



Just Released

US Department of Justice – National Motor Vehicle Title Information System Annual Report (NMVTIS)

Always a great resource, this year the NMVTIS annual report has been expanded and includes a very complete section on state title brands that is very important for the states and the public to understand. It highlights how NMVTIS supports the integrity of the safety recall process when used in reporting of open safety recall vehicle status.

NSVRP would like to draw special attention to a few sections of the report:

The key stake-holders section (page 14 of report attached below) identifies key supporting stakeholders for NMVTIS. Both the National Salvage Vehicle Reporting Program (NSVRP) and the North American Export Committee (NAEC) are recognized for their efforts in supporting the under the headings of Law Enforcement (NAEC), and Independent Crime Prevention (NSVRP) headings.

The NMVTIS annual report state programs section on state branding has been enhanced and includes an important discussion on the range on state title brands and how NMVTIS uses a standardized set of brands to allow for unambiguous standardization of branding between the different states. (page 23-24 of report attached below).

The 2021 NMVTIS annual report also includes a two-page section (pages 48-49 of report attached below) on NSVRP and the role that we play in supporting NMVTIS. This includes a recognition of our role in providing voluntary standards for NMVTIS and NHTSA safety recalls which have been accepted and used in support of both agency programs. The piece also further explains how NMVTIS provides a key supporting element to the safety recall process.

NSVRP recommends that anyone who deals with vehicles should review the complete report. It is posted on both the USDOJ website <https://vehiclehistory.bja.ojp.gov/2021-annual-report> as well as on the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrator website <https://www.aamva.org/getmedia/87c13c04-c1b7-4a60-b138-ac6144e2e3b5/NMVTIS-2021-AnnualReport.pdf> .

The National Salvage Vehicle Reporting Program (NSVRP) is a not-for-profit 501 (C) (3). The organization was founded to support law enforcement and to promote and support efforts to advance the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS). NSVRP's mission is to support initiatives to control auto-theft and title abuse. NSVRP's Board of Directors consists of representatives of major law enforcement groups. The US Department of Justice has applauded NSVRP for developing reporting standards for NMVTIS reporting and has strongly encouraged the operator to adopt these standards as suggested voluntary compliance standards. NSVRP has been recognized both by the Department of Justice and the FBI for 'Exceptional Service in the Public Interest' for its public policy efforts.

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SECTION 1: OVERVIEW (Continued)

Vehicles excluded from NMVTIS include trailers, mobile homes (e.g., prefabricated homes, typically permanent), special machinery, vessels, mopeds, semitrailers, golf carts, and boats.

AAMVA has historically worked closely with DOJ on the strategic direction of NMVTIS. From FY1996 through FY2011, BJA awarded federal grants totaling \$31,455,623 to help AAMVA create and operate the system and support state development and implementation (Figure 1). The last expenditure of federal grant funds occurred in FY2013. Since that time NMVTIS has been supported by program revenues and contributions from AAMVA member funds.

Since NMVTIS began in 1996, several validation studies have been conducted to identify its benefits and/or potential cost savings to stakeholders. Links to these are provided in Exhibit 7. NMVTIS has received support across a wide range of beneficiaries, including but not limited to the following:

NMVTIS FEDERAL GRANTS	
FISCAL YEAR (FY)	AMOUNT
FY1996 (DOT)	\$ 890,000
FY1997	\$ 1,000,000
FY1998	\$ 2,800,000
FY1999/2000	\$ 6,100,000
FY2003	\$ 3,000,000
FY2004	\$ 494,739
FY2007	\$ 499,204
FY2008	\$ 271,680
FY2009	\$ 5,700,000
FY2010	\$ 5,700,000
FY2011	\$ 5,000,000
TOTAL	\$31,455,623

Figure 1

Law Enforcement	Consumer Protection	Vehicle and Auto Industry	Independent Crime Prevention
International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)	State Attorneys General	AAMVA	National Salvage Vehicle Reporting Program (NSVRP)
National Sheriffs' Association (NSA)	Consumers for Auto Reliability and Safety (CARS)	National Automobile Dealers Assoc. (NADA)	National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB)
International Assoc. of Auto Theft Investigators (IAATI)	Consumer Federation of the Southeast	National Independent Auto Dealers Assoc. (NIADA)	
North American Export Committee (NAEC)	National Consumer Law Center		

