

Analysis of Hispanic-White Differences in Traffic Stops and Searches in Apex, NC, 2002-2013

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September 28, 2015

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Table 1. Overview of the Data

Data Subsets	Observations
Total stops	84,349
-2014	2,902
-Passengers	1,280
-Checkpoint stops	239
Stops for analysis	79,969
Searches	2,801

Search Rate = 3.50

Figure 1. Number of Traffic Stops per Year

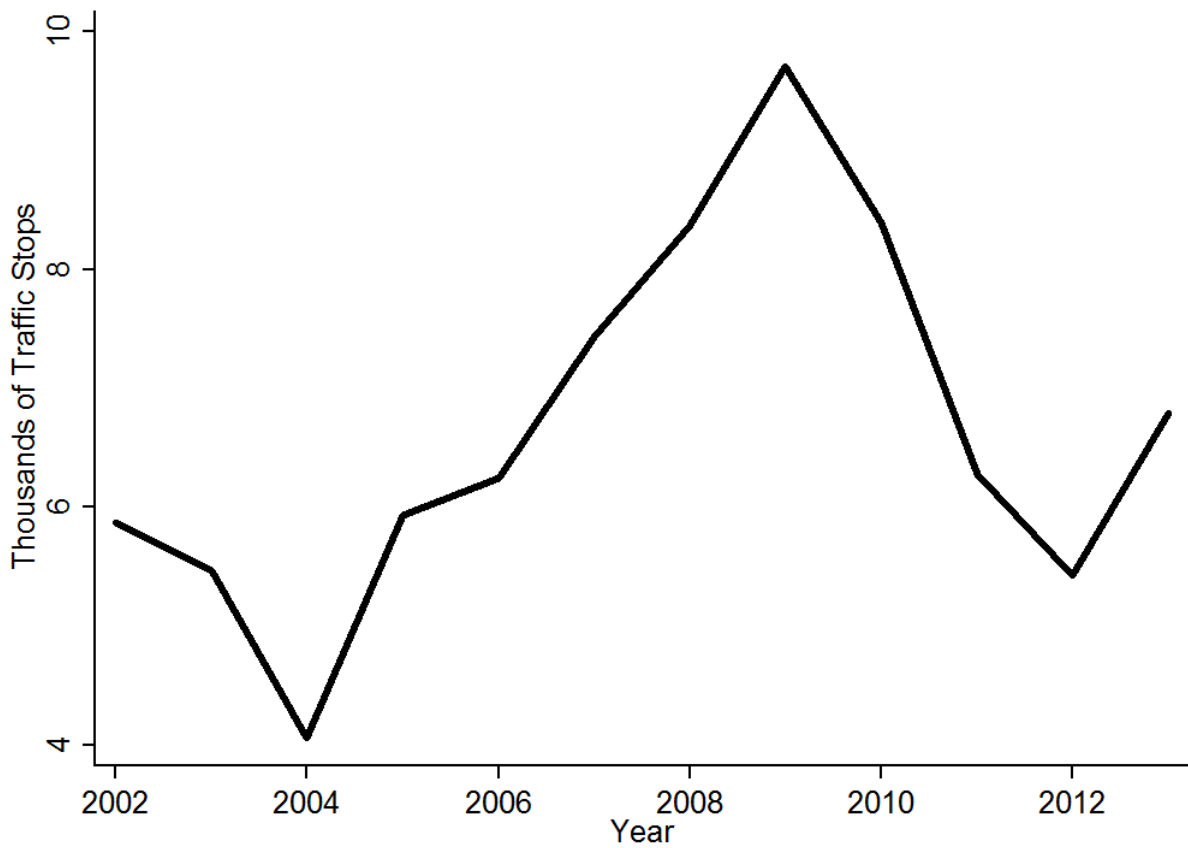


Figure 2. Ethnic Composition of Traffic Stops by Year

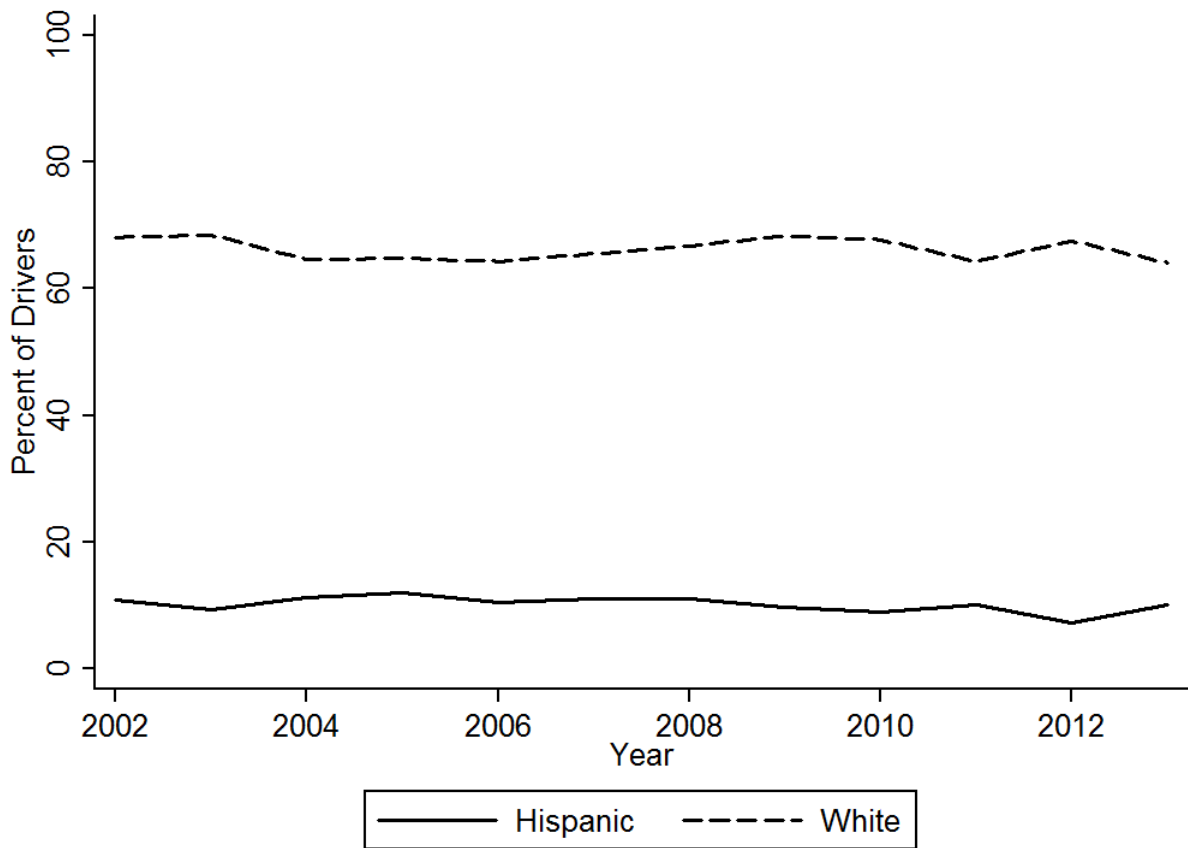


Table 2. Ethnic Composition of Traffic Stops by Purpose, Drivers

Purpose	Number	Percent	
		White	Hispanic
Total Stops	79,969	73.85	10.16
Speed Limit	26,803	76.90	7.31
Stop Light/Sign	6,211	76.79	8.58
Driving Impaired	922	69.36	18.22
Safe Movement	5,797	71.79	11.40
Vehicle Equipment	8,297	64.33	14.04
Vehicle Regulatory	18,190	74.61	8.06
Seat Belt	6,198	77.13	10.97
Investigation	3,426	63.99	21.54
Other Vehicle	4,125	69.46	18.23

