

DURHAM



CITY OF DURHAM

1869

CITY OF MEDICINE

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
From: Jose L. Lopez, Sr., Chief of Police 
Date: October 15, 2014
RE: **Executive Review of First 6-Months 2014 Traffic Stop Data**

The following is an executive review of the first 6 months of the 2014 traffic stop data which is compiled from the SBI-122 traffic stop reports. For the first half of 2014 the department conducted 12,172 vehicle stops. We reviewed the data for each individual officer. The number of stops range from a few stops a year to several hundred depending on the officer's assignment. The lower the number of stops conducted by an officer, the more notable the appearance of any racial disparity might be in regard to the percentages which are affected by the total number of stops made. We then established the stop percentages of individual work groups as a whole so that individual officers within a work group could be compared to the group as a whole. We took that data and created a list of officers that stopped at least 25 vehicles and had 75% or higher stop rate of minorities. That list consisted of 27 officers. All but 3 of those officers worked in either district 1 or 4 which have the highest minority populations and the highest crime figures.*

The 12,172 vehicle stops resulted in 910 persons being searched, a number that includes passengers that may have been searched as a result of the vehicle stop. Therefore, this does not mean that 910 vehicles were searched but rather a lower number. The information provided from the justice department from the SBI-122 traffic stop reports tracks searches by the number of occupants searched, not by the number of vehicles. Of the 910 searches, 57 percent were consent searches, 33 percent were probable cause searches, 5 percent were protective frisks and 5 percent were incident to arrest. Of the 12,172 vehicle stops, there were 448 consent searches conducted which included 357 passengers.

In summary, the officers with the highest racial disparity in vehicle stops also worked in the districts that have the highest minority population and the highest level of policing due to the higher crime rates. In some instances, especially downtown, there are more whites stopped than blacks. In addition, when we look at the traffic services unit which conducted 2687 traffic stops as a unit (the most of any unit due to the nature of their job and the majority of those stops are for traffic violations throughout the city) the breakdown is 46% black and 39% white which is much closer to the demographics of the city as a whole. In addition, the numbers provided

on the officers do not account for off duty assignments such as Bull's Eye and Southside patrols which are in areas with a high concentration on black residents which will affect their traffic stop percentages outside of their normal duty assignment.

In June of this year we have added data fields to our records management system that will give more information as it relates to consent and the location of the stop. Based upon the data provided, we show no evidence of an unexplainable disparity of stops among our officers, rather officers stopping vehicles consistent with the demographics and crime statistics of their assignments. We have now sorted our traffic stop data by district and division so that each commander can review the data for the perspective areas of command. This will include a random review of the in car video of vehicle stops conducted by officers. Attached to this report is also a density map for vehicle stops and the demographics, calls for service, and reported crimes associated with those areas.

*Population data is based on the 2010 census where district 1 was shown to be 62% black and 20% white. District 4 was shown to be 54% black and 32% white.

JLLsr/ttl

Attachments:

- (1) First 6 months of 2014 Vehicle Stop Update
- (2) 2014 Bias Based Policing Traffic Report

First 6 months of 2014 Vehicle Stop Update

This document provides an update to the previous Vehicle Stop analysis conducted for calendar year 2013. The information pertains to January 1 through June 30, 2014 and was generated from the 911 CAD System.

The areas outlined in green (see Figure 1) were determined to have a higher than average number of vehicle stops per square mile. Those areas were further examined for Calls for Service data, crime reports, and demographic information.

Density Zone	2013	2014*
Average Number of Vehicle Stops/square mile	259.1	111.7

*When used throughout this document, 2014 refers to only the first 6 months of the year.

Vehicle Stops

In 2014, 31.02% of the vehicle stops within the city limits were reported in the density zone (3,969 vehicle stops). The same density zone accounts for 30.05% of Calls for Service (see Table 3) and 25.5% of reported incidents (see Table 4) over the first 6 months of 2014.

