

COLLEGE OF POLICING RESEARCH: Use of Force by Police Officers and Police Wellbeing Research

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I spent my Q-step internship working with the College of Policing on Police Wellbeing Projects and Police Use of Force. It was the first year in which data around Police Use of Force data had been collected meaning

Main Tasks:

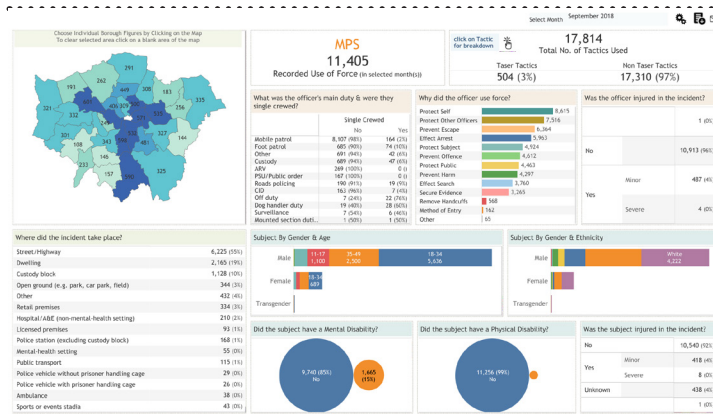
My main task throughout the internship was to try and make all the datasets look the same in order for analysis to occur after I had finished. This meant getting to know the data and being able to speak easily about the limitations of the data collected and the differences in each force's dataset.

that all data I looked at was completely new and collected differently by each force.

Skills Developed:

- Confidence in my SPSS skills - especially use of syntax
- Communication skills through communications with forces
- Research analysis skills through checking data for anomalies and missing data, and through finding contacts and literature for wellbeing projects
- Excel skills - using particular skills to merge datasets.

'I feel much more competent in my data skills'



Variable Name	Type	Count	Percentage	Label
WhatSubse...	String	3	0	What subseque...
WhatSubse...	String	3	0	What subseque...
OffGender	Numeric	1	0	Officer Gender ... (1, Female)
OffAge	Numeric	2	0	What is your a... (1, 0 - 24)
OffLOS	Numeric	1	0	Length of Service (1, 0 - 6 m)
OffTSPST	Numeric	1	0	Length since la... (2, 0 - 6 m)
IncLocStree...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocPubli...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocRetail...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocOpen...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocLicen...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocSport...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocHosp...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocMHS...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocVehic...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocVehic...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocDwell...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocPolic...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocCust...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocAmb...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
IncLocOther...	Numeric	1	0	Incident Locatio... (1, No)
PrmCondu...	Numeric	1	0	Primary conduc... (1, No)
PrmCondu...	Numeric	1	0	Primary conduc... (1, No)
PrmCondu...	Numeric	1	0	Primary conduc... (1, No)
PrmCondu...	Numeric	1	0	Primary conduc... (1, No)

In the end our data collection should lead to something like this being produced but for all forces in the UK. This is only for the Metropolitan police.

'I have learnt things from autorecoding to making categorical variables dummy variables, all while my project managers have been away.'

Image of the type of data I was receiving and how I had to relabel through syntax differently in every data set.

'Before this internship my only experience of syntax was in the workshops but now I seem to be syntaxing everything in SPSS.'

'These actions now feel very much second nature and whilst doing my coding in SPSS, it has become easier to check faults through excel and how to fix these things.'

Use of Force Data:

Analysed all data, cleaning it to make it all look the same;

- Subject information
- Officer Information
- Tactic Information
- Order of Tactics
- Outcome information
- Medical Assistance Information
- Effectiveness of Tactics
- Reason for Use of Force
- Use of Force Location

'Overall it seems for the whole time I will be working on a specific project around use of force. This seems exciting and all the forces are sending their data our way. However, as you can imagine, each force has collected their data in a different way, so I've been tasked with the cleaning.'

Collection of Wellbeing Data:

- Collected contacts in the areas of police wellbeing to contact.
- Contacted said contacts
- Found literature around police wellbeing
- Contacted authors of the literature to look for more literature

Also...

- Worked in excel with data to do with outcomes for arrestees and their court proceedings
- Merged lots of different datasets into a new one in excel with all the variables we wanted to look at

'So an overview: Lots of responsibility, great people and the best location! Couldn't really ask for more right now.'