

## **SPPD Use of Deadly Force Initial Analysis**

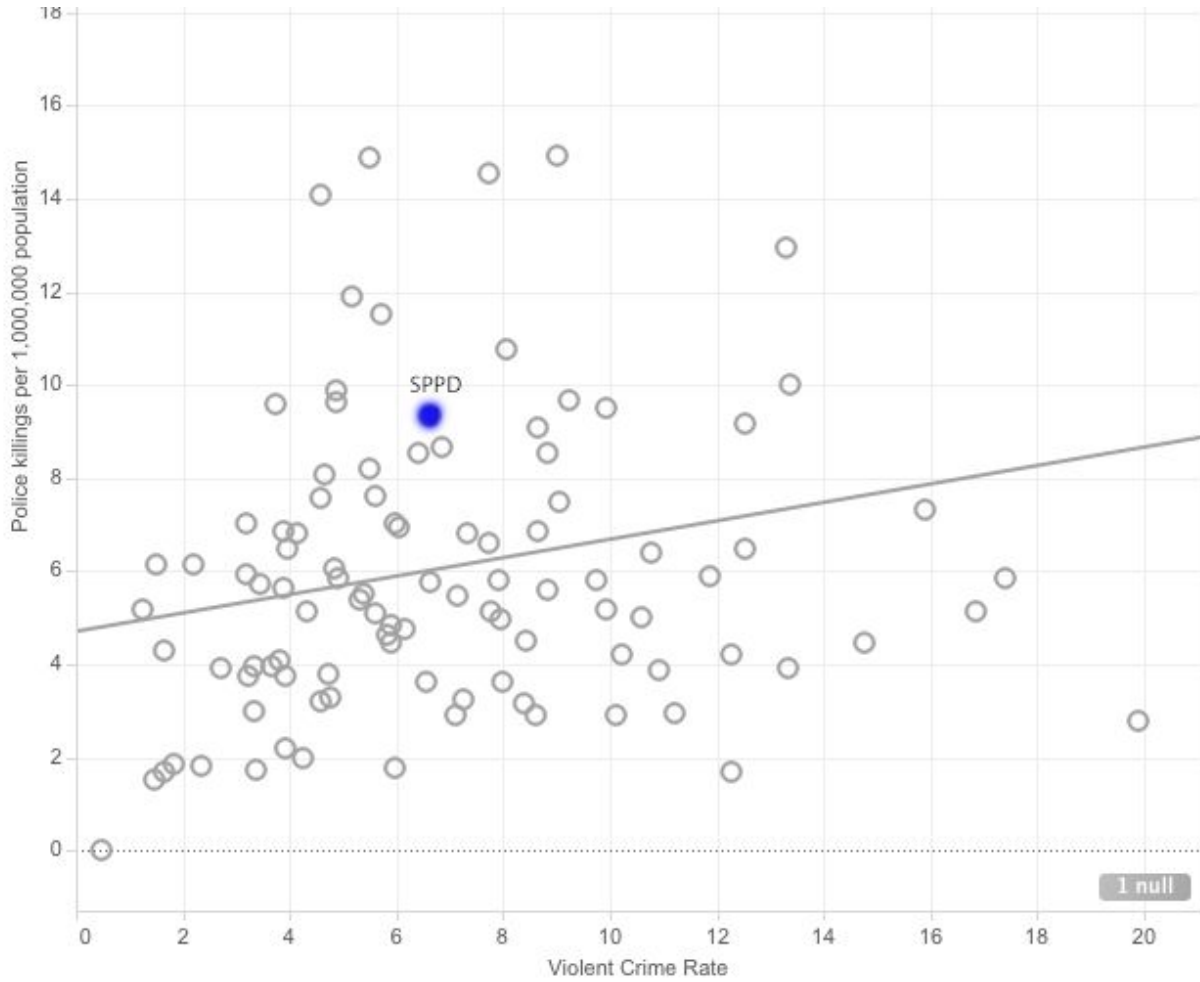
Compared to other jurisdictions, St. Paul has a troublingly high rate of police homicides. According to data compiled by mappingpoliceviolence.org, **SPPD's police homicide rate, 9.18 police killings per 1,000,000 population, is more than double the national average (3.95 per 1,000,000)**. The St. Paul Police Department is 16<sup>th</sup> out of 100 departments tracked for rate of deadly force between 2013 and 2017. The average annual SPPD police homicide rate for black people is 20.4 police killings per 1,000,000 population compared to a national rate of 7.971 per 1,000,000. Those rates far surpass other urban areas such as New York (1.77), Minneapolis (2.9), Boston (3.24), Pittsburgh (3.63), and Milwaukee (4.48).

