

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

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Table 1. Overview of the Data

Data Subsets	Observations
Total stops	259,426
-2014	4,916
-Passengers	7,079
-Checkpoint stops	1,328
Stops for analysis	246,250
Searches	11,266

Search Rate = 4.58

Figure 1. Number of Traffic Stops per Year

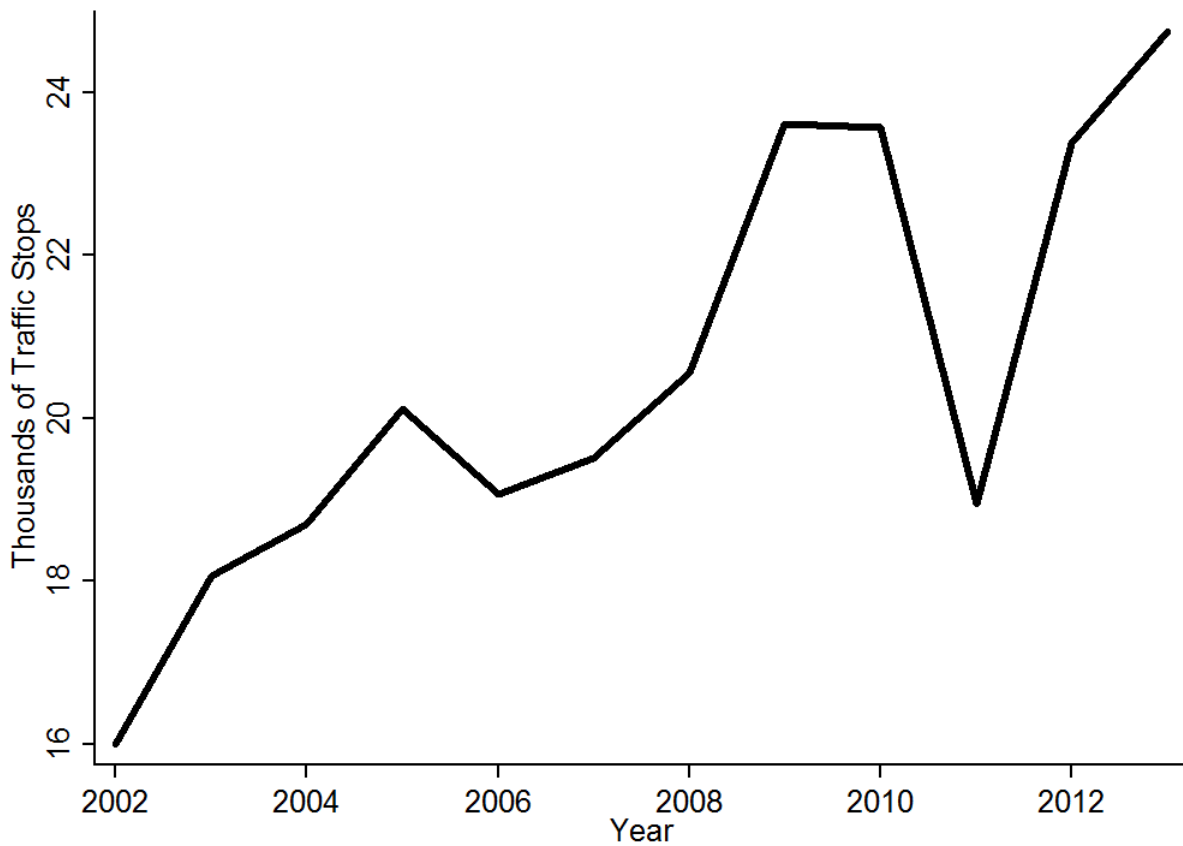


Figure 2. Ethnic Composition of Traffic Stops by Year

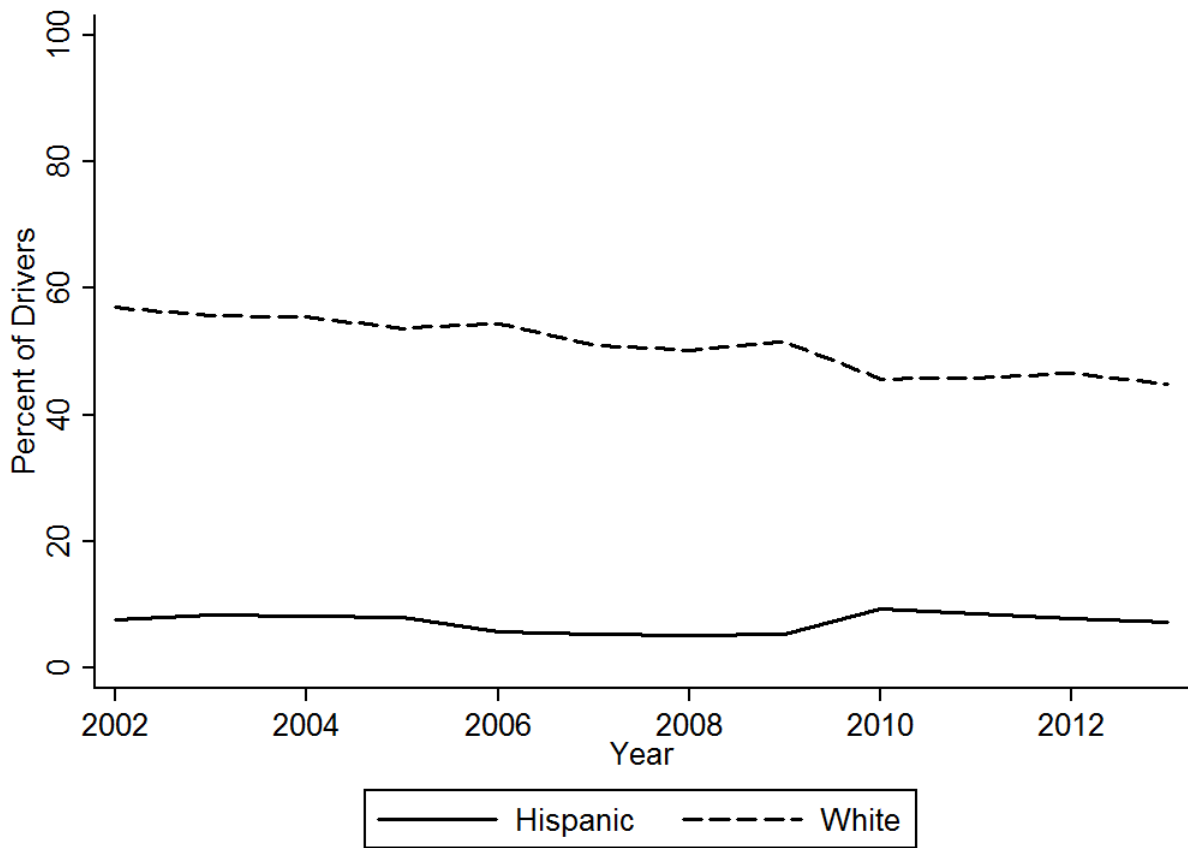


Table 2. Ethnic Composition of Traffic Stops by Purpose, Drivers

Purpose	Number	Percent	
		White	Hispanic
Total Stops	246,250	54.53	7.20
Speed Limit	90,341	62.27	5.33
Stop Light/Sign	14,308	52.60	6.62
Driving Impaired	1,764	64.04	15.99
Safe Movement	15,371	56.46	9.41
Vehicle Equipment	33,910	48.06	7.73
Vehicle Regulatory	51,896	49.86	6.45
Seat Belt	11,387	49.44	5.02
Investigation	18,367	44.27	14.81
Other Vehicle	8,906	50.35	10.93

