



COLORADO
Department of Public Safety

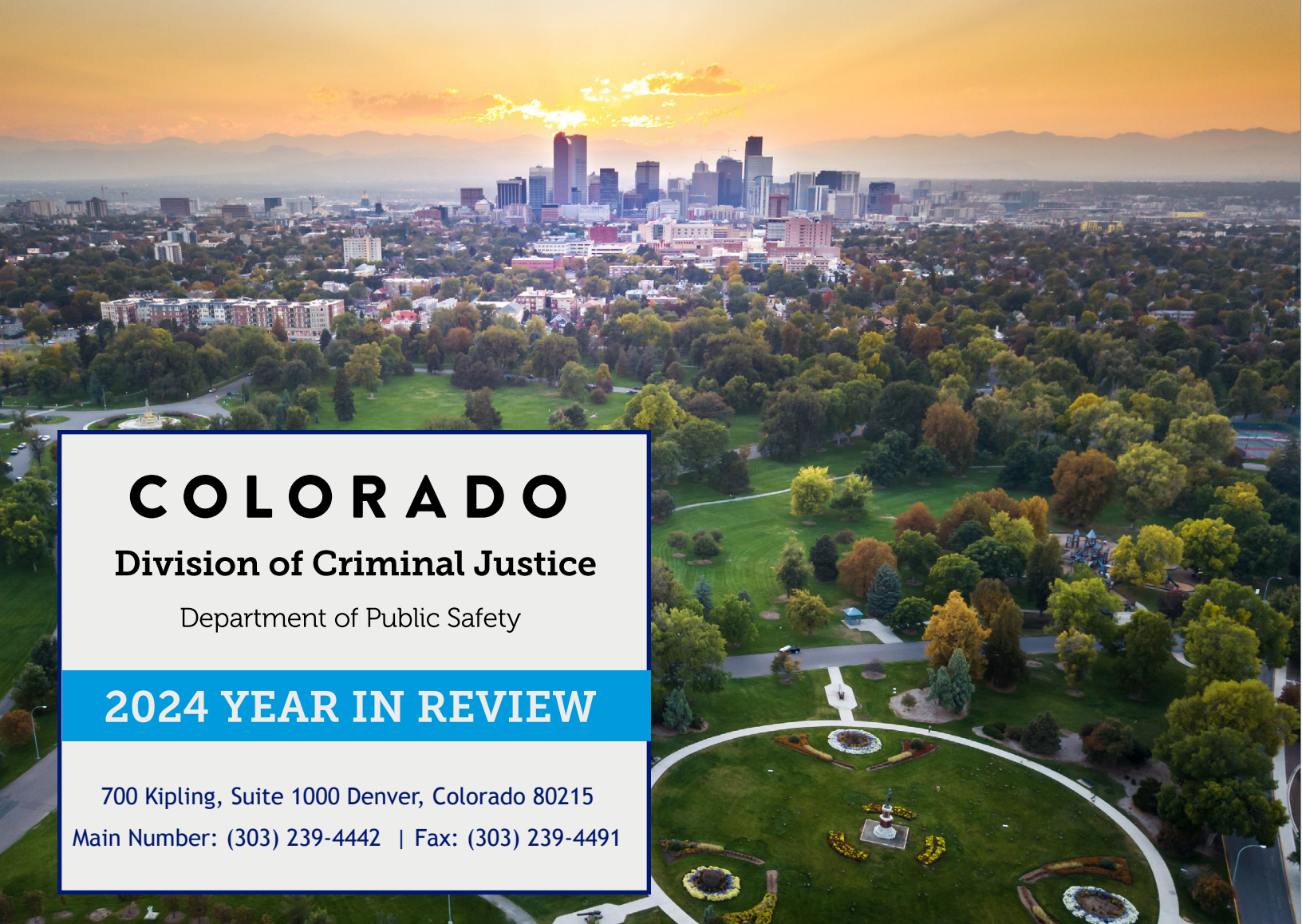


COLORADO
Division of Criminal Justice
Department of Public Safety



DCJ ANNUAL REPORT

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



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Division of Criminal Justice

Department of Public Safety

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

DCJ's work has never been more vital, and through the unwavering commitment of our staff, partners, and communities, we have navigated challenges with purpose and delivered impactful solutions that strengthen public safety across Colorado. Resilience, dedication, and progress defined 2024 for the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ).

