

CRIME RATES IN BOSTON WITH CORRESPONDING POLICE REPORTS

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Introduction

Because crime rate is an essential determining factor in residential safety, our motivation behind analyzing Boston’s crime rate is centered on providing the necessary information to individuals who are newcomers to the city coming from various locations of the world seeking decent areas in Boston to live. While it is stated, according to bpdnews.com, that “violent crimes have dropped 13% percent since 2014”, it is still necessary to take into account of the specific crimes and any possible contributing factors that influences the “still existing” crime rate in Boston. Our interests are to appeal to specific people who are looking to rent apartments in the city and to experience good and safe living conditions. We wanted to gather information pertaining to crime rate in the specific residential locations in Boston as well as the number of police stations and reports within the corresponding districts. We gathered this information to form a visualization that would serve as an informational resource for our newcomers looking for places in Boston to live.

Project/Method

The main goal of our project is to use our datasets to provide a visualization on the living conditions of Boston based on the city’s crime reports and density of police stations. The plan we executed to achieve the visualization we wanted involved using the Google Maps API which would allow us to pin-point the specific locations of crime reports and the specific locations of police stations in city. This data would be shown by two maps of Boston that we have implemented. One map would contain the pin needles pointing to the specific locations of crime reports. The other map would display pin needles pointing to the specific locations of the city’s police stations. We would then use our given maps to provide a visual contrast between the two data sets (crimeReports and policeStation) to help determine ideal residential locations for our newcomer audience members. For the sake of specificity, the crime reports that we have considered are listed but not limited to:

- Gun violence
- Sexual assault
- Burglary/robbery
- Murder

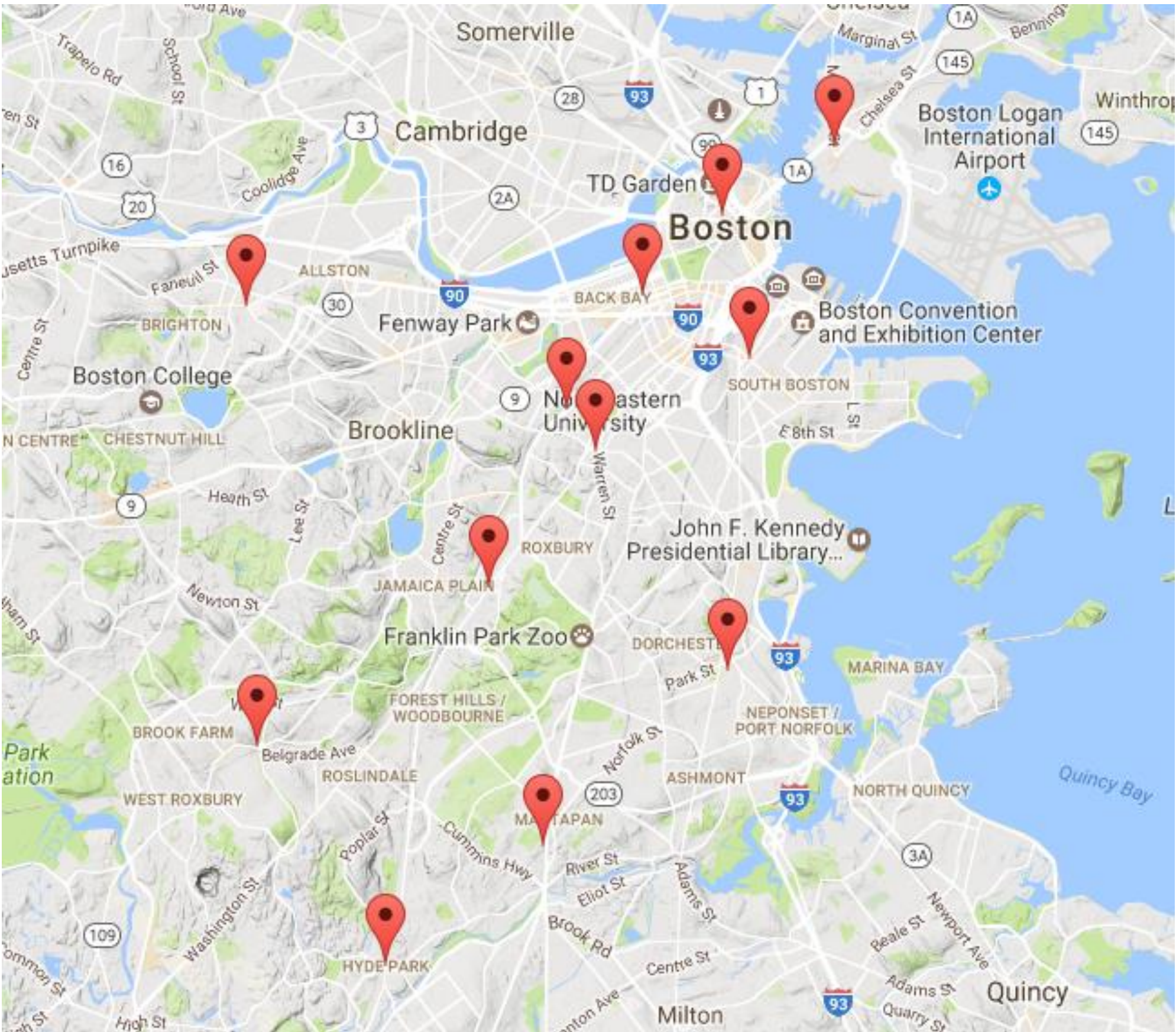


Figure 1: This map of Boston displays the location points of the police stations specific to their districts.

