

# **Analysis of Hispanic-White Differences in Traffic Stops and Searches in Winston Salem, NC, 2002-2013**

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Table 1. Overview of the Data

Data Subsets	Observations
Total stops	408,516
-2014	16,213
-Passengers	3,099
-Checkpoint stops	82
Stops for analysis	389,285
Searches	7,678
Search Rate = 1.97	

Figure 1. Number of Traffic Stops per Year

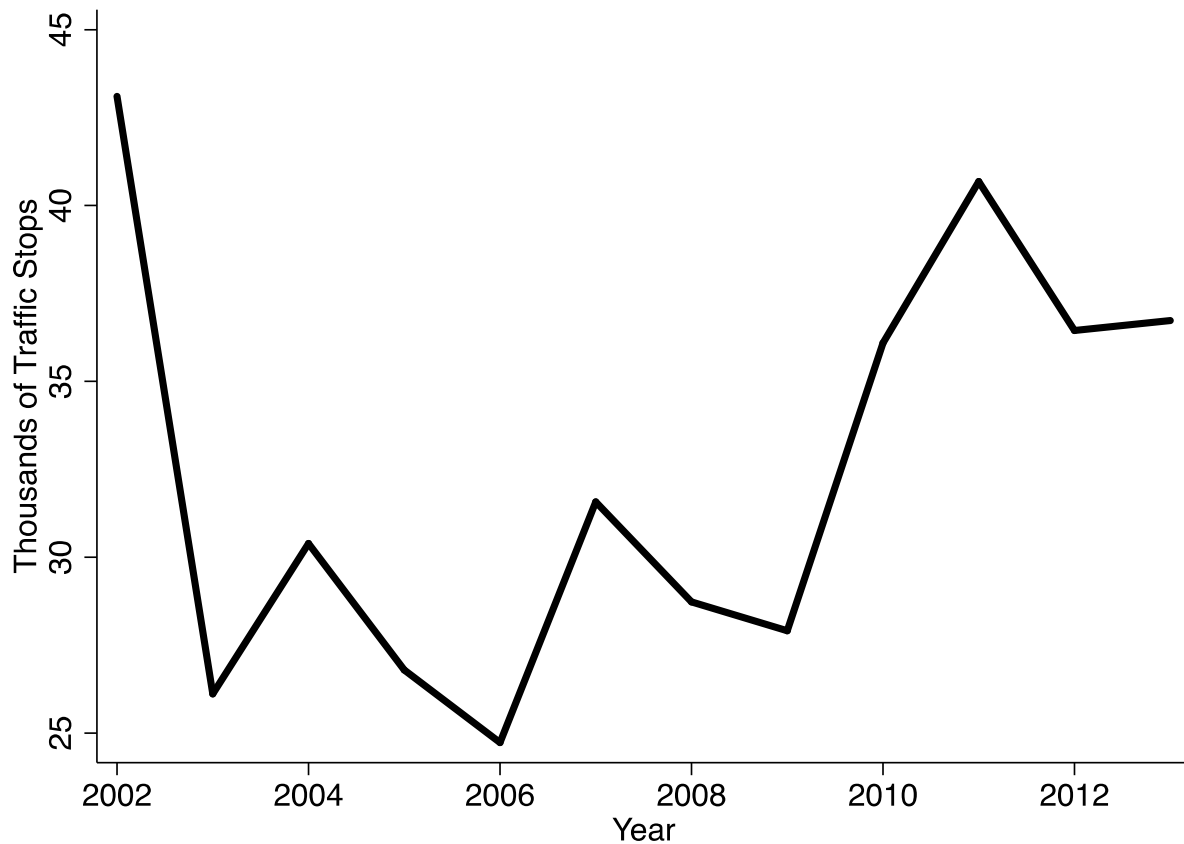


Figure 2. Ethnic Composition of Traffic Stops by Year

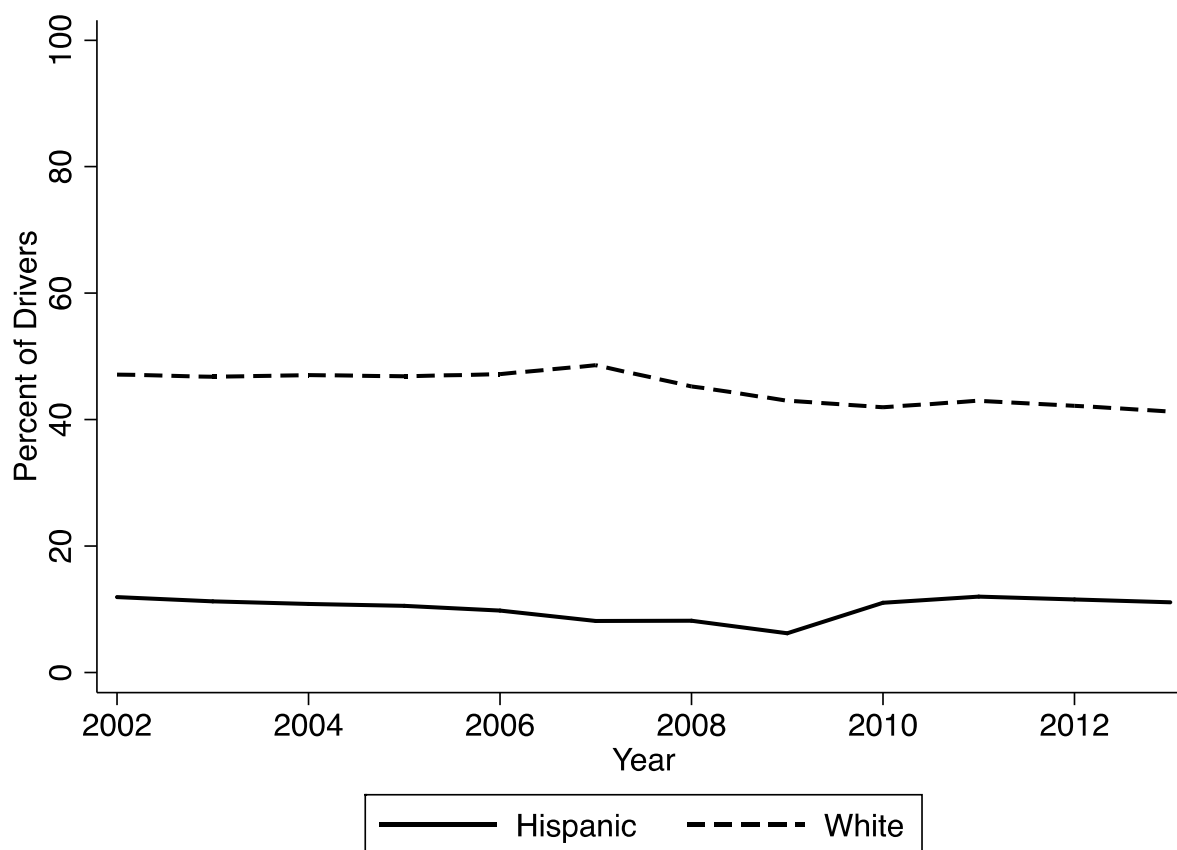


Table 2. Ethnic Composition of Traffic Stops by Purpose, Drivers

Purpose	Number	Percent	
		White	Hispanic
Total Stops	389,285	50.05	10.40
Speed Limit	130,771	60.20	7.35
Stop Light/Sign	28,652	50.84	11.20
Driving Impaired	3,027	57.55	22.73
Safe Movement	19,229	53.38	11.89
Vehicle Equipment	46,911	38.95	12.51
Vehicle Regulatory	109,399	45.38	8.88
Seat Belt	13,341	44.97	10.24
Investigation	11,109	36.48	18.84
Other Vehicle	26,846	39.70	21.05

