

Community Views of Policing in Milwaukee

ACLU of Wisconsin Survey

Presented February 19, 2015



Because Freedom Can't Protect Itself

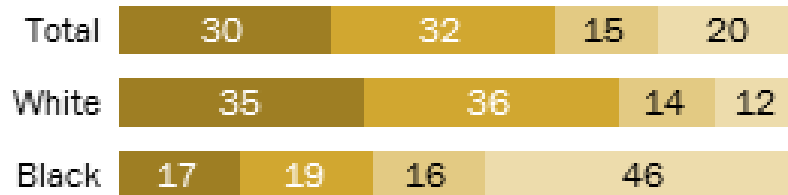
Pew National Policing Trends

Blacks Express Less Confidence than Whites in Local Police to Treat Blacks and Whites Equally

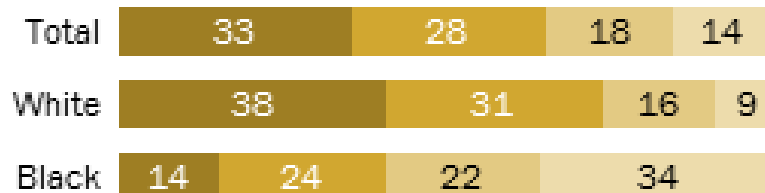
Confidence in local police to treat whites and blacks equally (%)

■ Great deal ■ Fair amount ■ Just some ■ Very little

Aug 2014



Nov 2009



Pew National Survey

UW Milwaukee Survey

Center for
Urban Initiatives & Research



BUILDING KNOWLEDGE, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

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RESEARCH BRIEF

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CITY OF MILWAUKEE POLICE SATISFACTION SURVEY

At the request of and in cooperation with the City of Milwaukee Fire & Police Commission, in 2014, the **UWM Center for Urban Initiatives and Research (CUIR)** conducted the *City of Milwaukee Police Satisfaction Survey*. The purpose of this survey was to measure resident perceptions regarding a range of issues relevant to the Milwaukee Police Department; satisfaction with and trust in the police, perceptions of safety and police visibility, views on various kinds of police contacts, and exposure to crime. The survey was structured to provide estimates of both city-wide opinion as well as estimates of opinion within each police district.

This RDD telephone survey was conducted by CUIR Survey Center staff at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee from July 17th through August 23rd. Surveys were conducted in both English and Spanish. Of the 1,452 completed interviews, 729 (46.2%) were over landlines, while 781 (53.8%) were over mobile lines. The margin of error for unweighted sample statistics is $\pm 2.6\%$ at the 95% confidence level.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

ACLU of Wisconsin Survey



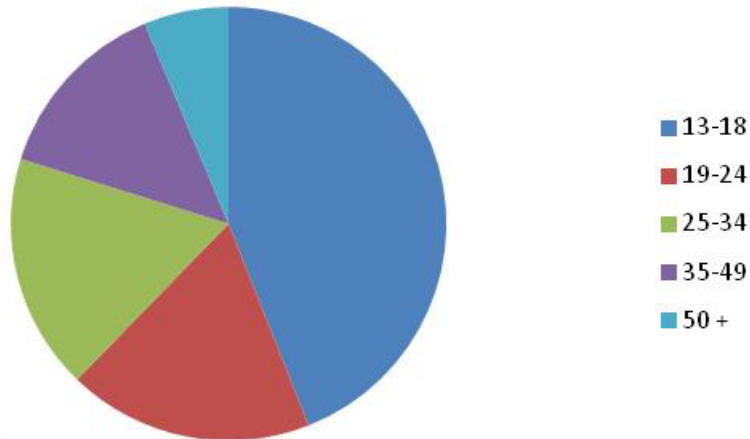
ACLU Survey Partners

- Black Student Unions at UWM and Marquette
- Center for Youth Engagement
- Centro Hispano MKE
- Latino Student Unions at UWM and Marquette
- MICAH
- Milwaukee Matters
- Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition
- Milwaukee Justice and Peace Coalition
- NAACP – MKE Branch
- National Lawyer's Guild
- Pan African Community Association
- Peace Action Wisconsin
- Reproductive Justice Coalition
- SEIU Local 150
- True Skool
- Urban Underground
- Voces de la Frontera
- Wisconsin Voices
- YWCA Southeast Wisconsin

