



Department of Public Safety  
**Vermont Crime Information Center**  
45 State Drive  
Waterbury, VT 05671-1300

## 2022 VERMONT CRIME REPORT

The 2022 Vermont Crime Report is made available by the Vermont Crime Information Center at the Department of Public Safety. The report contains an analysis of crimes reported by law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Vermont during calendar year 2022. Crimes reported to state police, municipal police, sheriff departments, and other state law enforcement agencies are summarized in the report.

### **Total Crime**

The Crime Report indicates the total number of reported Group 'A' and Group 'B' crimes in 2022 increased by 15.94% from 2021: from 24,072 reported offenses to 27,908 reported offenses.

Group 'A' crimes are considered crimes that are more serious and are counted whenever a complaint is received by law enforcement. Group 'B' crimes are a group of less serious crimes, which are only reported when an arrest is reported.

In 2022, reported Group 'A' crimes increased by 7.25% when compared to 2021; it should be noted the Group 'A' reported offenses are up from 2019, for the first time, by 5.4%. The most notable increases reported were Murder, up from 7 to 23 offenses in 2022; Robbery, up 37% to 93 offenses; and Aggravated Assault, up 21% to 969 offenses. The most notable decrease was Sex Offenses (combined) decreased by 8.6%.

Reported Group 'B' offenses increased by 55.8% in 2022 from the 2021 data; however, after two consecutive years with decreases, Group 'B' offenses are still down 27.5% from 2019 (pre-pandemic). Of the total increase for 2022, the largest offenses with an increase were Disorderly Conduct, All Other Offenses, and Driving Under the Influence. Disorderly conduct increased by 172%, with 272 more offenses reported than in 2021. All Other Offenses increased by 62.5%, with 1,344 more offenses reported than in 2021. Driving under the influence increased by 57%, with 824 more offenses reported than in 2021. However, it should be noted there was a 91.4% decrease in Nonviolent Family Offenses reported, down 149 offenses in 2022.

### **Crimes Against Persons**

Reported crimes committed against persons increased 4.9% from 2021; however, this is still down 3.86% from 2019 (pre-pandemic). Reported Murder (Nonnegligent Manslaughter) increased from 7 to 23 offenses in 2022; meanwhile, Negligent Manslaughter had a reported decrease, down from 6 to 5 reports in 2022. Two other offenses of note, for crimes against persons, with reported increases were Robbery (up 36.8%) and Aggravated Assault (up 21%). Also in 2022, Non-Forcible

Sex offenses decreased, by 52%; Forcible Fondling decreased by 33%; and Intimidation decreased by 18%.

Based on reported data, 3,877 individuals were victims of crimes against persons in Vermont in 2022; 1,326 of those were victims of violent crime as per the FBI's definition (Murder, Manslaughter, Robbery, Forcible Rape, and Aggravated Assault). Of those 1,326 victims, 17.9% were acquaintances and 17.7% were boyfriend/girlfriend. 58.74% of victims of violent crimes were women. Men and women in the age group 30 – 39 (384 victims) and 20-29 (376 victims) were more frequently the victims of violent crime than any other age group; these two age groups accounted for 52.5% of the victims of violent crime in Vermont in 2022. Victims over the age of 70 were the least likely to be victims of violent crime. In 75% of violent crimes where the defendant/victim relationship information was known, the defendant was an acquaintance, intimate partner, or a family member of the victim. This number decreased for the second consecutive year: approximately down 8% from 2021. In approximately 93% of the crimes against persons offenses, the victim received either no injuries or minor injuries; this is a 3% increase from 2021. Dangerous weapons, including firearms, were used in 16.5% of violent crimes; this number is up 1.4% from 2021. Approximately 58% of violent crimes in Vermont occurred in residences, this is a decrease of 1%, from 2021, for these types of incidents. Highways, alleys, streets, & sidewalks were the second most frequent locations for violent crimes, in 2022, at 18%.

Violent crime offenses involving domestic violence (incidents involving intimate partners) that were reported to the state UCR program increased by 21.5% during 2022. Most domestic violence, as defined by the FBI, offenses reported involved Aggravated Assault.

### **Crimes Against Society**

Crimes against society, not including drug offenses, were down 2.9% from 2021. Most notably, Human Trafficking decreased by 75%: down to 1 reported offense in 2022 from the 4 offenses reported in 2021. Secondly, Prostitution decreased by 57%: down to 3 reported offenses in 2022. This is the second consecutive year where Prostitution has decreased.

Animal Cruelty increased by 90.3% in 2022: up to 59 offenses from the 31 reported in 2021. This was the only crime against society that was reported to have increased in 2022.