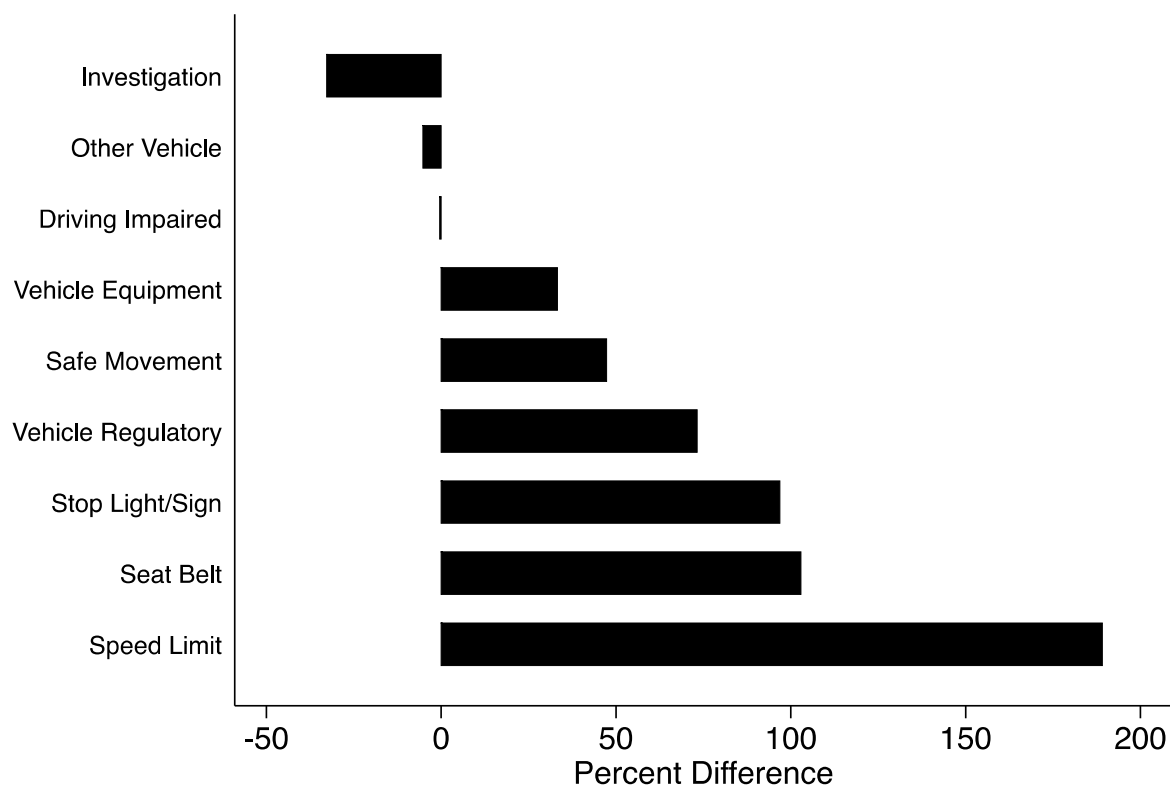
Note: Includes only drivers. Excludes 82 checkpoint stops. Excludes 3,099 passengers.

Table 3. Percent Searched by Ethnicity and Purpose of Stop

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	389,285	-	50.05	10.40	-
Total Searches	7,678	1.97	1.56	3.01	1.93
Speed Limit	130,771	0.82	0.58	1.66	2.86
Stop Light/Sign	28,652	1.40	1.01	1.99	1.97
Driving Impaired	3,027	38.62	42.35	42.15	1.00
Safe Movement	19,229	5.04	4.90	7.21	1.47
Vehicle Equipment	46,911	2.34	2.01	2.68	1.33
Vehicle Regulatory	109,399	1.26	0.88	1.52	1.73
Seat Belt	13,341	1.93	1.26	2.56	2.03
Investigation	11,109	5.74	5.69	3.82	0.67
Other Vehicle	26,846	2.57	2.22	2.11	0.95

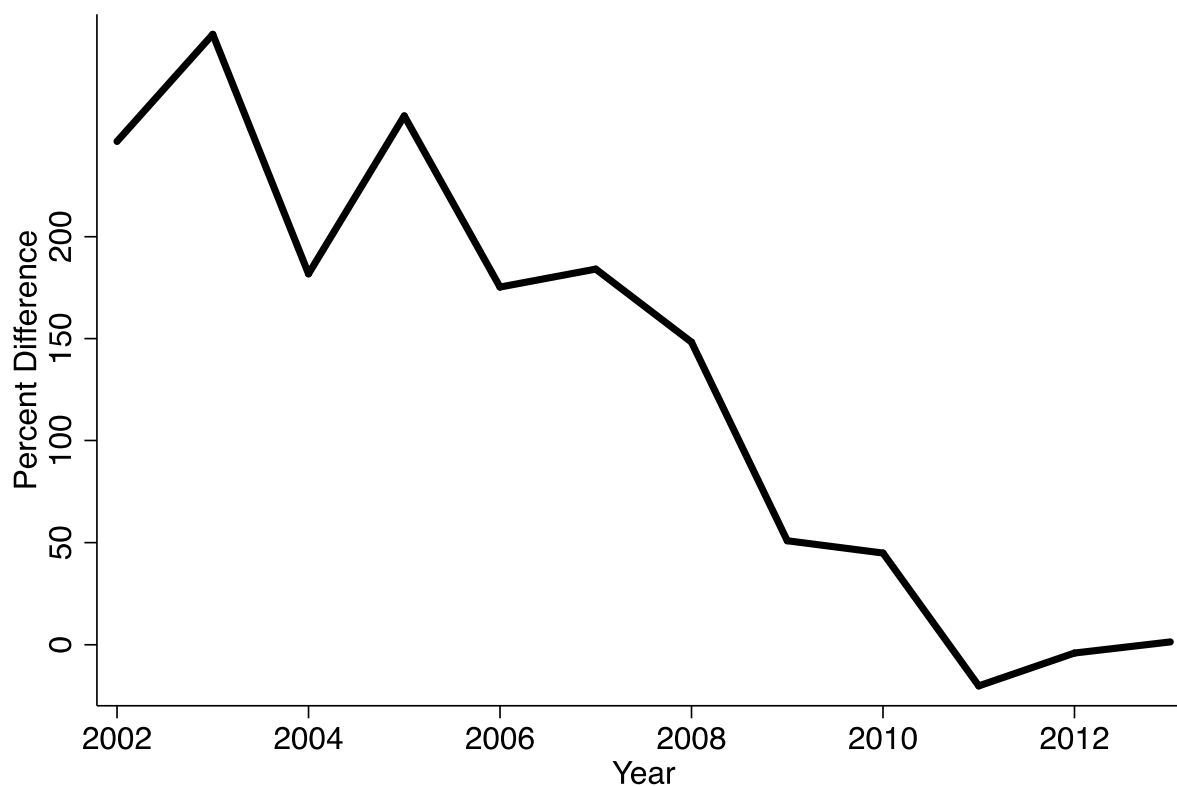
Note: See the appendix for this same table broken down for Men and Women.

