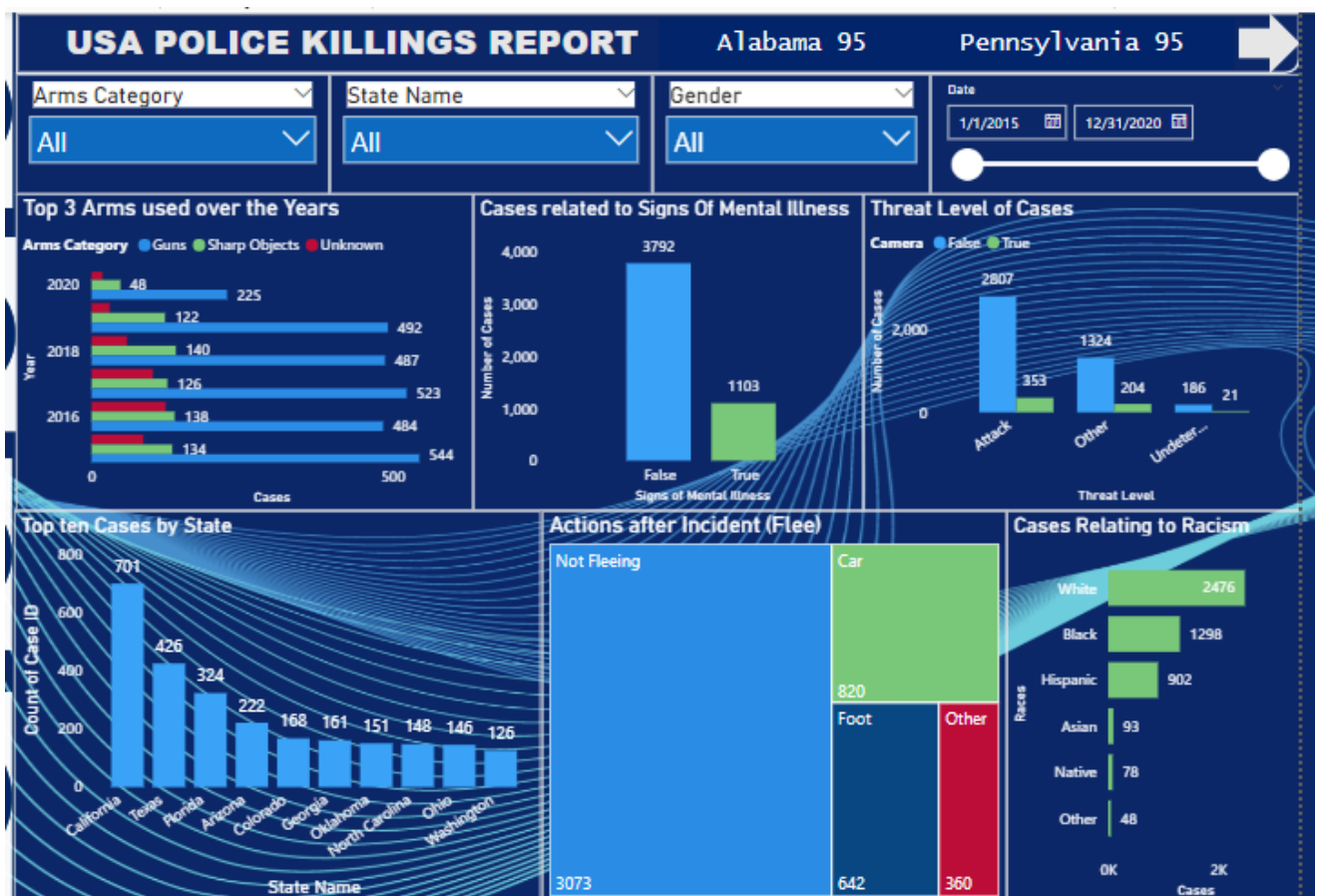# REPORT ON USA POLICE SHOOTINGS

This report aims to analyze data gathered on the recent US police killings, a hot topic raising a concern on Racism. It contains basic data about the name, age, gender, and race of people and other information surrounding the cases. We see to answer the following questions;

1. Where the incident happened?
2. Does racism really play a role in the police killings?
3. The weapon or means used the most over the years?
4. The age group that was involved the most?
5. Whether the incident was captured on a camera, and the trend over the years?
6. What is the proportion of people who had signs of mental illness in relation to the Cases?

The data used in this analysis has 16 columns against 4,895 rows relating to 51 States and 2,287 in America covering the period from 2015 to 2020. The data had no null values, but some of the column datatypes were changed, a geography table was created, a new column for the State names in place of the abbreviated, with duplicates removed as well, where unique values were needed. All these data cleaning processes were done using Excel and Power Query to prepare the data for analysis.

Now let us move to the insights;

A.

From the dashboard above, we can see that California has the highest number of cases of 701 for the 6 years covered in this report, and the proportion of people who tried to flee one way or the other

were less, compared to those who did not or were not fleeing, giving us 3073 people over a period of 6 years. To answer the question on signs of mental illness, after analyzing the data, we realized majority of the people had signs of mental illness and majority of the cases were not captured on camera as well, mostly those related to attack as a threat level to the cases.

