



Mayor's Community
Affairs Unit

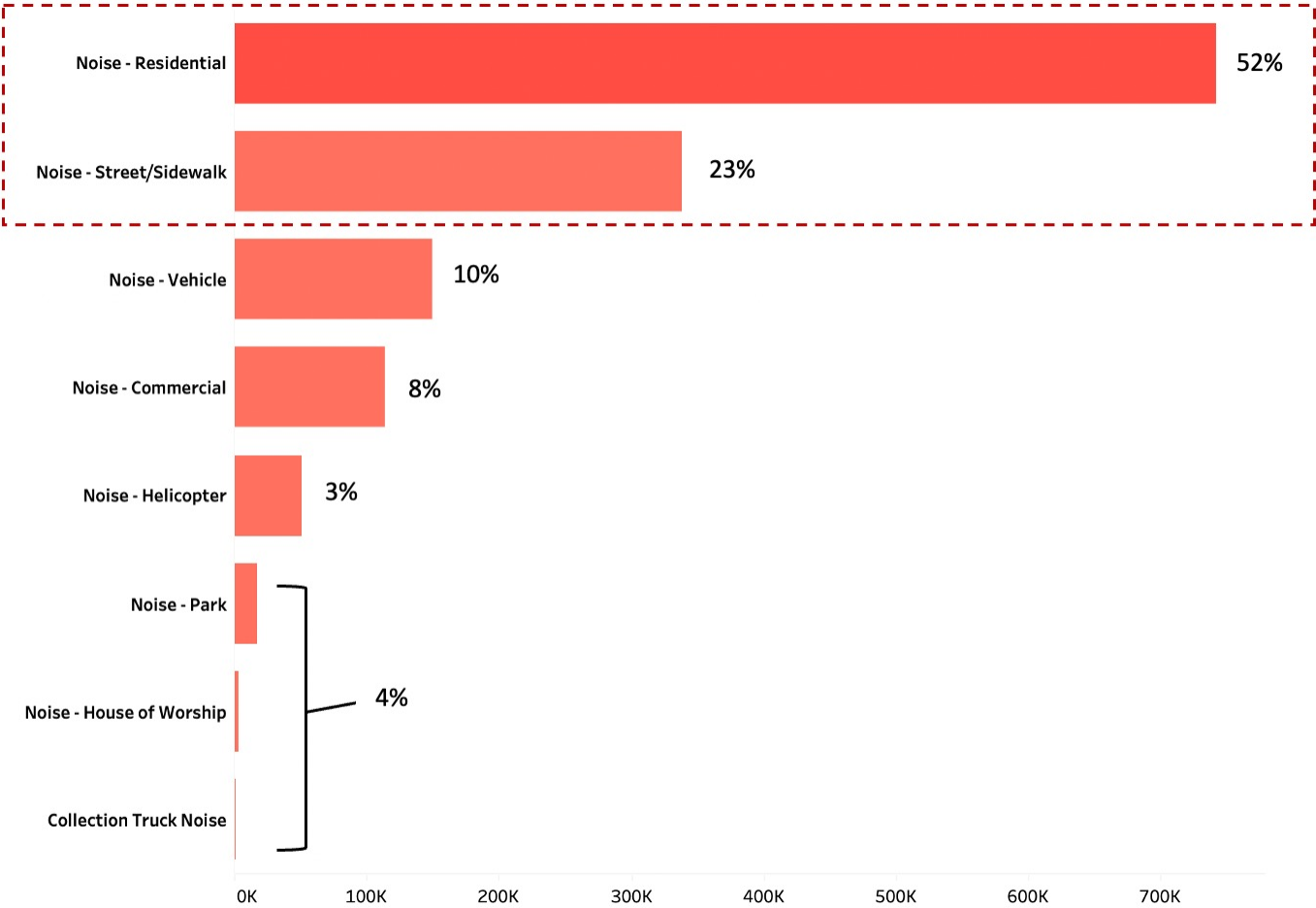
Review of Noise Related Issues in New York City (2019-2022)

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Today's Agenda

1. Learn what types of incidents are causing citizens to complain more often.
2. Know the various hotspots of Noise complaints
3. Understand what times are the noisiest in the city.
4. Learn the outcomes of incident investigations done by NYPD.

