Gun Crime in Austin, TX 2014-2018

A historical review ☐Part I and II crime types ☐Locations and times ☐ Relationships ☐ Level of injuries ☐Maps ☐ Recommendations, resources, and research ☐ Guns and suicide ☐ Gun manufacturing ☐ Texas gun laws

Crime Intelligence Analysis Unit

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Executive Summary

In March 2019, the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) published another issue in their Critical Issues in Policing Series. This report was based on a meeting of PERF staff, law enforcement executives and leaders, and subject matter experts that was held on June 7, 2018, to explore issues of gun violence. The report, *Reducing Gun Violence: What Works and What Can Be Done Now*, identified four different categories of gun violence in America. Those categories are suicide, "everyday" criminal homicides and nonfatal shootings, domestic violence involving firearms, and mass shootings. The PERF report was instrumental in our thinking about gun violence in Austin, Texas, and in our analysis. Our report provides insight into the "everyday" type of gun violence in Austin and touches briefly on suicides. Although more research and analysis is warranted, this report is the first step in describing the gun violence situation in Austin and sets the stage for more focused analysis and discussions that will lead to both short-term and long-term strategies and initiatives to make Austin the safest city in America.

In 2016, Austin Police Department Crime Intelligence Analyst Tess Sherman completed an analysis of Aggravated Assaults in Austin. The findings of that analysis revealed an increase in the number of assaults in which a gun was used and started a conversation among Sherman, the Homicide Analyst Pamela Mazak, the Robbery Analyst Kira Gross, and Crime Intelligence Analyst Supervisor Shelia Hargis. All believed that gun violence was increasing. In January of 2019, Hargis completed a basic analysis of UCR Part I offenses from 2013 to 2018 to determine if an upward trend still existed. It did. This report is an in-depth analysis of gun crime in Austin for the years 2014 through 2018. Hargis, Sherman, and Robert Jennings, analyst assigned to assist APD's Career Criminal/Firearms Unit, completed the analysis and report in August of 2019.

The report includes analysis of Part I violent crime involving firearms, selected Part II gun-related crime, and firearms that are reported as lost or stolen or that Austin Police Department seized or recovered. The first section of the report examines the trends for the different types of data over the years of 2014 to 2018. The next section digs deeper into 2018 data for a more in-depth understand of gun violence during that year. The final section includes a summary of findings and a list of recommendations. The recommendations are grouped into five categories and provide a variety of opportunities to prevent and mitigate gun violence in Austin.

The basic story of this report is one of increasing levels of gun-related crime in Austin. It is a story of a huge increase in the numbers of legally owned guns in our community and a corresponding drastic increase in the number of guns that are stolen from vehicles. Those illegally obtained firearms then make their way into the hands of violent offenders, some of them being juveniles. One of the surprising findings of the report is the insight that where the guns are being stolen are not the same areas where the guns are being used to commit violent criminal acts. Both the violent crime and the gun thefts are concentrated, just not in the same hot spots. The story also includes evidence of repeat offending by some individuals who were arrested more than once for gun violations. The story of this report ends with realistic recommendations for action and a list of resources and an Appendix to provoke further thought and discussion. It sets the stage for further analysis into specific crime hot spots and further analysis into offenders who commit these types of crime repeatedly. It is a story worth reading and contemplating.

Methodology Disclaimer

The analytical methodology used in this report is based on crime analysis principles. The goal of these principles is to understand and explain crime with a focus on producing actionable intelligence to mitigate and prevent future crime. The methodology does NOT follow Uniform Crime Report (UCR) rules, so any comparison between the numbers in this report and official numbers reported to Texas Department of Public Safety for UCR reports is an inappropriate comparison. For a detailed explanation for how the methodology in this report differs from UCR methodology, see the comparison information provided in the Appendix.

Versadex data was collected via Discoverer queries that pulled data from Austin PD's data warehouse. The data sets included UCR Part I and Part II title codes, firearm data, and arrest data for the years of 2014 through 2018. The results of the queries were used to populate all tables and charts included in this report. Some of the data was also imported into Esri's ArcMap software where a Nearest Neighbor analysis was done to determine median distances and then displayed on a hot spot map via a kernel density tool set to the pre-determined median and square foot distances. Part I gun crime for 2018 was also analyzed using Risk Terrain Modeling software to evaluate environmental risk factors.

General Disclaimer/Data Sources and Process

Austin Police Department Data Disclaimer

- The data provided is for informational use only and is **not** considered official APD crime data as in official Texas DPS or FBI crime reports.
- APD's crime database is continuously updated, so reports run at different times may produce different results. Care should be taken when comparing against other reports as different data collection methods and different data sources may have been used.
- The Austin Police Department does not assume any liability for any decision made or action taken or not taken by the recipient in reliance upon any information or data provided.

GIS Disclaimer

Included maps have been produced by the Austin Police Department's Crime Intelligence Analysis Unit for the sole purpose of geographic reference and are not warranted for any other use. No warranty is made by the Department regarding its accuracy or completeness.

Austin Police Department's Geographic Boundaries

Austin PD has defined geographic boundaries for work assignments and to set manageable limits for span of control. The city is divided into nine sectors and the airport, and each sector is broken down into several districts. Sectors can be referred to by two different names. One naming scheme is based on call signs: Adam, Baker, Charlie, David, Edward, Frank, George, Henry, and Ida. The other naming scheme is more descriptive of the location within Austin: Northwest, Central West, Central East, Southwest, Northeast, Southeast, Downtown, South Central, and North Central. APD's records management system uses the naming system based on call signs, so that is the naming convention used in this report.

Area Commands:

North Bureau	South Bureau
Adam – Northwest	Charlie – Central East
Baker – Central West	David – Southwest
Edward – Northeast	Frank – Southeast
George – Downtown	Henry – South Central
Ida – North Central	Airport

See the map on Page 68 for a geographic representation of Austin PD's sectors and districts as they existed when this report was completed.

Introduction

In 2017, Crime Intelligence Analyst Tess Sherman completed an analysis of Aggravated Assaults in Austin. That analysis revealed an increase in the number of assaults in which a gun was used. This finding started a conversation among Sherman, the Homicide Analyst Pamela Mazak, the Robbery Analyst Kira Gross, and Shelia Hargis, Crime Intelligence Analyst Supervisor. Mazak and Gross both felt that they were seeing more offenses involving guns in their respective areas. Basic analyses of their data seemed to support their impressions of an increase in gun offenses. In January of 2019, Hargis completed a basic analysis of UCR Part I offenses (Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault) from 2013 to 2018 to determine if an upward trend existed. It did. This report is a response to that insight and is an in-depth analysis of gun crime in Austin for the years 2014 through 2018. Hargis, Sherman, and Robert Jennings, Career Criminal/Firearms Unit analyst, completed the analysis and report in August of 2019.

Between the years of 2014 to 2018, Austin saw an overall increase in Part I violent offenses (Homicide, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, and Rape) involving guns. There was a large increase between 2015 and 2016.
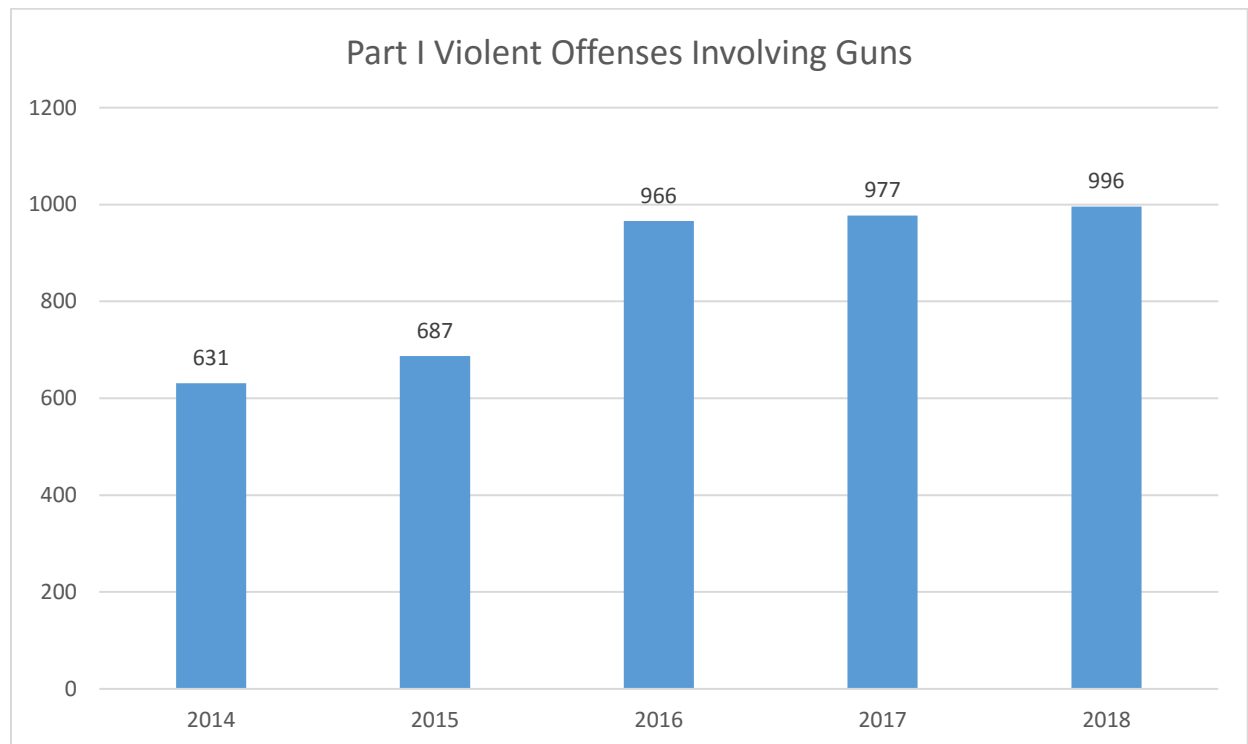
The chart below provides the broader picture of all weapons used in Part I violent crimes. This data set is based on the data in the first "Weapon/Force" field in each report. The majority of crimes involve some type of physical force which has remained steady over the past five years. Noteworthy is the change in gun percentages, moving from a ranking of third place to second place, or from approximately one in five cases of Part I crimes involving guns in 2014 to one in four cases in 2018. The obvious increase in the use of guns between 2015 and 2016 mirrors the overall increase in violent crime.

Percentages per Weapon Type (when known/reported)
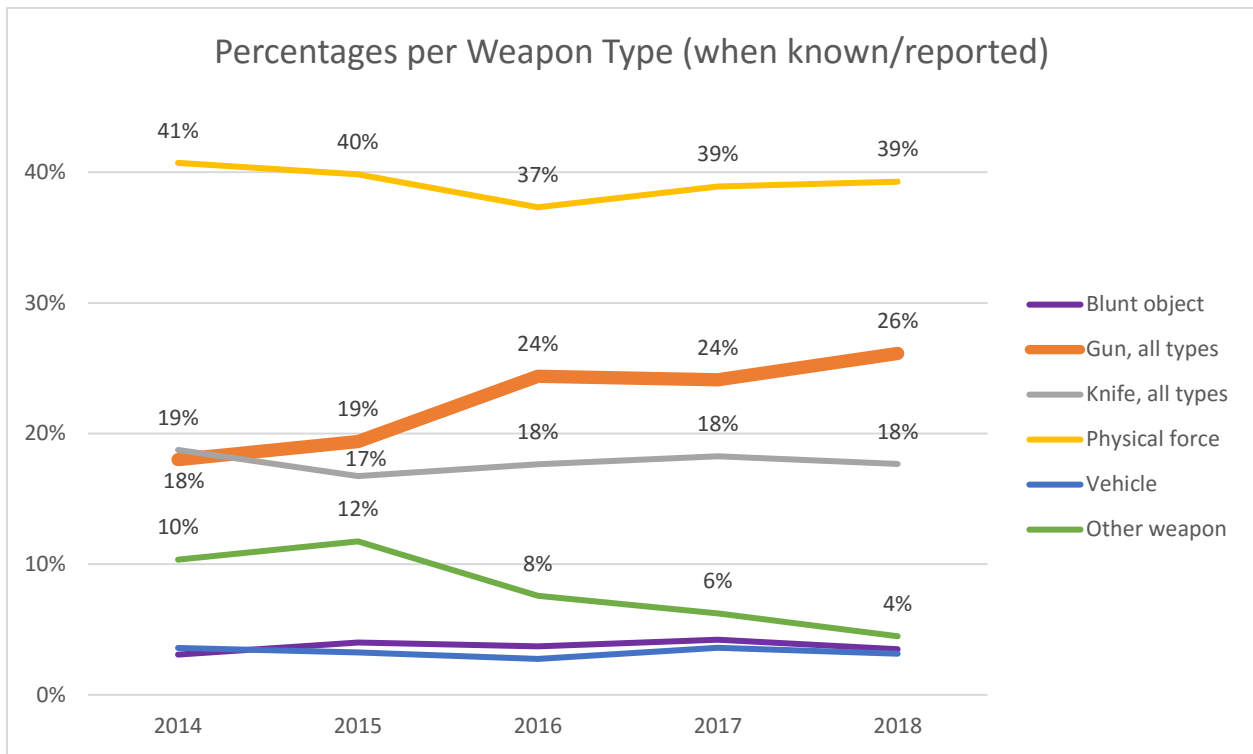
2014 – 2018 Historical Overview of Gun Crime in Austin

This portion of the report will look at the five-year span from 2014 to 2018. This five-year span is provided as context to gauge overall trending in gun crimes and recognizes that smaller time frames will only illustrate temporary increases or decreases giving a less accurate picture of the overall long-term direction of gun crime numbers. The report covers the analysis of Part I violent offenses involving firearms and selected Part II offenses specifically focused on gun crimes (Unlawful Carrying of Weapon, Possession of Firearm by Felon, Disorderly Conduct). It also includes data on firearms that were reported to Austin Police Department as lost/stolen or seized/recovered. This section concludes with a basic look at suicides and guns.

Part I Violent Offenses

Breakdown of the Part I violent offense data shows that Robbery and Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence were the main types of crimes driving the increase from 2014 through 2018. The spike between 2015 and 2016 is very obvious in both of these offense types.

Part I Offenses Involving Guns
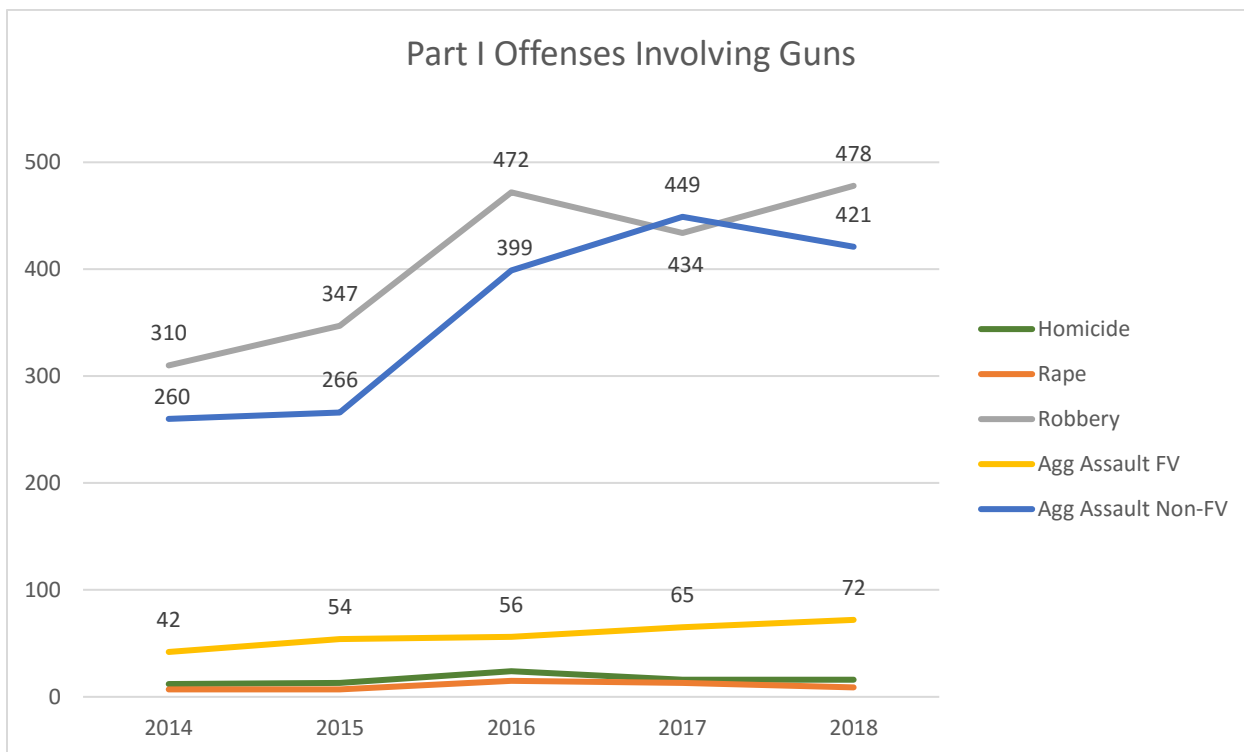
When looking at the offense types as percentages of the whole, Robbery increased from 9% of all gun crimes in 2014 to 13% in 2018. Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence increased from 7% of all gun crimes in 2014 to 11% in 2017 and ended at 10% for 2018.

Percentage of Overall Increase by Offense Type
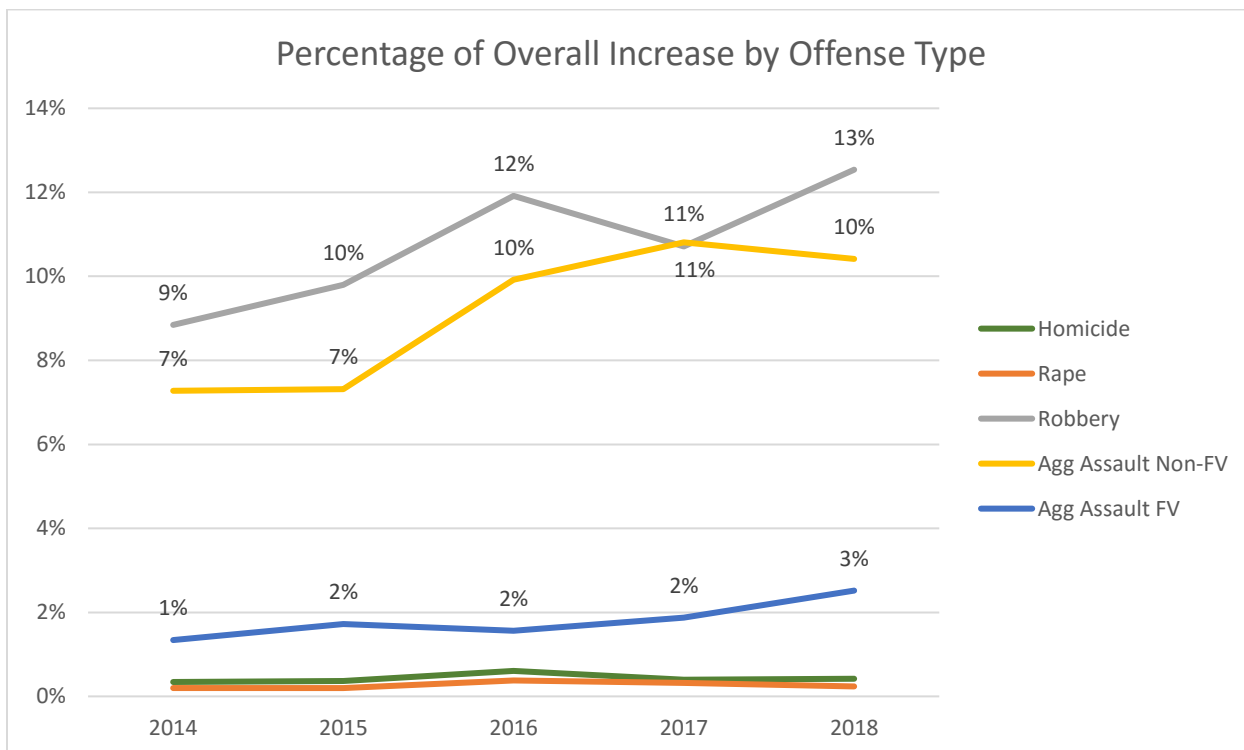
The percent increases of gun offenses within each crime type shows a steady increase for Robbery and Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence. In 2014, 35% of all robberies involved guns. By 2018, robberies involving guns had increased to 47%. Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence gun offenses in 2014 included 31% of all reports. By 2018, 41% of those cases involved guns. Aggravated Assault Family Violence offenses rose slightly from 4% to 8%. Homicides by guns were 40% of all homicides in 2014,

63% in 2016, and 52% in 2018. Given Austin's low number of homicides, it takes only a few more gun murders to increase the percentage by a large amount.

Percent Increase Within Each Offense Type
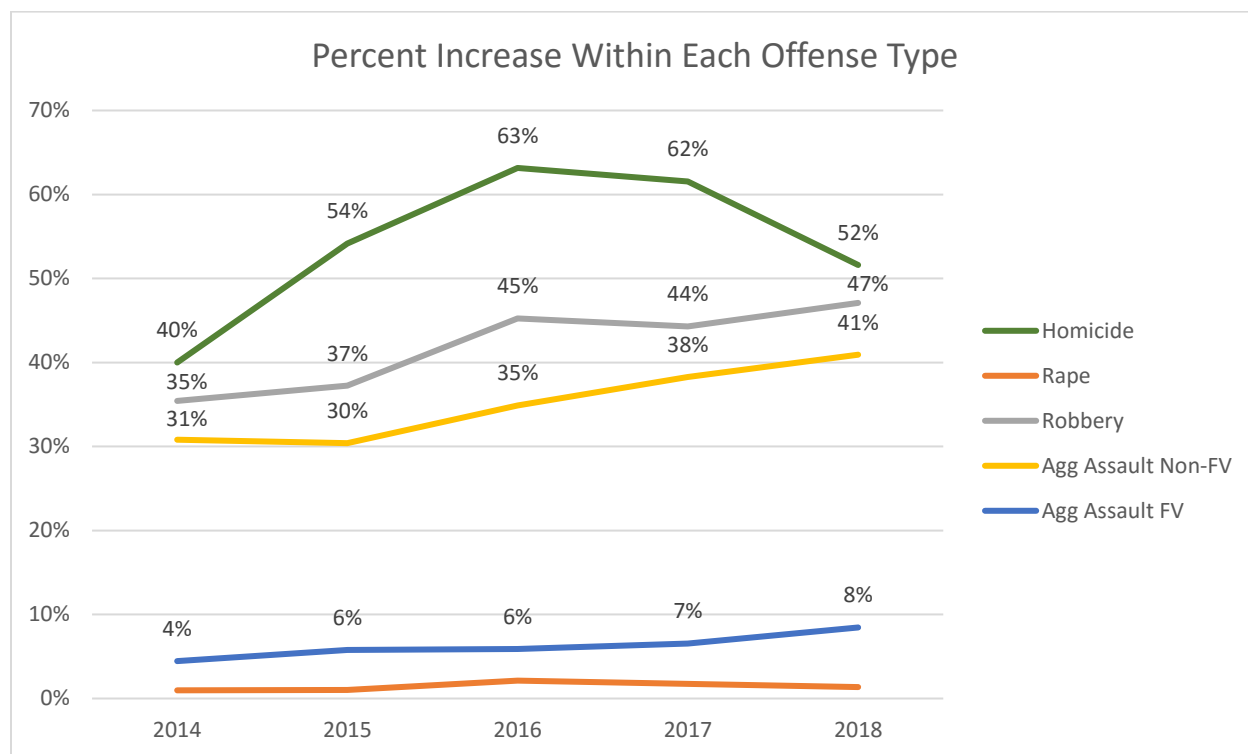
Gun Crime by Part I Title Code

The chart below, sorted by total from highest to lowest, shows the breakdown of gun crime into the different APD title codes for each Part I offense category. As expected, "Aggravated Robbery/Deadly Weapon" is the robbery title code with the highest number of cases involving guns. It is unclear at this time why a robbery with a gun listed as the weapon would be titled anything but "Aggravated Robbery/Deadly Weapon", but possibly it is a situation in which the suspect threatens that he has a gun but doesn't produce the gun. "Aggravated Assault" and "Deadly Conduct" are the top two title codes under the Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence section.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
120: Robbery Category						
AGGRAVATED ROBBERY/DEADLY WEAPON	284	326	456	407	466	1939
ROBBERY BY THREAT	22	13	13	20	10	78
ROBBERY BY ASSAULT	2	7	1	6	2	18
AGGRAVATED ROBBERY BY ASSAULT	2	1	2	1		6
120 Total	**310**	**347**	**472**	**434**	**478**	**2041**
13A - Non-FV: Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence						
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	166	163	269	323	279	1200
DEADLY CONDUCT	88	100	120	120	132	560
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT ON PUBLIC SERVANT	4	2	8	4	4	22
TAKE WEAPON FROM POLICE OFFICER				1	6	7
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WITH MOTOR VEHICLE	2	1	2	1		6
13A - Non-FV Total	**260**	**266**	**399**	**449**	**421**	**1795**

13A - FV: Aggravated Assault Family Violence						
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT FAMILY/DATE VIOLENCE	35	42	46	53	63	239
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT STRANGLE/SUFFOCATE	4	7	6	7	4	28
DEADLY CONDUCT FAMILY/DATE VIOLENCE	2	1	3	3	3	12
AGG. ASSAULT ENHANCE STRANGLE/SUFFOCATE	1	3			2	6
AGG. ASSAULT W/MOTOR VEHICLE FAMILY/DATE VIOLENCE		1	1	2		4
13A - FV Total	**42**	**54**	**56**	**65**	**72**	**289**
09A: Homicide Category						
MURDER	7	11	20	14	14	66
CAPITAL MURDER	3	2	1	2	1	9
MANSLAUGHTER	2		3		1	6
09A Total	**12**	**13**	**24**	**16**	**16**	**81**
11A: Rape Category						
AGGRAVATED RAPE	3	4	3	8	5	23
RAPE	3	2	5		4	14
AGGRAVATED RAPE OF A CHILD			2	1		3
RAPE OF A CHILD				1		1
11A Total	**6**	**6**	**10**	**10**	**9**	**41**
11C: Sexual Assault w/ Object Category						
SEXUAL ASSAULT W/ OBJECT		1	3			4
AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ASSAULT W/ OBJECT			1	2		3
AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ASSAULT CHILD/OBJECT	1		1			2
11C Total	**1**	**1**	**5**	**2**		**9**
11B: Sodomy Category						
AGGRAVATED FORCED SODOMY				1		1
11B Total				**1**		**1**
Grand Total	631	687	966	977	996	4257

Types of Firearms Used in Part I Gun Offenses

Pistols were the predominate type of firearm used in these offenses. The percentage of offenses involving a pistol rose from 74% in 2014 to 85% in 2018. The second highest category involved those offenses in which a specific type of firearm was not listed – "Firearm (Type Not Stated)" and "Automatic Firearm (Type Not Stated)". Rifles and shotguns were rarely used.

Type of Firearm Used in Part I Violent Crimes

Legend: Pistol (blue), Rifle (orange), Shotgun (gray), Other/Not Stated (yellow)

Year	Pistol	Rifle	Shotgun	Other/Not Stated
2014	465	11	36	119
2015	552	13	18	104
2016	756	17	16	177
2017	793	36	24	124
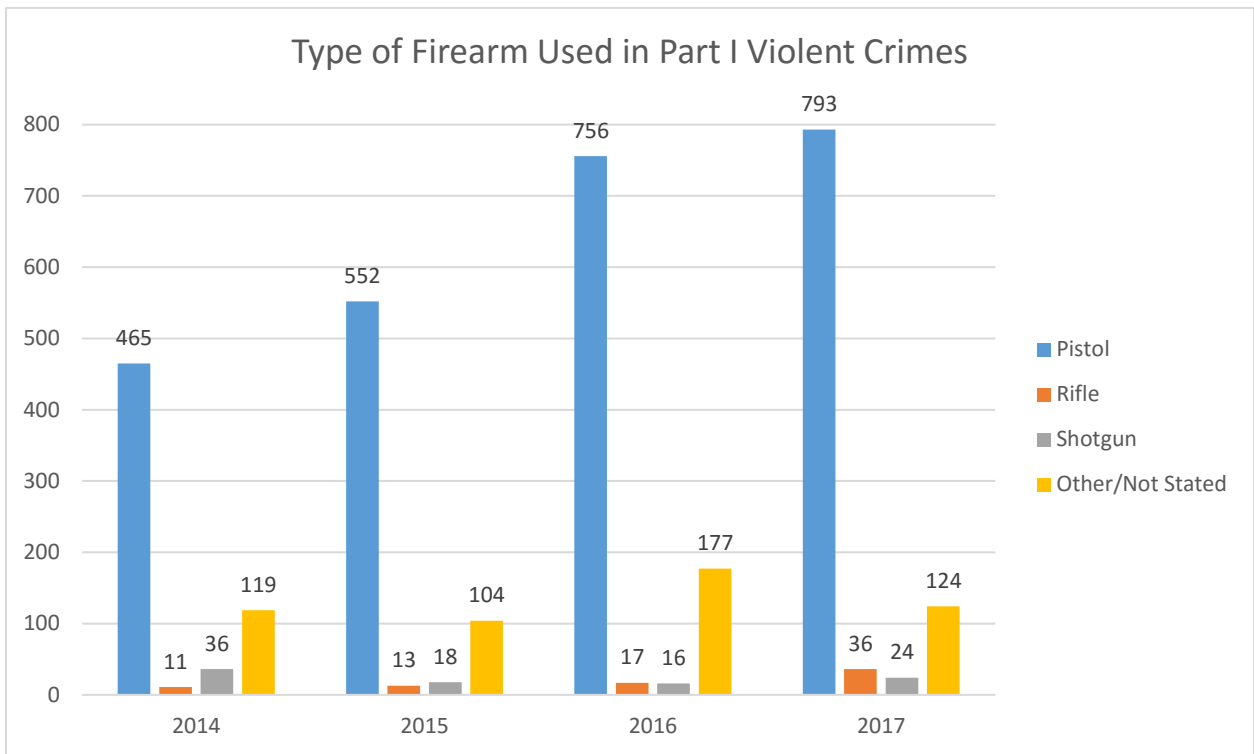
When Part I Gun Crimes Happen

Gun crime varies from month to month over the years but peak activity tends to be seen in the last quarter of each year with more variability during the rest of the year. Note the frequently higher totals seen for a number of months beginning in 2016.

Gun Crime by Month
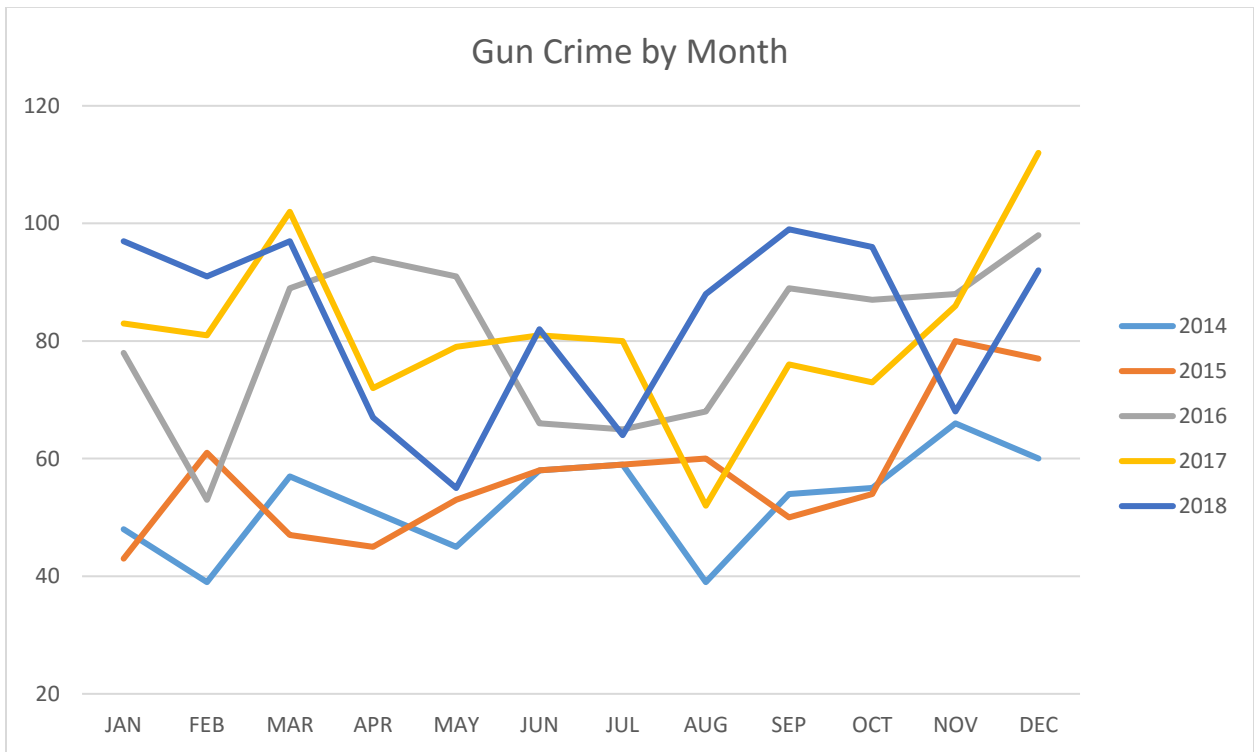
|	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Midnight	57	43	62	49	58
1 AM	37	35	64	64	62
2 AM	48	60	69	67	58
3 AM	28	38	50	44	49
4 AM	23	22	41	47	26
5 AM	17	25	25	32	38
6 AM	18	17	21	23	24
7 AM	8	10	16	23	20
8 AM	8	10	13	15	19
9 AM	10	10	14	19	22
10 AM	11	12	21	17	21
11 AM	17	15	14	18	18
12 PM	14	25	23	22	29
1 PM	13	15	21	27	22
2 PM	23	20	27	20	24
3 PM	18	23	26	31	34
4 PM	17	20	37	48	38
5 PM	30	26	25	36	36
6 PM	23	30	42	39	46
7 PM	21	34	54	49	43
8 PM	39	42	57	58	58
9 PM	54	39	80	84	89
10 PM	52	55	80	77	99
11 PM	45	61	84	68	63

The time of day in which these offenses occurred is no surprise. The majority occurred from 8:00 PM to 3:00 AM the following morning. This pattern remained constant throughout the five years.

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Midnight	33	38	25	29	34	47	63
1 AM	43	27	22	17	36	51	66
2 AM	43	27	33	27	21	72	79
3 AM	18	21	36	22	16	49	47
4 AM	18	15	18	20	15	31	42
5 AM	18	12	16	22	17	22	30
6 AM	19	10	12	13	10	18	21
7 AM	6	15	11	9	12	13	11
8 AM	7	11	11	7	11	10	8
9 AM	15	8	9	12	12	8	11
10 AM	12	6	16	11	10	16	11
11 AM	18	10	21	3	5	12	13
12 PM	12	16	24	10	21	14	16
1 PM	16	12	10	13	19	16	12
2 PM	13	18	18	14	14	18	19
3 PM	19	15	21	14	16	23	24
4 PM	25	19	24	18	16	33	25
5 PM	28	22	15	18	30	24	16
6 PM	30	16	29	26	29	22	28
7 PM	27	31	29	21	31	35	27
8 PM	29	37	38	28	43	37	42
9 PM	51	40	41	38	56	60	60
10 PM	62	55	52	44	47	44	59
11 PM	42	35	49	50	44	46	55

When looking at the data by day of week and time of day, all days of the week show more offenses occurring between 9:00 PM and midnight. The highest criminal activity occurred between 9:00 PM on Friday night to 4:00 AM on Saturday morning and 9:00 PM on Saturday night to 5:00 AM on Sunday morning. Sunday night was also high from 9:00 PM to 3:00 AM on Monday.

A question regarding the temporal aspect of violent crime revolves around whether Austin experiences spikes in violent crime during major events. Events such as South by Southwest (SXSW) which happens in March and Austin City Limits (ACL) which happens in October bring tens of thousands of people to Austin. The chart below shows the totals for each month from January 2014 to December of 2018. The red vertical bars highlight March. Numbers were high for three of the five March months, but other months during those years were also high. This correlates with the overall increase in gun crime during those years. It is not clear that gun violence spikes due to SXSW, at least when looking at gun violence for the whole city. The purple vertical bars highlight October. The same pattern is seen with an increase starting in 2016, but again, it is not obvious that Austin experiences a spike due to ACL.

