

Biased Based / Racial Profiling – Annual Report



Year Ending 2019

Each January, the Administrative Sergeant shall review the Departments effort to prevent bias-based profiling and submit an overview. This report is the overview of department's effort and compliance within state law and department policy.

Report prepared by:
Administrative Sergeant
Mike Harden



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Bias-based policing is described as the inappropriate reliance on race, ethnicity or national origin as a factor in deciding whether to take law enforcement action or to provide service.

According to state law (RCW 43.101.410), Local law enforcement agencies shall:

(1) Local law enforcement agencies shall comply with the recommendations of the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs regarding racial profiling, as set forth under (a) through (f) of this subsection. Local law enforcement agencies shall:

- (a) Adopt a written policy designed to condemn and prevent racial profiling;
- (b) Review and audit their existing procedures, practices, and training to ensure that they do not enable or foster the practice of racial profiling;
- (c) Continue training to address the issues related to racial profiling. Officers should be trained in how to better interact with persons they stop so that legitimate police actions are not misperceived as racial profiling;
- (d) Ensure that they have in place a citizen complaint review process that can adequately address instances of racial profiling. The process must be accessible to citizens and must be fair. Officers found to be engaged in racial profiling must be held accountable through the appropriate disciplinary procedures within each department;
- (e) Work with the minority groups in their community to appropriately address the issue of racial profiling; and
- (f) Within fiscal constraints, collect demographic data on traffic stops and analyze that data to ensure that racial profiling is not occurring.

(2) The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall coordinate with the criminal justice training commission to ensure that issues related to racial profiling are addressed in basic law enforcement training and offered in regional training for in-service law enforcement officers at all levels.

(3) Local law enforcement agencies shall report all information required under this section to the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs.

The Lake Forest Park Police Department (LFPPD) has established a policy for Biased Based Policing. The LFPPD utilizes the Lexipol Policy system and adopted policy §402, which covers Bias-Based Profiling. According to the LFPPD Policy §402, the purpose of this policy is to ensure that employees of the Lake Forest Park Police Department do not engage in racial- or bias-based profiling or violate any related laws while serving the community.



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The Lake Forest Park Police Department (LFPPD) strives to provide law enforcement to our community with due regard to the racial, cultural or other differences of those it serves. It is the policy of this department to provide law enforcement services and to enforce the law equally and fairly without discrimination toward any individual or group.

The LFPPD has a citizen complaint review process that can adequately address instances of racial profiling. The process is accessible to the citizens and is fair. Officers found to be engaged in racial profiling are held accountable through the appropriate disciplinary procedures within police department policy §1017.

According to policy §402.3.1 (OTHER PROHIBITIONS), the Lake Forest Park Police Department also condemns the illegal use of an individual or group's attire, appearance or mode of transportation, including the fact that an individual rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle-related paraphernalia, as a factor in deciding to stop and question, take enforcement action, arrest or search a person or vehicle with or without a legal basis under the United States Constitution or Washington State Constitution (RCW 43.101.410; RCW 43.101.419). **There have been no complaints or reported incidents in violation of this policy for the year 2019 by any members of this department.**

According to policy §402.4.2 (REPORTING TRAFFIC STOPS), Each time an officer issues a notice of infraction or criminal citation, the officer shall make a reasonable effort to identify the race of the violator and document that demographic data in Sector and/or the departments records management system. **In 2019, 2077 tickets were issued.** Officers identified the race of those violators on the ticket apart from **301 (14%)** tickets issued with unknown race.

In policy §402.7 (ADMINISTRATION), each year, the Operations Lieutenant shall review the efforts of the Department to prevent racial or bias-based profiling and submit an overview, including public concerns and complaints, to the Chief of Police. This report should not contain any identifying information regarding any specific complaint, citizen or officers. **In 2019, one reported incident/complaint of racial bias that was investigated and was completed as unfounded. No other reports or investigations were conducted regarding minority or racially based incidents.**

According to §402.8 (TRAINING), all members of this department are encouraged to familiarize themselves with and consider racial and cultural differences among members of the community and shall attend training on the subject. Each member of this department is required to complete an approved refresher training course bi-annual, or sooner if deemed necessary, to keep current with changing community trends (RCW 43.101.410(c)).

