

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?

SQL file: `1a.sql`

Results:

subject_race	count
Black	49747
Hispanic	9369
White	6540
Asian/Pacific Islander	431
Native American/Alaskan Native	54

From the results, we can see the race distribution of the subjects involved in use of force cases. As we can see, black subjects are most common.

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

SQL file: `1b.sql`

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.

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)?

SQL file: 1c.sql

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.

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

SQL file: 1d.sql

Results:

firearm_used_percentage
0.0153

Based on the results, we can see that only 1.5% use of force cases involved the usage of firearms.

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)

SQL file: 1e.sql

Results:

percentage	officer_race	subject_race
0.416733	White	Black
0.157269	Hispanic	Black

0.141796	Black	Black
0.083096	White	Hispanic
0.065161	White	White
0.043256	Hispanic	Hispanic
0.020457	Hispanic	White
0.019950	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black
0.008147	White	
0.006923	Black	White
0.006849	Black	Hispanic
0.005536	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic
0.004238	White	Asian/Pacific Islander
0.003969	Asian/Pacific Islander	White
0.003357	Native American/Alaskan Native	Black
0.002552	Hispanic	
0.001805	Black	
0.001044	Hispanic	Asian/Pacific Islander
0.000731	Black	Asian/Pacific Islander
0.000627	Native American/Alaskan Native	Hispanic
0.000537	White	Native American/Alaskan Native
0.000463	Native American/Alaskan Native	White
0.000418	Asian/Pacific Islander	Asian/Pacific Islander
0.000358	Asian/Pacific Islander	
0.000194	Hispanic	Native American/Alaskan Native
0.000179	Native American/Alaskan Native	
0.000045	Black	Native American/Alaskan Native
0.000030	Asian/Pacific Islander	Native American/Alaskan Native

The results give us a high level overview of the racial distribution of both 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.

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?

SQL file: 2a.sql

Results:

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

		0.054283
DUSK		0.021113
DAWN		0.005551

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

SQL file: 2b.sql

Results:

indoor_or_outdoor		percentage
-----+-----		
Outdoor		0.705248
Indoor		0.240962
		0.053791

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

SQL file: 2c.sql

Results:

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

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

SQL file: 2d.sql

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		0.003133
Cta Garage / Other Property		0.003029
Residence-Garage		0.002104
Cta Bus		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		0.000851
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		0.000418
Warehouse		0.000373
Barbershop		0.000343
Currency Exchange		0.000328
College/University		0.000328
Movie House/Theater		0.000269
Bridge		0.000254
Vehicle-Commercial		0.000239
Lakefront/Waterfront/Riverbank		0.000239
Cleaning Store		0.000209
Medical/Dental Office		0.000209
Other Commercial Transportation		0.000194

Construction Site		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
Cemetery		0.000075
Coin Operated Machine		0.000060
Car Wash		0.000045
Aircraft		0.000045
Vehicle - Other Ride Service		0.000030
Animal Hospital		0.000030
Day Care Center		0.000030
Airport Transportation System (Ats)		0.000015
Pool Room		0.000015
Cta Tracks - Right Of Way		0.000015

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

SQL file: 2e.sql

Results:

weather		indoor_or_outdoor		lighting_condition		location_recode		count
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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