University of
CINCINNATI

Semi-Annual Contact Card Report

July 1st 2019 – December 31st 2019

University of Cincinnati Police Division

Introduction

The University of Cincinnati Police Division (UCPD) is committed to bias-free and equitable treatment of all persons while enforcing the law and providing police services. In accordance with UCPD's *Bias Free Policing Policy* (SOP 4.1.300),[1] a "Contact Card"[2] is the form that is filled out whenever a UCPD officer conducts a non-consensual contact (e.g., traffic stop, suspicious persons contact, field interview or arrest). This report is part of a series of semi-annual reports that describe Contact Card data collected by the UCPD. The purpose of this report is to conduct a comprehensive review of UCPD contact data, to ensure compliance with the UCPD's philosophy of bias-free policing, to analyze crime data, and to aid in officer development, deployment of staff, and development of best practices. In making this information available to the public, this report enhances the transparency of the UCPD to the community it serves.

Contact cards were created for UCPD use in September 2015 as a way to better capture details regarding non-consensual stops. In addition to Contact Cards, UCPD officers also record all stops with additional information in an official report that is kept in their Automated Records Management System (ARMS) database. Contact Cards provide supplemental information to these reports, capturing additional information that may not be included in an official report. Additionally, Contact Cards provide information on activity on and around campus, which allows the UCPD to be more responsive to issues and concerns. It is used as a problem-solving tool, as it contains information to help analyze repeat problems.

First line supervisors and a lieutenant review the Contact Cards prior to being entered into the electronic database by administrative staff. It is a tool to assess individual officer activity and performance to ensure their actions are consistent with the vision, mission, and core principles of the UCPD including transparency, legitimacy, fairness, and accountability. Any abnormalities in officer performance or conduct that are discovered are reported through the chain of command for review. To aid in supervisory review, the crime analyst produces a monthly report for shift commanders and sergeants designed to assist them in identifying any potential outliers or abnormalities that should be further examined and documented per policy. Finally, particular scrutiny of off-campus traffic stops is required per the Traffic Enforcement and Activities Policy. At this time, all off-campus traffic stops require immediate notification of the UCPD chain of command (including the Chief of Police, and Director of Public Safety) who review these stops for consistency with UCPD policy.

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[1] The UCPD Bias Free Policing policy can be found at: http://www.uc.edu/publicsafety/reform/resources.html
[2] For a copy of the most recent version of the Contact Card, please use contact information on the report's title page.

I. 2019 UCPD Contact Cards, July 1st –December 31st, 2019.

During this time frame:
- *The total number of incidents which resulted in an encounter totaled **237**.*
- *Out of the **237** encounters, **377** Contact Cards were completed.*
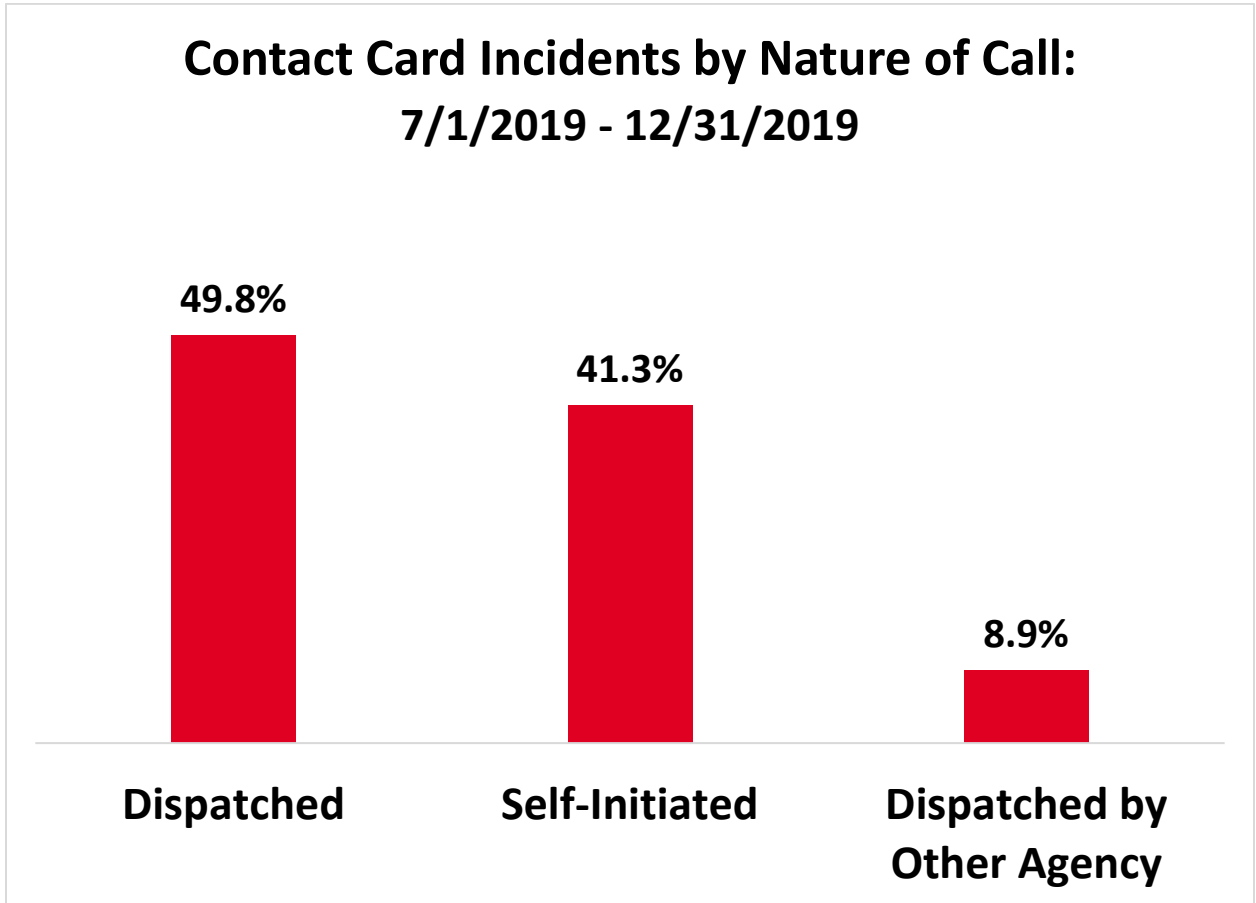
Figure 1. Contact Card Incidents

