



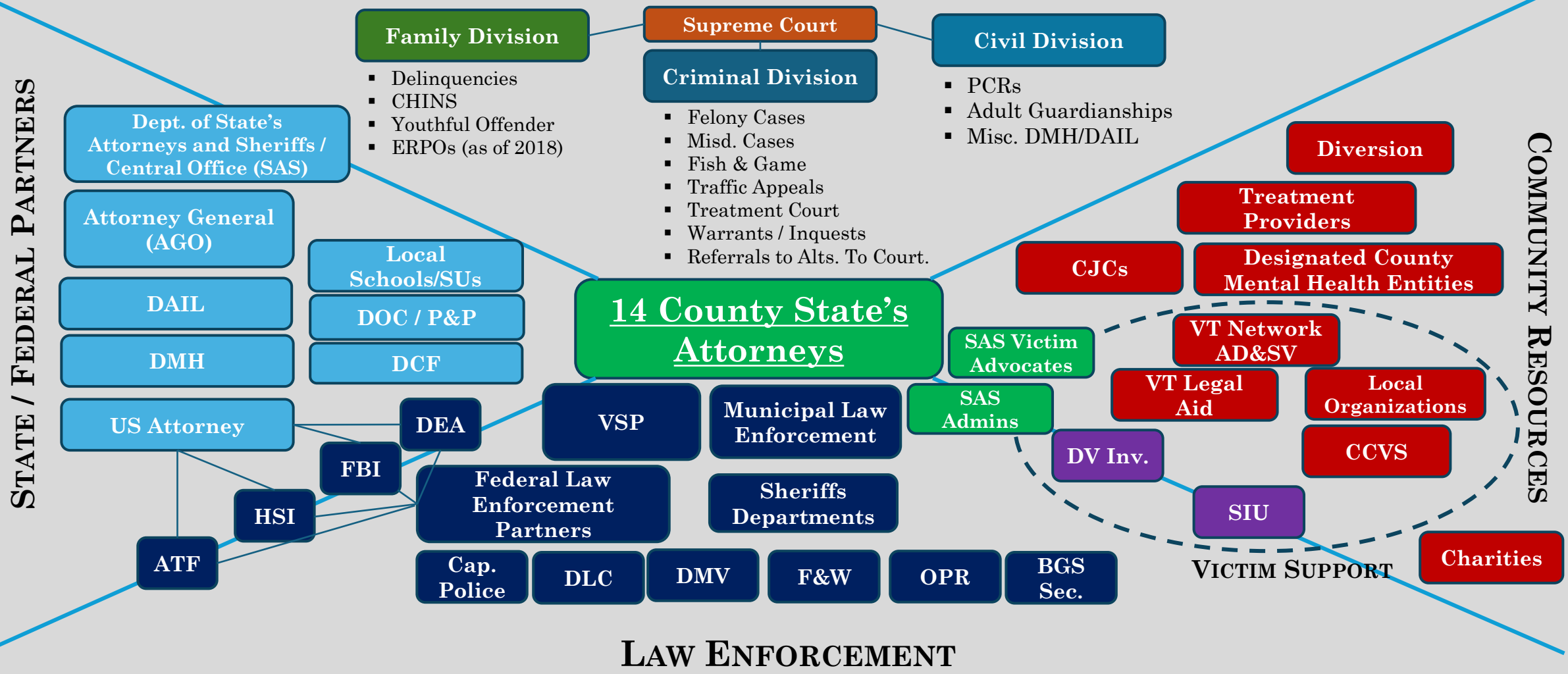
**Department of
State's Attorneys
and Sheriffs**

**Vermont Criminal and Juvenile Justice System
(SAS Context, Fall 2024)**

NOTE: This contents of this document are subject to change. This document was drafted for discussion purposes only.