Local murder and violent crime rates do not appear to explain St. Paul's high rate of police killings. **Among jurisdictions with relatively low murder rates, St. Paul (3.69 homicides per 1,000,000) has one of the highest rates of police killings.** By the department's own data, St. Paul's police killings numbers have edged and consistently remained up, averaging more than two per year since 2012. While the base numbers are small, they represent lost human lives and the trend is concerning. Notably, the crimes against persons rate is down 12% for that same period of 2012-2016.

Also of note are the number of police killings of individuals armed with weapons other than firearms. Based on available data from SPPD and news reports and the Pioneer Press database on police killings in Minnesota, **nearly half of all SPPD police homicides from 2004 involve police killing of persons armed with weapon other than a firearm.** Of the 22 SPPD police homicides from 2004, 10 involved weapons other than firearms, including rocks, screwdrivers, knives, moving vehicles, and blunt objects. While officers are not expected to put themselves in lethal danger and the facts regarding each of the 10 incidents might shed important light on imminent threats, this area warrants further analysis and scrutiny for ways to improve outcomes for police and communities.

Note that all five policies and the IACP consensus we compared to SPPD's draft (Cleveland, Las Vegas, Seattle, Philadelphia, IACP) have narrower parameters for use of force to require a degree of imminent threat, yet St. Paul's draft allows for the shooting of suspected felons who are fleeing as well as discouraging but not prohibiting shooting at moving vehicles. Many policies also prohibit shooting at moving vehicles (NYC). St. Paul's policy on use of deadly force and shooting at vehicles must be examined in light of this and other data.

Saint Paul Police Department Rate of Police Killings per Population 9.35 (1/1/2013-12/31/2017)  
Violent Crime Rate 6.62 (per 1,000 population)



| Year | SPPD homicide | Non-Fire arm |   |
|------|---------------|--------------|---|
| 2001 | 2             | ?            |   |
| 2002 | 3             | ?            |   |
| 2003 | 0             |              |   |
| 2004 | 1             | 1            | 1 fatality involving possession of knife and failure to comply with officer commands  |
| 2005 | 1             | ?            |   |
| 2006 | 0             |              |   |
| 2007 | 2             | 1            | 1 death involving knife   |
| 2008 | 0             |              |   |
| 2009 | 2             |              | 2 deaths both involving guns (one appears to be suicide by police)  |
| 2010 | 2             | 2            | 1 <sup>st</sup> involved officers responding to calls on individual who was suicidal and on meth and armed with knife; 2 <sup>nd</sup> involved man whose weapon was "heavy blunt object"   |
| 2011 | 0             |              |   |
| 2012 | 3             | 2            | 1 <sup>st</sup> fleeing after robbery (possibly not imminent threat>), 2 <sup>nd</sup> shot in moving vehicle, 3 <sup>rd</sup> shot at police.  |
| 2013 | 1             | 1            | Fatality involving knife  |
| 2014 | 2             | 1            | 1 <sup>st</sup> involved weapon of "rock," 2 <sup>nd</sup> involved shootout at police  |
| 2015 | 4             | 2            | 1 <sup>st</sup> incident involved mental health crisis with screwdriver and self harm, 2 <sup>nd</sup> victim engaged in shootout with police (also had MH/CD history), 3 <sup>rd</sup> incident involved officers shooting at vehicle, 4 <sup>th</sup> unknown |
| 2016 | 2             |              | 1 involved individual who shot woman and at police  |
| 2017 | 2?            |              | 1 <sup>st</sup> involving firearm possession in mental health crisis; 2 <sup>nd</sup> involved individual actively shooting   |