



**Monterey County Health Department  
Salinas CA**

**A public health approach to preventing youth violence**

The STRYVE process focuses on strategies that **prevent youth violence before it starts**. Several strategies that fit the needs of Salinas and Monterey County have been selected, implemented and are being evaluated:

- Olweus Bullying Prevention Program
- YES (Youth Empowerment Solutions)
- Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)

A list of other evidence based programs, shown to prevent youth violence is available along with training and technical assistance from Health Department staff.

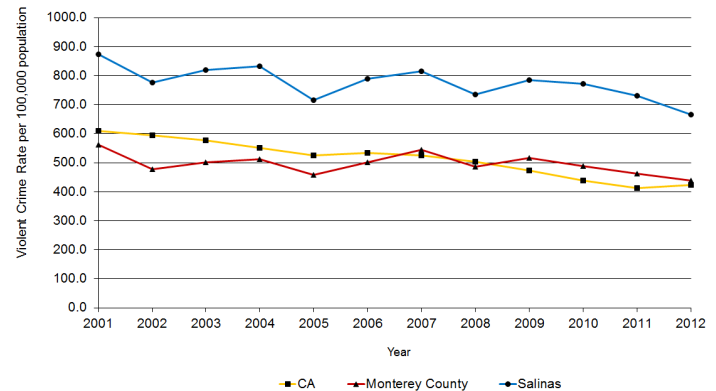
**Why public health?**

Violence jeopardizes the health and safety of everyone, so public health must be part of the solution. A public health approach has successfully reduced other complex problems, such as tobacco use and drunk driving. This same approach has been shown to reduce violent behavior and change community norms that tolerate violence. Public health relies on science and data, to maximize the benefits for the largest number of people.

**Can violence be prevented?**

Yes. Chicago and Los Angeles, as well as smaller cities, such as East Palo Alto CA have succeeded in lowering their violent crime rates,<sup>i</sup> using a public health approach. Prevention looks “upstream” to keep young people healthy and safe, before they join a gang or enter the juvenile justice system. And prevention creates healthier communities, capable of rejecting violent and criminal behavior by strengthening social networks, involving residents in community projects and developing local leaders. Prevention costs far less than intensive programs that attempt to reverse violent attitudes and deeply entrenched behaviors; and is far less expensive than incarceration.

Violent Crime Rates for California, Monterey County, and Salinas, 2001-2012<sup>ii</sup>



**Contact us**

Linda McGlone, M.P.H., STRYVE Coordinator  
Public Health Bureau  
Monterey County Health Department  
1270 Natividad Road, Salinas CA 93906  
831 755-4619  
mcglonelm@co.monterey.ca.us

Visit <http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/> to learn more.



Funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



## Sources

<sup>i</sup> See for example, "Geography and Public Safety," Criminal Justice and Public Health Approaches to Violent Crime: Complimentary Perspectives. Vol 3, Issue 2 August 2012. Accessed on October 29, 2014 at <http://cops.usdoj.gov/Publications/e05122469c.pdf>

### <sup>ii</sup> **Violent Crime Rates for California, Monterey County and Salinas 2001 - 2012**

Rates calculated by matching police jurisdiction to its corresponding Census Bureau city 'place.' Seaside crime counts include CSUMB data because CSUMB population included as part of Seaside in Census counts. Sources: Violent Crimes: CA: Homicide in California 2012, Kamala D. Harris, Attorney General, California Department of Justice, Table 1, p.6; County and City 2001 - 2012: State of California, Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Criminal Justice Statistics Center (CJSC), Table 11; City 2010-12: Table 8, California, Offenses Known to Law Enforcement, by State by City, University, and College, 2010-2012, US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Criminal Justice Information Services Division Population data: 2001-09 U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program, 2010 Census.