

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

BOSTON

Funded Partners: Apprentice Learning, Boston Centers for Youth & Families, Boston Medical Center's Violence Intervention Advocacy Program (VIAP), Boston Housing Authority, Boston Police Department, Boston Public Health Commission, Center for Teen Empowerment, Fathers' UpLift, Freedom House, Future Chefs, Hyde Square Task Force, JRI-MLMC/Strive, Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, Madison Park Development Corporation, Maverick Landing Community Services, Mothers for Justice & Equality, Project RIGHT, Roca Inc., Sportsmen's Tennis & Enrichment Center, Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, St. Stephen's Youth Program, Urban Guild, Veronica Robles Cultural Center, Young Man with a Plan, Youth Guidance Becoming a Man, YOU Boston, YouthBuild Boston, YouthConnect

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: \$1,735,107.39*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	2,487 youth received case management services	2,404 goals of case management achieved	\$439,908.64
Community Mobilization	6,287 community members attended events, meetings, and presentations	239 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$94,558.64
Education & Employment	3,275 youth participated in an education program	1,218 youth participated in an employment program	\$293,617.28
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	4,015 youth participated in a recreation program	3,410 youth participated in youth development programs	\$402,908.64
Suppression	1,225 hotspot patrols completed	185 law enforcement home visits	\$223,600.00

*In 2025, \$280,514.19 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the Boston site.

Youth Risk Assessments

- 19% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 68% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 13% **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 of the most illustrative examples of the positive influence of our program is a young individual who was a high school dropout. Through our mentorship program, he not only gained support but also discovered his potential. He regained his confidence and committed to returning to school. This individual became a cornerstone in our program, leading our food programs and assuming a position that requires him to be accountable and tough. By throwing himself into entrepreneurial and hospitality training, he filled a void that existed between what he was learning in school and what is expected in a business environment. He has changed from being a disconnected youth to a leader who takes every challenge as a chance for growth."

~Veronica Robles Cultural Center

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Secretary Gina Kwon
Office of Grants and Research, Executive Director Kevin Stanton

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

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Boston

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	673,458
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	16.6%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	4.7%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	62,844
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	68.3%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	4.5%

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

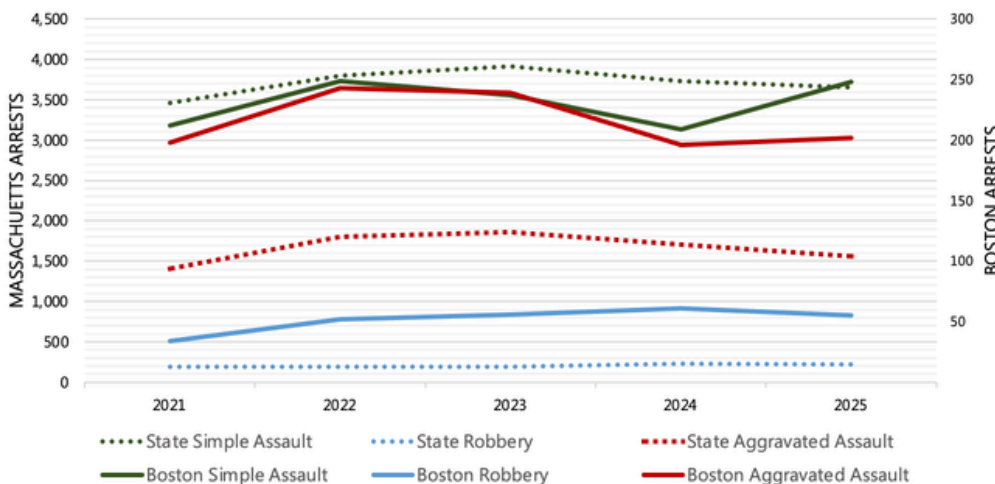
Gang Activity in Boston

65
Street Gangs

650
Gang Members
Between the Ages
of 14-24

During 2025, the Boston Police Department identified 65 active gangs. Within these identified gangs, Boston Police Gang and Intelligence Officers classified 650 members as between the ages of 14 and 24 years old. This intelligence was gathered through self-identification, field reports, arrest records, and collaboration with violence intervention workers, Department of Corrections, parole, clergy, and other community-based organizations. Neighborhoods most affected by youth and gang violence include Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan. Recruitment and membership are usually neighborhood-based and change rapidly due to housing issues and social media. Boston gangs may be larger due to the presence of adults (especially between 25 and 34 years of age).

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Boston increased by 17%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Boston increased 62%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Boston increased 2%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE BROCKTON

Funded Partners: Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South, Brockton Police Department, Health Imperatives, Hoops Collaborative Youth Development, Kids Konnect, Love to Learn Inc., Safe Corners, South Opportunity and Achievement Program, Strategies for Youth (Juvenile Justice Jeopardy), Youth Empowerment & Positivity

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Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation

Total Funding: \$775,475.14*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	150 youth received case management services	244 goals of case management achieved	\$306,472.93
Community Mobilization	440 community members attended events, meetings, and presentations	30 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$44,126.85
Education & Employment	1,220 youth participated in an education program	388 youth participated in an employment program	\$104,263.93
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	1,471 youth participated in a recreation program	1,632 youth participated in youth development programs	\$245,867.01
Suppression	12 arrests of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit		\$8,126.85

*In 2025, \$66,617.56 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

Youth Risk Assessments

- 46% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 42% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 12% **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 of our youth had never participated in organized sports. He disengaged from school and avoided academic responsibility. Through consistent mentorship, guidance, and accountability...he is now an active high school basketball and football player. Sports give him structure, purpose, and motivation to succeed. He has embraced the role of a student athlete, understanding that maintaining strong grades and positive behavior is required to continue playing...He now remains in class, completes his schoolwork, and regularly stays after school for extra academic support."

~Safe Corners (Old Colony YMCA)

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Brockton

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	105,788
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	13.5%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	5.9%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	18,507
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	72.3%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	5.6%

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

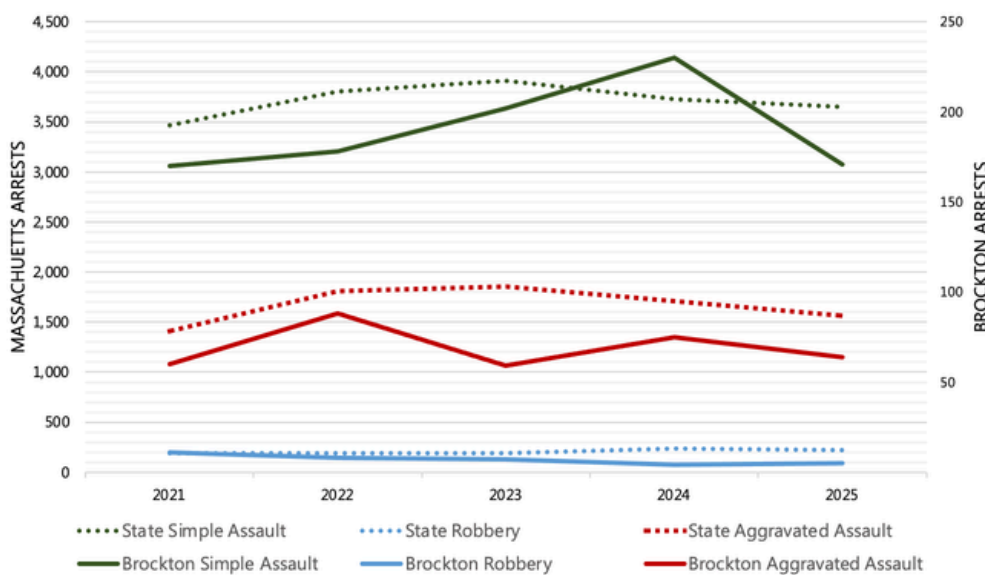
Gang Activity in Brockton

15
Street Gangs

270
Active Gang
Members

Brockton's gang activity largely involves car theft, drug activity, firearm-related crimes, and gang violence. The active members use a sense of belonging, protection, money, and drugs to recruit new members.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Brockton increased 0.6%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Brockton decreased 55%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Brockton increased 7%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

FALL RIVER

Funded Partners: Bristol County Training Consortium/MassHire Bristol Career Centers, Fall River Boys & Girls Club, Fall River Police Department, Fall River Public Schools, Fall River YMCA, Fall River Youth Court, Family Service Association, Greater Fall River RE-CREATION, Massachusetts Parole Board, Solid Ground Psychotherapy, United Neighbors of Fall River, YouthBuild Fall River

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Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation

Total Funding: \$653,973.25*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	56 youth received case management services	81 goals of case management achieved	\$118,765.80
Community Mobilization	2,599 community members attended events, meetings, and presentations	51 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$103,668.03
Education & Employment	29 youth participated in an education program	19 youth participated in an employment program	\$139,402.60
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	596 youth participated in a recreation program	483 youth participated in youth development programs	\$94,526.86
Suppression	54 hotspot patrols completed	73 law enforcement home visits	\$117,710.19

*In 2025, \$79,899.76 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

Youth Risk Assessments

- 3% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 41% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 56% **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

"In 2025, a YouthBuild graduate and former Shannon youth joined our staff as a graduate assistant. After earning his HiSET, HBI/PACT certificate, OSHA 10 certification, and demonstrating an unmatched ability to navigate mentoring his peers while consistently working towards his own goals, he became a full-time assistant for the remainder of the year. In this position, he is responsible for outreach and retention, as well as tutoring and mentoring current students. While he is working as a grad assistant, he is waiting to begin post-secondary education and pursuing more long-term employment opportunities."

