



W. H. McNichols, Jr.
Mayor

Volume II of IV Volumes

HIGH IMPACT ANTI-CRIME PROGRAM

Volume II

Problem Analysis

DENVER ANTI-CRIME COUNCIL
C. D. WELLER Executive Director

37601
DUP.



"I would like the residents in each of the 73 major neighborhoods in the City of Denver to develop a competitive crime prevention pride, and I challenge the Denver Anti-Crime Council to design and develop programs that foster such an attitude."

W. H. McNICHOLS, Jr.

MAYOR

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HIGH IMPACT

ANTI-CRIME

PROGRAM

Volume II

Problem Analysis

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INTRODUCTION

The mandate to the eight U. S. Cities selected to participate in the High Impact Anti-Crime Program by the U. S. Department of Justice, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, is to design and develop a "specific crime" analysis capability at the city level for the purpose of reducing certain crimes by 5% in two years. This volume is one of four published by the Denver Anti-Crime Council in response to that challenge. The total 1973 crime reduction planning effort by Denver is thus comprised of four volumes, each containing information necessary and functional to a comprehensive criminal justice planning operation.

The first volume contains the major crime reduction program areas and the resources necessary to achieve the objectives of those programs. The second volume of the 1973 Crime Reduction Plan is a substitute for the traditional "Statement of the Problem" section of most plans. Volume II is comprised of a detailed analysis of four specific crimes: burglary, robbery, rape and assault. The analysis of each crime is delineated by setting, victim and offender data. Volume III of the Plan contains demographic data about seven major categories of population characteristics related to the residents of 40 of a total of 124 Denver Census Tracts which were judged highly vulnerable to stranger-to-stranger crime. Volume IV of the Plan illustrates the Denver Evaluation Plan with respect to projects funded under the High Impact Program in Denver. This plan is an up-dated version of that which was submitted in October, 1972 and is consistent with the overall direction of the High Impact goals and objectives with respect to evaluation.

Crime specific analysis as defined by the U. S. Department of Justice is a new thrust in criminal justice planning. Inherent in the philosophy of problem oriented planning is the critical need for attention to be given to the identification of key dimensions of each crime generates an intense level of detail about the victim, the offender and the crime scene. Each dimension of this crime data has significance for prevention, deterrence, detection, apprehension, adjudication, and post-adjudication activities in and outside the criminal justice system.

Systematic crime specific analysis also provides a more informative picture of the criminal justice system's response to each crime problem. The ideal objective for this planning approach is to achieve a level of knowledge and understanding about specific crimes to the degree that corrective actions almost become self-evident. Such a degree of sophistication cannot be expected in a matter of a few months, but the Denver Anti-Crime Council's perception of the crime problems to date is reaching a promising stage.

Volume II, Problem Analysis, is the Impact Program's first major effort to bring specificity to crime problem definitions. It focuses upon burglary, robbery, rape and assault within the City and County of Denver. The document portrays the key elements of each of these crimes with a separate section devoted to each. It sets forth a brief summary of the national picture related to each

crime, then describes the crime in the Denver urban environment.

For each crime, geographical concentrations of reported offenses were identified and the census tracts within that area were analyzed by Census Bureau demographic characteristics as a means of providing definitive information about the major settings of these crimes. Finally, an attempt was made to describe both the types of victims and the types of offenders associated with stranger-to-stranger crime.

The reader may wish to learn more about the setting in which crimes are committed or the settings in which suspects reside or are arrested. In either case, a simple identification of the census tracts of interest then allows the reader to study the total resident population of that area in Volume III, Demographic Data.

Once this broader perspective of the problem is achieved, the reader may then be interested in the guidelines and resources of the Impact Program available for combating a particular facet of these crimes. Volume I, 1973 Crime Reduction Plan, describes the Denver High Impact Anti-Crime Program, its objectives and its resources for certain types of anti-crime project activities.

In summary, each of these volumes of the 1973 Crime Reduction Plan is an independent source of information; yet each may complement the reader's particular interest.

CHARLES D. WELLER
Executive Director

SECTION I

A PROFILE OF

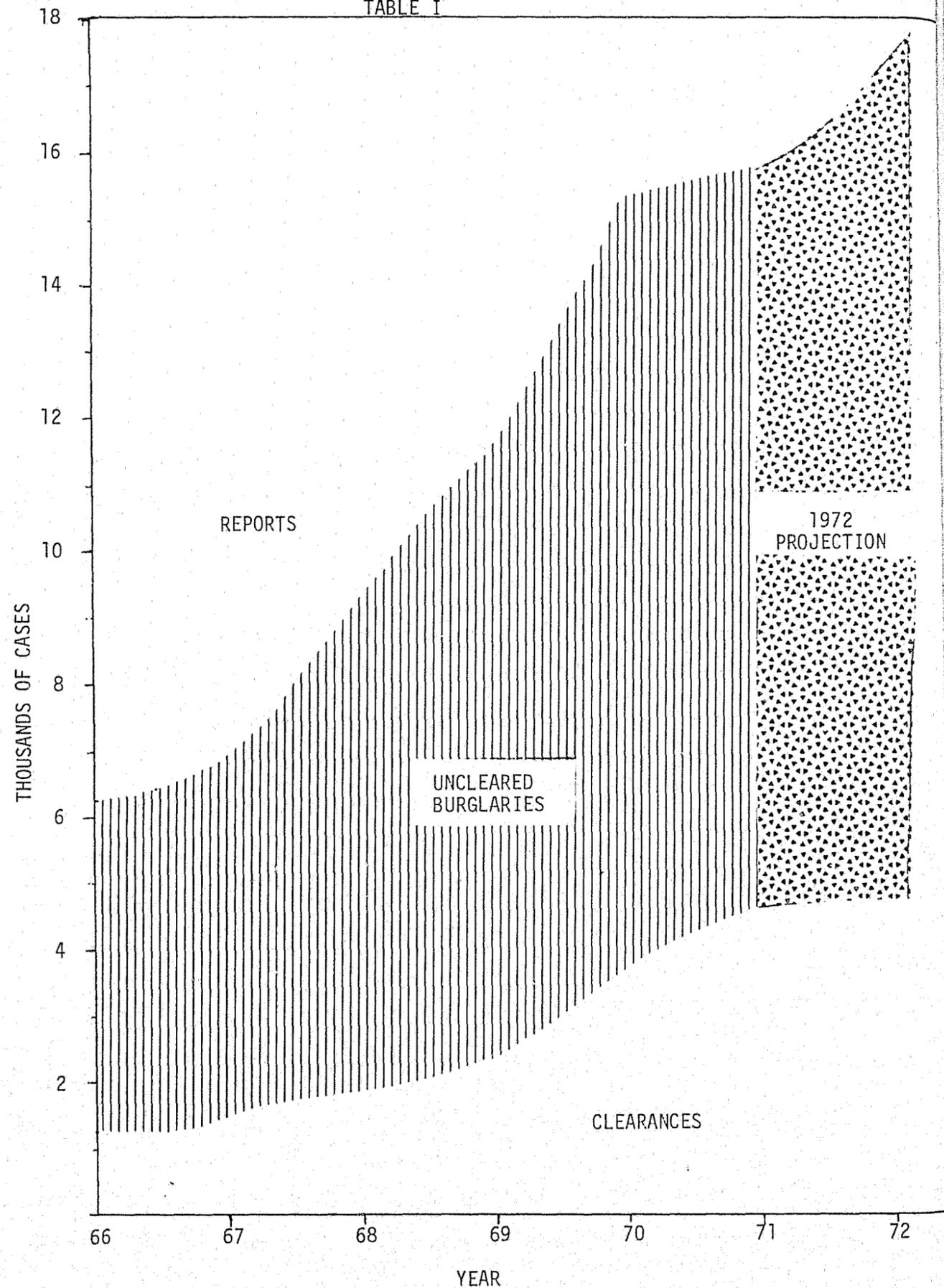
BURGLARY

BURGLARY - THE DEFINITION OF A PROBLEM

I. INTRODUCTION

Burglary is one of those criminal actions that falls into the crimes-against-property classification. By definition, Burglary is a crime against a place or property, and not directly against individuals. In 1971, a burglary was reported somewhere in the United States every 13 seconds. Since burglary is usually a crime of opportunity there are rarely witnesses to the crime, therefore, it is a difficult crime for the police to suppress. Furthermore, the goods taken from burglaries are difficult or impossible for the police to identify, because the owners have not marked their property. According to the 1971 Uniform Crime Report, the national rate of burglary per 100,000 population has increased 62% from 1966 through 1971. If the year 1966 is used as a base year to analyze 5 year trends, the raw numbers of burglaries nationally has increased by 70% during the same period. A Denver percentage increase of absolute numbers of burglaries from 1966 through 1971 reflects a 152% increase, more than double the national rate. In 1971 the loss in the United States due to residential burglaries alone amounted to \$457 million; non-residential burglaries amounted to \$282 million. In Denver, about \$3,960,000 was reported stolen in residential burglaries with \$2,040,000 attributed to losses from burglarized businesses and commercial establishments.

TABLE I



BURGLARY REPORTS AND CLEARANCES
 Denver 1966-1972
 Source: Denver Police Department -7-

Of interest to Denver residents is the fact that the criminal activities of burglars have tended to shift from commercial nighttime burglaries to residential daytime burglaries. The absolute number of residential burglaries in Denver increased from 9240 in 1971 to 11,124 in 1972. Commercial burglaries dropped from 6528 in 1971 to 6269 in 1972.

There are a variety of factors which affect the police department's ability to clear a burglary offense report by an arrest and/or the return of the property stolen. Even though methods for measuring this police performance are inadequate, such rates continue to be used to reflect some degree of successful police performance, and until more adequate measurement criteria are developed, such rates have interpretive utility as long as their degree of reliability is understood. The national clearance rate according to the Uniform Crime Report was 19%; in cities over one-quarter million persons it was 20%. Suburban areas fared much worse with only a 16% rate. Denver's clearance rate is significantly above the norm with an overall (residential and non-residential burglary) clearance rate of 26.2% for 1971. In 1972, with an increase in the number of burglaries, the overall rate is down .8% to 25.4%. Specifically, residential clearance is 26.0% and non-residential is 24.3%.

This analysis is designed to examine the problem of burglary as it relates specifically to the City and County of Denver. The

legal and social aspects related to burglary will be examined in addition to the specific characteristics of the setting, victim, and offender. The main objectives of this analysis are to pinpoint areas of the city experiencing the bulk of burglary, types of targets that have high risk, the times of day and the days of the week of most frequent criminal activity, and other pertinent information necessary for planning prevention programs and burglary reduction activities. It is hoped this information will lead to the development of community burglary prevention action as well as suggestions for police crime intervention activities, and for a city-wide property target hardening campaign.

II. LEGAL DEFINITION

The Criminal Code of the State of Colorado categorizes burglary into three separate levels and defines them as follows:

A. First Degree Burglary (40-4-202)

"A person commits first degree burglary if he knowingly enters or remains unlawfully in a building or occupied structure with intent to commit therein a crime, other than trespass, against a person or property, and if in effecting entry or while in the building or occupied structure or in immediate flight therefrom, he or another participant in the crime assaults or menaces any person, or he or another participant is armed with explosives or a deadly weapon."

B. Second Degree Burglary (40-4-203)

"A person commits second degree burglary if he knowingly breaks an entrance into, or enters, or remains unlawfully in a building or occupied structure with intent to commit therein a crime against a person or property."

C. Third Degree Burglary (40-4-204)

"A person commits third degree burglary if with intent to commit a crime he enters or breaks into any vault, safe, cash register, coin vending machine, product dispenser, money depository, safety deposit box, coin telephone, coin box, or other apparatus or equipment whether or not coin operated."

Each of the categories varies in severity and has different penalties attached, varying from the most severe (1st degree) to the least (3rd degree). For statistical purposes and for the purposes of this analysis all degrees of burglary are tallied together. Hereafter reference to burglary includes the total of all three legal categories.

III. BURGLARY IN AN URBAN ENVIRONMENT

A. INCIDENCE - VICTIM

The City and County of Denver makes up the heart of a sprawling metropolitan area. Denver is the home of 514,678 persons surrounded by suburban municipalities on all sides. The city's population represents 41.9 percent of the total population of 1,227,531 in the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA).

Significant is the fact that 30.6 percent of the total population in Denver is under the age of 18 years. The racial composition of the city includes 72.2% Anglo, 9.2% Black, 16.8% of Spanish descent and 1.9% other racial or cultural minorities.

If there is a probable relationship between crime and poor housing, education, unemployment, and health, relatively little has been accomplished to change these conditions to the point that associated crime has shown a decrease. The possible reason for this lack of change is that those persons responsible for law enforcement concentrate on law enforcement and those in charge of education concentrate on education, and so on, with few if any of those involved at liberty to take the entire picture into account. Another reason for the slow changes in this area is that relationships within our social system are complex - as complex or more so than those of our physical environment. This complexity makes it difficult to separate the problem itself from its symptoms, and those who sincerely wish to initiate meaningful change are likely to have difficulty knowing just where to begin.

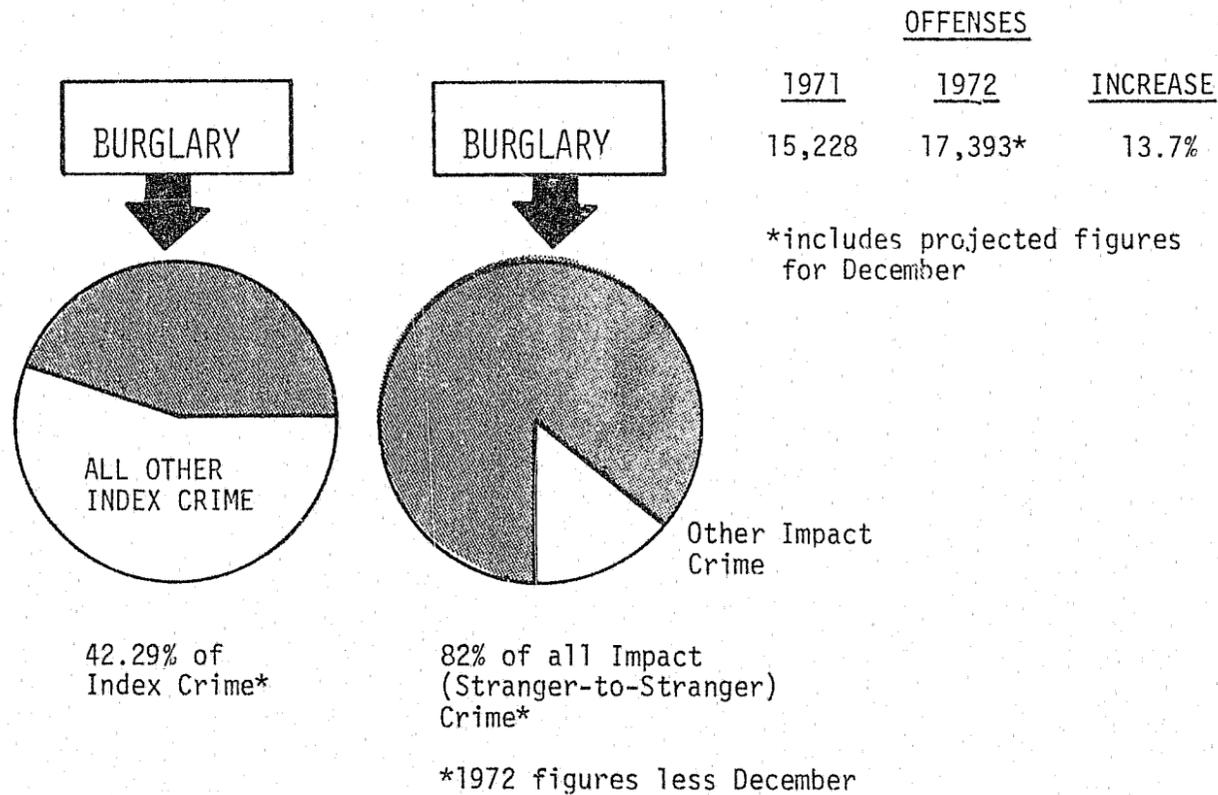
A promising method for beginning to unravel this puzzle is crime specific analysis linked to illustrations of neighborhoods within the community showing such things as residence of school dropouts, residence of those unemployed, or residence of welfare

or mental health services recipients. Use of data concerning land use patterns and crime frequencies can be compared with these demographic variables for a more comprehensive picture of the crime problem. It is with this frame of reference that the following crime analysis is offered. The extent of specific crimes statistically are described by absolute numbers, type, location, and time. Such crime data can then be compared with the demographic data presented by census tract in volume III of this Crime Reduction Plan.

Burglary in Denver in the first six months of 1972 amounted to 40.66 percent of the total reported Class I index crimes, as compared to 40.28 percent of the Class I index crimes total for the same period for 1971. By November of 1972, the percentage had risen to 42.29 percent of the total Class I index crimes.

TABLE II

DENVER BURGLARY INCREASES BY ABSOLUTE NUMBERS



IN DENVER: 47.6 burglary offenses are reported each day.
 Burglary is 50.2% of all the property crime reported.
 Residential burglaries happen twice as often as non-residential burglaries.

Source: Denver Police Department

There are 47.6 burglaries a day in the Denver area, accounting for 50.2% of property crime. The rate of residential burglary is double the rate of non-residential burglary. The significance of the problem is demonstrated by an analysis of the following tables:

TABLE III

DENVER RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY
 3 YEAR COMPARISONS OF ABSOLUTE NUMBERS REPORTED
 DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

YEAR	TOTAL JANUARY THRU JUNE	TOTAL JULY THRU DECEMBER	ANNUAL TOTAL	AVERAGE NUMBER PER MONTH	AVERAGE - + PER MONTH	MONTHLY PERCENT CHANGE
1970	4569	4633	9202	767		
1971	4561	4755	9316	776	+ 9	1.2
1972	5013	6116*	11,129*	927	+151	19.5

* 1972 figures include projected December data where indicated

Residential burglary appeared reasonably stable throughout years 1970 and 1971. Notice the significant increase in both halves of the year in 1972, with the last half of 1972 reporting 1361 burglaries over the same 6 months of 1971.

TABLE IV

NON-RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY
 3 YEAR COMPARISONS OF ABSOLUTE NUMBERS REPORTED
 DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

YEAR	TOTAL JANUARY THRU JUNE	TOTAL JULY THRU DECEMBER	ANNUAL TOTAL	AVERAGE NUMBER PER MONTH	AVERAGE - + PER MONTH	MONTHLY PERCENT CHANGE
1970	3130	3266	6396	533		
1971	3195	3275	6470	539	+ 6	1.1
1972	3207	3057*	6264*	522	-17	3.2

* 1972 figures include projected December data where indicated

The tables tend to indicate that residential burglary is occurring on a frequency of 2-1 over non-residential burglary (commercial).

This dramatic increase is reflected in the data below.

TABLE V

AVERAGE NUMBER OF BURGLARIES PER MONTH			AVERAGE INCREASE/ DECREASE		
	1970	1971		1972	AVERAGE INCREASE/ DECREASE
RESIDENTIAL	767	776	+ 9	927	+151
COMMERCIAL	533	599	+ 6	522	- 17

Source: Denver Police Department

The number of residential burglaries has risen, while the trend seems to indicate a reduction of commercial burglary. There is an obviously high risk of daytime residential burglary to Denver residents. In June of 1972 the statistics indicated that 58% of all burglaries were residential in nature. In the five months thereafter residential burglary increased 8% and made up 66% of all burglaries committed for the first 11 months of 1972.

Burglary is by far the most common major crime reported to the Denver Police. A crime of opportunity and stealth, it is difficult to prevent and hard to solve after it is reported. Three years of comparative loss and recovered property data support the general conclusion that property lost to burglars is lost forever.

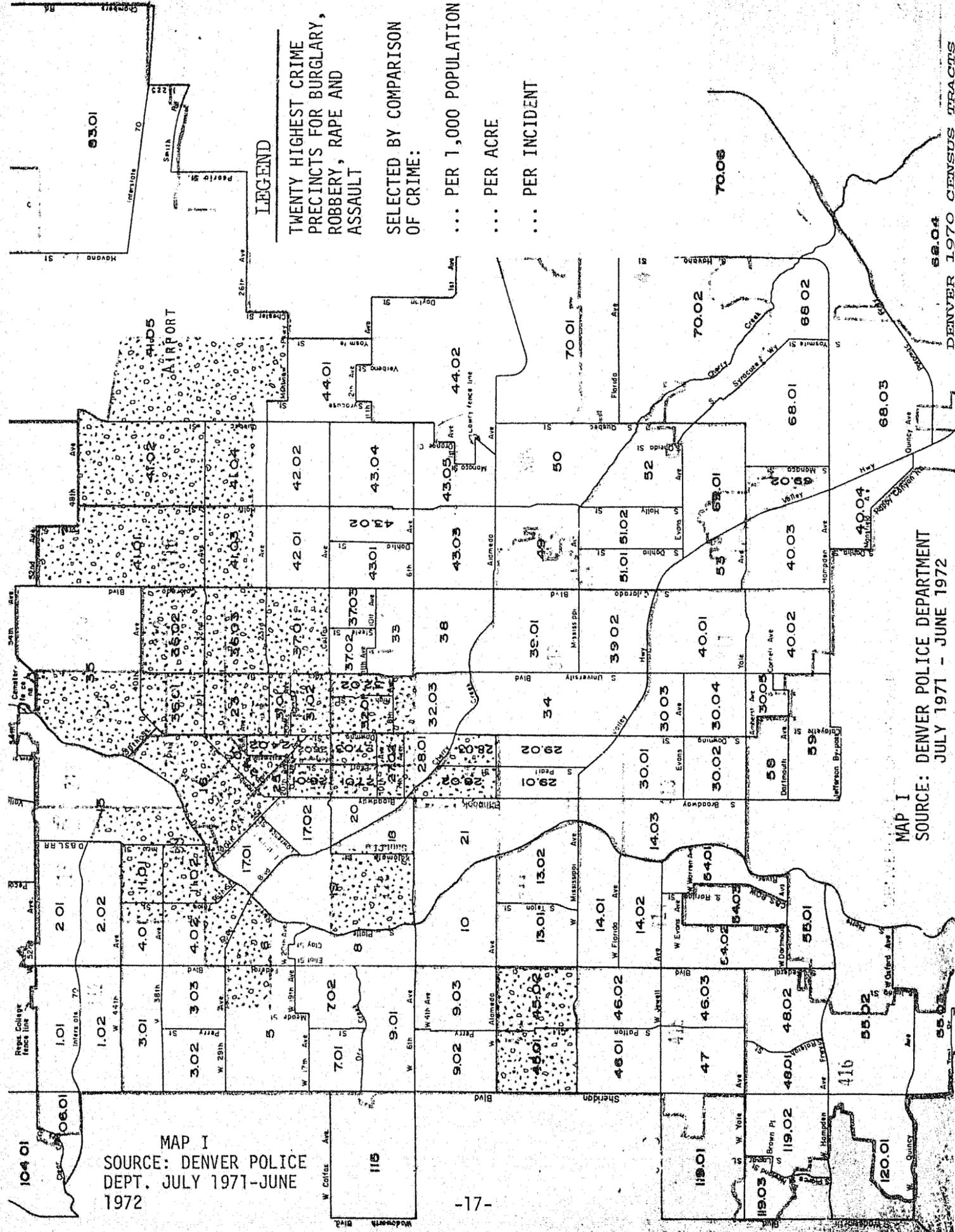
TABLE VI

DOLLAR VALUE OF STOLEN AND RECOVERED PROPERTY			
STOLEN PROPERTY		DOLLAR VALUE RECOVERED PROPERTY	RECOVERED % OF TOTAL LOSS
1970	\$5,089,370	\$507,595	9.97%
1971	\$5,663,970	\$547,967	9.6%
1972	\$6,057,990	\$456,751	7.5%

Source: Denver Police Department

While the property loss has continued to grow each year, the amount of property recovered by the police has decreased. There may be many reasons for the failure to maintain a stable recovery figure. A pressing factor is that the growth in the raw numbers of burglary which must be investigated has overwhelmed the police department's investigative manpower and thorough follow-up investigations are not possible because of the heavy investigative case load carried by each detective. The average monthly case load per detective in the crimes-against-property section of the Investigative Division is approximately 180 per month. With this work load, little time can be expended for intensive efforts to solve each burglary offense reported.

Burglary has been found to have some cross-correlation with the crime of rape. An analysis of Denver Police Reports indicates that nearly 17% of the reported cases of rape (1970-1971 data base line) had burglary as an associated charge; the first charge (12.6%); or the second charge (4.4%), against the rape offender. This may



indicate that the offender's primary purpose was to burglarize a dwelling, and that the rape occurred because of the female's presence in the dwelling and subsequent opportunity. Of course, one may speculate that the offender with rape intent had to commit the act of burglary if his victim is inside a dwelling. Further expansion of this notion can be found in the Section describing the rape problem.

B. THE SETTING FOR BURGLARY

Burglary is a city-wide problem. This statement can be supported as every police precinct has reported significant burglary activity. To amplify the significance further, in the period from July 1, 1971 to June 30, 1972, the lowest number of burglary offenses reported was in Police Precinct 105 with 98 reports. The highest was Precinct 217 with 542 burglary offenses reported. Precinct 105 encompasses lower downtown and the Larimer Square area, and is essentially non-residential having no single family dwelling units. Its population is only 317 persons, most of whom live in downtown hotels. Therefore, it can be assumed that most of the reported burglaries in this area were non-residential, and that an analysis of the burglary rate in general or non-residential burglary in particular will show an extremely high burglary rate per 1,000 population. In contrast Precinct 217 in Northeast Park Hill has 10,154 residents and is a mix of residential and commercial areas. The reason for this

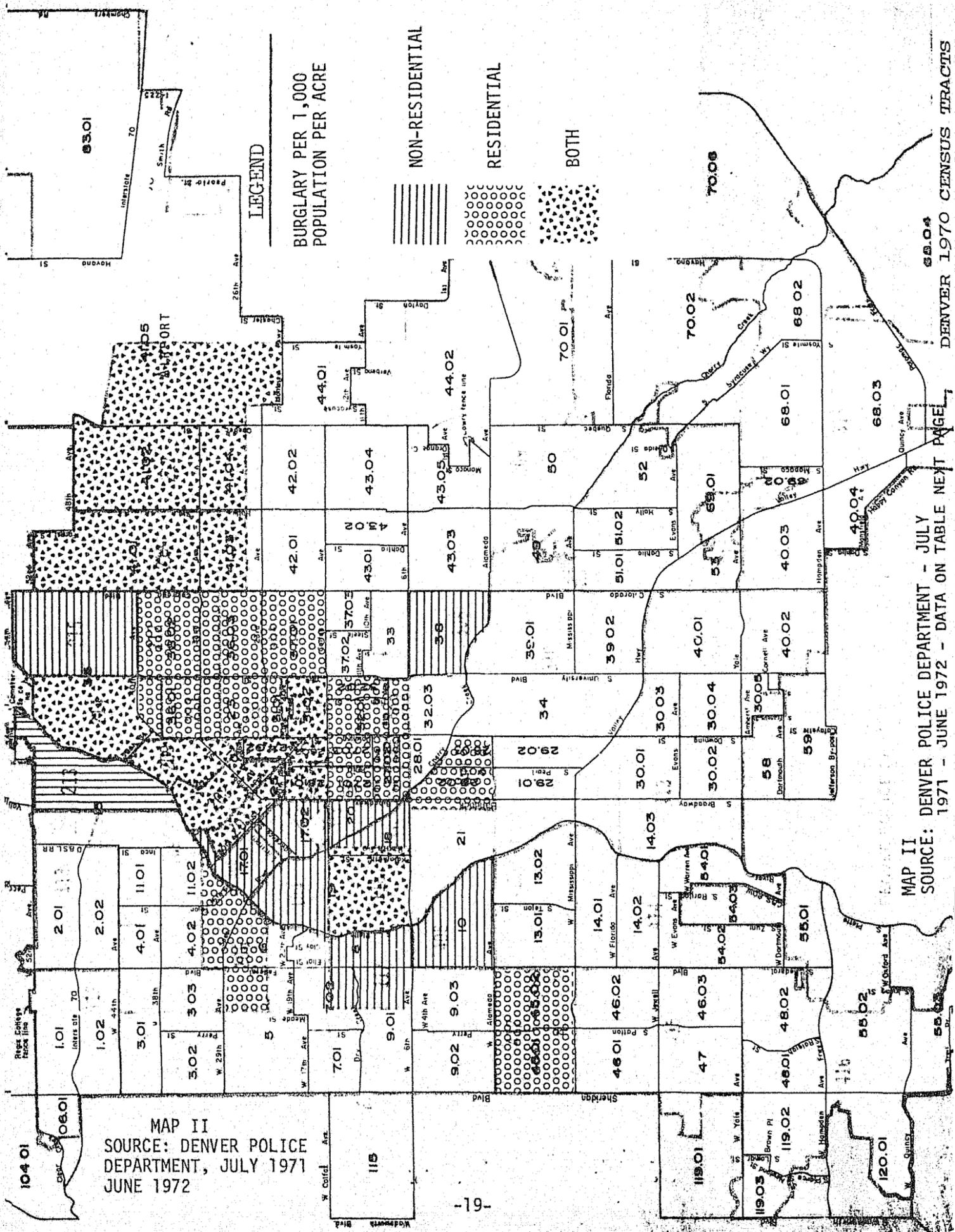


TABLE VII
HIGHEST BURGLARY FREQUENCY BY
1000 POPULATION AND
ACRE

RESIDENTIAL POLICE PRECINCTS			NON-RESIDENTIAL POLICE PRECINCTS		
Rank	Population	Acre	Rank	Population	Acre
1	208	208	1	102	102
2	203	302	2	105	101
3	211	301	3	103	208
4	204	202	4	114	103
5	212	303	5	104	201
6	201	203	6	201	202
7	209	201	7	208	114
8	210	211	8	209	301
9	302	406	9	214	203
10	202	204	10	115	117)
11	217	210	11	(202	406)
12	303	212	12	(308	106
13	216	106	13	116	115
14	301	106	14	216	211
15	214	(206	15	117	(105
16	205	(304	16	213	206
17	(218	117	17	215	(109
18	(412	412	18	203	308
19	116	410	19	204	104
20	106	107	20	217	(116
		207		(209	303
		115			

Source: Denver Police Department

detailed explanation is to point up the fact that the entire city suffers from the scourge of burglary crimes, but by analyzing the data from different view points, different geographical areas may be suggested as critical targets for prevention activities.

