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Probation and Parole Re-Entry Education Program:

Recidivism and Prisoner Re-Entry for Firearm Violations

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Probation and Parole Re-Entry Education Program:

Recidivism and Prisoner Re-Entry for Firearms Violations

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A THESIS

APPROVED FOR THE W. ROGER WEBB FORENSIC SCIENCE INTITUTE

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Abstract

Recidivism refers to a person's regression back to criminal behavior, usually after serving time for a previous crime. Nationwide efforts are made to reduce the rate of recidivism as well as lowering the number of violent crime incidents involving firearms. Several studies observed the positive influence of educating prisoners which contributes to the decline of recidivism. Researchers are interested to see if these programs are successful in reducing recidivism. This research project sought to evaluate the effectiveness of the Probation and Parole Re-Entry Education Program (PPREP) implemented by the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma. This program targeted probationers and parolees that have been convicted and sentenced for committing felonies in Oklahoma County. As a condition of their probation or parole, offenders are required to attend a PPREP session following their release. Methods of tracking recidivism rates as well as the rate of firearms use from these participants can help identify whether this program is effective or not. Even though this project is not able to compare recidivism rates for firearm-related offenses, it can potentially show overall recidivism rates among certain individuals, trends in Oklahoma and Oklahoma County, and general effectiveness of PPREP overall.

Introduction

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) considers recidivism as one of the most fundamental

concepts in criminal justice as it refers to a person's relapse into criminal behavior, usually after serving

time for a previous crime. In 2001, Project Safe Neighborhoods was implemented as a nationwide

initiative to reduce recidivism. This initiative was formulated when former President George W. Bush

announced one of the major priorities of the Department of Justice – to reduce violent crimes,

particularly firearm violence. According to a study conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), a

total of 621,000 fatal and nonfatal violent crimes were committed with a firearm in 2000 (Planty &

Truman, 2013). BJS defines "firearm use" as showing, pointing, or discharging a firearm during the

offense for which a prisoner was serving a sentence (Alper & Glaze, 2019). Despite the reported decline

in violent crimes, incidents of firearm-related crimes continues to cause significant concern in the United

States when it comes to the safety of our communities. The effectiveness of corrections is often

measured by the rates of recidivism (Esperian, 2010).

According to the NIJ, recidivism is often measured by criminal acts that resulted in rearrests,

reconviction, or return to prison during a three-year period following release of the offender. With more

funding going into reentry programs, researchers are interested to see if these programs are successful

in reducing recidivism. Tracking recidivism rates of participants can help identify whether a program is

effective or not.

John H. Esperian presented multiple studies that supported the positive influence of educating

prisoners that contributes to the decline of recidivism (2010). For example, a study was conducted

within prisons involving two groups: the experimental group and the control group. The participants of

the experimental group that engaged in some type of vocational or academic program experienced

lower rates of recidivism than participants of the control group (Esperian, 2010). Researchers

understand that although these programs may have an effective impact on desistance, the point in which criminal activity completely stops, individuals must independently decide for themselves.

Project Safe Neighborhoods

Project Safe Neighborhoods focuses on five core components: (1) Partnerships; (2) Strategic Planning; (3) Training; (4) Outreach; and (5) Accountability. Project Safe Neighborhoods was implemented to be a comprehensive national program starting at a local level. The partnership involves components of the Department of Justice: the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, the U.S. Marshals Service, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the National Institute of Justice, the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, and the United States Attorneys' Offices.

The program provides the strategies, tools, and resources needed to identify and tackle specific problems in each area. With the collaboration between local, state, and federal agencies, the project is designed to establish, implement, and evaluate data-driven strategies to continue the decline of recidivism within our own communities, particularly targeting firearm violence (McGarrell, et al, 2009). Former United States Attorney General Eric Holder stated, "by targeting the most serious offenses, prosecuting the most dangerous criminals, directing assistance to crime 'hot spots', and pursuing new ways to promote public safety, deterrence, efficiency, and fairness - we can become both smarter and tougher on crime" (2013). Project Safe Neighborhoods for the Northern District of Texas is a prime example of a successful initiative.

Project Safe Neighborhoods for the Northern District of Texas

The Northern District of Texas reduced recidivism by developing a multi-agency team composed of the Dallas Police Department, the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas, the Dallas County District Attorney's Office, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Parole Division,

the Dallas County Juvenile Probation, the U.S. Marshal's Service, and the University of Texas at Arlington Research and Analysis Team. Amongst other initiatives, the agencies targeted areas that were known high crime areas by assigning more prosecutors to address firearm crimes. Once a month, an orientation was held for offenders who had recently been released. Dr. Sherman Wyman, a Professor of the School of Urban and Public Affairs and Director of the Center for Economic Development Research and Service, stated "...one of the most effective initiatives was the program with parolees to orient them to the consequences of mischief when they were again on the streets'' (2009). After five years, the Northern District of Texas reported the decline of firearm crimes by 55.43% during the course of the research project (Wyman, 2009). The success of this project inspired other federal districts to follow suit.

Project Safe Neighborhoods for the Western District of Oklahoma

In March 2011, the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma first implemented their Probation and Parole Re-Entry Education Program (PPREP) for Oklahoma County. Modeled after the program in the Northern District of Texas; it is designed to use education to address prisoner re-entry for convicted felons and recidivism rates for firearm-related crimes in Oklahoma County. The program was designed to inform recently released state probation and parole offenders about the collaborative efforts between federal, state, and local agencies (see Appendix A) to prosecute firearm offenders to the fullest extent of the law. The program aims to educate offenders about the severe legal consequences of firearm-related crimes by convicted felons and to inspire them to better their lives with the ability to minimize the chances of recidivism. It also describes services made available to them that assist with the transition as they reenter society.

Since the initial launch on March 24, 2011, a recurring 90-minute session is held every third Thursday of each month at the Oklahoma County District Courthouse. Each session is spearheaded by Assistant U.S. Attorney Ashley L. Altshuler from the Western District of Oklahoma and includes different law enforcement agency heads as speakers for the session. Attendees are probationers and parolees

that have been convicted and sentenced for committing felonies in Oklahoma County. As a condition of

their probation or parole, offenders are required to attend a session following their release. On average,

100 offenders attend each session.

The primary goal of each session is to provide insight explaining the consequences and risks of

being a convicted felon under 18 U.S. Code § 922 (g)[1]. The session also provides information on reentry

services and programs available to assist convicted felons for self-improvement. One example is job fairs

that allow convicted felons employment opportunities that otherwise may have been a challenge to

obtain with a criminal background. Since the initial launch date, PPREP has indoctrinated over 5,000

state probationers and parolees thus far.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this research project was to evaluate the effectiveness of PPREP in reducing the

recidivism rate for firearm-related offenses committed by convicted felons within Oklahoma County. As

previously mentioned, the rate of firearm-related crimes continues to remain an issue despite the

reported decline in violent crimes. By educating these offenders about the legal consequences of

firearm-related crimes, efforts are focused on minimizing the chances of reverting back to a life of

crime.

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Review of the Literature

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National Statistics on Recidivism

BJS conducted a few studies that demonstrated high rates of recidivism among released

prisoners. One of the studies tracked 404,638 prisoners in 30 states after their release from prison in

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[1] 18 U.S.C. § 922(g) prohibits certain persons from shipping, transporting, possessing, or receiving a firearm or ammunition while subject to a prohibition from doing so, most commonly because of a prior conviction for a felony offense.

2005 (Durose, Cooper, & Snyder, 2014). According to *Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010* (2014), the researchers found that:

- Within three years of release, about two-thirds (67.8%) of released prisoners were rearrested.

- Within five years of release, about three-quarters (76.6%) of released prisoners were rearrested.

- Of those prisoners who were rearrested, more than a third (36.8%) of all prisoners who were arrested within five years of release were arrested within the first six months after release, with more than half (56.7%) arrested by the end of the first year.

- An estimated 10.9% of released prisoners were arrested in a state other than the one that released them during the five-year follow-up period.

Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 30 States in 2005: Patterns from 2005 to 2010 also stated that an offender's prior criminal history was measured by the number of arrests found on their criminal history records prior to their release date (2014):

- Within one year after release, a quarter (26.4%) of released offenders with four or less arrest in their prior criminal record had been arrested, compared to over half (56.1%) of released offenders who had ten or more prior arrests.

According to Durose, Cooper, and Snyder, male offenders were arrested at a higher rate than female offenders following their release (2014):

- Within three years of release, 69% of male and 58.5% of female offenders had been arrested at least once.

- Five years after the release from prison, more than three-quarters (77.6%) of males and two-thirds (68.1%) of females had been arrested.

- At the end of the first year, the male recidivism rate (44.5%) was consistently higher than the female recidivism rate (34.4%).

The report also noted that younger offenders were arrested at higher rates than older offenders

following their release (Durose, Cooper, & Synder, 2014):

- Three years after release, 75.9% of offenders who were age 24 or younger at the time of

  their release had been arrested for a new offense.

- Three years after release, 69.7% of those ages 25 to 39 were arrested for a new offense.

- Three years after release, 60.3% of those age 40 or older were arrested for a new

  offense.

As you can see, the study shows that as the offenders age, the rate of criminal behavior declines.

Durose, Cooper, and Synder also reported that by the end of the fifth year after release, black offenders

had the highest recidivism rate among all racial or ethnic groups (2014).

- One year after release from prison, non-Hispanic black (45.8%) and Hispanic (46.3%)

  offenders had been arrested at similar rates.

- However, non-Hispanic white inmates (39.7%) had lower recidivism rates within the first

  year of release than black and Hispanic inmates.

It is noted that the recidivism rate for Hispanics did not increase as much as black offenders. By the end

of the fifth year after release from prison, 73.1% of white offenders and 75.3% of Hispanic offenders had

lower recidivism rates than 80.8% of black offenders (Durose, Cooper, & Synder, 2014).

Considerations of Measuring Recidivism

There are several different factors that affect recidivism rates and those are "socioeconomic

status, effectiveness of post release supervision (for parolees), length of time incarcerated, severity and

seriousness of crime committed, access to data which varies from state to state, and educational level of

achievement of each individual" (Esperian, 2010). Even though recidivism is referred to as a relapse into

criminal behavior, there is no conclusive way of measuring whether a crime has occurred or not. Despite

this, recidivism can be measured at each of these stages in the criminal justice system - rearrests,

rebooking, reconviction, and re-incarceration. An arrest followed by a conviction is considered the most practical but also flawed way of measuring criminal activity because many crimes are committed without detection or solution (Maltz, 2001). It is also crucial to keep in mind that recidivism rates differ from jurisdiction to jurisdiction because each one can have substantial differences in measurement definitions that can impact the rate of recidivism reported (Maltz, 2001). When measuring recidivism, the "at-risk environment" should also be considered. The level of risk for a released offender may depend on their level of post-release supervision. Studies have shown that the higher the "at-risk environment", the more likely someone will recidivate (Maltz, 2001). According to Maltz, one of the many difficulties with measuring recidivism is the tendency to assume that the risk environment of rearrests is the same for everyone (2001). It is possible that a "riskier" environment can affect the rate of recidivism which will skew the results. Observed differences in recidivism may also be due to the different levels of supervision rather than the effect of the program (Maltz, 2001). Although these issues may be challenging, recidivism should be measured in different ways to see if the different observations correlates.

Measures of Recidivism

Durose, Cooper, and Synder stated that it is imperative to define the measures utilized in these studies as the various measures of recidivism may have different criteria for classifying a person as a recidivist (2014):

Adjudication labels a person as a recidivist when an arrest needs to be delegated by the criminal justice system that will be presented in court. 49.8% of offenders had an arrest within three years of release and 60% within five years of release that resulted in an adjudication.

Conviction classifies a person as a recidivist if the criminal justice system has determined the individual has committed a new crime. Of the arrests that resulted in convictions, 45.2% of offenders

had an arrest within three years of release and 55.4% of offenders had an arrest within five years of

release.

        Incarceration identifies a person as a recidivist when an arrest resulted in a jail or prison

sentence. Of the number that resulted in a jail or prison sentence, 36.2% of offenders were arrested

within three years of release while 44.9% of offenders were arrested within five years of release.

        Imprisonment characterizes a person as a recidivist when an arrest results in a prison sentence.

22% of offenders were arrested within three years of release and 28.2% of offenders within five years

resulted in a conviction of a prison sentence.

        Return to prison refers to a person as a recidivist when an arrest results in a conviction or when

the offender was returned to prison based on a violation of their release conditions such as failing a drug

test. This applies to 49.7% of offenders that were arrested within three years of release and 55.1% of

offenders that were arrested within five years of release. Returning to prison is the most common

measure that is used in the field when studying recidivism (Durose, Cooper, & Synder, 2014). Regardless,

it is important to use consistent measurements of recidivism over time in order to have an effective

comparison.

Reducing Cost and Recidivism

        Recidivism is considered an enormous financial burden on society due to the increasing cost that

then becomes the majority focus of state budgets. According to BJS, 2010 shows the average cost of

prisoner incarceration in state prisons was $28,000 per year (James, 2015). A slight reduction in

recidivism can help alleviate that financial burden (Severson, 2006). Therefore, the use of re-entry

programs will help accomplish the reduction of cost in incarceration. Some states have participated in

what is known as "justice reinvestment". Implemented in 2008, Minnesota allocated $1.9 million in

state funds to start the Minnesota Comprehensive Offender Re-entry Plan (Duwe, 2012). Grant Duwe,

the director of Research and Evaluation for the Minnesota Department of Corrections, created an

experimental design to evaluate the effectiveness of the program (2012). The study demonstrated that

the program "significantly improved employment rates, decreased homelessness, broadened offenders'

systems of social support, and increased the extent to which offenders participated in community

support programming" (Duwe, 2012). Duwe theorized that the effectiveness of the program in

decreasing reoffending is because it increased the extent to which offenders were employed. The

involvement in community support programs allows the development of social support (2012).

In 2016, the U.S. Department of Justice announced a series of reforms that is "designed to

reduce recidivism and increase the likelihood of inmates' safe and successful return to the community

(Lynch, 2016). United States Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch hoped that, "these critical reforms will

help give federal inmates the tools and assistance they need to successfully return home as productive,

law-abiding members of society. By putting returning citizens in a position to make the most of their

second chance, we can create stronger communities, safer neighborhoods and brighter futures for all."

The reforms include building a semi-autonomous school district within the federal prison system,

reforming federal halfway houses, covering the cost of obtaining state-issued photo IDs for federal

inmates before their release from custody, and providing additional services for female inmates (Lynch,

2016). All these reforms are designed to assist the inmates which, in turn, will promote a safer

community, thereby reducing the rate of recidivism. The agency outlined the details of these reforms

(2016):

Building a school district within the federal prison system will allow the offenders the

opportunity to participate in correctional educational programs. These programs will offer literacy, high

school diplomas, postsecondary education, and other opportunities for ones with learning disabilities

(Lynch, 2016). Research shows that offenders that participate in these programs have a lower chance of

returning to prison than those who do not by 43%. It is also noted that every dollar spent on prison

education saves four to five dollars on the cost of re-incarceration (Lynch, 2016).

Reforming federal halfway houses provides housing for 80% of inmates. These halfway houses are *Residential Reentry Centers* that have always been privatized. However, the U.S. Attorney has directed the Federal Bureau of Prisons to "leverage its purchasing power and overhaul this private market" (Lynch, 2016).

Covering the cost of state-issued IDs prior to inmates' release is considered "critical to successful re-entry" (Lynch, 2016). Lynch says these documents allows for released offenders to secure employment, housing, registering for school, opening a bank account and accessing other benefits, such as healthcare (2016). It is projected that this effort will save the agency an estimated $19 million a year.

