

Disclaimer: This data represents all ShotSpotter incidents that were classified as “Gunshots_or_Firecracker”, “Single_Gunshot”, or “Multiple_Gunshots” from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2017. This data may include duplicate incidents or unverified shots that may have occurred outside of official coverage areas. Classifications are assigned by ShotSpotter and represent their assessment of what kind of impulse noise occurred.

MPD began implementing the ShotSpotter system in 2006 and has added sensors and upgraded components of the system at various times. ShotSpotter has also enhanced their ability to distinguish gunshots from other impulse noises. For example, the number of impulse noises coded as gunshots during Independence Day celebrations have significantly decreased over the past four years.

ShotSpotter does not provide coverage for the entire District of Columbia. Official coverage areas are designed by ShotSpotter in conjunction with MPD, to target high population density areas with frequent sounds of gunshots incidents.

A ShotSpotter incident may involve one gunshot or multiple gunshots depending on the time elapsed between each shot. Each incident is given a serial number ID when it occurs.

The Latitude and Longitude of the incidents are rounded to three decimal places due to privacy concerns. This roughly corresponds to a 100 meter resolution.

Data Dictionary:

ID: A unique serial number used to identify incidents.

Type: Classification of the incident assigned by ShotSpotter. Three (3) different classifications indicate that a gunshot may have been detected: “Gunshots_or_Firecracker”, “Single_Gunshot”, and “Multiple_Gunshots”.

Date: The date that the incident was first heard by the ShotSpotter System.

Time: The time that the incident was first heard by the ShotSpotter System.

Source: The source network of sensors that detected the incident. MPD has ShotSpotter coverage in six (6) of its seven (7) police districts. The source networks are divided by MPD police districts.

Latitude: The Latitude of the incident determined by the ShotSpotter System, rounded to three (3) decimal places.

Longitude: The Longitude of the incident determined by the ShotSpotter System, rounded to three (3) decimal places.