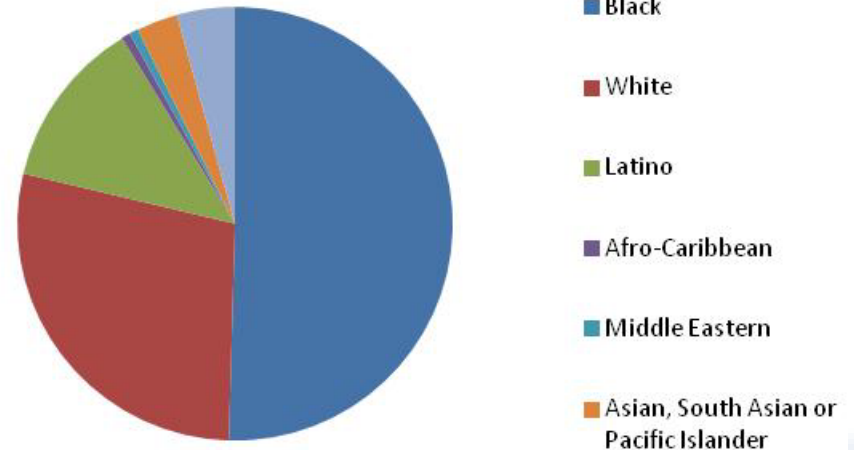
ACLU Survey Sample

- 804 Milwaukee Residents, written survey
- Not scientifically representative samples, higher focus on people under 24 and people of color.