Impact of Prison Experience on Recidivism

The NIJ conducted research that examined the impact of the rate of crime prior to prison and how prison affected crime post-release (Bhati, 2006). According to *Estimating the Impact of Incarceration on Subsequent Offending Trajectories: Deterrent, Criminogenic, or Null Effect* (2006)*,* the researchers found that:

- Criminal history prior to incarceration predicted whether or not incarceration would deter reoffending within three years after release.
    - For 56% of the offender sample, incarceration had the predicted deterrent effect (that is, they did not recidivate within the three-year period).
    - 40% of the sample reoffended as predicted from their criminal history before incarceration.
- For 4% of the offender sample, incarceration had a criminogenic effect, increasing the rate of crime after release from prison.
- Supervision after release did not seem to lower likelihood of rearrests.

These findings suggest that a thorough investigation of a criminal history prior to incarceration may help identify who is and is not likely to be deterred from post-release reoffending (Bhati, 2006). Researchers have noted that there is also a correlation between the security level the inmates received during incarceration and the recidivism rate after they are released from prison. Higher security prisons are more stringent and, therefore, should decrease recidivism among inmates who have a higher tendency to commit crime. Research shows, however, that being exposed to inmates who do have a higher tendency to commit crime may "increase criminal behavior or reinforce antisocial attitudes" (Bhati, 2006).

National Statistics on Firearm Violence

Survey of Prison Inmates is an annual, cross-sectional survey of state and federal prisoners, conducted by BJS, to assemble national statistics of the prison population such as demographic characteristics, criminal history, firearm possession, and other important aspects. In 2016, BJS determined an estimated 1,506,800 state and federal prisoners were serving time in the United States (Carson, 2018). According to *Source and Use of Firearm Involved in Crimes: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016*, 21% of all state and federal prisoners disclosed that they had possessed a firearm when they committed the offense for which they were serving time (2019). BJS defines "firearm possession" as carrying or possessing at least one firearm when the offense was committed (Alper & Glaze, 2019).

Source and Use of Firearm Involved in Crimes: Survey of Prison Inmates, 2016 reported the different extent of firearm use among prisoners during the offense for which they were serving time (2019):

- 46.5% of state prisoners discharged the firearm during the crime compared to 11.9% of federal prisoners

- 27.1% of state prisoners killed someone with a firearm compared to 4.1% of federal

  prisoners

- 12.4% of state prisoners injured someone with a firearm compared to 2.2% of federal

  prisoners

- 7% of state prisoners fired the gun but did not injure anyone compared to 5.6% of

  federal prisoners

BJS reported that firearm violence accounted for 10% of all violent crimes, however, the rate of firearm

violence fell 63% from 1993 to 2001 (Perkins, 2003). In 2011, data collected by the FBI show that

firearms were used in 67.7% of murders, 41.3% of robbery offenses, and 21.2% of aggravated assaults

nationwide (*Crime in the United States*, 2011). In the same year, the National Crime Victimization Survey

(NCVS) reported an estimated 467,300 firearm victimizations and 414,600 firearm incidents (Planty &

Truman, 2013). According to NCVS, a nonfatal firearm *victimization* refers to a single victim that

experienced a criminal incident while a nonfatal firearm *incident* is a specific criminal act involving one

or more victims or victimizations (Planty & Truman, 2013). In 1993, 1.5 million nonfatal firearm-related

violent victimizations were reported and drastically declined in 2004 by 70% (Planty & Truman, 2013).

Despite the number of declining firearm crimes, Planty and Truman reported the percentage of all

firearm violence did not change substantively, only differing between 6% and 9% (2013).

Project Description

The United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma tasked the Forensic

Science Institute to determine whether the goals of the PPREP program are met and whether strategic

adjustments are necessary. To track any possible criminal relapse of these offenders, the Oklahoma

State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI), was persuaded to assist in this request. OSBI houses the Statistical

Analysis Center (SAC) which serves as the central point of contact for local, state, and federal law

enforcement agencies in Oklahoma. The SAC is responsible to collect, analyze, and publish research and statistics to assist in ensuring the safety and security of the citizens of Oklahoma. With SAC assistance, this research project, divided into three parts, seeks to answer the following questions:

Part A: Descriptive Analysis of Individuals Indoctrinated in PPREP.

1. What are the sociodemographic characteristics of the individuals indoctrinated in PPREP?

2. What are the criminal histories represented by individuals indoctrinated in PPREP?

Part B: Crime Statistics and Trends in Oklahoma.

1. What are the crime statistics and recidivism trends for the state of Oklahoma between January 2006 and December 2016?

2. What are the crime statistics and recidivism trends for Oklahoma County between January 2006 and December 2016?

3. What are the crime statistics and recidivism trends for the individuals enrolled in PPREP between March 2011 and December 2016?

Part C: Effectiveness of PPREP in Reducing Recidivism Rates for Firearm-Related Crimes.

1. How are the crime statistics and trends for the individuals in PPREP compared to the crime statistics and trends for the state of Oklahoma?

2. How are the crime statistics and trends for the individuals in PPREP compared to the crime statistics and trends for Oklahoma County?

3. How are the crime statistics and trends for the individuals in PPREP compared to the crime statistics and trends for similar programs in other states?

Methods

This research project utilized descriptive and applied research to analyze the qualitative

characteristics of convicted felons and the quantitative aspects of firearm-related and violent recidivism

rates in Oklahoma County. Assistant U.S. Attorney Ashley Altshuler provided a list of participants that

attended the monthly sessions from March 2011 to July 2015 with a total count of 3,980 participants.

Sample/Participants

The list includes the following information about each individual in the sample:

    (a) Last Name

    (b) First Name

    (c) Case/Supervision #

    (d) Supervising Agency

    (e) Date Attended PPREP

    (f) Date of Birth

The criteria for inclusion are as follow:

    (a) Probationers and parolees, released from state prison or sentenced in Oklahoma County

    (b) Convicted and sentenced for committing a felony

    (c) Adult (person over the age of 18)

    (d) Required to attend PPREP as a condition of probation or parole

Of those 3,980 offenders, 426 were submitted to OSBI for an Oklahoma criminal history check to identify

those PPREP participants who reoffended. OSBI's Criminal History Record Unit ran a background check

for each of the individuals from the provided sampling size of 426. However, due to discrepancies within

the data, five individuals were ultimately removed from the sample size which brought the final count to

421. The Unit was instructed to notate any criminal arrest, within Oklahoma, that may have occurred

between the participants' date of attendance to the end of 2016 (see Appendix B: Part B).

Unfortunately, searches from the national database were not possible for this research project.

Data Collection

Data collection relied on Microsoft Access to create the database. Access is a database

management program that served as the repository for all data collected in this project. It helped

organize and analyze large amounts of information to create logical connections within the data.

Sources of data collection for research for this specific project includes:

Part A: Descriptive Analysis of Individuals Enrolled in PPREP. Part A will include primary data

collected from the following online resources:

(a) Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC) *Offender Lookup*;

(b) Oklahoma Supreme Court Network (OSCN) Court Records; and

Part B: Crime Statistics and Trends in Oklahoma. Part B will include secondary data collected

from the following law enforcement agencies:

(a) Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation;

(b) Oklahoma Department of Corrections;

(c) Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office;

(d) Oklahoma City Police Department;

(e) Midwest City Police Department; and

(f) Edmond Police Department

Part C: Effectiveness of PPREP in Reducing Recidivism Rates for Firearm-Related Offenses. Part

C will include secondary data collected from the following sources:

(a) Crime statistics and trends gathered from this research project

(b) Crime statistics and trends for similar probation and parole re-entry programs located in

other states

(See Appendix B: Part A)

This project utilized annual reports, *Crime in Oklahoma,* to create a baseline from 2006 to 2016

for this ten-year research. The annual reports are compiled from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)

program for the state of Oklahoma. Under Title 74 O.S. § 150.10, all state, county, city, and town law

enforcement agencies are required to submit crime data to the OSBI to establish comprehensive crime

data for the State (Crime in Oklahoma, 2008). The UCR program emphasizes on the standardized

definitions of crime so that the measures are reliable and consistent, therefore, making it uniform; the

data from the Oklahoma report is then submitted to the FBI (see Appendix C). Information gathered

from *Crime in Oklahoma* is based on the Oklahoma Crime Index. *Crime in Oklahoma* defines crime index

as the sum of the seven major offenses used to measure the extent, fluctuation, and distribution of

crime in a given geographical area (2016). Crime classifications used in the index are: (1) murder, (2)

forcible rape, (3) robbery, (4) aggravated assault, (5) burglary, (6) larceny (theft), and (7) motor vehicle

theft. Each of these offenses is referred to as an "index crime" and falls under one of two categories:

violent crimes and non-violent crimes. Violent crimes consist of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and

aggravated assault while non-violent crimes consist of burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft (see

Appendix D). It is important to note that there are different factors that can affect the data reported; for

example, if a person is arrested for multiple crimes, only the most severe crime will be reported. For

that reason, the OSBI advises against using the reported data to make direct comparisons as it may be

misleading (Crime in Oklahoma, 2014).

This research project was designed to track the rate of recidivism, particularly firearm-related

offenses, and violent crimes. The reported use of firearms in violent crimes is included in a few sections

of the annual report. In 2016, firearms were listed as the most common weapon type reported for

murder by 70.3% (Crime in Oklahoma, 2016). The same year, data reported firearms were used in 48.4%

of robbery cases as opposed to 23.5% of aggravated assaults with a firearm (Crime in Oklahoma, 2016).

The annual report also compiles a list of offenses of arrests for adults. One of the arrest offenses are

"weapons" which is defined as, "all violations of regulations or statutes controlling the carrying, using,

possessing, furnishing, and manufacturing of deadly weapons or silencers and all attempts to commit

any of the offenses" (Crime in Oklahoma, 2016). Firearms are not exclusively categorized; therefore,

research data is inaccurate for this project. Some arrests can be exclusively charged under Title 21 O.S. §

1283 (see Appendix E). Yet, it is not mentioned as a sub-category under the number of weapon arrests.

The variant in data makes it difficult to analyze and determine whether the program is effective. Simply

put, the information provided by OSBI on arrests of PPREP participants does not indicate the type of

weapon used.

Data Analysis

This research project utilized IBM SPSS Statistics software to analyze the data collected. SPSS is

designed primarily to enable analysts to analyze and visualize their data statistically, geospatially, and

temporally. The software allows users to enter, organize, and examine data, as well as forecast and

make data-based predictions, while providing support for metrics and planning.

Part A: Descriptive Analysis of Individuals Enrolled in PPREP. The following graphs illustrate the

sociodemographic characteristics and criminal history of the individuals indoctrinated in the program.

This information was collected from the Oklahoma Department of Corrections Offender Lookup. In

Figure 1, 337 (80%) were male offenders and 84 (20%) were female offenders. Commonly, the majority

of crimes reported are committed by male offenders. Amongst the offenders used in this sampling size,

Figure 2 indicates that 221 offenders were black, and 170 offenders were white. Based on the data

collected, it appears that race and ethnicity are used interchangeably and there is no clear definition.

Figure 3 lists the offense that was committed prior to the offender receiving a felony conviction. In

terms of violent crimes, 53 participants of the sample size were charged with a violent crime prior to their indoctrination. The data suggests the most common crimes committed were drug related prior to PPREP. The three figures represented by SPSS, reveal that the most common participant in PPREP is a black male with a drug-related felony conviction.

Figure 1

Race and Ethnicity Demographics

Race/Ethnicity	Count
American Indian	6
Asian	1
Black	221
Hispanic	22
Other	1
White	170