~ YouthBuild Fall River

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Secretary Gina Kwon
Office of Grants and Research, Executive Director Kevin Stanton

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

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Fall River

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	94,689
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	19.6%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	6.8%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	14,858
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	77.7%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	5.0%

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

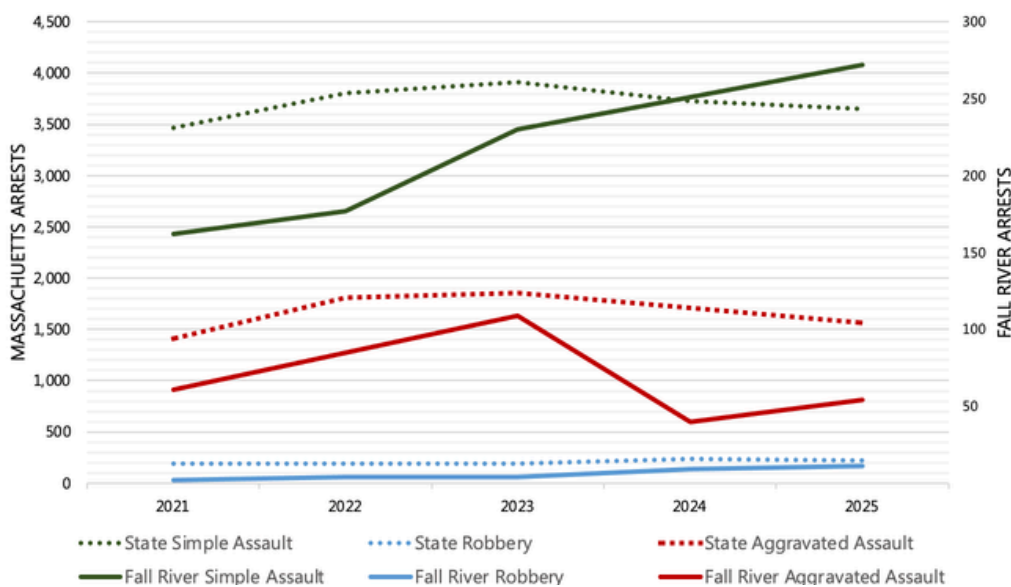
Gang Activity in Fall River

In Fall River, gangs are frequently involved in drug trafficking, violent crime, weapons possession, and property damage. While most gang members are of high school age, children as young as 10 years old are often targeted for recruitment, based on the perception that younger individuals face reduced legal consequences. Gangs in Fall River are typically organized by neighborhood. The regional gangs most active in the community include the Asian Boyz, Gangster Disciples, Crips, Mafiosos, 40 Blocc, Latin Kings, motorcycle gangs, and Boston-based street gangs. Individual risk factors associated with gang involvement include the desire for peer connection, antisocial thinking patterns and attitudes, peer and familial influences, prior or current involvement in the justice system, limited access to prosocial activities, and low school achievement. Communities most affected by gang activity and violence often experience high rates of unemployment and poverty, limited financial and social resources, and a higher prevalence of violent crime.

20
Street Gangs

350
Gang Members
Between Ages 10-
24

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Fall River increased 68%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Fall River increased 450%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Fall River decreased 11%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE FITCHBURG/GARDNER

Funded Partners: City of Fitchburg Police Department, City of Gardner Police Department, Making Opportunity Count, Mount Wachusett Community College, Shining Light Ministries, Spanish American Center

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Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation

Total Funding: \$479,882.76*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	53 youth received case management services	45 goals of case management achieved	\$85,621.02
Community Mobilization	50 community members attended events, meetings, and presentations	2 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$23,612.40
Education & Employment	142 youth participated in an education program	52 youth participated in an employment program	\$121,642.03
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	175 youth participated in a recreation program	165 youth participated in youth development programs	\$139,933.06
Suppression	33 hotspot patrols completed	25 law enforcement home visits	\$74,674.26

*In 2025, \$34,400.00 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

Youth Risk Assessments

- 56% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 41% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 3% **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 15-year-old student had been struggling with explosive outbursts, truancy, and poor decisions. This student also had major distrust of the police. After participating in the DARE program, our SRO noticed that the student showed improvements. She now uses de-escalation strategies learned in DARE when she is experiencing challenges and attends school more consistently. Additionally, relationships she built with police through our program have led her to trust law enforcement more."

~ City of Gardner Police Department

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts Fitchburg Gardner

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	42,145	21,381
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	15.6%	13.7%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	6.2%	6.0%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	6,601	2,470
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	69.7%	60.6%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	2.1%	2.9%

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

Gang Activity in Fitchburg/Gardner

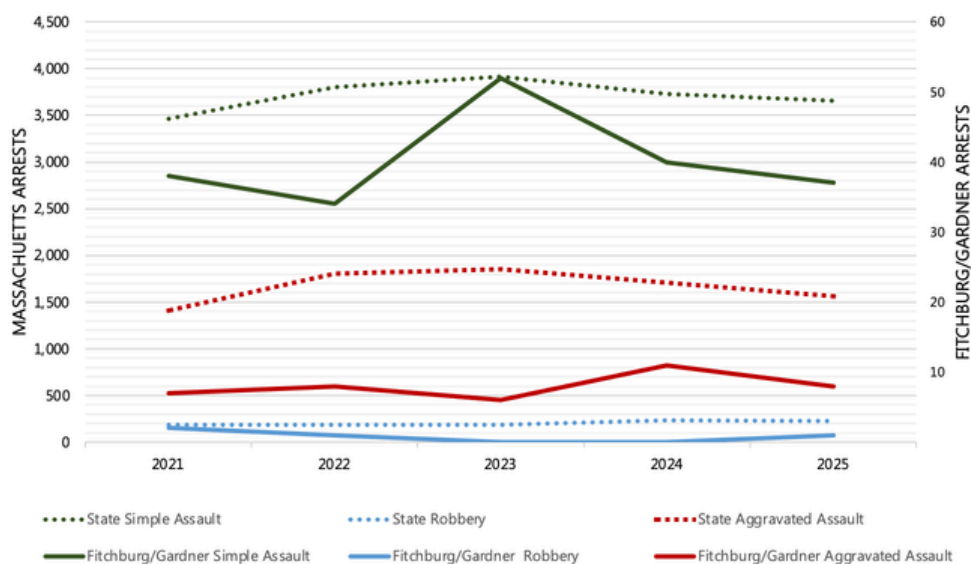
8
Street Gangs

36 Estimated Gang
Members

Between the Ages of
10-24

Gang-related violence, gun crime, juvenile offending, and narcotics activity continue to present persistent challenges for police departments. A relatively small group of highly active offenders account for a disproportionate share of these incidents, underscoring the concentrated nature of crime. Although many offenses are reported, a substantial number of serious gang-related crimes remain unreported due to fear of retaliation and concerns about exposure to law enforcement. The issue is not confined to any single group; rather, Fitchburg is home to a diverse array of gangs, including nationally recognized organizations such as the Almighty Latin Kings and Queens, Vice Lords, Bloods, as well as various local street gangs.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Fitchburg/Gardner decreased 3%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Fitchburg/Gardner decreased 50%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in....

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Fitchburg/Gardner increased 14%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE HAVERHILL/METHUEN

Funded Partners: Boys & Girls Club of Greater Haverhill, CAI/MakeIT Haverhill, Haverhill Police Department, Methuen Arlington Neighborhood Inc., Methuen Police Department, North Shore YMCA, Somebody Cares New England, UTEC, Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School, YWCA of Northeastern Massachusetts

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Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation

Total Funding: \$310,466.65*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	64 youth received case management services	172 youth received outreach services	\$95,220.16
Community Mobilization	4,042 community members attended events, meetings and presentations	253 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$28,751.31
Education & Employment	3,008 youth participated in an education program	525 youth participated in an employment program	\$36,750.89
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	1,523 youth participated in a recreation program	2,146 youth participated in youth development programs	\$104,897.42
Suppression	49 hotspot patrols completed	2 gang members / high impacted players arraigned	\$34,031.87

*In 2025, \$10,815.00 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

Youth Risk Assessments

67%
LOW-RISK* Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.

