NICB
NATIONAL INSURANCE CRIME BUREAU

ForeCAST℠ REPORT

DATE: July 31, 2020
REGARDING: 2019 US Motorcycle Theft and Recovery (through 07/13/2020) **(Public Dissemination)**
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Introduction

This ForeCAST report analyzes the 40,830 motorcycle thefts for 2019 and recoveries for 2019 and 2020 (through 07/13/20) in the United States (U.S.), and the District of Columbia (D.C.). For the purposes of this report, the information reported to the US Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) National Crime Information Center (NCIC) for motorcycle theft data for 2019 and recovery data for 2019 and 2020 (through 07/13/20) was analyzed by NCIC Make, Model, and Style and Loss Description fields. Motorcycles have different legal definitions depending on jurisdiction. There are many sub-types of motorcycles, and this report includes scooters and mopeds and others classified as motorcycles in the NCIC data. This report is divided into two sections. The first section analyzes motorcycle thefts in the U.S. for 2019 by: theft year, month, state, city, county, and make. The second section analyzes motorcycle recoveries in the U.S. for 2019 and 2020 (through 07/13/20) by: year, month, state, and make. The appendix at the end of this report includes the methodology of the data editing.

Executive Summary

This section analyzes the 40,830 motorcycle thefts which were reported to NCIC, in the U.S. in 2019. The following subsections further analyze the 40,830 motorcycle thefts by: theft year, month, state, city, county, and make. From 2018 to 2019, motorcycle thefts decreased by 2%. Motorcycle thefts mostly occur in the warmer months; August had the most motorcycle thefts, while February had least thefts. Motorcycle thefts were highest in the state of California (6,913) in 2019. Of the top 10 states, Missouri had the largest increase (155) in motorcycle thefts and New York had the largest decrease (204) in motorcycle thefts from 2018 to 2019. Analysis by city found New York, NY to have the highest count of thefts (1,195) in 2019, with a 9% decrease over 2018.

There were 2,002 U.S. counties identified in 2019 with a motorcycle theft. The top 25 counties accounted for 32% of motorcycle thefts in 2019, with Los Angeles County ranking 1st at 1,423 thefts. Analysis found Honda to be the manufacturer with the most thefts (8,122) in 2019. Motorcycle manufacturer Yongfu Machine Co. had the highest percent increase (116%) in motorcycle thefts of the top 15 manufacturers from 2018 – 2019.

Of the 40,830 motorcycle thefts in 2019, 18,857 (46%) were recovered from 01/01/2019 through 07/13/2020. In 2019, August (2,092) and September (2,065) had the largest number of motorcycle recoveries; while January (469) and February (540) had the fewest motorcycle recoveries. From 01/01/2019 through 07/13/2020, California had most (3,529) recoveries statewide.
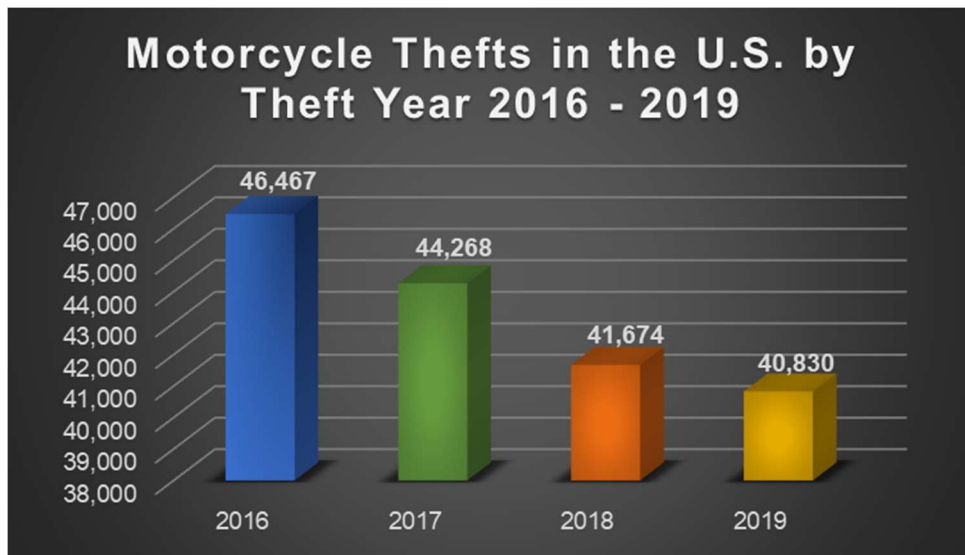
From the top 10 motorcycle recovery states, Washington had the highest (52%) recovery for 2019 through 07/13/2020. Analysis found Honda to be the manufacturer with the most (3,870) recoveries in 2019 through 07/13/2020. Manufacturer Genuine Cycle had the highest rate (66%) of recovery of the top 15 recovered manufacturers in 2019.

SECTION 1: Motorcycle Thefts in the U.S. 2019

This section analyzes the 40,830 motorcycle thefts which were reported to NCIC, in the U.S. in 2019. The following subsections further analyze the 40,830 motorcycle thefts by: they year, month, state, city, county, and make.

