WILMINGTON SHOOTINGS 2005

A COMPARATIVE WORKING PAPER OF VICTIMS AND SUSPECTS IN WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

DELAWARE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL JANUARY 2007



PREPARED BY
MICHAEL McLAUGHLIN
PATRICK PUGH

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors acknowledge the following individuals and agencies that assisted in the development of this report.

The Wilmington Police Department

- Captain James Jubb (576-3642)
 Commander, Criminal Investigation Division
- Lawrence Kozicki, Crime Analyst (576-3663)

The Staff of Delaware Criminal Justice Information System

• Peggy Bell, Executive Director

INTRODUCTION

Since 1996, the Delaware Criminal Justice Council has worked with the Wilmington Police Department on analyzing the number of shooting victims and suspects in the city. This report continues the effort of the Delaware Criminal Justice Council to follow the number of shooting victims and suspects in the City of Wilmington. The 2005 report continues to review the nature of shootings in Wilmington by looking at various demographics of victims and known suspects including: age, race, and sex. This report includes a new multi-year shooting chart (Appendix A). It is anticipated that future reports on shootings in Wilmington will include additional multi-year comparison charts.

As in past reports, information was secured from the Wilmington Police Department on all shooting incidents in which a person was shot in the City of Wilmington in 2005. Although this report focuses on the shootings that occurred in 2005, data will be presented from previous year's shooting reports when appropriate. The reader is referred to previous reports for more detail on shooting victims in Wilmington in previous years. All charts and data discussion is related to 2005 shootings unless otherwise noted.

The following variables were used for completion of this report:

- 1. Year of shooting;
- 2. Victim / shooter criminal history;
- 3. Victim / shooter sex;
- 4. Victim / shooter race:
- 5. Victim / shooter age;
- 6. Motive for shooting;
- 7. Status of shooting incident;
- 8. Crime charged as result of shooting incident;

arrison A (2004) Wilmington

¹ Garrison, A. (2004). Wilmington Shootings 2002: A Comprehensive Study of Victims and Offenders in Wilmington, Delaware. Delaware Criminal Justice Council: Wilmington, Delaware. See also, Garrison, A. (2002). Wilmington Shootings 2001: A Comprehensive Study of Victims and Offenders in Wilmington, Delaware. Delaware Criminal Justice Council: Wilmington, Delaware.

METHODOLOGY

The data used for this report was obtained from the Wilmington Police Department and Delaware Criminal Justice Information System (DELJIS) criminal history searches on victims and suspects.

The analysis in this report, as with prior reports, is the result of taking the initial incident reports for all of the shootings in 2005 that resulted in a person being shot and placing them in a database for analysis. Criminal history information was obtained through DELJIS searches. The nature of the data for this report requires some limitations on the analysis of and conclusions about the nature of shootings in Wilmington. Of the 75 shooting incidents, 57.3% did not have an identifiable suspect. Analysis of criminal history is grouped into the following categories: felony, misdemeanor, weapon and drug arrests. Drug arrests include both felony and misdemeanor arrests. Felony and misdemeanor arrests do not include drug arrests.

In an effort to gather more detailed information on the shootings, beginning with the 2001 report, additional data was secured from the Wilmington Police Department Criminal Investigations Division (CID). In the previous studies, a data sheet was constructed in which the name of the victim and date of the incident was provided to the CID and the detectives assigned to each shooting incident filled out the sheet, which gathered post-investigation information. These additional data sheets captured the assessment of the Wilmington Police post-investigation on the shooting incident as well as information on the weapon used, the status of the case and whether the suspect and victim were drug dealers or otherwise involved in drug activity. This data was gathered in an attempt to gain a better understanding of the motives behind the shootings and to separate drug-related shootings from non-drug related shootings. Part of the impetus for this additional analysis was due to the suspicion that drug-related criminal activity was being hidden by misclassification.

We are currently exploring alternatives to the labor-intensive data sheets. Updated drafts of this working paper will be issued as additional information is collected. The majority of this report reflects data from the initial incident reports. Data on the motive of shooting incidents, clearance rates and type of weapon are derived from post-police investigation data.

