

An Analysis of the Data Collected On Street Checks in Edmonton Between the Years 2009 and
2016 Inclusive

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June 22, 2017

Findings

The data requested included data on street checks for the years 2009 through 2016 inclusive. This data showed that the Downtown and West districts had the highest number of street checks, while the North district consistently had the lowest amount (Figure 5 & Table 2). This analysis does not attempt to hypothesize as to the causes of these differences, as the data provided is sufficient for descriptive statistics only. This data also included a breakdown of the people street checked according to their race/ethnicity and sex for the years 2012 through 2016 inclusive. This data showed that between 2012 and 2016, Aboriginal and Black people were street checked an average of 6.5 and 2.6 times more than White people, respectively (Figure 1 & Table 3). An analysis of the breakdown of race/ethnicity by sex showed that Aboriginal men, Aboriginal women, and Black men were street checked an average of 5.6, 3.9, and 3 times more than White men, respectively (Figure 4 & Table 6). This analysis also showed that Aboriginal women, Aboriginal men, and Black men were street checked an average of 9.8, 14.25, and 8 times more than White women, respectively (Figure 4 & Table 6). This analysis concludes that Aboriginal people and Black men are the most street checked (Figure 4 & Table 6).

Methodology

This analysis collected population data from the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS), specifying Edmonton (city) as the demographic area. The NHS included data on the total population in private households by ethnic origin, and included a breakdown of this data by sex. Using this and the street check data provided, the number of people street checked as identified by each race category was divided by the total number of the respective population of that category as collected from the NHS. This number was then multiplied by 100,000 to calculate street checks per 100,000 people in the respective race categories. This result was used to

compare across the categories included in the street check data to determine which groups were disproportionately street checked. To obtain the findings of how often Aboriginal and Black people were street checked compared to White people, the number calculated to obtain street checks per 100,000 for non-“White” categories was divided by the number of street checks per 100,000 for the “White” category.

The NHS only included data from those who live in private households and who responded to the survey, and had a global non-response rate of 25.8%, so there was no data on those who have been displaced from their homes, or those who did not respond to the survey. The data used is five years old, as the relevant data from the 2016 Census has not been released yet, and there were no manipulations made to the data to attempt to match more recent statistics. This means that the findings are only as accurate as the data available. The data from the breakdown of the number of people street checked by race/ethnicity did not specify which ethnic origins fell into which category, so this analyst made educated guesses to match the breakdown of ethnic origin in the NHS to the categories included in the street check data. The categories in the street check data were “Aboriginal,” “Black,” “Hispanic,” “Métis,” “Middle Eastern,” “Asian,” “Other,” “South Asian/East Indian,” and “White.” The NHS included far more categories of ethnic origins, which were matched to the street check categories. The “Aboriginal” category included “First Nation (North American Indian) Origins” and “Inuit Origins” from the NHS categories of ethnic origin, while the “Métis” category included only “Métis Origins.” The “Black” street check category included “Caribbean Origins” and “African Origins,” and the “Hispanic” category included “Latin, Central, and South American Origins.” The “Middle Eastern” category included “West Central Asian and Middle Eastern Origins,” and the “South Asian/East Indian” category included “South Asian Origins.” The “Asian” category included “East and Southeast

Asian Origins” and “Other Asian Origins,” and the “White” category included “Other North American Origins” and “European Origins,” excluding “Other European Origins,” which was included in the “Other” category, along with “Oceania Origins.”

The accuracy of the findings are further complicated by the low rate of those street checked who were identified by race. Between 2012 and 2016, an average of only 38.62% of people who were street checked were identified by race (Figure 6 & Table 7).

Figure 1.