22%
MODERATE-RISK* Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.

11%
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 student who joined the Club's Positive Action program at the beginning of the academic year initially presented as a quiet and reserved individual and demonstrated a general lack of confidence. She would sit on the side, rarely volunteering answers or engaging actively in discussions. Through the implementation of the Positive Action curriculum, focusing on units such as Understanding My Feelings, Getting Along with Others, and Being Responsible, a remarkable transformation began to unfold."

~ Boys & Girls Club of Greater Haverhill

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Haverhill

Methuen

	Massachusetts	Haverhill	Methuen
Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	68,291	54,272
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	11.3%	7.9%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	5.1%	5.1%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	9,554	7,966
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	60.8%	53.0%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	3.0%	3.0%

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

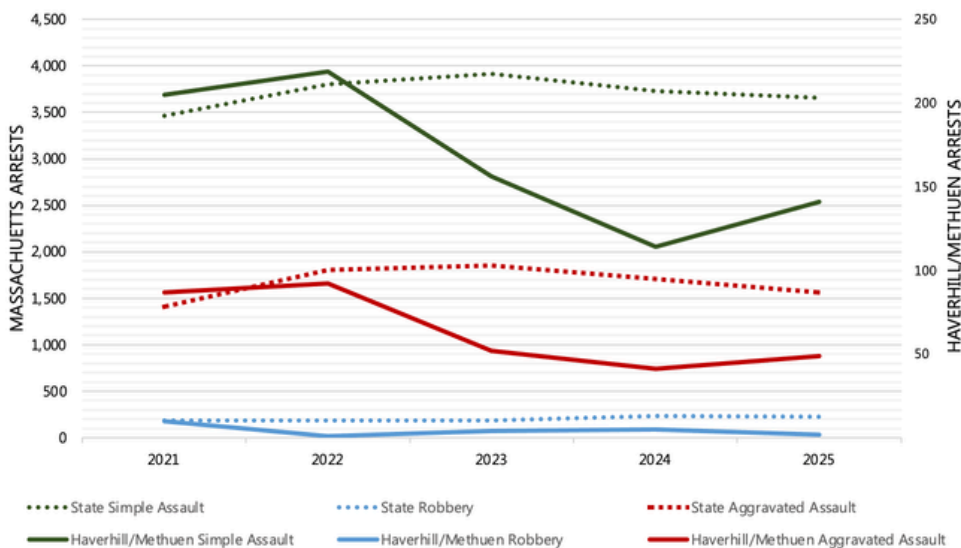
Gang Activity in Haverhill/Methuen

18-20
Street Gangs

700
Active Gang
Members

Haverhill reports 18-20 gangs with 500 members ranging from the likes of Trinitarios, Gangsta Disciples, Latin Kings, Blood and Crypts to neighborhood cliques. Methuen gang activity happens along the border with the Arlington neighborhood in Lawrence. The primary gangs are the Trinitarios and Gangsta Disciples with about 200 members. Street Outreach workers report gangs are primarily involved in crimes that are economic in nature: illegal drug trade, prostitution, home invasions, fire-arm sales, as well as violent crimes .

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrest for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Haverhill/Methuen decreased 31%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Haverhill/Methuen decreased 80%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Haverhill/Methuen decreased 44%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

HOLYOKE/CHICOPEE

Funded Partners: Chicopee Boys & Girls Club, Chicopee Police Department, Hampden County Sheriff's Department, Holyoke Boys & Girls Club, Holyoke Police Department, MassHire Holyoke, Pa'lante, The Center for Resilience

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Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation

Total Funding: \$606,446.54

Strategies	Outcomes	Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	35 youth participated in a mental health program	\$7,968.44
Community Mobilization	8,240 community members attended events, meetings, and presentations 211 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$98,336.92
Education & Employment	86 youth participated in an education program 27 youth participated in an employment program	\$76,874.89
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	726 youth participated in a recreation program 977 youth participated in youth development programs	\$199,613.98
Suppression	178 hotspot patrols completed 41 gang members / high impacted players arraigned	\$223,652.32

Youth Risk Assessments

30% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.

28% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.

42% **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

"We have been able to coordinate four youth stipends from the model of MassHire Holyoke's Summer Youth Works Program. The youth who worked over the summer as scorekeepers all have developed a deeper rapport with us and a higher level of trust in us. We can see identifiable changes in each of their behaviors. In addition to the change in behavior, all four youth are very open to sharing their struggles and open to the support we provide to them."

~Hampden County Sheriff's Office

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Holyoke

Chicopee

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	37,838	55,381
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	27.0%	17.3%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	6.3%	5.7%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	5,273	7,587
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	84.2%	64.2%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	4.9%	2.1%

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

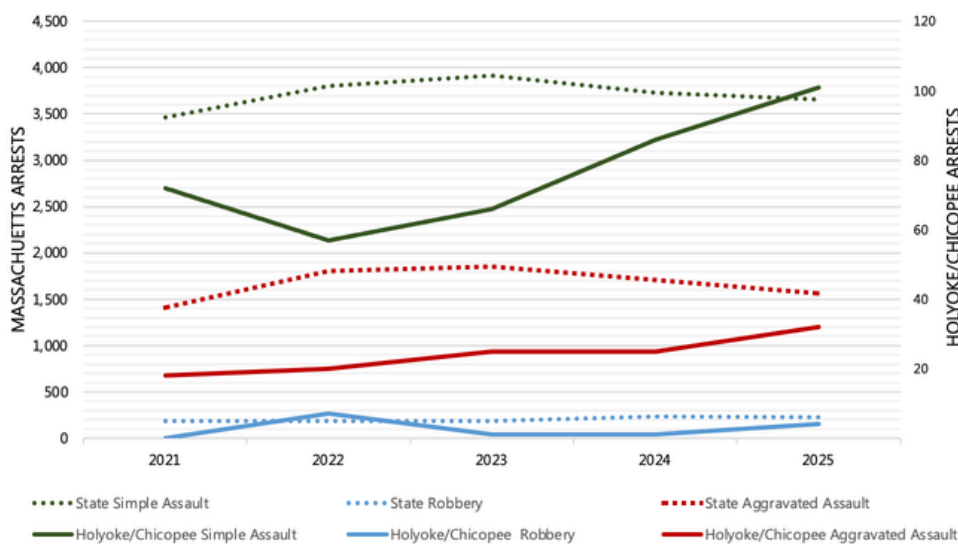
Gang Activity in Holyoke/Chicopee

8-10
Street Gangs

200-300
Gang Members

In our communities, gangs include national gangs, local street gangs, local sets and crews without documented names or organizations. The national gangs continue to be involved in extensive drug trafficking, with Holyoke being a central aspect of the I91 corridor that connects drugs from New York City to Massachusetts, Vermont, and Holyoke. These gangs are connected to both drug crimes and violent crimes. Local sets are associated with a range of violent activities in the city and are also involved in drug sales. Each of these gangs continue to recruit from the communities' youth, creating extensive risk for future gang involvement and violence. We have high numbers of youth in under-the-radar gangs, sets, and clicks. The illicit drug problem is a chronic concern that is closely linked to gang activity and is associated with high levels of gang recruitment among Holyoke and Chicopee youth. The drug connection is linked to both drug use among our youth, as well as a mechanism for recruitment of youth into gangs. The associated gang recruitment, drug use, and distribution are linked. Youth who become gang involved have a high risk of drug abuse, disengagement from school, and risk for violence.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Holyoke/Chicopee increased 40%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Holyoke/Chicopee decreased 43% (2022-2025)

There were 0 robberies in 2021; thus % change was calculated from 2022

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Holyoke/Chicopee increased 78%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE LAWRENCE

Funded Partners: ACT Lawrence Inc., Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence, Change the Play Inc., Lawrence Family Development & Education Fund, Inc., Lawrence Police Department, Merrimack Valley YMCA, Sueños Basketball, 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: \$299,866.91

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	59 youth received case management services	25 youth received outreach services	\$28,500.00
Community Mobilization	1,184 community members attended events, meetings and presentations	28 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$13,500.00
Education & Employment	540 youth participated in an education program	151 youth participated in an employment program	\$58,500.00
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	6,678 youth participated in a recreation program	732 youth participated in youth development programs	\$145,446.76
Suppression	36 hotspot patrols completed	1 arrest of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit	\$53,920.15

Youth Risk Assessments

22.5% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.

55% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.

