

MICROFILM

**WOMEN OFFENDERS  
AT  
MINNESOTA  
CORRECTIONAL  
INSTITUTION  
FOR WOMEN  
1976**

NCJRS

APR 12 1977

ACQUISITIONS

70127  
Cop. 1



Women Offenders at  
Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women  
1976

Research Unit  
Minnesota Department of Corrections  
October 1976

LIST OF TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
<u>SECTION I</u> - Information pertaining to women admitted to the Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women (MCIW) during calendar years 1971-1975 . . . . .	1-20
TABLE I - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Year by Type of Offense . . . . .	4
TABLE II - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Person and Property Commitment Offenses by Year . . . . .	5
TABLE III - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Year by County	6
TABLE IV - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: County by Type of Offense . . . . .	6
TABLE V - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Injury to Victim by Year . . . . .	7
TABLE VI - Admissions to MCIW for Crimes Against Persons 1971-1975: Injury to Victim by Relationship of Victim to Offender . . . . .	8
TABLE VII - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Type of Commitment Offense by Previous Number of Court Convictions for <u>Person</u> Offenses . . . . .	8
TABLE VIII - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Type of Commitment Offense by Previous Number of Court Convictions for <u>Property</u> Offenses . . . . .	9
TABLE IX - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Type of Commitment Offense by Previous Number of Court Convictions for <u>Drug</u> Offenses . . . . .	10
TABLE X - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Type of Commitment Offense by Previous Number of Court Convictions for <u>Other</u> Offenses . . . . .	10
TABLE XI - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Year by Total Number of Previous Court Convictions . . . . .	11
TABLE XII - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Number of Previous Commitments to State <u>Juvenile</u> Correctional Institutions by Year . . . . .	12
TABLE XIII - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Number of Previous Commitments to State and Federal <u>Adult</u> Correctional Institutions by Year . . . . .	12
TABLE XIV - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Previous Psychological Treatment and Chemical Dependency Diagnosis by Year . . . . .	15

TABLE XV - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Chemical Dependency by Previous Psychological Treatment . . . . .	14
TABLE XVI - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Age at Admission by Year . . . . .	14
TABLE XVII - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Educational Achievement by Year of Admission . . . . .	15
TABLE XVIII - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Employment Status by Year . . . . .	15
TABLE XIX - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Numbers of Dependent Children . . . . .	16
TABLE XX - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Involvement in Academic Programming by Year of Admission . . . . .	17
TABLE XXI - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Involvement in Vocational Programming by Year of Admission . . . . .	17
TABLE XXII - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Involvement With Work Release by Year of Admission . . . . .	18
TABLE XXIII - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Psychological Treatment by Year . . . . .	18
TABLE XXIV - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Number of Escapes by Year of Admission of Escapee . . . . .	19
TABLE XXV - Admissions to MCIW 1971-1975: Number of Reported Assaults at MCIW by Year of Admission of Assaulter . . . . .	20
<u>SECTION II</u> - Information pertaining to women released from the Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women (MCIW) during 1970-1973 . . . . .	21-27
TABLE XXVI - Releases from MCIW 1970-1973: Type of Commitment Offense by County . . . . .	23
TABLE XXVII - Released from MCIW 1970-1973: Race by Type of Commitment Offense . . . . .	24
TABLE XXVIII - Releases from MCIW 1970-1973: Minnesota State Juvenile Correctional History by Type of Commitment Offense . . . . .	25
TABLE XXIX - Releases from MCIW 1970-1973: Previous Minnesota Adult Correctional History by Type of Commitment Offense . . . . .	25
TABLE XXX - Releases from MCIW 1970-1973: Return Rate by Type of Commitment Offense . . . . .	26

TABLE XXXI - Releases from MCIW 1970-1973: Return Rate by Previous Juvenile and Adult Correctional Histories . . . . .	27
--	----

SECTION III - Perceived program and security needs at the Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women (MCIW) . . . . . 28-38

TABLE XXXII - Resident Questionnaire Respondents: Number of Dependent Children . . . . .	29
TABLE XXXIII - Resident Questionnaire Respondents: Marital Status by Public Assistance for Dependent Children . . . . .	30
TABLE XXXIV - Resident Questionnaire Respondents: Living Situation of Dependent Children at Time of Arrest and Currently . . . . .	30
TABLE XXXV - Resident Questionnaire Respondents: Residents' Weekly Activity Schedules . . . . .	33
TABLE XXXVI - Resident Questionnaire Respondents: Residents' Total Involvement in Institutional Planning . . . . .	33
TABLE XXXVII - Staff Interviews: Treatment Programs Needed . . . . .	34
TABLE XXXVIII - Staff Interviews: Number of MCIW Residents Needing Maximum Security . . . . .	36
TABLE XXXIX - Institutional Records: Total Number of Escapes 1971 - August 1976 . . . . .	36
TABLE XL - Staff Interviews: Perceptions in Population Change at MCIW . . . . .	37

# SECTION ONE

## Introduction

Section One presents information pertaining to those women admitted to the Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women (MCIW) during calendar years 1971 through 1975. Data were collected concerning the personal characteristics, background, committing offense(s), institutional program involvement and institutional behavior of each woman.

## Data Source

Data were obtained from the individual case files located at the Minnesota Institution For Women, Shakopee, Minnesota.

## Definitions

The following items describe and define the data elements used in this section:

### 1. Types of Committing Offense

#### A. Crimes Against Persons

1. Murder (including attempted murder)
2. Manslaughter (including attempted manslaughter)
3. Assault
4. Robbery

#### B. Crimes Against Property

1. Theft (including theft by check and welfare fraud)
2. Unauthorized use of motor vehicle
3. Receiving stolen property
4. Forgery
5. Fraudulent statements
6. Burglary
7. Arson

#### C. Drug Crimes

1. Illegal sale of narcotic drug
2. Illegal possession of narcotic drugs
3. Illegal possession of controlled substance

#### D. Other Crimes

1. Prostitution
2. Escape from custody

#### E. Technical Violation of Probation or Parole

1. This category includes all women who were committed to MCIW for violations of the rules of probation or parole without new court sentences.

II. Injury to Victim

This describes any injury to a victim as the result of the committing offense. Minor Injuries describe injuries which were noted in the description of the offense, but did not result in hospitalization of the victim. Major Injuries were those injuries listed in the case history as having caused the hospitalization of the victim. Death of Victim is self-apparent.

III. Relationship of Victim to Offender

This describes any personal relationship existing between victim and offender prior to the offense. Spouse describes husbands or ex-husbands of the offender.

IV. Immediate Family

This describes members of the offender's nuclear family, parent or sibling. Male Friend describes the boyfriend. Friend describes a less intimate relationship or personal acquaintance. No relationship (none) is noted when there is no mention of personal relationship in the case history.

V. Previous Court Convictions

The case histories usually describe the number of court convictions for criminal offenses - both misdemeanor and felony - previous to the committing offense. These previous convictions may have involved penalties such as fines or imprisonment or only stayed sentences or probation. The previous convictions were grouped into the categories of convictions for person, property, drug, and other crimes, as well as totaled to yield the total number of previous court convictions. It should be noted in a very few circumstances the researchers could not determine if the individual had been previously convicted of a crime. These cases are so noted.

VI. Previous Commitments to State or Federal Correctional Institutions

This is the total number of terms in Federal or State Prisons or Reformatories served previously by the offender. Typically in this sample, it represents previous number of admissions to MCIW.

VII. Previous Commitments to State Juvenile Correctional Institutions

The total number of court commitments to State operated juvenile correctional institutions.

VIII. Previous Psychiatric Treatment

The case histories were searched for references to any previous psychiatric, psychological or chemical dependency treatment engaged in by the offender. If none was discovered the entry "None Apparent" was coded. Those individuals who had engaged in counseling, group therapy or other treatment made in a residential context (a hospital or residential treatment center) were noted as having had in-patient treatment; therapies in non-residential contexts were coded as out-patient treatment.

IX. Chemical Dependency Diagnosis

This is a subjective judgment made by the researchers (based on the case history and institutional files) whether the individual has an apparent chemical dependency problem. This judgment utilized such criteria as the individual's quoted statements, the existence of a heroin habit as described by pre-sentence investigations or previous treatment for alcoholism or drug problems. The mere reported use of alcohol or controlled substances did not constitute grounds for judging the individual as chemically dependent.

X. Employment Status at Time of Arrest

This is the employment status of the individual at the time of arrest for the commitment offense. Those working full-time, part-time, or occupied as students were so noted. Housewives were those not otherwise employed and living with either husband or dependent children. Those individuals with no jobs and not caring for dependent children or living with spouse were coded as unemployed.

XI. Dependent Children

The total number of minor children of whom the individual had legal custody at the time of commitment, regardless of the children's actual living arrangements.

XII. Involvement in Academic Education at MCIW

The participation of the individual in formal academic education while residing at MCIW was noted. Such training available included classes in high school, a General Equivalency Degree Program, college classes offered by Antioch and Augsburg and special (remedial) education.

XIII. Involvement in Vocational Programming at MCIW

This includes formal keypunch instruction as well as formal vocational education off-grounds.