Using the criteria outlined in the introduction of this Plan, twenty precincts have been selected which have the highest rates of burglary (Map I). These twenty precincts amount to one-third of the total police precincts yet they reflect more than 48% of all the burglary reported. Because burglary is the most frequent of all Impact Crimes several maps have been included which illustrate the seriousness of this offense. The second map (Map II) shows the distribution of burglary by combining the 20 highest police precincts based upon the numbers of burglaries per 1,000 inhabitants and number of reported burglaries per acre. This target area selection tends to identify the high burglary precincts with low populations and small acreage. Map III, however, is a reflection of burglary by absolute numbers of burglary offenses reported. This method shows a significant spread of crime throughout the city with the northwest and downtown quadrant of the city reporting the least number of burglary offenses.

Using such maps, five major neighborhoods can be isolated where burglary is a serious problem. These areas not in order of seriousness are:

TABLE VIII

TWENTY HIGHEST BURGLARY PRECINCTS
RANKING BY ABSOLUTE NUMBER

JULY 1971-JUNE 1972		JULY 1971-JUNE 1972	
<u>NON-RESIDENTIAL</u>		<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>	
<u>RANK</u>	<u>PRECINCT</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>PRECINCT</u>
1	216*	1	302
2	413	2	217*
3	217*	3	412*
4	410	4	303*
5	412	5	212*
6	103	6	406*
7	117*	7	304*
8	411	8	211*
9	116	9	301*
10	406*	10	216* & 313
11	313	11	311
12	311	12	415
13	207	13	210*
14	312	14	207
15	206	15	204*
16	414	16	306
17	308	17	118
18	415	18	203*
19	310	19	410
20	305	20	106*

* Indicates Precinct identified as Crime Problem Area in total stranger-to-stranger categories.

Source: Denver Police Department

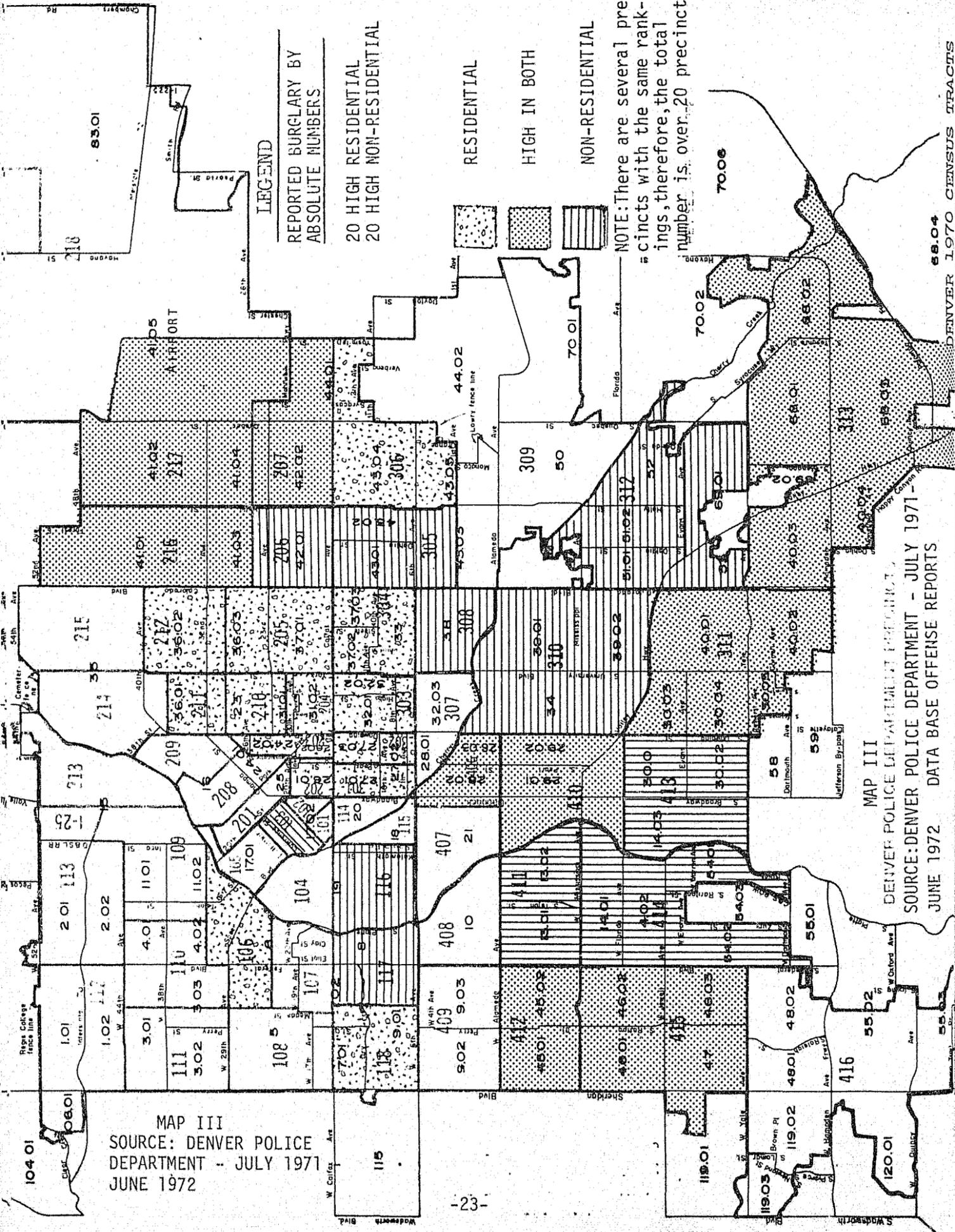


TABLE IX

TWENTY HIGHEST PRECINCTS--TOTAL BURGLARY REPORTED
(COMBINED RESIDENTIAL & NON-RESIDENTIAL)

JULY 1971 - JUNE 1972			JULY 1971 - JUNE 1972		
RANK	PRECINCT	NUMBER	RANK	PRECINCT	NUMBER
1	217*	542	1	217*	619
2	412*	524	2	412*	601
3	216*	503	3	406*	509
4	406*	453	4	216*	498
5	302*	424	5	304	445
6	313	406	6	302*	442
7	211*	399	7	303*	415
8	212*	396	8	301*	399
9	303*	390	9	212*	383
10	311	386	10	211*	382
11	304	380	11	204*	374
12	207	371	12	313	370
13	410	364	13	410	320
14	415	363	14	106*	310
15	204*	335	15	207	299
16	306	319	16	203*	289
17	206	318	17	109*	289
18	312	305	18	310	286
19	210*	300	19	312	275
20	117*	297	20	110	254

Reflect 48.7% of total reports

Reflect 48.6% of total reports

* Indicates High Crime Precincts in all stranger-to-stranger categories

NOTE: Only 11 months of data available

Source: Denver Police Department

1. The Park Hill Community
2. Capitol Hill and vicinity
3. University Hills
4. Westwood and MarLee
5. Sun Valley and Villa Park

Further analysis of the demographic composition of these specific neighborhoods provided a broader understanding of the high burglary rates in these areas.

BURGLARY SETTING - PARK HILL COMMUNITY

The Park Hill Community includes a large portion of northeast Denver. It includes the specific neighborhood areas of Northeast Park Hill, North Park Hill and South Park Hill. This is an expansive area, 2,058 acres, and the census tracts contained therein are in Volume III of this Crime Reduction Plan. In general it is a mixed land use area with concentrated pockets of multi-family dwellings. The area has a full range of urban activities and generally the housing structures were built during the 1950's. There was moderate construction activity in 1972, especially in North Park Hill, where there is a heavy concentration of industrial and transportation facilities and in new hotel-motel structures near the airport. There has been some deterioration in other residential areas. Housing structure overcrowding appears to be on the increase. High among socio-economic problems are a climbing rate of unemployment, and a large number of families receiving welfare assistance. Generally the trends point to a condition of decline. The Park Hill Community is home for 35,306 persons and in selected areas of this community, the

residential density is higher than the city average.

The area has seen a population transition from Anglo to Black. In 1970, the Black population was nearly 75% of the total. School age children have become the largest age group of residents and pre-school children are substantially more numerous than normal for the city.

Some of the adjacent police precincts that have similar settings and problems are:

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Population</u>
212	7,251
211	6,483
210	6,090
205	5,178
204	<u>5,214</u>
Total	30,216

Source: Denver Welfare Department

BURGLARY SETTING - CAPITOL HILL AREA

The Capitol Hill area is the center of high burglary activity. Since this neighborhood reflects several surrounding and equally affected areas, the general conditions of Capitol Hill, which are applicable to the others, will be described. Capitol Hill and surrounding neighborhoods make up the city's most densely populated multi-family residential section. It is an area occupied by newer high rise apartment complexes as well as older residences remodeled for apartment house usage. The area encompasses only 433 acres, but it houses a population of 17,661. This is equivalent to 40.8 persons per acre.

The racial composition of the neighborhood is predominantly white. The 1970 census reported a small decrease of Anglo population, replaced by Chicanos. Black and Red and Yellow racial groups account for less than four percent of the total population.

Young adults make up nearly half the total population and the largest number of the remaining persons are elderly. The area has the lowest concentration of infants and school age children of any neighborhood in the city. Nearly three-fourths of all the households consist of persons who are unrelated, and more importantly only one-fifth of the persons living in the neighborhood have been there five years or more which suggests a great deal of residential instability. Capitol Hill is within walking distance to State, City and Federal office buildings as well as the Central Business District. Both the young and the old are attracted to its convenient location. Newly married

and childless couples have traditionally been attracted to the area because of its range of small family housing or apartment facilities. Single males and females have moved into the area in peer-group living arrangements.

Unemployment tends to be higher than in most of the rest of the city. The median income is relatively low and has been below the city average since 1960. Nearly one family in five is at or below the poverty income level.

Owner occupied homes are relatively scarce and have decreased substantially since 1960. Rental units account for 90% of the housing units and the mean rent tends to be higher than the rest of the city.

Relatively intense commercial land use predominates along Colfax Avenue and Broadway. The State Capitol and other public land dominates the northwest corner of the neighborhood.

Capitol Hill is one of the largest sources of economic activity in Denver. Commercial activities along Colfax and Broadway account for nearly three-fifths of employment for Capitol Hill residents. Governmental jobs also play a large role in the economics of the area.

The overall conditions in the neighborhood have declined slightly since 1960. Housing problems are indicated by a lack of space and

older housing stock. Also, low median income and high welfare rates suggest correlated socio-economic decline. Crime, especially residential burglary, is also a growing social problem.

To amplify the extent of the density problem, Capitol Hill is a part of Police Precinct 301. This precinct with Precincts 302, 303, and 304, has a total population of 42,798 living on 1,418 acres. We can compare this to Precinct 217 (the highest number of recorded burglaries with a population of 9,890 living on 1,918 acres). Precinct 217 has a density of 5.0 persons per acre while 301 through 304 have an average density of 30.2 persons per acre. This average is the second highest in density. In the time frame from January 1, 1972 to the 30th of November, 1972, these four precincts reported 1,701 burglaries, over twice the 619 burglaries reported in 217, the highest precinct. Capitol Hill and environs, excluding Precinct 304, is also high in other stranger-to-stranger crime as indicated by their selection as one of the 20 high crime precincts.

BURGLARY SETTING - UNIVERSITY HILLS AREA

The University Hills neighborhood is typical of much of the southeastern portion of the city and is reflective of most of Police Precincts 310, 311, 312 and 313. It is a relatively stable single family residential neighborhood that is bordered by the Valley Highway and the ancillary commercial establishments located adjacent to this thoroughfare.

The neighborhood is almost totally white and there have been no

significant changes in racial composition since 1960. There is a high number of single family homes with considerable residential stability as the majority of the families have lived in the area for five years or more. The largest single group of people living in the area are adults, yet school age children are more numerous than in most of the neighborhoods in Denver. The educational levels are slightly higher than the rest of the city and there are very few persons in any of the census tracts with no schooling. Unemployment is lower than the city average and the median family incomes are about one-fourth higher than the city median. Very few people living in this area are below poverty level income.

The area formally designated as University Hills has a total of 919 acres and a population of 7,981, and is part of Police Precincts 311, 312 and 313. These police precincts and Precinct 310 encompass a total of 10,635 acres, have a population of 80,036 or an average of 8.1 persons per acre and the whole area is frequently referred to as the University Hills area. Density is relatively low. In terms of the crime of burglary, these four police precincts accounted for 12.04% or 1,417 offenses of the burglary offenses reported in the 20 highest precincts of the entire city. (Map III)

There are no physical conditions that point to impending neighborhood decline. However, residential burglary is an increasingly serious problem as it is 66% of the total burglaries reported in this area.

Precincts 311 and 313 rank in the 20 high police precincts in both residential and commercial burglary, while 310 and 313 are ranked high only in the 20 high commercial burglary precincts. (Using Map III criteria)

BURGLARY SETTING - WESTWOOD AND MARLEE COMMUNITIES

The Westwood and MarLee neighborhoods are located in the southwestern portion of the city. Together they have 1,922 acres of land with Westwood consisting of 958 acres and one of the city's largest populations with 13,540 persons, while MarLee also with a small acreage, 964, has an equally large population of 12,363 residents.

There is a certain amount of contrast in these two southwestern areas. Westwood has a large low cost public housing project surrounded by small, older single family residences. MarLee, its neighbor, is a highly stable single family residential neighborhood. MarLee is almost totally Anglo while Westwood's population is almost two-fifths Chicano. The level of educational achievement in Westwood is less than three years of high school and is well below the city average. Conversely, MarLee's median education is equal to the median for the city. Unemployment in MarLee is at about the average for the city, while it is below average in Westwood. The number of families below the poverty level is high in Westwood, while its neighbor enjoys a lower number of such families than the average for the city. Nearly 42% of the residents in Westwood are 18 years of age or younger, making it a highly youthful neighborhood.

In general, Westwood reflects a number of physical and socio-economic factors that are problematic. Overcrowded housing, income levels, educational achievement, and unemployment are indicators of its urban-social problems. At the same time, Westwood is an area of serious residential burglary problems with Precinct 412 having in absolute numbers the most reported burglaries of any precinct in the city for the first 6 months of 1972.

MarLee tends to show more stability. Low value housing and overcrowding are still just potential problems for this area. Residential burglary, however, is a rising problem with 70% of burglary committed in this area directed at residential dwellings. While there are many contrasts between the neighborhoods, residential burglary is a problem to both neighborhoods. These neighborhoods are parts of Police Precincts 412 and 415 which occupy 2,908 acres and have a total population of 39,060. These precincts accounted for about 10% of the total burglary reported in the 20 highest precincts. The Westwood area is considered to be one of the most serious burglary problem areas in the City of Denver based upon early 1972 data. Preliminary data for the last 6 months of the year indicate that it will still rank near the top of all reporting precincts for 1972.

BURGLARY SETTING - SUN VALLEY COMMUNITY

The Sun Valley neighborhood is on Denver's west side bordering the Platte River; it parallels the Valley Highway and is bounded by Federal Boulevard on the west and West 6th Avenue on the south.

In general, it is a depressed area and one of Denver's smallest neighborhoods with a population of 3,095 persons housed within 409 acres.

The neighborhood is predominantly Chicano which represents 71% of the total population. School age children are the largest single age category. Single families represent more than four-fifths of the households, and there are indications of instability as less than 40% of Census Tract 8.00's residents were residing in the same structure in 1965 as they lived in in 1970. The median education level is well below the city norm with most persons attaining slightly better than the 8th grade. There is an above average number of residents with no formal education and almost none have attended college.

Unemployment is higher than in most neighborhoods and the area is one of Denver's lowest in terms of family income - little more than one-third of the city median. Over half of all the families are below the \$4,000 per year poverty level.

Renter-occupied homes are the dominant housing unit. Over 90% of all housing units are renter occupied with the mean rent only half that of the rest of the city. The number of owner occupied units has declined to only about 10% of the total housing structures in the tract. Most of the rental units are public housing.

Overall, Sun Valley ranks as one of Denver's most blighted areas, and

non-residential burglary is also a serious problem. Sun Valley is a part of Police Precinct 117. This precinct and the adjacent Precincts 116 on the east and 118 on the west have a total of 1,989 acres and a population of 21,250. All three are included as high risk burglary areas.

The Burglary Setting Section of this Plan has identified five general areas of the city where burglary is a significant problem. Early in the analysis an attempt was made to point out that burglary is also a city-wide problem. The crime of burglary crosses the total socio-economic structure of the city. No attempt has been made to identify a cause and effect relationship between burglary and other population characteristics, however, there seems to be a close relationship between burglary and certain socio-economic conditions in selected neighborhoods of the city. Neighborhoods in transition as well as stable neighborhoods are burglary victims.

For those who wish to conduct an in-depth analysis of crime and population characteristics, detailed demographic information at the census tract level is available in Volume III of this Crime Reduction Plan. In that volume a specific summary of 40 selected census tracts which make up the 20 high crime precincts in Denver is presented in narrative and tabular form.

C. THE OFFENDER

National arrest statistics highlight the growing involvement of youth

in the crime of burglary. Persons under 25 accounted for 83% of all arrests for burglary in 1971. What makes this picture even more frightening is that the Careers in Crime Study by the F.B.I. indicated that there is a consistent relationship showing that the younger age groups show a greater frequency of repeating. Over half of the offenders under 20 years of age who were arrested in 1971 were repeat offenders, and 73% of the burglars arrested were also repeat offenders. Also, the frequency of arrest of the under 20 age group was significant, with an arrest every 4 months. More often than not, the burglar in Denver is also youthful.

Recently, the Denver Anti-Crime Council staff, in cooperation with the Denver Police Department, conducted a study of burglary arrests. Information was obtained on all those persons arrested between January 1, 1972 and June 30, 1972 and during this period 1,117 persons were arrested for burglary. These arrests cleared 2,234 burglaries or about two burglaries were cleared per person arrested. The burglary arrestee profile which follows on the next page provides the age and racial characteristics of these 1,117 persons arrested. Of particular interest is the fact that those persons under 21 make up the 81.5% of all persons arrested for burglary in the City of Denver during the first 6 months of 1972. The second table which follows shows the increasing number of juveniles arrested over the last three years while the number of adult arrests may be slightly decreasing.

TABLE XI
ADULT AND JUVENILE ARRESTS
FOR BURGLARY

JUVENILE			ADULT		
YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT	YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT
1970	983	55.8	1970	776	44.2
1971	1,238	61.0	1971	790	39.0
1972 *	1,337	63.0	1972 *	790	37.0

* Projected figure
December data unavailable

Source: Denver Police Department

TABLE X

AGE AND ETHNIC CHARACTERISTICS OF 1,117 PERSONS
ARRESTED FOR BURGLARY * - JANUARY 1, 1972 - JUNE 30, 1972

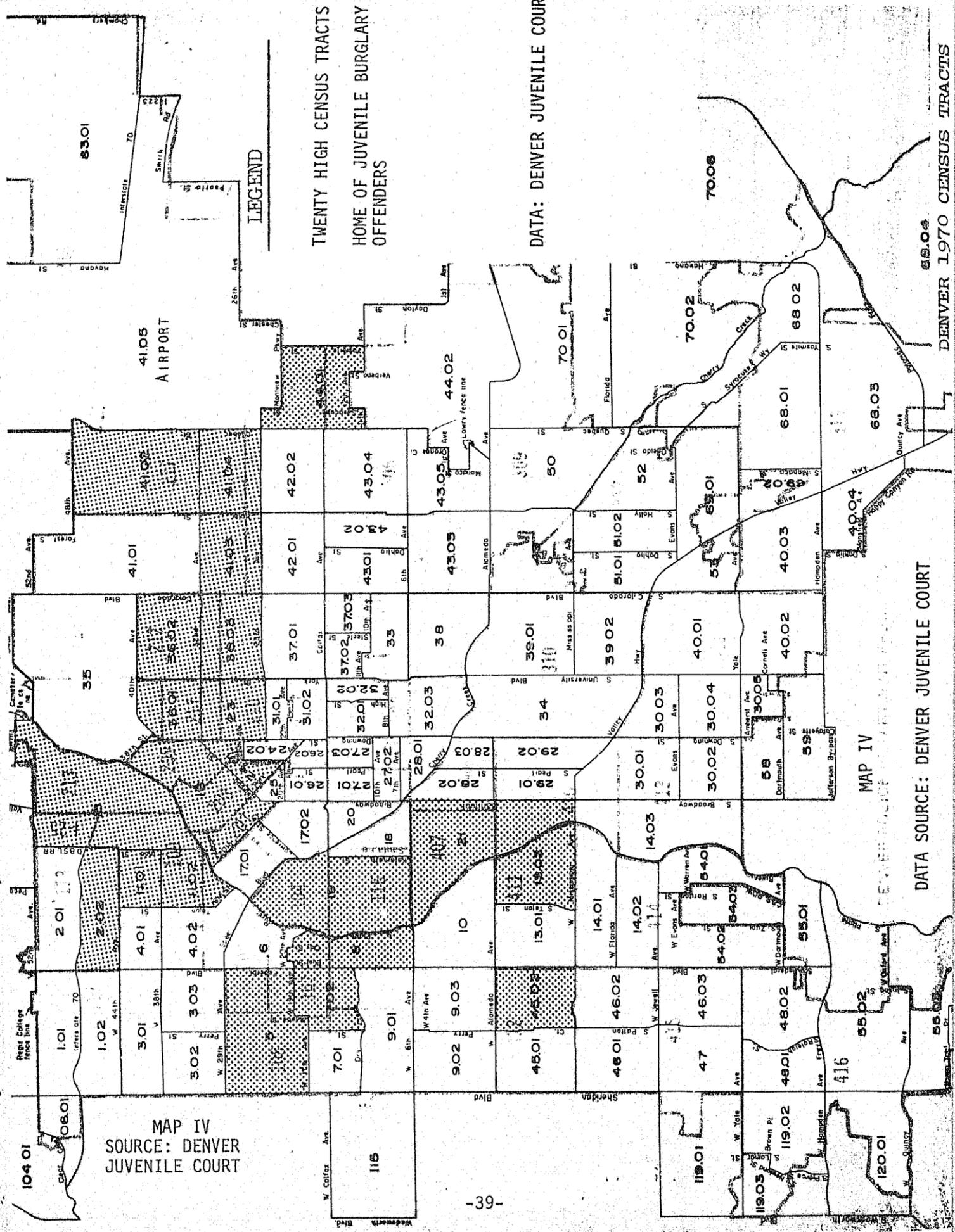
AGE	NUMBER	ANGLO	BLACK	CHICANO	INDIAN	OTHER
Under 13	161	41	25	93		1
13-16	428	125	123	174	2	4
16-18	227	71	77	79		
19-21	95	27	42	26	1	
22-24	79	21	33	21		
25-34	75	14	20	12		
35-54	46	4	2			
TOTALS	1,117	334	345	430	3	5

* Source Denver Police Department

The largest single age group arrested was the 13-16 year old with 428 of the total, or 38.3%. The next highest grouping was at 16-18 with 227 arrests, or 20.3% of the total. Anglos provided 29.9% of those arrested, Chicanos 38.4% and Blacks 30.8%.

As 73.0% of those arrested are 18 or under, an attempt was made to obtain a better understanding of the referrals made to the juvenile court. Gross arrest data since 1970 indicates climbing juvenile arrest activities. In the base line period (July 1971 - June 1972) there were 858 referrals to Juvenile Court for burglary. Of that group, 34.4% were living with their mothers only, and only 29.8% were living with both parents. In essence, over 70% were from broken homes, or were from homes where either or both natural parents were absent. From an economic standpoint, families with an income from \$5,000-\$7,000 produced over 35% of the juveniles arrested for burglary. A family income over \$10,000 and up included only 10% of the total referrals. Exactly congruent with national figures, 73% of the juveniles referred had prior court referrals for burglary, and 11% of that total had nine or more previous referrals. The local statistics support the need for concentrated efforts to intervene in the burglary careers of a large portion of the juveniles coming in contact with the criminal justice system.

Of all the children referred for burglary, 60% were enrolled in school full-time; in the 16 year age group, 20% were enrolled full-time, which is the largest single category. The map and table which follow



identify the 20 census tracts within which the greatest number of juveniles referred for burglary reside.

If the 14 and 15 year old group are included with the 16 year olds, 58% of the total referrals are accounted for. From an ethnic viewpoint, 40.8% are Chicano, 25.6% Black, and 28.7% Anglo. Finally, in excess of 47% of the families of the children referred to the court receive welfare assistance, pensions, social security, child support or other supportive incomes.

Map IV shows the 20 census tracts producing the highest number of juvenile referrals for burglary. These tracts tend to correlate with police precincts reporting high numbers of burglaries which were identified earlier.

Adult burglary offenders, as indicated earlier, have not increased so dramatically over the past few years. The number arrested has stabilized recently at its 1970-1971 level. Data about adult burglary offenders is not yet available at the census tract level, but some profile information is routinely provided by the Denver District Court Probation Department which breaks down case loads by sex and age.

TABLE XII

CENSUS TRACTS

RANKED BY LARGEST NUMBER OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS RESIDING IN TRACT

RANKING	CENSUS TRACT
1	23.00
2	8.00
3	36.02
4	15.00
5	24.01
6	36.01
7	7.02
8	19.00
9	41.03
10	45.02
11	11.02
12	16.00
13	41.04
14	41.02
15	13.02
16	44.01
17	2.02
18	36.03
19	5.08
20	[11.01]
	[21.00]

See map with same information

Source: Denver Juvenile Court

TABLE XIII

PROBATION AGE/SEX PROFILE

BURGLARY

AGE GROUP	1970		AGE GROUP	1971	
	M	F		M	F
18-20	28		18-20	75	
21-25	72	1	21-25	66	2
26-30	32		26-30	34	
31-35	9	1	31-35	13	1
36-40	8		36-40	10	
41-45	4		41-45	7	
46-50	2		46-50	5	
51-60	2		51-60	2	1
TOTAL	157	2	TOTAL	212	4
Denver Probation Dept., 1970 and 1971					

It is evident from the data that there has been an increase in the 18-20 year age group placed on probation since 1970. In fact, a 63% increase is reflected in this age group alone.

The Colorado State Penitentiary indicated that in the calendar year 1971, the average age of new inmates committed for the offense of burglary was 32.0 years and 78 men were sentenced for burglary during this period, or 16.1% of all the new arrivals for 1971. The total inmate population sentenced from Denver County was 564 accounting for 41.9% of the total penitentiary population. Ethnic characteristics of burglary offenders sentenced are presented in the table which follows.

TABLE XIV
 ETHNIC DISTRIBUTION OF PENITENTIARY
 ARRIVALS FROM DENVER FOR BURGLARY
 1971

NUMBER INMATES	% OF TOTAL	ANGLO	CHICANO	NEGRO
COMMITTED 98	17.4	32	47	19
PREVIOUS CONVICTION 45	46.0	17	31	7
PRIOR ARREST 39	40.0	10	20	9

A comparison of the sentences by ethnic group indicates that the length of sentences for burglary was less for Anglo than for the other ethnic groups listed. As presented in another section of this Plan, a similar analysis reveals longer sentences for Anglo persons committed of robbery.

TABLE XV
 SENTENCES FOR BURGLARY BY ETHNIC GROUP - MALE NEW ARRIVALS, 1971

ETHNIC GROUP	NUMBER OF SENTENCES	AVERAGE SENTENCES
Anglo	28 (37.3%)	3.0 to 5.9 years
Chicano	38 (50.6%)	3.5 to 6.6 years
Black	9 (12.1%)	3.6 to 8.4 years

From the data thus far collected, there is evidence to support the fact that juvenile burglary is a most severe problem, at least from the standpoint of the number being arrested. Burglary is Denver's most frequently reported crime with an average of one burglary being reported every 30 minutes. Burglary generates a considerable economic loss in

property with less than 10% of its stolen property recovered and returned to the owner. More than 70% of all burglaries remain unsolved or uncleared by arrest, and yet convicted burglary offenders make up a sizable proportion of the population at the state's correctional institutions.

Since burglary is defined as an alleged entry of a structure or dwelling with intent to commit crime, it would normally be expected that the preponderance of entries would require force, however, the statistics do not support this premise. The majority of entries as described on the police offense reports fall into the "other" or "unknown" categories. (See table on Method of Entry) This category includes 64% of all the burglaries. Because of this apparent contradiction the coding methods used by the police department were examined. The unknown category is coded when the offense report information indicates that the tool/weapon of entry was unknown. This means that the elements of burglary were found but the manner of gaining entry into the dwelling or commercial establishment was undetermined. Therefore, it can be assumed that a large number of the unknown entries can be added to the "no force" category assuming the investigating officer was unable to determine the level of force required to make entry. To put the data in a more proper perspective, the "no force" and "unknown" categories have been added together. This combined percentage (76.4 %) was originally interpreted as representative of entries "without force" or "little force required" with no physical evidence of force apparent at the scene.

