

California State University, San Bernardino

CSUSB ScholarWorks

Theses Digitization Project

John M. Pfau Library

1993

Law enforcement officers killed and assaulted, 1960-1987: A descriptive analysis

Thomas Edward Singer

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/etd-project>



Part of the [Criminology and Criminal Justice Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Singer, Thomas Edward, "Law enforcement officers killed and assaulted, 1960-1987: A descriptive analysis" (1993). *Theses Digitization Project*. 712.

<https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/etd-project/712>

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by the John M. Pfau Library at CSUSB ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Theses Digitization Project by an authorized administrator of CSUSB ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact scholarworks@csusb.edu.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
KILLED AND ASSAULTED
1960-1987:
A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

A Thesis
Presented to the
Faculty of
California State University
San Bernardino

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts
in
Criminal Justice

by
Thomas Edward Singer

March 1993

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
KILLED AND ASSAULTED
1960-1987:
A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

A Thesis
Presented to the
Faculty of
California State University,
San Bernardino

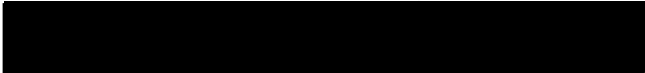
by
Thomas Edward Singer
March 1993

Approved by:




Dr. Donald Lindsey, Chair, Criminal Justice

December 11, 1992
Date



Dr. Frances Coles, Criminal Justice



Dr. John Heeren, Sociology

ABSTRACT

This descriptive analysis involved the gathering and dissemination of 28 years of information, from 1960 to 1987 about law enforcement officers both murdered and assaulted. Information was culled from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports and Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted. Using a program written for use with the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences the data was collated.

Categories examined under law enforcement officers murdered include region and sub-region of the United States and population grouping. Categories for law enforcement officers assaulted and assaulted with injury include region and sub-region of the United States, population grouping and type of weapon used by the assailant.

The Southern region of the U.S. suffers the greatest number of officers both murdered and assaulted. In each region murders of law enforcement officers occur in greater numbers in the urbanized or developed sub-region as opposed to the rural or agrarian sub-region. Assaults by sub-region are less definitive. Murders and assaults of law enforcement officers by population group indicate that nationally the County, State and Highway Patrol group had the highest percentage of victims followed by Population Group I (cities

of 250,000 and over). By region both the Northwest and North Central (Midwest) had higher rates in Population Group I while in the South and West rates were highest among the County, State and Highway Patrol group. In many of the sub-regions the County, State and Highway Patrol group exceeds the Population Group I for both murders and assaults. The greatest number of assaults by region, sub-region, and population group occur in the Hands category.

In conclusion, the killing and assault of a law enforcement officer appears to be a special subset of murders given the authority an officer has and the public demand that crime and criminal behavior be both prevented and controlled. Officers must insert themselves into dangerous and violent situations and encounters that ordinary citizens are not required to do. A continuum of violence appears also to exist, though, it has been greatly shortened because of the authority and means given to law enforcement to control criminal activity.

To my mother,
her fortitude
was only exceeded
by her persistence
that I should succeed

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	v
CHAPTER 1	
Introduction.....	1
CHAPTER 2	
Survey of the literature.....	5
CHAPTER 3	
Methodology.....	13
Limitations of the Data.....	14
CHAPTER 4 Results and Discussion	
Police employment, population growth and societal unrest.....	17
National overview: Violence against law enforcement officers.....	21
Overview: Regional Differences.....	22
South region.....	26
Northeast region.....	31
Western region.....	33
North Central region.....	35
Population group differences.....	37
Trends by population group.....	38
Urban/rural differences by region.....	42
Sub-regional population differences.....	44
Summary.....	54

CHAPTER 5

Assaults and assaults with injury - U.S.57
Overview of regional differences.....60
Overview of assaults with injury.....65
Assaults and assaults with injury by sub-region.....71
Assaults and assaults with injury by population
group.....82
Assaults by type of weapon used.....94
Summary.....113

CHAPTER 6

Conclusion.....116

Appendix I

Tables of law enforcement officers killed by population
group for each region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....121

Appendix II

Computer Command File.....127

References.....133

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 - Law Enforcement Employee Data 1960-1987.....	19
Table 2 - Law Enforcement Officers Feloniously Killed and Murder Rate 1960-1987.....	23
Table 3 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed South Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	28
Table 4 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed Northeast Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	32
Table 5 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed West Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	34
Table 6 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed North Central Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	36
Table 7 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group 1974-1987.....	40
Table 8 - Average Number of Officers Killed in Two Population Groups 1974-1987.....	42
Table 9 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group New England Region of the U.S. 1974-1987..	44
Table 10 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group Middle Atlantic Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	45
Table 11 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group East North Central Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	47
Table 12 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group West North Central Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	48
Table 13 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group Mountain Region of the U.S. 1974-1987....	49
Table 14 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group Pacific Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	50

Table 15 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group South Atlantic Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	51
Table 16 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group East South Atlantic Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	52
Table 17 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group West South Central Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	53
Table 18 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury 1960-1987.....	58
Table 19 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Northeast Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	61
Table 20 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury North Central Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	63
Table 21 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury South Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	66
Table 22 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury West Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	68
Table 23 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury New England Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	72
Table 24 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Middle Atlantic Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	73
Table 25 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury East North Central Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	74
Table 26 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury West North Central Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	75
Table 27 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury South Atlantic Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	77

Table 28 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury East South Atlantic Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	78
Table 29 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury West South Central Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	79
Table 30 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Mountain Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	80
Table 31 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Pacific Region of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	81
Table 32 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Population Group I of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	83
Table 33 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Population Group II of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	84
Table 34 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Population Group III of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	85
Table 35 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Population Group IV of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	86
Table 36 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Population Group V of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	87
Table 37 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Population Group VI of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	88
Table 38 - Law Enforcement Officers Assaulted and Assaulted with Injury Counties of the U.S. 1960-1987.....	89
Table 39 - Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Used 1969-1987.....	95
Table 40 - Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon 1969-1987.....	96

Table 41	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon New England Region of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	97
Table 42	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Middle Atlantic Region of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	98
Table 43	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon East North Central Region of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	99
Table 44	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon West North Central Region of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	100
Table 45	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon South Atlantic Region of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	101
Table 46	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon East South Central Region of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	102
Table 47	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon West South Central Region of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	103
Table 48	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Mountain Region of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	104
Table 49	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Pacific Region of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	105
Table 50	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Population Group I of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	106
Table 51	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Population Group II of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	107
Table 52	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Population Group III of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	108
Table 53	- Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Population Group IV of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	109

Table 54 - Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Population Group V of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	110
Table 55 - Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Population Group VI of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	111
Table 56 - Percentage of Assaults Upon Law Enforcement Officers by Type of Weapon Counties of the of the U.S. 1969-1987.....	112
Table 57 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group Northeast Region of the U.S. 1974-1987..	122
Table 58 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group North Central Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	123
Table 59 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group South Region of the U.S. 1974-1987.....	124
Table 60 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group West Region of the U.S. 1974 - 1987.....	125

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 - Model of Violence Against the Police.....	12
Figure 2 - Total Law Enforcement Officers Employed 1960-1987.....	18
Figure 3 - Law Enforcement Officers Murdered 1960-1987....	24
Figure 4 - Murder Rate 1960-1987.....	25
Figure 5 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Region 1965-1987.....	27
Figure 6 - Law Enforcement Officers Killed by Population Group 1974-1987.....	39
Figure 7 - Law Enforcement Officer Assault and Assault with Injury Rates 1960-1987.....	59
Figure 8 - Law Enforcement Officer Assault and Assault with Injury Rates Northeast Region 1960-1987....	62
Figure 9 - Law Enforcement Officer Assault and Assault with Injury Rates North Central Region 1960-1987.....	64
Figure 10 - Law Enforcement Officer Assault and Assault with Injury Rates South Region 1960-1987.....	67
Figure 11 - Law Enforcement Officer Assault and Assault with Injury Rates West Region 1960-1987.....	69
Figure 12 - Assaults by Population Group 1960-1987.....	90
Figure 13 - Assaults with Injury by Population Group 1964-1987.....	91

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Law enforcement within the United States has been considered by many to be one of the most dangerous occupations one can enter. Some even consider police work to be so dangerous that they rank it second only to front line military duty during time of war. With this in mind, the possibility of a law enforcement officer acting within his official capacity being harmed or killed was, and still is, considered "an inherent part of the job" (Margarita, 1980). One consequence of this situation is that both psychological and emotional beliefs have developed among peace officers that can have an affect on how well they perform their duties. For many officers there is a constant underlying belief that any situation or encounter perceived as normal can deteriorate and turn violent at almost any moment and they must, therefore, be forever wary and alert. Thus, officers are constantly looking out for any suspicious acts or movements among those they come in contact with and their anticipation of violence and their readiness to counter it are accordingly heightened (Meyer, Magedanz, Dahlin and Chapman, 1981).

This perceived constant threat of danger among law enforcement officers is but one facet of the "working person-

ality" described by Jerome Skolnick (1966). The perceived threat of danger, described above, along with the authority given to a sworn officer have serious effects upon those who choose to enter the field of law enforcement. Skolnick (1966) asserts that this combination of perceived danger along with the authority and means to control the actions of others succeeds in alienating many officers from the public they have sworn to serve. This working personality along with the continued integration of an officer into the shared beliefs and opinions of those he works with contribute to further distance them from those friends and acquaintances one might have had prior to joining a law enforcement agency. Eventually friends and contacts outside of law enforcement are few and far between and all social interaction takes place almost entirely with those whom the officer works with each day.

The problem of violence against the police and the perception of danger to them has become a matter of great concern to those both within and outside law enforcement circles only in the past three decades. It was only after a large and growing number of law enforcement officers were assaulted and killed during the 1960s that significant reaction appeared among police to find the causes and devise a solution to reduce the number of officer fatalities. During the late 1960s and early 1970s the number of assaults and murders committed against police increased substantially

over previous years. In 1960, 28 officers were murdered. By 1973, the worst year on record, 134 officers were feloniously killed. During this same period, assaults upon law enforcement officers also increased substantially. However, somewhat surprisingly, during the 1980s murders of law enforcement personnel have declined to 1967 levels.

The major response by law enforcement to the victimization of its own has mainly concerned itself with technological, medical, tactical and training breakthroughs and innovations thought to directly bear upon officer survival, rather than sociological and criminological factors. Academic researchers have also voiced interest. Researchers have looked at both sociological and criminological factors in attempts to find and determine those causes and situations that lead to violence directed at the police. Some of these efforts, including Meyer, Magedenz, et al (1981 and 1982), Lester (1984), and Chapman (1986), have sought to identify either separately or together the situations or encounters that are likely to result in harm being directed towards the responding officers as well as the sociological variables linked to both the assailant and the officer that shape the type of response and amount of force each side is willing to use to meet their ends. It is generally held that by understanding which situations result in the most death and injury steps can be taken to mitigate those that lead to violent encounters and reduce the risk of injury or

death to officers.

THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

This research is being done to provide a descriptive analysis of the problem of violence directed at law enforcement officers over time. More specifically, this study will look at patterns of homicide and assault that involve police as victims between the years 1960 and 1987. These patterns will be examined in the light of geographical and demographic factors. Cultural, social, criminological, medical, and technological factors that correlate with the changing patterns of violence directed towards those within law enforcement will also be examined. The significance of this study is to direct attention to areas of concern that may help to further clarify the problems associated with this violence.

CHAPTER 2

SURVEY OF THE LITERATURE

A number of researchers (e.g., Margarita, 1980; Meyer, Magedanz, et al, 1981 and 1982; Konstantin, 1984; Chapman, 1986; and Peterson and Bailey, 1988) have investigated numerous and varied factors in attempts to explain the rise in rates of murder and assault on law enforcement personnel. Pertinent factors and conditions surrounding each incident of assault or murder of a law enforcement officer, particularly murder, have been analyzed. These investigations have included assessing such variables as officer and assailant characteristics including sex, age, race, socio-economic status, and education. The emphasis of these types of inquiries has been to determine if there are any common denominators that precipitate a violent act against a peace officer. From some of this work a description or profile of the "average" officer and assailant has been formed. Such work, though, has provided few clues as to why one officer is killed or assaulted, and another isn't. Other areas of study such as community size and structure and circumstances precipitating the incident have also been entered into the equation alongside officer and offender characteristics in the search for answers (Margarita, 1980 and Lester, 1984).

In general, much of the research into the victimization

of the police appears to suffer from several limitations. First, a survey of the literature reveals a disparate picture that includes a number of discrete investigations where the scope of inquiry is limited. For example, Konstantin (1984: 29-45) looked at three years of statistics on murdered police officers in order to test three hypotheses. He was concerned with who initiated the encounter, the police or the assailant, whether minority or white officers were more likely to be killed, and what type of call or disturbance precipitated the killing of an officer. In his results he found that most contacts were officer-initiated; that minorities were more likely to be victims because they must both live and work in the areas they patrol; and that robbery was the predominant call to result in an officer being killed. The findings in this research appear to be limited by the narrow time frame studied. More years, resulting in far more cases, information and data, may have resulted in considerably different results.

Lester (1984:101-113), looked at the characteristics of 56 cities with populations of more than 250,000 and their police departments. The research produced several interesting relationships among the 21 largest cities and their police departments. The cities with the highest rates of police officer homicide were found to be less densely populated, located in the South, had a higher number of suicides and murders committed with a gun, and had higher murder and

manslaughter rates. The important police department factors included low per capita expenditures for police protection and whether a department had a higher rate of unsworn or civilian personnel. The limitations of this research is that only 56 cities were studied and the major results and discussion revolve around only the 21 largest cities. Little attention or emphasis was paid to smaller cities and Lester himself believes that the findings would be considerably different for small cities, suburbs, and rural areas. The results of his research are, therefore, limited in scope and inapplicable to many areas of the U.S.

Few studies, it appears, have contributed substantially to providing a coherent descriptive picture or much in the way of theoretical premises that can adequately account for the frequency and amount of violence directed towards law enforcement officers. A search of the literature fails to reveal even a single comprehensive description of long term variable patterns associated with assaults upon and the felonious killing of law enforcement officers.

One series of research studies portending such a description are Samuel Chapman's "Oklahoma Studies" which culminated with the publication of his book Cops, Killers and Staying Alive. Prior to his own work on the subject of violence directed towards the police he worked in conjunction with several other researchers looking at robbery-related assaults and homicides (1981, 1982a, 1982b, and 1982c).

This research found robbery situations to be the most dangerous encounter for a police officer. All suspects were armed and dangerous and were more than willing to use force in order to escape. For this research all of the factors and characteristics surrounding each act of robbery where a law enforcement officer was either assaulted or murdered for the years 1972 and 1973 were tabulated. The researchers looked at the precipitating situation, characteristics of both the suspect and officer, and the encounter itself. Situational variables included time of day, day of week, and time of year and whether the encounter was officer- or citizen-initiated. Officer variables included body measurements, age, race, sex, rank, length of service, and training. Offender variables included age, race, sex, occupation, socioeconomic status, and the use of drugs or alcohol. This research pointed out, once again, that the robbery situation is an area of special concern for law enforcement because robbery is an inherently violent crime where the offenders are usually prepared to use some sort of force to successfully complete their crime. The use of such force often involves the most deadly available, firearms. While this research is consistent with other findings, the number of cases are limited to a two year period and one type of situation.

An examination of Chapman's (1986) major work shows it to be almost cursory. It appears to speak more to what he

did not do than what might have been done with the extensive data he had access to and collected. In this case Chapman had complete access to the reports from investigations into officer homicides from 1950 to 1984 within Oklahoma. Valuable information and data was culled from these records that included: type of activity being performed prior to murder; time and place of the killing; type of weapon used; variables such as sex, race and age for both the officer and suspect; police officer training and experience; suspect socio-economic status; and use of drugs and/or alcohol. With all of this information Chapman had the building blocks for an extensive analysis of police officer homicides that might have explained much. However, he limited his analysis to looking at ways to reduce the murder of police officers through the use of tactical training. Moreover, he did little in the way of attempting to correlate his Oklahoma data with other data bases. Therefore, he can neither extend nor generalize his Oklahoma findings to the rest of the nation.

A broader analysis would have permitted a comparative evaluation of the "dangerousness" of law enforcement. In other words: To what extent police work is more or less dangerous than other types of occupations? What broader and more definitive set of factors come into play involving homicides and assault upon police?

David Lester (1984:101) points out that miners, construction workers, farmers, and transportation workers all

have higher rates of death than police officers. It remains, however, that police officers are far more likely to be the victims of violent murder than accident while on the job.

Finally, a study by Margarita (1980:218-233) has attempted to address a number of the problems of explanation and disparate findings while providing a theoretical model for the study of violence against the police. She observes that police homicides must also be considered in light of the "general study of criminal violence (which) postulates a great deal of similarity between assaults and homicides. [A] central tenet of this perspective is that assault and homicide exist along continuum of violence, with homicide marking the extreme."

Likewise, Zimring (1977) argues there is "a good deal of overlap between the structure, intention and motivational background of most serious but nonfatal attacks and most homicides" and further hypothesizes that "the element of chance must play an important role."

Thus, according to Margarita (1980:219),

An untested assumption implicit in discussions of violence against the police...is that serious assaults and homicides of police officers are distinguishable only in outcome, not in substance. The accuracy of this assumption is an issue of importance yet to be addressed in the study of criminal violence against the police.

Although Zimring and other researchers suggest that homicides and assaults belong on a continuum of violence wherein only citizens are involved, the situation may be quite different when both citizens and those within law enforcement are involved. Based on Margarita's (1980) research she proposes a hypothetical model that offers potentially greater insight into the matter of police homicides (see Figure 1).

However, Margarita's model is based upon the idea that police homicides are the exception to the continuum hypothesis. Her contention:

is premised on consideration of the special nature of the victim-offender relationship between the police officer and the citizen, a relationship not previously accounted for in the general study of criminal violence. Because the authority and responsibility of the police color significantly the occasions for police-citizen contact, the perspective adopted here considers the phenomenon of violence against police as a special subset of criminal violence.

Although this research cannot provide any direct tests of Margarita's proposition it can demonstrate the extent to which such data is available to test her hypothesis.

FIGURE 1

MODEL OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THE POLICE

Initial complaint or observation

Police intervention
in non-serious crime
(drunkenness, disorderly
conduct, family dispute,
etc.)

Police intervention
in serious crime
(burglary, robbery,
murder, etc.)

Outcome I:
Peaceful
resolution

Outcome II:
Impulsive
violence

Outcome III:
Peaceful
resolution

Outcome IV:
Instrumental
violence

No injury

Attack with
force not
likely to
cause
death

No injury

Attack with
force likely
to cause
death

No injury

Injury

No injury

Injury

Fatality

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

The data used in this research consists of secondary information provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation through annual reports on crime. These reports include statistics on the assaults and murders of law enforcement personnel. Specifically, this data is published yearly within Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted, an FBI publication available on microfiche, and Crime in the United States (the Uniform Crime Reports). Much of this data (1960-1981) was already collected and a computerized data base established by Professor Donald B. Lindsey, Department of Criminal Justice, California State University, San Bernardino, CA. This data base is in SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) form. There also exists an SPSS command file whereby the raw data can be processed. Thus, the major task for this thesis involved the updating of the current data file with information from the years 1982 to 1987. The year 1987 offered the last set of complete data at the beginning of this project. A detailed list of all of the variables used in this research in conjunction with the raw data can be found within Appendix II. Only basic descriptive statistics will be used to indicate

general and specific patterns of assaults and murders committed against law enforcement personnel over the time period indicated.

LIMITATIONS OF THE DATA

As indicated above the data used in this research is secondary information provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in the form of yearly reports on crime. The source of information about crime and criminal activity in the U.S. is the FBI publication Crime in the United States, referred to as the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR). In addition to delineating statistically the major forms of criminal activity such as murder, robbery, burglary, and rape occurring each year it also covers police employment data including peace officer employment information for city, local, county, and federal departments or agencies and the number of sworn and civilian employees within law enforcement agencies from throughout the nation.

A second FBI publication is Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA). This is a recent offshoot of the UCRs, beginning in 1982, and involves only information and statistics regarding law enforcement personnel. It deals specifically with the murder and assault of local, county, state, and federal officers. While much of this data was covered by the UCRs previously the LEOKA contains a

greater amount of information on the murders of peace officers and increased information on assaults upon those in law enforcement. But, because this information, much of it on federal law enforcement, was not available prior to the publishing of the LEOKA it has not been used in my research.