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



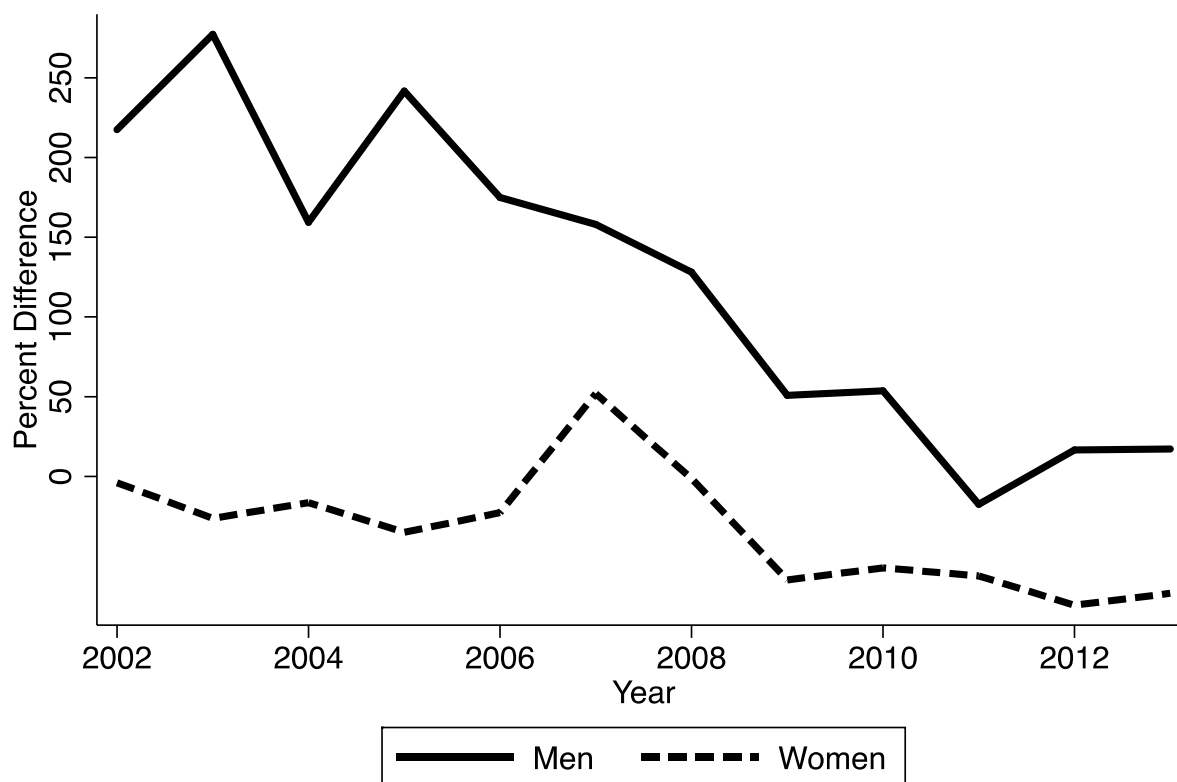
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites by purpose of stop.

Figure 4. Ethnic Differences in the Likelihood of Search



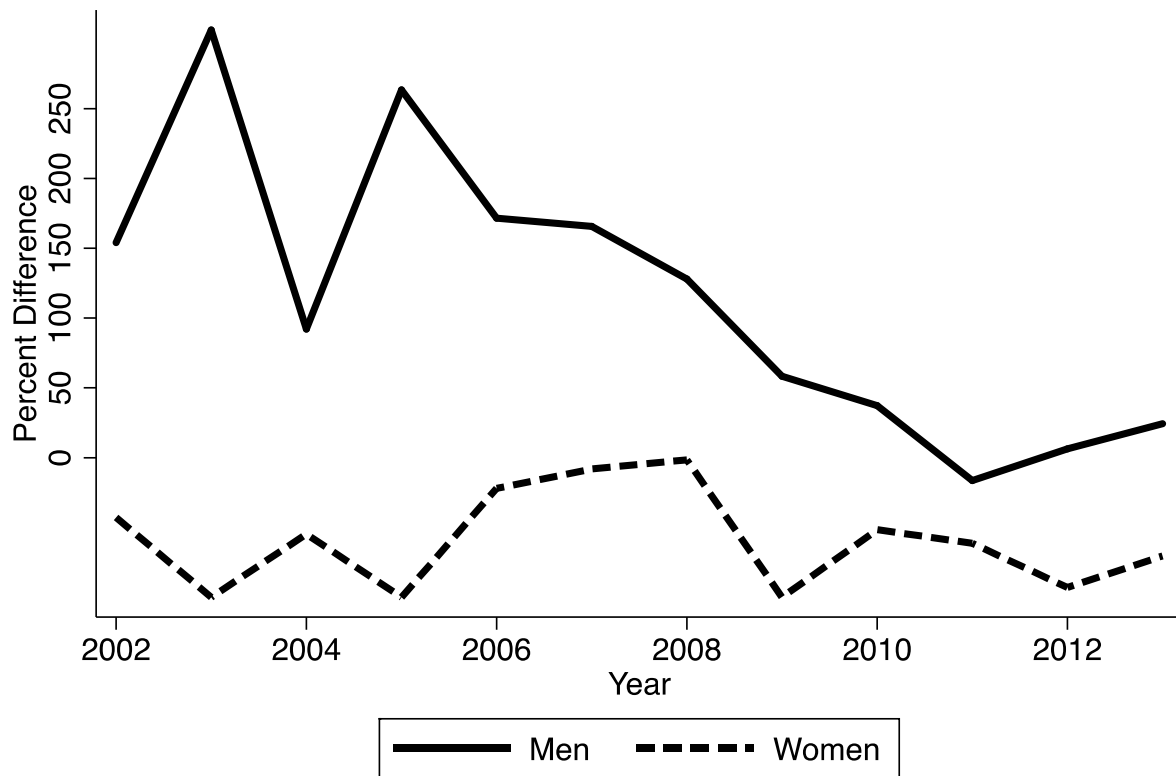
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites.

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.

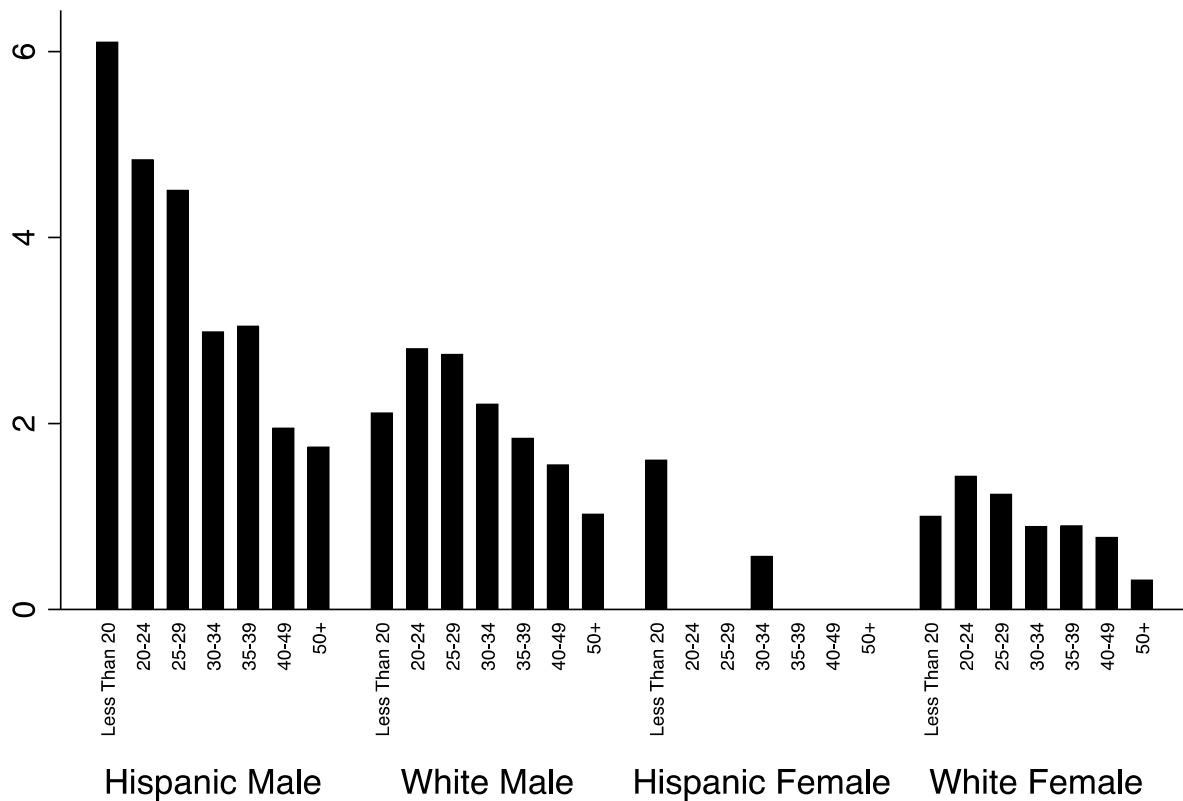
Figure 6. Ethnic Differences in the Likelihood of Search by Gender, for Drivers Under 30



