Checkpoint 1: SQL Analytics Findings

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The main goal of our research is to investigate the conditions under which police officers tend to use force on civilians. Specifically we believe that race and environmental conditions play a critical role in this, therefore in this report, we utilized SQL to analyze and answer some important questions.

The questions are split into sections and each section contains multiple questions.

Note that all .sql files can be run with psql cpdb cpdb < filename.sql.

1. Information about Victims and Officers

We would like to first gather some information about the officers and victims in the use of force cases. The data in this section is taken from the trr_trr and data_officer datasets.

1a. What is the racial distribution of the victims involved in cases of use of force?

Database Query Results:

subject_race	1	count
Black		49747 9369
Hispanic White	i I	6540
Asian/Pacific Islander	İ	431
Native American/Alaskan Native	Ι	54

From the results, we can see the race distribution of the subjects involved in the use of force cases. The table shows that black subjects are the dominant race which has contributed to cases more than the total of the other race. However, as we know that black people do not dominate the total population in Chicago. This indicates a worth-of-investigaing racial discrimination involved in the police use of force

1b. What is the racial distribution of police officers involved in these cases?

Database Query Results:

officer_race | count

_			
	White		38731
	Hispanic		15064
	Black		10599
	Asian/Pacific		2028
	Native American/Alaskan Native		310

From the results, we can see the race distribution of police officers involved in use of force cases. At the top is white police officers whose count exceeds the total of the rest of the races, especially in contrast to the number of Asian/Pacific and Native American/Alaskan Native police officers. This potentially leads to a white-dominated culture in police department

1c. What portion of the total use of force cases involves an officer that is of a different race than that of the victim (cross-race use of force)?

Database Query Results:

cross_race_percentage ------0.732046

Based on the results, we can see that cross-race use of force cases make up 73.2% of total use of force cases, which is less surprising considering the fact that victims are dominated by black people and police offers are dominated with white. Nevertheless, 73.2% is high enough to raise follow-up questions about the different dynamics between police and victims. Specifically, we will look into the racial composition of the cross-race cases.

1d. What portion of the cases in use of force containing firearm usage.

Database Query Results:

Based on the results, we can see that only 1.5% use of force cases involved the usage of firearms. This indicates a less number of firearm usage than what we expected, despite of a large media coverage on this topic.

1e. What are the percentages of use of force cases grouped by officer race and subject race? (i.e. what is the percentage of white officers using force on black subjects)

Database Query Results:

percentage	officer_race	subject_race
		+

0 440000 1004					
0.416733 White		l .	Black		
0.157269 Hispanic		- !	Black		
0.141796 Black		I	Black		
0.083096 White		- 1	Hispani	LC	
0.065161 White		- 1	White		
0.043256 Hispanic		- 1	Hispani	c	
0.020457 Hispanic		- 1	White		
0.019950 Asian/Pag	cific Islander	- 1	Black		
0.008147 White		- 1			
0.006923 Black		- 1	White		
0.006849 Black		- 1	Hispani	LC	
0.005536 Asian/Pag	cific Islander	- 1	Hispani	LC	
0.004238 White		- 1	Asian/F	Pacific Islander	
0.003969 Asian/Pag	cific Islander	- 1	White		
0.003357 Native Ar	merican/Alaskan Nati	ve	Black		
0.002552 Hispanic		- 1			
0.001805 Black		- 1			
0.001044 Hispanic		- 1	Asian/F	Pacific Islander	
0.000731 Black		- 1	Asian/F	Pacific Islander	
0.000627 Native Ar	merican/Alaskan Nati	ve	Hispani	LC	
0.000537 White		- 1	Native	American/Alaskan	Native
0.000463 Native Ar	nerican/Alaskan Nati	ve	White		
0.000418 Asian/Pag	cific Islander	- 1	Asian/F	Pacific Islander	
0.000358 Asian/Pag	cific Islander	- 1			
0.000194 Hispanic		- 1	Native	American/Alaskan	Native
0.000179 Native Ar	merican/Alaskan Nati	ve			
0.000045 Black		- 1	Native	American/Alaskan	Native
0.000030 Asian/Pag	cific Islander	1	Native	American/Alaskan	Native

The results provides a more detailed view of the racial components of the subjects and police officers in all the use of force cases. A cursive scan shows us that 41% of all cases come from white police officers' use of force on black subjects. Further analysis shows that cases with black subjects make up 71.58% of all use of force cases. This indicates that black people are more prone to police's use of force.

2. Environmental Factors That May Affect an Officer's Decision to Use Force

Next we want to investigate the influence of environmental factors on a police officer's decision to use force. The following questions will address some of these factors.

2a. What portion of the use of force happened under different lighting conditions?

Database Query Results:

lighting_condition		percentage
GOOD ARTIFICIAL	1	0.395291
DAYLIGHT	I	0.293887
NIGHT	1	0.118295
POOR ARTIFICIAL	I	0.111580

	- 1	0.054283
DUSK	1	0.021113
DAWN	1	0.005551

This table shows that the use of force cases are dominated by the scenarios with good lighting (either with daylight of good artificial light). This, to some extend, suggests that lack of visibility is not a risk for someone to experience use of force, which is opposite to our hypothesis.

2b. What portion of the use of force happened indoors against outdoors?

