

EQUIPMENT/MECHANICAL VIOLATIONS

January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2019

This chart reflects stops leading to a Citation for an equipment of mechanical violation. Equipment violations provide a cover for pre-textual stops when the actual intent of the stop is to perform an investigation – including searches without consent or probable cause beyond the equipment violation.

Equipment/Mechanical Citation					
Des Moines Residents Only	White	Black	Other	Total	Odds Ratio
Population	161,534	24,209	28,494	214,237	
Citations	434	204	211	849	
% of Population with a Citation	0.3%	0.8%	0.7%	0.4%	3.2
Booked for Any Reason	104	77	33	214	
% of Citations Arrested	0.5%	1.1%	0.4%	0.6%	
% of Population with an Arrest	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	5.0
Booked for Controlled Substance	48	24	12	84	
% of Citations Arrested	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	
% of Population with an Arrest	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	3.3
Booked for Interference	7	13	1	21	
% of Citations Arrested	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	
% of Population with an Arrest	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	12.4

If you were a Black person driving in Des Moines:

You were 3.2 times more likely to be issued a citation for an equipment violation than a White Person.

You were 5.0 times more likely to be arrested.

You were 3.3 times more likely to be arrested for Possession of a Controlled Substance.

You were 12.4 times more likely to be arrested for Interference with Official Acts.