Age of Respondents

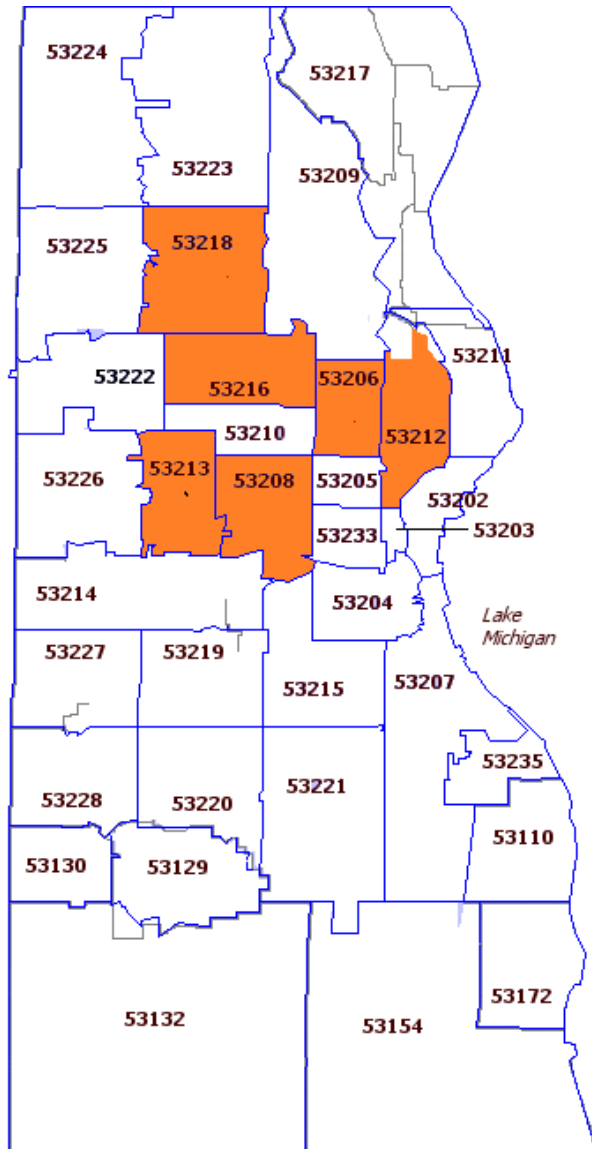


Ethnicity of Respondents



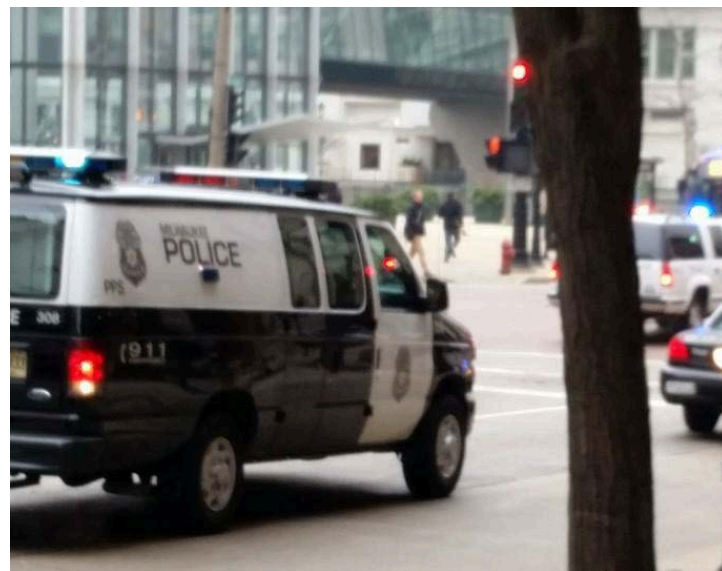
ACLU Survey Respondent Area

- Most responses were from the following six zip codes.



Police Encounters

- High level of contact
- 185,358 traffic stops in 2013
- 57,970 field interviews in 2013
- Total of 243,328 stops
- Total population of Milwaukee = 599,164
- That's 41% of the total population, provided that there are no repeat stops (which we know there are, of course) but this puts it into drastic consideration.



