

Louisiana State Police

Reporting of Statistics Related to Traffic Citations



This report is designed to meet requirements set forth in Revised Statute 32:398.10.

Data collected January 1st, 2024
through December 31st, 2024

Technology and Business Support

VISION

The Louisiana State Police will be a model of an exemplary law enforcement organization providing service to the public, the law enforcement community, and allied agencies through impartial enforcement of the laws. Our highly skilled workforce will serve as a model of forward-thinking leadership and professionalism.

MISSION

The Louisiana State Police is a statutorily mandated, statewide law enforcement agency charged with ensuring the safety, order, and security of the people in the state through enforcement, regulation, education, and provision of other essential public safety services.

VALUES/PHILOSOPHY

The values/philosophy of the Louisiana State Police can be summed up by the abbreviated acronym for leadership: **LEADERSHIP**.

Loyalty – Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the State of Louisiana, and the communities you serve.

Equity – Serve with fairness, impartiality, compassion, and empathy for all.

Accountability – Maintain public trust with transparency and honesty.

Duty – Fulfill your obligations.

Excellence – Deliver the highest quality of service through innovation and discipline.

Respect – Treat people as they should be treated.

Selfless Service – Put the welfare of others before your own.

Honor – Live up to all the State Police core values.

Integrity – Do what is right – legally and morally.

Personal Courage – Face fear, danger, or adversity (physical or moral).

Collection of Statistics

For the collection of statistics, Louisiana State Police (LSP) utilized Mark43 for Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS), as well as Pulse for eCitation. Both systems are configured to allow LSP to collect and analyze data related to the nature of the stop, the violation, information on both the violator and the trooper/officer, the location of the stop, whether a search was conducted, and the overall result of the stop. The LSP Technology and Business Support Data Team utilizes AWS, ArcGIS, and Tableau to report and analyze the collected data.

To ensure the data is collected properly, the LSP Data Team traveled throughout the state to provide hands-on instruction. To ensure on-going consistency on data quality, the LSP Data Team conducts monthly data quality audits and will provide quarterly refresher updates.

Executive Summary

- Revised Statute 32:398.10 (D) requires Louisiana State Police (LSP) to collect statistical information regarding the age, sex, race, and state of residence of motorists issued traffic citations by Louisiana Troopers and DPS Officers and shall provide a report of this information annually both to the governor and members of the legislature on or before May 1st of every year.
- RS 32:398.10 requires that LSP shall record and retain the following information: race, sex, age and state of residence for involved persons; nature of traffic violation; whether stop resulted in warrant, citation, arrest, or search; legal basis, type of search conducted, whether contraband was discovered and property was seized; and certain stats associated with RS 32:300.5, 32:300.6, 32:300.7, and 32:289.1.
- The report analyzes enforcement activity conducted by LSP. The Data Team was tasked to identify potential patterns of biased policing or inconsistent application of the law.
- The data in this report indicates that the LSP conducted 176,087 traffic stops. Of the stops that were conducted, 122,882 resulted in citations, 17,468 lead to written warnings, and 35,737 resulted in verbal warnings. This analysis reveals that approximately 20.48% of traffic citations, 21.31% of written warnings, and 52.13% searches conducted in the State of Louisiana were of persons that reside outside of the state.
- Enforcing the law and ensuring community safety are essential elements of our public safety approach. In all aspects of our police operations, we are dedicated to carrying out enforcement activities without bias. We also reaffirm our commitment to policing Louisiana with fairness, treating every individual with dignity and respect.
- Transparency is a core value of our agency, and we take it very seriously. Our goal is to make Louisiana a safe place for everyone to live, work, and enjoy.
- Our bias policing policy is publicly accessible on lsp.org.

Total Number of Persons Stopped for Traffic Violations

122,882
Citations

This number represents the total number of traffic stops that resulted in a citation.

17,468
Written Warnings

This number represents the total number of traffic stops that resulted in a written warning.

35,737
Verbal Warnings

LSP currently does not utilize a system that allows troopers/officers to document subject demographics associated with verbal warnings. In order for LSP to improve the documentation of subject demographics per RS 32:398.10, in mid 2024 LSP issued a policy clarifying the usage of written warnings. Based on enhancements in technology and policy, LSP has already seen a reduction in verbal warnings from 55,218 in 2023 to 35,737 in 2024.

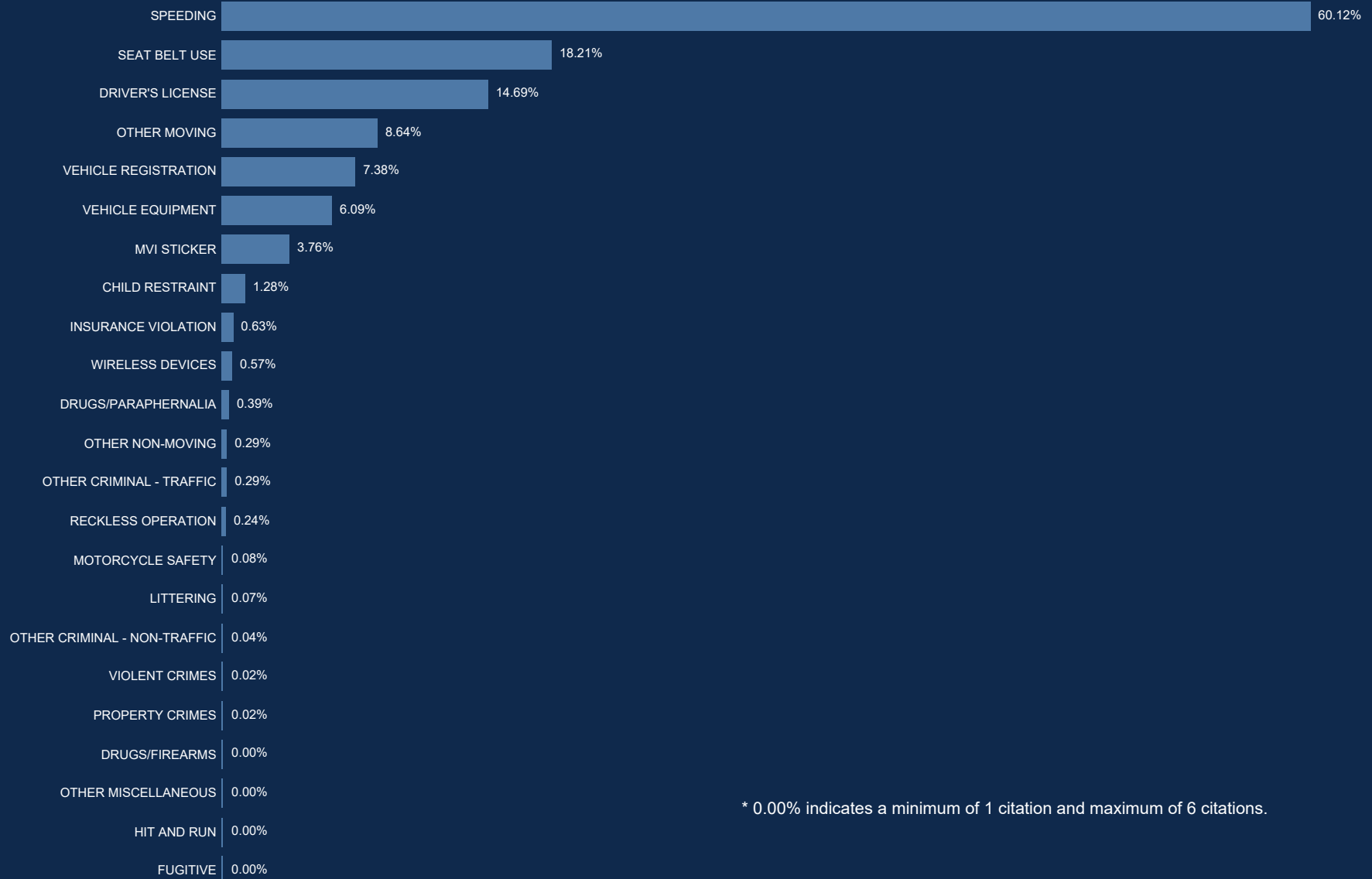
The grand total of traffic stops that resulted in citations and written warnings is 140,350.

This particular subset will be used in our analysis.

