



Portland Gun Violence Reduction Strategy

2025 Annual Report

Ryan D'Ambrosio

Evaluation Specialist, Public Safety Service Area

Sierra Ellis

Ceasefire Director, Public Safety Service Area



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Disclaimer:

We want to acknowledge the pain of community violence and its lasting impacts, including the perpetuation of a cycle of poverty and trauma that falls disproportionately on Portland's Black community.

Terminology:

This report includes reporting on various types of violence:

- All homicides, which includes stabbings, assaults, as well as gun homicides.
- Gun violence, which includes homicide, injury and non-injury shootings.

The terms ‘homeless’, ‘unhoused’, ‘houseless’, and ‘housing unstable’ are used interchangeably, and unless otherwise noted refer to whether the investigating PPB officer’s opinion was that an individual was houseless or housing unstable.



Gun Violence Reduction Progress 2025 vs. 2024

Overall:

- **19** less lives lost
- **92** less injured victims

Focus:

- **17** less Black Portlander lives lost
- **16** less Black Portlander injured victims aged 24 and under



FBI Data allow for a macro-historical perspective of homicides in Portland; illustrating the size of the 2020-2023 surge and the relative low levels of homicide experienced from 2000-2019

Homicides per Month in Portland Since 1985 (12-Month Rolling Average)

Data Source: FBI Crime Data Explorer



Data source: [FBI Crime Data Explorer](#).

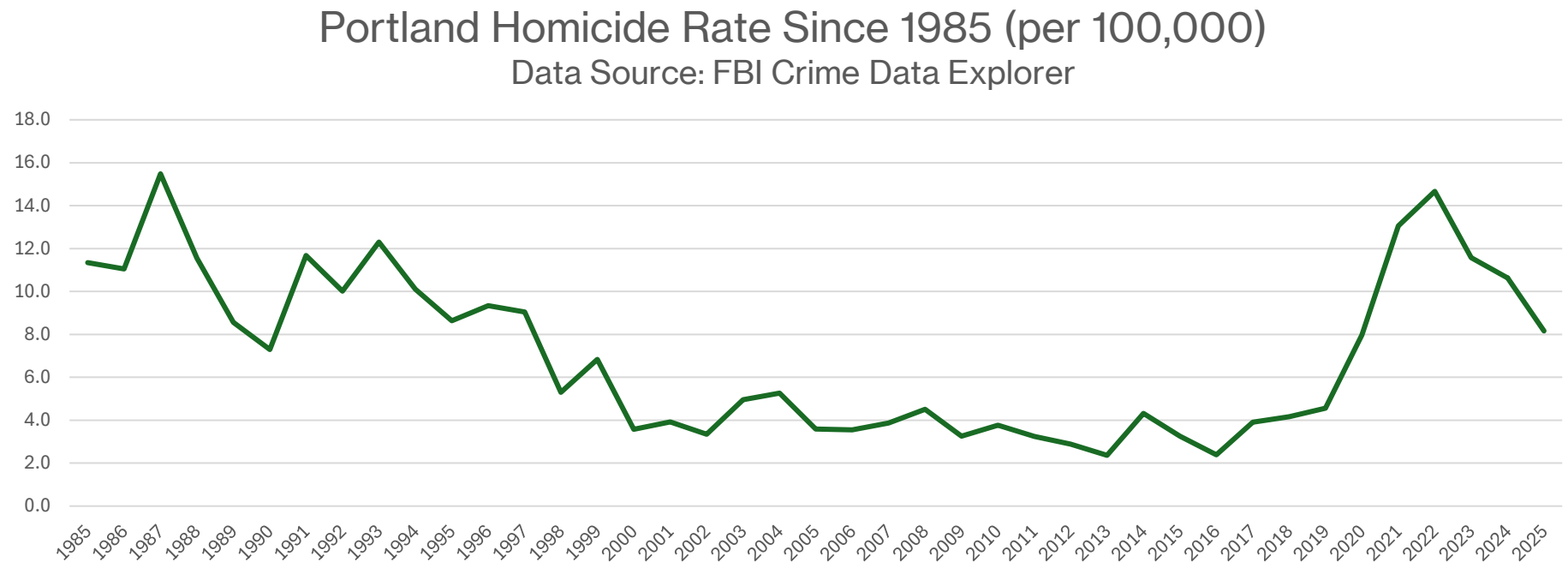
Note: FBI data includes all homicides, not just firearm homicides.



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From a rate perspective (per 100,000 residents), the homicide level in the late 1980s and early 1990s was as severe as the recent gun violence surge from 2020-2023.

- **9.9:** the average homicide rate (per 100,000) from 1985-1999.
- **3.7:** the average homicide rate from 2000-2019.
- **-63%:** how much lower the homicide rate from 2000-2019 was vs. the 1985-1999 rate.

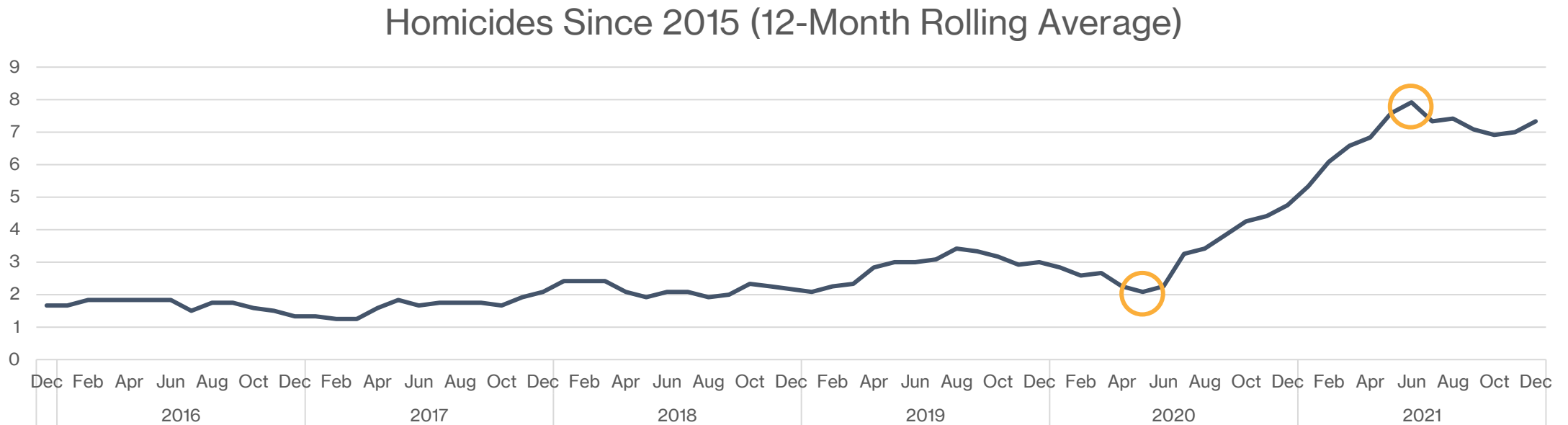


Data source: FBI [Crime Data Explorer](#). FBI data includes all homicides, not just firearm homicides.

Notes: For comparison, the homicide rates in other major cities in 2025: New York City (3.4), Los Angeles (7.7), Philadelphia (13.3), Chicago (14.6), and Baltimore (23.1).



Portland went from a rolling monthly average of 2.25 homicides per month in June 2020 to 7.92 in June 2021 (13 months).

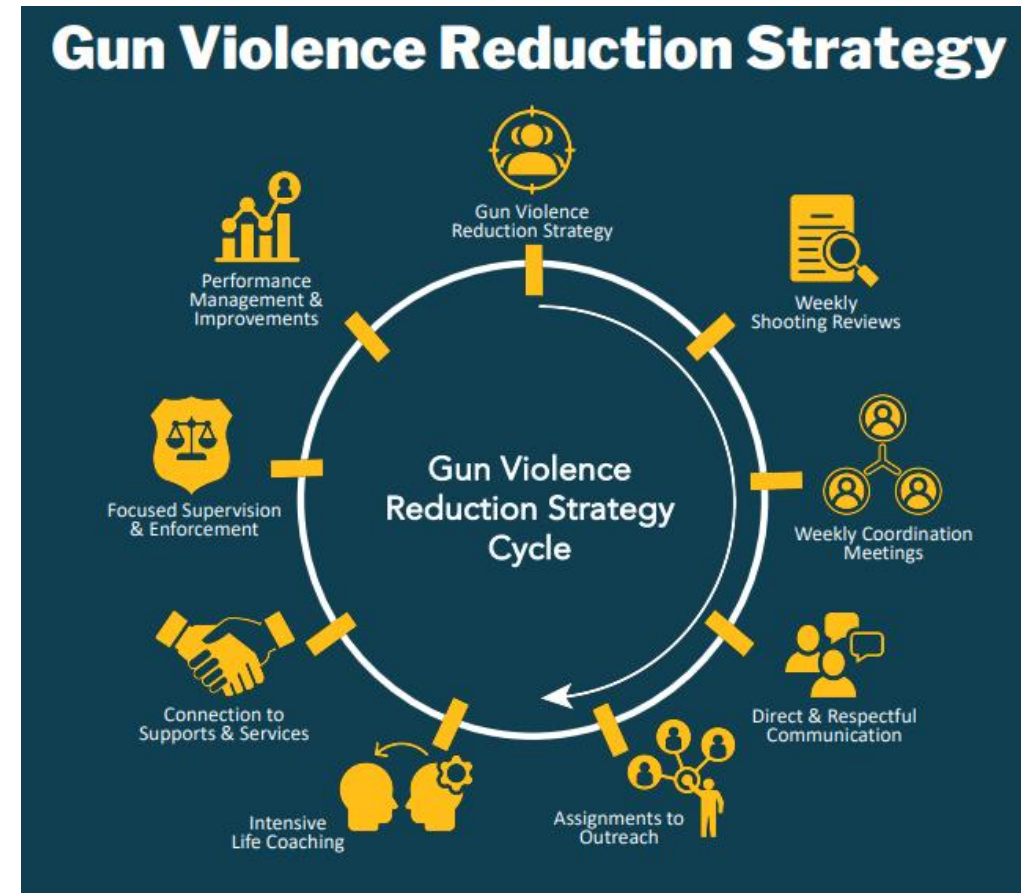


Data source: Portland Police Bureau's [Monthly Reported Crime Statistics](#) open data web-portal.
Note: Historical homicide data includes all homicides, not just firearm homicides.



The City of Portland adopted Ceasefire, a strategic and intentional Community-Law Enforcement partnership, as its GVRS in July 2023.

