

Law Enforcement Indicators:

Community Response

Use of Force

Community Engagement

Presentation to the NC House Select
Committee on Community Relations,
Law Enforcement, and Justice

September 2, 2020



RTI APPLIED JUSTICE RESEARCH CENTERS

Community Safety & Crime Prevention
Policing Research & Investigative Science
Forensic Sciences
Courts & Corrections Research

FOCUS AREAS

Justice, safety, and resilience
Race and health equity
Victimization and victim services
Investigative science
Agency workforce and workplace challenges
Evidence-based policing strategies



delivering the promise of science
for global good

NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS AND IMPACT

Research, Training and Technical Assistance work in collaboration with

- Durham Police Department
- Raleigh Police Department
- Greensboro Police Department
- Charlotte/ Mecklenburg School System
- NC Center for Safer Schools
- NC Department for Juvenile Justice
- NC State Bureau of Investigation
- US Departments of Justice, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security
- Arnold Ventures

Law Enforcement Indicators to Inform Policy



Law Enforcement Indicators to Inform Policy



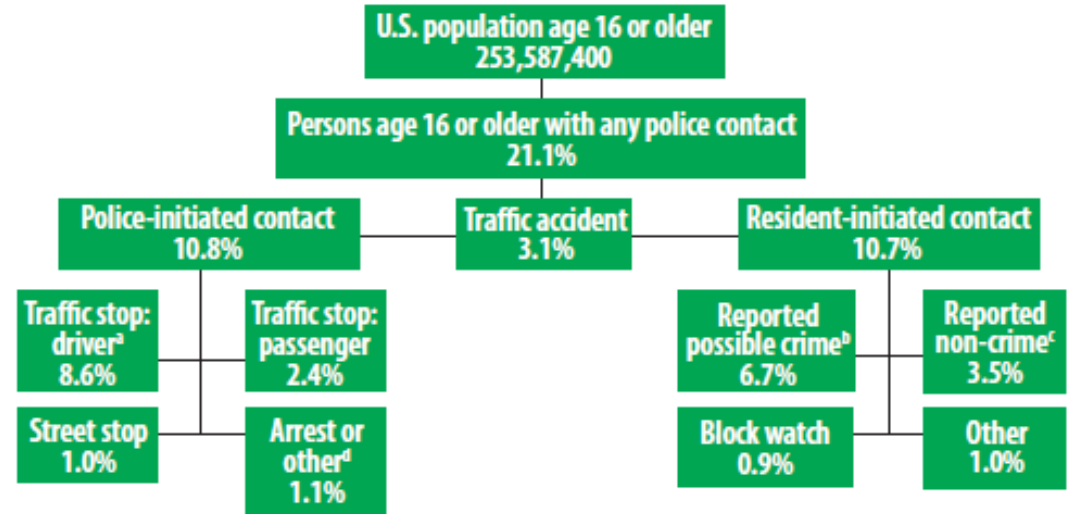
National Household Survey on Police-Public Contact

In 2015, an estimated 21% of U.S. residents age 16 or older—about 53.5 million persons—had experienced some type of contact with the police.

Black residents were more likely to be pulled over in traffic stops and to experience street stops than white and Hispanic residents.

FIGURE 1

Percent of U.S. population age 16 or older who had any police contact, by type of contact and reason, 2015





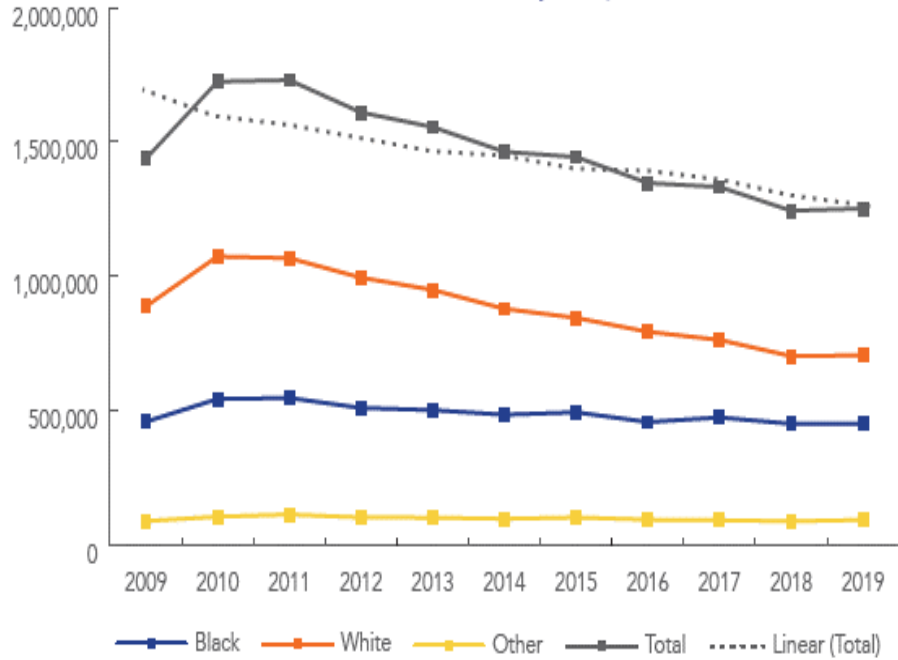
Traffic Stops & Impact of Potential Bias

Why focus on traffic stops?

