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| **Mijente & ACLU Mass - Police in Massachusetts state politics** | |
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| Organization | Mijente [and ACLU Mass] |
| Organization Description | Mijente is a political home for Latinx and Chicanx people who seek racial, economic, gender and climate justice.  The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Massachusetts is a state affiliate of the national ACLU. A private, nonpartisan organization with more than 82,000 supporters across the Commonwealth and over 100,000 online activists, we defend the principles enshrined in the Massachusetts Declaration of Rights, as well as the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. |
| Project Type | Data Science |
| Project Description | Collecting financial contributions of police officers and police affiliated unions to Massachusetts state level politicians and non-Boston mayors and city councilors to study the influence of police in MA politics. The political contributions data will be sourced from the state OCPF data and police will be separated out using their Occupation and Employer fields. We will summarize top donors, top recipients, and leaders of legislative committees as visualizations - bar charts, heat maps, etc.  The second part of the analysis will involve comparing plurality People of color\* cities in MA using census tract data on demographics and examining the police contributions to their mayors and city councilors. Across MA cities we want to specifically compare police department donations per capita calculated as the number of contributions divided by the total officers in that department.  *\* People of color include any non white race categorization in the US Census. Hispanic, Asian, Black, Native American, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Mixed race, etc.* |
| Data Sets | Data sets include:   * [OCPF Campaign contributions](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u3PoVHwKBWG-O2RAft3Kx4UoOt6vOApB/view?usp=sharing) * [Current MA State Senators](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ab9NzxiFHY016ch6_VcaUMedjI_mCaLj/view?usp=sharing) * [Current MA House Representatives](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dTGj2CJec4F7K4SheRYDwRKETp1tM3XD/view?usp=sharing) * [Census tract data across MA](https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=DP05&g=0400000US25,25.140000_0500000US25019.140000_8600000US02126&tid=ACSDP5Y2017.DP05&hidePreview=true) - needs to be collected from here for all of MA * [CPF IDs of MA candidates and politicians](https://www.ocpf.us/Filers/Index) |
| Approach | **Step one:** Collect Census tract data across top 5 MA counties and sort out plurality POC cities. Cities to be sorted out based off their definitions in relation to counties here:  **Step two:** Filter out state executive office holders by their CPF IDs on the master OCPF dataset and combine this with the current state legislators and summarize their top donors, which of them were the top recipients of police contributions. Create visualizations from the summaries.  **Step three:** Focus on committee leaders in the state legislature specifically the Judiciary, Public safety, and conference committee and how much their leaders and members received from police. Create visualizations of the summary here too.  **Step four:** From the filtered plurality POC cities find their mayors and city councilors then examine police contributions to these political figures compared to white majority city mayors and council members.  **Step five:** Summarize the data from step four as a geographic visualization for total police contributions. Also make a geographic visualization comparing the police department donations per capita. |
| Questions to be answered | * After identifying the plurality POC cities, are there any statistically significant differences amongst those cities’ city office holders and those of white majority cities in police donations? * Who are the top donors to state level officials and city officials across MA? * Which office holders are the top recipients of police in total contribution amount and as a percentage of all their contributions? * How do police department donations per capita vary across MA? |
| Additional Information | **Tools and Methods**  Data is already collected and pre-processed for use under the OCPF data, the students will just need to run the analysis and visualizations for the state level public office holders such as state senators and state representatives. They will have to collect all the information for other city officials and state executive office holders  For data processing use Pandas in python.  For data visualizations use - Tableau (free student license available), Matplotlib, Bokeh (interactive python visualizations), and Seaborn  TBD on client availability |