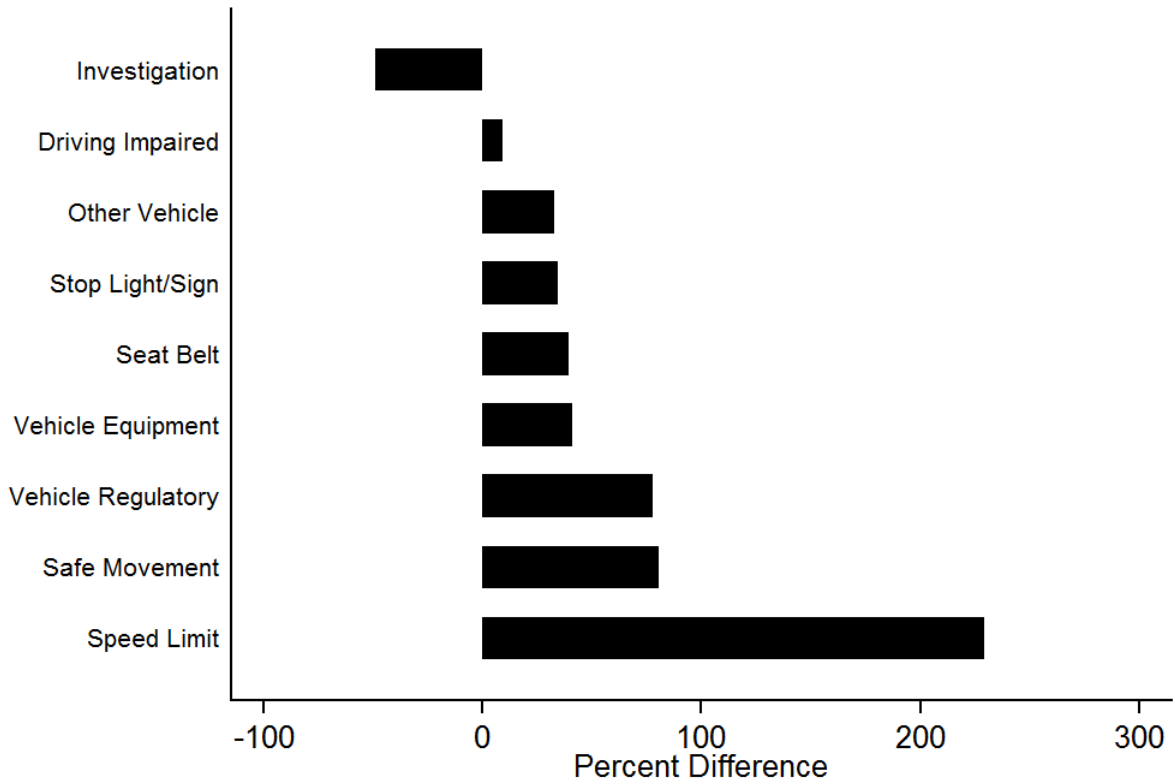
Note: Includes only drivers. Excludes 1,328 checkpoint stops. Excludes 7,079 passengers.

Table 3. Percent Searched by Ethnicity and Purpose of Stop

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	246,250	-	54.53	7.20	-
Total Searches	11,266	4.58	3.37	6.05	1.80
Speed Limit	90,341	1.52	1.03	3.41	3.31
Stop Light/Sign	14,308	4.27	3.53	4.75	1.35
Driving Impaired	1,764	36.62	38.25	41.84	1.09
Safe Movement	15,371	7.98	5.70	10.30	1.81
Vehicle Equipment	33,910	5.66	4.61	6.52	1.41
Vehicle Regulatory	51,896	4.10	2.89	5.14	1.78
Seat Belt	11,387	5.14	3.01	4.20	1.40
Investigation	18,367	11.78	12.40	6.32	0.51
Other Vehicle	8,906	6.91	4.48	5.96	1.33

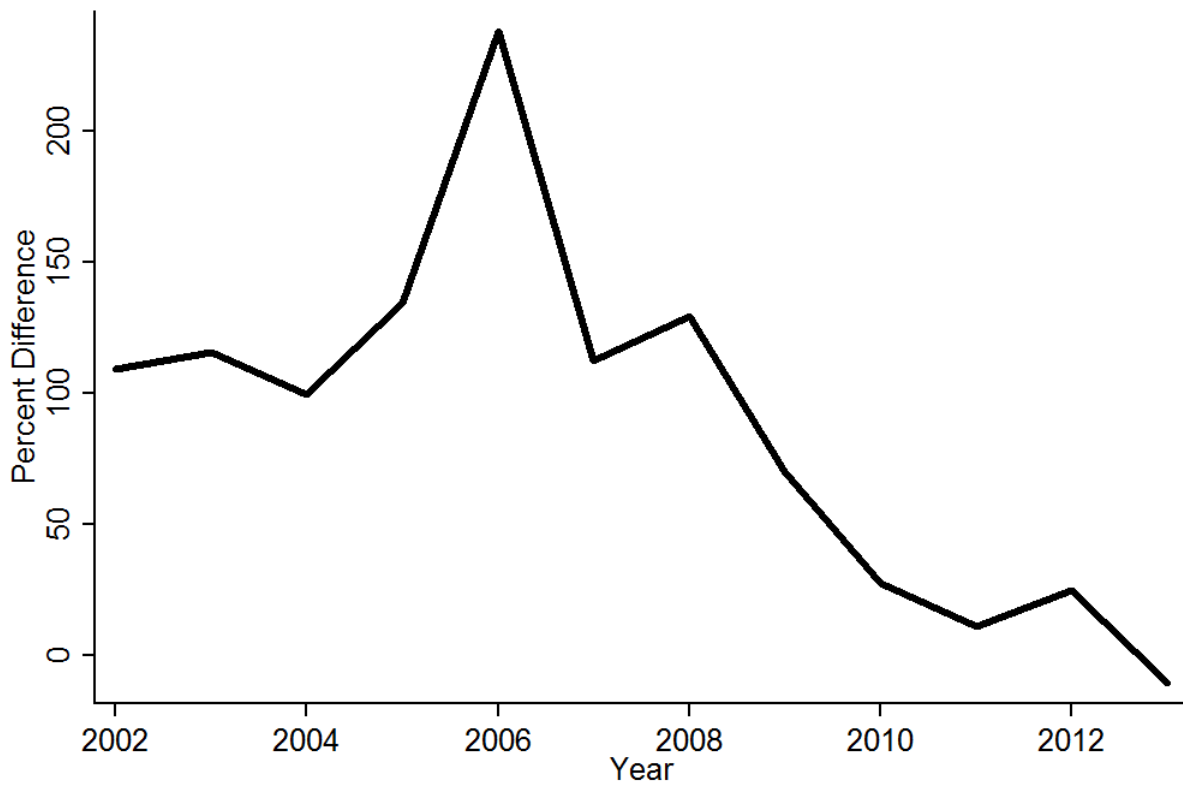
Note: See the appendix for this same table broken down for Men and Women.