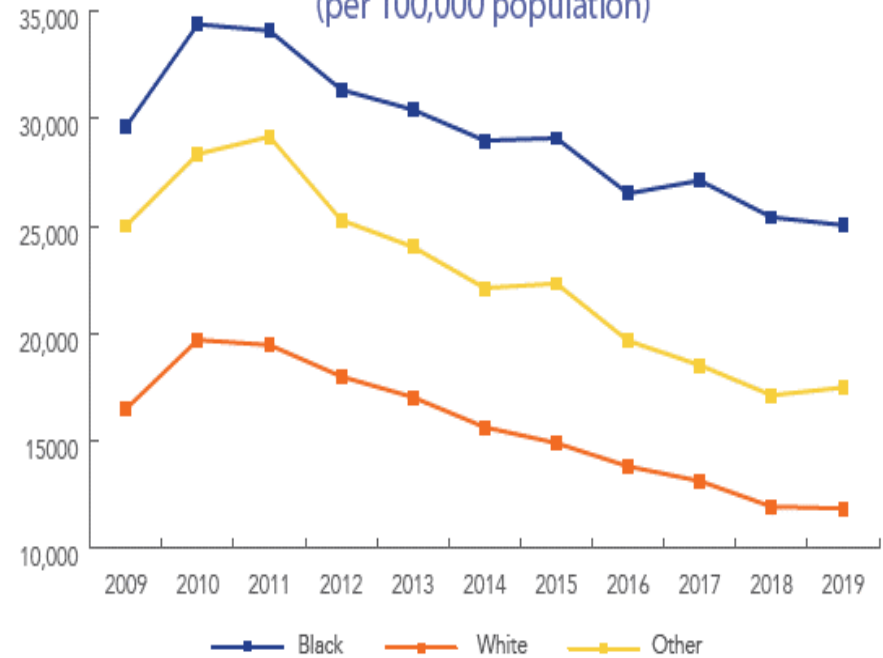
- Common activity associated with proactive enforcement; highly visible to community
- Has the potential for serious negative consequences, individually and in aggregate
- Perception that traffic stops may be arbitrarily conducted

North Carolina Traffic Stop Data By Race, 2009-2019

Number of Stops By Race

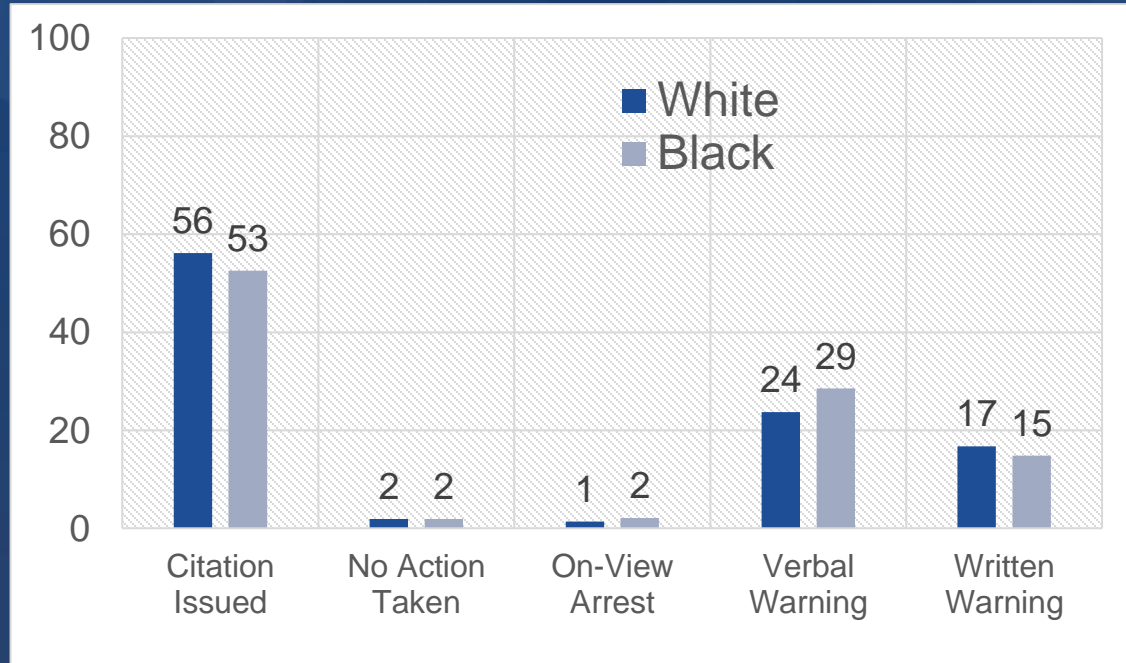


Rate of Traffic Stops By Race (per 100,000 population)



Outcomes of NC Traffic Stops By Race, 2009-2019

- After stop, black drivers and white drivers receive similar law enforcement action.
- Overall, 3.05 drivers were searched after being stopped.
- Black drivers were searched 1.9 times as often as white drivers after being stopped.





