

To: J. Frank Wiley, Chief of Police
 From: Jeremy Clapper, Inspector
 Date: January 25th, 2020
 Subject: Arrest, Crime, and Demographics review: 2017-2019

The University Police Department (UPD) arrests Black persons at a rate of 2.14 in comparison to White persons. This is an increase from the 2015-2017 rate of 1.65 and the 2014-2016 rate of 1.49. The rate is below the national rate of 2.25.

Table 1 - National and UAlbany Arrest Rates of Black and White Persons (2017-19)						
		Percent of those arrested	Percent of population	Per capita Arrest Rate	Rate at which Black persons are arrested compared to White persons	
Nationally	Total Arrests	United States*				
	All Races	8421481				
	White	5858330	70%	73%	95%	
	Black	2263112	27%	13%	213%	2.25
University Police	Student Arrests	Students**				
	All Races	489				
	White	225	46%	50%	92%	
	Black	216	44%	18%	245%	2.67
University Police	Non- Student Arrests	Non-Students***				
	All Races	507				
	White	224	44%	53%	83%	
	Black	255	50%	29%	173%	2.08
					Aggregate UPD Arrest Rate****	2.14
					National Arrest Rate	2.25
	* FBI Arrest & US Census Data					
	** Admissions data (UAlbany Method)					
	*** DATA USA (https://datausa.io/profile/geo/albany-ny/#demographics)					
	**** Weighted average based on reason for contact (below)					

Additionally, we looked at arrest rates based on the reason for the contact between the arrestee and our officer. The review broke arrests into those initiated by:

- A Community Call for Service,
- A Vehicle & Traffic Stop (VTL), or;
- An Officer Initiated Contact (Patrol).

Table 2 (below) shows this data and demonstrates that when officers’ have little or no discretion, arrests of Black persons were made at a significantly higher proportion than the population demographics. **Black persons were arrested at a lower rate when the contact was officer initiated.** (V&T stops require an offense to occur prior to making a stop, and officers have no discretion and must respond to all Community Calls for Service. Patrol contacts are made completely at the officers’ discretion.)

UPD recognizes that we are receiving more reports from the community involving persons of color. To ensure that we maintain our focus on constitutional community policing we instituted training and education so that UPD officers maintain focus only on the behavior and conduct of the individuals.