COURTS & JUDICIARY





Context

In Annual Speech, Vermont Governor Shifts Focus to Drug Abuse

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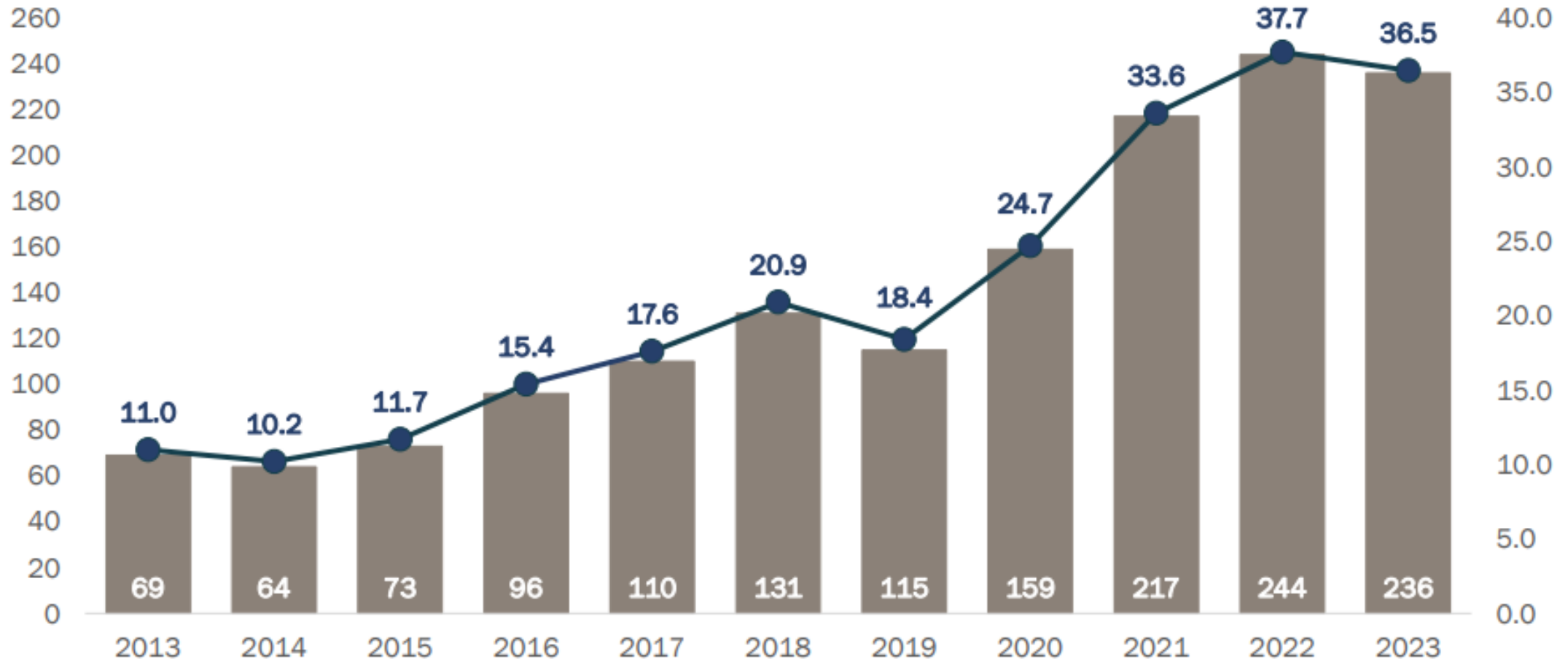


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Gov. Peter Shumlin, a Democrat, used his State of the State Message on Wednesday in Montpelier to encourage public debate on the growing problem of drug abuse and

The number and rate per 100,000 of opioid-related deaths over the past 10 years.



Source: VT DOH August 2024 Monthly Opioid Report

2024 Month of Death	Total Number of Opioid-Related Accidental and Undetermined Manner Deaths								
	Total*	Fentanyl	Rx Opioid (no fentanyl)	Heroin	Cocaine	Xylazine	Gabapentin	Benzodiazepines	Methamphetamine
January	15	15	1	0	11	4	3	3	1
February	16	15	4	0	13	4	3	1	1
March	13	12	4	0	7	4	1	3	4
April	8	8	0	0	7	3	0	1	0
May	13	13	1	0	7	8	2	4	0
June									
July									
August									
September									
October									
November									
December									
Total Vermont Residents	65	63	10	0	45	23	9	12	6
Vermonters in Vermont	60	58	10	0	41	23	9	11	5
Vermonters Out of State	5	5	0	0	4	0	0	1	1
Non-Vermont Residents	5	5	0	2	1	3	0	1	1

Source: Vermont Vital Statistics. All data from 2024 is considered preliminary.

*Involvement of individual substances is not mutually exclusive.

