WILMINGTON SHOOTINGS 2006

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

DELAWARE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL AUGUST 2007



PREPARED BY
PATRICK PUGH
MICHAEL McLAUGHLIN

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)

Special thanks to Arthur Garrison, formerly of the Criminal Justice Council, who, beginning in 1996, was the original author of this report.

INTRODUCTION

Since 1996, the Delaware Criminal Justice Council has worked with the Wilmington Police Department on analyzing the shooting incidents in the city. This report continues the effort of the Delaware Criminal Justice Council to collect and present data on the shooting victims and suspects in the City of Wilmington. The 2006 report continues to review the nature of shootings in Wilmington by looking at various demographics of victims and known suspects including criminal history, age, race and sex. This report includes a multi-year shooting chart (Appendix A). It is anticipated that future reports on shootings in Wilmington will include additional multi-year comparison charts along with statistical analysis, trends, and projections.

Although this report focuses on the shootings that occurred in 2006, 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 tables and data discussion is related to 2006 shootings unless otherwise noted.

The following information was collected for completion of this report:

- 1. Case status
- 2. Victim / suspect sex
- 3. Victim / suspect race
- 4. Victim / suspect age
- 5. Victim / suspect criminal history
- 6. Incident Classification
- 7. Neighborhood
- 8. Date and time of incident
- 9. Area(s) of body shot
- 10. Firearm type used
- 11. Motive for shooting
- 12. Drug(s) involved
- 13. Victim cooperation

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 (WPD) and Delaware Criminal Justice Information System (DELJIS) criminal history and crime report information.

The analysis in this study, as with prior reports, is the result of taking information gathered from the crime reports for all of the 2006 complaints reported by WPD as having at least one person being shot and placing them in a database. Criminal history and incident 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 95 shooting incidents, 56.8% of those did not have an identifiable suspect. Analysis of criminal history is grouped into the following categories: misdemeanor, felony, drug, and weapons arrests. Drug arrests include both felony and misdemeanor arrests for Title 16 offenses. Felony and misdemeanor arrests do not include drug arrests.

There are minor variations in this report from a previous version released in February 2007. Most of these changes are accounted for by the fact that initial information is updated as more time passes from the date of the shooting incident. For example, updated data may include additional suspect information not available in the initial reports.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2006, there were 95 shootings incidents in the City of Wilmington resulting in 101 shooting victims and 57 known suspects. In 2004, juveniles accounted for 7.9% of the known suspects. In 2006, 22.8% of known shooting suspects were juveniles. The nine-year average (excluding 2005 and 2006) for known suspects that were juveniles at the time of the shooting incident is 10.5%.

Analysis of the shooting victims revealed the following:

- 16.8%, or 17, of the shooting victims (N=101) died as a result of their injuries.
- Males accounted for 93.1% of the shooting victims.
- Black males accounted for 84.2% of the shooting victims.
- The plurality of victims (28.7%) were between the ages of 18 and 21 years old.

Analysis of the shooting suspects revealed the following

- In the seventy-seven shooting incidents where at least one suspect was identified by race and sex, there were a total of 124 suspects.
 - o 100% of those identified by race and sex were minority males
 - o 94.4% of those identified by race and sex were black males.
- Of the 57 suspects identified by age:
 - o 22.8% were juveniles between 14 and 17 years old.
 - o 33.3% were adults between 18 and 21 years old.
 - o 26.3% were adults between 22 and 25 years old.
 - o In total, 81.5% of the suspects were less than 26 years old.

In 2006, for the fourth year in a row, there were no known shooting suspects less than 14 years old.

Analysis of the shooting incidents revealed the following:

- There were more shooting victims in the 4th Quarter of 2006 (42) than in any other quarter since 1996, when Criminal Justice Council published the first report on Wilmington shootings.
- The day of the week with the most shooting victims was Friday.
- 8:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. was the hour of the day with the most victims.
- The two most common motives for shootings, non-drug related robbery and non-drug related argument, together accounted for over one-half (51%) of known motives for shooting victims.
- Of the 84 shooting non-fatal victims, 46.4% were found to be non-cooperative in the shooting investigation.

GENERAL SHOOTING STATISTICS

Year	Number
1996	107
1997	107
1998	73
1999	56
2000	60
2001	61
2002	87
2003	60
2004	95
2005	82
2006	101
Total	889

In 2006, there were 19 more shooting victims than in 2005, representing a 23% increase in the total number of shooting victims. In the ten-year period prior to 2006 there were 788 shooting victims, for a yearly average of 78.8 victims. This makes the number of victims in 2006 28% higher than the average of the previous ten years.

