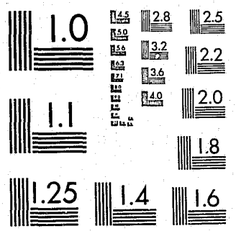
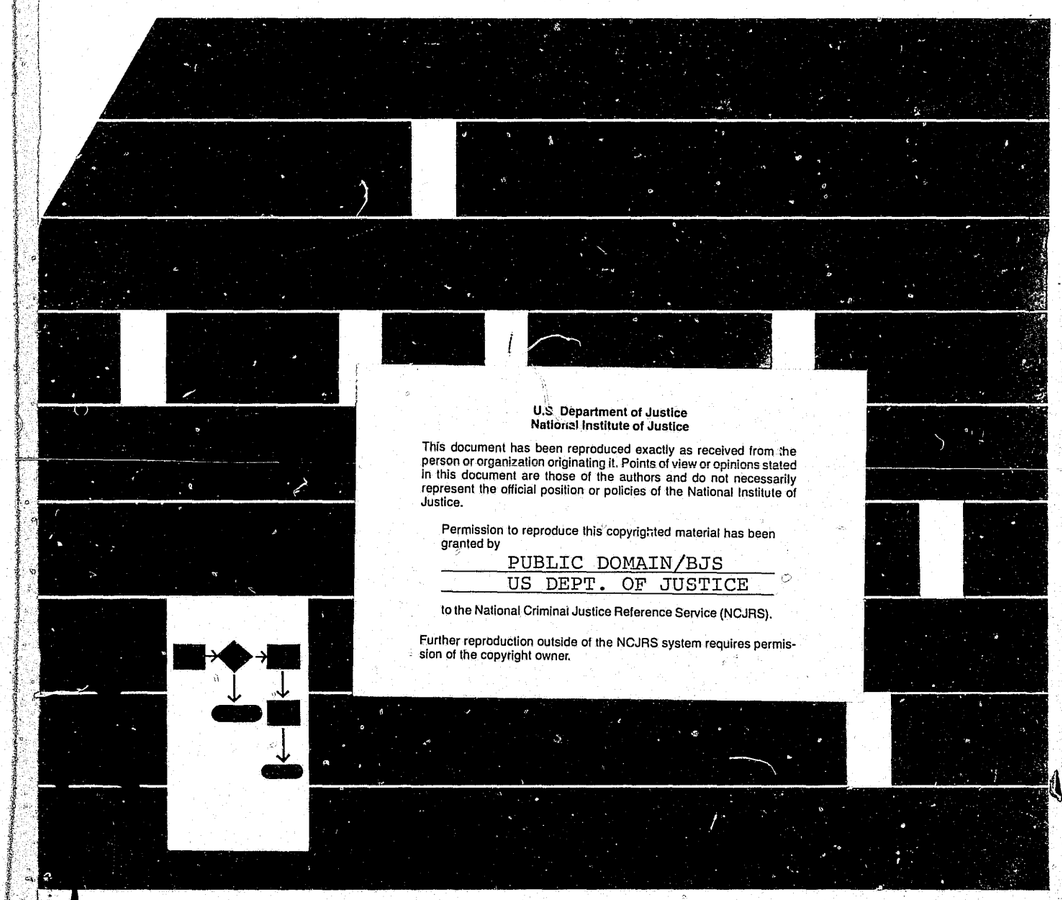


The Judicial Processing of Assault and Burglary Offenders
in Selected California Counties



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Law Enforcement Assistance Administration
National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service
UTILIZATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS **ANALYTIC REPORT 7**

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ANALYTIC REPORT 7

The Judicial Processing of Assault and Burglary Offenders in Selected California Counties

by **Carl E. Pope**
Research Analyst

CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH CENTER
Albany, New York

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THE UTILIZATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS Project was funded initially in 1972 by the National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. One primary aim of the project is the production of annual editions of the Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, a compilation of available nationwide criminal justice statistical data. A second aim has been and continues to be an examination of the utility that a variety of criminal justice statistical data bases have for addressing questions of practical and theoretical interest in the field.

One product of that examination is a series of analytic reports, of which this volume is one. These reports, written by research staff members of the Utilization of Criminal Justice Statistics Project, all have a common theme: the discussion of a central criminal justice topic using an exemplary or innovative criminal justice data base. Each report in the series not only discusses substantive findings in regard to particular issues, but also considers the qualities and limitations of the data, as well as techniques and problems of analysis, in relation to the substantive findings.

At a time when criminal justice statistics development is extensive, and often expensive, these analytic reports focus attention on one often overlooked function of criminal justice statistics—the analysis of current issues and questions based on available data. In fact, the utilization issue is perhaps as important as any in the area of criminal justice statistics. It often happens that data are collected—usually at great expense—without subsequent efforts to utilize such data to address the pressing problems that confront criminal justice. This series of Analytic Reports explores the problems and prospects inherent in the application of various sources of criminal justice statistical data to issues of interest and concern to agency personnel, planners, researchers, and the public alike.

MICHAEL J. HINDELANG
Project Director

PREFACE

THIS IS THE THIRD in a series of three monographs focusing on the judicial processing of California felony offenders in 12 separate counties. The overall objectives of the series are basically twofold: 1) to describe and analyze a transactional data base in which offenders are tracked through various stages of the criminal justice system; and 2) to demonstrate empirically the uses to which these data can be put in providing information of the type heretofore not available. The first report contained a general discussion of transaction data and a preliminary examination of the movement of felony defendants through the California judicial system. This report is, in essence, an extension of the second monograph, in which type and length of sentence was examined with respect to age, race, sex, and previous criminal histories of California felony defendants. In that earlier report, arrest offenses were grouped into generic categories of violent, property, drug and "other." In this monograph an analysis of sentence outcome with respect to two specific offense groups, assault and burglary offenders, was undertaken. The technique of predictive attribute analysis was used as an efficient method for analyzing sentencing patterns when specific offenses are considered.

The monographs in this series could not have been written without access to the transactional data base generously supplied by the California Bureau of Criminal Statistics. The cooperation of the Bureau staff, especially Willard Hutchins and Stan Wilkins, greatly expedited the completion of this project. Further, these reports would not have been completed without the diligent and painstaking work of Patricia McCarron, to whom I am gratefully indebted.

Last but not least, the secretarial, computational, and editorial assistance of many competent personnel made these monographs possible. In this regard, I would like to acknowledge the contributions of Donald Articolo, William Feyerherm, and Barbara Robarge.

CONTENTS

prior record and criminal status. Sex, race, and age are self-explanatory. Prior record reflects officially recorded criminal involvement as determined by previous arrests and/or convictions (including fines, probation, or jail and prison commitments). Criminal status refers to whether or not an offender was under some type of supervision (e.g., parole) at the time of his arrest.

Previous studies focusing on the disposition of assault and burglary offenders are sparse at best. While prior research efforts have concentrated on the characteristics of assault and burglary offenses, they have virtually ignored sentencing trends with respect to these two offender groups.[4] It is not surprising, however, that an analysis of sentencing patterns has received only cursory treatment. The data base for such research endeavors has generally been derived from police records, where information on judicial processing or correctional outcome is frequently unavailable. Previous data collection techniques have not provided a link between police, court, and correctional stages in criminal processing. Here, the California transactional data proved valuable in allowing us to analyze and present information on sentence outcome for both assault and burglary offenders.

As in the earlier monograph, a 10 percentage point difference was utilized as a criterion for evaluating the magnitude of observed relationships. Thus, if a percentage difference is equal to or greater than 10 percent, then the relationship will be considered substantial. If the difference is less than 10 percent, then the relationship is considered nonsubstantial.

Criminal Processing of Burglary and Assault Offenders

Figures 1 and 2 present the flow of burglary and assault offenders through selected decision points associated with the processing of criminal defendants. These figures are presented in order to provide the reader with an overall view of general differences and similarities in the processing of these offender groups. The urban/rural dimension was discarded for the sake of simplicity in presenting the data in Figures 1 and 2, but will be re-introduced when more detailed analysis is undertaken in a later section of this report.

Each figure begins with pre-trial screening, which represents a post-arrest decision whether or not to hold the suspect for further processing or otherwise dispose of him. Here, the police and prosecuting attorney frequently divert from the system those offenders who face a low probability of conviction or for whom other alternatives to criminal processing are available. It is interesting to note that a greater percentage of burglary offenders (81 percent) were held for trial compared to assault offenders (70 percent). More than one-fifth of all burglary and assault arrestees were released prior to trial, thereby avoiding prosecution.