TABLE XVI

BURGLARY
METHOD OF ENTRY

	NUMBER	PERCENT OF TOTAL	NO FORCE	PASS KEY/ CHEAT LOCK	FORCIBLE ENTRY	OTHER	NO FORCE + OTHER
DISTRICT I	1,745	21.2	11.4	2.3	22.0	64.0	75.4
DISTRICT II	2,714	33.0	10.2	.8	20.2	58.7	78.9
DISTRICT III	2,101	25.5	15.6	.0	27.4	56.9	72.5
DISTRICT IV	1,651	20.1	15.2	1.2	19.9	63.6	78.8
TOTALS AND AVERAGES	8,211	24.9	13.1	1.08	22.3	64.05	76.4

DATA SOURCES: Denver Police Department
Offense Data
January 1972 - June 1972

The level of force necessary to gain entry into the majority of places burglarized indicates that actual and potential victims are generally apathetic about the security of their homes and businesses. It is obvious that many victims contribute to the success of burglars.

When analyzing the percentages of burglary by time of day, some interesting factors were discovered. Table XVII indicates that 57.4% of residential burglaries occur during the daytime. In this category apartment burglaries have a higher daytime frequency than do single family homes. This may be supported by the fact that most persons living in apartments are younger and tend to have fewer children - possibly with both persons working - therefore, the apartment is more apt to be vacant during the day than the single family home. Furthermore, gaining entry into an apartment complex is relatively simple, and once inside the burglar can work at leisure. (See Table XVII next page).

While residential burglary tends to be high during the day and early evening, non-residential burglary occurs nearly 80% of the time during the hours of darkness. The most frequently burglarized non-residential targets are schools which capture 11.6% of the total. The second highest classification is filling stations: 6.6% of the total.

In general the most serious problem to contend with in Denver is

TABLE XVII
 PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESIDENTIAL
 AND
 NON-RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES BY DAY AND NIGHT
 (percentages)

	RESIDENTIAL	NON-RESIDENTIAL	TOTAL
DAY	57.4	20.3	40.8
NIGHT	42.6	79.7	59.2
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0
NUMBER	4,640	3,205	7,845

DATA SOURCE: Denver Police Department
 January 1972 - June 1972

residential daytime burglary with apartment burglaries (27.1% of the residential targets) occurring more often during the day.

Residential burglary tends to be highest on Sunday (15.3%), but has a more even dispersal pattern than non-residential burglary which peaks on Friday. The weekends tend to have a greater activity for commercial burglaries following the absence of persons in many businesses on the weekends. Similarly, residential burglaries increase on Sunday when a large number of persons are away from their residences during the weekend. There is seemingly no relationship between the day of occurrence and the reporting date. If this assumption is true then we may be asking the police to do the impossible as the time lapsed between an offense's occurrence and its investigation has a significant effect on the apprehension of the offenders and the recovery of stolen property.

It is clear that further investigation in this area would be helpful. One would normally expect a high correlation between the day of the commission of the burglary offense and the day it is reported to the police. It appears that many burglary victims do not discover and/or do not report the offense to the police immediately as in many instances from 48 to 72 hours elapse between the two events. The table that follows illustrates the percentage frequencies of burglaries by day of the week. The table reflects average percentages for Monday through Thursday and specific frequencies for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Specific data in this regard has been collected but is not yet available for analysis.

TABLE XVIII
BURGLARIES BY DAY OF WEEK
(percentages)

TYPE	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	TOTAL
RESIDENTIAL	15.3	14.2	14.2	14.2	14.2	13.9	14.7	3,205
NON-RESIDENTIAL	12.5	14.3	14.3	14.3	14.3	16.7	13.5	4,640
								7,845

DATA SOURCE: Denver Police Department
January 1972 - June 1972

NOTE: Of the 4,640 Residential Burglaries, 65.7 percent were in single family homes.

Burglars have a preference for the type of merchandise they take. The baseline data on property stolen in burglaries indicates that home entertainment equipment such as TV's, stereos, and other similar equipment, are the prime targets for burglars. This kind of merchandise is easily converted on the street without formal fencing or a conversion contact. The loss of home entertainment equipment correlates with the preponderance of residential burglaries. Money, checks, small items of furniture, jewelry, watches, and clocks are the next most frequent items stolen by burglars. (See Table XIX)

As a general summary of the problem, four previous tables presented information on the burglar's "method of entry", his preference for working during the "day or nighttime", his preference for particular days of the week, and the types of property burglars find most attractive to steal.

TABLE XIX
BURGLARY PROPERTY
TARGETS

ITEMS STOLEN	NUMBER CASES	PERCENT
1. Radios, TV's, Stereos & Other Home Entertainment Equipment	2,248	27.3
2. Money and Checks	858	10.4
3. Jewelry, Watches, Clocks	436	5.3
4. Tools	289	3.5
5. Office Equipment	229	2.7
6. Clothing, Household Furniture	531	6.4
7. Fire Arms	205	2.5
8. Auto & Truck Parts	191	2.3
9. Bicycles & Parts	178	2.1
10. Cameras	131	1.6
11. All Other Items	4,915	35.9
	TOTAL 8,211	100.00

DATA SOURCE: Denver Police Department
JAN. 1971 - JUNE 1972

ROBBERY - THE DEFINITION OF A PROBLEM

I. INTRODUCTION

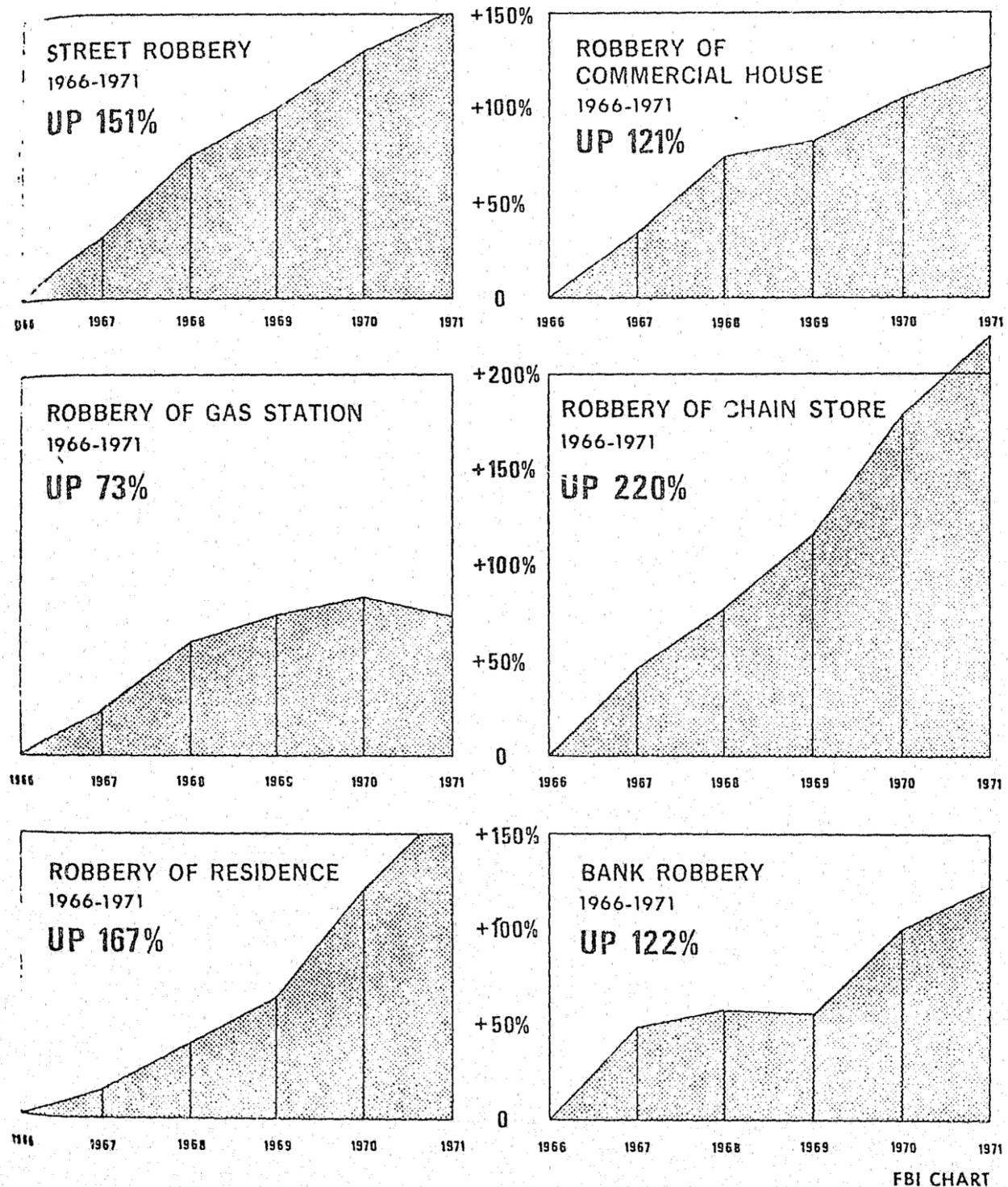
Robbery is the unlawful taking of property or currency from another against his will by means of actual or implied force. It differs from crimes of larceny, theft and burglary in that it is a "crime against the person". It is a fear-generating crime usually carrying with it the potential for victim injury in contrast with burglary where the victim is seldom present during the commission of the offense. Robbery not only is a severely threatening crime, it is historically symbolic of American violence in general, having been sensationally presented in stories, films and many accounts of American history. Despite the serious threat it poses to the public's right to life and property, it continues to exist and increase in our society.

In 1971, 385,710 robberies were reported to U. S. law enforcement agencies accounting for 6% of the total National Crime Index and 48% of the U. S. Violent Crime Index. Geographically, the Northeastern States reported 37% of the 1971 total, the North Central States 26%, the Southern States 22%, and the Western States 15%. All geographical areas of the nation are plagued by the crime, and more importantly, it is dramatically increasing.

CHART I

NATIONAL ROBBERY TRENDS BY TYPE OF VICTIM

NATIONAL UNIFORM CRIME REPORT 1971



FBI CHART

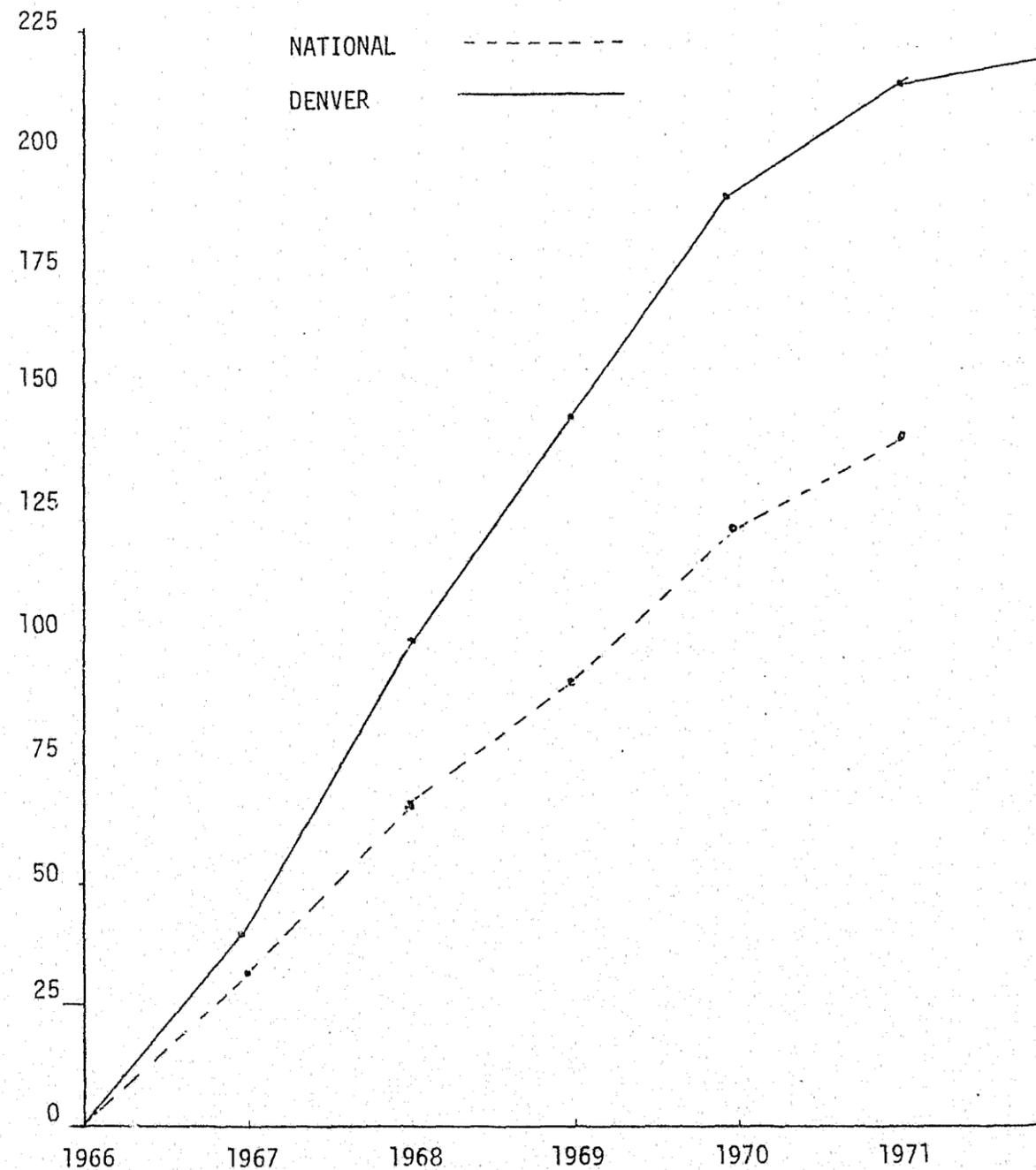
From a short range point of view, Robbery increased nationally by 11% from 1971 to 1972. Cities with a population over 250,000 reported an 8% increase over the same period while suburban areas saw an increase of 17%. The long range trend does not look brighter. Using 1966 as a base year, the national rate of increase was 145% through 1971.

It appears that Robbery is primarily a city-type crime, being prevalent in large urban areas. Seven of every ten such crimes in 1971 occurred in a city over 250,000 population with a "robbery rate" of 633 victims per 100,000 population. The large cities report 9 times more robbery than suburban and rural areas. The nature of the act, and the opportunity to successfully commit the crime, direct its commission to urban areas. Over half, 55%, of the robberies nationally are committed on the street as opposed to inside a building or structure. Nationally, however, bank robberies and robberies of residences and small and large business establishments significantly increased during 1971 and 1972 as illustrated in the graphs on the previous page.

The City and County of Denver has not found much relief from the national trends which reflect some slowing in the rate of increase. In Denver the 1966 to 1971 trend period showed an increase slightly over 210% as illustrated in the graph on the following page. It is estimated that two-thirds of Denver robberies involved an offender

CHART II

ROBBERY 1966-1972
 (AS REPORTED BY THE FBI)
 PERCENT CHANGE OVER 1966



with a firearm while one-fourth of the total involved a knife or other cutting instrument. The national economic loss due to robbery in 1971 was \$87,000,000 while Denver reported a \$232,523 loss. During the 12 months of 1972, Denver reported \$298,088 loss due to aggravated and simple robbery. The total robbery offenses reported, excluding unfounded cases for 1972 shows a decrease of 153 offenses over the same period in 1971. For these two years it appears the number of actual offenses are slightly decreasing and the economic loss reflects a similar trend.

If Denver, as one of the nations larger cities, is to remain alive and vital and if its commercial areas are to escape the trend of being deserted ghost towns at night, the threat of robbery must be reduced.

II. LEGAL DEFINITION

The 1970 revision of the Colorado Criminal Code pertaining to robbery is set out below. The statute first defines robbery (so-called "simple robbery") and then defines aggravated or armed robbery. The penalties for robbery were changed by the new Code: for simple robbery from one to 14 years under the old Code to one to 10 years, and for aggravated robbery from 4 years to life under the old Code to five to 40 years.

In addition to the two basic robbery classifications, defendants may also be charged with conspiracy (to commit robbery), which carries the same penalty as the substantive offense, and attempt (to commit robbery), which carries a one to five year penalty.

ROBBERY

40-4-301. Robbery. (1) A person who takes anything of value from the person or presence of another by the use of force, threats, or intimidation commits robbery.

(2) Robbery is a class 4 felony.

40-4-302. Aggravated Robbery. (1) A person who commits robbery is guilty of aggravated robbery if during the act of robbery, or immediate flight therefrom:

(a) He is armed with a deadly weapon with intent, if resisted, to kill, maim, or wound the person robbed or any other person; or

(b) He wounds or strikes the person robbed or any other person with a deadly weapon, or by the use of force, threats, or intimidation with a deadly weapon puts the person robbed or any other person in reasonable fear of death or bodily injury; or

(c) He has present a confederate, aiding or abetting the perpetration of such robbery, armed with a deadly weapon, with the intent, either on the part of such defendant or confederate, if resistance is offered, to kill, maim, or wound the person robbed or any other person, or by the use of force, threats, or intimidation puts the person robbed or any other person in reasonable fear of death or bodily injury.

(2) Possession of any article used or fashioned in a manner to lead any person who is present reasonably to believe it to be a deadly weapon, or any verbal or other representation by the defendant that he is then and there so armed, is prima facie evidence under subsection (1) of this section that he was so armed.

(3) Aggravated robbery is a class 3 felony.

III. ROBBERY IN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

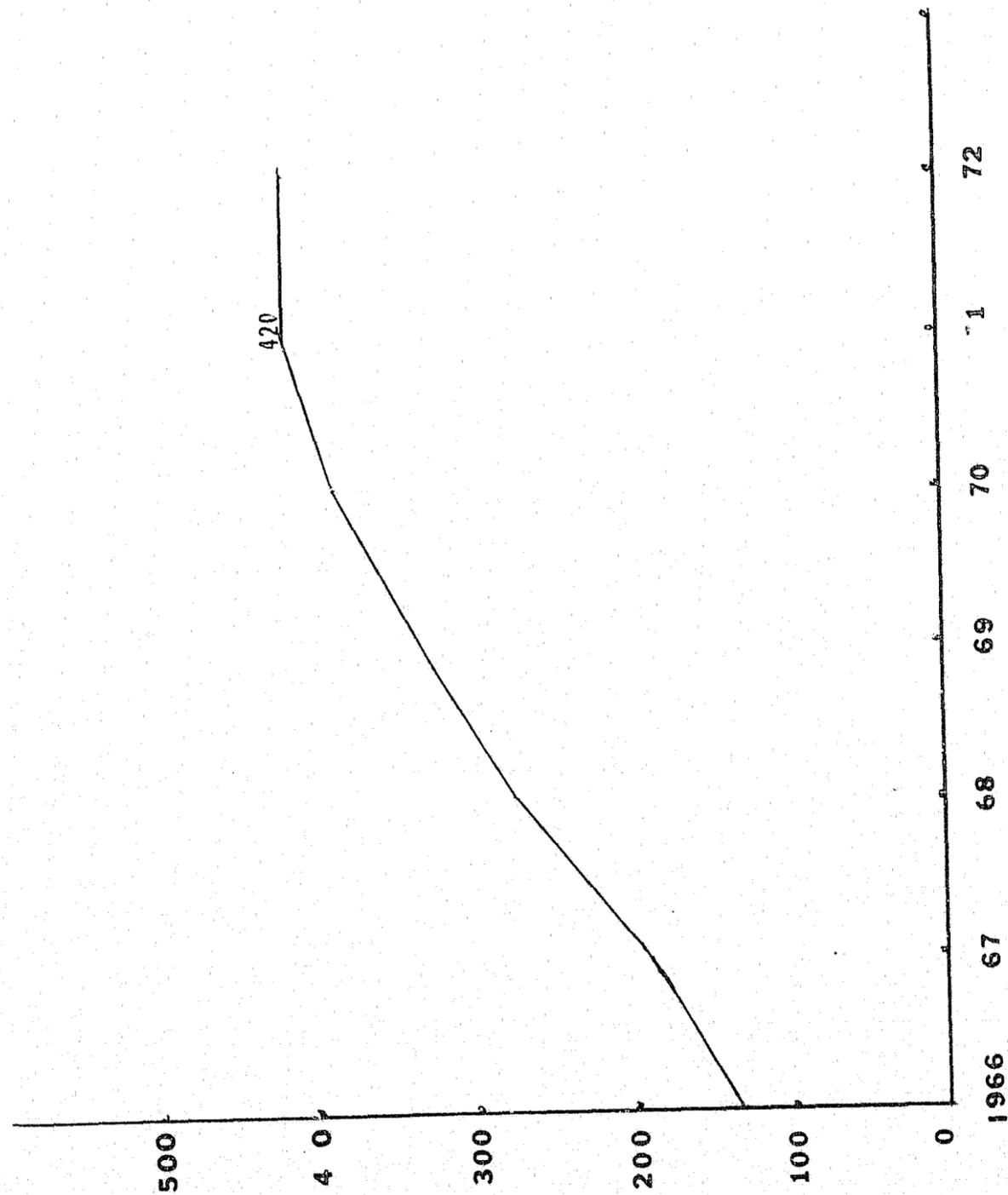
A. INCIDENCE

Although in 1971 reported robberies increased 11% nationally (over 1970) the Denver rate of increase was about 26% (See Chart I).

Denver's 1966-1971 robbery rate increased more than 210%, compared to 145% nationally for the same period. In 1971, U. S. cities over 250,000 population had a robbery rate of 633 victims per 100,000 while in Denver in 1971 the rate was 420 victims per 100,000 (see Chart on following page).

CHART III

DENVER Robbery per 100,000 Pop.



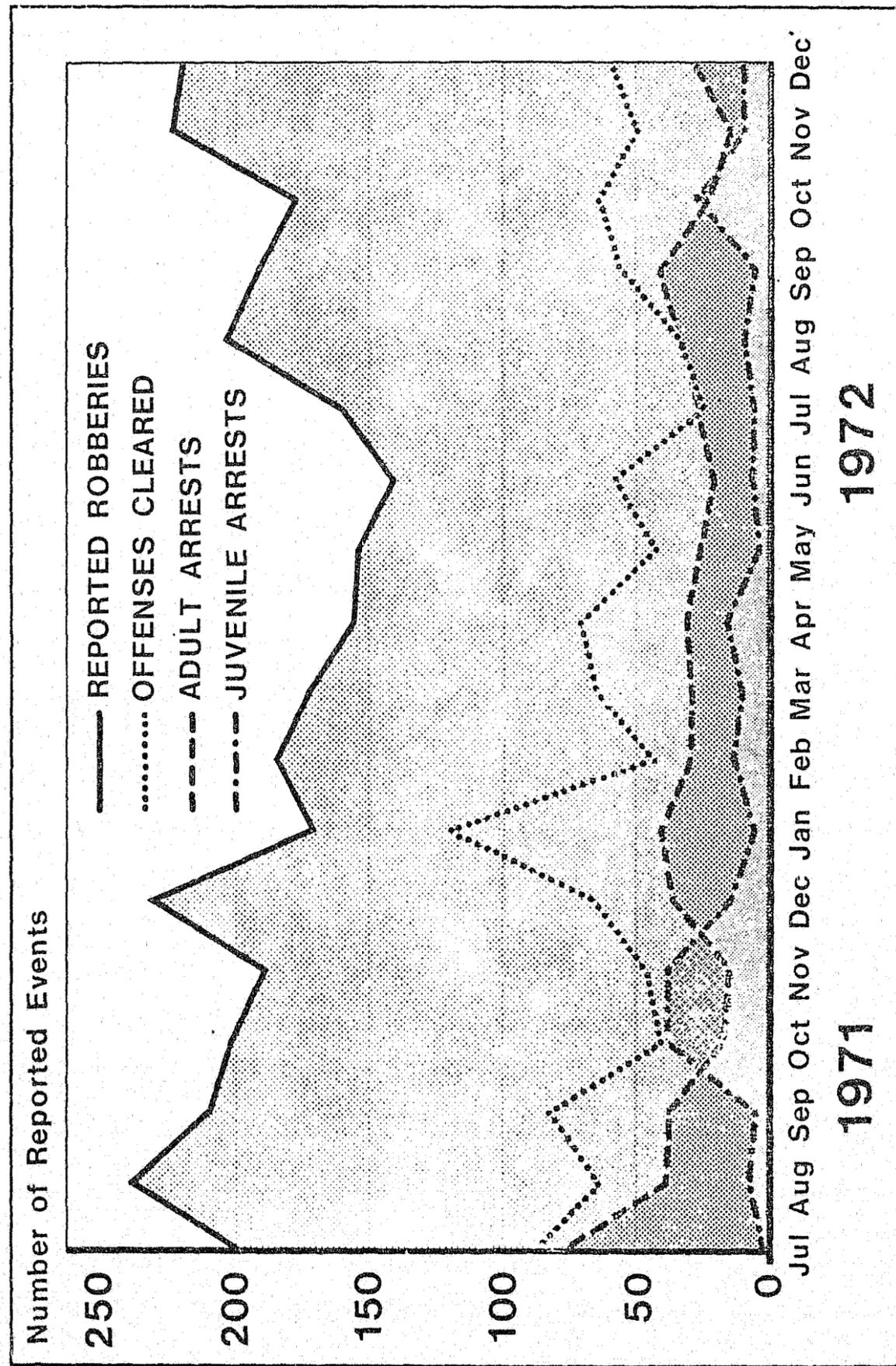
(DATA SOURCE:
DENVER POLICE
ANNUAL REPORT)

Robbery, like other crimes against persons, tends to increase in the winter months. Also, robbery tends to be a crime of opportunity and criminals take advantage of the increased darkness of winter hours and weather conditions, which reduces the number of potential witnesses, to commit their crimes. Although Denver's robbery rate has leveled off in 1972, the trend of robbery in Denver continues to demonstrate an increased occurrence of offenses during the months of November, December, January, February and March with a tapering off of offenses during early and mid-summer months. The graph on the following page portrays Denver robbery activity for an 18 month period. It shows a slight but repeating decrease in early summer and a gradual incline toward winter months. Note that the clearances effected by the police usually follow shortly after the commission of the crime. Also, in October of both years, more juveniles were arrested for this offense than adults. The graph dramatically illustrates that robbery is one of the crimes of violence to the person which remains unsolved in over two-thirds of the offenses reported.

The Denver Police Department reports show an average of 5.4 reported robbery attempts for each day of the year which makes robbery the second highest Denver Impact Crime, 2,167 offenses for 1971 and 2014 for 1972, second only to burglary. It is acknowledged that a large number of assaults are not categorized as stranger-to-stranger offenses whereas robbery and burglary are predominantly stranger-to-stranger crimes. During 1971, 456 adult arrests were reported while

DENVER ROBBERIES (Reported - Cleared - Arrests)

July 1971 to December 1972



DACC (1-10-72)

CHART IV

* DEC. 1972 STATISTICS PROJECTED

only 424 adult arrests were reported during 1970 with 1972 accounting for 360 arrests. Juvenile arrests for 1970, 1971, and 1972 were 231, 243, and 217 respectively. Denver has had both a slight decrease in robbery offenses as well as arrests since 1970. Aggravated robbery accounted for 69% of the total reported robberies during 1972 with at least \$300,000 annually lost in property and currency while only \$75,000 annually is recovered by the police. Although the clearance rate for all Class I reported offenses in 1971 was 22.9%, for robbery it was 34.9%.

There appears to be a definite pattern representing an increased frequency of robbery after dark, particularly towards the end of the work week. (See Table I).

TABLE I
ROBBERIES BY DAY OF WEEK

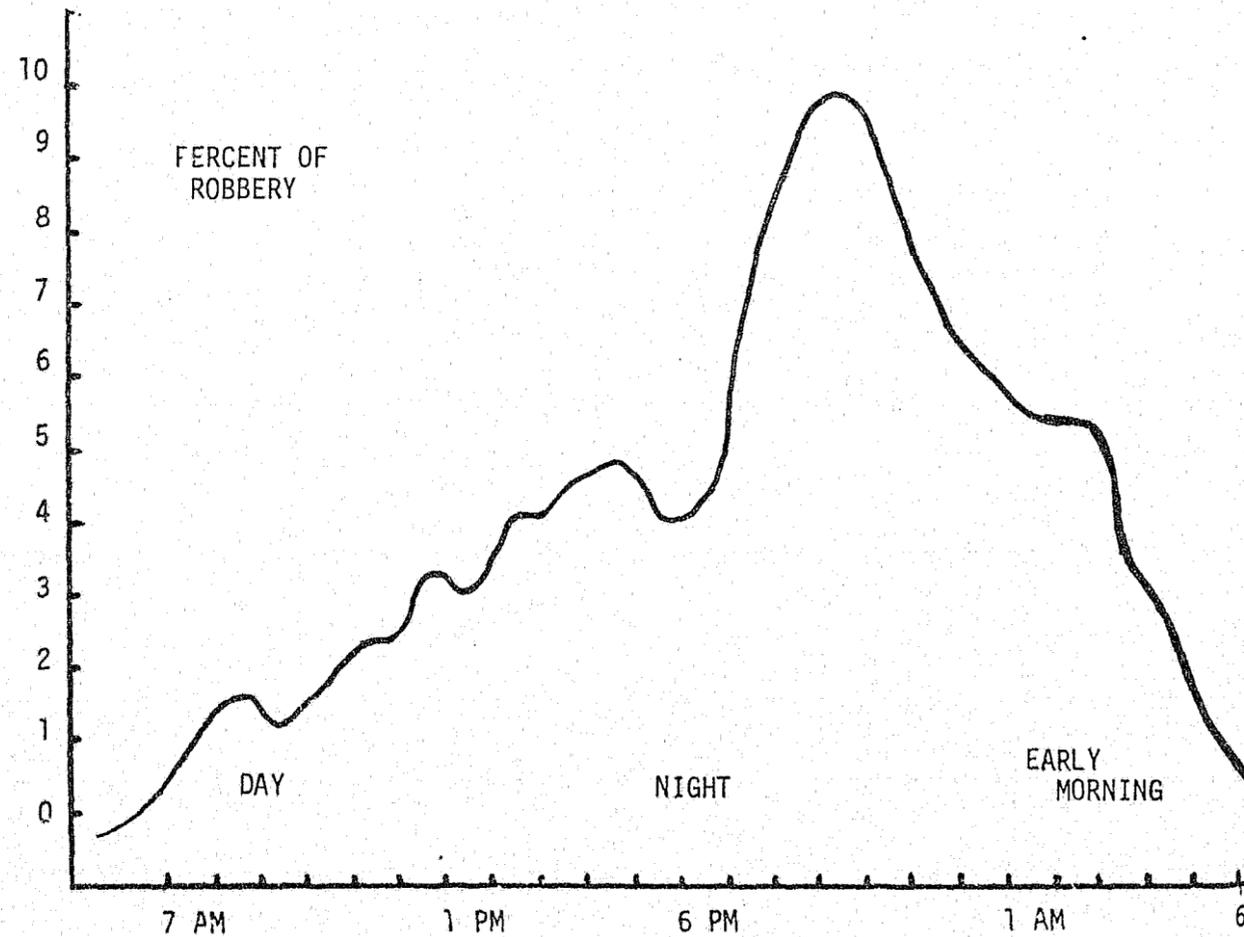
January 1, 1972 to June 30, 1972
(As reported by the Denver Police Department)

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
126	12.8	139	14.2	134	13.6	127	12.9	156	15.9	155	15.8	145	14.8

The following chart illustrates that 42% of all robberies occur between 7:00 p.m. and

midnight. However, from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., 63% of the robberies are committed. Since only certain types of service delivery businesses and convenience stores regularly operate in the late evening and early morning hours, potential commercial robbery victims are readily identifiable for robbery prevention activities.