SECTION 2: STATE PROGRAM *(Continued)*

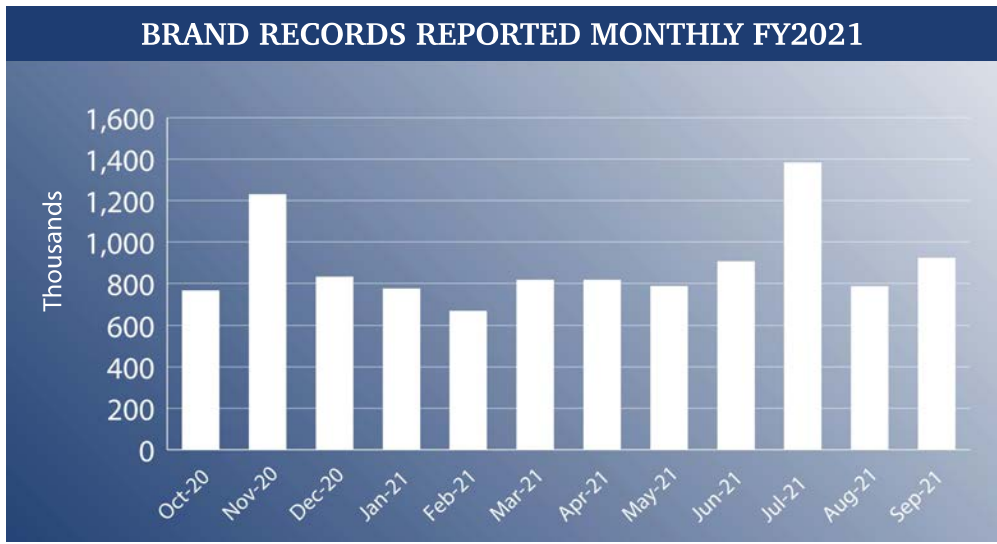


Figure 8

States have their own branding and vehicle status policies and regulations that are considered when they are in development or updating NMVTIS. These are mapped to a standard set of NMVTIS brands to ensure consistency and standard interpretation nationwide. NMVTIS brands and definitions are developed in conjunction with the states and are related to events impacting the safety and value of the vehicles. For example, a “Salvage” brand in NMVTIS indicates the vehicle would need to meet certain state requirements (repair and inspection) to be retitled and put back on the road, while the “Odometer Not Actual” brand indicates a discrepancy with the odometer information.

More than sixty NMVTIS vehicle brands have been captured as of September 30, 2021; the top seven are shown below. Three of the top seven denote a safety concern with the vehicle that could impact the vehicle’s eligibility to be retitled for on-road use. These brands are Junk, Crushed, and Dismantled, and represent 24% of brands as of the end of the period. The Others category includes the remaining brands ([Figure 9](#)).

“ The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles uses NMVTIS as a reliable resource in the fight against vehicle-related fraud in our state. It has considerably helped Indiana consumers with valuable information regarding a vehicle’s condition and history before purchasing a car.”

TANEIKA MCGUIRE
Deputy Director of Titles,
Indiana Bureau of Motor
Vehicles



SECTION 2: STATE PROGRAM (Continued)

