

Summary of Black-White Differences in Traffic Stops and Searches in Winston-Salem, 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	389,285	-	52.42	43.63	-
Total Searches	7,678	1.97	1.76	2.18	1.24
Speed Limit	130,771	0.82	0.66	1.07	1.62
Stop Light/Sign	28,652	1.40	1.13	1.71	1.51
Driving Impaired	3,027	38.62	42.22	31.22	0.74
Safe Movement	19,229	5.04	5.29	4.64	0.88
Vehicle Equipment	46,911	2.34	2.22	2.48	1.12
Vehicle Regulatory	109,399	1.26	0.98	1.55	1.58
Seat Belt	13,341	1.93	1.55	2.40	1.55
Investigation	11,109	5.74	4.96	6.43	1.30
Other Vehicle	26,846	2.57	2.08	3.03	1.46

Table 3 shows that Blacks have a rate of search 24 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 +42 percent. For female drivers, the increased likelihood is -28 percent.

Table 4. Type of Search by Race

Search Type	Number	% Total	% White	% Black	Ratio
					Black:White
Total Stops	389,285	-	52.42	43.63	-
Total Searches	7,678	1.97	1.76	2.18	1.24
Consent	2,081	0.53	0.45	0.64	1.42
Search Warrant	3	-	-	-	-
Probable Cause	1,509	0.39	0.25	0.58	2.32
Incident to Arrest	4,015	1.03	1.05	0.93	0.89
Protective Frisk	70	0.02	0.02	0.02	1.00

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

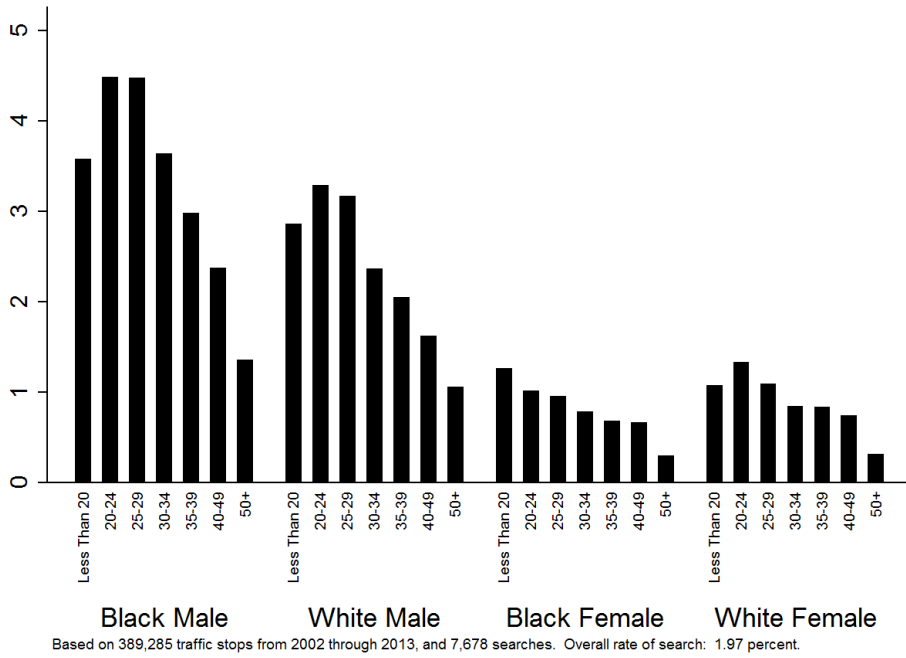


Figure 12. Percent of White and Black Drivers Searched, by Officer