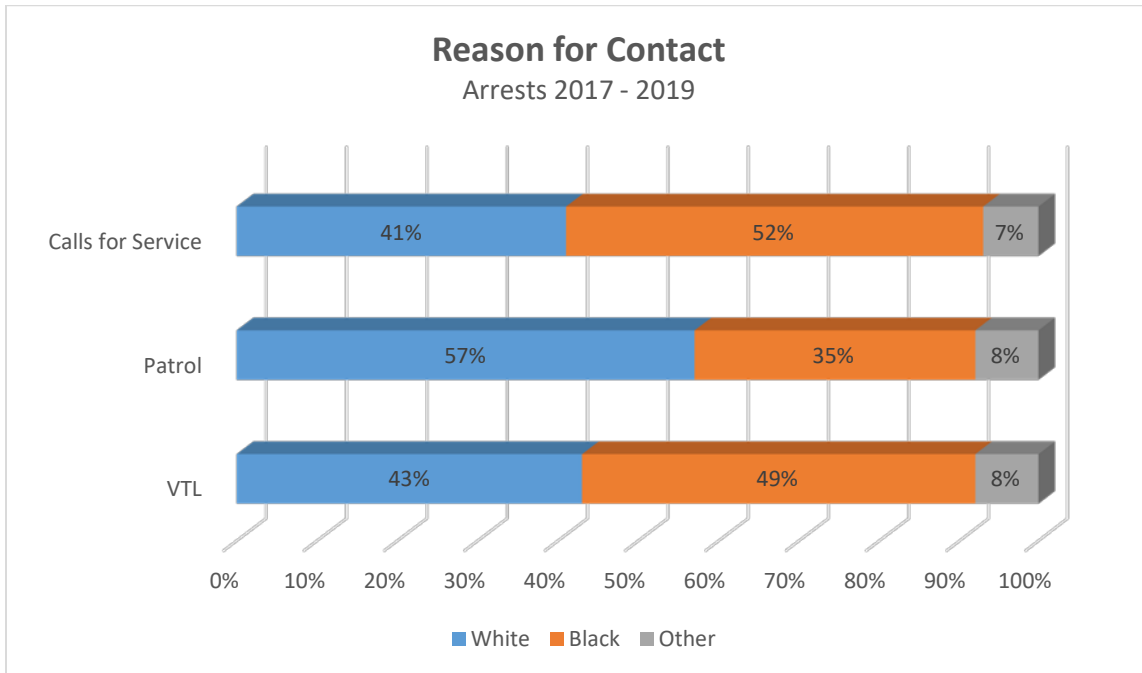
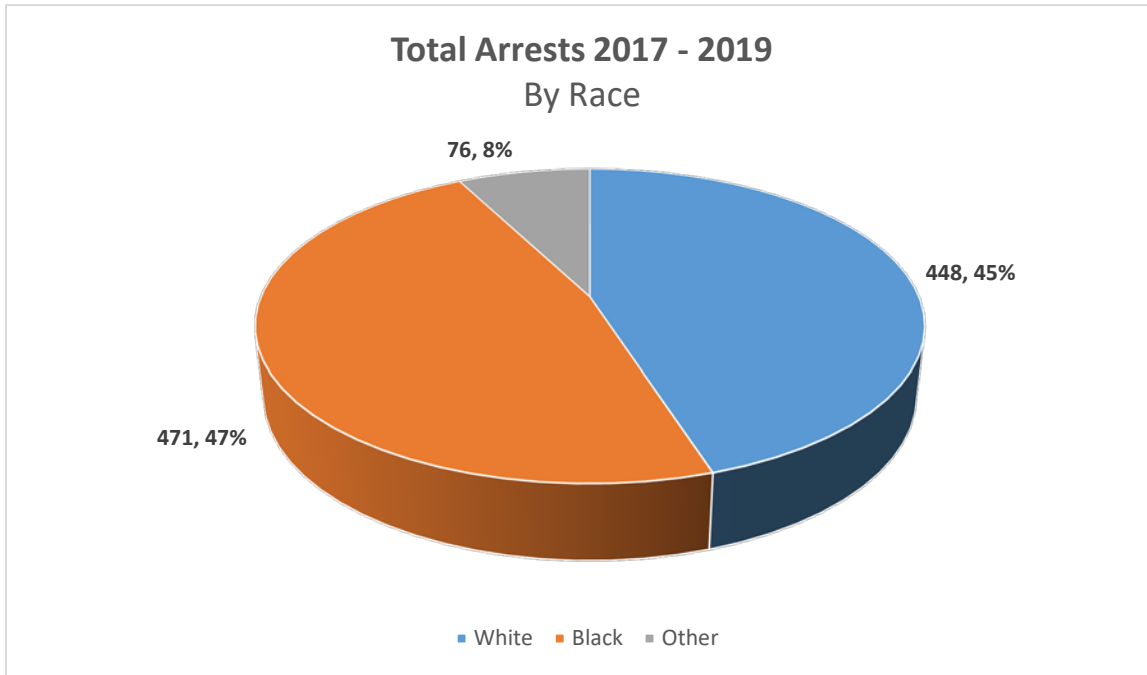