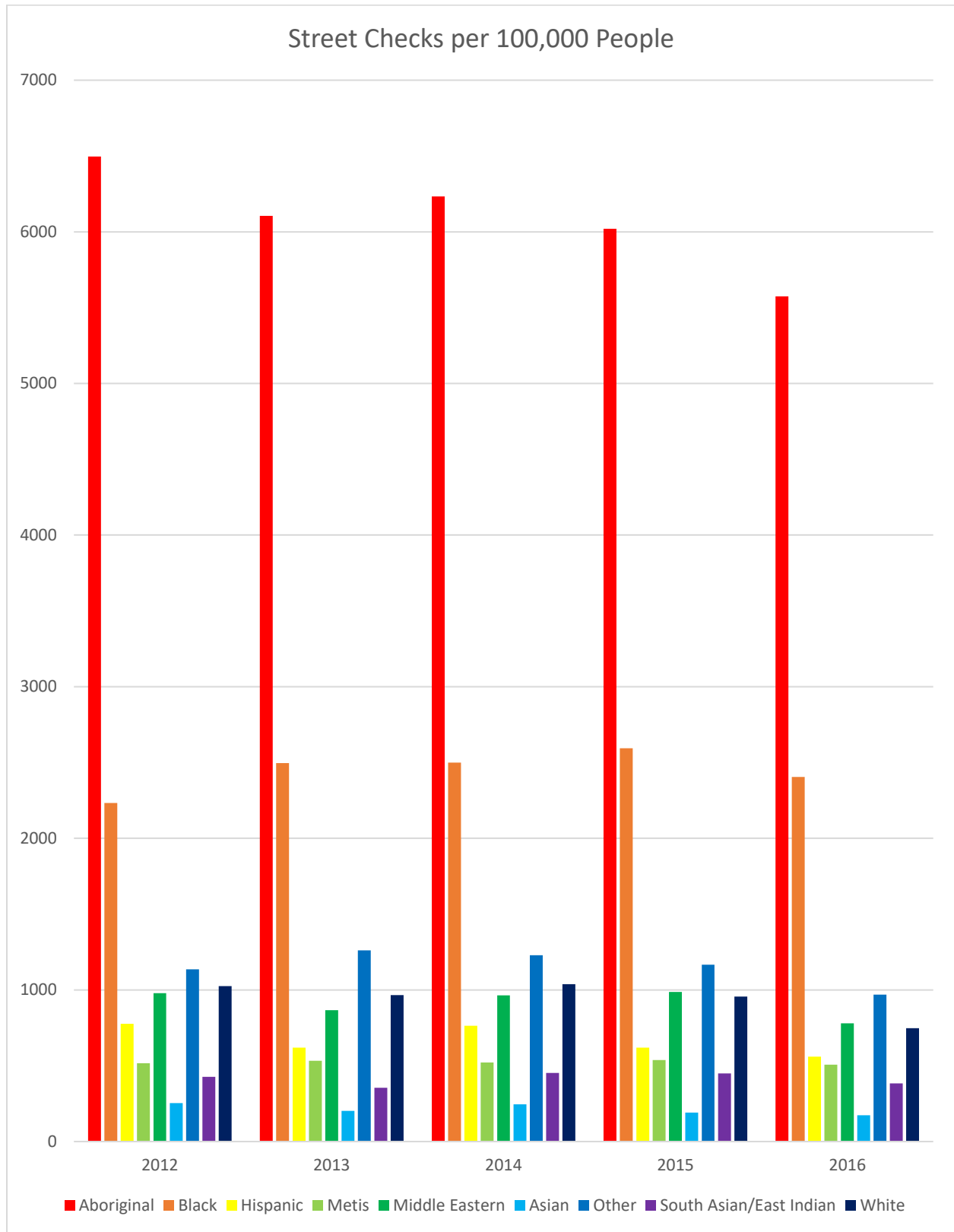


Figure 2.

