

Module 4

Using data in investigations

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Lecture 1: What data can do for your stories

Structured data

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	id	name	date	manner_of_	armed	age	gender	race	city	state	signs_of_me	threat_level	flee	body_camera
2	3	Tim Elliot	1/2/15	shot	gun	53	M	A	Shelton	WA	TRUE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
3	4	Lewis Lee Lembke	1/2/15	shot	gun	47	M	W	Aloha	OR	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
4	5	John Paul Quintero	1/3/15	shot and Tas	unarmed	23	M	H	Wichita	KS	FALSE	other	Not fleeing	FALSE
5	8	Matthew Hoffman	1/4/15	shot	toy weapon	32	M	W	San Francisco	CA	TRUE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
6	9	Michael Rodriguez	1/4/15	shot	nail gun	39	M	H	Evans	CO	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
7	11	Kenneth Joe Brown	1/4/15	shot	gun	18	M	W	Guthrie	OK	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
8	13	Kenneth Arnold Buck	1/5/15	shot	gun	22	M	H	Chandler	AZ	FALSE	attack	Car	FALSE
9	15	Brock Nichols	1/6/15	shot	gun	35	M	W	Assaria	KS	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
10	16	Autumn Steele	1/6/15	shot	unarmed	34	F	W	Burlington	IA	FALSE	other	Not fleeing	TRUE
11	17	Leslie Sapp III	1/6/15	shot	toy weapon	47	M	B	Knoxville	PA	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
12	19	Patrick Wetter	1/6/15	shot and Tas	knife	25	M	W	Stockton	CA	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
13	21	Ron Sneed	1/7/15	shot	gun	31	M	B	Freeport	TX	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
14	22	Hashim Hanif Ibn Abdul-R	1/7/15	shot	knife	41	M	B	Columbus	OH	TRUE	other	Not fleeing	FALSE
15	25	Nicholas Ryan Brickman	1/7/15	shot	gun	30	M	W	Des Moines	IA	FALSE	attack	Car	FALSE
16	27	Omarr Julian Maximillian	1/7/15	shot	gun	37	M	B	New Orleans	LA	FALSE	attack	Foot	TRUE
17	29	Loren Simpson	1/8/15	shot	vehicle	28	M	W	Huntley	MT	FALSE	undetermine	Not fleeing	FALSE
18	32	James Dudley Barker	1/8/15	shot	shovel	42	M	W	Salt Lake City	UT	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	TRUE
19	36	Artago Damon Howard	1/8/15	shot	unarmed	36	M	B	Strong	AR	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
20	37	Thomas Hamby	1/8/15	shot	gun	49	M	W	Syracuse	UT	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	TRUE
21	38	Jimmy Foreman	1/9/15	shot	gun	71	M	W	England	AR	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
22	325	Andy Martinez	1/9/15	shot	gun	33	M	H	El Paso	TX	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
23	42	Tommy Smith	1/11/15	shot	gun	39	M	W	Arcola	IL	TRUE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
24	43	Brian Barbosa	1/11/15	shot	gun	23	M	H	South Gate	CA	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
25	45	Salvador Figueroa	1/11/15	shot and Tas	gun	29	M	H	North Las Ve	NV	FALSE	attack	Foot	FALSE
26	46	John Edward O'Keefe	1/13/15	shot	gun	34	M	W	Albuquerque	NM	FALSE	attack	Foot	TRUE
27	48	Richard McClendon	1/13/15	shot	knife	43	M	W	Jourdanton	TX	TRUE	other	Not fleeing	FALSE
28	49	Marcus Golden	1/14/15	shot	vehicle	24	M	B	St. Paul	MN	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
29	50	Michael Goebel	1/14/15	shot	vehicle	29	M	W	Franklin Cou	MO	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
30	51	Mario Jordan	1/14/15	shot	gun	34	M	B	Chesapeake	VA	TRUE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
31	52	Talbot Schroeder	1/14/15	shot	knife	75	M	W	Old Bridge	NJ	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE
32	54	Robert Edwards	1/14/15	shot	gun	68	M	W	Lake Jackson	TX	FALSE	attack	Not fleeing	FALSE

The data journalism process

- Identify
- Obtain
- Evaluate/bulletproof
- Clean
- Analyze/report
- Visualize
- Publish

Why do journalists use data?

Context: Find the big picture & pattern

Anecdotes: Find good examples that drive the story home

Watchdog: Test government procedures, industry claims, etc.

