

**Police Brutality: Impact of the Black Lives Matter  
Movement**

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### **Abstract**

The year 2020 brought public attention to the racial disparities seen in policing. Particularly, within the black community, following multiple high-profile cases involving the killings of unarmed black men by police, specifically, the killing of George Floyd. Many incidents of police brutality were caught on film for the world to see. Footage captured law enforcement committing several acts of violence toward black people. The countless acts of police violence committed and the failure of government officials to address the issue have resulted in continuous deadly consequences. These acts of violence have also shown racial disparities between groups of people. The amount of black people killed by police officers is higher than that of any other race or ethnicity. This study underscores the number of fatal police encounters in the U.S that posed a major threat to people of color and our democracy as a whole. Overall, the goal of this research is to highlight and advance people's understanding of the racial disparities witnessed in policing along with the role it played in the formation of the Black Lives Matter movement.

## Introduction

Police brutality is defined as the overly aggressive and unnecessary force used by police officials toward civilians. Some examples of police brutality include assault and battery, verbal abuse, unwarranted shooting, and murder. There have been many cases of police brutality throughout the U.S. toward all groups of people that have resulted in death. The racial disparities witnessed between the black race compared to any other race caused many to protest for justice. Among these protests, many turned violent and caused even more police brutality. One of the primary focuses of this study is to identify the racial disparities from police violence across different social groups. Identifying the mortality rates between social groups will lay the foundation for the severity of this issue and why the rise of Black Lives Matter protests surged.

Due to the numerous re-occurrences of fatal police encounters, this issue should be viewed as an urgent humanitarian crisis. Black Lives Matter protests brought to light the lack of data and information revolving around police violence. Currently, there are no active government agencies that provide the public with accurate information following fatal police violence. Data reported within the <sup>1</sup>“National Vital Statistics System”, inaccurately reports fatal police encounters. In fact, most fatal police encounters go unreported or are misclassified. Underreporting is obscuring the issue which is police violence. The lack of accurate data and transparency contributes to the high cases of fatal police violence, thus, BLM protests have helped bring attention to this humanitarian crisis.

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<sup>1</sup> The *National Vital Statistics System*, is the vital registration system for the US and the primary data collection agency for deaths in the U.S.

## **Literature Review**

The purpose of this study is to gain a better understanding of the role the Black Lives Matter movement played in acknowledging racial disparities witnessed in policing all across the U.S. Through literature, I will first demonstrate that the existence of police brutality is a humanitarian crisis in the United States. Secondly, I will provide mortality rates among people of color compared to white people, thus proving the issue of racial disparity in policing. Thirdly, I will explore why the phenomenon of police violence is still present and how this motivated the rise of the Black Lives Matter protests.

### **Police Brutality in the U.S.**

The severe issue of police brutality in the U.S. can be further explained by the article, “How Police Compare in Different Democracies”, where authors Amelia Cheatham and Lindsay Maizland discuss police brutality as a crisis in the United States, as it surpasses most wealthy democracies in killings by police (Cheatham, 2022). As the authors put it, “U.S. police killed 8,767 people between 2013 and 2020. In comparison, at least 254 people died in encounters with Canadian police between 2013 and 2020”(Cheatham, 2022). Moreover, they write, “some countries, such as Finland and Norway, have gone years without police killings” (Cheatham, 2022). In the article, “By the numbers: US police kill more in days than other countries do in years”, Jamiles Lartey discusses how police officials in the United States kill far more people than police in other developed democratic societies. Specifically, “in the first 24 days of 2015, police in the US fatally shot more people than the police did in England and Wales, combined, over the past 24 years”(Lartey, 2015). Although police brutality is a problem that can be seen in many other advanced democracies, the amount of fatal police violence in the United States is

unmatched. This information is vital in understanding just how big of a problem police violence has become for the United States.

The relationship between police to people of color has always been tense. The U.S. has a long history of discrimination. Black Americans are about three times more likely to be killed by police (Cheatham, 2022). In the article, “Risk of being killed by police use of force in the United States by age, race-ethnicity, and sex”, the authors discuss how the risk of being killed by police in the United States varies across social groups (Edwards, 2019). For instance, the authors estimate the mortality risks among social groups by quantifying and comparing the mortality rate of people of color, relative to white people. They do this by using novel data on police-involved fatalities and Bayesian simulation models. They present the data numerically by mentioning that black men are about 2.5 times more likely to be killed by police over the life course than white men. Black women are about 1.4 times more likely to be killed by police than white women. American Indian men are between 1.2 and 1.7 times more likely to be killed by police than are white men, and American Indian women are between 1.1 and 2.1 times more likely to be killed by police than are white women. Latino men are between 1.3 and 1.4 times more likely to be killed by police than are white men, but Latina women are between 12% and 23% less likely to be killed by police than are white women. Both Asian/Pacific Islander men and women are more than 50% less likely to be killed by police than are white men and women (Edwards, 2019). The authors demonstrated the risk of being killed by police is higher for people of color than for white people. This is crucial in identifying those racial disparities in policing.

