



A 24-Month Assessment of Shooting Victimization in Lansing, MI: Pre- and Post-Advance Peace

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Executive Summary

The Advance Peace Lansing/Ingham program (often referred to as Advance Peace Lansing) aims to reduce cyclical and retaliatory gun violence and promote community healing. This is accomplished by engaging with the people most impacted by cyclical and retaliatory gun violence. Advance Peace Lansing launched the first fellowship in October 2022 and completed it in March 2024 with 15 fellows focused on the Southwest side of Lansing. The second fellowship was launched in July 2024 with 55 fellows focused on the entire city of Lansing.

This report documents trends in shooting victimizations in Lansing, MI, providing context for Advance Peace. It assesses shooting victimizations prior to and after the implementation of the first Advance Peace fellowship and documents the proportion of cyclical and retaliatory shootings in 2024. Data for the current report were provided by the Lansing Police Department and reflect fatal and non-fatal shooting incidents in Lansing. Please note that the base frequencies for shootings, particularly fatal shootings, are relatively low, and percentage change should be interpreted with caution. The following points summarize key findings from the study. Additional detail related to these findings is provided in the sections that follow.

Key Findings

- » Similar to national trends, Lansing experienced an increase in fatal and non-fatal shootings from 2019-2021. That was followed by an overall decrease in shootings from 2021-2024, with some variation between years.
- » The pattern of shooting trends varies across the four sectors of the city. The Southwest and Northeast sectors experienced continuous decreases or no change in non-fatal shootings from 2021-2024. The Northwest experienced an increase in non-fatal shootings in 2024, while the Southeast experienced an increase in 2023 followed by a decrease in 2024.
- » Similar to national estimates, the majority of victims were male (80%) and Black (82%). The majority of victims were between the ages of 18 and 24. On average, victims were 28 years of age.
- » The majority of shootings occurred at night between the hours of 12:01-3:59am. This was true across sector and day of the week.
- » The city of Lansing experienced a 19% decrease in shooting incidents in the 24-month after the launch of the first Advance Peace fellowship (i.e., October 2022-September 2024). There was a 52% reduction in fatal shootings and a 10% reduction in non-fatal shootings.
- » During the 24 months following the first Advance Peace fellowship, the Southwest sector experienced a 33% decrease in shooting incidents (i.e., 38% reduction in fatal shootings and 33% reduction in non-fatal shootings). The Northwest experienced a 6% decrease, the Northeast a 40% decrease, and there was no change in the Southeast.
- » A visual inspection of neighborhoods within the Southwest sector illustrates a reduction in shootings within some of most violent block groups.
- » In 2024, the Advance Peace team implemented a process for identifying cyclical and retaliatory shootings. In 2024, 25% of fatal shootings and 14% of non-fatal shootings were identified as cyclical and retaliatory in nature.



Context for Advance Peace

Violence reduction initiatives such as Advance Peace must be understood and assessed within the broader context of shooting victimization trends. These trends offer critical insights into the patterns of shooting trends within a community, providing a foundational understanding of the problem being addressed. The first section of this report provides an overview of shooting victimization trends in Lansing. This includes frequencies and percentage change by year, quarter, and sector.

Table 1. Frequency and Percent Change of Fatal and Non-Fatal Shooting Victimizations, 2019–2024

Year	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total	% Change - Total Shootings
2019	10	47	57	--
2020	13	86	99	+73.7%
2021	23	84	107	+8.1%
2022	13	58	71	-33.6%
2023	13	66	79	+11.3%
2024	8	57	65	-17.7%

Lansing experienced a surge of shootings in 2020 and 2021. The 99 shooting victimizations in 2020 represented a 74% jump from 2019, and it was followed by an 8% increase to 107 in 2021. (Table 1). From 2021 to 2022, there was a 34% decrease in shooting victimizations followed by an 11% increase from 2022 to 2023. These trends coincide with research that has examined gun violence trends during the COVID-19 pandemic, the “reopening” process in 2021, and onward (Abram, 2021; Donnelly, 2023; Harrell et al., 2024). Notably, while there was a decrease in 2024, shooting victimization frequencies in 2022-2024 remain higher than pandemic-era frequencies.

Figure 1 illustrates the trends in total shooting victimizations by quarter. The linear trend line (i.e., the dashed orange line) represents the general direction of the data points over time. This illustrates that shooting victimizations have been slightly decreasing across the 51-month period. As might be expected, shooting victimizations follow seasonal trends where warmer quarters have a greater prevalence of shootings incidents.

Figure 1. Trends in Total Shooting Victimizations by Quarter, October 2020 – December 2024

