

Analysis of 2011 Rochester-City Pawn Shop Transactions: The Year in Review



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The following report analyzes a year's worth of data on Rochester-city pawn shop transactions. This 2011 analysis closely mirrors a 2010 analysis conducted by the same authors. Although many pawn shops may be legitimate businesses, questions of crime and stolen property remain a focus of law enforcement for some pawn shops. With the out of county arrest of one of 2010's most frequent pawners for the alleged participation in a theft ring and the closing of two local pawn shops believed to engage in fencing, the concern persists that pawn shops knowingly cater to thieves and are frequently utilized to fence stolen property. It is for this reason that the Center for Public Safety Initiatives in partnership with the Monroe Crime Analysis Center and the Rochester Police Department provides an analysis of annual pawn shop transactions within the city of Rochester, NY.

Pawn shops are second-hand businesses wherein people bring goods to be sold for cash or to use as collateral for high-interest loans; the data within this analysis consists only of items that were sold. Although it is technically a misnomer, the title "pawner" will be used to describe the individuals within this analysis.

The 2010 analysis – available online at the Center for Public Safety Initiatives website – indicated that several individuals were responsible for a great deal of the items sold to pawn shops; the twenty most active pawners in 2010 made up only 1/10th of 1% of the sample, yet accounted for 3% of all items sold to pawn shops. Twelve of these pawners had theft-related criminal histories and all but one individual had a criminal history of some kind within Monroe County. Six pawners who had theft-related criminal histories frequented two pawn shops that were owned by the same pawnbroker; these shops both closed in the early part of 2011.

There were approximately 23,000 pawn shop transactions within Rochester in 2011 – these transactions being instances wherein pawners sold one or more items to a pawn shop. Among the 23,000 transactions there was great variability in the number of items sold. For this reason, we analyze the data through examining both the entire pawning sample and the individuals most active within this sample. These twenty-five "Highly Active Pawners" all sold thirty or more items during the one-year period examined.

The 2011 analysis utilizes the same labeling system as the 2010 analysis. The current dataset differs substantially from its 2010 counterpart in one important regard – in the current dataset all pawner names were manually cleaned. This required the manual review of over 23,000 transactions and allowed this analysis to provide a more accurate reflection of the total number of pawners and of how many transactions each individual was involved in. Because of this, there are nearly 1,700 fewer unique pawners identified for the present analysis when compared to the 2010 analysis.

Thirty-nine registered pawn shops were included in this analysis with some pawn shops recording a substantially greater number of transactions than others. Ten shops recorded fewer than ten transactions for the year – five recorded only one transaction. It is highly probable that several pawn shops listed within this analysis were the result of typographical errors.

Current Legislation

Doing Business As information was available for 36 of the 39 pawn shops; of these, 67% opened within the last decade. Most pawnbrokers listed opened within the last five years. Turnover for pawn shops appears to be fairly swift, with a number of the same individuals opening new pawn shops every few years.

Because of law enforcement and community concerns about criminal activities pawnbrokers are required under local laws to electronically report all of the items they receive via purchase or pledge to the Rochester Police Department. In order to conduct business these pawnbrokers are required to obtain and maintain a yearly license from the Chief of Police as well as report their daily transactions to the department.

On March 28, 2012 the Mayor of Rochester and the Rochester City Council approved of three new articles regarding the licensing of pawnbrokers, secondhand dealers, junkyard operators, junk dealers, and scrap processors. The pawnbroker article now requires that – in addition to recording the name, date of birth, and address of the pawner, the date and time of the transaction and a description of and any identifying marks for the property – pawnbrokers record the physical description of the pawner and the name of the employee who purchased the goods from the pawner.

The greatest change to appear in this new legislation is as follows: beginning on June 1st, 2012, all pawnbrokers are now required to submit their daily transactions electronically to the Rochester Police Department. Prior to the passing of this legislation all reporting was done by hand and then faxed to a staff member of the Rochester Police Department who then consolidated and organized this data electronically.

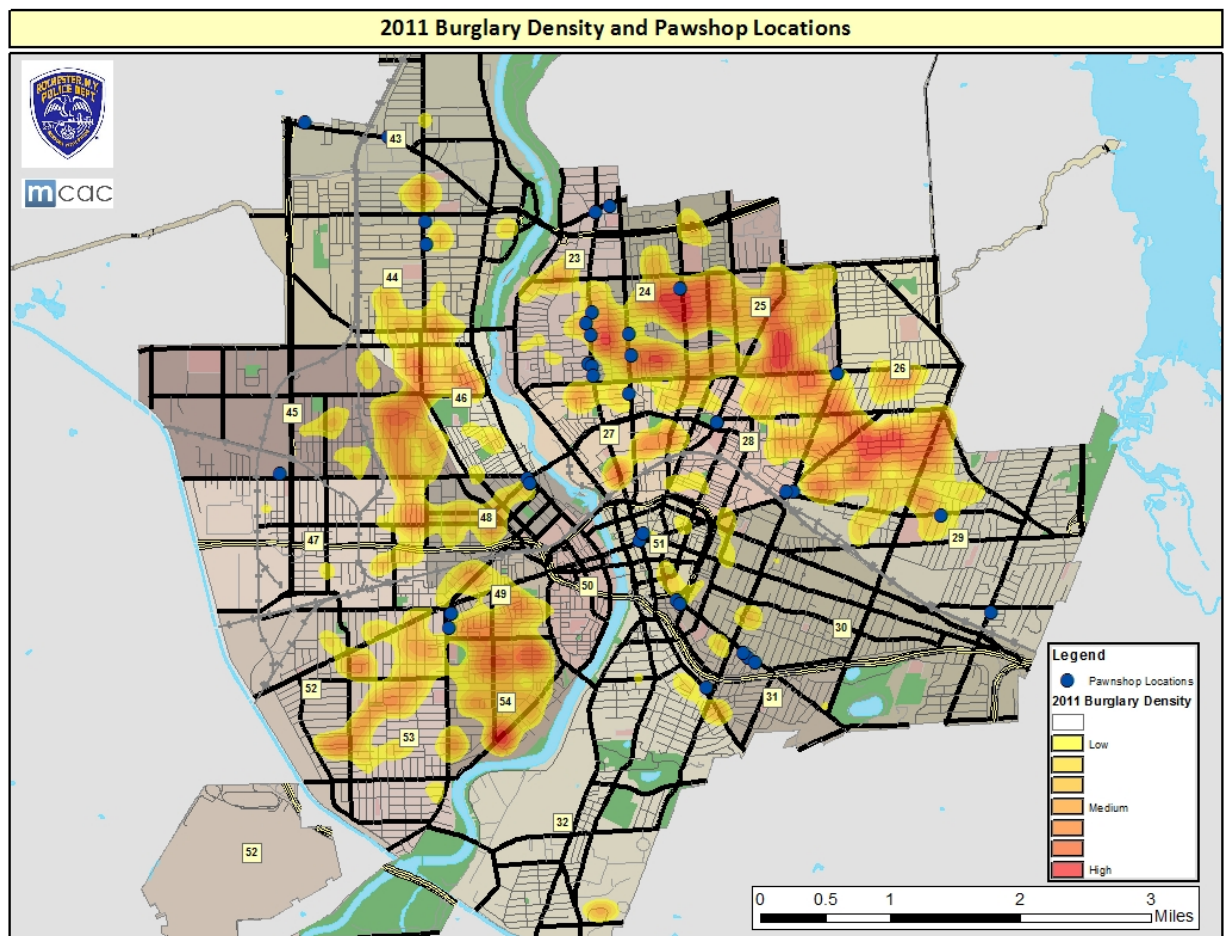
Concerns regarding theft and the receiving of stolen property are addressed in several portions of Rochester's article on pawnbrokers. In order to maintain their license, pawnbrokers are not allowed to receive any property from any thief, known by the pawnbroker to be such. Further, one new provision of the article provides that no pawnbroker shall make a purchase or otherwise receive articles without first ascertaining that such property was not stolen.

