

Visual Communication & Information Design

CMT212



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Date Set: 5th March 2018

E-Submission Date: 9:30 am 8th May 2018

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Introduction

For the Visual Communication and Information Design module (CMT212) final assignment we were asked to carry out an analysis of more than one datasets and present our findings in the form of visualizations and a report along with an analysis.

Moreover, there was no restrictions on what dataset we should work on, as well as on how to analyze and visualize those datasets. Therefore, to analyze my data I decided to use Python, as I believe is better suited for data analysis and statistical methods.

In addition, for the visualization part I have used Tableau and Python. Using python's libraries like matplotlib and pandas you cannot create advance visualizations so I have used those to summarize and make my datasets easier to read and understand. The tableau software was used for the more detailed and advanced visualizations which Python language alone could not create.

Datasets Summary

The datasets I have chosen were based on the U.S police deaths from 1791 until 2016, the police killings during 2015 and the murders committed in the U.S in 2015.

The murders committed in the U.S dataset was not used because it was not of the same theme as the other two as well as lacked a lot of import information. Furthermore, the amount of data from the other two datasets was enough to create multiple visualizations.

The primary source of the police deaths data is the Officer Down Memorial Page, started in 1996 by a college student who is now a police officer and who continues to maintain the database (dmil, n.d.). The data consists of the person name, police department, year, date, cause of death etc. Overall it consists all the basic information of the deceased.

Additionally, the police killings dataset contains the data behind the story Where Police Have Killed Americans in 2015 and it's based on the Guardian's database on police killings to census data from the American Community Survey (dmil, 2015). It also consists of the tract population of state, ethnicity and income of the person. The primary purpose of census tracts is to provide a stable set of geographic units for the

presentation of statistical data. Census tracts generally have a population size between 1,200 and 8,000 people, with an optimum size of 4,000 people.

Data analysis and Visualization

First, taking into consideration all the variables and the amount of information that both datasets had I decided to start with the Police Killings dataset. To make the dataset easier to read and work with on Python and tableau mainly, I had to change the state column from abbreviations to the full name.

Therefore, a csv file consists of two columns state names and abbreviations was downloaded (Figure 1.0) (jasonong, n.d.). Using Python 3 language on Jupyter Notebook the states file was going to be used to map it with the police killings 2015 csv, in order to replace the state abbreviations appropriately with their name.

Unfortunately, there were some problems that were to solve. First a NaN value was replacing the state abbreviations whenever the map () was used (Figure 1.1).

	A	B
1	Abbreviated	State
2	AL	Alabama
3	AK	Alaska
4	AZ	Arizona
5	AR	Arkansas
6	CA	California
7	CO	Colorado
8	CT	Connecticut

Figure 1.0

```
4 #1st.sync Name of states from state.csv with the correct abbreviation from state in killed_by_police.csv
5
6 df_kills["state"] = df_kills["state"].map(States_label["State"])
7
8 df_kills
9
```

Out[74]:

	person	age	gender	raceethnicity	month	day	year	streetaddress	city	state	...	share_hispanic	p_income	h_income	county_income
0	A'donte Washington	16	Male	Black	February	23	2015	Clearview Ln	Millbrook	NaN	...	5.6	28375	51367.0	54766
1	Aaron Rutledge	27	Male	White	April	2	2015	300 block Iris Park Dr	Pineville	NaN	...	0.5	14678	27972.0	40930
2	Aaron Siler	26	Male	White	March	14	2015	22nd Ave and 56th St	Kenosha	NaN	...	16.8	25286	45365.0	54930
3	Aaron Valdez	25	Male	Hispanic/Latino	March	11	2015	3000 Seminole Ave	South Gate	NaN	...	98.8	17194	48295.0	55909

Figure 1.1

The reasons why it was returning NaN values was either because there were white spaces in one of the csv files, or the state column from the states.csv needed to be set to index. Therefore, I tried using skipinitialspace = True so that when mapping the two csv it would ignore any spaces, but it did not work. Also, using the replace () function was a bad idea, as it just literally replaced the first 52 rows of the dataset with the 52 U.S states. Therefore, I tried to set the State column to index, but that

did not change anything, so I set the index column to 0 instead when reading the state.csv file instead,(Figure 1.2) and it worked.

```
[75]: 1 diff University 2017-2018\Visualization\Coursework_2\killed_by_police.csv',delimiter=',',low_memory=False, encoding
2 \Cardiff University 2017-2018\Visualization\Coursework_2\states.csv',delimiter=',',low_memory=False, index_col=0)
3
4
5 ')
6 ing.csv', usecols=['person', 'age', 'gender', 'raceethnicity', 'city', 'state', 'pop', 'p_income', 'urate'])
7 . 'age', 'gender', 'raceethnicity', 'city', 'state', 'pop', 'p_income', 'urate']
8
9 state'].map(States_label['State'])
10 ice_Noabr.csv')
11
```

	person	age	gender	raceethnicity	month	day	year	streetaddress	city	state	...	share_hispanic	p_income	h_income	county_inc
0	A'donte Washington	16	Male	Black	February	23	2015	Clearview Ln	Millbrook	Alabama	...	5.6	28375	51367.0	5-
1	Aaron Rutledge	27	Male	White	April	2	2015	300 block Iris Park Dr	Pineville	Louisiana	...	0.5	14678	27972.0	4-
2	Aaron Siler	26	Male	White	March	14	2015	22nd Ave and 56th St	Kenosha	Wisconsin	...	16.8	25286	45365.0	5-
3	Aaron Valdez	25	Male	Hispanic/Latino	March	11	2015	3000 Seminole Ave	South Gate	California	...	98.8	17194	48295.0	5-

Figure 1.2

Furthermore, the first test I had decided to do was to check if the police killings (person) were increasing based on the U.S states population ratio (pop). So, my hypothesis was that the bigger the population ratio of a state, would mean the more the police killings.

To demonstrate and prove this theory a correlation test between the variables pop (tract population) and the person (police killings) to test their relationship status. If the two variables had a strong positive correlation (close to +1) therefore prove that as population increases, police killings increase as well.

Since the person column consists of names we cannot calculate the correlation between pop and person. Also, the pop column has a different tract population for each person. To solve this issues, we need to calculate using Python the population

```
In [76]: 1 df_kills.to_csv('kp_map.csv')
2
3 df_psp = pd.read_csv('kp_map.csv',delimiter=',',low_memory=False, encoding = 'latin-1',usecols=['person', 'state','p
4 df_psp.columns = ['person', 'state','pop']
5
6
7 df_psp_final = df_psp.groupby('state').agg({'pop':['sum'],'person':['count']})
8
9 df_psp_final = df_psp_final.sort_values([('person','count')], ascending=False)
10 df_psp_final
```

	pop	person
state	sum	count
California	372999	74
Texas	241876	46
Florida	177150	29
Arizona	111678	25
Oklahoma	86565	22
Georgia	88187	16
New York	68120	14
Colorado	40220	12

Figure 1.3

Sum for each state and count how many person killed in each state as shown in Figure 1.3.

Now that both columns were numbers we could use Python's `corr()` function to calculate the correlation between the two Figure (1.4). A 0.98 correlation is a

```
2 ## high positive correlation A positive indicates that if one variable increases, the other increases also
3
4 df_psp_final['pop', 'sum'].corr(df_psp_final['person', 'count'])
t[77]: 0.989148318198432
```

Figure 1.4

strong correlation which means the higher the population the more the police killings in each state. This can also be shown by creating a scatter and map plot visualization in tableau. To do that, we create a new pop vs person table as `df_psp_corr.csv` file. Then import it in tableau (Figure 1.5).

