

National Motor Vehicle  
Theft Reduction Council

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Nationally the upward trend in motor vehicle theft continued across the 12 months to December 2016 with a 10 per cent rise bringing the total to 56,967 vehicles stolen. The increase was largely driven by a 13 per cent jump in short term passenger/light commercial (PLC) theft with profit-motivated PLC theft also rising 6 per cent. Thefts declined in NSW, while VIC, QLD and WA saw statistically significant<sup>1</sup> increases. While the gap is closing, total theft is still 5 per cent less than five years ago.

1. Based on Kendall's Tau-B significance testing of theft over a 24 month period.

**The NMVTRC is an initiative of Australian Governments and the Insurance Industry**

The NMVTRC acknowledges all police services, registration authorities, participating insurers, the Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries, Glass's Information Services and Insurance Australia Group for their supply of the data. Theft incident data may be subject to later revision by the data provider.

NMVTRC newsletters are available on the CAR-SAFE website at [www.carsafe.com.au](http://www.carsafe.com.au) and emailed directly to our mailing list. To join our email list contact [info@carsafe.com.au](mailto:info@carsafe.com.au)



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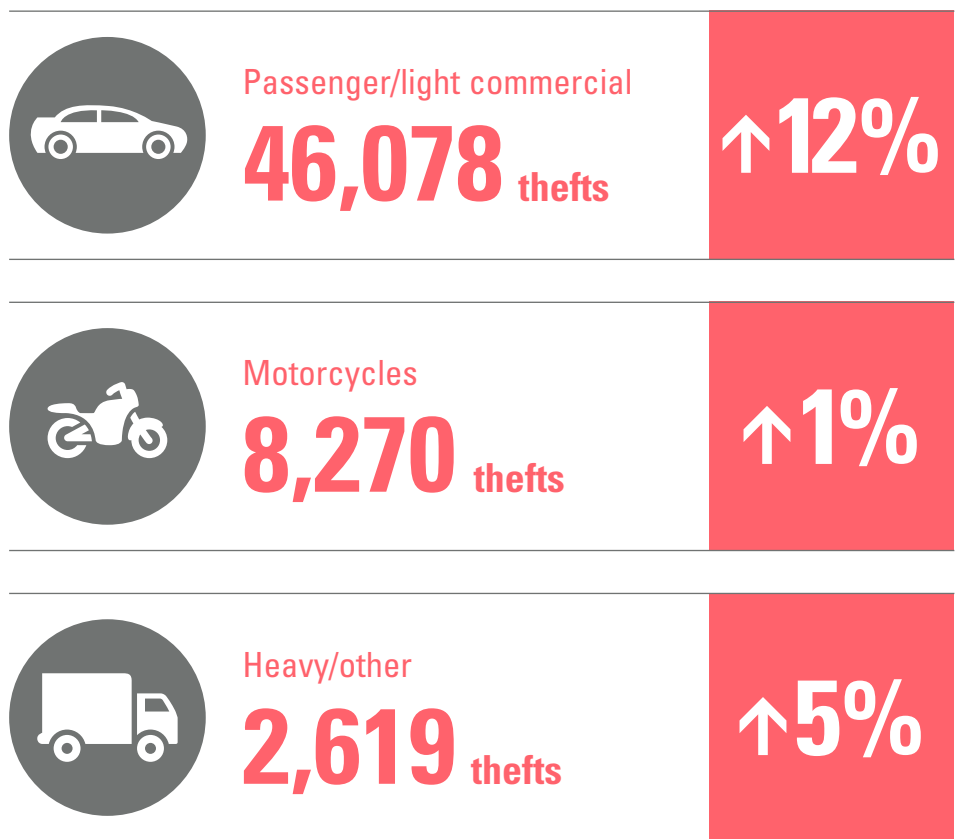


comprehensive auto-theft research system

# theft watch

## 12 months to December 2016

### Total vehicle thefts



### Breakdown by theft type



Short term thefts

**36,044**  
**↑13%**

**3,904**  
**↑4%**

**1,313**  
**↑9%**

Profit-motivated thefts

**10,034**  
**↑6%**

**4,366**  
**↓2%**

**1,306**  
**↑1%**

# State and territory breakdown – PLC theft

**Number of PLC thefts – 12 months ending 31 December 2016**



Thirty-six per cent of all PLC theft (16,547) and 36 per cent of all profit-motivated theft (3,549) occurred in VIC. Twenty-two per cent of PLC thefts (9,912) occurred in NSW.

**Percentage change from previous 12 months**



VIC experienced significant increases of 53 per cent in short term theft and 37 per cent in profit motivated theft. QLD and WA were also up by 18 per cent and 22 per cent respectively. NSW continued to offset the national rise with a 29 per cent reduction for the year.

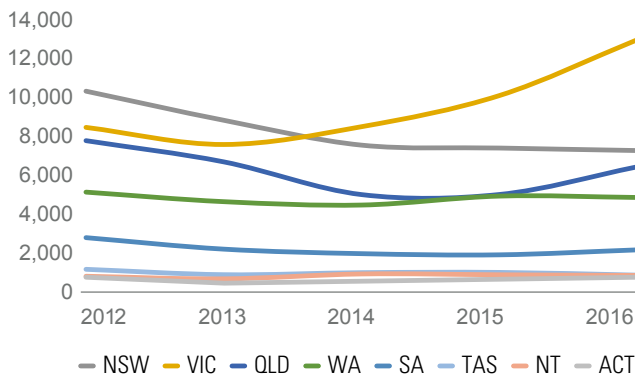
\* Percentages and rates are not given for small jurisdictions as they can be misrepresentative of minor baseline changes.

**Theft rate per 1,000 registrations**



Of the larger jurisdictions\* VIC and WA had the highest short term theft rates when expressed as a rate per 1,000 registrations at 2.9 and 2.4 respectively. They also experienced the highest profit-motivated theft rates of 0.79 and 0.56.

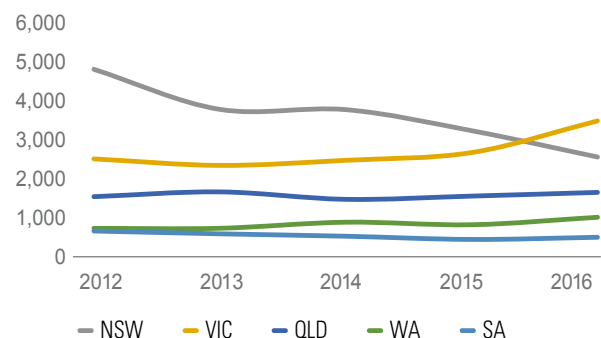
**Short term theft (five year trend to December)**



Short term PLC thefts have fallen considerably in NSW (29%), SA (23%) and QLD (18%) over the past five years. In contrast, short term PLC thefts have increased by 53 per cent in VIC over the same period. Despite fluctuations over the past five years, the volume of short term theft has returned to 2012 levels in WA, NT and the ACT.

\* Percentages and rates are not given for small jurisdictions as they can be misrepresentative of minor baseline changes.

**Profit-motivated theft (five year trend to December)**



Profit-motivated PLC theft in NSW has fallen 45 per cent over the five year period. Thefts are also down 22 per cent in SA. The NT and ACT have experienced large fluctuations over this time due to their small population size. TAS volumes remain stable.

## Want more stats?

This report provides fast data on motor vehicle theft for the 12 months to December 2016.

For a more detailed analysis of current theft trends log onto our interactive Dashboard at: [carsafe.com.au/dashboard](http://carsafe.com.au/dashboard)