XIV. Work Release

This is a formal program, admission to which must be granted by the Minnesota Corrections Board. It allows the individual to work or take vocational training off-grounds and return for meals and nights at the institution.

XV. Psychiatric Treatment

This involves formal counseling by psychologists, group therapy sessions and chemical dependency programs. These on-grounds programs are distinct from treatment off-grounds in places such as Anoka State Hospital. Sessions with mental health professionals for diagnostic purposes only were not counted as treatment.

XVI. Reported Assaults

If an assault or an attack upon a MCIW resident or employee by an MCIW resident is witnessed by a member of staff, an incident report is filed. The number of officially recorded assaults committed is noted for each individual. These assaults may be of a major or minor nature.

NOTE: A very small proportion of admissions in the latter years covered by the study were admissions directly to the Property Offenders Program at Lino Lakes. These individuals, as is the case with those women transferred to POP from MCIW, have only short stays in the institutions and do not generally participate in educational, vocational or psychological programming. All POP admittees are included in this sample of MCIW admittees for the purposes of completeness and clarity of presentation.

Offenses

Table I displays the total number of admissions to MCIW for each year grouped by type of committing offense.

TABLE I

Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution For women  
During 1971 Through 1975: Year by Type of Offense

Type of Offense	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		TOTAL	
	Freq.	Col. %										
Person	5	19	13	27	9	17	7	16	12	24	46	21
Property	14	52	25	51	32	59	29	64	26	53	126	56
Drug	2	7	6	12	5	9	2	5	0		15	7
Other	2	7	0		0		0		1	2	3	1
Tech. Viol.	4	15	5	10	8	15	7	16	10	20	34	15
TOTAL	27	100%	49	100%	54	100%	45	100%	49	100%	224	100%

Inspection of Table I reveals that 224 women were committed to MCIW in the years 1971 through 1975. Twenty-seven (12%) were committed to MCIW in 1971; 49 (22%) were committed in 1972; 54 (24%) were committed in 1973; 45 (20%) were committed in 1974 and 49 (22%) were committed in 1975. Overall, the most frequent type of committing offense is Crimes Against Property with 126 (56%) of the 224 total commitments, followed by Crimes Against Persons with 46 (21%) commitments, technical violations with 34 (15%) commitments; Drug Crimes with 15 (7%) commitments and Other Crimes with only 3 (1%) commitments. This order of frequency among types of committing offenses is approximately held within each year with the exception of 1972, which year Drug Crimes exceeded Technical Violations. No significant change in type of commitment offense across time can be discovered.

Table II describes the individual person and property crimes by year of commitment.

TABLE II - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women  
During 1971 through 1975: Person and Property Commitment  
Offenses by Year

Type of Offense	Year											
	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		Total	
	Freq.	Col. %										
<u>Person</u>												
Murder	1	20	3	23	3	33	1	14	3	25	11	24
Manslaughter	2	40	3	23	2	22	2	29	1	8	10	22
Aggravated Assault	1	20	2	15	2	22	0	-	2	17	7	15
Aggravated Robbery	1	20	4	31	1	11	2	29	2	17	13	28
Simple Robbery	0	-	1	8	1	11	2	29	4	33	5	11
Total	5	100	13	100	9	100	7	100	12	100	46	100
<u>Property</u>												
Receiving Stolen Property	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	4	1	1
Theft	3	21	9	31	8	25	8	28	7	27	35	28
UN?	0	-	1	4	2	6	0	-	0	-	3	2
Forgery	11	79	15	62	20	63	16	55	15	58	77	61
Burglary	0	-	0	-	2	6	4	14	1	4	7	6
Arson	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	3	1	4	2	2
Criminal Damage to Property	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	4	1	1
Total	14	100	25	100	32	100	29	100	26	100	126	100

The most frequent person offense, as revealed in Table II, was Aggravated Robbery with 13 (28%) of the 46 person crime commitments. Murder was next frequent with 11 (24%); Manslaughter represented 10 (22%) cases; Aggravated Assault represented 7 (15%) cases and Simple Robbery provided only 5 (11%) cases. There seems to be no clear change in the specific person offenses across the years with the exception of Simple Robbery which was of zero frequency in 1971 and represented 4 (33%) cases in 1974-1975. The occurrence of Manslaughter seems to have decreased slightly while Aggravated Robbery, Aggravated Assault and Murder remain essentially unchanged.

Property Crimes also show little change in frequency during this time. Forgery decreased in proportion from 79% of the 1971 cases to 58% of the 1975 cases while the crimes of Arson and Criminal Damage to Property made their first appearances in 1974 and 1975.

County of Commitment

Table III describes the counties of commitment for each admission to MCIW for each year. The four most populous, and most urban, counties are listed separately; the remaining 83 counties are grouped together as "other" counties.

TABLE III - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Year by County

County	Year										Total	
	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975			
	Freq.	Col.%										
Hennepin	16	59	32	65	30	56	21	47	27	55	126	56
Ramsey	4	15	11	22	12	22	7	16	6	12	40	18
Anoka	1	4	0	-	2	4	2	4	4	8	9	4
St. Louis	0	-	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4	8	4
Other	6	22	4	8	8	15	13	29	10	22	41	18
Total	27	100%	49	100%	54	100%	45	100%	49	100%	224	100%

Table III shows that 126 (56%) of the total admissions were admitted from Hennepin County; 40 (18%) were committed from Ramsey County; 9 (4%) were committed from Anoka County; 8 (4%) were committed from St. Louis County and 41 (18%) were committed from all other counties. Hennepin County accounts for over half the commitments in all but one year (1974), in which it accounted for 47% of the commitments. Thus, the four largest counties during this period of time accounted for 82% of the admissions.

Table IV relates the type of committing offense to the county of commitment for the total five years.

TABLE IV - Admissions to Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
County by Type of Offense

Type of Offense	County										Total	
	Hennepin		Ramsey		Anoka		St. Louis		Other			
	Freq.	Col.%	Freq.	Col.%	Freq.	Col.%	Freq.	Col.%	Freq.	Col.%	Freq.	Col.%
Person	19	16	10	25	2	22	2	25	12	29	46	21
Property	76	60	20	50	6	67	1	13	23	56	126	56
Drug	7	6	6	15	1	11	1	13	0	-	15	7
Other	2	2	1	3	0	-	0	-	0	-	3	1
Technical Violation	22	17	3	8	0	-	4	50	6	15	34	15
Total	126	100%	40	100%	9	100%	8	100%	41	100%	224	100%

As Table IV discloses, the proportion of each type of offense varies by county. In all counties, except St. Louis, property crimes predominated, accounting for about half of the commitments. Similarly, person crimes were of varying importance among counties; person crimes accounted for 16% of the commitments from Hennepin; 25% from Ramsey; 22% from Anoka; 25% from St. Louis and 29% from all other counties.

Injuries to Victims

Table V is a description of the injuries caused victims by each year's admissions to MCIW.

TABLE V - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Injury to Victim by Year

Year	Victim		No Injury		Minor Injury		Major Injury		Death		Total	
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
1971	22	81	1	4	1	4	0	-	6	11	27	100
1972	37	76	4	8	2	4	0	-	3	12	49	100
1973	43	80	2	4	4	7	0	-	5	9	54	100
1974	38	84	4	9	0	-	0	-	3	7	45	100
1975	38	78	3	6	0	-	4	8	4	8	49	100
Total	178	(79%)	14	(6%)	7	(3%)	4	(2%)	21	(9%)	224	(100%)

Table V shows that in 178 cases (79%) there were no personal victims - these are property, drug or other crimes. Fourteen (6%) admittees had caused no injury to their victim in a personal crime; 7 (3%) had caused minor injuries to victims; 4 (2%) caused major injuries (hospitalizing the victim) and 21 (9%) caused the death of a victim. Thus, only 25 (11%) of the 224 women admitted in 1971 through 1975 caused the death or hospitalization of a victim.

The data contained in Table VI describes the victims of the 46 crimes against persons according to their previous personal relationships-if any-with the offender.

TABLE VI - Admissions for Crimes Against Persons to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975: Injury to Victim by Relationship of Victim to Offender

Injury to Victim	Victim Relationship										Total	
	None		Spouse		Immediate Family		Male Friend		Friend			
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
No Injury	14	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	14	100
Minor Injury	7	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	7	100
Major Injury	4	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	4	100
Death	2	10	8	38	3	14	5	23	3	14	21	100
Total	27	(59%)	8	(17%)	3	(7%)	5	(11%)	3	(7%)	46	(100%)

Table VI shows that 27 (59%) of the victims had no previous relationship to the offender; while 8 (17%) victims were spouses; 5 (11%) were boyfriends; 3 (7%) were members of the offender's immediate family and 3 (7%) were friends or acquaintances. In most cases involving victims with some sort of injury - in 19 (59%) of 32 cases - a personal relationship had existed prior to the crime. The largest proportion of deaths - 8 (38%) of 21 - involved spouses as victims. The next largest proportion - 5 (23%) - involved boyfriends, while only 2 had no relationship to the offender. Clearly, most murders or manslaughters could be described as "Crimes of Passion". The case files support this interpretation. All victims either seriously or minimally injured had had no previous relationship with the victim; these were crimes of "plunder", aggravated robberies or assaults. All person crimes which caused no injury to a victim (such as a simple robbery) were committed on strangers.

