

Date: April 18, 2018

Regarding: **2017 US Watercraft Theft and Recovery (through 02/28/2018) Report** (Public Dissemination)

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Executive Summary

There were a total of 4,864 Watercraft thefts in 2017, a 5% decrease in watercraft thefts from 2016. The watercraft most likely to be stolen in 2017 was a “Yamaha – WaveRunner® personal watercraft (PWC)” (503 thefts), followed up by the “Bombardier Corp. PWC” (351 thefts). Of the 4,864 watercraft stolen in 2017, 1,799, or 37% were recovered through 02/28/2018. The highest number of watercraft thefts in 2017 took place in Florida (24%). The Top 3 watercraft theft counties were Miami-Dade, Florida (292 thefts), Broward, Florida (142 thefts), and Hillsborough, Florida (82 thefts). The Top 3 watercraft theft cities in 2017 were all located in Florida: Miami (208 thefts), Tampa (81 thefts), and Fort Lauderdale (77 thefts). Of the 1,799, recovered watercrafts from 01/01/2017 through 02/28/2018, 55% were recovered within 9 days of being stolen. The holiday with the most watercraft thefts in 2017 was Memorial Day with 28 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 2017, there were a total of 4,864 watercraft thefts within the United States (US). Of these thefts, 1,799, or 37%, were recovered by February 28, 2018, while 3,065, or 63%, remain at large. This ForeCASTSM Report analyzes the 4,864 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries¹ 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 2017 watercraft thefts and recoveries by manufacturer, boat type², manufacturer and boat type combined, and boat type and propulsion type combined. “Section 2: Geographic Analysis” analyzes the 2017 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 2017 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries by month, holiday, and the number of days between the theft date and recovery date from 01/01/2017 through 02/28/2018.

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.

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 2017 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.

2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/2018) by Manufacturer

There were 552 different manufacturers³ identified in the 2017 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. Totalling 1,762 thefts, the Top 10 manufacturers represent 36% of all watercraft thefts in 2017. The manufacturer with the largest number of stolen watercrafts was "Yamaha" with 620 thefts. Of the Top 10 manufacturers, "Bayliner Marine, Corp." had the highest recovery rate of 57%, while "Old Town Canoe Co. had the lowest recovery rate of 20%.

2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) by Manufacturer

Manufacturer	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate	Manufacturer	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate
Yamaha Motor Corp., USA	620	149	24%	Landau Boat Co.	15	4	27%
Bombardier Corp.	425	156	37%	Ocean Kayak	15	5	33%
Kawasaki Motors Mfg.	150	38	25%	Sea King	15	5	33%
Bass Tracker Corp.	116	47	41%	Gregor Boat Co.	15	9	60%
Alumacraft Boat Co.	116	37	32%	Fisher Marine, Inc.	15	3	20%
Bayliner Marine, Inc.	83	47	57%	AMF Crestliner	15	8	53%
Carl A. Lowe Ind., Inc.	70	24	34%	Maxum	14	9	64%
BRP QUERETARO	63	20	32%	Mastercraft Boat Co.	14	3	21%
Old Town Canoe Co.	61	12	20%	Tige Boats, Inc.	14	7	50%
Tracker Seacraft of Florida	58	23	40%	Gheen Mfg. Co.	14	4	29%
Sea Nymph Mfg.	51	19	37%	Key West Boats, Inc.	13	6	46%
Boston Whaler, Inc.	50	32	64%	Watercraft America, Inc.	13	3	23%
Starcraft Co.	39	14	36%	Achilles KCI Corp.	13	3	23%
Pelican Intl.	38	4	11%	Aluma-Weld	13	9	69%
Polaris Ind. LP	36	19	53%	Mirro Marine	12	3	25%
Marba Glas	34	11	32%	Midwest Seat Mfg. Co., Inc.	12	8	67%
Sears Roebuck & Co.	33	6	18%	Reinell Boats, Inc.	12	7	58%
Smoker-Craft	30	7	23%	Jackson Corp.	12	1	8%
Duracraft Boats, Inc.	27	7	26%	Rinker Boat Co., Inc.	12	6	50%
Forrest Wood Mfg. Co.	27	14	52%	Crownline Boats, Inc.	12	5	42%
Carolina Skiff, LLC	27	14	52%	Charger Custom Boats	12	6	50%
Lund American, Inc.	26	16	62%	Sea Fox Boat Co., Inc.	11	5	45%
Coast Catamaran Corp.	26	6	23%	VIP Marine Ind.	11	4	36%
Wellcraft Marine	25	13	52%	Sylvan Ind., Inc.	11	6	55%
Polar Kraft Mfg. Co.	25	5	20%	Bennington Marine Corp.	11	5	45%
Harris Inds.	25	8	32%	Crestliner, Inc.	11	8	73%
Glastron Boat Co.	24	12	50%	Coleman Co., The	11	3	27%
Monark Boat Co.	23	6	26%	Four Winns	11	5	45%

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.

Wilderness Systems	22	4	18%	Four Winns, Inc.	11	7	64%
Pro Craft, Inc.	21	7	33%	Baja Boat Co.	11	6	55%
Zodiac of North America	20	8	40%	West Marine Products	10	6	60%
Skeeter Products, Inc.	19	10	53%	Mako, Inc.	10	7	70%
Glasspar Boat Div.	19	7	37%	Triton Ind., Inc.	10	6	60%
American Honda Motor Co., Inc.	19	6	32%	Alweld Commercial Boats	10	0	0%
Bentz Craft	18	6	33%	Grumman Boats	10	4	40%
Florida Homemade Boats	16	6	38%	Harris-Kayot, Inc.	10	2	20%
Godfrey Conveyor Co.	16	9	56%	Grumman Allied Ind., Inc.	10	3	30%
Cobalt Boats	16	12	75%	Alumaweld Boats	10	5	50%

2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/2018) by Boat Type

There are 13 boat types recognized by the NCIC⁴ (refer to Appendix) and 3,514 of the 2017 theft records identified 1 of those types as the type of boat stolen. The remaining 1,350 provided a boat code not recognized by NCIC or did not provide a code at all. Of the 3,514 records with NCIC-recognized boat codes, 32%, or 1,135, were identified as “All Other”. Excluding the “All Other” category, the Top 5 stolen boat types comprised 47% (2,309) of all 2017 watercraft thefts. The most frequently stolen watercraft was the “Personal Watercraft,” with 1,180 thefts. Of the Top 5 boat types, both “Cruiser” and “Sailboat” had the highest recovery rate of 56%, while “Personal Watercraft” had 27%. 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 2017 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 photo⁵ for each boat type is provided.