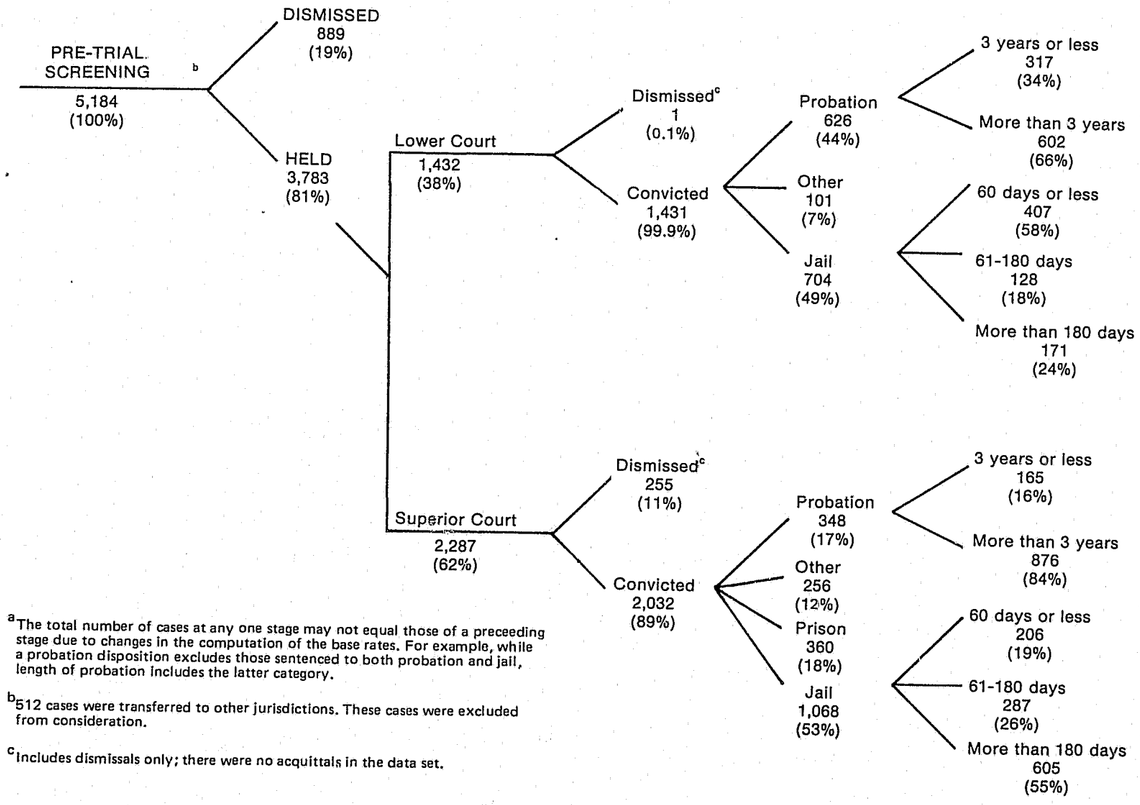
After a decision is made to hold an offender for further processing, he then proceeds to either the lower (municipal) or the superior courts for adjudication. All cases adjudicated by the lower court result in misdemeanor convictions; those proceeding to the superior court most often result in a felony conviction. Considering that all cases herein represent initial felony arrests in which the offender was fingerprinted, it is insightful to note the large percentage of cases handled as misdemeanors at the lower court level—more than one-third of all burglary and assault defendants were disposed of here. It is also evident that assault defendants were substantially more likely than burglary defendants to be adjudicated at the municipal court level—56 percent versus 38 percent, respectively.

As both figures indicate, case dismissals occurring at the lower court were quite rare, being less than 1 percent for both burglary and assault defendants. This may well reflect the tendency of defendants to plead guilty in return for sentencing concessions rather than face the possibility of felony conviction at the superior court and a relatively severe sentence. Also, prior police and prosecutor screening have eliminated a substantial number of cases before reaching this stage.

For those convicted, the possible sentence options were collapsed into the three categories of probation, jail, and "other." The category "jail" includes those receiving a straight jail term or a combination of jail and fine or jail and a probation sentence. "Other" serves as a residual category and includes both fine and suspended sentence.

[4] Pittman and Handy (1964), for example, explored various offender and offense patterns in the commission of aggravated assault, yet provided no data on sentence outcome. Studies focusing on the crime of burglary are even more limited and have yet to include an analysis of offender information. As a result, we know little regarding the characteristics of those offenders involved in the commission of burglary and even less concerning their eventual disposition.

Figure 1 Flow of California Felony Burglary Offenders[a]

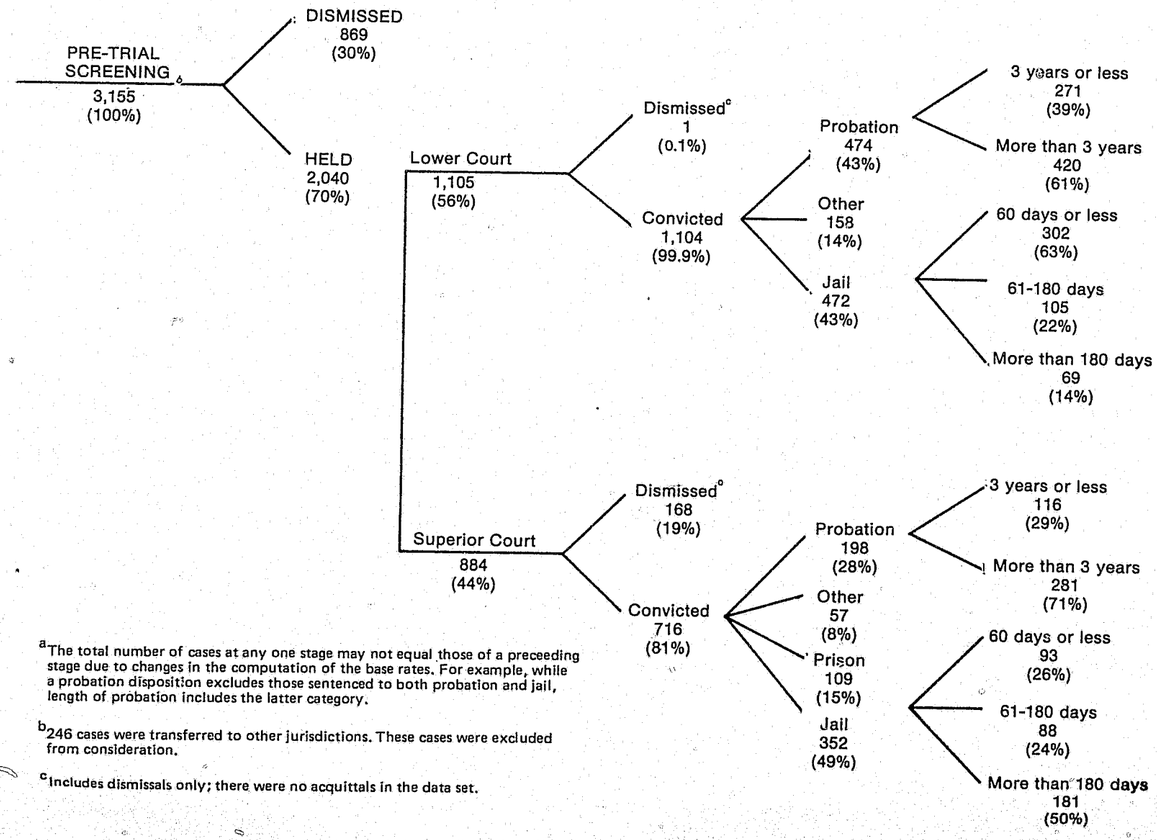


[a]The total number of cases at any one stage may not equal those of a preceeding stage due to changes in the computation of the base rates. For example, while a probation disposition excludes those sentenced to both probation and jail, length of probation includes the latter category.

[b]512 cases were transferred to other jurisdictions. These cases were excluded from consideration.

[c]Includes dismissals only; there were no acquittals in the data set.

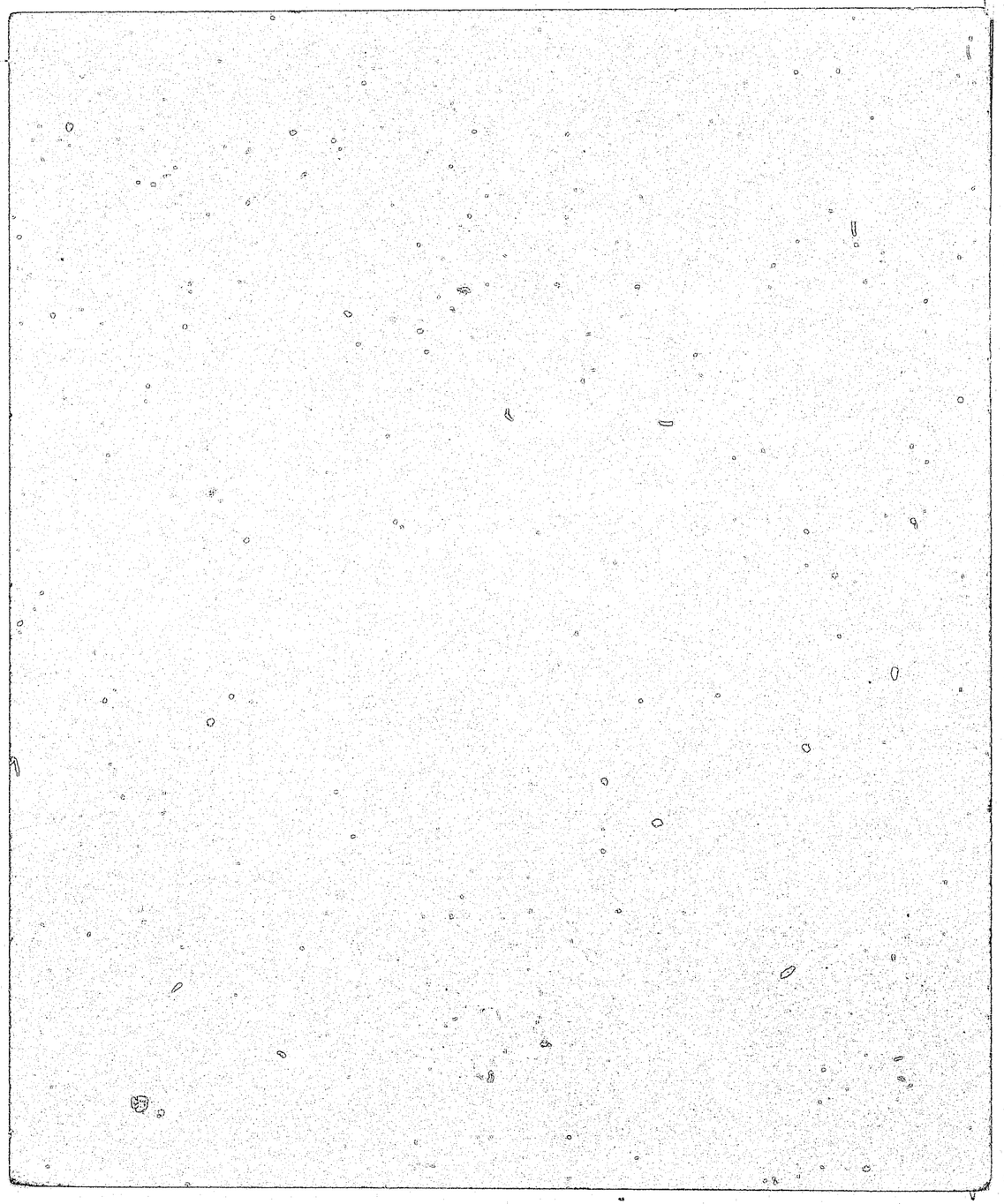
Figure 2 Flow of California Felony Assault Offenders[a]



[a]The total number of cases at any one stage may not equal those of a preceeding stage due to changes in the computation of the base rates. For example, while a probation disposition excludes those sentenced to both probation and jail, length of probation includes the latter category.

