

UNDERSTANDING SERIOUS VIOLENCE AND IDENTIFYING HIGHEST RISK POPULATIONS

For The Council on Criminal Justice
Violent Crime Working Group

www.theCApartnership.org

OVERVIEW

1. Brief framing and background

1. Problem Analysis Overview

2. Examples

CPSC Background

1. Our mission is to help cities use evidence based strategies to advance a “triple bottom line” – reduce serious violence (shootings); reduce the use of arrest and build community-police trust,
1. We have learned that **we have to change the way cities work** for violence reduction efforts to be effective and sustainable.
1. So, we help cities develop relevant capacities:
 - a. **Analysis of risk of violence (problem definition)**
 - b. Developing and managing violence reduction strategies
 - c. Principled policing for violence reduction
 - d. Effective outreach and intervention for highest risk populations
 - e. Police-community trust building
 - f. Performance management
 - g. Learning and impact evaluations of local efforts.

Social Network Contagion (JAMA paper)

“Violence prevention efforts should consider the social dynamics of gun violence:

Tracing the spread of violence episodes through social networks could provide valuable information for public health and medical professionals, in addition to law enforcement, looking to intervene with the people and communities at highest risk.”

From: Ben Green, MSc; Thibaut Horel, MSc; Andrew V. Papachristos, PhD, **Modeling Contagion Through Social Networks to Explain and Predict Gunshot Violence in Chicago, 2006 to 2014.** *Journal of the American Medical Association.*

Analyzing Local Violence Problems and Risk of Violence

Problem Analysis: Introduction and Overview

- The actual dynamics of violence often differ from conventional wisdom and the narratives of policy makers, community members and agency leaders.
- A “problem analysis” **establishes a fact-based, common understanding of the local violence problem** that informs the work of civic, community, and criminal justice leaders to reduce violence.
- **The problem analysis identifies the networks and individuals within a community who are at greatest risk of violence and helps tailor an intervention to reduce that risk.**
- Though the methodology is informed by research, the problem analysis is primarily a practice document with implications for local policy.

Problem Analysis: Introduction and Overview (2)

A problem analysis generally includes the following activities:

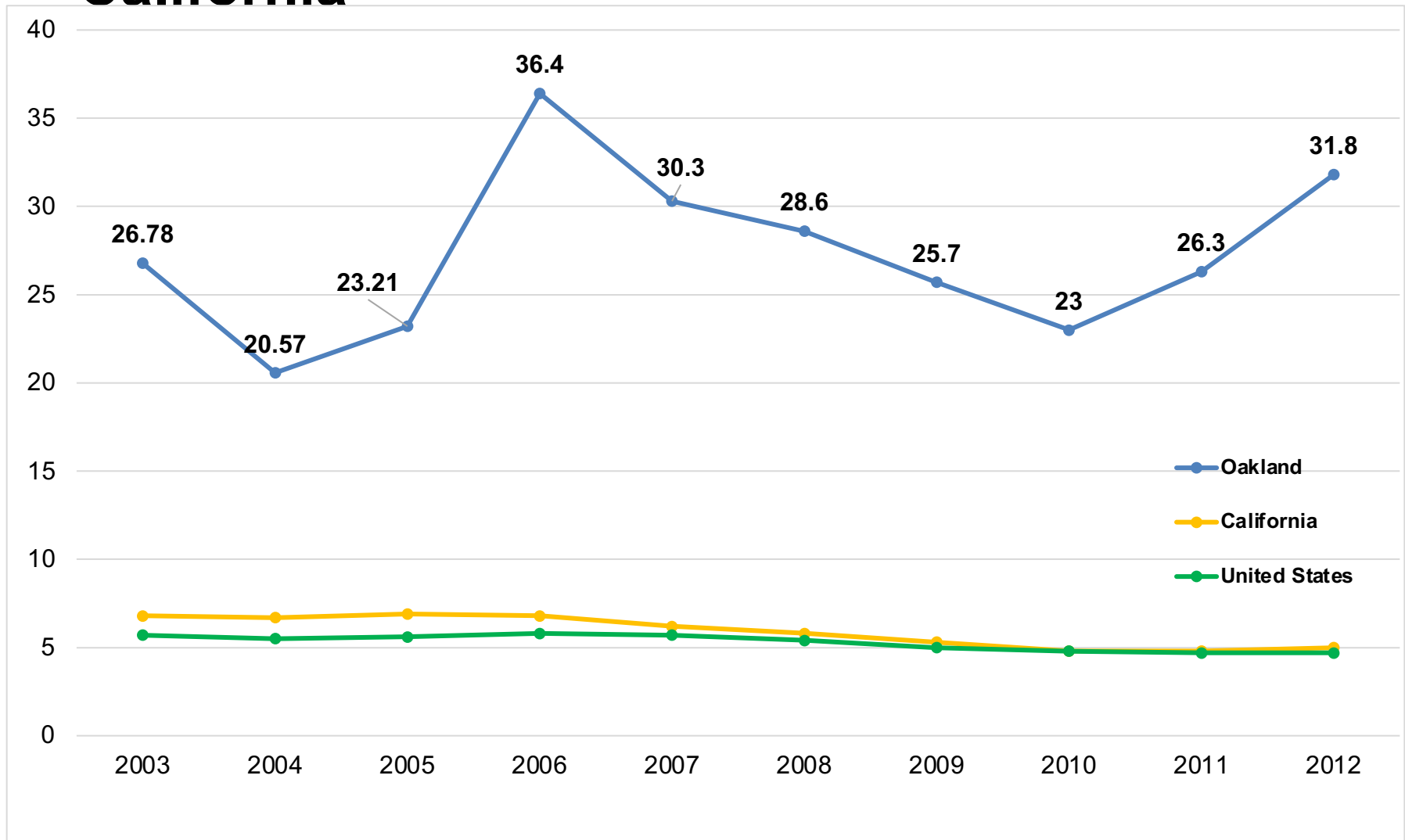
1. Reviewing a large number of homicides (two years worth; sometimes more) as well as a sizable sample of non-fatal shootings to understand the context, motives and connections between incidents. (The WHO and WHY)
 2. Coding and analyzing the demographics and criminal justice histories of the victims and suspects in those incidents. (The WHO)
 3. Mapping the social networks of those involved in violence and the relationships between high risk groups, networks, serious violence and high-crime areas. (The WHO and WHERE)
 4. Mapping and analyzing the concentration of serious violence citywide and in particularly violent places. (The WHERE)
- It is usually developed with police department intelligence and formal data, but reviewed and revised with input from street intervention organizations.