- Collaboration involving many organizations including the Office of Violence Prevention, Portland Police Bureau, and regional law enforcement agencies, and multiple community partners
- Data driven; utilizing accurate and timely data
- Focus on **individuals at the highest risk** of perpetrating or being a victim of gun violence, including retaliatory violence (represents a few hundred individuals)
- Offer of intensive services & support to disengage high-risk individuals from the cycle of violence
- Accountability through focused enforcement
- The primary goals are to **reduce community violence** and **the law enforcement footprint** in our most vulnerable and high-risk communities



Individuals at High-Risk for Gun Violence identified via Problem Analyses:

- Males
- Aged 18-44
- 5-8 previous arrests
- Associated with or active gang or group involvement
- Previously shot
- Socially connected to recent (past 6-months) shooting or homicide victim
- Prior criminal justice system involvement (including felonies and prior probation or post-prison supervision)

Data source: [Portland Shooting & Homicide Problem Analysis](#).

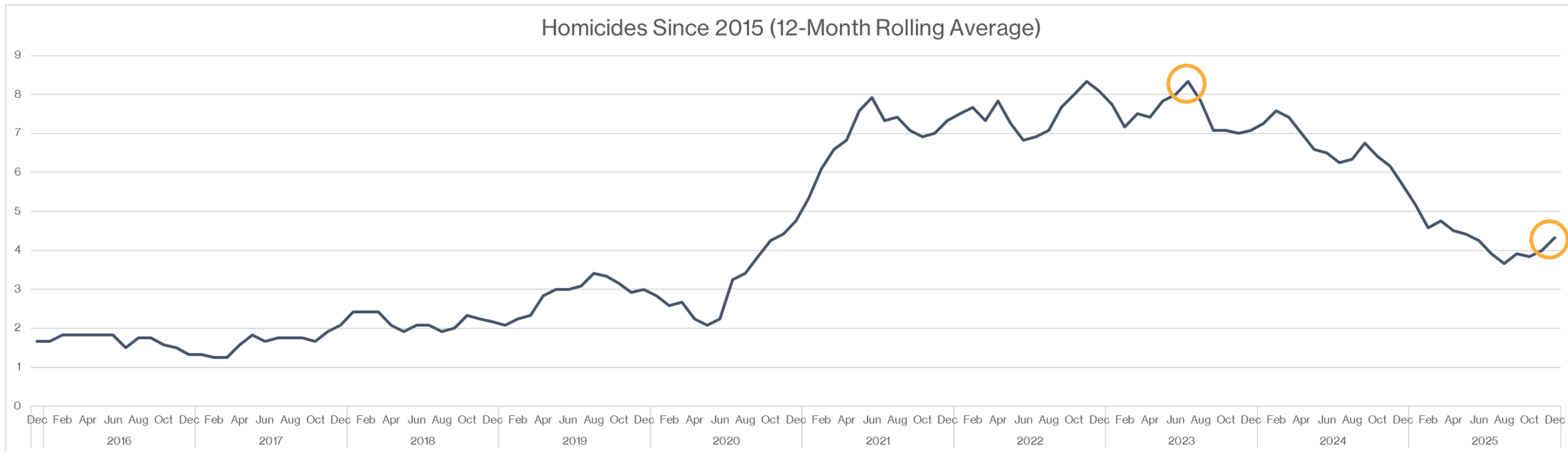
Note: Problem Analyses findings included that Black Portlanders are disproportionately impacted by gun violence, representing 38% and 50%, respectively, of victims and suspects of firearm homicides and injuries.

The National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform conducted gun violence Problem Analyses in 2019 and 2021 for Portland in coordination with the Office of Violence Prevention and the Police Bureau to identify the drivers of community violence in support of the implementation of violence reduction strategies and interventions.

Results from the Problem Analysis included the recommendation to focus violence reduction efforts on the individuals at the very highest risk of being victims and suspects in firearm homicides and injuries.



Since the official start of Ceasefire in July 2023, Portland went from a rolling monthly average of 8.33 homicides per month to 4.33 as of the end of 2025, nearly halving the homicide incidence.



Data source: Portland Police Bureau's [Monthly Reported Crime Statistics](#) open data web-portal.

Note: Historical homicide data includes all homicides, not just firearm homicides.



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Gun violence has been declining nationally with 2025 likely to have one of the lowest rates of homicide ever recorded. But that does not mean that every community is experiencing decreasing homicides.

The following cities were on track to record homicide increases in 2025 (data are as of November 2025):

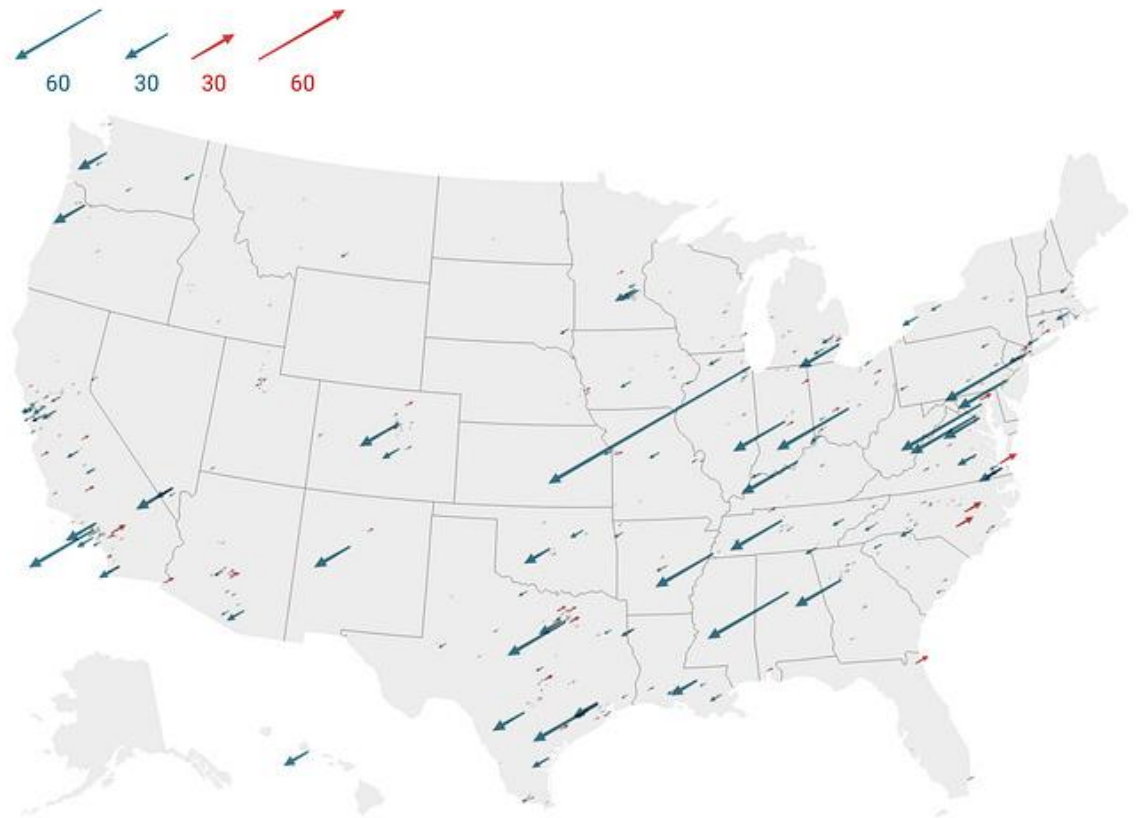
- Los Angeles, CA (+5%)
- Kansas City, MO (+6%)
- Milwaukee, WI (+11%)

Data source: [The Real-Time Crime Index](#).

Note: Estimates for national level reductions in homicides in 2025 range from 14%-20%.

Change in Murders, 2025 vs 2024

647 agencies with data through at least September in the Real-Time Crime Index

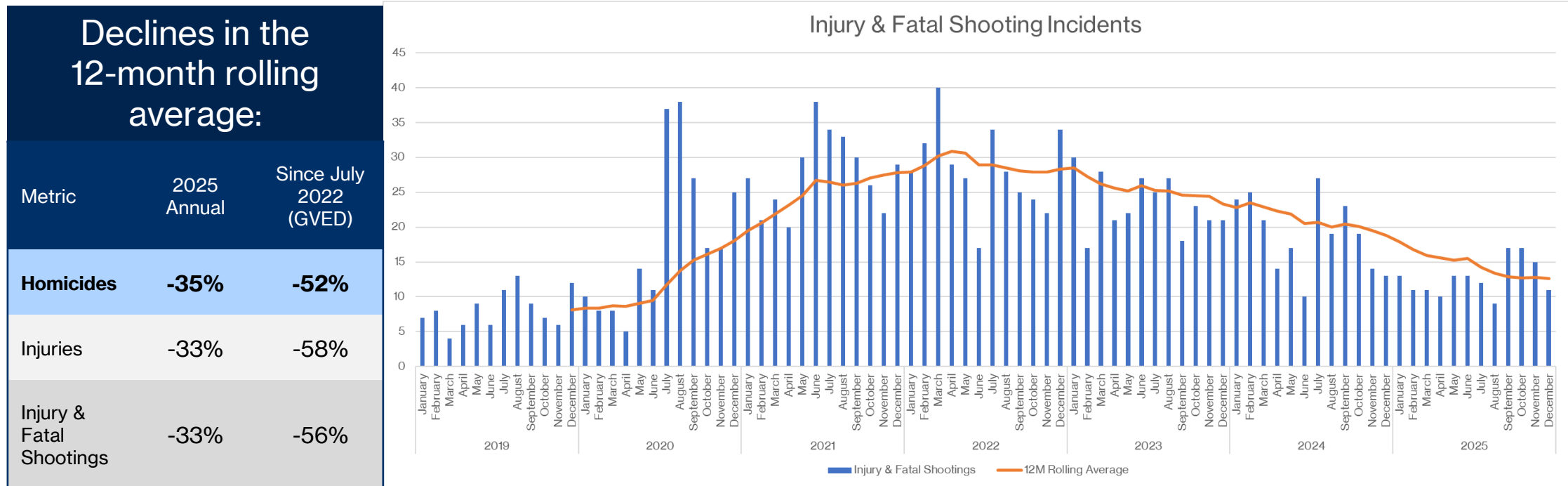


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Portland continued making significant progress toward gun violence reduction in 2025, with a 33% decline in the 12-month rolling average of injury and fatal shooting incidents through December 2025.



Notes: GVED = Gun Violence Emergency Declaration announced by Mayor Wheeler.