[b]246 cases were transferred to other jurisdictions. These cases were excluded from consideration.

[c]Includes dismissals only; there were no acquittals in the data set.



1. Lower Court

The data for burglary and assault offenders revealed little variation across sentence outcomes at the lower court level. Forty-four percent of all burglary offenders were granted probation compared to 43 percent for assault offenders. Whereas convicted burglary offenders were slightly more likely to receive a jail sentence (49 percent versus 43 percent), convicted assault offenders were slightly more likely to receive a disposition other than probation or jail (14 percent versus seven percent); neither of these differences, however, meets our 10 percent criterion indicating a substantial relationship. Differences between burglary and assault defendants with respect to amount of time sentenced to probation were slight, but burglary defendants sentenced to jail were substantially more likely to be sentenced to longer incarceration terms than their assault offender counterparts. Twenty-four percent of all burglary defendants compared to 14 percent of all assault defendants were sentenced by municipal court judges to more than 180 days in confinement.

2. Superior Court

Of those defendants held for criminal processing, approximately 61 percent of all burglary and 44 percent of all assault defendants eventually reached the superior court for adjudication. Overall, the dismissal rate is substantially higher at the superior court than at the lower court level. Whereas 19 percent of those assault defendants reaching the superior court had their cases dismissed, virtually none of their lower court counterparts (.1 percent) had their cases dismissed. Similarly, 11 percent of the burglary defendants at the superior court level had their cases dismissed, but only .1 percent of their lower court counterparts had their cases dismissed. It would seem, then, that those defendants proceeding to the superior court, although more likely to receive severe dispositions if convicted, are also more likely to have their cases dismissed.

With respect to sentence outcome, the data revealed that, regardless of offense, dispositions occurring at the superior court were relatively severe compared to those at the lower court. Sentence outcomes (probation, jail, and "other") are similar to those included at the lower court, with the addition of a category including prison commitments. Of the total number of defendants sentenced by the superior court, 70 percent of all burglary offenders were incarcerated (jail or prison) compared to 64 percent for assault offenders. This represents an increase of over 20 percentage points in comparison to the percentage of each offense group incarcerated at the lower court level. At the lower court level, offenders in either offense group were equally likely to be granted probation, but assault offenders fared better at the superior court level with respect to probation dispositions (28 percent versus 17 percent). Differences between burglary and assault offenders, however, were much less for the remaining sentence outcomes—jail, prison, or "other."

Greater disparity with respect to probation length for burglary and assault defendants is noted at the superior court than at the lower court. Whereas 84 percent of those burglary offenders receiving a probation disposition at the superior court level were sentenced to more than 3 years under supervision, 71 percent of assault offenders received the same disposition. For those assault defendants receiving jail terms[5] from superior court judges, 26 percent were sentenced to 60 days or less, compared to 19 percent for burglary defendants.

The data presented in Figures 1 and 2 reveal few substantial differences in the processing of burglary and assault offenders. In those few instances were differences did occur, assault offenders were likely to fare better than their burglary counterparts. These findings are, however, preliminary, because we have not, as yet, considered the age, race, sex, and criminal histories of those assault and burglary offenders being processed. The remainder of this monograph attempts a more intensive investigation of sentencing patterns with respect to those variables noted above.

General Observations

Employing a 10 percentage point difference criterion, no substantial relationships were found to exist between the post-arrest decision to hold a suspect for further processing and the demographic variables of age, race, and sex. For both assault and burglary offenders, males and females were equally likely to be held for

[5]Unfortunately, information about the length of prison commitments was unavailable at the time of this analysis. Hence, these data reflect only the amount of time which trial judges sentenced defendants to serve in county jails and under probation supervision.

trial; similarly, no substantial differences were observed for race and age. An overall trend was evident, however, in that assault offenders were more likely than burglary offenders to have their cases dismissed at this first post-arrest decision point.

Generally, bivariate relationships showed sentencing patterns to be similar to those noted in the previous monograph, when all offenses were grouped together (Pope, 1975b). Overall patterns derived from these bivariate tables are summarized below, while the tables themselves are included in the Appendix, to which the interested reader may refer.[6] *It should be kept in mind, however, that these findings are restricted to bivariate relationships that may change substantially when control variables are introduced later in this monograph.* Comparisons here are made with respect to those bivariate tables reported in the previous monograph and provide a base from which to assess the nature of those changes likely to occur when relevant legal variables are statistically controlled.

1. Lower Court Sentences

For assault and burglary defendants convicted in both urban and rural lower courts, bivariate relationships between the variable sex and type of sentence showed males to be treated more severely than females. In all instances, except for rural assault offenders, males were substantially more likely to be sentenced to a jail term. For rural assault offenders convicted at the lower court, 45 percent of the males were sentenced to a jail term compared to 43 percent of the females (see Appendix, Tables A1 to A4).

With respect to race, white defendants were generally treated less severely than their black counterparts, although variations were evident with respect to offense type and area. In urban areas, for example, black burglary defendants were substantially more likely to receive a jail term, but for rural areas, racial differences with respect to jail sentences were not substantial. For those assault offenders adjudicated in rural lower courts, blacks were substantially more likely than whites to obtain a jail sentence and less likely to obtain probation. Sixty-four percent of rural assault offenders were sentenced to a jail term by municipal court judges, compared with 44 percent of the whites (see Appendix, Table A7). In urban areas, no substantial differences were noted in the percentage of black and white assault defendants sentenced to probation, jail, or "other" by the lower courts.

Age differences with respect to sentence type were more pronounced in urban than in rural areas for both burglary and assault defendants. In the case of urban burglary offenders, age was found to be positively related to sentence outcome—older offenders were more likely to receive a jail term and less likely to obtain probation than younger offenders (see Appendix, Table A10). An inverse relationship between age and sentence outcome was observed for urban assault offenders. Here, younger offenders tended to receive the more severe dispositions. Whereas 37 percent of those urban assault offenders older than 40 were sentenced to a jail term, 47 percent of those aged 18-24 received the same disposition (see Appendix, Table A12). Differences in sentence outcome with respect to age were found to be negligible in rural municipal courts.

As seen in Appendix Tables A13 to A20, strong linear trends were noted with regard to prior record and sentence outcome at the lower court level. As prior record increased in seriousness, so did severity of disposition. For criminal status, those who were under some form of criminal commitment (e.g., parole) at the time of arrest received more severe sentences than those who were not.

It is interesting to note the more frequent use of jail dispositions by rural lower courts for burglary defendants than for assault defendants. Burglary and assault defendants were equally likely (31 percent) to receive a probation disposition, but burglary defendants (57 percent) were substantially more likely than their assault counterparts (45 percent) to receive a jail sentence. Further, burglary defendants with no prior record fared considerably worse than assault defendants with no prior record at the lower court level in rural areas. Forty-eight percent of the former received a jail sentence, compared with 30 percent of the latter. These dissimilarities, however, were not found for urban lower courts. Urban courts generally treated burglary and assault offenders with no prior record less harshly than the rural courts. For example, rural courts sentenced 48 percent of these burglary defendants to jail, compared with 21 percent so sentenced by urban courts. Similar relationships were also found for those not under commitment at the time of arrest.

[6] For some tables included in the Appendix (especially for black and female defendants) the number of cases included in various subcategories is quite small. In such instances, the reliability of relationships based upon these tables may be questionable. Nonetheless, because this study is exploratory in nature, we felt it worthwhile to report these findings, especially in light of the fact that they serve only as a preliminary step in our analysis.

2. Superior Court Sentences

For those assault and burglary defendants convicted in superior courts, male defendants were generally found to receive more severe sentences than females. Male assault and burglary defendants were substantially more likely to receive a prison sentence in rural courts than were females, who were substantially more likely to obtain probation dispositions and avoid jail sentences. In urban areas, no substantial differences were observed with respect to the percentage of males and females sentenced to prison for both burglary and assault offenders. For urban burglary offenders, sex differences were also not substantial with respect to prison commitments and other sentence dispositions, as well (probation, jail, and "other"). However, female assault defendants adjudicated in urban superior courts were substantially more likely than males to receive a probation disposition and avoid jail sentences. Fifty-one and 35 percent of urban male and female assault defendants, respectively, were sentenced to jail terms (see Appendix, Table A24).

Blacks generally received substantially more severe sentences than whites in rural but not in urban areas. This trend held for both assault and burglary offenders. Black defendants sentenced in rural superior courts were substantially more likely to receive a prison disposition than their white counterparts. Whereas 30 percent of rural assault offenders were sentenced to prison by superior court judges, only 13 percent of the white defendants received a similar disposition (see Appendix, Table A27). Percentage differences between black and white defendants with respect to sentence outcome proved negligible for both assault and burglary offenders handled at the superior court level in urban areas.

A positive association was found to exist between age and sentence outcome for those burglary offenders adjudicated in urban and rural superior courts. That is, older offenders received more severe sentences than their younger counterparts. Only 4 percent of those burglary defendants aged 18-24 years were sentenced to prison in urban areas, compared with 34 percent of those older than 40 (see Appendix, Table A30). No substantial differences were noted with respect to age and percentage of assault defendants sentenced to prison for both rural and urban areas. In contrast to findings for burglary defendants, however, assault defendants aged 18-24 years were substantially less likely to obtain a probation disposition than those 40 or older.

