Data 608

Final Project

Fall 2020

CCRB Complaint Dashboard

My desire for this project came from the recent repeal of NYS law 50A, which allowed for police misconduct records to finally be available to the public. The NYPD especially has a long history of misconduct and the recent release of this data seems to suggest wide spread misconduct across the city. For this dashboard, I focus on police precincts in the Bronx. NYCLU was able to access the entire history of complaints filed since the founding of the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) and has released them to the public. The NYCLU GitHub for this data is located here. The file details the name, rank, shield number, precinct of the offending officer as well the allegation type, the CCRB disposition of the case, and the final penalty.

Why is this important? We need transparency for the people who work in law enforcement. The tactics the NYPD have used of the years are routinely been shown to be illegal and city pays out millions in civil settlements for police misconduct each year. Understanding the depth and breathe of NYPD misconduct is essential for reshaping the system in such a way that police are more helpful and responsive to the community, rather than a constant harassment.

The biggest limitation of the data is that we don't the full context of the police- civilian interaction. What caused this interaction? Who were the people involved? What are the demographics of the people who filed a misconduct complaint? Having more insight into who is making complaints and how police are being deployed across the city would result in a much richer understanding of how these complaints came about.

Notes:

All code, data cleaning, and documentation located in the attached zip file.

The data visual can be found at https://ccrb-data-vis.herokuapp.com/main_pres