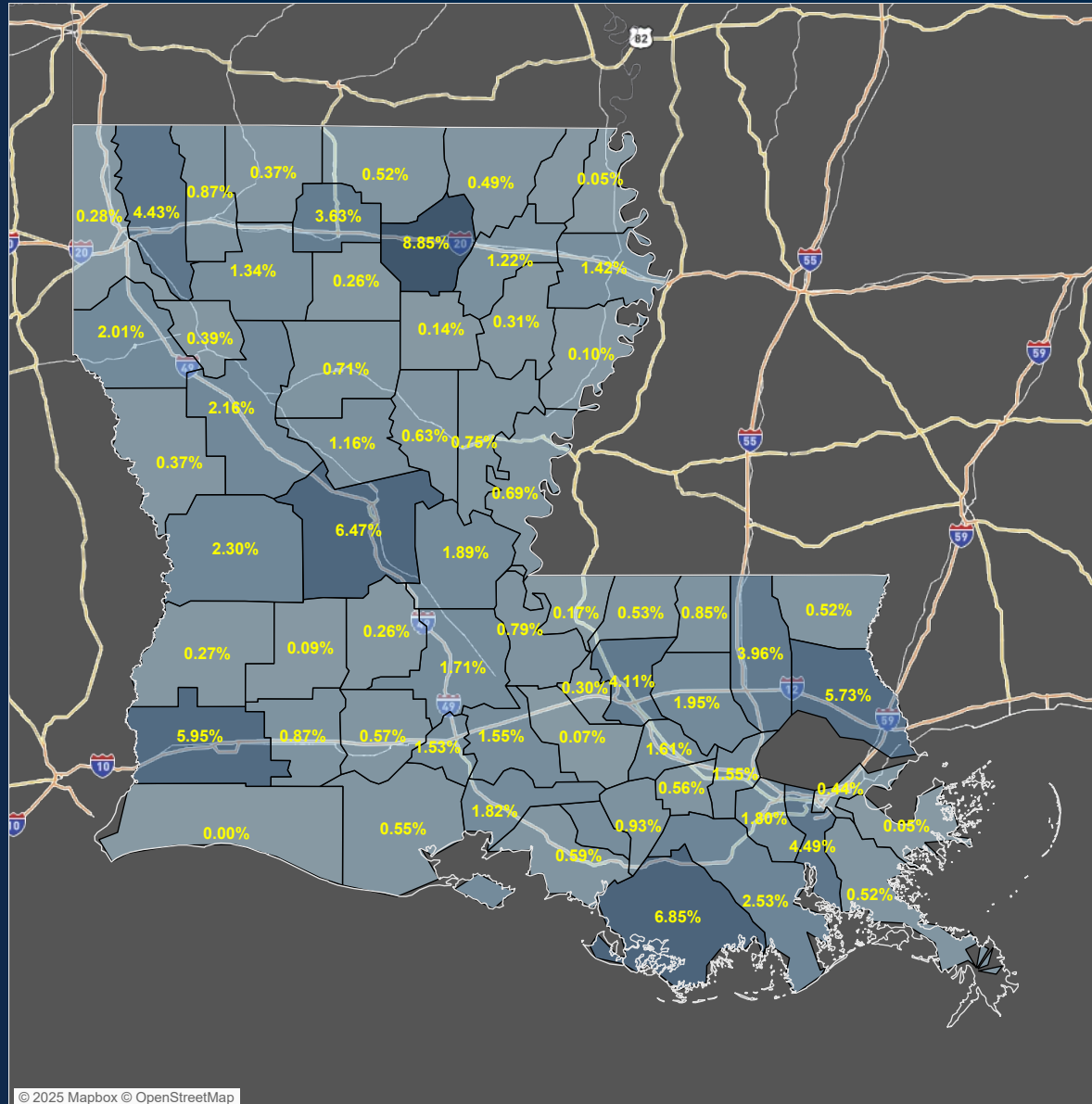
Traffic Stops Resulting in Citations

- The interaction between a trooper/officer and a member of the public, when the individual is stopped for violating a traffic or criminal statute, typically results in the issuance of a traffic citation, a written warning, a verbal warning, or an arrest. The upcoming slides will specifically address traffic stops that lead to the issuance of a citation.
- Data analysis reveals that speeding is the most common reason for traffic stops, followed by seatbelt violations and other offenses related to moving violations, vehicle equipment, and driver's licenses and registration.
- An examination of location data indicates that the majority of traffic stops occur along major roadways, particularly near densely populated areas throughout Louisiana.
- Citations are predominantly issued to males, who account for 64.59% of recipients. White individuals receive the highest proportion of citations (49.36%), with Black individuals following closely at 38.53%.
- The age distribution of citation recipients shows little variation with both primary age groups—20-34 and 35-64—each comprising 43% of those cited, and combined account for 86% of all traffic violations.
- Regarding geographic origin, most individuals receiving citations are residents of the State of Louisiana, followed by those from neighboring states Texas and Mississippi.

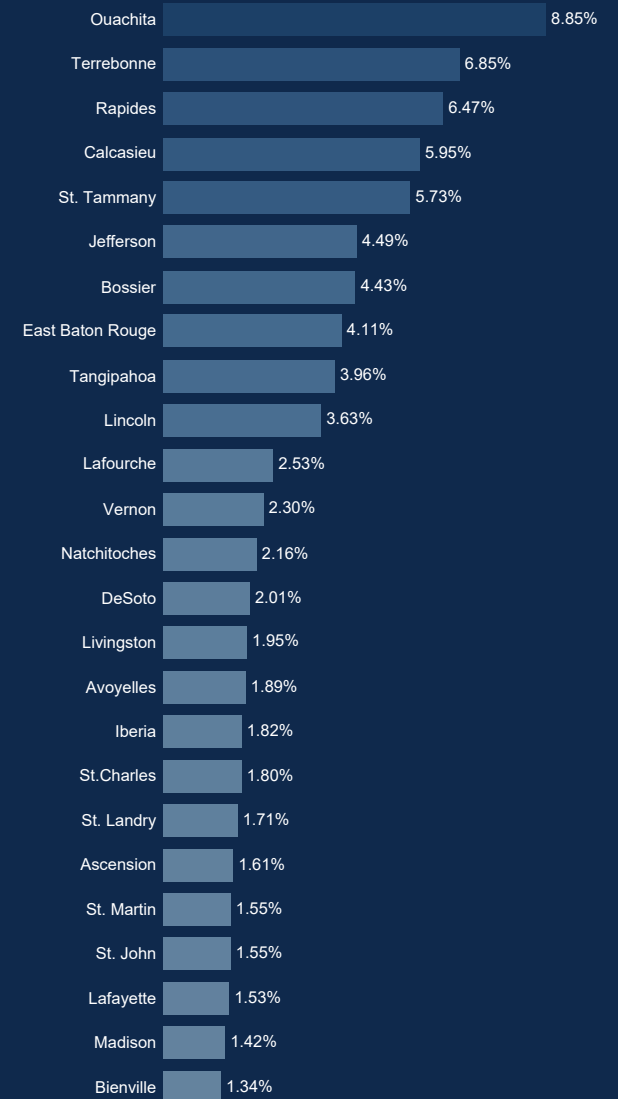
Initial Violation Resulting in Stop



Citation Locations



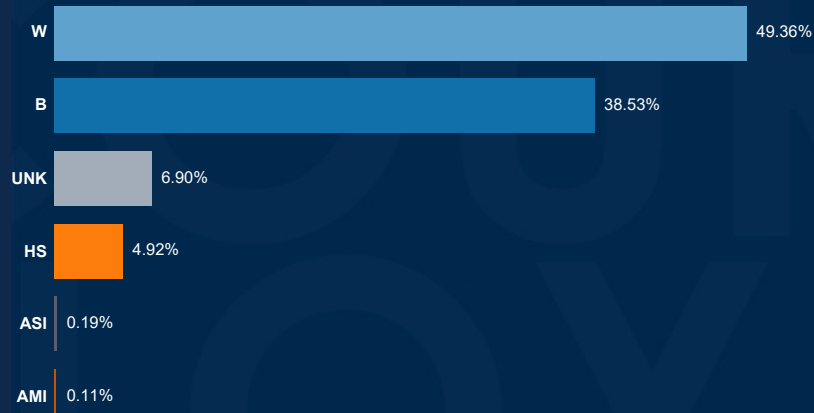
Parishes (Top 25)