Similar to that for the lower court, prior record and criminal status evidenced a substantial positive relationship with sentence outcome. Those offenders who had a prior record or were under commitment at the time of their arrest consistently received more severe dispositions than those who had no prior record or were not under commitment. With regard to those who had no prior record, burglary defendants were substantially less likely to obtain probation and more likely to receive a jail sentence than assault defendants. This relationship held for both urban and rural areas.

Method of Analysis

In the previous monograph, the method of crosstabulation was used to elicit those patterns existing in the data. Because bivariate tables may often prove misleading, control variables were then introduced. So that findings could be presented as concisely as possible and reduce the large number of partial tables, the technique of test factor standardization was also utilized. As interaction effects were found to be minimal, this procedure seemed appropriate. However, an examination of partial tables (controlling in turn for prior record and criminal status) revealed the degree of interaction to be more pronounced when assault and burglary offenses were examined separately. In order to explore and present these various interactive patterns, we resorted to predictive attribute analysis (PAA), a simple step-wise procedure used to extract those variables most closely related to the criterion variable.

The technique of PAA was developed by McNaughten-Smith in an attempt to predict outcomes of selected variables by dividing the subjects into hierarchical groupings[7] (Wilkins, *et al.*, 1964; Wilbanks, 1972). In its final form it identifies clusters of variables, presented as a branching network, that are associated with the

[7] According to Turner (1969):

PAA is best when there are many variables in which nonlinear effects are present or suspected and in which unanticipated interactions may exist. Furthermore, it deals with the problem of interrelatedness of items. PAA analysis prevents one from using as predictors variables that are related to the criterion, but do not add anything to predictive power when used in conjunction with other variables.

criterion variable under consideration. The procedure is straightforward and developed by successively splitting the predictor variables based on the degree of their relationship to the criterion. First the data are broken down into dichotomies. The outcome (criterion) variable is then determined—for example, whether or not a defendant is sentenced to prison. The correlation coefficients of each predictor with sentence outcome are examined, and the split is made on that variable evidencing the highest degree of correlation. For example, if age was most highly correlated with the decision to incarcerate, then the split would be made here. Within each category of age, say under 30 and 30 and over, we would select the next variable having the highest degree of association with the criterion. In one category of age, under 30, it might be sex, while in the other, prior record may show the highest correlation. The next split is then made, and the process continues until the cases are exhausted or some stopping point has been determined. We are then left with a specific pattern (or grouping) of variables that best accounts for differences in the specified outcome under consideration.

PAA Findings at the Lower Court Level

Figures 3 through 6 present PAA branching networks for burglary and assault offenders in both urban and rural areas. In each instance both the criterion variable (type of sentence) and each predictor variable were dichotomized. Sex and race again formed a natural dichotomy. Criminal status remained unchanged, including those not under supervision and those under supervision at the time of arrest. The variable prior record was collapsed to include those evidencing no prior record and those with prior records. Age was split into "under 30" and "30 and over" categories, and length of time from arrest to disposition was broken down into 30 days or less and more than 30 days.[8] With respect to sentence outcome, probation was included under "other" dispositions, while incarceration was retained as a separate category. The ordinal measure of association, Somer's D, was used to interpret the strength of the relationship between the criterion variable and each predictor, thus specifying where each PAA split should be made.[9] In each figure the number of cases reported (N) represents the base from which incarceration rates were derived.

Figure 3 presents PAA results for those urban burglary offenders adjudicated at the municipal court level. For all cases, we note that 46 percent of those burglary offenders adjudicated by urban lower courts were incarcerated. The first split was made on criminal status, which evidences the highest degree of association with the decision to incarcerate. Thirty-four percent of those offenders who were not under some form of supervision at the time of their arrest were sentenced to incarceration, compared with 74 percent who were under supervision. For the not-under-supervision category, the variable prior record exhibited the strongest association with the decision to incarcerate; in the under-commitment category, the variable sex was most highly correlated with the criterion. For those offenders who were not under commitment and who had no prior record, 20 percent were incarcerated, compared with 46 percent of those not under commitment who had a prior criminal record. For those offenders under commitment, 54 percent of the females were sentenced to jail, compared with 75 percent of the males. Here an interaction effect is evident, where, for those not under commitment, prior record is most highly correlated with the criterion, while in the under-commitment category the split is made on the variable sex.

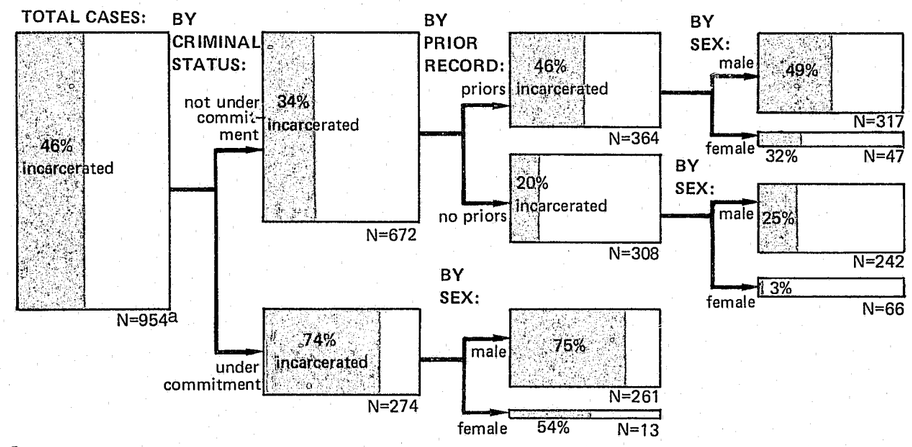
The right-hand side of the tree diagram in Figure 3 terminates at the second step, but additional splits occur on the left-hand side. Here we note the absence of an interaction effect in which the variable sex is most highly correlated with the criterion in both categories of prior record. Numbers in parentheses represent terminal branches and thus define a distinct cluster of variables that are related to the criterion variable. The incarceration rate for group number one (1), which includes those offenders who were not under commitment, had no prior record, and were female, was 3 percent. Correspondingly, the incarceration rate for group six (6) was 75 percent and subsumes those male offenders who were under commitment at the time of their arrest. Note that, within each split, more than a 10 percent difference occurs between subcategories.

Overall, Figures 3 through 6 show the importance of sex and the two legal variables, prior record and criminal

[8] Time from arrest to disposition was an additional variable included in the PAA analysis.

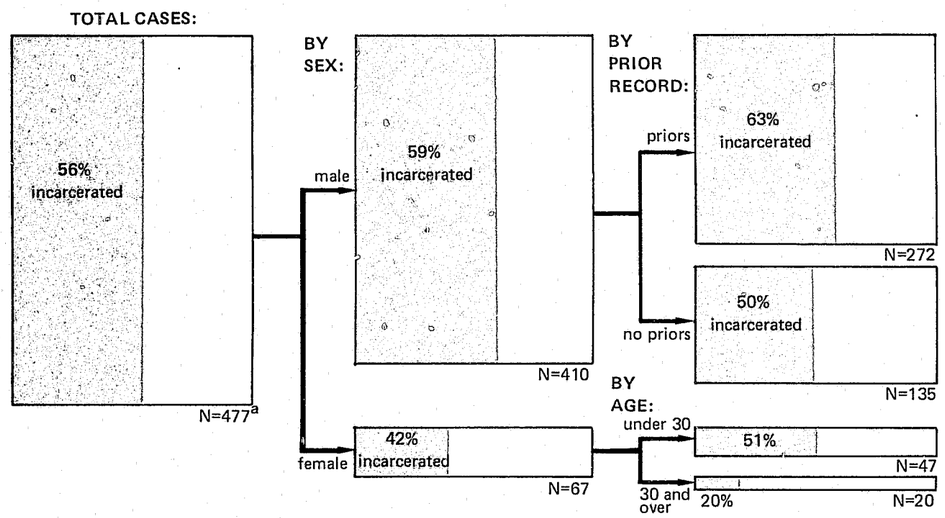
[9] Somer's D is extremely sensitive to percentage differences in two by two tables (Somer, 1962). Although the measure requires ordinal data, dichotomized nominal data may be safely used.

FIGURE 3. PAA Results for Burglary Offenses in Urban Areas
in terms of percent incarcerated at Lower Court levels



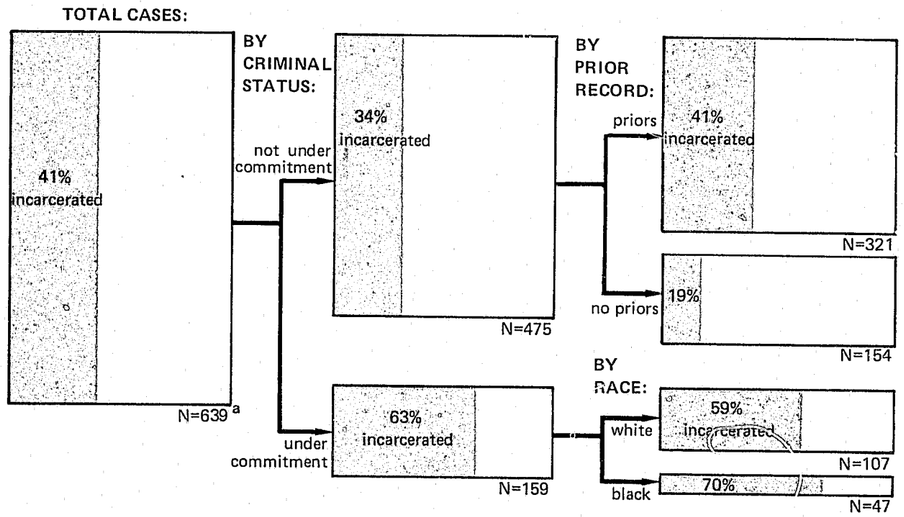
[a] Cases reported in subcells may not add up to the total number of cases due to missing values.

