



# TOWN OF HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2020 Biased Based Policing Report

To: Police Chief Michael Mason

From: Lt. Mitchell Kuc

Re: 2020 Biased Based Policing Report

Chief,

Pursuant to our Biased Based Policing Policy, the following is the required administrative review.

**Internal Affairs:**

No citizen complaints of biased based policing were received in 2020.

**Traffic Contacts:**

Race Data:

Black- 135

Asian/Pacific Islander- 62

Hispanic- 129

American Indian/Alaskan Native- 3

Middle Eastern or East Indian- 20

White- 1023

Race Missing- 16

Total- 1384

Gender Data:

Male- 857

Female- 524

Citation Totals:

Arrest- 52

Civil-265

Criminal Complaint- 156

Warning-911



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Of the citation total, 3.76% of the citations were for arrests, 11.27% were for criminal complaints, and 65.82% resulted in warnings.

Without analyzing each citation, it should be noted that as the court liaison, I am aware that a majority of the criminal citations (non-arrests, or summons) were for arrestable offenses, mainly, unlicensed and suspended license, as well as some incidents of negligent/reckless driving. I believe that this shows that our officers use their discretion and allow motorists who could have been arrested to be released with a summons more often than not.

Additional factors make race data difficult to interpret accurately are as a result of differences in Race Code in our records management system vs. the US Census. Additionally, census data is self-reported and traffic citation data is the officer's best guess.

### **Field Contacts:**

Field Contacts that rise to the level of a threshold inquiry are documented in the Computer Aided Dispatch by call number and descriptive information is collected for computer database inquiries. Field Contacts that result in arrest, summons, or Protective Custody are reported here.

### **Arrest Statistics**

Total Physical Arrests- 75

Black-5

Asian/Pacific Islander- 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native- 0

Middle Eastern or East Indian- 0

White- 70

Race Missing- 0

Eight arrestees reported Hispanic descent.

Total Summons- 327

Black-46

Asian/Pacific Islander- 7

American Indian/Alaskan Native- 2

Middle Eastern or East Indian- 0

White- 272

Race Missing- 2



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72 arrestees reported Hispanic decent.

Total Protective Custodies (impairment by Alcohol/Drugs)-8

Black-0

Asian/Pacific Islander- 0

American Indian/Alaskan Native- 0

Middle Eastern or East Indian- 0

White- 8

Race Missing- 0

Zero reported Hispanic decent.

Gender Data Entry for Physical Arrests and Protective Custodies- 83 Total

Male-65

Female 18

Gender Data for Summons-327

Male- 221

Female- 106

Conclusion;

When reviewing traffic and arrest race data ***compared solely*** to the demographics of the Town of Hadley, there appear to be disparities, in that stops and arrest of non-white drivers are higher than the community demographics, mainly of African American and Hispanic decent. Although it should be noted that the traffic and arrest contact data does not show an apparent disparity between demographics of Massachusetts as a whole, except in one category, criminal summons. See explanation below.

There are a number of outside variables that change the daily demographics of the Town of Hadley; mainly, the geographic relation (central) to the Five-College area, as well as between Interstate 91 and UMass/Amherst, and the commercial density of the Town of Hadley.

Being located central to the Five College area draws in student population from UMass Amherst, Smith College, Mount Holyoke College, Hampshire College and Amherst College. Students at these schools and residents of Hampshire County find in Hadley the closest Target store, one of the two of the closest Wal-Marts in the County (closest for 4 of the 5 colleges), the closest Aldi's store and the only Whole Foods in Western Massachusetts, Home Depot and Lowes (the only community in Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire County to have both in the same town), and the only Trader Joes west of Worcester. Additional stores and locations that have limited or no other locations locally are Old Navy, Panera



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Bread, Marshalls, Michaels, Dicks Sporting Goods, Harbor Freight, and JC Penny to name a few. There are also seven hotels, and the only indoor shopping mall in Hampshire and Franklin County.

Being home to many of these retail establishments bring in many people from all over Western Massachusetts to seek out the services from these establishments, as well as significant retail theft crime attracting crime rings from all over Western Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Additionally, UMass Amherst is considered a top party school in Massachusetts, known as "zoomass". Our location between Interstate 91 and UMass Amherst bring in significant traffic from the Springfield and Hartford Metropolitan areas; not to mention the amount of rental properties that house UMass students.

Lastly, UMass via the Mullins Center, McGuirk Stadium and other fields for sporting events attract people from all over New England for sporting events such as UMass Football, Hockey, Basketball, and also host large scale Lacrosse Tournaments. The Mullins center also attracts regional audiences for music concerts, comedy shows and other events.

With all of these variables in place, I feel that it is more appropriate to compare our traffic and arrest contacts to the state demographics as opposed to Hadley's demographic.

As noted above, an apparent disparity remains in the category of criminal citations issued to African Americans, 6% above the state demographics. In reviewing the physical arrest statistics, these appear to be 3% below the state demographics. The only conclusion that I can draw from these differences is that African American drivers who committed motor vehicle offenses were arrested less, and in the alternative, were issued criminal citations more.

Find the Demographics between Hadley and all of Massachusetts here.

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/MA,hadleytownhampshirecountymassachusetts/PST045221>

Based on the information contained in this report, the regular bias free and cultural competency training that the department regularly receives, as well as the implementation of a full body and cruiser camera system, I have no recommendations for procedural changes within the department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lt. Mitchell J. Kuc  
Lieutenant of Operations