

Austin Police Department Auto Theft/Burglary of Vehicle Crime Statistics

Information obtained from APD Property Crime Statistics (October 1 -31, 2014)

Auto Thefts	Auto Thefts	Auto Thefts
Year to Date 2013	Year to Date 2014	% Year to Date Change
1,714	1,757	3%
Burglary of Vehicle	Burglary of Vehicle	Burglary of Vehicle
Year to Date 2013	Year to Date 2014	% Year to Date Change
10,711	8,836	-18 %

Major patterns for auto thefts during the month of October 2014 were:

- Trucks: 2 cases – a decrease compared to 7 cases the month of September
- Hondas: 15 cases (mid 90’s), a decrease compared to 24 cases the month of September
- Motorcycles: 20 cases – an increase compared to 16 cases the month of September
- **In 53% of auto thefts, keys were used to steal the vehicles (keys left in vehicle, lost keys, etc).**

The holiday season is fast approaching and auto thieves will be window shopping. Make sure your gifts wind up in the right hands by taking precaution and not leaving any valuables in plain view. Have a safe holiday season.

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS:

- Lock your car and take your keys.
- Never leave your car running even if you’ll only be gone for a minute – leaving your key in an unattended motor vehicle is a crime in Texas.
- **Never hide a spare key or a second set of keys in or around your car. Extra keys are easily found by car thieves.**
- Secure your belongings. Don’t attract thieves by leaving valuables in plain view.
- **Invest in vehicle and motorcycle theft deterrents – wheel locks, steering lock, tracking device, kill switch, etc. APD offers FREE VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) etching.**
- When buying from a private individual, make sure the title and registration are signed and match the name and address of the person selling the car. For title history report: www.txDMV.gov

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