

The author(s) shown below used Federal funds provided by the U.S. Department of Justice and prepared the following final report:

Document Title: Citizen Fear of Crime and Satisfaction With Sheriff Services Survey

Author(s): Boise State University ; Ada County Sheriff's Office

Document No.: 194718

Date Received: June 03, 2002

Award Number: 96-IJ-CX-0085

This report has not been published by the U.S. Department of Justice. To provide better customer service, NCJRS has made this Federally-funded grant final report available electronically in addition to traditional paper copies.

Opinions or points of view expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

96 IS-CX-0085

Department of Criminal Justice and Ada County
Sheriff's Office

Report for the National Institute of Justice

194718



October 1997

Citizen Fear of Crime and Satisfaction With Sheriff Services Survey

Number One



PROPERTY OF
National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS)
Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20849-6000

1997 Sheriff Services Survey Group Participants:

Ada County Sheriff's Office
BSU Department of Criminal Justice
BSU College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, Office of
the Dean
BSU Social Science Research Center

Boise State University

College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs

Citizen Fear of Crime and Satisfaction With Sheriff Services

A Survey of Ada County Residents Where the Sheriff's Office Has Primary Jurisdiction

Funding for the survey was provided by the National Institute of Justice under a "Partnership" grant.

The survey was conducted for the Sheriff's Office by Dr. John Crank, Associate Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, Boise State University.

Captain Gil Wright and Lieutenant Ted Bowers, Ada County Sheriff's Office, assisted in the questionnaire construction.

Cary Heck, Department of Criminal Justice, contributed to the survey design.

Wendy Christensen, Department of Anthropology, collated data and prepared the final report.

The data was collected by the Social Science Research Center at Boise State University.

Data was collected from 806 residents in Ada County where the Sheriff's department has primary jurisdiction. A phone survey was conducted in which respondents were randomly selected.

In Part 1 we asked respondents about their fears of crime, criminal activity that they had witnessed, their fears that they or their children will be victimized, and their thoughts on the contributions of local agencies in dealing with these concerns.

What kind of problems did residents encounter in the neighborhoods where they lived?

Residents were asked about 39 different crime related problems. The five most frequently cited concerns are listed on the following page.

- Speeding was described as a problem by 79 percent of the respondents.
- A lack of recreation for kids was noted by 65 percent.
- Sixty percent noted a problem with stray animals.
- Excessive noise (i.e. barking dogs, loud parties) was described as a problem by over half (55.3%) of the respondents.
- Vandalism was noted by over half (53.4%) of the respondents as a problem.

How concerned were residents about serious crime?

- Nearly half (44%) of the respondents noted that having homes being broken into and things stolen was a problem in their neighborhood.
- Forty one percent (41.1%) of the residents thought there was a problem with people breaking into cars.
- Forty one percent (40.5%) of the respondents believed that drunk drivers were a problem.

Residents were asked if they had observed gang and drug activity in their neighborhood.

- Fourteen percent stated that they had observed drug activity.
- Twenty percent stated that they had observed gang activity.

We asked respondents about the contribution of 11 different agencies and community efforts to solving problems having to do with drugs and gangs.

Of the 11, the five most helpful with regard to gangs were:

- The church (selected by 72% of the respondents)
- "Enough is enough" and other community action programs (70%)
- The Sheriff's Office (68%)

- DARE programs (64%)
- The School District (59%)

The five most helpful with regard to drugs were:

- The church (selected by 72% of the respondents)
- "Enough is enough" and other community action programs (70%)
- DARE programs (65%)
- The School District (59%)
- The Sheriff's Office (58%)

Residents provided information about their recreational activities. We found a high level of activity outside the home.

- Seventy seven percent (76.4%) recreate outside the house, but in the neighborhood.
- Seventy six percent (75.6%) stated they walk, jog, or ride a bike in the day time, 64.3% participate in these activities in the evening, and 27.7% at night.
- Fifty five percent (54.8%) stated that they participate in social activity in their neighborhood.
- Respondents average ten hours per week watching television.
- Only two percent of the respondents do not watch television.

Residents thought they were safe, though more so in their neighborhoods than in downtown Boise.