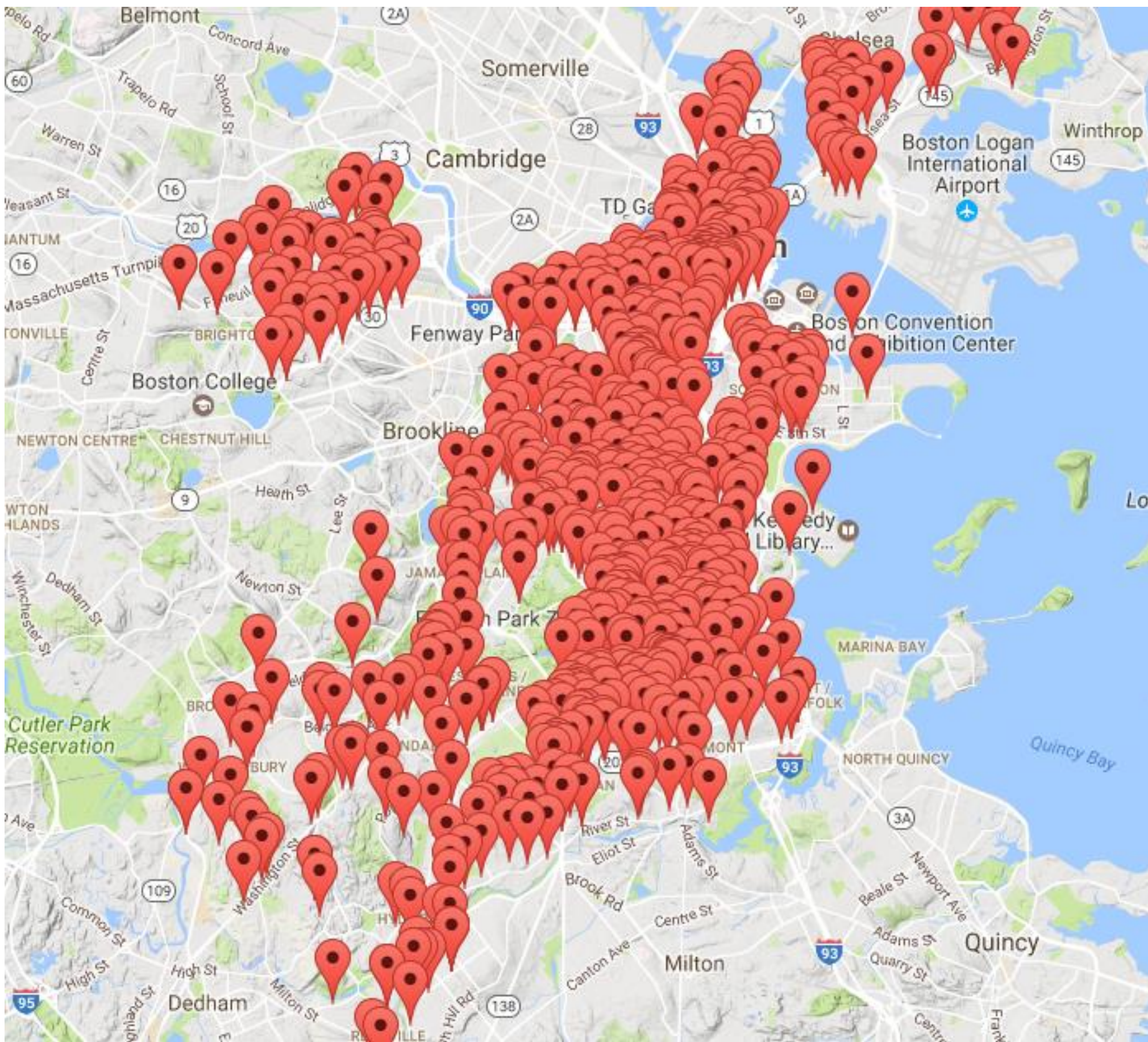
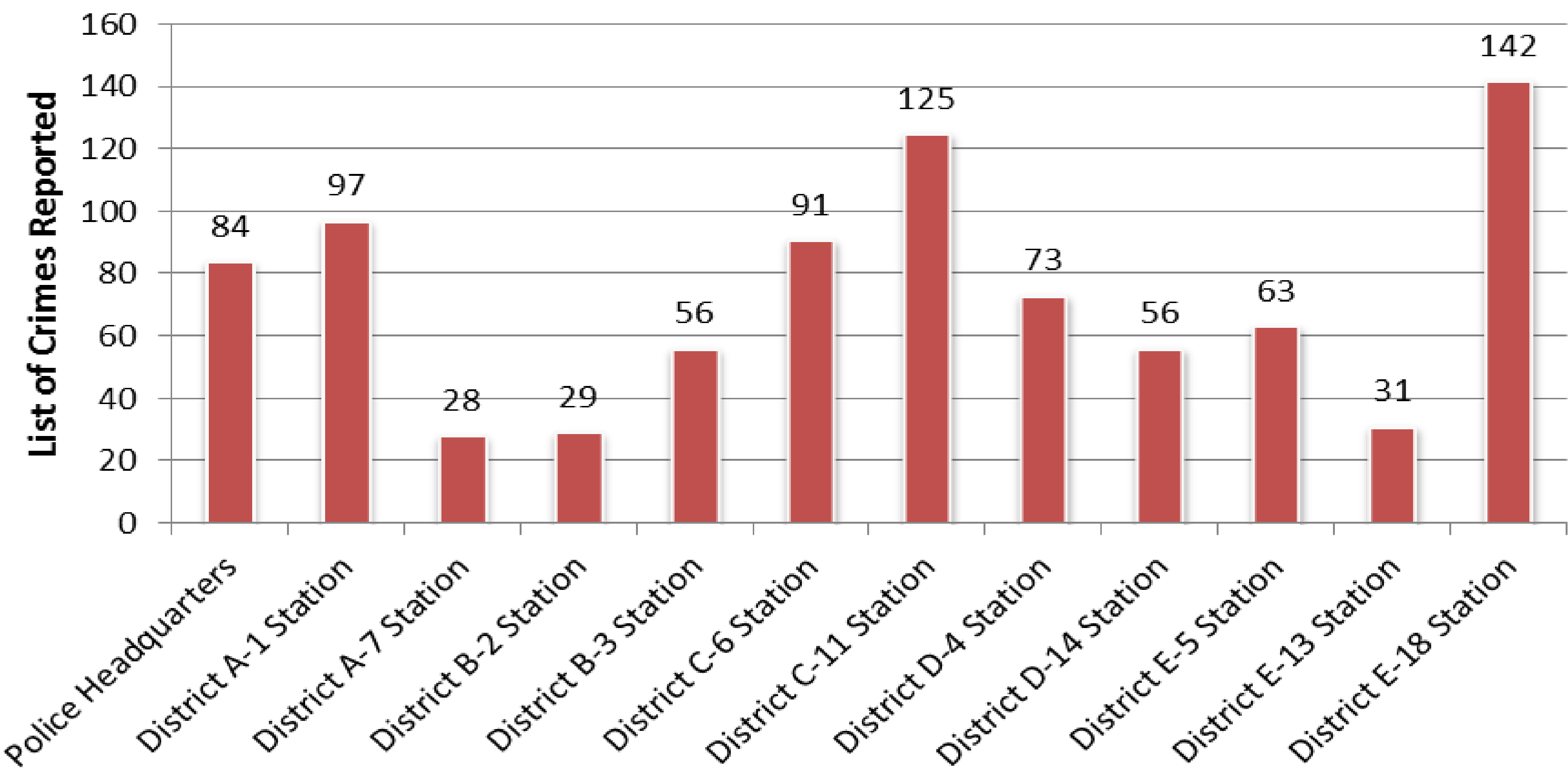


