Section 1: Introduction

This ForeCASTSM Report analyzes the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) 2015 vehicle theft data in relation to the 2015 holidays.

The following 2015 holidays were included in this report:

- 01/01/2015 (New Year’s Day)
- 02/14/2015 (Valentine’s Day)
- 02/16/2015 (President’s Day)
- 05/25/2015 (Memorial Day)
- 07/04/2015 (Independence Day)
- 09/07/2015 (Labor Day)
- 10/31/2015 (Halloween)
- 11/26/2015 (Thanksgiving)
- 12/24/2015 (Christmas Eve)
- 12/25/2015 (Christmas Day)
- 12/31/2015 (New Year’s Eve)

This report analyzes the 2015 NCIC vehicle thefts focusing on: theft date, daily theft rates for each month, holiday thefts, and the top 5 theft states for holiday thefts.

Section 2: 2015 NCIC Vehicle Thefts by Theft Date

A total of 759,237 vehicle thefts were reported to NCIC in 2015, averaging approximately 2,080 vehicle thefts reported per day. The graph below shows the days with the lowest and highest vehicles thefts in 2015.
The following chart shows the number of thefts per day for 2015.
The following chart displays the average number of vehicles stolen per day for each month, along with the daily average of vehicle thefts for the year, 2,080 thefts per day. The first five months of 2015 had monthly theft per day averages lower than the daily average for the year, with February having the lowest average overall at 1,793 thefts per day. Vehicle thefts rose steadily during the summer months to the year’s peak in August with 2,242 thefts per day. May was the only month that came close to the year daily average. Vehicle thefts again followed the pattern seen previously where the highest number of thefts are reported in the warmer summer months and the lowest theft numbers occur during the colder winter months.

2015 NCIC Vehicle Thefts by Monthly and Yearly Average
Section 4: 2015 NCIC Vehicle Thefts by Holiday

The following chart shows the number of vehicles thefts on each of the 2015 holidays in comparison to the daily average thefts in 2015. Halloween had the highest number of thefts for a holiday with 2,238 thefts followed closely by New Year's Eve with 2,227 thefts. Labor Day also had more thefts than the overall daily average for 2015. Thanksgiving, Christmas and Valentine’s Day had the lowest number of vehicle thefts of the holidays with 1,620, 1,653, and 1,690 thefts, respectively. Christmas Day and Thanksgiving were also the days with the least number of thefts of any day in 2015.
The 2015 NCIC holiday thefts were also analyzed by theft state. The following chart shows the number of thefts, per holiday, for the top 5 holiday theft states (California, Texas, Florida, Washington, and Georgia). California had the highest overall number of holiday vehicle thefts, by far, with 5,270. Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day had the least number of thefts per holiday in California but still over twice the thefts of any holiday for the other top 5 holiday theft states.
Section 6: Conclusion

For most of the holidays in 2015, vehicle theft was lower than the daily average for the year of 2,080 vehicles stolen per day. However, Labor Day, Halloween, and New Year’s Eve were over the average with Halloween having the most thefts of any holiday with 2,238. In 2015, the days with the highest number of thefts were 6/15/2015, 6/1/2015, and 10/01/2015; while Christmas Day, 4/5/2015, and 2/8/2015 had the lowest number of thefts. Vehicle theft rates followed a similar pattern from previous years with the highest number of thefts occurring over the summer months and the lowest in the winter months. California had the most thefts overall as well as the most thefts on holidays.