INTRODUCTION

This report is a summary, analysis, and presentation of the professional traffic stops (PTS) conducted by the Colorado State Patrol (CSP) from January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003. This report is divided into two sections:

♦ An introductory section discussing the purpose of the data analysis and issues that arise in the analysis of the data; and
♦ A summary of statewide statistics regarding the race and ethnicity of drivers stopped, searched, and arrested during calendar-year 2003;

PURPOSE

The purpose of the study was to determine whether CSP officers were enforcing traffic rules based on the race or ethnicity of the vehicle driver. Data were collected to compare the race/ethnicity of drivers contacted by the Patrol to Colorado 2000 Census information.

METHODOLOGY

Traffic stops data were collected by CSP troopers following each self-initiated traffic stop. Troopers filled out Scantron forms indicating the following:

♦ Date and time of the stop;
♦ Employee number;
♦ A code representing the primary reason for the stop;
♦ What type of search (if any) was conducted during the stop, including whether an arrest was made;
♦ The justification reason(s) for any search that took place;
♦ Whether contraband was recovered or property seized during the course of a search;
♦ Demographic data describing the driver (age, gender, race/ethnicity) using the trooper's best guess to determine driver race/ethnicity; and
♦ Demographic data describing any passengers in the vehicle (age range, gender, race/ethnicity) during the stop, again using the trooper's best guess to define passenger race/ethnicity.

Each form was scanned and the resulting data was uploaded into the Patrol's Records Management System. The download of all the data used for analysis in this report took place on February 5, 2004. 275,230 records were downloaded and analyzed using Microsoft Access 2000 and SPSS 11.0 for frequencies and descriptive statistical analysis.

All data used for demographic comparisons in this report were taken from the 2000 Census. Both statewide summaries and county statistics were used in comparing the race/ethnicity, gender, and age of drivers stopped by the Patrol to the Colorado population as a whole.

TRAFFIC STOP DATA ISSUES

Limitations of data analysis with traffic stop statistics

The traffic stop data included in this report compares the racial and ethnic origin of drivers contacted with the racial and ethnic composition of Colorado's population according to the 2000 Census. This type of comparison is common in racial-profiling studies, but it isn't clear that it is the most appropriate. Census data does not provide information as to the racial and ethnic percentages of Colorado's driving population, or information regarding the racial and ethnic percentages of drivers on a particular roadway.

Since there are no measurable specifications determining what constitutes racial profiling by a police agency, a conclusion regarding the presence or absence of racial profiling cannot be made using this data. This report provides a summary of traffic stop statistics and racial and ethnic comparisons based on data from the 2000 Census focusing on Colorado's population. Previous studies of racially biased policing indicate that other comparisons, such as racial differences in seat belt usage or in aggressive driving behavior, must be taken into account in order to accurately determine whether biased policing is taking place.

The traffic stops data provide a primary reason for a stop; however, a search and/or arrest indicated during the same stop may not be for the same reason the stop was initiated. For example, an officer may conduct a traffic stop for an equipment violation and arrest the driver for a criminal offense. It is also possible for an officer to stop a vehicle for a criminal investigation and issue a misdemeanor summons or infraction ticket for an equipment violation during the course of the same stop.

Impact of tourism on race/ethnicity comparisons

Federal census data only reports information about state residents by the county in which they reside. Drivers may regularly travel outside their county of residence, skewing the traffic stop statistics.

In addition, information regarding the race and ethnic origin of out-of-state travelers is not available. In counties containing high numbers of travelers or tourists, the comparison of race of drivers stopped may not have the same racial percentages as the actual county statistics.

Inconsistencies between traffic stop and census race and ethnicity data

Because CSP officers are not permitted to ask drivers their preferred race/ethnicity during a traffic stop, the trooper may assume a different racial group preference on the part of the driver than the same individual self-reported during the 2000 Census. Unless the Patrol is allowed to directly compare the self-reported census data to a self-reported racial preference during a traffic stop, inconsistencies between the racial group percentages will occur (the percentages of such inconsistencies is unknown).

In addition, the 2000 Census for the first time allowed individuals to indicate membership in more than one racial group. While the number of individuals reporting more than one racial group is small, the CSP data does not take into consideration this small percentage of Coloradoans (2.8 percent) who classified themselves as belonging to "two or more races" based on their responses to the racial preference questions on the 2000 Census. It also does not take into account any other racial group that would have been reported as "Other" in the 2000 Census.

Race and Hispanic origin

Hispanic or Latino is defined by the federal standard as "a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin *regardless of race*" (emphasis added). Without specific training regarding on how to use the federal definition of "Hispanic" during traffic stops as was used in the 2000 Census, inconsistencies between the traffic stop and census data will occur.

In addition, census figures may underestimate Colorado's Hispanic population due to the presence of migrant workers and undocumented immigrants.

STATEWIDE FINDINGS OF DATA

TRAFFIC STOP STATISTICS
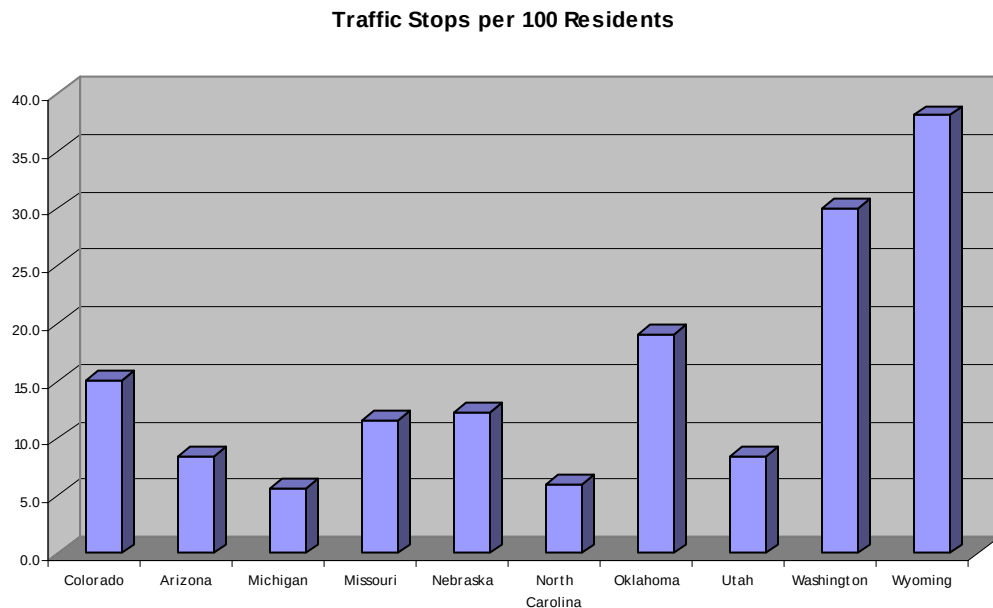
OVERALL TRAFFIC STOP STATISTICS

PTS data indicate that CSP troopers initiated a total of 649,296 traffic stops for the year, an average of 754.1 vehicle contacts daily. Of these, 275,230 were self-initiated traffic stops for which a PTS form was filled out. This compares favorably to the 217,909 self-initiated vehicle stops recorded using PTS forms for 2002.

