



NEWS RELEASE

City of Pueblo Police Department

Motor Vehicle Theft State Statistics for 2022

January 13, 2023



The Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA) has released the state statistics for motor vehicle theft for 2022.

In 2021, there were 37,110 reported cases of motor vehicle theft in the state of Colorado. This number increased in 2022 by 3.25% when 38,339 vehicles were reported stolen which equates to about 105 vehicles per day.

In 2022, Pueblo had 1,752 motor vehicle thefts reported which is a 23% increase compared to the 1,472 reported in 2021. Puffers accounted for 3% of that number with 58 total puffer thefts. There were 1,186 of the stolen vehicles were recovered both in Pueblo and outside of the city limits, which is a 67% recovery rate.

It's been recorded that 40%-50% of vehicle theft is due to driver apathy, which includes, puffer vehicles or leaving a vehicle running, with keys in the ignition while it is unattended. The action of leaving a vehicle running unattended with keys, and not equipped with a remote start, is illegal in Colorado.

Some vehicles that are proven to be of higher risk of being stolen are:

1. Chevrolet Silverado
2. Kia Sportage
3. Hyundai Sonata
4. Kia Optima
5. Hyundai Tucson

Auto theft fuels crimes sprees and stolen vehicles are often used in other crimes, to include violent crime such as robbery and assault. It also assists criminals in organized crime such as illegal drug activity and drive by shootings.

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Some Prevention tips to keep in mind that may help keep you and your vehicle safe:

1. Lock doors every time you leave it
2. Park in well-lit areas
3. Don't keep a spare set of keys in the vehicle
4. Remove all valuables (purses, shopping bags, electronics)
5. Invest in a vehicle alarm system, steering wheel locks, or kill switches

Auto theft is on the rise in Colorado. Stay one step ahead of thieves. Lock your vehicle doors, take the keys with you, and don't ever leave your vehicle running unattended with keys in the ignition. By working together, we can help make a difference in our community.

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