

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

Frank R. Baumgartner, Derek Epp, and Kelsey Shoub¹
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Department of Political Science
<http://www.unc.edu/~fbaum/traffic.htm>

Contact: Frankb@unc.edu

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¹ Baumgartner is the Richard J. Richardson Distinguished Professor of Political Science at UNC-Chapel Hill. Epp and Shoub are graduate students in political science. We thank UNC undergraduates Katherine B. Elliott, Amirah Jiwa, Morgan Herman, Reena Gupta, and Justin Cole for assistance on the logistics of this project. We also acknowledge the assistance of the NC Department of Justice and State Bureau of Investigation for making available the official statistics on which this analysis relies, and for answering technical questions about the organization of this complex database.

Table 1. Overview of the Data

Data Subsets	Observations
Total stops	94,841
-2014	2,182
-Passengers	1,248
-Checkpoint stops	1,807
Stops for analysis	89,789
Searches	2,671

Search Rate = 2.97

Figure 1. Number of Traffic Stops per Year

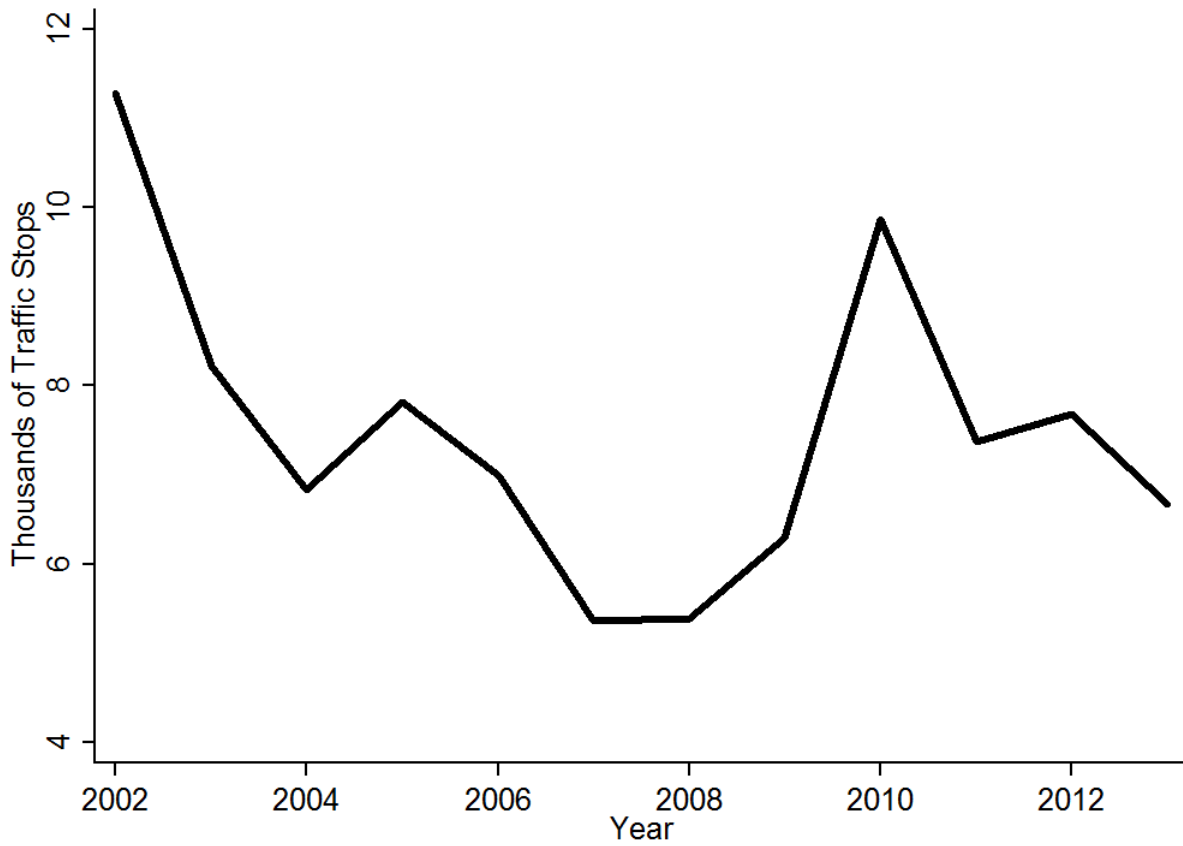


Figure 2. Ethnic Composition of Traffic Stops by Year

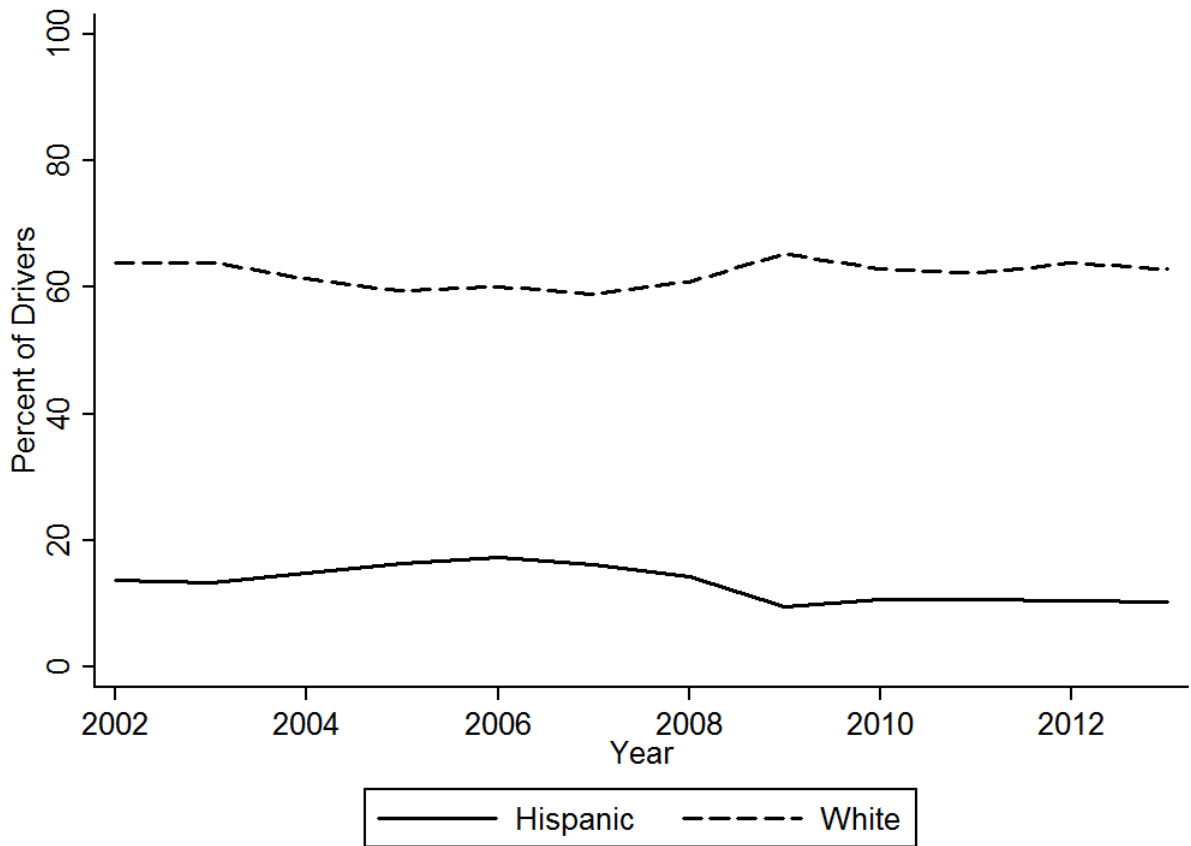


Table 2. Ethnic Composition of Traffic Stops by Purpose, Drivers

Purpose	Number	Percent	
		White	Hispanic
Total Stops	89,789	71.68	13.06
Speed Limit	30,541	77.41	8.87
Stop Light/Sign	4,616	70.07	14.73
Driving Impaired	955	68.27	30.37
Safe Movement	5,219	69.66	18.91
Vehicle Equipment	13,106	66.30	17.49
Vehicle Regulatory	19,933	68.93	10.04
Seat Belt	6,606	73.07	9.76
Investigation	4,249	65.55	26.76
Other Vehicle	4,564	65.00	21.49

