

TRAFFIC STOP DATA COLLECTION INITIATIVE

On January 9, 2017, all Ramsey County agencies who contract dispatch services with Ramsey County Emergency Communication Center began voluntarily collecting data on every traffic stop. The goal of the countywide initiative is to increase transparency and provide more context to the limited data that was previously captured. Prior to 2017, the Roseville Police Department (RPD) only had access to data from traffic stops that resulted in a citation.

Minnesota does not require police officers to collect traffic-stop data. Prior to 2017, minimal data was collected on most traffic stops across the state. The initiative's goal is to collect traffic data on every traffic stop and thereby, increase consistency in statistical analysis across agencies throughout Ramsey County.

Starting in January 2017, Roseville officers began to record the following data on every traffic stop:

- Perceived race of the driver
- Gender of the driver
- Whether the driver was searched
- Whether the vehicle was searched
- The reason for the traffic stop (moving violation, vehicle/equipment violation, investigative, or the result of a 911 call)
- If the driver was warned or cited

As part of the data collection initiative, Roseville Police Department agreed to publish the [2017 traffic stop data](#) in early 2018. Traffic stop data collection will be an on-going policy, with results posted on our website on an annual basis.

CITY DEMOGRAPHICS

The most recent census of Roseville was conducted in 2010. The 2010 census showed that the City of Roseville had a population of 33,360, with 20.7% of the population being persons of color¹. Since 2000, the City of Roseville has undergone a number of significant changes that have affected the demographics of the city. The United States Census Bureau estimated that in 2016, 26% of Roseville residents were persons of color.² The biggest racial and ethnic groups were African American, Hispanic and Asian. In addition to Roseville residents, it is estimated that approximately 36,000 people travel into the city daily to work.³ More details on [Roseville's demographics](#) can be found on the City of Roseville's Economic Development web-page.

According to the Roseville Area Schools [2017 Demographic report](#), 53% of the students were persons of color. White students comprised 45% of the enrollment, black students were 20%, and Hispanic student accounted for 13% of the student enrollment.

TRAFFIC PRIORITIES OF THE ROSEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

In 2017, one of the top priorities of the Roseville Police Department was to ensure traffic enforcement activity focused on moving violations and reducing motor vehicle crashes. Department policy states that enforcement efforts be directed towards violations that result in the greatest frequency in traffic collisions and towards the traffic related needs of the community. Throughout 2017, RPD conducted a number of traffic enforcement details focused on impaired and distracted driving, red light violations, school bus stop arm violations, speed violations, and pedestrian crosswalk violations. Moving violations that create a safety risk for other drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians are the most frequently voiced concerns of residents.

¹ United States Census Bureau <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>

² United States Census Bureau <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?src=CF>

³ Source: ESRI, 2017-07-03 <http://www.growroseville.com/roseville/site-selectors/community-profile/>

Two new mobile speed boards were deployed in 2017 to remind motorists of their speed in an effort to improve safety in Roseville neighborhoods. We hope to expand our [neighborhood speed board program](#) in 2018 with additional speed boards to be deployed in problem areas.

In March of 2017, the Roseville Police Department teamed up with the Minneapolis based non-profit organization MicroGrants and their “*Lights On*” program, which gave officers the option of providing drivers with a voucher to get a headlight, taillight, or turn signal repaired for free. After hearing about the program, several Roseville auto repair and parts businesses came together to create a similar program supported by the Roseville businesses. The program will continue in 2018 and officers will continue to have opportunities to help some drivers ensure that their vehicle is operating safely.

In 2018, the Roseville Police Department’s traffic enforcement efforts will continue to focus on reducing crashes, especially those caused by distracted driving, excessive speeding, and impaired driving. We will continue our collaboration with the Ramsey County Traffic Safety Initiative, which is a grant funded initiative to improve safety on Minnesota’s roadways.

LOOKING FORWARD

The traffic stop data will be helpful for having informed conversations with the Roseville community about racial disparities in the criminal justice system and may assist in providing a better understanding of how traffic laws are being enforced in Roseville and Ramsey County.

The Roseville Police Department is taking a comprehensive look at the data to see what conclusions can be drawn from the information collected. RPD is partnering with a doctoral class at Hamline University to assist and guide us as we study the data.

It is the policy of the Roseville Police Department to provide impartial and unbiased policing and enforce laws in a fair and equitable manner. The Roseville Police Department’s [Impartial Policing Policy](#) specifically states that investigative detentions, pedestrian and vehicles stops, arrests, searches and property seizures must be based on reasonable suspicion or probable cause and not the race or ethnicity of an individual.

The Roseville Police Department has been committed to raising awareness about implicit bias in an on-going effort to provide fair and impartial service to the community. Each year, Roseville officers complete mandatory implicit bias training. Since 2014, the department has required all of its staff to attend in-service diversity training. In 2017, department supervisors attended federal procedural justice/fairness training. Currently, supervisors are reviewing officer’s respective traffic stop data and will continue to review regularly. Implicit bias and diversity training will continue on a regular basis for all police department staff.

The Roseville Police Department welcomes feedback from citizens regarding the results of the traffic stop initiative, as well as any concerns or suggestions on how the police department can improve overall service to the community. The Roseville Police Department will host opportunities throughout 2018 to hear from the community, including an [Imagine Roseville Community Discussion](#) on March 14th from 6:30 pm -8:30 pm.

Information about future events will be published on social media, [Nextdoor](#) and through our police department’s [general announcements](#). If you wish to provide feedback on the data collection initiative, please complete the on-line [Traffic Data Feedback Form](#).