- Ninety six percent (96.1%) felt safe in their neighborhoods during the day, while 86.0% felt safe in their neighborhoods after dark. Only 3.5% thought their neighborhood was dangerous after dark.
- Seventy percent felt safe in downtown Boise during the day while respondents were divided about the safety of downtown Boise after dark: 29.5% thought that it was safe, 29.9% were neutral, and 28.7% indicated downtown Boise was dangerous after dark.

In spite of general feelings of safety, we found that many respondents feared being victimized.

- Forty two percent of the respondents feared being the victim of a non-gang crime.
- Twenty six percent (25.9%) feared being the victim of a gang crime.
- Twenty eight percent (27.8%) worried that gang members would hurt some member of their household.

Fifty four percent (53.6) of the respondents have children. These residents were asked about their fears that their children would become involved in gang or drug activities. Parents were more worried about drug involvement than gang involvement.

- Thirty three percent (32.9%) worried about their children getting involved with drugs.
- Twenty percent (19.6%) worried about their children getting involved with gangs.
- More than 1 in 4 parents (26.8%) were afraid their children would be hurt by a gang member.
- More than 1 in 3 parents (38.7%) stated that there were certain areas of the community where their children are afraid to walk.

In Part 2 we wanted to find out about citizen's knowledge of and satisfaction with Sheriff Office services. Our findings reveal a high degree of satisfaction with Sheriff service delivery and with Deputy professionalism. However, wide

variation is noted in public awareness of available programs provided by the Sheriff's Office.

What kind of relationship exists between the Sheriff's Office and the general public? We found that there is a reservoir of good will toward the Sheriff's Office and that respondents rated highly Deputies' professionalism.

- Eighty four percent (83.6%) stated Deputies were courteous.
- Seventy seven percent (76.8%) thought that Deputies were honest.
- The majority of the respondents (73.9) stated that Sheriff's Deputies were fair.
- Sixty percent (59.5%) noted that Deputies treated all citizens equally and according to the law.
- Over half (53.3%) of the respondents are interested in the problems faced by the Sheriff's Office.
- Over half (58.8%) stated that citizens and Sheriff's Deputies work together in solving problems.
- Fifty four percent stated that friendship between the Sheriff's Office and citizens was easy to develop.

An area of considerable interest to the Sheriff's Office is whether Deputies should spend more time assisting residents with their problems or focus their energies on serious crime. The following questions reveal citizen's preferences on this issue.

- More than half (74.1%) of the respondents noted that Deputies show concern when asked questions.
- Over half (53.0%) agreed that Deputies should spend more time talking to people about their problems.
- Sixty three percent (63.4%) stated that Deputies should spend more time working with individuals and groups to solve problems.

- Fifty five percent (54.8%) observed that Deputies should spend more time than they do investigating serious crime, serious criminals, and suspicious persons.
- Respondents seemed satisfied with the number of tickets issued even for minor law violations. However, nearly 4 in 10 (39.8%) thought that Deputies should spend more time on traffic enforcement.

The Ada County Sheriff's Office is developing an Internet site with a web page that will be available for citizen interaction. We asked respondents what kinds of information they would like to see on an Internet site web page. Preferences are listed below in the order of public interest.

- Eighty one percent (80.7%) wanted information about community policing and crime prevention activity.
- Eighty percent wanted a question and answer section where they could ask questions.
- Seventy nine percent (78.5%) were interested in a description of the different programs offered by the Sheriff's Department.
- Seventy four percent (74.2%) wanted information about meetings of neighborhood watch groups.
- Seventy two (72.1%) were interested in crime reports for Ada County.
- Sixty seven percent (67.6%) were interested in information about DARE.
- Sixty two percent (61.7%) were interested in what some of the Deputies are doing, awards, and current training activity.
- Fifty one percent (51.3%) were interested in information on bicycle and boat patrols.

We asked if residents had any recent contacts with the Sheriff's Department. We found that the quality of service was consistently rated high, even for those who had been arrested.

- Twenty percent (20.1%) had contacted the Sheriff's Office for information or a request for service, and 83.4% of those stated they received good to excellent service.
- Seventeen percent (16.6%) had recently reported a crime and 77.6% of those stated they received good to excellent service.
- Twelve percent (11.5%) had recent contact with Dispatch/911 and 88.2% of those stated they received good to excellent service.
- Ten percent (10.4%) had received a traffic violation, and over half (57.1) of those who said that they had contact received good to excellent service.
- A small number (2.7%) of respondents had recently visited the jail, and over sixty percent (63.7%) of those stated they received good to excellent service.
- Six respondents (.7%) had been arrested, and of those who had been arrested, four (66.7%) rated the service they received as good to excellent.