Noise from Residential Areas and Streets Account for ~75% of Complaints

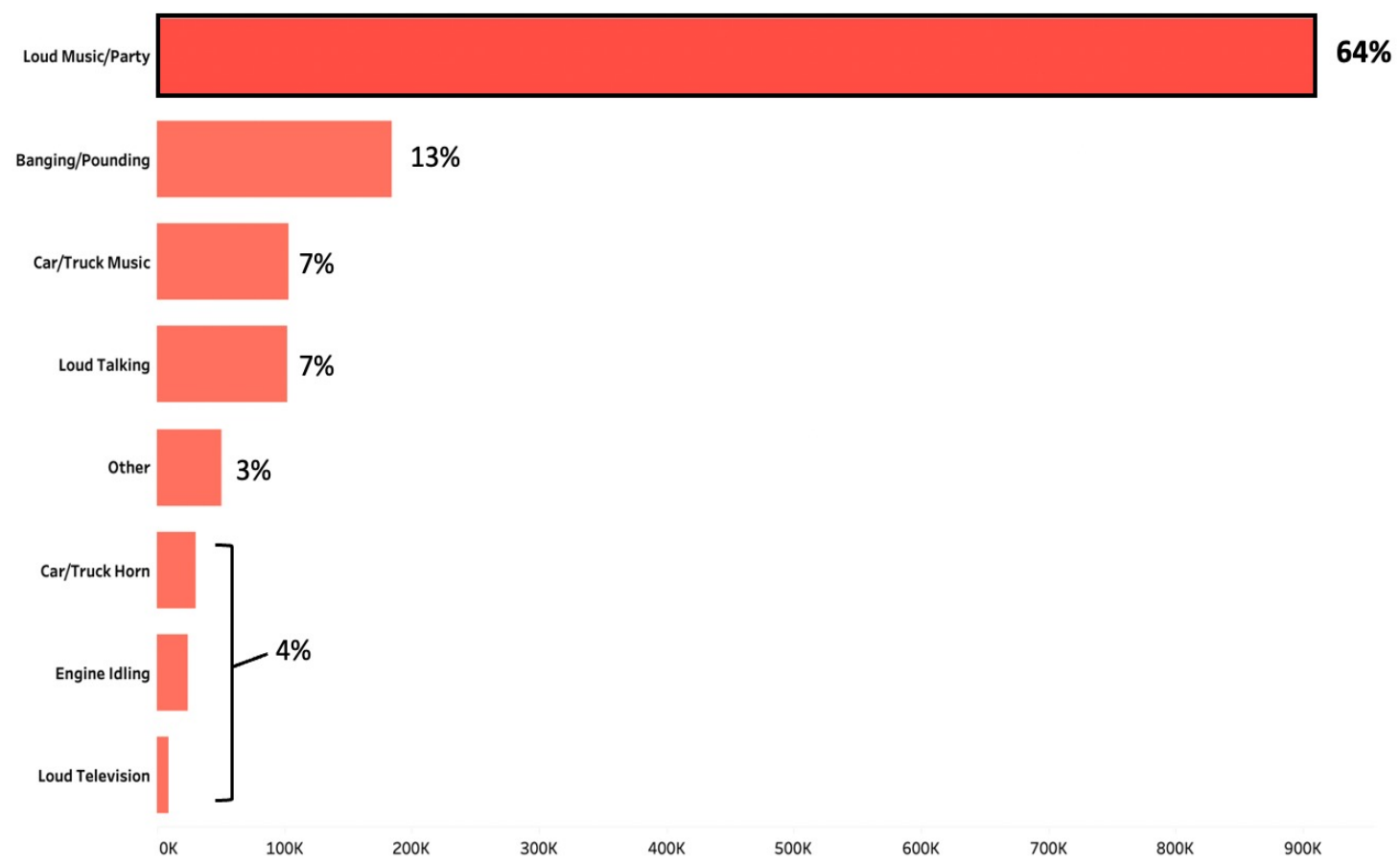


In the last 3 years, Noise from Residential complexes and sidewalks/streets have attracted nearly 1.1 million complaints from citizens (approx. 75% of the total complaints).

In few years, this number is expected to rise to 80%.

Measures like restricting decibel limit around complexes will be helpful to keep noise and complaints in check.

