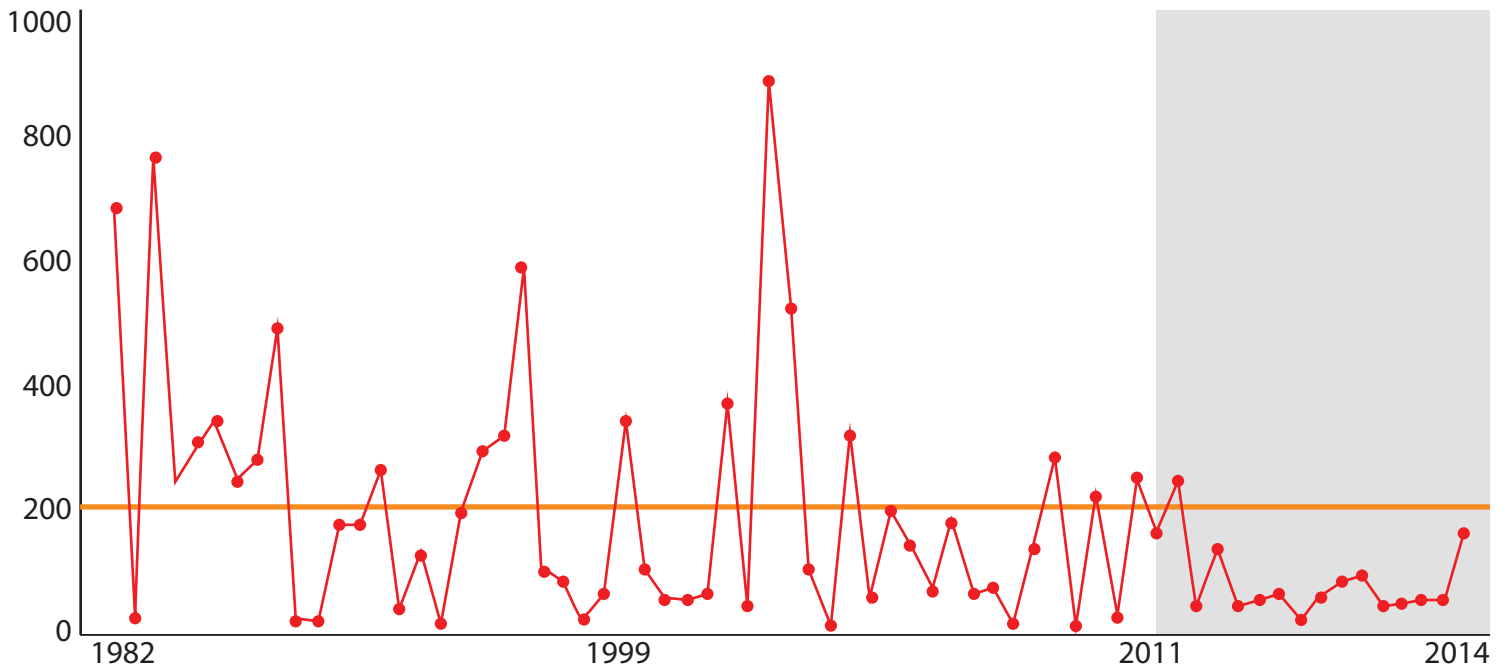


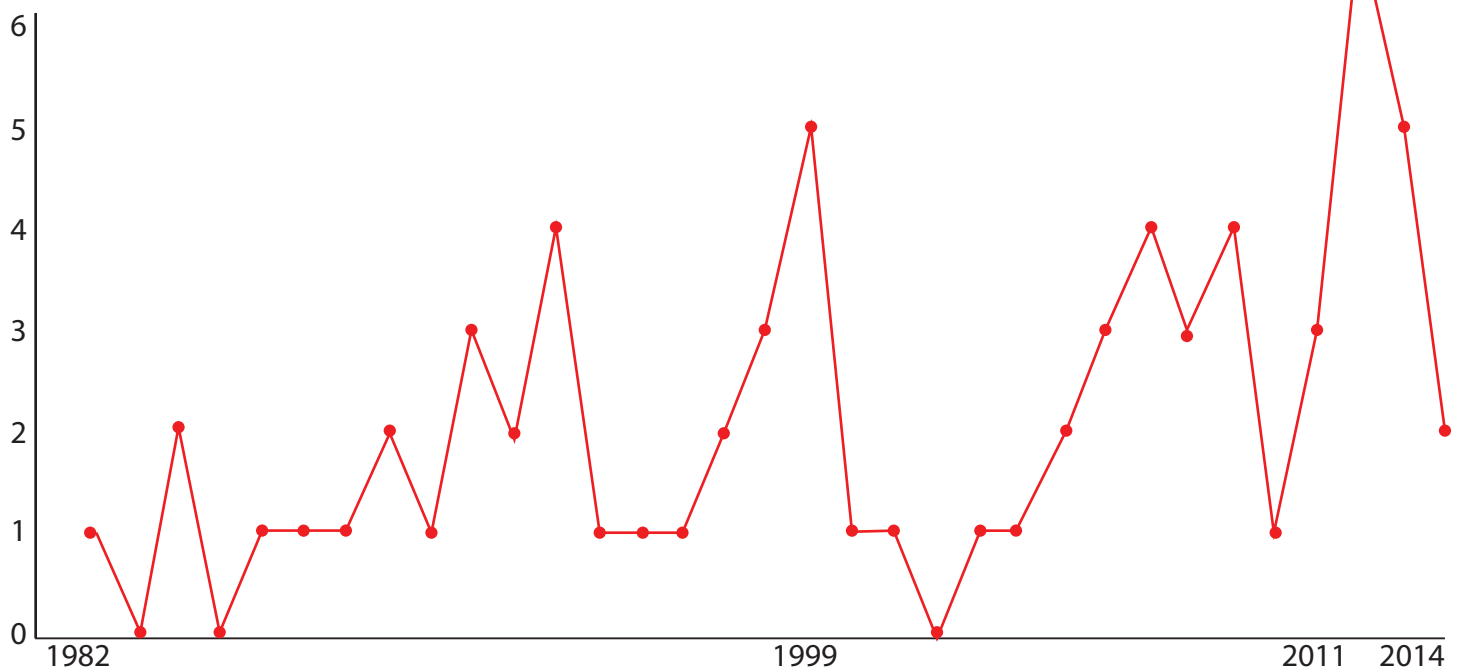
MORE MASS SHOOTING SINCE 2011 ?

“Days since Previous Event” vs. “Number of Mass Shooting Per Year”

Days since Previous Event



Number of Mass Shooting Per Year



Data Source:

“US Mass Shooting, 1982-2014”

Visualization Method:

1. X axis represents mass shooting accidents happened between 1982 and 2014.
2. Y axis represents time interval, number of days, between each event.

Misleading Visualization:

1. The grey areas in the graph highlighted the statistics after 2011, misleading the audiences to focus on the frequency after 2011 while neglecting the fact that more than half of the events happened before 2011 are also below 200 days interval.
2. Having large time interval (1000 days) at the top and small time interval (0 day) at the bottom, the graph represents a fluctuated but overall decreasing trend, which is opposite to the argument that “the events are happening more frequent after 2011” and may mislead the audience to think the frequency is decreasing.
3. The days since previous event uses an orange bar to define the “frequent” vs. “non-frequent” level of event. Nonetheless, the definition is very subjective and the graphic gesture of “orange bar” misleads the audience to think 200 days interval is the definition of frequent event.

“Days since Previous Event” graph misleads audience to the conclusion that more mass shooting events are happening after 2011. In fact, taking “Number of Mass Shooting per Year” graph as reference, main reason leads to the conclusion is because there are a lot of events happening in 2012. But the trend is actually decreasing after 2012.