

2022 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE WORCESTER

Funded Partners: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Club of Worcester, Main South CDC, Worcester Community Action Council, Worcester Police Department, Worcester Public Schools, Worcester Youth Center, You 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: \$1,258,516.92*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	172 Received Case Management Services	153 Case Management Goals Achieved	\$423,054.60
Community Mobilization	1,725 Community Members Attended Events, Meetings, & Presentations	9 Community Events, Meetings, & Presentations Held	\$29,420.77
Education & Employment	65 Participated in Employment Programs	47 Completed a Subsidized Summer Employment Program	\$264,653.75
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	490 Participated in Recreation Programs	372 Participated in Youth Development Programs	\$336,253.76
Suppression	83 Hot Spot Patrols Completed	45 Law Enforcement Home Visits	\$163,639.33

*In 2022, \$8,245.04 was allocated to administrative costs and \$33,249.67 was allocated to other costs.

Youth Risk Assessments

- 79% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 14% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 7% **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

"A reentry panel candidate was released from jail without a job or direction. Using our partnerships developed through Shannon programs, we were able to put him in contact with the right services in order to set him up with a job where he is still currently employed."
~Worcester Police Department

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

Worcester

Total Population (2021/2022 Estimates)	6,981,974	205,918
Population Lives in Poverty	10.4%	19.3%
Unemployment Rate (Nov. 2021 – Nov. 2022)	4%	4.4%
Total School Population (2021-22)	957,774	27,232
Low-Income	42.3%	72.5%
High School Dropout Rate (2020-21)	1.5%	1.1%

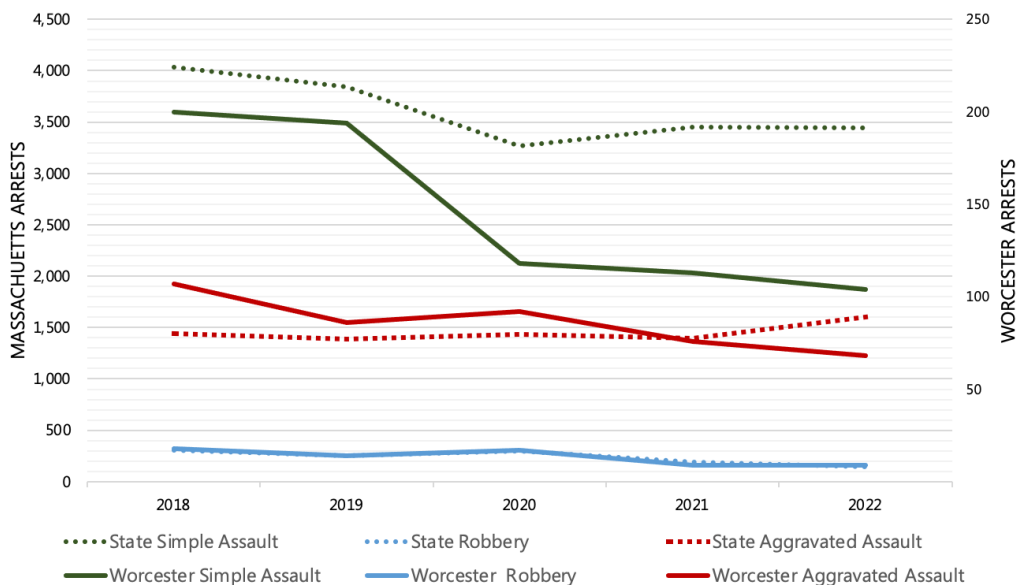
Sources: www.census.gov/quickfacts; profiles.doe.mass.edu; www.lmi.dua.eol.mass.gov/LMI/LaborForceAndUnemployment

Gang Activity in Worcester

20+
Street Gangs
1000+
Gang Members

The most violent gangs in Worcester are the local street gangs. The issues and disagreements between each set mostly involve territory and disrespect among members. The types of crime they are involved in often include home invasions, stabbings, robberies, firearms violations, shootings, breaking and entering crimes, and larcenies. The violence amongst members has worsened among the youngest members, often seeing victims and suspects of shootings between 15-17 years of age. There is no structure within these groups either. The youngest members aren't answering to anyone and often make decisions independently.

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



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

- Simple assaults in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 15%
 - Worcester decreased 48%
- Robberies in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 52%
 - Worcester decreased 50%
- Aggravated assaults in...
 - Massachusetts increased 11%
 - Worcester decreased 36%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

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.