Exploring Racial Disproportionality in Traffic Stops Conducted by the Durham Police Department

Data provided by Durham PD in an effort to promote transparency and better understand their operations.

Analysis of data from more than 150,000 traffic stops conducted from 2010 through 2015 found that black male drivers were disproportionately pulled over in traffic stops.

- No evidence of disproportionality among stops conducted by the Traffic Unit.
- Racial disproportionality declined over the study period.

RTI-STAR

Developed in 2016 by RTI International's Policing Research Program and Center for Data Science



In order to complete your traffic stop analysis, you are going to need to know the city you are analyzing and have an Excel or CSV file of the traffic stop records for that city. First, choose your city. If we find more than one city with that name, you'll have a chance to pick which one.

Step 1: Choose your city

When you start to enter your city, a menu will appear with suggestions. You can choose one of them or keep typing.

Step 2: Upload your traffic stop records

Step 3: Select the right columns from your records

Step 4: Pick your target group

Step 5: See your analysis



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Law Enforcement Indicators to Inform Policy



Use of Force and Arrest-Related Death Indicators

- Resident-initiated contacts
- Police-initiated contacts
- Traffic stops

Arrests

Use of force incidents

Arrest-related deaths

Deadly use of force incidents

~ 2,000 officer-
involved shootings

?
Other uses of force

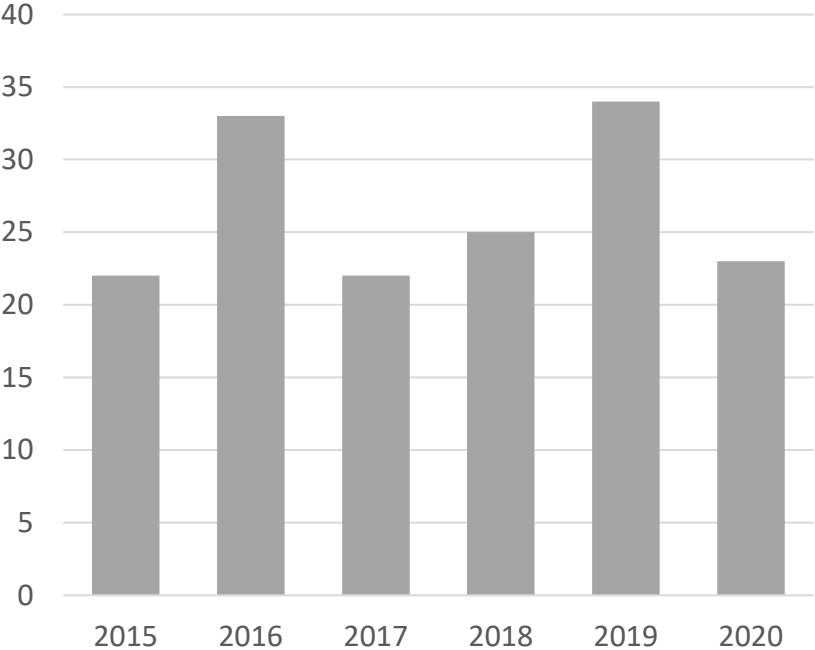
~ 2,000
Deaths in police custody due to use of
force, suicide accidents & natural causes

~1,000
Deaths resulting from officer-
involved shootings

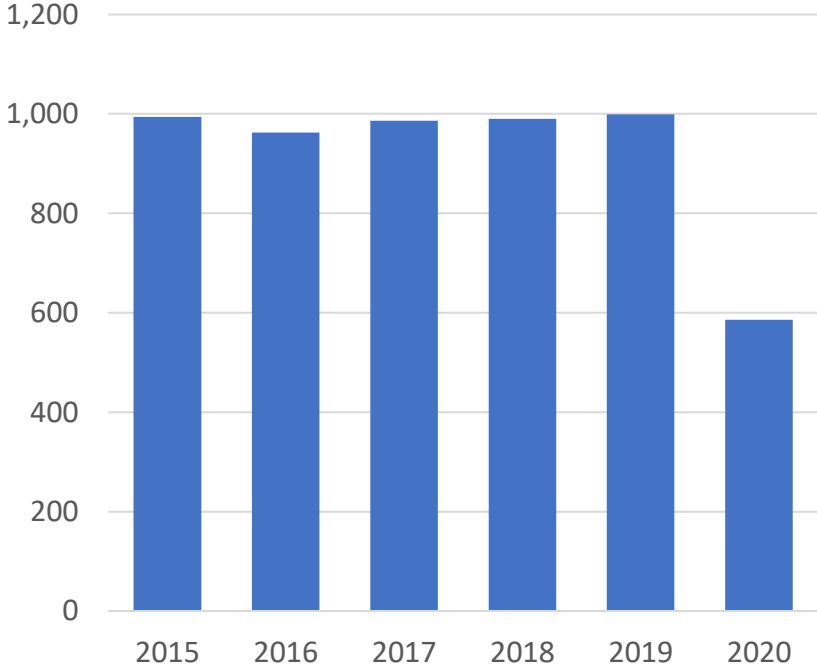
~300
Officers injured or
killed by gunfire