City-wide Gun Crime by Month Across All Years
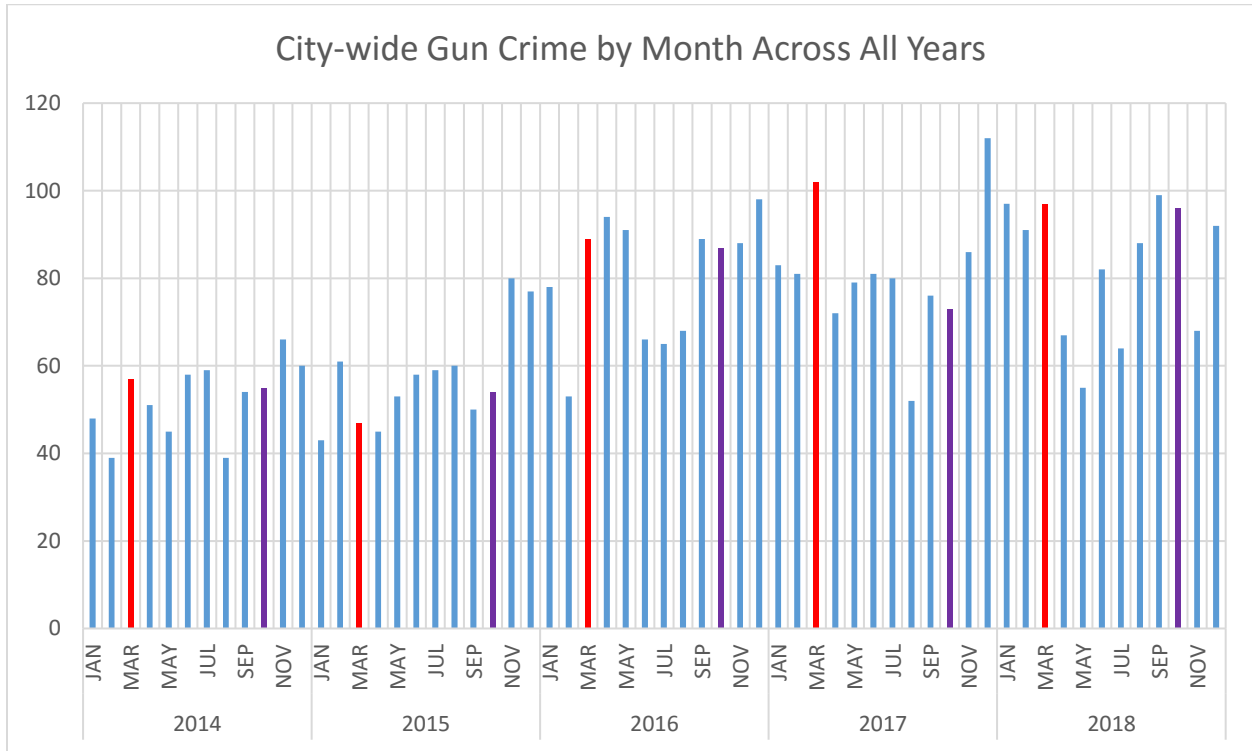
Since many or all of the events associated with SXSW occur in George sector (Downtown Area Command, DTAC), we looked specifically at gun crime in that sector. From that data set, it appears George sector does experience spikes in gun crime during March. ACL activities occur in David sector with attendees possibly moving to bars in George sector after ACL is over for the day, but the October numbers don't indicate consistent spikes in George. We limited this analysis to George sector, but a separate analysis of all violent crime is needed to fully understand the impact of these large events on violent crime in Austin.

George (DTAC) Gun Crime by Month Across All Years
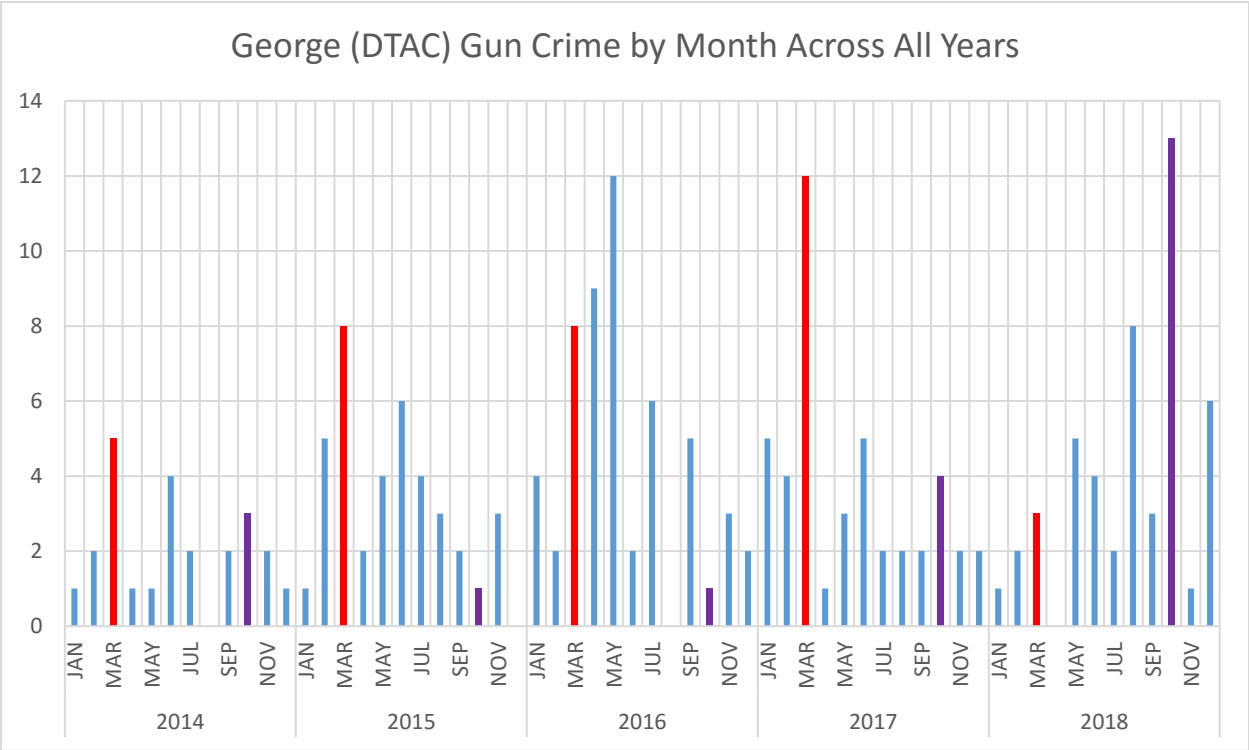
Where Part I Gun Crimes Happen

It is a known fact that crime is not evenly distributed across Austin. It is concentrated in certain areas. We see similar clustering with Part I gun crimes. Edward sector was consistently a high activity sector for gun-related crimes when compared to other Austin sectors. Charlie, Frank, Henry and Ida sectors have the next highest amount of gun crime. All sectors, except Baker, show increases beginning in 2015/2016, and all have remained at higher levels since then with even Baker inching up since 2016.

Gun Crime by APD Sector

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
ADAM	47	49	71	62	73
BAKER	24	34	36	47	45
CHARLIE	91	87	130	122	143
DAVID	40	42	66	95	78
EDWARD	131	144	206	205	201
FRANK	75	90	113	116	127
GEORGE	24	39	54	44	48
HENRY	89	116	142	141	144
IDA	109	81	147	143	135
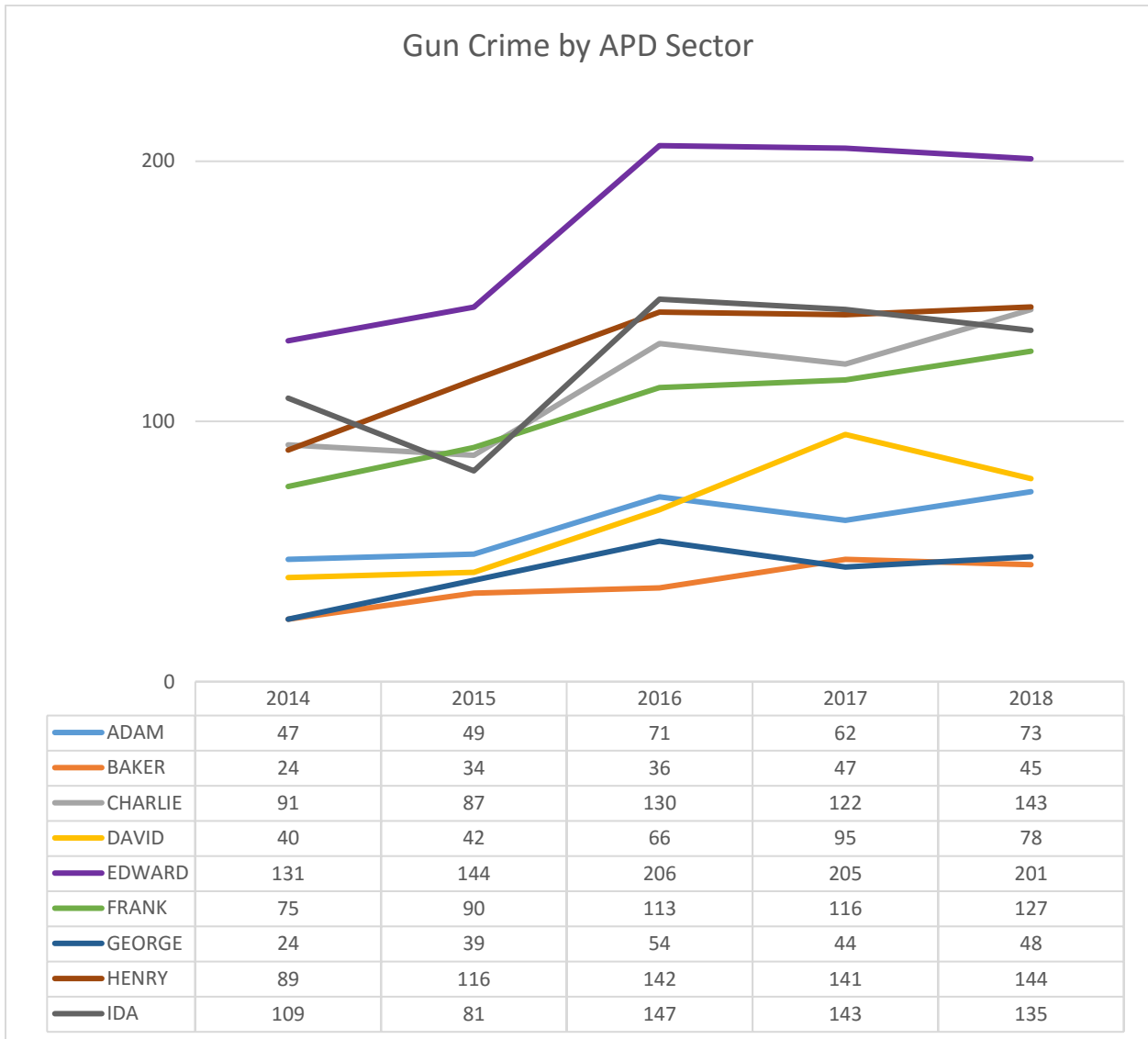
The following hot spot maps show the clustering of gun crime irrespective of sector boundaries. The hot spot areas are longstanding violent crime hot spots. The maps show slight differences from year-to-year, but overall the problem areas are the same. Hot spots for gun-related Part I crimes from 2014 to 2018 were concentrated in the downtown area, in the western portion of Henry sector, and near IH-35 in Ida and Edward sectors. These locations coincide with greater population densities in either resident populations (apartment complexes, budget motels) or with commuter populations who visit the area's bars and clubs at night, on weekends, or during special events.

Gun Crime Hot Spots 2014

Districts
- BAKER
- GEORGE
- IDA
- ADAM
- EDWARD
- CHARLIE
- HENRY
- APT
- DAVID
- FRANK

High
Hot Spot

0   1.25   2.5   5
Miles

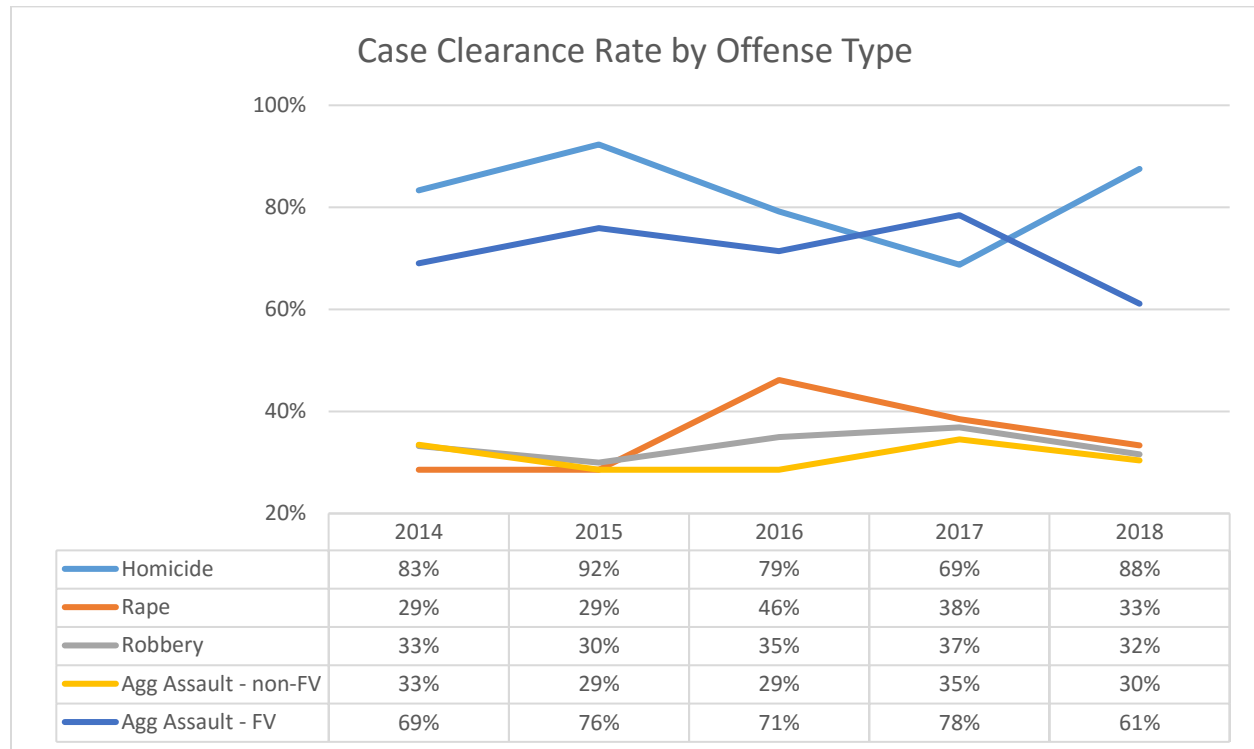This map has been produced by the Austin Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit for the sole purpose of geographic reference and is not warranted for any other use. No warranty is made by the Department regarding its accuracy or completeness.

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Gun Crime Hot Spots 2015

Districts
- BAKER
- GEORGE
- IDA
- ADAM
- EDWARD
- CHARLIE
- HENRY
- APT
- DAVID
- FRANK

High
Hot Spot

0   1.25   2.5   5
Miles

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Gun Crime Hot Spots 2016

Districts
- BAKER
- GEORGE
- IDA
- ADAM
- EDWARD
- CHARLIE
- HENRY
- APT
- DAVID
- FRANK

High
Hot Spot

0   1.25   2.5   5
Miles

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Gun Crime Hot Spots 2017

Districts
- BAKER
- GEORGE
- IDA
- ADAM
- EDWARD
- CHARLIE
- HENRY
- APT
- DAVID
- FRANK

High
Hot Spot

0   1.25   2.5   5
Miles

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Gun Crime Hot Spots 2018

Districts
- BAKER
- GEORGE
- IDA
- ADAM
- EDWARD
- CHARLIE
- HENRY
- APT
- DAVID
- FRANK

High
Hot Spot

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Part I Gun Crime Case Clearance

For this analysis, case clearance data was compiled in April 2019. It is very likely that the clearance status of many 2018 offenses has changed since that time. For this report, the clearance rate was calculated using the clearance status at the time the data was pulled. This data tells you how many offenses in a certain year were cleared as of the time the data was pulled. "Cleared" was defined as "Cleared by Arrest" and "Cleared Exceptionally". (See the Appendix for the specific requirements to "clear" a report.) This method is different from the clearance calculation methodology for UCR. Any

comparison between the numbers in this report and UCR clearance data is inappropriate due to different methodologies and also to this data being specific to gun crimes.

The data shows that Homicide and Aggravated Assault Family Violence cases have the highest clearance rates, between 61% and 92% for all five years. Given there are fewer of these types of offenses, a slight change in the number of cases cleared for any one year would potentially lead to an obvious change in clearance rate for that year. The offenses with higher numbers, Robbery and Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence, show clearance rates between 29% and 37% and are relatively constant for the years in question. Rape clearance rates show a higher rate for 2016 and 2017, between 38% and 46%, with the other years being steady between 29% and 33%.

Case Clearance Rate by Offense Type

|	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Homicide	83%	92%	79%	69%	88%
Rape	29%	29%	46%	38%	33%
Robbery	33%	30%	35%	37%	32%
Agg Assault - non-FV	33%	29%	29%	35%	30%
Agg Assault - FV	69%	76%	71%	78%	61%

Firearms-Related Part II Offenses

Certain Part II offenses also give us insight into the gun crime situation in Austin. Those offenses are Unlawful Carrying of Weapon (UCW), Possession of Firearm by Felon (PFF), and Disorderly Conduct (DOC). In order to compile the most appropriate data for this research, we made the following decisions. Unlawful Carrying of Weapon (title code 1500) numbers include only those offenses in which a firearm was listed as the weapon. For this data set, there were some cases in which a weapon was not listed. In 2019, APD switched to NIBRS (National Incident-Based Reporting System) from UCR (Uniform Crime Reporting). NIBRS requires weapon information for this title code, so that requirement should produce more complete weapon data going forward. All Possession of Firearm by Felon (title code 1502) reports were included since the title code is specific to the possession of a firearm. Disorderly Conduct title codes of 2408 (DOC Discharge Gun – Public Place), 2409 (DOC Display Gun/Deadly Public Place) and 2410 (DOC Discharge Gun Public Road) were included, again because the title code is specific to firearms. Some of the PFF and DOC reports had other weapons besides firearms listed. It is unclear at this time what situation would explain that. If a report had more than one of these title codes, the report was only counted once. In other words, duplicates were removed from the data set before analysis.

For the five years in question, UCW numbers and DOC numbers show a slight increase between 2015 and 2016, similar to the increase we saw with Part I gun crimes. Possession of Firearm by Felon (PFF) numbers don't show that increase until 2018. It is unknown if this lag is a true indication of the crime

situation or if a change of policy or focus of the Career Criminal/Firearms Unit played a part in the numbers remaining relatively constant from 2014 to 2017 and then increasing in 2018.

Number of Offenses for UCW, PFF, and DOC
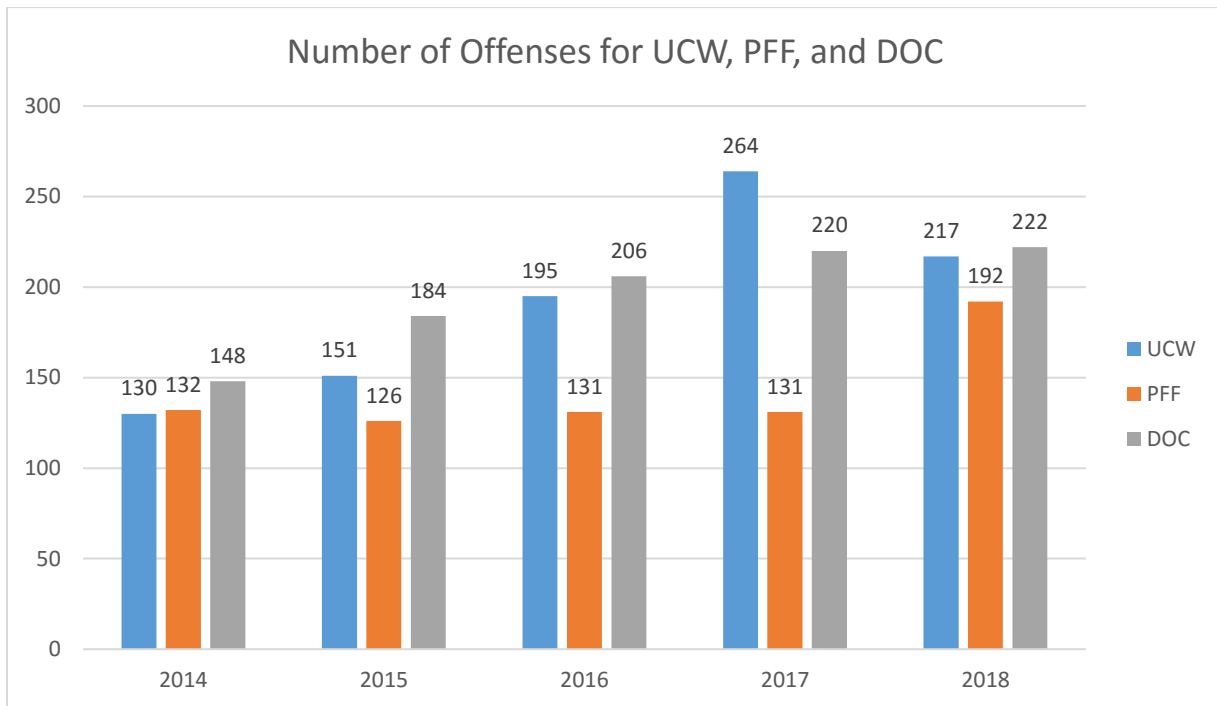

Types of Firearms Used in Part II Gun Offenses

As mentioned earlier, there were numerous offense reports in this data set that had other types of weapons listed or had no information in the weapon field. Given that, the data set for this section of the report was narrowed to only include the PFF cases and DOC cases in which a firearm was listed as the weapon. UCW data was already filtered to only include cases in which a firearm was listed as the weapon.

Even with numerous cases excluded, the analysis of the types of firearms used in UCW, PFF, and DOC offenses mirrors what was seen in Part I gun crime. Pistols far outnumbered the other types of firearms.

**Firearm Types in UCW, PFF, and DOC Reports**
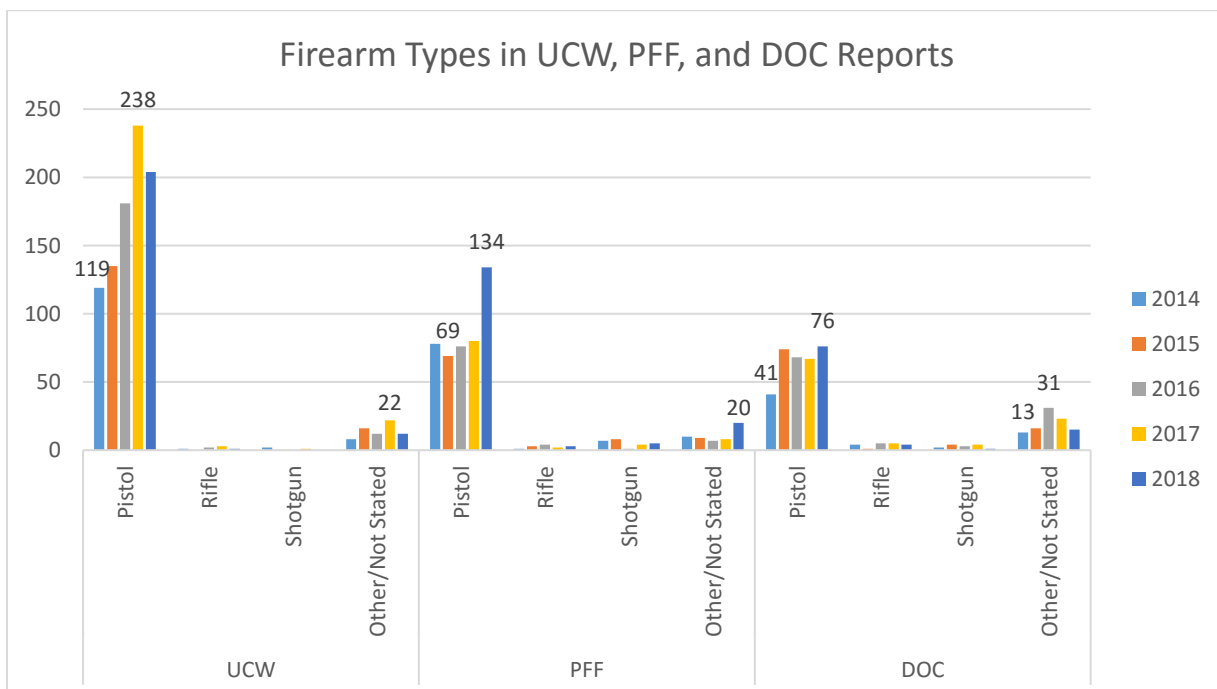
When Part II Gun Crimes Happen

Looking at the data across the five years by month shows somewhat similar trends for UCW and DOC with slightly higher numbers in March and August. Possession of Firearm by Felon (PFF) does not show the same pattern.
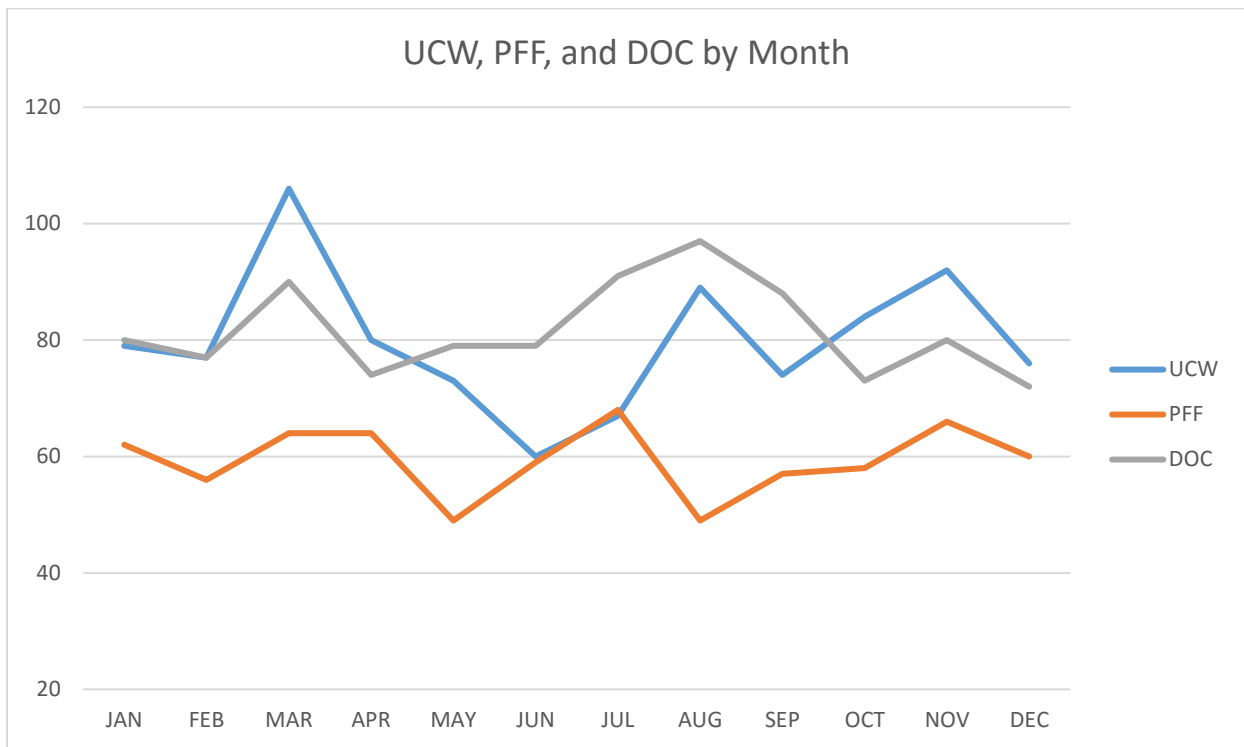

Graphing the data for each month over the five years shows an obvious increase in UCW and DOC in late 2015, at the same time we saw Part I gun crimes increase. The numbers vary after that time but overall these two types of offenses remain high through 2018. For PFF, the increase occurs in early 2018. By the end of 2018, PFF numbers have decreased to previous levels. Further research is needed to determine if PFF numbers remain high or if the early 2018 peak was an anomaly.
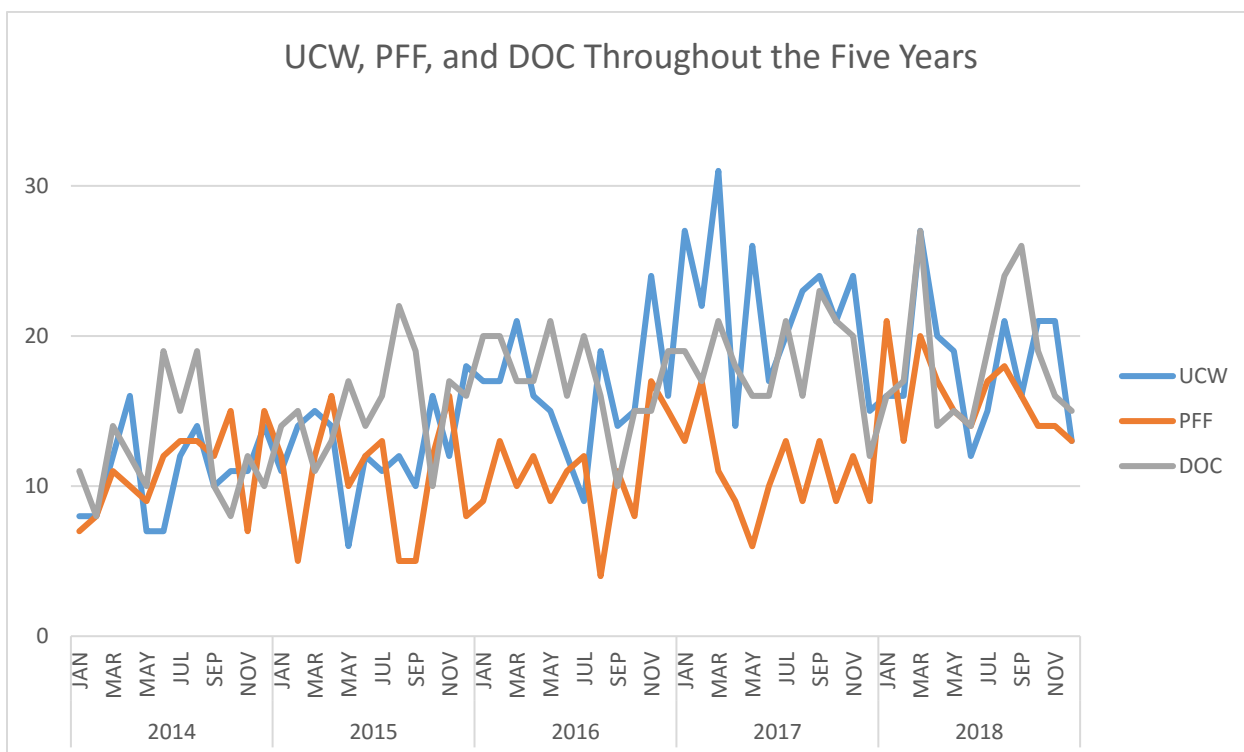
Where Part II Gun Crimes Happen

APD sectors Frank, Charlie and Edward show the highest numbers for UCW, PFF and DOC with cumulative numbers of 427, 401 and 379 respectively. Ida and Henry comprise the second tier with 332 and 319. Comparing Part II gun crimes to Part I gun crimes shows the same top sectors. Edward was the sector with the highest number of Part I gun crime. Henry, Ida, Charlie and Frank had Part I totals that were lower than Edward but still high.


UCW, PFF, and DOC Numbers by APD Sector
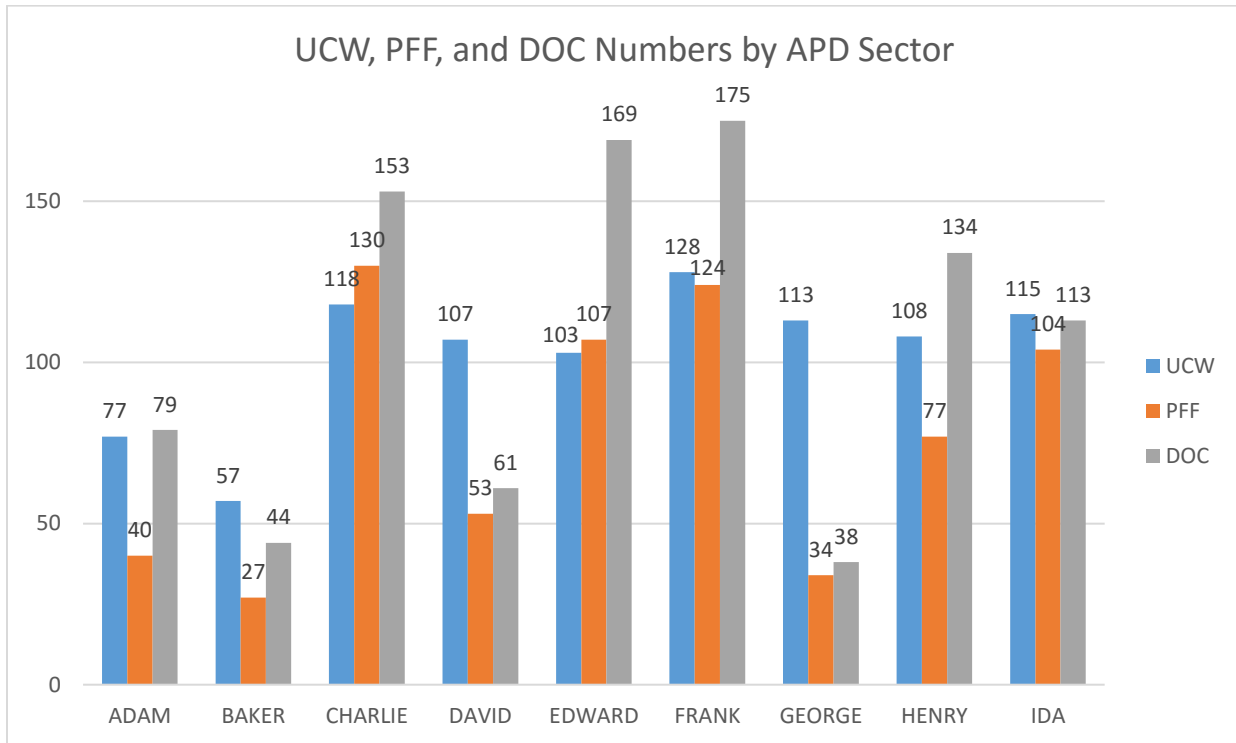
Firearms Data

To supplement our understanding of gun crime, we compiled data about gun manufacturing and licenses to carry firearms trends to better understand the data we collected and analyzed regarding firearms that were reported stolen or lost or that were seized or recovered by APD officers.

The chart below from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) shows a steady increase in the number of pistols and rifles manufactured between 2010 and 2013. More guns being manufactured means more guns entering the marketplace and the community over the years.