1. Where are pawn shops located within Rochester-city?

There are a total of 39 pawn shops included in this analysis; unfortunately, addresses were only available for 36 of the pawn shops - all 36 are located within Rochester-city. In the 2010 analysis we displayed the locations of pawn shops overlaid with median household income by census tract. This indicated that most pawn shops were located in areas of extreme poverty, with a median household income below \$20,000.

For the present analysis we include a different sort of map. Chart 1, displayed below, provides the location of pawn shops overlaid with a density map of burglaries for 2011. As can be seen, most pawn shops are located in areas where there were high rates of burglaries.

Chart 1: Density of Rochester Burglaries and Pawn Shop locations, 2011



2. How many transactions were completed by pawn shops over one year?

Nearly 30,600 items were purchased by pawn shops across almost 23,400 transactions in 2011; this figure represents a 2.2% decrease from the prior year. The thirty-nine pawn shops included in this analysis spent just shy of \$2.3 million in purchasing these goods – an increase of nearly 15% from 2010. The average rate of money that a pawner receives for their items is unknown; however, scouring available research and articles on the topic indicated that pawners often receive approximately 25% of the item's actual value. Therefore, the resale value of these items would be close to \$9.2 million.

The top ten most active pawn shops spent nearly \$1.94 million – 84% of the total money spent by pawnbrokers in 2011. Twenty-nine other pawn shops accounted for the remaining \$360,000 spent on purchased goods.

The twenty pawners to receive the greatest amount of money in a single transaction earned between \$2,600 and \$21,000 for the year. Thirteen of these individuals sold only one item; all twenty sold five or fewer items. The majority of these transactions appeared to involve the sale of one or two items of high value versus a large volume of goods at lesser values. The average amount of money earned among those with one transaction was \$3,400 (the individual with \$21,000 was not included in developing this average). The items sold by this group were predominantly jewelry, coins, gold, and forms of transportation.

Under city law no pawnbroker is allowed to conduct business on Sunday; however, 217 items were recorded as being purchased on a Sunday in 2011. Assuming that pawn shops are open six days a week the total daily purchases for the ten busiest shops varied greatly: from almost twenty-six items a day to a little over three. The average number of items purchased by the remaining twenty-nine shops was found to be less than one item per day. As demonstrated in the 2010 analysis and reaffirmed here, several pawn shops seem to dominate the market in Rochester; further, in looking at the total reported amount of money spent, there seems to be little relation between the number of items sold to shops and the amount of money received by pawners.

Table 1: Total number of items purchased by ten busiest pawn shops, 2011 (n = 39)

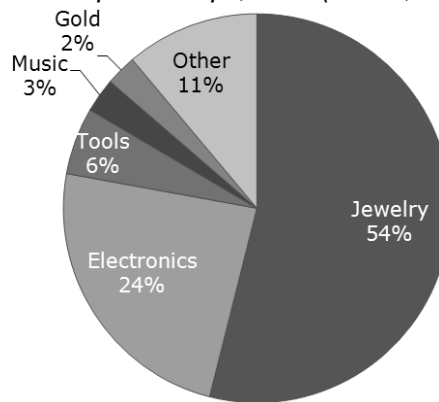
Pawn Shop	Money Spent	Items Purchased	Daily Average (6-day week)
Pawnbroker-01	\$672,108	8,099	25.88
Pawnbroker-02	\$215,745	3,784	12.09
Pawnbroker-03	\$381,741	3,750	11.98
Pawnbroker-04	\$76,485	1,751	5.6
Pawnbroker-05	\$80,165	1,471	4.70
Pawnbroker-06	\$76,875	1,445	4.62
Pawnbroker-07	\$198,465	1,153	3.67
Pawnbroker-08	\$114,720	1,148	3.67
Pawnbroker-09	\$83,993	1,111	3.55
Pawnbroker-10	\$36,363	1,040	3.32
All Others (Average, n = 29)	\$12,490	200.79	0.64
Total:		30,575	97.68

3. What types of items were sold?

All Pawners

A total of 13,188 individuals were involved in 23,388 transactions in 2011; this latter figure represents a decrease in transactions of 1.3% from 2010. As in 2010 the most common form of item sold was jewelry; rings made up over 20% of all items sold to pawn shops in 2011. Aside from rings the most commonly pawned items were: chains, earrings, bracelets, tools, charms, videogame systems, and computers. Other commonly pawned items included televisions, MP3 players, musical instruments, necklaces, and cameras. A few of the more unusual items to be sold to pawn shops were a print of L. Ron Hubbard, a nutcracker of Julius Caesar, a cement headstone, and a Christmas tree (sold in August).