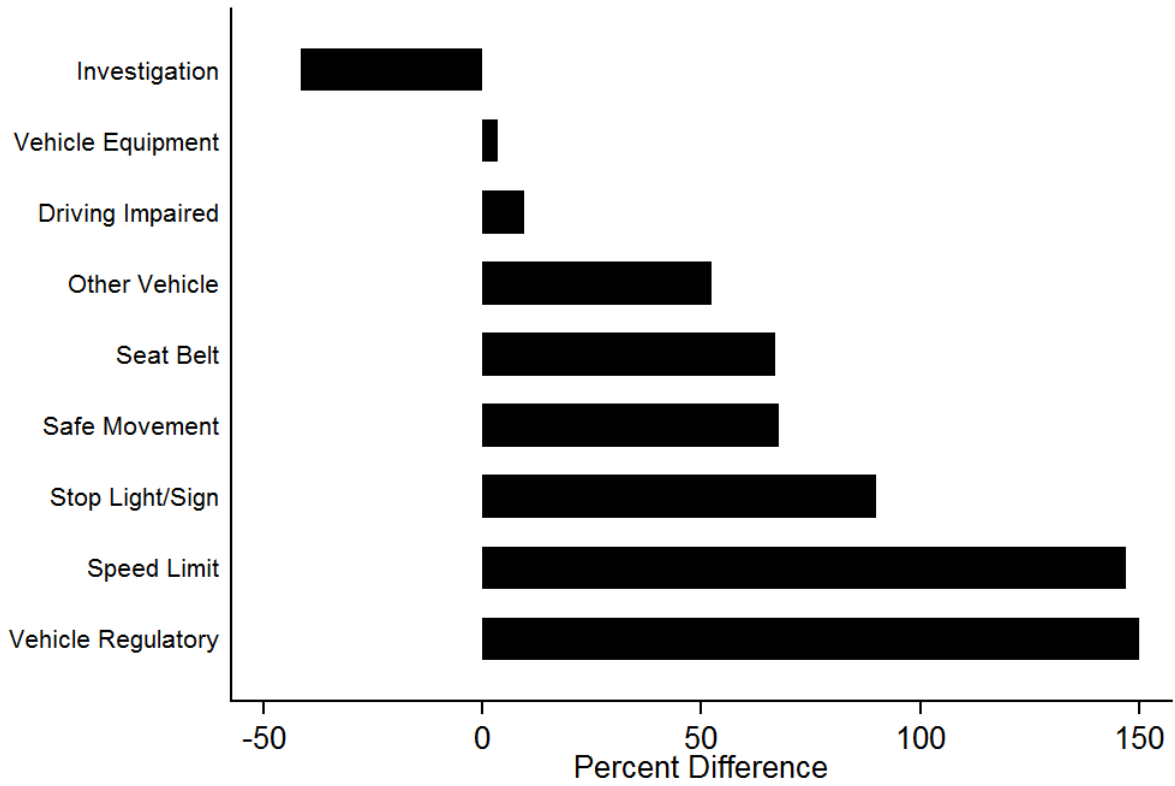
Note: Includes only drivers. Excludes 239 checkpoint stops. Excludes 1,280 passengers.

Table 3. Percent Searched by Ethnicity and Purpose of Stop

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	79,969	-	73.85	10.16	-
Total Searches	2,801	3.50	2.86	5.48	1.92
Speed Limit	26,803	1.47	1.18	2.91	2.47
Stop Light/Sign	6,211	1.48	1.28	2.44	1.91
Driving Impaired	922	39.15	43.40	47.62	1.10
Safe Movement	5,797	4.88	4.15	6.96	1.68
Vehicle Equipment	8,297	5.34	4.97	5.15	1.04
Vehicle Regulatory	18,190	2.52	1.75	4.37	2.50
Seat Belt	6,198	2.13	1.76	2.94	1.67
Investigation	3,426	13.16	14.13	8.27	0.59
Other Vehicle	4,125	4.51	3.84	5.85	1.52

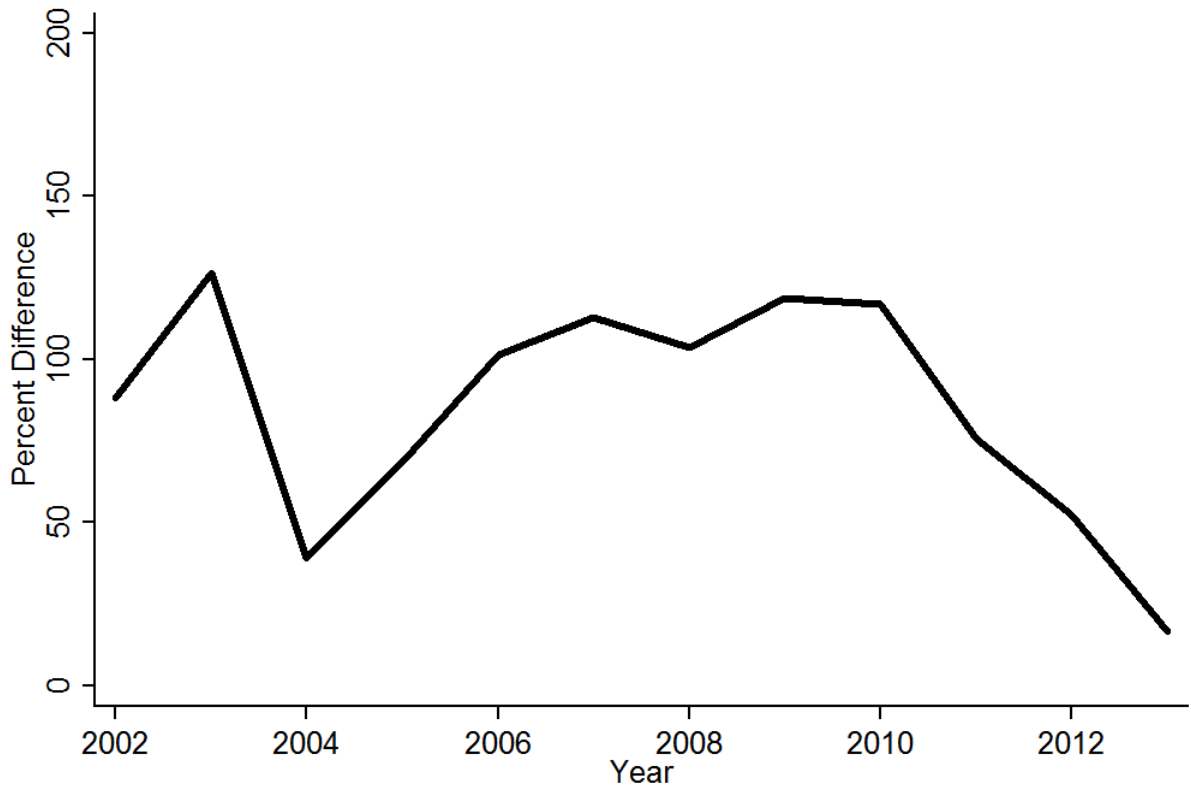
Note: See the appendix for this same table broken down for Men and Women.

