

Current Crime Rate Issue In Casper Wyoming

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Wyoming is not known to be a dangerous place. I never paid attention to the crime rates here. Since it was not going around in my environment, it was something I should have followed up with. Growing up and being more aware of the world, showed me how much bad there is in our world.

Unfortunately, there has been a recent drug rise in Casper due to fentanyl. The local Wyoming news station reported on the issue. The author wrote, "Data from the Wyoming Department of Criminal Investigation and Department of Health shows that fentanyl has increased in prevalence across Wyoming. In 2019, Wyoming had 17 reported synthetic opioid overdose deaths among residents" (Reed 2022). This all started to become an issue in 2019, with us seeing the first cases. Then in late 2021 and going into 2022 there was a higher number of laced items and deaths. These are only reported issues, who knows how much has gone unreported.

Governor Gordon has talked publicly about the matter and warned everyone how dangerous this is. The warning is something that should not be taken lightly because there are currently 13 people at rehabilitation centers trying to get their lives back on track due to their addiction to the deadly drug. He is currently working on trying to fight against the drug and find a solution to this ongoing issue.

Currently, Casper is witnessing an ongoing murder trial. George Dickerson has been convicted of second-degree murder and attempted second-degree murder. There is a lot of speculation on whether or not he is guilty due to his mental illnesses. Casper has not witnessed high murder rates since 2002 so the recent one has caused high concern for the people of Casper

Theft is not a common thing in Casper, but it is something to be aware of. The overall safety rating here in Casper is a B-. About 33% of Casper, but around 67% is unsafe. Overall,

Casper does fall on the not-so-safe side of Wyoming, but when looking at the United States as a whole and the crime rates, we are safer than the normal big city. The lesson is to stay safe no matter the size of the town and make sure you are aware of what is going on around you.

Resources

“Casper Crime Rates and Statistics.” *NeighborhoodScout*,

<https://www.neighborhoodscout.com/wy/casper/crime>. Accessed 8 December 2023.

“Casper, WY Robbery Rates and Robbery Maps.” *CrimeGrade.org*,

<https://crimegrade.org/robbery-casper-wy/>. Accessed 8 December 2023.

Hirst, Greg. “Defense outlines mental illness defense at Casper man's homicide trial.” *Oil City*

News, 4 December 2023,

<https://oilcity.news/crime/2023/12/04/defense-outlines-mental-illness-defense-at-casper-mans-homicide-trial/>. Accessed 8 December 2023.

Reed, Katie. “Casper feels increased presence of fentanyl impacting Wyoming.” *Wyoming News*

Now, 1 August 2022,

<https://www.wyomingnewsnow.tv/2022/08/01/casper-feels-increased-presence-fentanyl-impacting-wyoming/>. Accessed 8 December 2023.