1. Personal Watercraft

- Thefts: 1,180
- Recoveries: 321
- Recovery Rate: 27%



2. Runabout

- Thefts: 618
- Recoveries: 268
- Recovery Rate: 43%



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.

3. Utility

- Thefts: 285
- Recoveries: 109
- Recovery Rate: 38%



4. Cruiser

- Thefts: 185
- Recoveries: 103
- Recovery Rate: 56%



5. Sailboat

- Thefts: 41
- Recoveries: 23
- Recovery Rate: 56%



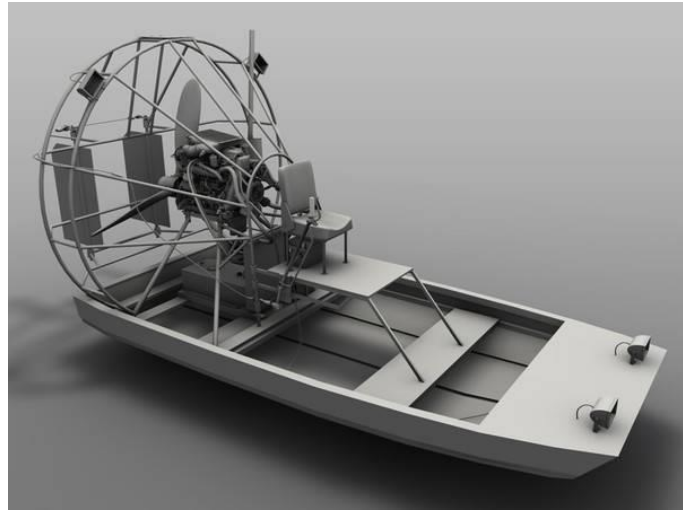
Commercial

- Thefts: 25
- Recoveries: 13
- Recovery Rate: 52%



Airboat

- Thefts: 22
- Recoveries: 10
- Recovery Rate: 45%



Houseboat

- Thefts: 11
- Recoveries: 6
- Recovery Rate: 55%



Yacht

- Thefts: 5
- Recoveries: 5
- Recovery Rate: 100%



Hydroplane

- Thefts: 3
- Recoveries: 0
- Recovery Rate: 0



Hovercraft

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



Hydrofoil

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



2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) 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 1,240 thefts, the Top 10 manufacturer and boat type combinations comprised 25% of all watercraft thefts in 2017. The most frequently stolen combination in the Top 10 was the “Yamaha – WaveRunner® PWC”, with a total of 503 thefts. The combination with the highest recovery rate, in the Top 10, was “Bayliner

Marine, Inc” – Runabout at 76% recovered. The lowest recovery rate was for both the “Yamaha – WaveRunner® PWC”, at a recovery rate of 22%.

2017 Watercraft Thefts and Recoveries (through 02/28/18) for the Top 10 Manufacturer & Boat Type Combinations

Manufacturer	Boat Type	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
1. Yamaha	PWC	503	109	22%
2. Bombardier Corp.	PWC	351	119	34%
3. Kawasaki Motors Mfg.	PWC	126	30	24%
4. BRP Queretaro	PWC	54	14	26%
5. Polaris Ind. LP	PWC	31	15	48%
6. Bass Tracker Corp.	Utility	27	8	30%
7. Boston Whaler, Inc.	Runabout	18	11	61%
8. American Honda Motor Co.	PWC	18	5	28%
9. Bayliner Marine, Inc.	Runabout	17	13	76%
10. Yamaha	Runabout	16	4	25%

2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) 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. Totalling 2,317 thefts, the Top 10 boat type and propulsion type combinations represent 48% of all 2017 watercraft thefts. Of the Top 10 boat type/propulsion type combinations, “PWC – Inboard” had the highest number of thefts with 696. The Top 10 combination with the highest recovery rate of 66% was “Cruiser – Outboard”, while the combination with the lowest recovery rate was “Other–Manual” at 20%.

2017 Watercraft Thefts and Recoveries (through 02/28/18) for the Top 10 Boat Type & Propulsion Type Combinations

Boat Type	Propulsion Type	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
1. PWC	Inboard	696	169	24%
2. Other	Outboard	401	154	38%
3. Runabout	Outboard	356	159	45%
4. Other	Manual	307	62	20%
5. Utility	Outboard	185	74	40%
6. Runabout	Inboard	118	50	42%
7. Cruiser	Outboard	82	54	66%
8. Cruiser	Inboard	74	37	50%
9. Other	Inboard	63	30	48%
10. PWC	Outboard	35	15	43%

Section 2: Geographic Analysis

The Geographic Analysis Section analyzes the 2017 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries in 4 parts: [1] the 2017 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries by theft state; [2] the 2017 watercraft thefts per state by boat type; [3] the 2017 watercraft thefts and corresponding recoveries for the Top 10 theft counties; [4] the 2017 watercraft theft and corresponding recoveries for the Top 10 theft cities.

2017 Watercraft Theft and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) by Theft State

All of the 4,864 watercraft thefts in 2017 identified the state where the theft occurred and almost every state reported at least one theft. The following table lists the thefts and corresponding recoveries⁶ 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 3,131 thefts, the Top 10 theft states comprised 64% of all 2017 watercraft thefts. Consistent with 2016 the state with the highest number of thefts was Florida with 1,163, representing 24% of all watercraft thefts in 2017. 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 54%. The state with the lowest recovery rate of the top 10 was Tennessee, with 24% of stolen watercrafts being recovered.

2017 Watercraft Theft and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) by Theft State

State	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
FL	1,163	396	34%
CA	488	262	54%
TX	410	146	36%
NC	158	56	35%
WA	156	76	49%
GA	155	68	44%
LA	154	44	29%
TN	153	36	24%
AL	148	46	31%
SC	146	43	29%
AR	138	54	39%
MN	123	51	41%
OK	103	34	33%
MI	97	28	29%
MO	93	39	42%
AZ	89	40	45%
OH	78	25	32%
OR	76	36	47%
VA	71	26	37%

State	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
KY	47	19	40%
NJ	40	13	33%
IA	36	7	19%
ME	33	23	70%
KS	30	6	20%
CO	28	10	36%
CT	24	7	29%
AK	22	12	55%
NV	20	8	40%
MA	20	3	15%
NE	19	10	53%
NH	19	6	32%
MT	18	7	39%
UT	15	4	27%
NM	14	7	50%
WV	13	1	8%
ID	12	1	8%
DE	9	2	22%
VT	9	2	22%

⁶The 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.