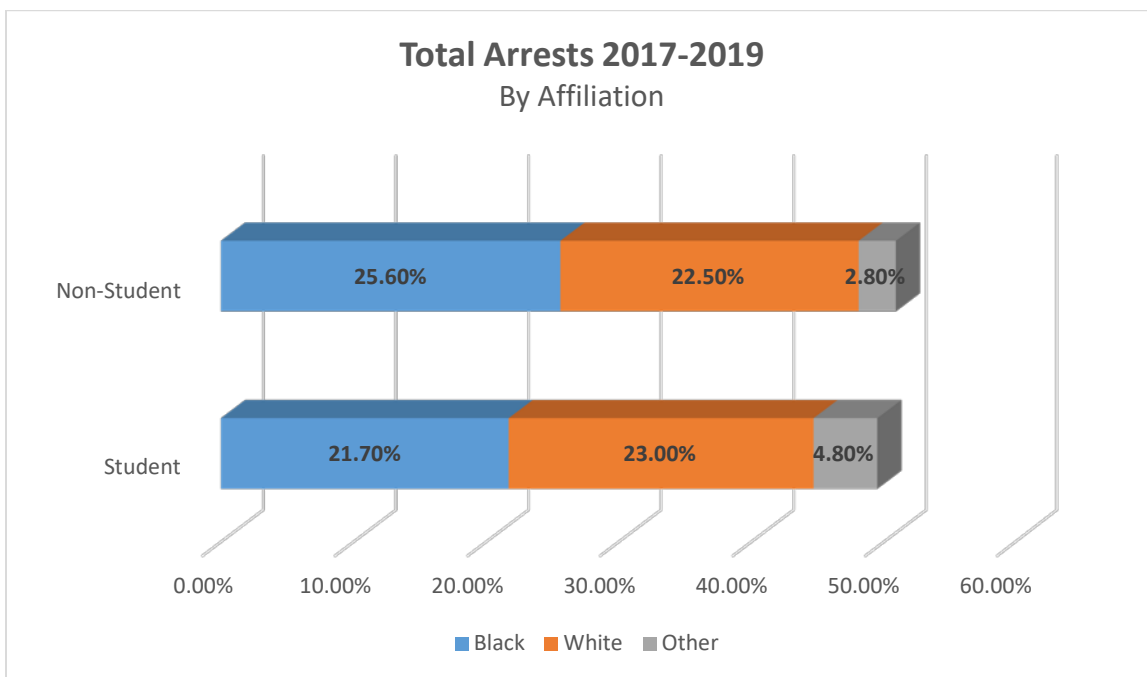
Table 2 - UAlbany Arrest Rates of Black and White Persons based on Reason for Contact: 2017-2019

Reason For Contact	Rate at which Black persons are arrested compared to White persons	Percent of Arrest Activity
Community Calls for Service	2.15	30.4%
Vehicle & Traffic Stop	2.50	52.2%
Officer Initiated Contact	1.06	17.4%
All Contacts	2.14	

The total number of arrests continues to decline from the highest total of 686 in 2015, to 582 in 2016, 407 in 2017, 311 in 2018, and to 278 in 2019. It has fallen significantly below the last 10 year average of 367 annual arrests.

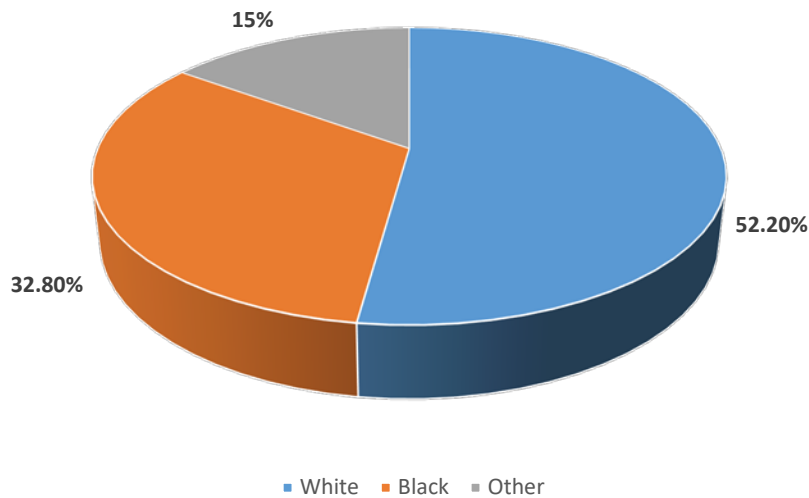


The arrests for this three year period are almost equal between Students and Non-Students. This is a result of the decrease in overall Vehicle and Traffic arrests, where the majority of our Non-Student arrests were historically generated.

