

**Iowa Program Plan**

**State Crisis Intervention Program  
(SCIP)**

**FFY 2024**

CFDA 16.738

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# Acknowledgments

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### **Iowa Crisis Intervention Advisory Board**

*See Membership list below.*

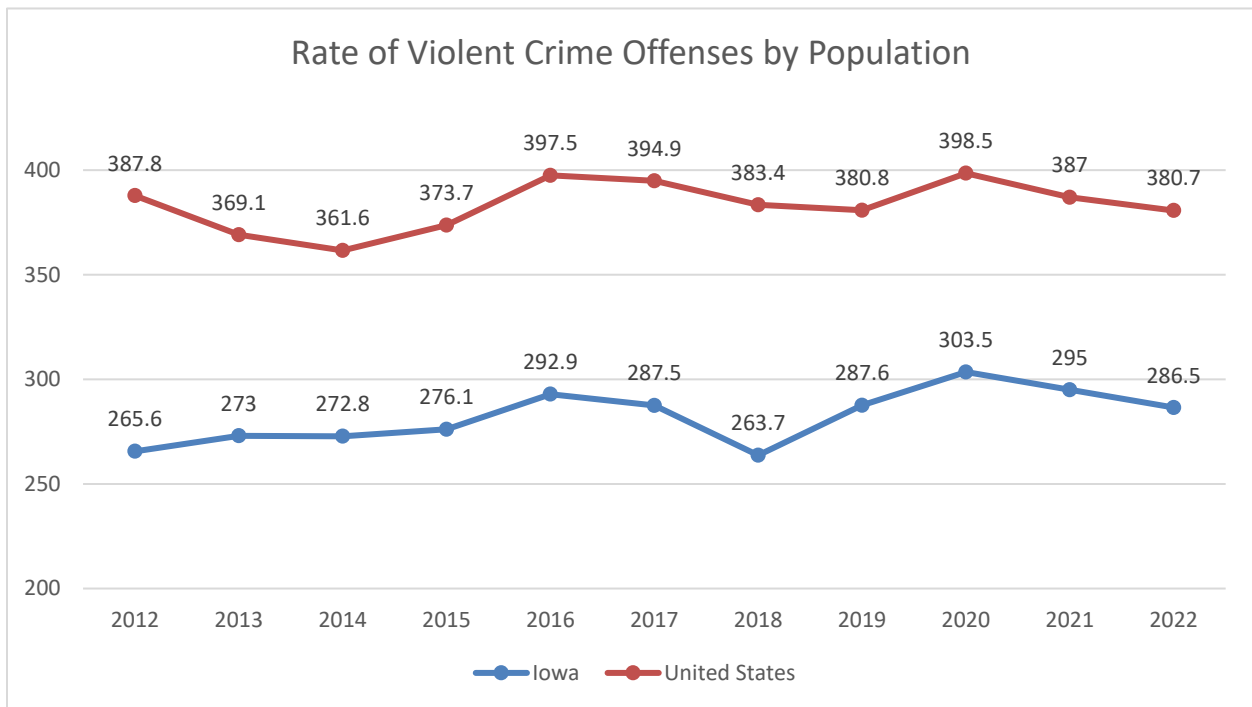
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# Description of the Problem

