

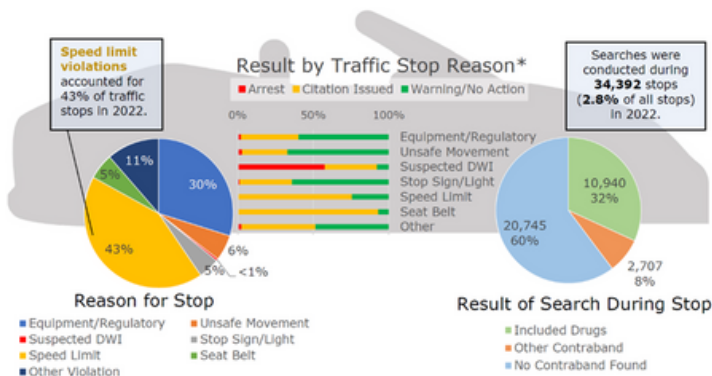
THE GIST

Governor's Crime Commission Monthly Newsletter

Grants
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North Carolina Traffic Stops in 2022

The Criminal Justice Analysis Center analyzed 1.2 million traffic stops conducted by 272 agencies including police departments, sheriffs' offices and State Highway Patrol. [Click on the chart for the publication](#) or visit the [Justice Data Portal](#) for more traffic stop data.



An image from the 2022 CJAC Traffic Stop Data Page showing reasons and results of stops.

VOCA: UNC Needs Assessment Will Help Drive 2024 Funding Decisions

On December 7, the Governor's Crime Commission heard the results of a statewide, community-engaged crime victims needs assessment conducted by researchers at UNC Chapel Hill. The assessment identified underserved populations and barriers to accessing victims' services. It will inform our response to a reduction in federal Victims of Crime Act funding.

In 2024, the state is projected to receive just \$23 million in VOCA funding, a 78% decrease from 2018. This will impact funding available for victims services organizations – including many deserving programs currently funded through the GCC and making an impact in the communities they serve. The GCC's Victim Services Committee will use the recommendations in the assessment to evaluate the next cycle of grant applications and put the limited funds to best use.

"We funded this research because we wanted commissioners to be able to make data-informed decisions about the distribution of VOCA funds," said GCC Executive Director Carolina Farmer.

View the [full report](#) on the [GCC website](#).

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Each year North Carolina ranks among the top in the nation for human trafficking. According to the NC Human Trafficking Commission, traffickers use various means to lure victims. By definition, human trafficking is a crime that deprives victims of human dignity and freedom, regardless of race, religion, gender, age, citizenship or socioeconomic status. This global crime involves the recruitment of persons through the use of force, fraud, or coercion, for the purpose of exploitation. If you believe someone may be a victim of human trafficking, report your suspicions to the 24-hour [National Human Trafficking Hotline](#) at 1-888-373-7888 or text "BEFREE" to 233733. Contact local law enforcement only if someone is in immediate danger.

Community Resource: VOCA

The Victims of Crime Act is a critical funding source for programs that support victims of crime in N.C. – but many of your communities are just learning about it as part of the discussion of potential funding cuts. Our office created a [one-page explainer](#) along with an episode of the DPS Safety Scoop podcast that you can share with stakeholders in your community.