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



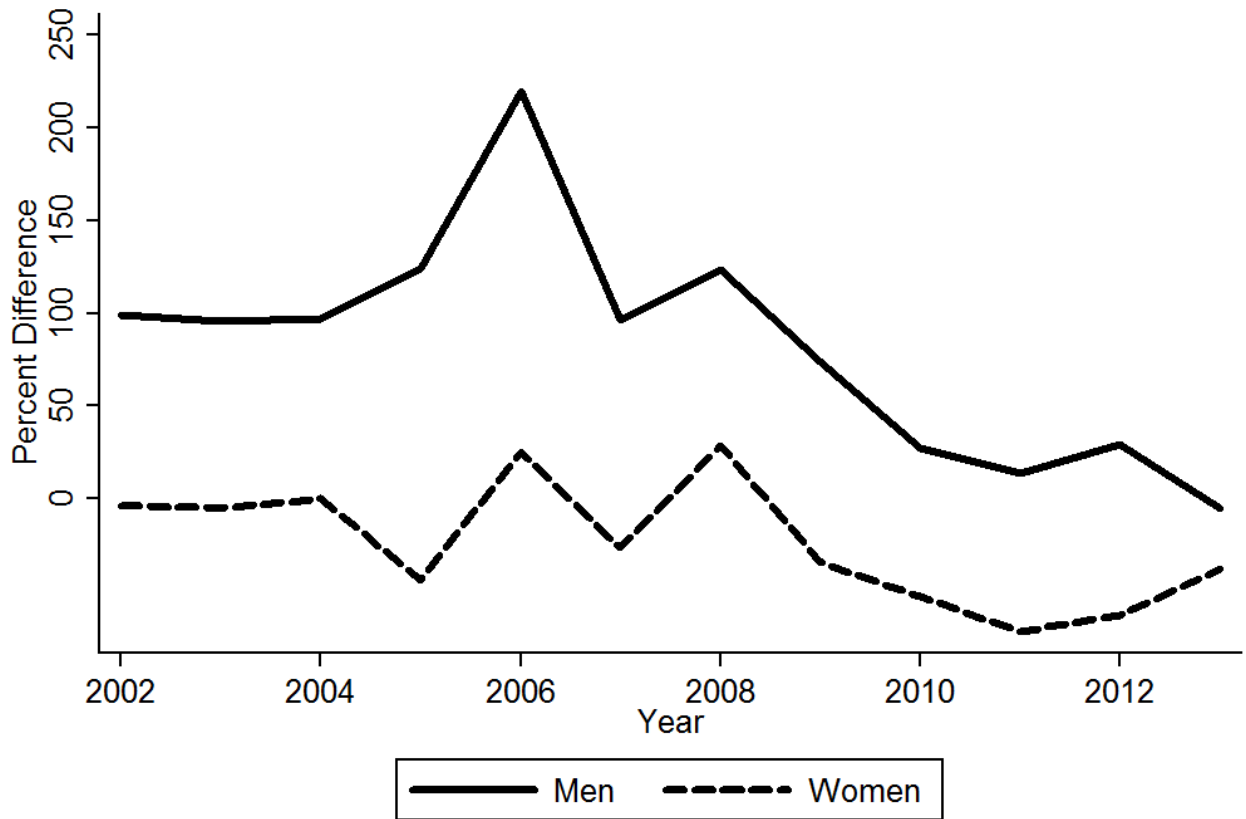
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites by purpose of stop.

Figure 4. Ethnic Differences in the Likelihood of Search



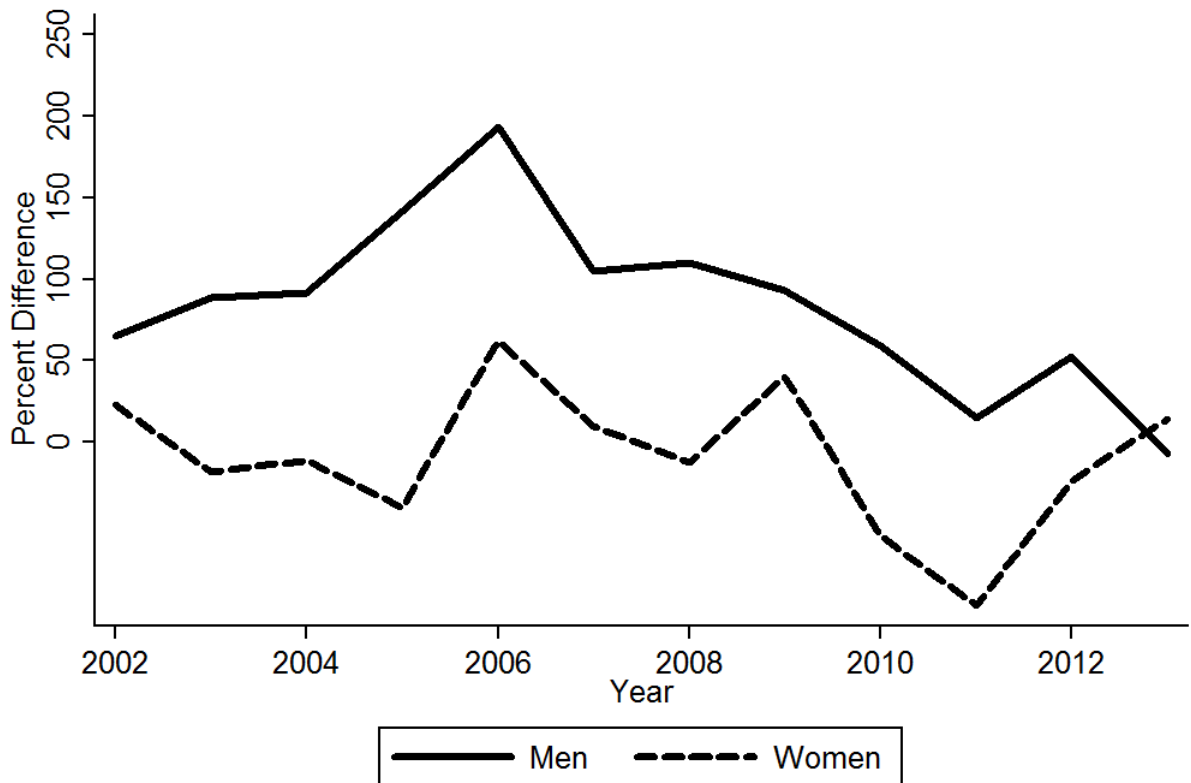
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites.

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



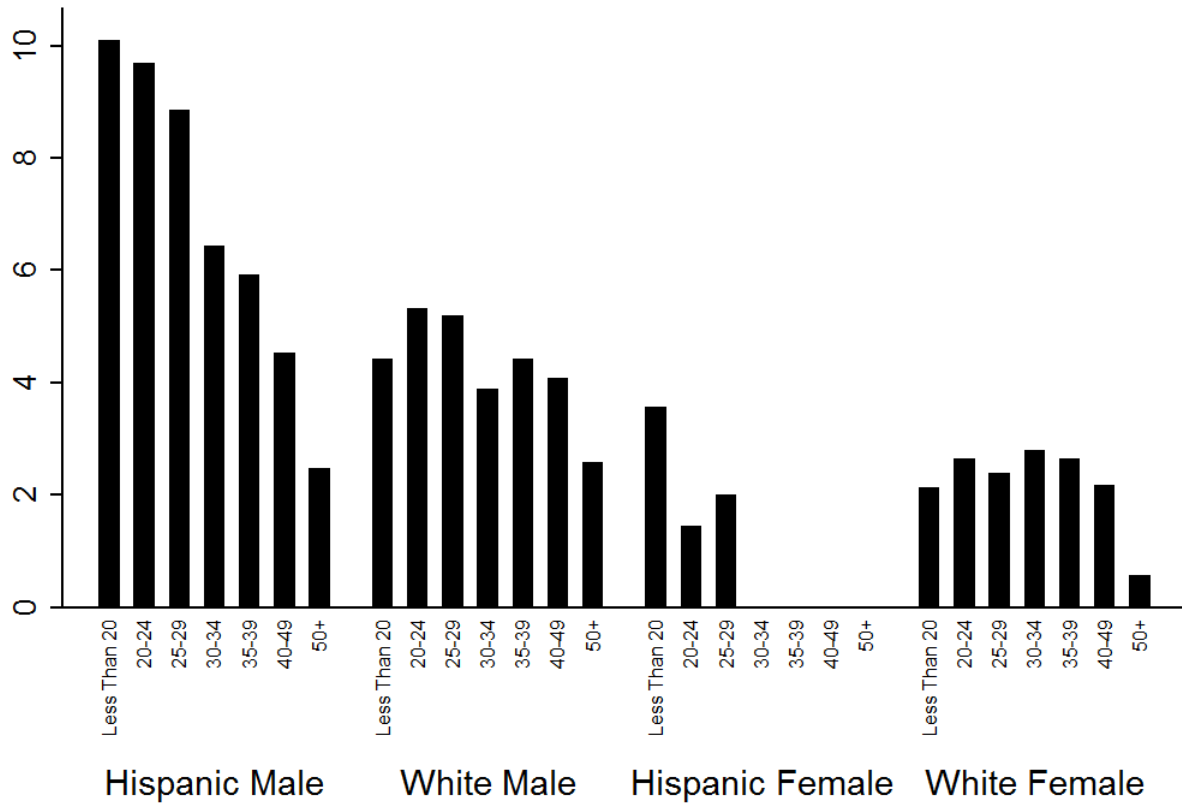
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites by gender.

