Date: April 21, 2017
Regarding: **2016 US Watercraft Theft and Recovery (through 03/21/2017) Report** (Public Dissemination)
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Executive Summary

There were a total of 5,116 Watercraft thefts in 2016, a 1% increase in watercraft thefts from 2015. The watercraft most likely to be stolen in 2016 was a "Yamaha – WaveRunner® personal watercraft (PWC) (604 thefts), followed up by the "Bombardier Corp. Sea-Doo© PWC (451 thefts). Of the 5,116 watercraft stolen in 2016, 1,960, or 38% were recovered through 03/21/2017. The highest number of watercraft thefts in 2016 took place in Florida (25%). The Top 3 watercraft theft counties were Miami-Dade, Florida (291 thefts), Broward, Florida (122 thefts), and Hillsborough, Florida (82 thefts). The Top 3 watercraft theft cities in 2016 were all located in Florida: Miami (163 thefts), Tampa (81 thefts), and Fort Lauderdale (62 thefts). Of the 1,960, recovered watercrafts from 01/01/2016 through 03/21/2017, 54% were recovered within 9 days of being stolen. The holiday with the most watercraft thefts in 2016 was Labor Day with 24 thefts.

In the furtherance of watercraft theft awareness and prevention, NICB brochure: "Boat Theft: Leave Thieves in Your Wake", suggests that boat owners should use a common sense approach to protecting their watercrafts. The suggested prevention methods tell boat owners to: "dock your craft in well-lit areas; secure your boat to the dock with a locked steel cable; remove expensive equipment from your boat when not in use; lock the boat's cabin, doors, and windows when not in use; remove registration or title papers in the craft; disable the boat when not in use by shutting off fuel lines and removing the battery or distributor cap; install an alarm system and a kill switch in the ignition system; use a trailer hitch lock after parking a boat on its trailer; park your trailer in a locked garage, secured boat storage facility, or a well-lit, fenced area; and ensure your marine insurance policy includes your equipment, boat, and trailer. Also, to be prepared for the possibility of a watercraft theft, NICB encourages boat owners to take photos of their boat, and to be sure that their boat and equipment are marked with a Hull Identification number (HIN), a serial number that uniquely identifies every boat and will ultimately help law enforcement with recovery efforts.

Introduction

Throughout the year 2016, there were a total of 5,116 watercraft thefts within the United States (US). Of these thefts, 1,960, or 38%, were recovered by March 21, 2017, while 3,156, or 62%, remain at large. This ForeCAST℠ Report analyzes the 5,116 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries[1] with information reported to the US Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) National Crime Information Center (NCIC). There are 3 sections to this report consisting of; an analysis of the watercrafts, a geographical analysis, and a temporal analysis. "Section 1: The Watercraft" analyzes the 2016 watercraft thefts and recoveries by manufacturer, boat type[2], manufacturer and boat type combined, and boat type and propulsion type combined. "Section 2: Geographic Analysis" analyzes the 2016 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries by state, by boat type and state, then by county and city (excluding recovery records from outside of the US). "Section 3: Temporal Analysis" analyzes the 2016 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries by month, holiday, and the number of days between the theft date and recovery date from 01/01/2016 through 03/21/2017.

There will be a number of graphical representations throughout this report, including tables, charts, and maps. With the exception of the maps, '**Red**' relates to theft information, while '**Blue**' relates to recovery information. Additionally, all percentages, including those already mentioned, are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Section 1: The Watercraft

This section will provide an analysis of the 2016 watercraft thefts and recoveries in 4 ways: [1] by the Top 10 manufacturers; [2] the 13 boat types recognized by the NCIC; [3] the Top 10 manufacturers and boat type combinations; [4] and the boat type and propulsion type combinations.

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[1] A corresponding recovery is defined as recovery information that relates to its respective theft.
[2] The terms "watercraft" and "boat" will be used interchangeably throughout this report.

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/2017) by Manufacturer

There were 551 different manufacturers[3] identified in the 2016 watercraft theft and recovery data. The table below lists all manufacturers with 10 or more thefts along with recovery information in descending order by number of thefts. The Top 10 stolen manufacturers are shown in '**Bold**' font, and are surrounded by a black box. Totaling 1,786 thefts, the Top 10 manufacturers represent 35% of all watercraft thefts in 2016. The manufacturer with the largest number of stolen watercrafts was "Yamaha" with 604 thefts. Of the Top 10 manufacturers, "Bayliner Marine, Corp." had the highest recovery rate of 49%, while "Old Town Canoe Co. had the lowest recovery rate of 16%.