Additionally, Elle Lette, Emmanuella Ngozi Asabor, Theodore Corbin, and Downin Boatright (October 2020). Present the existence of racial disparities in police shootings. The authors illuminate that Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), have significantly

higher death rates compared to white people during encounters with police. Furthermore, they discuss the rate of fatal police shootings for BIPOC remains constant from 2015 to 2020. These racial disparities in policing are demonstrated through a longitudinal study of “The Post,” which provides data on fatal police shootings in the USA. This study compares the rate at which social groups were killed, and whether they were armed or unarmed. During a five-year period, 5,367 fatal police shootings occurred. Of those armed victims, Native Americans were killed at a rate three times that of white people. Black people were killed at 2.6 times the rate, and Hispanics were killed at nearly 1.3 times the rate of white people. Among unarmed victims, Black people were killed at three times the rate, and Hispanics at 1.45 times the rate of white people (Lette, Asabor, Corbin, Boatright, 2020). That said, people of color facing disparities within policing can be demonstrated through statistical data.

To further prove the severity of the issue of fatal police violence and the high mortality rate of people of color, it is crucial to analyze the effects this issue has on these people. Anthony L. Bui presents the severity of the issue by analyzing the effects of police violence on young people of color. Anthony mentions that the number of years of life lost (YLLs) was greater among younger people of color than whites. Specifically, he estimated that 57,375 and 54,754 YLLs were due to police violence in 2015 and 2016. People of color comprised 38.5% of the population, but 51.5% of all the YLLs from 2015 to 2016. YLLs from police violence were greatest among those aged 25-34 years old but the distribution of YLLs was even higher among younger ages in people of color compared with whites. Compared to white people, the rate of YLLs was greater among American Indian/Alaskan Natives, blacks, and Hispanics, and lower among Asian/Pacific Islanders (Bui, 2018). The YLLs are important in showing how many people are losing their lives to police violence and emphasize the humanitarian crisis.

### Police Brutality: Ongoing Phenomenon

The ongoing phenomenon of police killing citizens can best be explained by a lack of accountability from States and other contributing factors. Allyson Collins, explains a few of these contributing factors that are still relevant today in, *Shielded from Justice: Police Brutality and Accountability in the United States*. Specifically, "the problem of excessive force in the LAPD is fundamentally a problem of supervision, management, and leadership. Absent constant vigilance, clear departmental policies, consistent enforcement of those policies, and a "zero tolerance" approach to both abuse and the code of silence that surrounds it, police brutality will continue to undermine police-community relations"(Collins, 1998). This can be seen in cases today, for example, while George Floyd was being murdered, Derek Chauvin's partners stood by and did nothing. They encouraged his behavior by standing back and allowing Chauvin to continue to rest his knee on Floyd's neck.

Furthermore, it is difficult to get reliable figures on killings by police because many governments do not collect or publish this data. An article published by The Lancet, "Fatal police violence by race and state in the USA, 1980–2019: a network meta-regression", found that more than half of all deaths due to police violence estimated in the USA from 1980 to 2018 were unreported in the National Vital Statistics System (Elsevier, 2021). Moreover, researchers explained the issue of undercounting and misreporting deaths committed by law enforcement. For example, across all races and states in the U.S., it was estimated that 30,800 deaths occurred from police violence between 1980 and 2018; this represents 17,100 more deaths than reported by the NVSS (Elsevier, 2021). Similarly, authors Edwards, Lee, and Esposito tie the issue to the lack of basic estimates of police-involved deaths, largely due to the absence of definitive official data (Edwards, Lee, Esposito, 2019). This is essential in understanding why the BLM protests in

2020 spread like wildfire. In addition to the killing of George Floyd, and Breonna Taylor, the racial disparities in the killings of people of color, and the lack of accountability from government officials caused the public to demand justice, thus the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement became stronger than ever. The Black lives matter movement caused immediate public attention. Due to protests and the gathering of public assemblies, non-profit organizations have been created to collect this data publicly. One of those is “Mapping Police violence”, others include <sup>2</sup>“Fatal Encounters” and “Police Shootings Database”. All of these datasets work to combat racial violence committed by police. Black lives matter protests created a tremendous impact in exposing police brutality.