Figure 1. Displays the percentage of contact card incidents that were Dispatched by the UCPD Communication Center, Self-Initiated, and Dispatched by another agency

II. UCPD Contact Cards by Demographic Characteristics

The analyses presented in this section are based on 377 contact cards.

Figure 2. Contact Card Individuals by Demographic Characteristics:
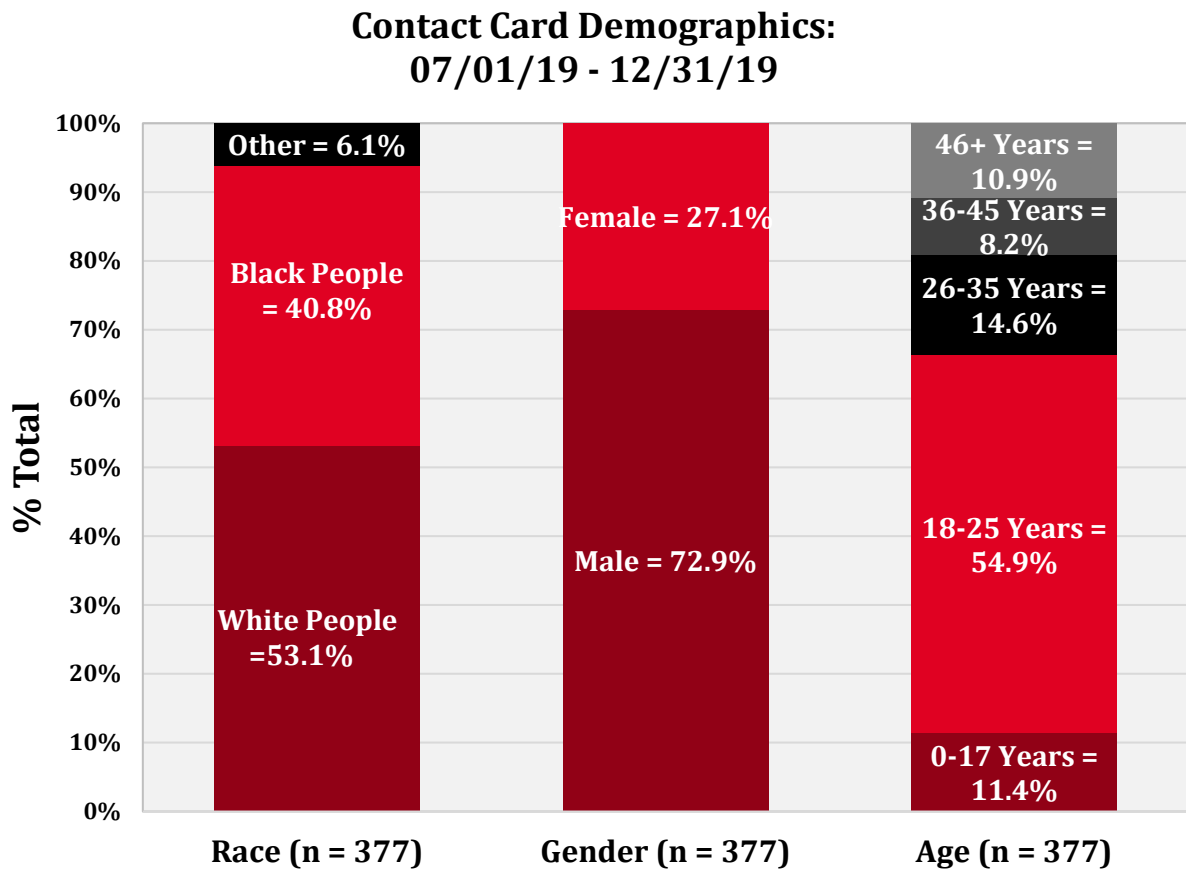
Contact Card Demographics: 07/01/19 - 12/31/19

Figure 2. Displays the race/ethnicity, gender, and age of the individuals stopped by the UCPD. First, Figure 2 shows the percent of UCPD Contact Cards by the race/ethnicity of the subject stopped. The graph also displays information regarding the gender and age of those stopped by the UCPD. These numbers are consistent with the last semi-annual report.