Since the FBI does not independently collect the data used in their yearly reports on crime it is up to local law enforcement to do so reliably and with validity. With data being compiled by law enforcement agencies both large and small there is the problem of interpretation. While the murder of a law enforcement officer is well delineated and easily understandable there can be, and usually is, a great deal of latitude when it comes the area of assaults on police officers. Various forms of assault have been codified including assaults with a deadly weapon such as firearm, knife, or other dangerous weapons and simple assault using hands or other body parts to attack or hurt a peace officer. But many times the officer involved makes the decision when and what form of assault an assailant will be charged with. There is the possibility of abuses and while one officer can be the victim of a gun another might have only been spat upon. Both are entered into the data, albeit in different categories, but are a part of the total assault data. This is an area of important concern because of the possibility that such data can be manipulated in questionable ways for political purposes (Weiss and Milakovich, 1974 and Wolfgang,

Savitz, and Johnston, 1970).

In addition prior to 1974 there is no breakdown by either population group or region of the United States for the murder of law enforcement officers. Prior to 1968 there is no breakdown by population group, region of the of the U.S., or weapon used for assaults committed against law enforcement officers.

CHAPTER 4

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

POLICE EMPLOYMENT, POPULATION GROWTH AND SOCIETAL UNREST

In considering an analysis of the problem of law enforcement officers as the victims of violence it is necessary to first look at police employment data. The reason for this is that the number peace officers employed throughout the United States has varied widely. Their numbers grew significantly between 1960 and 1987 and may partially account for the increase in violence directed at them simply because there are more officers engaged in police activity. More specifically, since 1960 overall employment has more than doubled from 212,152 sworn personnel to 480,383 in 1987 (see Figure 2). This number includes sworn law enforcement personnel employed by local, city, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Local and city law enforcement agencies have nearly doubled while sheriff's departments have experienced a tenfold increase. These increases by year can be seen on Table 1.

Reasons for this upward trend can be linked to increases in population and a corresponding rise in criminal activity. In 1960 the population of the United States was

FIGURE 2

TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS EMPLOYED 1960-1987

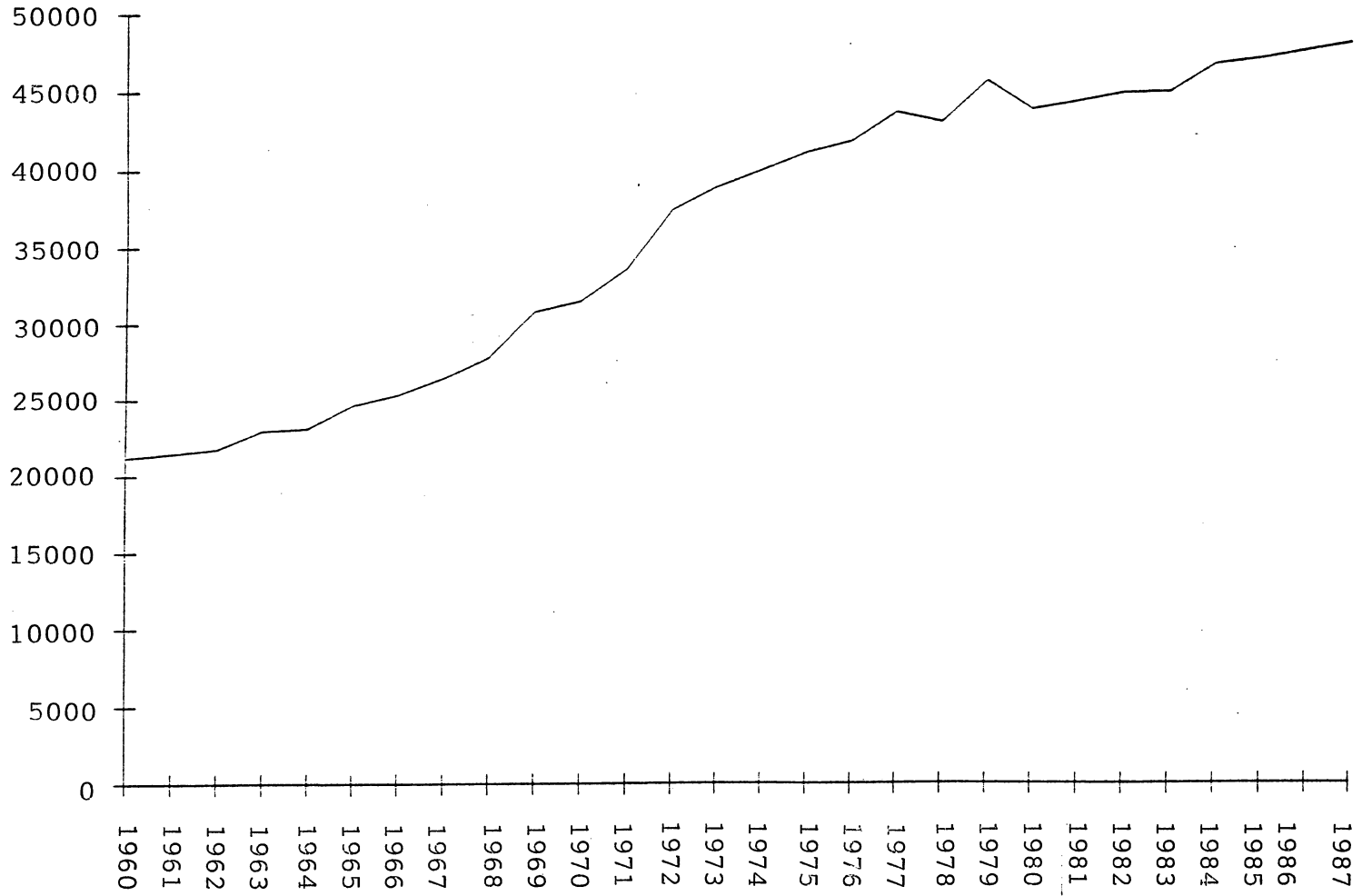


TABLE 1

LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE DATA
1960-1987

YEAR	CITY POLICE	SHERIFF'S DEPTS.	STATE POLICE & HIGHWAY PATROL	TOTAL POLICE
1960	175599	16204	23007	212152
1961	170750	17348	24053	214810
1962	173754	18574	25147	217475
1963	182293	20957	26290	229537
1964	181160	22329	27485	230975
1965	190005	27299	28735	246039
1966	193661	28248	30890	252799
1967	200186	29720	34218	264134
1968	211006	30316	36309	277631
1969	233135	36771	38718	307988
1970	233652	40471	40470	314593
1971	246601	47493	41365	335459
1972	268750	62949	42479	374178
1973	276808	68206	44237	389251
1974	286973	68219	44802	399994
1975	292346	73354	45440	411136
1976	287448	86157	44690	418295
1977	293019	98732	44980	436731
1978	294579	90237	45908	430742
1979	296332	95563	65115	457010
1980	294181	99182	45019	438382
1981	297324	100740	45469	443533
1982	298334	105073	46084	448927
1983	340121	145358	47549	449370
1984	309960	157157	47995	467117
1985	312713	157965	48450	470678
1986	318484	157369	49205	475853
1987	320959	159424	50258	480383

179 million people and by 1987 the population had surpassed 243 million. This is an increase of 64 million people over a 27 year period. A preliminary report from the Census Bureau for the 1990 census projects the population to be over 250 million. According to the report the U.S. population is growing at a rate of 6033 individuals each day (World Almanac, 1987).

Secondly, an aspect of this population growth is the "baby boom" generation made up of those individuals born between 1945 and 1965. This group of citizens resulted from an unprecedented birthrate following World War II and produced a large statistical "bubble" in the population structure. Thus, during the 1960s and continuing into the early 1970s many of the "baby boomer" generation entered their crime-prone years of age 15-24.

With the ever-increasing population, including the large number of youth entering their crime-prone years came a general rise in social unrest. This, of course, involved such events as the civil rights movement and large-scale protests over American involvement in the Vietnam conflict. Crimes associated with these movements when combined with growing criminal activity among the youth during this period led to a spiraling increase in crime generally.

In 1965 then-President Lyndon Johnson impaneled a commission of criminal justice professionals and academicians to look into the problem of rising criminal activity. In

1967 the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice released a seventeen volume report. The report made many recommendations for law enforcement, the judiciary, and for corrections on how they could all make improvements both individually and jointly to improve the criminal justice system. In the wake of the commission's findings and recommendations legislation was passed and in 1968 President Johnson signed into law the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act. This legislation was yet another part to the whole "Great Society" plan envisioned by President Johnson whereby the federal government provided money and programs to state and local agencies to foment change and improve American society. One of the largest programs supported and financed by this Act was the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration providing federal money to law enforcement agencies for various crime control programs, the increased hiring of law enforcement personnel, and both more and better equipment (Conklin, 1981:476-481).

Against this backdrop the the nature of violence directed towards the police over time may perhaps be most clearly understood.

NATIONAL OVERVIEW: VIOLENCE AGAINST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The number of law enforcement officers feloniously killed each year from 1960 to 1987 has been as low as 28 in

1960 to an all-time high of 134 in 1973 (see Table 2). The number killed during the 1980s has been declining and in 1987 reached levels about the same as the late 1960s (see Figure 3). The murder rate shows the decline in law enforcement officers murdered. In 1960 the murder rate for peace officers was 1.3 per 10,000. The rate increased through the 1960s and into the early 1970s reaching a high of 3.8 per 10,000 in 1971. The rate then fell off and declined back to the 1960 level of 1.3 per 10,000 as shown in Figure 4. The mean kill rate for the years 1960 to 1987 equals 2.4 per 10,000 (see Table 2). What is important to realize when looking at this data is that while the number of officers working in law enforcement has gone up and the number of officers killed has also gone up this victimization rate has returned to what it was. Fewer officers are becoming the victims of murder in relationship to their numbers. It is also interesting to note that this decline has occurred while violent crime in this country has increased generally since 1973, the worst year in history for the killing of law enforcement officers.

OVERVIEW: REGIONAL DIFFERENCES

For Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reporting purposes the United States has been divided into four major geographic regions and each region has been divided into

TABLE 2

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FELONIOUSLY KILLED
AND MURDER RATE 1960-1987

YEAR	POLICE OFFICERS KILLED	MURDER RATE PER 10000
1960	28	1.3
1961	37	1.7
1962	48	2.2
1963	55	2.4
1964	57	2.4
1965	53	2.9
1966	57	2.2
1967	76	2.8
1968	64	2.3
1969	86	2.7
1970	100	3.1
1971	129	3.8
1972	116	3.1
1973	134	3.4
1974	132	3.3
1975	129	3.1
1976	111	2.6
1977	93	2.1
1978	93	2.1
1979	106	2.3
1980	104	2.4
1981	91	2.0
1982	92	2.1
1983	80	1.6
1984	72	1.4
1985	78	1.5
1986	66	1.3
1987	73	1.4
TOTAL	2360	
MEAN	84	2.3

FIGURE 3
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MURDERED 1960-1987

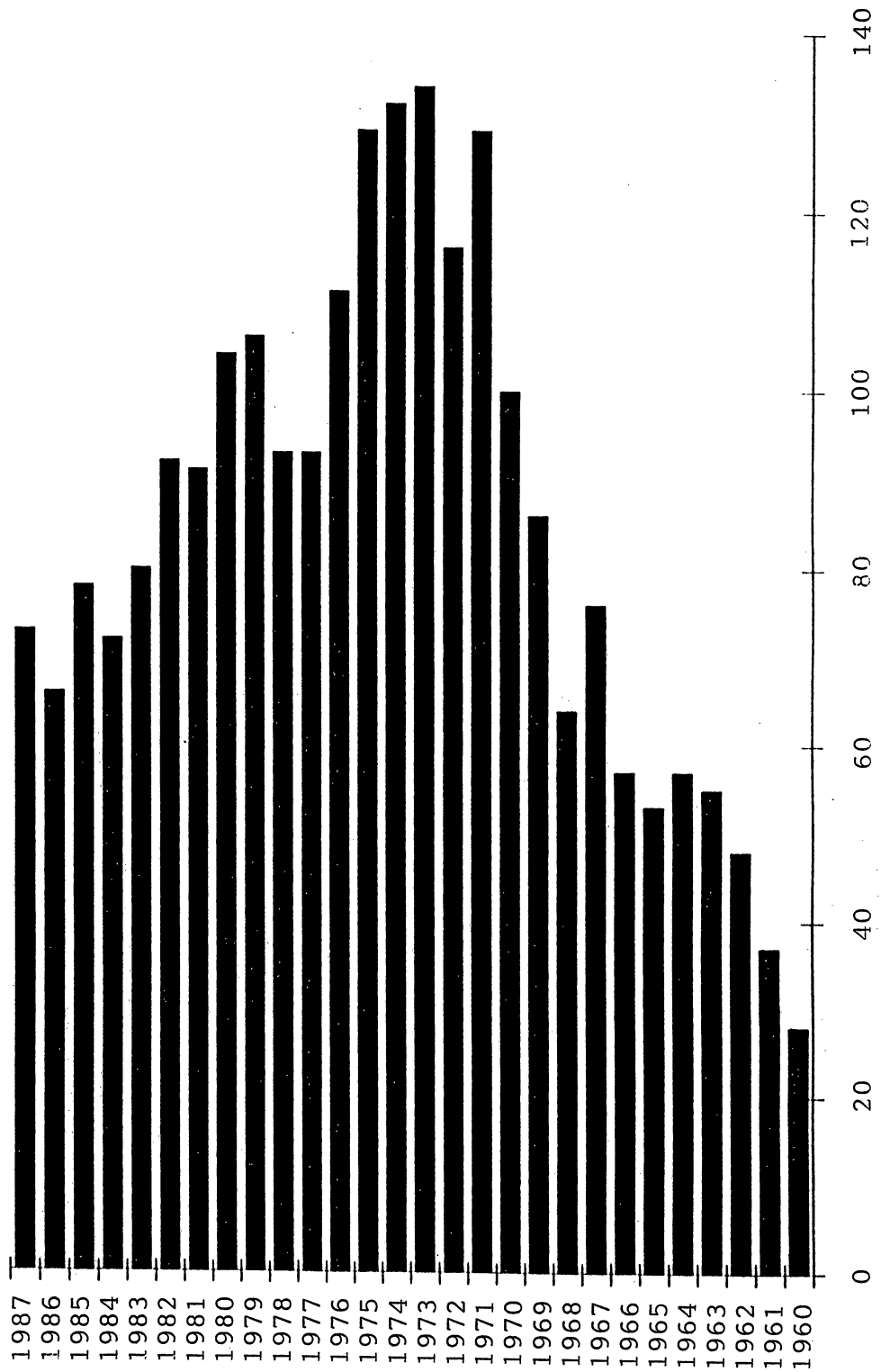
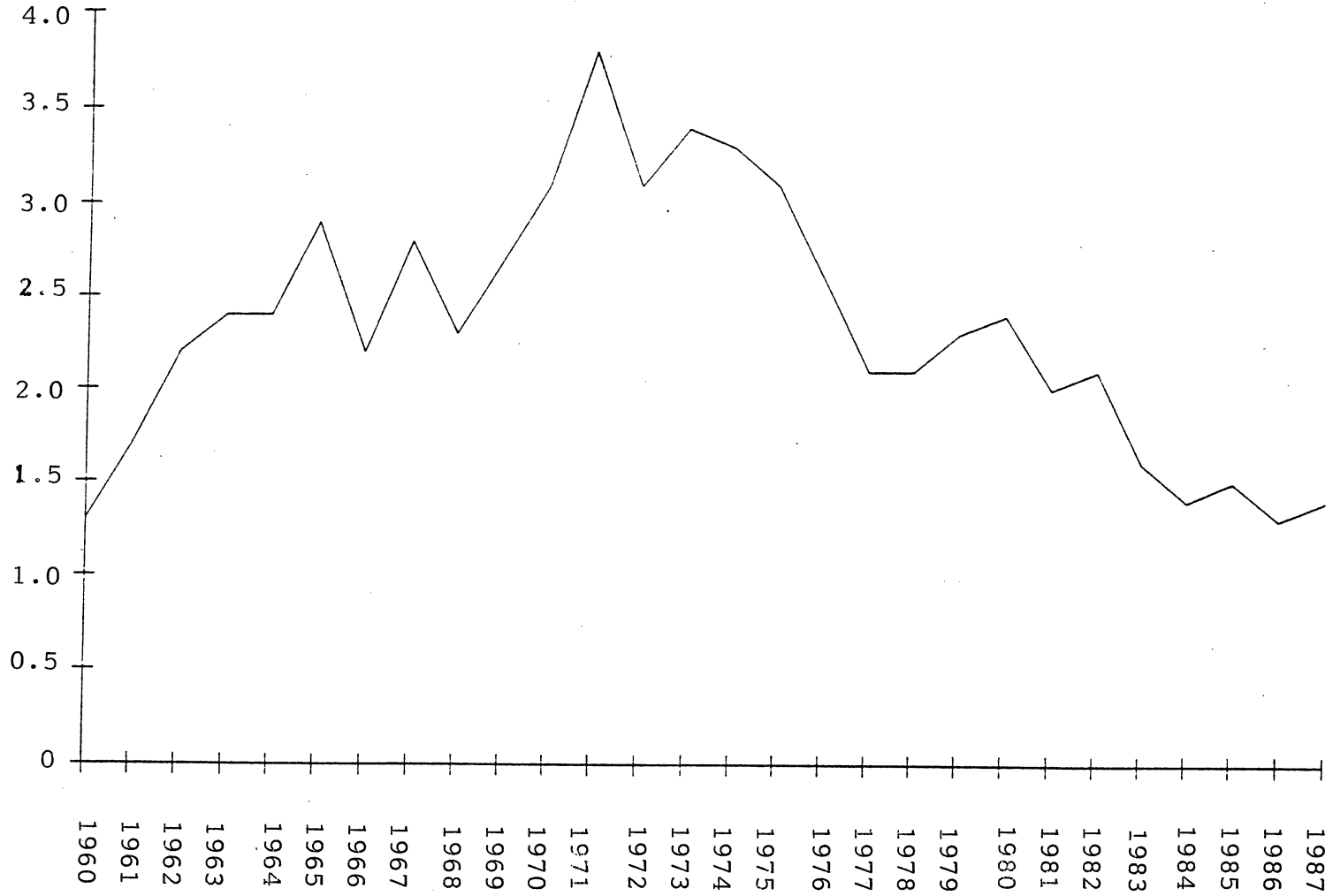


FIGURE 4

MURDER RATE 1960-1987



various sub-regions. The four major geographic regions for reporting purposes are the Northeast, North Central (Midwest after 1983), South, and West. Since 1974 the FBI has consistently tabulated the number of law enforcement officers murdered in each region. However, other UCR data reveals that since 1965, as Figure 5 shows, the South typically incurs the most murders of law enforcement personnel, 43.7 percent or 935 of 2139 peace officer murders. The mean number of officers killed in law enforcement for each region, related to the data seen in Figure 5, for the years 1974-1987 are: Northeast, 12.14; North Central, 17.86; West, 16.00; and South 43.60. Of 1255 murders of law enforcement personnel between 1974-1987 the Southern region accounts for 48.69 percent or a total of 611 police deaths.

