
GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION TEAM SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT - 2019

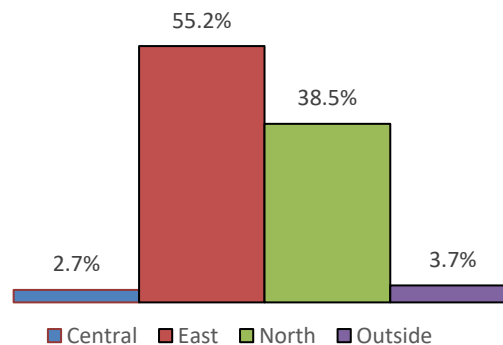
The Gun Violence Reduction Team (GVRT¹) is PPB's specialty unit tasked with preventing, reducing, and investigating gun-related crimes that occur in the City of Portland. The unit does not explicitly focus on investigating and preventing violence from individuals who claim affiliation with criminal street gang – however, the unit investigates subjects and activities affiliated with those groups. In 2019, there were 429 shooting-related incidents² in the City of Portland, resulting in 22 homicides and 89 other individuals injured. GVRT members responded³ to the scene of 54% of the incidents to assist in the investigation. The team made 93 arrests and recovered more than 200 weapons as a result of gun violence investigations.

The Gun Violence Reduction Team utilizes traffic stops as a tool to help investigate, and prevent, gun violence incidents in the City. In 2019, the unit stopped 1,605 drivers and pedestrians⁴, accounting for about 5 percent of all documented stops in the Bureau. GVRT personnel reported making about 6 stops per workday during the year. Since the unit was first instituted in October 2018, and has a substantially different mission than predecessor units, no comparisons can be made to prior years.

Stop Locations

Gun Violence Reduction Team officers do not randomly patrol certain areas, districts or neighborhoods – rather, they spend the majority of their time in areas where prior gun violence has occurred and areas with a high potential for additional gun violence based on information and investigations. On average, officers stopped individuals approximately a quarter-of-a-mile from recent gun violence incidents. About 80 percent of all GVRT stops were within a quarter mile of a gun violence incident (see Figure G-2). The majority of stops occurred in East Precinct (55.2%) with more stops occurring outside of Portland (3.7%) than they did in Central Precinct (2.7%).

Figure G-1. Almost all GVRT subject stops occur in either East or North Precincts



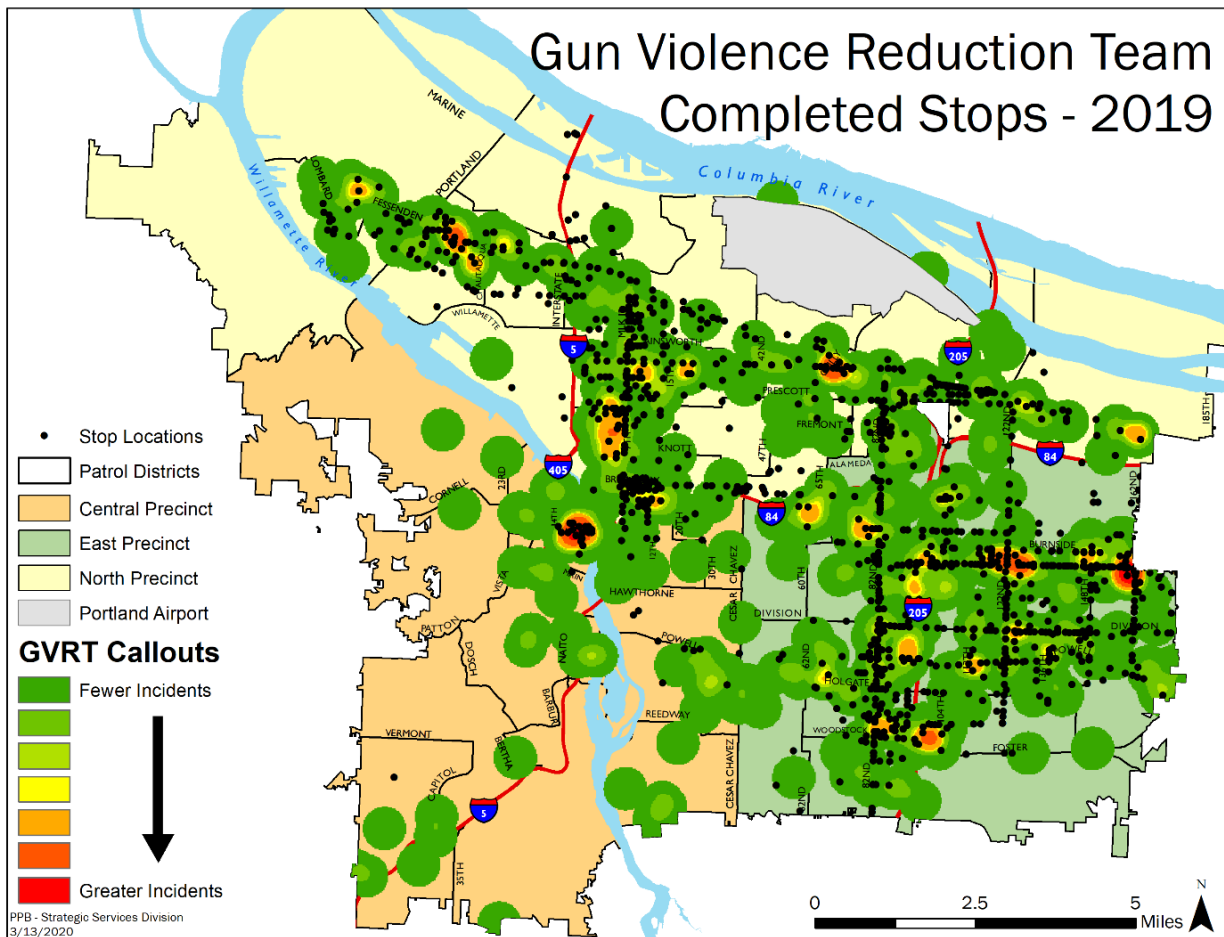
¹ The name for the unit was not instituted until February 8th, 2019; however, for ease of discussion, the name is used throughout the document for all activities that occurred in 2019.

