

# DEMOGRAPHICS OF POLICE INTERACTIONS

AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF POLICE ACTIVITY  
BY POLICE STRATEGIES LLC

## REPORTED CRIME SUSPECTS

DISPARITIES EXIST IN CRIMES  
REPORTED TO POLICE



Crimes reported to police identify a Black suspect nearly 3 times more often than expected based on population. Native Americans were 68% more likely to be identified as a suspect, and Asians were 65% less likely to be identified as a suspect than expected based on city population demographics.

## POLICE STOPS

ALL RACES EQUALLY LIKELY TO BE CONTACTED

When Spokane police contact individuals either during traffic stops or when investigating suspects in a crime, there are no racial disparities observed. The proportion of stops by race closely resembles the proportion of reported crimes by race.



NO RACIAL DISPARITY FOUND IN ARRESTS

When compared to police stops, persons of all races are equally likely to be arrested. In incidents with more officer discretion (ex: minor traffic violations), Black individuals are 46% less likely and Native American individuals are 76% less likely to be issued a citation or infraction.

## USE OF FORCE

DISPARITY FOUND IN USE OF FORCE

Black arrestees are 22% more likely to have force used against them. Native American arrestees are 49% more likely to have force used against them.



## ENFORCEMENT ACTION

NO SIGNIFICANT RACIAL DISPARITIES



Data suggests the racial groups that are typically viewed as the targets of police racial bias (Blacks, Hispanic/Latinx, and Native Americans) have the lowest risk of enforcement action being taken against them when officers have the highest level of discretion in making law enforcement decisions.

## OUR MISSION

The Spokane Police Department is committed to providing excellence in policing, enhancing the safety and security of individuals, and building partnerships to better the lives of our community members as a whole.