In the following questions, we were especially interested in contacts respondents had with the jail. First we wanted to know how many had contact with the jail.

- Twenty percent (21.2%) of the respondents had called the Ada County jail for information or visited the jail to bond a friend or relative out of jail.
- Twelve percent (12.4%) of the respondents had visited a relative or friend in the Ada County jail.

Next we wanted to know about the quality of the contact with the jail.

- Eighty six percent of the respondents who had visited the jail stated that they had been treated respectfully.
- Almost all (91%) of the respondents who had visited the jail stated they felt secure inside the facility.

- Eighty seven percent (87.1) of the respondents who had called the jail stated they had no problem finding the number to the jail. Of those who called the jail:
 - ◆ Their call was answered promptly (81.9%).
 - ◆ The person who answered the call was courteous(81.9%).
 - ◆ They got all the information they needed (88.9%).

An issue of considerable public interest is whether or not offenders in the Ada County jail might be provided alternative, non-incarcerative treatments. We wanted to assess the public's opinion on this issue. We first asked respondents to compare the two:

When asked generally if they thought offenders should receive jail or an alternative, non-incarcerative sentencing:

- 21.7% chose jail.
- 63.9% chose alternative sentences.
- 9.7% were uncertain.

Then we asked respondents a more detailed question about current offenders in the Ada County jail.

Our independent research found that the average offender in the Ada County jail has 14 prior arrests, typically including the following: driving with a suspended license, DUI, petty theft, possession of marijuana, and failure to appear. We asked respondents if they thought that a maximum penalty of one year in jail for this offender, with time off for good behavior, is too lenient, just about right, or too harsh.

- Sixty one percent (60.5%) answered that this was too lenient.
- Thirty percent (29.5%) answered that this was about right.
- Five percent (5.1%) answered that this was too harsh.

Increasingly, police agencies are adapting "community policing" programs that emphasize crime prevention and police-citizen activities. In Part 3 we asked Ada County residents about their interest in and support for community policing endeavors.

The first set of questions asks about familiarity with Sheriff's Office programs.

Respondents were generally familiar with 3 out of the 9 programs:

- Seventeen percent (16.5%) participate in a Neighborhood Watch Program, while 63.9% have heard of Neighborhood Watch.
- Thirteen percent (13.2) participate with School Resource Officers, while 43.8% have heard of this program.
- Seven percent (6.7%) have participated in Crime Stoppers, while 64.0% have heard of Crime Stoppers.

Programs with which respondents were least familiar were:

- Home-business Security Surveys (85.5% not familiar).
- Employee Robbery Prevention Training (83.3% not familiar).
- Landlord-tenant Dispute Resolution (79.5% not familiar).

We found that residents supported community oriented policing programs.

- Almost all citizens (92.2%) thought that Community Oriented Policing was a good use of resources.
- We asked respondents if they thought that community policing was just another name for coddling criminals and people on welfare. Only 13% agreed with this idea, while 65% disagreed.
- The majority (93.9%) of respondents thought citizens should participate in programs such as Neighborhood Watch.
- Seventy five percent (74.6%) think that Community Oriented Policing is the direction all police will have to take to reduce drugs, gangs, and crime.

Finally we wanted to find out about the characteristics of participants in the survey. Part 4 provides a description of our respondents.

The following information provides a description of the respondents participating in this research.

- Most respondents (94.7%) identified themselves as Caucasian/White. Asian Americans, Mexican Americans, and Native Americans accounted for 1% each.
- Females accounted for 64% of the respondent sample.
- Seventy percent of the respondents had college experience, with 50% having a college degree of Associates (2 year) or higher.
- Most respondents identified themselves as professionals (24.7%). Homemakers were second (16.7%), followed by white collar workers (15.0%).
- The average respondent's 1996 pre-tax family income was \$30,590. Ten percent made \$15,000 or less. Thirty-two percent indicated that their annual income was over \$50,000.
- Eighty seven percent (86.8%) of the respondents were homeowners, and 87.0% lived in single family dwellings.
- The average age for respondents was 42 years of age.
- The typical respondent has lived in Ada County for an average of 11 years, and in their current neighborhood for five years.