Motorcycle Thefts: By Year

The following graph shows the comparison of reported motorcycle thefts in the U.S. for the theft years of 2016 through 2019. The number of motorcycle thefts decreased by 5% from 46,467 in 2016 to 44,268 in 2017. The number of motorcycle thefts decreased by 6% from 44,268 in 2017 to 41,674 in 2018. The number of motorcycle thefts decreased by 2% from 41,674 in 2018 to 40,830 in 2019. Overall, motorcycle thefts decreased by 12% from 2016 through 2019.
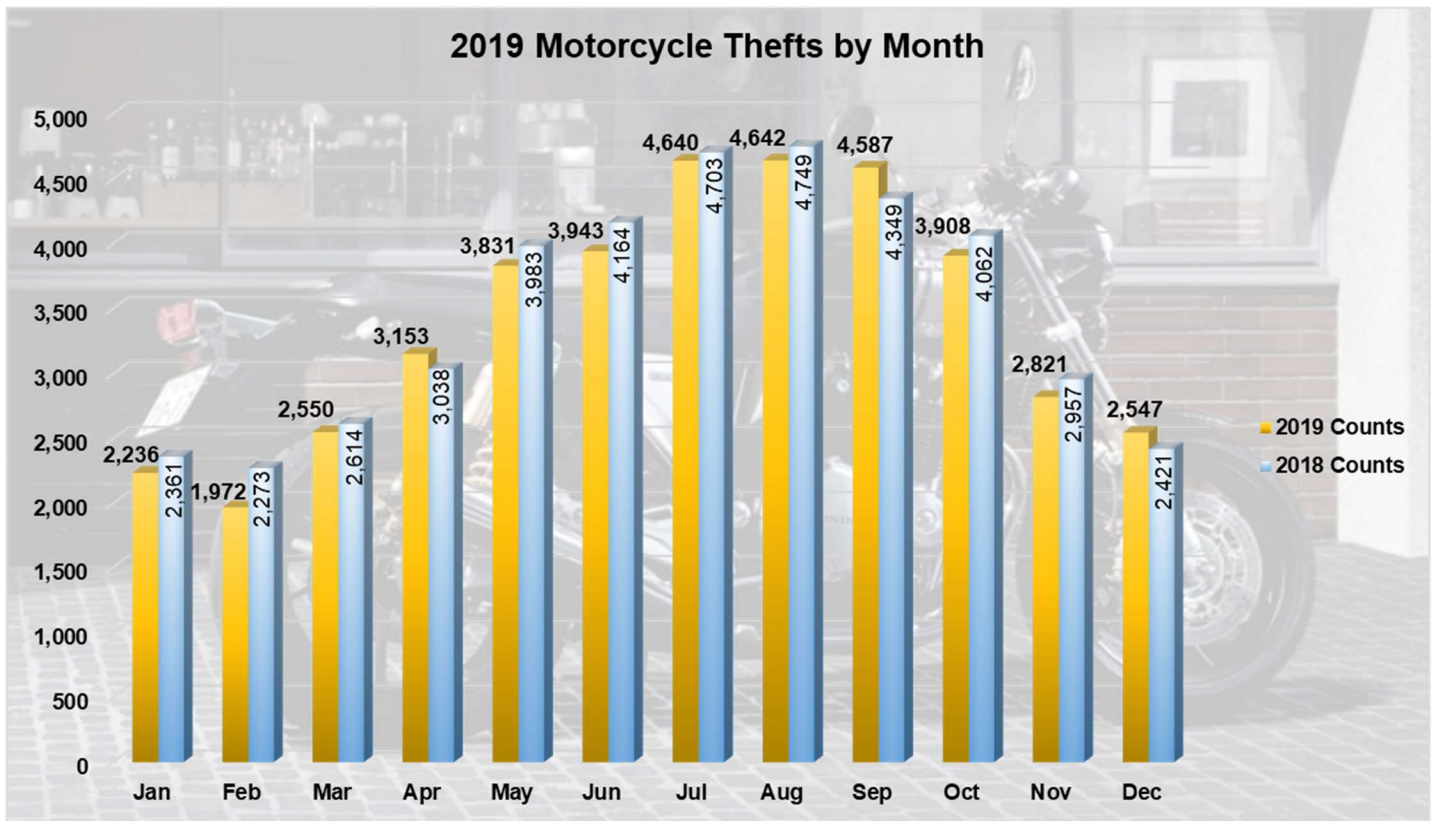

Motorcycle Thefts: By Month

The following tables and bar graph illustrate motorcycle thefts in the U.S. by the month, percent, rank, and quarter. In general, motorcycle thefts are a seasonal crime related to warmer months, with 11% or more of thefts from the yearly total occurred in August, July, and September. Months with 5% or less of thefts from the yearly total occurred in cooler months of January, and February.

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Quarter		1			2			3			4	
2019 Totals		6,758			10,927			13,869			9,276	

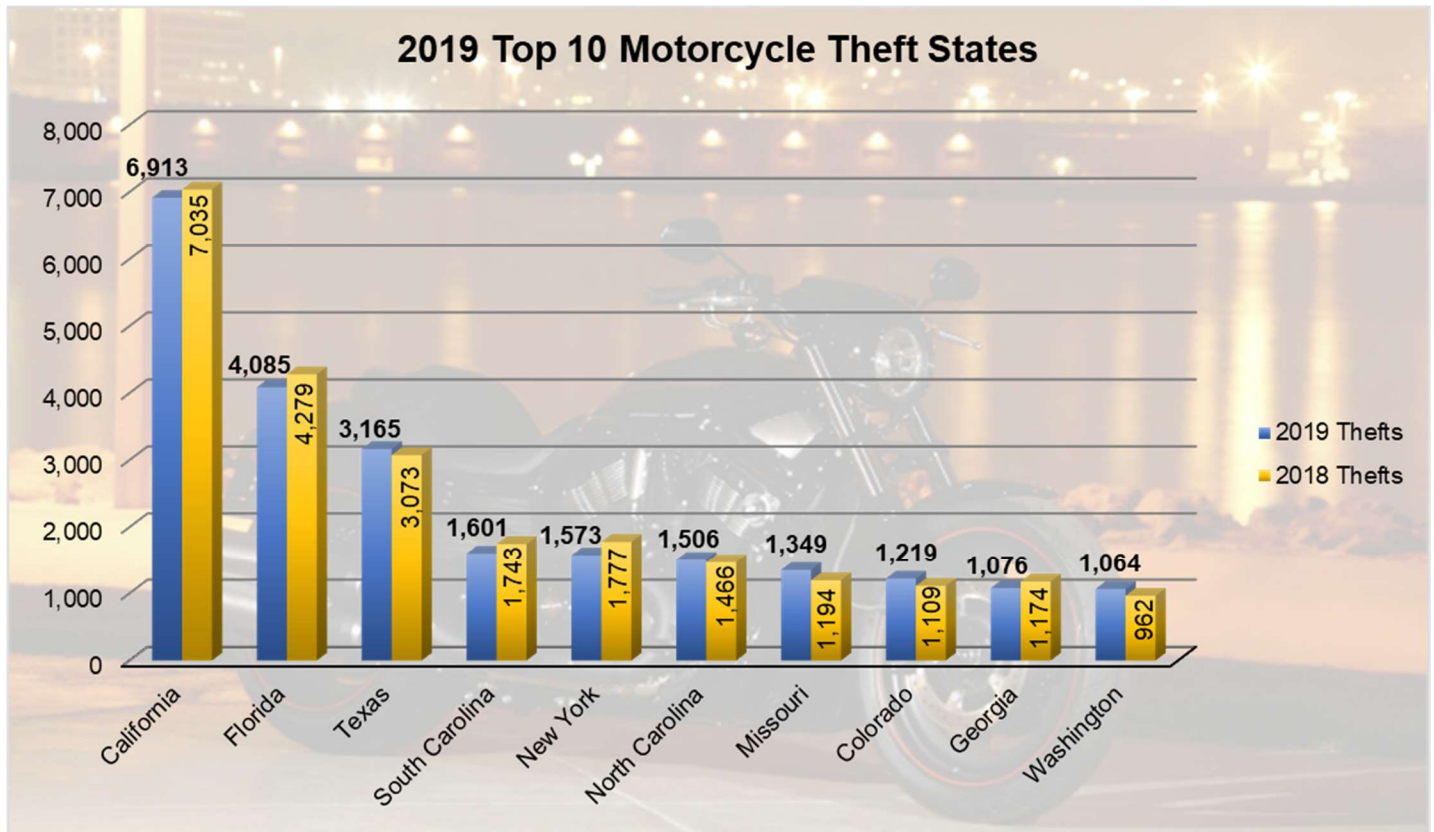| Month	2019 Thefts	Percent of Thefts (%)	Theft Rank
JANUARY	2,236	5%	11
FEBRUARY	1,972	5%	12
MARCH	2,550	6%	9
APRIL	3,153	8%	7
MAY	3,831	9%	6
JUNE	3,943	10%	4
JULY	4,640	11%	2
AUGUST	4,642	11%	1
SEPTEMBER	4,587	11%	3
OCTOBER	3,908	10%	5
NOVEMBER	2,821	7%	8
DECEMBER	2,547	6%	10
TOTALS	40,830	100%	

