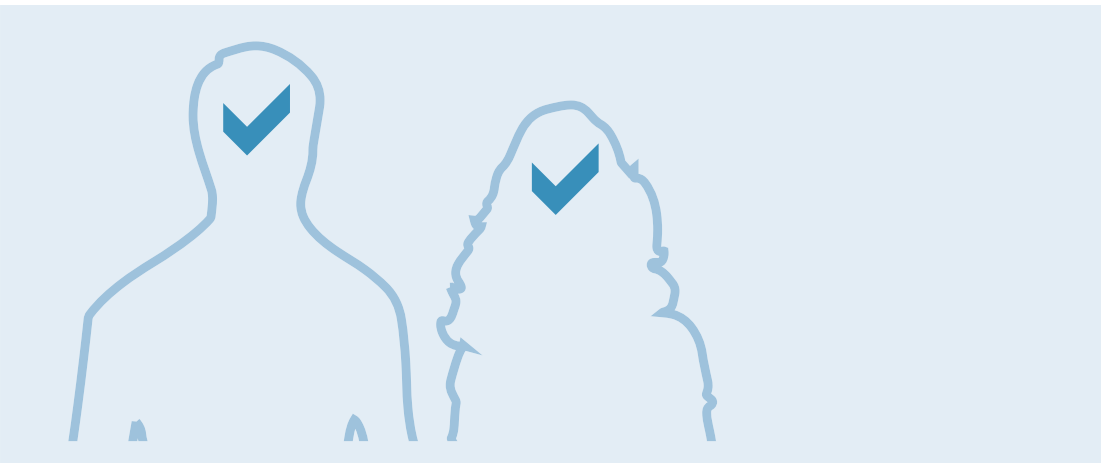


SJC Site  
Comparative  
Analyses:  
Criminal Justice  
Reform Efforts  
and Crime Trends

Is criminal  
justice  
reform to  
blame for  
a surge in  
crime?

REFORM TRENDS



Behavioral  
Health Reforms

- **St. Louis** Cops & Clinicians co-responder program - In 2021 diverted 95 percent of individuals from arrest; 87 percent from hospitalization; and saved the community more than \$2.2 million.
- **Missoula County** Mobile Support Team - in the first seven months diverted 169 individuals from the hospital and 13 from jail with 68 percent of contacted individuals remaining in the community.
- **Allegheny County** law enforcement assisted diversion - in 2021 diverted 28 participants through long-term case management, with zero overdosing or recidivating.
- **Baton Rouge** crisis stabilization center - freed up officers' time that was previously spent waiting for an evaluation at the hospital for hours. Now, officers are able to drop off individuals and go back to their patrol duties in less than five minutes.