Figure 3. Difference in Likelihood of Being Searched, by Ethnicity and Type of Stop



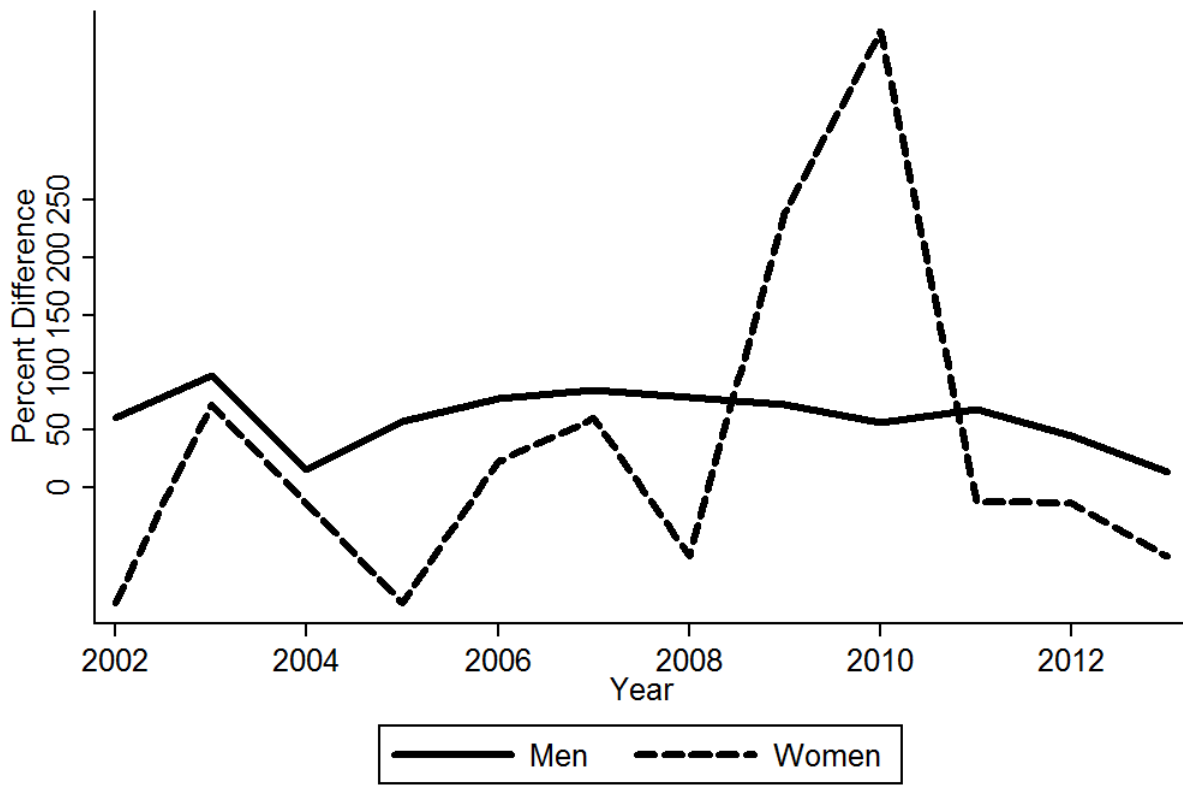
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites by purpose of stop.

Figure 4. Ethnic Differences in the Likelihood of Search



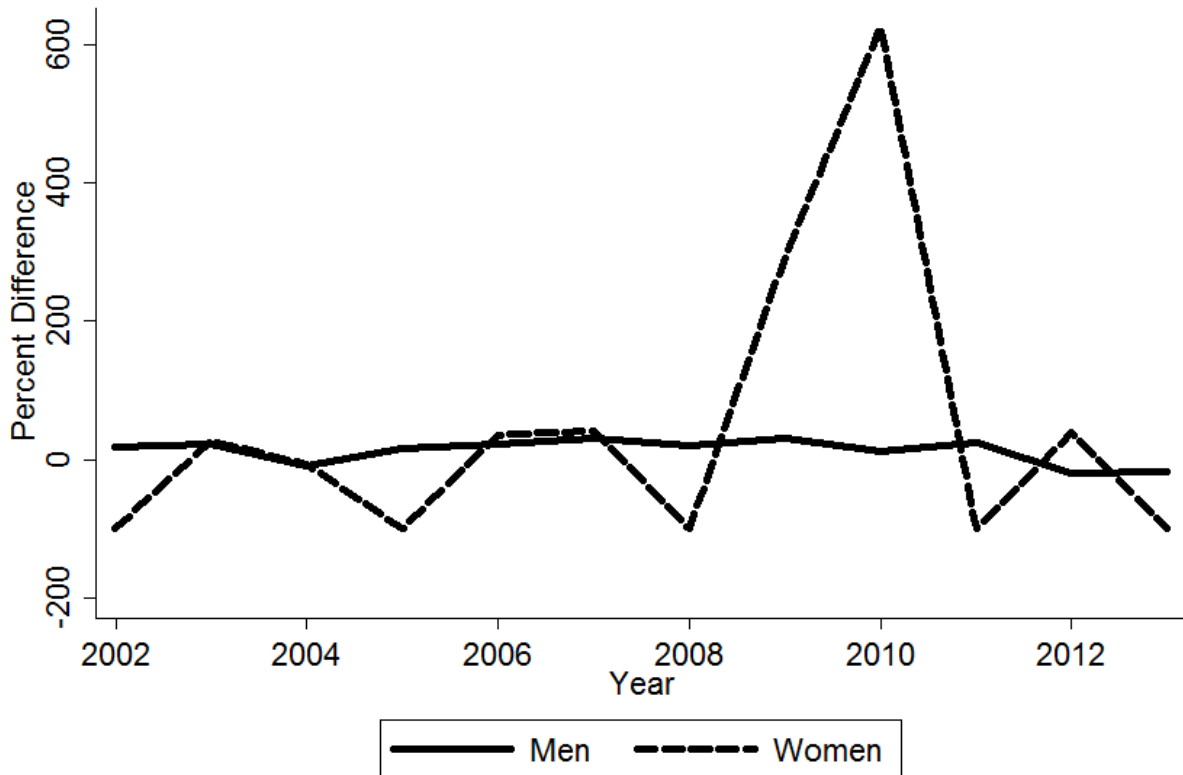
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites.

Figure 5. Ethnic Differences in the Likelihood of Search by Gender



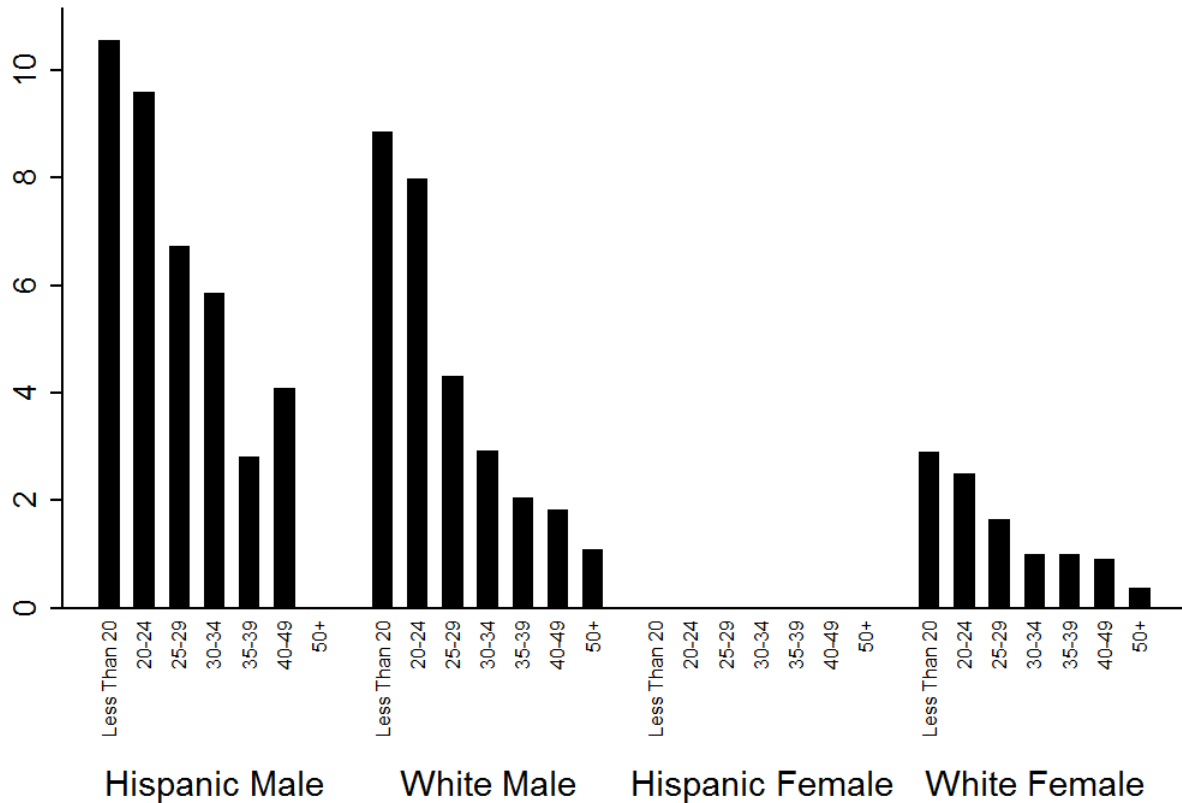
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites by gender.