2025 declines are significant compared to 2024 declines: homicides (-10%), injuries (-23%), and injury and fatal shootings (-19%).

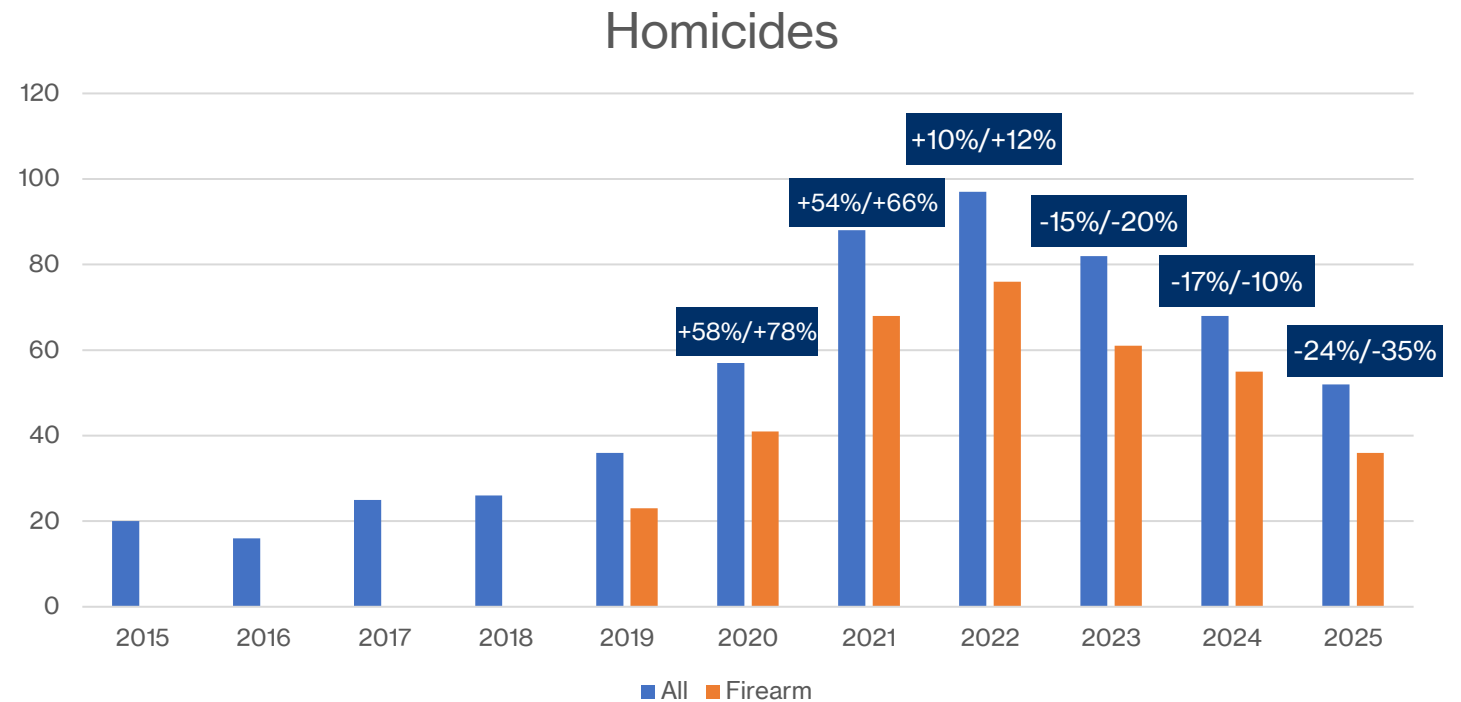
Gun violence specific data (i.e., shooting statistics) have only been collected by the Portland Police Bureau since 2019.



Homicide

Key Data: Portland Historical Statistics

%s in boxes represent the change from the previous year: All/Firearm.



Data source: Portland Police Bureau's (PPB) [Shooting Incident Statistics](#) and [Monthly Neighborhood Offense Statistics](#) open data web-portals.

Note: PPB only started tracking firearm related statistics in 2019.



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Gun Violence

Key Data: Portland Annual Statistics

2025 vs. 2024:

- **All Homicide Victims:** -24% (16 less lives lost)
- **Firearm Homicide Victims:** -35% (19 less lives lost)
- **Injury Shooting Incidents:** -33% (92 less injured victims)
- **Non-Injury Shooting Incidents:** -27% (157 less incidents)
- **Total Shooting Incidents:** -29% (231 less incidents)

Data source: Portland Police Bureau's [Shooting Incident Statistics](#) open data web-portal.



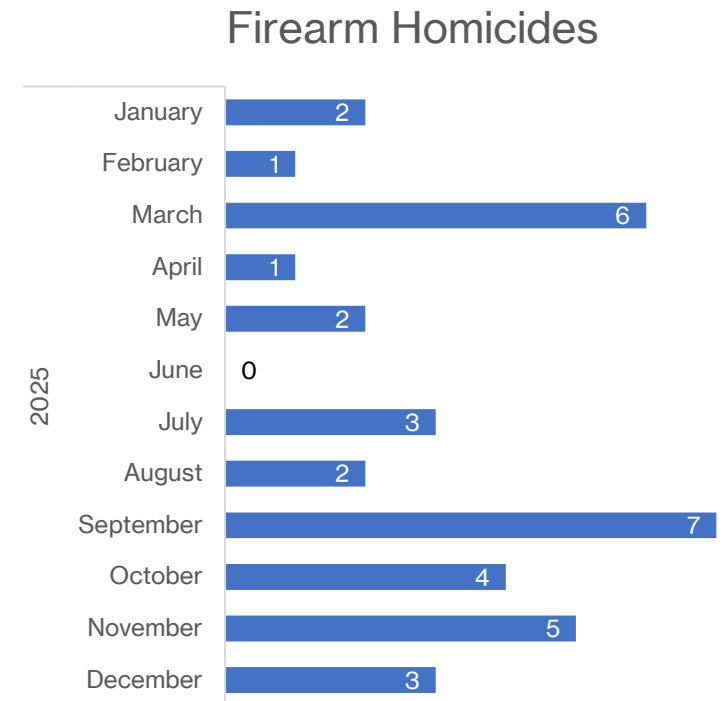
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Firearm Homicides

Key Characteristics of 2025 Incidents:

2025 Data (n=36)

- March, September, October, and November represented over 60% of firearm homicides.
- **Implication:** community violence occurs unpredictably, resulting in the necessity to have resources ready and available continuously.



Data source: Portland Police Bureau's (PPB) [Shooting Incident Statistics](#).

Note: March (8), July (6), September (9), October (5), November (6), and December (6) represented 77% of all homicides in 2025.



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Firearm Homicides

Key Intersections of 2025 Incidents:

2025 Data (n=36)

- **Identified as having a likely gang or group nexus: 42%**
 - Represents two less gang or group related victims vs. 2024 (15 vs. 17), but an 11% increase as a share of firearm homicides.
- **Identified as having a likely houseless or housing unstable nexus: 42%**
 - Represents two less housing unstable related victims vs. 2024 (15 vs. 17), but an 11% increase as a share of firearm homicides.

Data source: Portland Police Bureau (PPB) weekly Shooting Review.

Note: There was one firearm homicide victim that had both a gang and housing unstable nexus.



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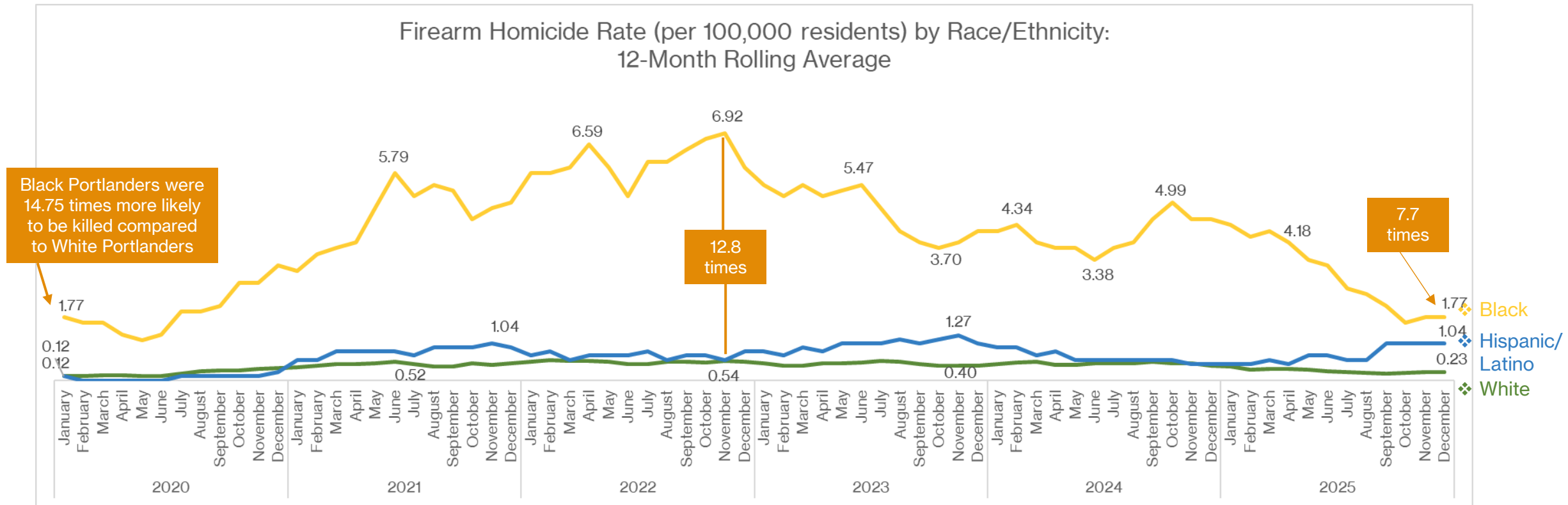
Despite these significant reductions in gun violence, there remains much work to do to continue the downward trend.

And while the data are encouraging, Portland continues to deal with inequities tied to race, geography, the cost of housing, and historical disinvestment in specific communities.



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The disproportionate impact of gun violence on Black and Brown communities is stubbornly stark: *Black Portlanders are 7.7 times more likely to be killed by gun violence compared to White Portlanders.* However, the gap in disproportionality narrowed 28% in 2025.