APPENDIX

Full Statistical Presentation of Findings.

- The following pages present a full display of the findings of the survey.
- Interested individuals may contact John Crank, Department of Criminal Justice, Boise State University, for clarification of information presented here.

Appendix: Full Statistical Presentation of Findings.

Section 1: Citizen Fear of Crime

Interviewer: *How important are the following problems in the neighborhood where you live? On a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is a problem and 1 is a small one, please tell me the number that best describes your feelings on the issue.*

	Big Problem		Somewhat of a Problem			No Problem		
	5	4	3	2	1			
			<u>Average</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
1.	People's homes are being broken into and things stolen.	1.69	1.1	2.0	9.9	31.5	54.1	
2.	People being robbed or having their purses or wallets stolen.	1.37	0.4	0.5	2.7	15.8	78.2	
3.	People breaking into cars.	1.75	2.2	3.7	9.9	25.3	56.9	
4.	Auto theft.	1.43	0.4	0.4	2.5	10.4	81.4	
6.	Domestic violence.	1.98	1.0	1.9	7.9	19.1	56.9	
7.	Drunk drivers.	1.93	2.2	6.0	11.3	21.0	55.0	
8.	Child abuse or neglect.	1.90	1.4	2.0	6.5	15.6	64.6	
9.	Vandalism - that is, breaking windows, writing things on walls, damaging mailboxes or other property.	1.92	3.1	5.7	13.3	31.3	45.7	
10.	Inadequate patrol services.	1.87	5.7	4.8	9.7	16.3	60.7	
11.	Inadequate city government services.	2.03	3.8	2.5	9.4	12.4	62.3	
12.	Physical decay - such as abandoned cars, run-down buildings, houses or farm buildings in disrepair.	1.58	2.4	2.9	11.8	15.5	67.4	
13.	Lack of community interest in crime prevention activities.	1.95	4.1	3.2	10.8	11.0	63.6	
14.	Police-citizen relations.	1.60	2.5	1.5	6.1	7.9	76.0	
15.	Garbage or litter on the streets or in front of someone's house.	1.58	2.4	2.4	10.4	18.6	66.0	
16.	Parking problems.	1.36	1.7	2.5	5.8	10.3	79.7	
17.	Bicycle violations or safety.	1.61	3.2	3.3	9.1	15.4	68.0	
18.	Stray animals.	2.13	7.4	7.2	16.1	29.5	39.7	
19.	Speeding.	2.86	15.8	18.4	21.7	23.3	20.7	
20.	Excessive noise, such as barking dogs, loud parties, and loud car stereos.	1.99	4.7	7.1	13.5	30.0	44.4	
21.	Poaching.	1.18	0.1	0.4	1.0	3.6	92.8	
22.	Disruption around schools; are young people hanging around making noise, vandalizing, or starting fights.	1.70	0.9	2.1	4.7	14.4	70.7	
23.	Truancy; that is, kids not being in school when they should be.	2.16	1.0	2.9	7.2	13.0	60.8	
24.	Shootings and violence by gangs.	1.16	0.4	0.2	2.4	6.0	90.4	
25.	Drug dealing.	1.80	3.0	2.9	6.7	9.8	70.3	
26.	Cars being vandalized -- things like radio aerials or windows being broken.	1.59	2.0	2.6	8.2	18.5	67.2	
27.	People or landlords allowing their property to become run down.	1.70	3.2	4.1	10.9	20.0	61.2	
28.	Students fighting or causing disturbances on the way to and from school.	1.53	1.0	1.2	4.7	12.4	75.9	
29.	Profanity or foul language by students in public areas.	2.00	6.0	8.7	10.7	17.1	55.2	
30.	Teenagers using drugs or alcohol.	2.17	5.0	4.7	10.7	15.1	55.2	
31.	Teenagers hanging out.	1.73	2.7	5.6	8.7	16.4	64.1	
32.	Gang violence.	1.26	0.6	0.6	2.7	4.5	89.3	
34.	Graffiti.	1.27	0.9	1.2	3.3	12.5	81.9	
35.	Crack houses or Meth labs.	1.35	1.2	0.2	1.1	2.9	89.7	
36.	Streets too dark at night.	1.96	10.0	5.8	11.5	12.7	59.4	
37.	Homeless people or vagrants.	1.07	0.1	1.1	3.6	3.6	95.0	
38.	Unsupervised youth, especially after school.	1.89	4.0	5.0	12.8	18.7	56.7	
39.	Lack of recreation areas for kids.	2.93	24.2	11.4	19.7	10.2	32.0	

