

# THE PROBLEM WITH TRAFFIC STOPS IN CHICAGO

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MARCH 7, 2023



**BPI** BUSINESS AND  
PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE FOR  
THE PUBLIC INTEREST

# KEY FINDINGS OF DATA ANALYSIS

- CPD traffic stops have dramatically increased.
- CPD isn't making traffic stops to make roadways safer; rather, most stops are made for minor offenses.
- Traffic stops are an ineffective tool for crime investigation and detection.
- Traffic stops are racially disparate and especially harmful to Black and Latine drivers.

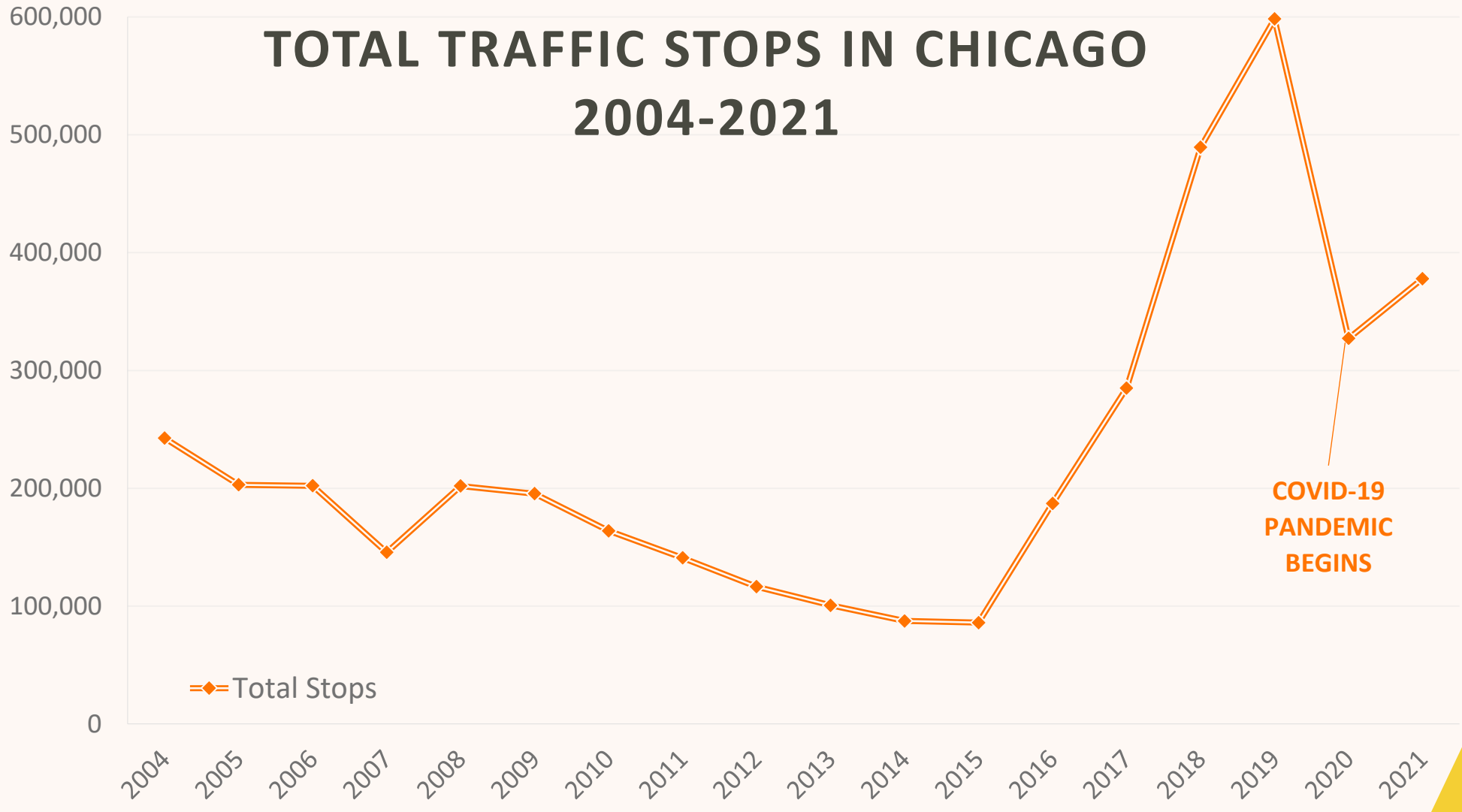


We analyzed over **4.1 million** stops over **18** years from the following public data sources:

- Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
- Illinois Secretary of State (ISOS)
- Chicago Police Department (CPD)
- Office of the Inspector General (OIG)



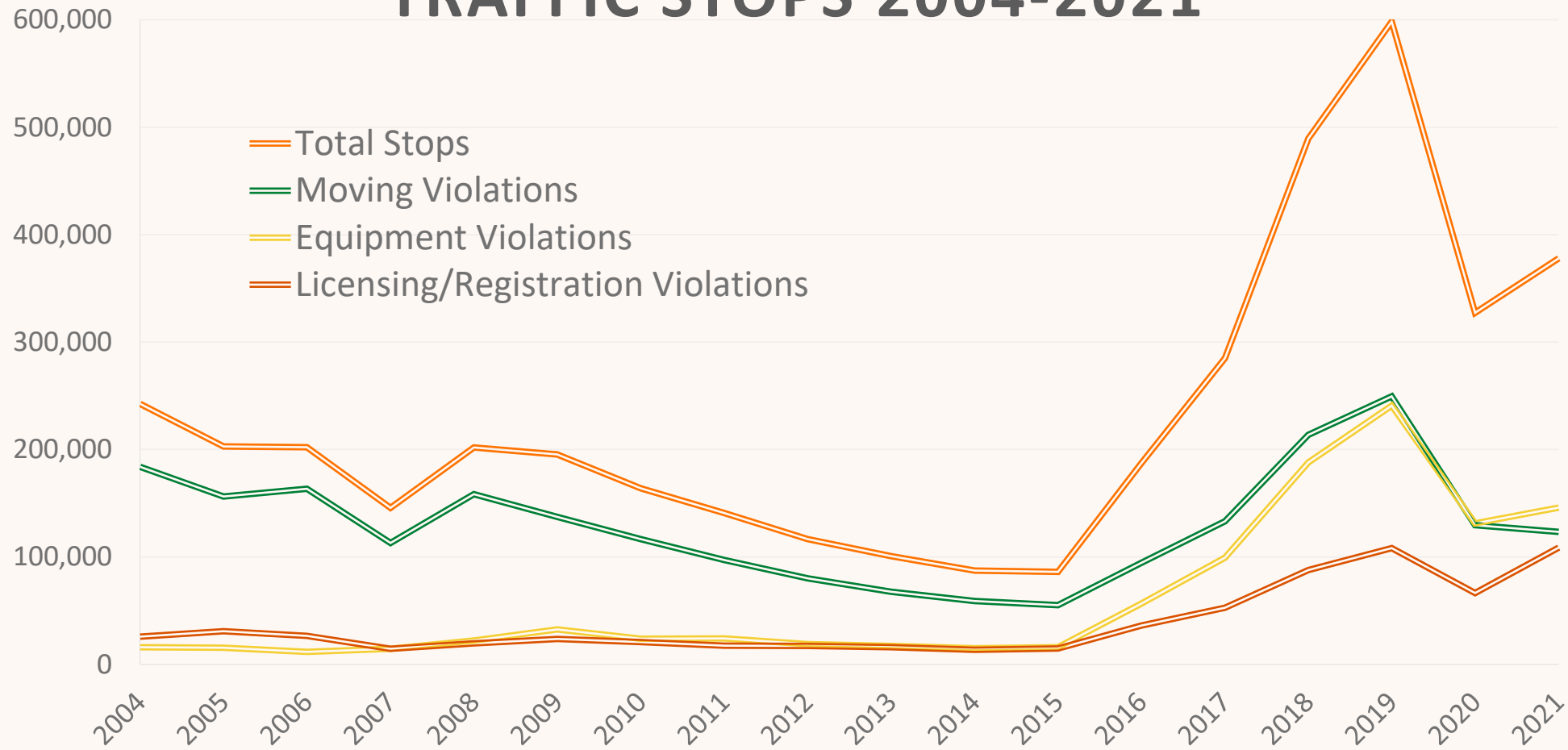
# TOTAL TRAFFIC STOPS IN CHICAGO 2004-2021