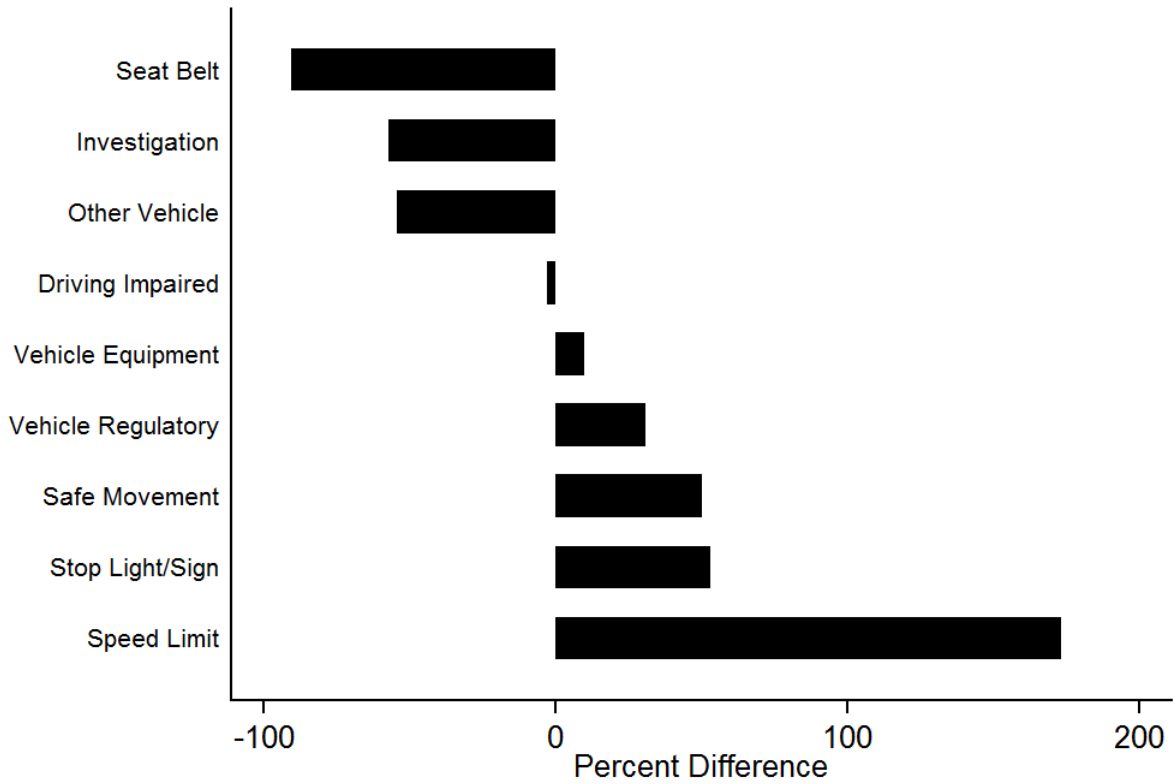
Note: Includes only drivers. Excludes 1,807 checkpoint stops. Excludes 1,248 passengers.

Table 3. Percent Searched by Ethnicity and Purpose of Stop

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	89,789	-	71.68	13.06	-
Total Searches	2,671	2.97	2.48	4.04	1.63
Speed Limit	30,541	1.16	0.92	2.51	2.73
Stop Light/Sign	4,616	2.53	1.92	2.94	1.53
Driving Impaired	955	36.44	38.33	37.24	0.97
Safe Movement	5,219	6.46	5.60	8.41	1.50
Vehicle Equipment	13,106	4.14	3.89	4.28	1.10
Vehicle Regulatory	19,933	1.69	1.38	1.80	1.30
Seat Belt	6,606	1.67	1.61	0.16	0.10
Investigation	4,249	6.12	6.96	2.99	0.43
Other Vehicle	4,564	5.81	5.80	2.65	0.46

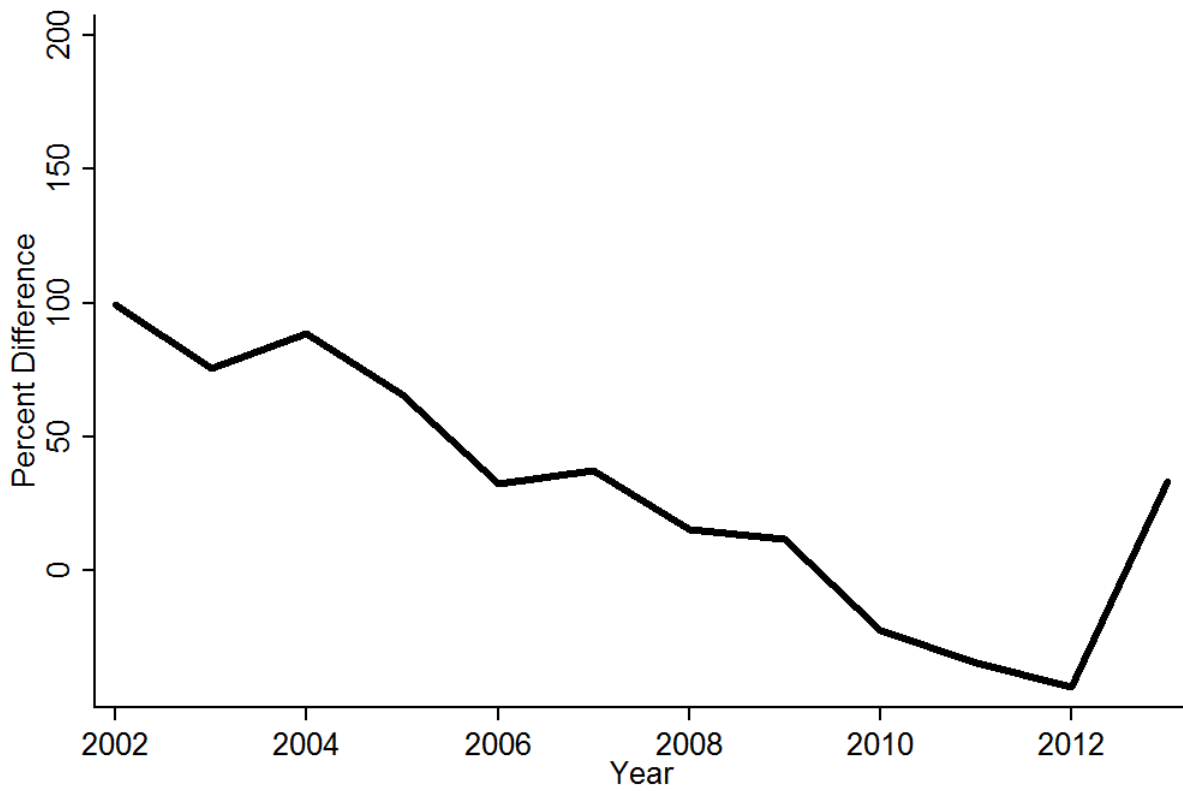
Note: See the appendix for this same table broken down for Men and Women.