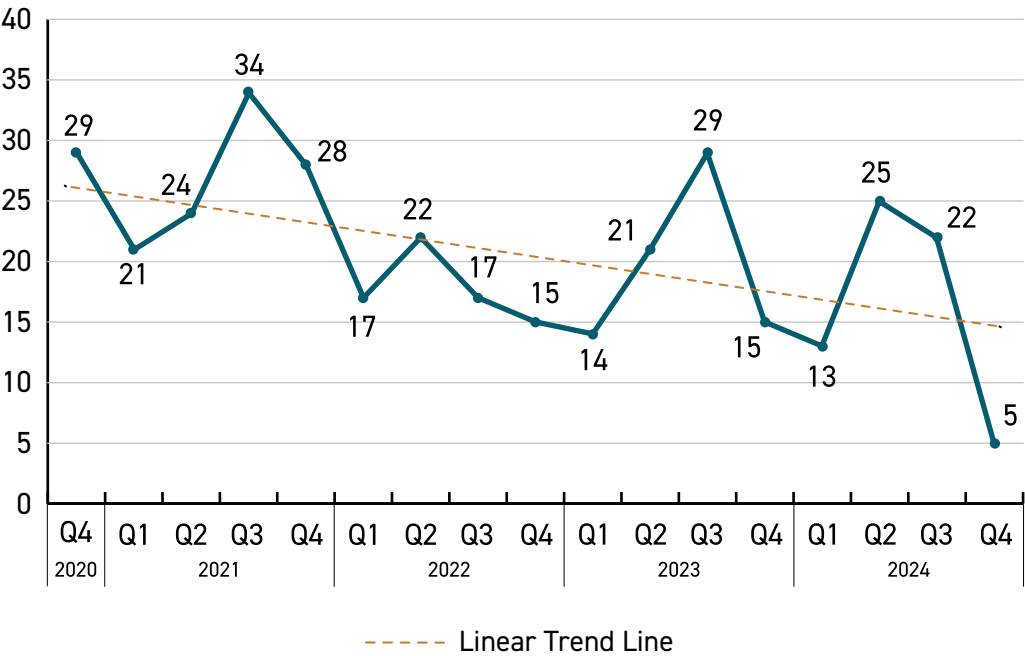
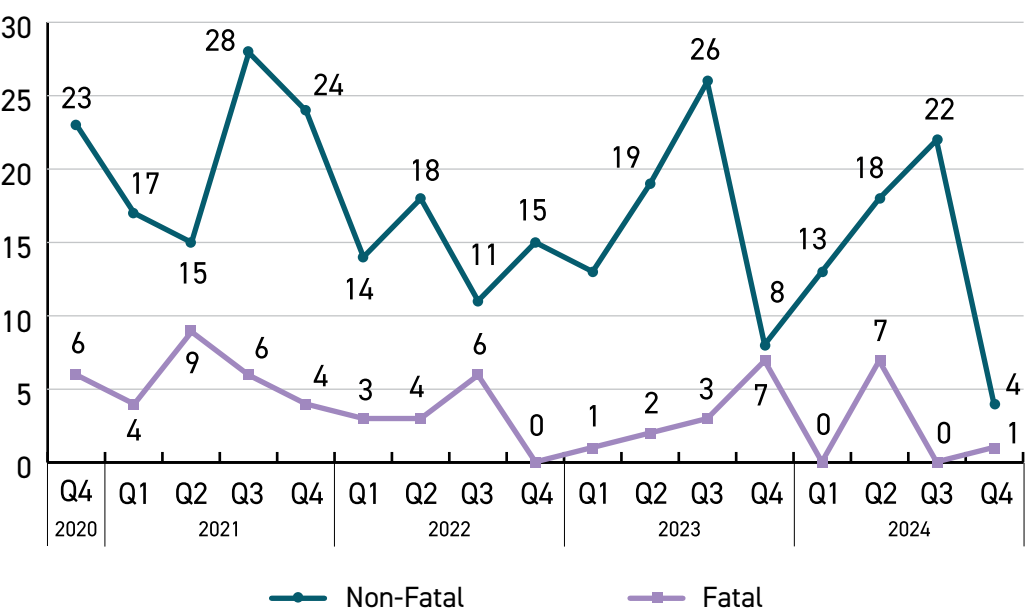


Figure 2 illustrates the change in both fatal and non-fatal shooting victimizations by quarter for the 51-month period.

Figure 2. Trends in Fatal and Non-Fatal Shooting Victimizations by Quarter, October 2020 – December 2024





As illustrated in Figure 2, fatal shootings by quarter have never risen above 9 fatalities and have been as low as zero some quarters. Non-fatal shootings peaked in Q3 2021 and were at their lowest in Q4 2024. As displayed in Table 2, there were decreases in shooting victimizations across all four quarters from 2021 to 2022 with the largest decrease (50%) occurring during the third quarter of the year. From 2022 to 2023, an 18% decrease was observed in Quarter 1, a 5% decrease in Quarter 2, a 71% increase in Quarter 3, and no change in Quarter 4. From 2023 to 2024, there was a 7% decrease in Quarter 1, a 19% increase in Quarter 2, a 24% decrease in Quarter 3, and a 67% decrease in Quarter 4.

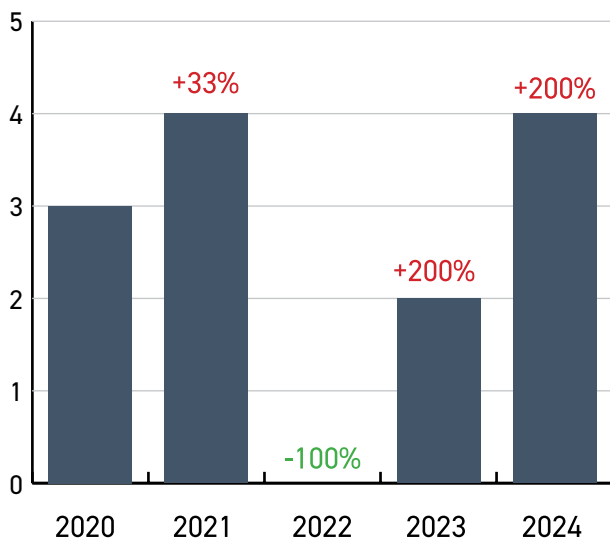
Table 2. Frequency and Percentage Change in Shootings Victimizations by Quarter

Quarters	2021	2022	% Change	2023	% Change	2024	% Change
Quarter 1	21	17	-19.0%	14	-17.6%	13	-7.1%
Quarter 2	24	22	-8.3%	21	-4.5%	25	+19.0%
Quarter 3	34	17	-50.0%	29	+70.6%	22	-24.1%
Quarter 4	28	15	-46.4%	15	--	5	66.7%
Total	106	71	-33.0%	79	+11.3%	65	-17.7%

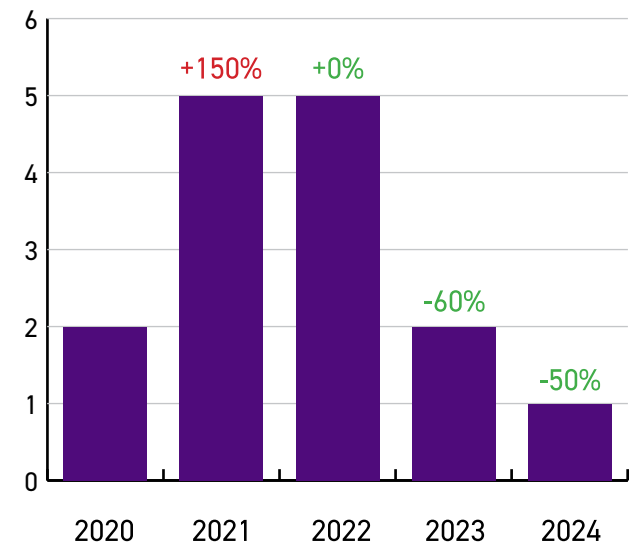
The city of Lansing is divided into four police sectors: Northwest (sector 1), Northeast (sector 2), Southwest (sector 3), and Southeast (sector 4). Importantly, Advance Peace operated in the Southwest sector of the city when it was first launched in October 2022. Figure 3 illustrates the frequency and percentage change in fatal shooting victimization across the four sectors. From 2020 to 2021, the Northwest, Northeast, and Southeast all experienced an increase in fatal shootings. From 2021 to 2022, all sectors experienced a decrease ranging from 2-4 shootings or no change. From 2022 to 2023, the Northwest and Southwest experienced an increase of two shootings, respectively.