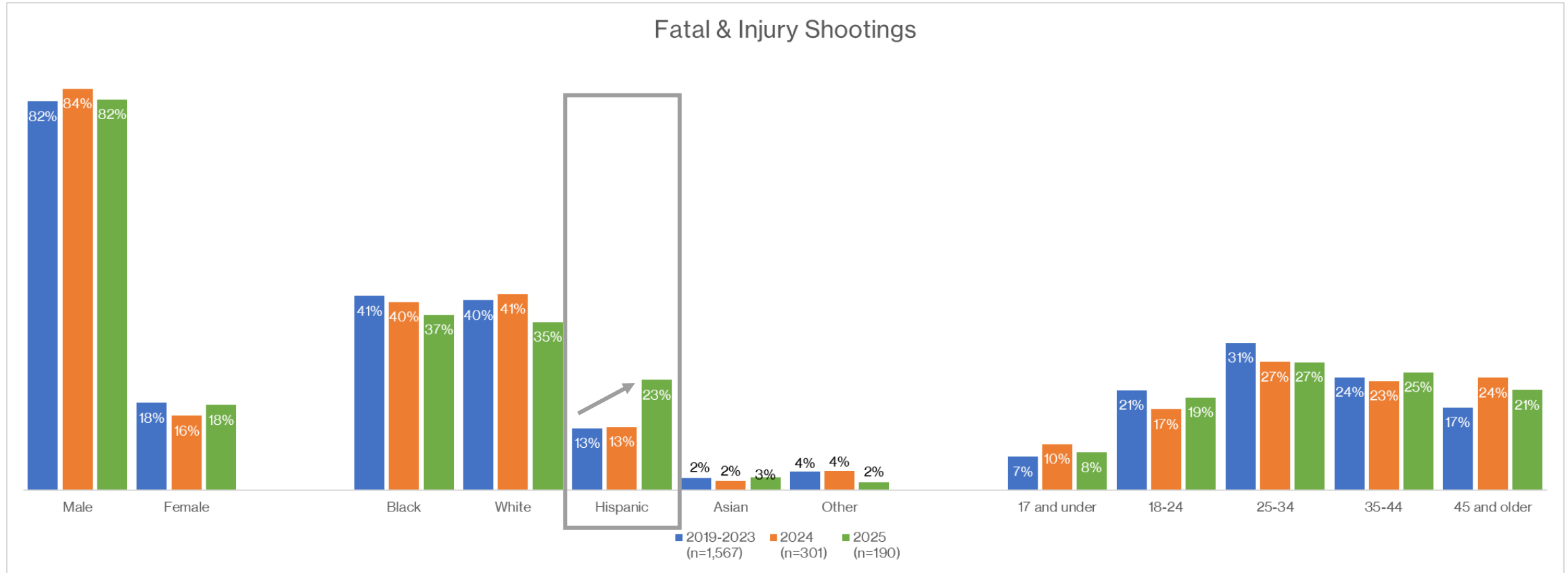


Data source: Portland Police Bureau.



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In 2025, the proportion of shooting victims that were Black and White declined slightly, while victims that are Hispanic/Latino have increased significantly.



Data source: Portland Police Bureau.

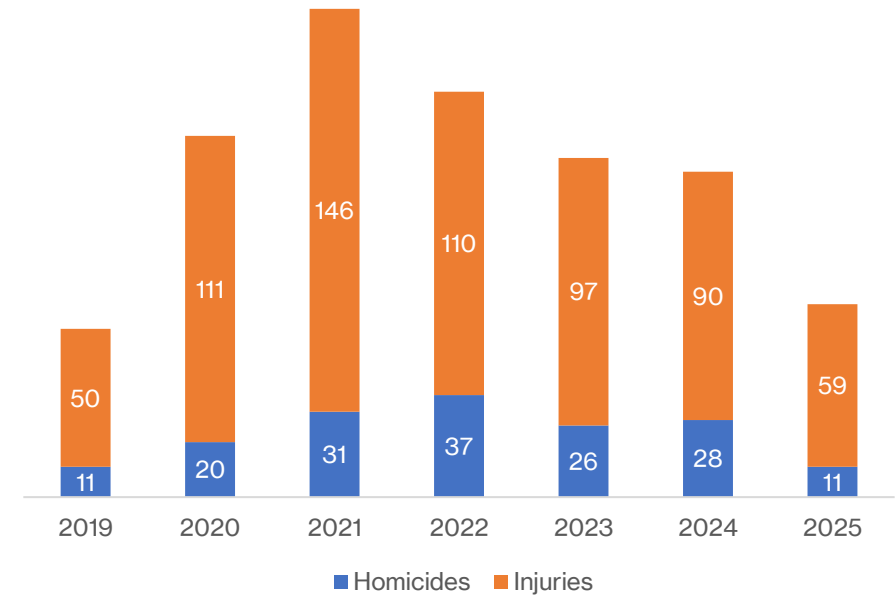


Gun Violence Reduction Strategy

Key Impacts:

Black Portlanders as victims of gun violence has declined to near 2019 (pre-surge) levels, demonstrating the effectiveness of the Ceasefire strategy, investment, and efforts that focus on individuals identified as being directly involved as victims and perpetrators of gun violence.

Black Portland Victims of Gun Violence



Data source: Strategic Services Division, Portland Police Bureau (PPB).

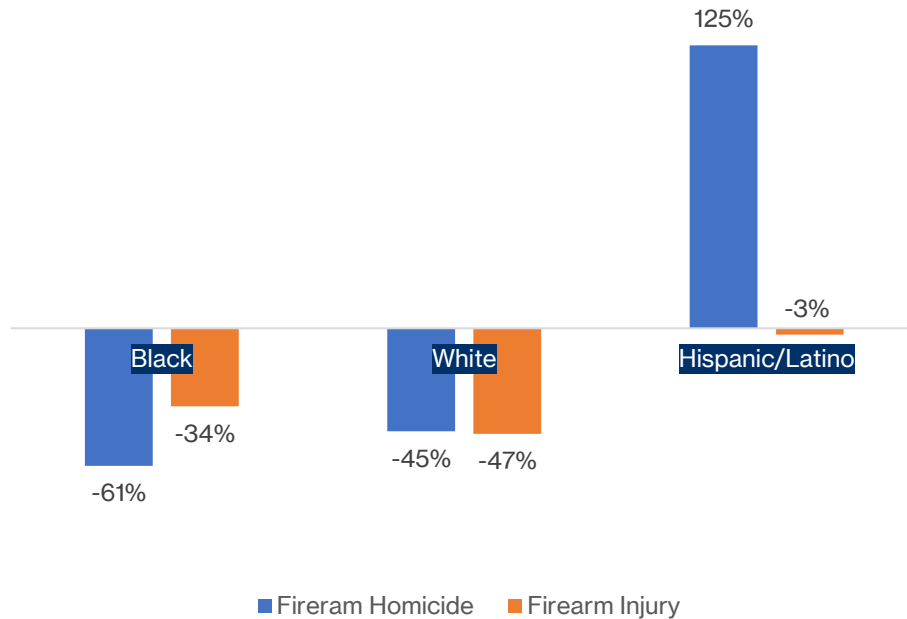


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Gun Violence Key Demographic Trends:

2025 firearm homicides: 61% reduction in Black victims vs. 2024, but an alarming percentage increase in Latino victims.

2024-2025 Gun Violence Trends



	Firearm Homicide		Firearm Injury	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
Black	28	11	90	59
White	22	12	103	55
Hispanic/Latino	4	9	36	35
Other	1	4	11	4

Data source: Strategic Services Division, Portland Police Bureau (PPB).

Note: There was also a large % surge in firearm homicide victims among "Other" race/ethnicities, but did not include the data in the graph due to the small numbers that would distort the visual.



Macro Demographic Trends

In 2025, the number of Black gun violence victims returned to near pre-surge (pre-pandemic) levels, while the levels for White victims remain elevated and Latino victims endure at near surge heights.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Black							
Homicides	11	20	31	37	26	28	11
Injuries	50	111	146	110	97	90	59
White							
Homicides	8	18	25	27	22	22	12
Injuries	30	67	143	176	108	103	55
Latino							
Homicides	1	2	8	7	9	4	9
Injuries	5	31	36	59	45	36	35

Data source: Portland Police Bureau (PPB).

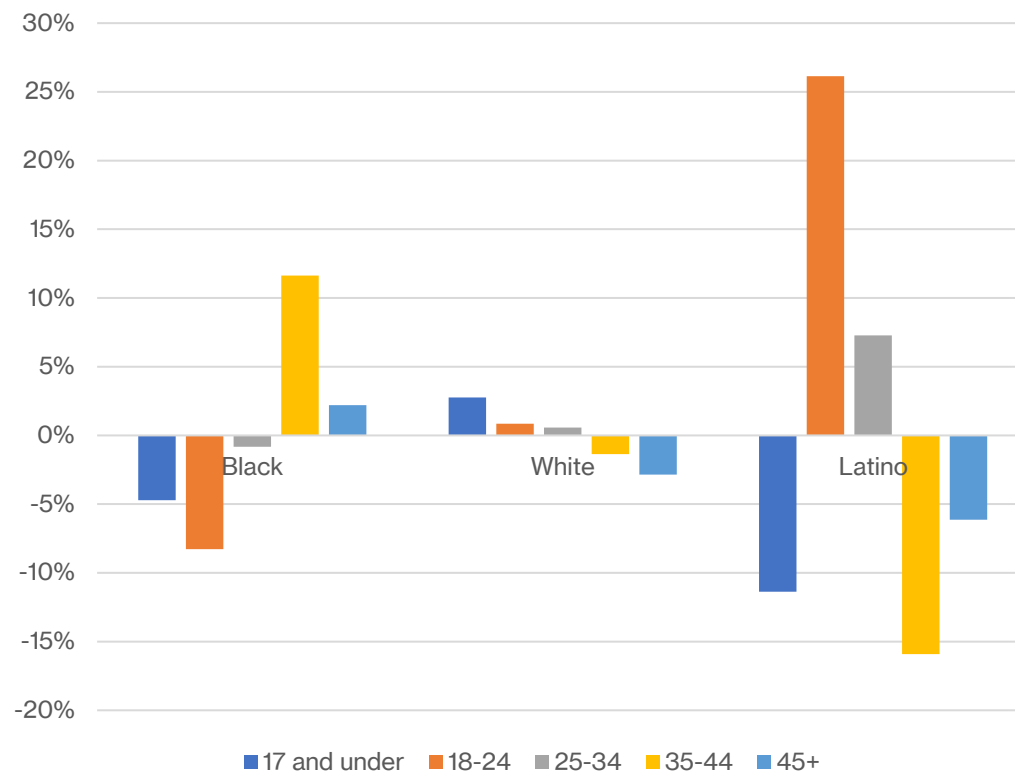


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Age & Race Trends

There has been little change in the age of gun violence victims (fatal and injury) from 2024 to 2025, but an age and race/ethnicity analysis reveals a modest decrease in Black victims under age 25 and a large increase in Latino victims aged 18-24.