### **Research Question & Hypothesis**

On that basis, this study aims to analyze the effects of the Black Lives Matter protests in the United States and answer two questions; How has the Black Lives Matter movement brought attention to police brutality? How has this attention affected police use of lethal force? I will rely on empirical data that exists to support and answer my research questions.

In response to my first question, I hypothesize that media footage of BLM protests being met with police violence while advocating against police brutality further proved the issue and directed even more attention to it. People watched as innocent protestors and journalists were attacked while peacefully protesting for racial justice. The spread of this footage and images brought an overwhelming amount of attention to police brutality. The footage allowed for BLM

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<sup>2</sup> “Fatal Encounters”, is a database that attempts to “document all deaths that happen when police are present or that are caused by police: on-duty, off-duty, criminal, line-of-duty, local, federal, intentional, accidental—all of them”.

“Police Shootings Database”, is a database that exclusively documents incidents of police violence where people are fatally shot by on-duty police officers.



to go mainstream in 2020, thus reaching larger audiences everywhere and exposing the tactics of law enforcement attempts to silence protestors. In my second question, I hypothesize that the worldwide attention of the Black Lives Matter movement impacted police to stop the use of lethal tactics such as shootings. As a result, BLM protests have reduced the acts of fatal police brutality committed. To prove this, I plan to evaluate the number of fatal encounters specifically, the number of shootings before and after the high rise of the BLM protests and determine if police use of lethal force decreased. For this study specifically, I will focus on the year 2015 to 2020.

### **Methodology**

To test my first hypothesis on the effects BLM footage has on police brutality, I decided to analyze data from an online platform that focuses on tracking BLM protests, as well as, keeping records of those protests met with police violence from the year 2020. The platform consists of two reliable sources that geolocate, verify, and analyze the evidence. In addition to this data, I was able to identify a pattern between police responses to BLM protests using literature from the author, Inazu where he explains the pattern of over-policing.

To test my second hypothesis, I utilized a database known as <sup>3</sup>*Mapping Police Violence*. This database tracks all fatal encounters committed by police officers from 2013 to 2021. The database also includes other valuable information about the victims, such as race, age, gender, location, and behaviors leading up to the fatal police encounter, such as mental illness, armed, or unarmed. Specifically, I will look at the cause of death in fatal police encounters in the years 2015 to 2020. Before, I begin, I will establish that this study, will identify the year 2020, following the murder of George Floyd as the rise of the BLM protests. That said, this will help to

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<sup>3</sup> “Mapping Police Violence” is a non-profit organization that tracks fatal encounters with police. It is the most comprehensive database of police killing victims in the United States (Sinyangwe et al., 2021).

identify whether the use of lethal force has declined or increased, from the year 2015 thus, explaining how the BLM movement has impacted the use of lethal force by police. My sample of the data will consist of the following variables Black, White, and Hispanic victims in the United States between the years 2015 and 2020. The data is then transferred onto a google spreadsheet, where I filter and manually take out variables not needed, such as the victim's address of death, image, and name.