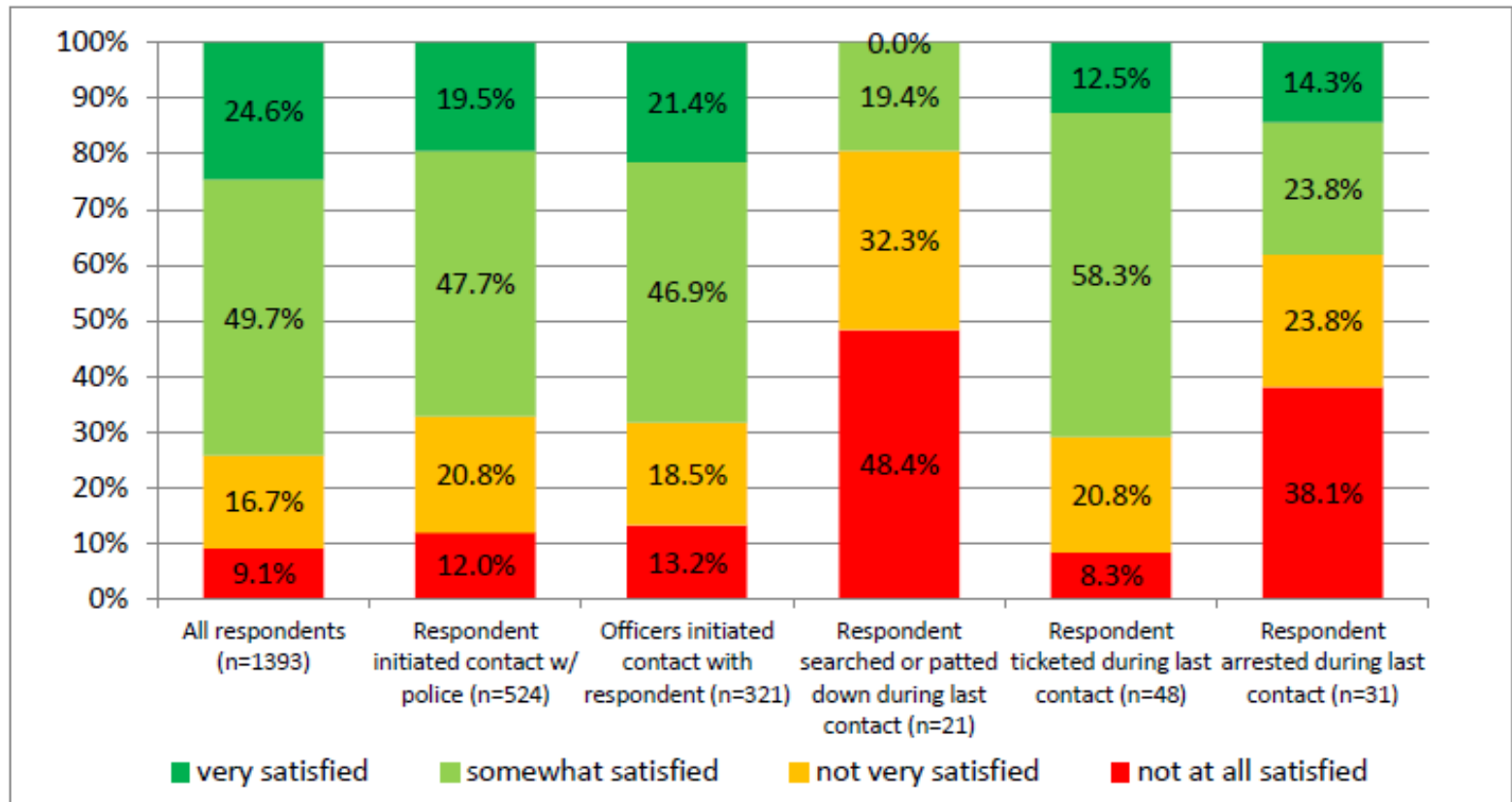
ACLU Survey Results

In communities where police contact was greatest, respondents had lower opinions of the police, were less likely to contact them if they saw a crime, and felt police were abusive of their authority.

