



 OVERHAUL

Brazil: 2025 Annual Cargo Theft Report



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Executive Summary

The 2025 Overhaul Report aims to detail the scenario of cargo crime in Brazil, based on detailed studies. The analyses were carried out using a sample of exclusive data collected from public sources, complemented by advanced technological resources and the experience of specialized analysts.

The report considers cargo theft to be all events involving the transportation, attempted transportation and/or recovery of raw materials, components, in-process and/or finished products, as well as the theft of cargo vehicles.

Cargo theft continues to be one of the main problems affecting the country's logistics chains. The 2025 annual report on cargo theft in Brazil describes the spatial and temporal patterns of this crime at the national level to help decision-makers establish prevention strategies to reduce the risk to their operations.

The modes of operation of the different criminal groups operating throughout the country may vary by identifying hot spots at regional, state and road level, so we recommend the application of actionable intelligence to establish targeted strategies by sector or industry, for more information please contact us.

Note: In 2025, Overhaul had access to more data on cargo theft across the country, so when making comparisons against the previous year, some important variations can be noted.



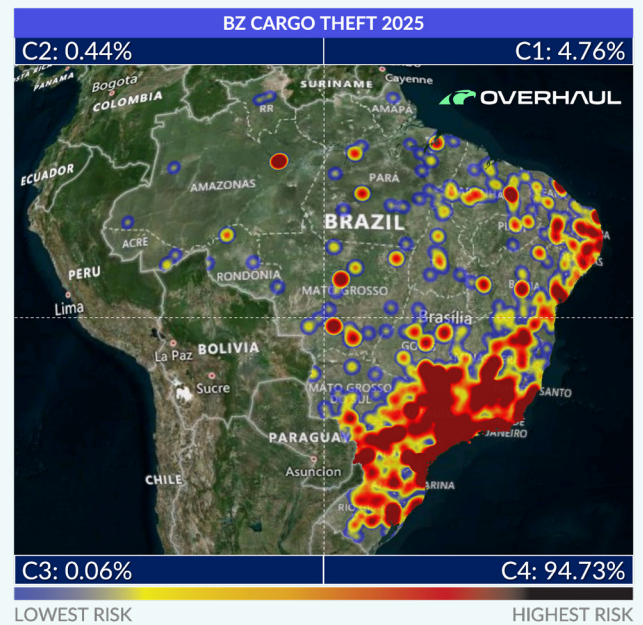
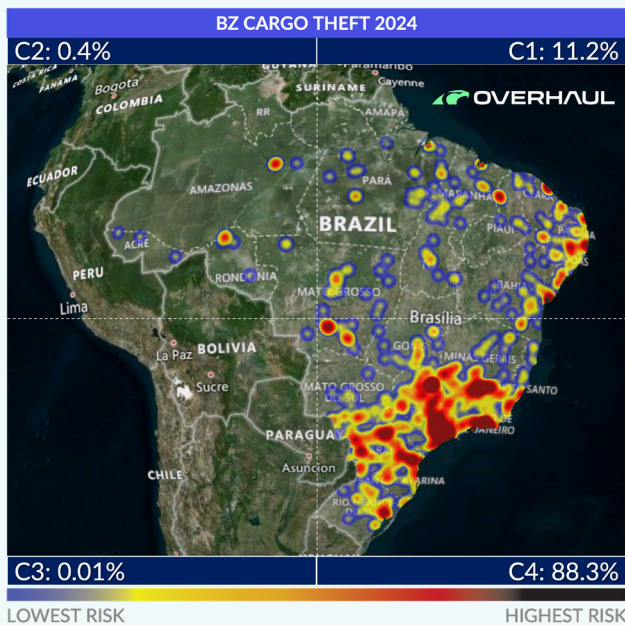


Spatial Analysis of Cargo Theft

In 2025, Overhaul’s expanded access to cargo theft data revealed a significant shift in distribution: Quadrant 1’s share decreased by 6.44 percent points, while Quadrant 4 saw a corresponding increase of 6.43 percent points.

In 2025, the fourth quadrant, which includes the South, Southeast and part of the Midwest, was responsible for 94.73% of the cargo thefts. This quadrant includes the states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais, Paraná, Santa Catarina, Rio Grande do Sul and Goiás.

The first quadrant, which mainly covers the northeast, was responsible for 4.76% of criminal activity.



In 2025, 97.6% of cargo thefts nationwide were concentrated in the Southeast (81.7%), South (8.1%) and Northeast (7.8%) regions.