** The Contact Card's race/ethnicity categories include:
- **White people**
- **Black people**
- **Asian or Pacific Islander people**
- **Hispanic people**
- **Middle Eastern people**
- **Native American people**
- **Other people**

Due to the small number of contacts with persons of these races/ethnicities these racial/ethnic groups have been merged with the "other" race/ethnicity for display purposes

throughout this report. There were (6.1%) cases marked as "Other" in the race category. Upon review of records management data, it became clear these were cases where the individual's race was marked as unknown and several were witnesses to events rather than suspects or victim

UCPD will continue to rely on other methods to ensure that UCPD officers are treating all persons equitably, without bias, and in keeping with the vision, mission, and core principles of the UCPD. These methods include:

1. **A monthly Contact Card report comparing officers within shifts and against historical data, designed to assist supervisors in identifying any potential outliers or abnormalities in officer activity that should be further examined – this report is supplemented with a monthly meeting of command staff to review the contact cards and report.**

2. **A supervisory oversight in the form of documented field visits, reviews of body worn camera and in-car camera footage.**

3. **An investigation of all citizen and internally generated complaints, including immediate notification to the Chief of any allegation of discrimination, racial profiling, or biased policing per the UCPD Internal Investigations and Complaints Policy SOP 4.2.100.**

III. UCPD Contacts: Stop Analyses

UCPD Contact Cards also contain data fields for stop characteristics including the reason for the stop and the resulting action taken by the officer. When filling out their Contact Cards, UCPD officers are required to select a primary reason for each nonconsensual stop conducted from the following list:

1. *Assist Other Agency*
2. *Drug/Alcohol Involvement*
3. *Medical*
4. *Mental Health*
5. *Noise Complaint*
6. *Panhandler*
7. *Suspect*
8. *Suspicious Person/Vehicle*
9. *Terry Stop*
10. *Traffic Stop*
11. *Trespass*

Figure 3. Contact Card Individuals by Reason for Stop: 7/1/2019 – 12/31/2019

Contact Cards by Reason
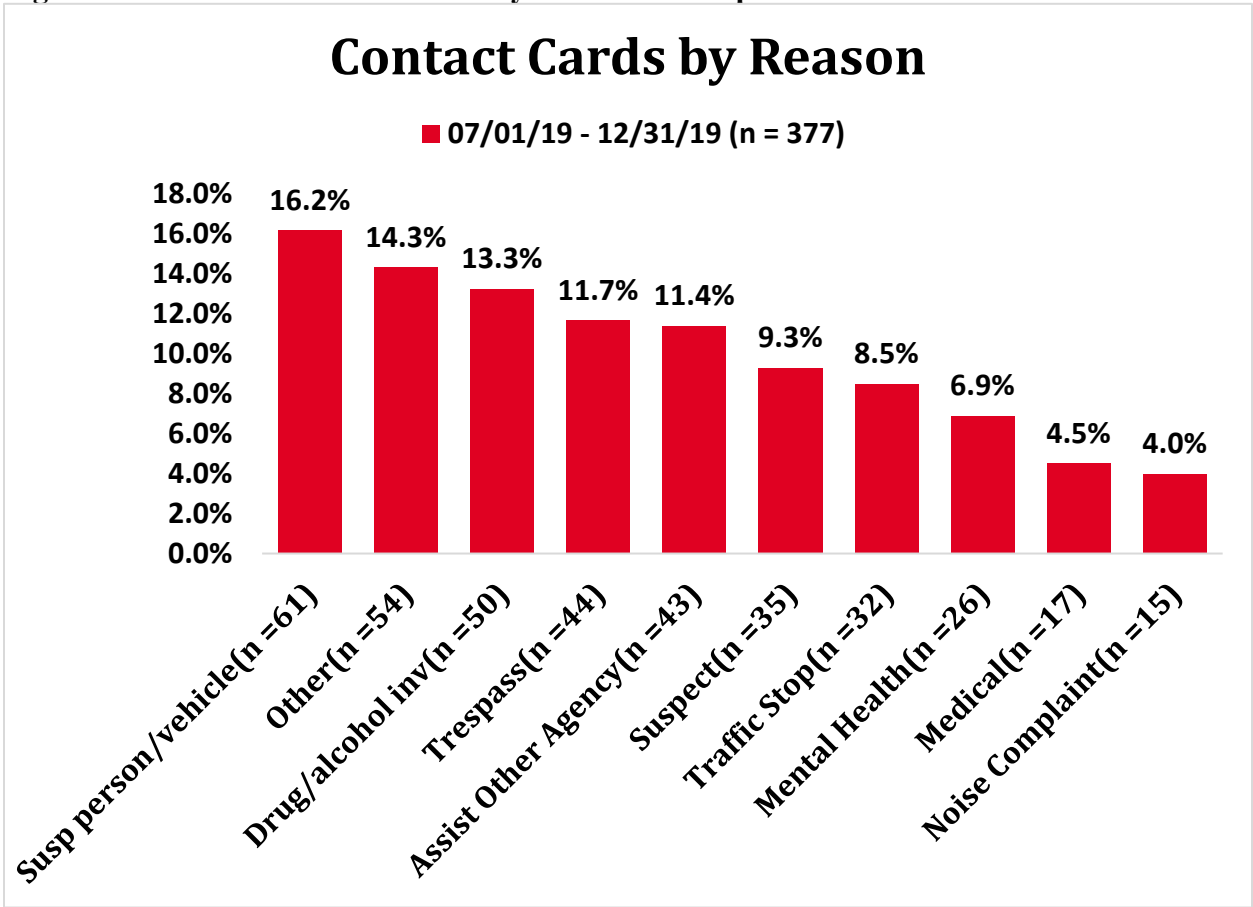
■ 07/01/19 - 12/31/19 (n = 377)