SOUTH REGION

The Southern region of the U.S. provides some interesting statistics. There are three sub-regions in the South and their peace officer homicide rates per 10,000 officers for the years 1974 through 1987 are as follows: South Atlantic 20.29; East South Atlantic 9.93; and West South Atlantic 13.36 (see Table 3). As indicated, the South Atlantic sub-region has suffered the highest rate of law enforcement deaths within the region. This sub-region encompasses much of the southeastern seaboard from Maryland to Florida

FIGURE 5

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED BY REGION 1965-1987

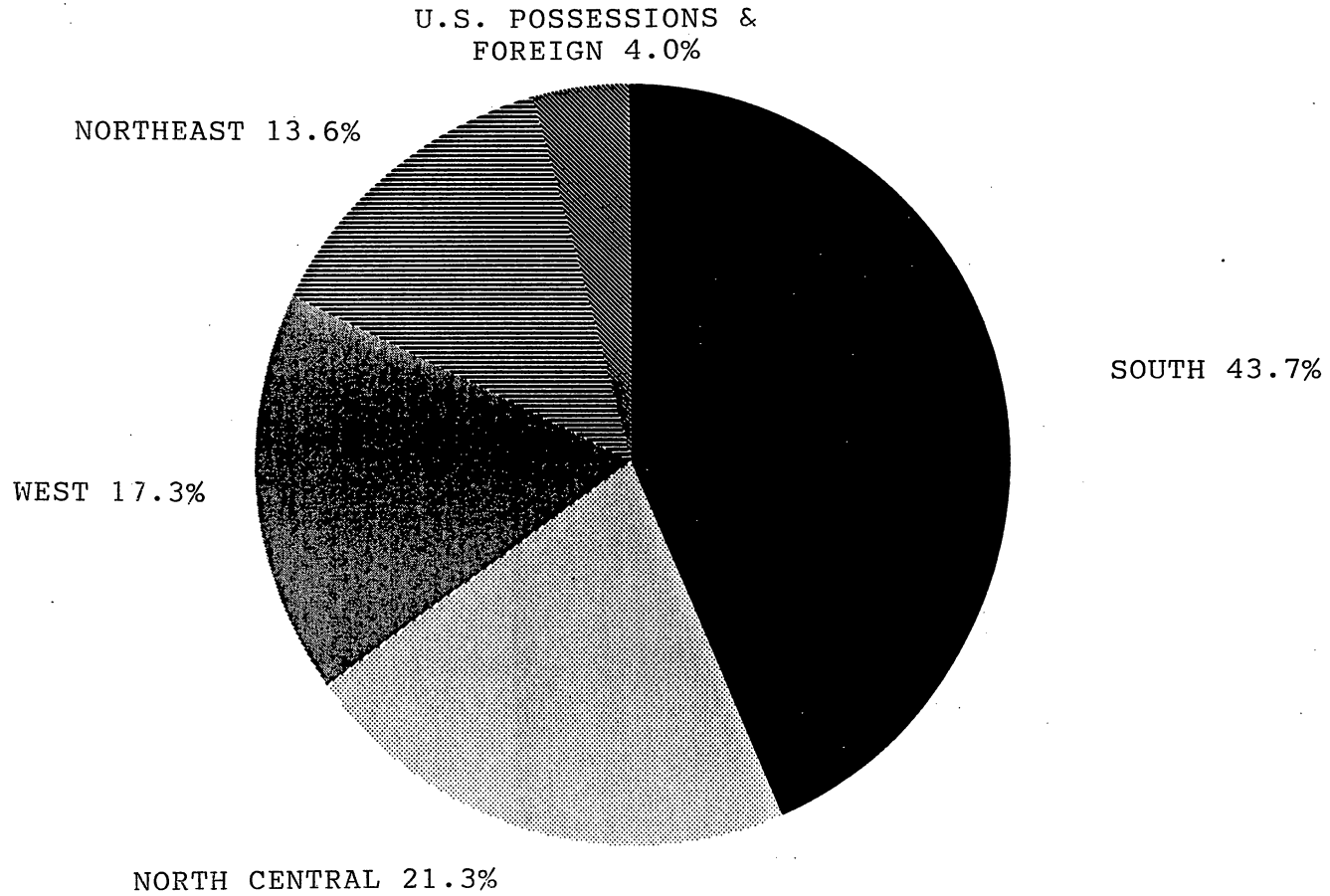


TABLE 3

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
SOUTH REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS				
YEAR	TOTAL	SOUTH ATLANTIC	EAST SOUTH ATLANTIC	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL
1974	57	35	7	15
1975	54	23	15	16
1976	57	29	10	18
1977	47	24	9	14
1978	47	15	13	19
1979	49	23	15	11
1980	45	21	9	15
1981	43	18	16	9
1982	42	18	9	15
1983	37	14	9	14
1984	37	17	7	13
1985	36	17	7	12
1986	32	16	8	8
1987	28	15	5	8
TOTAL	611	285	139	187
MEAN	43.60	20.29	9.93	13.36

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

where a number of major cities exist. These include Baltimore MD, Washington, D.C., Richmond, VA, Charlotte, NC, Charleston, SC, Atlanta, GA and Miami FL. Two of these cities have been labeled "murder capitals" of the U.S.; Miami from 1980 to 1982 and once again from 1984 to 1986 and

Washington in 1987. What this means is that each city had the highest murder rate per 100,000 inhabitants in the nation.

While the Southern region's other sub-regions, the East South Atlantic and the West South Central, both have rates that are not nearly as large as that suffered by the South Atlantic sub-region the averages are still high. Particularly when the various sub-regions from each region being examined are compared with one another. It quickly becomes apparent that within each region there is one sub-region with a high rate of officer homicides and another with a lower rate. This is also true of the Southern region. The difference is the sub-region within the Southern region with the lowest officer murder rate, the East South Atlantic, has a rate nearly as high as the sub-region with the highest rate in any of the other regions of the U.S. (see Tables 4-6). No single Southern sub-region appears to have an officer homicide rate that is considerably lower when compared with other sub-regions throughout the nation.

What may account for the large number of officer homicides within the Southern region? First, the South has been historically noted as a particularly violent region of the U.S. Research looking at violence in the South has postulated a number of possible causes for this violence. Initial explanations have included the destruction of southern society during the Civil War and the resultant animosity

southerners had for both freed blacks and northerners who came south to help rebuild the South's infrastructure (Hackney, 1969). While this might explain the roots of violence within the South it cannot explain continuing rates of murder and mayhem. Studies and works, including Hackney (1969) and Gastil (1971), point towards factors such as population density, rate of gun ownership, and a culture enamored with violence. The southern region consists predominately of small towns and cities. According to Hackney (1969), when compared to their northern brethren the South throughout the century following the Civil War lacked both an industrial heartland and cosmopolitan centers filled with culture and entertainment. Southern society was still based upon agrarian themes. Many whites remained poor with blacks in the region even poorer. Many whites and blacks living in these small communities found themselves scratching out livelihoods together in hostile competition with one another leading to violent outcomes. Overall, southerners have put a considerable amount of emphasis upon family, personal relationships and ascribed status.

Gastil (1971) asserts that along with his own review of the problem previous research holds that the whole of the South, relative to the North, has higher rates of homicide and assault, moderate rates of property crime, and low rates of suicide. This pattern is distinctly Southern. What may foster this pattern of violence may be a combination of both

a high rate of gun ownership along with a culture of violence that permeates the South. According to both Hackney (1969) and Gastil (1971) the rate of gun ownership among whites exceeds fifty percent. This compares to that of the North with a rate one-half the South's. The availability, the threat of use, and either the know-how or proven ability to use a firearm have led to a great number of murders and assaults. This Southern tendency towards violence provides increased credibility in the belief that it is culturally based, to some extent. Gastil (1971) asserts in his work that the South constitutes a "subculture of violence." If this is correct, it is also plausible to assume such violence extends itself to the high rate of violence against those within law enforcement causing injury and death.

NORTHEAST REGION

Among all the regions of the U.S., the Northeast has had the fewest number of law enforcement officers killed. Between 1965 and 1987 a total of 291 officers or 13.6% of the total were feloniously killed as seen back in Figure 5. On an annual basis between 1974 and 1987 the region had a mean kill rate of 12.14 officers. Of the included sub-regions for the same period of time, the New England sub-region had a mean rate of 2.21 officers killed. This compares to the other included sub-region, the Middle Atlantic, with a

TABLE 4

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
NORTHEAST REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS			
YEAR	TOTAL	NEW ENGLAND	MIDDLE ATLANTIC
1974	14	1	13
1975	19	3	16
1976	15	1	14
1977	11	1	10
1978	12	3	9
1979	13	0	13
1980	23	3	20
1981	13	2	11
1982	7	0	7
1983	5	1	4
1984	10	1	9
1985	11	4	7
1986	6	0	6
1987	11	2	9
TOTAL	170	22	148
MEAN	12.14	2.21	10.57

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

mean rate of 10.57 (see Table 4). Several factors may account for these differences. The Middle Atlantic sub-region includes such population centers as New York City and Philadelphia which contribute considerably to the higher rate.

What is of note is that much of the New England sub-

region might be considered rural like areas found within the Southern region. There are, however, differences which include less available land mass that can be developed and populated, fewer major cities and metropolitan areas, harsh winter weather conditions that inhibit human activity, and the lower rates of gun ownership found in the North. These all appear to be factors that may contribute to a lower murder rate for peace officers in the Northeast region.

WESTERN REGION

The second lowest peace officer murder rate is found in the Western region of the U.S. Between 1965 and 1987 371 officers representing 17.3% of the total were feloniously killed. On an annual basis between 1974 and 1987 the mean kill rate was 16.00. Again, like those found in the Northeast region the two sub-regions within the Western region have noticeably different law enforcement officer mean kill rates. The Mountain sub-region has a mean rate of 5.57 officers killed while the Pacific sub-region has a mean rate of 10.43 officers killed, respectively (see Table 5). This rate is nearly twice that of the Mountain sub-region rate.

These two sub-regions, once again, are quite diverse. While the Mountain sub-region is sparsely populated and contains only a few major cities (Denver, Phoenix and Salt Lake

TABLE 5

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
WEST REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS			
YEAR	TOTAL	MOUNTAIN	PACIFIC
1974	20	7	13
1975	23	10	13
1976	10	2	8
1977	14	3	11
1978	20	5	15
1979	23	8	15
1980	14	5	9
1981	14	6	8
1982	18	8	10
1983	18	6	12
1984	13	3	10
1985	10	1	9
1986	13	7	3
1987	14	7	7
TOTAL	224	78	146
MEAN	16.00	5.57	10.43

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

City) the Pacific sub-region has considerably more population (except for Alaska). Within the Pacific sub-region the entire West Coast, from San Diego to Seattle, has incurred a population explosion and resultant development since the end of World War II. The continuing unbridled growth resulted in Los Angeles during the 1980s surpassing Chicago as

the second largest city in the U.S.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

The North Central region has had the second highest annual peace officer homicide mean rate within the U.S. at 17.86 for the years 1974 to 1987. During the period 1965 to 1987 456 officers or 21.3% of the total were feloniously killed. Again the rates from each of the two sub-regions are considerably different with the East North Central sub-region having suffering an annual rate of 12.57 while the West North Central sub-region had an annual rate of 5.29 (see Table 6).

Again the great variance between the two sub-regions can likely be attributed to their variations in population size. The East North Central sub-region includes many of the major cities of the region including Chicago, Indianapolis, Cleveland, and Detroit. With much of the urban and industrialized parts of the region in one sub-region and more rural or agrarian parts in another the patterns of violence in general, and against peace officers specifically, that develop can be considerably different.

Each region of the U.S., as it has been divided for these statistical purposes, appears to consistently contain one sub-region that is primarily "rural" in its make-up and character while the other is considered "urban." And, for

TABLE 6

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
NORTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS			
YEAR	TOTAL	EAST NORTH CENTRAL	WEST NORTH CENTRAL
1974	37	34	3
1975	25	20	5
1976	24	15	9
1977	19	8	11
1978	10	5	5
1979	16	13	3
1980	15	8	7
1981	18	10	8
1982	21	15	6
1983	13	9	4
1984	10	9	1
1985	14	7	7
1986	11	10	1
1987	17	13	4
TOTAL	250	176	74
MEAN	17.86	12.57	5.29

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

the most part, the rural sub-regions have annual mean murder rates of law enforcement officers that are considerably lower, most by one half, than their counterpart urban sub-regions. This is even true of the South when the mean of the officer murder rate for the East South Atlantic sub-region is compared to the mean of the more populous South

Atlantic sub-region.

POPULATION GROUP DIFFERENCES

While broad regional differences offer some insights and possible explanations for the problem of violence directed at those in law enforcement, especially the correlation between the amount of "Southernness" of a given region and the rate of officers feloniously killed, other factors must be fully examined. As indicated above, the nature of the community in which a law enforcement officer works is an important factor. But the size of the community appears to also be a factor. The level of criminal activity and the response that it requires varies significantly with community size.

This can be seen in Uniform Crime Report data on officers who have been killed based upon population groupings. Six categories are defined by the Bureau of Census as standardized urban reporting areas. Three additional categories are added to these by the FBI. One category combines county and state law enforcement agencies, the second accounts for federal agencies, while the last category covers law enforcement personnel killed in U.S. possessions or in foreign countries. The six standardized population groups are as follows:

Group I cities-250,000 and over
Group II cities-100,000 to 249,999
Group III cities-50,000 to 99,999
Group IV cities-25,000 to 49,999
Group V cities-10,000 to 24,999
Group VI cities-under 10,000

TRENDS BY POPULATION GROUP

At first glance, many of the officers who have been the victims of homicide in the U.S. between 1974 and 1987 have usually been included in one of two groups. Either as a part of the Group I population with 324 officers killed and 25.0% of the total or as a part of the County, State and Highway Patrol group with 478 killed representing 36.9% (see Figure 6). Each year nearly two-thirds of the law enforcement officers killed are part of these two groups (see Table 7). However, there is more to understanding the general picture.

The Group I population (cities over 250,000) grouping contains every major city and many larger suburban cities that form many of the metropolitan areas of the nation. Yet, these areas account for only a small number of the communities within the nation. There is a considerably greater number of smaller cities, towns, and rural areas that make-up the balance not attributed to urban areas or County, State and Highway Patrol agencies. When looking at Figure 6 the combined percentage of communities under 250,000 population in size, 35.8% (465 officers killed), is greater than

FIGURE 6

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED BY POPULATION GROUP 1974-1987

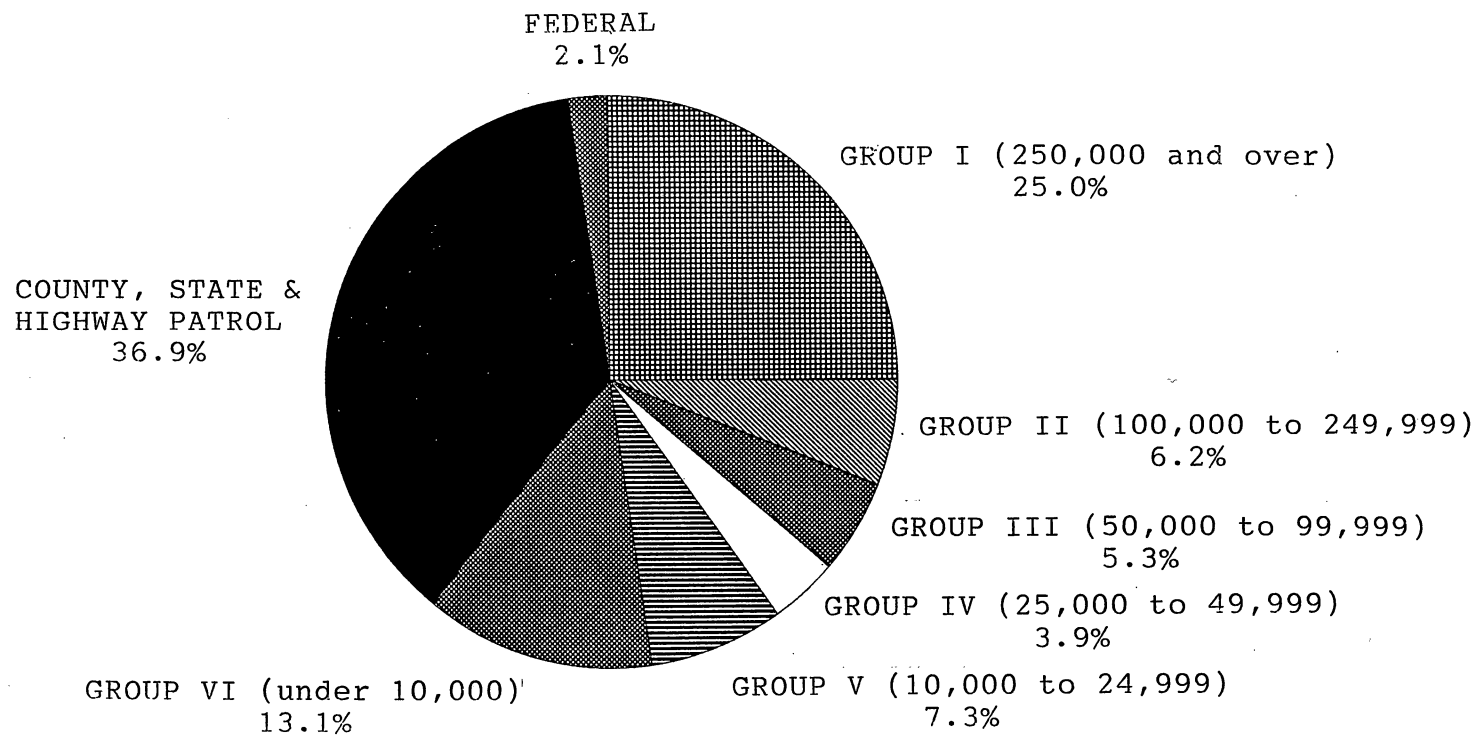


TABLE 7

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE &	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI	HIGHWAY PATROL	
1974	46	10	7	5	8	15	39	2
1975	39	3	4	10	13	19	37	4
1976	27	5	8	5	8	18	38	2
1977	14	11	6	2	11	18	31	0
1978	19	4	6	2	4	15	42	1
1979	24	5	5	2	8	12	46	4
1980	28	11	6	4	9	13	31	2
1981	23	5	9	2	6	16	30	0
1982	26	7	5	0	5	9	34	2
1983	16	1	1	1	6	11	33	3
1984	15	3	7	4	1	3	36	1
1985	15	5	3	3	8	8	29	1
1986	14	5	0	5	2	8	24	4
1987	18	5	2	6	6	5	28	1
TOTAL	324	80	69	51	95	170	478	27
MEAN	23.14	6.71	4.93	3.64	6.79	12.14	34.14	1.93

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

the percentage of communities over 250,000. The percentage for cities under 10,000 is one-half, 13.1%, when compared to that of communities of 250,000 and over. Thus, it may be inferred that while large urban/suburban areas have a great number of officer-victims by themselves a significant problem exists among smaller town and communities as well when

they are viewed as a whole.

The County, State and Highway Patrol category, as stated, has suffered the greatest number of officers feloniously killed and the highest percentage of the total killed (see above). While this figure initially indicates that officers working for agencies such as these are in the greatest danger of becoming a victim there are some factors that "muddy the waters."

While it is easy to categorize these officers by the agency they worked for prior to their murder it is quite difficult for a researcher to determine the area or community they were working when killed. And what, if any, part did community play in the officer's victimization? One must remember, there are not too many deputies working in Andy Griffith-type situations. Many county and state law enforcement officers also work in more urban/suburban settings. This is especially true of those new communities that contract for their law enforcement services from a county sheriff's agency or areas served and patrolled by county and state agencies that were at one time rural and have since been developed and populated. The reason this is so important is that by determining where each of the officers was murdered would, quite likely, also help identify whether rural or urban areas provide a more dangerous working environment. At this time, without more complete information it is not possible to draw any sound conclusions one way or to

the contrary.

URBAN/RURAL DIFFERENCES BY REGION

While Group I cities and County, State and Highway Patrol agencies are alike because of their high percentages of officers killed between 1974 and 1987, respectively, they are considerably different in other ways. These two groups within each FBI-produced statistical region of the U.S. are more likely to be the victims of murder. The average number of officers murdered within the two population groups from each region (the entire tables, 57-60, appear in Appendix I) for the period being examined is as follows:

TABLE 8

AVERAGE NUMBER OF OFFICERS KILLED
IN TWO POPULATION GROUPS
1974-1987

<u>REGION</u>	<u>GROUP I</u>	<u>COUNTY, STATE & HIGHWAY PATROL</u>
NORTHEAST	5.64	2.57
NORTH CENTRAL	5.79	4.86
SOUTH	6.71	19.43
WEST	4.14	5.86

As the figures above indicate, the County, State and

Highway Patrol agencies in the Southern region have suffered the highest average number of officers murdered for the period. The averages from the other three regions are one-third to one-sixth that of the South. As can be seen, these figures are consistent with those found for officers working in other types of law enforcement agencies.

The group with the second highest average number of officers murdered within the U.S. is Group I. Again the Southern region leads this category with an average of 6.71 officers murdered for the period 1974-1987. The Western region has the lowest average at 4.14 which is also below the region's County, State and Highway Patrol agencies average of 5.86. The other two regions, Northeast and North Central, have averages that are above their County, State and Highway Patrol agencies averages. This suggests that factors associated with urbanization among the large cities and metropolitan areas of the Midwest and Northeast in what is called the Snowbelt has resulted in a higher rate of victimization for the officers working in those communities. The averages from the County, State and Highway Patrol agencies for these regions suggest that rural areas may be considerably safer in some instances. The South and West regions with more rural areas and expanses of open country suggest that the opposite is true. The urban areas are safer areas to work than the rural parts. This especially applies to the South.