Chart 2: Breakdown of all items sold to pawn shops, 2011 (n = 30,575)



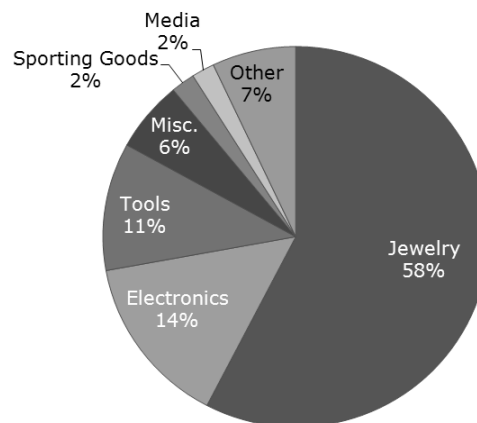
Highly Active Pawners

A total of 1,095 items were purchased in the 807 transactions that occurred among the most highly active pawners for 2011; again, these were the twenty-five pawners who had sold 30 or more items over the course of 2011.

As seen below, the types of items purchased by pawn shops from the highly active pawners closely resembles the items purchased from the entire sample. This was not the case for the 2010 analysis – in that year Highly Active Pawners sold a notable number of building supplies and small-scale appliances. The two individuals who most frequently sold these items to pawn shops were both arrested in 2010 and neither sold items in Rochester-city in 2011.

Between 2010 and 2011 the total number of building supplies sold to pawn shops in Rochester-city decreased by 76% and the total number of small-scale appliances sold to pawn shops decreased by 47%. When looking at the following chart it is important to recall that it represents the sum of items sold by Highly Active Pawners and the removal of one individual may alter the entire breakdown of the items sold to pawn shops.

Chart 3: Breakdown of items sold to pawn shops by Highly Active Pawners, 2011 (n = 954)



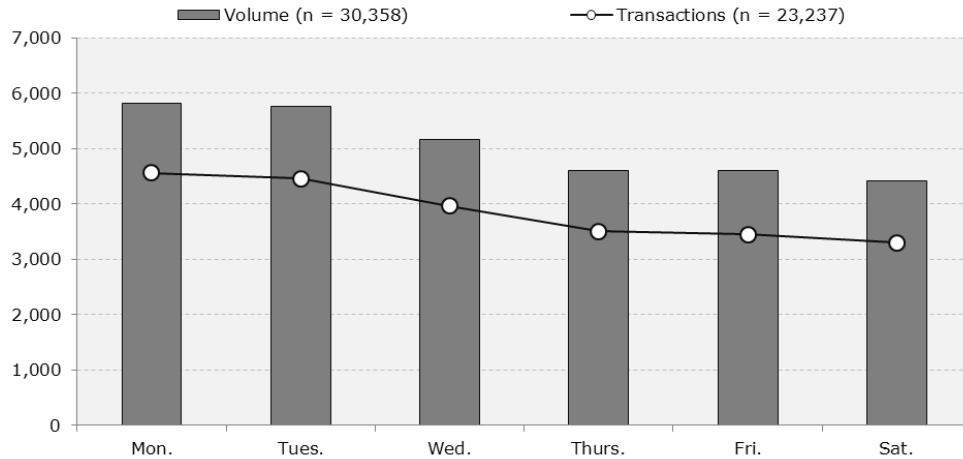
4. When do people sell items to pawn shops?

All Pawners

As with the 2010 analysis we have opted to exclude those few items sold to pawnbrokers on Sunday (n = 217). As opposed to the 2010 analysis, we include the total number of transactions for each day of the week. As seen below, the distance between the transaction marker and the

top of the bar is consistent across the week; this indicates that – on average – the total number of items sold per transaction remains constant across the week. The decrease in the sale of items across the week resembles the decline seen in 2010.

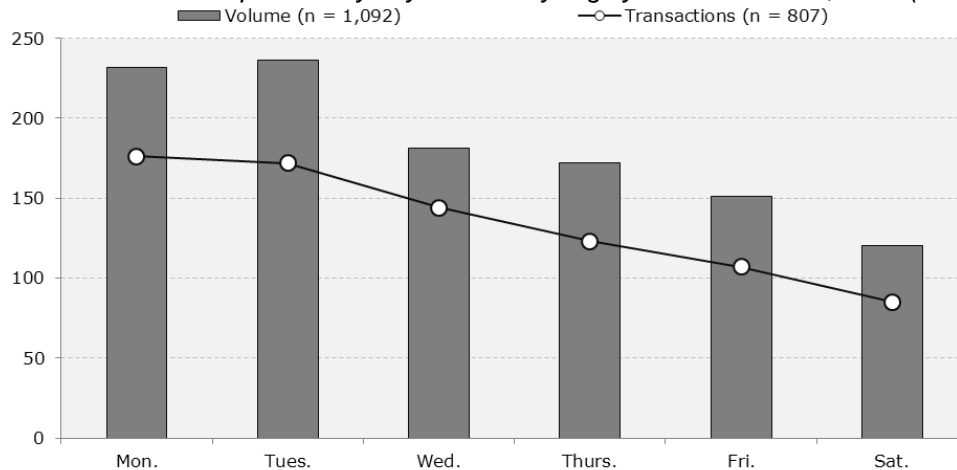
Chart 4: Total number of items pawned by day of week, 2011 (n = 13,188)



Highly Active Pawners

The Highly Active Pawners for 2011 most frequently sold goods to pawn shops towards the beginning of the week. The decline for these active pawners is much steeper than the decline for all pawners. In looking at transactions, it appears that more items are sold per transaction towards the beginning of the week on Monday and Tuesday than towards the end of the week. When comparing this chart to its 2010 counterpart, recall that both samples of Highly Active Pawners contain twenty-five or fewer people, and that there were only five individuals who were Highly Active Pawners in both the 2010 and 2011 sample. That is to say, while the total number of items pawned by day of week for Highly Active Pawners does not seem similar when comparing 2010 and 2011, they are – by and large – different people with different habits and should be analyzed as such.

Chart 5: Total number of items pawned by day of week by Highly Active Pawners, 2011 (n = 25)

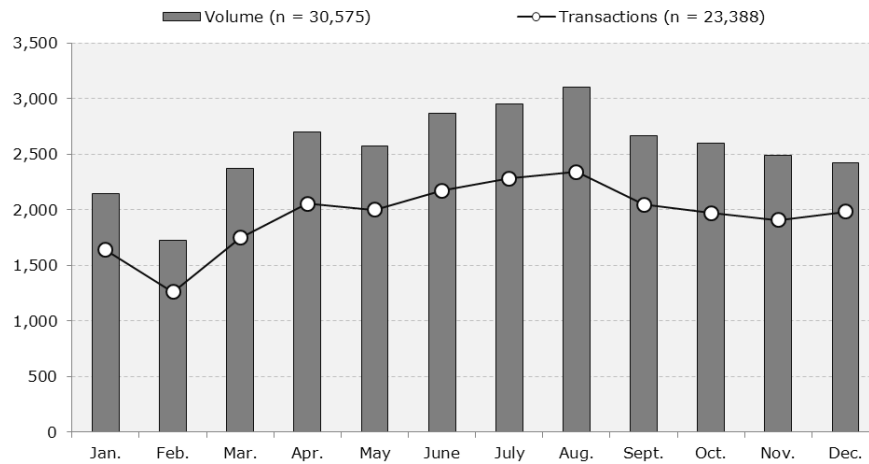


All Pawners

In examining the pawning habits by month for 2010 we wrote that there appeared to be no seasonality for when pawners sold items. In looking broadly across the year for 2011 it would

appear that the total number of items pawned by month slightly increased in the warmer months and decreased as temperatures cooled.