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



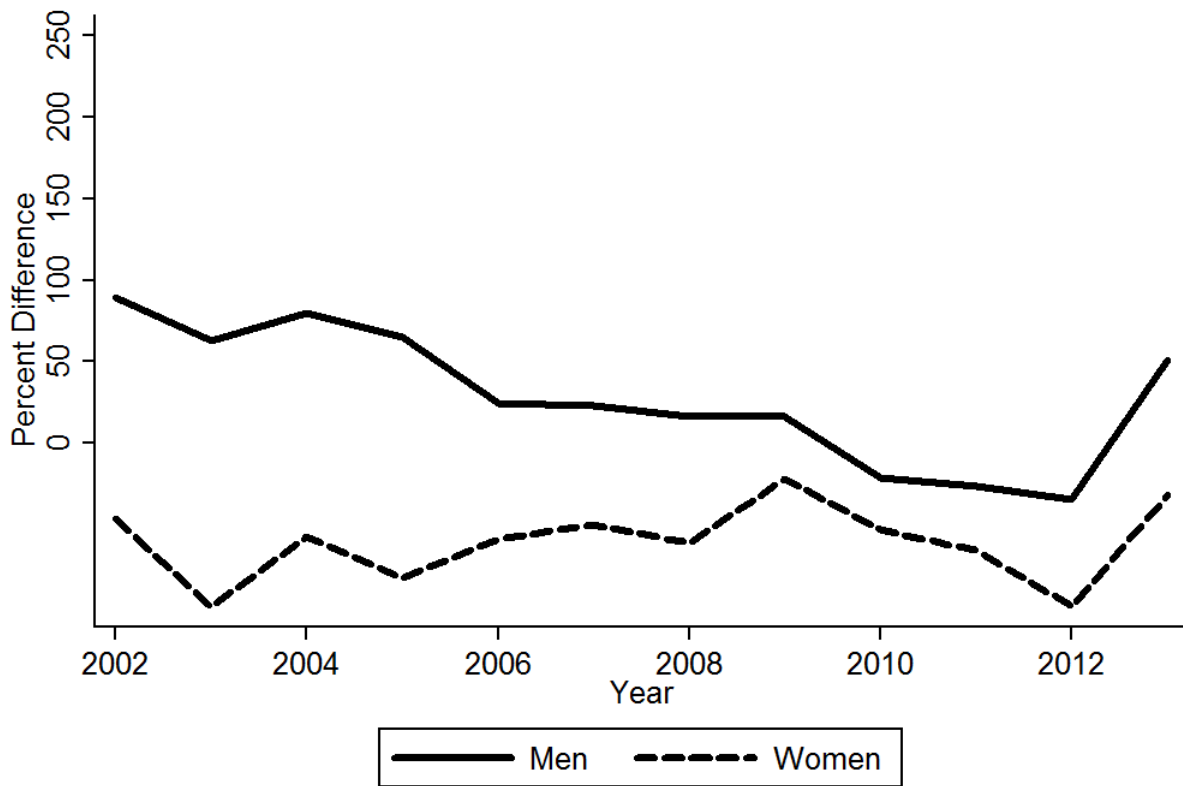
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites by purpose of stop.

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



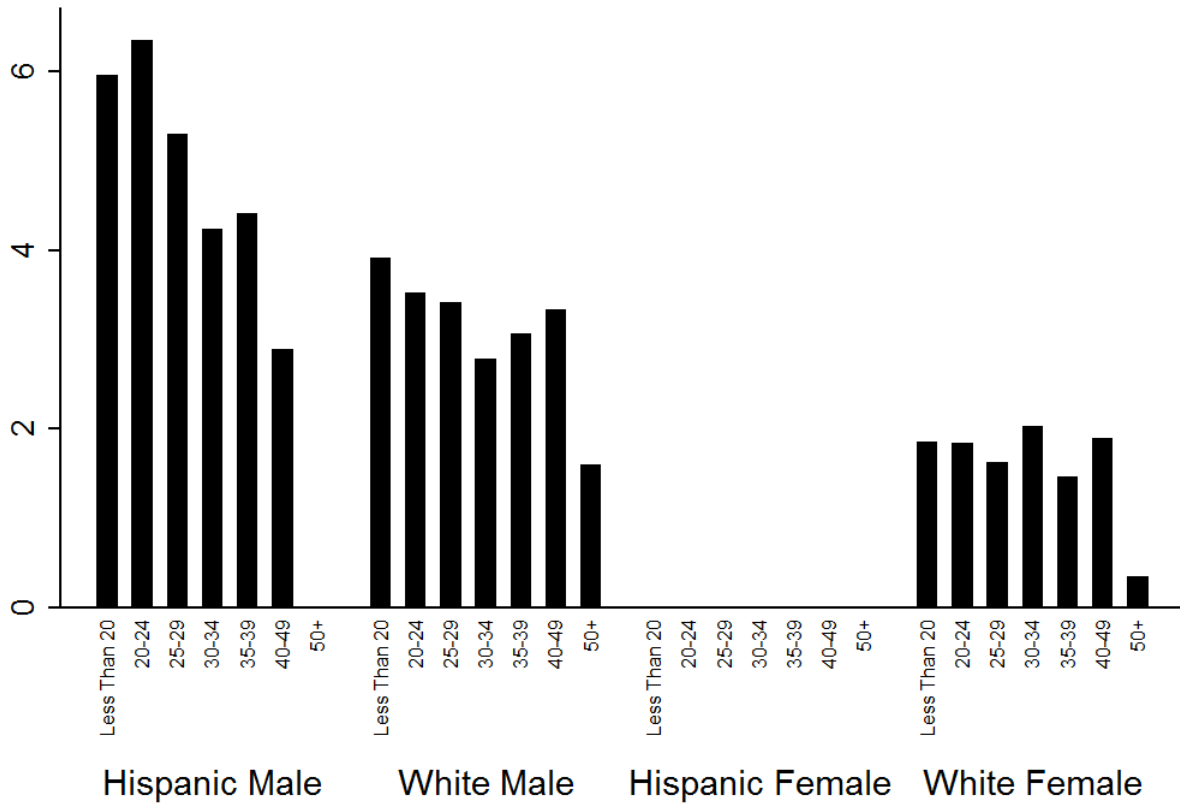
The figure shows the percentage difference in the likelihood of Hispanics being searched as compared to Whites by gender.

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



Hispanic Male White Male Hispanic Female White Female

Based on 89,789 traffic stops from 2002 through 2013, and 2,671 searches. Overall rate of search: 2.97 percent.
No data are presented for categories with fewer than 10 searches.

