**Analyzing Crime Trends for a Safer Baltimore**

The story I aimed to convey through this assignment was to present a narrative for how the Baltimore police department could use their own dataset to find trends amongst their criminal records in order to be better prepared for future crimes. As such, I specifically looked for time-based trends such as potential seasonal crime trends to find months during which crimes tend to be higher. I also plan to find the 3 most common types of crimes and the districts where they would be the most prevalent in order to help the Baltimore PD determine which areas to prioritize in terms of patrolling and recruitment.

Prior to analyzing the dataset on Tableau, I had opened it on Excel where I was able to divide the date column to separate columns for the day, month, and year. Afterward, I uploaded this updated dataset onto OpenRefine where I was able to clean the data by clustering multiple similar crime descriptions and delete null values from the weapon and the inside/outside columns. Finally, I exported this dataset as a CSV and opened it on Tableau where I initially analyzed crime trends on the basis of time such aggregate crime trends over the past 5 years, crime trends per year, and crime trends per month through the use of bar, line, and area graphs. After having found a few seasonal high crime trends during the summer and fall months, I looked into the most common crimes per month and found them to be the same, even over the years. As such, I was able to determine the 3 most common crimes which led me to wonder which weapons were generally used in each type of crime and in which districts to these crimes commonly occur.

I decided to tell the story by first introducing the dataset and specifying how I believe its analysis would be the greatest aid to the BPD in their aim to curb crime. Subsequently, I presented the recent trend of a decline in crime before claiming the audience, the Baltimore PD, would perform better if they are able to visualize seasonal and common criminal trends already provided in their dataset. After verifying these trends through a comparison of annual crime records, I displayed the commonly-used weapons for each crime to help police officers know what to expect during each case. Additionally, I presented a visualization that showed types and number of crimes committed per district to determine which districts require increased police recruitment, community vigilance, and a greater concentration of police officers patrolling.

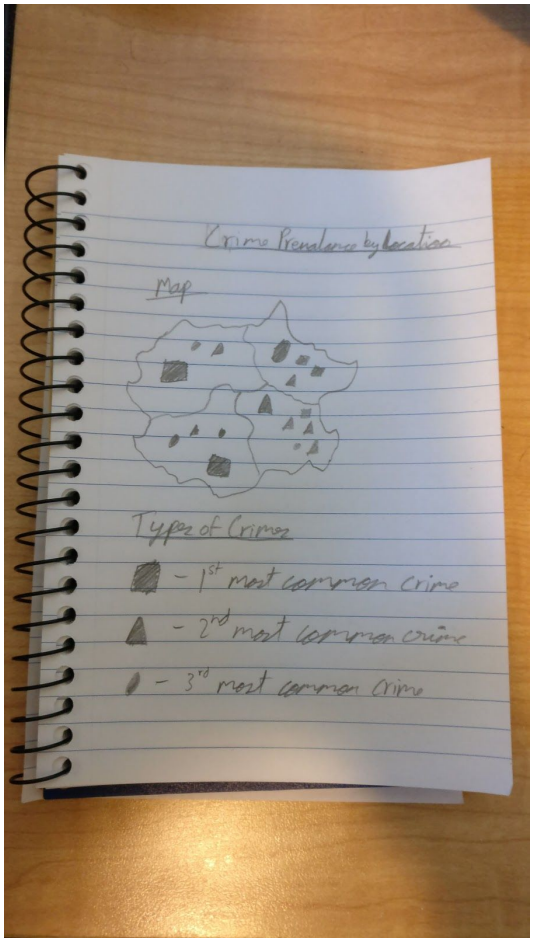
**Tableau Public Link:**
https://public.tableau.com/views/CrimeTrendsforaSaferBaltimore/Story1?:display_count=y&publish=yes&:origin=viz_share_link