Assuming one resident per vehicle, CSP troopers contacted 15.1 percent of the state's population during 2003. This compares favorably with calendar year 2002, when the Patrol contacted 13.1 percent of the population (still assuming one resident per vehicle).

TRAFFIC STOP STATISTICS COMPARED TO OTHER STATES
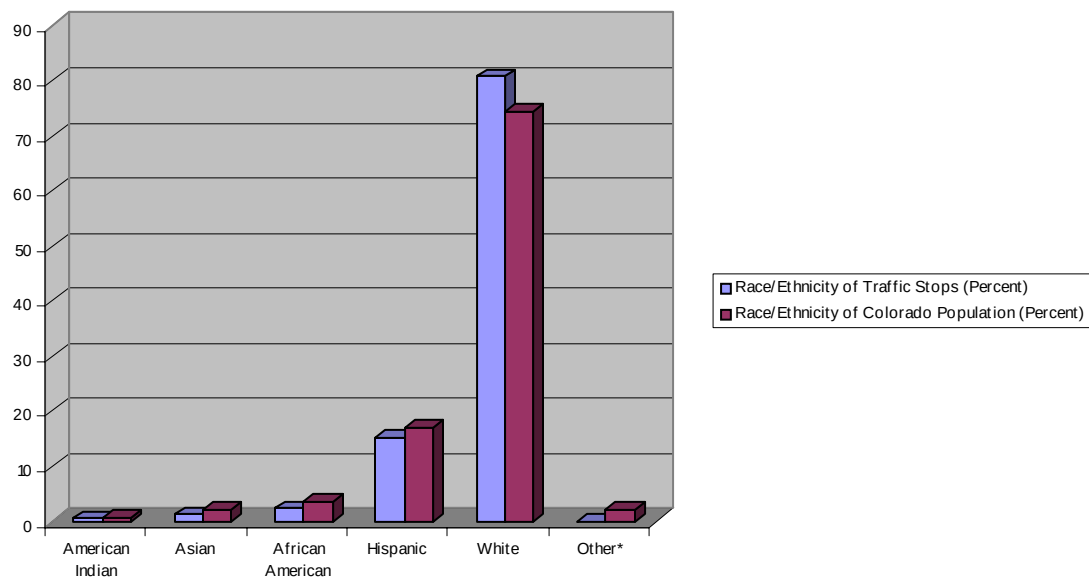
Colorado's rate of 15.1 traffic stops per 100 residents is average in comparison to that of other states. Data from states such as Wyoming, where the rate of traffic stops per 100 residents is quite high, indicate that police agencies within those states are responsible for traffic enforcement on major interstate highways where a significant number of drivers are from out of state. As a result, statistics for these states are skewed higher than those for other states.

Traffic Stops per 100 Residents

STOPS BY RACIAL GROUP

The racial and ethnic percentages of drivers stopped by CSP troopers were similar to the racial and ethnic percentages of Colorado's population, except most racial groups were underrepresented in traffic stops. Only Whites were stopped at a higher percentage rate than in the general population.

Traffic Stops by Racial Group
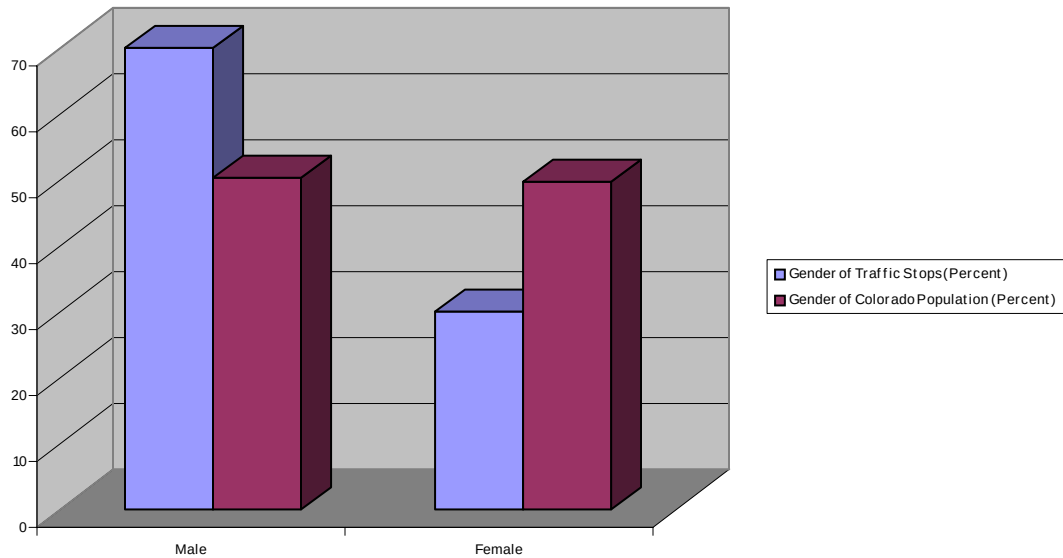
Race/Ethnicity	Number of Stops	Race/Ethnicity of Traffic Stops (Percent)	Race/Ethnicity of Colorado Population (Percent)	Difference (Percent)
American Indian	1,429	0.5	0.68	(0.18)
Asian	3,242	1.2	2.12	(0.92)
African American	6,328	2.3	3.58	(1.28)
Hispanic	41,863	15.2	17.09	(1.89)
White	222,367	80.8	74.43	6.37
Other*	0	0.0	2.09	(2.09)
Total	275,229	100.0	100.00	–

*The US Census also includes a "some other race" category that the CSP did not include in the PTS form.

STOPS BY GENDER

Of the 275,230 stops made, seven out of every ten contacts were male; female drivers represented only 30 percent of traffic stops reported. Since about half the Colorado population is female, males are significantly over represented in self-initiated stops by CSP officers.

Traffic Stops by Gender

Gender	Number of Stops	Gender of Traffic Stops (Percent)	Gender of Colorado Population (Percent)	Difference (Percent)
Male	192,650	70.0	50.31	19.69
Female	82,579	30.0	49.69	(19.69)
Total	275,229	100.0	100.00	–