Figure 8. Number of Stops, by Ethnicity and Gender

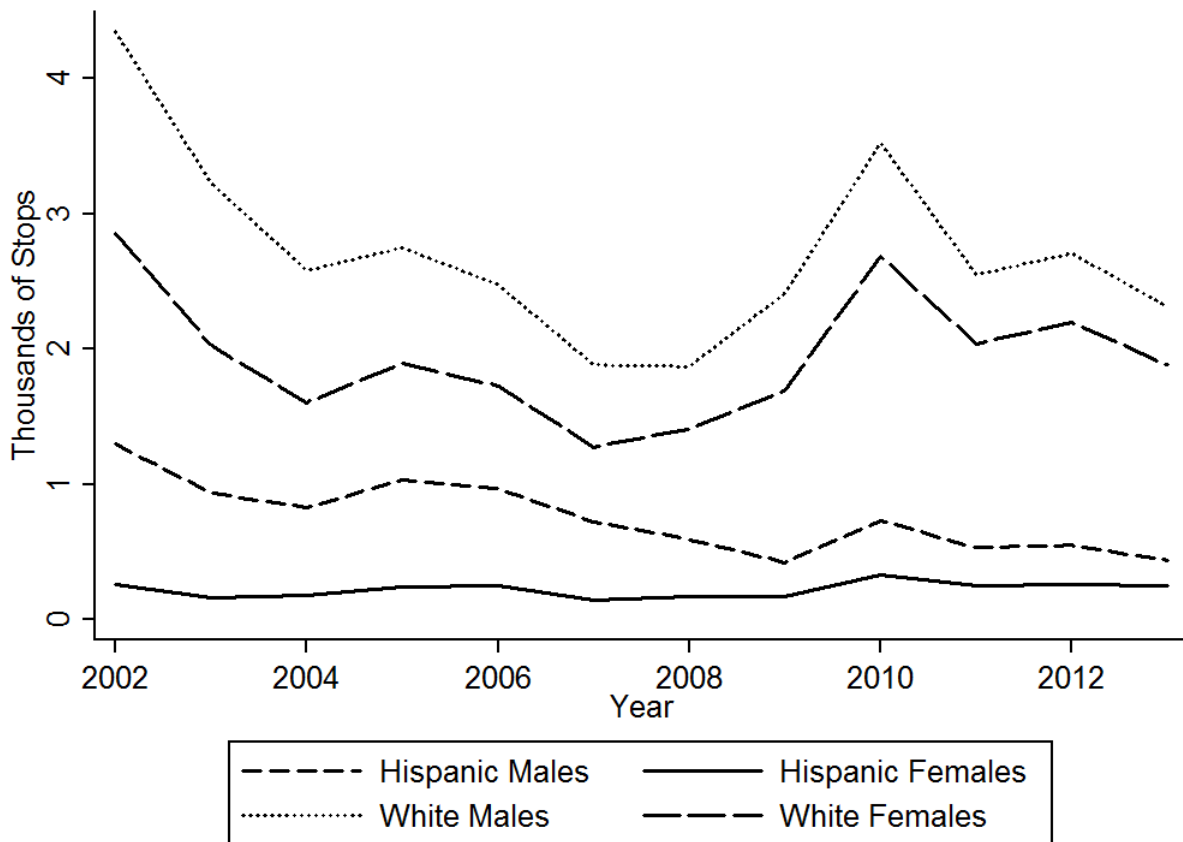


Figure 9. Percent of Stops Resulting in a Search, by Ethnicity and Gender

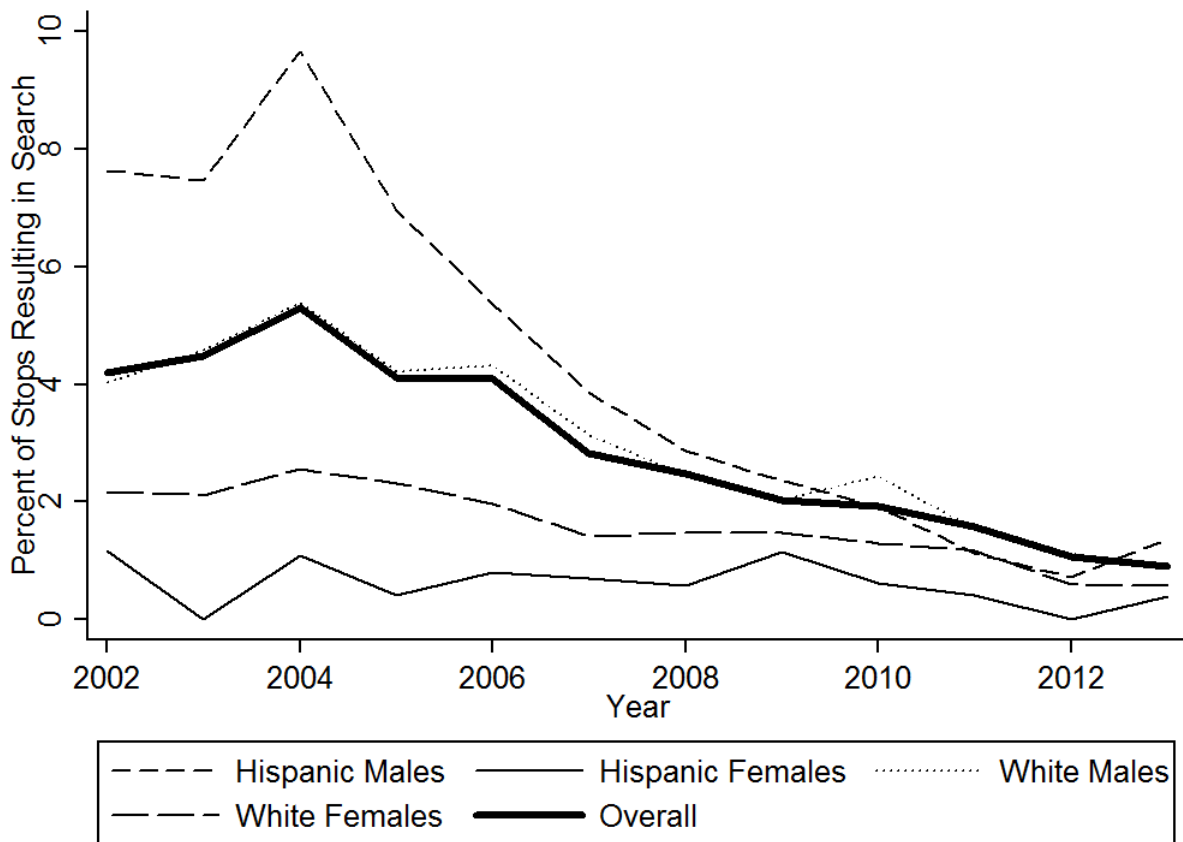


Table 4. Type of Search by Ethnicity

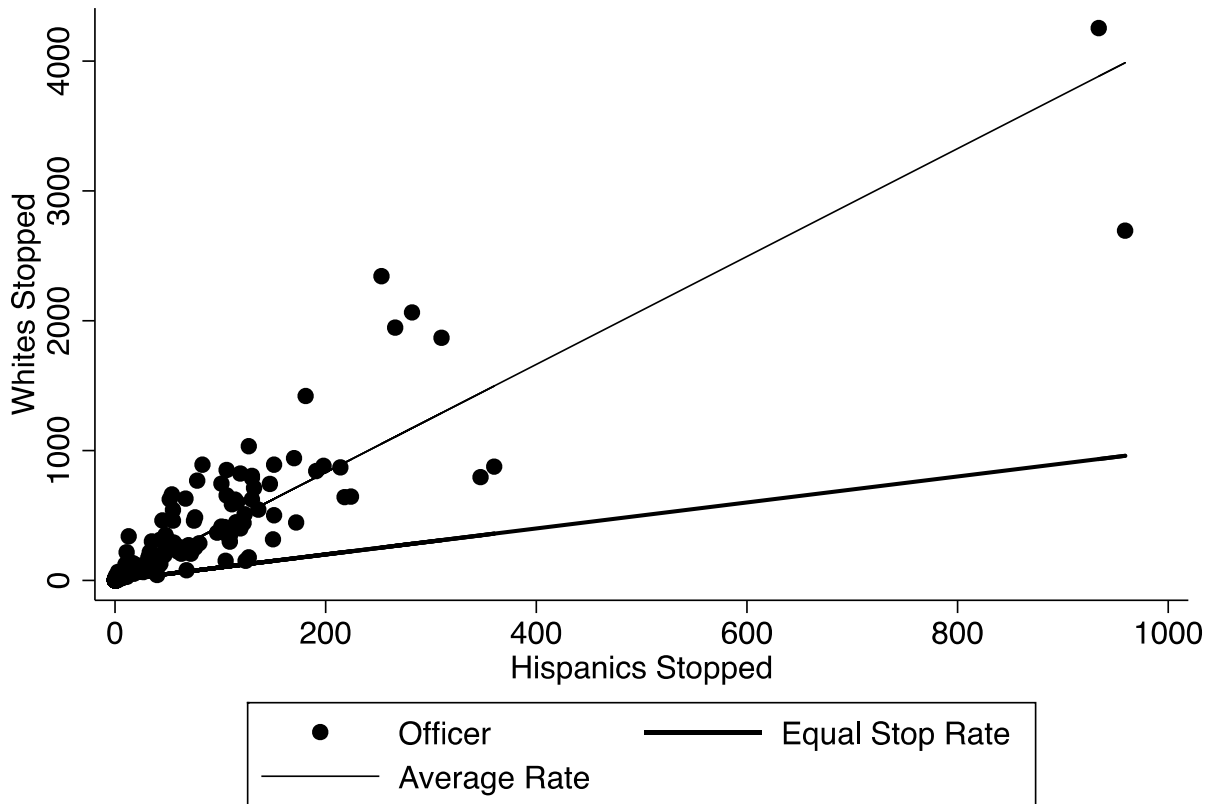
Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					His.:White
Total Stops	89,789	-	71.68	13.06	-
Total Searches	2,671	2.97	2.48	4.04	1.63
Consent	1,003	1.12	1.06	0.79	0.75
Search Warrant	31	0.03	0.04	0.03	-
Probable Cause	220	0.25	0.20	0.16	0.80