Figure 3. Fatal Shootings Frequency and Percentage Change by Sector, 2020-2023

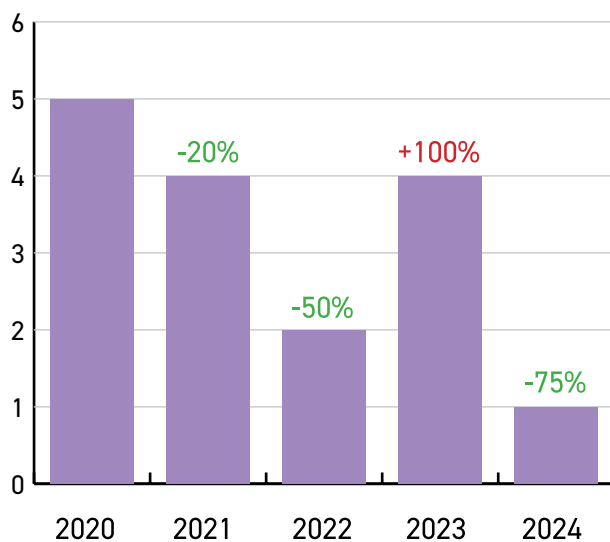
a) Northwest (Sector 1)



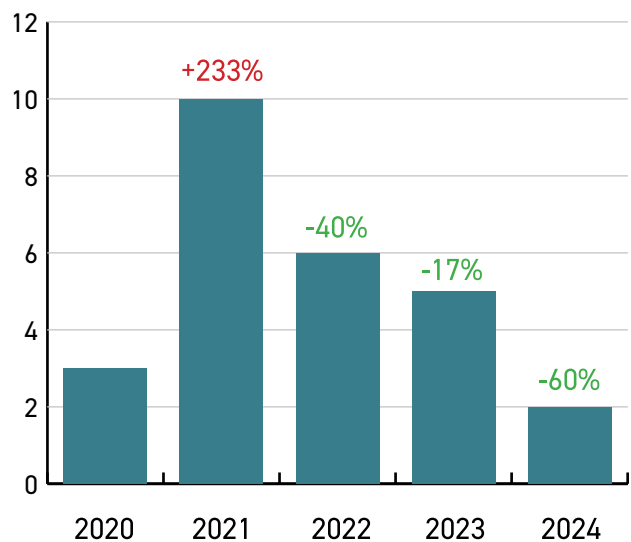
b) Northeast (Sector 2)



c) Southwest (Sector 3)



d) Southeast (Sector 4)



From 2023 to 2024, the Southwest and Southeast saw a reduction in shootings, while the Northwest and Northeast experienced an increase. Figure 4 illustrates the frequency and percent change of non-fatal shootings across sectors. The Northwest experienced a consistent decline in shootings from 2020 to 2023 and an increase in 2024. The Northeast experienced an increase from 2020 to 2021, which was followed by decreases in non-fatal shootings the following two years, and an increase in 2024. The Southwest had a 45% increase from 2020 to 2021, followed by 34%, 16%, and 6% reductions the next three years. Finally, the Southeast experienced reductions in shootings from 2020 to 2022, 41% and 32% respectively. This was followed by an 115% increase from 2022 to 2023 and a 43% decrease in 2024.

Figure 4. Non-Fatal Shootings Frequency and Percentage Change by Sector, 2020-2024