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by Manufacturer

Manufacturer	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate%	Manufacturer	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate%
Yamaha Motor Corp., USA	**604**	**152**	**25%**	Duracraft Boats, Inc.	18	3	17%
Bombardier Corp.	**451**	**156**	**35%**	Pro-Line Boat Co.	17	9	53%
Kawasaki Motors Mfg.	**144**	**46**	**32%**	Hydra-Sports, Inc.	17	10	59%
Alumacraft Boat Co.	**112**	**34**	**30%**	American Honda Motor Co., Inc.	17	6	35%
Bass Tracker Corp.	**107**	**39**	**36%**	Gheen Mfg. Co.	17	8	47%
Bayliner Marine, Inc.	**84**	**41**	**49%**	Crownline Boats, Inc.	17	11	65%
Carl A. Lowe Ind., Inc.	**67**	**25**	**37%**	Mirro Marine	16	9	56%
Old Town Canoe Co.	**63**	**10**	**16%**	Seaark Boats, Inc.	16	5	31%
Pelican Intl.	**61**	**16**	**26%**	Harris Inds.	16	6	38%
Starcraft Co.	**57**	**22**	**39%**	Carolina Skiff, LLC	16	11	69%
Sea Nymph Mfg.	53	21	40%	Achilles KCI Corp.	16	2	13%
Smoker-Craft	51	25	49%	Chaparral Boats, Inc.	15	12	80%
Sea Ray Boats, Inc.	49	34	69%	Alweld Commercial Boats	15	6	40%
Polaris Ind. LP	46	17	37%	Wilderness Products Co., Inc.	14	2	14%
Lund American, Inc.	42	21	50%	Four Winns, Inc.	14	8	57%
Boston Whaler, Inc.	42	29	69%	Glasspar Boat Div.	14	6	43%
Tracker Seacraft of Florida	40	15	38%	Malibu Boats	13	8	62%
Coast Catamaran Corp.	36	6	17%	Scout Boats, Inc.	13	11	85%
Skeeter Products, Inc.	33	16	48%	Generation III, Inc.	13	5	38%
Fisher Marine, Inc.	32	16	50%	Angler Boat Corp.	13	9	69%
Forrest Wood Mfg. Co.	32	15	47%	Lake Raider	12	6	50%
Marba Glas	31	4	13%	Baja Boat Co.	12	5	42%
Florida Homemade Boats	29	16	55%	Champion Boats	12	7	58%
Monark Boat Co.	26	9	35%	Sundance Marine	11	4	36%
Landau Boat Co.	25	9	36%	Sylvan Ind., Inc.	11	4	36%
Wellcraft Marine	25	16	64%	Key West Boats, Inc.	11	4	36%
Sears Roebuck & Co.	25	10	40%	Nitro Marine	11	7	64%
Polar Kraft Mfg. Co.	25	8	32%	Blue Fin Ind., Inc.	11	5	45%
Wilderness Systems	24	5	21%	Four Winns	11	6	55%
Zodiac of North America	24	12	50%	Gregor Boat Co.	11	3	27%
Pro Craft, Inc.	23	11	48%	Jackson Corp.	10	2	20%
Glastron Boat Co.	23	10	43%	Sea Fox Boat Co., Inc.	10	6	60%
Grumman Boats	23	8	35%	Triton Ind., Inc.	10	6	60%
Coleman Co., The	23	7	30%	Sunbird Boat Co., Inc.	10	3	30%
Ocean Kayak	22	2	9%	AMF Crestliner	10	4	40%
BRP Queretaro	22	5	23%	Chris Craft	10	7	70%
Bentz Craft	20	7	35%	Cobia Boat Co.	10	5	50%
Mastercraft Boat Co.	18	13	72%	Dagger Canoe Co.	10	3	30%
West Marine Products	18	3	17%				
Bennington Marine Corp.	18	11	61%				

[3] *There was 1 record where the manufacturer's identification was not able to be confirmed using the NCIC Boat Codes Manual or the US Coast Guard's Manufacturer's Identification website (http://www.uscgboating.org/) and are therefore not included in the number of different manufacturers.*

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/2017) by Boat Type

There are 13 boat types recognized by the NCIC[4] (refer to Appendix) and 3,844 of the 2016 theft records identified 1 of those types as the type of boat stolen. The remaining 1,272 provided a boat code not recognized by NCIC or did not provide a code at all. Of the 3,844 records with NCIC-recognized boat codes, 34%, or 1,313, were identified as "All Other". Excluding the "All Other" category, the Top 5 stolen boat types comprised 47% (2,419) of all 2016 watercraft thefts. The most frequently stolen watercraft was the "Personal Watercraft," with 1,167 thefts. Of the Top 5 boat types, "Sailboat" had the highest recovery rate of 58%, while "Personal Watercraft" had 34%. An analysis of the number of thefts of each boat type per state is located on page 8 of this report.

The list below provides the number of thefts and recoveries per boat type in 2016 in descending order by number of thefts, excluding the "All Other" category. The Top 5 stolen boat types are ranked and numbered, and a sample photo[5] for each boat type is provided.

1. Personal Watercraft
    - Thefts: 1,167
    - Recoveries: 335
    - Recovery Rate: 34%

2. Runabout
    - Thefts: 639
    - Recoveries: 317
    - Recovery Rate: 50%

3. Utility
    - Thefts: 355
    - Recoveries: 134
    - Recovery Rate: 38%

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[4] As noted in the Appendix, *NCIC uses "Jet Ski" to describe all personal watercraft (PWC). "Jet Ski" is the trademarked brand name for Kawasaki Motors Corporation's PWC. Thus, the term "Jet Ski" has been replaced with personal watercraft, or PWC, unless referring specifically to the Kawasaki product.*
[5] *Pictures are not of actual stolen watercrafts; all images were found through Google Images to provide one general example of what each type of boat may look like.*

4. Cruiser
   - Thefts: 192
   - Recoveries: 111
   - Recovery Rate: 58%

5. Sailboat
   - Thefts: 66
   - Recoveries: 41
   - Recovery Rate: 62%

Airboat
   - Thefts: 18
   - Recoveries: 5
   - Recovery Rate: 28%

Houseboat
   - Thefts: 15
   - Recoveries: 9
   - Recovery Rate: 60%

Commercial
- Thefts: 10
- Recoveries: 7
- Recovery Rate: 70%

Yacht
- Thefts: 8
- Recoveries: 4
- Recovery Rate: 50%

Hydroplane
- Thefts: 4
- Recoveries: 2
- Recovery Rate: 50%

Hydrofoil
- Thefts: 2
- Recoveries: 0
- Recovery Rate: 0

Hovercraft
- ▪ Thefts: 0
- ▪ Recoveries: 0
- ▪ Recovery Rate: 0

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by Manufacturer & Boat Type Combined

The table below ranks the Top 10 stolen manufacturer and boat type combinations along with recovery information, listed in descending order by number of thefts. Only records that identified a manufacturer and a NCIC-recognized boat type were included in the analysis. Totaling 1,286 thefts, the Top 10 manufacturer and boat type combinations comprised 25% of all watercraft thefts in 2016. The most frequently stolen combination in the Top 10 was the "Yamaha – WaveRunner® PWC, with a total of 515 thefts. The combination with the highest recovery rate, in the Top 10, was "Bayliner Marine,Inc – Runabout at 60% recovered. The lowest recovery rate was for both the "Marba Glas– Other", at a recovery rate of 15%.

**2016 Watercraft Thefts and Recoveries (through 03/21/17) for the
Top 10 Manufacturer & Boat Type Combinations**

Manufacturer	Boat Type	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
1. Yamaha	PWC	515	120	23%
2. Bombardier Corp.	PWC	383	130	34%
3. Kawasaki Motors Mfg.	PWC	124	38	31%
4. Old Town Canoe Co.	Other	51	9	18%
5. Polaris Ind. LP	PWC	43	16	37%
6. Pelican Intl.	Other	42	11	26%
7. Alumacraft Boat Co.	Other	41	11	27%
8. Bass Tracker Corp.	Other	30	12	40%
9. Bayliner Marine, Inc.	Runabout	30	18	60%
10. Marba Glas	Other	27	4	15%

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by Boat Type & Propulsion Type Combined

The table below ranks the Top 10 stolen boat type and propulsion type combinations, including the number of recoveries and recovery rate for each, listed in descending order by number of thefts. Only records that identified a boat type and a propulsion type recognized by the NCIC were included in the analysis. Totaling 2,459 thefts, the Top 10 boat type and propulsion type combinations represent 49% of all 2016 watercraft thefts. Of the Top 10 boat type/propulsion type combinations, "PWC – Inboard" had the highest number of thefts with 710. The Top 10 combination with the highest recovery rate of 59% was "Cruiser – Outboard", while the combination with the lowest recovery rate was "Other–Manual" at 21%.

