Data Analytics – DA3 Cohort Capstone Project Proposal

Does mental illnesses or racial prejudices affect whether or not

Nationwide protests over police accountability and racial justice have reenergized longstanding efforts [to fundamentally change](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/06/15/mental-illness-is-health-issue-not-police-issue/)how police departments respond to emergencies. I will examine a dataset of United States police involved killings from 2000- 2016 to determine if age, mental illness, or racial prejudices may have played a role in these police interactions where force was used.

I. Risk and Threat - is force applied at different rates in diff regions of the country?

First, examine police interaction event variables to determine if non-lethal / lethal force is applied at different percentages in certain regions of the country

II. Age, Race or Mental Illness -

Second, assess whether lethal force is applied differently by police officers, giving rise to a disproportionate rate of deaths among racial or ethnic minority groups, gender, or those with mental illnesses.

III. Police Department Trends

Third, look for any trends whether certain police departments have a higher percentage of interactions where lethal force was used

Dataset Resources:

Police Fatalities: <https://data.world/awram/us-police-involved-fatalities/workspace/file?filename=z_old_data.csv>

State Census Information:

<https://data.world/aaronhoffman/census-gov-state-quickfacts/workspace/file?filename=census_state_quickfacts.csv>

Regions data

https://github.com/cphalpert/census-regions.githttps://github.com/cphalpert/census-regions