Incident to Arrest	1,391	1.55	1.17	3.03	2.59
Protective Frisk	26	0.03	0.01	0.03	-

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

Table 5. Distribution of Officer IDs by Stop

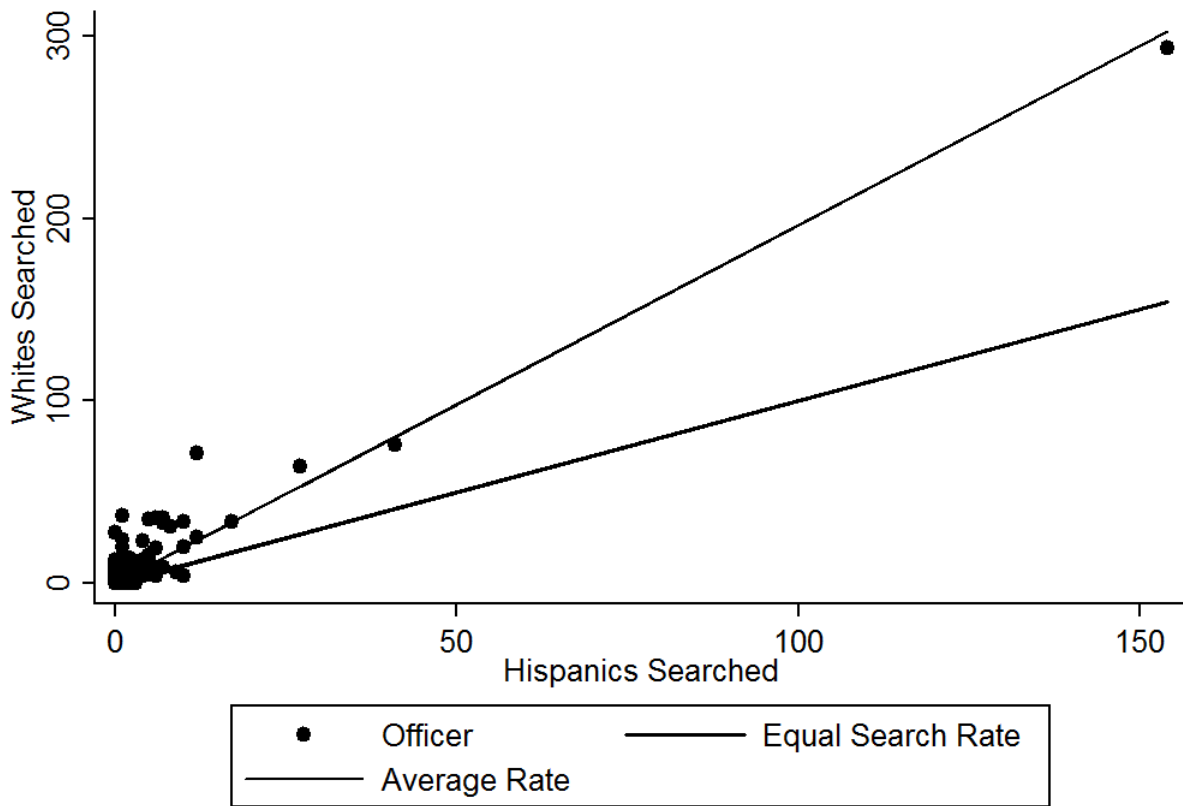
Number of Stops	Officers w/ this many Stops	Percent of Officers	Cumulative Percent	Percent of Stops	Cumulative Percent
1	179	49.72	49.72	0.20	0.20
2 – 10	38	10.56	60.28	0.15	0.35
11 - 100	36	10.00	70.28	1.78	2.13
101 – 1,000	79	21.94	92.22	38.28	40.41
1,001 +	28	7.78	100.00	59.59	100.00
Total	360	100	-	100	-

