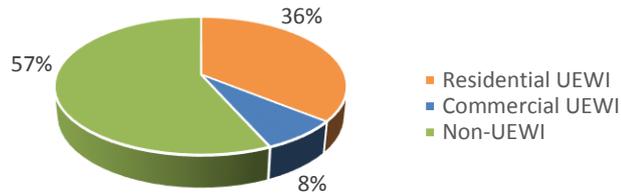




National Motor Vehicle  
Theft Reduction Council  
*driving down vehicle theft*

# theft matters

## Understanding the Link Between Home Burglaries and Vehicle Theft in the Top End



### Introduction:

In late 2016, the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC) introduced a new sub-program, 'Better Data Utilisation', to reflect the importance of optimising the tactical utility of the NMVTRC's considerable data holdings to police and other stakeholders. Research in Australia and other countries suggests that the theft of immobilised vehicles is most often preceded by the thief gaining access to the vehicle's transponder key. In many ways the Northern Territory (NT) represents a unique consumer market in respect of its remoteness, climate, built environment and resident lifestyle. NT Police subsequently expressed an interest in undertaking a 'deep analysis' of local thefts to confirm the relationship between residential burglaries and vehicle crime.

The study involved reviewing the NT motor vehicle theft data from the PROMIS system during the 12 month period from 01/04/2016 to 31/03/2017. In this time period, there were 1,150 vehicle thefts of which 55 were found to be theft of non-motorised vehicles, therefore the analysis for the study was based on 1,095 stolen motor vehicles.

As shown in the diagram, of the 1,095 motor vehicle thefts, more than one in three (392) were reported as being associated with a residential unlawful entry with intent (UEWI) and 8% were associated with a commercial UEWI. The remaining 621 vehicle thefts were stolen using a method not considered to be unlawful entry with intent (termed non-UEWI).

### Key findings:

- In 83% of thefts from a residential UEWI, the point of entry was the door and a further 14% through a window (where known).
- Keys were readily visible in two thirds of all vehicle thefts from a residential UEWI (65%).
- The keys were taken in 94% of thefts from a residential UEWI.
- Someone was present in three quarters (75%) of thefts from a residential UEWI, compared to less than one sixth (15%) of thefts in commercial UEWI.
- More than one quarter (27%) of thefts from a commercial UEWI were used to commit another offence.
- In two thirds (67%) of motor vehicle thefts from a residence, the offender(s) stole other items in addition to the vehicle, compared to only one third (34%) of thefts from a commercial premise.
- The total PLC value of vehicles stolen from residential UEWI was almost \$6 million.

To read the full report, click here:  
<https://carsafe.com.au/nt-study>

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CARS

*comprehensive auto-theft research system*

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

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