

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is auto theft such an important issue?

Vehicle theft is the number one property crime in the country – costing Americans approximately \$7.6 billion each year.^[1]

My car hasn't been stolen. How does auto theft affect me?

The Insurance Information Institute estimates that auto theft and fraud increases insurance premiums for all drivers by \$200 - \$300 per year.^[1]

I don't drive a sports car – why would someone want to steal my car?

The cost of a car has no relation to which cars are stolen as most cars are stolen for the value of their parts. Thieves look for older vehicles that can be easily dismantled for parts which can be sold easily and quickly. These parts can be worth 2 to 3 times more than the value of the vehicle.

What are the most common cars stolen?

According to the National Insurance Crime Bureau, popular cars for thieves to steal are the Toyota Camry, Nissan Sentra, and Honda Accord and Civic.^[2]

How many stolen cars are ultimately found?

According to the National Insurance Crime Bureau, 62 percent of stolen vehicles are eventually found, with varying levels of damage.^[2]

How can drivers safeguard their vehicles against criminals?

Allstate thinks the most important step that consumers can take against vehicle theft is to have the right protection. State-mandated minimum insurance coverage typically does not cover vehicle theft. Consumers need to be sure their policy includes comprehensive coverage, in addition to collision and liability, to be protected against theft.

Contact your local Allstate agent to have a vulnerability check run on your vehicle and investigate steps you can take to protect yourself from becoming a victim of vehicle-related crime.

^[1] This information was obtained from the Pennsylvania Auto Theft Prevention Authority at www.watchyourcar.org

^[2] This information was obtained from the National Insurance Crime Bureau at www.nicb.org



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(continued)

What tips can Allstate provide to get consumers thinking like thieves and reduce the likelihood they will become a victim of a crime involving their vehicle?

The National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) recommends a “layered approach” to vehicle theft protection, including: [2]

- **Common Sense** - Always lock your vehicle, close all windows and the sun roof, and take your keys with you. One out of every five vehicles stolen had the keys in it, and almost half were left unlocked.
- **Warning Devices** – By utilizing a visible or audible device in your car such as alarms, steering wheel locks or VIN etching, thieves will know that your vehicle is protected.
- **Immobilizing Devices** – Smart keys, fuse cut-offs and kill switches prevent thieves from bypassing your ignition and hot-wiring your vehicle.
- **Tracking Devices** – The final layer of protection is a tracking device which emits a signal to police or monitoring station when the vehicle is stolen. These are very effective in helping authorities recover stolen vehicles.

What are the components of the Allstate Anti-Theft Program?

Bait Car Donations – Allstate is donating “bait cars” to police departments 14 communities around the country. These “bait cars” are specially outfitted with advanced technology designed to catch car thieves in action. An example of a bait car will be on hand to show how these cars are used by law enforcement catch thieves.

These donations will build community relationships with the local law enforcement agencies and generate media coverage. These demonstrations will be positioned as educational events to show spectators how quickly and easily they can be victimized.

Allstate agents will be available with literature and promotional items for attendees who leave their email addresses. A business card or entry form selection can also be held, with the winner receiving a coupon for a related service – such as VIN etching.

Allstate Agents as Theft Resources – The second component of the event will get agents out into the public to personally sell the messages. While the Bait Car event is going on, Allstate agents will work with local law enforcement to move through the parking lot, tagging cars that have an identifiable theft risk with blue flags. The flags will denote to the car owner that their car was deemed “Vulnerable to Theft,” and list the contact information for local agents who can be of assistance in eliminating these vulnerabilities. This interactive process will drive both current Allstate customers and non-customers to contact the agents to learn more, and the agents will be immediately available to the public during the process for passer-bys who have questions.

Who can I contact to get more information on these programs?

Contact your local Allstate agent or go to www.Allstate.com for more information.

[2] This information was obtained from the National Insurance Crime Bureau at www.nicb.org