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ANNUAL REPORT

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# CRIME IN MONTANA

## 1977 ANNUAL REPORT

Compiled by the  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA CENTER  
OF THE MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL

Dr. Gordon Browder, Chairman

JULY, 1978

☐ criminal  
☒ justice  
☐ data  
☒ center

**FOREWORD**

*Crime in Montana* is an annual report prepared by the Criminal Justice Data Center of the Montana Board of Crime Control. This report presents an overview of the nature and extent of crime in our state. It also includes a summary of district court data.

With our crime reporting program seven years old, we have achieved a level of reliability which enhances the utility of the data. As you will read in this report, crime has decreased in our state for the second year in a row. This decrease can only be credited to the greater sophistication and professionalism within the law enforcement community as well as a greater awareness toward crime and crime prevention on the part of Montana's citizens.

Special appreciation is extended to the Montana criminal justice community whose voluntary efforts in providing the source data make this publication possible.

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Erwin  
Advisor  
Criminal Justice Data Center

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## INTRODUCTION

This annual report about crime in Montana represents a large accumulation of facts along with detailed analyses of the prevalence of different crimes, crime trends, arrests, and district court data. It contains the most complete and accurate information currently available on crime in Montana.

In preparing this report, every effort was made to achieve the greatest possible simplicity and clarity. Wherever advantageous, graphic presentations are included to help illustrate the story of crime in Montana.

While this report is primarily intended for use by those involved in the planning and management of the criminal justice system and by individual law enforcement agencies, it should also be of interest to all concerned residents of the state.

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA CENTER

The Criminal Justice Data Center is the center for criminal justice statistics for the state. The Center was established at the MBCC in 1971. Its purpose is to collect and analyze information about crime and criminal activity in Montana and to provide an objective, interpretive analysis of the state's criminal justice data which local law enforcement agencies can use for identifying problems and allocating manpower and resources and which the MBCC can use for establishing priorities and planning new methods of reducing crime.

Criminal justice data is furnished to the Center by county law enforcement agencies, city police departments, tribal police agencies, district courts, and government agencies such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the National Park Service. Although reporting is voluntary, almost all law enforcement agencies participate.

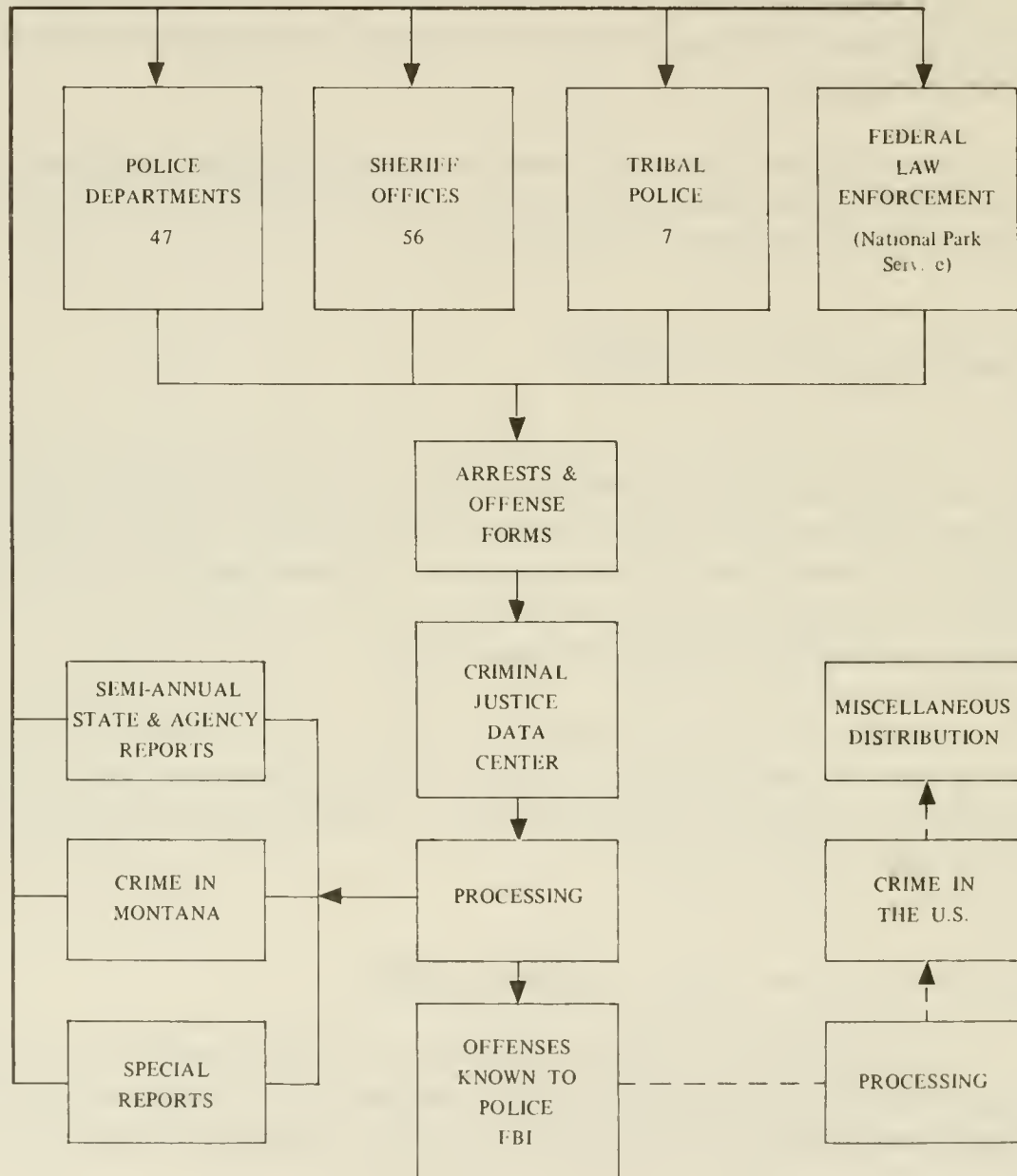
### MONTANA UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING SYSTEM

The development of a statewide uniform crime reporting system has encouraged law enforcement participation in record keeping, data collection, and data analysis and use. This in turn assures that valid information is available for criminal justice planning at state and local levels.



Participating law enforcement agencies are wholly responsible for completing their own crime reports and submitting them to the Data Center. On a monthly basis, law enforcement agencies (as shown below) report the arrests that are completed by their departments and the number of offenses that become known to them during the month.

Illustration 1.  
MONTANA CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA CENTER  
ARRESTS AND OFFENSES STATISTICS SYSTEM





The Montana Uniform Crime Reporting System includes the Arrest Information System and the Offense Information System.

The Arrest Information System tabulates felony and misdemeanor arrests by age, race, and sex of the offender, the time of day, and the day, week, and month on which the arrest occurred.

The Offense Information System, the state counterpart of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Uniform Crime Report program, summarizes the types of crimes actually being committed and reported to law enforcement agencies.

At present, 111 law enforcement agencies throughout the state contribute monthly data to the Data Center. This number includes all 56 sheriff departments, seven tribal police departments, the National Park Service at Glacier Park, and 47 local police agencies. In addition, many small police departments report to the sheriff departments in their counties, and this data is forwarded to the Data Center.

A particularly important aim of the Montana Crime Reporting System is statistical *feedback* to contributors. Data is summarized and returned to them in the form of computerized summaries of offenses and arrests, showing crime by offense and arrest categories, clearances, volume of arrests and offenses — all of which is useful to departments in terms of resource distribution, identification of needs and problems, manpower deployment, budget allocations, and public relations.

## DISTRICT COURT DATA SYSTEM

The district court data system collects data through the clerks of court in the 19 judicial districts. This system deals with criminal cases filed in each judicial district and is concerned with data such as the criminal charge, pre-trial motions, trial outcome and sentencing information. A summary of this data is found on pages 41 through 43.



## CRIME IN MONTANA — 1977

### CRIME FACTORS

The amount and type of crime reported in this section is based on offenses reported to the police and does not measure those offenses which the law enforcement community never becomes aware of. A considerable volume of crime is not reported to law enforcement agencies because the victims may consider the offenses against them of very little consequence, they believe there is very little the police can do about them, or they fear publicity of a police investigation or retaliation from offenders. Recent national victimization surveys indicate that the actual number of certain index offenses committed may be fully double the number that are made known to police.

A simple report of the number and types of crime is not an accurate representation of criminal activity within the state. Other factors which may influence the type and volume of crime are:

- density and size of community
- composition of the population with reference to age, race, and sex
- economic status and mores of the population
- stability of population such as seasonal workers and tourism
- education, recreational and religious characteristics
- effective strength of the police force
- policies of the prosecuting officials and the courts
- attitude of the public toward law and law enforcement

### STATISTICAL METHOD OF REPORTING

Several statistical measurements are used to make the crime data more meaningful. They are *crime index*, *crime rate* and *crime seriousness* which are discussed below.

### CRIME INDEX

The crime index has been used nationwide for many years as a standard for comparing the amount and extent of serious crime in different areas.

Seven crimes are included in the index. Two sub-classifications also are used to contrast the crimes. The crime index includes:

Violent Crimes. . . . . Homicide

Rape

Robbery

Assault

Property Crimes . . . . . Burglary

Larceny/theft

Motor Vehicle Theft

These seven crimes are recognized as the most serious crime problems in our society and the most likely to be reported to law enforcement. The numerous other felony and serious misdemeanor offenses are not included in the crime index but are included and reported on page 8, illustration 3.

The crime index is only an indication of the amount and type of crime occurring in a jurisdiction. It is not an absolute measure. If multiple crimes were committed during an incident and reported, only the most serious is recorded in the index.

## CRIME RATE

One of the most commonly used statistical measurements is the crime rate. This measurement calculates the number of incidents which occur for every 100,000 residents. The crime rate is useful in comparing the amount of crime in two areas with a great difference in population.

The crime rate is calculated by dividing the total number of serious crimes (usually it is the seven major index crimes) by the population or estimated population and multiplying the answer by 100,000 as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Number of Crimes}}{\text{Population of Law Enforcement Jurisdiction}} \times 100,000 = \text{Rate per 100,000}$$

The 1977 population estimate for Montana is 761,000. This figure was provided by the FBI through assistance of the Bureau of Census. The 1977 Montana Index Offense Crime Rates are shown in the following illustration.

Illustration 2.  
1977 MONTANA INDEX OFFENSE CRIME RATES

Violent Crimes			Property Crimes		
Index Offenses	Number Of Offenses	Rate Per 100,000 Population	Index Offenses	Number Of Offenses	Rate Per 100,000 Population
Homicide .....	40	5.3	Burglary .....	6,363	836.1
Rape .....	138	18.1	Larceny/Theft .....	21,214	2,787.6
Robbery .....	295	38.8	Motor Vehicle Theft ...	2,413	317.1
Assault .....	1,437	188.8			
Total .....	1,910	251.0	Total .....	29,990	3,940.9
GRAND TOTAL .....				31,900	4,191.9

Comparison of the amount of crime and estimated population for the state shows a crime rate of 4,192. This means that 4,192 out of every 100,000 Montanans were victims of a major crime – or more simply:

4,191.9 crimes per 100,000 persons  
419.2 crimes per 10,000 persons  
41.9 crimes per 1,000 persons  
4.2 crimes per 100 persons

Out of every 100 Montanans, 4.2 were victims of an index crime. In 1976, the level of victimization was 4.3 per 100 persons – a 2.3 percent decrease in 1977.

### CRIME INCIDENCE COMPARISON

A comparison of the number of crimes reported in 1977 to that reported in the previous year provides a measure of the fluctuation in criminal activity.

For the second time in two years, the number of index crimes has decreased. The total of 31,900 index crimes reported in 1977 is 237 less than the 32,137 reported in the previous year. A breakdown by offense for both years is shown in the following illustration with the percentage of change in the right column.



Illustration 3.  
CRIME INCIDENCE COMPARISON  
1976 - 1977

Offense	1976	1977	Percent Change
Homicide .....	41	40	- 2.4
Rape .....	124	138	+11.3
Robbery .....	238	295	+24.0
Aggravated Assault .....	<u>1,137</u>	<u>1,437</u>	<u>+26.4</u>
Total Offenses Against Persons .....	1,585	1,910	+20.5
Burglary .....	6,665	6,363	- 4.5
Larceny/Theft .....	21,560	21,214	- 1.6
Motor Vehicle Theft .....	<u>2,327</u>	<u>2,413</u>	<u>+ 3.7</u>
Total Offenses Against Property .....	<u>30,552</u>	<u>29,990</u>	<u>- 1.8</u>
Total 7 Major Offenses .....	32,137	31,900	- 1.0
Negligent Manslaughter .....	17	25	+47.1
Other Assaults .....	1,375	1,520	+10.6
Arson .....	156	174	+11.5
Forgery and Counterfeiting .....	626	521	-16.8
Fraud .....	1,331	1,624	+22.0
Embezzlement .....	18	10	-44.4
Stolen Property .....	200	329	+64.5
Vandalism .....	9,233	10,149	+ 9.9
Weapons .....	539	525	- 2.6
Prostitution .....	38	29	-23.7
Sex Offenses .....	350	360	+ 2.9
Drugs .....	1,702	1,499	-11.9
Gambling .....	66	40	-39.4
Offenses Against Family .....	<u>762</u>	<u>984</u>	<u>+29.1</u>
Total Other Offenses .....	<u>16,413</u>	<u>17,789</u>	<u>+ 8.4</u>
GRAND TOTAL .....	<u>48,550</u>	<u>49,689</u>	<u>+ 2.4</u>

The major decrease was in property crimes. Burglary and larceny/theft decreased by 4.5 percent and 1.6 percent respectively. Overall, a 1.8 percent decrease in property crime occurred in 1977.

Although property crime showed a 1.8 percent decrease, reported violent crimes of Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault accounted for a 20.5 percent increase; with Aggravated Assault



recording a 26.4 percent increase, Robbery recorded a 24 percent increase and Rape recorded a 11.3 percent increase.

The volume decrease in the property crime categories accounted for the general crime decrease in the seven major index offenses.

The non-index property crimes of Arson and Vandalism continued to record increases in 1977 as they did in the previous year. The 329 reported cases of Receiving/Possessing Stolen Property were 64.5 percent more than the 200 cases reported in 1976.