Figure 3. Displays the percentages of the different reasons for stopping an individual recorded by a UCPD officer. As shown, the largest to the least frequent reasons:

Figure 4. Reason for Stop by Race/Ethnicity

Reason for Stop by Race: 7/1/2019 - 12/31/2019

■ White (n = 200) ■ Black (n = 154) ■ Other (n = 23)

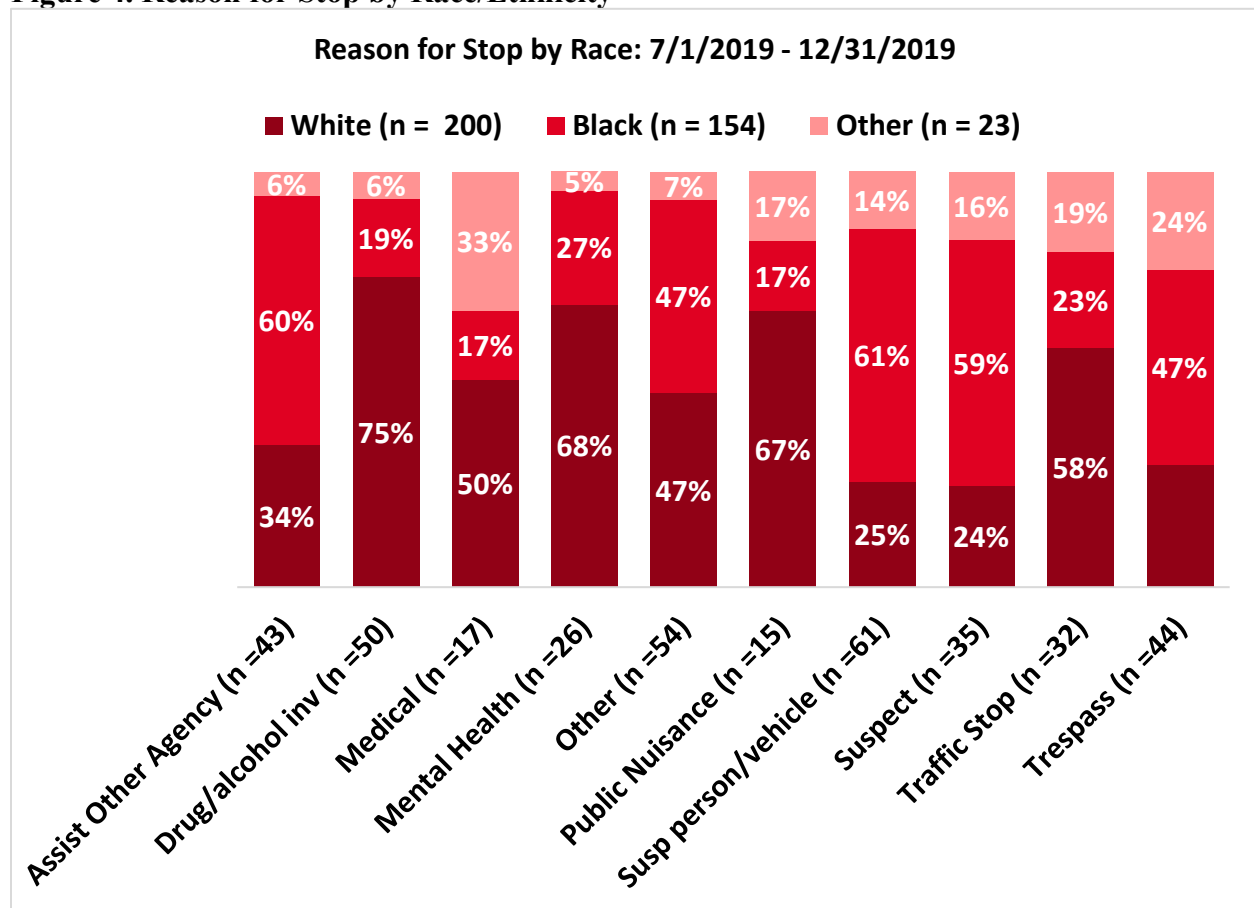| Reason	White	Black	Other
Assist Other Agency (n =43)	34%	60%	6%
Drug/alcohol inv (n =50)	75%	19%	6%
Medical (n =17)	50%	17%	33%
Mental Health (n =26)	68%	27%	5%
Other (n =54)	47%	47%	7%
Public Nuisance (n =15)	67%	17%	17%
Susp person/vehicle (n =61)	25%	61%	14%
Suspect (n =35)	24%	59%	16%
Traffic Stop (n =32)	58%	23%	19%
Trespass (n =44)	47%	47%	24%

Figure 4. Shows information regarding reason for the stop, but analyzes it by the race/ethnicity of the person stopped. For ease of display, the least frequent reasons for the stop are included in the "Mental Health" category in this graph. Some differences in reasons for the stop are evident by race/ethnicity. For example, White people were more likely than other racial/ethnic groups to be stopped for drug/alcohol investigations, while Black people were more likely than White people to be stopped for reasons related to Suspicious Person/vehicle. Black people were also more likely to be stopped for suspicious vehicles/persons than other races.