TABLE 9

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
NEW ENGLAND REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE &	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI	HIGHWAY PATROL	
1974	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1975	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
1976	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
1977	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1978	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
1979	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1980	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
1981	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
1982	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
1983	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1984	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1985	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
1986	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1987	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	3	2	2	9	1	3	0
MEAN	0.14	0.21	0.14	0.14	0.64	0.14	0.21	0.00

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

SUB-REGIONAL POPULATION DIFFERENCES

The sub-regions of each region of the U.S. are as diverse as the regions themselves. In the Northeast the New England sub-region (see Table 9) has the lowest average number of officers killed in each population group, in fact, it has the lowest averages for all groups among all the sub-

TABLE 10

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE &	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI	HIGHWAY PATROL	
1974	7	1	3	0	0	0	2	0
1975	10	0	0	1	1	2	2	0
1976	6	0	0	1	1	5	1	0
1977	5	1	1	0	0	0	3	0
1978	6	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
1979	5	0	1	0	2	0	5	0
1980	14	1	0	0	0	2	3	0
1981	6	0	0	1	0	2	2	0
1982	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1983	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
1984	4	0	1	0	0	1	3	0
1985	1	0	0	1	0	0	5	0
1986	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
1987	5	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
TOTAL	78	5	7	4	5	15	33	1
MEAN	5.50	0.36	0.50	0.29	0.36	1.07	2.36	0.07

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

regions. The New England sub-region had its highest average within Group V (cities with populations of 10,000 to 24,999) with 0.64 officers murdered during the period 1974-1987. The other sub-region in the Northeast, the Middle Atlantic, had its highest average in Group I with 5.57 officers murdered (see Table 10). With high population densities con-

centrated in this sub-region, notably New York City and the surrounding metropolitan area, it is not wholly unexpected that a greater number of officers are murdered within the type of population group.

In the North Central region the two sub-regions are also quite diverse. The East North Central sub-region has both the greater population as well as the higher number of officer homicides as compared to the other sub-region, the West North Central. In the East North Central sub-region (see Table 11) the Group I cities averaged 4.93 officers murdered and 3.00 officers killed in the County, State and Highway Patrol agencies group. These averages easily outdistance those from the same groups in the West North Central sub-region (see Table 12) where Group I killings averaged only 0.86 officers murdered per year and the County, State and Highway Patrol agencies group incurred the higher average of 1.86 murders. This can be interpreted as an example of a rural area having a considerably higher peace officer homicide rate than their urban counterpart.

The Mountain sub-region (see Table 13) of the Western region also shows a predominance of rural characteristics. The County, State and Highway Patrol agencies group has the highest average within the sub-region with 2.00 officers murdered while Group I cities followed with an average of 1.36 officers murdered. An interesting aside is the high average found in the "smalltown" Group VI population with

TABLE 11

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
EAST NORTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE & HIGHWAY PATROL	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI		
1974	18	5	2	3	2	1	3	0
1975	7	0	1	2	4	3	3	0
1976	6	0	2	1	2	1	3	0
1977	2	2	1	1	0	1	1	0
1978	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	0
1979	7	0	0	0	0	2	3	1
1980	1	2	1	1	0	0	2	0
1981	3	1	0	0	0	1	5	0
1982	8	0	1	0	2	0	4	0
1983	3	0	0	1	0	2	3	0
1984	3	0	2	1	1	0	2	0
1985	3	0	0	0	1	1	2	0
1986	3	1	0	1	0	1	4	0
1987	4	1	0	3	0	1	4	0
TOTAL	69	12	10	15	12	14	42	1
MEAN	4.93	0.86	0.71	1.07	0.86	1.00	3.00	0.07

*Data for the year 1960-1973 are unavailable.

1.00 officers killed. Such an average would seem to indicate the "rurality" of a particular sub-region. Within the Pacific sub-region (see Table 14) the averages again point towards it having a greater population and being more urbanized than its companion sub-region. The Group I average in the Pacific sub-region is twice as great (2.79 to 1.36)

TABLE 12

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
WEST NORTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE &	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI	HIGHWAY PATROL	
1974	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
1975	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
1976	1	0	0	2	1	3	2	0
1977	0	2	0	1	2	3	3	0
1978	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
1979	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
1980	3	0	0	0	0	2	2	0
1981	1	0	2	0	0	1	4	0
1982	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	0
1983	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
1984	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1985	1	0	1	0	2	0	3	0
1986	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
1987	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0
TOTAL	12	4	3	4	8	13	26	4
MEAN	0.86	0.29	0.21	0.29	0.57	0.93	1.86	0.29

*Data for the years 1960-1974 are unavailable.

as that of the Mountain sub-region. Of note is the considerably higher average for County, State and Highway Patrol agencies at 4.07 officers killed per year. The reason this is of interest is that this is the first sub-region that may be considered urbanized to have a higher average for the County, State and Highway Patrol group than Group I agen-

TABLE 13

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
MOUNTAIN REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE & HIGHWAY PATROL	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI		
1974	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	1
1975	3	0	0	0	0	4	2	1
1976	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
1977	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
1978	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	0
1979	1	0	1	0	1	1	4	0
1980	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	1
1981	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	0
1982	4	1	0	0	0	1	2	0
1983	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	0
1984	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
1985	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1986	3	0	0	1	0	0	2	1
1987	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	0
TOTAL	19	6	1	1	4	14	28	4
MEAN	1.36	0.43	0.07	0.07	0.29	1.00	2.00	0.29

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

cies. What this seems to indicate is that the Pacific sub-region still contains a considerable amount of rural area and smalltown communities in addition to its major population centers.

The Southern region of the U.S. had an extraordinarily high number of officers killed during the period 1974-1987.

TABLE 14

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
PACIFIC REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE & HIGHWAY PATROL	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI		
1974	5	1	0	0	1	1	5	0
1975	3	0	2	0	0	2	6	0
1976	5	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
1977	3	2	1	0	3	0	2	0
1978	2	1	2	0	1	2	7	0
1979	3	0	1	0	2	0	6	3
1980	0	1	1	0	3	0	3	1
1981	3	0	1	0	0	1	3	0
1982	1	2	0	0	0	0	7	0
1983	3	1	2	0	0	1	5	0
1984	5	0	1	0	0	0	4	0
1985	4	1	0	0	0	1	3	0
1986	0	2	0	1	0	1	2	0
1987	2	0	2	0	0	0	3	0
TOTAL	39	11	13	2	11	9	57	4
MEAN	2.79	0.79	0.93	0.14	0.79	0.64	4.07	0.29

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

Correspondingly, there are higher averages for each group within each sub-region of the region. The South Atlantic sub-region (see Table 15) suffers the highest average number of officers killed within the Southern region. The County, State and Highway Patrol group suffers an average of 10.21 officers murdered during the period being examined and

TABLE 15

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE & HIGHWAY	FEDERAL
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI	PATROL	AGENCIES
1974	6	3	1	0	3	5	17	0
1975	5	1	0	3	2	0	12	0
1976	3	4	0	0	1	5	16	0
1977	2	1	2	0	4	4	11	0
1978	2	0	1	1	0	0	11	0
1979	1	2	2	0	2	3	13	1
1980	3	2	2	1	0	3	10	0
1981	6	1	3	0	1	3	4	0
1982	3	2	2	0	0	3	7	1
1983	1	0	0	0	3	0	9	1
1984	2	1	1	2	0	0	11	0
1985	4	0	1	0	0	2	10	0
1986	2	1	0	1	1	2	7	2
1987	3	0	0	2	3	1	5	0
TOTAL	43	18	15	10	20	31	143	5
MEAN	3.07	1.29	1.07	0.71	1.43	2.21	10.21	0.36

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

has the highest average of any group from any of the sub-regions. In comparison, the Group I cities average, with 3.07 officers murdered, is one-third the average of the County, State and Highway Patrol group. While this sub-region has major cities and urbanized areas running along the lengthy southeast section of the Atlantic seaboard it is

TABLE 16

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
EAST SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE &	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI	HIGHWAY PATROL	
1974	0	0	0	1	0	4	2	0
1974	0	1	0	2	1	5	6	0
1976	2	0	0	0	2	1	4	1
1977	1	1	0	0	0	4	3	0
1978	2	2	0	0	1	5	3	0
1979	1	2	0	2	0	2	8	0
1980	1	0	0	0	1	3	4	0
1981	2	1	0	1	3	4	6	0
1982	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
1983	1	0	0	0	0	1	7	0
1984	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	0
1984	0	1	0	1	1	1	3	0
1986	0	0	0	0	1	2	5	0
1987	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0
TOTAL	14	8	0	8	12	32	65	1
MEAN	1.00	0.57	0.0	0.57	0.86	2.29	4.64	0.07

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

apparent that the county and state agencies usually associated with rural areas seem to be suffering the most when compared to their large city agency brethren. The East South Central and West South Central sub-regions (see Tables 16 and 17) also have higher averages for their County, State and Highway Patrol groups. But this was to be expect-

TABLE 17

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE &	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI	HIGHWAY PATROL	
1974	4	0	1	1	2	2	5	0
1975	7	1	0	0	2	1	5	0
1976	4	0	4	0	0	2	8	0
1977	2	1	1	0	0	2	8	0
1978	4	1	0	0	1	4	8	1
1979	3	1	0	0	1	1	5	0
1980	2	2	0	1	2	3	5	0
1981	1	0	2	0	1	2	3	0
1982	2	0	2	0	1	4	6	0
1983	4	0	0	0	1	2	7	0
1984	0	1	2	0	0	2	7	0
1985	2	1	1	0	3	2	3	0
1986	2	0	0	1	0	0	4	1
1987	0	2	0	0	0	2	4	0
TOTAL	37	10	13	3	14	29	78	2
MEAN	2.64	0.71	0.93	0.21	1.00	2.07	5.57	0.21

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable.

ed from the more rural sub-regions. Apparently the differences in averages between rural and urban groups is not as dramatic in the West South Central sub-region. The County, State and Highway Patrol group average is only twice that of the Group I average.

SUMMARY

Law enforcement in the United States has changed. During the period of time being examined, 1964-1987, the number of sworn personnel employed by all law enforcement agencies doubled. Much of this increase can be traced to demands by the public for more and better law enforcement protection within their communities. This demand grew out of the rise in crime experienced during the 1960s and the early 1970s. A time when a number of those from the "baby boom" generation entered their crime-prone years which coincided with the social unrest linked to protests surrounding events such as the war in Vietnam and the civil rights movement.

Since that period of unprecedented social upheaval attempts have been made to upgrade law enforcement operations throughout the nation. Numerous alternative means to combat crime in general have developed as well as efforts to reduce the risks of injury and death. This has resulted in a peace officer murder rate that is down considerably. This, however, does not mean that such efforts are succeeding everywhere equally. The southern region of the U.S. continues to lead the nation in the category of officer homicides. Much of this problem, as examined above, still appears to be tied to a persistent culture of violence peculiar to this region of the United States. In contrast, the number of officers killed and the murder rates for officers in the Northeast, Midwest, and West regions have declined

and are considerably lower.

While the South is significantly different compared to all other regions of the U.S. in officer homicides, there are also sharp differences between each of the regions. Each region, for instance, has sub-regions that vary considerably from one another. More specifically, urbanized sub-regions suffer a greater number of officers murdered than rural areas. Yet, when city-size is examined as a factor the combined percentages for the smallest communities and rural areas exceeds the urban/suburban percentages. This suggests a need to consider a point made by Margarita (1980: 219) that police homicides may be better explained if we consider "the special nature of the victim-offender relationship between police officer and the citizen..." This raises the question: do different kinds of special relationships develop based on ecological factors that earmark large urban/suburban areas, small cities and rural areas? Answers to this question are beyond the scope of this study. However, this points to an area of research that might prove useful.

While it is easy to make a thumbnail sketch of each region in order to characterize it as either urban or rural in nature more is needed. The development of regional and sub-regional profiles and indexes would be a beginning towards exploring the possibilities of differing police-citizen relationships. Nonetheless, there are a number of

difficulties posed in developing the right information. An instance of this type of problem is why the County, State, and Highway Patrol group leads in the category of officers killed. The number of officers killed in this group can be misleading since members can work throughout a county, region or other area of responsibility. These officers can be found, depending upon department they are employed with and community they work, in an urbanized ghetto, a suburban city or town, or in the quiet surroundings of a rural area. No differentiation as to where the murder took place has been made by the FBI in compiling these statistics.

In another instance, among cities the largest urban areas have the highest percentage of officers killed. Yet, when the combined percentage for smaller communities, towns, and rural areas is compared with the percentages for urban areas the difference is not great. This seems to indicate that urban/rural differences are not pronounced. By region, the numbers indicate that the urban areas of the Northeast and Midwest and the rural areas of the South and West are the most dangerous for law enforcement officers, respectively.

CHAPTER 5

ASSAULTS AND ASSAULTS WITH INJURY - U.S.

In 1960 there were 9,621 reported assaults against law enforcement officers which increased to 49,787 in 1971. By 1986 there were 64,259 assaults. The rate per 100 officers increased threefold from 6.3 to 18.7 for the years 1960 to 1971, but has declined slightly to 16.8 in 1987. Generally speaking, those factors noted in the previous chapter on law enforcement officer homicides are also associated with the significant increase in assaults on the police. From 1972 to 1974 some decreases occurred in the number of officers assaulted, but since 1975 the number has increased steadily (see Table 18). While the total number of assaults has climbed, the rate per 100 officers assaulted has steadied and shown signs of decline periodically since 1971 (see Figure 7).

Data on assaults with injury have only been reported since 1964. During the period from 1964 to 1987 the number of officers assaulted increased by two and three-quarter times (see Table 18). In 1964 there were 7,738 assaults with injury reported and by 1987 that number increased to 21,273. While the number of assaults with injury have kept pace with the number of assaults reported by officers through the years, showing comparable increases and decre-

TABLE 18

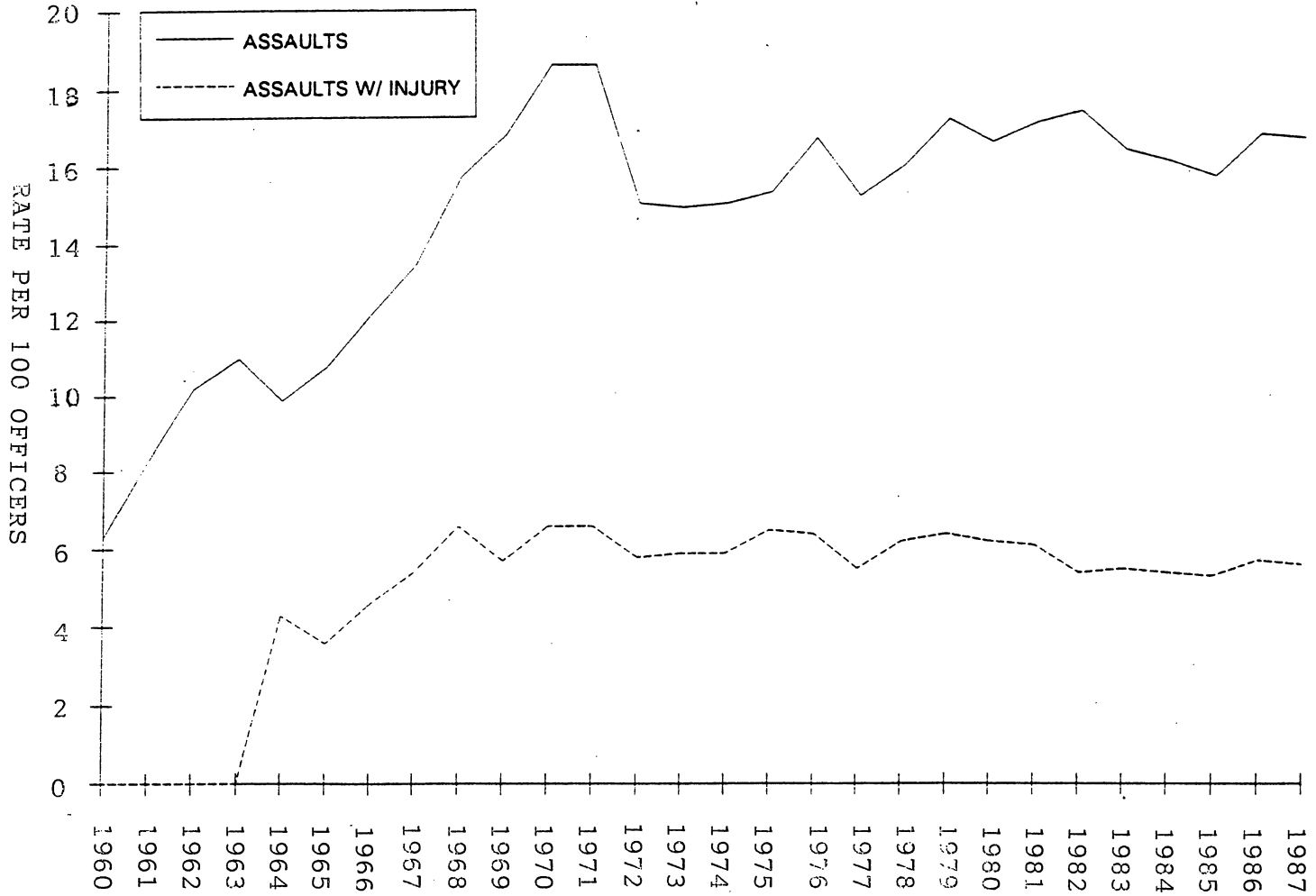
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	9621	6.3	N/A	N/A
1961	13190	8.3	N/A	N/A
1962	17330	10.2	N/A	N/A
1963	16793	11.0	N/A	N/A
1964	18001	9.9	7738	4.3
1965	20523	10.8	6836	3.6
1966	23851	12.2	9113	4.6
1967	26755	13.5	10770	5.4
1968	33604	15.8	14072	6.6
1969	35020	16.9	11949	5.7
1970	43171	18.7	15165	6.6
1971	49787	18.7	17631	6.6
1972	31763	15.1	12230	5.8
1973	32535	15.0	12880	5.9
1974	29511	15.1	11468	5.9
1975	44867	15.4	18974	6.5
1976	49079	16.8	18737	6.4
1977	49156	15.3	17661	5.5
1978	56130	16.1	21705	6.2
1979	59031	17.3	21764	6.4
1980	57847	16.7	21516	6.2
1981	57116	17.2	20272	6.1
1982	55775	17.5	17116	5.4
1983	62324	16.5	20807	5.5
1984	60153	16.2	20205	5.4
1985	61724	15.8	20817	5.3
1986	64259	16.9	21639	5.7
1987	63842	16.8	21273	5.6

N/A=Not Available

FIGURE 7

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ASSAULT AND ASSAULT WITH INJURY RATE
1960-1987



ases, the assaults with injury rate per 100 officers indicates a decreasing trend (see Figure 7).

OVERVIEW OF REGIONAL DIFFERENCES

Each of the regions of the United States the Northeast, North Central (Midwest), South, and West have shown sharp increases and decreases in the number of officers assaulted over the years. Data for the Northeast region shows interesting variations. In the previous section on officer homicides the Northeast region suffered the lowest rate of officers murdered. Assaults on officers, however, show a marked increase over the years 1964-1987 (see Table 19). Among the four regions of the U.S., the Northeast shows fewer radical variations in the rate per 100 officers assaulted (see Figure 8). This suggests that while the number of officers murdered in the Northeast has remained low over time, during the same period assaults were increasing. Perhaps, this is the result of less deadly means being used against officers in the Northeast region. On the other hand, this finding may be due to differences in reporting.

