


**From:** Dulacki, Mary J. - DOS Administrator II [Mary.Dulacki@denvergov.org](mailto:Mary.Dulacki@denvergov.org)   
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry re: Denver Police Department arrest rates  
**Date:** October 26, 2018 at 6:30 PM  
**To:** Sean Campbell [scampbell@thetrace.org](mailto:scampbell@thetrace.org)  
**Cc:** Sarah Ryley [sryley@thetrace.org](mailto:sryley@thetrace.org), Jeremy Singer-Vine [jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com](mailto:jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com), PIO - DPD [DPDPIO@denvergov.org](mailto:DPDPIO@denvergov.org), Christensen, Kelli - DOS Communications Director [Kelli.Christensen@denvergov.org](mailto:Kelli.Christensen@denvergov.org)



Great- your table now matched the data we provided.

**Mary Dulacki** | Records Administrator  
Department of Public Safety| City and County of Denver  
p: 720.913.6262 | [mary.dulacki@denvergov.org](mailto:mary.dulacki@denvergov.org)



CONNECT WITH US | 311 | [POCKETGOV.COM](http://POCKETGOV.COM) | [DENVERGOV.ORG](http://DENVERGOV.ORG) | DENVER 8 TV

This e-mail and any attachments thereto are intended only for use by the addressee(s) named herein and may contain legally privileged or confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail and any attachments thereto is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately at 720-913-6262 and permanently delete the original and destroy any copies or printouts. Thank you.

---

**From:** Sean Campbell <[scampbell@thetrace.org](mailto:scampbell@thetrace.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 26, 2018 1:31 PM  
**To:** Dulacki, Mary J. - DOS Administrator II <[Mary.Dulacki@denvergov.org](mailto:Mary.Dulacki@denvergov.org)>  
**Cc:** Sarah Ryley <[sryley@thetrace.org](mailto:sryley@thetrace.org)>; Jeremy Singer-Vine <[jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com](mailto:jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com)>; PIO - DPD <[DPDPIO@denvergov.org](mailto:DPDPIO@denvergov.org)>; Christensen, Kelli - DOS Communications Director <[Kelli.Christensen@denvergov.org](mailto:Kelli.Christensen@denvergov.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry re: Denver Police Department arrest rates

Hi Mary,

Thank you again for pointing out that our totals for weapon type were off. Below are our updated findings with the correction that I mentioned earlier.

| Year | Agency    | Offense                 | Outcome Type | Incidents w/ Outcome | Total Incidents | Outcome Rate |
|------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2013 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Gun          | Arrest       | 10                   | 29              | 34%          |
| 2014 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Gun          | Arrest       | 5                    | 22              | 23%          |
| 2015 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Gun          | Arrest       | 15                   | 42              | 36%          |
| 2016 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Gun          | Arrest       | 14                   | 44              | 32%          |
| 2013 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Other Weapon | Arrest       | 9                    | 16              | 56%          |
| 2014 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Other Weapon | Arrest       | 5                    | 11              | 45%          |
| 2015 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Other Weapon | Arrest       | 7                    | 13              | 54%          |
| 2016 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Other Weapon | Arrest       | 9                    | 14              | 64%          |

As we mentioned in our August emails, anything coded as "CBA" in the data sent to us we are coding as cleared by arrest.

We'd appreciate it if you could get back to us on this by end of day Monday.

-

Best,  
Sean

---

Sean Campbell  
Investigative Fellow, The Trace  
Cell: 561-866-1295

cc:

Sarah Ryley  
Investigative Reporter, The Trace  
Cell: 347-324-8697

Jeremy Singer-Vine  
Data Editor, BuzzFeed News  
Cell: 510-847-9935

On Oct 26, 2018, at 2:17 PM, Sean Campbell <[scampbell@thetrace.org](mailto:scampbell@thetrace.org)> wrote:

Hi again, Mary. I wanted to quickly let you know that we found an error with the first numbers I sent you. Apparently we had "KNIFE" homicides indicated as being gun homicides. We've corrected the error and will be sending you updated numbers shortly.

Best,  
Sean

---

Sean Campbell  
Senior Investigative Fellow | [The Trace](http://TheTrace.org)  
561-866-1295

On Oct 25, 2018, at 7:05 PM, Sean Campbell <[scampbell@thetrace.org](mailto:scampbell@thetrace.org)> wrote:

Thank you, Mary. To clarify, the statistics I sent you were from 2013-2016. The statistics from 2017 were left out of this analysis for the reasons you are citing here, among other things.

To confirm, was there a significant number of people who were injured before 1/1/2017, and later died, between May 2017 and now, so much so that their deaths meaningfully impacted the statistics I sent for comment? Similarly, were there also a significant number of arrests between May 2017 and now that meaningfully impacted the arrest statistics? We would consider a percentage point differential of 5 percent meaningful for each year.

I can hold until end of day tomorrow to hear back on this.

Best,  
Sean

---

Sean Campbell  
Senior Investigative Fellow | [The Trace](http://TheTrace.org)  
561-866-1295

On Oct 25, 2018, at 2:21 PM, Dulacki, Mary J. - DOS Administrator II <[Mary.Dulacki@denvergov.org](mailto:Mary.Dulacki@denvergov.org)> wrote:

Good Afternoon-

Your follow-up is based on data that we provided to you in **May, 2017**. The data that was provided was accurate as of May, 2017 and is not accurate as of today as we have now added several cases where victims of homicide died at a later date and arrests have been made in other cases since the data was provided to you.

