

Consumer Alert - July is National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month

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The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration wants to remind you to protect yourself from vehicle theft. During National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month in July, the agency is highlighting the preventive measures vehicle owners should take, the importance of addressing the vehicle theft problem, and its significant economic impact.

More than 1 million motor vehicles were stolen in 2022, with more than 250,000 reported to law enforcement during the fourth quarter alone. Historically, passenger cars made up approximately 74% of all stolen motor vehicles. In fact, a motor vehicle is stolen every 32 seconds in the United States.

"National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month is a reminder of the impact of vehicle theft on the daily lives of Americans," said NHTSA Acting Administrator Ann Carlson. "Motor vehicle theft is a crime that costs Americans more than \$8 billion per year. Fortunately, drivers can take precautions to reduce the risk of someone stealing their car."

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

In the United States,
a vehicle is stolen every



32 SECONDS



PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE FROM THEFT



NHTSA

[NHTSA.gov/theft](https://www.nhtsa.gov/theft)

Sources: NHTSA and NICB

As a driver, you can take steps to keep your vehicle and belongings safe:

- Park in well-lit areas.

- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Put away your valuables.
- Do not leave your keys in your vehicle.
- Do not leave the area while your vehicle is running.
- Remember to lock your vehicle every time you walk away to prevent vehicle theft.

For more information on motor vehicle theft prevention, visit [NHTSA.gov/theft](https://www.nhtsa.gov/theft).

Contact:

NHTSA

NHTSA Media NHTSAmidia@dot.gov 202-366-9550