Loud Music from late night parties is the Leading cause for Complaints



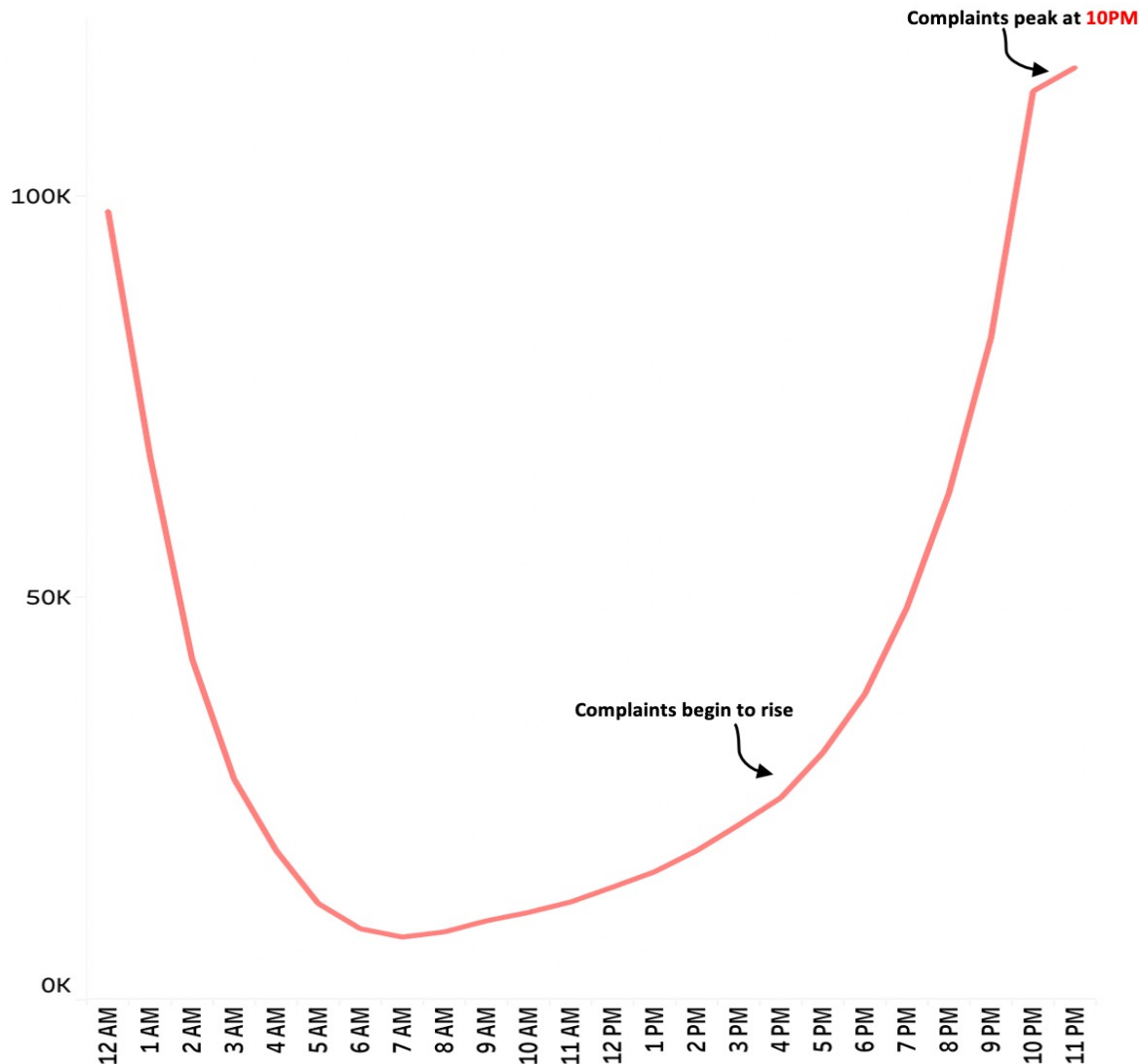
Every 2 out of 3 Noise complaints that the New York Police Department receives, are attributed to noise coming from loud music in late night parties.

This is followed by noise coming from banging and pounding. This is due to construction drilling in residential complexes (*assumed*).

A curb on the sound limit during parties is required. Citizens may be encouraged to party in places like restaurants and clubs.

Construction companies are required to restrict any ongoing site work during non-office hours.

Complaints peak post sunset and wane down before sunrise



According to the sources, complaints rise after 4 PM and fall down during wee hours around 3-4 AM.

This is especially true for late night parties which begin in the evenings and end late nights.

Complaints are likely to stay high even during the nights in the near future if the current situation is not curbed.

Impose decibel limit after sunset. Complete silence hours to be observed between 11PM – 5AM.