Guns Manufactured in the U.S. 1990-2016
*Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives*
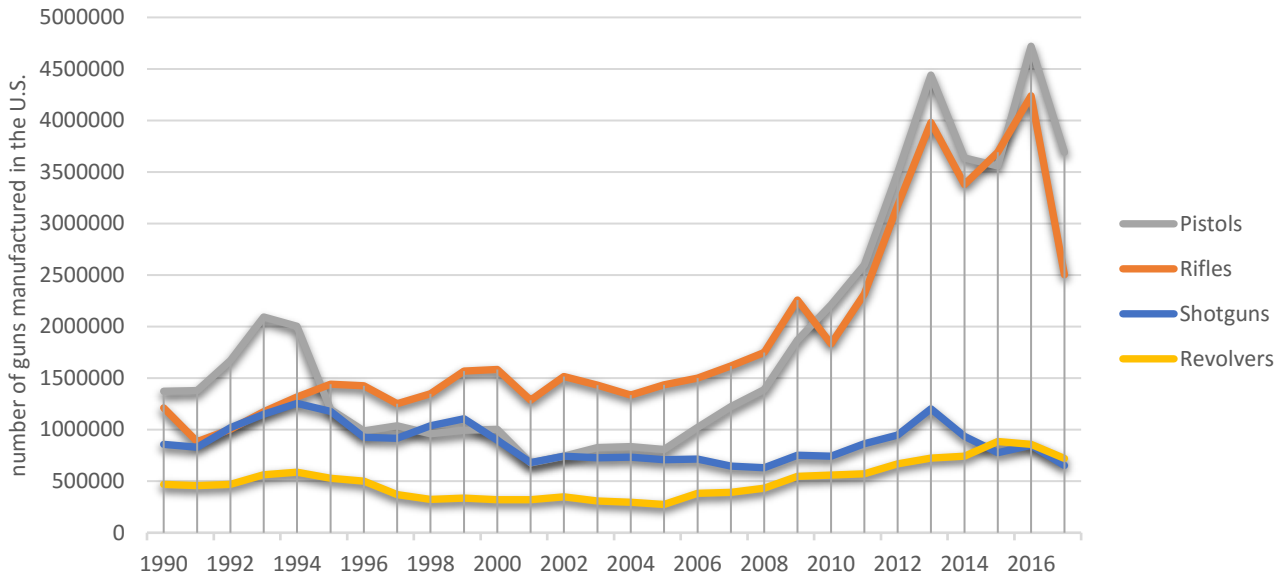
It is unknown how many guns there are in Austin and how that number has changed over the five years of this report. One way of getting a sense of gun ownership in Texas is to look at the number of individuals who are licensed by Texas Department of Public Safety to carry a handgun. The chart below shows a steady increase from 2014 through 2018.

License to Carry a Handgun - Licensed Individuals in Texas
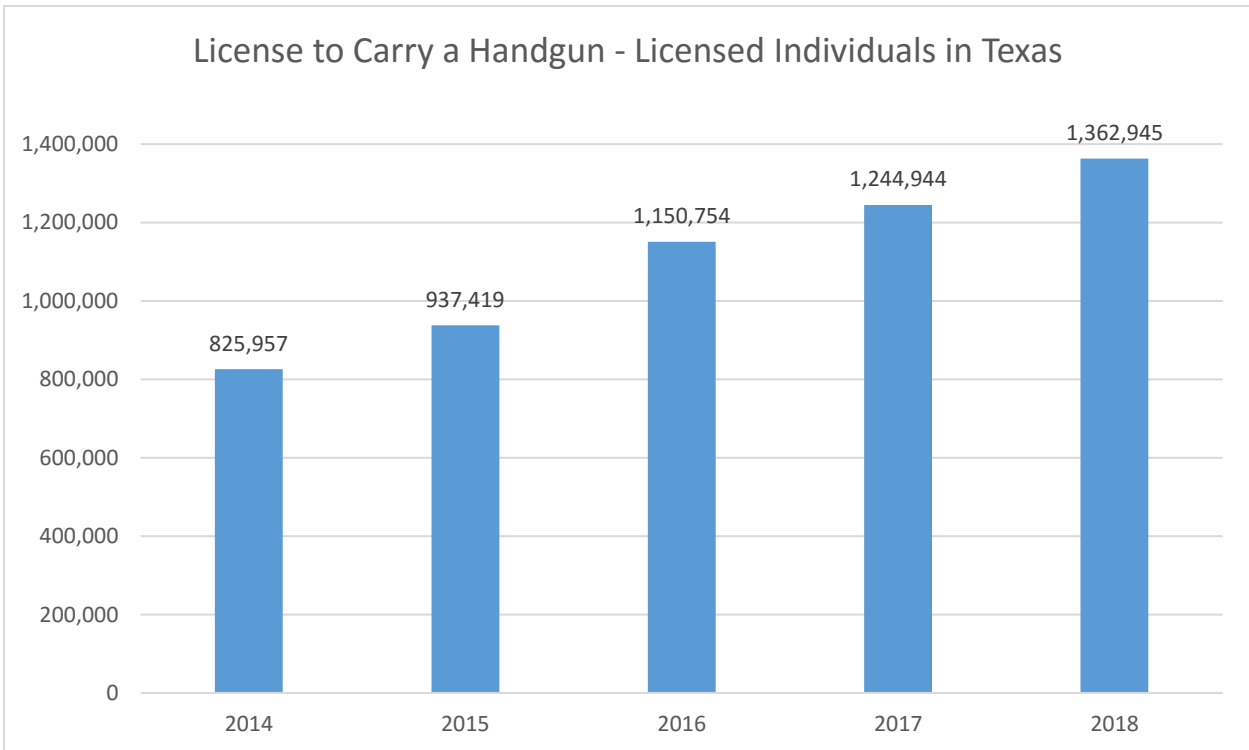
Another metric from Texas Department of Public Safety is the number of people who annually apply for a handgun license and are approved. The following chart shows the numbers for Hays, Travis, and Williamson counties. The percent of each county's population that applies for a license each year shows only slight variation, but the number of people who are potentially carrying guns both on their persons and in their vehicles has increased. It is not surprising that as more guns enter the community, with
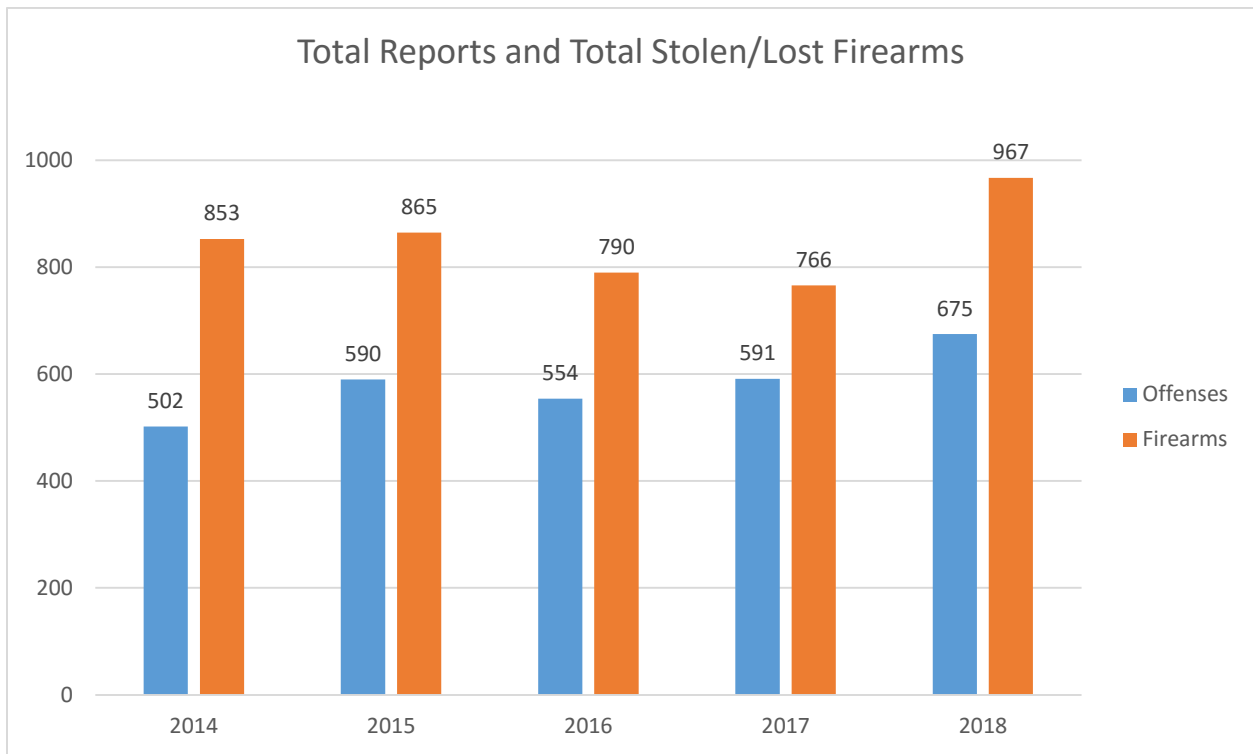
many of them being stored in vehicles for some amount of time, we see more instances of guns being stolen, especially from vehicles, and of guns being involved in more offenses.

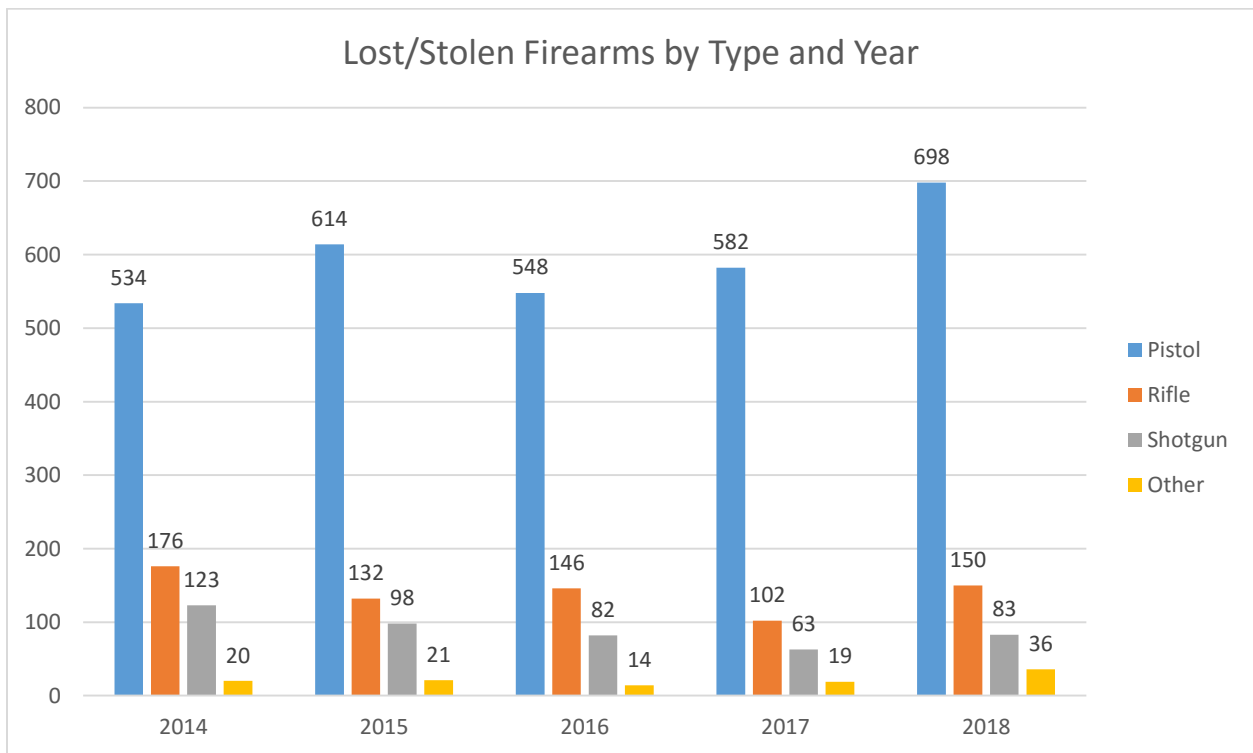## Annual Applications Approved for License to Carry by County
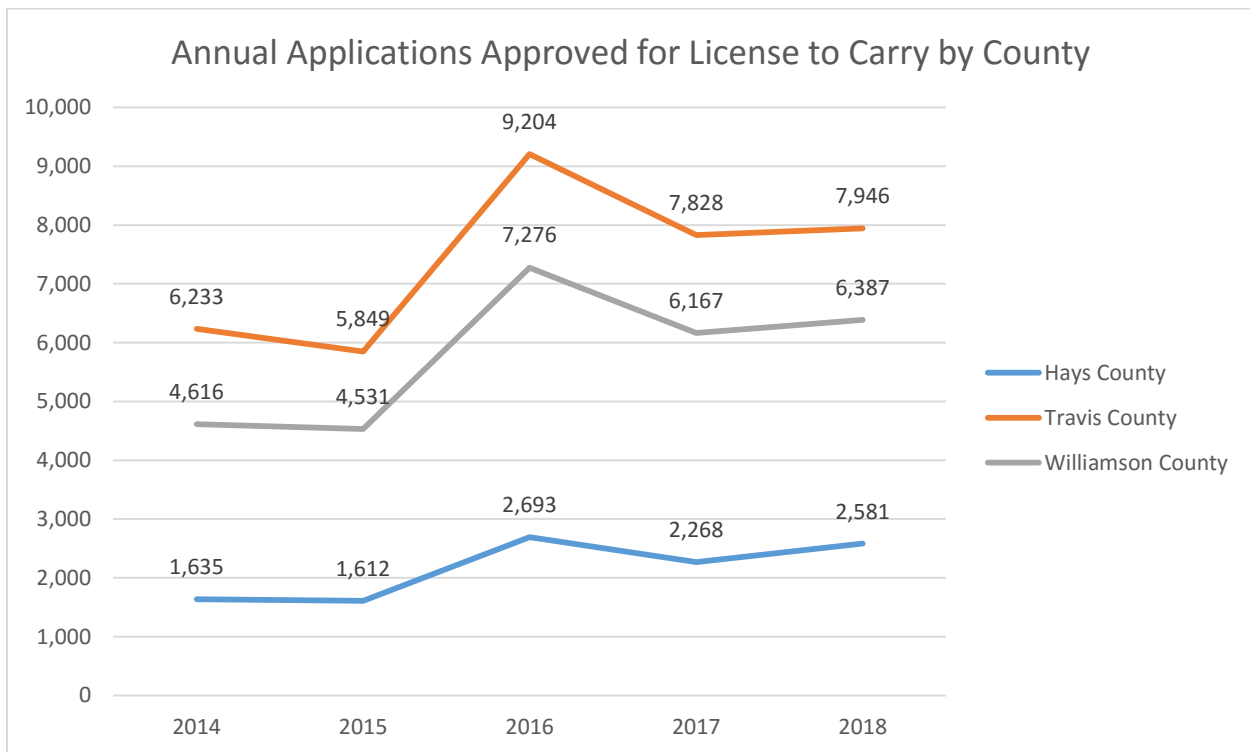
Lost/Stolen Firearms

Some criminals who commit firearms-related offenses are not legally allowed to own or possess a firearm, but most of them can obtain guns with ease. Even though a Federal Firearms Licensee (FFL) is prohibited from selling a firearm to a prohibited individual, it is not difficult to work around this issue. After a firearm is obtained from an FFL and introduced into the general population, it can easily change possession via hand-to-hand transactions (purchasing or gifting) or by theft. Criminals can also obtain firearms through straw purchasers - someone who is legally allowed to buy a firearm purchases it and then gives, or sells, it to the criminal. It is unknown the magnitude of straw purchases in Austin, but the magnitude of lost/stolen firearms is known, at least those that are reported to APD.

For the five years of this report, a total of 4241 firearms were listed as lost/stolen in 2921 reports. The number of cases increased from 2014 through 2018. The actual number of firearms lost or stolen fluctuated and peaked in 2018.

Total Reports and Total Stolen/Lost Firearms

Year	Offenses	Firearms
2014	502	853
2015	590	865
2016	554	790
2017	591	766
2018	675	967

As we saw in Part I gun crime and Part II gun crime, pistols far outnumbered other types of firearms in this instance also.

Lost/Stolen Firearms by Type and Year

Year	Pistol	Rifle	Shotgun	Other
2014	534	176	123	20
2015	614	132	98	21
2016	548	146	82	14
2017	582	102	63	19
2018	698	150	83	36

When looking at the cases in which a firearm was entered as lost/stolen by month, no obvious pattern is evident. Two things stand out. One is the big spike in December of 2015. The other is the large increase in cases between July and August of 2018 with the remainder of 2018 being much higher than in previous years.

Offenses with Lost/Stolen Firearms by Month
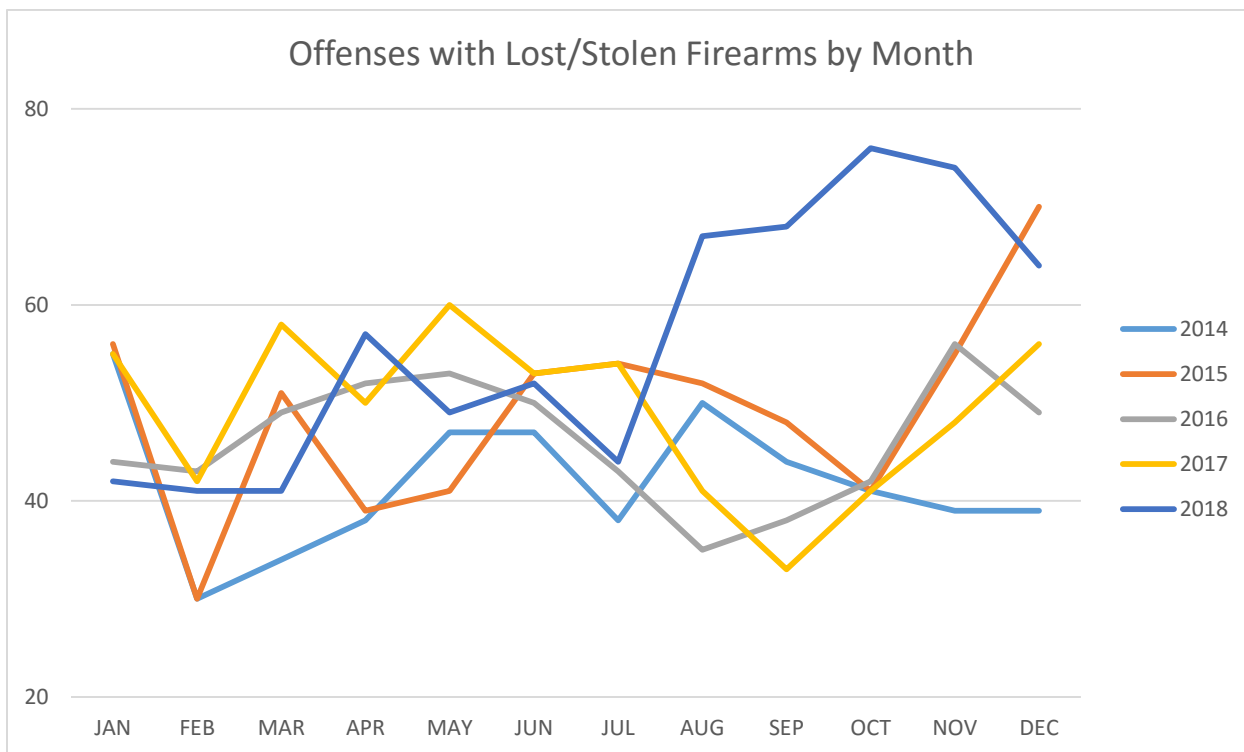
Now we get to the data set in which things diverge from the patterns we saw in Part I gun crime and Part II gun crime. Instead of seeing increases in Edward, Charlie, Frank, Henry and Ida sectors as we saw with Part I gun crime, Adam and David sectors were where we experienced an increase in lost/stol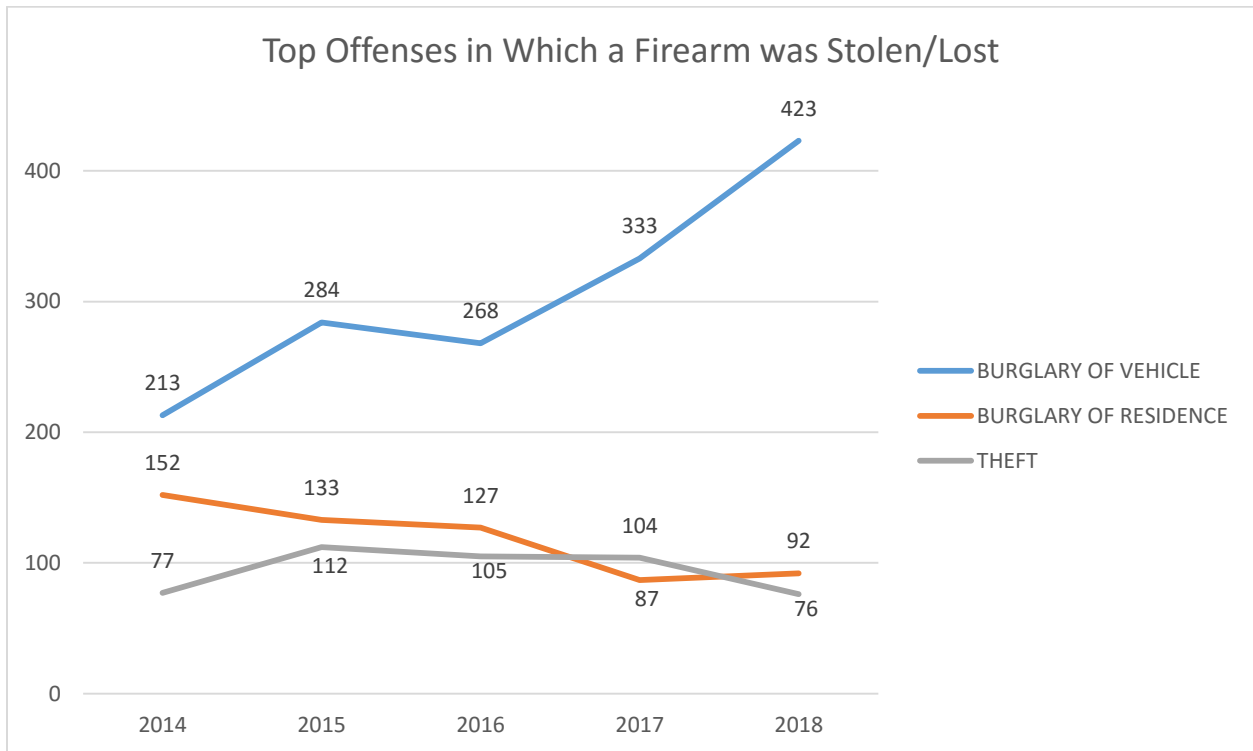en firearms. One theory to potentially explain this is that firearms were stolen in certain areas of Austin (Adam and David) and used to commit offenses in different areas (Edward, Charlie, Frank, Henry and Ida). At this time, we do not have the data to prove or disprove that theory. More analysis is required.

Offenses With Lost/Stolen Firearms by Sector and Year

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
ADAM	74	107	65	118	151
BAKER	52	75	61	50	54
CHARLIE	40	37	47	40	25
DAVID	63	94	98	93	129
EDWARD	56	63	68	66	79
FRANK	94	90	76	73	92
GEORGE	32	24	25	28	38
HENRY	41	39	60	51	47
IDA	45	55	47	67	58
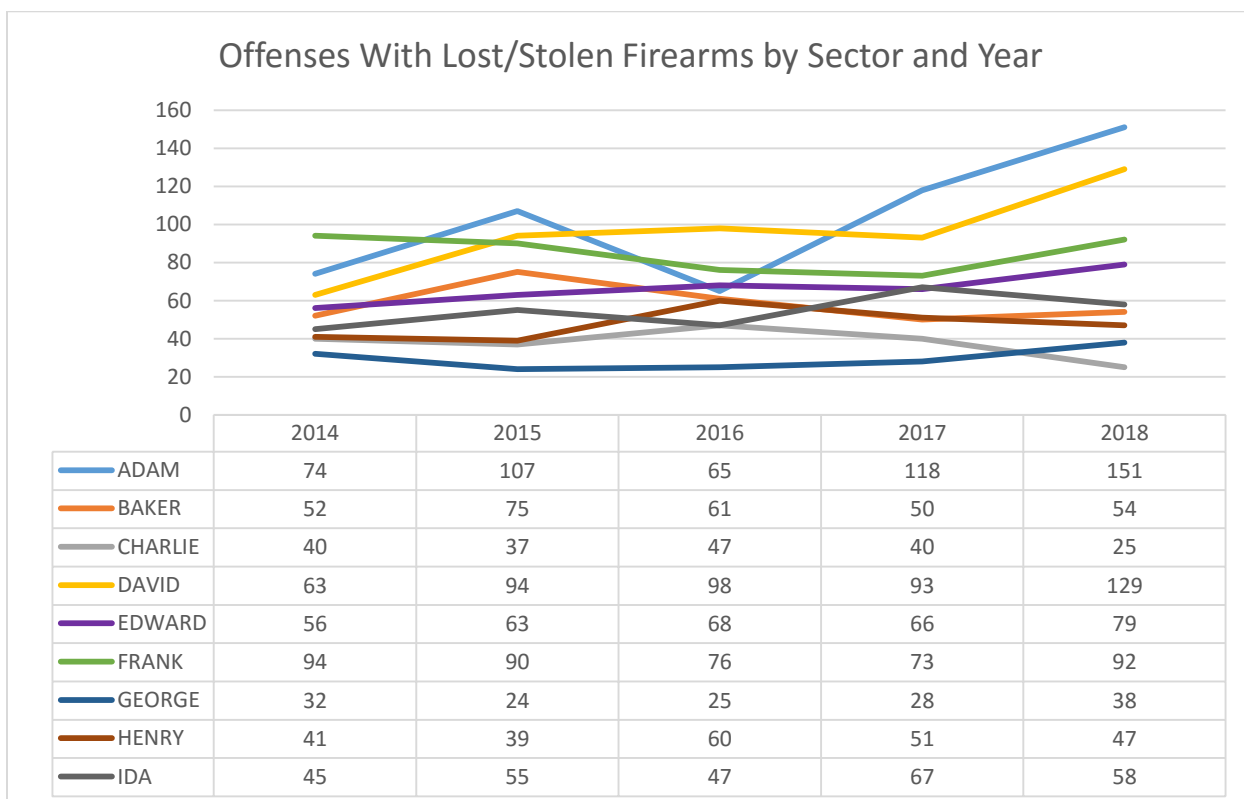
The reports in which guns were listed as lost/stolen reveal a steady and dramatic increase in the number of guns stolen from vehicles. Since 2016, Burglary of Vehicle offenses have outpaced the other top offense types in which a gun was typically stolen. By 2018, a gun was over four times more likely to be stolen from a vehicle than from a residence. Texas law does not require a person to have a valid handgun license in order to carry a loaded handgun in a motor vehicle or watercraft if the vehicle is owned by the person or under the person's control. Given the increase in the number of firearms in circulation and the increase in the number of Texans permitted to legally carry guns on their person, it makes sense that more guns would be left in vehicles (even those licensed to carry a gun are prohibited from taking them into certain places) thereby making them easy targets for theft. See the Appendix for more on Texas gun laws.

Top Offenses in Which a Firearm was Stolen/Lost

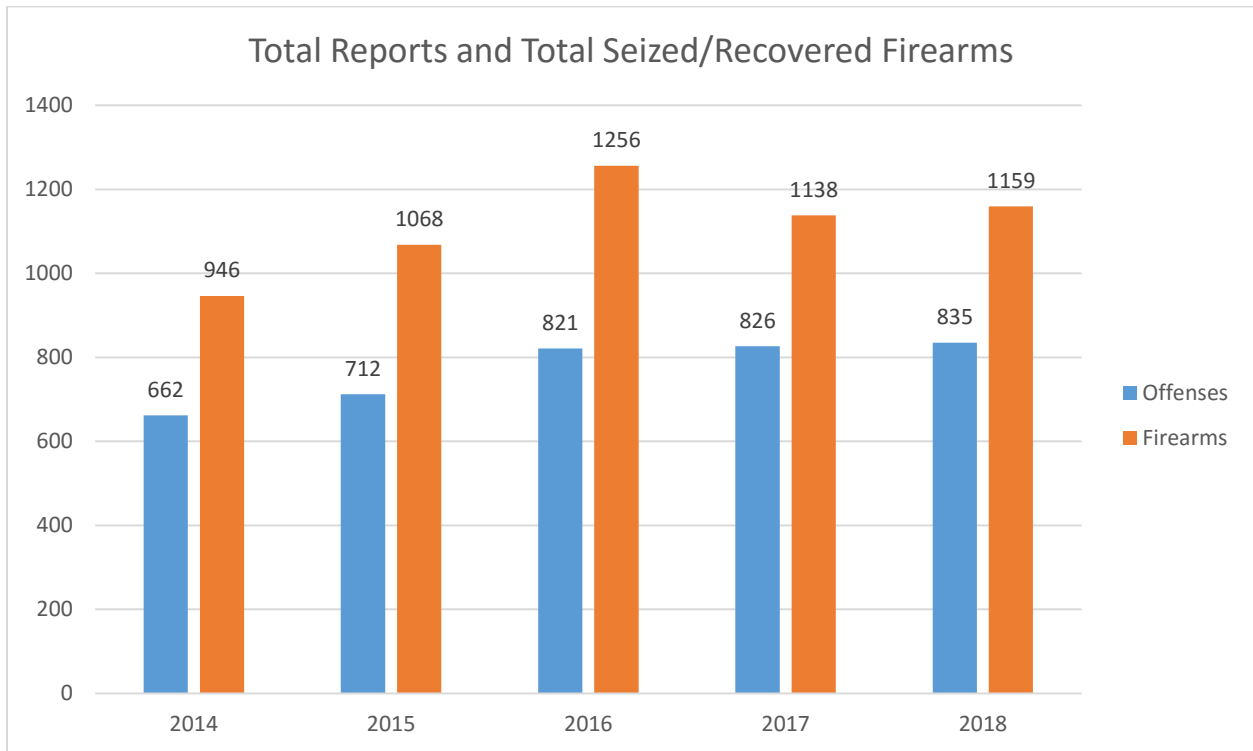| Year	BURGLARY OF VEHICLE	BURGLARY OF RESIDENCE	THEFT
2014	213	152	77
2015	284	133	112
2016	268	127	105
2017	333	87	104
2018	423	92	76

The majority of offenses in which a gun was lost/stolen involved only one firearm, but each year saw some cases in which multiple firearms were stolen.

Number of Reports With Only One Firearm Stolen/Lost

Year	Reports
2014	374
2015	475
2016	457
2017	498
2018	559

Number of Reports in Which More Than One Firearm was Stolen/Lost

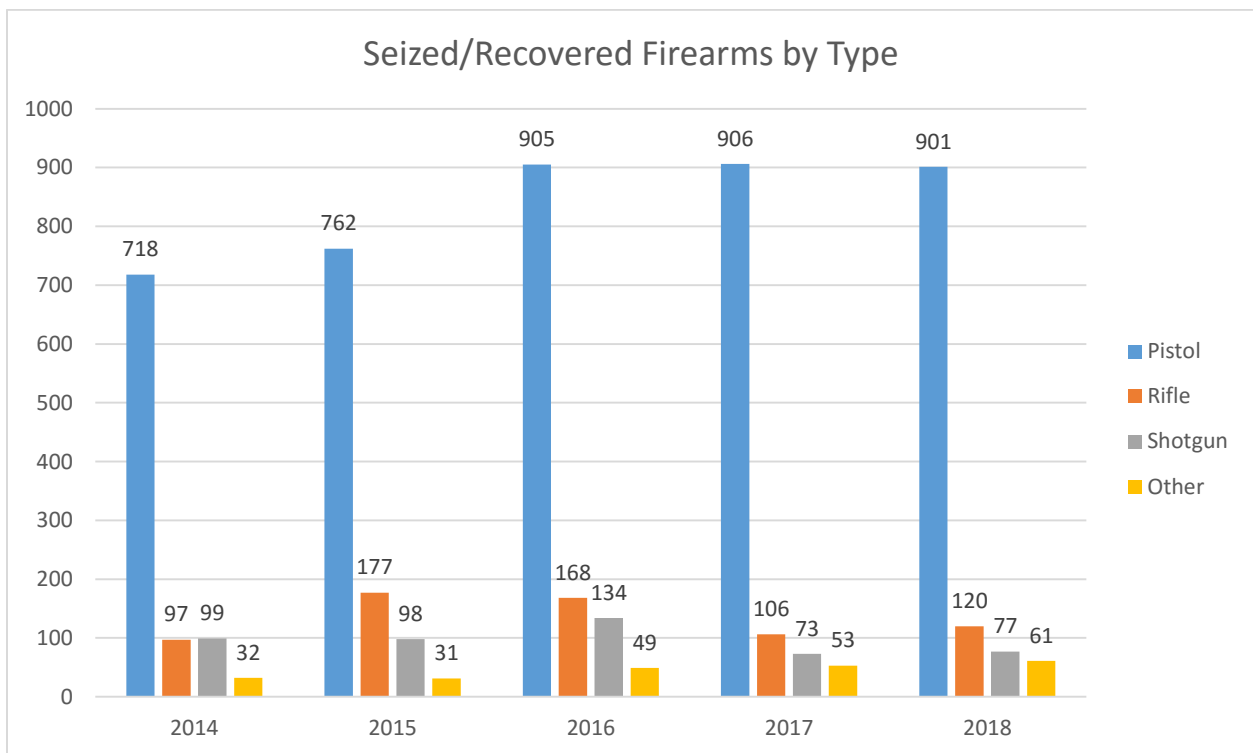| Year	2 – 5 guns	6 – 9 guns	>9 guns
2014	115	8	5
2015	108	4	3
2016	86	8	3
2017	86	7	
2018	100	10	6
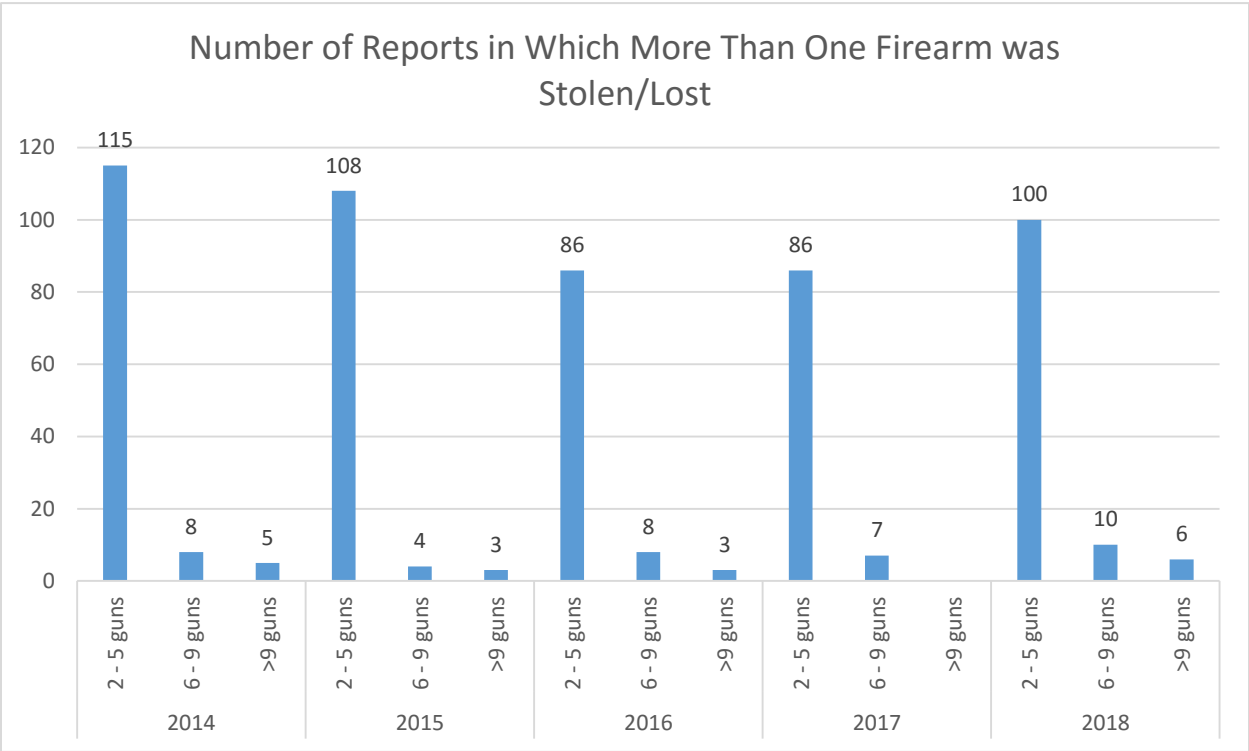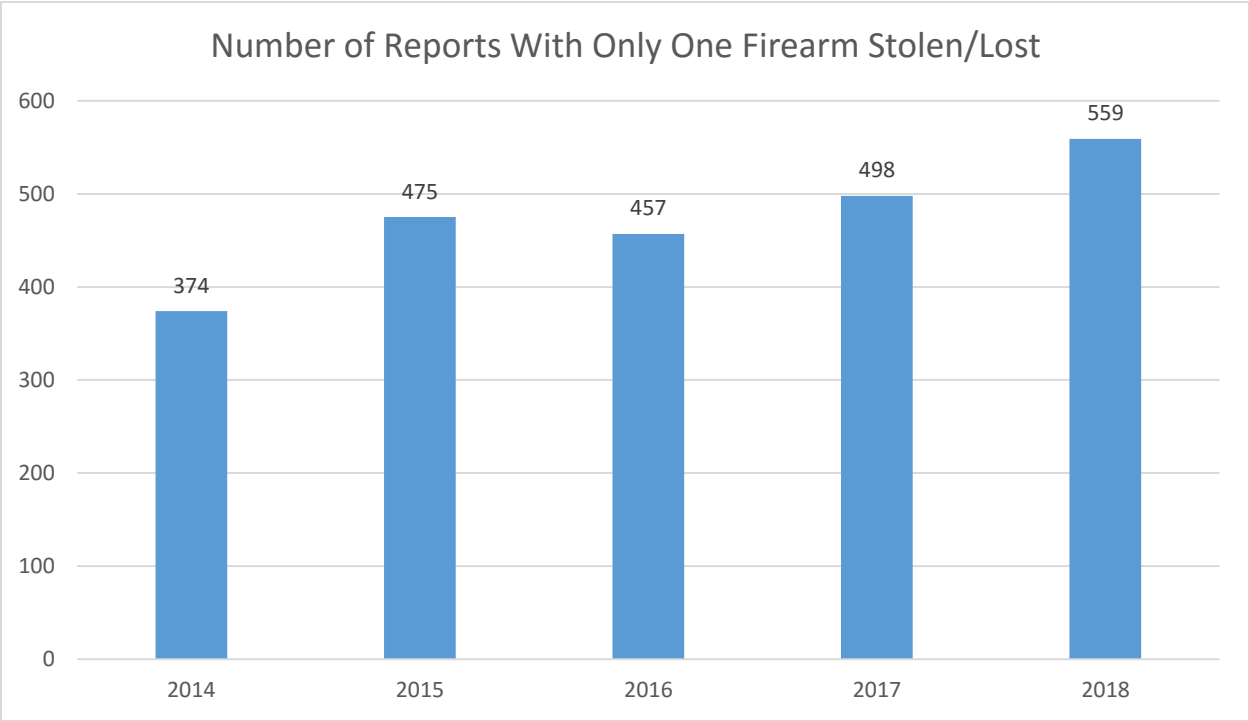
Seized/Recovered Firearms

We now look at reports in which firearms were entered as seized or recovered. We chose to group the seized data with the recovered data because it is not clear to us that a gun's status is updated from the original entry. It is also possible that a gun could have both a seized and a recovered status. We are also not clear that there is consistency in the way officers report these situations. The situations are subjective to some degree, but more training on this topic could potentially produce more consistent data. Dates and locations used are from the offense date and location, not the date and location where the firearm was actually seized or recovered, although in most offenses, the location would be the same.

