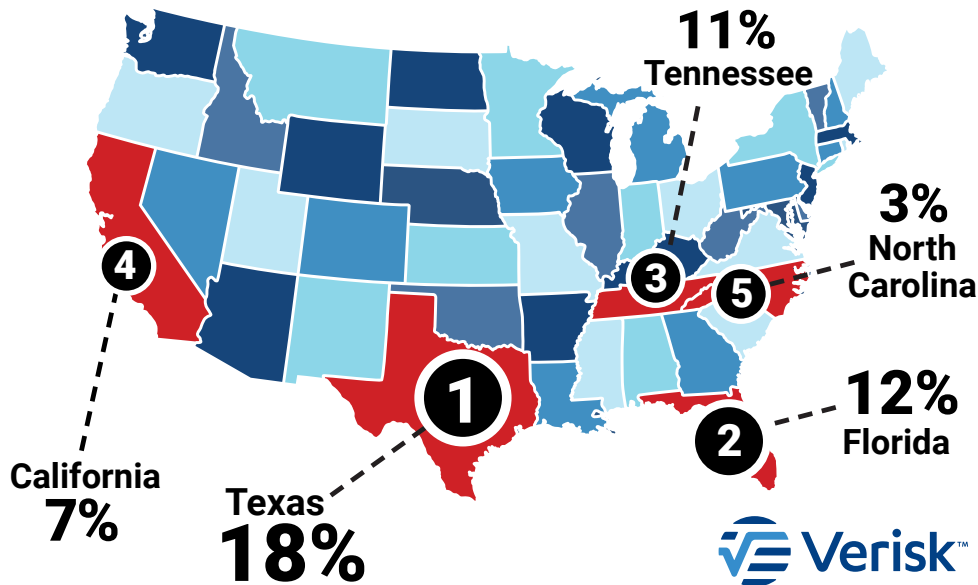


Over the last five years, there has been a rise in theft incidents reported to NER® during the July 4th holiday. Here is a snapshot of the events, including theft by state, equipment type, location type, theft type, and loss value from July 1 through July 7.

320

Equipment Theft Incidents Reported

Top 5 Targeted States



Top Targeted Location Type



1. Worksite



2. Dealership



3. Storage

Top Targeted Equipment Type



1. Utility Vehicles



2. Skid Steer



3. Mower

Total Loss Value \$7,046,606

Total Loss Value



#1
(41%)



JOHN DEERE

#2
(40%)



#3
(8%)



Bobcat

#4
(6%)



YAMAHA

#5
(6%)



NER's July 4th Security Tips and Best Practices

NER® wishes all our clients and law enforcement partners a happy and safe July 4th holiday. We also encourage everyone to take steps to make it a crime-free holiday.

The July 4th holiday is usually one of the most active periods for equipment theft nationwide, with the high demand for equipment in the summer months. All areas should consider equipment theft to be a threat just before and over the holiday.

As with Memorial Day, the trends shows that dealer yard and job site burglaries over the holiday are always an issue. Thieves also will target storage locations including contractor's yards and facilities such as golf courses and parks and recreation facilities.

Equipment rental fraud and conversion thefts have continued to plague the industry, since a surge in 2018. Fraudsters are still active nationwide in 2022, and outright thefts from rental business yards are on the increase. NER anticipates that fraudsters and "smash and grab" thieves will be active throughout this summer as they were in the spring. The holiday weekend may provide opportunities thieves won't pass up.

Try to do something proactive to prevent equipment crimes. Small steps and minor attention to details may be all it takes to deter an opportunistic thief. Below are a few fundamentals for both law enforcement and equipment owners.

Please report any theft or fraud to [NER online](#), or email NER at info@ner.net.

Equipment Crime Warning Signs

NER asks both Law Enforcement and the Industry to be watchful of activity that seems out of place:

- Trucks parked at job sites, rental yards and dealerships that do not belong to the company; especially box vans, U-hauls and enclosed racecar hauler type trailers.
- Vehicles parked in vacant lots and parking lots adjoining closed industry businesses, especially with occupants loitering in the area.
- Gates left open at industry facilities when it's clear the facility is shut down.
- Late night or early morning activity inside a yard, construction site, farm or store throughout the holiday.
- Overloaded trucks and improperly secured equipment transported throughout the holiday.

Law Enforcement personnel are encouraged to verify ownership or rental status on any equipment in-transit as it may be an undiscovered theft. Contact NICB 24 hours a day for access to NER's equipment ownership registration data and fleet records 800-447-6282.

Industry personnel are encouraged to contact local Law Enforcement (911) about any suspicious activity; being in the industry you know when something does not seem right - *don't let it go*.

National Equipment Register®

For more information about **NER**®
Visit our website at www.ner.net or call
1-866-663-7872

Be Proactive - A few ideas for both the Industry and Law Enforcement.

Industry

- Use the [NER Spring Crime Prevention Tune-Up](#) to make security a part of your equipment return or intake process.
- Confirm that alarms and lighting are all operating properly. Frequent false alarms may be a test of your responsiveness; watch for vehicles "casing" your property.
- Test cameras in daylight and after dark to confirm you capture usable images of license plates, faces, and vehicles.
- Don't assume that fences and gates provide a complete barrier to adjoining businesses and vacant land. Walk your fence line to be sure everything is intact. Thieves have partially cut fence posts or stack materials near a wall in preparation.
- Move light or highly targeted equipment into service bays and away from the fence.
- Do not stage machines and trucks in a way that they provide cover to thieves.
- Contact neighboring businesses, especially those which will be open during the holiday; raise their awareness so that thefts in progress are reported to 911. Be sure they have your emergency contact information.
- Designate someone to check up on the facility at different times during the holiday. Random activity at your location could spoil a thief's planning.
- Don't leave ANYTHING on a trailer. Secure any trailers, whether loaded or not, so that thieves cannot use them to steal your equipment.

Law Enforcement

- Confirm that patrol and dispatch personnel are aware of the heightened equipment theft threat, have a fundamental understanding of how to spot an equipment theft, and how to contact NICB for assistance at 800-447-6282.
- NICB can provide NER's equipment ownership registration information on machines, including most rental equipment.
- NER maintains emergency contact information for owners, fleets and rental companies whose equipment is registered with NER.
- NCIC cannot confirm a machine is NOT STOLEN. Contact NICB for NER ownership registration on any suspicious machine that come back negative for theft and verify its status with the owner.
- Law Enforcement may access NER's owner registration data online. Register for free by clicking "Register" at <https://application.ner.net/>

Review your fleet inventory on NER

- Update your NER fleet registration to add any new machines
- Physically verify that the serial numbers/PINs recorded on your inventory match what is actually on the machine ID plate.
- Confirm that your emergency contact details are accurate on your NER registration.
- If you have difficulty logging in, call an NER analyst 866-663-7872, or email info@ner.net.