

National Motor Vehicle
Theft Reduction Council

No. 59 – September 2016

The 2015/16 financial year saw motor vehicle theft increase 7 per cent to 54,094 vehicles stolen. Despite this, national volumes remain down 8 per cent from five years ago. Short term passenger/light commercial (PLC) thefts accounted for the highest proportion of the rise (12 per cent), with profit-motivated motorcycle theft also up 4 per cent. While VIC, QLD and WA had significant increases in total PLC thefts, there were good reductions in profit-motivated theft in NSW and SA.

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 and emailed directly to our mailing list. To join our email list contact info@carsafe.com.au



National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council Inc

50-52 Howard Street, North Melbourne
Victoria 3051 Australia
(03) 9348 9600
info@carsafe.com.au

carsafe.com.au
twitter.com/carsafe_au



comprehensive auto-theft research system

theft watch

2015/16 financial year

Total vehicle thefts



Passenger/light commercial

43,249 thefts

↑9%



Motorcycles

8,299 thefts

↑3%



Heavy/other

2,546 thefts

↓5%

Breakdown by theft type



Short term
thefts

33,380
↑12%

3,784
↑3%

1,273
↑2%

Profit-motivated
thefts

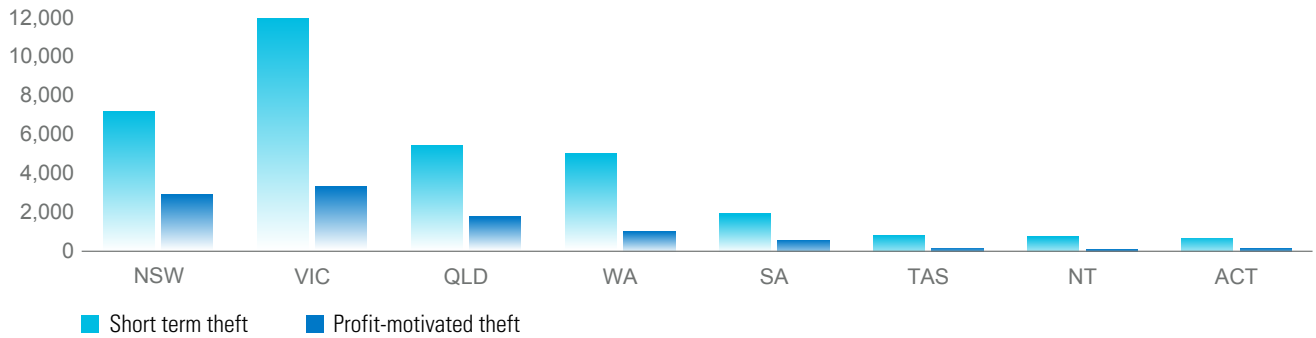
9,869
↑1%

4,515
↑4%

1,273
↓11%

State and territory breakdown – PLC theft

Number of vehicle thefts 2015/16



A total of 15,111 PLCs were stolen in VIC, making up 35 per cent of all PLC theft. Thirty-five per cent of all short term thefts also occurred in VIC and the state overtook NSW for the highest volume of profit-motivated thefts (3,291).

Percentage change from 2014/15



VIC experienced an unprecedented 38 per cent jump in short term PLC theft. QLD also had a double-digit increase of 11 per cent in short term theft and 16 per cent in profit-motivated theft.

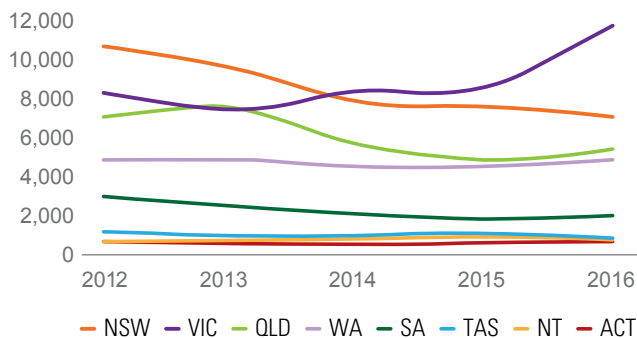
Theft rate per 1,000 registrations



When expressed as a rate per 1,000 registrations, VIC and WA had the highest short term theft rates of the larger jurisdictions* of 2.68 and 2.49, respectively. VIC's profit-motivated theft rate of 0.75 was also the highest, followed by NSW at 0.59.

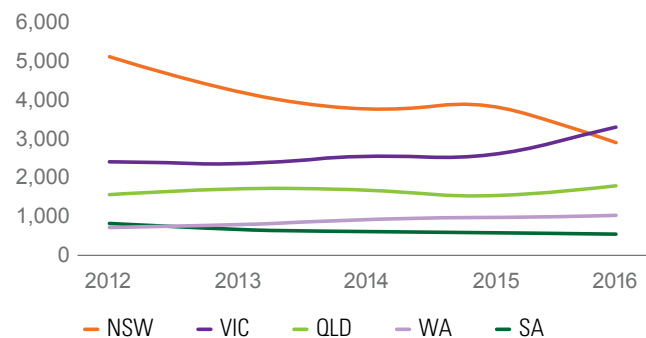
* Percentages and rates are not given for small jurisdictions as they can be misrepresentative of minor baseline changes.

Short term theft (five year trend to June)



Short term PLC thefts have fallen considerably in NSW (34 per cent), QLD (25 per cent) and SA (34 per cent) over the past five years. In contrast, sharp rises over the past 18 months see short term PLC thefts up 42 per cent in VIC over the same period.

Profit-motivated theft (five year trend to June)



Profit-motivated PLC theft in NSW has fallen 43 per cent over the five year period. Over two-thirds of the reduction are in vehicles aged 16 years and over. Thefts are also down 35 per cent in SA, while upwards trends are observed in the remaining larger jurisdictions. Profit-motivated theft in the NT, ACT and TAS has remained relatively stable.*

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

Want more stats?

This report provides fast data on motor vehicle theft in the 2015/16 financial year.

For a more detailed analysis of current theft trends be sure to check out our interactive Dashboard at: carsafe.com.au/dashboard

Please note all quoted figures have been adjusted for late recoveries.