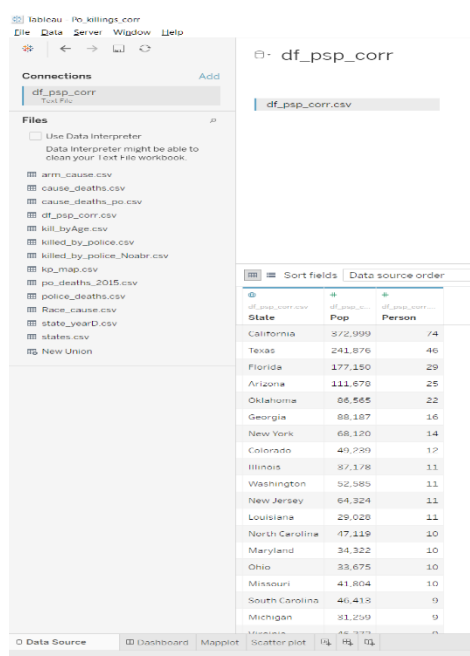


Figure 1.5

Then by dragging the pop column to the rows tab and person column to the columns tab at the top of the tableau window (Figure 1.6) (1) and (2) choose the scatter plot design at the top right of the window to create a simple scatter plot. Also (3) to color

and label the circles on the plot you should drag the state variable from the dimensions at the left side of the window and place it on top of the color in the “Marks” section.

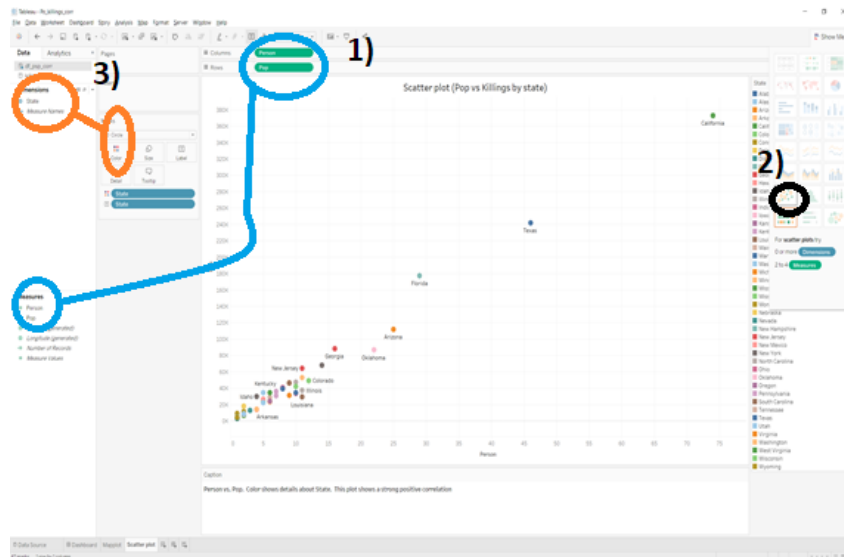


Figure 1.6

Scatter plot also proves that there is a high correlation (as pop increases so does the person{killings})

Moreover, creating the map plot, was the same process although this time first the states column had to go at the color in the Marks section (Figure 1.7). Although this time we also had to change our variables measure to sum and count, for pop and person appropriately (4).

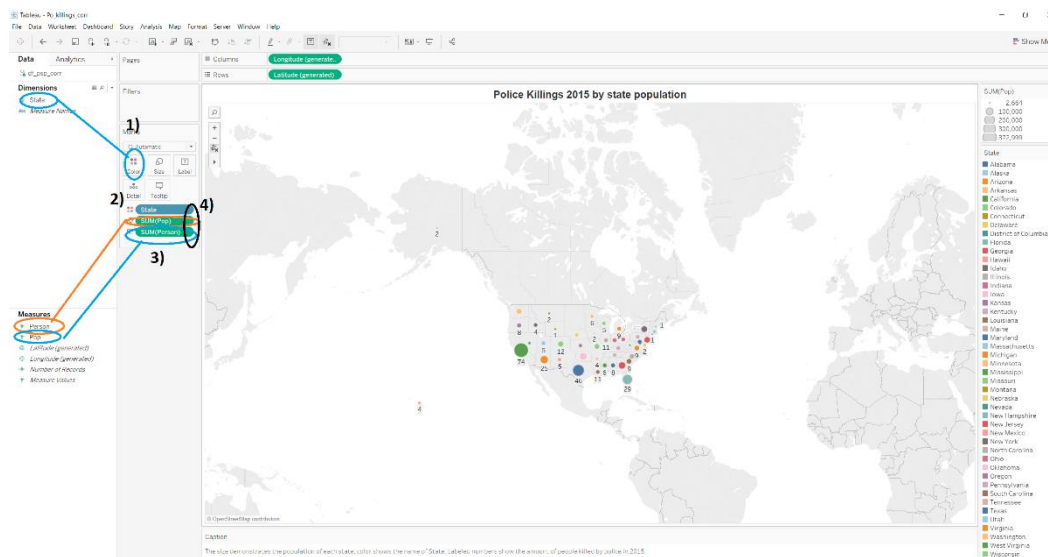


Figure 1.7

Furthermore, to make those two visualizations more attractive and presentable we create a dashboard in tableau and add both (Figure 1.8).

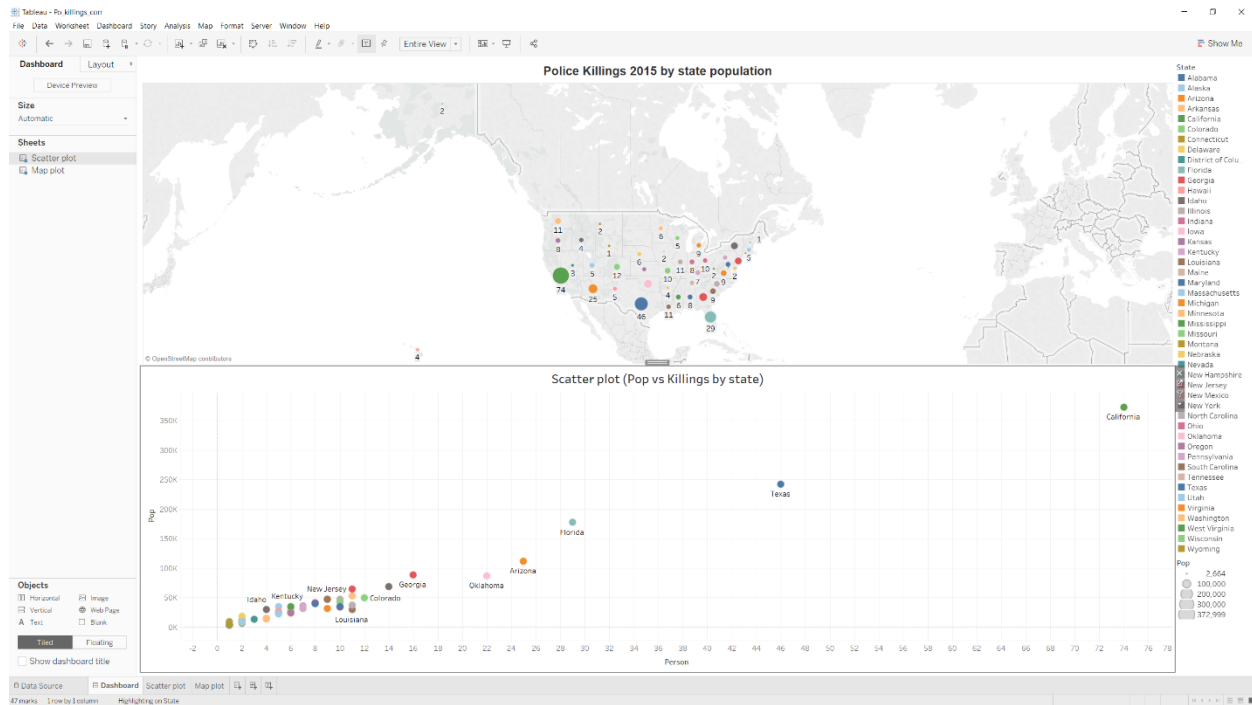


Figure 1.8

Another big factor of Tableau is that it allows you to filter all visualizations in the dashboard and sync them. In this case clicking one of the dots or states on the legend will show that state on both visualizations (Figure 1.9).