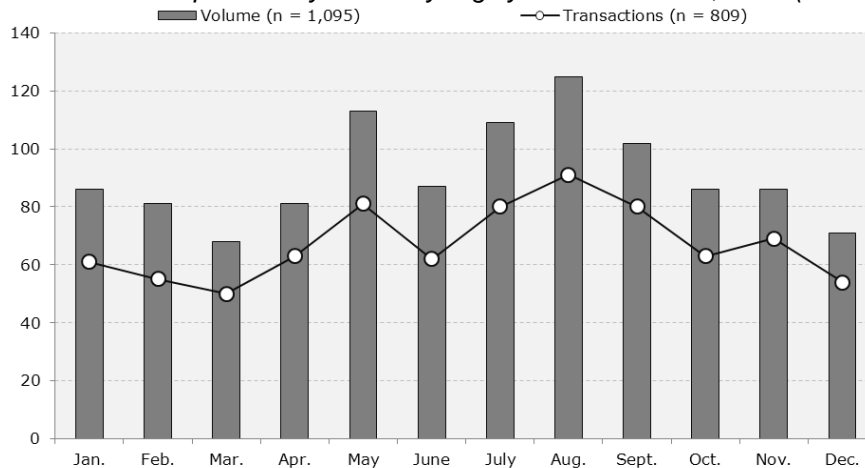
Chart 6: Total number of items pawned by month, 2011 (n = 13,188)



Highly Active Pawners

In the chart below it appears that the Highly Active Pawners follow the same general pattern of an increase in items sold during warmer months and a decrease in items sold during cooler months – save for the month of June. It may be noted that this is almost an exact opposite of our findings last year and that – overall – the 2011 number of items pawned by month by Highly Active Pawners appears somewhat more consistent than for 2010. Again, it is important to remember that the Highly Active Pawners represents a very small group of individuals – twenty-five in this case – the influence of one or two individuals may be seen on these charts.

Chart 7: Total number of items pawned by month by Highly Active Pawners, 2011 (n = 25)

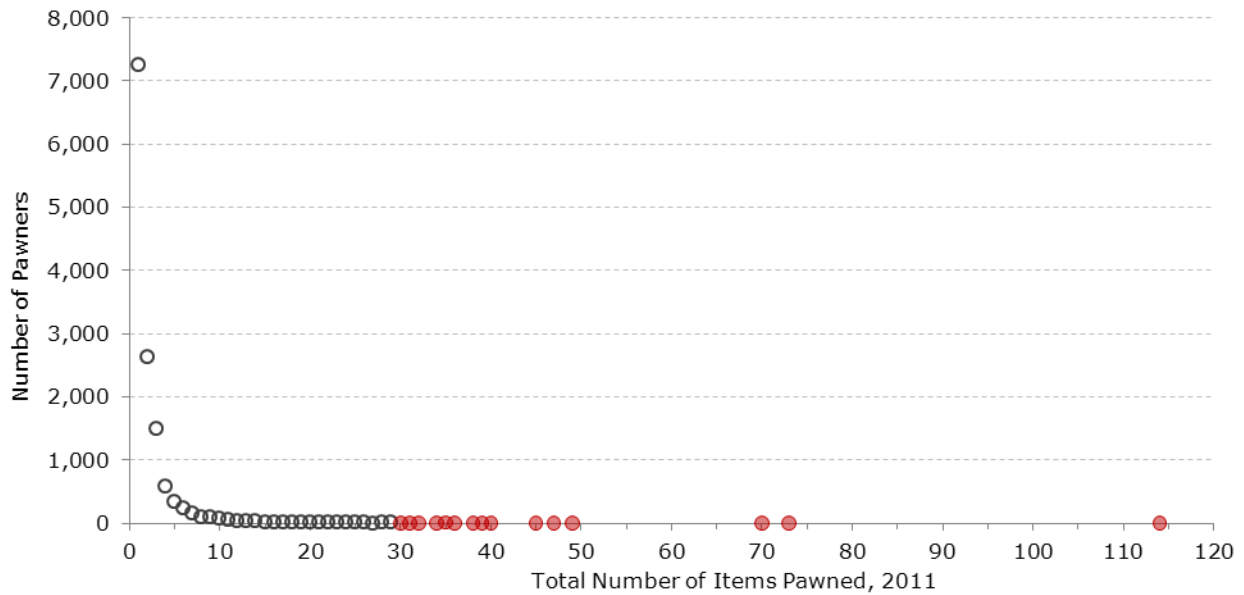


5. How many items do people pawn a year, typically?

The chart below contains the total number of items sold for the 13,188 uniquely identified pawners. The axis on the bottom indicates the total number of items to be pawned for the year, the axis on the left indicates the number of people to pawn such items. It may be read as follows: just over 7,000 individuals (64% of the examined population) sold only one item in 2011. 11,375 individuals (86.3% of the entire sample) sold three or fewer items to pawn shops over the course of the year. The Highly Active Pawners – all of whom sold thirty or more items in