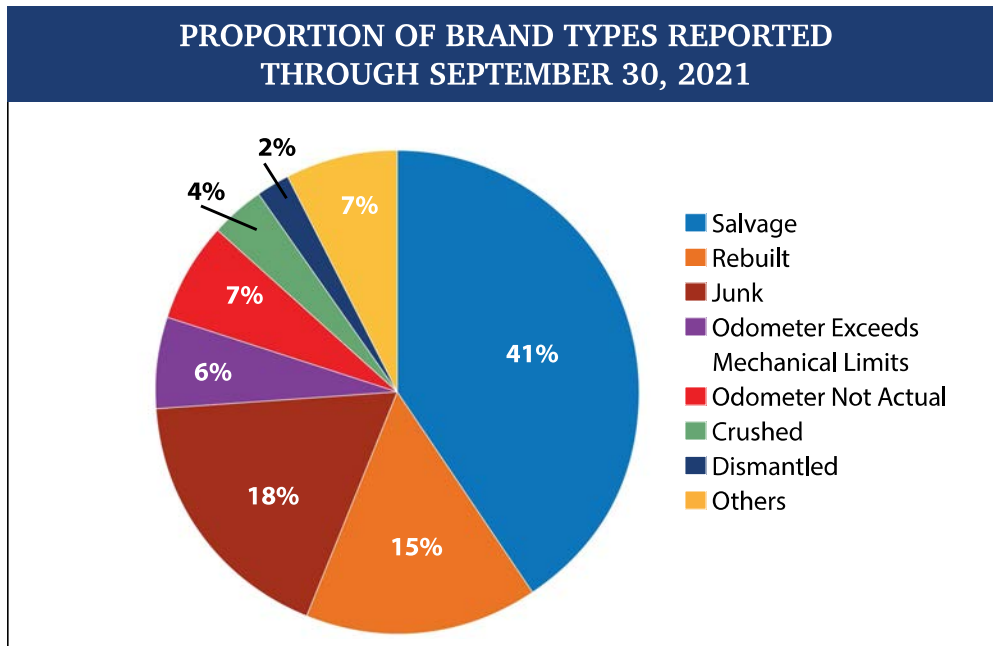


Figure 9

Reporting of brand types has increased from more than fifty-nine million in FY2010 to more than 172 million in this reporting period, an increase of 192% (Figure 10).

