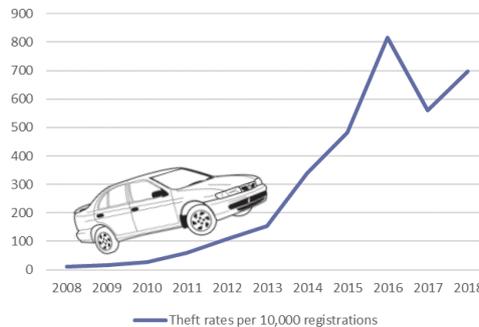




National Motor Vehicle  
Theft Reduction  
Council

# theft matters

## Increasing 'Pulsar' rates causes stress



While late model vehicles are increasingly being stolen in home burglaries in Australia, there are still older model vehicles being targeted for their ease of theft. In Victoria, the Nissan Pulsar N15 (manufactured between 1995 and 2000) has been the top theft target since 2014, with thefts rising exponentially over the past 10 years.

An analysis of the theft rates of stolen make/models per 10,000 vehicles reveals that older Nissan models comprised eight out of the top 11 theft targets in the state. The Nissan Pulsar N15 had a rate of 698 thefts per 10,000 registrations, equating to 1 in every 14 Nissan Pulsars registered in Victoria being stolen in 2018. In the ACT it's 1 in every 15, and 1 in every 40 in Tasmania.

Concerningly, in Victoria there has been a 25-fold increase in the model's theft numbers since 2008, and the theft rate is now 60 times higher.

Other popular Nissan theft targets (by rates) in Victoria include the Pulsar N14 (MY 91-95) and the 1990s Skyline models. All vehicles which made up the top eleven theft targets were vehicles manufactured prior to 2000 and also included the Subaru Impreza (MY93-98), Liberty (MY95-98) and Outback (MY95-98). In contrast, late model Nissan Pulsars and other Nissan vehicles (manufactured post 2000) were not at a high risk of theft.

A closer look at the Nissan Pulsar N15 thefts in Victoria reveals that:

- None of the N15s stolen had a factory fitted immobiliser making them an easy theft target.

- The 1999 Nissan Pulsar N15 was the most popular target (37%).
- The stolen vehicles had an estimated Glass's vehicle value between \$1,680 and \$1,960.
- The south eastern suburbs were the most popular for stealing Pulsar N15s with almost two in five being stolen from the City of Casey (16%), City of Dandenong (15%) and City of Whitehorse (7%).
- The Nissan Pulsar N15s were mainly stolen from the street (39%) followed by a residential location (36%).
- These vehicles have historically had high recovery rates and 2018 was no exception, with nine out of ten stolen being recovered (89%).
- Over half (54%) of N15s stolen in 2018 were recovered in the first 72 hours.

Despite the high recovery rate and low financial value, the theft of these vehicles still has wide ranging implications for motorists including the inconvenience of having a vehicle stolen, the loss of valuable items left in the car and the cost of alternative transport among other hidden costs.

The NMVTRC advises owners of pre-2001 vehicles to fit an Australian-standards equivalent engine immobiliser to greatly reduce the risk of becoming a victim.

More details on theft rates of the Nissan Pulsar N15 and other vehicles can be viewed in our [latest video](#) and on the website (<https://carsafe.com.au/publications>).

The NMVTRC acknowledges all police services, registration authorities, participating insurers, the Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries, Glass's Information Services, Polk Autospec and Insurance Australia Group for the supply of the data on which this report is compiled. Theft incident data may be subject to later revision by the data providers.

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