Figure 6. Ethnic Differences in the Likelihood of Search by Gender, for Drivers Under 30



The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites by gender for motorists under 30.

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



Based on 79,969 traffic stops from 2002 through 2013, and 2,801 searches. Overall rate of search: 3.50 percent.
No data are presented for categories with fewer than 10 searches.

Figure 8. Number of Stops, by Ethnicity and Gender

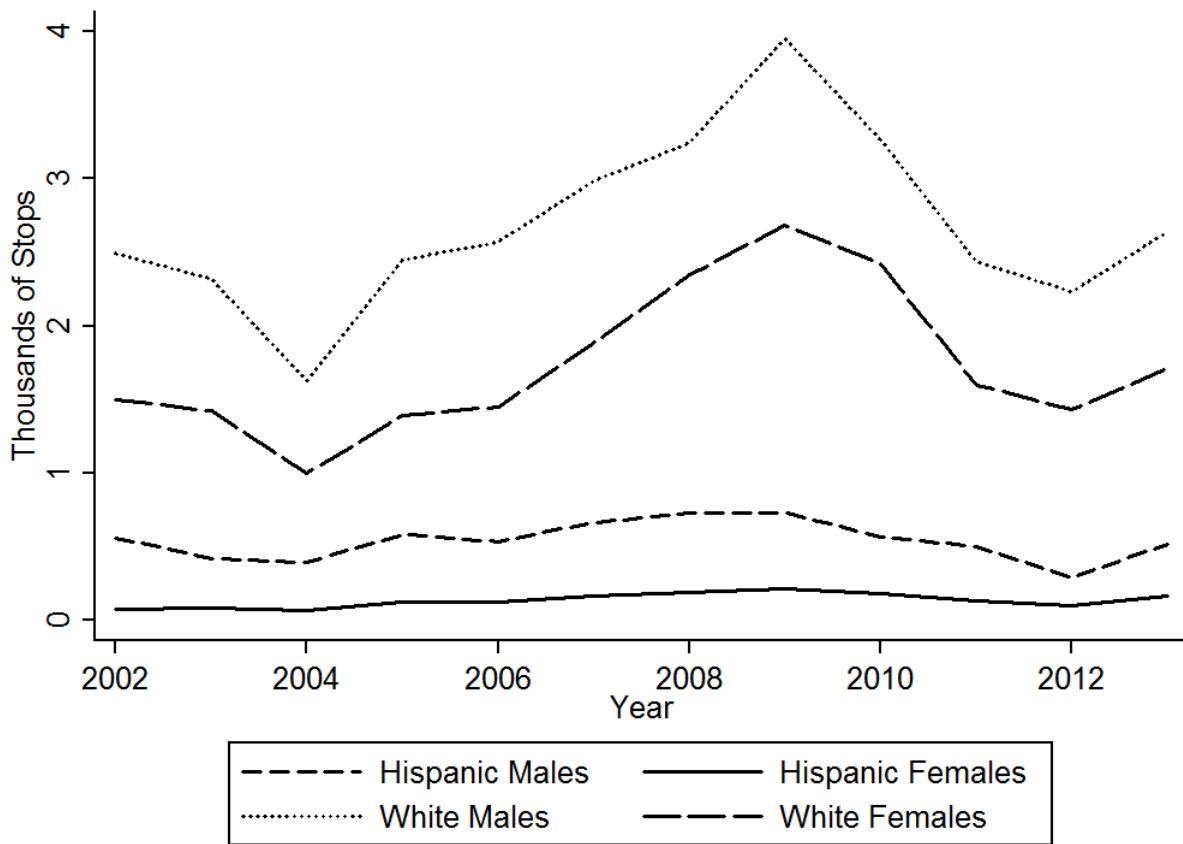


Figure 9. Percent of Stops Resulting in a Search, by Ethnicity and Gender

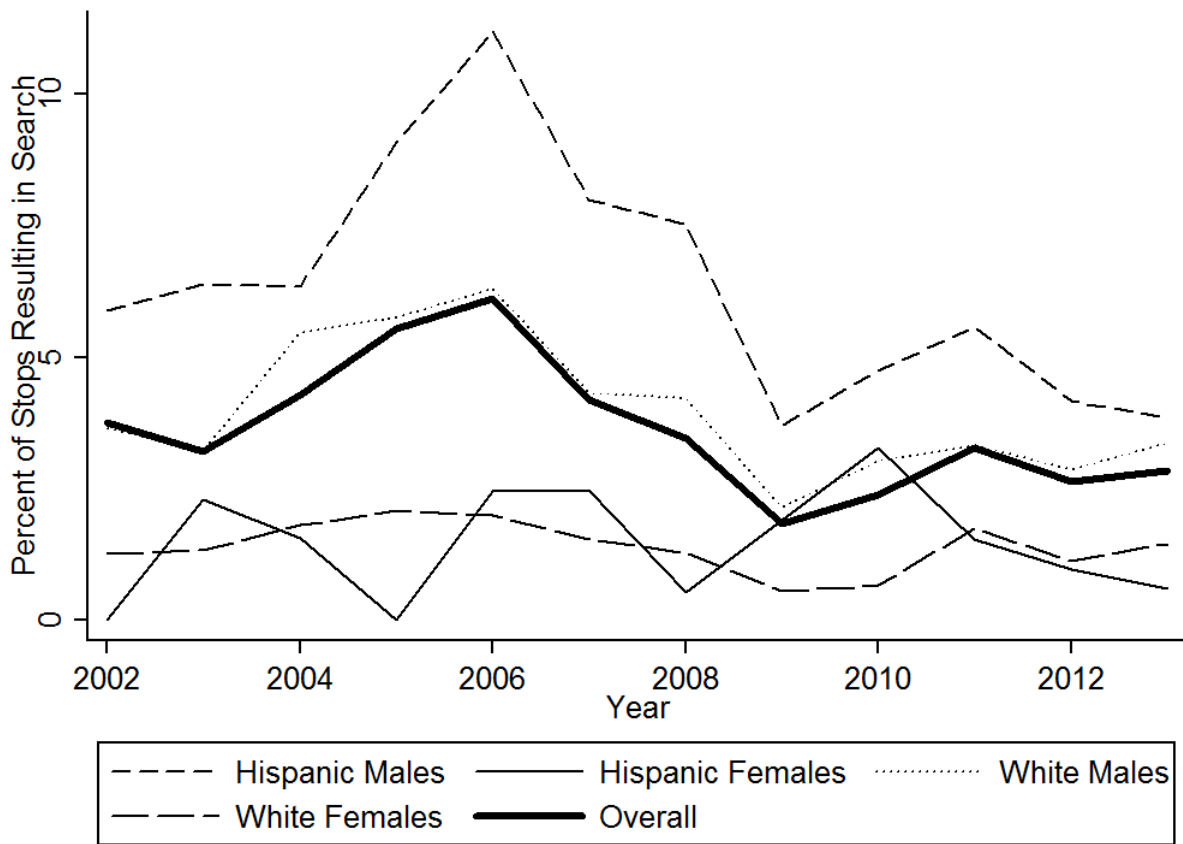


Table 4. Type of Search by Ethnicity

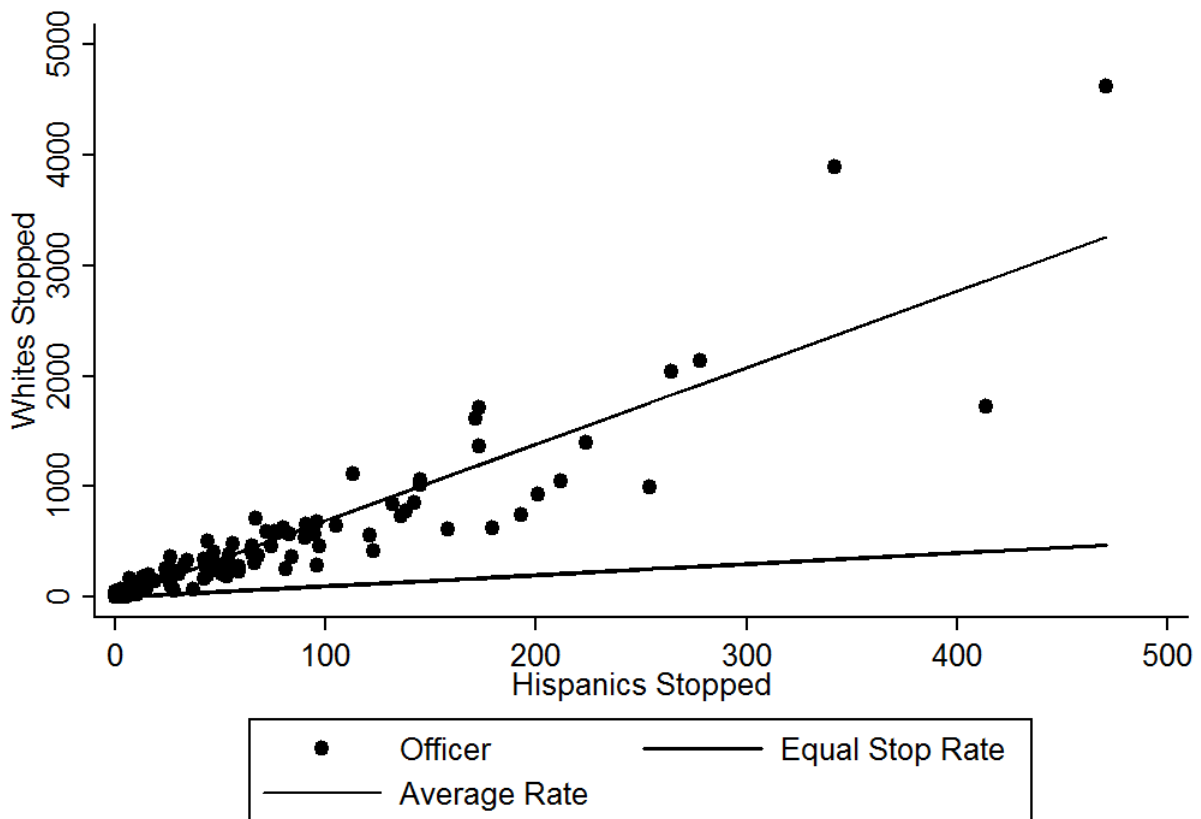
Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	79,969	-	73.85	10.16	-
Total Searches	2,801	3.50	2.86	5.48	1.92
Consent	1,343	1.68	1.36	2.25	1.65
Search Warrant	5	0.01	0.00	0.02	-
Probable Cause	533	0.67	0.56	0.82	1.46
Incident to Arrest	868	1.09	0.90	2.25	2.50
Protective Frisk	52	0.07	0.03	0.12	4.00

Note: See the appendix for this same table separately for Men and Women.

Table 5. Distribution of Officer IDs by Stop

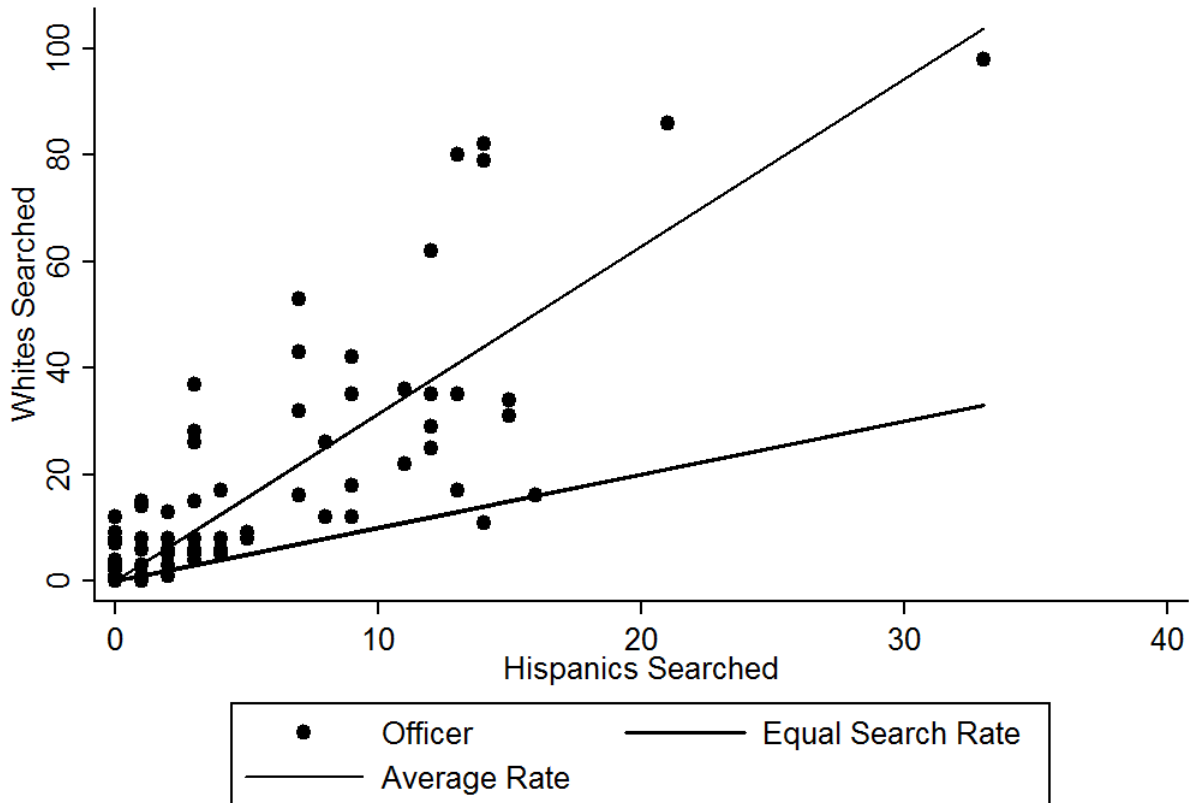
Number of Stops	Officers w/ this many Stops	Percent of Officers	Cumulative Percent	Percent of Stops	Cumulative Percent
1	303	56.85	56.85	0.38	0.38
2 – 10	112	21.01	77.86	0.50	0.88
11 - 100	35	6.57	84.43	1.57	2.45
101 – 1,000	59	11.07	95.50	35.59	38.04
1,001 +	24	4.50	100.00	61.97	100.00
Total	533	100	-	100	-

