

Gun Arrests by the Durham Police Department

A Five-Year Study

(2010 - 2014)

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Gun Arrests by the Durham Police Department (2010 – 2014)¹

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) collects data on gun arrests by the Durham Police Department and posts this information on the police department website. At the time of this report (January 21, 2015) records are posted for the years 2010 through 2014. The data is posted in tabular format with the following columns:

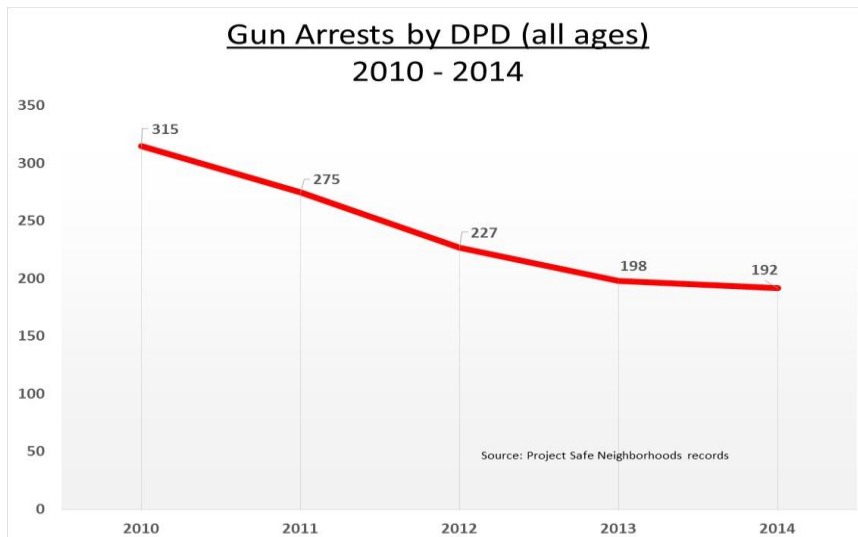
- Arrest Date
- Last Name
- First Name
- Sex
- Age at Arrest
- Charge (includes the gun charge(s) and any non-gun charges such as possession of drugs)
- Stolen Firearm (Y or N)
- Weapon (handgun, shotgun etc.)

It should be noted that weapons charges (like drug charges) are often “*officer driven*”. The number of arrests may vary due to the current priorities of the police department. For example, there may be a focus one month on probation searches that yields a higher number of weapons discovered than a month where there are no probation searches.

1) Number of Gun Arrests (all ages, 2010 – 2014)

The number of gun arrests has declined each year from 2010 to 2014.

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
# Arrests	315	275	227	198	192



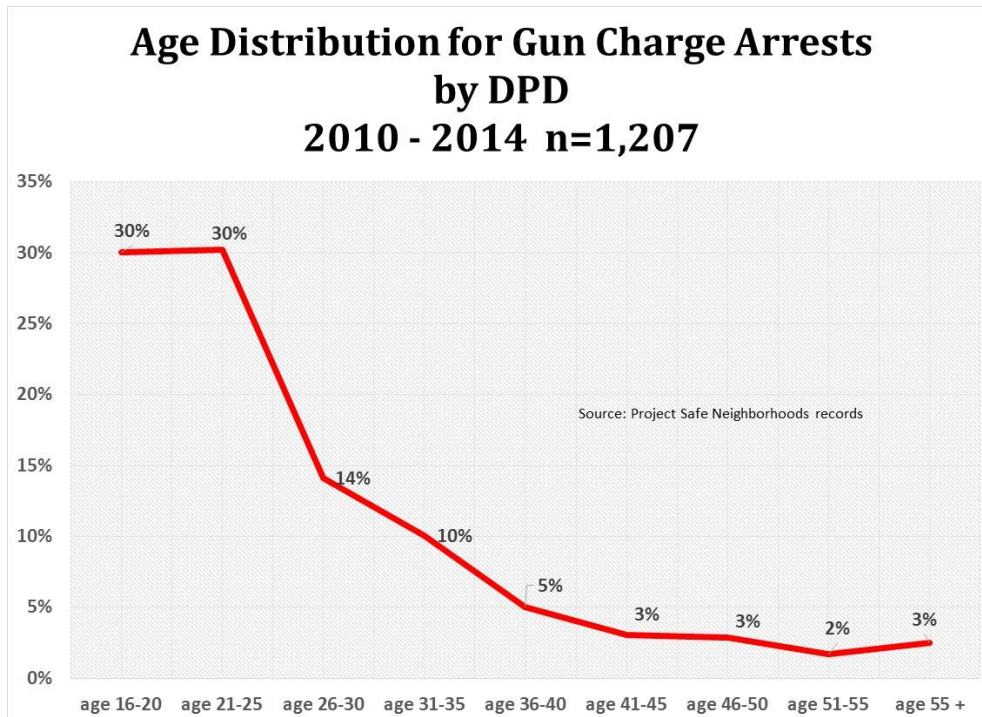
¹ All information in this report was compiled from Project Safe Neighborhood data found on the Durham Police Department website. Project Safe Neighborhoods reports on arrests only, not convictions.