Case Status	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Aminos
Case Status	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Averag
Arrest	29.9	32.9	39.3	26.7	52.5	33.3	35.0			36.6	37.2
Open	59.8	63.0	57.1	61.7	8.2	12.6	1.7			0.0	23.6
Pending	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	3.3	1.1	0.0	1		8.9	2.5
Suspended	0.0	0.0	3.6	1.7	32.8	47.1	48.3			49.5	30.5
Warrant	5.6	4.1	0.0	8.3	1.6	2.3	3.3			3.0	3.1
Closed	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	3.4	0.0			2.0	1.2
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.7			0.0	1.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0			100.0	100.0

Table Two is a summary of the case status for shooting victims. It should be noted that there is no data available for 2004 and 2005. The percentage of cases that were cleared by arrest of at least one suspect has remained relatively constant at approximately one-third of all shooting victims. It is not possible to make valid multi-year comparisons for the Open, Pending, and Suspended categories as there was a change in definitions and counting practices between 2000 and 2001.

7	Table Th	ree - Cl	earance	Rates f	or Shoot	ing Vict	ims: 199	7-2006	(Percent	age)
1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Average
34.6	32.9	39.3	26.7	54.1	36.8	35.0			38.6	37.3

The clearance rate for 2006 of 38.6% is not significantly different than the average for prior years for which there is available data.

VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS

Table Four - Shooting Victims by Sex: 2006					
	Number	Percentage			
Male	94	93.1			
Female	7	6.9			
Total	101	100.0			

Table One shows that 93.1% of the shooting victims in 2006 were males and the remaining 6.9% were females.

Victim's Race	Number	Percentage
Black Male	85	84.2
Black Female	7	6.9
White Male	4	4.0
White Female	0	0.0
Hispanic Male	5	5.0
Hispanic Female	0	0.0
Total	101	100.0

In 2006, 96.1% of shooting victims were either Black or Hispanic.

Victim's Age	Number	Percentage
Under 14 years old	1	1.0
14 - 17 years old	6	5.9
18-21 years old	29	28.7
22 - 25 years old	17	16.8
26 - 30 years old	21	20.8
31 - 35 years old	12	11.9
36 - 40 years old	5	5.0
41 – 45 years old	4	4.0
46 – 50 years old	3	3.0
Over 50 years old	3	3.0
Total	101	100.0

Two-thirds of all shooting victims were between the ages of eighteen and thirty.

Table Seven - Shooting Victims with Criminal History: 2006					
Criminal History	Number	Percentage			
Yes	90	89.1			
No	11	10.9			
Total	101	100.0			

Almost ninety percent (89.1%) of the shooting victims in 2006 had previously been arrested for criminal charges.²

Table Eight - Shooting Victims by # of Misdemeanor Arrests: 2006					
Arrests	Number	Percentage			
None	13	12.9			
One - Two	20	19.8			
Three or more	68	67.3			
Total	101	100.0			

Just over two-thirds of shooting victims (67.3%) had three or more misdemeanor arrests, excluding those that involved weapons or drugs, at the time of the shooting incident.

Table Nine - Shooting Victims by # of Felony Arrests 2006					
Arrests	Number	Percentage			
None	30	29.7			
One - Two	33	32.7			
Three or more	38	37.6			
Total	101	100.0			

Over seventy percent of victims had at least one prior felony arrest at the time of the shooting incident. Just over one-third of the shooting victims (37.6%) had three or more felony arrests, excluding those that involved weapons or drugs.

² Criminal charges include offenses enumerated in Titles 11 and 16 and local ordinances that substantially mirror those parts of the Delaware Code.

Table Ten - Shooting Victims by # of Drug Arrests: 2006					
Arrests	Number	Percentage			
None	36	35.6			
One	9	8.9			
Two or more	56	55.4			
Total	101	100.0			

The majority of shooting victims (55.4%) had been arrested on two or more occasions for either misdemeanor or felony drug-related charges.

Table Eleven - Shooting Victims by # of Weapons Arrests: 2006					
Arrests	Number	Percentage			
None	54	53.5			
One	33	32.7			
Two or more	14	13.9			
Total	101	100.0			

46.6% of shooting victims had previously been arrested for misdemeanor or felony weapons-related charges.

