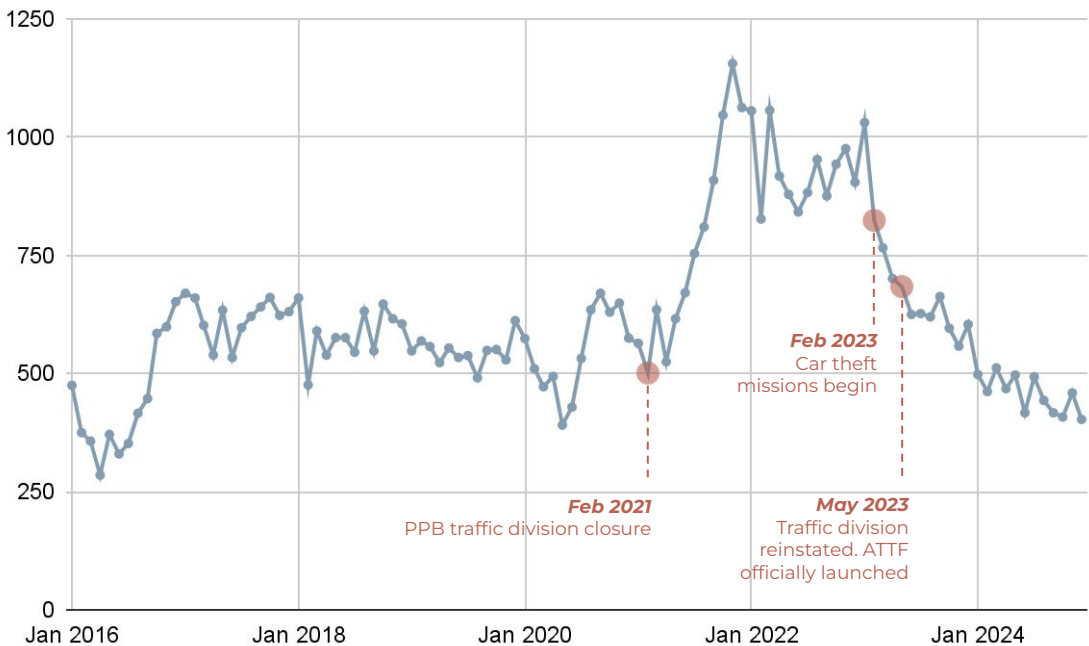




MCDA Auto Theft Task Force (ATTF) Outcomes Report

In 2021 and 2022, Portland experienced an unprecedented surge in car thefts, reaching the highest levels ever reported in the city's history. In response, the Portland Police Bureau and Multnomah County District Attorney's Office partnered to establish the Auto Theft Task Force (ATTF), a dedicated team consisting of police agency resources and funding within the District Attorney's Office for a Deputy District Attorney, Legal Assistant, and DA Investigator focused exclusively on the prosecution of car theft. This collaboration has led to a substantial decline in car thefts, increased prosecutions, and greater accountability for the most prolific and highest-harm people sealing cars.

Motor vehicle theft reported to PPB | 2016 - 2024



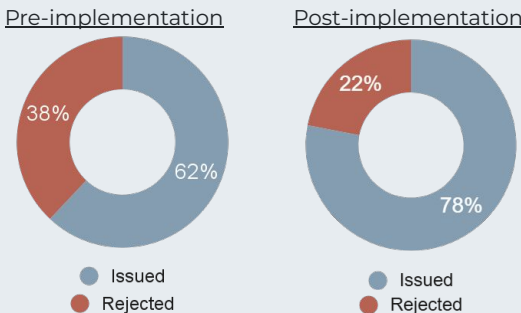
Source: PPB "Monthly Portland Neighborhood Offense Statistics" dashboard

Dedicated, system-wide programming has a positive impact on crime:

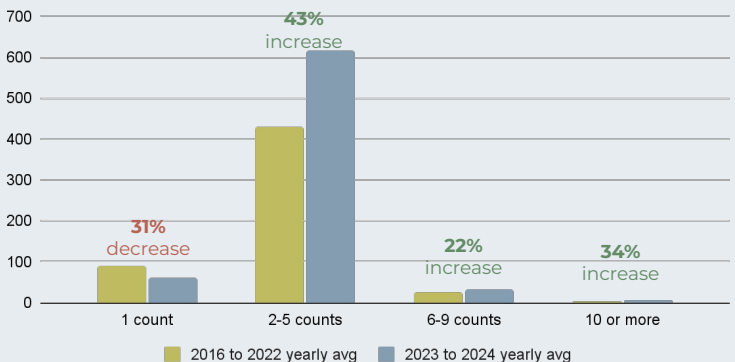
- Jan 2017 - Jan 2020**
Avg monthly car thefts = 582
- Feb 2021**
Traffic division closure
- Nov 2021**
Peak car thefts (1,156)
- Feb 2023**
Car theft missions begin
- May 2023**
Traffic division reinstated; ATTF launched
- Dec 2024**
403 thefts reported; 31% lower than 2017-2020 average

ADDITIONAL OUTCOMES

Case issuance rates are higher since the implementation of the ATTF.



