



Regional Analytical Report

Region: West

Detachment: Oxford County

File Reference: 6-ROAP-2021-334

Author: A. Aitken

Overview

This report was prepared for Inspector Hymers of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Oxford County Detachment. A review was completed of reported thefts from motor vehicles in the Town of Ingersoll between the years 2015 to 2020. All data included in this report was sourced from the OPP NICHE RMS system, including data categorized under Uniform Report Codes (UCR), 2132 Theft From Motor Vehicle Over \$5,000 and 2142 Theft From Motor Vehicles Under \$5,000. Occurrences that were cleared as “Unfounded” were not included in the report.

Theft from motor vehicle is one of the highest reported property crime types in Ingersoll. Data analysis can be difficult due to the fact that these types of thefts are often seen as minor to residents and therefore can go unreported. Also these types of thefts are usually reported after the fact as they normally occur overnight. Theft from vehicles are often a crime of opportunity and can be prevented by ensuring that valuables are not left inside vehicles and that vehicles are locked.

Over the last six years there has been a slight increase in the amount of theft from vehicles reported, the year 2020 saw a slight decrease in thefts but this is likely due to provincial COVID-19 restrictions and the fact that more people were at home throughout the year. One of the key issues presented in the data below is the fact that in 82% of reported thefts from vehicle the complainant reported that the vehicle had been left unlocked.

Analysis

Temporal Data

The data included in the temporal analysis is based on the reported date and time of an occurrence.

Key Findings:

- 2019 had the highest amount of reported thefts from vehicles
- The months of August, November and December had the highest reported thefts suggesting that thefts increase in the warmer weather and around Christmas time
- Mondays and Tuesdays were the days of the week with the highest reported thefts, this suggests that thefts may be occurring over the weekend period and being reported after the fact on Mondays and that suspects may be targeting vehicles on Mondays nights once people are back to work for the week
- When looking at the time of the month that thefts were occurring there was no significant difference in the data, the thefts were evenly spread out throughout the month



