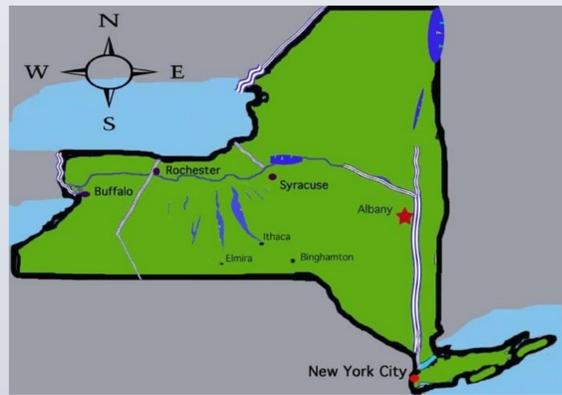


### Introduction

Firearm related crime has become a topic of national interest following the occurrence of recent mass shootings. While these incidents are rare, how do firearms factor into the commission of other crimes which occur more frequently?

### Upstate New York

In order to understand Rochester firearm crime, it is necessary to use a comparison. In this case, Rochester will be compared to other cities in the upstate New York region. Additionally, state level data can provide further meaning.

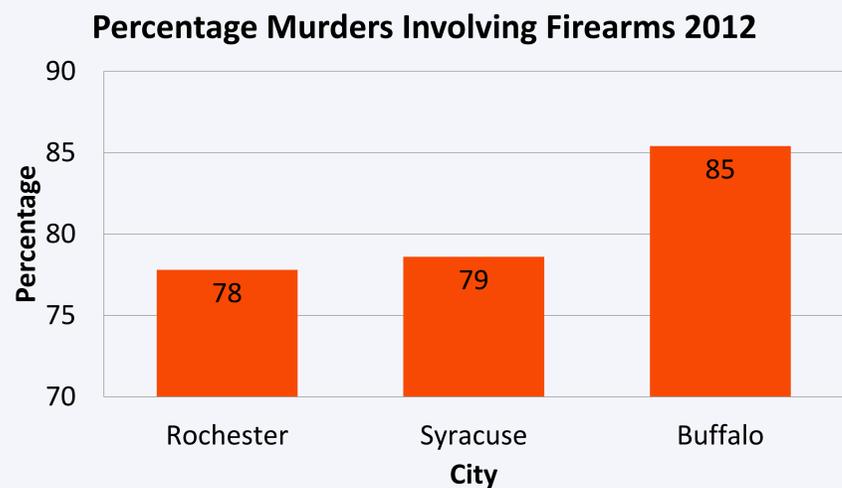


City	Population
Buffalo	261,025
Rochester	210,855
Syracuse	145,151

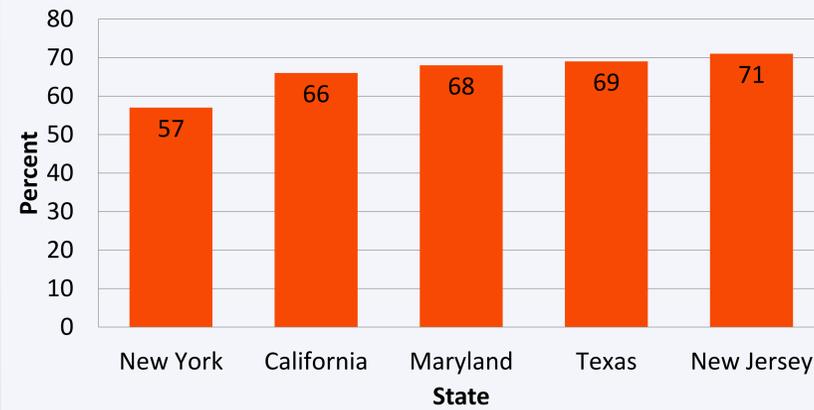
US Census 2011 Estimates

### Murder

As one might expect, firearms are often utilized in murder. Firearms are used in a higher percentage of murders than in any other examined crime.