Figure 10. Number of Hispanic and White Motorists Stopped, by Officer



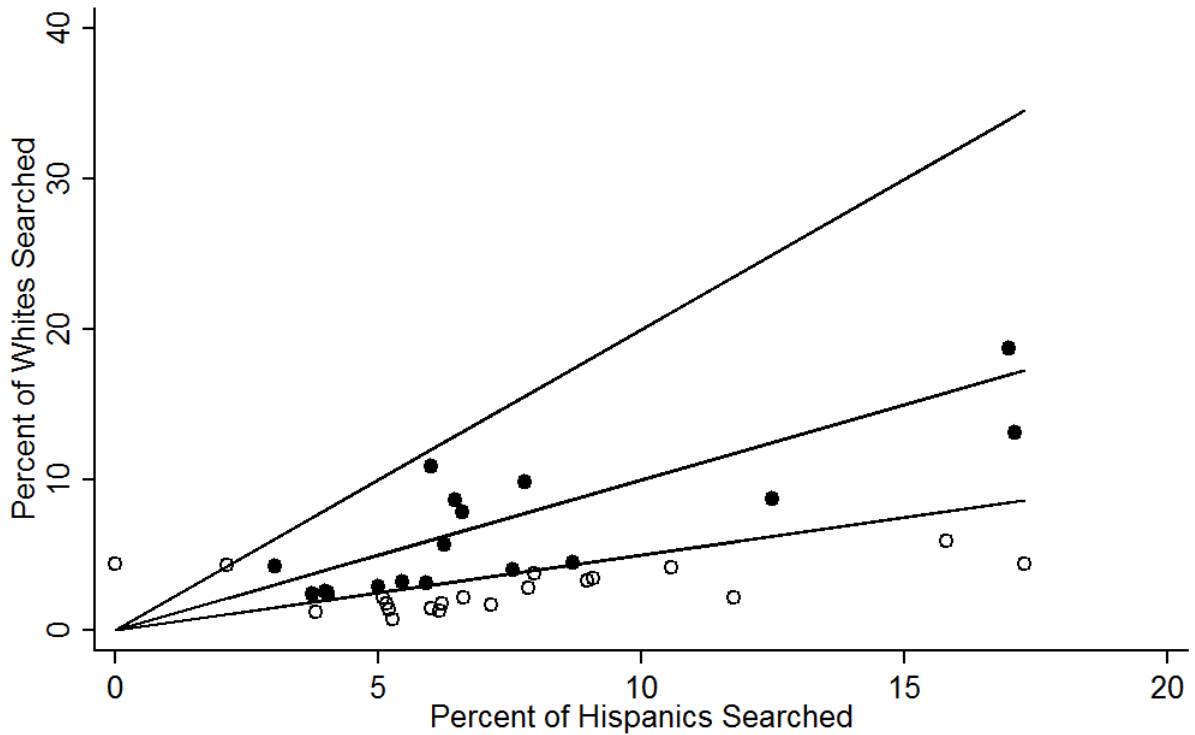
On average, officers stop 6.92 Whites for each Hispanic stopped.

Figure 11. Number of Hispanic and White Motorists Searched, by Officer



On average, officers search 3.14 Whites for each Hispanic searched.

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



Includes 38 officers with a minimum of 50 White stops, 50 Hispanic stops, and a search rate above the department average of 3.50 for either ethnicity. The hollow circles indicate high disparity officers. 2 officers search Whites at more than twice the rate that they search Hispanics. 19 officers search Hispanics at more than twice the rate that they search Whites.

Appendix

Table A1. Ethnic Composition of Traffic Stops by Purpose, Passengers

Purpose	Number	Percent	
		White	Hispanic
Total Stops	1,278	55.81	15.18
Speed Limit	153	48.41	17.65
Stop Light/Sign	47	45.45	6.38
Driving Impaired	67	57.69	22.39
Safe Movement	151	57.58	12.58
Vehicle Equipment	215	62.70	13.95
Vehicle Regulatory	187	51.63	18.18
Seat Belt	87	57.89	12.64
Investigation	277	58.70	10.83
Other Vehicle	94	49.28	26.60

Table A2. Percent of Men Searched by Ethnicity and Purpose of Stop

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	50,642	-	72.97	12.83	-
Total Searches	2,389	4.72	3.86	6.46	1.67
Speed Limit	15,368	2.21	1.81	3.52	1.94
Stop Light/Sign	3,829	2.12	1.83	3.23	1.77
Driving Impaired	694	43.52	46.90	53.32	1.14
Safe Movement	3,909	6.32	5.19	8.32	1.60
Vehicle Equipment	5,659	6.52	5.94	5.66	0.95
Vehicle Regulatory	10,982	3.51	2.54	5.31	2.09
Seat Belt	4,806	2.43	1.94	3.17	1.63
Investigation	2,573	15.12	16.50	9.13	0.55
Other Vehicle	2,822	5.63	4.92	6.69	1.36

Table A3. Percent of Women Searched by Ethnicity and Purpose of Stop

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	29,327	-	75.25	5.54	-
Total Searches	412	1.40	1.31	1.54	1.18
Speed Limit	11,435	0.48	0.41	1.04	2.54
Stop Light/Sign	2,382	0.46	0.46	-	-
Driving Impaired	228	25.88	34.87	5.88	0.17
Safe Movement	1,888	1.91	2.10	1.52	0.72
Vehicle Equipment	2,638	2.81	3.14	2.84	0.90
Vehicle Regulatory	7,208	1.01	0.63	1.19	1.89
Seat Belt	1,392	1.08	1.18	1.23	1.04
Investigation	853	7.27	8.16	3.51	0.43
Other Vehicle	1,303	2.07	1.90	1.61	0.85

Table A4. Type of Search by Ethnicity: Men

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio Hispanic:White
Total Stops	50,642	-	72.97	12.83	-
Total Searches	2,389	4.72	3.86	6.46	1.67
Consent	1,164	2.30	1.88	2.63	1.40
Search Warrant	4	0.01	0.01	0.02	2.00
Probable Cause	465	0.92	0.79	0.99	1.25
Incident to Arrest	714	1.41	1.14	2.69	2.36
Protective Frisk	42	0.08	0.04	0.14	3.50

Table A5. Type of Search by Ethnicity: Women

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio Hispanic:White
Total Stops	29,327	-	75.25	5.54	-
Total Searches	412	1.40	1.31	1.54	1.18
Consent	179	0.61	0.57	0.74	1.30
Search Warrant	1	-	-	0.06	-
Probable Cause	68	0.23	0.20	0.18	0.90
Incident to Arrest	154	0.53	0.53	0.49	0.92
Protective Frisk	10	0.03	0.01	0.06	6.00

