



# Breaking the cycle of community violence through holistic and effective evidence-based practices

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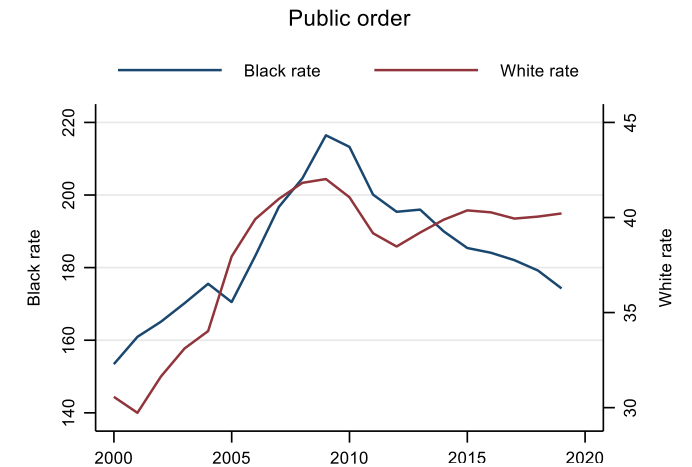
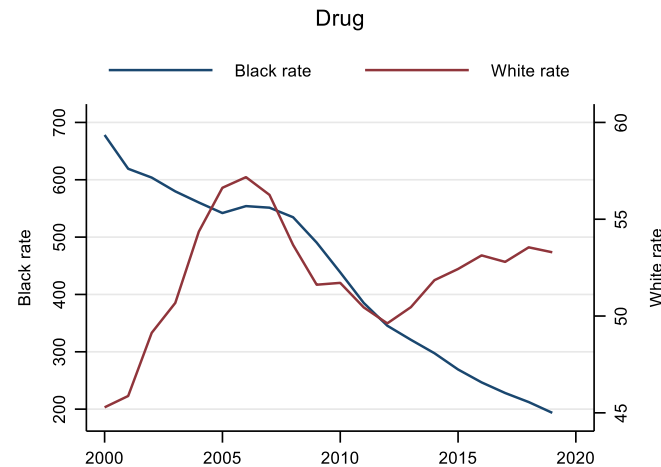
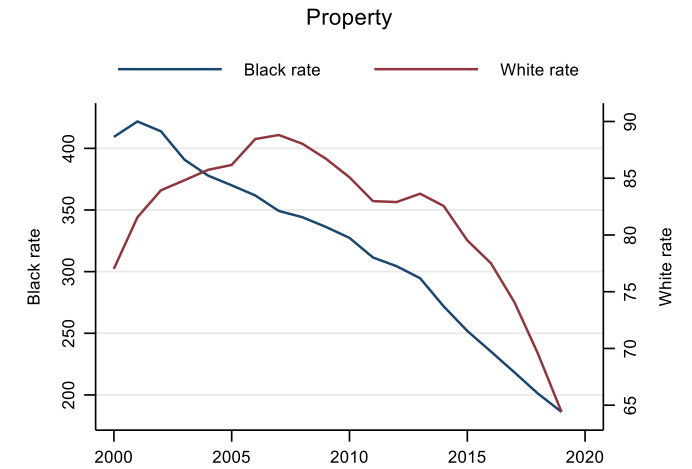
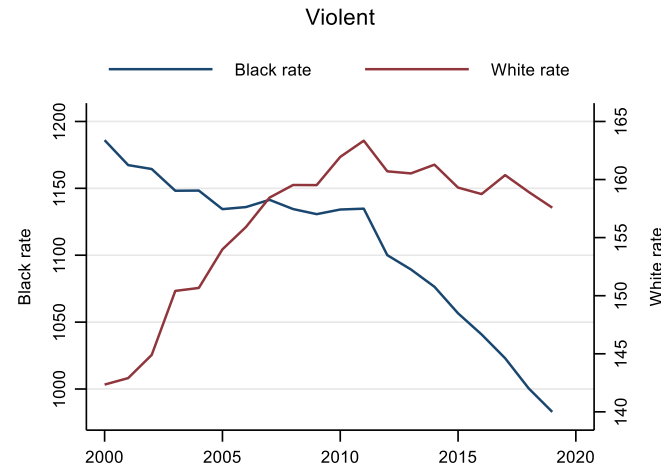
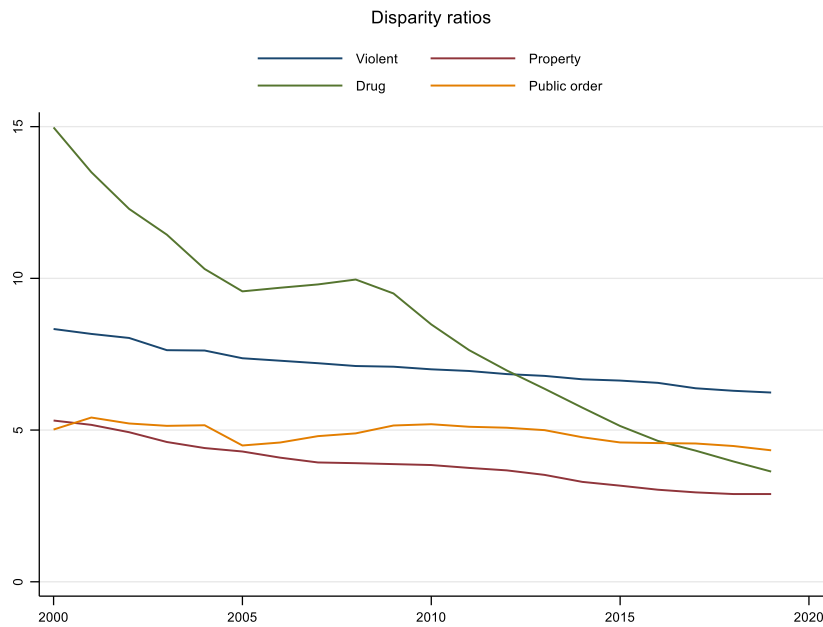
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# Overview