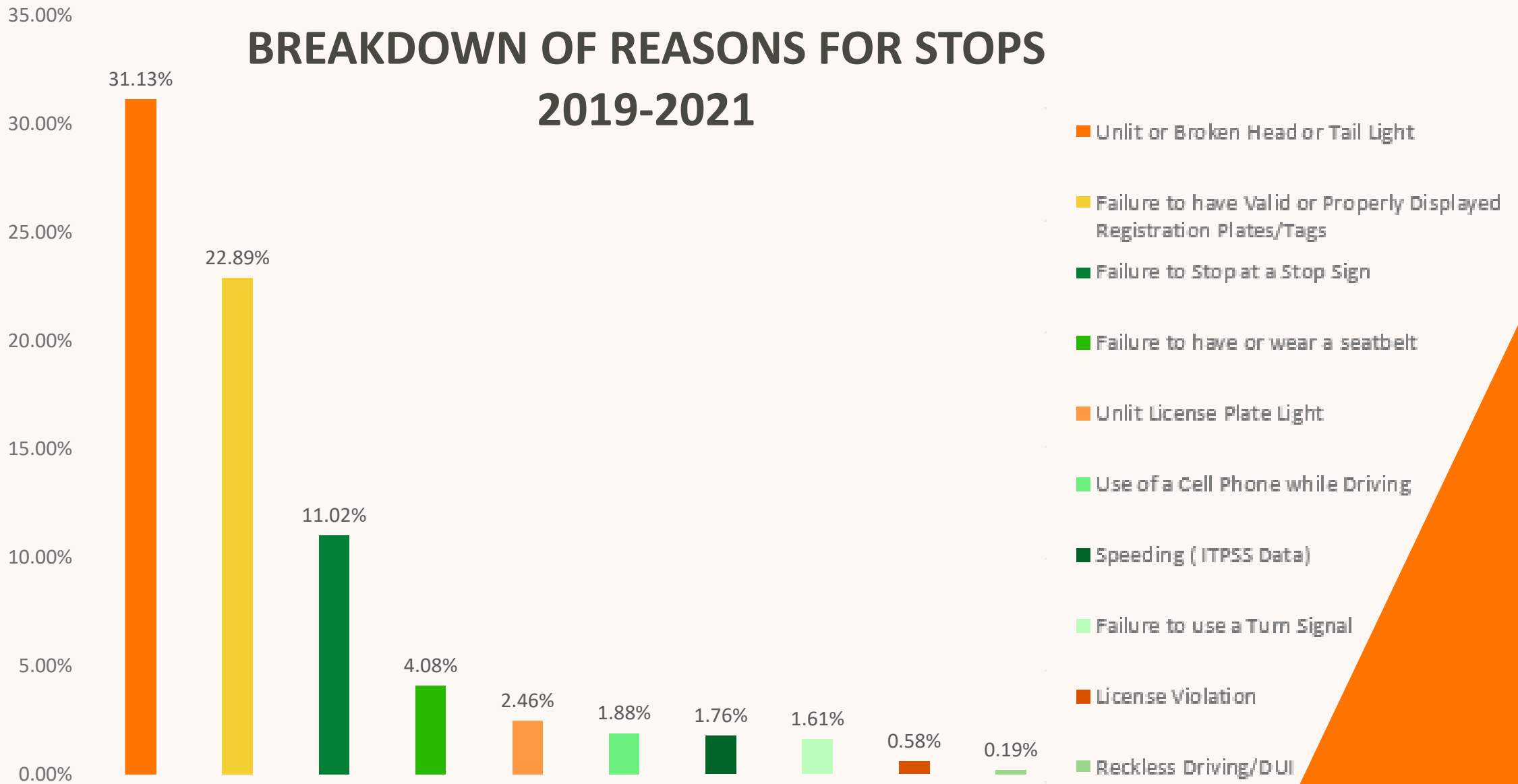
COVID-19  
PANDEMIC  
BEGINS



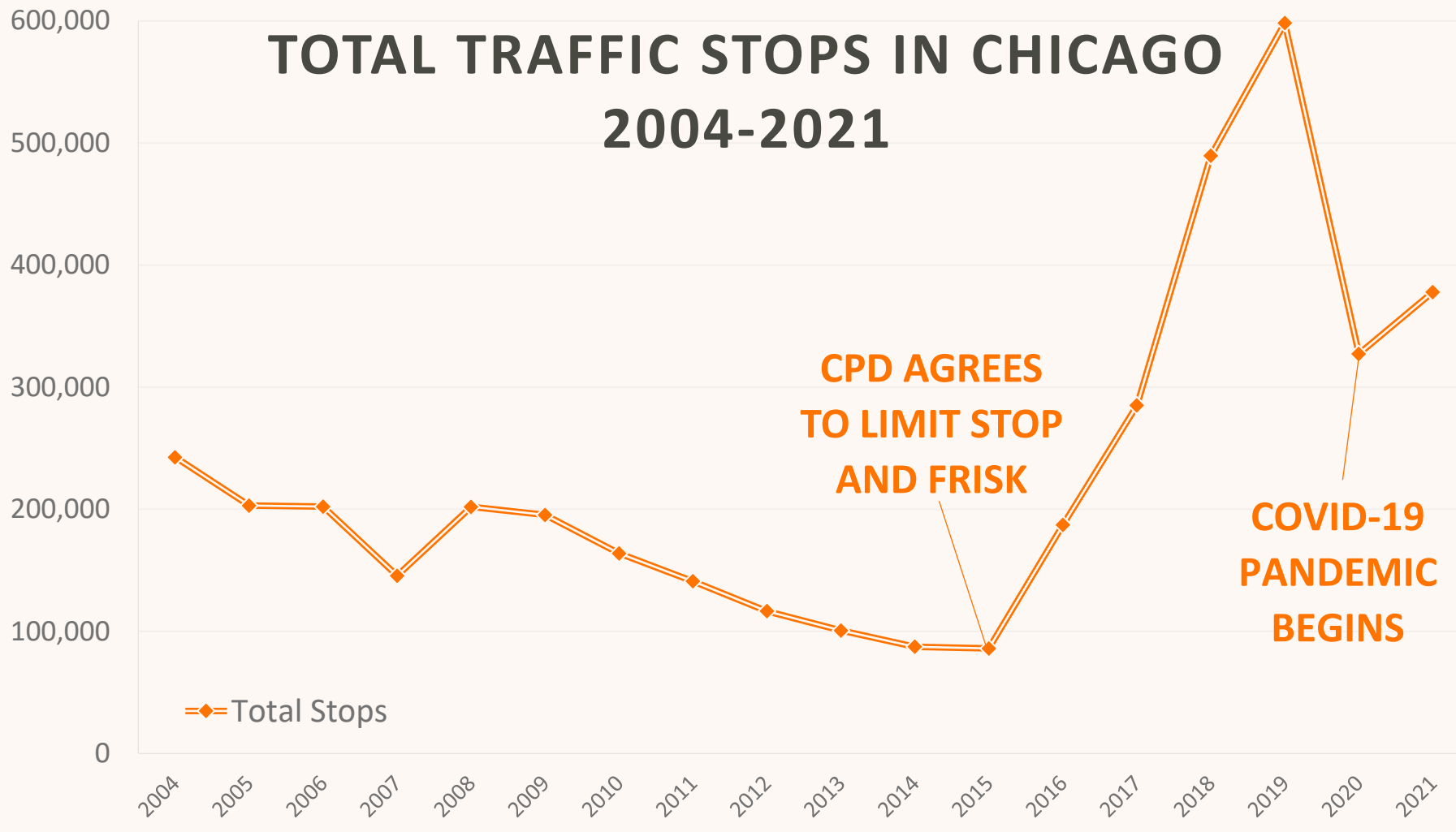
# CATEGORIES OF JUSTIFICATIONS FOR CPD TRAFFIC STOPS 2004-2021



# BREAKDOWN OF