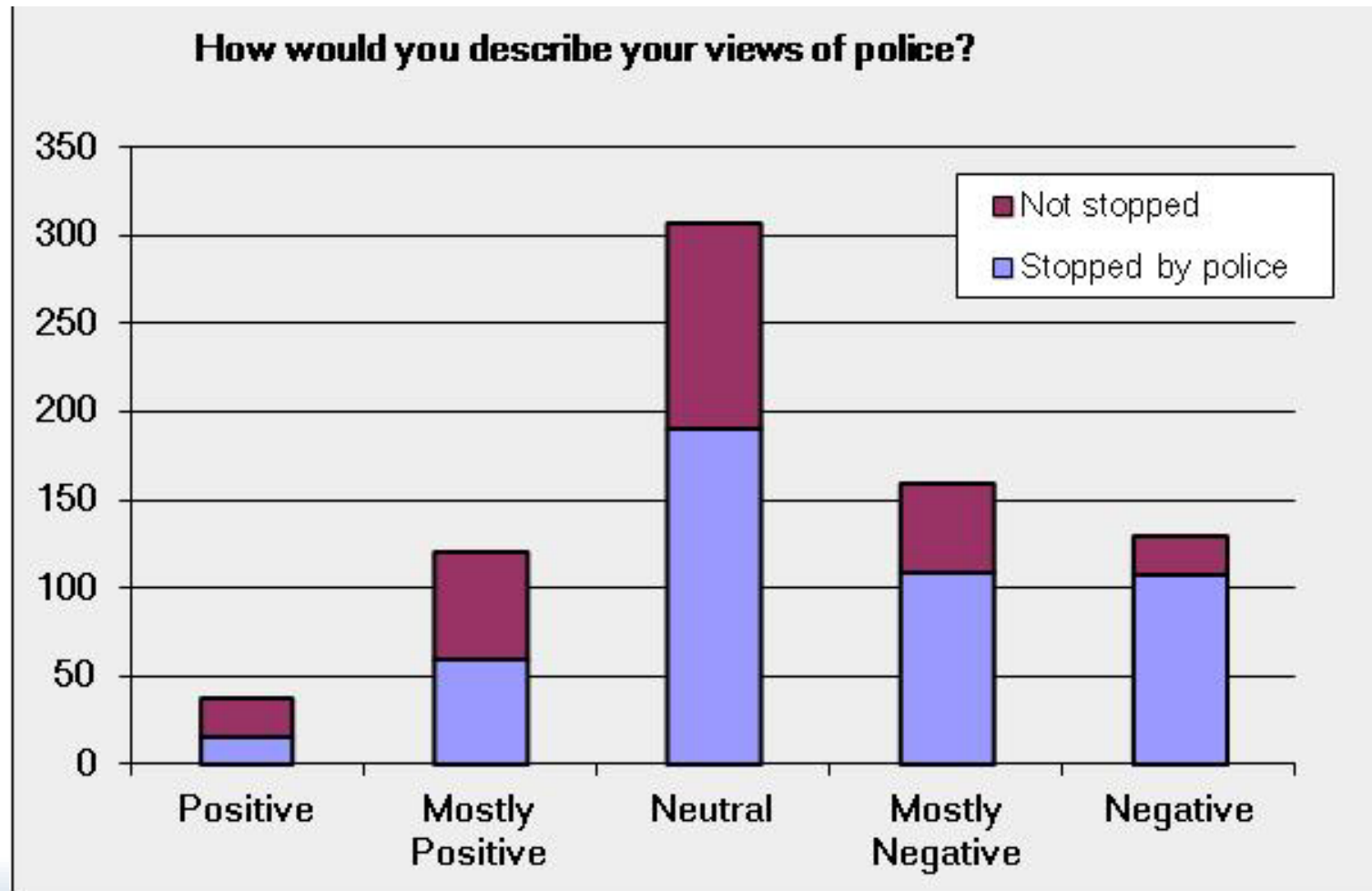


More police contact = more dissatisfaction with police

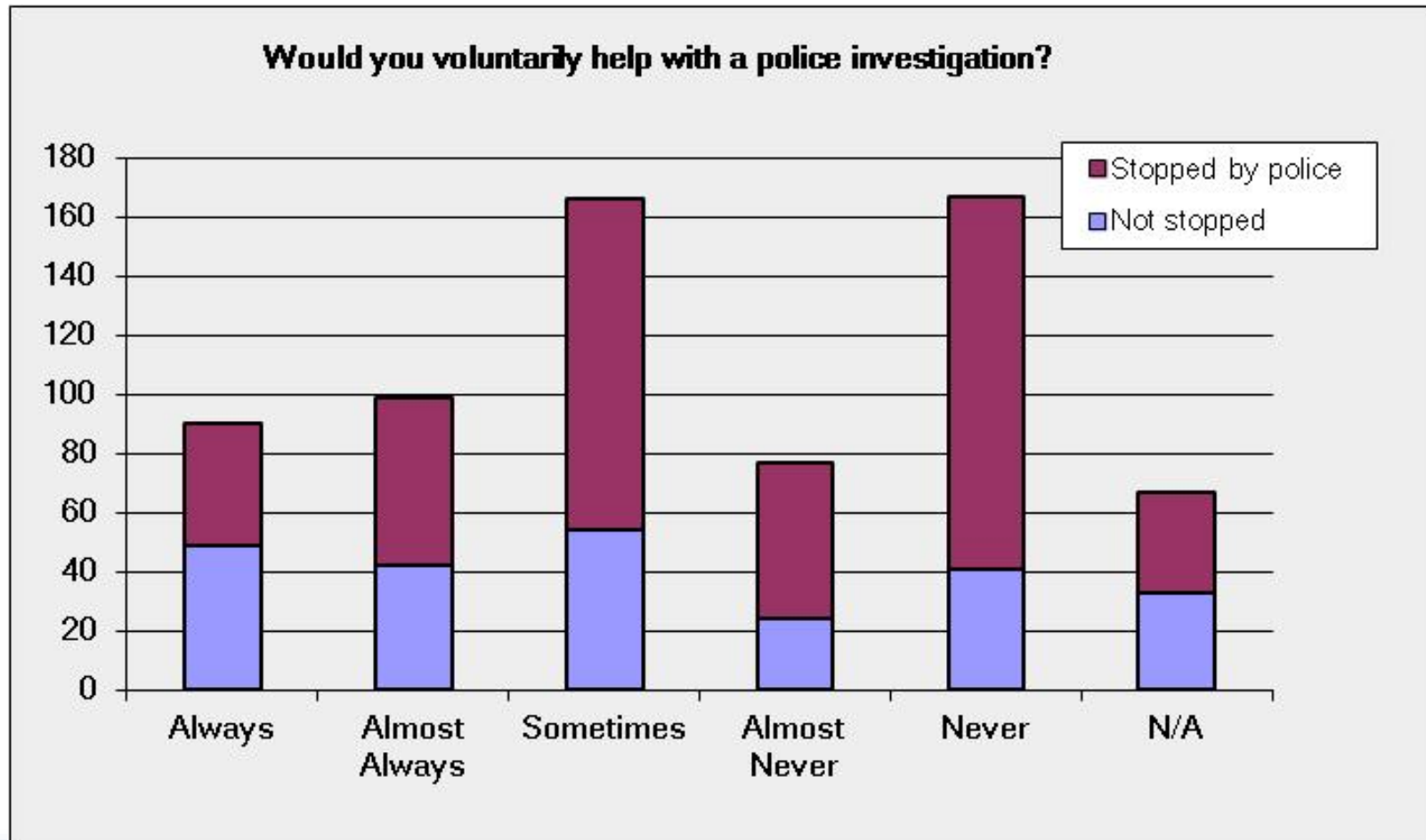
Figure 1.1: Overall satisfaction with the Milwaukee Police Department, by categories of police interactions within the last 12 months