Database Query Results:

indoor_or_outdoor		percentage
Outdoor		0.705248
Indoor		0.240962
		0.053791

This shows that most cases occurred outdoor with still descent amount of cases happening indoor. Civilians are usually supposed to be under protection at their esidential area unless severe criminal commitment. Thus, it would be interesting to look into the conditions and the allegation outcomes of these cases.

2c. What portion of the use of force happened under different weather conditions?

Database Query Results:

weather_condition	1	percentage
CLEAR		0.810218
RAIN	1	0.060058
		0.056685
OTHER		0.038959
SNOW		0.027977
FOG/SMOKE/HAZE		0.003312
SEVERE CROSS WIND		0.001477
SLEET/HAIL		0.001313

This indicates that adverse weather condition might not be a attribute for use of force which is opposite to our hypothesis.

2d. What portion of the use of force happened under different locations?

Database Query Results:

location_recode	percentage
	+

Street	0.278100
Sidewalk	0.219997
Residence	0.063683
Apartment	0.057417
Police Facility/Veh Parking Lot	0.057014
Alley	0.056178
Residence Porch/Hallway	0.043943
Residential Yard (Front/Back)	0.031573
Parking Lot/Garage (Non-Residential)	0.026037
Other	0.021904
Chicago Housing Authority Property	0.019412
Gas Station	0.010863
Park Property	0.009729
Cta Platform	0.008326
Restaurant	0.008013
Hospital Building/Grounds	0.007968
Jail / Lock-Up Facility	0.007565
Vacant Property	0.005148
Vacant Lot/Land	0.004476
Bar Or Tavern	0.004417
Small Retail Store	0.004372
Government Building/Property	0.004163
Vehicle Non-Commercial	0.003954
Public School	0.003298
Grocery/Food Store	0.003178
Hotel/Motel	l 0.003133
Cta Garage / Other Property	0.003029
Residence-Garage	0.002104
Cta Bus	1 0.002074
Department Store	0.002059
School, Public, Grounds	0.002044
Driveway - Residential	0.001850
Highway/Expressway	0.001656
Convenience Store	0.001641
Airport	0.001492
Cta Train	0.001447
Tavern/Liquor Store	0.001313
Nursing Home/Retirement Home	0.001104
Airport/Aircraft	0.001074
Drug Store	0.000985
Cta Station	0.000955
Church/Synagogue/Place Of Worship	0.000910
Abandoned Building	0.000910
Other Railroad Prop / Train Depot	0.000310
Cta Bus Stop	0.000821
Sports Arena/Stadium	0.000746
Private School	0.000612
Commercial / Business Office	0.000612
Library	0.000537
Bowling Alley	0.000522
Bank	0.000322
Warehouse	0.000418
Barbershop	0.000373
Currency Exchange	0.000343
Jarrono, Promante	1 0.000020

College/University	- 1	0.000328
Movie House/Theater	-	0.000269
Bridge	-	0.000254
Vehicle-Commercial	-	0.000239
Lakefront/Waterfront/Riverbank	- 1	0.000239
Cleaning Store	- 1	0.000209
Medical/Dental Office	- 1	0.000209
Other Commercial Transportation	- 1	0.000194
Construction Site	- 1	0.000194
Factory/Manufacturing Building	-	0.000194
Fire Station	-	0.000179
Athletic Club	-	0.000164
Taxicab	-	0.000134
Forest Preserve	-	0.000090
Appliance Store	-	0.000075
Cemetary	-	0.000075
Coin Operated Machine	-	0.000060
Car Wash	-	0.000045
Aircraft	- 1	0.000045
Vehicle - Other Ride Service	- 1	0.000030
Animal Hospital	- 1	0.000030
Day Care Center	- 1	0.000030
Airport Transportation System (Ats)	- 1	0.000015
Pool Room	- 1	0.000015
Cta Tracks - Right Of Way	I	0.000015

This shows that police's use of force more likely to occur on street/sidewalks but not by much

2e. Under what combinations of different conditions (lighting, indoor or outdoor, weather, location) is a police officer more likely to use force?

Database Query Results:

weather	indoor_or_outdoor	lighting_condition	location_recode	count
CLEAR	Outdoor	GOOD ARTIFICIAL	Street	5870
CLEAR	Outdoor	DAYLIGHT	Street	5587
CLEAR	Outdoor	DAYLIGHT	Sidewalk	4621
CLEAR	Outdoor	GOOD ARTIFICIAL	Sidewalk	4290
CLEAR	Outdoor	NIGHT	Street	2278
CLEAR	Outdoor	NIGHT	Sidewalk	1891
CLEAR	Indoor	GOOD ARTIFICIAL	Police Facility/Veh Parking Lot	1836
CLEAR	Indoor	GOOD ARTIFICIAL	Apartment	1498
CLEAR	Indoor	GOOD ARTIFICIAL	Residence	1357
CLEAR	Outdoor	POOR ARTIFICIAL	Street	1313
CLEAR	Outdoor	DAYLIGHT	Alley	1294
CLEAR	Outdoor	POOR ARTIFICIAL	Sidewalk	1198

This table provides a more comprehensive of the narratives for the most common scenarios of police's use of force. Cases often time happened with good lighting on the street.