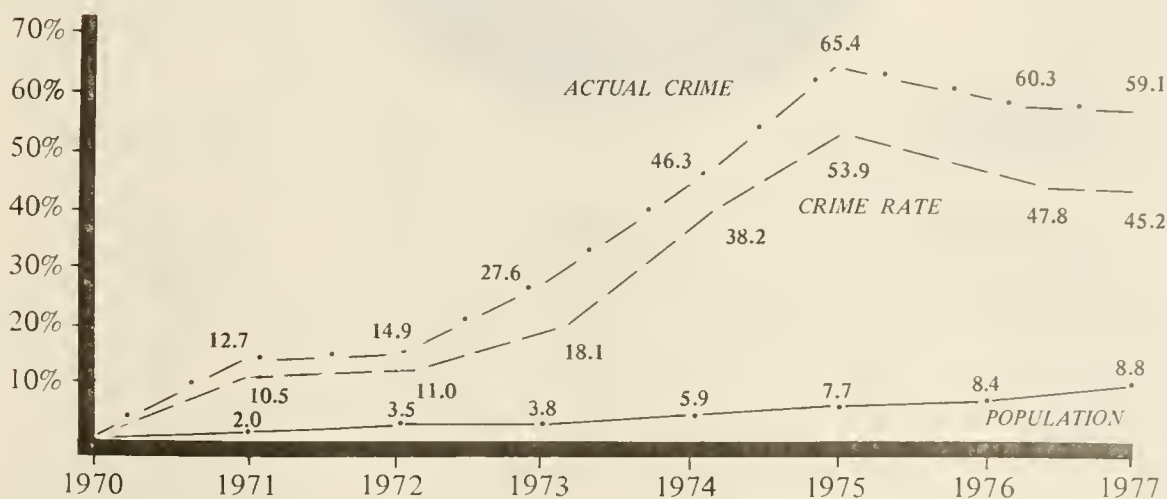
Illustration 3 on the previous page shows the specific changes in the seven major index crimes as well as the other felony and serious misdemeanor classifications.

### CRIME AND POPULATION

In order to demonstrate the crime trend and the population trend over a period of years, a percent change is calculated using 1970 as the base year. In 1970, Montana recorded 20,052 index crimes with a crime rate of 2,887.6 per 100,000 and a population of 694,409. The rapid increase in crime in the earlier years of this decade corresponds to very small increases in the total statewide population. By 1975, the crime rate had increased 53.9 percent over 1970 while the state population had grown only 7.7 percent in that same period.

The 1976 and 1977 crime trend figures indicate a leveling off and decrease from the peak in 1975. The population trend shows a steady increase to an estimated 761,000 in 1977.

Illustration 4.  
CRIME RATE AND POPULATION CHANGES — 1970 - 1977  
(By Percent Change to 1970)



## CRIME OFFENSE PROFILE

The circle graph below shows the proportion of each index crime to the total of all the index crimes reported in 1977.

Three property crimes — Burglary, Larceny/Theft and Motor Vehicle Theft — account for 94.1 percent of all major crimes reported in 1977. Violent crime of Homicide, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault accounted for 5.9 percent of the index offenses.

Illustration 5.  
CRIME PROFILE - 1977

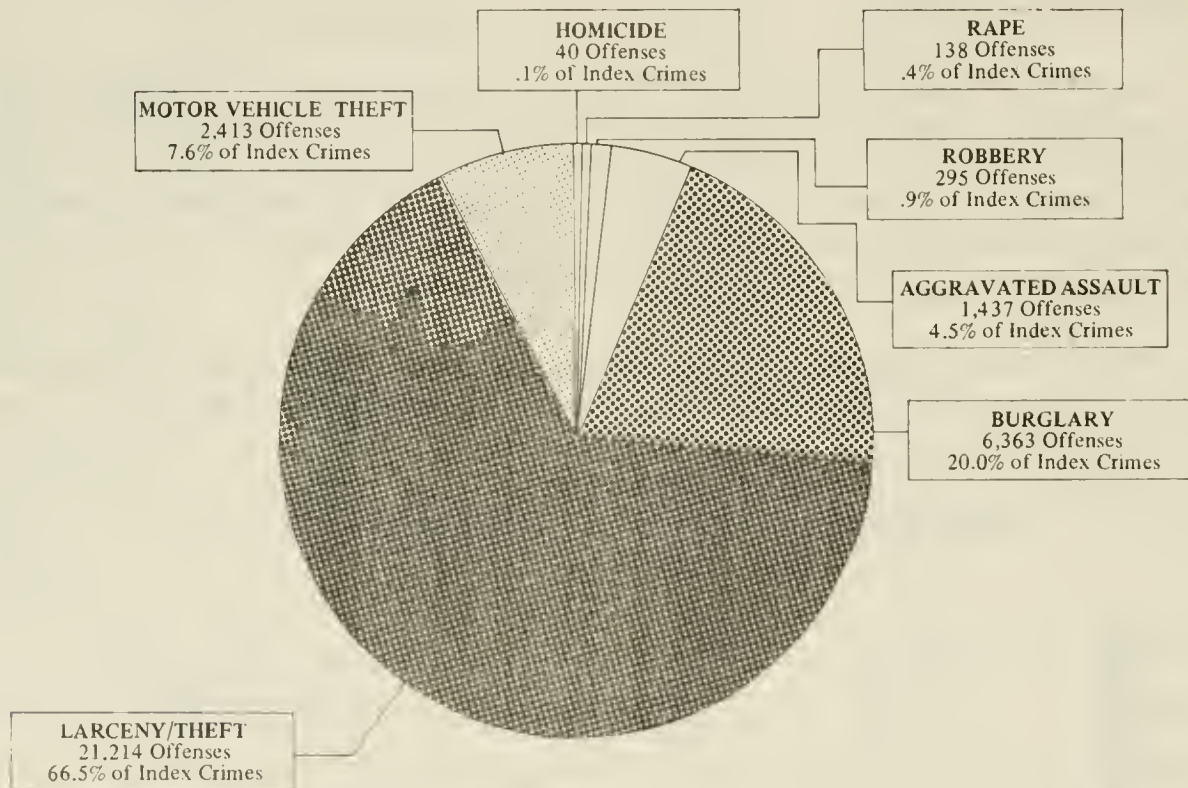


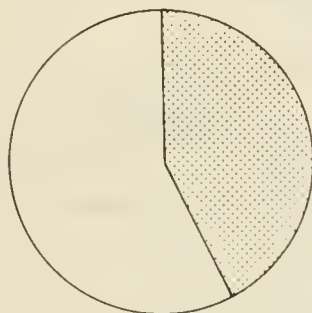
Illustration 6.  
CRIME CLOCKS - 1977

INDEX CRIMES



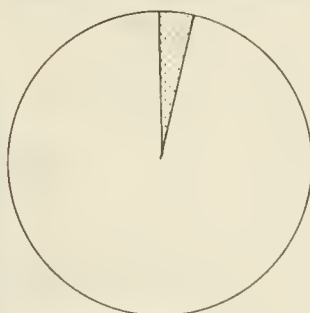
One every 16 min.

VIOLENT CRIMES



One every 5 hrs.

PROPERTY CRIMES



One every 18 min.

HOMICIDE

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9			

One every 9 days

RAPE

1	2	3			

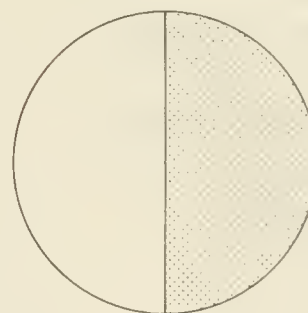
One every 3 days

ROBBERY

1					

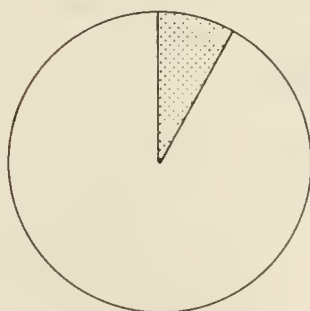
One every day

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT



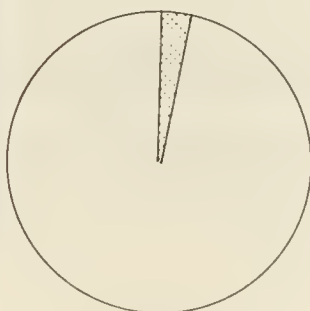
One every 6 hrs.

BURGLARY



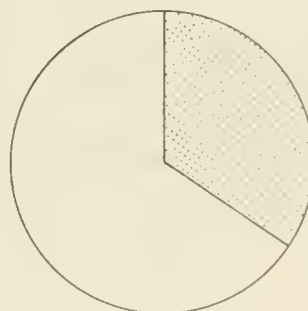
One every hour

LARCENY/THEFT



One every 25 min.

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT



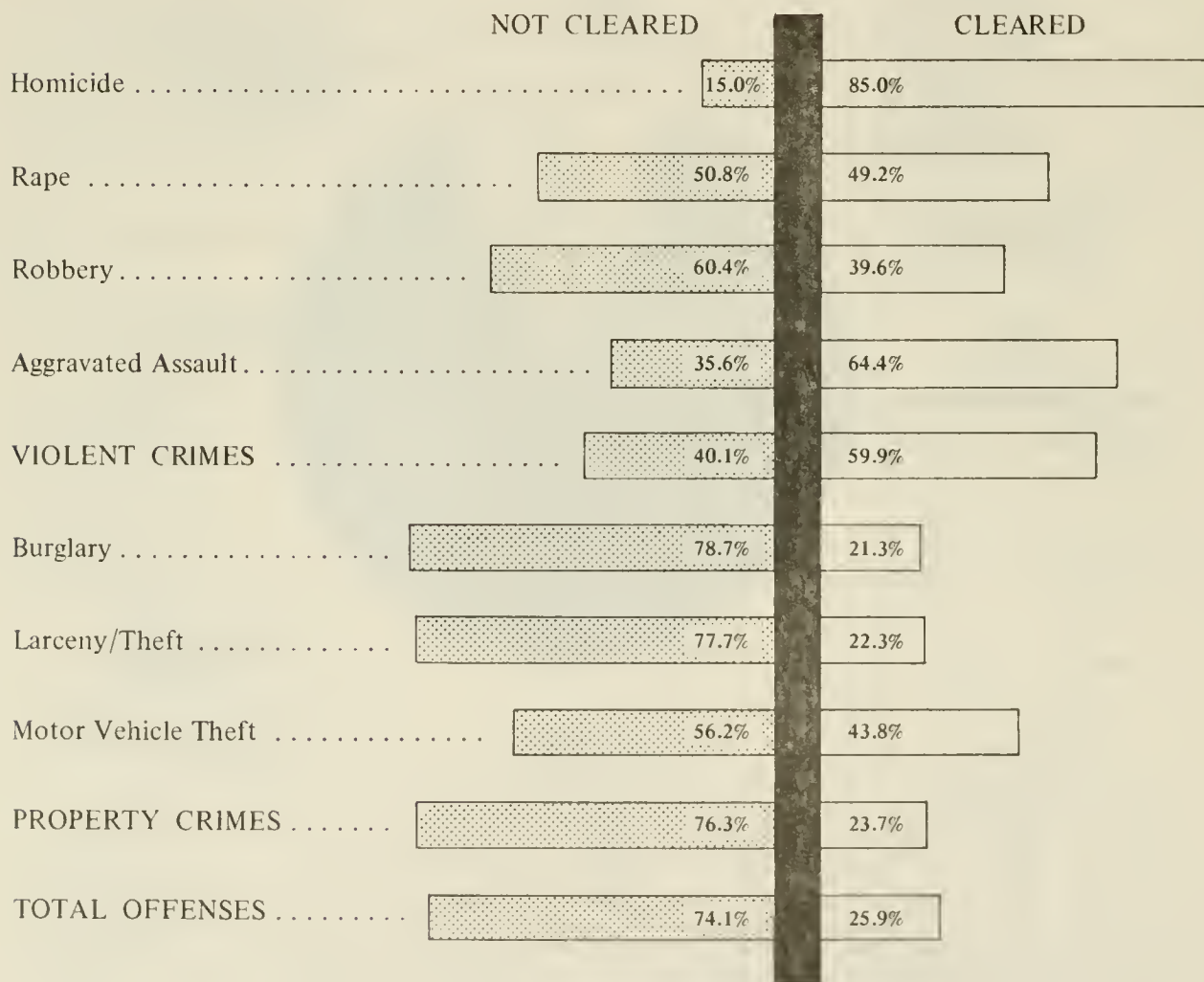
One every 4 hrs.

## CLEARANCES

An offense is considered cleared when a law enforcement agency has identified the offender and gathered sufficient evidence and filed a charge. The arrest of one person can clear several crimes or conversely, several persons may be arrested in the process of clearing one crime.

The following illustration shows the percent of offenses cleared by arrest. Note that property crimes – burglary, larceny/theft and motor vehicle theft – have the lowest percent of clearance, while violent crimes or crimes against persons have a higher percentage of clearance.

Illustration 7.  
PERCENT OF OFFENSES CLEARED BY ARREST  
1977





## CRIME BY COUNTY

The crime rate for each county in Montana is listed below. Eleven counties are above the statewide average of 4,191.9 crimes reported per 100,000 population. These eleven counties containing 56.3 percent of the total state population were the scene of 76.0 percent of known index crimes.

