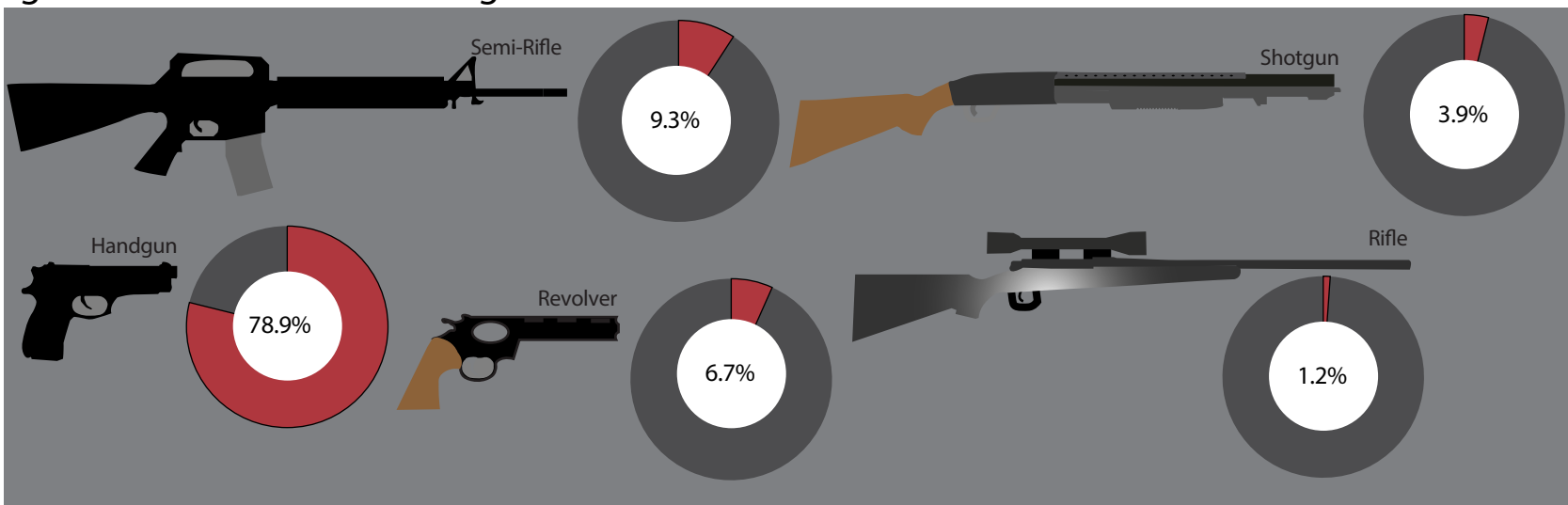


Missouri's dramatic increase in gun crime

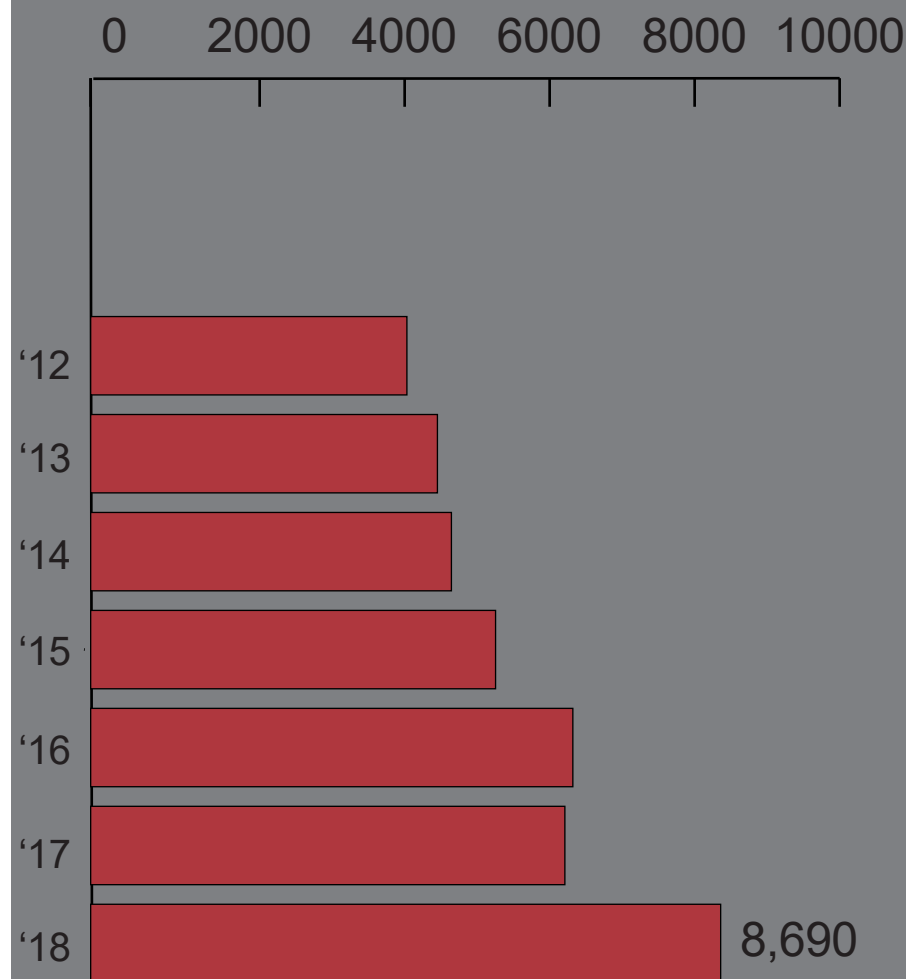
Data obtained from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives shows an increase in the amount of guns being traced by the agency in Missouri. The amount of minors in possession of guns has increased as well. Locally, the majority of guns CPD recovers are handguns.

In The Evidence Locker

The CPD maintains a catalogue of the different firearms than end up in their possession. The following represents only guns that fall under the stolen, recovered, evidence, seized, lost and destroyed/damaged categories when this open records request was filed last December.



Number of firearms traced to Missouri (2012-2018)



DOJ Study

In early January, the U.S. Department of Justice released their findings that were drawn from conclusions from a four year study. The study examined how 256,000 inmates being held in state and federal prisons came in possession of the firearm they used in their criminal offense that they were convicted for. Over 70% were obtained illegally. The accompanying graph breaks down how some of the felons came in possession of the gun they had on them at the time of their original offense.

Knowingly sold to by family member/friend -- knew of previous convictions

Illegally purchased on behalf of prisoner

Blackmarket / Underground

Purchased at flea market
Purchased at gun show

Other Source (Legal)

Purchased at gun store

Tracking Guns

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), traces guns to individuals on behalf of local and state law enforcement agencies across the country. Missouri has seen a drastic increase in the amount of firearms traced by the federal agency between 2012 and 2018.

Is Age A Factor?

The ATF breaks down the total amount of possessors of traced firearms into several categories dictated by the age of the possessor. Missouri has seen a steady increase in the 25-30 & 31-40 age brackets.

Age Breakdown of Firearm Possesors Traced in Missouri (2012-2018)

