



First Half of 2026: Auto Theft Trend Report

(For the period January – June 2026)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Canadian auto theft trends show a decrease of **10.1%** in the first half of 2026 compared to the same period in 2025. Nationally, **20,759** vehicles were stolen in the first half of 2026.

Even as auto theft trends decrease, Équité Association's '[2026 Canadian Auto Theft Impact Survey](#)' revealed that nearly 75% of Canadians feel mandatory anti-theft technology should be built into vehicles, not sold to them as an after-market add-on. With 35% of Canadians stating they have been personally affected by auto theft and 79% are troubled by the broader impact of crime in their communities.

Organized crime networks continue to evolve using advanced technologies such as key fob relay attacks and reprogramming to easily bypass a vehicle's security system. The reality of modern auto theft is that simply locking a car door is no longer enough, which is why Équité continues advocating to make vehicles harder to steal in the first place.

Transport Canada has actively sought industry feedback on updates to the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations to combat auto theft. Équité emphasized the need for mandatory cybersecurity testing as per UN Regulation 155 and ISO/SAE 21434 to enhance vehicle anti-theft security and aligning Canadian standards with global best practices.

On behalf of members, Équité continues to strengthen its role as Canada's national authority on insurance crime and fraud prevention by expanding the ÉQ Insights platform, advancing technology adoption, and partnering with members and stakeholders to drive meaningful change in reducing auto theft and combatting insurance crime.

BY THE NUMBERS

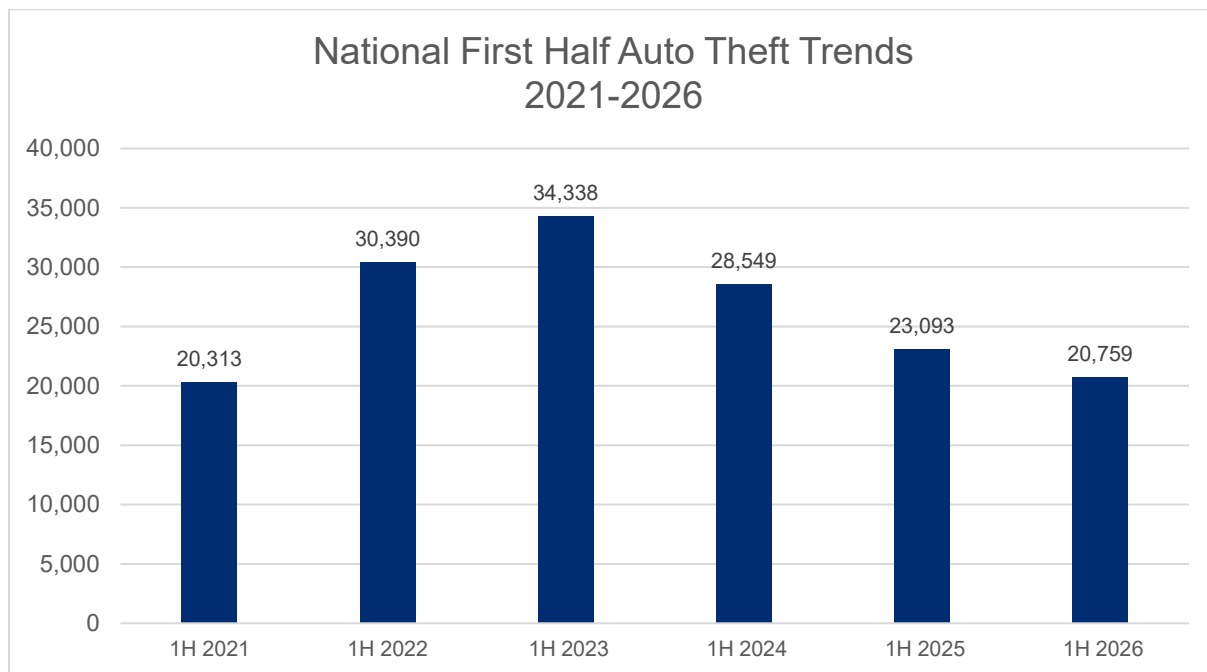
Équité Association has compiled data from Canadian law enforcement agencies on thefts of private passenger vehicles reported stolen in Canada. Private passenger vehicles include cars (sedans, coupes, hatchbacks and wagons), trucks, SUVs, and vans. This report contains statistical data that has undergone a data cleaning process to improve data quality.

Year-over-Year Percent of Change in Auto Theft by Region

With the total amount of stolen vehicles for the first half of 2026 at **20,759** nationally, the numbers are trending positively towards pre-crisis levels of first half of 2021 at **20,313**.

Region	# of Private Passenger Vehicles Stolen in First Half		First Half Auto Theft % of Change*
	1H 2025	1H 2026	1H 2026
National	23,093	20,759	-10.1%
Ontario	9,601	8,796	-8.4%
Quebec	3,888	3,641	-6.4%
Western Canada	8,695	7,449	-14.3%
• Alberta	4,411	3,744	-15.1%
Atlantic Canada	910	873	-4.1%

*Compared to the same period of 2025



Stolen Vehicle Recovery Trends

The national recovery rate for the first half of 2026 was **53.9%**, down from **56.5%** in the same period of 2025, reflecting a **2.6** percentage point decrease.

	Stolen Vehicle Recovery Trends*	
Region	1H 2025	1H 2026
National	56.5%	53.9%
Ontario	48.6%	44.8%
Quebec	45.1%	43.9%
Western Canada	69.9%	69.0%
• Alberta	67.6%	67.0%
Atlantic Canada	59.2%	58.8%

*Recovery trends referenced in this report encompass data from January 1 to June 30 of each respective year reported on. Vehicles included in recovery trends are stolen and recovered within the reporting period.

TREND ANALYSIS

- The national auto theft decrease **(-10.1%)** reflects the successes of Équité’s partnerships, as well as the collaborative efforts that have been implemented through the federal government’s National Action Plan to Combat Auto Theft.

Ontario & Quebec

- Both Ontario and Quebec experienced decreases in auto theft **(-8.4%)** and Quebec **(-6.4%)**.

Alberta

- Alberta has experienced the highest national decrease of auto theft **(-15.1%)**.
 - This decline aligns with collaboration between the insurance industry, law enforcement and government focusing on protecting Canadians from the impact of insurance crime including auto theft.

Atlantic Canada

- Atlantic Canada saw a decrease in auto theft of **4.1%**.

Équité continues to be at the centre-point of this constantly shifting insurance crime landscape. Our collaborative approach ensures we remain at the leading-edge of identifying, preventing and locking fraud out of Canada. Please direct questions or media requests to media@equiteco.ca.

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