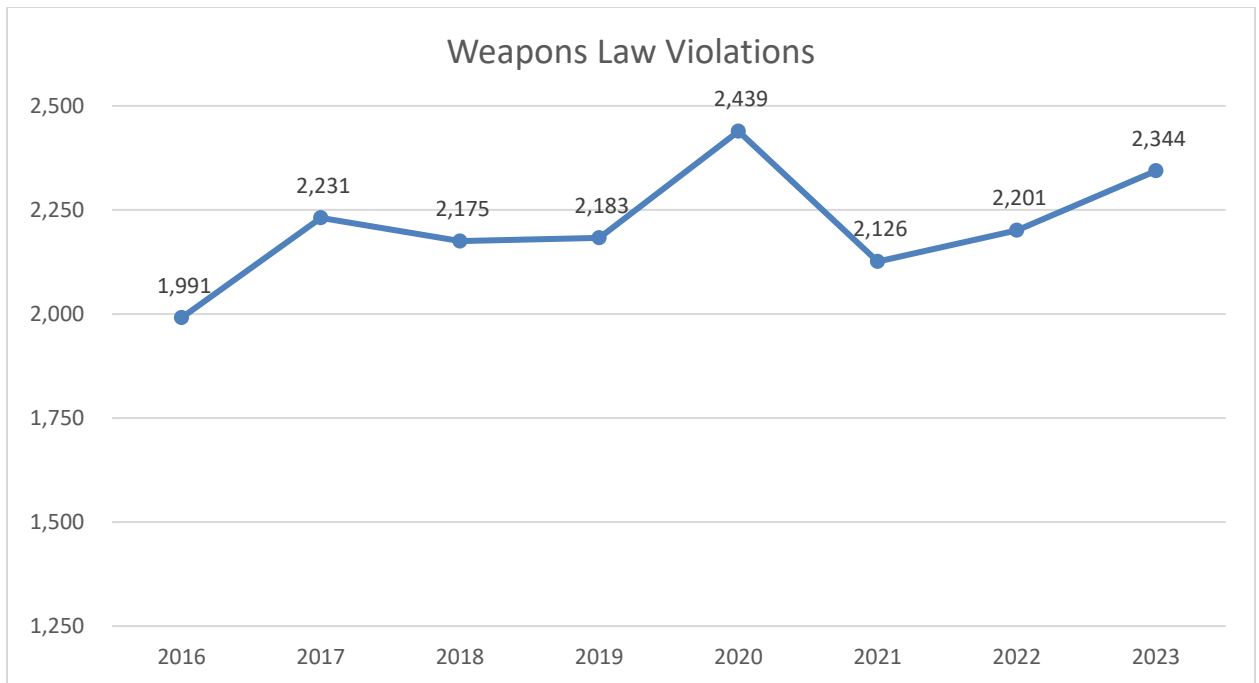
According to 2022 data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the national average Part I Violent Crime (Rape, Robbery, Murder, & Aggravated Assault) Rate per 100,000 population was 380.7. The national crime rate for Part I crimes remains well below those reported in the late 1990s (611.0/100,000) and below the rates reported just a decade ago of 387.8 per 100,000.

Relative to most other states, Iowa is a safe place to reside. Iowa experienced a significant increase in Part I Violent Crimes from 2018 (263.7/100,000) through 2020 (303.5/100,000), however the annual rate returned to near the ten-year average in 2022 (286.5/100,000). While the National Part I Crime rate on average is about 100 crimes/100,000 population higher than Iowa, the Iowa trend line generally mirrors National trends for the ten-year period reviewed.



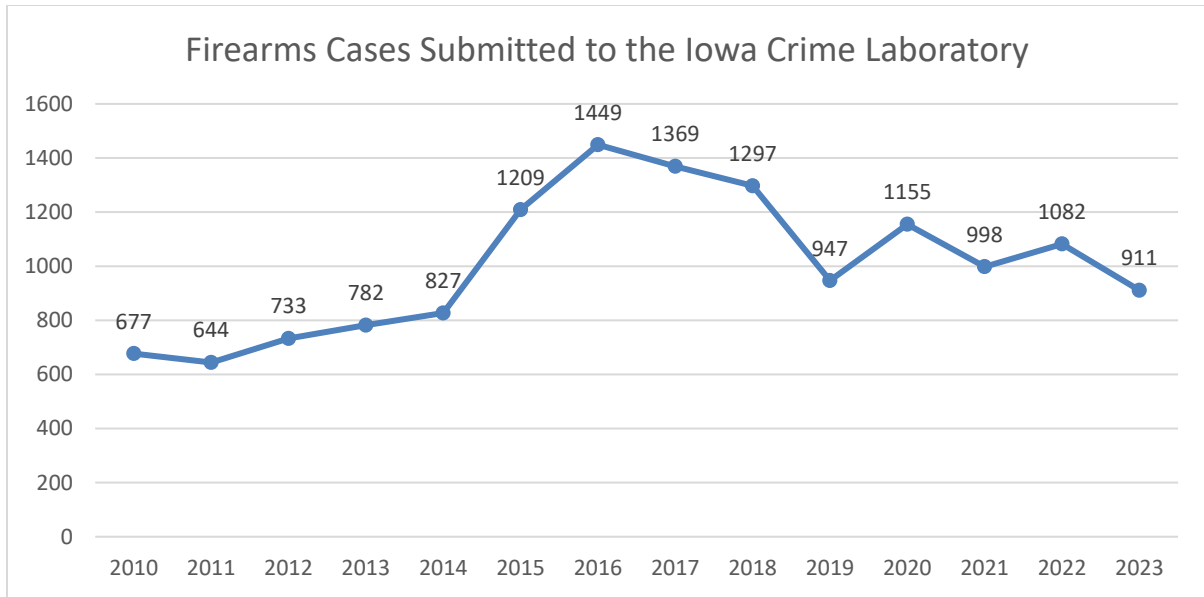
Source: Federal Bureau of Investigations

The number of weapons law violations in Iowa have generally trended upward, having increased from 1,991 reports in 2016 to 2,344 reports in 2023, a 17% increase over eight years.