2) Age Distribution for Gun Arrests (2010 – 2014)

Data indicates that the majority of gun crime arrestees (60%) are age 25 or below. Only 11% of those arrested for gun crimes during the time period were over the age of 40.

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>Avg. %</u>
Age 16-20*	109	86	66	62	46	30%
Age 21-25	86	79	72	54	69	30%
Age 26-30	41	44	27	27	31	14%
Age 31-35	31	25	26	25	14	10%
Age 36-40	15	9	11	14	10	5%
Age 41-45	12	7	9	6	7	3%
Age 46-50	7	8	3	5	10	3%
Age 51-55	9	5	4	2	2	2%
Age 55 +	5	11	9	3	3	3%
Avg. Age**	26.3	26.9	27.3	26.4	27.0	

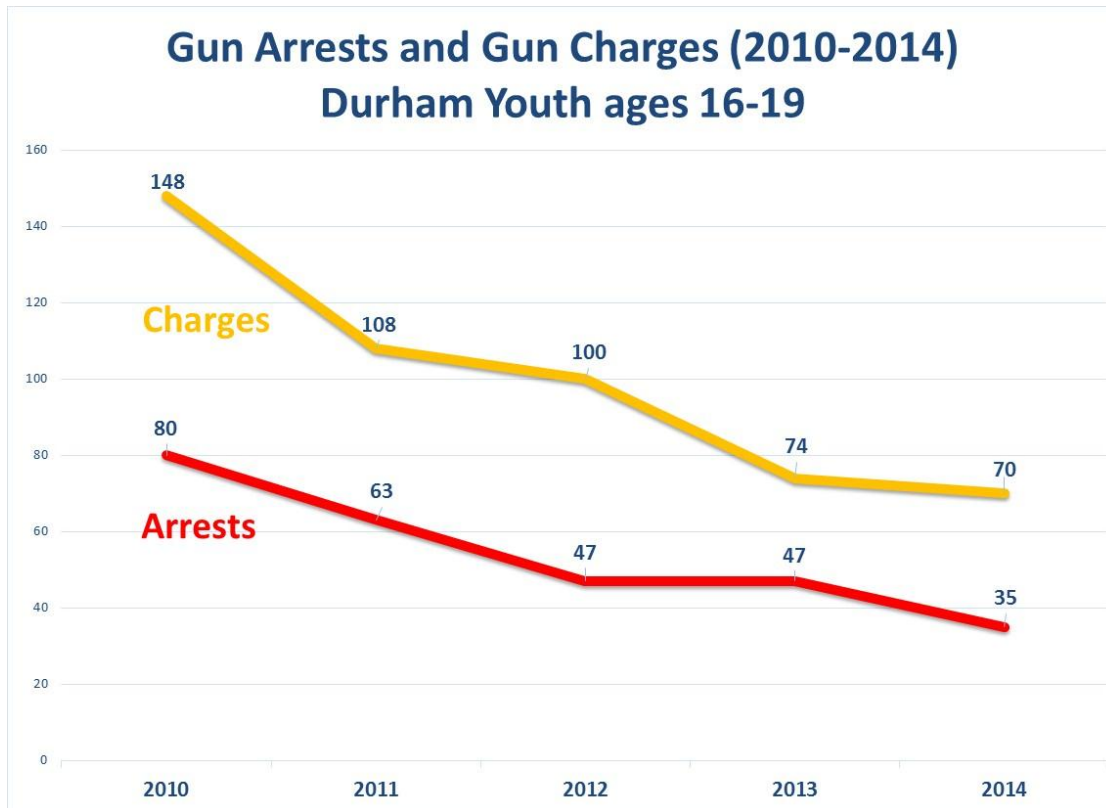
* PSN does not report gun arrests of youth under the age of 16
 ** average age calculated from age of each arrested person per year, averaged out