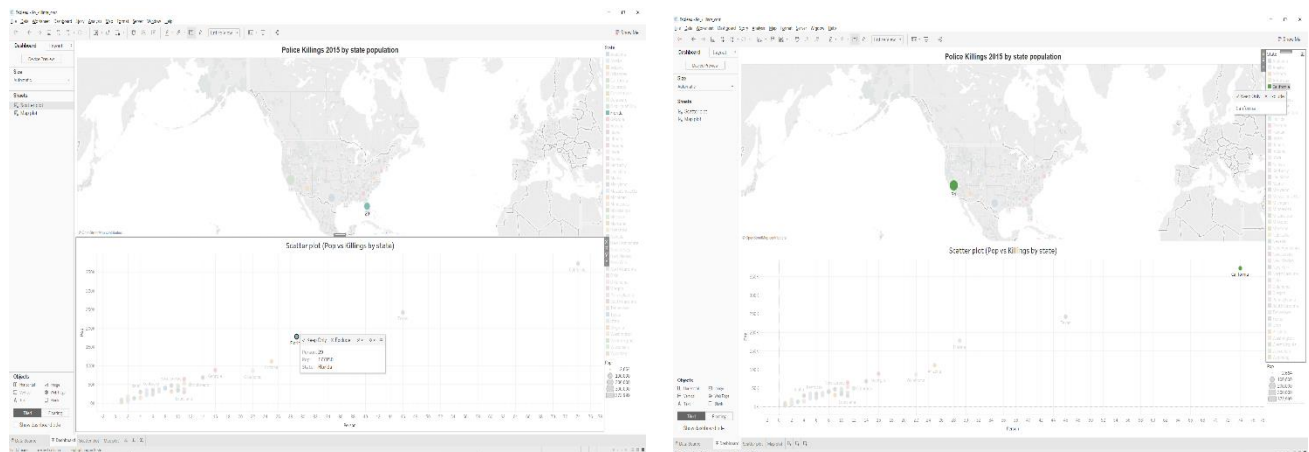


Figure 1.9

The next four tests and visualizations were used to check the data for any abnormalities or possible patterns. So, the first test attempted was police killings based on Ethnicity. To do that we create a new variable that counts the values of each Ethnicity under the variable race ethnicity and then create a bar chart using Python's matplotlib to demonstrate them (Figure 2.0).



Figure 2.0

We can see from these bar chart that there were more white person police killings than all the other ethnicities combined in U.S.

Furthermore, an obvious analysis was the police killings by age. First, a data recoding process had to be done to create groups of age, to make the analysis easier and the visualization more accurate and easy on the eyes. To recode our data we replace all 'Unknown' values inside the age column with pandas NaN, since the pandas library recognizes NaN values as numeric as well and then the data type of our 'age' variable as float so that Python allows us to make alterations/renaming the 'age' variables elements (Figure 2.1).

```

1 #We create a table based on age. Recode data by creating groups of age
2 #to do so age column type needs to be numeric, therefore we change the Unknown word in the column with the pandas NaN
3
4 df_ageT = pd.read_csv('bp_map.csv', delimiter=',', low_memory=False, encoding='latin-1', usecols=['person', 'age', 'gen'])
5 df_ageT.columns = ['person', 'age', 'gender', 'raceethnicity', 'month', 'cause', 'armed', 'p_income', 'h_income', 'pov', 'urati']
6 df_ageT['age'] = df_ageT.age.replace('Unknown', np.NaN)
7
8
9 df_ageT['age'] = df_ageT.age.astype('float')
10
11 def age_groups(series):
12     if series < 18:
13         return "~18"
14     elif 18 <= series < 25:
15         return "18-24"
16     elif 25 <= series < 35:
17         return "25-34"
18     elif 35 <= series < 45:
19         return "35-44"
20     elif 45 <= series < 55:
21         return "45-54"
22     elif 55 <= series < 65:
23         return "55-64"
24     elif 65 <= series < 75:
25         return "65-74"
26     elif 75 <= series:
27         return "74+"
28
29 df_ageT['age'] = df_ageT['age'].apply(age_groups)
30
31 df_ageT['age'].value_counts(sort=True)
32
33
34

```

```

25-34    142
35-44    126
45-54     71
18-24     65
55-64     37
~18        9
65-74      8
74+        5
Name: age, dtype: int64

```

Figure 2.1

In addition to the recoding, a pandas bar chart was created again to show the count of persons killed by the new age groups (Figure 2.2).

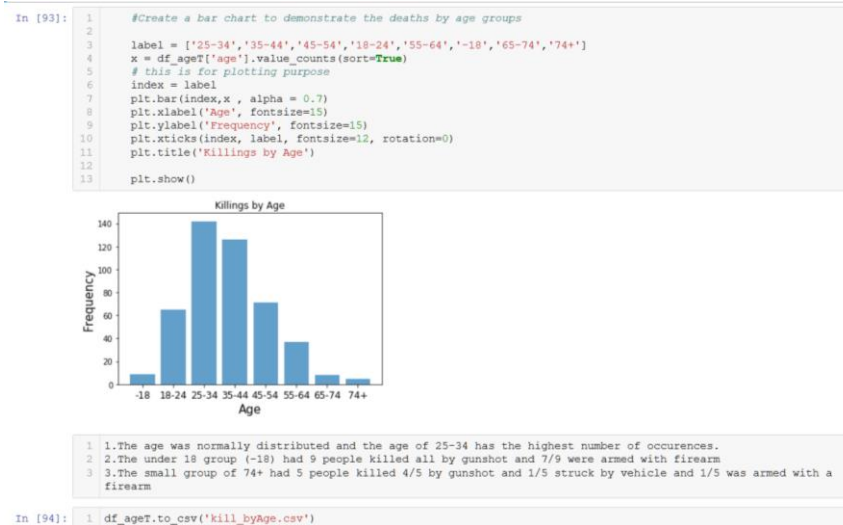


Figure 2.2

Moreover, a simple pie chart was created again using the pandas library, to demonstrate police killings based on gender. By this pie chart we can see straight away that in 2015 the almost all the deceased were men (Figure 2.3).

Police killings based on gender

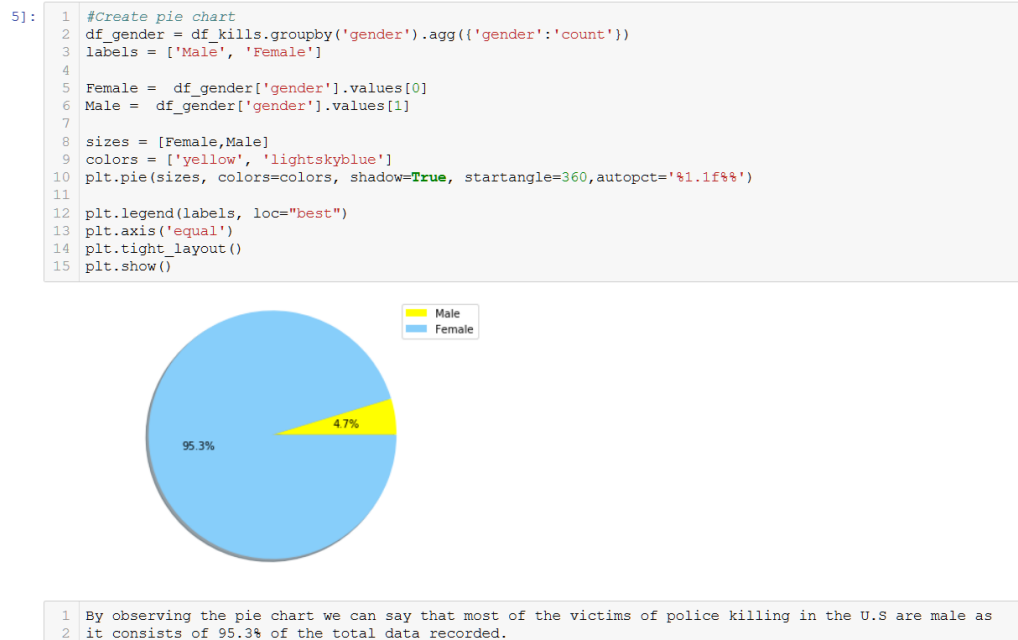


Figure 2.3

Next we analyze the people’s killed weapon status/armed variable. Creating a variable to group police killings by the ‘armed’ variable and then use the aggregate [. agg ()] function to count how many of each value are (Figure 2.4) and then using pandas create a bar chart.