REASONS FOR STOPS 2019-2021

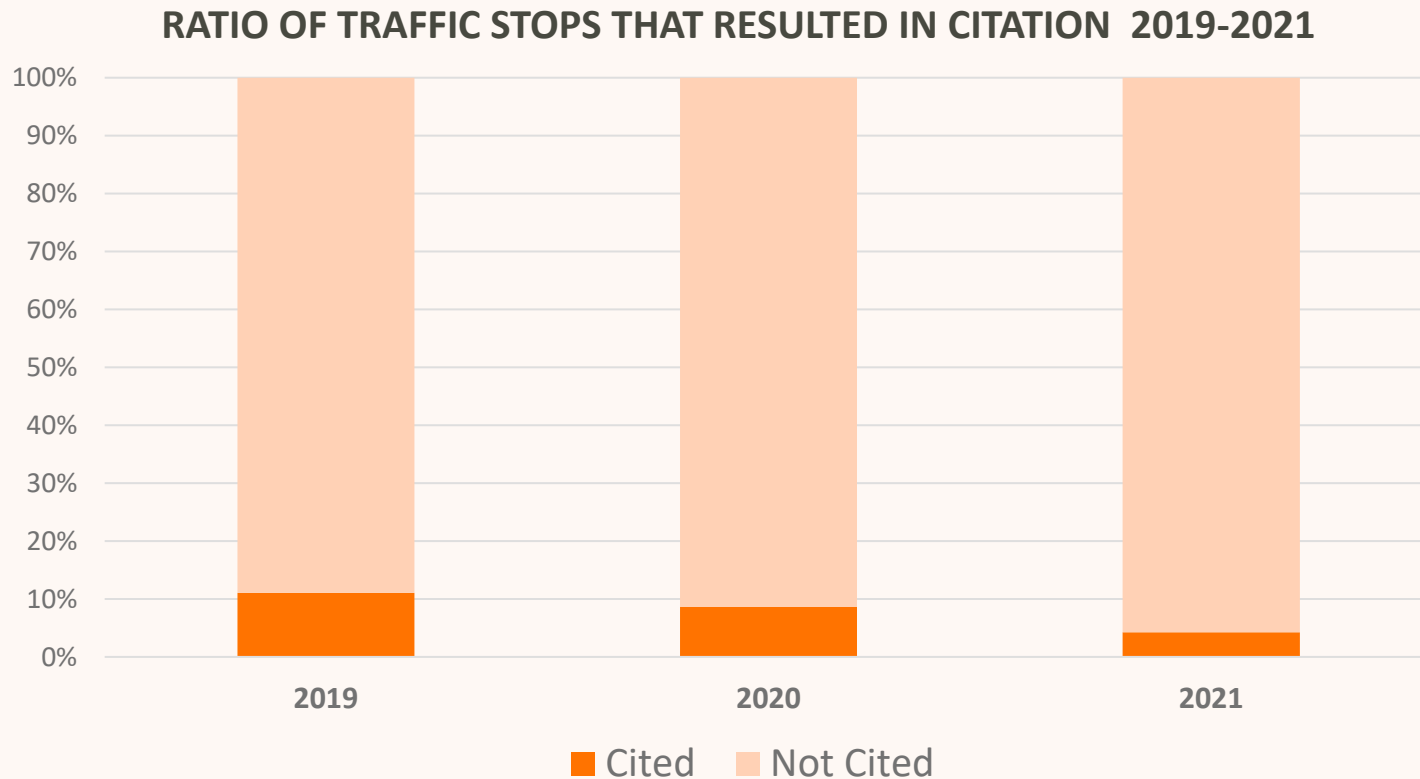


# TOTAL TRAFFIC STOPS IN CHICAGO 2004-2021



# CITATIONS

In 2021, only **4.26%** of traffic stops resulted in a citation.