Unless otherwise noted, the provided data is based on initial police investigation data.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2005, there were 75 shootings incidents in the City of Wilmington resulting in 82 shooting victims and 34 known suspects. It appears that the most significant change in 2005 was the percentage increase in the number of juveniles identified as suspects in shooting incidents. In 2004, juveniles accounted for 7.9% of the known suspects. In 2005, 26.5% of the known suspects were under the age of 18, which represents an 335% increase between the two years. The nine-year average for known suspects that were juveniles at the time of the shooting incident is 10.5%. This jump appears to increase in significance in light of the fact that in the first nine months of 2006, the percentage of known suspects that are juveniles was 29.7%.

Analysis of the shooting victims revealed the following:

- 13.4%, or 11, of the shooting victims (N=82) died as a result of their injuries.
- Males accounted for 95% of the shooting victims.
- Black males accounted for 81.7% of the shooting victims.
- The plurality of victims (48.8%) were between the ages of 18 and 25 years old.

Analysis of the shooting suspects revealed the following

- Of the 34 suspects identified by age:
 - o Juveniles between 14 and 17 years old committed 26.5% of the shootings.
 - o Adults between 18 and 21 years old committed 38.2% of the shootings.
 - o Adults between 22 and 25 years old committed 14.7% of the shootings.
 - o In total, 79.9% of the suspects were less than 26 years old.

In 2005, for the third year in a row, there were no known shooting suspects less than 14 years old.

- In the sixty shooting incidents where at least one suspect was identified by race and sex, there were a total of 75 suspects.
 - o 92% of those identified by race and sex were black males.

Analysis of the shooting incidents revealed the following:

- The plurality (30.5%) of victims were shot in the 1st Quarter (January-March) of 2005.
- Exactly one-half of the victims were shot in the first six months of 2005.
- Of the 75 shooting incidents, there were 4 incidents where three suspects were identified by race and sex, 8 incidents where two suspects were identified by race and sex, and 48 incidents where one suspect was identified by race and sex. In 15 incidents, no suspects were identified.
- In each of the 15 incidents where no suspects were identified by race and/or sex, black males were identified as the victims.

GENERAL SHOOTING STATISTICS

Table One: Shooting Victims in the City of Wilmington 1996 – 2005		
Year	Number	
1996	107	
1997	107	
1998	73	
1999	56	
2000	60	
2001	61	
2002	87	
2003	60	
2004	95	
2005	82	
Total	788	

In 1996 the City of Wilmington had a total of 107 shooting victims, which was a record number at that time. The City had an equally high number of shooting victims in 1997. The number of shooting victims in 2005 decreased 14% from 2004. Shootings in 2005 were 4% higher than the 10-year average of 78.8 victims per year.

VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS

Table Two: Shooting Victims by				
Sex - 2005				
Male Female				
Number	78	4		
Percentage	95.0	5.0		

Table Five shows the shooting victims by sex. For the third year in a row, males accounted for 95% of the shooting victims.

Table Three: Number of Victims by Race and Sex - 2005			
Victim's Race	Number	Percentage of total victims	
Black Male	67	81.7	
Black Female	2	2.4	
White Male	4	4.9	
White Female	2	2.4	
Hispanic Male	6	7.3	
Hispanic Female	0	0.0	
Other Male	1	1.3	
Total	82	100.0	

Table Six shows the shooting victims by race and sex . Black males accounted for 81.7% of shooting victims in 2005. In 2004, black males accounted for 83.2% of shooting victims where, in 2003, they accounted for 91.7%. In 2002, black males accounted for 83.9% of shooting victims. In 2001, black males accounted for 72.1%.

Table Four: Number of Victims by Age - 2005				
Victim's Age Number Percentage of To				
< Under 14 years old	0	0.0		
14 – 17 years old	5	6.1		
18 – 21 years old	26	31.7		
22 – 25 years old	14	17.1		
26 – 30 years old	13	15.9		
31 – 35 years old	8	9.8		
36 – 40 years old	6	7.3		
41 – 45 years old	6	7.3		
46 – 50 years old	3	3.6		
Over 50 years old	1	1.2		
Total	82	100.0		

As with 2004, 2005 showed a concentration of shooting victims in the 18-30 age range. While the percentage of shooting victims in the 22-25 and the 26-30 age ranges decreased 5% and 3%, respectively, from 2004, the percentage of shooting victims that were 18-21 years old increased 5.4% in the same time period. Also, the percentage of shooting victims that were 14-17 years old decreased 4.4% from 2004. In 2005, there were no youth under the age of 14 shot in the City of Wilmington.