### **Property Crime**

Overall reported property crime in Vermont increased by 10.6% in 2022 from 2021; this is an 11.6% increase from 2019 (pre-pandemic data). Residences remain the top target at 31.8%. Most of the reported residential burglaries are continuing to occur during the daytime. Burglary/Breaking & Entering decreased, in 2022, by 13.2%: this is a decrease of 156 reported offenses.

When looking over the past four years (2019-2022), there are a few offenses for property crime that have shown increase: Counterfeiting/Forgery, Larceny/Theft Offenses, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Stolen Property Offenses. Counterfeiting/Forgery increased in 2022, from 2021, by 58%, this was an increase of 116 reported offenses. Stolen property Offenses increased by 35.5%, this was

an increase of 64 offenses. Motor Vehicle Theft increased by 30%, this was an increase of 141 offenses. And Larceny/Theft Offenses increased by 29%, this was an increase of 2,139 offenses.

Over the past four years (2019-2022), there have also been a couple offenses for property crime that have shown a decrease: Burglary/Breaking & Entering and Destruction of Property/Vandalism. Burglary/B&E decreased by 13.24% in 2022, this was a decrease of 156 reported offenses in 2022. Destruction of Property/Vandalism reports decreased by 19.86%, this was a decrease of 671 reported offenses in 2022.

In Vermont the total property loss in 2022, due to criminal activity, reported to law enforcement agencies statewide was \$18,181,383 a \$7,080,122 increase from 2021. Property values are determined in accordance with the FBI's 'Guidelines for Property Valuation' found in the NIBRS Manual, page 107.

## **Drug Crime**

Reported drug offense crimes, in total, have decreased for the fifth consecutive year. Since 2017 total drug offenses have decreased by 43.47%: down from 1,921 reported offenses in 2017 to 1,086 reported offenses in 2022.

Drug/Narcotic reported offenses have also decreased for the fifth consecutive year. Since 2017 Drug/Narcotic reported offenses have decreased by 40.2%: down from 1,754 reported offenses in 2017 to 1,049 incidents in 2022. This trend is accredited to the decriminalization of Marijuana in 2018; Marijuana reported offenses have decreased 77.43% since 2017 (down to 114 reported offenses in 2022 from 505 reported offenses in 2017).

Drug Equipment Violations decreased 38% in 2022: down to 37 reports.

The most notable increases in drug types were Crack Cocaine and Other Narcotics. In 2022 Crack Cocaine was reported 306 times (up 29.7%) and Other Narcotics were reported 130 times (up 60.5%). Other significant reported drug offense increases, in 2022, were Other Hallucinogens with an increase of 7 reported incidents or 87.5%.

The most notable decreases in drug reported offenses (by quantity, not percentage) were Other Drugs and Amphetamines/Methamphetamines. In 2022 – Other Drugs decreased by 107 reported offenses (-62.6%) and Amphetamines/Methamphetamines decreased by 23 reported offenses (-25.8%). Of note is also Cocaine which has decreased for three consecutive years; in 2022, Cocaine decreased by 8 offenses (-4%).

## **National and Regional Comparisons**

In order to gauge the level and types of violent crimes occurring across the nation, the FBI has developed the Violent Crime Index. The Index is based on a sample of the violent crimes in a state. The Index only includes the number of Murders, Robberies, Aggravated Assaults, and Rapes. The Violent Crime Index in Vermont indicated an increase of 17.97% based upon definitions utilized in this calculation.

The FBI has also developed a Property Crime Index, which is comprised of the number of Burglaries, Thefts, and Motor Vehicle Thefts reported in a jurisdiction. The Property Crime Index in Vermont reported an increase of 10.6% from 2021.

Due to the FBI transitioning from allowing SRS and NIBRS data to be submitted to only NIBRS data being allowed to be submitted, in 2022 there was too low of participation for the UCR team to be able to produce national level tables; therefore, the percent of change for the Northeast and for the national level are not available for comparison.

Any differences in what the FBI publishes and what is seen in Vermont's report is due to the publication date of the FBI's data and the extraction of data date that was used for this report.

### **Federal Bureau of Investigations Crime Data Explorer**

Interested readers can access the complete 2022 Vermont Crime Report by accessing the Crime Data Explorer website at <https://crime-data-explorer.fr.cloud.gov/> and selecting Vermont on the map or by using the drop-down menu. Over sixteen years of crime data are now available on the website.

Crime Data Explorer makes it easy for the public to view standard crime reports and maps. Crime Data Explorer reports contain information on the time and day when crimes occur, crime location type, the amount of property crime loss, victim injuries, bias motivation, statistical information on the age, gender, and race of both victims and defendants and other crime circumstance data of interest to the public, law enforcement, public administrators, legislators, and researchers.