STOPS BY AGE
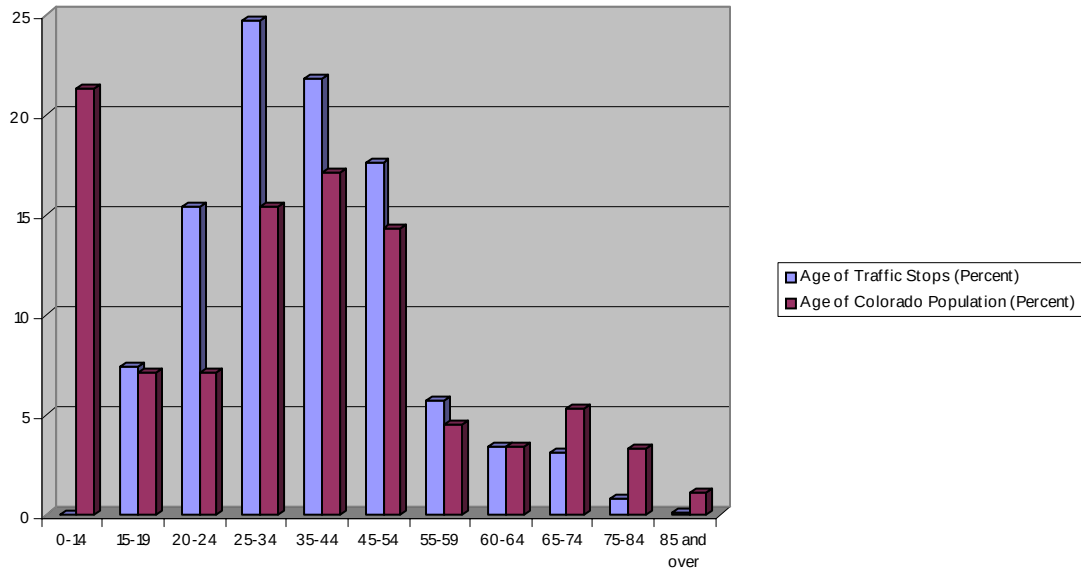
Age was grouped into twelve categories to compare data regarding the age of drivers contacted to the age of Colorado's population:

♦ 0-14 years;
♦ 15-19 years;
♦ 20-24 years;
♦ 25-34 years;
♦ 35-44 years;
♦ 45-54 years;
♦ 55-59 years;
♦ 60-64 years;
♦ 65-74 years;
♦ 75-84 years; and
♦ 85 and over.

The age group with the largest percentage of stops was the 25-34 group (24.6 percent), followed by 35-44 years (21.7 percent) and 20-24 years (15.3 percent). Drivers of these ages were more likely than other drivers to be stopped as compared to the Colorado population. As shown in the graph and table below, in general

younger (i.e. less experienced) drivers were more likely to be stopped than older motorists.

Traffic Stops by Age Category

Age	Number of Stops	Age of Traffic Stops (Percent)	Age of Colorado Population (Percent)	Difference (Percent)
0-14	150	0.1	21.30	(21.2)
15-19	20,894	7.6	7.10	(0.5)
20-24	42,128	15.3	7.10	8.2
25-34	67,728	24.6	15.40	9.2
35-44	59,700	21.7	17.10	4.6
45-54	48,551	17.6	14.30	3.3
55-59	15,561	5.7	4.50	1.2
60-64	9,392	3.4	3.40	0.0
65-74	8,450	3.1	5.30	(2.2)
75-84	2,315	0.8	3.30	(2.5)
85 and over	360	0.1	1.10	(1.0)
Total	275,229	100.0	100.00	–

SEARCH STATISTICS

Slightly less than one in 100 stops (0.9 percent) resulted in a search being conducted by a CSP officer.
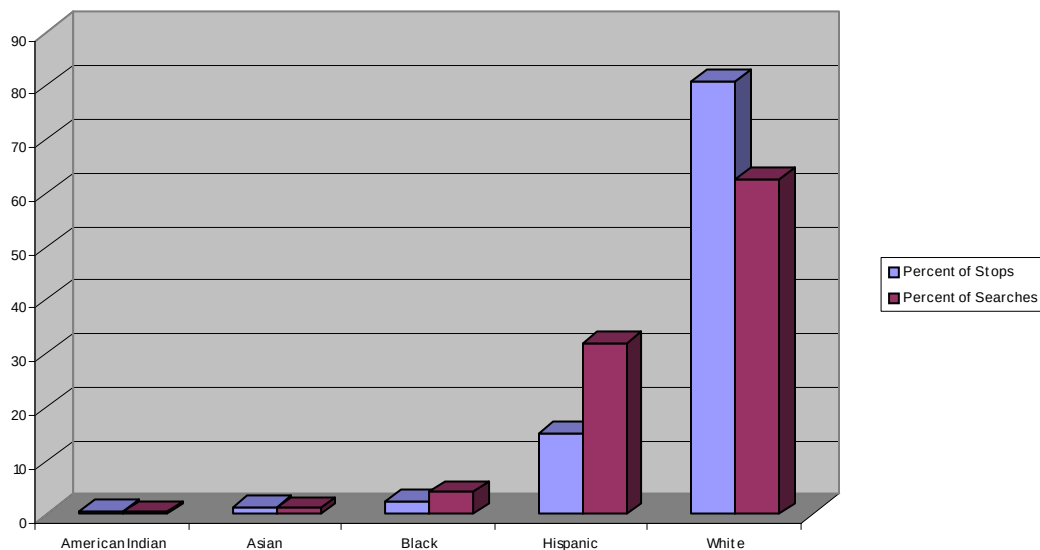
Searches by demographic group

SEARCHES BY RACIAL GROUP

Of drivers stopped by CSP officers, Hispanic drivers were more likely to be searched. Without any external considerations, the percentage of searches should be roughly equivalent to the percentage of traffic stops with Hispanic drivers. Instead, Hispanics comprised 15 percent of those stopped but over 30 percent of those searched, a 16.8 percent discrepancy.

While there are reporting issues with use of the "Hispanic" race group qualifier (as described in the Introduction), this discrepancy is problematic from a policing standpoint, and requires additional investigation (as provided below).

Total Searches by Racial Group

Race/Ethnicity	Percent of Stops	Percent of Searches	Difference (percent)
American Indian	0.5	0.4	(0.1)
Asian	1.2	1.0	(0.2)
Black	2.3	3.8	1.5
Hispanic	15.2	32.0	16.8
White	80.8	62.8	(18.0)
Total	0.0	100.0	–

SEARCHES BY JUSTIFICATION REASON AND RACE/ETHNICITY

Search reasons were recorded for each search conducted. Officers could report multiple justifications for each search, selecting from "Consent", "Probable Cause" (PC), and "Reasonable Suspicion", (RS).

One issue surrounding the search statistics for traffic stops is that so few individuals are searched relative to the number of stops made. Because less than one percent of self-initiated stops resulted in a search, it is difficult to make statistically valid comparisons between racial groups, especially those with only a handful of cases. However, since White drivers are searched more frequently than Hispanic drivers (as they are the majority of the drivers in Colorado), comparisons between these two groups may indicate a bias in search behavior.
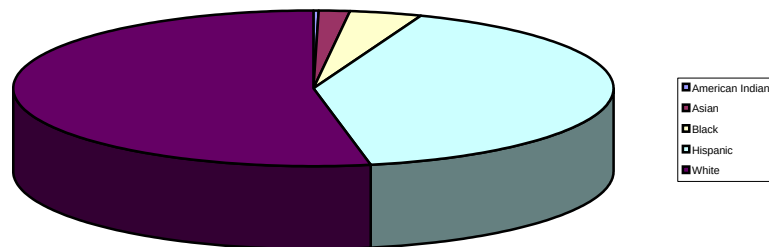
The table below indicates the justification for any search that took place during a traffic stop by the race of the driver stopped:

	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Total
Consent	1	9	16	201	253	480
Probable Cause (PC)	5	11	46	391	906	1,359
Reasonable Suspicion (RS)	1	1	2	21	39	64
Consent/PC	0	0	3	13	35	51
Consent/RS	0	0	2	9	12	23
PC/RS	0	0	1	16	23	40
Consent/PC/RS	0	0	1	1	2	4
Other/ Indeterminate	2	3	23	134	280	442
Total	9	24	94	786	1,550	2,463[*]
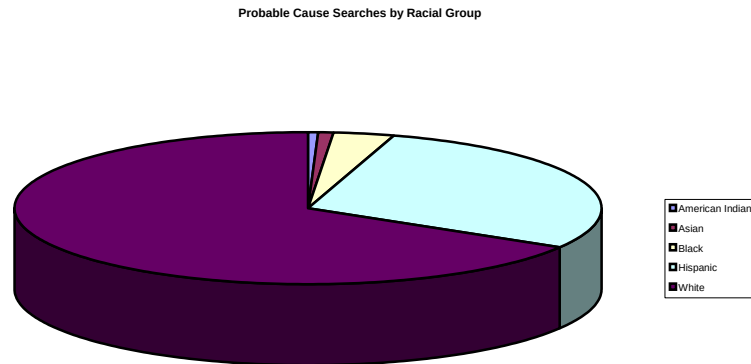
*When looking at the data regarding the justification for a search, there are eight more cases where a justification was given than the number of searches conducted.

Consent searches of Hispanic drivers comprised 41.9 percent of consent-only searches and 8.2 percent of all searches. For White drivers, consent searches comprised 52.7 percent of all consent searches, and 10.3 percent of all searches. These percentages indicate that White drivers are searched more often with consent as the only justification for the search.

Consent Only Searches by Racial Group

Legend:
- American Indian
- Asian
- Black
- Hispanic
- White
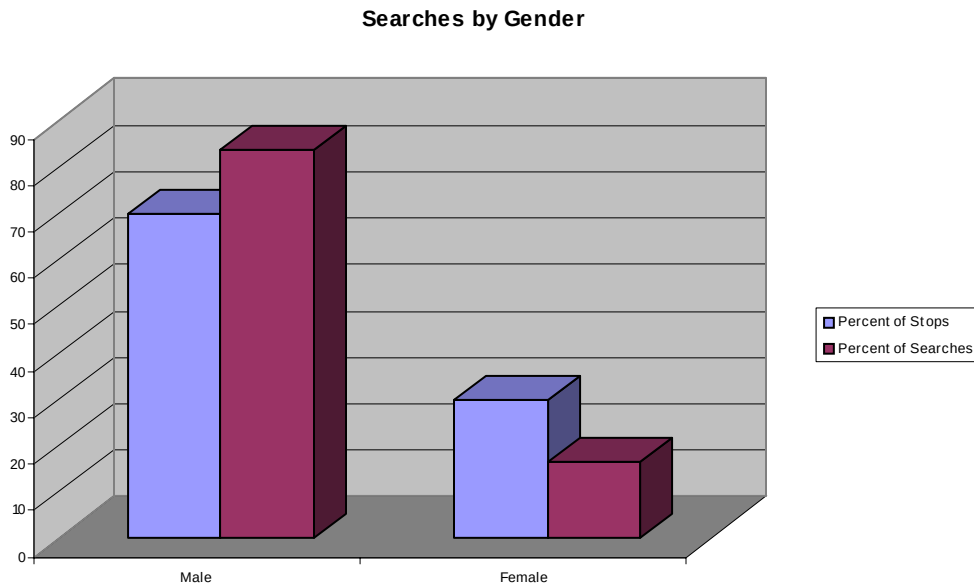
Analysis of probable cause searches indicates similar results. Probable cause searches of Hispanic drivers comprised 28.8 percent of probable cause searches and 15.9 percent of all searches. For White drivers, probable cause searches comprised 66.7 percent of all probable cause searches, and 36.8 percent of all searches.

Probable Cause Searches by Racial Group

Legend:
- American Indian
- Asian
- Black
- Hispanic
- White

SEARCHES BY GENDER

Of the 2,455 searches conducted, eight of every ten drivers searched were male; males are significantly over-represented in searches conducted during traffic stops by CSP officers.

Searches by Gender

Legend:
- Percent of Stops
- Percent of Searches

Gender	Percent of Stops	Percent of Searches	Difference (percent)
Male	70.0	84.1	14.1
Female	30.0	15.9	(14.1)
Total	100.0	100.0	–
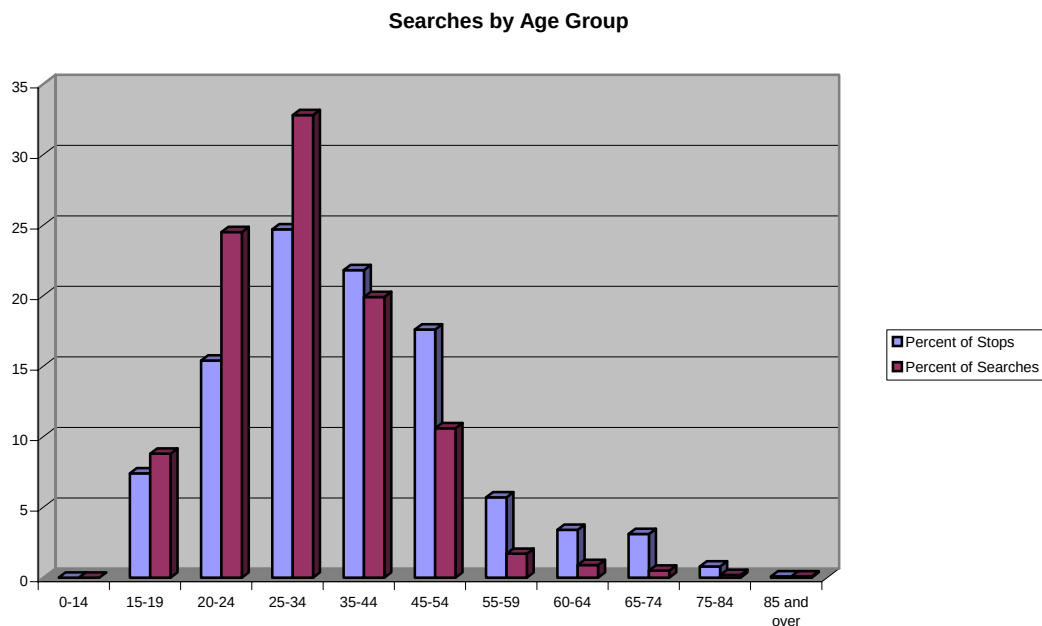
SEARCHES BY JUSTIFICATION REASON AND GENDER

Regardless of gender, most searches are carried out because the officer has probable cause.

	Male	**Female**	**Total**
Consent	422	58	480
Probable Cause (PC)	1,112	247	1,359
Reasonable Suspicion (RS)	61	3	64
Consent/PC	39	12	51
Consent/RS	20	3	23
PC/RS	33	7	40
Consent/PC/RS	3	1	4
Other/ Indeterminate	379	63	442
Total	2,069	394	2,463

SEARCHES BY AGE

Similar to the data regarding traffic stops in general, the age group most likely to be searched is the 25-34 group (32.2 percent), followed by 20-24 years (24.6 percent) and 35-44 years (19.6 percent).

