Colorado Crime Trends

2026 Midyear Report (January to June)

DESCRIPTION: This is a summary of publicly available Colorado crime data submitted to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) by law enforcement agencies and published on Colorado Crime Statistics. All data are accurate at the time of extraction (see source after each table) and may differ from local jurisdictions' reports due to data submission delays or different extraction dates. Crime trends are useful for monitoring crime prevention and reduction strategies, identifying areas for intervention, and increasing awareness of patterns in crime. For questions, comments, or requests, please submit an ORS Request Form.

Summary

Violent Crimes

- The violent crime rate **decreased by 17%**, representing **2,396 fewer violent crimes**, from the first half of 2025 compared to the first half of 2026 (Tables 1 & 2).
- The aggravated assault rate **decreased by 16%**, representing **1,511 fewer assaults** (Tables 1 & 2).
- In jurisdictions with the highest crime volume, violent crime decreased between 9% and 18% (Table 3).

Property Crimes

- The property crime rate **decreased by 17%**, representing **11,425 fewer property crimes**, from the first half of 2025 compared to the first half of 2026 (Tables 1 & 2).
- The **41% decrease in motor vehicle thefts** represents **4,325 fewer motor vehicle theft offenses**. Additionally, the larceny/theft rate decreased by 11%, representing **5,287 fewer property theft incidents** (Tables 1 & 2).
- In jurisdictions with the highest crime volume, property crimes decreased between 6% and 14% (Table 4).

Colorado Governor's Wildly Important Goals

In an effort to make Colorado a Top 10 Safest State in the country, the Governor's Crime Prevention Working Group was established and aimed to reduce the following by June 30, 2027:

- Aggravated assault rate by 10%;
- Motor vehicle theft rate by 28%;
- Deaths by all opioids, including fentanyl, by 18%;
- Monthly parole discharges due to a new felony conviction by 5%.

The target motor vehicle theft rate was achieved in February 2026, and the target aggravated assault rate was achieved in June 2026. For more information on the progress of these crime prevention goals, as well as other statewide priorities in Colorado, visit the Colorado Governor's Dashboard.

Crime Data: Violent & Property Crimes

Table 1. Colorado Violent & Property Crime Rate per 100K and Percent Change (**January to June 2025 and 2026**)

Crime Type	2025	2026	Percent Change
Violent Crime	235.4	195.7	-16.9%
Homicide	1.8	1.2	-33.0%
Rape (Sexual Assault)	50.9	41.9	-17.7%
Robbery	23.7	18.6	-21.4%
Aggravated Assault	159.0	133.9	-15.8%
Property Crime	1,125.0	935.4	-16.9%
Burglary	139.5	110.9	-20.5%
Larceny / Theft	800.3	712.6	-11.0%
Motor Vehicle Theft	174.7	102.4	-41.4%
Arson	10.5	9.5	-9.6%

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), *Crime Statistics*, exported on September 1, 2026

Table 2. Colorado Violent & Property Crimes and Difference (**January to June 2025 and 2026**)

Crime Type	2025	2026	Difference
Violent Crime	14,188	11,792	-2,396
Homicide	110	74	-36
Rape (Sexual Assault)	3,070	2,527	-543
Robbery	1,426	1,120	-306
Aggravated Assault	9,582	8,071	-1,511
Property Crime	67,800	56,375	-11,425
Burglary	8,405	6,682	-1,723
Larceny / Theft	48,233	42,946	-5,287
Motor Vehicle Theft	10,527	6,173	-4,354
Arson	635	574	-61

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), *Crime Statistics*, exported on September 1, 2026

Top 5 Jurisdictions: Violent & Property Crimes

Table 3. Top 5 Jurisdictions: Violent Crimes, Difference, and Percent Change (**January to June 2025 and 2026**)

Jurisdiction	2025	2026	Difference	Percent Change
Colorado	14,188	11,792	-2,396	-16.9%
Denver PD	3,440	2,993	-447	-13.0%
Colorado Springs PD	1,962	1,757	-205	-10.4%
Aurora PD	1,630	1,454	-176	-10.8%
Lakewood PD	567	467	-100	-17.6%
El Paso County SO	390	353	-37	-9.5%

