

2019 Stop and Search Annual Report

On at least an annual basis, NOPD shall issue a report summarizing the stop and search data collected, the analysis of that data, and the steps taken to correct problems and build on successes. The report shall be made publicly available. [Consent Decree ¶153]

The purpose of this report is to summarize and analyze the stop and search data collected for the past year. The report answers several key questions:

- 1) How many stops occurred in 2019? And, how have these stops varied by neighborhood, race/ethnicity of the subject, sex of the subject, type of subject (driver, passenger, or pedestrian), age of the subject, time of day, and type of stop?
- 2) What was the result of the stop (arrest, Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion, citation, summons, warning, or no action), and how did that vary based upon the race, sex, and age of the subject?
- 3) Did a search occur? What type of search occurred? How did that action vary based upon the race, sex, and age of the subject?
- 4) Was contraband seized? How did that action vary based upon the race, sex, and age of the subject?

The data in this report are displayed in graphics throughout the *Findings* section. For comparison, visit <https://nola.gov/nopd/nopd-consent-decree/> to view the Stop and Search Annual Report from previous years.

Key Definitions

Age – Age of the subject is based on the subject’s date of birth or apparent age, if the subject refuses to provide information or the officer cannot legally demand identification.

Contraband – This includes the following:

- a) **Drugs** – any substance defined, enumerated, or included in federal or state criminal statute or regulations, 21 CFR Chapter 1308.11-15 or La. R.S. 40:964, or any substance which may hereafter be designated as a controlled dangerous substance by amendment or supplementation of such regulations or statute. The term shall not include distilled spirits, wine, malt beverages, or tobacco;
- b) **Weapons** – includes any gas, liquid, or other substance or instrumentality, which, in the manner used, is calculated or likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Usually a firearm or edged weapon for Field Interview Card purposes;
- c) **Other** – any other item that is not a drug or a weapon which is illegally possessed.

Field Interview Card (FIC) – The method NOPD utilizes to document official Stops/Terry Stops of members of the public. To conduct a field interview, an officer must have reasonable suspicion that the subject has been, is, or is about to be, engaged in the commission of a crime. According to departmental policy, only one FIC entry should be made per incident.

Sex – sex of the subject is entered by the officer and is based on the officer’s observation, if not provided to the officer by the subject.

Neighborhood – Neighborhoods are defined using the neighborhood boundaries disseminated by The Data Center (datacenterresearch.org).

Race/ethnicity – Race/ethnicity of the subject is entered by the officer and is based on the officer’s observation.

Search – A search is defined as a thorough visual and/or manual examination of an arrested person and the area immediately around that person for weapons which might present a danger to officers or others, contraband, or evidence that might be destroyed. A search may be conducted for any of the following reasons:

- a) Consent to search – permission given to a law enforcement officer to search a person, vehicle or structure by one who has the legal right to do so;
- b) Exigent circumstances – compelling urgency or true emergency;
- c) Incident to arrest – a search that takes place during or immediately after a physical arrest of a person;
- d) Inventory – an administrative search conducted to itemize and identify property for safe-keeping;
- e) Plain view – if an officer sees an item that is immediately recognizable as contraband and they are in a place they have a legal right to be when the viewing is made, the item can be seized;
- f) Probable cause – the facts and circumstances known to the officer at the time which would justify a prudent person in believing the subject committed or was committing an offense; and/or
- g) Warrant – a written instrument, signed by a judicial authority ordering the seizure of a person or property.

Stop – An investigatory detention of a person in a public place (pedestrian or occupant of a vehicle) under the rules established for “Terry Stops” or La. C.Cr.P. Art. 215.1 based on reasonable suspicion for the purposes of determining the individual's identity and resolving the officer's suspicions. It can also include a voluntary encounter between an officer and a subject where the subject is relaying information that may be of interest, or relevant to an investigation (includes witnesses and victims). For purposes of this report, it can also include a violation of law.

Stop result – A stop may end in any of the six manners listed below:

- a) No action – the stop ends with no enforcement action taken by the officer;
- b) Warning – the stop ends in only a verbal warning by the officer;
- c) Citation – the stop ends with the subject receiving a traffic citation;
- d) Summons – the stop ends with the subject receiving a summons in lieu of a physical arrest;
- e) Arrest – the stop ends with the subject in the physical custody of the officer awaiting booking into a jail facility; or
- f) LEAD – (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) the stop ends with the subject, who could have been charged with a misdemeanor, booked into jail or issued a summons, and referred for prosecution, engaged instead by LEAD program staff (a program coordinator and case management team) working with the City’s Health Department and a local service provider.

Stop type – Stops are broken down into the different stop types listed below:

- a) Call for service – the officer is dispatched by the Orleans Parish Communications District;
- b) Citizen contact – the officer initiates a duty-related conversation with a person;
- c) Criminal violation – the officer observes a violation of law other than a traffic violation;
- d) Flagged down – a person gains the officer’s attention to report a problem or observation;
- e) Juvenile violation – the officer observes a juvenile violating the law;
- f) Present at crime scene – while on the scene of a crime, the officer initiates a duty-related conversation with a person;
- g) Subject person – the officer initiates a duty related conversation with a person who is a subject in a criminal violation;
- h) Subject vehicle – the officer initiates a duty related conversation with a person who is in a vehicle that is present or involved in a criminal violation;
- i) Traffic violation – the officer observes a violation of a traffic offense; and
- j) Other – any other stop or detention by an officer.

Relevant policies

The following approved policies govern NOPD’s actions with respect to stops, searches, and arrests:

- Search and Seizure – Chapter 1.2.4
- Terry Stops and Investigatory Stops – Chapter 1.2.4.1
- Search Warrant Consent Forms and Reviews – Chapter 1.2.4.2
- Vehicle Stops – Chapter 1.2.4.3
- Arrests and Miranda Rights – Chapter 1.9 and Chapter 1.9.1
- Field Interview Cards – Chapter 41.12

NOPD policies are available at nola.gov/nopd/policies.

Year-to-Year comparisons

As NOPD develops new policies and updates forms, the protocols governing stops, searches, and arrests may change. As a result, the underlying data and what they represent will change as well. This may present difficulty in conducting direct comparisons between 2019 and prior years, or subsequent years. Nevertheless, many comparisons between the 2015 through 2019 data are given below.

District Attorney Acceptance Rates

The district attorney provides refusal reason codes in their database. The refusal codes that indicate an officer made a mistake are:

- Incomplete Police Investigation
- Law Enforcement Issues
- No Probable Cause for Arrest
- Unlawful Search No Warrant
- Unlawful Search with Warrant

In 2019, 0.34% (74 of 21,789 screened) of charges were refused by the District Attorney for mistakes made by the officer.

Allegations of Bias

Misconduct complaints involving discrimination are investigated and assessed according to Chapter 41.13 – Bias Free Policing and other related policies such as Chapter 41.13.1 – Interactions with LGBTQ Persons. No allegation of discrimination or bias was sustained between 2015 and 2019.

Table 1: Allegations of Bias by Disposition and Year

Disposition	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sustained	0	0	0	0	0
Pending (under investigation)	0	0	0	0	0
Exonerated	5	8	0	1	1
Not sustained	4	5	2	4	3
No formal investigation merited	0	0	1	0	0
Unfounded	23	16	25	21	12
DI-2 (Counseling)	0	0	1	0	0
Cancelled	1	0	0	0	1
Total	33	29	29	26	17

*For definitions of allegation dispositions, see Chapter 26.2: Adjudication of Misconduct, available at nola.gov/nopd/policies.

The number of discrimination and bias-based allegations over the past five years has been relatively consistent with 2019 showing a decrease (17 down from 29 in 2017). Over the same time period, NOPD has made a concerted effort toward transparency and public awareness of the processes to file complaints of NOPD misconduct, as well as how to submit commendations for outstanding examples of police work. Placards, brochures, and forms detailing the complaint and commendation process have been made available to each District Station, NOPD Headquarters, City Hall, the office of the Independent Police Monitor, and New Orleans’ public libraries. This information has been transcribed in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese to provide all New Orleans residents and visitors a way to contact the NOPD regarding positive and/or negative experiences.

It is also worth noting that the majority of allegations of discrimination and bias-based policing receive a final disposition of “Unfounded.” According to NOPD policy, the Unfounded disposition is used in cases in which “the investigation determines, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the alleged misconduct did not occur or did not involve the subject employee.”

PIB investigates allegations of criminal misconduct against NOPD officers and civilian employees, and PIB shares the investigation of violations of administrative regulations with first-line supervisors. In order to hold first-line supervisors accountable and ensure their involvement in complaints against their subordinates, many administrative complaints are forwarded to division commanders through their bureau chiefs for investigation. These investigations are reviewed through that bureau’s chain of command, then ultimately by PIB and the Superintendent of Police. To learn more about NOPD’s misconduct complaint process, or the nature of NOPD complaints in previous years, you can find the complaint data and annual reports at nola.gov/nopd/nopd-consent-decree.

Psychological Evaluations of Police Officer Candidates

NOPD has a process for psychologically evaluating all candidates for commissioned positions. The psychological evaluation is one of the final evaluations and is administered to candidates who successfully pass all assessments, the background investigation, and are approved by the Recruitment and Applicant Investigation Administrator. The evaluation is administered by contracted third parties and follows national standards for police officer psychological screening.

The contracted psychologist reviews each applicant's background investigation packet, which includes, but is not limited to, investigation data about the applicant's legal, employment, military, traffic, and geographic history. Also included in the background investigation packet are the results from the computer voice stress analysis (CVSA) testing. The psychologist also reviews any other documents provided by the New Orleans Police Department (e.g., documents from the public integrity bureau), Civil Service (e.g., previous psychological reports) or the background investigation unit. Each applicant is administered computerized psychological testing and after testing, has a face-to-face interview with the psychologist. The psychologist may also conduct interviews with background investigators and/or prior NOPD supervisors, if applicable, in order to glean more information about a candidate, or to corroborate candidates' statements. Information is never disclosed to collateral interviewees. The psychologist may also request records from previous mental health professionals, including military mental health records.

