

How does the media's justification of racial brutality within the US police match up to raw data?

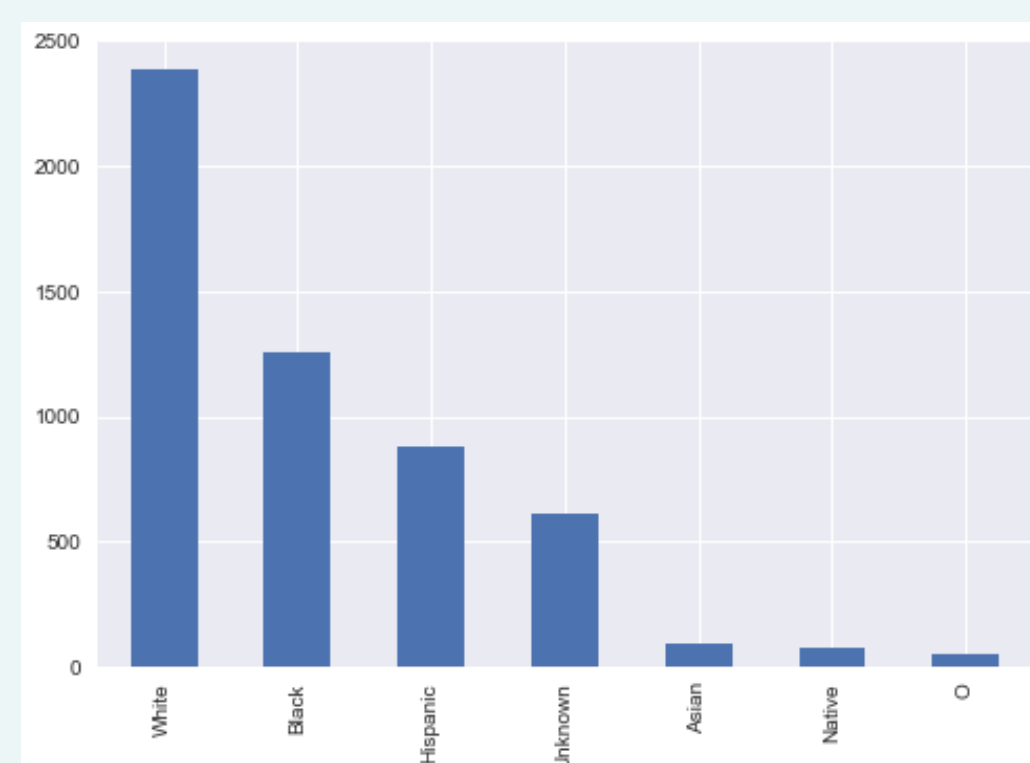
Elliot Cooke



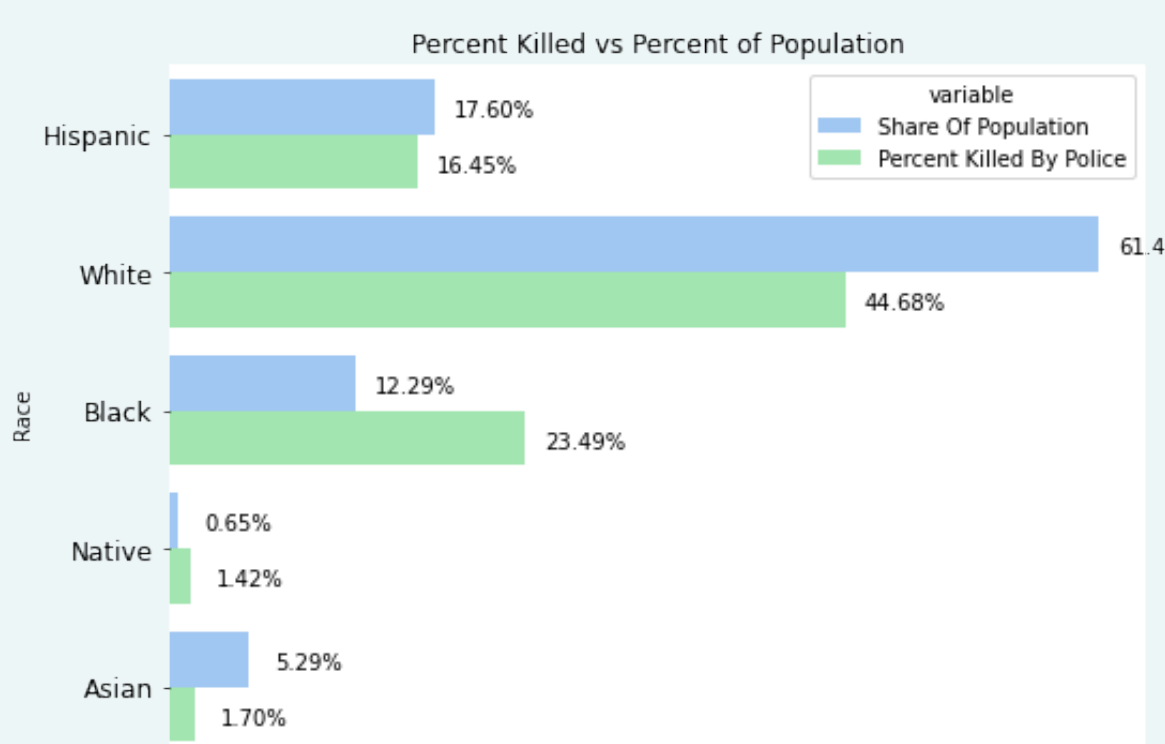
The US police killing of George P. Floyd Jr marked a worldwide phenomenon, following an uproar against racism. These US police were targeted with allegations regarding racial brutality towards specific ethnic groups, leading to mass media headlines. Data science was utilised to find out the extent of the media's justification of the US police's racial brutality, by analysing various data sets and applying a number of statistical methods. These included bar charts, heat-maps and a k-means clustering method to explore social-economic factors of US states in hope to find correlations with specific ethnic groups.

Key Research Questions:

- What were some key statistics regarding the fatalities?
- What were correlations between variables?
- What states showed the most fatalities?
- What insights could be found regarding social economic factors relating to the victim's states?



