

WATPA 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

WATPA BACKGROUND

The Elizabeth Nowak-Washington Auto Theft Prevention Act was enacted during the 2007 Regular Legislative Session. The bill was signed into law by Governor Gregoire and became effective July 1, 2007.

The Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority account was created in the Washington State Treasury and is subject to appropriation. The account was originally funded through a \$10 surcharge on traffic infractions. WATPA now receives \$2.58 from every \$10 collected. Expenditures from the account are designated for activities related to motor vehicle theft. These include: Education, Prevention, Law Enforcement, Investigation, Prosecution and Confinement.

FINANCES

Since July 1, 2007 WATPA has distributed \$16.5 million in grant funds – funding 10 task forces and 38 agencies in an effort to reduce auto theft. Funding for task forces include salaries, benefits, overtime, equipment, training and public awareness education. In addition, 38 individual agencies have also received funding for equipment, training and public awareness programs.

2007-2009 \$10 Traffic Infraction Surcharge Breakdown



A: WATPA (\$8.80); B: DOC (\$1.08); C: DSHS JRA (\$0.12)

2011-2013 \$10 Traffic Infraction Surcharge Breakdown



**A: WATPA (\$2.58); B: DOC (\$6.16); C: DSHS JRA (\$0.09)
D: Criminal Justice General Fund Backfill (\$1.18)**

During the 2011-13 biennium, the Legislature has appropriated **\$5.9** million in funds for WATPA. The WATPA account is divided among WATPA auto theft task forces and funding for the Department of Corrections (DOC) and the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA). Based on OFM projections through the end of the biennium, WATPA funding will be used to partially fund eight Task Forces, community outreach programs and administrative costs.

2011-13 Awards

- \$1,655,000 - South King County (PATROL Task Force Partnership)
- \$1,255,000 - Snohomish County Auto Theft Task Force (SNOCAT)
- \$1,000,000 - Pierce County (Pierce County ACE Unit)
- \$380,000 - Spokane Regional Auto Theft and Identity Theft Task Force
- \$330,000 - Southwest Washington – Clark COMBAT (Combined Operational Measures to Battle Auto Theft)
- \$222,679 - Yakima County Sheriff's Auto Theft Reduction Unit
- \$193,848 - Redmond Police Department – King County Cooperative Auto Theft Initiative
- \$45,000 - Richland Police Department – Tri-Cities Regional Auto Theft Network
- \$35,000 - PACRAT – Pacific County Sheriff's Office Vehicle Theft Reduction Program
- \$25,000 - Longview Police Department – Vehicle Theft Reduction Program
- \$21,000 - Sunnyside Police Department
- \$10,000 - Puyallup SIU Auto Theft Project
- \$8,784 - Bellevue SET Task Force
- \$3,300 - Buckley Police Department

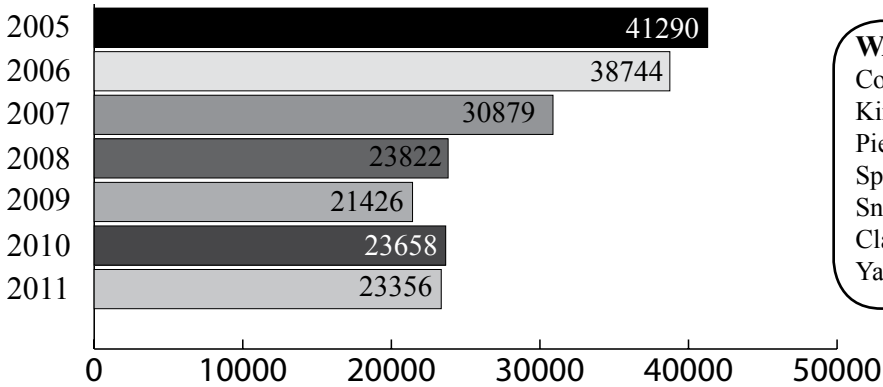


Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority

STATUS

WASHINGTON AUTO THEFT TRENDS - TOTAL VEHICLES (2005-2011)

WACIC Data (Provided by the Washington State Patrol)



WA State Counties - Total Stolens

County	2011	2010	% Change
King.....	8623	8662	+0.5%
Pierce.....	4062	3955	+2.7%
Spokane.....	2500	2612	-4.3%
Snohomish.....	2142	2449	-12.5%
Clark.....	1408	1534	-8.2%
Yakima	1163	1112	+4.5%

The above statistic shows total vehicle thefts in Washington through the years 2005 to 2011. Compared with 2005 when Washington experienced its highest total number of stolen vehicles (41,290), the statewide combined total of vehicles thefts in 2011 showed a decrease of 43.4 percent with King County showing a 52.3 percent decrease and Snohomish County having a 62.5 percent decrease over the same time period.

