



BROWN

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Department of Public Safety  
Professional Standards Bureau

# 2014 Third Quarter Citizen Complaints & Field Stop Data Report

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) seeks to demonstrate a high level of professional performance, enhance and maintain the professional integrity of the department, and promote a high level of community confidence in its operations.

The Professional Standards Bureau is responsible for implementing policy, procedures and directives that aid the organization and its members to realize those goals.

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**Lt. Bruce W. Holt**, Bureau Commander

# CITIZEN COMPLAINT REPORT

The members of the Department of Public Safety are committed to providing quality service to the community in a professional and courteous manner.

DPS offers a variety of methods in which community members may submit feedback about their interactions with DPS officers.

Day to day our officers perform commendable acts of service for the Community at Brown University. We encourage members of the community to submit commendation recommendations to share information about positive experiences and interactions they have had with DPS Personnel. This can be done by visiting our website.

Also, if a member of the Community has been stopped by a member of the Department of Public Safety and they are unsure of the reason or validity of the stop, we invite them to inquire about it. They may do so by filing an inquiry form found on our website which will provide us with details of the stop and a way to contact them.

Our department willingly receives and promptly investigates inquiries and complaints regarding the conduct of officers, or department procedures and services. Complaints are investigated fairly and impartially.

This can be accomplished by stopping by and obtaining a form at the following locations and then mailing or dropping it off to the Department of Public Safety; or online at our website.

[http://www.brown.edu/Administration/Public\\_Safety/index.html](http://www.brown.edu/Administration/Public_Safety/index.html)

- Public Safety Headquarters front and back lobbies, 75 Charlesfield Street
- Student Life Office, 42 Charlesfield Street, fourth floor
- Office of Institutional Diversity, Room 417 University Hall

On the pages that follow, you find the complaints received in 2014 and their dispositions along with a comparison to the number of citizen complaints received by the department for the last three years. You will also find an outline of the Citizen Complaint Process and a flow chart depicting the process.

## **Complaint Findings and Dispositions:**

- **Sustained:** complaint/allegation was valid and supported by sufficient evidence.
- **Not Sustained:** insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.
- **Unfounded:** allegations of the complaint or incident are false and not factual.
- **Exonerated:** incident occurred, however the officer's action was lawful, proper.

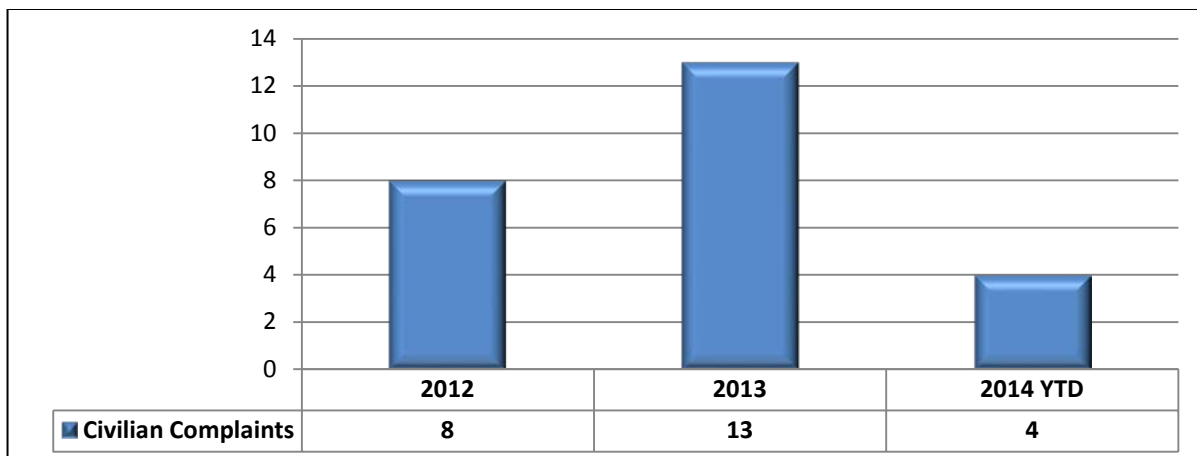
*The table below contains the Complaints Reported in 2014*