Chart 1: Cargo Theft by Region 2024

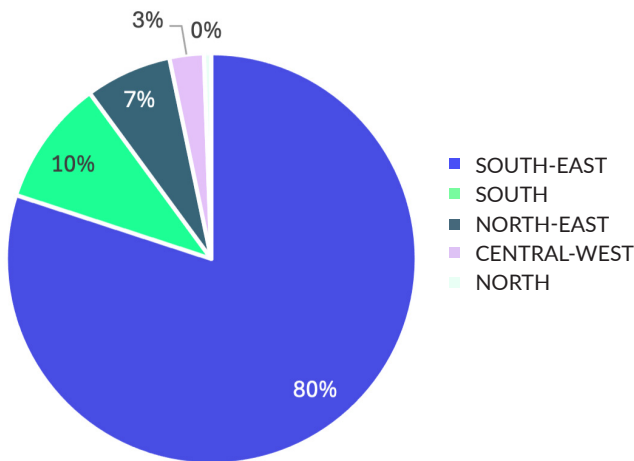
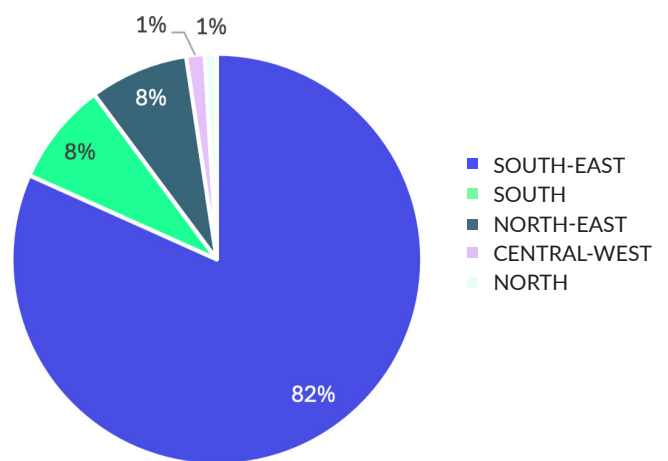


Chart 2: Cargo Theft by Region 2025



The South region saw a 1.3-percentage-point growth over 2024 levels, contrasted by a 2.1-percentage-point decline in the Northeast.

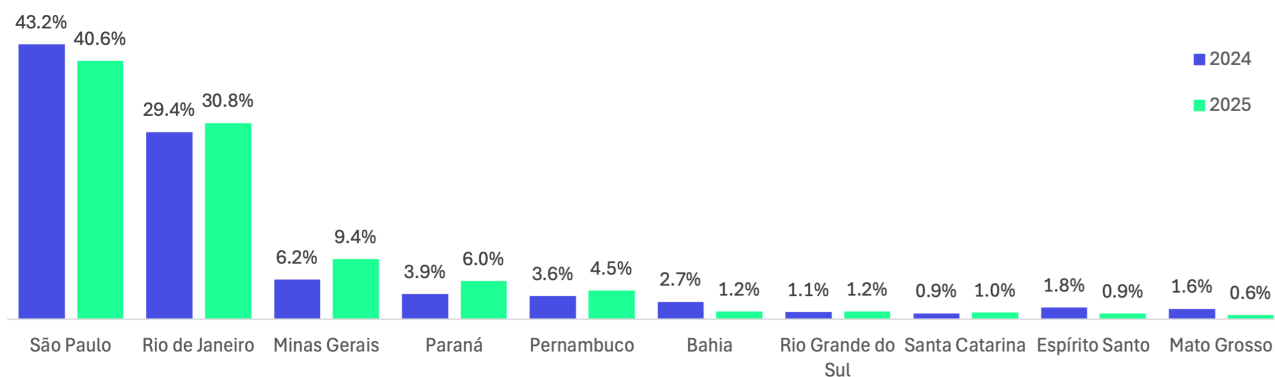


Ten States with the Highest Number of Cargo Thefts

In 2025, 96.0% of nationwide cargo thefts were concentrated in just ten states. A significant 71.4% of these incidents occurred in São Paulo (40.6%) and Rio de Janeiro (30.8%). Additionally, Minas Gerais, Paraná, and Pernambuco held a substantial combined share of 19.8%.

As the country's primary economic hubs, the high volume of freight movement in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro creates greater opportunities for criminal activity. Compared to 2024, São Paulo saw a decrease of 2.6 percentage points, while increases were recorded in Rio de Janeiro (1.4%), Paraná (2.1%), and Pernambuco (0.9%).

