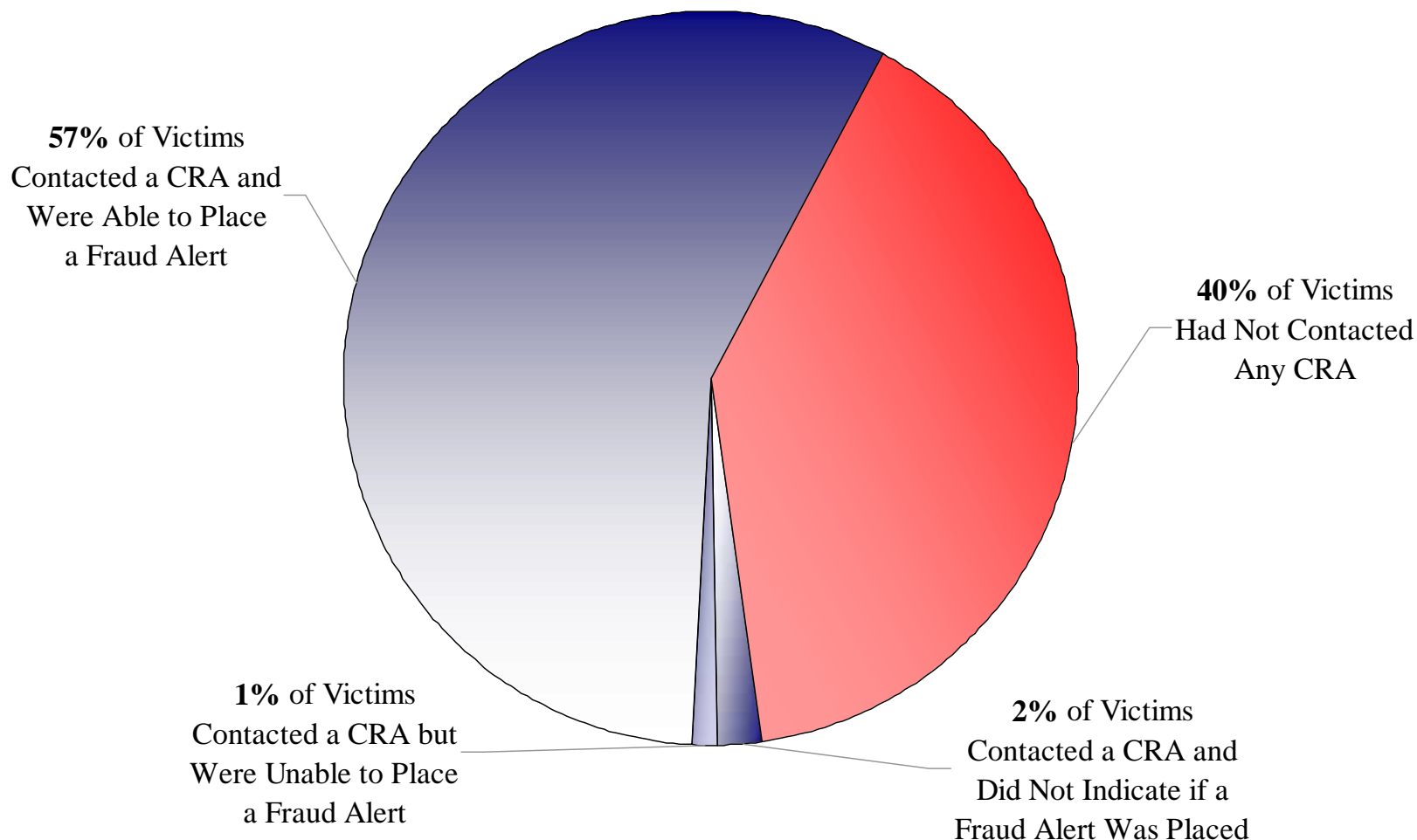
¹Percentages are based on the 81,444 victims who provided the dates on which the identity theft first occurred and they first discovered it, which represents 59% of the victims who contacted the Federal Trade Commission directly. Because some victims experienced multiple instances where their information had been misused, these figures do not track the amount of time it took a victim to discover a particular instance of identity theft, but, rather, the amount of time between the initial misuse of the the victim's information and when the victim first discovered that their information had been misused.