² Prior to 2019, shooting incident tracking and investigation was not centralized with GVRT; therefore, this number is not directly comparable to any prior year.

³ GVRT is notified of all gun violence incidents that occur in the City; however, several cases are referred to other investigative units and officers depending on the specifics of the incident.

⁴ Personnel had an additional 36 encounters in 2019 that were not official driver or pedestrian stops. These encounters were mischaracterized as stops in the Stops Data Collection system due to inaccurate coding in the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

Figure G-2. About 80 percent of GVRT stops occurred within a quarter-mile of a gun violence incident.



Stopped Subjects Demographics

The specialized mission of the Gun Violence Reduction Team makes it challenging to select an appropriate benchmark. Injury Accidents are not an appropriate benchmark as GVRT officers are not primarily concerned with traffic enforcement and meeting the City’s Vision Zero objectives. The Crime Victimization Rate is similarly broad in that while GVRT officers are trying to reduce violent crime, the profiles and characteristics of gun violence victims is likely to vary from indexed crime as a whole. There is no research-supported benchmark for specifically analyzing the activities of one unit within a larger organization, so one is not included in this analysis. Subjects perceived to be Black / African American were the most stopped group in 2019 – representing 52.1 percent of stops – followed by White (32.2%), Hispanic or Latino (10.2%), Asian (2.8%), American Indian / Alaskan Native (1.1%), Native Hawaiian (0.9%), and Middle Eastern (0.6%).

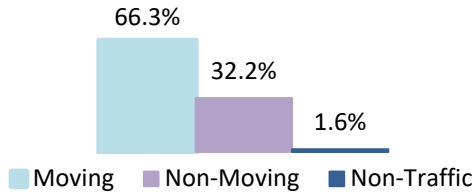
Table G-1. The majority of subjects stopped by GVRT were Black / African American.

Race/Ethnicity	2019	
	Count	Percent
American Indian/Alaskan	18	1.1%
Asian	45	2.8%
Black/African American	837	52.1%
Hispanic or Latino	164	10.2%
Middle Eastern	9	0.6%
Native Hawaiian	15	0.9%
White	517	32.2%
Traffic Total	1,605	100%

Subject Stop Reasons

The majority of subjects stopped by Gun Violence Reduction Team were for traffic-related crimes or violations (98.5%), with the majority of subjects stopped for Moving Violations in the right of way. An additional 26 subjects (1.6%) were stopped for offenses not related to the maintenance, operation, or licensing of a motor vehicle. There were no observed significant differences⁵ between perceived racial groups on the original reason for stop as all groups were stopped the majority of time for a reported Moving Violation.