#	Month	Investigation	Finding
14-1	JAN 2014	Alleged unprofessional conduct	Sustained
14-2	JUN 2014	Alleged unprofessional conduct	Not Sustained
14-3	JUL 2014	Alleged unprofessional conduct	Exonerated
14-4	SEP 2014	Alleged unprofessional conduct	Exonerated

**2014**

1. Complainant stated that during a call for service the officer acted unprofessionally. The complaint was investigated and classified as sustained.
2. Complainant stated he was stopped by the Brown Police because one of his juvenile passengers yelled something out the window. The complainant stated that he was issued a motor vehicle violation for not wearing a seat-belt. The complainant stated that he was wearing a seat-belt and that he believed he was issued the violation because of what juvenile yelled out the window. The complaint was investigated and classified as not sustained.
3. The complainant stated that he was approached 'aggressively" by members of the Department of Public Safety. He stated that he was issued and unwarranted trespass summons. The complaint was investigated and classified as exonerated.
4. The Complainant stated that she observed an officer grab the wrist of a student that was attempting to cross the street. The complainant stated that she thought it was improper for the officer to grab the student's wrist. The complaint was investigated and the officer was found to have acted properly and he did not grab the student's wrist. The complaint was classified as exonerated.

**Civilian Complaints by Year**



## **Brown University Department of Public Safety Citizen Complaint Process**

1. Citizen complaints or inquiry's, regardless of how received, (in-person, mail, email or telephone) are documented and forwarded to the Chief of Police.

If the complaint is made in person, the Supervisor may interview the complainant to obtain basic facts and circumstances of the complaint.

2. If the complainant **does not** wish to file a formal complaint, the Shift Commander or Shift Supervisor in their absence will document the incident and circumstances, the explanation provided and the complainant's information on a Department Complaint Intake Form and forward the report to the Chief of Police for review. If the chief determines the facts and circumstances warrant, he may open an internal inquiry.
3. If a complainant wishes to file a formal complaint, the Shift Commander or in their absence the Shift Supervisor receiving the complaint shall request the complainant, complete a complaint form. A form will be provided to the complainant or information on how and where the form may be obtained and submitted, will be provided to the complainant. If the complainant is unable/ unwilling to access the citizen complaint & inquiry form, the complainant shall be requested to submit a written statement to the Chief of Police.

The Shift Commander or Shift Supervisor in their absence will also request the name, address, and telephone number of the complainant and forward this information, the complainants report (if obtained) along with a written report (on a Department Complaint & Inquiry Intake Form) of the basic facts and circumstances ascertained from the complainant to the Chief of Police without delay.

Forms and information outlining procedures for filing complaints are available to the Community upon request. Information about the complaint process can also be obtained in the lobby area of Public Safety Headquarters, Public Safety's Website, and The Student Handbook. If a citizen requests information on filing a complaint and is not willing to speak about a complaint or says they just want information, employees of the department will provide the citizen with a pamphlet on the process or direct them to the above resources.

4. The Chief of Police reviews all concerns and complaints
5. After review complaints are turned over to Internal Affairs, or assigned to a Supervisor to conduct a preliminary investigation of the complaint. Concerns received by the Chief may be left to the Shift Supervisor to handle, or if the Chief finds the facts and circumstances warrant he may call for an internal review of the matter.
6. The preliminary investigation will be reviewed by the Chief.
7. The chief shall determine

- a. If the complaint is administrative
  - b. Or if the complaint is Criminal
8. If the Chief determines complaint is:
- a. Administrative, he may assign the investigation to Internal Affairs or a Supervisor.
  - b. Criminal in nature, he may refer the case to the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office.
9. A thorough investigation is then conducted.
10. The investigator reports to the Chief on the investigation conducted.
11. The Chief will review the investigation conducted and the recommendations of the investigator.
12. Findings regarding investigations of citizen complaints are listed as one of the four categories as defined below:
- **Sustained:** the complaint/allegation was valid and supported by sufficient evidence.
  - **Not Sustained:** there was insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.
  - **Unfounded:** the allegations of the complaint or incident are false and not factual.
  - **Exonerated:** the incident occurred, but the officer's action was lawful, proper.

