

The list cherry picked locations and ignored 20 states, including our home state of Arkansas and three adjacent states where we have a great number of stores. Many of the stores in states the group completely passed over are likely in smaller, rural communities - whose crime rates are lower in general.

We see it as just another negative attack piece from the union leadership in Washington, D.C. The fact is, their sampling is selective and numbers are distorted. Our aggressive, proactive safety measures work. They've helped us prevent and interrupt crimes, and they've prompted our associates and managers to be more vigilant and aware of any potential criminal activity in our stores.

As a result, many of the police contact instances cited in the report are examples of our store managers notifying authorities of things like shoplifting, check fraud or calls to have police to disperse unlawful demonstrations by Wake-Up Wal-Mart. Even Wake-Up Wal-Mart acknowledges that a number of the calls were for other instances as routine as a customer locking keys in their car.

More information about the study:

- This study supposedly covers 551 stores "chosen randomly based on a sample of 1,004 Wal-Mart stores that were open for all of 2004." The larger sample of 1,004 stores was supposedly "selected based on concentrations of Wal-Mart stores and geographic diversity." This is a pretty remarkable statement, seeing as how the "concentrations of Wal-Mart stores" ignores every Wal-Mart in Arkansas and three of the six states bordering Arkansas.

Of 1031 stores in these states, only 77 (7.5%) were included in the study.

- o Arkansas 91 stores - 0 included in the study.
- o Missouri 132 stores - 3 included in the study.
- o Tennessee 119 stores - 5 included in the study.
- o Mississippi 72 stores - 0 included in the study.
- o Louisiana 97 stores - 0 included in the study.
- o Texas 415 stores - 69 included in the study.
- o Oklahoma 105 stores - 0 included in the study.

Other states notably underrepresented include:

- o Alabama 102 stores - 1 included in the study.
- o Colorado 72 stores - 3 included in the study.
- o Georgia 139 stores - 0 included in the study.
- o Indiana 108 stores - 2 included in the study.
- o Kentucky 90 stores - 0 included in the study.
- o Pennsylvania 139 stores - 3 included in the study.
- o South Carolina 72 stores - 0 included in the study.
- o Virginia 94 stores - 1 included in the study.
- o Utah 40 stores - 0 included in the study.
- o West Virginia 36 stores - 0 included in the study.

Compare with:

- o Connecticut 35 stores - 25 included in the study.
- o Massachusetts 48 stores - 22 included in the study.
- o California 195 stores - 91 included in the study.
- o Florida 224 stores - 68 included in the study.
- o Washington 45 stores - 11 included in the study.

- Examining the Target comparison angle:

- o There is nothing to compare the size of these stores.
- o There is no comparison of customer traffic.
- o Stores located just a few miles away could be in radically different neighborhoods (especially in big cities)
- o Target and Wal-Mart may have different policies for reporting "crimes."

- But the fact that this sample uses the "50 Wal-Mart stores from the 551 which had the highest total number of police incidents reported" foreordains the outcome. The 50 Wal-Mart stores represent an outlier; when combined with the fact these Wal-Mart stores may be radically different from the "closest" Targets in many other respects, it is hard to see how this is a relevant - or fair - comparison.

#### Quotes from Law Enforcement Agencies:

"When they [Wal-Mart] heard we had additional needs for the classroom upgrade project, they said they wanted to contribute more," Cmdr. Jerry Zeldenrust said. "We wanted to make sure they knew we appreciated that and made a presentation to them." (Lansing Times, February 13, 2006)

"Because they're on the Top 10 doesn't mean they're dangerous places to be," said Sgt. Mark Robinson, a Tucson Police spokesman. "In fact, being on the Top 10 could mean it's a safe place to be because people care enough to call police." (Arizona Daily Star, January, 11 2006)

"Even with all the new home construction in the immediate area (near Wal-Mart) there's really not anything I can come up with that is a problem," Stockton Police Lt. Ron Stansbury said. "There just isn't anything there." (The Napa Valley Register, June 6, 2005)

"As far as Wal-Mart goes there's nothing that jumps out at us as far as the number of calls for service. It's about par with any other business that size," Napa Police Cmdr. Steve Potter said. (The Napa Valley Register, June 6, 2005)

"I can say with some level of confidence that our Wal-Mart is not a nuisance," she [Vallejo Police Lt. Lori Lee] said. "And probably with our community it's not any different than with the Kmart or Target." (The Napa Valley Register, June 6, 2005)

"Any time you put in homes or a retail center your calls for service are naturally going to go up," he [American Canyon Police Chief Doug Koford] said. "It's just like the Safeway center. It's made an impact on our calls for service." (The Napa Valley Register, June 6, 2005)

#### Facts about Some of Wal-Mart's Store Safety Initiatives:

From running in-store poster campaigns to outfitting all of our trucking fleets with technology that enables drivers to receive alerts about missing children, we are committed to implementing real-life solutions designed specifically to achieve that goal.

#### Safe Neighborhood Heroes

Ø Through the company's Safe Neighborhood Heroes program, Wal-Mart has donated over \$26.6 million since October 2002 to support community first-responders, including local police, fire and emergency response departments across the country.