CHART V.
HOURLY OCCURRENCE OF DENVER ROBBERIES
JULY 1970 TO JUNE 1972



(As reported by the Denver Police Department)

A large proportion of total robberies are person to person or the so-called "strong-arm" robberies. These occur on the street as well as inside dwellings and businesses. In the latter type of robbery, the ability of the police for suppression is substantially lessened. In order to develop a better understanding of both types of robbery, one must analyze the geographical setting within which it occurs.

in Denver Neighborhood Analysis a publication of the Denver Community Renewal Program.)

In what kind of area does robbery occur most frequently? As will be explained later there are several apparently related characteristics. For the Near North Side, Robbery takes place in neighborhoods that are more than 60% commercial-industrial usage with the remaining land used for housing. In all cases the population density is very high by city standards. The geographic location is the city center on the periphery of the downtown business district.

The Near North Side has a high percentage of families where there is no male head and a high ratio of these same families with children under 18 years of age. In most of the census tracts the population over 14 years old is dominated by single males and females. Ethnically the Near North Side is an area of the highest racial and cultural mixture with no single dominant group. There is no single dominant age category for the Near North Side but the pattern is interesting and may suggest a robbery victim and offender dichotomy, however the evidence for this assumption is not conclusive. In Five Points and Whittier there are three census tracts, 16.00, 23.00, and 24.01, which are dominated by youths under 18 years of age. In addition there are two census tracts in which the dominant age category for the population is over 25 years old. In the North Capitol Hill area, census tracts 26.01 and 26.02, the dominant age group for the population is also above 25. The City Park West neighborhood, census tracts 31.01 and 31.02,

shows a third age group as the category which has the greatest proportion of the population. This is the 18 to 34 year old category.

This same pattern for neighborhoods is reflected in school enrollment figures. In addition the Five Points-Whittier neighborhood has a low educational level for the entire population with a high percentage of school dropouts and low levels of educational achievement. The entire Near North Side area reports a high percentage of the 16-21 year olds who are not presently enrolled in or graduated from high school. This is more meaningful in those census tracts that report large populations in this age category.

The picture for the population's housing is consistent throughout the Near North Side area. The majority of the residents live in old multi-family units which they rent at low rates. Additionally a higher than normal percentage of the units are overcrowded and in those units which are not overcrowded there is usually a single resident. The majority of the population in the entire area has not lived in the same dwelling for five years.

The residents of the Near North Side have exceptionally high unemployment rates with the greatest percentage of those who are employed being in the service-type jobs (gas station attendants, car wash employees, etc.) and, in the case of City Park West and North Capitol Hill, in clerical occupations.

In addition to their high unemployment rates, and as expected, there is an inordinate number of families reporting incomes below the poverty level amounting to 30.4% of the Near North Side families. The family incomes of the entire area rank in the last twenty of the city's 124 tracts. This explains the 27.9% figure for welfare recipients in the population, and the 49% figure for youths under 18 receiving Aid to Dependent Children welfare benefits.

THE CENTRAL CITY COMMUNITY

Capitol Hill, City Park, Speer and Cheesman Park neighborhoods
Census Tracts 27.01, 27.02, 27.03, 32.01, 32.02, 37.01, 28.01, 28.02

The Central City high robbery area does not actively support the hypothesis mentioned in the discussion of the Near North Side robbery area. When examining the socio-economic variables which establish the condition of the Near North Side area as the most deteriorated in the city, one finds that Central City area is for the most part on the borderline between being adequate and in danger of deterioration.

This area is the second highest in frequency of the robbery offense. The area is adjacent to the Commercial District and below the Near North Side. It is comprised of eight census tracts in the Cheesman Park, City Park, Speer, and Capitol Hill Neighborhoods. As its title indicates it is in the population center of Denver with a density of people per residential acre that is extremely high.

It differs from the Near North Side area in that there are fewer families and more single people, especially single women. It further differs from the Near North Side in that the population is predominantly Anglo. In addition, the dominant age groups are the 18 to 34 year and above 55 year categories.

In terms of education the tract is higher all around than the city as a whole in all educational categories. The majority of those who are enrolled in school are in college.

The housing pattern is similar to the near North Side with the following exception. There are very few overcrowded units, and higher average rental rates.

There is less unemployment in these census tracts, however, it is still higher than the city as a whole. Those who are employed are predominantly in sales, managerial and clerical positions. Incomes are somewhat lower than average, however the percentage of persons on welfare is not significant.

The characteristic that marks the Central City area and is dominant in the other two high robbery areas is the presence of considerable commercial activity throughout the tracts.

THE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Union Station Neighborhood
Census Tracts 17.01 and 17.02

Robbery occurs less frequently in this area than in the other two previously described. The other characteristic that differentiates the Commercial District is the lack of a significant residential population. This can be interpreted as restricting any description of the setting to one of victim or victim location.

The Commercial District is smaller than either of the other areas described. It is comprised of only two census tracts, 17.01 and 17.02 and is in the neighborhood known as Union Station. The dominant characteristic of this area which makes all other socio-economic characteristics insignificant is the presence of the Central Business District. This is the heart of the Denver wholesale and retail trade area. Surrounding the Central Business District is some industrial land usage and the transportation and warehouse center for the city. Within the Central Business District commercial activities of all types takes place. Included within this category are the major entertainment establishments of Denver.

It is obvious what the attraction of this area is for the potential robbery victim. For the robbery offender this area represents the location of a great many non-residents carrying money and traveling from place to place usually by walking in public areas. Likewise there are many more commercial establishments with valuable goods and currency than in any other part of Denver. This increases the

attractiveness of this target area for the potential robber.

Of major significance as a high robbery setting is the location of the Near North Side and City Center high robbery areas which surround the Central Business District. They provide a possible source of robbery offenders because of their proximity and easy entrance and egress from the Commercial District. In addition, the Commercial District supports the attractiveness of the other two areas because the restricted parking in the Central Business District forces the potential victim to seek parking in the Near North Side and the Central City areas if he wants to engage in commercial or entertainment activities.

SUMMARY

We have developed some characteristics in our description of the robbery vulnerable areas which may help us answer the question "Where does robbery occur?". The most important factor seems to be the presence of numerous commercial establishments which is logical. One would expect an area with a high frequency of robberies to have more attractive places to rob. Other common factors are high population density, close proximity to the Center City, and a large percentage of single people living in old converted homes or apartments as renters, usually alone. The population of the high robbery areas normally are not settled and are prone to move within five years. The areas of the city are distinguished by the constant street population; that is, an inordinate amount of people walking or driving to public places.

An interesting note which may provide some insight into the victim offender dichotomy is the two completely divergent cultural groups in the two residential robbery vulnerable areas. One group is poor, under educated, ethnically and racially mixed, distinguished by the high percentage of families and children in the population, under-employed, with the greatest proportion of the employed population being non-skilled workers, and having a high percentage of welfare recipients. The other cultural group is highly educated, economically stable, with a predominantly Anglo population of young adults and old people, little unemployment, a high percentage of professional and skilled workers, and a low percentage of welfare recipients.

The only other significant information is that these two vastly different cultural groups live in distinguishable neighborhoods which border each other.

C. THE VICTIM OF ROBBERY

During the period from July 1970 to June 1972, 68.1% of the robberies reported to the Denver Police had a private individual as the victim. Of the total reported robberies 47.7% occurred to individual victims on the streets, highways, and alleys of Denver. Of the remaining 20.4% of these person-to-person robberies, 8.05% occurred in the victim's residence or temporary living accommodations (hotel, Y.M.C.A., etc.) with 12.38% taking place in a tavern or some other semi-public structure where the primary target of the crime was the currency the victim was carrying on his person. It is this latter type of non-street located robbery which is almost impossible for the police to suppress.

In a random sample from the two year reporting period above, 73.6% of the private individuals who were the victims of robbery were Anglos with the males of all ethnic backgrounds accounting for the largest portion of the victims (See Table Below).

TABLE II
RANDOM SAMPLE OF INDIVIDUAL ROBBERY VICTIMS (July 1970 - June 1972)

ETHNIC BACKGROUND		
ANGLO	Male	55.9
	Female	17.7
BLACK	Male	8.8
	Female	2.9
CHICANO	Male	5.8
	Female	2.9
OTHER	Male	3.2
	Female	2.8

(Taken from Denver Police Department Offense Reports)

Of the sampled group of individual victims who reported their ages, the dominant category was the 20 to 34 year old group who account for 35.3% of the robbery victims (See Table Below).

TABLE III
RANDOM SAMPLE OF ROBBERY VICTIMS BY AGE
(July 1970 to June 1971)
(Taken from Denver Police Department Offense Reports)

AGE	PERCENT
Under 16 year olds	11.8
17-19 year olds	11.8
20-24 year olds	20.6
25-34 year olds	14.7
35-44 year olds	2.9
45-54 year olds	14.7
55-64 year olds	5.9
65-75 year olds	2.9
Not Reported	11.8
	<u>100%</u>

For all categories of robbery victims the primary target of the offense was currency with 51.7% of the sampled victims reporting money being taken. In 18.3% of all the sampled cases the robber took the victim's purse and 11.7% of the commercial and individual victims were robbed of jewelry.

In both the individual and commercial robberies 62.4% were attempted or completed with some type of weapon. In 53.3% of these cases a fire arm was the weapon used (pistol, rifle, or shot gun), with 16.7% of the cases reporting a knife as a weapon used.

Commercial robbery though accounting for a smaller percentage of the total reported robbery, 31.9% was responsible for more than 60% of the money and valuables lost in the robberies sampled. The location or the setting considered to be the most vulnerable for the crime of robbery in Denver has been previously discussed. Within these areas and throughout Denver the type of commercial business that is most frequently the target of the robber is the chain store, normally a grocery or convenience store, which remains open either all night or late in the evening. (See Table Below).

TABLE IV
DENVER COMMERCIAL ROBBERIES BASED UPON 31.9% OF TOTAL ROBBERY OFFENSES REPORTED TO THE POLICE (July 1970 to June 1972)

TYPE OF VICTIM	% of Commercial Robberies	% of All Robberies
General Commercial Business	22.8	7.3
Drug Stores	3.2	1.0
Restaurants	15.3	4.9
Taverns	3.4	1.1
Theaters	1.6	.5
Loan or Finance Offices	1.1	.4
Laundromats	.4	.1
Filling Stations	13.4	4.3
Chain Store (Grocery or Conv. Store)	23.3	7.4
All other Commercial	15.5	4.9
TOTAL	100	31.9

It is the commercial robbery that affords the greatest opportunity for reduction. As a target the commercial business is determinable, because its location is known and its period of vulnerability in terms of hours in the day, times during the week and months of the year are predictable. Special efforts by the potential victim and law enforcement can reduce the commercial robbery.

D. THE ROBBERY OFFENDER

An analysis of the 10 police precincts reporting the greatest number of robberies for the period July 1971 to June 1972 illustrates the geographical concentration of this offense in and around the Central Business District and the near north side of Denver. Adult and juvenile arrests for this offense appear to follow a similar geographical distribution except that few residents live in the Central Business District and few juveniles are arrested in this area for robbery. However, 39 or 140 adult arrests for robbery were made in the downtown area including Precincts 101, 102, and 103. The bulk of the adult robbery suspects were apprehended in the North Capital Hill-Five Points areas, accounting for 96 of 140 robbery arrests for this period. The table below illustrates the juvenile and adult robbery arrests by precinct location including their respective percentages of the total robbery arrests for the period.

TABLE V.
DENVER ROBBERY ARRESTS
July 1971-June 1972
(As reported by the Denver Police)

PRECINCT	JUVENILE ARRESTS		ADULT ARRESTS		TOTAL ARRESTS	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
201	1	1.8	23	16.4	24	12.3
202	4	7.4	14	10.0	18	9.3
203	8	14.8	10	7.1	18	9.3
204	9	16.7	13	9.3	22	11.3
208	4	7.4	25	17.9	29	15.0
211	12	22.2	11	7.9	23	11.9
101	0	-	9	6.4	9	4.6
102	10	18.5	15	10.7	25	12.9
103	3	5.6	15	0.7	18	9.3
303	3	5.6	5	3.6	8	4.1
TOTAL	54	100.0%	140	100.0%	194	100.0%

Further analysis of the age and ethnic characteristics of robbery suspects arrested during the period January 1, 1972 to June 30, 1972

(including all 63 police precincts rather than the top 10 reporting the highest number of robbery offenders) revealed that 54.2% were suspects 19 years of age and older. Ethnically, Blacks accounted for 45.8% of all robbery arrests during the specified period, while Chicanos accounted for 27.8% and Anglos 25.8%. This ethnic distribution appears dissimilar to the distribution of burglary suspects where Chicanos make up the largest proportion of arrests. The table below illustrates the combined variables of age and ethnicity of robbery suspects arrested during the sampled time period. Note that 39.3% of those arrested were between the ages of 16 and 21. The next largest category is that of 25 to 34 accounting for 21.4%.

TABLE VI

AGE-ETHNIC CHARACTERISTICS
OF DENVER ROBBERY ARRESTS
January 1, 1972-June 30, 1972
(As reported by the Denver Police)

AGE	ANGLO	BLACK	CHICANO	OTHER	TOTAL	PERCENT
under 13	2	4	4	-	10	3.4
13-15	10	22	14	-	46	15.6
16-18	24	36	19	-	79	26.8
19-21	11	17	8	1	37	12.5
22-24	7	18	14	-	39	13.2
25-34	12	37	13	1	63	21.4
35-54	10	3	7	-	20	6.8
55 +	-	-	1	-	1	.3
TOTAL	76	137	80	2	295	100.0
% TOTAL	25.8	46.4	27.1	.7	100.0	

Looking at the robbery offender following conviction for the offense does not significantly alter the arrest-suspect picture, although it is interesting to note that a higher percentage of Anglos were committed to

the penitentiary in 1971 than were Blacks and Chicanos. The average age of inmate arrivals for robbery during 1971 was 28.0 years. This is probably an indication that the criminal justice system responds more severely and sooner in a robbery criminal career due to the potential for victim injury and death. Narcotic offenses was the only offense category with a younger average age for 1971 arrivals at 27.9 years, while burglary offenders committed during the year averaged 32.0 years of age. The table below illustrates the average age of penitentiary arrivals by offense for 1971.

TABLE VII

AVERAGE AGE-COLORADO PENITENTIARY ARRIVALS-1971

1. NARCOTICS	27.9 years of age
2. ROBBERY	28.0 years of age
3. SEX CRIMES-VIOLENT	30.1 years of age
4. ASSAULT	30.3 years of age
5. HOMICIDE	31.2 years of age
6. BURGLARY	32.0 years of age
7. CHECK OFFENSES	32.9 years of age
8. SEX CRIMES-NON-VIOLENT	36.2 years of age

Of the total number of robbery offenders in the state penitentiary 35.9% have had a previous arrest and 31.0% a previous conviction for a felony crime and of this total 35.3% were Anglo, 33.7% Chicano, and 31.0% Black.

TABLE VIIII

ROBBERY OFFENDERS-COLORADO STATE PENITENTIARY 1972

	TOTAL		ANGLO		CHICANO		BLACK	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
ROBBERY	184	100.0	65	35.3	62	33.7	57	31.0
PREVIOUS CONVICTION	57	31.0	26	40.0	18	29.0	13	22.8
PREVIOUS ARREST	66	35.9	18	27	22	25.5	26	45.6

CONTINUED

1 OF 2

Of all new arrivals at the penitentiary in 1971, excluding life sentences and counting consecutive and concurrent sentences given the same inmate only once, 43.6% of the total robbery sentences were given to Anglo offenders, 23.6% to Chicano offenders and 32.8% to Blacks. The average minimum-maximum sentences were 6.8 to 11.5 years for Anglos, 5.9 to 12.1 years for Chicanos, and 4.4 to 7.7 years for Blacks. These ethnic and sentence data are based on all arrivals not just those from Denver County.

On July 31, 1972, a total of 564 inmates were in penitentiary residence from Denver County accounting for 41.9% of the prison population. Of these 564, 354 were sentenced for Robbery, Burglary, Rape and Non-Sexual Assault. These Impact Target offenses thus account for 63% of offenses for which Denver residents were sentenced. Of the 184 arrivals for Robbery, 57 had a prior conviction for Robbery while 66 had prior arrests for Robbery.

THE JUVENILE ROBBERY OFFENDER

In reporting the characteristics of the juvenile robbery offender, one year's referrals (July 1971 to June 1972) to the Juvenile Court was examined with regard to the descriptive information pertaining to this type of youthful offender. Of the youths referred to the Juvenile Court for the of robbery more than 82% had been previously referred one or more times. Additionally these juvenile robbery referrals are more likely than juvenile burglary, assault, and auto theft/joyriding referrals to have had prior contact with the court.

TABLE IX
 PRIOR REFERRALS TO JUVENILE COURT OF THOSE JUVENILES
 REFERRED FOR ROBBERY DURING THE
 PERIOD FROM JULY 1971 to JUNE 1972

Number of Previous Court Referrals	% of Juveniles Presently Referred to the Juvenile Court for Robbery
0 No Previous Referrals	17.5
1	10.3
2	11.9
3	4.0
4	9.5
5	7.9
6	4.8
7	9.5
8	4.8
9 or more referrals	12.7
Unknown	7.1
	<u>100.0 %</u>

Only 17.5% of those referred for robbery have never had a prior referral, whereas those referred for the crimes of assault, burglary, and auto theft/joyriding are more likely to be "first referrals": (27% for burglary,

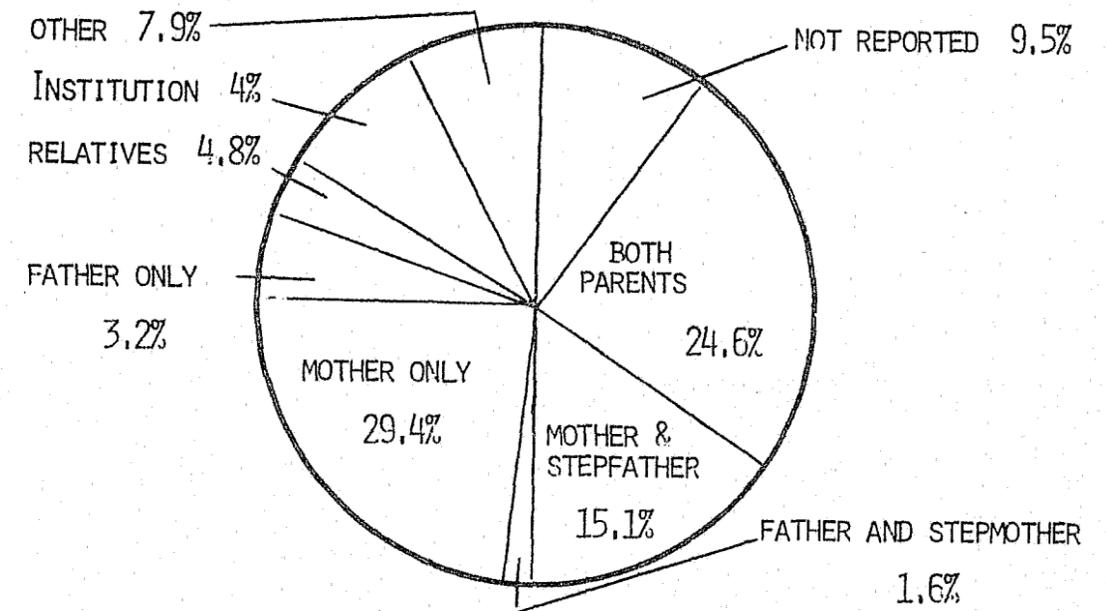
35% for assault, and 28% for auto theft/joy riding). The age/sex characteristics of the juveniles referred to the Court for robbery discloses that the 15-17 age group accounts for 76.7% of the offenders with 93% being male. The table below illustrates the percentage of juveniles referred to the Juvenile Court for robbery according to their ethnic or racial background. Consistent with penitentiary arrivals, Blacks account for 43% of the robbery referrals. This is compared to 41% Chicano referrals for burglary. Anglos, Blacks and Chicanos are referred in the same percentage of non-auto related property thefts including forging and shoplifting.

TABLE X

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF JUVENILE COURT REFERRALS FOR SELECTED CRIMES JULY 1971 to JUNE 1972			
	<u>ROBBERY</u>	<u>ASSAULT</u>	<u>BURGLARY</u>
Anglo	17%	18%	29%
Black	43%	42%	36%
Chicano	27%	35%	41%
	<u>AUTO THEFT - JUVENILE</u>	<u>THEFT (Inc. Shoplifting, and Forgery)</u>	
Anglo	32%	32%	
Black	24%	33%	
Chicano	40%	30%	

Approximately 55% of the juvenile robbery offenders referred to the court came from homes without both natural parents and one-fourth live with both parents (See chart). As of the 1970 census report 16% of Denver's family units were identified as families with female heads or male heads who are not fathers as compared to 54.1% of such families among the referred offender group. (see chart next page)

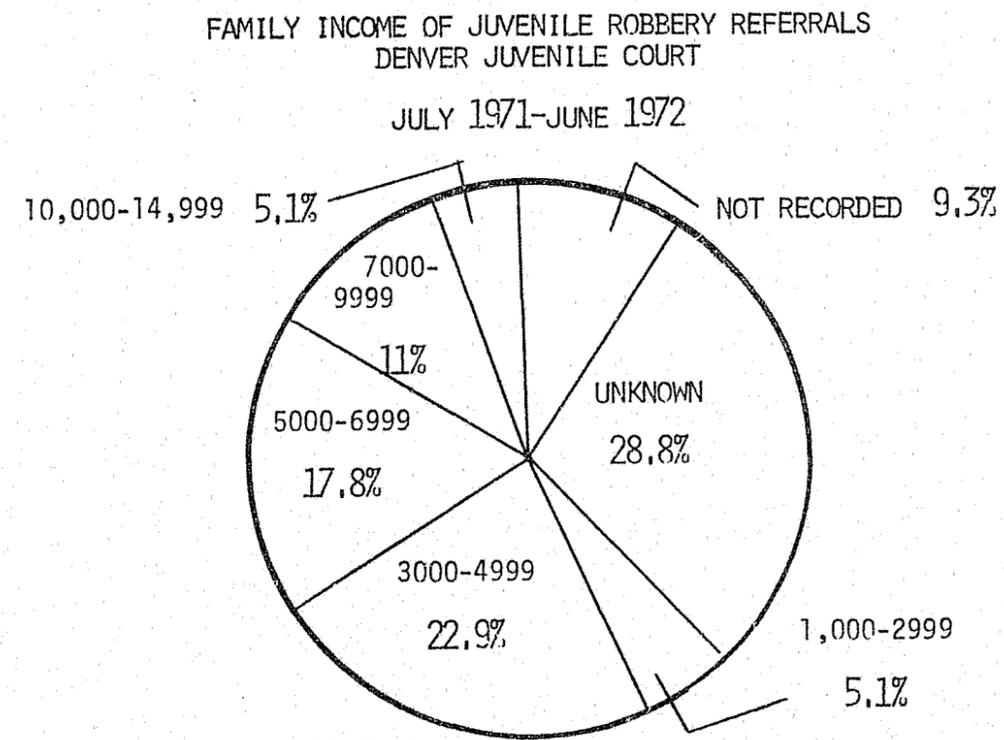
CHART VII
HEADS OF FAMILIES
DENVER JUVENILE COURT REFERRALS
JULY 1971-JUNE 1972



In terms of family income, 17.8% of the juvenile robbery referrals come from homes with incomes between \$5,000 - \$7,000, 22.9% with family incomes of \$3,000 to \$5,000 and 5.1% from families with incomes \$1,000 to \$3,000. In other words 45.8% of the juvenile robbery referrals come from homes with a family income that is less than \$7,000 annually.

(See Chart next Page)

CHART VIII

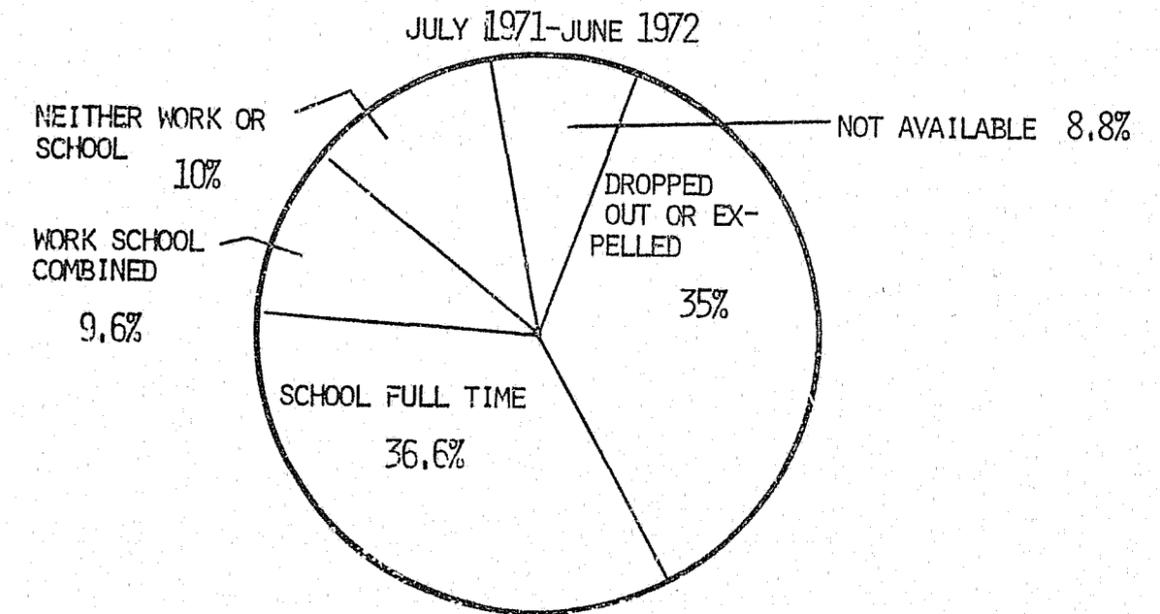


In addition to coming from homes which do not include both natural parents and with lower than average family income with both parents working in many cases, these juvenile robbery offenders tend to have inadequate educational background with 35.0% having dropped out or been expelled from school and 10% neither working nor in school at the time of referral to the court.

(See Chart Next Page)

CHART IX

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF JUVENILE ROBBERY OFFENDERS
REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT



Although accounting for only 3% of the criminal referrals to the Juvenile Court, the juvenile robbery offender is potentially a most significant factor in the control of the future occurrence of robbery in Denver. As stated before, there is a great majority of those individuals who have had previous referrals to the Juvenile Court; more so than for any other type of Impact crime. In addition, the largest percentage of those individuals is about to move out of the age category which is the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court. With a record of recidivating which reflects a similar pattern in the adult robbery offenders and a pending release from the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court; the juvenile robbery offender has a high probability of being a future perpetrators of the crime of robbery in Denver.

IV ROBBERY SUMMARY

Robbery is one of the most personally threatening of the Impact crimes. It always involves a victim, be he a private individual or commercial business, who is coerced into surrendering valuables through the use of force or the threat of force. Robbery is committed by professionals, opportunists, drug addicts and alcoholics who intentionally choose victims who are strangers.

In Denver robbery is second only to burglary as an Impact crime of major proportions. It differs from burglary in that the frequency of the occurrence of robbery has leveled off at around 2000 per year whereas burglary is constantly increasing. Robbery is of equal or greater importance as a problem than assault or rape because it is totally a stranger-to-stranger crime which threatens the populace with loss of valuables and bodily injury in greater frequency than either of the other two Impact Crimes.

The crime most frequently occurs during Fall and Winter, at night, in densely populated center city areas which are distinguished by their considerable commercial activity and incidence of foot and auto traffic. There are two types of robbery victims, the commercial business and the individual citizen. The most frequently robbed commercial business is a chain or grocery store with late night hours. The individual citizen is most often victimized while on the street or out of doors in public places. In the greatest majority of the cases, the robber threatens his victim with a fire arm in an attempt to obtain money.

