

The Cost of Prevention

Steering wheel lock: \$25
Audible alarm: \$150
Motorcycle ignition disabling device: \$300
VIN window etching: \$30

Average loss for victims of auto theft: \$6500

Taking extra steps to prevent auto theft is significantly more cost-effective, emotionally and financially, than hoping that you won't be that 1 person in every 180 in San Diego County to have their car stolen this year.

If you lined up all 15,000 cars stolen in San Diego in 2009, they would stretch for 28 miles along Interstate 5 from the San Ysidro border crossing to La Jolla.



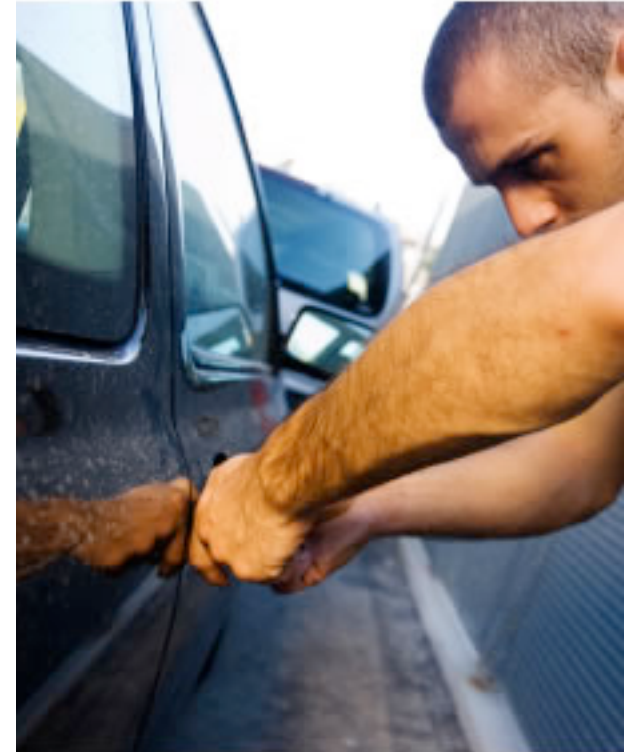
The **Safe Border Community Project** is a project of the **Institute for Public Strategies**. SBPCP is supported by Grant No. 2009-SC-B9-0038 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes

the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the SMART Office, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the United States Department of Justice.



Auto-Theft in San Diego

Quick facts to help protect against auto-theft in your community



<http://blogs.voices.com/voxdaily/grand-theft-auto.jpg>

Three simple, free ways to reduce the risk of auto theft:

- Remove your keys from the ignition
- Close your windows and lock your doors
- Park in a well-lit area

Additional auto-theft deterrents:

- Audible alarms
- Steering wheel lock
- Kill switches
- Theft deterrent decals
- Window etching of VIN

The most effective deterrents are visible from outside the car.



Every 35 minutes, a car is stolen in San Diego County.

1/3 of all auto thefts in the U.S. occur in two states: California and Texas.

San Diego Ranks 4th in the U.S. for cars stolen per capita

Through November 2009, more than 14,000 vehicles were reported stolen in San Diego County: 7,447 cars, 4,464 personal trucks, 941 motorcycles, and an additional 1,189 other vehicles. The average value of cars reported stolen was \$6,751, which amounts to over \$94 million in losses in San Diego County in 2009 alone. Below is a list of the top ten cars, trucks, and motorcycles reported stolen here in 2009.

50% of cars reported stolen in the U.S. had been left unlocked; for 15%, the keys had been left in the ignition.

San Diego ranks consistently among the top 5 regions in the United States for stolen cars per 100,000 residents. In 2009, more than 15,000 cars were reported stolen in San Diego County. About 60% of those vehicles are recovered; the remainder are often taken across the Border or sold for parts and are never found. Nationwide, billions of dollars in losses are attributed to auto theft each year. Stolen cars are also frequently linked to other crimes, including robbery, drug trafficking, drive-by shootings, ATM theft, high speed chases, and gang-related crimes.

Most Stolen Vehicles in San Diego County: 2009			
	Cars	Trucks	Motorcycles
1	1999 Honda Civic	1998 Ford F-150	2006 Honda
2	1994 Honda Accord	2001 Jeep Wrangler	2008 Honda
3	1996 Honda Accord	1997 Ford F-150	2007 Yamaha
4	1991 Honda Accord	2006 Ford F-150	2008 Suzuki
5	1997 Honda Accord	2005 Jeep Wrangler	2007 Suzuki
6	1995 Honda Civic	1995 Nissan Pickup	2005 Honda
7	2000 Honda Civic	2004 Chevy Silverado	2007 Honda
8	1990 Honda Accord	2007 Chevy Silverado	2006 Yamaha
9	1998 Honda Civic	2001 Ford Expedition	2003 Honda
10	1995 Honda Accord	2001 Honda CRV	2006 Kawasaki

Where is your car at greatest risk of theft?

While most people assume that their cars are more likely to be stolen when parked outside overnight in their private driveways or on the street, that's not necessarily the case. Large public parking lots -- at shopping centers, trolley stops, malls, beaches, tourist attractions -- provide thieves with the opportunity to 'shop' from an abundance of vehicles without raising much suspicion. In fact, in the year 2009, nearly 25% of all auto-theft reports made to the police in one of San Diego County's larger cities occurred at one major shopping mall.

According to the FBI, a motor vehicle is stolen in the U.S. every 33 seconds.



http://blog.telenav.com/photos/uncategorized/2008/07/28/parking_lot.jpg