Most likely:

* Black suspect (60%)
* No 911 call involved (55%)
* Bodily force used (68%)
* Central or North neighborhoods

Trends:

* Number of police use-of-force incidents declining from 2008 through 2017
* Rate per 10,000 incidents of police use-of-force also declining from 2008 to 2017

Hi Abbey,

This week, Minneapolis released a bunch of data on the MPD's use of force, spanning the years 2008 through 2017. It's really good data that reveals a few trends I found interesting and have been poking at the last couple days. The data not only have an entry for every police incident that resulted in an officer using some kind of force against a suspect, but contains the race of suspect, neighborhood, precinct and specific descriptions of what an officer did to a suspect.

Using the raw numbers in the data, I derived a use-of-force rate per 10,000 police incidents to see how often MPD officers are using force of any kind against suspects.

The major takeaways

-the the use-of-force rate has fallen steadily by about 50 points over the past decade

-about 60 percent of the time, the suspect is black

-a 911 call is not involved 55 percent of the time

-60 percent of the time, the type of force used by the officer is bodily force. Chemical irritants come in next at 23 percent. Tasers are third place with 9 percent. Use of a firearm (either display or discharge) is extremely rare.

-most use-of-force incidents take place in Downtown or the North Side, though St. Anthony East is an odd standout in Northeast.

-the largest single problem police are initially responding to in these incidents, among the hundreds of different reasons given, is "Suspicious Person" at 17 percent. "Fights" come in second at 10 percent, the very vague "Disturbance" category at 7 percent comes in third. Things like assaults in progress or domestric strife don't usually seem to end in police using force on a suspect.

I have to get the injury field in the data clarified before I can draw conclusions from that.

Here's a link to a page full of charts I've compiled:

Anyway, I'm interested to hear your thoughts on this. At the very least it could make an interesting Data Drop.

Thanks!

-Jeff