

# HIGHWAY LOSS DATA INSTITUTE

## NEWS RELEASE

May 23, 2001

### WORST THEFT LOSSES ARE FOR TWO ACURA MODELS; NEXT ARE CHEVROLET CORVETTE, CADILLAC ESCALADE

ARLINGTON, VA – The Acura Integra, both two- and four-door models, heads the list of 1998-2000 passenger vehicles with the highest insurance losses for theft. Overall losses for these models are more than 10 times higher than the average for all passenger cars. Next is the Chevrolet Corvette sports car (convertible model) followed by the four-wheel-drive Cadillac Escalade, a sport utility vehicle. Insurance theft loss results are published annually by the Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI), an affiliate organization of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

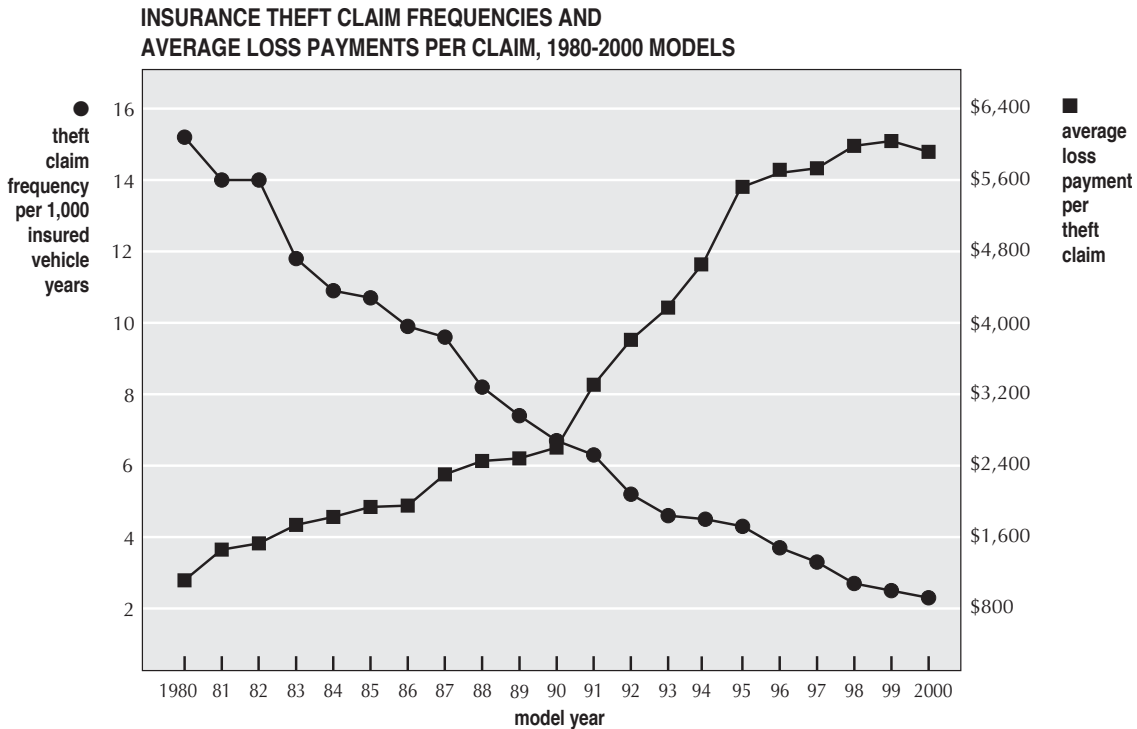
“Among the 10 passenger vehicles with the worst theft losses, four are luxury cars. Another three are utility vehicles, and two are small cars. This is the fourth year in a row the Integra has appeared on the 10 worst list,” says Kim Hazelbaker, HLDI senior vice president.

#### PASSENGER VEHICLES WITH WORST THEFT LOSSES, 1998-2000 MODELS

<u>Make &amp; series</u>	<u>Vehicle size &amp; type</u>	<u>Avg. loss payment per ins. vehicle yr.</u>	<u>Theft claim frequency</u>	<u>Avg. loss payment per claim</u>
Acura Integra	Small 2-door car	\$230	21.6	\$10,676
Acura Integra	Small 4-door car	\$182	16.1	\$11,336
Chevrolet Corvette	Small sports convertible	\$73	3.3	\$22,073
Cadillac Escalade 4-wheel-drive	Large 4-door utility vehicle	\$71	6.5	\$10,976
Lexus GS 300/400	Large 4-door luxury car	\$65	3.5	\$18,594
Mitsubishi Montero Sport 4-wheel-drive	Midsize 4-door utility vehicle	\$64	4.7	\$13,496
BMW 7 series long-wheel-base	Very large 4-door luxury car	\$60	2.9	\$21,113
Mercedes CLK class	Midsize 2-door luxury car	\$58	3.3	\$17,634
Audi A6 Quattro	Midsize 4-door luxury car	\$58	2.6	\$22,433
Lincoln Navigator 4-wheel-drive	Large 4-door utility vehicle	\$54	4.4	\$12,176
	AVERAGE FOR ALL CARS	\$15	2.6	\$5,998
			claims per 1,000 insured vehicle years	

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Overall theft losses (stated as average loss payments per insured vehicle year) reflect both the frequency at which passenger vehicles are stolen and the amount of insurance payments for claims. "Integras don't have especially high payments, but they do have by far the highest frequencies of claims. We don't know why these models have such high frequencies," Hazelbaker says. Recognizing the theft problem, Honda (which manufactures Acuras) equipped all 2000 and 2001 Integras with passive immobilizing antitheft devices. "We'll monitor the effects," Hazelbaker adds.



During the 1980–2000 model years, theft claim frequencies declined significantly, while average insurance payments per claim increased significantly (see above). Claim payment increases have slowed since the 1995 model year, resulting in a decline in overall theft losses after many years of remaining constant.

End 2-page release on insurance theft losses  
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