Almost Every Day	2 or 3 Times a Week	Once a Month	Every Few Months	Never
5	4	3	2	1

	Average	5	4	3	2	1
41. How often do you observe what you think is gang activity in your neighborhood?	1.23	0.5	1.4	4.0	8.4	85.6
42. How often do you observe what you think is drug activity in your neighborhood?	1.40	1.6	2.5	5.6	12.0	77.8

Interviewer: Next I would like you to assess the contribution of different groups and agencies to solving problems having to do with drugs and gangs. Please rate how you think the groups or programs below are helping with problems of teen-age drug use and with gangs. A 5 means that it is an important contribution, a 3 means that it has no effect on the problem, and a 1 means that it is making the problem worse.

Important Contribution		Nothing		Making the Problem Worse
5	4	3	2	1

Gangs

	Average	5	4	3	2	1
43. The Sheriffs Office	4.37	30.8	38.4	15.9	1.3	0.6
45. Local Business	3.89	7.4	28.8	40.0	4.7	1.5
47. The criminal justice system in general	3.60	12.4	33.6	22.5	13.3	7.8
49. YMCA	4.39	27.9	32.4	20.2	1.3	0.5
51. "Enough is Enough" and other community actions	4.52	41.3	29.0	14.4	0.5	0.6
53. DARE programs	4.43	34.1	31.7	16.3	1.6	0.8
55. The Juvenile court	3.65	10.6	27.7	26.1	12.4	8.2
57. The new state department of Juvenile Corrections	4.20	10.1	23.5	27.5	4.8	4.2
59. Churches and church-sponsored activity	4.28	32.1	41.8	14.6	2.0	0.9
61. The school district	4.01	22.0	37.2	22.1	6.2	2.3
63. Local treatment and rehabilitation programs	4.19	14.6	31.7	24.5	4.2	2.5

Drugs

	Average	5	4	3	2	1
44. The Sheriffs Office	4.14	21.5	37.2	23.2	3.3	1.4
46. Local Business	3.71	6.1	26.6	43.3	6.6	2.8
48. The criminal justice system in general	3.62	11.0	33.5	27.9	10.9	6.6
50. YMCA	4.32	24.0	34.3	22.6	0.8	0.9
52. "Enough is Enough" and other community actions	4.48	39.1	32.4	13.6	1.1	0.5
54. DARE programs	4.42	32.7	33.7	16.2	1.8	0.5
56. The Juvenile court	3.69	10.0	30.4	28.4	11.1	6.1
58. The new state department of Juvenile Corrections	4.19	9.1	25.1	26.3	5.6	4.0
60. Churches and church-sponsored activity	4.26	29.9	43.1	14.1	2.4	1.1
62. The school district	4.00	20.1	40.2	21.6	5.6	2.5
Local treatment and rehabilitation programs	4.20	17.2	37.8	21.6	2.9	2.1

Interviewer: *The following questions ask generally about neighborhood safety.*

Very Often	4	Occasionally	2	Never	1
------------	---	--------------	---	-------	---

	Average	5	4	3	2	1
65. Social activity in the Neighborhood	2.62	7.3	15.1	32.4	20.2	24.6
66. Walk, jog, or ride a bike in the daytime	3.34	23.4	27.4	24.8	7.7	16.5
67. Walk, jog, or ride a bike in the evening	2.87	12.7	20.3	31.3	11.9	23.7
68. Walk, jog, or ride a bike at night	1.91	5.2	7.1	15.4	17.7	54.5
70. Worry about other children	3.30	17.4	24.6	35.6	13.4	8.6
71. Recreate outside the house but in the neighborhood	3.28	17.1	29.4	29.9	10.5	12.9
72. Recreate by watching television	3.40	15.9	31.0	34.4	14.6	4.0
73. About how many hours a week do you watch television?	Mean hours 27.93			Median hours 10.00		

Interviewer: *In the following set of questions I am going to ask you about safety in your neighborhood. I want to know if you think vary safe, somewhat safe, neither particularly safe or dangerous, a little dangerous, or very dangerous.*