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



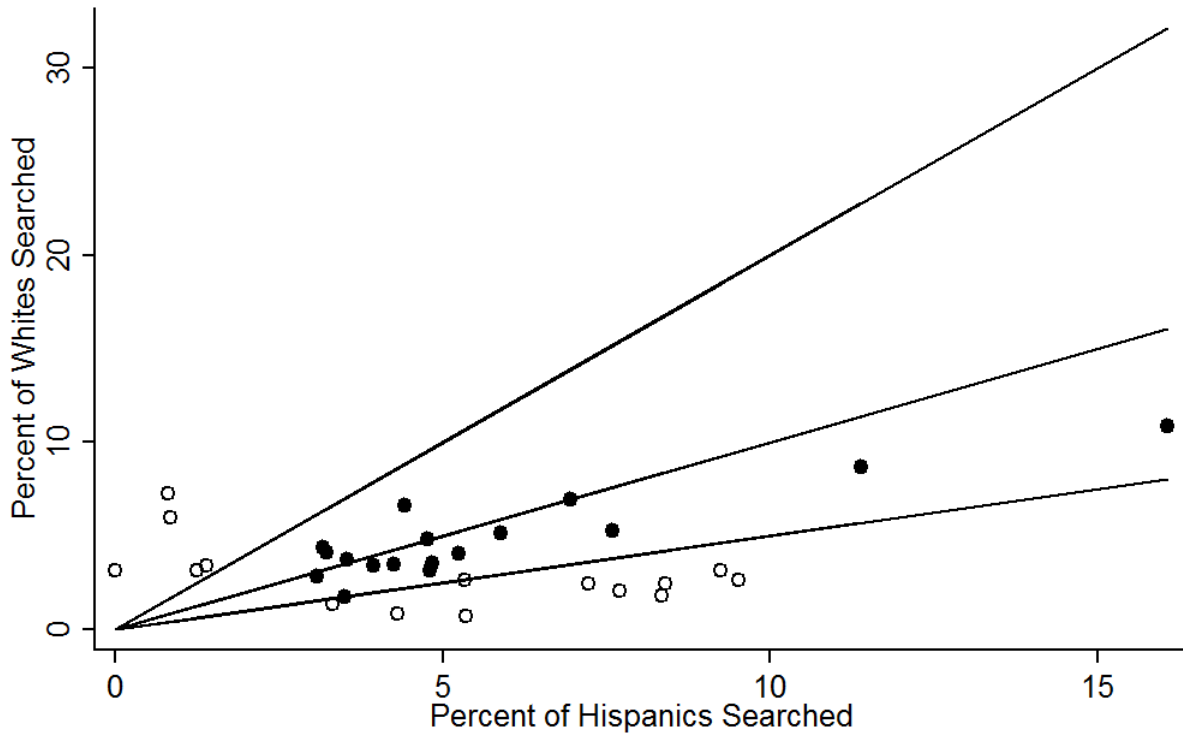
On average, officers stop 4.16 Whites for each Hispanic stopped.

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



On average, officers search 1.96 Whites for each Hispanic searched.

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



Includes 32 officers with a minimum of 50 White stops, 50 Hispanic stops, and a search rate above the department average of 2.97 for either ethnicity. The hollow circles indicate high disparity officers. 5 officers search Whites at more than twice the rate that they search Hispanics. 11 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	1,234	58.68	12.72
Speed Limit	120	67.68	17.50
Stop Light/Sign	68	44.44	7.35
Driving Impaired	97	80.00	27.84
Safe Movement	124	57.41	12.90
Vehicle Equipment	298	62.07	12.42
Vehicle Regulatory	186	50.30	9.14
Seat Belt	75	53.52	5.33
Investigation	164	59.15	13.41
Other Vehicle	102	53.19	7.84

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

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	54,496	-	71.87	16.63	0.23
Total Searches	2,153	3.95	3.11	5.06	1.63
Speed Limit	17,129	1.72	1.34	3.19	2.38
Stop Light/Sign	2,854	3.50	2.65	4.08	1.54
Driving Impaired	752	38.03	39.57	39.26	0.99
Safe Movement	3,442	7.90	6.49	10.05	1.55
Vehicle Equipment	8,562	5.03	4.45	5.03	1.13
Vehicle Regulatory	11,316	2.24	1.67	2.13	1.28
Seat Belt	4,610	1.97	1.89	0.20	0.11
Investigation	2,784	7.29	7.85	3.91	0.50
Other Vehicle	3,047	7.25	6.73	3.43	0.51

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

Purpose	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio
					Hispanic:White
Total Stops	35,293	-	71.42	7.55	0.11
Total Searches	518	1.47	1.59	0.60	0.38
Speed Limit	13,412	0.44	0.41	0.68	1.66
Stop Light/Sign	1,762	0.96	0.82	-	-
Driving Impaired	203	30.54	35.16	10.00	0.28
Safe Movement	1,777	3.66	4.16	1.10	0.26
Vehicle Equipment	4,544	2.46	2.99	0.52	0.17
Vehicle Regulatory	8,617	0.96	1.01	0.80	0.79
Seat Belt	1,996	0.95	0.97	-	-
Investigation	1,465	3.89	5.52	0.34	0.06
Other Vehicle	1,517	2.90	4.24	-	-

Table A4. Type of Search by Ethnicity: Men

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio His.:White
Total Stops	54,496	-	71.87	16.63	0.23
Total Searches	2,153	3.95	3.11	5.06	1.63
Consent	784	1.44	1.29	0.97	0.75
Search Warrant	24	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.80
Probable Cause	177	0.32	0.26	0.19	0.73
Incident to Arrest	1,145	2.10	1.49	3.82	2.56
Protective Frisk	23	0.04	0.02	0.03	1.50

Table A5. Type of Search by Ethnicity: Women

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Hispanic	Ratio His.:White
Total Stops	35,293	-	71.42	7.55	0.11
Total Searches	518	1.47	1.59	0.60	0.38
Consent	219	0.62	0.74	0.19	0.26
Search Warrant	7	0.02	0.03	-	-
Probable Cause	43	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.73
Incident to Arrest	246	0.70	0.71	0.34	0.48
Protective Frisk	3	0.01	-	-	-