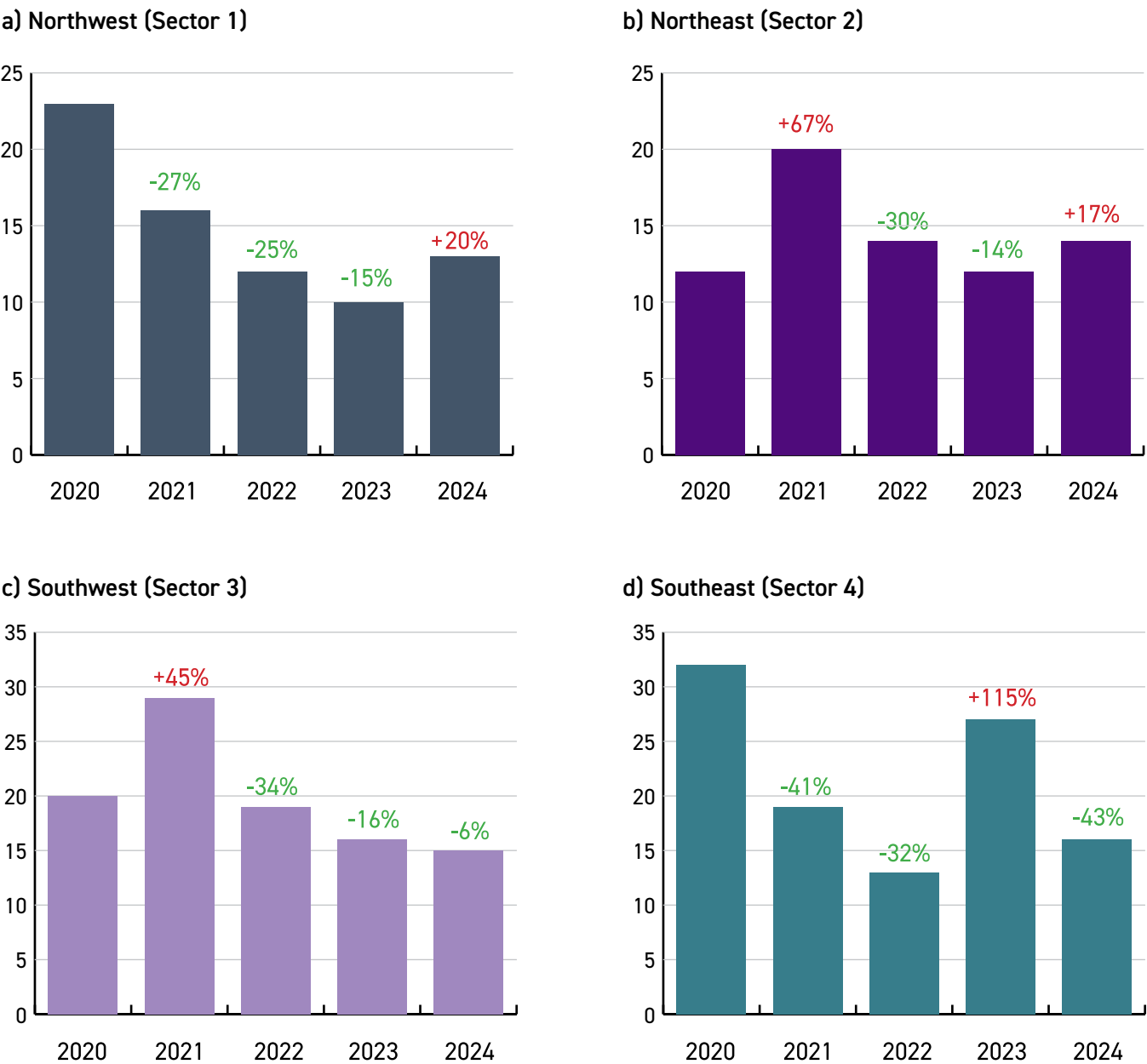
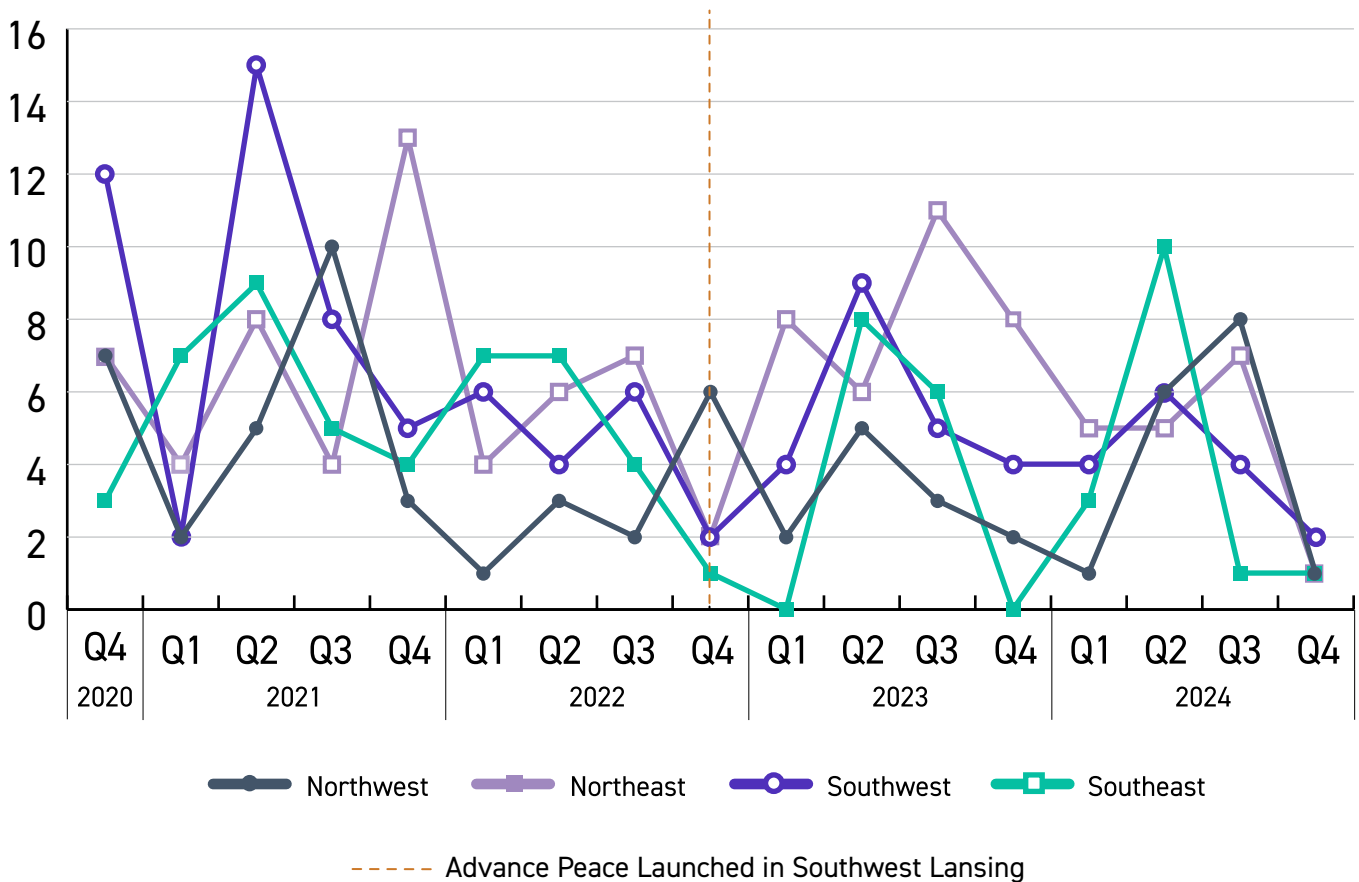




Figure 5 illustrates the frequency in shooting victimizations by sector and quarter. Notably, Advance Peace was launched in the Southwest sector (notated as the yellow line) in October 2022, the beginning of Quarter (Q) 4. In Q3 2024, Advance Peace expanded to the other three sectors of the city.

Figure 5. Total Shooting Victimizations by Sector and Quarter, October 2020 – December 2024



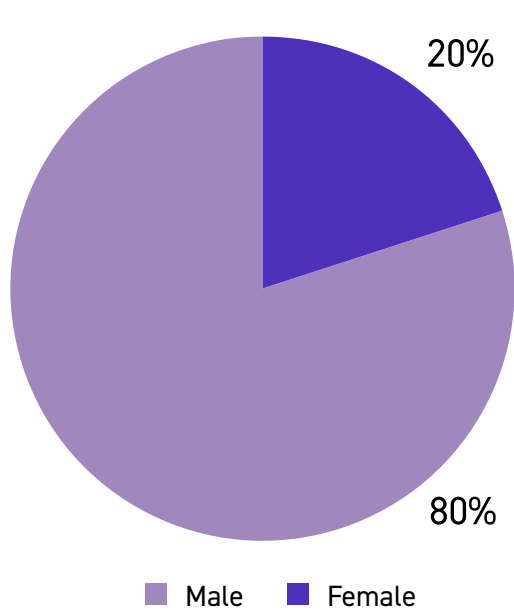
Victim Characteristics

This section provides an overview of shooting victimization characteristics in Lansing, MI. This includes the race, gender, and age of victims from 2021-2024 (n = 322).