- Part 1: Racial disparity trends in justice processing
- Part 2: Differential offending and community violence
- Part 3: Addressing the community violence equitably and effectively

# Improving racial disparity trends in justice processing

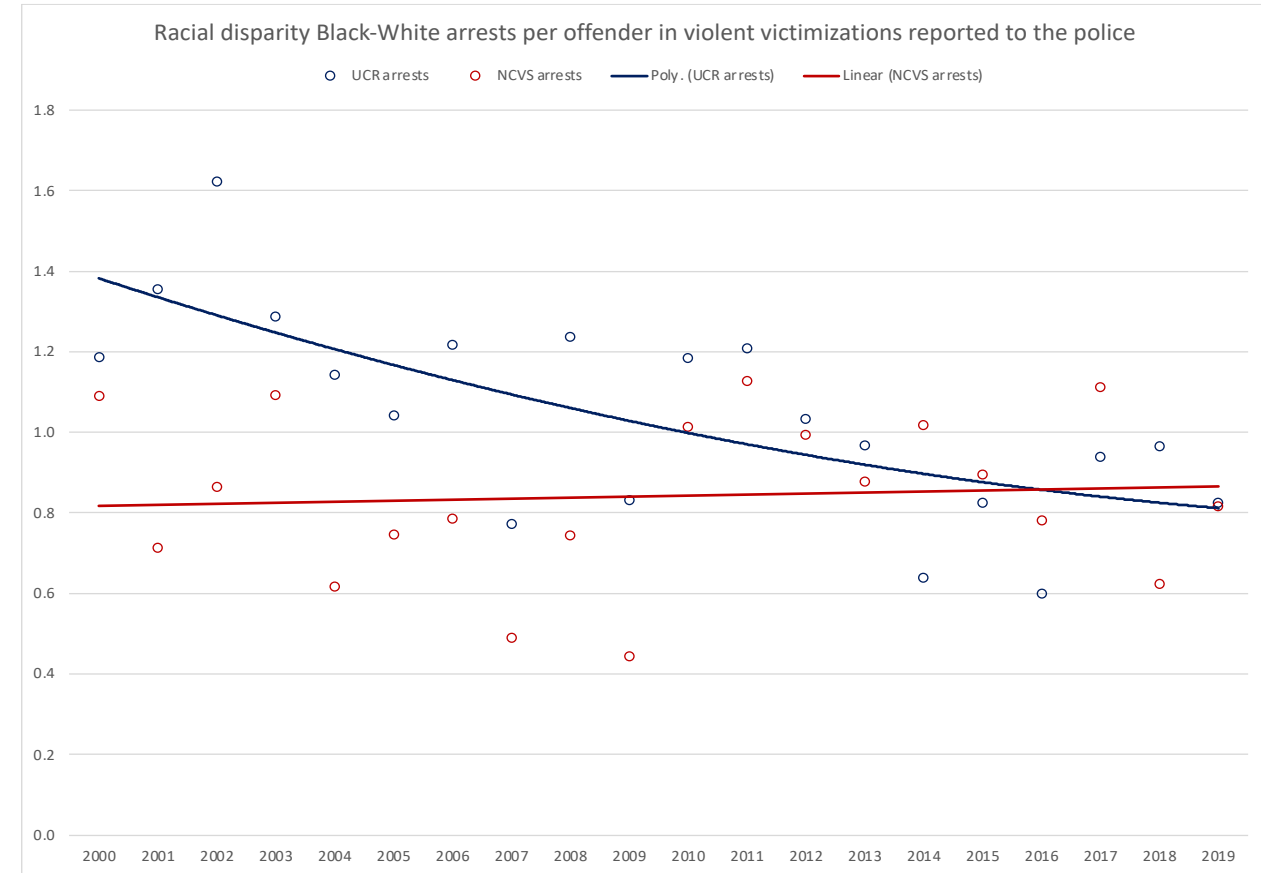
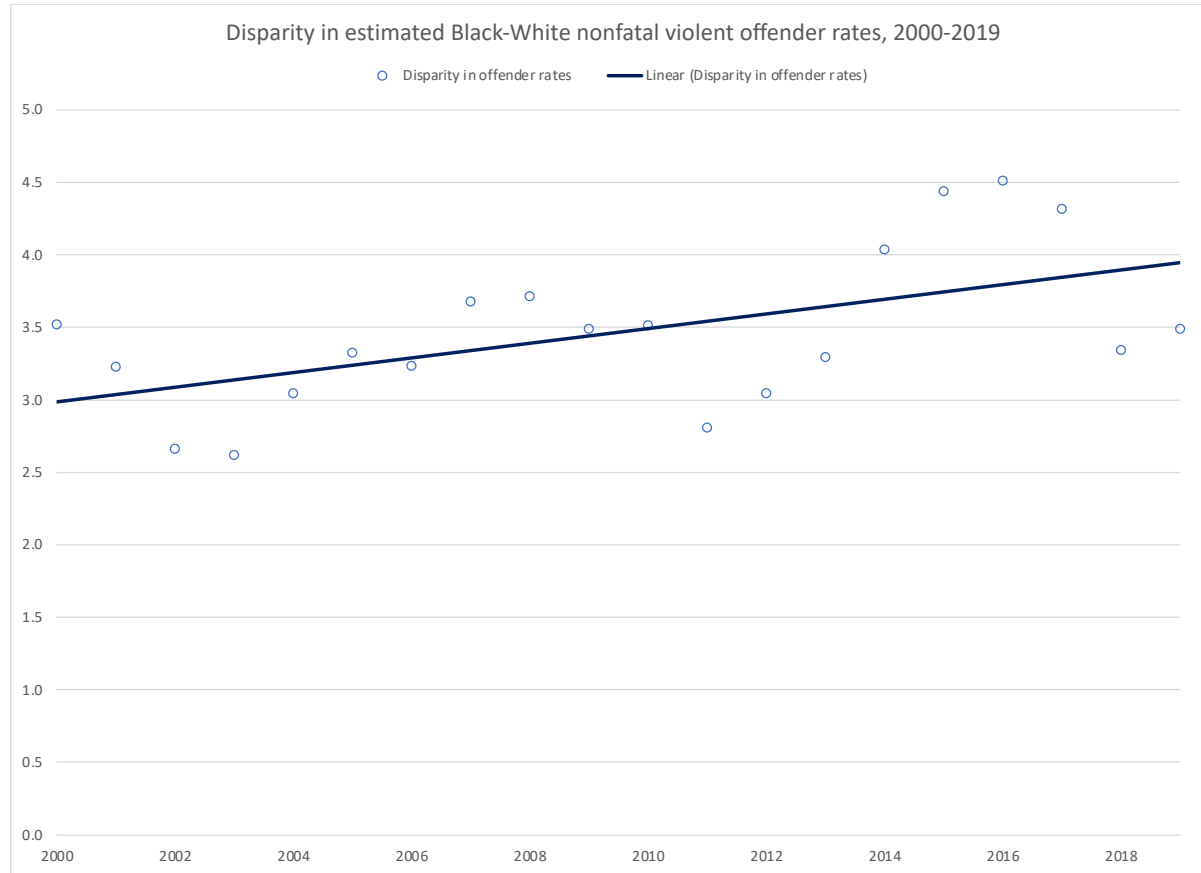
Black and White imprisonment rates by major offense category