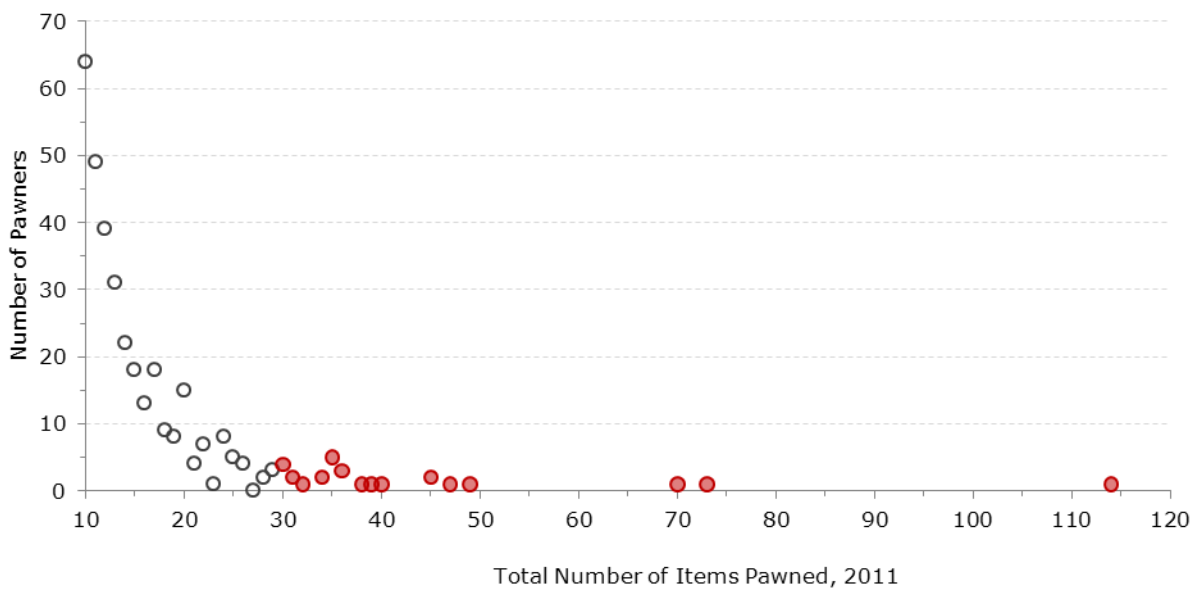
2011 – are shaded in red. Despite accounting for less than 1/5th of 1% of all pawners, they sold 3.5% of all goods in 2011.

Chart 8: The distribution of items sold among all pawners, 2011



As can be seen, Chart 8 closely represents its 2010 counterpart; it also seems to indicate that the total number of people who pawn five or more items is fairly consistent. Chart 9 illustrates that this is not the case. We provide a close up of the total number of pawners who sold ten or more items in 2011; the true “leveling” of the distribution appears at around the point where pawners sold 25 or more items for the year.

Chart 9: The distribution of items sold among pawners who sold ten or more items, 2011



6. What is the criminal history among owners?

Highly Active Pawners (25+ items pawned for 2011)

We conducted a analysis of the criminal history for the Highly Active Pawners; searching individual cases manually indicated that 21 out of the 25 Highly Active Pawners had been arrested at some point within Monroe County. Six of the twenty-one were known to have a theft-related criminal history within Monroe County.

Looking individually at the case histories of the Highly Active Pawners indicated that 10 of the 25 are female. The average age for the Highly Active Pawners was found to approximately 42 years, with all of the pawners being between the ages of 21 and 61. They differ from last year's sample of Highly Active Pawners in that they are younger (the mean age was 6½ years less than in 2010) and they appear to have a wider range in their age – six of the Highly Active Pawners were younger than 30 in 2011, as opposed to no one among the Highly Active Pawners in 2010.

Table 2: Drug, Automotive, Theft and Other Charges against the Highly Active Pawners (n = 21), 2011

Charge	Percent of Arrests
Theft	28.9%
Drugs	4.4%
Automotive	22.8%
Sealed	20.2%
Other	23.7%
Total:	114

The Highly Active Pawners had a minimal number of drug arrests, with four individuals being arrested for drug possession. The greatest number of arrests against the Highly Active Pawners were for theft; yet, theft made up only 28.9% of all arrests against the Highly Active Pawners.

As seen, these numbers differ substantially from the 2010 analysis as this year we included all arrests against the Highly Active Pawners, as opposed to only those arrests that were drug-, theft-, or prostitution-related as we did in 2010.

Active Pawners (10-24 items pawned in 2011)

MoRIS numbers are identifying numbers assigned to an individual after his or her first adult arrest during the booking process; each time that individual is arrested information is stored under that unique MoRIS number (Nick Petitti, personal communication, August 6, 2012). Using these MoRIS numbers and the help of a student intern at the Monroe Crime Analysis Center we were able to search for each time that the 323 Active Pawners – all of whom had sold between ten and twenty-four items to pawn shops in 2011 – had been arrested within Monroe County. All told, 62.5% of the Active Pawners have been arrested within Monroe County at some point in time.

We were able to identify almost 2,000 charges for the 202 pawners. This number is much greater than the 399 charges identified last year. This is likely due to the fact that we examined over 120 more Active Pawners this year compared to the previous year and we have included all arrests pressed against these Active Pawners as opposed to only those related to drugs, theft, or prostitution; additionally, the same individual may have multiple charges associated with a single arrest.

30.2% of the Active Pawners with arrests were female. While there are undoubtedly sealed records among the 1,992 arrests there was no way to differentiate between sealed and non-sealed arrests as were noted with the Highly Active Pawners. As seen below, 40% of the arrests for this sample of 202 individuals were related to automotive violations – these violations included aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, speeding, equipment violations, and driving under the influence, among others. There were nearly twice as many motor vehicle violations identified in this sample than among the Highly Active Pawners.

Table 3: Drug, automotive, theft and other arrests against Active Pawners (n = 202), 2011

Charge	Percent of Arrests
Theft	19.0%
Drugs	7.3%
Automotive	40.0%
Other	33.7%
Total:	1,992

Drug-related arrests make up just over 7% of all charges against the 202 Active Pawners. 92.4% of the drug-related arrests involved the criminal possession of a controlled substance. Other drug-related arrests include the possession of a hypodermic instrument, criminal use of drug paraphernalia, public narcotic intoxication, and driving under the influence of drugs.

Just over one-third of all arrests fit into the “other” category. These arrests consist of a variety of offenses including disorderly conduct, simple and aggravated assault, criminal mischief, fraud, forgery and counterfeiting, prostitution, and dangerous weapons charges, among others.

19% of arrests for the Active Pawners were theft-related. Theft-related arrests included burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, robbery, possession of stolen property, and possession of burglars’ tools. Table 4 provides a breakdown of all theft-related arrests. As can be seen, larceny accounted for over 70% of all theft-related arrests.

