

Reveance police race and identity based data use of force*

**A Look Into Excluding the impact of social status and human rights, whether
race directly affect the occurrence of violent incidents?**

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As a city with a significant influx of population, Toronto has immigrants making up more than half of its population, and this is related to the city's persistently high crime rate. Many articles illustrate that ethnic diversity is one of the factors contributing to the high crime rate, but considering the complexity of society as a whole, it's difficult to definitively say that race leads to violence. This paper, by further collecting data from the Open Data Portal of the City of Toronto, aims to analyze the relevance between the quote and data.

```
packagedata <- search_packages("race")
toronto_gender <-
  list_package_resources("police-race-and-identity-based-data-use-of-force") |>
  filter(name ==
    "Gender Composition") |>
  get_resource()
write_csv(
  x = toronto_gender,
  file = "toronto_gender.csv"
)
knitr::kable(toronto_gender, "latex", booktabs = TRUE) %>%
  kableExtra::kable_styling(font_size = 7)

head(toronto_gender)
```

*Code and data are available at: <https://github.com/MaEasonH/Statut3.git>

_id	Type_of_Incident	Gender_of_People_Involved	Perceived_Race_of_People_Involv	Incident_Count	ObjectId
1	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Women	Black	11	1
2	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Women	East/Southeast Asian	2	2
3	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Women	Indigenous	NA	3
4	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Women	Latino	2	4
5	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Women	Middle Eastern	1	5
6	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Women	South Asian	2	6
7	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Women	White	24	7
8	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Women	Multiple race group	3	8
9	Enforcement Action Incidents	Women	Black	3857	9
10	Enforcement Action Incidents	Women	East/Southeast Asian	1392	10
11	Enforcement Action Incidents	Women	Indigenous	595	11
12	Enforcement Action Incidents	Women	Latino	390	12
13	Enforcement Action Incidents	Women	Middle Eastern	655	13
14	Enforcement Action Incidents	Women	South Asian	943	14
15	Enforcement Action Incidents	Women	White	8812	15
16	Enforcement Action Incidents	Women	Multiple race group	2610	16
17	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Men	Black	247	17
18	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Men	East/Southeast Asian	38	18
19	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Men	Indigenous	23	19
20	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Men	Latino	12	20
21	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Men	Middle Eastern	26	21
22	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Men	South Asian	42	22
23	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Men	White	250	23
24	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Men	Multiple race group	95	24
25	Enforcement Action Incidents	Men	Black	14136	25
26	Enforcement Action Incidents	Men	East/Southeast Asian	3977	26
27	Enforcement Action Incidents	Men	Indigenous	1306	27
28	Enforcement Action Incidents	Men	Latino	1423	28
29	Enforcement Action Incidents	Men	Middle Eastern	3156	29
30	Enforcement Action Incidents	Men	South Asian	3381	30
31	Enforcement Action Incidents	Men	White	24082	31
32	Enforcement Action Incidents	Men	Multiple race group	8603	32
33	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Black	29	33
34	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	East/Southeast Asian	3	34
35	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Indigenous	NA	35
36	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Latino	NA	36
37	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Middle Eastern	1	37
38	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	South Asian	2	38
39	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	White	20	39
40	Reported Use of Force Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Multiple race group	56	40
41	Enforcement Action Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Black	1314	41
42	Enforcement Action Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	East/Southeast Asian	436	42
43	Enforcement Action Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Indigenous	71	43
44	Enforcement Action Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Latino	160	44
45	Enforcement Action Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Middle Eastern	241	45
46	Enforcement Action Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	South Asian	330	46
47	Enforcement Action Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	White	2030	47
48	Enforcement Action Incidents	Mixed Gender Group	Multiple race group	2620	48

```
# A tibble: 6 x 6
  `id` Type_of_Incident      Gender_of_People_Inv~1 Perceived_Race_of_Pe~2
  <int> <chr>              <chr>                  <chr>
1     1 1 Reported Use of Force Inc~ Women      "Black "
2     2 2 Reported Use of Force Inc~ Women      "East/Southeast Asian~
3     3 3 Reported Use of Force Inc~ Women      "Indigenous "
4     4 4 Reported Use of Force Inc~ Women      "Latino "
5     5 5 Reported Use of Force Inc~ Women      "Middle Eastern "
6     6 6 Reported Use of Force Inc~ Women      "South Asian "
# i abbreviated names: 1: Gender_of_People_Involved,
#   2: Perceived_Race_of_People_Involv
# i 2 more variables: Incident_Count <int>, ObjectId <int>
```

1 Introduction

As a city with a significant influx of population, Toronto has immigrants making up more than half of its population, and this is related to the city's persistently high crime rate. Many articles illustrate that ethnic diversity is one of the factors contributing to the high crime rate, but considering the complexity of society as a whole, it's difficult to definitively say that race leads to violence.[@owen2014nigeria] This paper, by further collecting data from the Open Data Portal of the City of Toronto, aims to analyze the problem and trends by visualizing data related to the least violent profession, police, and its association with violence.[@citeODT]

2 Variables

This data set is divided into four different categories: Type of Incident, Gender of People Involved, Perceived Race of People Involved, and Incident Count. The Type of Incident is used to determine whether the violence was recorded by someone else or used in an enforcement action. Since our focus is on the role of the police and whether the use of force is reactive or proactive does not affect the data analysis, this will be cleaned out later. Gender represents the gender of the police officer involved, and like the previous, will not be referenced. Race and Count, as the most crucial data points for discussion, will be more explicitly laid out.

3 Relevance

This quote raises a significant concern about the relationship between data interpretation and human rights, emphasizing the inherent risk of selectively using data to reinforce existing societal biases and prejudices. Historically, various situations involving minimal or misunderstood data have been used to justify the oppression and marginalization of specific groups.

This practice not only compromises the objectivity of the data but also poses a severe threat to fundamental human rights principles. For instance, data obtained from the Toronto database, ostensibly for studying the frequency of police violence and its potential direct correlation with race, can be misused. Conversely, this data might be employed to assert that certain races inherently possess more violent tendencies, leading to erroneous perceptions about specific ethnic groups. This misinterpretation could result in severe human rights issues, as it fosters discrimination and perpetuates harmful stereotypes.

Suppose this database contains data on incidents of police violence, and preliminary analysis suggests that a particular racial or gender group appears to be more frequently subjected to police violence. If these data lack sufficient context and in-depth analysis, they might be misused to support views that are racially or gender-biased. Such an interpretation not only overlooks the potentially complex reasons behind the data, such as socio-economic conditions, regional differences, or varying law enforcement strategies, but it could also exacerbate prejudices and unfair treatment toward specific groups.

Moreover, interpretations based on such weak data could be used to justify discriminatory policies, further exacerbating social inequality. Therefore, when handling this kind of sensitive data, we must remain vigilant to avoid conclusions that could worsen social inequality and infringe upon human rights. This requires data analysts and decision-makers to adopt a comprehensive, objective approach in interpreting the data, considering all possible explanations and the impacts these interpretations may have on society and specific groups.

In summary, the handling and interpretation of data must be done carefully and responsibly, especially when it can reinforce longstanding, harmful societal biases. The proper management and interpretation of data are crucial for maintaining fairness and upholding human rights.

4 Conclusion

Human rights are based on treating everyone equally and with respect. When data analysis supports racial prejudice or unfair treatment, it goes against these important principles. For example, with the Toronto database, if the data wrongly points to some races being more violent, it can make racial problems worse. This could lead to unfair treatment of people because of their race. Such misuse of data can change how society sees these groups and may lead to biased government policies and police actions, which is not fair and goes against human rights.