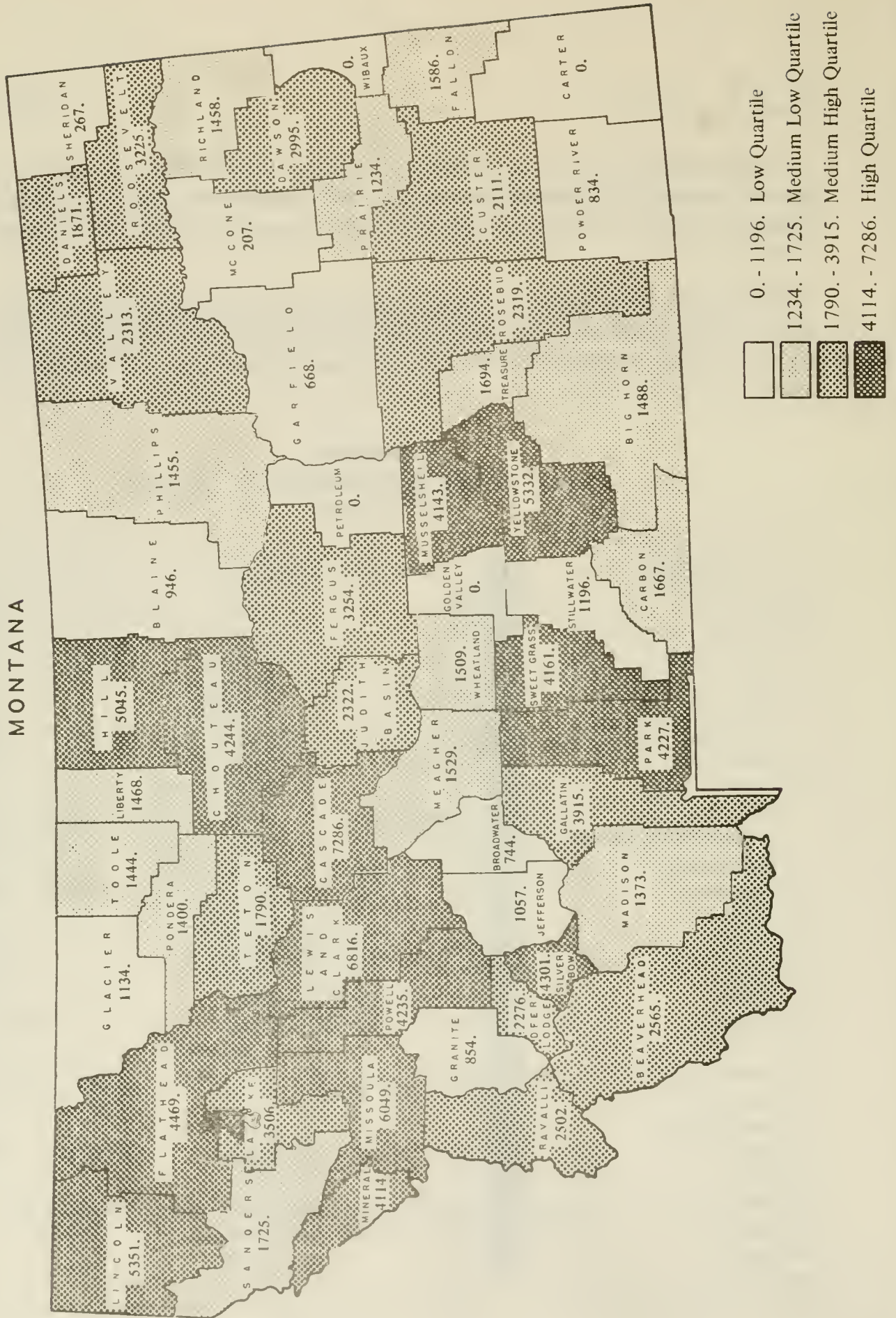
As shown on the map on the following page, the eleven counties are not one geographical, high-crime area; rather, they correspond to the high population areas of the state. Only three of the eleven counties, Chouteau, Powell and Park, have small populations. In such sparsely populated jurisdictions, any fluctuation in the number of crimes creates a major impact on the crime rate.

Illustration 8.  
CRIME RATE BY COUNTY  
1977 Ranking

1. Cascade . . . . .	7,286.3	29. Sanders . . . . .	1,725.0
2. Lewis & Clark. . . . .	6,815.7	30. Treasure . . . . .	1,693.5
3. Missoula . . . . .	6,048.8	31. Carbon . . . . .	1,667.3
4. Lincoln. . . . .	5,350.6	32. Fallon . . . . .	1,586.0
5. Yellowstone . . . . .	5,332.4	33. Meagher. . . . .	1,529.1
6. Hill. . . . .	5,045.2	34. Wheatland . . . . .	1,509.4
7. Flathead. . . . .	4,469.3	35. Big Horn . . . . .	1,488.0
8. Silver Bow . . . . .	4,301.0	36. Liberty. . . . .	1,467.5
9. Chouteau . . . . .	4,244.2	37. Richland . . . . .	1,458.3
10. Powell. . . . .	4,235.1	38. Phillips . . . . .	1,454.5
11. Park . . . . .	4,227.0	39. Toole . . . . .	1,444.1
STATE AVERAGE. . . . .	4,191.9	40. Pondera. . . . .	1,400.0
12. Sweet Grass . . . . .	4,161.2	41. Madison. . . . .	1,372.9
13. Musselshell. . . . .	4,142.9	42. Prairie . . . . .	1,233.8
14. Mineral. . . . .	4,114.3	43. Stillwater. . . . .	1,196.1
15. Gallatin . . . . .	3,915.0	44. Glacier. . . . .	1,134.1
16. Lake . . . . .	3,505.7	45. Jefferson . . . . .	1,057.1
17. Fergus . . . . .	3,254.3	46. Blaine . . . . .	945.9
18. Roosevelt . . . . .	3,225.2	47. Granite . . . . .	854.4
19. Dawson . . . . .	2,994.6	48. Powder River. . . . .	833.7
20. Beaverhead. . . . .	2,564.9	49. Broadwater . . . . .	744.0
21. Ravalli . . . . .	2,502.2	50. Garfield. . . . .	666.7
22. Judith Basin. . . . .	2,322.0	51. Sheridan . . . . .	266.9
23. Rosebud. . . . .	2,319.2	52. McCone. . . . .	206.9
24. Valley. . . . .	2,313.4	53. Carter . . . . .	0
25. Deer Lodge. . . . .	2,276.3	54. Golden Valley . . . . .	0
26. Custer. . . . .	2,111.1	55. Petroleum . . . . .	0
27. Daniels. . . . .	1,871.0	56. Wibaux . . . . .	0
28. Teton. . . . .	1,790.4		

Illustration 9.  
CRIME RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION - 1977  
OFFENSES KNOWN TO POLICE

MONTANA





## CRIME SERIOUSNESS

The previous discussion of Crime in Montana dealt with the traditional methods of presenting criminal statistics: crime indexes and crime rates. These methods have been criticized for presenting a one-dimensional view of the crime problem; that is, both the crime index and the crime rate deal with the quantitative aspects of criminal behavior. One homicide is counted in the same way as one larceny/theft, with the net effect of equating the impact of the two crimes. The traditional measures of crime also fail to account for diversities in population; that is, areas with large populations show a higher crime index because of the probability of greater numbers of offenders in the population as well as possible victims.

A qualitative measure is needed to reduce the inherent bias in equating fear crimes with property crimes and high population densities. Such a measure was developed by Sellin & Wolfgang<sup>1</sup> and applied to Montana crime data.

The measure is a weighted scale in which the seriousness of a crime is ranked by a range of scores from 2 to 26 as follows:

CRIME	SERIOUS WEIGHING SCORE
Homicide . . . . .	26
Rape. . . . .	11
Robbery. . . . .	5
Aggravated Assault. . . . .	4
Burglary . . . . .	3
Theft . . . . .	2

From this scale of weighted scores, a crime seriousness index can be calculated for a single law enforcement agency, city, county or geographical area. The crime seriousness index is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Crime Seriousness} = \frac{(26 \times \text{No. of Homicides}) + (11 \times \text{No. of Rapes}) + (5 \times \text{No. of Robberies}) + (4 \times \text{No. of Assaults}) + (3 \times \text{No. of Burglaries}) + (2 \times \text{No. of Thefts})}{\text{Total Number of Above Crimes}}$$

This measure is used to relate crime seriousness to the volume of index crimes through the following formula:

$$\text{Crime Level} = (\text{Crime Rate}) \times (\text{Crime Seriousness})$$

<sup>1</sup> Thorsten Sellin & M.E. Wolfgang. *The Measurement of Delinquency*, (New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1964).

Illustration 10 shows the crime level by county and pinpoints the state average. Note how several counties — particularly Roosevelt, Mineral, Rosebud and Toole — assume a higher rank in the crime level scale when compared to the crime rate scale on page 13. This change indicates a large proportion of violent crimes occurring in these counties.

The crime level continues to follow population concentration in the state just as the crime rate does, thus reaffirming that crime is more prevalent with higher populations.

**Illustration 10.**  
**CRIME LEVEL COMPARISON**  
**1977**

1. Cascade . . . . .	17,487.1	29. Daniels . . . . .	4,303.3
2. Lewis & Clark . . . . .	15,676.1	30. Fallon . . . . .	4,282.2
3. Missoula . . . . .	13,912.2	31. Treasure . . . . .	4,233.8
4. Yellowstone . . . . .	12,797.8	32. Big Horn . . . . .	4,166.4
5. Lincoln . . . . .	12,306.4	33. Teton . . . . .	4,117.9
6. Hill . . . . .	12,108.5	34. Carbon . . . . .	4,001.5
7. Silver Bow . . . . .	11,182.6	35. Pondera . . . . .	3,840.0
8. Flathead . . . . .	10,726.3	36. Wheatland . . . . .	3,622.6
9. Mineral . . . . .	10,697.2	37. Madison . . . . .	3,569.5
10. Powell . . . . .	10,587.8	38. Phillips . . . . .	3,490.8
11. Roosevelt . . . . .	10,320.6	39. Prairie . . . . .	3,454.6
12. Chouteau . . . . .	10,186.1	40. Liberty . . . . .	3,375.3
<b>STATE AVERAGE . . . . .</b>		41. Meagher . . . . .	3,364.0
13. Park . . . . .	9,722.1	42. Richland . . . . .	3,354.1
14. Sweet Grass . . . . .	9,570.8	43. Blaine . . . . .	3,310.7
15. Musselshell . . . . .	9,528.7	44. Stillwater . . . . .	3,109.9
16. Lake . . . . .	9,465.4	45. Jefferson . . . . .	2,748.5
17. Gallatin . . . . .	9,396.0	46. Granite . . . . .	2,734.1
18. Rosebud . . . . .	8,813.0	47. Glacier . . . . .	2,608.4
19. Fergus . . . . .	7,484.9	48. Broadwater . . . . .	2,455.2
20. Dawson . . . . .	6,887.6	49. Powder River . . . . .	1,917.5
21. Judith Basin . . . . .	6,269.4	50. Garfield . . . . .	1,400.1
22. Valley . . . . .	6,014.8	51. Sheridan . . . . .	1,334.5
23. Ravalli . . . . .	6,005.3	52. McCone . . . . .	620.7
24. Beaverhead . . . . .	5,899.3	53. Carter . . . . .	0
25. Deer Lodge . . . . .	5,463.1	54. Golden Valley . . . . .	0
26. Custer . . . . .	5,277.8	55. Petroleum . . . . .	0
27. Sanders . . . . .	4,485.0	56. Wibaux . . . . .	0
28. Toole . . . . .	4,332.3		

Illustration 11a.

CRIME INDEX REPORT

STATE SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

Population or Estimate: 761,000 Sq. Mi.: 146,869 Population Density: 5.2

OFFENSE CLASSIFICATION	Number Of Actual Offenses	Crime Index Per 100,000 Population	Offense Occurs Every	Number Cleared By Arrest	Percent Cleared By Arrest
Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter . . . . .	40	5.3	9 Da.	34	85.0
Forcible Rape . . . . .	138	18.1	3 Da.	68	49.2
Robbery . . . . .	295	38.8	1 Da.	117	39.6
Aggravated Assault . . . . .	1,437	188.8	6 Hr.	926	64.4
<b>TOTAL OFFENSES AGAINST PERSONS . . . . .</b>	<b>1,910</b>	<b>251.0</b>	<b>5 Hr.</b>	<b>1,145</b>	<b>59.9</b>
Burglary . . . . .	6,363	836.1	1 Hr.	1,358	21.3
Larceny/Theft . . . . .	21,214	2,787.6	25 Min.	4,716	22.2
Motor Vehicle Theft . . . . .	2,413	317.1	4 Hr.	1,057	43.8
<b>TOTAL OFFENSES AGAINST PROPERTY . . . . .</b>	<b>29,990</b>	<b>3,940.9</b>	<b>18 Min.</b>	<b>7,131</b>	<b>23.7</b>
<b>TOTAL SEVEN MAJOR OFFENSES . . . . .</b>	<b>31,900</b>	<b>4,191.9</b>	<b>16 Min.</b>	<b>8,276</b>	<b>25.9</b>
Manslaughter by Negligence . . . . .	25	3.3	15 Da.	19	76.0
Other Assaults - Simple - Not Aggravated . . . . .	1,520	199.7	6 Hr.	900	59.2
Arson . . . . .	174	22.9	2 Da.	59	33.9
Forgery and Counterfeiting . . . . .	521	68.5	17 Hr.	286	54.8
Fraud . . . . .	1,624	213.4	5 Hr.	693	42.6
Embezzlement . . . . .	10	1.3	1 Mo.	0	.0
Stolen Property: Buying, Receiving, Possessing . . . . .	329	43.2	1 Da.	113	34.3
Vandalism . . . . .	10,149	1,333.6	52 Min.	1,500	14.7
Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, Etc. . . . .	525	69.0	17 Hr.	226	43.0
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice . . . . .	29	3.8	13 Da.	11	37.9
Sex Offenses . . . . .	360	47.3	1 Da.	158	43.8
Narcotic Drug Laws . . . . .	1,499	197.0	6 Hr.	1,265	84.3
Gambling . . . . .	40	5.3	9 Da.	17	42.5
Offenses Against Family and Children . . . . .	984	129.3	9 Hr.	631	64.1
<b>TOTAL OTHER OFFENSES . . . . .</b>	<b>17,789</b>	<b>2,337.6</b>	<b>30 Min.</b>	<b>5,878</b>	<b>33.0</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL . . . . .</b>	<b>49,689</b>	<b>6,529.4</b>	<b>11 Min.</b>	<b>14,154</b>	<b>28.4</b>

## Illustration 11b.

## OFFENSES KNOWN TO THE POLICE

STATE SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES	Offenses Reported Or Known By Police	Unfounded Offenses	Actual Offenses	Number of Offenses Cleared By Arrest	Number of Offenses Cleared By Arrest Under 18
<b>Criminal Homicide</b> .....	67 *	2 *	65 *	53 *	1 *
Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter .....	41	1	40	34	1
† Manslaughter By Negligence.....	26	1	25	19	0
<b>Forcible Rape</b> .....	165 *	27 *	138 *	68 *	8 *
Rape By Force.....	107	20	87	49	5
Attempts To Commit Forcible Rape .....	58	7	51	19	3
<b>Robbery</b> .....	312 *	17 *	295 *	117 *	14 *
Firearm .....	145	8	137	60	5
Knife or Cutting Instrument.....	33	2	31	12	2
Other Dangerous Weapon.....	23	2	21	6	1
Strong Arm - Hands, Fists, Feet, Etc. ....	111	5	106	39	6
<b>Assault</b> .....	3,107 *	150 *	2,957 *	1,826 *	248 *
Firearm .....	252	19	233	179	17
Knife or Cutting Instrument.....	224	11	213	109	22
Other Dangerous Weapon.....	168	6	162	93	16
Hands, Fists, Feet, Etc. - Aggravated Injury .....	852	23	829	545	78
† Other Assaults - Simple - Not Aggravated .....	1,611	91	1,520	900	115
<b>TOTAL OFFENSES AGAINST PERSONS</b> .....	3,651 **	196 **	3,455 **	2,064 **	271 **
<b>Burglary</b> .....	6,648 *	285 *	6,363 *	1,358 *	510 *
Forcible Entry .....	4,283	129	4,154	973	370
Unlawful Entry - No Force.....	1,801	95	1,706	311	113
Attempted Forcible Entry .....	564	61	503	74	27
<b>Larceny/Theft</b> .....	21,787 *	573 *	21,214 *	4,716 *	2,081 *
<b>Motor Vehicle Theft</b> .....	2,754 *	341 *	2,413 *	1,057 *	296 *
Autos.....	1,830	270	1,560	705	211
Trucks and Buses .....	528	44	484	221	51
Other Vehicles .....	396	27	369	131	34
<b>TOTAL OFFENSES AGAINST PROPERTY</b> .....	31,189 **	1,199 **	29,990 **	7,131 **	2,887 **
<b>TOTAL OFFENSES AGAINST PERSONS &amp; PROPERTY</b> .....	34,840 ***	1,395 ***	33,445 ***	9,195 ***	3,158 ***

† Not included in the UCR 7 major offenses.