Table 4: Breakdown of theft-related arrests (n = 102), 2011

Charge	Persons Arrested	Percent of Arrests
Burglary	25	6.6%
Larceny	266	70.4%
Motor Vehicle Theft	24	6.3%
Possession of Burglars Tools	3	.8%
Robbery	18	4.8%
Possession of Stolen Property	42	11.1%
Total:	378 arrests	100%

All told, just over half of all arrested Active Pawners have theft-related arrests. 92 of the 102 Active Pawners with theft-related arrests have at least one arrest for larceny. The six Active Pawners with the greatest number of larceny arrests have a total of 100 larceny arrests combined. 44 out of the 102 pawners with theft-related arrest have only one arrest against them. Eleven of the Active Pawners have ten or more theft-related arrests against them.

7. What happens when specialized shops close down?

In the 2010 analysis we noted that there appeared to be two primary forms of pawn shops – we labeled them as “specialized” and “eclectic”. Pawnbroker-01 was identified as a highly

specialized shop as over 90% of the items they purchased were jewelry; Pawnbroker-16 was identified as an eclectic shop as no single item appeared to make up the majority of their transactions. With that said, they did appear to specialize in certain items, such as health and hygiene supplies and gift cards. In 2010 Pawnbroker-16 and its sister store accounted for 99% of all gift cards purchased.

In early part of April, 2011 Pawnbroker-16 closed; for 2011, the total number of health and hygiene products purchased by Rochester-city pawn shops decreased by 72% and the number of gift cards purchased decreased by 67% when compared to 2010.

Table 4: Total number of gift cards purchased by pawn shops in 2011

Pawn Shop	Gift Cards Purchased, 2011
Pawnbroker-16	43
Pawnbroker-25	9
Pawnbroker-05	3
Pawnbroker-09	2
Pawnbroker-02	1
Pawnbroker-21	1
Total:	59

The owner of Pawnbroker-16 also owned Pawnbroker-25, the latter shop closed in January of 2011. Despite Pawnbroker-25 closing in January and Pawnbroker-16 in April, these two shops still accounted for 88% of all gift cards purchased in 2011. Of the six remaining gift cards purchased, only one was sold prior to the closing of Pawnbroker-16. Thus, once Pawnbroker-16 and Pawnbroker-25 closed down, only five gift cards (8.5% of all gift cards purchased in 2011) were sold in the remaining eight months of the year.

9. Where did Rochester’s Highly Active Pawners pawn in 2011?

The chart on page 12 displays a non-confidential version of the Highly Active Pawners for 2011 (by volume of items pawned), how many items they sold, how many transactions they were involved in, what stores they sold items to, their overall placement among the active pawners, how much money they earned for the year, and their criminal history for Monroe County. Names with three red parallel lines (2, 4, 9, 11, 14, 22) are individuals who have theft-related criminal histories. Names with two blue parallel lines (3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 13, 15, 19, 20, 25) have criminal histories of some kind. Names with one green parallel line (1, 16, 17, 18, 23) have sealed criminal histories. Names in black (6, 12, 21, 24) have no recorded criminal history for Monroe County. All of the names and places within the chart are pseudonyms.

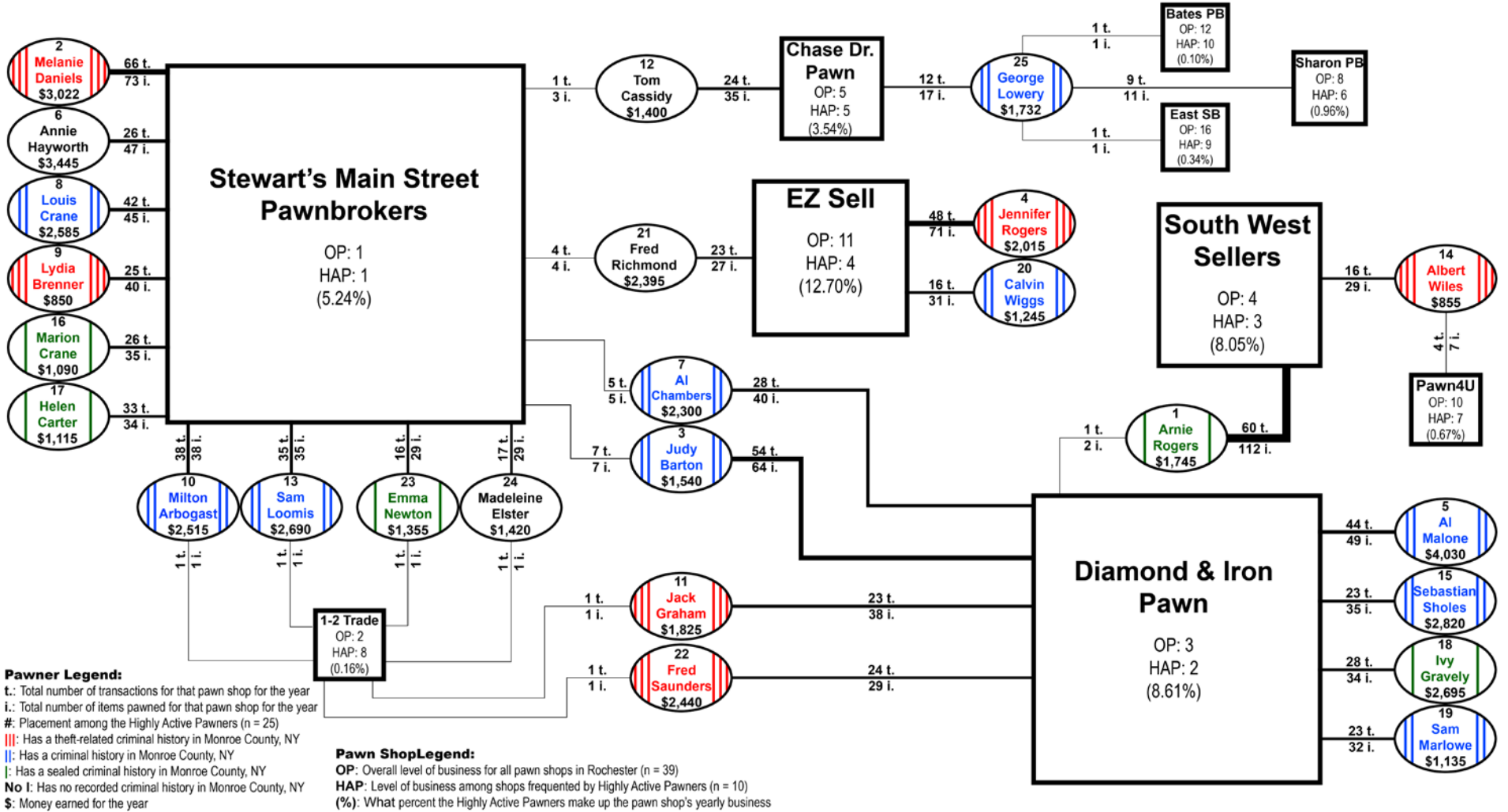
The squares within the flowchart are each of the pawn shops that the Highly Active Pawners visited. Within each pawn shop are numbers indicating the overall placement of the pawn shop for the year (among the thirty-nine shops), its overall placement within the shops frequented by the Highly Active Pawners, and the percentage of business the Highly Active Pawners made up for that pawn shop. The size of the pawn shops reflect the total amount of items they receives from the Highly Active Pawners for 2011, the thickness of the lines reflect the total number of items given to each pawn shop by that pawner.