### **Research Findings**

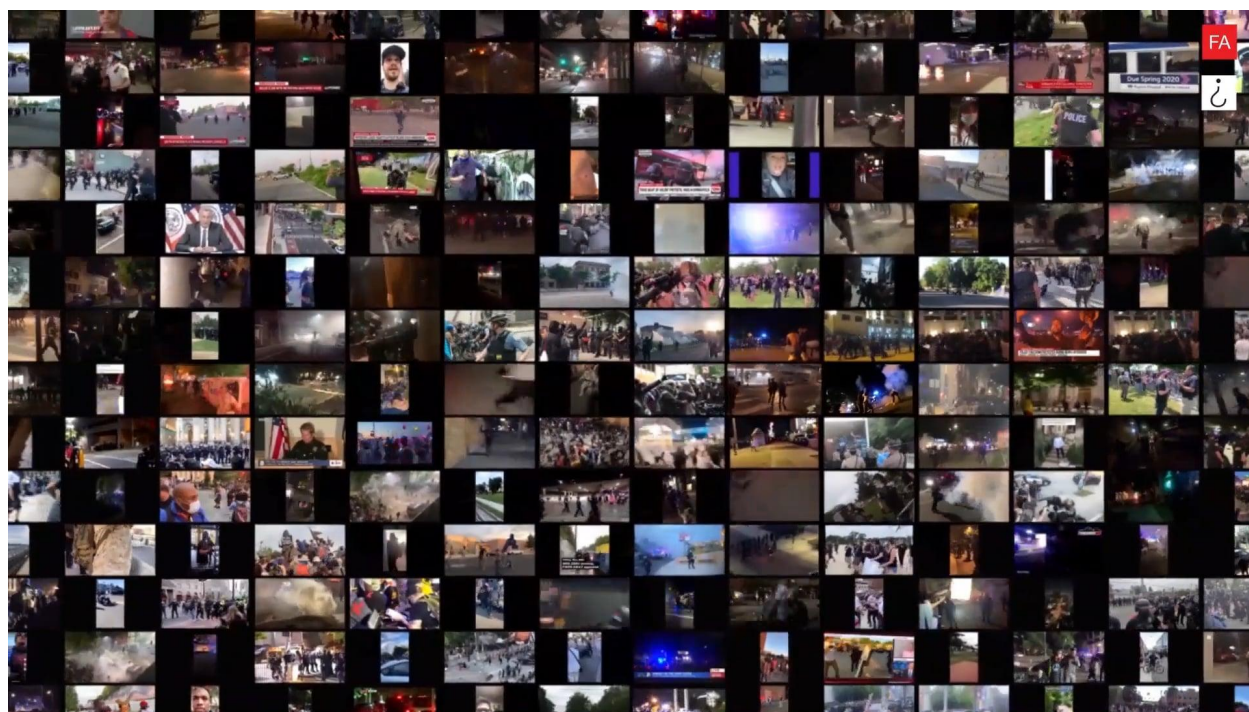
The media footage of police officials regulating BLM protests had a significant impact in bringing attention to police brutality. Based on my observation, I can infer the footage captured from the Black Lives Matter protests, that took place after the killing of George Floyd, was met with violence. Footage and images of that violence surfaced all over the internet for many to see. With the help of Bellingcat, Forensic Architecture “geolocated and verified over a thousand incidents of police violence, analyzed them according to multiple categories and presented the resulting data in an interactive cartographic platform” (2020). This data shows images and videos of law enforcement behaving violently toward protestors, medics, legal observers, and journalists. For example, protestors in Philadelphia on June 1, 2020, who weren’t resisting were pepper-sprayed by police officers. This was in direct violation of Philadelphia’s<sup>4</sup> department’s policy for use of OC spray. In Los Angeles, Ca, footage caught officers escalating a protest by firing hundreds of less-lethal rounds at retreating protestors. Officials made no effort to de-escalate as required by the <sup>5</sup>policy. According to The New York Times: *Minneapolis to Ban*

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<sup>4</sup> Philadelphia Police Department Policy: Section E, The use of OC spray is not to be used once a individual has been placed under control, there is no further justification for the continued use of the OC Spray.

<sup>5</sup>On September 12, 2019, Senate Bill 230 was signed into law by California Governor Gavin Newson. This new law requires each law enforcement agency to maintain a policy, effective January 1, 2021, that provides guidelines on the use of

*Use of Chokeholds by Police*, in New York, cell phone footage caught police officers beating unarmed protesters and “sideswiping demonstrators with opened squad car doors.” Even non-protestors were being attacked by law enforcement. For example, in Austin, Texas on May 31, 2020, medics marked with red crosses were carrying a wounded man to safety and were fired at by policemen. In New York on May 31, 2020, and in Portland, Oregon on May 24, 2020, medics were also physically assaulted and arrested. The data also reveals almost two hundred attacks against journalists. In Los Angeles, on September 12, 2020, a reporter was brutally thrown to the ground and arrested. This data as shown in Figure 1, allowed the public to witness high amounts of unnecessary police violence during BLM protests.



*Figure 1.* This is a still image of all of the video footage from the year 2020, of BLM protests that were met with violence

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force, utilizing de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to force when feasible  
[https://www.lapdonline.org/home/news\\_view/66709](https://www.lapdonline.org/home/news_view/66709)

This shift in public attention toward police brutality was significant because there have been other protests following the deaths of other black men, for instance, the death of John Crawford in 2014 who was killed by police while shopping at Walmart, received attention for a limited time. The difference now is the killings and acts of police brutality toward protestors have been recorded and countless evidence of footage exists, thus capturing the attention of thousands. Furthermore, the exposure to police brutality during the BLM protests also revealed the problem of intense policing norms. The BLM protests were able to shine a light on the over-policing as an attempt to silence these protestors' demands for justice.