\* Indicates totals.



Illustration 11b. (Con't.)  
**OFFENSES KNOWN TO THE POLICE**  
 STATE SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES	Offenses Reported Or Known By Police	Unfounded Offenses	Actual Offenses	Number of Offenses Cleared By Arrest	Number of Offenses Cleared By Arrest Under 18
Arson .....	180 *	6 *	174 *	59 *	35 *
Forgery and Counterfeiting .....	535 *	14 *	521 *	286 *	51 *
Fraud .....	1,646 *	22 *	1,624 *	693 *	46 *
Embezzlement .....	10 *	0 *	10 *	0 *	0 *
Stolen Property: Buying, Receiving, Possessing .....	337 *	8 *	329 *	113 *	54 *
Vandalism .....	10,325 *	176 *	10,149 *	1,500 *	669 *
Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, Etc. ....	563 *	38 *	525 *	226 *	51 *
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice .....	30 *	1 *	29 *	11 *	2 *
Sex Offenses .....	380 *	20 *	360 *	158 *	33 *
Narcotic Drug Laws .....	1,555 *	56 *	1,499 *	1,265 *	417 *
Opiates .....	23	0	23	21	2
Marijuana .....	1,208	42	1,166	1,003	378
Dangerous Drugs .....	251	8	243	188	24
Other .....	73	6	67	53	13
Gambling .....	45 *	5 *	40 *	17 *	0 *
Offenses Against Family and Children .....	1,065 *	81 *	984 *	631 *	122 *
<b>TOTAL OTHER OFFENSES</b> .....	<b>16,671 ***</b>	<b>427 ***</b>	<b>16,244 ***</b>	<b>4,959 ***</b>	<b>1,480 ***</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> .....	<b>51,511 *****</b>	<b>1,822 *****</b>	<b>49,689 *****</b>	<b>14,154 *****</b>	<b>4,638 *****</b>

\* Indicates totals.

## OFFENSE SUMMARY

- \* For the second year in a row, the index for seven major crimes decreased by 1 percent. The decrease, however, was accompanied by a serious increase of 20.5 percent in offenses against persons.
- \* Crimes against property accounted for 94.1 percent of all known offenses.
- \* Crimes against persons accounted for 5.9 percent of all known offenses.
- \* An index crime occurs every 16 minutes with a violent crime occurring every 5 hours. A property crime occurs every 18 minutes.
- \* An increase or decrease in criminal activity must be observed for several years before a trend can be accurately predicted. However, from 1970 through 1977, the number of crimes increased 59.1 percent while the estimated population increased only 8.8 percent.
- \* Crime rates relate the incidence of crime to population. The crime rate can be considered a victim risk rate because it demonstrates the risk of becoming a crime victim. Thus, of every 100 Montanans, 4.2 were victims of an index crime and 6.2 were victims of an index crime and serious crime combined.
- \* Of the 21,900 major offenses known, only one of every four was cleared by the arrest of the offender or by exceptional means.



## CRIME PROJECTION

### STATISTICAL METHOD

It is estimated that Montana's population will reach 816,000 by 1980, a 17.5 percent increase over 1970. However, there appears to be little correlation between population growth and crime. The crime rate is increasing much faster than population, as illustrated by the graph on page 9.

Two methods are used in developing the crime projection. The first, a straight-line method, uses the yearly increase of 7.1 percent for the seven-year period from 1970 to 1977. This increment, accumulated each year, indicates actual crimes will reach 39,189 in 1980. This figure divided by the 1980 population estimate indicates a crime rate of 4,802.6 per 100,000.

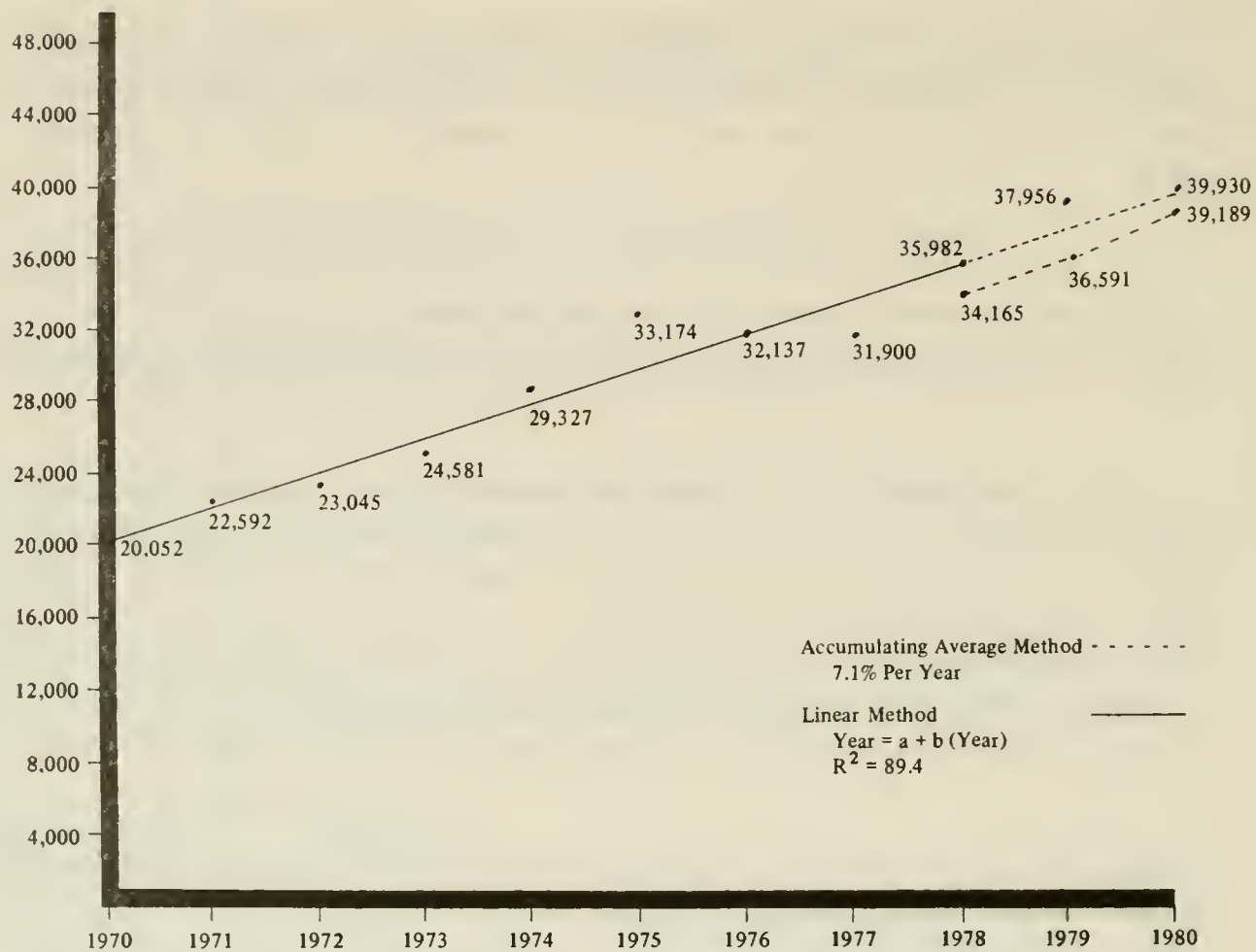
The second projection method, linear least squares regression, plots on a graph the number of actual crimes for the seven-year base period. Using the regression formula,  $y = a + bx$ , a line is then projected to 1980. By this method, the number of crimes is projected to be 39,930 in 1980, with a crime rate of 4,893.4 per 100,000.

A summary of the two projection methods is shown as follows:

	Actual Crimes in 1980	Crime Rate Per 100,000 in 1980
1. Accumulating Average Method . . . . .	39,189	4,802.6
2. Linear Regression Method . . . . .	39,930	4,893.4

It is important to remember that the projections are not point estimates but rather trend estimates. Thus, it is predictable that Montana can anticipate a 1980 crime rate between 4,803 and 4,893 if present trends continue.

Illustration 12.  
MONTANA PROJECTED ACTUAL CRIMES  
1970 - 1980



## ARRESTS

### STATISTICAL METHOD

The arrests reported to the Data Center by law enforcement agencies are analyzed in this chapter.

No attempt has been made to correlate this data to the crime data previously presented. Arrests made during 1977 may have been for crimes reported in that year or for serious crimes reported in previous years but cleared through investigation and arrest in 1977.

Arrest practices, policies and enforcement vary among communities and seasonally within a community. The volume of police arrests for certain minor crimes such as drunkenness and disorderly conduct is particularly influenced by such variables. Arrest for serious crime follows a more stable pattern.

Arrests are reported here as a measure of police response to crime. Arrests also provide an indirect measurement of the season and time in which crime occurs and a profile of offenders.

The procedures used in collecting arrest data require an offender be recorded each time he is taken into custody. Therefore, the data may be influenced by the recurring arrest of habitual offenders.

In the following pages, which show offenses and characteristics of offenders, the stability in the offender profile from 1971 through 1977 should be noted.

### FELONY ARRESTS

Felony crimes are those punishable by more than a one-year prison sentence. The number of arrests for felony, or serious crime, increased in 1977 despite a decrease in the number of serious crimes reported.

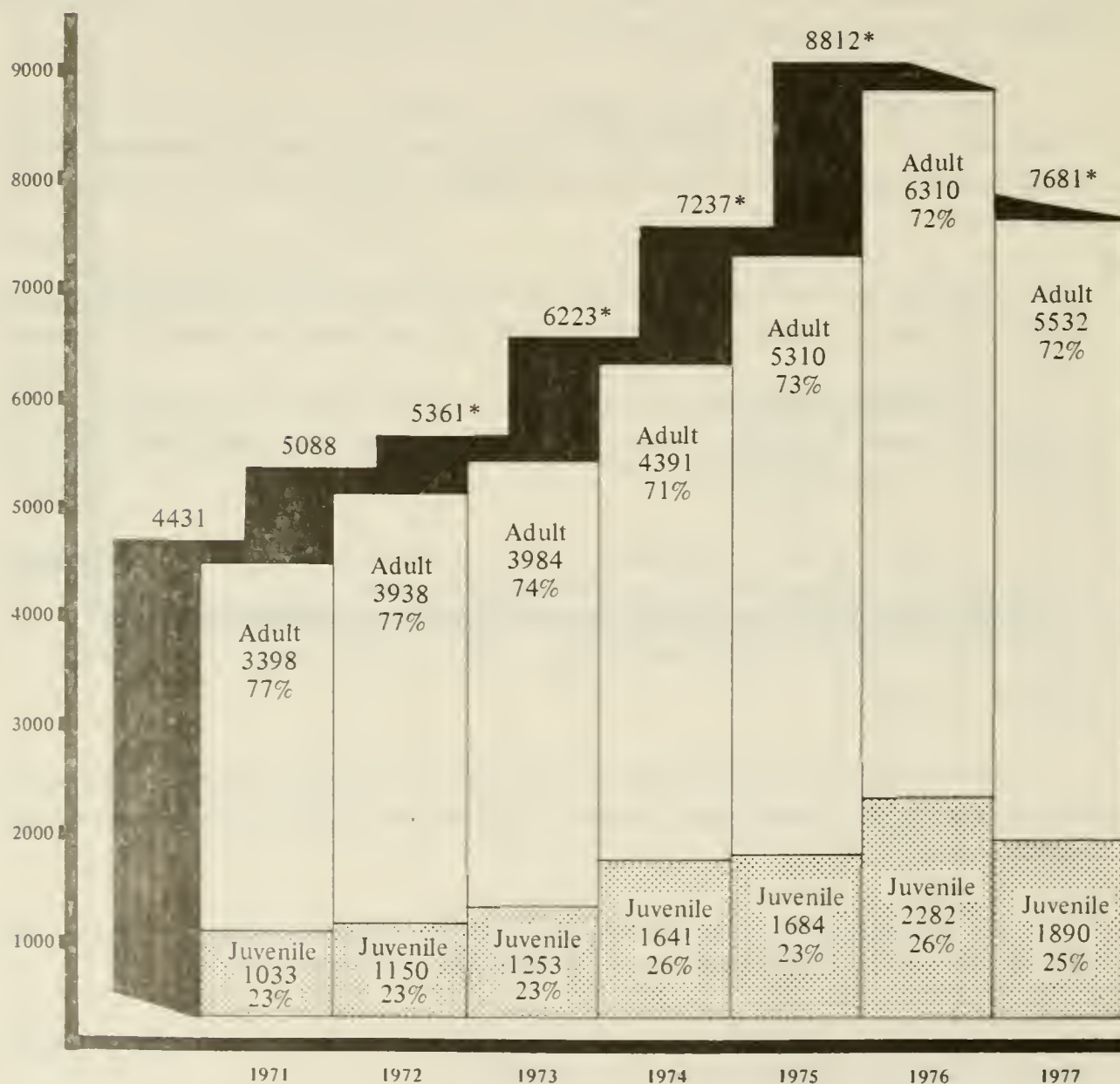
The bar graph on the following page shows the total number of arrests in each year from 1971 to 1977. It also shows the proportion of adults and juveniles arrested.