3) Teens Arrested for Gun Crimes

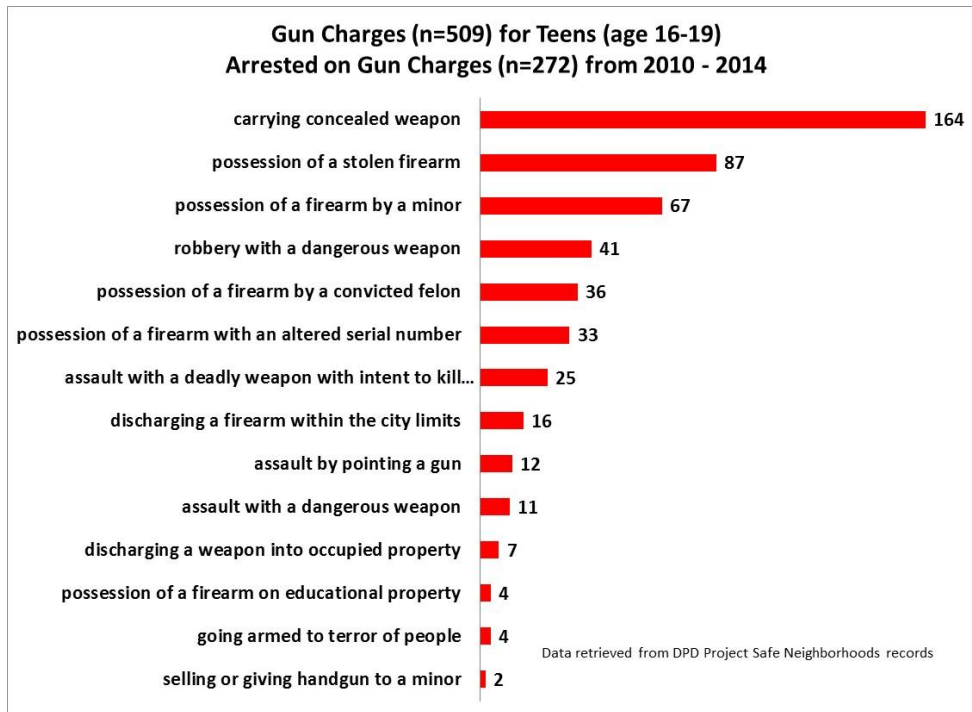
The number of 16 to 19 year olds arrested for gun crimes (PSN does not report on gun arrests of those younger than 16) has declined significantly in the past five years. Data indicates that there are usually more than one gun charge per arrest for this age cohort.

Year	Teen Arrests	# Gun Charges Against Teens	Average # of Gun Charges per Arrest
2010	80	148	1.85
2011	63	108	1.71
2012	47	100	2.12
2013	47	74	1.57
2014	35	70	2.00



4) Most Frequent Gun Charges for Teens

There are a number of different gun offenses that can result in charges. The most frequent gun charge levied against teens for the five-year period was “*carrying a concealed weapon*”.² This offense was charged almost twice as many times as the next most frequent offense – “*possession of a stolen firearm*”.



5) Teen Repeat Offenders

Data from the five-year period indicates that almost one-tenth (9.7%) of teens arrested for gun crimes are arrested again for another gun crime while still a teen.³

Arrested only once as a teen (2010-2014)	244
Arrested 2 times as a teen (2010-2014)	22
Arrested 3 times as a teen (2010-2014)	2
Arrested 4 times as a teen (2010-2014)	3
Arrested 5 times as a teen (2010-2014)	1 (deceased – shot)