SUSPECT DEMOGRAPHICS

The available data on shooting suspects is not as complete as the data on victims. Only 80% of the 75 shooting incidents contained information on the race and sex of the suspect(s). Data concerning the age of the suspect(s) is available in only 42.7% of the shooting incidents.

Table Five: Suspects Identified by Age - 2005			
Suspect's Age	Number	Percentage of Total	
Less than 14 years old	0	0.0	
14 – 17 years old	9	26.5	
18 – 21 years old	13	38.2	
22 – 25 years old	5	14.7	
26 – 30 years old	5	14.7	
31 – 35 years old	1	2.9	
36 – 40 years old	1	2.9	
Over 40 years old	0	0.0	
Total	34	100.0	

In 2004, juveniles between 14 and 17 years old accounted for 7.9% of the known suspects. In 2005, that percentage increased to 26.5%, which represents an 335% increase between the two years. For the third year in a row, there were no known shooting suspects younger than 14 years old.

Table Six: Suspects Identified by Race and Sex - 2005					
Suspect's Race	Number Percentage of Total				
Black Male	69	92.0			
Hispanic Male	4	5.4			
White Male	1	1.3			
Black Female	emale 1 1.3				
Total	75*	100.0			

There was a percentage increase of 13.1% from 2004 in suspects identified by race and sex as black males.

^{*} There were a total of seventy-five shooting suspects identified by race and sex in 2005, representing 60 of the 75 total shooting incidents. This number takes account of the 12 incidents in which more than one suspect was identified by race and sex.

ANALYSIS OF SHOOTINGS

Table Seven: Incident Classification - 2005			
Classification	Number	Percentage of Total Shootings	
Assault I	44	58.7	
Attempted Murder I	5	6.7	
Assault II	10	13.3	
Robbery I	4	5.3	
Reckless Endangerment	0	0.0	
Suicide	0	0.0	
Murder I	10	13.3	
Attempted Robbery I	2	2.7	
Burglary	0	0.0	
Unknown	0	0.0	
Total	75	100.0	

The majority of shooting incidents (58.7%) were classified as Assault I. There were fatalities in ten of the shooting incidents and therefore those incidents were classified as Murder I^* .

Table Eight: Shooting Victims by Quarter - 2005				
Quarter Number Percentage				
1 (January – March)	25	30.5		
2 (April – June)	16	19.5		
3 (July – September)	23	28.1		
4 (October – December)	18	21.9		
Total	82	100.0		

The plurality (30.5%) of victims were shot in the 1st Quarter (January-March) of 2005. Exactly one-half of the victims were shot in the first six months of 2005.

10

^{*} While there were 10 fatal shooting incidents in 2005, one of those was a double-homicide. There were 11 gun homicides in 2005.

VICTIM / SUSPECT RELATIONSHIPS

Table Nine: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 1996				
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total Number of Shootings	
Black Male	Black Male	67	74.5	
Black Male	Black Female	7	7.9	
Black Male	Hispanic Male	4	4.4	
Black Male	White Male	3	3.3	
Black Male	Asian Male	2	2.2	
Black Male	Asian Female	1	1.1	
Black Female	Black Male	1	1.1	
Hispanic Male	Black Male	2	2.2	
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Male	1	1.1	
White Male	Black Male	1	1.1	
White Male	Hispanic Male	1	1.1	
Total Known		90	100.0	

As shown in Table Nine, in 1996, the majority of shootings (74.5%) involved black males shooting black males.

Table Ten: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 1997			
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total
			Number of Shootings
Black Male	Black Male	62	68.1
Black Male	Black Female	10	11.0
Black Male	Hispanic Male	4	4.4
Black Male	White Male	1	1.1
Black Male	White Female	2	2.2
Black Female	Black Male	2	2.2
Hispanic Male	Black Male	1	1.1
Hispanic Male	Black Female	2	2.2
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Male	2	2.2
White Male	Black Male	2	2.2
White Male	White Male	3	3.3
Total Known		91	100.0

As shown in Table Ten, in 1997, the majority of shootings (68.1%) involved black males shooting black males.