Figure G-3. Subjects are primarily stopped for Moving Violations by GVRT officers



There were no observed significant differences⁵ between perceived racial groups on the original reason for stop as all groups were stopped the majority of time for a reported Moving Violation.

Search Rates⁶

Table G-2. Almost all completed searches were completed with the consent of the stopped subject.

Race/Ethnicity	Total Subjects Searched		Consent		Probable Cause		Reasonable Suspicion		Weapon Patdown	
	Searches	Rate	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
American Indian/Alaskan	3	16.7%	2	66.7%	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	6	13.3%	6	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Black/African American	250	29.9%	226	90.4%	20	8.0%	2	0.8%	5	2.0%
Hispanic or Latino	48	29.3%	40	83.3%	6	12.5%	1	2.1%	1	2.1%
Middle Eastern	2	22.2%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Native Hawaiian	5	33.3%	3	60.0%	2	40.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
White	78	15.1%	59	75.6%	20	25.6%	2	2.6%	1	1.3%
Total	392	24.4%	337	86.0%	50	12.8%	5	1.3%	7	1.8%

Officers from the Bureau’s Gun Violence Reduction Team are significantly more likely⁷ to perform a discretionary search on stopped subjects than officers from other divisions. Stopped subjects are about 5 times more likely to be searched when stopped by a GVRT officer than if they were stopped by an officer from another unit or division. About a quarter of all stopped subjects are asked to consent to a search, with Black / African American subjects significantly more likely⁸ to be asked for a consent search and White subjects significantly less likely⁹ to be asked. Subjects perceived to be White deny more consent search requests, but not significantly more¹⁰ than other groups.

Table G-3. Black / African American subjects receive more search requests.

Race/Ethnicity	Consent Search Requests		Consent Search Denials	
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
American Indian/Alaskan	2	11.1%	0	0.0%
Asian	6	13.3%	0	0.0%
Black/African American	256	30.6%	30	11.7%
Hispanic or Latino	46	28.0%	6	13.0%
Middle Eastern	2	22.2%	1	50.0%
Native Hawaiian	4	26.7%	1	25.0%
White	71	13.7%	12	16.9%
Total	387	24.1%	50	12.9%

⁵ $\chi^2 = 6.913, p < .23, df = 5$

⁶ Due to small sample sizes, subjects perceived to be Asian, Hispanic or Latino, Middle Eastern, or Hawaiian were excluded from statistical analyses related to searches.

⁷ $\chi^2 = 1358.830, p < .001, df = 1$

⁸ $\chi^2 = 39.397, p < .001, df = 1$

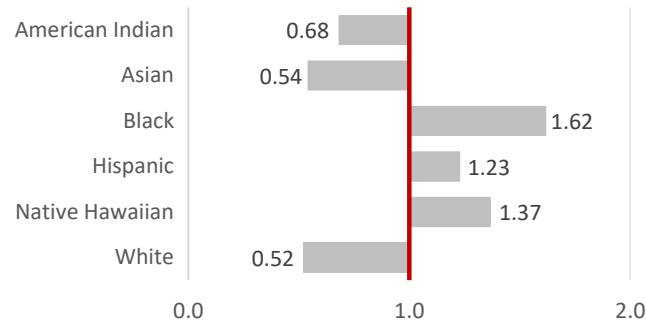
⁹ $\chi^2 = 46.503, p < .001, df = 1$

¹⁰ $\chi^2 = 1.333, p < .52, df = 2$

Officers from the Gun Violence Reduction Team did not display differential search patterns based on the perceived race of the stopped individual in 2019. Black / African American (29.9% search rate) subjects were searched significantly more¹¹ – and White subjects (15.1% search rate) significantly less¹² – than other perceived racial groups, but not disparately so. Almost all

discretionary searches conducted by GVRT are conducted with the consent of the stopped subject (86.0%). Black subjects were significantly more likely to be searched with Consent¹³, while White subjects were significantly more likely to be searched with Probable Cause¹⁴.

Figure G-4. Black / African American subjects were searched more than expected, but not at disparate rates.



Contraband Hit Rates

The Gun Violence Reduction Team successfully uncovered contraband on a majority of searches conducted in 2019. Drugs were recovered on a majority of searches (60.5%), followed by alcohol (26.5%) and weapons (25.5%). GVRT officers had a higher hit rate than other divisions (51.0% for GVRT vs 45.8% for other officers in 2019) – although not significantly so¹⁵. Consent searches are the least likely to discover contraband – even though they are the predominant search type used by PPB officers – whereas almost all other search types uncover contraband a majority of the time. There were no significant differences in the contraband recovery rate between subjects of different perceived races / ethnicities¹⁶.