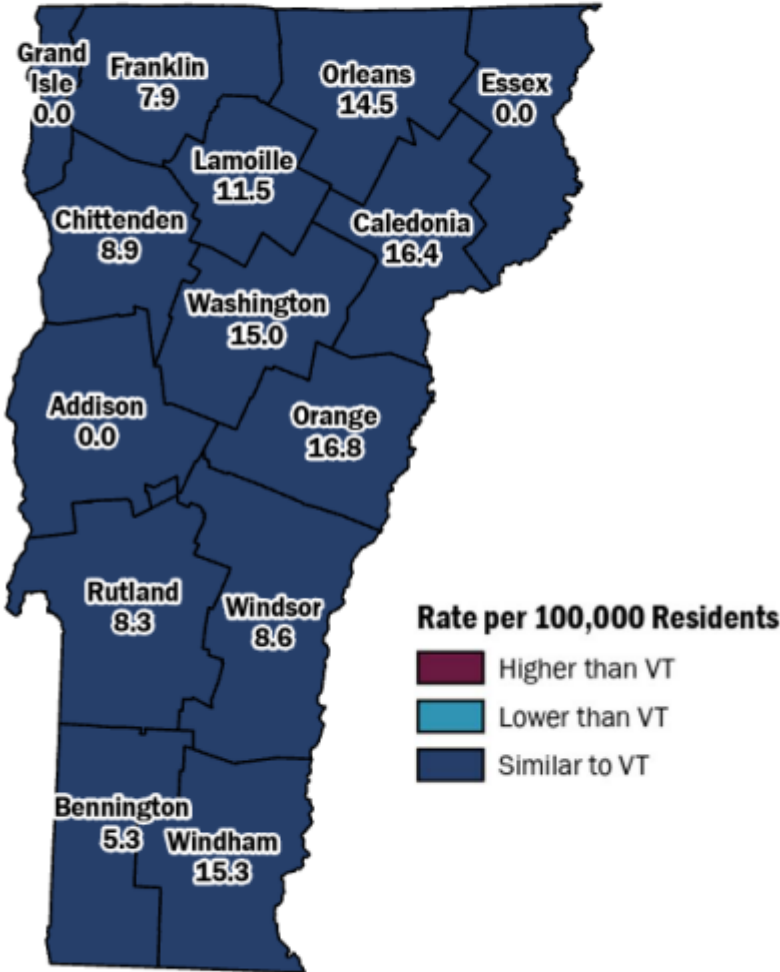
Please note there is an 8-week lag in reporting opioid overdose deaths. An 8-week lag minimizes the changes in numbers posted. Opioid deaths through the end of May are included in this report. There are **4** pending death certificates in January 2024, **4** pending death certificates in February 2024, **7** pending death certificates in March 2024, **5** pending death certificates in April 2024, and **10** pending death certificates in May 2024.

Source: August 2024 DOH
Monthly Opioid Report

Deaths

Opioid overdose death rates by county of residence compared to statewide rate (10.0), through May

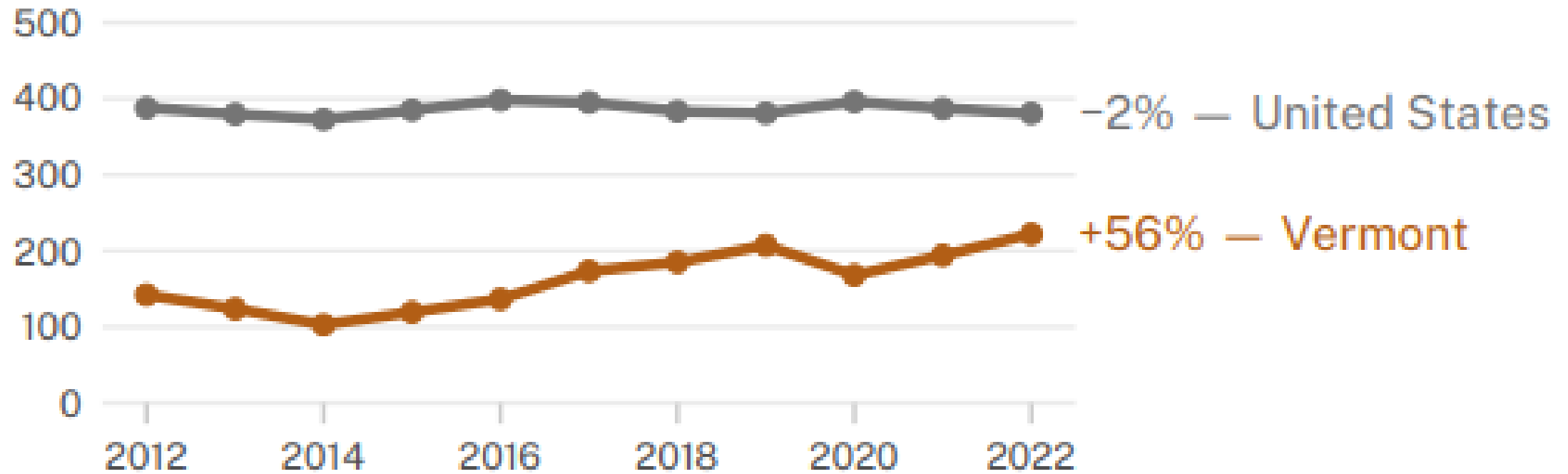
Opioid overdose death rates per 100,000 Vermont residents