In 2015, the LFPPD moved from a 5-year rotation of racially based training given to all members of the police department to bi-annual training. In 2018, the LFPPD moved to a bi-annual training. In 2020, the LFPPD is moving to training on racially based training with de-escalation training per state law. **Staff remained in compliance with our policy driven bi-annual biased based policing training requirement.**



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The LFPPD maintains a record management system and collects demographic data on traffic stops and analyzes that data to ensure that racial profiling is not occurring. Below is the available data related to traffic stops, including demographic data:

TICKETS ISSUED

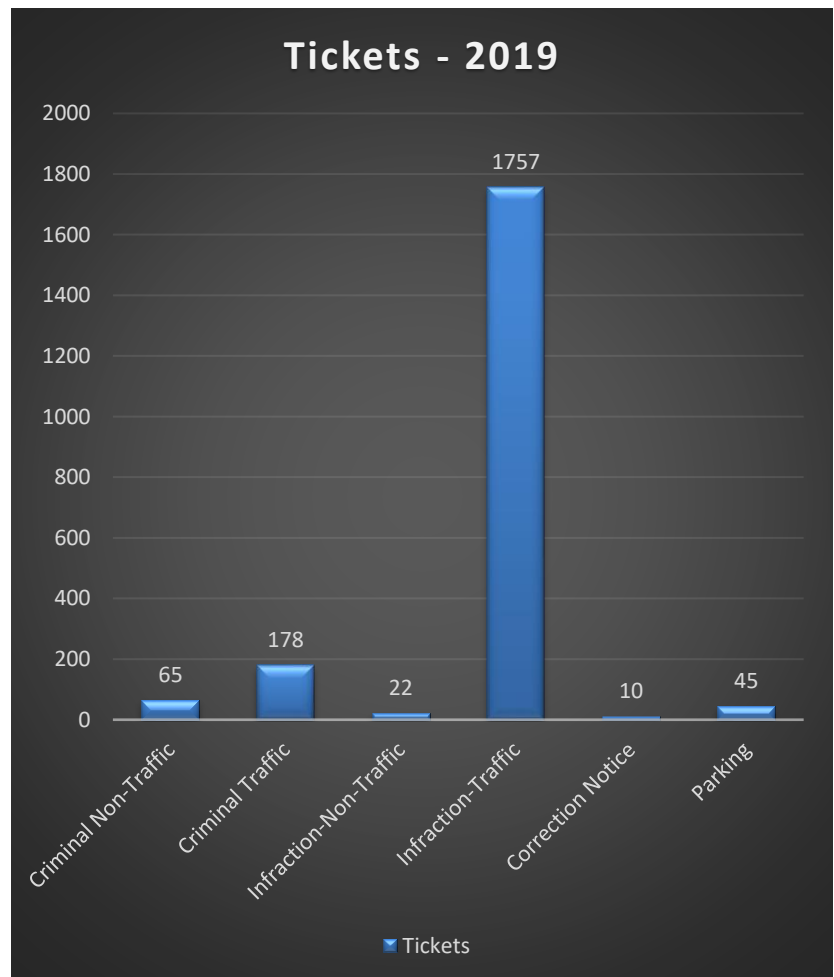
In the year 2019, **2077** tickets were issued.

Tickets are broken down into 3 sections as follows:

- Criminal (Traffic and Non-Traffic)
- Infractions (Traffic and Non-Traffic)
- Parking

<i>Type of Tickets</i>	
<i>Criminal Non-Traffic</i>	65
<i>Criminal Traffic</i>	178
<i>Infraction-Non-Traffic</i>	22
<i>Infraction-Traffic</i>	1757
<i>Correction Notice</i>	10
<i>Parking/Notice</i>	45
Total	2077

85% of the tickets issued are traffic infractions and 9% are criminal traffic citations