FIGURE 4. PAA Results for Burglary Offenses in Rural Areas
in terms of percent incarcerated at Lower Court levels



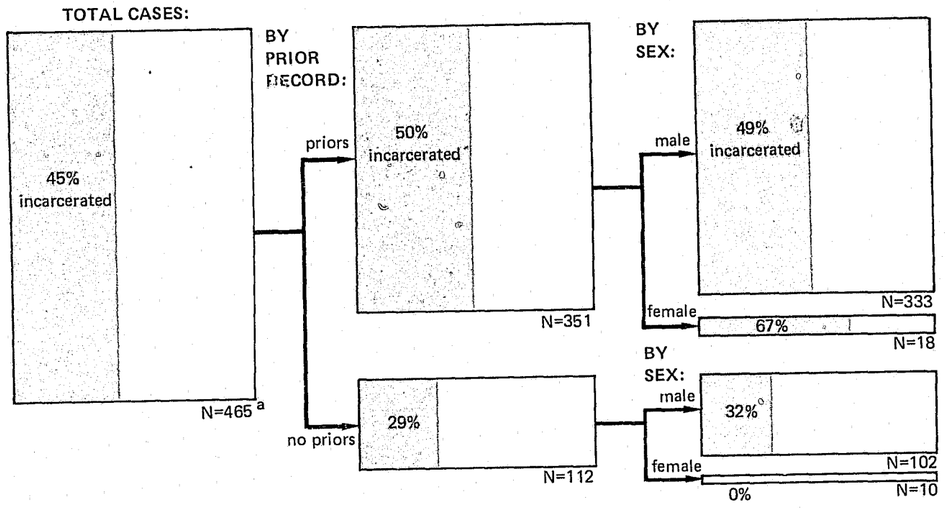
[a]Cases reported in subcells may not add up to the total number of cases due to missing values.

FIGURE 5. PAA Results for Assault Offenses in Urban Areas
in terms of percent incarcerated at Lower Court levels



[a]Cases reported in subcells may not add up to the total number of cases due to missing values.

FIGURE 6. PAA Results for Assault Offenses in Rural Areas
in terms of percent incarcerated at Lower Court levels



[a]Cases reported in subcells may not add up to the total number of cases due to missing values.

status, in determining sentence outcome. For example, in three instances, the first split occurred on either prior record or criminal status, whereas for rural burglary offenders the variable sex evidenced the highest association with the criterion. Tree diagrams for urban burglary offenders and urban assault offenders were quite similar, with the exception that race replaced sex in the under-commitment category for the latter group. In all cases, the majority of those branches that occur evidenced a substantial difference in incarceration rates among categories.

Summary results in Tables 1 and 2 revealed wide variation with respect to incarceration rates. For rural assault offenders (Table 2) the incarceration rate varied from zero percent to 67 percent. In group one (1), for example, no females without a prior record received an incarceration term. However, in group three (3), 67 percent of those female offenders with a prior record were sentenced to jail. This is the only instance, for both assault and burglary offenders, in which females hold the highest incarceration rates. Other offender groups with the highest incarceration rates included urban assault offenders who were under commitment and black (70 percent); urban burglary offenders who were under commitment and male (75 percent); and rural burglary offenders who had a prior record and were male (63 percent). Those groups evidencing the lowest incarceration rates included: urban burglary offenders who were not under commitment, had no prior record, and were female (3 percent); urban assault offenders who were not under commitment and had no prior record (19 percent); rural burglary offenders who were female and 30 years of age and over (20 percent); and rural assault offenders who were female and had no prior record (zero percent).

In each instance, the disparity among incarceration rates was quite striking. The legal variables of status and prior record were constantly associated with high incarceration rates in that those who had a prior record or who were under commitment were most likely to be incarcerated. Similarly, male offenders generally fared worse than their female counterparts. However, in only one instance—among urban assault offenders under commitment (Figure 5)—was race the basis for a split.

TABLE 1 Summary of the PAA Results for Burglary Offenders Incarcerated at the Lower Court Level

URBAN BURGLARY OFFENDERS				RURAL BURGLARY OFFENDERS			
Group number	Group characteristics	N	Incarceration rate	Group number	Group characteristics	N	Incarceration rate
(1)	Not under commitment No prior record Female	66	3%	(2)	Female 30 and over	20	20%
(2)	Not under commitment No prior record Male	242	25%	(3)	Males No prior record	135	50%
(3)	Not under commitment Prior record Female	47	32%	(1)	Female Under 30	47	51%
(4)	Not under commitment Prior record Male	317	49%	(4)	Male Prior record	272	63%
(5)	Under commitment Female	13	54%				
(6)	Under commitment Male	261	75%				

TABLE 2 Summary of the PAA Results for Assault Offenders Incarcerated at the Lower Court Level

URBAN ASSAULT OFFENDERS				RURAL ASSAULT OFFENDERS			
Group number	Group characteristics	N	Incarceration rate	Group number	Group characteristics	N	Incarceration rate
(1)	Not under commitment No prior record	154	19%	(1)	No prior record Female	10	0%
(2)	Not under commitment Prior record	321	41%	(2)	No prior record Male	102	32%
(3)	Under commitment White	107	59%	(4)	Prior record Male	333	49%
(4)	Under commitment Black	47	70%	(3)	Prior record Female	18	67%

PAA Findings at the Superior Court Level

The analysis was repeated for those offenders processed through the superior court. It is quite possible that sentencing patterns here may be quite different from those observed at the lower court level. For example, we expect the overall incarceration rate to be higher and, further, the clustering of offender groups may prove to be substantially different.

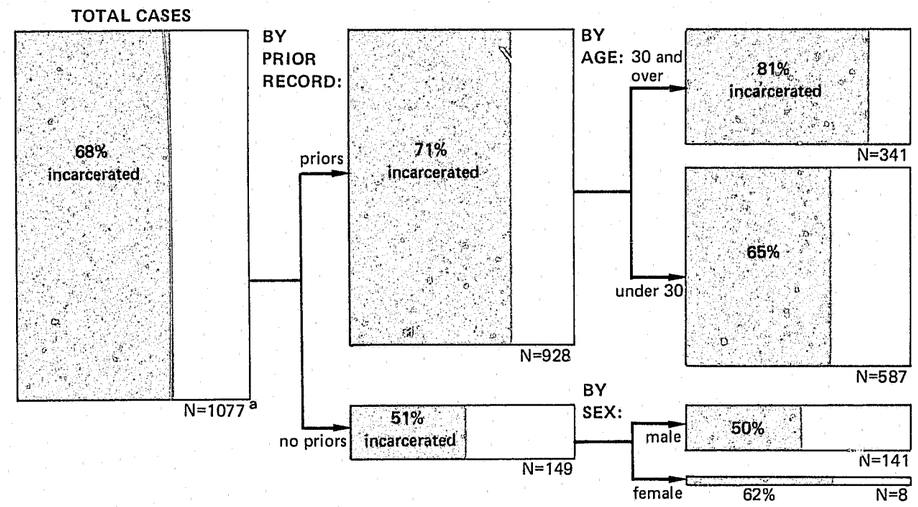
Figures 7 through 10 contain PAA branching networks for assault and burglary offenders sentenced by urban and rural superior courts. In Figure 7 we note that for urban burglary offenders, prior record was most highly correlated with the decision to incarcerate. Fifty-one percent of those offenders with no prior record were sentenced to jail or prison, compared with 71 percent of those with a prior record—a difference of 20 percentage points. In the no-prior-record category, sex was most highly correlated with the criterion variable, whereas for those with a prior record, age was most closely associated with the criterion. For those with no prior record we note that females (62 percent) were more likely than males (50 percent) to be incarcerated. A further split under *both* categories of age showed criminal status to be correlated with the criterion. However, the difference in incarceration rates between both categories of criminal status proved to be nonsubstantial, hence these results were not reported and the branching network was terminated.

At the superior court level, the importance of the legal variable, prior record, is quite apparent. In three instances prior record appeared as the first split, while for rural burglary offenders the variable sex initiated the branching network. It would seem that at the superior court level, prior record had the most discriminating power, while at the lower court level criminal status was the most important variable of contrast.

Tables 3 and 4 provide summary information regarding these PAA results. Here we note the existence of substantial variation in the incarceration rate. The highest incarceration rates within each offense category were observed for: urban burglary offenders who evidenced prior record and were 30 years of age and over (81 percent); rural burglary offenders who were males 30 years of age and over (85 percent); urban assault offenders who had a prior record and were under commitment (75 percent); and rural assault offenders who were male and had a prior record (70 percent). Generally, age appeared to play a more significant role for burglary offenders here than at the lower court level. Older offenders frequently received more severe dispositions than their younger counterparts, especially when combined with being male and having a prior record and being under criminal commitment.

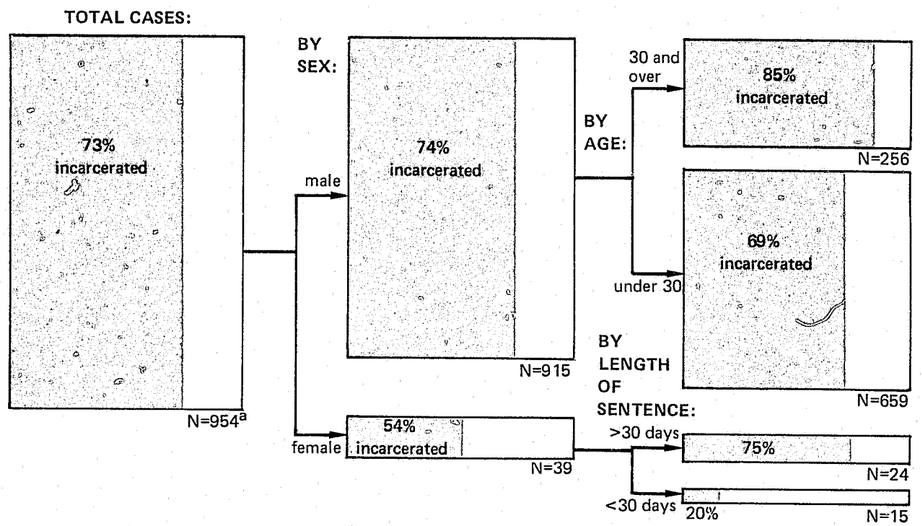
Those evidencing the lowest incarceration rates included: urban burglary offenders who were male and