The Chief of Police will classify the finding of the case based upon the investigation.

13. Action will be taken as necessary based upon the findings of the particular case.
14. If a complainant is dissatisfied with the disposition of their complaint, they may petition Brown's Executive Vice President for Planning & Policy for a review by the OCRB of the Department of Public Safety's investigation and disposition of the complaint. A petition for review by the OCRB will normally be allowed when, in the judgment of Senior Vice President of Corporation Affairs and Governance, the original complaint contains allegations of use of excessive force, or other allegations of serious misconduct or abuse of authority.

## **FIELD STOP DATA REPORT**

It is the policy of the Brown University Department of Public Safety to patrol in a proactive manner, to investigate suspicious persons and circumstances in a professional impartial and unbiased manner.

In 2006, the Department of Public Safety launched a proactive Field Stop Integrity Initiative to monitor and analyze the level of activity surrounding all field stops conducted by DPS Officers.

In addition, the Department of Public Safety and the Office of Institutional Diversity have worked collaboratively to enhance this initiative.

The Proactive Integrity Initiative encompasses the following key principles:

- Ongoing efforts to enhance agency integrity and transparency
- Collecting and analyzing citizen/field stop data
- Consistent efforts to sustain accountability and supervision of personnel
- Implementation of strategies that prevent biased-based policing

As part of our initiative, DPS has established an inquiry process that allows members of the community to request information about their interaction with a DPS Officer, if they are unsure of the reason or validity of a stop.

### **Investigatory Stop Data**

- This report encompasses Field Stop Data for 2014 through October 31.
- The report also includes data for 2014 through October 31 regarding Motor Vehicle Stops.
- In addition a comparison of overall stops for 2012-2014 is included.