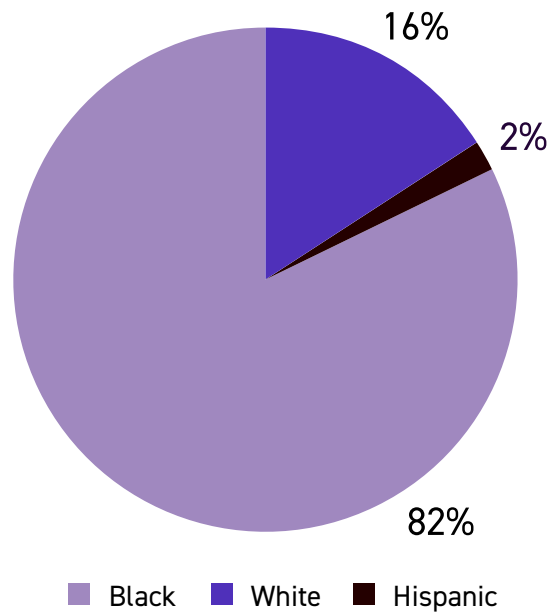
As illustrated in Figure 6, the majority of victims were male (80%) and Black (82%). The average age of victims was 27.8 (standard deviation = 12.14) and the modal age was 21 years of age. The majority of victims were between the ages of 18-24 which coincides with national trends (Harrell et al., 2024).

Figure 6. Shooting Victim Characteristics

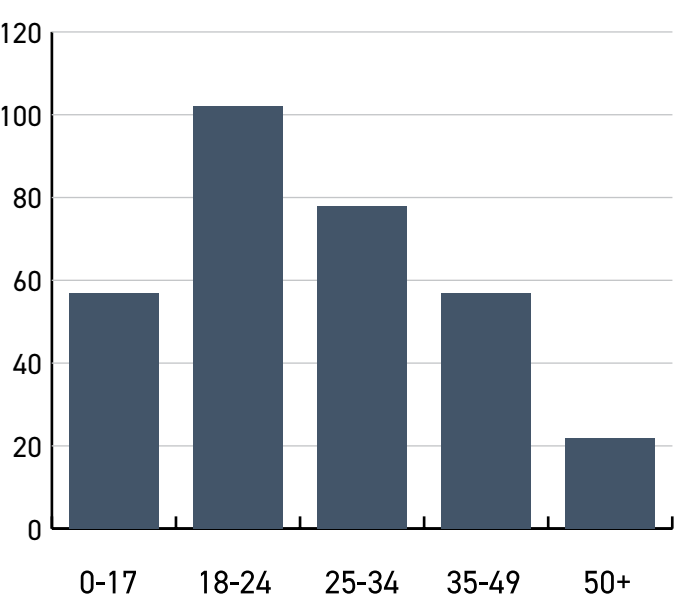
a) Victim Sex (n = 321)



b) Victim Race/Ethnicity (n = 311)



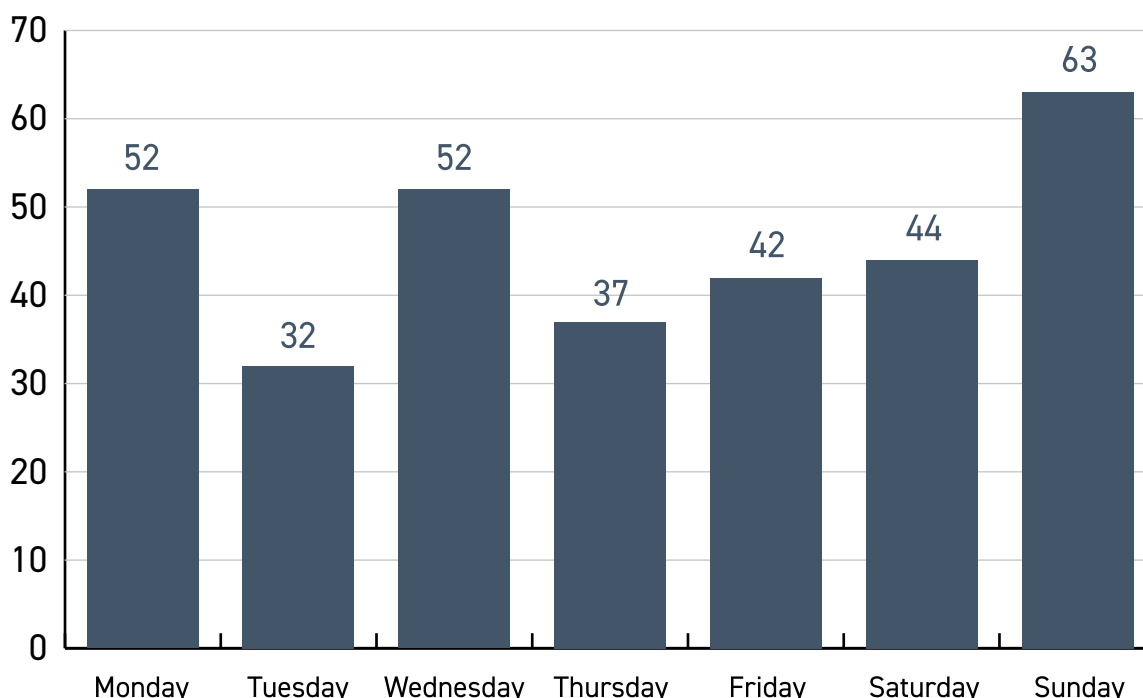
c) Victim Age (n = 322)



Time of Shootings

This section provides an overview of when shootings occurred, both day of week and time of day. Results are presented for 2021-2024 to better inform intervention strategies.

Figure 7. Frequency of Shooting Incidents by Day of Week, 2021-2024



As illustrated in Figure 7, shooting incidents were most frequent on Sundays, followed by Monday and Wednesday. They were lowest on Tuesdays. Results are substantively similar for 2024. As illustrated in Figure 8, shooting incidents are lowest from 6:00-11:59 in the morning, regardless of day of the week. From 12:00, shooting incidents generally begin to increase in prevalence. They are at their peak between 00:01-3:59 for every day except Thursday which had the highest frequencies of shootings during 16:00-17:59. Shooting incidents were highest during this timeframe on Monday, Wednesday, and Sunday. This pattern coincides with that of other major cities (Klerman et al., 2024). It appears as though the intervention might be best implemented on Fridays or Saturdays in an attempt to prevent conflicts that occur late Saturday night/Sunday morning.

These patterns are similar across sector. As illustrated in Figure 9, 8:00-9:59 had the lowest prevalence of shooting incidents across sectors with some of the highest frequencies of shooting occurring between 0:00-3:59. Time trends were analyzed prior to and after the implementation of the Advance Peace Fellowship; results are substantively similar and available upon request.

