# Vehicle Theft Prevention

Join the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the National Insurance Crime Bureau to help protect vehicle owners and their vehicles by providing information about vehicle security. A reminder: July is National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month — a good opportunity to increase vehicle theft prevention messaging.

## Talking Points

### Overview

* Vehicle theft is a multi-billion-dollar industry in the United States, disrupting millions of vehicle owners’ lives, stripping them of their security and mobility, and costing them more than $8 billion annually.
* Passenger cars make up most of the stolen vehicles, and summer months have the highest reported occurrences of vehicle thefts in the United States. NHTSA urges vehicle owners to take these steps to keep their vehicles — and any valuables inside them — safe all the time.

**How to Prevent Vehicle Theft**

* Park in well-lit areas.
* Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
* Keep valuables out of sight, such as in the glove box or trunk.
* Do not leave your keys in your vehicle.
* Do not leave the area while your vehicle is running.
* Some vehicles come equipped with an alarm and anti-theft system, but what if yours does not? Consider purchasing extra layers of protection for your vehicle if your manufacturer does not provide it. You can easily purchase an anti-theft system online or in a store.

**Vehicle Theft Facts and Figures**

For more information on motor vehicle theft prevention, visit [NHTSA.gov/theft](https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/vehicle-theft-prevention). For additional resources, visit [www.nicb.org/](https://www.nicb.org/).