In 2024, the annual report will show how our team focused on bolstering our ability to serve victims, justice-involved individuals, and the professionals who support them across Colorado. We expanded our team to meet the needs of Colorado communities and further connect critical resources, fostered new partnerships with law enforcement, non-profits and agencies, and advanced data-driven approaches to ensure that our efforts remain effective and responsive to the needs of our communities. From funding programs that help law enforcement better serve the public to supporting initiatives that empower survivors, our commitment remains unwavering.



Looking ahead, 2025 marks a pivotal moment for DCJ. We will build upon our successes by deepening our investment in data-driven decision-making, improving community corrections outcomes, and enhancing resources for all who call Colorado home. Strengthening our recruitment and retention efforts will remain a top priority, ensuring that we continue to cultivate a workforce equipped to meet the evolving demands of public safety. We are also committed to continue expanding access to grant funding, breaking down barriers for new applicants, and fostering a more welcoming and collaborative justice system.

The work we do is complex and requires a shared commitment from all stakeholders, state and local agencies, nonprofit organizations, law enforcement, and the communities we serve. As we move forward, I encourage each of you to engage with us in shaping solutions that create lasting change. Together, are building a safer and more connected Colorado for all.

Thank you for your dedication, partnership, and unwavering support. I look forward to what we will accomplish together in the year ahead.

Matthew M. Lunn, PhD
DIRECTOR

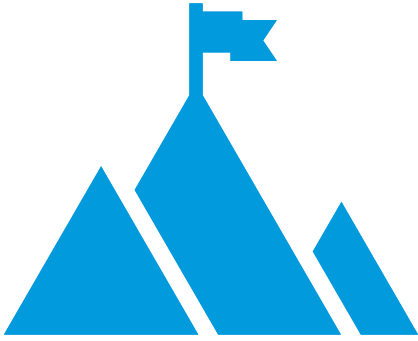


WHO WE ARE

Colorado Division of Criminal Justice

The Colorado legislature created the Division of Criminal Justice [DCJ] to “...improve all areas of the administration of criminal justice in Colorado, both immediately and in the long term, regardless of whether the direct responsibility for action lies at the state level or with the many units of local government” (§2433.5-501 C.R.S. 1973 as amended). ...” That mission is accomplished by supporting services to crime victims, conducting criminal justice research and analysis, and undertaking strategies that support the management of offenders. Promoting the use of evidence-based practices, the Division seeks to improve service delivery and promote systems improvement across Colorado. Federal and state statutes set the course for the Division’s work.

DCJ’s range of statutory charges includes technical assistance, grants management, data collection and reporting, victim assistance, the creation of standards for community corrections, sex offender management, and domestic violence offender management.



MISSION STATEMENT

DCJ's mission is to improve the safety of the community, the quality of services to crime victims, and the effectiveness of services to those who are justice-involved.

The team accomplishes this through the work of its six program offices and its office of administration by analyzing policy, conducting criminal justice research, managing programs, and administering grants.

CORE VALUES



OPEN
COMMUNICATION



RESPECT



TRANSPARENCY



INTEGRITY



INNOVATION



COMMUNITY
FOCUS



DCJ STRATEGIC PLAN

The Colorado Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) is at a pivotal moment in its history. As public safety challenges evolve, so must the approach to justice. DCJ remains steadfast in its mission to improve community safety, enhance services for crime victims, and strengthen the effectiveness of justice programs. Through research, policy analysis, program management, and grant administration, DCJ is forging a path that prioritizes innovation, collaboration, and collective progress.

At the heart of DCJ's new strategic plan, *One DCJ*, is a commitment to fostering a safer, more welcoming Colorado. This comprehensive roadmap is built on three foundational pillars:

1

Elevating and Being Responsive to All Who Call Colorado Home - DCJ will continue to prioritize community-centered approaches. Through targeted outreach, DCJ continues to ensure that justice initiatives reflect the needs of all communities.

