

US Police Shootings Dashboard Report

Prepared by: Prince Amoako Atta

Tool Used: Microsoft Excel

Project Title: Police Shooting - Capstone Project

Dataset Context:

This dashboard analyzes police shootings across the United States with a focus on uncovering patterns and insights related to demographic factors, fleeing status, threat levels, and potential racial disparities. The dataset includes details such as name, age, gender, race, mental illness indications, weapon use, threat perception, and more.

1. Key Insights Summary

- **Total Shootings Recorded:** 4,895
 - **Average Age of Individuals:** 37 years
 - **States Covered:** 51
 - **Cases Involving Mental Illness:** 1,103 incidents
-

2. Shooting Trends

- **Monthly Distribution:**
Shootings peak in March (503) and February (462), with a general downward trend from April to December. December records the lowest number at 345.
 - **Top States by Shooting Incidents:**
 - California (CA): 701
 - Texas (TX): 426
 - Florida (FL): 324These three states alone account for over 29% of total incidents.
-

3. Demographic Insights

- **Gender Distribution:**
 - Male victims significantly dominate the dataset.
- **Race-Based Statistics:**
 - **White:** 2,476 (50.6%)
 - **Black:** 1,298 (26.5%)
 - **Hispanic:** 902 (18.4%)
 - Other races have relatively fewer cases.

- Despite being minorities, Black and Hispanic individuals represent a disproportionately high share relative to national demographics.
 - **Average Age by Race:**
Age distributions are fairly consistent across races, averaging in the early-to-mid 30s.
-

4. Fleeing and Threat Levels

- **Fleeing Status:**
 - 3,073 individuals were **not fleeing** during the encounter.
 - The remaining incidents involved fleeing by car (820), on foot (642), or other methods (360).
 - **Fleeing by Mental Illness:**
 - Individuals with mental illness were more likely to **not flee** (904 cases) compared to fleeing on foot or by car.
 - **Threat Level Perceived:**
 - **Undetermined:** 3,160 cases (65%)
 - **Attack:** 1,528 cases (31%)
 - A very small percentage (4%) fell under “Other.”
-

5. Use of Body Cameras

- **Body Cam Usage:**
 - In 88% of the cases (4,317), officers were **not** wearing body cameras.
 - Only 12% of the incidents (578) had body cam footage, raising transparency concerns.
-

6. Death Manner

- Most victims were shot, with an additional smaller subset being both **shot and tasered**, indicating a combination of lethal and non-lethal force in certain cases.
-

7. Interactive Filtering Capabilities

The dashboard includes dynamic filters for:

- **Date** (by month and year)
- **Gender**
- **Mental Illness status**

- **Manner of death**

These filters allow users to slice the data for more detailed exploration and insight development.

Conclusion

This dashboard provides a comprehensive visual representation of US police shootings. It highlights potential racial disparities, limited use of body cameras, and a significant number of mentally ill individuals affected. The data indicates a need for deeper investigations into the protocols and biases in law enforcement practices. Further policy and transparency measures may be necessary to address systemic concerns raised through this analysis.