Table G-4. Consent searches conducted by GVRT officers result in the lowest hit rate.

Search Type	Total Searches		Found Contraband	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Consent	337		162	48.1%
Reasonable Suspicion	5		3	60.0%
Probable Cause	50		35	70.0%
Weapon Pat	7		6	85.7%

Table G-5. Weapons were recovered from 13 percent of all searches conducted by GVRT officers.

Race/Ethnicity	Total Searches		Found Contraband		Alcohol		Drugs		Weapons		Stolen Property		Other	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
American Indian/Alaskan	3	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	6	30.0%	3	50.0%	1	16.7%	1	16.7%	1	16.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Black/African American	250	49.6%	124	49.6%	39	15.6%	70	28.0%	29	11.6%	5	2.0%	17	6.8%
Hispanic or Latino	48	50.0%	24	50.0%	8	16.7%	16	33.3%	7	14.6%	4	8.3%	4	8.3%
Middle Eastern	2	50.0%	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Native Hawaiian	5	80.0%	4	80.0%	1	20.0%	1	20.0%	2	40.0%	1	20.0%	0	0.0%
White	78	56.4%	44	56.4%	4	5.1%	33	42.3%	11	14.1%	5	6.4%	9	11.5%
Total	392	51.0%	200	51.0%	53	13.5%	121	30.9%	51	13.0%	15	3.8%	30	7.7%

¹¹ $\chi^2 = 28.130, p < .001, df = 1$
¹² $\chi^2 = 36.199, p < .001, df = 1$
¹³ $\chi^2 = 9.998, p < .003, df = 1$
¹⁴ $\chi^2 = 16.475, p < .001, df = 1$
¹⁵ $\chi^2 = 3.341, p < .07, df = 1$
¹⁶ $\chi^2 = 1.128, p < .57, df = 2$

Stop Outcomes

In 2019, 88 percent of all stops initiated by the Gun Violence Reduction Team ended with a warning, written or verbal, at the end of the interaction – the highest in the Bureau. GVRT officers also have the highest arrest rate in the Bureau, ending 9 percent of 2019 stops with an arrest. A binary logistic regression was conducted to determine which predictors were statistically significant if an arrest occurred at the conclusion of the stop. A simple effects model with no interactions¹⁷ was the only significant model¹⁸. Subjects that were discovered with illegal contraband during a discretionary search¹⁹, and those stopped for a moving violation²⁰, were significantly more likely to be arrested than other subjects, while the subject's perceived²¹ race²² was not a significant predictor if a GVRT officer arrested an individual.

Table G-6. Most stops initiated by GVRT ended with a warning to the subject.

Race/Ethnicity	Total Stops		Enforcement Action													
	Count	Percent	None		Warning		Citation		Cite-in-Lieu		Juvenile Summons		Arrested			
			Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent		
American Indian/Alaskan	18	1.1%	0	0.0%	17	94.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.6%
Asian	45	2.8%	0	0.0%	42	93.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	6.7%
Black/African American	837	52.1%	17	2.0%	736	87.9%	8	1.0%	1	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	75	9.0%
Hispanic or Latino	164	10.2%	0	0.0%	144	87.8%	1	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	11.6%
Middle Eastern	9	0.6%	0	0.0%	8	88.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	11.1%
Native Hawaiian	15	0.9%	0	0.0%	11	73.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	26.7%
White	517	32.2%	8	1.5%	459	88.8%	3	0.6%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	46	8.9%
Total	1,605	100.0%	25	1.6%	1,417	88.4%	12	0.7%	2	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	149	9.3%

¹⁷ All two-way and three-way interactions between perceived race / ethnicity, stop reason, and search outcomes were tested.

¹⁸ $\chi^2 = 20.121, p < .002, df = 5$

¹⁹ $B = 0.789, p < .002, df = 1$

²⁰ $B = -0.527, p < .05, df = 1$

²¹ Due to small sample sizes, subjects perceived to be either American Indian / Alaskan Native, Middle Eastern, or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander were excluded from the analysis.

²² Asian: $B = 0.531, p < .55, df = 1$; Black: $B = -0.368, p < .19, df = 1$; Latino: $B = -0.293, p < .47, df = 1$