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Recoveries (through 03/21/17) for the Top 10 Boat Type & Propulsion Type Combinations

Boat Type	Propulsion Type	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
1. PWC	Inboard	710	204	29%
2. Other	Outboard	485	214	44%
3. Runabout	Outboard	411	208	51%
4. Other	Manual	373	79	21%
5. Utility	Outboard	216	90	42%
6. Runabout	Inboard	124	61	49%
7. Cruiser	Inboard	93	54	58%
8. Other	Inboard	74	35	47%
9. Cruiser	Outboard	71	42	59%
10. PWC	Outboard	42	18	43%

Section 2: Geographic Analysis

The Geographic Analysis Section analyzes the 2016 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries in 3 parts: [1] the 2016 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries by theft state; [2] the 2016 watercraft thefts per state by boat type; [3] the 2016 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries for the Top 10 theft counties; [4] the 2016 watercraft theft and corresponding recoveries for the Top 10 theft cities.

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by Theft State

All of the 5,116 watercraft thefts in 2016 identified the state where the theft occurred and almost every state reported at least one theft. The following table lists the thefts and corresponding recoveries[6] for each state in descending order by number of thefts. The Top 10 theft states are identified with '**Bold**' font, ranked, and surrounded by a black box in the below table. Totaling 3,331 thefts, the Top 10 theft states comprised 64% of all 2016 watercraft thefts. Consistent with 2015, the state with the highest number of thefts was Florida with 1,291, representing 25% of all watercraft thefts in 2016. This is more than twice as many thefts as the next highest theft state, making Florida a watercraft theft hotspot. Of the Top 10 theft states, California had the highest recovery rate of 55%. The state with the lowest recovery rate of the top 10 was Tennessee, with 25% of stolen watercrafts being recovered.

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[6]*The recovery information for this section corresponds to the thefts per state in order to provide an accurate recovery rate. If a watercraft was recovered in a different state than where it was stolen, it was counted in the recovery information for the theft state, as opposed to the recovery information for the recovery state. Also, records from outside of the U.S. were not included in the counts.*

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by Theft State
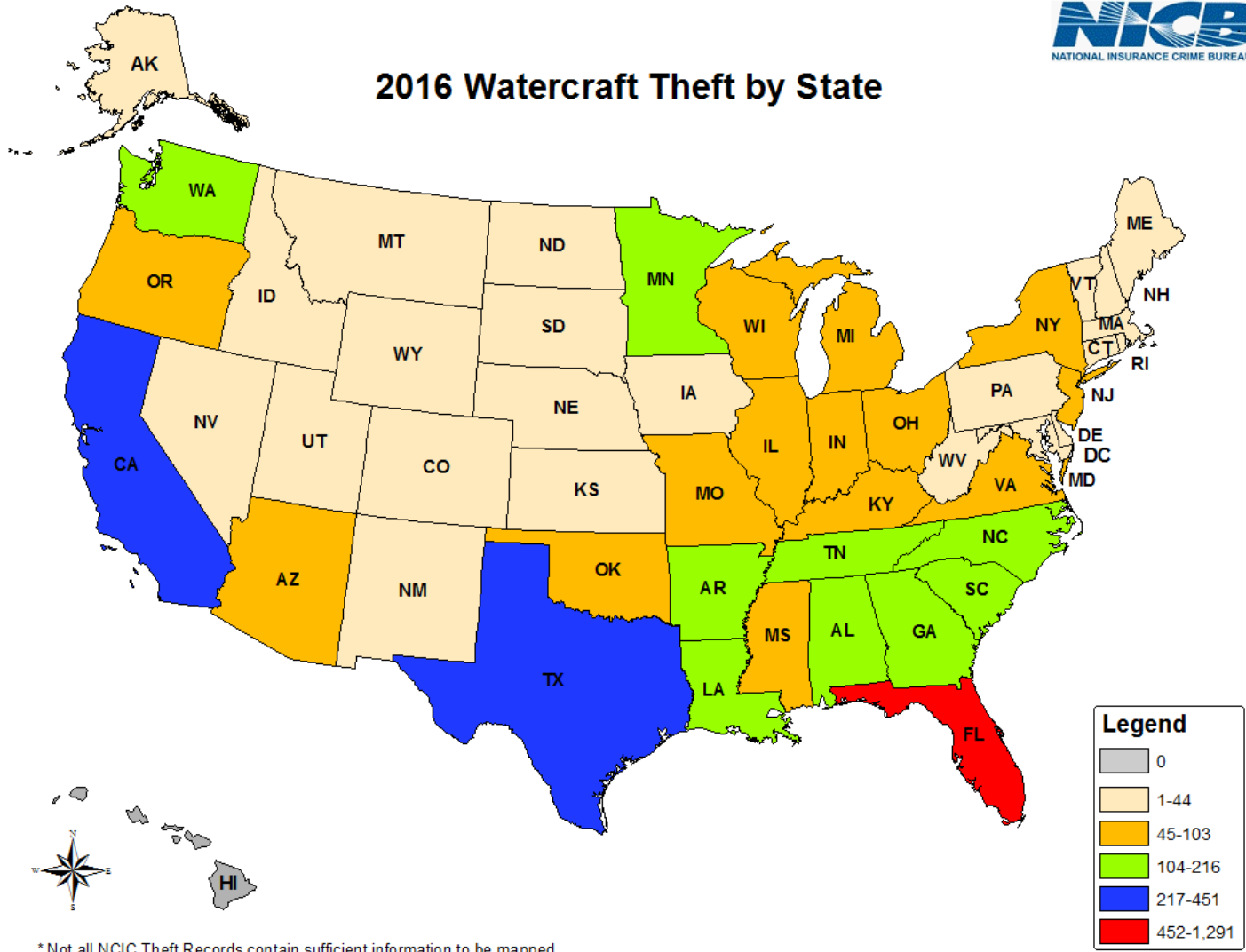
State	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %	State	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
FL	1,291	467	36%	IA	43	15	35%
CA	451	250	55%	KS	38	12	32%
TX	438	178	41%	CO	37	12	32%
WA	216	107	50%	MD	36	10	28%
LA	174	58	33%	ME	31	7	23%
TN	158	40	25%	NV	30	12	40%
GA	157	56	36%	AK	26	15	58%
NC	151	53	35%	CT	26	7	27%
AL	148	53	36%	MA	24	14	58%
SC	147	48	33%	NH	22	9	41%
AR	124	37	30%	UT	22	9	41%
MN	124	52	42%	ID	16	8	50%
OK	103	31	30%	RI	16	6	38%
MI	97	34	35%	NB	15	4	27%
OH	87	37	43%	WV	15	5	33%
OR	85	32	38%	ND	14	7	50%
MO	82	25	30%	MT	14	10	71%
AZ	76	29	38%	NM	11	3	27%
WI	73	32	44%	SD	9	4	44%
MS	73	22	30%	DE	7	0	0%
IL	72	34	47%	WY	5	4	80%
KY	61	27	44%	VT	5	2	40%
IN	61	17	28%				
NY	60	20	33%				
NJ	51	17	33%				
VA	50	17	34%				
PA	44	12	27%				