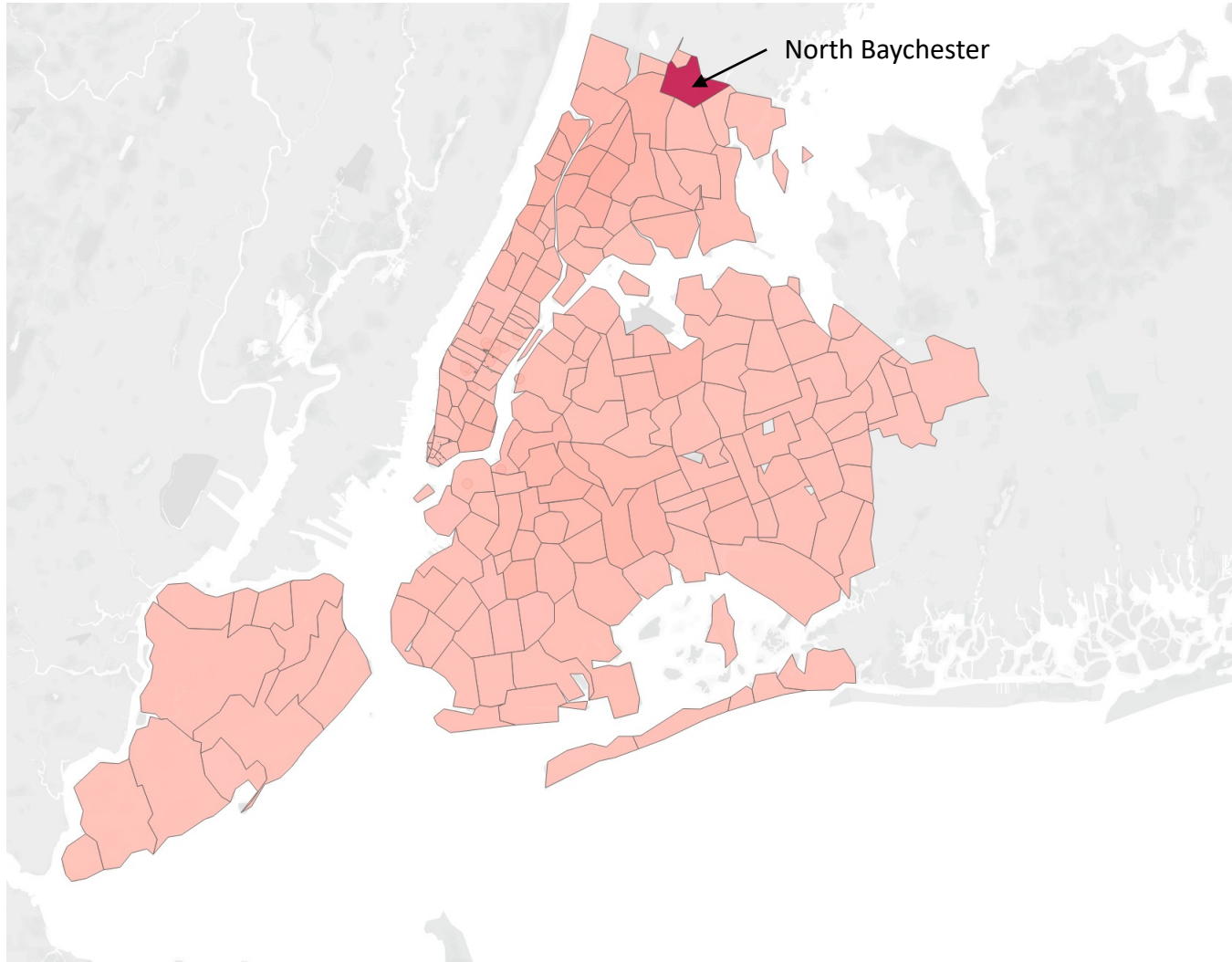
Construction Noise related Complaints rise after sunrise and peak at sunset



For Noise pertaining to Construction, the complaints rise after sunrise and peak by sunset, and they stay high throughout the late evening.

It is recommended to restrict all construction activity after sunset in order to reduce the construction related noise and complaints.

Highest party music noise complaints were recorded at North Baychester Neighborhood