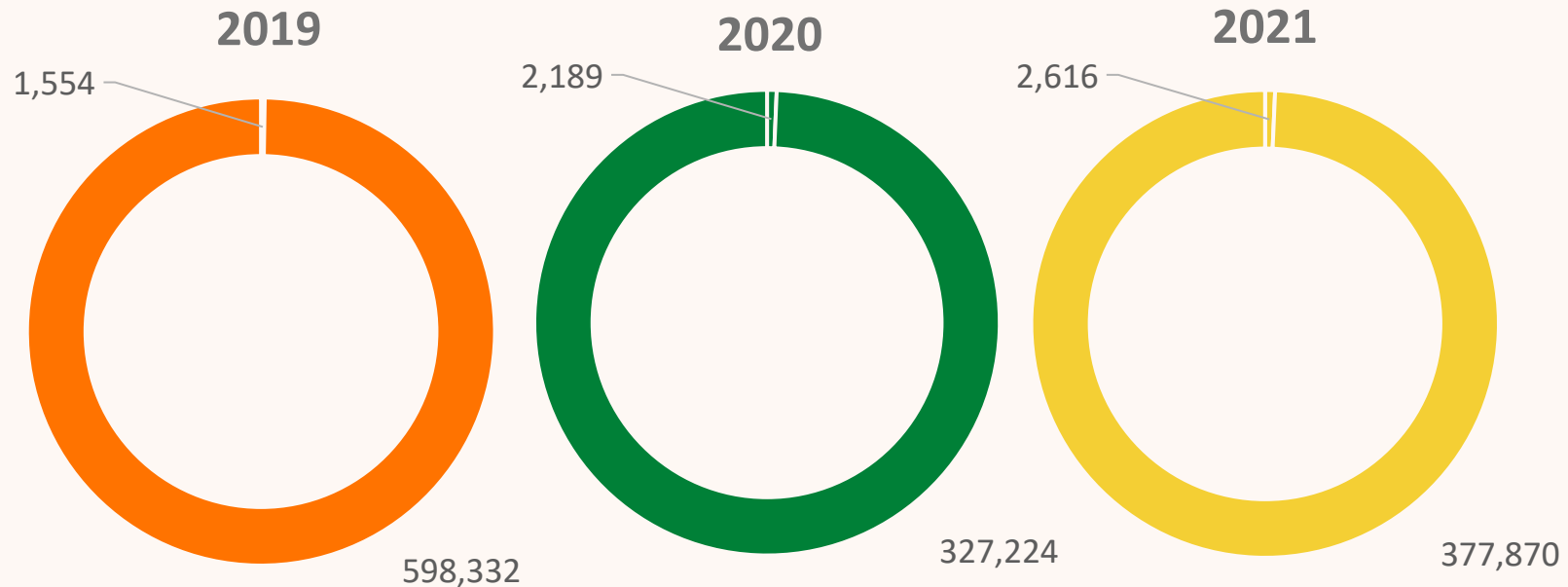




# CONTRABAND

Less than **1%** of traffic stops in 2021 resulted in the recovery of illegal contraband such as drugs, alcohol, or weapons.

## GUNS RECOVERED FROM TRAFFIC STOPS



# ARRESTS

2016

around **9%** of traffic stops  
resulted in an arrest

2018-2020

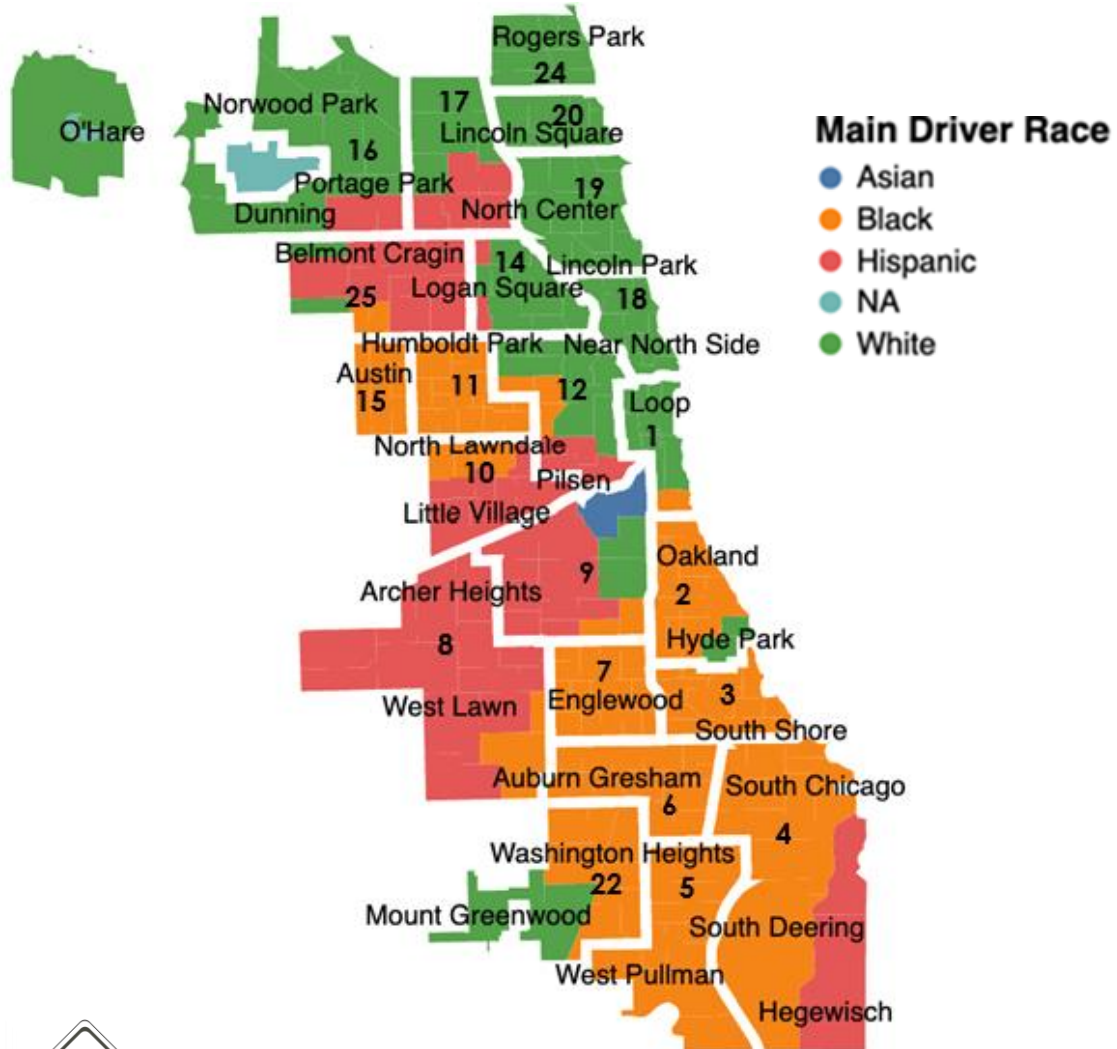
about **3%** of traffic stops  
resulted in arrest