CRIME DATA

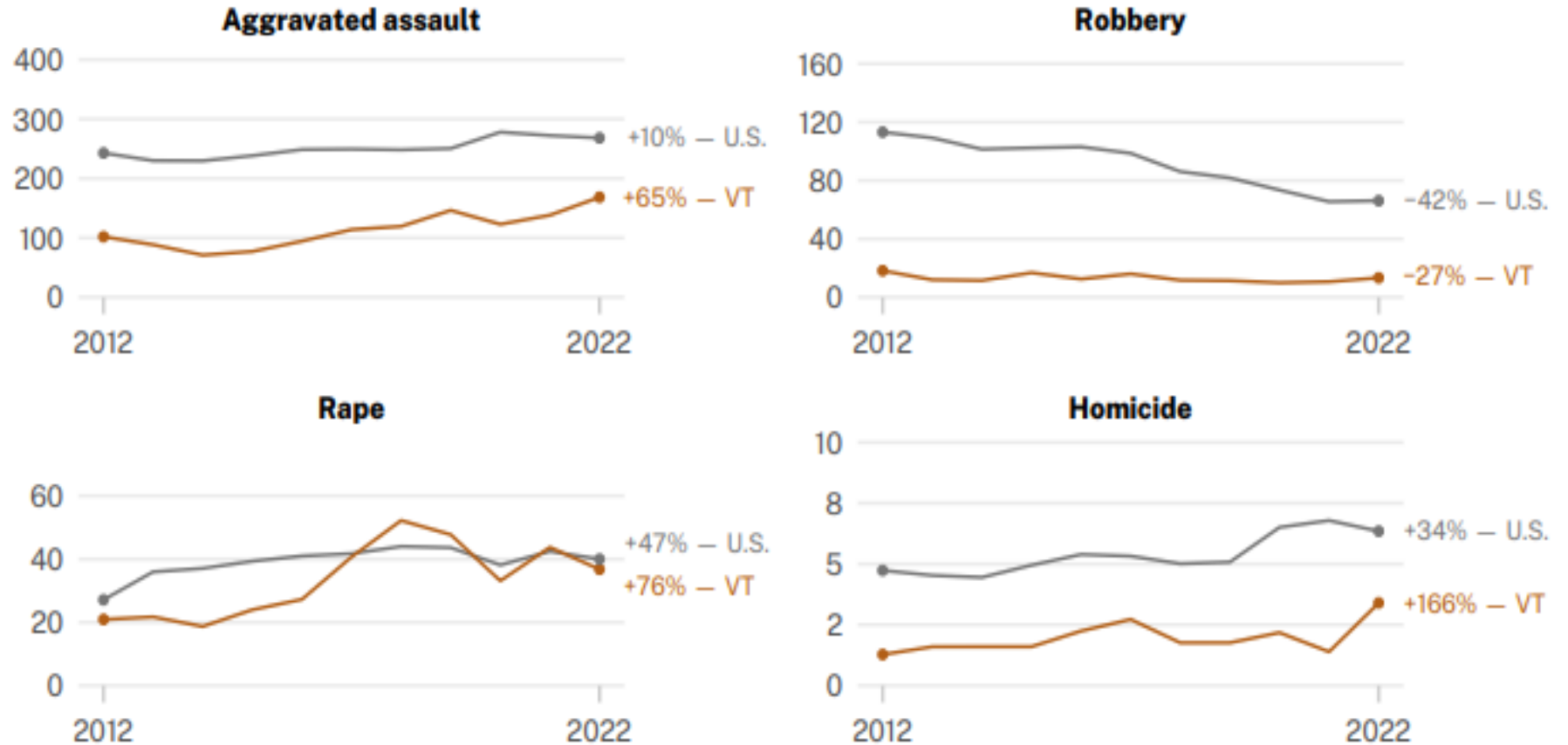
Figure 15. Violent index crime reported to police
Rate per 100k residents



FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program SRS



Figure 16. Violent index crime reported to police by offense
Rate per 100k residents



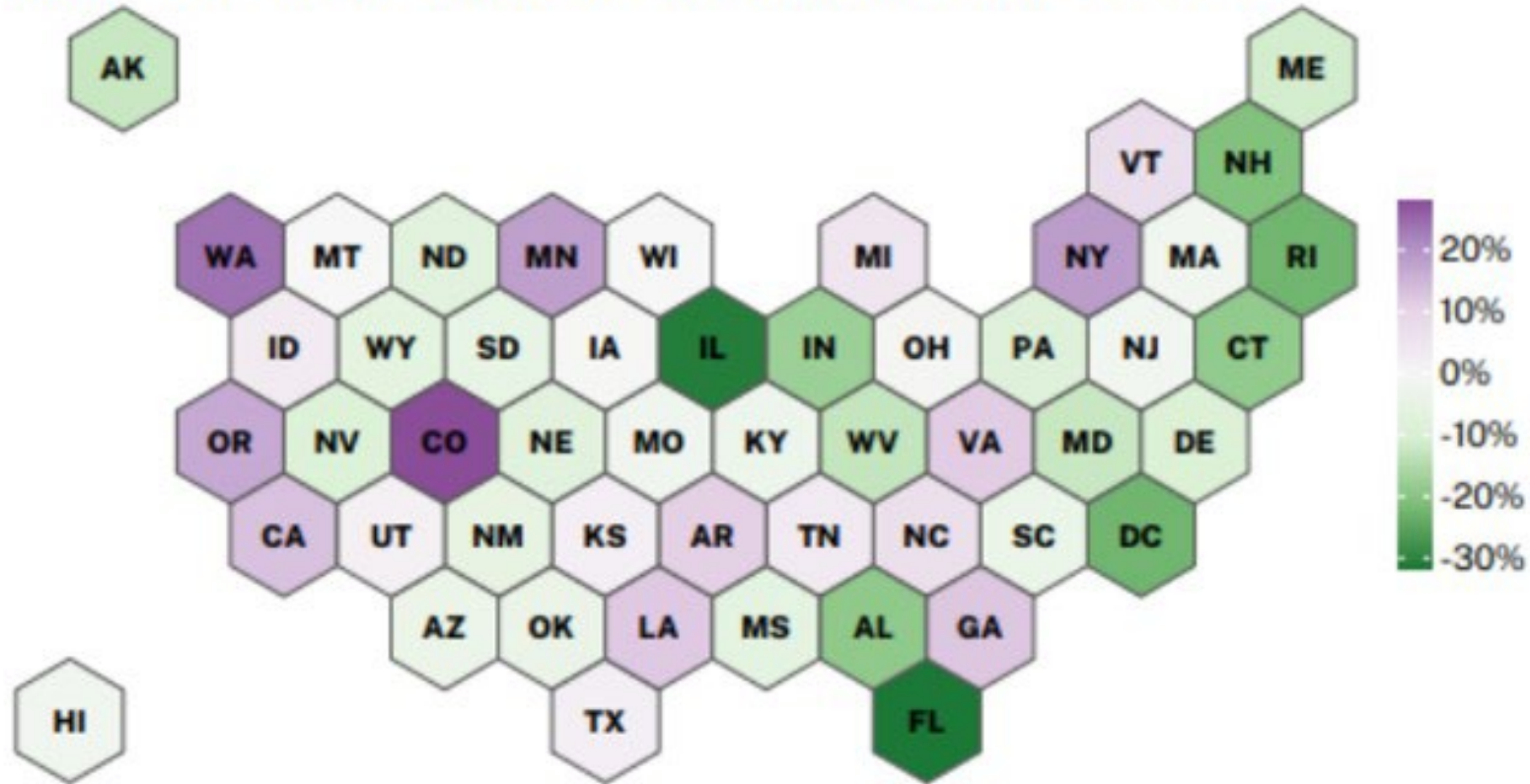
FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program SRS

Also of concern, https://crgvt.org/client_media/files/reports/Criminal_Justice_System_Response_Black_Victims_forDistribution2022.pdf. The Vermont Crime Research Group (“CRG”) produced a report ([linked below](#)) that discusses disparities in crime victimization.