The North Central (or Midwest) region (see Table 20 and Figure 9) showed sharp increases during the late 1960s and early 1970s. However, almost as quickly as the rates increased they declined and through 1987 have remained relatively stable showing some trend toward continued decreases. These

TABLE 19

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
NORTHEAST REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	3782	5.2	N/A	N/A
1961	5352	7.0	N/A	N/A
1962	4575	6.1	N/A	N/A
1963	4226	6.8	N/A	N/A
1964	6055	8.0	2757	3.9
1965	7008	9.6	2222	3.6
1966	8220	10.6	2827	4.1
1967	9476	13.4	3779	5.6
1968	10021	12.3	4257	5.2
1969	10768	14.7	4412	5.6
1970	12120	14.8	5318	6.3
1971	12492	15.0	5283	6.4
1972	9408	15.6	4197	6.8
1973	8713	13.5	4706	6.6
1974	5901	14.5	2868	7.0
1975	11663	16.6	6455	8.4
1976	11293	18.2	4539	8.2
1977	10919	17.1	4025	6.8
1978	16082	18.1	8242	8.9
1979	16280	18.9	7425	9.2
1980	15187	18.4	7040	7.8
1981	17432	19.3	7225	8.4
1982	13217	19.7	4560	7.0
1983	15886	18.0	7405	7.4
1984	15364	17.4	7643	7.6
1985	15322	17.7	7454	7.6
1986	14867	18.0	7657	7.9
1987	15272	20.4	7895	8.5

N/A=Not Available

FIGURE 8

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ASSAULT AND ASSAULT WITH INJURY RATES
NORTHEAST REGION 1960-1987

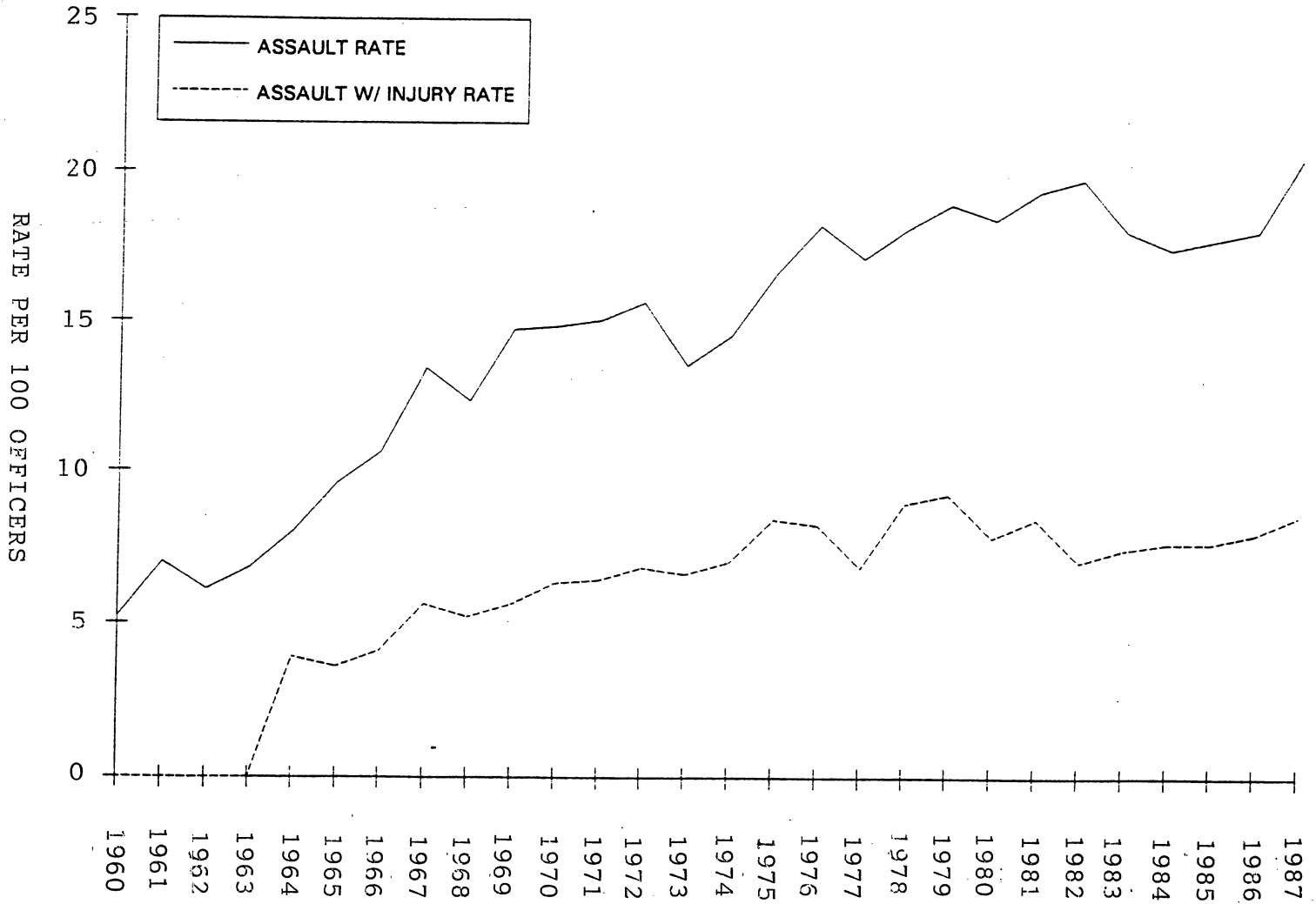


TABLE 20

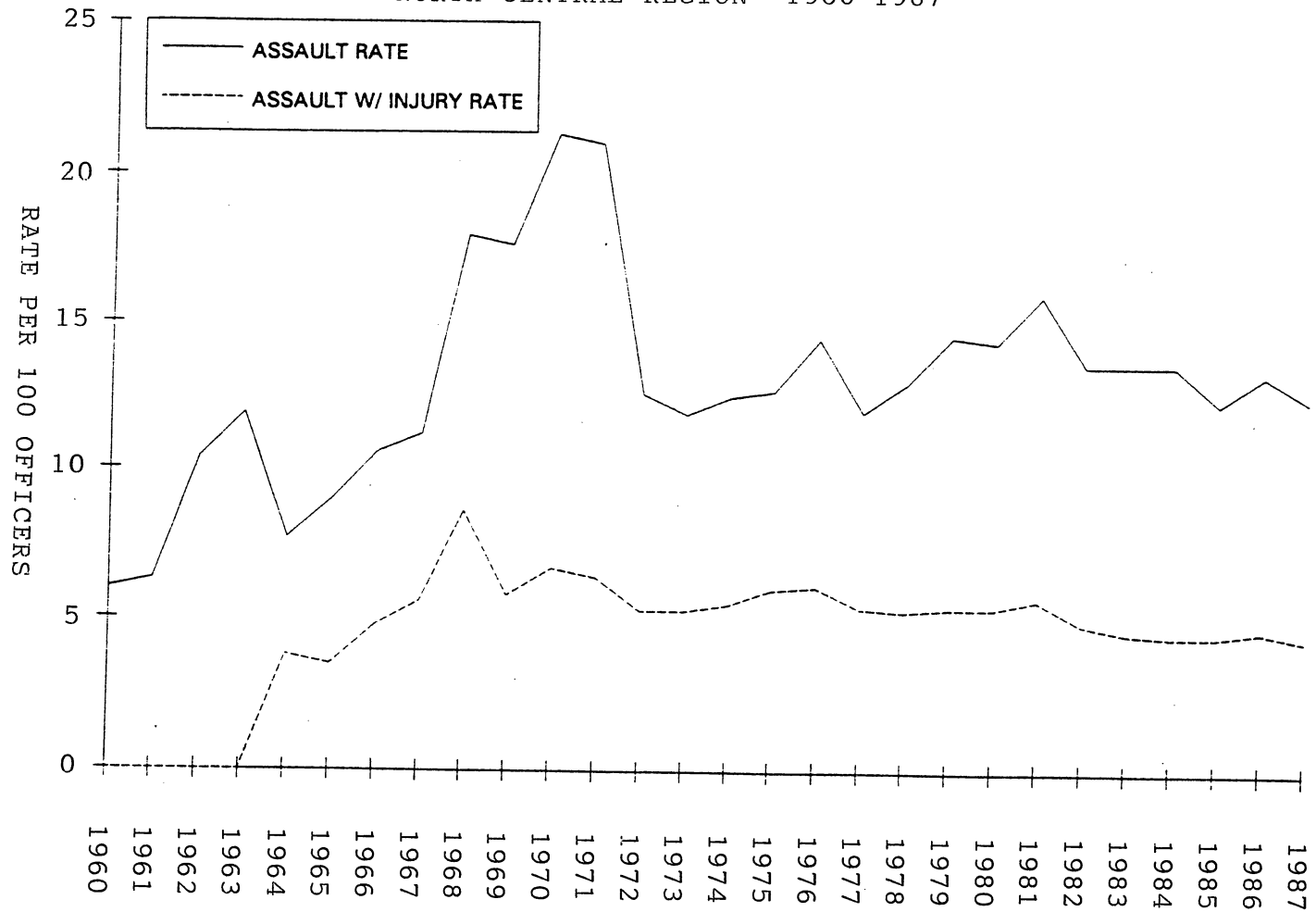
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
NORTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	1228	6.0	N/A	N/A
1961	2211	6.3	N/A	N/A
1962	6163	10.4	N/A	N/A
1963	6498	11.9	N/A	N/A
1964	3179	7.7	1582	3.8
1965	4341	9.0	1511	3.5
1966	5641	10.6	2378	4.8
1967	6181	11.2	2072	5.6
1968	10671	18.0	5561	8.6
1969	10834	17.7	3402	5.8
1970	13647	21.4	4218	6.7
1971	15077	21.1	4969	6.4
1972	7901	12.6	3478	5.3
1973	6533	11.9	2945	5.3
1974	6817	12.5	3272	5.5
1975	9133	12.7	4544	6.0
1976	8728	14.5	4034	6.1
1977	9139	12.0	4507	5.4
1978	9161	13.0	4267	5.3
1979	10889	14.6	4600	5.4
1980	9404	14.4	3969	5.4
1981	9784	16.0	3862	5.7
1982	9057	13.6	3594	4.9
1983	9912	13.6	3776	4.6
1984	9096	13.6	3274	4.5
1985	9902	12.3	3949	4.5
1986	10669	13.3	4170	4.7
1987	9321	12.4	3611	4.4

N/A=Not Available

FIGURE 9

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ASSAULT AD ASSAULT WITH INJURY RATES
NORTH CENTRAL REGION 1960-1987



wide variations in the North Central region coincide with the turbulence surrounding such seminal events as the riot-filled 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago and the Detroit riots following the assassination of Martin Luther King. This also includes the more general civil unrest of the time involving protests against the war in Vietnam and action on civil rights.

As shown in the previous chapter officer homicides were the greatest in the South. However, in looking at assaults on officers Southern rates take a different trend. Like all the other regions there was a dramatic rise in the rate during the late 1960s and early 1970s but since then, seen in Table 21 and Figure 10, there has been a steady decrease, except for some small fluctuations.

The West region shows the greatest variability in the rates for officers assaulted. Declines in the early 1980s have been offset by increases during the mid-1980s (see Table 22 and Figure 11). No clear explanation for these changes readily presents itself. It may be due to chance variations or variations in reporting procedures. Another possible explanation, beyond the scope of this study, is the recent increases in population growth.

OVERVIEW OF ASSAULTS WITH INJURY

Assaults with injury occur with considerably less

TABLE 21

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
SOUTH REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	2834	8.7	N/A	N/A
1961	3674	11.6	N/A	N/A
1962	4406	11.6	N/A	N/A
1963	4311	14.1	N/A	N/A
1964	5870	12.1	2106	4.6
1965	5710	14.9	1873	4.2
1966	6203	16.0	2331	5.7
1967	7210	18.0	2503	5.3
1968	8642	21.0	2599	6.2
1969	8431	19.3	2299	5.0
1970	11293	20.0	3186	5.7
1971	14466	19.7	4071	6.3
1972	11243	18.2	3506	5.9
1973	12221	19.7	3513	4.9
1974	10594	15.2	3145	4.6
1975	13478	16.5	3817	4.5
1976	18216	17.7	5705	5.8
1977	21798	18.8	7521	6.1
1978	18584	16.3	4605	4.1
1979	19893	16.8	4848	4.2
1980	18334	16.1	5499	5.0
1981	18939	15.4	4800	4.1
1982	21254	17.9	4673	4.2
1983	22734	16.5	4973	3.8
1984	22054	14.6	4903	3.4
1985	22829	14.4	5238	3.6
1986	24418	15.5	5397	3.7
1987	24885	15.3	5564	3.7

N/A=Not Available

FIGURE 10

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ASSAULT AND ASSAULT WITH INJURY RATES
SOUTH REGION 1960-1987

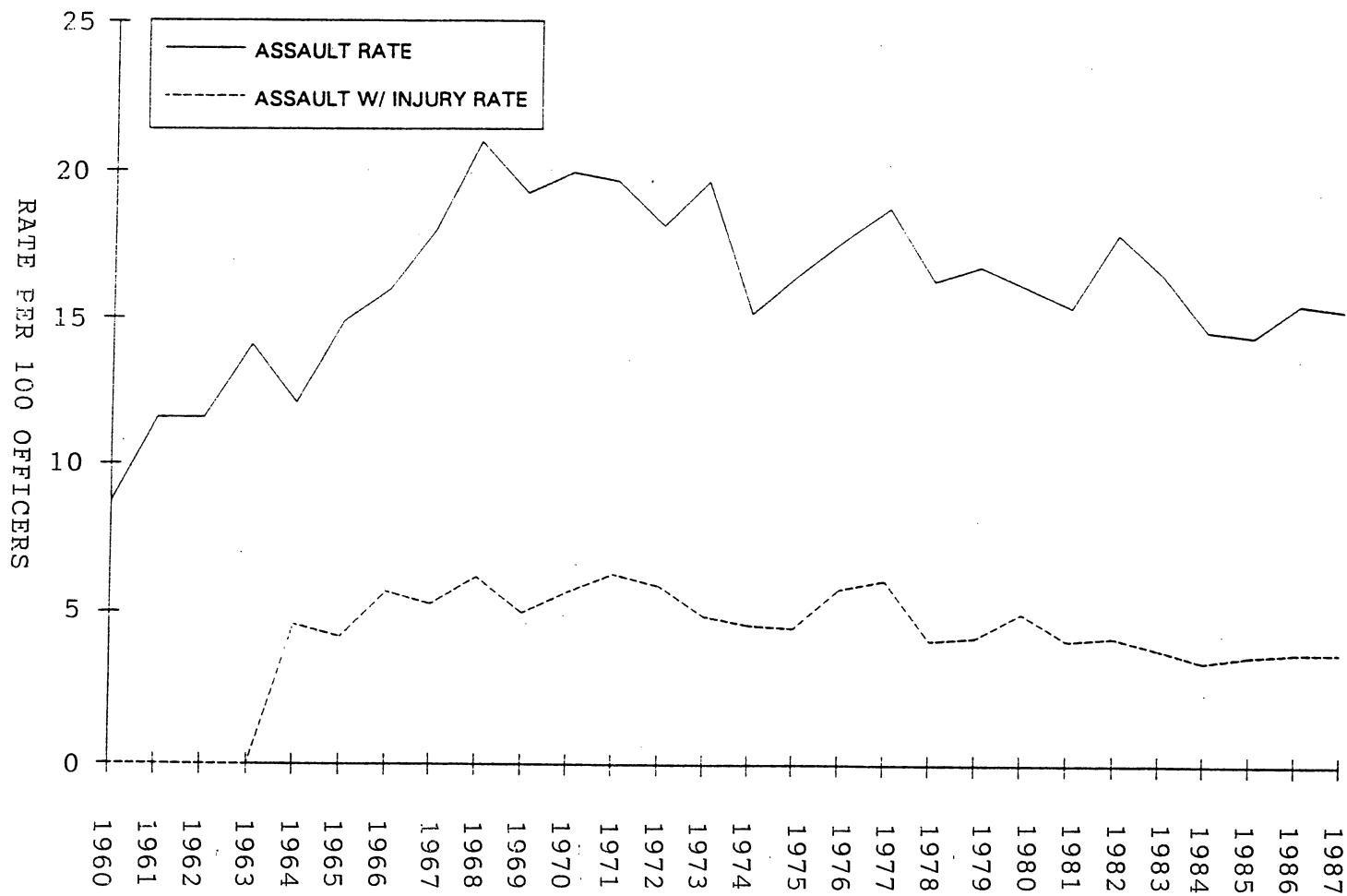


TABLE 22

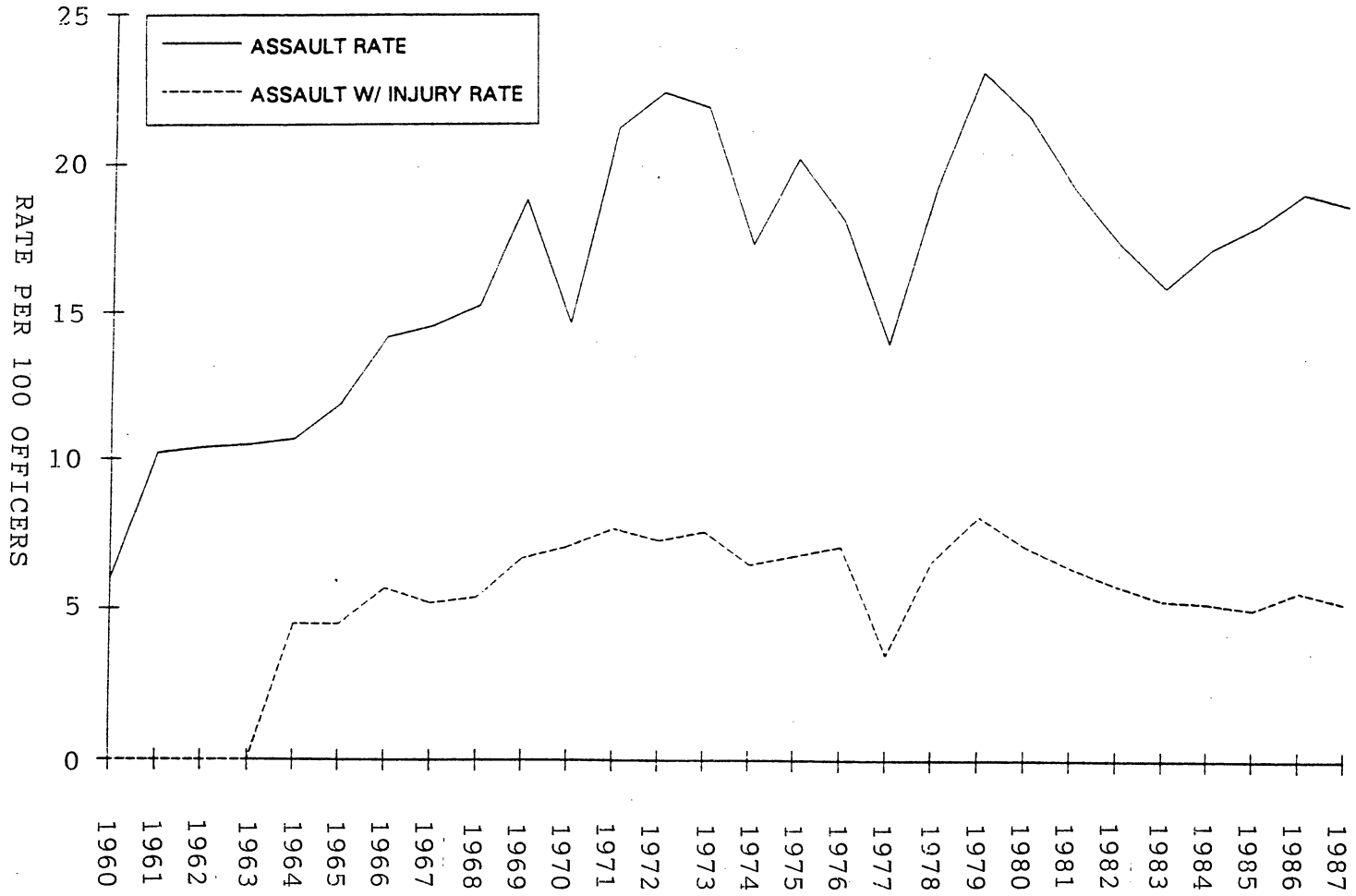
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
WEST REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	1318	6.0	N/A	N/A
1961	1953	10.2	N/A	N/A
1962	2186	10.4	N/A	N/A
1963	1758	10.5	N/A	N/A
1964	2897	10.7	1293	4.5
1965	3464	11.9	1230	4.5
1966	3787	14.2	1577	5.7
1967	3888	14.6	1416	5.2
1968	4270	15.3	1565	5.4
1969	5169	18.9	1836	6.7
1970	6811	14.7	2452	7.1
1971	9552	21.3	3308	7.7
1972	3211	22.5	1049	7.3
1973	5068	22.0	1716	7.6
1974	6199	17.4	1982	6.5
1975	10693	20.3	4158	6.8
1976	10842	18.2	4459	7.1
1977	6406	14.0	1608	3.5
1978	12330	19.3	4141	6.6
1979	12122	23.2	4394	8.1
1980	13941	21.7	5018	7.1
1981	12706	19.3	4387	6.4
1982	12247	17.4	4289	5.8
1983	13382	15.9	4651	5.3
1984	13639	17.2	4375	5.2
1985	13671	18.0	4176	5.0
1986	14300	19.1	4415	5.6
1987	14364	18.7	4203	5.2

N/A=Not Available

FIGURE 11

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ASSAULT AND ASSAULT WITH INJURY RATES
WEST REGION 1960-1987



frequency than non-injury. The rates per 100 officers for assaults with injury are one-third to one-half of non-injury assaults. This, however, does not suggest the problem is not a matter of great concern for law enforcement. Assaults with injury may be far more destructive than raw numbers or rates tell. For instance there are officers who might only twist an ankle during a foot pursuit, but there are also those officers who have been seriously injured or wounded. The data lumps together officers who have been shot, stabbed, or injured in some other way so grievously that they may have reached the threshold of death but have survived.