CEASEFIRE OAKLAND

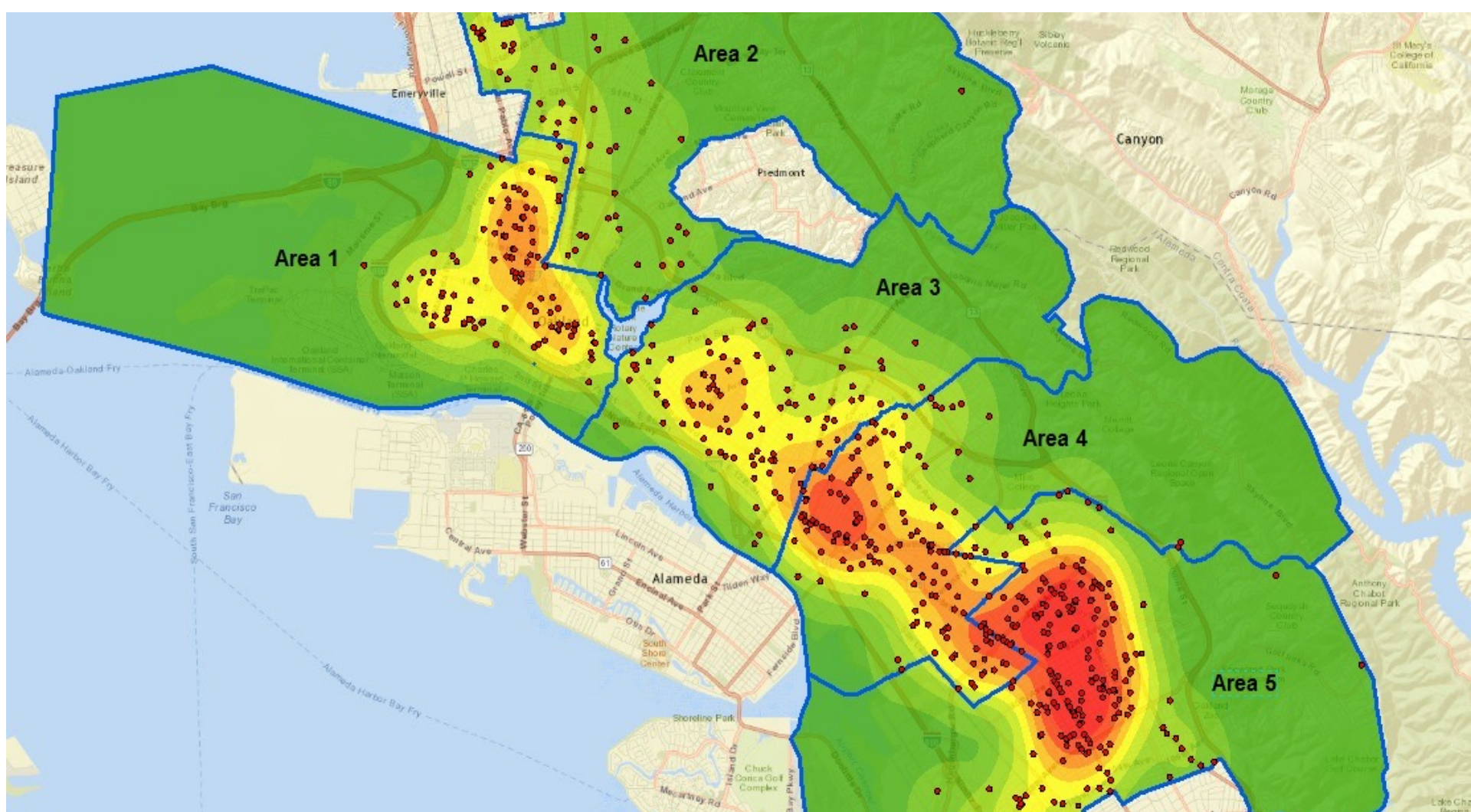


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Murder Rate per 100,000: Oakland v. California



Homicides & Firearm Assaults*: 2016



Oakland's Failed Attempts to Reduce Violence

Oakland had previously made numerous attempts to reduce this chronic violence problem

- Youth Curfew
- Gang Injunction
- Large service and outreach investments (Measure Y, private investments)
- Numerous waves of aggressive, “zero tolerance” area-based enforcement

Take Away: These efforts were not informed by a thorough analysis/understanding of the problem; were poorly managed; did not constitute an effective citywide strategy.

Oakland Problem Analysis Insights and Implications

What the public and policy makers thought: Violence primarily driven by juveniles, drugs disputes and economic motives.

What the analysis revealed:

- Homicide primarily driven by **specific running group/gang conflicts and personal disputes between group members.**
- Those at very highest risk primarily group-involved adult men of color (the average age is 30)
- With heavy justice system involvement (averaging 11 prior arrests at the time of homicide, 7 for felonies) and social connections to actively violent street groups
- Only 10% of homicide involved juveniles, only 13% of homicides had any connection to drugs.

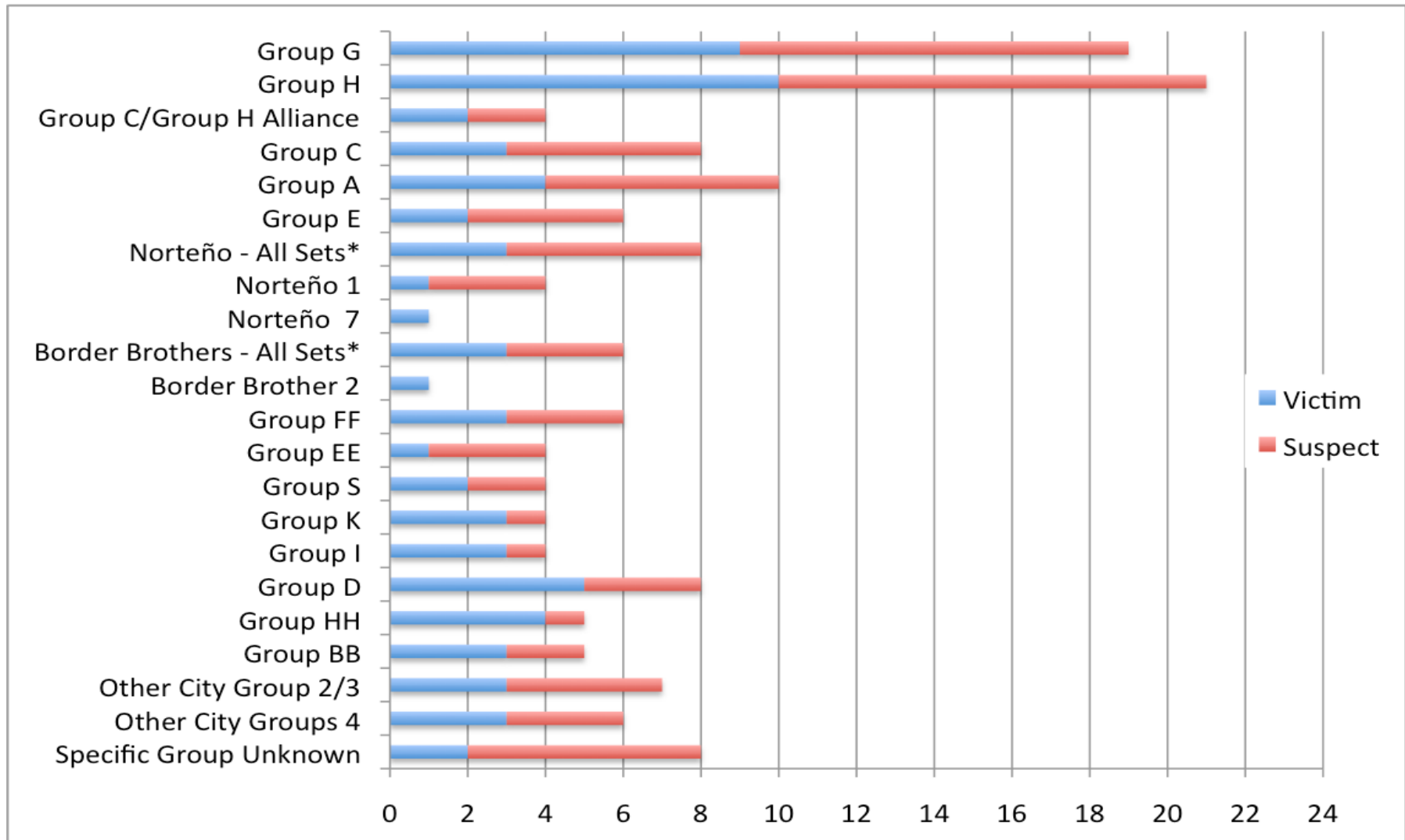
Criminal Histories of Victims and Suspects, 2012

	Victims	Suspects
Known to the CJ system prior to the incident	69.84%	90.38%
<i>Of those known to the CJ system</i>	N = 88	N = 47
Average age	30.90	28.64
Average # of prior arrests	11.65	9.40
Average # of felony arrests	7.99	6.64
Prior probation	79.55%	76.60%
Active probation at time of incident	19.32%	36.17%
Prior parole	31.82%	25.53%
Prior Incarceration	84.10%	82.98%
Convicted of Felony	73.86%	72.34%

