Checkpoint #1: Findings

What percentage of misconduct allegations are filed by police officers?

The percentage of allegations filed by police officers is about 6.22 percent. This means that a majority of allegations are from civilians. However, while this percentage is small, there are still 13444 allegations filed by police officers which is not a trivial number.

What is the percentage of officers who resign after 2 years after receiving allegation reports made by another officer? Normalized with the rate of how many officers resign after civilian complaints - something like (% officers who resign 1yr after civilian complaint) / (% officers who resign 1yr after civilian complaint) % officers who resign 1yr after any complaint

From our query 2-1, the raw percentage of officers who resign after 2 years after receiving allegation reports made by another officer is approximately 9.59%. This suggests that 1 in 10 officers after receiving a complaint from another officer will resign in 2 years, although this might not be a causal relationship. In comparison, from our query 2-2, approximately 6.48% of officers resign in 2 years after receiving a civilian-filed complaint. The ratio between these 2 numbers is approximately 1.48.

This means that there is a difference between the 2-year resignation rate between officers after civilian-filed complaints and officer-filed complaints. The ratio suggests that the officers after 2 years receiving the officer-filed complaint will be 1.48 times more likely to resign than those with the civilian-filed complaint. These statistics support our initial hypothesis about this question that officer-filed complaints can have heavier effects than civilian complaints. This in turn can lead to officers being more likely to resign as the statistics suggest. However, these numbers cannot prove the causation relationship between officer-filed complaints and resignation rates. Still, they are still evidence of a correlation between the two. Further analysis will need to be conducted for the causation relationship hypothesis.

What is the average age of officers when they have a complaint filed against them by another officer? (compared to civilian complaints)

The average age of an officer when a complaint is filed against them by another officer is 41.44 years old. This is 3 years higher than the average age of officers when they have a civilian complaint filed against them, which is 38.20 years old. There are likely many factors involved, and many potential explanations. One hypothesis is that these complaints are more often filed against older, more senior officers by younger

officers with limited sources of recourse, while the older senior officers have other ways to discipline their coworkers. More information is needed to draw any conclusions.

What is the percentage of the complaints filed by officers that involve the use of force/firearms? For comparison, what is the percentage of the complaints filed by civilians that involve use of force/firearms?

Based on our query, the percentage of complaints filed by officers involving a firearm was 3.22 percent. For civilian-filed complaints, this percentage goes up slightly to 3.36. Our original idea was that police officers might be more likely to report each other for certain kinds of misconduct, especially in scenarios involving firearms, but these results do not provide any evidence for that hypothesis.