

DID YOU KNOW?

- ▶ More than 33% of all vehicle thefts occur near the car owner's residence.
- ▶ Around 20% of thefts occur in parking lots.
- ▶ 40-50% of vehicle theft is due to driver error, which includes leaving vehicle doors unlocked and leaving keys in the ignition or on the seats.
- ▶ According to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), Friday and Saturday are the two days with the highest frequency of motor vehicle thefts.
- ▶ Based on NIBRS data, **57.1%** of stolen motor vehicles are recovered in the first day and **79.4%** are recovered during the first six days, indicating that the first few days after the theft are critical in recovering a stolen vehicle.



Reporting a Stolen Vehicle

Often times, vehicles thought to be stolen are, in fact, towed due to parking violations or repossessed due to lack of payment.

Before reporting your vehicle stolen, call the UCI Police Department at (949) 824-5223 and determine if your vehicle was impounded.

If your vehicle was not impounded and is to the best of your knowledge stolen, please come to the UCI Police Department to file a report in person. The registered owner or an agent of the legal owner may report the vehicle as being stolen.

When making the report have the following items with you:

- The license plate number of the vehicle
- Vehicle Identification Number "VIN"
- Proof of ownership (pink slip or registration)
- Your identification (California License or other valid ID)

Don't know the license plate or VIN number?

Your insurance company can provide you with your vehicle's VIN. Try looking on your latest insurance statement or the vehicle title.

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PROTECT IT. IT'S YOURS.



VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION



UC Irvine Police Department

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www.police.uci.edu

KNOW THE FACTS

Motor vehicles are the primary mode of transportation for most Americans, and often an indispensable part of their lives. But what would happen if that vehicle suddenly disappeared? Many would find it difficult, if not impossible, to take care of even the simplest everyday errands.



What vehicles are at the most risk?

You might think that the most stolen vehicles are expensive sports vehicles or multi-purpose passenger vehicles, but that's not always the case. In fact, according to the FBI, nearly 73% of all vehicle thefts are of passenger cars.

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|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Dodge Charger | 6. Mitsubishi Galant |
| 2. Pontiac G6 | 7. Chrysler Sebring |
| 3. Chevrolet Impala | 8. Lexus SC |
| 4. Chrysler 300 | 9. Dodge Avenger |
| 5. Infiniti FX35 | 10. Kia Rio |

For more information on NHTSA's final theft rate data, please visit NHTSA.gov/theft



Over 1.3 million cars are stolen every year. Protect your vehicle.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, a vehicle is stolen nearly every **21 seconds**.

Stolen cars, vans, trucks, and motorcycles cost victims time and money — and increase everyone's insurance premiums. They're also used to commit other crimes. Don't be a victim of this crime.

Follow these basic prevention policies:

- Never leave your car running or the keys in the ignition when you're away from it, even for "just a minute."
- Always roll up the windows and lock the car, even if it's in front of your home.
- Never leave valuables in plain view, even if your car is locked. Put them in the trunk or out of sight.
- Remove portable electronic devices such as smart phones and GPS navigation systems. Even the visible appearance of a suction cup ring on the glass windshield can be an enticement to a thief to break in and look for the GPS system.
- When you pay to park in a lot or garage, leave just the ignition or valet key with the attendant. Do the same when you take your car for repairs.

It's Not Just Your Vehicle - Thieves Want the *Parts* Too

Radios and wheel covers aren't the only popular stolen vehicle parts thieves take. They want whatever sells, from the mandated labeled parts to those that aren't. **Vehicle thieves can strip a vehicle in less than 30 minutes - and make two to four times a vehicle's worth by selling its individual parts.**

Top 7 Stolen Car Parts

1. **GPS Units**
Thieves look for these when they are scanning cars for targets.
2. **Catalytic Converters**
These are built from precious metals and because the values of them have soared, they are a tempting target for thieves.
3. **DVD Entertainment Systems**
Thieves know that these are expensive and valuable. Finding buyers isn't difficult.
4. **CD Systems**
Although only valued around \$100, they are easy to steal.
5. **Car Rims**
Custom rims are a real prize for thieves.
6. **Car Tires**
Thieves just need a small crew and can remove all the tires in several minutes.
7. **Unsecured Electronic Items**
People foolishly leave computers, cell phones, and other devices in plain sight.