2019 Motorcycle Thefts by Month

Motorcycle Thefts: By State

The following table shows the number of 2019 motorcycle thefts in the U.S. by theft state. The table analyzes each state by quarters as well as ranks each state by total number of motorcycle thefts. The table further shows the percent of total U.S. thefts by state. There was a total of 40,830 thefts in the U.S. in 2019 with the

top 10 states of California, Florida, Texas, South Carolina, New York, North Carolina, Missouri, Colorado, Georgia, and Washington accounting for over 58% of the total U.S. thefts in 2019.
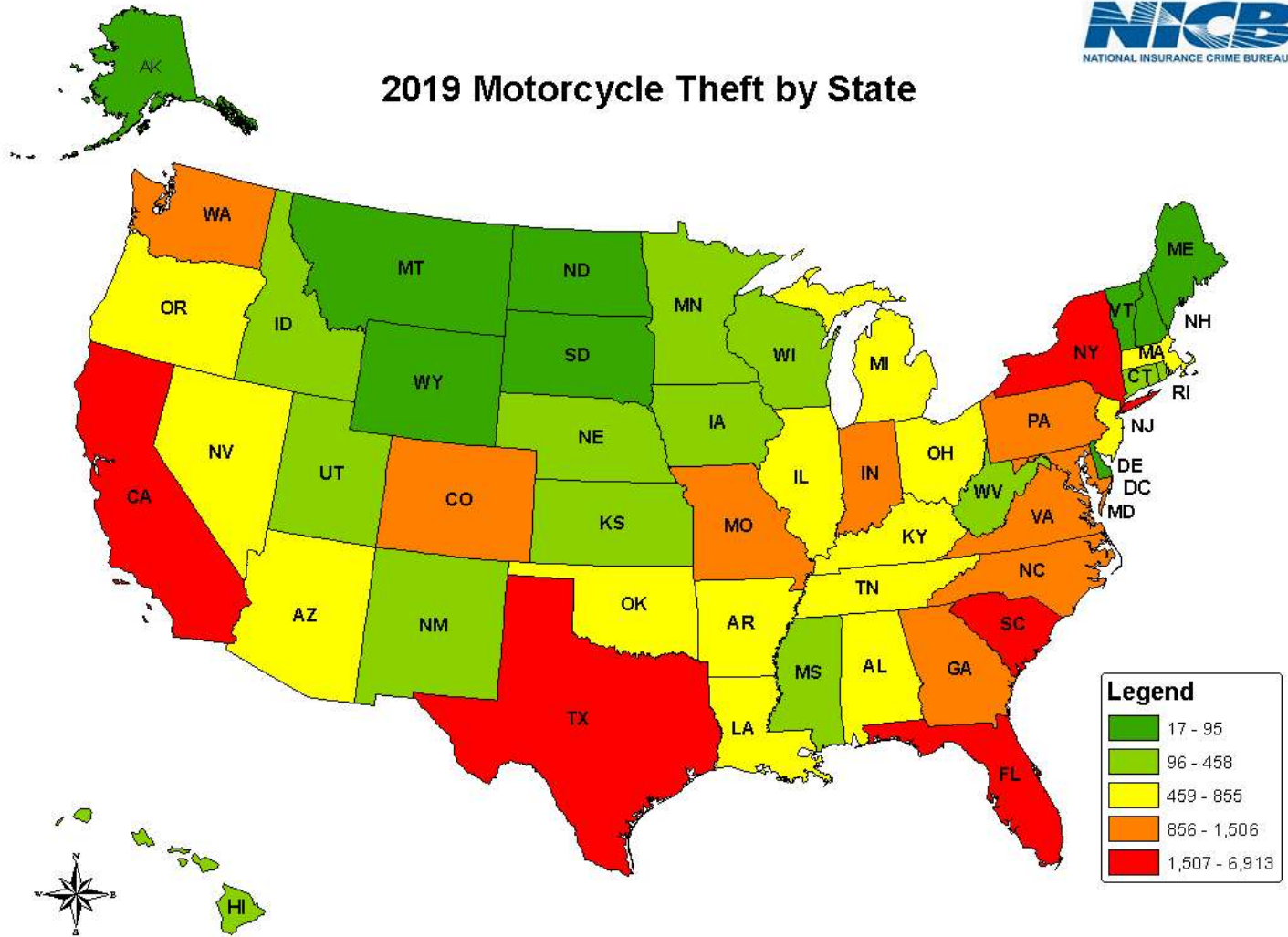
State	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	2019 Totals	Percent of Total Thefts	2019 Theft Rank
California	1,508	1,788	1,918	1,699	6,913	17%	1
Florida	965	1,082	1,057	981	4,085	10%	2
Texas	651	803	947	764	3,165	8%	3
South Carolina	275	438	536	352	1,601	4%	4
New York	142	468	669	294	1,573	4%	5
North Carolina	227	389	483	407	1,506	4%	6
Missouri	155	404	536	254	1,349	3%	7
Colorado	154	301	494	270	1,219	3%	8
Georgia	204	276	288	308	1,076	3%	9
Washington	159	245	432	228	1,064	3%	10
Maryland	137	307	363	205	1,012	2%	11
Indiana	112	270	401	191	974	2%	12
Pennsylvania	101	231	312	227	871	2%	*13
Virginia	119	251	329	172	871	2%	*13
Ohio	92	230	361	172	855	2%	15
Arizona	192	199	222	225	838	2%	16
Massachusetts	59	229	361	139	788	2%	17
Tennessee	109	225	220	182	736	2%	18
Michigan	41	167	365	137	710	2%	19
Arkansas	118	165	210	176	669	2%	20
New Jersey	84	165	271	126	646	2%	21
Kentucky	82	178	252	117	629	2%	22
Nevada	128	184	160	153	625	2%	23
Oregon	103	166	235	110	614	2%	24
Oklahoma	96	130	192	130	548	1%	25
Illinois	57	157	208	113	535	1%	26
Alabama	97	129	146	161	533	1%	27
Louisiana	98	133	138	129	498	1%	28
Kansas	59	141	154	104	458	1%	29
Minnesota	18	141	235	49	443	1%	30
New Mexico	87	108	124	100	419	1%	31
Connecticut	35	101	206	70	412	1%	32
Iowa	53	94	132	54	333	1%	33
Utah	32	93	133	58	316	1%	34
District Of Columbia	24	67	82	62	235	1%	35
Hawaii	30	47	58	86	221	1%	36
Wisconsin	15	57	109	17	198	<1%	*37
West Virginia	33	53	66	46	198	<1%	*37
Mississippi	27	56	72	42	197	<1%	39
Rhode Island	15	35	56	29	135	<1%	40
Nebraska	6	34	49	24	113	<1%	41
Idaho	14	32	32	27	105	<1%	42
Montana	6	26	47	16	95	<1%	43
Delaware	11	23	39	20	93	<1%	44
Alaska	4	26	42	3	75	<1%	45
New Hampshire	5	25	36	8	74	<1%	46
South Dakota	5	24	30	10	69	<1%	47
North Dakota	4	15	31	15	65	<1%	48
Maine	4	11	10	8	33	<1%	49
Wyoming	5	4	11	3	23	<1%	50
Vermont	1	4	9	3	17	<1%	51
2019 Totals	6,758	10,927	13,869	9,276	40,830	100%	