Criminal Justice  
Process Improvement

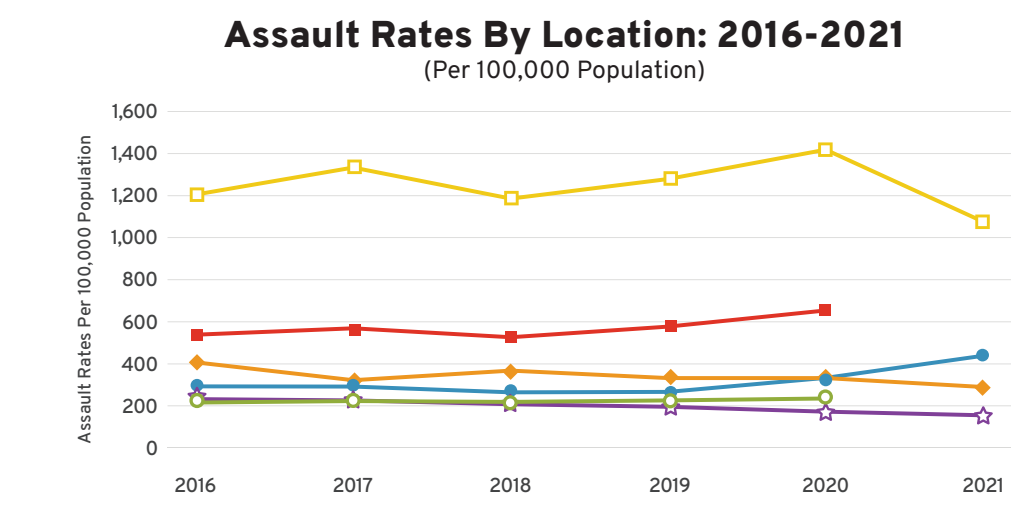
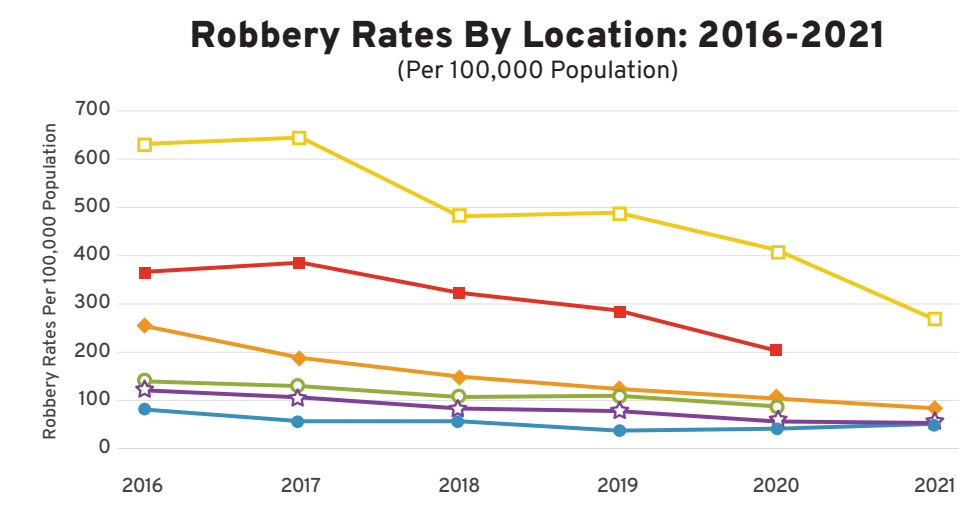
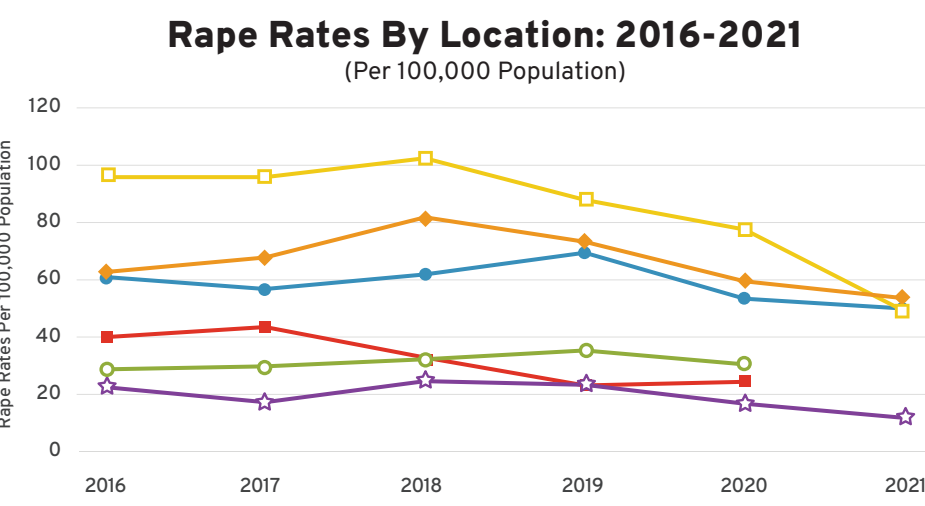
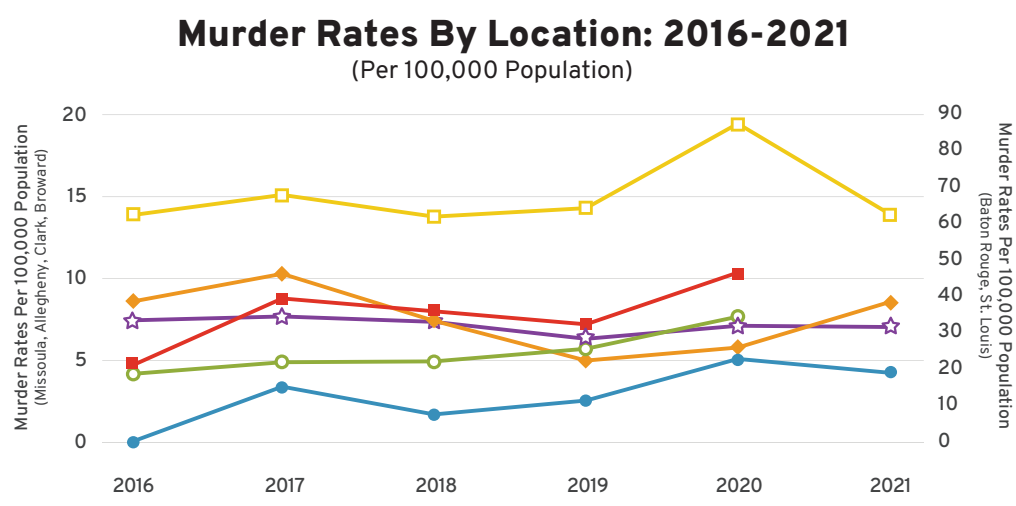
- **Nevada** comprehensive criminal justice reform bill - requires the court to address pretrial release of an individual within 48 hours of their arrest.
- **Baton Rouge** Rapid Case Assessment Team - in the last six months of 2021, defendants at the Baton Rouge City Court had an 83 percent case resolution rate at first appearance, as compared to a nearly zero percent resolution rate prior to the implementation of the team.
- **Missoula County** improved case processing - reduced the time between initial appearance and arraignment, reducing misdemeanor jail admissions by over 60 percent and average daily jail population for misdemeanors by over 50 percent.
- **St. Louis** clearing old pending cases - dismissed 25,000 years-old cases that had been “taken under advisement” with no formal charges.