*The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of Watercraft thefts by state in 2016.

2016 Watercraft Theft by State

Legend
☐	0
☐	1-44
☐	45-103
☐	104-216
☐	217-451
☐	452-1,291

* Not all NCIC Theft Records contain sufficient information to be mapped

*The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of Watercraft theft recoveries by state from 01/01/2016 through 03/21/2017.

Watercraft Theft Recoveries by State from 01/01/2016 through 03/21/2017

Legend

	0
	1 - 17
	18 - 40
	41 - 107
	108 - 250
	251-467

*Not all NCIC Theft Records contain sufficient information to be mapped

2016 Watercraft Thefts by Boat Type per Theft State

The following table lists the number of boat type thefts for each state. They are listed by boat type. Florida had the highest number of reported thefts for PWC (440), Sailboats (20), Airboats (12), and Commercial boats (12), Washington reported the highest number of thefts of Runabouts (102).

2016 Watercraft Thefts per State by Boat Type

PWC

State	Count	State	Count
FL	440	UT	8
CA	121	WI	8
TX	107	MS	8
TN	42	CT	8
SC	34	NV	7
WA	31	VA	7
MI	27	IA	7
AZ	27	PA	6
OK	23	ND	6
AL	22	NB	4
GA	22	WV	4
CO	18	MA	4
MO	17	NH	4
IN	17	MD	3
NY	17	AK	3
AR	15	WY	3
KS	13	SD	3
OR	13	ID	3
NC	11	RI	2
LA	10	MT	1
NJ	10	NM	1
KY	10	VT	1
MN	9	ME	1
OH	9		

Runabout

State	Count	State	Count
WA	102	MO	7
FL	81	KY	6
CA	71	ID	5
TX	51	NY	4
LA	33	NJ	4
MN	32	IA	4
SC	23	MI	4
MS	22	CT	4
AK	17	PA	3
NC	17	NB	3
IL	15	KS	2
GA	15	DE	2
WI	14	OH	2
TN	13	VA	1
AZ	12	MA	1
OR	11	ND	1
OK	11	UT	1
AR	10	NM	1
AL	9		
MD	9		
IN	8		
NV	8		

Utility

State	Count	State	Count
LA	55	NV	4
TX	46	KS	3
FL	32	ND	3
NC	26	WV	3
CA	15	MI	3
MO	15	ME	2
GA	15	RI	2
SC	15	UT	2
AR	14	CO	2
MS	12	MA	2
KY	11	IA	2
WI	11	NB	1
AL	9	NM	1
TN	7	AK	1
NY	6	MD	1
WA	6	NJ	1
VA	5	WY	1
PA	5	MT	1
OK	5	OH	1
AZ	5		
OR	4		

Other

State	Count	State	Count
FL	253	MD	14
TX	93	NY	13
IL	56	CO	12
NC	53	NH	12
MI	52	PA	12
CA	52	CT	12
MN	48	NJ	11
AL	47	KS	10
AR	46	MA	9
WA	44	RI	8
OH	42	MS	7
TN	42	AZ	6
SC	42	NM	5
GA	41	ID	5
OR	35	NB	4
LA	33	AK	4
OK	27	DE	3
KY	24	ND	3
MO	23	NV	3
IA	22	MT	3
ME	22	WV	2
WI	21	WY	1
VA	20	VT	1
IN	15		

Cruiser

State	Count	State	Count
FL	54	TN	1
CA	46	AR	1
TX	13	NC	1
MI	9	KS	1
OK	7	MO	1
AZ	7	WA	1
AL	6	CO	1
MD	5	MT	1
NJ	5		
GA	5		
OH	4		
KY	3		
OR	3		
MS	3		
SC	3		
LA	3		
NY	2		
IA	2		
MA	1		
NV	1		
AK	1		
IL	1		

Sailboat

State	Count	State	Count
FL	20	MD	1
CA	12	VA	1
TX	6	NJ	1
NC	4	SC	1
LA	3	PA	1
AZ	2	NY	1
NB	2	MA	1
WA	2	AL	1
MI	2	AR	1
WI	1	CO	1
OH	1		
KY	1		