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 389,285 traffic stops from 2002 through 2013, and 7,678 searches. Overall rate of search: 1.97 percent.  
 No data are presented for categories with fewer than 10 searches.

Figure 8. Number of Stops, by Ethnicity and Gender

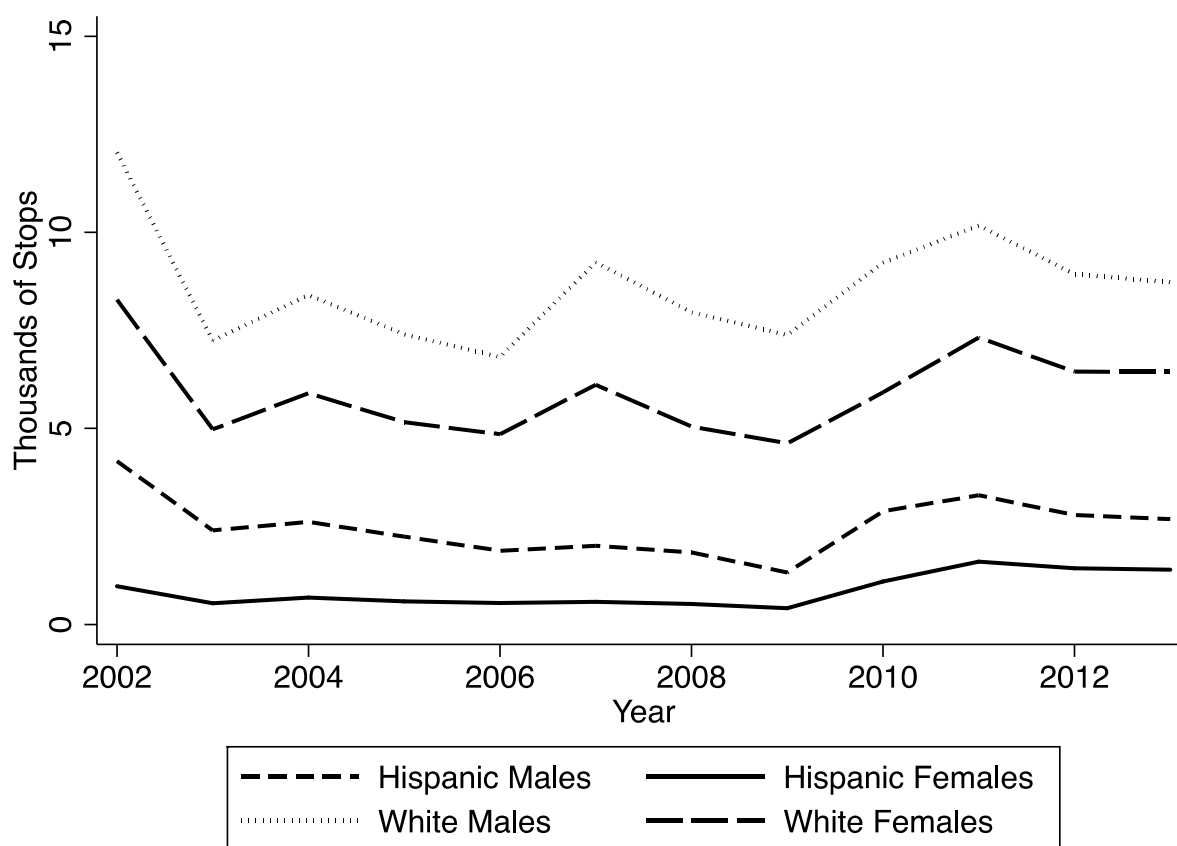


Figure 9. Percent of Stops Resulting in a Search, by Ethnicity and Gender

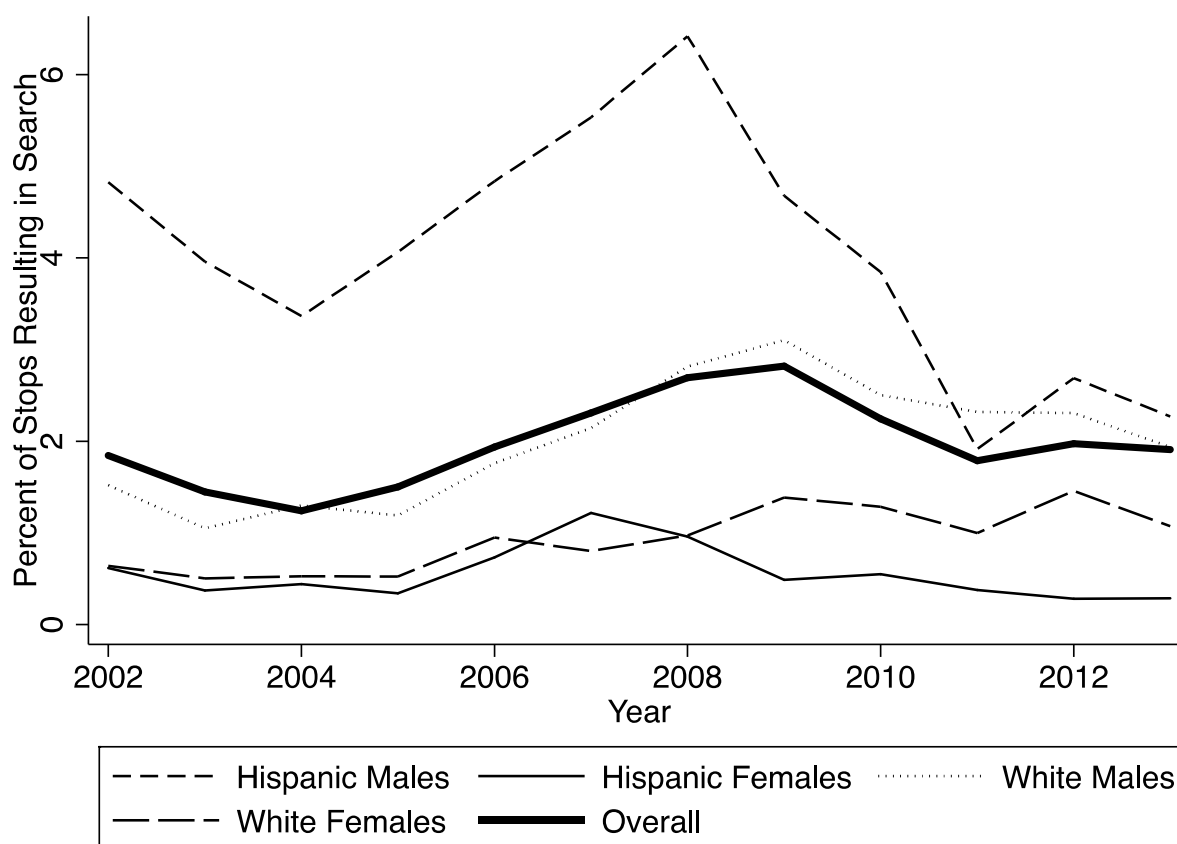


Table 4. Type of Search by Ethnicity

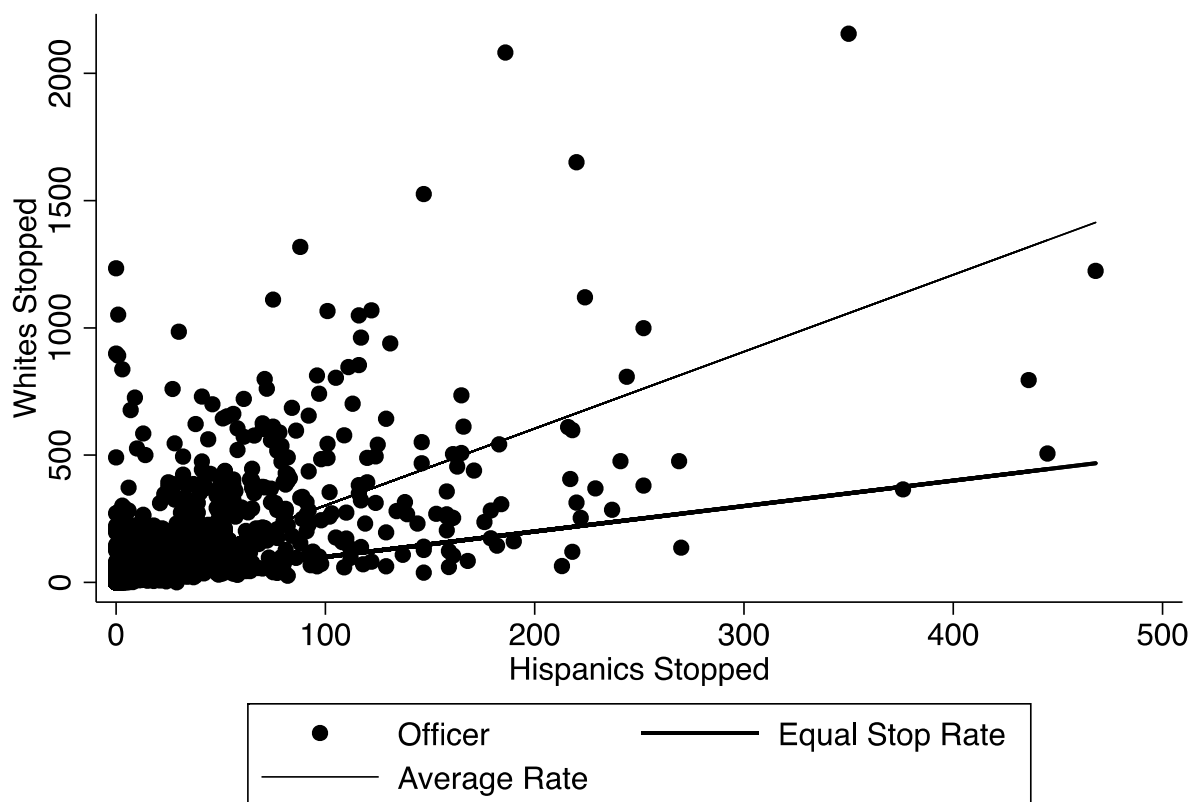
Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	389,285	-	50.05	10.40	-
Total Searches	7,678	1.97	1.56	3.01	1.39
Consent	2,081	0.53	0.42	0.62	1.48