The following graph shows the top 10 states with the largest number of motorcycle thefts in the U.S. for 2019 compared to theft counts for 2018. Five (5) of the top 10 states saw an increase in motorcycle thefts in 2019 and 5 of the top 10 states saw a decrease in motorcycle thefts. Of the top 10 states, Missouri had the largest increase (155) in motorcycle thefts and New York had the largest decrease (204) in motorcycle thefts from 2018 to 2019.

The following map shows the distribution of motorcycle theft across the U.S. by state.

2019 Motorcycle Theft by State

Legend

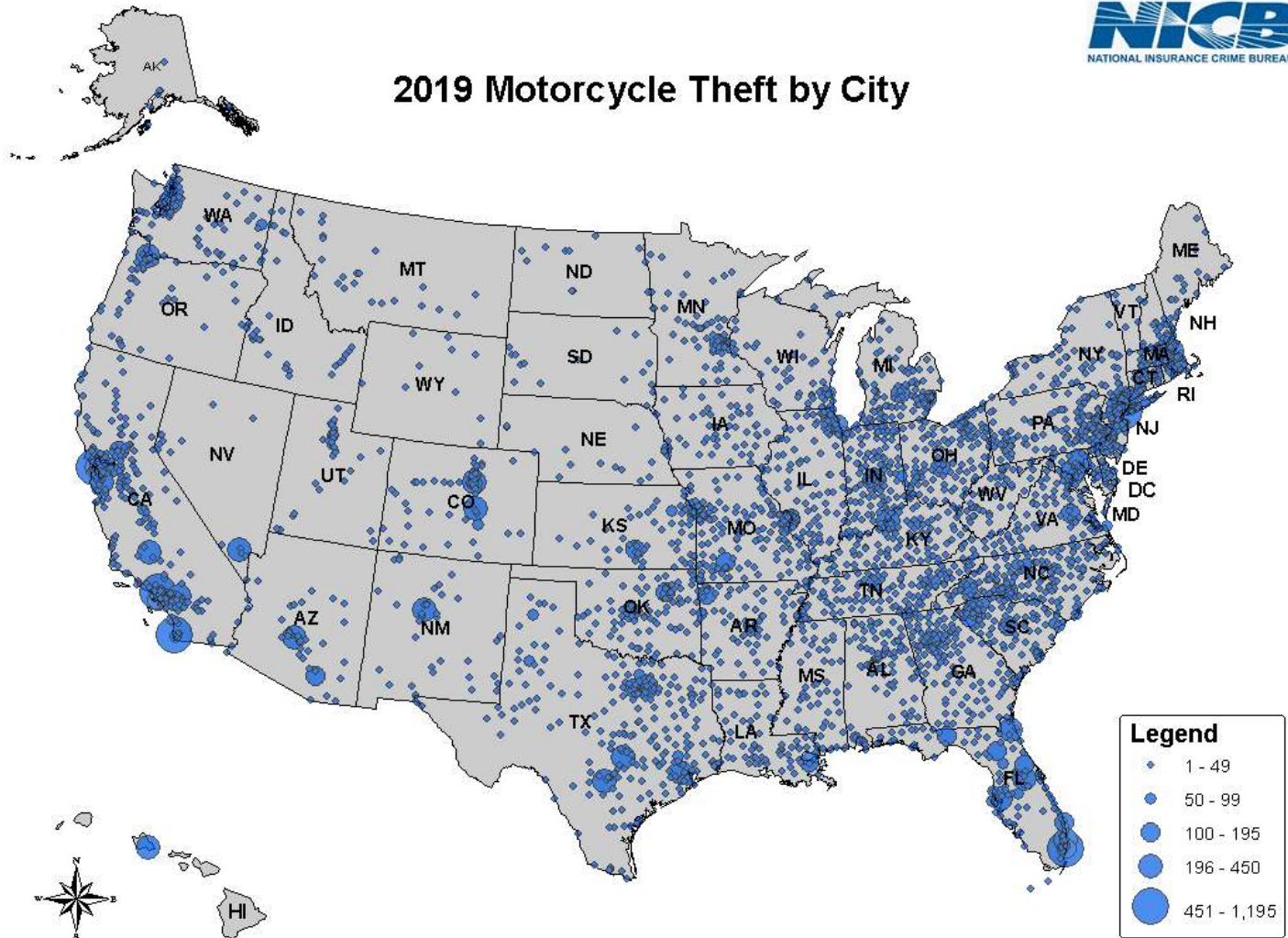| Color	Range
Dark Green	17 - 95
Light Green	96 - 458
Yellow	459 - 855
Orange	856 - 1,506
Red	1,507 - 6,913

Motorcycle Thefts: By City

The following tables show the top 15 cities in the U.S., listed by 2019 theft count. The top 15 cities accounted for 7,178 motorcycle thefts in 2019, an increase of 128 motorcycle thefts from 7,050 top 15 city motorcycle thefts in 2018. Of the top 15 cities, 8 had an increase in motorcycle thefts in 2019 with the largest increase (50%) for Seattle, WA followed by San Diego, CA in 2nd (46%), and Baltimore, MD in 3rd (36%). Seven (7) cities listed a decrease in motorcycle thefts in 2019 with Philadelphia, PA listed as the largest decrease (21%).

2019 Theft Rank	City	2018 Thefts	2019 Thefts	Percent Change 2018-2019
1	New York, NY	1,310	1,195	-9%
2	San Diego, CA	527	767	46%
3	San Francisco, CA	520	671	29%
4	Miami, FL	595	561	-6%
5	Los Angeles, CA	628	534	-15%
6	Las Vegas, NV	540	450	-17%
7	Houston, TX	460	395	-14%
8	Seattle, WA	257	386	50%
9	Austin, TX	329	367	12%
10	Denver, CO	286	348	22%
11	Philadelphia, PA	404	320	-21%
12	Phoenix, AZ	271	302	11%
13	Baltimore, MD	222	301	36%
14	Portland, OR	303	293	-3%
15	Orlando, FL	259	288	11%
Totals:		6,911	7,178	

The following map shows the distribution of motorcycle theft across the U.S. by theft city.