2

Recruitment and Retention of Staff - Recognizing that its people are its greatest asset, DCJ is strengthening recruitment strategies and investing in professional development. By fostering and supporting career growth, DCJ is building a resilient, innovative workforce equipped to meet future challenges.

3

Enhancing Collaboration in Public Safety - Addressing crime and safety requires collective action. DCJ continues to improve data systems, expanding partnerships with law enforcement and community organizations, and increasing access to resources for rural and historically underserved communities. Through shared knowledge and aligned efforts, DCJ is driving more effective, sustainable solutions for public safety.

DCJ is also leveraging opportunities for operational expansion, enhanced collaboration, and mission-driven growth while proactively mitigating threats posed by shifting political and economic landscapes.

The *One DCJ* plan is more than a strategy, it is a call to action. Through continuous evaluation, stakeholder engagement, and data-driven decision-making, DCJ is ensuring that its work remains adaptive, inclusive, and effective. Together, as *One DCJ*, the Division is committed to shaping a future where all Coloradans continue to feel safe, supported, and heard.

COLLABORATION ACROSS THE SYSTEM

The Division comprises seven offices and works diligently to improve the administration of justice.

Offices Include

Office of Adult and Juvenile Justice Assistance (OAJJA)

Office of the Liaison for Missing and Murdered indigenous Relatives (OMMIR)

Office for Victims Programs (OVP)

Office of Research and Statistics (ORS)

Office of Community Corrections (OCC)

Office of Operations & Administrative Services (OOA)

Office of Domestic Violence and Sex Offender Management (ODVSOM)



OUR PARTNERS

- Crime victim services agencies
- Public safety agencies
- Community corrections providers and boards
- Sex offender treatment providers and sex offender victim services agencies
- Domestic violence offender treatment providers and victim services agencies
- Juvenile justice practitioners
- Colorado's Native American Community
- Colorado Commission on Indian Affairs
- Colorado Judicial Branch
- District Attorney offices
- Colorado law enforcement agencies
- Colorado Police Departments
- County Sheriffs of Colorado
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Business Community
- Colorado General Assembly
- The Governor's Office
- Colorado residents

DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

2024 was a year of substantial firsts and accomplishments dependent on open communication with key partners and stakeholders focused on communities:

The Office of
Administrative Services
assisted in the management
and oversight of a
\$206,417,879
budget.

ORS launched the
**Colorado Jail Data
Sharing Platform**
involving 20 jails statewide,
a first of its kind project in
the United States.

ODVSOM set a record by
hosting more than
500 attendees
at the 2024 combined
**SOMB/DVOMB
conference.**

During Fiscal Year 2024-25,
61%
of community corrections
programs earned some level
of Performance Based
Contracting (PBC) funding,
successfully expanding PBC
through earned incentives.

OAJJA fully implemented and
administered
seven new
state-funded Crime Prevention
Grant Programs, totalling
\$54 million
in grant funds to the
community.

The OVP and OMMIR collaborated
and co-presented on The
Intersection Between Human
Trafficking and Missing
and Murdered Indigenous
Relatives at the
**18th annual Indian
Nations Conference.**