Fluctuations in the overall percentages of individual contact card by race may be explained by the collection method of contact cards. One stop can result in multiple contact cards and each report the demographic information of an individual involved. Overrepresentation of one group over another is likely to happen and fluctuate given this method of collection. The possible reasons for these disparities are examined in monthly reviews of contact card data. Given the relatively small number of non-consensual stops made by UCPD, the monthly report and subsequent review of contact cards by the command staff, Clery Compliance Coordinator, and Crime Analyst attempts to ensure that these disparities are the result of dispatched calls and are not the result of a biased approach to proactive police activity

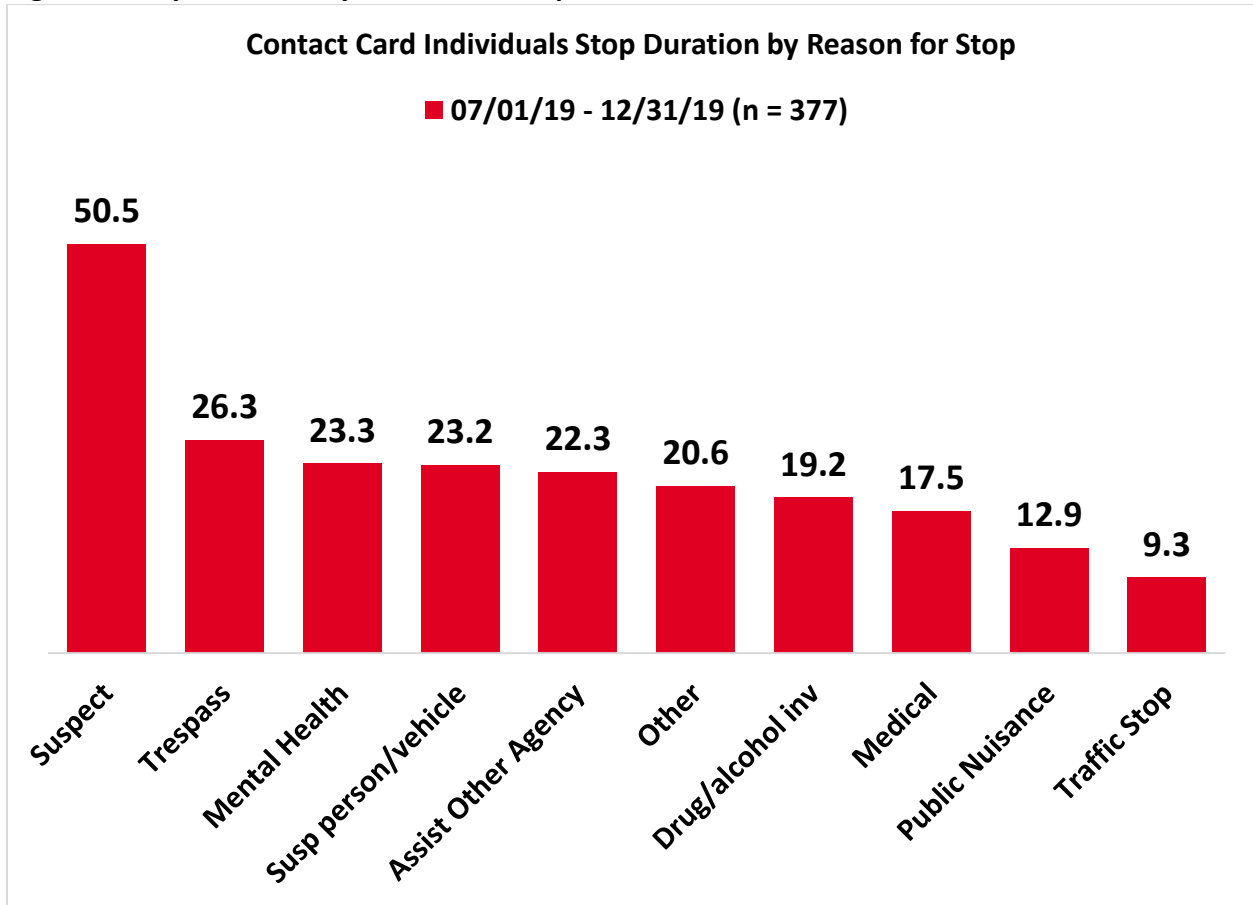**Figure 5. Stop Duration by Reason for Stop**

Figure 5. Displays the amount of time spent on calls. The largest amount of time was spent on Suspects of reported crime. The lowest amount of time was spent on Traffic Stops. All other calls tended to be between 17-30 minutes.