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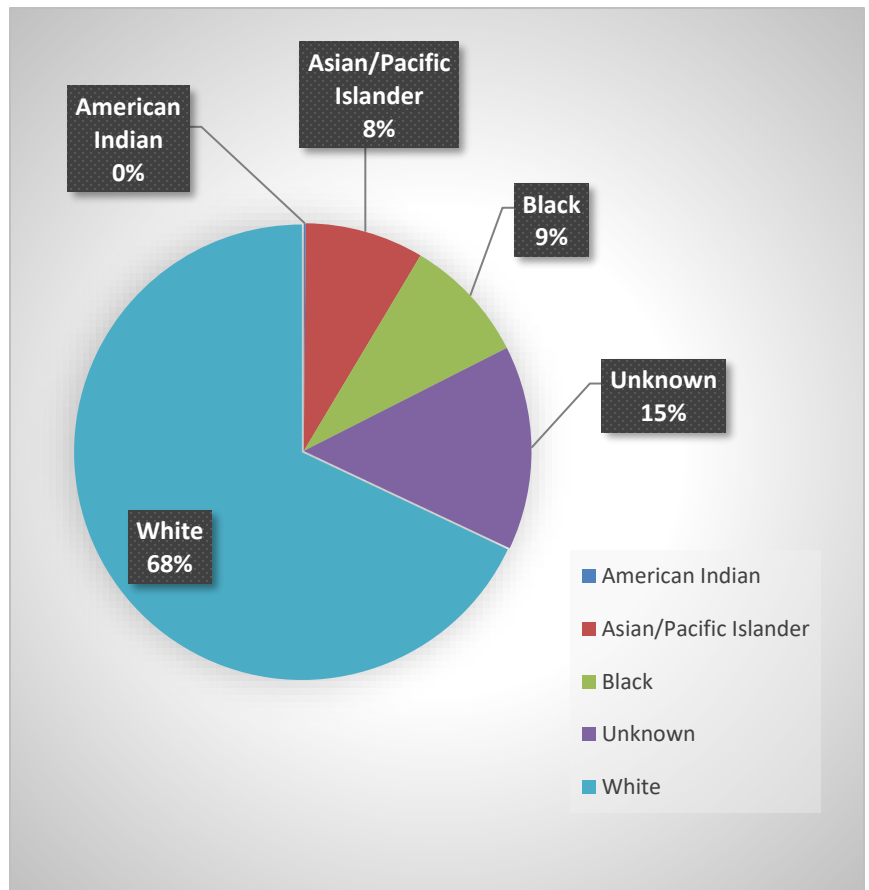
Year 2019

TICKETS ISSUED BY RACE

The records management system breaks down race into 5 sections as follows:

- American Indian
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Black
- Unknown
- White

In 2019, 68% of tickets issued were identified as white individuals, with the remaining racial description generally distributed between the majorities of minority races.





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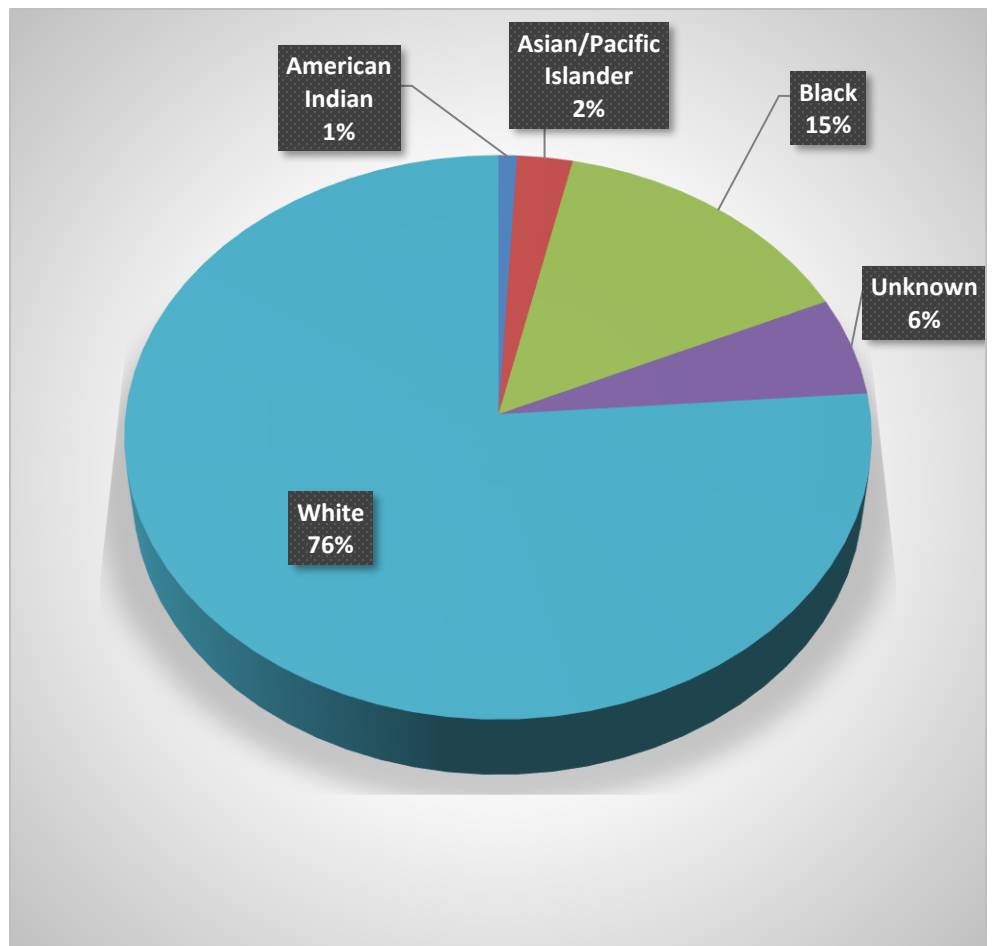
Year 2019

