



NW Insurance Council

Consumer Alert

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Release Date: 04-17-2024

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Idaho auto thefts decrease by 15 percent statewide in 2023

Take precautions to help prevent auto theft and consider optional Comprehensive insurance coverage

- *The [National Insurance Crime Bureau \(NICB\)](#) reports more than one million motor vehicles were stolen last year, a one percent increase from 2022.*
- *In Idaho, 1,529 vehicles were stolen in 2023 compared to 1,792 in 2022, a 15 percent decrease, according to data provided by NICB.*
- *Owners of vehicles stolen are “on the hook” without [Comprehensive Insurance Coverage](#).*

BOISE, ID, April 17, 2024 – The [National Insurance Crime Bureau’s](#) (NICB) 2023 Vehicle Theft Trends report shows thefts increased again in the United States with more than one million vehicles stolen last year. Idaho, however, saw a 15 percent decrease in vehicle thefts, going from 1,792 vehicles stolen in 2022 to 1,529 last year.

In addition to taking auto theft prevention measures, The NW Insurance Council urges vehicle owners to consider optional [Comprehensive or Other than Collision](#) coverage to help protect themselves financially if their vehicle is stolen, because it is the only type of policy that will cover auto theft.

“This is good news for vehicle owners and insurance companies in Idaho, as thefts had been increasing from 2021-22 and have now dipped below 2021 levels. But the cost of auto repair and replacement have risen dramatically since the end of the pandemic and is impacting insurance rates for many in Idaho,” said Kenton Brine, NW Insurance Council President. “So it is wise for Idaho residents to be vigilant and do all you can to prevent vehicle theft.”

[Comprehensive or Other than Collision Coverage](#) will help pay to repair or replace a stolen vehicle. This type of policy also pays - up to the limits of the policy (typically after a deductible has been paid by the policyholder) - for vehicle damage not caused by a collision with another vehicle, including damage from fire, hail, windstorm, auto glass breakage and even if the vehicle hits a deer.

The [NW Insurance Council](#) urges drivers talk to their insurance company or agent to verify if the current auto insurance policy they have will help if the worst happens and their car or truck is stolen.

NICB and NW Insurance Council recommend that vehicle owners follow these tips to help guard against auto theft:

- Park in well-lit areas.
- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Never leave valuables inside your vehicle, especially if they are visible from outside the vehicle.
- Never leave your keys inside the vehicle.
- Don't leave the area while your vehicle is running.

- If your vehicle is stolen, call law enforcement and your auto insurer immediately. Reporting a vehicle as soon as possible after it is stolen increases the chance of recovery.

How to Help Stop Auto Theft & Insurance Fraud

In some cases, auto theft is a form of insurance fraud when vehicle owners arrange to have their vehicles stolen with hopes of collecting the insurance money. If you witness or have knowledge of an auto theft, you can report it anonymously by calling toll-free 1-800-TEL-NICB (1-800-835-6422) or [submitting a form](#) on NICB's website.

For more information auto theft and insurance fraud, visit [National Insurance Crime Bureau](#) and [NW Insurance Council](#).

NW Insurance Council is a nonprofit, insurer-supported organization providing information about home, auto and business insurance to consumers, media and public policymakers in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

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