2019 Motorcycle Theft by City

Legend
- 1 - 49
- 50 - 99
- 100 - 195
- 196 - 450
- 451 - 1,195

*Not all NCIC Theft Records contain sufficient information to be mapped
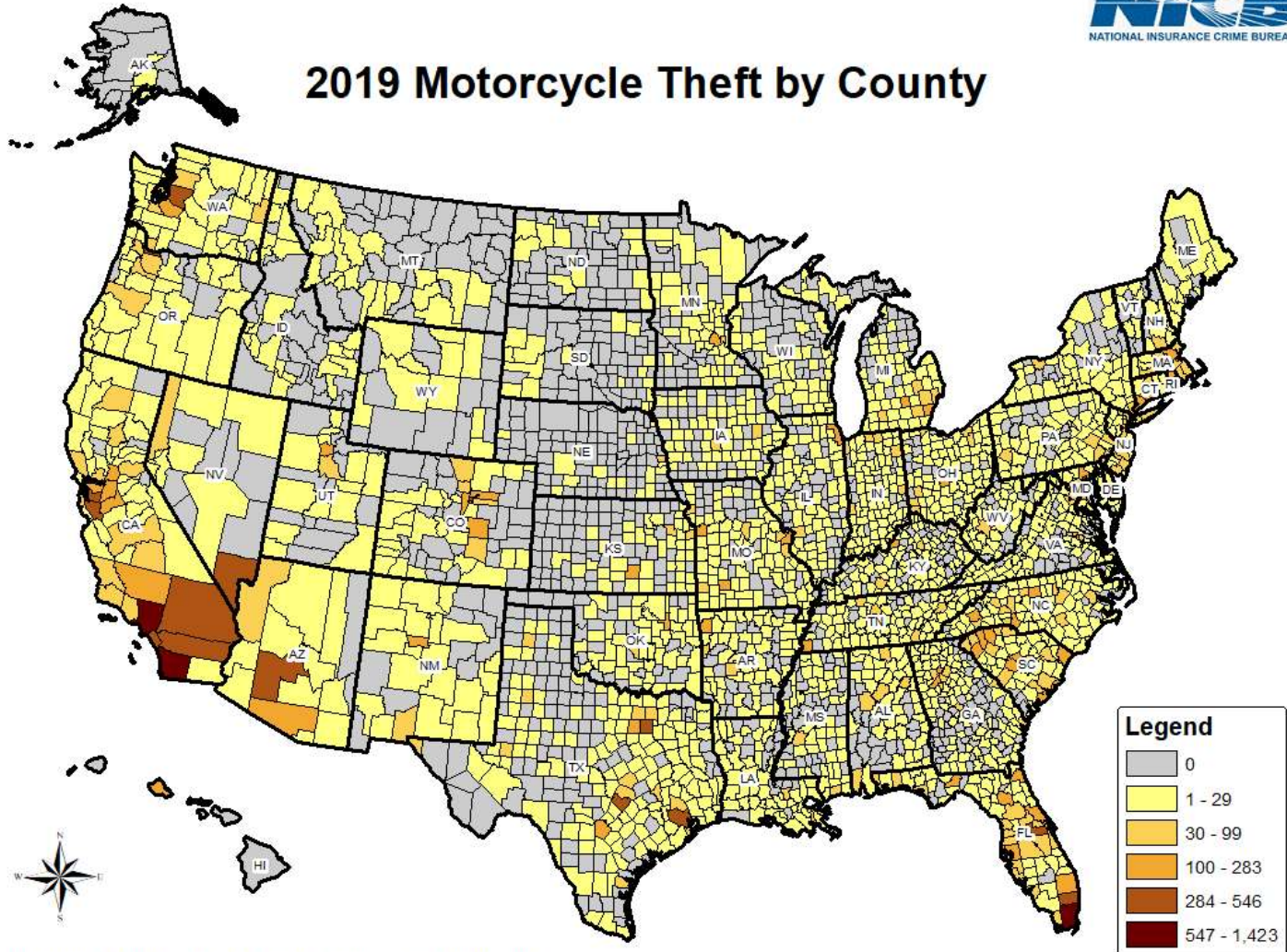
Motorcycle Thefts: By County

The following table displays the top 25 counties in 2019 with motorcycle thefts. The top 25 counties accounted for 12,898 thefts or 32% of the 40,830 motorcycle thefts in 2019. Los Angeles County was determined to have the highest count of thefts; 1,423 in 2019. The table lists the top 25 counties, theft counts for 2019, theft counts for 2018, and a percent change between 2018 and 2019. Of the top 25 counties, 12 saw an increase in motorcycle thefts between 2018 and 2019 while 13 saw a decrease. The table also lists each county's rate of motorcycle theft per 10,000 people, based on the estimated 2019 U.S. Census population. Each county in the table divides the 2019 motorcycle theft county count by the U.S. Census population estimate for the county, with a set population parameter at 10,000. The rate is rounded to a whole number value with a higher rate indicating higher prevalence of theft when using the county population to show county rate.

2019 Theft Rank	U.S. County	2018 Thefts	2019 Thefts	2018-2019 Theft Percent Change	2019 Theft Rate Per 10k
1	Los Angeles, CA	1,553	1,423	-8%	1
2	New York, NY	1,311	1,196	-9%	7
3	San Diego, CA	956	1,032	8%	3
4	Miami-Dade, FL	986	905	-8%	3
5	San Francisco, CA	520	671	29%	8
6	Clark, NV	640	546	-15%	2
7	Maricopa, AZ	479	526	10%	1
8	King, WA	360	505	40%	2
9	Harris, TX	530	491	-7%	1
10	Broward, FL	500	449	-10%	2
11	Riverside, CA	444	428	-4%	2
12	Dallas, TX	404	418	3%	2
13	Alameda, CA	456	413	-9%	2
14	Orange, CA	332	393	18%	1
15	Santa Clara, CA	446	378	-15%	2
16	Travis, TX	332	368	11%	3
17	San Bernardino, CA	438	362	-17%	2
18	Denver, CO	286	348	22%	5
19	Multnomah, OR	345	321	-7%	4
20	Philadelphia, PA	404	320	-21%	2
21	Orange, FL	282	310	10%	2
22	Baltimore City, MD	221	301	36%	5
23	Jackson, MO	277	283	2%	4
24	Suffolk, MA	290	259	-11%	3
25	Palm Beach, FL	239	252	5%	2

The following map illustrates a total list of counties and their theft count for 2019. The U.S. Census Bureau identified 3,142 counties in the U.S. In 2019, motorcycle thefts were identified in 2,002 U.S. counties.