IV. UCPD Contacts: Post-Stop Analyses

When making a stop, the officer has a series of possible actions they may take as a result of the reason for the stop and what the officer observes during the stop. The possible actions listed on the UCPD Contact Card and their definitions are listed below:

- **Advised**: subject provided with information of a university policy or statute
- **Arres**t: physical seizure of an individual
- **Citation**: subject was issued a court summons
- **Student Conduct Referral**: the student is referred to Student Affairs, for a potential student code of conduct violation
- **Criminal Trespass Warning (CTW)**: subject was given a written criminal trespass warning
- **Handled by Other (HBO)**: handled by other police agency
- **72 Hour Evaluation / Psychiatric Hold**: taken into custody reference the UCPD's Mental Health Response policy
- **Recite: subject reissued a court summons from previous infraction**
- **SOW**: sent on way, subject was directed to leave the area
- **Transport**: provided transportation to another location
- **Warning**: in lieu of a citation or arrest the individual was given a verbal warning
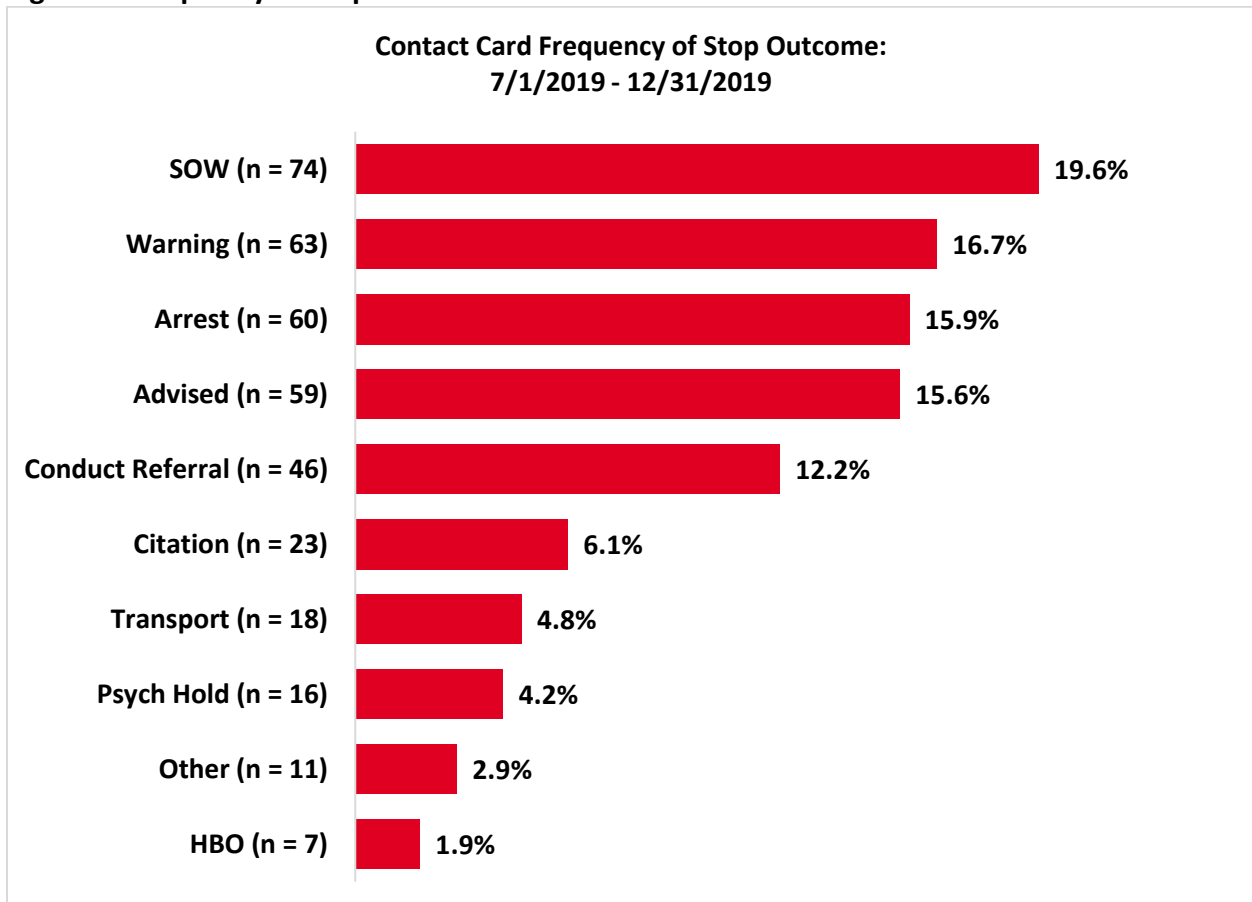
Figure 6. Frequency of Stop Outcome

Contact Card Frequency of Stop Outcome: 7/1/2019 - 12/31/2019

Outcome	Percentage
SOW (n = 74)	19.6%
Warning (n = 63)	16.7%
Arrest (n = 60)	15.9%
Advised (n = 59)	15.6%
Conduct Referral (n = 46)	12.2%
Citation (n = 23)	6.1%
Transport (n = 18)	4.8%
Psych Hold (n = 16)	4.2%
Other (n = 11)	2.9%
HBO (n = 7)	1.9%