Although the number of arrests has decreased this year, the proportion of adult to juvenile offenders has remained fairly constant at 23-28 percent.

## SEVEN-YEAR FELONY ARREST PROFILE

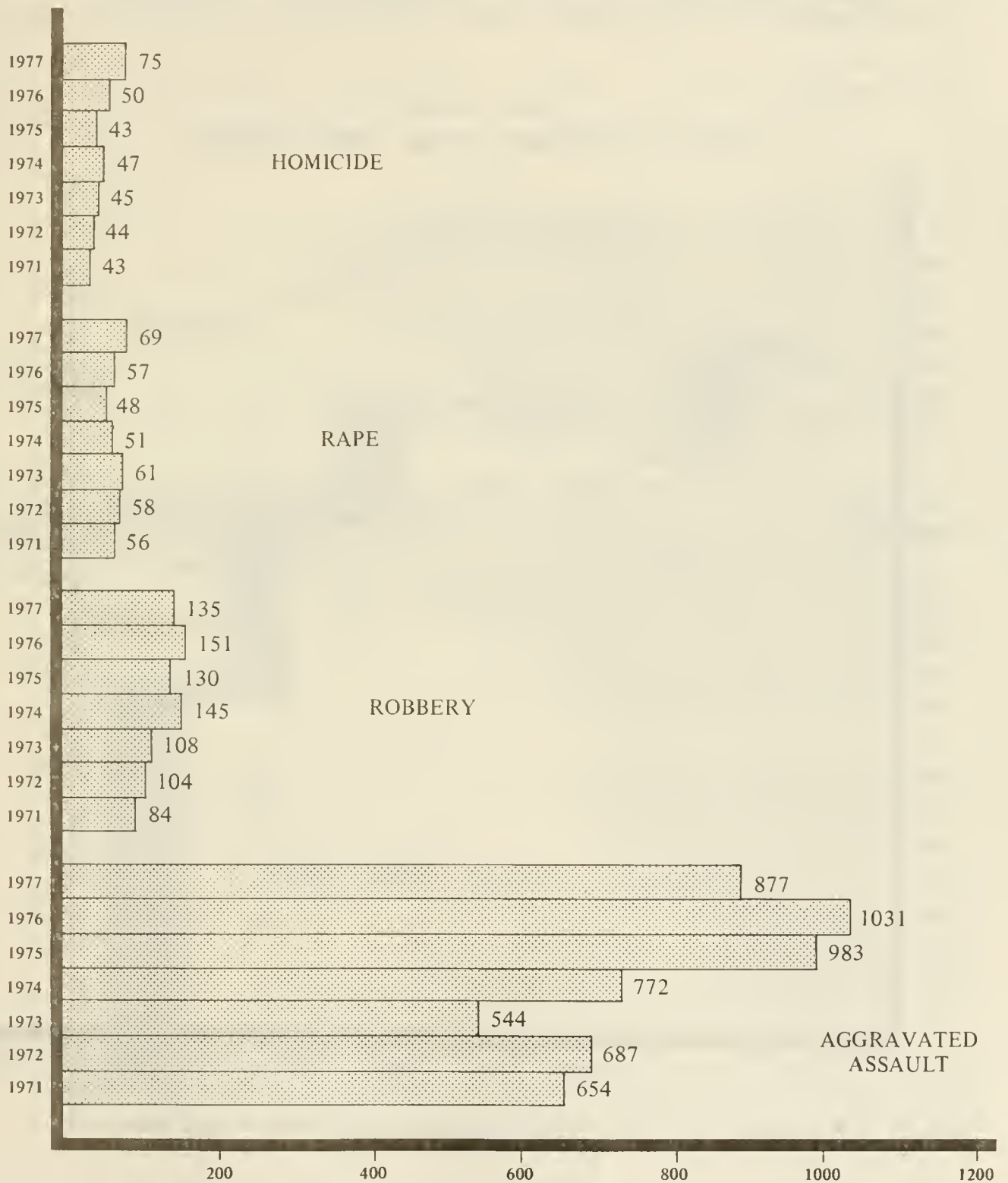
Arrest categories for violent crimes show increases in Homicide and Rape while Robbery and Aggravated Assault recorded decreases. The increases were slight for Homicide and Rape; however, Aggravated Assault recorded a decrease of 150 arrests.

Illustration 13.  
FELONY ARRESTS



\*Unknown Age = 3% - 1973, 3% - 1974, 4% - 1975, 2% - 1976, 3% - 1977.

Illustration 14.  
SEVEN-YEAR VIOLENT CRIME ARREST PROFILE

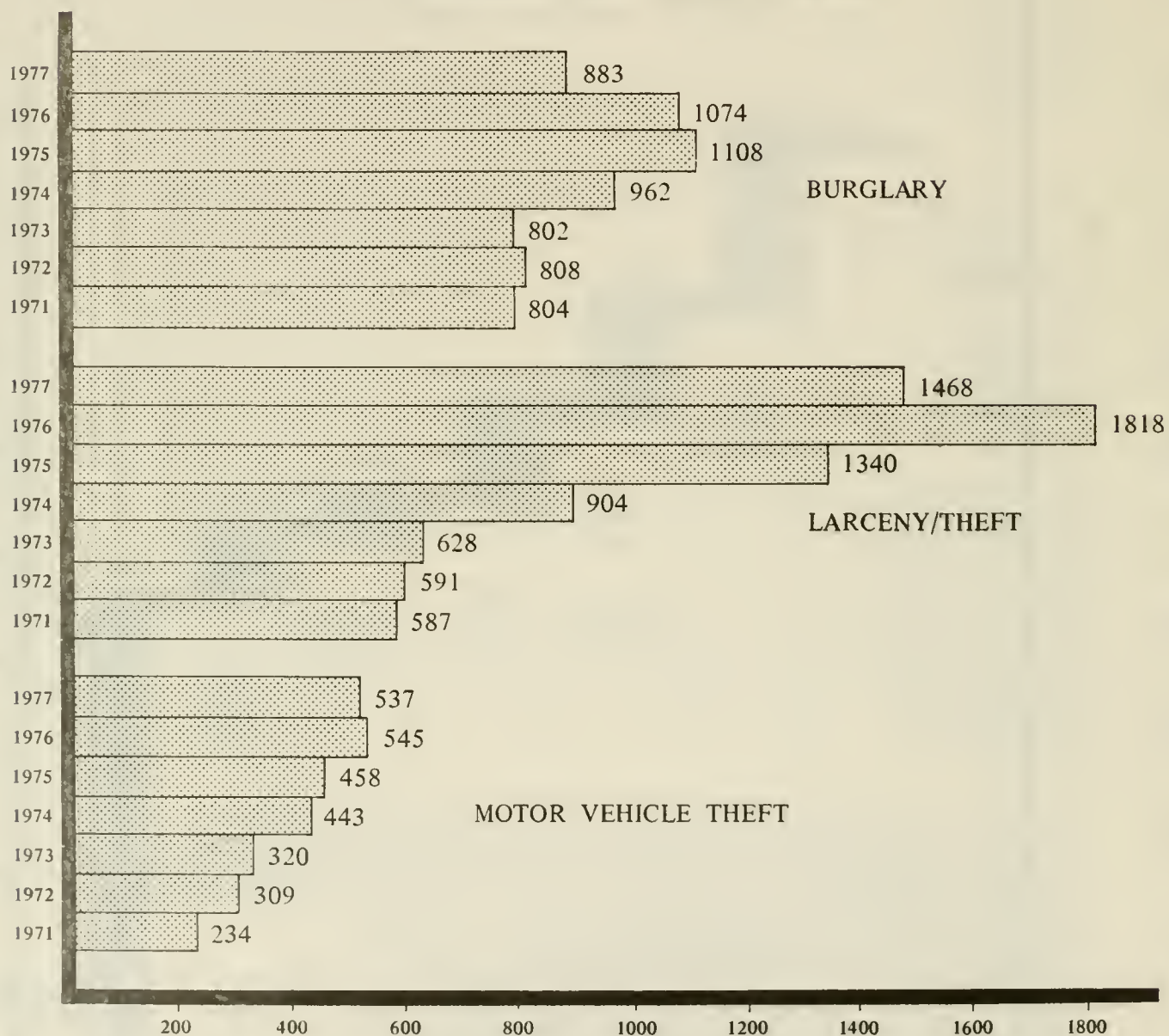




## SEVEN-YEAR PROPERTY ARRESTS

Seven-year property arrests have increased in the past five years; however, decreases are noted in Burglary, Larceny/Theft and Motor Vehicle Theft for 1977.

Illustration 15.  
SEVEN-YEAR PROPERTY CRIME ARREST PROFILE

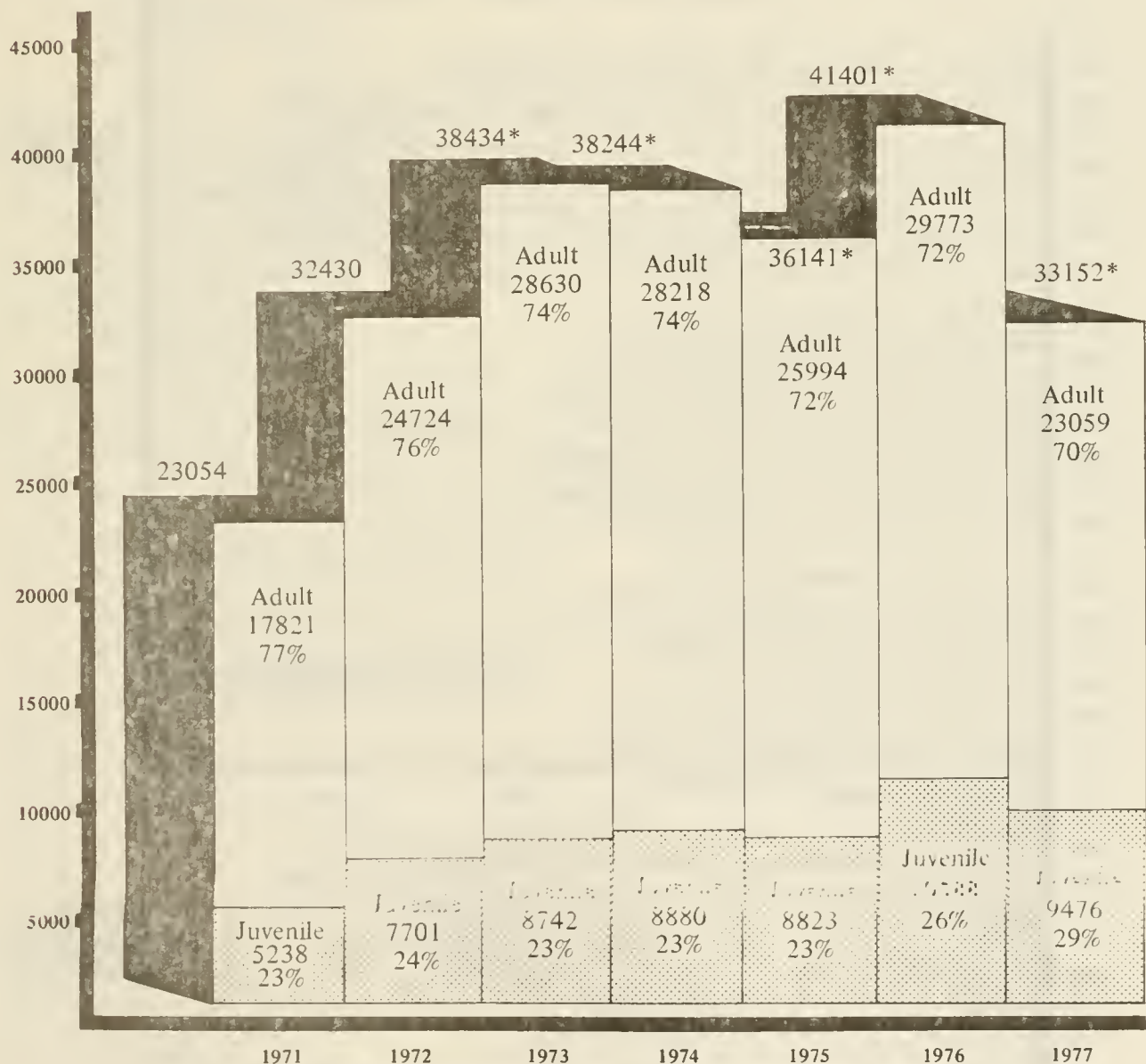




## MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS

A misdemeanor is a crime punishable by a fine or less than a one-year prison term. The seven-year totals for misdemeanor arrests are shown in the bar graph below. The 33,152 arrests recorded in 1977 represent a significant decrease over the record year of 1976. The decrease was due to a reduction of arrests in all misdemeanor categories particularly in the alcohol-related category.

Illustration 16.  
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS



\*Unknown Age = 3% - 1973, 3% - 1974, 5% - 1975, 3% - 1976, 2% - 1977.

## MISDEMEANOR ARREST PROFILE

Misdemeanor arrests for alcohol and alcohol-related offenses have been following a decrease since the peak year of 1973. This is due to the new Montana statute in 1974 which decriminalized public drunkenness.

The significant decrease in alcohol-related arrests is followed by decreases in public conduct, juvenile delinquency, and victimless and unspecified misdemeanors.

