

2023 Q1 King County Firearm Violence Report

King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - Crime Strategies Unit paocsu@kingcounty.gov April 2023

Total Shootings and Shots Fired Incidents

The numbers of firearm homicide victims, nonfatal shooting victims, and total shots fired incidents for Q1 2023 are listed below. This data comes from the 8 jurisdictions in King County (listed below) that have historically had over 90% of firearm violence, but also includes data from many of the smaller jurisdictions in King County. This does not include suicides, confirmed self-inflicted shootings, or officer involved shootings.

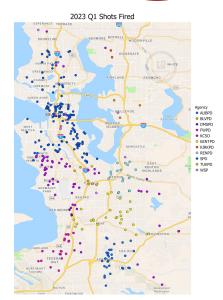






Geographic Distribution

Shootings in King County are not evenly distributed by jurisdiction. We currently collect data from over 20 agencies, but a majority of the data comes from 8 agencies: Seattle, Auburn, Des Moines, Federal Way, Kent, Renton, Tukwila, and the King County Sheriff's Office (including unincorporated King County and 13 Contract Cities, 2 Transit Agencies and 1 AARF). These 8 agencies account for roughly 80% of King County's population. In Q1 2023, 57% of the total shots fired incidents and 66% of the shooting victims (both firearm homicide victims and nonfatal shooting victims) were from agencies outside of Seattle.



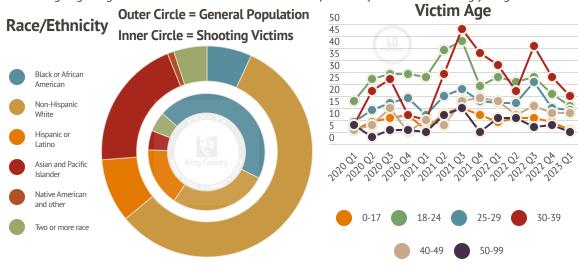
Historical Comparisons

The graphs below depict the number of shots fired incidents broken down by type from 2019-2023 and the number of non-fatal & fatal shooting victims from 2019-2023. Compared to the average of the previous five quarters of data, shots fired incidents in Q1 (357) were down around 10% (-40) and the number of shooting victims (74) were down 34% (-36). More specifically, the number of fatal shooting victims increased 9% (+2) and nonfatal shooting victims declined 42% (-38) over those averages.



Shooting Victim Demographics

Of the 74 shooting victims in Q1, 85% were male; 22% were aged between 18-24; and 73% were people of color. Firearm injury rates continue to drop despite overall shots fired incidents remaining alarmingly high. The average age of gun violence victims remains older than previous years but is trending younger.



^{**} KCPAO relies on law enforcement reports for the demographic information about victims, including race/ethnicity. Each law enforcement agency has separate policies and systems for collecting demographic data, which can result in varying levels of reporting. KCPAO is aware that this race/ethnicity data may not accurately reflect the demographics of victims of gun violence in our community.

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