Previous Criminal History

Table VII describes the total number of previous commitments for person crimes cross-tabulated against the type of offense committed by each individual.

TABLE VII - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975: Type of Commitment Offense by Previous Number of Court Convictions for Person Offenses

Type of Commitment Offense	Previous Number of Court Convictions for Person Crimes										Total	
	0		1		2		3-4		Unknown			
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
Person	39	85	3	7	2	4	1	2	1	2	46	100
Property	118	95	4	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	126	100
Drug	15	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	15	100
Other	2	67	0	-	0	-	1	33	0	-	3	100
Technical Violation	30	86	4	11	0	-	0	-	0	-	34	100
Total	204	(91%)	11	(5%)	3	(1%)	3	(1%)	3	(1%)	224	(100%)

As described in Table VII, 204 (91%) of the 224 admissions to MCIW had had no previous conviction for a crime against a person; 11 (5%) had one previous person crime conviction; 3 (1%) had two and 3 (1%) had more than two. Of those 46 committed for person crimes; 39 (85%) had no previous person crime record; 3 (7%) had one previous; 2 (4%) had two and 1 (2%) had more than two. Six (5%) of the admissions for property crimes had one or more previous person crime commitments. Four (11%) of the commitments for technical violations had previous person crime commitments.

Table VIII describes the previous convictions for property crimes in the same format as the previous table.

TABLE VIII - Admissions to Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Type of Commitment Offense by Previous Number of Court Convictions for Property Offenses

Type of Commitment Offense	Previous Number of Court Convictions for Property Offenses												Total	
	0		1-2		3-4		5-6		7-9		Unknown			
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
Person	32	70	12	26	1	2	0	-	0	-	1	1	46	100
Property	50	40	46	37	19	15	5	4	4	3	2	2	126	100
Drug	12	80	2	13	1	7	0	-	0	-	0	-	15	100
Other	2	67	0	-	1	33	0	-	0	-	1	0	3	100
Technical Violations	3	9	23	68	6	18	0	-	2	6	0	-	34	100
Total	99	(44%)	83	(37%)	28	(12%)	5	(2%)	6	(3%)	3	(1%)	224	(100%)

Table VIII shows that 99 (44%) of the 224 total admissions had no previous history of a conviction for a property crime; 83 (37%) had 1-2 such previous convictions; 28 (12%) had 3-4 and 11 (5%) had more than 4 previous convictions for property offenses. Clearly, these individuals more frequently had previous property crime convictions than previous person crime convictions. Indeed, even those admitted for person crimes were more likely to have previous property crime convictions - 13 (28%) - than person crime convictions - 6 (12%). It is apparent that most individuals committed to MCIW have been previously convicted of a property offense, either misdemeanor or felony.

Tables IX and X present the history of previous convictions for drug and "other" crimes.

TABLE IX - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Type of Commitment Offense by Previous Number of Court Convictions for Drug Offenses

Type of Commitment Offenses	Previous Number of Court Convictions for Drug Offenses											
	0		1		2		3-4		Unknown		Total	
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
Person	39	85	5	11	1	2	0	-	1	1	46	100
Property	118	96	5	4	0	-	0	-	3	2	126	100
Drug	11	73	2	13	1	7	1	7	0	-	15	100
Other	3	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	3	100
Technical Violation	30	78	3	9	1	3	0	-	0	-	34	100
Total	201	(90%)	15	(7%)	3	(1%)	1	(0.5%)	4	(2%)	224	(100%)

Table IX shows that 201 (90%) of the 224 admissions had no previous convictions for drug offenses; 15 (7%) had one previous conviction and 4 (1.5%) had two or more previous drug convictions.

TABLE X - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Type of Commitment Offense by Previous Number of Convictions for Crimes Referred to as Other

Type of Commitment Offense	Previous Number of Court Convictions for Other Offenses													
	0		1		2-4		5-6		7+		Unknown		Total	
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
Person	34	74	6	13	4	9	0	-	1	2	1	46	100	
Property	95	75	11	9	12	10	4	3	1	1	3	126	100	
Drug	11	73	3	20	1	7	0	-	0	-	0	15	100	
Other	3	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	3	100	
Technical Violation	21	62	9	26	3	9	0	-	1	3	0	34	100	
Total	164	(73%)	29	(13%)	19	(8%)	4	(2%)	3	(1%)	4	(2%)	224	(100%)

Table X shows that 164 (73%) of the 224 admissions had no previous convictions for "other" offenses (e.g., prostitutions); 29 (13%) had one such previously; and 26 (11%) had two or more previous "other" convictions.

Analysis of Tables VII through X reveals that the most frequent type of previous court conviction appearing in these individual's histories is property crime which appears in 54% of the histories, followed by "other" crimes which were engaged in by 24%, person crimes (23%) and drug crimes (8.5%).

Information on the total number of previous court convictions, regardless of type of offense, is given in Table XI. The totals are displayed by year of admission.

TABLE XI - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Year by Total Number of Previous Court Convictions

Year	0		1-2		3-5		6-8		9 or more		Unknown		Total	
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %						
1971	12	44	4	15	7	26	1	4	1	4	2	7	27	100
1972	12	24	16	33	14	29	2	4	2	4	1	2	49	100
1973	18	33	18	33	15	28	3	6	2	4	0	-	54	100
1974	13	29	21	47	8	18	2	4	1	2	0	-	45	100
1975	14	29	22	45	10	20	2	4	0	-	1	2	49	100
Total	69	(31%)	81	(36%)	54	(24%)	10	(4%)	6	(3%)	4	(2%)	224	(100%)

Table XI shows that only 69 (31%) of the 224 individuals had apparently not been previously convicted of a criminal offense - either misdemeanor or felony; 81 (36%) had been convicted one to two times previously; 54 (24%) had 3-5 previous convictions and 16 (7%) had six or more previous court convictions. There seems to be no clear trend in the proportion of individuals with no previous court convictions across the five years; whereas 44% of the 1971 admittees had no previous court conviction; there were 24% in 1972, 33% in 1973, 29% in 1974 and 29% in 1975. It does seem apparent, however, that fewer individuals were admitted with more than two previous convictions in 1974 and 1975 (24%) than the previous years (36%). Correspondingly, more individuals in the latter two years had one to two previous convictions (46%) than in the former two years (29%). It appears that while the number of people admitted to MCIW with no previous conviction history has not changed, those who are admitted with such histories now have a smaller number of previous convictions.

The severity of the previous criminal histories of these individuals can be gauged by the number of individuals who have been previously committed to juvenile and adult correctional institutions. Table XII shows the previous number of juvenile commitments to State correctional institutions and Table XIII displays the previous number of commitments to State or Federal adult correctional institutions, broken down by year of admission.

TABLE XII - Admissions to Minnesota Correctional Institutions for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Number Previous Commitments to State Juvenile Corrections Institutions by Year

Year	Number of Juvenile Commitments											
	0		1		2		3		4		Total	
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
1971	17	63	8	30	2	7	0	-	0	-	27	100
1972	28	57	15	31	4	8	0	-	1	2	49	100
1973	42	76	10	18	2	4	1	2	0	-	55	100
1974	35	78	8	18	1	2	1	2	0	-	45	100
1975	38	78	9	18	1	2	1	2	0	-	49	100
Total	160	(71%)	50	(22%)	10	(4%)	3	(1%)	1	(1)	224	(100%)

Table XII shows that overall 160 (71%) of the 224 individuals had never been committed to a State juvenile correctional institution; 50 (22%) had been committed once; 10 (4%) had been committed twice and 4 (2%) had been committed 3-4 times. There appears to have been an increase of individuals admitted to MCIW with no previous juvenile institutionalization in the latter period of time covered by this study. This may be a result of Minnesota having developed more community alternatives for juvenile offenders.

TABLE XIII - Admissions to Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Number of Previous Commitments to State and Federal Correctional Institutions

Year	Number of Previous Commitments										Total	
	0		1		2		3		4 & 5		Freq.	Row %
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
1971	19	70	3	11	3	11	2	7	0	-	27	100
1972	40	82	6	12	2	4	1	2	0	-	49	100
1973	40	74	9	17	3	6	1	2	1	2	54	100
1974	35	78	7	16	1	2	2	4	0	-	45	100
1975	37	76	7	14	2	4	2	4	1	2	49	100
Total	171	(76%)	32	(14%)	11	(5%)	8	(4%)	2	(1%)	224	(100%)

Table XIII shows that 171 (76%) of the 224 had never previously been committed to a State or Federal adult correctional institution; 32 (14%) had been imprisoned once before; 11 (5%) twice and 10 (4%) had been imprisoned 3-5 times before. There appears to be no obvious trend over the 5 years in the histories of these individuals regarding prior adult institutionalizations.

Psychological and Chemical Dependency Problems

Tables XIV and XV describe the chemical dependency problems of these individuals and their previous history of psychological treatment.