Table Twelve - Shooting Victims by Career Criminal Candidate (CCC) Designation: 2006					
CCC	Number	Percentage			
Yes	24	23.8			
No	77	76.2			
Total	101	100.0			

23.8% of the victims in 2006 qualified for designation as Career Criminal Candidates as of the date of the shooting incident. In order to achieve this status, an individual must have a minimum of two convictions for Class A or B felonies as enumerated in Title 11, Sec. 4214(b) or a minimum of three convictions for any class of felony. Each conviction must be incurred as a result of a separate criminal act.

Table Thirteen - Shooting Victims by Drug Deale Designation: 2006		
	Number	Percentage
Yes	46	45.5
Suspected	50	49.5
No	5	5.0
Total	101	100.0

95% of shooting victims were previously charged with drug-dealing offenses or were identified in the crime report narrative of the shooting incident as being involved in the drug trade.

SUSPECT DEMOGRAPHICS

able rourteen	n - Shooting Suspects by Sex: 200		
	Number	Percentage	
Male	124	100.0	
Female	0	0.0	
Total	124	100.0	

Table Fourteen shows that 124 individuals were identified as suspects in shooting incidents. 100.0% of these suspects were identified as being male.

	Number	Percentage
Black Male	117	94.4
Black Female	0	0.0
White Male	0	0.0
White Female	0	0.0
Hispanic Male	7	5.6
Hispanic Female	0	0.0
Total	124	100.0

In 2006, 100.0% of shooting suspects were identified as being black or Hispanic males.

Suspect's Age	Number	Percentage
Under 14 years old	0	0.0
14-17 years old	13	22.8
18 – 21 years old	19	33.3
22 – 25 years old	15	26.3
26 - 30 years old	9	15.8
31 – 35 years old	0	0.0
36 - 40 years old	0	0.0
41 - 45 years old	0	0.0
46 – 50 years old	1	1.8
Over 50 years old	0	0.0
Total	57	100.0

All but one (98.2%) of the identified shooting suspects were thirty years of age or younger. In 2006, for the fourth year in a row, there were no known shooting suspects less than 14 years old.

Table Seventeen - Shooting Suspects with Criminal History: 2006		
Criminal History	Number	Percentage
Yes	55	96.5
No	2	3.5
Total	57	100.0

Fifty-five out of fifty-seven suspects had a prior criminal history.

Table Eighteen - Shooting Suspects by # of Misdemeanor Arrests: 2006		
Arrests	Number	Percentage
None	4	7.0
One - Two	9	15.8
Three or more	44	77.2
Total	57	100.0

Three out of four suspects had three or more misdemeanor arrests prior to the shooting incident.

Table Nineteen - Shooting Suspects by # of Felony Arrests: 2006		
Arrests	Number	Percentage
None	10	17.5
One - Two	17	29.8
Three or more	30	52.6
Total	57	100.0

82.5% of suspects have at least one prior felony arrest and over one-half have been arrested three or more times for felony charges.

Table Twenty - Shooting Suspects by # of Drug Arrests: 2006		
Arrests	Number	Percentage
None	7	12.3
One	11	19.3
Two or more	39	68.4
Total	57	100.0

Over two-thirds of shooting suspects were arrested on two or more occasions for drug charges prior to the 2006 shooting incident.

Table Twenty-One - Shooting Suspects by # of Weapons Arrests: 2006		
Arrests	Number	Percentage
None	27	47.4
One	10	17.5
Two or more	20	35.1
Total	57	100.0

Slightly more than one-half (52.6%) had prior arrests for weapons.

Table Twenty-Two - Shooting Suspects by Career Criminal Candidate (CCC) Designation: 2006		
CCC	Number	Percentage
Yes	15	26.3
No	42	73.7
Total	57	100.0

26.3% of the suspects in 2006 qualified for designation as Career Criminal Candidates as of the date of the shooting incident. 23.8% of shooting victims for the same time period qualified for CCC designation.

	Three - Shooting S aler Designation: 2	
Arrests	Number	Percentage
Yes	41	71.9
Suspected	13	22.8
No	3	5.3
Total	57	100.0

94.7% of shooting victims were previously charged with drug-dealing offenses or were identified in the crime report narrative of the shooting incident as being involved in the drug trade.

ANALYSIS OF SHOOTINGS

Table Twenty-Four - Vic		
Quarter	Number	Percentage
1 (January - March)	15	14.9
2 (April – June)	19	18.8
3 (July - September)	25	24.8
4 (October – December)	42	41.6
Total	101	100.0

Two-thirds of the shooting victims (66.4%) were shot in the second-half of 2006. There were more shooting victims in the 4th Quarter of 2006 (42) than in any other quarter since 1996, when the Criminal Justice Council published the first report on Wilmington shootings.