Black 2012-2013

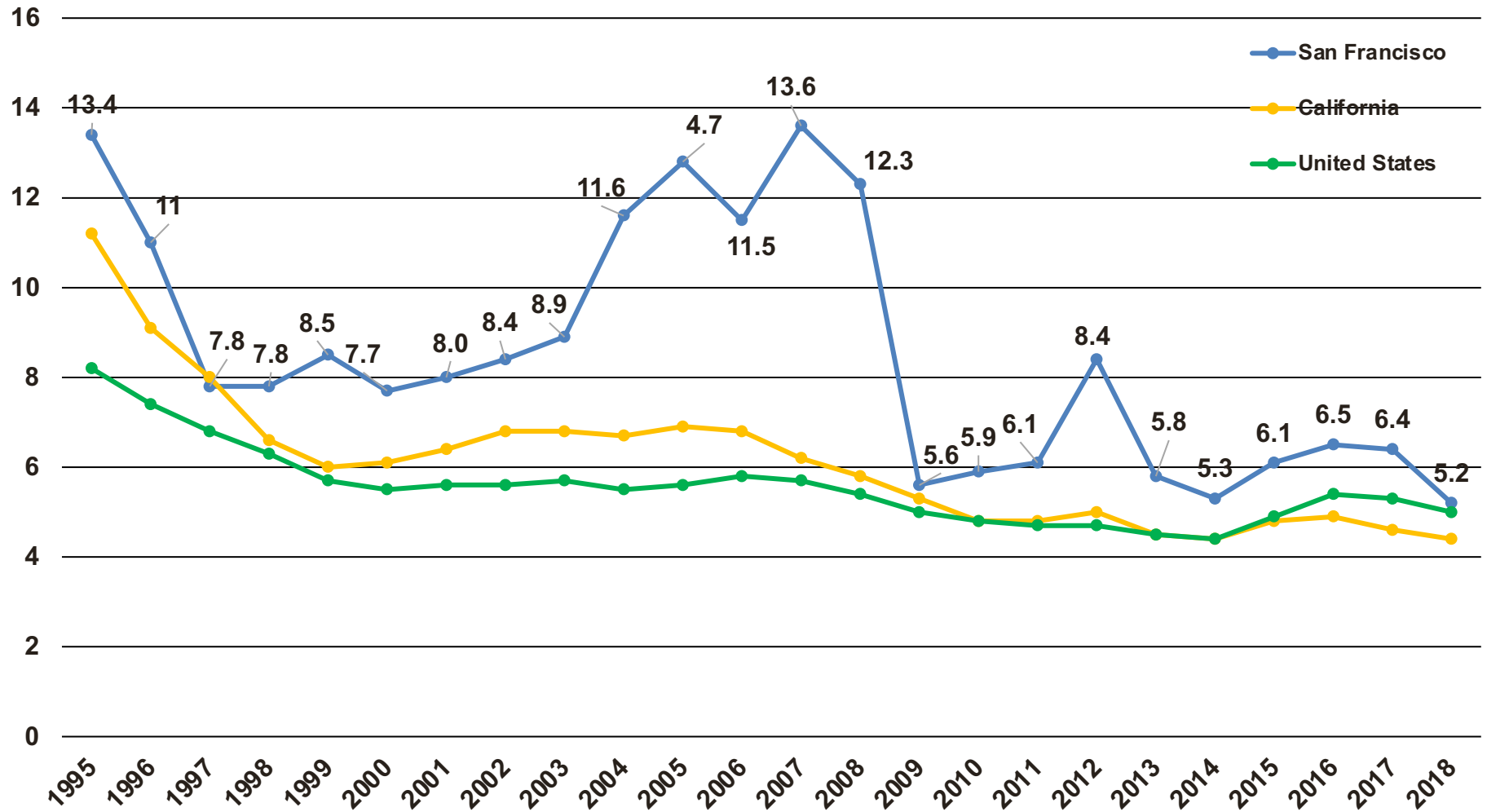


Group Member Involved Homicides, Citywide, Groups with 3 or More Incidents, Jan 2012 – June 2013



San Francisco

San Francisco Homicide Rate (per 100,000 population): 1995 - 2018



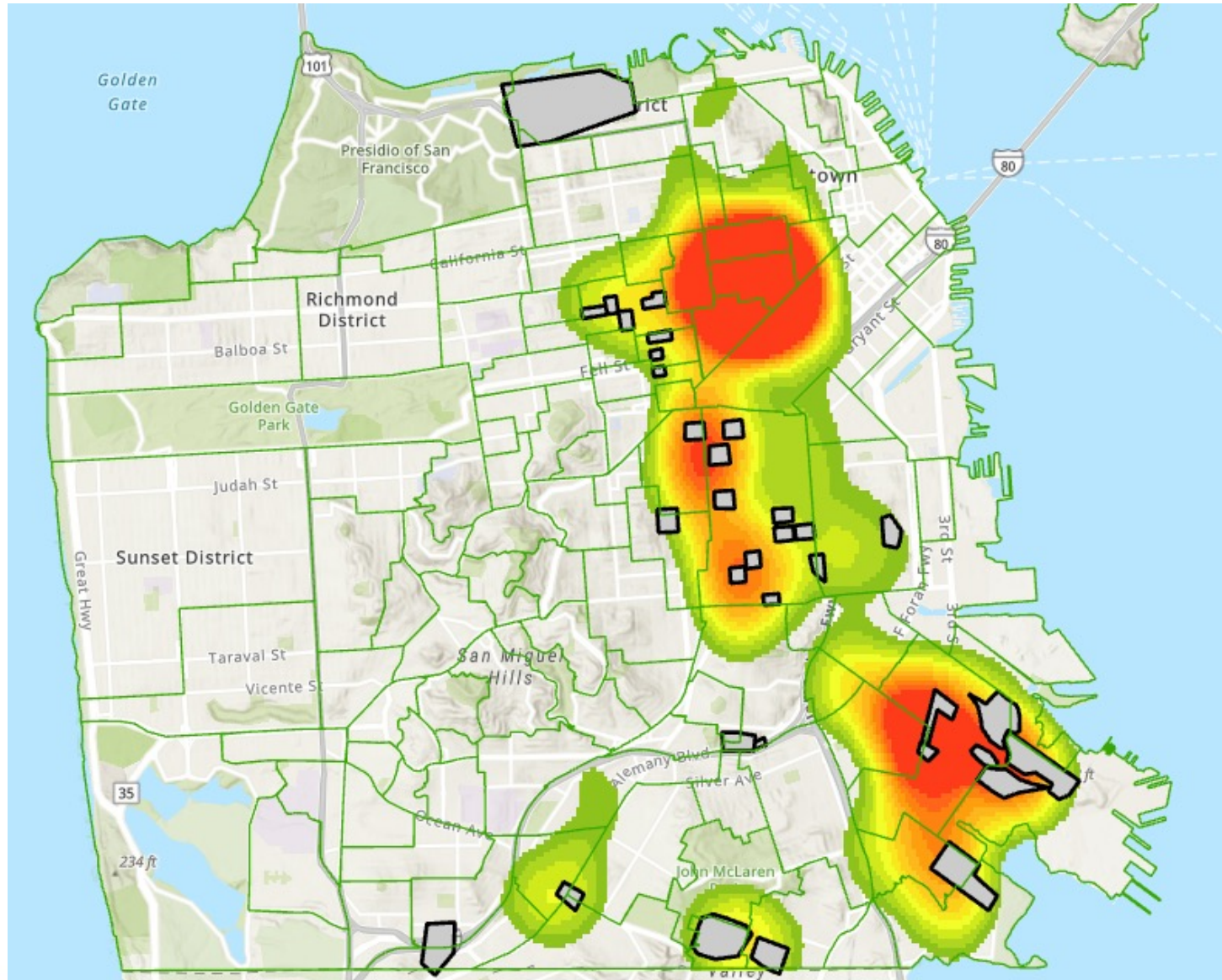
Problem Analysis of Violence 2017-2020

Summary Findings (2)

