
CITY OF CINCINNATI BIAS-FREE POLICING ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

Status Update: November 18, 2019

Initial Review & Analysis

The kick-off meeting was held on July 22, 2019 at the University of Cincinnati. The majority of the Bias-Free Policing Data Analytics Working Group (WG) attended the meeting. The project was introduced and WG members were given the opportunity to ask questions or revise and add questions to the stakeholder interview guide.

Interviews were conducted with nearly all WG on September 24, 2019 and September 30, 2019. The remaining interviews with WG members will be completed by November 21, 2019. Currently, the interviews are being transcribed for analysis, but preliminary results suggest:

- Everyone interviewed is supportive of this project and sees a need for this work.
- Most of the discussions of bias focused on racial bias followed by socioeconomic status bias. Other types of bias mentioned to a lesser extent included age, gender, and immigration status.
- Different suggestions emerged on what the framework should look like and/or what data should be collected. Additionally, there was discussion about how accessible this data should be to the public given the nuances of fully understanding the context of the data and thus resulting in unintended consequences.
- Interview participants identified strengths and potential pitfalls with creating this framework.

Based on recommendations from the WG members, some additional interviews are being scheduled with key stakeholders. Final interview results incorporating these additional interviews will be presented in the next report.

The UC Team met with the Office of Performance and Data Analytics' Director Nicollette Staton on August 29, 2019 and Lt. Matt Hammer and Brandon Kyle from the Cincinnati Police Department's Crime Analysis and Problem-Solving Unit on October 21, 2019. Both meetings centered on the data currently available for analysis.

Design Process

A key component of this design process is a systematic review of scientific research articles assessing bias in police traffic stops, arrests, and use of force. A systematic review approach ensures the process is transparent and replicable in the future.¹ The UC Team has finished developing the protocol that will underpin the systematic review: *54 keywords capturing concepts of police, bias, and traffic stops, arrests, and use of force will be used to search 25 different scientific databases available through the University of Cincinnati's Library System.* The systematic search process for articles will begin the week of November 21, 2019 and the first draft of the preliminary report describing potential analytical techniques should be available March 2020. At this end of this review, we will have the most comprehensive inventory of analytical techniques that have been used in research assessing police bias to date.

¹ For technical details describing systematic reviews see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Systematic_review