	Number	Percentage
Murder I	15	15.8
Attempted Murder I	14	14.7
Assault I	54	56.8
Assault II	11	11.6
Accident	1	1,1
Total	95	100.0

The leading crime involved in the majority of shooting incidents (56.8%) was Assault I. There were fatalities in fifteen of the shooting incidents and therefore they were classified as Murder I.³

16

³ While there were fifteen fatal shooting incidents in 2006, two of those were double-homicides. There were 17 gun homicides in 2006.

Neighborhood	Number	Percentage
West Side	16	16.8
East Side	14	14.7
Prices Run	14	14.7
Boulevard	13	13.7
Riverside / 11 th St. Bridge	11	11.6
Browntown / Hedgeville	10	10.5
West Center City	8	8.4
Midtown Brandywine	3	3.2
South Wilmington	2	2.1
Northwest	2	2.1
Southwest	2	2.1
Central	0	0.0
Cherry Island	0	0.0
Delaware Avenue	0	0.0
Bancroft Parkway	0	0.0
Total	95	100.0

Table Twenty-Five shows the shooting incidents by neighborhood. For additional information concerning locations of shooting incidents, refer to Appendix B beginning on p. 24.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes day	Thursda y	Friday	Saturda y	Total
0000-0100		1	5				1	7
0100-0200		1				1	2	4
0200-0300	1				1	1	3	6
0300-0400	1							1
0400-0500	2						1	3
0500-0600								0
0600-0700								0
0700-0800						1		1
0800-0900								0
0900-1000								0
1000-1100	2	1						3
1100-1200								0
1200-1300		2	1		2	1		6
1300-1400				2	1	2		5
1400-1500		1			1 -	1		2
1500-1600		1	1				2	4
1600-1700	1		1		1	1		4
1700-1800	2	2	1			1		6
1800-1900		1	1	3		1		6
1900-2000		2		1		2		5
2000-2100	2	3		1	2	1	2	11
2100-2200			3	2	1	1	1	8
2200-2300	3	1	1		2	2	1	10
2300-0000	1	1	2		2	2	1	9
Total	15	17	16	9	12	18	14	

The day of the week with the most shooting victims was Friday. 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. was the hour of the day with the most victims. The day of the week with the fewest shooting victims was Wednesday. The one-hour period in a week with the most shooting victims was Tuesday morning from midnight until 1:00 a.m.

Area of Body Shot	Number	Percentage
Head, neck & face	14	13.9
Chest	17	16.8
Abdominal area	8	7.9
Hips, legs, groin & feet	59	58.4
Shoulders, arms & hands	15	14.9
Back	8	7.9
Unknown	0	0.0
Total	121	119.8

The plurality of victims (58.4%) sustained gunshot wounds to their hips, legs, groin, or feet. The explanation for the total percentage exceeding the standard 100% total is accounted for in the fact that some victims sustained wounds in more than one area of the body.

Type of Weapon	Number	Percentage		
.22	6	9.7		
.25	4	6.5		
.32	3	4.8		
9mm	20	32.3		
.357	5	8.1		
.380	5	8.1		
.38	2	3.2		
.40	11	17.7		
.44	1	1.6		
.45	1	1.6		
Shotgun	3	4.8		
Assault Rifle	1	1.6		
Total	62	100.0		

There were twelve categories of weapons identified as being used in shootings. Two categories, the 9mm and the .40 cal., accounted for exactly one-half (50.0%) of the 62 weapons identified by calibre or other type as being used in 2006 shootings.

Motive	Number	Percentage
Robbery not drug related	14	25.5
Argument not drug related	14	25.5
Money not drug related	4	7.3
Fight not drug related	3	5.5
Burglary not drug related	3	5.5
Revenge not drug related	3	5.5
Bystander not drug related	2	3.6
Domestic Violence	1	1.8
Gang related	1	1.8
Accident	1	1.8
Drug related robbery	4	7.3
Drug related innocent bystander	2	3.6
Drug related argument	1	1.8
Shot during drug sale	1	1.8
Protection of drug territory	1	1.8
Total	55	100.0

Fifty-five of the shooting victims in 2006 for whose case a motive was identified. The two most common motives, non-drug related robbery and non-drug related argument, together accounted for over one-half (51%) of known motives for shooting victims.