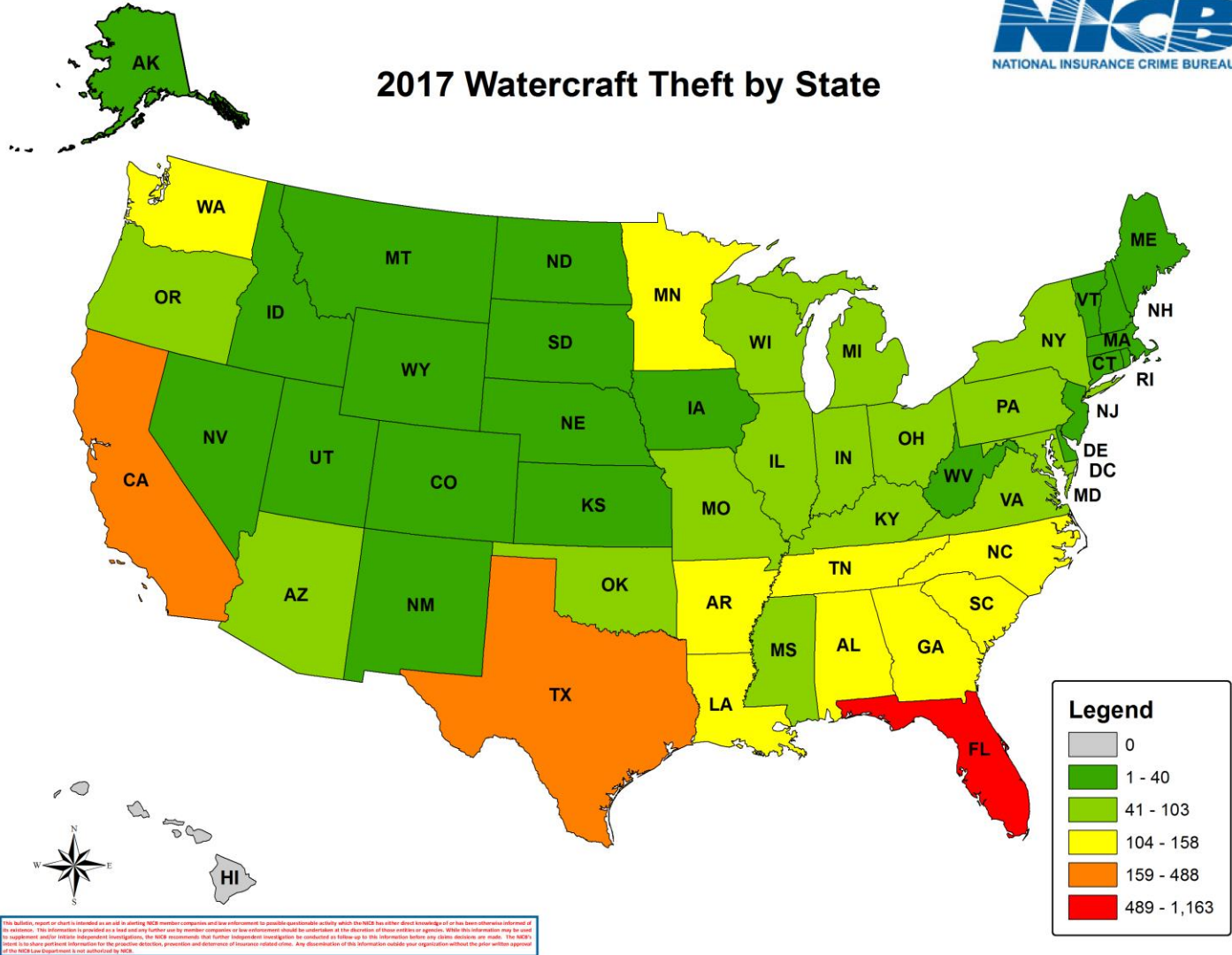
PA	64	15	23%
IN	63	18	29%
NY	61	24	39%
IL	59	19	32%
MD	57	18	32%
MS	57	14	25%
WI	55	24	44%

ND	8	3	38%
RI	7	6	86%
SD	5	4	80%
WY	1	0	0%

The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of Watercraft thefts by state in 2017.