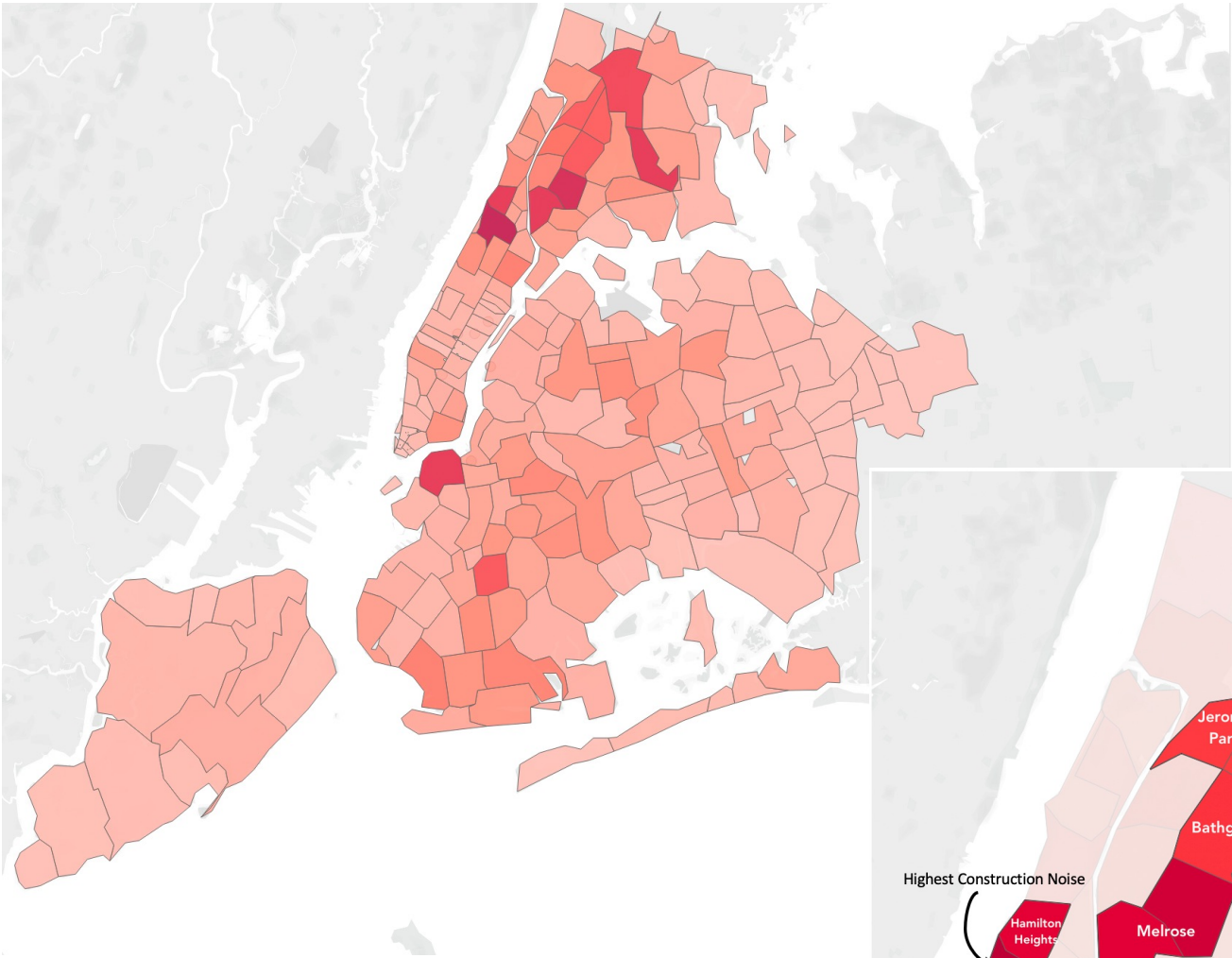
Over 138,000 incidents related to noise coming from loud music & late-night parties were recorded at North Baychester Neighborhood (during the last 3 years).

Other neighborhoods record 10K incidents on an average.

Based on historical records, we do not expect situation to get worse in other neighborhoods.

It is advisable to focus on the North Baychester neighborhood and impose stricter laws to curb the high noise in the neighborhood.