22.5% **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 of our youth was a senior last year and is now a freshman at UMass Amherst. He is one of those kids who took advantage of everything the Club has to offer, including workforce development, Drivers Ed, the music program, and the Keystone Club, of which he was president. This past summer, he was a Bread Loaf leader at the Club and had a summer job with the DCR at the Harold Parker State Forest in North Andover, where he was very much appreciated by his employer. He is currently loving UMass Amherst.”

~ Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Lawrence

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	89,332
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	17.6%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	6.8%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	16,827
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	82.8%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	7.8%

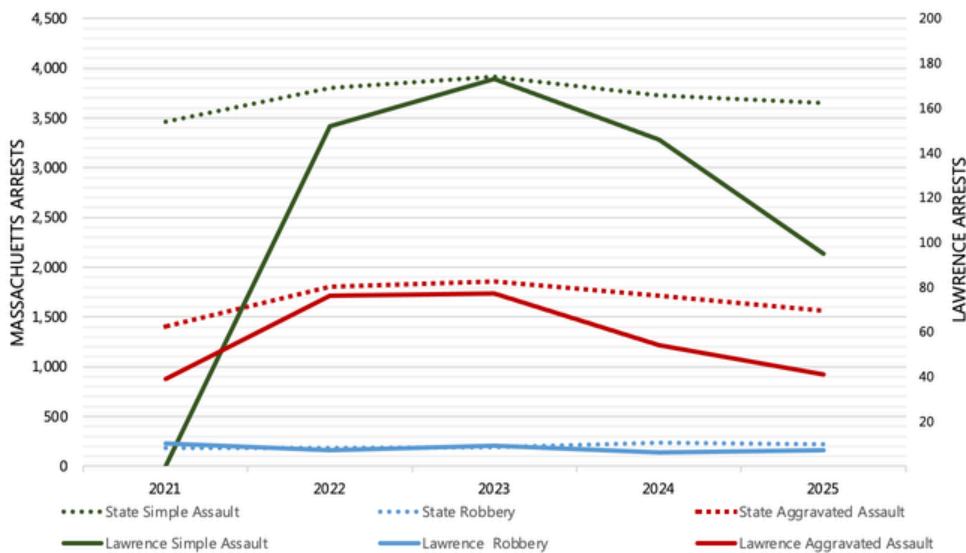
Sources: www.census.gov/quickfacts; profiles.doe.mass.edu; <https://lmi.dua.eol.mass.gov/LMI/LaborForceAndUnemployment#>

Gang Activity in Lawrence

16
Street Gangs
72
Gang Members
Between the Ages
14-24

During FY25, there were 62 incidents involving suspected gang members. In the same period, the city recorded 325 violent crimes (aggravated assault, robbery, and homicide), of which 23% involved victims ages 14–24. Among those victims, 10% were suspected, validated, or associated gang members. These incidents resulted in 248 offenders, with 23% between the ages of 14–24; of those, 16% were identified as suspected, validated, or associate gang members. Violent crime remains concentrated in the downtown area and northern sectors of the city, with additional pockets in the Stadium Projects area.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Lawrence decreased 38% (2022-2025)

Simple Assault data is not available in 2021.

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Lawrence decreased 30%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Lawrence increased 5%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

LOWELL

Funded Partners: Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell, Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association, Career Center of Lowell, Community Teamwork Inc-YouthBuild, Lowell High School, Lowell Parks & Recreation, Lowell Police Department, YWCA

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: \$790,957.57

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	42 youth received case management services	42 youth had their case management goals achieved	\$56,000.43
Education & Employment	191 youth participated in an education program	141 youth participated in an employment program	\$194,180.34
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	665 youth participated in a recreation program	931 youth participated in youth development programs	\$288,010.72
Suppression	197 hotspot patrols completed	21 arrests of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit	\$252,766.08

Youth Risk Assessments

4% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.

95% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.

1% **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 of this year's most meaningful impact stories involves a young man with a significant cognitive disability who participated in a subsidized work placement at the Lowell Senior Center kitchen. With the right supports in place, he quickly thrived in the role, taking pride in his responsibilities and demonstrating a strong work ethic. He was very reliable, had a kind and welcoming manner. Staff and patrons alike shared overwhelmingly positive feedback, noting his enthusiasm, attention to tasks, and positive presence in the workplace."

~Career Center of Lowell

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Secretary Gina Kwon
Office of Grants and Research, Executive Director Kevin Stanton

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

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Lowell

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	120,418
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	16.9%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	5.4%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	17,888
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	69.4%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	3.3%

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

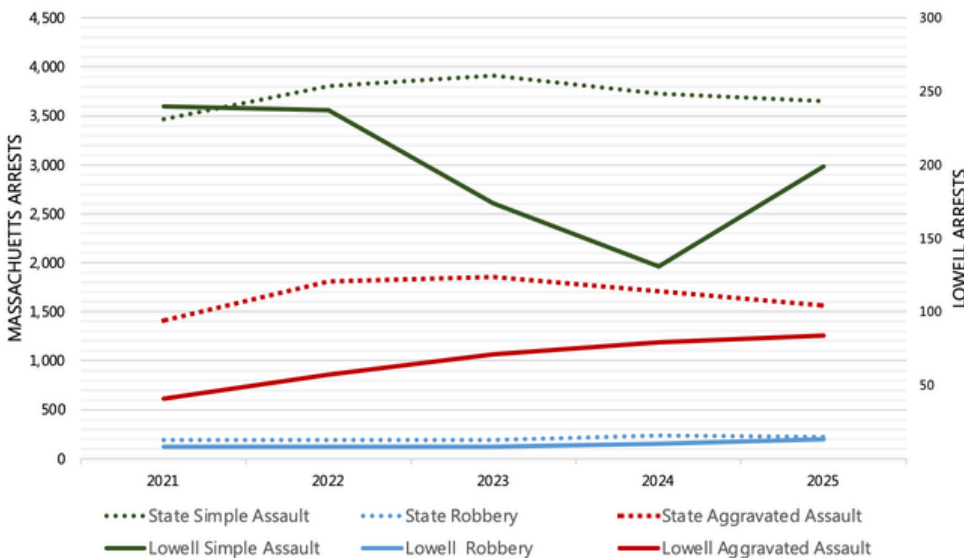
Gang Activity in Lowell

23
Street Gangs

189
Gang Members
between the Ages
of 10-24

From January 1 to August 16, 2025, there were 113 suspected gang-related incidents in Lowell. 36% of those incidents involved suspects within the age range of 10-24. Of the 113 incidents, LPD classifies 21 as “Serious Crime”: 6 Aggravated Assaults, 2 Robberies, 5 Drug Offenses, 7 Shots Fired, and 1 Weapons Offense. The LPD’s Crime Analysis and Intelligence Unit (CAIU) suspects that there are 23 active gangs in Lowell and around 785 suspected gang members in the city. The most active gangs that have contributed to gang crime in Lowell over the past year are the Loyalty Over Everything Crips (LOE), Road Runners, and the North Common Bloods. Members of LOE utilize social media to taunt rivals, promote narcotic distribution, and display firearms.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Lowell decreased 17%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Lowell increased 63%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Lowell increased 105%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

LYNN

Funded Partners: Catholic Charities North, DPW/Parks & Recreation, LifeScene, Lynn Housing Authority & Neighborhood Development, Lynn Police Department, Lynn Youth Street Outreach Advocacy (LYSOA)

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: \$446,354.29

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	49 youth received case management services	149 youth had their case management goals achieved	\$178,399.98
Community Mobilization	101 community members attended events, meetings and presentations	16 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$16,081.64
Education & Employment	249 youth participated in an education program	69 youth participated in an employment program	\$125,542.69
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	715 youth participated in a recreation program	58 youth participated in youth development programs	\$57,617.76
Suppression	75 hotspot patrols completed	35 arrests of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit	\$68,712.23

Youth Risk Assessments

- 40% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 33% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 27% **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 is part of a family with many issues involving the police, DCF, and the CALM Team. This one youth somehow remains above/outside the family conflicts. He is at the Community Center every day, participates in all activities, positive in his interactions with others. The Shannon program is his safety, escape, and place to dream and plan...He clearly has benefited from the resources.”