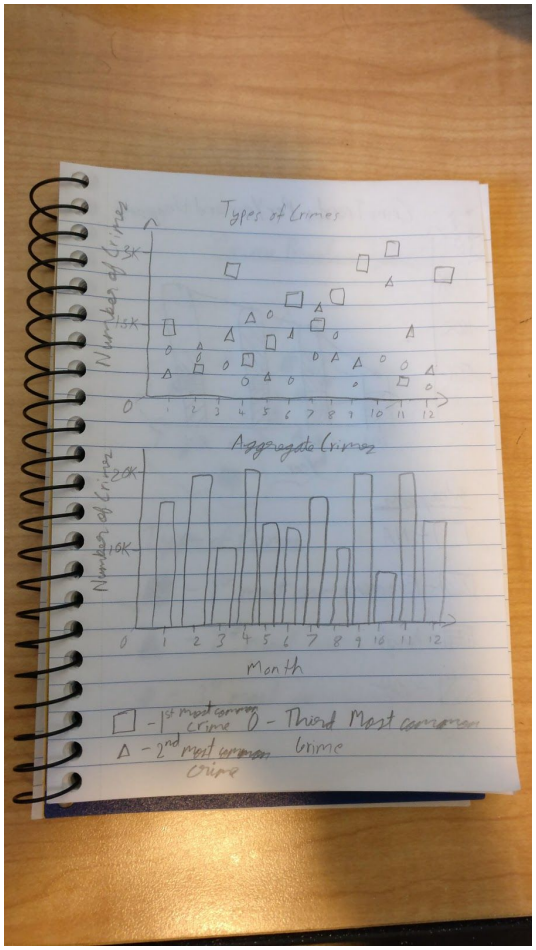
**Works Cited**

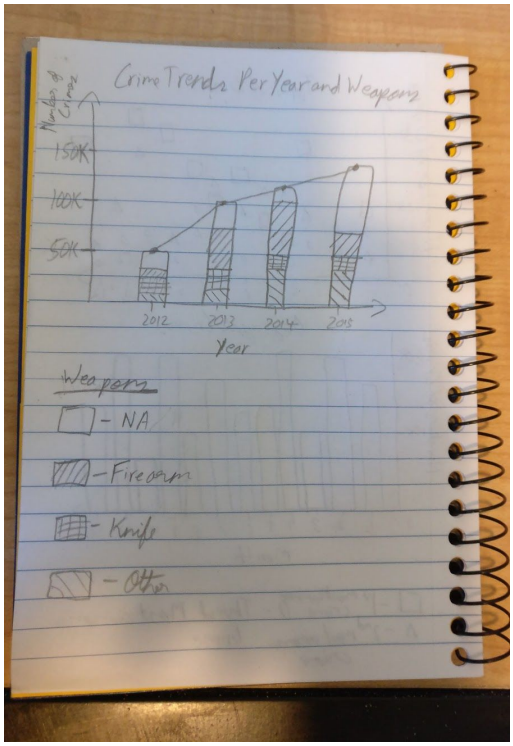

"BALTIMORE City Decal Landmark Skyline Wall Stickers Sketch Decals Poster Parede Home Decor Sticker-in Wall Stickers." *AliExpress*, https://www.aliexpress.com/item/1000005533588.html.

Baltimore Police Department. "BPD Part 1 Victim Based Crime Data." *Open Baltimore*, City of Baltimore, 17 Dec. 2019, https://data.baltimorecity.gov/Public-Safety/BPD-Part-1-Victim-Based-Crime-Data/wsfq-mvij.

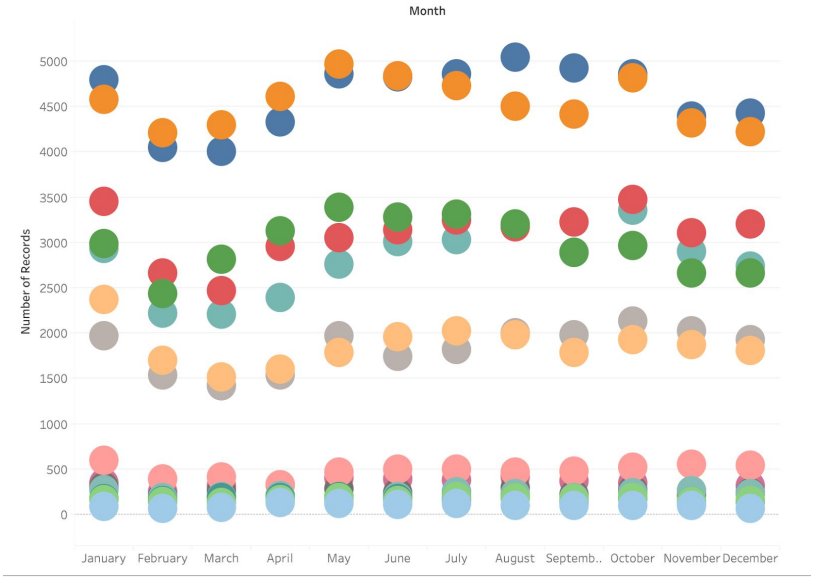

**Sketched or Unused Designs:**






Sheet 4




Sheet 6