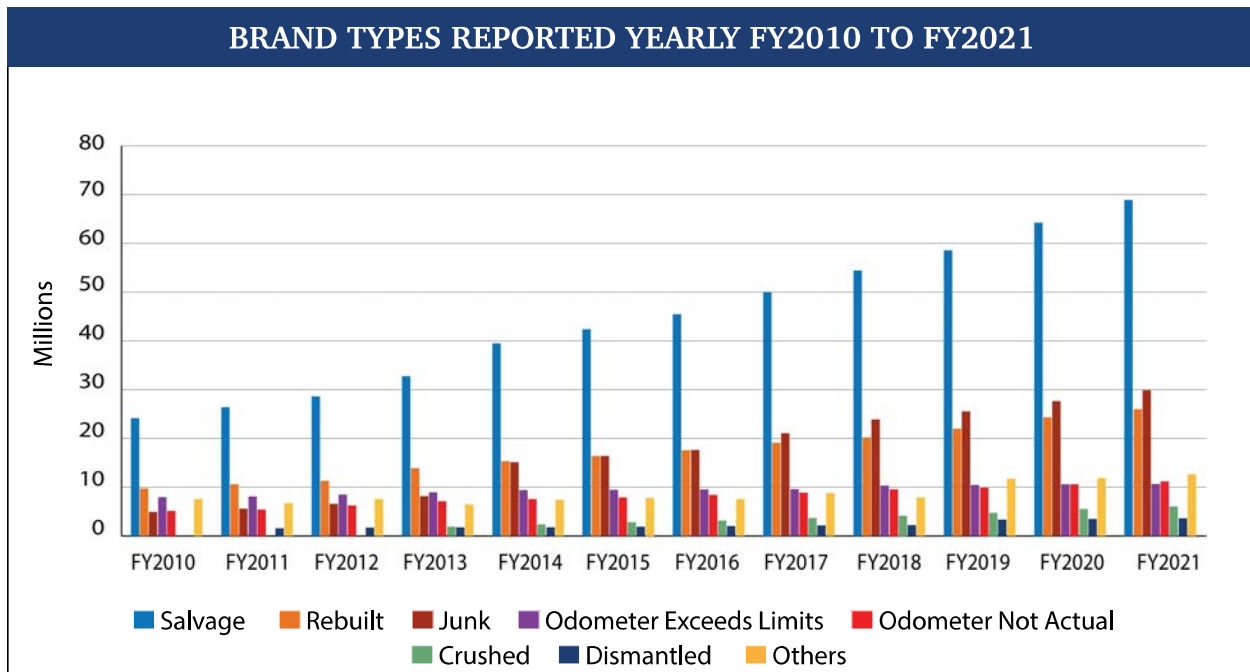


Figure 10

SECTION 2: JUNK, SALVAGE, AND INSURANCE REPORTING PROGRAM *(Continued)*

INTERVIEW: HOWARD NUSBAUM, ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL SALVAGE VEHICLE REPORTING PROGRAM



AAMVA spoke with Howard Nusbaum, Administrator, National Salvage Vehicle Reporting Program (NSVRP) about NSVRP and its relationship with NMVTIS.

AAMVA: Can you please tell us about the work of NSVRP, in general, and as it relates to NMVTIS? Specifically, what value does NMVTIS information bring to the NSVRP community and what value does the NSVRP community bring to NMVTIS?

***NUSBAUM:** NSVRP was established in 2008 and from its inception has worked closely in support of NMVTIS. The Bureau of Justice Assistance requested that NSVRP submit a proposed standard for junk/salvage reporting to NMVTIS. As part of the NMVTIS Final Rule, DOJ strongly encourages the operator to adopt these standards as suggested voluntary compliance standards. In 2009, NSVRP led the effort with one of the largest global salvage yards conglomerates to report their original inventory of vehicles purchased over the prior 20 years. Nearly all subsequent reporting of junk/salvage vehicles has followed the NSVRP junk/salvage reporting standard.*

NMVTIS serves the dual purpose of allowing for the standardized coordination of titling and branding information between the jurisdictions, while being the only mandatory and centrally controlled database for junk/salvage vehicle reporting. The introductory paragraph of the NMVTIS Federal Rule states, "The purpose of NMVTIS is to assist in efforts to prevent the introduction or reintroduction of stolen motor vehicles into interstate commerce, protect states and individual and commercial consumers from fraud, reduce the use of stolen vehicles for illicit purposes including fundraising for criminal enterprises, and provide consumer protection from unsafe vehicles." In this role NMVTIS functions as a critical and unique foundation for protecting the public.

What is not as well known is that NMVTIS also serves a very important role in supporting the safety recall process. During the early phases of the Takata Airbag recall the National Highway

Continued on next page.

SECTION 2: JUNK, SALVAGE, AND INSURANCE REPORTING PROGRAM *(Continued)*

INTERVIEW: HOWARD NUSBAUM, ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL SALVAGE VEHICLE REPORTING PROGRAM *(Continued)*

Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) requested NSVRP to develop a voluntary best practice/standard for recalls. A majority of car manufacturers have used this best practice/standard to report to NHTSA their Takata recall efforts. The best practice/standard relies in part upon data from NMVTIS, which provides immediate, accurate, and standardized information of state titles and branding, as well as the largest active database of junk/salvage reported vehicles. The NMVTIS information is then processed – along with other information available to NSVRP – into a standardized set of results on a per-VIN basis. These results are then used to classify vehicle recall status for the OEMs. The OEMs use the results to meet their reporting obligation on their recall performance to NHTSA. Without utilizing NMVTIS to retrieve the underlying standardized title brands it is virtually impossible to separate open recall vehicles into vehicles that have branded titles, but which still may be available for road use and therefore are a risk to the public, from vehicles with a destroyed vehicle brand, which no longer represent a risk to the public. Historically, roughly 20% of vehicles have some kind of branding, but of those the majority do not have a destroyed vehicle brand and therefore still represent a potential safety recall risk to the public if they are unremedied. This is another way that NMVTIS serves a critical role in effectively managing the safety recall process.

AAMVA: What opportunities do you see for NSVRP moving forward in support of NMVTIS?

NUSBAUM: NSVRP remains very active in highlighting the value of NMVTIS and to expand the uses of the program. We are a permanent technical advisor on the NMVTIS Law Enforcement Subcommittee and are also involved with the North American Export Committee, the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators, and with other key groups. NMVTIS has a role in all these areas. These entities and others can identify additional ways that NMVTIS can help support the public interest.