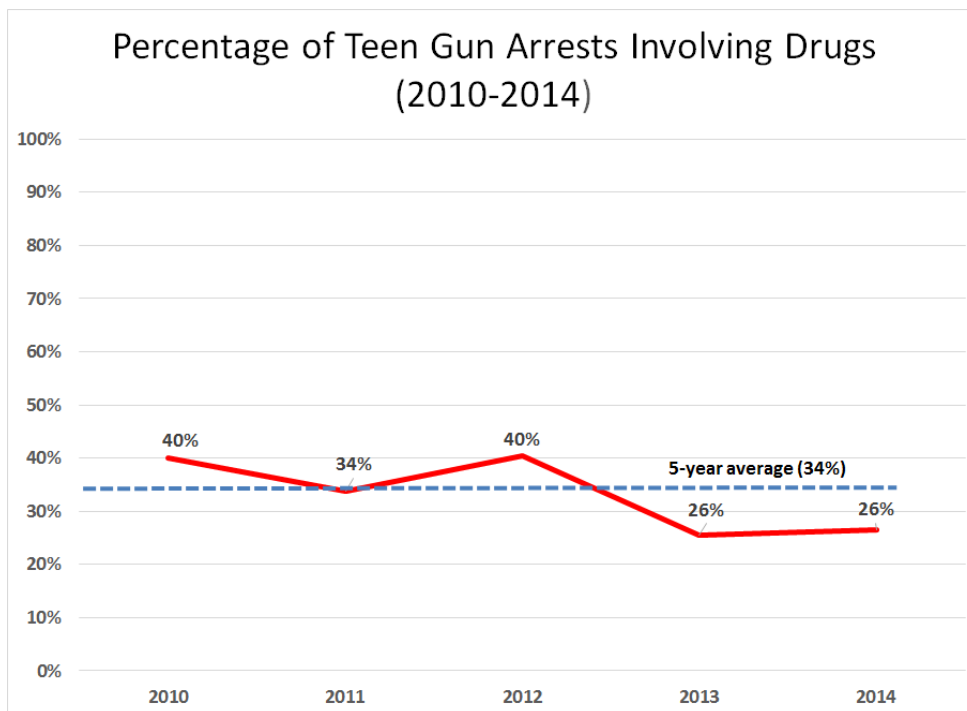
² This research on gun arrests did not include gathering data on the most common gun charge for all ages

³ Suggestion for further research: What percentage of teens arrested for gun crimes multiple times end up serving time in a state correctional facility?

6) Teen Gun Arrests Involving Drugs

Approximately one-third of 16 to 19 year olds arrested for gun crimes also incurred drug charges at the same time. Common charges ranged from possession of drugs/drug paraphernalia to more serious charges of intent to sell or deliver drugs.

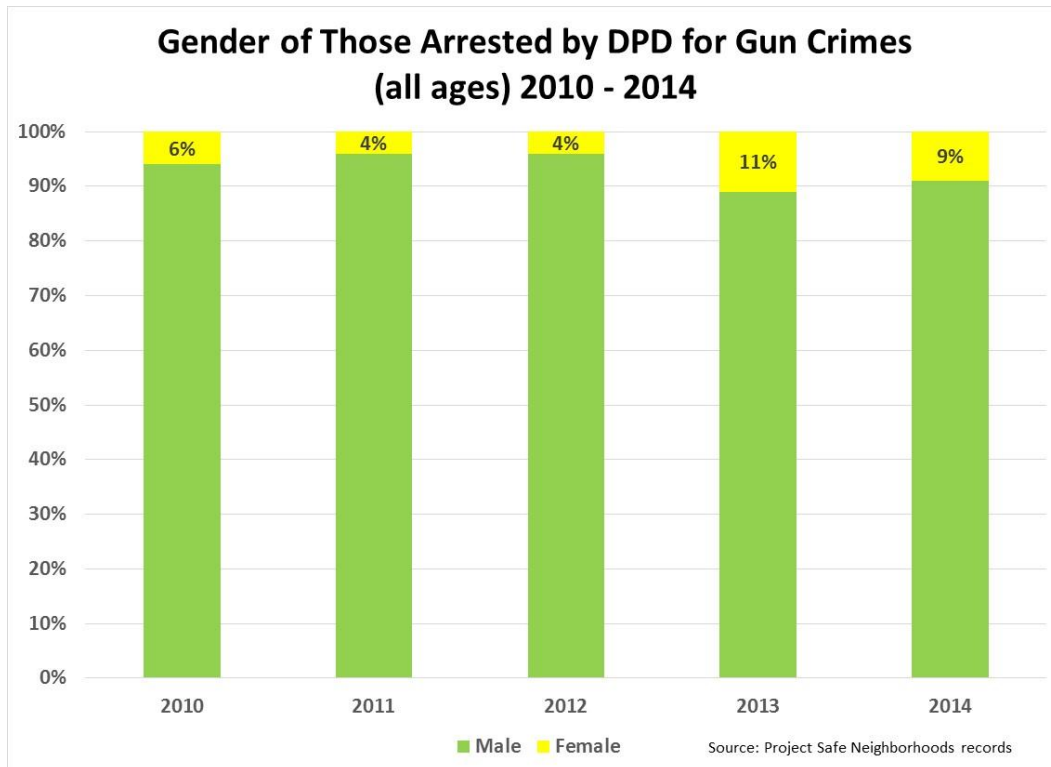
Year	Teen Gun Arrests	Teen Gun Arrests Involving Drugs	Percentage of Teen Gun Arrests Involving Drugs
2010	80	32	40%
2011	62	21	34%
2012	47	19	40%
2013	47	12	26%
2014	34	9	26%
All Years	272	93	34%