ARRESTS BY RACE

In 2019, **231** arrests were made.

American Indian	2
Asian/Pacific Islander	6
Black	34
Unknown	13
White	176
Grand Total	231

In 2019, 76% of suspects arrested were white individuals, with 15% black and the remaining less than 9%.





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POPULATION and DEMOGRAPHICS

According to the most recent U.S. Census data (2014—2018 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates), in 2019, 82% of the population in Lake Forest Park identified as White, 8% were Asian and 2% Black. 2% of the population identified with another race.

Washington - 2014— 2018 ACS	Estimate	Percentage
White	5,545,997	76.03%
Asian	607,429	8.33%
Two or more races	416,795	5.71%
Some other race	311,170	4.27%
Black or African American	269,854	3.70%
American Indian and Alaska Native	95,048	1.30%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	48,043	0.66%
	7,294,336	100.00%
King County - 2014— 2018 ACS		
King County - 2014— 2018 ACS	Estimate	Percentage
White	1,404,974	64.95%
Asian	370,908	17.15%
Black or African American	136,054	6.29%
Two or more races	135,843	6.28%
Some other race	84,956	3.93%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	16,779	0.78%
American Indian and Alaska Native	13,743	0.64%
	2,163,257	
Lake Forest Park - 2014— 2018 ACS		
Lake Forest Park - 2014— 2018 ACS	Estimate	Percentage
White	10,970	82.00%
Asian	1,014	7.58%
Two or more races	838	6.26%
Some other race	272	2.03%
Black or African American	206	1.54%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	50	0.37%
American Indian and Alaska Native	28	0.21%
	13,378	100.00%

Source:

<https://www.census.gov/acs/www/data/data-tables-and-tools/data-profiles/2018/>



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TRAFFIC VOLUME

The City of Lake Forest Park has two State Routes, SR522 (Bothell Way NE) and SR104 (Ballinger Way NE). According to the State of Washington Department of Transportation Traffic Geo Portal there is an average daily traffic volume of 44,000 vehicles on SR522 before SR104 (2,000 increase from 2018) and 53,000 vehicles after SR104 (1,000 increase from 2018).

Average Daily Traffic Volume

State Route	Daily	Weekly	
SR522*	46,250	323,750	*On SR522 between 47 th Ave NE to NE 145 th St in Lake Forest Park
SR104*	17,000	119,000	*On SR104 between 25 th Ave NE to SR22 in Lake Forest Park

Source:

As of 2018, the Annual Traffic Report is no longer published. Point-specific traffic volume data is now available through a Traffic Geoportal map interface located at: <https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/data/tools/geoportal/?config=traffic>.

In conclusion, the Lake Forest Park Police Department (LFPPD) has established a policy for Biased Based Policing. In review of existing procedures and practices, there is no indication of a system or practice of racial profiling.

Respectfully Submitted: Sergeant Harden, Lake Forest Park Police Department