2021

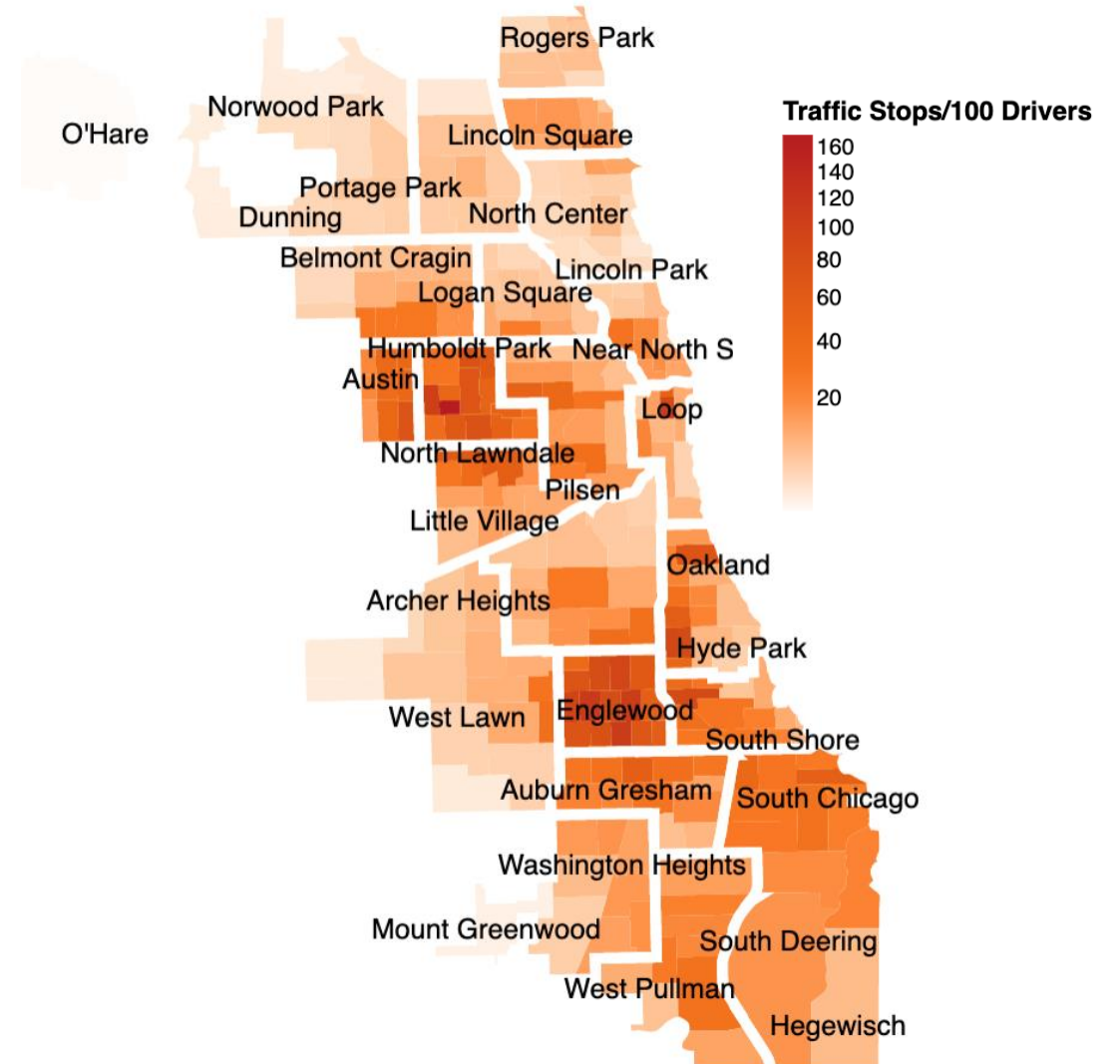
only **2.25%** of traffic stops  
resulted in an arrest