Figure A1. Stops by Day of the Week

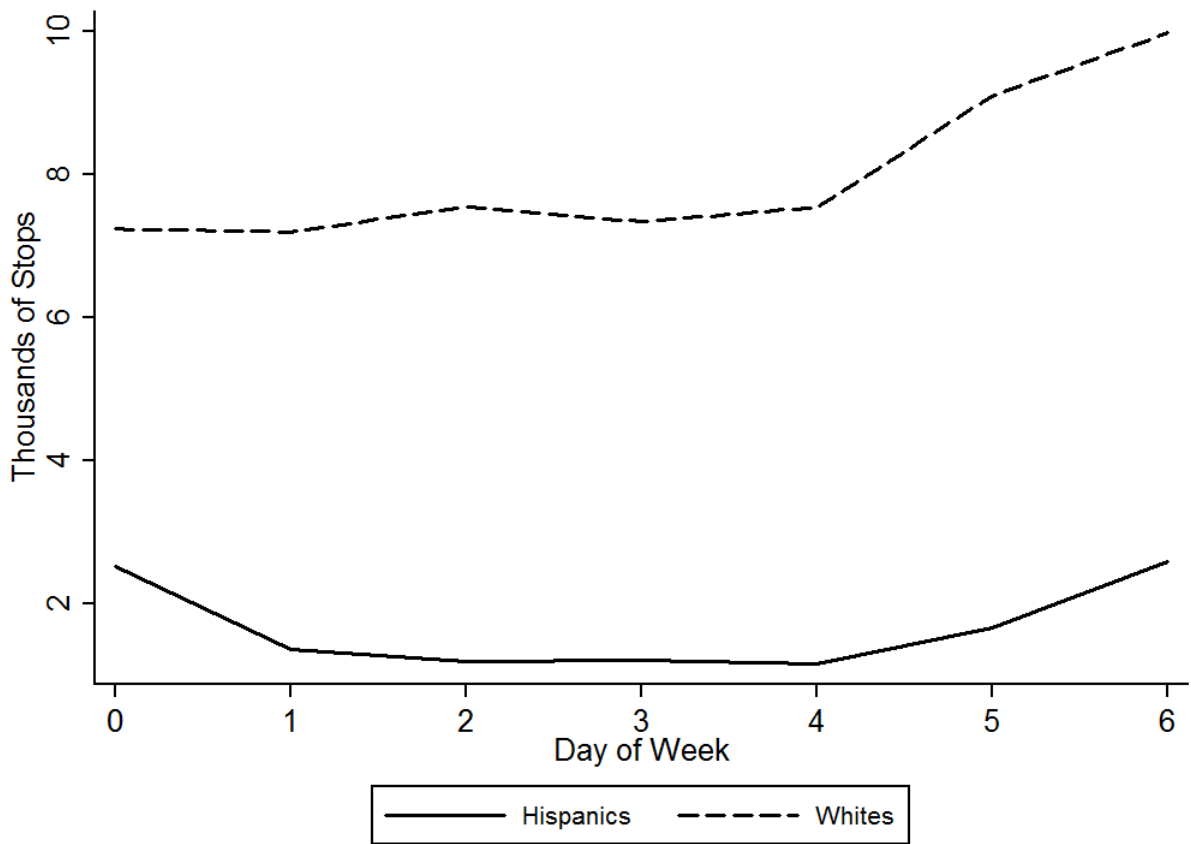


Figure A2. Searches by Day of the Week

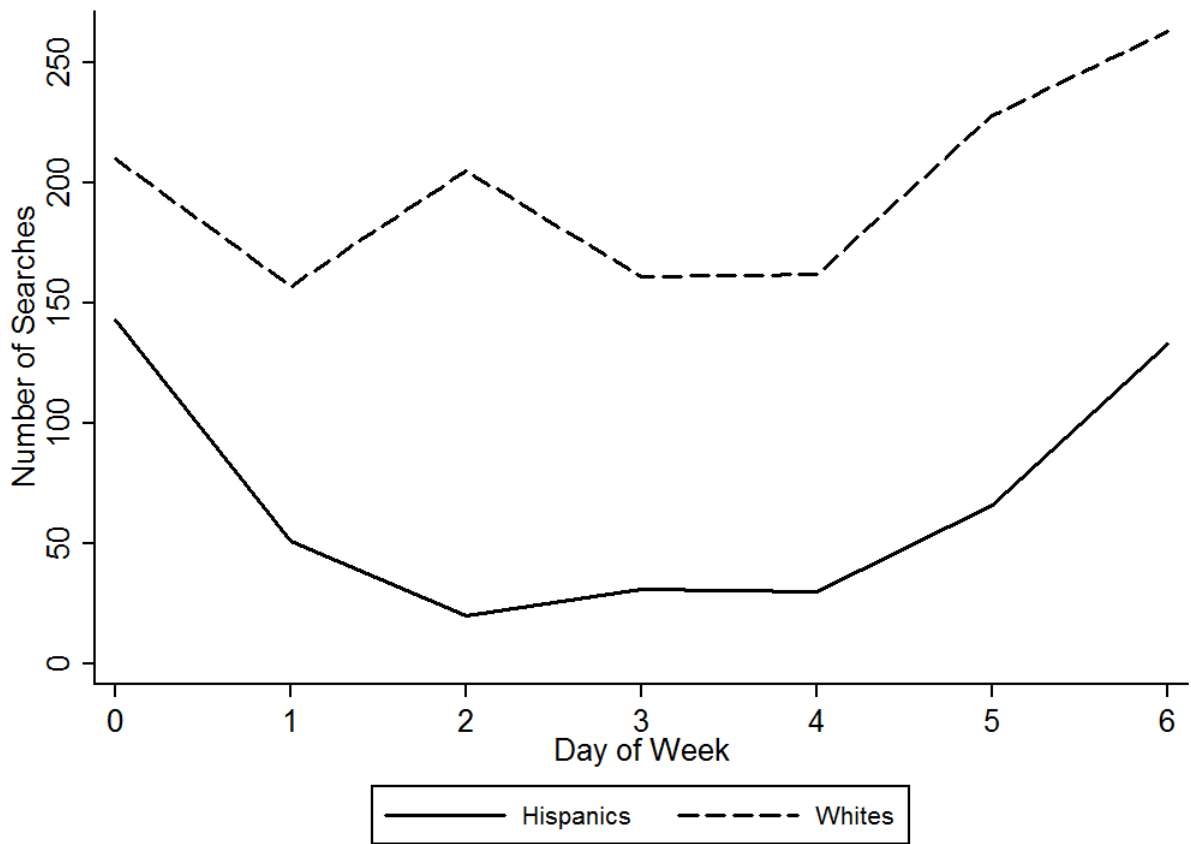
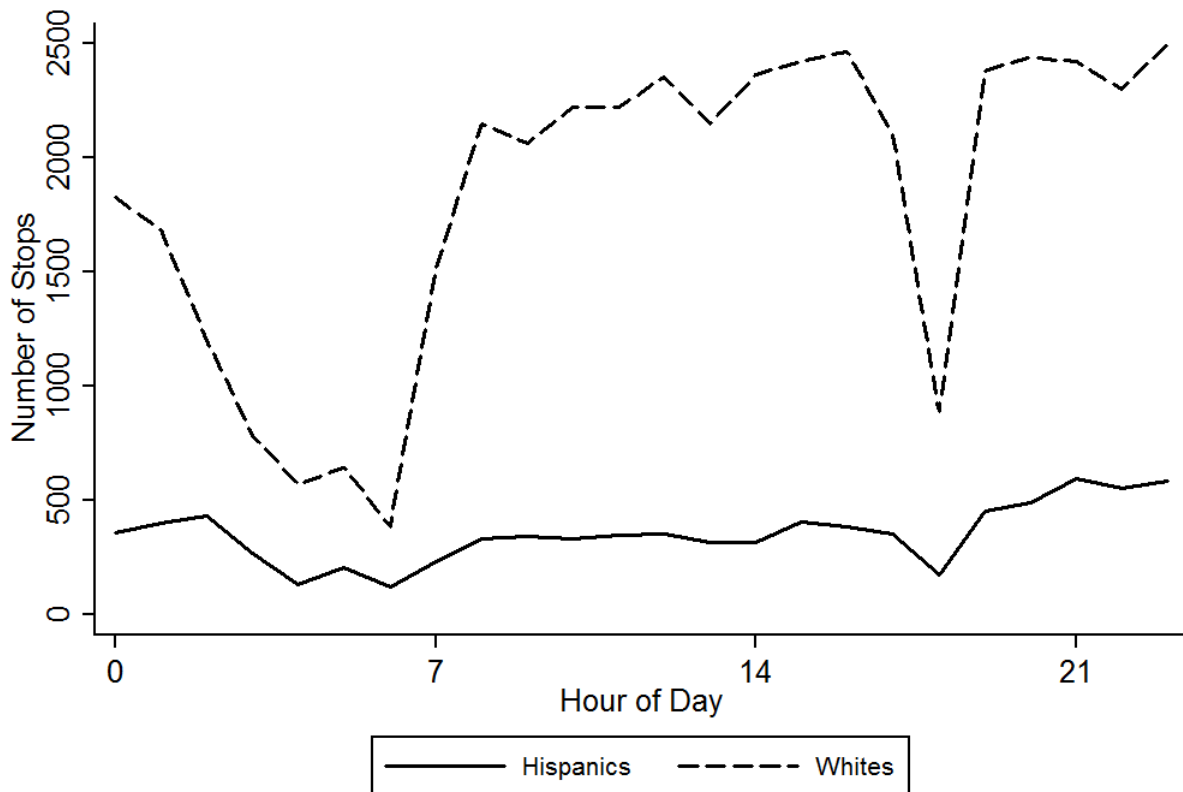
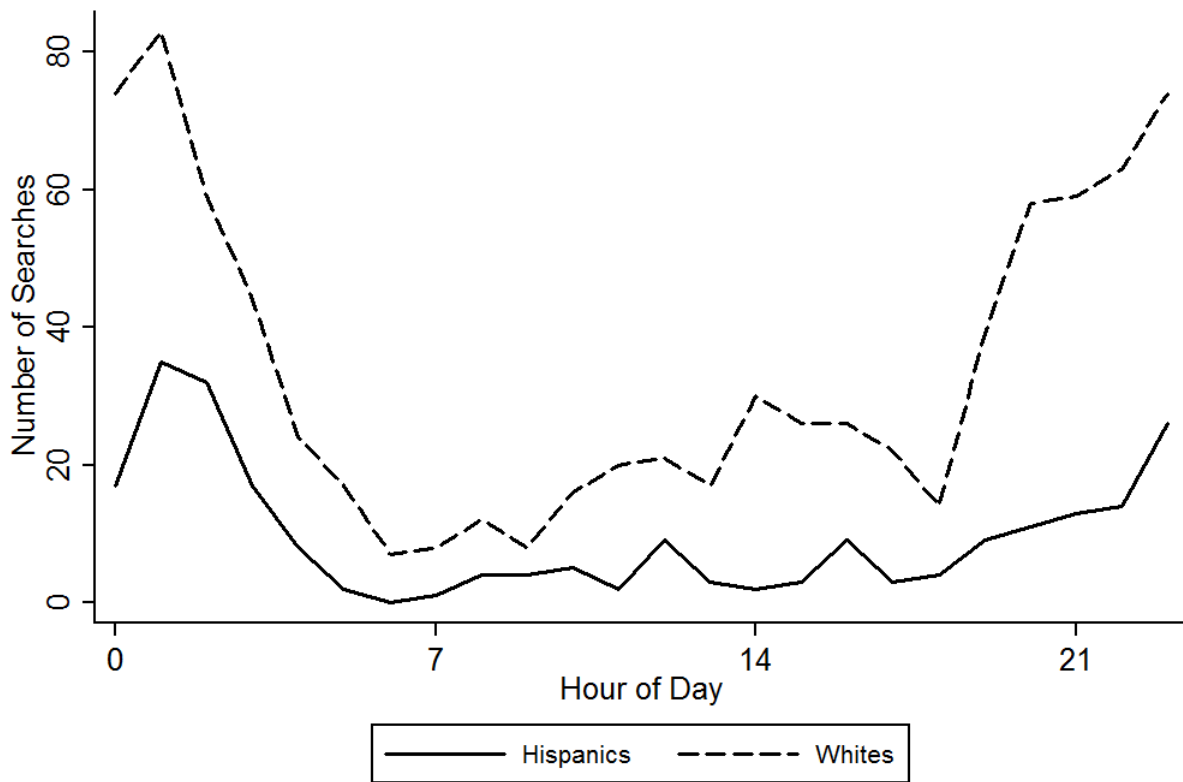