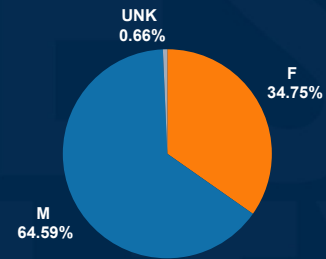
122,882
Total

Citation Subject Demographics

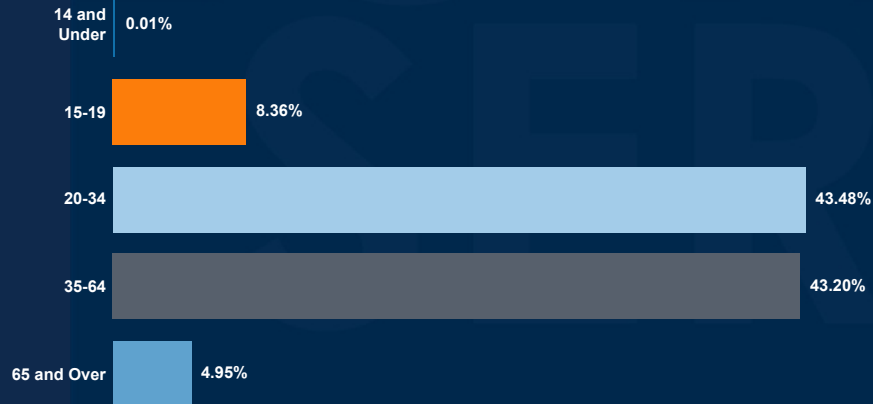
Race



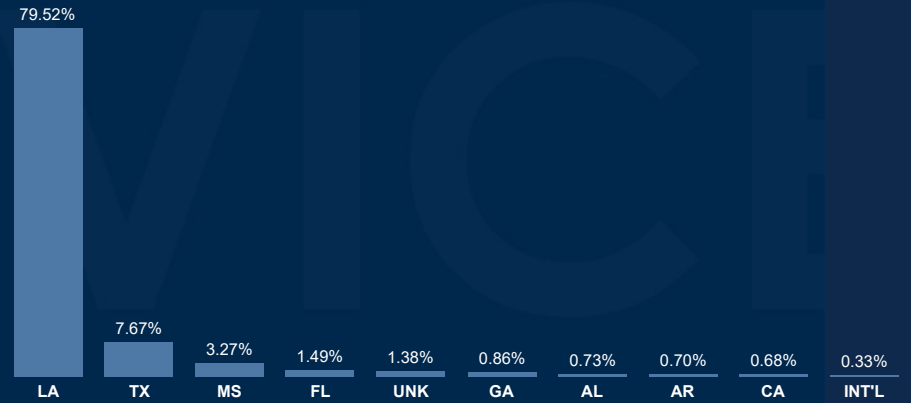
Gender



Age



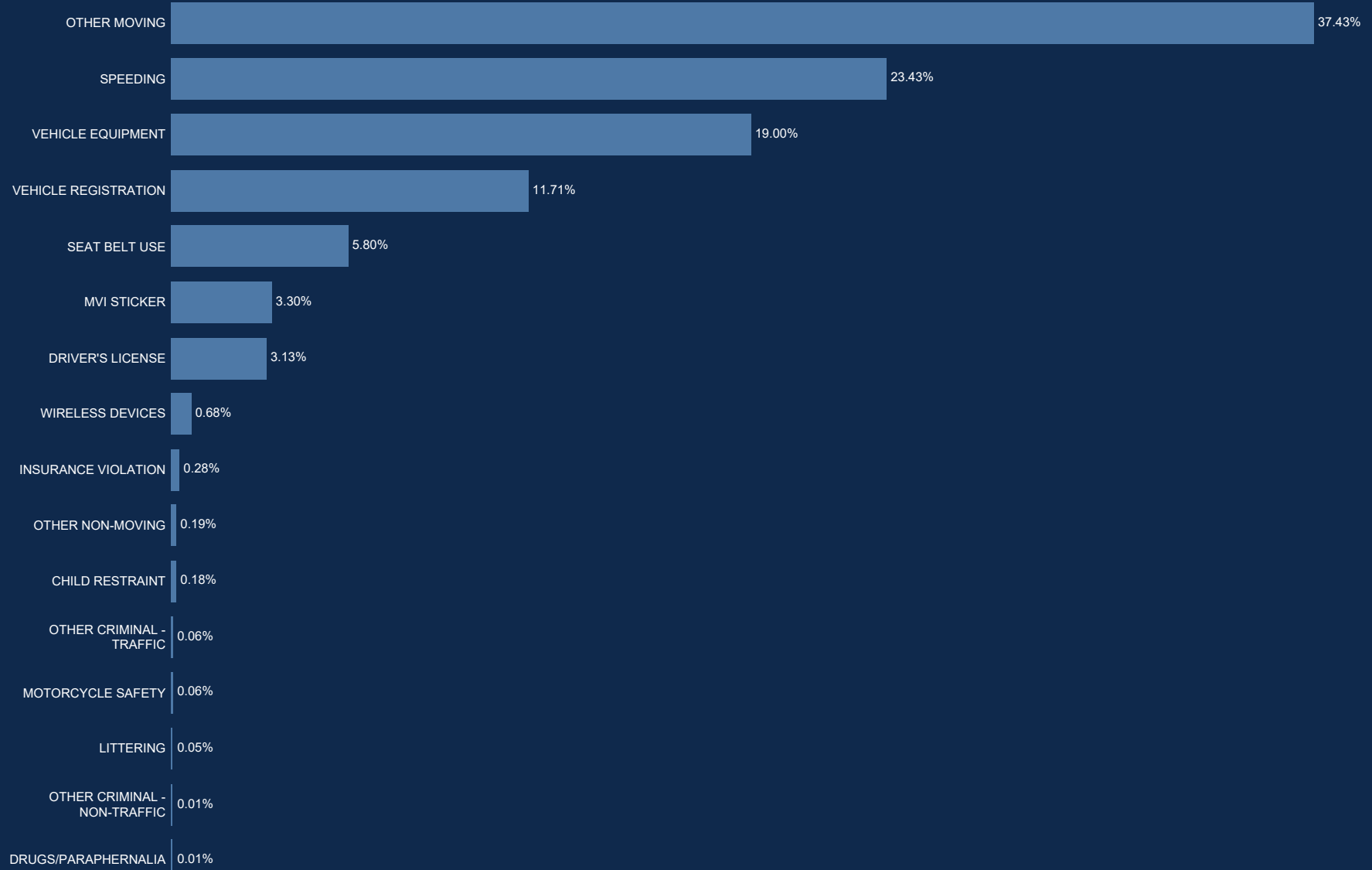
Driver's License State
(Top 10)