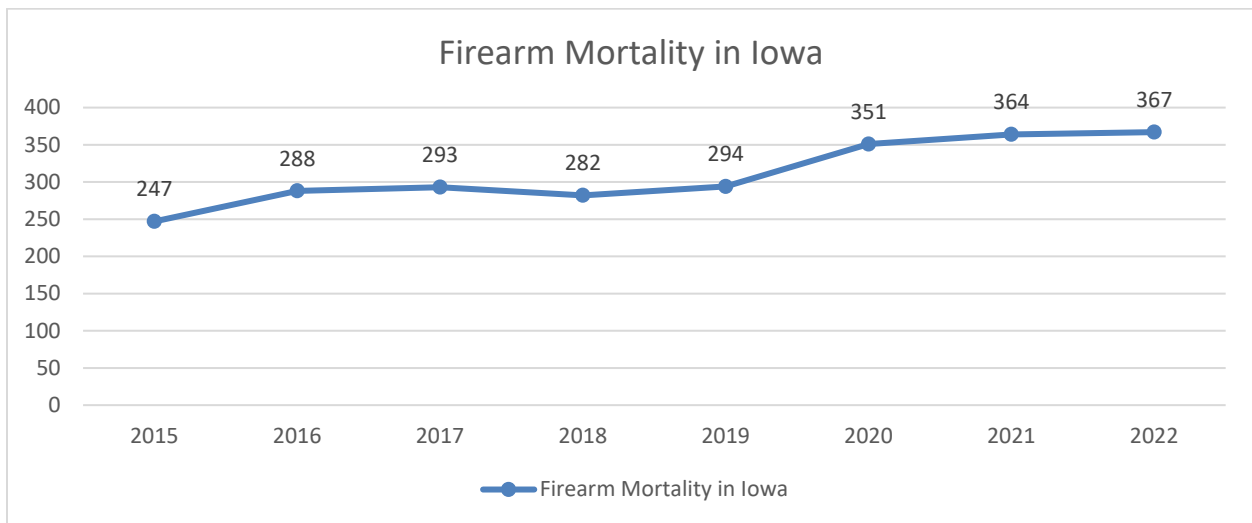
*Source: Iowa Department of Public Safety*  
*\*Note: Due to data collection changes, comparable data is unavailable prior to 2016*

According to the Iowa Criminalistics Laboratory, the number of firearm cases submitted by law enforcement more than doubled from 2010 to 2016. Since that time, the number of cases has dropped, however the number of cases remains above the levels reported ten years ago. It should also be noted that several local agencies recently became NIBIN entry points, so those cases are now entered at the local level and are only submitted to the lab for additional forensics when there is a NIBIN hit.



Source: Iowa Department of Public Safety, Criminalistics Laboratory

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports Iowa’s 2022 firearm mortality rate to be among the 10 lowest in the country – 11.2 per 100,000 population (367 deaths). This compares to the national average of 13.7 deaths per 100,000 population. While the number of firearm-related deaths in Iowa remains low, relative to the national average, our state has experienced a significant 48% increase in firearm-related deaths from 2015 – 2021 (247 vs 367).



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Center for Health Statistics

According to the CDC Fatal Injury Reports for 2015-2022, in an average year 311 people die by guns in Iowa. In 2021, 79% of all gun deaths in Iowa were suicides and 18% were homicides. This compares to 57% and 40% nationwide, respectively.

In Iowa Firearm-related suicides are significantly higher for men (91%) vs women (9%). Likewise, men (78%) are much more likely than women (22%) to be victims of firearm-related homicide.

Gun related death rates are higher for African American Iowans. The gun suicide rate in 2020 for African Americans was 7.8 per 100,000 population compared to 3.2/100,000 for Whites. The disparity for gun related homicide is even greater, 17.3 per 100,000 for African Americans vs 1.1/100,000 for Whites in 2020.