For example, Diamond & Iron Pawn was the third busiest shop overall of the thirty-nine pawn shops who submitted information to the Rochester Police Department. Among the ten shops frequented by the Highly Active Pawners they were the second busiest. This indicates that they received more business among Highly Active Pawners than among the entire pawning

population; in fact, the nine Highly Active Pawners linked to Diamond & Iron Pawn accounted for 8.61% of the money the pawn shop spent on pawners for 2011 – the second highest percentage seen among the shops below.

One of Diamond & Iron Pawn's customers, Jack Graham, was the eleventh most frequent pawner of the twenty-five pawners examined below. Jack Graham has a theft-related criminal history, and over the course of 2011 earned \$1,825 from selling items to both Diamond & Iron Pawn and 1-2 Trade. The bulk of the items he sold went to Diamond & Iron Pawn; this pawn shop received 38 items over the course of 23 transactions. Conversely, 1-2 Trade received only one item in one transaction from Jack Graham.

Chart 10: Where did Rochester's Highly Active Pawners sell items in 2011?

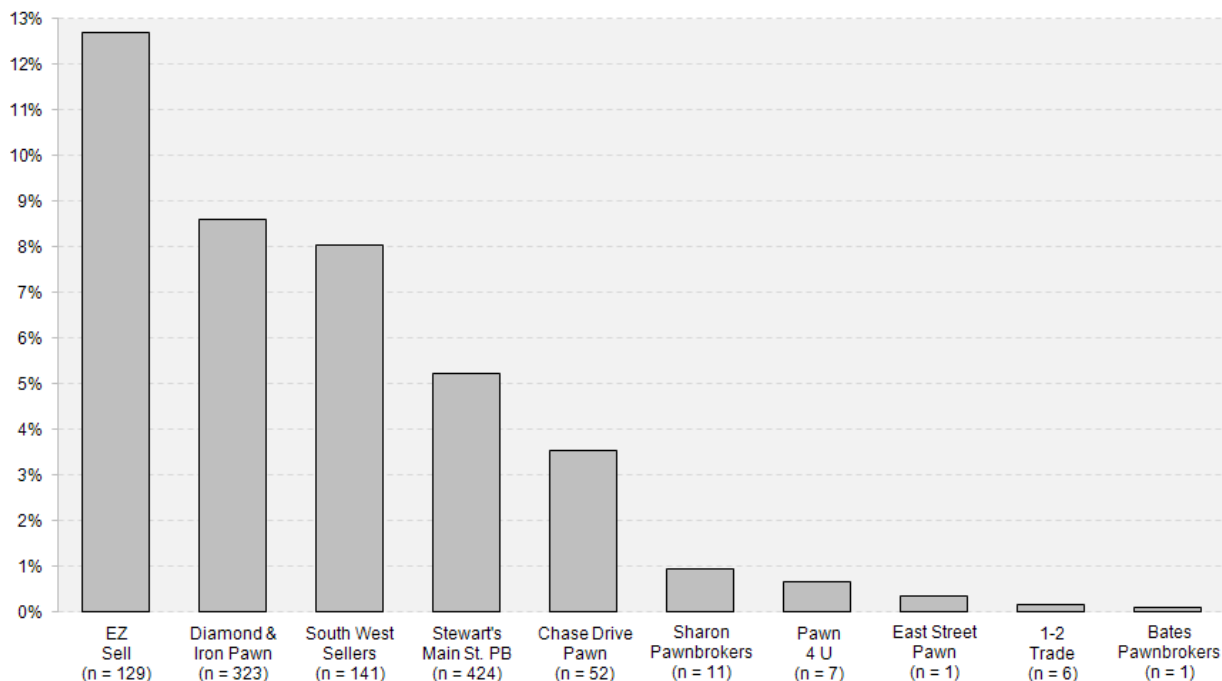


10. At which pawn shops did Highly Active Pawners account for a substantial portion of yearly business?

The twenty-five Highly Active Pawners sold items to ten separate pawn shops in 2011. As noted earlier, despite being less than 2/10^{ths} of 1% of the examined population, they sold 3.5% of all goods. The sold goods were not distributed evenly across all pawn shops; Chart 11 displays the total percentage of items a pawn shop purchased from Highly Active Pawners. As seen below, nearly 13% of all goods purchased by EZ Sell in 2011 came from Highly Active Pawners and, in looking at chart 10, this would mean that more than 10% of their yearly business came from three pawners: Fred Richmond, Jennifer Rogers, and Calvin Wiggs.

Considering that there are over 13,000 individuals who sold items to pawn shops in 2011, for even 1% of a pawn shop’s business to come from the twenty-five Highly Active Pawners seems like an aberration – yet this is the case for five of the ten pawn shops listed below: EZ Sell, Diamond & Iron Pawn, South West Sellers, Stewart’s Main Street Pawnbrokers, and Chase Drive Pawn; as seen below, the five aforementioned businesses has between 3% and 13% of their yearly business come from the Highly Active Pawners.

Chart 11: Overall Percentage of Business to come from Highly Active Pawners, 2011



97% of the 1,095 items purchased from the Highly Active Pawners were purchased at the five aforementioned pawn shops. Stewart’s Main Street Pawnbrokers purchased approximately 40% of all items to be purchased from Highly Active Pawners, yet this accounted for only 5.24% of their yearly business.