- Vermont saw a 185% rise in firearm-related crime in 2022 & Vermont’s homicide rate in 2022 was about 3.9 per 100,000, “compared with Los Angeles at 3.1 and New York City at 2.3 per 100,000... Burlington’s rate was 11.2 per 100,000, exceeding the rates in Philadelphia, Phoenix and Springfield, Massachusetts....”
- FBI Data from 2012-2022 shows an increase in “Violent Crime” in Vermont across multiple categories – see charts to the right and in subs. Slides.
- In Dec. 2023, Rep. Martin LaLonde presented the attached data from the FBI showing that “Violent Crime” in Vermont is on the rise over the past decade.
- See here starting on page 4: [W~Martin LaLonde~Appropriations Public Safety Presentation~12-19-2023.pdf](#) (vermont.gov).
- See page 7: the “violent crime index” **shows that violent crime is up 56% in Vermont when looking at 2012—2022.**
- See page 8: **Aggravated Assault is up 65%; Homicide is up 166%; “Rape” is up 76%; Motor Vehicle Theft up 27%.**



Figure 9. Percent change in violent crime, 2019 to 2022



FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program SRS

The FBI stopped Uniform Crime Reporting Program Summary Reporting System (SRS) data collection in 2020, which decreased the number of agencies that submitted their crime data and thus reduced the reliability of state estimates in 2021. In 2022, they allowed agencies who were unable to submit NIBRS data to submit SRS data again. 94 percent of the U.S. population was covered in the 2022 crime data submissions to the FBI, with most states providing close to complete data. However, the population upon which the estimates were derived decreased by over 10 percent in three states: Florida, Hawaii, and Illinois, so conclusions about crime changes in those states should be interpreted with additional caution.



SAS NUMBERS AND CONTEXT



March 2024

Active Murder or Manslaughter Prosecutions.

100% staffed by SAOs.

	+ 2024	+ 2023	+ 2022	+ 2021	+ 2020	+ 2019	+ 2018	+ 2000	Grand Total
Row Labels <input type="button" value="v"/>									
+ Bennington	3	9	7	1					20
+ Chittenden		7	7	1	1	3			19
+ Caledonia	1	5	2	1				1	10
+ Orleans		2	2	3	1				8
+ Washington		3	3	1					7
+ Rutland		1	2			1	2		6
+ Windham		4	1	1					6
+ Orange		2		1					3
+ Windsor		1	1				1		3
+ Franklin		1	1			1			3
+ Addison		2	1						3
+ Lamoille		1	2						3
Grand Total	4	38	29	9	3	4	3	1	91



**(MARCH 2024) 3/1/24 STATEWIDE⁴ PENDING SAS CASELOAD CHART FOR ALL CASE TYPES
RANKED BY AVERAGE CASELOAD BY COUNTY**

(Criminal, Family, and Civil cases (excluding Appeals and Investigation-Related Work)) (But now including 5 pending ERPOS)

COUNTY (SAS ATTY POSITIONS IN SAO)	STATE'S ATTORNEY	DEPUTY STATE'S ATTORNEYS (DSAS)	AVERAGE CASELOAD PER SAS ATTY AS OF 3/1/24	TOTAL PENDING CASES AS OF 12/10/23 (INCLUDES SAS FAMILY, CRIMINAL, AND CIVIL CASE TYPES, EXCLUDING APPEAL AND INVESTIGATION RELATED WORKLOAD, but now includes 5 pending ERPOS)	PENDING CASELOAD BY RANK ACCORDING TO AVERAGE ATTY CASELOAD	NOTES: 91 pending murder, manslaughter (including attempts)
Lamoille (2 SAS ATTYS)	1	1	530.5	1,061	1	3
Windham (6 SAS ATTYS)	1	5	450.833	2,705	2	6
Franklin (6 SAS ATTYS)	1	5	389.33	2336	4	3
Rutland (7 SAS ATTYS)	1	6	397.42	2,782	3	5
Orleans (5 SAS ATTYS)	1	4	385	1,925	5 & 6 (tie)	8
Caledonia (5 SAS ATTYS)	1	4	385	1,925	5 & 6 (tie)	10
Bennington (6 SAS ATTYS)	1	5	352.833	2,117	7	21
Addison (3 SAS ATTYS)	1	2	326	978	8	3
Essex (1 SAS ATTY)	1	0	318	318	9	Part time SA.
Chittenden (15 SAS ATTYS)	1	14	294.46	4,417	10	19
Washington (7 SAS ATTYS)	1	6	290.4	2,033	11	7
Windsor (6 SAS ATTYS)	1	5	282	1,692	12	3
Orange (2 SAS ATTYS)	1	1	280.5	561	13	3
Grand Isle (1 SAS ATTY)	1	0	148	148	14	Part time SA.