Commercial

State	Count
FL	7
LA	2
ME	1

Airboat

State	Count
FL	10
TX	2
NJ	2
RI	2
NM	1
LA	1

Hydroplane

None reported

Houseboat

State	Count
NC	2
AL	2
FL	2
AR	2
OH	1
TN	1
GA	1
NH	1
WA	1
MA	1
CA	1

Yacht

State	Count
FL	5
WA	1
GA	1
NY	1

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by Theft County

Of the 5,116 theft records, there were 1,202 counties identified in the 2016 watercraft theft and recovery data. Twenty-four (24) counties were not identified in as a theft but only a recovery location. The theft county with the highest number of stolen watercrafts was Miami-Dade, Florida with 291 thefts. Of the Top 10 theft counties, Lee, California had the highest recovery rate of 46%, while Broward, Florida had the lowest at 11% recovered. Of note, 8 of the top 10 theft counties were located in Florida, with the remaining being located in California (1) and Texas (1).
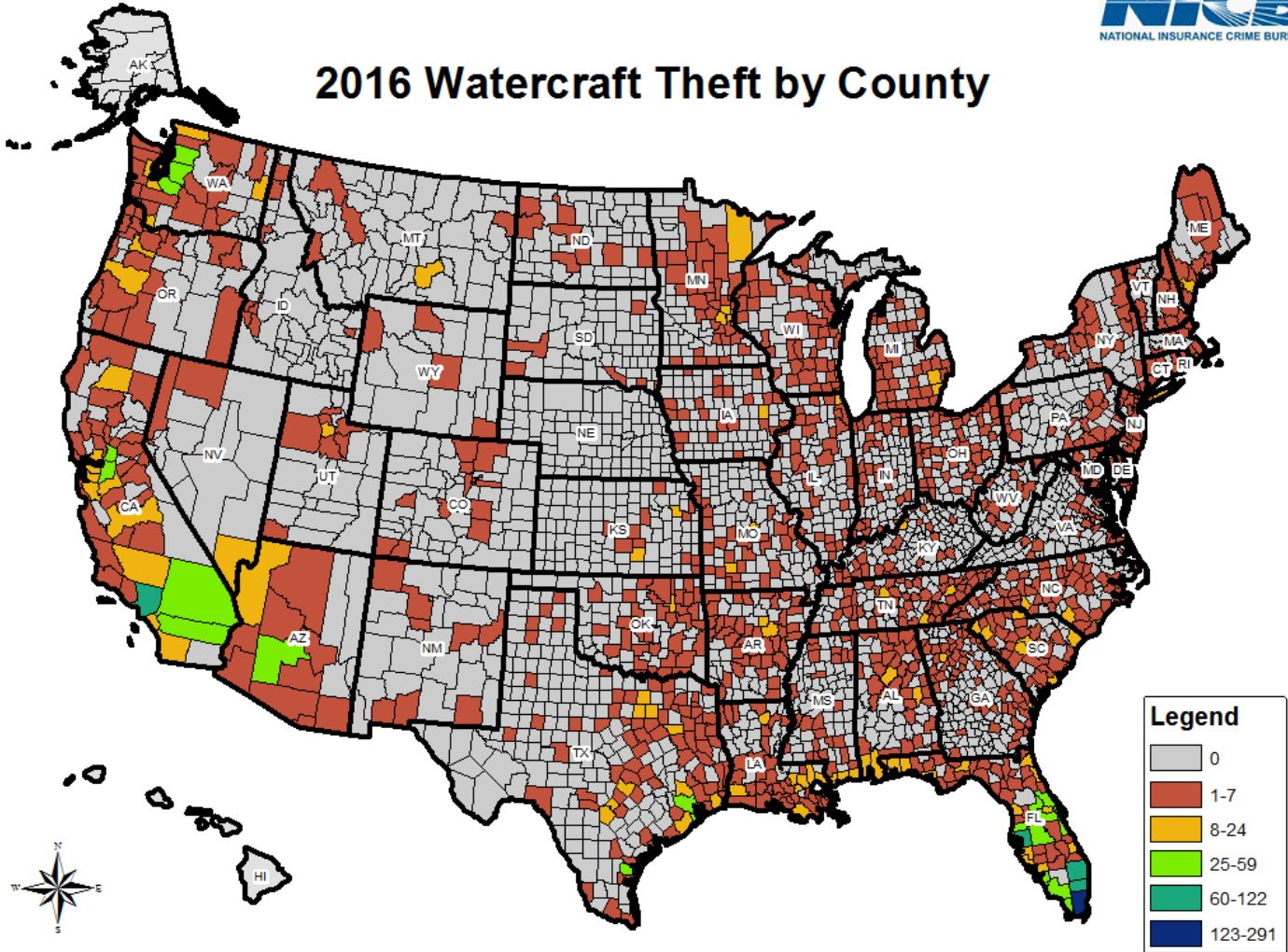
2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by top 10 Counties

County	State	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
1. Miami-Dade	FL	291	120	41%
2. Broward	FL	122	13	11%
3. Hillsborough	FL	82	21	26%
4. Los Angeles	CA	77	35	45%
5. Palm Beach	FL	70	27	39%
6. Orange	FL	59	17	29%
7. Pinellas	FL	51	19	37%
8.Lee	FL	50	23	46%
9. Lake	FL	50	19	38%
10. Harris	TX	49	21	43%

*The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of Watercraft thefts by county in 2016.