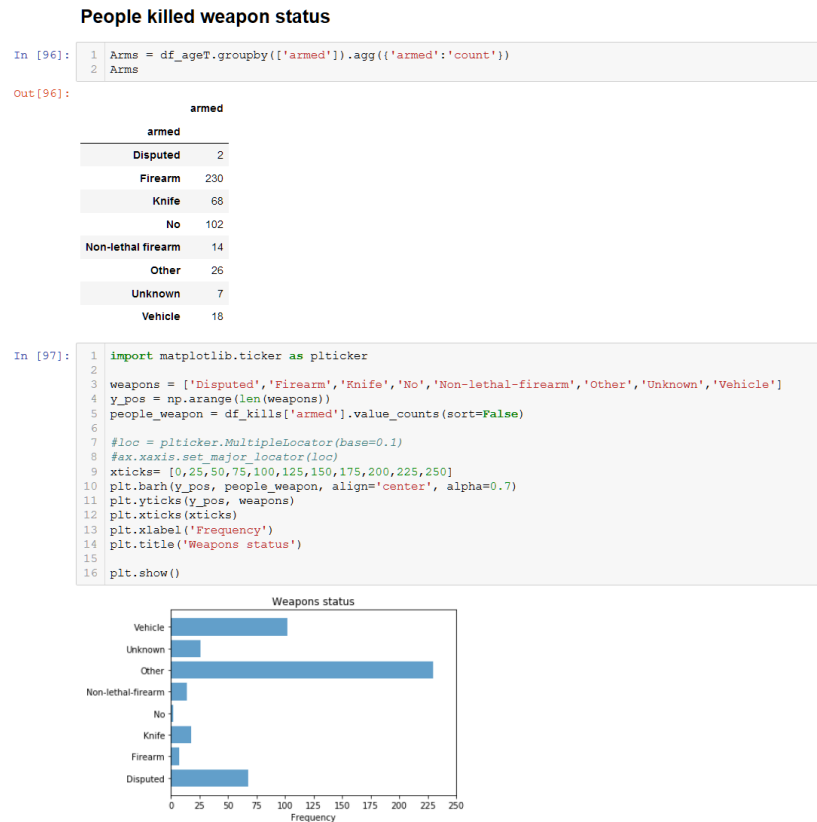
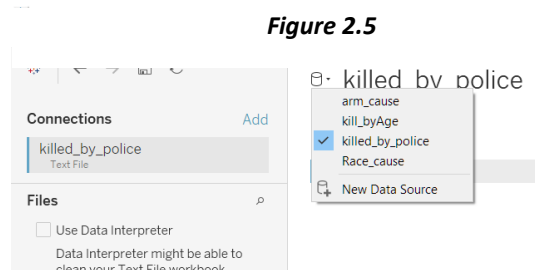


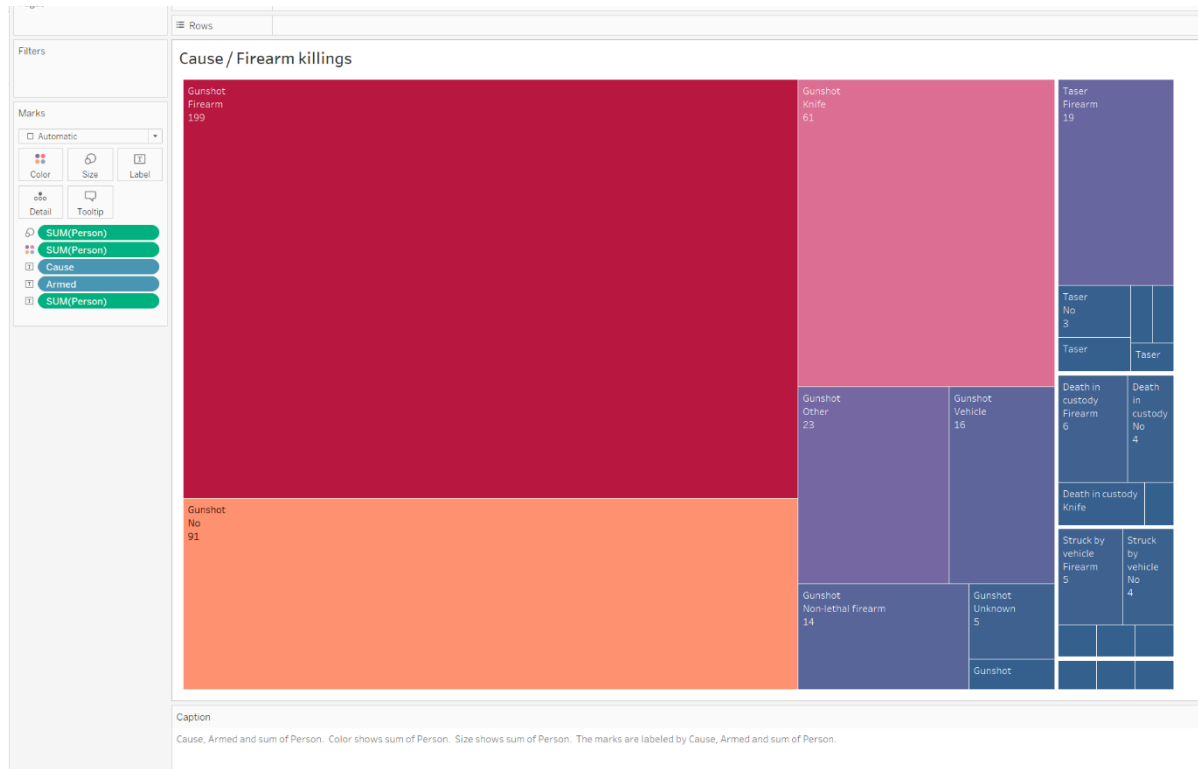
Figure 2.4

All four-previous visualization were created by Python’s library pandas. Pandas does not give the same aesthetics or elegant designs and detail as tableau. Therefore, I have created a new csv file for each of those tests in order to visualize this data tests on Tableau.

Moving on, we import all four new csv files created using python on Tableau (Figure 2.5).



In Tableau we create one by one again all four visualizations. The Ethnicity, Age groups and Gender visualizations used the same approach as the scatter plot in Figure 1.6. For weapon status visualization a chart for tree maps was used. This is because the variable “cause” (cause of death) was used as well as ‘armed’ and sum of ‘person’ (police killings) (Figure 2.5).



In my opinion the tree map chart that was used was the most appropriate chart in that case. This is because we want a quick, high level summary of the similarities and anomalies within multiple categories, “cause”, “armed” and “person”.

Afterwards, the same approach was used to create a dashboard with all four visualizations (Figure 2.6).