Figure 8. Day and Time of Shootings Incidents, 2021-2024

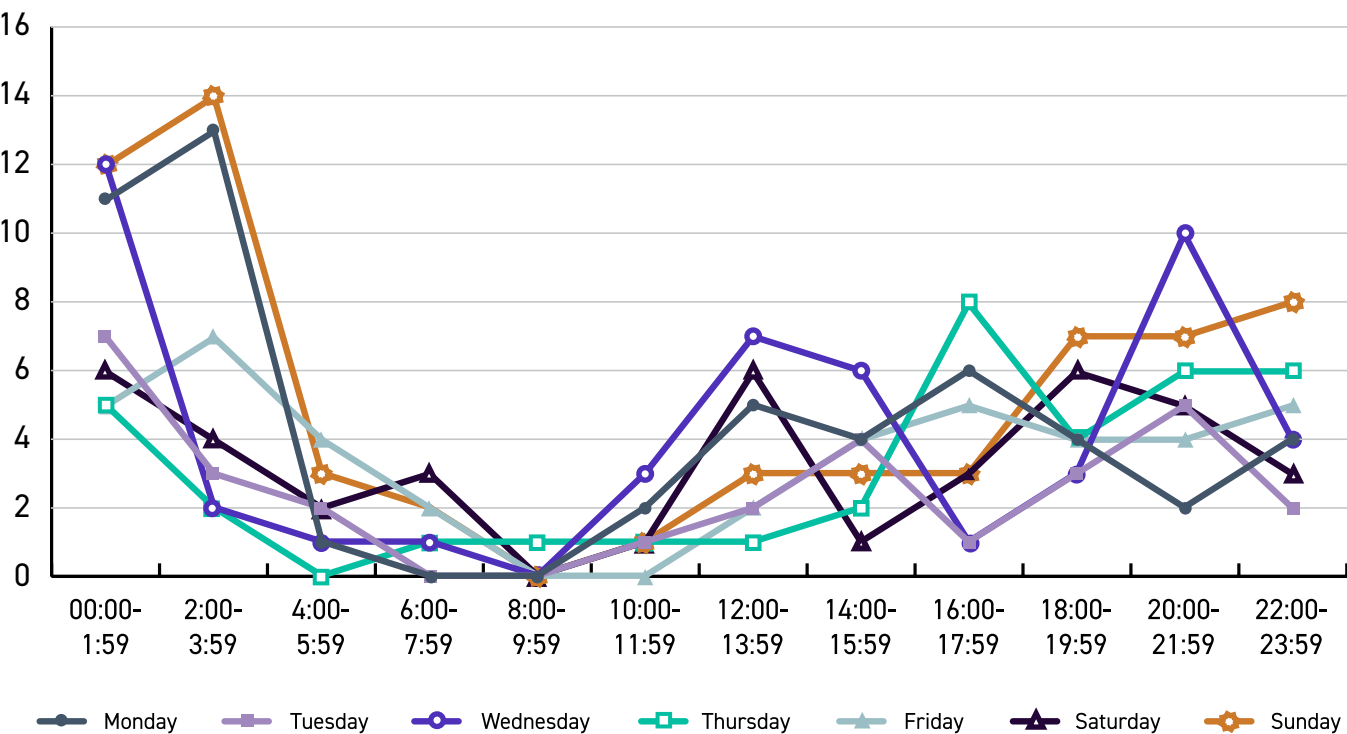
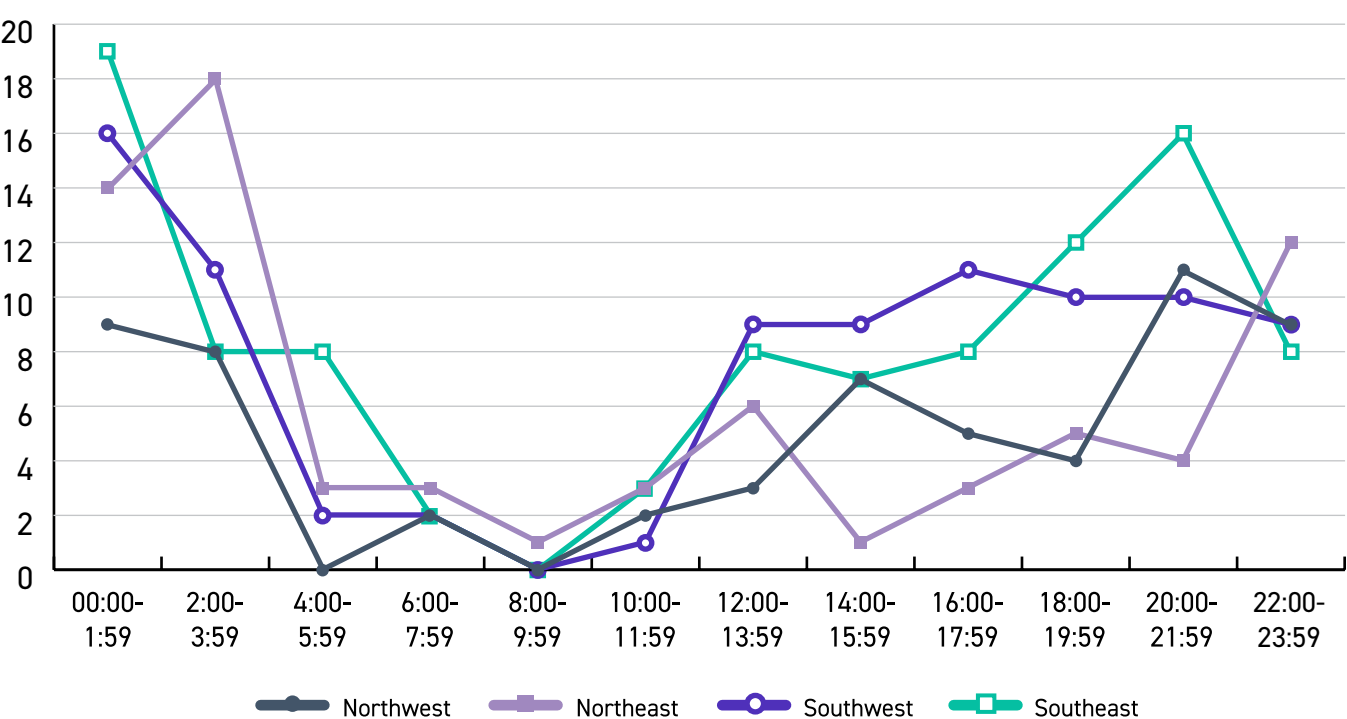


Figure 9. Time of Shooting Incidents by Sector, 2021-2024





24-Month Pre- and Post-Advance Peace Comparisons

This next section of the report provides an examination of shooting victimization 24-months prior to and 24-months after the Advance Peace fellowship was first launched in October 2022 in Southwest Lansing.