2019 Motorcycle Theft by County

Legend

Color	Range
	0
	1 - 29
	30 - 99
	100 - 283
	284 - 546
	547 - 1,423

*Not all NCIC Theft Records contain sufficient information to be mapped
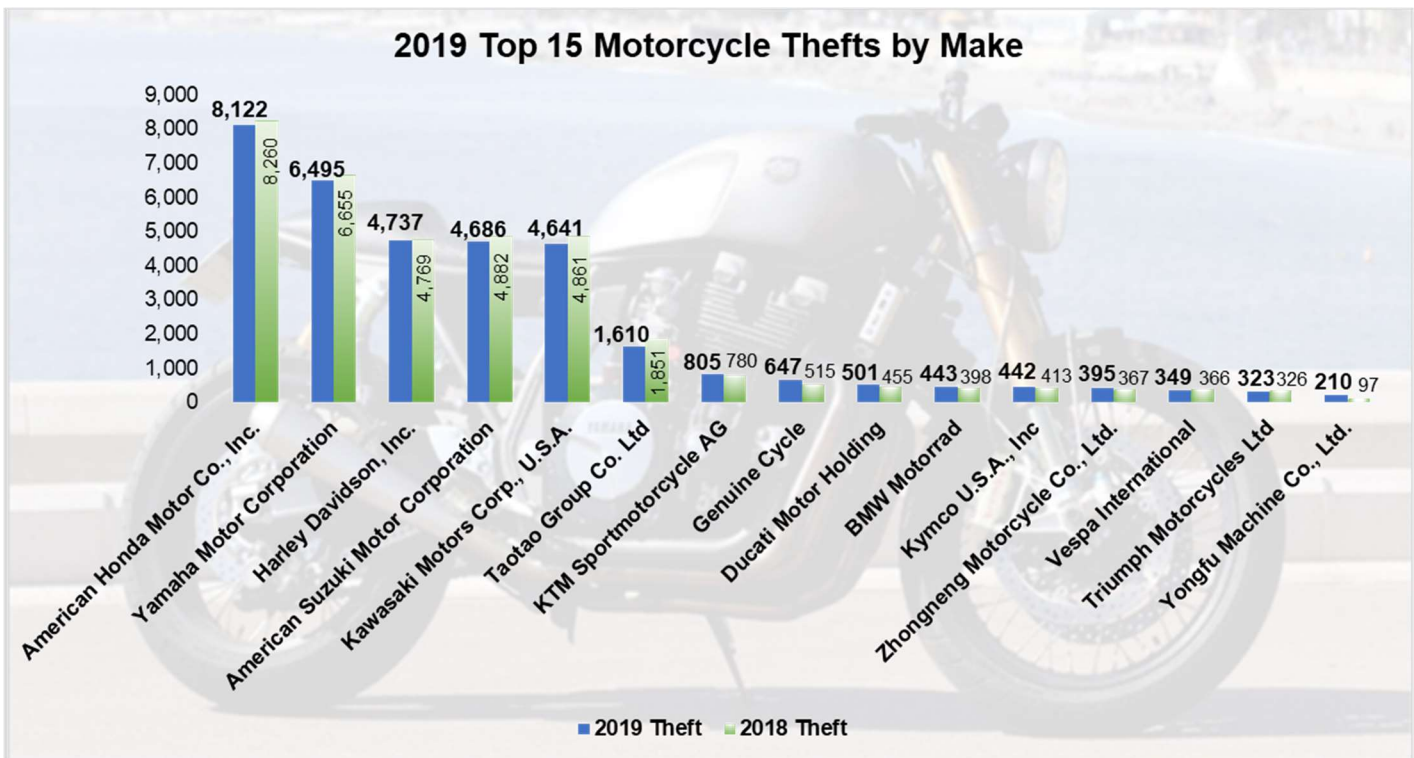
Motorcycle Thefts: By Make

There were a total of 478 motorcycle makes identified within the 40,830 motorcycle thefts in the U.S. in 2019. The following table displays the top 15 makes[1] with motorcycle thefts in 2019. The top 15 makes accounted for 34,406 of the total 40,830 thefts in 2019 or 84%. Honda accounted for the most thefts in 2019 with 8,122, with Yamaha 2nd (6,495), and Harley Davidson 3rd (4,737). Seven (7) of the top 15 makes had an increase in the reported number of thefts in 2019 compared to 2018. Motorcycle manufacturer Yongfu Machine Co.[2] had the highest percent increase (116%) in motorcycle thefts of the top 15 manufacturers from 2018 – 2019.

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[1] 1,478 (CYCL) motorcycle records were not included in the top 15 motorcycle theft makes as the manufacturer was not specifically identified.

[2] Yongfu Machine Co., Ltd. was assigned in NCIC in 2015.

2019 Theft Rank	Make	2018 Thefts	2019 Thefts	Percent Change 2018-2019
1	American Honda Motor Co., Inc.	8,260	8,122	-2%
2	Yamaha Motor Corporation	6,655	6,495	-2%
3	Harley Davidson, Inc.	4,769	4,737	-1%
4	American Suzuki Motor Corporation	4,882	4,686	-4%
5	Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.	4,861	4,641	-5%
6	Taotao Group Co. Ltd	1,851	1,610	-13%
7	KTM Sportmotorcycle AG	780	805	3%
8	Genuine Cycle	515	647	26%
9	Ducati Motor Holding	455	501	10%
10	BMW Motorrad	398	443	11%
11	Kymco U.S.A., Inc	413	442	7%
12	Zhongneng Motorcycle Co., Ltd.	367	395	8%
13	Vespa International	366	349	-5%
14	Triumph Motorcycles Ltd	326	323	-1%
15	Yongfu Machine Co., Ltd.	97	210	116%

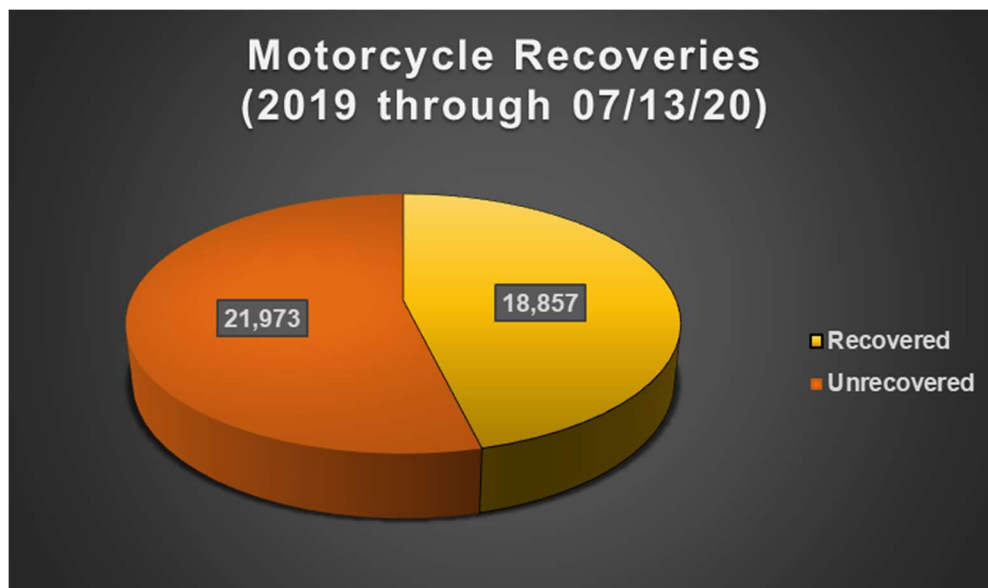2019 Top 15 Motorcycle Thefts by Make

SECTION 2: Motorcycle Recoveries in the U.S. (2019 through 07/13/20)

This section analyzed the 2019 U.S. motorcycle thefts recovered between 01/01/2019 through 07/13/2020. There were 18,857 motorcycle recoveries for 01/01/2019 through 07/13/2020 associated with the 40,830 motorcycle thefts in the U.S. Of the 18,857 motorcycle recoveries, 16,397 recoveries occurred between 01/01/2019 through 12/31/2019 and 2,460 were between 01/01/2020 through 07/13/2020. The following subsections further analyze these 18,857 recoveries by: year, month, state, and motorcycle make.