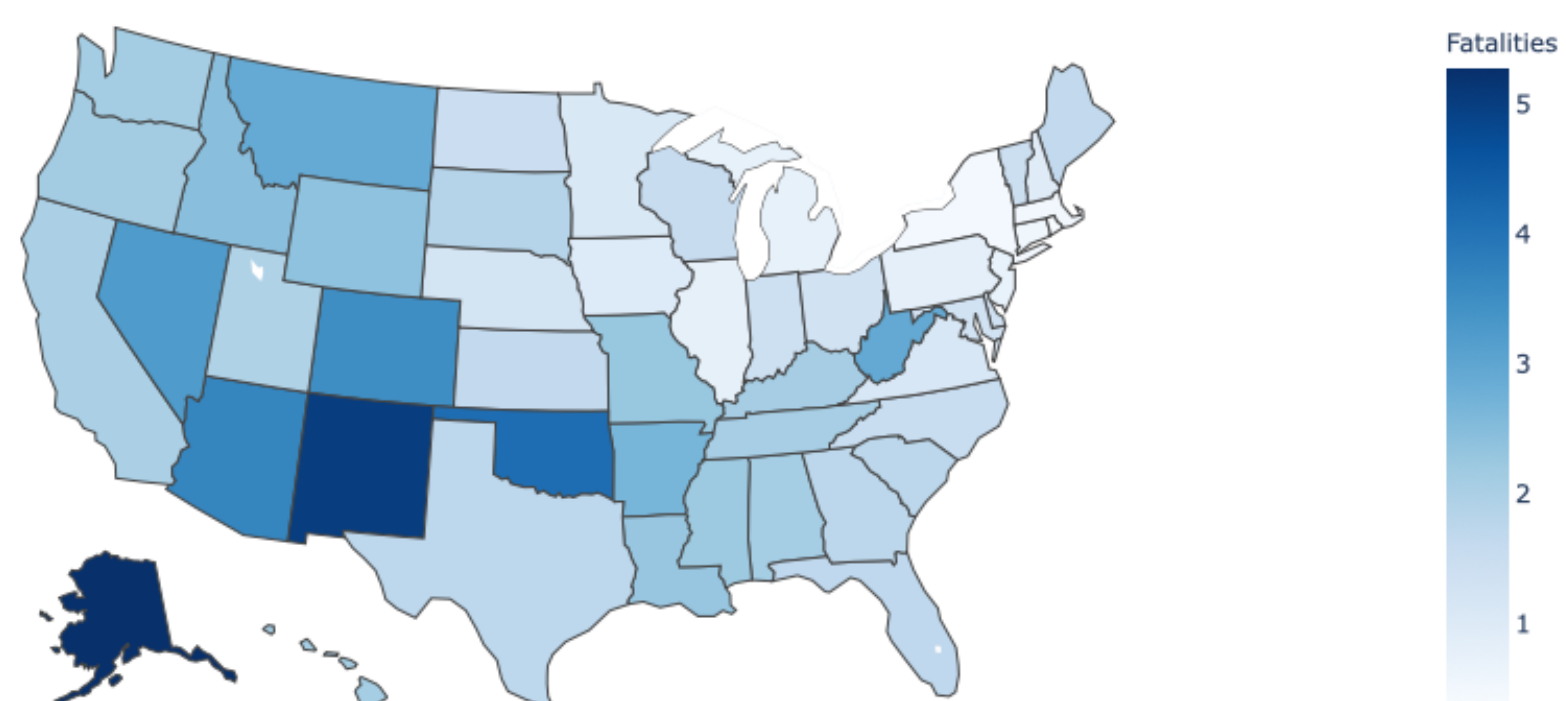
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