Chart 3. Top 10 Cargo Thefts Entities 2025



Temporal Analysis of Cargo Theft

In 2025, 87.2% of cargo theft occurred on weekdays (Monday through Friday). Criminal activity peaked between Tuesday and Friday, accounting for 73.7% of all incidents. This temporal pattern remains consistent with the daily theft trends observed in 2024.

Chart 4: Cargo Theft by Day of the Week 2025

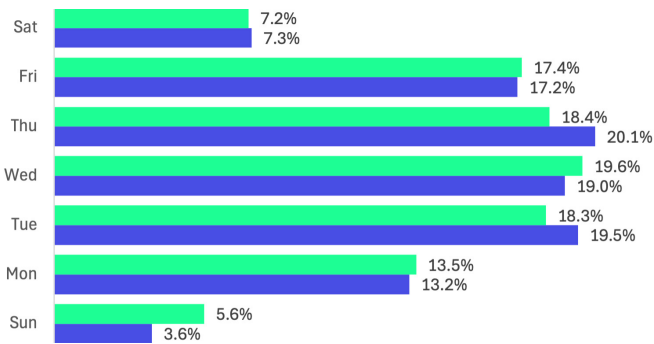
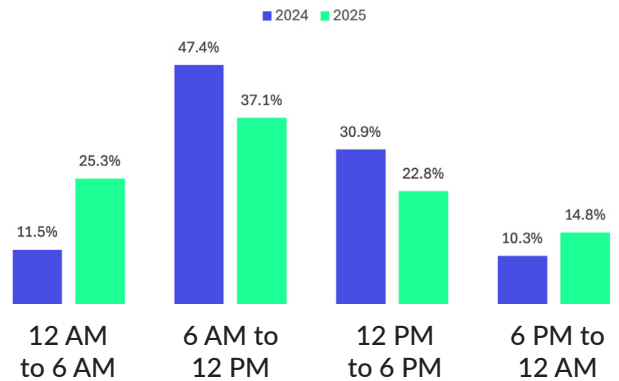


Chart 5: Cargo Theft By Schedule 2025



In 2025, the highest risk period for cargo transport remained in the morning (6AM-12PM), accounting for 37.1% of incidents. However, this represents a significant 10.3 percent point decrease compared to 2024. Similarly, afternoon crimes (12PM-6PM) dropped by 8.1 p.p., totaling 22.8% of incidents.

In contrast, nighttime activity saw a sharp rise: overnight thefts (12AM-6AM) surged by 13.9 p.p., while evening incidents (6PM-12AM) increased by 4.5 p.p. compared to the previous year.

The highest level of criminal activity in 2025 occurred between 7AM-2PM, accounting for 48% of all thefts.



Cargo Theft by Product Type

The five most stolen types of products in 2025 were **Food and Drinks** (40%), **Auto Parts** (11%), **Miscellaneous** (10%), **Tobacco** (8%) and **Electronics** (5%).

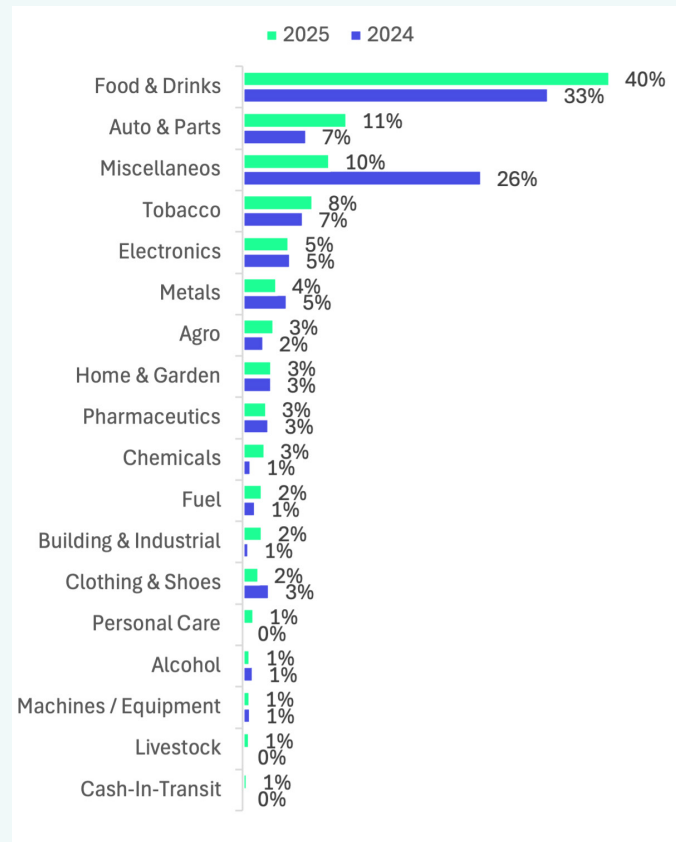
In 2025, Overhaul data showed a 7% increase in the **Food and Drinks** sector, rising from 33% to 40% compared to 2024. This sector is highly sought after by criminals due to its easy distribution and sale in informal markets.