Figure 2

Criminal History

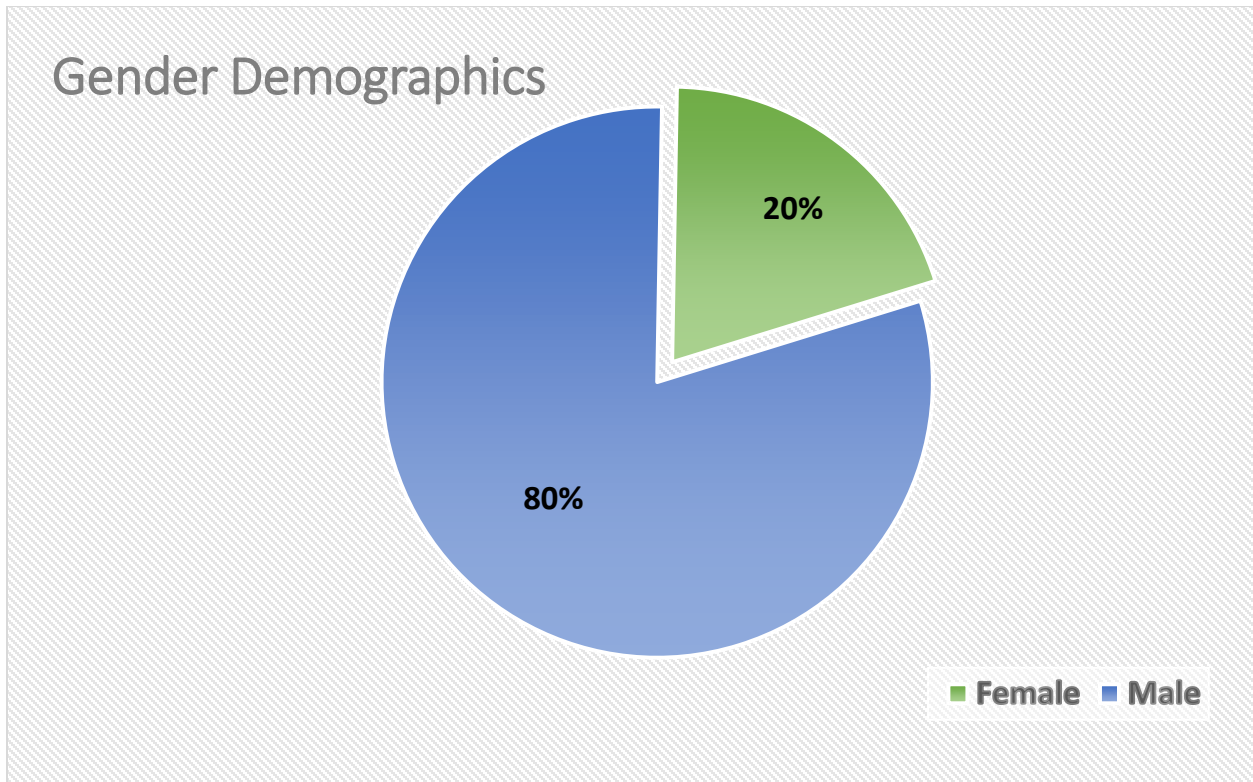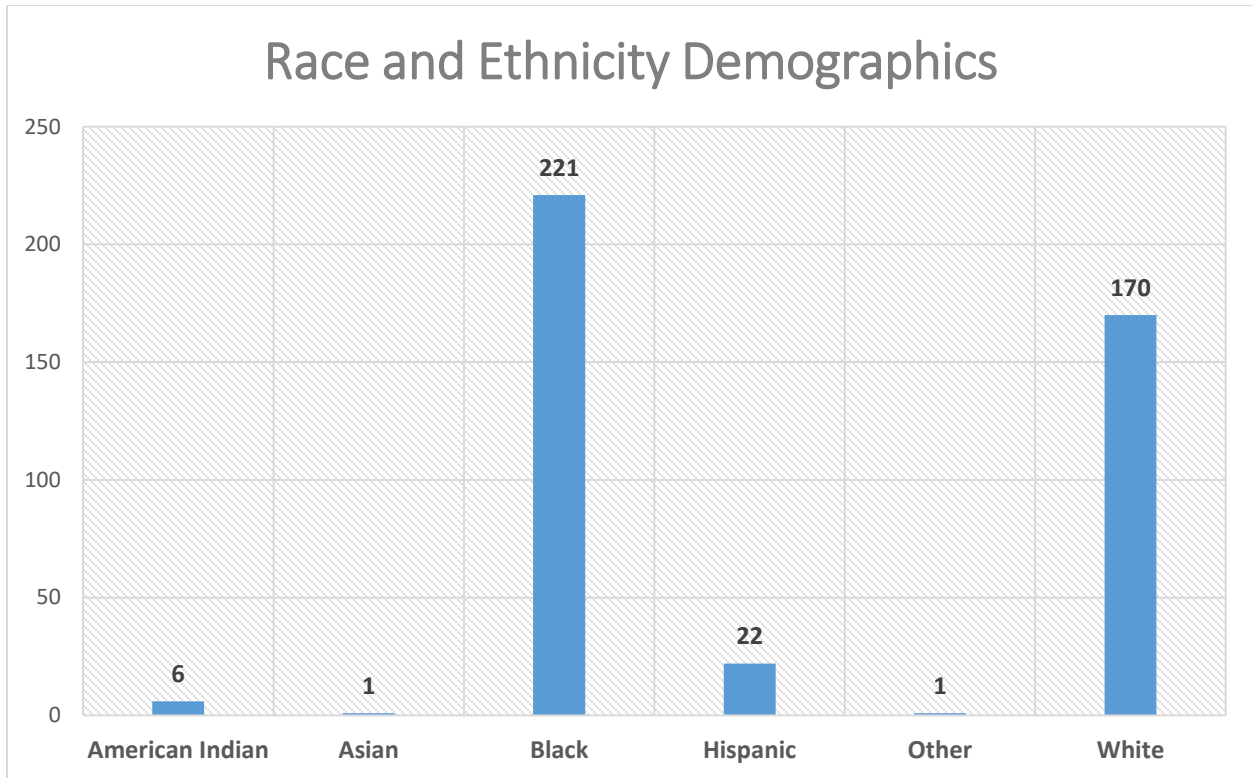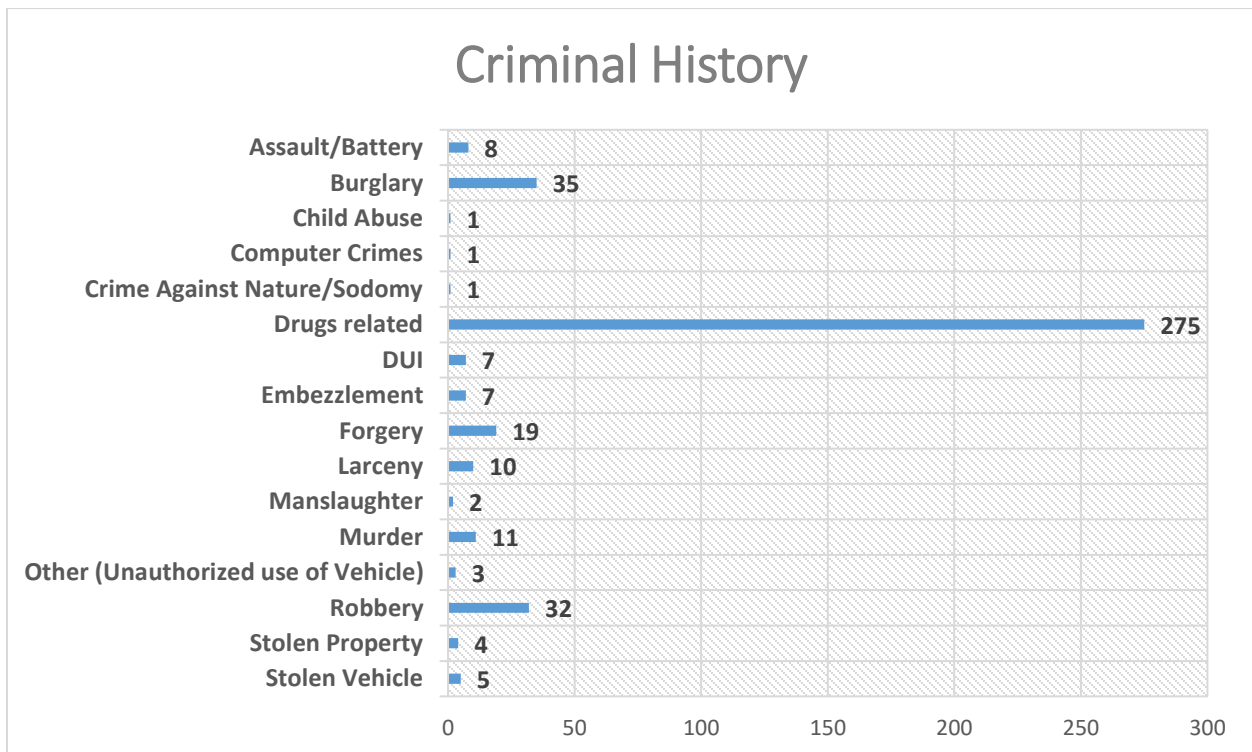| Offense	Count
Assault/Battery	8
Burglary	35
Child Abuse	1
Computer Crimes	1
Crime Against Nature/Sodomy	1
Drugs related	275
DUI	7
Embezzlement	7
Forgery	19
Larceny	10
Manslaughter	2
Murder	11
Other (Unauthorized use of Vehicle)	3
Robbery	32
Stolen Property	4
Stolen Vehicle	5

Figure 3

Part B: Crime Statistics and Trends. As previously mentioned, this research project focused on the crime

trends among firearm-related offenses and violent crimes, therefore, the following graphs will represent

those two categories specifically. These graphs established the number of combined offenses reported

from 2006 to 2016. Figure 4 represents the total number of index crimes occurring each year in the state

of Oklahoma. During the ten-year period, the highest number reported occurred in 2009 with 149,359

index crimes. From 2012 to 2015, there was a continuous decline of reported index crimes with an

average decrease of 5% per year. In 2015, 125,477 index crimes were the lowest reported number

during that time frame. However, the number of reported index crimes rose 5.1% in 2016. Statistically,

the number of firearm-related offenses and the number of violent crimes in the state of Oklahoma,

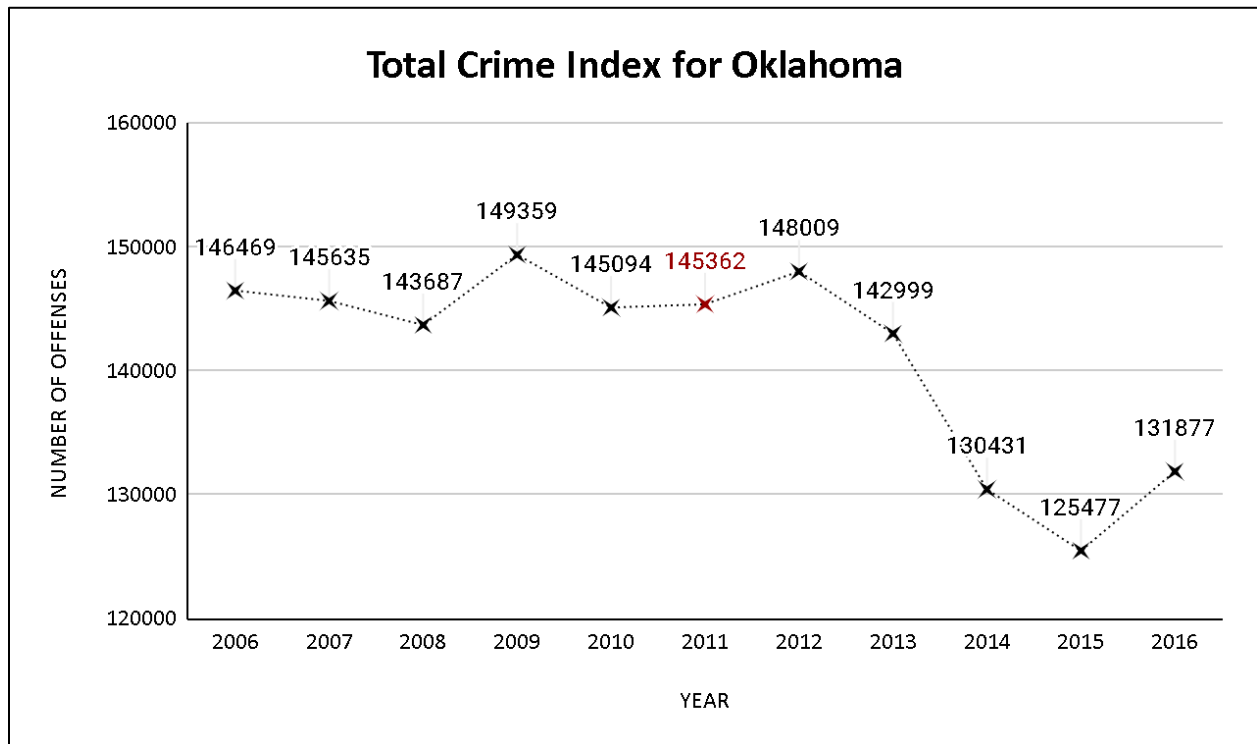share similar trends. The following overall figures can be broken down by specific violent crimes.

Figure 4

Murder

Crime in Oklahoma defines murder as "the unlawful killing of a human being in which the

element of malice aforethought was present" (2016). The number of reported murders varied from

year-to-year over the ten-year time frame for the state of Oklahoma (Figure 5). During the ten-year

period, the lowest number of murders was reported in 2014 with 178 murders while the highest

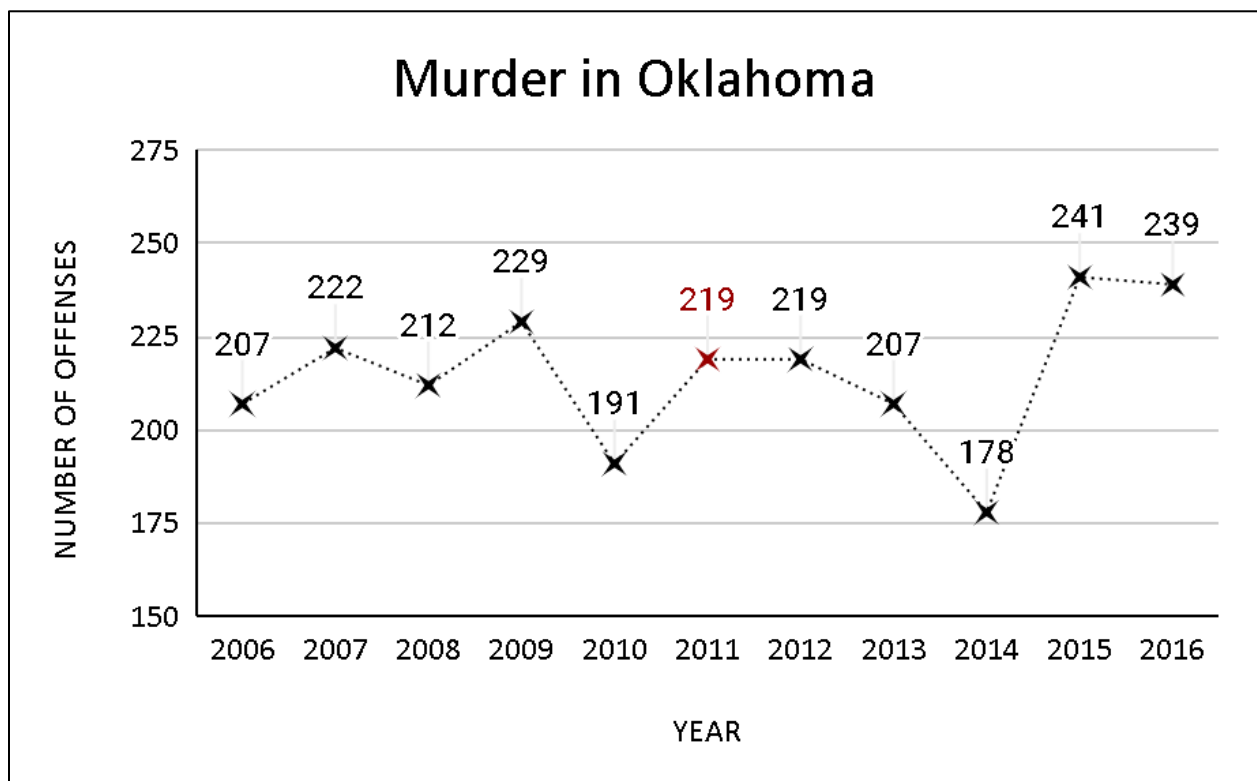reported number of murders was the following year with a 35.4% increase.

Figure 5

Rape

Crime in Oklahoma defines rape as "the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus

with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without consent

from the victim" (2016). Interestingly enough, compared to the number of reported murders, the

number of reported rapes showed quite the opposite trend (Figure 6). The lowest number of reported

rapes was in 2008 but continued to climb steadily over the years. From 2011 to 2012, the number of

reported rapes increased the most by 14.8%. By the end of the ten-year period, the number of reported

rapes had spiked by 43.8% compared to 2006.
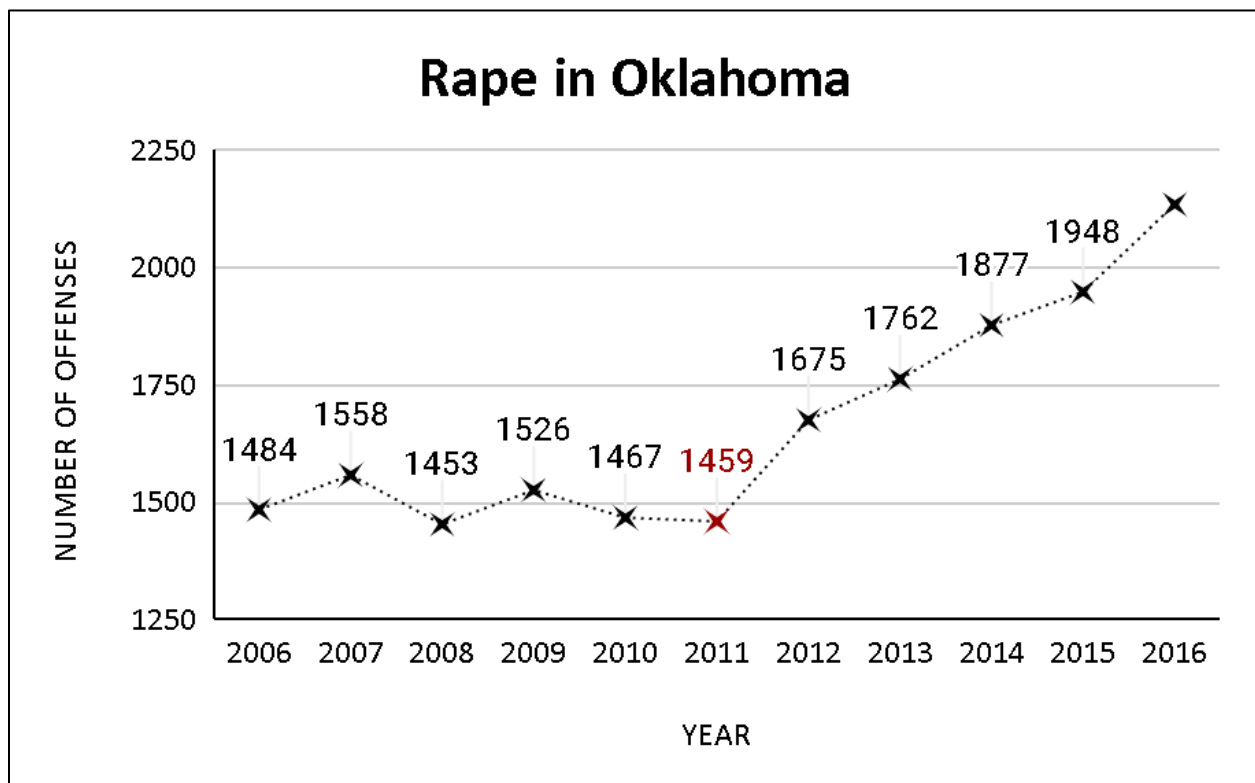
Figure 6

Robbery & Aggravated Assault

     Crime in Oklahoma defines robbery as "the felonious and forcible taking of property from the

care, custody, or control of a person or persons by violence or putting the person in fear and against

his/her will" (2016). *Crime in Oklahoma* also defines aggravated assaults as "the unlawful attack or an

attempt to attack through force or violence to do physical injury to another" (2016). OSBI reported a

gradual decrease in robberies as well as aggravated assaults over the reported years (Figure 7). The

highest number of reported robberies was in 2008 but continued to decrease an average of 3% for each

of the following years until 2015. 2008 also reported 13,794 aggravated assaults as the highest count

but continued to drop thereafter. The number of reported aggravated assaults had decreased by 9.3% in

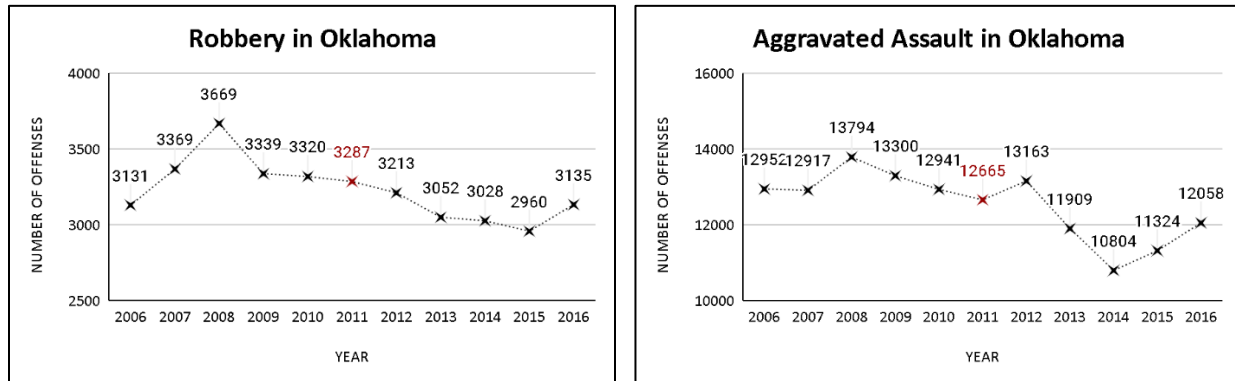2014, making it the lowest reported year during the ten-year time frame.

