

## Summary of Black-White Differences in Traffic Stops and Searches in Asheville, NC, 2002-2013

October 15, 2015

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<http://www.unc.edu/~fbaum/traffic.htm>

Table 3. Percent Searched by Race and Purpose of Stop

| Purpose            | Number | % Total | % White | % Black | Ratio       |
|--------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
|                    |        |         |         |         | Black:White |
| Total Stops        | 97,797 | -       | 79.77   | 18.39   | -           |
| Total Searches     | 8,194  | 8.38    | 6.89    | 14.75   | 2.14        |
| Speed Limit        | 36,437 | 2.31    | 1.77    | 6.52    | 3.68        |
| Stop Light/Sign    | 8,264  | 6.44    | 4.87    | 12.72   | 2.61        |
| Driving Impaired   | 1,027  | 53.55   | 54.70   | 43.59   | 0.80        |
| Safe Movement      | 10,756 | 12.35   | 10.73   | 19.62   | 1.83        |
| Vehicle Equipment  | 8,295  | 13.04   | 11.57   | 17.44   | 1.51        |
| Vehicle Regulatory | 17,875 | 9.20    | 7.65    | 14.01   | 1.83        |
| Seat Belt          | 3,749  | 7.12    | 5.75    | 13.03   | 2.27        |
| Investigation      | 6,745  | 20.61   | 19.57   | 23.11   | 1.18        |
| Other Vehicle      | 4,649  | 12.02   | 8.90    | 19.59   | 2.20        |

Table 3 shows that Blacks have a rate of search 114 percent higher than that of Whites. This finding is sustained in a multiple regression analysis controlling for the following variables: Hispanic; Age; Purpose of Stop; being stopped by a “High Disparity” officer; the day of the week; and the hour of the day. The increased likelihood that a Black male driver would be searched in that model, compared to a similarly situated White male driver, is +109 percent. For female drivers, the increased likelihood is +16 percent.

Table 4. Type of Search by Race

| Search Type        | Number | % Total | % White | % Black | Ratio       |
|--------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
|                    |        |         |         |         | Black:White |
| Total Stops        | 97,797 | -       | 79.77   | 18.39   | -           |
| Total Searches     | 8,194  | 8.38    | 6.89    | 14.75   | 2.14        |
| Consent            | 4,012  | 4.10    | 3.43    | 6.99    | 2.04        |
| Search Warrant     | 10     | 0.01    | 0.01    | 0.02    | 2.00        |
| Probable Cause     | 1,418  | 1.45    | 1.11    | 2.90    | 2.61        |
| Incident to Arrest | 2,382  | 2.44    | 2.04    | 4.18    | 2.05        |
| Protective Frisk   | 372    | 0.38    | 0.30    | 0.67    | 2.23        |

Figure 7. Search Rates by Race, Gender, and Age Group

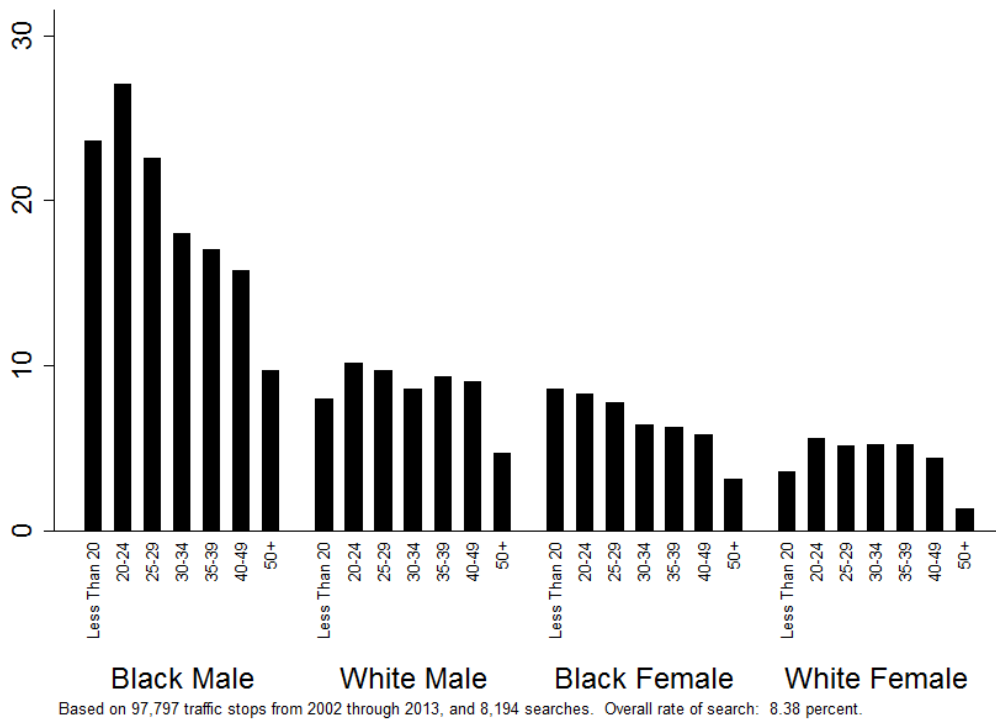


Figure 12. Percent of White and Black Drivers Searched, by Officer