TABLE XIV - Admissions to Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Previous Psychological Treatment and Chemical Dependency Diagnosis by Year

Year	A Previous Psychological Treatment						B Chemically Dependent?				Totals A and B	
	None		In-Patient		Out-Patient		No		Yes			
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
1971	14	52	10	37	3	11	17	6	10	37	27	100
1972	28	57	16	33	5	10	24	49	25	51	49	100
1973	35	65	12	22	7	13	27	50	27	50	54	100
1974	24	53	14	31	7	16	24	53	21	47	45	100
1975	30	61	13	27	6	12	25	51	24	49	49	100
Total	131	(58%)	65	(29%)	28	(13%)	117	(52%)	107	(48%)	224	(100%)

Inspection of Table XIV reveals that only 131 (58%) of the 224 women admitted to MCIW in the years 1971-1975 had apparently not undergone some form of psychological, psychiatric or chemical dependency treatment previously; 65 (29%) (or nearly one-third) had previously been in an in-patient psychiatric hospital or drug dependency clinic; 28 (12%) had had only out-patient type therapy, e.g., group therapy or counseling. No clear trend is apparent across this time period in terms of the previous therapy histories of each year's admittees - slightly smaller proportions of women had previously been patients in psychiatric hospitals and residential drug treatment centers in the later years while slightly more women had no previous therapy history in the previous year. This could be merely a function of both the greater availability of out-patient therapeutic resources (especially drug treatment facilities) in the latter years and the greater public awareness and acceptance of the need for these services.

Table XIV also displays these individuals' chemical dependencies. The table shows that 107 (48%) of these women were judged to have or have had chemical dependencies; 117 (52%) were not chemically dependent. It is important to note that this data shows that nearly one-third of the women admitted to MCIW had previously been full-time psychiatric or drug dependency patients and that nearly one-half were judged to be chemically dependent. The interrelationship of these two factors in the personal histories of these women is displayed in Table XV, a cross-tabulation of chemical dependency problems by previous psychological treatment.

TABLE XV - Admissions to Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Chemical Dependency by Previous Psychological Treatment

<u>Chemical Dependency</u>	<u>Psychiatric Treatment</u>						<u>Total</u> Freq. Row %	
	<u>None</u>		<u>In-Patient</u>		<u>Out-Patient</u>			
	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Row %</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Row %</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Row %</u>		
No	88	75	18	15	11	9	117	52
Yes	43	40	47	44	17	16	107	48
Total	131	(58%)	65	(29%)	28	(13%)	224	(100%)

Table XV shows that 47 (44%) of those 107 with chemical dependency problems had previously been patients in a residential therapy setting; 17 (16%) had out-patient therapy only while 43 (40%) had apparently had no previous therapy. In contrast, only 18 (15%) of the 117 with no apparent chemical dependency problems had been patients in a hospital or clinic; 11 (9%) had out-patient help and 88 (75%) had apparently had no previous therapy. Clearly, drug problems figure heavily in the previous histories of psychological treatment of these women. In fact, the case histories revealed that treatment for drug problems was the principal type of previous treatment for these women. It should be noted that 29 admissions to MCIW had some type of psychiatric treatment and had no apparent chemical dependency problems while 64 admissions had both chemical dependency problems and had previous psychiatric treatment.

Personal Characteristics

Table XVI displays the ages of each year's admissions to MCIW.

TABLE XVI - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Age at Admission by Year

<u>Age at Admission</u>	<u>Year</u>											
	<u>1971</u>		<u>1972</u>		<u>1973</u>		<u>1974</u>		<u>1975</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Row %</u>										
Less than 20	2	7	6	12	6	11	5	11	9	18	28	12
20-24	11	41	21	43	21	39	18	40	18	37	89	40
25-30	7	26	10	20	14	26	10	22	13	26	54	24
31-39	5	19	8	16	9	17	7	16	6	12	35	16
40-50	1	3	3	6	3	6	2	4	3	6	12	5
50 and above	1	3	1	2	1	1	3	7	0	-	6	3
Total	27	100%	49	100%	54	100%	45	100%	49	100%	224	100%

Table XVI indicates that 28 (12%) of the 224 women were aged less than 20 years at the time of admission to MCIW; 89 (40%) were aged 20-24 years; 54 (24%) were 25-30; 35 (16%) were 31-39; 12 (5%) were 40-50; and 6 (3%) were older than 50 years. Again, there does not appear to be any definite trend in the age at admission over time. Table XVII displays the previous educational achievements of these women by year of admission:

TABLE XVII - Admissions to Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Educational Achievement by Year of Admission

Highest Educational Level Achieved	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		Total	
	Freq.	Row %										
Primary (1-8)	1	4	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	½
Some High School (9-11)	16	59	26	53	29	54	25	56	27	55	123	55
High School Graduate or GED	8	30	15	31	21	39	13	29	20	41	77	34
Some College	1	4	3	6	2	4	4	9	1	2	11	9
College Degree or Above	1	4	0	-	0	-	1	2	0	-	2	1
Vocational Training	1	4	4	8	2	4	1	2	1	2	9	4
Unknown	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	2	0	-	0	-
Total	27	100%	49	100%	54	100%	45	100%	49	100%	224	100%

Table XVII shows that only one person (½%) out of 224 had only a primary school education; 123 (55%) never finished high school; 77 (34%) completed high school or their General Equivalency Degree; 11 (9%) had taken some college courses; 2 (1%) had a college degree; and 9 (4%) had some kind of formal vocational training. It is apparent that residents at MCIW do have a need for educational programs geared towards completion of a high school degree, 56% of the residents had not completed high school.

Table XVIII displays the employment status at the time of arrest by year.

TABLE XVIII - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Employment Status by Year

	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		Total	
	Freq.	Col. %										
Unknown	0	-	1	2	0	-	4	9	3	6	8	4
Unemployed	14	52	32	65	23	43	26	58	25	51	120	53
Housewife	9	33	10	20	26	48	13	29	18	37	76	34
Part-time Employment	1	4	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	½
Housewife & Employed	1	4	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	½
Full-time	2	7	4	8	3	6	2	4	3	6	14	6
Student	0	-	2	4	2	4			0	-	4	2
Total	27	100%	49	100%	54	100%	45	100%	49	100%	224	100%

As described in Table XVIII, 120 (53%) of the 224 women were unemployed at the time of arrest for the committing offense; 76 (34%) could be termed "housewives" (see definitions); only 16 (7%) were employed either part or full-time and 4 (2%) were full-time students. As is the case with educational achievement the data does not describe a particularly skilled or employable population.

Table XIX lists the numbers of minor children in the legal custody of these women at the time of admission to MCIW.

TABLE XIX - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Number of Dependent Children

Year	Number of Dependent Children											
	0		1		2-3		4-5		6-7		Total	
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
1971	8	30	9	33	8	30	2	7	0	-	27	100
1972	23	47	9	18	14	29	2	4	1	2	49	100
1973	11	20	18	33	20	37	15	9	0	-	54	100
1974	16	36	15	33	13	29	1	2	0	-	45	100
1975	16	33	12	24	16	20	4	8	1	2	49	100
Total	74	(33%)	63	(28%)	71	(32%)	14	(6%)	2	(1%)	224	(100%)

Table XIX shows that only 74 (33%) of the 224 women had no children in their legal custody at the time of admission. Of the remaining 150 (67%) with legal custody of minor children; 63 (28%) had one child; 71 (32%) had 2-3 children and 16 (7%) had 4-7 children. There is no clear indication of any trend pertaining to dependent children over the five years.

Not shown on Table XIX is the fact that of these 224 women, 113 (50%) were single at time of admission; 74 (33%) were either divorced, legally separated, or widowed, and only 38 (17%) were married. Of the 150 women with legal custody of minor children only 32 (21%) were married. The remaining 118 (79%) were either single, divorced, or separated.

MCIW Program Involvement

Table XX describes the participation of these 224 women in educational programming during their stay at MCIW.

TABLE XX - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Involvement in Academic Education at MCIW by Year

Educational Involvement	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		Total	
	Freq.	Col. %										
None	17	63	27	55	29	54	29	64	28	57	130	58
GED, High School or Special Ed.	8	30	10	20	17	31	12	26	15	31	62	28
College	2	7	12	24	8	15	4	9	6	12	32	14
Total	27	(100%)	49	(100%)	54	(100%)	45	(100%)	49	(100%)	224	(100%)

Table XX shows that overall 130 (58%) of the 224 women participated in no educational programming while at MCIW; 62 (28%) participated in high school, special education (remedial) or GED, and 32 (14%) took college classes. These proportions were approximately the same for each year showing that educational involvement at MCIW has remained essentially unchanged since 1971.

Table XXI displays the involvement of these MCIW residents in vocational programming.

TABLE XXI - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Involvement in Vocational Programming at MCIW by Year

Vocational Involvement	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		Total	
	Freq.	Col. %										
None	8	30	22	45	23	43	24	53	36	73	113	50
Yes	19	70	27	55	31	57	21	47	13	27	111	50
Total	27	(100%)	49	(100%)	54	(100%)	45	(100%)	49	(100%)	224	(100%)

Inspection of Table XXI shows that overall 111 (50%) of these 224 women had participated in some sort of vocational education or training; 113 (50%) had not. A close look at the relative proportions for each year's admissions shows that there has been a definite decrease in the proportion of residents involved in vocational training; whereas 70% of the 1971 admittees were so involved, only 27% were involved in 1975. The figures for the five years are as follows: 1971 (70%), 1972 (55%), 1973 (57%), 1974 (47%), and 1975 (27%).