2017 Watercraft Theft by State

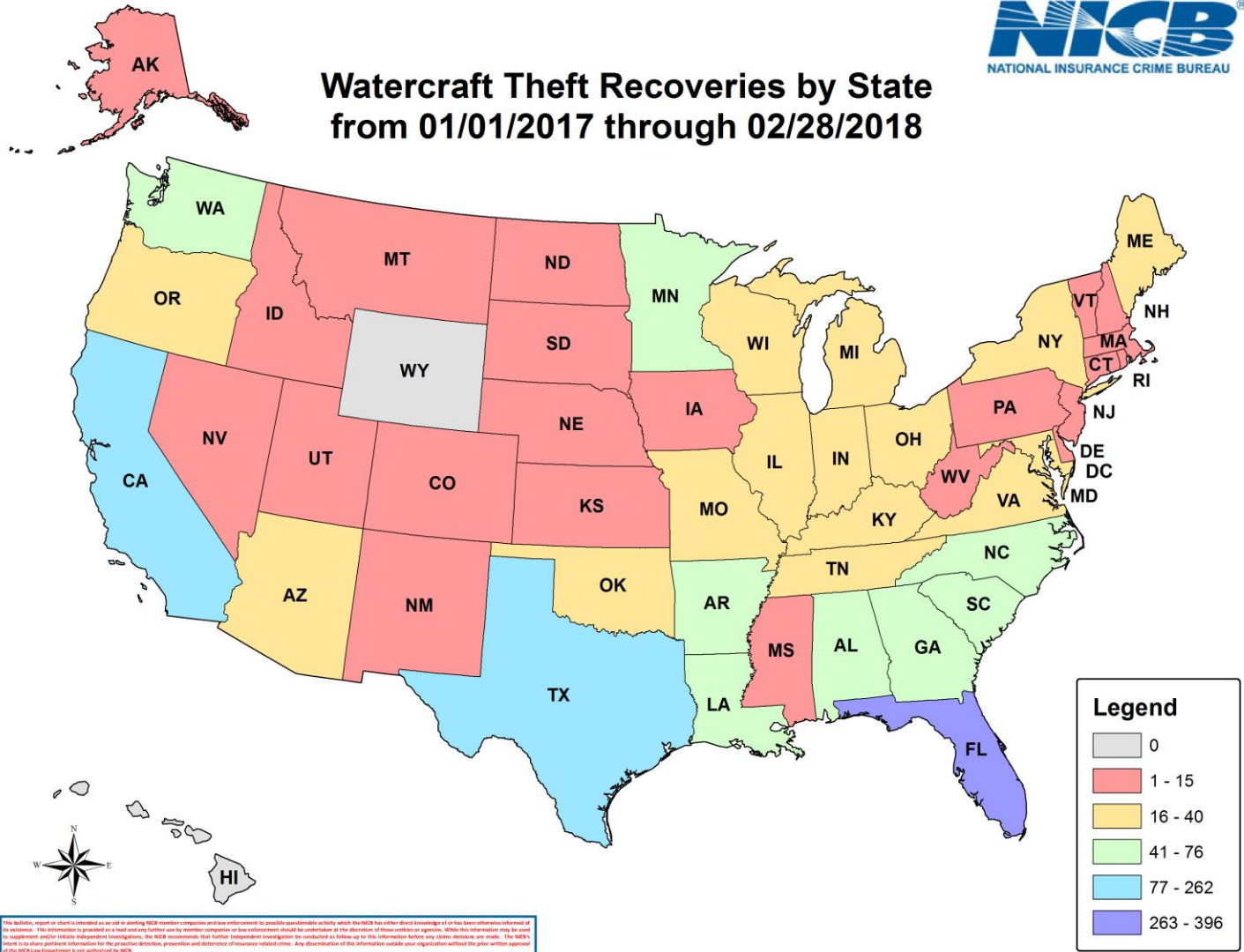


This bulletin, report or chart is intended as an aid in starting NICB member companies and law enforcement to possible questionable activity which the NICB has either direct knowledge of or has been otherwise informed of by its members. The information is provided as a tool and any further use by member companies, or law enforcement should be undertaken at the discretion of those entities or agencies. While this information may be used to supplement and/or initiate independent investigations, the NICB disclaims that further independent investigation be conducted as follow up to this information for any claims decisions are made. The NICB disclaims any and all liability for the practice, detection, prevention and deterrence of insurance related crime. Any distribution of this information outside your organization without the prior written approval of the NICB Law Department is not authorized by NICB.

The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of Watercraft theft recoveries by state from 01/01/2017 through 02/28/2018.



Watercraft Theft Recoveries by State from 01/01/2017 through 02/28/2018



This bulletin, report or chart is intended as an aid to alerting NICB member companies and law enforcement to possible questionable activity which the NICB has either direct knowledge of or has been otherwise informed of by its members. The information is provided as a lead and any further use by member companies or law enforcement should be undertaken at the discretion of those entities or agencies. While this information may be used to supplement and/or initiate independent investigations, the NICB recommends that further independent investigation be conducted as follow up to this information before any claims decisions are made. The NICB's intent is to share pertinent information for the protection, detection, prevention and deterrence of insurance-related crime. Any dissemination of this information outside your organization without the prior written approval of the NICB Law Department is not authorized by NICB.

2017 Watercraft Thefts by Boat Type per Theft State

The following tables list the number of reported watercraft thefts by boat type thefts and then by each state. Florida had the highest number of reported thefts for PWC (452), Runabouts (102), Commercial boats (11), Airboats (9), and Sailboats (8); California reported the highest number of thefts of Cruisers (51).

2017 Watercraft Thefts per State by Boat Type

PWC

State	Count	State	Count
FL	452	IA	8
CA	111	CT	8
TX	110	MS	7
GA	34	ID	7
TN	33	PA	6
NC	31	WI	6
AL	27	NM	6
AZ	25	NE	5
SC	24	MA	4
WA	23	UT	4
MO	21	AK	3
VA	20	ME	2
OK	19	NV	2
AR	16	MT	2
MI	16	WV	2
OR	16	VT	2
NJ	15	ND	2
CO	15	NH	1
LA	14	SD	1
IN	14		
NY	14		
MN	12		
OH	12		
KY	11		
KS	9		
MD	8		

Runabout

State	Count	State	Count
FL	140	DE	4
CA	75	OH	3
TX	48	NH	3
MN	42	VA	2
WA	37	MA	2
LA	28	MT	2
SC	22	UT	2
GA	19	OK	1
MS	19	PA	1
NC	18	IA	1
AZ	17	NV	1
IL	17	ID	1
IN	15	RI	1
TN	14		
AK	12		
WI	11		
MO	10		
OR	8		
AL	7		
NY	7		
KY	7		
MI	5		
AR	4		
MD	4		
CT	4		
NE	4		

Utility

State	Count	State	Count
FL	30	NY	2
TX	29	MT	2
LA	28	IN	1
CA	23	NJ	1
SC	18	ME	1
NC	15	CT	1
GA	12	ND	1
TN	12	SD	1
MO	12		
WA	10		
AR	10		
WI	10		
OK	9		
KY	8		
MD	7		
MS	6		
AL	5		
IA	5		
KS	5		
VA	4		
MN	3		
MI	3		
OH	3		
PA	3		
NE	3		
AZ	2		

Other

State	Count	State	Count
FL	144	AZ	13
TX	81	IA	13
MI	56	MS	12
AR	54	MA	9
NC	52	KS	9
CA	51	NH	8
WA	43	CT	7
SC	41	NJ	7
OR	38	CO	6
AL	38	AK	6
LA	38	MT	6
IL	36	VT	5
OH	34	NM	3
MN	33	ID	3
OK	32	NV	3
GA	31	WV	3
TN	29	DE	2
MO	26	NE	2
PA	25	RI	2
MD	22	UT	2
KY	20	ND	1
NY	18	WY	1
IN	18	SD	1
WI	18		
VA	17		
ME	16		