Motorcycle Recoveries: By Year

The pie chart shows the recoveries, which was 46% for the 2019 motorcycle thefts recovered in 2019 through 07/13/2020. Analyzing the recoveries by year for 2018 and 2019, the table shows there was an increase in recoveries from a total of 16,261 motorcycles recovered in the year 2018 compared to 16,397 in 2019.

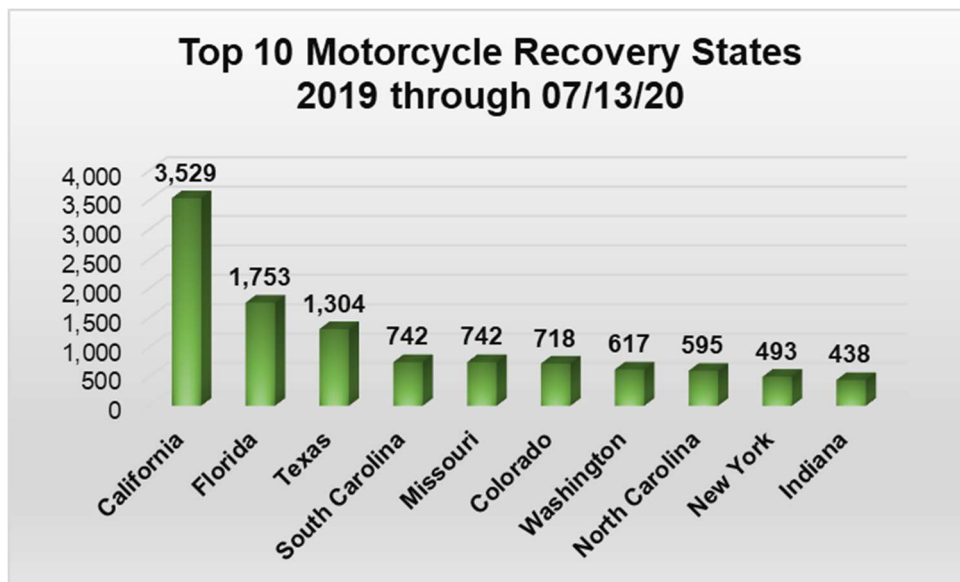| Year	Recovered Thefts
2019	16,397
2018	16,261

Motorcycle Recoveries: By Month

The following chart shows the number of motorcycle recoveries by month from 2019 through 07/13/20 for 2019 motorcycle thefts. The chart is analyzed by months and years. The highest recovery occurred in August with 2,092 recoveries followed by September with 2,065 recoveries in 2019. The months with the fewest number of motorcycle recoveries in 2019 were January (469) and February (540).

Month	2019 Recoveries	2020 Recoveries
JANUARY	469	757
FEBRUARY	540	422
MARCH	794	397
APRIL	1,132	285
MAY	1,361	299
JUNE	1,638	221
JULY	1,945	79
AUGUST	2,092	TBD
SEPTEMBER	2,065	TBD
OCTOBER	1,948	TBD
NOVEMBER	1,229	TBD
DECEMBER	1,184	TBD
TOTALS	16,397	2,460

Motorcycle Recoveries: By State

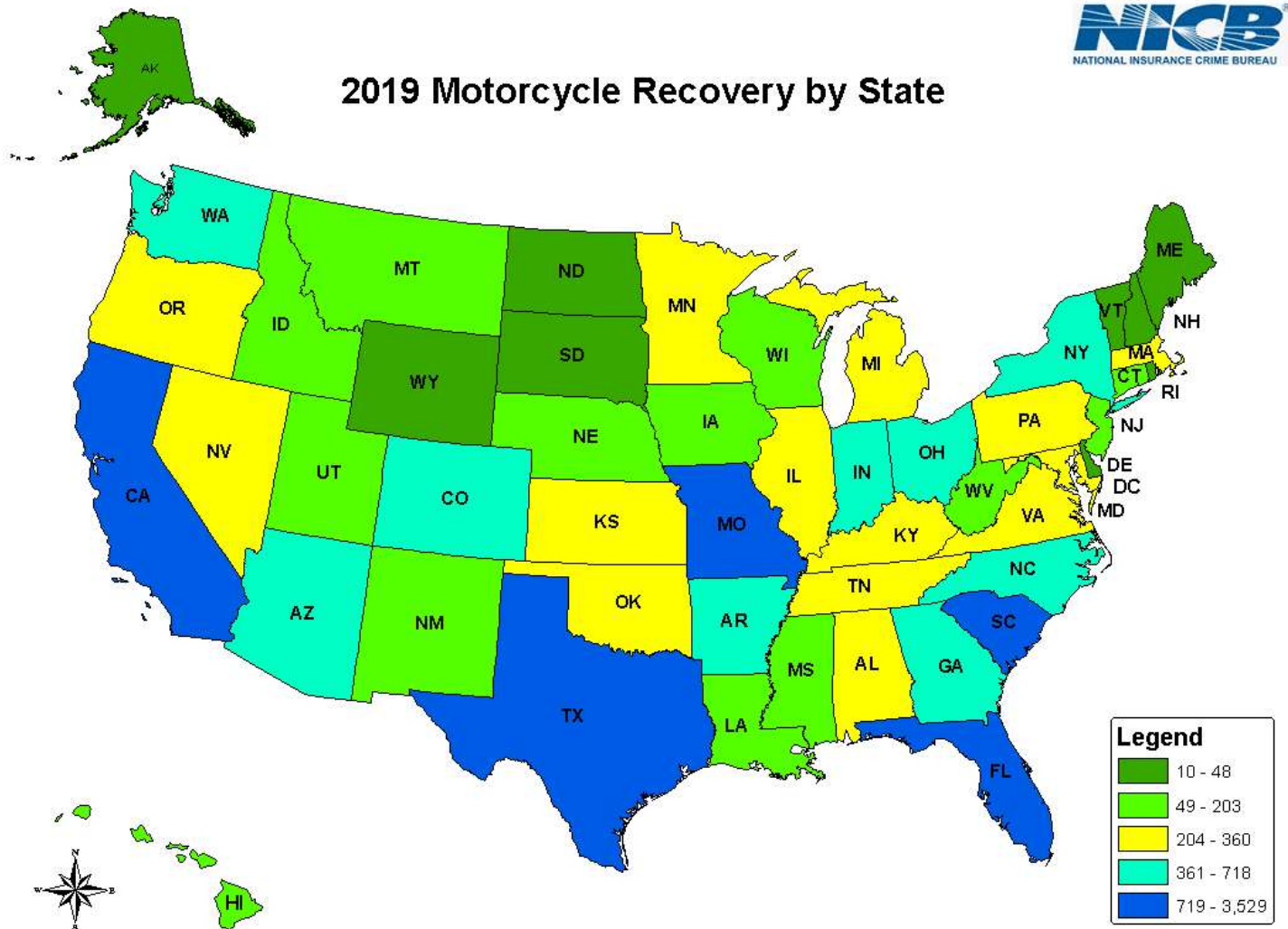The graph below shows the top 10 states for motorcycles stolen in 2019 and recovered between 2019 through 07/13/2020. The top 10 states accounted for 10,931 motorcycle recoveries, or 58% between 2019 through 07/13/2020. The state with the most motorcycle recoveries was California with 3,529 or 19% of the 18,857 motorcycle recoveries between 01/01/2019 and 07/13/2020.