Table 3. Frequency and Percentage Change in Citywide Fatal and Non-Fatal Shootings Prior to and During Advance Peace

Fatal vs. Non-Fatal	October 2020 – September 2022	October 2022 – September 2024	% Change
Fatal	42	20	-52.4%
Non-Fatal	149	134	-10.1%
Total	191	154	-19.4%

From October 2020 – September 2022 (24 months prior to Advance Peace) there were a total of 42 fatal shootings and 149 non-fatal shootings (Table 3). Advance Peace operated for 18 months (October 2022 – March 2024). Therefore, the 24-month period encompasses the 18 months of the first fellowship and 6 months after the program was expanded. Please note that Advance Peace was still operational in Southwest Lansing, engaging in various outreach activities and fellows were still actively engaged with their mentors. During the 24 months of the intervention (October 2022 – September 2024), there was a total of 20 fatal shootings and 134 non-fatal shootings. This equates to a 52% reduction in fatal shootings and a 10% reduction in non-fatal shootings citywide. Overall, there was a 19% reduction in total shooting victimizations citywide.

During this timeframe, Advance Peace Lansing focused on the Southwest sector of the city. Therefore, Table 4 provides counts of shooting victimizations by sector 24 months prior to program implementation and during implementation.

Table 4. Frequency and Percentage Change in Fatal and Non-Fatal Shootings Prior to and During Advance Peace by Sector

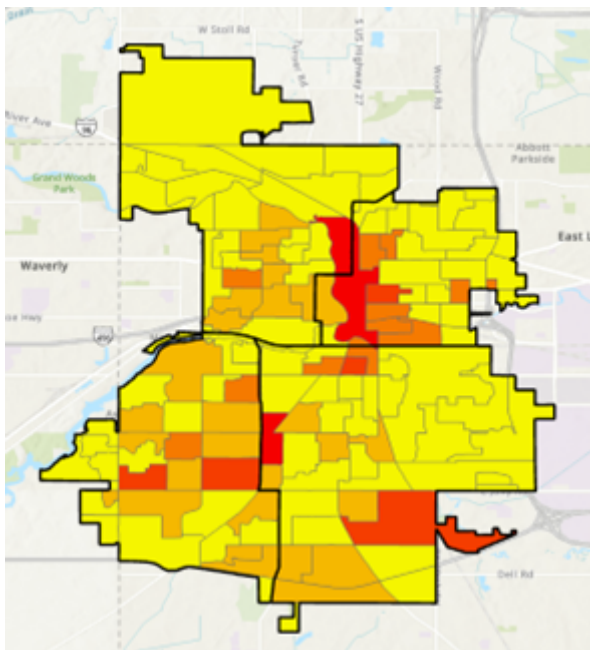
	October 2020 - September 2022			October 2022 - September 2024			% Change		
Fatal vs. Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total
Northwest	9	27	36	5	29	34	-44.4%	+7.4%	-5.6%
Northeast	11	34	45	3	24	27	-72.7%	-29.4%	-40.0%
Southwest	8	52	60	5	35	40	-37.5%	-32.7%	-33.3%
Southeast	17	36	53	7	46	53	-58.8%	+27.8%	--
Total:	42	149	191	20	134	154	-52.4%	-10.1%	-19.4%

All sectors experienced a decrease in fatal shootings from time 1 (pre-Advance Peace) to time 2 (post-Advance Peace). Given the relatively low base rates of fatal shootings, it is recommended that percentages be interpreted with caution. The Northeast experienced the largest decrease in fatal shootings, from 11 to 3 (73%), followed by the Southeast, from 17 to 7 (59%). The Southwest, the location of the intervention, experienced a 38% decrease in fatal shootings. The Northwest and Southeast both experienced an increase in non-fatal shooting, 7% and 28% respectively. The Southwest experienced the largest decrease in non-fatal shootings followed by the Northeast, 33% and 29% respectively. Overall, the Southwest experienced a 33% decrease in total shooting victimizations. In contrast, the Southeast experienced no change overall and had the highest frequency of shootings during time 2.

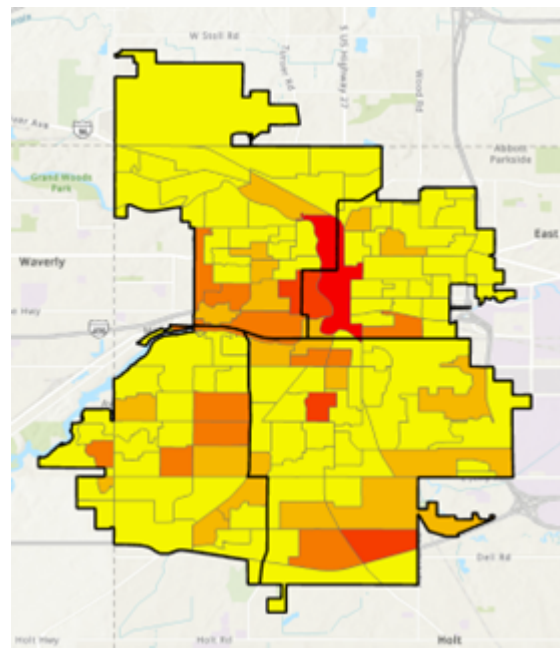
Gun violence is a complex problem that is rarely distributed randomly across communities. Instead, it tends to concentrate in specific geographic areas, often influenced by a combination of social, economic, and structural factors. Research consistently demonstrates that a small number of neighborhoods or “hot spots” account for a disproportionate share of gun-related incidents (e.g., Braga et al., 2010). Advance Peace was intentionally implemented in the Southwest sector given its high rates of gun violence. Figure 7 displays the change in total shootings before and after Advance Peace, by census block group.

Figure 7. Shooting Victimizations 24 months Pre- and Post-Advance Peace by Block Group

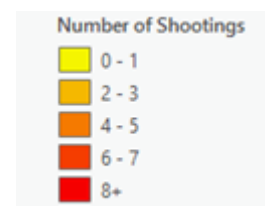
a) Pre-Advance Peace



b) Post-Advance Peace



Darker colors represent a greater frequency of shootings within that particular block group. The bold black line illustrates the four sectors of the city. Figure 5b illustrates the distribution of shootings after the implementation of Advance Peace. A comparison of these figures illustrates a “cooling off” of several block groups within the Southwest sector of the city, which was one of the key goals of Advance Peace.



Victim Characteristics

Table 5 illustrates the characteristics of victims from pre- and post-Advance Peace. Fisher's exact test and independent t-tests were used to assess bivariate differences between time 1 and time 2 for the variables of interest. No statistically significant differences emerged.

