This poster focuses on fluctuations of violence in the city of Rochester, NY. Focusing on year-to-year data misses important information and does not show the general trend of violence in the community. Assessing violence over a longer period has different implications for policies and practices to reduce violence than looking at violence over a short period of time.

The data includes homicides and shootings from 2000 through 2016, which was provided by the Rochester Police Department.

**Introduction**

This poster focuses on fluctuations of violence in the city of Rochester, NY. Focusing on year-to-year data misses important information and does not show the general trend of violence in the community. Assessing violence over a longer period has different implications for policies and practices to reduce violence than looking at violence over a short period of time.

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**Data**

- **Four Year Shooting Trend:**

  ![Graph showing number of shooting victims in Rochester from 2013 to 2016.](image1)

  When looking only at data from the past four years, it appears the trend is decreasing.

- **Seventeen Year Shooting Trend:**

  ![Graph showing number of shooting victims in Rochester from 2000 to 2016.](image2)

  When looking at data over a longer period, it shows that increases and decreases in the trend are normal.

Although some fluctuations occur year-to-year in the number of shooting victims, most changes that have occurred have been relatively normal (lie within the average window) for Rochester and are not substantial in terms of Rochester’s history of violence.

**Map Visualization**

- **Rochester Shooting Victims 2000-2016:**

  ![Map showing shooting victims in Rochester from 2000 to 2016.](image3)

  This map contains all shooting victims in Rochester for the years 2000 to 2016. The shootings are broken down by crime type, either shooting assault or homicide. It appears that crime occurs all throughout the city.

- **Hot Spot Map of Rochester Shooting Victims 2000-2016:**

  ![Map showing hotspots of shooting victims in Rochester from 2000 to 2016.](image4)

  This map takes the data from Image 1 and runs the geoprocessing tool “Point Density” to create a hotspot map. It appears that most shootings occur in three distinct locations, the red “hot spots” of the city. Point Density calculates a magnitude-per-unit area from point features that fall within a map cell.

**Conclusions**

In order to understand the data as a whole, you must look at the long term trend to understand that crime has normal increase and decrease year to year.

In order to make policy implications you must look at the crime throughout the city as a whole. Hot spots can sometimes move from year to year and displacement can occur when resources are allocated to one area only, and you lose focus on the city in its entirety.

Data visualization is meant to present data and other information in a clear and efficient manner. This can be done in numerous formats as seen in this poster using graphs and maps as two different forms of data visualization. In order for the visualization to be effective, the reader must be able to reasonably analyze the data, such as making comparisons.

**Questions**

We want to know what you think!

1. Do you believe that the way data is displayed plays a role in how we interpret it?
2. How does policy change based on looking at one visualization versus another?

**Contact**

The Center for Public Safety Initiatives
Rochester Institute of Technology
93 Lomb Memorial Drive
www.rit.edu/cpsi