Figure A1. Stops by Day of the Week

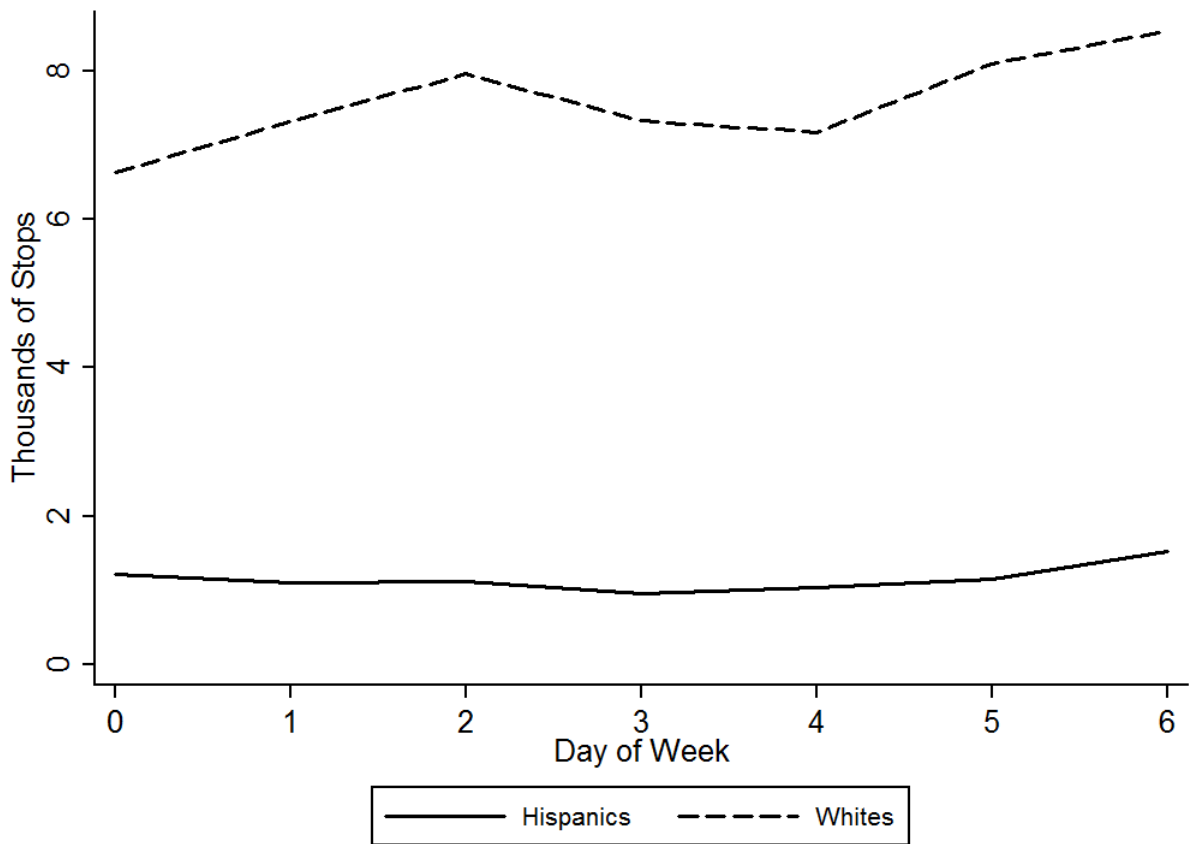


Figure A2. Searches by Day of the Week

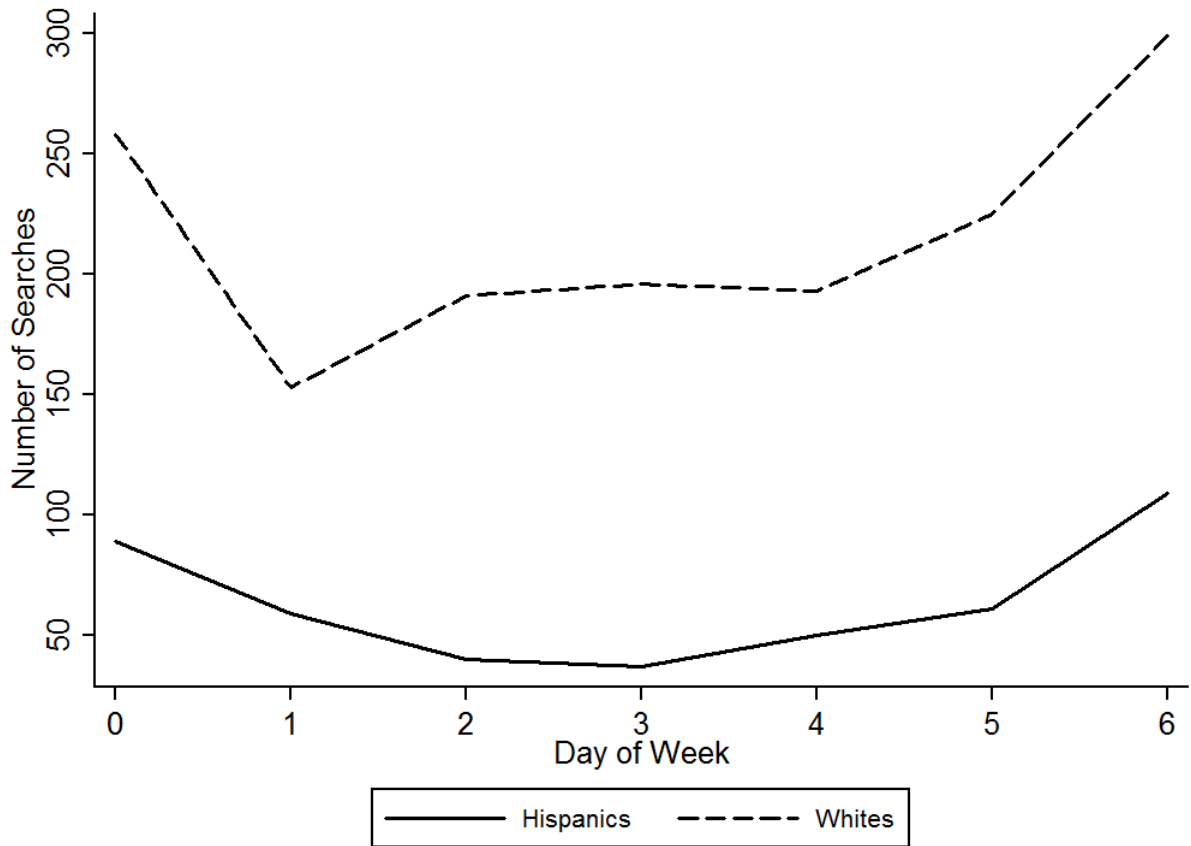
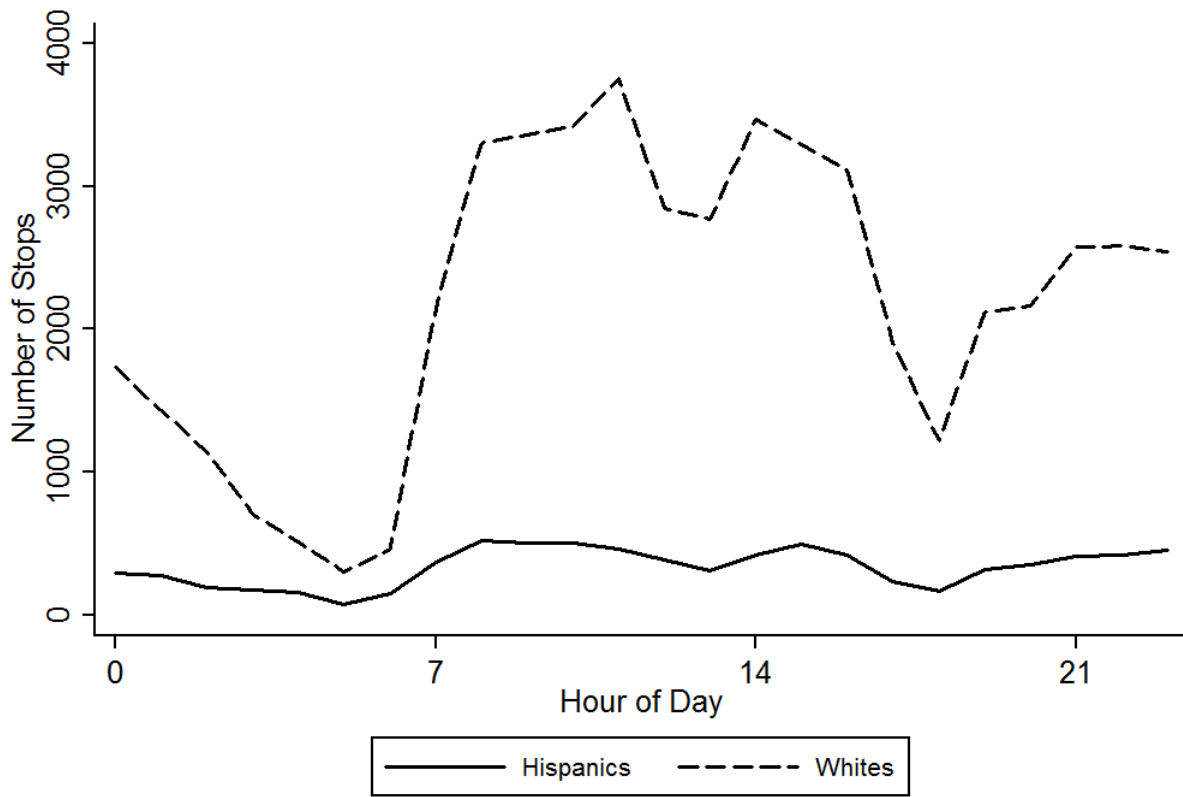
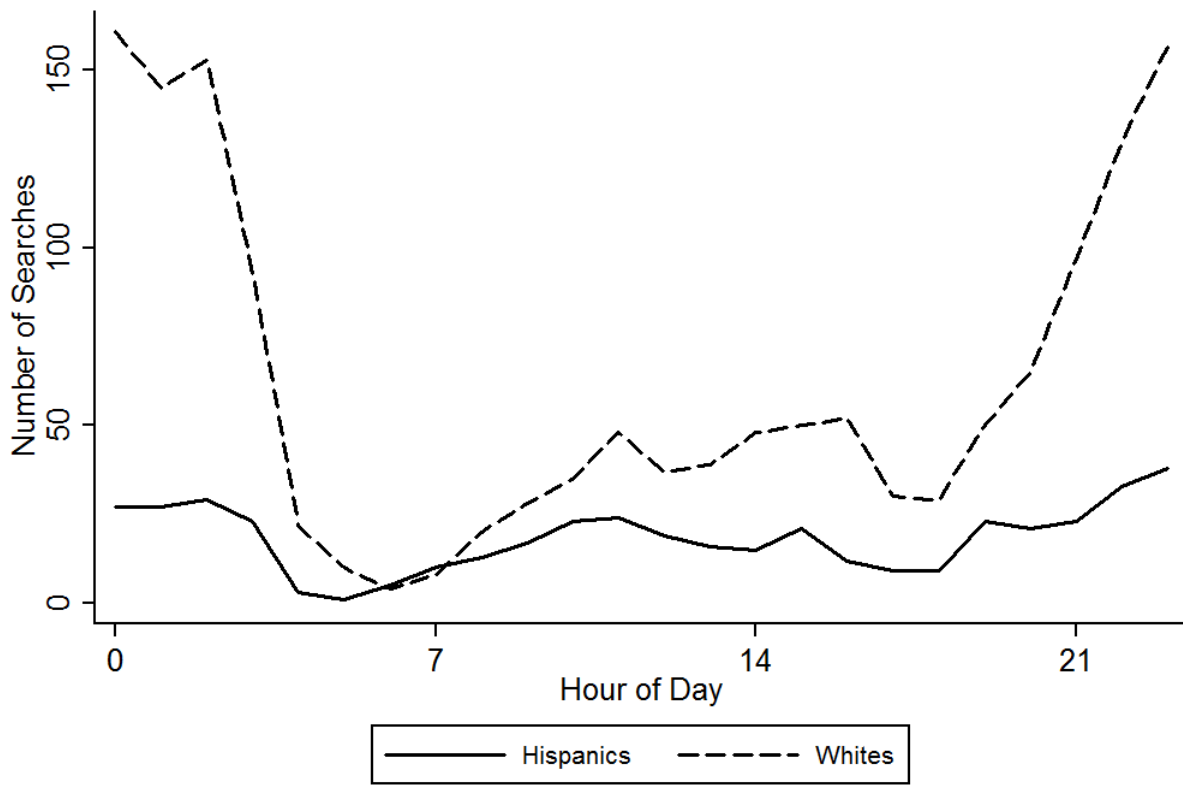


