

# CRIME

## United by America's Priorities

- Democrats had 2 years to get soaring violent crime under control.
- Since 2019, homicides have risen by 43 percent; violent crime overall is up 20 percent.
- While Democrats double-down on a soft-on-crime agenda;
- Senate Republicans want to get violent criminals off the street and restore accountability to communities.

## The Crisis Democrats Created: Soaring Crime and Chaos in American Communities.

### Democrats' policies created America's crime crisis; homicides are now up 43% compared to 2019.

- In 2019, Democrats kicked off a campaign to: Defund the Police, install liberal prosecutors who would refuse to fully prosecute violent criminals, implement a swath of soft-on-crime policies like no-cash bail, and normalize the drug use that further perpetuates crime.
- The impact has been devastating.
- **Americans agree:** a [Harvard-Harris poll](#) found 64% of Americans say rising crime is the fault of woke politicians. That includes 52% of Democrats.

### Over the last two years, Americans have seen crime soar in communities across the country.

- In 2022, violent crime is up 26% from where it was in 2019, according to the [Major Chiefs](#).
  - » Compared to 2019 data, in 2022: homicides rose 43% and aggravated assault increased 34%.
- As crime has surged so has Americans' concern for their safety.
  - » According to [Gallup](#): Americans worry about crime in their communities is at a 50-year high.

### Here's how we got here:

- **Democrats defunded, demoralized, and demonized the police.**
  - » **In 2020:** At least [25 cities](#) across the country defunded their police. By 2021, [murders](#) spiked by [nearly 30%](#)—the largest increase in [at least six decades](#).
  - » **In 2021,** 73 law enforcement officers were feloniously killed; marking a [20-year high](#) in police killings.
  - » **In 2022:** Police killings remained high with 60 law enforcement officers feloniously killed.
  - » In November 2022, [one survey found](#): half of police agencies have seen an increase in resignations and retirements.
  - » The same survey reported three-out-of-four agencies said applications for sworn positions have declined.
- **Democrats normalized drug use and addiction by embracing so-called "harm reduction" programs and decriminalizing drug use; further driving up crime.**
  - » Decades of [research show](#) that drugs are connected to crimes from murder to shoplifting.
  - » So-called "harm reduction" policies serve to [subsidize addiction](#) and create more crime.
- **Democrats installed progressive prosecutors and championed soft-on-crime revolving-door policies.**
  - » [Progressive prosecutors see themselves as reformers](#), not law-enforcers; they let criminals off the hook, and [decline to prosecute](#) entire categories of crime.
  - » **No cash bail.** Across the country, liberal cities and states implemented no cash bail; a policy that often results in violent felons being released back on to the street immediately after being charged.
  - » **Light sentencing for violent criminals.** Simultaneously, [liberal prosecutors have adopted light sentencing practices](#); refusing to give tough sentences to violent criminals.
- **These policies alone (bail reform, light sentencing, etc.) have led to tragic outcomes:**
  - » A California district attorney has found that more than 70% of [criminal suspects](#) released on \$0 bail between 2020 and 2021 in his county committed new crimes.
  - » A study of [New York](#) from when its bail reform law went into effect in January 2020 through March of 2020 shows crime spiked 20%, indicating rising crime is a problem independent of defunding the police.
  - » A study of [Chicago](#) from when its bail reform went into effect in September 2017 through May 2019 found that the number of released defendants who were caught committing new crimes increased by 45%, with an increase in violent crimes committed by 33%.
  - » Philadelphia had [more](#) than twice the number of murders in 2021 than they had on average during the four years before the liberal DA, who boasted of reducing criminals' jail time, took office.

# CRIME CONTINUED

## **As crime has surged, Democrats have championed policies to reward crime, and blocked bipartisan solutions that would get the crime crisis under control.**

- Democrats blocked legislation to stop prosecutors from releasing violent criminals back into communities.
  - » When Democrats passed their August spending bill, they blocked Senator Rubio's amendment to keep prosecutors from releasing violent criminals back on to the streets without bail.
- Democrats sent prisoners stimulus checks.
  - » When Democrats passed their reckless \$1.9 trillion spending bill, they voted to send prisoners stimulus checks. Ultimately, prisoners were sent over [\\$783 million in stimulus checks](#).
- Democrats have failed to account for their reckless "defund the police" rhetoric.
  - » They have [attempted to deny](#) their language and actions since 2020.
- Democrats claim they gave \$350 billion in funding to state and local governments to hire new police officers in their reckless \$1.9 trillion "American Rescue Plan" – they did not.
  - » Data compiled by the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National Association of Counties, the National League of Cities, and Brookings suggest that approximately \$614 million of ARP have been awarded to local police departments and, at the state-level, only \$743 million have been directed to police.
  - » That means that **less than 0.4% of that \$350 billion** actually went to where Democrats claim it was directed.
  - » These funds barely begin to offset the budget cuts made in U.S. cities in 2021 and 2020.

## **Senate Republicans want to get violent criminals off the street and restore accountability to communities.**

1. We will protect communities by ensuring our laws are enforced and that criminals are punished.
2. We will hold progressive prosecutors accountable for releasing violent criminals back on to the street before trial.
3. We will hold states and cities accountable for bail reform and policies that let criminals out on the street.
4. We will hold the Biden DOJ accountable for prioritizing the prosecution of pro-life activists over taking action against violent criminals.
5. We will protect law enforcement and promote the profession.
6. We will make sure law enforcement officers have the resources they need.

## **Republicans have a record of putting forward legislative solutions to keep communities safe.**

1. [S.4628 - Combating Violent and Dangerous Crime Act](#)
2. [S.3935 - Pretrial Release Reporting Act](#)
3. [S.4981 - Gang Activity Reporting Act of 2022](#)
4. [S.4859 - Project Safe Neighborhoods Reauthorization Act of 2022](#)
5. [S.5046 - Combating Organized Retail Crime Act of 2022](#)
6. [S.4876 - Felony Murder for Deadly Fentanyl Distribution Act](#)
7. [S.2945 - BE GONE Act](#)
8. [S.4370 - Keep Our Communities Safe Act](#)
9. [S.1599 - Back the Blue Act of 2021](#)
10. [S.80 - Sarah's Law](#)
11. [S.3981 - Improving Law Enforcement Officer Safety and Wellness Through Data Act](#)