For the five years of this report, a total of 5567 firearms were listed as seized or recovered in 3856 reports. The number of cases increased slightly from 2014 through 2018. The actual number of firearms seized or recovered fluctuated and peaked in 2016.

Total Reports and Total Seized/Recovered Firearms

Year	Offenses	Firearms
2014	662	946
2015	712	1068
2016	821	1256
2017	826	1138
2018	835	1159

As we have consistently seen throughout this report, pistols were the primary type of firearm being seized or recovered. The number of seized/recovered guns increased between 2015 and 2016 and remained steady through 2018.

Seized/Recovered Firearms by Type

| Year	Pistol	Rifle	Shotgun	Other
2014	718	97	99	32
2015	762	177	98	31
2016	905	168	134	49
2017	906	106	73	53
2018	901	120	77	61

When looking at the cases in which a firearm was entered as seized or recovered by month, no obvious pattern is seen. The two most recent years saw spikes in March with numbers decreasing throughout the rest of the year. Further research is needed to determine what caused the March spike.

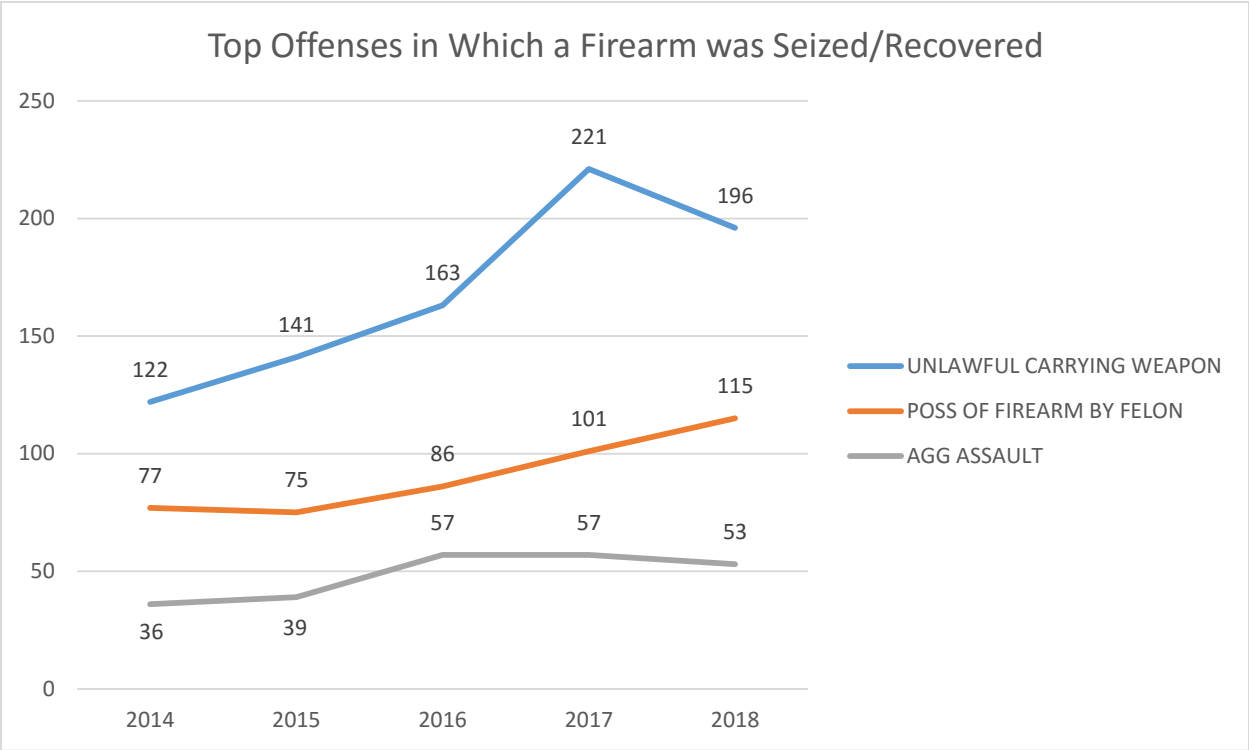**Offenses With Seized/Recovered Firearms by Month**
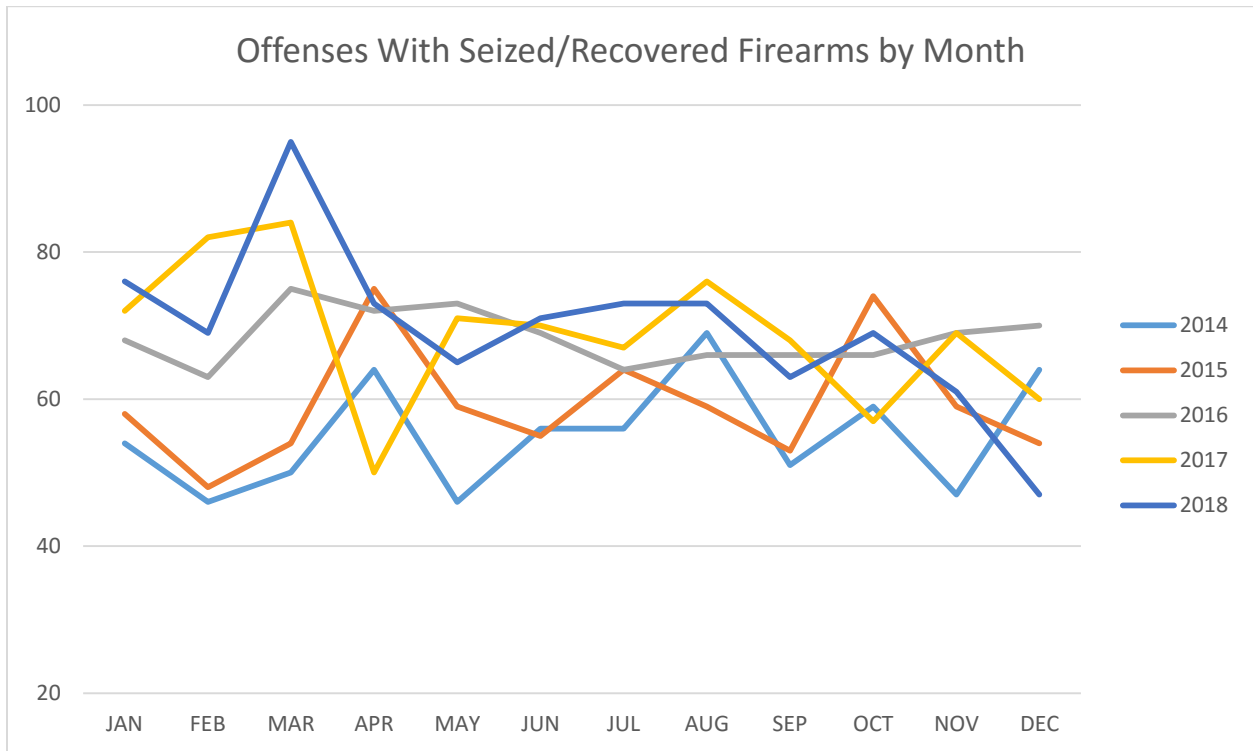
Frank, Edward and Charlie were the top sectors for seizing or recovering firearms. This makes sense given these sectors were the top sectors for UCW, PFF, and DOC offenses. As you will see below, most of the guns were seized in those types of offenses.

Offenses with Seized/Recovered Firearms by Sector and Year
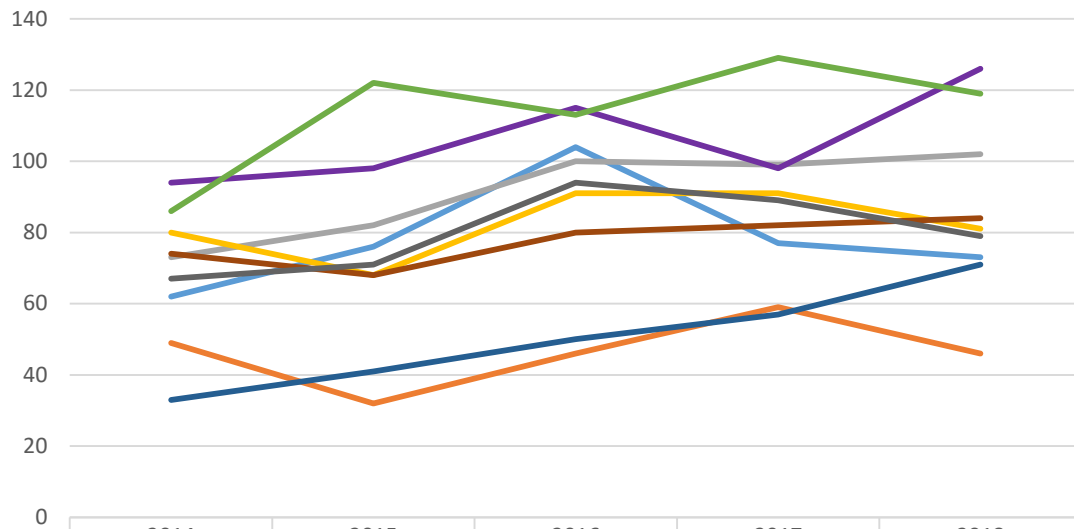
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
ADAM	62	76	104	77	73
BAKER	49	32	46	59	46
CHARLIE	73	82	100	99	102
DAVID	80	68	91	91	81
EDWARD	94	98	115	98	126
FRANK	86	122	113	129	119
GEORGE	33	41	50	57	71
HENRY	74	68	80	82	84
IDA	67	71	94	89	79

Not surprising, UCW is the top offense in which a firearm was seized or recovered followed by PFF. UCW and PFF both showed increases throughout the years in question. Aggravated Assault saw an increase between 2015 and 2016 but then remained steady through 2018.

Top Offenses in Which a Firearm was Seized/Recovered

UNLAWFUL CARRYING WEAPON: 122 (2014), 141 (2015), 163 (2016), 221 (2017), 196 (2018)

POSS OF FIREARM BY FELON: 77 (2014), 75 (2015), 86 (2016), 101 (2017), 115 (2018)

AGG ASSAULT: 36 (2014), 39 (2015), 57 (2016), 57 (2017), 53 (2018)

As we saw with lost/stolen guns, the majority of offenses in which a gun was seized/recovered involved only one firearm, but each year saw some cases in which multiple firearms were seized/recovered.
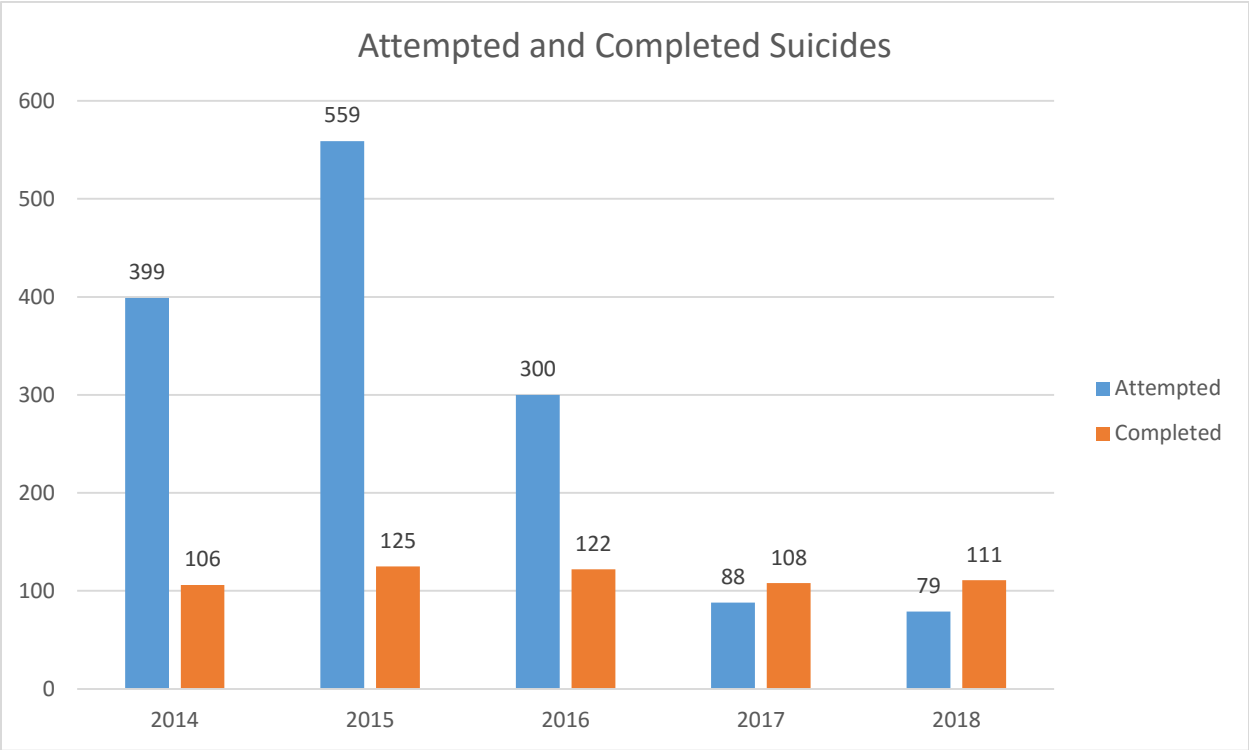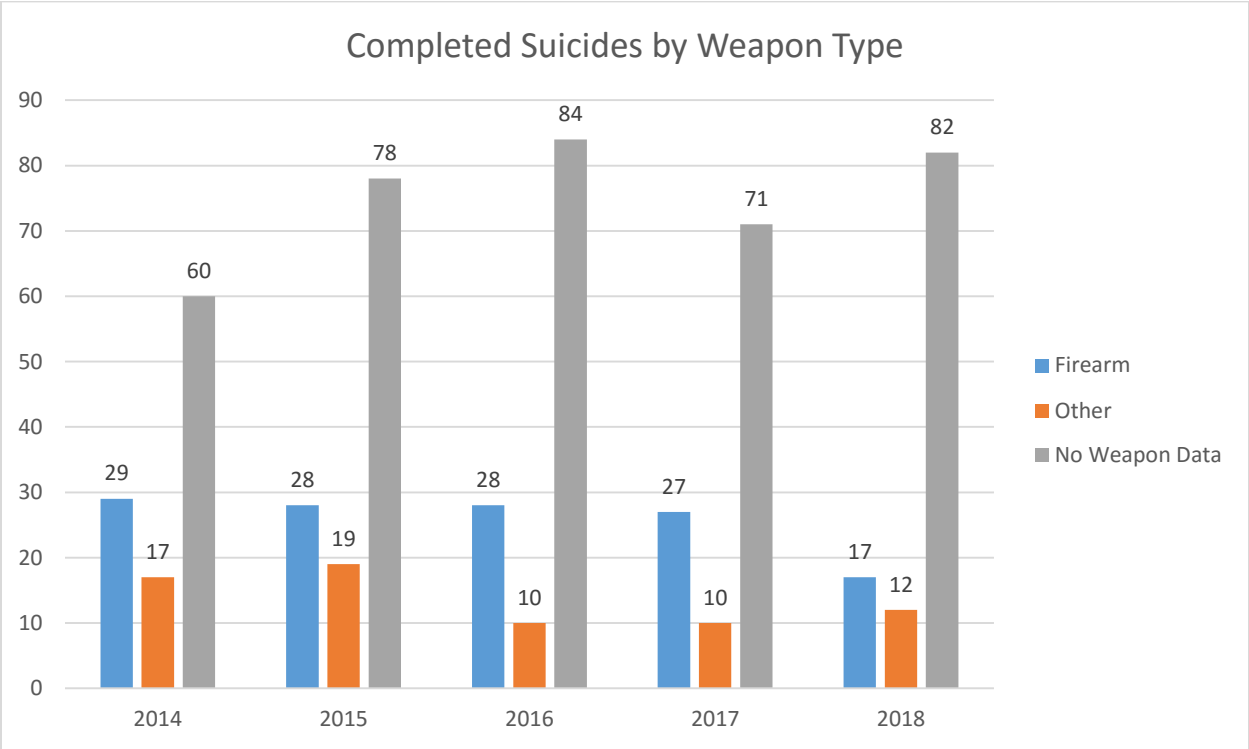
Number of Reports with Only One Firearm Seized/Recovered

2014: 502
2015: 567
2016: 624
2017: 669
2018: 663

Number of Reports in Which More Than One Firearm was Seized/Recovered

	2014			2015			2016			2017			2018		
	2 - 5 guns	6 - 9 guns	>9 guns	2 - 5 guns	6 - 9 guns	>9 guns	2 - 5 guns	6 - 9 guns	>9 guns	2 - 5 guns	6 - 9 guns	>9 guns	2 - 5 guns	6 - 9 guns	>9 guns
	153	2	5	139	2	4	181	8	8	143	9	5	162	6	4
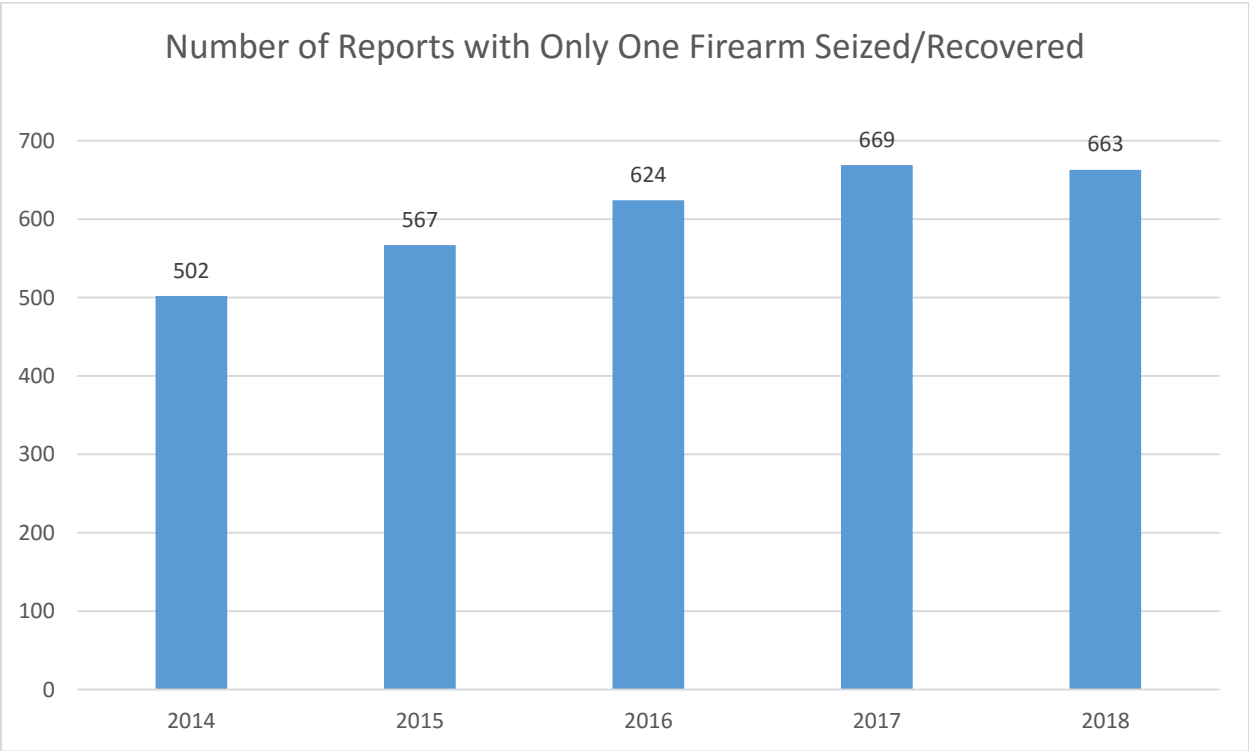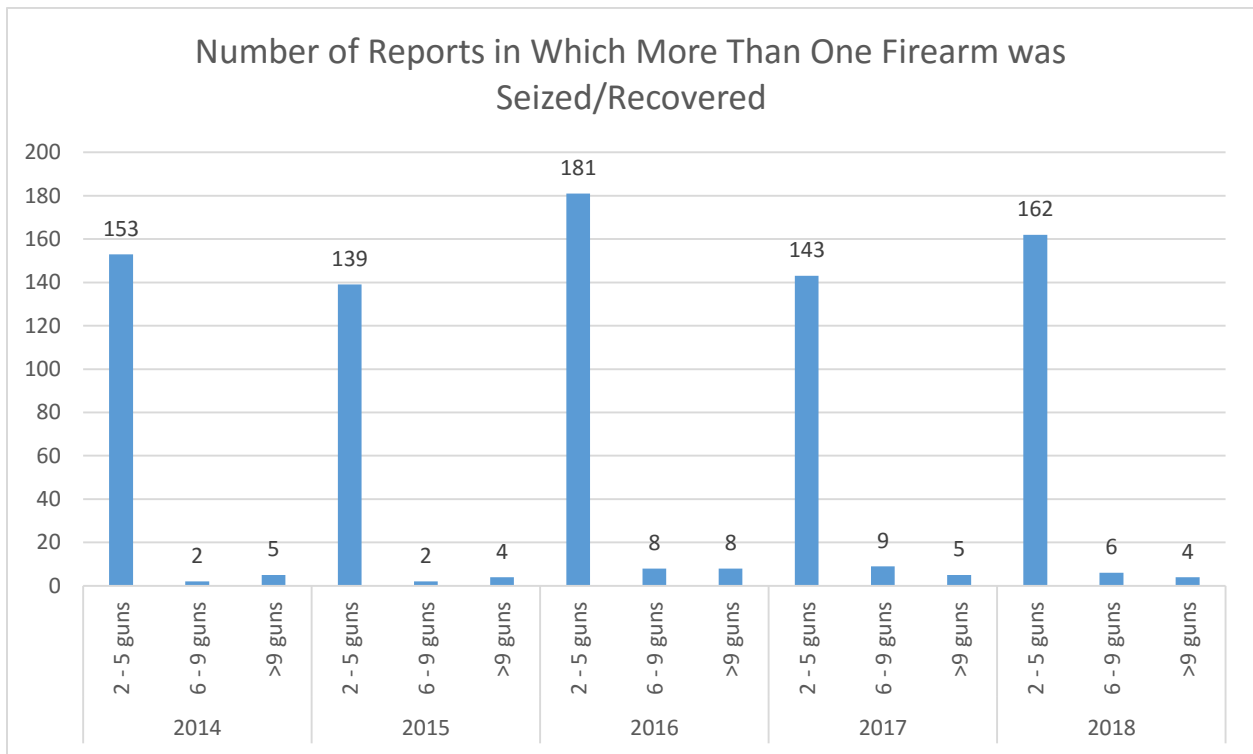
Suicide and Guns

Another aspect of gun violence that is sometimes overlooked is suicide. According to the Police Executive Research Forum's *Reducing Gun Violence: What Works, and What Can Be Done Now* report from March 2019, "Suicide rates in the United States have risen 25% since 1999 and they continue to rise. In 2016, there were 44,965 suicide deaths, making suicide the 10th leading cause of death in America. Guns are the most lethal method. Approximately 90% of suicides attempted with a gun end in death (compared to only 10% of suicides attempted by all other means combined)."

More research is required to determine what is happening in Austin regarding suicide attempts. A very basic analysis indicates a significant drop in suicide attempts since 2015, falling from 559 in 2015 to 79 in 2018. Unfortunately there was very little change in the number of completed suicides from 2014 through 2018, ranging from 106 to 125 for this time frame.

Attempted and Completed Suicides

Bar chart titled "Attempted and Completed Suicides" showing Attempted (blue) and Completed (orange) values by year:

Year	Attempted	Completed
2014	399	106
2015	559	125
2016	300	122
2017	88	108
2018	79	111

The chart below shows only completed suicides. For those cases in which a weapon (suicide method) was listed, guns outnumbered all other methods combined. The chart also reveals an obvious challenge to our ability to study this type of violence with most reports containing no weapon information.

Completed Suicides by Weapon Type

Bar chart titled "Completed Suicides by Weapon Type" showing Firearm (blue), Other (orange), and No Weapon Data (gray) by year:

Year	Firearm	Other	No Weapon Data
2014	29	17	60
2015	28	19	78
2016	28	10	84
2017	27	10	71
2018	17	12	82

Spotlight on 2018

The previous section put 2018 into a bigger context, a context of five years. To get a truer picture of crime trends, looking at a current year in the context of three or five years is required. Comparing one year to the previous year is not an accurate comparison and can lead to wrong conclusions and wasted

actions and resources. Now that we know how 2018 compared to 2014 to 2017, we take a closer look at 2018 offenses and dig deeper into the data for Part I gun offenses, Part II gun offenses and firearms data. We start with Part I gun crime.
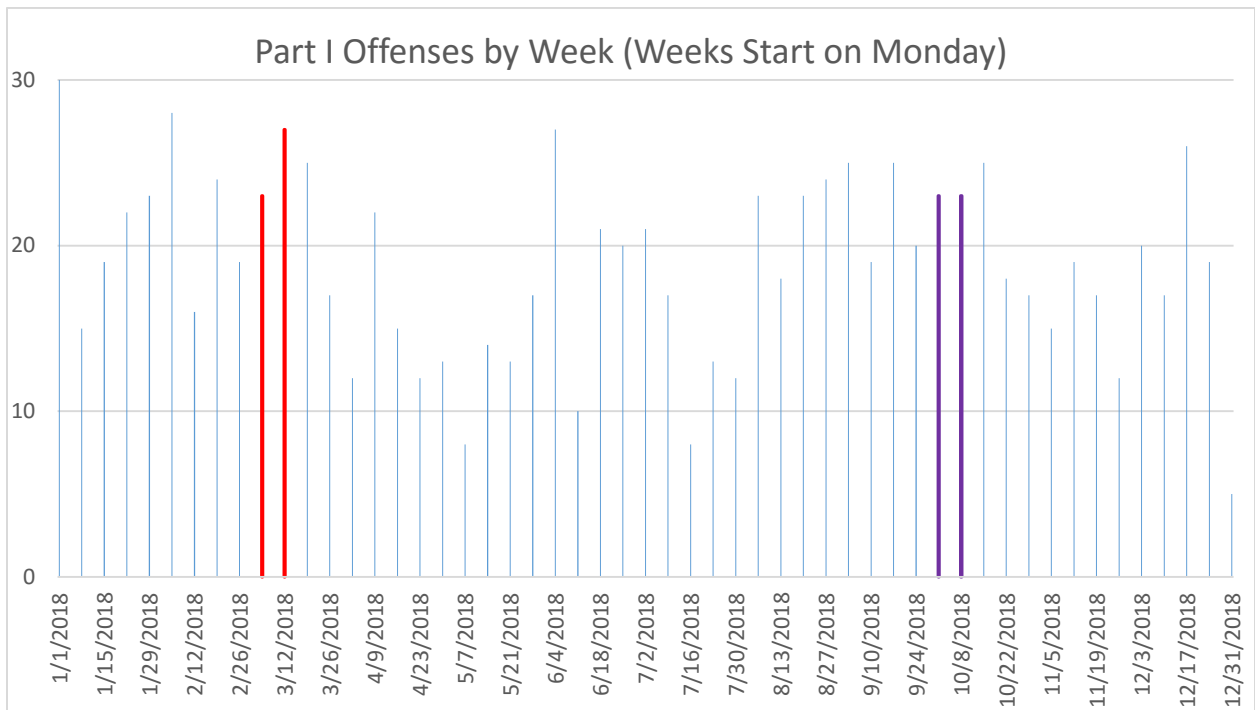
2018 Part I Gun Offenses

Nine months of 2018 were above the monthly average for the prior four years (2014 – 2017). This is to be expected given the obvious upward trend over the five years. The yearly increase for 2018 was distributed throughout most of the year with greater increases over the average for January through March and August through October.
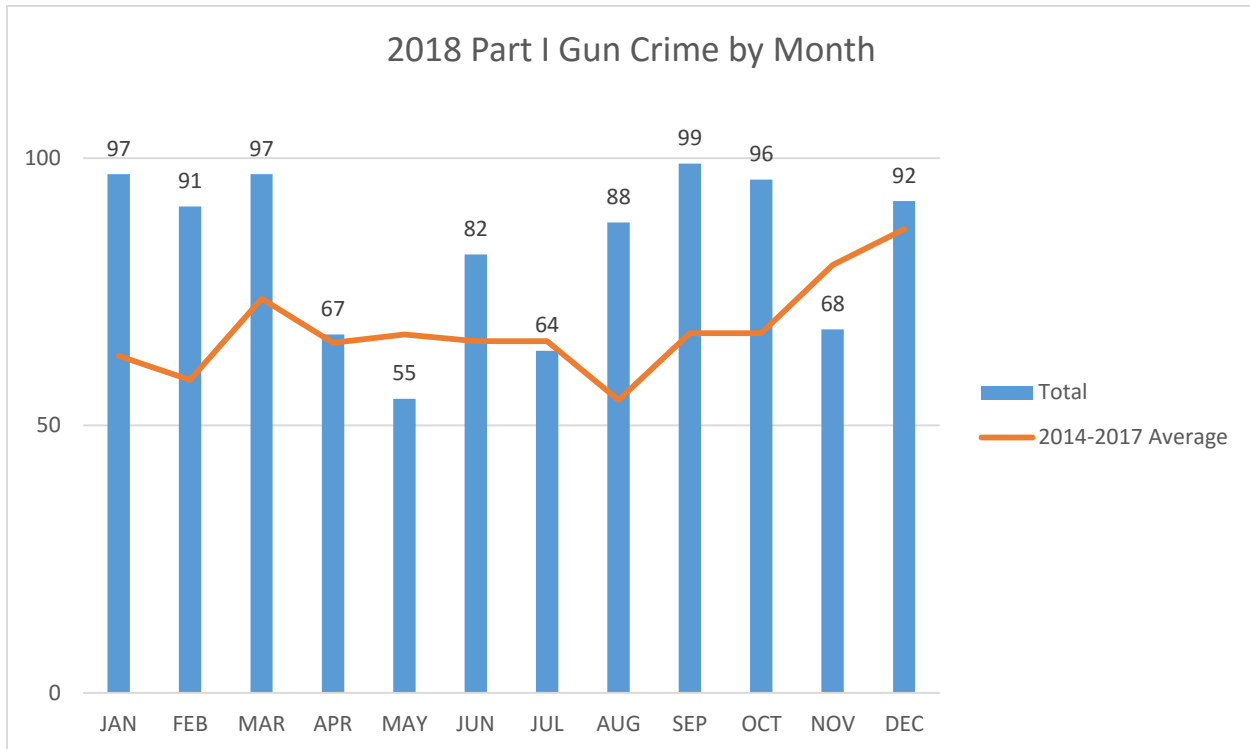

Returning to the question of major events and their impact on violent crime in Austin, SXSW was held March 8 through March 17, and ACL was over two weekends in October, October 5 – 7 and October 12 – 14, 2018. For citywide data, we see no obvious spikes during these events.

Red bars highlight the weeks that correspond to SXSW, and purple bars highlight the weeks for ACL.

Part I Offenses by Week (Weeks Start on Monday)

Due to the small numbers of Part I gun offenses in George sector (DTAC), it is impossible to determine if these major events played a part in the totals for the weeks of the events. There was a spike in October for the week between ACL weekends, but it was only six offenses.

GEORGE (DTAC) Part I Offenses by Week
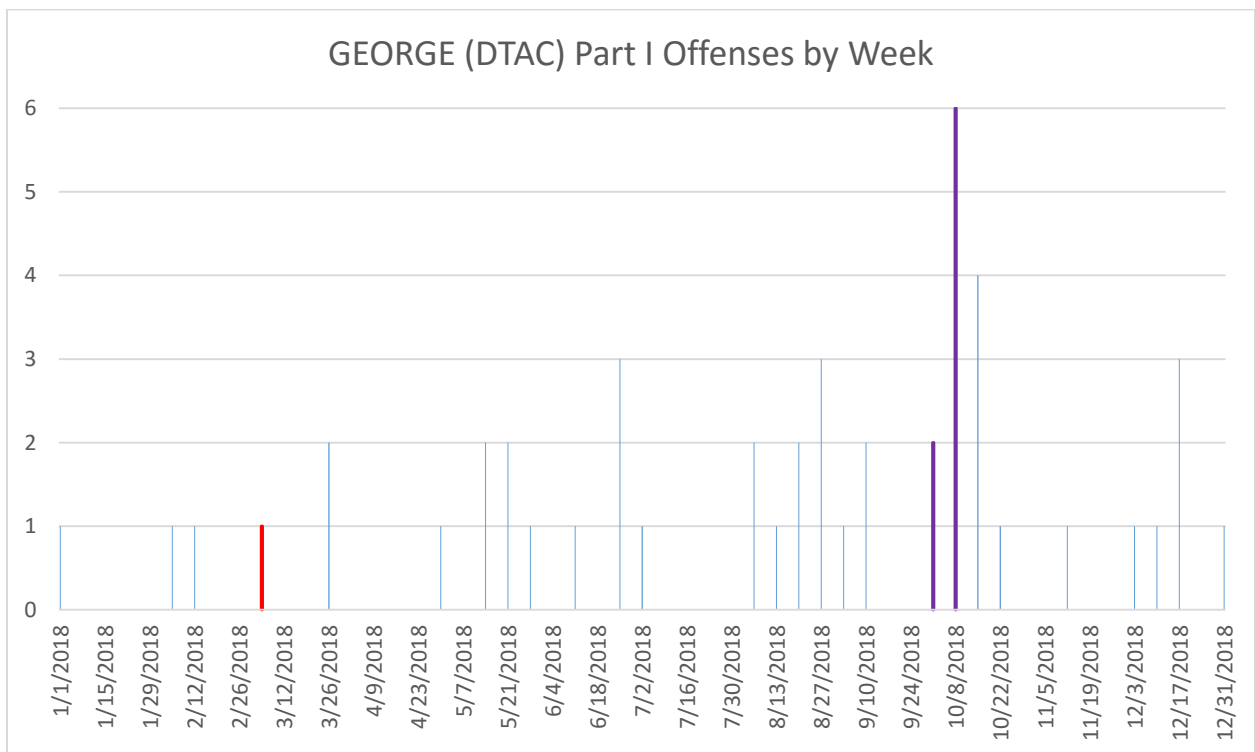
Returning to city-wide data, the times of day in which these offenses occurred continued to mirror what we saw in the five year analysis. Most occurred between 9:00 PM and 3:00 AM with the majority occurring on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday nights.