John Inazu states that lawmakers overregulate nonviolent groups in an attempt to silence them. He claims that by “neglecting earlier statutory and common law elements...these laws fall short of the aspirations of the First Amendment” (Inazu, 2016). Inazu states that local governments have rewritten unlawful assembly laws as a form of social control to shut down peaceful protests that are of “inconvenience” to them. He continues by claiming that officials can disperse a protest so long as they conclude that participants are at some point planning to engage in forceful or violent lawbreaking (Inazu, 2016). For instance, California’s jurisdiction can dispense with the requirement of force or violence. He continues by stating how today's laws are less protective of peaceful protests. He gives the example of Missouri's statute which governed the Ferguson protests. Missouri’s statute failed to acknowledge that an unlawful assembly had to demonstrate a reasonable perception of harm. Second, the harm threatened by the assembly had to be both likely and severe (Inazu 2016). The rise of the black lives matter movement has been effective in bringing the faults of our police system to light.

Additionally, an important finding in analyzing data and reviewing images and footage was the impact of community. The BLM protests included a lot of people from different racial

backgrounds. These images embody the sense of unity and a collection of people coming together. Below are some images gathered from 2020 protests that arose after the murder of George Floyd.



The image above was captured on May 29, 2020. In this image, there are about one-thousand protesters who were marching down Washington Street in Boston to stand up against police brutality. Specifically, this protest showed an enormous amount of outrage and support over the unlawful killing of George Floyd. Protest signs read, “Justice for Floyd”, “Murder not Manslaughter”, “Abolish the police”, and “Stop Killing. Along with their signs, they chanted the names of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, and demanded justice for their deaths. Also, notice how most protestors are wearing masks, during these protests, our nation was in the middle of a pandemic. Even during a period when COVID-19, a



deadly virus was in the midst, people still came together to protest and stand in solidarity against the issue of police violence.

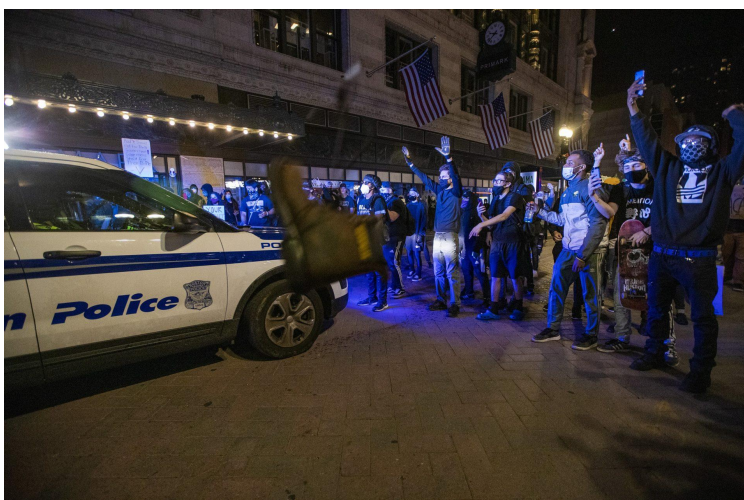
In the images below, protests also took place on May 29, 2020, in Peters Park in the South End, where one thousand people gathered to protest police brutality and the killings of black people such as George Floyd. In the images, you can see protestors taking a knee and forming the BLM symbol, by making a fist. This gesture represents liberation for those in the black community continuing to fight against racial disparities.



Protests continued throughout cities, specifically, on May 31, 2020, thousands of people gathered at Nubian Square in Roxbury, in preparation to march to the State House to protest against police brutality.



The march was led by Black Boston and ended peacefully at the State House where protestors took a knee just as intended. However, about 20 minutes after the protest ended, Boston police officers, who had been following and monitoring the event since it began in Roxbury, began to arrive, and quickly chaos broke out. A few protesters threw water bottles and as seen in the image below, a shoe was thrown; and officers responded, with the use of batons, pepper spray, and tear gas to push them back.







Violence and continued chaos took the streets, protestors were injured and police property was set on fire. What started as a peaceful protest, quickly changed with the response of heavy policing, the relationship between police and protesters reveals the anger and resentment of the issue. Protestor Jasmine Webb said, “ it would have been nice if they marched with the people to say, hey, we get it, too we don’t like this corrupt stuff that’s going on within our system, we stand with you, but instead, they show up at the end when it’s time to lay down the law and that’s not what policing is all about.” The protest became a battle between civilians demanding justice and police officials enforcing their interpretation of the law.

Below are some more images of the damages that took place that night. The first image shows a protestor who was pepper-sprayed in the face by Boston police. It is unclear who was the individual who came to his aid with milk.





