

Reporting and Data Visualization

A comprehensive crime analysis database can serve as a foundation for creation of analytical products, such as reports and data visualizations. Using the cleaned and supplemented data from this type of database allows analysts to create ad-hoc analytical products that address common law enforcement questions, such as how many burglaries occurred in a particular area for a specific time period or characteristics of multiple robberies that identify the crimes as a pattern.

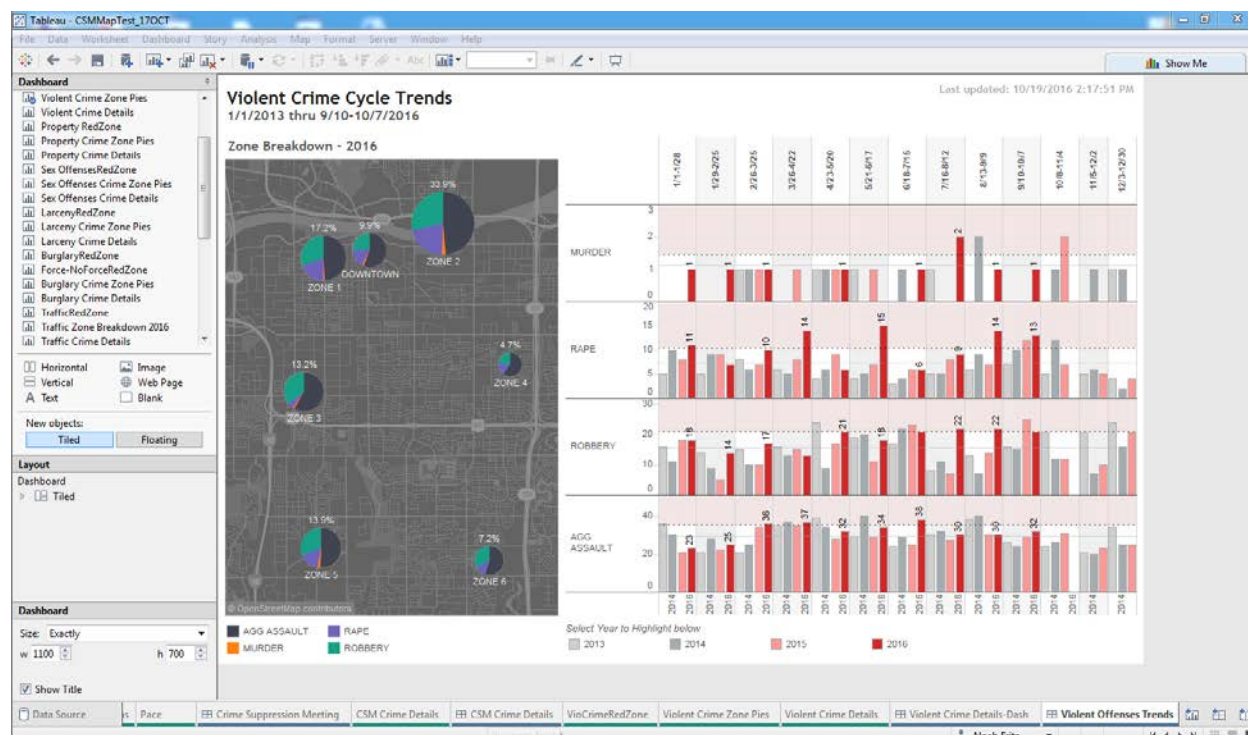


Figure 1: This is an example from the Tempe Police Department that uses Tableau, a popular data visualization tool, to generate statistics for the agency's administrators. The tool connects to the crime analysis database for better-quality data in an optimized structure.

Larger police departments also can benefit from the crime analysis database through the development of automated analytical products in the form of dashboards. These dashboards available through the department's internal systems provide valuable information for actionable decision making. Moreover, the automation of these dashboards frees analysts' time to complete more complex analyses and develop more in-depth analytical products. Examples of various dashboards are available in the toolkit. (See city of Tempe Citywide Crime Trends under the Crime Metrics category in the toolkit.)