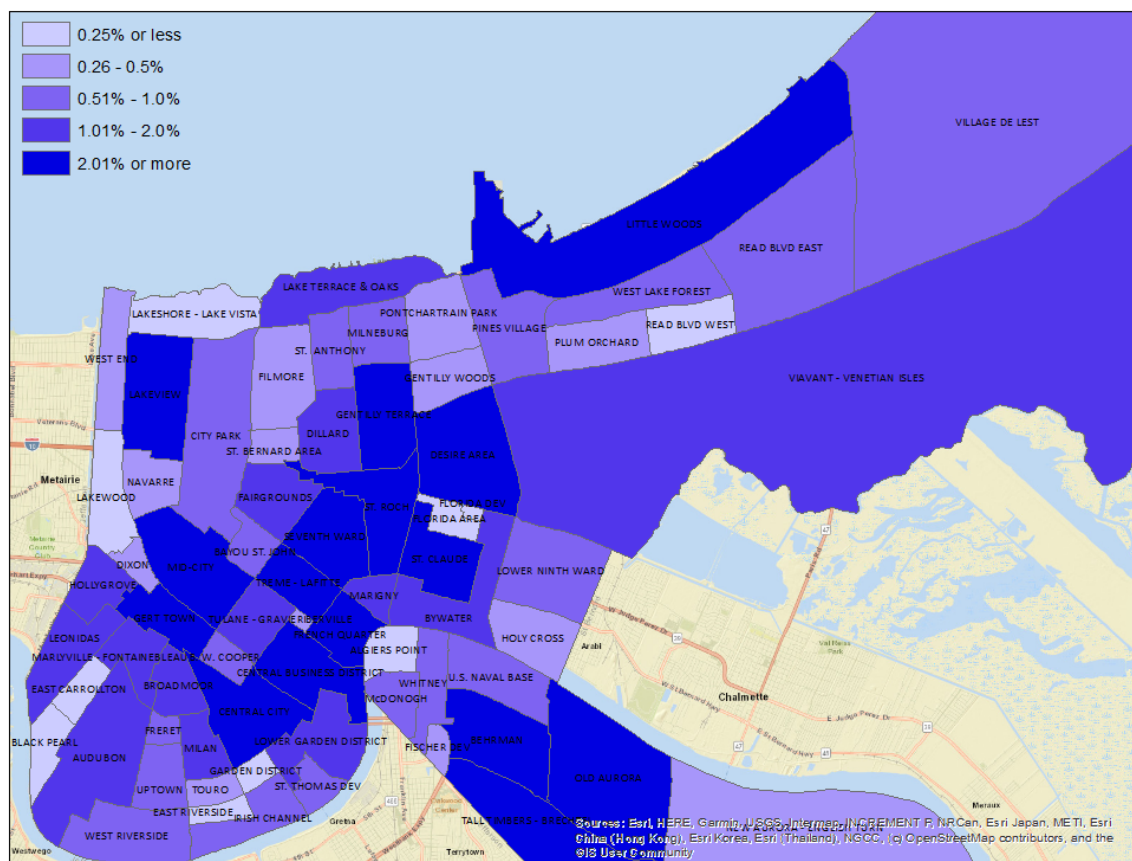
The psychologist's screening methods assess social biases, among many traits that may predict the applicant's ability to perform law enforcement duties in an acceptable manner.

In 2019, 26 applicants failed the psychological evaluation and were therefore not hired.

Field Interview Card Analysis

In 2019, the NOPD completed 40,278 Field Interview Cards (FIC) documenting stops, searches, or arrests, a 20% increase from the 50,561 FICs recorded in 2018. The map shown in Figure 3 depicts how these FICs were distributed throughout the city. The Central Business District had the highest number of FICs, with 4,418, which is down from 4,900 the previous year. The French Quarter came in second, with 3,427 FICs, also lower than its 3,605 total in 2018. Central City had the third highest number of FICs in the city, with 2,979, down significantly from 7,080 in 2018. The French Quarter and the Central Business District have a high concentration of non-residents, including tourists and commuters. Figure 2 shows the distribution of FICs completed in 2019 by neighborhood.

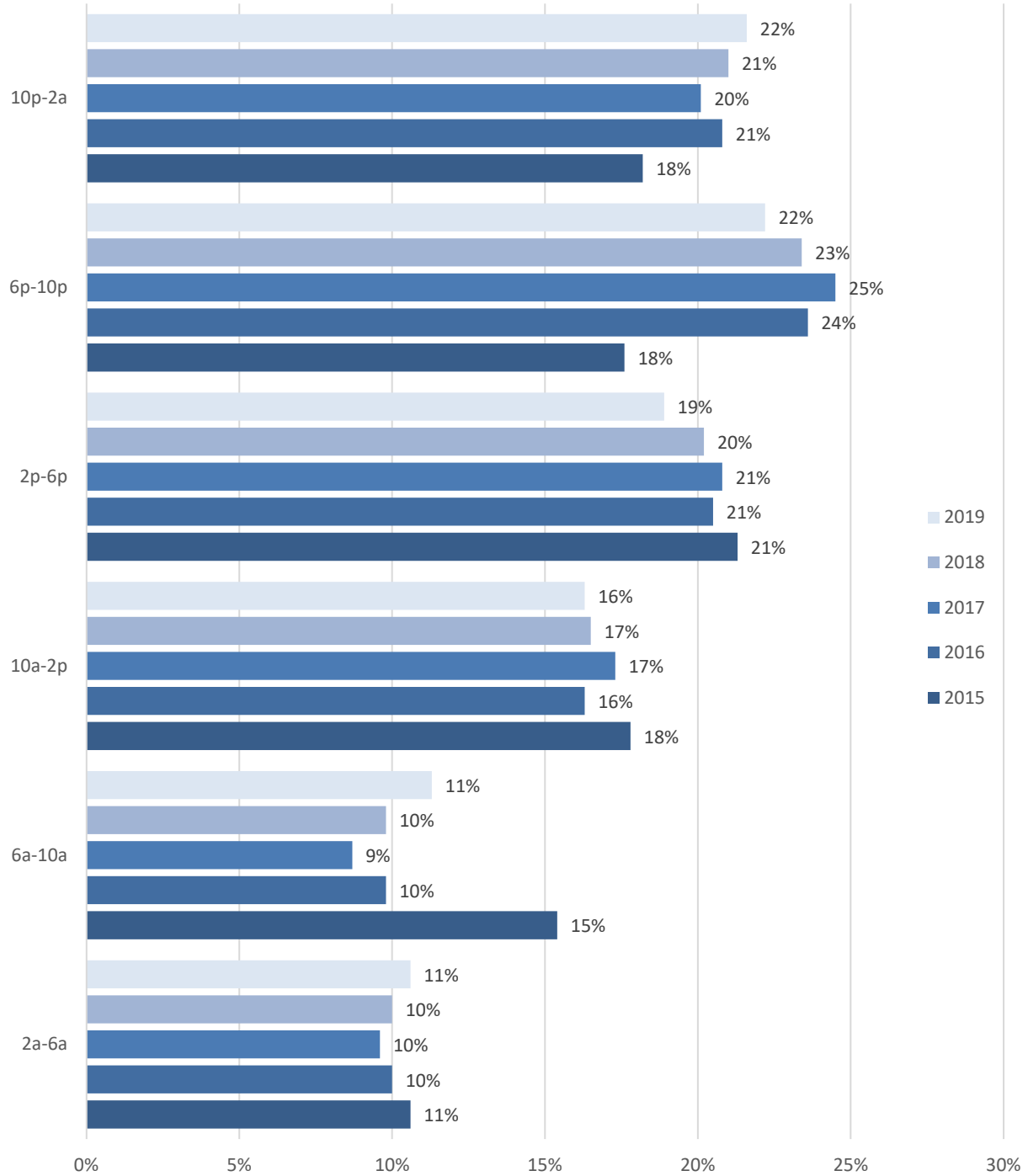
Figure 3 – Percentage of All FICs created in each New Orleans neighborhood, 2019



Time of day of FICs

In 2019, the largest portion of FICs were completed in the evening (6-10pm, 22%) and overnight (10pm-2am, 22%), with the afternoon (2-6pm, 19%) close behind. Officers completed the smallest portion of FICs in the morning (6-10am, 11%) and early morning (2-6am, 11%) hours.

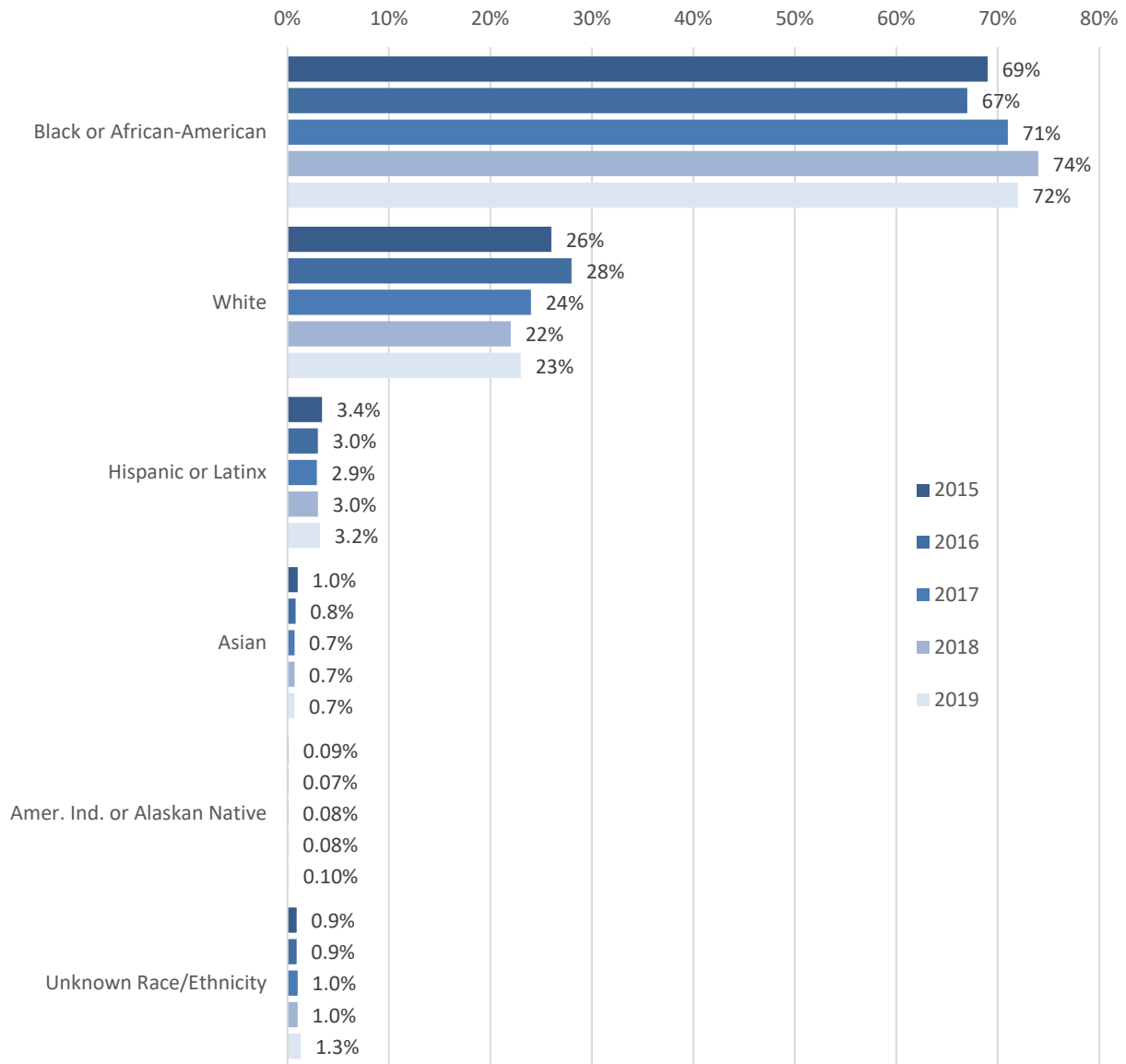
Figure 4 - Field interview cards in New Orleans by time of day, 2015-2019



Race/Ethnicity of FIC Subjects

The distribution of stops across races/ethnicities in 2019 closely resembled the statistics of previous years. Black or African-American individuals represented 72% of all subjects documented on FICs, a slight decrease from 74% in 2018. White (non-Hispanic) individuals represented 23% of all subjects documented on FICs, a slight increase from 22% in 2018. FICs documenting Hispanic or Latinx, Asian, and American Indian and Alaskan native individuals showed no change, remaining at 3%, 1%, and <1%, respectively in 2015 through 2019.