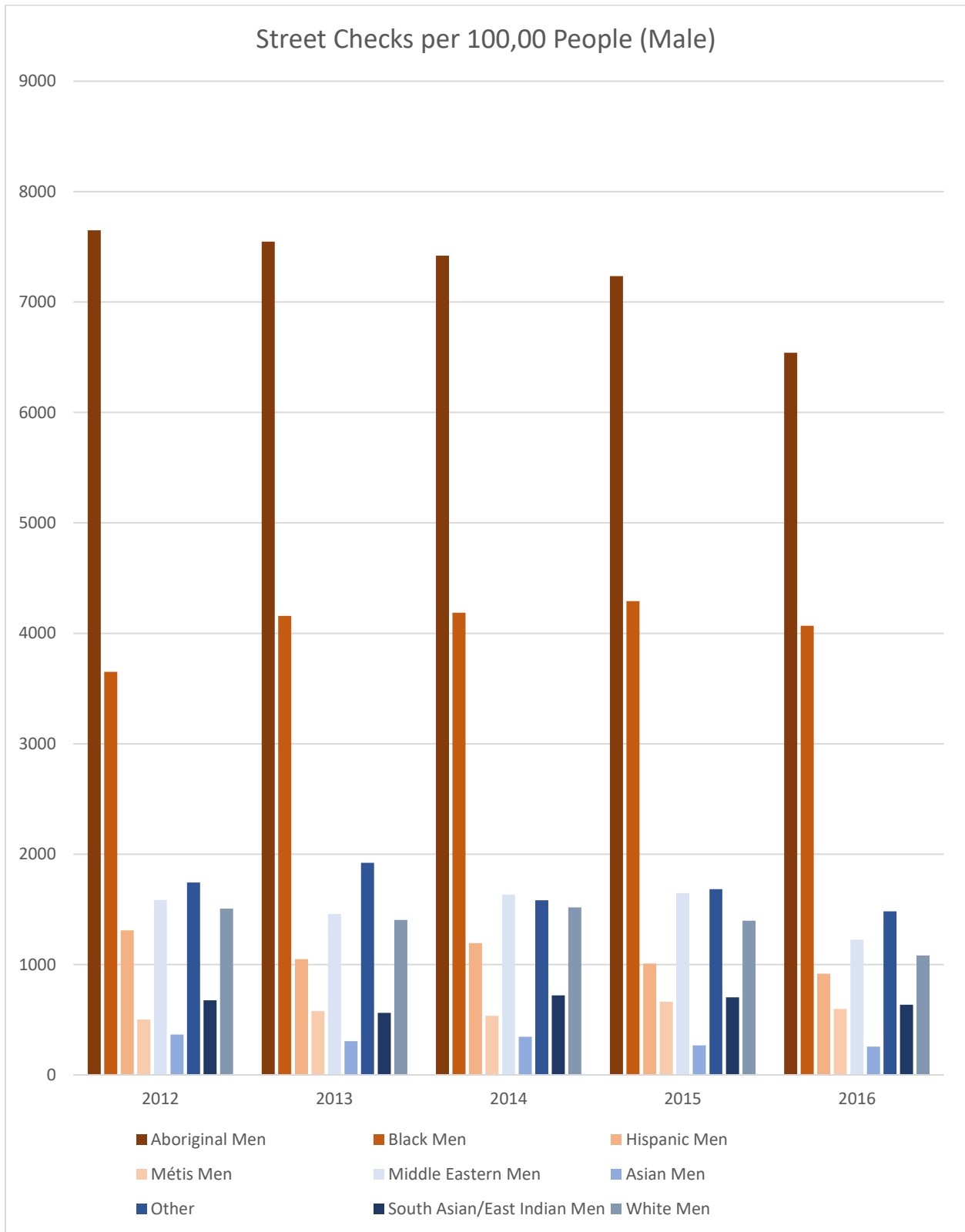


Figure 3.

