

2016-2018 WPD CITATION ANALYSIS

by

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2018 WICHITA DEMOGRAPHICS



- ▶ **Census data for 2018** shows that the Caucasian population of Wichita is 63.1%. The Black population is 11.2% while Hispanics make up 16.7% of the residents.
- ▶ There have been five studies done of Wichita Police Department stops and citations issued between 2000 and 2019. The results from each analysis are the same.
- ▶ Black drivers are still twice as likely to be stopped and cited for one or more traffic violation. Furthermore, they are more likely to receive a citation for a non-moving violation than White drivers plus have their license suspended.

2016-18 WPD CITATIONS ANALYSIS



- ▶ Under the previous Chief, 114,161 violations were cited in 2007 when the policy was to issue a ticket at the end of each stop.
- ▶ After the Wichita City Manager hired Gordon Ramsay to be Police Chief in 2016, the number of citations issued by WPD officers dropped to 52,107.
- ▶ In 2017, there were 42,594 citations and 42,582 issued in 2018.
- ▶ Even with nearly 10,000 fewer citations, Black drivers were still cited twice as often as White drivers all three years. They were also more likely to have multiple violations cited on each ticket.
- ▶ Recall that the Black populations of Wichita is only 11.1%. Yet 21.3%, 23.3% and 22.3% of the tickets issued during these three years were to **Black drivers**.

WPD NON-MOVING vs MOVING ANALYSIS



- ▶ For this analysis, citation data was first sorted by year, race, beat, officer, accident and violation. Pivot tables in MS-Excel were then used to total the number of violations for **Black** and **White** drivers during 2016, 2017 & 2018 plus 2019 data from Patrol North.
- ▶ These data clearly show that 50% of the citations issued to Black drivers in Wichita were for Non-Moving violations such as expired tags, no license in possession or tail-light malfunction.
- ▶ However, White drivers are more likely to Speed plus fail to signal a Turn or Stop at stop signs.
- ▶ Here is the [NON-MOVING vs MOVING VIOLATION ANALYSIS](#) during 2016-19. The disproportionate enforcement patterns are consistent all four years.

ACCIDENTS & CITATIONS BY RACE

- ▶ The stated purpose of issuing traffic tickets is to improve driver behavior and reduce vehicle accidents. If that assumption was true, then issuing more tickets would result in fewer accidents and each race of driver would be stopped in equal proportion.
- ▶ The facts are clear. Since the new Wichita Police Chief was hired in 2016, the number of traffic accidents has gone DOWN while the number of citations issued also dropped by nearly 70,000 per year. Black drivers were involved in 19% of the total number of traffic accidents while White and Hispanic drivers were in 78% of the accidents.
- ▶ So, why are Black drivers still stopped and given twice as many citations as White drivers when they are JUST AS LIKELY to be involved in a traffic accident???



MOST FREQUENT ACCIDENT LOCATIONS



- ▶ The fact is, most accidents in Wichita occur at 20 key intersections and near highway offramps. However, traffic citations are being issued all over the City and even in residential neighborhoods where few accidents occur.
- ▶ With better engineered turn lanes, longer yellow lights, and offramp signage, fewer accidents will occur.
- ▶ The facts are clear, THERE IS NO CORRELATION BETWEEN issuing more traffic tickets and PREVENTING ACCIDENTS!!

DATA AS A L.E.A. MANAGEMENT TOOL



- ▶ This independent analysis was conducted in compliance with K.S.A. 22-4606-11b. Citation analysis was in the original SB77 which was passed into Kansas law in 2005.
- ▶ Using accurate, cumulative data is an excellent tool for police chiefs and sheriffs to improve policies and traffic enforcement procedures then update officer training.
- ▶ The data in this specific analysis has been sorted by BEAT, OFFICER, VIOLATION, ACCIDENT & RACE so WPD Command Staff and Bureau Captains can drill down to identify potential disproportionate enforcement actions.
- ▶ As WPD Command staff and Bureau Captains use these data as a “**MANAGEMENT TOOL**”, it is hoped that Beat officers will stop the disproportionate citing of Black drivers in our City.

FOLLOW-UP ANALYSIS & TRAINING



- 1) Using similar analysis procedures, the WPD should do a Quarterly review of all citations issued during the previous three months to share with Command Staff & Bureau Captains.
- 2) WPD Patrol Officers should be required to enter the Race of the driver on each citation. In 2019, over 3,400 citations showed race “UNKNOWN” plus 9,631 listed no “Beat”.
- 3) Please add “Hispanic” to the Citation form instead of including this ethnic population in the “White” race category.
- 4) Please add the nearest cross street on the Citation form so key accident intersections can be quickly identified.
- 5) Bureau Captains should review the data for each officer to identify those who may need further biased-based training.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



- ▶ To receive an Executive Summary and more information about how this analysis was done plus efforts to end the disproportionate enforcement of traffic laws in Kansas, feel free to contact:

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- ▶ Additional information can be found on the RPAB website racialprofilingwichitaks.com
- ▶ This website contains links to Racial Profiling Complaint forms, pages in English and Spanish on “What To Do If You Are Stopped by the Police” plus videos on how to cooperate with LEO’s when stopped.

QUESTIONS??