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 246,250 traffic stops from 2002 through 2013, and 11,266 searches. Overall rate of search: 4.58 percent.
 No data are presented for categories with fewer than 10 searches.

Figure 8. Number of Stops, by Ethnicity and Gender

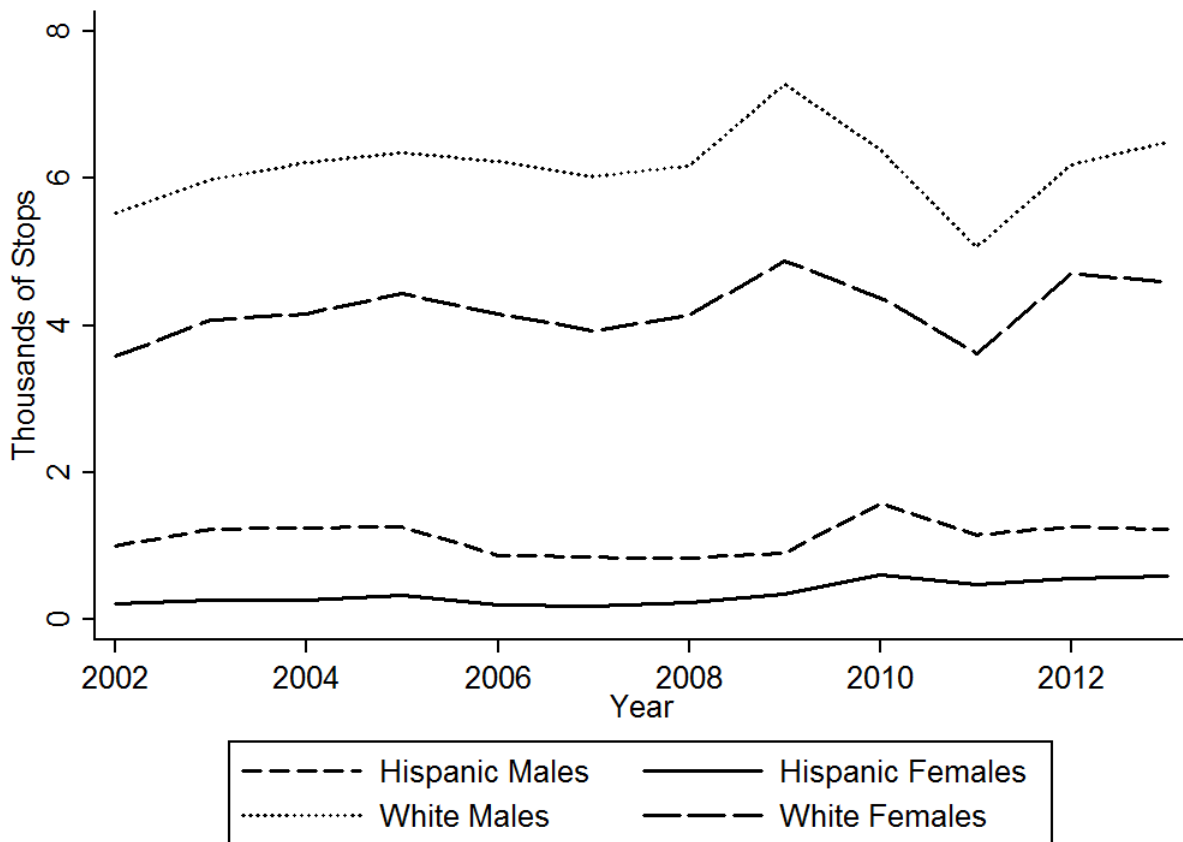


Figure 9. Percent of Stops Resulting in a Search, by Ethnicity and Gender

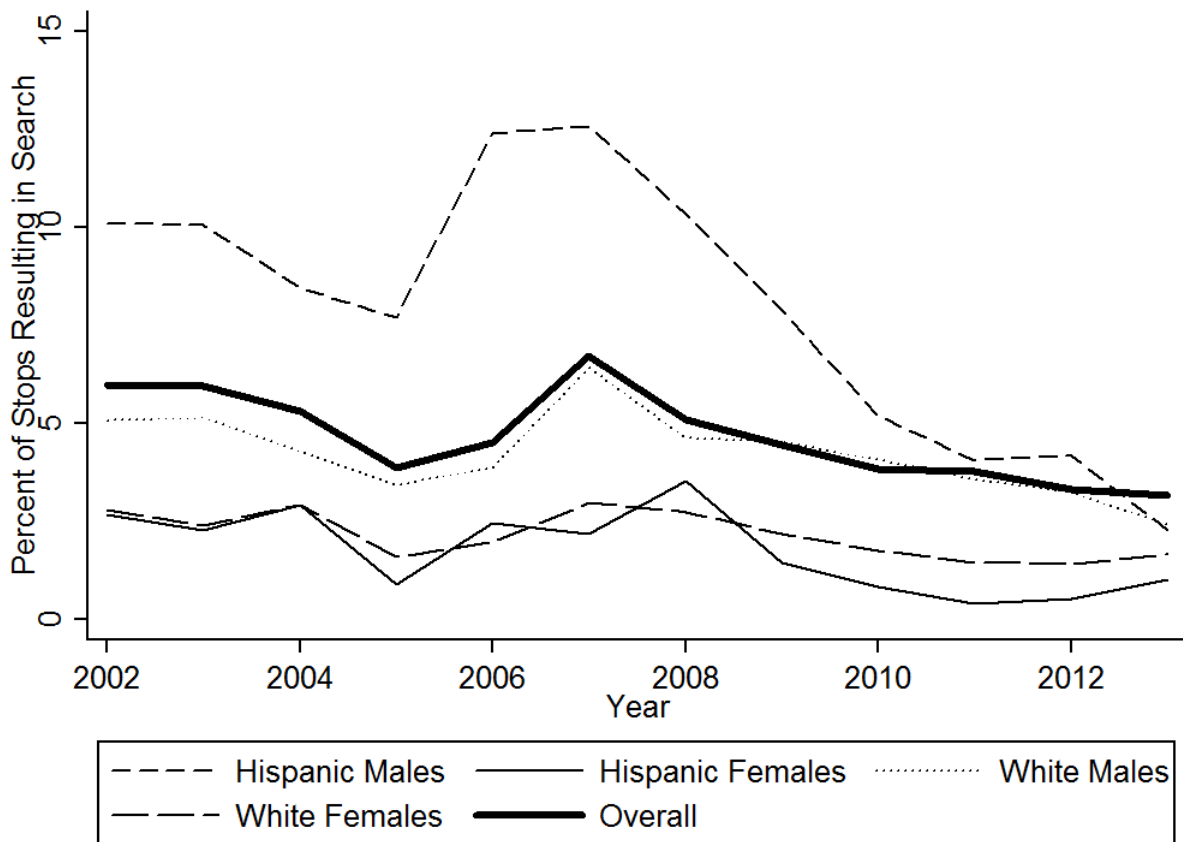


Table 4. Type of Search by Ethnicity

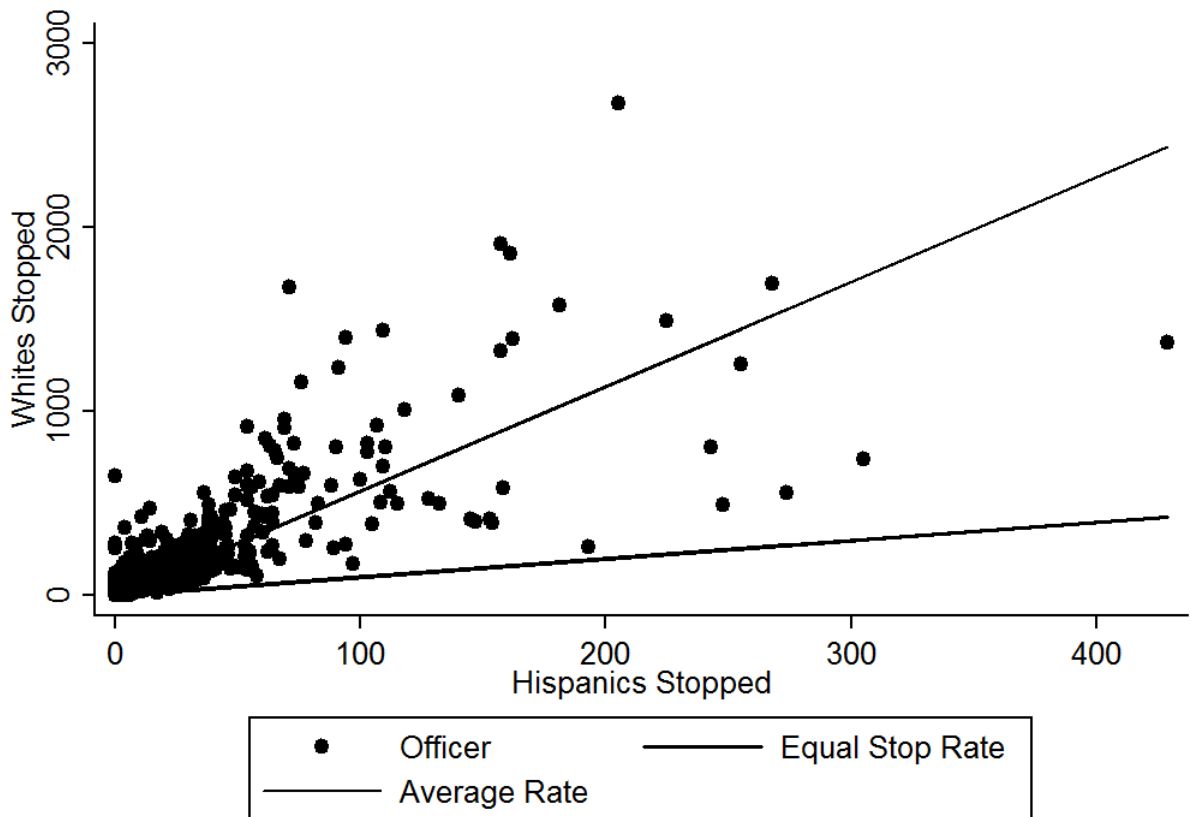
Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	246,250	-	54.53	7.20	-
Total Searches	11,266	4.58	3.37	6.05	1.80