Unique stories: Uncovering/compiling information no one has seen

Interactivity: Make your stories more visual, engaging and personalized

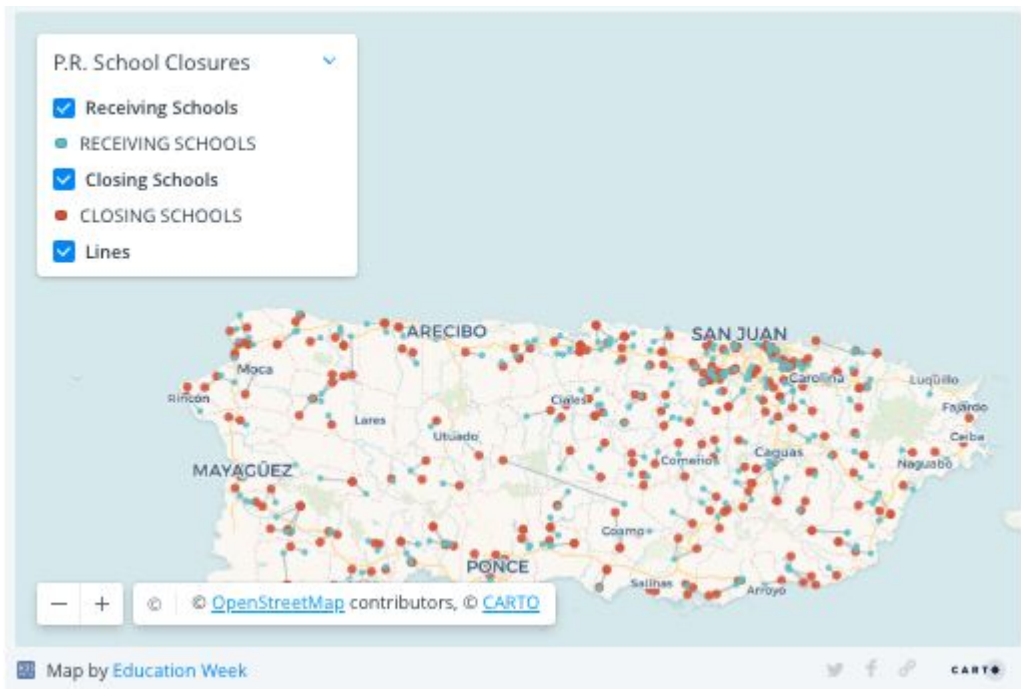
Examples

See the Schools Puerto Rico Plans to Close and Where Displaced Students Will Go

Hurricane Maria severely disrupted Puerto Rico's public schools when it hit Sept. 20, 2017. Now, the island's education system is poised to undergo a controversial transition.