Two distinct but overlapping dynamics drive serious violence in San Francisco:

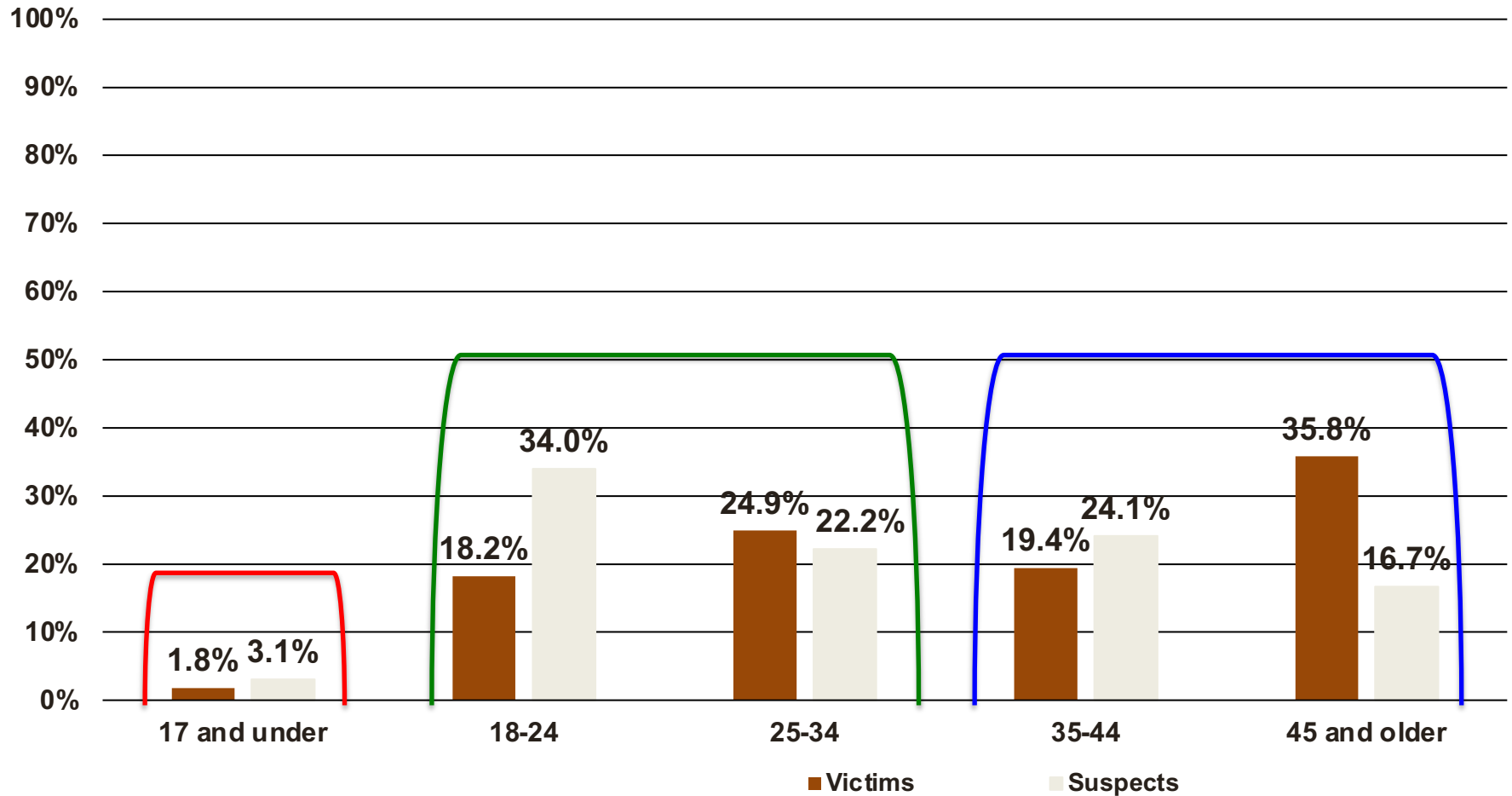
- **Group Dynamics:** A majority of gun homicides (53%-70%) and non-fatal shootings (50-77%) are driven by or connected to street group dynamics.
- **Street Disorder:** A significant minority of homicides and non-fatal shootings are driven by interconnected street homeless / mental illness (19%) and drug market dynamics (18%), primarily in the Tenderloin area.
- These two dynamics require somewhat different approaches and involve different sets of stakeholders.

All Homicides & Shootings: Jan 2017 – June 2020



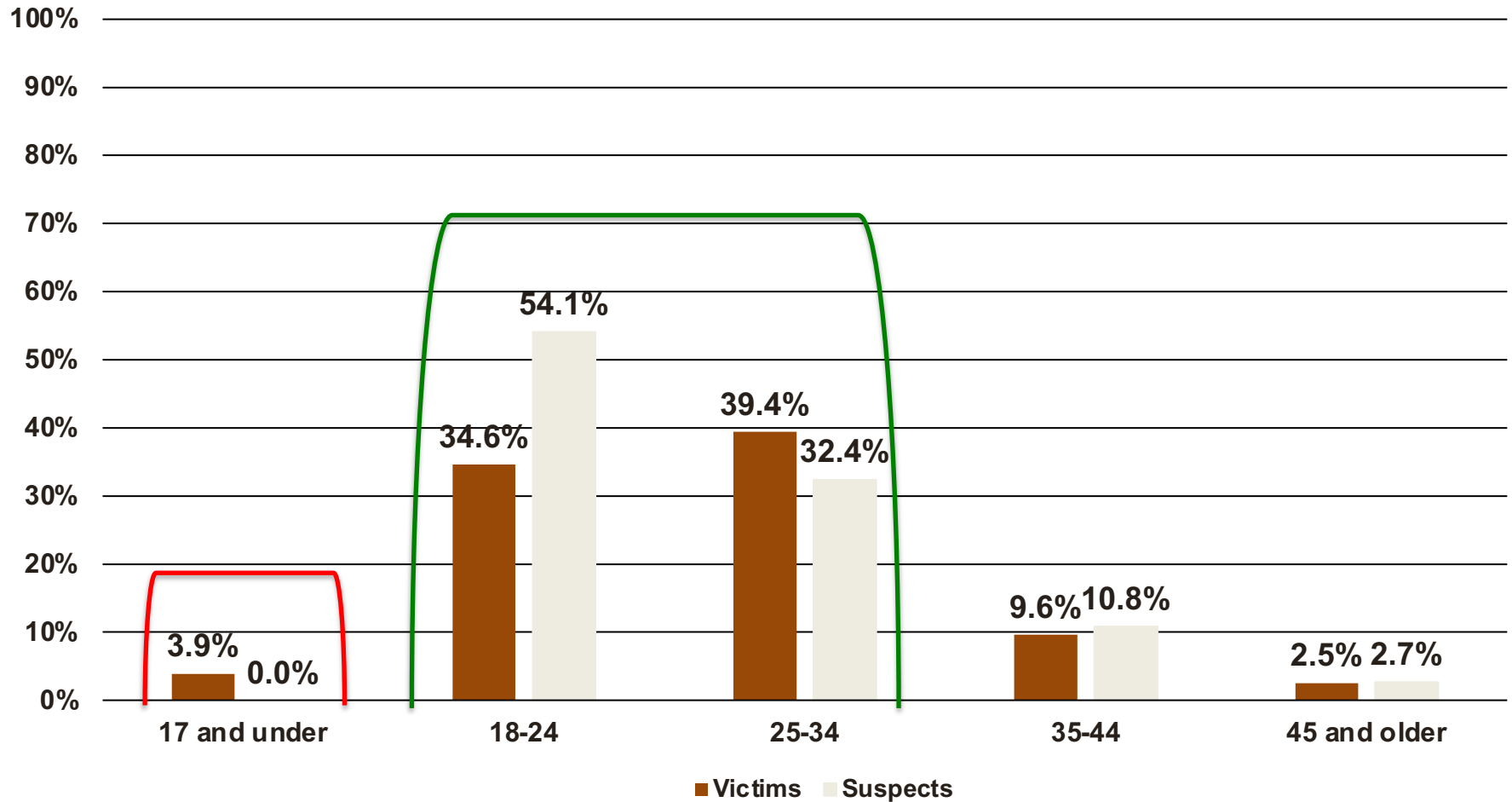
Age:

All Known Individuals Involved in **Homicides** ($n = 327$)
January 2017 – June 2020



Age:

All Known Individuals Involved in Shootings ($n = 141$)
January 2019 – December 2019



Victims and Suspects of Homicides & Shootings: Sex and Race

	Homicides			Shootings			San Francisco Population
	Victims (n=165)	Suspects (n=164)	Victims & Suspects (n=329)	Victims (n=104)	Suspects (n=38)	Victims & Suspects (n=142)	
Sex							
Male	84.9%	89.0%	86.9%	89.4%	97.4%	91.6%	51.0%
Female	15.2%	10.4%	12.8%	9.6%	2.6%	7.8%	49.0%
Non-Binary	-	0.6%	0.3%	1.0%	-	0.7%	
Race							
White	17.7%	12.9%	15.3%	6.7%	5.3%	6.3%	40.6%
Black	<u>36.6%</u>	<u>46.6%</u>	<u>41.6%</u>	<u>53.9%</u>	<u>57.9%</u>	<u>54.9%</u>	<u>5.2%</u>
Hispanic/Latinx	<u>26.2%</u>	<u>27.0%</u>	<u>26.6%</u>	<u>32.7%</u>	<u>26.3%</u>	<u>31.0%</u>	<u>15.2%</u>
Asian	11.0%	7.4%	9.2%	1.0%	5.3%	2.1%	34.2%
Other	8.5%	6.1%	7.3%	5.8%	5.3%	5.6%	

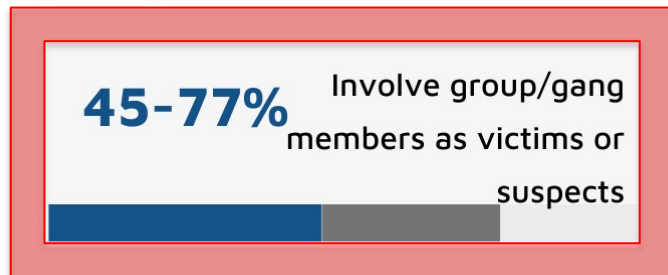
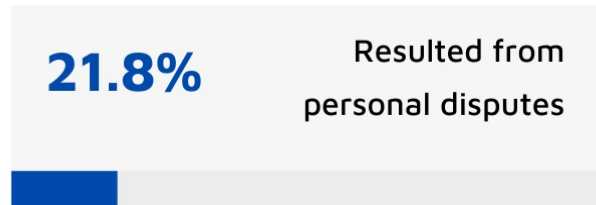
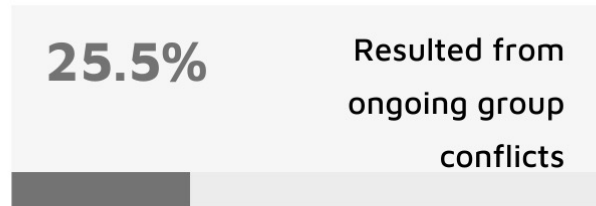
Homicide Victims and Suspects: Criminal Justice System Involvement

	Victims (n=161)*	Suspects (n=160)*	Victims & Suspects (n=321)
Known to the CJ system prior to the incident	102 (63.4%)	124 (77.5%)	226 (70.4%)
Of those known to the CJ System:			
Average age	37.3	33.2	35.1
Average number of prior arrests	15.9	13.9	14.8
Average number of prior felony arrests	9.8	9.2	9.5
Prior probation/post-prison supervision	77.8%	69.7%	73.3%
Active probation/post-prison supervision	21.2%	19.7%	20.4%
Prior incarceration	70.7%	64.8%	67.4%
Convicted of felony	63.6%	61.5%	62.4%

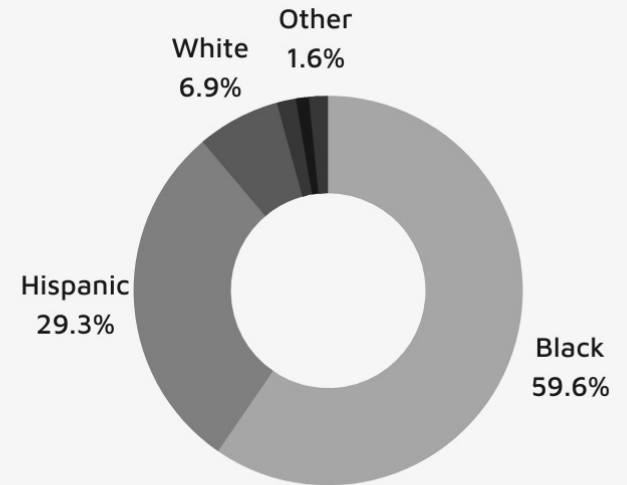
*Criminal histories from 4 victims and 4 suspects not included due missing information.

