

Summary of Black-White Differences in Traffic Stops and Searches in Mooresville, 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	79,817	-	66,219	11,986	-
Total Searches	2,085	2.61	2.36	4.02	1.70
Speed Limit	22,920	1.33	1.25	1.94	1.55
Stop Light/Sign	7,184	1.57	1.30	3.66	2.82
Driving Impaired	758	31.27	32.42	23.17	0.72
Safe Movement	5,281	4.28	4.25	4.73	1.11
Vehicle Equipment	9,562	2.77	2.45	4.24	1.73
Vehicle Regulatory	19,882	1.79	1.52	3.09	2.03
Seat Belt	4,757	2.17	1.81	3.88	2.14
Investigation	4,587	6.87	6.08	10.02	1.65
Other Vehicle	4,886	3.40	3.05	5.07	1.66

Table 3 shows that Blacks have a rate of search 70 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 +74 percent. For female drivers, the increased likelihood is not statistically significant.

Table 4. Type of Search by Race

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Black	Ratio
					Black:White
Total Stops	79,817	-	66,219	11,986	-
Total Searches	2,085	2.61	2.36	4.02	1.70
Consent	783	0.98	0.88	1.54	1.75
Search Warrant	9	0.01	0.01	0.00	-
Probable Cause	453	0.57	0.47	1.14	2.43
Incident to Arrest	796	1.00	0.95	1.25	1.32
Protective Frisk	44	0.06	0.05	0.08	1.60

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

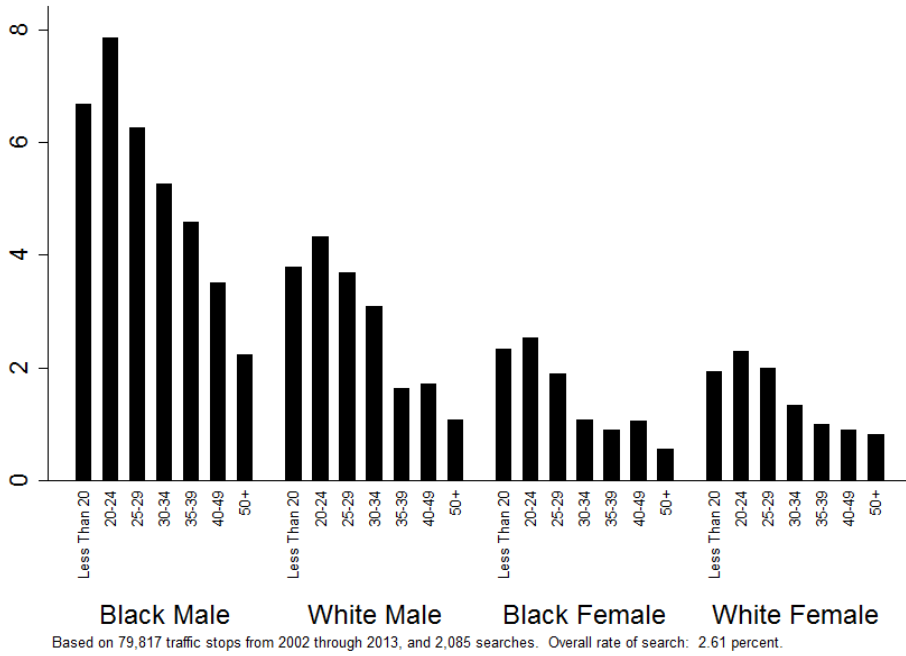


Figure 12. Percent of White and Black Drivers Searched, by Officer

