



CATPA

**Colorado Auto Theft
Prevention Authority**

Department of Public Safety

CATPA Toolkit Overview

This comprehensive toolkit was created by the Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA) to support law enforcement agencies' community education and engagement efforts regarding the severity of auto theft in Colorado. CATPA seeks to provide agencies with tools, resources and actionable steps to encourage Coloradans to use best practices in avoiding auto theft.

This toolkit is a collaborative effort, and our law enforcement partners are encouraged to provide input to help improve this resource moving forward. Any comments or requests for additional information can be directed to Cale Gould at cale.gould@state.co.us



Master Messaging Document

Auto theft is a growing problem in Colorado

- 37,110 vehicles were stolen in Colorado in 2021 and 41,359 in 2022
 - That’s an average of 795 stolen vehicles per week, or 113 stolen vehicles per day
 - 2022 has surpassed last years record high even though vehicle theft rates are plateauing
 - In 2022 Colorado recorded an exceptional over 89% recovery rate of stolen vehicles. This far exceeds the national average which hovers around 55%

Owner Apathy (Puffing, leaving your vehicle unlocked, leaving your keys in your vehicle) Remains Prevalent

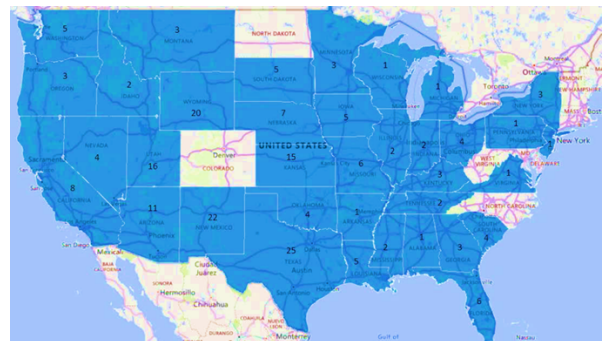
- 31% have admitted to leaving their car running unattended (2019 Talmey-Drake Poll)
- 20% increase in owners leaving their vehicles unlocked or leaving their keys in their vehicle per (NICB, 2022)
- [A Colorado law](#) effective in August 2016 exempts vehicles with a remote-start from being ticketed if found running unattended. However, drivers must keep the keyless start fob far enough away from the car that the vehicle can’t be moved.
- Not all remote start systems (many aftermarket add ons specifically) do not immobilize a vehicle

Data indicates higher risk circumstances for auto theft (ATICC)

- Fridays and Mondays showed the highest level of auto theft, while Sunday showed the lowest (ATICC)

- Top Ten Stolen Vehicles in 2022 (ATICC):

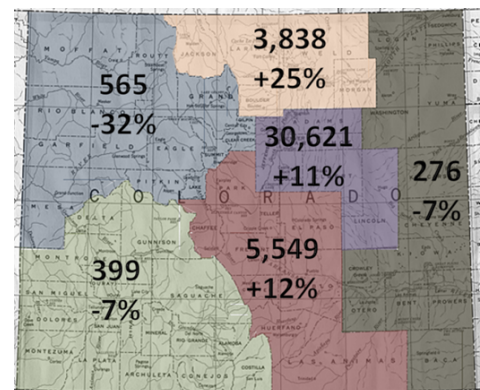
1. Chevrolet Silverado
2. Kia Sportage
3. Hyundai Sonata
4. Kia Optima
5. Hyundai Tucson
6. Hyundai Elantra
7. Ford F-250
8. Honda Civic
9. GMC Sierra
10. Kia Sorento



Vehicles stolen in Colorado recovered in other States

- Top Five Colorado Cities for Auto Theft in 2022 (ATICC):

1. Denver
2. Aurora
3. Lakewood
4. Colorado Springs
5. Westminster



Region MTV Rate Changes 2021-2022



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Auto theft is considered a property crime; however, stolen vehicles are often used to commit other crimes

- Auto theft fuels crime sprees that involve organized crime, drugs, robberies and contribute to the overall rise in Colorado's crime rate
- 74% of adult car thieves in Colorado commit additional crimes such as armed robbery, home invasion, drug related offenses, etc.
- In 2022 according to the ATICC 99% of auto thieves were charged with auxiliary crimes.

Auto Theft Prevention Tips

- Never leave your car running unattended
- Lock your doors every single time
- Always park in well-lit areas
- Don't keep a spare set of keys in the car
- Remove all valuables from the vehicle or place them in the trunk hidden from view
- Buy comprehensive insurance that covers stolen vehicles and stolen vehicle components like Catalytic Converters
- Report suspicious activities to a non-emergency police line
- Do a self risk assessment using lockdownyourcar.org and assess how vulnerable your car may be to theft
- Invest in a vehicle security or alarm system, or other theft prevention devices such as steering wheel locks, parking boots, and kill switches

Auto Theft Victim Tips

- **Step 1:** Contact law enforcement or call 911 in an emergency
- **Step 2:** Call your insurance provider
- **Step 3:** Make a list of items stolen
- **Step 4:** Cancel Credit Cards and notify the credit bureaus if your identity may be compromised
- **Step 5:** Change your locks if your house or job keys were stolen

About CATPA

CATPA is a state authority that was established by Colorado statute in 2003 to help reduce the state's serious auto theft problem, and is funded through the required annual collection from insurance companies of \$1.00 for every insured vehicle. The grant helps ensure that auto theft prevention efforts are targeted, and has resulted in an increase in stolen vehicle recoveries and criminal prosecutions of major organized criminal groups.