Figure 7

Firearm-Related Crimes

In 2013, Planty and Truman reported that the percentage of all firearm violence in the U.S. did

not change significantly despite the number of declining firearm crimes in the United States. It appears

the same trend could be applied regarding firearm-related crimes in Oklahoma (see Appendix C).

Comparing the two lowest data points of total murders for the state of Oklahoma, 2010 and 2014, there

was a 4.1% increase of murder with a firearm, despite a 6.8% decrease in total murders (Figure 8). The

trend for murders with a firearm follows the same trend for all total reported murders in the state of

Oklahoma. During the ten-year time frame, murder with a firearm accounted for an average of 62.8% of

total reported murders per year in Oklahoma. In 2015, the number of murders with a firearm was the

highest by 43.9% while also reporting their highest total number of murders.
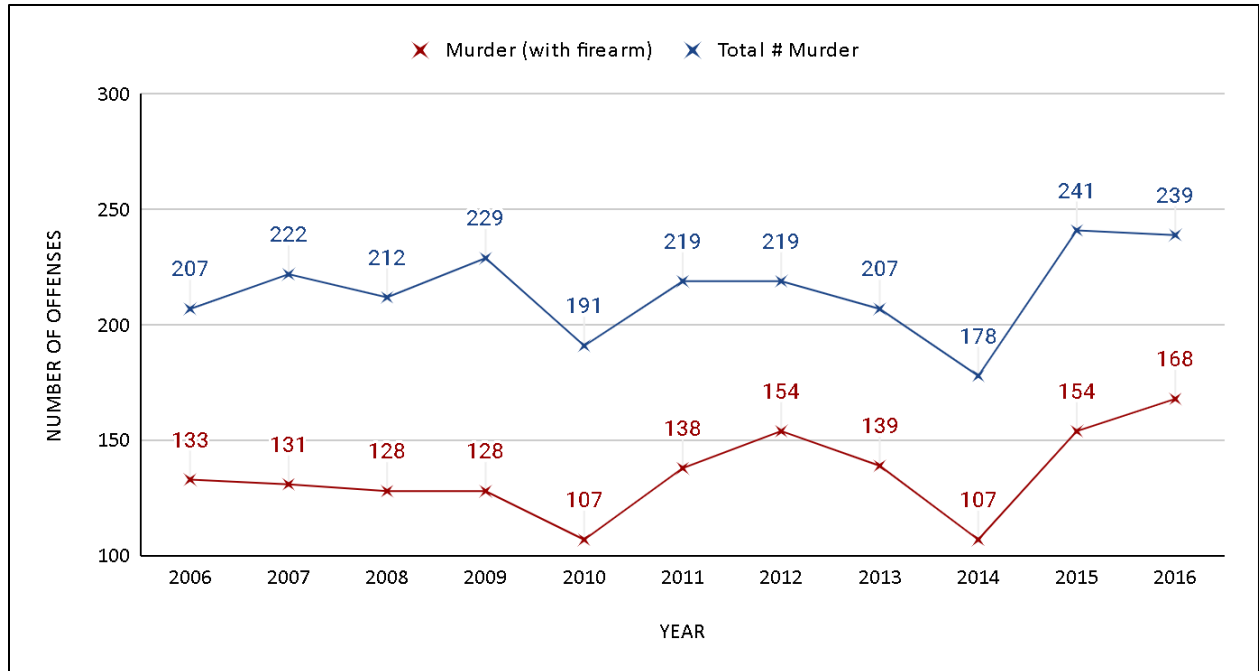
Figure 8

Robberies with a firearm accounted for an average of 45.9% of total reported robberies per year (Figure 9). From 2006 to 2007, there was a 7.6% increase in total reported robberies with a drastic 18.2% increase in robberies with firearms. Interestingly enough, the number of total robberies increased another 8.9% while also increasing another 18.3% among firearms the following year. Beginning in 2009, the total reported number of robberies declined every year until 2016 where it had increased 5.9%. However, the number of robberies with a firearm fluctuated over the years; it appears to decrease every two years and then increase the next.
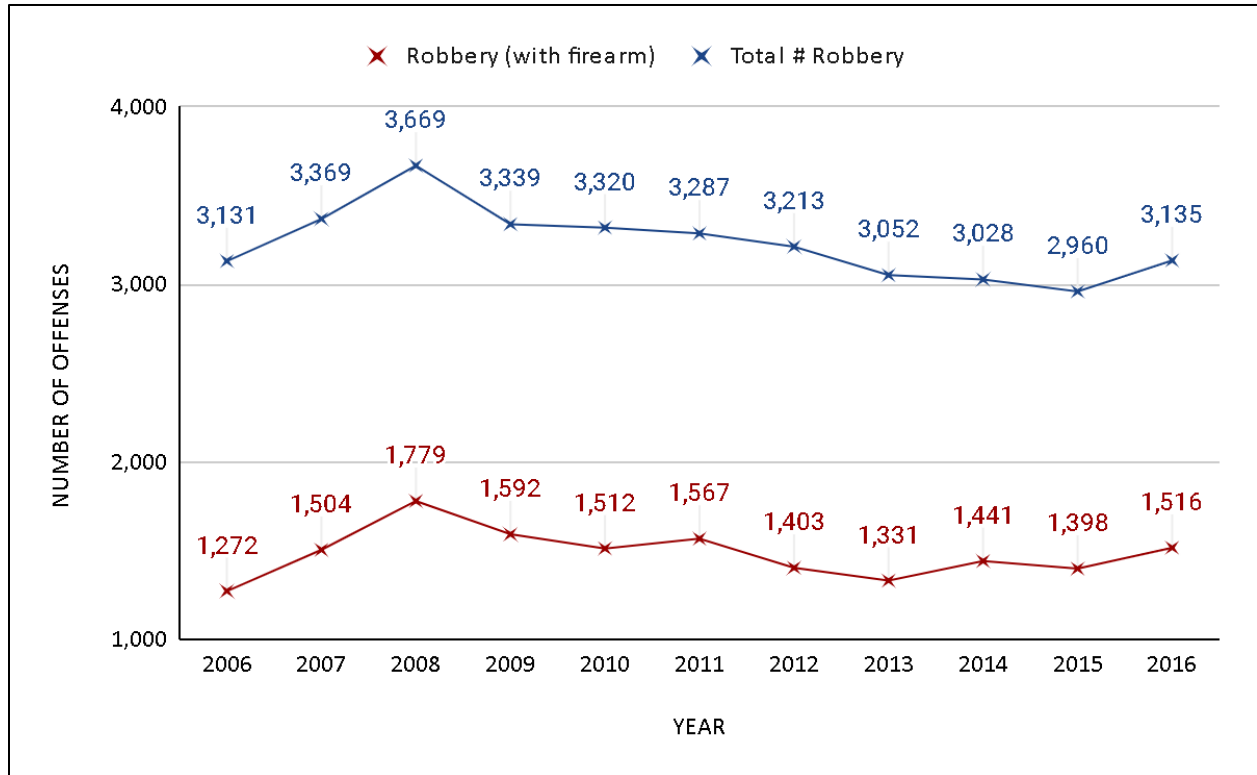
Figure 9

The number for aggravated assaults with a firearm seems to trend differently compared to the previous two violent crimes. In 2007, the number of total reported aggravated assaults decreased only 0.3%, from the previous year, but the number of aggravated assaults with a firearm decreased 8.6% (Figure 10). From 2007 to 2013, aggravated assaults with a firearm accounted for an average of 17.8% of total aggravated assaults, and only fluctuated less than 1% margin each year. Then in 2014, the percentage of firearms used during aggravated assaults moved up to 19.5% despite reporting the lowest number of total aggravated assaults. And in subsequent years, the percentages continued to trend higher while the total aggravated assaults were under average.
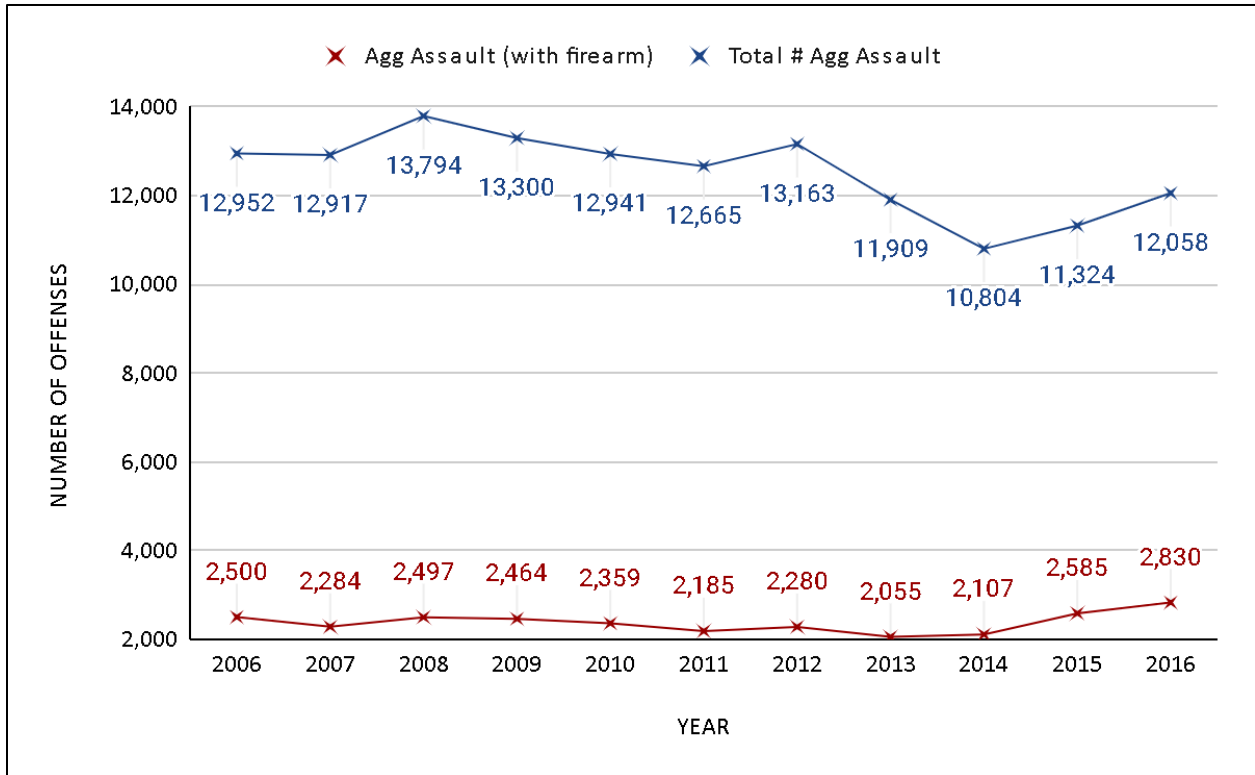
Figure 10

Oklahoma County & Tulsa County.

The next following graphs will represent the violent crime rates between Oklahoma County and Tulsa County. In 2013, the United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of Oklahoma, established the Fresh Start Reentry Program. The Fresh Start Reentry Program focused on providing individuals with felony convictions access to resources and to provide necessary motivation for success when reintegrating into the community, however, attendance is not mandatory. Tulsa County is the second largest county in the state of Oklahoma with an average population of 642,186 while Oklahoma County has an average population of 839,726. Due to the difference in population sizes, the following graphs will represent crime rate per capita. A crime rate describes the number of crimes reported to law enforcement agencies per 100,000 total population.

Oklahoma County appears to follow similar fluctuating patterns compared to Tulsa County during the ten-year period. However, during that time frame, Oklahoma County has a lower average murder rate of 8.55 per 100,000 people while Tulsa County had an average murder rate of 9.43 per 100,000 people (figure 11). It appears that 2012 was a significant year for both counties as Oklahoma County saw the highest murder rate of 11.66 per capita while Tulsa County had the lowest murder rate of 7.10 per capita. Although data supports similar patterns in both counties in the same state, there are probable unaccounted qualitative or quantitative variables that can affect predictability for future data.
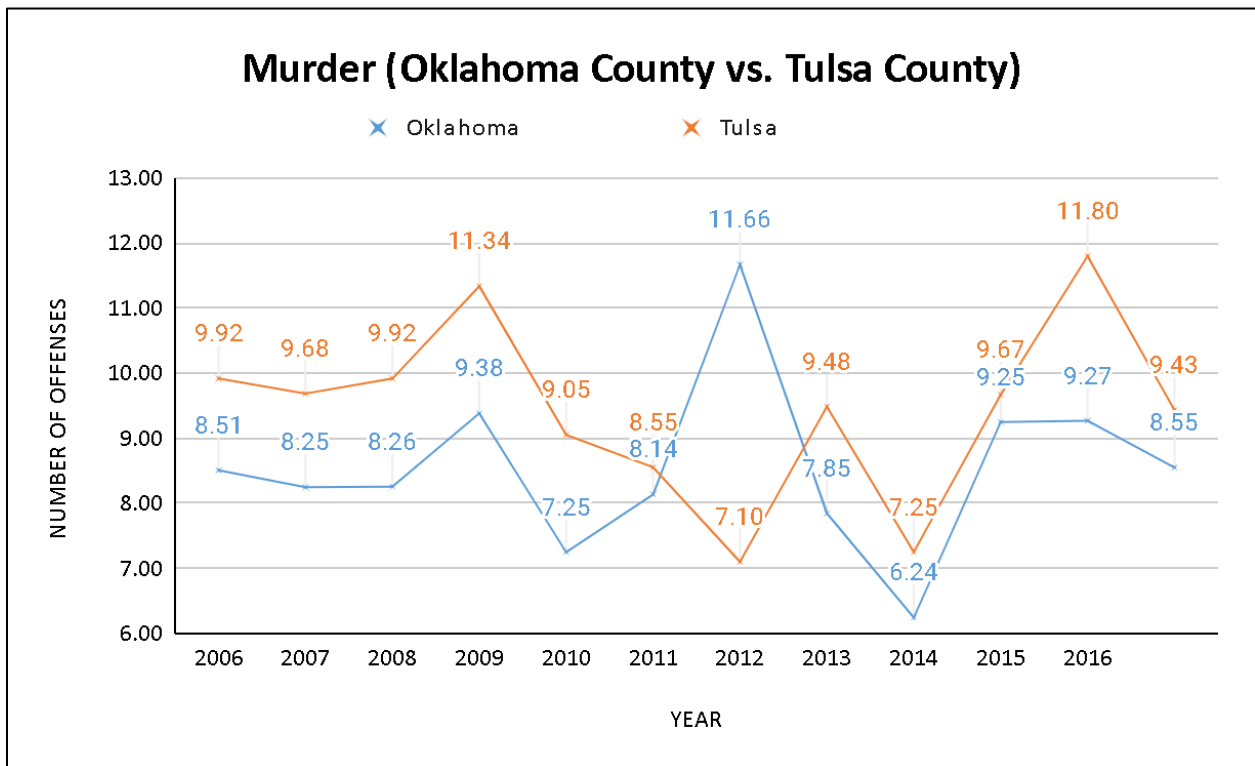
Figure 11

