

2022 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE LAWRENCE

Funded Partners: ACT Lawrence, Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence, Change the Play Inc., Lawrence Family Development & Education Fund Inc., Lawrence Methuen Community Coalition/Family Services of Merrimack Valley, Lawrence Police Department, Merrimack Valley YMCA, YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts Inc.

Funded by the Office of Grants and Research, a state agency that is part of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the Charles E. Shannon Community Safety Initiative (Shannon) is modeled after the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Gang Model. Shannon is a multi-sector approach used to address a community's gang and youth violence problem. Each community receiving Shannon funding demonstrates the presence of risk factors for youth and gang violence. Shannon participants must be between the ages of 10-24 years.

Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation

Total Funding: \$250,500.00

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	30 Received Case Management Services	60 Received Street Outreach Services	\$29,625.00
Education & Employment	85 Participated in Employment Programs	106 Participated in Education Programs	\$41,800.00
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	682 Participated in Recreation Programs	766 Participated in Youth Development Programs	\$130,825.00
Suppression	52 Hot Spot Patrols Completed	24 Gang Members/High-Impact Players Arrested	\$48,250.00

Youth Risk Assessments

- 26% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 57% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 17% **HIGH-RISK*** Youth who are perpetrators or victims of shooting or stabbing violence, and/or are known gang members.

* % of youth assessed for risk

Success Highlight

"One youth started the Summer program very shy and rarely spoke. After completing our daily team-building activities, our public speaking workshop, and communication skills, she was selected as the graduation speaker for her school, where she delivered a public speech in front of 90+ graduation attendees."

~ACT Lawrence

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Secretary Terrence Reidy
Office of Grants and Research, Executive Director Kevin Stanton

To learn more visit: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/shannon-community-safety-initiative-csi>

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Lawrence

Total Population (2021/2022 Estimates)	6,981,974	88,508
Population Lives in Poverty	10.4%	19.2%
Unemployment Rate (Nov. 2021 – Nov. 2022)	4%	7.5%
Total School Population (2021-22)	957,774	16,563
Low-Income	42.3%	85.5%
High School Dropout Rate (2020-21)	1.5%	2.1%

Sources: www.census.gov/quickfacts; profiles.doe.mass.edu; www.lmi.dua.eol.mass.gov/LMI/LaborForceAndUnemployment

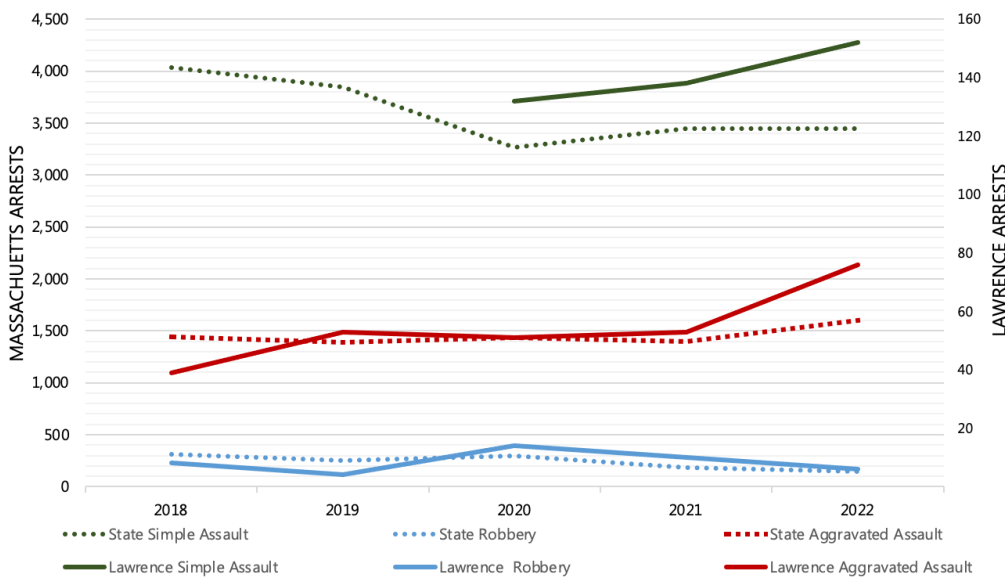
Gang Activity in Lawrence

5
Street Gangs

900
Gang Members

In 2022, the Lawrence Police Department had knowledge of at least five active street gangs within the city and additional knowledge of possible smaller neighborhood gangs. As in similar years, these gangs are comprised of approximately 900 suspected, associated, and/or validated gang members. Primary gang-related crimes included drug trafficking, drug distribution, robbery, motor vehicle theft, inter-gang violence (including shootings), check forgery, and the unlawful possession of firearms.

5-Year Crime Trends for Offenses Committed by Youth Ages 10-24, 2018-2022



Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Changes in Crime for Young People Ages 10-24, 2018-2022*

- Simple assaults in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 15%
 - Lawrence increased 10% (2020-2022)
- Robberies in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 52%
 - Lawrence decreased 25%
- Aggravated assaults in...
 - Massachusetts increased 11%
 - Lawrence increased 95%

*Lawrence statistics on simple assaults are not available prior to 2020.

Information contained in this report is from funding applications, reports supplied by the site, MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, US Census, MA Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, and Office of Grants and Research / Research Policy and Analysis Division. Special thanks to the Statewide Research Partner, Northeastern University, and the Crime and Justice Policy Lab of the University of Pennsylvania, for preparing this brief.