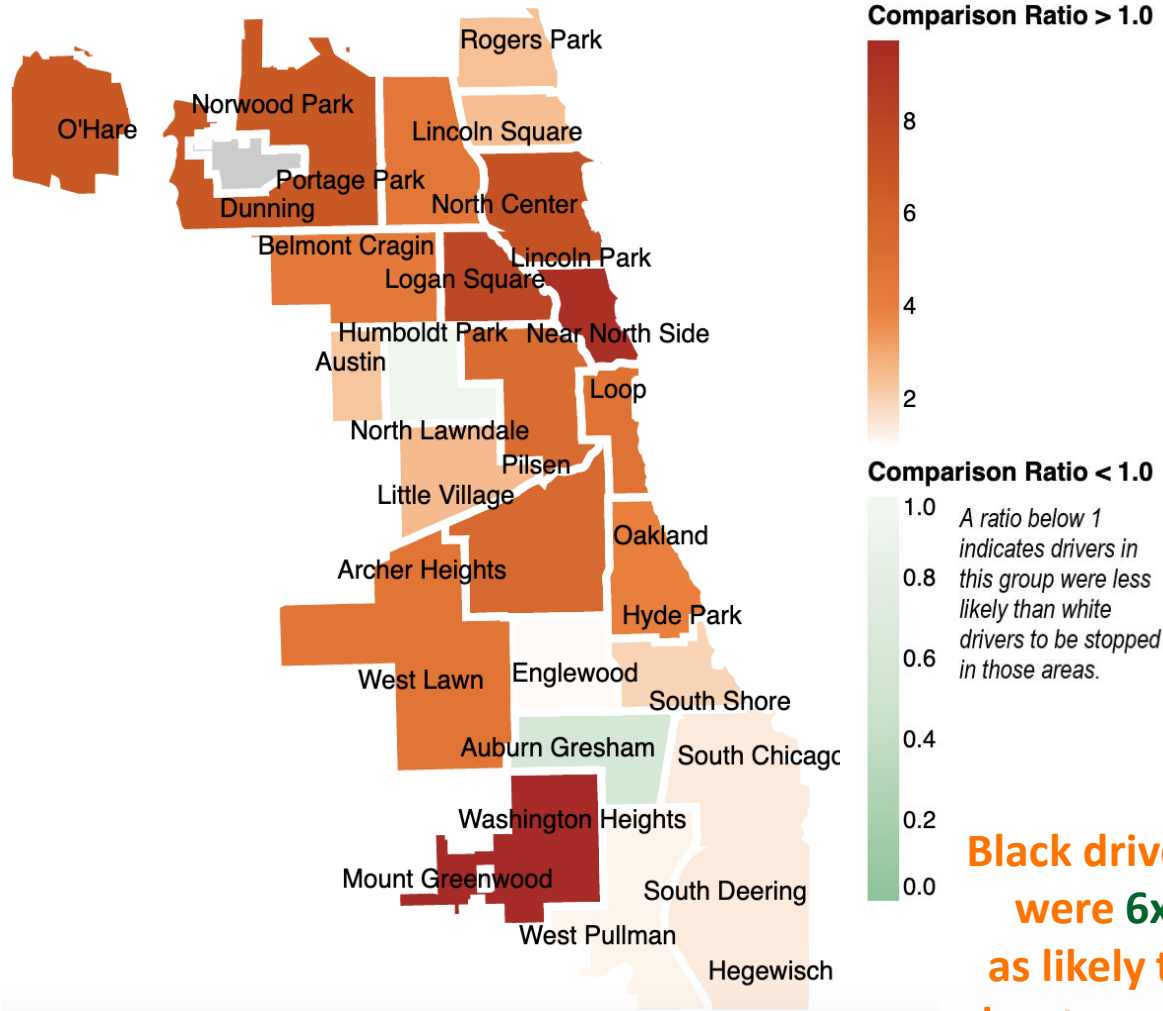
# DRIVING POPULATION BY MAJORITY RACIAL POPULATION IN EACH POLICE BEAT



# AVERAGE YEARLY NUMBER OF TRAFFIC STOPS PER 100 DRIVERS BY POLICE BEAT

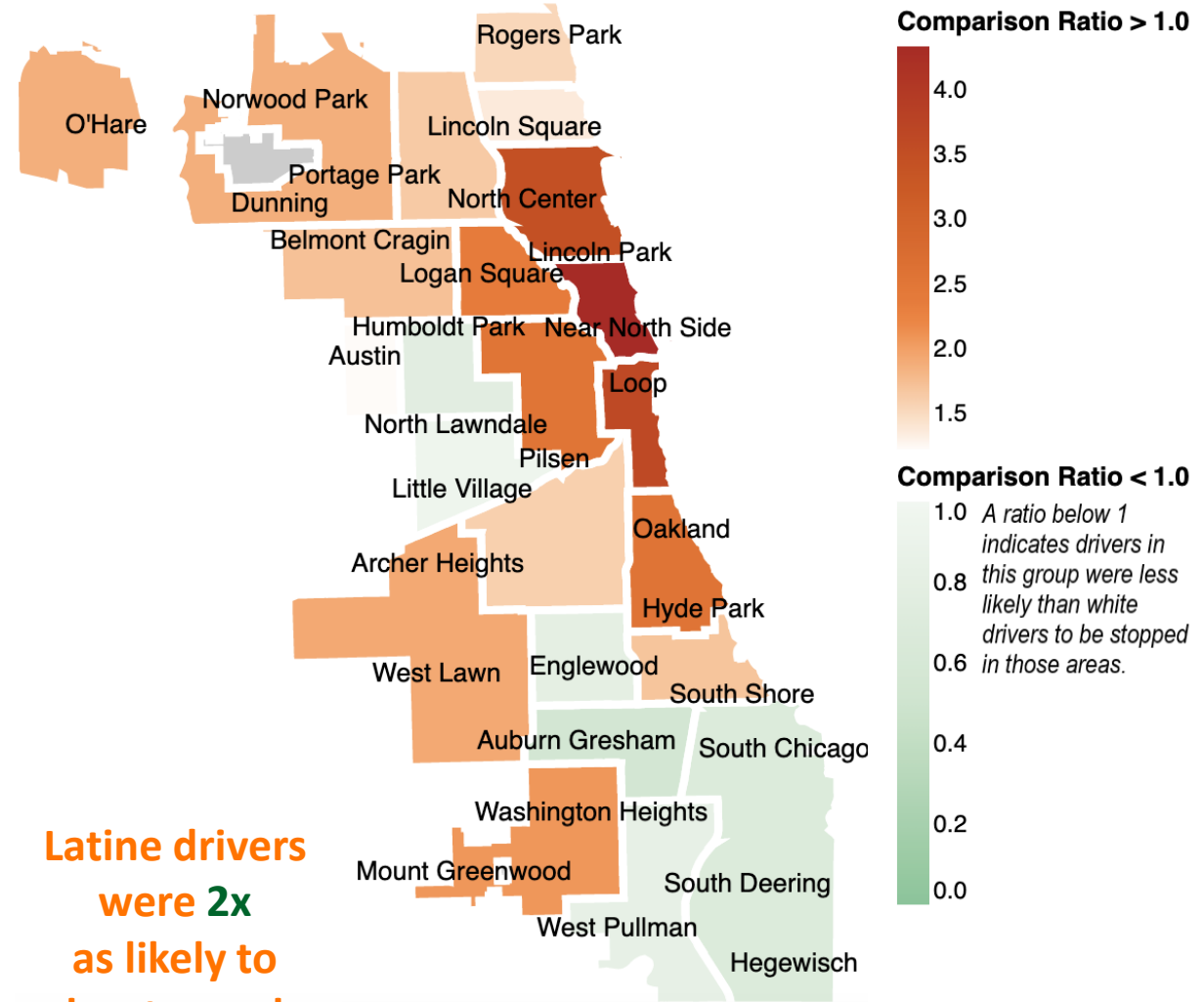


## RATIO OF BLACK DRIVERS VERSUS WHITE DRIVERS STOPPED IN EACH CHICAGO POLICE DISTRICT



**Black drivers were 6x as likely to be stopped citywide**

## RATIO OF LATINE