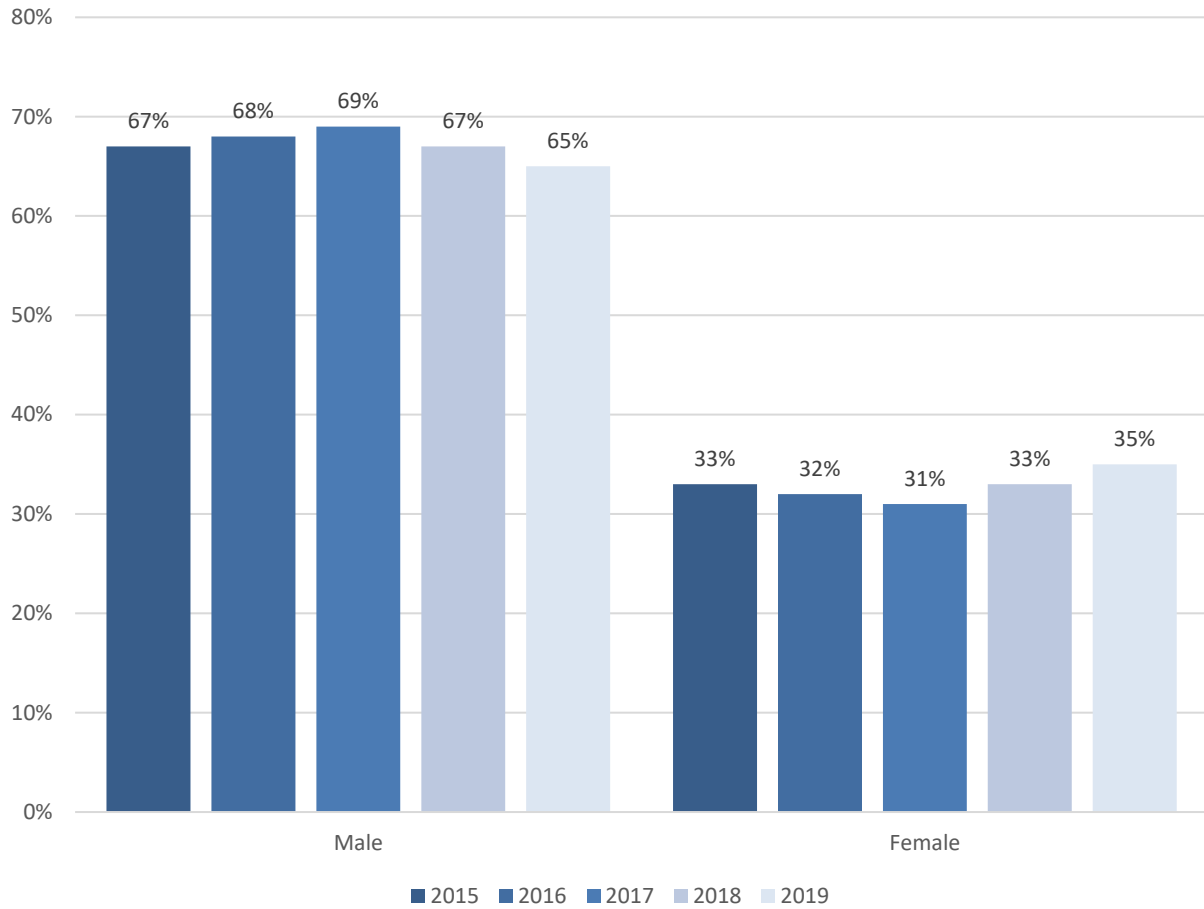
Figure 5 – FIC Subjects in New Orleans by race/ethnicity of the subject, 2015-2019



Sex of Stop Subjects

In 2019, males represented 65% of all subjects documented on FICs, a slight decrease from 69% in 2017. Females represented 35% of all subjects documented on FICs, a slight increase from 31% in 2017.

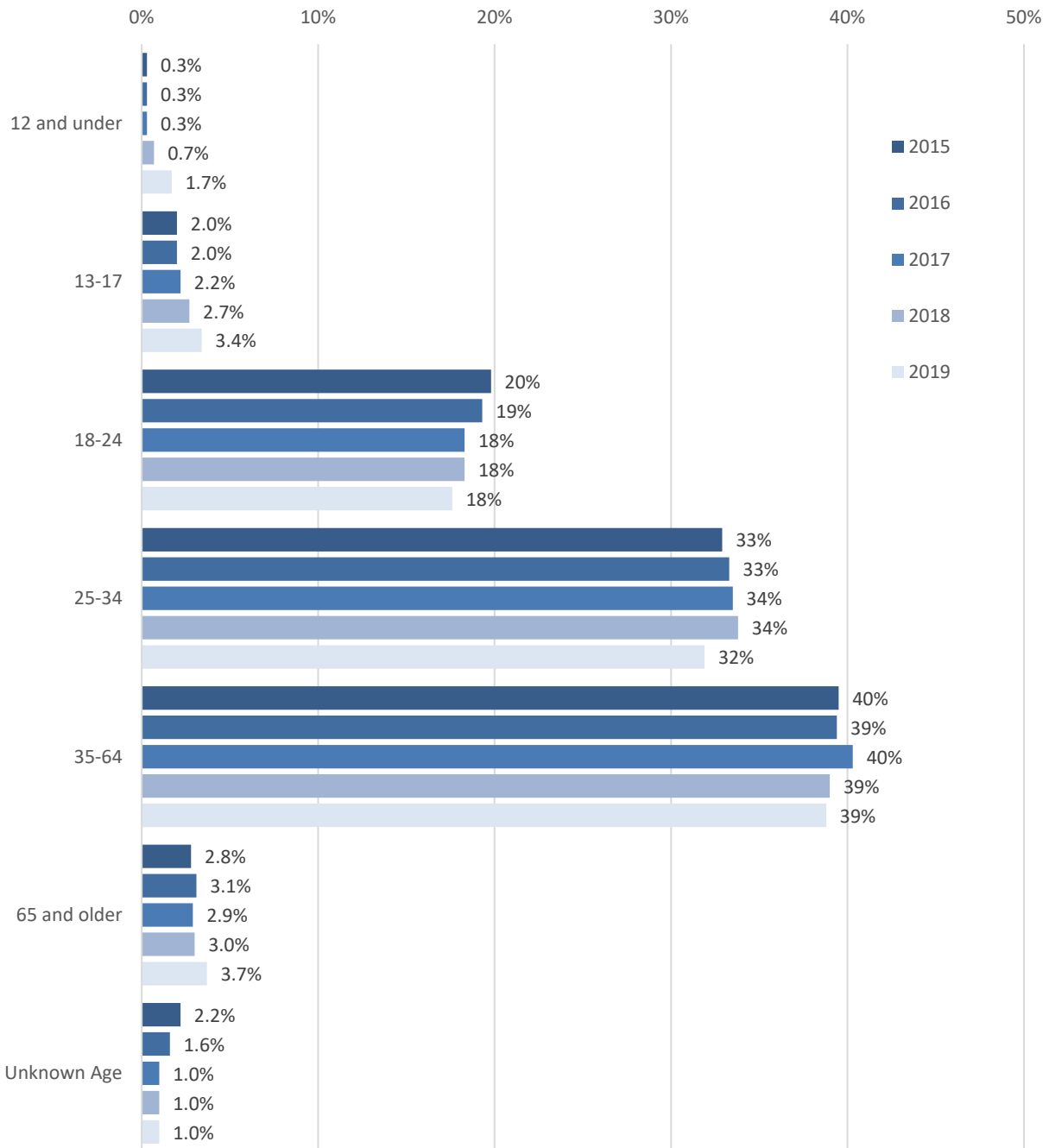
Figure 6 - Stops in New Orleans by sex of the subject, 2015-2019



Age of Stop Subjects

The percentage of stops of young adult subjects (ages 18 to 24) remained static from 2017 through 2019, representing 18% of all subjects documented on FICs. In 2019, the largest portion of stopped subjects, 39%, were between the ages of 35 and 64. Subjects between the ages of 25 and 34 represented 32% of all stops in 2019.

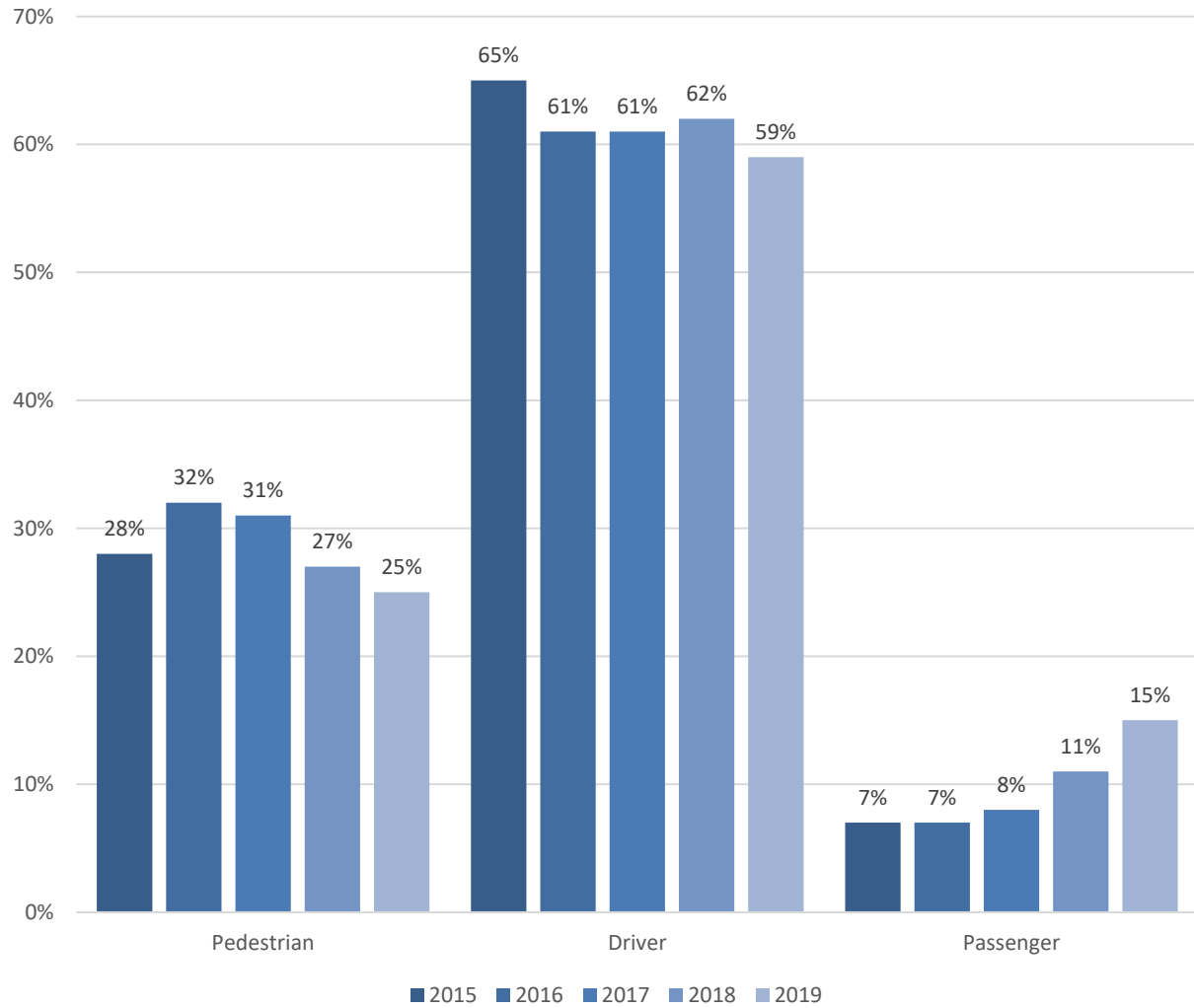
Figure 7 - Stops in New Orleans by age of the subject, 2015-2019



Stops by Subject Type

In 2019, the majority of all stops (59%) involved vehicle drivers (down from 65% in 2015). Pedestrians represented 25% of all FICs (down from 32% in 2016), and vehicle passengers represented the remaining 15% (up from 7% in 2016). In 2018, NOPD began documenting the demographic information of passengers, as required by the Consent Decree.