Consent	4,321	1.75	1.52	2.16	1.42
Search Warrant	18	0.01	0.00	0.01	-
Probable Cause	2,220	0.90	0.49	0.67	1.37
Incident to Arrest	4,526	1.84	1.31	3.11	2.37
Protective Frisk	181	0.07	0.05	0.11	2.20

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

Table 5. Distribution of Officer IDs by Stop

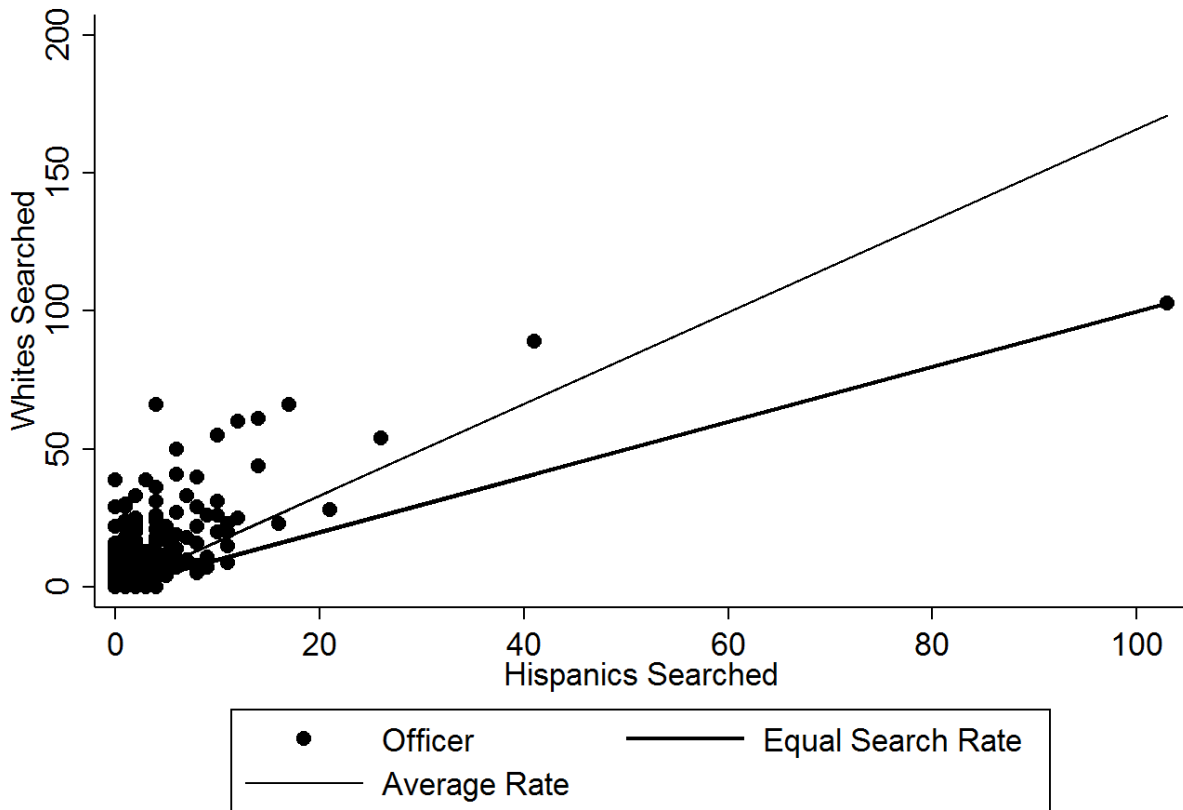
Number of Stops	Officers w/ this many Stops	Percent of Officers	Cumulative Percent	Percent of Stops	Cumulative Percent
1	748	36.42	36.42	0.30	0.30
2 – 10	445	21.67	58.09	0.75	1.05
11 - 100	393	19.13	77.22	6.61	7.66
101 – 1,000	411	20.01	97.22	53.13	60.79
1,001 +	57	2.78	100.00	39.20	100.00
Total		100	-	100	-