The second image underneath shows a protester walking on top of a Boston Police SUV that was set on fire on Tremont Street. BLM protests brought communities together and increased awareness of police violence.



Turning to my second hypothesis, I believe that the use of worldwide public attention on these issues decreased the number of police use of lethal force, specifically, shootings. I predict the exposure of police violence circulating through countless footage tapes would have impacted police use of lethal force. In addition, I predicted the black lives matter movement would significantly decrease the number of deaths each year. However, based on my observation of *Mapping Police Violence*, I noticed that the amount of lethal violence committed continues to remain constant with no major shift in the decrease of lethal shootings.

In the graph below, the number of deaths seemed to be the highest for all races in the year 2015. The death rate decreased by 36 fewer deaths with a total of 1,007 deaths in 2016. The following year in 2017, the death rate increased by 7 more deaths with a total of 1,014 deceased. In 2018, the death rate was 991, so the death rate decreased by 23 fewer deaths. In the year 2019, the death rate decreased by 54 fewer deaths, with a total of 937 fatalities. In 2020, the death total

was 865 with a decrease of 72 fewer deaths. Overall, this demonstrates the consistency of lethal killings by police officials, thus not creating any major changes in the rate at which people are murdered by police. Despite the option of police using other forms of less-lethal methods, it still results in mortality. Police should be focusing on enhancing their training to lower mortality rates. The impact of the BLM movement slightly affected the death rate.

