SOURCE: CITY OF MILWAUKEE MUNICIPAL COURT

Overview
The municipal (or city) court services the City of Milwaukee. It deals exclusively with cases involving city ordinance violations. The complete list of city ordinances can be found at:

> http://city.milwaukee.gov/cityclerk/ordinances/tableofcontents#.WnAJvGaZO9Y

Municipal court records also contain persons charged under Wisconsin Statutes. A complete list can be found at:

> https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/prefaces/toc

Since laws tend to differ from state to state, further examination must be conducted to wholly ascertain the extent of the municipal court's adjudication of both misdemeanors and felonies. From the initial data pull, it can be assumed that most, if not all, cases handled by the municipal court can be considered misdemeanors—it is moderately important that this assumption be confirmed as true or false. Felonies will be discussed in a following section which coincides with the Wisconsin Circuit Court.

Initial Data Scrape
An arbitrary decision was made to begin data scraping from municipal court records from the 2016 calendar year. Out of ease and organizational purposes, queries of these systems were conducted using case numbers. Case numbers are represented as an eight-digit numeric. An example of this is:

16000001

In this particular case, the first two digits of "16" represent the last two digits of the calendar year. The "1", with five leading "0", denotes the case number. In the aforementioned instance, this would be considered the first case of the 2016 calendar year. Under this framework, it is possible for the municipal court to record up to 999,999 cases for a single calendar year, yet it would be an unlikely that such a maximum occurrence would be reached.

Case Attributes of the Case Majority
Firstly, case majority must be defined. In this particular situation, case majority merely describes the data format of the vast majority of cases, based on the most likely scenario, for records found in the municipal system. This structure was pursued in order to start the data collection process of most cases. Follow-on programs will be developed to store the case minority not represented with the current schema in use.

Case attributes found in the case majority are as follows:

> Demographic Information
> Case number
> Name
> Birth month and year
> Sex
> Race

> Case Information
> Case type
> Violation
> Violation date
> Location

Plea
Plea entered by
Status
Citation number
Deposit amount
In collection
Installment plan

Judgement Information
Finding
Penalty
Balance due
Date
Due on date
Branch

Some of the listed attributes are self-explanatory or previously defined, but others may not be so clearly understood and will be further elaborated or assumed.

Four different case types have appeared in records gathered so far. They consist of (1) municipal citations, (2) traffic citations, (3) parking, and (4) summons and complaints. Municipal citations and parking are violations both covered in Volume 1, Regulatory Ordinances. These are found in the first source posted above. Traffic citations cover violations of statutes passed by the Wisconsin State Legislature. These are found in the second source posted above. Summons and complaints are also found in the first posted source, but are referenced in Volume 2, Building and Zoning Codes.

Although self-explanatory, the Milwaukee Municipal Court system records the violation date down to the minute of when the incident occurred. This precise time annotation can be assumed to be completed by the police officer conducting

initial contact, administration and processing of a violation.

Location, also assumed to be logged by the police officer conducting initial contact, administration and processing, utilizes cardinal direction which is further propagated by the grid system. For the most part, locations of violations could be easily and graphically depicted using the logged information and the assistance of an API. Parking case types do not seem to annotate a location.

It is assumed that citation number represents a form of document control as annotated on individually issued citations. The method of these document control numbers has not yet been researched, but it is evident that parking case types do not have a citation number associated. All other types of citation numbers consist of a complete numerical representation, except traffic citations which utilize an alphanumeric representation.

There is no information found that has been able to determine the significance of branch. This is something that must be researched to fully understand. This discovery might benefit from interaction with a clerk at the Milwaukee Municipal Court.

Case Minority
Case minority is the nomenclature used to describe those records that have yet to be recorded due to non-congruence with the schema used to capture the case majority. As stated above, programs will be developed to formulate an applicable schema and annotate data. From a very minor inspection of the case minority, some

of the reasons that these are not captured under the current schema is due to the nonexistence of a case number or persons who have failed to appear for arraignment before the City of Milwaukee. There are other derivatives that create this case minority and they will be explored in future scrapes of this source.