Figure 6. Displays the percentages of the different actions taken by a UCPD officer after stopping an individual:
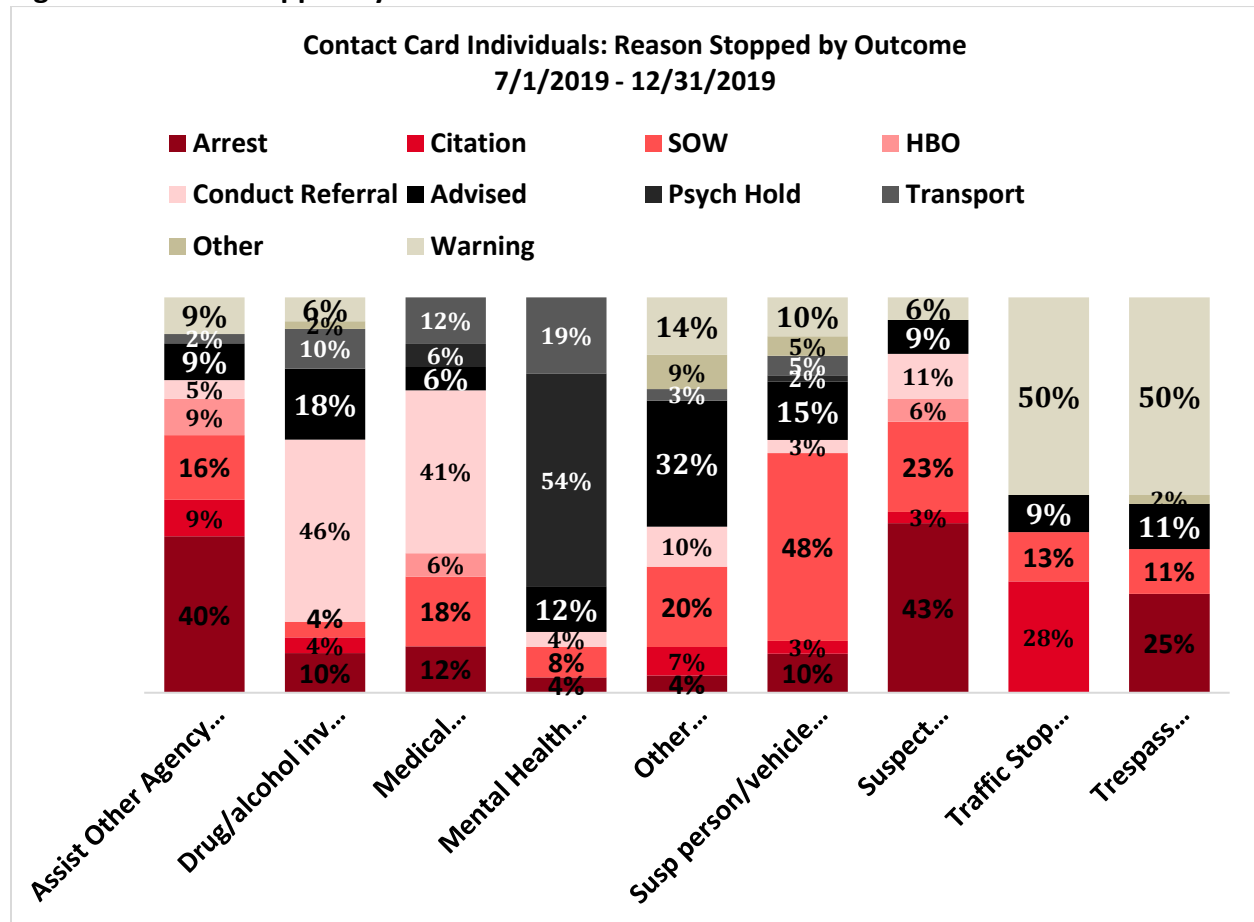
Figure 7. Reason Stopped by Outcome

Figure 7. Shows the action taken during a stop by the different reasons for the stop. This graph shows clear differences.

Stops made for drugs/alcohol resulted in 46% more likely to be conduct referral. Over half of the mental health calls resulted in 72-hour psychiatric evaluations. Finally, Arrest was the more likely outcome for Suspects of Reported Crimes, followed by Assist Other Agency, and Trespass. It is important to note that contact cards capture outcomes of arrest by any agency. For the purposes of this report we have combined them in the graphs for readability.