Illustration 17a.  
MISDEMEANOR ARREST PROFILE

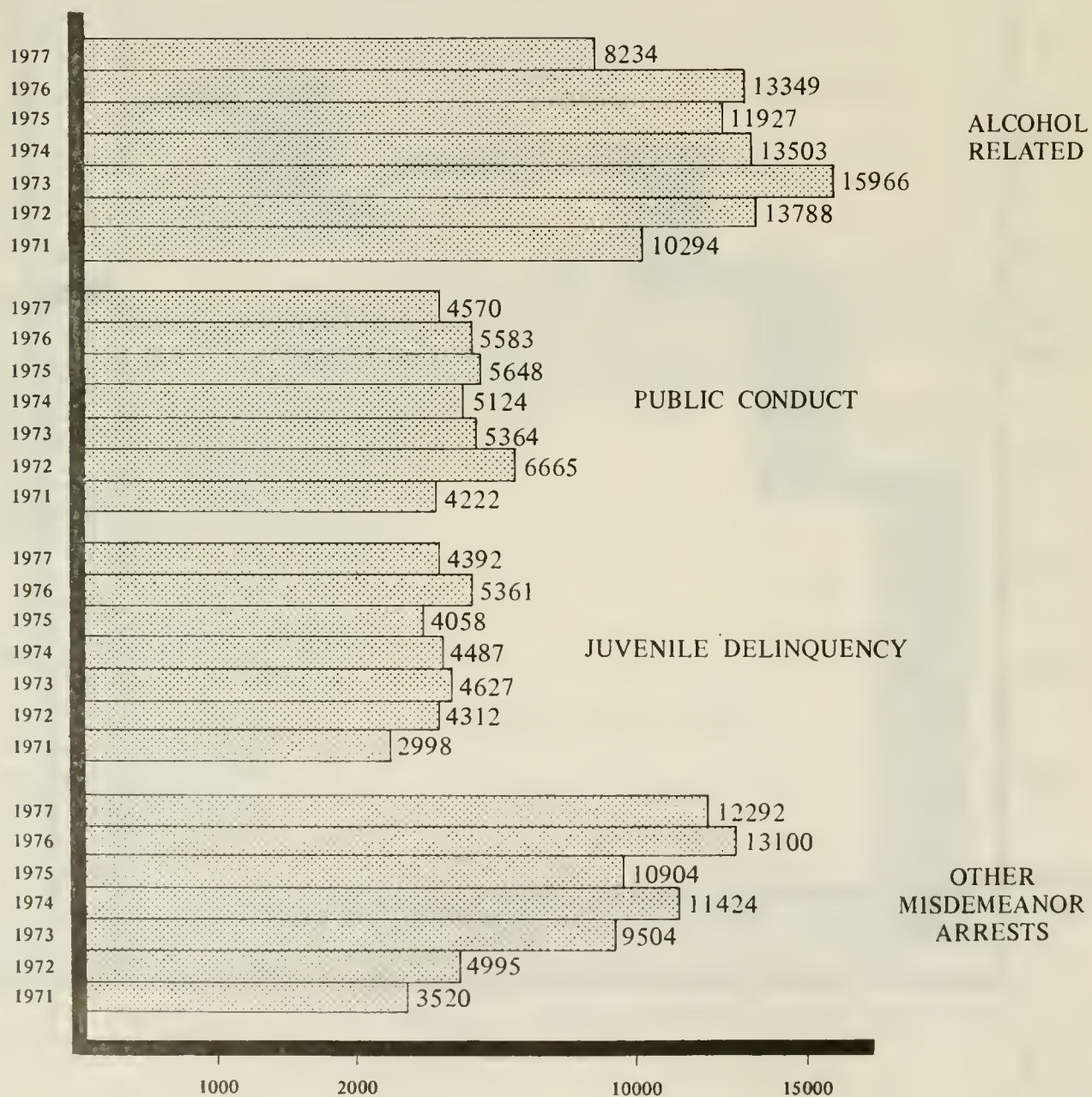
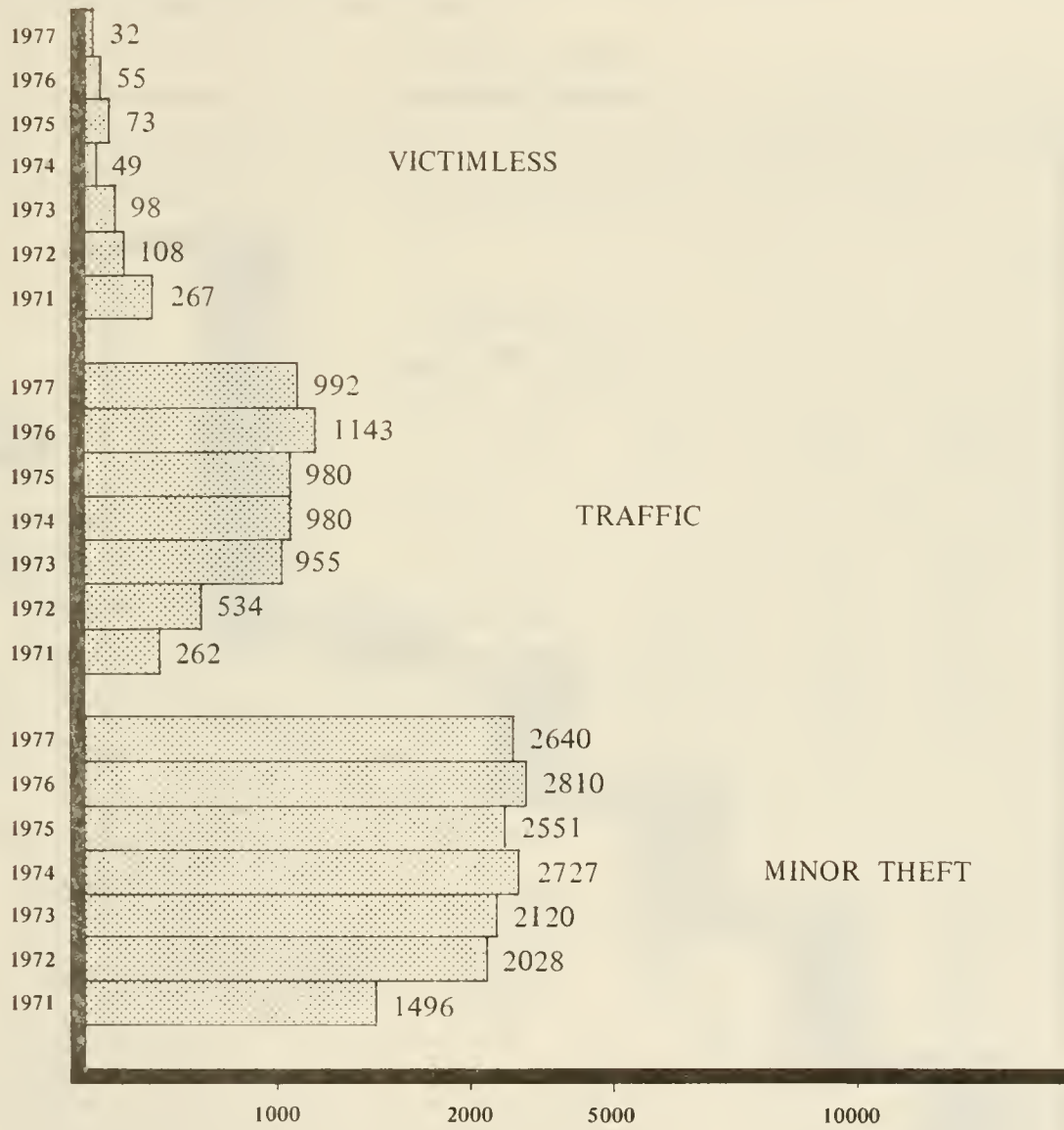


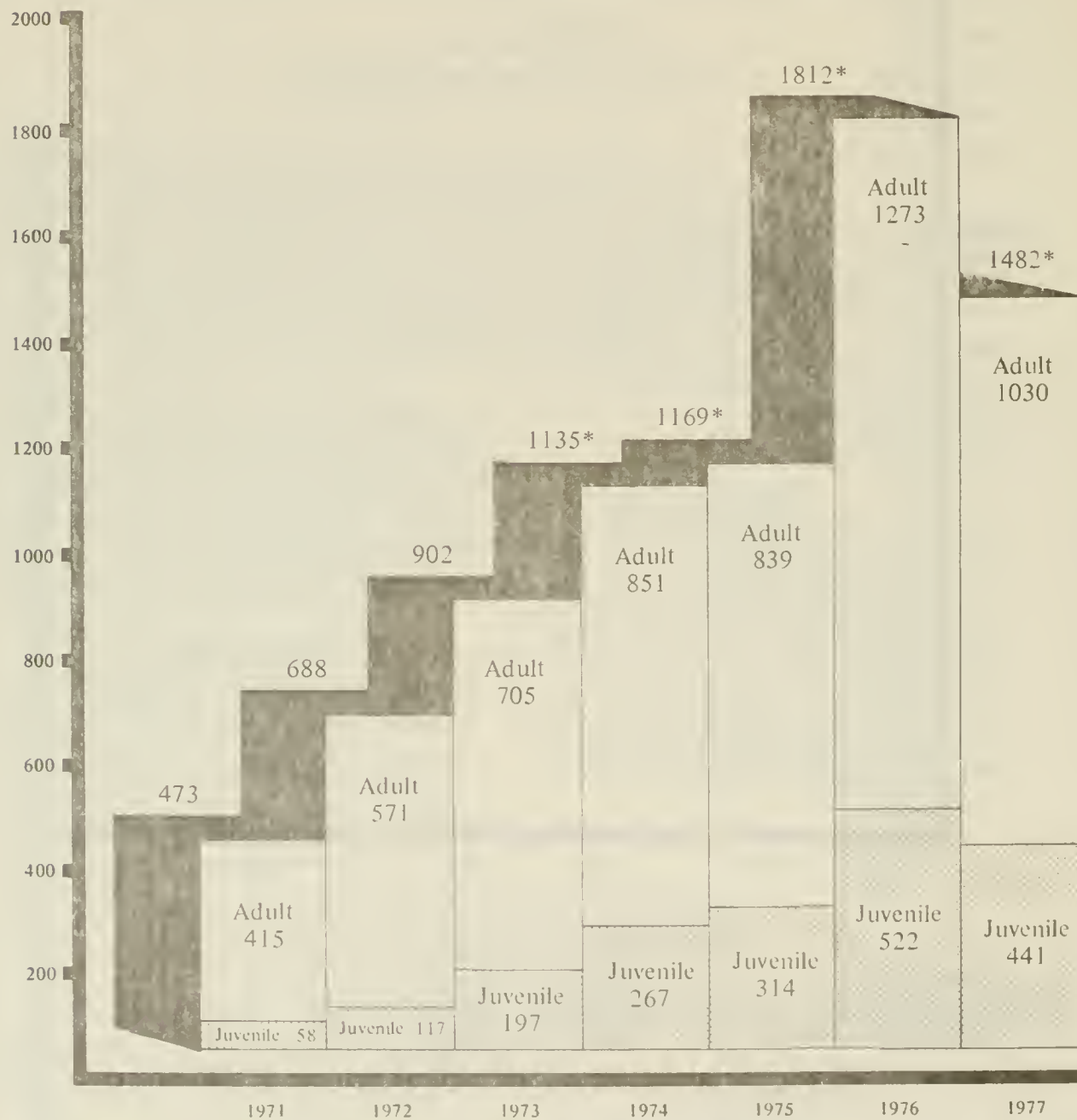
Illustration 17b.  
MISDEMEANOR ARREST PROFILE



## DRUG ARRESTS

The number of drug offense arrests decreased significantly in 1977 despite a large increase in 1976 in the number of drug-related offenses reported to the police. The proportion of juvenile offenders arrested has remained fairly constant (24 - 30 percent) despite the decrease in 1977.

Illustration 18.  
DRUG ARRESTS



\*Unknown Age = 2% (17) - 1974, 1% (16) - 1975, 1% (17) - 1976, 1% (11) - 1977



## ARRESTS BY RACE OF OFFENDER

As in previous years, the racial profile of arrested offenders remained fairly stable. In 1977, 82 percent of those arrested for felony offenses were White and 15 percent were Native American. In previous years, the percentages have ranged within five percentage points for each of the two races, which comprise the state's racial majority.

The misdemeanor arrest pattern is similar although the percentage breakdown is different. In 1977, a 10 percent change is noted over 1976 in the percentages of Whites and Native Americans – Whites increased 11 percent while Native Americans decreased 10 percent.

Illustration 19.  
ARRESTS BY RACE

Type of Arrest	Total	White	Negro	Native American	Other
<b>FELONY ARRESTS</b>					
Against Persons . . . . .	1,156	827	16	289	24
Against Property. . . . .	2,888	2,426	27	385	50
Other Felonies . . . . .	<u>3,637</u>	<u>3,044</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>76</u>
<b>TOTAL FELONY ARRESTS . . . . .</b>	<u><u>7,681</u></u>	<u><u>6,297</u></u>	<u><u>79</u></u>	<u><u>1,155</u></u>	<u><u>150</u></u>
Percent of Total . . . . .		82	1	15	2
<b>MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS</b>					
Misdemeanors. . . . .	28,760	19,852	117	8,517	274
Delinquent Tendencies. . . . .	4,392	3,290	17	1,032	53
<b>TOTAL MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS . . . . .</b>	<u><u>33,152</u></u>	<u><u>23,142</u></u>	<u><u>134</u></u>	<u><u>9,549</u></u>	<u><u>327</u></u>
Percent of Total . . . . .		70	0	29	1



## ARRESTS BY SEX OF OFFENDER

The percentage of male and female offenders arrested has varied less than two percent in each of the seven years of data collection. Women have been arrested for 10 to 13 percent of all felonies and 15 to 21 percent of all misdemeanors. Thus, women have accounted for approximately one in six felony arrests and one in five misdemeanor arrests over the years. In 1977, only a slight (one percent) decrease was noted in the number of female offenders arrested.