For the number of reported rapes in Figure 12, excluding 2006, Oklahoma County consistently reported lower than the number of reported rapes compared to Tulsa County despite rising numbers

after 2011. Oklahoma County has an average of 53.67 per capita of reported rape while Tulsa County

had an average of 60.49 per capita. In 2013, both counties increased at a similar rate of 16.9%.
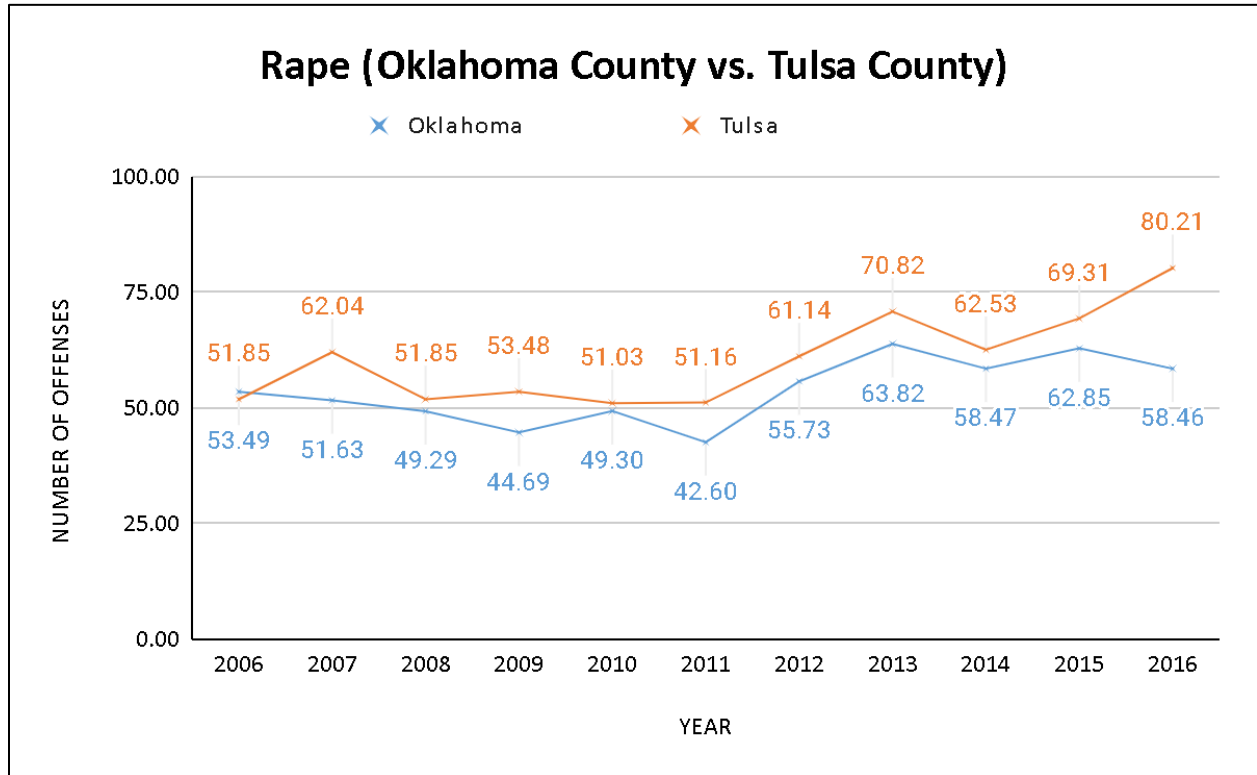
Figure 12

In 2006, Oklahoma County reported 170.90 robberies per capita which had increased 26.6% by

2008: the highest reported robberies during the ten-year period (Figure 13). These counties experienced

another polar year in 2010, where Tulsa County had the highest record of reported robberies while

Oklahoma County had a significantly lower rate in the same year. The robberies in Tulsa County steadily

decreased compared to Oklahoma County dropping 25.4% from 2011 to 2015.
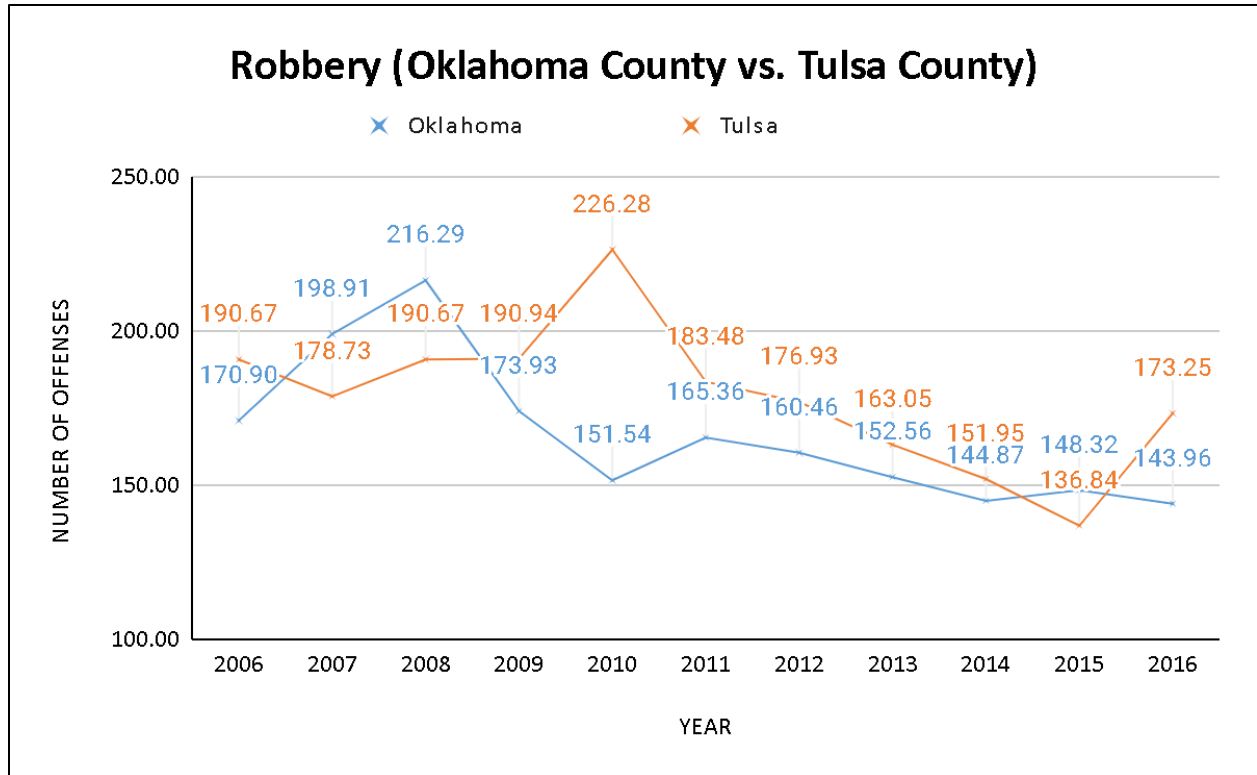
Figure 13

The pattern among aggravated assaults for both counties is noticeably different from the previous violent trends, in which they overlap a few times (Figure 14). In 2006, Oklahoma County reported 421.96 aggravated assaults per capita while Tulsa County reported their highest record of 660.94 per capita. The following year, Oklahoma County dropped 0.82% but then spiked 24.21% from 2006 to 2010. Oklahoma County continued to report more aggravated assaults than Tulsa County for the next four years. For Tulsa County, the number of reported aggravated assaults continued to fall every year until they reached their lowest record of 353.14 per capita.
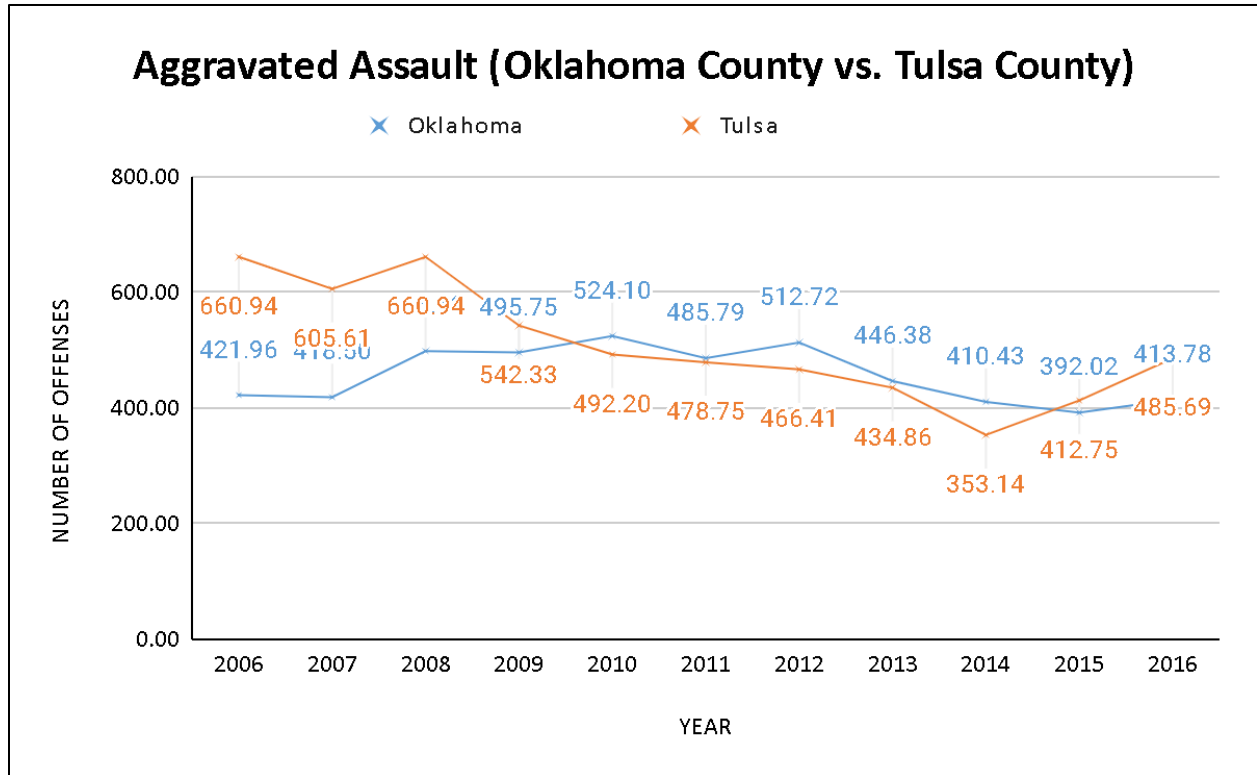
Figure 14

Individuals enrolled in PPREP.

For the purpose of this research, "reoffend" is defined as any arrests including violations and the following tables represent a quantitative breakdown from 2011 to the end of 2016. In preparation to understand and evaluate the information given in the tables, graphs, and charts; it is necessary to define "violation" as any act of infringement on probation or parole, not exclusively a new crime. This variable is coded as '1' if the participant was arrested and fingerprinted; otherwise, it was coded as '0' for no new arrests.

Of the 421 participants, Table 1 indicates that 253 participants (60.1%) have reoffended since their attendance of the program. Each reoffender is filtered by the year of their first offense following PPREP, which is coded to range from 2011 to 2016 (Table 2). By the end of 2013, 77.8% of those

reoffenders were arrested following their initial release. This analysis provides further evidence from

previous literature that if one were to reoffend it would typically be within the three-year time frame.

Table 1

REOFFEND SINCE PPREP*

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	No	168	39.9	39.9	39.9
	Yes	253	60.1	60.1	100.0
	Total	421	100.0	100.0	

Arrests includes all new crimes and any violations of their conditional release.

Table 2

YEAR OF FIRST OFFENSE AFTER PPREP

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	2011	56	22.1	22.1	22.1
	2012	86	34.0	34.0	56.1
	2013	55	21.7	21.7	77.9
	2014	35	13.8	13.8	91.7
	2015	19	7.5	7.5	99.2
	2016	2	.8	.8	100.0
	Total	253	100.0	100.0	

Taking cognizance of the primary focus of this research is on firearm-related offenses; these are

coded as '1' if the reoffender is charged with any firearm-related offense, and '0' for other offenses.

Studying the data of 253 reoffenders, Table 3 showed 41 (16.2%) was charged with a firearm offense

within the given time frame.

Table 3

USED A FIREARM					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	No	212	83.8	83.8	83.8
	Yes	41	16.2	16.2	100.0
	Total	253	100.0	100.0	

The reoffenders were then grouped separately for further analysis. Despite this information not being included in the annual reports (Table 4), it is interesting to note that 78% of the reoffenders were exclusively charged with Title 21 O.S. § 1283 and after further research, the data revealed whether these charges resulted in a conviction or dismissal. In Table 5, 73.2% of those arrests resulted in a new conviction while 19.5% were dismissed. One of the arrests was amended to a misdemeanor conviction and another was declined to file by the prosecutor.

Table 4

STATUTE CHARGED					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	21.1283 — CARRY OR POSSESS FIREARM BY CONVICTED FELON	32	78.0	97.0	97.0
	21.1287 — POSSESSION OF AN OFFENSIVE WEAPON WHILE COMMITTING A FELONY	1	2.4	3.0	100.0
	Total	33	80.5	100.0	
Missing	System	8	19.5		
Total		41	100.0		

In Table 5, 73.2% of those arrests resulted in a new conviction while 19.5% were dismissed. One of the arrests was amended to a misdemeanor conviction and another was declined to file by the prosecutor.

Table 5

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	PROSECUTION RESULTS				
Valid	DA Declined To File	1	2.4	2.4	2.4
	Charge Dismissed	8	19.5	19.5	22.0
	Convicted	30	73.2	73.2	95.1
	Charges Filed	1	2.4	2.4	97.6
	Charge Amended	1	2.4	2.4	100.0
	Total	41	100.0	100.0	

The reoffenders are coded to determine whether their crime is considered violent or non-violent.

We see in Table 6 that 94.5% of the crimes were non-violent while 5.5% were violent. Within the violent

crimes data, the information was categorized to establish the different types of violent crimes

committed (Table 7). Following the data, we see that aggravated assaults accounted for 50% of violent

crimes, whereas rape accounted for 7.1% in comparison.

Table 6

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	VIOLENT OR NON-VIOLENT				
Valid	Non-Violent	239	94.5	94.5	94.5
	Violent	14	5.5	5.5	100.0
	Total	253	100.0	100.0	

Table 7

VIOLENT OFFENSE				
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Murder	3	21.4	21.4	21.4
	Rape	1	7.1	7.1	28.6
	Robbery	3	21.4	21.4	50.0
	Aggravated Assault	7	50.0	50.0	100.0
	Total	14	100.0	100.0	

Part C: Effectiveness of PPREP in Overall Recidivism Rates.