The Office of Drug Control Policy contracted with Iowa's Statistical Analysis Center, Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP) to provide a detailed review of gun violence in Iowa. The Key Finding from that report include:

"GUN VIOLENCE IN IOWA" – REVIEW OF KEY FINDINGS

- In the state of Iowa between 2018-2022, there were a total of 23,591 weapon-related charges and 8,799 weapon-related convictions.
- In 2020, there was a decrease of weapons charges and convictions, and a simultaneous increase in firearm-related homicides.
- The average perpetrator of a weapons related offense was White, male and between the ages of 26-45.
- The average victim of firearm-related homicide was Black, male and between the ages of 25-44.
- The average victim of firearm-related suicide was White, male and between the ages of 25-44.
- Handguns are the most common firearm type used in weapon-related offenses (DPS), and the most common firearm type used in homicides and suicides (IAVDRS).

*\*The CJJP report, "Gun Violence In Iowa" is included as an application narrative attachment in JUSTgrants (ODCP Report - Gun Violence in Iowa.pdf).*

# Goals and Objectives

## Goal

- Strengthen community efforts to prevent, respond to, and reduce gun and violent crime in Iowa.

## Objectives

- Identify areas of greatest need and best practice/evidence-informed programmatic responses.
- Develop measures to track and assess gun related violence.
- Facilitate a competitive application and review to identify state and local gun violence issues and provide resources to apply evidence-informed programming to reduce gun violence.

## Iowa SCIP Response – Design and Implementation

### Iowa Crisis Intervention Advisory Board (ICIAB)

The Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) is designated as Iowa’s State Administering Agency (SAA) for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program and other DOJ grants. ODCP is led by Bureau Chief Susie Sher.

The ODCP Bureau Chief chairs the Iowa Crisis Intervention Advisory Board (ICIAB), which was established in 2022 in consultation with the Governor’s office and the Iowa Attorney General’s Office. Board membership includes members of the Drug Policy Advisory Council (DPAC) plus a community member and victim services representative, to meet the SCIP board community sectors requirement. DPAC was established in Iowa Code to assist ODCP in the development and implementation of local and community strategies to reduce substance abuse and related criminal justice activities. The Iowa Legislature removed DPAC from Iowa Code in 2024 as part of a wider state government reorganization, however the Iowa Crisis Intervention Advisory Board will continue to function as the advisory board for SCIP programming.

All governance rules, laws, and policies/practices that applied to DPAC apply to the Iowa Crisis Intervention Advisory Board.

The Iowa Crisis Intervention Advisory Board includes those formerly defined in Iowa Code 80E plus the two additional members identified above. Members includes the following:

### **Iowa Crisis Intervention Advisory Board Membership**

**Susie Sher**

*ODCP Bureau Chief*

**Nick Maybanks**

*County Attorney's Association*

**Katrina Carter**

*Department of Corrections*

**Nancy Hunt**

*Department of Education*

**Kevin Gabbert**

*Department of Health and Human Services*

**Ryan Moore**

*Department of Public Safety*

**Steve Michael**

*Statistical Analysis Center (SAC)*

**Terra Kinney**

*Iowa Peace Officers Association*

**Dave McDaniel**

*Iowa State Sheriffs and Deputies Association*

**Jason Feaker**

*Iowa State Police Association*

**Patrick Coughlin**

*Substance Abuse Treatment Director*

**Nici George**

*Substance Abuse Treatment Specialist*

**Christina Wilson**

*Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist*

**Honorable Sharon Greer**

*Judicial Branch*

**Rex Mueller**

*Iowa Police Chiefs Association*

**Jeff Wright**

*State Public Defender*

**John Gish**

*Iowa AG's Office, Victim Services*

**Paula Noonan**

*Polk County Medical Society/Community*

**Gabe Shaapveld**

*Community Corrections, 6<sup>th</sup> District*

**Odell McGhee**

*Judicial Branch*

The ICIAB met in July to approve Iowa's 2024 SCIP program application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The ICIAB specifically approved the SCIP Objectives, Funding Priorities, and the draft budget. ICIAB will continue to be involved in SCIP programming to inform and guide the state's gun violence reduction strategic plan, approve any revisions to the SCIP grant budget, and to identify general program funding priorities.



ICIAB meetings are open to the public and will include public notices with meeting agendas. The public will be offered an opportunity to comment both through the open meeting and through independent correspondence with the ODCP (SAA).