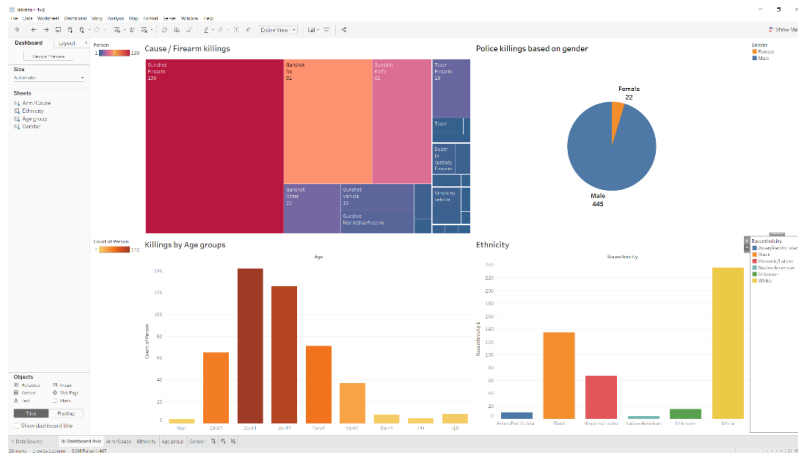


Figure 2.6

The final test for the police killings 2015 dataset was to create dummy variables to calculate the relationship between persons who were 'armed' with a firearm and their cause of death was by a gunshot. To calculate the relationship, we need to do a correlation test between the element 'gunshot' from variable "cause" and 'firearm' from 'armed' variable. Therefore, we create dummy variables this separates the two variables to sub-variables and give them the values 1 for True and 0 for False as shown Figure 2.7.

Check the relationship between person armed with firearm and cause of death by gunshot

```
[99]: 1 #Creating a table with dummy variables to calculate later on the relationship between the c
2 #and armed person
3
4 df_armNgun = pd.read_csv('kp_map.csv',delimiter=',',low_memory=False, encoding = 'latin-1',
5 df_armNgun.columns = ['cause','armed']
6
7 dum_cause = pd.get_dummies(df_armNgun['cause'])
8 del dum_cause[dum_cause.columns[-1]]
9
10 #####
11 dum_arm = pd.get_dummies(df_armNgun['armed'])
12
13 del dum_arm[dum_arm.columns[-1]]
14
15 new_armNgun = pd.concat([dum_cause, dum_arm], axis=1)
16
17 #del new_armed['armed']
18 new_armNgun
```

t[99]:

	Death in custody	Gunshot	Struck by vehicle	Taser	Disputed	Firearm	Knife	No	Non-lethal firearm	Other	Unknown
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
8	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

Figure 2.7

Now we can calculate the correlation between the two (Figure 2.8).

```
In [100]: 1 #Check if there is a correlation (relationship) between the person who died by gunshot and if they were armed with
2 # a firearm weapon
3 correlation_armNgun = new_armNgun['Gunshot'].corr(new_armNgun['Firearm'])
4 correlation_armNgun

Out[100]: -0.04508705829447319
```

Figure 2.8

Based on the -0.045 correlation the person died by gunshot do not affect the person armed with a firearm, therefore there is no relationship between the two.

Data Analysis and Visualization Part B

As was previously stated, the second dataset is based on the police deaths from 1791 until 2016. This dataset consists of less variables. This made challenging to find any unique tests or visualizations to create.

The one obvious visualization that could be done with the police deaths dataset was to create a chart that would show the police deaths from 1971 until 2016. This could show us any unpredicted changes or events throughout the years.

In the same way as the first dataset we import the police deaths dataset using Python on Jupyter notebook. To make the visualization more interesting we add the causes of the deceased as well, therefore we count how many elements are in "cause_short" variable and the values of each (Figure 3.0).

```
In [6]: 1 df_deaths['cause_short'].value_counts()

Out[6]: Gunfire 12067
Automobile accident 2348
Motorcycle accident 1134
Heart attack 977
Vehicular assault 888
Struck by vehicle 868
Vehicle pursuit 627
Assault 613
Gunfire (Accidental) 604
Stabbed 465
Aircraft accident 381
Drowned 262
Struck by train 254
Fall 197
Duty related illness 169
9/11 related illness 110
Terrorist attack 85
Electrocuted 83
Animal related 82
Accidental 80
```

Figure 3.0

Cause_short variable consists of many different elements this makes it difficult to analyze our data and it will overwhelm later our visualization with information. For this reason, we recode "cause short" into smaller groups. (Figure 3.1)

```

In [7]: 1 #I have separated the police deaths cause into the 15 top groups to make it easier for the user to read it
        2 #when the data is visualized on tableau (police_deaths_by_year_cause.tbl)
        3
        4
        5 df_newD= pd.read_csv('D:\Cardiff University 2017-2018\Visualization\Coursework_2\police_deaths.csv',delimiter=',',io
        6
        7
        8 df_deaths = df_newD
        9
        10 #If unique causes narrow them down to 14
        11 def causes_groups(series):
        12     if series == 'Gunfire':
        13         return 'Gunfire'
        14     elif series == 'Automobile accident':
        15         return 'Automobile accident'
        16     elif series == 'Motorcycle accident':
        17         return 'Motorcycle Accident'
        18     elif series == 'Heart attack':
        19         return 'Heart Attack'
        20     elif series == 'Vehicular assault':
        21         return 'Vehicular Assault'
        22     elif series == 'Struck by vehicle':
        23         return 'Struck by Vehicle'
        24     elif series == 'Vehicle pursuit':
        25         return 'Vehicle Pursuit'
        26     elif series == 'Assault':
        27         return 'Assault'
        28     elif series == 'Gunfire (Accidental)':
        29         return 'Gunfire Accidental'
        30     elif series == 'Stabbed':
        31         return 'Stabbed'
        32     elif series == 'Aircraft accident':
        33         return 'Aircraft accident'
        34     elif series == 'Drowned':
        35         return 'Drowned'
        36     elif series == '9/11 related illness':
        37         return 'Terrorist attack'
        38     elif series == 'Terrorist attack':
        39         return 'Terrorist attack'
        40     else:
        41         return 'Other'
        42
        43
        44
        45 df_newD['cause_short'] = df_deaths['cause_short'].apply(causes_groups)
        46
        47 df_newD['cause_short'].value_counts()

```

```

Out[7]: Gunfire      12067
Automobile accident  2348
Other                1371
Motorcycle Accident  1134
Heart Attack         977
Vehicular Assault    888
Struck by Vehicle    868
Vehicle Pursuit      627
Assault              613
Gunfire Accidental   604
Stabbed              465
Aircraft accident    381
Drowned              262
Terrorist attack     195
Name: cause_short, dtype: int64

```

Figure 3.1

Then, we do the same for variable year (Figure 3.2).

```

In [9]: 1 def year_groups(series):
        2     if series < 1836:
        3         return "1791 - 1835"
        4     elif 1836 <= series < 1881:
        5         return "1836 - 1880"
        6     elif 1881 <= series < 1926:
        7         return "1881 - 1925"
        8     elif 1926 <= series < 1971:
        9         return "1926 - 1970"
        10    elif 1971 <= series < 2017:
        11        return "1971 - 2016"
        12
        13 df_newD['year'] = df_deaths['year'].apply(year_groups)
        14
        15 df_newD['year'].value_counts()
        16

```

```

Out[9]: 1971 - 2016      8643
1926 - 1970      7898
1881 - 1925      5541
1836 - 1880       688
1791 - 1835        30
Name: year, dtype: int64

```

Figure 3.2

After we have recoded and created our new variable groups, we code a new table that consists of those two new variable groups and output it as a new csv.

Furthermore, import the new csv called "cause_deaths.csv" to Tableau. Then create a new worksheet and drag year and person (right click ->measures count) [1] to columns and rows appropriately. Moreover, drag the "cause_short" variable to the color Mark section to show the cause of death of the police in colors as shown Figure 3.3 [2]. In addition, you can right-click on the right section of the window [4] and add filter and captions of your choice.