In the **Vehicles and Parts** category, there was a 4% increase, rising from 7% to 11% compared to 2024. Within this sector, criminals mainly target batteries, tires, and luxury vehicles.

Access to more granular data sources regarding stolen products led to a decrease in **Miscellaneous** theft records, dropping from 26% in 2024 to 10% in 2025. However, this category has historically seen high theft volumes, primarily involving mixed cargo and parcel services.

Tobacco theft grew by one percentage point year-over-year (from 7% to 8%), with cigarettes standing out as a high-demand target for criminal activity. **Electronics** theft rates held steady at 5%, consistent with 2024 levels. Key targets within this segment include computers, mobile phones, and consoles.

Chart 6: Cargo Theft by Product Type 2025



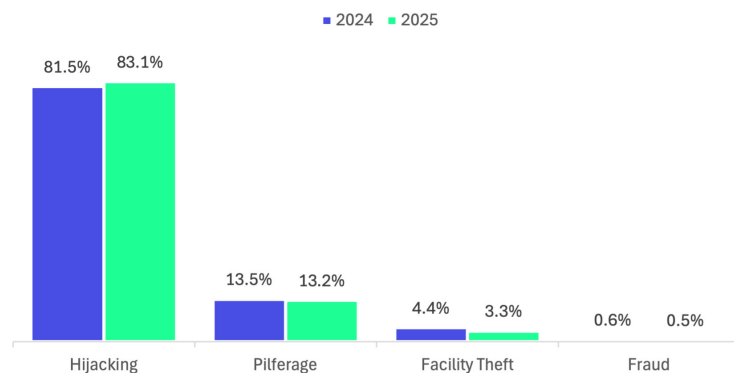
Cargo Theft by Event Type

In 2025, the distribution of event types remained consistent with 2024. Armed robbery (**Hijacking**) continues to be the primary threat, accounting for 83.1% of offenses—a 1.6% increase year-over-year.

Pilferage, the second most common event, saw a slight decrease of 0.3%, representing 13.2% of recorded incidents. Similarly, **Facility Thefts** dropped by 1.1% compared to 2024, with a participation of 3.3% in 2025.

Fraud—defined as the involvement of employees or third parties who facilitate cargo access, share sensitive information, or manipulate internal processes—decreased by 0.1%, accounting for 0.5% of total events in 2025.