Homicide & Injury Victims
(% Change 2025 vs. 2024)

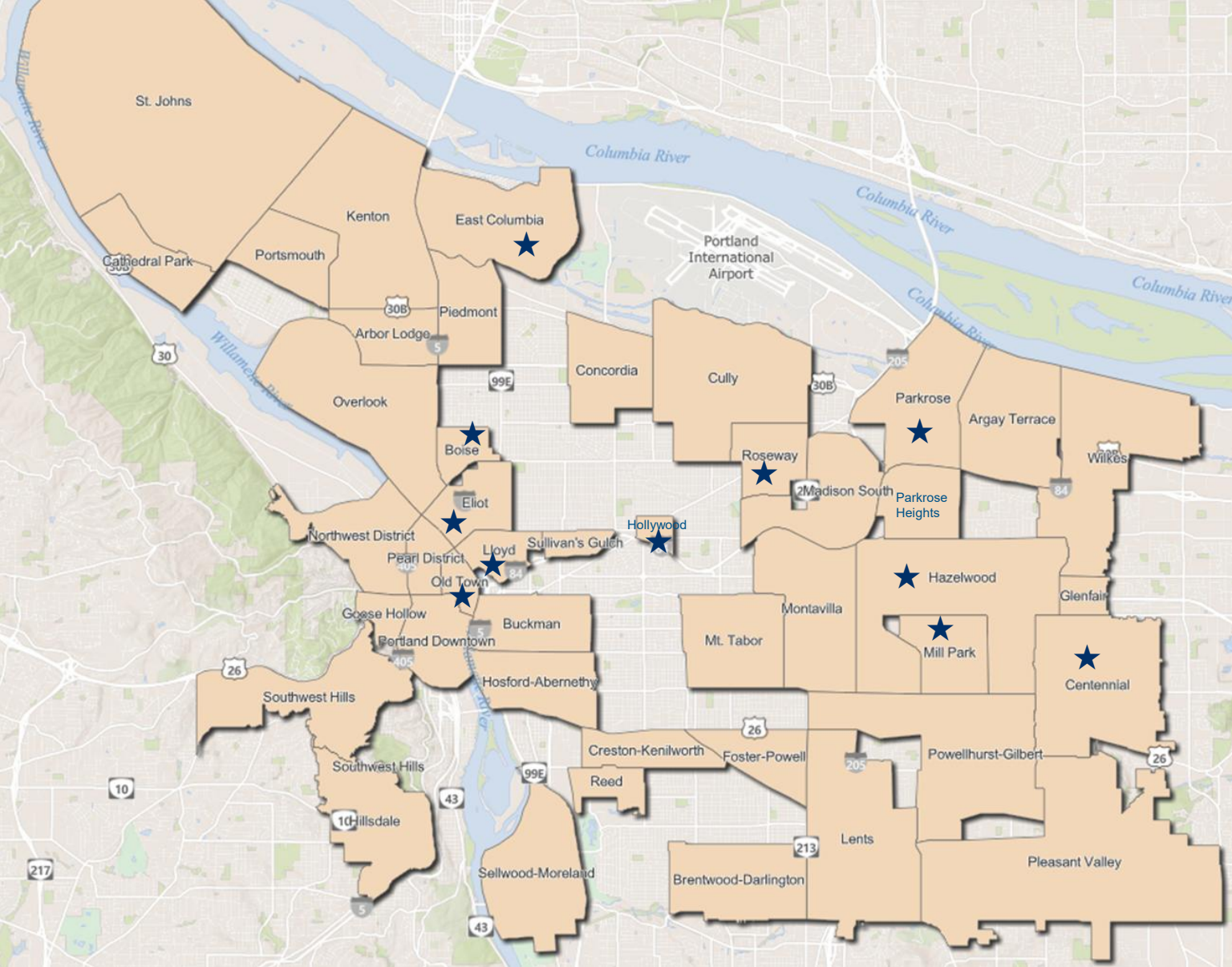


Data source: Portland Police Bureau (PPB).

Note: It is prudent to be cautious interpreting changes across very small sample sizes, but the increase in Latino victims aged 18-34 is concerning.



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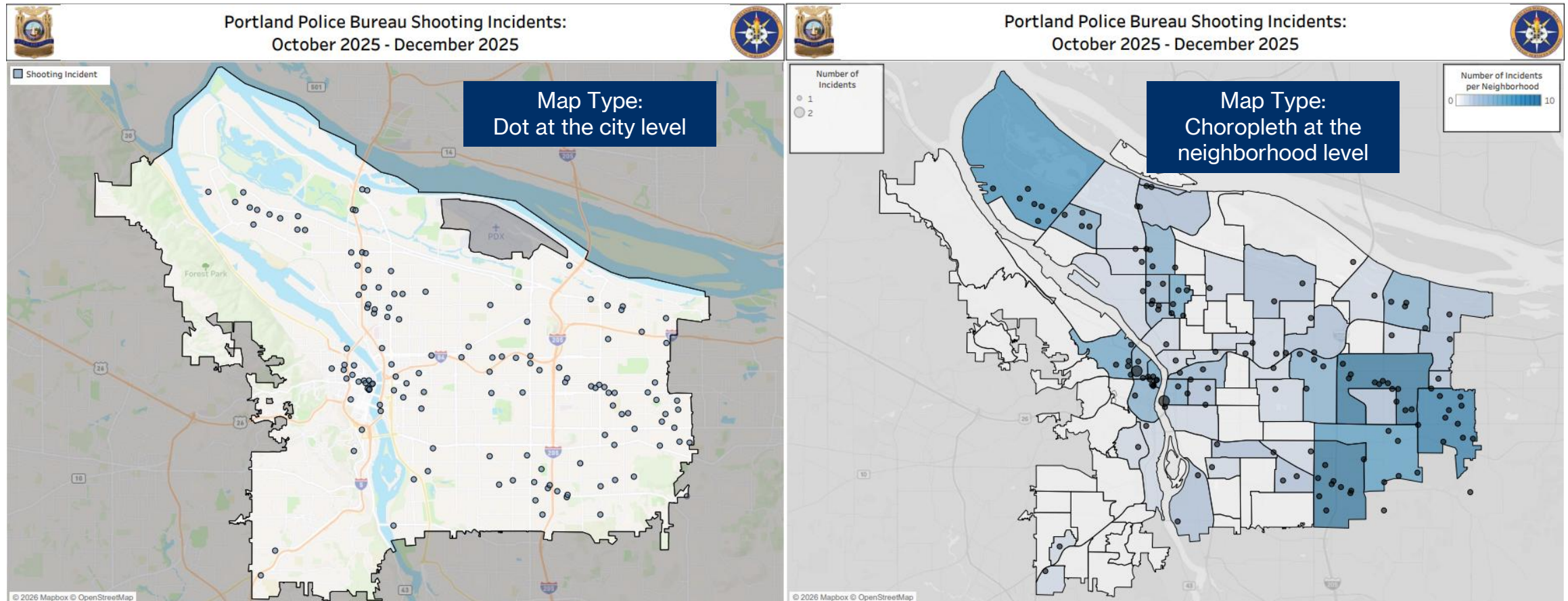
2025 homicide and injury shootings cluster into geographical hotspots in the inner Core, I-84 corridor, and the outer East.

Neighborhoods with the highest victimization rates	Rate per 10,000 residents
Old Town/Chinatown	21.64
East Columbia	16.76
Hazelwood	7.49
Eliot	7.22
Lloyd District	7.20
Boise	6.44
Centennial	5.12
Parkrose	4.80
Roseway	4.58
Hollywood	4.42
Mill Park	4.38

Note: The map highlights the 45 neighborhoods (48%) with at least one injury or fatal shooting incident in 2025. The table lists the 11 neighborhoods with a Fatal & Injury Shooting Rate above 4 per 10,000 residents in 2025. These 11 highest rate neighborhoods are designated with a star on the map.



Shooting Incidents Maps: October-December 2025



Data source: Strategic Services Division, Portland Police Bureau (PPB).

Notes: Dot maps are a type of thematic maps using dots to represent the presence and quantity of a particular phenomenon across a specific area, in this case shooting incidents in Portland. Choropleth maps are a type of statistical thematic map used to represent geographical characteristics, in this case, density of shooting incidents.





The houseless continue to be the most vulnerable to homicide.

Houseless individuals represented an estimated 35% of all homicide victims, and 42% of firearm homicide victims, in 2025 but represent approximately 1%-2% of the greater Portland population¹. (These are very similar proportions of homicide victims who were estimated to be houseless in 2024.)

This disparity in homicide victimization means that the houseless are approximately 48 times more likely of being killed by gun violence compared to housed Portlanders.

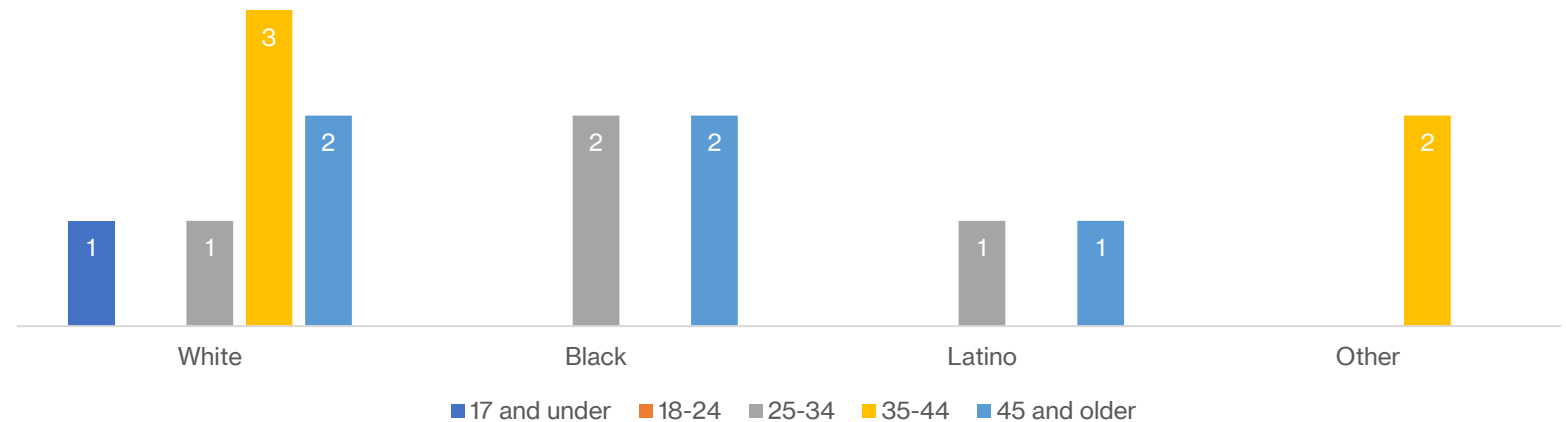
¹ Population estimates come from the [2024 Oregon Statewide Homelessness Estimates](#). Data source: homicide data among the houseless population is estimated from PPB Shooting Reviews.