Of the four regions the Northeast (see again Tables 19-22 and Figures 8-11) is the only region showing signs of a rate increase. This is a differing trend compared to other regions which have shown continued declines and it presents the paradoxical situation noted earlier. That is, the Northeast led all other regions in the lowest rate of officers murdered. In light of this finding one can see possible support for Margarita's (1980) argument noted earlier in Chapter 2 if only the Northeast region is considered. However, in view of the larger picture Zimring's contention seems a more plausible explanation, that is, a great deal of chance is operating in whether a violent act becomes a homicide.

ASSAULTS AND ASSAULTS WITH INJURY BY SUB-REGION

Looking at the sub-regions within each region they are as diverse as the regions themselves. Given the very mixed results after looking at the rates per 100 officers both assaulted and assaulted with injury a number of unusual comparisons and contrasts will be pointed out. However, due to the limitations of this study, any attempt to explain the variation would require too much conjecture in most instances.

In the Northeast region the New England sub-region is between 3-8 percentage points higher annually in its assault rate than the more populous Middle Atlantic sub-region (see Tables 23 and 24). The assault with injury rate, however, remains lower than the Middle Atlantic rate which has shows a steady rise during the last few years.

In the North Central (Midwest) region interesting differences between the two sub-regions are found. The assault rate for the more populous East North Central sub-region is nearly two-thirds lower than its high in 1970 (see Table 25) and remained relatively steady. In contrast the assault rate for the more agrarian West North Central sub-region annually is about two-thirds higher than the East North Central sub-region (see Table 26).

One would expect the opposite. The assault with injury rate for both sub-regions remains relatively low and shows indications of further decline. Of interest here is that

TABLE 23

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
NEW ENGLAND REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	576	4.0	N/A	N/A
1961	595	4.7	N/A	N/A
1962	623	4.7	N/A	N/A
1963	712	6.8	N/A	N/A
1964	815	7.2	444	3.9
1965	1140	9.7	518	4.4
1966	1495	10.6	675	4.8
1967	2208	15.0	955	6.5
1968	1879	12.9	672	5.2
1969	2207	16.4	760	5.6
1970	2466	16.3	984	6.5
1971	2996	17.3	1292	7.5
1972	1741	19.3	793	8.8
1973	2061	15.7	891	6.8
1974	2607	18.1	1248	8.7
1975	3202	19.9	1410	8.8
1976	3275	21.0	1715	11.0
1977	3448	18.9	1530	8.4
1978	4255	20.8	1981	9.7
1979	4229	22.6	1547	10.9
1980	4023	22.6	1497	8.4
1981	3941	22.3	1549	8.8
1982	4084	21.2	1547	8.0
1983	3823	19.1	1444	6.5
1984	4029	19.2	1347	6.4
1985	3823	19.6	1312	6.7
1986	3474	19.4	1113	6.2
1987	3498	23.5	1036	6.9

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 24

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	3206	6.3	N/A	N/A
1961	4757	9.2	N/A	N/A
1962	3952	7.5	N/A	N/A
1963	3514	6.8	N/A	N/A
1964	5240	8.7	2313	3.9
1965	5868	9.5	1704	2.7
1966	6725	10.5	2152	3.3
1967	7268	11.8	2824	4.6
1968	8142	11.6	3585	5.1
1969	8561	12.8	3652	5.5
1970	9654	13.3	4334	6.0
1971	9496	12.6	3991	5.3
1972	7667	10.9	3404	4.8
1973	6652	11.2	3815	6.4
1974	3294	10.8	1620	5.3
1975	8461	13.3	5045	7.9
1976	8018	15.4	2824	5.4
1977	7471	15.2	2495	5.1
1978	11827	15.3	6261	8.1
1979	12051	15.2	5878	7.4
1980	11164	14.2	5543	7.1
1981	11756	16.3	5676	7.9
1982	9133	18.2	3013	6.0
1983	12063	16.9	5961	8.3
1984	11335	15.6	6306	8.7
1985	11499	15.8	6142	8.4
1986	11393	16.6	6544	9.6
1987	11774	17.3	6859	10.1

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 25

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
EAST NORTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	614	6.0	N/A	N/A
1961	1425	4.4	N/A	N/A
1962	5608	14.7	N/A	N/A
1963	5681	15.7	N/A	N/A
1964	2156	6.8	1092	3.4
1965	3320	9.2	1049	2.9
1966	4286	10.9	1695	4.3
1967	4750	12.4	1477	6.5
1968	8558	20.2	4764	11.3
1969	9042	22.0	2726	6.6
1970	11384	26.9	3477	8.1
1971	13052	22.6	4140	7.2
1972	6510	12.8	2943	5.8
1973	4866	10.9	2228	5.0
1974	4508	10.4	2416	5.6
1975	6396	10.8	3353	5.7
1976	5504	10.0	2885	5.3
1977	5836	8.8	3251	4.9
1978	5626	9.3	3134	5.2
1979	6575	10.2	3293	5.1
1980	5265	9.2	2650	4.6
1981	4797	8.7	2356	4.4
1982	5552	9.4	2523	4.3
1983	5629	9.2	2601	4.3
1984	4814	9.3	2078	4.0
1985	6216	9.2	2817	4.2
1986	6949	10.5	3084	4.7
1987	6087	9.1	2614	3.9

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 26

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
WEST NORTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	614	6.0	N/A	N/A
1961	786	8.1	N/A	N/A
1962	555	6.0	N/A	N/A
1963	817	8.1	N/A	N/A
1964	1023	8.6	490	4.1
1965	1021	8.8	462	4.0
1966	1355	10.2	683	5.2
1967	1431	11.0	595	4.6
1968	2113	15.7	797	5.9
1969	1792	13.3	676	5.0
1970	2263	15.9	741	5.2
1971	2025	19.6	829	5.6
1972	1391	12.3	535	4.7
1973	1667	12.9	717	5.6
1974	2309	14.6	856	5.4
1975	2737	14.5	1191	6.3
1976	3224	19.0	1149	6.8
1977	3303	15.1	1256	5.8
1978	3535	16.7	1133	5.4
1979	4314	18.9	1307	5.7
1980	4139	19.5	1319	6.2
1981	4987	23.2	1506	7.0
1982	3505	17.8	1071	5.4
1983	4283	17.9	1175	4.9
1984	4282	17.9	1196	5.0
1985	3686	15.4	1132	4.7
1986	3720	16.0	1086	4.7
1987	3234	15.7	997	4.8

N/A=Not Available

while the more rural sub-region shows a decrease in the number of officers murdered, assault rates are relatively high.

The South region and its three sub-regions show indications that it is still the most dangerous area of the United States for a peace officer to work. Each of the sub-regional rates for assaults and assaults with injury, respectively, are consistent with what might be expected relative to the rates for the murders of peace officers (see Tables 27, 28 and 29). The South Atlantic sub-region is still the most dangerous area. The other two sub-regions, the East South Atlantic and the West South Central, indicate moderate to medium assault rates in comparison. The assault with injury rate for law enforcement officers in each of the sub-regions is relatively low and appears to be stabilizing.

In the Western region the two sub-regions largely mirror each other (see Tables 30 and 31). Both sub-regions have assault rates that are relatively high and do not show significant differences. Again, contrary to expectations, the more rural sub-region, in this case the Mountain sub-region, had fewer peace officers murdered while assault rates are nearly identical to the considerably more populous Pacific sub-region.

In three of the four regions the less densely populated and more rural or agrarian sub-regions have assault rates higher than their more populated counterparts. At the same time, murder rates are lower for these rural sub-regions.

TABLE 27

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	1743	11.9	N/A	N/A
1961	2549	14.1	N/A	N/A
1962	2940	16.1	N/A	N/A
1963	2909	18.2	N/A	N/A
1964	4083	18.3	1463	6.2
1965	3585	17.8	1281	6.4
1966	3820	18.8	1442	7.1
1967	4347	17.1	1724	6.8
1968	4917	22.0	1473	6.6
1969	4843	18.3	1426	5.4
1970	5942	20.7	1967	6.8
1971	7569	22.8	2814	8.5
1972	7987	23.5	2505	7.4
1973	8564	29.8	2534	6.1
1974	6543	19.3	2236	6.6
1975	8766	20.8	2549	6.1
1976	11991	22.6	3669	6.9
1977	11468	20.3	3247	5.8
1978	11081	20.8	2664	5.0
1979	12600	22.7	2944	5.3
1980	12602	22.5	3045	5.4
1981	13264	23.7	3006	5.4
1982	14288	25.3	2775	4.9
1983	14997	25.0	2925	4.9
1984	14684	23.0	2852	4.5
1985	15534	23.3	3025	4.5
1986	16376	24.6	3219	4.8
1987	17109	24.4	3335	4.8

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 28

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
EAST SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION OF THE U.S
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	342	6.4	N/A	N/A
1961	570	13.5	N/A	N/A
1962	441	8.7	N/A	N/A
1963	449	12.1	N/A	N/A
1964	521	9.3	177	3.2
1965	1227	18.3	278	4.2
1966	1111	19.1	314	5.4
1967	1529	26.0	313	5.3
1968	1516	25.5	425	7.1
1969	1034	20.8	244	4.9
1970	1386	19.6	321	4.4
1971	4134	20.7	381	5.5
1972	908	13.6	393	5.9
1973	804	10.9	311	4.2
1974	916	9.9	231	2.5
1975	1447	14.8	313	3.2
1976	1578	14.1	596	5.3
1977	2691	20.1	815	6.1
1978	1797	11.4	466	3.0
1979	1824	12.2	465	3.1
1980	1977	11.1	887	4.9
1981	996	7.8	286	2.2
1982	1297	9.2	373	2.6
1983	1237	8.2	322	2.1
1984	1075	7.1	298	2.0
1985	983	6.6	320	2.2
1986	1128	7.5	381	2.5
1987	849	6.9	270	2.2

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 29

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL REGION OF U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	749	7.9	N/A	N/A
1961	555	7.3	N/A	N/A
1962	1025	9.9	N/A	N/A
1963	953	11.9	N/A	N/A
1964	1266	8.7	466	4.4
1965	898	8.7	314	3.0
1966	1272	10.0	575	4.5
1967	1334	11.0	466	3.8
1968	2209	15.5	701	4.9
1969	2554	18.8	629	4.6
1970	3965	19.7	898	5.8
1971	2763	15.5	876	4.9
1972	2348	17.4	608	4.5
1973	2853	18.3	668	4.3
1974	3135	16.3	679	4.6
1975	3265	13.8	955	4.1
1976	4647	16.5	1440	5.1
1977	8533	16.1	3459	6.5
1978	5679	16.6	1475	4.3
1979	5316	15.4	1439	4.2
1980	4736	14.6	1567	4.8
1981	4679	14.6	1508	4.7
1982	5669	19.3	1525	5.2
1983	6500	16.2	1726	4.3
1984	6295	13.6	1753	3.8
1985	6312	13.4	1893	4.0
1986	6914	14.5	1797	3.8
1987	6927	14.7	1959	4.2

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 30

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
MOUNTAIN REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	251	5.9	N/A	N/A
1961	381	11.8	N/A	N/A
1962	567	11.8	N/A	N/A
1963	527	10.2	N/A	N/A
1964	750	10.5	282	3.9
1965	951	12.9	403	5.5
1966	973	14.1	344	5.0
1967	1146	15.6	388	5.3
1968	1293	16.3	425	5.3
1969	1517	18.9	560	7.0
1970	1721	18.8	605	6.6
1971	2160	19.5	825	7.5
1972	1314	17.1	553	7.2
1973	1713	20.6	647	7.8
1974	1418	15.8	517	5.8
1975	2535	17.1	888	6.0
1976	2438	18.2	852	6.4
1977	1513	12.2	388	3.1
1978	2929	19.8	865	5.8
1979	3428	21.3	1073	6.7
1980	3453	21.9	905	5.7
1981	3452	20.0	1034	6.0
1982	3131	17.5	949	5.3
1983	3369	15.6	1026	4.7
1984	3603	16.5	889	4.1
1985	3889	18.5	850	4.0
1986	4338	19.0	1042	4.6
1987	4300	19.8	1075	4.9

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 31

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
PACIFIC REGION OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	1067	6.1	N/A	N/A
1961	1572	8.5	N/A	N/A
1962	1619	8.9	N/A	N/A
1963	1231	10.7	N/A	N/A
1964	2147	10.9	1011	5.1
1965	2513	10.8	827	3.5
1966	2814	14.3	1233	6.3
1967	2742	13.6	1028	5.1
1968	2977	14.3	1140	5.5
1969	3652	18.8	1276	6.3
1970	5090	20.6	1847	7.5
1971	7392	23.1	2483	7.8
1972	1897	27.8	496	7.3
1973	3355	23.3	1069	7.4
1974	4781	19.0	1465	7.2
1975	8058	23.5	3270	7.7
1976	8404	18.1	3607	7.8
1977	4893	15.7	1220	3.9
1978	9401	18.8	3276	7.4
1979	8694	25.0	3321	9.5
1980	10488	21.4	4113	8.4
1981	9254	18.5	3353	6.7
1982	9116	17.2	3340	6.3
1983	10013	16.1	3625	5.8
1984	10036	17.9	3486	6.2
1985	9782	17.4	3326	5.9
1986	9967	19.2	3373	6.5
1987	10064	17.5	3128	5.4

N/A=Not Available

Clearly, this suggests that the intensity of the violence police encounter may be less. This raises the earlier question by Margarita (1980) whether assault and homicide against those in law enforcement exists on a continuum of violence or it is largely a matter of chance that assault becomes homicide.

ASSAULTS AND ASSAULTS WITH INJURY BY POPULATION GROUP

It is important to understand where in the United States law enforcement officers are more or less likely to become the victims of violence. Thus, more informative is the data based on specific population groups than regional data. There are two data sets compiled by population group. One set delineates the number of officers assaulted each year from 1960 to 1987. The second data set deals with the number of officers assaulted with injury from 1964 to 1987 (see Tables 32-38). The rate per 100 officers for each year is also given. A second set of graphs (see Figures 12 and 13) take the total number of officers assaulted and assaulted with injury between 1964 and 1987 and divides each into percentages of the total that each population group incurred.

The two population groups with the highest rates per 100 officers were the Group I (population of 250,000 and over) and Group II (100,000-249,999). The Group I popula-

TABLE 32

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
POPULATION GROUP I OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	4565	6.5	N/A	N/A
1961	7381	8.9	N/A	N/A
1962	10810	12.1	N/A	N/A
1963	9816	13.3	N/A	N/A
1964	7514	10.1	3260	4.4
1965	9667	11.5	2917	3.5
1966	10261	12.2	3747	4.5
1967	11592	13.7	5131	6.1
1968	16038	17.9	7734	8.6
1969	17110	19.9	5723	6.4
1970	20143	21.3	7185	7.6
1971	21976	21.5	7913	7.7
1972	16645	16.2	6678	6.5
1973	17041	17.2	7206	7.3
1974	14482	19.1	5735	7.6
1975	20409	18.5	9666	8.8
1976	19097	21.0	7165	7.9
1977	18076	20.3	6228	7.0
1978	21760	19.2	9673	8.5
1979	20739	19.9	8697	8.4
1980	19595	19.0	8430	8.2
1981	19284	19.0	7953	7.8
1982	16244	20.7	4932	6.3
1983	21376	20.2	8470	8.0
1984	20807	20.9	8556	8.6
1985	22072	19.0	9172	7.9
1986	22683	20.0	9556	8.4
1987	24681	21.1	10372	8.9
TOTAL	461844		172099	
	(429272/1964-1987)			
MEAN		17.15		7.29

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 33

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
POPULATION GROUP II OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	961	6.2	N/A	N/A
1961	1155	8.0	N/A	N/A
1962	1441	9.4	N/A	N/A
1963	1539	10.7	N/A	N/A
1964	2323	13.4	1020	5.9
1965	1763	11.9	684	1.6
1966	2989	16.7	1147	6.4
1967	3291	18.8	1270	7.3
1968	3756	23.7	1292	8.2
1969	4100	29.1	1512	10.7
1970	5004	29.4	1778	10.3
1971	5373	25.2	1917	9.0
1972	3174	20.7	1239	7.7
1973	3205	18.4	1313	8.4
1974	4046	22.3	1621	9.0
1975	4911	21.7	1992	8.8
1976	6625	27.3	2439	10.0
1977	6078	23.5	2103	8.1
1978	6997	24.9	2365	8.4
1979	7385	26.9	2415	8.8
1980	7393	28.1	2331	8.9
1981	7182	27.3	2332	8.5
1982	7014	24.9	2171	7.7
1983	7434	24.4	2022	6.6
1984	7216	23.6	1927	6.3
1985	7714	25.6	2029	6.7
1986	8122	27.1	2241	7.5
1987	8539	27.0	2014	6.4
TOTAL	136730		43174	
	(131634/1964-1987)			
MEAN		21.29		7.80

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 34

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
POPULATION GROUP III OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	770	4.4	N/A	N/A
1961	1241	8.2	N/A	N/A
1962	1392	7.7	N/A	N/A
1963	1620	9.3	N/A	N/A
1964	1940	10.3	992	5.3
1965	2156	12.6	673	4.5
1966	2588	13.1	1050	5.3
1967	2603	13.1	1019	5.1
1968	3419	16.1	1208	5.7
1969	3499	16.7	1370	6.5
1970	4337	19.2	1414	6.4
1971	4167	17.0	1697	6.9
1972	2864	16.9	1052	6.2
1973	2663	14.8	984	5.5
1974	2418	15.4	858	5.5
1975	4304	17.1	1595	6.3
1976	4128	17.1	1592	6.6
1977	4273	16.7	1671	6.5
1978	5172	18.0	1835	6.4
1979	5955	20.3	1970	6.7
1980	5918	20.1	2053	7.0
1981	5750	20.5	1813	6.5
1982	6001	20.5	1742	5.9
1983	6201	20.9	1671	5.6
1984	6364	20.8	1837	6.0
1985	6343	21.1	1701	5.6
1986	6642	21.5	1921	6.2
1987	6130	21.3	1512	5.3
TOTAL	110858		35230	
	(105835/1964-1987)			
MEAN		16.10		5.32

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 35

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
POPULATION GROUP IV OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	943	5.5	N/A	N/A
1961	939	6.2	N/A	N/A
1962	1280	7.8	N/A	N/A
1963	1356	8.8	N/A	N/A
1964	1608	9.3	581	3.4
1965	2215	11.7	785	4.2
1966	2673	13.8	1183	6.1
1967	2888	14.6	1171	5.9
1968	3169	16.0	1233	6.2
1969	2809	14.1	975	4.9
1970	3880	16.9	1318	5.7
1971	4357	18.0	1567	6.5
1972	2551	15.4	898	5.4
1973	2741	16.2	937	5.5
1974	2297	13.9	876	5.3
1975	3887	15.0	1527	5.9
1976	4516	16.4	1742	6.0
1977	4544	14.8	1596	6.5
1978	5240	16.6	1930	6.1
1979	5928	19.2	2029	6.6
1980	5463	18.3	1792	6.0
1981	5640	19.2	1910	6.5
1982	5692	18.8	1858	6.1
1983	5986	18.1	1926	5.8
1984	5663	17.5	1784	5.5
1985	5482	17.3	1716	5.4
1986	6114	18.5	1826	5.5
1987	5278	17.6	1611	5.4
TOTAL	105139		34771	
	(100621/1964-1987)			
MEAN		14.84		5.68

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 36

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
POPULATION GROUP V OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	1304	6.9	N/A	N/A
1961	1405	7.9	N/A	N/A
1962	1411	7.6	N/A	N/A
1963	1431	7.6	N/A	N/A
1964	1806	9.3	720	3.7
1965	1875	9.7	551	3.4
1966	2389	12.3	868	4.5
1967	2770	14.0	926	4.7
1968	3180	13.8	1112	4.8
1969	3392	14.0	1156	4.8
1970	3850	15.9	1296	5.3
1971	4573	16.5	1449	5.2
1972	2748	13.7	878	4.4
1973	2261	12.1	714	3.8
1974	2461	11.8	849	4.1
1975	4194	13.5	1528	4.9
1976	4388	14.3	1681	5.5
1977	4437	13.3	1590	4.8
1978	4858	13.7	1781	5.0
1979	5168	14.2	1971	5.4
1980	5224	14.7	1997	5.6
1981	5658	16.2	2091	6.0
1982	5686	15.6	1970	5.4
1983	5437	14.0	1909	4.9
1984	4737	12.3	1620	4.2
1985	4852	12.6	1595	4.1
1986	4956	13.2	1669	4.4
1987	4299	11.9	1395	3.9
TOTAL	99480		33216	
	(93929/1964-1987)			
MEAN		12.59		4.70