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Grand Total
Midnight	15	8	8	4	4	12	7	58
1 AM	18	10	7	7	2	11	7	62
2 AM	15	8	8	4	3	5	15	58
3 AM	12	5	4	7	4	1	16	49
4 AM	5	4	2	3	6	2	4	26
5 AM	9	6	3	2	8	2	8	38
6 AM	7	7	1	3	2		4	24
7 AM	3		4	3	2	4	4	20
8 AM	1	1	4	2	5	5	1	19
9 AM	2	4	4	5	1	3	3	22
10 AM	3	2	1	4	6		5	21
11 AM	3	3	3	4	1	1	3	18
12 PM	5	2	5	5	3	5	4	29
1 PM	1	5	2	2	6	3	3	22
2 PM	3		7	5	2	3	4	24
3 PM	4	8	6	4	1	3	8	34
4 PM	5	7	6	4	5	4	7	38
5 PM	5	5	5	5	2	8	6	36
6 PM	9	9	7	6	5	5	5	46
7 PM	8	7	6	5	4	6	7	43
8 PM	11	6	9	7	8	12	5	58
9 PM	16	14	15	5	7	18	14	**89**
10 PM	19	14	12	17	10	16	11	**99**
11 PM	7	9	9	9	12	7	10	63
Grand Total	**186**	144	138	122	109	136	**161**	996

Edward sector continued to lead the city in the number of Part I gun offenses. Twenty percent of all 2018 Part I gun crime occurred in this sector. All sectors experienced more gun crime than the 2014 – 2018 average. Again, this is to be expected given the upward trend in gun offenses for the five years.

2018 Part I Gun Crime by Sector
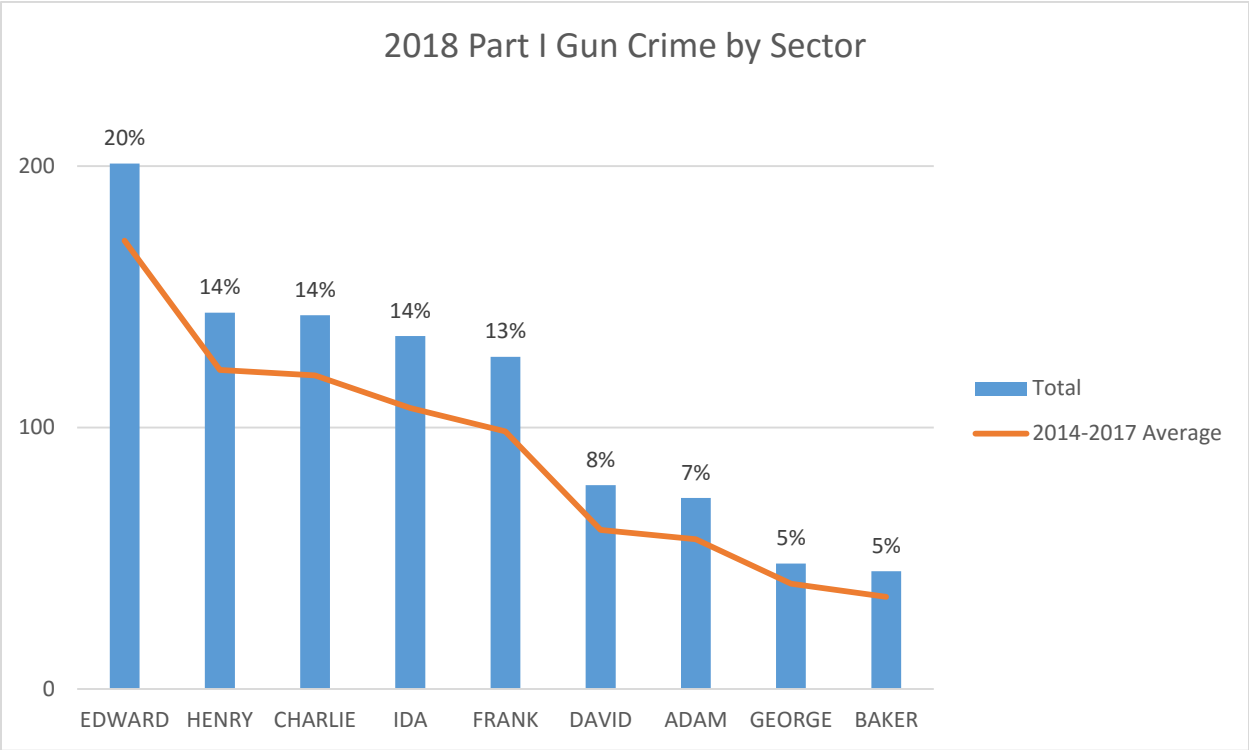
The red shading in the chart below highlights the sectors/districts with the highest number of Part I gun offenses. Edward's District 1 with 71 offenses was the highest with Henry's District 2 coming in a close second with 66. As the graphic makes very obvious, these two districts experienced disproportionately high gun crime in 2018.

|	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	Grand Total
EDWARD	71	46	26	18	4	15	21		201
HENRY	6	66	28	16	15	5	5	3	144
CHARLIE	13	30	13	32	13	5	30	7	143
IDA	20	12	13	17	31	13	13	16	135
FRANK	16	10	11	16	25	9	16	24	127
DAVID	11	20	14	13	6	7	4	3	78
ADAM	6	10	18	10	10	8	5	6	73
GEORGE	14	19	2	3	10				48
BAKER	9	2	2	6	9	6	4	7	45

Environmental Risk Factors

Additional geographic analysis was done in the form of a Risk Terrain Model (RTM). This technique, similar to hot spot mapping, looks at the *environmental factors* defining an area, things like the location of highways, schools, apartment complexes, bars, shopping centers, etc., and evaluates the riskiness of these environments based on how close specific crimes are occurring next to these places. The model calculates a risk value which can help in prioritizing resource allocation to specific areas during specific times. RTM is a new tool for APD crime analysts and one that we are starting to use in our analyses.

All of 2018's Part I gun-related violent crimes were uploaded into the model which subsequently produced the high priority map seen below. It also gave the highest score of risk in this analysis to the environmental factor of hotels/motels within a distance of 250 feet, or less than one city block. This translates to an individual being at nearly four times greater risk of being involved in a gun crime in the

coming year when within 250 feet of a hotel/motel within the concentrated gun crime areas shown on the map below.

Comparing RTM results to previous hot spot maps, similar areas of concern emerge – parts of downtown, parts of Henry and Edward sectors and along IH-35. The added risk-based information provided by the RTM model, of the higher riskiness within a block of a hotel or motel can help identify a potential place-based response around these facilities. Responses could include greater visible police presence during peak times or education of business management to improve security measures.
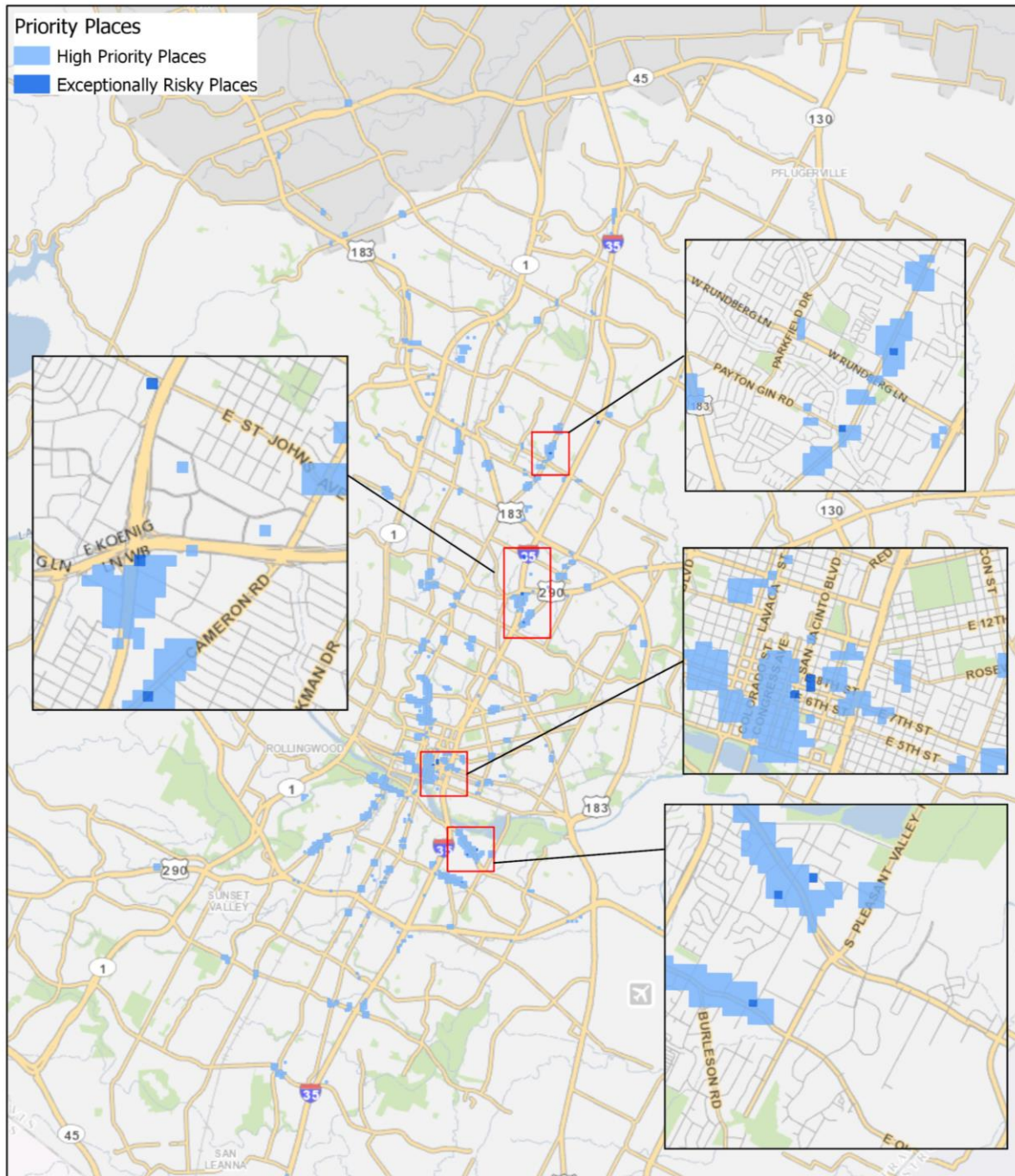
Risk Terrain Modeling (RTM)
Priority Places

CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

The People Involved

With new methods for accessing people data, we can now analyze aspects of crime that have been impossible or very labor intensive to analyze in the past. In this section of the report, we focus on the injury severity of victims, the relationships of victims to suspects, and the demographics of victims and suspects. We also look at repeat victims and suspects.

For this section, the Part I gun crime data set included all people or descriptions of people in which the entity role in the report was "victim", "suspect", or "arrested" (all variations of these roles were included). From this data set, we were unable to tell exactly what offense the person was suspected of committing or what offense he/she was arrested for. The role applies to the highest offense in the vast majority of cases, so we believe the following results portray a useful picture although not a 100% accurate picture.

Traditionally we analyze incidents. When bringing people data into the analysis, the analysis gets more complex and the results potentially get confusing since there are multiple people associated with each offense. This data set had 984 offenses that included 1303 entries for victims. Of the 1303 entries, there were 1255 distinct individuals. Twenty-nine reports had no human victim identified, and most were robberies of businesses. In the 938 offenses that had suspect/arrested data, there were 1407 entries for suspects or arrestees with 522 of those reports having only a suspect description. There were 610 distinct individuals named as suspects or listed as arrested. We mention this only to warn you not to compare numbers in the section to overall offense numbers in other sections.

Injury Data

We are frequently asked by the media to provide information regarding the number of shootings we had during a certain time frame. Unfortunately, there is no way to reliably pull this information from Versadex. If the person was killed, we can answer the question. If the victim was not killed, we do not have a way short of reading all the reports to distinguish an aggravated assault report in which a victim was threatened with a gun from an aggravated assault report in which a victim was shot at but not injured from an aggravated assault report in which the victim was shot. The closest we can come to answering the question is to use the injury data. This assumes that someone who is shot would suffer a major injury or death.

The following analysis is based on victim injury information in 984 reports. Looking at 2018 Part 1 gun crime victims and the injury incurred, we see that 'No Injury' predominates by a large extent in the two highest volume crime types of Robbery and Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence indicating a gun was present and used to threaten victims but not actually injure them. Minor injury follows as the next most common injury level. For robberies, very few of the 2018 offenses, 12 to be exact, involved a major injury. For Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence, the number was slightly more with 46 victims suffering a major injury. Sixteen of the 31 murders in 2018, 52%, involved guns and obviously resulted in the death of the victim.

Part I Gun Crime - Severity of Injury
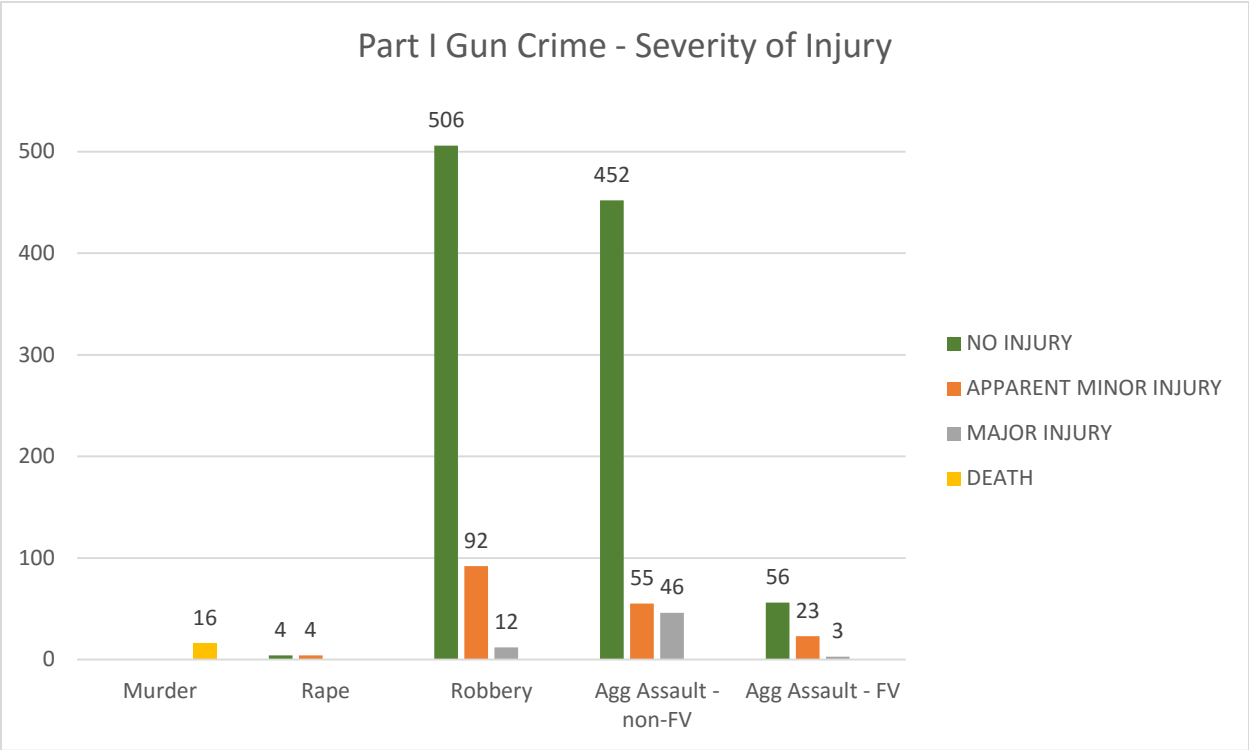
Relationship Information

The following analysis is based on relationship information in the same 984 reports. Victims were strangers to the offender in just over half (55%) of all gun-related Part I crimes, but the breakdown of the relationship between the victim and suspect differed depending on the type of offense. Robbery was the offense with the most instances of strangers as suspects. More than half of the Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence offenses involved strangers although many of the relationships were undetermined. For the other offense types, the suspect was more likely to be someone known to the victim.

## Part I Gun Crime - Victim to Offender Relationship
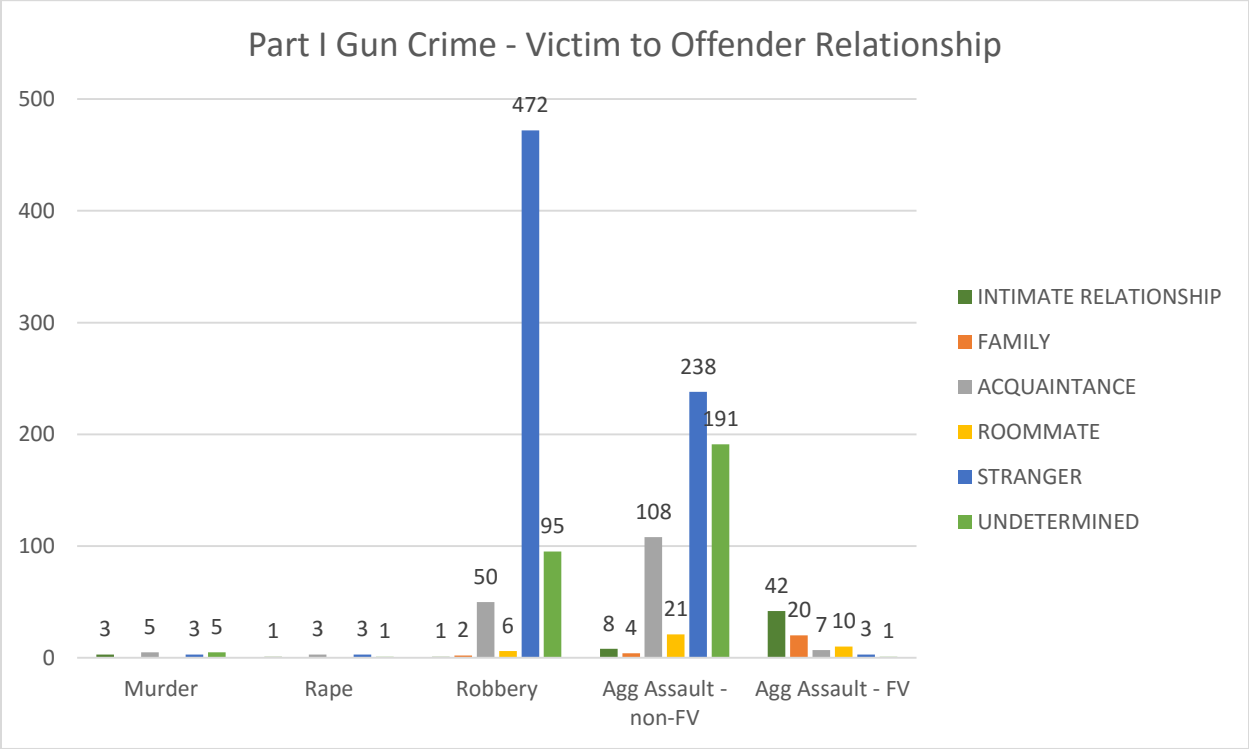
Repeat Victims and Suspects

One approach to addressing crime that has shown some degree of success is to focus on the small number of people who are committing a large portion of crime or who are being victimized repeatedly. To get at who those people are, we typically look at repeat victimization and repeat offenders. The following numbers for repeat victims and repeat offenders are based on 2018 Part I gun offenses only. They do not take into consideration repeat victimization or repeat suspect activity from previous years. They do not take into consideration repeat victimization or repeat suspect activity for offenses that did not involve a gun. Finally, they do not take into consideration those situations in which a person is a victim in one circumstance and a suspect in another. The numbers were compiled by using the information in the first and last name fields and the date of birth field, so any discrepancy in these fields will lead to undercounting of repeat victimization and repeat suspects. Given all of these caveats, these are very conservative estimates for the number of repeat victims and suspects in 2018.

The results indicated 20 people were victims in two separate offenses. For suspects, 36 people were suspects in two separate offenses. Ten people were suspects in three offenses. The numbers dropped off after that but are still large enough to be concerning especially since this data is only for 2018 Part I violent offenses.

Many of the repeat suspects were suspects in robbery series. There were 52 known robbery series during 2018 which included at least 188 robberies. These numbers do not include robberies committed in other jurisdictions.

A more comprehensive analysis (across all offense types and across multiple years) of repeat victims and repeat suspects will produce a list of some of the people causing a disproportionate amount of crime. The challenge is then to develop a successful approach for dealing with the people on the list. See the Resources section for information about successful Focused Deterrence strategies to address this challenge.

2018 Part I Gun Crime - Repeat Victims and Suspects
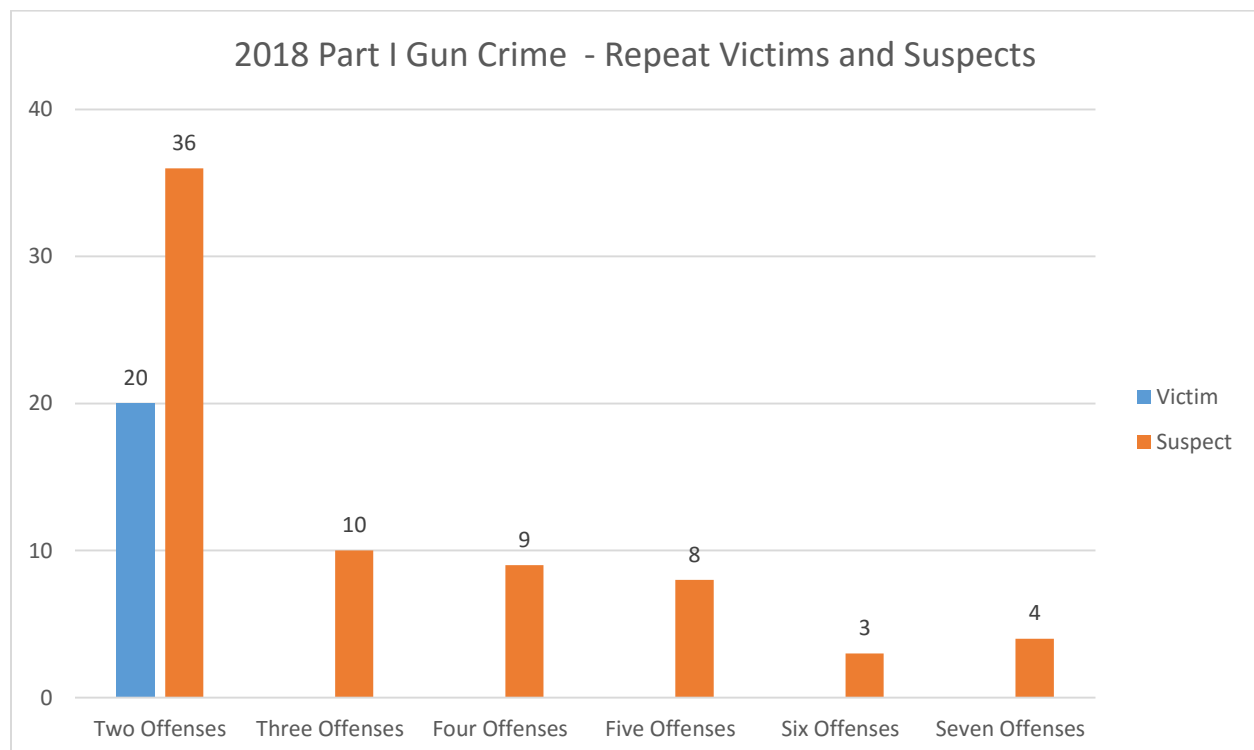
Victim and Suspect Numbers and Demographics

The following analysis is based on victim and suspect information in 984 reports. Again, there were 1303 victims and 1407 suspects listed in those reports. Also, with this data set, we could not determine exactly what offense the suspect was associated with, but the vast majority were suspects in the highest offense in the report. The chart below shows that there were over 150 more suspects in robberies than there were victims. In several business robbery reports, no human victim was included in the entities section of Versadex, so those victims were not included in the analysis. This would account for some of the difference between the number of victims and the number of suspects, but many cases involved multiple suspects thereby leading to more suspects than victims.

Number of Victims and Suspects

Offense	Victims	Suspects
Murder	16	25
Rape	8	12
Robbery	626	789
Agg Assault - non-FV	570	505
Agg Assault - FV	83	76
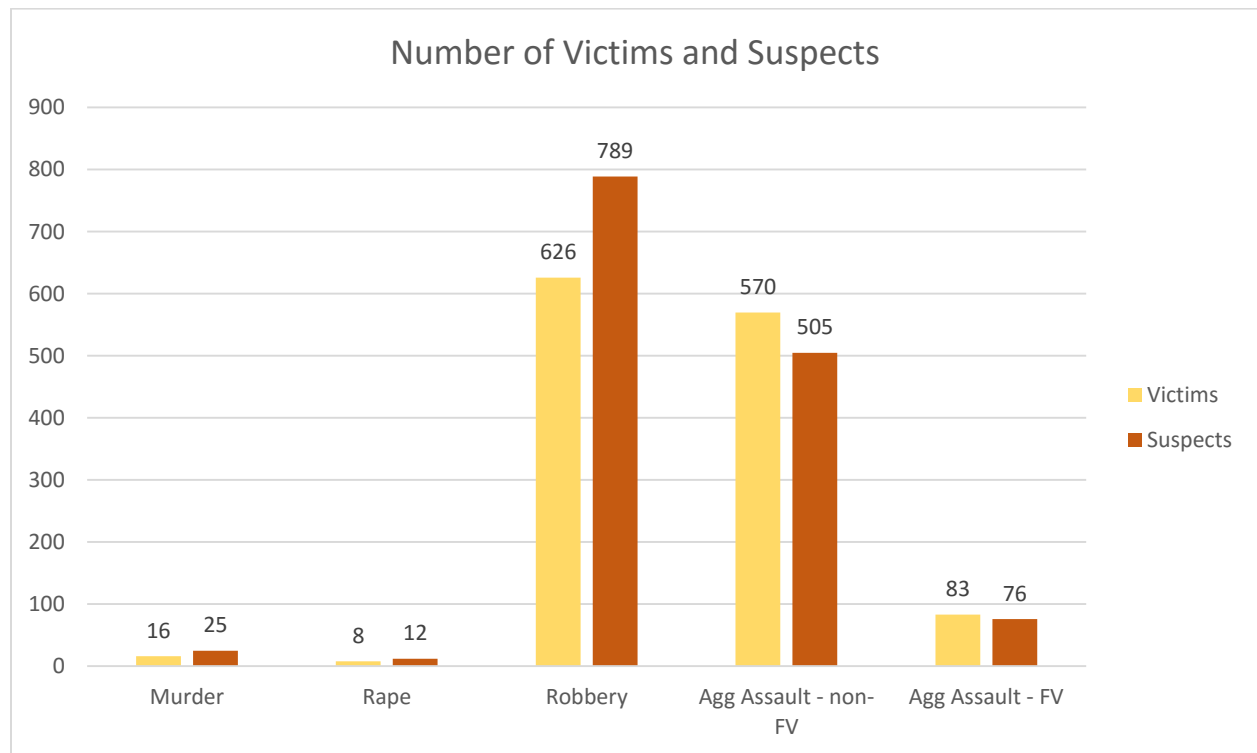
As might be expected, the vast majority of offenses involved one victim. In Robbery and Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence offenses, a fair number of cases involved two victims. Rarely did we see cases involving more than two victims.

Number of Victims per Report
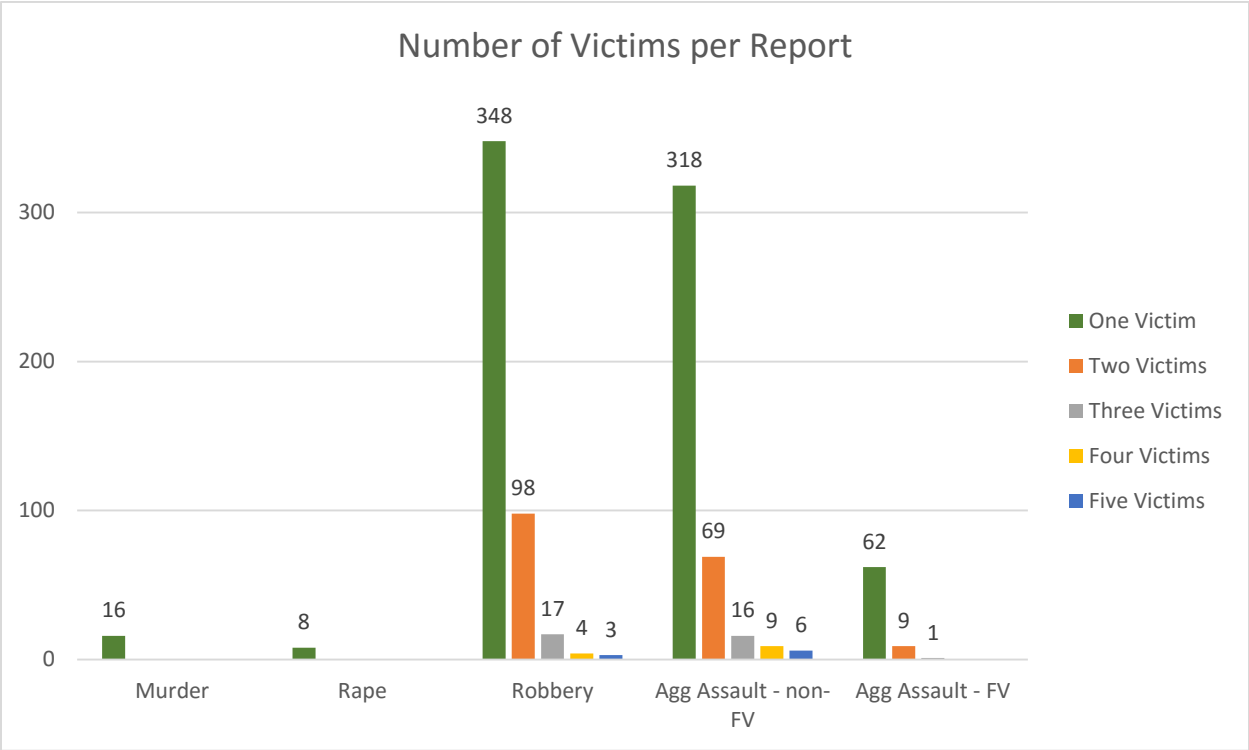
Similarly, the vast majority of offenses involved only one suspect. Robbery is the exception with nearly as many cases having two suspects as one and nearly 60 cases with three suspects. Some cases included no information about suspects. Those cases are not included in the graph.

Number of Suspects per Report
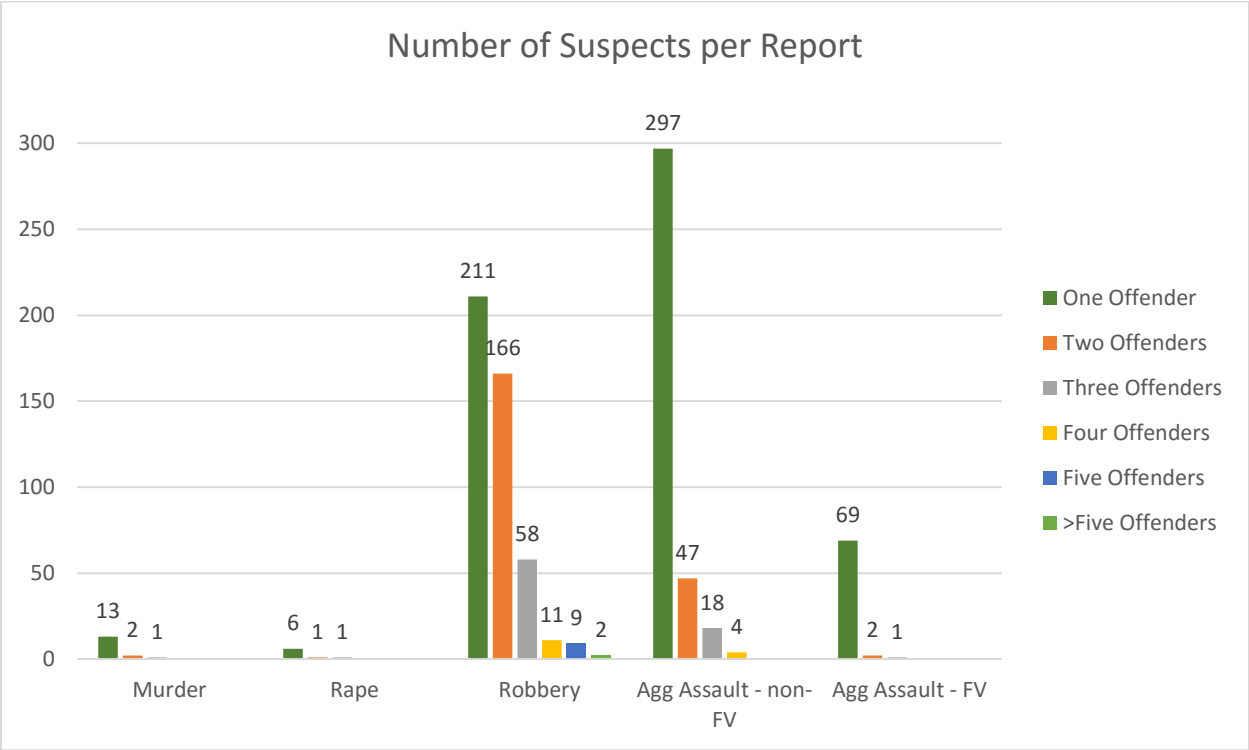
Males were much more likely to be victims of violent crime than females except for the offenses of Rape and Aggravated Assault Family Violence. In analyzing gender and race or ethnicity together, Hispanic/Latino males were at the greatest risk for victimization. Females were victims in all violent offense types, but more women, specifically Hispanic/Latino women, were victims of Robbery and Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence. For Robbery, White males and females were the next highest

group of victims. For Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence, Black males and females were the next highest group of victims.

Victim Gender and Race/Ethnicity by Offense Type
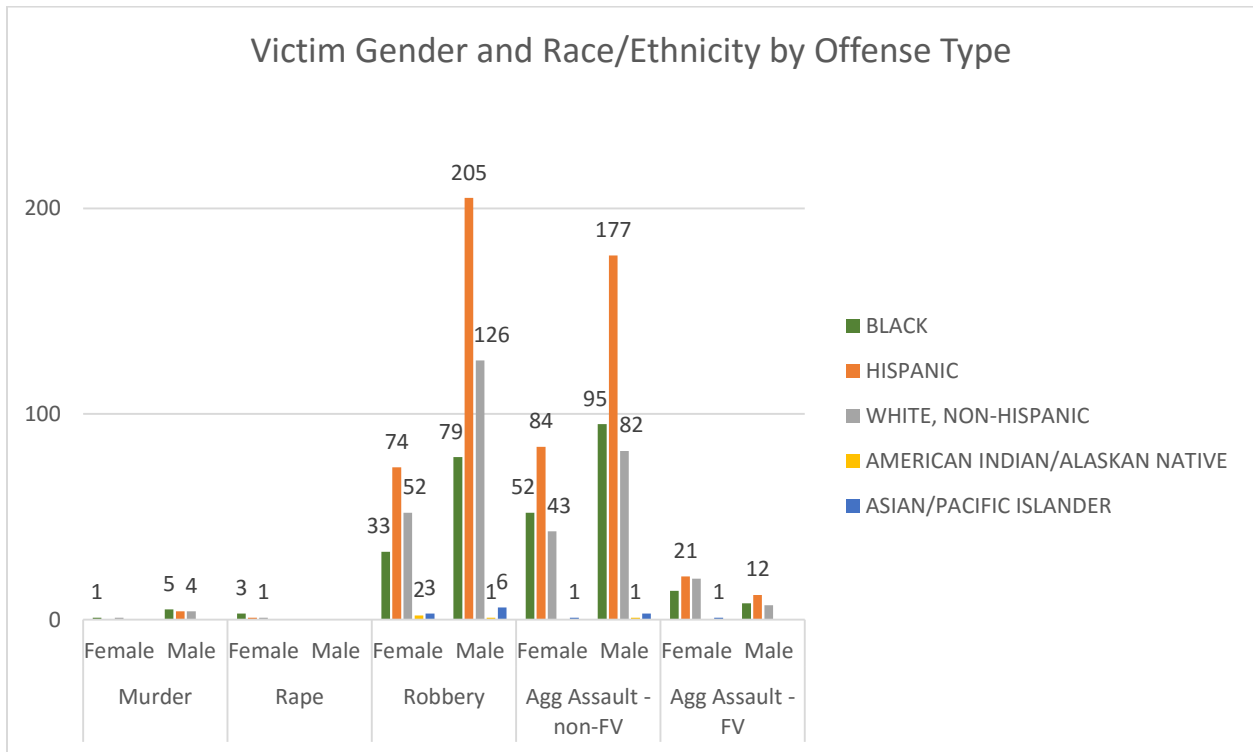
As we see with victims, males were much more likely to be suspects of violent crime than females. Black males were the most prevalent suspect in 2018 robberies followed by Hispanic/Latino males. For Aggravated Assault Non-Family Violence, the tables were turned with Hispanic/Latino males being the suspect in more instances followed by Black males.