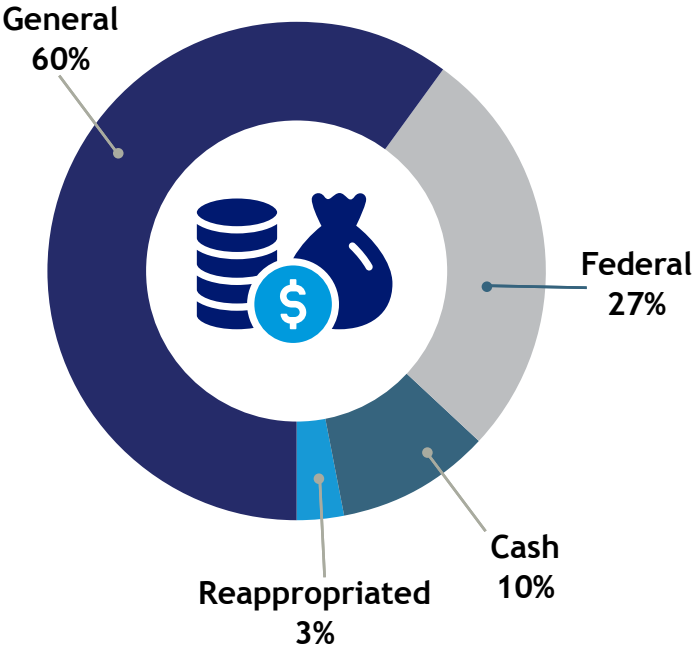
DIVISION FISCAL OVERVIEW

DCJ FUNDING AT A GLANCE

- In FY 2023-2024, the Division of Criminal Justice’s (DCJ) total expenditures were \$206,417,878.95
- The two largest revenue sources include federal dollars and state general funding.

TOTAL FY 2023/24
EXPENDITURES:
\$206,417,878.95

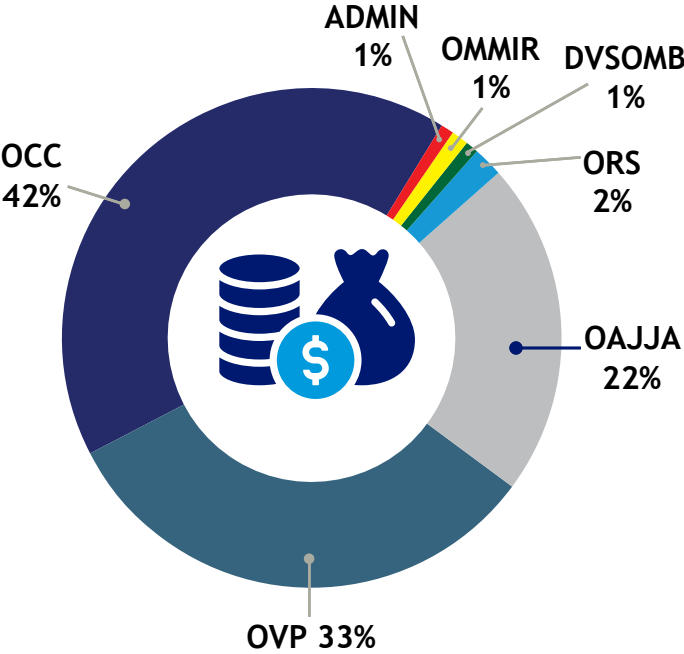
DCJ FUNDING SOURCES



Funding Sources

- General - \$124,360,829.16
- Federal - \$55,323,643.34
- Cash - \$21,437,303.02
- Reappropriated - \$5,296,103.43

EXPENDITURES BY DCJ OFFICE



DCJ Offices

- ADMIN - \$1,684,936.16
- OMMIR - \$140,430.80
- DVSOMB - \$1,787,861.64
- ORS - \$3,982,954.98
- OAJJA - \$45,475,693.18 (22%)
- OVP - \$67,621,991.94 (33%)
- OCC - \$85,724,010.25 (42%)

OFFICE OF ADULT AND JUVENILE JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION (OAJJA)

The Office of Adult and Juvenile Justice Administration administers nine federal and seven state criminal and juvenile justice funding programs. Additionally, the team supports the Justice Assistance Grant Board and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Council. Staff from OAJJA are actively involved in policy initiatives intended to improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

2024 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

Met or exceeded all JJDPa Core Requirement standards, which include deinstitutionalization of status offenses, sight and sound separation of juveniles from adult inmates, removal of juveniles from adult jails, and addressing racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system.

Developed a three-year strategic plan for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Title II Grant and a five-year strategic plan for the Bureau of Justice Assistance JAG Grants.

OAJJA implemented a new data collection system for JJDPa juvenile holding reporting to increase law enforcement and monitoring staff efficiency.

THE YEAR AHEAD

- Implement Diversity in Grant-Making recommendations by redesigning our grant solicitations, applications, review process, and technical assistance to potential and existing grantees.
- Launch the new Juvenile Diversion Coordinator position to build collaboration with local juvenile diversion programs and to develop statewide standard goals across all programs.
- Enhance and build technical assistance through our JJDPa monitoring and Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities with training and system improvement efforts.