Since implementation ATTF has **prosecuted more prolific defendants**. The number of defendants prosecuted with more than one car theft charge issued has increased.





Monthly Neighborhood Offense Statistics

Strategic Services Division, Portland Police Bureau

Last Updated: 4/30/2025

Questions about PPB Open Data? [Click here.](#)



This interactive report collects all NIBRS Group A offenses that are reported to the Portland Police Bureau. Offenses that occur outside the boundaries of a neighborhood or in areas without a defined address are included in citywide totals when specific neighborhoods are not selected.



Hover here for more information on using this dashboard.

Homicide Offense statistics were updated in August 2019 to align with revised FBI definitions. Traffic fatalities that result in an arrest for driving under the influence, distracted driving, or reckless driving are now included in negligent manslaughter counts.

Filter by Reported Date of Offense:

March 2024 - March 2025

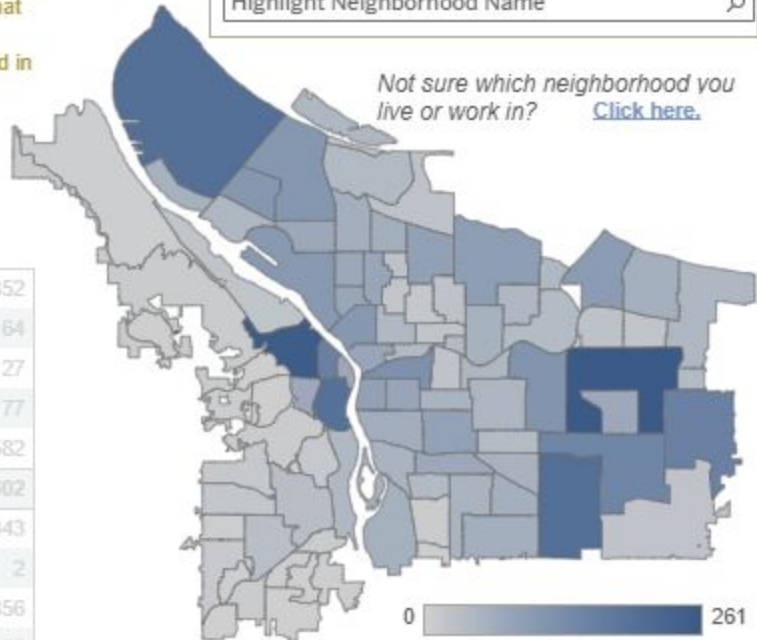
Offense Count by Category

Person	Assault Offenses	9,852
	Homicide Offenses	64
	Human Trafficking Offenses	27
	Kidnapping/Abduction	77
	Sex Offenses	582
	Total	10,602
Property	Arson	343
	Bribery	2
	Burglary	4,856
	Counterfeiting/Forgery	263
	Embezzlement	39
	Extortion/Blackmail	41
	Fraud Offenses	3,229
	Larceny Offenses	26,803
	Motor Vehicle Theft	5,474
	Robbery	1,204
	Stolen Property Offenses	24
	Vandalism	7,419
	Total	49,697
Society	Animal Cruelty Offenses	56
	Drug/Narcotic Offenses	895
	Gambling Offenses	0
	Pornography/Obscene Material	69
	Prostitution Offenses	361
	Weapon Law Violations	906
	Total	2,287