~Lynn Housing Authority and Neighborhood Development

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Lynn

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	103,489
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	13.8%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	5.3%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	17,193
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	73.6%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	5.9%

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

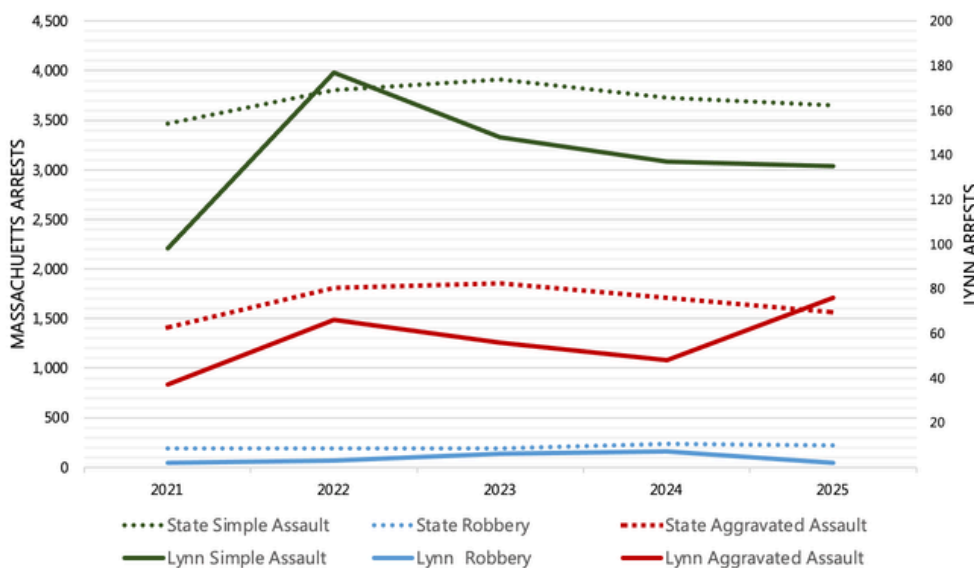
Gang Activity in Lynn

8
Street Gangs

250-300
Gang Members

Since the start of the school year, there has been a noticeable increase in gang-related activity in the City of Lynn, including fights, assaults, shootings, street robberies, and other acts of violence. Throughout this period, there have been firearm-related arrests/sentences of gang associates. Gang involvement seems to be trending younger, and there is also increased involvement of young females. The recruitment of new gang associates continues to be within the junior high & high schools, along with the local neighborhoods.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Lynn increased 38%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Lynn increased 0%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Lynn increased 105%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

METRO MAYORS COALITION

Communities: Braintree, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Quincy, Revere, Somerville, Winthrop

Funded Partners: Braintree Police Department, Cambridge Community Art Center, Cambridge Police Department, Cambridge Youth Programs - City Peace, CAPIC - Revere PAL, Center for Teen Empowerment, Chelsea Police Department, City of Chelsea - Jordan Boys & Girls Club, City of Malden, Everett Police Department, Malden Police Department, Malden/Mystic Valley YMCA, Quincy Police Department, Quincy Recreation Department, Revere Police Department, ROCA Inc., Somerville Police Department, Winthrop Community Against Substance Abuse (CASA), Winthrop Police Department

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Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation

Total Funding: \$815,703.17*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	84 youth received case management services	66 youth had their case management goals achieved	\$61,418.00
Community Mobilization	1,050 community members attended events, meetings and presentations	207 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$48,866.99
Education & Employment	45 youth participated in an education program	246 youth participated in an employment program	\$122,029.00
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	1,469 youth participated in a recreation program	1,487 youth participated in youth development programs	\$330,825.81
Suppression	679 hotspot patrols completed	11 arrests of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit	\$120,632.75

*In 2025, \$131,930.63 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

Youth Risk Assessments

- 50% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 39% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 11% **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

"There has been a student at the boxing program who was involved in some juvenile incidents, where the student was getting in trouble at school and outside of school. The student was given an opportunity to participate in the boxing program and now has thrived in this new role. The student has been mentoring new participants and leading the boxing sessions. The student has expressed staying involved as he gets older and wants to become a police officer to help others make good decisions with their lives."

~Cambridge Police Department

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Secretary Gina Kwon
Office of Grants and Research, Executive Director Kevin Stanton

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

Community Risk Factors

Location	Total Population	Lives in Poverty	Unemployment Rate	Total School Population	Low-Income	Dropout Rate
Massachusetts	7,154,084	9.7%	4.8%	948,709	41.1%	2.0%
Braintree	39,134	5.9%	4.0%	5,718	27.5%	0.6%
Cambridge	121,186	12.8%	3.8%	8,199	35.0%	0.8%
Chelsea	40,245	20.7%	5.3%	7,222	76.4%	6.9%
Everett	51,825	14.7%	4.2%	8,051	68.9%	5.2%
Malden	66,693	11.4%	4.3%	7,382	59.1%	3.3%
Quincy	103,434	10.6%	4.5%	9,898	46.5%	0.7%
Revere	60,702	11.5%	5.0%	8,700	63.6%	4.1%
Somerville	82,149	9.8%	3.7%	5,541	43.7%	1.5%
Winthrop	18,739	7.2%	4.5%	2,100	36.4%	1.7%

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

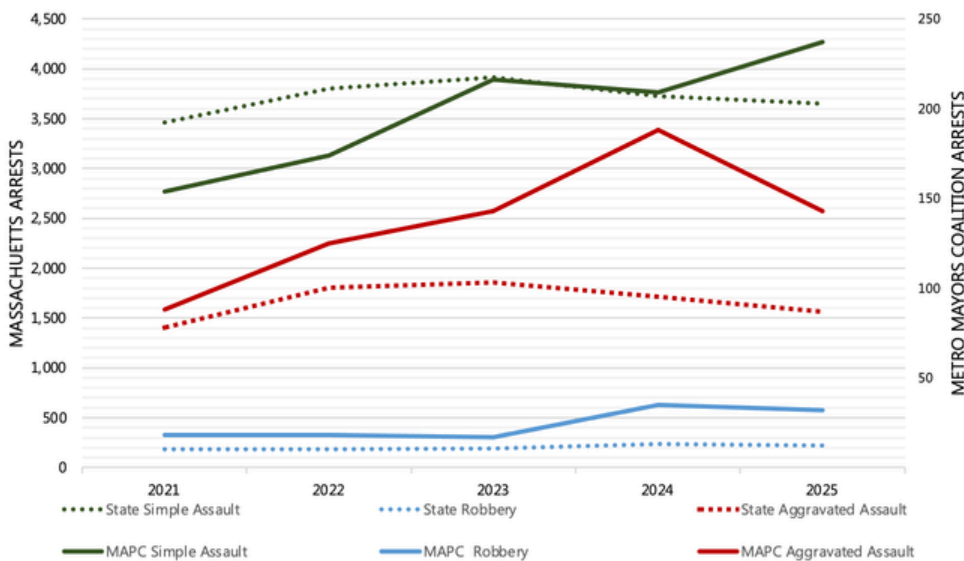
Gang Activity in Metro Mayors Coalition

Approximately 35
Gangs across MAPC
sites

Approximately 125
Gang Members
Between the Ages
10-24

Communities continued to report a range of gang-related criminal activity, including firearms offenses, assaults, shootings, homicides, burglaries, motor vehicle theft, and various drug-related crimes. Partners also noted the ongoing use of social media by gang members to showcase activities, recruit new members, and support illicit operations. Several municipalities observed that local incidents were influenced by spillover from larger neighboring cities.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

NIBRS data from Chelsea from October-December 2025.

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Metro Mayors Coalition increased 54%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Metro Mayors Coalition increased 78%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Metro Mayors Coalition increased 63%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

NEW BEDFORD

Funded Partners: Bristol County District Attorney's Office, New Bedford Police Department, NorthStar Learning Center

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: \$1,168,615.71

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	367 youth received case management services	367 youth received outreach services	\$365,020.28
Community Mobilization	19,850 community members attended events, meetings and presentations	376 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$182,510.14
Education & Employment	39 youth participated in an education program	39 youth participated in an employment program	\$182,510.14
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	132 youth participated in a recreation program	179 youth participated in youth development programs	\$182,510.14
Suppression	78 hotspot patrols completed	32 arrests of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit	\$256,065.00

Youth Risk Assessments

- 21% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 49% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 30% **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

"We were able to enroll him in our Power Source groups and summer program, where he developed an understanding of being in control of his life and having the power to improve. The participant has been very proactive with his positive approach while facing adversity. He was able to set realistic goals and follow through with his plan to achieve them. His first goal was to earn his way back into public school. Not only did he achieve this goal, but he also became a role model by making the right choices, earning a place on the honor roll, and being readmitted to New Bedford High School."
 ~ North Star Learning Center

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

New Bedford

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	101,318
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	20.6%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	6.8%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	15,623
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	77.3%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	3.0%