OFFICE FOR VICTIM PROGRAMS (OVP)

The Office for Victim Programs houses a number of programs to support victims of crime. The programs include grant funding for victim service agencies, support for local victim compensation and Victim Assistance and Law Enforcement (VALE) programs, victim rights compliance, supporting statewide anti-human trafficking efforts, and supporting statewide responses to sexual assault.

2024 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

OVP staff continued to provide victim rights and human trafficking training. The Victim Rights Act specialist provided 37 trainings to 1,230 individuals. In total, 33 Human Trafficking training sessions were completed by 900 individuals.

2024 Legislation extended the Human Trafficking Council for another seven years and created vacatur for certain crimes for victims/survivors of human trafficking.

The Sexual Assault Victim Emergency (SAVE) Program assists survivors/victims of sexual assault who choose not to report their assault to law enforcement but still seek medical services. Through the program, 304 victims/survivors received assistance and more than \$300,000 was paid to medical facilities for the costs of forensic exams.

OVP staff awarded more than \$47 million in 2024 to grantees, allowing victim service agencies to provide direct services to crime victims throughout the state. Despite a substantial decrease in federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding for CY25, OVP staff and the Crime Victim Service Advisory Board were able to significantly mitigate these cuts. What was anticipated to be a 45% decrease in funding to grantees will end up being a 27% cut.

THE YEAR AHEAD

- Launch and award the CY26 Crime Victims Services grants in partnership with the Crime Victim Services Advisory Board. The request for applications will launch in January and the awards will be distributed in summer 2025.
- Launch the statewide sexual assault kit tracking system as a result of HB23-1199.
- Continue OVP's anti-human trafficking work through the Connecting Colorado grant, which includes the launch of a second version of the Multidisciplinary Team toolkit, and supporting two new multidisciplinary teams in new communities that are working to respond to the trafficking of youth.
- Beginning July 2025, every new law enforcement recruit will be required to complete the Human Trafficking Investigations: An Introductory Course through the Police Officer Standards and Training (POST).



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS (OCC)

Colorado community corrections provides a sentencing or placement alternative to incarceration and an opportunity for incarcerated felons to transition back into the community by providing individualized service and support. The OCC funds, regulates and collects statistical data, provides technical assistance, assists providers, and boards with the implementation of the Colorado Community Corrections Standards.

2024 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

Held the largest and most successful conference to date in October 2024, focused on *“Building a Safer Community Together.”* The event featured networking and more than 30 learning opportunities on topics such as trauma-informed care, opioid response, workplace stress and self-care, and leadership in corrections.

Hosted a 3-day Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for community corrections professionals across the state. The training provided interactive training developed, in collaboration with Denver County, featured real-life scenarios addressing high-risk, high-needs clients who experience mental health crises and substance use.

Entered the next phase of performance based contracting, increasing eligible payments for providers.

THE YEAR AHEAD

- Launch a renewed training curriculum based on a train-the-trainer model to meet the needs of our stakeholders following feedback on training needs. Release a comprehensive annual calendar to provide the field training planning for staff.
- Complete the first Core Security audit and PACE evaluation cycle for performance-based contracting.



OFFICE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT (ODVSOM)

ODVSOM sets and reviews standards of practice for the court-ordered treatment for individuals charged with domestic violence or sexual offenses. The standards are designed to enhance victim and community safety, promote offender accountability, and provide an opportunity for individuals to eliminate sexual, violent and assaultive behavior.

2024 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

The ODVSOM continued a year-long project designed to improve the Colorado Domestic Violence Risk and Needs Assessment (DVRNA). The DVRNA score helps determine appropriate domestic violence treatment, and a pilot study testing the revised version of the tool (DVRNA-Revised) continued through 2024.

ODVSOM annual Conference recorded its highest attendance of 500, which featured pre-conference seminars, keynote speakers and networking opportunities.

ODVSOM continued developing tailored outreach strategies and materials aimed at attracting licensed providers to the domestic violence and sex offender treatment profession to accommodate the needs of the community.

