



Public Safety and Substance Use Trends

Presentation to the Substance Abuse Trend and
Response Task Force

August 6, 2021

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COLORADO

Division of Criminal Justice

Department of Public Safety

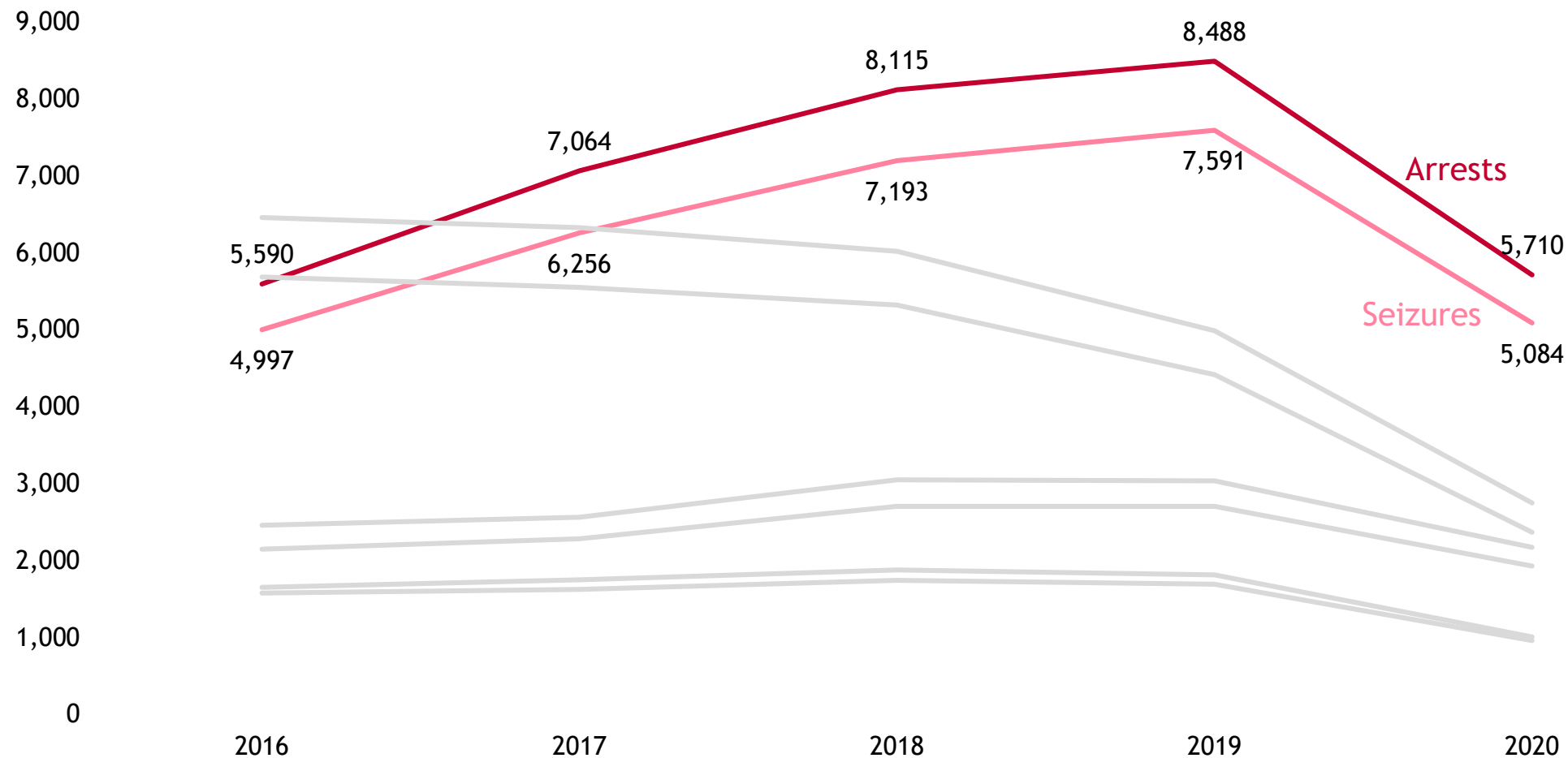
Overview

- Drug Crime Trends
- Demographics of Drug Crime
- Traffic Safety
- School Disciplinary Data

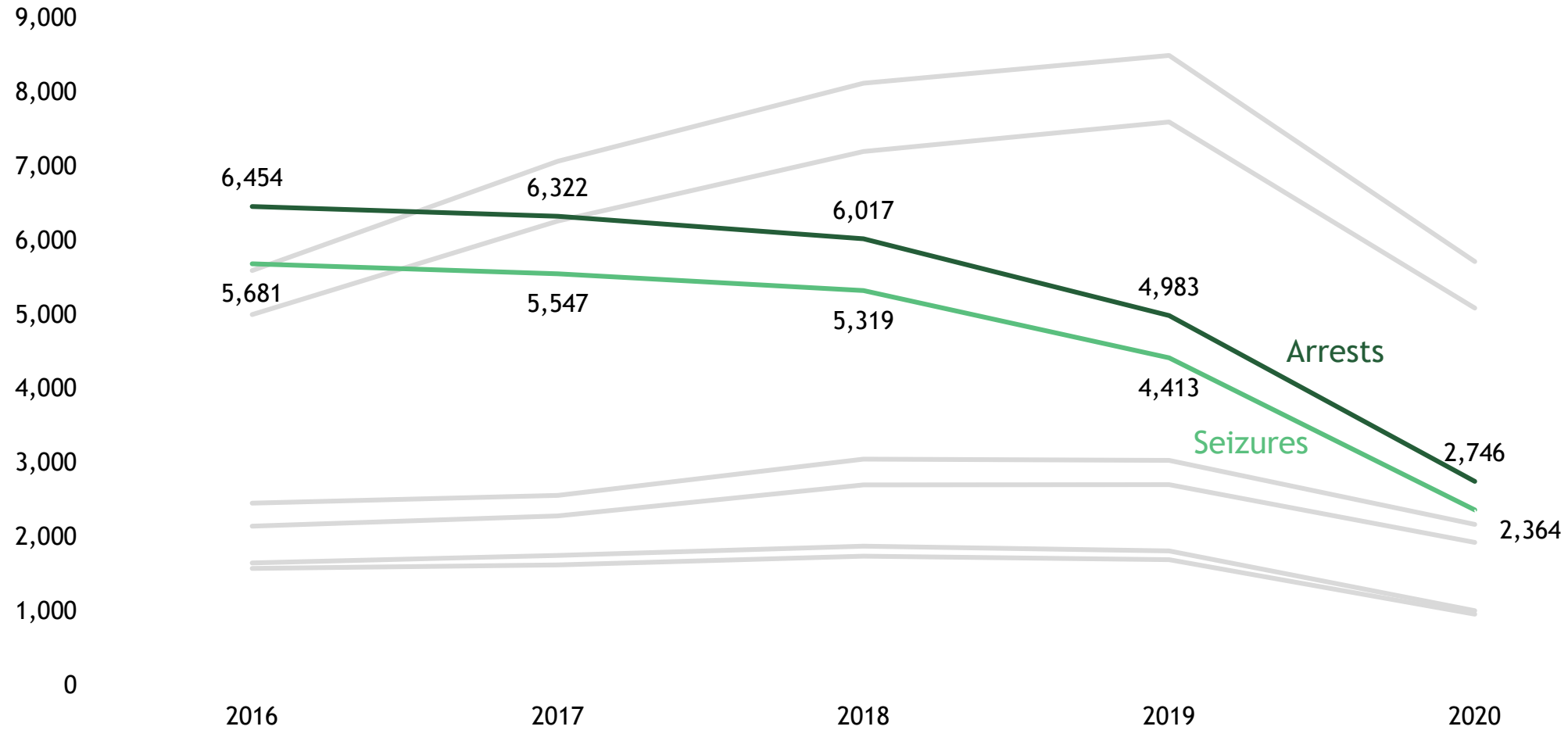
SECTION 1

Drug Crimes Trends

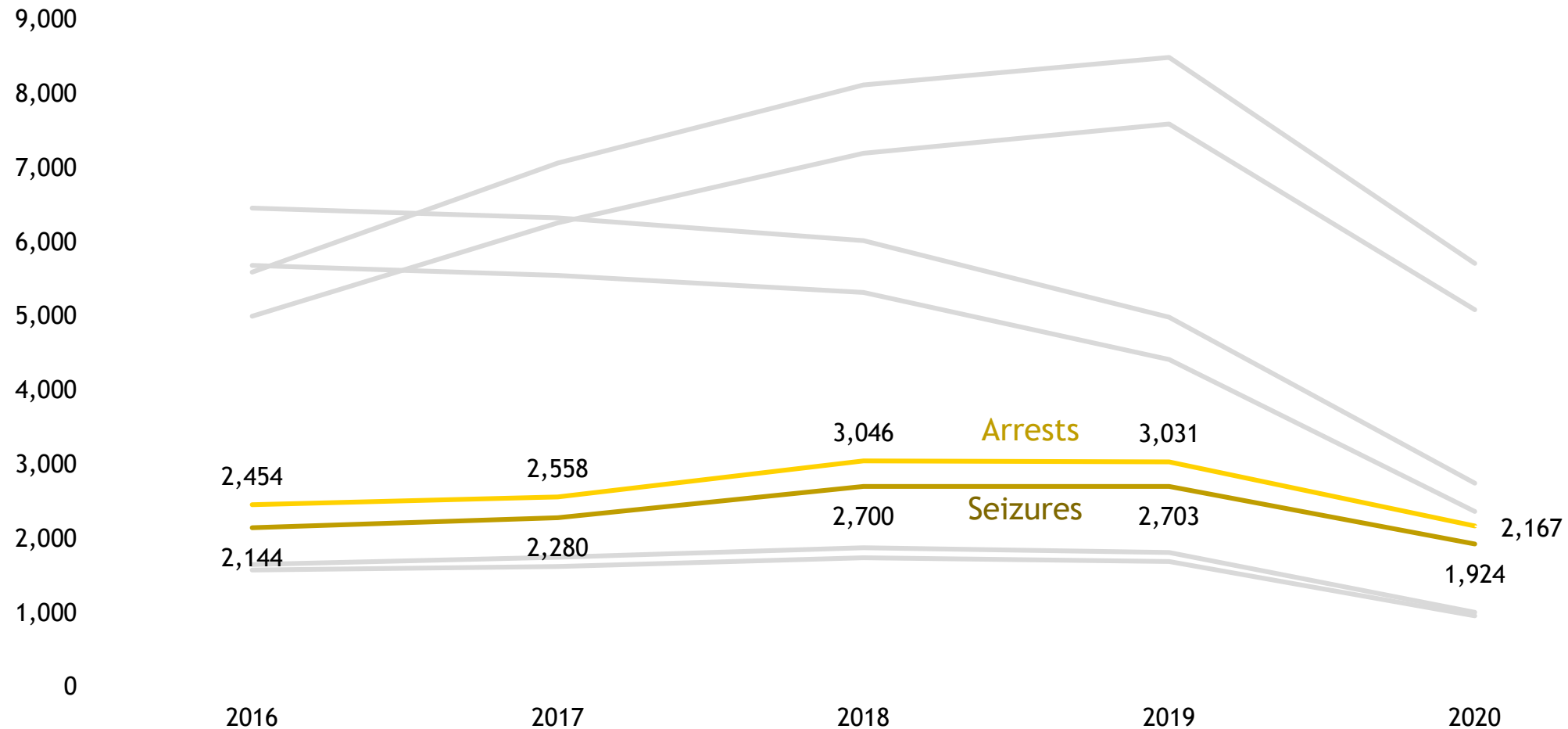
Amphetamine arrests and seizures, Colorado, 2016-2020