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

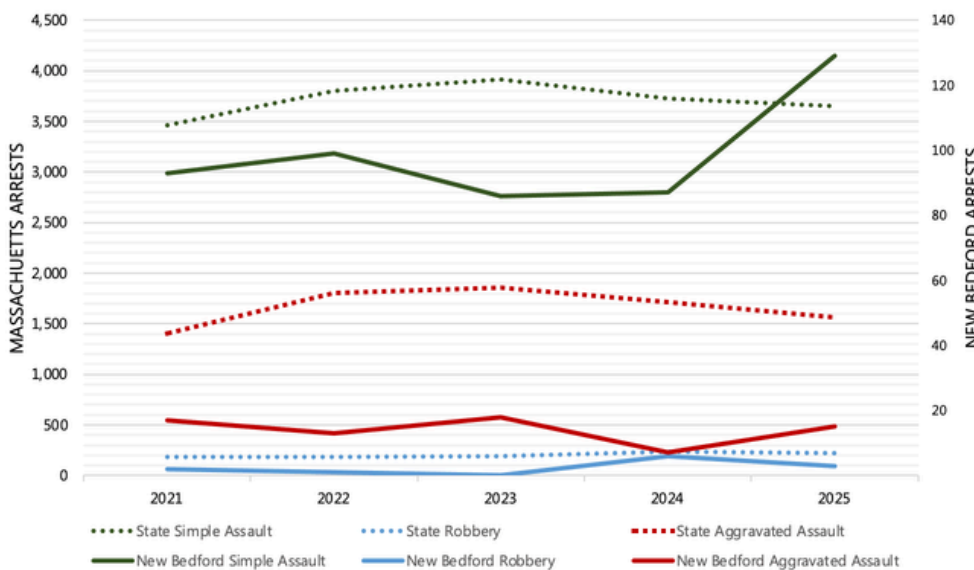
Gang Activity in New Bedford

28
Street Gangs

230-275
Gang Members
between the Ages
of 10-24

In 2026, New Bedford continues to address the "hybrid" gang model, where local crews identified by neighborhoods—such as South First Street, Blue Meadows, and the Lane Gang/Baby Glocks—intersect with established national gangs like the Crips and Gangster Disciples (GDs). Major trends in New Bedford's gang activity for 2026 include: an increase in the use of dirt bikes and scooters to carry out drive-by shootings and facilitate quick escapes through the city's narrow streets. Recruitment and rivalries are heavily driven by social media platforms. "Diss tracks" and professionally made music videos act as the main triggers for retaliatory violence.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- New Bedford increased 39%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- New Bedford increased 50%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- New Bedford decreased 12%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE PITTSFIELD

Funded Partners: 18 Degrees - Pittsfield Community Connections, Pittsfield Police Department

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: \$439,015.06

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	62 youth received case management services	83 youth received outreach services	\$77,922.27
Community Mobilization	755 community members attended events, meetings and presentations	106 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$155,844.53
Education & Employment	8 youth completed a subsidized year-round employment program	12 youth participated in an employment program	\$77,922.27
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	45 youth participated in a recreation program	83 youth participated in youth development programs	\$77,922.27
Suppression	66 hotspot patrols completed	9 arrests of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit	\$49,403.73

Youth Risk Assessments

- 52% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 45% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 3% **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

"An 18-year-old participant achieved several major milestones that highlight the impact of Shannon programming. After earning her high school diploma in 2024, she welcomed her first child in January 2025. This young mother had been engaged with PCC for some time, and through her ongoing relationship with the program, she was able to secure safe housing for herself and her newborn. In November, with the support of PCC case management and access to RAFT (Residential Assistance for Families in Transition) funds, she successfully moved into a larger, more suitable apartment, providing a healthier environment as her child reached key developmental milestones."

~ 18 Degrees - Pittsfield Community Correction

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Pittsfield

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	43,121
Population Lives in Poverty (2019-2023)	9.7%	14.9%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	4.7%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	5,601
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	62.9%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	4.8%

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

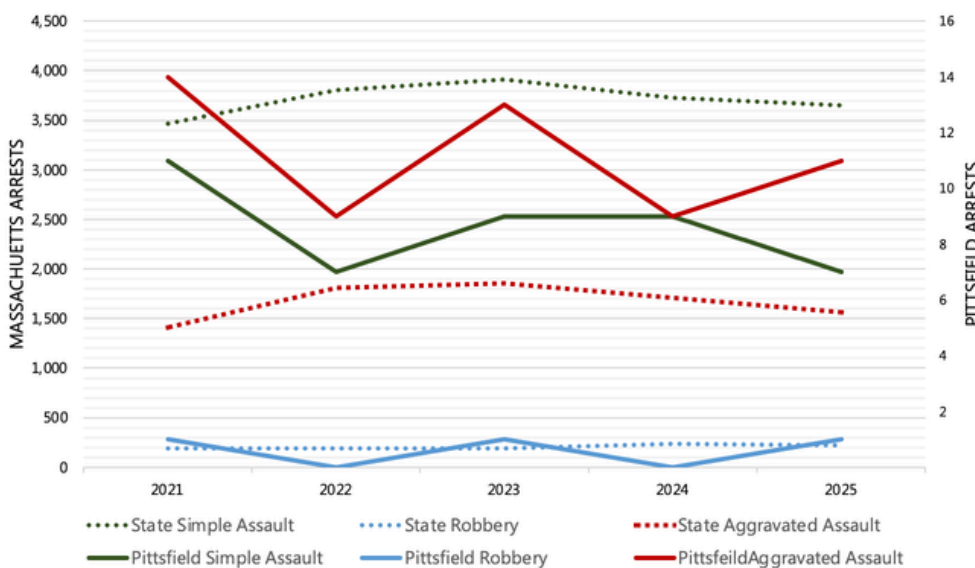
Gang Activity in Pittsfield

3
Active Gangs

50-60
Gang Members
between the Ages
of 10-24

Most active groups within Pittsfield are informal cliques and/or hybrid gangs. These groups may claim affiliations to Bloods and Crips, but they lack formal structure, rules, or hierarchy. Pittsfield groups do not commonly display colors or use symbols or markings, and it is difficult to link specific groups to stable geographic areas. Pittsfield groups engage in gang-related conflicts in social media spheres and will often “go live” as a show of affiliation. Violence is often driven by social media conflicts and feuds amongst rap groups. Most of these groups are generating profit through drug sales, and this is the most frequent activity among juvenile members. Many gang members possess weapons and illegally carry firearms.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Pittsfield decreased 36%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Pittsfield increased 0%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Pittsfield decreased 21%

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE SPRINGFIELD

Funded Partners: COGIC Family Services, Greater New Life Christian Center, Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services, New North Citizens' Council, Regreen Springfield, South End Community Center, Springfield Boys & Girls Club, Springfield Boys & Girls Club Family Center, Springfield Parks Department, Springfield Police Department, The Dunbar Center Inc., The Mission Inc., The Salvation Army, YMCA of Greater Springfield, YWCA of Western Massachusetts

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: \$1,247,411.92

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	20 youth received case management services	683 youth received outreach services	\$125,017.76
Community Mobilization	210 community members attended events, meetings and presentations	2 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$21,154.78
Education & Employment	1,306 youth participated in an education program	263 youth participated in an employment program	\$218,049.75
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	1,217 youth participated in a recreation program	1,588 youth participated in youth development programs	\$492,829.91
Suppression	41 hotspot patrols completed	138 arrests of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit	\$390,359.72

Youth Risk Assessments

- 48% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 28% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 24% **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

"This year, we were introduced to a 12-year-old girl. She first met us at her school during an outreach with a group of her friends. At the time, she was very involved in peer drama and easily influenced by others. She was suspended from school for fighting and skipping class. She confided in staff and developed a relationship with the after-school team. In her time with us, she expressed struggles at home and within herself. She and her family received wrap-around support from the after-school team. She was provided with a mentor who would meet with her in and out of school; she also participated in 2 groups that would help develop her leadership skills."

~New North Citizen's Council

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Springfield

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	154,888
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	25.8%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	7.3%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	25,880
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	82.9%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	3.9%

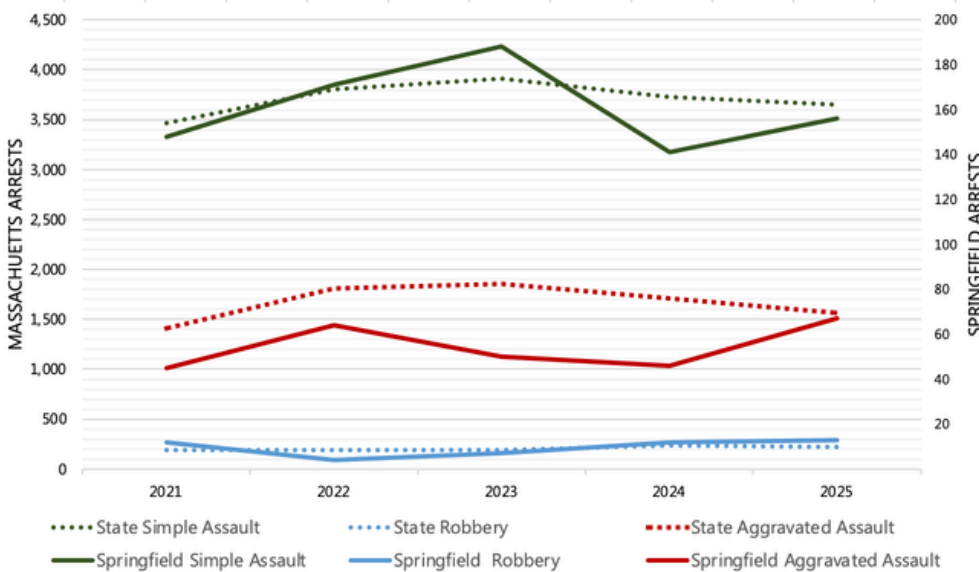
Sources: www.census.gov/quickfacts; profiles.doe.mass.edu; <https://lmi.dua.eol.mass.gov/LMI/LaborForceAndUnemployment#>