FIGURE 7. PAA Results for Burglary Offenses in Urban Areas
in terms of percent incarcerated at Superior Court levels



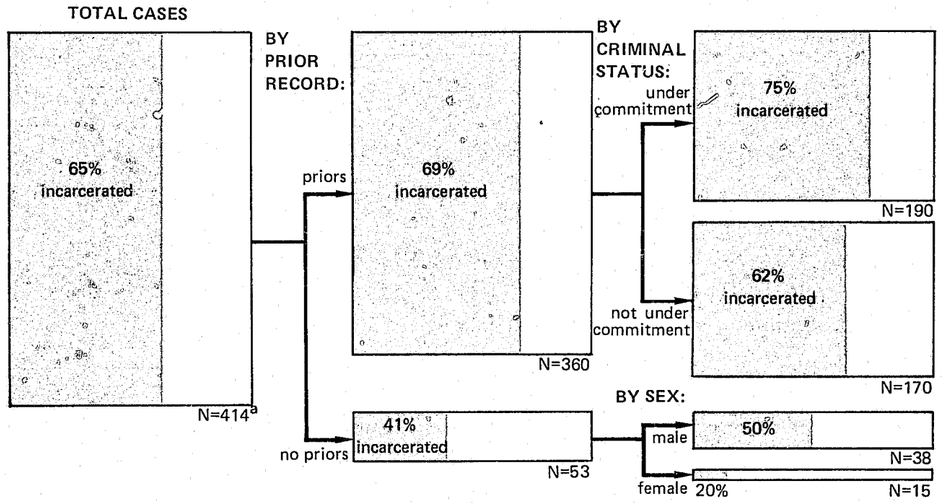
[a]Cases reported in subcells may not add up to the total number of cases due to missing values.

FIGURE 8. PAA Results for Burglary Offenses in Rural Areas
in terms of percent incarcerated at Superior Court levels



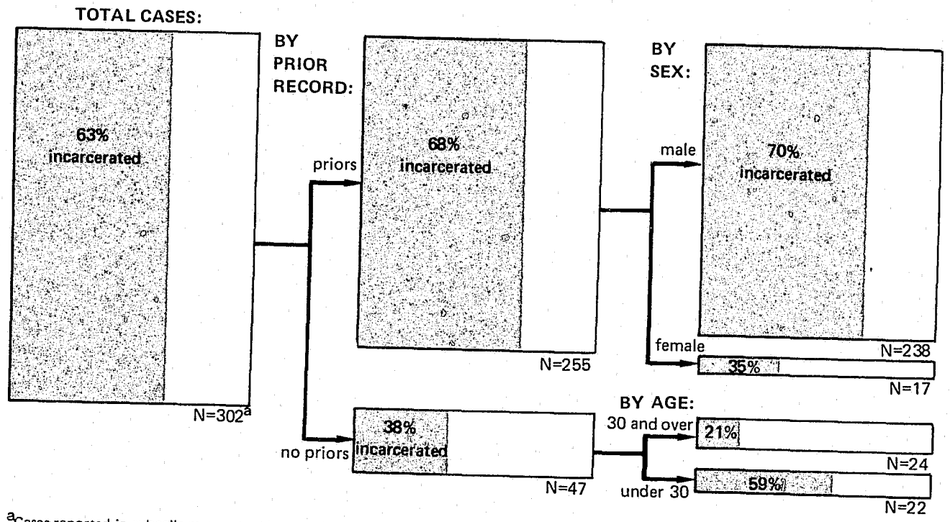
[a]Cases reported in subcells may not add up to the total number of cases due to missing values.

FIGURE 9. PAA Results for Assault Offenses in Urban Areas
in terms of percent incarcerated at Superior Court levels



[a]Cases reported in subcells may not add up to the total number of cases due to missing values.

FIGURE 10. PAA Results for Assault Offenses in Rural Areas
in terms of percent incarcerated at Superior Court levels



[a]Cases reported in subcells may not add up to the total number of cases due to missing values.

TABLE 3 Summary of the PAA Results for Burglary Offenders Incarcerated at the Superior Court Level

URBAN BURGLARY OFFENDERS				RURAL BURGLARY OFFENDERS			
Group number	Group characteristics	N	Incarceration rate	Group number	Group characteristics	N	Incarceration rate
(2)	No prior record Male	141	50%	(1)	Females Less than 30 days	15	20%
(1)	No prior record Female	8	62%	(3)	Males Under 30	659	69%
(3)	Prior record Under 30	587	65%	(2)	Females Greater than 30 days	24	75%
(4)	Prior record 30 and over	341	81%	(4)	Males 30 and over	256	85%

TABLE 4 Summary of PAA Results for Assault Offenders Incarcerated at the Superior Court Level

URBAN ASSAULT OFFENDERS				RURAL ASSAULT OFFENDERS			
Group number	Group characteristics	N	Incarceration rate	Group number	Group characteristics	N	Incarceration rate
(1)	No prior record Female	15	20%	(2)	No prior record 30 and over	24	21%
(2)	No prior record Male	38	50%	(3)	Prior record Female	17	35%
(3)	Prior record Not under commitment	170	62%	(1)	No prior record Under 30	22	59%
(4)	Prior record Under commitment	190	75%	(4)	Prior record Male	238	70%

had no prior record (50 percent); rural burglary offenders who were female and were adjudicated in less than 30 days (20 percent); urban assault offenders who were female and had no prior record (20 percent); and rural assault offenders who had no prior record and were 30 years of age and over (21 percent). Overall, it appears that assault offenders exhibit lower incarceration rates than burglary offenders.

Summary of Findings

Comparison of PAA results for lower and superior courts revealed little difference. Both, for example, exhibited significant variation in incarceration rates across subgroups in the branching network. These rates tended to be higher for those offenders sentenced at the superior court level, although these differences were not

as substantial as we might expect. Overall, for both urban and rural areas, the highest incarceration rates were associated with either having a prior record or being under criminal commitment and being male. In only one instance did race appear in a branching network; 70 percent of those urban assault offenders under criminal commitment were incarcerated by urban lower courts, compared with 59 percent of those who were white and under commitment. This percentage difference, however, is less than that noted for other branches where race was not the basis of a split.

Although an attempt was made to analyze length of incarceration and probation terms using the PAA technique, cases were substantially depleted, and our preliminary PAA runs rarely resulted in more than one split on the criterion variable. It may be worth noting, however, that the variables of prior record and criminal status accounted for a substantial number of these initial splits, thus bolstering those results obtained for sentence outcome.

It should be reiterated that we had only a limited number of variables with which to work. PAA results may have been different, had additional data been available. For example, if information such as bail status or type of attorney had been included, the branching networks may have changed substantially. The point is simply that our results are specific to this data set, and thus any attempt to generalize further should be avoided. Nonetheless, PAA analysis proved valuable as a method for eliciting general patterns occurring in the data for both assault and burglary offenses. The importance of prior record and criminal status in influencing sentence outcome was clearly established. While sex differences proved to be substantial, racial differences in sentence outcome were negligible. It remains to be seen whether future studies employing a similar data set (preferably one containing more information) will confirm or refute those preliminary results obtained herein.

Conclusions

Throughout this series of monographs we have repeatedly underscored the fact that widely available data sources are unable to meet many of today's criminal justice needs. Although summary tallies are still the most common form of collecting and recording crime data, their usefulness is severely limited. This is especially true with respect to current thinking regarding a system-wide view of criminal justice processing, which stresses the need to relate to one another the various stages in the processing of offenders. A system-wide approach to crime control cannot now be undertaken, because summary data are often fragmented and relate only to those divergent local jurisdictions and agencies in which they were compiled. Although the shortcomings of criminal justice statistics have long been recognized, it is rather surprising that little has been offered through the years by way of improvement.

Only recently have offender-based transaction statistics become available. These data offer needed improvement in providing information of the type heretofore unavailable. Since the unit of analysis is the individual offender as he proceeds through the numerous processing stages of the criminal justice system, decisions made at one point may be compared with those occurring at a later point. These data may also be used to describe the characteristics of criminal offenders and their distribution at various places where alternative outcomes are available. Further, transaction data provide a solid basis for detailed examination of many of the controversial issues in the field of criminal justice.

Our primary emphasis in these monographs has been describing the characteristics of those offenders being processed and investigating the nature of those transactions that occur as they proceed through adjudication. We have undertaken this analysis, in part, to demonstrate empirically the utility of the OBTS model as an information system and to illustrate the types of issues to which these data may be addressed.

On the basis of data from the 1970 census, the 12 original OBTS counties were divided into two groups, urban and rural. This dichotomy and the results of our findings demonstrate the utility of comparative analysis, which may be undertaken on a larger scale with future OBTS systems. Overall, a probation disposition was found to be a more frequent occurrence in urban than in rural areas. However, although urban offenders were more likely to be granted probation, they were also substantially more likely to spend a longer period of time under probation supervision than their rural counterparts. Dispositions other than probation or jail were more frequent in rural compared with urban areas. The percentage of offenders sentenced to either jail or prison was relatively similar across both groups. With respect to length of jail and prison sentences, rural offenders received shorter sentences than urban offenders. Those differences noted above were observed to be present in both lower and superior courts, although

urban/rural variations were most pronounced at the lower court level.

Relatively little information currently exists regarding the post-arrest decision to release a suspect prior to trial. Here police and prosecuting attorneys frequently divert from the system those offenders who face a low probability of conviction or for whom other alternatives to criminal processing are thought promising. Our findings revealed little variation across urban and rural areas in the percentage of cases dismissed after arrest. Further, no differences in the post-arrest decision to hold suspects for trial were noted across the four generic offense categories of violent, property, drug, and other. Those offenders included within each category were equally likely to be held or dismissed. When specific offenses were examined, however, assault offenders were found to have their cases dismissed more frequently than burglary offenders. Age, race, and sex differences with regard to pretrial screening were negligible.