Searches by Age Group

Age	Percent of Stops	Percent of Searches	Difference (percent)
0-14	0.1	0.0	(0.1)
15-19	7.6	9.5	1.9
20-24	15.3	24.7	9.4
25-34	24.6	32.2	7.6
35-44	21.7	19.7	(2.0)
45-54	17.6	10.4	(7.2)
55-59	5.7	1.7	(4.0)
60-64	3.4	0.9	(2.5)
65-74	3.1	0.6	(2.5)
75-84	0.8	0.2	(0.6)
85 and over	0.1	0.1	0.0

SEARCHES BY JUSTIFICATION REASON AND AGE

The table below indicates the justification reason(s) for searches conducted broken down for each age category. Regardless of the driver's age, most searches are carried out because the officer has probable cause.
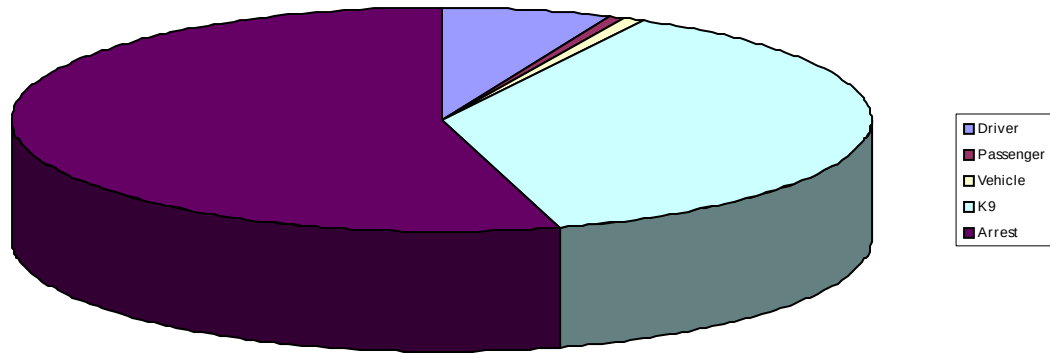
	0-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Total
Consent	1	186	178	78	32	5	0	0	480
Probable Cause (PC)	0	448	444	268	154	32	10	3	1,359
Reasonable Suspicion (RS)	0	18	22	16	6	1	0	1	64
Consent/PC	0	28	13	6	4	0	0	0	51
Consent/RS	0	13	3	5	2	0	0	0	23
PC/RS	0	14	10	8	6	2	0	0	40
Consent/PC/RS	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	4
Other/ Indeterminate	0	108	121	102	53	24	4	2	442

SEARCH TYPE DURING A TRAFFIC STOP

The PTS form allows the officer to indicate a number of different types of searches during a traffic stop; the officer may search the driver, a passenger, the vehicle, or use a K9 unit to participate in the search in addition to indicating a search during an arrest. Because multiple types of searches are possible during a stop, the data themselves do not add to 100 percent. The chart below indicates the type of search undertaken as a percentage of all searches recorded.

Aside from arrest searches (55.3 percent), most searches were conducted with K9 units (37.4 percent). Drivers (6.0 percent) were searched more often than passengers (0.6 percent) or vehicles (0.7 percent). A K9 search is most likely to be a search of the vehicle, as opposed to a driver or passenger, although it is not limited to a vehicle search.

Types of Searches Conducted During Traffic Stops

	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search
Number	148	14	18	917	1,358
Percent	6.0	0.6	0.7	37.4	55.3

SEARCH TYPE BY RACIAL GROUP

Again, Hispanics and Whites are the racial groups searched most frequently; Hispanic drivers are about 25 percent of the total population of drivers who were searched and White drivers comprised about 65 percent of the drivers who were searched.

Race/Ethnicity	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search
American Indian	0	0	0	4	5
Asian	0	0	0	13	11
Black	5	0	1	32	55
Hispanic	44	4	13	332	393
White	99	10	4	536	894
Total	148	14	18	917	1,358

SEARCH TYPE BY GENDER

Men are significantly more likely to be searched than women, although female drivers were searched about 15 percent of the time for each category.

Gender	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search
Male	126	11	16	790	1,121
Female	22	3	2	127	237
Total	148	14	18	917	1,358

SEARCH TYPE BY AGE CATEGORY

As has been seen in previous data, younger drivers were more likely to be searched, and the most common types of search conducted were arrest searches (1,358 searches) and K9 searches (917).

Age Category	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search
0-14	0	0	0	1	0
15-19	11	3	1	120	99
20-24	29	7	5	256	309
25-34	60	1	8	293	430
35-44	34	2	3	155	289
45-54	12	1	1	71	170
55-59	1	0	0	15	25
60-64	0	0	0	5	18
65-74	0	0	0	1	13
75-84	0	0	0	0	4
85 and over	1	0	0	0	1
Total	148	14	18	917	1,358

SEARCHES RESULTING IN CONTRABAND OR OTHER SEIZURES

Both contraband and property seizures were reported on the PTS form. The data below indicate 506 incidents where property or contraband was seized following a traffic stop. The data below combine the seizure of contraband and any other property into a single category for analysis, regardless of the type of search that took place during the stop.
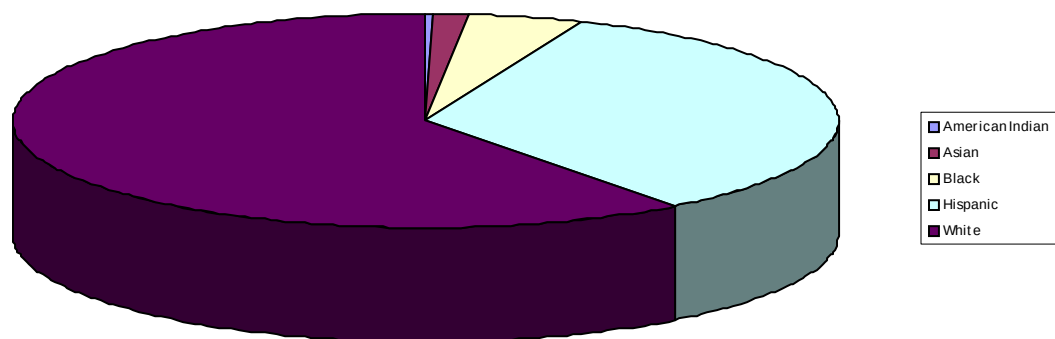
White drivers were more likely to have a seizure of contraband or property during a traffic stop, when compared to the number of searches that took place. Hispanic drivers were the least likely group to have contraband or property seized during a traffic stop after a search of any kind took place.

	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Seizures	Percentage of Seizures	Difference (percent)
American Indian	9	0.4	2	0.4	0.0
Asian	24	1.0	2	0.4	(0.6)
Black	93	3.8	13	2.6	1.2
Hispanic	786	32.0	125	24.7	(7.3)
White	1,543	62.8	364	71.9	9.1
Total	2,455	100.0	506	100.0	–

As searches should frequently result in seizures of contraband or property, a discrepancy between the number of searches resulting in seizures by racial group may indicate biased policing. Again, comparison between more detailed search statistics for White and Hispanic drivers is needed to indicate any bias in search behavior.

