

Solving Non-Fatal Shootings: Data Driven Methods in Utica, NY



Data Highlight: January – October

Shooting Incidents
(54% reduction)

- 2023: 24
- 2024: 11

Shooting Victims
(51.8% reduction)

- 2023: 27
- 2024: 13

Clearance Rates for Firearm
Involved Shootings
(27% increase)

- 2023: 45.8%
- 2024: 72.7%

The Utica Police Department (UPD) cleared nearly 73% of its firearm involved shootings in 2024 through the deployment of comprehensive and innovative strategies. This represented a clearance increase of 27% from 2023 when nearly 46% of those incidents were cleared.

In a recent webinar hosted by JSS, ([Watch Here](#)) the UPD outlined its strategies to address gun violence and enhance public safety for its 65,000 residents. Over two decades, the UPD has implemented data-driven

programs and advanced technologies that have significantly reduced violent crime.

Through its involvement with GIVE in New York, the UPD has focused on identifying top offenders and targeting high-crime areas ([Read Here](#)). The 2017 creation of the Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center further enhanced the department's capabilities, evolving into a real-time crime center that supports strategic deployments and crime-solving efforts.

In 2023, the department applied for funding through the Bureau of Justice Assistance's FY 2023 Small and Rural Department Violent Crime Reduction Program. Plans for the funding include integrated cutting-edge tools like cell phone analysis software to enhance the UPD's digital forensic capabilities, allowing investigators

to extract and analyze critical data from mobile devices. Coupled with advanced training in digital forensics and ballistics, these efforts have strengthened the department's ability to solve violent crimes.

The UPD's place-based policing, community collaboration, and technology-driven strategies have contributed to a 50% reduction in shootings when compared to the five-year average, with notable progress in curbing youth gun violence. Looking ahead, the department plans to implement an acoustic gunshot detection system and continue expanding its technological toolkit to enhance public safety and solve violent crimes more effectively.

Report Highlight

To learn more about the work UPD is doing, access a report from the FINN Institute [HERE](#).