The highest percentage of individual victims who report the crime are Anglo men and women between 20 and 34 years of age. The perpetrator of the crime is most frequently a Black male between 16 and 21. Of those individuals apprehended and adjudicated for robbery, a large percentage have prior robbery and felony histories.

After an analysis of the crime of robbery in Denver, it can be determined that the following are of primary interest in any attempts to reduce the occurrence of the crime.

1. Densely populated center city areas bisected by major city thoroughfares with visible street traffic and considerable commercial activities are the prime target areas.
2. The individual citizen traveling on the streets at night in these areas has the greatest probability of being robbed by opportunistic felons.
3. The chain store, grocery store, convenience store and restaurant with late night hours and located in the target areas are the prime commercial targets.
4. The once arrested and/or convicted juvenile or adult robbery offender has a high potential as a future robbery offender.
5. A history of a broken home, low family income, school failure, and residence in a robbery target area are strongly associated with the juvenile robbery offender.

These are not the sole interest areas in the robbery reduction efforts, however, they do suggest some critical directions for any serious attempts to make Denver safe from this most threatening Impact crime.

SECTION III

A PROFILE OF

FORCIBLE RAPE

FORCIBLE RAPE

I. INTRODUCTION

The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration has identified rape and robbery as the most fearful with rape the least tractable. Most victims find it difficult to talk about the pain and humiliation of the offense itself, and thus do not report the crime and if they do, prosecution is difficult to obtain. Most distressing, a woman confronted by a rapist faces a troublesome dilemma: to resist and risk possible serious injury, or to submit with the result that the courts many times assume consent.

The problem of court action involving rape cases is illustrated in New York City where 2,415 offenses were reported in 1971.^{*} The City's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council reported that only one offender received a felony rape sentence during the first six months of that period. These facts relate to the difficulty in prosecuting rapists in New York and other cities. In the absence of a "witness" to a rape, or the use of violent force by the suspect, bringing about a conviction has been generally very difficult.

NATIONAL DATA

Based on the F.B.I. Uniform Crime Reports for 1971, there was an estimated total of 41,890 forcible rapes throughout the nation. Denver

* Format: New York City Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Report: 1972 report.

reported 434 offenses. However, it is generally recognized that the actual occurrence of rapes is far greater than the reported number with estimates of the incidences at three to five times higher than those reported.

Considering only the reported number of rapes, however, the 1971 national total exceeded the 1970 figure by 4,340 offenses. Forcible rape made up less than one percent of the total Crime Index and five percent of violent crimes. In Denver, rape was 1.2% of all Index Crimes and 10.5% of violent crimes.

The volume of forcible rape offenses in 1971 in the United States increased 11% over 1970, and 64% over 1966. Denver's increase was a dramatic 168% over the same period of time. Throughout the country rape was committed most often in the large cities with 250,000 or more population. In 1971, cities of this size registered an 8% increase and the suburban areas were up 10%, still far below the increase registered by Denver.

In 1971, 40 out of every 100,000 females in the country were reported forcible rape victims. Since 1966, the forcible rape victim rate per 100,000 females has increased 55%, and the rate increased 10% from 1970 to 1971. In the large core cities, the victim rate was 85 per 100,000 females. The City of Denver's rape rate was 160 per 100,000 females, double that for large core cities and four times

the rate per 100,000 females for the U.S. as a whole. As was the case in 1970, females residing in the Western states were most often the victims of forcible rape in 1971.

In 1971, 72% of all rape offenses reported were classified as forcible, while the remainder were classified as attempts or assaults with intent to commit rape. As a national average, 18% of all forcible rapes reported to police were determined upon investigation to be unfounded; Denver's rate of unfounded reports was only 10%. According to the F.B.I. Report, unfounded cases were caused by the question of the use of force or threat of force, sometimes complicated by a prior relationship between victim and offender.

The clearance rate, nationally, was 55% in 1971, which was a 3% decrease from the 1970 rate (F.B.I. Uniform Crime Report), while Denver's rate was about 40% (Denver Police Department). About 13% of the forcible rape offenses nationally were cleared by the arrest of juveniles.

II. LEGAL DEFINITION

In the revision of the Colorado Criminal Code (July, 1972), the rape provisions were restructured. The age for statutory rape was lowered to 16, and statutory rape is not committed if the female is under 16 and the male is less than two years older than the female.

Rape (40-3-401) is defined as sexual intercourse by a male with a

female, not his wife, with the use of force or by threat. Rape is also committed if the male impairs the ability of the victim to resist by administering drugs or intoxicants without her consent, or she is unconscious.

Forcible rape is classified as a class three felony, with a 5 to 40 year sentence. If, however, the victim was a voluntary social companion of the male at the time of the offense, and had previously voluntarily engaged in sexual intercourse with him, it is a class four felony. A class four felony has a minimum punishment of a one year sentence or a \$2,000 fine or both; and a maximum of a 10 year sentence or \$30,000 or both.

Gross Sexual Imposition (40-3-402) is defined as sexual intercourse by a male with a female, not his wife, where he compels her to submit by threats less than those required for rape; or the victim suffers from a mental condition which renders her incapable of knowing what she is doing. Gross sexual imposition is a class four felony.

With respect to the crimes defined by Sections 40-3-401 and 40-3-402, any penetration, however slight, is sufficient to complete the crime.

Deviate Sexual Intercourse by Force (40-3-403) is defined as sexual gratification between human beings who are not husband and wife, involving sexual contact of anus and/or mouth. This is considered to

be a crime if the offender compels the other person to participate by force or by threat; or if he impairs the other person's power to appraise his conduct by administering drugs or intoxicants. Deviate sexual intercourse by force is a class three felony.

No prosecution may be instituted or maintained for the unlawful sexual behaviors noted in the above sections of the Colorado Criminal Code unless the alleged offense is brought to the notice of the district attorney or other law enforcement official within thirty days after its occurrence, unless the alleged victim was less than 16 years of age.

III. RAPE IN AN URBAN ENVIRONMENT

A. INCIDENCE - VICTIM

Rape is possibly the most serious person-to-person crime that exists in Denver. In contrast to F.B.I. national data which showed a 64% increase from 1966 to 1971, Denver data presented a dramatic 168% increase in rapes during the same time period. This data is schematically presented in Figure I.

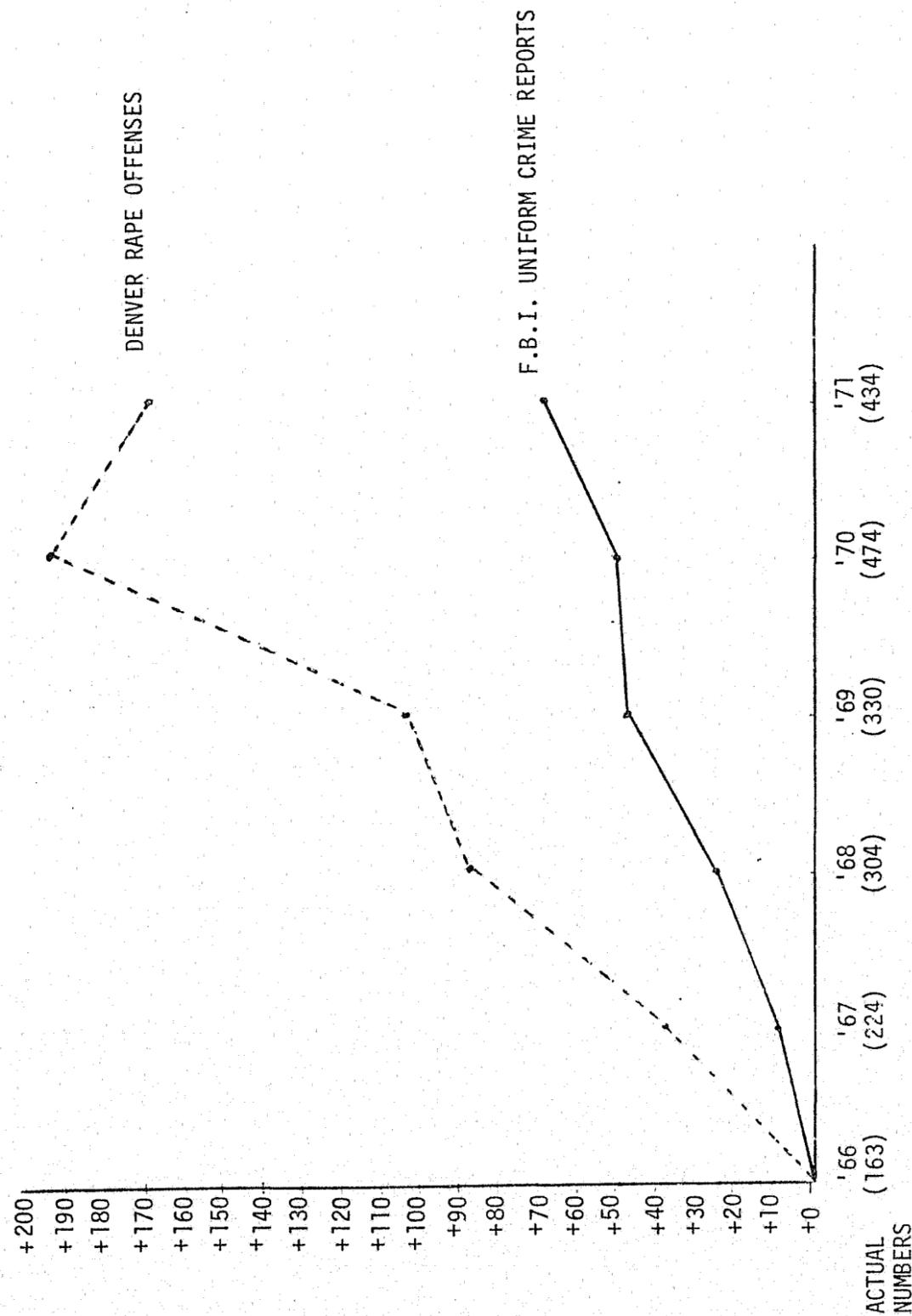


FIGURE I
 FORCIBLE RAPE 1966-1971
 DENVER AND F.B.I. NATIONAL CRIME REPORTS
 PERCENT CHANGE OVER 1966

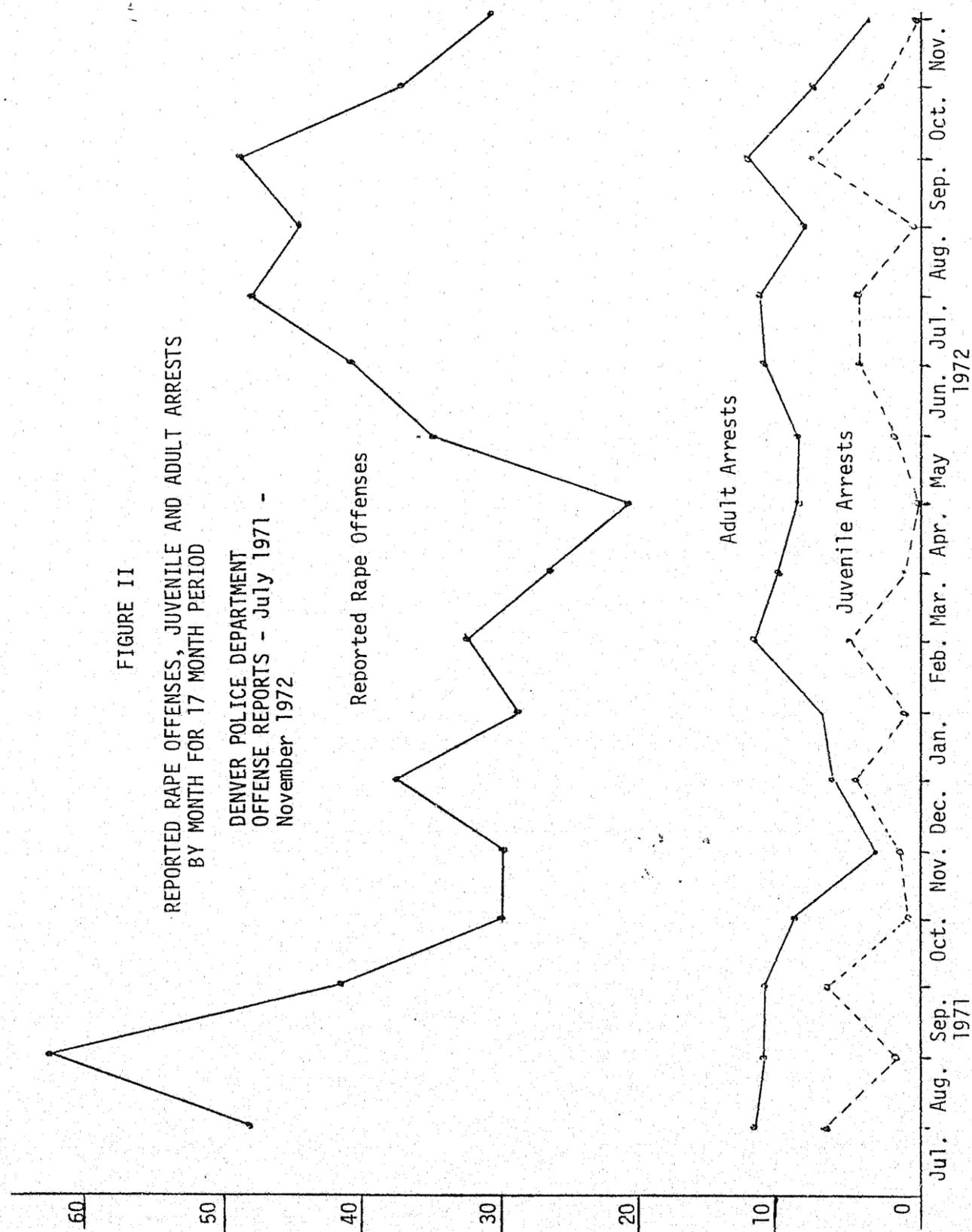
Figure II illustrates the frequencies of rape by month for the period July 1971 through November 1972 for Denver or nationally. Also included are frequencies of adult and juvenile arrests for rape during the same period. As Figure II shows, rape offenses tend to increase during the summer months and average about 35 reported rape offenses per month generally.

Rape arrests for juveniles and adults in Denver average about 15 per month with adults accounting for approximately 10-12 of that total.

Considering 1971 data, Denver's rape rate was third highest of all large cities, only behind Jacksonville, Florida and Los Angeles. Denver's rate ranked first among the eight cities in the LEAA Impact City Program.*

Of course, there is some question regarding the reporting procedures across law enforcement agencies, and in fact many police departments may "weed out" a greater percentage of reported rapes than does Denver.

* The other seven Impact Cities are Dallas, Cleveland, Baltimore, Newark, Atlanta, St. Louis and Portland.



However, it is important to reiterate that the actual number of rape offenses is estimated to be 3 to 5 times greater than the reported cases. Regardless of reported vs. actual offenses, or Denver's rate vs. other cities rates, rape is a serious and growing problem in the city.

Data from 1971 from Denver Police Department Offense Reports (See Figures 3, 4, 5) indicates that reported rape accounted for 1.2% of all part one index crimes and 2.2% of the target, stranger-to-stranger, Impact crimes*. Considering just person-to-person violent crimes,** rape accounted for 10.5% of that total.

FIGURE III. PERCENT OF RAPE OFFENSES IN RELATION TO ALL INDEX CRIMES

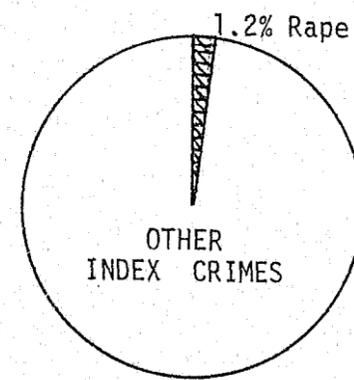
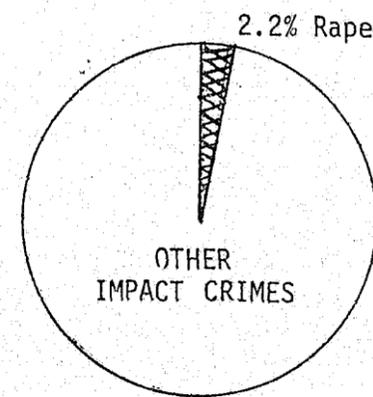


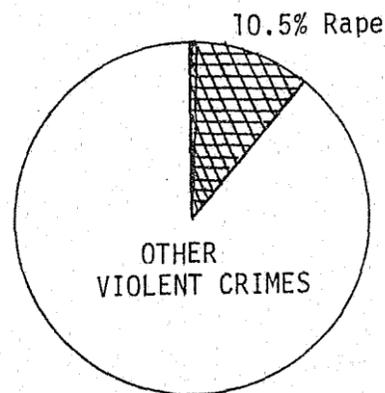
FIGURE IV. PERCENT OF RAPE OFFENSES IN RELATION TO ALL IMPACT STRANGER-TO-STRANGER CRIMES



* These crimes include murder, robbery, rape, assault and burglary
 ** Violent crimes include all the Impact Crimes except burglary

FIGURE V.

PERCENT OF RAPE OFFENSES IN RELATION TO ALL PERSON-TO-PERSON, VIOLENT CRIMES



From a review of rape cases during a two year period, other Impact crimes were found to be associated with rape offenses (see below). These included aggravated and simple assault in about 25% of the reported cases; burglary was reported in about 12% of the offenses, and robbery was associated with 3% of the reported cases.

A STUDY OF 962 RAPE OFFENSES

The Denver Crime Analysis Team compiled rape offense data from the Police Department files on 962 reported rapes during a two year period, from July 1, 1970 to June 30, 1972. Offense reports were reviewed, data was recorded, and a continuing analysis is being conducted to determine the nature of the rape problem in Denver. Some of the more significant data findings to date are noted below:

1. About 78% of the rape victims studied were single, divorced, widowed, or under 15 years old and unmarried. Only 22% were married at the time of the offense. (See Figure VI)
2. Approximately 60% of the reported rape offenses occurred in a residential dwelling, including homes and apartments.

FIGURE VI

MARITAL STATUS OF 962 RAPE VICTIMS JULY, 1970 - JUNE, 1972

MARITAL STATUS	PERCENT
NOT MARRIED (15 years or younger)	18%
MARRIED	22%
SINGLE (over 15 years)	56%
DIVORCED	3%
WIDOW	1%

Source: Denver Police Department

FIGURE VII

VICTIM/SUSPECT RELATIONSHIP OF RAPE CASES JULY, 1970-JUNE, 1972

RELATIONSHIP	PERCENT
NOT REPORTED	4%
STRANGER-TO-STRANGER	64%
CASUAL ACQUAINTANCE	14%
WELL KNOWN TO EACH OTHER	15%
RELATED	3%

Source: Denver Police Department

Of those taking place in these areas, the majority took place in a bedroom while the victim was sleeping or performing routine activities. Entry was generally gained by forcing a door or window or by using existing openings in the dwelling.

3. Of those 30% of the offenses that took place in a public area, the majority occurred in an automobile on the street; 10% of the rapes were reported near a residential dwelling, with the majority occurring in a yard or alley-way. Over 80% of the offenses involved only one suspect.
4. Only 2.8% of the reported cases involved hitchhiking, as reported by the victim. However, another 25% of the victims were walking in a residential or business area, and 10% were either driving or riding in an automobile prior to the offense.
5. About 65% of the reported rapes were considered to be stranger-to-stranger; that is, where the suspect was unknown to the victim. Another 14% of the offenses involved a casual relationship, and in 15% of the cases the victim and the offender were well known to each other. (See Figure VII) When the victim and suspect were acquainted they were generally involved in a social activity prior to the offense.
6. In many cases the victim responded to the suspect's request for information or aid. In 26.1% of the cases

the victim reported that the suspect appeared to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time of the offense. The first indication that the victim had that the offense was about to occur was a physical blow or grabbing. The suspect also gave verbal or non-verbal instructions.

7. In approximately 44% of the cases the victim did not resist or was unable to resist. Of those who did resist the majority offered some type of physical resistance, and a slightly smaller number resisted verbally. Only about 0.7% of the victims escaped from the scene.
8. Approximately 34% of the rape attempts were interrupted prior to the completion of the offense. Of those cases, the victim either cried out, physically resisted, or verbally refused to cooperate.
9. In about 60% of the reported offenses no injury was sustained by the victim. For those victims who did suffer injuries the majority were the result of beatings or shakings by the suspect. It is interesting to note that there were no injuries as the result of gun shots. The majority of those victims who were injured received minor bruises, contusions or abrasions.
10. In the majority of cases, the victim's immediate response following the offense was to notify a friend or relative. A smaller number sought aid from a stranger or notified police. When the

police were notified, it was generally within one to twelve hours after the offense. However, about 12% of the cases were reported to the police anywhere from 2 days to 3 months after the offense.

11. When the offense was reported to the police approximately 20% of the victims were reported to be under the influence of alcohol, or drugs. Another 2.2% of the victims were psychologically disturbed or handicapped.
12. In about 15% of the reported rape offenses some money was stolen from the victim, and 2% involved stealing of other property.
13. The police disposition of the rape offenses indicated that 10% of the cases were unfounded. About 47% of the cases were inactive and not cleared, and 26% were exceptionally cleared. Approximately 17% were cleared by adult or juvenile arrest. The most typical reason for the police disposition was a lack of suspect identification. In another 20% of the cases the victim refused to cooperate or prosecute.
14. The average length of time from offense to arrest was from one to four days. Very few additional offenses, such as burglaries or robberies were cleared by these arrests, and very little stolen property was recovered as a result of arrests.

B. SETTING

Figure VIII illustrates the 20 highest police precincts in terms of rape offenses throughout the City of Denver for the period July, 1971 through June, 1972. These same precincts are listed in Figure IX and the number of reported rapes are illustrated for each police area.

As these data show, Precinct 204 ranked first with 24 reported rapes during the one year period. Precincts 304 and 406 are ranked second with 20 reported rapes during the one year period. Precinct 302 is fourth with 19 reported rapes.

In terms of relative rankings, the Capitol Hill area of Denver appears to have the highest number of reported rapes, while the upper Park Hill, and northern downtown areas also report high incidence rates. The Westwood and MarLee neighborhoods in Southwest Denver also report a greater number of rape offenses. The Jefferson Park area in the near west part of the city had a high rate, as did the University Park area in south Denver.

Figure X illustrates the incidence of rape during a one year period per 1000 population, and per precinct acre. This illustration is intended to show the density of rape offenses. As can be noted from Figure X, the concentration of rape cases is located around the downtown area. There is a great amount of overlap between the highest per

Much of the area is mixed neighborhoods that include the full range of urban activities in one of the oldest sections of the city. Extensive office and multi-family residential construction activity is adjacent to the Central Business District.

The area is generally Anglo, especially the area south of Colfax Avenue. Young adults make up the largest majority of the population. The proportion of elderly persons is also very high. Infants and school age children are relatively scarce.

Since this area of the city has the largest concentration of single adult females and is in close proximity to downtown with many students, and nurses and secretaries living in the area, it is a prime target for the rape offender.

RAPE SETTING - NEAR NORTHEAST COMMUNITY

This area is made up of the neighborhoods of Five Points, Cole and Clayton. This area is generally Denver's most deteriorated residential area. It shares one of the oldest sections of the city with a full range of other urban activities. There has been some moderate construction, but it is mostly commercial and industrial. Blight is expansive throughout the mixed single and multi-family residential area.

The area is racially mixed; Chicanos and Blacks make up the largest percentage of the population. Middle aged and school age children make up the largest age categories. Less than half of the residents have lived in the same home for more than five years.

The median educational level is and has been, one of the lowest in the city, and the unemployment rate remains one of the highest - close to 12% in 1970. The median family income is the lowest in Denver.

The rape rate in this area is only slightly lower than the Capitol Hill area, and the unsettled condition of the neighborhoods probably contribute to the high rape incidence.

RAPE SETTING - SPEER COMMUNITY

This area is made up of the parts of four census tracts called Speer neighborhood. This is a residential section of multi-family homes initially developed prior to 1940. Recently, however, there has been some extensive construction of apartment units. Some blight and deterioration has occurred in the southern portion of the area.

By far, the largest age category is young adults, which doubled from 1960 to 1970. Other age categories have been decreasing with the exception of the elderly. Seventy percent of all the residents have not lived in the same home in the Speer neighborhood for five years or more.

As was the case in the Capitol Hill area, there is a large concentration of single adult females, making this a rape-prone neighborhood.

RAPE SETTING - NEAR WEST DENVER

This area is made up of the neighborhoods of Jefferson Park and

Highland. This area is mixed single and multi-family residential areas developed prior to 1940. Moderate recent construction activity is primarily industrial and commercial. Some blight and deterioration is occurring throughout the area.

The area is predominantly Anglo, with Chicanos making up almost 50% of the population. The majority of the residents are young adults. Small children represent a disproportionately large number for this size geographical area. The educational achievement and employment are both far below the average for the city.

RAPE SETTING - NORTH PARK HILL COMMUNITY

This area is made up of the neighborhoods of North Park Hill and Northeast Park Hill. This is a mixed area that includes a full range of urban activities that developed primarily during the 1950's. Moderate construction activity for industrial and transportation use has been noted. Some deterioration has been seen on the east side of Colorado Boulevard.

The population is largely Black, and school age children are the largest age group. Senior citizens make up a small portion of the population. Families account for nearly 90% of all households. An increasing number of the residents have lived there for 5 or more years. Education and employment are about average for the city.

RAPE SETTING - UNIVERSITY PARK COMMUNITY

This area is made up of the neighborhoods of University Park and

University. This is a stable residential section of single family homes developed prior to 1940, with some multi-family housing being developed during the 1960's.

The area is almost totally Anglo, and young adults make up nearly half the total population. Families constitute 60% of all households but the proportion of persons living in the same home for 5 or more years has been 40%, slightly less than the city average of 44%.

The University of Denver occupies a large portion of the area; and with many single females in and around the campus area, it is a prime target for the rape prone offender.

RAPE SETTING - SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY

This area is made up of the neighborhoods of Westwood and MarLee. This area is generally a stable single family residential neighborhood developed primarily during the 1940's and 1950's. Some blight and deterioration is noted in the Westwood area, while the MarLee neighborhood is in good condition.

The area is predominantly Anglo, and school age children are the largest age group. Mature adults also make up a large percentage of the population. Approximately one-half of the residents have lived in the same home for more than five years.

Educational level is much below the city average, and unemployment is

slightly above the city norm. Median family income is only slightly below the city average. There is a large public housing project in Westwood, which tends to lower the socio-economic indicators for the area.

As can be noted from the above description of seven areas in the city that report high incidents of rape, the crime is not wholly limited to areas of poverty and deterioration. It is an Impact crime that occurs throughout the city, in both high income and low income, good housing and poor housing, residential and non-residential, and Black, Chicano and Anglo neighborhoods. While it most frequently occurs where there are large concentrations of single females, it also takes place in family-type neighborhoods. The fact remains, however, that the rape problem in Denver is serious and remains at high levels in these areas.

C. THE RAPE OFFENDER

Based on F.B.I. Uniform Crime Reports of 1971, males 17 to 20 years of age made up the largest group of rape offense arrests. Nationally, total arrests for this offense increased 6%, with the arrest of persons under 18 years of age up 5% over 1970, more than 64% of all arrests were of males under the age of 25. Arrests for forcible rape in 1971 increased 31% over 1966, while for the same time period, juvenile arrests have increased 42%. The F.B.I. reported that approximately 50% of all males arrested for rape were Black and 48% Anglos.

The Uniform Crime Reports stated that of those arrested for rape in 1971, 70% were prosecuted. Of these, 48% of the cases resulted in acquittals or dismissals. Approximately 35% of the cases resulted in a conviction on the primary charge and 17% on a lesser charge. Additionally, juvenile referrals amounted to 24% of the persons processed on rape charges in 1971.

For the calendar year 1971, 131 offenders were arrested for rape by the Denver Police Department. These arrests cleared 174 of the reported 434 cases. Of those arrested, 82 were held for prosecution on rape or related charges, and 45 were found guilty and sentenced.

Of the 131 suspects arrested for rape in Denver, 29, or 23% were juveniles and 102, or 77% were adults.

Rape arrests for both adults and juveniles represented about 2% of all index crime arrests in the city. Rape arrests accounted for approximately 5% of all Impact crime arrests during the same period.

Data representing the location of arrest of 153 rape suspects during a two year period, from July, 1970 through June, 1972, are illustrated in Figure XI. The area indicated by Figure XI includes approximately 81% of all rape arrests in the city for the two year period. The majority of arrested rape suspects appear to reside in the lower

downtown, Park Hill, and Capitol Hill areas of the city. These data compare favorably with the rape incidence data in Figure III.

Police Precincts 211 and 217 report the highest number of arrests, 17 each during the two year period. Precincts 210, 216, 203 and 204 have the next highest numbers of arrested suspects; they had 14, 13, 10 and 9 suspects respectively. Thus, it appears that Police District Two in northeast Denver has the largest percent of arrested rape suspects.