With the variability of the crimes these individuals were charged, it is not appropriate to compare data to the total crime index as some of these charges do not necessarily fall into any of the serious categories. In order to focus and compare the rate of recidivism for the individuals enrolled in PPREP, the arrest rate is used instead and is calculated per 100 people. The same rate is applied to the number of adults arrested for the state of Oklahoma and within Oklahoma County. In 2012, Figure 15 represented the arrest rate of the individuals in PPREP which is 20.43 per 100 people, albeit data shows the state of Oklahoma is 3.32 per 100 people. The rate of arrest for individuals in PPREP declined an average of 30.81% over the years. Overall, the data suggests PPREP effectiveness for preventing reoffenders showed an average decline that is meaningful.
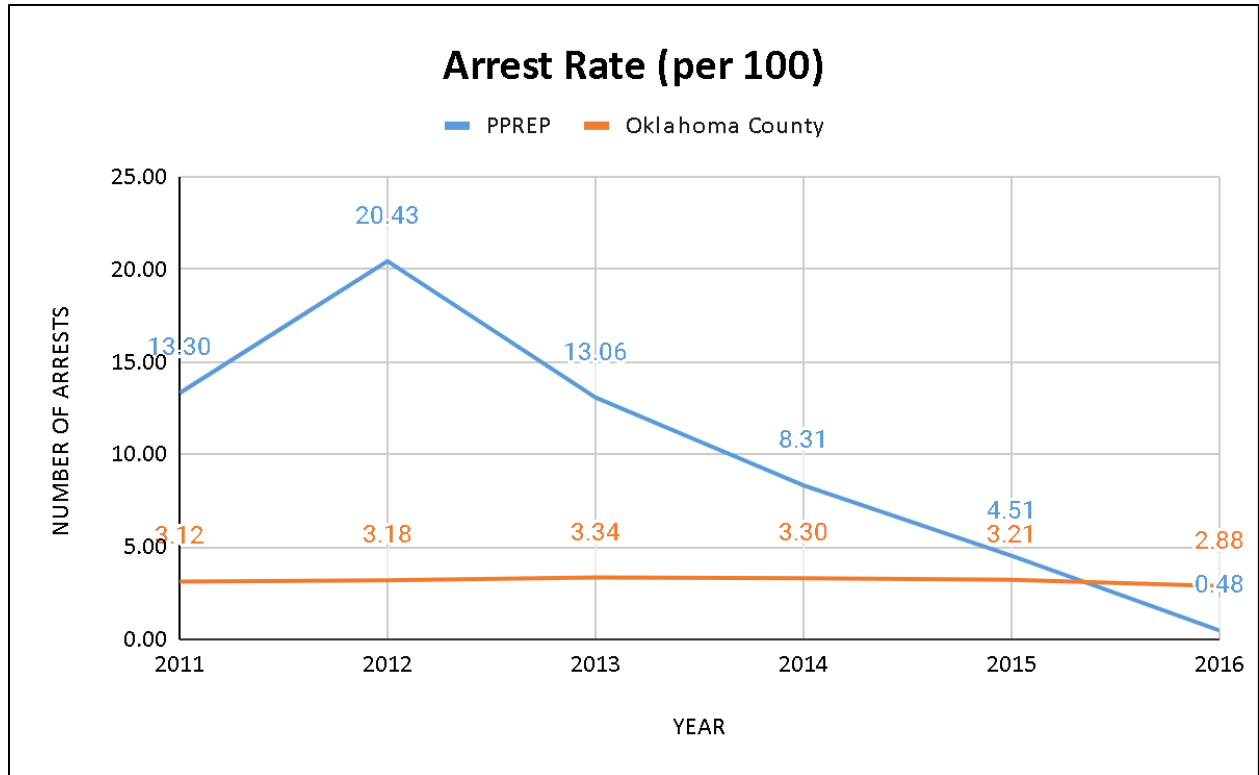
Figure 15

When comparing the arrest rates between state and county, Oklahoma County shares similar

trends as the state of Oklahoma, with Oklahoma County rising an average rate of 3.5% between 2011

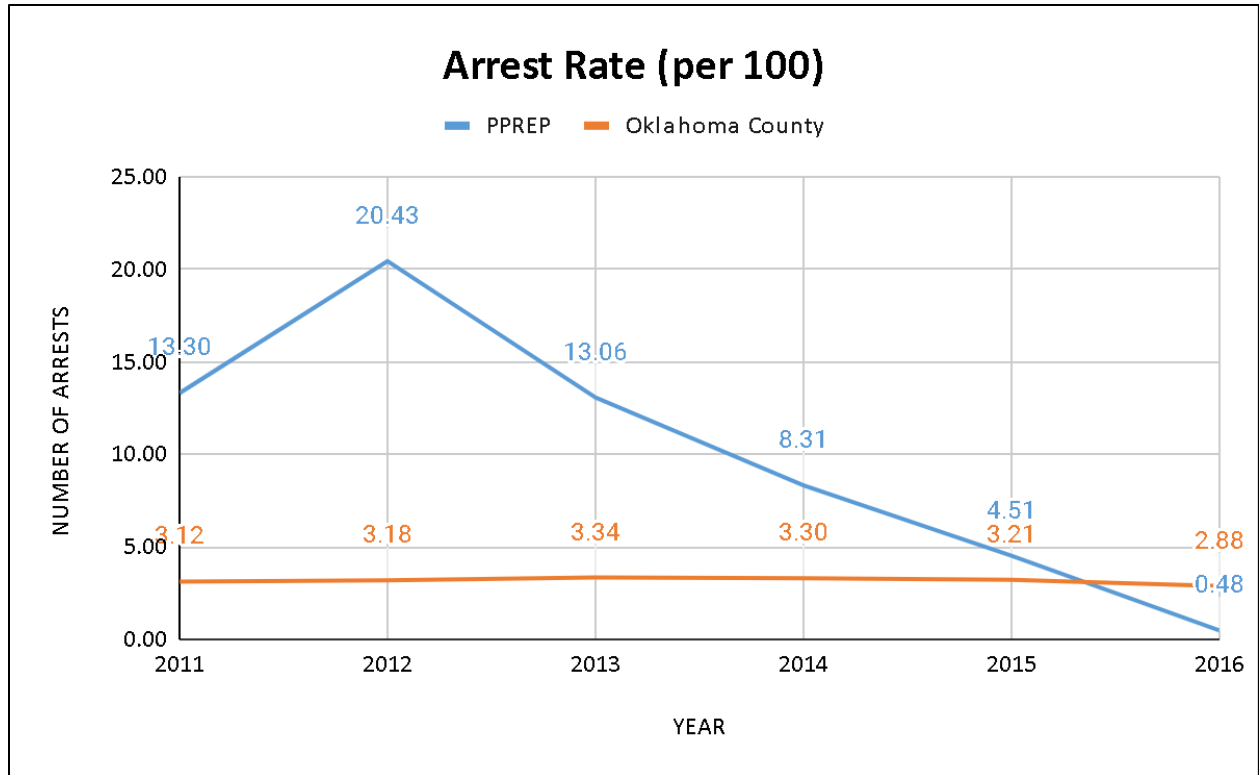and 2013 and it began to decline the following year with the furthermost decrease in 2016 by 10.38%.

Figure 16

PPREP and Project Safe Neighborhoods for the Northern District of Texas.

PPREP models its program after the success of the Northern District of Texas, it is interesting to attempt to make any possible comparison between the two. Project Safe Neighborhoods for the Northern District of Texas collects data from the years 2003-2008; this timeline has a discrepancy to PPREP data for the years 2011-2016. There are unaccountable outliers in time difference; therefore, time frame can affect data. Texas collected data from multiple counties and efforts from both state and federal prosecutors pursuant research whereas PPREP data collection is not accessible without purposeful bureau objectives. In conclusion, the caliber of Project Safe Neighborhoods for the Northern District of Texas, provides PPREP with structure, but the funding and resources of each program compare drastically.

Project Safe Neighborhoods for the Northern District of Texas concluded their results by measuring the frequencies of gun crimes by their parolees. The monthly mean was calculated by using gun-related crime reports, violations, and actions (Figure 17). From 2003 to 2004, the rate of frequency dropped 46.90% and continued to decrease by 2005. The following year, it had surged to 74.91% and then proceeded to decline the following two years.
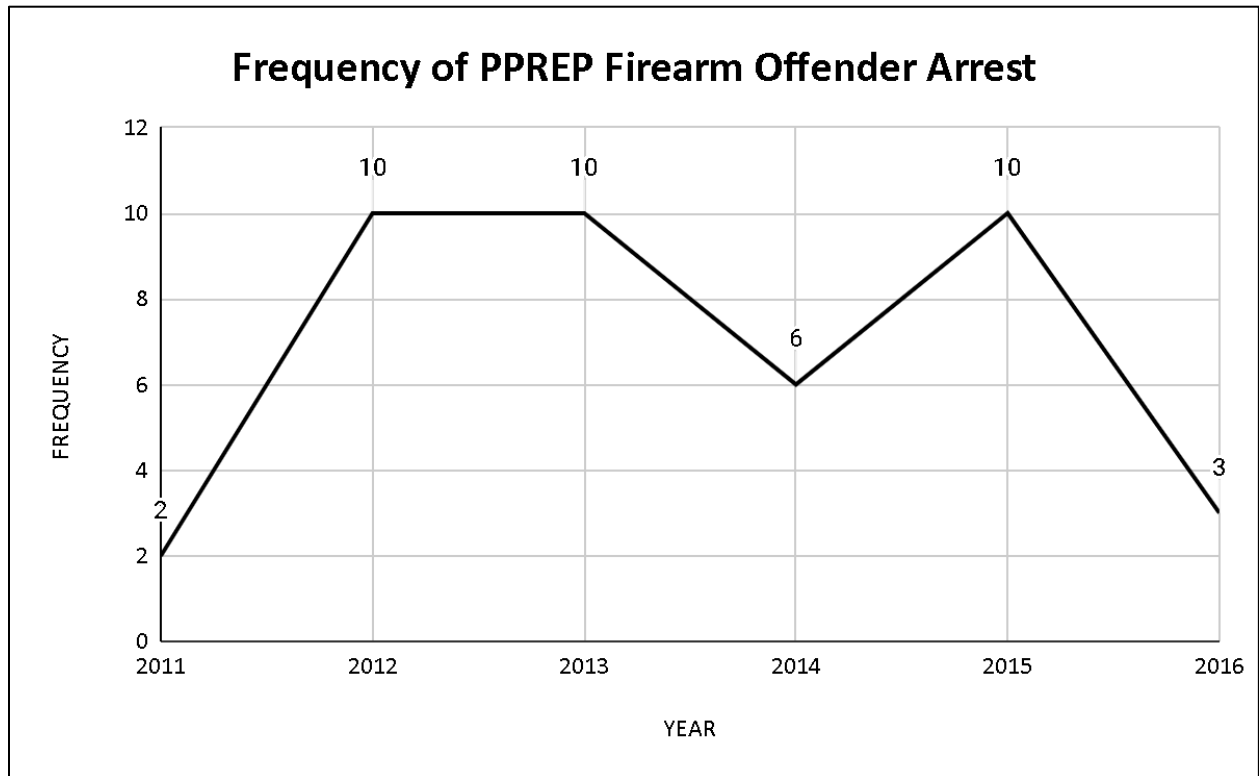
Figure 17

Prior mentioned, of the 253 reoffenders, 41 was charged with a firearm-offense. These reoffenders were then categorized by the year of the firearm-related offense. Out of those 41 firearm offenders, 30 resulted in a new conviction. This means that between 2011 to the end of 2016, 90.2% of the individuals enrolled in PPREP was able to refrain from the use firearms. Of course, this does not take into account the firearm-related crimes that have gone undetected.

Figure 18

Discussions

The initial purpose for this research project is to measure the effectiveness of PPREP in reducing

firearm-related crimes and violent crimes. However, it proved difficult to collect quantitative data that is
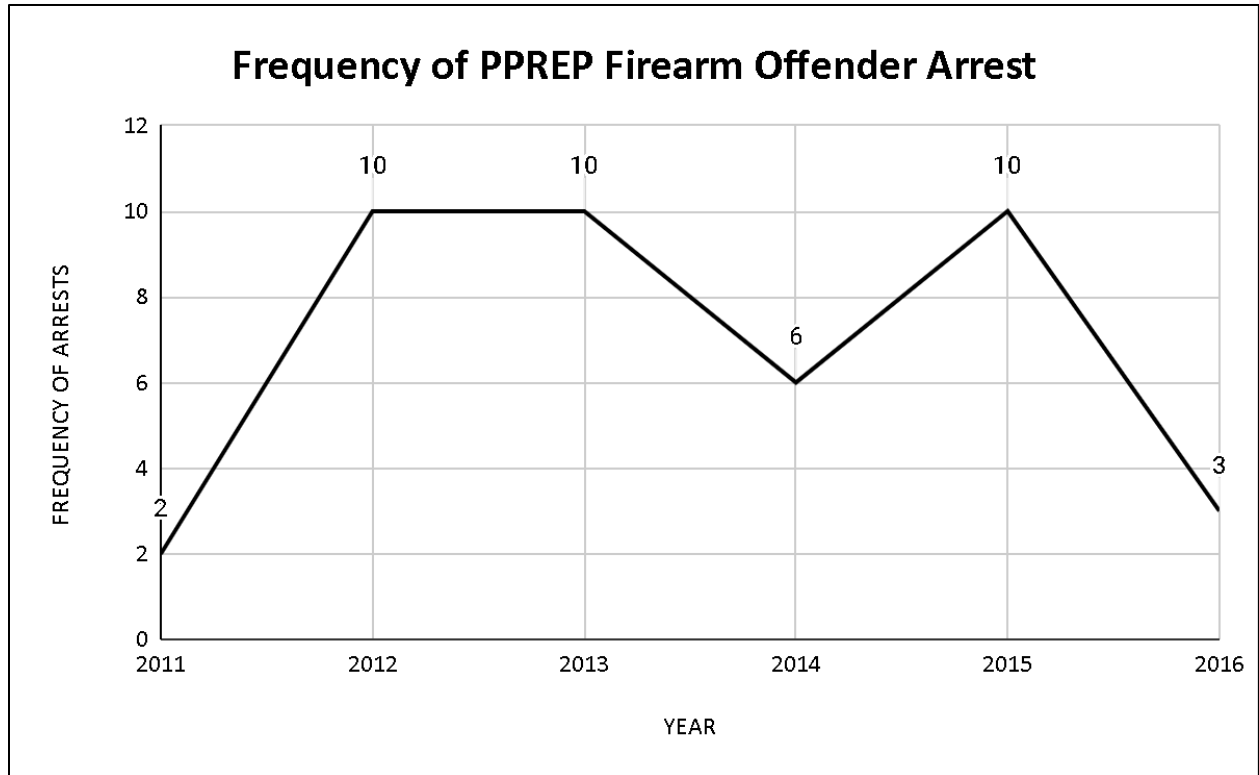
relevant, and the appropriate qualitative data was nonexistent to make comparisons involving firearm-

related crimes. Despite the lack of data needed specifically, the research study provided a lot of insight;

it revealed problems and discrepancies within the annual report. The major discrepancy within the

annual report is the lack of categories that lists and identifies firearm arrests specifically. The

recommendation for future research is to include the individual categories of weapons arrests within

the annual report; for example, the way a similar system categorizes and identifies specific weapons

used in aggravated assaults, can be used in specifying recidivism with a firearm-related crime. In

consequence, agencies or programs alike can use the accumulated data to help predict budgets to

address any potential issue that may arise. If a system can provide acute data, the ability to study,

analyze, and observe data to predict trends and patterns can help determine PPREP efficacy.