Suspect Gender and Race/Ethnicity by Offense Type (when known)
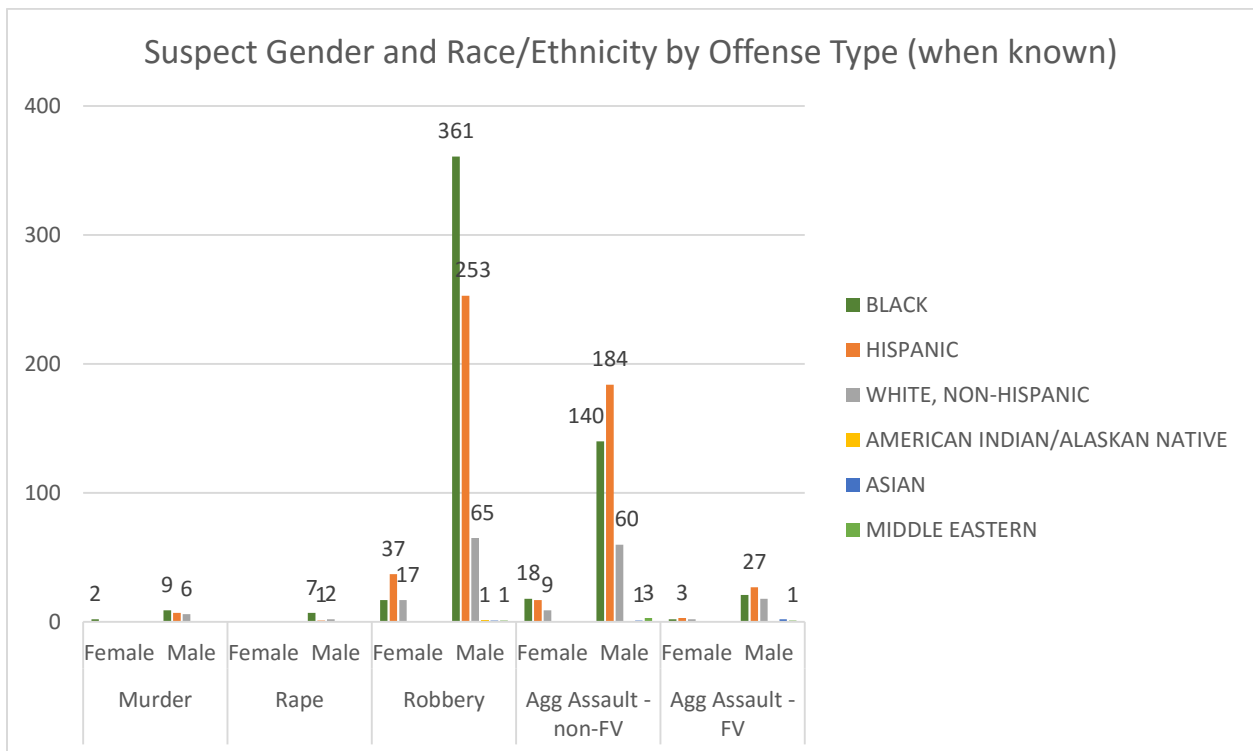
The majority of victims fell into the age range of 20 to 29 years old, followed by victims who are between 30 and 39 years old. These two age ranges account for more than half (57%) of all victims of gun-related Part I crimes.

Victim Age

Crime	<17 yoa	17 - 19 yoa	20 - 29 yoa	30 - 30 yoa	40 - 49 yoa	50 - 59 yoa	60 - 69 yoa	>69 yoa
Murder		4	4	1	1		1	
Rape		2	1	3				
Robbery	24	63	251	129	72	54	23	6
Agg Assault - non-FV	36	51	161	134	91	43	16	3
Agg Assault - FV	2	6	26	26	12	5	1	
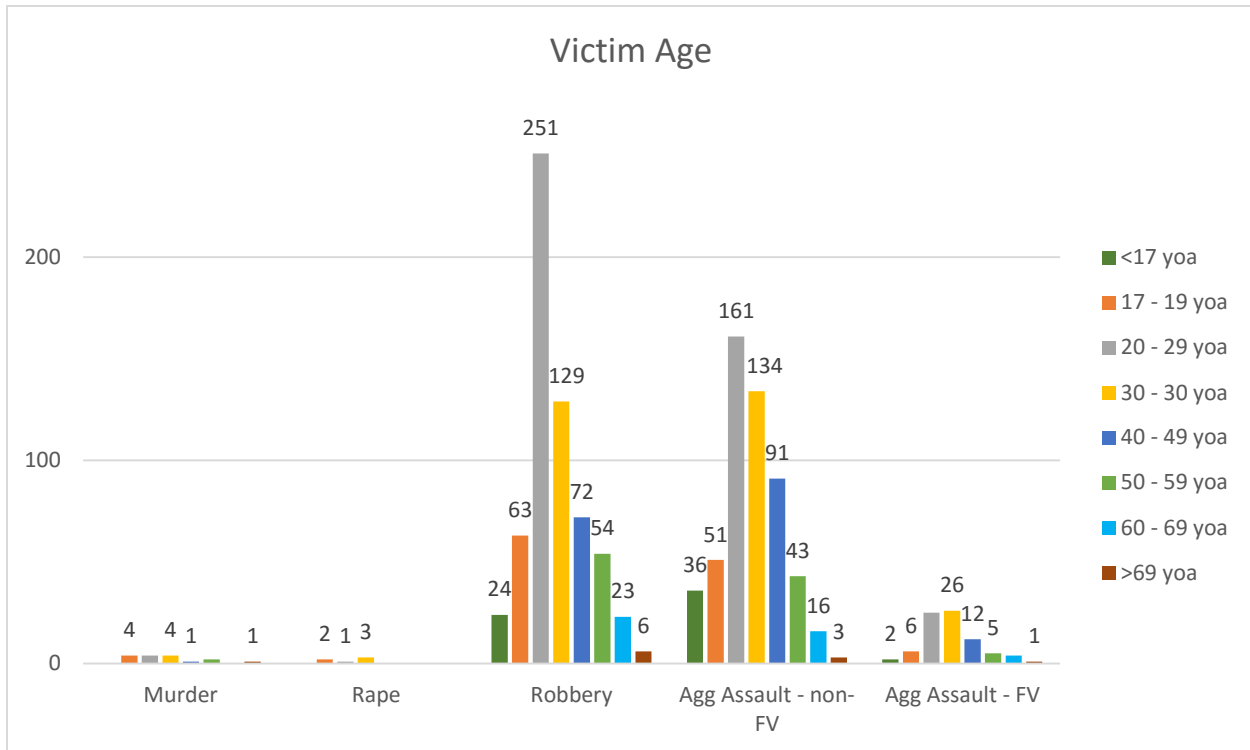
For situations in which the suspect age was known, there was variability depending on the type of crime. For Robbery, the age range of 17 to 19 years old accounted for the most suspects, followed by 20 to 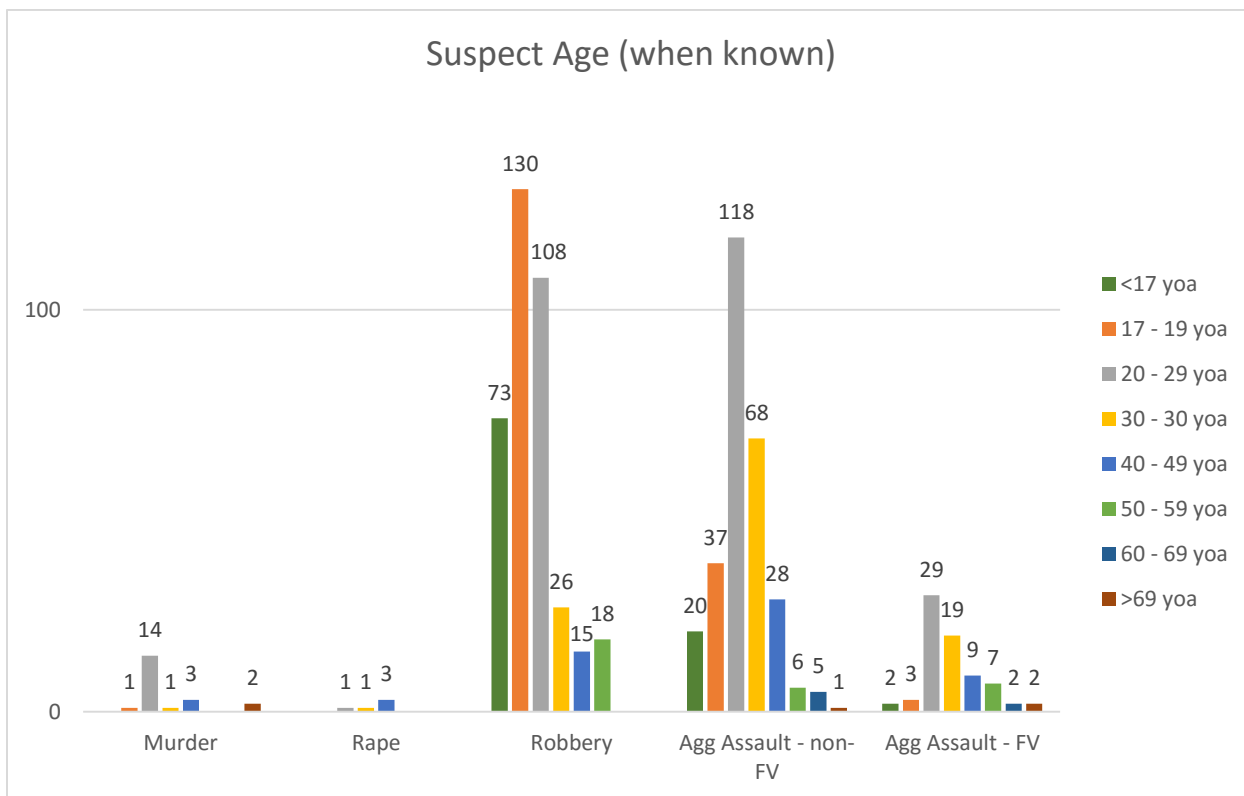29 years old. Unfortunately, there were 73 robbery suspects who were juveniles. For most of the other crime types, suspects were most often 20 to 29, followed by 30 to 39. Offenses in which the suspect age was not known or an age range was reported are not included in this report but the data follows similar patterns as seen below.

Suspect Age (when known)

Legend:
- <17 yoa
- 17 - 19 yoa
- 20 - 29 yoa
- 30 - 30 yoa
- 40 - 49 yoa
- 50 - 59 yoa
- 60 - 69 yoa
- >69 yoa

Category	<17	17-19	20-29	30-30	40-49	50-59	60-69	>69
Murder		1	14	1	3			2
Rape			1	1	3			
Robbery	73	130	108	26	15	18		
Agg Assault - non-FV	20	37	118	68	28	6	5	1
Agg Assault - FV	2	3	29	19	9	7	2	2

2018 UCW, PFF, and DOC

When and Where

Moving into an in-depth analysis of 2018 gun-related Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon (UCW), Possession of Firearm by Felon (PFF), and Disorderly Conduct (DOC) cases shows higher numbers for 10 months of the year as compared to the average for the prior four years. This is not surprising given the upward trend we saw in these offenses from 2014 to 2018. March was exceptionally high compared to prior years.

2018 by Month for Total of UCW, PFF, and DOC

Month	Total
JAN	53
FEB	46
MAR	74
APR	51
MAY	49
JUN	40
JUL	51
AUG	63
SEP	58
OCT	54
NOV	51
DEC	41

Legend: Total, 2014-2017 Average
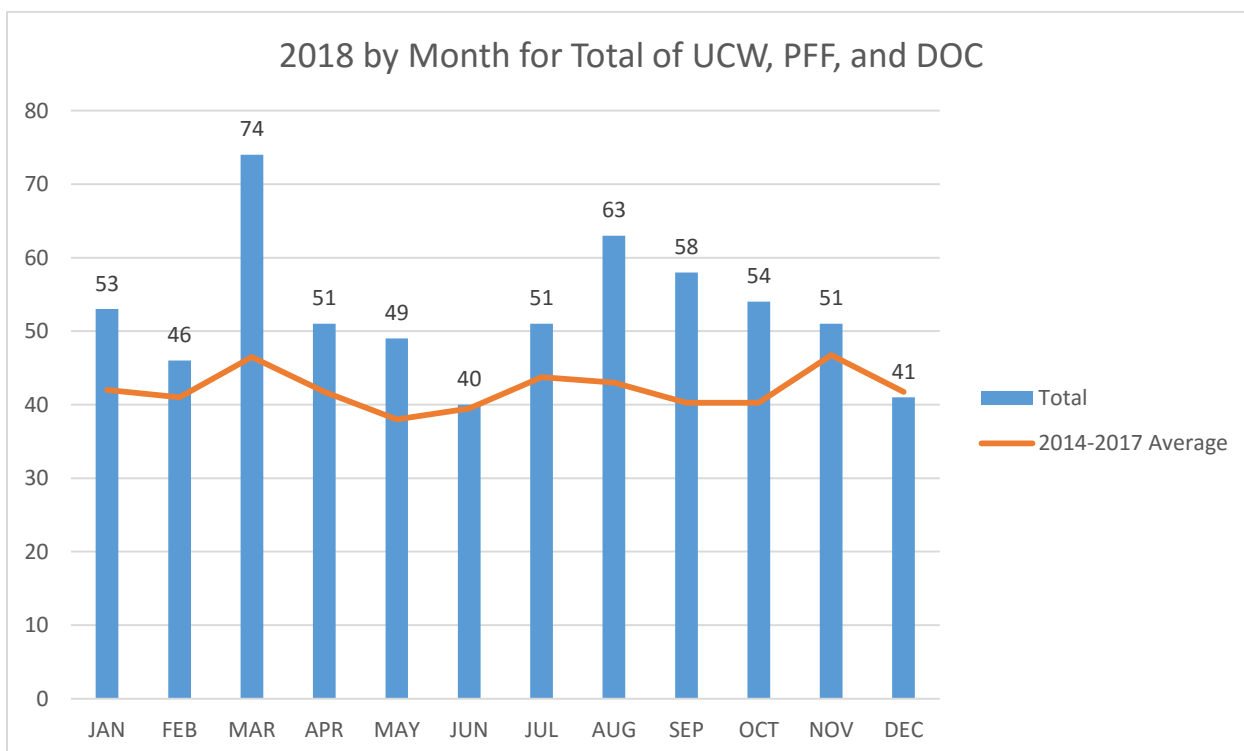
Evaluating the offenses by week does not show definitive evidence of an increase coinciding with major Austin events such as SXSW (red bars on chart) and ACL (purple bars).

UCW, PFF, and DOC Offenses by Week (Week Starts on Monday)
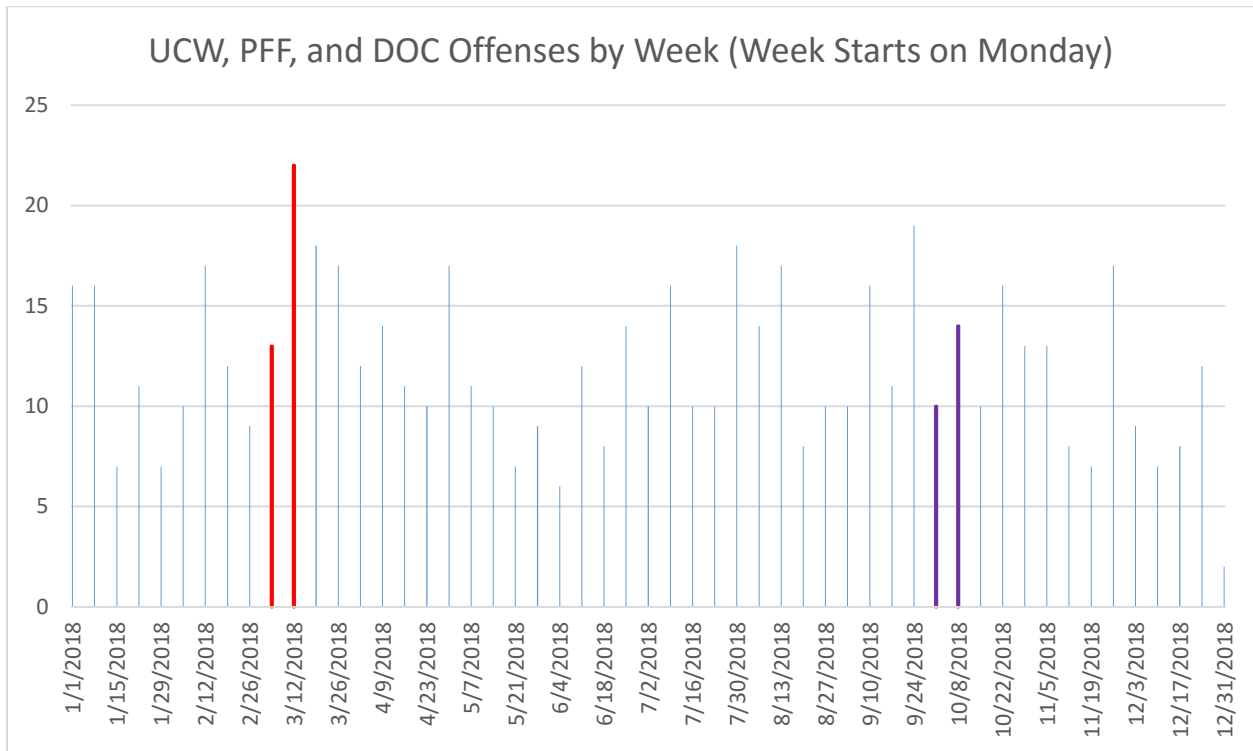
When focusing on George sector only, the number of offenses per week are small. No obvious spike is seen during these events, but the small numbers make it impossible to draw any conclusions.

GEORGE (DTAC) UCW, PFF, and DOC Offenses by Week
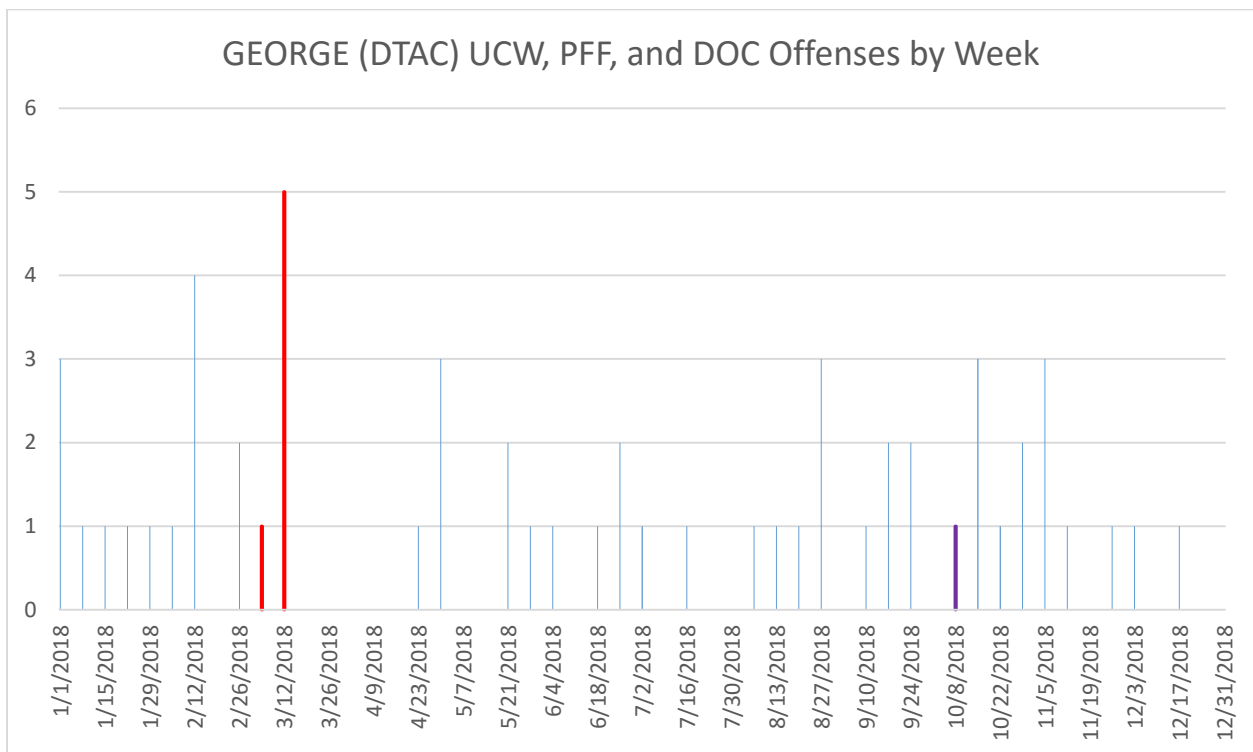
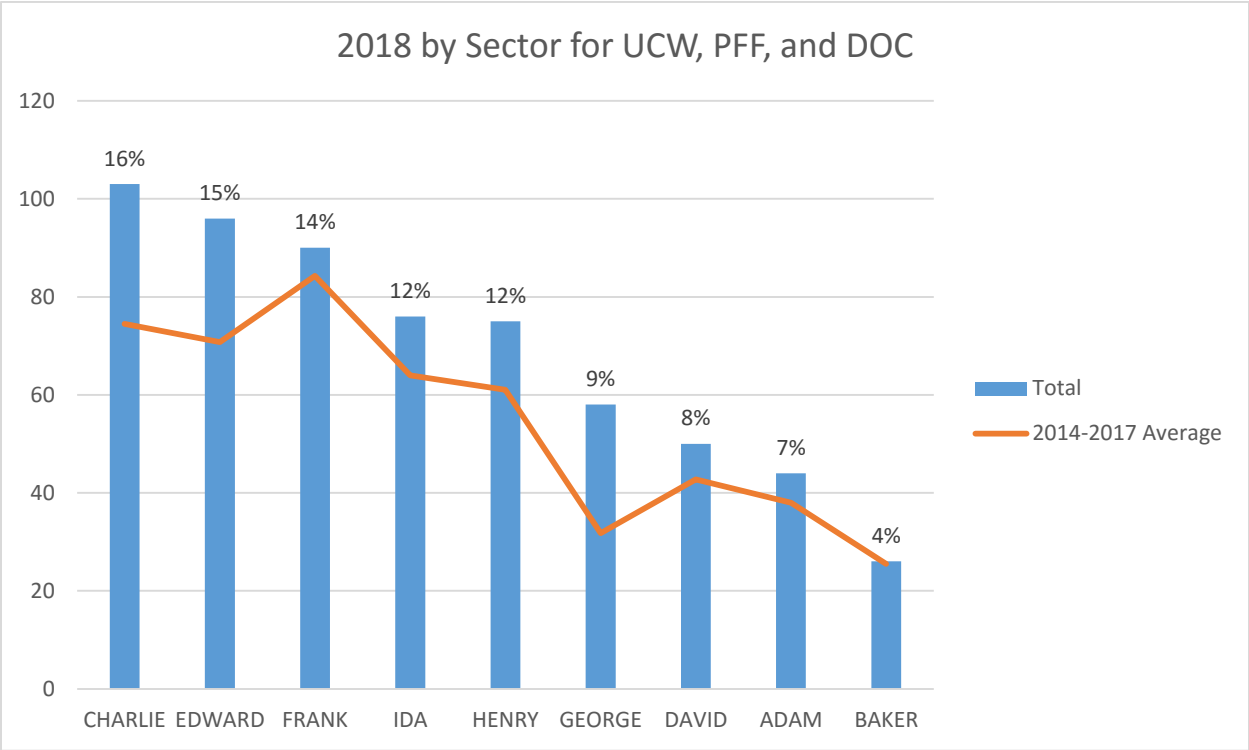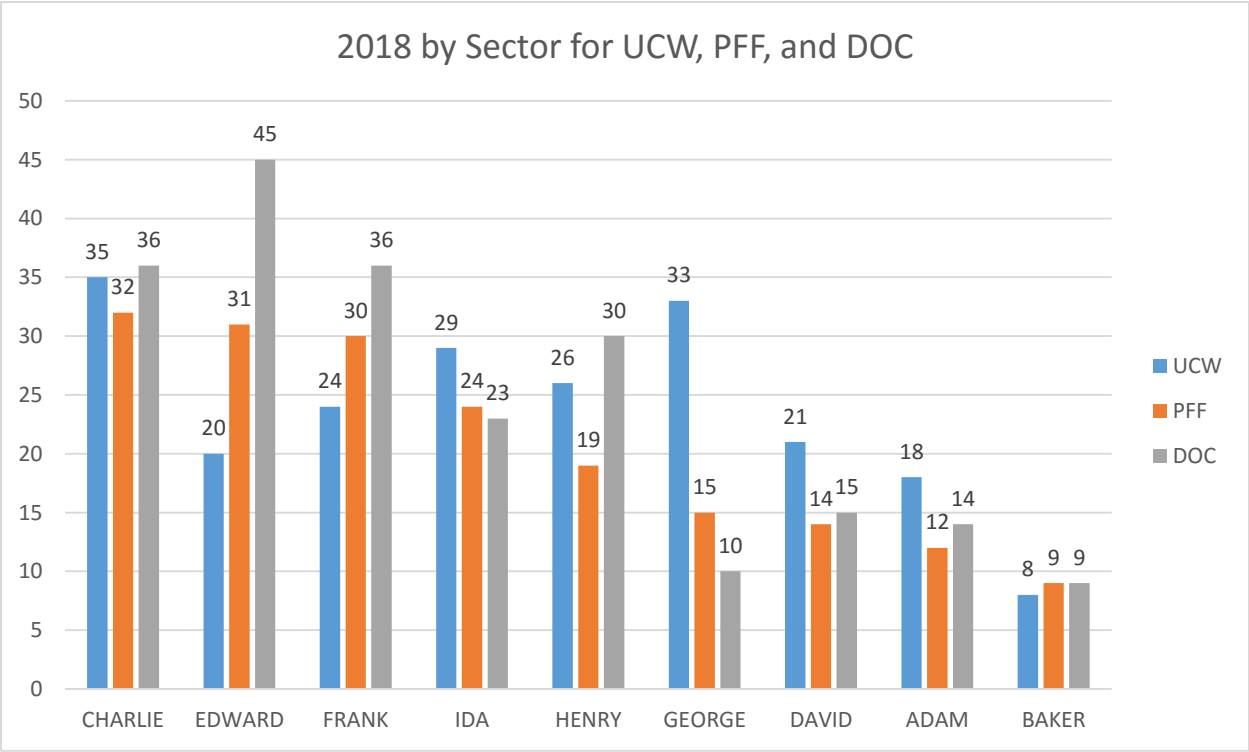|	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Grand Total
Midnight	5	6	5	5	4	3	6	34
1 AM	9	4	1	2	3	4	3	26
2 AM	10	1	2	2	4	9	7	35
3 AM	8	1	4	2	1	2	4	22
4 AM		1		1	4	2	9	17
5 AM	1		2		2		2	7
6 AM	3	2		1	2	2	5	15
7 AM	1	1	3		1	2	2	10
8 AM	3	3	1	3	2	2		14
9 AM	1	2	2	6	5	2		18
10 AM	1	7	2	2	1	1	1	15
11 AM	2	5	2	4	1	3	2	19
12 PM		4	5	6	5	7	1	28
1 PM	2	4	1	4	3	1	2	17
2 PM	2	5	6	4	4	1	7	29
3 PM	3	5	5	3	4	4	6	30
4 PM	4	4	7	1	6	6	3	31
5 PM	5	1	3	9	4	3	4	29
6 PM	7	6	2	9	5	4	3	36
7 PM	1	4	5	5	7	6	4	32
8 PM	4	3	5	5	5	5	6	33
9 PM	6	2	5	8	12	8	4	45
10 PM	2	7	9	4	8	4	11	45
11 PM	6	7	3	7	5	10	6	44
Grand Total	86	85	80	93	98	91	98	631

The peak times for UCW, PFF, and DOC offenses across the city in 2018 were similar to what we saw with Part I offenses. The majority of offenses occurred overnight. Most occurred between 9:00 PM and 1:00 AM on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

Every sector except Baker experienced more of these offenses than the four year average. Charlie, Edward and Frank were the top three sectors and accounted for 45% of the city-wide total.

2018 by Sector for UCW, PFF, and DOC

Sector	Total %
CHARLIE	16%
EDWARD	15%
FRANK	14%
IDA	12%
HENRY	12%
GEORGE	9%
DAVID	8%
ADAM	7%
BAKER	4%

Legend: Total, 2014-2017 Average

The offenses in Charlie were nearly evenly split between UCW, PFF and DOC. For Edward, DOC was the leading type of offense with much fewer UCW offenses. Frank was similar to Edward except with fewer of each type of offense. Although George's overall total for the three offense types was much less, the number of UCW offenses was only slightly less than Charlie's.

2018 by Sector for UCW, PFF, and DOC

Sector	UCW	PFF	DOC
CHARLIE	35	32	36
EDWARD	20	31	45
FRANK	24	30	36
IDA	29	24	23
HENRY	26	19	30
GEORGE	33	15	10
DAVID	21	14	15
ADAM	18	12	14
BAKER	8	9	9

Breaking the geographic component down further, Edward's District 1 had the most UCW, PFF and DOC offenses with 37. The next highest concentrations were seen in George's District 2 (27), Henry's District 2 (25), and Charlie's District 4 (24) and District 7 (24). Cases with missing or incorrect district/sector information were omitted from the chart.

|	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	Grand Total
CHARLIE	7	15	10	24	12	9	24	1	102
EDWARD	37	15	4	18	4	6	12		96
FRANK	11	5	11	4	21	14	9	15	90
IDA	11	8	4	17	6	7	9	14	76
HENRY	9	25	15	8	7	4	3	4	75
GEORGE	14	27		1	16				58
DAVID	10	7	14	7	1	8	2		49
ADAM	3	6	10	5	6	6	4	4	44
BAKER	5			2	3	5	2	9	26

Given the substantial increase in PFF numbers for 2018, the following breakdown shows the concentrated areas for PFF. The numbers are small but still cause for alarm. The highest number of Possession of Firearm by Felon cases occurred in Frank's District 5 (8), Henry's District 2 (8), Charlie's District 5 (7), Edward's District 1 (7) and District 2 (7), and George's District 5 (7). Again, it is unclear if the increase in 2018 is due to some degree from a change of policy or focus in the Firearms Unit. For instance, if the unit made the decision to more actively pursue charges in this type of situation, that change could explain some of the increase. If that is the case, the increase is actually a positive trend, not a negative trend as might be assumed. Cases with missing or incorrect district/sector information were omitted from the chart.

|	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	Grand Total
CHARLIE	5	5	4	5	7	2	4		32
EDWARD	7	7	4	6	2	2	3		31
FRANK	5		4		8	5	3	5	30
IDA	1		2	6	1	4	5	5	24
HENRY	2	8	2	2	1	1	1	2	19
GEORGE	2	6			7				15
DAVID	5	1	4	1	1	2			14
ADAM	1	2	4	1			1	3	12
BAKER					2	3		4	9

Criminal Charges for UCW, PFF, and DOC

The next section of the report is based on data from Travis County and Williamson County jails and shows analysis findings for those actually charged with UCW (only cases in which a firearm was seized were included), PFF, and/or DOC (specifically: DOC Discharge Gun – Public Place, DOC Display Gun/Deadly Public Place, and DOC Discharge Gun Public Road). A recent evaluation of this data within APD's Versadex system indicated an undercounting of arrests, but we believe the analysis results are still of value.

From 362 offenses, 383 charges were filed on 365 people.

2018 UCW, PFF, and DOC Charges

Offenses	Charges	Persons
362	383	365
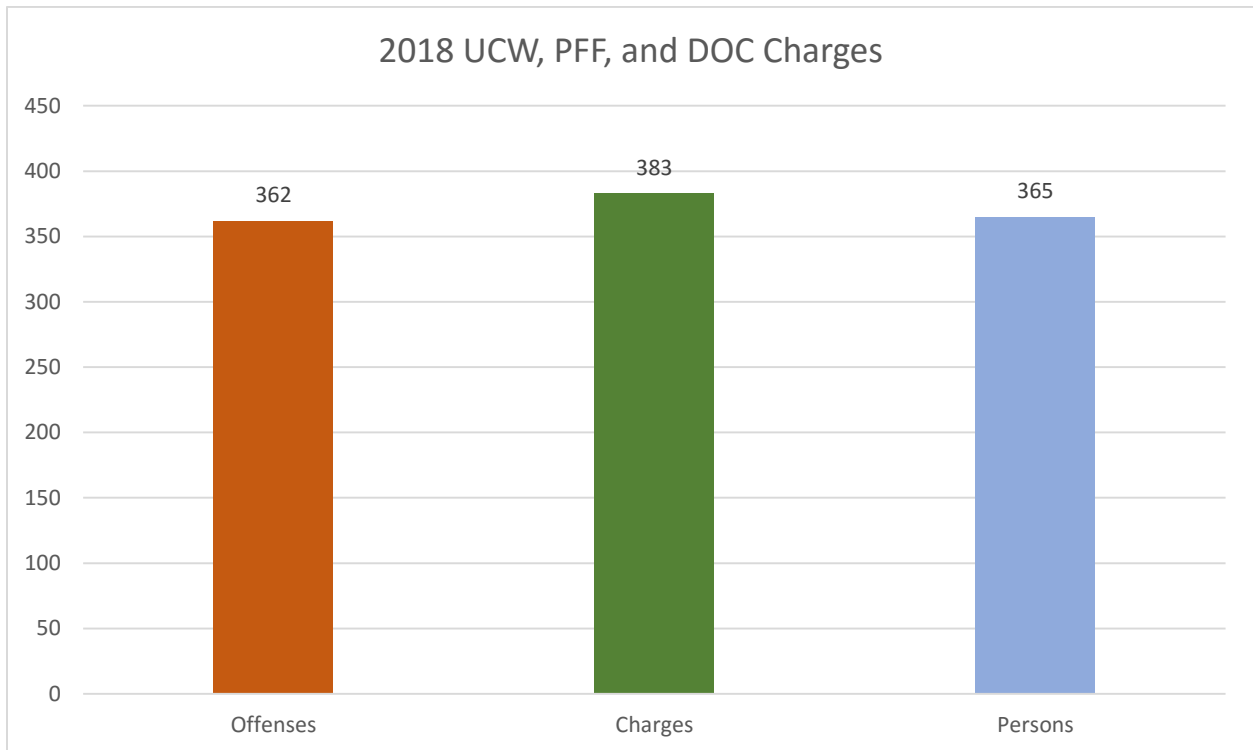
Unlawful Carrying of Firearm far exceeded all other charges, followed by Possession of Firearm by Felon.