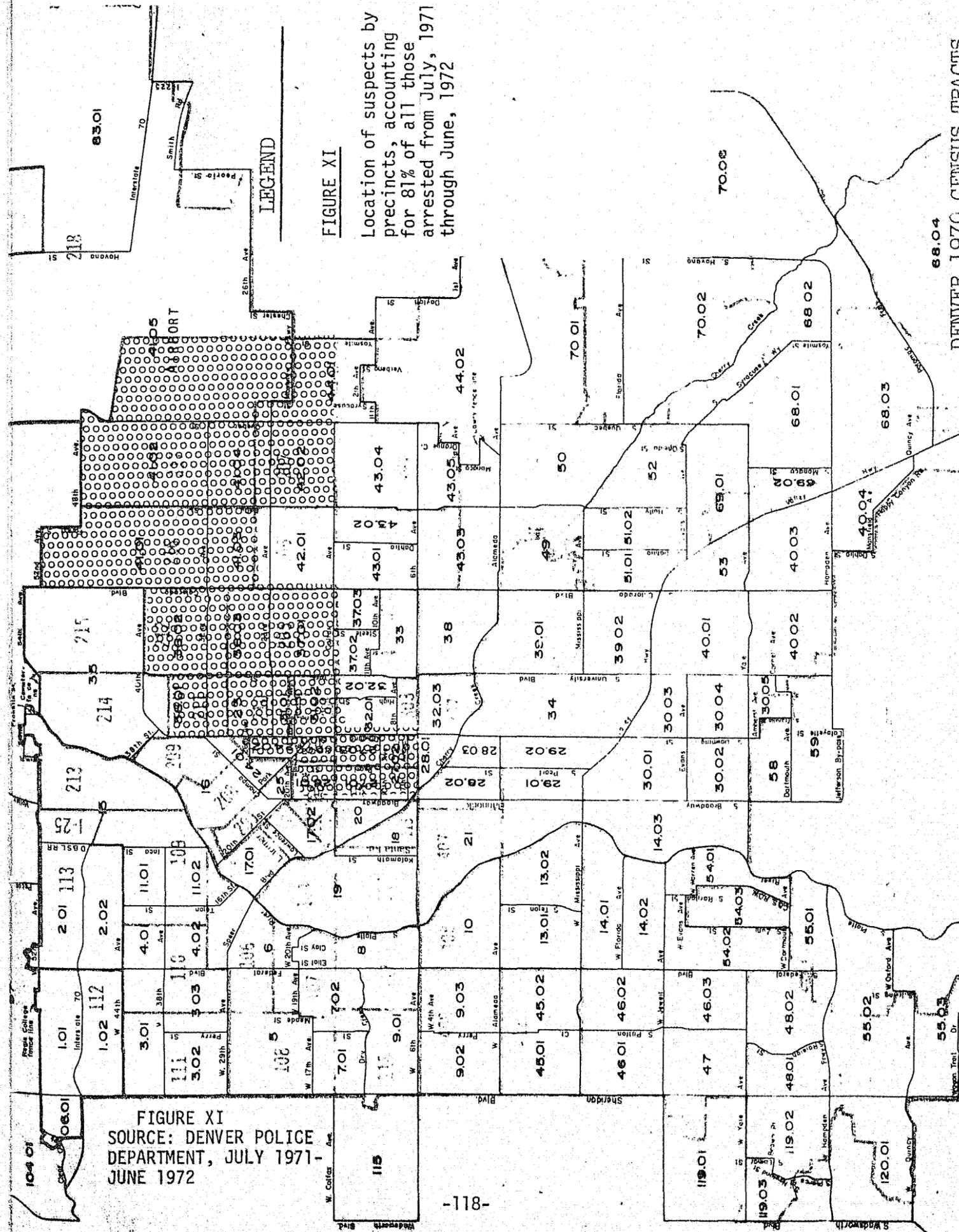
THE JUVENILE OFFENDER *

Even though there were 29 juveniles arrested for rape in 1971, data from a comparable time period (July, 1971 through June, 1972) indicate that there were only 12 referrals to Denver Juvenile Court for this offense. It appears that forcible rape is not a serious juvenile problem in Denver, at least in relation to Juvenile Court referrals.

Of these 12 referrals to Denver Juvenile Court for rape, 4 were Chicano and 8 were Black. Two of the 12 offenders had nine or more prior referrals, while the average juvenile rape offender had at least four prior referrals.

The average age of the juvenile rape offender was 16 years, however, one of the 12 referrals was only 13 years old at the time of his court action. A few of these offenders were attending school full-time at the time of their arrest, however, 7 of the 12 referrals

* Denver Juvenile Court Intake Data for July 1971-June 1972.



were either out of school or working.

Another significant finding from the juvenile court records indicates that 8 out of the 12 referrals had divorced parents, and all of these were living only with the mother or with a stepfather.

THE ADULT OFFENDER*

In 1971 there were 12 rape offenders on probation in the Denver District Court Probation Department. Approximately 50% of these cases were either for accessory or conspiracy charges related to rape; 1970 also reflects this finding. The age grouping for a majority of these offenders was 25 and younger, however, a few of the cases involved offenders in the 46-50 age group. Data from the probation department indicated that a similar number of offenders were processed for rape in both 1970 and 1971. The age grouping for offenders in 1971 was generally 30 years and younger.

STATE PENITENTIARY DATA

Of the 564 inmates committed from Denver County to the State Penitentiary, as of July, 1972, 6.4% were sentenced for a rape offense. This percentage represents a total of 36 inmates sentenced for a rape charge.

Of those 36 rape offenders, 4 had a previous conviction for rape, and eleven had a prior arrest for a similar offense. This means that of the rape offenders in the State Penitentiary, about 42% had some

* Denver Probation Department, January 1970-December 1971.

type of prior arrest or conviction for rape or violent sexual assault.

Of those sentenced for rape from Denver County, about 50% were Black, 30% Chicano and 20% Anglo. The average age of all violent sex crime offenders was 30.1 years, while the average age of the non-violent sex crime group was 36.2 years.

Of all new male arrivals at the State Penitentiary during 1971, there were 24 sentences for rape and violent sex crimes. This represented 4.9% of the total sentences for all crime categories. Since many offenders had more than one sentence, each new male arrival in 1971 averaged 1.06 sentences.

While the average sentence for those convicted of rape and other violent sex crimes was 11.6 years to 19.6 years, the average for all offenses was 4.4 to 8.0 years. The racial and ethnic breakdown of sentences shows that Blacks receive sentences ranging from 19.3 to 27.7 years; Chicanos had sentences from 7.0 to 12.0 years and Anglos were sentenced from 10.2 to 17.4 years.

Another interesting note from the State Penitentiary data was that of the four sentences with life maximums, all four were from Denver County. ^{*} Of these four life maximum sentences, there were three sex-related offenses, one for robbery and none for murder.

* There were also 7 life sentences, of which four were from Denver.

IV. FORCIBLE RAPE SUMMARY

The forcible rape problem in Denver has been initially determined and continued analysis is being conducted by the Crime Analysis team. Among the stranger-to-stranger crimes in the city, rape and burglary, for different reasons, tend to be Denver's most serious crime problems. As the data has indicated, rape in Denver occurs four times more frequently per 100,000 female population than the national average, and twice as high as other large core cities. Among the eight Impact Cities, Denver ranks first in its forcible rape rate. Since 1966, the number of forcible rapes reported to the police department has increased approximately 168%.

Police clearance rates suggest the difficulty of dealing effectively with rape. In 1971, out of the 434 reported forcible rapes, 174, or approximately 40% were cleared by arrest. The cleared cases were composed of 102 adult and 29 juvenile arrests, and 82 suspects were held for prosecution. Of those held, 45 were found guilty of the offense charged.

Earlier studies on rape have shown that the manner in which the rape victim is dealt with by the criminal justice system, determines to a substantial degree the incidence of reporting of rape, and also, the resulting outcomes of any proceedings against the offender. The quality of the investigative practices relating to rape offenses can effect the entire judicial process. A failure to secure

* Amir, M., Patterns of Forcible Rape, 1971.
MacDonald, J., Rape: Offenders and Their Victims, 1971.

appropriate evidence from the victim at an initial interview, or to obtain willing cooperation of the victim, can make the resulting legal process a helpless exercise.

As a result of examining the rape problem in Denver, it seems as if there are at least five major areas of concern. These concerns involve the full range of the criminal justice system in the city and community, including police, courts, corrections, education, media, etc.. These problem areas include:

1. The lack of reporting rape offenses by victims.
2. The lack of ability to identify offender.
3. Refusal by victims to prosecute or cooperate.
4. Victim and potential victim understanding of high risk socio/physical settings.
5. Lack of victim awareness of potential offender characteristics.

Rape has been regarded as a crime which is very easy to allege but very difficult to prove. The difficulties of proof can make prosecution difficult if the police cannot solve the problems of investigation, if the victim fails to cooperate, and if coordinated police-prosecution efforts do not become more effective.

Rehabilitation of the offenders and prevention of further rape attempts will not succeed unless well designed treatment programs are implemented as a part of the rehabilitation process.

Failure to meet these challenges can be damaging to the conviction and rehabilitation of a rapist.

SECTION IV

A PROFILE OF

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

I. INTRODUCTION

Aggravated assault is defined as an attempted or actual unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe bodily injury usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or other means likely to produce death or serious bodily harm. It is classified as one of the violent crimes against persons. From a national perspective of the problem, the 1971 Uniform Crime Reports show that the total crimes against persons made up over 6% of the Crime Index offenses in 1971 and comprised 45% of the crimes of violence. For each 100,000 persons in the United States during 1971, there were 177 victims of aggravated assault. Overall, the victim rate for aggravated assault increased 8% over 1970, and 49% over 1966.

The 1971 Uniform Crime Reports indicate that most aggravated assaults occur within the family unit, among neighbors or acquaintances. The victim-offender relationship, as well as the very nature of the attack, makes this crime similar to murder. In 1971, 25% of the serious assaults were committed with the use of a firearm. A knife or other cutting instrument was used in 27% of the assaults; 24% were committed with blunt objects or other dangerous weapons, and 24% with personal weapons, such as hands, fists and feet.

Nationally, aggravated assault arrests for 1971 increased 70% over 1960 and

25% since 1966. Since 1966 arrests of persons 18 years of age and over for aggravated assault have increased 23% and arrests of persons under 18 years of age for this offense have increased 35%. As a group, persons 21 years of age and over accounted for 69% of the arrests for aggravated assault in 1971 and those under age 21 accounted for 31%. Arrested males outnumbered females by about 7 to 1.

In 1971, aggravated assault was being reported every 86 seconds for the nation as a whole. The Uniform Crime Reports indicate that for 1971, 71% of all persons arrested were repeaters. Nationally, law enforcement agencies have difficulty in obtaining convictions based on original charge in the aggravated assault category. The close family or other relationship, which exists between victims and assailants in this category, accounts for the victim's frequent unwillingness to testify for the prosecution. Acquittals and dismissals, therefore, continue to run high: four out of every ten cases. Out of every 100 adults arrested for aggravated assault in 1971, 71 were prosecuted.

II. LEGAL DEFINITION

According to the Colorado Criminal Code, 40-3-202, a person commits the crime of assault in the first degree (class three felony) if:

- (a) With intent to cause serious bodily injury to another person, he causes serious injury to any person by means of a deadly weapon; or
- (b) With intent to disfigure another person seriously and permanently, or to destroy, amputate, or

disable permanently a member or organ of his body, he causes such an injury to any person; or

- (c) Under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life, he engages in conduct which creates a grave risk of death to another person, and thereby causes serious bodily injury to any person; or
- (d) In the course of and in furtherance of the commission or attempted commission of murder, robbery, arson, burglary, escape in the first degree, kidnapping in the first degree, rape, or the sexual offenses prohibited by sections 40-3-402, 40-3-403 and 40-3-404, or of immediate flight from such crime, he causes serious bodily injury to another person who is not a participant in the commission of the crime; or
- (e) With intent to cause serious bodily injury upon the person of a peace officer or fireman, he threatens with a deadly weapon a peace officer or fireman engaged in the performance of his duties, and the offender knows or reasonably should know that the victim is a peace officer or fireman acting in the performance of his duties.

According to the Colorado Criminal Code, 40-3-203, a person commits the crime of assault in the second degree (class four felony) if:

- (a) With intent to cause serious bodily injury to another person, he does cause such injury to any person; or
- (b) With intent to cause bodily injury to another person, he causes or attempts to cause such injury to any person by means of a deadly weapon; or
- (c) With intent to prevent one whom he knows, or should know, to be a peace officer or fireman from performing a lawful duty, he intentionally causes bodily injury to any person; or
- (d) He recklessly causes serious bodily injury to another person by means of a deadly weapon; or

- (e) For a purpose other than lawful medical or therapeutic treatment, he intentionally causes stupor, unconsciousness, or other physical or mental impairment or injury to another person by administering to him, without his consent, a drug, substance, or preparation capable of producing the intended harm; or
- (f) While lawfully confined, he violently applies physical force against the person of a peace officer or fireman engaged in the performance of his duties.

III. AGGRAVATED ASSAULT IN AN URBAN ENVIRONMENT

A. INCIDENCE - VICTIM

According to statistics from the Denver Police Department, aggravated assault has reached quite serious proportions in the City and County of Denver. The percentage of increase for offenses from 1966 to 1971 has been 184% per 100,000 population, as compared to 57% for the nation as a whole. The following is a percentage breakdown of increases in aggravated assault offenses between 1966 and 1971 for Denver:

TABLE I AGGRAVATED ASSAULT (DENVER)

TIME PERIOD	INCREASE
1966-1967	10.8%
1967-1968	50.2%
1968-1969	26.8%
1969-1970	10.7%
1970-1971	21.7%

In 1971 there were 2,050 total aggravated assault offenses reported or known to the police in Denver. None of these offenses were committed through use of hands, fists, feet, etc. Instead, 892 were committed

with a gun; 623 involved a knife or cutting instrument; 535 included other dangerous weapons.

The following is a breakdown of aggravated assault arrest cases for July, 1971 through June, 1972:

TABLE II ARREST CASES BY MONTH

July 1971	199	January 1972	75
August 1971	114	February 1972	73
September 1971	121	March 1972	102
October 1971	66	April 1972	102
November 1971	94	May 1972	96
December 1971	137	June 1972	136

The above table clearly shows summer months as experiencing the greatest frequency of aggravated assault arrests. Spring months are second highest with fall and winter months being the lowest.

Aggravated assault is more often an adult crime than a juvenile one, as indicated by 1971 Denver Police Department statistics; however, it does constitute a significant percentage of all serious Denver Juvenile Court referrals made. A sample of 1,982 juvenile referrals based on assault, burglary, auto theft/joyriding, and robbery from July, 1971 to June 1972 shows that assault comprises 19.3% of these specific crime related referrals. This sample amounts to 37.5% of the total 5,295 referrals made to Denver Juvenile Court for the given time frame. When the total is perused, alleged assault embraces 7.16% of all referrals. The following charts illustrate these analyses:

The incidence of aggravated assault for 1971 (2,050) as indicated by Denver Police Department statistics was 4.8% of the total Index Crimes committed for the same year. The following table illustrates the percentage breakdown of occurrences for these crimes with reference to 1970 and 1971 (Denver):

TABLE III
 PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN OF ALL INDEX CRIME INCIDENCES
 DENVER 1970 & 1971
 DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

INDEX CRIMES	1970	1971
MURDER	.3%	.4%
MANSLAUGHTER	.1%	.2%
FORCIBLE RAPE	.8%	1.2%
AGGRAVATED ROBBERY	3.2%	4.9%
SIMPLE ROBBERY	2.8%	1.8%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	3.8%	4.8%
BURGLARY	40.3%	41.4%
GRAND LARCENY	26.3%	27.8%
AUTO THEFT	21.8%	17.8%

When the occurrence of aggravated assault is viewed in relation to all High Impact Crimes, the following is shown:

TABLE IV PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN OF ALL HIGH IMPACT CRIMES
 DENVER 1970 and 1971
 DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

HIGH IMPACT CRIMES	1970	1971
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	8.0%	9.3%
FORCIBLE RAPE	1.7%	2.2%
AGGRAVATED ROBBERY	6.7%	9.3%
BURGLARY	83.7%	79.2%

When aggravated assault is viewed solely in relationship to violent crimes, it comprises a major portion of such crimes being committed.

The following table illustrates its contribution to violent crimes:

TABLE V
 PERCENTAGE BREAKDOWN OF ALL VIOLENT CRIMES
 DENVER 1970 and 1971
 DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

VIOLENT CRIMES	1970	1971
MURDER	3.1%	3.4%
RAPE	10.1%	10.5%
AGGRAVATED ROBBERY	39.5%	43.2%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	47.3%	42.9%

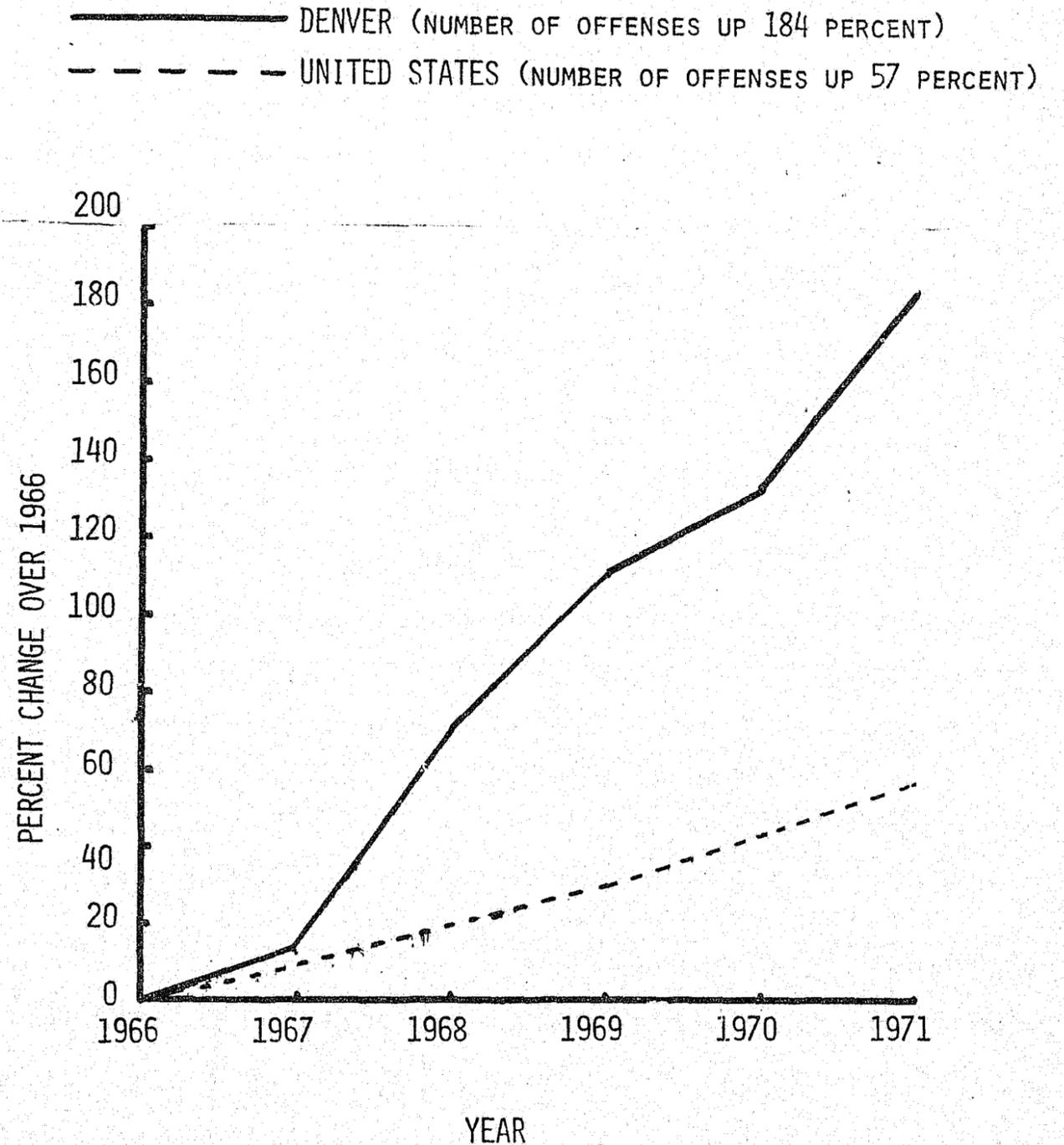
It should be noted that 8.8% of the rape offenses involved aggravated assault; 14.8% involved simple assault.

Statistics on police arrest clearances indicate that the Denver Police Department was successful in 69 of each 100 cases in 1971, as compared with 66 of every 100 in 1970. Such clearance rates are consistent with the rates of law enforcement agencies throughout the country as a whole. American law enforcement agencies were successful in 66 of every 100 cases in 1971 as compared with 65 of every 100 cases in 1970.

The graph on the following page depicts the overall seriousness of aggravated assault in Denver as compared to the United States as a whole. It is a reflection of the aforementioned statistics and data showing Denver's increase in aggravated assault offenses.

GRAPH I

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
 1966-1971
 PERCENT CHANGE OVER 1966



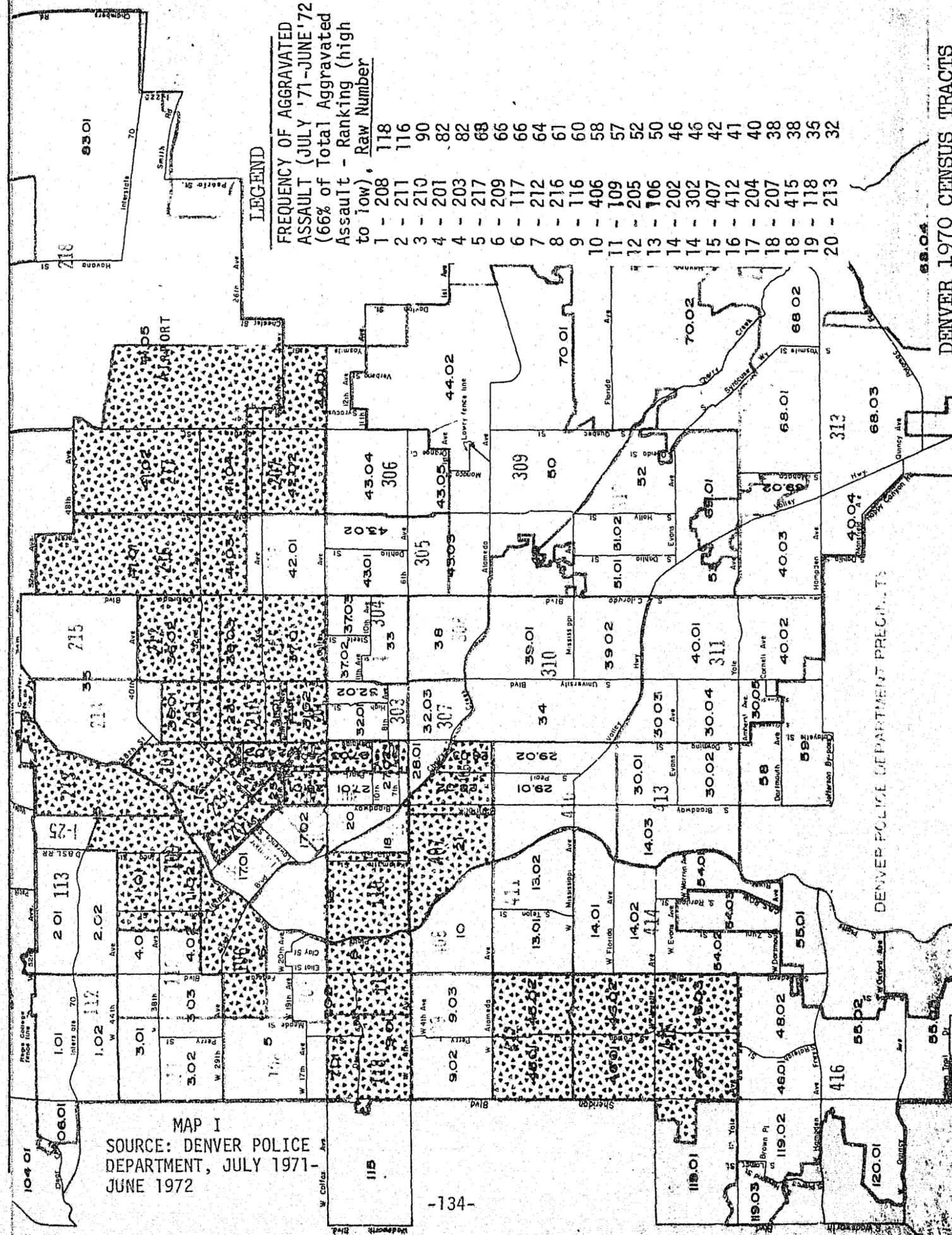
Source: Denver Police Department

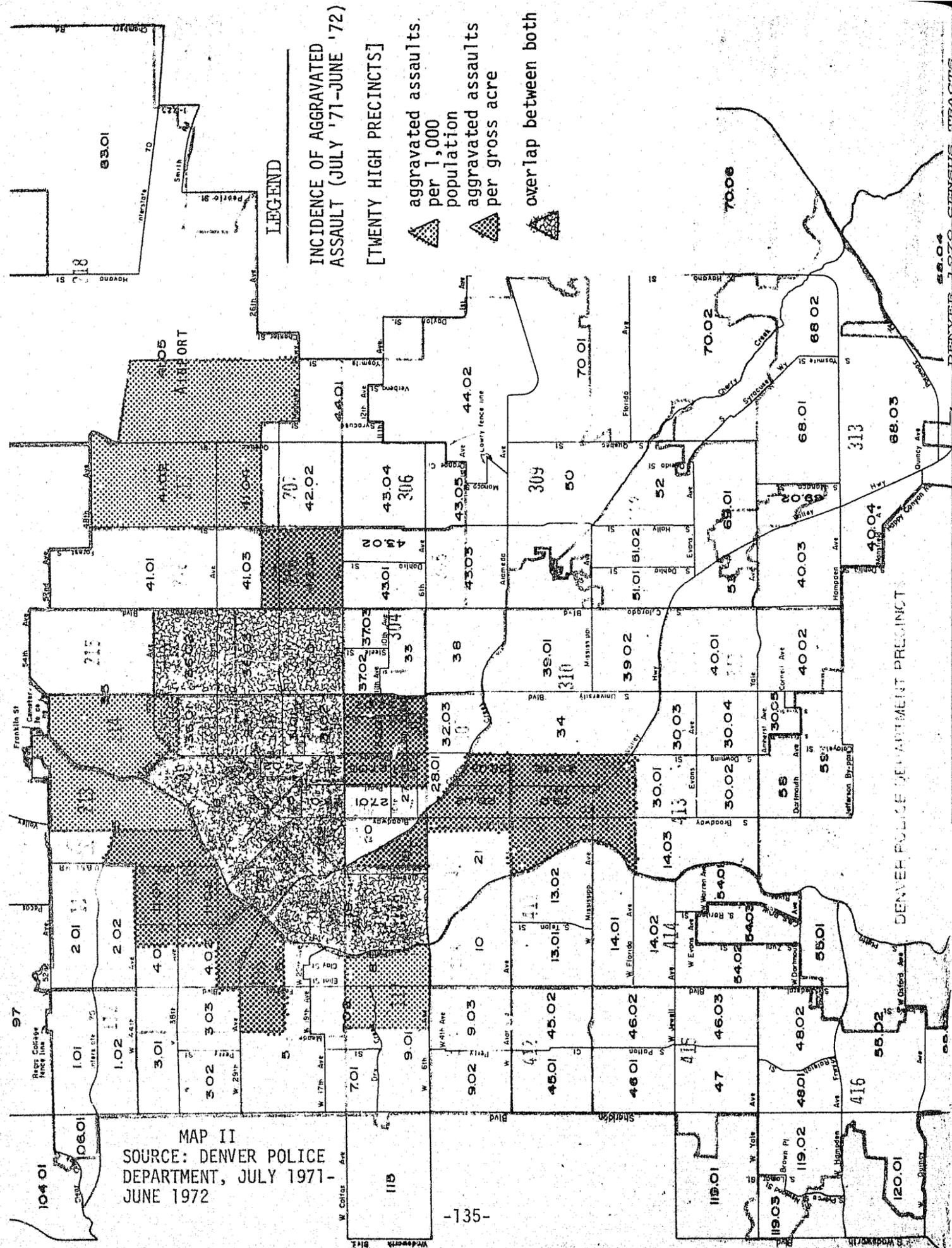
B. THE SETTING FOR AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

The great preponderance of aggravated assault offenses being reported or known to the Denver Police Department are found in northeast Denver. The maps on the following pages illustrate the twenty highest precincts for the incidence of reported aggravated assault per 1,000 population, per acre, and by frequency. Data contained in both maps is based on July 1971 through June 1972 police statistics.

The incidence maps show that every precinct in the City of Denver experienced victimization to some extent. In essence, no area of the City is immune to this violent offense against persons, but some areas are considerably more vulnerable than others.

It is also apparent that the high assault areas illustrated are inflicted with multi-socio-economic decay. This relates to high population density, overcrowding, low family income, service and clerically oriented workers with few professionals, high truancy and school dropout rates, etc. In addition, these areas have high youth populations in comparison to the city mean. The ethnic composition of residents in those high assault areas consists mainly of Black and Chicano ethnic populations.





MAP II
SOURCE: DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT, JULY 1971-JUNE 1972

The following table relates primarily to the northeast section of Denver, showing the highest aggravated assault precincts.

TABLE VI
HIGHEST AGGRAVATED ASSAULT FREQUENCY BY 1,000 POPULATION AND ACRES (RANKING HIGH TO LOW)

PRECINCT	PER 1,000 POP. AND ACRES
105, 208	1
102, 201	2
208, 101	3
201, 102, 203	4
101, 211, 202	5
209, 103, 210	6
103, 302	7
203, 106, 117, 406	8
211, 209	9
104, 212	10
210, 204	11
116, 109	12
202, 116	13
117, 105	14
205, 303	15
212, 205	16
214, 114	17
213, 206, 115	18
204, 410	19
213, 104	20

Four neighborhoods will be isolated for further analysis. These areas, not in order of seriousness are: Five Points, Cole, Skyland, and Clayton.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT SETTING-FIVE POINTS COMMUNITY

Five Points is one of the largest neighborhoods in Denver, both in total acreage (1,123) and population (13,057). The neighborhood is a part of Police District 2, Precincts 201, 202, 203, 208, and 209. It is broken down into four separate Census Tracts: 16.00, 24.01, 24.02, and 25.00.