Cruiser

State	Count	State	Count
CA	51	MA	1
FL	32	NH	1
MI	11	UT	1
TX	9	VT	1
AL	7		
WA	6		
AZ	6		
IL	6		
SC	5		
AR	5		
NC	4		
OH	4		
VA	4		
NJ	4		
GA	3		
LA	3		
TN	3		
OK	3		
MD	3		
NV	3		
ME	2		
CO	2		
ND	2		
MN	1		
OR	1		
NY	1		

Sailboat

State	Count
FL	8
CA	5
SC	5
TX	4
MD	4
MI	3
OH	2
CO	2
NC	1
WA	1
AR	1
MN	1
AZ	1
NJ	1
AK	1
ID	1

Commercial

State	Count
FL	11
TX	3
MI	3
MS	2
CA	1
NC	1
LA	1
TN	1
AR	1
VA	1

Airboat

State	Count
FL	9
NY	4
AL	2
LA	1
AZ	1
OR	1
PA	1
IA	1
NE	1
MT	1

Houseboat

State	Count
CA	5
TX	2
FL	1
WA	1
NY	1
WV	1

Yacht

State	Count
WA	2
FL	1
CA	1
AR	1

Hydroplane

State	Count
LA	1
IN	1
KS	1

Hydrofoil

State	Count
OK	1
NJ	1

2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) by Theft County

Of the 4,864 theft records, there were 1,132 counties identified in the 2017 watercraft theft and recovery data. Twenty-Six (26) counties with recoveries were not identified with a watercraft theft. The theft county with the highest number of stolen watercrafts was Miami-Dade, Florida with 292 thefts. Of the Top 10 theft counties, Los Angeles, California had the highest recovery rate of 54%, while Broward, Florida had the lowest at 23% recovered. Of note, 6 of the top 10 theft counties were located in Florida, with the remaining being located in California (3) and Texas (1).

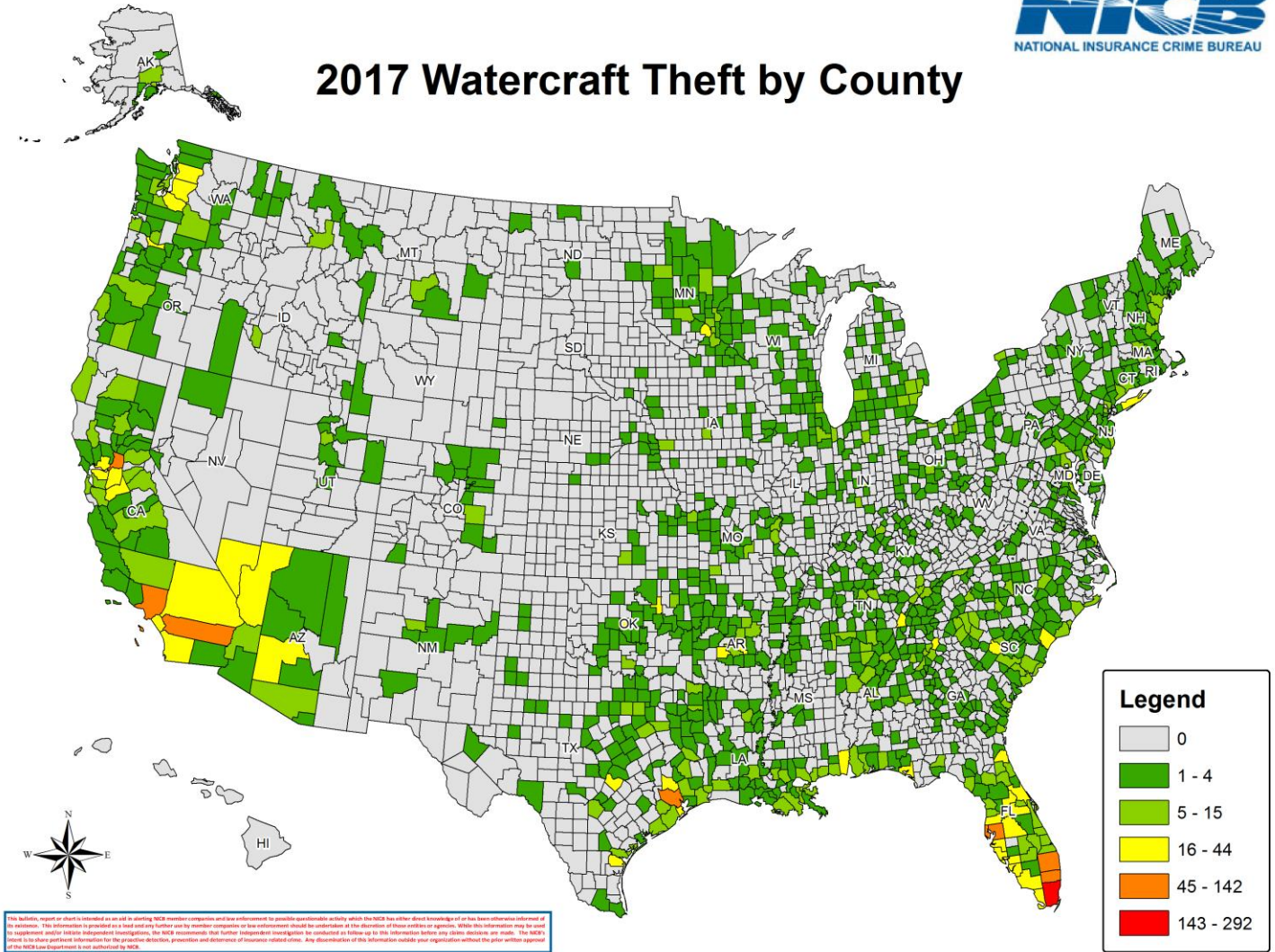
2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) by top 10 Counties

County	State	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
1. Miami-Dade	FL	292	77	26%
2. Broward	FL	142	33	23%
3. Hillsborough	FL	82	20	24%
4. Palm Beach	FL	73	23	32%
5. Pinellas	FL	67	25	37%
6. Harris	TX	63	21	33%
7. Sacramento	CA	56	27	48%
8. Los Angeles	CA	54	29	54%
9. Riverside	CA	52	25	48%
10. Lee	FL	44	20	45%

The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of Watercraft thefts by county in 2017.