2018 Offenses with UCW, PFF, and DOC Charges

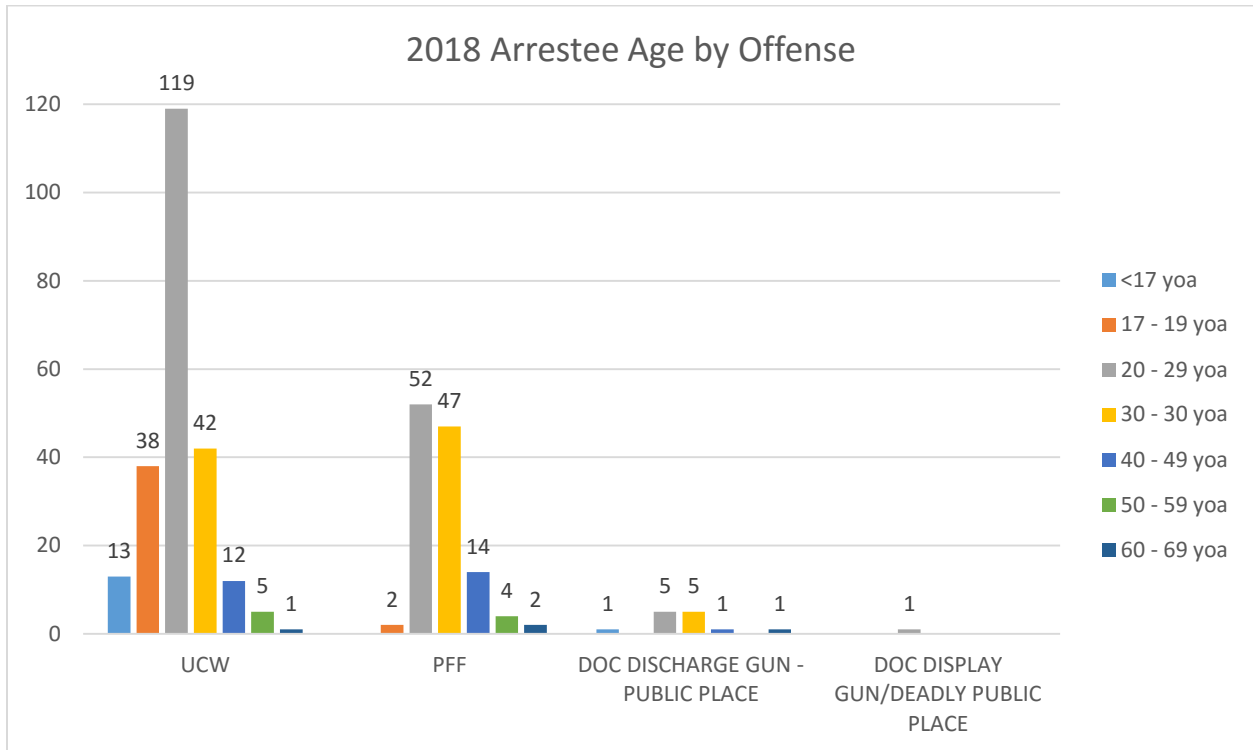| UNLAWFUL CARRYING WEAPON	POSSESSION OF FIREARM BY FELON	DOC DISCHARGE GUN - PUBLIC PLACE	DOC DISPLAY GUN/DEADLY PUBLIC PLACE
227	122	12	1
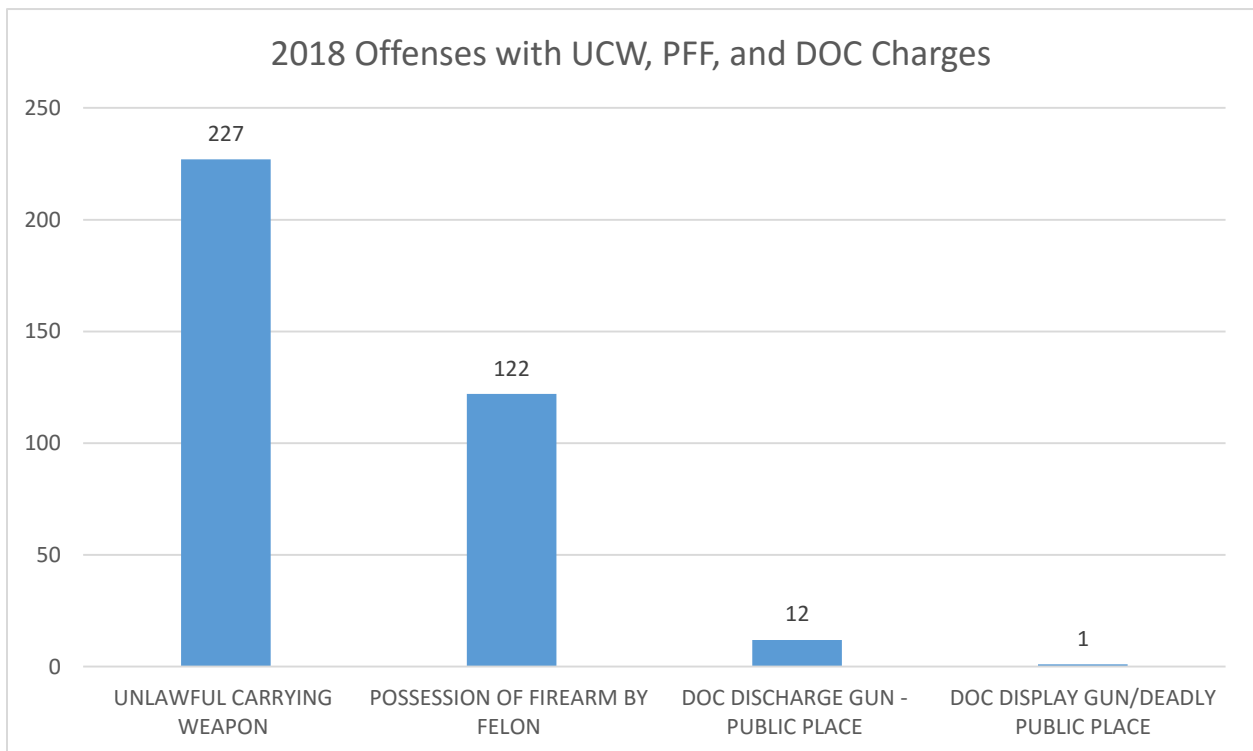
Of the 362 offenses, the following chart shows the highest offense title code in the associated reports. Most of the reports were titled UCW, followed by PFF, as might be expected. Given the large increase in the number of Burglary of Vehicle (BOV) offenses in which a firearm was stolen, it is interesting to note that in six BOV cases, someone was charged with either UCW, PFF, or DOC. More research is required to fully understand the implication of this information.

2018 Highest Offense Title Code for UCW, PFF, and DOC Charges (Top 9)
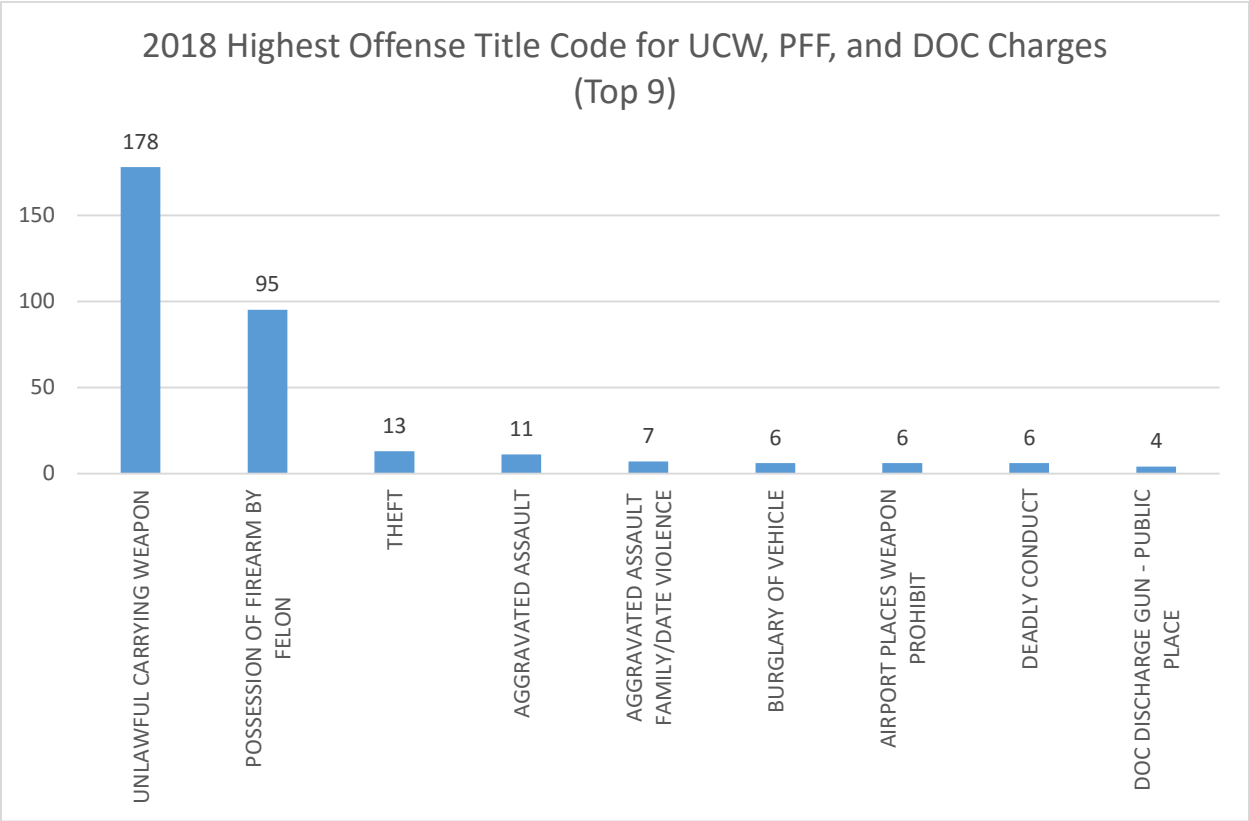
In 2018, 365 individuals were charged with UCW, PFF, or DOC. Analyzing the people data shows that males are much more likely to be charged with these types of offenses. This follows the pattern we saw in the suspect and arrestee data for Part I gun-related offenses. Hispanic/Latino males were more likely to be charged with UCW, but the numbers for White males and Black males are only slightly less. For PFF, Black males were more often charged, followed by Hispanic/Latino males and then White males.

2018 UCW, PFF, and DOC Arrestees by Gender and Race/Ethnicity
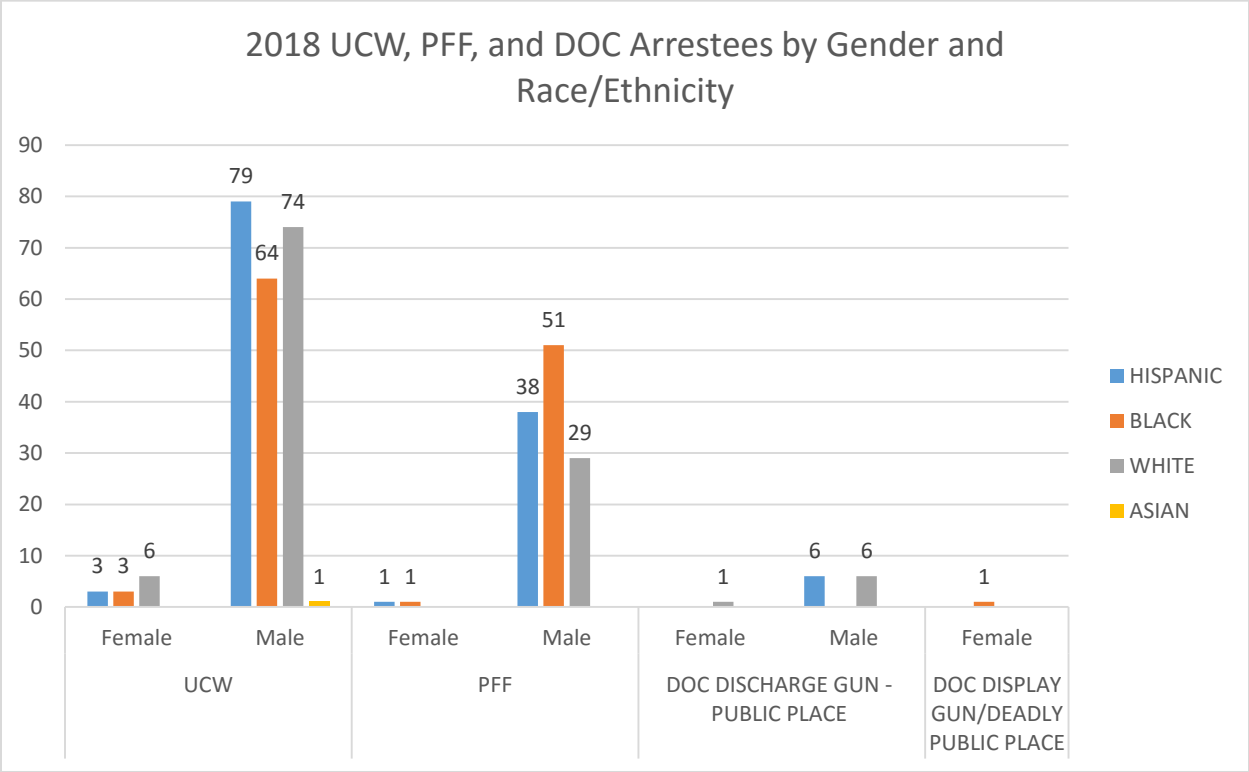
The majority of those charged with UCW were between 20 and 29 years old. Although the total is much less, it is alarming to see that 38 17 to 19 year olds were charged with UCW. For PFF, 20 to 29 year olds accounted for only a few more arrests than 30 to 39 year olds. This makes sense in light of the fact that a suspect must be a convicted felon, i.e., must have spent time in prison and likely to be older, to be charged with Possession of Firearm by Felon.

2018 Arrestee Age by Offense

Chart legend: <17 yoa, 17 - 19 yoa, 20 - 29 yoa, 30 - 30 yoa, 40 - 49 yoa, 50 - 59 yoa, 60 - 69 yoa

UCW: 13, 38, 119, 42, 12, 5, 1
PFF: 2, 52, 47, 14, 4, 2
DOC DISCHARGE GUN - PUBLIC PLACE: 1, 5, 5, 1, 1
DOC DISPLAY GUN/DEADLY PUBLIC PLACE: 1

Of the 383 charges for UCW, PFF, or DOC in 2018, 10 individuals were charged with two different charges (UCW, PFF, or DOC) in the same incident. One individual was charged with three different charges in the same incident.

Potentially more concerning is the fact that one individual was charged with UCW in three separate incidents and four individuals were charged with UCW, PFF, and/or DOC in two different incidents. The majority of these repeat violations were for the same charge.

2018 Individuals with Multiple Charges from Separate Incidents
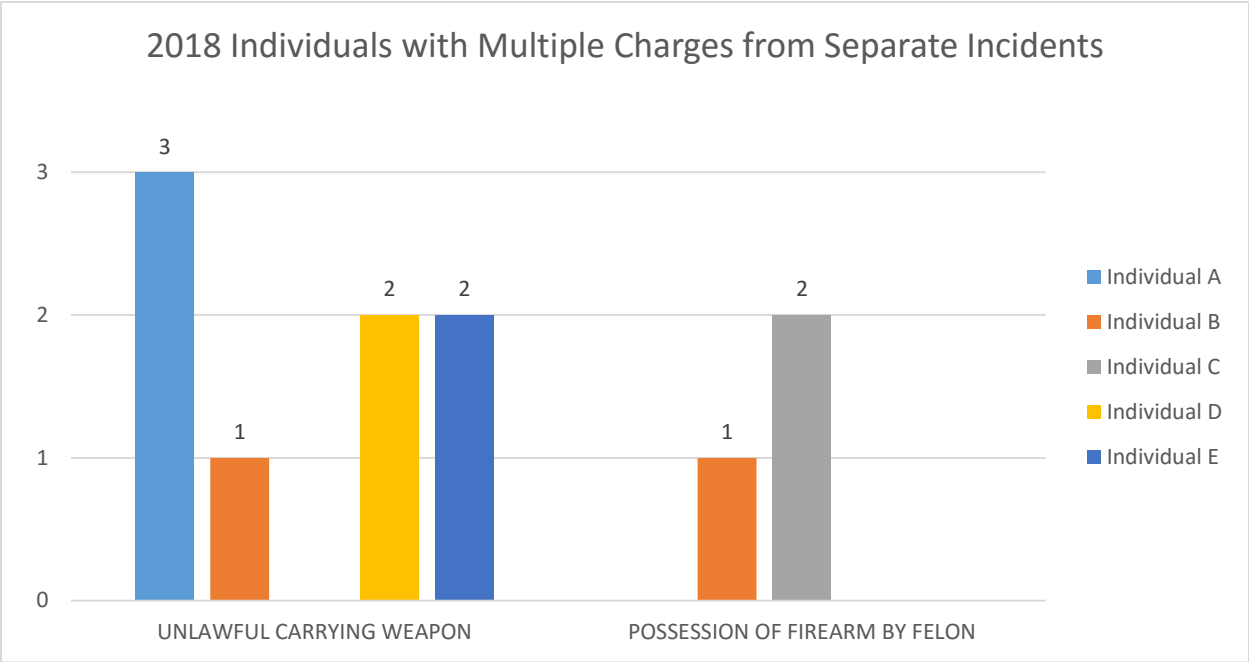
2018 Firearm Data

Lost/Stolen Firearms

Digging deeper into the firearm data for 2018 lost/stolen firearms revealed that 62% of the offenses in which guns were stolen were vehicle burglaries. Combining thefts resulting from BOV and Auto Theft offenses increases the total to 443 offenses, 65%. Only 14% were stolen from residences. This data shows clearly that firearms left in vehicles are at a significantly higher risk of being stolen than those secured in a residence.

Unfortunately Versadex does not allow an officer to distinguish between a stolen or a lost firearm in the property section. The descriptor is "lost/stolen". By looking at the title code on the offense report, we see that only 17 Lost Property reports were filed. This indicates that over 97% of the reports likely involved stolen firearms, not lost firearms.

2018 Lost/Stolen Firearm Offenses

Offense	Count
BURGLARY OF VEHICLE	423
BURGLARY OF RESIDENCE	92
THEFT	78
AUTO THEFT	20
LOST PROPERTY	17
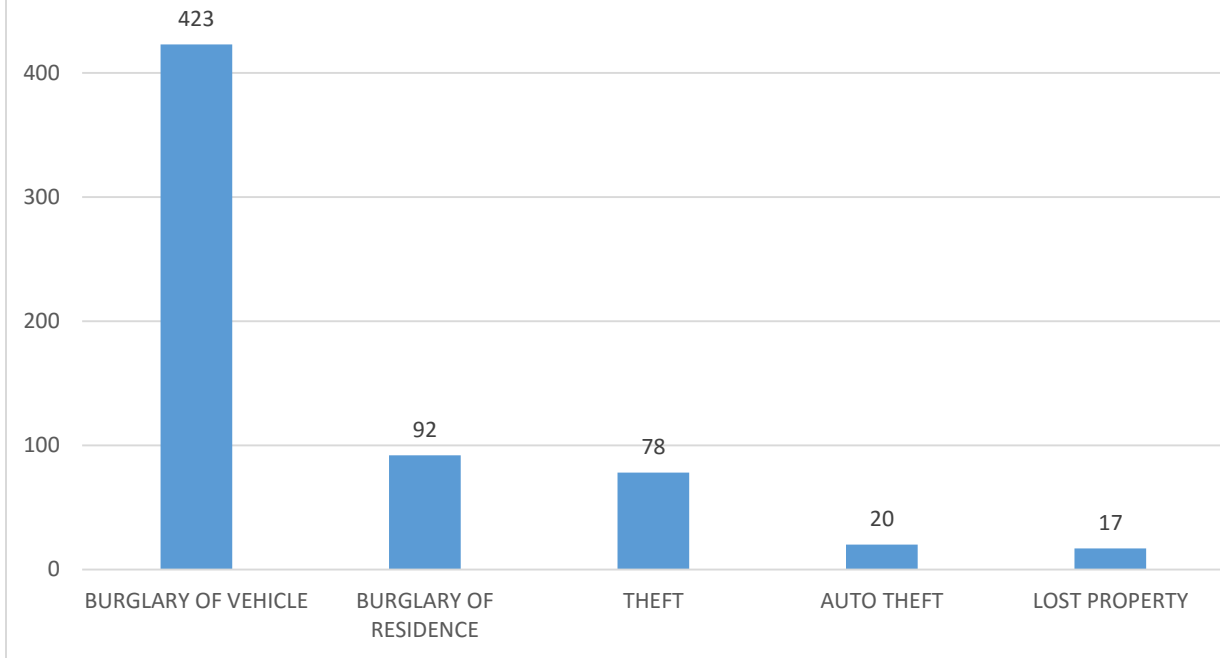
Analyzing the data by month and by sector revealed no obvious pattern for most sectors. Of note is the increase throughout the year that occurred in Adam and David sectors. Not as consistent but still concerning are the sporadic spikes seen in Frank sector.

2018 Offenses With Lost/Stolen Firearms by Sector and Month
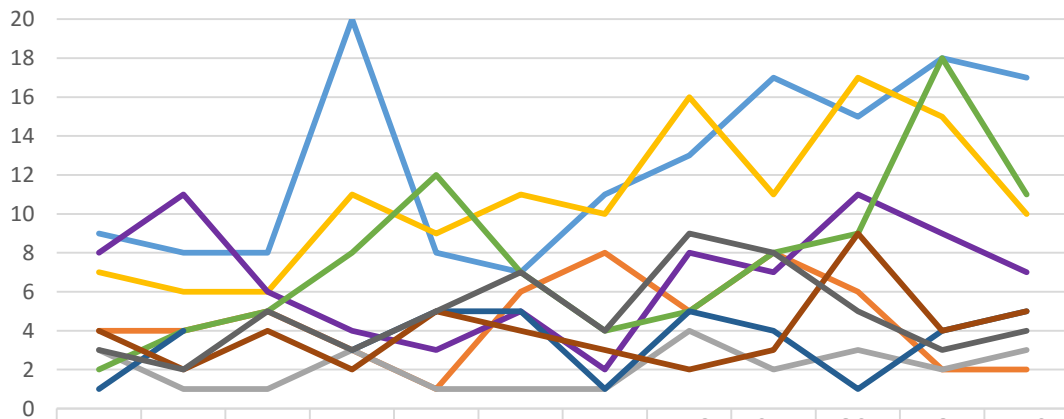
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
ADAM	9	8	8	20	8	7	11	13	17	15	18	17
BAKER	4	4	5	3	1	6	8	5	8	6	2	2
CHARLIE	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	4	2	3	2	3
DAVID	7	6	6	11	9	11	10	16	11	17	15	10
EDWARD	8	11	6	4	3	5	2	8	7	11	9	7
FRANK	2	4	5	8	12	7	4	5	8	9	18	11
GEORGE	1	4		3	5	5	1	5	4	1	4	5
HENRY	4	2	4	2	5	4	3	2	3	9	4	5
IDA	3	2	5	3	5	7	4	9	8	5	3	4

Adam sector accounted for 22% of all offenses involving the theft or loss of a firearm. David sector followed closely with 19%. The 2018 totals for these two sectors were much greater than the 2014-2017 average.
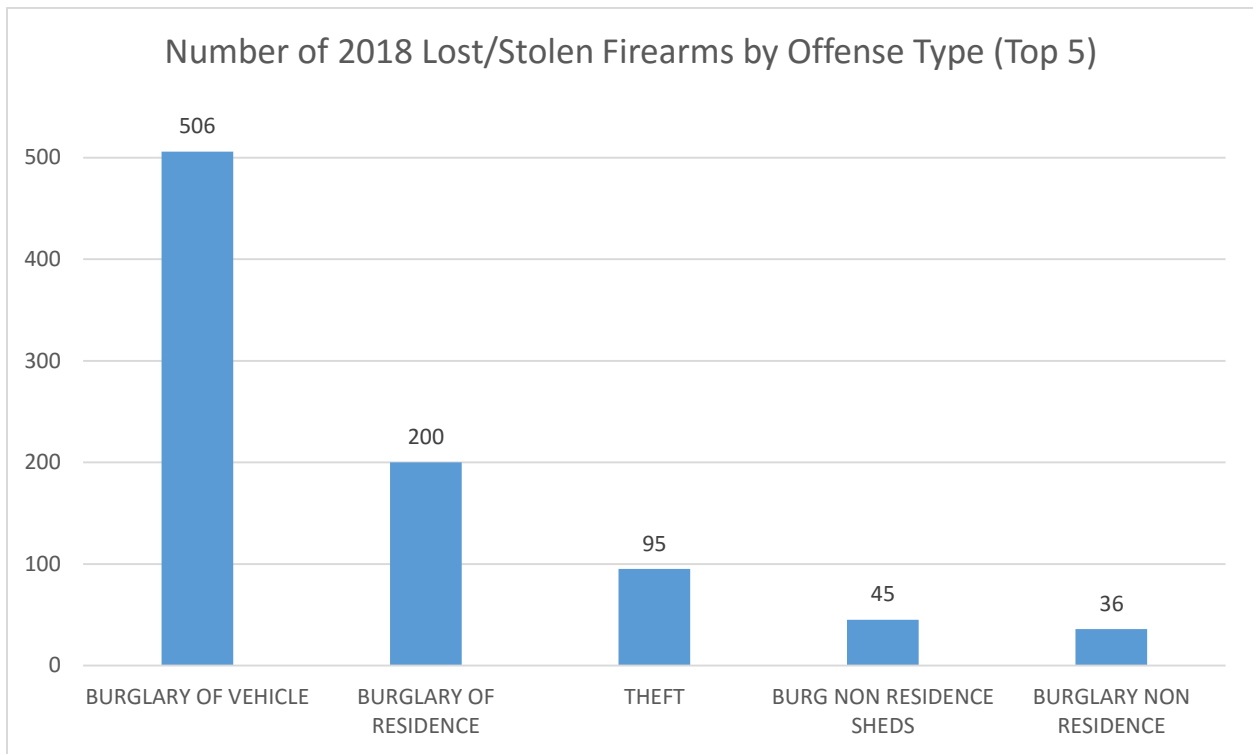
Although our research and analysis cannot conclusively prove this at this time, it is believed that firearms were stolen in certain areas of Austin and later used to commit offenses in other areas of Austin. The data definitely indicates that the areas in which firearms were predominately stolen are not the hot spots for Part I and Part II gun-related offenses.
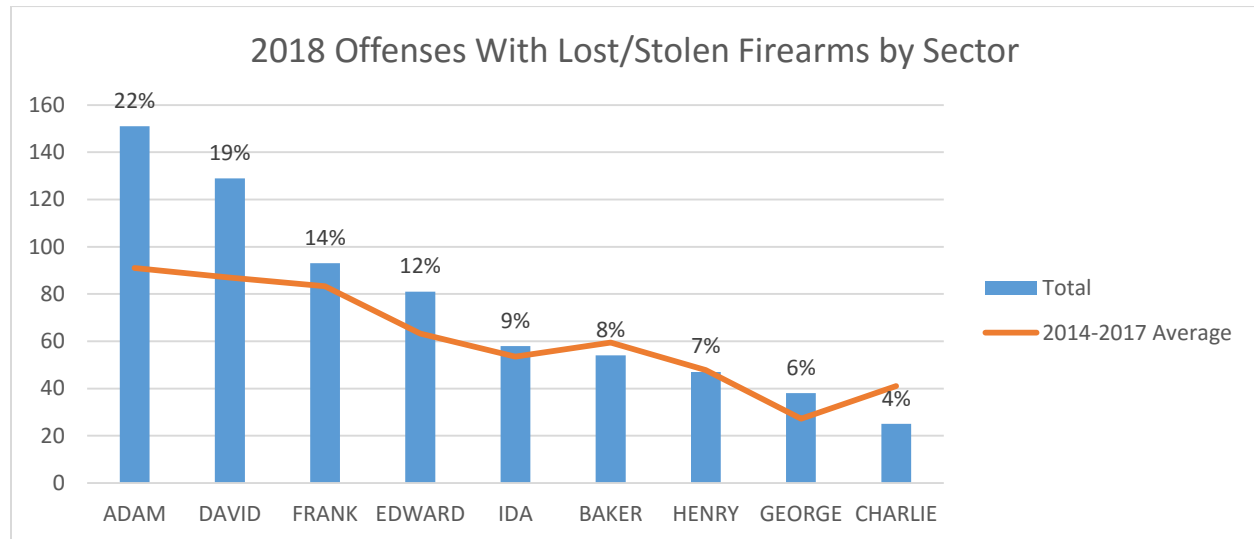
As the red shading in the chart below shows, all districts in Adam sector, except District 8, experienced high numbers of offenses in which guns were stolen. The top two districts in the city for stolen firearms were Adam's District 1 (27) and District 2 (25). Also high were David's District 2 (24), Adam's District 3 (22), David's District 1 (21), Frank's District 1 (21), and Edward's District 6 (21).

	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	Grand Total
ADAM	27	25	22	18	17	16	17	9	151
DAVID	21	24	19	16	10	19	12	8	129
FRANK	21	16	11	11	7	6	12	9	93
EDWARD	10	8	7	16	6	21	13		81
IDA	7	7	3	2	5	7	15	12	58
BAKER	6	2	5	4	3	11	8	15	54
HENRY	5	16	5	5	3	8	4	1	47
GEORGE	6	10	8	2	12				38
CHARLIE	4	2	4	3	1	2	3	6	25

Over 950 firearms were reported to APD as stolen or lost in 2018. The chart below looks similar to what we saw when charting offense numbers, except that we see Burglary Non Residence Sheds and Burglary Non Residence making the top five list for number of firearms stolen. The most drastic difference is seen in Burglary of Residence. Out of 92 residential burglaries, 200 guns were stolen. It is unknown if gun thieves are specifically targeting vehicles over residences or if it is a situation of convenience and ease. It is usually much simpler to break into a vehicle than a residence.

Number of 2018 Lost/Stolen Firearms by Offense Type (Top 5)

| Offense Type	Number
BURGLARY OF VEHICLE	506
BURGLARY OF RESIDENCE	200
THEFT	95
BURG NON RESIDENCE SHEDS	45
BURGLARY NON RESIDENCE	36

Due to the large number of guns stolen from vehicles, the following chart shows the geographic concentration for only Burglary of Vehicle offenses. Adam's District 1 (24) and District 2 (20) are the top two districts with no other districts coming very close to the number of guns stolen in these two districts. So 24 of the 27 guns stolen in Adam's District 1 were stolen from vehicles as were 20 of the 25 guns stolen from Adam's District 2.

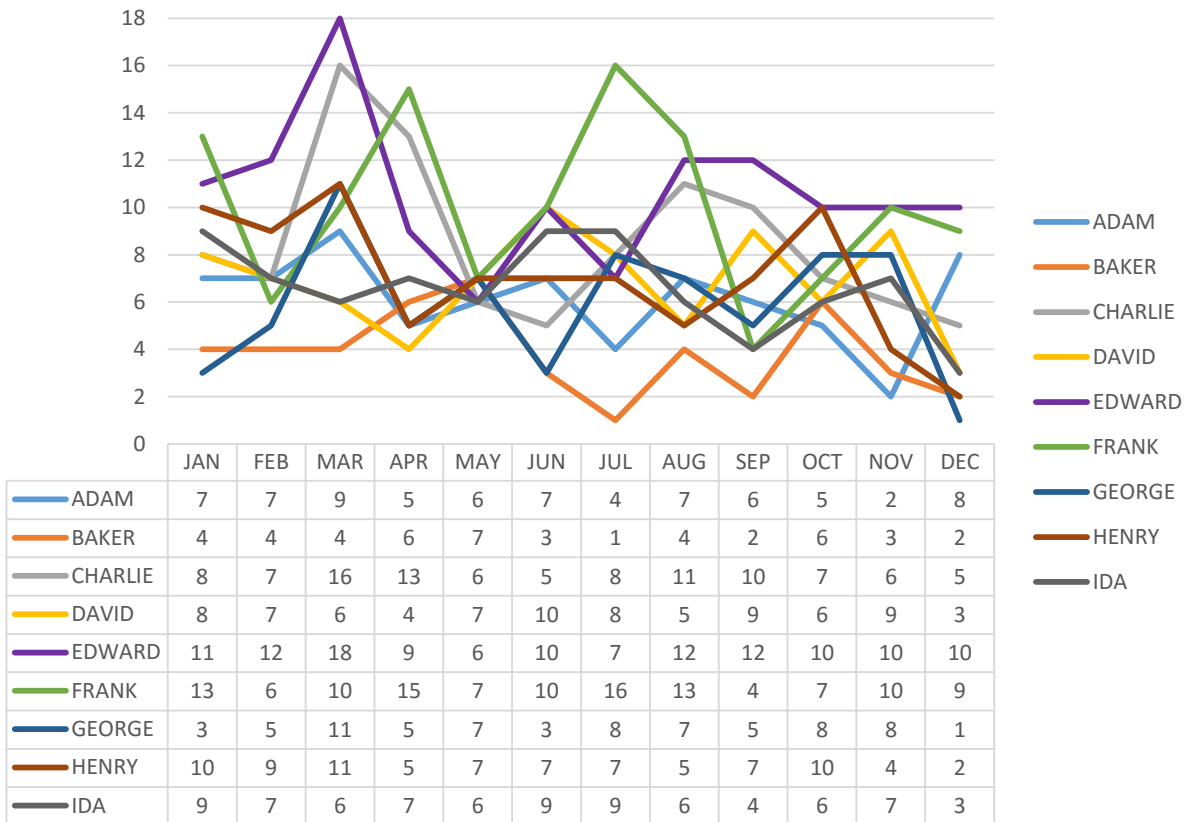|	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	Grand Total
ADAM	24	20	15	12	10	12	15	3	111
DAVID	16	15	8	10	7	11	10	5	82
FRANK	12	10	5	8	4	4	6	3	52
EDWARD	4	3	6	6	3	16	6		44
BAKER	4	2	4	4	1	9	7	11	42
IDA	3	3		1	2	5	9	7	30
HENRY	3	7	5	2	1	5	1	1	25
GEORGE	2	6	6	1	10				25
CHARLIE	1	1	2	1		1	2	3	11

Seized/Recovered Firearms

Moving to seized/recovered firearms, we see that the majority were seized in UCW or PFF offenses. Of note is the number of Suicide reports in which a firearm was seized or recovered.

## 2018 Offenses With Seized/Recovered Firearms (Top 5)
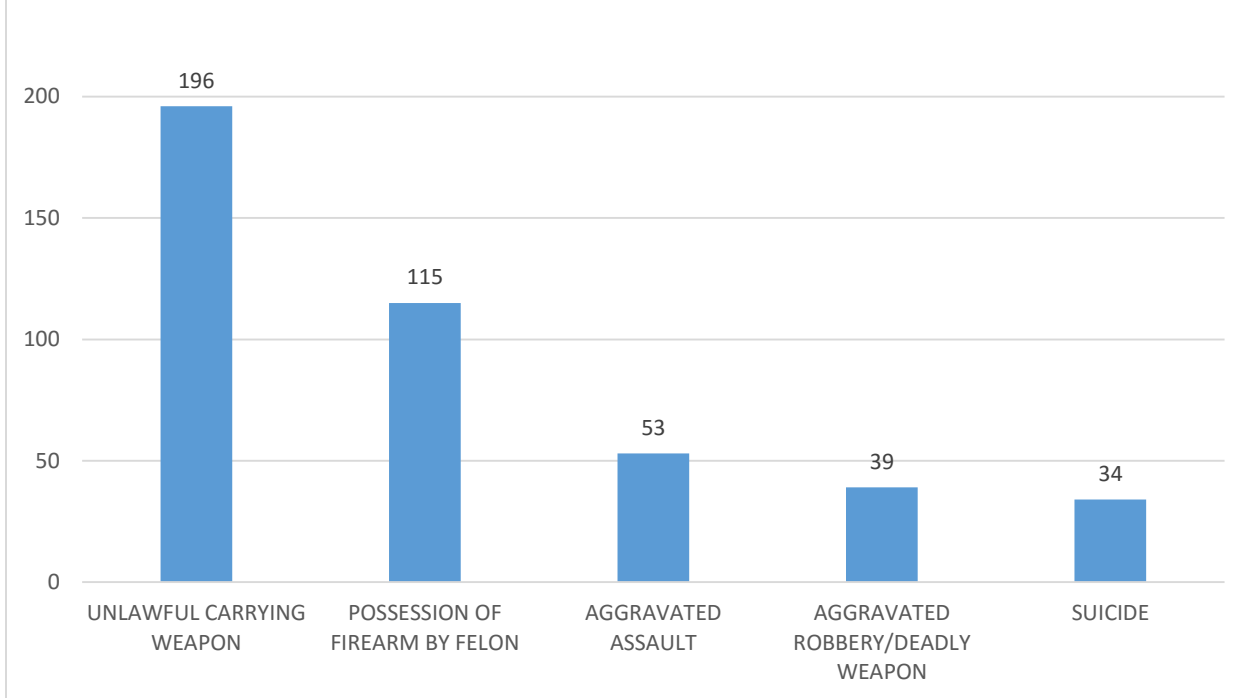
There is no obvious pattern when analyzing the data by month and sector, but Edward, Charlie and Frank experienced spikes throughout the year.