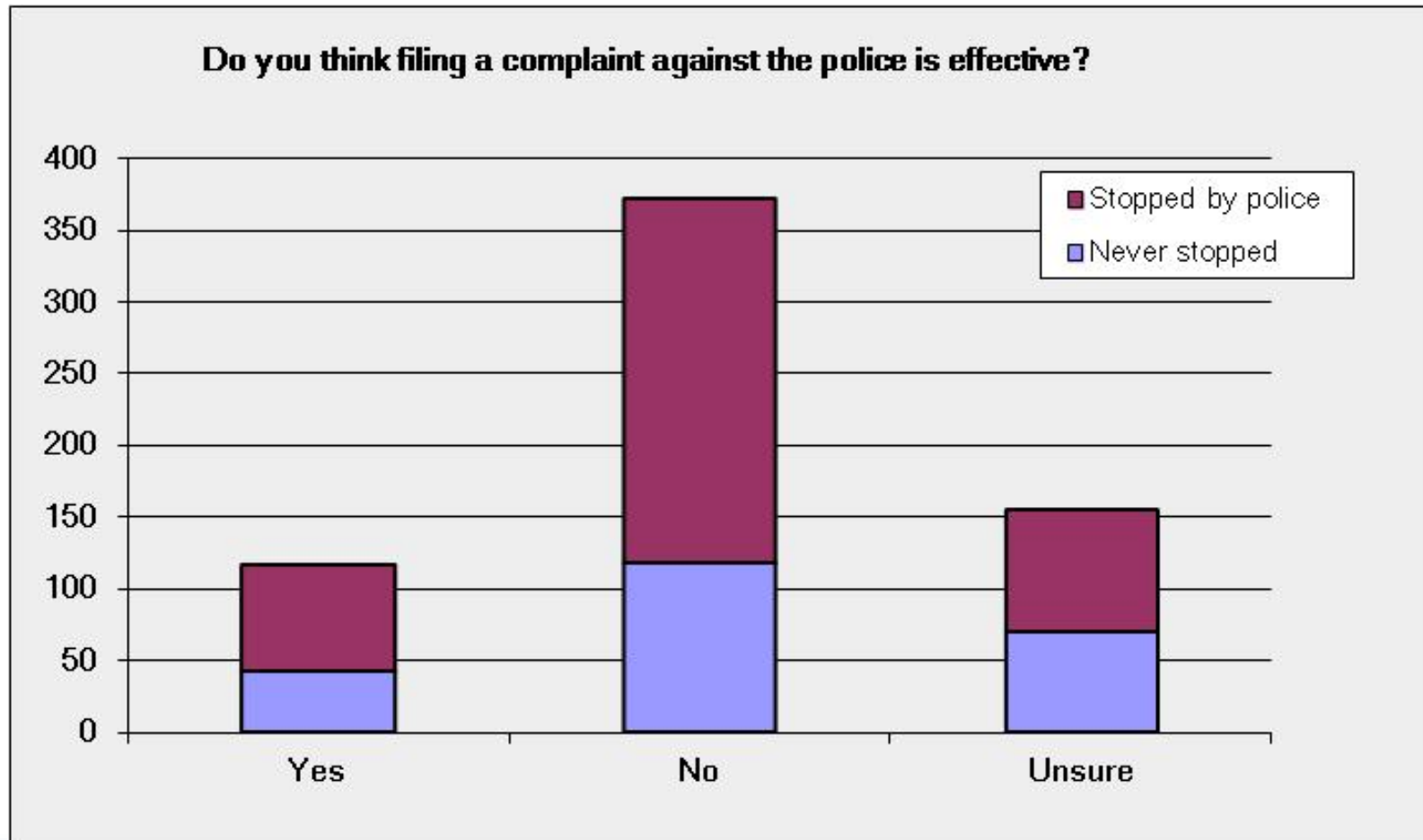
More police contact = more dissatisfaction with police