People with Multiple Open Criminal Dockets

December 2023

# of people with	_____ or more open dockets	Representing _____ total dockets
8	25	297
20	20	558
59	15	1,198
157	10	2,287
689	5	5,587

March 2024

# of people with	_____ or more open dockets	Representing _____ total dockets
6	25	237
22	20	579
53	15	1,098
152	10	2,236
706	5	5,723

9/1/24

Statewide Backlog Snapshot

COUNTY	Under dispo guidelines	Near dispo guidelines	Over dispo guidelines	N/A**	Total Pending Cases
Chittenden	1,165	269	1,067	298	2,799
Rutland	547	94	824	90	1,555
Windham	431	89	748	142	1,410
Bennington	468	88	590	183	1,329
Washington	624	75	368	196	1,263
Orleans	240	47	851	102	1,240
Franklin	642	97	317	124	1,180
Caledonia	199	46	684	178	1,107
Windsor	314	54	408	94	870
Lamoille	223	40	213	76	552
Addison	186	30	119	33	368
Orange	136	26	166	26	354
Essex	68	11	120	30	229
Grand Isle	23	7	25	13	68

Filing Data as of 9/1/24

COUNTY	Total by County	Average by County	Average Percentile	2023 October	2023 November	2023 December	2024 January	2024 February	2024 March	2024 April	2024 May	2024 June	2024 July	2024 August
Addison	377	34.27	23.00%	33	45	31	30	28	33	26	46	22	43	40
Bennington	1123	102.09	69.20%	82	89	72	128	101	84	96	126	97	130	118
Caledonia	552	50.18	38.40%	68	54	73	67	48	39	48	43	31	36	45
Chittenden	2783	253.00	100.00%	241	263	244	312	220	283	261	227	257	203	272
Essex	99	9.00	7.60%	10	4	13	7	8	13	12	12	8	6	6
Franklin	1208	109.82	76.90%	122	87	96	116	102	106	97	123	115	132	112
Grand Isle	57	5.18	0.00%	16	3	5	1	2	1	6	5	7	4	7
Lamoille	495	45.00	30.70%	40	38	53	54	38	40	41	51	40	45	55
Orange	330	30.00	15.30%	26	21	18	28	31	45	30	43	23	35	30
Orleans	783	71.18	53.80%	64	58	57	85	59	76	69	91	72	78	74
Rutland	1371	124.64	92.30%	139	96	107	122	116	140	134	119	124	146	128
Washington	1325	120.45	84.60%	157	157	113	121	105	90	121	110	70	135	146
Windham	1120	101.82	61.50%	97	104	91	90	84	111	103	109	111	135	85
Windsor	774	70.36	46.10%	79	72	68	74	48	55	58	77	77	79	87