Some caution must be taken in the interpretation of this trend. At least some of the apparent decrease is probably due to a change in MCIW administrative attitudes as to what is and what is not vocational training. In other words, for certain activities (e.g., food service) participation in this activity remains unchanged but the definition of the activity as

vocational training has changed. Another source for the decrease may be the closing of the sewing room at MCIW which was formerly considered to have been of some vocational value.

A more tangible decrease in vocational activity can be noted in the field of work release. Table XXII describes the participation, by year, in work release.

TABLE XXII - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Involvement with Work Release at MCIW by Year

Involvement with Work Release	Year										Total	
	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		Freq.	Col. %
	Freq.	Col. %										
None	21	78	39	80	47	87	43	96	49	100	199	89
Yes	6	22	10	20	7	13	2	4	0	-	25	11
Total	27	100%	49	100%	54	100%	45	100%	49	100%	224	100

Table XXII shows that overall, 25 (11%) of the 225 MCIW residents had participated in the formal work release program. The data displayed by year shows a decline in recent years of work release activity. Whereas 22% of the 1971 admissions had been involved in work release; the 1972 proportion was 20%; in 1973 it had been reduced to 13%; in 1974, 4% and no 1975 admittee has been involved in work release.

The major factors in this reduction of work release activity seem to be two: (1) All work release arrangements must be approved by the paroling authority. Such approvals have been less frequent lately, according to many staff persons; (2) many persons who might otherwise be eligible for work release have instead been transferred to the Property Offenders Program housed at Lino Lakes. There they work toward early parole instead of work release.

Table XXIII is a description of the frequency of treatment for psychological, emotional or chemical dependency problems at MCIW.

TABLE XXIII - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Psychological Treatment by Year

Psychiatric Treatment	Year										Total	
	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		Freq.	Col. %
	Freq.	Col. %										
None	17	63	21	43	30	56	23	56	18	37	109	49
On Grounds	7	26	20	41	22	40	22	44	26	53	97	43
Off Grounds	3	11	8	16	2	4	0	-	5	10	18	8
Total	27	100%	49	100%	54	100%	45	100%	49	100%	224	100%

Table XXIII shows that overall, 97 (43%) of the total 224 had some kind of therapy or treatment while at MCIW; an additional 18 (8%) had been hospitalized at some other location for psychiatric problems during their MCIW tenure; 109 (49%) had participated in no such counseling, group therapy or drug counseling programs.

The table shows a clear increase in on-grounds treatment for emotional, psychological or chemical dependency problems during the years 1971-1975. Only 26% of the 1971 admissions participated in these treatments; the proportion was 41% in 1972, 40% in 1973, 44% in 1974, and 53% in 1975. The increase may be partly a function of programming; in recent years some of the programs became more oriented to education than treatment.

### Institutional Behavior

The behavior of these individuals while at the institution was measured by the number of escapes attempted by each individual and the number of assaults committed by each woman on other residents or staff members.

Table XXIV is a description of the number of escapes by each year's group of MCIW admittees.

TABLE XXIV - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Number of Escapes by Year of Admission of Escapees

Number of Escapes	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		Total	
	Freq.	Col. %										
0	20	75	35	71	48	89	40	89	43	88	187	83
1	6	24	6	12	4	7	4	9	3	6	23	10
2	1	12	5	10	0	-	1	2	2	4	9	4
3			2	4	2	4	0	-	1	2	5	3
5			1	2	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	½
Total	27	100%	49	100%	54	100%	45	100%	49	100%	224	100%

Table XXIV shows that the overall majority of MCIW women, 186 (83%) of 224 never escape; 23 (10%) women had escaped one time, and 15 (7%) escape two or more times. The number of admissions who have escaped has seemed to decrease during the time under study; whereas 36% of the 1971 group had escaped, the proportion decreased to 29% for 1972, 11% for 1973, 11% for 1974, and 12% for 1975.

It is interesting to note that this decrease in escapes has occurred during a time of generally increasing privileges and participation in off-grounds activities.

The final table, Table XXV, displays the frequency of reported assaultive behavior at MCIW.

TABLE XXV - Admissions to the Minnesota Correctional Institution for Women during 1971 through 1975:  
Number of Reported Assaults at MCIW by Year of Admission of Assaulter

Assaults	Year											
	1971		1972		1973		1974		1975		Total	
	Freq.	Col. %										
0	23	85	43	88	52	96	44	98	45	92	207	92
1	4	15	5	10	1	2	1	2	2	4	13	6
2-3	0	-	0	-	1	2			2	4	3	1
4-5	0	-	1	2							1	½
Total	27	100%	49	100%	54	100%	45	100%	49	100%	224	100%

Table XXV demonstrates that the majority of MCIW residents, 207 (92%) out of 224, have never been reported in an assault on another resident or a staff member; 13 (6%) have committed one such assault; and 4 (2%) have committed two or more assaults on residents or staff. The frequency of assaults seems to have decreased slightly during these 5 years; from 15% for 1971, 12% for 1972, 4% in 1973, to 2% in 1974, and a slight increase to 8% for the 1975 admittees.

Clearly, the frequency of behavior presenting security risks, e.g., assaults and escapes, is exhibited by a small minority of MCIW residents only, a proportion averaging about 8% for reported assaults and about 17% for escapes. The figure for escapes may be considered comparable to other minimum security institutions in Minnesota; in 1973 and 1974 in the Willow River Forestry Camp, a male minimum security institution, about 16% of the population attempted escape.

# SECTION TWO



## Introduction

Section Two presents information pertaining to women who were released from the Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women (MCIW) located at Shakopee. The study covers those released from MCIW during 1970 through 1973. Each case was followed for a two year period after release to determine if the individual had been returned to the institution on either a technical violation of parole/probation or a new court sentence.

## Data Source

The data in this section was obtained from the Department of Correction's computer base file system.

## Definitions

The following is a list and definition of data elements utilized in this section.

### I. Types of Committing Offense

#### A. Crimes Against Persons

1. Murder
2. Manslaughter
3. Assault
4. Robbery

#### B. Crimes Against Property

1. Theft (includes theft by check and welfare fraud)
2. Unauthorized use of motor vehicle
3. Receiving stolen property
4. Forgery
5. Fraudulent statements
6. Burglary
7. Arson

#### C. Drug Crimes

1. Illegal sale of narcotic drugs
2. Illegal possession of narcotic drugs
3. Illegal possession of controlled substance

#### D. Other Crimes

1. Prostitution
2. Escape from custody

#### E. Technical Violation of Probation or Parole

1. This category includes all those women who were committed to MCIW for violations of the rules of probation or parole, without new court sentences.

II. Number of Previous Adult State Commitments

This category refers only to previous commitments to Minnesota Correctional Institutions.

III. Previous Commitments to State Juvenile Correctional Institutions

This category refers only to previous commitments to Minnesota State Juvenile Correctional Institutions.

IV. Revocation

This refers to the return of a woman to a Minnesota State Correctional Institution for technical violation of probation/parole rules or for a new court sentence. It specifically does not refer to returns for parole/probation revocation hearings nor to returns for replacement (temporary change in residence at MCIW while a parole living situation is worked out).

The Data

Commitment County and Offense

Table XXVI is a description of the county of commitment and committing offense for the women released from the Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women (MCIW) in the years 1970 through 1973.

TABLE XXVI - Women Released From The Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women During 1971 Through 1973: Type of Commitment Offense by County

Type of Offense	Hennepin		Ramsey		Other		Total		Col. %
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	
Person	18	43	8	20	15	37	41	100	(26%)
Property	49	60	14	17	19	23	82	100	(53%)
Drug	5	62	3	38	0		8	100	( 5%)
Other	0		1	33	2	67	3	100	( 2%)
Technical Violation	11	50	7	32	4	18	22	100	(14%)
Total	83	(53%)	33	(21%)	40	(26%)	156	(100%)	(100%)

Table XXVI indicates that during the period of 1970 through 1973 a total of 156 women were released from MCIW. Of those released, 83 (53%) were committed from Hennepin County while 33 (21%) came from Ramsey County and 40 (26%) were from other Minnesota counties. The net result is that 84% of those released from MCIW had been committed from Hennepin and Ramsey Counties.

Table XXVI also shows that 41 (26%) of these 156 commitments were for crimes against persons; 82 (53%) were for property crimes; eight (5%) were for drug crimes; three (2%) were for "other" crimes and 22 (14%) were for technical violations of probation/parole.

Further inspection of this table reveals that 18 (43%) of those women committed for crimes against persons were from Hennepin County while eight (20%) were from Ramsey County and 15 (37%) came from other counties. Thus, 26 (63%) of person crimes were from Hennepin and Ramsey Counties. In contrast to this, 63 (77%) of those committed to MCIW for property offenses came from Hennepin and Ramsey Counties while 19 (23%) came from other Minnesota counties. This data indicates that a higher proportion of property offenders than person offenders were from Hennepin and Ramsey Counties.