Chart 7: Cargo Theft by Type of Event 2025

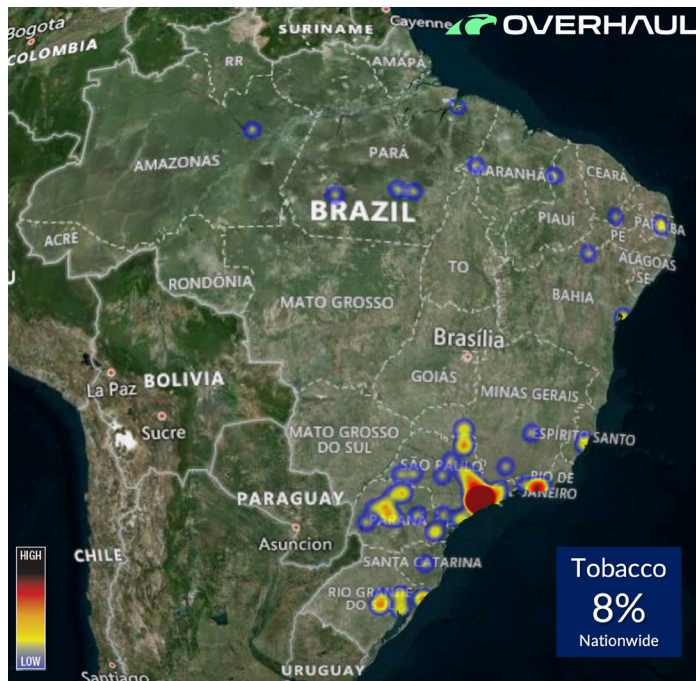




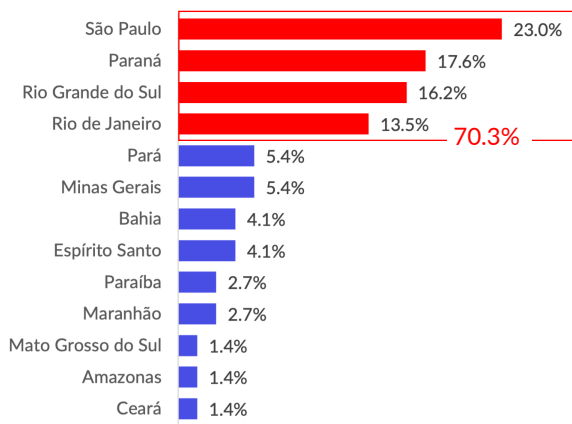
Spotlight 2025: Tobacco Theft

In 2025, tobacco theft represented 8% of all cargo theft incidents nationwide. The risk is highly concentrated geographically, with 70.3% of the sector's incidents occurring across just four states: São Paulo (23.0%), Paraná (17.6%), Rio Grande do Sul (16.2%), and Rio de Janeiro (13.5%). Furthermore, highway infrastructure plays a critical role in these figures, as 15.3% of all tobacco thefts took place on two primary routes: the BR-116 (10.2%) and the SP-330 (5.1%).

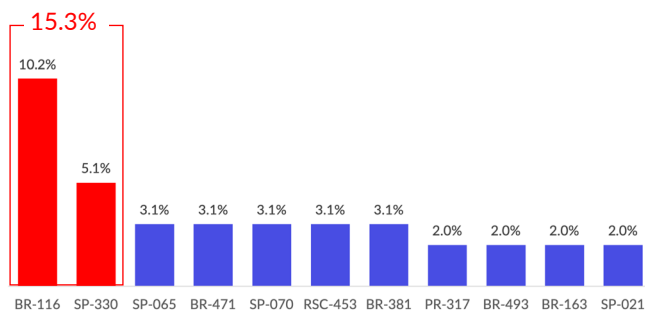
Regarding temporal patterns, 45.3% of tobacco thefts occurred between 09:00 and 11:00 AM. Criminal activity peaked during weekdays, particularly from Tuesday to Friday, accounting for 81.2% of all incidents.



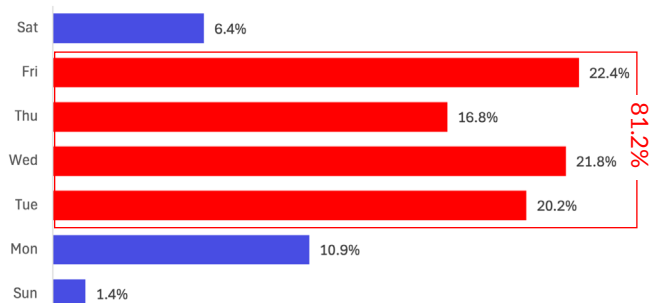
State



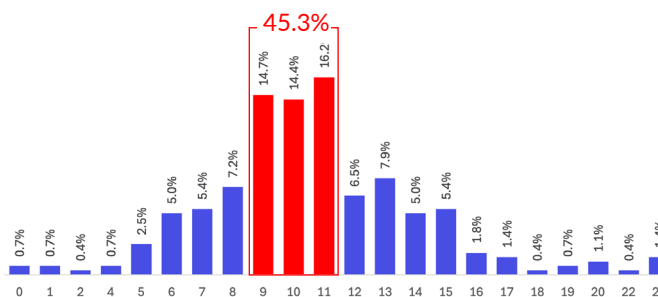
Riskiest Highways



Day



Hour





General Recommendations

Some general recommendations for cargo units transiting the country are to use a combination of physical and electronic security measures, as well as to transit with daylight. Electronic security and monitoring measures reduce the risk to cargo, and Overhaul recommends that these measures be present in all cargo units transiting through Brazil.

Overhaul is dedicated to helping our customers combat cargo theft and violence in Brazil. To mitigate in-transit threats, we recommend that all cargo units use both physical and electronic security measures and travel during daylight hours. We also suggest that companies invest in proactive risk prevention tools and strategies.

Overhaul's platform enables proactive risk management by leveraging data from GPS, weather conditions, and crime statistics to identify potential security threats. Additionally, our real-time tracking and monitoring features enable immediate response to any unusual activity or route deviations.

Finally, Overhaul provides access to security experts, educational resources, and tools for reporting and analyzing security effectiveness. Combined, these offerings empower our customers to keep their cargo protected throughout their shipment journeys.

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