Figure A3. Stops by Hour of the Day



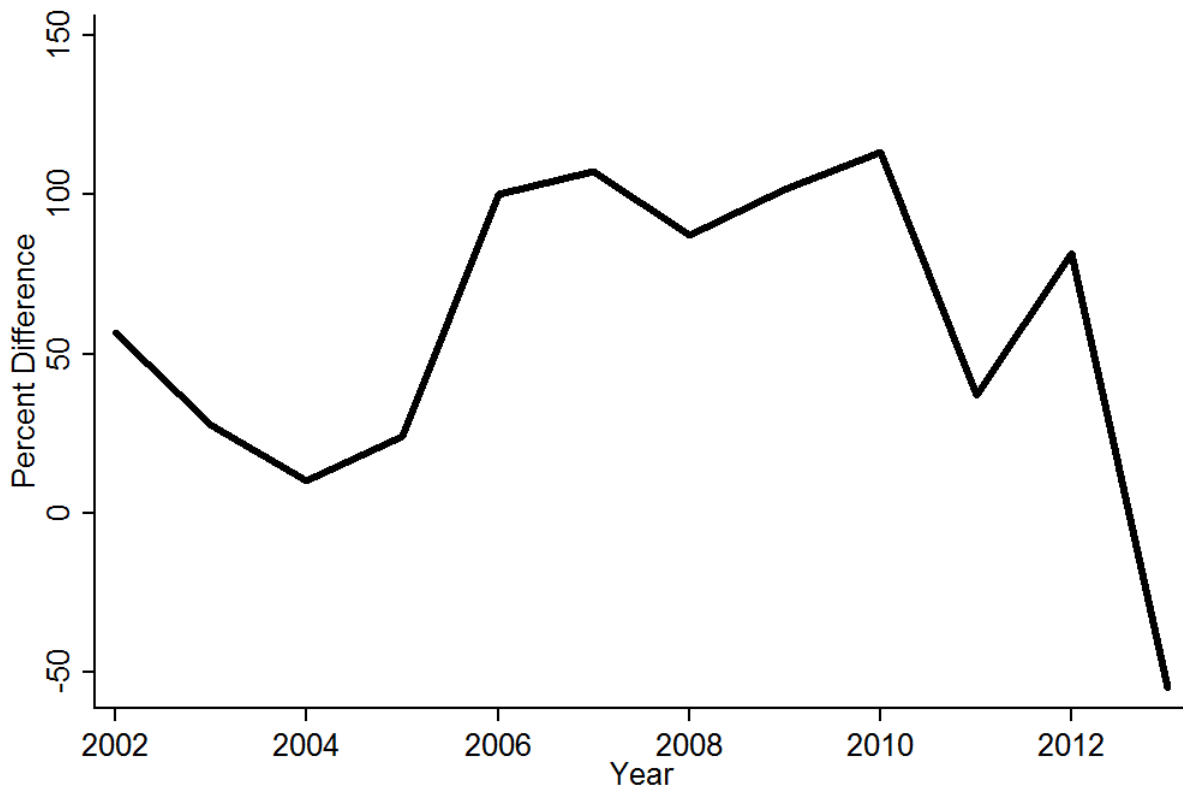
The figure excludes cases where the hour and minute was exactly 0:00. These cases were presumed to be missing data.

Figure A4. Searches by Hour of the Day



The figure excludes cases where the hour and minute was exactly 0:00. These cases were presumed to be missing data.

Figure A5. Ethnic Differences in the Likelihood of Search: Consent Searches Only



The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites; consent searches only.

Table A6. Likelihood of Finding Contraband Given a Search, by Ethnicity

Contraband	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic
Yes	799	28.53	31.55	20.90
No	2,002	71.47	68.45	79.10
Total	2,801	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table A7. Differential Outcomes by Whether or not a Search Occurs

Ethnicity	Search Occur	N	Differential Outcomes				Arrest	Total
			No Action	Verbal Warning	Written Warning	Citation Issued		
White	No	51,544	3.30	28.18	14.58	53.50	0.44	100.0
Hispanic	No	7,677	4.26	20.84	6.75	67.15	1.00	100.0
Total	No	77,168	3.71	28.40	13.22	54.11	0.55	100.0
White	Yes	1,515	3.70	13.20	4.62	39.01	39.47	100.0
Hispanic	Yes	445	1.57	7.19	2.25	40.45	48.54	100.0
Total	Yes	2,801	3.64	13.14	3.93	39.91	39.38	100.0