Figure 6

Credit Reporting Agency (CRA) Contact¹

January 1 – December 31, 2002



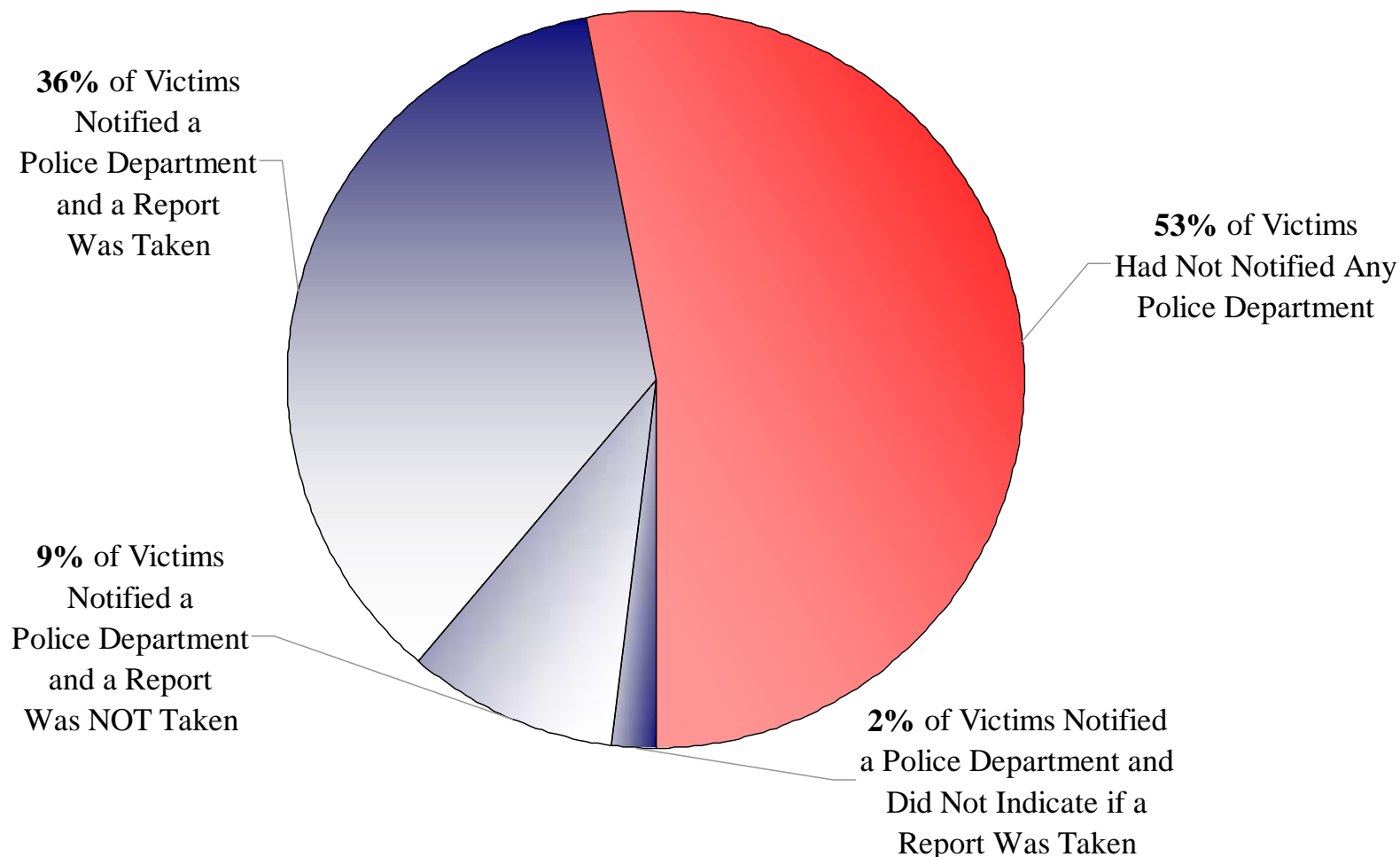
¹Percentages are based on the 132,235 victims who indicated whether they had notified any CRA before contacting the Federal Trade Commission. This chart represents 95% of the victims who contacted the Federal Trade Commission directly.



Figure 7

Law Enforcement Contact¹

January 1 – December 31, 2002



¹Percentages are based on the 131,746 victims who indicated whether they had notified any police department before contacting the Federal Trade Commission. This chart represents 95% of the victims who contacted the Federal Trade Commission directly.