Very Safe	4	Neutral	2	Very Dangerous	1
-----------	---	---------	---	----------------	---

	Average	5	4	3	2	1
77. How safe is your neighborhood during the day?	4.55	61.2	34.9	2.5	1.0	0.5
78. How safe is your neighborhood after dark?	4.19	36.5	49.5	10.2	3.1	0.5
79. How safe is downtown Boise during the day?	4.16	20.6	49.4	15.1	3.5	1.0
80. How safe is downtown Boise after dark?	3.36	3.3	26.2	29.9	24.7	4.0

Interviewer: *Now I'm going to read some statements people have made about crime. For each please tell me how worried or concerned you are. Please score from 1 to 5, where a score of 5 means that you are very worried and a score of 1 means that you not worried at all.*

Very Worried	4	Somewhat Worried	2	Not Worried	1
--------------	---	------------------	---	-------------	---

	Average	5	4	3	2	1
81. I'm worried about being a victim of a gang crime.	2.46	5.8	20.1	16.4	29.5	28.2
82. I'm worried about being the victim of a non-gang crime.	2.90	8.6	33.4	15.8	24.3	17.9
84. I'm worried that gang members will hurt some member in the household.	2.43	8.3	19.5	10.9	28.8	32.3
85. I might be afraid if a stranger stopped me to ask for directions.	2.70	10.7	25.2	12.5	24.4	26.8

Do you have any children? % (N) % (N)
 Yes 53.6 (432) No 46.4 (374)

IF YES: How many do you have?

0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	6 Children	7 Children
	32.4 (140)	37.7 (163)	20.1 (87)	5.3 (23)	3.0 (13)	.9 (4)	.2 (1)

IF THE RESPONDENT HAS CHILDREN, COMPLETE THE NEXT FIVE QUESTIONS. OTHERWISE SKIP THEM.

	Strongly Agree 5	Somewhat Agree 4	Neutral 3	Somewhat Disagree 2	Strongly Disagree 1						
						Average	5	4	3	2	1
89.						3.38	29.6	31.7	6.0	11.6	20.8
90.						2.62	15.7	20.8	8.1	19.2	35.9
83.						3.10	16.0	34.0	11.3	20.8	17.6
88.						2.51	9.3	14.4	14.4	21.1	36.8

Section II: Sheriff's Office Service Needs

Listed below are some questions that let us look at the relationship between the Sheriff's Office and the general public. When selecting the best answer, please try to answer ONLY in terms of the Sheriff's office. While you may have had good or bad incidents with other departments, on this survey please gauge your answer in terms of the Sheriff's Office. They are distinguished by the brown uniforms and red shoulder patches that they wear. Please tell me if you strongly disagree, disagree, are neutral, agree, or strongly agree with the following statements.

	Strongly Agree 5	4	Neutral 3	2	Strongly Disagree 1						
						Average	5	4	3	2	1
91.						3.45	17.1	36.2	20.7	19.4	5.2
92.						3.24	9.1	27.5	24.8	20.5	11.2
93.						3.53	21.0	33.0	18.4	16.9	7.6
94.						3.24	15.6	22.3	22.8	20.0	13.5
95.						3.75	20.3	38.5	22.5	10.8	3.5
96.						4.05	28.2	45.7	15.6	4.6	2.1
97.						4.28	41.2	42.4	10.3	2.0	1.5
98.						4.18	33.4	43.4	16.0	2.0	1.1
99.						2.96	12.4	24.4	17.2	24.7	18.5
100.						3.64	22.2	37.3	14.4	13.5	8.3
101.						4.11	30.4	43.7	15.8	2.9	2.4
103.						3.78	24.2	30.6	25.1	8.7	5.3
104.						3.60	20.5	32.5	23.7	11.7	7.2
105.						3.90	24.7	38.7	21.5	6.7	3.3
106.						2.89	12.4	22.0	18.0	27.2	18.5
107.						3.16	13.5	26.3	23.1	23.7	10.8

Interviewer: *The Sheriffs Department is preparing to launch an Internet site web page in September. We are trying to find out what kinds of information the public would like to see on it. Please tell me how much you would be interested in the following information where a score of 5 means that you would be very interested and a score of 1 means that you have no interest whatsoever.*