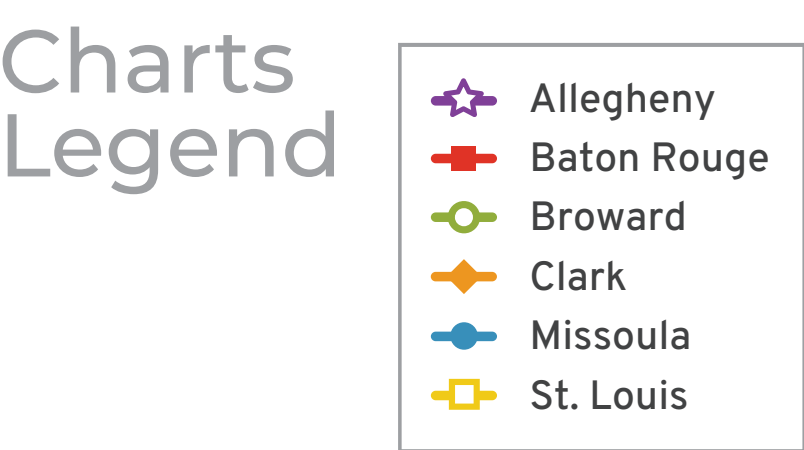
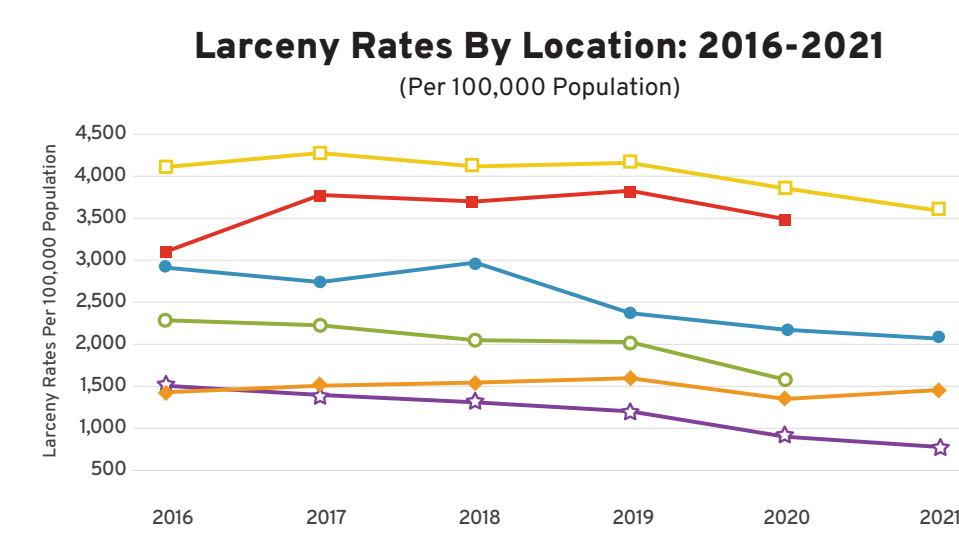
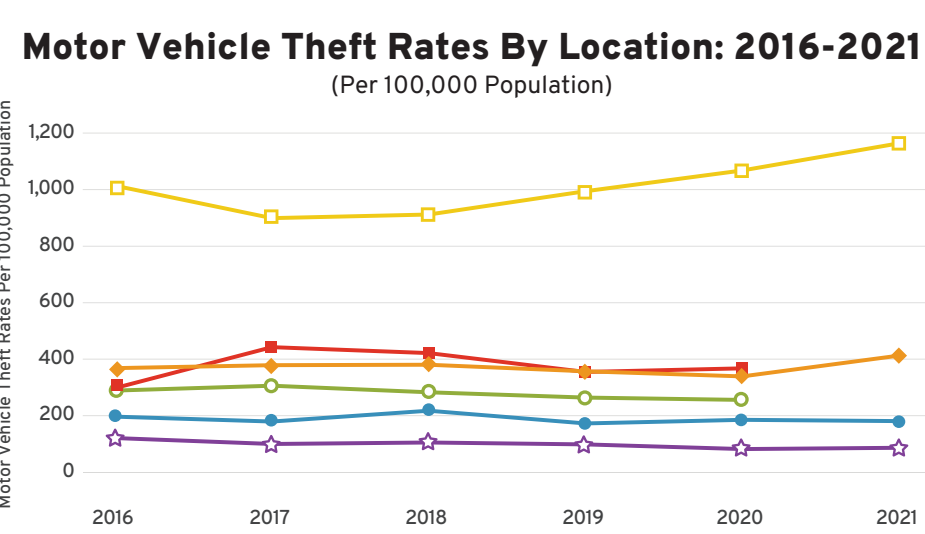
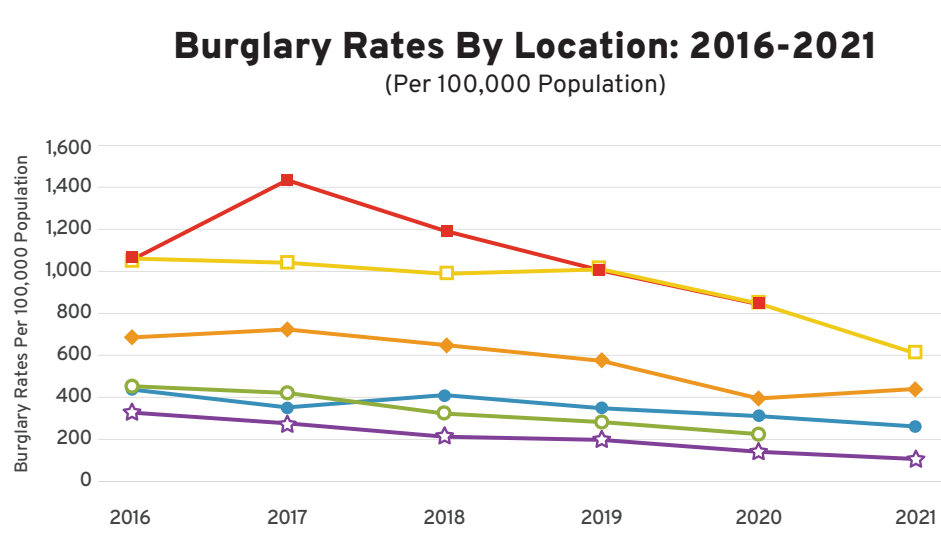
Alternatives  
to Arrest