## FIELD STOP DATA 2014 THROUGH OCTOBER 31

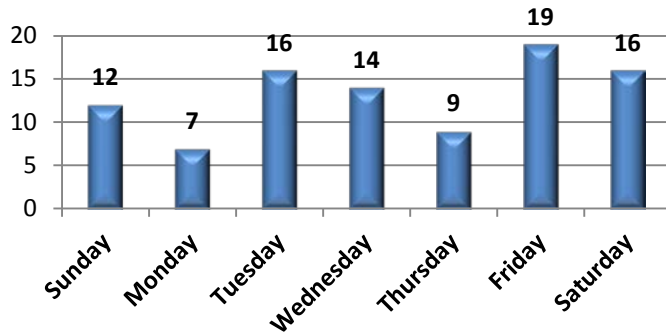
TOTAL # INCIDENTS OF FIELD STOPS

**93**

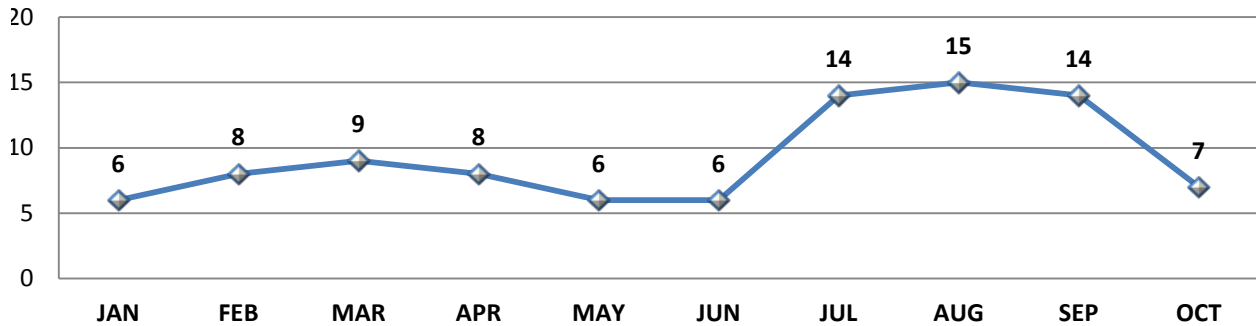
TOTAL # OF PERSONS STOPPED

**152**

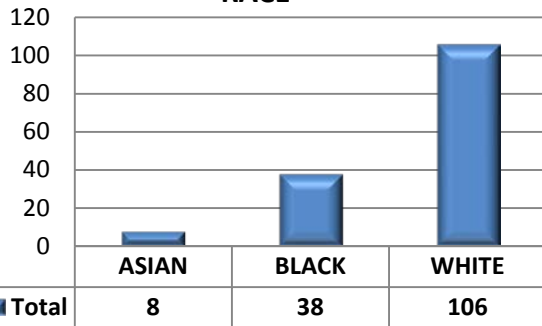