Over the 6 years period, top 3 arms that were used in these incidents were Guns, Sharp objects and unknown arms. Guns topped the list for each of the years ranging from 2015 to 2020, which is very alarming. With issues concerning racism, the data showed that Whites were mostly involved in the incidents with 2476 people over the 6 years period, followed by the Blacks and Hispanics.
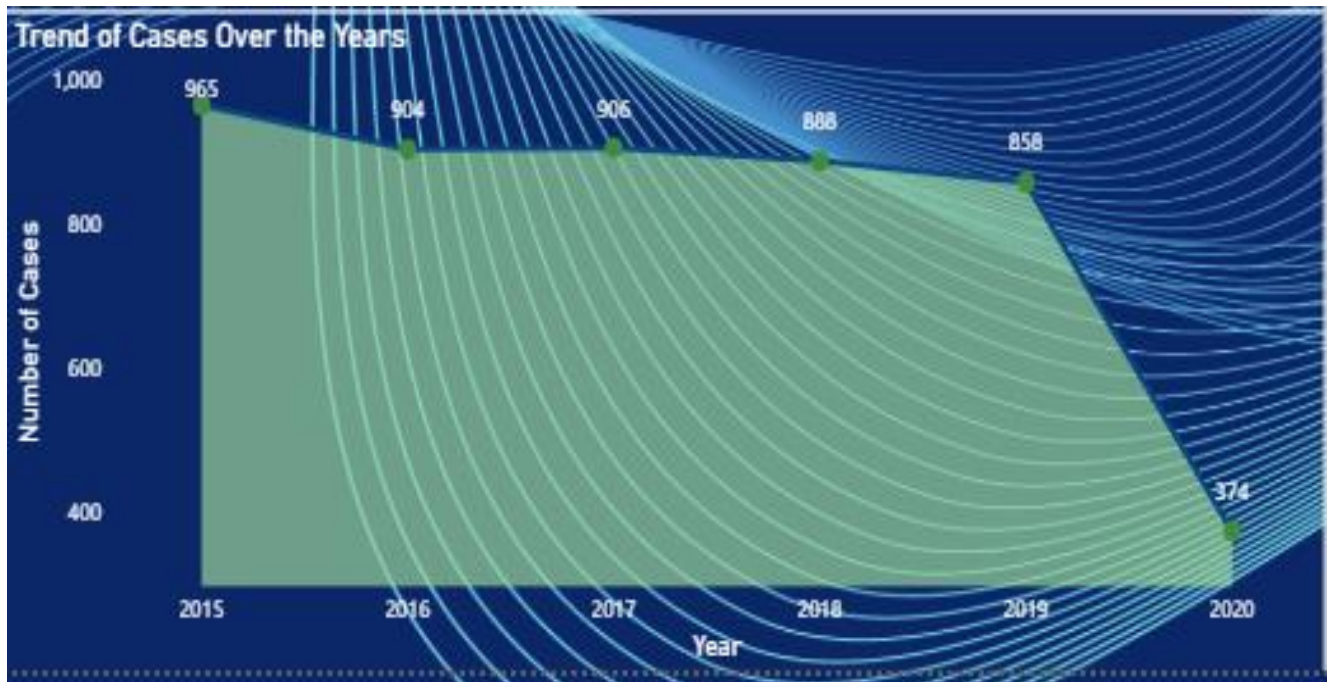
B.

Insights from the second dashboard above, gives us a list of the states that fall within the bottom 10 with regards to number of cases recorded over the years, we had Rhode Island being the tenth recording 4 cases in total. Answering the question on whether there were camera capturing of the incidents, well, we can see from the dashboard that the proportion of camera capture was less compared to no camera capture and there was a drastic drop from 121 camera captures on cases to 38 in 2019 and 2020 respectively, which could result from a decrease in the cases recorded that year. We will look at the trend in cases recorded over the years in the next analysis, but another take away is on the threat levels connected to the incidents. With attacks, we realized an up and down movement over the years, though we do not have enough information to tell why this is happening but it seems to be an area that requires more investigation. Other forms of threats kept decreasing from 2016 to 2020, with other threat levels landing 107 cases and undetermined threats resulting to 14 cases. For

undetermined threats, an area that sparks more curious questions, can be investigated further to provide more accurate data for analysis.

C.

Finally on the flow taken by recorded police shooting cases over a period of 6 years gives a sloppy look, from 965 recorded cases in 2015 to 374 cases in 2020. Well, this can be said to be on the good side, but the drastic decrease in police shootings within a span of one year seems to be far greater than the reductions experienced over the previous years captured or used for this analysis. So, this makes one want to ask, what actually happened in the year 2020 to cause this reduction, though it looks like a good turn.

Conclusion: The insights drawn from the US Police Shootings data have cast a strong light, bringing to view some of the deeper questions that can be asked and how reports made on these cases cannot be taken lightly but rather call for action to protect the citizens as well as the Police as they serve the country.

Recommendation: More body cameras, street cameras and other forms of cameras should be put at vantage points to help capture the occurrence of these cases, which can serve as a strong basis to draw analysis on the happenings. States that recorded higher cases throughout the period should be given more attention. Also, investigation should be made on why those who were no fleeing fell into majority of the recorded cases and finally, how guns are being distributed or authorized in the various states with frequent and thorough check-ins, because it kept going up and down as the years go by, despite little reductions in its use, except the drastic reduction in 2020.

BY: Halimatu Saadia Issah