Overall, 79.4 percent of searches did not result in a seizure of contraband or other property. White drivers made up 60.5 percent of those searched without a seizure, and searches of White drivers with no seizures were 37.2 of all searches conducted. For Hispanic drivers, 24.7 percent were searched with no seizure of contraband or other property, or 26.9 percent of all searches. The data indicate that White drivers are searched without a property or contraband seizure more often than Hispanic drivers, as would be expected since White drivers form the bulk of the driving population.

Searches Not Resulting in Seizures During Traffic Stops

	Search & Contraband Seizure	Search & Property Seizure	Search & Contraband and Property Seizure	Search only, no seizure	Total
American Indian	1	0	1	7	9
Asian	1	1	0	22	24
Black	6	4	1	82	93
Hispanic	74	20	22	670	786
White	256	42	48	1,197	1,543
Total	338	67	72	1,978	2,455

Since male drivers were both more likely to be stopped and searched, it should be no surprise that male drivers make up the bulk of drivers from stops where contraband or property was seized. Over 85 percent of seizures were from male drivers.

	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Seizures	Percentage of Seizures	Difference (percent)
Male	2,064	84.1	439	86.8	2.7
Female	391	15.9	67	13.2	(2.7)
Total	2,455	100	506	100.0	–

Twenty to 24-year olds were most likely to have property or contraband seized during a traffic stop (32.4 percent), followed by 25-34 year olds (30.4 percent), and 15-19 year olds (17.8 percent). These three age groups comprise over 80 percent of contraband or property seizures during traffic stops.

	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Seizures	Percentage of Seizures	Difference (percent)
0-14	1	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
15-19	234	9.5	90	17.8	8.3
20-24	606	24.7	164	32.4	7.7
25-34	792	32.2	154	30.4	(1.8)
35-44	483	19.7	57	11.3	(8.4)
45-54	255	10.4	28	5.5	(4.9)
55-59	41	1.7	8	1.6	(0.1)
60-64	23	0.9	4	0.8	(0.1)
65-74	14	0.6	0	0.0	(0.6)
75-84	4	0.2	0	0.0	(0.2)
85 and over	2	0.1	1	0.2	(0.1)
Total	2,455	100.0	506	100.0	–

ARREST STATISTICS

SEARCHES COMPARED WITH ARRESTS

Officers reported whether an arrest search was made on the individual. Due to data collection limitations, it cannot be determined whether the search was conducted for the sole purpose of making an arrest or whether the search led to the arrest.

In comparison to the number of searches conducted, every racial group was under-represented in the number of arrests made. As less than 0.5 percent of traffic stops resulted in an arrest, there are so few cases that statistically significant comparisons are difficult to make, however the difference is less than 5 percent and is likely statistically insignificant.

Race/Ethnicity	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Arrests	Percentage of Arrests	Difference (percent)
American Indian	9	0.4	5	0.4	0.0
Asian	24	1.0	11	0.8	(0.2)
Black	93	3.8	55	4.1	0.3
Hispanic	786	32.0	393	28.9	(3.1)
White	1,543	62.8	894	65.8	3.0
Total	2,455	100.0	1,358	100.0	–

Again, men are significantly more likely to be arrested than women.

Gender	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Arrests	Percentage of Arrests	Difference (percent)
Male	2,064	84.1	1,121	82.5	(1.6)
Female	391	15.9	237	17.5	1.6
Total	2,455	100.0	1,358	100.0	–

The previous pattern that had been seen regarding 20-34 year-olds does not hold true when comparing the number of searches to the number of arrests made. In this case the older drivers are more likely to be arrested after a search, and younger drivers are less likely to be arrested. The group most likely to be arrested after a traffic stop including a search is the 45-54 age group, followed by 35-44 year-olds and then drivers aged 60-74. The 15-19 and 20-24 age groups were about two percent less likely to be arrested after a traffic stop.
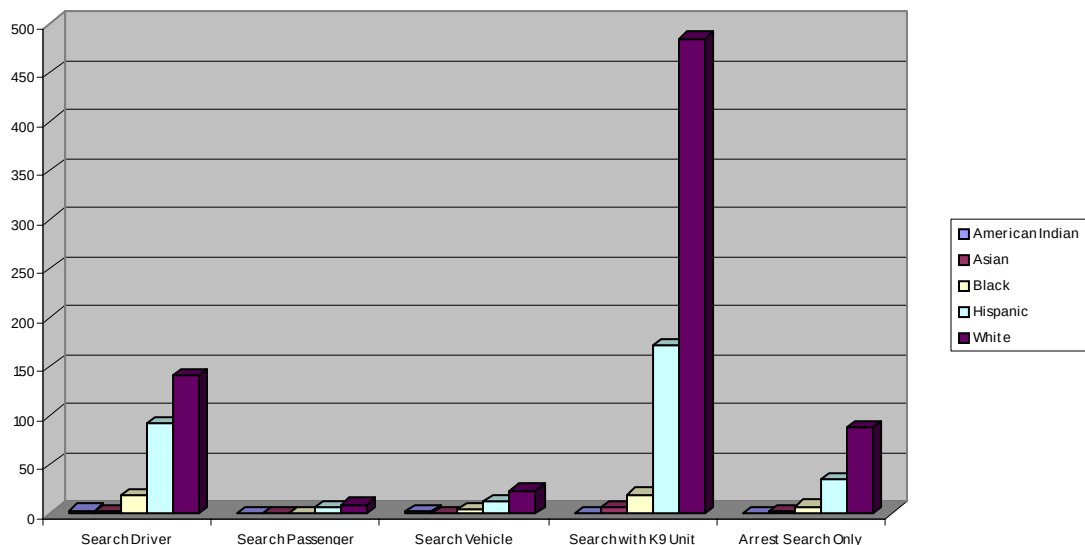
Age	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Arrests	Percentage of Arrests	Difference (percent)
0-14	1	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
15-19	234	9.5	99	7.3	(2.2)
20-24	606	24.7	309	22.6	(2.1)
25-34	792	32.2	430	31.8	(0.4)
35-44	483	19.7	289	21.3	1.6
45-54	255	10.4	170	12.5	2.1
55-59	41	1.7	25	1.8	0.1
60-64	23	0.9	18	1.3	0.4
65-74	14	0.6	13	1.0	0.4
75-84	4	0.2	4	0.3	0.1
85 and over	2	0.1	1	0.1	0.0
Total	2,455	100.0	1,358	100.0	–

SEARCH TYPE IN CONJUNCTION WITH ARRESTS

The PTS form records information regarding multiple types of searches conducted in conjunction with an arrest. The table below indicates the number of searches by type that were conducted during a traffic stop in which an arrest was made. Again, K9 searches were the most common type of search conducted.

In regard to search types broken down by driver race/ethnicity, White drivers were most likely to be searched in conjunction with an arrest.

Search Type Associated with an Arrest

Race/Ethnicity	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search Only	Total Arrests
American Indian	4	0	0	1	0	5
Asian	2	0	0	7	2	11
Black	19	0	0	27	9	55
Hispanic	108	8	0	232	45	393
White	183	13	0	596	102	894
Total	316	21	0	863	158	1,358

The trends regarding male drivers continue when looking at arrest data.