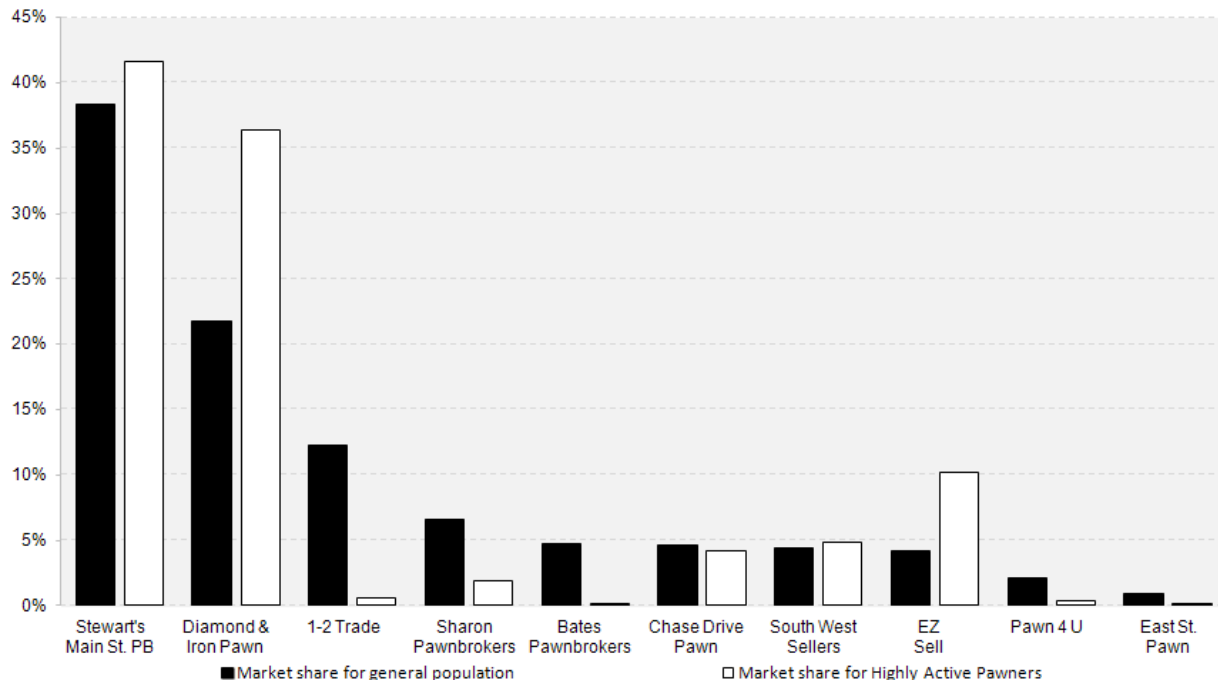
11. How does a pawnbroker’s market share change between the general pawning population and the Highly Active Pawners?

Chart 12 displays the disparity between the amount of money a pawn shop will spend for the entire market and the amount of money the shop will spend for the Highly Active Pawners. The greater the difference between the white and black bars for each pawn shop, the greater the disparity between the percentages of all money spent among listed pawn shops and the

percentage of money spent on Highly Active Pawners. There are three shops where there is a noted disparity between the black and white bars: Diamond & Iron Pawn, EZ Sell, and 1-2 Trade. Both Diamond & Iron Pawn and EZ Sell make up a much greater percentage of the market for Highly Active Pawners than for all pawners. In fact, EZ Sell makes up over twice the share of the market for Highly Active Pawners as they do for the general pawning population. When compared with Chart 11, it is shown that the two shops that have the greatest discrepancy between their share of the market for all pawners and for the Highly Active Pawners also have the greatest percentage of their business coming from Highly Active Pawners.

Conversely, 1-2 Trade makes up approximately 12% of the overall market for the listed pawn shops; however, they make up less than 1% of the business for Highly Active Pawners. Despite 1-2 Trade's popularity among the general pawning population they do not appear to be popular at all among the Highly Active Pawners.

Chart 12: Pawnbrokers share of the market for the general population and among the Highly Active Pawners



Conclusions: Implications for Policy and Practice

In conducting the initial analysis of Rochester-city pawn shop transactions we provided a descriptive analysis on the temporal patterns of pawners in Rochester, what shops they frequent, and what goods they pawn. We did this to provide a body of research to an area largely dominated by anecdotal evidence.

Last year we noted several issues with the manner in which pawn shop transactions are recorded. Most notably, we commented on the typographical errors in names, birth dates, and addresses, all of which serve to reduce the fidelity of the data. This year we went through cases manually to reduce this error, but it still may persist. Only time will tell if the movement towards electronic reporting will serve to minimize and perhaps eliminate these errors.

Still other problems persist; although not to the same extent as last year, there were numerous cases where multiple of the same item were labeled as the item and then the number sold (e.g.,

“GPS, 6”). This issue does not appear to be directly addressed in the updated legislation; although labeling each individual item will add an additional amount of time to the pawnbroker’s daily entries, such rich data would be a boon to analysis.

At this point in time there is no countywide requirement to report pawn shop transactions; however, the county is moving towards the electronic reporting of secondhand, pawn shop, and scrap metal transactions. This legislation will likely come into effect in the coming months, meaning that 2013 could be the first full year of recorded data. Once this data is available it may provide an interesting counterpart to the Rochester-city data.

Future Research Avenues

Additional analyses of Rochester pawn shop data are currently underway; we are also expanding this research into a review of organized retail theft at the local level. Possible future projects include:

1. A five-year review of Rochester-city pawn shop transactions.
2. The status of pawn shop legislation in Monroe and other New York Counties, focusing on Project IMPACT counties.
3. A series of interviews with Highly Active Pawners who have extensive theft-related criminal histories.
4. Examining the difference between dealers who have secondhand license, pawn licenses, or both sorts of licenses.
5. A series of case studies on individuals believed to fence stolen property online.
6. A survey of Police Departments in New York State on what strategies are currently in use to combat theft, organized retail theft, fencing, and e-fencing.
7. The costs of property crime and its investigation.
8. The costs of organized retail theft and its investigation.
9. The status of organized retail theft legislation in Monroe and other New York Counties, focusing on Project IMPACT counties.
10. An analysis of the Organized Retail Theft Council debriefing sheets, which describe individual shoplifting incidents.
11. Several of the younger Highly Active Pawners have extensive arrest records for 2011 and 2012. In a future analysis we hope to track their arrest history and their pawn shop transactions to see if there is any connection between the two.
12. Anecdotally it has been mentioned that certain pawnbrokers own multiple businesses – not just related to pawning. It may be of some benefit to identify what these businesses are and to see if there is any interrelationship between them.
13. This series of papers has thus far focused on the interaction between pawner and pawnbroker. In future paper we wish to look at relationships between pawners and between pawnbrokers.
14. Develop a methodology to identify and analyze undocumented items purchased by pawn shops.
15. Assess the total (actual) number of goods processed by pawn shops when web sales are included.