Search Warrant	3	-	-	-	-
Probable Cause	1,509	0.39	0.23	0.29	1.26
Incident to Arrest	4,015	1.03	0.90	2.08	2.31
Protective Frisk	70	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.50

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

Table 5. Distribution of Officer IDs by Stop

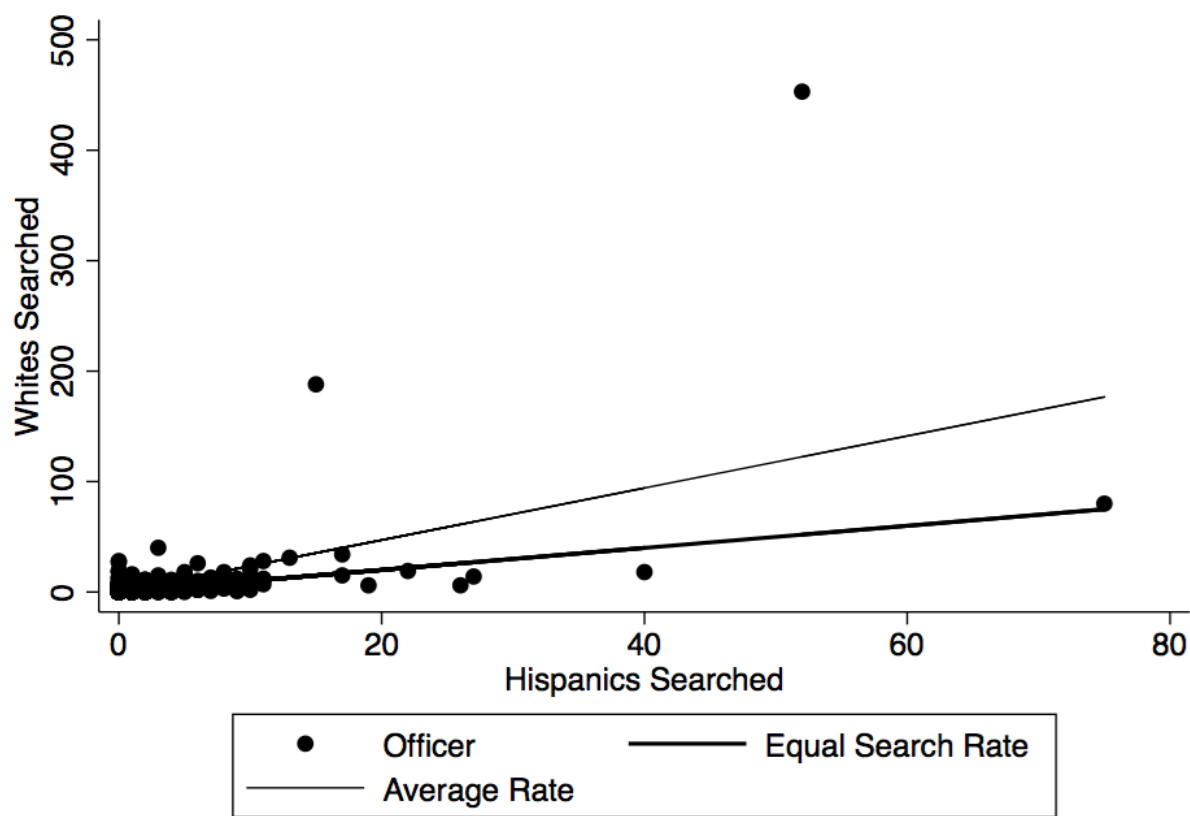
Number of Stops	Officers w/ this many Stops	Percent of Officers	Cumulative Percent	Percent of Stops	Cumulative Percent
1	2,424	51.77	51.77	0.62	0.62
2 – 10	1,020	21.79	73.56	0.94	1.56
11 - 100	473	10.10	83.66	4.72	6.28
101 – 1,000	689	14.72	98.38	64.94	71.22
1,001 +	76	1.62	100.00	28.77	100.00
Total	4,682	100	-	100	-