Gender	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search Only	Total Arrests
Male	260	16	0	712	133	1,121
Female	56	5	0	151	25	237
Total	316	21	0	863	158	1,358

Again, younger drivers are more likely to be searched during the course of an arrest.
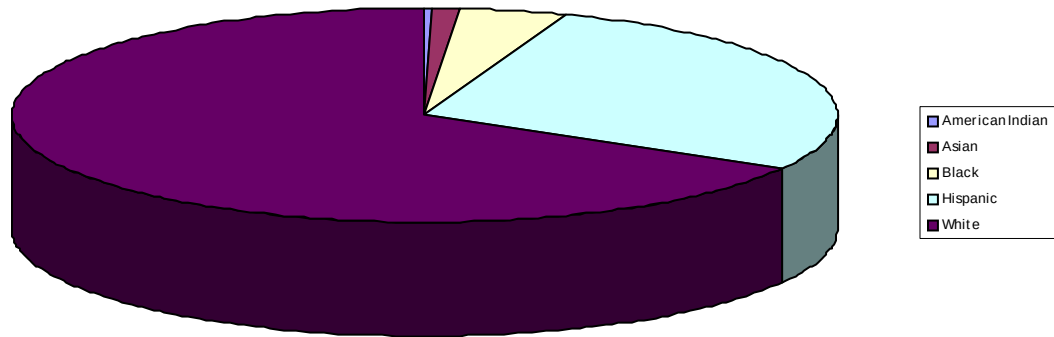
Age	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search Only	Total Arrests
0-14	0	7	0	66	7	0
15-19	19	5	0	213	26	99
20-24	65	6	0	269	48	309
25-34	107	2	0	177	42	430
35-44	68	1	0	106	23	289
45-54	40	0	0	11	6	170
55-59	8	0	0	9	4	25
60-64	5	0	0	10	2	18
65-74	1	0	0	2	0	13
75-84	2	0	0	0	0	4
85 and over	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	316	21	0	863	158	1,358

ARREST SEARCHES WITH CONTRABAND OR PROPERTY SEIZURES

The PTS form also recorded information regarding seizures in conjunction with an arrest. The table below indicates the number of searches resulting in a seizure of contraband or other property during an arrest.

For all racial groups, both contraband and other property were seized during the arrest following a traffic stop. Seizures of both contraband and other property comprise 88.4 percent of seizures associated with an arrest.

Contraband & Property Seizures During Arrest Searches

Race/Ethnicity	Contraband Seizure	Property Seizure	Contraband & Property Seizure	Arrest Only
American Indian	0	0	0	5
Asian	0	1	0	10
Black	4	4	0	47
Hispanic	35	12	13	333
White	94	13	27	760
Total	133	30	40	1,155

Males were more likely to be arrested with a seizure of contraband or other property, although the majority of searches did not result in a seizure.

Gender	Contraband Seizure	Property Seizure	Contraband & Property Seizure	Arrest Only
Male	119	27	38	937
Female	14	3	2	218
Total	133	30	40	1,155

Twenty-five to 34 year-olds were most likely to be arrested after a search, followed by 35-44 year olds and 20-24 year olds.

Age	Contraband Seizure	Property Seizure	Contraband & Property Seizure	Arrest Only
0-14	0	0	0	0
15-19	19	4	5	71
20-24	40	10	12	247
25-34	49	6	14	361
35-44	20	6	6	257
45-54	4	4	3	159
55-59	1	0	0	24
60-64	0	0	0	18
65-74	0	0	0	13
75-84	0	0	0	4
85 and over	0	0	0	1
Total	133	30	40	1,155

APPENDIX A

SUMMARY DATA

Traffic Stops

TRAFFIC STOPS BY RACE/ETHNICITY

Race/Ethnicity	Number of Stops	Race/Ethnicity of Traffic Stops (Percent)	Race/Ethnicity of Colorado Population (Percent)	Difference (Percent)
American Indian	1,429	0.5	0.68	(0.18)
Asian	3,242	1.2	2.12	(0.92)
African American	6,328	2.3	3.58	(1.28)
Hispanic	41,863	15.2	17.09	(1.89)
White	222,367	80.8	74.43	6.37
Other[*]	0	0.0	2.09	(2.09)
Total	275,229	100.0	100.00	–

TRAFFIC STOPS BY GENDER

Gender	Number of Stops	Gender of Traffic Stops (Percent)	Gender of Colorado Population (Percent)	Difference (Percent)
Male	192,650	70.0	50.31	19.69
Female	82,579	30.0	49.69	(19.69)
Total	275,229	100.0	100.00	–

Age	Number of Stops	Age of Traffic Stops (Percent)	Age of Colorado Population (Percent)	Difference (Percent)
0-14	150	0.1	21.30	(21.2)
15-19	20,894	7.6	7.10	(0.5)
20-24	42,128	15.3	7.10	8.2
25-34	67,728	24.6	15.40	9.2
35-44	59,700	21.7	17.10	4.6
45-54	48,551	17.6	14.30	3.3
55-59	15,561	5.7	4.50	1.2
60-64	9,392	3.4	3.40	0.0
65-74	8,450	3.1	5.30	(2.2)
75-84	2,315	0.8	3.30	(2.5)
85 and over	360	0.1	1.10	(1.0)
Total	275,229	100.0	100.00	–

Search Statistics

SEARCHES DURING TRAFFIC STOPS

	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search
Number	148	14	18	917	1,358
Percent	6.0	0.6	0.7	37.4	55.3

SEARCHES BY RACIAL GROUP

Race/Ethnicity	Percent of Stops	Percent of Searches	Difference (percent)
American Indian	0.5	0.4	(0.1)
Asian	1.2	1.0	(0.2)
Black	2.3	3.8	1.5
Hispanic	15.2	32.0	16.8
White	80.8	62.8	(18.0)
Total	0.0	100.0	–

SEARCHES BY JUSTIFICATION REASON AND RACE/ETHNICITY

	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Total
Consent	1	9	16	201	253	480
Probable Cause (PC)	5	11	46	391	906	1,359
Reasonable Suspicion (RS)	1	1	2	21	39	64
Consent/PC	0	0	3	13	35	51
Consent/RS	0	0	2	9	12	23
PC/RS	0	0	1	16	23	40
Consent/PC/RS	0	0	1	1	2	4
Other/ Indeterminate	2	3	23	134	280	442
Total	9	24	94	786	1,550	2,463[*]

SEARCHES BY GENDER

Gender	Percent of Stops	Percent of Searches	Difference (percent)
Male	70.0	84.1	14.1
Female	30.0	15.9	(14.1)
Total	100.0	100	–

SEARCHES BY JUSTIFICATION REASON AND GENDER

	Male	Female	Total
Consent	422	58	480
Probable Cause (PC)	1,112	247	1,359
Reasonable Suspicion (RS)	61	3	64
Consent/PC	39	12	51
Consent/RS	20	3	23
PC/RS	33	7	40
Consent/PC/RS	3	1	4
Other/ Indeterminate	379	63	442
Total	2,069	394	2,463