2017 Watercraft Theft by County



This bulletin, report or chart is intended as an aid to alerting NICB member companies and law enforcement to possible questionable activity which the NICB has either direct knowledge of or has been otherwise informed of by its members. The information is provided as a lead and any further use by member companies or law enforcement should be undertaken at the discretion of those entities or agencies. While this information may be used to supplement and/or initiate independent investigations, the NICB recommends that further independent investigation be conducted as follow up to this information before any claims decisions are made. The NICB's intent is to share pertinent information for the proactive detection, prevention and deterrence of insurance-related crime. Any dissemination of this information outside your organization without the prior written approval of the NICB Law Department is not authorized by NICB.

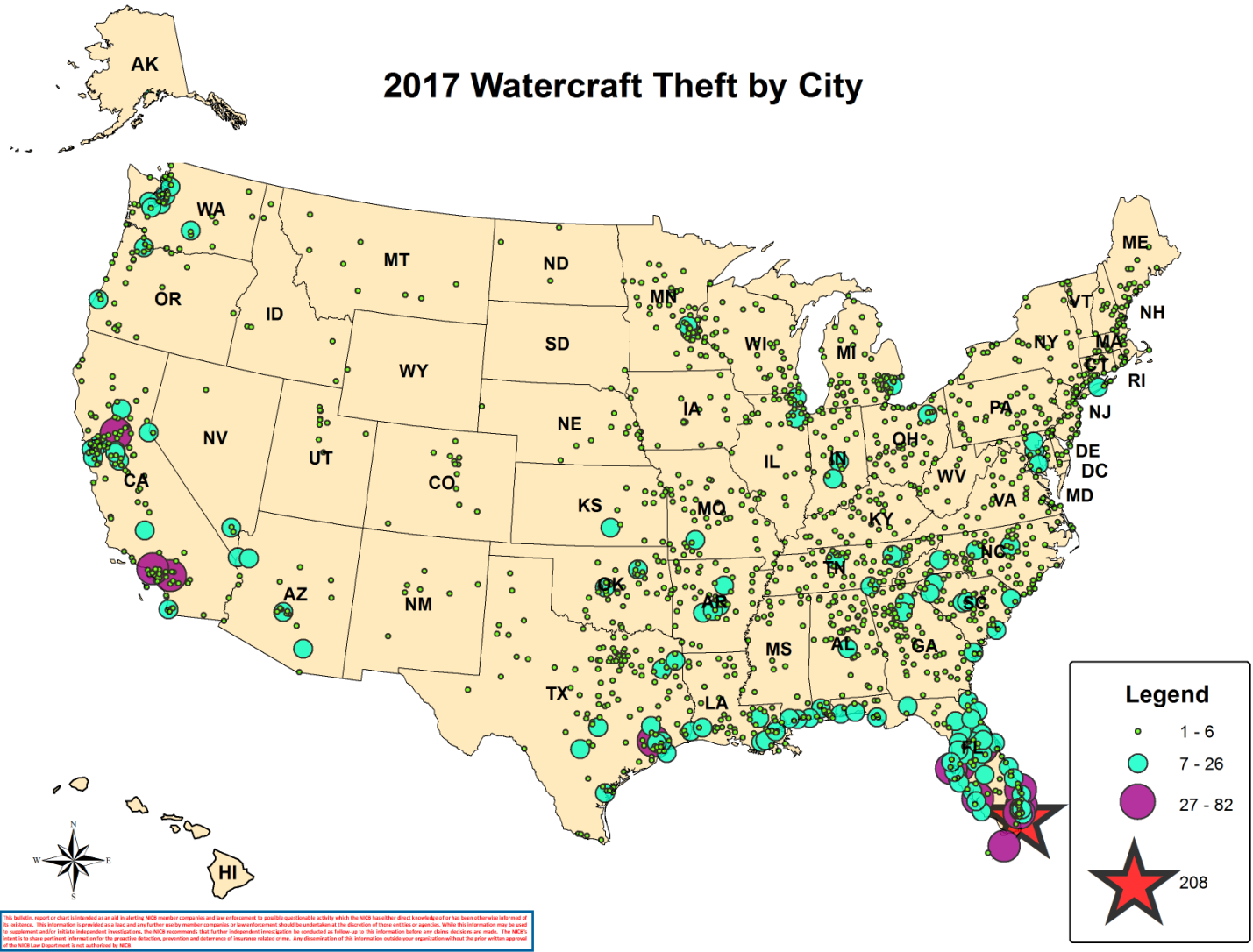
2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) by Theft City

All of the 4,864 theft records identified the city in which the theft occurred, while 1,797 of the 1,799 recovery records reported the city where the watercraft was recovered. Of the 4,864 watercraft stolen in 2017, 1,799, or 37% were recovered through 02/28/2018. There were 1,658 unique theft cities identified in the 2017 watercraft theft and recovery data. Totalling 723 thefts, the Top 10* theft cities account for 15% of all watercraft thefts in 2017. The theft city with the highest number of stolen watercrafts was Miami, Florida with 208 thefts. Of the Top 10* theft cities, Los Angeles, California had the highest recovery rate of 57%, while Orlando, Florida had the lowest at 23% recovered. Of note, 4 of the top 10 theft cities tied for the 10th spot. The below table depicts the total thefts by city, along with the total number of those thefts recovered (through 02/28/2018).

2017 Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) by Theft City

City	State	Thefts	Recoveries	Recovery Rate %
1. Miami	FL	208	60	29%
2. Tampa	FL	81	20	25%
3. Ft. Lauderdale	FL	77	23	30%
4. Sacramento	CA	51	23	45%
5. Largo	FL	46	16	35%
6. Marathon	FL	37	13	35%
7.* West Palm Beach	CA	36	11	31%
8.* Houston	TX	36	10	28%
9. Orlando	FL	31	7	23%
10.* Riverside	CA	30	12	40%
10.* Fort Myers	FL	30	16	53%
10.* Los Angeles	CA	30	17	57%
10.* Hialeah	FL	30	10	33%