The neighborhood is ethnically mixed as shown in the following breakdown: Chicanos comprise slightly more than two-fifths, Blacks represent almost two-fifths of the total population, Anglos constitute one-seventh of the population, and other ethnic groups account for nearly five percent of the total since 1960.

Middle-aged individuals and school-age children constitute the largest age categories. Compared to the Denver norm there is a disproportionately large number of infants, school children, and elderly people.

The median educational level is, and has been, one of the lowest in the city: only slightly above an elementary school level. A relatively large percentage of the adult population has no formal schooling; one-eighth of the City's adult population with no formal education resides here. The unemployment rate remains highest in the city, nearly 12%. Median family income is the lowest in the city, only two-fifths of the city average. More than half of all families had incomes below the \$4,000 per year poverty level in 1970.

In terms of housing units, the housing structures have been declining at a rapid rate. Small apartments have replaced single family homes since 1960 as the dominant type of housing unit. In both 1970 and 1971, nearly one-seventh of the housing units lacking plumbing were concentrated in this area of the city. The number of overcrowded units is more than twice the city average. Also, more than half the housing units continue to have no automobiles available to their residents.

Renter-occupied units are, and have been, predominant, accounting for more than three-fourths of all units throughout the 1960's.

The overall condition of Five Points is blighted and considered to be in the poorest condition of all neighborhoods. Major problems are indicated by virtually all physical, social, and economic conditions measured in the neighborhood.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT SETTING - COLE COMMUNITY

Cole is one of the smallest neighborhoods in total area (339 acres), and relatively small in total population (5,418). The neighborhood is a part of Police District 2, Precinct 211. The area is classified as Census Tract 36.01. Ethnically, the area is predominantly Black with 49.8%; Chicanos comprise the second highest ethnic percentage with 37.8%; Anglos are 10.5%; and other ethnic groups comprise 1.8%.

School-aged children form the largest age group, and infants also have a larger than average share of the total population. More than three-fourths of all households are families. Resident tenure has remained stable, with slightly more than half the population having lived in the same house over five years.

The adult median educational level is barely two years of high school which is much below average for the city. A very low proportion have attended college, and a very high proportion, relative to the city norm, have no schooling.

The unemployment rate is, and has been, higher than normal for the city, although the number of unemployed persons declined by more than half between 1960 and 1970. The median family income level is low compared to the city norm; 24.7% of all families residing in the neighborhood have incomes below the poverty level.

Overcrowding is problematical for this neighborhood relative to others in the city. Specifically, 11.1% of all occupied housing units are overcrowded in comparison to the city mean of 10.4%.

The lack of automobiles is also problematical with over one-third of the households not having a car. It should further be noted that 28.1% of the total residents are receiving some type of public welfare assistance. Of this total, 44.8% consist of families receiving Aid to Dependent Children.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT SETTING - SKYLAND COMMUNITY

Skyland is also one of Denver's smallest neighborhoods in terms of both total land area (489 acres) and population (4,519). The neighborhood is part of Police District 2, Precinct 205. It is classified as Census Tract 36.03. Ethnically, 88.2% of the total population are Black; Chicanos comprise 5.4%; Anglos consist of 3.4%; and other ethnic groups represent 3.0% of the total.

Middle-aged persons constitute the largest single age category, followed closely by school age children. Families account

for more than four-fifths of all households and residential stability is relatively typical compared to the rest of the city.

The median education level is, and has been, close to the average for the entire city : slightly beyond a high school education. A small percentage of adults have attended college.

Unemployment is low but is considerably higher than overall unemployment for the city. More than 13% of all families were below the \$3,754 poverty level in 1970. Of the total persons residing in the neighborhood, 13.9% are receiving some type of public welfare assistance; 24.6% of this total are receiving Aid to Dependent Children welfare payments. Owner-occupied homes are predominant in the neighborhood, accounting for nearly two-thirds of all units in both 1960 and 1970.

In summary, the overall condition of Skyland in 1970 was about average for the city, however, potential housing problems are indicated by low rent and low value, older housing and substantial overcrowding. Educational and income levels remain a little less than average for the city as a whole. Unemployment is rising and the welfare recipient rate is high.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT SETTING - CLAYTON COMMUNITY

Clayton is relatively small in area (494 acres) and population (5,112) compared to other study areas. The neighborhood is part of Police District 2, Precinct 208. The area is classified as Census Tract 36.02. The ethnic composition consists mainly of Blacks with 74.8%; Chicanos comprise 13.6%, Anglos 8.1%; and others 3.5% of the total.

School-aged children are the largest age group, and infants are also a larger than average percentage of the total population. Households are larger in size here than in most other study areas. The adult median educational level is somewhat less than high school and slightly below normal for the City.

Unemployment is and has been higher than normal for the City. The number of unemployed persons increased substantially between 1960 and 1970.

The median family income level is low and declined relative to the city median between 1960 and 1970. Clayton neighborhood has 15.3% of its total families with incomes below poverty level (\$3,754). Furthermore, 21.9% of its total residents are receiving some type of public welfare assistance. Out of this total, 33.6% are receiving Aid to Dependent Children welfare assistance.

Almost three-fifths of the homes are owner-occupied, although the number and percent declined slightly between 1960 and 1970. Nearly one-fourth of the households have no automobiles available.

In summary, Clayton was in an endangered condition in 1970, and declining rapidly. Problems related to neighborhood deterioration are indicated by low rent, low property values, much overcrowding, very high family and child welfare, high unemployment, low educational level, and low automobile availability.

C. THE VICTIM

The Crime Analysis Team conducted a study to isolate the percentage of reported stranger-to-stranger aggravated assault offenses from those that constitute other categories. A sample of 60 randomly selected aggravated assault offense reports were extracted from a base total of 3735 aggravated assault offenses either reported or known to the Denver Police Department in 1970 and 1971; this amounts to a 1.61% sample population. The months, years, and respective sample extractions consisted of the following:

TABLE VII MONTHLY CASE BREAKDOWN FOR RANDOM SAMPLE STUDY
1970 1971

MONTH	NUMBER	MONTH	NUMBER
MARCH	10	JANUARY	10
JULY	10	JULY	10
DECEMBER	10	NOVEMBER	10

Research findings based upon the given random sample indicate that in 1970 and 1971 one-fourth of all reported aggravated assault cases were stranger-to-stranger crimes. The overwhelming bulk of such cases were non stranger-to-stranger. The following table provides a great detailed analysis:

TABLE VIII RANDOM SAMPLE STUDY OF 60 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
REPORTED CASES -- 1970 and 1971 (base total: 3,735)

STRANGER-TO-STRANGER	NON-STRANGER-TO-STRANGER	UNKNOWN
CASES: 933 or 25%	1680 or 45%	1120 or 30%

Based on random sampling of the 2050 total aggravated assault cases reported or known to the Denver Police Department for 1971, it can be estimated that 933 such cases were stranger-to-stranger crimes. The following tables consist of separate breakdowns for both 1970 and 1971.

TABLE IX
ESTIMATED STRANGER-TO-STRANGER vs. NON-STRANGER-TO-STRANGER
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT OFFENSES--1971
2050 REPORTED CASES

STRANGER-TO-STRANGER	NON-STRANGER-TO-STRANGER	UNKNOWN
CASES: 512	923	615

TABLE X
ESTIMATED STRANGER-TO-STRANGER vs. NON-STRANGER -TO-STRANGER
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT OFFENSES--1970
1685 REPORTED CASES

STRANGER-TO-STRANGER	NON STRANGER-TO-STRANGER	UNKNOWN
CASES: 421	757	505

Concerning the locations in which such offenses occurred in 1970 and 1971 (based upon the given random sampling of 60), research findings indicate that the greatest preponderance of aggravated assaults were committed on a public street, highway, alley, or residence. A significant percentage occurred in establishments serving alcoholic beverages. Of those offenses which were stranger-to-stranger, an overwhelming percentage occurred on a highway, street, or alley. The following table depicts in greater detail these findings:

TABLE XI
RANDOM SAMPLE STUDY OF 60 AGGRAVATED
ASSAULT REPORTED CASES-- 1970 and 1971
(base total: 3,735)
STRANGER-TO-STRANGER LOCATION

LOCATION	% of total	% of stranger to stranger	% of non stranger to stranger	% unknown	% Total
HIGHWAY, STREET, ALLEY, ETC.	37	52	29	19	100
RESIDENCE	36	15	70	15	100
TAVERN	20	9	36	55	100
MISCELLANEOUS (PARKS, CARS, SCHOOLS, ETC.)	7	0	0	100	100
TOTAL	100				

Based upon the random sample, it is estimated that in 1970 and 1971 slightly more than two thirds of all reported aggravated assault offenses occurred between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. Likewise, slightly more than one-half collectively occurred within the following time frames: 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Specifically these percentages consisted of 70% of the reported aggravated assault offenses being committed from 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.; 28% of such crimes occurred from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.; an estimated 23% of these occurred from 12.00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. these collectively made up 51 percent of all reported aggravated assault offenses committed. The following table should provide a more illustrative analysis of these findings. (See Table next page)

TABLE XII

RANDOM SAMPLE STUDY OF 60 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

REPORTED CASES--1970 and 1971

(Base total: 3,735)

TOTAL CASES	HOURS	JANUARY FREQUENCY	MARCH FREQUENCY	JULY FREQUENCY	NOVEMBER FREQUENCY	DECEMBER FREQUENCY
		10	10	20	10	10
	12.a.m.	1	1	0	1	1
	1	2	1	2	0	0
	2	0	0	1	1	2
	3	0	0	1	0	0
	4	0	0	0	0	2
	5	0	0	0	0	0
	6	0	0	0	0	0
	7	0	0	0	1	0
	8	0	0	0	0	1
	9	0	0	0	0	0
	10	0	0	1	1	0
	11	0	1	0	0	1
	12 p.m.	0	0	2	0	0
	1	0	0	0	0	0
	2	1	0	0	0	0
	3	0	0	1	0	0
	4	1	1	2	0	0
	5	1	0	0	0	0
	6	0	3	2	0	3
	7	0	0	1	1	0
	8	2	0	0	0	0
	9	2	1	2	2	0
	10	0	0	2	2	0
	11	0	2	3	1	0

Source: Denver Police Department

As estimated from the given random sample, almost half of all reported aggravated assaults involved the use of a gun. This estimate correlates well with aforementioned data concerning use of weapons. Both sets of data overwhelmingly show frequent use of guns in reported aggravated assault offenses. The following table provides a greater elaboration of these findings:

TABLE XIII

RANDOM SAMPLE OF 60 AGGRAVATED

ASSAULT REPORTED CASES--1970 and 1971

(base total: 3,735)

DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

WEAPON	RAW NUMBER	% of total
GUN	27	45
KNIFE OR SHARP CUTTING EDGE	13	22
CLUB OR CHAIN	6	10
OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPONS	6	10
HANDS, FISTS, FEET	8	13

Research findings showed the physical condition of reported aggravated assault suspects at the time of offense to be unknown, however, a significant percentage of the suspects were under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Specifically, in 1970 and 1971 an estimated 15 percent of all reported aggravated assault suspects

were under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In approximately 85% of the cases, the suspect's physical condition at the time of offense was unknown. These estimates are based upon the given random sample of 60 aggravated assault cases.

In terms of ethnic and age distribution for known aggravated assault victims the following can be estimated (based upon the given random sampling of 60): (1) Anglos constituted slightly more than half of all known victims of aggravated assaults with Blacks and Chicanos comprising approximately one-fourth each. (2) An overwhelming percentage of known aggravated assault victims were of the 20 to 34 year age group which is fairly consistent for all ethnic groups. A more detailed analysis is provided in the following table:

TABLE XIV
RANDOM SAMPLE STUDY OF 60 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT REPORTED CASES
1970 AND 1971 (BASE TOTAL: 3,735)
ETHNIC/AGE DISTRIBUTION OF VICTIMS
DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

ETHNIC GROUP	% of total	% 16 & under	% 17-19	% 20-24	% 25-34	% 35-44	% 45-54	% 55+	% unknown
ANGLO MALE	42	12	4	20	20	20	0	0	24
ANGLO FEMALE	10	0	17	30	17	17	10	0	9
BLACK MALE	20	0	0	17	33	17	8	0	25
BLACK FEMALE	5	0	0	0	67	0	33	0	0
CHICANO MALE	17	20	20	20	10	20	0	0	10
CHICANA FEMALE	6	0	25	0	50	0	25	0	0

D. THE OFFENDER

The Denver Police Department statistics show a small number of actual persons arrested for aggravated assault. 1971 statistics indicate 687 total persons being arrested for aggravated assault of which most were juveniles; 234 comprised adult arrests and 453 juvenile. A slight decrease is shown in the total number of persons arrested for aggravated assault in 1971 as compared to 1970; the actual difference amounts to -22 arrests.

Some variances exist within such data and these can be attributed largely to the Denver Police Department's method of classifying aggravated assault arrests. Most aggravated assaults involve identification of the offender by the victim and arrests are executed with warrants. The Denver Police Department's Data Processing Bureau categorizes all arrests made on warrants, for which the offense is not specified on the warrant, as "all other offenses." This results in an understatement of the actual numbers of aggravated assault arrests.

Secondly, the actual number of aggravated assault arrests shown and the amount indicated by court referrals, illustrates some minor data discrepancies. This may be due to the fact that some of the raw numbers of aggravated assault arrests reported by the Denver Police Department from July 1971 to June 1972 resulted in reduced charges. During this period of time 420 aggravated assault arrests were made, of which 379 were juvenile court referrals. The low numbers of adult arrests shown in relation to juvenile ones may not reflect the facts due to the problems with police reports previously mentioned. Finally, through further analysis of these findings

the data strongly suggests that the bulk of aggravated assault offenses are not stranger-to-stranger crimes. This takes into consideration the high number of arrests made on warrants and the concomitant assumption that these are based on frequent and easy identification by the victims of the offense. The national trend suggests that aggravated assault occurs more frequently within the family unit or among neighbors and acquaintances; Denver's aggravated assault pattern is similar. This may be especially true in view of the fact that many of Denver's aggravated assault victims refuse to prosecute.

TABLE XV
TOTAL 1,314 PERSONS ARRESTED FOR
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT (JULY, 1971 - JUNE, 1972)

PERSONS FILED ON-DENVER COURTS	RELEASED CASES REFUSED BY D.A.	RELEASED VICTIMS REFUSED TO PRO- SECUTE	RELEASED TO ANOTHER AGENCY
477	208	623	6

Source: Denver Police Department

The above table shows that the majority of all aggravated assault arrestees for July 1971 to June 1972 were released because victims refused to prosecute. Approximately one-third were actually filed on by the Denver District Attorney.

Aggravated assault also involves a large number of juvenile offenders. Of the total referrals to Denver Juvenile Court, simple and aggravated assault remained approximately 20% for all age groups from July 1971 through June 1972. This consistency was unlike robbery, burglary and auto theft/joy riding which fluctuated more in relation to age groupings. The

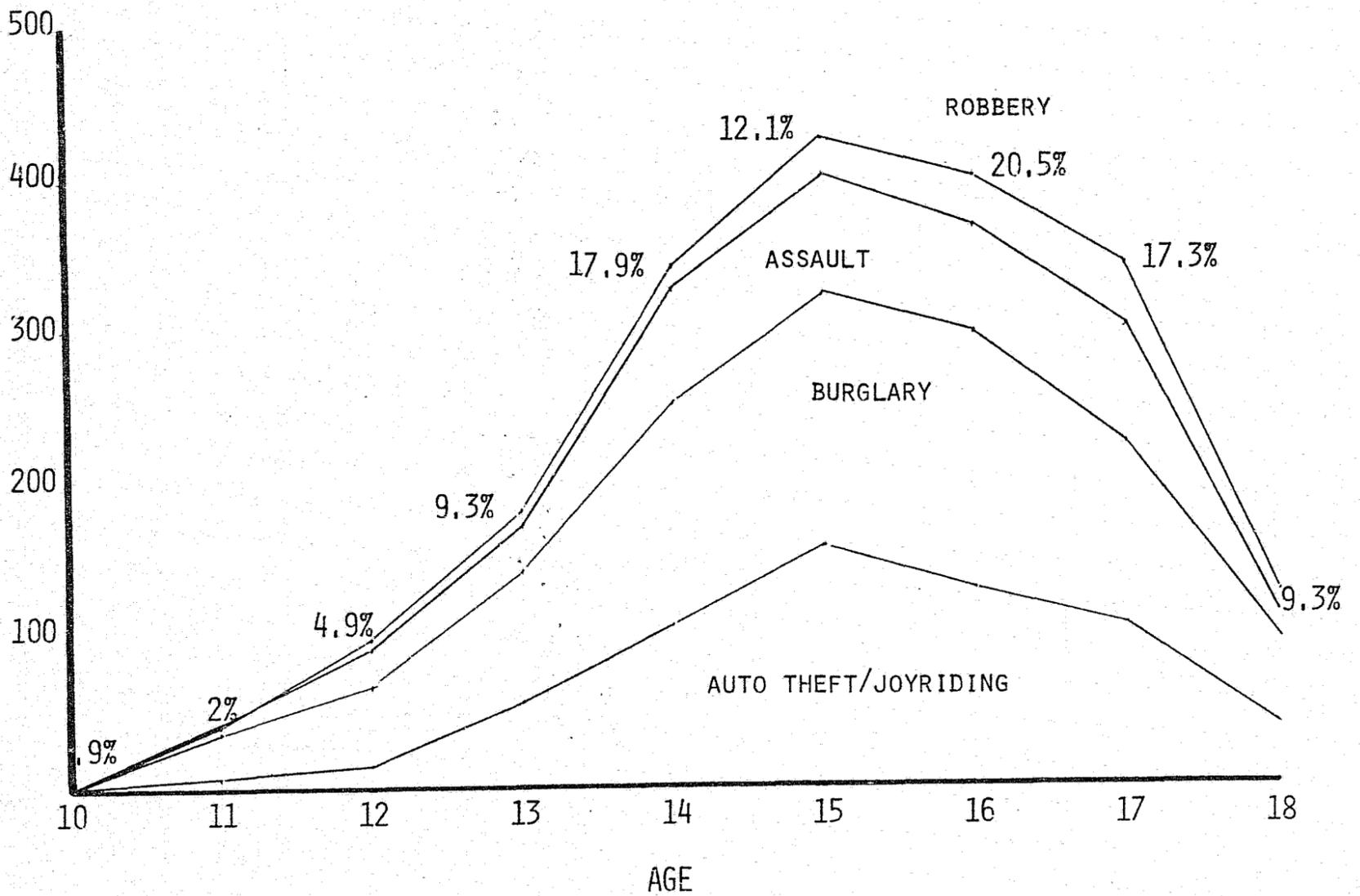
graphs on the following pages illustrate in greater detail such an analysis.

According to Denver Juvenile Court statistics, 291 male assault referrals were made to the court July 1971 through June 1972, 23.4% were comprised of 17 year olds. Females amounted to 88 such referrals for the same time period, 55.6% were 14 and 15 year olds. The following graph and charts illustrate in greater detail the foregoing analysis.

DISTRIBUTION OF FELONY REFERRALS TO DENVER JUVENILE COURT BY FELONY
AND BY AGE--CUMULATIVE PLOT--JULY 1971 THROUGH JUNE 1972

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GRAPH II
REFERRALS
SOURCE: DENVER JUVENILE COURT



PERCENT REFERRALS BY AGE--JUVENILE FELONY REFERRALS
DENVER JUVENILE COURT--JULY 1971 THROUGH JUNE 1972

-152-

GRAPH III
PRECINCT
SOURCE: DENVER JUVENILE COURT

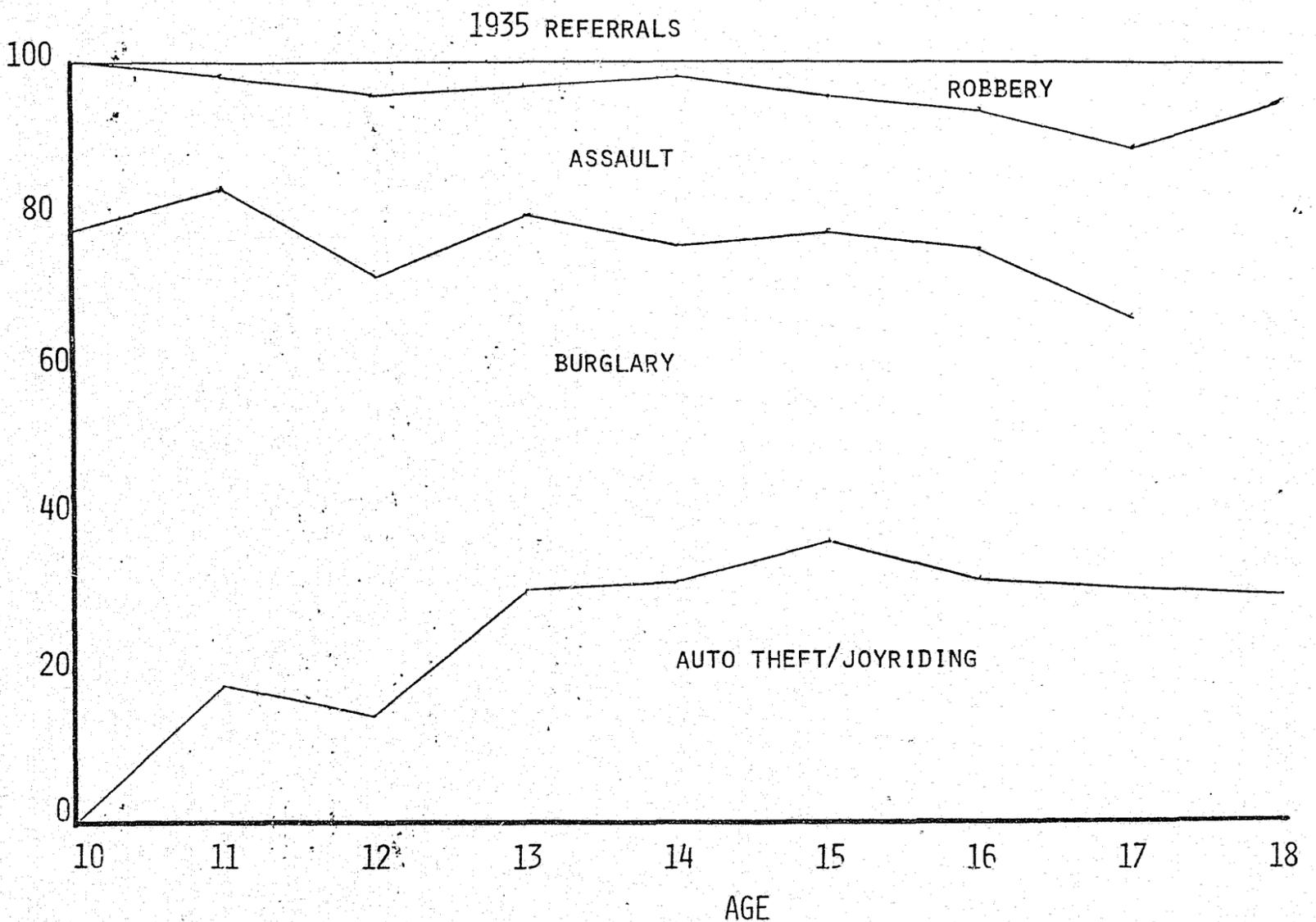


CHART III

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF JUVENILE FEMALE ASSAULT REFERRALS TO DENVER JUVENILE COURT FROM JULY 1971 THROUGH JUNE 1972
88 REFERRALS

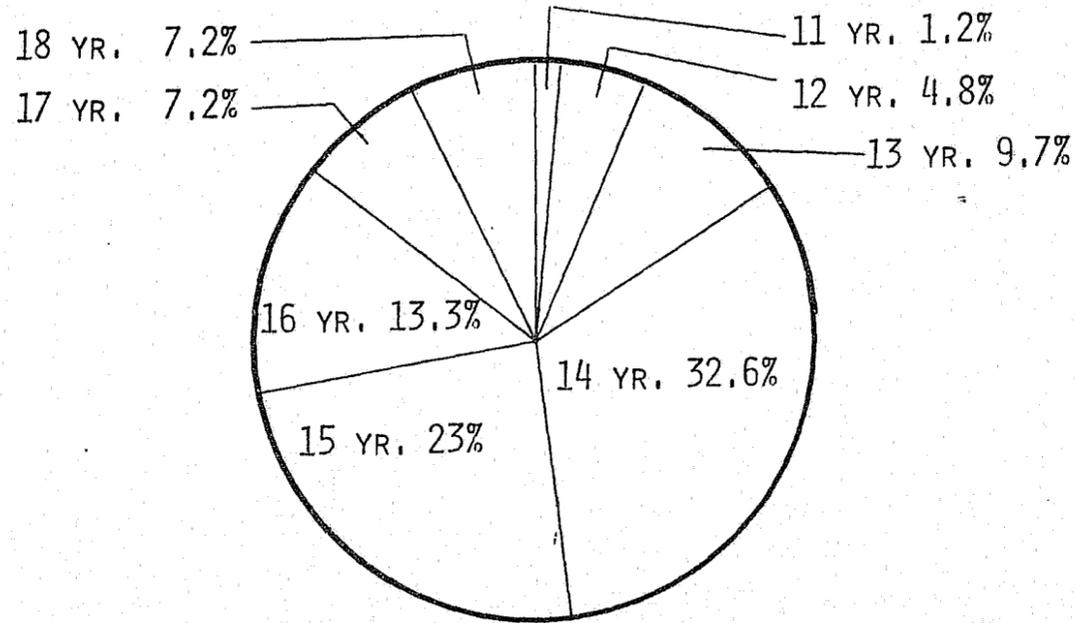
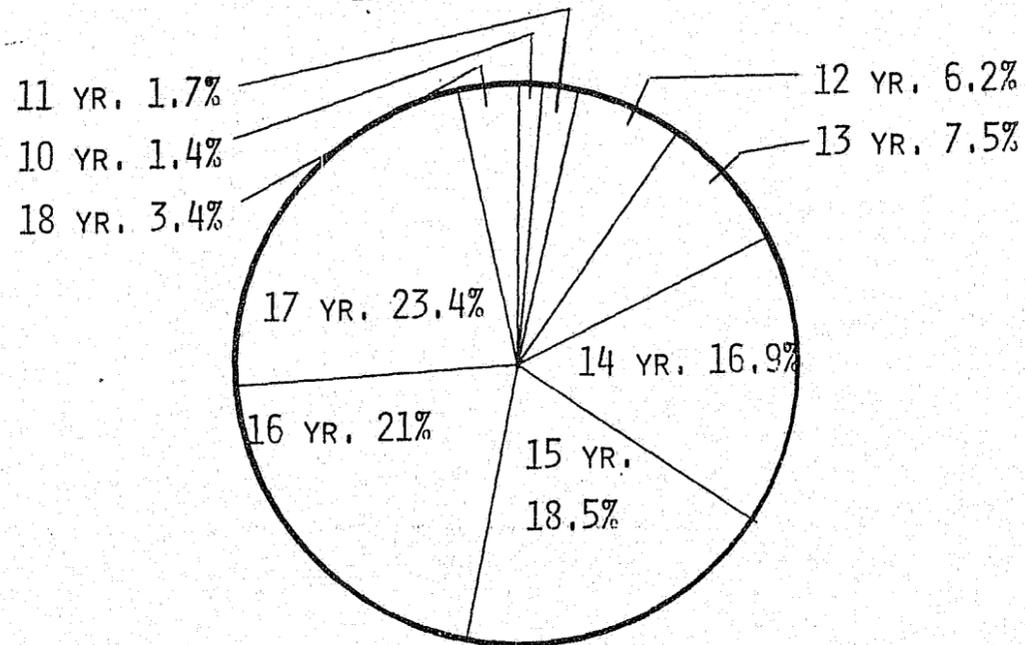


CHART IV

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF JUVENILE MALE ASSAULT REFERRALS TO DENVER JUVENILE COURT FROM JULY 1971 THROUGH JUNE 1972
291 REFERRALS



Source: Denver Juvenile Court

In addition to the previous charts and graphs showing the age distribution for juvenile assault offenders, the Probation Department of the District Court indicates adult male aggravated assault offenders are young in age for both 1970 and 1971; this phenomenon is illustrated below.