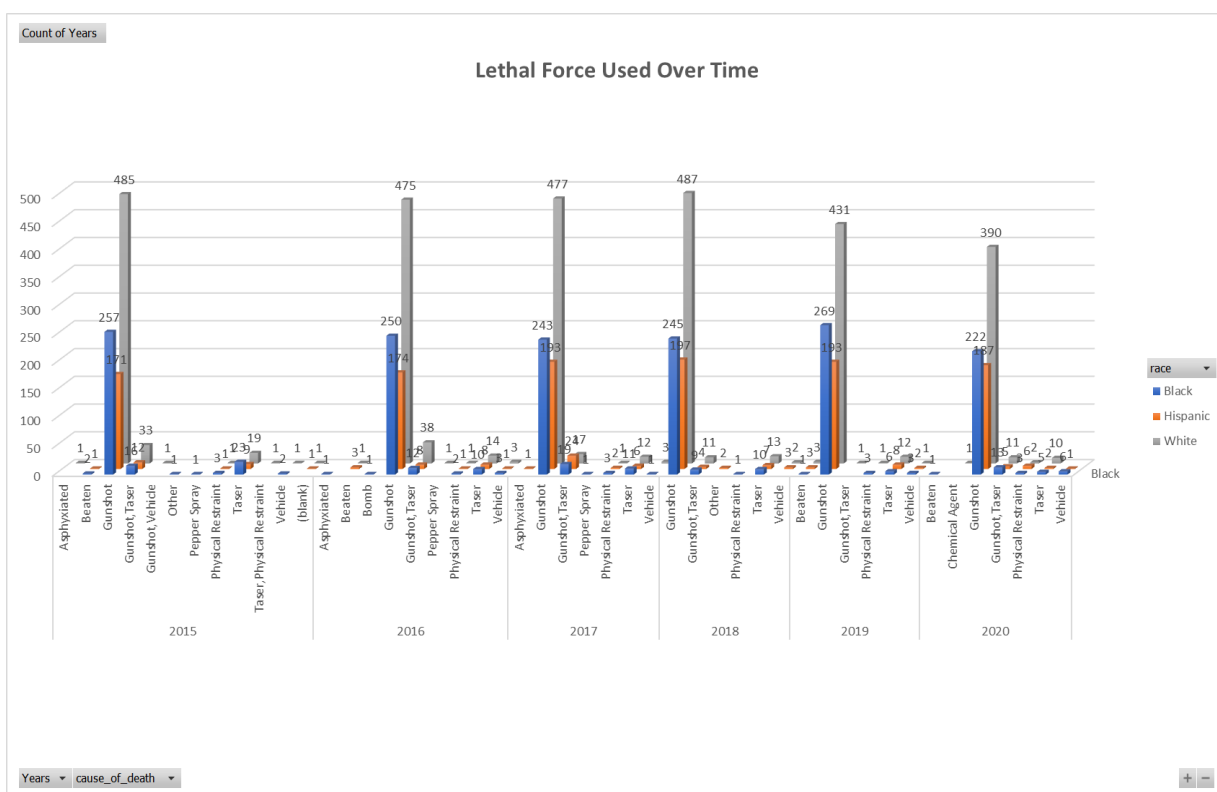
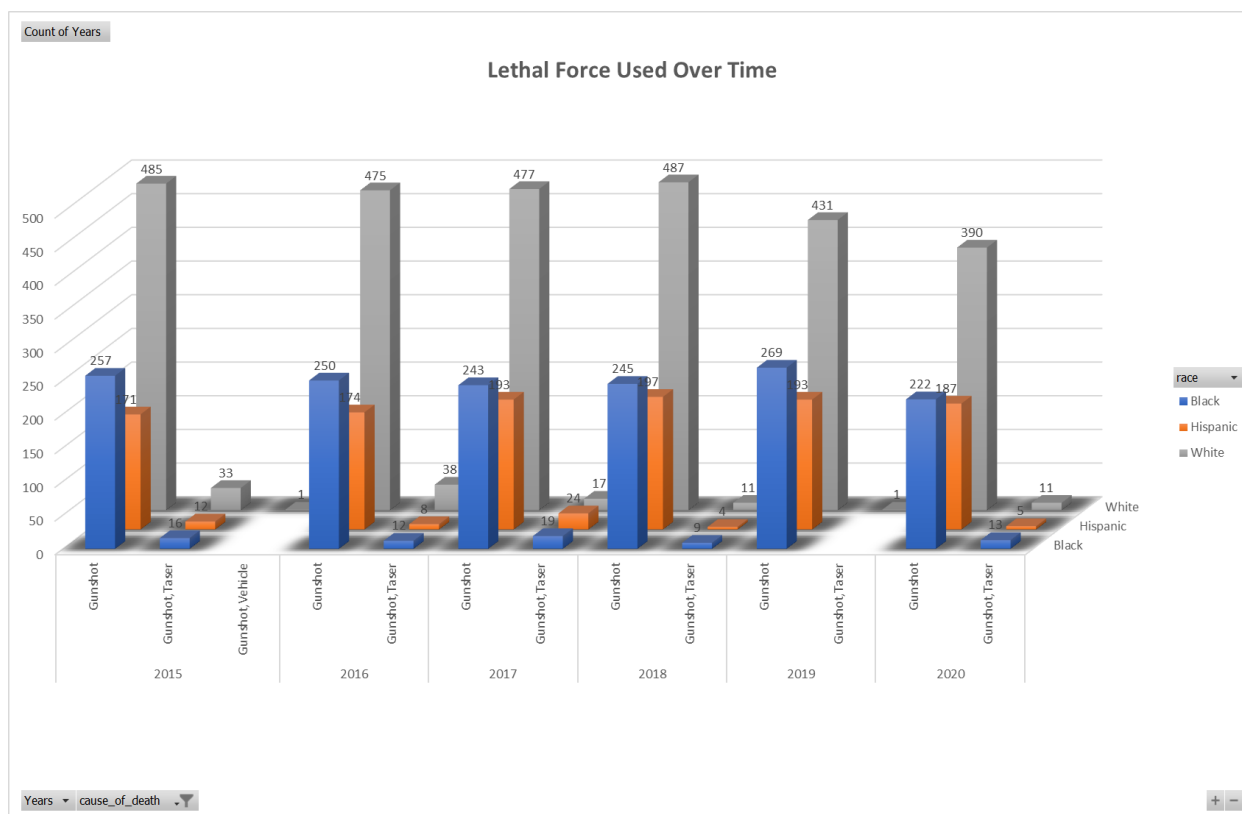


Figure 1 includes all types of lethal force used by police officials toward civilians



*Figure 2. The data chart above solely examines the use of shooting-related lethal force. Helps examine the patterns with the focus solely on lethal-related shootings*

From the years 2015 to 2020, the graph above examines the patterns of lethal-related shootings. Specifically, black-related deaths by gunshot decreased slightly between the years 2015 to 2017. Hispanic and White gunshot deaths stayed within the same range every year. The gunshot-related deaths are about an average of 215 per year of Black people and an average of 180 from Hispanics, but White people average about 415 gunshot-related killings. From the years 2015 to 2018 the average amount of 480 versus the years 2019-2020 drops down to 431 and 390 respectively. This correlates to my second hypothesis that the Black Lives Matter movement and public attention on these issues did not drastically decrease police use of lethal shootings.

Figure 3 below, includes the data tables used to create the graphs. The data tables provide a clear layout of the type of police use of lethal force toward civilians.

