Handout for ASUCRP/JRSA Presentation – 9/2/21

- **Title:** Ohio Use of Force Data Quality
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**Section 1: Background**

1. Use of force (UOF) data are important for understanding the frequency and characteristics of UOF incidents, and for developing and evaluating policies.
   - “When individuals ranging from members of the public to members of Congress asked, ‘How often does this happen?’ the disappointing answer they received was, ‘We don't know.’” – Garner et al, 2017
   - [FBI Use of Force Data Collection Program](#)

2. It is not enough to have data, the data must be high quality as well.
   - [FBI UOF data quality pilot study](#)

   - The framework used in this study was [Askham et al, 2016](#).

**Section 2: Data and Analysis**

- [Ohio Use of Force Program](#)

- Six dimensions of data quality
  - Completeness – Proportion of stored data against the potential of 100% complete.
    - Item completeness
    - Agency completeness
  - Validity - Data conform to the syntax of its definition.
  - Timeliness - The entry of a record in the database compared to when it occurred.
  - Uniqueness - Data should only be included once in the database.
    - Same agency vs. different agencies
  - Accuracy - The degree to which the data correctly describe the real world object or event.
  - Consistency - Data should only be included once in the database.

**Section 3: Discussion**

- Evaluating UOF data quality allows you to make improvements to your data collection program, and to have confidence in your data.
• This should be an ongoing process, as data quality may change as more agencies start participating in the program.

- Two factors affecting data quality
  - Database design – Which data elements will be collected, and how will they be coded?
  - Law enforcement participation - Law enforcement can provide important information about database design, data that are currently collected, and agency policies and procedures that will affect the reporting process.