Table Eleven: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 1998				
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total Number of Shootings	
Black Male	Black Male	51	79.6	
DIACK IVIAIC	DIACK Maic	31	77.0	
Black Male	Black Female	1	1.6	
Black Male	Hispanic Male	3	4.7	
Black Male	White Female	3	4.7	
Black Female	Hispanic Male	1	1.6	
Hispanic Male	Black Male	2	3.1	
Hispanic Male	White Male	1	1.6	
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Male	1	1.6	
White Male	White Male	1	1.6	
Total I	Known	64	100.0	

As shown in Table Eleven, in 1998, the majority of shootings (79.6%) involved black males shooting black males.

Table Twelve: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 1999			
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total Number of Shootings
Black Male	Black Male	31	66.0
Black Male	Black Female	6	12.8
Black Male	Hispanic Male	4	8.5
Black Male	White Female	1	2.1
Black Male	White Male	1	2.1
Black Female	Black Male	1	2.1
White Male	Black Male	2	4.3
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Male	1	2.1
Tota	l Known	47	100.0

As shown in Table Twelve, in 1999, the majority of shootings (66.0%) involved black males shooting black males.

Table Thirteen: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 2000									
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total Number of Shootings						
Black Male	Black Male	33	76.7						
Black Male	Black Female	2	4.7						
Black Male	Hispanic Male	3	7.0						
Black Male	White Female	1	2.3						
Black Male	White Male	1	2.3						
Black Female	Black Male	1	2.3						
Hispanic Male	Black Male	1	2.3						
White Male	Black Male	1	7.0 2.3 2.3 2.3						
Total F	Known	43	100.0						

As shown in Table Thirteen, in 2000, majority of shootings (76.7%) involved black males shooting black males in 2000.

Table Fourte	Table Fourteen: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 2001										
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total Number of Shootings								
Black Male	Black Male	36	66.7								
Black Male	Black Female	7	13.0								
Black Male	Hispanic Male	2	3.7								
	Asian Male	2	3.7								
Black Male											
Black Female	Black Male	1	1.9								
Black Female	Black Female	1	1.9								
Hispanic Male	Black Male	1	1.9								
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Male	3	5.6								
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Female	1	1.9								
Total	Known	54	100.0								

As shown in Table Fourteen, in 2001, the majority of shootings (66.7%) involved black males shooting black males.

Table Fifteen: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 2002										
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total Number of Shootings							
Black Male	Black Male	57	80.3							
Black Male	Black Female	6	8.5							
Black Male	Hispanic Male	0	0.0							
Black Male	Asian Male	0	0.0							
Black Male	White Male	3	4.2							
Black Female	Black Male	0	0.0							
Black Female	Black Female	0	0.0							
Hispanic Male	Black Male	2	2.8							
Hispanic Male	White Male	1	1.4							
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Male	0	0.0							
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Female	0	0.0							
White Male	Black Male	2	2.8							
White Male	Hispanic Male	0	0.0							
Total	Known	71	100.0							

As shown in Table Fifteen, in 2002, the majority of shootings (80.3%) involved black males shooting black males.

Table Sixteen: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 2003									
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total Number						
			of Shootings						
Black Male	Black Male	27	84.4						
Black Male	Black Female	3	9.4						
Black Male	White Male	1	3.1						
White Male	White male	1	3.1						
Total ?	Known	32	100.0						

As shown in Table Sixteen, in 2003, the majority of shootings (84.4%) involved black males shooting black males.

Table Seventeen: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 2004									
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total Number of Shootings						
Black Male	Black Male	27	71.1						
Black Male	Black Female	3	7.9						
Black Female	Black Male	1	2.6						
Black Female	White Male	1	2.6						
White Male	White Male	3	7.9						
White Male	White Female	1	2.6						
Hispanic Male	Black Male	1	2.6						
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Male	1	2.6						
Total 1	Known	75	100.0						

As shown in Table Seventeen, in 2004, the majority of shootings (71.1%) involved black males shooting black males.