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 37

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
POPULATION GROUP VI OF THE U.S.
1960-1987

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1960	1070	7.3	N/A	N/A
1961	1089	7.9	N/A	N/A
1962	996	8.0	N/A	N/A
1963	1031	8.0	N/A	N/A
1964	1136	8.8	407	3.2
1965	1358	10.5	468	3.6
1966	1311	9.9	476	3.6
1967	1575	11.5	552	4.0
1968	1724	11.9	604	4.2
1969	1906	12.8	542	3.6
1970	3078	17.2	1044	5.8
1971	3610	16.5	1162	5.3
1972	1815	11.9	649	4.3
1973	1644	10.6	560	3.6
1974	2090	11.5	796	4.4
1975	3621	12.3	1298	4.4
1976	3934	13.8	1364	4.8
1977	4506	13.3	1645	4.8
1978	4862	13.8	1752	5.0
1979	6060	15.8	2144	5.6
1980	5683	15.4	2028	5.5
1981	5643	15.6	1947	5.4
1982	5563	15.7	1878	5.3
1983	5513	12.7	1975	4.5
1984	5362	12.3	1851	4.2
1985	5159	11.7	1786	4.1
1986	5101	11.9	1688	4.0
1987	4583	11.5	1568	3.9
TOTAL	91023		30184	
	(86837/1964-1987)			
MEAN		12.15		4.46

N/A=Not Available

TABLE 38

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSAULTED AND ASSAULTED WITH INJURY
COUNTIES OF THE U.S.
1964-1987*

YEAR	ASSAULTS	PER 100 OFFICERS	ASSAULTS WITH INJURY	PER 100 OFFICERS
1964	1674	7.7	785	3.5
1965	1507	6.8	568	2.6
1966	1640	7.3	642	2.9
1967	203	8.6	701	3.0
1968	2318	8.2	889	3.2
1969	2386	9.9	691	2.8
1970	2879	9.2	1100	3.5
1971	5731	13.1	1926	4.4
1972	1966	8.0	836	3.4
1973	2980	9.5	1166	3.7
1974	1717	5.6	733	2.4
1975	3541	7.7	1368	3.0
1976	6391	9.8	2475	4.2
1977	7242	8.7	2828	3.4
1978	7241	9.6	2369	3.2
1979	7796	10.4	2538	3.4
1980	8571	8.3	660	2.8
1981	7959	8.8	535	2.4
1982	9575	10.5	2565	3.0
1983	10377	9.8	2834	2.8
1984	9934	9.3	2630	2.5
1985	10102	9.0	2818	2.6
1986	10641	10.3	2738	2.7
1987	10372	9.7	2871	2.7
TOTAL	136576		39266	
MEAN		8.99		3.09

*1960-1963 information unavailable

FIGURE 12

ASSAULTS BY POPULATION GROUP 1960-1987

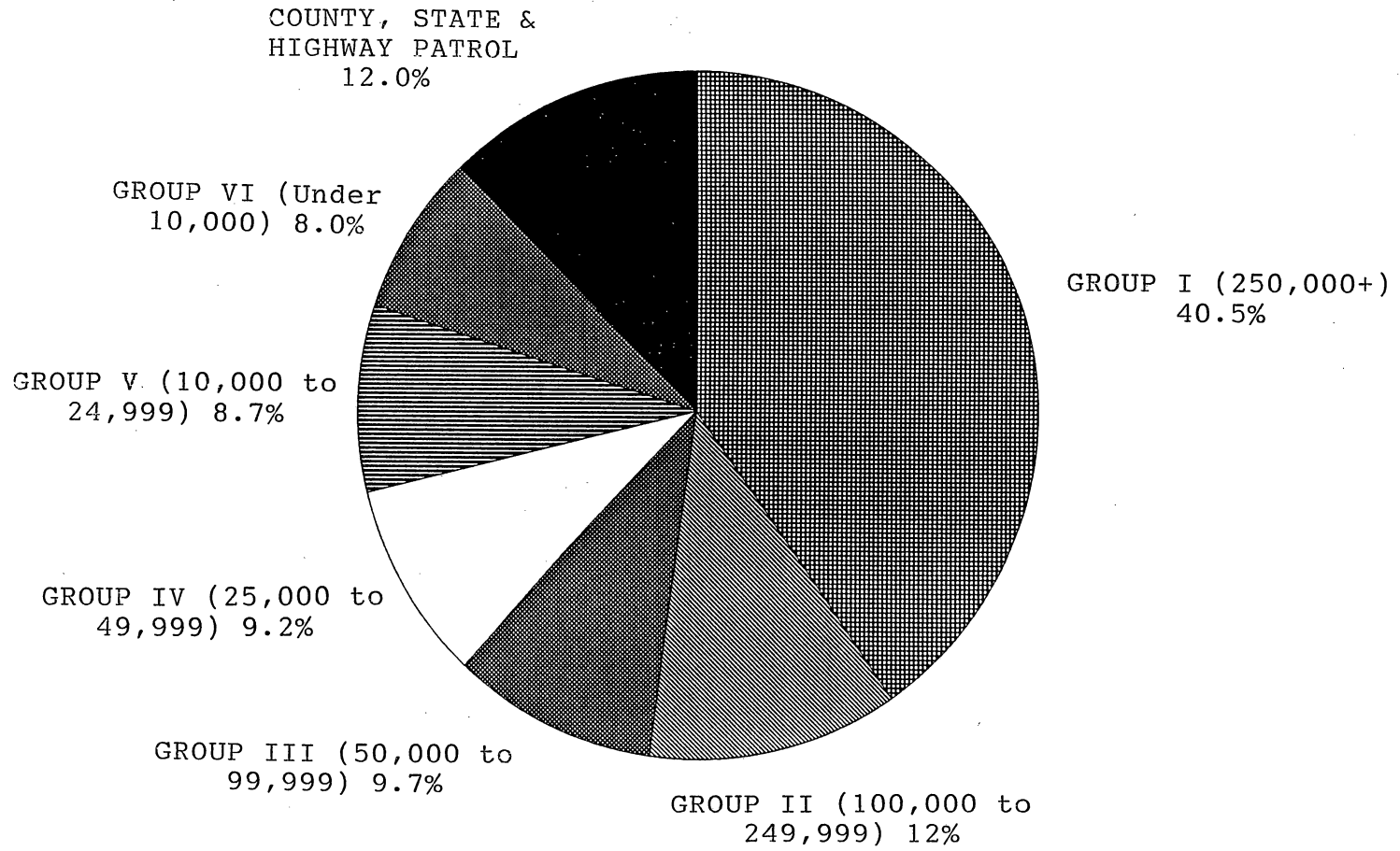
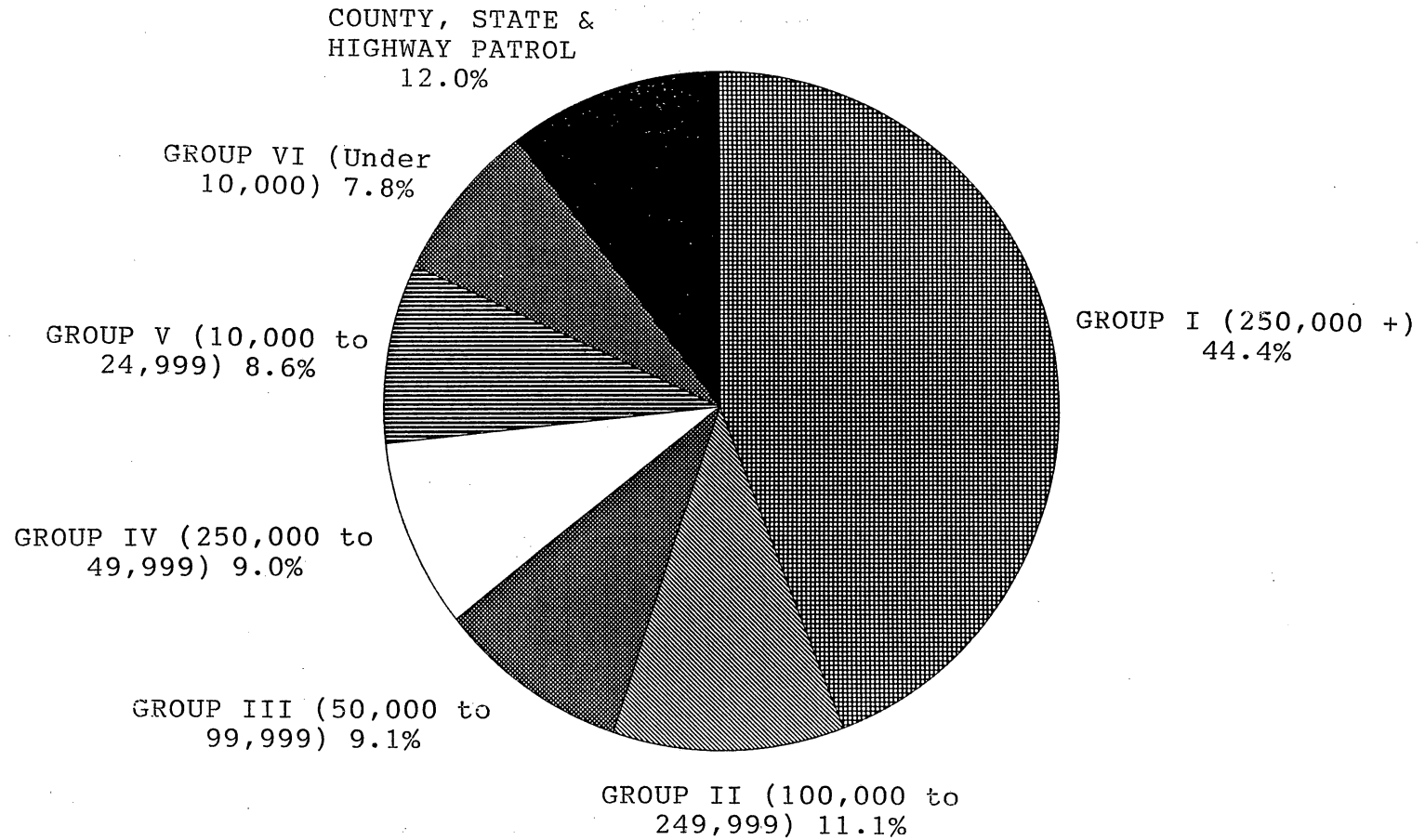


FIGURE 13

ASSAULTS WITH INJURY BY POPULATION GROUP 1964-1987



tion group had an average rate of 17.15 officers assaulted per 100 officers employed during the period 1960-1987. While during this same period of time the Group II population group had a much higher rate of 21.29 per 100 officers. Over most of the same time period, 1964-1987, Group I accounted for 40% of the total assaults on peace officers. Group II accounted for only 12%. Thus, while Group II officers are more likely to be the victims of assault, more assaults upon officers occur in Group I cities. One reason for these differences may lie in the much larger police populations found in the larger cities. Although there are more assaults, they are spread across many more officers. An examination of comparative crime rates might help clarify the above finding. It is well known, for example that some Group II cities are more violence-prone than Group I cities. The city of San Bernardino, California is one such example (Mann, 1991).

Of interest is the distribution of assaults between small towns and rural areas and more populated areas. As previously noted, it was found that among the sub-regions that are both less densely populated and rural in character, they tend to have higher rates of assaults on law enforcement officers. The data in Tables 36, 37, and 38 on Groups V and VI and County/State Agencies show an average assault rate per 100 officers of 12.59, 12.15, and 8.99, respectively. The combined percentage of assaults for these three

groups from 1964-1987 is 29% of the total. This represents about three-fourths of Group I's 40% of the total. Whereas those rural areas appear less dangerous for law enforcement they still account for a significant amount of violence directed toward police. Although such a finding is not unexpected, an empirical question can be raised. If controlling for other factors, do these findings show these smaller areas contribute disproportionately to the problem?

Assaults with injury data again shows the predominance of the higher-populated and more urban areas for violence directed at law enforcement. For the period 1964-1987 the Group II population group led the Group I population group with a rate of 7.80 officers assaulted with injury per 100 officers versus a rate of 7.29. However, as a percentage of the total number of officers assaulted with injury Group I had 44% compared to Group II's 11%. The rural groups had a combined percentage of 27% with rates per 100 officers of 4.70 (Group V), 4.46 (Group VI), and 3.09 (County, State and Highway Patrol Agencies), respectively.

This data shows that the more densely populated urban cities surrounded by suburban areas provide an arena for a greater number of injuries suffered by law enforcement officers. Officers in small cities and rural areas sustain 39% fewer injuries than their big city counterparts. This suggests there may be some qualitative difference in the nature of the violence. This further raises the issue pointed to

earlier in this thesis about the possible kinds of relationships between officers and citizens that color outcomes.

ASSAULTS BY TYPE OF WEAPON USED

The Federal Bureau of Investigation categorizes assaults by type of force used into four categories: Firearms, Knives, Other Weapons, and Hands. For the period 1969-1987 the Hands category, where an officer is the victim of an assailant using no more than their hands or other parts of the body to strike and injure, accounted for 779,951 assaults and a resulting mean average of 82.14% of the assaults committed for the period examined (see Tables 39 and 40). The more dangerous types of assaults, those committed with a firearm or knife, accounted for 51,982 assaults with a mean average of 5.68% and 27,000 with a mean average of 2.70%, respectively. The Other Weapons category, specifically not a firearm or knife, accounted for 9.31% of the total assaults. Throughout the several population groups and various sub-regions (see Table 41-56) these percentages don't vary significantly over time.

These statistics serve as a barometer showing varying levels of potential life threatening force and frequency of use. The most obvious use of this data is its implications for training officers in survival tactics and planning police operations. This FBI data is not further broken down to

TABLE 39

ASSAULTS UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON USED
1969-1987*

TYPE OF WEAPONS				
YEAR	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	1637	929	3959	25109
1970	2240	1094	3962	31171
1971	2586	1284	3421	31310
1972	2617	1160	3470	30276
1973	2533	1015	2841	26146
1974	1849	687	2327	21231
1975	3219	1248	4466	35934
1976	2768	1402	4676	40233
1977	2809	1481	4626	40240
1978	3065	1761	5485	45819
1979	3237	1720	5543	48531
1980	3295	1653	5415	47484
1981	3330	1733	4800	47253
1982	2642	1452	4879	46802
1983	3067	1829	5527	51901
1984	2654	1662	5148	50689
1985	2793	1715	5263	51953
1986	2852	1614	5721	54072
1987	2789	1561	5685	53807
TOTAL	51982	27000	83194	779951

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 40

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES

YEAR	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	5.2	2.9	12.5	79.4
1970	5.8	2.8	10.3	81.0
1971	6.7	3.3	8.9	81.1
1972	7.0	3.1	9.2	80.7
1973	7.8	3.1	8.7	80.4
1974	7.1	2.6	8.9	81.4
1975	7.2	2.8	10.0	80.1
1976	5.6	2.9	9.5	82.0
1977	5.7	3.0	9.4	81.9
1978	5.5	3.1	9.8	81.6
1979	5.5	2.9	9.4	82.2
1980	5.7	2.9	9.4	82.1
1981	5.8	3.0	8.4	82.7
1982	4.7	2.6	8.7	83.9
1983	4.9	2.9	8.9	83.3
1984	4.4	2.8	8.6	84.3
1985	4.5	2.8	8.5	84.2
1986	4.4	2.5	8.9	84.1
1987	4.4	2.4	8.9	84.3
MEAN	5.68	2.70	9.31	82.14

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 41

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
NEW ENGLAND REGION OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	1862	4.4	2.5	9.9	83.2
1970	2306	3.6	2.1	12.3	82.0
1971	2528	3.6	3.0	9.5	84.0
1972	1741	1.7	1.8	8.0	88.4
1973	2061	2.0	2.2	11.0	84.8
1974	2607	3.6	2.0	14.0	80.4
1975	3202	2.4	2.0	13.9	81.8
1976	3275	1.7	2.5	13.0	82.8
1977	3448	2.2	2.5	13.7	81.6
1978	4255	2.1	2.0	12.3	83.6
1979	4229	1.6	2.3	13.6	82.3
1980	4023	1.5	2.1	8.3	88.0
1981	3931	1.4	0.6	11.0	87.0
1982	4084	1.4	1.9	9.7	87.0
1983	4233	1.5	1.9	8.2	88.5
1984	4029	1.1	2.3	8.4	88.2
1985	3823	1.0	2.0	8.2	88.9
1986	3474	1.0	1.3	7.4	90.3
1987	3498	0.8	1.2	6.1	92.0
TOTAL	62609				
MEAN		2.03	2.01	10.45	85.52

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 43

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
EAST NORTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	6455	8.4	3.6	16.3	71.7
1970	6507	6.3	2.6	13.3	77.9
1971	6557	8.0	2.8	6.1	83.1
1972	6510	7.9	2.9	7.3	82.0
1973	4866	8.3	2.5	7.1	82.1
1974	4508	7.3	2.2	7.2	83.4
1975	6396	7.0	2.3	7.9	82.8
1976	5504	7.0	1.8	6.8	83.6
1977	5836	7.4	2.9	7.8	88.5
1978	5626	6.2	3.0	7.1	83.5
1979	6575	6.2	2.5	6.7	84.4
1980	5265	5.7	2.2	6.7	85.2
1981	4797	6.3	2.9	6.4	84.3
1982	5552	5.8	2.2	6.7	85.4
1983	5629	5.3	2.0	6.5	86.2
1984	4814	3.4	2.2	5.6	88.7
1985	6216	3.9	2.6	5.6	87.9
1986	6949	4.2	2.1	6.7	87.0
1987	6087	4.1	2.0	5.5	88.5
TOTAL	110649				
MEAN		6.25	2.49	7.54	84.01

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 44

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
WEST NORTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	1498	6.5	1.7	6.9	84.8
1970	2237	10.5	2.7	12.0	74.8
1971	2925	8.1	3.5	9.7	78.6
1972	1391	10.6	2.7	8.9	77.9
1973	1667	11.2	3.4	3.4	82.0
1974	2309	9.4	2.4	9.8	78.4
1975	2737	9.7	3.0	9.9	77.4
1976	3224	7.6	2.6	8.6	81.3
1977	3303	7.8	3.4	9.6	79.2
1978	3535	5.3	2.7	9.3	82.5
1979	4314	5.6	3.2	9.1	81.9
1980	4139	6.8	2.1	8.3	82.6
1981	4987	5.8	2.5	7.6	83.9
1982	3505	6.3	2.3	8.2	83.2
1983	4283	5.2	2.3	7.8	86.0
1984	4282	3.3	2.1	7.5	87.1
1985	3686	4.7	2.6	8.8	83.8
1986	3720	5.1	1.9	8.2	84.8
1987	3234	3.7	1.7	8.0	86.6
TOTAL	60976				
MEAN		7.01	2.57	8.51	81.94

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 45

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	4616	6.0	3.1	9.2	81.7
1970	5730	5.8	2.8	9.9	81.6
1971	7542	7.3	3.4	11.0	78.3
1972	7987	7.1	3.1	9.6	80.1
1973	8564	7.0	2.9	8.0	82.1
1974	6543	7.6	2.8	8.9	80.7
1975	8766	6.3	3.0	7.6	83.1
1976	11991	6.2	3.1	9.2	81.5
1977	11468	3.2	3.4	9.1	81.9
1978	11081	5.3	3.3	9.6	81.8
1979	12600	5.8	3.4	9.7	81.0
1980	12602	5.7	3.0	9.6	81.3
1981	13264	6.4	3.5	8.6	81.3
1982	14288	4.8	3.2	8.6	83.4
1983	14997	4.4	2.9	8.0	84.7
1984	14684	4.5	2.6	8.1	84.8
1985	15534	4.1	2.8	7.9	85.2
1986	16376	4.1	2.4	9.2	84.3
1987	17109	4.0	2.4	8.6	85.0
TOTAL	215742				
MEAN		5.56	3.01	8.97	82.31

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 46

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	1019	5.1	2.4	5.2	87.3
1970	1155	2.9	2.5	2.6	92.0
1971	1417	6.9	4.3	8.5	80.2
1972	908	6.2	2.6	8.1	83.0
1973	804	6.8	2.4	7.2	83.6
1974	916	5.6	2.1	5.9	86.5
1975	1447	7.5	2.6	7.3	82.7
1976	1578	6.4	2.1	6.5	85.0
1977	1513	8.9	2.2	7.7	81.2
1978	1797	7.7	3.3	8.0	80.9
1979	1824	7.2	2.0	7.1	83.4
1980	1977	6.2	3.7	14.1	75.7
1981	996	1.2	3.0	7.2	77.1
1982	1297	9.3	2.8	9.1	78.8
1983	1237	7.0	3.1	9.2	80.7
1984	1075	8.4	2.9	9.9	78.9
1985	983	7.5	4.5	10.7	77.3
1986	1128	6.4	3.5	9.8	80.2
1987	849	9.2	2.9	10.0	77.9
TOTAL	23920				
MEAN		7.18	2.89	8.11	81.71

