

**Report to the  
Public Safety Committee  
Milwaukee Common Council**

**Relating to the Enforcement of "Quality of Life" Ordinances  
For the first quarter of 2002**

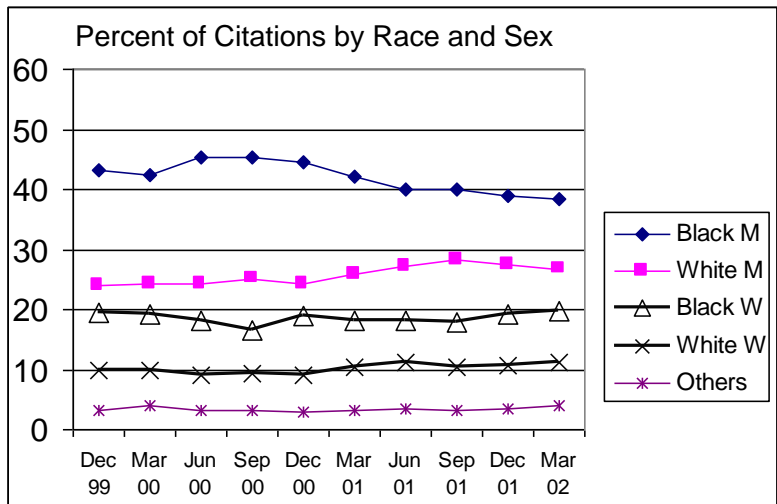
by  
**The Milwaukee Board of Fire and Police Commissioners  
Research Services Section**

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**Introduction**

Data were provided each quarter by District or assignment of citing officer. Therefore, citations issued by non-District personnel, including a large number of traffic citations, are not counted in the District where they were issued.

Distribution by race of persons cited is shown here. Men of all races account for the preponderance of offenses (68% in this quarter), and African-Americans accounted for more than half (58%). The percentage of total citations to black men has decreased since this analysis began, and the percentage to white men has increased; other groups have been relatively constant.

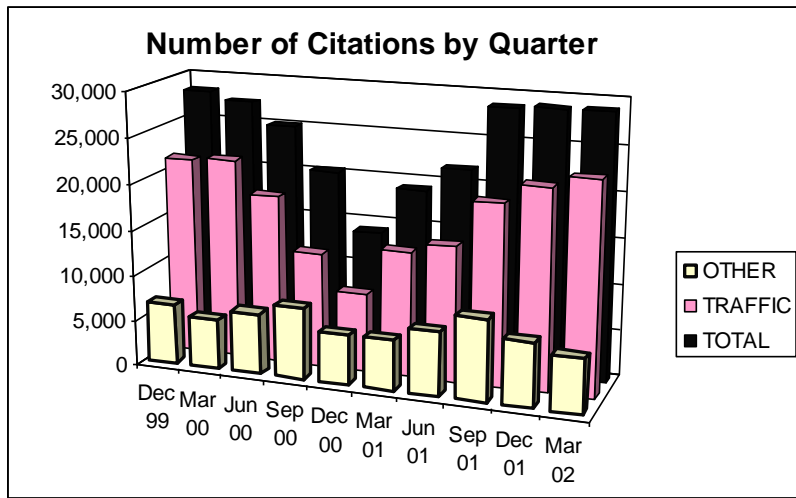


The Discussion and tables which follow compare the race distribution for all Quality of Life offenses in each District with the distribution for the highest volume offenses.

The next figure shows the number of citations issued each quarter. Total citations decreased 50%, from 28,418 in the report period ending December 1999 to 14,079 in the report period ending December 2000.

The total then increased in each of the next five quarters, reaching 28,993 in this report period. We do not know the reason for these trends, but it is clear from the chart that traffic citations were the dominant factor.

Non-traffic citations increased in the first three quarters of 2001, then decreased in the fourth quarter of that year and in the first quarter of this year, while traffic citations increased. It would appear that officers are giving more attention to traffic than to other quality of life violations. In this report quarter, traffic citations were 80% of all Quality of Life citations.



**Discussion**

The table below shows the race breakdown for all Quality of Life offenses and for the highest volume categories in this quarter. Less than half of persons cited for Speeding or Operator License violations, but two-thirds of other categories, were African-American. Tables for Districts, Special Operations, and other units follow the discussion. Special Operations cited more offenses than any District, including one-quarter of traffic offenses in this report period.

CITY TOTAL	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Other Traf
Asian	0.9%	0.6%	0.3%	1.5%	0.5%	0.6%	1.3%
Black	58.4%	71.5%	69.4%	47.3%	44.1%	66.0%	67.4%
Indian	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%
Unknown	2.6%	1.4%	0.8%	3.0%	7.9%	1.9%	2.5%
White	37.8%	26.1%	29.4%	48.0%	47.5%	31.3%	28.7%
TOTAL	28,993	2,700	5,207	9,144	2,215	9,140	2,595

**Conclusion**

When the new Police Department computer system is operational, it should be possible to sort citations by where they are issued rather than officer assignment. That will allow a more realistic analysis of possible racial profiling.

<b>District One</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Other Traf
Asian	1.0%	2.5%	3.6%	1.2%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%
Black	54.0%	61.7%	57.1%	50.0%	49.2%	57.9%	39.1%
Indian	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.8%	0.1%	0.0%
Unknown	2.1%	2.5%	0.0%	2.7%	4.8%	1.2%	13.0%
White	42.7%	33.3%	39.3%	45.6%	45.2%	40.2%	47.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	2,553	120	56	1,075	124	1,097	23

Police District One had the fewest Quality of Life citations issued by District personnel; more than 90% were for traffic citations. About half of all citations were issued to African-Americans. This District includes the downtown shopping areas and government buildings, where many more people are present during business hours than live in the area.

<b>District Two</b>	All QL	Dis Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Other Traf
Asian	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%	1.0%
Black	15.6%	33.0%	33.1%	8.5%	8.0%	14.0%	14.9%
Indian	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Unknown	1.8%	2.4%	0.8%	1.4%	2.1%	2.3%	2.9%
White	82.0%	63.3%	66.1%	89.1%	89.9%	83.3%	81.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	3,345	330	236	1,045	437	772	208

Police District Two had the lowest proportion of citations to African-Americans, followed by District Six, as would be expected based on population patterns. No more than one-third of the citations in any category in District Two were issued to African-Americans.

<b>District Three</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Other Traf
Asian	1.1%	0.4%	0.3%	2.5%	0.9%	0.4%	0.8%
Black	71.9%	82.7%	88.1%	46.7%	74.5%	84.1%	81.9%
Indian	0.2%	0.4%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Unknown	2.6%	1.1%	0.0%	5.3%	7.5%	0.8%	1.3%
White	24.3%	15.4%	11.6%	45.4%	17.0%	14.6%	16.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	3,866	474	378	1,159	212	1,065	238

In Police District Three, less than half of Speeding tickets, but three-quarters or more of other high-volume category citations issued by District personnel, went to African-Americans. This District had the highest number of citations issued by District personnel.

<b>District Four</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Oth Traf
Asian	0.7%	0.5%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%
Black	77.0%	89.3%	77.2%	60.8%	83.2%	85.4%	90.5%
Indian	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Unknown	1.2%	0.5%	0.0%	1.1%	5.0%	1.2%	0.4%
White	20.9%	9.6%	22.8%	36.5%	11.7%	13.2%	8.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	3,645	438	57	1,275	179	1,292	243

In Police District Four, more than half of Speeding tickets, and more than three-quarters of other high-volume category citations issued by District personnel, went to African-Americans. There were more citations for Curfew violations than for Loitering, with 84% going to African-Americans.

<b>District Five</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Oth Traf
Asian	0.8%	0.3%	0.0%	1.6%	0.0%	0.4%	0.9%
Black	56.7%	74.4%	75.6%	49.1%	69.4%	63.6%	64.9%
Indian	0.3%	0.9%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
Unknown	2.0%	1.2%	1.3%	3.2%	3.0%	1.4%	0.0%
White	40.2%	23.2%	23.1%	46.0%	27.6%	34.3%	34.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	2,892	332	160	1,013	134	775	114

In Police District Five, more than a third of Speeding tickets, and two-thirds to three-quarters of other high-volume category citations issued by District personnel, went to African-Americans. Public Drinking accounted for more citations than Operator License or Other Traffic, with just 18% of citations going to African-Americans. Many of these complaints occur in the neighborhoods around the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

<b>District Six</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Oth Traf
Asian	1.5%	1.8%	0.0%	1.8%	0.7%	1.6%	3.8%
Black	25.2%	47.0%	33.6%	24.7%	12.2%	22.9%	24.6%
Indian	0.1%	0.0%	0.9%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Unknown	6.7%	3.6%	4.7%	7.2%	13.6%	5.0%	5.4%
White	66.4%	47.6%	60.7%	66.1%	73.4%	70.4%	66.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	2,730	338	107	830	433	756	130

Police District Six had fewer Quality of Life counts than any other except District One. The proportion of persons cited whose race could not be determined by a District officer was much higher here than in any other reporting unit. A third or more of Disorderly Conduct and Loitering citations, but less than one-quarter of other categories issued by District personnel, went to African-Americans.

<b>District Seven</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Oth Traf
Asian	0.5%	0.2%	0.0%	1.2%	0.5%	0.1%	0.6%
Black	83.9%	87.1%	84.6%	72.9%	89.4%	89.7%	92.1%
Indian	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Unknown	1.0%	0.9%	0.0%	1.1%	4.3%	0.7%	1.1%
White	14.6%	11.8%	15.4%	24.8%	5.9%	9.5%	6.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	3,098	534	143	945	188	894	178

Police District Seven had the highest overall proportion of citations to African-Americans, not unexpected given demographics.

<b>Special Oper</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Oth Traf
Asian	1.3%	0.0%	0.5%	1.9%	1.1%	0.9%	1.5%
Black	66.5%	69.1%	83.6%	55.0%	52.3%	74.3%	70.7%
Indian	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%
Unknown	3.5%	0.0%	1.1%	2.9%	13.4%	2.9%	3.0%
White	28.4%	30.9%	14.8%	40.2%	33.3%	21.6%	24.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	6,466	81	183	1,731	463	2,346	1,429

Special Operations personnel gave more Quality of Life citations than any District. The proportion issued to African-Americans ranged from just over half of Speeding and Operator License citations to more than 80% of Loitering citations.

<b>CIB &amp; Other</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Oth Traf
Asian	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	3.1%
Black	55.5%	69.8%	58.3%	49.3%	40.0%	56.6%	40.6%
Indian	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Unknown	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
White	43.0%	30.2%	41.7%	47.9%	57.8%	42.7%	56.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	398	53	12	71	45	143	32

For CIB and other non-District personnel, more than half of all citations went to African-Americans. However, the total number is much smaller than other reporting units.