DRIVERS VERSUS WHITE DRIVERS STOPPED IN EACH CHICAGO POLICE DISTRICT

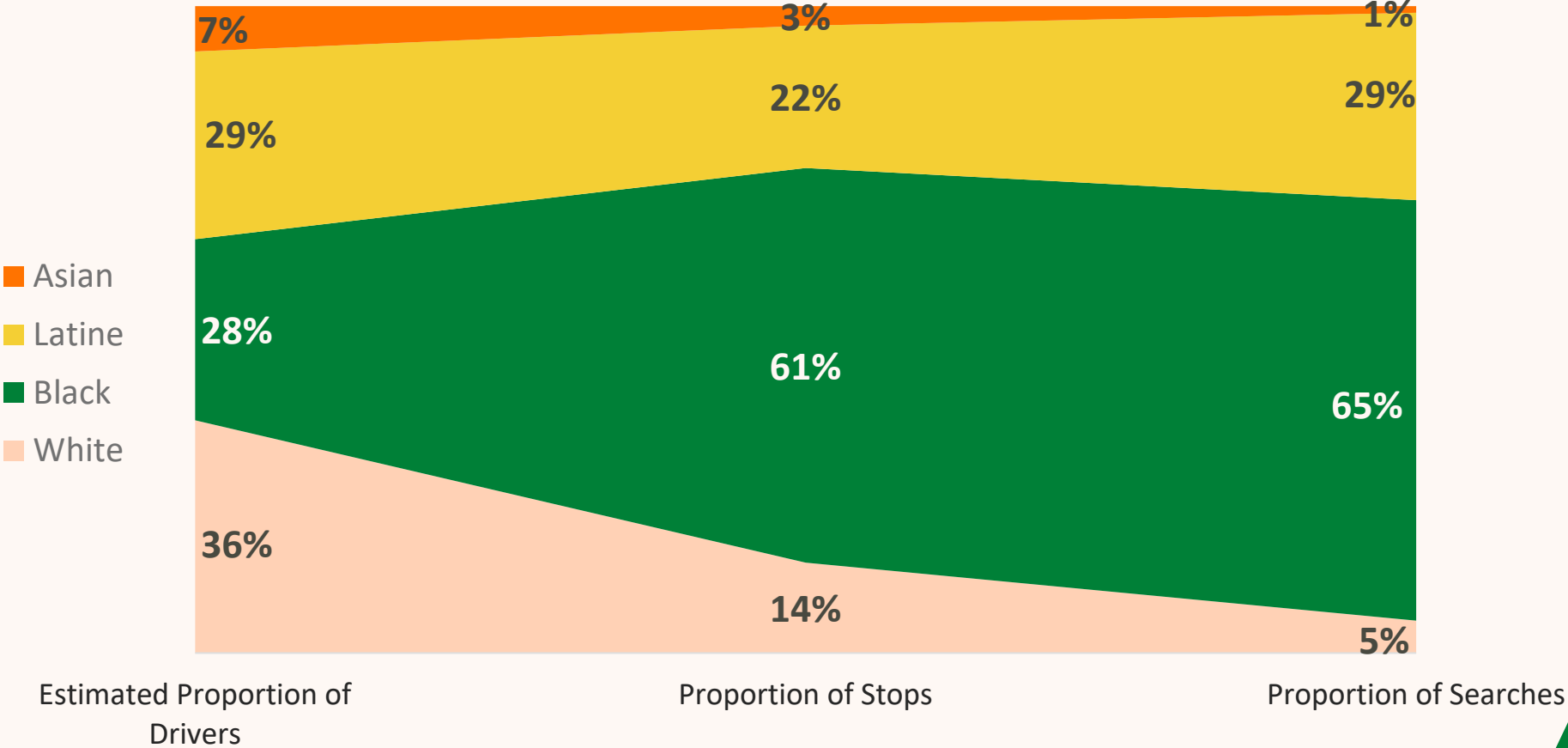


**Latine drivers were 2x as likely to be stopped citywide**



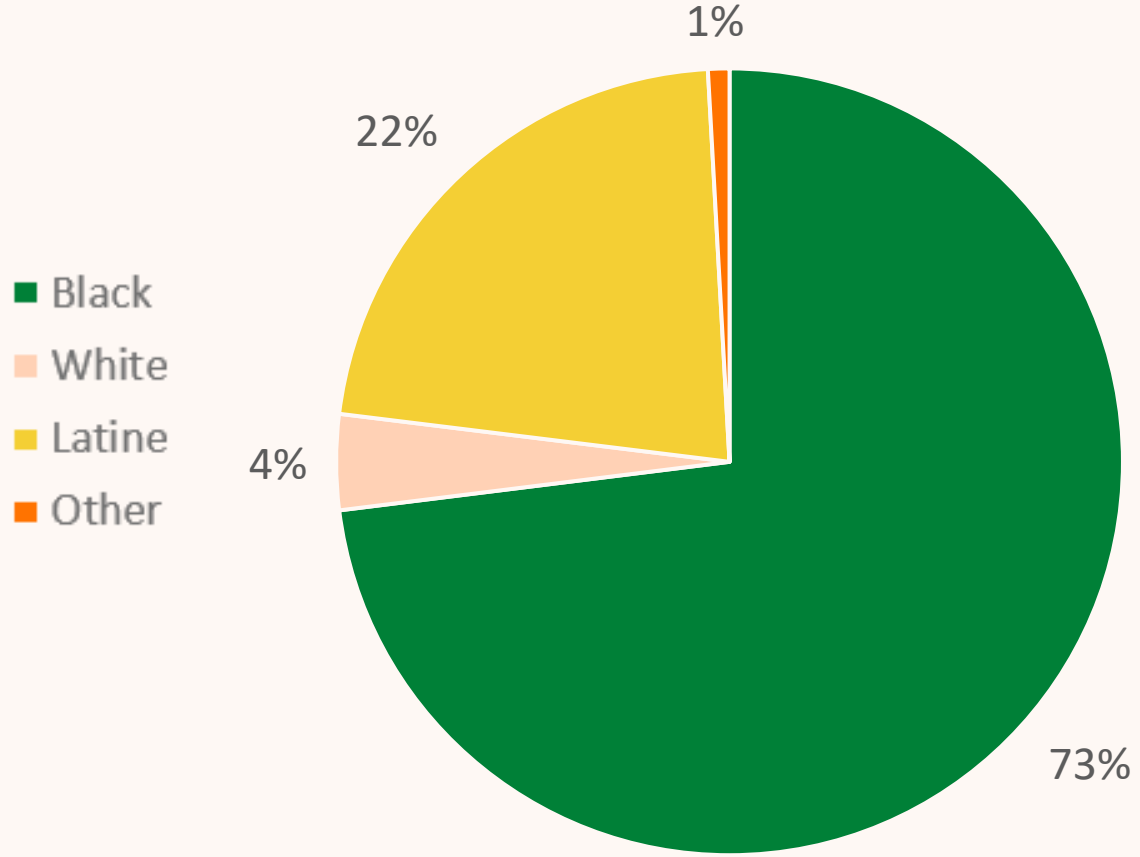
# RACIAL DISPARITIES IN SEARCHES

## RACIAL BREAKDOWN OF DRIVERS, TRAFFIC STOPS, AND SEARCHES 2015-2021



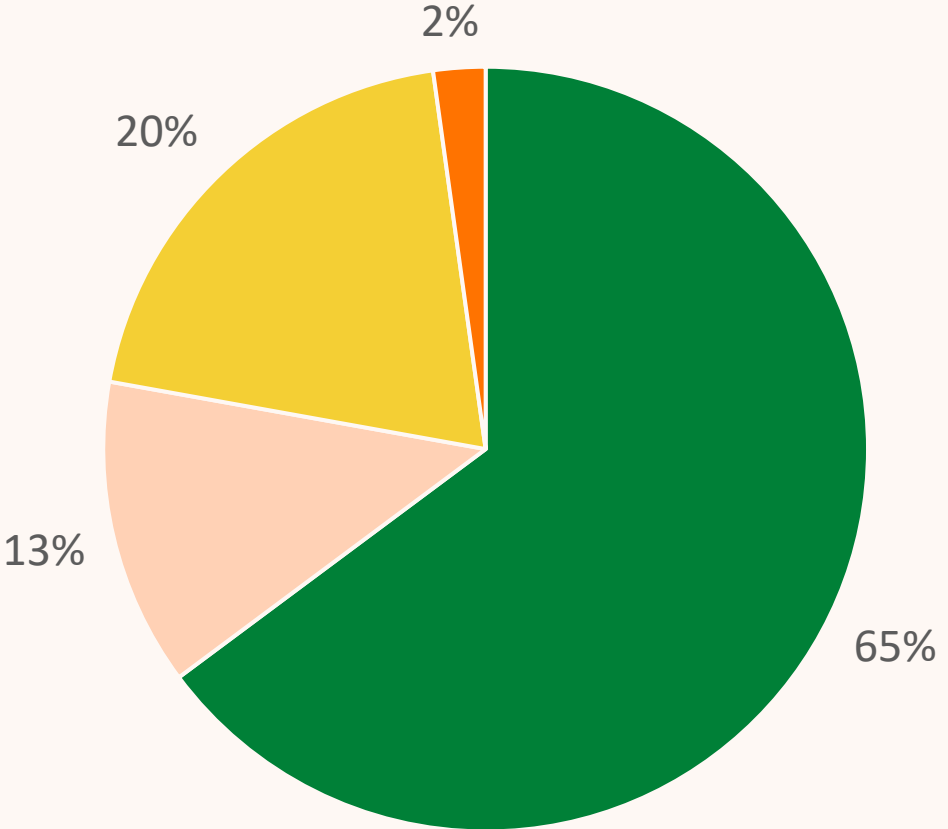
# RACIAL DISPARITIES IN CONSENT SEARCHES