Table 1. City and Zone Sizes

	Area (Sq. Mi.)	% of Area
City	108.59	100.00
2013 Density Zone	7.28	6.71
2014 Density Zone	5.88	5.41

Table 2. Demographics (Estimate):

	Total	White	% White	Black	% Black	Other	% Other
City	229,903	97,630	42.47	94,286	41.01	37,987	16.52
2013 Density Zone	26,889	6,075	22.59	16,455	61.20	4,359	16.21
2014 Density Zone	24,793	4,731	19.08	15,749	63.52	4,313	17.40

Table 3. Calls for Service

	Total CFS	% of Total	Self-Initiated CFS	% of Total
2013 City	433,070	100.00	148,871	34.38
2013 Density Zone	135,717	31.34	58,613	43.19
2014 City	218,217	100.00	75,532	34.61
2014 Density Zone	65,569	30.05	29,509	45.00

Table 4. Reported Incidents

	Reported Incidents	% of Total	Part 1	% of Total	Non Part 1	% of Total
2013 City	24,920	100.00	12,591	50.53	12,329	49.47
2013 Density Zone	7,192	28.86	3,150	43.80	4,042	56.20
2014 City	11,942	100.00	6,045	50.62	5,897	49.38
2014 Density Zone	3,045	25.50	1,347	44.24	1,698	55.76

First 6 months of 2014 Vehicle Stop Update

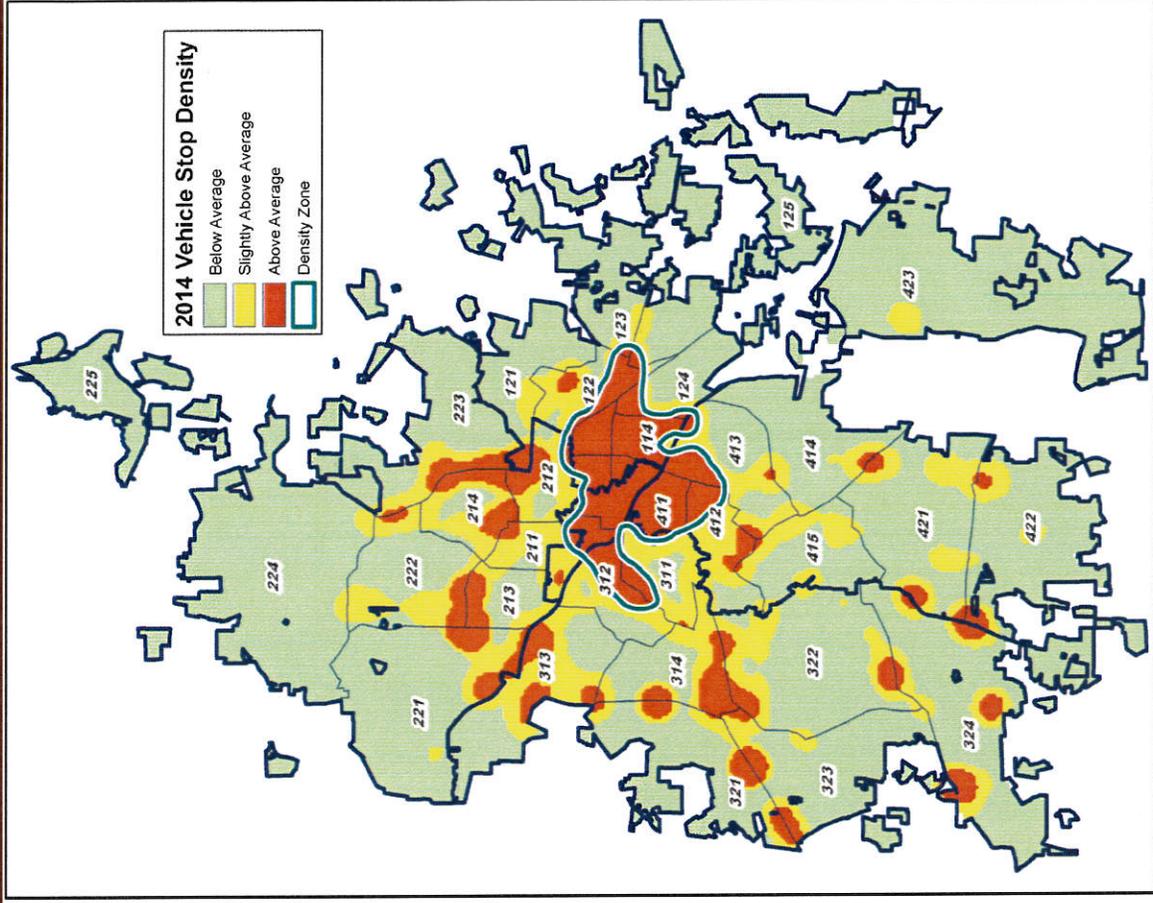
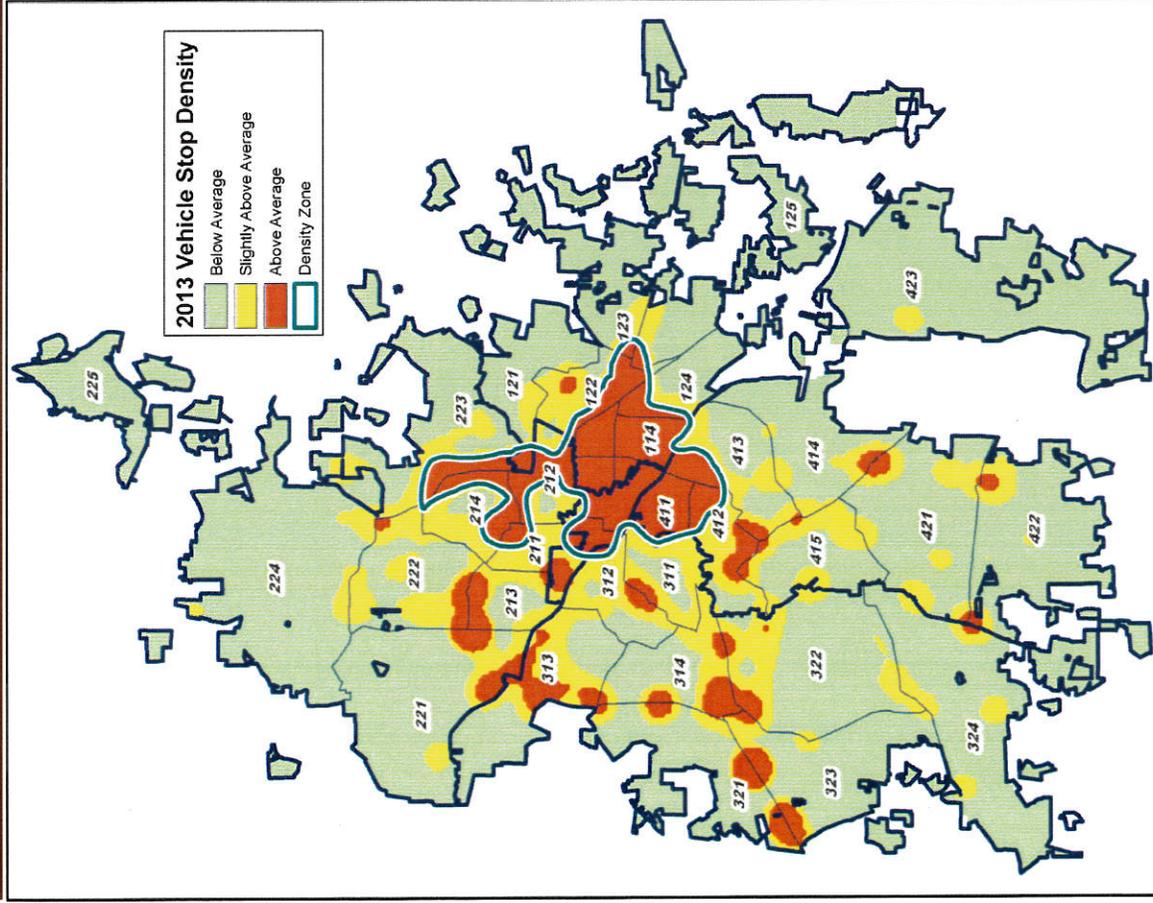


Figure 1. 2013 Vehicle Stop Density (left) and 2014 Vehicle Stop Density (right)

First 6 months of 2014 Vehicle Stop Update

The 2014 density zone shown on the map above (Figure 1, right) accounts for 5.88 square miles, which is 5.41% of the total land area in the city of Durham (see Table 1). The density zone comprises all of beats 112, 113, and 522. Portions of beats 111, 114, 122, 123, 124, 125, 411, 412, 413, 512, 211, 212, 311, and 312 are also included. The area encompasses most of Bulls Eye, EDCI, and NECD.

Demographics

In the entire city, it is estimated that 42.47% of residents are white, 41.01% are black, and 16.52% are listed as "other" according to the 2010 US Census (see Table 2). Within the 2014 density zone 19.08% of residents are white, 63.52% are black, and 17.40% are "other."

Reported Crime

Within the 2014 density zone, 3,048 incidents were reported, accounting for 25.5% of all crimes reported in Durham from January 1st through June 30th (see Table 4).

Calls for Service

Over the same period, 65,569 calls for service were recorded in the 911 CAD System for the density zone, accounting for 30.05% of all calls for service for the city. 45% of the calls for service in the density zone were self-initiated which is above the city-wide average of 34.61% (see Table 3).