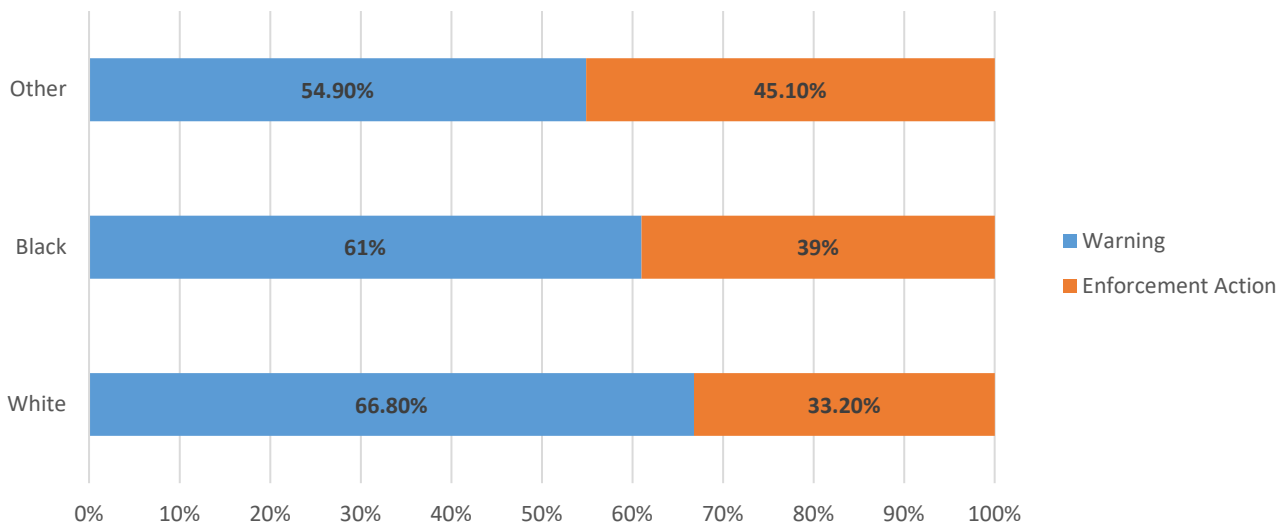


Vehicle stop related arrests are decreasing, but continue to be the largest arrest category. This is also the largest driver in the higher arrest rate of Black persons. (Arrests due to calls from the community are the second highest category, but both are over the 2.00 rate and there are more than 2 times as many V&T related arrests as there are from community calls for service. See Table 2 above.) These V&T arrests are mandatory/non-discretionary arrests for offenses such as DWI, Unlicensed Operation of a Vehicle, and Unregistered Vehicle. **V&T stop totals are consistent with population demographics.**