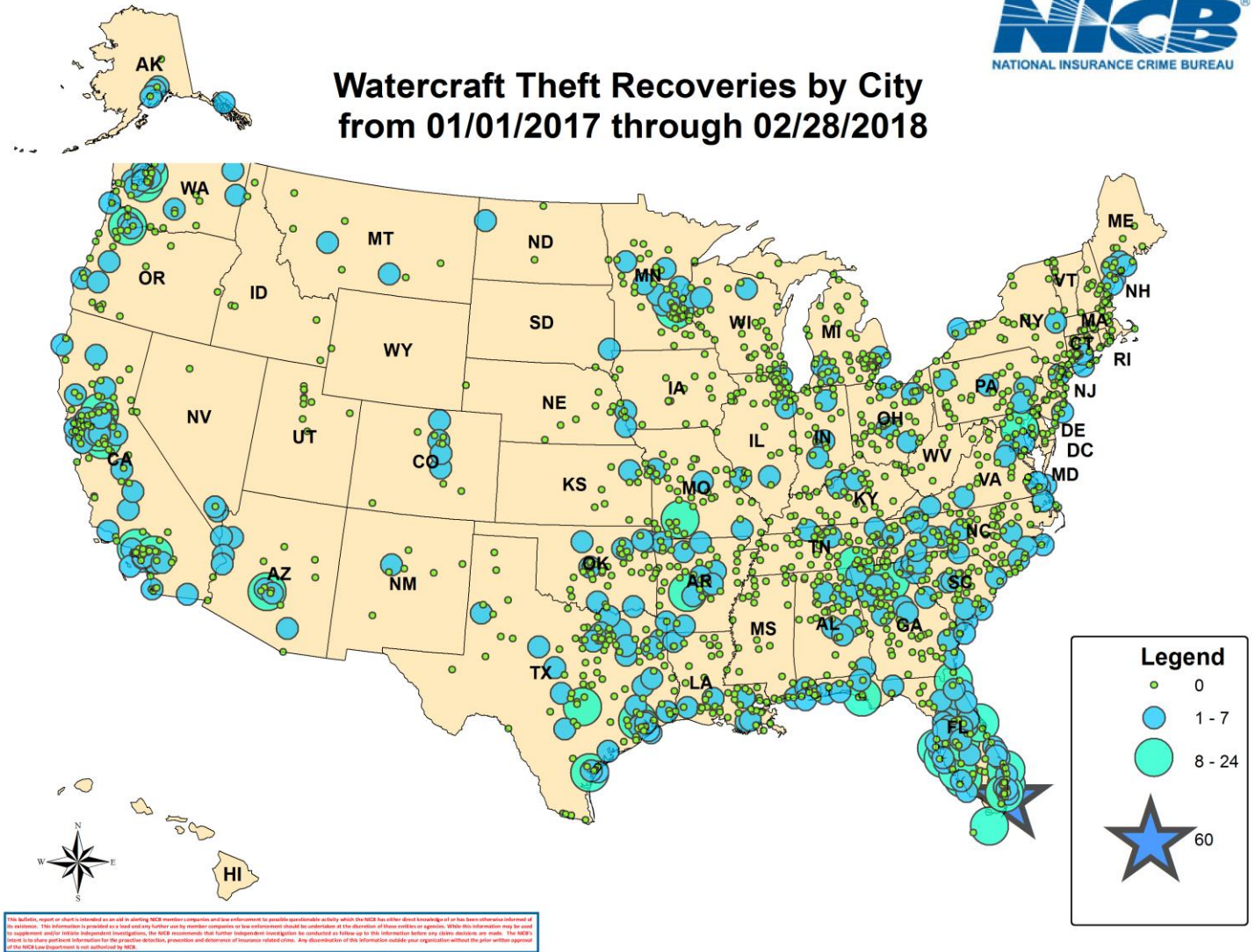
The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of Watercraft thefts by city in 2017.



The map shown below is a geographic representation of the volume of watercraft theft recoveries by city from 01/01/2017 through 02/28/2018.



Watercraft Theft Recoveries by City from 01/01/2017 through 02/28/2018



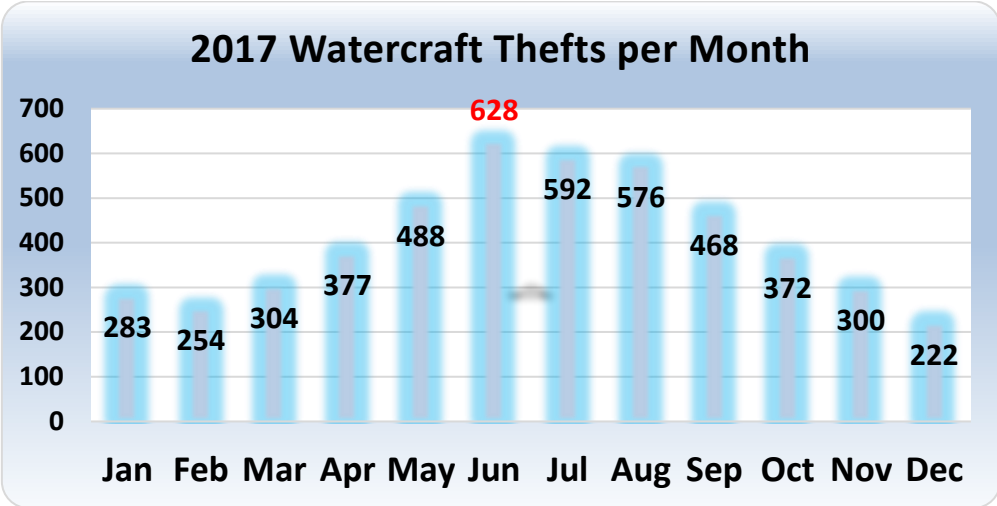
This bulletin, report or chart is intended as an aid to alerting NICB member companies and law enforcement to possible questionable activity which the NICB has either direct knowledge of or has been otherwise informed of by its members. The information is provided as a lead and any further use by member companies or law enforcement should be undertaken at the discretion of those entities or agencies. While the information may be used to supplement and/or initiate independent investigations, the NICB recommends that further independent investigation be conducted as follows up to this information before any claims decisions are made. The NICB's intent is to share pertinent information for the protection, detection, prevention and deterrence of insurance-related crime. Any dissemination of this information outside your organization without the prior written approval of the NICB Law Department is not authorized by NICB.