Regional Analytical Report

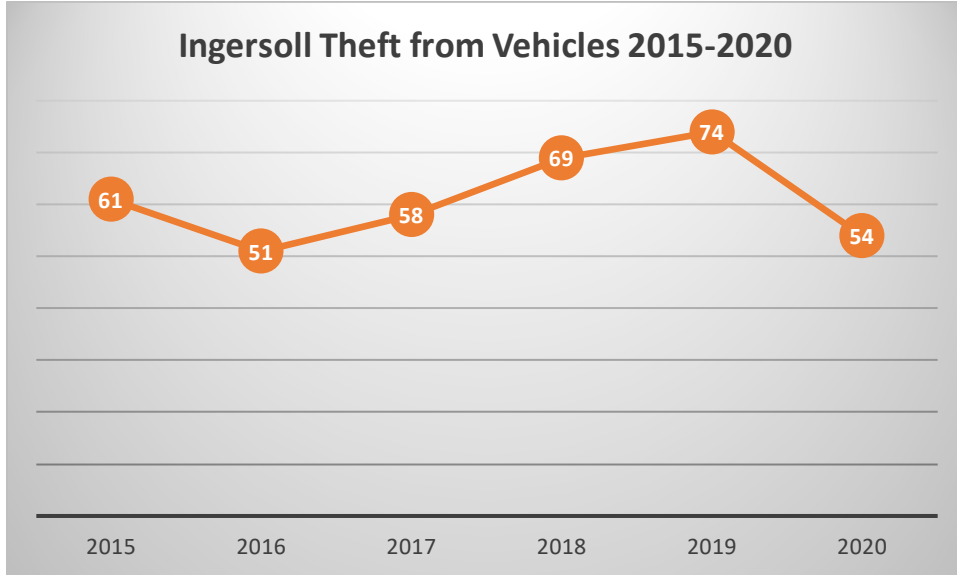
Region: West

Detachment: Oxford County

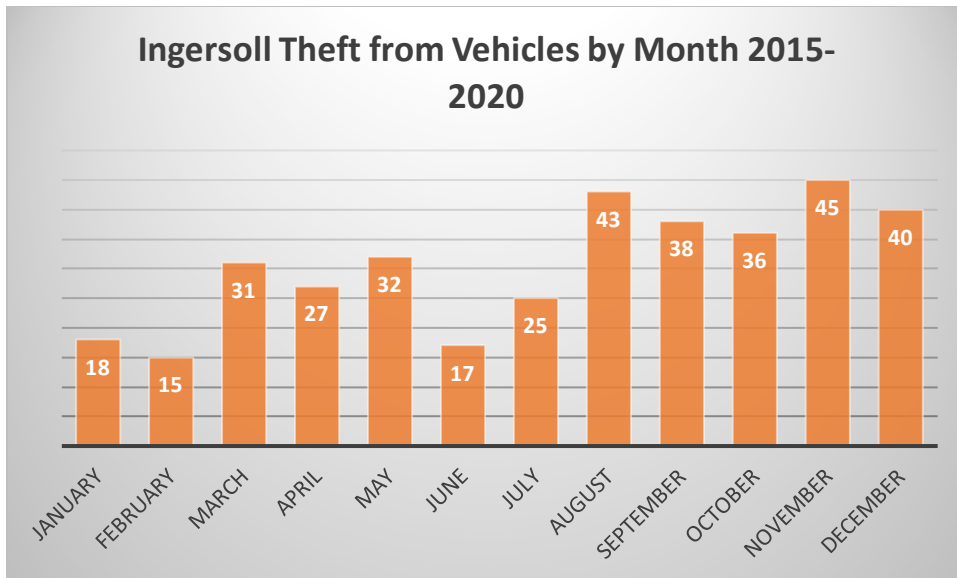
File Reference: 6-ROAP-2021-334

Author: A. Aitken

Theft from Vehicles by Year (2015-2020):



Theft from Vehicles by Month (2015-2020):