State legislators determined that the grant funding would be a direct investment by consumers because all Colorado drivers are victims of auto theft as it impacts everyone through increased insurance premiums and rising crime rates in our community, so we all benefit from contributing to these efforts. Visit the [CATPA website](#) to learn more about the grant and the projects it funds.

Contact CATPA

Robert Force (CATPA Executive Director)

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Rural Messaging Document

This document includes messaging specific to rural areas of Colorado, with options for different headlines and message length, as well as the ability to tailor these messages to your specific region.

To find auto theft data related to your jurisdiction, view the [2021 and 2022 ATICC Report](#)

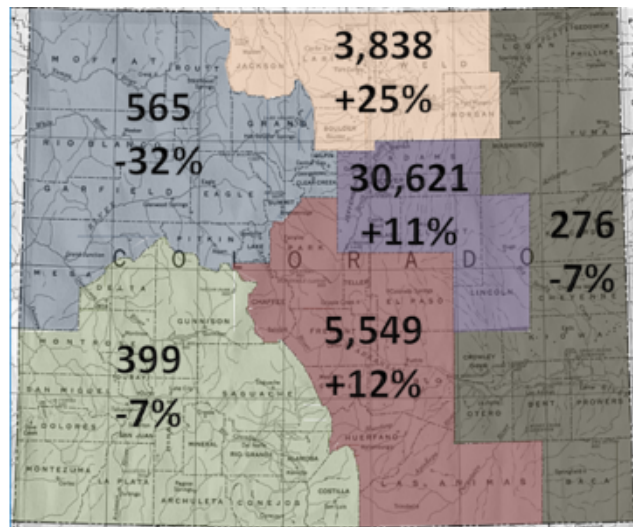
LONG MESSAGE

Title options for web copy, email subject line, etc.

- Auto Theft: Not Only an Urban Issue
- Rise in Auto Theft Raises Unique Concerns for Rural Colorado
- (Rural Coloradans Can) Stay a Step Ahead of Thieves

In rural areas, the problem may seem to be less pronounced than in larger towns and cities. However, remaining vigilant and taking basic (and advanced) vehicle security steps is crucial to continue to reduce auto theft across the whole State. The difference in the metro versus rural areas, ten additional stolen cars may drastically change the percentage increase/decrease in rural Colorado. The data tells the story of auto theft in rural Colorado (source: Colorado's Auto Theft Intelligence Coordination Center (ATICC)):

- From 2021 to 2022 thefts in CATPA regions outside of the Metro Area experienced the following percentage changes
 - Eastern Colorado - Decrease by 7%
 - Northern Colorado - Increase by 25%
 - Southwest - Decrease by 7%
 - Southern Colorado - Increase by 12%
 - Western Colorado - Decrease by 32%





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Trucks, trailers, tractors, and expensive equipment related to farming, ranching and construction high value targets for thieves. These high value and rarer theft targets have a much lower recovery rate than standard vehicles

Did you know...

- Nearly half of all thefts occur when doors are unlocked or keys are left in the vehicle.

How can you stay a step ahead of thieves?

Lock your car doors.

- It takes one second to secure your car.
- It's the number one thing you can do to protect your investment.
- Remember to roll up windows all the way.

Take your keys with you.

- Treat your keys like cash. Don't leave them on your dashboard or seat, or even in your center console. Your keys essentially have the same value as your vehicle.
- Establish a "key" routine:
 - Put your keys in your pocket or purse when you exit your vehicle.
 - Designate a place inside your home for keys (kitchen, mud room).
- Don't leave keys in your vehicle, even in a locked garage.

Turn off the engine when you're not in your car.

- Auto theft is often a crime of opportunity.
- Don't offer your truck for the taking.

Secure your property.

- Make sure your garage or storage area is securely locked.
- Install bright outdoor lights, preferably motion-triggered.

Protect personal and financial information.

- Keep the half of the registration receipt that does not contain your address in your vehicle
- Remove checkbooks, receipts or other personal information
- NEVER leave a firearm in a vehicle unattended. This could very easily arm a dangerous thief

For more information and access to the most up-to-date auto theft statistics for Colorado, please visit LockdownYourCar.org.