THE YEAR AHEAD

- The Sex Offender Management Board (SOMB) continues a strategic plan identifying the SOMB's goals and objectives.
- The Domestic Violence Offender Management Board (DVOMB) will continue to work on the validation of its risk assessment tool, the Domestic Violence Risk and Needs Assessment-Revised.
- As part of a marketing initiative, the ODVSOM's marketing efforts are aimed at recruiting approved SOMB and DVOMB providers. This initiative is a series of videos promoting the ODVSOM and the benefits providers offer the community.



OFFICE OF THE LIAISON FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS RELATIVES (OMMIR)

The OMMIR was established in 2022 through Senate Bill 22-150 to assist with missing Indigenous persons to address issues relating to missing or murdered Indigenous persons, and providing resources assisting families of victims.

2024 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

Participated in a podcast produced by the National Criminal Justice Association discussing DCJ's OMMIR office, efforts and partnerships, and community tools and resources.

Hosted Colorado's first regional interstate law enforcement convening bringing together tribal, state and federal public safety organizations to improve collaboration, create partnerships and provide Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) training.

Participated in 134 community engagement events including raising awareness in Colorado, enhancing and forging partnerships across law enforcement agencies, and supporting and connecting families with education tools and resources.

Filled two positions: community support coordinator and program assistant.

THE YEAR AHEAD

- In an effort to continue raising awareness and meet community needs, a new part-time analyst role will be added to the team.
- Continue building and sustaining partnerships with stakeholders through ongoing communication with regional public safety entities through a yearly interstate law enforcement convening.
- Continue to collaborate and support Colorado's Peace Officer Standards and Training unit to update and facilitate training regarding Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives .
- Continue strategic planning with the Crime Victim Services Board as well as other state Boards, Commissions and Committees.



OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS (ORS)

ORS analyzes justice policies and problems, evaluates criminal justice programs, conducts recidivism studies and distributes information through publications, presentations, dashboards and its web site. ORS undertakes this work to assist the General Assembly, the Governor's Office, state and local agencies, and the public for the purpose of enhancing the administration of justice.

2024 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

Published the first Law Enforcement Integrity (LEI) Act report and dashboard including information on law enforcement contacts with citizens, use of force, deaths in custody and resignations while under investigation.

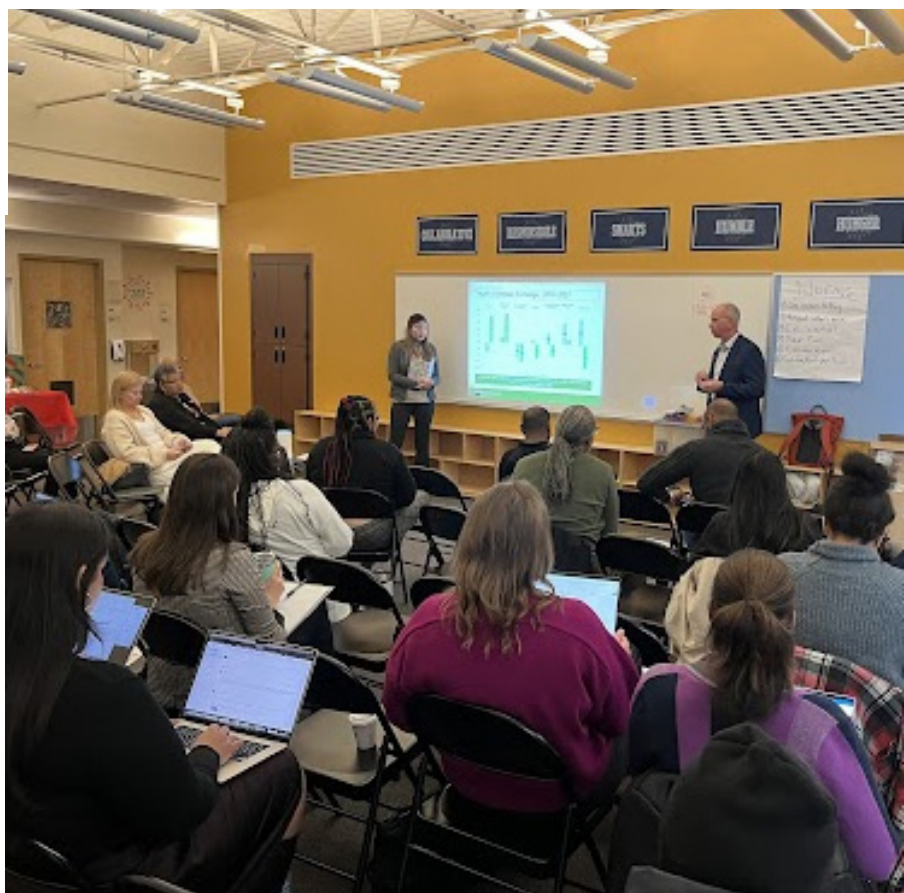
A new series of ORS reports examines critical topics on a regular basis including crime prevention through environmental design, automated license plate readers, firearm use in violent crime, violence in schools and violence disrupter programs.

