

COMMUNITY VIOLENCE PROBLEM ANALYSIS: KEY FINDINGS



community violence / *defined* /

Community violence happens between unrelated individuals, who may or may not know each other, generally outside the home. Examples include assaults or fights among groups and shootings in public places, such as schools and on the streets.



the base of the study / *in Salem* /

Researchers studied fatal and nonfatal shooting incidents which occurred in Salem between 2018 and June 2023.



the facts & figures / *reference points* /

The following details and statistics were culled from the study.

Demographics of victims and suspects

- Victims and suspects are primarily between the ages of 18-34
- 87% are male
- 51% of victims and suspects are Hispanic

Juvenile involvement

- 18% of suspects and 10% of victims were juveniles
- Within the study period, juvenile involvement in gun violence increased

Circumstances and group/gang member involvement

- 52% of the homicides and non-fatal shootings were fueled by some sort of dispute
- 49% of the homicides and non-fatal shootings had group/gang member involvement
- A relatively small number of gang/group members are driving a high level of community violence

Unsheltered involvement

- 15% of incidents involved an unsheltered victim or suspect
- Within the study period, the rate of unsheltered involvement increased
- Half of these incidents resulted from personal disputes

Victim and suspect criminal history

- Nearly 70% were known to the criminal justice system
- More than half were previously incarcerated
- About 60% had been convicted of a felony
- About 60% were previously on probation and 23% were on active probation
- 36% were previously on post prison supervision and 14% were on active post prison supervision
- Prior offenses varied

Where the violence is more prominent

- Shootings were concentrated within about five square miles in the northeast part of the city.