# Hispanic-White gap?

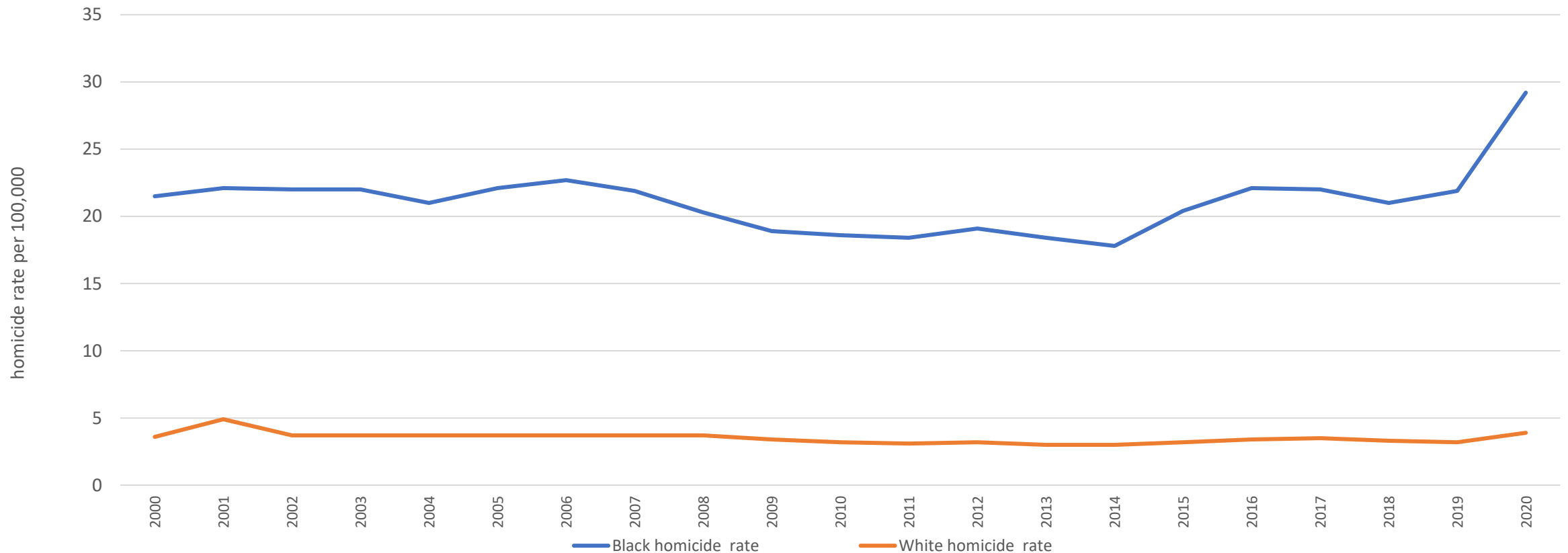
Note from NMSC: This slide intentionally left blank as data was unpublished at time of print.

# Majority shares of Black and White persons in prison for violent offenses.



- Majority of violent offense prison disparity explained by disparity in violent offending rates.
- In 2000, about 40% of the Black-White violent offense imprisonment disparity could be explained by differences in offending rates, as estimated by the NCVS.
- In 2019, about 55% could be explained by estimated offense differences.
- Disparity in arrests per violent offense has reached parity.

# Uneven Homicide Victimization Rates, by Race (2000-2020)



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. <https://wonder.cdc.gov/ucd-icd10.html>.

## U.S. Homicide rates by race in 2022

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Victim race	rate per 100k
Black	23.1
White	3.1
Asian	1.3
American Indian or Alaska Native	5.8
Native Hawaiian	4.8

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Source: [The Crime Data Explorer \(CDE\) is the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting \(UCR\) Program](#)

# Firearm-Related Violence Changes, 2019-2023 (GVA)

<b>Firearm violence category</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Homicide/Murder	15,538	19,613	21,068	20,390	18,854
Total gun-related Injuries	30,197	39,514	40,549	38,576	36,338
Defensive use (DGU)	1,628	1,521	1,317	1,233	1,187
Suicide with firearm	23,941	24,292	26,328	27,038	*



# Black male firearm-related homicides in 2021

**Black male firearm related homicides in 2021**

<i>Five-Year Age Groups</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Black male rate per 100,000</i>	<i>Black male to White male rate ratio</i>
1-4 years	25	2.3	*
5-9 years	32	2.3	*
10-14 years	114	7.6	15.2
15-19 years	1,544	104.2	31.6
20-24 years	2,181	142.9	29.2
25-29 years	2,111	128.3	22.5
30-34 years	1,726	106.7	16.9
35-39 years	1,165	83.9	14.2
40-44 years	817	63.2	12.4
45-49 years	521	44.1	10.3
50-54 years	324	26.6	8.1
55-59 years	249	20.3	7.8
60-64 years	176	15.6	8.2
65-69 years	67	7.8	6.0
70-74 years	38	6.2	6.2
75-79 years	12	*	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,110</b>	<b>55.2</b>	<b>18.4</b>

**% homicides gun-related: Black male in 2021**

<i>Five-Year Age Groups</i>	<i>% firearm-related</i>
1-4 years	30.9%
5-9 years	58.2%
10-14 years	87.7%
15-19 years	97.6%
20-24 years	97.3%
25-29 years	94.6%
30-34 years	93.2%
35-39 years	90.7%
40-44 years	90.0%
45-49 years	84.2%
50-54 years	79.0%
55-59 years	70.9%
60-64 years	70.7%
65-69 years	51.9%
70-74 years	63.3%
75-79 years	52.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90.5%</b>

# Key takeaways about community gun violence

- Gun deaths have dropped recently but remain higher than 2019 levels.
- All gun violence is not the same
- ***Community gun violence*** tends to be highly concentrated and unevenly distributed across race and place.
- Young Black males are the leading victims and offenders.

# Four kinds of gun violence

## In order of lethality:

1. More than 50% of deaths caused by guns are a result of suicides or accidents.
2. Over 50% of homicides are caused by community gun violence.
3. About 25% of homicides are related to domestic gun violence.
4. Mass shootings account for only 2% of homicides and 1% of all gun deaths.