This area chart visualization shows clearly that 1930 is one of the deadliest year in law enforcement history and also, we can spot that on one specific day of 2001 [3] there is a big increase in deaths, and that is the 9/11 incident where 73 police officers died.

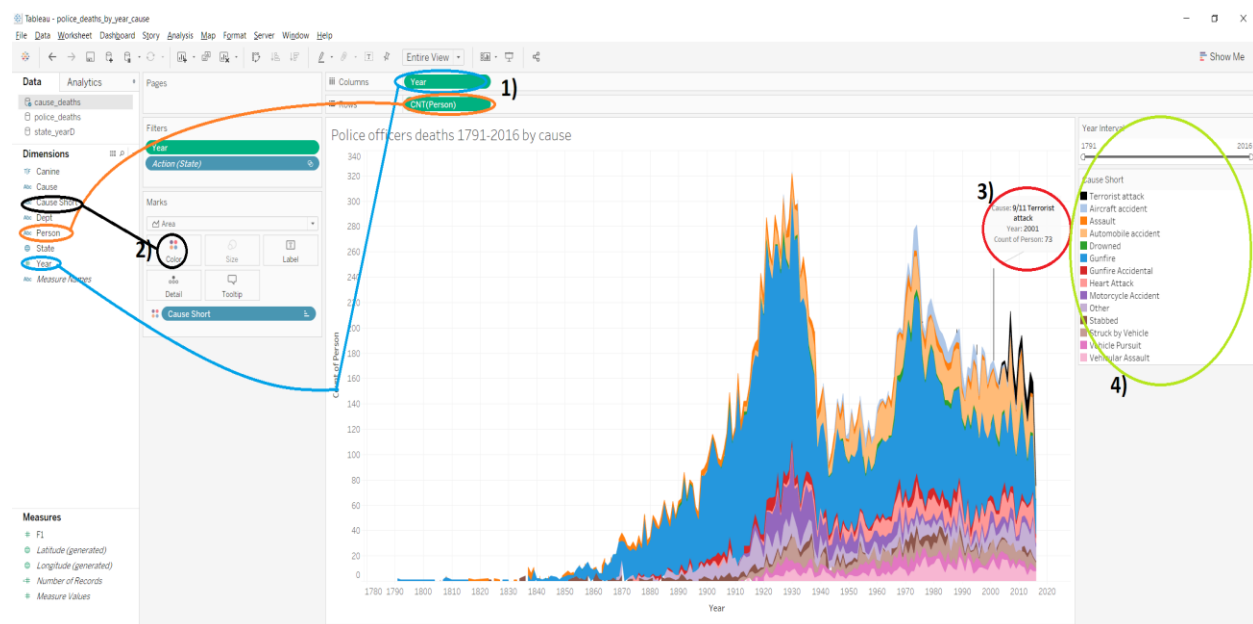


Figure 3.3

In addition, another two graphs were created one that identifies all canine (dog) officers, showing their increase in deaths by the years and another that count the police deaths by state and then placed into a dashboard Figure (3.4).

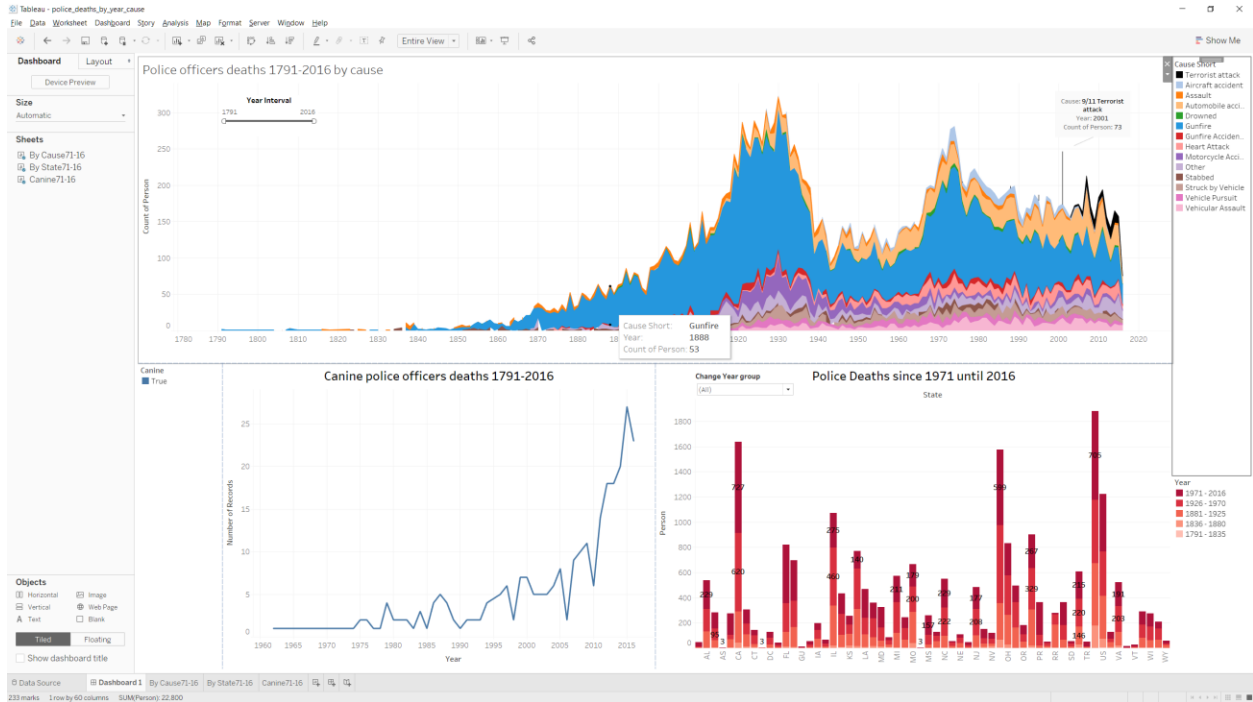


Figure 3.4

The next figure also shows how the user can interact with all three visualizations (Figure 3.5,3.6).