FIELD STOPS OCCURING ON DAY OF WEEK



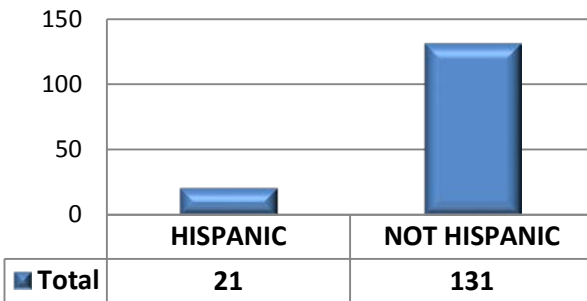
FIELD STOPS PER MONTH



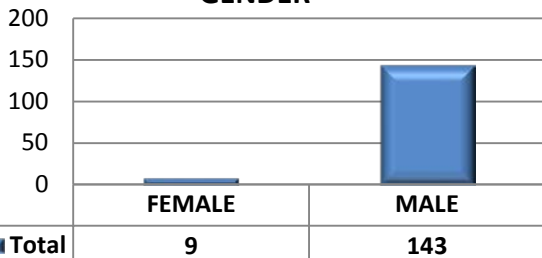
RACE



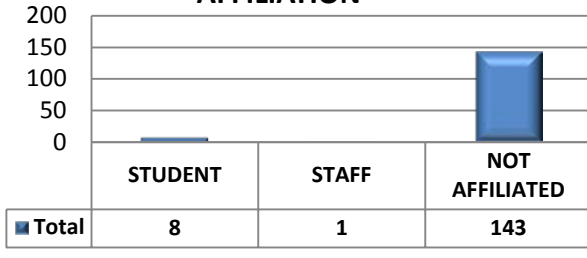
HISPANIC ETHNICITY



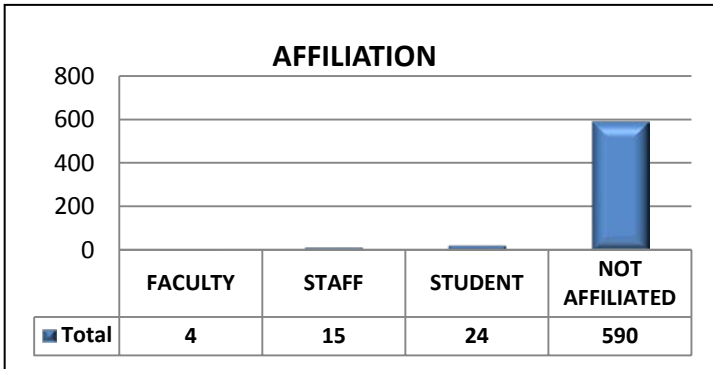