Although the data has flaws, this research project is able to present interesting statistics and

trends for the state of Oklahoma as well as Oklahoma County. Even though this project is not able to

compare recidivism rates for firearm-related offenses, it can potentially show overall recidivism rates

among certain individuals, trends in Oklahoma state and Oklahoma county, and effectiveness of PPREP

overall. There is an ascertainable collective data that could be provided, however, due to the policies

and procedures of the bureau, information cannot be attained.

Part A: Descriptive Analysis of Individuals Enrolled in PPREP. According to the analysis, the

sociodemographic of individuals enrolled in PPREP consist of 80% male offenders and 20% female

offenders. These individuals were mostly identified as black or white; 52.5% and 40.4%, respectively. It

appears that 35.4% of participants were in the range of 30- to 39-years old from the date of attendance.

It was determined that drug related crimes made up 65.3% of the prior offense that led them to be

enrolled in PPREP. This suggests that the most common participant is a black male with previous drug

related crimes.

Part B: Crime Statistics and Trends in Oklahoma. The state of Oklahoma reported their highest

number of index crimes in 2009 and began to fluctuate the following years. Starting in 2012, there was a

continuous decline of reported index crimes with an average decrease of 5% by 2015. However, in 2016,

the number of reported index crimes increased by 5.1%.

It appears that Oklahoma County shares similar trends as the state of Oklahoma, in terms, of

fluctuations. Oklahoma County reported their highest number of reported index crime in 2012 but

declined drastically over the next three years. Like the state of Oklahoma, Oklahoma County saw a rise

in the reported index crime in 2016.

Of the 421 individuals, 60.1% reoffended within the given timeframe between 2011 to end of 2016. 77.8% of those reoffenders did so within the first three-years of their release. Of those reoffenders, 16.2% were charged with a firearm offense. After further analysis, 78% of those charges were exclusively 21.1283. Also of those firearm charges, 73.2% resulted in a new conviction.

Part C: Effectiveness of PPREP in Reducing Recidivism Rates for Firearm-Related Offenses and Violent Crimes. Without the appropriate data for firearm-related offense, it is nearly impossible to make accurate comparisons. Due to the lack of specific firearm-related data, arrest rates were used instead to compare the rate of recidivism. The data collected shows the arrest rate of the individuals in PPREP was 20.43 per 100 people and in the state of Oklahoma is 3.32 per 100 people. Individuals enrolled in PPREP showed a decline of arrests at an average of 30.81% per year. Although Oklahoma County shares similar trends as the state of Oklahoma, data suggests Oklahoma County has a rising average rate of 3.5% between 2011 and 2013 and it began to decline the following year with the furthermost decrease in 2016 by 10.38%.

Compared to the national average on overall recidivism, the sample size from PPREP reoffended at a lower rate (Table 8). Within three years of release, the participants in PPREP were rearrested by 46.8% compared to the national average of 67.8%. Within five years of release, the participants in PPREP were rearrested by 59.6% compared to the national average of 76.6%. Within the rearrested, data shows 22.1% were rearrested in the first year compared to the national average of 56.7%.

Table 8

Arrest Rate	National Average	PPREP
Within 3 years	67.8%	46.8%
Within 5 years	76.6%	59.6%
Arrested by first year	56.7%	22.1%

Even though comparing a small sample data aggregate to a large sample data aggregate is not

the preferred method, it can help provide insight to the pattern of the rate of recidivism.

Prior to PPREP, 53 participants committed a violent crime compared to 14 participants after

PPREP. This is a 58.5% decrease in the number of violent crimes committed after participants. At the

end of the five-year study. Out of 421 participants, 9.74% were charged with a firearm-related offense

compared to only 7.13% were convicted with a firearm-related offense. Because of the lack of data for

comparison, it was not possible to show where it was statistically significant with a certain degree of

confidence; however, based on these three points the data is trending optimistically.

Limitations

Limitations include initial delays, limited resources, insufficient, or unreliable data for statistical

measurement. The initial limitation became evident concerning the project's low priority, this made it

difficult to collect pertinent information for research from law enforcement agencies – the most

common barrier to conduct the research is the availability of crime data. The lack of data specific to

firearm-related crime proved particularly problematic. In order to determine whether PPREP is effective

or not, the number of firearm arrests is important to cross-reference. According to the UCR program,

firearms are listed under "weapons" which encompasses a wide variety of other deadly weapons that

range from knives to broken bottles. Firearms are not exclusively categorized; therefore, research data

is inaccurate for this project. If a person is arrested for multiple crimes, only the most serious crime will

be reported, due to this format of reporting, accurate data is not made available.

Another major limitation is measuring recidivism with only access to in-state criminal history

information; therefore, the data is not collected when there is recidivism in another state.

Unfortunately, searches from the national database were not accessible for this research project. Due to

the nature of classified information, locating the manpower to access the National Crime Information Center was a challenge as there are legal concerns with sharing data with non-law enforcement entities.

Research is only relevant whether the program is, optimistically, effective for those indoctrinated. There are not adequate methods to evaluate whether individuals in the program are less likely to reoffend than individuals not in the program on account of a lack of a control group. This specific research is only concerned with firearm-related crimes, so it is potentially not useful for evaluating recidivism overall. Naturally, there is always the potential for immaterial outside variables to include and/or be responsible for a reduction in firearm crimes.

Since not all criminal activity is brought to the attention of law enforcement, and not all these crimes result in a conviction; improper representation of the target population is difficult to account for all cases of recidivism. The data can have unintentional discrepancies because of the inability to calculate the error rate. The research data is flawed and cannot be inclusive of all possible aspects; the variables are too broad, the classification of data provided roadblocks, and due to the nature of large-scale research, limitations are inevitable. The lack of data is a recurring motif that causes a ripple effect for limitation to research and conceptualizing necessary statistical data to study patterns.

Recommendations for Future Research

Recommendations for future research will highlight various examples of new avenues for data collection and accuracy that could be examined for future studies. Firstly, establishing a Memorandum of Understanding is highly recommended for future projects that includes law enforcement agencies; therefore, all parties understand the expectation of such research. Another major recommendation is expanding accessibility of public data specifically with firearm-related offenses; this will help examine accurate data reporting to understand PPREP effectiveness.

      The SAC acknowledges the current limited crime statistics on the OSBI website with only the most recently completed year of index crime data available for the state and by each county. Along with extensive data improvements, the SAC recognizes creating a platform with an increase to accessibility of public data, and eventually integrate a separate website that will allow public access to these reports, statistics, and data. The SAC was recently awarded funding to increase access to statistical data by enhancing data sources and improving analytics capabilities. Under this award, incident-based crime data will be utilized for research to analyze murder, non-negligent manslaughter, and aggravated assault incidents that involves the use of a firearm. Among the multiple objectives for the project, the SAC is mostly interested in analyzing changes over time in crime patterns, as well as differences in reporting practices among jurisdictions (OSBI Proposal, 2018).

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Appendix A: List of Agency Representatives

FEDERAL AGENCIES

Sanford C. Coats
United States Attorney
Western District of Oklahoma

Jim Finch
Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mary Lou Leary
Principle Dep. Assistant Attorney General
Office of Justice Programs
United States Department of Justice

U.S. Bureau of Prisons - Federal Correctional
Facility, El Reno

Craig Hines
Chief Deputy
United States Marshals Service

Rob Ryan
Supervisory Special Agent
Drug Enforcement Administration

Dawn Scott
Special Agent in Charge
Bureau of Alcohol, Fire, Tobacco, & Explosives

Rob Ryan
Supervisory Special Agent
Drug Enforcement Administration

STATE AGENCIES

Oklahoma Department of Corrections
District Attorneys' Council

Oklahoma Attorney General's Office
Oklahoma Department of Education

LOCAL AGENCIES

Oklahoma County District Attorney's Office
Midwest City Police Department
Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office

Oklahoma City Police Department
Edmond Police Department   Oklahoma
County Community Sentencing

Appendix B: Part A — Database
Initial Data Collection

Identifying Information

(A)   Identification (ID)
      (a) Chronological Number
(B)   Date of Birth
      (a) Month/Day/Year
(C)   Last Name
      (a) Text
(D)   First Name
      (a) Text
(E)   Supervisory Number
      (a) ODOC Number
(F)   Date of PPREP Attendance
      (a) Month/Day/Year

Sociodemographic Information

(A)   Gender
      (a) Female
      (b) Male
(B)   Race/Ethnicity
      (a) American Indian
      (b) Black
      (c) Hispanic
      (d) Other
      (e) White
(C)   Age at Attendance
      (a) Numeric
(D)   Age Group
      (a) 20-29
      (b) 30-39
      (c) 40-49
      (e) 50 and older

Prior Criminal History

 (A) Prior Offense Type

     (a) Part l Offense(s)
- i. Murder
- ii. Manslaughter
- iii. Forcible Rape
- iv. Robbery
- v. Aggravated Assault
- vi. Burglary (Breaking and Entering)
- vii. Larceny (Theft)
- viii. Auto or Other Motor Vehicle Theft
- ix. Arson
- x. None

     (b) Part ll Offense(s)
- i. Other Assaults (not aggravated)
- ii. Forgery and counterfeiting
- iii. Embezzlement
- iv. Stolen Property
- v. Vandalism
- vi. Weapons
- vii. Prostitution and Commercialized Vice
- viii. Sex Offenses
- ix. Drug Abuse Violations
- x. Gambling
- xi. Offenses against Family and Children
- xii. Driving under the Influence
- xiii. Liquor Laws
- xiv. Drunkenness
- xv. Disorder Conduct
- xvi. All other Offenses

(B) Prior Offense: Violent or Non-Violent
- xi. Violent
- xii. Non-Violent

Appendix B: Part B — Criminal Arrests 2011-2016

(A) Reoffend
- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(B) Date of Arrest
- (a) Month/Day/Year

(C) Reoffend with Firearm
- (a) Yes
- (b) No

(D) Offense Type
- (a) Part l Offense(s)
  - i. Murder
  - ii. Manslaughter
  - iii. Forcible Rape
  - iv. Robbery
  - v. Aggravated Assault
  - vi. Burglary (Breaking and Entering)
  - vii. Larceny (Theft)
  - viii. Auto or Other Motor Vehicle Theft
  - ix. Arson
  - x. None
- (b) Part ll Offense(s)
  - xi. Other Assaults (not aggravated)
  - xii. Forgery and counterfeiting
  - xiii. Embezzlement
  - xiv. Stolen Property
  - xv. Vandalism
  - xvi. Weapons
  - xvii. Prostitution and Commercialized Vice
  - xviii. Sex Offenses
  - xix. Drug Abuse Violations
  - xx. Gambling
  - xxi. Offenses against Family and Children
  - xxii. Driving under the Influence
  - xxiii. Liquor Laws
  - xxiv. Drunkenness
  - xxv. Disorder Conduct
  - xxvi. All other Offenses

Appendix C: Classification of UCR Offenses (2013)

Part I Offenses are by their nature more serious and/or occur with greater frequency.

Part I Offense Definitions:

Murder - The willful killing of a human being.

Manslaughter - The killing of a human being by the negligence of another.

Forcible Rape - The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will, including attempts.

Robbery - The forcible taking of the property of another against his/her will by violence and fear, including attempts.

Aggravated Assault - An offer or attempt with unlawful force or violence to do physical injury to another.

Burglary (Breaking and Entering) - An unlawful or forcible entry of any structure to commit a felony or larceny, including attempts.

Larceny (Theft) - The unlawful taking of property with intent to deprive another of ownership.

Auto or Other Motor Vehicle Theft - The larceny or attempted larceny of a motor vehicle.

Arson - Willful or malicious burning with or without intent to defraud, including attempts.

Part II Offenses are generally less serious in nature and/or occur less frequently.

Part II Offense Definitions:

Other Assaults (not aggravated) - Assaults and attempted assaults which are simple and minor in nature.

Forgery and Counterfeiting - Making, altering, uttering, or possessing, or attempts to make, alter, or possess with intent to defraud. Anything which is made to appear true.

Fraud - Fraudulent conversion of another's money or property by false pretenses.

Embezzlement - Misappropriation or misapplication of money or property entrusted to one's care, custody, or control.

Stolen Property - All offenses of buying, receiving, and possessing stolen property, as well as all attempts
to commit any of these offenses.

Vandalism - Willful or malicious destruction, injury, disfigurement, or defacement of property without
consent of the owner or persons having custody or control.

Weapons - Carrying, Possessing, etc. - All violations of regulations or statutes controlling the carrying,
using, possessing, furnishing, and manufacturing of deadly weapons or silencers and all attempts to
commit any of the offenses.

Prostitution and Commercialized Vice - Sex offenses of a commercialized nature, such as prostitution,
keeping a bawdy house, procuring, or transporting women for immoral purposes, and all attempts to
commit any of these offenses.

Sex Offenses (except Forcible Rape, Prostitution, and Commercialized Vice) - Statutory rape, offenses
against chastity, common decency, morals, and the like, including attempts.

Drug Abuse Violations - Includes all arrests for violations of state and local ordinances subdivided into
the categories of possession and sale/manufacturing of narcotic drugs.

Gambling - Promoting, permitting, or engaging in gambling.

Offenses Against Family and Children - Nonsupport, neglect, desertion, or abuse of family and children.

Driving Under the Influence - Driving or operating any motor vehicle while drunk or under the influence
of liquor or drugs.

Liquor Laws - State or local liquor law violations, except "drunkenness" and "driving under the
influence."

Drunkenness - Drunk and disorderly.

Disorderly Conduct - Breach of peace (disorderly person.)

Vagrancy - Not reported in Oklahoma.

All Other Offenses - All other violations of state and local laws.

Suspicion - Not reported in Oklahoma.

Curfew and Loitering Laws - Applicable only to juveniles.

Runaway - Applicable only to juveniles.