TABLE XVI
PROBATION AGE/SEX PROFILE
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT
DENVER PROBATION DEPARTMENT

AGE GROUP	1970		1971	
	M	F	M	F
18-20	9	0	7	1
21-25	14	1	26	1
26-30	15	0	19	2
31-35	8	0	9	0
36-40	3	0	4	1
41-45	1	1	2	2
46-50	2	0	4	0
51-60	0	0	0	0
61-up	0	0	6	1
TOTAL	52	2	77	7

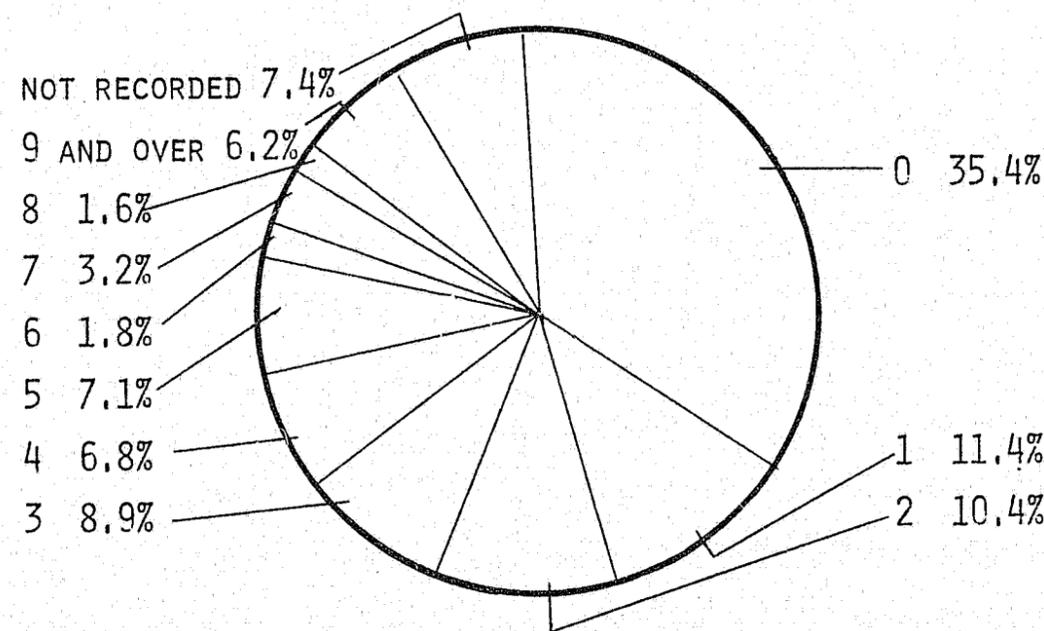
The above table reflects that the greatest percentage increases are in the 21-25 and 61-up age groupings. Specifically the increase was 86% for the 21-25 and 100% for the 61-up age groupings. Even with the latter significant increase in the 61-up age group, it is still evident that adult aggravated assault probationers were young as a group. This is evidenced by the increase in numbers at the younger age of the age continuum.

A significant percentage of juvenile assault referrals made to the Juvenile Court have a history of prior referrals for the same or other offenses. Out of 379 juvenile referrals for assault from July, 1971 to June, 1972, over one-third had 3 or more prior referrals; specifically, this was 35.4%. Close to one-half have had more than one prior referral or 45.8%. The chart below indicates percentages of prior referrals of the total number of juvenile court referrals. Notice that 6.2% of the 379 referrals had 9 or more prior referrals.

HISTORY OF PRIOR REFERRALS FOR JUVENILE
ASSAULT REFERRALS TO DENVER JUVENILE COURT FROM
JULY 1971 TO JUNE 1972

CHART V

379 REFERRALS



Percentages relating to criminal history by prior court referrals should not be interpreted as referrals for the same offense. Prior referrals

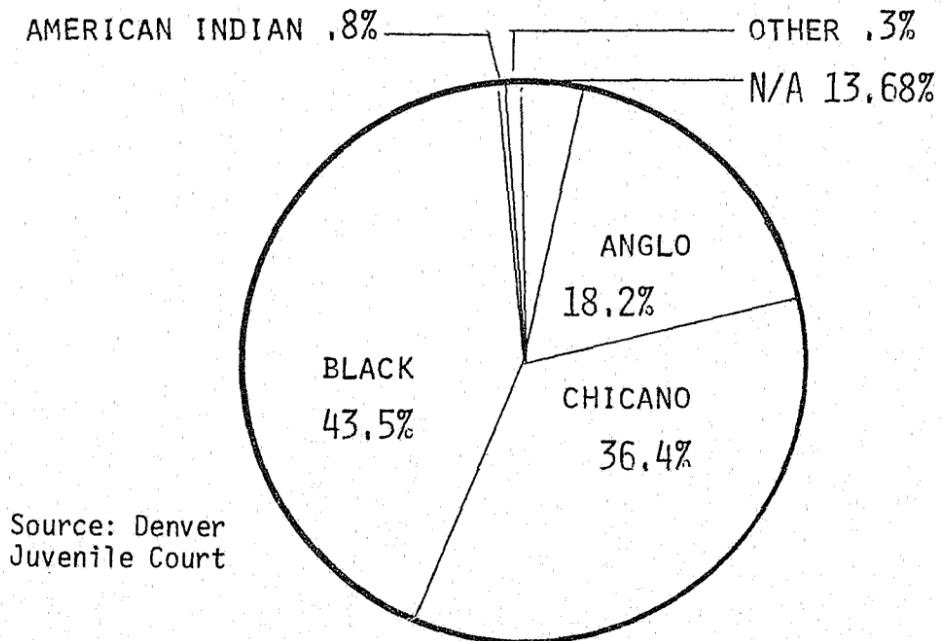
include any type of delinquent behavior. The Denver Police Department 1971 statistics indicate that 57.5% of all juvenile felony cases were referred to Denver Juvenile Court. In addition 38% of all juvenile arrests (felony, misdemeanor, and others) were actually certified for probable cause by the District Attorney. Consequently, a significant number of assault cases appearing before juvenile court for the first time are believed to be repeat offenders by the Denver Police Department. Denver Police Department statistics for 1971 show that the frequency of arrest for total offenders, juvenile and adult, covers the spectrum of one to 46 previous arrests for the same individual.

The cultural distribution of juvenile assault referrals to Denver Juvenile Court from July, 1971 through June, 1972 was primarily Black and Chicano. These two ethnic groups collectively amounted to 79.9% of the total 379 assault referrals made to Denver Juvenile Court for the same period of time. As specifically shown in the following chart, Blacks were 43.5% and Chicanos 36.4% of the those arrested and referred to the Juvenile Court. (See Chart Next Page)

However, Denver 1970 census tract data shows that Blacks and Chicanos 10 through 18 years of age collectively make up 34.8% of the total 80,355 juveniles residing in Denver. As a result they constitute a disproportionate percentage of all assault referrals to Denver Juvenile Court. Such disproportionate percentages may not necessarily provide an accurate index of the ethnic composition for total assault offenders in Denver.

CHART VI

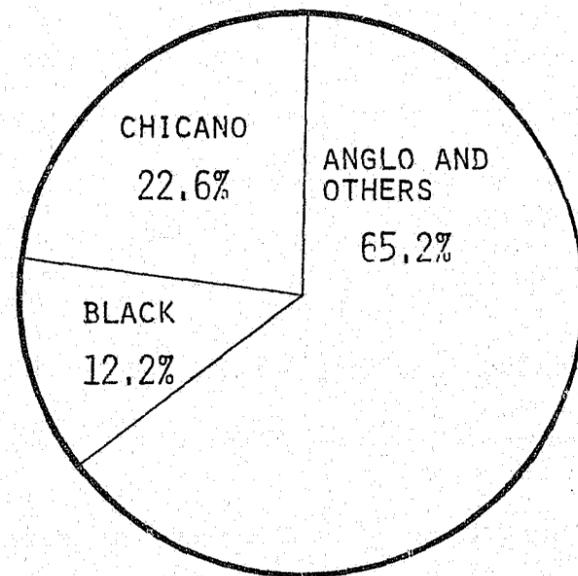
CULTURAL DISTRIBUTION OF JUVENILE
ASSAULT REFERRALS TO DENVER JUVENILE
COURT FROM JULY 1971 THROUGH JUNE 1972
379 REFERRALS



Source: Denver
Juvenile Court

CHART VII

CULTURAL DISTRIBUTION OF DENVER'S JUVENILE POPULATION
(10 through 18 years of age)
1970 Census data - 80,355 Juveniles



Source: 1970 Census

It should also be noted in this regard that there is a significantly high ratio of juvenile assault offenders with low family incomes: near \$4,000 per year. Although this finding must be interpreted with caution, socio-economic level seems to be related to assault referrals.

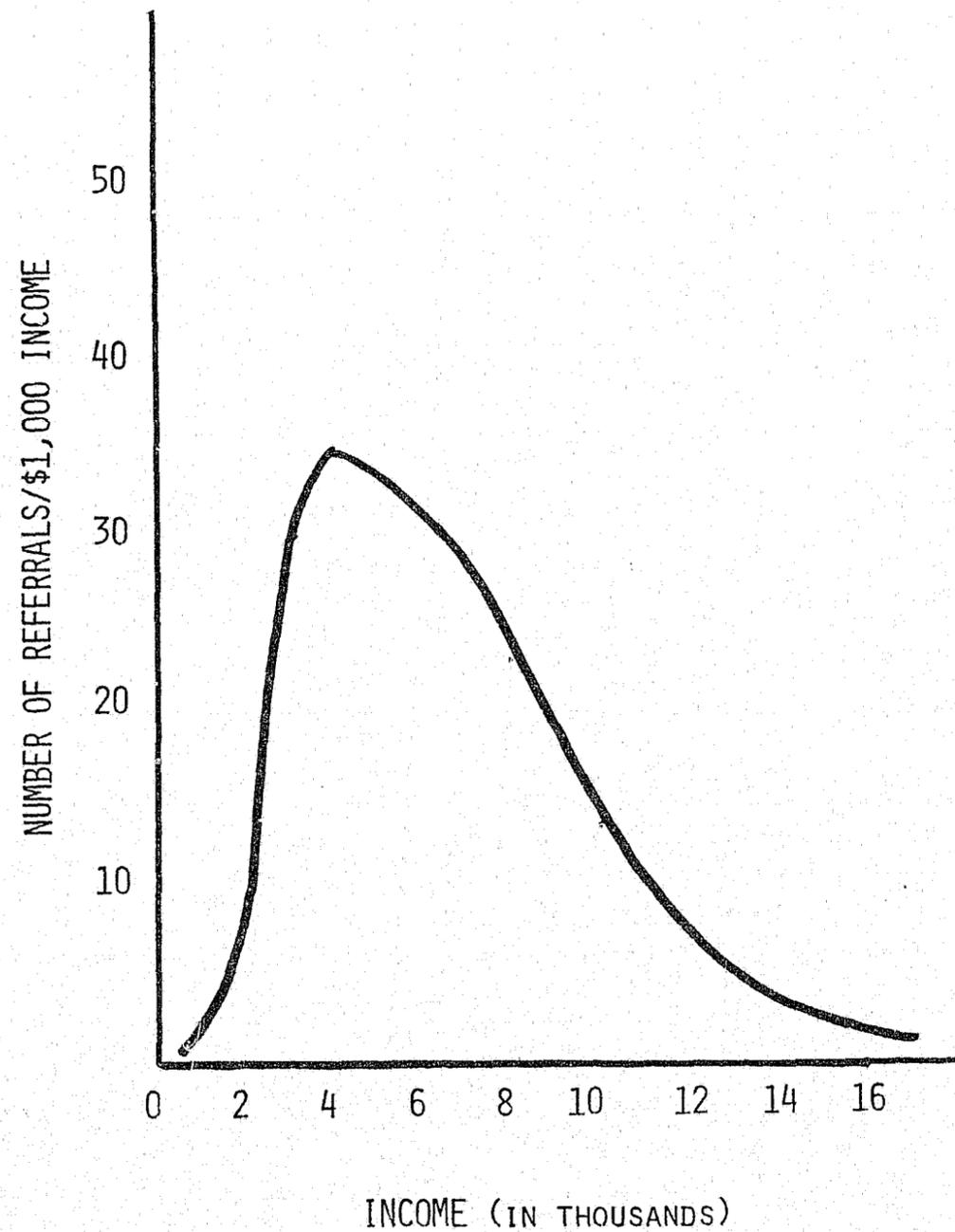
In terms of getting a more distinct profile on the juvenile assault offender, the following areas deserve further examination:

FAMILY INCOME: Based upon 379 juvenile assault referrals to Denver Juvenile Court from July 1971 through June 1972, the family income level was inversely proportional to the number of referrals. A high number of referrals were made for persons from a low-income family background. Specifically, 39.4% of the total 379 juvenile assault referrals were known to be from families with reported levels of income below \$6,999. Only 10.7% were known to be from families with reported levels of income above \$10,000. It should be noted that 18.2% of the total 379 juvenile assault referrals were known to be from families with reported levels of income below \$4,999. These enumerated family income levels are congruent with the respective census tracts in which they occur, which contain high percentages of families living below poverty level and high incidences of reported aggravated assault. (See illustrative graph and chart of family income level which follows).

GRAPH IV

FAMILY INCOME LEVEL OF JUVENILE ASSAULT REFERRALS

NUMBER OF REFERRALS PER
THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS OF INCOME



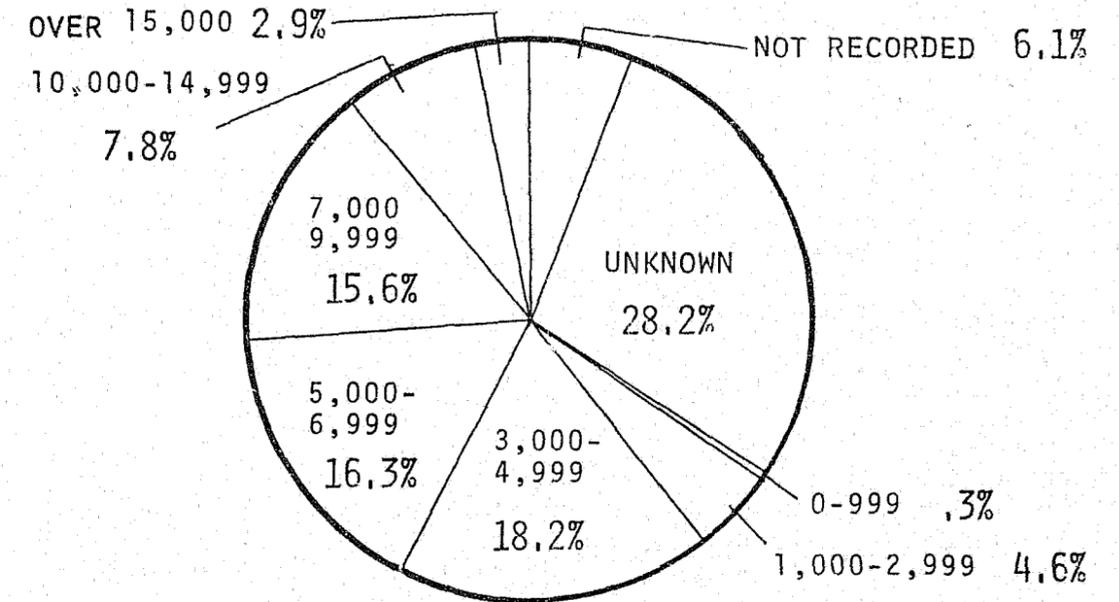
Source: Denver Police Department

CHART VIII

FAMILY INCOME LEVEL OF JUVENILE ASSAULT
REFERRALS TO DENVER JUVENILE COURT FROM

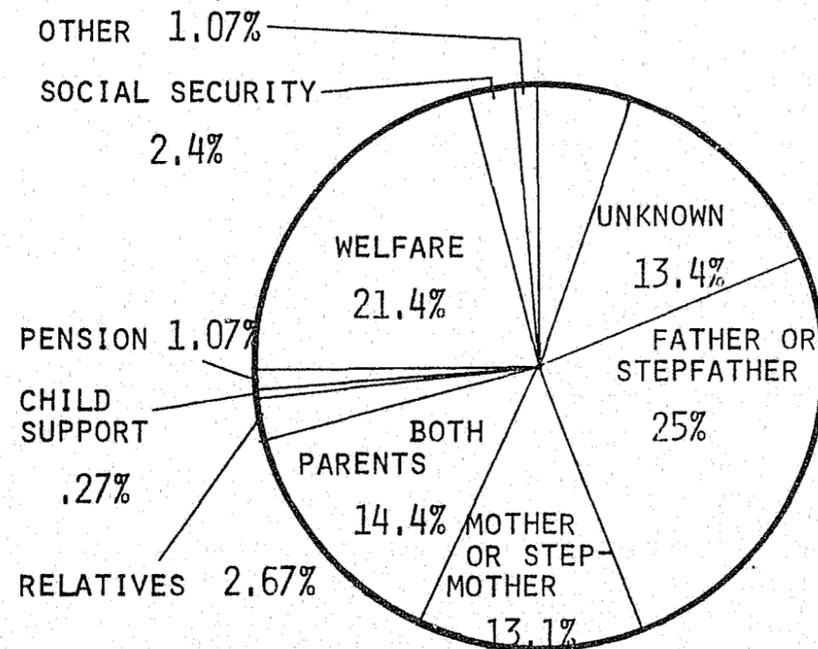
JULY 1971 THROUGH JUNE 1972

379 REFERRALS



SOURCE OF FAMILY INCOME: Of the 379 juvenile assault referrals to Denver Juvenile Court from July 1971 through June 1972, 21.4% came from families whose major source of income was welfare assistance. Also, 13.1% came from families where the mother or stepmother was the main source of family income. These statistics tend to support the above mentioned levels of family income by the very nature of their interrelationship. The following chart should provide a closer analysis.

CHART IX
 SOURCE OF FAMILY INCOME OF JUVENILE
 ASSAULT REFERRALS TO DENVER JUVENILE COURT FROM
 JULY 1971 THROUGH JUNE 1972
 379 REFERRALS



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS: Available data indicate a significant percentage of juvenile assault referrals to Denver Juvenile Court, July 1971 through June 1972 as living solely with their mother, father, relative, foster family or in an institution. Only 33.2% lived with both parents. Those living only with their mother, father, or relative comprised 42.25%. The following table depicts these findings in greater detail.

TABLE XVII
 LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF JUVENILE ASSAULT REFERRALS
 TO DENVER JUVENILE COURT
 JULY 1971 THROUGH JUNE 1972

379 REFERRALS

LIVING ARRANGEMENT	PERCENT
Mother only	31.7%
Father only	4.75%
Both parents	33.2%
Mother & Stepfather	12.7%
Father & Stepmother	.26%
Relatives	5.8%
Institution	1.32%
Foster Family	.53%
Other	3.7%
Not reported	6.1%

EDUCATIONAL INVOLVEMENT: Of the total 379 juvenile assault referrals to juvenile court, July, 1971 through June, 1972, a significant percentage had either dropped out or were expelled from school. Likewise, slightly less than two-thirds were actually attending school full-time. Specifically, only 62% were attending school on a full-time basis. It should be further noted that only 3.4% were working full or part-time.

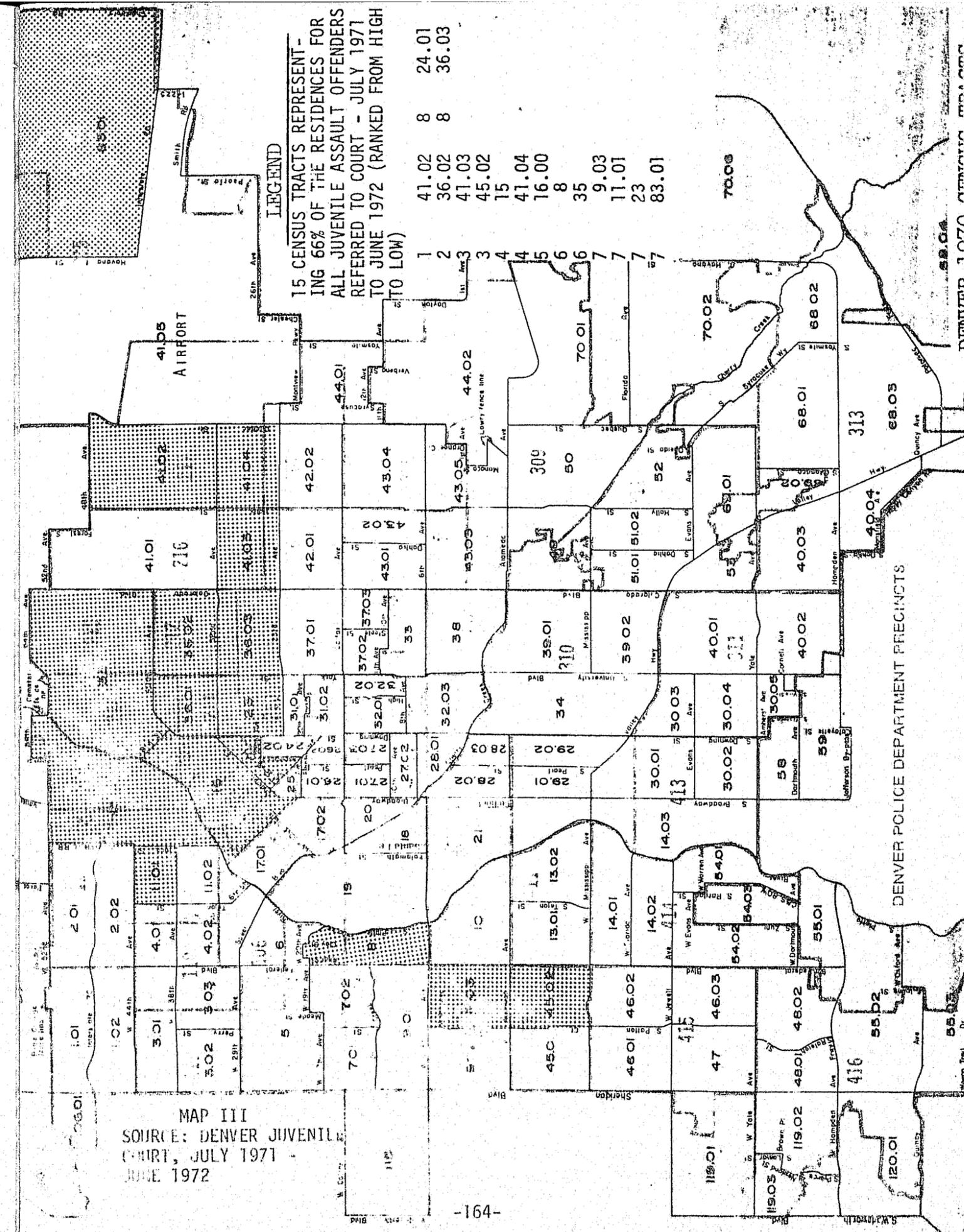
The following table is illustrative of the educational involvement of juvenile assault referrals to Denver Juvenile Court for a 12 month period.

TABLE XVIII
EDUCATIONAL INVOLVEMENT OF JUVENILE ASSAULT REFERRALS TO DENVER JUVENILE COURT JULY 1971 THROUGH JUNE 1972
379 REFERRALS

SCHOOL FULL-TIME	DROPPED OUT/EXPELLED	WORK FULL-TIME	WORK PART-TIME	OTHER
62%	17.2%	2.9%	.5%	17.4%

Census tract residence for juvenile court assault referrals from July 1972 through June 1972 tended to be most concentrated within the precincts reporting the highest assault incidence. Such residences are centered mainly in the Northeast sector of Denver. Although, Census Tract 41.01 constitutes a distinct part of Northeast Denver and has a high reported rate of aggravated assault, few residences are shown for juvenile assault offenders. This implies the following (1): A higher number of adult aggravated assault offenders reside in the tract and/or (2) A large percentage of the tract's assault offenders live in other areas. See map next page for ranking of census tracts.

The Colorado State Penitentiary indicated that in the calendar year 1971, the total inmate population sentenced from Denver County was 564; this amounted to 41.9% of the total penitentiary population. A total of 36 aggravated assault offenders (non-sexual) were committed. The average age for these new arrivals was 30.3 years; the average sentence was 3.6 to 5.6 years.



The following table illustrates the ethnic distribution of these inmates:

TABLE XIX
ETHNIC DISTRIBUTION OF COLORADO STATE
PENITENTIARY ARRIVALS FROM DENVER FOR
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT 1971

NUMBER INMATES	ANGLO	BLACK	CHICANO
COMMITTED 36	14	12	10
PREVIOUS CONVICTION 3	1	2	0
PRIOR ARREST 19	6	6	7

Data illustrating the ethnic distribution for Colorado State Penitentiary inmates clearly shows a percentage disproportionate to the general population of Blacks and Chicanos committed for aggravated assault. An ethnic percentage reflecting the given raw numbers in the table is as follows: Anglos - 39%; Blacks - 27.8%; Chicanos - 33.2%. According to the 1970 Denver Census Tract statistics, the city mean percentages for these three ethnic groups is 72.2% Anglo, 9.1% Black, and 16.8% Chicano. An ethnic percentage for the Penitentiary's committed aggravated assault offenders is congruous with juvenile assault referrals to the Denver Juvenile Court. Both are disproportionate to the ethnic percentages of the city as a whole.

The President's Crime Commission Report, released in 1966, reported that a similar situation existed nationally in most of America's correctional institutions. Across the nation, minority citizens make up a dispro-

portionate percentage of all individuals processed through the criminal justice system. The analysis of Denver's crime problems yields a number of socio-cultural and economic factors as major contributors to racial differentials among criminal offenders. Such findings are consistent with criminological research showing socio-economic class, not ethnicity, as an important variable related to the high numbers of minority citizens involved as offenders in the criminal justice system.

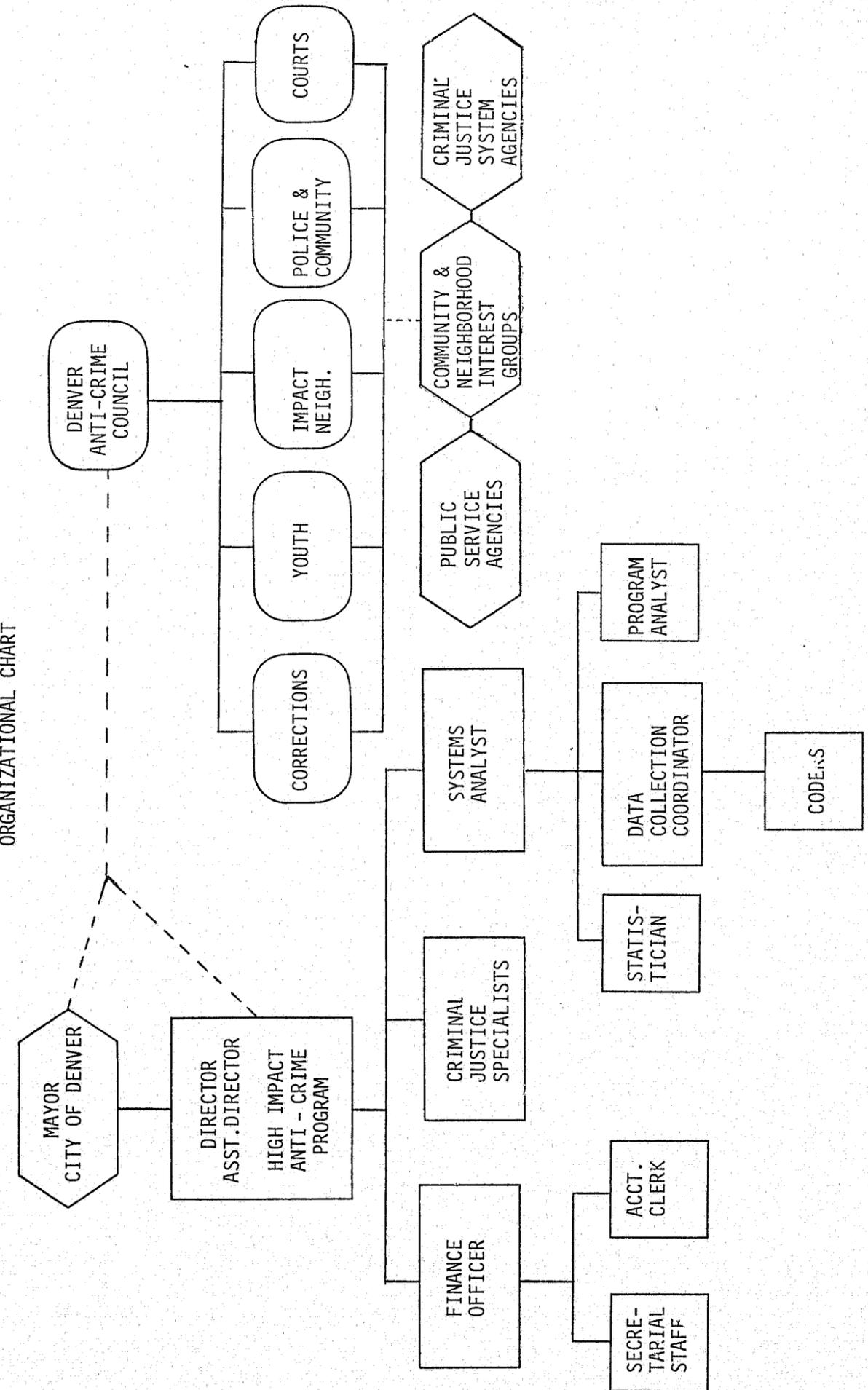
In summary, Aggravated Assault arrests indicate that 63% are committed by adults, with 37% on the street and 36% in residences, with more than 67% of the offenders of assault using a weapon and 70% of the offenses occurring between 6:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. The summer months show the highest rate for Aggravated Assault with the spring quarter being second highest. Assault tends to be similar to the other crimes in that it has a seasonal fluctuation and occurs, for the most part, in the evening hours. Unlike Burglary, the majority of the arrests, as illustrated in Table XX, are of adult offenders.

TABLE XX

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT ARRESTS (MID 1970-MID 1972)

DESCRIPTION	PERCENT OF TOTAL
(Age Group)	
12 and under	4%
13-17	33%
18-24	23%
25-29	11%
30-39	16%
40-49	8%
50-59	3%
60 and up	2%
	37% juveniles
	63% adults
(Location)	
Highway, street, alley	37%
Residence	36%
Tavern	20%
Misc. (parks, cars, etc.)	7%
(Weapon)	
Gun	45%
Knife or sharp cutting edge	22%
Club or chain	10%
Other dangerous weapons	10%
Hands, fists, feet	13%
	67%
(Hour)	
6 p.m. - 2 a.m.	70%
12 a.m. - 2 a.m.	23%
9 p.m. - 11 p.m.	28%
	51%
SUMMER MONTHS: HIGHEST	
SPRING MONTHS: 2nd HIGHEST	

DENVER ANTI-CRIME COUNCIL
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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