

*Citation (ticket) data comparisons: nighttime seat belt patrols vs daytime seat belt patrols.*

**Nighttime seat belt patrols net more risky drivers.**

When comparing nighttime seat belt enforcement patrol (NTSBE) ticket data to daytime seat belt patrol (CIOT 5/06) ticket data -- and calculating by “officer hour worked” -- the following information reflects the differences in patrol productivity:

	<b>NTSBE 10/07</b>	<b>PRODUCTIVITY</b> Citations per 100 hours of law enforcement activity:	<b>CIOT 5/06</b>	<b>PRODUCTIVITY</b> Citations per 100 hours of law enforcement activity:
<b>HOURS WORKED</b>	<b>5362</b>		<b>11,444</b>	
SEAT BELT CITATIONS	3822	<b>71.28</b>	9820	<b>85.81</b>
CHILD CAR SEAT	181	<b>3.38</b>	269	<b>2.35</b>
DUI	83	<b>1.55</b>	115	<b>1.00</b>
FELONY ARREST	79	<b>1.47</b>	38	<b>0.33</b>
DRUG ARREST	78	<b>1.45</b>	149	<b>1.30</b>
RECKLESS DRIVING	12	<b>0.22</b>	24	<b>0.21</b>
DRIVE W/O LICENSE	284	<b>5.30</b>	791	<b>6.91</b>

- **Seat belt tickets** – Nighttime patrols netted 17% fewer seat belt tickets.
- **Child car seat citations** – Nighttime patrols netted 44% more child car seat citations.
- **DUIs** – There was a 54% increase in the rate of DUIs written during nighttime patrols.
- **Felony arrests** – There were almost 4½ times more felony arrests with nighttime patrols (4.4X)
- **Drug arrests** – There was a 12% increase in the rate of drug arrests with nighttime patrols.

The theory behind nighttime seat belt patrols is that officers intercept more of the types of drivers who cause serious injury and fatality collisions. Ticket data (above) supports this hypothesis. The evaluation being conducted on the project by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration will shed more light on the differences between daytime and nighttime seat belt-focused, law enforcement activity.

In addition, a nighttime seat belt patrol is a stationary patrol that requires the work of numerous officers and one of these officers (the observer) does not write tickets. This was not taken into consideration when making the (above) calculations, therefore productivity is arguably 25% higher with nighttime patrols.