

**Crime Is Down *Despite* Trump, Not Because of Him
It's Democratic Investments in Public Safety That Are Driving Down Violent Crime**

- Violent crime is declining, but it has nothing to do with Donald Trump or congressional Republicans. Democrats at the federal, state, and local levels made shrewd and historic investments in public safety and law enforcement, empowering cities to develop programs and evidence-based approaches to combat crime. These investments paid off, contributing to a nationwide decline in violent crime, but the Trump Administration has been gutting federal funding for the programs that actually worked.
- The historic decrease in violent crime has been progressing for [more than three years](#), starting in 2022 under the Biden Administration. This trend followed Democratic-led investments in public safety through the American Rescue Plan (ARPA)—which House Republicans [unanimously opposed](#)—and the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.
- Thanks to these [investments in public safety](#)—which [provided funding for](#) law enforcement, education, community centers, social workers, mental health services, nonprofits, and infrastructure—[many cities have recorded the fewest murders](#) since the 1960s or even earlier.
- **Cities leveraged these federal funds, innovating and investing in a variety of public safety programs aimed at combatting crime—and these efforts worked:**
 - **Baltimore** has reduced homicide by [60%](#) since 2021. The city used [ARPA](#) funding to implement its [Group Violence Reduction Strategy](#) (GVRS), a form of community violence intervention that identifies people who are most at-risk of committing or becoming a victim of gun violence, and gives individuals the choice to turn away from violence and get support in their daily lives or face accountability for continuing to commit crimes. Of those who enrolled in services through GVRS, [97%](#) did not commit additional crimes.
 - In 2025, **New York City** had the [fewest shooting victims](#) for any year in recorded history, reflecting fewer shootings across all five boroughs. New York City Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch [cited](#) investments in public safety, precision policing, and targeted efforts to take down gangs as contributing to the city's historic reduction in gun violence.
 - In **Indianapolis**, which had [45% fewer murders](#) in 2025 as compared to 2021, Mayor Joe Hogsett used ARPA funding to launch [Indy Peace](#), another community violence intervention program that [connects](#) at-risk individuals with support designed to build critical life and professional skills and prevent violence. Indy Peace also [supports victims](#) of gun violence by embedding trained outreach specialists in the local hospital.
 - In 2024, **Atlanta** reached its [lowest level](#) of violent crime since at least 2009. Atlanta experienced a [21% decrease](#) in murder in 2025 compared to the prior year. One community organization, the Offender Alumni Association (OAA), helped contribute to

these successes by [focusing on](#) youth mentoring, hospital-based violence intervention, and re-entry services.

- Unfortunately, OAA was [forced to disband](#) in late 2025 after losing \$1.5 million in federal funds under the Trump Administration's cuts to public safety funding. Just one month after the organization stopped its work in Atlanta, a participant in its de-escalation programs was killed—one of [four](#) deaths that a former OAA worker believed could have been prevented by the organization's efforts.

- **Rather than supporting state and local governments in their efforts to strengthen public safety, the Trump Administration has repeatedly undermined efforts to combat crime by:**

- [Cutting an estimated \\$500 million in public safety grants](#) that funded programs to support local law enforcement, assist victims of crime, protect children, address substance abuse, and support [community violence intervention](#) efforts. The terminations affected 200 awardees, including nonprofit organizations and state and local governments in 37 states.
- [Disbanding](#) an anti-drug trafficking task force, the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force ([OCDETF](#)), and allowing federal drug prosecutions to fall to "[the lowest level in decades](#)" as Trump directed federal law enforcement officers to instead focus on immigration raids and fulfilling Stephen Miller's deportation quota.
- Attempting to [commandeer state and local law enforcement officers](#) and resources for the President's immigration crackdown and coercing states into doing the federal government's job by threatening to cut off federal funds.
- [Diverting more than 25,000 federal law enforcement officers away from their jobs](#) investigating gun violence, drug trafficking, and other major offenses, leading non-immigration [criminal prosecutions to fall to their lowest point in decades](#).
- Withholding and attempting to cut [domestic terrorism prevention grants](#) for states and local governments.
- Invading American cities with armed federal agents, unleashing chaos and violence on U.S. citizens under the pretense of "immigration enforcement," leading to the deaths of Renée Good and Alex Pretti ([two of the three people](#) murdered in Minneapolis in January 2026) and to a [90% decrease](#) in federal drug and gun prosecutions in Minnesota as federal resources were diverted away from combatting serious crimes.
- [Diverting hundreds of FBI employees](#) and federal prosecutors away from their public safety and national security missions [to instead scrub the Epstein files](#).
- Hampering efforts by state and local authorities to investigate and prosecute violent crimes. In [states like Texas](#) and [California](#), and in cities across the country, DHS has been arresting and deporting key prosecution witnesses and [even whisking criminal defendants out of the country](#), thus [blocking the possibility of winning criminal convictions](#), prison sentences, fines, and restitution and justice for victims.

- **The facts are clear: the Trump Administration has systematically undermined law enforcement and jeopardized public safety, and House Republicans have done nothing to stop any of it. Donald Trump can legitimately take credit for the Iran War and his illegal tariffs, but he has had nothing to do with declining crime rates over the last several years.**