As Table XXVI shows, most technical violations came from Hennepin and Ramsey Counties: 11 (50%) out of 22 from Hennepin, 7 (32%) from Ramsey and 4 (18%) from the remaining counties. This urban predominance in technical violations may be at least partially due to the fact, as mentioned above, that urban commitments included a higher proportion of property offenders, and property offenders are known to have a higher return rate than most other offenders.

Race and Type of Offense

Table XXVII shows the race of each releasee from MCIW cross-tabulated against commitment offense.

TABLE XXVII - Women Released From The Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women: Race by Type of Commitment Offense

Type of Commitment Offense	White		Black		Indian		Mexican		Total	
	Freq.	Col. %	Freq.	Col. %	Freq.	Col. %	Freq.	Col. %	Freq.	Col. %
Person	26	25	5	16	9	45	1	33	41	26
Property	51	50	20	66	11	55	2	67	82	53
Drug	6	6	2	6					8	5
Other	3	3	0						3	2
Technical Viol.	16	16	4	13					22	14
Total	102	(65%)	31	(20%)	20	(13%)	3	(2%)	156	(100%)

Inspection of Table XXVII reveals that 102 (65%) of those women released from MCIW were White; 31 (20%) were Black, 20 (13%) were American-Indian and three (2%) were Mexican-American. Caution is advised in the interpretation of individual race data from this table because of the low numbers of minorities represented.

Minnesota State Juvenile Correctional Institution History

Table XXVIII displays the juvenile correctional histories of these 156 women by whether they had previously been committed to a Minnesota State-operated juvenile correctional institution.

TABLE XXVIII - Women Released From The Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women During 1971 Through 1973: Minnesota State Juvenile Correctional History by Type of Offense

Type of Offense	State Juvenile Correctional History				Total
	No		Yes		
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	
Person	31	76	10	24	41
Property	54	64	30	36	84
Drug	6	75	2	25	8
Other	3	100	0		3
Technical Viol.	14	70	6	30	20
Total	108	(69%)	48	(31%)	156

Table XXVIII indicates that of 156 women released during 1970 through 1973, 108 (69%) had never been committed to Minnesota State Juvenile Correctional Institutions while 48 (31%) had one or more commitments to State juvenile institutions. Further inspection of this table reveals that 31 (76%) of those women committed for crimes against persons had no State juvenile correctional history while only 54 (64%) of those committed for crimes against property had not been committed to such an institution.

Minnesota State Adult Correctional History

Table XXIX shows the number of MCIW releases who had previously been committed to a Minnesota State Adult Correctional Institution (MCIW) listed by type of commitment offense.

TABLE XXIX - Women Released From the Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women During 1971 Through 1973: Previous Minnesota Adult Correctional History

Type of Commitment Offense	Previous History				Total	
	Previous Residency at MCIW		No Previous History		Freq.	Row %
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %		
Person	2	5	38	95	40	100
Property	3	4	80	96	83	100
Drug	0	-	8	100	8	100
Other	0	-	3	100	3	100
Technical Violation	21	95	1*	5	22	100
Total	26	(17%)	130	(83%)	156	(100%)

\*Revocation of District Court Probation

Table XXIX reveals that only 26 (17%) of the women released had previous to their commitment been incarcerated at MCIW. The majority of these 21 (81%) out of 26 were those persons admitted on a technical violation of probation/parole; the parole having been originally from MCIW. All but two (5%) of the 40 person offenders and three (4%) of the 83 property offenders were first time MCIW residents when released.

Rate of Return

Table XXX displays the proportion of releasees who had returned to MCIW broken down by the type of commitment offense.

Table XXX - Women Released From The Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women During 1971 Through 1973: Return Rate by Type of Commitment Offense

<u>Type of Offense</u>	<u>Returned</u>		<u>Not Returned</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Row %</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Row %</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Row %</u>
Person	5	13	35	88	40	100
Property	14	17	69	83	83	100
Drug	1	13	7	88	8	100
Other	0	-	3	100	3	100
Technical Violation	4	18	18	82	22	100
Total	24	(15%)	132	(85%)	156	(100%)

Inspection of Table XXX reveals that 24 (15%) of these 156 releasees had returned to MCIW within two years of release; 132 (85%) had not returned. This rate is less than half the rate for the adult males released from Minnesota Correctional Institutions during a similar time period.

Further inspection of this table reveals that property offenses and technical violations had higher return rates (18% and 19%, respectively) than crimes against persons (13%).

The similarity between the return rates of property offenses and technical violations may be partially explained by the fact that most technical violators have a history of property offenses and not person crimes.

The relationship between the rate of return to MCIW and the existence of juvenile and adult correctional histories is displayed in Table XXXI.

TABLE XXXI - Women Released From the Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women During 1971 Through 1973: Return Rate by Previous Juvenile and Adult Correctional Histories

	Return Rate					
	Returned		Not Returned		Total	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
<b>Previous Juvenile Correctional Institutionalization</b>						
Yes	13	29	35	71	48	100
No	11	10	97	90	108	100
Total	24	(15%)	132	(85%)	156	(100%)
<b>Previous Adult Correctional Institutionalization</b>						
Yes	4	15	22	85	26	100
No	20	15	110	85	130	100
Total	24	(15%)	132	(85%)	156	(100%)

Inspection of Table XXXI indicates, as did Table XXVIII, that of the 156 women released from MCIW, 48 (31%) had been committed to Minnesota State Juvenile Correctional Institutions while 108 (69%) had not been committed to a State juvenile institution. It should be noted that Section I above demonstrated that of the 224 women committed to MCIW during 1971 through 1975, 160 (71%) had not been committed to a State Juvenile Correctional Institution. This strongly suggests that few adult women offenders have been involved in the State Juvenile System.

Further inspection of this table reveals of the 48 women who had State juvenile history, 13 (27%) had been returned to MCIW while 11 (10%) of those who had no previous State juvenile history were returned to MCIW. This would indicate that women who are committed to MCIW with a State juvenile record will have a higher probability of being returned to the institution.

The table also shows that of the 26 women with previous terms at MCIW, only four (15%) had been returned to MCIW. The same proportion of returns is reported for those with no previous adult history, 20 (15%) returned out of 130. It appears that the existence of a prior adult correctional institutionalization had no effect on subsequent returns to MCIW unlike the definite relationship demonstrated above between prior juvenile commitments and subsequent revocation.

# **SECTION THREE**



### Introduction

This section will discuss perceived program and security needs at the Minnesota Correctional Institution For Women located at Shakopee.

### Methodology

Staff and resident questionnaires were administered in the last two weeks of July 1976.

### Residents

This was a written questionnaire that consisted primarily of open-ended questions. At the time of administration, 32 out of 39 residents responded. Seven refused or were unavailable to answer the questions. It should also be noted that not all questions were answered by the responding residents. This means that some questions had less than 32 responses.

### Staff

A formal interview schedule was administered to all program and treatment staff including all available day and evening shift Correctional Counselors and most relief (on-call) Correctional Counselors. The interview schedule elicited both open-ended responses and judgments concerning the program and security needs of specific MCIW residents.

### Programming

#### Dependent Children

Table XXXII indicates that twenty (66%) of the 31 MCIW residents responding to the questionnaire have dependent children. Of those with dependent children, 14 (45%) had one or two children and six (21%) had three or four children.

This information and that in Section One, which showed that 150 (67%) of the 224 women admitted to MCIW from 1971 through 1975 had dependent children, indicates that the majority of residents must meet the difficulties of both deprivation of liberty and separation from their children.

TABLE XXXII - Resident Questionnaire Respondents: Number of Dependent Children

<u>No. of Children</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0	11	35
1-2	14	45
3-4	6	19
TOTAL	31	100%

Table XXXIII demonstrates that most children of MCIW residents are the recipients of public assistance - 16 (80%) out of 20 families.

TABLE XXXIII - Resident Questionnaire Respondents With Dependent Children: Marital Status by Public Assistance For Dependent Children

Are Dependent Children Supported by Public Assistance?

Marital Status	Yes		No		Total	
	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %	Freq.	Row %
Married	8	100	0	-	8	100
Divorced-Separated	7	64	4	36	11	100
Single	1	100	0	-	1	100
Total	16	(80%)	4	(20%)	20	(100%)

Inspection of Table XXXIV reveals that 17 (90%) residents at MCIW had their children living with them at the time of arrest, one (5%) child was placed in a foster care home and one (5%) was living with relatives. It is felt that the number of residents reporting children living with parents may be somewhat high because of the residents' possible concern about making a favorable impression as mothers. Secondly, some residents may have meant their own parents when responding "parents" rather than themselves or their spouses.

Further inspection of this table demonstrates that after incarceration, 8 (40%) of the residents indicated that their children were placed in some form of public or private placement situation while 9 (45%) stated that their children were living with parents (spouse or parents of spouses).

TABLE XXXIV - Residents Questionnaire Respondents: Living Situation of Dependent Children at Time of Arrest and Currently

Type of Living Situation	Time of Arrest		Currently	
	Freq.	Col. %	Freq.	Col. %
Parents	17	90	3	15
Relatives	1	5	9	45
Placement	1	5	8	40
Total	19	100	20*	100

\*One person gave birth to a child while at MCIW.