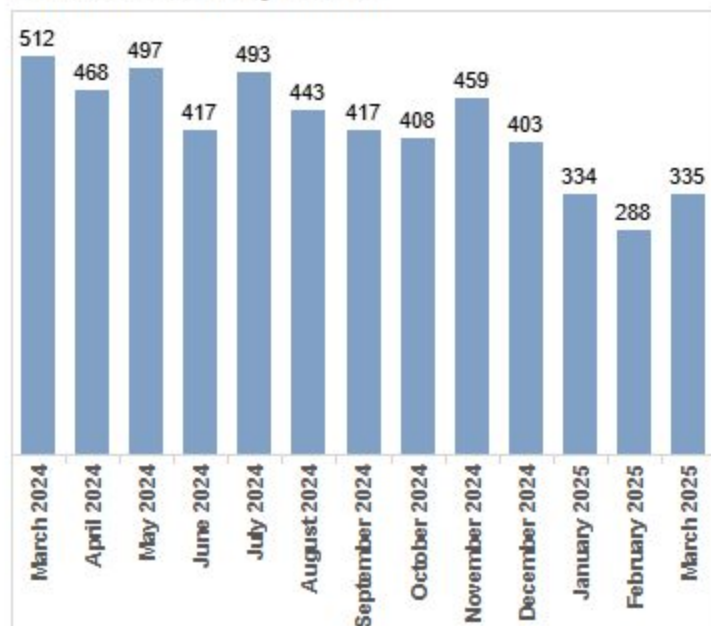
Find Your Neighborhood:

Click the neighborhood after it is highlighted to filter.

Highlight Neighborhood Name



Offense Count by Month



View on Tableau Public

Share

Monthly Stolen Vehicle Statistics

Strategic Services Division, Portland Police Bureau

This interactive report presents selected characteristics of motor vehicles reported as stolen to the Portland Police Bureau by neighborhood and the reported date of theft. These statistics differ from official motor vehicle theft counts because attempted thefts and reports with incomplete vehicle information are not included.

Hover for more info



Last Updated: 04/30/2025

Questions about PPB Open Data? [Click Here.](#)

1. Filter by Vehicle Make

(All)

2. Filter by Vehicle Model

(All)

3. Filter by Reported Date of Theft

(Multiple values)

4. Filter by Neighborhood

(All)

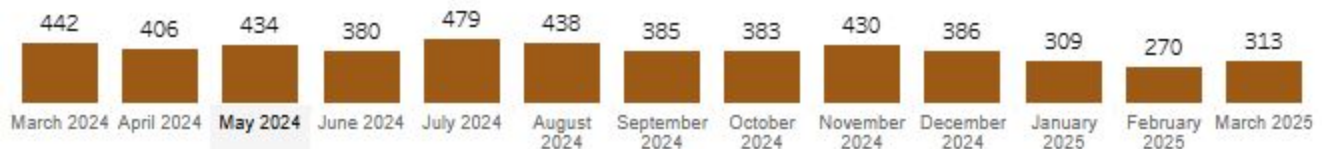
Total Stolen Vehicles **5,055**

Vehicle Recovery Rates

Recovered within 30 Days **78%**

Recovered To Date **90%**

Stolen Vehicles by Month



Top 5 Makes

Kia Motors Corp	629
Hyundai	581
Ford	533
Toyota	522
Honda	493

Top 10 Models

Hyundai Elantra	264
Kia Motors Corp Soul	227
Subaru Legacy, Legacy Outback	156
Subaru Forester	148
Honda Civic, CRX, Del Sol	140
Hyundai Sonata	128
Honda Accord, Accord Crosstour	121
Kia Motors Corp Optima	120
Honda CRV	106
Toyota Camry	88

Top 15 Neighborhoods

Hazelwood	246
Northwest	235
Lents	191
Downtown	183
St Johns	179
Pearl	158
Centennial	151
Powellhurst-Gilbert	135
Kerns	118
Montavilla	113
Portsmouth	102
Eliot	101
Overlook	99
Kenton	97
Parkrose	94

Stolen Vehicles by Time and Day of Theft

	Midnight - 6am	6am - Noon	Noon - 6pm	6pm - Midnight	Total
Sunday	155	113	182	294	744
Monday	138	127	187	236	688
Tuesday	114	121	150	256	641
Wednesday	140	114	177	267	698
Thursday	166	90	163	250	669
Friday	142	110	227	330	809
Saturday	181	99	201	325	806
Total	1,036	774	1,287	1,958	5,055

Stolen Vehicles by Model Year



Overview

The Auto Theft Task Force (ATTF) targets prolific auto theft offenders through strategic prosecution, digital evidence analysis, and field-based coordination. The task force has partnered with both regional and national law enforcement partners to streamline case investigation and referral, improve evidence collection, and coordinate law enforcement strategies. The ATTF leverages residential, digital, and social media warrants to disrupt theft operations, identify new trends, and drive prosecution efforts. As embedded members of Portland Police Bureau's Stolen Vehicle Operations (SVO), the assigned Deputy District Attorney and DA Investigator provide prosecutorial resources directly in the field to enhance outcomes.