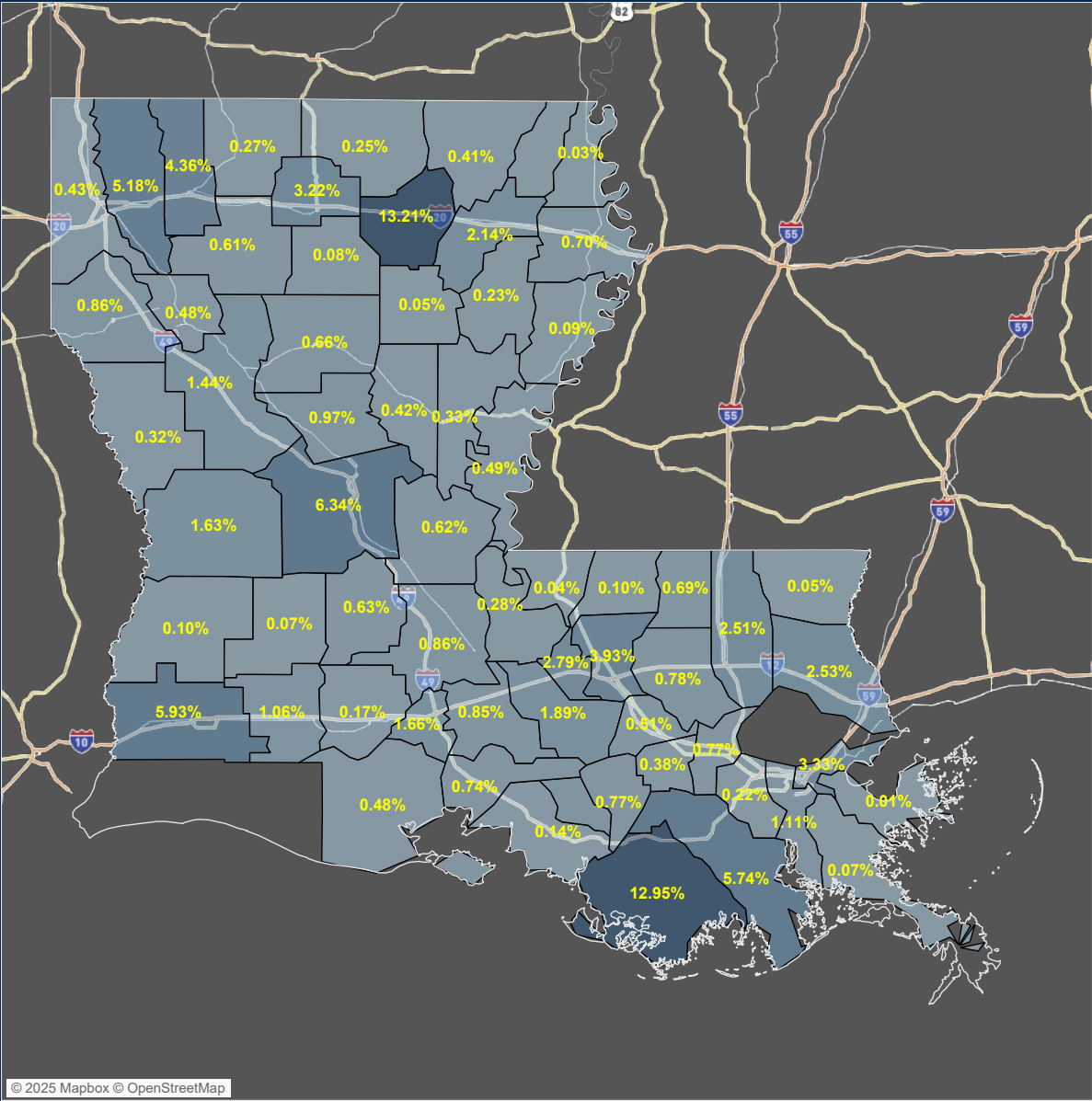
Traffic Stops Resulting in Written Warnings

- The interaction between a trooper/officer and a member of the public, when the individual is stopped for violating a traffic or criminal statute, typically results in the issuance of a traffic citation, a written warning, a verbal warning, or an arrest. The upcoming pages will specifically address traffic stops that lead to the issuance of a written warning.
- Data analysis reveals that other moving and speeding are the two most common reason for traffic stops, followed by equipment, vehicle registration, and seatbelt violations.
- As with citations, an examination of location data indicates that the majority of traffic stops occur along major roadways, particularly near densely populated areas throughout Louisiana.
- Written warnings are predominantly issued to males, who account for 63.05% of recipients. White individuals receive the highest proportion of written warnings (48.67%), with Black individuals following closely at 39.49%.
- The age distribution of written warning recipients shows a higher variation than seen on citations. The age group 36-64 received 44.85% of written warning and the age group 20-34 received 37.48%, together accounting for 82.33% of all written warning for traffic violations.
- Regarding geographic origin, again most individuals receiving written warnings are residents of the State of Louisiana, followed by those from neighboring states Texas and Mississippi.

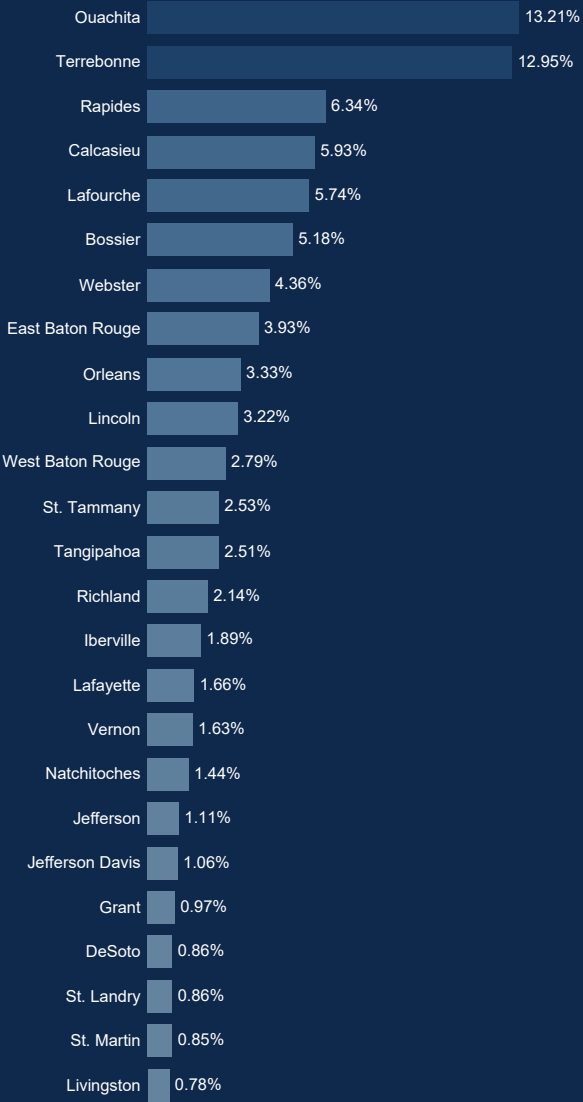
Initial Violation Resulting in Stop



Written Warning Locations



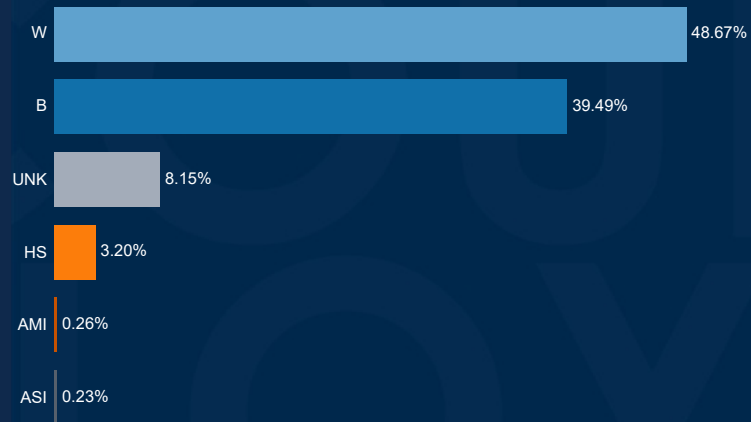
Parishes
(Top 25)



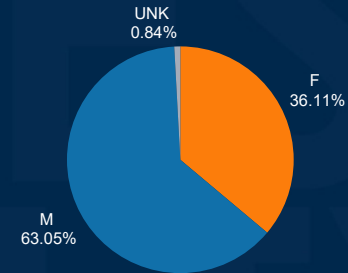
17,468
Total

Written Warning Subject Demographics

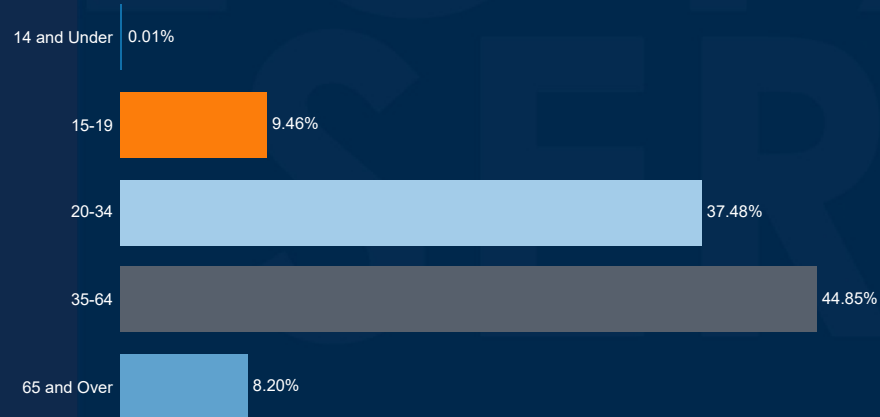
Race



Gender



Age



Driver's License State
(Top 10)