Illustration 20.  
ARRESTS BY SEX

Type of Arrest	Total	Male	Female
<b>FELONY ARRESTS</b>			
Against Persons . . . . .	1,156	1,073	83
Against Property. . . . .	2,888	2,593	295
Other Felonies . . . . .	<u>3,637</u>	<u>3,082</u>	<u>555</u>
<b>TOTAL FELONY ARRESTS . . . . .</b>	<u><u>7,681</u></u>	<u><u>6,748</u></u>	<u><u>933</u></u>
Percent of Total . . . . .		88	12
<b>MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS</b>			
Misdemeanors . . . . .	28,760	23,582	5,178
Delinquent Tendencies. . . . .	<u>4,392</u>	<u>2,711</u>	<u>1,681</u>
<b>TOTAL MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS . . . . .</b>	<u><u>33,152</u></u>	<u><u>26,293</u></u>	<u><u>6,859</u></u>
Percent of Total . . . . .		79	21

## Illustration 21a.

## STATEWIDE ADULT &amp; JUVENILE FELONY ARRESTS BY OFFENSE &amp; AGE

JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

OFFENSE	JUVENILES						ADULTS						UNKNOWN	GRAND TOTAL
	Total	1-11	12-15	16-17	Total	18-19	20-25	26-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-Up		
Homicide .....	2	0	2	0	70	13	21	15	12	6	3	0	3	75
Forcible Rape .....	13	0	6	7	56	7	17	8	11	10	3	0	0	69
Robbery .....	24	0	7	17	110	28	58	9	7	3	4	1	1	135
Aggravated Assault .....	89	4	25	60	772	100	241	129	165	86	36	15	16	877
Total Against Person .....	128	4	40	84	1,008	148	337	161	195	105	46	16	20	1,156
Burglary .....	353	24	170	159	526	233	195	50	34	10	3	1	4	883
Grand Theft .....	341	13	137	191	1,103	286	386	122	162	82	38	27	24	1,468
Auto Theft .....	279	5	146	128	254	80	85	35	29	20	3	2	4	537
Total Against Property .....	973	42	453	478	1,883	599	666	207	225	112	44	30	32	2,888
Checks Cards Forgery .....	56	3	21	32	579	85	204	70	129	62	22	7	156	791
Sex .....	16	0	11	5	42	1	12	6	10	5	6	2	0	58
Drugs .....	441	2	140	299	1,030	347	490	123	58	8	4	0	11	1,482
Weapons .....	23	0	11	12	83	9	38	10	14	8	1	3	0	106
Arson .....	17	6	6	5	24	6	12	2	1	3	0	0	1	42
Federal .....	12	0	3	9	143	50	63	14	11	3	2	0	9	164
All Others .....	224	39	97	88	740	143	282	101	117	56	29	12	30	994
Total Other Felonies .....	789	50	289	450	2,641	641	1,101	326	340	145	64	24	207	3,637
GRAND TOTAL .....	1,890	96	782	1,012	5,532	1,388	2,104	694	760	362	154	70	259	7,681
Percent of Grand Total .....	.25	.05	.41	.54	.72	.25	.38	.13	.14	.07	.03	.01	.03	

## Illustration 21b.

## STATEWIDE ADULT &amp; JUVENILE FELONY ARRESTS BY OFFENSE, RACE &amp; SEX

JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

OFFENSE	Total	RACE					Total	SEX	
		White	Negro	Mexican	Indian	Other		Male	Female
Homicide . . . . .	75	58	1	4	12	0	75	65	10
Forcible Rape . . . . .	69	55	1	4	9	0	69	67	2
Robbery . . . . .	135	115	2	2	16	0	135	130	5
Aggravated Assault . . . . .	877	599	12	12	252	2	877	811	66
Total Against Person . . . . .	1,156	827	16	22	289	2	1,156	1,073	83
Burglary . . . . .	883	757	8	16	102	0	883	839	44
Grand Theft . . . . .	1,468	1,229	19	28	190	2	1,468	1,270	198
Auto Theft . . . . .	537	440	0	4	93	0	537	484	53
Total Against Property . . . . .	2,888	2,426	27	48	385	2	2,888	2,593	295
Checks Cards Forgery . . . . .	791	712	13	2	64	0	791	552	239
Sex . . . . .	58	42	2	0	14	0	58	50	8
Drugs . . . . .	1,482	1,323	11	8	139	1	1,482	1,275	207
Weapons . . . . .	106	70	0	4	31	1	106	100	6
Arson . . . . .	42	38	1	0	2	1	42	35	7
Federal . . . . .	164	102	0	45	16	1	164	159	5
All Others . . . . .	994	757	9	13	215	0	994	911	83
Total Other Felonies . . . . .	3,637	3,044	36	72	481	4	3,637	3,082	555
GRAND TOTAL . . . . .	7,681	6,297	79	142	1,155	8	7,681	6,748	933
Percent of Grand Total . . . . .		.82	.01	.02	.15	.00		.88	.12

Illustration 21c.

STATEWIDE ADULT & JUVENILE FELONY ARRESTS BY OFFENSE & MONTH

JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

Offense	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Homicide.....	75	7	5	8	2	0	15	3	10	8	9	5	3
Forcible Rape.....	69	1	3	12	9	5	9	6	5	5	3	4	-
Robbery.....	135	18	15	12	14	2	2	14	9	11	11	8	10
Aggravated Assault.....	877	64	57	75	69	103	98	83	84	74	67	55	48
Total Against Person.....	1,156	90	80	107	94	110	124	106	108	98	90	72	--
Burglary.....	883	94	84	75	59	60	59	78	99	67	67	60	81
Grand Theft.....	1,468	114	124	145	136	138	108	136	154	132	92	104	85
Auto Theft.....	537	63	45	47	47	31	45	46	61	40	38	39	35
Total Against Property.....	2,888	271	253	267	242	229	212	260	314	239	197	203	201
Checks Cards Forgery....	791	92	75	81	102	72	57	50	42	72	37	53	58
Sex.....	58	8	6	4	2	7	6	3	9	4	3	4	-
Drugs.....	1,482	116	112	148	138	139	156	138	151	114	106	98	66
Weapons.....	106	12	8	9	5	10	6	10	7	10	14	7	8
Arson.....	42	2	10	0	5	5	3	2	2	0	3	3	-
Federal.....	164	6	11	10	11	4	15	41	25	17	10	9	5
All Others.....	994	106	73	91	87	71	86	75	84	60	94	83	84
Total Other Felonies.....	3,637	342	295	343	350	308	329	319	320	277	267	257	230
GRAND TOTAL.....	7,681	703	628	717	686	647	665	685	742	614	554	532	508
Percent of Grand Total.....		.09	.08	.09	.09	.08	.09	.09	.10	.08	.07	.07	.07

## Illustration 21d.

## STATEWIDE ADULT &amp; JUVENILE FELONY ARRESTS BY OFFENSE, DAY &amp; TIME OF CRIME

JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

Offense	Total	DAY							HOUR							Unknown
		Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thru.	Fri.	Sat.	0-4AM	4-8AM	8-12AM	12-4PM	4-8PM	8-12PM		
Homicide.....	75	7	8	7	4	10	1	4	8	0	0	3	1	5	34	
Forcible Rape.....	69	5	4	8	4	7	6	12	10	4	3	7	2	0	23	
Robbery.....	135	17	5	15	9	13	4	7	12	7	3	5	6	8	65	
Aggravated Assault.....	877	76	68	59	47	58	83	121	91	15	25	38	47	94	365	
Total Against Person.....	1,156	105	85	89	64	88	94	144	121	26	31	53	56	107	487	
Burglary.....	883	62	76	55	77	67	81	76	88	20	20	28	40	51	389	
Grand Theft.....	1,468	94	132	143	136	154	152	113	107	39	51	88	94	95	544	
Auto Theft.....	537	38	54	34	39	47	39	55	41	22	34	36	26	41	231	
Total Against Property.....	2,888	194	262	232	252	268	272	244	236	81	105	152	160	187	1,164	
Checks/Cards Forgery..	791	28	56	62	74	61	76	35	1	0	38	40	28	8	399	
Sex.....	58	4	3	2	2	5	6	6	8	0	2	1	3	7	30	
Drugs.....	1,482	113	110	147	119	121	177	214	185	22	67	109	139	231	481	
Weapons.....	106	17	4	9	15	10	10	16	21	5	3	5	13	15	25	
Arson.....	42	2	4	6	8	3	1	3	1	2	6	4	3	3	15	
Federal.....	164	5	15	6	23	12	15	9	13	3	3	17	11	7	79	
All Others.....	994	66	82	77	62	58	68	70	86	16	36	47	54	76	511	
Total Other Felonies.....	3,637	235	274	309	303	270	353	353	315	48	155	223	251	347	1,540	
GRAND TOTAL .....	7,681	534	621	630	619	626	719	741	672	155	291	428	467	641	3,191	
Percent of Grand Total .....		.07	.08	.08	.08	.08	.09	.10	.09	.02	.04	.06	.06	.08	.42	



Illustration 22a.  
STATEWIDE ADULT & JUVENILE MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS BY OFFENSE & AGE  
JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

OFFENSE	JUVENILES						ADULTS						UNKNOWN	GRAND TOTAL
	Total	1-11	12-15	16-17	Total	18-19	20-25	26-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-Up		
Assault . . . . .	72	2	34	36	361	56	117	64	80	32	10	2	14	447
Riotous Conduct . . . . .	284	0	70	214	2,439	385	754	262	453	294	173	118	83	2,806
Disturbing the Peace, . . .	143	0	60	83	984	157	319	131	184	133	38	22	12	1,139
Weapons . . . . .	49	7	32	10	33	9	9	5	5	2	2	1	2	84
Theft . . . . .	1,394	187	745	462	1,221	341	423	108	147	105	53	44	25	2,640
Drunk . . . . .	385	6	128	251	3,210	276	699	320	803	625	338	149	27	3,622
Drunk Driving . . . . .	107	2	9	96	2,950	313	756	372	597	458	307	147	26	3,083
Possession of Alcohol . . .	924	5	255	664	586	169	217	43	78	51	21	7	19	1,529
Trespassing . . . . .	179	17	83	79	326	58	106	45	51	42	17	7	8	513
Vagrancy . . . . .	0	0	0	0	14	0	5	3	2	2	1	1	0	14
Prostitution . . . . .	2	0	0	2	14	2	9	2	0	0	1	0	0	16
Indecent Exposure . . . . .	9	0	3	6	84	5	27	15	19	8	7	3	1	94
Gambling . . . . .	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Traffic - Hit & Run . . . .	29	0	6	23	171	37	51	24	25	12	10	12	0	200
Traffic - Reckless . . . . .	139	1	30	108	643	200	240	68	78	33	11	13	10	792
Warrant Arrest . . . . .	16	0	5	11	715	151	284	88	104	59	26	3	6	737
Other Misdemeanors . . . .	1,627	46	472	1,109	9,053	1,922	2,973	1,180	1,415	775	453	335	362	11,042
Sub-Total Misdemeanors . . .	5,359	273	1,932	3,154	22,806	4,081	6,989	2,730	4,041	2,632	1,469	864	595	28,760
Immoral Conduct . . . . .	3	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Truant . . . . .	86	2	69	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86
Curfew . . . . .	865	10	362	493	13	8	3	1	0	0	1	0	2	880
Incorrigible . . . . .	165	7	81	77	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	167
Runaway - Local . . . . .	767	16	479	272	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	771
Runaway - Out-of-State . . .	523	4	284	235	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	527
Other Delinquency . . . . .	1,708	47	777	884	234	81	83	27	33	6	4	0	15	1,957
Total Delinquent Tendencies .	4,117	86	2,052	1,979	253	95	86	28	33	6	5	0	22	4,392
GRAND TOTAL . . . . .	9,476	359	3,984	5,133	23,059	4,176	7,075	2,758	4,074	2,638	1,474	864	617	33,152
Percent of Grand Total . . . .	.29	.04	.42	.54	.70	.18	.31	.12	.18	.11	.06	.04	.02	

Illustration 22b.

## STATEWIDE ADULT &amp; JUVENILE MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS BY OFFENSE, RACE &amp; SEX

JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

OFFENSE	RACE						SEX		
	Total	White	Negro	Mexican	Indian	Other			
Assault . . . . .	447	299	3	12	133	0	447	381	66
Riotous Conduct . . . . .	2,806	1,413	17	19	1,354	3	2,806	2,394	412
Disturbing the Peace . . . . .	1,139	781	17	38	303	0	1,139	994	145
Weapons . . . . .	84	78	0	0	6	0	84	80	4
Theft . . . . .	2,640	2,189	21	62	364	4	2,640	1,842	798
Drunk . . . . .	3,622	143	1	4	3,474	0	3,622	2,878	744
Drunk Driving . . . . .	3,083	2,411	15	35	621	1	3,083	2,741	342
Possession of Alcohol . . . . .	1,529	1,113	1	11	404	0	1,529	1,174	355
Trespassing . . . . .	513	342	0	9	158	4	513	455	58
Vagrancy . . . . .	14	9	0	0	5	0	14	12	2
Prostitution . . . . .	16	14	1	0	1	0	16	3	13
Indecent Exposure . . . . .	94	74	0	1	19	0	94	88	6
Gambling . . . . .	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	1
Traffic - Hit & Run . . . . .	200	165	0	10	25	0	200	178	22
Traffic - Reckless . . . . .	792	564	3	10	214	1	792	736	56
Warrant Arrest . . . . .	737	636	4	5	92	0	737	632	105
Other Misdemeanors . . . . .	11,042	9,619	34	36	1,344	9	11,042	8,993	2,049
Sub-Total Misdemeanors . . . . .	28,760	19,852	117	252	8,517	22	28,760	23,582	5,178
Immoral Conduct . . . . .	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
Truant . . . . .	86	75	0	2	9	0	86	50	36
Curfew . . . . .	880	636	6	7	231	0	880	556	324
Incorrigible . . . . .	167	142	0	1	24	0	167	102	65
Runaway - Local . . . . .	771	616	1	7	146	1	771	309	462
Runaway - Out-of-State . . . . .	527	469	1	0	57	0	527	256	271
Other Delinquency . . . . .	1,957	1,348	9	31	565	4	1,957	1,434	523
Total Delinquent Tendencies. . . . .	4,392	3,290	17	48	1,032	5	4,392	2,711	1,681
GRAND TOTAL . . . . .	33,152	23,142	134	300	9,549	27	33,152	26,293	6,859
Percent of Grand Total . . . . .		.70	.00	.01	.29	.00		.79	.21

Illustration 22c.  
STATEWIDE ADULT & JUVENILE MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS BY OFFENSE & MONTH  
JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