Fatal Officer-Involved Shootings: NC and National Statistics

NC Deadly Officer-involved Shootings as Compiled by the Washington Post, 2015-2020



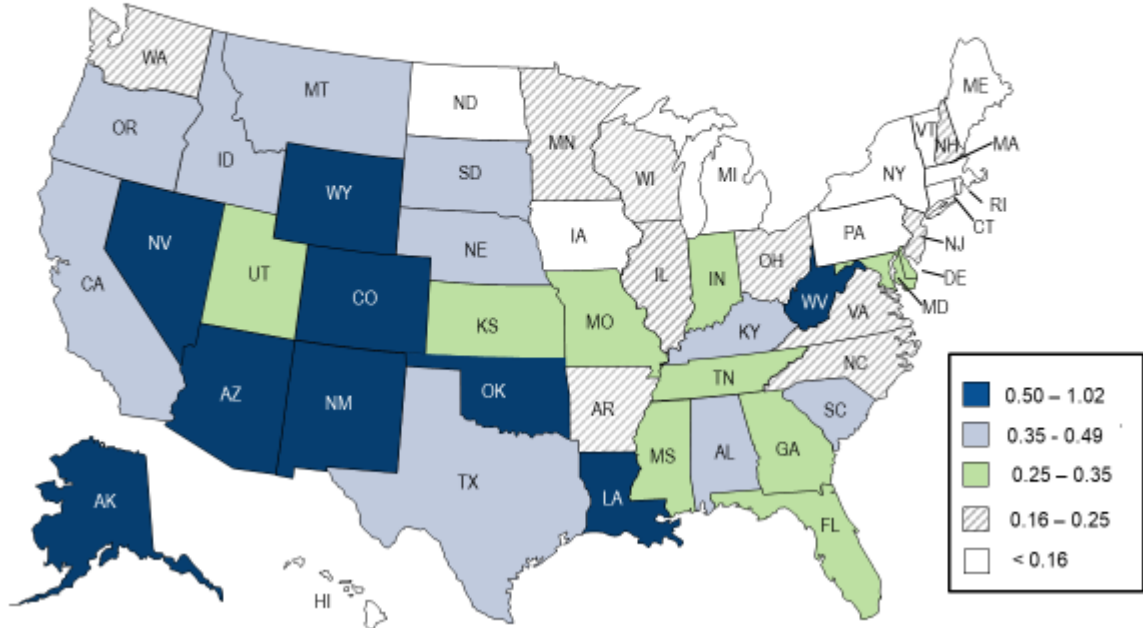
US Deadly Officer-involved Shootings as Compiled by the Washington Post, 2015-2020



Fatal Officer-Involved Shootings: National Statistics by State

In 2015, there were 0.4 law enforcement shooting deaths per 100,000 US population age 12+

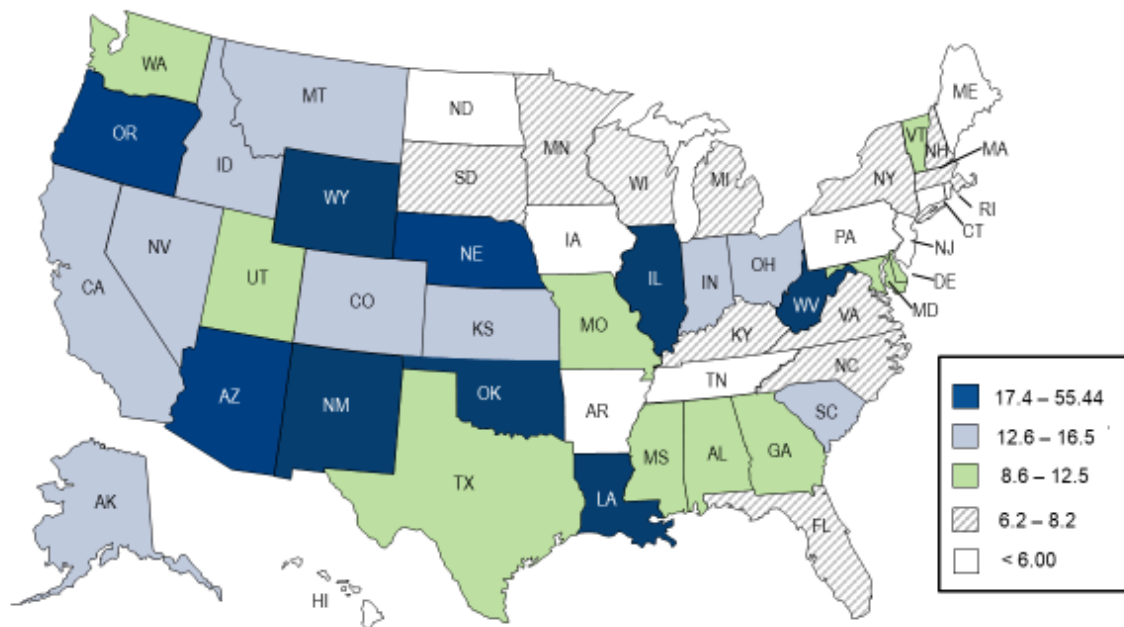
Rate of law enforcement shooting deaths per 100,000 population by state, 2015-2016