Fatal & Non-Fatal Shootings Overview

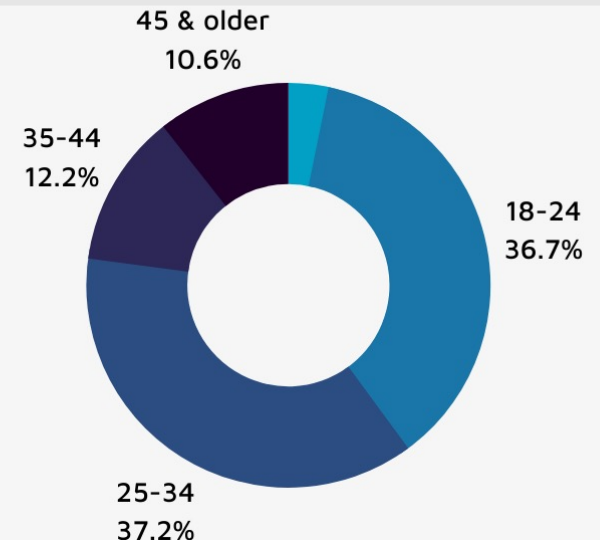
2019 GUN VIOLENCE N=110



RACE OF VICTIMS & SUSPECTS



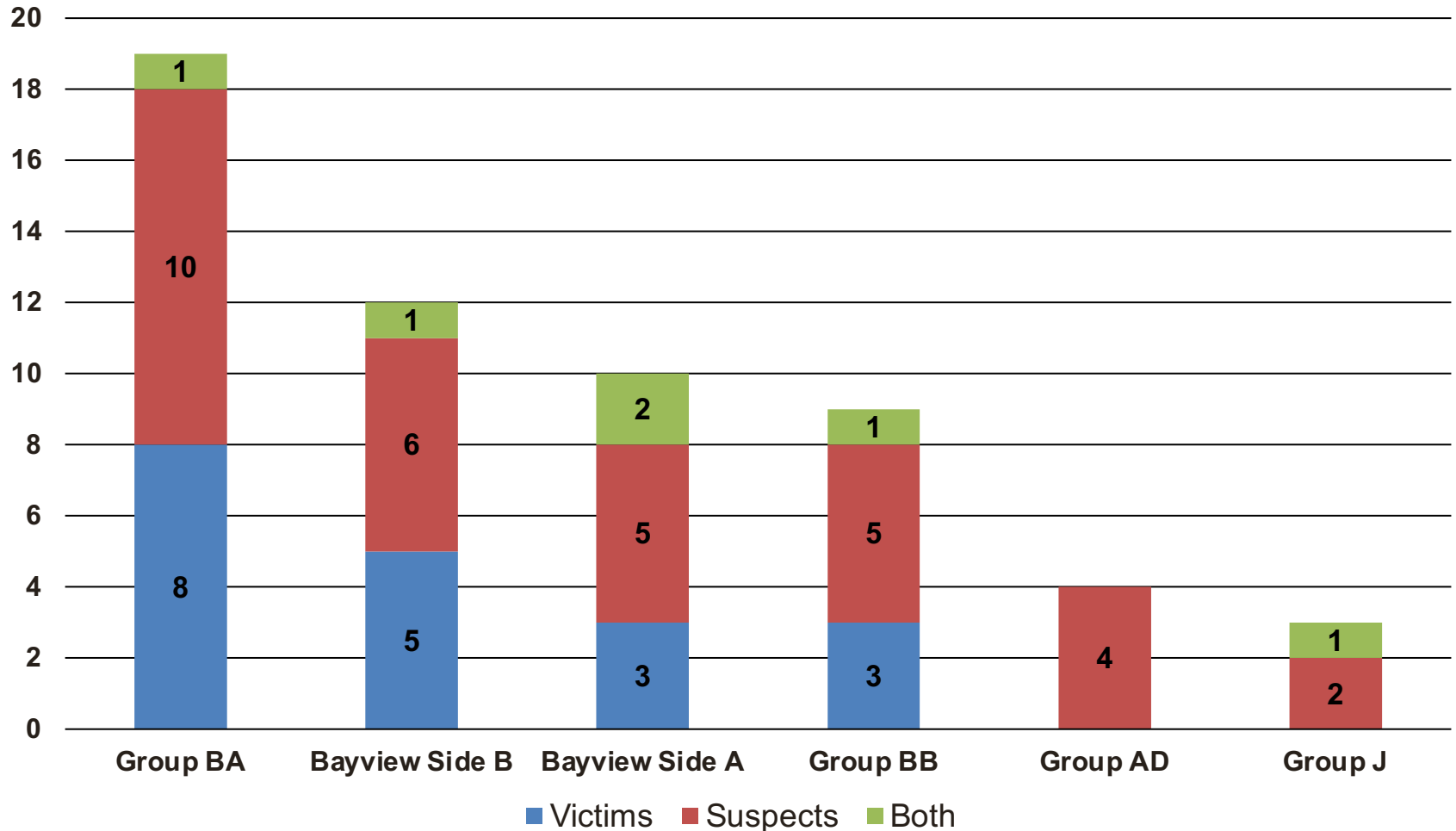
AGE OF VICTIMS & SUSPECTS



GROUPS AND GANGS IN SAN FRANCISCO
Ingleside, Bayview, Northern & Park Districts
 JULY 2020



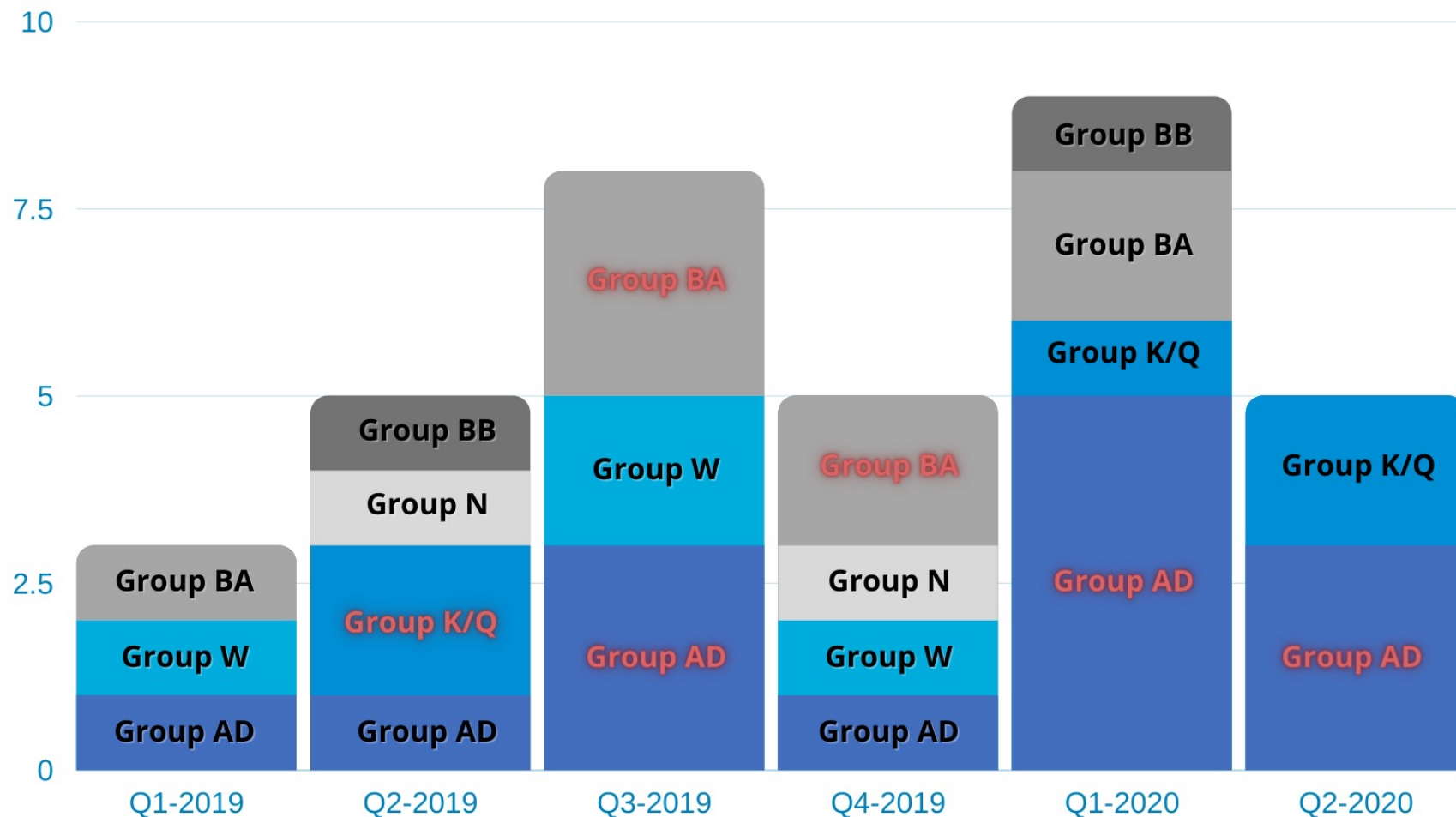
Groups Involved in Three or More Homicides