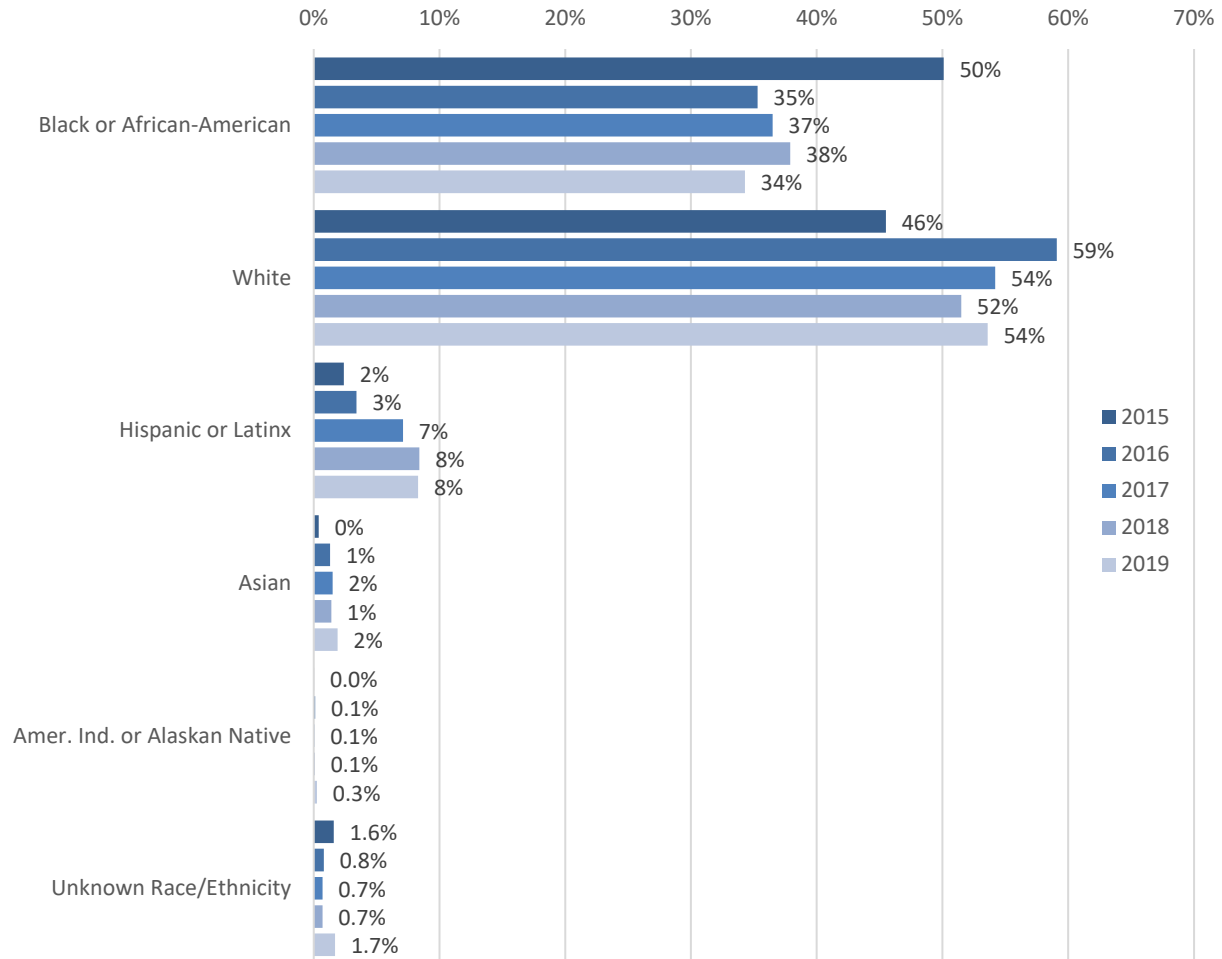
Figure 8 - Stops in New Orleans by subject type, 2015-2019



FICs by Race/Ethnicity of the Officer

For the purposes of this analysis, only officers listed as the primary officer on the FIC were considered. The percentage of FICs completed by black or African-American officers was 34% in 2019, down from 50% in 2015. During that same time the percentage of FICs completed by White officers grew from 46% to 54 percent. From 2015 to 2019 the percentage of black or African-American officers at NOPD decreased from 59% to 53%, while the percentage of White officers increased from 38% to 40 percent. The demographic makeup of patrol officers, who produce the vast majority of FICs, can change over time as officers transition into and out of patrol assignments; this may contribute to the changes in the demographic distribution of officers completing FICs. The percentage of FICs completed by Hispanic or Latinx officers quadrupled from 2015 to 2019, increasing from 2% to 8 percent. From 2015 to 2019 the percentage of Hispanic or Latinx officers at NOPD grew from 2% to 4 percent.

Figure 9 - Field interview cards in New Orleans by race/ethnicity of the officer, 2015-2019

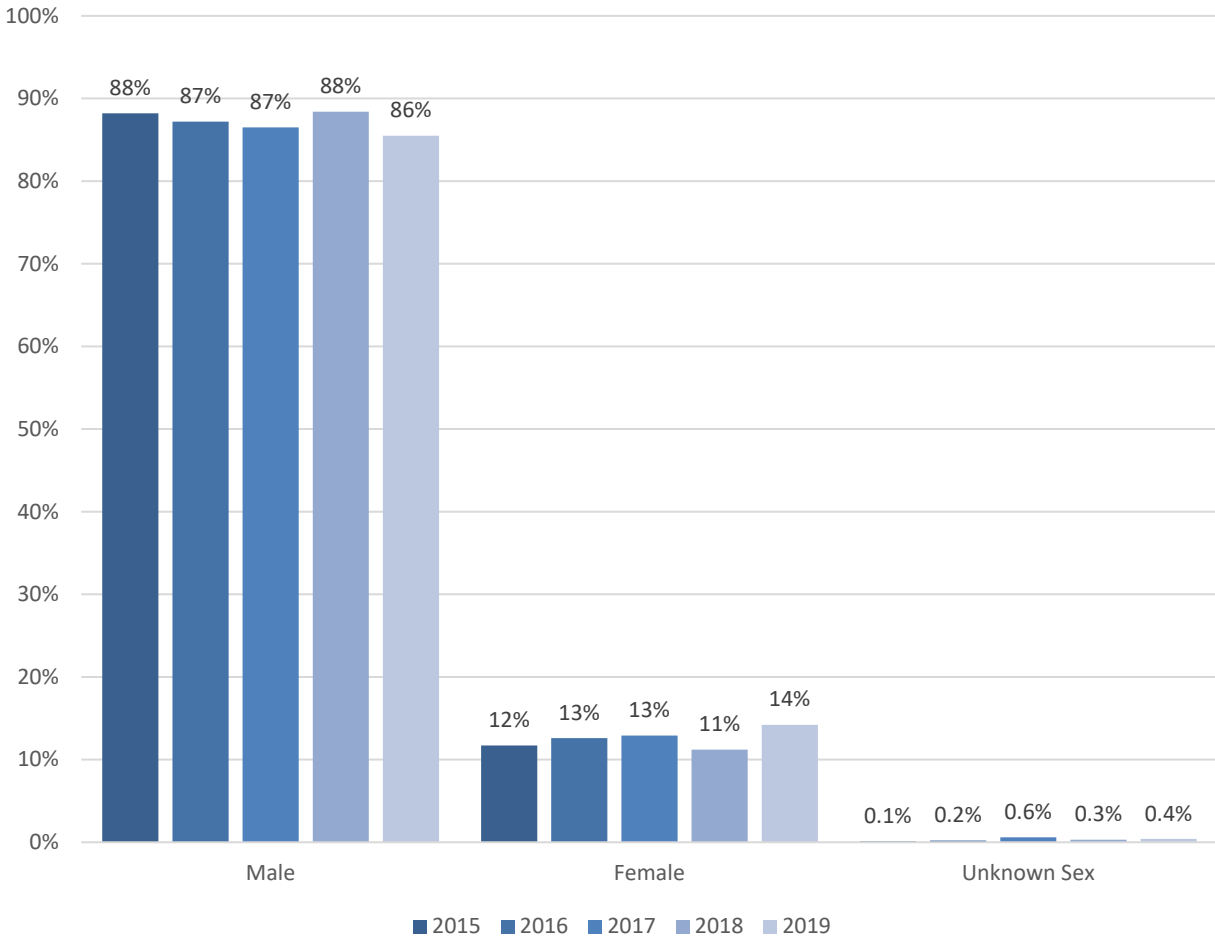


*Data includes officers listed as primary officers on Field Interview Cards. Secondary officers are not included. FICs with data entry errors and those created by officers that have not specified their race/ethnicity are given as Unknown Race/Ethnicity.

Field interview cards by sex of the officer

Male officers accounted for 86% of all FICs in 2019, while female officers accounted for 14 percent. The sex of officers completing FICs saw little change from 2015-2019.