RACIAL BREAKDOWN OF VEHICLE CONSENT SEARCH REQUESTS - 2015-2021

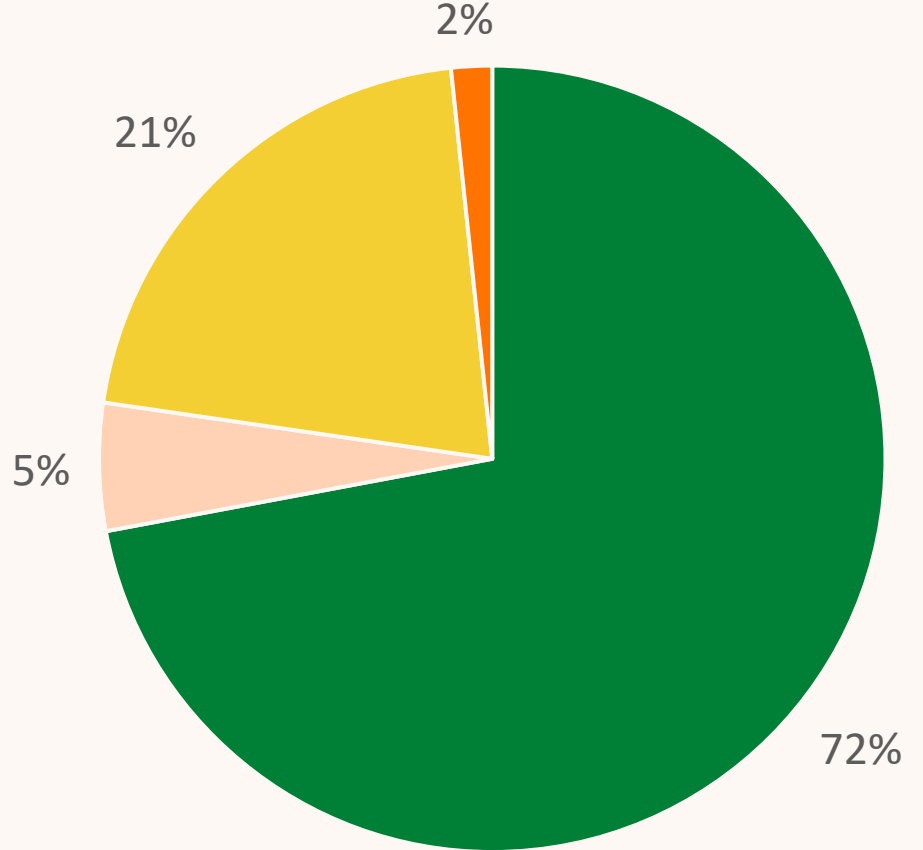


# RACIAL DISPARITIES IN CITATIONS AND ARRESTS

RACIAL BREAKDOWN OF CITATIONS - 2021



RACIAL BREAKDOWN OF ARRESTS - 2021

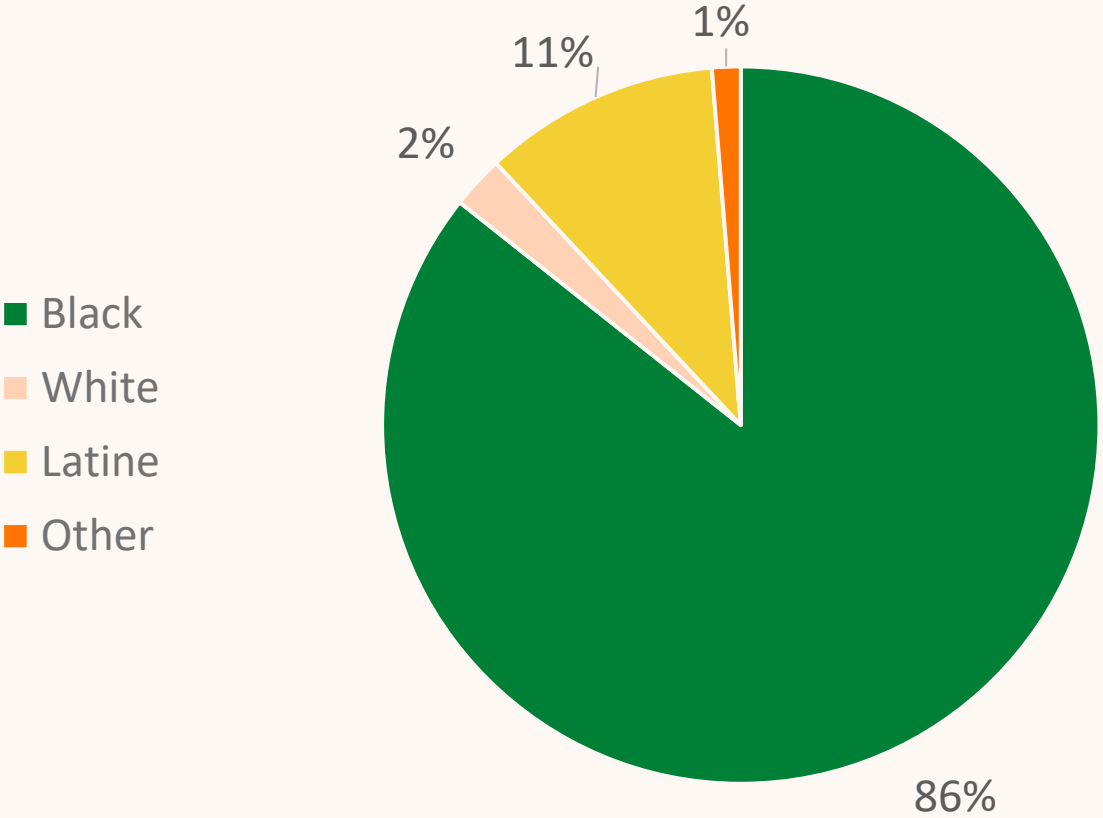


- Black
- White
- Latine
- Other



# RACIAL DISPARITIES IN USE OF FORCE

## RACIAL BREAKDOWN OF USE OF FORCE DURING TRAFFIC STOPS - 2018-2021



**Over 96%**  
of uses of force were  
against people of color





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- Traffic stops are racially disparate and especially harmful to Black and Latine drivers.



FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE DATA DISCUSSED  
IN THE PRESENTATION  
PLEASE VISIT [WWW.FREE2MOVECHI.ORG](http://WWW.FREE2MOVECHI.ORG).



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