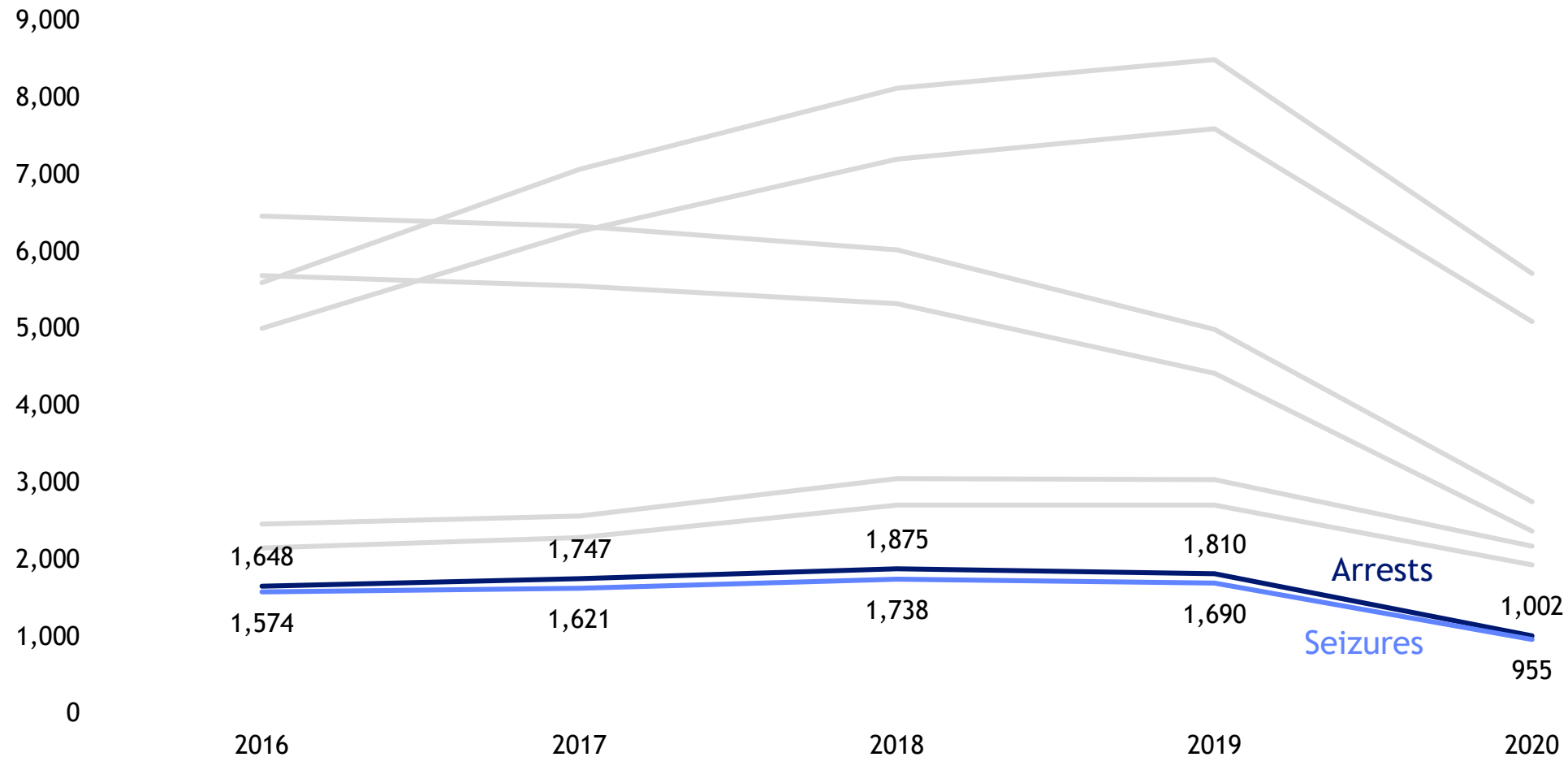
Marijuana arrests and seizures, Colorado, 2016-2020



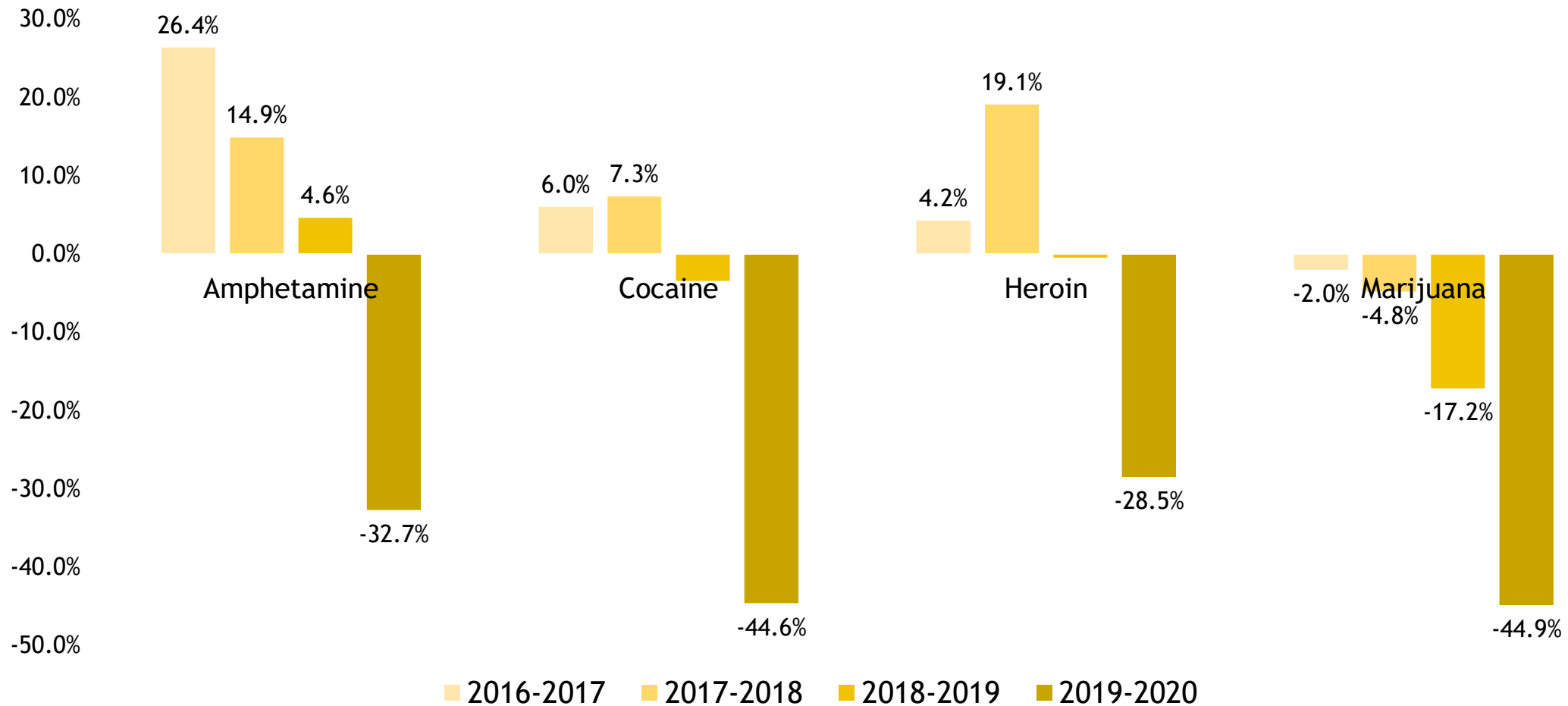
Heroin arrests and seizures, Colorado, 2016-2020



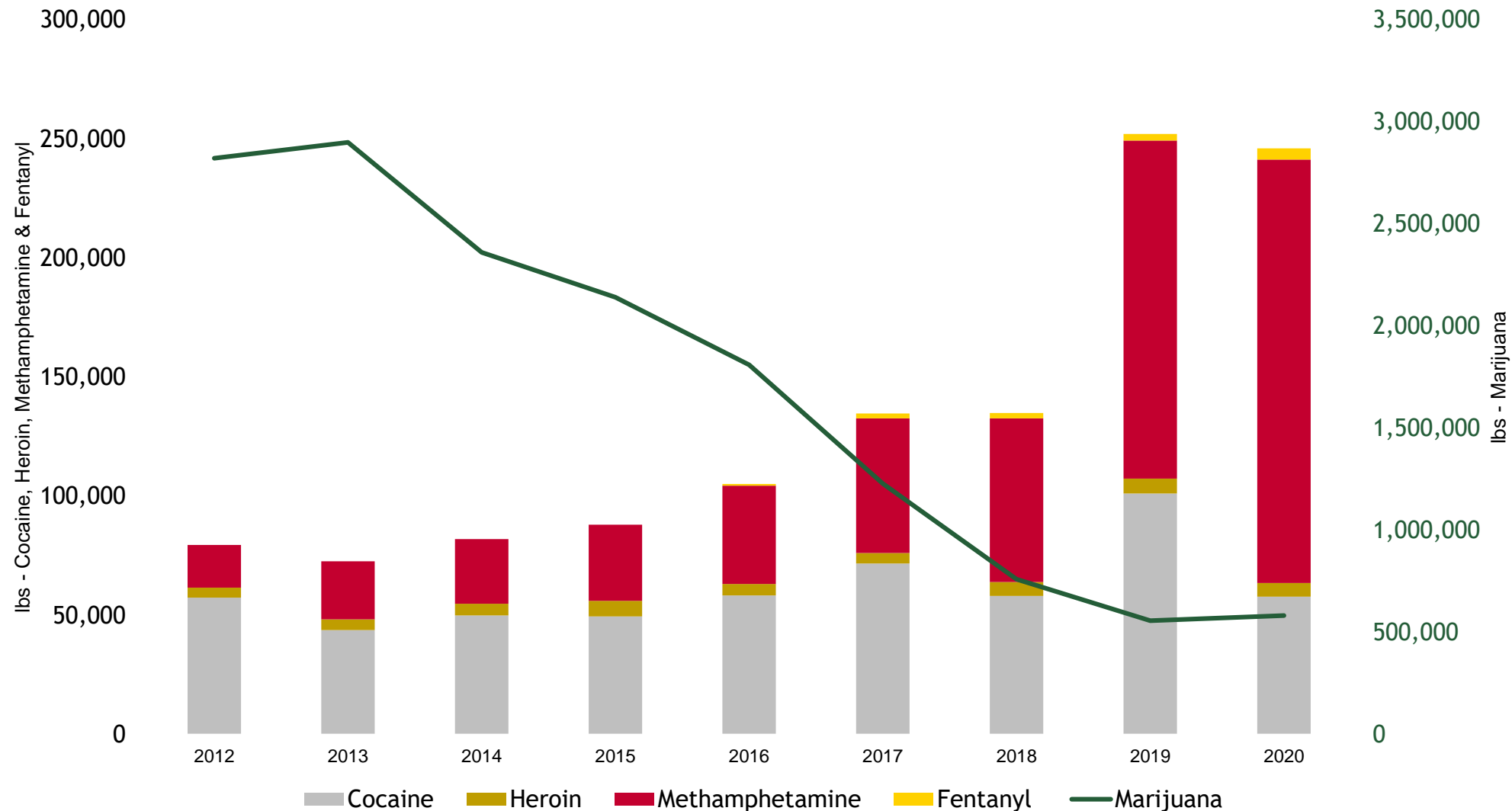
Cocaine arrests and seizures, Colorado, 2016-2020



Yearly percentage change in arrest numbers by drug, Colorado, 2016-2020



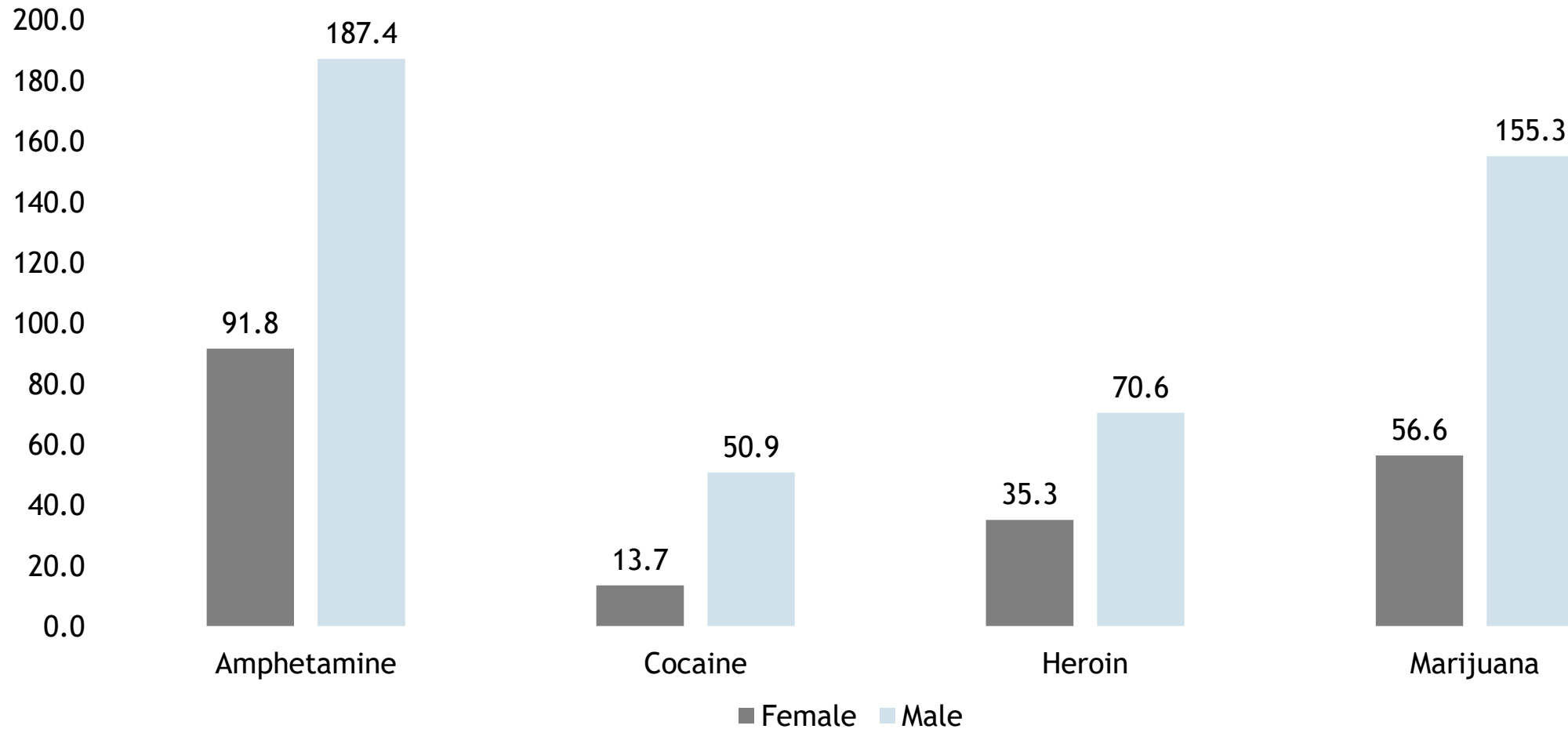
US Customs and Border Patrol seizures (lbs), FY 2012-2020