Figure 10 - Field interview cards in New Orleans by sex of the officer, 2015-2019

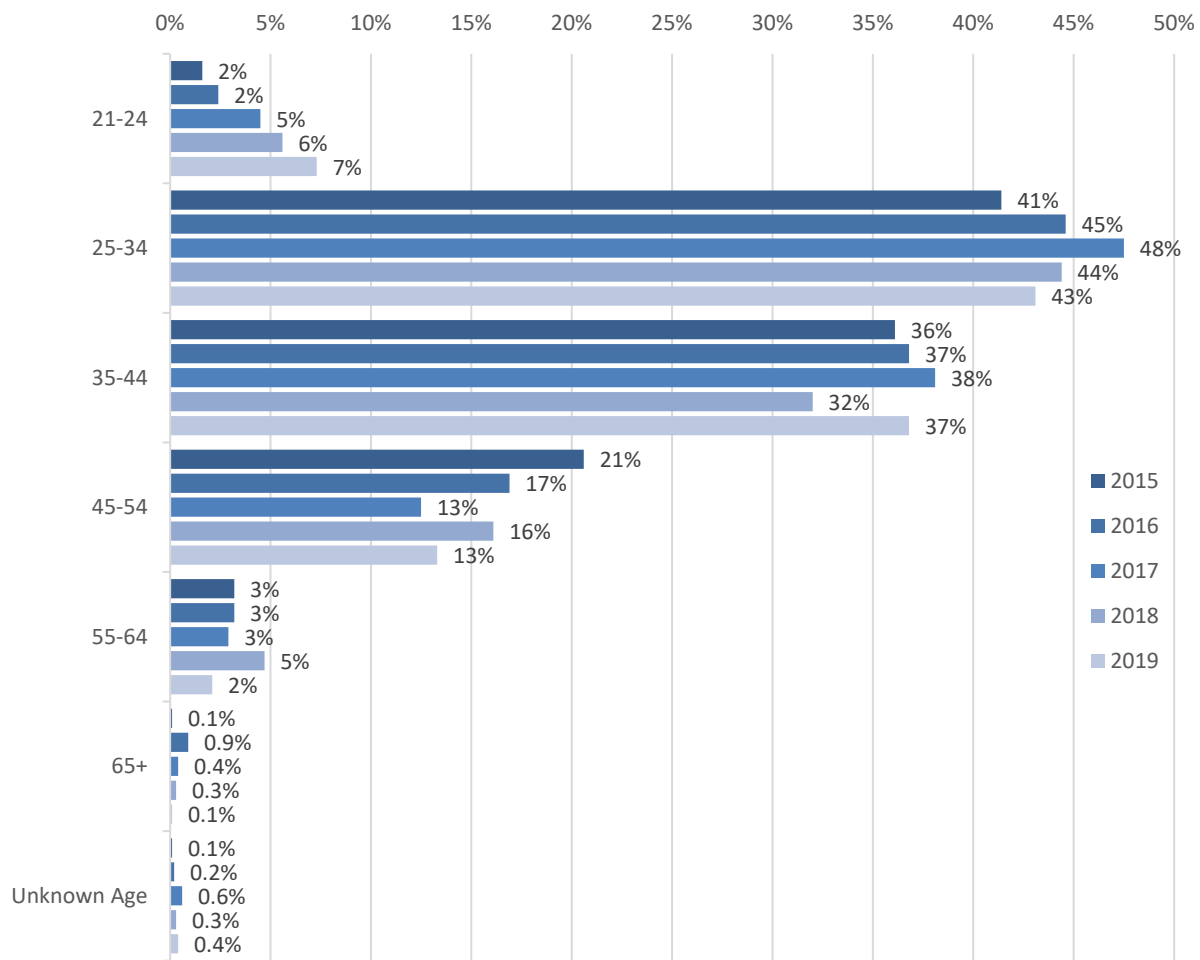


*Data includes officers listed as primary officers on Field Interview Cards. Secondary officers are not included. FICs with mistyped employee IDs are given as Unknown Sex.

Field interview cards by age of the officer

From 2015-2019, the largest portion of stops were conducted by officers between the ages of 25 and 34. NOPD’s focused recruitment efforts have brought many younger officers into the Department and undoubtedly contributed to this increase. While officers between the age of 25 and 34 make up less than 30% of the Department’s officers, they are also most likely to be patrol officers, putting them in direct contact with residents and guests of New Orleans and, thus, more likely to complete FICs. While officers in the 35-44 year old range make up a larger percentage of the department than officers in the 25-34 range, they are more likely to have moved to specialized, non-patrol units or into supervisory roles, making it less likely that they would initiate FICs.

Figure 11 - Field interview cards in New Orleans by age of the officer, 2015-2019

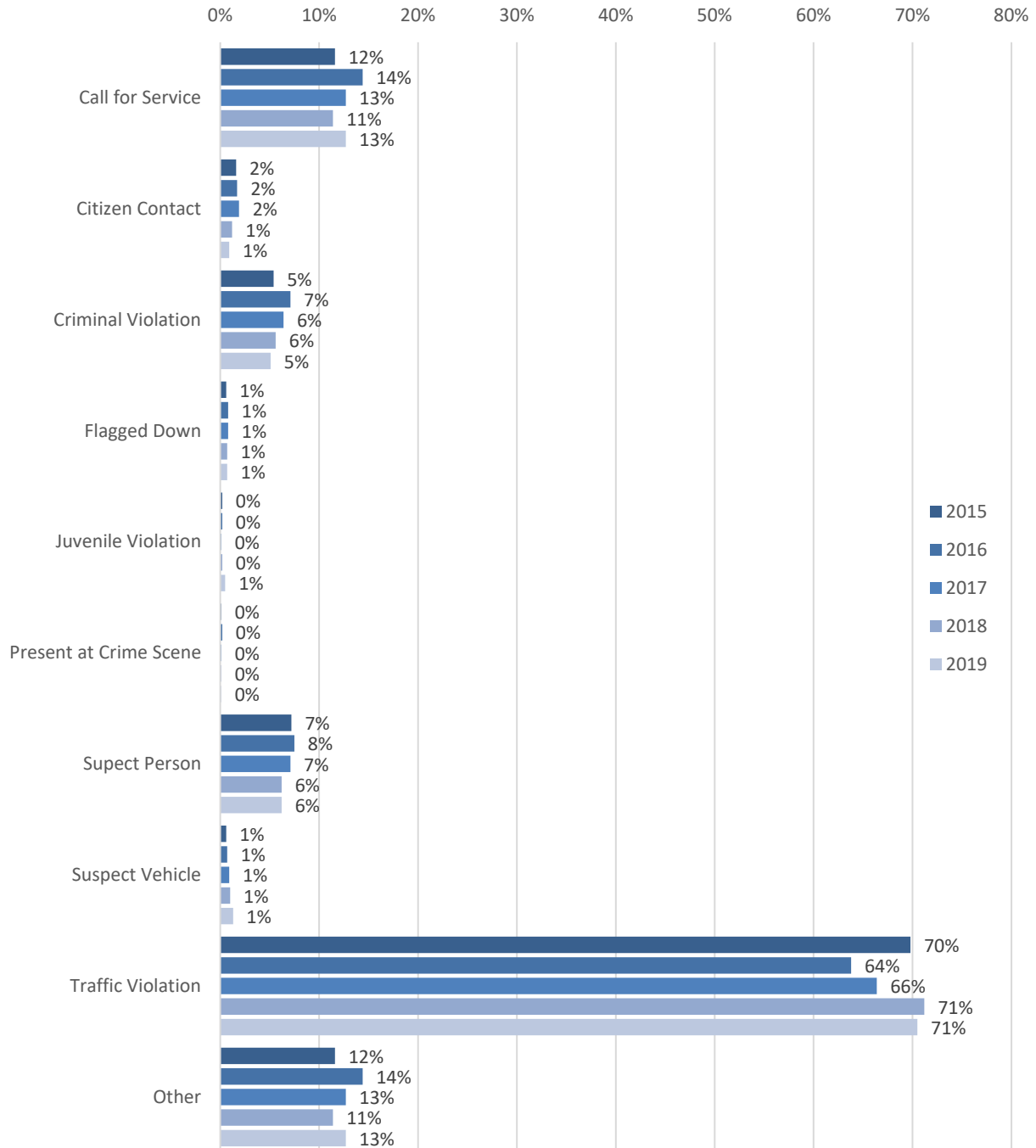


*Data includes officers listed as primary officers on Field Interview Cards. Secondary officers are not included. FICs with mistyped employee IDs are given as Unknown Age.

Field interview cards by stop type

FICs were most often completed during traffic violations, which accounted for 71% of all FICs in 2019. At a distant second, the next most frequent stop type was “call for service,” at 13%, followed by suspicious person at 6% in 2019.

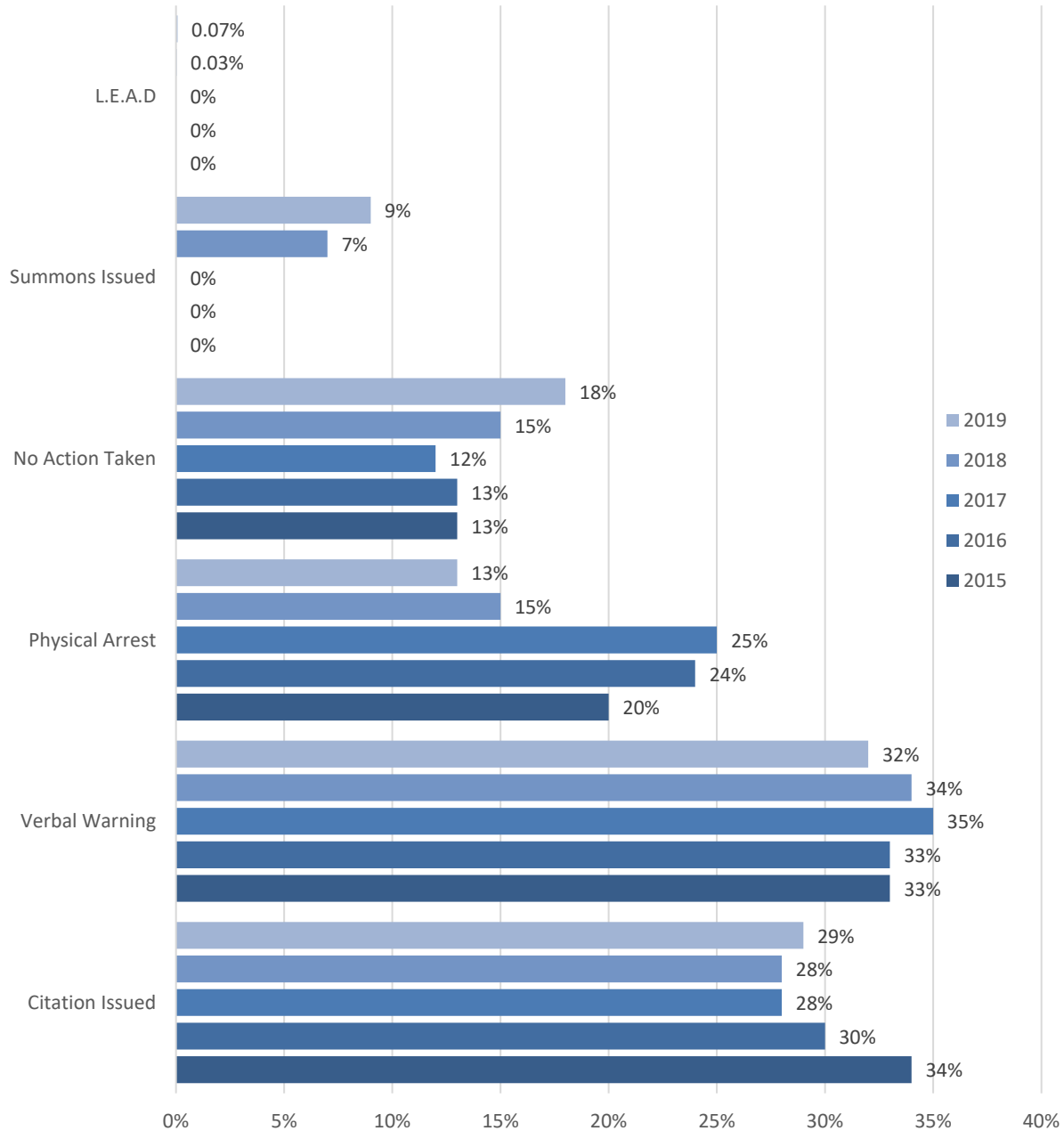
Figure 12 - Field interview cards in New Orleans by stop type, 2015-2019



Stops by stop result

The two most common stop results in 2019 were verbal warnings and citations, representing 32% and 29% respectively. The percentage of FICs documenting physical arrests dropped from 25% in 2017 to 15% in 2018 and 13% in 2019. In January 2018, “Summons Issued” became a stop result option on the FIC. A summons is a citation in lieu of an arrest. Prior to “Summons Issued” being an option on the FIC, officers documented summonses as physical arrests on FICs.