Top 10 Motorcycle Recovery States 2019 through 07/13/20

Recovery Rank	State	2019 Recovery	2019 Recoveries through 07/13/20	[3]Total Recoveries from 01/01/19 – 07/13/20	2019 Recovery of State Stolen Motorcycles
1	California	3,145	384	3,529	45%
2	Florida	1,552	201	1,753	38%
3	Texas	1,109	195	1,304	35%
4	South Carolina	636	106	742	40%
5	Missouri	613	129	742	45%
6	Colorado	612	106	718	50%
7	Washington	552	65	617	52%
8	North Carolina	505	90	595	34%
9	New York	440	53	493	28%
10	Indiana	400	38	438	41%
11	Arizona	373	48	421	45%
12	Georgia	339	75	414	32%
13	Arkansas	361	43	404	54%
14	Ohio	331	62	393	39%
15	Maryland	296	64	360	29%
16	Kentucky	296	63	359	47%
17	Tennessee	297	53	350	40%
18	Nevada	293	39	332	47%
19	Oregon	279	35	314	45%
20	Oklahoma	257	38	295	47%
20	Virginia	255	38	293	29%
22	Pennsylvania	246	40	286	28%
23	Michigan	235	31	266	33%
24	Massachusetts	201	51	252	26%
25	Alabama	207	34	241	39%
25	Kansas	192	22	214	42%
27	Minnesota	202	12	214	46%
28	Illinois	180	32	212	34%
29	Utah	180	23	203	57%
30	New Jersey	153	36	189	24%
31	New Mexico	166	23	189	40%
32	Louisiana	146	38	184	29%
33	Iowa	144	15	159	43%
34	Hawaii	102	20	122	46%
35	District Of Columbia	106	9	115	45%
36	Connecticut	90	21	111	22%
36	Wisconsin	101	7	108	51%
38	West Virginia	81	12	93	41%
39	Mississippi	60	16	76	30%
39	Idaho	48	8	56	46%
41	Montana	41	11	52	43%
42	Nebraska	45	6	51	40%
43	Rhode Island	43	5	48	32%
44	Alaska	39	4	43	52%
45	South Dakota	34	1	35	49%
45	North Dakota	34	1	35	52%
47	Delaware	27	7	34	29%
48	New Hampshire	30	1	31	41%
49	Wyoming	17	2	19	74%
50	Maine	15	1	16	45%
51	Vermont	8	2	10	47%

[3] Note: 327 of the 18,857 motorcycles recovered from 2019 through 07/13/20 did not contain state information and were not included in the counts.

The following map shows the distribution of motorcycle recoveries across the U.S. by state

2019 Motorcycle Recovery by State

Legend	
■	10 - 48
■	49 - 203
■	204 - 360
■	361 - 718
■	719 - 3,529

Motorcycle Recoveries: By Make

A total of 329 motorcycle makes were identified from the 18,857 motorcycle recoveries in the U.S. from 2019 through 07/13/2020. The following table and graph display the top 15 makes[4] of motorcycle recoveries. The top 15 makes accounted for 15,907 or 84% of the 18,857 motorcycle recoveries. The make with the most recoveries was Honda which accounted for 21% of the total motorcycle recoveries. Of the top 15 makes, Genuine Cycle had the highest rate of recovery at 66%.

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[4] 657 (CYCL) motorcycle records were not included in the top 15 motorcycle recovery makes as the manufacturer was not specifically identified.

Recovery Rank	Make	2019 Recoveries through 07/13/20	2019 Thefts	Rate of Recovery
1	American Honda Motor Co., Inc.	3,870	8,122	48%
2	Yamaha Motor Corporation	2,957	6,495	46%
3	Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.	2,248	4,641	48%
4	American Suzuki Motor Corporation	2,149	4,686	46%
5	Harley Davidson, Inc.	1,888	4,737	40%
6	Taotao Group Co. Ltd.	754	1,610	47%
7	Genuine Cycle	426	647	66%
8	KTM Sportmotorcycle AG	317	805	39%
9	Zhongneng Motorcycle Co., Ltd.	224	395	57%
10	Kymco U.S.A., Inc	218	442	49%
11	Triumph Motorcycles Ltd.	201	323	62%
12	Vespa International	191	349	55%
13	BMW Motorrad	179	443	40%
14	Ducati Motor Holding	175	501	35%
15	Yongfu Machine Co., Ltd.	110	210	52%
Totals		15,907	34,406	Average: 49%

Top 15 Motorcycle Recoveries: By Make
2019 through 07/13/20

Make	Recoveries
American Honda Motor Co., Inc.	3,870
Yamaha Motor Corporation	2,957
Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A.	2,248
American Suzuki Motor Corporation	2,149
Harley Davidson, Inc.	1,888
Taotao Group Co. Ltd	754
Genuine Cycle	426
KTM Sportmotorcycle AG	317
Zhongneng Motorcycle Co., Ltd.	224
Kymco U.S.A., Inc	218
Triumph Motorcycles Ltd	201
Vespa International	191
BMW Motorrad	179
Ducati Motor Holding	175
Yongfu Machine Co., Ltd.	110

Appendix A: Motorcycle Theft

The NCIC theft data from 2019 was edited in the following manner:
• Records with thefts of anything other than motorcycle models were removed.
• Motorcycle has different legal definitions depending on jurisdiction.
• Sub-types of mopeds, trikes, and scooters are included in motorcycle.
• Records with blank or incomplete VIN fields were removed.
• Records with motorcycle parts (wheels, tracks, etc.) were removed.
• ATVs, UTV, watercraft, golf carts, motorized wheelchairs, snowmobiles, toys, go-carts, farm equipment, etc. that were mislabeled as a motorcycle style were removed.
• VIN structures that began with "ATV" were removed.
• VMA was used to identify Manufacturers.
• VMO was used to identify Cycles.
• Records determined to be purged were removed.