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



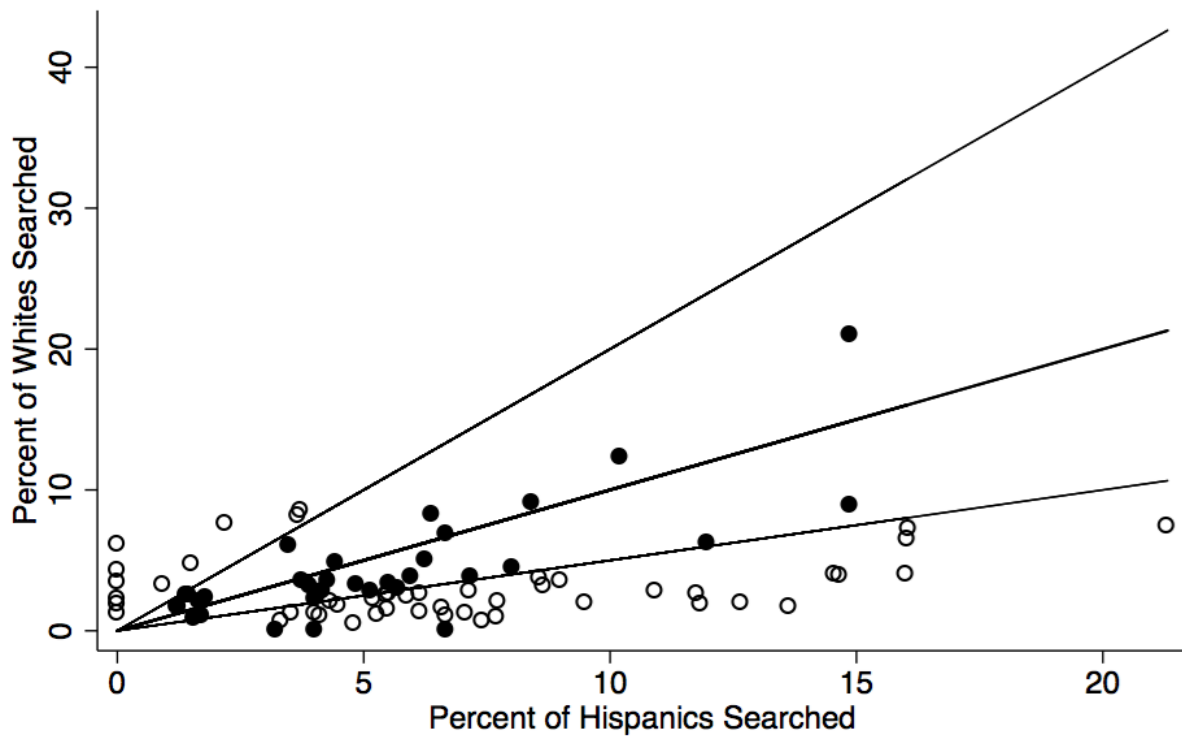
On average, officers stop 3.02 Whites for each Hispanic stopped.

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



On average, officers search 2.35 Whites for each Hispanic searched.

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



Includes 78 officers with a minimum of 50 White stops, 50 Hispanic stops, and a search rate above the department average of 1.97. The hollow circles indicate high disparity officers. 11 officer searches Whites at more than twice the rate that they search Hispanics. 43 officers search Blacks 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	3,099	31.98	13.23
Speed Limit	392	34.75	9.69
Stop Light/Sign	129	29.17	6.98
Driving Impaired	146	57.58	32.19
Safe Movement	334	41.06	21.26
Vehicle Equipment	549	29.52	12.39
Vehicle Regulatory	687	29.89	8.44
Seat Belt	164	31.21	14.02
Investigation	370	27.44	14.32
Other Vehicle	328	26.67	13.11

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

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic.:White
Total Stops	232,053	-	51.27	12.98	-
Total Searches	6,384	2.75	2.00	3.87	1.94
Speed Limit	75,633	1.19	0.75	2.19	1.66
Stop Light/Sign	17,018	1.96	1.34	2.58	1.93
Driving Impaired	2,320	42.20	46.52	43.40	0.93
Safe Movement	12,497	6.39	5.57	8.98	1.61
Vehicle Equipment	29,681	3.05	2.45	3.26	1.33
Vehicle Regulatory	61,005	1.85	1.17	2.08	1.78
Seat Belt	9,302	2.46	1.48	3.04	2.05
Investigation	7,238	7.23	6.52	4.81	0.74
Other Vehicle	17,359	3.39	2.80	2.75	0.98

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

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	157,232	-	48.38	6.59	-
Total Searches	1,294	0.82	0.92	0.49	0.53
Speed Limit	55,138	0.32	0.33	0.20	0.61
Stop Light/Sign	11,634	0.58	0.56	0.36	0.64
Driving Impaired	707	26.87	32.93	26.92	0.82
Safe Movement	6,732	2.54	3.71	0.81	0.22
Vehicle Equipment	17,230	1.11	1.25	0.55	0.44
Vehicle Regulatory	48,394	0.52	0.51	0.21	0.41
Seat Belt	4,039	0.72	0.78	0.71	0.91
Investigation	3,871	2.97	3.94	1.08	0.27
Other Vehicle	9,487	1.05	1.23	0.27	0.22

Table A4. Type of Search by Ethnicity: Men

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio Hispanic:White
Total Stops	232,053	-	51.27	12.98	-
Total Searches	6,384	2.75	2.00	3.87	1.94
Consent	1,747	0.75	0.55	0.80	1.45
Search Warrant	3	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Probable Cause	1,250	0.54	0.29	0.38	1.31
Incident to Arrest	3,323	1.43	1.13	2.67	2.36
Protective Frisk	61	0.03	0.02	0.02	-

Table A5. Type of Search by Ethnicity: Women

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio Hispanic:White
Total Stops	157,232	-	48.38	6.59	-
Total Searches	1,294	0.82	0.92	0.49	0.53
Consent	334	0.21	0.23	0.10	0.43
Search Warrant	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Probable Cause	259	0.16	0.12	0.04	0.33
Incident to Arrest	692	0.44	0.56	0.36	0.64
Protective Frisk	9	0.01	0.01	0.00	-