Clearance Rates

	# of months over 100% Clearance Rate	2022	2023	2023						2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2024	2024						2024
		December	January	February	2023 March	2023 April	2023 May	2023 June	2023 July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	2024 March	2024 April	2024 May	2024 June	2024 July	August
		Addison	8	207%	69%	133%	300%	91%	75%	98%	89%	62%	76%	111%	86%	85%	131%	105%	143%	202%	85%	87%
Bennington	9	59%	97%	132%	62%	92%	111%	65%	95%	88%	88%	128%	101%	130%	95%	129%	139%	128%	126%	98%	97%	77%
Caledonia	8	93%	63%	85%	200%	197%	179%	71%	72%	99%	130%	94%	98%	75%	97%	100%	241%	152%	145%	131%	75%	91%
Chittenden	11	75%	114%	67%	105%	122%	83%	80%	107%	69%	118%	88%	78%	95%	114%	86%	109%	104%	126%	104%	126%	85%
Essex	8	114%	85%	136%	325%	94%	125%	65%	78%	77%	108%	100%	183%	150%	75%	147%	59%	70%	70%	94%	60%	95%
Franklin	8	128%	101%	91%	217%	105%	62%	135%	111%	89%	80%	99%	140%	85%	71%	84%	84%	114%	98%	85%	65%	90%
Grand Isle	12	100%	120%	110%	85%	64%	72%	130%	263%	67%	75%	55%	240%	113%	138%	267%	160%	171%	163%	44%	25%	130%
Lamoille	12	74%	57%	95%	85%	191%	239%	119%	154%	113%	102%	179%	166%	87%	134%	157%	68%	147%	96%	76%	112%	78%
Orange	9	83%	65%	94%	86%	88%	90%	94%	58%	56%	90%	122%	161%	178%	138%	103%	65%	106%	127%	115%	111%	48%
Orleans	14	59%	75%	75%	147%	101%	83%	114%	68%	115%	109%	145%	96%	110%	93%	173%	110%	117%	112%	126%	180%	114%
Rutland	19	142%	108%	106%	114%	153%	117%	109%	105%	138%	160%	115%	123%	136%	133%	145%	122%	123%	111%	121%	96%	78%
Washington	11	124%	147%	122%	114%	83%	107%	91%	64%	109%	97%	98%	87%	90%	115%	107%	96%	103%	121%	129%	93%	85%
Windham	11	124%	101%	112%	275%	117%	104%	64%	92%	93%	97%	108%	119%	93%	99%	113%	73%	105%	73%	89%	88%	130%
Windsor	11	121%	84%	130%	136%	111%	129%	73%	98%	111%	109%	102%	122%	79%	102%	99%	105%	83%	88%	90%	74%	70%
Counties over 100% Clearance Rate		7	6	8	10	8	8	5	5	5	7	8	9	6	8	10	8	12	8	6	4	3



LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

“MAJOR” 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION LEGISLATION WITH OVERLAP TO SAS WORK

ENACTED:

- [\(Act 120\) S.209 – Ghost Guns and Polling Places etc.](#)
- [\(Act 125\) S.58 – Drug trafficking, Willful Blindness, “Big 12” expansion*](#)
- [\(Act 128\) H.534 – Retail Theft Amendments](#)
- [\(Act 129\) H.563 – Auto Theft and Theft from cars etc.](#)
- [\(Act 138\) S.195 – Changes to the Bail Statute, New Pre-Trial Supervision, Expansion of Home Detention, etc., Work-Crew.](#)
- [\(Act 89\) S.190 – Statements Made by a Child Victim of an Offense Involving Serious Bodily Injury, Hearsay and Deposition Exceptions](#)
- [\(Act 102\) H.694 – Sexual Exploitation, Broadening the Definitions to account for acts and conduct](#)
- [\(Act 116\) S.196 – Types of Evidence in Prong 2 for WOE / HWB \(Dana N. / Daron R.\)](#)
- [\(Act 137\) S. 192 – Was the Forensic Facility bill but no longer](#)
- [\(Act 153\) H. 614 – Timber Theft and Land Improvement Fraud, amending home improvement fraud statute to include land improvement fraud](#)
- [\(Act 161\) H.878 – Misc. JUD. Bill](#)
- [\(Act 159\) H.876 – Misc. DOC Bill](#)
- [\(Act 167\) H.626 – Animal Welfare Bill, creates VSP Director for Animal Abuse Cases](#)
- [\(Act 172\) H.173 – Manipulation of a child amendments](#)
- [\(Act 174\) H.655 – Sealing Study](#)
- [\(Act 180\) H.645 – Pre-Charge, CJs, “codifying” \(Veto Override\)](#)
- [\(Act 178\) H.72 – OD Prevention Bill \(Veto Override\)](#)

BY THE NUMBERS: (2023-2024)

- [1206 bills introduced \(House and Senate\), roughly 230 with overlap to the criminal / juvenile justice systems \(SAS work\) – meaning, 20% of all legislation introduced has some nexus to SAS work](#)
- [248 bill passed both chambers](#)
- [Of the 248 passed by both chambers, as of 6/10/24, 16 were vetoed by the Governor and 184 were enacted into law \(more coming in the coming days\)](#)
- [39 bills were approved by the House and Senate on the final day of the Session \(+\) \(Friday into Saturday\). Since May 1, over 80 bills were approved by the House and Senate](#)