Traffic Stops with Searches

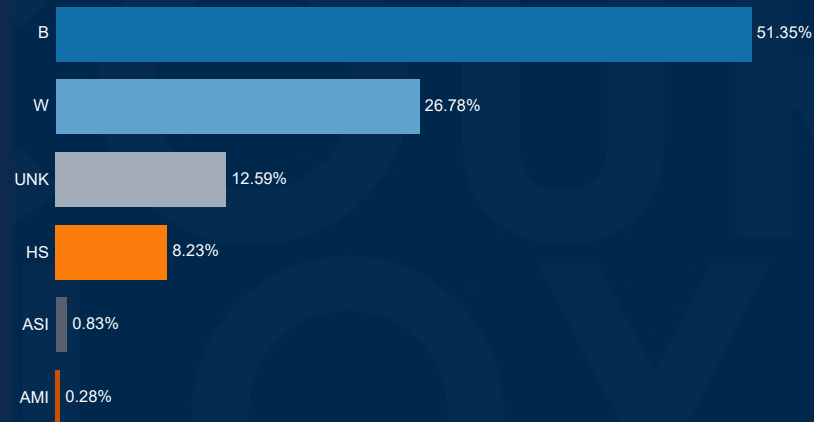
- In total, there were 1,811 searches conducted out of 176,087 traffic stops, representing approximately 0.01% of all traffic stops involving vehicle searches. The following slides will examine the demographics of the subjects searched, the locations where searches occurred, and the types of contraband discovered during these searches.
- An analysis of the subjects involved in searches shows that males accounted for 74.54% of the searches. Regarding racial demographics, 51.35% of those searched were Black while 26.78% were White.
- The age group most frequently involved in searches was 20-34 years, comprising 47.65% of the total, followed by the 35-64 age group at 38.10%.
- The majority of individuals searched were residents of Louisiana, accounting for 48.81% of all cases. The second largest group, 29.65%, was categorized as "Unknown." This is primarily due to instances where the violator was released with a verbal warning, and no demographic or state of residence information was recorded.
- While speeding was the most common violation leading to a traffic stop, the primary violation resulting in a vehicle search was an improper lane violation, which accounted for 25.79% of searches, followed by equipment violations at 13.75%.
- 60.44% of all searches were conducted based on probable cause. Consent was the basis for 39.50% of the searches, and Terry Stops accounted for 0.06%.
- The data indicates that most searches took place along the I-20 and I-49 corridors, as well as in major population centers.
- A significant portion of searches (931) did not result in the discovery of contraband. However, the searches (702) that did identify contraband revealed a wide variety of drugs and weapons. In most cases, drugs were measured in grams, although in some instances, measurements were provided in dosage units or fluid ounces. To ensure clarity, equivalent measurements in kilograms have been included. Marijuana was the most commonly found drug during these searches.

1,811

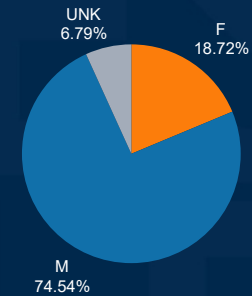
Subjects Searched

Search Subject Demographics

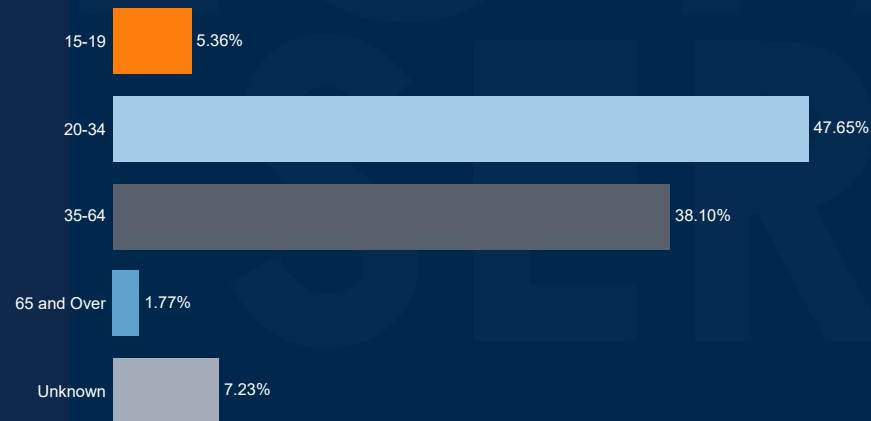
Race



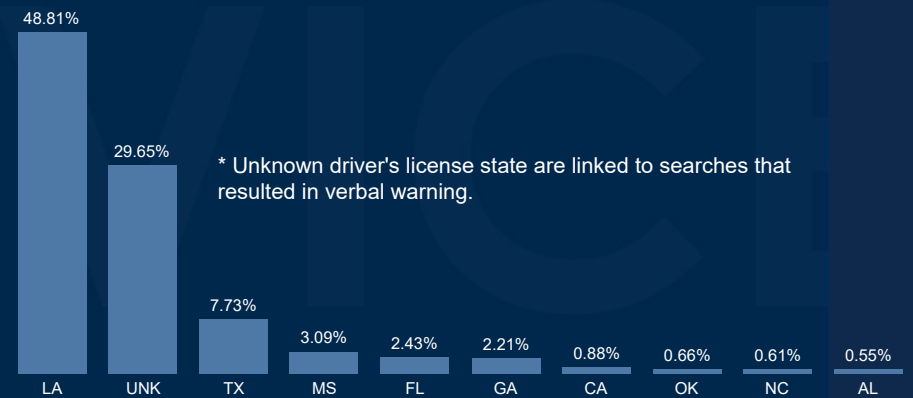
Gender



Age



Driver's License State (Top 10)



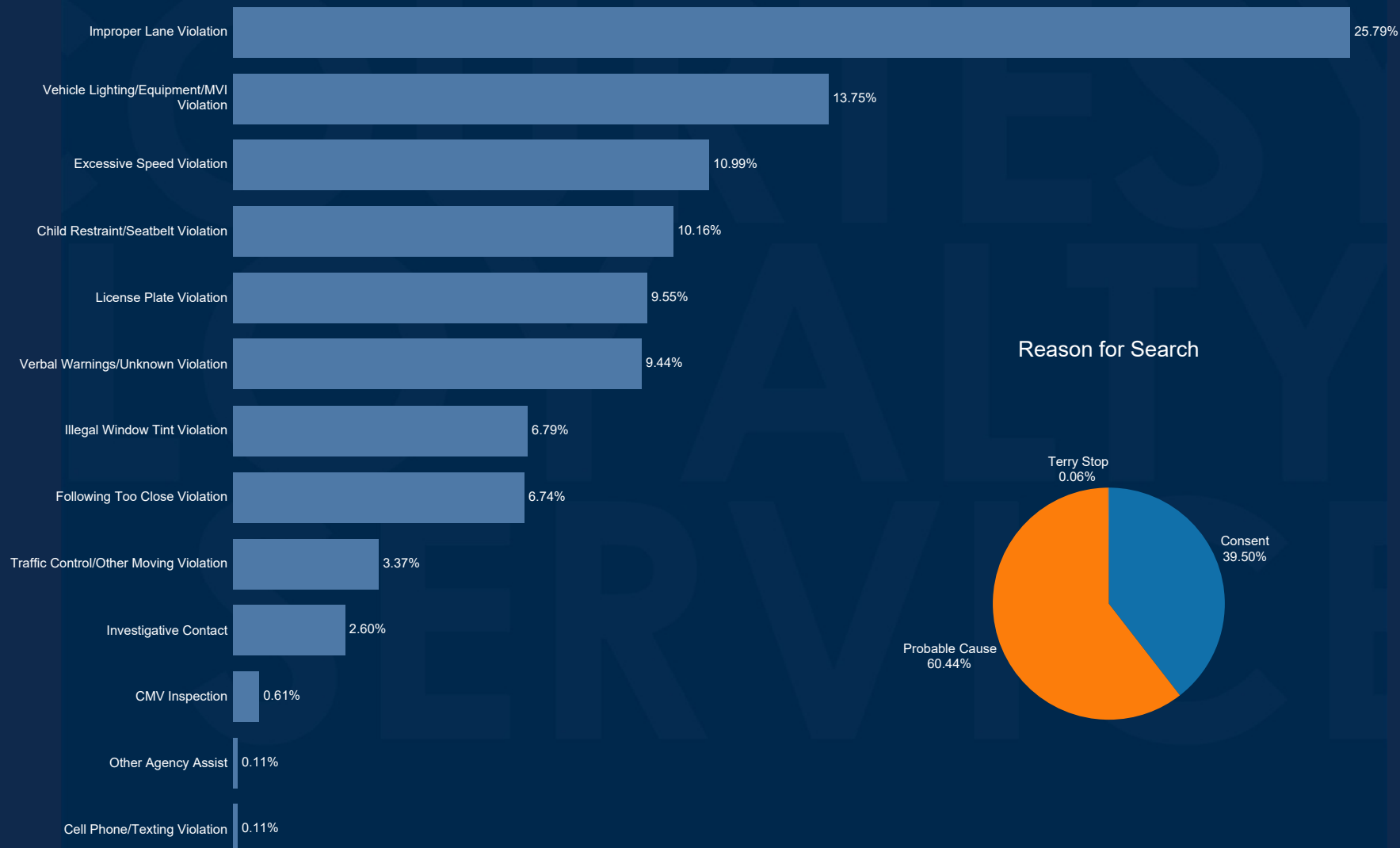
* Unknown driver's license state are linked to searches that resulted in verbal warning.