Bayview Side A: Groups K, N, Q, X, and AH

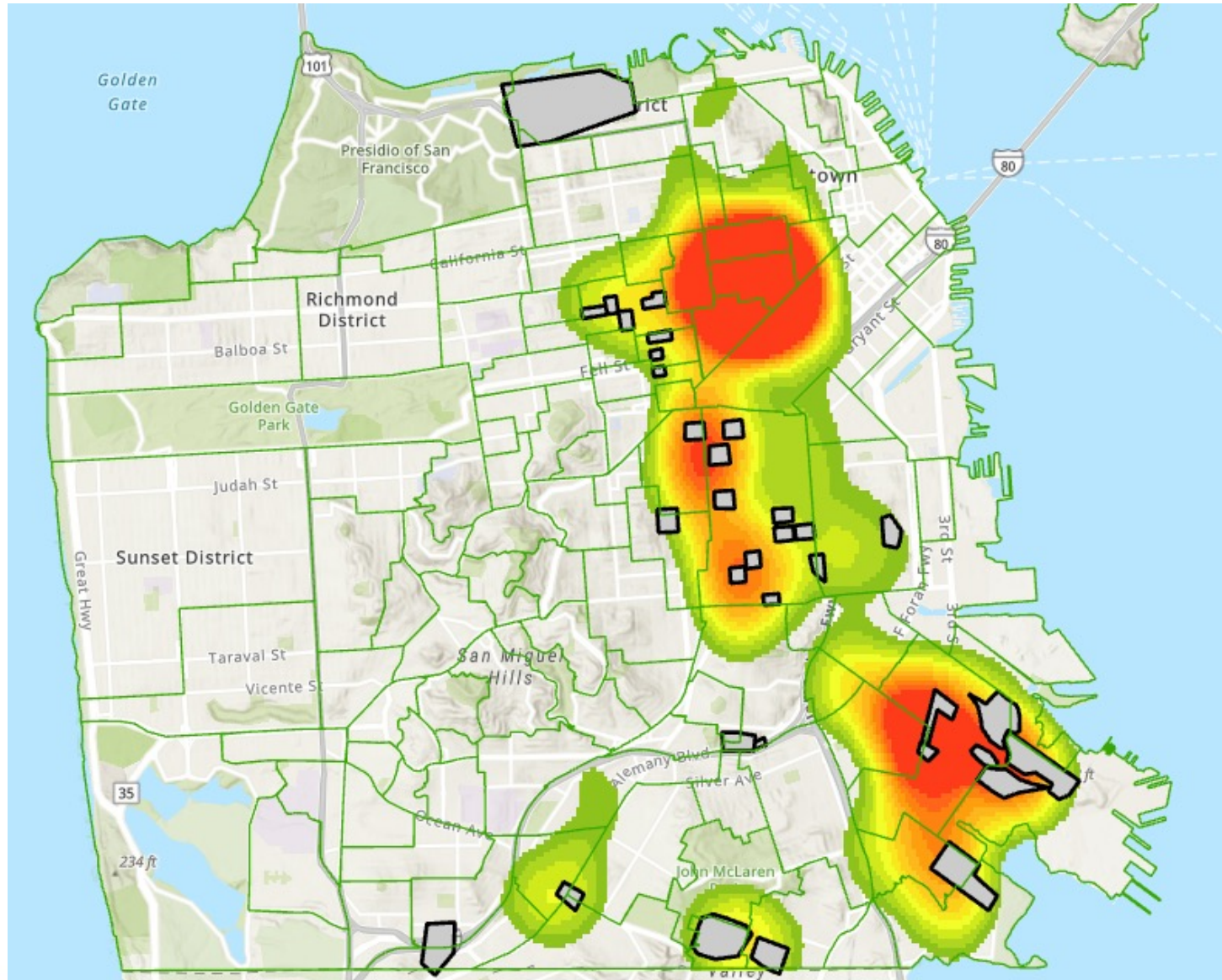
Bayview Side B: Groups W, AF, and AA

Fatal & Non-Fatal Shootings (Jan 2019 – Jun 2020): Groups Involved as Shooting Suspects

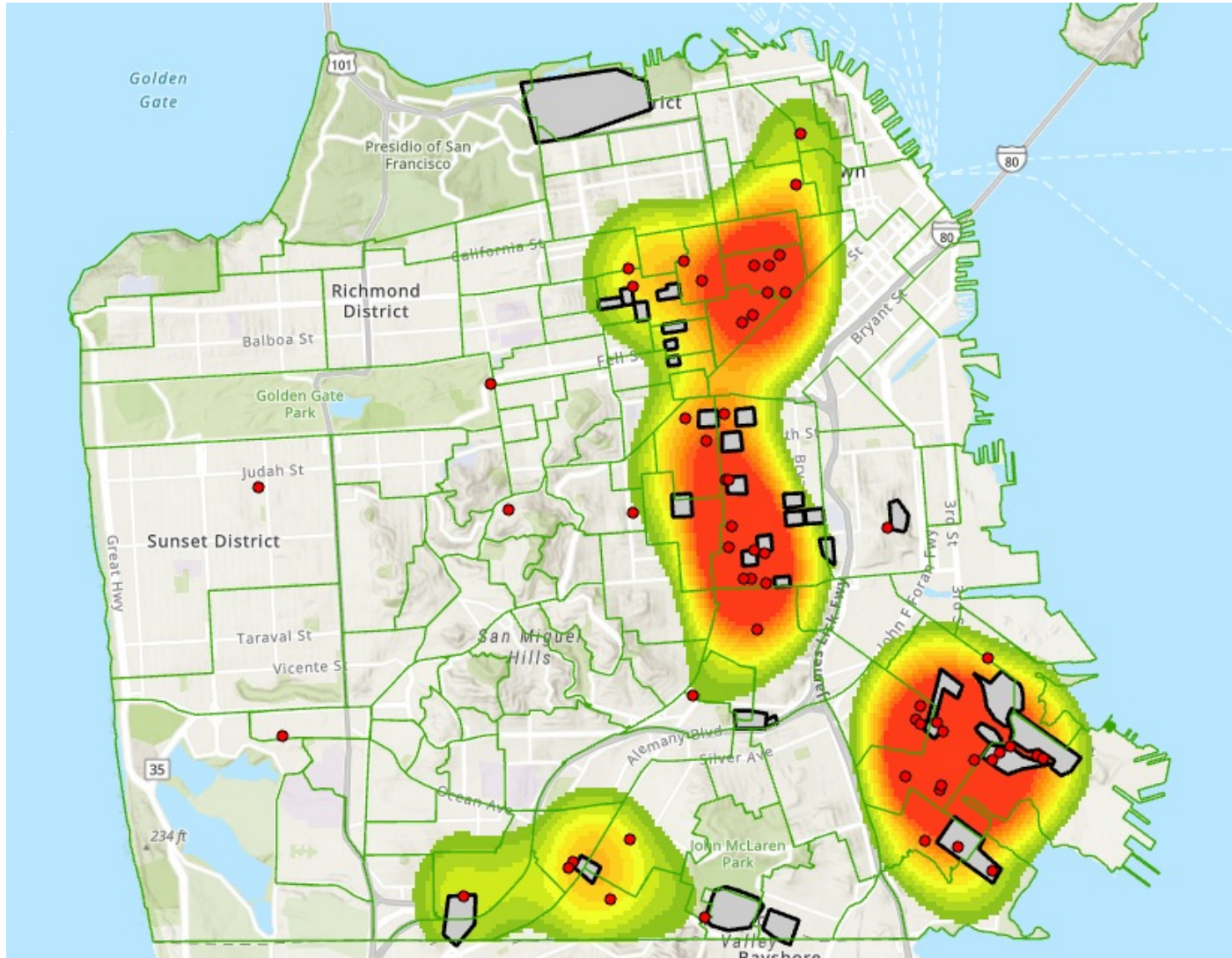


*Includes only seven groups found to be most prevalent within each of the included quarters.