Figure 13 - Stops in New Orleans by stop result, 2015-2019



*Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) and Summons Issued became options in the Stop Result section of the FIC in January 2018.

Stops by stop results and neighborhood

The three neighborhoods with the highest number of stops mirrored 2018 and were Central Business District (4,418), followed by the French Quarter (3,427), and Central City (2,979). The two neighborhoods that accounted for the fourth and fifth highest numbers of stops in 2019 were the Mid-City (2,312) and St. Roch (2,109) neighborhoods. In 2018 the neighborhoods with the fourth and fifth highest number of stops were the Desire and Mid-City, respectively.

Stop results varied considerably across neighborhoods. Below, the top three neighborhoods are ranked for each of the six stop result categories by (a) the total number of stops in each category, and (b) the percentage of total stops within each neighborhood in each category.

Stops Ending with No Action

With respect to the total number of stops that ended in no action, the following neighborhoods ranked in the top three: the Central Business District (756), followed by the French Quarter (630) and Central City (495). The top three neighborhoods remained the same from the previous year, when Central City had the most stops ending with No Action, followed by the Central Business District and the French Quarter.

With respect to the percentage of total stops within each neighborhood that ended in no action, the following neighborhoods ranked in the top three: Florida Development (50% of 6 stops), Filmore (26% of 231 stops), and East Carrollton (25% of 81 stops).

Stops Ending with a Verbal Warning

With respect to the total number of stops that ended in a verbal warning, the following neighborhoods ranked in the top three: the Central Business District (1,418), the French Quarter (1,107), and Central City (905). Central City is the only neighborhood that was in the top three in 2018 and 2019. Gert Town and Mid-City were also top three in 2018.

With respect to the percentage of total stops within each neighborhood that ended in a verbal warning, the top three were: Lakeshore/Lake Vista (44% of 108 stops), Black Pearl (42% of 33 stops), and West End (41% of 151 stops).

Stops Ending with a Citation

With respect to the total number of stops that ended in a citation, the following neighborhoods ranked in the top three: the Central Business District (1,307), the French Quarter (3,427), and Central City (847). The top neighborhood remained the same. The Desire Area was in the top three in 2018.

With respect to the percentage of total stops within each neighborhood that ended in a citation, the top three neighborhoods were as follows: East Riverside (42% of 113 stops), Bayou St. John (39% of 306 stops), Gentilly Woods (34% of 281 stops).

Stops Ending with a Summons

With respect to the total number of stops that ended in a summons, the following neighborhoods ranked in the top three: the Central Business District (367), the French Quarter (321), and Central City (300). The same neighborhoods were the top three in 2018.

With respect to the percentage of total stops within each neighborhood that ended in a summons, the top three neighborhoods are as follows: Lakewood (20% of 56 stops), New Aurora/English Turn (13% or 227 stops), and West End (11% of 151 stops).

Stops Ending with a Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)

With respect to the total number of stops that ended in a LEAD, the following neighborhoods ranked in the top three: the Central Business District (4), Seventh Ward (3), and Central City, Gert Town, the French Quarter, the Desire Area, Gentilly Terrace, Audubon, St. Roch, Tall Timbers/Brechtel, and Tulane/Gravier (2).

With respect to the percentage of total stops within each neighborhood that ended in a LEAD, the top three neighborhoods are as follows: Lakeshore/Lake Vista (0.93% or 108 stops), Holy Cross (0.43% of 233 stops), and the Lower Ninth Ward (0.28% of 359 stops).

Stops Ending with an Arrest

With respect to the total number of stops that ended in an arrest, the following neighborhoods ranked in the top three: the Central Business District (566), the French Quarter (446), and Central City (430). The same three neighborhoods were the top three in 2018.

With respect to the percentage of total stops within each neighborhood that ended in an arrest, the rankings for the top three neighborhoods were as follows: Village de L'est (18.3% of 240 stops), Black Pearl (18.2% of 33 stops), and Uptown (16% of 240 stops).

Stops by stop results and race/ethnicity of the subject

The distribution of stop results within races/ethnicities varied in 2019. 14% of stops of black or African-American individuals ended in arrest in 2019, while 10% of stops of white individuals ended in arrest. 31% of stops of black or African-American individuals ended in a verbal warning in 2019, and 33% of stops of white individuals ended in a verbal warning.

Table 2: Stops in New Orleans by stop result and race/ethnicity of the subject, 2019

	#	Citation Issued	Verbal Warning	Physical Arrest	No Action Taken	Summons Issued	L.E.A.D
Black or African-American	37,191	27%	31%	14%	18%	9%	0.1%
White	11,689	31%	33%	10%	16%	10%	0.2%
Hispanic or Latinx	1,628	36%	27%	11%	22%	5%	0.0%
Asian	341	40%	37%	6%	15%	4%	0.0%
Amer. Ind. or Alaskan Native	51	43%	37%	6%	12%	2%	0.0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	636	44%	35%	3%	15%	3%	0.0%

Stops by stop result and sex of the subject

The distributions of stop results within sexes were similar in 2019. The biggest difference was 15% of stops of male subjects resulted in arrest compared to 9% of stops of female subjects.

Table 3: Stops in New Orleans by stop result and sex of the subject, 2019

	#	Citation Issued	Verbal Warning	Physical Arrest	No Action Taken	Summons Issued	L.E.A.D
Female	17,757	29%	33%	9%	21%	7%	0.05%
Male	33,779	28%	31%	15%	16%	9%	0.08%

Stops by stop result and age of the subject

The distribution of stop results within age groups varied in 2019. Five percent of stops of subjects aged 13-17 ended in citations, compared to 41% of stops of subjects aged 65 and older. About 13% of stops of subjects aged 18-24, 25-34, and 35-64 resulted in arrest in 2019.

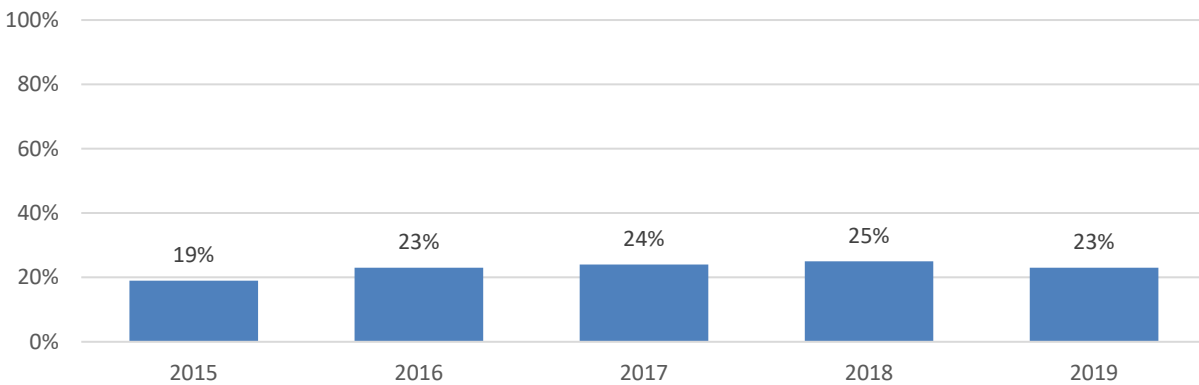
Table 4: Stop results in New Orleans by age of the subject, 2019

	#	Citation Issued	Verbal Warning	Physical Arrest	No Action Taken	Summons Issued	L.E.A.D
≤12 Yrs	866	2%	12%	4%	82%	0%	0.00%
13-17	1,736	5%	35%	20%	37%	2%	0.00%
18-24	9,047	25%	30%	13%	22%	11%	0.04%
25-34	16,613	31%	31%	14%	15%	9%	0.05%
35-64	21,414	31%	33%	13%	14%	9%	0.11%
65+	1,854	41%	38%	5%	12%	5%	0.05%
Unknown Age	6	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0.00%

Field interview cards by whether a search occurred

In 2019, a person or vehicle search occurred during 23% (9,162 of 40,278 FICs) of instances in which an FIC was reported. This is about the same as the percentages in 2016 through 2018, and slightly higher than the percentage in 2015.

Figure 14 - Percent of field interview cards that indicate a search occurred, 2015-2019



*Person and vehicle searches included.

Discretionary Search rates of subjects

Searches conducted incident to arrest or as the result of a warrant are considered “non-discretionary,” meaning the NOPD policy dictates officers must perform searches. Similarly, searches documented as plain view also indicate the subject is most likely under arrest because the officer found contraband in plain view. Searches under exigent circumstances, by consent, and pat downs are considered “discretionary,” meaning they are initiated by an officer who may have reasonable suspicion to believe the subject being searched could be in possession of illegal and/or dangerous contraband. FICs indicate that 4% of stopped subjects were searched with a discretionary search in 2019, down from 12% in 2018 and 22% in 2017. Vehicle searches were not included in this analysis.

Table 5: Discretionary Search Rates, 2015-2019

	No Discretionary Search	Discretionary Search
2015*	20,934 (83%)	4,303 (17%)
2016	35,554 (80%)	8,949 (20%)
2017	42,989 (78%)	12,447 (22%)
2018	52,707 (88%)	6,973 (12%)
2019	47,806 (96%)	2,004 (4%)

*NOPD implemented a supervisor approval process for FICs in May 2015. Supervisors review FICs for accuracy and completeness. This report shows data from FICs that have been approved by a supervisor.

FICs indicate officers conducted discretionary searches on 5% of the black or African-American subjects they stopped, and 2% of the white subjects they stopped in 2019.

Table 6: Discretionary Search Rates by Race of Subject 2019

	No Discretionary Search	Discretionary Search
Black or African-American	34,088 (95%)	1,695 (5%)
White	11,176 (98%)	267 (2%)
Hispanic or Latinx	1,543 (98%)	33 (2%)
Asian	332 (99%)	4 (1%)
Amer. Ind. or Alaskan Native	49 (100%)	0 (0%)
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	618 (99%)	5 (1%)

FICs indicate that officers conducted discretionary searches on 6% of the male subjects they stopped, and 1% of the female subjects they stopped in 2019.

