

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

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

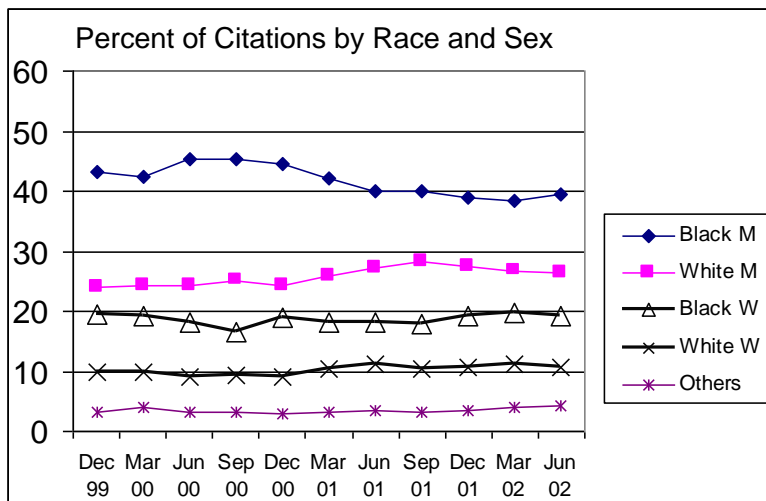
by  
**The Milwaukee Board of Fire and Police Commissioners  
Research Services Section**

**September 2002**

**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 (69% in this quarter), and African-Americans accounted for more than half (59%). The percentage of total citations to black men has decreased since this analysis began, and the percentage to white men increased until the third quarter of 2001, and has since decreased slightly. Other groups have been relatively constant.

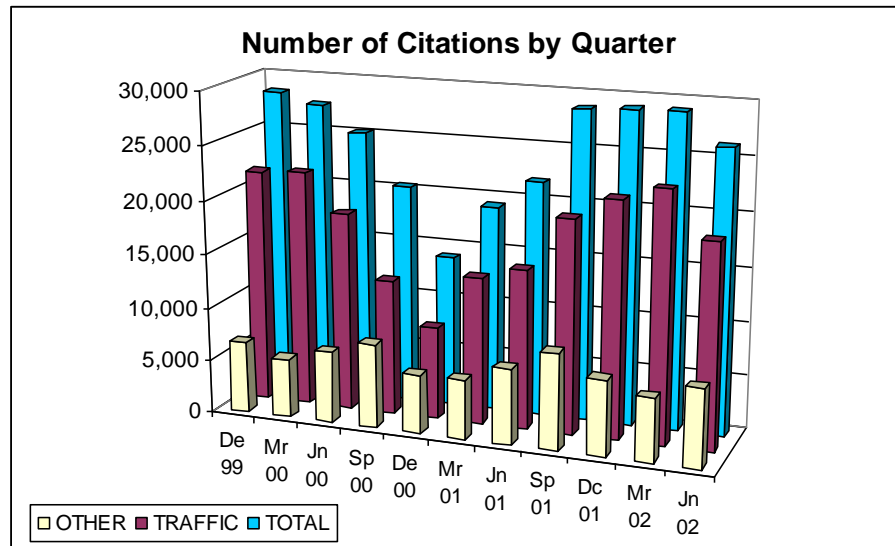


The Discussion and tables which follow compare the race distribution for all Quality of Life offenses in each District with the distribution for the highest volume offenses.

The next figure shows the number of citations issued each quarter. Total citations decreased from December 1999 to December 2000. The total then increased each quarter until March 2002, but decreased 10% in

the current report period. We do not know the reason for these trends, but it is clear from the chart that traffic citations are the dominant factor. Traffic citations account for 60% (September and December 2000) to 80% (March 2000 and March 2002) of all citations included in these reports.

In the current report period, traffic citations decreased 18% overall, while other citations increased 23%. Specifically, Vehicle Registration citations were down 37.8%, Operator License down 23%, Speeding down 5.6%, and Other Traffic was up 11.1%. The two largest non-traffic categories are Disorderly Conduct, up 13.8%, and Loitering, up 17.6%.



## 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-third of traffic offenses in this report period.

<b>CITY TOTAL</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Other Traf
Asian	0.8%	0.3%	0.6%	1.4%	0.4%	0.4%	1.0%
Black	58.7%	67.5%	64.1%	48.9%	45.9%	67.9%	68.8%
Indian	0.4%	0.5%	0.8%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%
Unknown	3.1%	1.5%	0.9%	3.7%	9.1%	2.0%	3.7%
White	37.1%	30.2%	33.6%	45.6%	44.5%	29.6%	26.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	26,155	3,074	1,567	8,631	1,705	5,681	2,883

## 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	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Black	47.8%	47.2%	67.2%	40.9%	51.5%	63.1%	53.3%
Indian	0.4%	0.8%	1.6%	0.2%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%
Unknown	2.1%	1.6%	0.0%	2.9%	9.1%	0.7%	0.0%
White	49.3%	50.4%	31.1%	55.2%	39.4%	35.7%	46.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,683</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>30</b>

Police District One had the fewest Quality of Life citations issued by District personnel; more than 80% were for traffic citations. Almost half of all citations were issued to African-Americans. There were more citations for Pedestrian violations than for Loitering, Operator License, or Other Traffic violations. This District includes the downtown shopping areas and government buildings, where many non-residents are present during business hours.

<b>District Two</b>	All QL	Dis Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Other Traf
Asian	0.5%	0.0%	2.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Black	16.1%	24.1%	19.5%	9.8%	6.1%	17.4%	16.3%
Indian	1.1%	0.7%	2.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.8%
Unknown	1.9%	1.2%	0.8%	2.4%	4.9%	1.2%	0.0%
White	80.5%	74.0%	75.4%	86.8%	89.0%	81.2%	82.9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,885</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>123</b>

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-quarter 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	0.9%	0.2%	0.4%	2.0%	0.6%	0.6%	2.4%
Black	74.0%	86.1%	87.3%	43.7%	79.9%	84.8%	77.4%
Indian	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Unknown	3.3%	0.3%	0.7%	8.7%	6.7%	1.1%	4.0%
White	21.6%	13.1%	11.6%	45.1%	12.8%	13.5%	16.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,385</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>248</b>

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	0.6%	0.5%	0.0%	1.2%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%
Black	78.9%	84.7%	74.1%	64.3%	84.2%	87.0%	91.2%
Indian	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Unknown	1.2%	0.2%	0.0%	1.6%	4.8%	0.6%	0.4%
White	19.2%	14.6%	25.9%	32.5%	11.0%	12.0%	8.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	2,930	419	58	990	146	875	227

In Police District Four, more than half of Speeding tickets, and three-quarters or more 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 87% going to African-Americans.

<b>District Five</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Oth Traf
Asian	0.6%	0.5%	0.0%	1.2%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%
Black	64.4%	75.5%	79.8%	56.8%	54.2%	70.9%	68.7%
Indian	0.3%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Unknown	1.3%	0.7%	0.6%	1.5%	6.1%	0.6%	0.7%
White	33.4%	22.4%	19.7%	40.5%	39.7%	28.0%	30.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	2,454	416	173	813	131	471	134

In Police District Five, between half and three-quarters of high-volume category citations issued by District personnel, went to African-Americans. Complaints of Loud Music and Public Drinking often 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%	0.5%	0.0%	2.7%	1.0%	0.9%	1.7%
Black	25.1%	35.7%	29.4%	22.7%	11.4%	28.0%	27.6%
Indian	1.0%	0.8%	2.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.5%	0.9%
Unknown	3.6%	2.7%	0.0%	4.6%	7.5%	2.6%	1.7%
White	68.9%	60.2%	67.8%	69.4%	80.1%	67.9%	68.1%
TOTAL	2,704	364	143	896	307	574	116

A third of Disorderly Conduct citations, but only a quarter or less of other high-volume 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	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	1.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Black	87.7%	88.5%	88.4%	82.1%	91.0%	89.7%	96.0%
Indian	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Unknown	3.4%	4.0%	3.0%	4.9%	3.0%	1.9%	2.0%
White	8.3%	7.1%	8.5%	11.3%	5.3%	8.5%	2.0%
TOTAL	2,536	575	199	672	133	532	149

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	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	0.2%	0.3%	1.0%
Black	63.5%	73.9%	92.4%	55.3%	51.6%	71.2%	69.1%
Indian	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Unknown	4.9%	0.0%	1.0%	3.8%	16.8%	3.7%	4.8%
White	30.6%	26.1%	6.7%	39.4%	31.4%	24.7%	25.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,250</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>2,813</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>1,605</b>	<b>1,826</b>

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 90% of Loitering citations. Special Operations personnel gave more tickets for Loud Music than for Disorderly Conduct or Loitering.

<b>CIB &amp; Other</b>	All QL	Dis. Cond	Loiter	Speed	Op Lic	Veh Lic	Oth Traf
Asian	0.9%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	3.3%
Black	52.7%	44.6%	30.8%	58.1%	39.1%	64.2%	66.7%
Indian	1.2%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	3.0%	0.0%
Unknown	4.3%	1.5%	0.0%	1.6%	21.7%	6.0%	10.0%
White	40.9%	50.8%	69.2%	40.3%	34.8%	25.4%	20.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>30</b>

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.