Fatal Officer-Involved Shootings: National Statistics by State

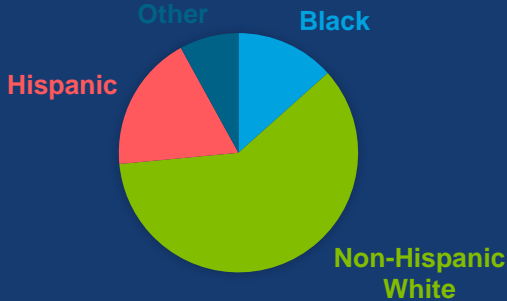
In 2015, there were 9.22 law enforcement shooting deaths per 100,000 arrests in the US

Rate of law enforcement shooting deaths per 100,000 arrests by state, 2015

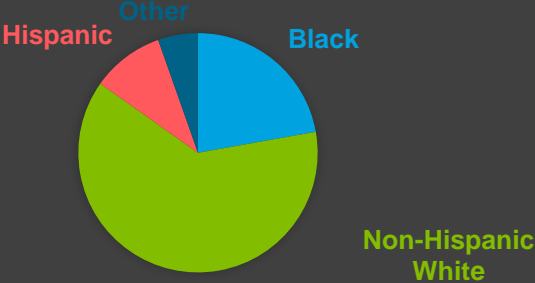


2019 Fatal Officer Involved Shootings, by Race

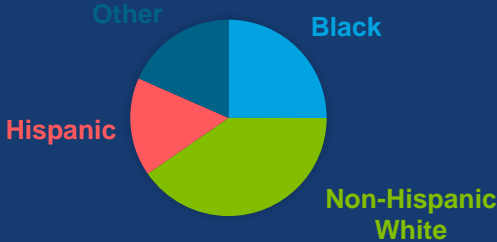
US POPULATION



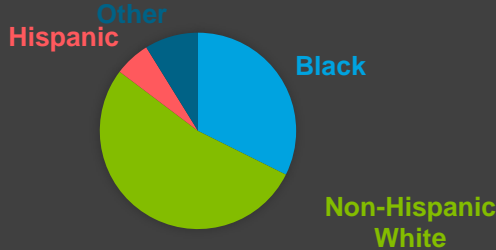
NC POPULATION



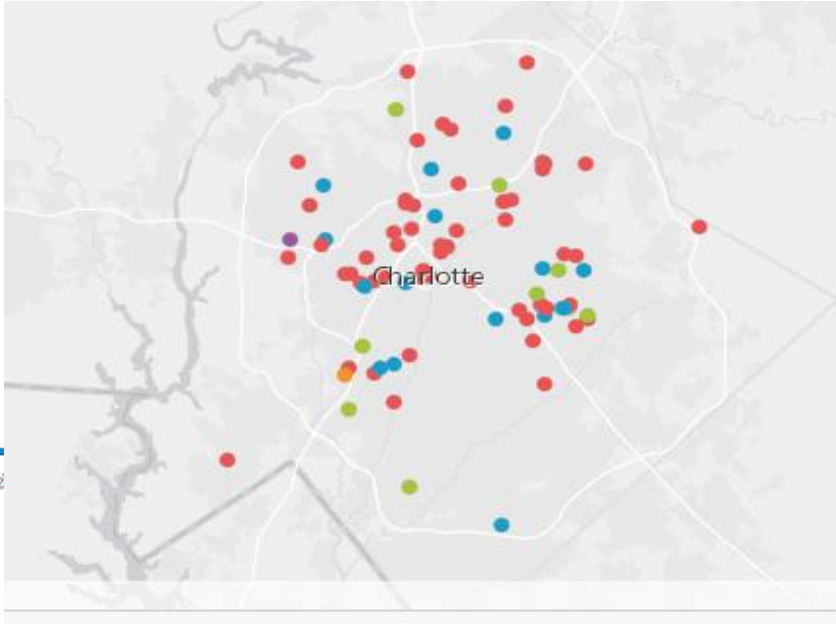
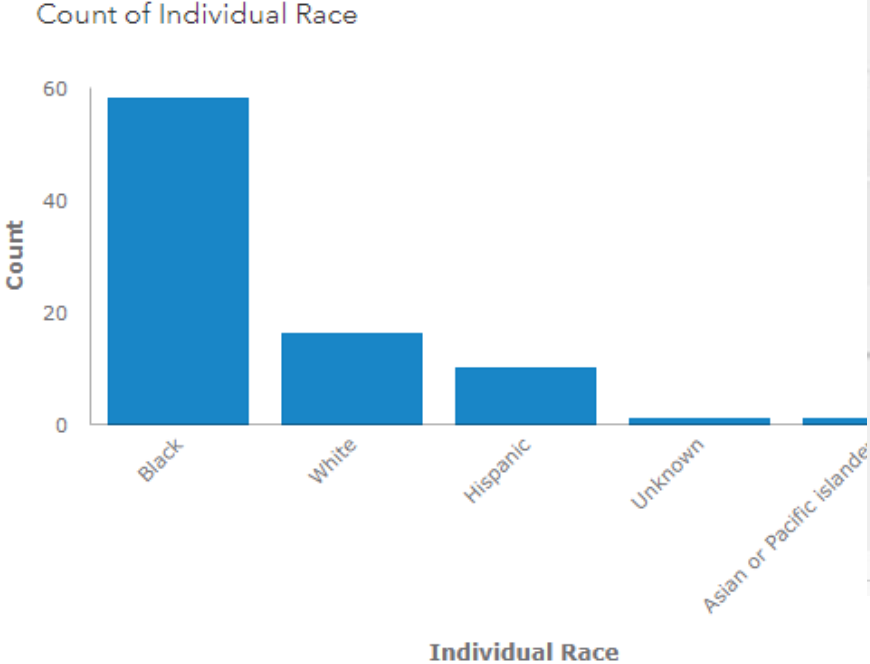
US FATAL OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTINGS



NC FATAL OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTINGS



Charlotte-Mecklenburg Officer-Involved Shootings, 2018