## Different types of gun violence are distinct yet related to each other.

Need multiple approaches to tackle all four as a single strategy may not work for all GV types.

## Key distinction: gun legality

For community violence, guns are generally not allowed according to current laws. However, in cases of other types of violence, guns are usually legally owned.

# Community gun violence tends to be highly concentrated.

- In American cities, half of homicides are committed by a very small minority, comprising less than 0.06% of the population(Lurie et al., 2018).
- Around half of all criminal activities take place in just 4% of the land area within cities (Weisburd, 2015).
- For example, In Philadelphia, reports show about 1% of the populations committed about 60-70% of serious crimes.
- Most acts of gun violence are not random.
- Community gun violence tends to be extremely local and derive from local beefs.\*

# What's being done about Community Gun Violence?

# Mass incarceration and the tough-on-crime policies of the past have been unable to fix the problem

Research suggests harsher sentences offer diminishing public safety returns for three main reasons:

1. People tend to “age out” of crime, in that most criminals stop lawbreaking activities by middle age.
2. A relatively small share of individuals commit a disproportionate amount of crime in their communities.
3. “Replacement effect” common in criminal activities, especially for violent crime involving gangs and drug dealers.

# People-based approaches

Intelligence-driven and community-informed strategies that are focused, balanced, and fair apply the following steps:

1. Identify those most at risk, then engage
2. Once engaged, stabilize by providing safety and security
3. Once stabilized, treat unhealthy thinking, unsafe behavior, trauma
4. Once treated, offer educational and employment opportunities
5. Punish those who persist with swift and certain sanctions

# Behavior-based approaches

In the U.S., broad-based efforts to address guns, gangs, and drugs in general have not been successful in reducing community violence (Abt, 2019).

To enhance effectiveness, reframe as **behaviors** that facilitate violence, (i.e. gun-carrying, gang-banging, violent drug dealing), then focus on these behaviors among hot people in hot spots.



# Place-based approaches

Use evidence- and community-informed strategies that are focused, balanced, and fair to take following 3 steps in violent micro-locations:

1. Institute problem-oriented policing in hot spots
2. Follow up policing with place-making
3. Supplement policing and place-making with community-building

# Evidence-Based Policing Practices

- **Hot Spots Policing:**
  - Relies on increased police visibility and intelligence-led offender targeting (e.g., crime analysis and mapping) rather than generalized “stop and frisk” or other dragnet tactics.
- **Place Network Investigations**
  - Place-based strategy designed to identify and disrupt networks of criminogenic places.
  - Violent place networks identified with Risk Terrain Modeling, traditional crime analysis, and local police knowledge and intelligence.
- **Focused Deterrence**
  - Longer-term, holistic and resource-intensive strategy to reduce violence, involving multiple law enforcement and community partners.
  - The goal is to change the behavior of high-risk offenders through a combination of deterrence, incapacitation (arrest), community involvement, and the provision of alternatives to violence.

# Focused deterrence interventions incorporate six steps:

1. Problematic criminal behavior is identified for intervention.
2. Collaboration between interagency enforcement group including police, prosecution, and probation/parole.
3. Information gathered from law enforcement officers and other sources to identify the people and groups at high risk of engaging in the targeted behavior.
4. Interagency enforcement group notifies individuals or groups during notification meetings or “call-ins”.
5. A special enforcement operation is designed to specifically target high-risk individuals or groups and repeat offenders particularly.
6. The interagency enforcement group involves service providers and relevant community voices

# Focused deterrence interventions:

## Strategy Names in Different Cities

- Called many names including: Operation Ceasefire, Boston Gun Project, Group Violence Intervention, Chicago Project Safe Neighborhoods, Drug Market Interventions.

## Key Players

- Typically include:
  - Police, prosecutors, probation, parole, prisons.
  - Social services, public health, faith partners, non-profit organizations, outreach workers, community members.

## Main Tactics

- Rely on authoritative legal/social/moral pressure.
- Cooperate closely and publically with police.
- Focus on stopping most active groups/individuals.
- Use offender call-ins to deter those active in violence.

## Current State of Evidence

- Completion of studies employing quasi-experimental design (non-randomized control trial)
- Found strategie to have a moderate positive effect based on 2012 meta-analytic and systematic review, updated in 2018
- Rated two strategies--Boston and New Orleans--as effective  
See [www.crimesolutions.gov](http://www.crimesolutions.gov)

## Resources

- See the following:
  - National Network for Safe Communities: <http://bit.ly/2GLSbZO>
  - Campbell Collaboration: <http://bit.ly/2tYKqYD>
  - Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy: <http://bit.ly/2IGcJ6n>

# Non-enforcement initiatives

**In Oakland, community partners have worked with law enforcement** to combine focused policing efforts with broad-ranging outreach and social supports to enhance trust in the system.