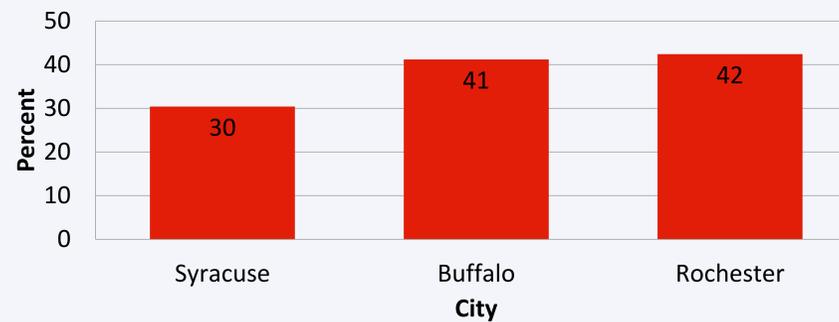
### Percentage of Murders Involving Firearms 2011



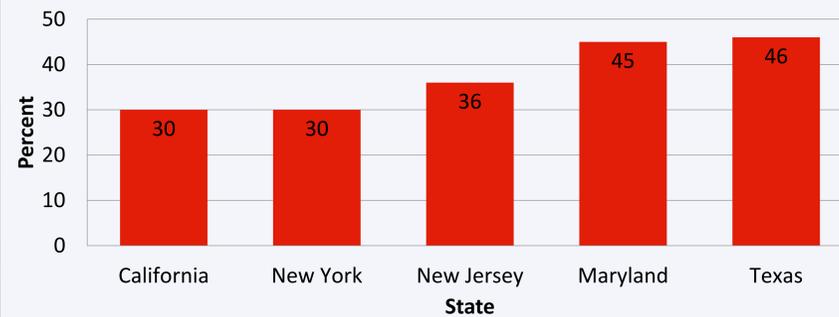
In the three New York cities, at least three quarters of all murders involve the use of a firearm. It is interesting to note that in all of New York State, only 57 percent of murders involve a firearm. This rate is relatively low compared to the rates of the other states.

### Robbery

#### Percentage of Robberies Involving Firearms 2012



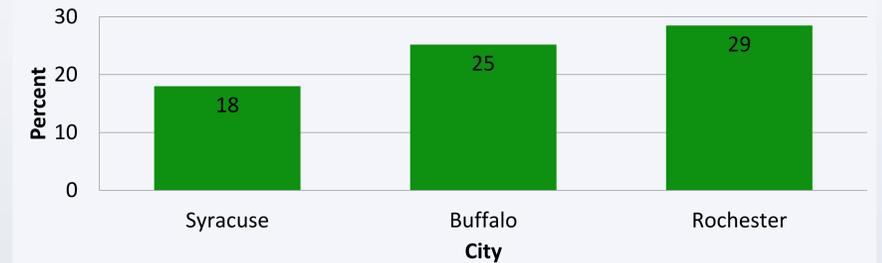
#### Percentage of Robberies Involving Firearms 2011



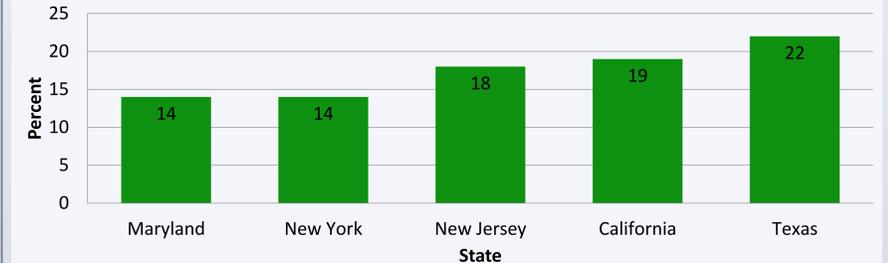
Robberies in Rochester were more likely to involve a firearm than in the other two New York Cities. Overall, in none of the cities or states did even half of the reported robberies involve the use of firearms.

### Aggravated Assault

#### Percentage of Aggravated Assaults Involving Firearms 2012



#### Percentage of Aggravated Assaults Involving Firearms 2012



Of all examined crimes, aggravated assaults are least likely to involve firearms. Rochester has the highest rate of the selected cities, while New York shares the lowest rate among examined states.

### Interventions

Gun violence interventions have been implemented across the country, and many have had positive results. Programs that focus on patrol activities have generally been more effective than those only seeking to disrupt the supply of firearms to criminals. These patrol tactics also typically involve community participation and support. The idea of "Problem-oriented policing" serves as the framework for many of these programs. The goal of POP is to identify root causes of crime and provide law enforcement and social service solutions. It is based on a collaboration between police and their community. These types of programs have had success in Boston (Operation Ceasefire), Stockton (Operation Peacekeeper), Kansas City, Indianapolis, and numerous other cities. The successful results of these interventions suggest that a similar program could benefit the Rochester community.

### References

Crime, Arrest and Firearm Activity Report. Division of Criminal Justice Services Office of Justice Research and Performance.

United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2013). Uniform Crime Reports.