



Prior to the Invisible Institute's litigation, information about police abuse in Chicago was hidden behind a wall of official secrecy and anonymity. Today, police misconduct files are open to the public.

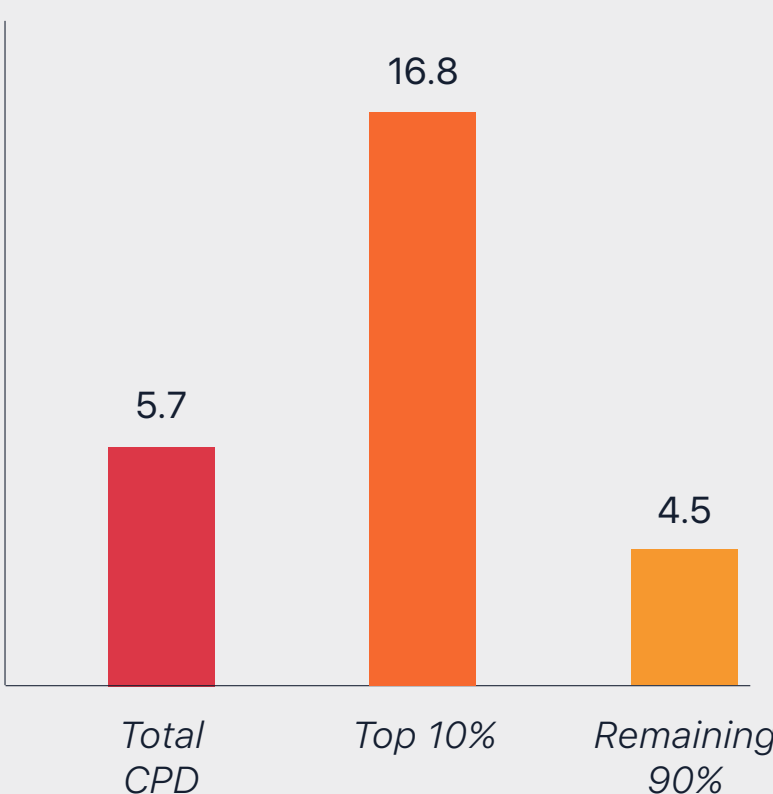
Transparency is not, however, self-executing; it is up to us to realize its potential. To that end, we are developing a collaborative publication and an interactive data tool focused on police misconduct. This is the Chicago Police Data Project.

[Read more about where the data is coming from →](#)



Between 2001 and 2015, over 100,000 allegations of abuse were filed against CPD officers.

95.05% were *unsustained*.



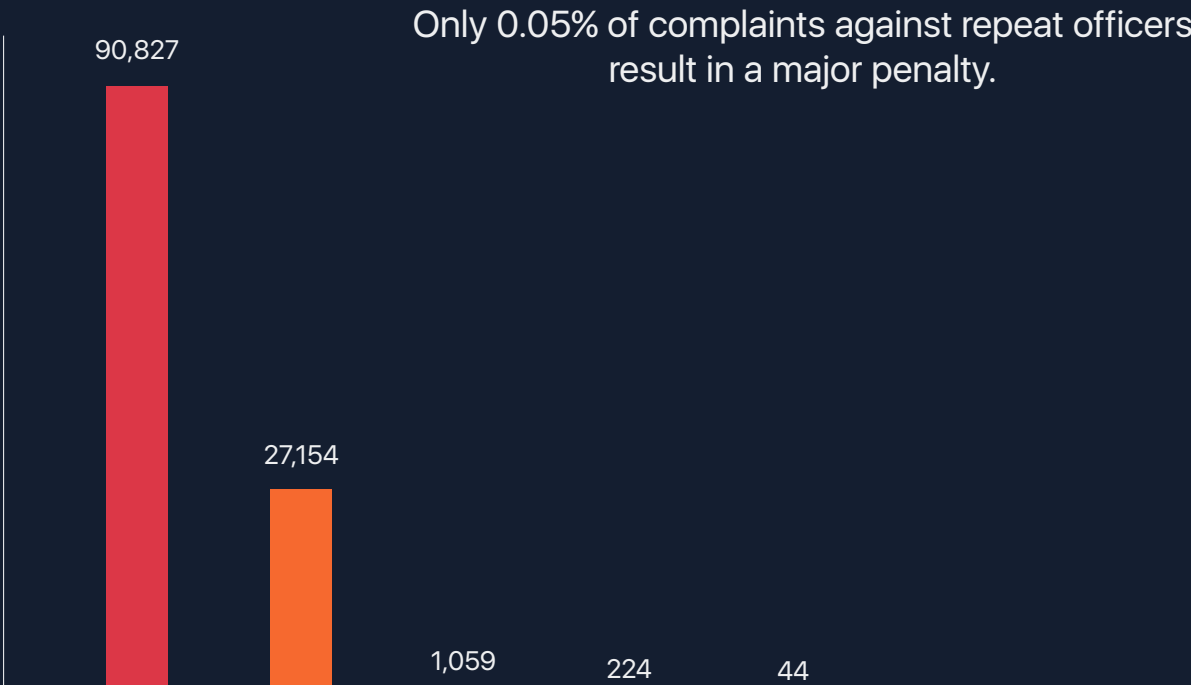
"Repeat" officers comprise 10% of officers but receive 30% of all complaints.