Assisting with Investigations

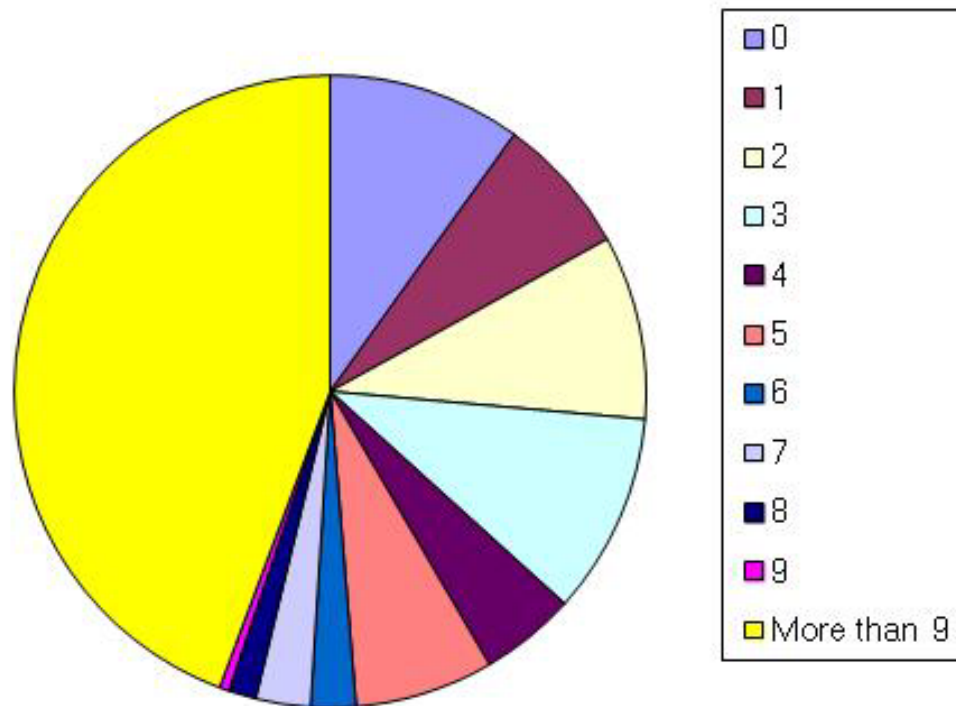


Efficacy of Complaint Process



Frequency of Witnessing Arrests

How many times have you witnessed someone being handcuffed or arrested?



Next Steps

- Stops undermine confidence in the police among people in communities that feel unfairly targeted by such tactics.
- The MPD must collect and regularly release racial and other demographic data on traffic and pedestrian stops, frisks, and searches throughout the city.
- The FPC and stakeholders should evaluate the impact of the high number of stops on community oriented policing efforts.

Thank you!

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- twitter.com/ACLUofWisconsin
- [youtube.com/ACLUofWI](https://www.youtube.com/ACLUofWI)