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



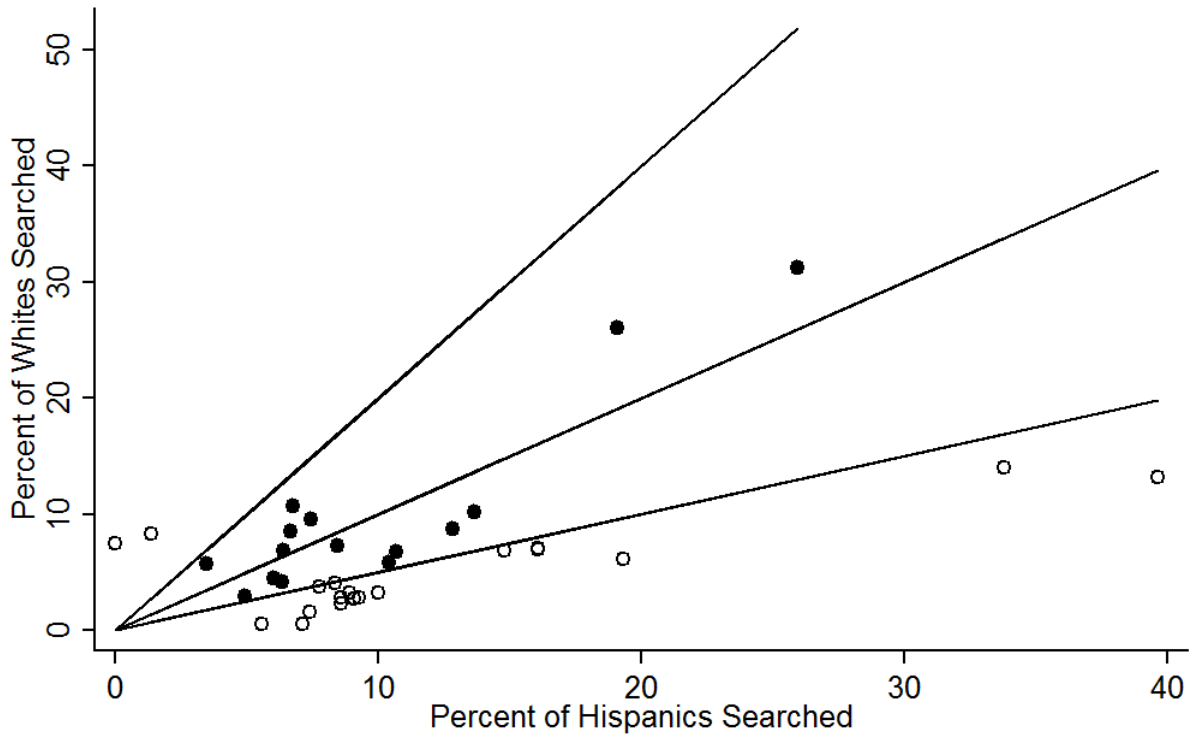
On average, officers stop 5.68 Whites for each Hispanic stopped.

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



On average, officers search 1.66 Whites for each Hispanic searched.

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



Includes 34 officers with a minimum of 50 White stops, 50 Hispanic stops, and a search rate above the department average of 4.58 for either ethnicity. The hollow circles indicate high disparity officers. 2 officers search Whites at more than twice the rate that they search Hispanics. 18 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	7,057	41.64	7.24
Speed Limit	754	48.39	13.66
Stop Light/Sign	355	33.44	8.17
Driving Impaired	204	68.39	14.71
Safe Movement	720	43.10	9.44
Vehicle Equipment	1,302	39.02	7.68
Vehicle Regulatory	1,394	35.97	5.67
Seat Belt	453	33.86	2.21
Investigation	1,538	46.88	4.16
Other Vehicle	337	38.51	8.31

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

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	148,697	-	54.67	9.04	-
Total Searches	9,169	6.17	4.22	7.53	1.78
Speed Limit	1,116	2.22	1.38	4.36	3.16
Stop Light/Sign	498	5.66	4.15	6.35	1.53
Driving Impaired	539	40.28	41.45	45.17	1.09
Safe Movement	1,044	10.04	6.67	12.35	1.85
Vehicle Equipment	1,557	7.12	5.39	7.79	1.45
Vehicle Regulatory	1,673	5.62	3.61	6.32	1.75
Seat Belt	506	6.47	3.41	5.18	1.52
Investigation	1,721	13.87	13.82	7.52	0.54
Other Vehicle	515	8.63	5.17	7.44	1.44

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

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	97,553	-	54.32	4.39	-
Total Searches	2,097	2.15	2.14	1.42	0.66
Speed Limit	255	0.64	0.60	0.96	1.60
Stop Light/Sign	113	2.05	2.54	0.00	0.00
Driving Impaired	107	25.12	30.26	4.35	0.14
Safe Movement	183	3.68	3.89	2.08	0.53
Vehicle Equipment	363	3.02	3.18	1.19	0.37
Vehicle Regulatory	455	2.05	1.93	1.98	1.03
Seat Belt	79	2.22	2.24	0.78	0.35
Investigation	442	7.41	9.69	2.14	0.22
Other Vehicle	100	3.40	3.18	1.28	0.40

Table A4. Type of Search by Ethnicity: Men

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hisp	Ratio Hisp:White
Total Stops	148,697	-	39.23	56.88	-
Total Searches	9,169	6.17	4.22	7.53	1.78
Consent	3,491	2.35	1.89	2.65	1.40
Search Warrant	14	0.01	0.00	0.01	-
Probable Cause	1,869	1.26	0.63	0.82	1.30
Incident to Arrest	3,633	2.44	1.62	3.91	2.41
Protective Frisk	162	0.11	0.08	0.14	1.75

Table A5. Type of Search by Ethnicity: Women

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hisp	Ratio Hisp:White
Total Stops	97,553	-	54.32	4.39	-
Total Searches	2,097	2.15	2.14	1.42	0.66
Consent	830	0.85	0.98	0.61	0.622
Search Warrant	4	-	-	-	-
Probable Cause	351	0.36	0.29	0.19	0.66
Incident to Arrest	893	0.92	0.86	0.61	0.71
Protective Frisk	19	0.02	0.01	0.02	2.00

