

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAA unveils its automobile insurance statistics Auto theft down significantly in Quebec

Montreal, July 31, 2012 – Groupement des assureurs automobiles (GAA) today released its 2011 Automobile Statistical Plan results on its new web site. Of note, auto theft continues to drop in Quebec and our auto insurance premium is still the lowest in the country.

Montreal remains the region with the highest theft rate

The theft rate (theft of whole vehicle) is 0.20% for all regions of Quebec. “This is a 64% drop since 2002. Montreal (central and eastern regions) has the highest rate of vehicle theft (0.48%), followed by Laval, Lanaudière and the West Island”, noted Jack Chadirdjian, Director, Public Affairs at Groupement des assureurs automobiles.

It should be noted that the average cost of a theft is higher in outlying regions (Northern Quebec, Abitibi-Témiscamingue and the North Shore), where it totals about \$20,000, versus \$13,649 for the province as a whole.

Comparison by age and sex

The data shows that claims frequency decreases with age, for both men and women, and this, until the age of 65, when it goes up slightly. Up to age 30, claims frequency remains higher for men than for women. Only as of the age of 30 is claims frequency virtually the same for men and women.

From 2005 to 2011, the average premium (collision, fire, theft, vandalism and broken window), declined 10%, from \$578 to \$536. In 2010, Quebec was the province with the lowest cost auto insurance, with an average premium (which takes into account material damage and bodily injury) of \$720 a year, followed by New Brunswick with \$817 and Ontario with \$1482.

Web site news

With its new website, www.gaa.qc.ca, GAA's aim is to have its role, mandate and activities better understood. The site now features tables and up-to-date statistics, an on-line service to access insurance to help consumers who are finding it difficult to get insured, a table presenting different accident scenarios that can be reported to the Fichier central des sinistres automobiles (FCSA) and an easy four-step process to request a copy of one's claims statement.

About GAA

Groupement des assureurs automobiles (GAA) groups all automobile insurers in Quebec and carries out the various mandates aimed at guaranteeing access to automobile insurance and streamlining claims settlement. For more information, go to www.gaa.qc.ca or www.infoinsurance.ca.

– 30 –

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