



Vehicle Crime Index

**Business-owned vehicles
still bear the brunt of
vehicle crime**

*New hijacking times and
hotspot emerging*

Tracker's vehicle crime statistics for January to June 2025 reveal that business-owned vehicles* are 48% more likely to be targeted than personally-owned vehicles. This trend is largely driven by hijackings, with notable shifts in both timing and location – Mpumalanga has emerged as a new hotspot, and incidents are increasingly occurring during the week rather than over weekends.

The Tracker Vehicle Crime Index aggregates information from Tracker's more than 1.1 million subscriptions. The data indicates that business-owned vehicles experience 32% more crime than their proportion within the Tracker base, highlighting a significantly higher risk compared to personally-owned vehicles. The majority of this crime – 57% – occurs in Gauteng.

Nationally, hijackings of business-owned vehicles occur at nearly double the rate of thefts. Regionally, this trend becomes even more pronounced: in the Western Cape, business vehicle hijackings are five times more likely than theft; in the Eastern Cape, four times more likely; and in Mpumalanga, three times more likely. While the Western Cape and Eastern Cape were identified as hijacking hotspots last year, Mpumalanga has now joined the list.

For personal vehicles, the national split between hijacking and theft is equal. However, in the Eastern Cape, hijackings are five times more likely than theft, and twice as likely in Mpumalanga and Limpopo.

Whereas most vehicle crime was previously reported over weekends, hijackings are now mainly reported on Thursdays between 4pm and 9pm. Theft continues to be most commonly reported on Saturdays between 11am and 4pm.

Regionally, the most prominent day and time for hijackings varies: Gauteng shows a tendency toward Tuesdays between 11am and 4pm; KwaZulu-Natal, Wednesdays from 4pm to 9pm; and the Western Cape, Wednesdays from 6am to 11am.

As vehicle crime patterns continue to evolve, Tracker remains committed to protecting people and their vehicles. During the first half of 2025, the company recovered 3,671 vehicles, assisted in 146 arrests and helped recover 10 firearms.

“Crime trends change over time, and the shifting pattern of hijackings shows that they can happen anytime, anywhere, making it essential to remain alert to your surroundings,” says Duma Ngcobo, Chief Operating Officer at Tracker. “Businesses, in particular, can take proactive steps to mitigate risk by implementing technologies such as AI-powered fleet dashcams with facial recognition, 360-degree cameras, safe zone management, cargo door sensors, and emergency driver assist buttons. These tools enable fleet managers to respond swiftly to incidents. Additionally, subscribing drivers to rapid emergency armed response services can further enhance safety.”

** Business-owned vehicles range from cargo trucks with trailers to courier vehicles delivering items ordered online. Crime targeting these vehicles proves highly lucrative, with criminals acquiring the vehicle, the goods being transported and the driver’s personal belongings, e.g. mobile phone.*

For more information or assistance, please contact Tracker: 0860 60 50 40



www.tracker.co.za

Tracker Vehicle Crime Index Jan – Jun 2025



BUSINESS VEHICLES ARE
48% MORE LIKELY
TO BE **TARGETED** THAN PERSONAL VEHICLES.

Business vehicle crime:

A **BUSINESS** VEHICLE HAS ABOUT DOUBLE THE CHANCE OF BEING HIJACKED THAN STOLEN.



66% HIJACKING



34% THEFT

Personal vehicle crime:

A **PERSONAL** VEHICLE IS EQUALLY LIKELY TO BE HIJACKED OR STOLEN.



50% HIJACKING



50% THEFT

Day of Week and Time of Day:

More **HIJACKINGS** are reported on

Thursdays

between 16:00 – 21:00

More **THEFTS** are reported on

Saturdays

between 11:00 – 16:00

Tracker recovery stats:



Number of
vehicles recovered

3,671



Number of
arrests

146



Number of
firearms recovered

10

Vehicle crime trends based on Tracker data
from the company's installed vehicle base.