Circumstances surrounding fatal officer-involved shootings in NC, 2015-2020 (N = 159)

- The vast majority of incidents in NC involved an individual who was armed or appeared to be armed.
- Approximately one-fifth of incidents involved someone who displayed signs of mental illness.
- White individuals account for most of the incidents where signs of mental illness were reported.
- Individuals who were reportedly armed account for most of the incidents that involved signs of mental illness in NC, different from national picture.

FBI Use of Force Data Collection, launched in 2019

Measures the characteristics of the

- **Incident**
- **Subject**
- **Officer**

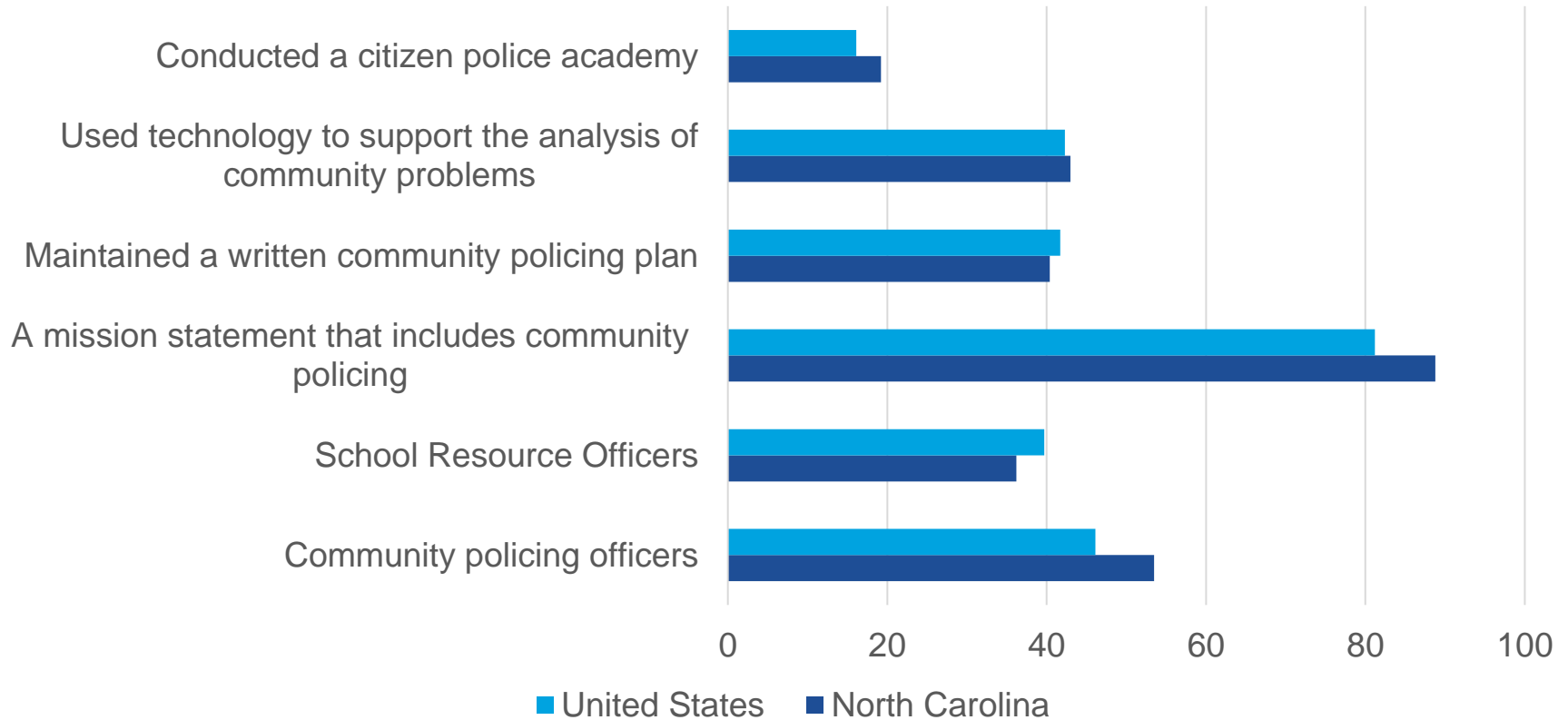
In 2019, 20 out of the 576 agencies in NC participated and provided use-of-force data.