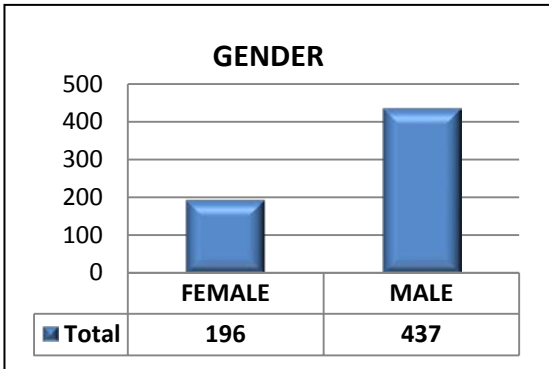
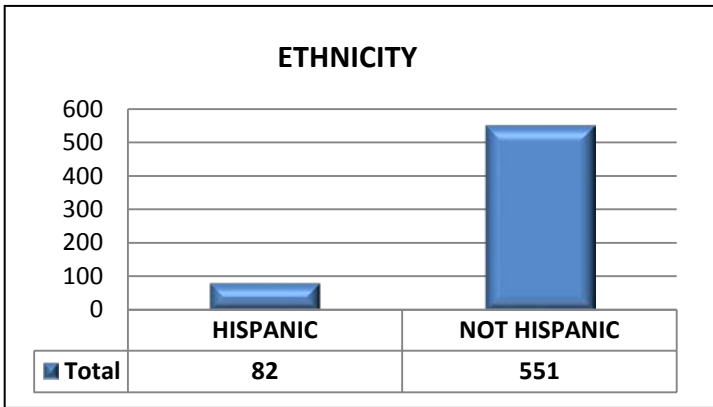
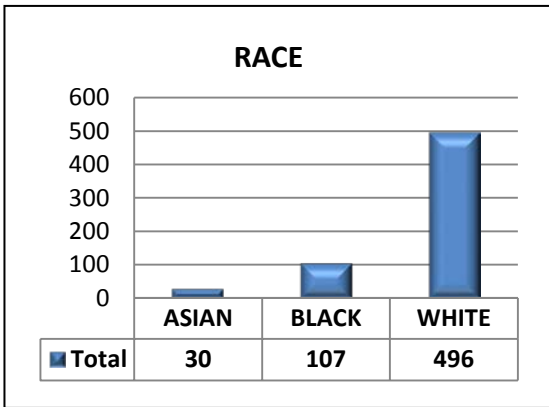
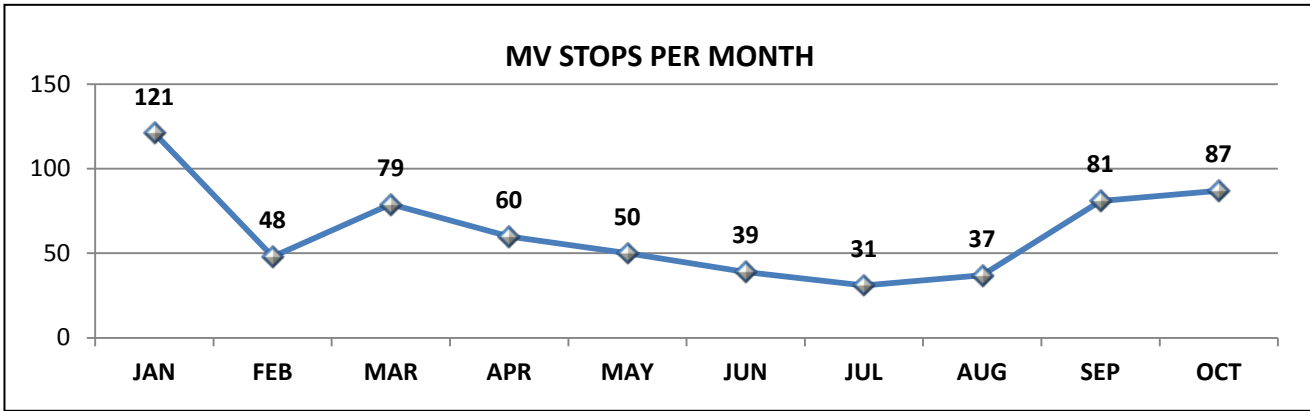
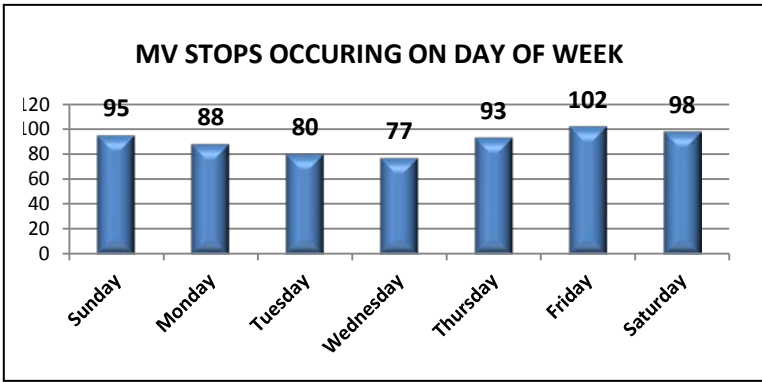
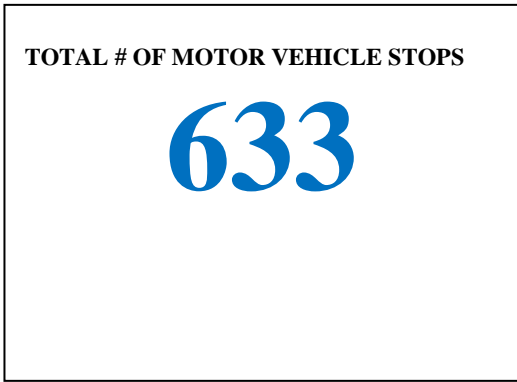
GENDER



