

# Crime in Colorado in 2022

The Data on Colorado’s Increasing Crime Problem

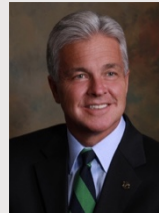
October 2022

## 2022 Criminal Justice Fellows



### George Brauchler

Served as the elected District Attorney for the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District from 2013-2021.



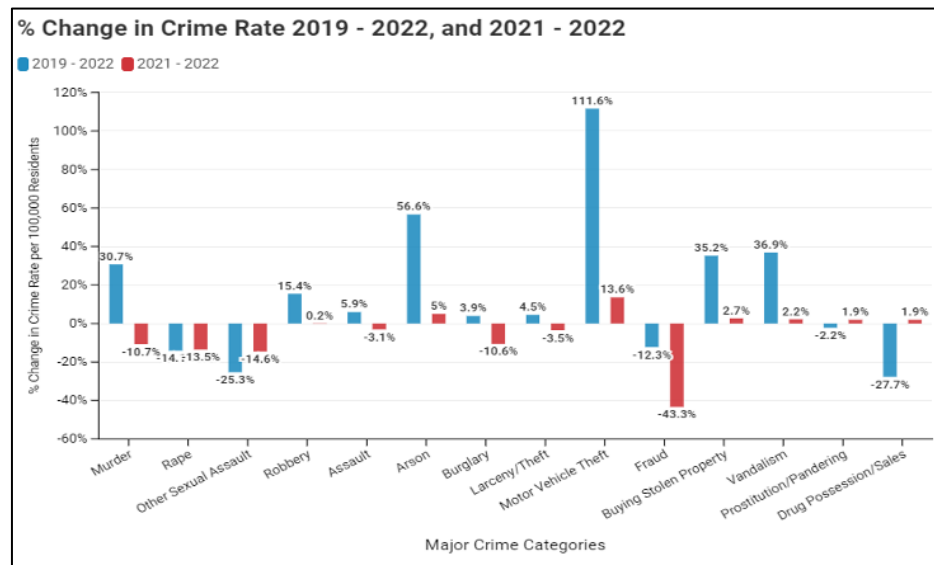
### Mitch Morrissey

Served as the elected District Attorney for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District from 2005-2017.

## The Colorado Crime Rate

- The number of crimes in 2022 increased in 7 major categories: robbery, arson, motor vehicle theft, buying stolen property, vandalism, prostitution/pandering, and drug possession/sales.
- Colorado ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in motor vehicle theft in the nation.** The motor vehicle theft rate has increased by another 13.6% in 2022. At this rate, there will be over 48,000 vehicle thefts in Colorado this year.
- Colorado ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in crimes against property in U.S.**
- Cases of fraud declined by 61% as frauds associated with COVID-19 relief programs receded when the programs ended.

*Crime rates in Colorado continue to top pre-pandemic levels*



**Compared to other states, Colorado ranks first in motor vehicle theft and second in property crimes.**

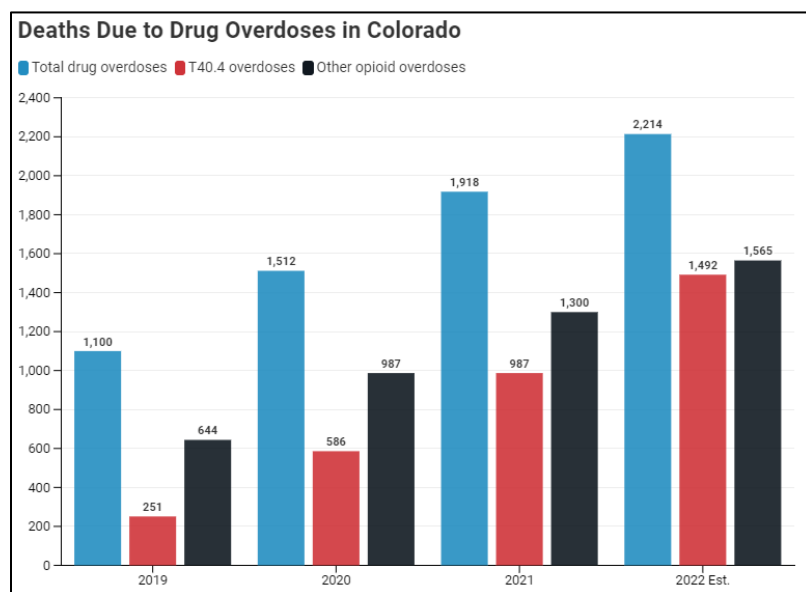
## Crime Across Colorado

- Out of 167 cities reporting across the U.S. in the FBI’s 2022-Q2 Quarterly Uniform Crime Report, **Pueblo ranks in the top ten** for all ten crime categories listed in the FBI’s 2022-Q2 Quarterly Uniform Crime Report: aggravated assault (8<sup>th</sup>), **violent crime (5<sup>th</sup>)**, murder (8<sup>th</sup>), **rape (2<sup>nd</sup>)**, **robbery (4<sup>th</sup>)**, **property crime (5<sup>th</sup>)**, **burglary (4<sup>th</sup>)**, larceny/theft (7<sup>th</sup>), motor vehicle theft (6<sup>th</sup>), and **arson (2<sup>nd</sup>)**.
- Among 69 major cities surveyed by the Major Cities Chiefs Association in their 2022 Mid-year Comparison with 2021:
  - Aurora ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the growth rate of homicides (35% increase), 66<sup>th</sup> in rape (32.3% decrease), 21<sup>st</sup> in robbery (21.4% increase), and **5<sup>th</sup> in aggravated assault (26.7% increase)**.
  - Denver ranks 12<sup>th</sup> in the growth rate of homicides (23.3% increase), 33<sup>rd</sup> in rape (3.8% decrease), 36<sup>th</sup> in robbery (7.3% increase), and 16<sup>th</sup> in aggravated assault (11.3% increase).

## Fentanyl

- In the first five months of 2022, Colorado law enforcement seized more fentanyl (2 million dosage units), than it seized in all of 2021.
- The Colorado State Patrol has seized enough fentanyl this year to kill 93 million people.
- **Fentanyl will likely kill over 1,500 Coloradans this year, nearly 500 more than 2021.** Between 4 and 5 Coloradans are dying daily from overdosing on synthetic opioids (including fentanyl) on average in 2022. This is up from 2 to 3 Coloradans per day in 2021.

**At current rates, 2,000 people will die from drug overdoses in 2022**



## Drug Trafficking and Overdoses

- According to the Colorado State Patrol, Colorado is in the midst of a 10-year drug trafficking record. Through August of 2022, drug seizures by the Colorado State Patrol are up 173% for fentanyl-bulk (412 pounds), and up 75% for cannabis (4,395 pounds).
- Comparing Colorado to all other states and the District of Columbia, Colorado now ranks 16<sup>th</sup> in total overdose deaths, up 7 places from 2021.
- Data show that nearly two-thirds of overdose deaths occur among people between 15 and 44 years old.

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