

## Cocaine poised to surpass oil as Colombia's biggest export this year: report

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Colombia's cocaine output increased to a record 1,738 tons last year, compared to just 972 tons in 2021. As Colombia's cocaine production has increased, the country's most prominent oil company, [Ecopetrol](#), saw first-half profits crash by over \$424 trillion.

REUTERS Colombia reserved the most land it ever has to plant coca in 2022 — a staggering 230,000 hectares, or 570,000 acres.

Honduran Armed Forces/AFP via Getty Images Petro's approach to snuffing out illegal cocaine production hasn't done much to stem the drug trade.



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### **\$2M of Cocaine Discovered Hidden in Louisiana Home of 54-Year-Old Man**

A 54-year-old man from Louisiana was arrested Monday after authorities discovered more than \$2 million of cocaine hidden in his Louisiana home.



### **Costa Rica, the once-peaceful land of 'pura vida,' battles violence as cocaine trade grows**

Killings have increased sharply in Costa Rica, the long-peaceful nation known for its laid-back vibe. The drug violence has put the country's identity at stake.



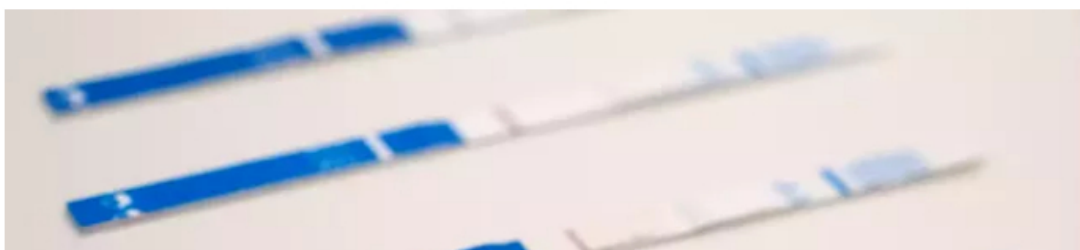
**Fentanyl mixed with cocaine or meth is driving the '4th wave' of the overdose crisis**

A new study finds a 50-fold growth in deaths from combined use of stimulants and opioids. The toxic and contaminated drug supply is to blame.



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## **'Central figure' in California cocaine ring sentenced to 10 years**

Francisco Ricardo Miranda, 37, was identified through a wiretap operation aimed at one of his customers, according to the Department of Justice.

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