1,633
Stop Search Reports

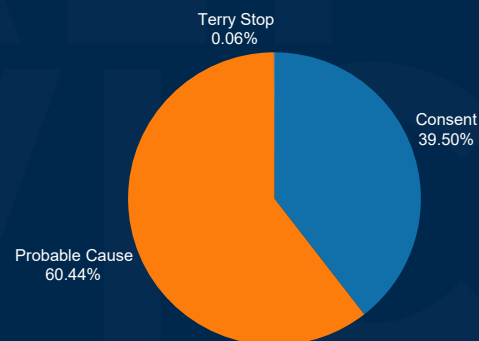
Reason for Stop and Search

1,811
Subjects Searched

Stop Violations

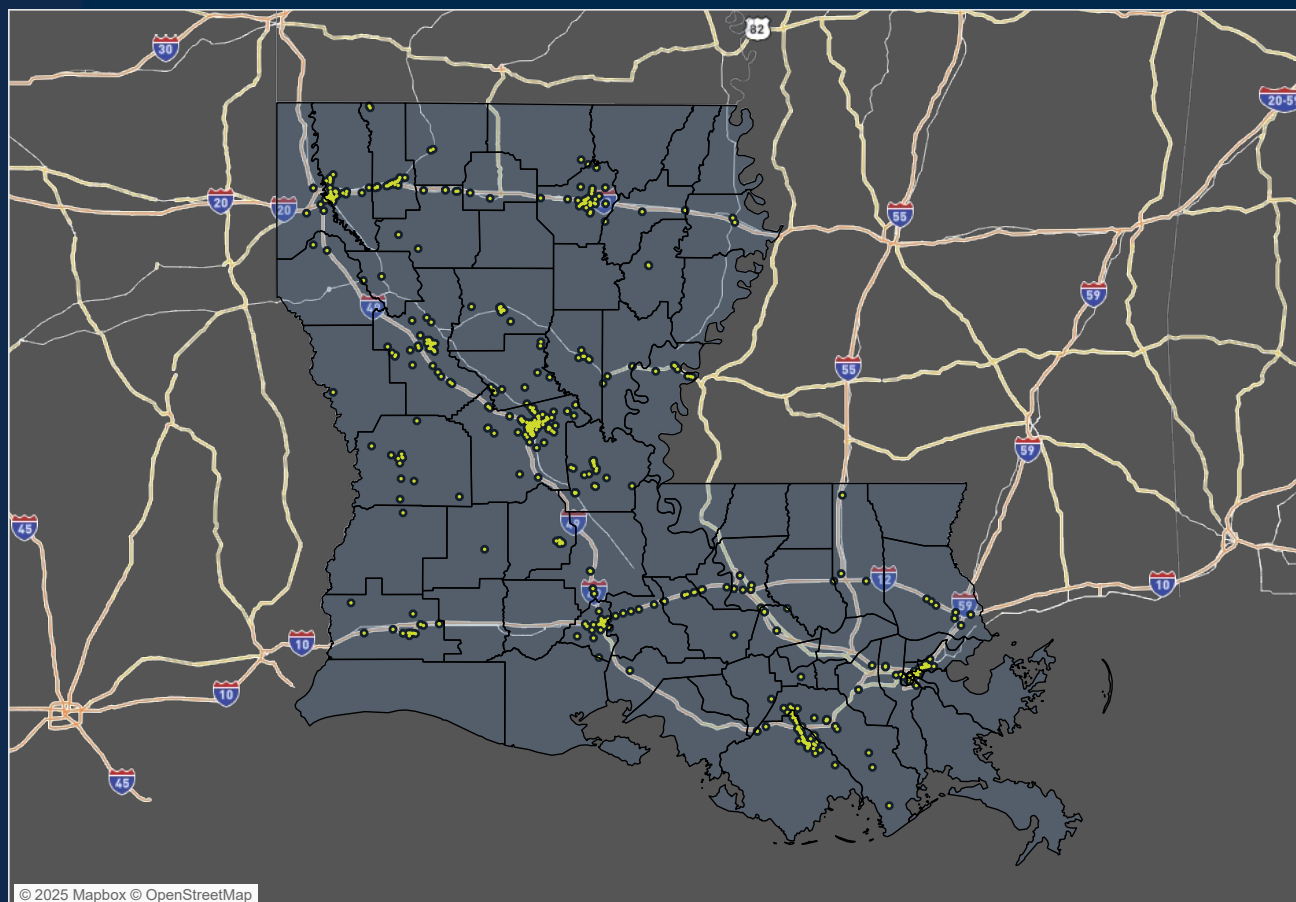


Reason for Search

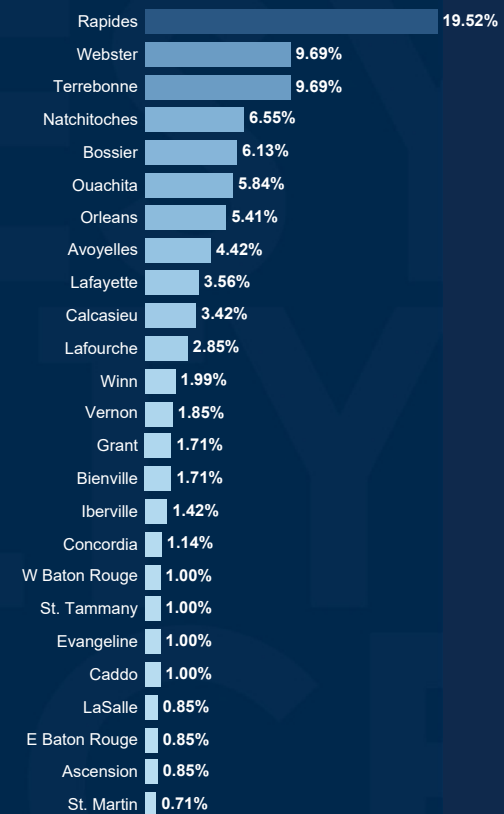


1,633

Searches with Contraband



Parishes (Top 25)



Contraband Discovered



1,633

Stop Search Reports

Searches with Contraband

Drugs (Gram, Kilo)

*All Drugs are reported in Grams were converted to Kilo's for the below table.

Drug Type	Gram	Kilo
Alprazolam	3.61	0.00
Amphetamines / Methamphetamines	15,100.41	15.10
Cocaine	25,012.54	25.01
Crack Cocaine	179.00	0.18
Drug / Narcotics	643.23	0.64
Fentanyl	101.72	0.10
Heroin	82.83	0.08
Marijuana	410,013.14	410.01
MDMA	51.27	0.05
Morphine	96.34	0.09
Opium	6.00	0.01
Other Hallucinogens	48.80	0.05
Oxycodone	139.65	0.13
THC / THC Products	907.60	0.90

Firearms Seized

Drugs (mL) *Fluid oz. were converted to mL.