- 10 years after these partnerships began the city achieved a nearly 50% reduction in shootings and homicides **BUT**.

**The READI violence intervention program in Chicago** provides those most highly impacted by gun violence with subsidized employment alongside cognitive behavioral therapy and personal development services.

- Early reports show an encouraging decline in arrests and gun violence victimizations among READI Chicago participants.

## **Hospital-based violence intervention programs (HVIPs)**

## **To enhance long-term effectiveness:**

- Reframe as community factors that shape mindsets and behaviors that facilitate violence, (i.e. gun-carrying, gang-banging, violent drug dealing),
- Then focus on community and economic/opportunity in among hot spots.

# Street life: A perpetual cycle of crime & violence

**Describes the way of life of those who are engaged in drug dealing, gang activities, and other lawbreaking in urban areas.**

- Street life dictates the hedonistic pursuit of illicit action that feeds on itself and constantly calls for more of the same
- Criminal motivation associated with material struggle and trauma
- Means living life literally as if there is no tomorrow.
- Violence is a constant threat in street life, with shootings and other acts of violence occurring regularly.

# Street life: A perpetual cycle of crime & violence

**Street life can be alluring for many reasons, especially for young Black men and boys.**

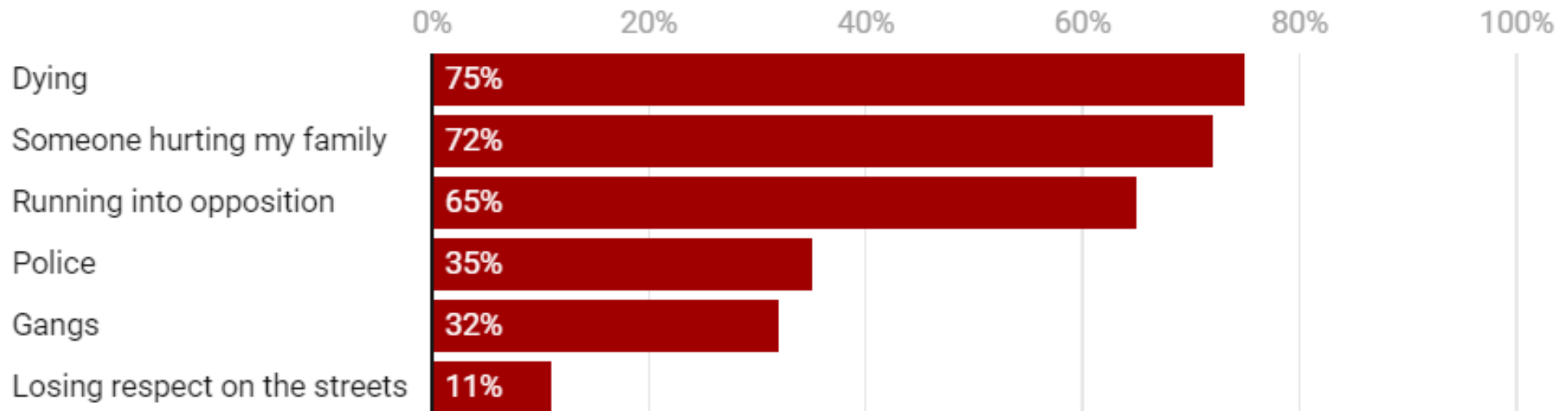
- For those living in poverty, it may seem like the only option to survive.
- Without access to education or job opportunities, joining a gang or selling drugs may provide a sense of security and financial stability.
- Far from being exclusively violent perpetrators, young men are especially vulnerable as they are trapped in a never-ending cycle that prevents successful transitions into mainstream life.
- Gun and weapon carrying



# Hunter or the Hunted: Black gun culture among young men

## Why do survey respondents carry guns?

Percentage of respondents that said carry guns because they fear:



Source: Center for Justice Innovation • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

# Crime and the American Dream in Black Communities

**CRIME AND THE  
AMERICAN DREAM**

STEVEN F. MESSNER • RICHARD ROSENFELD

# A national model for community transformation

**In East Lake in Atlanta, GA, former Atlanta housing project has become a model for neighborhood revitalization.**

*If the water is clean, the fish will be fine*

**There are three key strategies:**

1. Mixed-income housing –housing that serves people across a broad range of incomes.
2. Cradle-through-college education pipeline – starting with high-quality early learning that prepares every student for elementary, middle and high school, and beyond.
3. Community health and wellness investments – not just access to medical care, but **QUALITY OF CARE.**

**Policy considerations: Investments in places vs. investments in people**

# Community investments and Gun Violence

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The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) designates Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program.

LIHTC must have 50 percent of households with incomes below 60 percent of the Area Median Gross Income or have a poverty rate of 25 percent or more.

Difficult Development Areas (DDA) are areas with high land, construction and utility costs relative to the area median income.

