

INFO 659 – Project Proposal

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Exploring Fatalities & Risk Factors in Shootings

This project is aimed to investigate patterns in shooting incidents reported in Philadelphia using a dataset obtained from OpenDataPhilly, which includes detailed records of firearm-related events, such as the location, date, time, victim demographics, officer involvement, wound location, and outcomes like injury or fatality.

The goal is to uncover underlying relationships and trends in the data, with a particular focus on factors contributing to fatal outcomes.

Key questions driving this research include: Are shootings more likely to be fatal when an officer is involved? What body part injuries are most associated with fatal outcomes? Which age groups are most affected by fatal shootings? To address these, we will conduct exploratory data analysis to determine correlations and potential causal links.

Geospatial analyses could also be employed to draw maps and detect any patterns in the distribution of incidents. The findings can be aimed to inform public safety discussions and help identify areas for attention or community safety. This project used publicly available data to support data-driven approaches to understanding and potentially reducing the impact of gun violence in urban environments.

Link to DataSet: <https://opendataphilly.org/datasets/shooting-victims/>