

# 2024 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

## BOSTON

Funded Partners: ABCD, Boston Centers for Youth & Families, Boston Medical Center's Violence Intervention Advocacy Program (VIAP), Boston Police Department, Boston Public Health Commission, Fathers' UpLift, Freedom House, Future Chefs, Hyde Square Taskforce, Justice Resource Institute, Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, Maverick Landing, More Than Words, Mothers for Justice & Equality, Project Right Inc., Sportsmen's Tennis & Enrichment Center, St. Stephen's Youth Programs, The Center for Teen Empowerment, YOU Boston, YouthBuild Boston, YouthConnect Boys & Girls Club of Boston

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: \$1,705,475.12\*

Strategies	Outcomes	Funding Allocation
<b>Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention</b>	<b>2,057</b> youth received case management services <b>1,995</b> case management goals achieved	<b>\$267,559.75</b>
<b>Community Mobilization</b>	<b>12,995</b> community members attended events, meetings, & presentations <b>264</b> community events, meetings, & presentations held	<b>\$158,284.00</b>
<b>Education &amp; Employment</b>	<b>1,088</b> youth participated in employment programs <b>1,181</b> youth participated in education programs	<b>\$316,500.10</b>
<b>Positive Youth Development &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>1,184</b> youth participated in recreation programs <b>1,280</b> youth participated in youth development programs	<b>\$451,871.92</b>
<b>Suppression</b>	<b>1,400</b> hot spot patrols completed <b>80</b> law enforcement home visits completed	<b>\$244,350.00</b>

\*In 2024, \$266,909.35 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

### Youth Risk Assessments

- 36% **LOW-RISK\*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 47% **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

"A young woman, aged 19, came into our program and, despite being past the typical age for high school graduation, this participant was not on track for graduation, and her attendance at both school and Future Chefs was spotty. Our staff took notice and began mentoring her. We learned that she worked long hours in a restaurant after school and was too tired to attend classes or the program. We encouraged her to join our paid after-school program, which has shorter shifts and one-on-one coaching. She left her job and went all in at FC. In her time with us, she gained confidence and leadership skills, eventually becoming a Youth Leader. This year, at age 21, she graduated high school and began an internship outside of our program. She still returns for advice and guidance from our staff."

~Future Chefs

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/info-details/shannon-community-safety-initiative-csi>

# Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Boston

Total Population (2023/2024 Estimates)	7,136,171	653,833
Population Lives in Poverty (2024)	10.4%	16.9%
Unemployment Rate (2024)	3.4%	3.7%
Total School Population (2023-2024)	966,726	66,220
Low-Income (2024-2025)	42.1%	70.1%
High School Dropout Rate (2022-2023)	2.1%	4.5%

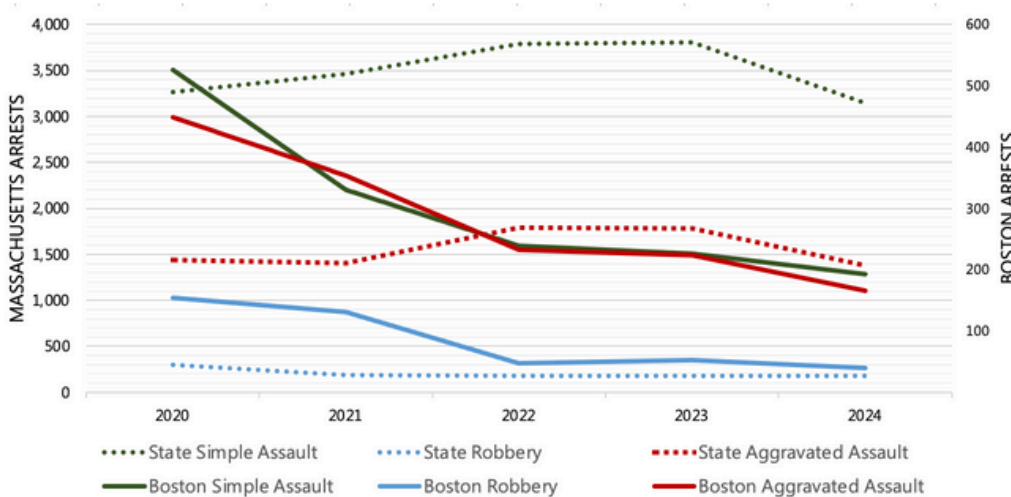
Sources: [www.census.gov/quickfacts](http://www.census.gov/quickfacts); [profiles.doe.mass.edu](http://profiles.doe.mass.edu); <https://lmi.dua.eol.mass.gov/LMI/LaborForceAndUnemployment#>

## Gang Activity in Boston

85  
Street Gangs  
1,450  
Gang Members  
Between the Ages  
of 10-24

The City of Boston has seen a significant decline in gun violence in recent years. Gunfire incidents in the city declined 15% in 2024 and are down 37% compared to the five-year average. Shooting victim totals declined 9% compared to last year, 34% compared to the five-year average, and nearly 40% compared to the 10-year average. This is the fourth consecutive year of declines in shooting victims and shooting incidents and the fourth year in a row with less than 200 victims shot in the city. Interpersonal conflicts among gang members have historically accounted for large shares of shootings in Boston. Penn's Crime and Justice Policy Lab is collaborating with the Boston Police Department on an analysis of the factors associated with these promising declines.

## 5-Year Crime Trends for Offenses Committed by Youth Ages 10-24, 2020-2024



Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

### Changes in Crime for Young People Ages 10-24, 2020-2024

- Simple assaults from 2020-2024 in...
  - Massachusetts decreased 4%
  - Boston decreased by 63%
- Robberies from 2020-2024 in...
  - Massachusetts decreased 40%
  - Boston decreased 74%
- Aggravated assaults from 2020-2024 in...
  - Massachusetts decreased 4%
  - Boston decreased 63%

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.