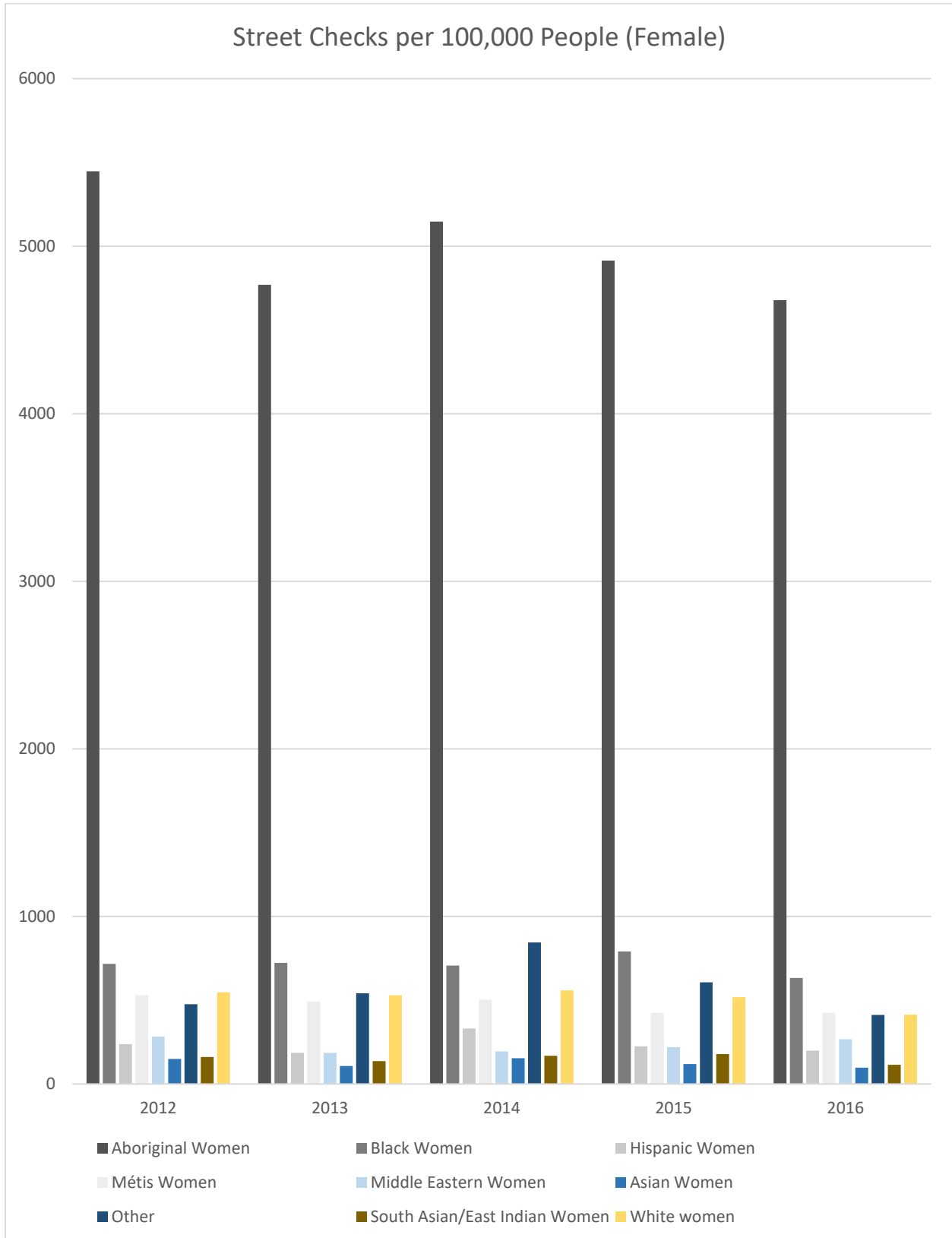


Figure 4.

