

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

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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

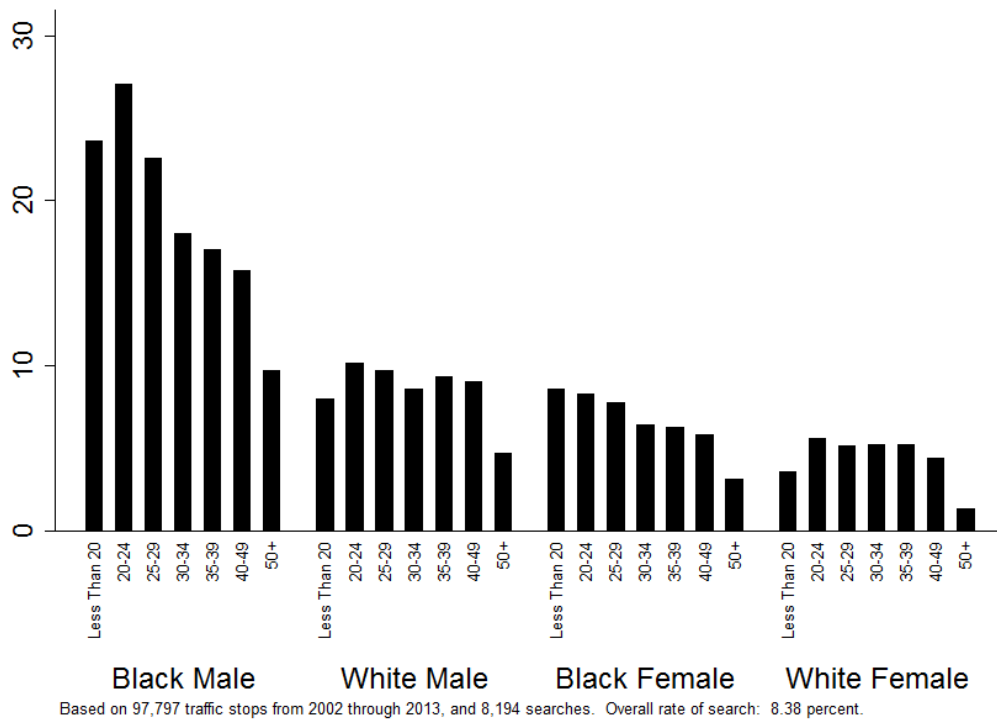


Figure 12. Percent of White and Black Drivers Searched, by Officer