SECTION 2

Demographics

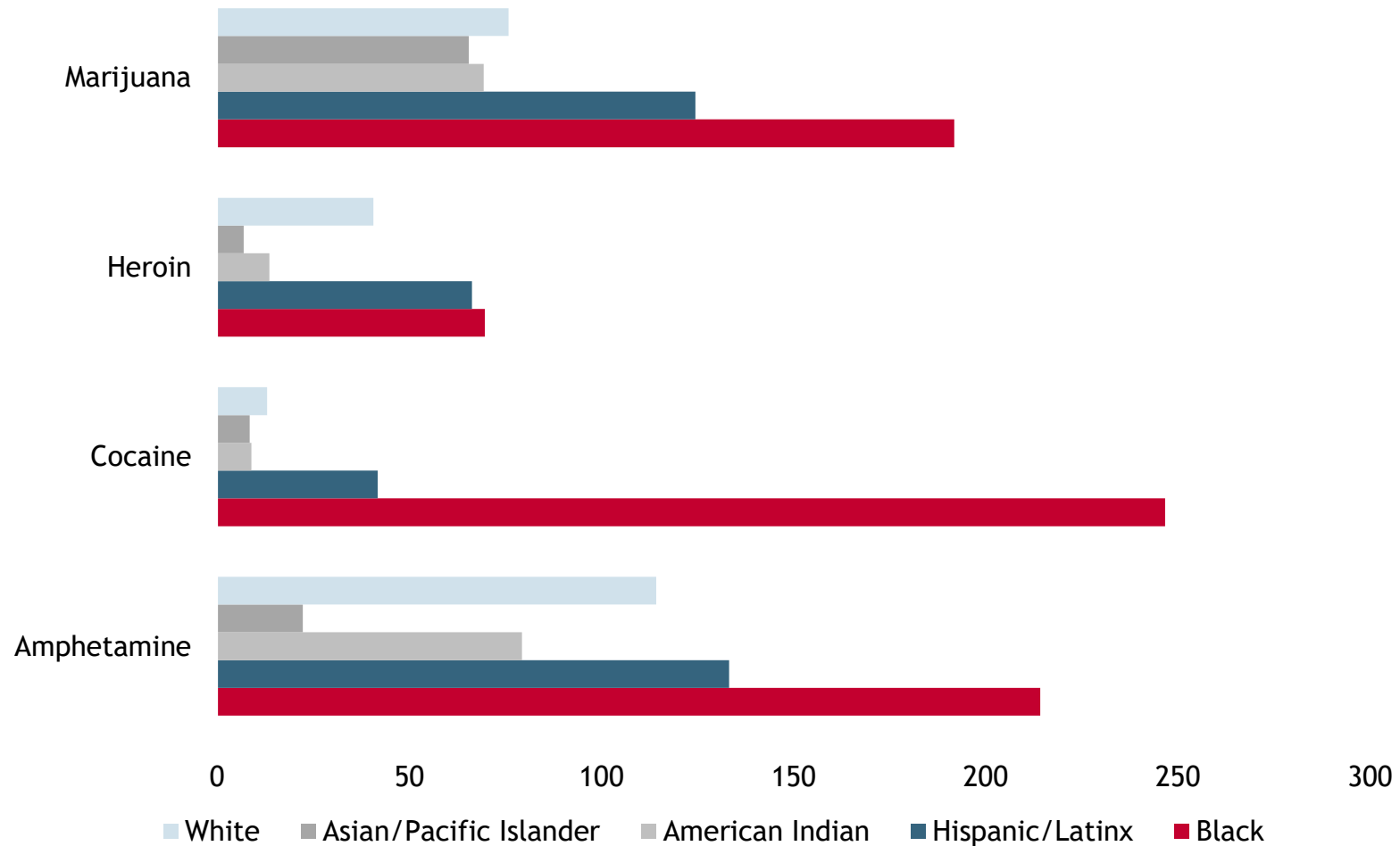
Arrest rates by gender and drug, Colorado, 2016-2020*



*Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

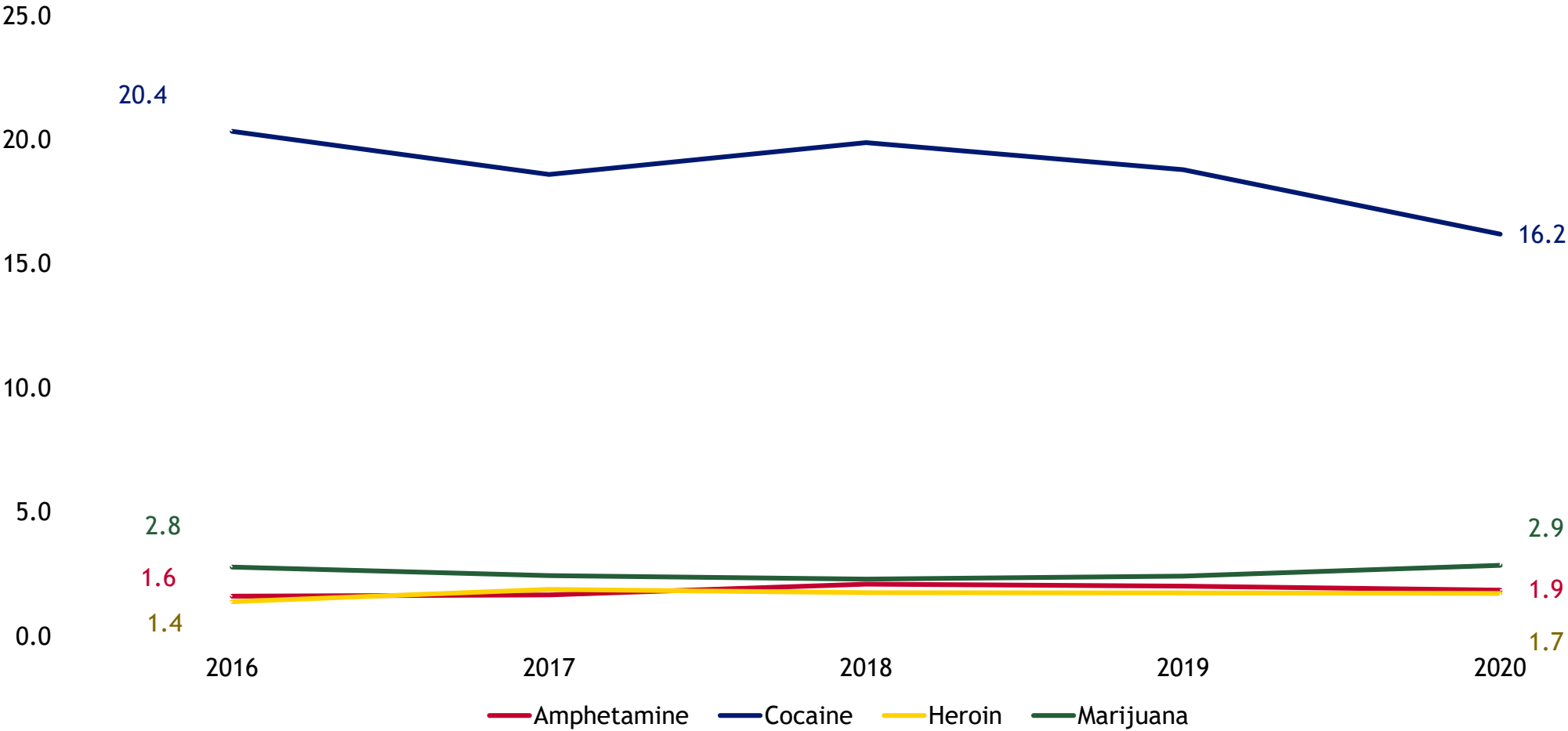
Comparing drug arrest* rates by race, Colorado, 2016-2020



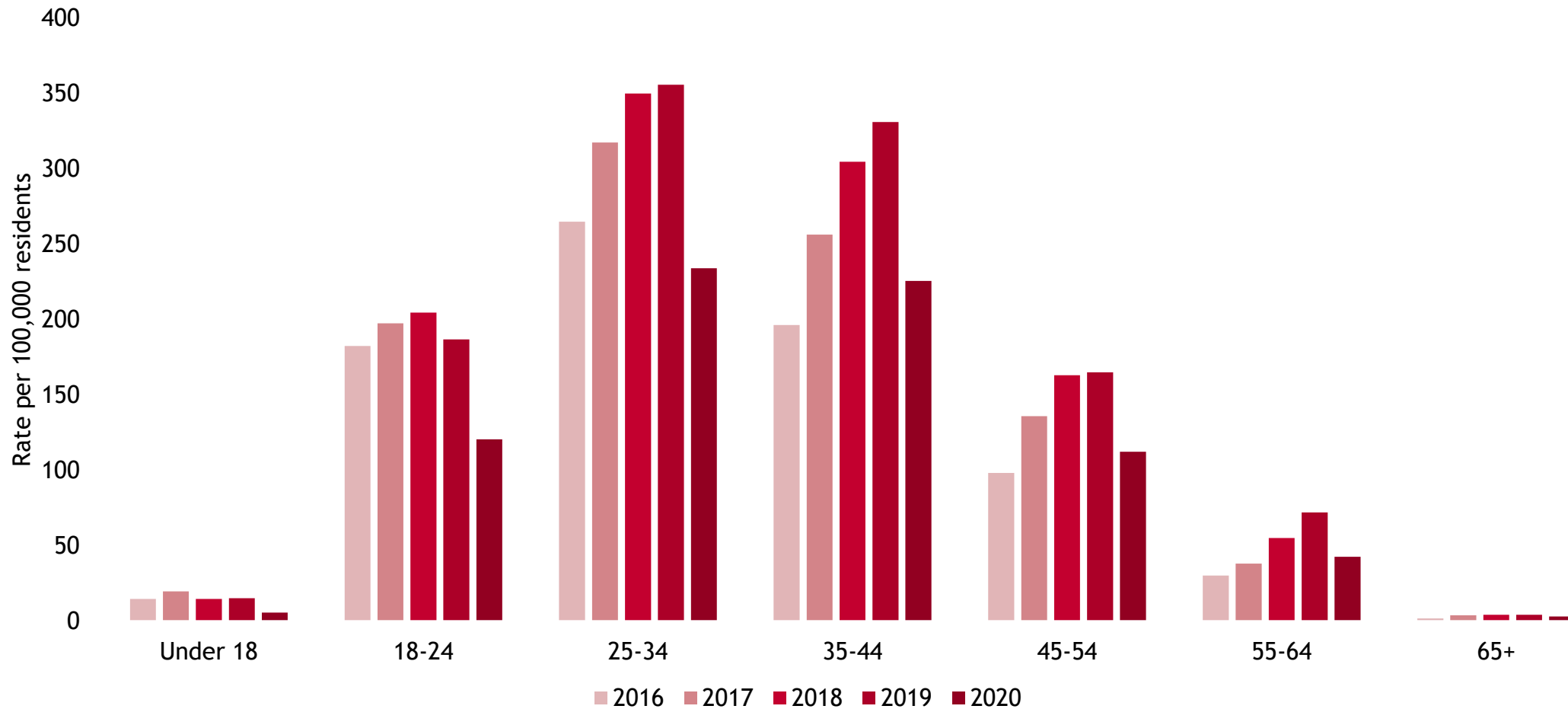
*Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