Offenses With Seized/Recovered Firearms by Sector and Month

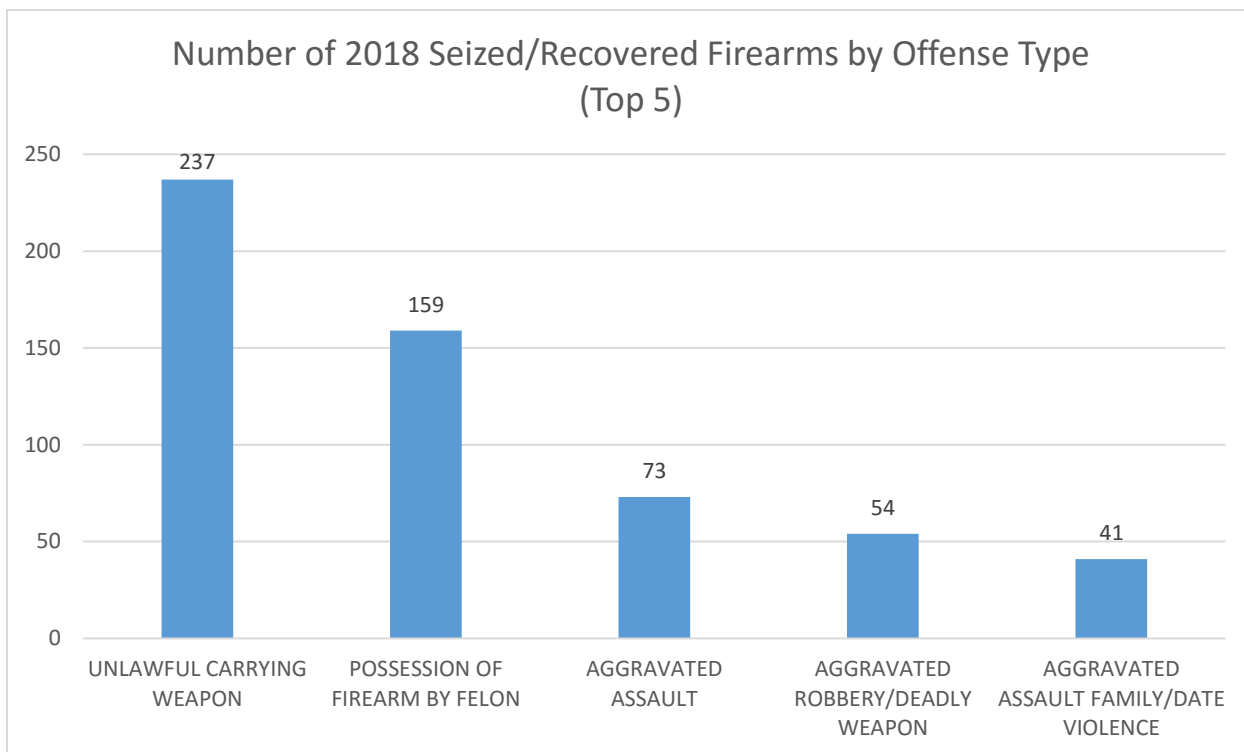|	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
ADAM	7	7	9	5	6	7	4	7	6	5	2	8
BAKER	4	4	4	6	7	3	1	4	2	6	3	2
CHARLIE	8	7	16	13	6	5	8	11	10	7	6	5
DAVID	8	7	6	4	7	10	8	5	9	6	9	3
EDWARD	11	12	18	9	6	10	7	12	12	10	10	10
FRANK	13	6	10	15	7	10	16	13	4	7	10	9
GEORGE	3	5	11	5	7	3	8	7	5	8	8	1
HENRY	10	9	11	5	7	7	7	5	7	10	4	2
IDA	9	7	6	7	6	9	9	6	4	6	7	3

Geographically, these offenses more often occurred in the areas with more Part I and Part II gun-related crime. Edward, Frank and Charlie sectors accounted for 41% of all offenses in which a firearm was seized/recovered, and the numbers were slightly higher than the 2014 to 2017 average. In addition to those three sectors, Henry and George experienced more offenses than the average for the prior four years. All other sectors were at or below the four year average.

2018 Offenses With Seized/Recovered Firearms by Sector
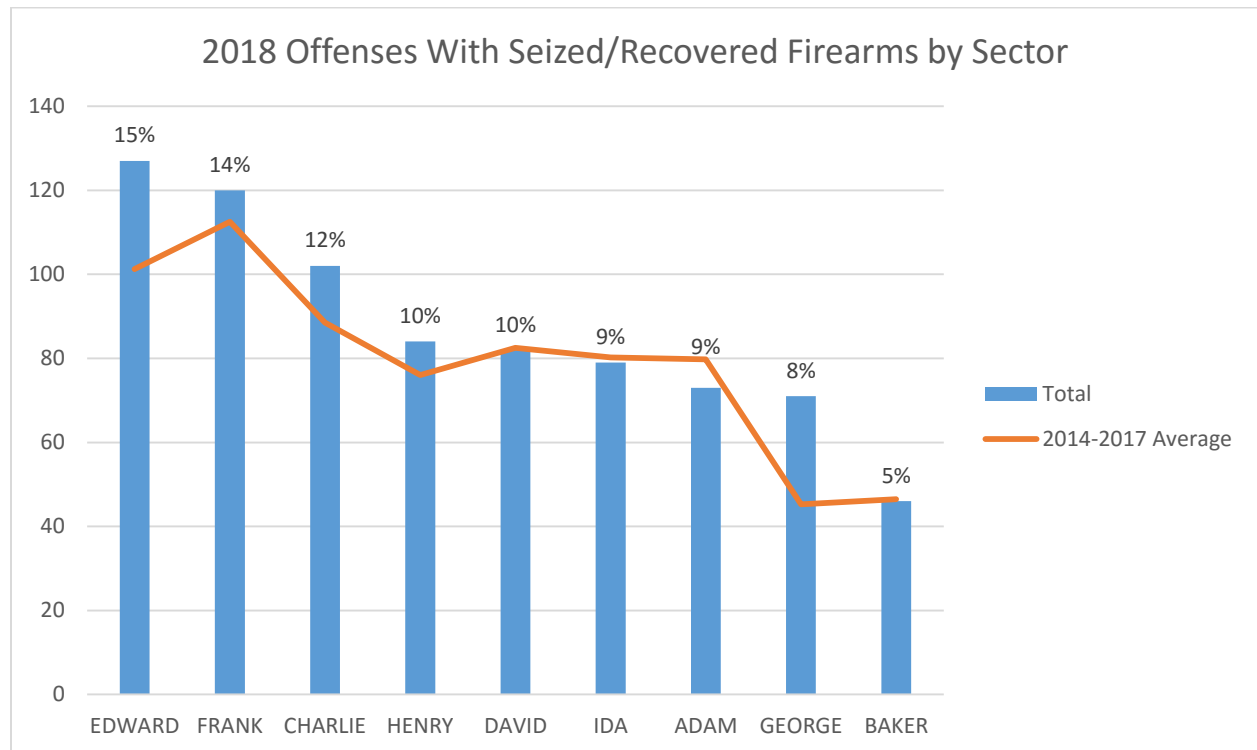
Edward's District 1 accounted for the highest number of offenses with 36, closely followed by George's District 2 with 35. The third highest was Henry's District 2 with 31.

	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	District 8	Grand Total
EDWARD	36	15	13	25	4	18	15	1	127
FRANK	20	6	13	10	24	14	16	17	120
CHARLIE	13	15	9	20	17	7	18	3	102
HENRY	11	31	11	9	10	5	4	3	84
DAVID	17	12	24	11	3	8	5	2	82
IDA	8	11	5	15	14	5	10	11	79
ADAM	5	10	21	13	6	8	4	6	73
GEORGE	15	35	4	3	14				71
BAKER	4	4		3	8	9	5	13	46

Over 1150 firearms were seized or recovered by APD in 2018. The chart below looks very similar to what we saw when charting the number of offenses, with the only major difference being that slightly more guns were seized/recovered in Aggravated Assault Family Violence offenses (41) than in Suicides (37). From 196 UCW offenses, 237 guns were seized. From 115 PFF offenses, 159 guns were seized.

Number of 2018 Seized/Recovered Firearms by Offense Type (Top 5)

Offense Type	Count
UNLAWFUL CARRYING WEAPON	237
POSSESSION OF FIREARM BY FELON	159
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	73
AGGRAVATED ROBBERY/DEADLY WEAPON	54
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT FAMILY/DATE VIOLENCE	41

Summary of Analysis Findings

This report is a good first step in understanding gun crime in Austin and clearly outlines the top areas of concern. Due to time constraints, the report does not include everything we thought would be useful, so more analysis work is needed to determine very specific and actionable steps Austin PD can take to prevent and mitigate future gun violence, such as drilling down into the specific hot spot areas to understand the characteristics of each area. To develop informed tactical actions or initiatives that take full advantage of what we now know and can learn about gun crime in Austin, contact your crime analyst to continue the discussion.

In summary, the big take-aways of this analysis include the following. Crime involving a firearm is increasing in Austin. Many more guns exist in Austin now with the majority of them being owned by law-abiding citizens and visitors. But many of those guns are being stolen, mostly from vehicles. Guns are kept in vehicles without a secure method for truly safeguarding them against theft. The stolen guns are likely then being used in both Part I and Part II crimes. Gun crime is concentrated in many of Austin's longstanding violent crime hotspots, but the theft of guns is concentrated in areas that are different from those violent crime hot spots. Environmental risk assessment within those concentrated crime areas identify areas within 250 feet, or less than one city block, of a hotel/motel as being the riskiest areas for gun violence.

Just as crime concentrates geographically, it also concentrates temporally. A large percentage of gun crime occurs during overnight hours, mostly between 9:00 PM to 3:00 AM on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights. And just as crime concentrates geographically and temporally, it concentrates to some degree around certain people. Even with a limited data set of only 2018 gun crime, we see offenders with multiple gun violations. The various ways in which gun crime concentrates provides opportunities to focus and prioritize our efforts and interventions.

We met with various challenges in putting this report together, most of which we were able to overcome, at least to what we felt was an acceptable degree. We believe the effort was worth it and hope that you found the information useful and thought-provoking. The recommendations below

outline what we feel are APD's best approaches to addressing gun violence in Austin at this time. These are our top recommendations - there are many other ideas and approaches available in the reports and literature provided. We encourage everyone to read the documents provided in the Resources section below and to work with your crime analyst to implement strategies to combat gun crime in our city. We highly recommend that you implement your initiatives following evidence-based policing concepts so that we can determine how effective your approaches are in reducing gun crime. With limited human resources, we must work smarter rather than harder. Given the potential for harm and death that exists in gun violence episodes, we have no time to spend on approaches that don't work.

In closing, we would appreciate your feedback on this report, both from the standpoint of usefulness and relevancy but also from the standpoint of helping us understand some of the changes we saw in the data. Talk with your assigned analyst and feel free to reach out to Shelia Hargis and Rob Jennings for more details on the findings of this analysis.

Recommendations

The findings of this analysis show that gun crime will need to be tackled in a variety of ways. One approach will not adequately address the challenge. Fortunately, there are many promising strategies for preventing and mitigating this type of crime. The following recommendations provide ideas for addressing it from a variety of angles. We hope these recommendations will provide a starting point for a larger discussion within APD about how we can best keep our citizens and visitors safe from gun violence.

- Public Education Campaign
  - Implement a public education campaign to alert Austin citizens and visitors to the danger of leaving guns in vehicles. Specifically target the districts experiencing the majority of gun thefts. Encourage gun owners to remove guns from unattended vehicles or secure them in a way that makes it significantly harder for the guns to be stolen or to be used if they are stolen. Target hardening has been shown repeatedly to be an effective crime reduction strategy.
- Patrol Initiatives
  - Working with sector crime analysts, implement a Case of Places study of the gun violence hot spot areas. These in-depth investigations into problem areas provide much more insight into the true nature of crime at the location, the top offenders in the area, possible root causes for the crime, and the potential community leaders who can help address issues. See the Resources section below for more information on how to implement a Case of Places study.
  - Implement directed patrol initiatives, following the Directed "Koper" Patrol method, in the districts experiencing the majority of Part I and Part II gun violence during the times most of the crimes are occurring. Do the same for the concentrated areas in which guns are being stolen. See the Resources section below for more information on the Directed "Koper" Patrol method.
  - Set up initiatives in ways that incorporate evidence-based policing concepts so that the results can be analyzed to determine if the approach results in lower numbers of gun violence in the area. Your crime analyst should be involved in developing and implementing initiatives to better inform your actions and to help institute methods for tracking the results of the initiatives.
- Certainty of Punishment
  - Work with the Travis County, Williamson County and Hays County District Attorney's Offices and federal partners to impose certainty of punishment for illegal possession of a firearm. In other words, educate them and engage them in imposing a system that guarantees subjects who are prohibited from possessing a firearm are punished accordingly when found in possession of a gun. When punishment is guaranteed, the

occurrence of gun violations is diminished. More details of this recommendation can be found in the Police Executive Research Forum report, *Reducing Gun Violence: What Works, and What Can Be Done Now*, referenced in the Resources section below.

- o This may also entail working to educate Texas law makers on the specifics of gun crime in Austin. Our findings, in addition to analysis results from other Texas law enforcement agencies, can assist them in determining whether existing laws need to be modified or new laws enacted to address the challenges we are facing.

- Investigations
    - o Fully utilize ballistics evidence and technology to connect guns to their users to solve crimes and prevent future offenses. This includes collecting all eligible ballistic evidence at crime scenes, entering the evidence into the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN), and pursuing the leads that the analysis provides. Patrol, the APD Firearm and Toolmark Unit, and investigators will all have a part in implementing this recommendation. See the Appendix section for more information on NIBIN and on the APD Firearm and Toolmark Unit.
    - o Maintain the focus of the APD Career Criminal/Firearms Unit on fully investigating guns and addressing repeat gun offenders.
        - ▪ Pursue leads developed from using NIBIN to its full capacity.
        - ▪ Use eTrace to its full capacity. See the Appendix for more information on eTrace.
        - ▪ Working with the Career Criminal/Firearms Unit analyst, develop and implement a method to prioritize repeat gun offenders and an approach to proactively address and stop their criminal activity. Focused deterrence strategies have been shown to be effective, but the successful approaches include much more than just arresting these top offenders. See the Resources section below for more information on evidence-based focused deterrence approaches.
    - o Pay close attention to gun crimes committed by juveniles and young adults. Research indicates an elevated propensity for risky or impulsive behavior in teenagers. Impulsivity when a gun is involved increases the possibility of death. APD has had some success with youthful offenders by working closely with Assistant District Attorneys assigned to Gardner Betts.

- Data and Research
    - o Analysis of findings are only as good as the data upon which the analysis is based. APD's move to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) is driving data quality improvements, but that will only take us so far. Good, complete data is critical to APD's efforts to make good decisions. With that in mind, implement policies that emphasize the importance of complete and accurate data entry into Versadex and that require accountability for data entry.
    - o Expand gun violence research. Develop a partnership between the APD Crime Analysis Unit and an academic researcher to rigorously study the effectiveness of APD's gun violence strategies and initiatives.

Resources

A key reference guide for understanding gun violence and the most recent research is the Police Executive Research Forum's (PERF) publication of *Reducing Gun Violence: What Works and What Can Be Done Now* in their Critical Issues in Policing series. We relied heavily on this document to think about gun crime. We highly recommend that everyone interested in this topic read the report. The complete document is available at www.policeforum.org/assets/reducinggunviolence.pdf.

A one-page brief on the most well-known and researched strategies for addressing gun violence is available from PERF at http://cebcp.org/wp-content/CB20092/Koper.

Other resources include the Strategies for Policing Innovation's (SPI) *SMART Approaches to Reducing Gun Violence* report from March of 2014 which also spotlights evidence-based strategies and is available at
www.strategiesforpolicinginnovation.com/sites/default/files/spotlights/SPI%20Gun%20Violence%20Spotlight%20FINAL.pdf.

An older study from the 1990s available from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs (OJJDP) provides historical case studies throughout the United States on a variety of initiatives and policies regarding gun violence, illegal guns, prevention/education and youth programs. It is *Promising Strategies to Reduce Gun Violence* and is available at
https://www.ojjdp.gov/pubs/gun_violence/contents.html.

George Mason University's Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy is a comprehensive resource for information on effective strategies for crime reduction. The website is https://cebcp.org/evidence-based-policing/. Specifically applicable to APD's efforts to address increasing gun violence in Austin are:
- Case of Places approach to developing a deep understanding of problem areas, https://cebcp.org/evidence-based-policing/the-matrix/matrix-demonstration-project/case-of-places/, and
- Evidence-Based Policing Playbook, https://cebcp.org/wp-content/evidence-based-policing/PLAYBOOK.pdf, that includes information on the Directed "Koper" Patrol strategy, Page 10, and Focused Deterrence strategy, Page 11. The Playbook also includes very succinct information on Case of Places, Page 9.

Appendix

Below are summaries on various topics that will further explain aspects of the gun violence report. Topics include: the difference in methodologies between crime analysis and UCR, case clearance information, information on investigating guns through eTrace and NIBIN, information on APD's Firearm and Toolmark Unit, information on APD's Career Criminal/Firearms Unit, and information on Texas gun laws.

Crime Analysis Methodology versus UCR Methodology
Crime analysis methods for querying and analyzing data differ from the methodology used for Uniform Crime Report data compilation. Neither method is wrong – they are different because the goal or focus is different. These are some of the ways the data queries will differ:

Crime Analysis	UCR
Tactical/strategic report to provide actionable intelligence	Administrative report
Allows for flexibility so the analyst can use the best method for answering the question or providing useful information	Strict rules for querying and providing data so that all agencies are providing comparable data
Typically uses "occurred date" - this date helps us understand when the crime happened and when future crime might happen	Uses "reported date" - concerned with capturing all crime reported during a certain time frame regardless of when it occurred
Typically counts offenses regardless of how many victims	Counts number of victims for murder, rape, and aggravated assault. Counts number of offenses for robbery and most Part I property crime.
Typically clearance information is analyzed using the status of the case at a certain time regardless of when the case was cleared	Clearance data is based on when a case was cleared. So all cases that were cleared in 2018, regardless of when they occurred, count toward 2018 clearance numbers.

APD's Case Clearance Definitions

According to the FBI, law enforcement agencies can clear or "close" offenses in two ways: by arrest or by exceptional means. Austin Police Department's General Orders provide details for correctly clearing cases. The following is directly from General Orders, Section 406 Case Clearance.

406.2.2 CLEARED EXCEPTIONALLY
This status is used, when approved by the investigative supervisor, to clear incidents that meet all the following criteria:

(a) The investigation has established the identity of the offender; and
(b) There is sufficient information to support an arrest, charge, and prosecution; and
(c) The exact location of the offender is known so that the offender could be taken into custody; and
(d) There is some reason outside law enforcement control that prevents arresting, charging, and prosecuting the offender, such as:
1. The victim will not cooperate with the investigation or does not wish to pursue the case; or
2. A prosecuting attorney has reviewed the case and declines prosecution, or
3. The suspect is a juvenile and committed a status offense; or
4. The suspect is under the age of criminal responsibility; or
5. The suspect dies; or
6. Extradition of the suspect is denied.

406.2.3 CLEARED BY ARREST
This status should be used if any person involved in the report meets the following criteria, regardless of the disposition of other persons involved or the status of other offenses alleged in the same report.

(a) This status is used to clear criminal cases involving adult offenders when a suspect is arrested and charged with the commission of one of the offenses from the initial incident and the case is referred to court for prosecution, whether following an arrest or cite and release. An unrelated warrant arrest does not clear the case by arrest.
(b) This status is used to clear criminal cases involving juvenile offenders when:
1. The suspect is physically taken into custody and transported to a juvenile facility or home with pending charges from the initial incident; or
2. The suspect is processed for an offense from the initial incident and the case referred to Juvenile Court, whether or not the suspect was actually taken into custody.

eTrace and the National Tracing Center (NTC)

National Tracing Center (NTC)
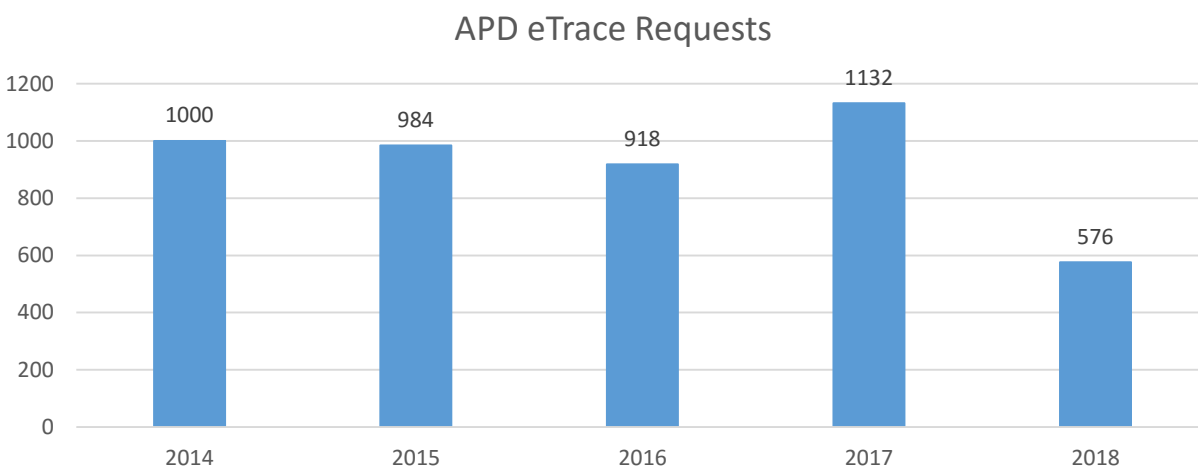https://www.atf.gov/firearms/national-tracing-center

The ATF National Tracing Center (NTC) is the only organization authorized to trace U.S. and foreign manufactured firearms for international, federal, State and local law enforcement agencies. The purpose of the NTC is to assist law enforcement by providing investigative leads with regards to violent crime and terrorism, and to enhance public safety.

Law enforcement personnel can submit firearms information to the NTC via the eTrace system. eTrace is a paperless firearm trace submission system that is readily accessible through the internet and provides the necessary utilities for submitting, retrieving, storing, and querying all firearms trace related information relative to the requestor's agency. Information pertaining to those firearms that were found, seized or recovered, or used in the commission of a crime, can be submitted. Once a trace request is submitted, the NTC will process the information (return times vary) and provide the firearm manufacturer/importer, its introduction into the distribution chain (wholesaler or retailer), and

subsequent buyer. Additionally, eTrace allows for agencies to opt-in to a Collective Data Sharing agreement by which they can share data with any other agencies in their state that have also opted in.

APD and eTrace
Currently, APD submits eTrace requests on a case by case basis. Firearms in which a trace request is submitted are usually those which were found, used in a crime, or were seized by officers due to a firearms-related offense (Possession of Fire by Felon, Unlawful Carrying of Weapon, etc.). Between 2014 and 2018, there were 4610 trace requests submitted by APD. A large drop off in trace requests occurred from 2017 to 2018, due to officers submitting firearms on a case-by-case basis. In previous years, almost all firearms obtained by APD were submitted. This change in procedure was due to the extensive time and manpower needed to complete and submit the necessary requirements for each individual firearm.

APD eTrace Requests

Year	Requests
2014	1000
2015	984
2016	918
2017	1132
2018	576

Source: https://etrace.atf.gov

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National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) Program Overview
https://www.atf.gov/firearms/national-integrated-ballistic-information-network-nibin

In 1999, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) established the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) to provide local, state and federal law enforcement partner agencies with an automated ballistic imaging network. NIBIN is the only national network that allows for the capture and comparison of ballistic evidence to aid in solving and preventing violent crimes involving firearms. It is a resource that is vital to any violent crime reduction strategy because it provides investigators with the ability to compare their ballistics evidence against evidence from other violent crimes on a local, regional and national level, thus generating investigative links that would rarely be revealed absent the technology.
To use NIBIN, firearms examiners or technicians enter cartridge casing evidence into the Integrated Ballistic Identification System to correlate images against those already in the database. Law enforcement personnel can search against evidence from their jurisdiction, neighboring ones, and others across the country.

NIBIN success requires adherence to the four critical steps:
1. Comprehensive Collection and Entry: Partner agencies must collect and submit all evidence suitable for entry into NIBIN, regardless of crime. Evidence includes cartridge cases recovered from crime scenes, as well as test fires from recovered crime guns.
2. Timely Turnaround: Violent crime investigations can go cold very quickly, so the goal is to enter the evidence into the network as quickly as possible in order to identify potential NIBIN leads and subsequently provide this relevant and actionable intelligence to the investigators.

3. Investigative Follow-Up and Prosecution: Linking otherwise unassociated crimes gives investigators a better chance to identify and arrest shooters before they reoffend.
4. Feedback Loop: Without feedback, NIBIN partners cannot know how their efforts are making the community safer, which is necessary for sustained success.

Only crime gun evidence and fired ammunition components pursuant to a criminal investigation are entered into NIBIN. Therefore, NIBIN cannot capture or store ballistic information collected at the point of manufacture, importation, or sale; nor purchaser or date of manufacture or sale information.

The NIBIN National Correlation and Training Center (NNCTC) provides ballistics image correlation review services to more than 45 NIBIN sites, representing over 300 law enforcement agencies throughout the nation. Correlation review, the comparison of NIBIN entries to determine matches, must be conducted by highly trained technicians and is the most labor-intensive aspect of the NIBIN process. By providing participating partners with centralized, expert correlation review, the NNCTC allows those partners to concentrate limited resources on other critical aspects of the NIBIN process, thereby increasing the effectiveness of the NIBIN system in providing critical violent gun crime leads to investigators. In most instances, the NNCTC is able to complete correlation reviews within 48 hours. As of February 2019, the NNCTC had conducted 127,917 correlation reviews, resulting in more than 33,000 investigative leads. These leads help solve homicides, attempted homicides, robberies, and other non-fatal shooting incidents.

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APD Firearm and Toolmark Unit
The Austin Police Department Firearm and Toolmark Unit processes firearm and ballistics evidence when a detective requests such. Once a ballistics request is submitted, a Firearm Unit examiner conducts a test fire of the seized/recovered firearm in order to obtain a correlation sample, usually within 24-48 hours of the request. The sample is then entered into the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network. Upon submission, NIBIN topographically maps out the top 50 results (i.e. other correlation samples that are an exact or close match to the sample submitted). The results typically come back within a day. The examiner then reviews the top rated matches to determine if any are likely matches. If there are strong correlations found, the examiner provides the information to the detective as investigative leads. Recovered cartridges can also be entered into NIBIN and analyzed in a similar manner.

Earlier this year, APD was accepted into the NIBIN National Correlation and Training Center. As noted in the previous section, this will allow APD to concentrate limited resources on other critical aspects of the NIBIN process, thereby increasing the effectiveness of the NIBIN system in providing critical violent gun crime leads to investigators.

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Texas Gun Laws
Source: Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, https://lawcenter.giffords.org/

Open Carrying
Texas generally prohibits the open carrying of handguns, whether loaded or unloaded, on or about the person. However, in 2015, Texas enacted a law authorizing valid handgun license holders to carry visible handguns on their person in a shoulder or belt holster, provided that they also carry a valid handgun license. Texas also permits open carry of handguns by certain security officers, most persons on their own premises or premises under their control, and persons who are engaging in (including going to or from) a lawful hunting or sporting activity, among others. Individuals in motor vehicles and boats are also generally prohibited from carrying a handgun in plain view in Texas, although individuals who are "traveling" are exempt from this prohibition, as are valid handgun license holders if they carry the handgun in a shoulder or belt holster.

Guns in Vehicles
Texas has no laws regarding the carrying of long guns (rifles or shotguns) in motor vehicles. Texas does not require a person to have a valid handgun license in order to carry a loaded handgun in a motor vehicle or watercraft if the vehicle is owned by the person or under the person's control. However, Texas generally prohibits intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carrying a handgun in plain view in a motor vehicle or watercraft, except by handgun license holders carrying the handgun in a shoulder or belt holster.

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Texas Penal Code - Unlawful Carrying/Possession of Weapon Summary
(PARAPHRASED – see the Texas Penal Code for specific wording)

Texas Penal Code 46.02 – Unlawful Carrying Weapons (UCW)
APD Title Code – 1500
A person commits the offense of Unlawful Carrying Weapons if that person is intentionally, knowingly or recklessly carrying a handgun or club and is not:
- On their own premises or premises under their control; or
- Inside of or directly en route to a motor vehicle or watercraft that is owned by that person or under their control.

If a person is inside a motor vehicle or watercraft that they own or control, that person can still be in violation if:
- Engaged in criminal activity (Class B Misdemeanor (non-traffic) or higher);
- Prohibited by law from possessing a firearm; or
- A member of a criminal street gang.

Texas Penal Code 46.03 and 46.035 – Unlawful Carrying of Handgun by License Holder
APD Title Code – 1507
A person commits an offense if the license holder carries a handgun on or about the license holder's person and intentionally displays the handgun in plain view of another person in a public place.
- The exception to this rule is if the handgun was partially or wholly visible, but was carried in a shoulder or belt holder by the license holder.

A person is in violation of Unlawful Carrying of Handgun by License Holder if they carry a handgun onto a prohibited premise, such as a bar or correctional facility.
- Outside of prohibited premises, institutions that are not categorized as a prohibited premise can still restrict LTC, as long as they give effective notice under Section 30.06.

Texas Penal Code 46.04 – Unlawful Possession of Firearm (aka Possession of Firearm by Felon)
APD Title Code – 1502
A person who has been convicted of a felony commits an offense if he possesses a firearm:
- After conviction and before the fifth anniversary of the person's release from confinement, community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision (whichever is later); or
- After the 5-year period, at a location other than the premises at which the person lives.

General Requirements for Obtaining a License to Carry a Handgun (LTC)
Texas Government Code Chapter 411, Subchapter H
- Submit an online application
    - And pass a subsequent background investigation
- Schedule an appointment for and get fingerprinted
- Complete a 4-6 hour classroom training
- Pass a written examination
- Pass a shooting proficiency demonstration

Role of the Career Criminal/Firearms Unit (CCU)
(Paraphrased from the 2019 Career Criminal Unit's Standard Operating Procedure)

History
The Firearm Unit was formally created in March of 2005 in response to the growing concerns about gun crime in Austin. This unit was under the Investigations Bureau, Organized Crime Division. The Firearms Unit was responsible for investigating firearm violations in Austin, Texas. In 2016, the Firearms Unit was repurposed as the Criminal Conspiracy Unit. The intent behind the change was to allow the unit to support other organized crime units (i.e. narcotics) while still maintaining a focus on firearms. In 2018, the current Career Criminal Unit was created to continue the mission of the original Firearm Unit. The mission of the Career Criminal Unit is to ensure the safety of the citizens of Austin by identifying, apprehending and facilitating the prosecution of "Career Criminals" in partnership with our state and federal counterparts.

Investigative Focus
The Career Criminal Unit specifically targets known offenders in the Austin area who repeatedly violate state and federal law. Targeted persons known as "Career Criminals" are those persons who possess an extensive criminal history, may currently be on probation or parole for committing a felony offense and actively committing felonious criminal activity, including firearms related offenses, who pose an increased level of danger to the safety of the community. This will be accomplished by working closely with investigative units within the department and various local, state and federal criminal justice agencies.
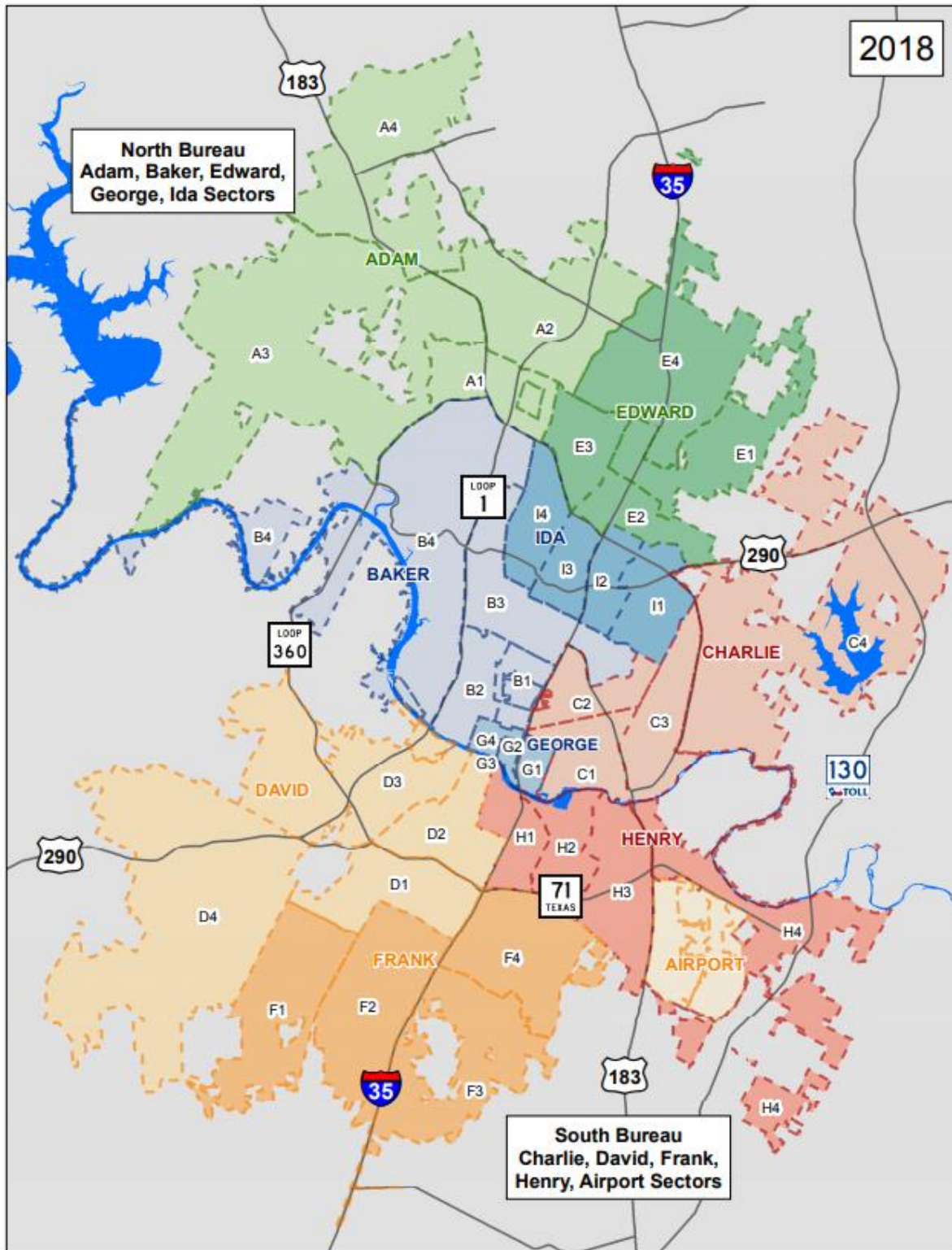
Utilization and Deployment
The Unit will investigate:
- Offenders who habitually violate the law and who may be involved in firearms violations and/or other organized criminal activity.
- Patrol incidents involving career criminals and/or firearms-related offenses.
- As needed to support other investigative units with investigations involving career criminals and/or firearms-related offenses.

Title codes investigated by the CCU:

- 1500- UCW
- 1501- UCW on Licensed Premise
- 1502- Possession of Firearm by Felon
- 1503- Possession of Prohibited Weapon
- 1504- Weapons Violation/Other
- 1507- Unlawful Carrying of Handgun by License Holder
- 1508- Firearms
- 3455- Found Firearm

Austin Police Department's 2018 Sectors & Districts

2018

North Bureau
Adam, Baker, Edward,
George, Ida Sectors

ADAM

A4

A3

A2

A1

EDWARD
E4
E3
E2
E1

BAKER
B4
B4
B3
B2
B1

IDA
I4
I3
I2
I1

CHARLIE
C2
C3
C4
C1

GEORGE
G4 G2
G3 G1

DAVID
D3
D2
D1
D4

HENRY
H1
H2
H3
H4

FRANK
F4
F1 F2
F3

AIRPORT

H4

South Bureau
Charlie, David, Frank,
Henry, Airport Sectors

Area Commands:
North Bureau
Adam – Northwest
Baker – Central West
Edward – Northeast
George – Downtown
Ida – North Central

South Bureau
Charlie – Central East
David – Southwest
Frank – Southeast
Henry – South Central
Airport