Drugs (Dosage/Units)

Drugs (Unknown Units)

Handgun, Semi-Automatic	77	Cocaine	113.65	Alprazolam	83.5	Amphetamines / Methamphetamines	4
				Amphetamines / Methamphetamin..	39.0		
Machine Gun	1			Drug / Narcotics	213.5	Cocaine	1
				Fentanyl	228.0	Crack Cocaine	3
				Hydrocodone	68.5		
Other Firearm	1	THC / THC Products	42.62	Marijuana	12.0	Heroin	2
				MDMA	61.0		
Pistol, Derringer	1			Opium	2.0	Marijuana	19
				Other Hallucinogens	7.0	Promethazine	3
Pistol, Revolver	2			Other Narcotic	896.0		
				Oxycodone	153.0	THC / THC Products	2
				THC / THC Products	66.0		
Rifle, Semi-automatic	5			Unknown Drug	27.0	Unknown Drug	1

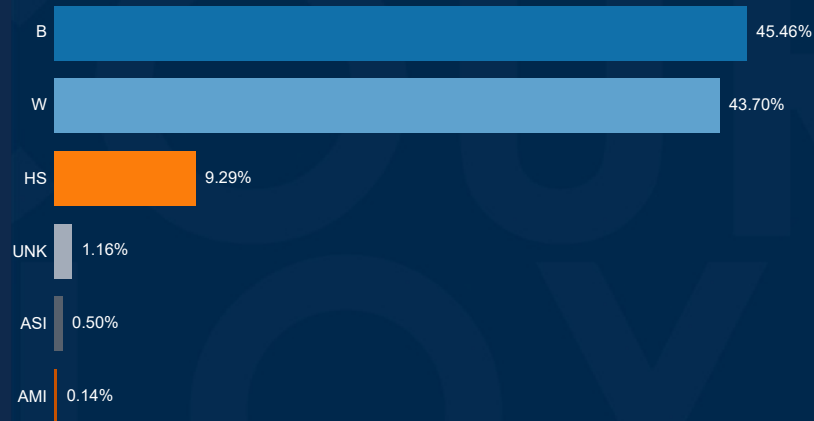
Traffic Stops with Arrests

- A total of 5,165 arrests resulted from 176,087 traffic stops. The majority of individuals arrested were from Louisiana, comprising (83.87%) of the total. The next largest category, labeled "Unknown" (6.23%), includes individuals who did not have a state-issued ID recorded in the report.
- Demographic data for the arrested individuals reveals that the majority were male (78.94%), while females accounted for 20.50%, and 0.81% were listed as unknown gender. In terms of race, the largest group of arrested individuals were Black (45.46%), followed by White (43.70%) and Hispanic (9.29%). Age demographics show that most arrests occurred within the 20-34 age group (48.94%), followed by the 35-64 age group at 44.34%.
- As previously mentioned in this report, the primary reasons for traffic stops were speeding and other moving violations. The leading violation associated with arrests from traffic stops was Driving While Intoxicated (DWI), accounting for 60.77% of arrests. Other violations included a range of offenses, such as additional moving violations, fugitives, and drug possession. In many instances, arrested individuals faced multiple charges, and the associated graph illustrates the percentage of each violation relative to the total number of arrests.
- The data indicates that the majority of arrests resulted from traffic stops along the I-20 and I-49 corridors, followed by major population centers.