Gang Activity in Springfield

65
Street Gangs
1,000-1,200
Gang Members
between the Ages
of 10-24

In 2025, Springfield's gang landscape is defined by rival groups forming strategic alliances ("clicking up") to strengthen power, expand influence, and sustain ongoing conflicts, driven by shared rivalries, access to narcotics and firearms, and the need to increase numbers. Sycamore Street Posse remains aligned with Plainfield Street Posse/Orchard Street Boricuas, while the Burr Street faction maintains ties with "The O" in Indian Orchard. Eastern Avenue Posse continues its coalition with Knox Street, Maynard Street, Spades, FP Babies, and Wealthblock, reinforcing a rivalry linked to firearm violence across neighborhoods. The Gangster Disciples (ATM set) remain active in conflicts with the Latin Kings, Los Solidos/H\$M, and Eastern Avenue-affiliated groups. Violence is largely driven by competition over narcotics distribution in the Belmont Avenue-Fort Pleasant Avenue corridor, with additional tensions in the Worthington Street area. Overall, these alliances and territorial disputes sustain a volatile, interconnected gang environment and ongoing public safety challenges.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Springfield increased 5%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Springfield increased 8%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Springfield increased 49%

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE TAUNTON

Funded Partners: Taunton Housing Authority, Taunton Police Department

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: \$161,352.96*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	63 youth received case management services	63 youth had their management goals achieved	\$41,349.89
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	60 youth participated in a recreation program	60 youth participated in youth development programs	\$62,024.83
Suppression	5 hotspot patrols completed	1 arrest of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit	\$15,668.40

*In 2025, \$42,309.84 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

Youth Risk Assessments

- 86% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 12% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 2% **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

“Two 15-year-olds participated in the Boys and Girls Club summer Camp Riverside Counselor in Training program in 2023. The Shannon Grant funded this 4-week program. Both were guaranteed an interview for the 2024 camp program and were hired as Camp Co-Counselors for that season. Based on their positive performance, both were offered employment for the 2025 camp program. (Both accepted.)”
~Taunton Housing Authority (Paul Bunker/Riverside Complex)

Community Risk Factors

	Massachusetts	Taunton
Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	61,936
Population Lives in Poverty (2019-2023)	9.7%	13.0%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	5.6%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	10,227
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	56.4%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	2.2%

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

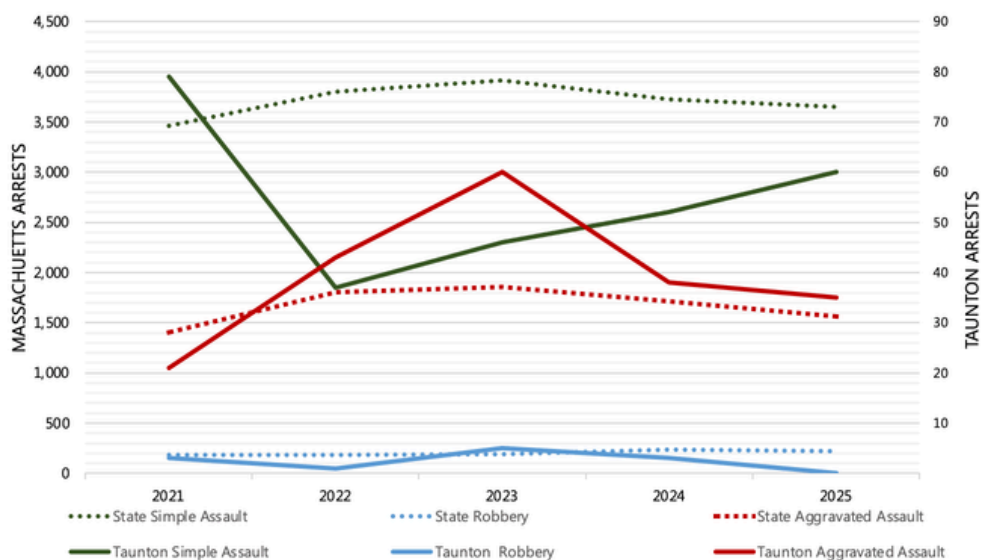
Gang Activity in Taunton

7-10
Street Gangs

60
Gang Members
Between the Ages
of 10-24

Groups function as a non-traditional gangs, consisting primarily of GD and SCG members, though conflict occurs within their own sets. Rather than individuals being forcibly initiated or “jumped in,” participation is often demonstrated through criminal activity, such as stealing vehicles or distributing drugs. Their delinquent activities include street takeovers, shoplifting, public disturbances, and domestic incidents, as well as more serious offenses such as murder, assaults and batteries, motor vehicle theft, and firearm theft.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Taunton decreased 24%

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Taunton decreased 100%

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Taunton increased 67%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE WORCESTER

Funded Partners: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Massachusetts & Metrowest, Boys & Girls Club of Worcester, Extreme Kid Inc., St. Bernard’s Church/Our Lady of Providence Parish, The Torch Foundation, Worcester Community Action Council, Worcester Police Department, Worcester Youth Center 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: \$1,249,043.89*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	163 youth received case management services	50 youth received outreach services	\$191,485.92
Community Mobilization	1,326 community members attended events, meetings and presentations	135 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$29,061.34
Education & Employment	109 youth participated in an education program	95 youth participated in an employment program	\$253,849.38
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	587 youth participated in a recreation program	443 youth participated in youth development programs	\$522,546.64
Suppression	20 hotspot patrols completed		\$105,192.03

*In 2025, \$146,908.59 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

Youth Risk Assessments

- 46% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 36% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 18% **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 participant entered our program after facing significant challenges, including involvement with firearms and drug-related activity that resulted in his arrest. When he returned to the community, he struggled with structure, accountability, and finding positive spaces where he felt respected and supported. Our program helped him navigate these challenges by providing consistent weekly engagement and a safe environment where he could contribute in meaningful ways. Staff welcomed him into supervised volunteer responsibilities at the church for 10-15 hours each week, which gave him routine, purpose, and positive adult relationships. He assisted with cleaning, setup, and helping younger youth during activities—roles that allowed him to feel trusted and connected to the community again.”

~St. Bernard’s Church/Our Lady of Providence Parish

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Worcester

Total Population (2025 Estimate)	7,154,084	211,286
Population Lives in Poverty (2020-2024)	9.7%	19.6%
Unemployment Rate (2025)	4.8%	5.0%
Total School Population (2024-2025)	948,709	25,414
Low-Income (2025-2026)	41.1%	69.8%
High School Dropout Rate (2023-2024)	2.0%	2.1%

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

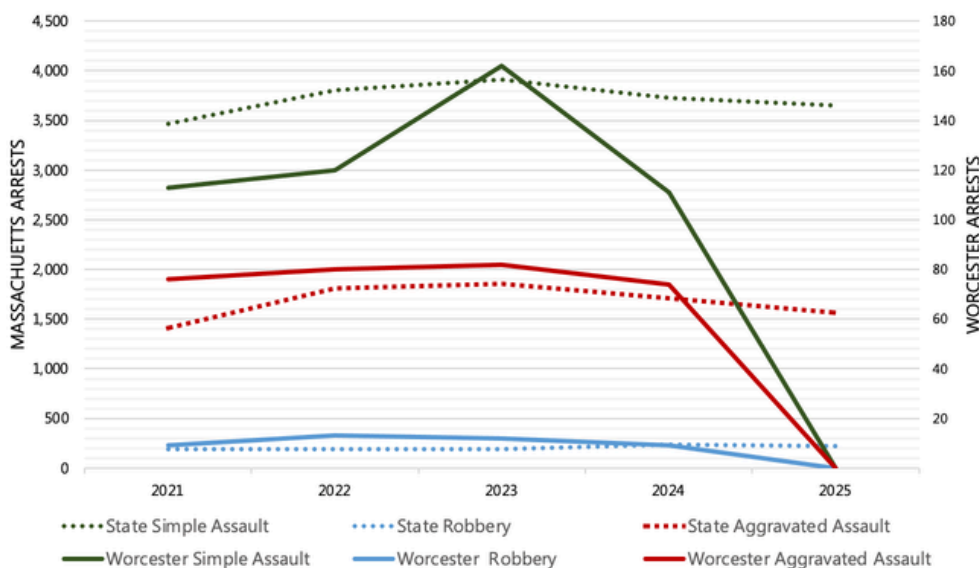
Gang Activity in Worcester

23
Street Gangs

272
Gang Members
Between the Ages
10-24

Worcester’s gang climate remains largely unchanged, with some national gang ties but primarily local street gangs that engage in more violent activity. Conflicts typically stem from territorial disputes and perceived disrespect, with violence occurring citywide but concentrated in gang-controlled areas. Common gang-related crimes include home invasions, stabbings, robberies, firearms violations, shootings, break-ins, and larceny. Violence among younger members—particularly ages 15 to 17—has increased, with many recent shootings involving this age group. Social media plays a significant role in escalating conflicts, making monitoring by police and community partners critical for intervention.