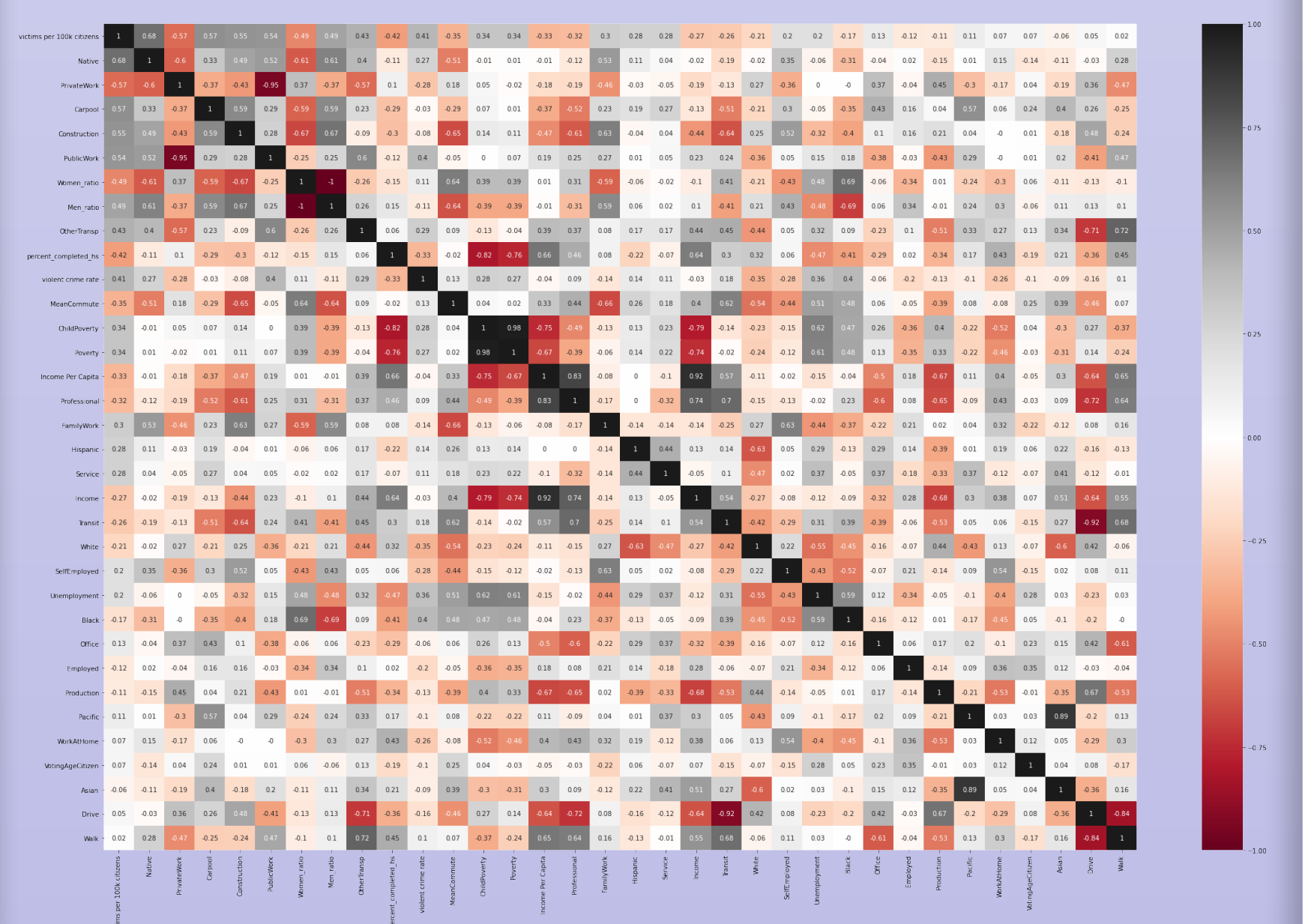
- At first glance, may look as if police showed particular racial bias towards whites...