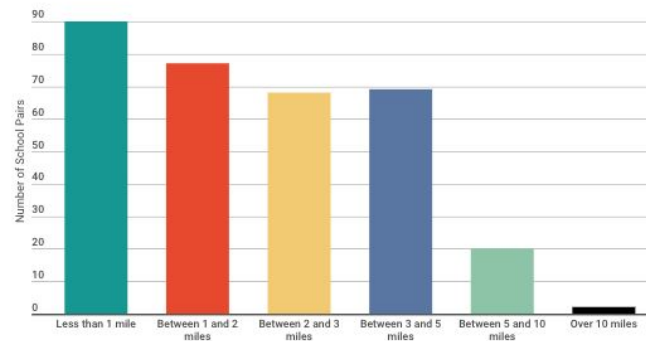


EDUCATION WEEK



Driving Distances Between Puerto Rico's Closing and Receiving Schools

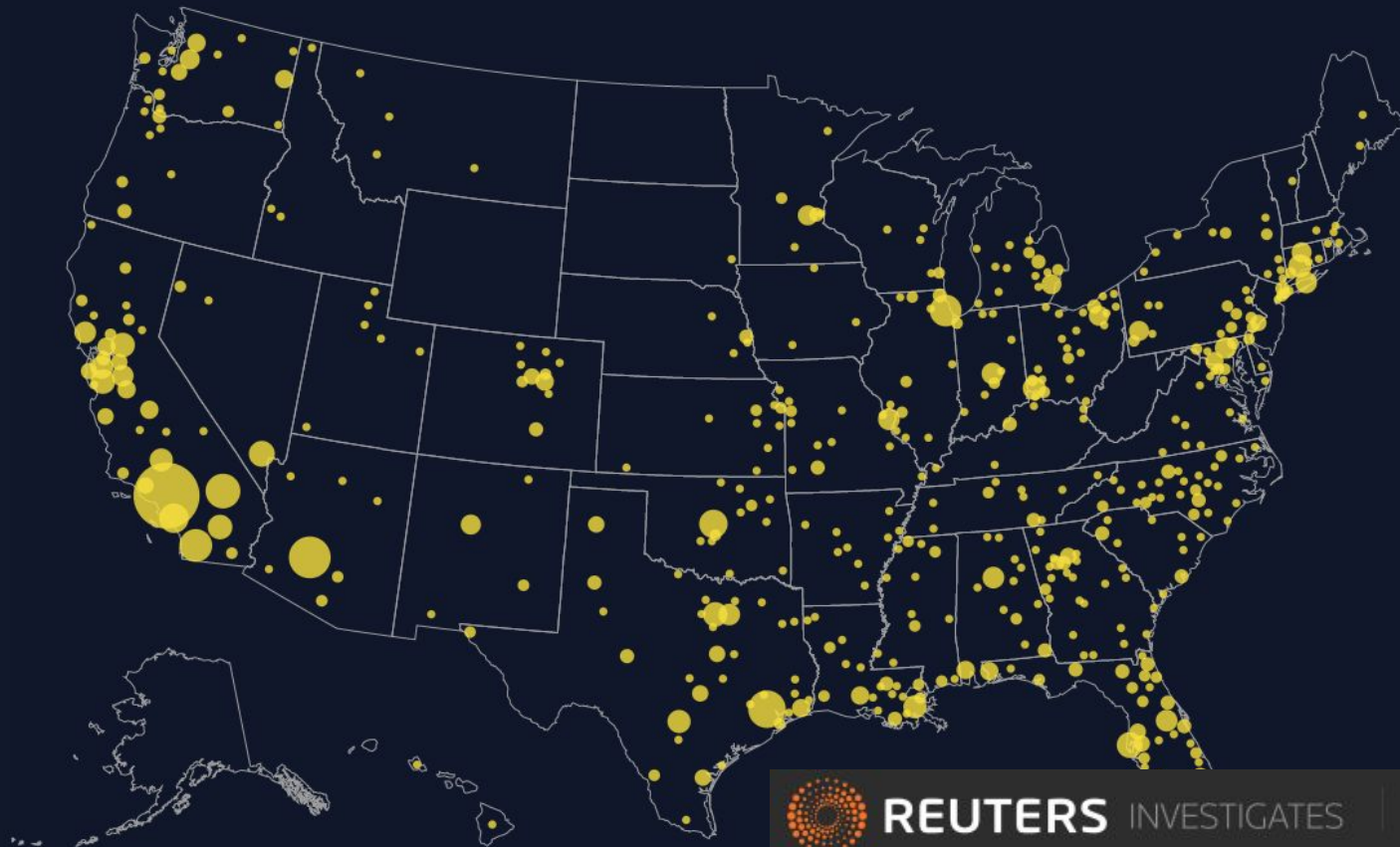
In Puerto Rico 270 schools are being tapped to take in students from 263 schools that are slated to close before the 2018-19 school year. The average driving distance between the closing and receiving schools is 2.33 miles. Most of the driving distances between students' old and new schools would be less than five miles, but these new routes to school could still be a big change for some children and parents. Hover over the bars to see the number of school pairs for each distance range.



EDUCATION WEEK

Deaths and Tasers in America

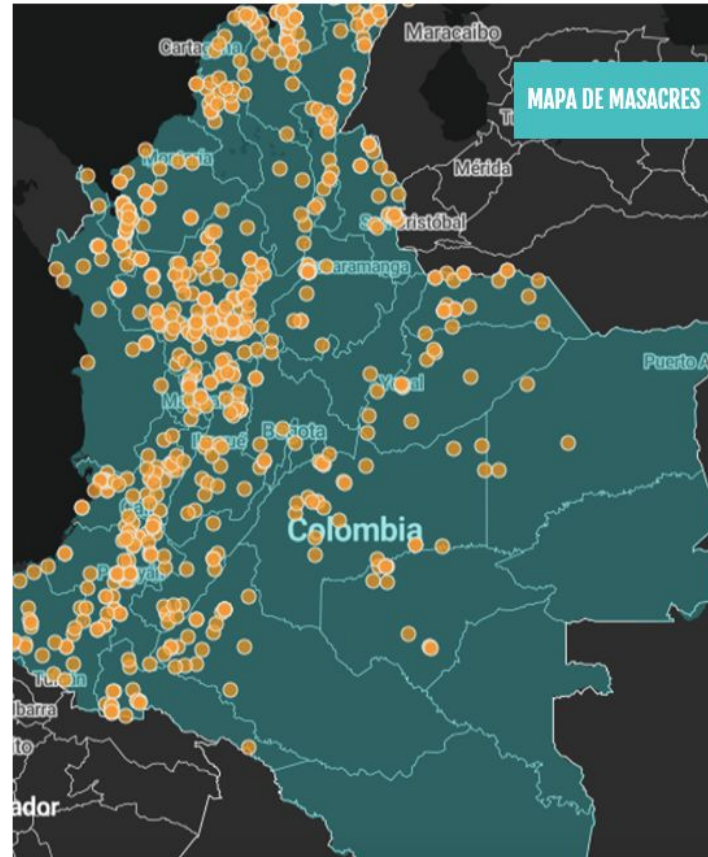
Explore Reuters' database of more than 1,000 incidents in which people died after police stunned them with Tasers, often in conjunction with other force



REUTERS INVESTIGATES

Shock Tactics

ROUTAS DEL CONFLICTO



'I'm getting ripped off': A look inside Ticketmaster's price-hiking bag of tricks



CBC News/Toronto Star investigation tracks seat sales for this weekend's Bruno Mars concert in Toronto

Fans shut out: Only 96 seats available for general public for Leafs first home playoff game

[How we did it \(slides\)](#)

Finding data

Finding data for your stories

- Google
- Open data portals
- Journalism organizations: [Aleph](#)
- Sourcing & using open records laws
- Crowd sourcing/building your own from paper documents
- Course resource: [International data tipsheet](#)