Table 5. Victim Characteristics in the Southwest Sector Pre- and Post-Advance Peace

		Pre-Advance Peace (n = 59-60)	Post-Advance Peace (n = 39-40)
		Frequency (%)	Frequency (%)
Sex	Male	49 (81.7%)	31 (79.5%)
	Female	11 (18.3%)	8 (20.5%)
Race	Black	50 (84.8%)	35 (89.7%)
	Hispanic	2 (3.4%)	--
	White	7 (11.9%)	4 (10.3%)
Age (Mean)		24.37 (SD =10.42)	28.93 (SD = 14.17)
Age Scale	0-17	16 (26.7%)	8 (20.0%)
	18-24	23 (38.3%)	12 (30.0%)
	25-34	12 (20.0%)	9 (22.5%)
	35-49	7 (11.7%)	6 (15.0%)
	50+	2 (3.3%)	5 (12.5%)

Note: Pre-Advance Peace equates to October 2020-September 2022; Post-Advance Peace equates to October 2022-September 2024. SD = standard deviation.

Across the two time periods victim characteristics remained relatively similar. The majority of victims were male, Black and between the ages of 25-34.



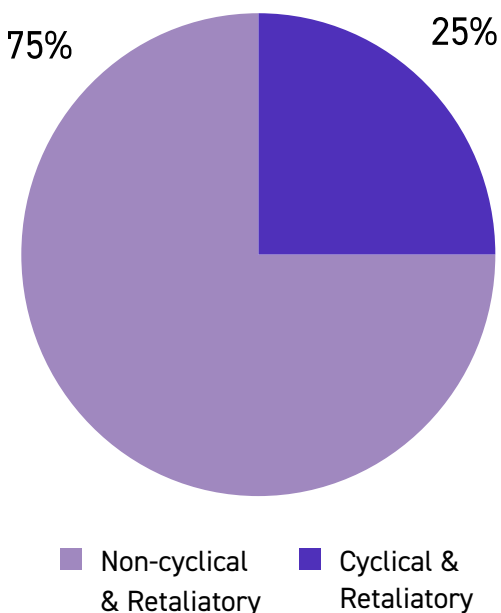
Cyclical and Retaliatory Violence

Advance Peace seeks to reduce cyclical and retaliatory gun violence, which are forms of violence that are interconnected and perpetuate ongoing harm within communities, often fueled by interpersonal or group conflicts. Cyclical and retaliatory incidents are identified via agreement from law enforcement officials and community violence leaders.

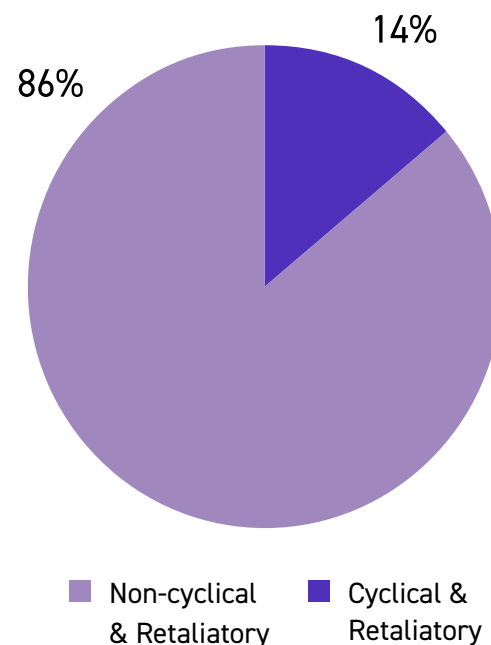
The Advance Peace Lansing team implemented a process for identifying cyclical and retaliatory shootings in 2024. As illustrated in Figure 8, 25% of fatal shootings and 14% of non-fatal shootings were identified as cyclical and retaliatory in nature.

Figure 8. Proportion of Cyclical and Retaliatory Shootings, 2024

a) Fatal Shootings (n = 8)



b) Non-Fatal Shootings (n = 57)





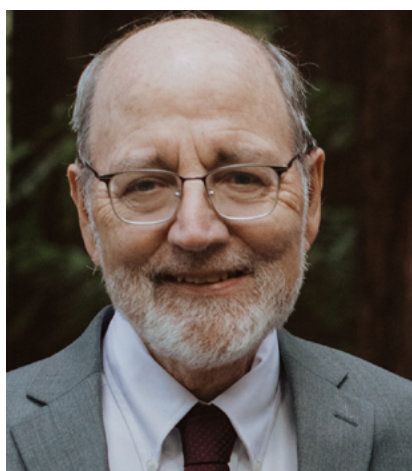
Conclusion

The findings presented in this report provide a preliminary look at the patterns of gun violence before and after the launch of the first Advance Peace fellowship in Southwest Lansing. Overall, the Southwest sector of Lansing experienced the second largest reduction in shooting victimizations after the implementation of Advance Peace. While these results offer valuable insights, they are not without limitations. The observed trends, though promising, are based on descriptive analyses that do not account for potentially confounding factors. The Advance Peace team looks to employ quasi-experimental designs to more rigorously assess the impact of the program. Moreover, these statistics include all fatal and non-fatal shooting incidents prior to 2024. Advance Peace aims to reduce cyclical and retaliatory violence specifically. Despite these limitations these analyses serve as an important step toward understanding the potential for Advance Peace to reduce gun violence. By continuing to build on this foundation with more comprehensive and methodologically rigorous studies, we can deepen our understanding of how community-based violence interventions contribute to safer communities.

About the Authors



Julie M. Krupa is an Assistant Professor and Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies in the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University. Broadly, her research focuses on health and social disparities among justice-involved youth and young adults. She applies a community-engaged, action research approach to examine local issues of violence and disparities in the juvenile justice system.



Chris Andrews is an independent communications consultant who has written extensively on criminal and justice issues. He previously worked as political editor for the Lansing State Journal covering state government, policy and politics for more than 20 years.



Paul Elam, PhD, is the Chief Strategy Officer of MPHI and a member of the Crime and Justice Research Alliance. With expertise in criminal justice, urban studies, and family and child ecology, all earned at Michigan State University, Dr. Elam is a leader in public policy, community-based research, and violence prevention. His work includes the implementation of gun violence strategies and research and evaluation on gun violence, aiming to develop data-driven solutions to reduce firearm-related harm. At MPHI, he leads strategic initiatives to address systemic disparities and advance public health equity. Through his role with the Crime and Justice Research Alliance, he contributes to national justice policy discussions, emphasizing research-based reforms.

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