## Summary

The information in the preceding tables on dependent children demonstrates that a majority (65%) of the women presently incarcerated at MCIW have dependent children, and the information on admissions from 1971-1975 clearly shows that this is not an abnormal situation. Table XXXIV revealed that at time of arrest 90% of women at MCIW had their dependent children living with the family, and currently 15% are living with their family. This indicates that incarceration at MCIW constitutes a major disruption of the family.

Thus, it should be noted that the State must not only meet the cost of incarceration, but must also usually provide for the cost of child care through public assistance when the decision is made to confine a woman at MCIW.

The next step concerning the focus on the dependent children of residents at MCIW is to present information on the procedure MCIW has initiated to mitigate the problem of familial separation and what procedures may be developed in the future concerning this situation.

### A. Placement Problems

Thirteen of the 20 women with dependent children indicated that they were having or have had placement difficulties with their children. The situation varied from custody problems and uncooperative welfare departments to difficulties in finding suitable placements.

Thirteen staff persons responded to this topic by indicating that residents often have difficulties maintaining family ties. Eight staff persons stated that residents have problems in adjusting to family separation.

### B. Visitation For Dependent Children

Four staff persons stated that arranging for sufficient numbers of visits by children is difficult, and that visiting opportunities should be expanded; nine of the residents also indicated that the current situation was inadequate to meet their needs in this area.

Twenty-three staff persons responded that the facilities and programs at MCIW for dependent children's visitation were inadequate. Nineteen of these responses focus on the facilities, while four responses were directed at programming inadequacies. In addition, four residents made reference to the problems associated with visitation. The reason for this low response from residents was probably due to the structure of the question concerning dependent children.

The problem areas seen by staff and residents in regard to visitations by children revolve around both weekday and weekend visitations. During the week it is difficult for children to visit their mothers because of the problems associated with volunteer transportation. During the weekend, when children are allowed to stay overnight with their mothers, the problems expressed were two:

- 1) There are no sleeping and living facilities for mothers and children apart from their mother's usual bedrooms. Not only are facilities uncomfortable for mother and child, but often the children annoy or disturb the other residents.

- 2) There is little for children to do while at MCIW. There are no swing sets or other playground facilities which would help mother and child spend idle hours.

### Summary

The information on dependent children of women confined at MCIW presented here suggests that this is a major problem. A majority of the women who have dependent children, as well as many staff persons, feel that this is a primary problem in adjusting to incarceration. The information further suggests that MCIW is not adequately meeting this problem.

The present program provides weekend visits for dependent children but doesn't provide adequate transportation for the children or special facilities. In addition, there are no separate living facilities, therefore, a child must stay with the mother in her room. Secondly, there are few recreational facilities and no special programs for the children.

Staff and residents both indicated that many mothers at MCIW have placement problems. This raises the question as to what MCIW can do to alleviate this problem. Presently, MCIW has a small program on family skills development but with the large number of residents with dependent children and the indicated problems in this area, it is suggested that more Department resources should be directed to this area. In addition, more resources should be committed for the visitation of dependent children.

### Vocational and Educational Needs

Seventeen of the 31 residents indicated a need for improving educational and vocational programming. Five of these persons specifically mentioned a need for more and higher skilled vocational programs located at MCIW, while three persons indicate a special interest in specific types of vocational skills. Eleven staff persons indicated a greater need for on-grounds vocational programs and private industry. These staff explained that this need is closely associated with a current increase in lengths of stay at MCIW. Four staff persons also indicated a need to loosen the restrictions for the work release program. It should be noted that the Parole Board determines who shall be granted work release and Table XXXII shows that from 1971 through 1975 only 25 persons were on work release and none of those admitted in 1975 were granted work release. This would suggest that this area may need to be reassessed with the potential expansion of the program being the major concern.

In the area of academic educational programming, seven staff persons stated that those residents with some college should be provided with more opportunity to finish their degree work while residing at MCIW. Four staff persons indicated a need for two permanent full-time teachers on-grounds while nine staff persons specified the need for specific educational programs. Eight stated a need for programs that focused on living skills such as child development, skills in handling behavior problems, self-awareness and health education. This information shows that a number of staff persons at MCIW believe that the institution's educational program should expand its service in the direction of teaching living skills to residents. Since MCIW is primarily oriented towards treatment, this would be congruent with the Institution's philosophy.

In assessing future program requirements, it is necessary to analyze the past performance of residents' involvement in programs. Table XXXV focuses on the program participation of those presently at MCIW.

TABLE XXXV - Resident Questionnaire Respondents: Residents Weekly Activity Schedules at the Time of Questionnaire

Hours Per Week	<u>Education</u>		<u>Vocational</u>		<u>Employment</u>		<u>Counseling</u>	
	On Grounds	Off Grounds	On Grounds	Off Grounds	On Grounds	Off Grounds	On Grounds	Off Grounds
0-5	3				1		3	1
6-10	3		1		1	1	4	
11-15	2							
16-20					1			
21-25			1		1			
26-30	4		2		6			
31-40	1		2		10	3		
Total	13	0	6	0	20	4	7	1

Table XXXV reveals that 13 of the 31 residents are presently enrolled in on-ground educational programs and six are involved in vocational programs. Twenty-four women indicated that they were involved in employment activity and of this group four were in off-grounds occupations. The reader should be aware that persons may be involved in more than one activity and therefore may be registered in this table more than once.

Secondly, the resident may view his activity as work while administration may consider it vocational training. An example would be the on-grounds activity of food service, which administration may consider educationally orientated while residents may view the activity as work.

Most residences involved in employment work more or less full-time. Most of those employed off-grounds are employed full-time. Involvement in education varies from 0-5 hours per week to 31-40 hours per week. Counseling is provided for seven residents for up to 10 hours per week on-grounds, and for one resident less than six hours per week off-grounds.

TABLE XXXVI - Resident Questionnaire Respondents: Residents' Involvement in Institutional Programs For More Than 30 Days

	<u>Freq.</u>
1. Education Programs	20
2. Vocational Programs	27
3. Psychological Treatment Outside of MCIW	1
4. Psychological Treatment in Institutions	17
5. Drug Programs	14
6. Alcohol Programs	17
7. Culture Groups (Indian and Black)	5
8. Recreational Activities	21
9. Inmate-Staff Advisory Council	10
10. Family Services	4
11. Women's Groups	11
12. Other	3

Table XXXVI shows that 20 persons were involved in educational programs and 27 persons in vocational programs for at least thirty days during their total confinement at MCIW. This table and the previous table reveals that the majority of the persons who are presently confined at MCIW have been or are currently involved in educational and/or vocational programming. The difference in vocational activity in the past and present may be attributed to the residents' belief that they have finished their apprenticeship and have acquired enough skills to be considered producers.

In the staff interviews, five persons stated that most residents have motivational problems in educational programs and four persons indicated that this problem also exists in vocational programs. This is primarily in reference to the difficulty residents have in completing programs after enrollment. Although most staff and residents maintain that the residents do have a concern about self-improvement, many staff persons noted that programs do have a problem in maintaining participation. Program attrition may be attributed to residents' realizations that skills development attributed to the programs are not what the residents are actually interested in acquiring.

#### Psychological Treatment and Chemical Dependency Programs

Six of the 31 residents responding to the questionnaire indicated a need for a drug program while three stated a need for programs that deal with alcohol problems. In the area of psychological treatment, four residents want some type of treatment in MCIW.

Twenty-one staff persons indicated that MCIW needs additional treatment that will deal with residents' psychological problems. The following is a list of staff responses:

TABLE XXXVII - Staff Interviews Treatment Programs Needed

<u>Number Persons</u>	<u>Responses</u>
4	Presently, there is no psychological treatment available in the secure unit.
1	There is a specific need at MCIW for treatment of persons who are here for long periods of time.
2	MCIW has no specific treatment programs for dangerous offenders.
8	MCIW needs to develop a program with independent psychological consulting services for residents.
5	In the future, MCIW needs to develop a program that will develop residents' living skills.
1	This person indicated a need for a transactional or group therapy program at MCIW.

Twelve of the 23 staff persons interviewed indicated that the present chemical dependency program does not meet the psychological needs of the residents at MCIW. Seven staff persons stated that MCIW needs an intensive on-ground chemical dependency program while two staff persons believed there was motivational problems in this area, and one staff believed MCIW needed additional staff in this area.

It appears that the staff believe that these programs do not meet the psychological needs of the residents. Specifically, the chemical dependency program appears to be directed more toward education and not treatment. Secondly, the staff view the present counseling program as not adequate in meeting the more intensive psychological problems of certain residents.

If one reviews the tables in Section One on chemical dependency and psychological treatment of residents admitted to MCIW during 1971 through 1975, it becomes apparent that this concern voiced by staff persons has a substantial basis.

#### Summary on Programming

The previous information presented on program involvement shows that MCIW lacks programs in the areas of dependent children, on-grounds vocational training and private industry, treatment oriented chemical dependency programs and some type of psychological treatment program at MCIW directed towards intensive psychological problems of certain residents.

In addition, in the opinion of certain staff persons, there is a need for a psychologist who is independent from the Department of Corrections. They also perceived a problem with the motivation of residents. This motivation was seen as an inability of residents to finish programs that they had enrolled in at MCIW.