Very Interested	Somewhat Interested	Neutral	Somewhat Interested	No Interest
5	4	3	2	1

		Average	5	4	3	2	1
108.	Current crime reports in Ada county.	3.94	29.4	42.7	7.9	4.2	10.2
109.	A description of the different programs offered by the Sheriff's department.	4.17	37.2	41.3	6.3	2.1	7.1
110.	Activities and meetings of neighborhood watch groups.	4.04	33.4	40.8	7.3	4.0	8.7
111.	More information about the jail.	3.15	12.8	29.7	16.6	12.9	22.2
112.	Current news -- for example, what some of the officers are doing, awards, current training activity.	3.62	16.7	45.0	12.5	6.6	13.4
113.	More information on bicycle and horse patrols.	3.39	15.4	35.9	14.9	10.0	17.9
114.	More information on DARE.	3.87	27.5	40.1	9.1	5.1	11.5
115.	A question and answer section where I can ask questions.	4.28	49.0	31.1	4.2	1.4	8.6
116.	Information about community policing and crime prevention activity.	4.21	39.8	40.9	3.5	2.0	7.8

Interviewer: *The following questions ask about any recent contacts you might have had with the Sheriffs Department. If you have any of the following kinds of contact, please tell me if the service you received was very bad, somewhat bad, neutral, good, or excellent.*

Very Bad	Somewhat Bad	Neutral	Good	Excellent
1	2	3	4	5

Was there contact for:
circle answer

If there was contact:
quality of contact

	YES %	(N)	NO %	(N)		Average	5	4	3	2	1
120.	10.4	(84)	88.7	(715)	Traffic Violation	3.55	3.3	23.8	19.0	11.9	11.9
122.	20.1	(162)	79.2	(638)	Information/Request for service	4.15	45.1	38.3	7.4	4.9	4.3
124.	2.7	(22)	96.5	(778)	Visited the Jail	3.86	18.2	45.5	22.7	9.1	
126.	0.1	(1)	99.1	(799)	Incarcerated in jail	3.00			100.0		
128.	0.7	(6)	98.5	(794)	Arrested	4.00	50.0	16.7	16.7	16.7	
130.	16.6	(134)	82.8	(667)	Reported crime	3.96	40.3	37.3	8.2	6.0	8.2
132.	11.5	(93)	87.7	(707)	Dispatch -- 911 (all calls go to the county dispatcher first)	4.33	55.9	32.3	4.3	4.3	3.2

Section III: The Community Policing Mandate

Interviewer. Now I'm going to ask if you are familiar with some programs run by the Sheriff's Department. Please answer according to your degree of knowledge about the program. The interviewer should mark the correct box.

		I or my Family Participate or Have Heard of It		I Have Heard of It, Some Knowledge		I am Not Familiar		
		5	4	3	2	1		
		<u>Average</u>		<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
133.	School Resource Officers	2.30		42.8	43.8	13.2		
134.	Neighborhood Watch	2.03		19.5	63.9	16.5		
135.	Vacation Watch	2.69		74.4	20.0	5.5		
136.	Home-business Security Surveys	2.84		85.5	12.4	2.0		
137.	Crime Stoppers	2.23		29.2	64.0	6.7		
138.	Employee Robbery Prevention Training	2.79		83.3	12.5	4.1		
139.	Inmate Training programs	2.75		76.4	21.6	1.9		
140.	Inmate Substance Abuse programs	2.70		71.7	26.2	1.9		
141.	Landlord-tenant Dispute Resolution	2.77		79.5	17.7	2.6		