According to WACIC data, Washington had 302 fewer vehicle thefts in 2011 than in 2010 – going from 23,658 total thefts to 23,356. This figure represents the second lowest number of total vehicle thefts for a year in Washington in the past 15 years with the lowest occurring in 2009 (21,426).

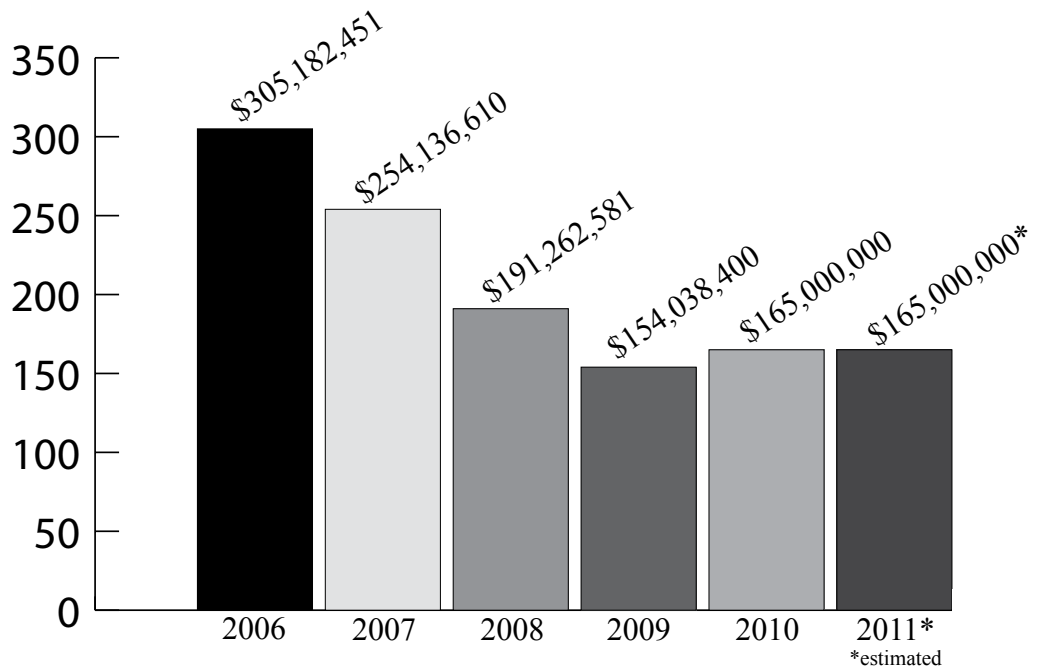
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In 2011, Washington ranked **6th** nationally in highest number of total heavy equipment thefts and **4th** national in highest number of total boat thefts.

Nationwide in 2010, there were an estimated 737,142 thefts of motor vehicles. The estimated rate of motor vehicle thefts in the United States was 238.8 per 100,000 inhabitants. Washington's rate was 382.6.

COST OF MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT IN WASHINGTON (2006-2011)

More than \$4.5 billion was lost nationwide to motor vehicle thefts in 2010. The average dollar loss per stolen vehicle was \$6,152. The total cost of motor vehicle theft in Washington in 2006 – a year before the formation of WATPA – was \$305,182,451. The estimated cost for motor vehicle theft in Washington in 2011 will be \$165,000,000 – a decrease of 45.9 percent from 2006.



If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this publication please contact Michael Painter, WATPA Executive Director, at (360) 292-7959, mpainter@waspc.org or Grant Clark, WATPA Public Awareness Coordinator, at (360) 292-7962, gclark@waspc.org