AFFILIATION

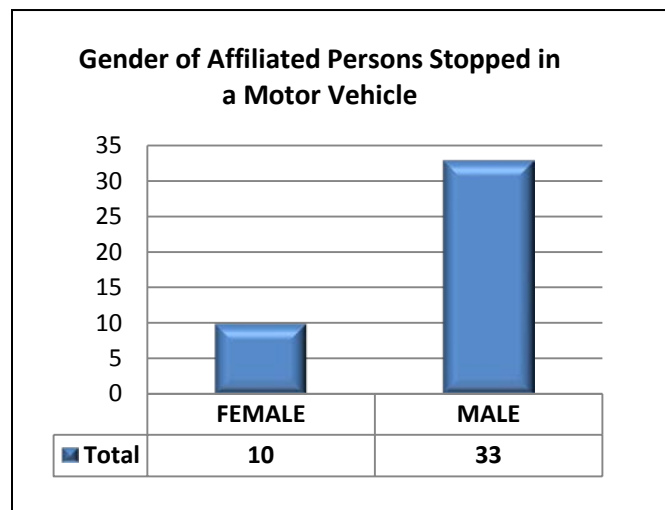
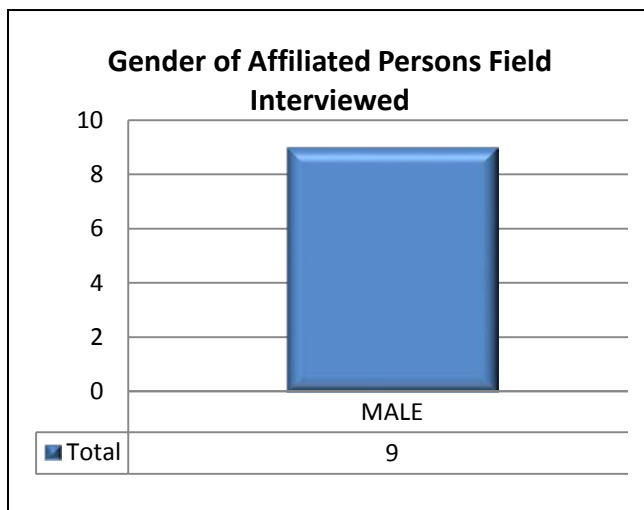
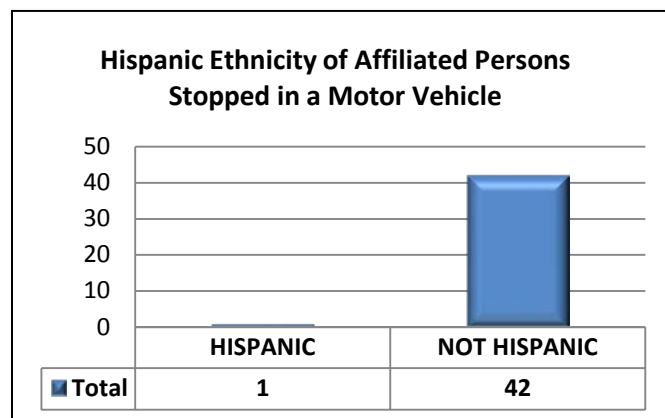
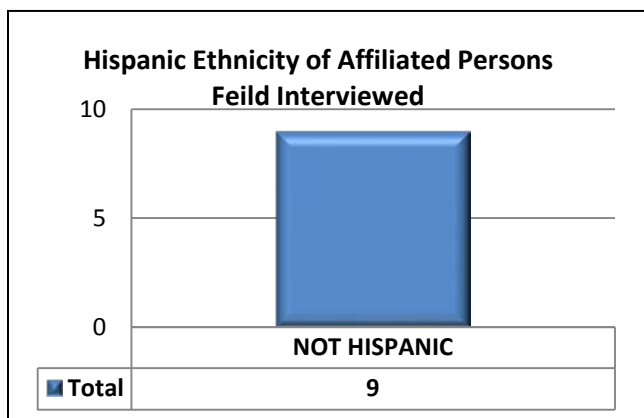
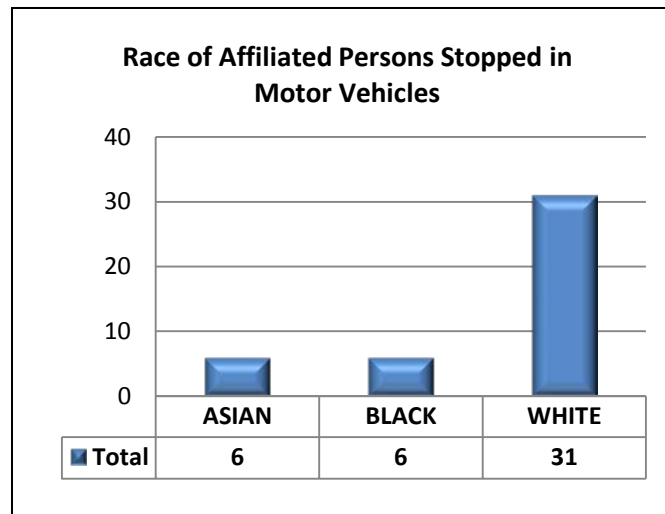
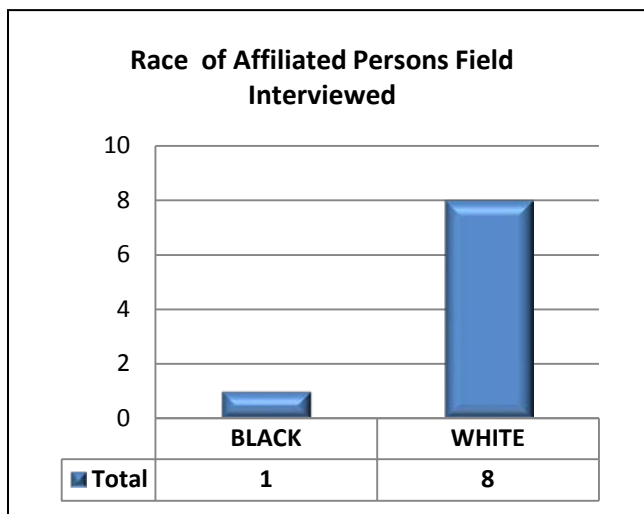


# MOTOR VEHICLE STOP DATA 2014 THROUGH OCTOBER 31





## Statistics on Brown University Affiliated Persons Stopped in the Field and on Motor Vehicle Stops through October 31



## Comparison of stops in 2014 through October 31 to the past two years