Table 7: Discretionary Search Rates by Sex of Subject, 2019

	No Discretionary Search	Discretionary Search
Male	30,698 (94%)	1,811 (6%)
Female	17,108 (99%)	193 (1%)

FICs indicate that officers conducted discretionary searches on 5% of the subjects they stopped between the ages of 18 and 24, and 13% of the subjects they stopped between the ages of 13 and 17 in 2019.

Table 8: Discretionary Search Rates by Age of Subject, 2019

	No Discretionary Search	Discretionary Search
≤12 Yrs	848 (98%)	16 (2%)
13-17	1,491 (87%)	227 (13%)
18-24	8,277 (95%)	465 (5%)
25-34	15,307 (96%)	593 (4%)
35-64	20,069 (97%)	679 (3%)
65+	1,808 (99%)	24 (1%)
Unknown Age	6 (100%)	0 (0%)

Evidence seized rates for Discretionary Searches

The FIC has a section for officers to indicate whether they seized evidence from individuals. It is important to note the FIC does not allow an officer to link evidence he/she seizes to an individual search. For the purposes of this analysis an FIC that indicates a discretionary search occurred and evidence was seized was considered to be a “hit” when it is possible the evidence was seized from a different non-discretionary search. FICs indicate evidence was seized from 19% of the subjects that received discretionary searches in 2019. The evidence seized rate has been relatively consistent since 2015.

Table 9: Discretionary Searches and Evidence Seized Rates, 2015-2019

	Discretionary Search and No Evidence Seized	Discretionary Search and Evidence Seized
2015	3,665 (85%)	638 (15%)
2016	7,462 (83%)	1,487 (17%)
2017	9,817 (79%)	2,630 (21%)
2018	5,562 (80%)	1,411 (20%)
2019	1,625 (81%)	379 (19%)

*NOPD implemented a supervisor approval process for FICs in May 2015. Supervisors review FICs for accuracy and completeness. This report shows data from FICs that have been approved by a supervisor.

FICs indicate that officers seized contraband from 20% of the black or African-American subjects they searched with discretionary searches and from 12% of the white subjects they searched with discretionary searches in 2019.

Table 10: Discretionary Searches and Evidence Seized by Race of Subject, 2019

	Discretionary Search and No Evidence Seized	Discretionary Search and Evidence Seized
Black or African-American	1,353 (80%)	342 (20%)
White	235 (88%)	32 (12%)
Hispanic or Latinx	30 (91%)	3 (9%)
Asian	3 (75%)	1 (25%)
Amer. Ind. or Alaskan Native	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	4 (80%)	1 (20%)

FICs indicate that officers found contraband on 20% of the male subjects they searched with discretionary searches and 11% of the female subjects they searched with discretionary searches in 2019.

Table 11: Discretionary Searches and Evidence Seized by Sex of Subject, 2019

	Discretionary Search and No Evidence Seized	Discretionary Search and Evidence Seized
Male	1,454 (80%)	357 (20%)
Female	171 (89%)	22 (11%)

FICs indicate that officers seized evidence from 28% of the subjects they searched with discretionary searches who were between the ages of 18 and 24 and from 21% of the subjects they searched with discretionary searches who were between the ages of 25 and 34 in 2019.

Table 12: Discretionary Searches and Evidence Seized by Age of Subject, 2019

	Discretionary Search and No Evidence Seized	Discretionary Search and Evidence Seized
≤12 Yrs	15 (94%)	1 (6%)
13-17	194 (85%)	33 (15%)
18-24	336 (72%)	129 (28%)
25-34	466 (79%)	127 (21%)
35-64	592 (87%)	87 (13%)
65+	22 (92%)	2 (8%)
Unknown Age	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

Pat Down Search and Evidence Seized Rates by Race/Ethnicity

When officers have a legal reason to stop someone and they suspect the person is armed and dangerous, officers may conduct a pat down of the subject. When an officer conducts a pat down he/she/they search a person’s outer garments with his/her/their open hands. A pat down is one type of discretionary search. In 2019, officers conducted a pat down on 4% of the black or African-American subjects they stopped and on 2% of the white subjects they stopped.

Table 13: Pat Down Rates by Race/Ethnicity of Subject, 2019

	No Pat Down	Pat Down
Black or African-American	34,324 (96%)	1,459 (4%)
White	11,224 (98%)	219 (2%)
Hispanic or Latinx	1,547 (98%)	29 (2%)
Asian	332 (99%)	4 (1%)
Amer. Ind. or Alaskan Native	49 (100%)	0 (0%)
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	619 (99%)	4 (1%)

During the course of a pat down, an officer may seize objects that appear to be a weapon or that he/she/they immediately recognize to be contraband. It is important to note the FIC does not allow an officer to link evidence he/she seizes to an individual search. For the purposes of this analysis an FIC that indicates a pat down occurred and evidence was seized was considered to be a “hit” when it is possible the evidence was seized from a different search. In 2019, officers seized evidence from 17% of the black of African-American subjects they patted down and from 9% of the white subjects they patted down.

Table 14: Pat Down Evidence Seized Rates by Race/Ethnicity of Subject, 2019

	Pat Down and No Evidence Seized	Pat Down and Evidence Seized
Black or African-American	1,204 (83%)	255 (17%)
White	199 (91%)	20 (9%)
Hispanic or Latinx	26 (90%)	3 (10%)
Asian	3 (75%)	1 (25%)
Amer. Ind. or Alaskan Native	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	4 (100%)	0 (0%)

Because officers pat down people they suspect of being armed and dangerous, it seems logical to compare the race/ethnicity distribution of people NOPD has patted down to that of people NOPD has arrested for violent crimes. This analysis includes all arrested individuals documented in NOPD police reports that are classified as documenting violent crimes according to the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) standards. In 2019, 89% of the people NOPD arrested for violent crimes were black of African-American and 7.4% were white, while 85.1% of the people NOPD patted down were black or African-American and 12.8% were white.

Table 15: Race/Ethnicity Distributions of Arrests for Violent Crimes and Pat Downs, 2019

	UCR Violent Arrests	Pat Downs
Black or African-American	1,540 (89.0%)	1,459 (85.1%)
White	128 (7.4%)	219 (12.8%)
Hispanic or Latinx	35 (2.0%)	29 (1.7%)
Asian	6 (0.3%)	4 (0.2%)
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	22 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)

*This data reflects arrested subjects documented in NOPD police reports that are classified as documenting violent crimes according to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) standards. In the FBI's UCR Program, violent crime is composed of four offenses: murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Violent crimes are defined in the UCR Program as those offenses which involve force or threat of force.

Similarly, it is logical to compare the race/ethnicity distribution of people NOPD has arrested and charged with weapons offenses to the distribution of people NOPD has patted down. In 2019, black or African-American people made-up 91.4% of those NOPD arrested and charged with a charge description that included the words "weapon" or "firearm," and white people made-up 7.3%, while 85.1% of the people NOPD patted down were black or African American and 12.8% were white.

Table 16: Race/Ethnicity Distributions of Arrests with "Weapon" or "Firearm" in the Charge Description and Pat Downs, 2019

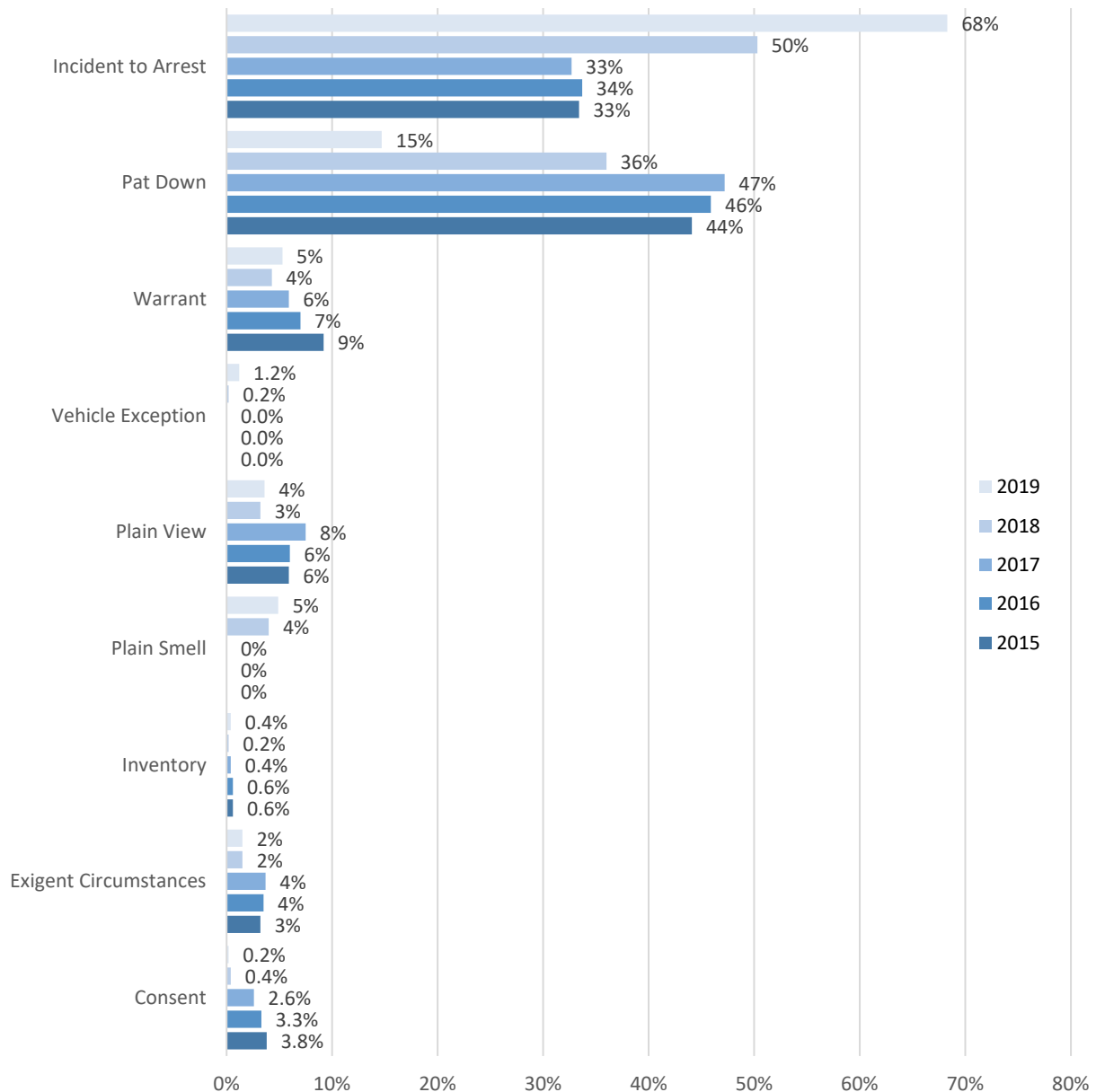
	Arrests with "Weapon" or "Firearm" in Charge Description	Pat Downs
Black or African-American	1,476 (91.4%)	1,459 (85.1%)
White	118 (7.3%)	219 (12.8%)
Hispanic or Latinx	16 (1%)	29 (1.7%)
Asian	2 (0.1%)	4 (0.2%)
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	3 (0.2%)	0 (0%)

Searches by type of search

The most common searches documented on FICs in 2019 were searches incident to arrest (68%) and pat downs (15%). Searches conducted incident to arrest or as the result of a warrant are considered "non-discretionary," meaning the NOPD policy dictates officers must perform searches. Similarly, searches documented as plain view also indicate the subject is most likely under arrest because the officer found contraband in plain view. Searches under exigent circumstances, by consent, and pat downs are considered "discretionary," meaning they are initiated by an officer who may have reasonable suspicion to believe the subject being searched could be in possession of illegal and/or dangerous contraband. FICs indicate approximately 82% of all searches in 2019 were non-

discretionary.² In 2018, NOPD began addressing the practice of officers calling searches pat downs when they use an outer-garment search technique. A large portion of such searches are conducted after the subject is under arrest and are technically searches incident to arrest. This helps explain why pat downs decreased from 47% in 2017 to 36% in 2018 and 15% in 2019, and searches incident to arrest increased from 33% in 2017 to 50% in 2018 and 68% in 2019.

