

Checkpoint 2 Analysis

The Freedom Donkeys

Q1: What is the relationship between the number of officers disciplined in each category of allegation for police/civilian reports?

With our two pie charts, we explored what allegation categories officers were reprimanded for when a civilian reports them versus an officer. Using this data, we try to observe if there is a difference between what allegations are disciplined and if it depends on whether or not a civilian filed the complaint.

Based on our charts, you can see that several of the largest categories for both police and civilian complaints match up. As such, if you pull up the Tableau files, you'll see that the four largest categories (Operation/Personnel Violations, Use Of Force, Conduct Unbecoming, Lockup Procedures) are approximately the same for both sides. Thus, you can potentially gather that there are officers filing complaints who have the same mindset that the civilians do; they recognize some of the corruption that is present within the CPD. However, since we are using the allegation category instead of the allegation name, we lose a lot of potential data or correlations there.

In the future, we might be able to look at the data allegations instead, but we would not be able to use a pie chart due to the overwhelming amount of allegation names. We would need to explore other chart types to find one that can handle a significant amount of nominal values while still allowing for a succinct comparison between civilian and officer complaints.

Q2: How does the number of officer disciplines change for each area (per 1000 people) in Chicago for civilian/police allegations?

For this question, we wanted to gain insight into whether more allegations tend to appear in certain areas for both civilian and police allegations. The data shows that for civilian allegations AND for police allegations, area_id 1549(district 1) has the largest number of disciplines per capita. This area also happens to be one of the wealthier areas of Chicago, where the average household income is much higher than everywhere else. This may contribute to more civilian disciplines because police may respond to these civilian allegations more seriously than anywhere else. An alternative explanation is that the population of these areas is relatively low compared to the rest of Chicago. However, there is still a much larger number of people who work in this area and would be around district 1 for other reasons other than living there, which would mean the population data is misrepresenting how bad this area is.

It is difficult to determine why the police disciplines are also highest in that area. Unfortunately, we could not use the information on where police units were deployed to divide the disciplines of police allegations by the police presence in a given area. This is because the police units information does not match up with the civilian areas mapped out using the data_area table. For future developments, we should try to divide the police disciplines from police allegations by the number of officers deployed to a given area. This would require us to use data_policebeat to find out which beat officers are associated with, and then we can use the area_id foreign key to find where officers are deployed.