Figure 2: This map displays the location points of reported crimes in Boston since August 2015.

List of Crimes Reported At Nearest Police Station in Boston, Aug 2015-Present



List of Police Stations in Boston

Figure 3: This graph displays the number of reported crimes within the districts specific to the police stations within our dataset.

Conclusion

Based on the given information and the data we were able to organize into a bar graph format, we have found that the number of crimes that have been reported within the given police stations that we have included in our data set, varied quite noticeably. As it is clearly indicated by both of our maps, it is irrefutable that the city of Boston holds a much higher crime report ratio to the number of police stations. Looking at the crime reports within the districts specific to the location of our selected police stations within our dataset (Figure 3), we found that District E-18, specifically Hyde Park, and District C-11, specifically Dorchester, had the most crime reports since August 2015. Districts A-7, specifically East Boston, district B-2, specifically Roxbury, district E-13, specifically Jamaica Plain, contained the least amount of crime reports since August 2015 in contrast to the other districts within this dataset. With this given information, we have a clearer indication of which specific areas in Boston are deemed more safe than others especially with the given chart that clearly displays the amount of crime reports in accordance to the corresponding police station within the district. However, because Boston is a large city like many others, it is unfortunately the truth that crimes are bound to happen anymore. With respect to the size of Boston in itself though, every piece of information containing reported incidents as given above would do more to help the community rather than to hurt it.