Figure A1. Stops by Day of the Week

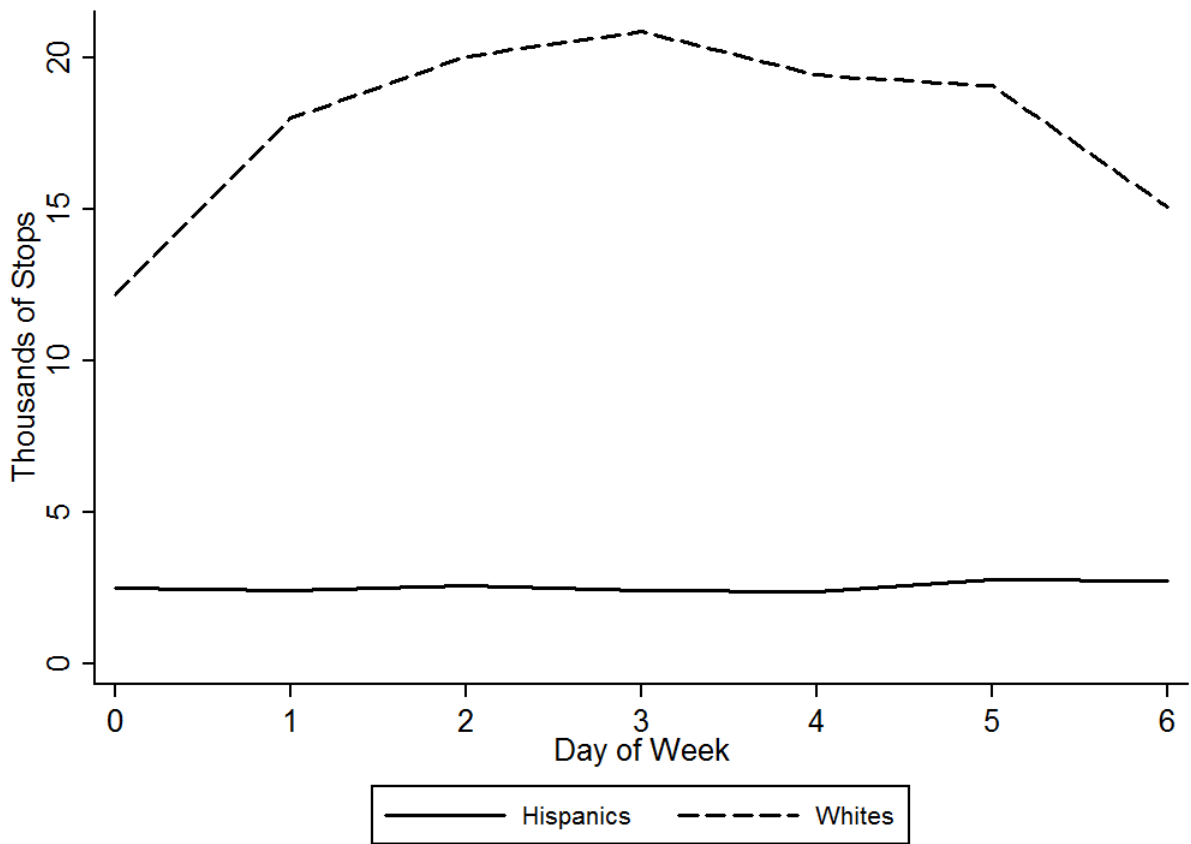


Figure A2. Searches by Day of the Week

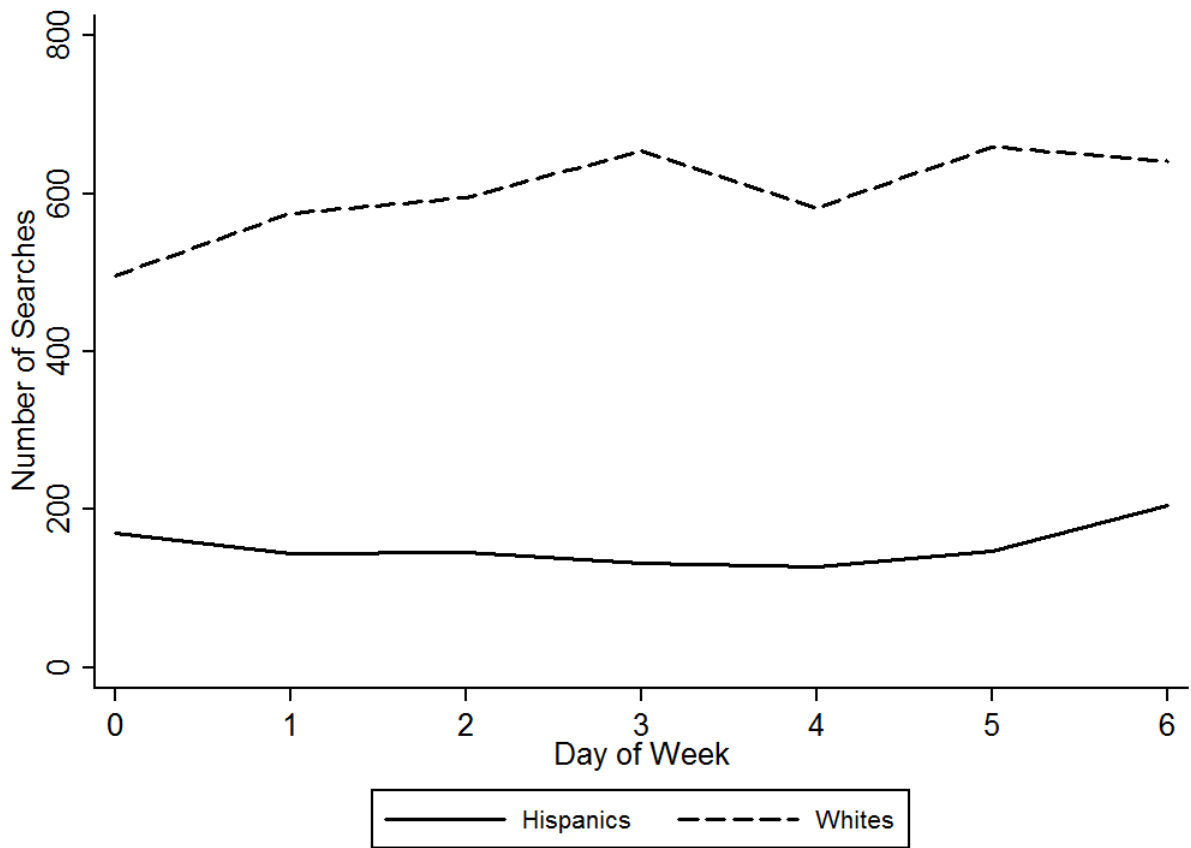
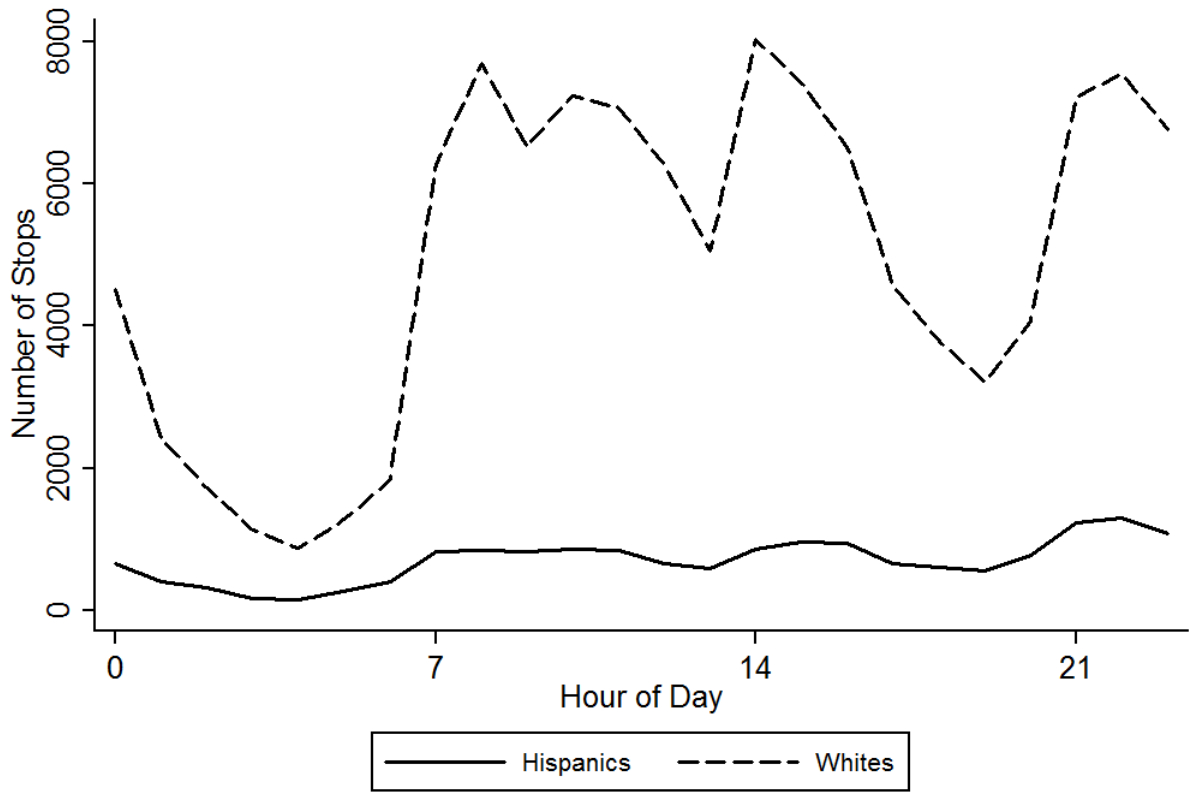
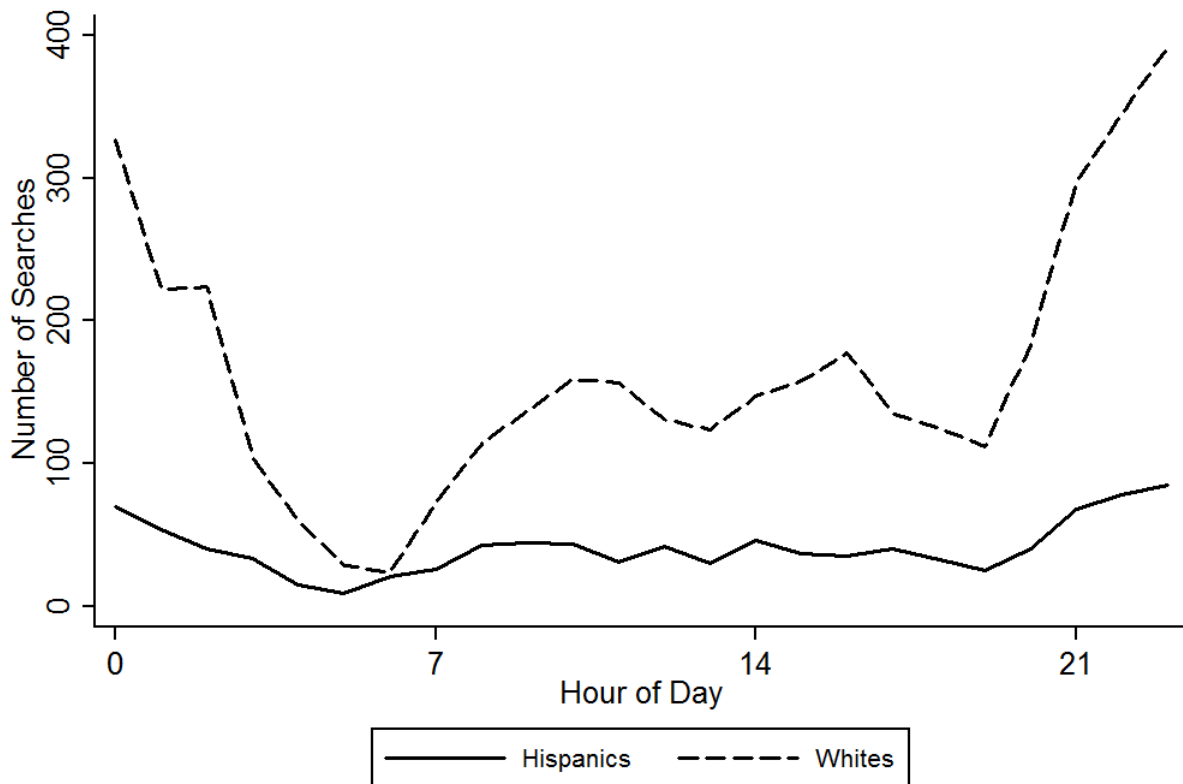