Figure A1. Stops by Day of the Week

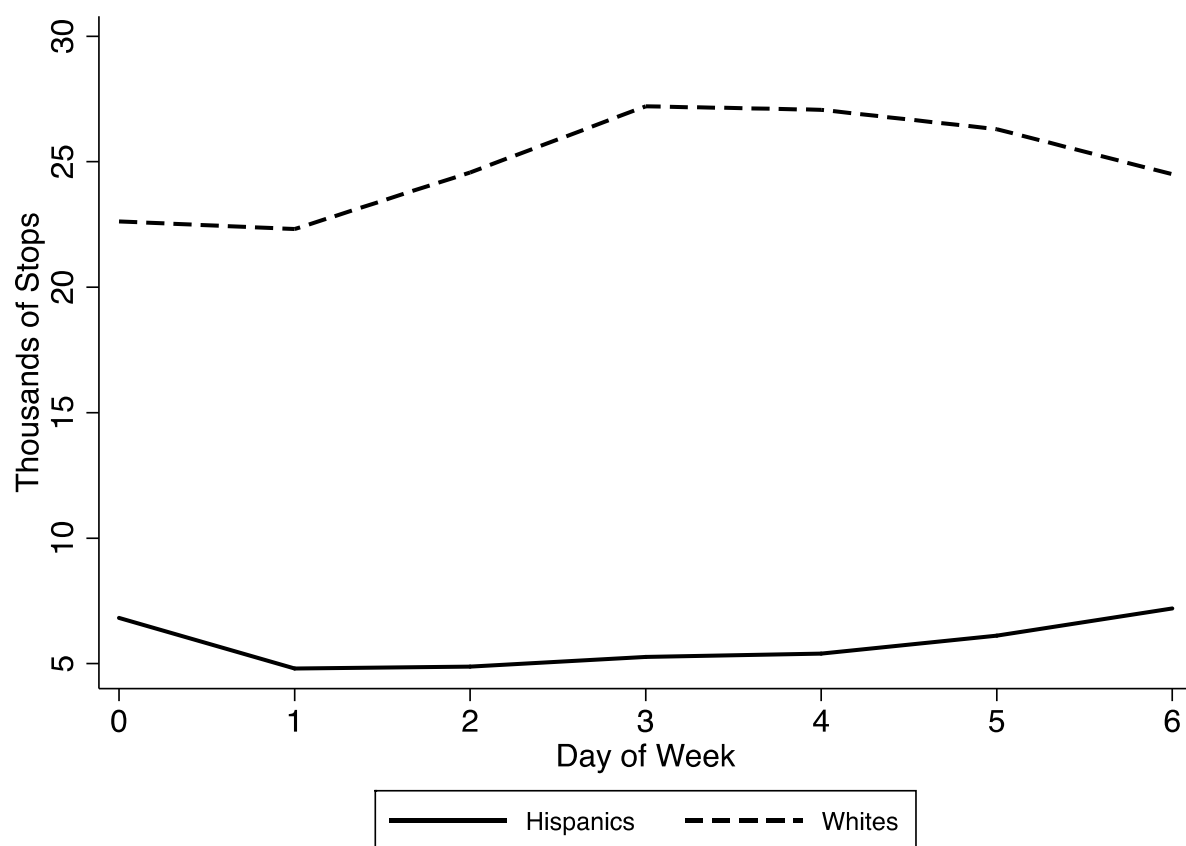


Figure A2. Searches by Day of the Week

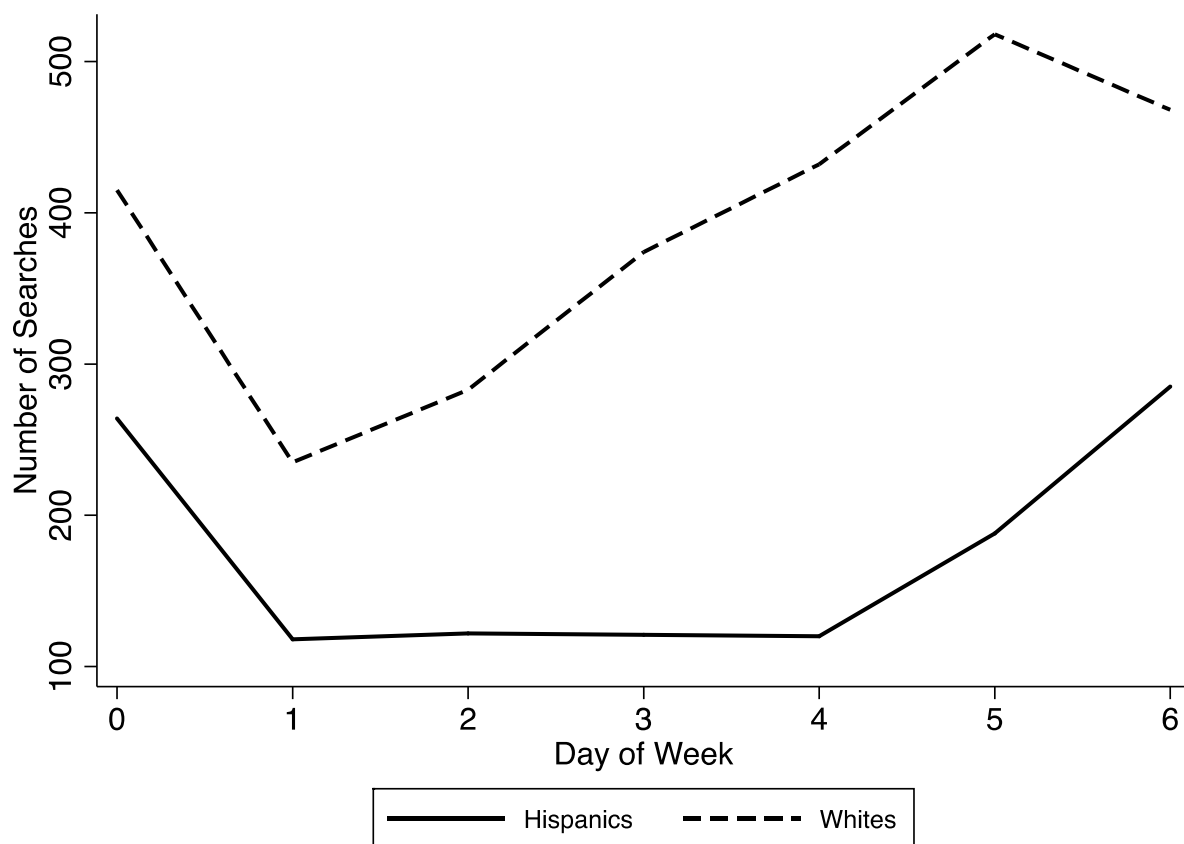
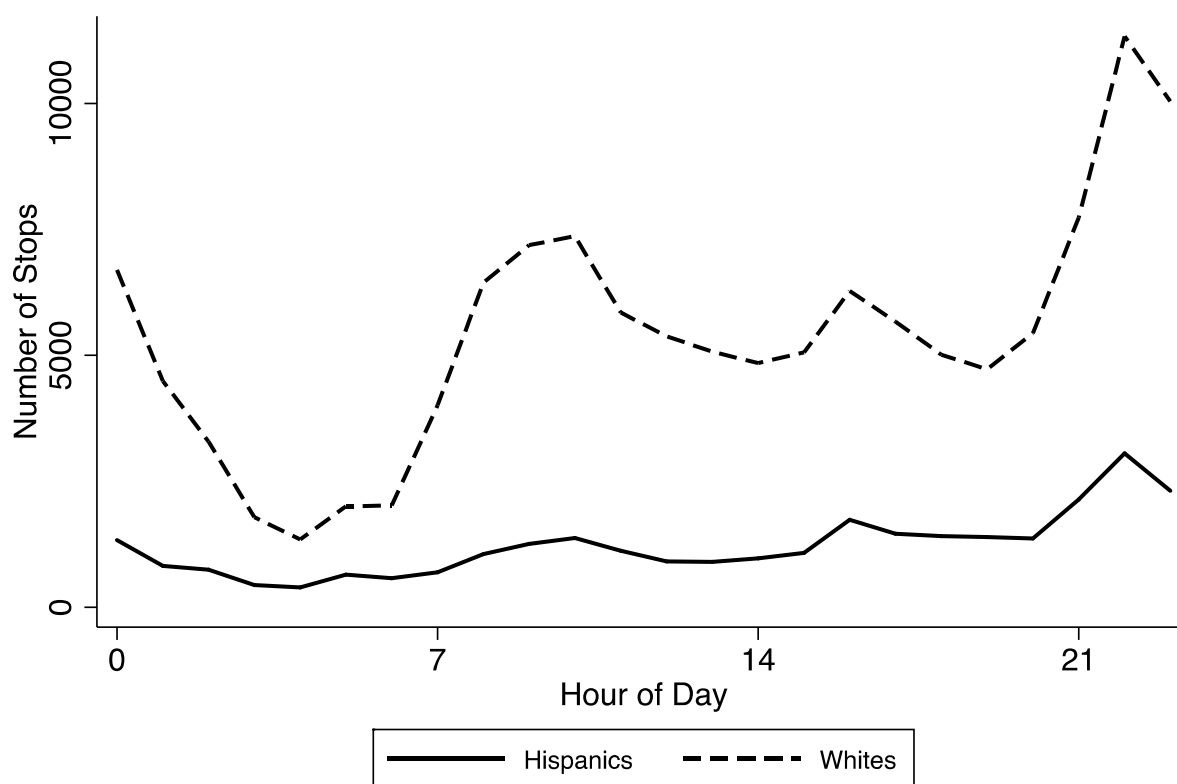
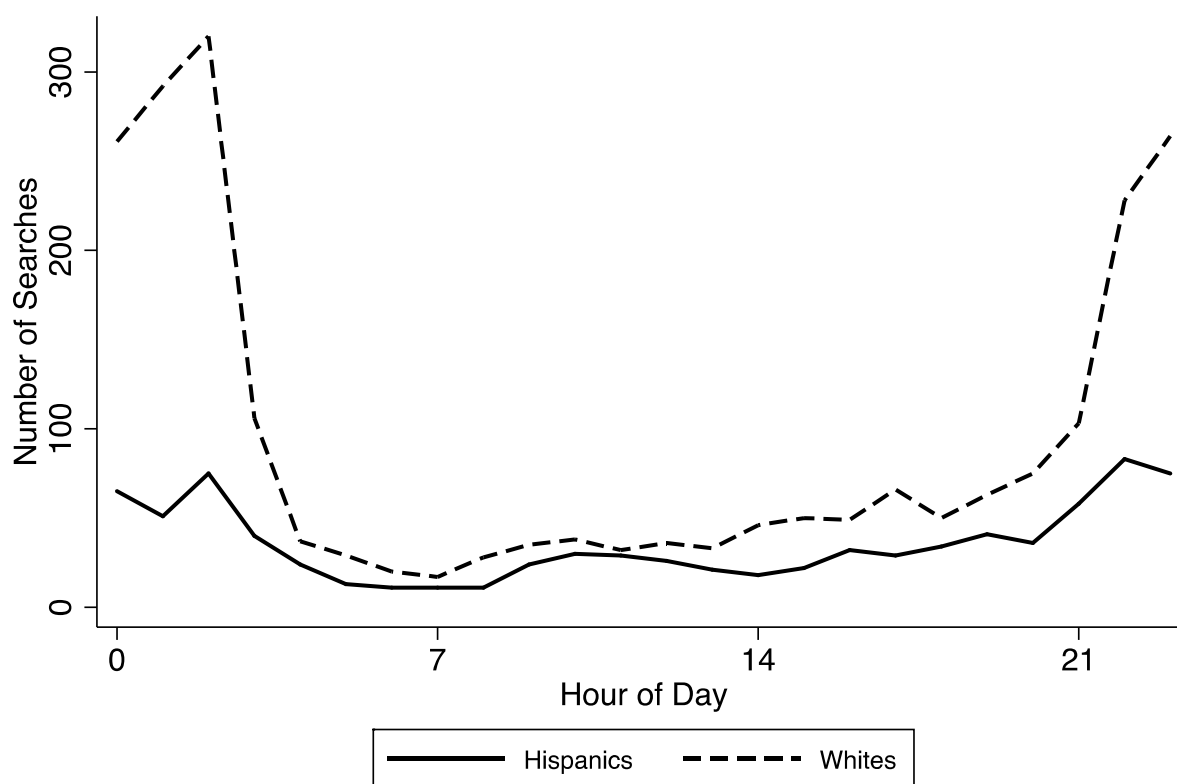