Nearhoods in Bronx & New York have the highest Construction Noise Complaints

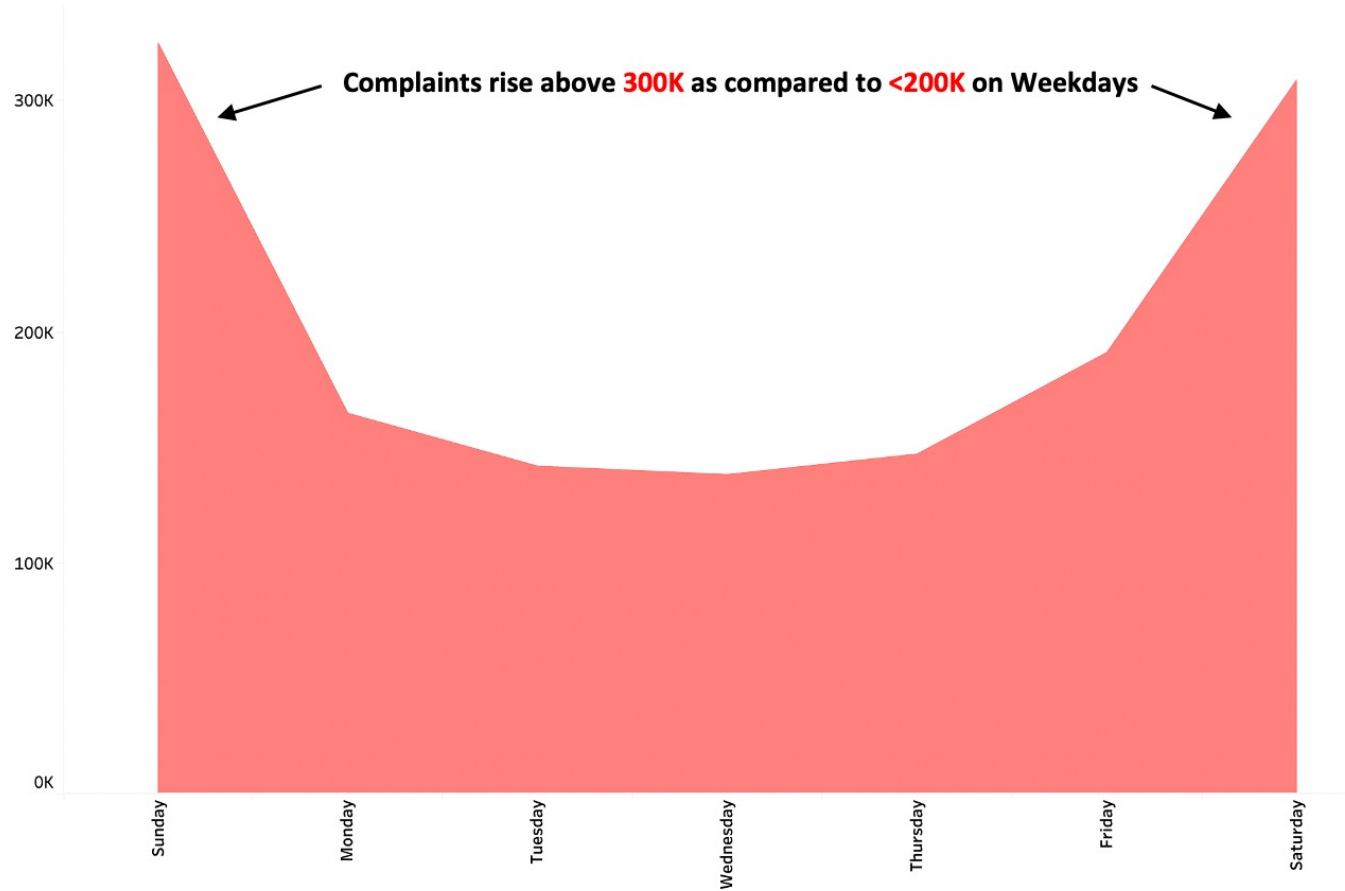


Morningside Heights of New York county & Melrose of Bronx county have the topmost construction noise complaints with approximately 5K incidents reported in the last 3 years. Other neighborhoods report on an average 200-500 incidents.

Based on historical trends it is likely that other neighborhoods in these counties will also start reporting high number of incidents in the near future.



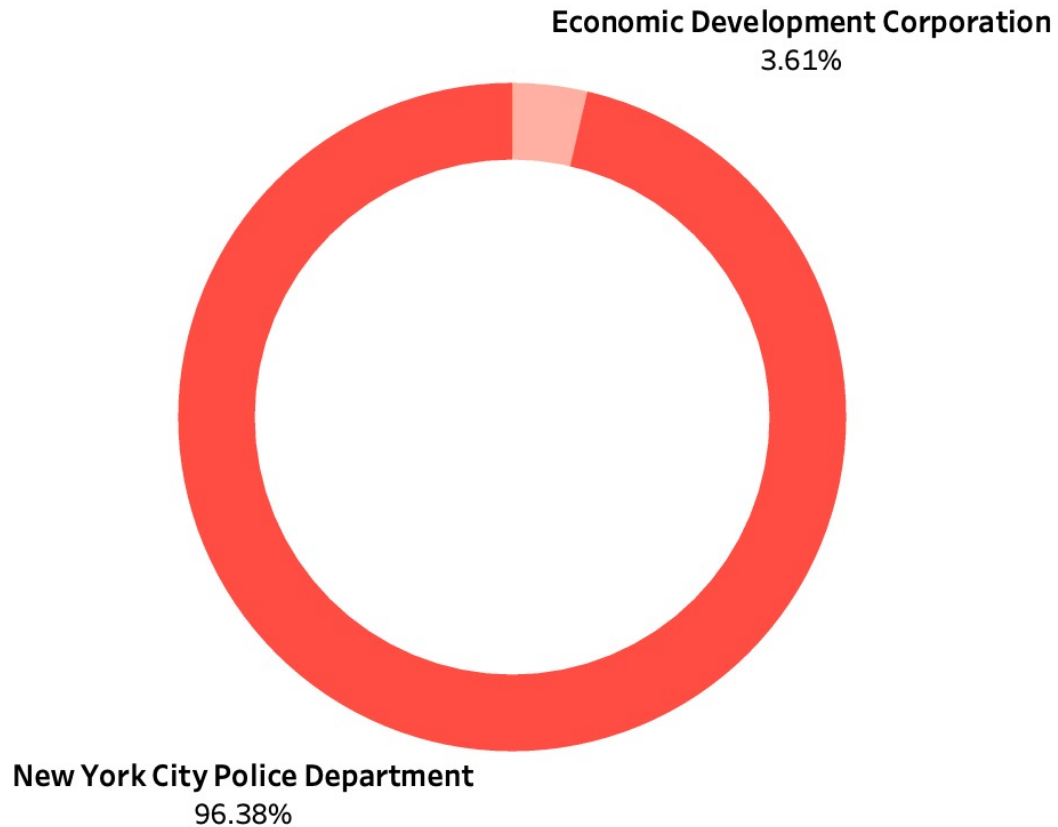
Weekends see the most number of complaints than the rest of the days