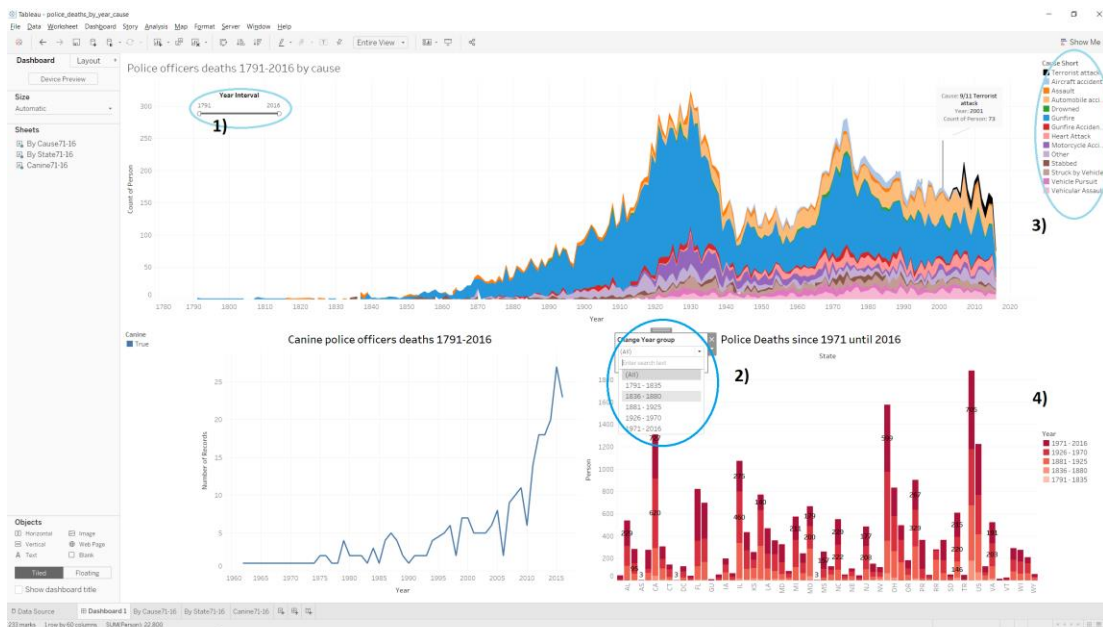


Figure 3.5

Adjust the year you want to see on the table

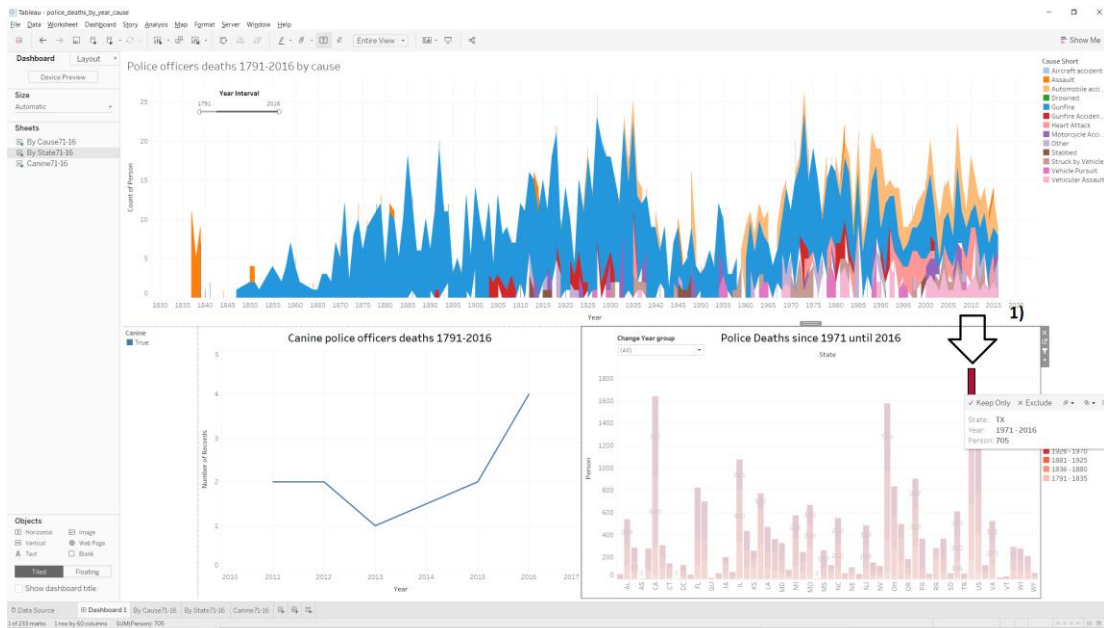


Figure 3.6

Click on a bar to show the appropriate year on all 3 visualizations

This was done by the filter option of tableau and by adjusting all three datasets of the visualization to have at least one key variable.

Combination of Datasets

The last visualization designed, to show the difference in numbers of police deaths and police killings in 2015 as well as their cause of death. These visualizations used both datasets. By importing both datasets we separately create each visualization as shown in Figures 4.0,4.1

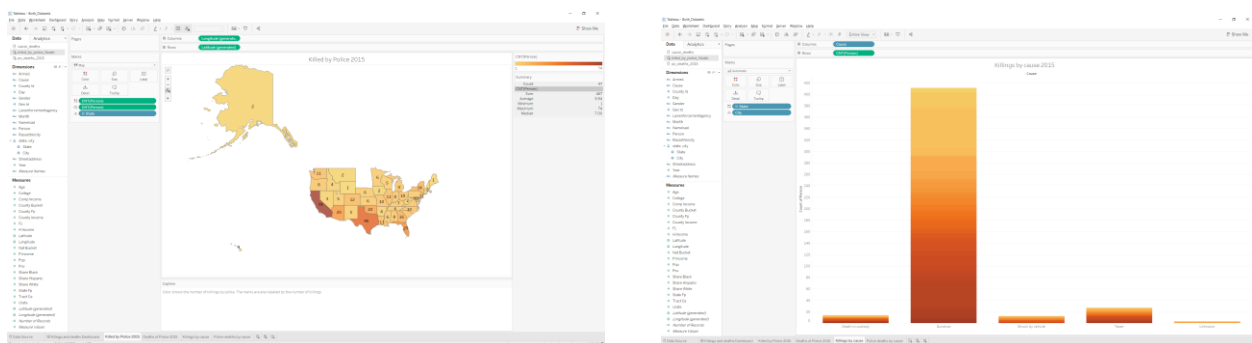


Figure 4.0

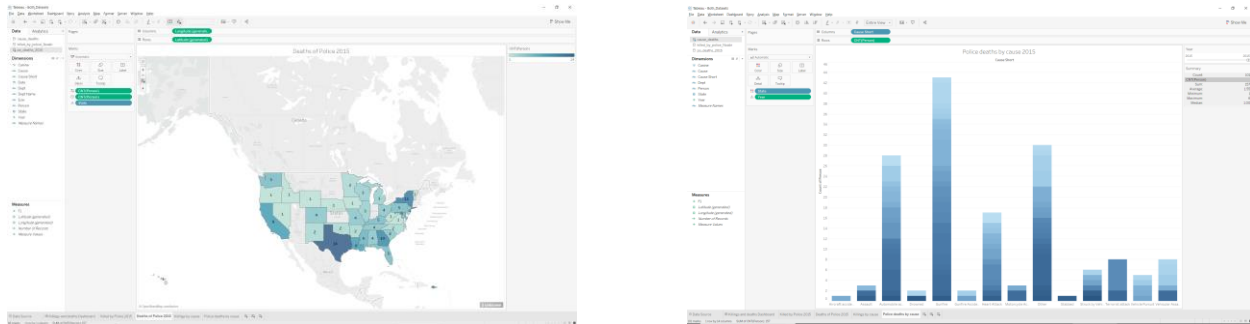


Figure 4.1

Then these worksheets are added to a dashboard (Figure 4.2)

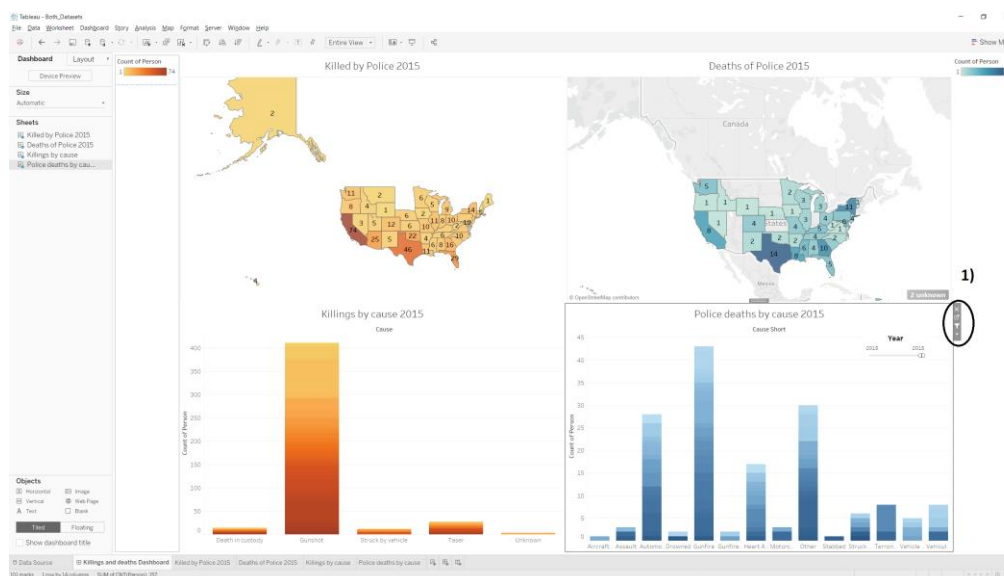


Figure 4.2

Again, all visualizations are interactive. Using the filter function of tableau, we can sync all four visualizations and allow the user to see the changes made to all four when it interacts with any of the visualizations.