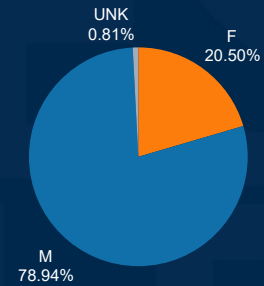
5,165
Total

Arrest Subject Demographics

Race



Gender



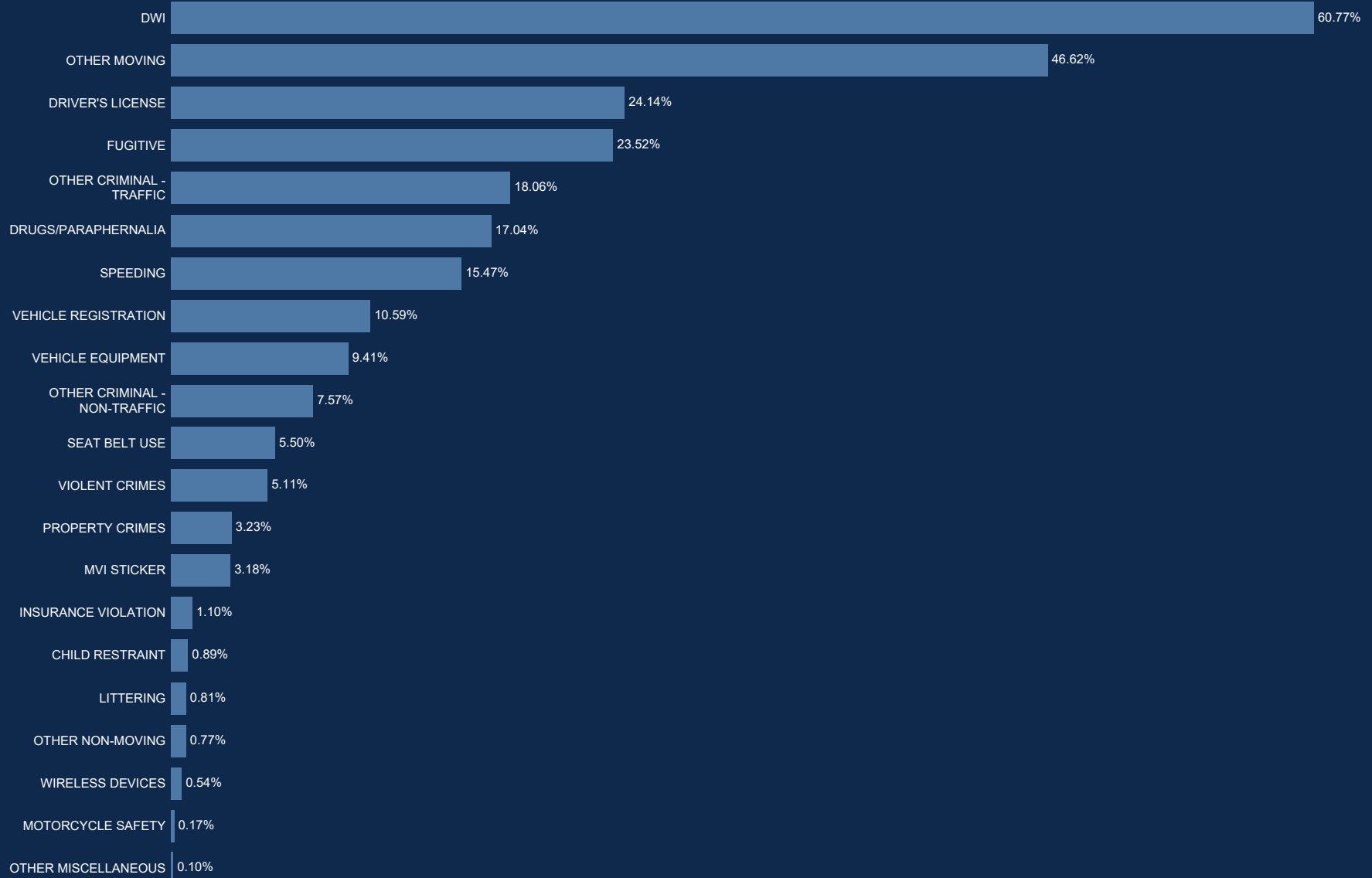
Age



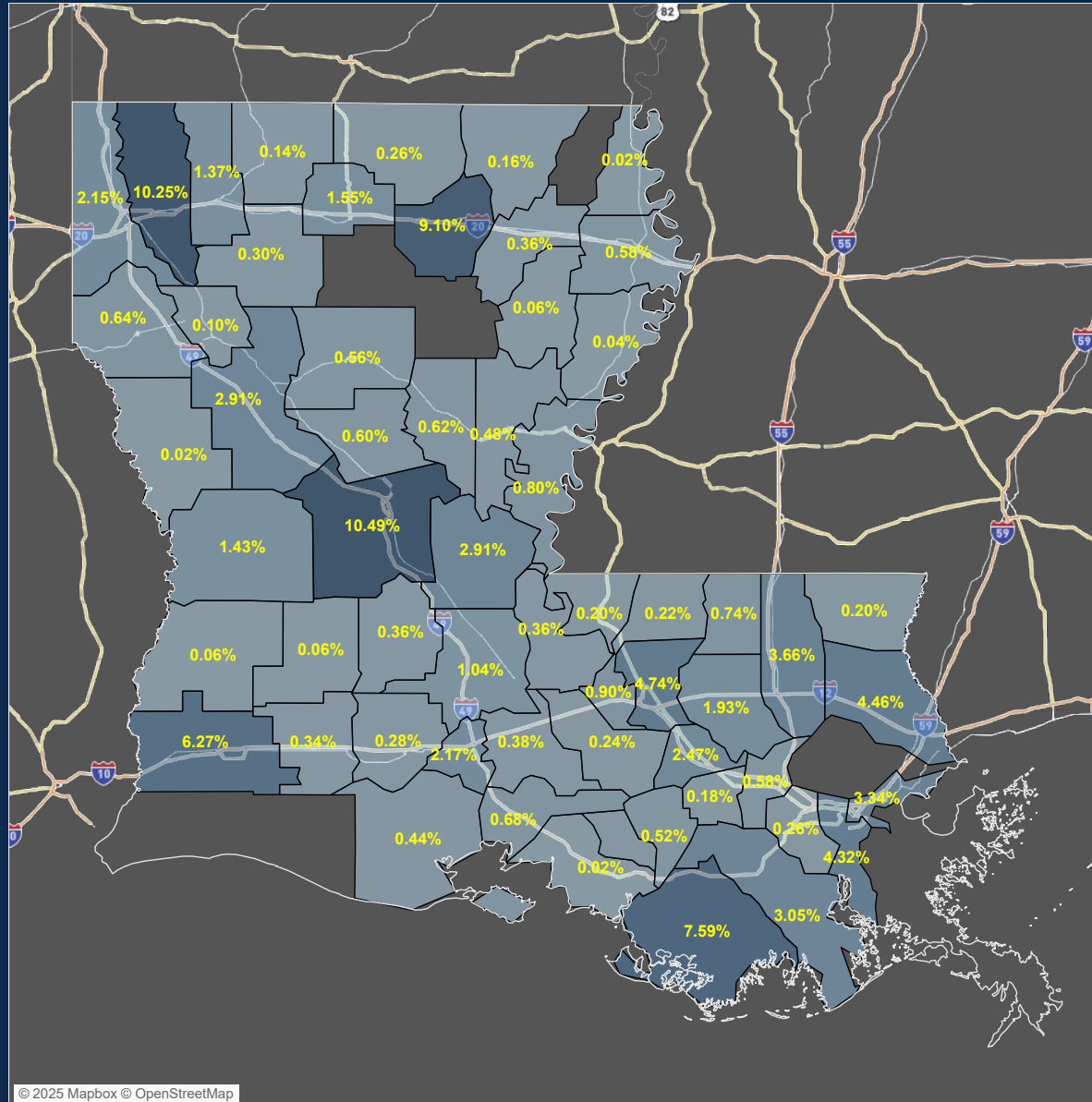
Driver's License State
(Top 10)



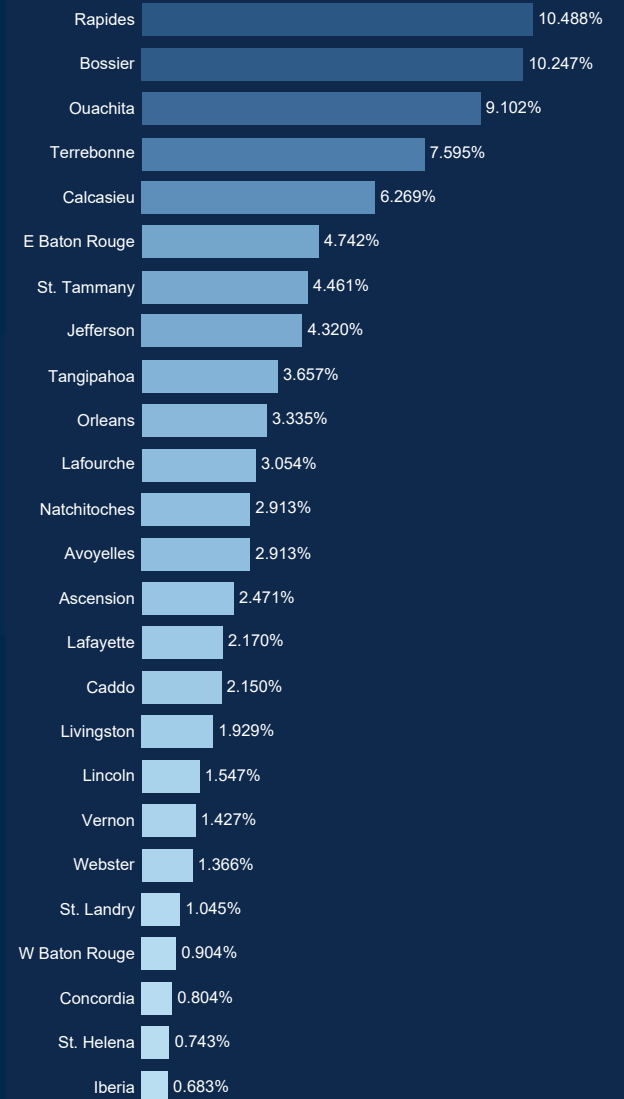
Arrest Violations



Arrest Locations



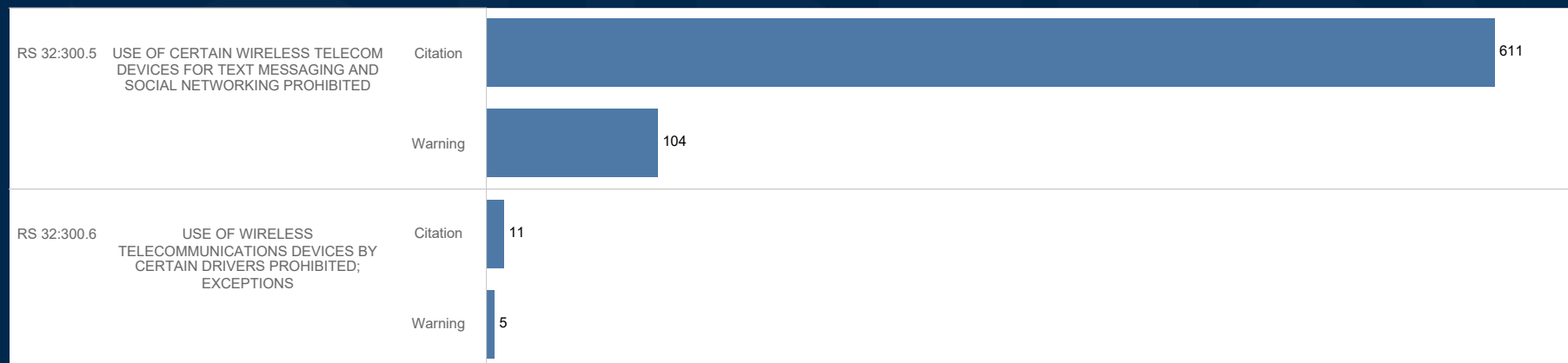
Parishes (Top 25)



Wireless Violations

- Distracted driving, particularly due to the use of technology, remains a significant contributor to traffic crashes. The following presents data on the number of drivers who were issued either traffic citations or written warnings for violating Louisiana statutes that prohibit the use of wireless technology while driving.
- Texting while driving resulted in 611 citations and 104 written warnings. Drivers who failed to use "hands-free" technology for phone calls were issued 11 citations and 5 written warnings. Additionally, 16 individuals under the age of 17 received citations for using wireless technology while driving. Troopers/officers also issued 6 citations to drivers who were observed using wireless technology within the first year of obtaining their Louisiana driver's license.

Number of Persons stopped for Wireless Violations



Number of Wireless Violations