Section 3: Temporal Analysis

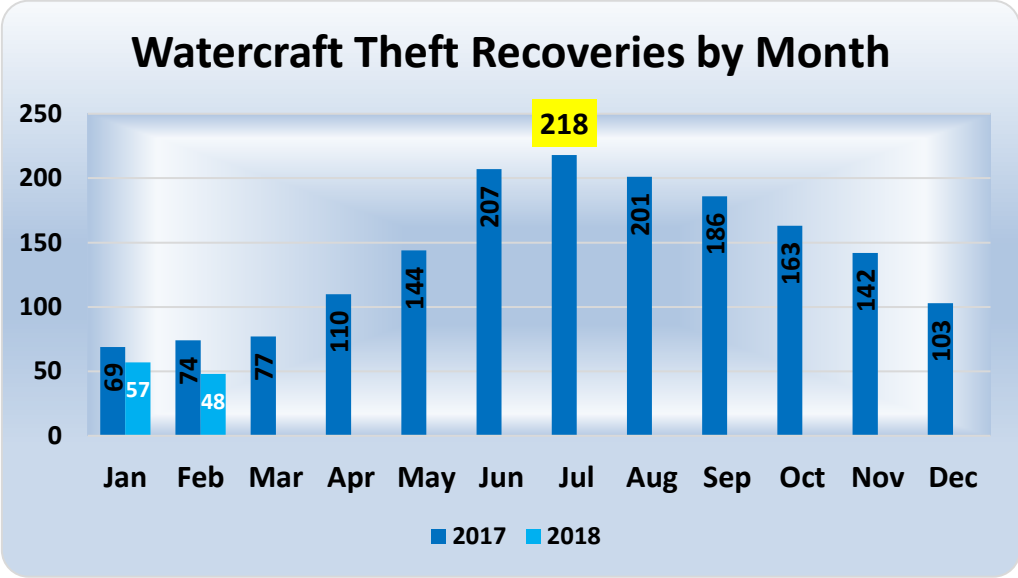
On average, there were approximately 13 watercraft thefts per day, 94 per week, or 405 per month in 2017. However, watercraft thefts are not distributed evenly over time and the following Temporal Analyses will aim to show when to be the most prepared for potential thefts by analyzing the 2017 watercraft 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.

2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) by Theft Month

The graph to the right displays the 2017 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 405. June had the highest number of thefts with 628, while December had the fewest thefts with 222.

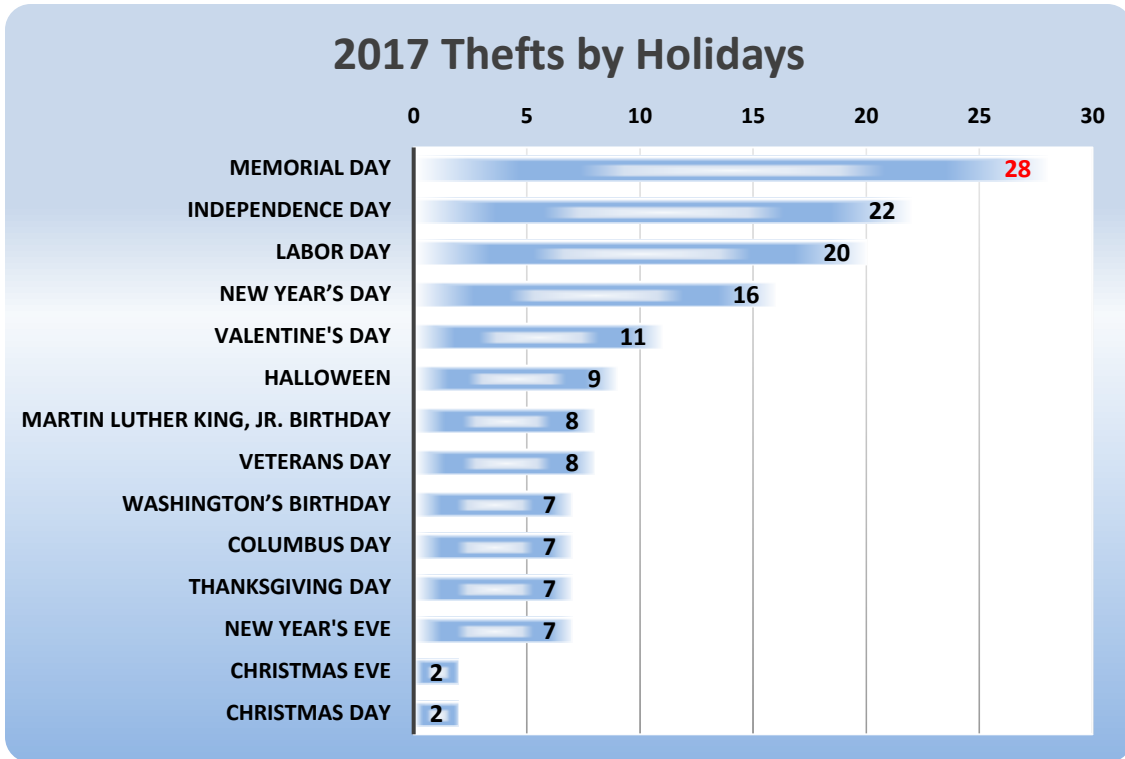


The graph to the right displays the 2017 thefts and 2017 watercraft theft recoveries per month. Of the watercraft thefts in 2017, there was an average of 128 recoveries per month. As with the thefts, recoveries appear to be seasonal with June through October having a higher than average number of recoveries. July had the highest number of recoveries at 218, and January had the fewest number of recoveries at 72 in 2017.



2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18) by Holiday

The graph on the following page displays the number of watercraft thefts by holidays in 2017. The holiday with the most watercraft thefts in 2017 was Memorial Day, with 28 thefts, and the holiday with the least number of thefts was Christmas Day with Two (2) thefts.



2017 Watercraft Thefts and Corresponding Recoveries (through 02/28/18): 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 1,799 recoveries from 1/01/2017 through 2/28/2018 were included in this analysis. Of the 1,799 recovered thefts, 232 were recovered on the same day as the theft, representing 13% of all recoveries. 230 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
0 (Same Day)	232	5%	13%
1	230	5%	13%
2	115	2%	6%
3	106	2%	6%
4	61	1%	3%
6	55	1%	3%
7	50	1%	3%
5	48	1%	3%
8	46	1%	3%
9	38	1%	2%
Totals	981	20%	55%

Methodology

Data parameters were defined as all watercraft stolen in the US between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 that were reported to the NCIC. Corresponding recovery information was collected from the NCIC and included only watercraft that were stolen in 2017, but were recovered between January 1, 2017 and February 28, 2018. 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 4,864 thefts in 2017, 14% did not provide or provided an unverifiable manufacturer's code, 28% did not supply or gave incomplete information on the boat type, and 39% 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 4,864 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.