Houseless Firearm Homicide Victims

Skew White (47%) and older (56% aged 35+).

2025 Houseless Firearm Homicide Victims by Age and Race
(n=15)



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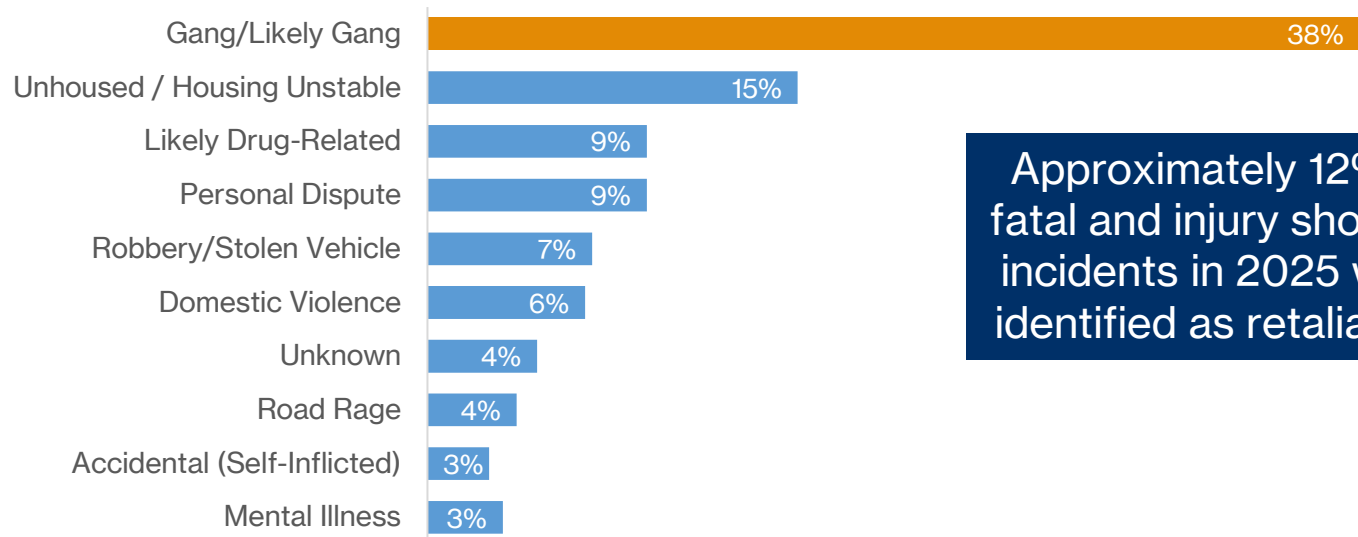
Data source: Portland Police Bureau (PPB) weekly Shooting Review.

Notes: Among all firearm victims in 2025, 33% were White and 44% were aged 35+. In 2024, 69% of non-firearm related homicides were identified as houseless. In 2025, this dropped to 17%.

Top Drivers of Gun Violence¹

Despite the substantial progress made in reducing community violence, and gun violence in particular, gang and group conflicts continue to be the primary driver of gun violence in Portland in 2025.

2025 Gun Violence Drivers



Approximately 12% of fatal and injury shooting incidents in 2025 were identified as retaliatory.



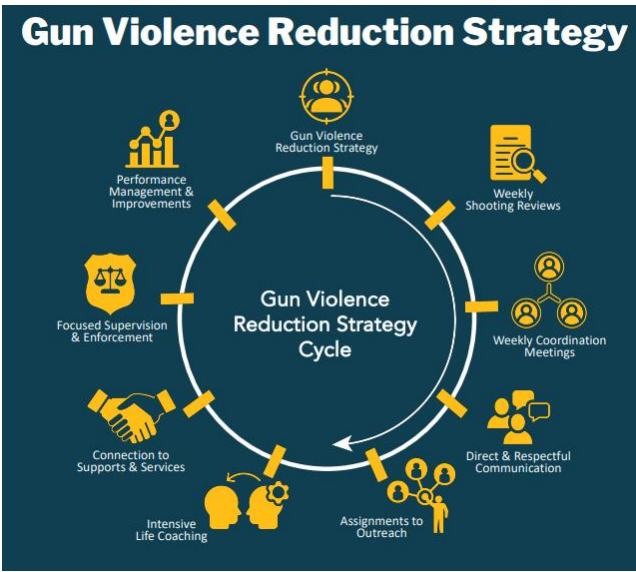
¹ Gun violence in this analysis includes homicide, non-fatal injury, and non-injury shootings.

Data Source: Ceasefire Weekly Shooting Review. Data represent both victims and suspects involved in shooting incidents.



Portland Ceasefire

Ceasefire operates as a Gun Violence Reduction Strategy (GVRS) – a comprehensive, evidence-based framework that identifies individuals at the highest risk of being involved in gun violence and deploys targeted interventions to disrupt cycles of harm. As defined by the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR), GVRS integrates rigorous data analysis, policy development, training, and continuous coaching to achieve measurable and sustained reductions in gun violence.



Evidence-Based Community Violence Intervention Services & Providers

Community Outreach:

- **Charge:** Incident response and community engagement
- **Providers:** Going Home 2, Guia Inc., HELP, Nurture, and POIC

Intensive Case Management:

- **Charge:** Long-term engagement with high-risk individuals providing an array of intensive support services
- **Providers:** Guia Inc., HELP, Nurture, and POIC

Healing Hurt People:

- **Charge:** Hospital-based program to engage gun shot wound victims into long-term intensive support services
- **Provider:** POIC

Trauma & Violence Impacted Families:

- **Charge:** Provide support services, including relocation, to families impacted by gun violence
- **Provider:** POIC



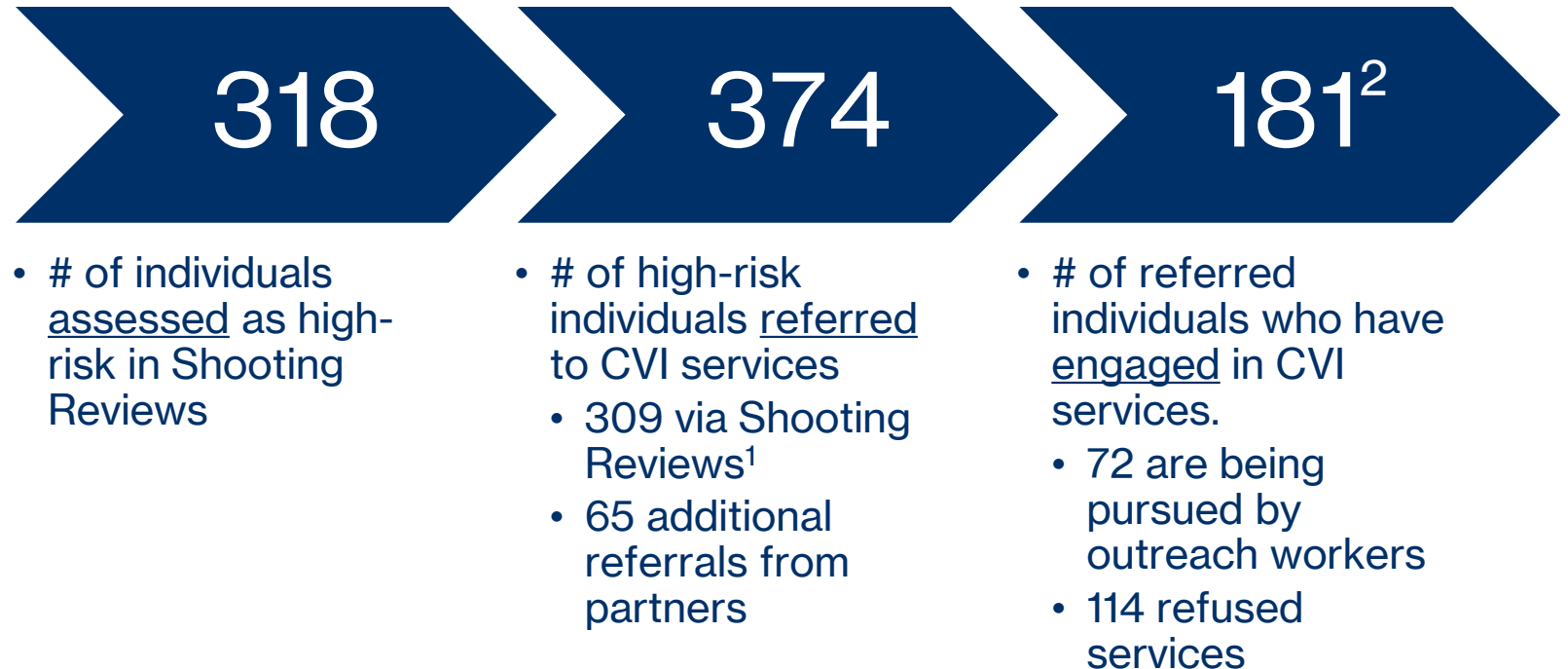
Ceasefire Referral Process



*Very High-Risk individuals are generally defined as meeting at least 5 of 7 risk factors: male, aged 18-44, 5-8 previous arrests, associated with or active group involvement, previously shot, socially connected to recent (past 6-months) shooting or homicide victim, prior criminal justice system involvement (including felonies and prior probation or post-prison supervision).