Weekends see a spike in average incidents reported, as per sources. Wednesday sees the lowest reporting of incidents while the highest is seen on Sunday.

The spike in incident reporting on weekends may be largely be attributed to weekend late night parties (since weekend is a suitable time to party and most working professionals are at home).

Nearly All of the incidents are reported to **NYPD**

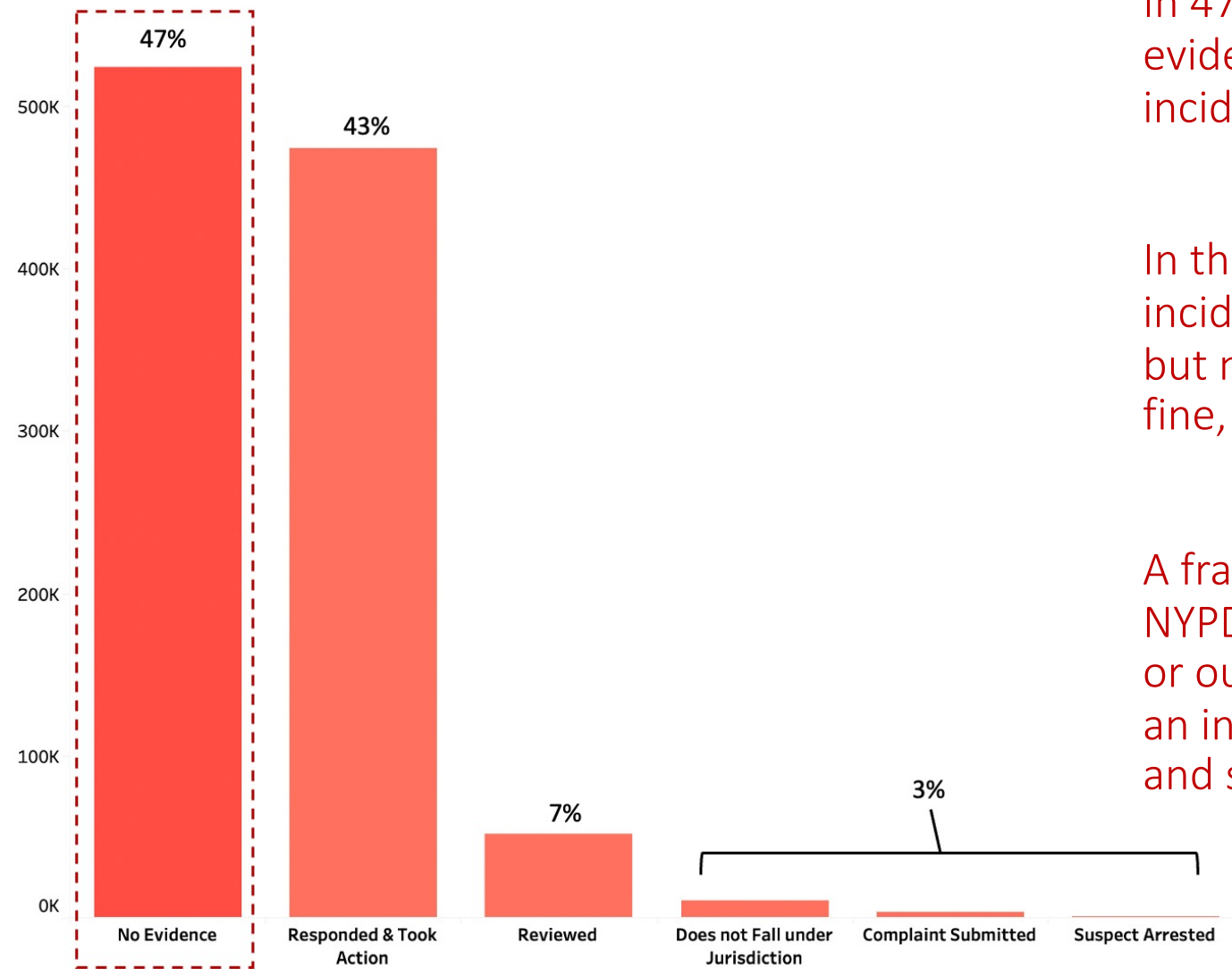


The NYPD receives nearly all of the incidents from Citizens.

It is estimated that within few years the NYPD might get overburdened with incident reports.

It is advised that trivial incidents must be forwarded to the Economic Development Corporation in order to increase the efficiency of the NYPD.

NYPD finds No Evidence in nearly half of the incidents reported

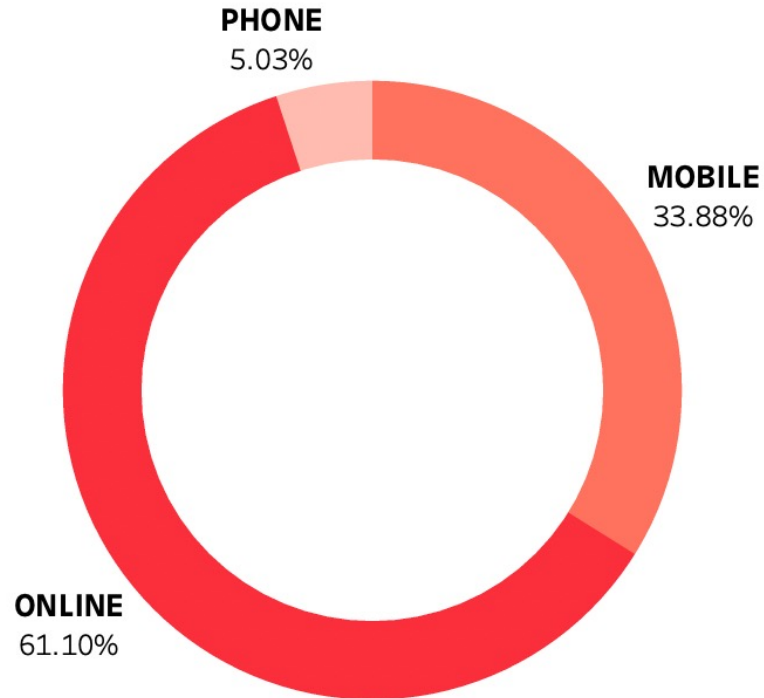


In 47% of the investigations ,NYPD reported that no evidence was found. This is about half a million incidents reported to NYPD.

In the rest of the cases, NYPD took details of the incident and took action to resolve it. This includes but not limited to – arriving at the scene, issuing a fine, filing a chargesheet, etc.

A fraction of the incidents reported were out of NYPD’s Jurisdiction. For those cases that are trivial or out of NYPD’s Jurisdiction, may be forwarded to an intermediate department for initial screening and scrutiny.

Citizens prefer to use NYPD website to report incidents



Citizens report every 2 out of 3 incidents through the New York Police Department website.

We expect that citizens will use the NYPD portal more frequently in the coming time.

Citizens may also be informed of the NYPD hotline and encouraged to use it, if in emergency.

Summary of Recommendations

1. Enforce Sound limit between 10 PM and 6 AM in partying neighborhoods.
2. Restrict construction activities during non-office hours (after sunset and before sunrise).
3. Put stricter measures in worst affected neighborhoods in New York & Bronx Counties
(List will be shared later)
4. Ensure that the incident reports are passed for an initial scrutiny before they are investigated by the NYPD.
5. Encourage the public to use the NYPD hotline to report incidents, if in an emergency.

Works Cited

We thank the following sources that helped us during our analysis:

1. Mapping New York's noisiest neighborhoods
<https://www.newyorker.com/tech/annals-of-technology/mapping-new-york-noise-complaints>
2. Data Source: 311 Service Requests from 2010 to Present
<https://nycopendata.socrata.com/Social-Services/311-Service-Requests-from-2010-to-Present>

Any Doubts/Feedbacks?