Regional Analytical Report

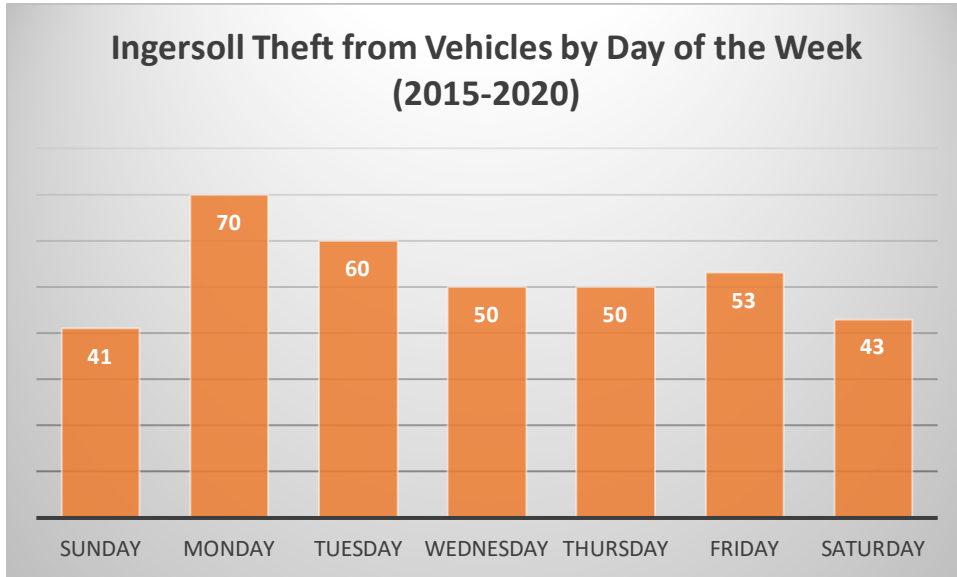
Region: West

Detachment: Oxford County

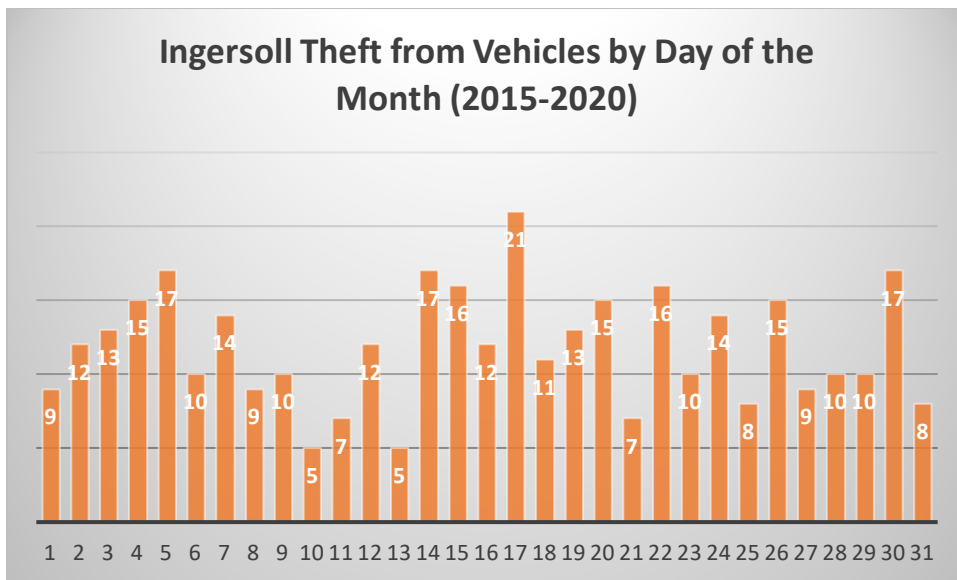
File Reference: 6-ROAP-2021-334

Author: A. Aitken

Theft from Vehicles by Day of the Week (2015-2020):



Theft from Vehicles by Day of the Month (2015-2020):





Regional Analytical Report

Region: West

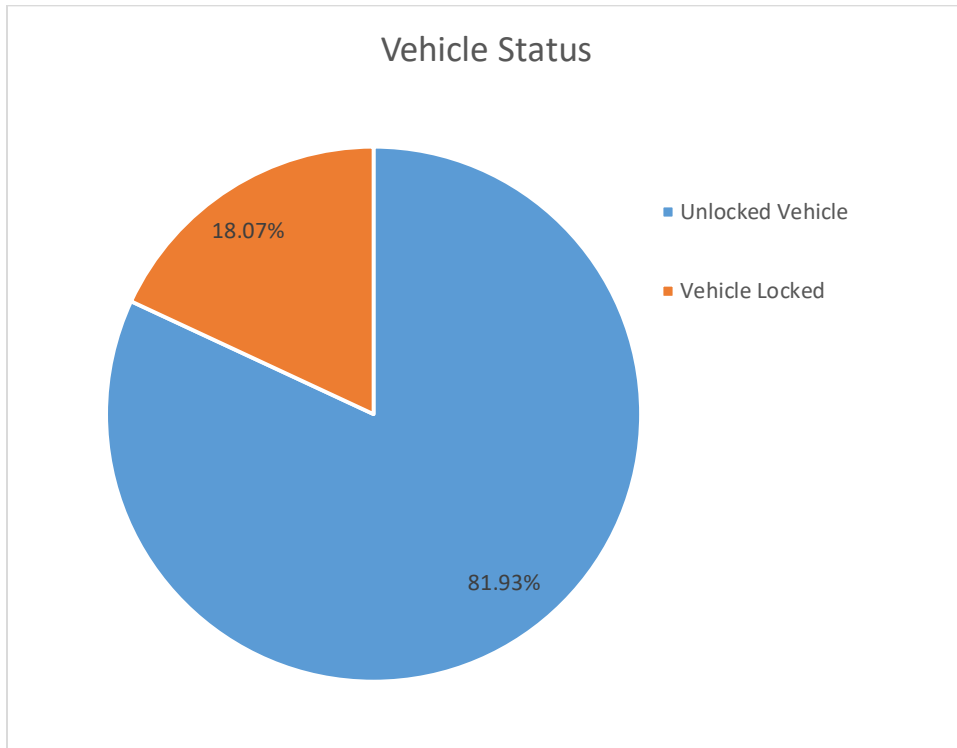
Detachment: Oxford County

File Reference: 6-ROAP-2021-334

Author: A. Aitken

Trend Analysis:

When data involving vehicle status was reported by the complainant it was found that 82% of vehicles had been left unlocked. There were another 20% of thefts that involved items from outside of the vehicle being stolen such a license plates. There has been an increase in license plate thefts recently, they are being used in an attempt to hide criminal activity. For example, a licence plate might be stolen and used on a stolen vehicle in an attempt to hide the fact that the vehicle is stolen.