Published a website for Colorado Behavioral Health Alternative Response which prevents default criminal justice system involvement when the primary reason for a 911 call is an unmet behavioral health need.

The Colorado Division of Criminal Justice has launched the Collaborative Crisis Response Intervention Training (CRIT) program aimed to improve how law enforcement and 911 call centers respond to behavioral health crises.

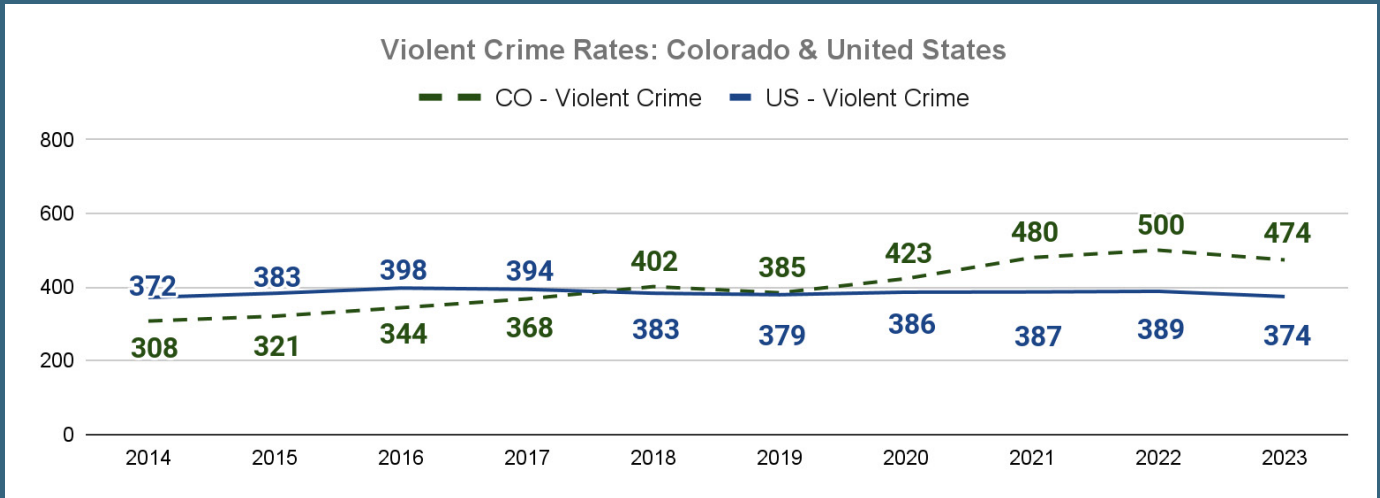
THE YEAR AHEAD

- The ORS is slated to reach 95% compliance with the Law Enforcement Contacts and Use of Force Reporting System.
- The Colorado Trusted Interoperability Platform is being developed to connect jails and implement a secure exchange of information for people involved in the criminal justice system, in a first of its kind project in the United States.
- The ORS will conduct outreach to agencies and community-based organizations to determine how best to support the use of evidence-based practices in the justice system.