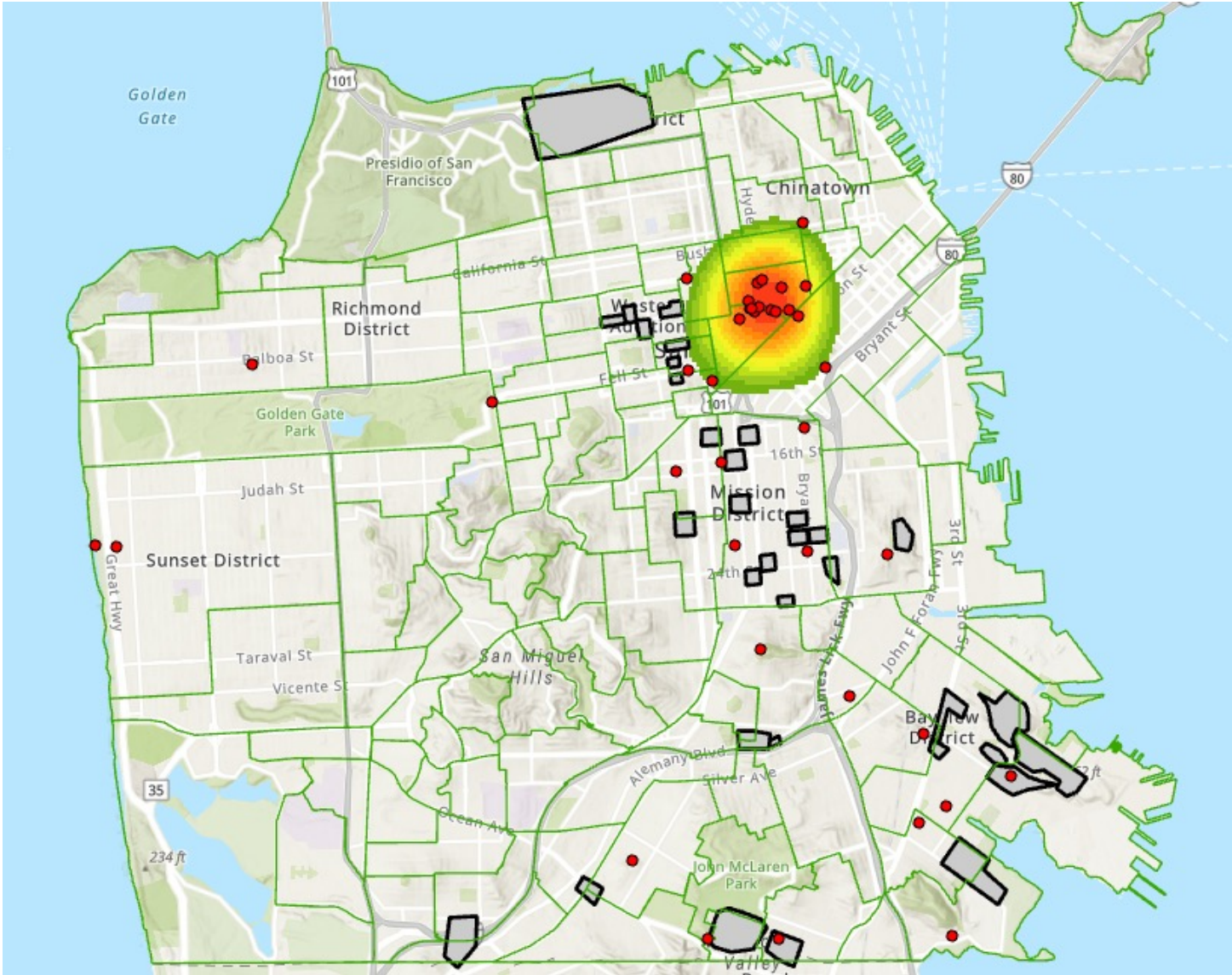
All Homicides & Shootings: Jan 2017 – June 2020



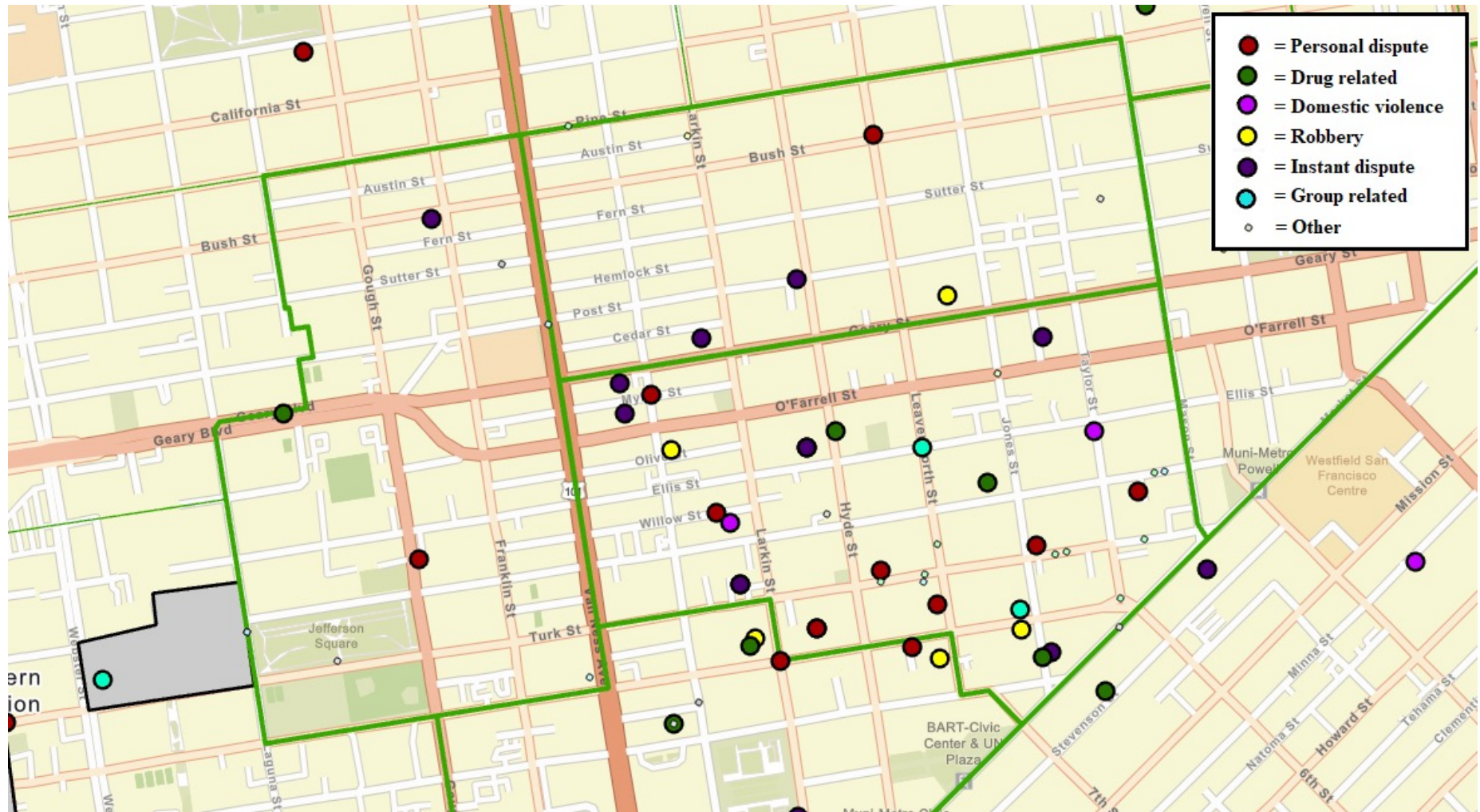
Group-Involved Homicides



Drug-Related Shootings/Homicides



All Violence: Tenderloin Area Concentration by Circumstance



Problem Analysis

Summary Findings and Potential Implications

1. **Group dynamics tend to drive gun violence:** A small number of high risk social networks (groups) are often involved in the majority of gun violence in any given city (in our experience).
1. **Those at the highest risk of gun violence** tend to be primarily 18-35, men of color with extensive justice system histories (10-15 prior arrests); and social connections to high risk groups and conflicts.
 - **Reducing retaliation shootings requires sustained focus within police departments and intervention organizations** on this violence dynamic.
 - The findings have implications for **a range of other justice system and community actors.**
 - Cities would generally benefit from a **greater intervention focus and investment in this population.**

DISCUSSION: