

USER GUIDE

Harris County Traffic Stop Dashboard

June 11th, 2021



HARRIS COUNTY TRAFFIC STOP DASHBOARD GUIDE

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I. ABOUT

On June 9th, 2020, Commissioners Court passed a motion for the Harris County Justice Administration Department to analyze existing racial profiling data produced by law enforcement (Supplemental Item 18). JAD received data from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE), which resulted in two efforts to address the motion: a report presented to Commissioners Court and this dashboard. The dashboard's purpose is to allow users to see various metrics of the different outcomes and possibilities during a traffic stop. While the dashboard's focus is Harris County, data across Texas can be seen as received from TCOLE.

The dashboard is available on the JAD website on the data page: https://jad.harriscountytx.gov/data

TRAFFIC STOP DATA

Traffic Stop Data is received from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement website, which is available for public use. Law Enforcement Agencies collect and report incident-based data in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure Article 2.131 – 2.138. For more information, visit: https://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/racial-profiling-reports

Law Enforcement Agencies submit the data by March 1st of each year, along with additional information about the agency. Agencies can file the full report or be exempt from a full report if the agency falls under the appropriate guidelines as stated by TCOLE. Agencies under exempt status may not have all categories, gender, or race breakdowns.

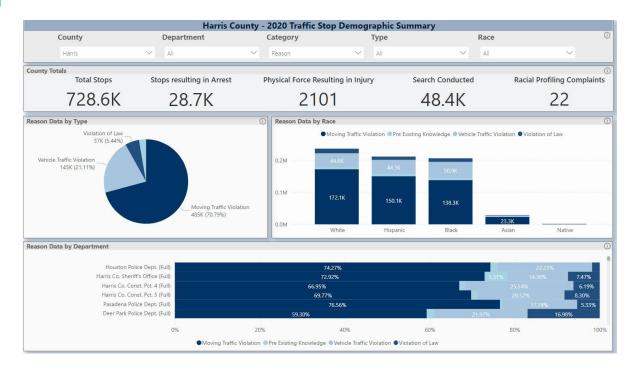
Data falls into different categories and can include gender or racial demographic information based on each category:

CATEGORY	TYPE	RACE
Arrest	City Ordinance	Υ
Arrest	Penal	Υ
Arrest	Traffic	Υ
Arrest	Warrant	Υ
Complaints	Disciplinary No	N
Complaints	Disciplinary Yes	N
Contraband	Alcohol	Υ
Contraband	Currency	Υ
Contraband	Drugs Paraphernalia	Υ
Contraband	Other	Υ
Contraband	Stolen Property	Υ
Contraband	Weapons	Υ
Contraband Discovered	Arrested	Υ

Contraband Discovered	Not Arrested	Υ
Location	City Street	N
Location	Country Road	N
Location	Private Property Other	N
Location	State Highway	N
Location	US Highway	N
No Contraband Discovered	All	Υ
Physical Force	No	Υ
Physical Force	Yes	Υ
Physical Force Bodily Injury	Suspect	N
Physical Force Bodily Injury	Both	N
Physical Force Bodily Injury	Officer	N
Race Breakdown	All	Υ
Race Known	No	N
Race Known	Yes	N
Reason	Moving Traffic Violation	Υ
Reason	Pre Existing Knowledge	Υ
Reason	Vehicle Traffic Violation	Υ
Reason	Violation of Law	Υ
Result	Arrest	Υ
Result	Citation	Υ
Result	Citation Arrest	Υ
Result	Verbal	Υ
Result	Written	Υ
Result	Written Arrest	Υ
Search Conducted	No	Υ
Search Conducted	Yes	Υ
Search Reason	Consent	Υ
Search Reason	Contraband	Υ
Search Reason	Incident to Arrest	Υ
Search Reason	Inventory	Υ
Search Reason	Probable	Υ
Traffic Stop	Female	Υ
Traffic Stop	Male	Υ

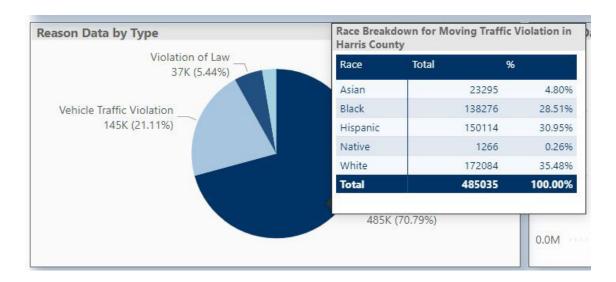
While the data is as complete as possible, missing data and irregularities are present in the data. Counts and values under a certain category may not line up when summing a total. The data in the dashboard has not been updated to align totals and is presented as it was received from TCOLE.

III. COUNTY SUMMARY

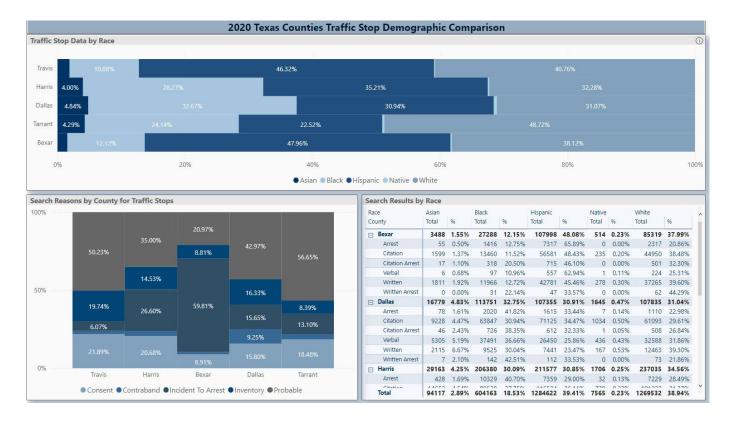


The County Summary provides the user with important counts and metrics while allowing the flexibility to select counties, departments, categories, type, and race filters.

- County Totals show important totals at a high level for the county selected.
- Category by Type shows a pie graph separated by the different types reported.
- <u>Category by Department</u> shows a deeper look at the counts and percentages reported by each Department.
- <u>Category by Race</u> shows a breakdown of the category by race and the different types associated
- For the <u>Category by Type</u> and <u>Category by Department</u>, the dashboard can show a breakdown by the race (if exists) by hovering over a section of the bar or pie chart:



IV. COUNTY COMPARISON



The County Comparison provides a snapshot at Harris County as compared to other large counties in Texas. While there are no filters on this page, the value of the 3 graphs lies in comparing counties side-by-side for analysis.

• <u>Traffic Stop Data by Race</u> shows percentages of persons who are stopped and the racial make-up. The use can hover over a section to see the count behind the percentage:

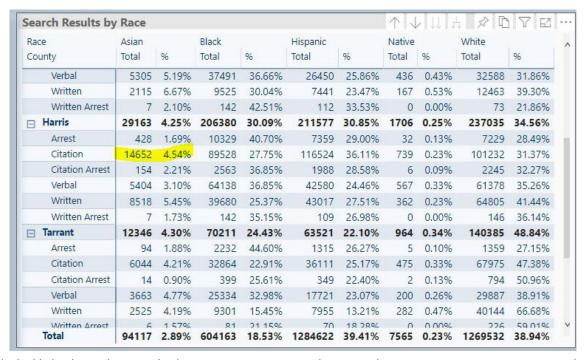


• <u>Search Reasons by County for Traffic Stops</u> provides a breakdown of the various reasons a person was searched during their traffic stop.



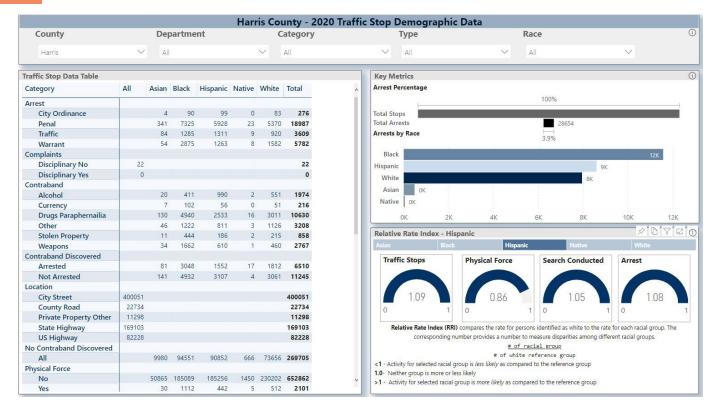
Hovering over a section of the chart will show a race breakdown for the selected type.

<u>Search Results by Race</u> shows details on the different outcomes of a Traffic Stop. The
percentages are for the breakdown by row:



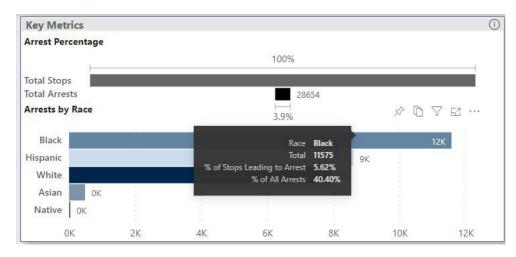
The highlighted row above reads: There were 14,652 Asians who received a citation in Harris County in 2020. The 14,652 is 4.54% of all race receiving a citation in Harris County in 2020 from a Traffic Stop.

V. DATA DETAILS

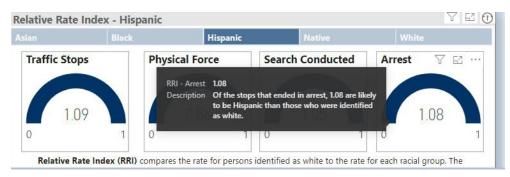


The data details page allows for more flexibility to find the data points desired. Users can select counties and departments to see counts for all categories and types. Or the user can select categories, types, and races to drill down into a specific view of the data.

- <u>Traffic Stop Data Table</u> shows the counts as reported to TCOLE. There is an All and Race breakdown, the race counts will be shown if they exist for the category, otherwise, all will show the total.
- Key Metrics focuses on important metrics for the county selected:
 - Arrest Percentage shows the rate of arrests to traffic stop made
 - Arrests by Race shows the amount of individuals of a certain race who make up the total arrests.



Relative Rate Index (RRI) compares the rate for persons identified as white to the rate for each
racial group. The corresponding number provides a number to measure disparities among
different racial groups. Selecting a race shows a ratio of the selected race compared to
the white population that were subject to Traffic Stops, Physical Forced Used during Traffic
Stops, Searched during traffic stop, or arrested as a result of a traffic stop:



Hovering over a RRI visualization will provide a description on how to read the graph.