

Question 3: A heat map of the police districts or beats in Chicago showing the complaint to discipline ratio that allows you to filter out districts based on race and category of complaint.

Heat Map: <https://observablehq.com/@trickortea/heat-map-of-disciplined-percentage-for-misconduct-allegat>

First looking at all allegation categories and filtering by race, it seems clear that allegations of misconduct do not result in disciplinary action when the complaint is filed by a black person as much as it does when the complaint is filed by a white person. Additionally, complaints filed by Hispanic people also seem to result in more disciplinary action as well. Another notable aspect of this graphic is that there are not many allegations from people who identify as Asian/Pacific Islander, making it difficult to gain insight into how complaints are handled when the race of the person complaining is Asian/Pacific Islander. Breaking down allegations geographically, it appears that there aren't a lot of geographic disparities between areas when the complaints are from someone who identifies as black. However, there are a few areas in the North of the city that are clustered with higher discipline ratios than elsewhere in the city. I am curious as to why this is the case and if it has anything to do with the surrounding area or the specific police officers in those areas. When filtering by white people, it appears that complaints on the south side generated more disciplinary action than complaints on the north side of the city. This geographic disparity might be due to demographic differences in those areas since a police force in a largely minority neighborhood might subconsciously take complaints from white people more seriously since they don't interact with them as much and police just being racially biased wouldn't explain the geographic disparity. The heat map for complaints from Hispanic people also showed a similar pattern with higher discipline ratio in the areas in the south of the city.

When filtering by category with race constant, it is first apparent that there is only a lot of data for the first two categories of misconduct, Operation/Personnel Violations and Use of Force. From the map, it seems that the former results in more disciplinary action than the latter but only for a few areas. Interestingly, the category with sizeable data that lead to the most disciplinary action was Conduct Unbecoming (Off Duty). It is a little disappointing to see that it is easier to hold officers accountable when they are off duty than when they are in uniform since it is clear that Conduct Unbecoming (Off Duty) complaints generate significantly more disciplinary action than Use of Force complaints. Examining different misconduct categories geographically, it seems that there is not a huge disparity in Operation/Personnel Violations disciplinary percentage between the north and south of the city but there is definitely a higher disciplinary percentage towards the east than the west. There were no discernible geographic differences for Use of Force complaints, which is interesting since there were some for other misconduct allegation categories. Interestingly, sustained traffic violations seem to occur more frequently and have increasing discipline the further from the center of the city they occur. This may be due to an increased ability for police to make traffic stops in areas with less traffic but may also lead to a higher number of stops for reasons that could garner a complaint that leads to disciplinary action. Traffic complaints led to disciplinary action a similar amount for all races based on looking at the map as well so race may not be a factor in traffic complaints when compared to other categories.

Ultimately, this graphic is interesting in the context of racialized policing because it shows that the process of acting on complaints is still dependent on the race of the person submitting the complaint and is sometimes dependent on which neighborhoods of the city the complaints occurred.