2016 Watercraft Theft by County

Legend

	0
	1-7
	8-24
	25-59
	60-122
	123-291

*Not all NCIC Theft Records contain sufficient information to be mapped

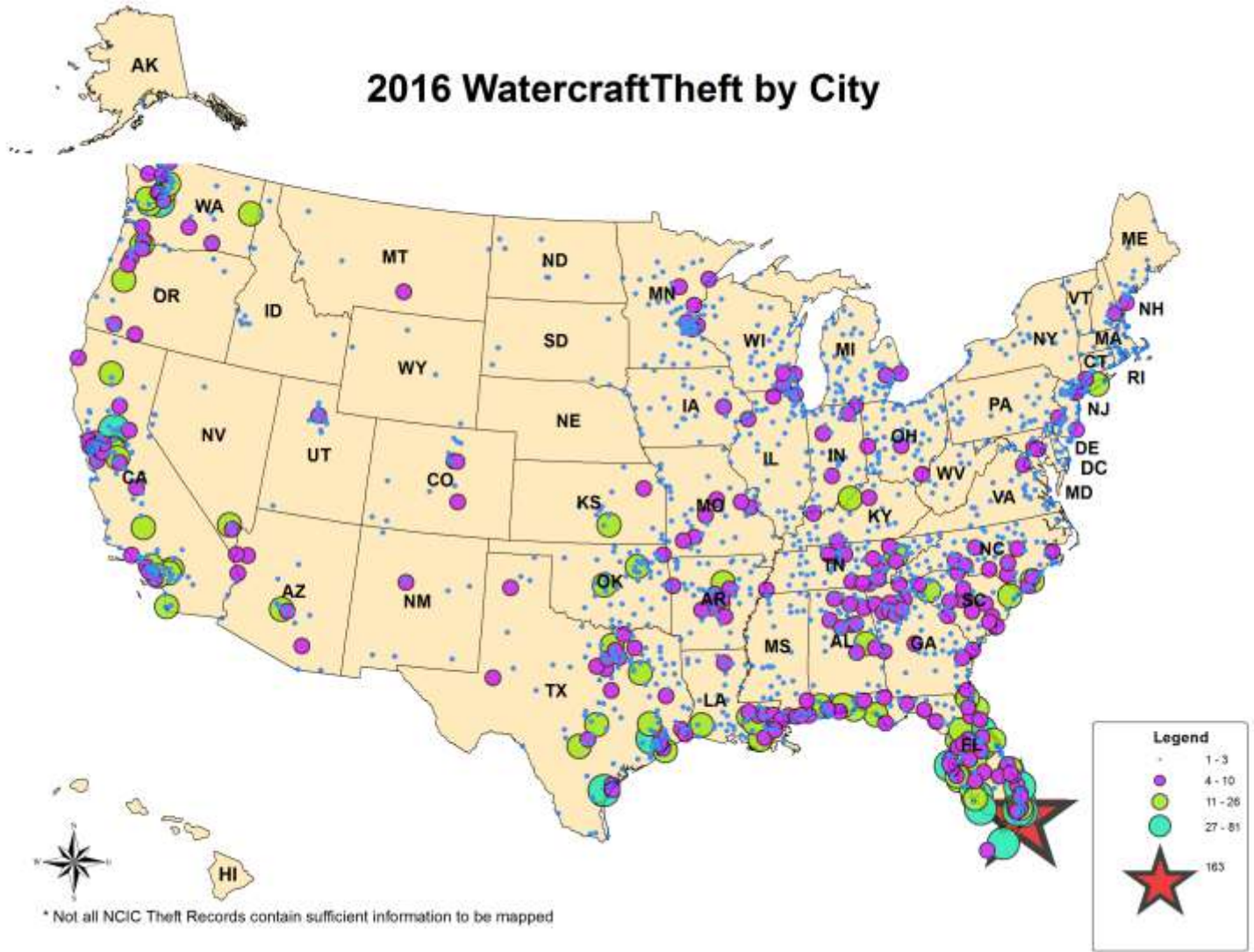## 2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by Theft City

All of the 5,116 theft records identified the city in which the theft occurred, while 1,738 of the 1,960 recovery records reported the city where the watercraft was recovered. There were 1,738 unique theft cities identified in the 2016 watercraft theft and recovery data. Totaling 592 thefts, the Top 10 theft cities account for 12% of all watercraft thefts in 2016. The theft city with the highest number of stolen watercrafts was Miami, Florida with 163 thefts. Of the Top 10 theft cities, Marathon, Florida had the highest recovery rate of 62%, while Tampa, Florida had the lowest at 26% recovered. Of note, 9 of the Top 10 theft cities were located in Florida, with the remaining being located in Washington (1). The below table depicts the total thefts by city, along with the total number of those thefts recovered (through 03/21/2017).

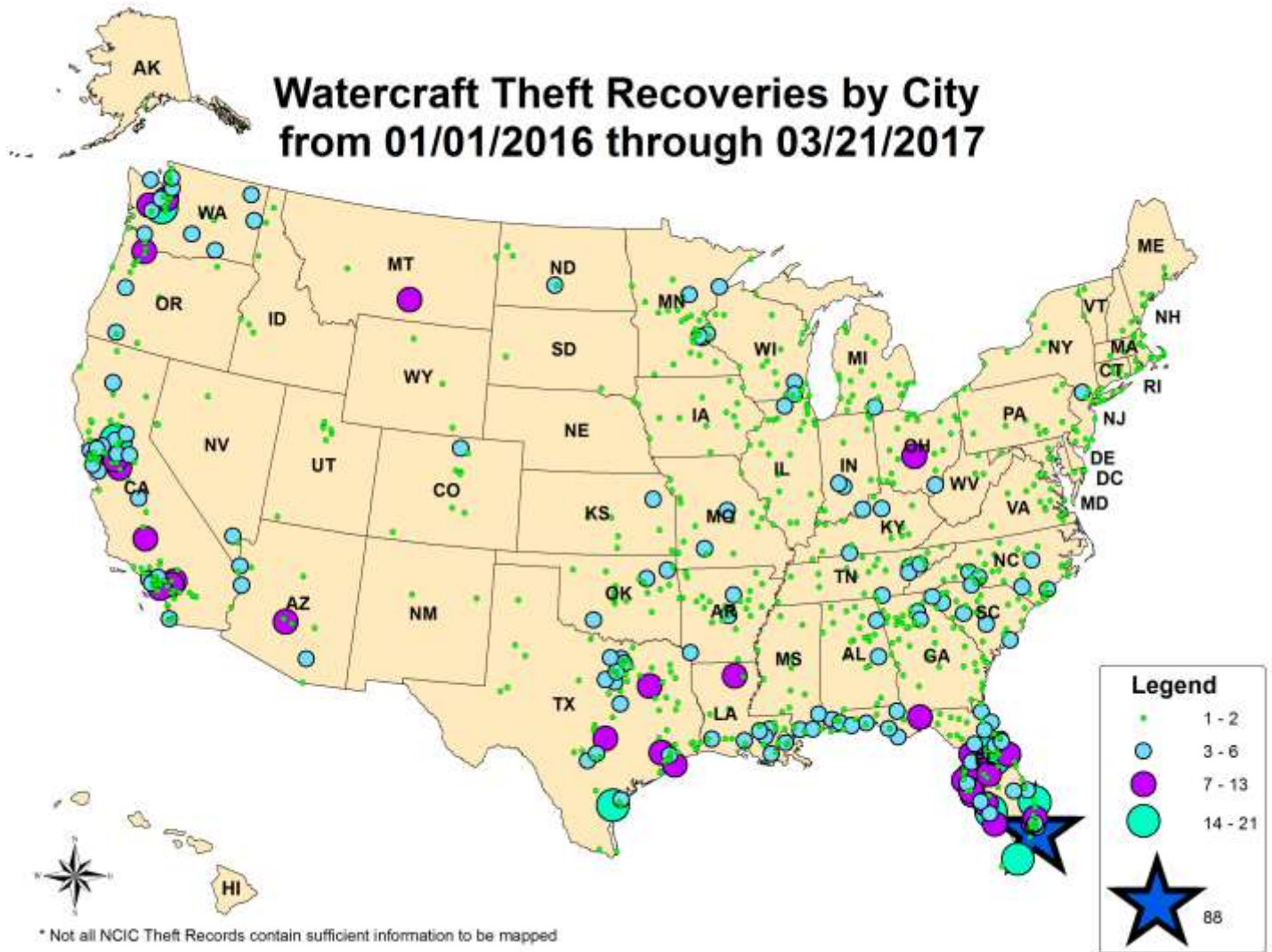### 2016 Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by Theft City

City	State	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
1. Miami	FL	163	45	28%
2. Tampa	FL	81	22	27%
3. Ft. Lauderdale	FL	62	13	21%
4. Orlando	FL	51	13	25%
5. Tavares	FL	43	16	37%
6. Marathon	FL	42	26	62%
7. Tacoma	WA	39	21	46%
8. Ft. Myers	FL	38	19	54%
9. Miami Beach	FL	37	6	50%
10. West Palm Beach	FL	36	19	16%

*The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of Watercraft thefts by city in 2016.