- Black people (26%) and other minorities (26%) received the most common action taken by UCPD officers: Advised.
- Slightly fewer White people (19%) received an advisement.
- Higher percentages of Other (26%) received student conduct referrals than White people (20%) and Black people (15%), but this could be due to officers encountering fewer Black people students and White people students, as this outcome only applies to UC students.
- Of the 60 arrests during the July – December 2019 timeframe, UCPD officers arrested 35 individuals while the Cincinnati Police Department arrested 25 individuals.
- A higher percentage of White people (18%) were arrested compared to other minorities (17%) and Black people (5%).
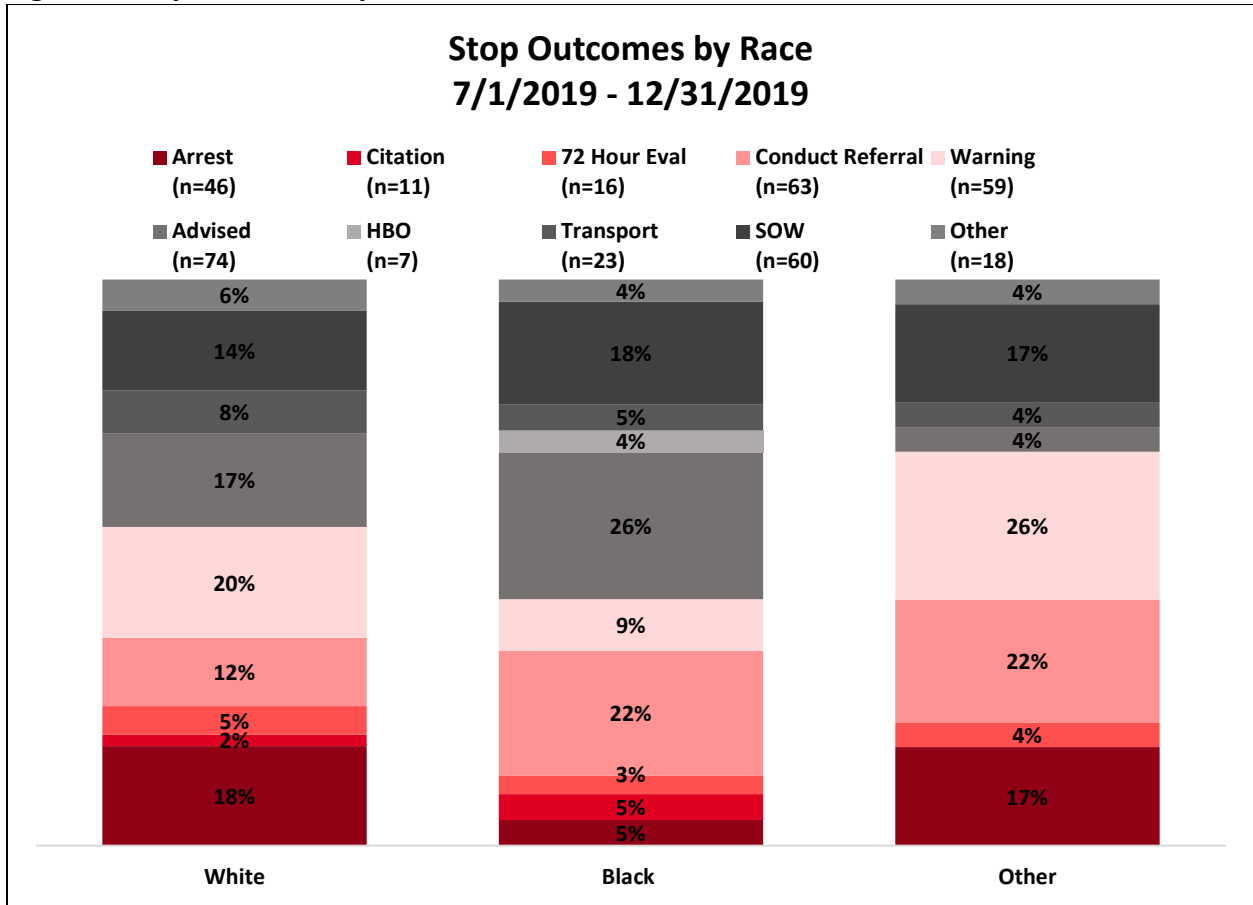
Figure 8. Stop Outcomes by Race.

Stop Outcomes by Race
7/1/2019 - 12/31/2019

Legend:
- Arrest (n=46)
- Citation (n=11)
- 72 Hour Eval (n=16)
- Conduct Referral (n=63)
- Warning (n=59)
- Advised (n=74)
- HBO (n=7)
- Transport (n=23)
- SOW (n=60)
- Other (n=18)

White:
- 6%
- 14%
- 8%
- 17%
- 20%
- 12%
- 5%
- 2%
- 18%

Black:
- 4%
- 18%
- 5%
- 4%
- 26%
- 9%
- 22%
- 3%
- 5%
- 5%

Other:
- 4%
- 17%
- 4%
- 4%
- 26%
- 22%
- 4%
- 17%

Figure 8. Examines the most frequent categories of Action Taken by race/ethnicity

Summary

This report details all 377 UCPD Contact Cards submitted between July 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019. Contact Cards are completed by UCPD officers for each individual they come into contact with during a non-consensual stop (i.e., any traffic stop, suspicious persons contact, field interview or arrest). This data is collected in accordance with the UCPD's Bias Free Policing Policy. Of the 237 incidents resulting in 377 contact cards, the majority of the involved stops were dispatched by UCPD (49.8%) or another police agency (8.9%), while (41.3%) were self-initiated. The majority of contacts were of Males (72.9%), White people (53.1%), and subjects between the ages of 18 to 25 years (54.9%). The most common reason for a non-consensual stop was Suspicious person/vehicle (16.2%), followed by Other (14.3%), and Drug/Alcohol Investigation (13.3%). The most common actions taken to resolve non-consensual stops were Sent on Way (19.6%), Warnings (16.7%), Arrest (15.9%), Advised of University Policy or State Statute, (15.6%), and Student Conduct Referral (12.2%).

The outcomes of stops did show some variation across the reason for stop. For example, the majority of stops made for drugs/alcohol resulted in a student conduct referral, while the majority of mental health calls resulted in psychiatric holds or a transport to other services. When an arrest occurred, it was most likely for stops initiated for the following reasons:

Suspect, suspicious person/vehicle, Assist other Agency, and Trespass. The outcomes of stops were generally similar across racial/ethnic groups, although a disparity exists for arrests. Of stops involving black people, (5%) were arrested, in whereas white people (18%) and other minorities (17%) of arrests as outcomes, respectively. Less than half of the arrests resulted from officer-initiated actions. It is important to note that the information reported here is strictly descriptive in nature.

This summary does not include analyses that examine causal influences. Nevertheless, the Contact Card data provides important information on the patterns associated with UCPD officers' non-consensual stops that UCPD supervisors and commanders can monitor for possible anomalies in order to ensure the Division's officers are engaging in fair and non-biased policing. The review of these data will continue to be conducted on a semi-annual basis; corresponding reports will be made publicly available on the UCPD's website: https://www.uc.edu/about/publicsafety.html.