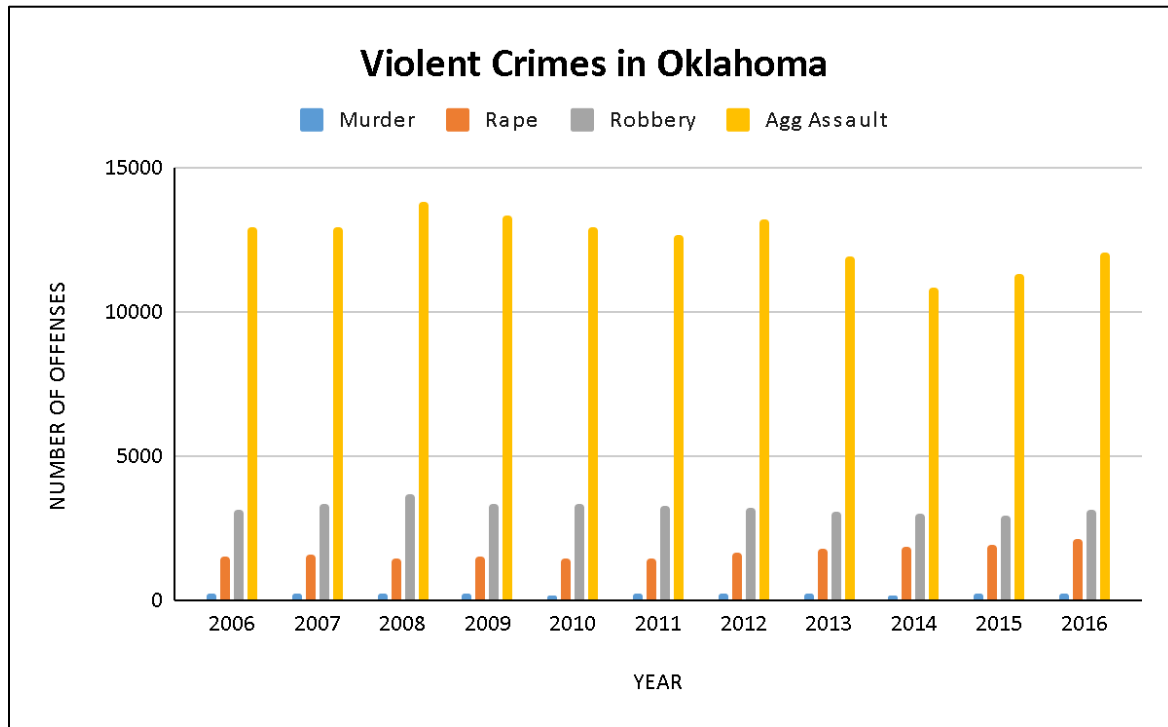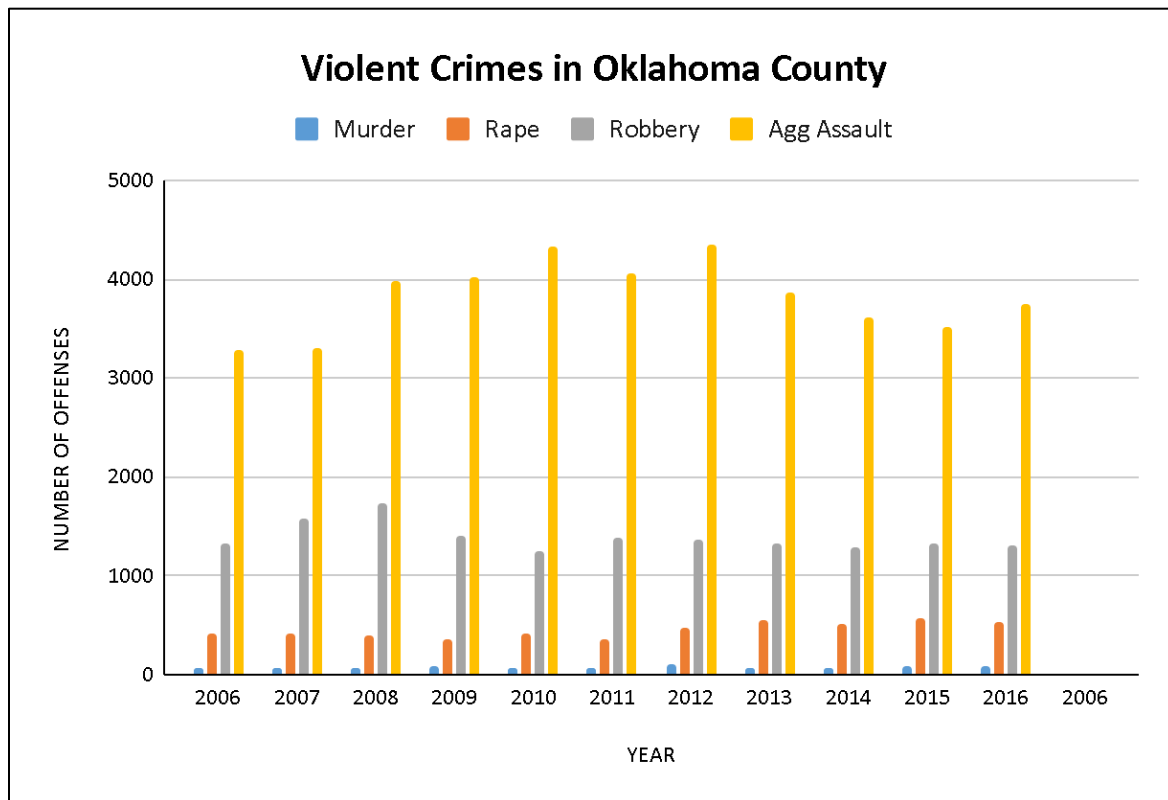**Appendix D: Violent Crimes & Non-Violent Crimes in Oklahoma and Oklahoma County**
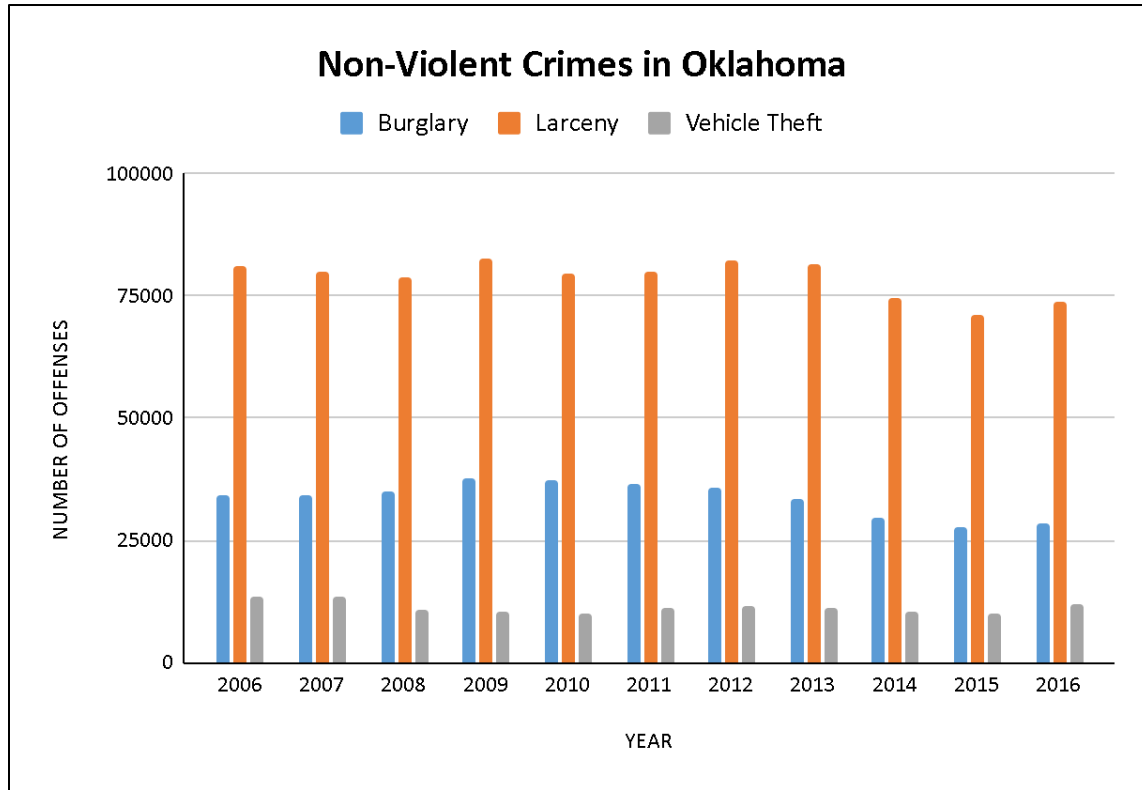

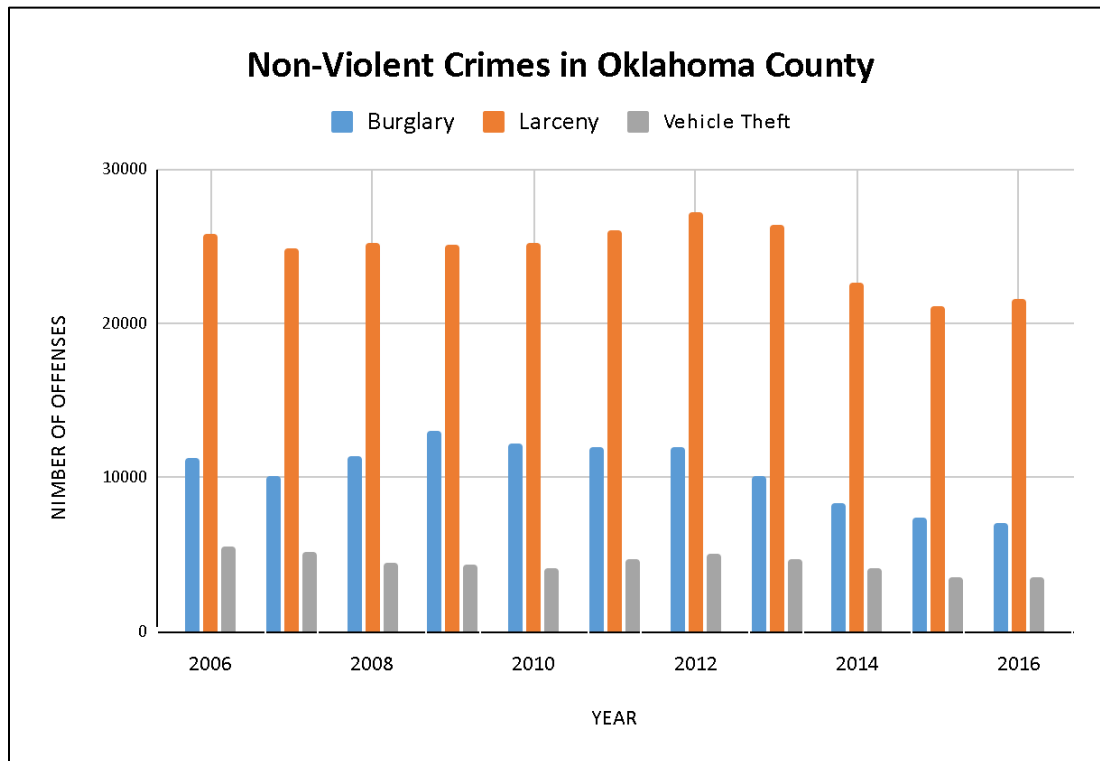**Figure 19**

Figure 20

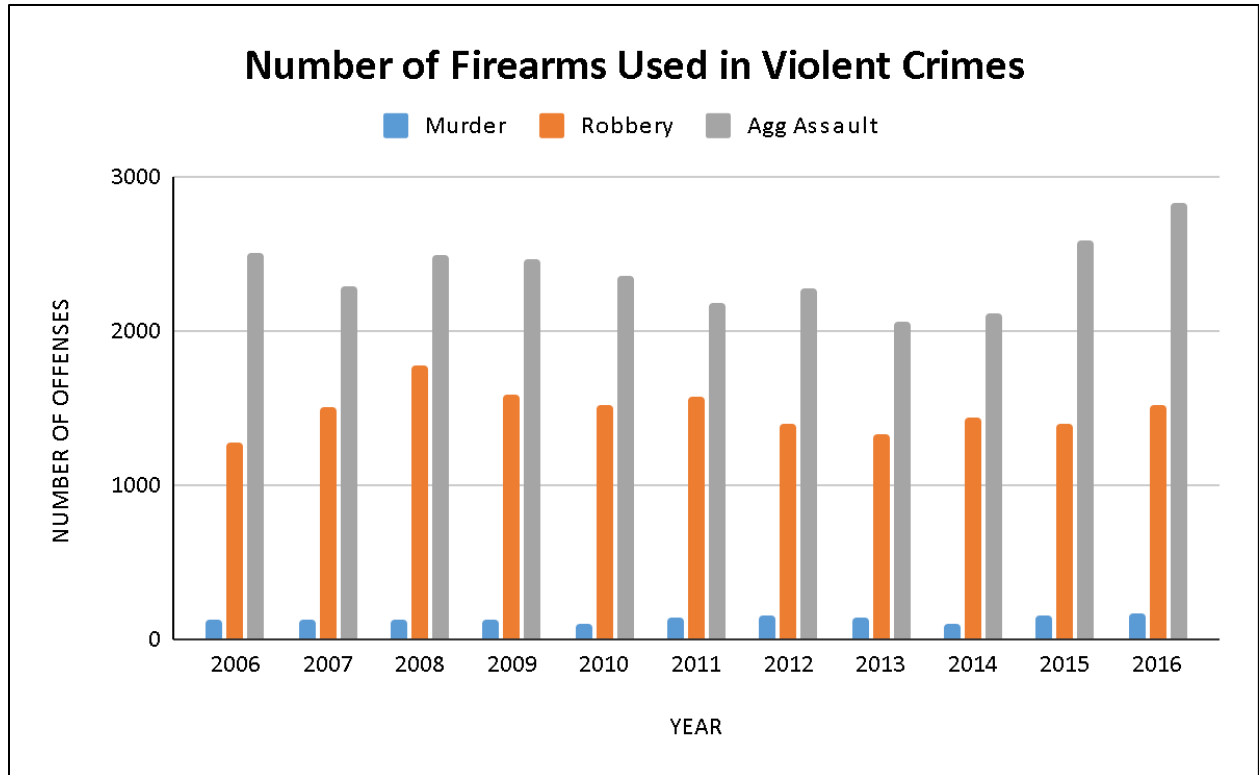*Figure 21*

Figure 22

Figure 23

Appendix E: Title 21 O.S. § 1283

CONVICTED FELONS AND DELINQUENTS

A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, it shall be unlawful for any person convicted of any felony in any court of this state or of another state or of the United States to have in his or her possession or under his or her immediate control, or in any vehicle which the person is operating, or in which the person is riding as a passenger, or at the residence where the convicted person resides, any pistol, imitation or homemade pistol, altered air or toy pistol, machine gun, sawed-off shotgun or rifle, or any other dangerous or deadly firearm.

B. Any person who has previously been convicted of a nonviolent felony in any court of this state or of another state or of the United States, and who has received a full and complete pardon from the proper authority and has not been convicted of any other felony offense which has not been pardoned, shall have restored the right to possess any firearm or other weapon prohibited by subsection A of this section, the right to apply for and carry a handgun, concealed or unconcealed, pursuant to the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act or as otherwise permitted by law, and the right to perform the duties of a peace officer, gunsmith, and for firearms repair.

C. It shall be unlawful for any person serving a term of probation for any felony in any court of this state or of another state or of the United States or under the jurisdiction of any alternative court program to have in his or her possession or under his or her immediate control, or at his or her residence, or in any passenger vehicle which the person is operating or is riding as a passenger, any pistol, shotgun or rifle, including any

imitation or homemade pistol, altered air or toy pistol, shotgun or rifle, while such person is subject to supervision, probation, parole or inmate status.

D. It shall be unlawful for any person previously adjudicated as a delinquent child or a youthful offender for the commission of an offense, which would have constituted a felony offense if committed by an adult, to have in the possession of the person or under the immediate control of the person, or have in any vehicle which he or she is driving or in which the person is riding as a passenger, or at the residence of the person, any pistol, imitation or homemade pistol, altered air or toy pistol, machine gun, sawed-off shotgun or rifle, or any other dangerous or deadly firearm within ten (10) years after such adjudication; provided, that nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the placement of the person in a home with a full-time duly appointed peace officer who is certified by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) pursuant to the provisions of Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

E. It shall be unlawful for any person who is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States to have in the possession of the person or under the immediate control of the person, or in any vehicle the person is operating, or at the residence where the person resides, any pistol, imitation or homemade pistol, altered air or toy pistol, shotgun, rifle or any other dangerous or deadly firearm; provided, that nothing in this subsection applies to prohibit the transport or detention of the person by law enforcement officers or federal immigration authorities. Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars ($250.00).

F. Any person having been issued a handgun license pursuant to the provisions of the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act and who thereafter knowingly or intentionally allows a convicted felon or adjudicated delinquent or a youthful offender as prohibited by the provisions of subsection A, C, or D of this section to possess or have control of any pistol authorized by the Oklahoma Self-Defense Act shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a felony punishable by a fine not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00). In addition, the person shall have the handgun license revoked by the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation after a hearing and determination that the person has violated the provisions of this section.

G. Any convicted or adjudicated person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a felony punishable as provided in Section 1284 of this title.

H. For purposes of this section, "sawed-off shotgun or rifle" shall mean any shotgun or rifle which has been shortened to any length.

I. For purposes of this section, "altered toy pistol" shall mean any toy weapon which has been altered from its original manufactured state to resemble a real weapon.

J. For purposes of this section, "altered air pistol" shall mean any air pistol manufactured to propel projectiles by air pressure which has been altered from its original manufactured state.

K. For purposes of this section, "alternative court program" shall mean any drug court, Anna McBride or mental health court, DUI court or veterans court.

Penalty for Title 21 O.S. § 1283

Any previously convicted or adjudicated person who violates any provision of Section 1283 of this title shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary for a period not less than one (1) year nor more than ten (10) years.