It has often been charged that the criminal justice system operates in a discriminatory manner with respect to certain offender groups. The findings of prior research efforts examining the existence of differential sentencing practices, however, have proven ambiguous. Generally, these efforts have been limited to only one indicator of sentence disparity, that being length of incarceration imposed by the trial judge. Further, most have focused exclusive attention upon superior or district court sentences. The results of these studies may be questionable, since discriminatory decisions occurring earlier in the system (e.g., at the time of sentence) may be intensified or diluted by those occurring later (e.g., parole determinations). Because many felony arrests are disposed of by misdemeanor convictions at the lower court level, it is important to compare sentencing practices at both the lower and superior court levels.

In our analysis of sentencing practices we looked at both sentence outcome (whether probation, incarceration, or "other"), and length of sentence for both probation and jail terms. Unfortunately, no information on length of prison commitment was available. We also analyzed sentencing decisions at both the lower and superior court level. Overall results indicate that an examination of differential sentencing practices may be more complex than has previously been implied and further illustrate the utility of employing alternative indicators of disparity at various stages of the criminal process. Transactional data were found to generally support such an analytic format.

Sentencing differentials were more pronounced with regard to outcome as compared to length of time sentenced to probation or incarceration. Males consistently received more severe sentences than females, although variations occurred depending on jurisdiction and court level. Rural female offenders were substantially more likely than males to obtain probation at the lower court level. Overall, differential sentencing by sex was most prevalent at the lower court level and in urban areas. For urban and rural superior courts, no differences were observed between male and female offenders with respect to prison commitments. Race was associated with sentence outcome in rural but not in urban areas. Rural blacks were incarcerated more frequently than white offenders in both lower and superior courts even after original arrest charge, prior record, and criminal status were statistically controlled. Racial differences were negligible in urban areas.

Focusing specifically on assault and burglary offenders, differential sentences by sex were noted for both lower and superior courts in rural and urban areas. Males generally evidenced higher incarceration rates than their female counterparts. Race played a relatively minor role—sentencing differences between white and black offenders proved negligible. The legal variables (prior record and criminal status) were consistently associated with the highest incarceration rates. Those offenders who had a prior record, were under criminal commitment, and were males were those most likely to be incarcerated.

The use of predictive attribute analysis in assessing sentencing differences for assault and burglary offenders proved effective. PAA singled out those relationships and interactive patterns that proved to be most significant—in this case prior record, status and sex. The method holds promise for other criminal justice data in which the nature of differential outcomes is evaluated.

Overall, our analysis of sentencing patterns revealed the importance of an offender's previous criminal involvement in determining both type of sentence and length of jail or probation terms. Those individuals who evidenced a prior criminal record or who were under criminal commitment at the time of their arrest were those most likely to receive the most severe dispositions. In most instances, where bivariate relationships were found to exist between a defendant's age race or sex and sentence outcome or length of commitment, these differences tended to disappear when previous criminal involvement was statistically controlled. In some cases,

however, these differences remained—rural blacks were found to be substantially more likely than their white counterparts to receive the most severe dispositions even when their prior criminal histories were similar. When the sentencing patterns of assault and burglary offenders were examined separately, even these differences tended to disappear. Here, prior record and criminal status, and to a lesser extent sex, were most closely associated with sentence outcome, whereas racial differences proved to be negligible.

Our findings in these monographs were preliminary, but they nonetheless proved to be informative. Had additional data been available, these results would have been even more powerful. Unfortunately, some crucial pieces of information were not recorded and hence, the present analysis was limited in that respect. *Generalizations beyond this data set, therefore, should be avoided.*

These monographs demonstrate the advantages to be gained by compiling and recording data on a transactional basis. The type of uses to which these data can be put has been explored, although we have by no means exhausted their full potential. The OBTS data base may be used not only to describe the operation of the criminal justice system, but also to address major issues in the criminal justice area. Further, an OBTS system provides a foundation for launching more in-depth research than has previously been undertaken. Recognizing that many problems exist in both implementing and maintaining transactional data systems, we believe that the advantages to be gained by converting to such data collection systems offset these many problems. Only by understanding the nature of crime, its regularities and uniformities, can we eventually hope to contain it. Offender-based transaction statistics offer a significant improvement toward that understanding.

APPENDIX

Bivariate Tables for Assault and Burglary Offenders

TABLE A1 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Sex

Sentence	SEX Male	Female	Total
PROBATION	29% (118)	42% (28)	31% (146)
JAIL	59% (241)	42% (28)	56% (269)
OTHER	12% (51)	10% (11)	13% (62)
	410 [86%] [a]	67 [14%] [a]	100% 477

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A2 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Sex

Sentence	SEX Male	Female	Total
PROBATION	47% (391)	70% (89)	50% (480)
JAIL	50% (411)	19% (24)	46% (435)
OTHER	3% (25)	11% (14)	4% (39)
	827 [87%] [a]	127 [13%] [a]	100% 954

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A3 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Sex

Sentence	SEX Male	Female	Total
PROBATION	30% (132)	46% (13)	31% (145)
JAIL	45% (197)	43% (12)	45% (209)
OTHER	25% (108)	11% (3)	24% (111)
	437 [94%] [a]	28 [6%] [a]	100% 465

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A4 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Urban Areas, by Sex

Sentence	SEX Male	Female	Total
PROBATION	49% (282)	72% (47)	52% (329)
JAIL	43% (248)	23% (15)	41% (263)
OTHER	8% (44)	5% (3)	7% (47)
	574 [90%] [a]	65 [10%] [a]	100% 639

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A5 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Race

Sentence	RACE White	Black	Total
PROBATION	32% (139)	23% (5)	31% (144)
JAIL	55% (243)	59% (13)	55% (256)
OTHER	13% (58)	18% (4)	13% (62)
	440 [95%] [a]	22 [5%] [a]	100% 462

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A6 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Race

Sentence	RACE White	Black	Total
PROBATION	52% (400)	38% (60)	50% (460)
JAIL	44% (332)	59% (92)	46% (424)
OTHER	4% (32)	3% (5)	4% (37)
	764 [83%] [a]	157 [17%] [a]	100% 921

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A7 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Race

Sentence	RACE White	Black	Total
PROBATION	32% (136)	21% (3)	31% (139)
JAIL	44% (190)	64% (9)	45% (199)
OTHER	24% (104)	14% (2)	24% (106)
	430 [97%] [a]	14 [3%] [a]	100% 444

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A8 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Race

Sentence	RACE White	Black	Total
PROBATION	52% (242)	47% (71)	51% (313)
JAIL	40% (184)	47% (71)	42% (255)
OTHER	8% (37)	6% (9)	8% (46)
	463 [75%] [a]	151 [25%] [a]	100% 614

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A9 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Age

Sentence	AGE 18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Total
PROBATION	32% (85)	26% (28)	32% (19)	30% (14)	31% (146)
JAIL	55% (144)	61% (66)	54% (32)	55% (26)	56% (268)
OTHER	13% (33)	13% (14)	14% (8)	15% (7)	13% (62)
	262 [55%] [a]	108 [23%] [a]	59 [12%] [a]	47 [10%] [a]	100% 476

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A10 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Age

Sentence	AGE 18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Total
PROBATION	55% (252)	58% (101)	43% (69)	37% (57)	50% (479)
JAIL	42% (194)	38% (65)	53% (86)	58% (90)	46% (435)
OTHER	4% (16)	4% (7)	4% (7)	6% (9)	4% (39)
	462 [49%] [a]	173 [18%] [a]	162 [17%] [a]	156 [16%] [a]	100% 953

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A11 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Age

Sentence	AGE 18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Total
PROBATION	34% (41)	31% (35)	25% (22)	32% (44)	31% (142)
JAIL	48% (58)	40% (45)	48% (43)	45% (62)	45% (208)
OTHER	18% (21)	29% (33)	27% (24)	23% (32)	24% (110)
	120 [26%] [a]	113 [25%] [a]	89 [19%] [a]	138 [30%] [a]	100% 460

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A12 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Urban Areas, by Age

Sentence	AGE 18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Total
PROBATION	45% (82)	50% (58)	55% (92)	55% (94)	51% (326)
JAIL	47% (86)	42% (49)	38% (64)	37% (64)	41% (263)
OTHER	8% (14)	8% (9)	7% (11)	8% (13)	7% (47)
	182 [29%] [a]	116 [18%] [a]	167 [26%] [a]	171 [27%] [a]	100% 636

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A13 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Prior Record

Sentence	PRIOR RECORD None	Minor	Major	Total
PROBATION	42% (74)	25% (61)	20% (10)	31% (145)
JAIL	48% (32)	60% (150)	67% (33)	57% (268)
OTHER	10% (17)	15% (38)	12% (6)	13% (61)
	176 [37%] [a]	249 [53%] [a]	49% [10%] [a]	100% 474

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A14 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Prior Record

Sentence	PRIOR RECORD None	Minor	Major	Total
PROBATION	75% (230)	43% (218)	18% (24)	50% (472)
JAIL	21% (63)	53% (265)	79% (107)	46% (435)
OTHER	5% (15)	4% (20)	3% (4)	4% (39)
	308 [33%] [a]	503 [53%] [a]	135 [14%] [a]	100% 946

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A15 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Prior Record

Sentence	PRIOR RECORD None	Minor	Major	Total
PROBATION	40% (45)	31% (89)	18% (11)	31% (145)
JAIL	30% (33)	49% (141)	57% (35)	45% (209)
OTHER	30% (34)	21% (60)	25% (15)	24% (109)
	112 [24%] [a]	290 [63%] [a]	61 [13%] [a]	100% 463

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A16 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Urban Areas, by Prior Record

Sentence	PRIOR RECORD None	Minor	Major	Total
PROBATION	70% (108)	47% (194)	36% (24)	51% (326)
JAIL	20% (30)	47% (193)	57% (38)	41% (261)
OTHER	10% (16)	6% (26)	8% (5)	7% (47)
	154 [24%] [a]	413 [65%] [a]	67 [11%] [a]	100% 634

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A17 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Criminal Status