Our data analysts were able to validate the total for each year; however the data listed in the columns for the outcomes and the totals for the weapon type are not accurate based upon the data that was provided to you.

We will not provide a comment on the “data takeaways” you presented.

**Mary Dulacki** | Records Administrator  
Department of Public Safety | City and County of Denver  
p: 720.913.6262 | [mary.dulacki@denvergov.org](mailto:mary.dulacki@denvergov.org)  
<image001.jpg>

This e-mail and any attachments thereto are intended only for use by the addressee(s) named herein and may contain legally privileged or confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail and any attachments thereto is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately at 720-913-6262 and permanently delete the original and destroy any copies or printouts. Thank you.

---

**From:** Sean Campbell <[scampbell@thetrace.org](mailto:scampbell@thetrace.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 23, 2018 12:19 PM  
**To:** Dulacki, Mary J. - DOS Administrator II  
<[Mary.Dulacki@denvergov.org](mailto:Mary.Dulacki@denvergov.org)>; PIO - DPD  
<[DPDPIO@denvergov.org](mailto:DPDPIO@denvergov.org)>  
**Cc:** Sarah Ryley <[sryley@thetrace.org](mailto:sryley@thetrace.org)>; Jeremy Singer-Vine  
<[jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com](mailto:jeremy.singer-vine@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry re: Denver Police Department arrest rates

Use caution with attachments or links.

---

Hi,

We're reporters with The Trace and BuzzFeed News. We've been working on a series that looks at the declining clearance rates for murder and aggravated assaults. We're preparing to publish the first articles, possibly within the next 7-10 days. The main story and accompanying “data takeaways” article will feature a national analysis with the narrative largely centered on Baltimore.

analysis, with the narrative largely centered on Baltimore.

As part of the package, we're running a chart with city-by-city arrest rates for homicides, aggravated assaults and non-fatal shootings, broken down by firearm vs. non-firearm, for 2013 through 2016. We're posting this rate for the Denver Police Department based on [[homicide data that we received via a public records request on 5/31/17. Note: For your agency, we have no aggravated assault data. We wanted to give your agency the opportunity to review the statistics. We've included them at the bottom of this email.

These are the only statistics specific to your agency that we're publishing with the articles article. However, we are also posting a detailed methodology, code, and raw data for various analyses that we've done that break down arrest/clearance rates for homicides and assaults further, by race/ethnicity and domestic violence vs. non-domestic violence. Statistics specific to your agency could appear in the methodology and code. Again, those statistics would be based on data that you provided via a public records request.

Here are the main takeaways that would appear in the "data takeaways" article:

- Clearance rates for homicides and assaults have plummeted since the mid-1960s, and that decline appears to be driven largely driven by gun cases. Our analysis indicates that clearances for non-gun homicides has actually increased, and that clearances for non-gun assaults have seen much less of a decline.
- There is a disparity between arrest rates for cases involving black and Hispanic victims, vs. white victims, but that disparity is largely confined to gun cases that are not connected to domestic violence.
- Homicides and assaults committed with firearms are significantly less likely to result in an arrest by the next day than those committed using physical force or other weapons.
- Our analysis seems to substantiate what numerous police officials and experts have told us — that non-fatal shootings are just as difficult to investigate as fatal ones, if not more difficult." but the detectives who investigate non-fatal shootings usually have significantly higher caseloads than homicide detectives.
- From one city's data (Baltimore) we can see that fatal and non-fatal shootings are often linked by common victims and suspects. Yet agencies usually investigate shootings out of separate detectives divisions based on whether there was a fatality.

Our questions are below. Please respond by end-of-day Thursday. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email us any time.

1) Are the below arrest statistics accurate? If not, what are the accurate statistics? We are happy to provide the underlying data upon request.

| Year | Agency | Offense | Outcome Type | Incidents w/ Outcome | Total Incidents | Outcome Rate |
|------|--------|---------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
|------|--------|---------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|

|      |           |                         |        |    |    |     |
|------|-----------|-------------------------|--------|----|----|-----|
| 2013 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Gun          | Arrest | 13 | 32 | 41% |
| 2014 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Gun          | Arrest | 6  | 26 | 23% |
| 2015 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Gun          | Arrest | 18 | 46 | 39% |
| 2016 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Gun          | Arrest | 19 | 49 | 39% |
| 2013 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Other Weapon | Arrest | 6  | 13 | 46% |
| 2014 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Other Weapon | Arrest | 4  | 7  | 57% |
| 2015 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Other Weapon | Arrest | 4  | 9  | 44% |
| 2016 | DENVER-PD | Homicide - Other Weapon | Arrest | 4  | 9  | 44% |

2) Could someone from your agency comment on the issues addressed in the “data takeaways” bullet points? If so, we’d be happy to provide more detail. We’re always interested in feedback from the people who have experience investigating these cases.

Sincerely,

Sean Campbell  
Investigative Fellow, The Trace  
Cell: 561-866-1295

cc:

Sarah Ryley  
Investigative Reporter, The Trace  
Cell: 347-324-8697

Jeremy Singer-Vine  
Data Editor, BuzzFeed News  
Cell: 510-847-9935