Table Eightee	Table Eighteen: Victim / Known Suspect / Race / Sex Correlations - 2005										
Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total Number of Shootings								
Black Male	Black Male	60	80.0								
Black Male	Black Female	1	1.3								
Black Male	White Male	3	4.0								
Black Male	Hispanic Male	5	6.7								
Black Female	Black Male	1	1.3								
White Male	White Female	1	1.3								
Hispanic Male	Black Male	1	1.3								
Hispanic Male	White Male	1	1.3								
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Male	1	1.3								
Hispanic Male	Other (Unidentified) Male	1	1.3								
	Total Known	75	100.0								

As shown in Table Eighteen, in 2005, the majority of shootings (80.0%) involved black males shooting black males.

Table Forty-Five: Known Suspect / Victim Age Range Correlation										
Suspect	Victim	Number	Total Number	Percentage of						
		of Victims	/ Percentage of	Total						
		by	Suspects by							
		Suspect	Age							
		Age								
		Group								
14 – 17	14 – 17	1	9 / 26.5	2.9						
14 – 17	18 – 21	2		5.9						
14 – 17	22 - 25	2		5.9						
14 – 17	26 – 30	1		2.9						
14 – 17	31 – 35	1		2.9						
14 – 17	36 – 40	0		0.0						
14 – 17	41 – 45	1		2.9						
14 – 17	46 – 50	1		2.9						
18 – 21	14 – 17	2	13 / 38.2	5.9						
18 – 21	18 – 21	7		20.6						
18 – 21	22 - 25	3		8.8						
18 – 21	26 – 30	0		0.0						
18 – 21	31 – 35	1		2.9						
22 – 25	14 – 17	0	5 / 14.7	0.0						
22 – 25	18 – 21	1		2.9						
22 – 25	22 – 25	1		2.9						
22 – 25	26 – 30	1		2.9						
22 – 25	31 – 35	0		0.0						
22 – 25	36 – 40	1		2.9						
22 – 25	41 – 45	0		0.0						
22 – 25	46 – 50	1		2.9						
26 – 30	14 – 17	1	5 / 14.7	2.9						
26 – 30	18 – 21	2		5.9						
26 – 30	22 – 25	0		0.0						
26 – 30	26 – 30	0		0.0						
26 – 30	31 – 35	1		2.9						
26 – 30	36 – 40	1		2.9						
31 – 35	18 – 21	1	1 / 2.9	2.9						
36 – 40	41 – 45	1	1 / 2.9	2.9						
To	tal	34	34 / 100.0	100.0						

APPENDIX A ELEVEN-YEAR CHART OF SHOOTINGS IN WILMINGTON

	Number of shooting victims in the City of Wilmington between calendar years 1996 – 2006																
	1 st Quarter					2 nd Q	Quarter 3 rd Quarter			4 th Quarter				Total			
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	Apr	May	June	Total	July	Aug	Sept	Total	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	
1996	6	7	5	18	13	7	5	25	21	6	12	39	4	11	10	25	107
1997	10	6	2	18	9	13	17	39	14	6	5	25	9	8	8	25	107
1998	9	3	6	18	3	9	3	15	3	14	3	20	11	7	2	20	73
1999	4	7	2	_13_	1	1	6	8	3	4	7	_14_	9	4	8	_21_	56
2000	4	3	1	8	7	4	4	15	7	9	6	22	3	5	7	15	60
2001	5	3	5	13	5	4	4	13	9	11	1	21	2	6	6	14	61
2002	2	16	5	23	7	9	4	20	6*	2	4	12	15	10	7	32	87
2003	7	2**	5**	_14	6	6	4	16	7	6	**3*	16	5	7	2	_14_	60***
2004	7	5*	8	20	9	12	6	27	4	8	10	22	8	12	6	26	95
2005	6	11	8	25	3	8	5	16	5	6	12	23	4	8	6	18	82
2006	6	4	5	15	8	4	7	19	11	5	9	25					

Area in gray shows shootings since the implementation of Operation Safe Streets in June 1997.

Data Source: WPD Crime Analysis Dept. 9/19/06

^{*} Does not include an incident in which a police officer discharged his weapon.

^{**}Does not include self-inflicted shooting victims.

^{***}Disregard reporting of 2003 / 2004 shootings (prior July 12, 2004 memo). Data shown in this report shows corrections.