Figure A3. Stops by Hour of the Day



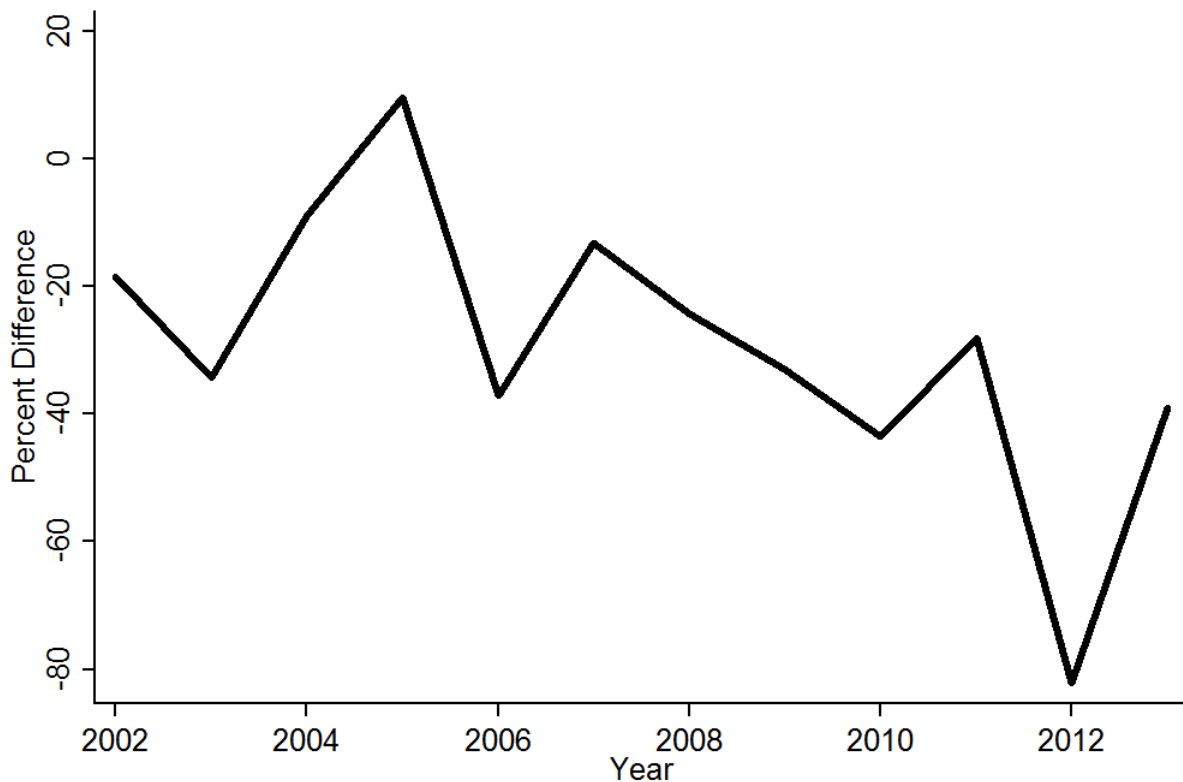
The figure excludes cases where the hour and minute was exactly 0:00. These cases were presumed to be missing data.

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	857	32.09	35.06	24.05
No	1,814	67.91	64.94	75.95
Total	2,671	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	54,573	1.61	13.96	13.18	70.73	0.51	100.0	
Hispanic	No	11,249	1.77	13.61	5.28	78.05	1.29	100.0	
Total	No	87,118	1.63	14.69	11.64	71.38	0.66	100.0	
White	Yes	1,386	1.37	8.66	1.73	37.66	50.58	100.0	
Hispanic	Yes	474	1.05	2.53	0.21	21.94	74.26	100.0	
Total	Yes	2,671	1.27	6.81	1.54	35.60	54.77	100.0	