

HCAO Youth Auto Theft Early Intervention

Year One Summary:
June 2023 – May 2024

June 26, 2024



The Challenge: Auto Theft is Prevalent and Hard to Solve

- In 2023, there were 9,784 motor vehicle theft incidents reported to the BCA by law enforcement agencies in Hennepin County.
- The percentage of those cases with a clearance reported to the BCA by law enforcement was about 4%.
- Law enforcement was often indicating that they knew which young people were involved but did not have sufficient evidence to submit a case for prosecution.
- Youth auto theft can be associated with repeat system contact. HCAO data for 2019 youth motor vehicle theft cases charged and not diverted suggests a 1-year recidivism rate of 58%, a 2-year recidivism rate of 63%, and an overall recidivism rate of 68%.

Motor Vehicle Thefts and Clearance, Hennepin County

Year	Motor Vehicle Thefts Reported or Known to Law Enforcement	Percent of Motor Vehicle Thefts Reported With a Clearance Reported
2022	8,319	3.8%
2023	9,784	3.7%

Source: [MN BCA Crime Data Explorer](#)



The Solution – HCAO Youth Auto Theft Early Intervention Pilot

In June 2023, HCAO initiated a pilot to address these challenges.
We focused on two approaches:

Creation of an early intervention services pathway to offer voluntary services and resources outside of the traditional legal system

Expedited legal system intervention for youth who have auto theft-related cases submitted to HCAO

Early Intervention Services Pathway

Law
enforcement
submits
referrals



HCAO reviews
for eligibility



Youth screened
as eligible are
referred to
social workers
for outreach
and services

Eligibility and Referral for Services June 2023 – May 2024

- Among the 205 young people referred from June 2023 – May 2024, 107 (52%) were screened in as eligible for services.
- Among the 107 eligible for services, 105 (98%) have been referred to a service provider for outreach and services.
- Among those screened out, the majority were because of active court cases, active probation, or non-Hennepin residency.



Early Intervention Referring Agency June 2023 – May 2024

- Each referral is attributed to one agency. Multiple agencies can refer the same young person; in those cases, each submission will be recorded and reported on.
- HCSO’s efforts span across law enforcement jurisdictions.

Agency	Number	Percent
Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office	64	31%
Minneapolis PD	40	20%
Eden Prairie PD	29	14%
Bloomington PD	17	8%
Brooklyn Park PD	13	6%
St. Louis Park PD	11	5%
Bloomington PD	9	5%
Six other agencies	8 or fewer each	< 4% each



Services from Social Workers* June 2023 – May 2024

Examples of resources and supports social workers connected youth/families to:

Social workers attempted contact with **100%** of youth/families referred to them

Social workers successfully made contact with **73%**

Among those successfully contacted, social workers offered or directly provided resources to **95%**

- Family Response Stabilization Services (FRSS)
- Mental health resources
- Case management
- Public assistance
- Transportation
- Basic needs (e.g., food, clothing and shelter)
- Working with school and family on school re-enrollment

*Data on this slide excludes a small number of young people who were referred to an existing Child Protection social worker or existing truancy prevention community provider.



What We're Seeing: Expedited Time To Charging Decision



The number of youth auto theft cases where a **charging decision was made within 3 days increased by 18%** and **where a charging decision was made within 10 days increased by 24%** for the period of July 1, 2023 – May 31, 2024 compared to the same period one year earlier.

What We're Seeing: Most Early Intervention Participants Have Had No New Charged Cases

95 were referred to social worker for services through 3.31.24*

77 young people had no new charged cases between their date of referral to services and date of most recent check for new charged cases^ (81%)

18 young people had a new charged case between their date of referral to services and date of most recent check for new charged cases^ (19%)

* - Young people referred to services more recently than 3/31/24 were excluded from this new charged case analysis so that a minimum amount of time had passed between the date of referral to services and the check for new charged cases.

^ - New charged cases for participants included in this analysis was most recently checked between 5/15/24 – 5/22/24.



What We're Seeing: Decreased Auto Theft in Hennepin County

- From January to May 2024, the total number of auto thefts reported or known to law enforcement in Hennepin County was 30% lower than the same period in 2023.
- This information comes from the MN BCA, using data reported to them by Hennepin County law enforcement agencies. Each agency is responsible for the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of their data.

Motor Vehicle Thefts, Hennepin County

Period	Motor Vehicle Thefts Reported or Known to Law Enforcement
Jan – May 2023	4,818
Jan – May 2024	3,353

Source: [MN BCA Crime Data Explorer](#)

What We're Seeing: Decreased Auto Theft in Minneapolis

- From January 1 to June 24, 2024, the total number of auto thefts reported by the Minneapolis Police Department was 29% lower than the same period in 2023.

Motor Vehicle Thefts in Minneapolis 2024 vs. 2023 YTD, by Ward

Ward	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Percent Decrease 2024 YTD vs. 2023 YTD	↓ 16%	↓ 33%	↓ 16%	↓ 35%	↓ 28%	↓ 33%	↓ 22%	↓ 32%	↓ 36%	↓ 29%	↓ 31%	↓ 27%	↓ 23%

Source: [MPD Crime Dashboard](#)



What We're Seeing: Fewer Youth Auto Theft Cases

- BCA's public dashboard data does not include data specific to youth auto theft cases.
- The number of cases reviewed by HCAO's Youth Prosecution Division provides an indication of youth-specific auto theft cases in Hennepin County.
- Between January to May 2024, the number of youth auto theft-related cases submitted by law enforcement that were reviewed by HCAO was 48% lower compared to the same period during 2023.

**Youth Auto Theft Cases Reviewed
by HCAO, 2024 vs. 2023**

Period	Number of Cases Reviewed	Percent Change from Previous
Jan – May 2023	303	
Jan – May 2024	158	↓ 48%