Collaboration

The ATTF has built a regional and national network of law enforcement partners, working closely with agencies in Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington counties, as well as several out-of-state jurisdictions. Through joint investigations, shared intelligence, and multi-agency training, the task force has strengthened its ability to identify leads and address complex auto theft cases. ATTF's hands-on collaboration with SVO includes active fieldwork and real-time support during operations, ensuring prosecutorial insight is integrated from the outset. This interagency model enhances investigative precision and case strength, increasing accountability for high-impact offenders across jurisdictions.

Notable Cases

- In May 2023, Portland Police Bureau developed a case on Christopher Young, which resolved in late 2024 with an 81-month prison sentence. Intelligence developed through this case enabled the Auto Theft Task Force (ATTF) to identify and target multiple prolific offenders, most of whom are now in custody or serving prison sentences.
- In July 2023, the ATTF served its first residential search warrant in a case against Jesse Brower. Brower ultimately pled guilty to multiple felonies, including Trafficking in Stolen Vehicles, and received a 36-month prison sentence. He resolved his case within just 12 days of arrest, demonstrating the speed and effectiveness of the coordinated investigation and prosecution.
- Daniel McNett was arrested in September 2023 in connection with a major Tesla theft ring. He is accused of stealing 11 Tesla vehicles in two nights and told investigators he had stolen over 160 vehicles over the past couple of years. After his arrest and related media coverage, the number of reported stolen vehicles dropped significantly in October 2023. McNett was sentenced in March 2025 to 36 months in prison.
- Levi Denison was arrested in August 2023 and later received a global resolution of 120 months in prison. Prior to his arrest, he was suspected of stealing 20–30 Audi vehicles from the Port of Portland and was connected to approximately 150 police reports involving criminal mischief and unauthorized entry into motor vehicles. Denison used a method of trolling long-term parking lots at the Portland International Airport, smashing Audi windows until finding one with a valet key, and then stealing the vehicle. He was linked to Jessie Garza, a prolific car thief, who pled guilty to Murder II in April 2025 and will serve 25 years to life in prison. Jail calls revealed that Denison had been instructing others on how to commit similar thefts, and he was additionally charged for criminal behavior while in custody.

- In January 2024, Joseph Beard was arrested following an ATTF investigation that tracked his illegally operated tow truck. The investigation revealed that over 80 vehicles, either confirmed stolen or strongly suspected to be stolen, were crushed during a two-month period in exchange for \$29,000 in cash at a local dismantler. Beard was caught actively stealing a vehicle from a 79-year-old community member during the tracking period. He took one case to trial, was convicted, and resolved his remaining cases with a total sentence of 75 months in prison. Following this case, there was a sharp drop in auto theft reports in January 2024.
- In February 2024, the ATTF served a search warrant at the Hillsboro residence of Shelby Steelman and Austin Denison. Officers recovered multiple stolen vehicles, fake license plates, stolen mail, and identity theft materials. Steelman resolved her case for 18 months in prison and five years of probation, with 96 months prison suspended. Austin Denison received a sentence of 48 months in prison.
- This case involves a multi-agency investigation led by Multnomah County Sheriff Detective Lerch, based on initial tips from the community group PDX Stolen Cars. The ring spanned from Sacramento to Seattle and targeted American muscle cars, using Autel devices to reprogram keys and steal vehicles. In August 2024, investigators from Oregon and Washington executed a warrant in Central Point, Oregon, and transported the lead defendant back to Multnomah County. Adams faces Measure 11 charges, and several individuals across Oregon and Washington have been charged. Similar thefts in Portland appear to have ceased following the disruption of this ring.
- Brienne Hicks is facing multiple felony charges and is currently on a downward dispositional departure. She was arrested in August 2024 in a stolen vehicle with multiple Autel devices, and again in December in another stolen vehicle with Autel key FOBs. Warrant returns on her devices show she had been using them to access and presumably steal vehicles. Hicks admitted to her probation officer that she had been targeting green-tagged vehicles. Her trial is scheduled for March 2025. Hicks pled guilty on this case and an unrelated Burglary case in March 2025, resulting in a sentence of 48 months in prison.
- In January 2025, the ATTF, in coordination with multiple law enforcement agencies, executed warrants on several suspected chop shop locations. Samson has been indicted on 19 charges and is believed to be connected to many known prolific offenders. He is also accused of dismantling a stolen vehicle tied to Operation Get The Hellcat Outta Here.