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SHORT MESSAGES (3 OPTIONS)

1)

Auto theft is not just a big city problem. It's a quickly growing concern for rural Colorado. Thieves target trucks, trailers, tractors, and equipment. What can you do? Pocket your keys, lock your car, and don't ever leave your vehicle running unattended. What else? Visit lockdownyourcar.org to learn more

2)

Auto theft is on the rise in Colorado, and XXXX area is no exception with an XXXX% increase. Stay one step ahead of thieves. Lock your vehicle doors, take the keys with you, and don't ever leave your vehicle running unattended.

3)

Thieves target rural areas for high-value trucks, trailers, and equipment.



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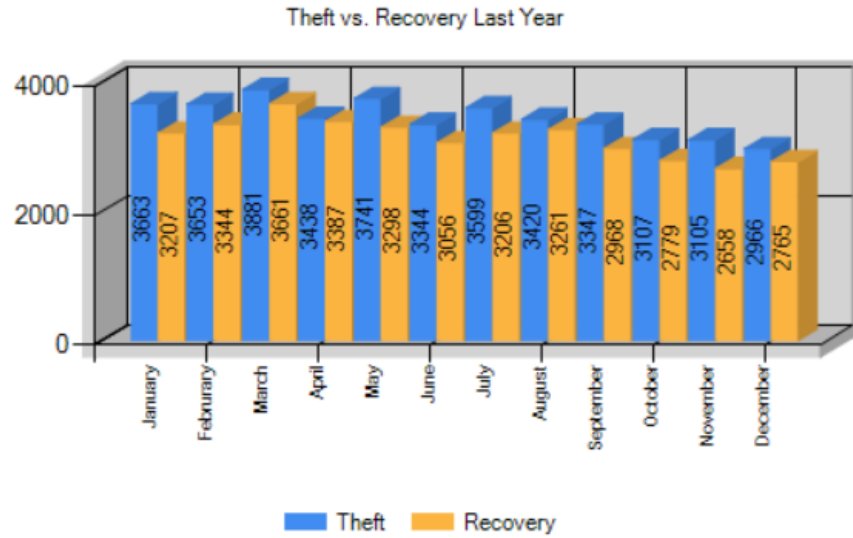
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CATPA strives to be as involved with Colorado communities as possible. To learn what resources CATPA can bring to your community please email cdps_catpa@state.co.us or call 303-656-1524

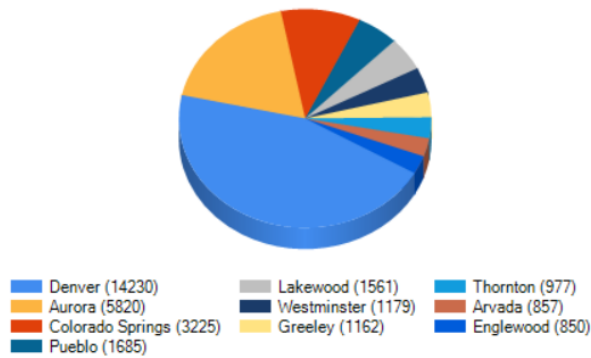


2022 Top Ten Stolen Vehicles and Other Auto Theft Data Points

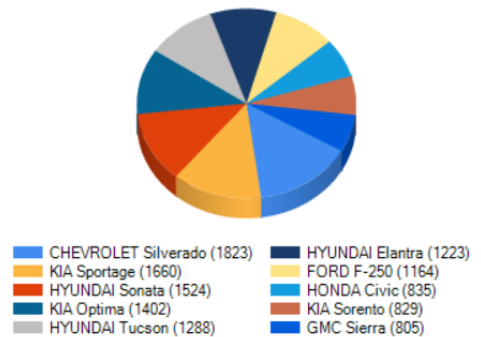


Theft: 41264, Recovery: 37590, Recovery Percent: 91%

Top 10 Theft Cities



Top 10 Make Model





CATPA Website Overview

URL: LockdownYourCar.org

About

The LockdownYourCar.org site has been newly redesigned! Here you will find robust resources you can share with your community via our new partner portal, including an easy link to the CATPA Partner Toolkit, quick downloads, and a materials request form. The partner portal can be found at LockdownYourCar.org/resources/

The site also includes a new section related to owner apathy and tips to keep you and your vehicle safe, as well as interactive statistics on auto theft in Colorado. We encourage you to reference the newly redesigned website as a one-stop shop for auto theft prevention information when speaking to reporters, in interviews with media, on your social media channels and with members of the general public. We also urge you to provide a button or link to this great resource.

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with links for Facts, Prevention, Catalytic Converter Theft, Resources, News, Get Help, and Events. The main banner features the 'LOCK & TAKE YOUR CAR & YOUR KEYS' logo. A text box on the right provides information about a free catalytic converter etching kit, directing users to the 'EVENTS' page. Below the banner, a key message states: 'The highest risk for having your car stolen is by compromising the basic security features of the vehicle by leaving the vehicle unlocked and/or leaving the keys in the vehicle.' A 'MORE FACTS' button is visible. At the bottom, two blue call-to-action buttons are shown: 'HELP! My car was stolen, what should I do?' and 'Theft Prevention Tips Protect yourself & your car'.