Figure A3. Stops by Hour of the Day



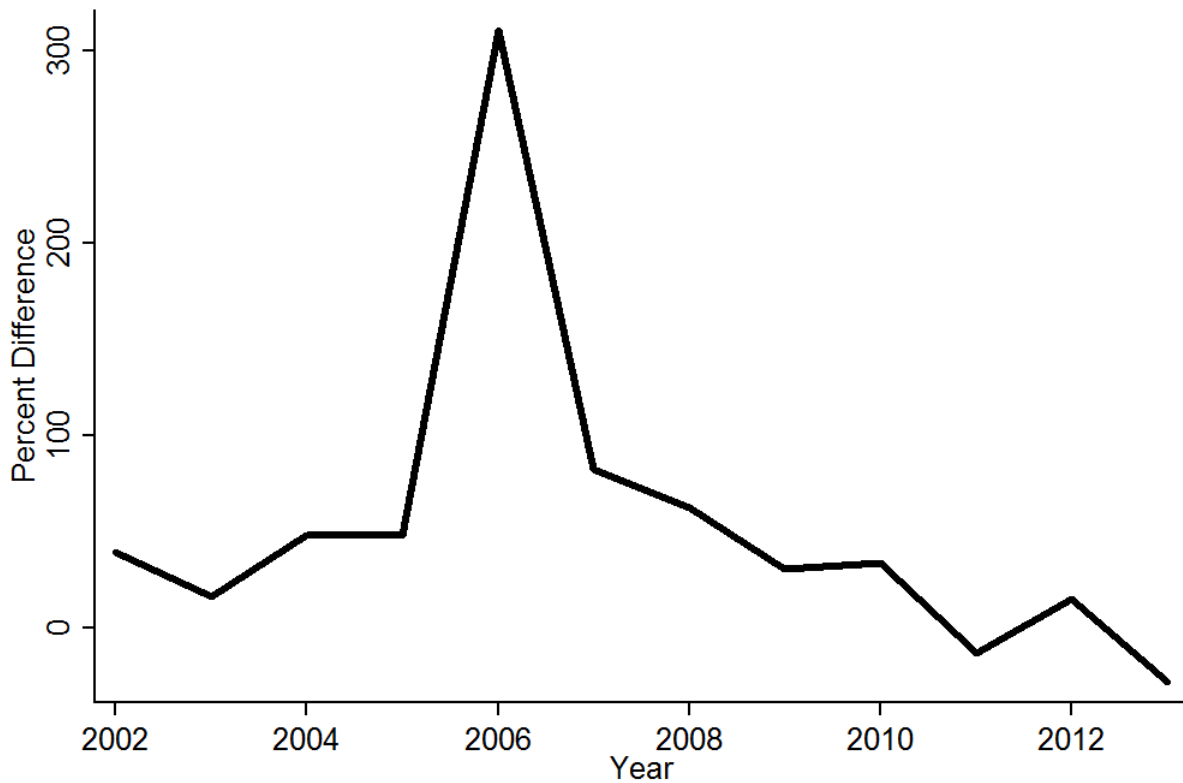
The figure excludes cases where the hour and minute was exactly 0:00. These cases were presumed to be missing data.

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	% Hisp
Yes	3,008	26.70	27.30	15.84
No	8,258	73.30	72.70	84.16
Total	11,266	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	120,404	2.26	13.00	20.54	63.24	0.97	100.0
Hisp	No	16,652	3.16	8.44	11.88	74.11	2.41	100.0
Total	No	234,984	2.68	12.60	19.85	63.61	1.27	100.0
White	Yes	4,202	1.40	5.85	11.66	35.15	45.93	100.0
Hisp	Yes	1,073	0.37	2.24	11.84	34.48	51.07	100.0
Total	Yes	11,266	1.22	4.51	11.53	36.79	45.95	100.0