LIHTC projects located in QCTs are eligible for up to 30 percent more tax credits than identical projects not in QCTs, which provides a strong incentive to locate projects funded with tax credits in the lowest income areas.

# Gun Violence and Community investments

3,108 of 3,142 U.S. Counties or 99% of all U.S. counties from 2004 to 2017.

Using the QCT and DD's per sq mile as the instrument variable, we found that the **authorization** of tax credits for new LITHC projects were associated with:

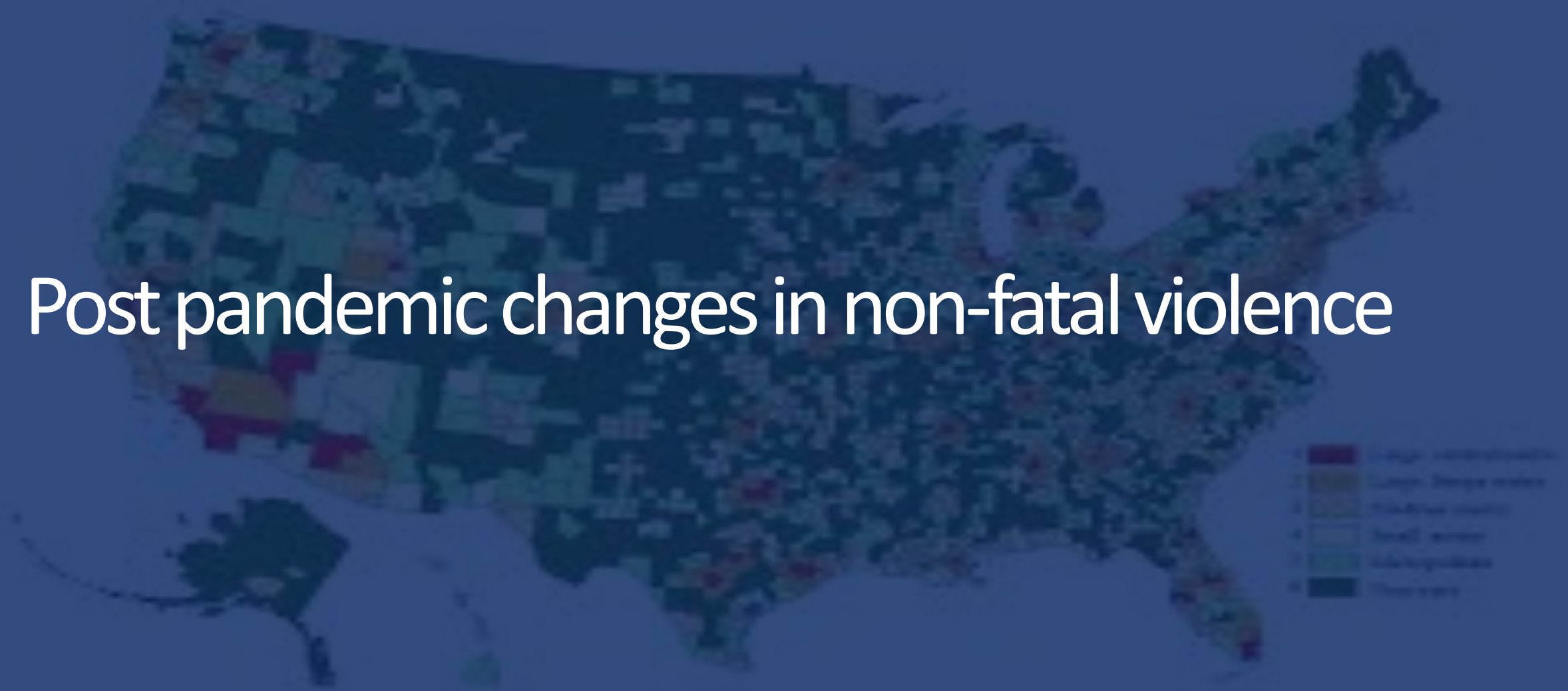
- Reduced reported gun assaults and robberies,
- Lower disparity in BW violent arrests disparity
- Race neutral impacts on other arrest types
- No effects on assaults against police officers

Policy considerations: Investments in places and investments in people

# Community development and investment consideration for safer communities

1. Inclusionary zoning policies that require developers to include affordable units in new developments.
2. Tax incentives for developers who build affordable housing units.
3. Encourage the growth of small businesses by providing access to funding and resources.
4. Invest in education and job training programs to provide individuals with the skills and resources to succeed in the workforce.
5. Support mental health and substance abuse treatment programs to address underlying issues that may contribute to gun violence.
6. Invest in community policing and outreach programs to build trust and positive relationships between law enforcement and communities.