Black/white arrest rate ratio by drug, Colorado 2016-2020



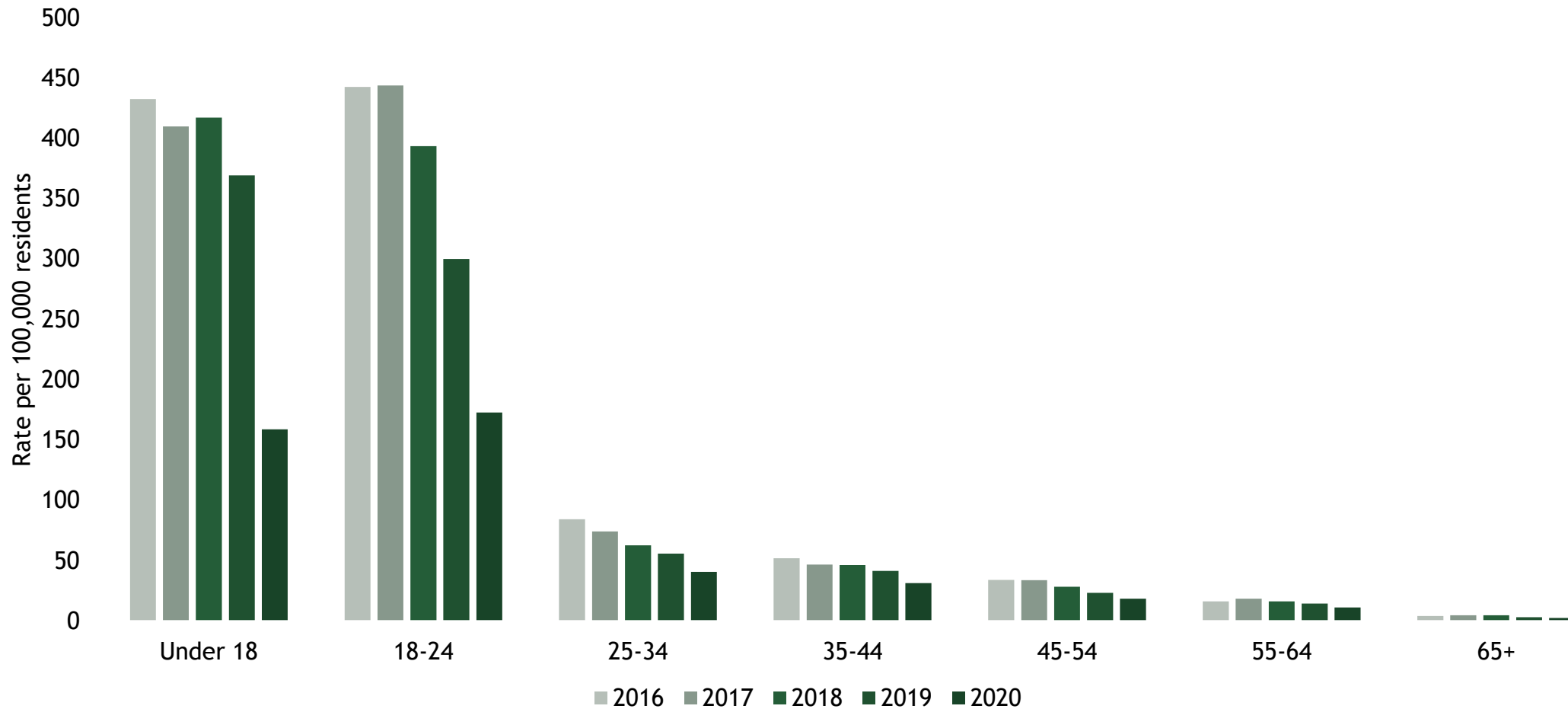
Amphetamine arrest rates* by age, Colorado, 2016-2020



*Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

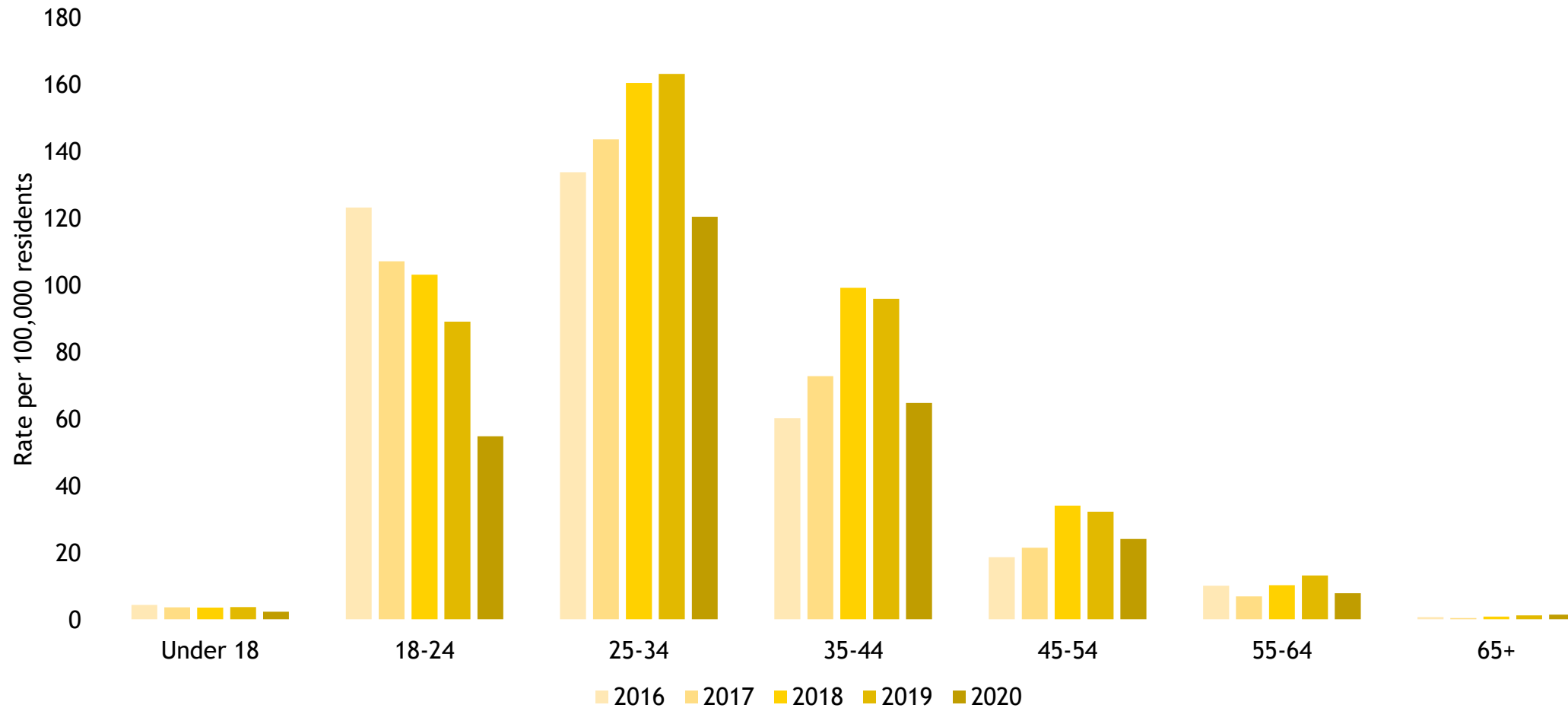
Marijuana arrest rates* by age, Colorado, 2016-2020



*Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

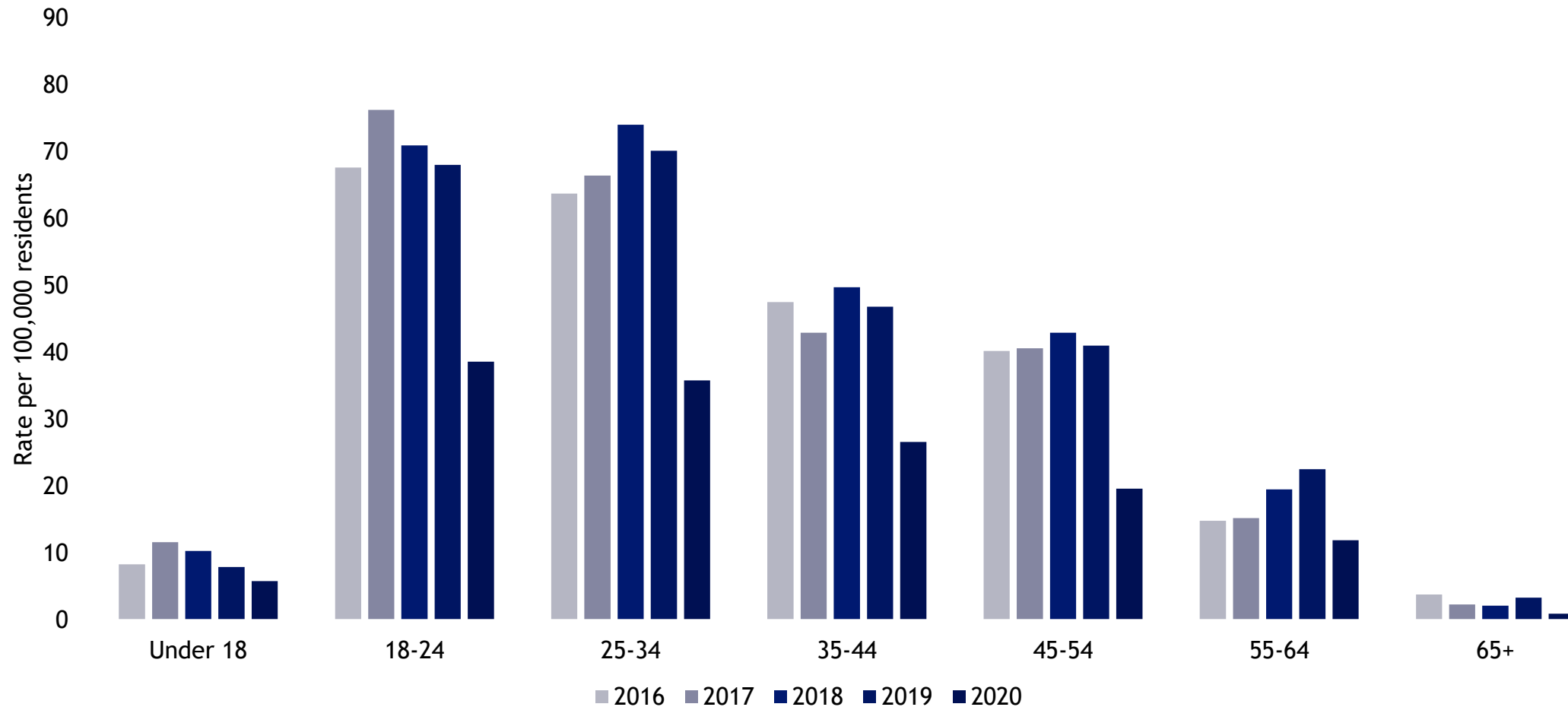
Heroin arrest rates* by age, Colorado, 2016-2020



*Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

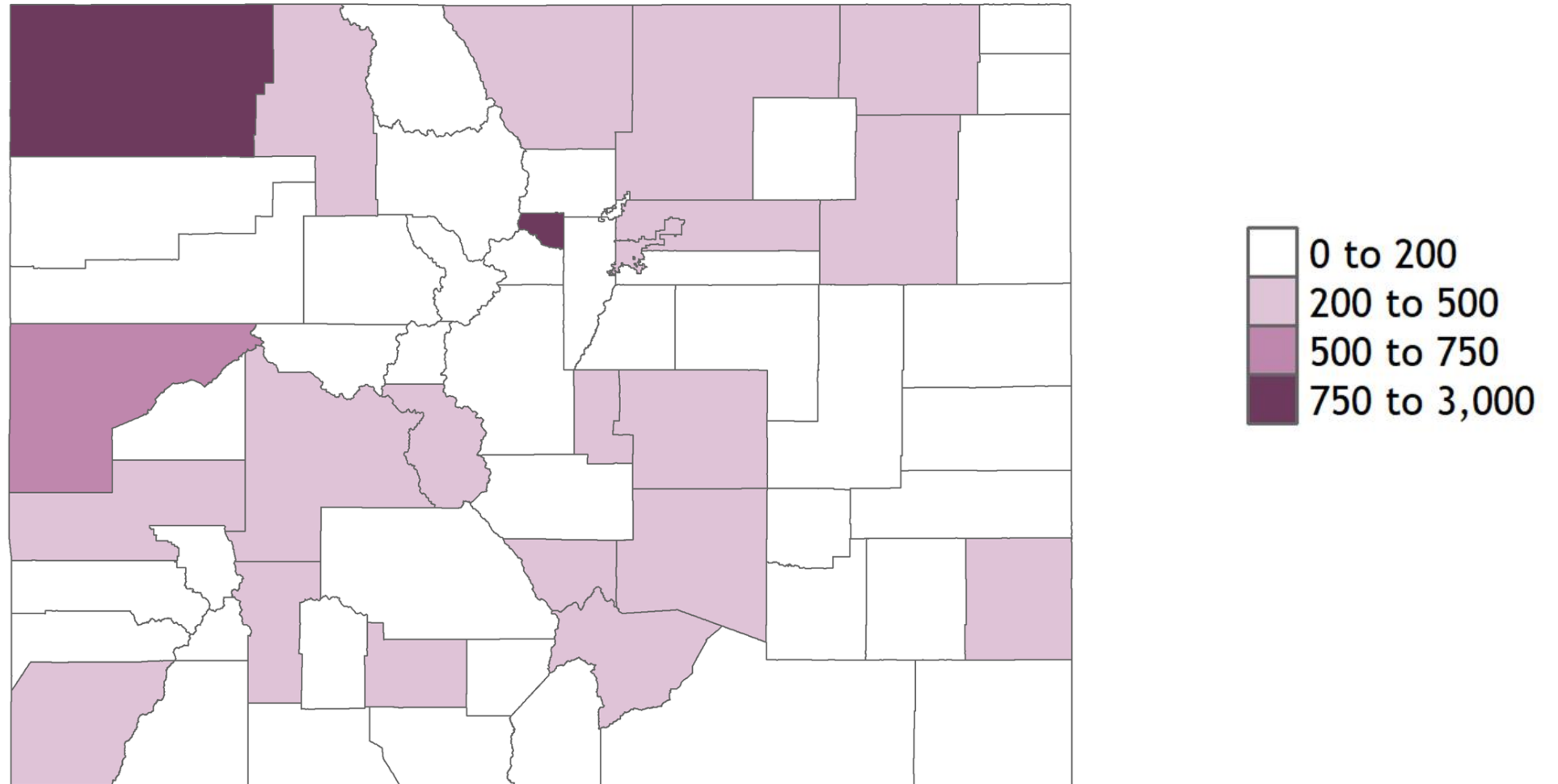
Cocaine arrest rates by age, Colorado, 2016-2020*



*Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

Drug arrest rates** by county, 2016*

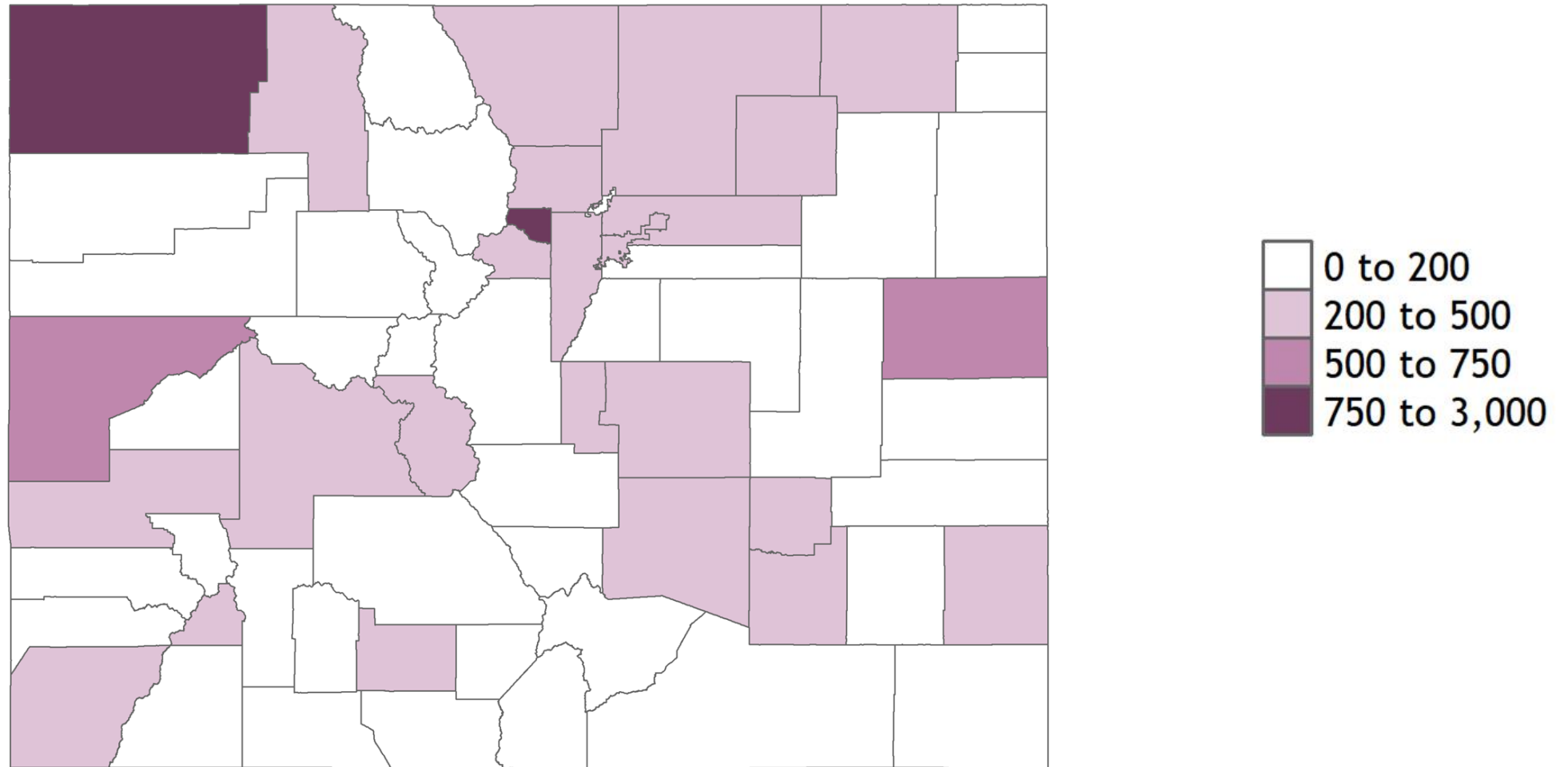


*Drug refers to the combined rates for amphetamines, cocaine, heroin and marijuana.

**Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

Drug arrest rates** by county, 2017*

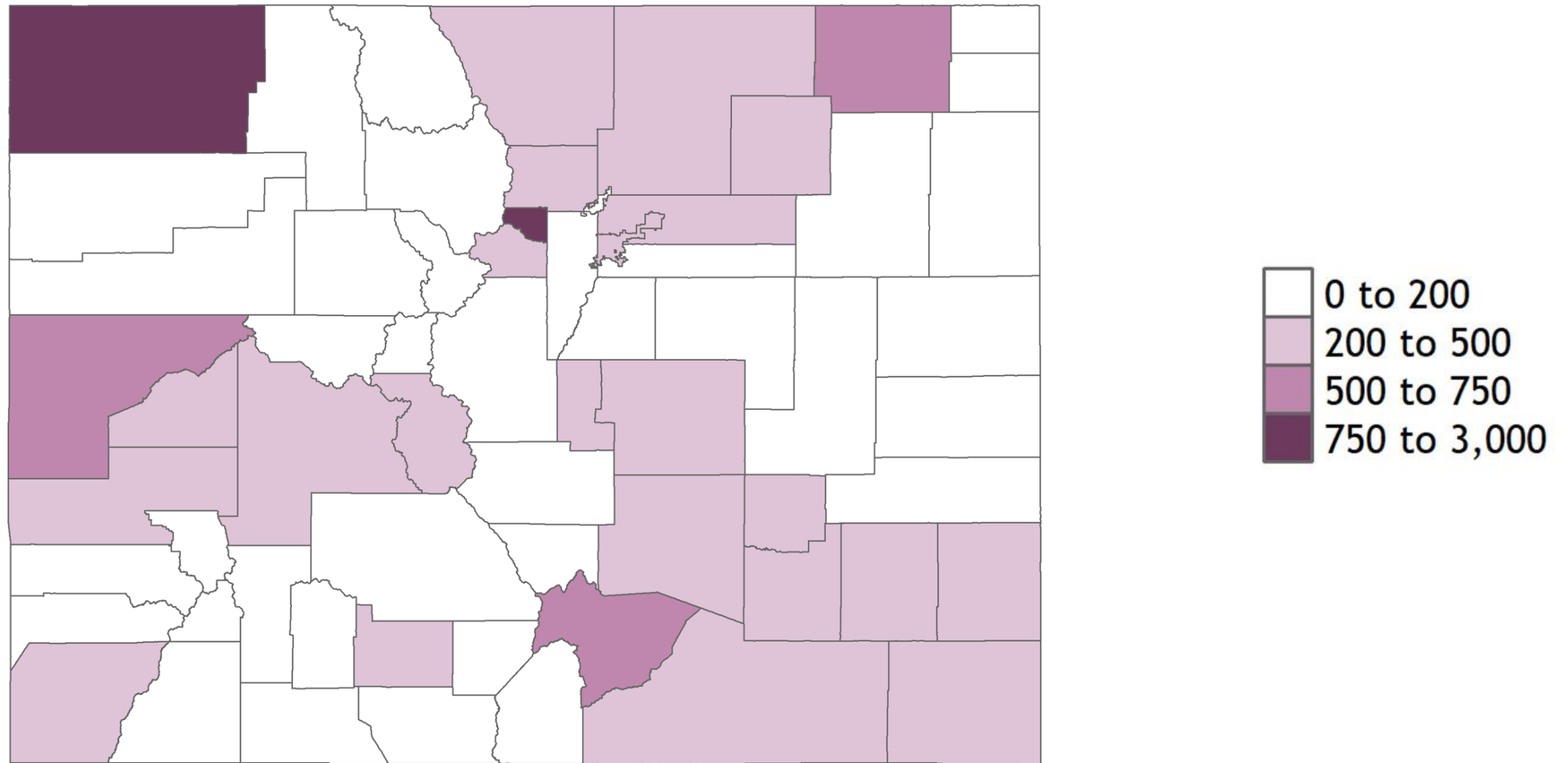


*Drug refers to the combined rates for amphetamines, cocaine, heroin and marijuana.

**Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

Drug arrest rates** by county, 2018*

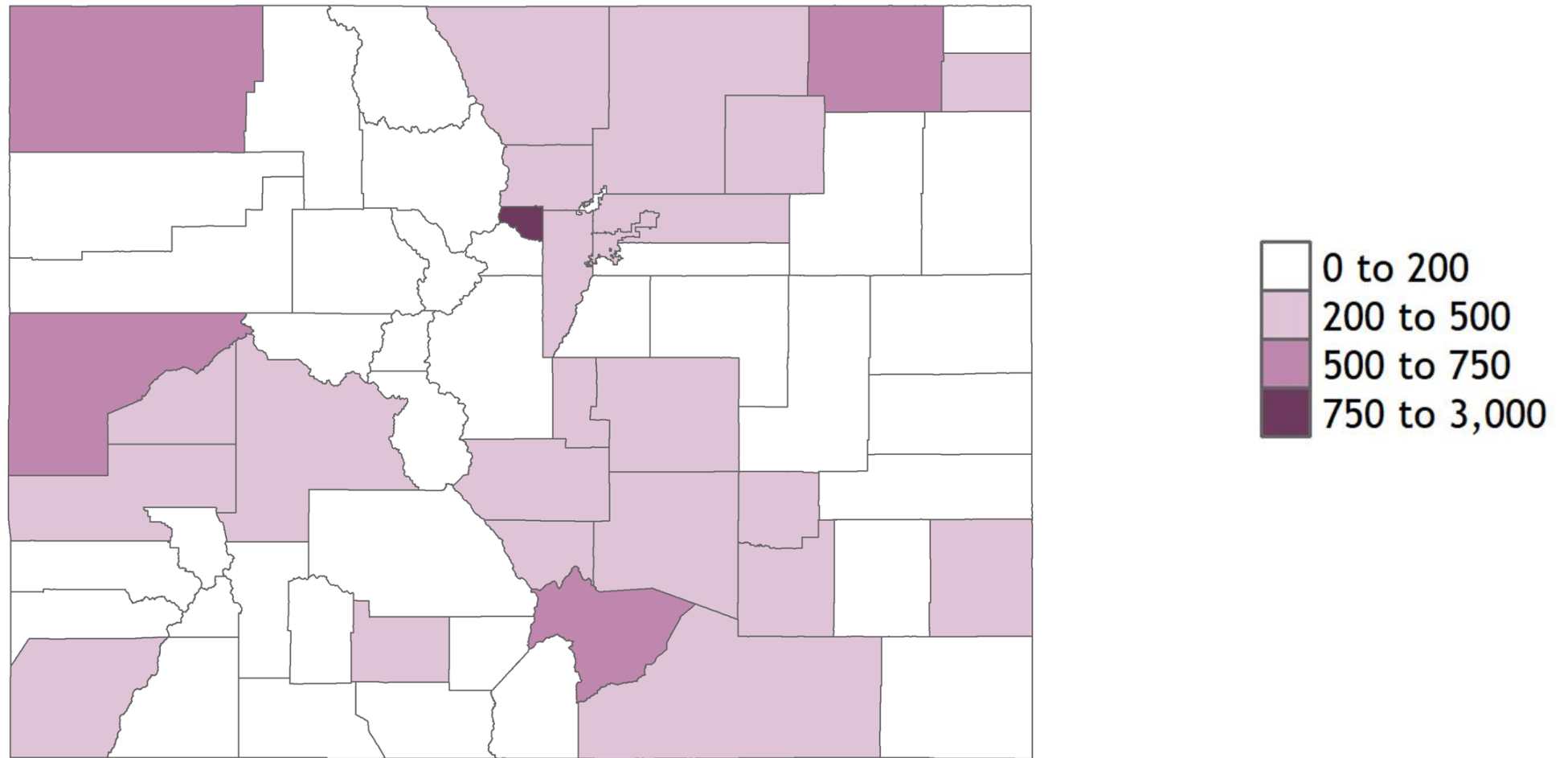


*Drug refers to the combined rates for amphetamines, cocaine, heroin and marijuana.

**Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

Drug arrest rates** by county, 2019*

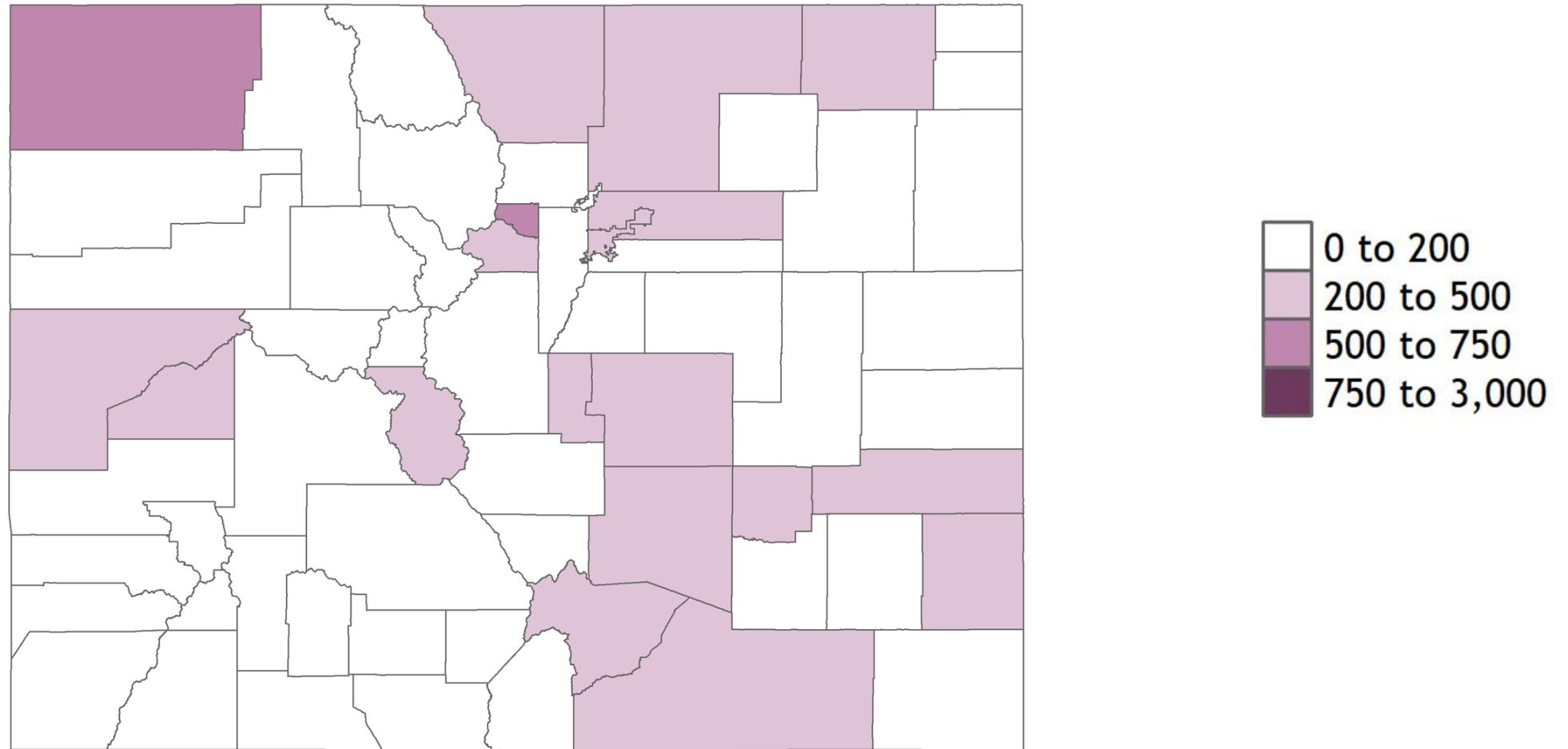


*Drug refers to the combined rates for amphetamines, cocaine, heroin and marijuana.

**Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

Drug arrest rates** by county, 2020*

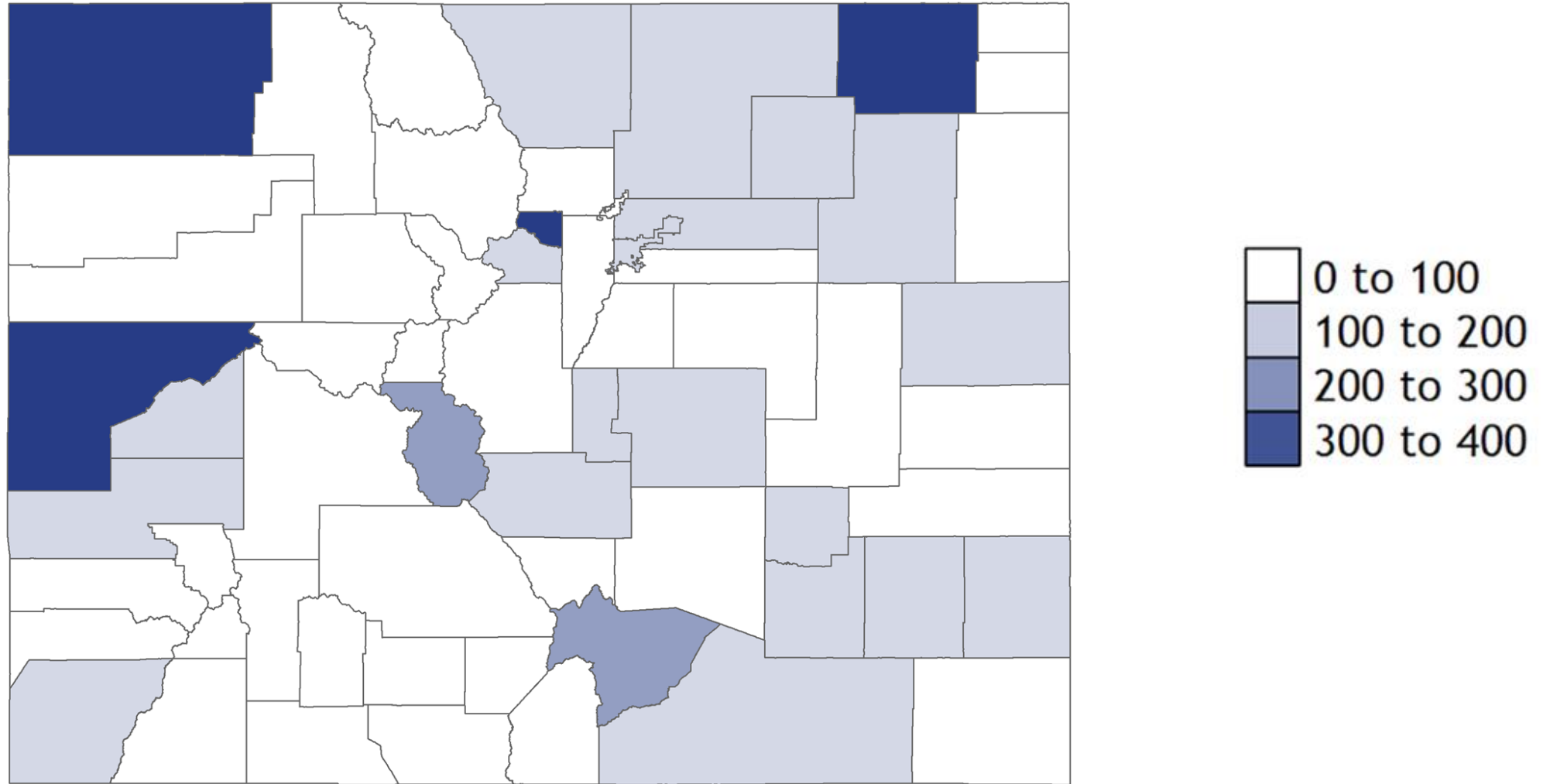


*Drug refers to the combined rates for amphetamines, cocaine, heroin and marijuana.

**Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

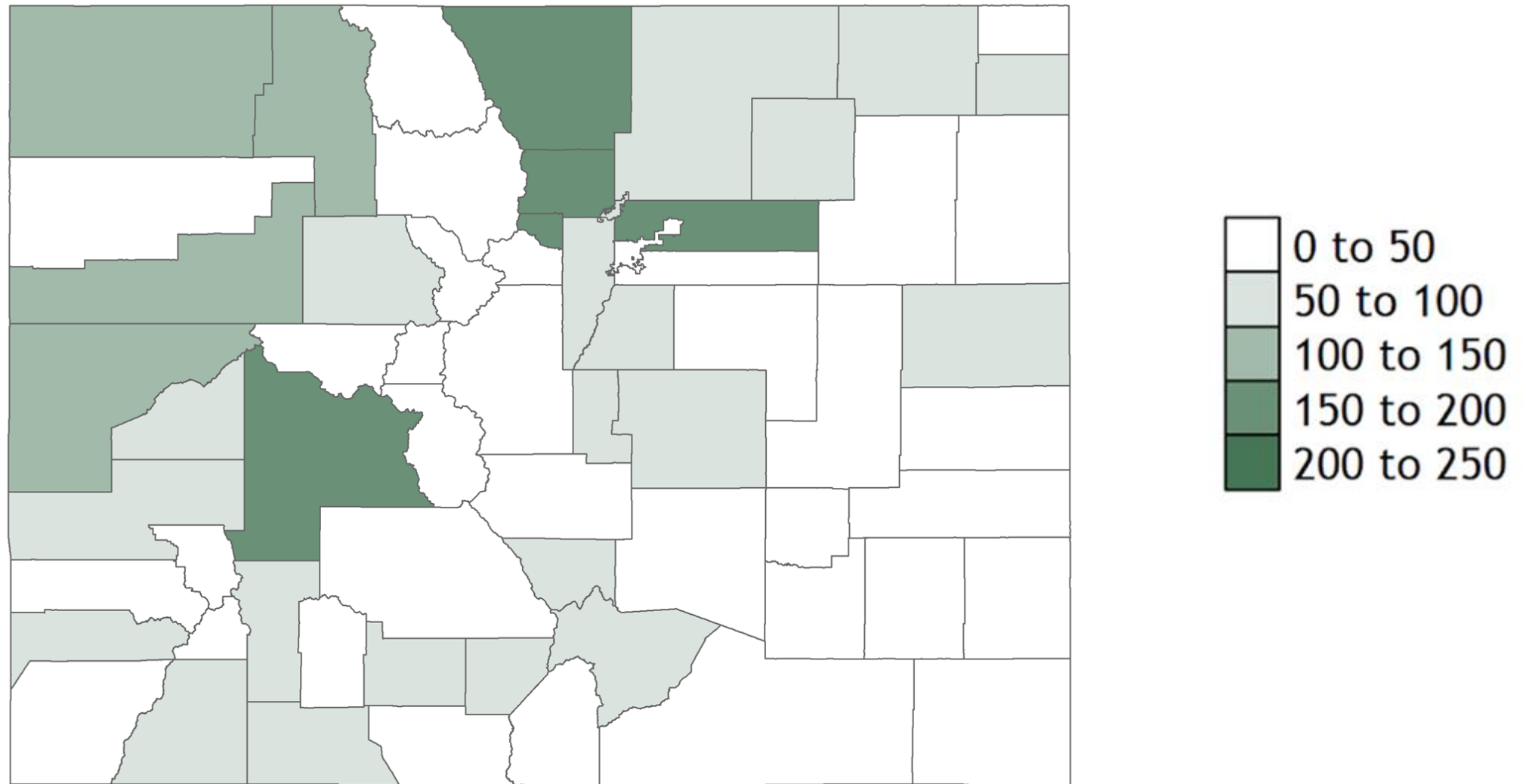
Amphetamine arrest rates by county, 2016-2020*



*Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

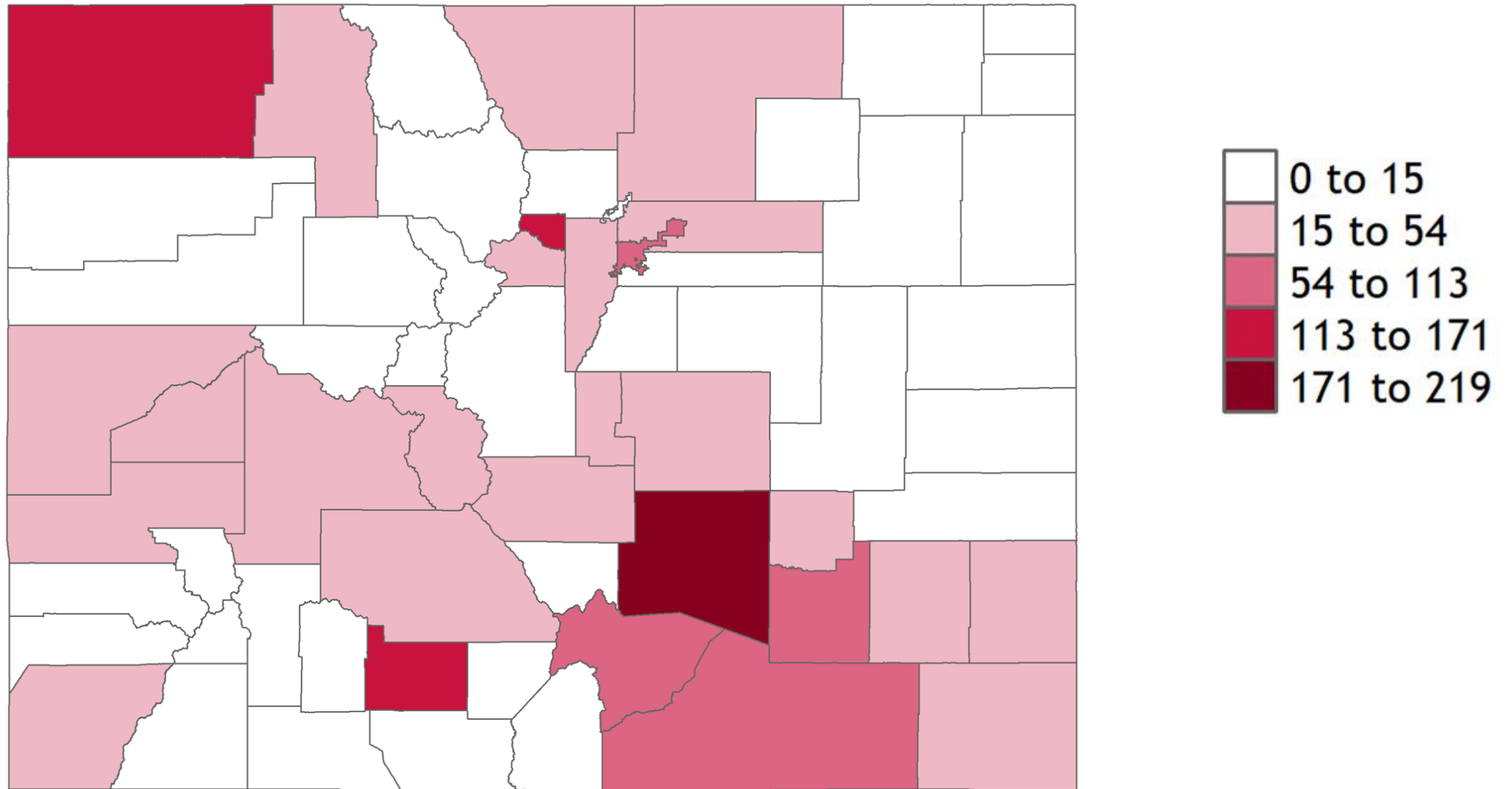
Marijuana arrest rates by county, 2016-2020*



*Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

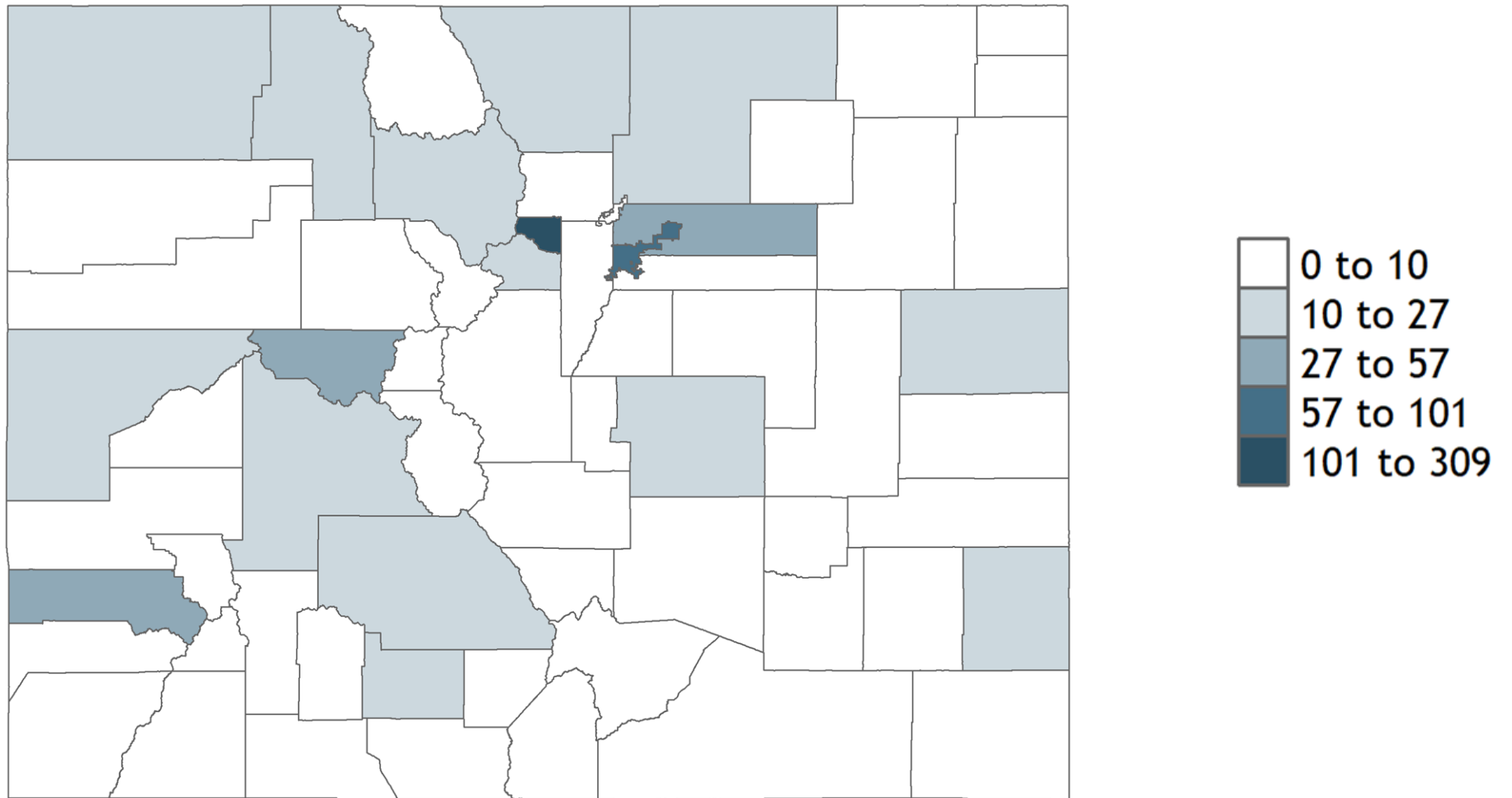
Heroin arrest rates by county, 2016-2018*



*Rate per 100,000 residents.

Source: Colorado Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System; Colorado Office of Demography.

Cocaine arrest rates by county, 2016-2020*



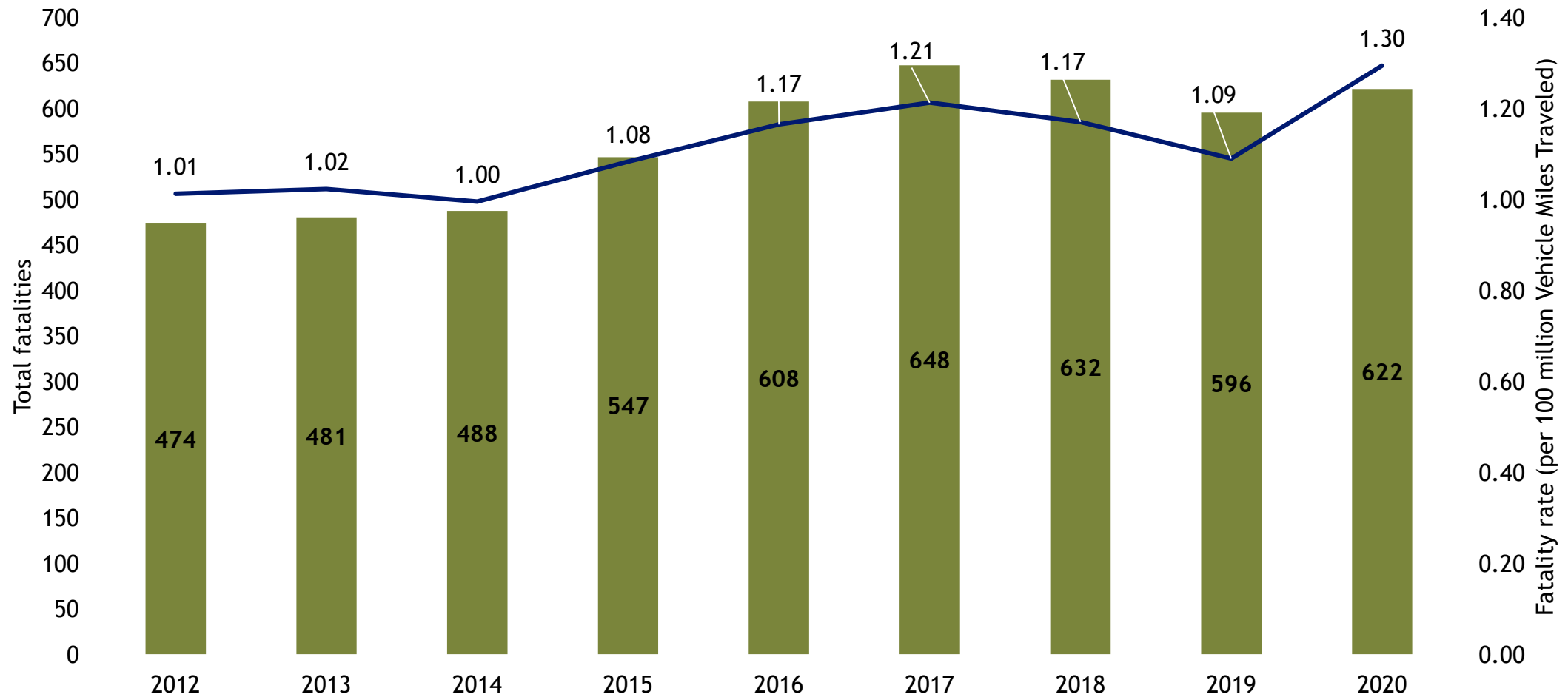
*Rate per 100,000 residents.