Vehicle Stop Totals by Race
2017-2019

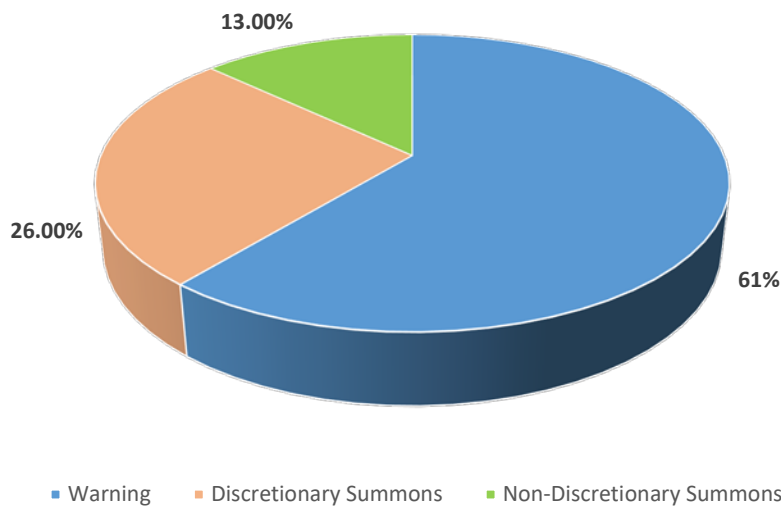


Vehicle and Traffic Stops
2017-2019 with Operator Breakdown

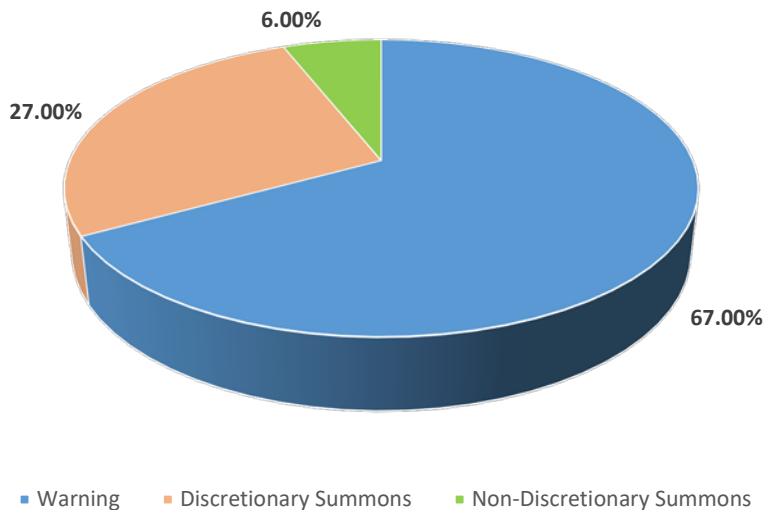


Black operators stopped are more than 50% more likely to be operating a vehicle in a fashion that requires a mandatory arrest when compared to White operators(see charts below). For this reason they are more often subject to an enforcement action (above). This statistic has remained consistent over the last decade. This statistic, the higher percentage of Black persons in our surrounding community, and the number of vehicle and traffic related encounters continues to drive both the increase in the arrest rate of Black persons and the large number of arrested persons being non-campus affiliated.

V&T Contact: Black Drivers
2017-2019



V&T Contact: White Drivers
2017-2019

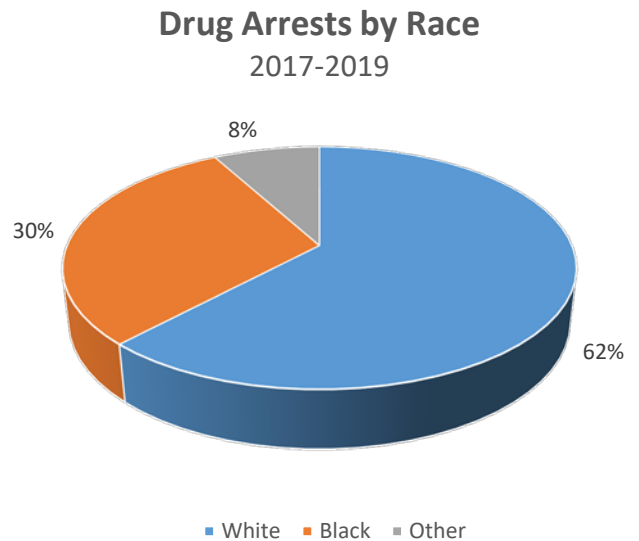


The severity of drug arrests has remained about the same while total drug arrests are down.

As shown in the table below, while petty Unlawful Possession of Marihuana arrests are down, arrests for more serious criminal possession of controlled substance offenses have remained the same. Drug arrests are above the population demographic for White arrestees, and about in-line with the population demographic for Black arrestees.

Drug Arrests	2018	2019	% Change
Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance	48	48	0%
Criminal Possession of Marihuana	32	9*	-72%
Unlawful Possession of Marihuana	129	104	-19%
Total:	209	152	-27%

*NYS Penal Law change affected how this is categorized.



Quality of Life offenses have again decreased by over 7%. Following a slight spike in quality of life offenses in 2016 and a re-focusing to emphasize community police patrols and interaction, we have seen a reduction in crimes that victimize community members.

Quality of Life Crimes	2017	2018	2019	% Change (18 to 19)
Harassment	21	22	26	18.18%
Criminal Mischief	43	33	29	-12.12%
Criminal Tampering	6	4	5	25.00%
Graffiti	14	4	9	125.00%
Grand Larceny	52	44	45	2.27%
Petit Larceny	80	85	75	-11.76%
Burglary	11	22	10	-54.55%
Totals:	227	214	199	-7.01%