SEARCHES BY AGE

Age	Percent of Stops	Percent of Searches	Difference (percent)
0-14	0.1	0.0	(0.1)
15-19	7.6	9.5	1.9
20-24	15.3	24.7	9.4
25-34	24.6	32.2	7.6
35-44	21.7	19.7	(2.0)
45-54	17.6	10.4	(7.2)
55-59	5.7	1.7	(4.0)
60-64	3.4	0.9	(2.5)
65-74	3.1	0.6	(2.5)
75-84	0.8	0.2	(0.6)
85 and over	0.1	0.1	0.0

SEARCHES BY JUSTIFICATION REASON AND AGE

	0-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	Total
Consent	1	186	178	78	32	5	0	0	480
Probable Cause (PC)	0	448	444	268	154	32	10	3	1,359
Reasonable Suspicion (RS)	0	18	22	16	6	1	0	1	64
Consent/PC	0	28	13	6	4	0	0	0	51
Consent/RS	0	13	3	5	2	0	0	0	23
PC/RS	0	14	10	8	6	2	0	0	40
Consent/PC/RS	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	4
Other/ Indeterminate	0	108	121	102	53	24	4	2	442

SEARCH TYPE BY RACIAL GROUP

Race/Ethnicity	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search
American Indian	0	0	0	4	5
Asian	0	0	0	13	11
Black	5	0	1	32	55
Hispanic	44	4	13	332	393
White	99	10	4	536	894
Total	148	14	18	917	1,358

SEARCH TYPE BY GENDER

Gender	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search
Male	126	11	16	790	1,121
Female	22	3	2	127	237
Total	148	14	18	917	1,358

SEARCH TYPE BY AGE CATEGORY

Age Category	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search
0-14	0	0	0	1	0
15-19	11	3	1	120	99
20-24	29	7	5	256	309
25-34	60	1	8	293	430
35-44	34	2	3	155	289
45-54	12	1	1	71	170
55-59	1	0	0	15	25
60-64	0	0	0	5	18
65-74	0	0	0	1	13
75-84	0	0	0	0	4
85 and over	1	0	0	0	1
Total	148	14	18	917	1,358

Property or Contraband Seizures

SEARCHES AND SEIZURES BY RACIAL GROUP

	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Seizures	Percentage of Seizures	Difference (percent)
American Indian	9	0.4	2	0.4	0.0
Asian	24	1.0	2	0.4	(0.6)
Black	93	3.8	13	2.6	(1.2)
Hispanic	786	32.0	125	24.7	(7.3)
White	1,543	62.8	364	71.9	9.1
Total	2,455	100.0	506	100	–

SEARCHES AND SEIZURES BY GENDER

	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Seizures	Percentage of Seizures	Difference (percent)
Male	2,064	84.1	439	86.8	2.7
Female	391	15.9	67	13.2	(2.7)
Total	2,455	100	506	100.0	–

SEARCHES AND SEIZURES BY AGE

	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Seizures	Percentage of Seizures	Difference (percent)
0-14	1	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
15-19	234	9.5	90	17.8	8.3
20-24	606	24.7	164	32.4	7.7
25-34	792	32.2	154	30.4	(1.8)
35-44	483	19.7	57	11.3	(8.4)
45-54	255	10.4	28	5.5	(4.9)
55-59	41	1.7	8	1.6	(0.1)
60-64	23	0.9	4	0.8	(0.1)
65-74	14	0.6	0	0.0	(0.6)
75-84	4	0.2	0	0.0	(0.2)
85 and over	2	0.1	1	0.2	(0.1)
Total	2,455	100.0	506	100.0	–

Arrests During Traffic Stops

SEARCHES COMPARED TO ARRESTS BY RACIAL GROUP

Race/Ethnicity	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Arrests	Percentage of Arrests	Difference (percent)
American Indian	9	0.4	5	0.4	0.0
Asian	24	1.0	11	0.8	(0.2)
Black	93	3.8	55	4.1	0.3
Hispanic	786	32.0	393	28.9	(3.1)
White	1,543	62.8	894	65.8	3.0
Total	2,455	100.0	1,358	100.0	–

SEARCHES COMPARED TO ARRESTS BY GENDER

Gender	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Arrests	Percentage of Arrests	Difference (percent)
Male	2,064	84.1	1,121	82.5	(1.6)
Female	391	15.9	237	17.5	1.6
Total	2,455	100	1,358	100.0	–

SEARCHES COMPARED TO ARRESTS BY AGE

Age	Number of Searches	Percentage of Searches	Number of Arrests	Percentage of Arrests	Difference (percent)
0-14	1	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
15-19	234	9.5	99	7.3	(2.2)
20-24	606	24.7	309	22.6	(2.1)
25-34	792	32.2	430	31.8	(0.4)
35-44	483	19.7	289	21.3	1.6
45-54	255	10.4	170	12.5	2.1
55-59	41	1.7	25	1.8	0.1
60-64	23	0.9	18	1.3	0.4
65-74	14	0.6	13	1.0	0.4
75-84	4	0.2	4	0.3	0.1
85 and over	2	0.1	1	0.1	0.0
Total	2,455	100.0	1,358	100.0	–

TYPE OF SEARCH BY RACIAL GROUP

Race/Ethnicity	Search Driver	Search Passenger	Search Vehicle	Search with K9 Unit	Arrest Search Only	Total Arrests
American Indian	4	0	0	1	0	5
Asian	2	0	0	7	2	11
Black	19	0	0	27	9	55
Hispanic	108	8	0	232	45	393
White	183	13	0	596	102	894
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0-14	0	7	0	66	7	0
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20-24	65	6	0	269	48	309
25-34	107	2	0	177	42	430
35-44	68	1	0	106	23	289
45-54	40	0	0	11	6	170
55-59	8	0	0	9	4	25
60-64	5	0	0	10	2	18
65-74	1	0	0	2	0	13
75-84	2	0	0	0	0	4
85 and over	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	316	21	0	863	158	1,358

SEARCHES WITH CONTRABAND OR PROPERTY SEIZURES BY RACIAL GROUP

Race/Ethnicity	Contraband Seizure	Property Seizure	Contraband & Property Seizure	Arrest Only
American Indian	0	0	0	5
Asian	0	1	0	10
Black	4	4	0	47
Hispanic	35	12	13	333
White	94	13	27	760
Total	133	30	40	1,155

SEARCHES WITH CONTRABAND OR PROPERTY SEIZURES BY GENDER

Gender	Contraband Seizure	Property Seizure	Contraband & Property Seizure	Arrest Only
Male	119	27	38	937
Female	14	3	2	218
Total	133	30	40	1,155

SEARCHES WITH CONTRABAND OR PROPERTY SEIZURES BY AGE

Age	Contraband Seizure	Property Seizure	Contraband & Property Seizure	Arrest Only
0-14	0	0	0	0
15-19	19	4	5	71
20-24	40	10	12	247
25-34	49	6	14	361
35-44	20	6	6	257
45-54	4	4	3	159
55-59	1	0	0	24
60-64	0	0	0	18
65-74	0	0	0	13
75-84	0	0	0	4
85 and over	0	0	0	1
Total	133	30	40	1,155