**Ferguson Unrest**

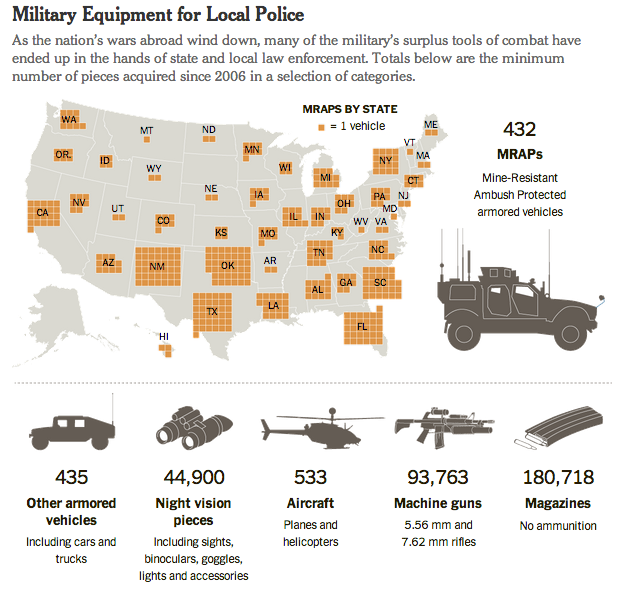
* Protests and riots that resulted from the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, MO



* Shooting occurred Aug. 9, 2014
* Sparked debate about AA/police relations
* Questions about the militarization of police



* Debates about police use of force
* Questions about the role of police



Reaction to Protests

* Police established curfews
* Riot squads maintained order



* Some protests were peaceful
* Others involved looting and violent unrest

August 2014

* Police destroyed a memorial to Michael Brown
* Crowd became angry leading to looting
* Quik Trip was burned



* Tensions continued to mount from Aug. 9-14
* 2 reporters were arrested in a McDonalds



* Some believe that the police attempted to stop the media from reporting from Ferguson
* MO Governor Jay Nixon announced that the state would take over the Ferguson Police
* By Aug. 16 Ferguson was in a “state of emergency”
* National Guard brought in to help restore law and order

Nov. of 2014

* Grand jury would decide whether to indict officer Darren Wilson
* Nov. 24 jury decided to not charge Wilson
* Peaceful protests and rioting ensued



* 170 other US cities had protests

Spring of 2015

* Ferguson police chief Thomas Jackson resigned



* 2 officers were shot outside of a police station
* 20 year old AA male was arrested in connection to the shooting
* Looting increased after the death of Freddie Gray in Baltimore

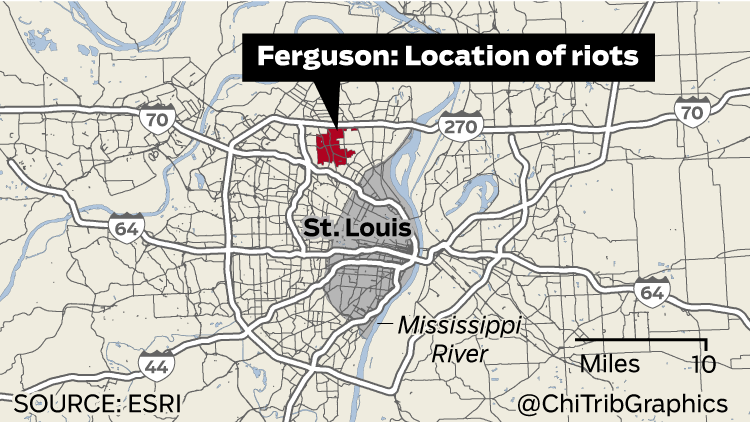


Racial Context

* Long standing distrust between police and citizens in Ferguson
* Many stores that were looted were Asian owned



* 48 of the 53 officers in Ferguson were white
* Ferguson population was 2/3 AA
* Police were twice as likely to arrest AAs during traffic stops
* “Suburbanization of poverty”



* [*Time magazine*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_(magazine)) argued that "Blacks in this country are more apt to riot because they are one of the populations here who still need to…”
* Thoughts?
* What about other minority groups?