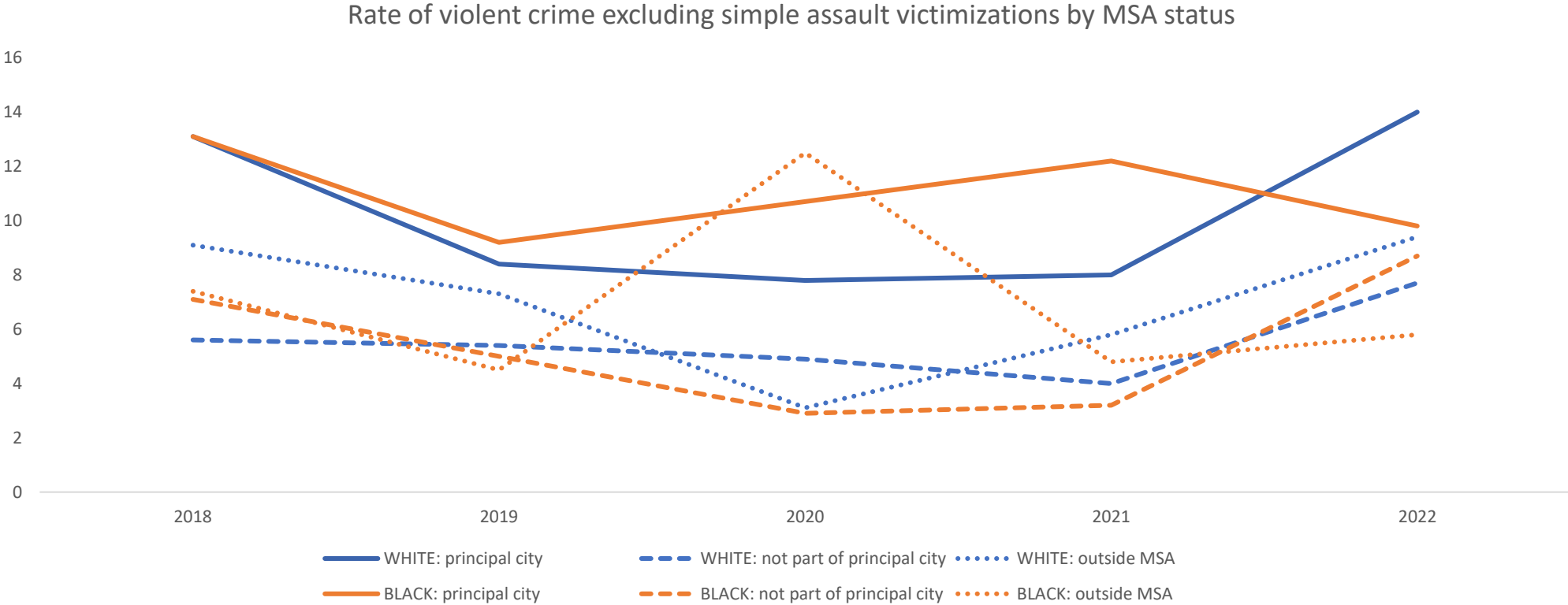
# Post pandemic changes in non-fatal violence



<b>Victimization rates</b>			<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>diff (2019/21)</b>	<b>%chg (2019/21)</b>	<b>%chg (2019/22)</b>	<b>%chg (2021/22)</b>
Black	Female	Robbery	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.1	0.4	21.1	10.5%	-8.7%
Black	Female	Aggravated assault	2.8	3.6	3.2	3.6	0.4	14.3	28.6%	12.5%
White	Female	Robbery	1.6	1	1.8	1.9	0.2	12.5	18.8%	5.6%
White	Female	Aggravated assault	2.2	2.5	2.3	4.9	0.1	4.5	122.7%	113.0%
Black	Male	Robbery	3.9	3.3	2	2.8	-1.9	-48.7	-28.2%	40.0%
Black	Male	Aggravated assault	4.1	4	4.1	6.6	0	0.0	61.0%	61.0%
White	Male	Robbery	1.4	1.4	1.3	2.4	-0.1	-7.1	71.4%	84.6%
White	Male	Aggravated assault	4.1	3.2	3.1	6.7	-1	-24.4	63.4%	116.1%
<b>Victimization rates compared to Black males</b>			<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>diff (2019/21)</b>	<b>%chg (2019/21)</b>	<b>%chg (2019/22)</b>	<b>%chg (2021/22)</b>
Black	Female	Robbery	2.1	1.6	0.9	1.3	-1.2	-57.6	-35.0%	53.3%
Black	Female	Aggravated assault	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.8	-0.2	-12.5	25.2%	43.1%
White	Female	Robbery	2.4	3.3	1.1	1.5	-1.3	-54.4	-39.5%	32.6%
White	Female	Aggravated assault	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.3	-0.1	-4.3	-27.7%	-24.4%
White	Male	Robbery	2.8	2.4	1.5	1.2	-1.2	-44.8	-58.1%	-24.2%
White	Male	Aggravated assault	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.0	0.3	32.3	-1.5%	-25.5%



# Residential migration and violent crime in US





**QUESTIONS**