Regional Analytical Report

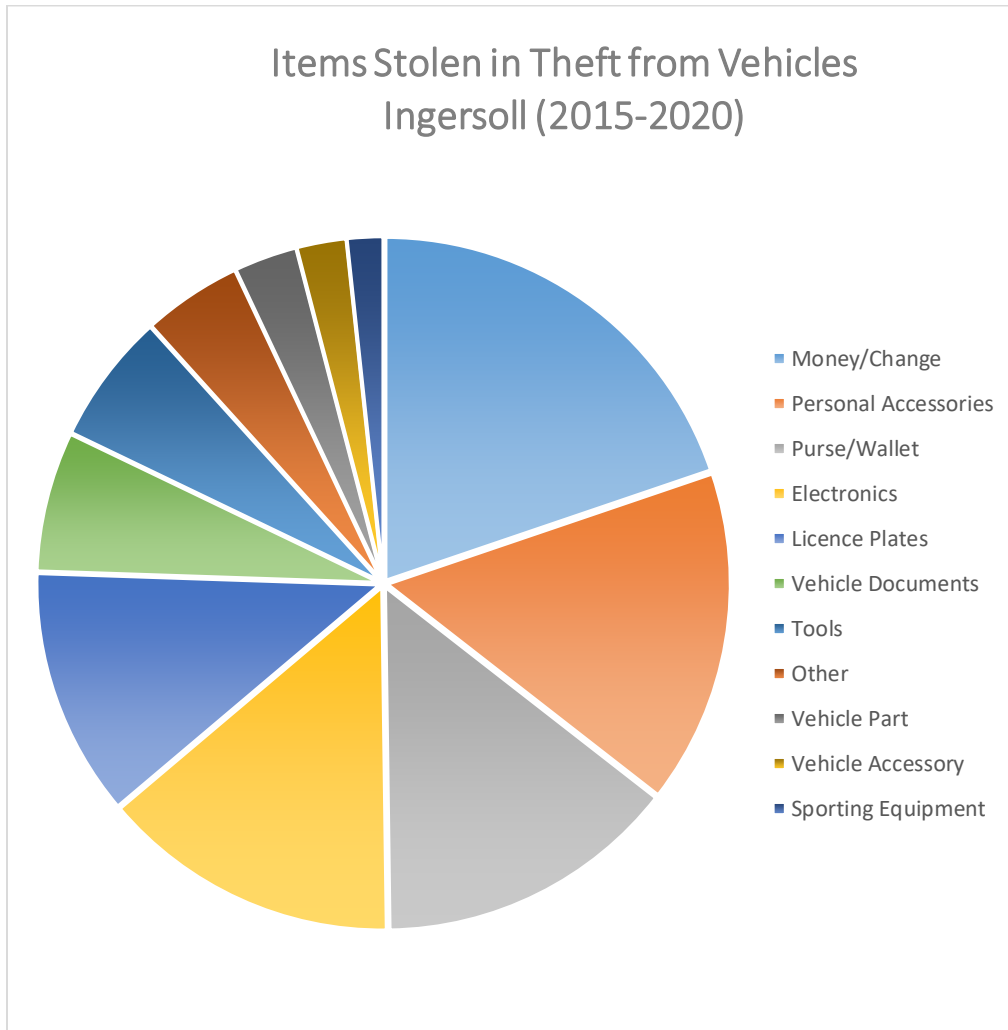
Region: West

Detachment: Oxford County

File Reference: 6-ROAP-2021-334

Author: A. Aitken

The chart below highlights the items targeted in theft from vehicles, items including money, change and personal items such as sunglasses were the top items taken in thefts.





Regional Analytical Report

Region: West

Detachment: Oxford County

File Reference: 6-ROAP-2021-334

Author: A. Aitken

Conclusion

Strategies for Reduction:

- Increase awareness among residents about the importance of locking vehicles and ensuring that valuables are not left in vehicles
- Promote importance of accurate reporting times and reporting suspicious activity at the time it occurs
- Promote the use of online reporting and reporting in general, even for minor thefts so that the date, time and location can be captured for future focused patrols
- Focused patrol recommended over the summer months in targeted areas to increase police presence, prevent future thefts and attempt to identify suspects
- Promote information on new affordable technology for home security such as motion lights and doorbell cameras
- Purchase “Lock It or Lose It” signs for municipal properties and parking lots.

If these strategies are utilized it would be the goal of Oxford County OPP to see a five percent reduction in reported theft from vehicles in the Ingersoll for the year 2021.