Figure A3. Stops by Hour of the Day



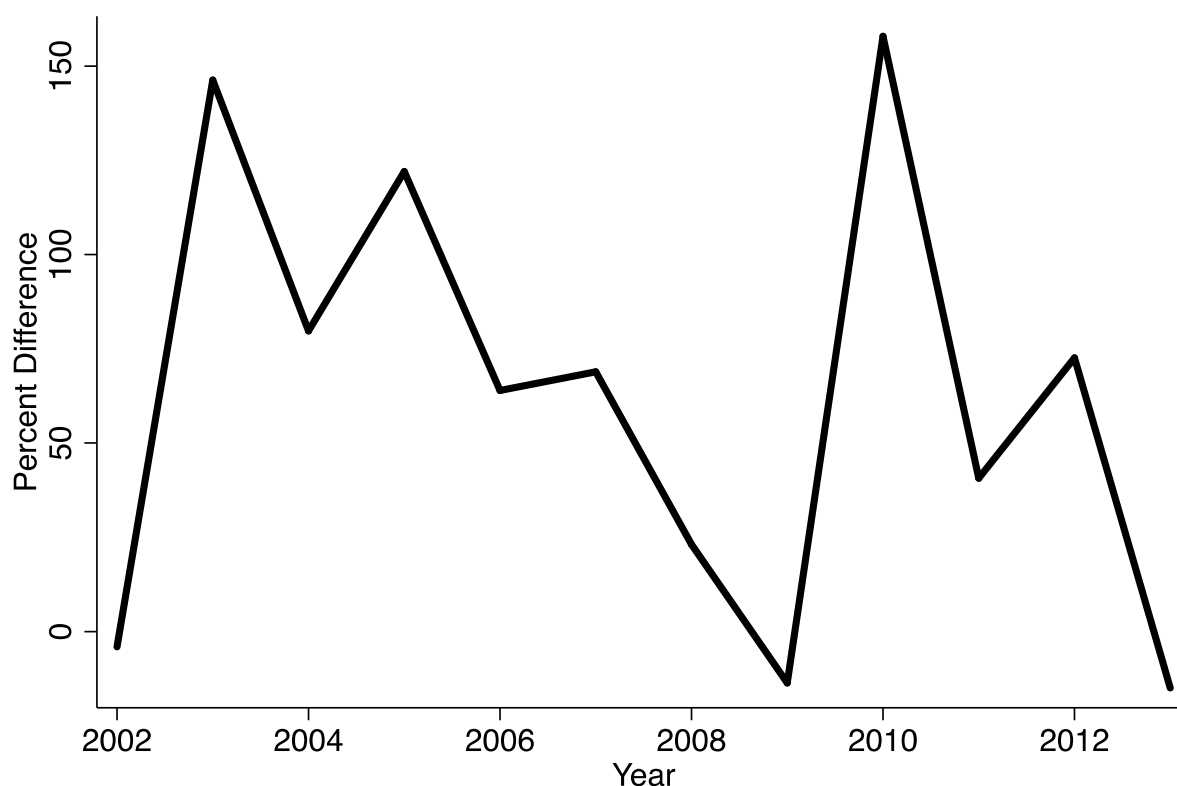
The figure excludes cases where the hour and minute was exactly 0:00. These cases were presumed to be missing data.

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	2,130	27.74	27.60	15.68
No	5,548	72.26	72.40	84.32
Total	7,678	100.00	100.00	100.00

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

Race	Search Occur	N	No Action	Verbal Warning	Written Warning	Citation Issued	Arrest	Total
White	No	171,856	1.69	19.62	6.07	72.16	0.45	100.0
Hispanic	No	39,271	1.95	12.81	4.25	79.98	1.01	100.0
Total	No	381,607	2.03	20.28	5.44	71.72	0.54	100.0
White	Yes	2,725	0.92	5.14	2.97	32.55	58.42	100.0
Hispanic	Yes	1,218	0.41	2.87	4.52	28.65	63.55	100.0
Total	Yes	7,678	1.00	5.11	3.27	38.85	51.77	100.0