The officers employed by these agencies represent 11% of the sworn law enforcement officers in the state

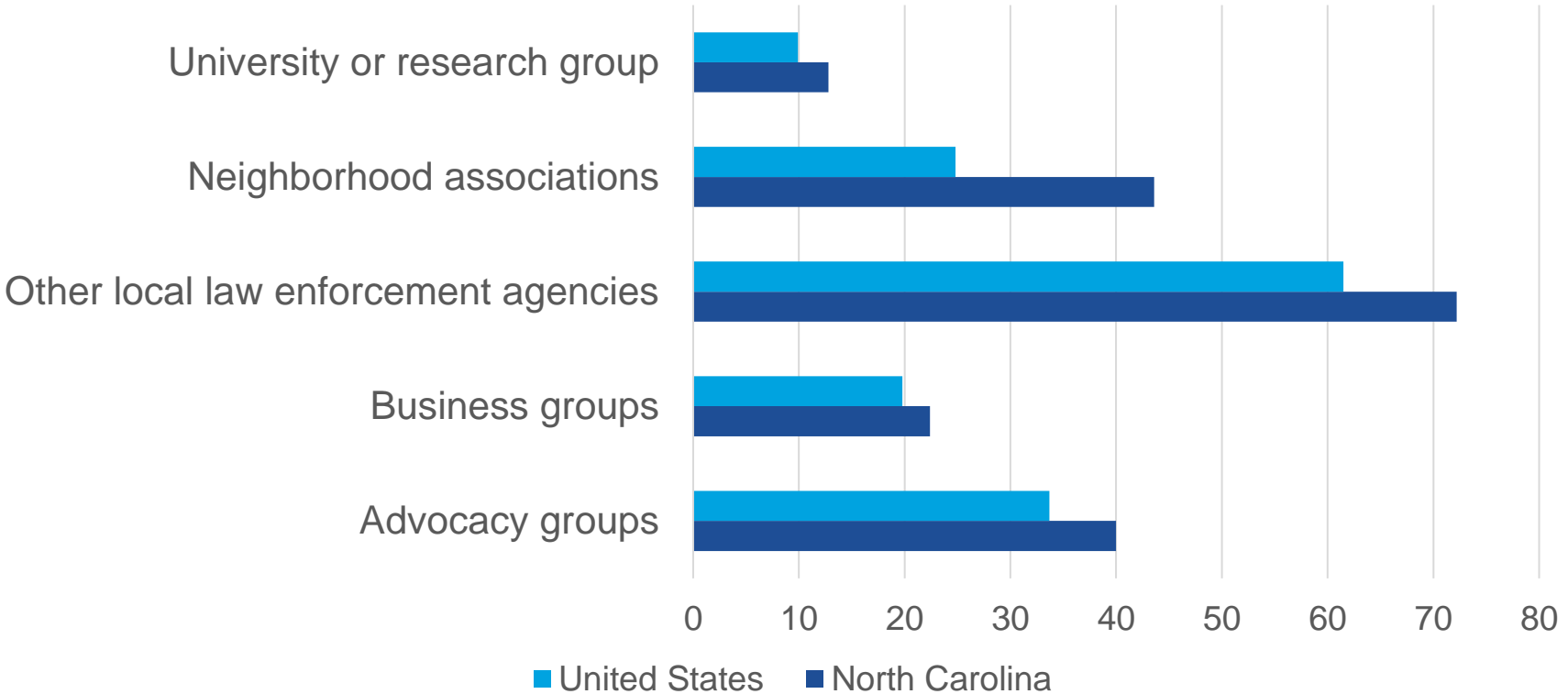
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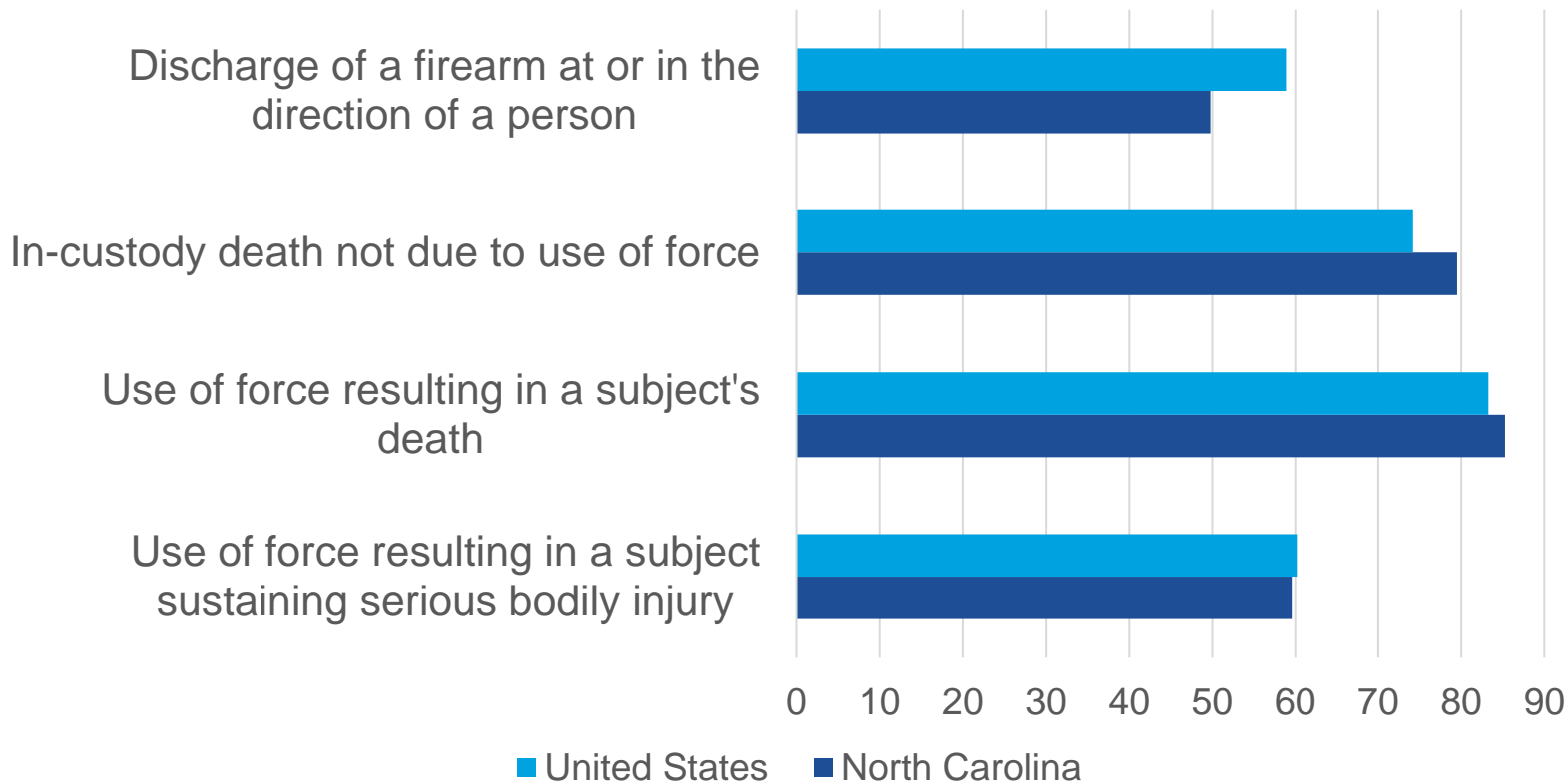
Average Percent of Law Enforcement Agencies Reporting



Average percent of agencies with problem solving partnerships or written agreements with community groups



Proportion of agencies that require an external investigation in identified situations



Strategies to engage the community and promote transparency

- Community surveys and other community feedback forums
- Community and/or other partner roles on oversight boards, funding allocations, or to inform training/ policy
- Public reporting of community indicators of safety and wellness
- Transparency in policing priorities, personnel, performance, funding, and accountability
- Community policing programs and co-led approaches to address community safety and wellness
- Characteristics of police public contact incidents
- Calls for service analysis

Policies and practices that can be informed by data and evidence-based strategies

- Training
- Recruit and retention
- Written documentation on Use of Force Policies & Incidents
- Multidisciplinary coordinated first responder teams
- Community surveys and engagement
- Transparency in identifying and reporting key metrics

Thank you

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