#### Security Needs

##### Assaultive Behavior

The staff interview question on assaultive behavior of residents was directed towards defining the atmosphere of the institution. In other words, is assaultive behavior by inmates perceived as a problem and does it create a threatening atmosphere for the staff. Seventeen of the staff interviewed indicated that they did not feel threatened and six indicated this type of behavior as not a major problem. It should be noted that none of the staff felt seriously threatened at MCIW. Three staff persons specifically stated that two persons at the institution did create a threatening atmosphere and one credited those individuals with serious psychological problems. These two persons are presently confined in segregation.

It appears from the above information that assaultive behavior is not perceived as a major problem by the staff, although the staff believes that a few individuals (two) when provided with a non-security environment would be a threat to their safety.

Persons Who Staff Believe Need a Maximum Security Setting

It should be noted that the staff used subjective criteria and not commitment offenses in determining which persons needed a maximum security setting. The criteria used was based primarily on the individual's behavior at MCIW. Because the institution is extremely small, the staff is usually aware of any dangerous behavior that residents have been involved with at the institution. Therefore, it was not surprising that there was a considerable amount of agreement on this subject among staff. The difference that did occur could probably be accounted for by difference in values or tolerance.

The following information was obtained:

TABLE XXXVIII - Staff Interviews: The Number of MCIW Residents Needing Maximum Security

One Individual	5
Two Individuals	10
Three Individuals	6
Four Individuals	1
Five Individuals	1
Total	<u>23</u>

In responding to this question, one individual was always mentioned by name while another individual was mentioned by name in all but six of the responses.

The questions concerning assaultive behavior and individuals in need of a maximum security setting demonstrates that the future need for a security setting for women in Minnesota may have little support, if one bases that need on institutional behavior. In addition, this is supported by Table XXV which indicates that of the 224 women admitted to MCIW in 1971 through 1975, only 17 have been involved in assaultive behavior while at the institution.

However, because of the size of the institution, a few individuals can drastically alter the atmosphere. Further, MCIW does not have adequate facilities or resources to confine an individual for any great length of time in a secure setting. Therefore, those few assaultive individuals must eventually return to the general population, which is a minimum security environment. This presents a potentially dangerous situation.

A major security problem at MCIW which may have influence in deciding a need for a more secure institution is the number of escapes. Table XXIV indicated that of 224 women admitted, only 38 persons had escaped at least once from the institution. If one looks at commitment offense, one notices that both property and person offenders are included in escape situations.

TABLE XXXIX - MCIW: Total Number of Escapes 1971-August 1976

	<u>1976*</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>
No. Individuals	2	11	14	8	11	7
No. Escapes	2	16	15	8	13	7

\*Through June 30th

Table XXXIX shows that the total number of escapes increased from seven in 1971 to 16 in 1975. However, there were only two escapes during the first six months of 1976. A recent policy change has made a 30 day stay in segregation mandatory for all returned escapees. This is credited for the drop in number of escapes this past year.

In addition, it should be noted that Section I notes that the overall escape rate for MCIW is equivalent to that of Willow River Camp - a minimum security adult institution.

Of particular concern is the question of potential escapes due to participation in off-grounds vocational training, education, or employment. The staff responsible for this program have indicated that escapes had been a problem for that program until last year when a series of policies concerning off-grounds activities were enacted along with the general 30 day sanction for all escapees. Since that time, no escapes have occurred during off-grounds employment or education.

#### Admission Characteristics at MCIW

This question was directed towards determining if the staff perceive any major difference in the characteristics of the present population as compared with past populations. It should be noted that this was an open ended question; therefore, each staff person utilized their own value system and time reference in answering the question.

TABLE XL - Staff Responses to the Change in Population at MCIW

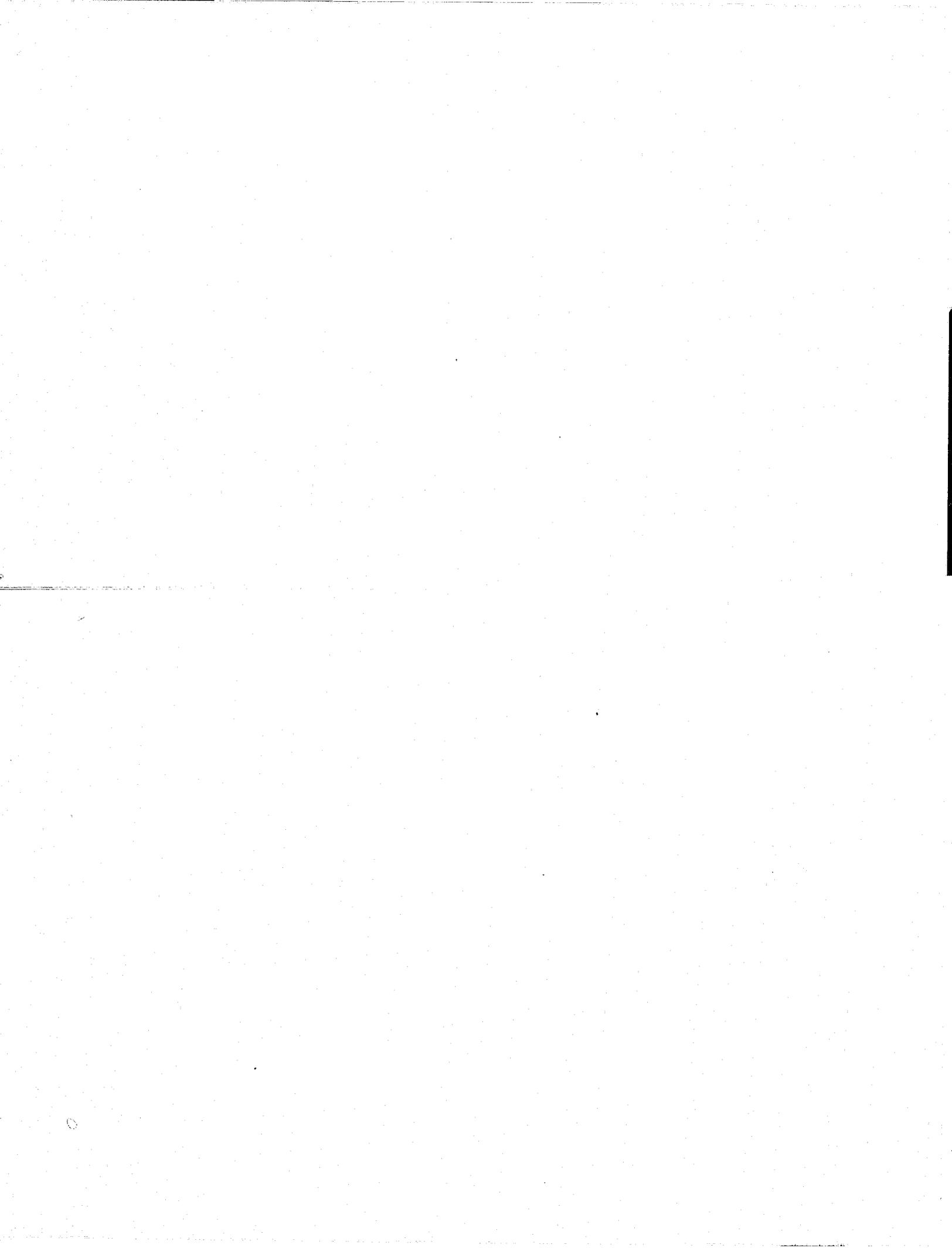
<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Responses</u>
1	1	Residents acted out more in the past.
4	1	Residents now are more difficult to deal with and more residents with violent offenses.
½	2	Presently there are more person offenders because of community corrections.
4	1	Residents now have committed more violent crimes where the victim was a stranger.
4	1	The present population has a greater chemical dependency problem than in the past.
2	1	Residents are now in for more violent offenses and are staying for longer periods of time.
5	1	Residents are older and more mature than in the past.
2	1	Presently, appear to be younger than past residents at MCIW.

TABLE XL--continued

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>Responses</u>
2	1	The present residents tend to be younger, in for more violent crimes, and are more aware of themselves.
5	1	Presently, there are more long-timers, more person offenders, and not as many repeaters.
11	1	Presently, there are a very few violent-hostile persons, not like a few years ago.
3	1	Residents at MCIW now are more involved in drugs.
20	1	The residents presently at MCIW are older with children and are easier to handle.
5	1	Presently, there are more street people and have great involvement with drugs than in the past.
11	1	Today the residents are younger, involved in more violent crimes, heavier use of drugs and more difficult to deal with than in the past.
6	1	Residents are now involved in more violent crimes, not just crimes of passion, and use drugs more than in the past.
2½	1	This person felt that residents now are similar to those in the past.

Five persons felt that they had not been employed long enough at MCIW to comment on this subject.

Table XL clearly indicates that the staff interviewed at MCIW have diverse opinions on the characteristics of the present population as compared to previous residents. Furthermore, this difference cannot be attributed to the length of employment of staff. As an example, two staff persons who were employed 11 years each gave very different responses to this question. It appears this difference may be due to variations in values, type of job, job location, and the nature of personal relationships with the residents. It should be noted that these differences did not exist in the staff perceptions of persons who needed maximum security or of the atmosphere at MCIW.



**END**