Figure 15 - Searches in New Orleans by reason for search, 2015-2019



*Vehicle Exception and Plain Smell became options on the FIC in January 2018.

² For the purposes of this analysis, search types Incident to Arrest, Inventory, Plain View, Warrant, and Plain Smell were considered non-discretionary; and search types Consent, Exigent Circumstances, Vehicle Exception, and Pat Down were considered discretionary.

Searches by search type and neighborhood

The three neighborhoods with the most searches in 2019 were the Central Business District (931), the French Quarter (727), and Central City (727). The same top three as in 2018.

Search results varied considerably across neighborhoods. Below, the top three neighborhoods are ranked for three search categories by (a) the total number of searches in each category, and (b) the percentage of total searches within each neighborhood in each category.³

To simplify the analysis, search types Consent, Inventory, Vehicle Exception, Exigent Circumstances, Plain Smell, Plain View, and Warrant were categorized as Other Searches.

Incident to Arrest Searches

With respect to the total number of incident to arrest searches, the following neighborhoods were the top three: the Central Business District (659), the French Quarter (504), and Central City (504).

With respect to the percentage of total searches within each neighborhood categorized as incident to arrest, the following neighborhoods were the top three: Black Pearl (86% of 7 searches), East Riverside (83% of 33 searches) and Lakewood (83% of 56 searches), and Bayou St. John (82% of 306 searches).

Pat Down Searches

With respect to the total number of pat down searches, the following neighborhoods were the top three: Central City (121), the Central Business District (116), and the French Quarter (115).

With respect to the percentage of total searches within each neighborhood that were categorized as pat downs, the top three neighborhoods were: Read Blvd West (29% of 80 searches) and Lakeshore/Lake Vista (29% of 108 searches), Filmore (26% of 231 searches) and Fischer Development (26% of 228 searches), and Milneburg (25% of 240 searches).

Other Searches

With respect to the total number of other searches (searches categorized as Consent, Inventory, Vehicle Exception, Exigent Circumstances, Plain Smell, Plain View, and Warrant), the following neighborhoods ranked in the top three: Central Business District (156), the French Quarter (108), and Central City (102).

With respect to the percentage of total searches within each neighborhood that were categorized as other searches (searches categorized as Consent, Inventory, Vehicle Exception, Exigent Circumstances, Plain Smell, Plain View, and Warrant), the top three neighborhoods were: East

³ For purposes of this analysis, the Florida neighborhood was not counted because it had one search in 2018.

Carrollton (26% of 81 searches) and B. W. Cooper (26% of 262 searches), McDonogh (25% of 310 searches), and Filmore (23% of 231 searches).

Searches by search type and race/ethnicity of the subject

In 2019, FICs indicate that incident to arrest searches accounted for 66% of searches of black or African-American individuals and 76% of searches of white individuals. 16% of searches of black or African-American individuals were pat-down searches, and 11% for white individuals. The distribution of search types for Hispanic or Latinx individuals was similar to white individuals in 2019. Comparisons to subjects with race/ethnicity American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian and individuals of unknown race/ethnicity are unreliable as they received less than 1% of all searches in 2019.

Table 17: Searches by search type and race/ethnicity of subject, 2019

	#	Incident to Arrest	Pat Down	Other
Black or African-American	9,382	66%	16%	18%
White	1,921	76%	11%	13%
Hispanic or Latinx	266	77%	11%	12%
Asian	31	77%	13%	10%
Amer. Ind. or Alaskan Native	3	100%	0%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	39	69%	10%	21%

*Other includes search types: Consent, Vehicle Exception, Exigent Circumstances, Inventory, Plain Smell, Plain View, and Warrant.

Searches by search type and sex of the subject

In 2019, FICs indicate the percentage of searches of female subjects that were incident to arrest was 78%, and 66% for male subjects. 7% of searches of female subjects were pat downs, while 16% of searches of male subjects were pat downs in 2019.

Table 18: Searches by search type and sex of subject, 2019

Gender	Total	Incident to Arrest	Pat Down	Other
Female	2,096	78%	7%	15%
Male	9,546	66%	16%	18%

*Other includes search types: Consent, Vehicle Exception, Exigent Circumstances, Inventory, Plain Smell, Plain View, and Warrant.

Searches by search type and age of the subject

In 2019, FICs indicate that when officers stopped subjects between the ages of 18 and 24, 60% of stops included a search incident to arrest; and for subjects between the ages of 25 and 34, 69% of stops included a search incident to arrest. Subjects between the ages of 18 and 24 received pat-down searches in 18% of stops, and subjects between the ages of 13 and 17 received pat-down searches in 29% of stops.

Table 19: Searches in New Orleans by search type and age of subject, 2019

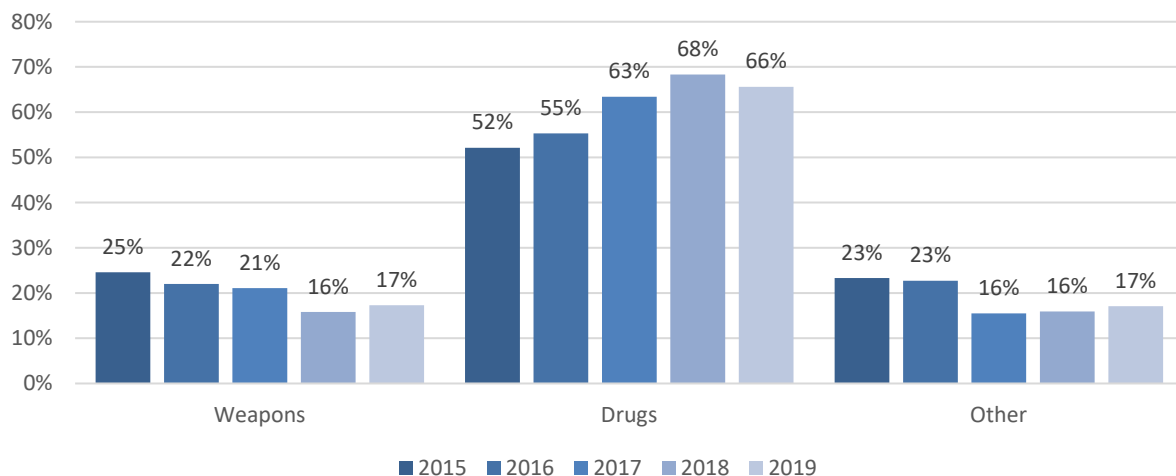
Subject Age Category	Total	Incident to Arrest	Pat Down	Other
≤12 Yrs	45	62%	31%	7%
13-17	660	55%	29%	16%
18-24	2,311	60%	18%	22%
25-34	3,936	69%	12%	18%
35-64	4,557	73%	13%	14%
65+	133	73%	17%	10%

*Other includes search types: Consent, Vehicle Exception, Exigent Circumstances, Inventory, Plain Smell, Plain View, and Warrant.

Evidence seized by type

In 2019, FICs indicate that drugs were the most common (66%) type of evidence seized. The rise in the number of instances in which drugs were seized in 2017, 2018, and 2019 may be attributed to the 2016 City ordinance (Sec. 54-505) making simple possession of marijuana a ticket-able offense, rather than being subject to custodial arrest. Individuals may now be less likely to conceal marijuana and associated paraphernalia. Although the percentage of weapons seized increased from 16% in 2018 to 17% in 2019, the number of weapons seized decreased from 739 in 2018 to 634 in 2019.

Figure 16 - Contraband found in New Orleans by type of contraband, 2015-2019



Evidence seized by type and neighborhood

Central Business District had the highest rate of evidence types seized during stops (297), followed by the French Quarter (258), and Central City (246). These neighborhoods represent approximately 22% of all evidence types seized throughout the City in 2019 (801 of 3,632).

Of the previously mentioned areas, 19% of evidence types seized in the Central Business District and the French Quarter were weapons, and 15% in Central City. 72% of evidence types seized in Central City were drugs, with 68% in the Central Business District, and 64% in the French Quarter.

Evidence seized by type and race /ethnicity of the subject

In 2019, 66% of evidence seized from black or African-American individuals and 61% seized from white individuals was drugs. The percentage of evidence seized that was weapons was 18% from black or African-American individuals and 14% from white individuals. Comparisons to Hispanic, Asian, and American Indian individuals and those of unknown race/ethnicity are not reliable as they amount to less than 2% of all evidence seized in 2019.

Table 20: Evidence discovered by type and race/ethnicity of subject, 2019

	Total	Weapons	Drugs	Other
Black or African-American	3,114	18%	66%	16%
White	482	14%	61%	26%
Hispanic or Latinx	45	11%	58%	31%
Asian	7	14%	71%	14%
Amer. Ind. or Alaskan Native	1	0%	100%	0%
Unknown Race/Ethnicity	10	20%	70%	10%

Evidence seized by type and sex of the subject

In 2019, FICs indicate that 64% of evidence seized from males was drugs, and 73% of evidence seized from females was drugs. The percentage of evidence seized that was weapons was 19% from males and 8% from females.

Table 21: Evidence found in New Orleans by type of evidence and sex of subject, 2019

	Total	Weapons	Drugs	Other
Female	653	8%	73%	19%
Male	3,006	19%	64%	17%

Evidence seized by type and age of the subject

In 2019, FICs indicate that 70% of evidence seized from subjects between the ages of 18 and 34 was drugs. The percentage of evidence seized that was weapons was 21% from subjects between the ages of 18 and 24 and 18% from subjects between the ages of 25 and 34. Although evidence seized from subjects between the ages of 13 and 17 amounted to 5% of all evidence seized, 25% of evidence seized from such subjects was weapons.

Table 22: Evidence seized by type and age of subject, 2019

Subject Age Category	Total	Weapons	Drugs	Other
≤12 Yrs	12	58%	25%	17%
13-17	179	25%	45%	31%
18-24	1,050	21%	70%	10%
25-34	1,301	18%	70%	13%
35-64	1,085	12%	61%	27%
65+	32	13%	59%	28%