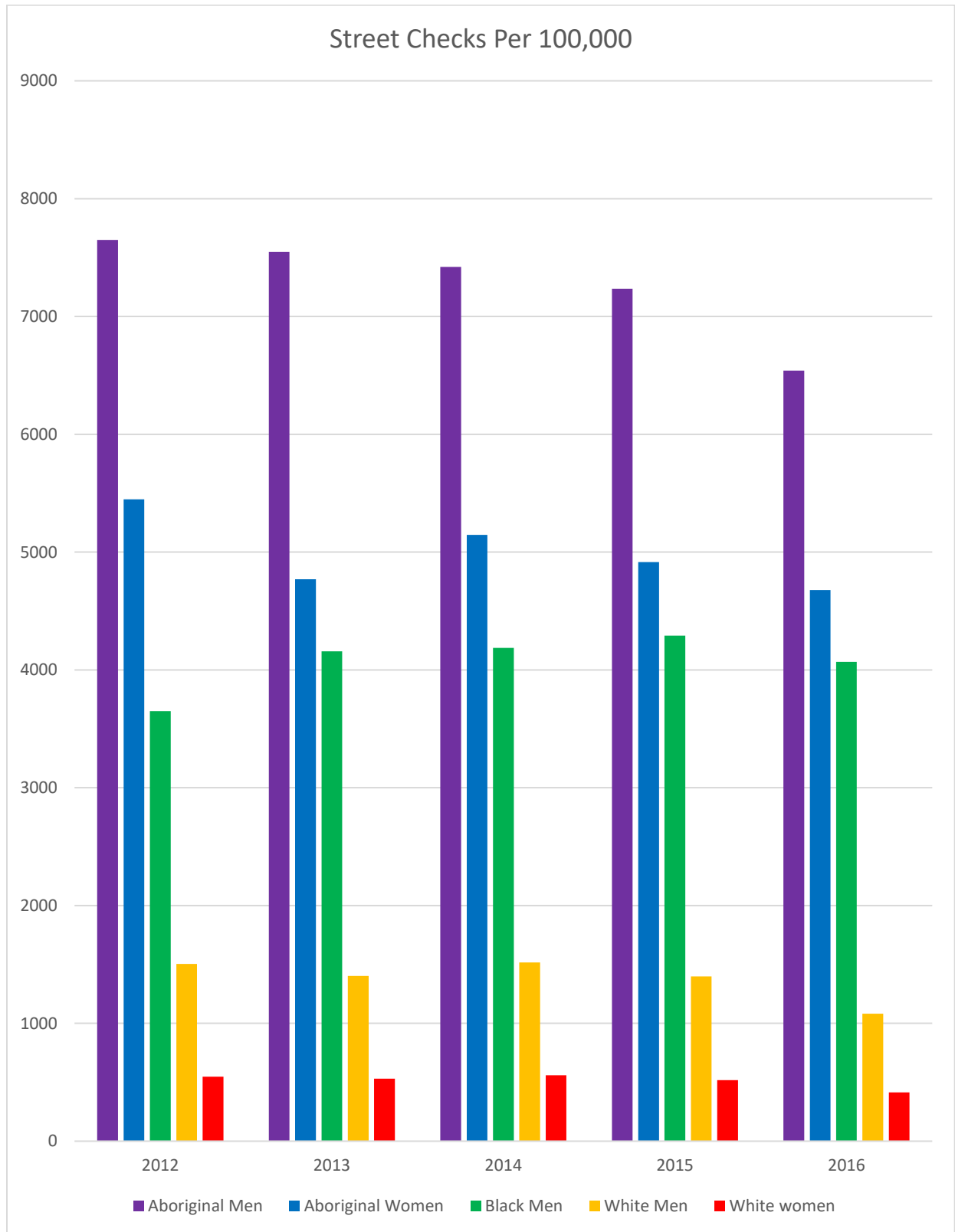


Figure 5.

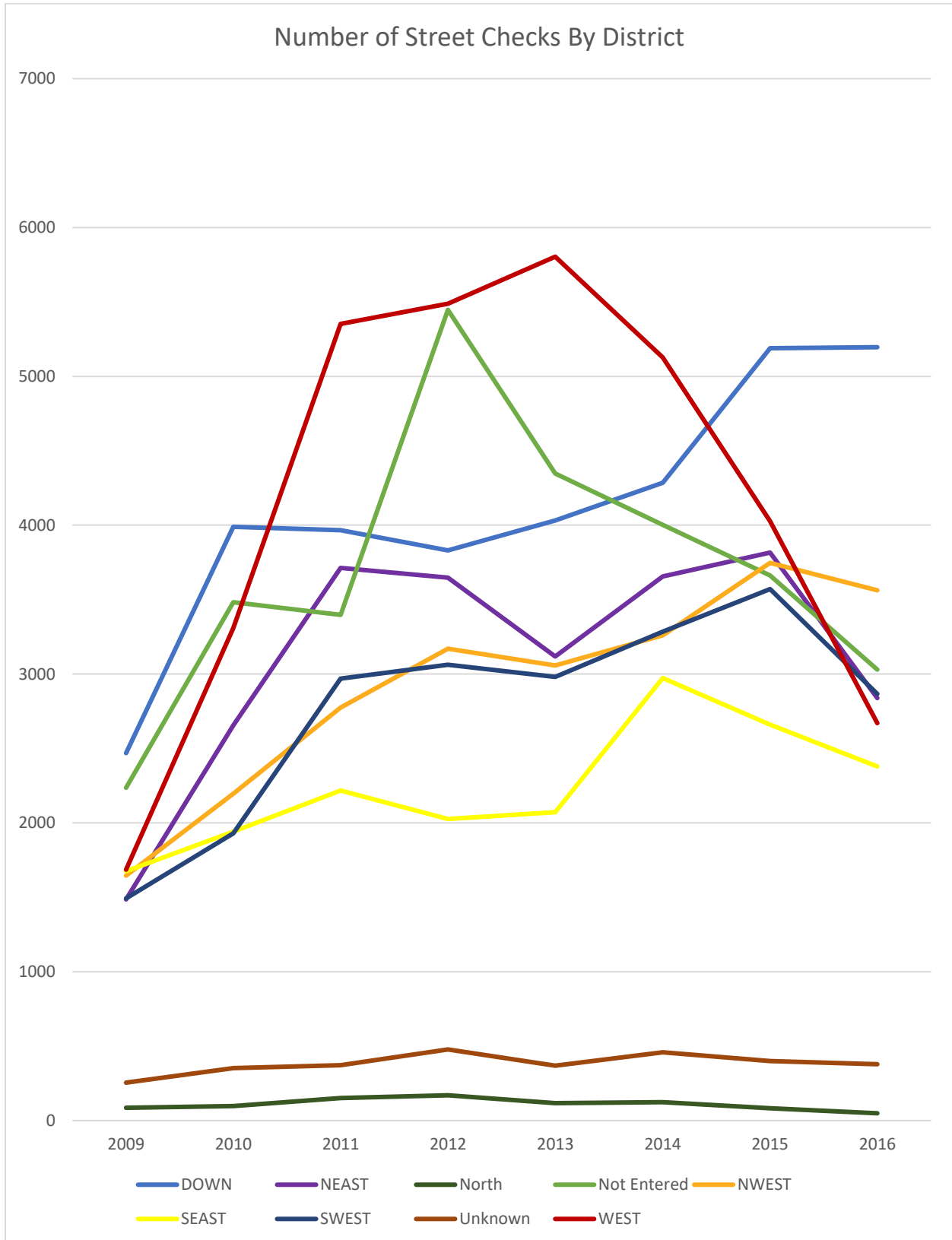


Figure 6.