- However, this graph highlights that **natives** and **blacks** were getting killed disproportionately.
- Whites were being killed disproportionately, but in their favour.

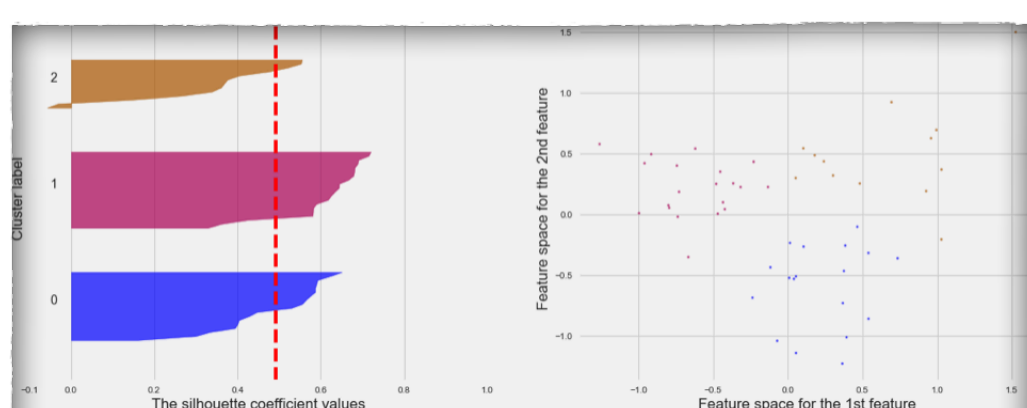
Victims Per 100k Citizens By State



- Alaska, New Mexico and Oklahoma contained highest no. victims.
- Below average populations of blacks in all these states.
- New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut contained lowest no. victims.
- Below average populations of natives in all these states.



- Native, carpool and construction most positively correlated to number of victims.
- Private work most negatively correlated.
- Violent crime rate was moderately correlated to number of victims and black groups.



- K-means clustering of S.E.F.
- Unemployment, violent crime rate, poverty and victims per 100k citizens may be more prevalent in black communities compared to other ethnic communities (shown from cluster 1 factors in green)

High prevalence Medium prevalence Low prevalence		
1	2	3
Black	White	Hispanic
Unemployment	Native	Asian
Violent crime rate	Men-ratio	Income
Victims per 100k citizens	HS over 25	Professional
Poverty	Self-employed	Service
Office	Work at home	Transit
Production	Family work	Walk
Service	Walk	Mean commute
Drive	Hispanic	White
White	Asian	Black
Hispanic	Income	Men-ratio
Native	Victims per 100k citizens	Violent crime rate
Men-ratio	Construction	Unemployment
Construction	Production	HS over 25
Carpool	Office	Office
Mean commute	Drive	Work at home
Family work	Carpool	Native
Private work	Black	Poverty
Self-employed	Poverty	Victims per 100k citizens
Income	Violent crime rate	Self-employed
Professional	Unemployment	Construction
Transit	Service	Production
Walk	Transit	Family work
Work at home	Mean commute	Drive
HS over 25	Private work	Carpool
Asian		

Conclusions

- High prevalence of natives within top 3 states for fatalities indicates reasoning behind disproportionate killing.
- Below average population of blacks in top 3 states for fatalities hint at other factors contributing to disproportionate killings of blacks.
- These factors include a higher prevalence of social issues associated with crime within black communities than others, meaning that police **may** judge black people as a threat.
- If this is true, this is a form of racism (giving the media's justification some form of match-up to the raw data).