Drug	Number	Percentage
Marijuana	3	3.2
Cocaine (Powder & Crack)	9	9.5
Heroin	1	1.1
Total	124	12.6

Of the 95 shooting incidents in 2006, 12.6% were related to one or more identified drug.

⁴ In one case, both marijuana and cocaine were identified as being related to the shooting incident. Therefore, we have avoided counting it twice in the table totals.

Table Thirty-Two - Victim Cooperation: 2006							
Cooperative?	Number	Percentage					
Yes	45	53.6					
No	39	46.4					
Total	84	100.0					

Of the 84 shooting non-fatal victims, 46.4% were found to be non-cooperative in the shooting investigation.

VICTIM / SUSPECT RELATIONSHIPS

Suspect	Victim	Number	Percentage of Total			
Black Male	Black Male	107	79.3			
Black Male	Black Female	12	8.9			
Black Male	White Male	4	3.0			
Black Male	Hispanic Male	5	3.7			
Hispanic Male	Black Male	3	2.2			
Hispanic Male	Hispanic Male	4	3.0			
Tot	al Known	134	100.0			

In 2006, there were 134 instances of an individual being identified by race and sex as a suspect shooting a victim that was also identified by race and sex. In 119, or 88.2%, of those instances, it involved a black male shooting either another black male or a black female.

	Table Th	AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	elation: 2006			
Suspect Age Group	Victim Age Group	Number in Victim Age Group by Suspect Age Group	Total Number / Percentage of Victims by Suspect Age Group	Percentage of Total		
14 – 17	< 14	1		1.6		
14-17	18-21	4		6.5		
14-17	22 - 25	2	12/20	3.2		
14 – 17	26-30	3	13 / 20.6	4.8		
14 – 17	41 – 45	2		3.2		
14-17	46 – 50	1		1.6		
18 - 21	14 – 17	3		4.8		
18 - 21	18 - 21	6		9.7		
18-21	22 - 25	2		3.2		
18 - 21	26 - 30	5	21 / 33.3	8.1		
18 - 21	31 – 35	2		3,2		
18 - 21	36 - 40	1		1.6		
18 - 21	41 – 45	2		3.2		
22 - 25	< 14	1		1.6		
22 - 25	14 – 17	1		1.6		
22 - 25	18 - 21	6		9.7		
22 - 25	22 - 25	4	10/20/	6.5		
22 - 25	26 - 30	2	18 / 28.6	3.2		
22 - 25	31 – 35	2		3.2		
22 - 25	36 - 40	1		1.6		
22 – 25	41 – 45	1		1.6		
26 - 30	14 – 17	1		1.6		
26 - 30	18 – 21	1		1.6		
26 - 30	22 – 25	3	10/150	4.8		
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		2	10 / 15.9	3.2		
26 - 30	31 – 35	2		3.2		
26 - 30	36 – 40	1		1.6		
46 - 50	> 50	1	1 / 1.6	1.6		
To	tal	63	63 / 100.0	100.0		

In 2006, there were 63 instances of an individual being identified by age as a suspect shooting a victim that was also identified by age. 38.1% of those instances involved a 14-25 year old suspect shooting an 18-25 year old victim.

APPENDIX A ELEVEN-YEAR CHART OF SHOOTINGS IN WILMINGTON

			Numbe	r of sho	oting v	ictims i	in the C	ity of W	'ilming	ton bet	ween ca	lendar y	ears 19	996 – 2	006		
		1 st (Quarter	100		2 nd C)uarter			3 rd C	Quarter		100	4 th C)uarter		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	17	11	14	42	101

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

Data Source: WPD Crime Analysis Dept. 1/17/07

^{*} 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.

APPENDIX B

2006 SHOOTING INCIDENT LOCATIONS

The following pages are satellite images that show the locations of many of the 95 shooting incidents in 2006. For ease of use, the locations are broken down by neighborhood with each image showing several Wilmington neighborhoods.

- Image B(1) shows the neighborhoods of Boulevard, Northwest, Prices Run, and Riverside / 11th St. Bridge.
- Image B(2) shows the neighborhoods of West Side, West Center City, and Browntown / Hedgeville.
- Image B(3) shows the neighborhood of East Side.

The shooting incidents are ordered chronologically. The position of the number indicates the location of a shooting incident. Numbers in red indicate fatal shooting incidents. Numbers in yellow indicate non-fatal shooting incidents.