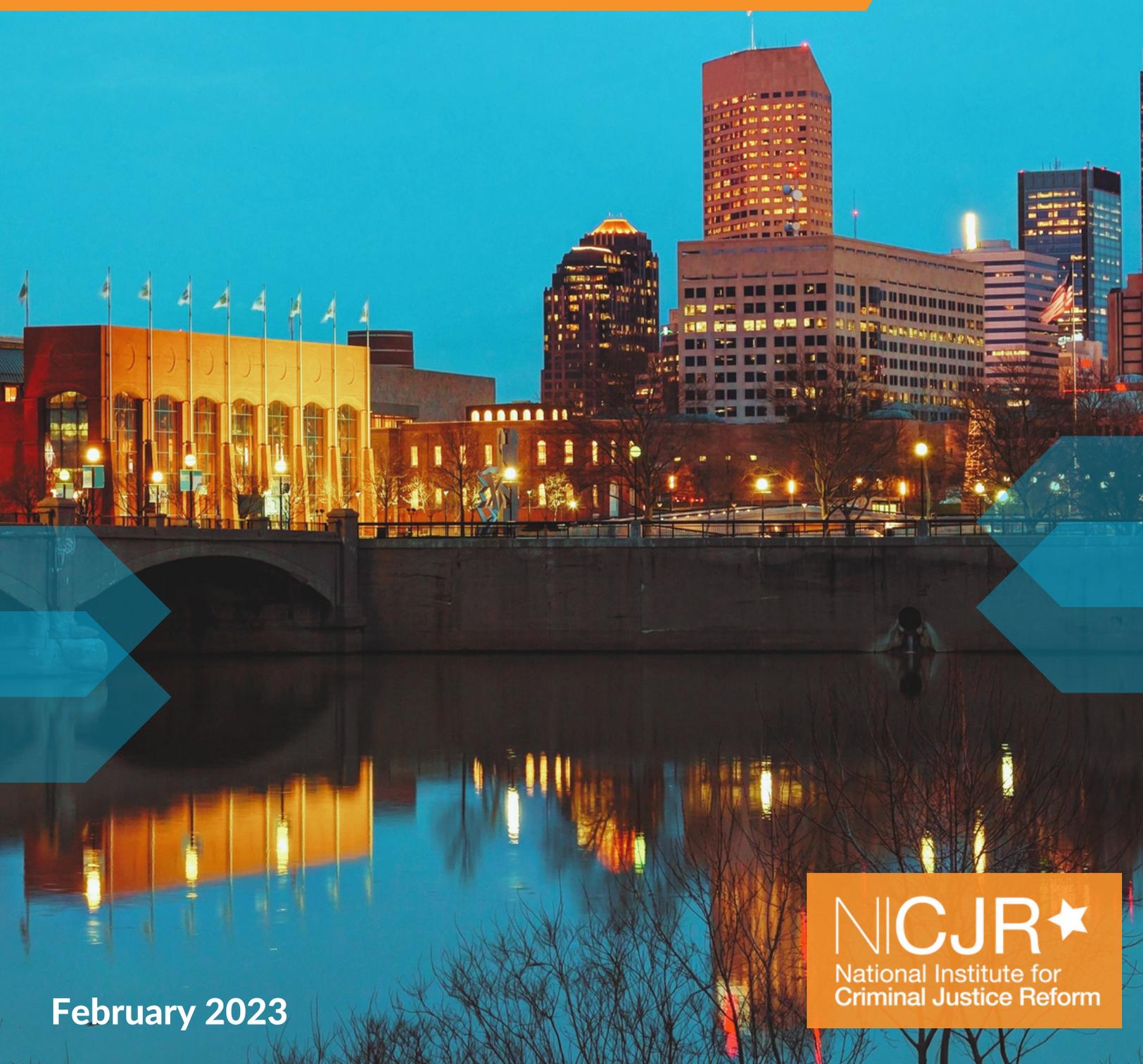


# INDIANAPOLIS

Gun Violence Reduction Strategy  
Year 1 Report



February 2023

**NICJR** ★  
National Institute for  
Criminal Justice Reform

# GVRS Report - 2022

In 2022, the City of Indianapolis made significant progress in reducing shootings and homicides through its Gun Violence Reduction Strategy (GVRS).

*GVRS is a strategy that identifies individuals who are at very high risk of being involved in gun violence and employs intensive interventions with those individuals to prevent retaliatory shootings.*

At the beginning of 2022, the GVRS stakeholders—including Mayor Joe Hogsett, the Office of Public Health and Safety (OPHS), the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD), and the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR)—agreed on a series of GVRS goals and objectives, including the ultimate outcome of a year-over-year reduction of at least 10% for murders and 10% for non-fatal injury shootings.

**Indianapolis exceeded its goal, achieving a 16% reduction in murders and a 14% reduction in non-fatal injury shootings. This represents the city's largest year-over-year reduction in at least 20 years, and possibly the largest in the city's history.**

These reductions come after years of rising gun violence in Indianapolis and around the country. The city experienced a record-breaking number of homicides in six of the seven years between 2015–2021. But in 2022, when much of the country experienced either increases in homicides or very modest reductions, Indianapolis achieved a 16% year-over-year reduction in murders.

This reduction came after Mayor Hogsett committed more than \$100 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to reduce gun violence in Indianapolis, one of the largest per-capita investments of ARPA funds in the country.

# GVRS Report - 2022

Beginning in mid-2021, the Hogsett administration took a series of steps to prepare for a successful implementation of GVRS in January 2022. Through the end of 2022, the City accomplished the following:

- A full-time GVRS Director was hired through the creation of the Deputy Director of OPHS position.
- OPHS partnered with the Indianapolis Public Safety Foundation (IPSF) to implement GVRS.
- Between OPHS and IPSF, 50 frontline violence intervention worker positions were created, including Outreach Workers, Violence Interrupters, and Life Coaches. There are now also eight supervisor and management positions, for a total of 58 staff focused solely on intervention efforts with individuals at the very highest risk of gun violence.
- Early in 2021, IMPD dedicated more than 80 officers to two new units focused solely on reducing gun violence.
- The City partnered with NICJR to provide technical assistance and training for GVRS.
- IMPD stood up a weekly Shooting Review meeting and process. In what has become a high-quality, very well attended meeting, law enforcement review recent shootings to identify incidents likely to result in retaliation and individuals at very high risk of being involved in gun violence.
- The City provided \$45 million to the Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF) for the Elevation Grant Program, through which CICF distributes funds to local community-based organizations to provide wraparound services to people and communities at the highest risk of violence.
- OPHS significantly improved and expanded the Community Safety Meetings (formerly Call-Ins). These bi-monthly meetings gather the 15–20 highest-risk individuals under Probation supervision to inform them of their risk and connect them to the OPHS/IPSF Indy Peace Fellowship.
- When gun violence spiked in October 2022, IMPD and OPHS developed and implemented 60-Day Plans to effectively reduce violence through intensive focus and intervention.

Now that the City of Indianapolis has established a strong foundation for GVRS, we look forward to building upon these successes in 2023 and beyond.