Currently, the CPD does not analyse its own complaints data. A high number of complaints does not necessarily indicate an abusive officer, but should merit internal inquiry. This is a demonstration project to show what a functioning system of police accountability would be trying to learn about itself to improve the situation. Instead, from our research into the data, we are discovering that the investigatory system is directed toward a goal of "not knowing" about the patterns of police misconduct in order to justify inaction.

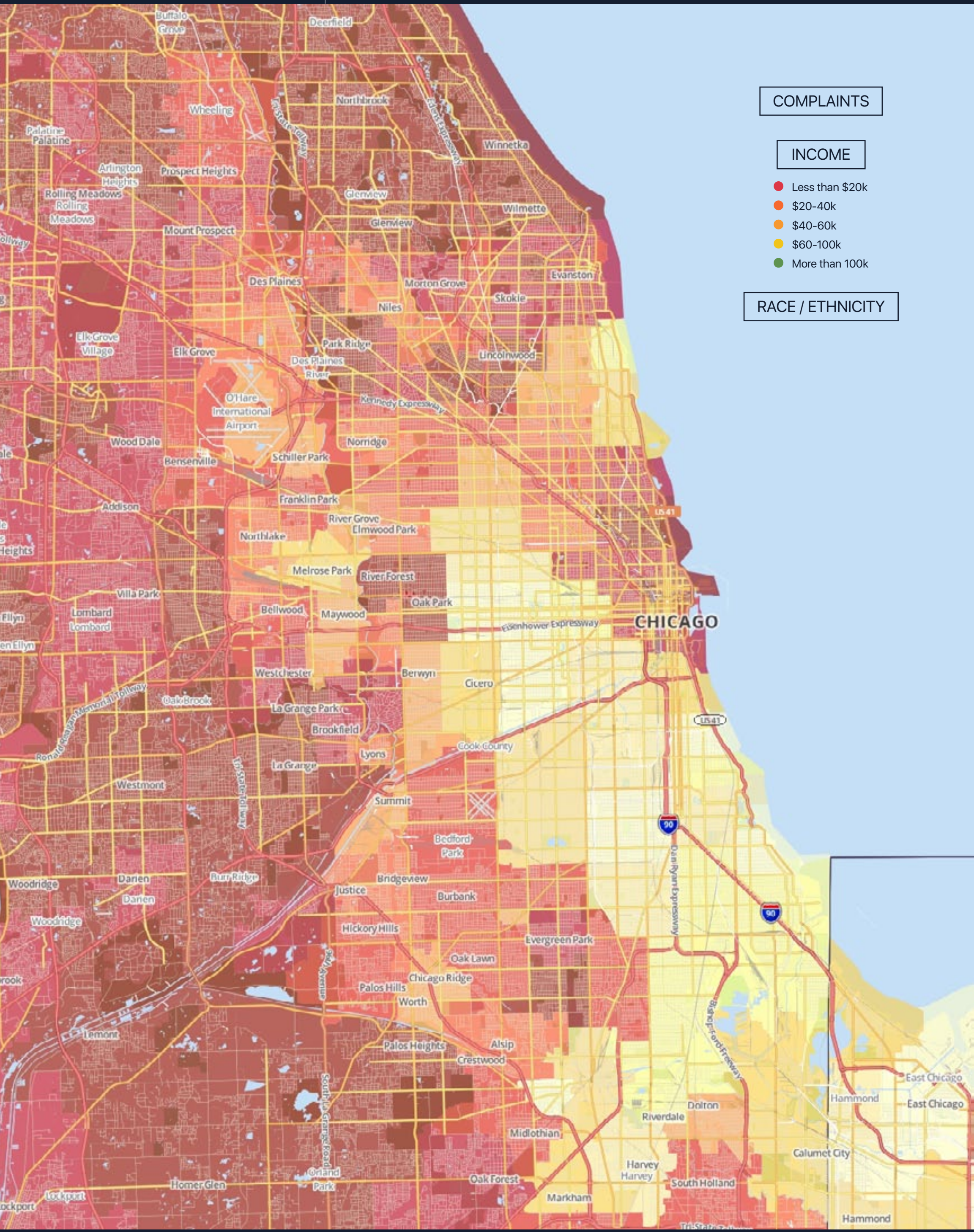
[Read our glossary of common terms →](#)

Even when abuse is proven, the punishment does not match the crime. The average suspension for incomplete paperwork is 3.6 days, the same as proven sexual harrassment. Today's system can leave officers feeling immune to penalty.

[Read more about the CPD complaints process →](#)



Only 0.05% of complaints against repeat officers result in a major penalty.



## There are two ways to explore the data:

[Read more analysis →](#)

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[Explore the database yourself →](#)

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