

# Austin Police Department Auto Theft/Burglary of Vehicle Crime Statistics

Information obtained from APD Property Crime Statistics (Dec 1, to Dec 31, 2013)

Auto Thefts	Auto Thefts	Auto Thefts
Year to Date 2012	Year to Date 2013	% Year to Date Change
2,159	2,055	-5%
Burglary of Vehicle	Burglary of Vehicle	Burglary of Vehicle
Year to Date 2012	Year to Date 2013	% Year to Date Change
13,793	12,896	-7%

**Major patterns for auto thefts during the month of December 2013 were:**

- Trucks: 15 cases – a significant decrease compare to 28 cases the month November
- Hondas: 20 cases (mid 90’s), a significant decrease compare to 32 cases the month of November
- Motorcycles: 13 cases – an slight increase compare to 9 cases the month of November
- In 50% of auto thefts, keys were used to steal the vehicles (keys left in vehicle, lost keys, etc)

**APD reminds you to take safety precaution. It only takes seconds for a thief to take your items, your identity and your car. Don’t give a thief an opportunity to commit these crimes.**

**CRIME PREVENTION TIPS:**

- Lock your car and take your keys even if your only gone a few seconds – remember it only takes a few seconds to steal a vehicle.
- Never hide a second set of keys in or on your car. Extra keys can easily be found by thieves.
- Take your valuables with you. Don’t give thieves the opportunity to steal your valuables.
- Stay alert and be aware of your surroundings
- Invest in vehicle and motorcycle deterrents – wheel locks, steering lock, tracking device, kill switch, etc. APD offers FREE VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) etching.

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- a) Due to methodological differences in data collection, care should be taken when comparing against other reports as different data sources or reports may produce different results.
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<http://www.austintexas.gov/departement/auto-theft>