2016 WatercraftTheft by City

*Not all NCIC Theft Records contain sufficient information to be mapped

*The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of watercraft theft recoveries by city from 01/01/2016 through 03/21/2017.

Watercraft Theft Recoveries by City from 01/01/2016 through 03/21/2017

Legend

·	1 - 2
○	3 - 6
●	7 - 13
◯	14 - 21
★	88

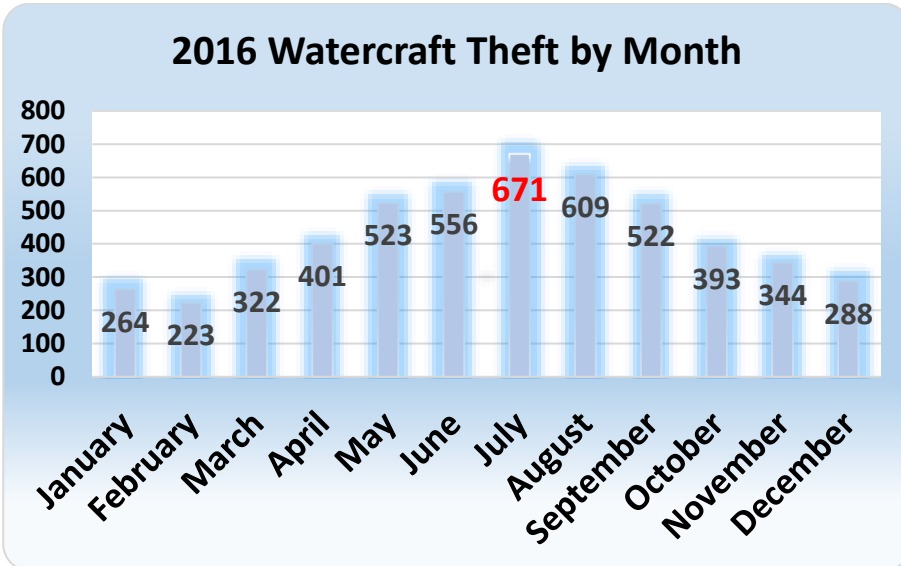* Not all NCIC Theft Records contain sufficient information to be mapped
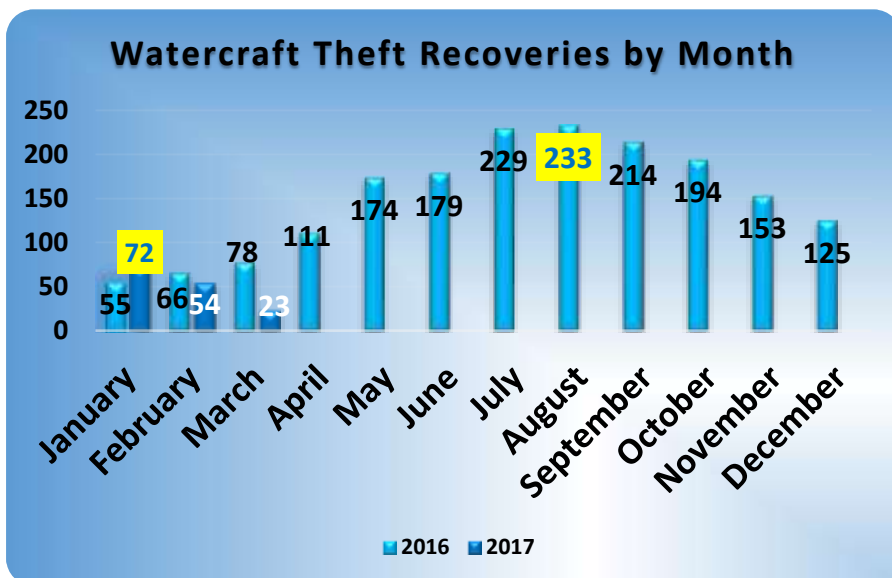
Section 3: Temporal Analysis

On average, there were approximately 14 watercraft thefts per day, 98 per week, or 426 per month in 2016. However, watercraft thefts are not distributed evenly over time and the following Temporal Analyses will aim to show when to be the most prepared for potential thefts by analyzing the 2016 watercraft thefts and recoveries in 3 ways: [1] by theft month and recovery month; [2] by holiday [3] by the average number of days between the theft date and recovery date for each boat type recognized by the NCIC.

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoverie s (through 03/21/17) by Theft Month

The graph to the right displays the 2016 watercraft thefts per theft month. As previously mentioned, watercraft thefts are not evenly distributed over the year and this graph clearly highlights that. Watercraft theft is a seasonal crime with more thefts occurring in spring and summer, as the months of May through September all exceeded the monthly average of 421. July had the highest number of thefts with 671, while February had the fewest thefts with 223.

