



2016 California Vehicle Theft Facts

VEHICLE THEFTS

- In 2016, 186,857 vehicles were stolen, at an estimated total value of approximately \$1.3 billion.¹ This figure is based on the average vehicle replacement value established by the National Insurance Crime Bureau.
- Of the vehicles stolen in 2016, 57.7 percent were automobiles, 32.2 percent were personal trucks and sport utility vehicles, 4.1 percent were commercial trucks and trailers, and 4.5 percent were motorcycles. All other vehicles (recreational vehicles, construction and farm equipment, special construction, etc.) accounted for 1.5 percent of thefts.
- Top three theft targets:

Automobiles

Honda Civic 1998
Honda Accord 1996
Honda Accord 1997

Motorcycles

Suzuki 2007
Yamaha 2015
Yamaha 2007

Commercial trucks

Freightliner 2009
Freightliner 2008
Freightliner 2010

Personal Trucks/ Sport Utility Vehicles

Honda CRV 1999
Honda CRV 2000
Honda CRV 1998

Recreational Vehicles

Special Construction Golf Cart 2016
All-Terrain Vehicle 2007
All-Terrain Vehicle 2013

Trailers

Unnamed Utility Trailer 2016
Homemade Utility Trailer 2016
Homemade Utility Trailer 2000

¹ <http://www.iii.org/printpdf/issue-update/auto-theft-03/29/2017>

WHERE THE THEFTS OCCURRED

- Approximately 51.6 percent of all thefts occurred in Southern California (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties). Of the thefts in Southern California, 52.3 percent occurred in Los Angeles County.
- Approximately 17.3 percent of all thefts occurred in the San Francisco Bay Area (Alameda, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara Counties). Of the thefts in the San Francisco Bay area, 42.7 occurred in Alameda County.
- Approximately 13.4 percent of all thefts occurred in the Central Valley (Kern, Fresno, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare, Merced, Madera, and Kings Counties). Of the thefts in the Central Valley, 27.3 occurred in Kern County.
- The remaining 17.7 percent of thefts occurred throughout the remainder of California.

THEFTS	RECOVERIES
Los Angeles Police Department	17,339
California Highway Patrol	12,063
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office	11,873
San Jose Police Department	7,826
Oakland Police Department	5,879
San Diego Police Department	5,762
San Francisco Police Department	5,379
Riverside County Sheriff's Office	5,069
Fresno Police Department	3,515
Sacramento Police Department	2,841

VEHICLE THEFT TRENDS

- The 1998 Honda Civic ranks as the number one stolen vehicle statewide, the 1996 Honda Accord and 1997 Honda Accord are ranked at numbers two and three, respectively. The Honda Civic has replaced the Honda Accord as the number one stolen vehicle for the first time since 2006.

- The Honda CRV leads the list for the top three stolen personal trucks and sport utility vehicles, with the 1999, 2000, and 1998 models ranking number one, two, and three respectively.
- The 2007 Suzuki was the number one stolen motorcycle in 2016, and has ranked in the top three most frequently stolen motorcycles every year since 2008, followed this year by the 2015 and 2007 Yamaha.
- Freightliner commercial trucks model years 2009, 2008, and 2010 ranked as the number one, two, and three respectively for commercial vehicles. John Deere farm equipment has ranked as the number one stolen vehicle in its category since 2008. These vehicles and equipment are popular targets because of their high resale value, popularity, and availability.

VEHICLE RECOVERIES

- Of the 186,857 vehicles stolen statewide in 2016, 90.2 percent were successfully recovered, representing 168,608 recovered vehicles.
- Of the vehicles stolen statewide, 96.3 percent of the automobiles, 48.3 percent of the motorcycles, 91.8 percent of the personal trucks and sport utility vehicles, and 84.2 percent of the commercial trucks were recovered.
- Of the vehicles recovered statewide, 65.1 percent were recovered intact and in drivable condition, 3.6 percent were missing major components, 10.9 percent were stripped of minor parts, and 20.4 percent were intentionally burned and/or wrecked. Less than 1 percent of the thefts were considered cargo theft only.
- In 2016, it was determined 45 of the recovered vehicles were cargo theft only. At less than half a percent, the total number of cargo thefts in California is low compared to overall vehicle thefts; however, it is considered an ongoing problem as cargo theft is estimated to cost Californians hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

AGENCY	RECOVERIES
California Highway Patrol	23,471
Los Angeles Police Department	14,467
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office	11,594
San Jose Police Department	6,163
Oakland Police Department	5,771
Riverside County Sheriff's Office	4,823
San Francisco Police Department	4,596
San Diego Police Department	3,639
Sacramento Police Department	2,666
Fresno Police Department	2,320

INFORMATION SOURCES

- California Department of Justice, Stolen Vehicle System
- California Highway Patrol, Vehicle Theft Information System
- National Insurance Crime Bureau