Offense	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Assault . . . . .	447	34	21	19	36	41	32	40	40	40	48	56	40
Riotous Conduct . . . . .	2,806	182	200	233	193	236	248	345	301	217	277	149	225
Disturbing the Peace . . . . .	1,139	98	84	87	98	100	106	124	91	74	111	67	99
Weapons . . . . .	84	8	8	14	6	9	3	6	15	2	8	1	4
Theft . . . . .	2,640	178	225	268	216	176	182	209	237	201	278	237	233
Drunk . . . . .	3,622	246	241	257	278	352	270	286	475	273	275	259	410
Drunk Driving . . . . .	3,083	190	242	289	311	297	252	274	232	270	257	238	231
Possession of Alcohol . . . . .	1,529	76	149	151	140	141	137	157	205	100	138	67	68
Trespassing . . . . .	513	18	34	35	35	64	46	36	47	73	54	40	31
Vagrancy . . . . .	14	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	1	3	0	5
Prostitution . . . . .	16	2	2	0	4	2	0	0	4	2	0	0	0
Indecent Exposure . . . . .	94	4	12	7	6	8	11	8	14	5	12	5	2
Gambling . . . . .	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Traffic - Hit & Run . . . . .	200	14	12	16	23	13	19	19	17	21	15	14	17
Traffic - Reckless . . . . .	792	33	54	63	80	86	65	87	105	59	74	48	38
Warrant Arrest . . . . .	737	41	42	62	66	61	49	72	63	54	49	65	113
Other Misdemeanors . . . . .	11,042	744	862	880	936	990	1,076	978	962	1,059	1,065	838	652
Sub-Total Misdemeanors . . . . .	28,760	1,868	2,188	2,382	2,428	2,576	2,498	2,641	2,810	2,451	2,666	2,084	2,168
Immoral Conduct . . . . .	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Truant . . . . .	86	3	17	10	11	13	2	0	0	8	15	6	1
Curfew . . . . .	880	38	51	39	33	67	90	160	169	78	60	52	43
Incorrigible . . . . .	167	21	12	17	10	16	14	11	19	14	10	16	7
Runaway - Local . . . . .	771	79	73	78	72	53	50	52	48	97	59	60	50
Runaway - Out-of-State . . . . .	527	42	42	79	43	21	35	47	49	51	50	41	27
Other Delinquency . . . . .	1,957	136	146	204	168	178	171	187	146	165	143	164	149
Total Delinquent Tendencies . . . . .	4,392	319	341	427	337	348	362	457	432	413	337	339	280
GRAND TOTAL . . . . .	33,152	2,187	2,529	2,809	2,765	2,924	2,860	3,098	3,242	2,864	3,003	2,423	2,448
Percent of Grand Total . . . . .		.07	.08	.08	.08	.09	.09	.09	.10	.09	.09	.07	.07

Illustration 22d.  
STATEWIDE ADULT & JUVENILE MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS BY OFFENSE, DAY & TIME OF CRIME  
JANUARY 1, 1977 THRU DECEMBER 31, 1977

Offense	Total	DAY							HOUR					Unknown	
		Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	0-4AM	4-8AM	8-12AM	12-4PM	4-8PM		8-12PM
Assault.....	447	42	36	41	38	55	45	68	64	17	22	35	49	64	122
Riotous Conduct.....	2,806	319	204	193	258	239	321	481	628	87	58	152	249	401	791
Disturbing the Peace....	1,139	146	89	87	139	142	169	225	318	56	58	96	144	271	142
Weapons.....	84	11	5	12	9	6	3	5	4	1	1	10	16	12	33
Theft.....	2,640	227	293	279	276	303	275	380	243	29	184	594	501	249	607
Drunk.....	3,622	275	229	233	227	300	300	452	57	11	10	51	69	63	1,606
Drunk Driving.....	3,083	441	259	226	217	295	380	537	876	87	59	110	284	518	728
Possession of Alcohol...	1,529	145	97	86	96	126	277	306	340	23	44	81	72	407	396
Trespassing.....	513	73	36	43	63	32	49	54	97	33	18	41	47	66	163
Vagrancy.....	14	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	9
Prostitution.....	16	3	0	7	4	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	8	0
Indecent Exposure.....	94	13	11	5	11	10	15	16	21	2	5	9	12	20	13
Gambling.....	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Traffic - Hit & Run.....	200	29	23	15	21	17	27	32	45	4	11	20	25	37	36
Traffic - Reckless.....	792	128	78	60	60	66	114	162	239	22	21	55	98	153	124
Warrant Arrest.....	737	53	51	55	69	86	94	78	34	9	26	45	35	26	251
Other Misdemeanors ...	11,042	1,265	1,067	1,034	1,030	1,167	1,451	1,536	1,458	515	866	1,272	1,509	1,912	2,492
Sub-Total Misdemeanors....	28,760	3,170	2,478	2,377	2,521	2,846	3,522	4,333	4,429	896	1,384	2,571	3,111	4,210	7,513
Immoral Conduct.....	4	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
Truant.....	86	0	14	2	3	6	20	0	1	1	22	18	0	0	41
Curfew.....	880	129	53	57	56	75	64	175	469	37	11	6	3	15	271
Incorrigible.....	167	27	16	11	8	17	21	17	24	8	16	17	23	22	50
Runaway - Local.....	771	38	78	47	56	62	58	45	44	18	44	58	69	49	387
Runaway - Out-of-State .	527	11	35	33	21	26	38	27	16	14	13	34	36	14	336
Other Delinquency.....	1,957	191	191	233	210	241	220	254	121	30	38	54	86	140	417
Total Delinquent Tendencies.	4,392	396	387	383	355	428	422	518	676	108	144	188	217	241	1,503
GRAND TOTAL .....	33,152	3,566	2,865	2,760	2,876	3,274	3,944	4,851	5,105	1,004	1,528	2,759	3,328	4,451	9,016
Percent of Grand Total .....		.11	.09	.08	.09	.10	.12	.15	.15	.03	.05	.08	.10	.13	.27



## MONTANA DISTRICT COURT DATA

### STATISTICAL METHOD

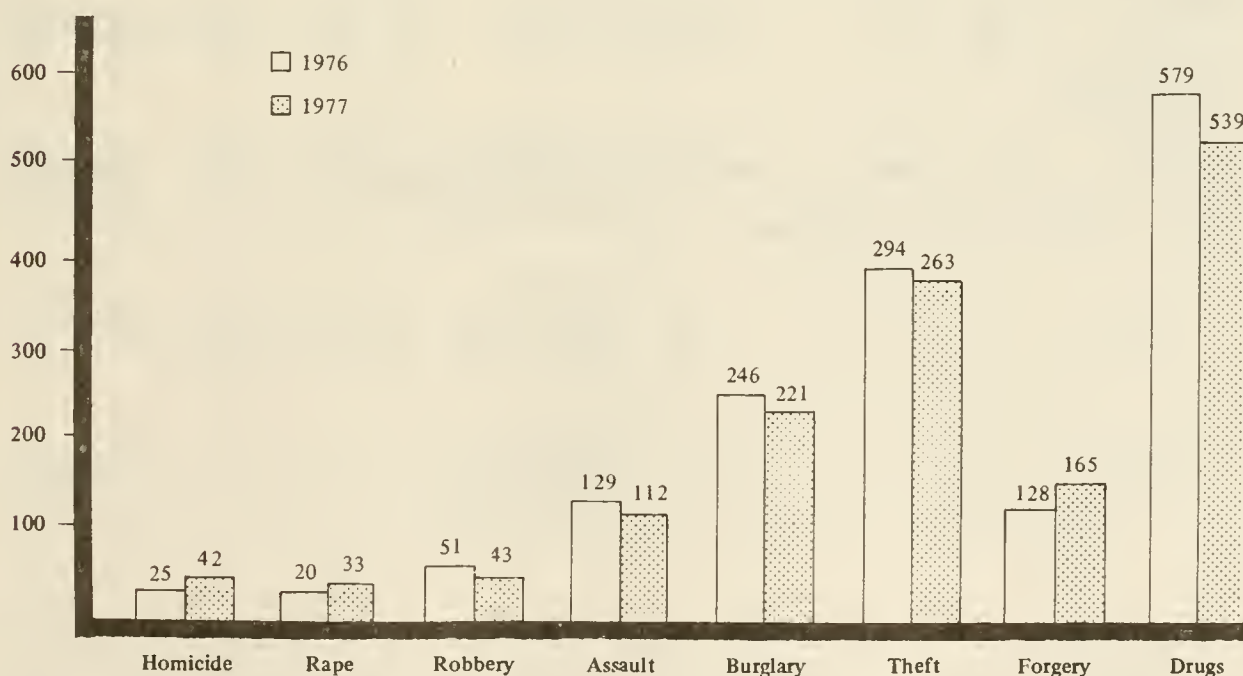
For the third year, the M.B.C.C. includes in *Crime in Montana* information pertaining to criminal cases in Montana's district courts. This information was reported to the Criminal Justice Data Center by the clerks of court in each judicial district. In general, those cases represented in this report were disposed in court between January 1, 1977 and December 31, 1977.

This is the last year that M.B.C.C. will collect data directly from the clerks of court. The Montana Supreme Court is currently developing a reporting system, and subsequent reports made by M.B.C.C. will be based on this data. We would like to thank the clerks of court for their past diligence in providing us with data, and for bearing the burden of dual reporting over the past years.

Data having to do with district court criminal cases is not comparable to arrest and offense data to be found in this report. We lack, at the present time, information concerning informal settlements, charges dropped or changed, etc.; and therefore can make no statement about differences in the type and number of arrests and offenses relative to district court actions.

The court actions for major crimes in this report do not represent the total crimes/court actions of the district courts but rather those major crimes of a serious nature for which valid statistical data exists.

Illustration 23.  
COURT ACTIONS FOR SERIOUS CRIMES





## CASES DISPOSED BY OFFENSE

The illustrations below and on the following page show the disposition of district court criminal cases. The first table below is a comparison of 1976 and 1977 total offenses by category along with a comparison of convictions and dismissals by offense category.

In 1977, a total of 1,418 court actions for major crimes were recorded with 277 or 19 percent dismissed and 34 or 3 percent acquitted for various reasons for a total of 22 percent non-convictions. This compares to a total of 20 percent non-convictions in 1976. In addition, 1,011 pled guilty and 96 were found guilty for a total of 78 percent convicted in 1977. This compares closely to 88 percent convicted in 1976.

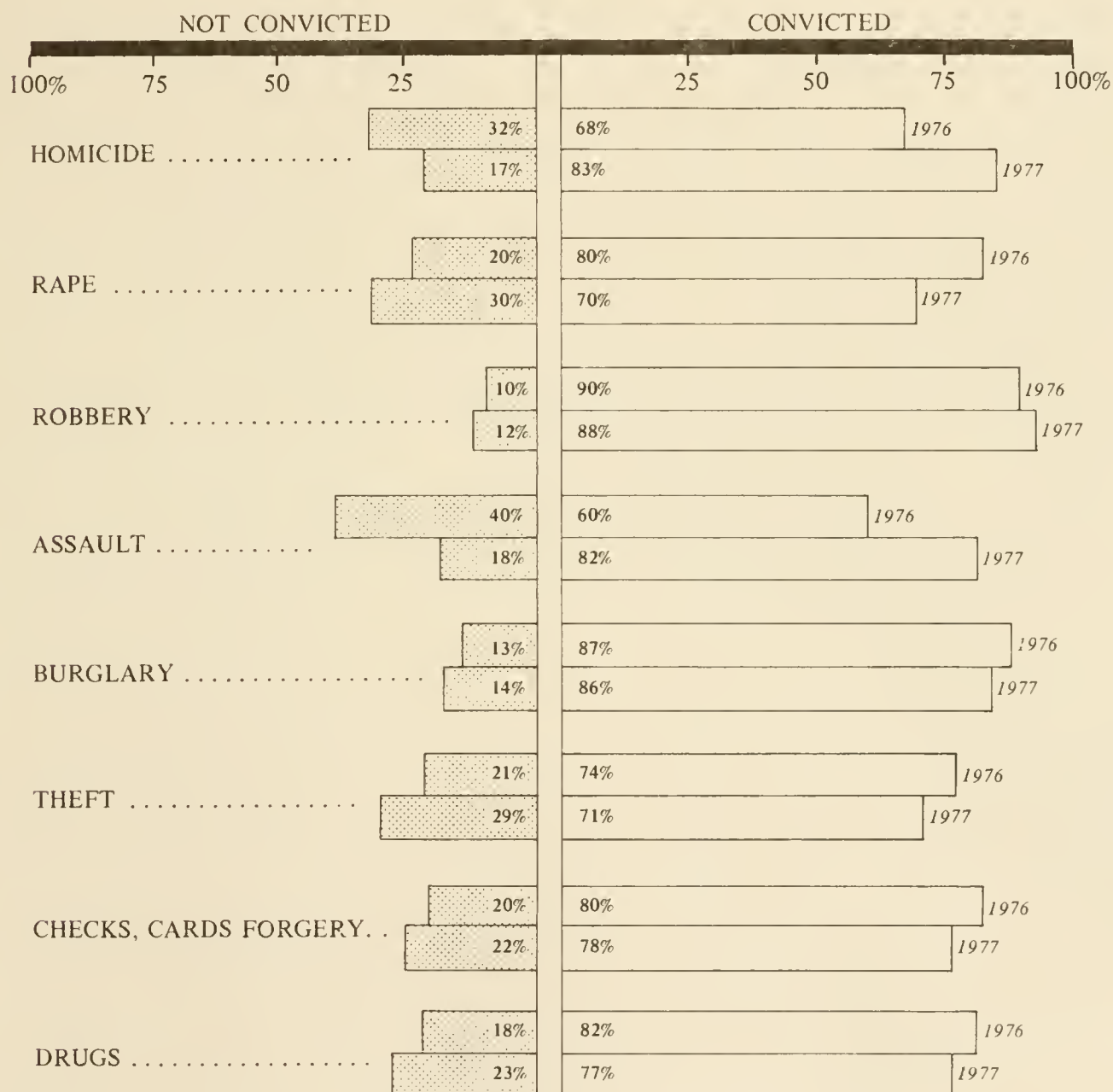
Illustration 24.  
CASES DISPOSED IN MONTANA DISTRICT COURT BY OFFENSE

Offense	NOT CONVICTED						CONVICTED			
	Total		Dismiss		Acquit		Pled Guilty		Found Guilty	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
Homicide.....	25	42	3	2	5	5	11	25	6	10
Rape.....	20	33	3	9	1	1	15	19	1	4
Robbery.....	51	43	5	5	0	0	44	31	2	7
Assault.....	129	112	40	16	11	4	68	74	10	18
Burglary.....	246	221	31	29	0	2	211	182	4	8
Theft.....	294	263	57	60	5	17	220	171	12	15
Checks, Cards										
Forgery.....	128	165	24	34	1	3	100	117	3	11
Drugs.....	579	539	103	122	0	2	461	392	15	23
Not Otherwise										
Classified*....	(326)	(331)								
TOTAL.....	1,472	1,418	266	277	23	34	1,130	1,011	53	96

\* Not included in illustration or totals.


Illustration 25 shows the criminal cases disposed in district court. Note that criminal cases in 1977 of Homicide, Robbery and Assault have larger percentages of convictions than in the previous year.

Illustration 25.  
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CASES DISPOSED  
IN MONTANA DISTRICT COURT







 **criminal**  
 **justice**  
 **data**  
 **center**