2016 Watercraft Theft by Month

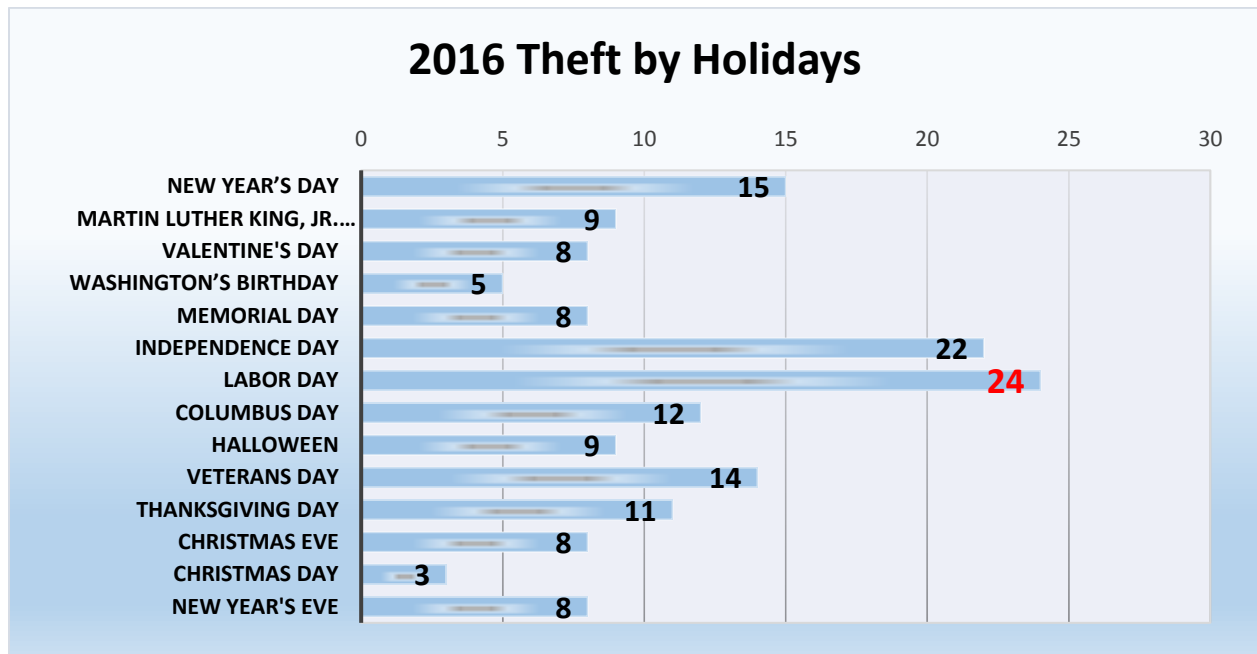| Month	Thefts
January	264
February	223
March	322
April	401
May	523
June	556
July	671
August	609
September	522
October	393
November	344
December	288

The graph to the right displays the 2016 thefts and 2016 watercraft recoveries per month. Of the watercraft thefts in 2016, there was an average of 163 recoveries per month. As with the thefts, recoveries appear to be seasonal with May through October having a higher than average number of recoveries. August had the highest number of recoveries at 233, and January had the fewest number of recoveries at 55 in 2016.

Watercraft Theft Recoveries by Month

Month	2016	2017
January	55	72
February	66	54
March	78	23
April	111	
May	174	
June	179	
July	229	
August	233	
September	214	
October	194	
November	153	
December	125	

■ 2016 ■ 2017

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17) by Holiday

The graph on the following page displays the number of watercraft thefts by holidays in 2016. The holiday with the most watercraft thefts in 2016 was Labor Day, with 24 thefts, and the holiday with the least number of thefts was Christmas Day with Three (3) thefts.

2016 Theft by Holidays

Holiday	Value
NEW YEAR'S DAY	15
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR....	9
VALENTINE'S DAY	8
WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY	5
MEMORIAL DAY	8
INDEPENDENCE DAY	22
LABOR DAY	24
COLUMBUS DAY	12
HALLOWEEN	9
VETERANS DAY	14
THANKSGIVING DAY	11
CHRISTMAS EVE	8
CHRISTMAS DAY	3
NEW YEAR'S EVE	8

2016 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 03/21/17): Analysis of the Number of Days between Theft Date and Recovery Date

The following table displays the top 10 number of days between a watercraft's theft and recovery date in descending order by number of recovered thefts (shown below in **bold Blue** font). All 1,960 recoveries from 1/01/2016 through 3/21/2017 were included in this analysis. Of the 1,960 recovered thefts, 241 were recovered on the same day as the theft, representing 13% of all recoveries. 245 were recovered by the end of the following day, representing 13% of all recoveries.

Top 10 Number of Days Between Theft Date and Recovery Date

Days to Recovery	Recovered Thefts	% of All Thefts	% of All Recoveries
1	245	5%	13%
0 (Same Day)	241	5%	13%
2	128	3%	7%
3	113	2%	6%
4	74	1%	4%
6	66	1%	3%
7	64	1%	3%
5	59	1%	3%
8	42	1%	2%
9	35	1%	2%
Totals	**1,067**	**21%**	**54%**

Methodology

Data parameters were defined as all watercraft stolen in the US between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016 that were reported to the NCIC. Corresponding recovery information was collected from the NCIC and included only watercraft that were stolen in 2016, but were recovered between January 1, 2017 and March 21, 2017. Watercraft stolen from the US, but, recovered outside of the US are not included. Steps taken to clean the data included:

1. Removing records not classified as watercraft by the NCIC (the NCIC classifies watercraft by assigning a file number beginning with the letter 'B')
2. Removing all records that did not identify a HIN
3. Removing duplicate records
4. Removing records with a theft location outside of the US
5. Removing all records used for testing and training purposes.

NCIC can be considered one of the most reliable and comprehensive sources of watercraft theft and recovery data, as it is a centralized database where local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies throughout the US can report crime information. Despite its reliability, many validity issues still arise through inaccurate or incomplete information within each individual record, which may result in limitations in the data. Of all 5,116 thefts in 2016, 15% did not provide or provided an unverifiable manufacturer's code, 25% did not supply or gave incomplete information on the boat type, and 25% did not provide or gave incomplete information on propulsion type. To offer all watercraft theft stakeholders with the most valuable information, any records with miscellaneous, misidentified, or unidentified information were not included in any Top 10, within this report; however, all relevant calculations were evaluated based on the premise of 5,116 total thefts.

Appendix : NCIC Boat Type Definitions

Airboat	Undefined
Commercial	Ferry, oyster boat, motor barge, towboat, tug, clam dredge, coaster, riverboat, smack boat, etc.
Cruiser	A boat with an inboard motor that is at least 25 feet long but no longer than 50 feet
Houseboat	Undefined
Hovercraft	Undefined
Hydrofoil	Undefined
Hydroplane	Undefined
Jet Ski (PWC)	Aqua bike
Runabout	Launch, motorboat, outrider, speedboat, etc.
Sailboat	Cat, catamaran, cutter, bark, ketch, lateen, lugger, pinnace, schooner, sloop, yawl, etc.
Utility	Fisherman, sedan, etc.
Yacht	A boat with an inboard motor that is more than 50 feet in length and is used mainly for pleasure or recreation
All Other	Canoe, dinghy, dory, johnboat, kayak, lifeboat, paddleboat, rowboat, scull, skiff, etc.