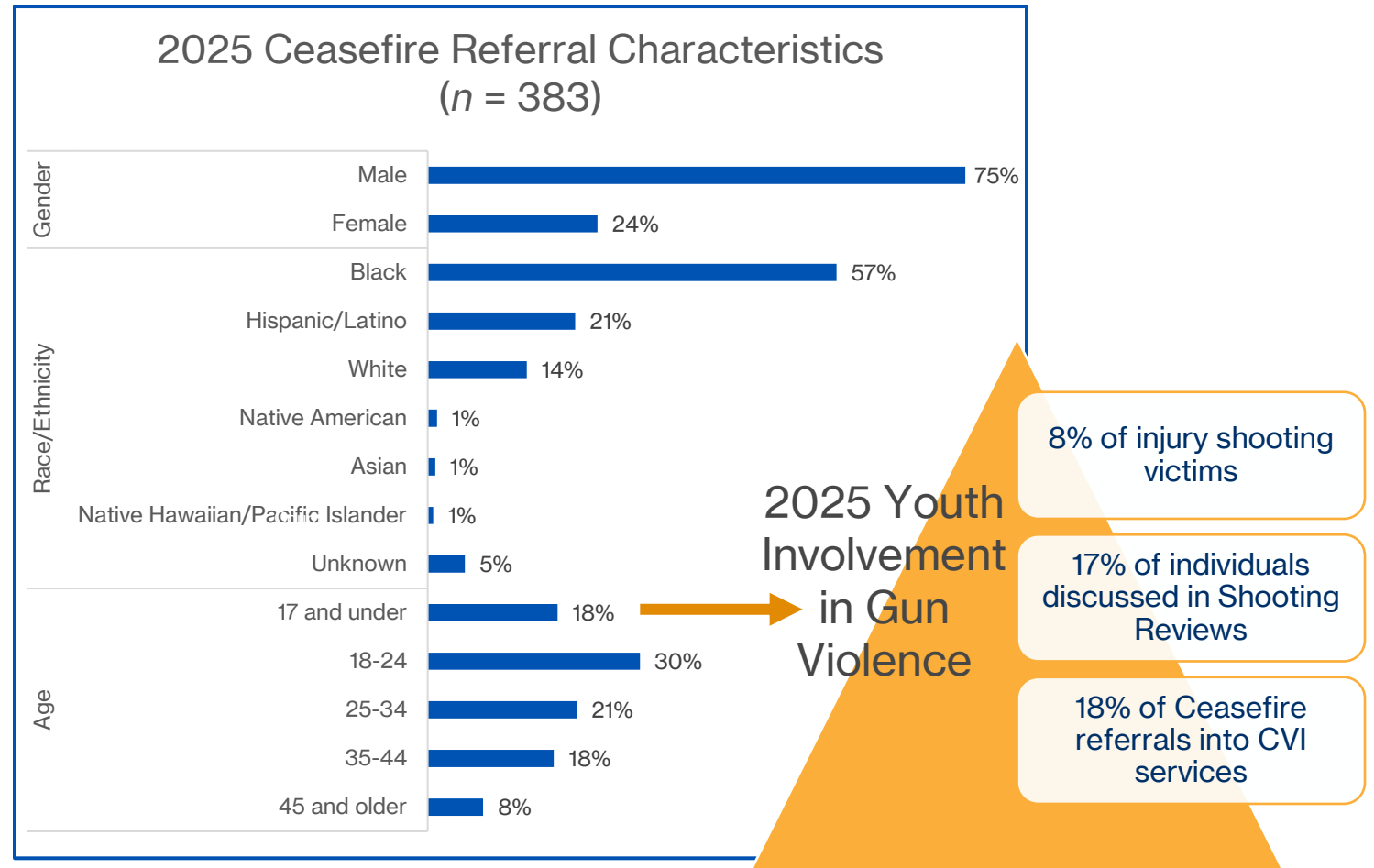
2025 Ceasefire Referrals



Note: ¹ 9 individuals assessed in Shooting Reviews were referred were subsequently determined to be low-risk and not appropriate for referral or were otherwise unable to be referred to CVI services. ² Ten individuals referred to CVI services were determined to be low-risk by CVI service providers.



2025 Ceasefire Referral Characteristics



Progress to Ceasefire 2025 Goals

374 Referrals
(237% of goal)

181 Engagements with referrals
(163% of goal)

147 Accepted long-term services
(155% of goal)

11 Custom Notifications/Call-Ins*
(39% of goal)

* Custom Notifications take time to ramp up due to the need for developing robust coordination across partners and clear messaging to high-risk individuals.



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Public Safety Budget Allocations

The 2025-2026 City of Portland Adopted Budget dedicates nearly **\$603 million** to Public Safety, including police, fire, and 911.

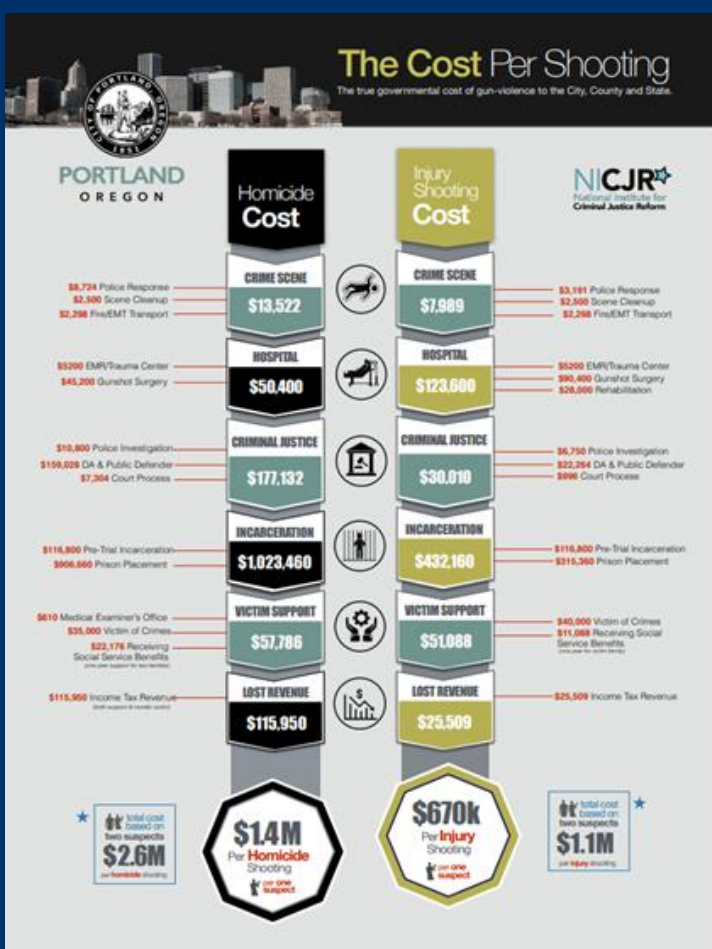
- **2% of these Public Safety dollars (\$12 million) is allocated to Community Violence Intervention infrastructure and programs via Portland Ceasefire and the Office of Violence Prevention.**

This is a modest investment that has prevented the premature death of Portlanders due to community violence:

- 19 less lives lost in 2025 vs. 2024
- 6 less lives lost in 2024 vs. 2023



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The Cost of Gun Violence

\$85.6MM – estimated cost savings for the City and regional government and health care partners because of 19 less lives lost and 87 less persons injured in shootings in 2025 vs. 2024.

Community Violence Intervention investments (Ceasefire & OVP), along with a strong and coordinated partnership with law enforcement, are resulting in a reduction in the pain and trauma of lives lost and injured to gun violence and **represent an estimated ROI of \$7 in savings for each dollar invested in 2025.**

Year	Cost of Gun Violence	CVI Investment
2023	\$263,268,984	~ \$9,530,852
2024	\$239,989,190	~ \$13,669,686
2025	\$154,341,468	~ \$12,115,775

NICJR calculated the economic cost per shooting to the City, County, and State (that includes cross-system costs from law enforcement, criminal justice, healthcare, incarceration, victim supports, and lost revenue) as \$1.4MM per Homicide shooting and \$670K per Injury shooting (see image to the left).

Implications & Recommendations



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Implication #1:

There is much more work to do.

- Significant reductions in gun violence:

Firearm homicide victims:

- -35% in 2025; -52% since the Emergency Declaration

Injury Shooting Incidents:

- -33% in 2025; -58% since the Emergency Declaration

- Incidents and rates remain elevated from pre-surge levels¹:

- 30 homicide victims/4.6 homicide rate in 2019
- 52 homicide victims/8.2 homicide rate in 2025

Note: ¹ Incident and rate data are based on total homicides, not solely firearm homicides.



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Implication #2:

Reductions in gun violence demonstrate that the Ceasefire strategy and implemented community violence interventions are having the intended impact, particularly among young Black Portlanders that have been the focus of these interventions and investments.

- 61% reduction in Black homicide victims in 2025
- 13% reduction in Black gun violence victims under 25 years of age in 2025



Implication #3:

Gun violence, especially firearm homicides, rose sharply in the Latino community in 2025 – up 125% and particularly impacting 18–34-year-olds – indicating the need for culturally-specific and sensitive interventions.

In January 2026, Ceasefire expanded contractors to ensure culturally-specific Intensive Case Management services are available for high-risk Latino individuals to meet this emerging need.



Implication #4:

Gun violence continues to impact the houseless community, as 42% of firearm homicide victims (and 35% of all homicide victims) in 2025 were identified as houseless or housing unstable, necessitating a population-specific and culturally-sensitive strategy and interventions.

In 2024, Ceasefire expanded programming to launch Intensive Case Management services focused specifically on houseless individuals impacted by gun violence. The Street Services Coordination Center is a collaborative partner to help engage these high-risk individuals into meaningful services.