### **SCIP Strategy Development**

Iowa's SCIP program plan development will be staffed by personnel from the ODCP, Iowa's State Administering Agency (SAA), in partnership with the ICIAB. The ICIAB will provide high level guidance on an ongoing basis to establish SCIP program plans, determine funding priorities, approve grant revisions, and assess outcomes.

### **ICIAB Priorities**

The ICIAB has identified *behavioral health* as the top priority area for Iowa's SCIP funding, with emphasis on youth programming and including both rural and urban communities. Within this priority area, the Board specifically identified the following as potential project responses to implement SCIP gun violence reduction objectives:

- Mental health partnerships,
- Crisis centers,
- Co-responder projects,
- Specialty courts,
- Jail diversion,
- Mobile crisis units,
- Community programs,
- Youth diversion programs,
- Community response to methamphetamine,
- Gun violence intervention,
- Behavioral threat assessment programs and related training, and
- Other innovative state and local programming.

A contract has been established with Iowa's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), the Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning, to gather Iowa specific gun/violence data, to enhance our ability to assess the impact of grant funding and to assist in making data driven prioritization for projects/initiatives supported with SCIP funding (see the attached report).

## Subaward Process

The Iowa Office of Drug Control Policy will direct SCIP grant funding to state and local units of government to support program activities outlined in BJA's State Crisis Intervention Program Formula Solicitation and based on the priority areas and potential projects identified in this plan. Non-profits and faith-based organizations will be eligible but will need to apply in partnership with a state or local units of government.

The ODCP will use a well-established competitive grant application/independent review as the mechanism to evaluate and select subrecipient to pass through funding to state and local units of government. The solicitation will include the following narrative components; data assessment/description of problem, implementation planning, best practices/evidence-informed practices, goals and objectives, and performance evaluation.

Subject to approval by BJA, we anticipate conducting a round of competitive application in January/February of 2025.

The application process will be utilized to identify projects which articulate specific gun violence reduction programs/initiatives as authorized by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Supplemental Appropriations Act and prioritized by the ICIAB.

Technical assistance in developing competitive responses to the solicitation will be offered to eligible applicants by the Iowa Office of Drug Control Policy.

Iowa's grant management system ([www.iowagrants.gov](http://www.iowagrants.gov)) will be utilized to administer this award. The system provides transparent tracking of all financial and administrative activities supported with this award.

With the 2024 award, a minimum of \$573,434 will be passed through to local units of government or to state agencies/courts in partnership with local units of government per the SCIP program guidance (see the budget for additional details). Subawards will be

submitted to BJA for their review and approval prior to obligating funding to subrecipients.

Federal funding from this award will not supplant state and local funding and will be coordinated with other SAFER Communities Act funding to enhance outcomes and prevent duplication of efforts.

## Data Collection Plan

The Iowa Office of Drug Control Policy will include language in all grantee subcontracts identifying the performance measurements required by the Byrne-SCIP program. Quarterly reporting on these measures will be a condition of receiving grant funding.

Beginning with the grant cycle covering State Fiscal Year 2010 the Iowa Office of Drug Control Policy implemented an electronic grant management system. The grant management system is capable of administering grants from application through close out. Financial and program reporting is a standard component for each grant and includes the BJA Justice Assistance Grant Program Performance Measures along with other special reporting requirements associated with the grant program. Grantees are required to submit these measures through the grant management system on a quarterly basis.

In addition to those indicators prescribed by BJA, the Office of Drug Control Policy continues to collect performance measures which track the activities and specific objectives of individual projects & programs. This information will be combined with the data collected for BJA in assessing program performance and will be submitted in the state annual report. The grant management system will require that sub-recipients be current with program progress reporting to be eligible to process financial claims for reimbursement.

Project related performance measures will be reported to the Department of Justice by ODCP on a quarterly basis by the Grant Manager. Financial performance measures will be reported to the Department of Justice on a quarterly basis by the Financial Officer.

We have partnered with the Iowa SAC (Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning) who will assist in describing the nature and extent of gun violence in Iowa. The data and descriptive overview will in turn be used by ODCP and the ICIAB in establishing program priorities and developing future SCIP program plans. Copies of all reports/articles generated by CJJP will be shared with the Department of Justice.

The initial workplan includes gun/violent crime data collection, a review of literature, data analysis and visualization, and reporting of findings. The research conducted by CJJP is expected to identify areas where limited data is available and reveal issues requiring new or additional focus. Following the initial presentation of the data, CJJP will provide additional data/analysis on areas of interest to ODCP/ICIAB.