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), *Crime Statistics*, exported on September 1, 2026

Table 4. Top 5 Jurisdictions: Property Crimes, Difference, and Percent Change (**January to June 2025 and 2026**)

Jurisdiction	2025	2026	Difference	Percent Change
Colorado	67,800	56,375	-11,425	-16.9%
Denver PD	14,860	13,984	-876	-5.9%
Colorado Springs PD	8,302	7,118	-1,184	-14.3%
Aurora PD	5,182	4,652	-530	-10.2%
Lakewood PD	3,513	3,311	-202	-5.8%
Thornton PD	1,760	1,570	-190	-10.8%

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), *Crime Statistics*, exported on September 1, 2026

Crime Spotlight: Firearm Thefts from Motor Vehicles

Within days or weeks after being stolen, a firearm may be used in a violent crime (Cook et al., 2019; Wang, 2019). While firearms can be taken through residential or commercial burglaries, larceny/theft, and robberies, thefts from motor vehicles (TFMV) have become the leading source of stolen firearms nationwide, tripling over the last decade to an average of one firearm stolen from a vehicle every nine minutes (Szkola et al., 2024; Azrael & Parker, 2025; Testa et al., 2025). Firearm TFMV increased 54% in Colorado between 2019 and 2020, rising from 1,215 to 1,868 reported incidents (Table 5). Counts remained high through 2023 before declining in 2024 and 2025, reaching levels closer to those seen in 2016 (Table 5). Despite representing a relatively small portion of all property stolen from motor vehicles statewide (between 4% and 7%), thefts of firearms from motor vehicles represent a disproportionate risk to public safety (Szkola et al., 2024; Azrael & Parker, 2025).

Table 5. Statewide TFMV and firearm TFMV trends, 2016 to 2025

Year	All TFMV* Counts	Firearm TFMV Counts	Firearm TFMV Percent Change from Prior Year	Firearm TFMV Percent of All TFMV
2016	26,488	1,059	N/A	4%
2017	27,889	1,181	+11.5%	4%
2018	28,110	1,317	+11.5%	5%
2019	26,627	1,215	-7.7%	5%
2020	32,905	1,868	+53.7%	6%
2021	33,682	1,848	-1.1%	5%
2022	31,562	1,833	-0.8%	6%
2023	27,957	1,905	+3.9%	7%
2024	24,050	1,549	-18.7%	6%
2025	18,280	1,090	-29.6%	6%

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), *Crime Statistics*, exported on September 24, 2026
* TFMV - Theft from motor vehicle

In response to increases in motor thefts and thefts from motor vehicles, including thefts of firearms, Colorado instituted a combination of targeted legislation, proactive public awareness campaigns, and changes to safe storage laws. Senate Bill 2023-097 reclassified all motor vehicle thefts as felonies regardless of the vehicle's value and increased funding for specialized enforcement task forces. In May 2024, House Bill 2024-1348 was signed into law, requiring firearms left in unattended vehicles to be secured in locked containers out of plain view. Complementing these legislative and enforcement efforts, the Office of Gun Violence Prevention funded community organizations to distribute free gun locks and run safe-storage campaigns, and initiatives like the CU Anschutz Gun Storage Map assisted owners of firearms in locating accessible options for temporary storage. Together, these initiatives and resources mitigated motor vehicle-related crimes, including the thefts of firearms, in Colorado. As stolen firearms can move into illegal use quickly and are difficult to track, preventing theft of firearms from motor vehicles through target-hardening measures, secure storage practices, and directed policy changes remain a few of the most effective ways to disrupt this pipeline (Szkola et al., 2024; Azrael & Parker, 2025).

Additional Information

- Firearm Thefts and Recoveries in Colorado: 2019-2024
- Firearm Usage in Violent Crimes: 2019-2023
- In Detail: Violence Disrupter Programs

References

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