Implication # 5:

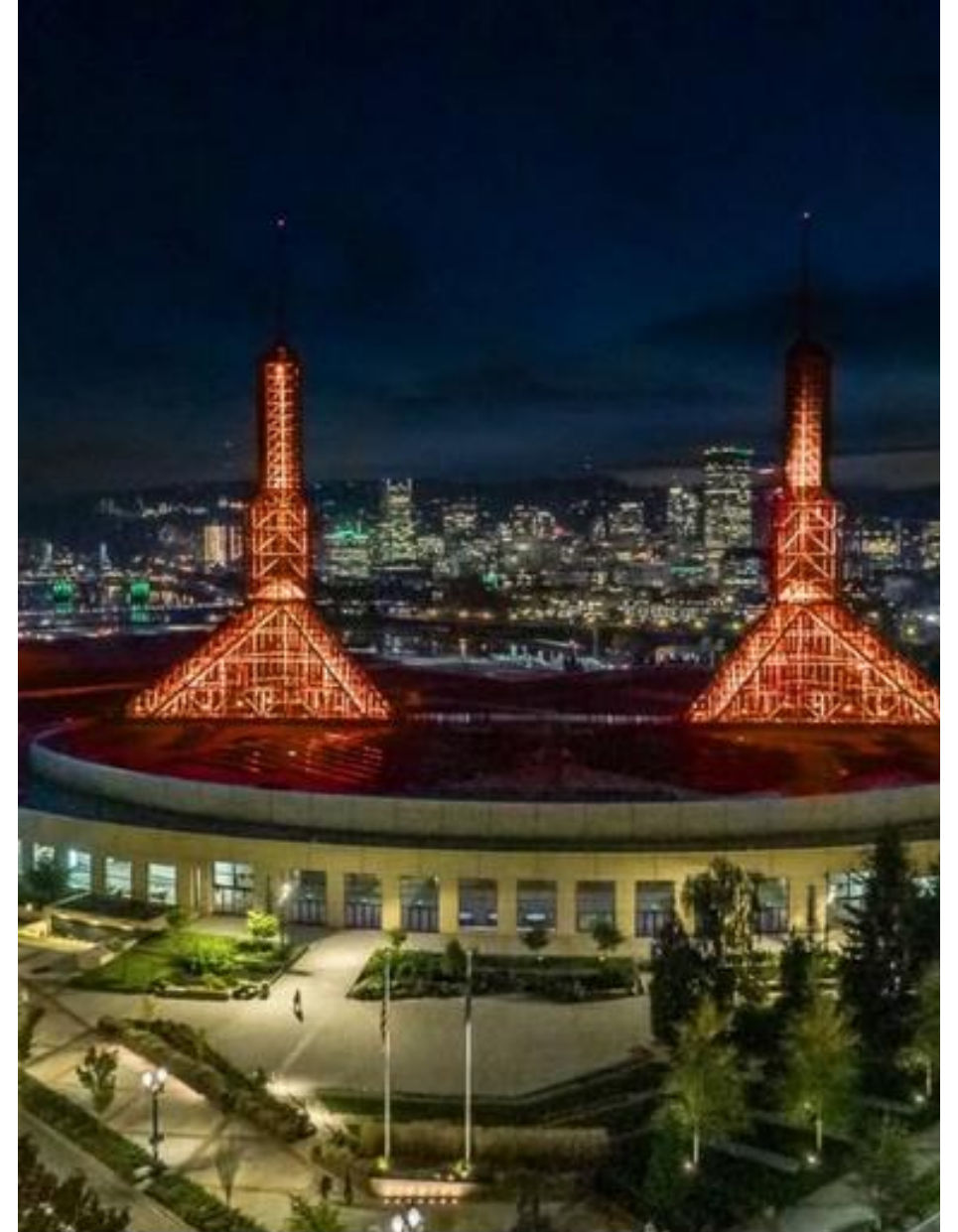
Investments in the Ceasefire gun violence reduction strategy and community violence intervention and prevention programming have demonstrated effectiveness and cost savings. A key component of the strategy and impact has been the building of a strong community-law enforcement partnership to address gun violence with intention and coordination.

For a modest investment, institutionalizing and sustaining funding – like other public safety bureaus receive – has proven to [save significant costs downstream](#) and is essential for Ceasefire and OVP to invest in long-term solutions to reduce community violence, including gun violence.



Recommendations

- Maintain gun violence reduction funding and strategy, which together continue to show positive results.
- Ensure culturally specific Intensive Case Management programming is available for the Hispanic/Latino population.
- Continue community violence intervention programming specifically tailored to the housing unstable population.





Recommendations, cont.

- **Bolster the strategy and interventions by:**
 - Being intentional and comprehensive in integrating **cognitive behavioral therapy** into the Intensive Case Management intervention.
 - Adding **behavioral health supports and therapy** as on-demand wraparound services to the Intensive Case Management intervention.
 - Expanding **workforce development** opportunities and services for high-risk and at-risk youth and young adults.



Recommendations, cont.

- Think holistically and preventatively by creating and developing **opportunities for pro-social engagement among youth and young adults** (i.e., engagement in school, community activities, and employment) via collaborative and coordinated efforts across schools, youth serving organizations, family service organizations, workforce development, county and other regional entities, and OVP/Ceasefire.
- [Research](#) from the Brookings Institute indicates that youth and young adult engagement in pro-social activities helps to prevent gun and other forms of community violence.





Thank you!



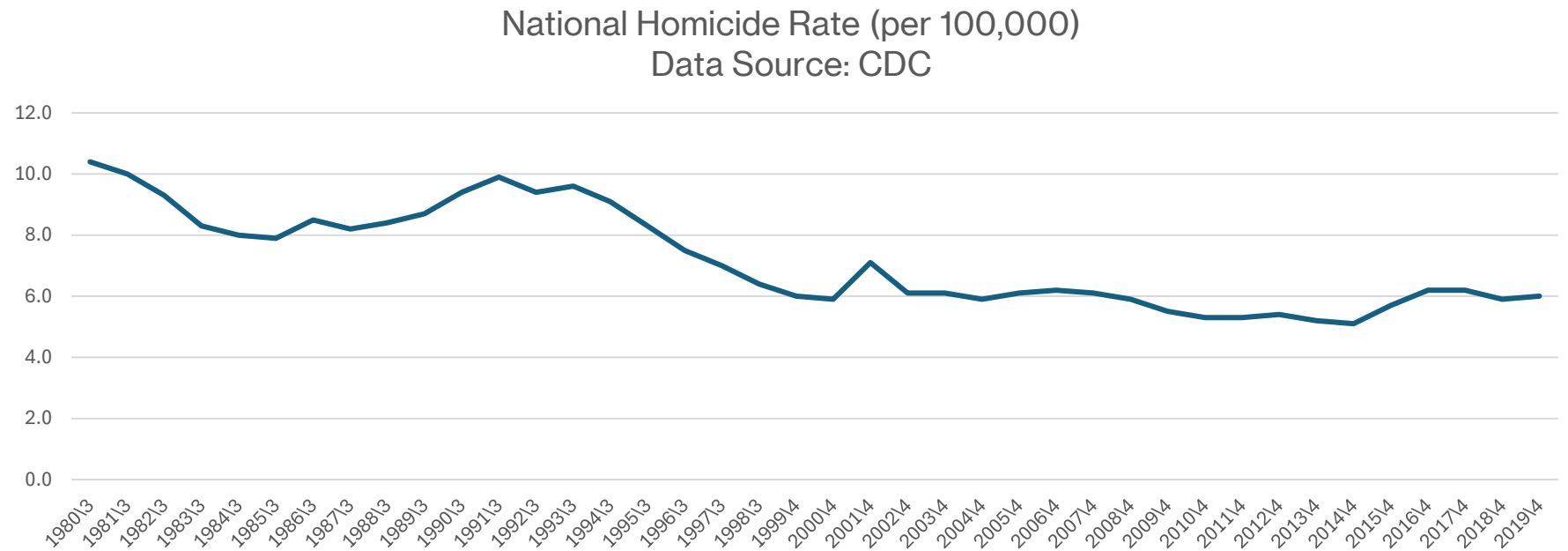
Appendix: Additional Data Charts



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This pattern of elevated homicide rates in the 1980s & 1990s followed by a lower rate through the bulk of 2000s & 2010s is also evident nationally.

- **9.9:** the average homicide rate (per 100,000) from 1985-1999.
- **3.7:** the average homicide rate from 2000-2019.
- **-63%:** how much lower the homicide rate from 2000-2019 was vs. the 1985-1999 rate.



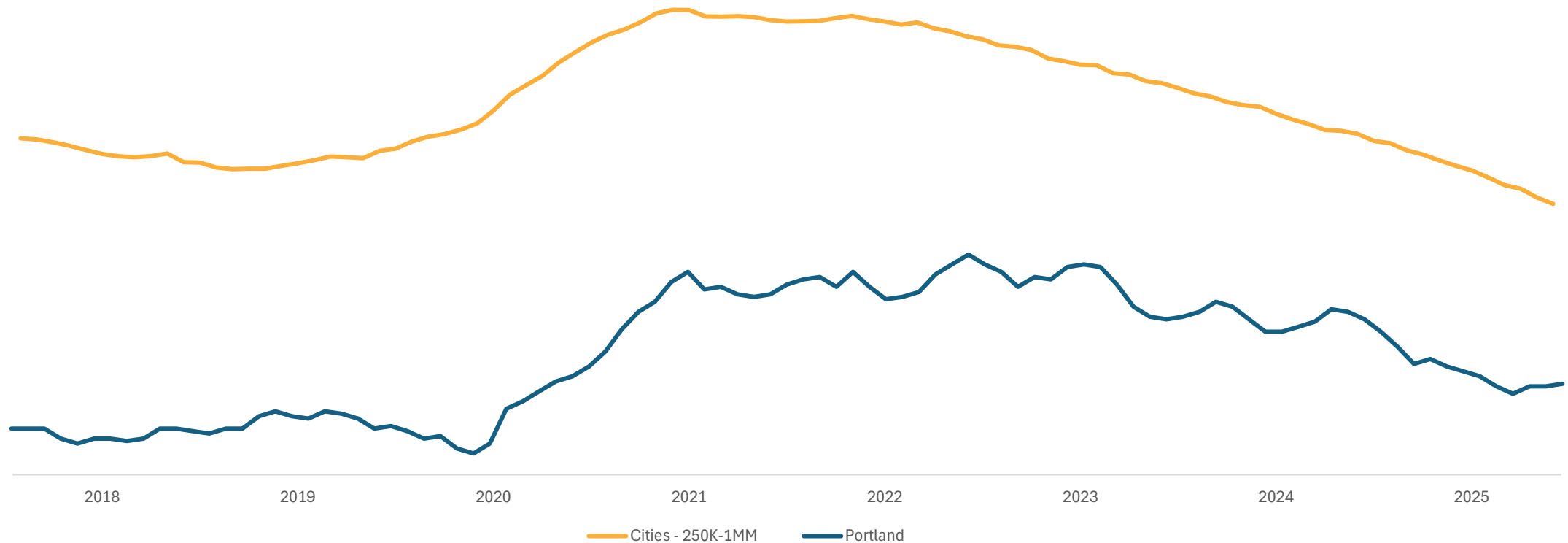
Data source: FBI Crime Data Explore.

Note: For comparison, the homicide rates in other major cities in 2025: New York City (3.4), Los Angeles (7.7), Philadelphia (13.3), Chicago (14.6), and Baltimore (23.1).



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In 2025, Portland experienced a greater homicide decline (-24%) than other similar sized cities (~-21%) and nationally (~-20%). (Visual is not to scale.)



Data source: [The Real-Time Crime Index](#).

Note: This visual is not to scale, the monthly averages across the displayed time period for Cities 250K-1MM is over 4,000 compared to Portland at 58; the point is to show the similarity in trendlines. Data available through The Real-Time Crime Index is for all homicides (not just firearm homicides) through November 2025; the approximate declines for Cities 250K-1MM and nationally are based on January-November data for 2024 and 2025.