<b>Count of Years</b>	<b>Column Labels</b>			
<b>Row Labels</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
<b>2015</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>1043</b>
Asphyxiated			1	1
Beaten	2	1		3
Gunshot	257	171	485	913
Gunshot,Taser	16	12	33	61
Gunshot,Vehicle			1	1
Other	1			1
Pepper Spray	1			1
Physical Restraint	3	1	1	5
Taser	23	9	19	51
Taser,Physical Restraint			1	1
Vehicle	2		1	3
(blank)		1	1	2
<b>2016</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>1007</b>
Asphyxiated	1			1
Beaten		3	1	4
Bomb	1			1
Gunshot	250	174	475	899
Gunshot,Taser	12	8	38	58
Pepper Spray			1	1

Count of Years	Column Labels			
Physical Restraint	2	1	1	4
Taser	10	8	14	32
Vehicle	3	1	3	7
<b>2017</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>1014</b>
Asphyxiated		1		1
Gunshot	243	193	477	913
Gunshot,Taser	19	24	17	60
Pepper Spray	1			1
Physical Restraint	3	2	1	6
Taser	11	6	12	29
Vehicle	1		3	4
<b>2018</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>991</b>
Gunshot	245	197	487	929
Gunshot,Taser	9	4	11	24
Other		2		2
Physical Restraint	1			1
Taser	10	7	13	30
Vehicle		3	2	5
<b>2019</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>937</b>
Beaten	1	3	3	7
Gunshot	269	193	431	893
Gunshot,Taser			1	1
Physical Restraint	3		1	4

Count of Years	Column Labels			
Taser	6	8	12	26
Vehicle	3	2	1	6
<b>2020</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>865</b>
Beaten	1			1
Chemical Agent			1	1
Gunshot	222	187	390	799
Gunshot, Taser	13	5	11	29
Physical Restraint	3	6	2	11
Taser	5	2	10	17
Vehicle	6	1		7
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1659</b>	<b>1236</b>	<b>2962</b>	<b>5857</b>

### Discussion

After analyzing all of the footage and posts on social media involving relation to BLM and analyzing online database sets, there are some points that must be addressed regarding the manner the project was completed. That said, after completing my thesis which aimed at highlighting the rise of the black lives matter movement and its impact on exposing police brutality, which was presented through analyzing online datasets and tracking footage of police killings. As a disclaimer, my research did not include descriptive statistics of study variables, this could impact and cause any errors and bias. My research was empirical and relied on analyzing raw data from public databases in the United States and recorded events through footage.

Additionally, if I had more time with this specific topic, and access to a large enough audience, then I would have liked to reach out to people who specifically, had either been

involved in a police brutality encounter, attended BLM protests, or witnessed police brutality. Although, I was unable to conduct research using surveys or polls. The data I was able to collect was significant in testing my hypothesis. I included pictures of BLM protests and incidents of police brutality to show more multimodality and help the readers to visualize what it is like to be at one of those protests. It further emphasizes the importance media exposure can have in spreading awareness about an issue, such as police brutality. The use of media helped to expose the acts of police violence during the Black lives matter protests. Thus, conveying the issue of over-policing and how BLM protests helped bring awareness. The issue of police brutality has been around since 2013, high cases of racial violence committed against predominantly black individuals are essentially what started the need for the movement. In fighting for justice, the BLM movement was able to expose and bring even more attention to the issue of police brutality. The movement was able to stand against and speak up about racial injustice and police brutality. The profound attention to police brutality did not include the significant changes that I had presumed about police officials' use of lethal force. However, the slight changes in pattern are a stepping stone. The results observed and presented in this research demonstrate that while the change may not be big, it is significant.

### **Conclusion**

In brief, through all evidence, it is certain to assert that, black lives matter protests geared high amounts of attention to the issue of police brutality and slightly limited the use of lethal force toward civilians. The importance of these findings constructs the humanitarian crisis of police violence and racial disparities. This issue has been met with numerous protests and movements such as the BLM. As a result, a community has evolved in exposing and generating more awareness of police brutality. Through literature review, it has been demonstrated that

people of color disproportionately suffer from higher mortality rates than white people during police encounters. That said, there is no doubt that it is necessary to address the issue now. Accountability and transparency can help lessen the racial violence witnessed in America. Black lives matter protests and people advocating all over the world have created a strong justice movement. While there were limited results in the action of lethal force, the more effort that is put into documenting and acknowledging the violence, the greater chance to continue making change. The public's constant action for justice, as the result of police brutality, is what gave rise to the Black Lives Matter movement, it also sparked for non-government agencies to create databases to keep track of police violence. Altogether, the amount of immediate attention to police brutality has made the issue that was once ignored, known. The Black Lives Matter movement will no longer allow injustices to continue in silence.



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