7) Gender of Gun Crime Arrestees (all ages)

The first three years of the study (2010 – 2012) females accounted for about 5% of the gun arrests. During the last two years (2013 – 2014) they averaged about 10% of the gun arrests.

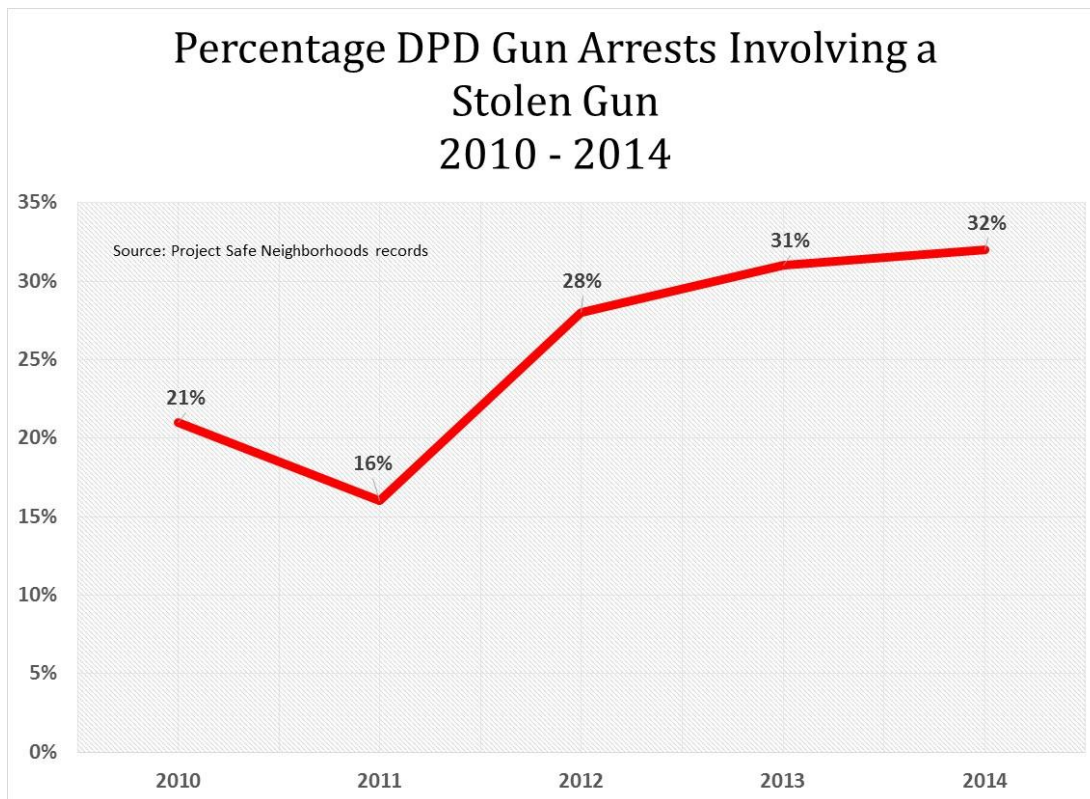
Year	Total Gun Arrests	Males	Females
2010	315	296	19
2011	275	263	12
2012	227	217	10
2013	198	179	19
2014	192	174	18



8) Arrests Involving a Stolen Gun (all ages)

Data indicates an increase in the number of stolen guns involved in gun arrests during the five-year period, from a low of 16% in 2011 to a high of 32% in 2014.

Year	Total Gun Arrests	Stolen Gun Noted	Percentage of Arrests Involving a Stolen Gun
2010	315	67	21%
2011	275	45	16%
2012	227	63	28%
2013	198	61	31%
2014	192	61	32%



Report prepared by Jim Stuit (Gang Reduction Strategy Manager) January 2015