Sentence	CRIMINAL STATUS: Not under commitment	Under commitment	Total
PROBATION	33% (127)	21% (18)	31% (146)
JAIL	55% (214)	64% (54)	56% (269)
OTHER	12% (48)	15% (13)	13% (62)
	389 [82%] [a]	85 [18%] [a]	[100%] 477

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A18 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Criminal Status

Sentence	CRIMINAL STATUS: Not under commitment	Under commitment	Total
PROBATION	61% (411)	22% (61)	50% (480)
JAIL	35% (232)	74% (203)	46% (435)
OTHER	4% (29)	4% (10)	4% (39)
	672 [70%] [a]	274 [29%] [a]	100% 954

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percents in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A19 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Criminal Status

Sentence	CRIMINAL STATUS: Not under commitment	Under commitment	Total
PROBATION	32% (123)	29% (22)	31% (145)
JAIL	43% (164)	58% (45)	45% (209)
OTHER	26% (99)	13% (10)	24% (111)
	386 [83%] [a]	77 [17%] [a]	100% 465

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A20 Lower Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Urban Areas, by Criminal Status

Sentence	CRIMINAL STATUS: Not under commitment	Under commitment	Total
PROBATION	57% (272)	34% (54)	52% (329)
JAIL	34% (161)	63% (100)	40% (2)
OTHER	9% (42)	3% (5)	7% (47)
	475 [74%] [a]	159 [25%] [a]	100% 639

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A21 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Sex

Sentence	SEX: Male	Female	Total
PROBATION	12% (111)	36% (14)	13% (125)
JAIL	55% (502)	46% (18)	55% (520)
OTHER	14% (129)	10% (4)	14% (133)
PRISON	19% (173)	8% (3)	18% (176)
	915 [96%] [a]	39 [4%] [a]	100% 954

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A22 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Sex

Sentence	SEX: Male	Female	Total
PROBATION	21% (214)	23% (9)	21% (223)
JAIL	51% (530)	45% (18)	51% (548)
OTHER	12% (120)	8% (3)	12% (123)
PRISON	17% (174)	25% (10)	17% (184)
	1038 [96%] [a]	40 [4%] [a]	100% 1,078

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A23 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Sex

Sentence	SEX: Male	Female	Total
PROBATION	24% (67)	39% (10)	26% (77)
JAIL	51% (140)	35% (9)	49% (149)
OTHER	10% (28)	23% (6)	11% (34)
PRISON	15% (41)	4% (1)	14% (42)
	276 [91%] [a]	26 [9%] [a]	100% 302

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A24 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Urban Areas, by Sex

Sentence	SEX: Male	Female	Total
PROBATION	27% (101)	50% (20)	29% (121)
JAIL	51% (189)	35% (14)	49% (203)
OTHER	6% (23)	0% (0)	6% (23)
PRISON	16% (61)	15% (6)	16% (67)
	374 [90%] [a]	40 [10%] [a]	100% 414

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A25 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Buglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Race

Sentence	RACE White	Black	Total
PROBATION	14% (116)	6% (2)	13% (2)
JAIL	54% (405)	59% (20)	54% (425)
OTHER	14% (124)	6% (2)	14% (126)
PRISON	18% (156)	29% (10)	19% (166)
	861 [98%][a]	34 [4%][a]	100% 895

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A26 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Race

Sentence	RACE White	Black	Total
PROBATION	21% (170)	19% (51)	21% (221)
JAIL	50% (396)	54% (144)	51% (540)
OTHER	12% (93)	12% (30)	12% (123)
PRISON	18% (140)	15% (41)	17% (181)
	799 [75%][a]	266 [25%][a]	100% 1,065

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A27 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Race

Sentence	RACE White	Black	Total
PROBATION	26% (63)	17% (5)	25% (68)
JAIL	48% (117)	47% (14)	48% (131)
OTHER	12% (30)	7% (2)	12% (32)
PRISON	13% (32)	30% (9)	15% (41)
	242 [89%][a]	30 [11%][a]	100% 272

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A28 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Urban Areas, by Race

Sentence	RACE White	Black	Total
PROBATION	31% (83)	25% (31)	29% (114)
JAIL	48% (131)	52% (65)	49% (196)
OTHER	6% (16)	6% (7)	6% (23)
PRISON	15% (42)	18% (23)	16% (65)
	272 [68%][a]	126 [32%][a]	100% 398

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A29 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Age

Sentence	AGE 18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Total
PROBATION	16% (68)	12% (33)	9% (16)	9% (8)	13% (125)
JAIL	54% (224)	57% (152)	57% (98)	49% (46)	55% (520)
OTHER	22% (93)	8% (22)	8% (13)	5% (5)	14% (133)
PRISON	8% (33)	23% (62)	27% (46)	37% (35)	18% (176)
	418 [44%][a]	269 [28%][a]	173 [18%][a]	94 [10%][a]	100% 954

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A30 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Age

Sentence	AGE 18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Total
PROBATION	25% (103)	24% (70)	16% (34)	11% (16)	21% (223)
JAIL	55% (232)	48% (140)	48% (105)	50% (71)	51% (548)
OTHER	16% (69)	10% (29)	8% (17)	6% (8)	11% (123)
PRISON	4% (17)	19% (56)	29% (63)	34% (48)	17% (184)
	421 [39%][a]	295 [27%][a]	219 [20%][a]	143 [13%][a]	100% 1,078

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A31 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Age

Sentence	AGE 18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Total
PROBATION	19% (10)	28% (20)	21% (16)	30% (28)	25% (74)
JAIL	55% (29)	50% (36)	56% (44)	42% (39)	50% (148)
OTHER	13% (7)	7% (5)	9% (7)	15% (14)	11% (33)
PRISON	13% (7)	15% (11)	14% (11)	13% (12)	14% (41)
	53 [18%][a]	72 [24%][a]	78 [26%][a]	93 [31%][a]	100% 296

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A32 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Urban Areas, by Age

Sentence	AGE 18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Total
PROBATION	24% (29)	23% (23)	36% (36)	35% (33)	29% (121)
JAIL	48% (58)	54% (53)	44% (44)	51% (48)	49% (203)
OTHER	10% (12)	5% (5)	4% (4)	2% (2)	6% (23)
PRISON	18% (21)	18% (18)	16% (16)	13% (12)	16% (67)
	120 [29%][a]	99 [24%][a]	100 [24%][a]	95 [23%][a]	100% 414

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A33 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Prior Record

Sentence	PRIOR RECORD None	Minor	Major	Total
PROBATION	30% (62)	10% (54)	5% (9)	13% (125)
JAIL	59% (121)	58% (319)	40% (80)	55% (520)
OTHER	9% (19)	19% (101)	6% (13)	14% (133)
PRISON	2% (3)	13% (73)	50% (100)	18% (176)
	205 [22%][a]	547 [57%][a]	202 [21%][a]	100% 954

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A34 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Prior Record

Sentence	PRIOR RECORD None	Minor	Major	Total
PROBATION	46% (68)	22% (139)	6% (16)	21% (223)
JAIL	48% (71)	54% (345)	45% (131)	51% (547)
OTHER	3% (5)	14% (88)	10% (30)	11% (123)
PRISON	3% (5)	10% (66)	39% (113)	17% (184)
	149 [14%][a]	638 [59%][a]	290 [27%][a]	100% 1,077

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A35 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Prior Record

Sentence	PRIOR RECORD None	Minor	Major	Total
PROBATION	49% (23)	24% (50)	9% (4)	26% (77)
JAIL	34% (16)	51% (105)	60% (28)	49% (149)
OTHER	13% (6)	13% (27)	2% (1)	11% (34)
PRISON	4 (2)	13% (26)	30% (14)	14% (42)
	47 [16%][a]	208 [69%][a]	47 [16%][a]	100% 302

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A36 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Urban Areas, by Prior Record

Sentence	PRIOR RECORD None	Minor	Major	Total
PROBATION	57% (30)	30% (76)	13% (14)	29% (120)
JAIL	38% (20)	53% (133)	46% (50)	49% (203)
OTHER	2% (1)	6% (15)	7% (7)	6% (23)
PRISON	4% (2)	11% (28)	34% (37)	16% (67)
	53 [13%][a]	252 [61%][a]	108 [26%][a]	100% 413

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A37 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Rural Areas, by Criminal Status

Sentence	CRIMINAL STATUS: Not under commitment	Under commitment	Total
PROBATION	17% (112)	4% (13)	13% (125)
JAIL	61% (401)	40% (119)	55% (520)
OTHER	12% (78)	19% (55)	14% (133)
PRISON	10% (67)	37% (109)	18% (176)
	658 [69%] [a]	296 [31%] [a]	100% 954

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A39 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Rural Areas, by Criminal Status

Sentence	CRIMINAL STATUS: Not under commitment	Under commitment	Total
PROBATION	29% (70)	11% (7)	26% (77)
JAIL	48% (115)	55% (34)	49% (149)
OTHER	11% (27)	11% (7)	11% (34)
PRISON	12% (28)	23% (14)	14% (42)
	240 [80%] [a]	62 [21%] [a]	[100%] 302

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A38 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Burglary Offenders in Urban Areas, by Criminal Status

Sentence	CRIMINAL STATUS: Not under commitment	Under commitment	Total
PROBATION	31% (162)	11% (61)	21% (223)
JAIL	53% (275)	49% (272)	51% (548)
OTHER	5% (26)	18% (97)	11% (123)
PRISON	11% (59)	23% (125)	17% (184)
	522 [48%] [a]	555 [52%] [a]	100% 1,078

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

TABLE A40 Superior Court Sentencing Disposition of Assault Offenders in Urban Areas, by Criminal Status

Sentence	CRIMINAL STATUS: Not under commitment	Under commitment	Total
PROBATION	40% (88)	17% (32)	29% (121)
JAIL	50% (112)	48% (91)	49% (203)
OTHER	4% (8)	8% (15)	6% (23)
PRISON	7% (15)	27% (52)	16% (67)
	223 [54%] [a]	190 [46%] [a]	[100%] 414

[a] Figures in brackets refer to the percent in that row falling into the respective columns.

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