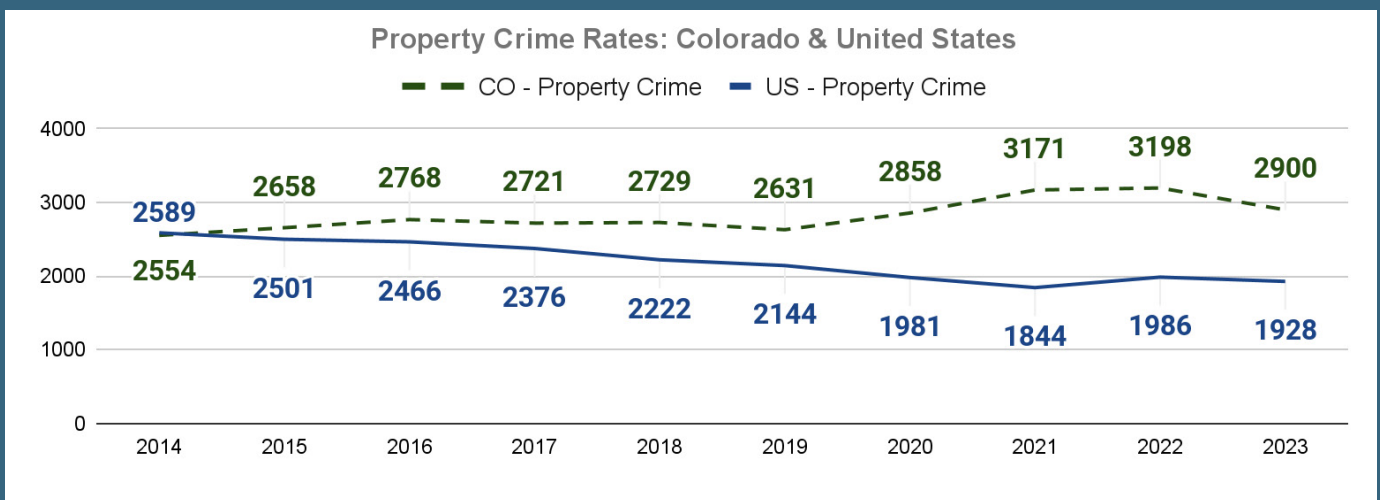
US & COLORADO CRIME RATES PER 10,000 (2024)

Figure 1A. CO and US violent crime rates per 100K population, 2014-2023.



Source: FBI, *Crime Data Explorer*, 2023 CIUS Estimates Table 4, retrieved November 5, 2024.

Figure 1B. CO and US property crime rates per 100K population, 2014-2023.



Source: FBI, *Crime Data Explorer*, 2023 CIUS Estimates Table 4, retrieved November 5, 2024.

OFFICE OF OPERATIONS & ADMINISTRATION (OOA)

The administration team manages the infrastructure for the Division and provides internal customer support through both an operations and communications office. The team assists in budget, accounting, technology, federal reporting, payroll, human resources and grant management.

2024 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

Launched a new Grants Management System (GMS) that is user-friendly, accessible and reduces the administrative burden of applying for and managing grants. By increasing efficiency, staff and grantees may focus more time on grant outcomes and services of over 400 grantees statewide.

As DCJ evolves to meet the needs of its clients, so does its structure. In 2024, DCJ incorporated two roles: director of operations and director of strategic communications.

Launched the incorporation of an internship program for both college students and the Department of Defense Skillbridge Program.

Launched its communications, marketing, and public relations efforts, aligned branding and messaging across all offices, website, newsletters, social media, and internal / external messaging.

THE YEAR AHEAD

- Expanding its resources and the team's talent, OOA team is set to begin external project management for grantees and manage statutorily approved funds.
- Development efforts include revising and incorporating DCJ's standard operating procedures, as well as strategizing its leadership training program.
- The division aims to streamline and elevate its internship program.
- The communications team is expected to grow with the addition of a dedicated webmaster and two interns.
- The communications team will also work to capture the voices and stories of grant and funding recipients across Colorado, launch its recruitment campaign, publish DCJ's story, and continue to elevate DCJ's mission across online platforms.





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