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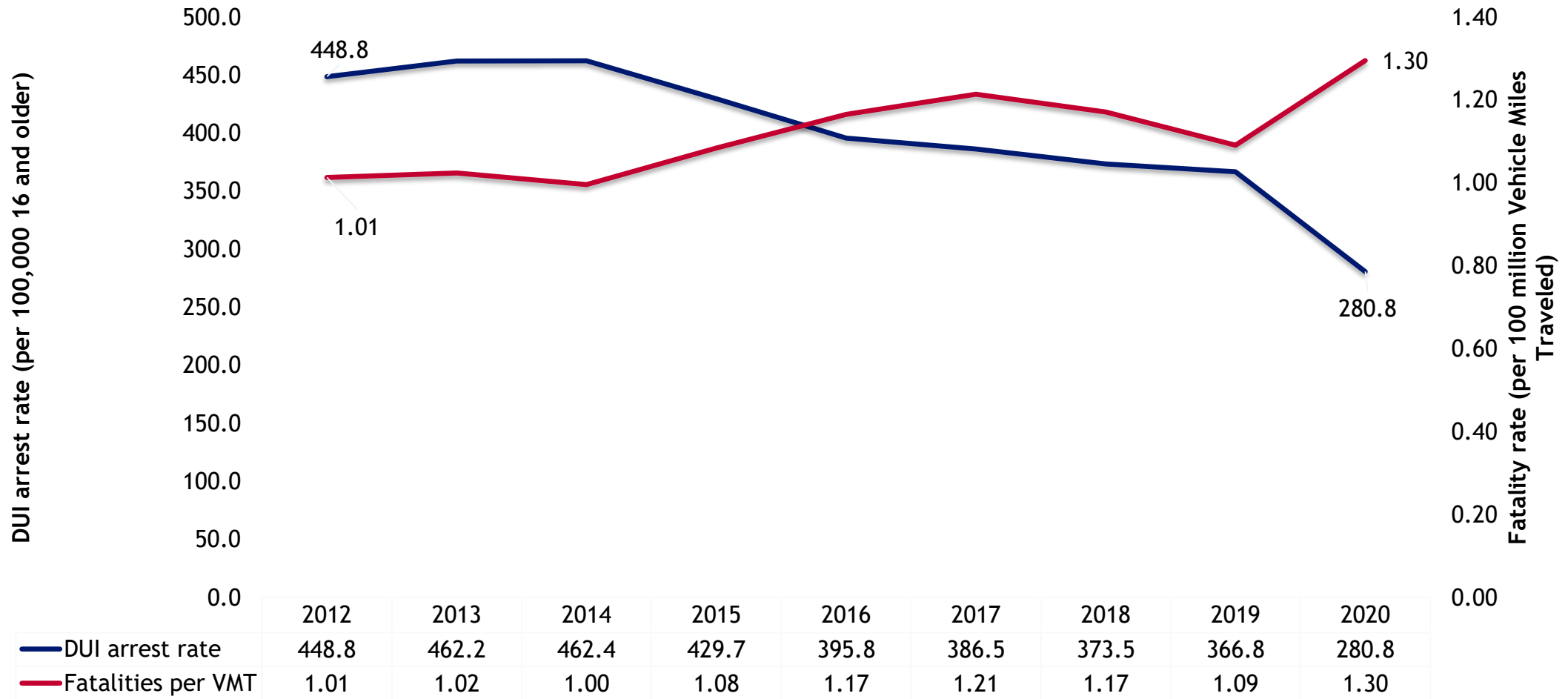
SECTION 3

Traffic Safety

Crash-related fatalities and fatality rate, 2012-2020



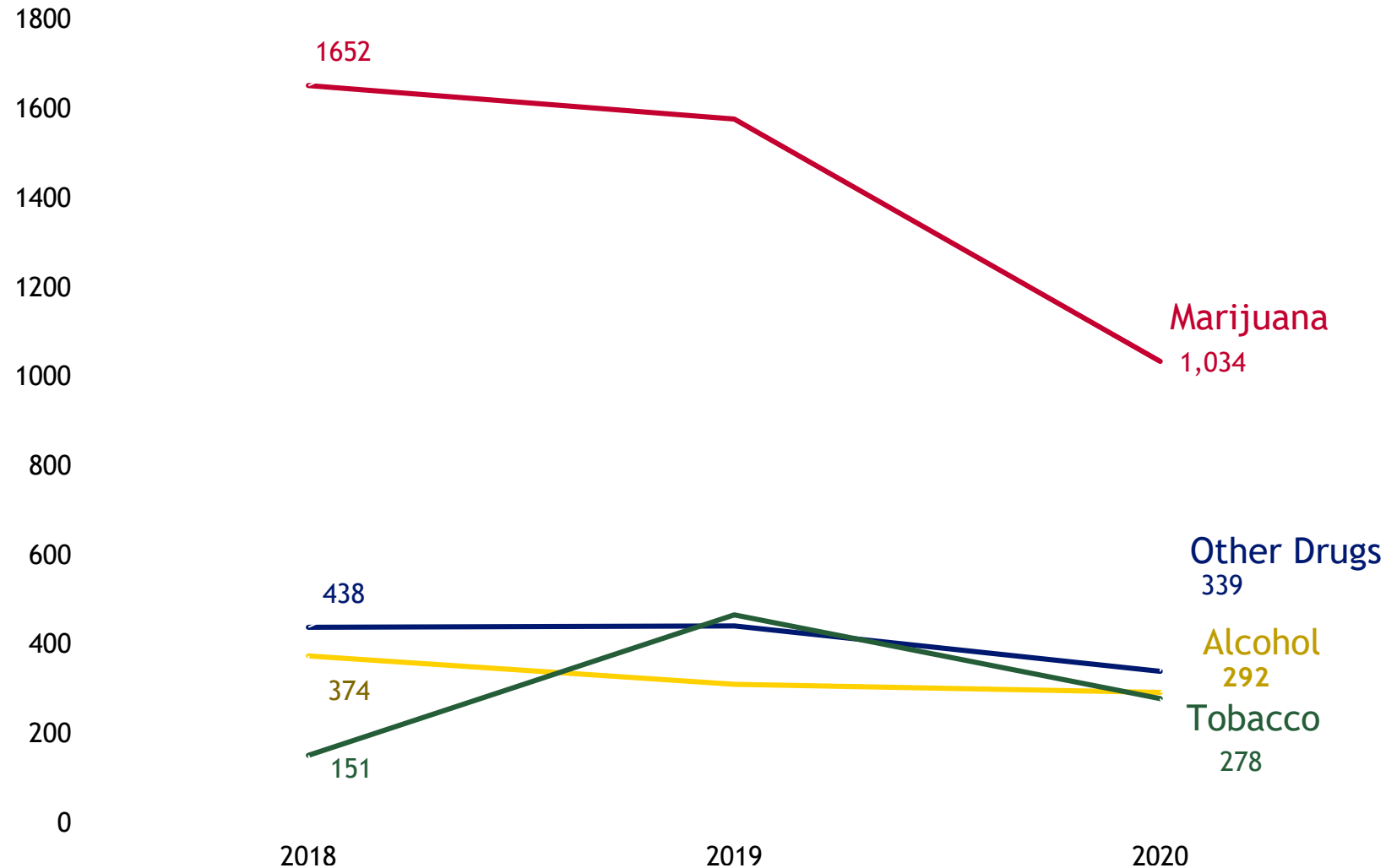
DUI arrest rate and crash fatality rate, 2012-2020



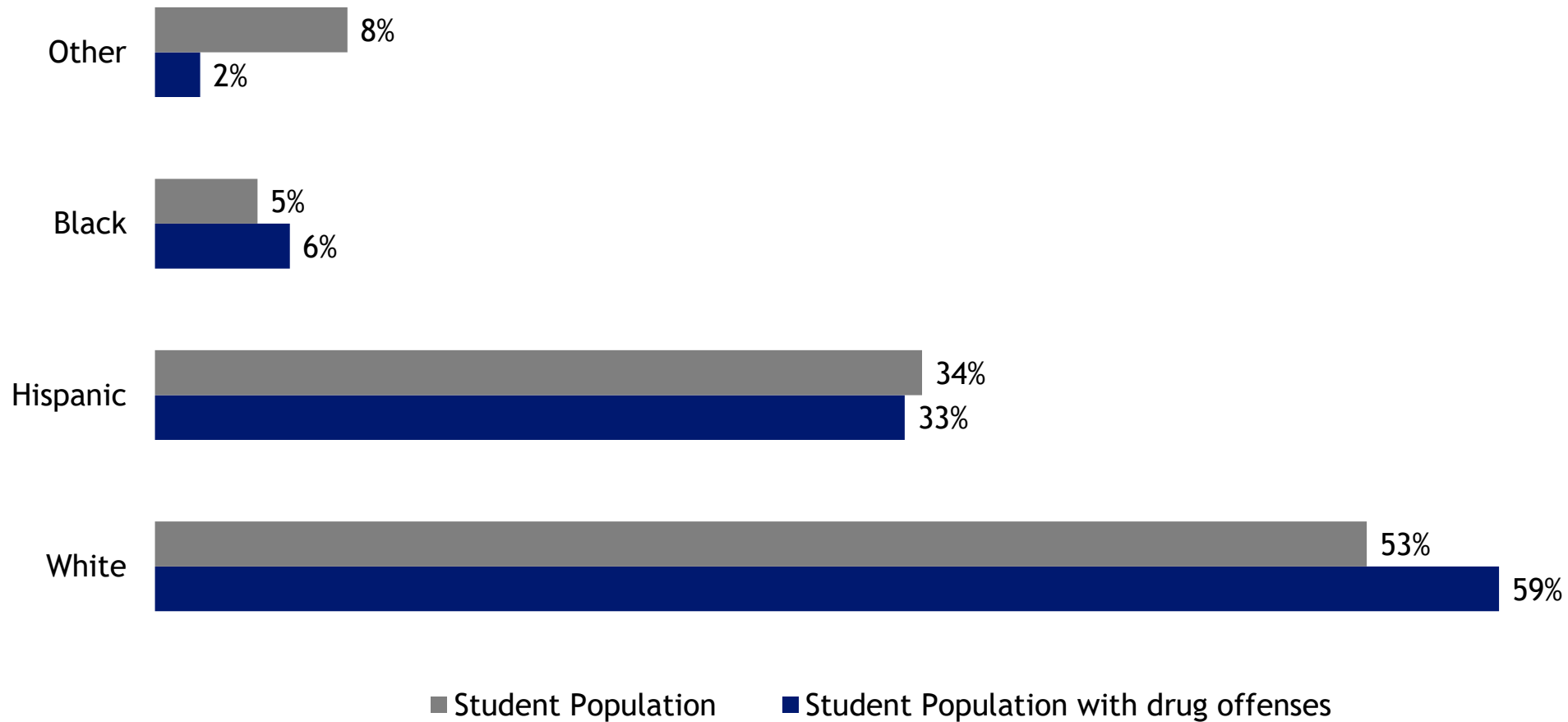
SECTION 4

School Discipline and Law Enforcement Contacts

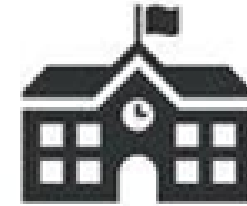
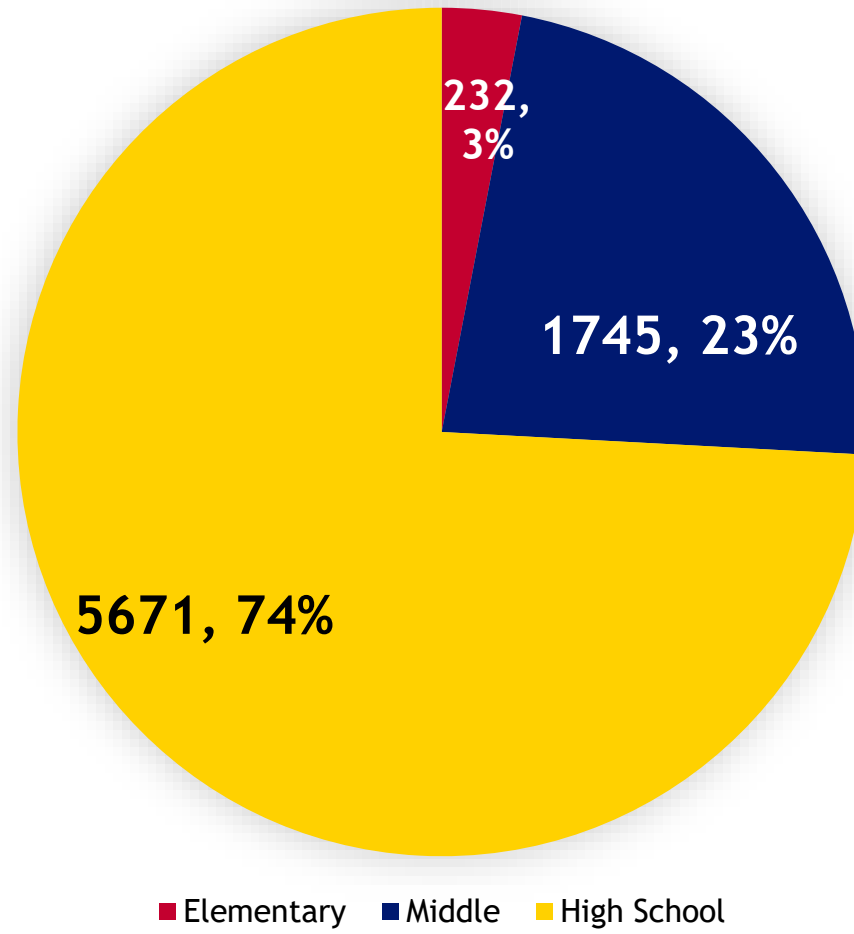
Number of student drug-related offenses, 2018-2020 school years



Race and ethnicity of student population vs. student population with drug offenses, 2018-2020



School type and student drug offenses, 2018-2020



The pandemic & the criminal justice system

- Difficulty interpreting decreases in drug arrests and student contacts with law enforcement; importance of gathering additional data sources to better characterize substance use.
- At the border, increases in methamphetamine and fentanyl seizures.
- Although arrest rates decreased, black/white disparity in arrest rates largely remain in place; systemic inequities still need to be addressed
- Reduced DUI arrests might have contributed to increased crash fatalities

Questions & Contact Information

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