Early Quantitative Data
Total records scraped: 50,000
Case majority: 41,209 (82%)
Case minority: 8,791 (18%)

Demographics / case majority
American Indian: 297 (0.7%)
Asian/Oriental: 590 (1.4%)
Black: 28,066 (68.1%)
Hispanic: 5,728 (13.9%)
Unknown: 431 (1.0%)
White: 6,097 (14.8%)
Female:
Male:

Cases / case majority
Municipal citation: 7,007 (17.0%)
Parking: 1,243 (3.0%)
Summons & complaint: 733 (1.8%)
Traffic citation: 32,226 (78.2%)

Judgements / case majority
Dismissed w/ prejudice: 15 (0.0%)
Dismissed w/o prejudice: 2,577 (6.3%)
Guilty: 38,321 (93.0%)
Guilty-Suspended Sentence: 363 (%)
Not guilty: 23 (%)

SOURCE: WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT

Overview
The Wisconsin Circuit Court consists of state-level trial courts that can exercise jurisdiction over civil and criminal cases in the state. Out of scraped data, it has been observed that the majority of charges are in violation of Wisconsin Statutes. These can be found at:

>   https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/prefaces/toc

The same condition discussed with the Milwaukee Municipal Court applies to the range of adjudication for the Wisconsin Circuit Court. The initial data scrape examined only the County of Milwaukee, which includes the City of Milwaukee, and determined that the majority of charges recorded are classified as felonies and the minority misdemeanors. Both felonies and misdemeanors have associated classes, but further research is required to determine their definitions. There is not a large representation of cases from the 2016 calendar year since scarping is slower and the volume of records is a fraction of the number of municipal court records.

<div align="center">

Municipal
Tens of thousands p.a.
v.
Circuit
Thousands p.a.

</div>

Initial Data Scrape
The scope of the initial data scrape for the circuit court is subject to the same decision made for municipal court records. Case numbers are also used to query these records and are structured as an alphanumeric. An example of this is:

>   2016CF000001

Although the circuit court system can be queried with a shorthand version of the

above case number (*i.e.* 16cf1), the extended version is used since it is more easily adapted to scraping protocols. The first four characters, "2016", describe the year concerned and "CF" annotates the case number as one belonging to a person that was charged with a felony—cases can also be accompanied by an amalgamation of felony and misdemeanor charges. The final six characters annotate the case number concerned. Once again, it is possible for 999,999 circuit cases to exist for a single calendar year, but it is highly unlikely that this would occur.

Schemas and Attributes
The initial data scrape functions under two separate schemas that are divided into demographic information and case information. These schemas are structured as follows:

Demographic Information
Case number
Case type
Name
Date of birth
Sex
Race
Address
Filing date
Case status
Branch ID

Case Information
Case number
Offense count
Offense date
Statute
Description
Severity
Disposition

As previously observed in municipal court records, some items are clear while others will be explained or assumed. All case types represented are considered "criminal". Expectedly, scraped data has not revealed another classification.

Filing date can be assumed to reference the period at which the circuit court assumed responsibility for the case at hand. This date does not seem to reflect a date associated with the occurrence of an offense. Case status denotes open or closed standings. This may also be accompanied by brief explanation of further disposition.

There is no information found that has been able to determine the significance of branch ID. This is something that must be researched to fully understand. This discovery might benefit from interaction with a clerk at the Wisconsin Circuit Court.

Offense counts annotate the number of charges filed against offenders since one case can account for more than one felony, misdemeanor or a combination of both. Coinciding with this, a statute and description is assigned to an offense count to denote the legislation violated. Furthermore, severity describes whether the offense is classified as a felony or misdemeanor and further elaborates the categorization of them based on State of Wisconsin legislation. Finally, disposition describes the ruling of the circuit court on each count associated with a case.

Early Quantitative Data
Total records scraped: 399
Total offense counts: 754

Demographics
African American: 250 (62.7%)
American Indian or Alaskan Native: 2 (0.5%)
Asian or Pacific Islander: 3 (0.7%)
Caucasian: 124 (31.1%)
Hispanic: 20 (5.0%)
Female: 62 (15.5%)
Male: 337 (84.5%)

Case Classifications
Total: 753
Felonies: 545 (72.4%)
Unclassified forfeiture: 2 (0.3%)
Misdemeanors: 201 (26.7%)
Unclassified: 5 (0.7%)

Case Dispositions
Total: 754
Charge Dismissed but Read In: 127 (16.8%)
Deferred Prosecution or Sentence: 4 (0.5%)
Dismissed Before Initial
        Appearance: 2 (0.4%)
Dismissed on Defendant's
        Motion: 26 (3.4%)
Dismissed on Prosecutor's
        Motion: 82 (10.9%)
Extradited: 9 (1.2%)
Found Guilty at Jury Trial: 15 (2.0%)
Found Not Guilty at Jury Trial: 12 (%1.6)
Guilty Due to Guilty Plea: 416 (55.2%)
Guilty Due to No Contest Plea: 20 (2.7%)
Guilty but Not Guilty Due to Mental
        Disease/Defect: 2 (0.4%)
No disposition: 39 (5.2%)