5-Year Trends in Youth Arrests (ages 10-24), 2021-2025



Changes in Youth Arrests for Simple Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault*

NIBRS data from Worcester is not available for 2025.

Arrests for simple assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 5%
- Worcester decreased 2% (2021-2024)

Arrests for robberies from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 20%
- Worcester increased 0% (2021-2024)

Arrests for aggravated assaults from 2021-2025 in...

- Massachusetts increased 11%
- Worcester decreased 3% (2021-2024)

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

Further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and changes in arrest trends in focal communities.

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.

2025 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE MASSACHUSETTS

Funded Communities: Boston, Brockton, Fall River, Fitchburg/Gardner, Haverhill/Methuen, Holyoke/Chicopee, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, Metro Mayors Coalition (Braintree, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Quincy, Revere, Somerville, Winthrop), New Bedford, Pittsfield, Springfield, Taunton, Worcester

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. In 2025, Shannon awarded \$11.2 million to 15 sites that provide services across 26 Massachusetts communities. Funding supported positive youth development, recreation, case management, street outreach, education, employment, targeted suppression, and community mobilization programs. Additionally, Shannon funded the equivalent of approximately 137 full-time positions to strategically address youth gang violence within these communities.

Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation

Total Funding: \$11,179,673.21*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	3,786 youth received case management services	3,915 youth had their case management goals achieved	\$2,179,071.51
Community Mobilization	46,134 community members attended events, meetings and presentations	1,656 community events, meetings, and presentations held	\$860,073.57
Education & Employment	10,239 youth participated in an education program	3,245 youth participated in an employment program	\$2,005,135.20
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	20,064 youth participated in a recreation program	14,374 youth participated in youth development programs	\$3,347,481.80
Suppression	2,736 hotspot patrols completed	408 arrests of gang members/high impact players during hot spot patrols, warrant sweeps, or home visit	\$1,994,515.57

*Statewide, \$793,395.57 was allocated to administrative/other costs in 2025 across the Shannon sites.

Youth Risk Assessments

- 41% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 44% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 15% **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

“Youth and families have a different image of law enforcement because they have the opportunity to see police in a different capacity, and they can see that the officers genuinely care about the youth.”

~ Shoot Hoops C3, Shannon Springfield Site

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Secretary Gina Kwon
Office of Grants and Research, Executive Director Kevin Stanton

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

Shannon Community Risk Factors 2025

Location	Total Population	Lives in Poverty	Unemployment Rate	Total School Population	Low-Income	Dropout Rate
Massachusetts	7,154,084	9.7%	4.8%	948,709	41.1%	2.0%
Boston	673,458	16.6%	4.7%	62,844	68.3%	4.5%
Braintree	39,134	5.9%	4.0%	5,718	27.5%	0.6%
Brockton	105,788	13.5%	5.9%	18,507	72.3%	5.6%
Cambridge	121,186	12.8%	3.8%	8,199	35.0%	0.8%
Chelsea	40,245	20.7%	5.3%	7,222	76.4%	6.9%
Chicopee	55,381	17.3%	5.7%	7,587	64.2%	2.1%
Everett	51,825	14.7%	4.2%	8,051	68.9%	5.2%
Fall River	94,689	19.6%	6.8%	14,858	77.7%	5.0%
Fitchburg	42,145	15.6%	6.2%	6,601	69.7%	2.1%
Gardner	21,381	13.7%	6.0%	2,470*	60.6%	2.9%
Haverhill	68,291	11.3%	5.1%	9,554	60.8%	3.0%
Holyoke	37,838	27.0%	6.3%	5,273	84.2%	4.9%
Lawrence	89,332	17.6%	6.8%	16,827	82.8%	7.8%
Lowell	120,418	16.9%	5.4%	17,888	69.4%	3.3%
Lynn	103,489	13.8%	5.3%	17,193	73.6%	5.9%
Malden	66,693	11.4%	4.3%	7,382	59.1%	3.3%
Methuen	54,272	7.9%	5.1%	7,966	53.0%	3.0%
New Bedford	101,318	20.6%	6.8%	15,623	77.3%	3.0%
Pittsfield	43,121	14.9%	4.7%	5,601	62.9%	4.8%
Quincy	103,434	10.6%	4.5%	9,898	46.5%	0.7%
Revere	60,702	11.5%	5.0%	8,700	63.6%	4.1%
Somerville	82,149	9.8%	3.7%	5,541	43.7%	1.5%
Springfield	154,888	25.8%	7.3%	25,880	82.9%	3.9%
Taunton	61,936	13.0%	5.6%	10,227	56.4%	2.2%
Winthrop	18,739	7.2%	4.5%	2,100	36.4%	1.7%
Worcester	211,286	19.6%	5.0%	25,414	69.8%	2.1%

*2026 Data obtained from <https://profiles.doe.mass.edu/profiles/student.aspx?orgcode=01030000&orgtypecode=5>

Gang Activity in Massachusetts

345+
Street Gangs

Data on gang members under the age of 25 was not available from all police departments. For police departments that had available data, approximately 3,800 gang members between the ages of 10 and 24 were identified.

9,000+
Active Gang
Members

Across the state, gangs and crews were primarily involved in drug trafficking, related violence, weapon possession, and property damage. Social media was commonly used to display affiliation and recruit younger members. At-risk youth were often targeted to carry out operations due to the perceived advantages of their juvenile status.

Information contained in this report is drawn from funding applications; reports supplied by the site; the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, including the 2026 School and District Profile for Gardner (pending release of the full 2025–2026 School Attending Children Report); the U.S. Census Bureau; the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development; the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS); and the 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 at the University of Pennsylvania, for preparing this brief.

Putting Shannon Dollars to Work to Reduce Youth and Gang Violence

\$11.2 Million Investment

146 Partners
at 15 Sites



24,303 total youth served,
averaging \$460.01 invested per
youth across all services

\$390.37 invested per youth in
Case Management, Street
Outreach, or Intervention Efforts



\$148.70 invested per youth in
Education or Employment Efforts

Overview of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Comprehensive Gang Model

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Shannon Community Safety Initiative (Shannon CSI) is a multi-sector, data-driven approach modeled after the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Gang Model. After completing a community needs assessment, Shannon funded communities, in collaboration with steering committees, develop strategies in the following five areas:

Positive Youth Development & Recreation*



Positive Youth Development and Recreation Programs provide a prosocial outlet for youth to expand and enhance their interests, skills, and abilities. These programs are safe havens for recreational, enrichment, educational and prevention activities outside school hours (i.e., athletics and physical fitness, school achievement initiatives).

Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention



Case Management Street Outreach or Intervention programs for gang involved and proven risk youth reach out and act as links to gang-involved youth, their families, and other traditional social service providers. For high-risk youth and at-risk youth, social intervention programs can include drop-in recreation, positive youth development, and other mechanisms to reach young people and connect them to positive adults and constructive activities.

Education & Employment



Education and Employment Programs provide education, training, and employment opportunities to youth at high-risk for youth violence and gang involvement.

Suppression



Suppression programs include close supervision or monitoring of gang involved youth and other high impact players by police, prosecutors, probation officers, and other officers of the court. These programs include hotspot patrols, law-enforcement home visits, ride-alongs, re-entry, and special prosecutors.

Community Mobilization



Community Mobilization Programs educate community members about local gang and youth violence trends, as well as involving community members in strategies to confront the problem.

Two additional funded components of Shannon CSI include the Local Action Research Partners (LARPs), and the Statewide Youth Violence Research Partner (SRP). LARPs assist funded sites by providing strategic, analytic, technical, and research support. The SRP assists all funded Shannon CSI communities, LARPs and the Office of Grants and Research by providing strategic, analytic, and research support. Together the LARPs and SRP inform funded communities about best practices to maximize the effectiveness of the Shannon CSI.