Interviewer: The Sheriff's Office is adding programs that are guided by a philosophy called Community Oriented Policing. These programs are increasingly popular in major cities, and they are guided by police-citizen cooperative arrangements. Some of the programs that have evolved from this philosophy that the Sheriff's office currently has in place are the neighborhood watches, crime prevention programs, DARE programs, home-business security surveys, and dispute resolution between landlords and tenants. Please indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, are neutral, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements about police priorities and Community Oriented Policing programs.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree		
		5	4	3	2	1		
		<u>Average</u>		<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
142.	I think police should concentrate more on catching criminals than on working with the public.	2.79	9.3	20.5	24.6	29.4	15.9	
143.	I think Community Oriented Policing is a good use of resources if it can be shown that these programs lead do reduced crime.	4.42	51.5	40.7	5.3	0.9	1.1	
144.	I think police should put more officers on the streets even if that means reducing other services such as traffic control, crime analysis, volunteer services, and other non-patrol functions.	2.92	9.9	23.0	22.6	29.2	13.6	
145.	I think Community Oriented Policing is just another name for coddling criminals and people on welfare.	2.33	4.2	6.8	16.9	24.3	40.2	
146.	I think Community Oriented Policing sounds like the direction all police will have to take if we are to reduce drugs, gangs, and crime.	4.03	33.4	41.2	14.4	7.3	1.7	
147.	I think that the County should hire more police officers even if other essential services have to be cut.	2.93	8.8	23.1	24.9	25.4	15.0	
148.	I think citizens must take more responsibility through programs such as Neighborhood Watch for the safety of their neighborhoods. More police officers alone can never solve the problem of crime.	4.54	62.8	31.1	3.3	1.9	0.7	

Too Harsh	About Right	Too Lenient
3	2	1

The average offender in the Ada County Jail has 14 prior arrests, including driving with a suspended license, DUI, petty theft, possession of marijuana, and failure to appear. Do you believe that a maximum penalty of 1 year in jail for this offender, with time off for good behavior, is...

<u>Average</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
1.54	5.1	29.5	60.5

Don't Know	Alternative	Jail
3	2	1

<u>Average</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
1.97	9.7	63.9	21.7

If you had to choose between jail and alternative, non-incarceration punishments, which would you choose?

Section IV: Background Questions.

We are nearly finished. These final few questions deal with aspects of your personal background. This information is needed in order to make sure that people from all walks of life are represented in the survey.

149. Ethnicity

<u>% (N)</u>	<u>% (N)</u>	<u>% (N)</u>
1.1 (9) Asian American	1.1 (9) Native American/Indian	0.2 (2) Black/Afro-American
94.7 (763) Caucasian/White	1.0 (8) Mexican-American-Hispanic	1.0 (8) Other

<u>% (N)</u>	<u>% (N)</u>
36.0 (290) Male	64.0 (516) Female

151. Please check the highest level of schooling you have achieved:

<u>% (N)</u>	<u>% (N)</u>	<u>% (N)</u>
2.9 (23) Not a High School Graduate	16.0 (129) Bachelor Degree	25.4 (205) High School Graduate/GED
4.2 (34) Some graduate course work	32.0 (258) Some College	7.8 (63) Graduate Degree
10.3 (83) Associate Degree	1.4 (11) Other	

152. What is your present occupation? Please select only one.

<u>% (N)</u>	<u>% (N)</u>	<u>% (N)</u>
9.4 (76) Self Employed	24.7 (199) Professional (lawyer, accountant, doctor, etc)	11.3 (91) Manual worker (blue collar)
16.7 (135) Homemaker	15.0 (121) White collar (office worker, Staff, etc)	1.6 (13) Business owner
1.9 (15) Farmer, rancher, fisher, etc.	2.6 (21) Unemployed	0.2 (2) Executive
2.6 (21) Student		
13.5 (109) Other		

Please indicate your approximate family income before taxes in 1996:

	\$25,000-\$29,000 Median	\$30,000-\$49,000 Mean
1.5 less than \$4,000	1.7 \$4-000 to \$6,999	1.9 \$7,000 to \$9,999
4.8 \$10,000 to \$14,999	5.3 \$15,000 to \$19,999 6.6	6.6 \$20,000 to \$24,999
8.6 \$25,000 to \$29,999	29.3 \$30,000 to \$49,999	32.6 \$50,000+
154. Are you a homeowner or a renter?	<u>% (N)</u> 86.6 (698) Homeowner	<u>% (N)</u> 12.4 (100) Renter
155. Type of residence (Check one)		
<u>% (N)</u> 2.6 (21) Apartment	<u>% (N)</u> 7.4 (60) Mobile Home	<u>% (N)</u> 87.0 (701) Single family home
0.7 (6) Condominium	1.2 (10) Duplex	1.0 (8) Other
156. How long have you lived in Ada County?	14.00 Median Years	82.57 Mean Years
157. How long have you lived in your current neighborhood?	5.00 Median Years	8.53 Mean Years
158. What is your age?	42.50 Median Years	44.66 Mean Years

PROPERTY OF
National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS)
Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20849-6000