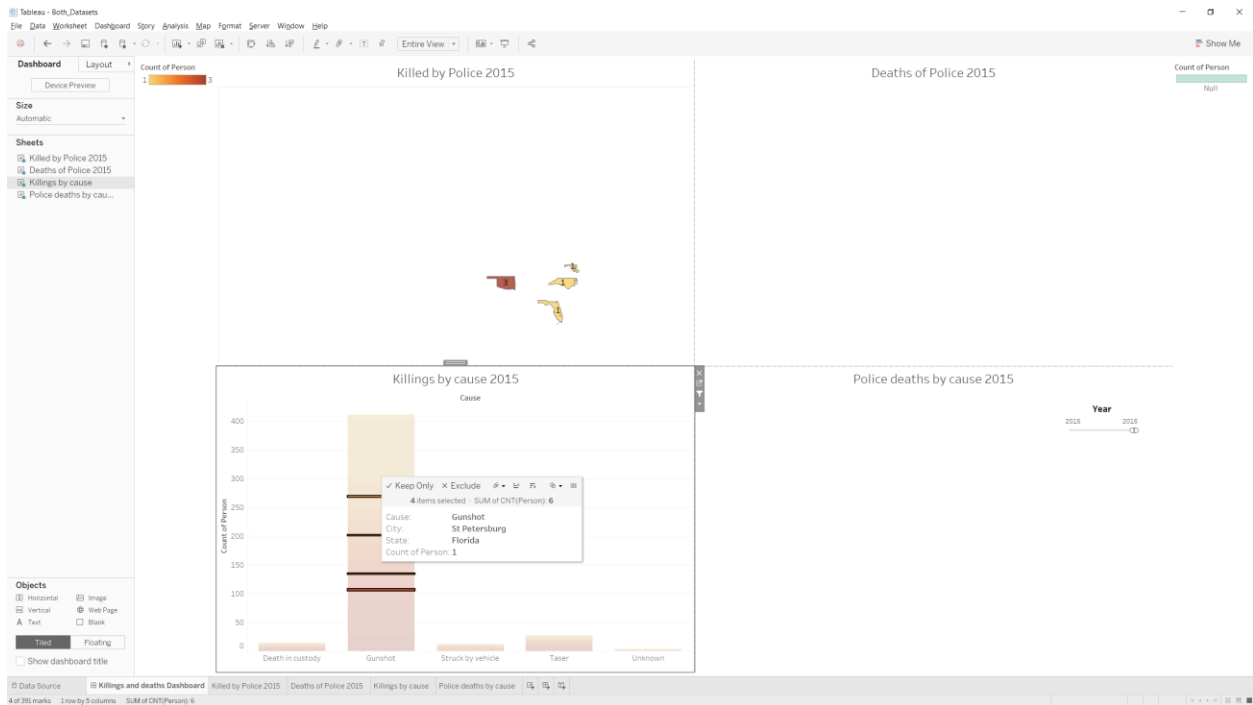


Figure 4.2
By pressing control + mouse click you can choose to highlight more than one value

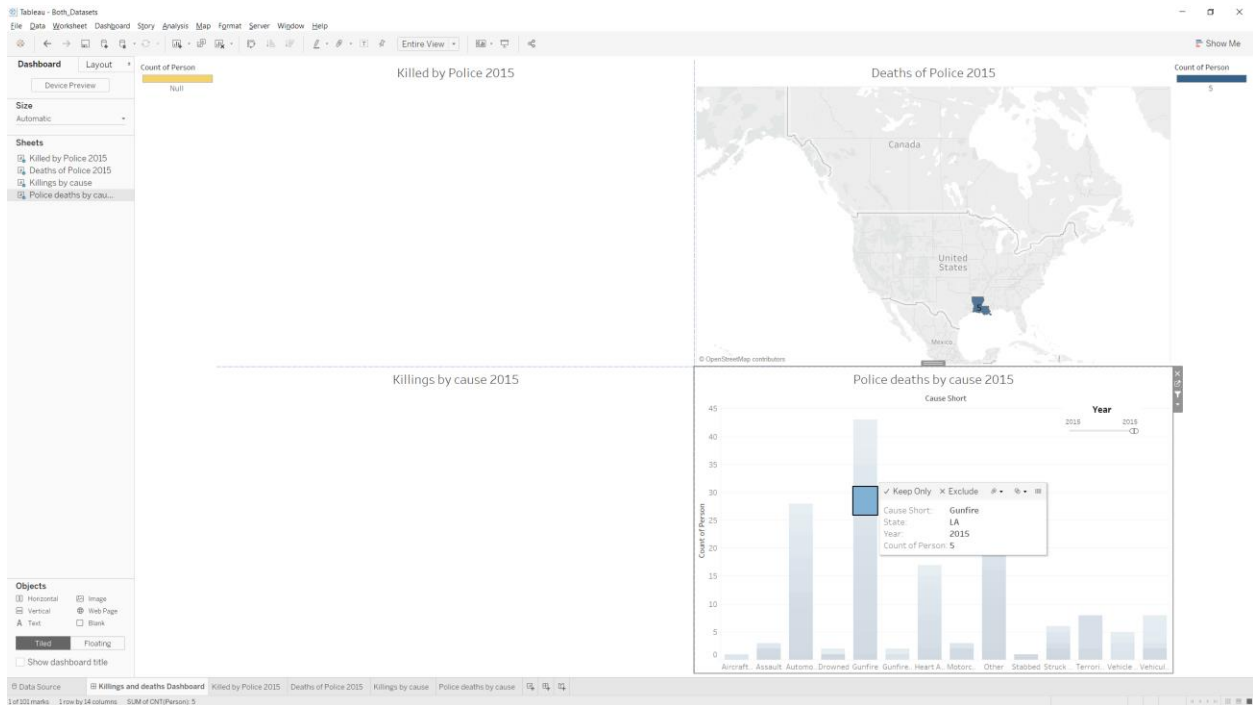


Figure 4.3

Critical View

This coursework was challenging in my opinion. For the first time, I had to find multiple datasets and carry out an analysis and present it in the form of a visualization. Based on the datasets I have chosen, I believe I have done a decent job analyzing and visualize them in a way that the user would understand the data itself and what it shows.

Both datasets might have the same "theme" however, they don't share any common information for me to be able to test their relationship. Therefore, should have chosen my datasets more carefully before I had submitted them. Two statistical tests were made that to show the relationship between variables but, more statistical tests should have been done to justify some of the visualizations. I wanted to run a clustering test between the two datasets but as I have said before not only I was not able to merge the two but most of the statistical tests I went through needed numerical data to run on python, whereas both datasets had more categorical.

Moreover, the visualizations I believe are on point, attractive and easy for the user to interact and understand them. Tableau is easy to work with and can do complex analysis as well as it is great for data exploration. I am glad I have decided to use Tableau for this project as it is expensive to buy, therefore it was a good opportunity for me to learn how to use it. I believe it really suit big companies because of its easy sharing platform, its online community and fast data engine. On the other hand, D3 could have provided me with a bigger library of visualization designs and an online (html) dashboard.

In the end, I have found this coursework a really good experience that will help me in the near future and I am looking forward working on similar projects.

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