- **Nevada** mandatory criminal citation - requires police to issue a citation in lieu of arrest for an individual accused of non-violent, non-repeat misdemeanor offenses.
- **Broward County** civil citation authority - expanded civil citations to adults after study found that use of juvenile civil citations saved the county \$14 million dollars over four years.
- **St. Louis** prosecutorial policy to issue summons - created a policy requiring all misdemeanors (other than domestic violence) and low-level felonies presumptively receive a summons rather than arrest.
- **Allegheny County** reduce detainment of probation violators - from January 2018 to May 2022, the number of people detained dropped 45 percent. In addition, individuals accused of probation violations served (on average) 84 days less jail time.

VIOLENT CRIMES TRENDS



PROPERTY CRIMES TRENDS



KEY TAKEAWAYS

We did not find  
evidence of a  
correlation  
between  
reforms and a  
rise in crime.



- **Concerning increase**
  - Homicides, assaults and motor vehicle thefts rose across several of the jurisdictions, but this has occurred nationwide, even in jurisdictions that did not implement reforms. And, none of the reforms implemented were applicable to individuals accused of violent crimes.
- **Promising decrease**
  - Most of the jurisdictions with published crime statistics saw a decrease in murders and assaults from 2020 to 2021.
  - There was a significant decline in robberies, rapes and burglaries across the jurisdictions during the six-year period—yet jurisdictions did not appear to be sharing or promoting this achievement.
- **Promote and expand the use of successfully implemented reforms**
- **Remember knowledge is power**

Challenges

- Some communities were more than a year behind in releasing their county-wide data.
- Many communities only had data on crime statistics.

Opportunities

- Data on whether individuals committing new crimes were out on pretrial release, on diversion or probation or impacted by any other reform initiative appeared obsolete.
- Jurisdictions could benefit from making their data collection more robust, more timely and more publicly available.