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 47

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	2249	5.1	2.8	9.7	82.4
1970	3044	6.7	3.1	10.1	80.1
1971	2761	8.9	3.0	7.6	80.4
1972	2348	10.0	2.8	7.5	79.8
1973	2853	9.6	3.1	7.8	79.5
1974	3135	11.2	3.5	7.5	77.8
1975	3265	13.8	3.4	10.8	72.0
1976	4647	8.8	3.5	8.3	79.4
1977	4893	8.2	2.0	5.6	80.2
1978	5679	7.7	3.3	9.1	79.8
1979	5316	8.0	3.3	8.2	80.3
1980	4736	7.7	3.3	8.3	80.4
1981	4679	8.1	3.5	8.0	80.3
1982	5669	7.1	2.6	7.1	83.2
1983	6500	7.2	7.8	8.9	81.1
1984	6295	6.7	3.1	8.2	82.0
1985	6312	6.6	2.7	10.9	81.8
1986	6914	6.7	3.2	8.8	81.4
1987	6927	6.7	2.5	8.6	82.2
TOTAL	88222				
MEAN		8.15	3.29	8.47	80.20

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 48

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
MOUNTAIN REGION OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES

YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	1442	8.3	4.1	8.8	78.7
1970	1520	8.6	3.0	9.6	78.8
1971	2160	10.0	3.6	14.1	72.3
1972	1314	9.4	4.0	10.4	75.8
1973	1713	10.2	4.2	9.8	75.8
1974	1418	9.2	3.3	11.0	76.5
1975	2535	9.6	3.4	9.7	77.2
1976	2438	8.0	3.4	9.9	78.6
1977	2691	10.8	3.7	10.2	75.8
1978	2929	9.3	4.4	11.8	74.4
1979	3428	8.0	3.1	12.0	76.6
1980	3453	6.7	3.5	16.5	73.2
1981	3452	5.7	3.6	11.0	79.6
1982	3131	6.5	4.0	13.3	76.2
1983	3369	6.0	3.8	12.4	77.8
1984	3603	6.4	3.8	9.2	80.6
1985	3889	5.2	3.5	9.7	81.6
1986	4338	4.7	2.7	11.8	87.7
1987	4300	4.4	2.8	10.4	82.4
TOTAL	53113				
MEAN		7.74	3.57	11.14	77.87

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 49

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
PACIFIC REGION OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	3232	4.8	2.4	11.0	81.8
1970	4262	5.7	3.2	14.6	76.5
1971	5173	4.7	2.6	10.2	82.5
1972	7657	5.2	3.2	11.4	80.1
1973	3355	3.3	3.0	7.8	85.9
1974	1364	4.2	2.2	4.8	88.9
1975	8058	6.0	2.5	11.9	79.6
1976	8404	5.7	3.6	14.2	76.5
1977	8533	5.1	3.7	10.2	78.2
1978	9401	5.4	3.1	14.0	77.3
1979	8694	5.2	2.7	3.8	78.1
1980	10488	5.5	3.3	12.8	78.2
1981	9254	4.9	2.7	12.3	79.9
1982	9116	4.6	2.6	12.3	80.5
1983	10013	5.1	3.1	12.2	79.5
1984	10036	3.8	3.2	11.6	81.4
1985	9782	5.0	3.2	11.6	80.3
1986	9967	3.5	2.9	11.3	82.3
1987	10064	3.9	2.9	12.1	81.1
TOTAL	146853				
MEAN		4.82	4.01	11.58	80.45

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 50

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
POPULATION GROUP I OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	15502	6.1	3.3	17.8	72.8
1970	17252	7.2	2.9	12.1	77.7
1971	13915	7.8	4.1	10.6	77.5
1972	18886	8.9	3.5	9.7	77.8
1973	17041	10.1	3.7	10.2	76.0
1974	11065	9.1	2.7	10.0	78.1
1975	20409	9.0	3.2	11.6	76.2
1976	19097	6.5	3.1	10.5	79.9
1977	18076	6.5	3.4	9.9	80.1
1978	21760	7.1	3.7	10.4	78.8
1979	20739	6.7	3.2	10.1	79.9
1980	19595	8.0	3.1	9.9	78.9
1981	19284	8.0	3.3	7.8	80.9
1982	16244	6.5	2.5	8.9	82.1
1983	21376	6.8	3.3	9.5	80.3
1984	20877	5.7	3.1	9.1	82.1
1985	22072	5.9	3.1	9.5	81.5
1986	22683	6.1	2.5	9.3	82.1
1987	24641	5.9	2.7	9.5	81.9
TOTAL	360514				
MEAN		7.26	3.18	10.34	79.19

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 51

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
POPULATION GROUP II OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	PERCENTAGES			
		FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	2547	2.6	2.0	10.2	82.2
1970	4126	4.7	2.3	11.3	81.7
1971	4469	5.3	2.8	8.3	83.6
1972	3417	4.2	3.1	9.2	83.5
1973	3205	4.9	2.3	8.2	84.6
1974	4046	4.2	2.8	9.7	83.3
1975	4911	5.8	2.4	9.0	82.7
1976	6625	4.2	2.5	7.7	85.7
1977	6078	4.3	2.8	9.8	83.1
1978	6997	3.6	2.3	8.9	85.3
1979	7385	4.5	2.6	8.2	84.5
1980	7393	3.9	2.8	9.3	83.9
1981	7182	3.9	2.7	8.6	84.8
1982	7014	3.9	2.8	9.2	84.1
1983	7434	3.8	2.7	9.0	84.6
1984	7216	3.5	2.7	8.1	85.7
1985	7714	3.7	2.8	8.3	85.2
1986	8122	3.7	2.5	8.5	85.3
1987	8539	2.8	2.1	8.5	86.7
TOTAL	114420				
MEAN		4.08	2.57	8.95	84.24

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 52

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
POPULATION GROUP III OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	3302	4.0	2.8	8.8	84.4
1970	4047	4.0	2.6	9.7	83.6
1971	4094	5.6	2.4	8.3	83.7
1972	3271	3.4	3.3	9.2	84.1
1973	2663	3.9	1.9	5.7	88.5
1974	2418	3.8	2.3	7.4	86.4
1975	4304	3.0	2.0	8.4	86.7
1976	4128	3.4	2.5	9.6	84.5
1977	4273	3.6	2.8	9.6	84.2
1978	5172	3.3	2.9	10.0	83.8
1979	5955	3.4	2.5	8.8	85.2
1980	5918	3.2	2.5	8.8	85.3
1981	5750	3.9	2.6	9.6	83.9
1982	6001	2.6	2.9	8.5	86.1
1983	6201	2.8	2.6	7.8	86.8
1984	6364	2.4	2.4	8.7	86.5
1985	6343	2.1	2.6	7.6	87.7
1986	6642	2.6	2.3	9.4	85.7
1987	6130	2.8	2.7	8.6	85.9
TOTAL	92976				
MEAN		3.36	2.56	8.66	85.42

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 53

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
POPULATION GROUP IV OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	2802	2.7	2.2	4.9	90.1
1970	3715	3.3	2.2	6.3	88.2
1971	4317	4.1	2.6	7.5	85.8
1972	2749	4.8	2.2	6.2	86.8
1973	2741	3.6	2.3	5.7	88.4
1974	2297	5.1	2.1	6.8	85.9
1975	3887	5.5	2.5	8.6	83.4
1976	4516	4.7	2.4	9.2	83.6
1977	4544	4.3	2.0	8.9	84.8
1978	5240	3.5	2.3	8.5	84.9
1979	5928	3.3	2.4	9.7	84.3
1980	5463	3.1	2.0	9.2	85.4
1981	5640	3.8	2.8	8.7	84.7
1982	5692	3.4	2.4	8.6	85.6
1983	5986	3.2	2.1	9.3	90.4
1984	5663	3.3	2.6	8.2	86.0
1985	5482	2.8	2.5	7.7	87.0
1986	6114	2.6	2.1	8.0	87.3
1987	5278	2.8	1.7	7.7	87.7
TOTAL	88054				
MEAN		3.68	2.28	7.88	86.33

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 54

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
POPULATION GROUP V OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	3320	3.7	2.0	5.0	89.3
1970	3805	4.3	2.9	5.9	86.9
1971	4493	5.4	2.5	5.8	86.4
1972	2897	4.9	2.0	6.6	86.5
1973	2261	5.6	2.8	6.3	85.3
1974	2461	5.5	2.1	6.7	85.8
1975	4194	4.7	1.9	8.5	84.9
1976	4388	4.6	2.6	8.1	84.6
1977	4437	4.3	2.0	8.9	84.9
1978	4858	4.1	2.6	8.7	84.6
1979	5168	3.9	2.6	8.4	84.9
1980	5224	4.2	2.4	8.7	84.5
1981	5658	3.5	2.4	7.0	87.1
1982	5686	3.3	1.9	7.1	87.7
1983	5437	3.0	2.8	7.7	86.5
1984	4737	3.0	2.7	7.1	87.2
1985	4852	3.0	2.7	7.4	86.9
1986	4956	3.1	2.6	7.1	87.2
1987	4299	2.8	2.4	7.6	87.3
TOTAL	83131				
MEAN		4.05	2.42	7.29	86.24

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 55

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
POPULATION GROUP VI OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	1877	5.3	2.7	4.3	87.7
1970	2978	4.5	3.1	10.4	82.0
1971	3606	6.3	3.4	7.0	83.3
1972	1915	6.0	2.8	6.8	84.4
1973	1644	5.3	3.2	7.4	84.1
1974	2090	7.8	2.0	7.6	82.7
1975	3621	6.8	3.0	7.2	83.0
1976	3934	5.8	3.0	7.4	83.8
1977	4506	4.5	2.2	8.2	85.0
1978	4862	5.4	3.2	8.7	82.6
1979	6060	5.5	2.9	7.7	83.7
1980	5683	4.4	3.0	7.6	84.9
1981	5643	4.6	2.7	6.9	85.8
1982	5563	4.4	2.8	7.4	85.3
1983	5513	4.4	3.0	7.5	85.1
1984	5362	4.5	2.8	7.5	85.2
1985	5159	4.4	2.7	6.7	86.3
1986	5101	3.1	3.4	7.4	86.1
1987	4583	3.8	2.6	7.2	86.4
TOTAL	79700				
MEAN		5.09	2.87	7.42	84.07

*1960-1968 information unavailable

TABLE 56

PERCENTAGE OF ASSAULTS
UPON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
BY TYPE OF WEAPON
COUNTIES OF THE U.S.
1969-1987*

PERCENTAGES					
YEAR	TOTAL ASSAULTS	FIREARM	KNIFE	OTHER WEAPON	HANDS
1969	2284	8.7	4.2	11.5	75.6
1970	2544	8.3	4.2	9.5	78.0
1971	3708	10.5	3.6	10.8	75.0
1972	4388	6.5	2.4	12.1	79.1
1973	2980	8.2	2.7	9.0	80.1
1974	1717	9.4	4.7	9.6	76.4
1975	3541	8.7	3.2	9.7	78.4
1976	6391	7.2	3.2	11.0	78.7
1977	7242	7.4	4.7	9.8	79.2
1978	7241	6.2	3.4	10.9	79.5
1979	7796	7.2	2.9	10.6	79.3
1980	1983	12.6	3.3	10.3	73.3
1981	1750	11.6	4.9	8.2	75.3
1982	9575	5.6	2.8	10.1	81.4
1983	10377	5.4	3.0	9.2	82.4
1984	9934	5.0	2.4	9.2	83.4
1985	10102	5.4	2.5	9.2	82.9
1986	10641	5.0	7.5	10.1	82.4
1987	10372	4.6	2.4	9.9	82.1
TOTAL	114566				
MEAN		7.55	3.58	10.04	79.08

*1960-1968 information unavailable

show whether a assault by ay of these means actually caused an injury. All we know is that most homicides of police are the result of the use of firearms.

SUMMARY

Nationwide, assaults against law enforcement officers during the period 1960-1987 increased significantly through the 1960s, see-sawed up and down through the 1970s, and leveled off somewhat during the 1980s. The assault rate per 100 officers was also examined. The rate increased nearly three-fold during the period 1960-1971 and then fell somewhat and has remained relatively constant through the rest of the period examined.

Nationwide assaults with injury for the period 1964-1987 also increased by nearly three times. Yet the number of assaults against law enforcement officers resulting in injury is disproportionate when compared to the number of officers who have been assaulted. The number of officers who are assaulted resulting in injuries is usually a third of that recorded for assaults upon officers. Much of the increases found in both categories appear correlated with social factors I've mentioned.

The information gathered on assaults and assaults with injury to law enforcement officers when examined by geographical region of the U.S. showed some differing trends.

In the Northeast region (refer back to Table 23 and Figure 8) assaults and assaults with injury progressed upward during the period being examined with some limited reductions. The North Central (Midwest) region had dramatic gains through the 1960s, a significant fall-off following 1971, and then an increase that leveled-off during the remaining years being examined (see Table 24 and Figure 9). The South has had the greatest number of assaults and assaults with injury over this period. But, more importantly, the rates per 100 officers are going down (refer back to Table 25 and Figure 10). While the Western region has numbers that hopscotch all over with a trend towards growth in the number of officers assaulted and assaulted with injury through the 1980s (refer back to Table 26 and Figure 11).

The sub-regions held some interesting figures. In the Northeast the New England sub-region, which was one of the safest in the category of officers murdered, has an assaults upon officers rate that is higher than the rate found in its much more populous companion Middle Atlantic sub-region. Yet the New England sub-region has only a third of the number of assaults upon officers reported in the Middle Atlantic sub-region (refer back to Tables 27 and 28).

In the North Central (Midwest) region the above also appears to be true for its two sub-regions, East and West North Central. The less populated West North Central sub-region, though, has fewer assaults than the East North Cen-

tral sub-region but a much higher rate per 100 officers (see Tables 29 and 30). In both the case of the Northeast and North Central regions the less populated sub-regions employing fewer officers had higher rates.

In the Southern region the South Atlantic sub-region has the greatest number of assaults and assaults with injury within this region. No other sub-region of the United States comes close to or compares with the number of assaults and the resultant rate per 100 officers. Neither of the other two sub-regions has rates anywhere near the problem found in this sub-region (refer back to Tables 31, 32 and 33).

Finally, in the Western region the two sub-regions have widely disparate numbers of assaults and assaults with injury reported yet their rates per 100 officers, respectively, are nearly equal (see again Tables 34 and 35).

Among population groups both Group I (250,000 and over) and Group II (100,000 to 249,999) have the highest rates per 100 officers assaulted and assaulted with injury. When the two are combined together they have 52% of all the assaults reported. This causes urban areas to lead rural areas in this category.

In the type of weapon used category 82% of the assaults were committed using only the assailants hands. Firearms, knives or cutting instruments and other weapons made up the balance.

CHAPTER 6

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study was to conduct a descriptive analysis of the problem concerning the murder and assault of law enforcement officers in the United States. Specifically, this entailed looking at patterns of homicide and assault involving officers as victims.

During the period being examined, 1960-1987, the number of law enforcement officers in employment with local, county, state, and federal agencies more than doubled. As the number of law enforcement officers increased so did the number who were killed. The increase in police homicides that occurred reached its peak in 1974. They appear to be highly correlated with societal events including a large baby-boom population in its crime-prone years, the tumult and violence involving such events as the protests against the war in Vietnam and the demand for civil rights, a general change in both societal and familial norms, and an increased disrespect for traditional authority.

After 1974 the number of officers murdered began a downward trend that continues. This also coincides with the end of the war and a decline in civil rights activity and

the violence associated with these events. More importantly the murder rate for those within law enforcement has decreased to levels that occurred during the early 1960s. This seems to indicate that law enforcement has become less dangerous in this respect. However, more time and study need to be addressed to changes that have occurred resulting in better training of officers, increased physical conditioning for officers, the development for and use of lightweight body armor by officers, and the increased availability of emergency medical treatment (i.e. paramedics, medevac flights, and trauma center hospitals) and the effect they have on reducing both deaths and serious injuries.

The Southern region of the U.S. has traditionally suffered the greatest number of murdered law enforcement officers among the four regions analyzed. It is also a trend that has not changed. A number of factors have been examined in an attempt to partially explain why the South is so violent for law enforcement officers. It's concluded here that violence against the police is merely an extension of the "Southern subculture of violence" (Gastil, 1971). As this thesis has attempted to show, the threat and use of violence as a means to an end has been a part of Southern culture for a period that extends to before the Civil War. This includes law enforcement which necessarily becomes a party to this violence as it commands authority and attempts to control the acts of citizens.

Among sub-regions of the U.S. the greatest number of officer homicides occur in the Middle Atlantic sub-region of the Northeast region, the South Atlantic sub-region of the South region, the East North Central sub-region of the Midwest region, and the Pacific sub-region of the West region. All of these are best described as both more urbanized and considerably populated.

When murders of law enforcement officers are examined by the size of the city where they occurred, it is a reasonable expectation that large, urbanized cities will be the leaders in this category; and they are. A more compelling problem can be found when the percentages from population groupings for small towns and rural areas are combined and examined. The combined percentage exceeds that of the urbanized cities resulting in a conclusion that non-urbanized and rural areas have a problem not attributable to big city woes. The region where rural areas dominate this trend are, again, in the South.

Assaults and assaults with injury are also of concern because so many occur each year. As shown previously the number of assaults upon law enforcement officers has increased by six-fold. A better barometer, the rate of assaults upon officers, has increased by three times. Regional and sub-regional statistics show the general upward trend of increased assaults upon officers with some slight decreases at the end of the period being examined. The South

shows the greatest number of assaults. Assaults and assaults with injury when examined by population grouping indicate that the more populous urban settings are associated with the greatest number of officers assaulted. An indication of why there are so many assaults upon law enforcement officers can be found in the type of weapon used category where 82% of all assaults were a result of the use of hands or other body parts. More serious assaults resulting in possible injury attributed to shootings and knifings account for about 9%, respectively.

The data in this descriptive analysis suggest some support for the arguments of both Margarita and Zimring. That is, a continuum of violence appears to exist and is most prevalent in citizen-to-citizen encounters where confrontations resulting in initiation and escalation of hostilities and violence occur over a long continuum where assault, assault with intent to commit murder, and ultimately murder are at its far end. The officer-to-citizen continuum may be considerably shorter given that law enforcement officers are provided the authority and charged with the duty of controlling criminal acts and behavior and violence. The escalation of violence in officer-to-citizen encounters can occur quickly as the officer tries to control the situation and the suspect at hand. All necessary force to meet or exceed the violent behavior or reactions of the suspect will be used. Up to and including deadly force when the need

arises.

It is the use of deadly force against an officer during the performance of duties to control and contain criminal activity that supports Margarita's argument that the murder of a law enforcement officer is a special subset of killings. Because officers have the authority and duty to insert themselves into all situations where criminal activity is either suspected or observed they increase their risk of becoming victims of violence. To control the possible victimization of law enforcement officers they are subjected to vigorous training and conditioning to reduce their vulnerability. In addition there have been numerous technological and medical breakthroughs that also lessen the likelihood of an officer becoming a murder victim. Thus, the officer falls into a special category of homicides that are apart from homicides occurring in the general population.

APPENDIX I

TABLE 57

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
NORTHEAST REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE & HIGHWAY PATROL	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI		
1974	8	1	3	0	0	0	2	0
1975	11	0	0	1	3	2	2	0
1976	6	0	1	1	1	5	1	0
1977	4	2	1	0	1	0	3	0
1978	6	0	2	0	0	1	3	0
1979	5	0	1	0	2	0	5	0
1980	14	2	0	0	2	2	3	0
1981	6	0	0	1	2	2	2	0
1982	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1983	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
1984	4	0	1	0	0	1	4	0
1985	1	2	0	2	0	1	5	0
1986	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
1987	6	0	0	1	0	1	3	0
TOTAL	79	9	9	6	12	17	36	1
MEAN	5.64	0.64	0.64	0.43	0.86	1.21	2.57	0.07

Group I -250,000 and over
Group II -100,000 to 249,999
Group III -50,000 to 99,999
Group IV -25,000 to 49,999
Group V -10,000 to 24,999
Group VI -under 10,000

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable

TABLE 58

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
BY POPULATION GROUP
NORTH CENTRAL REGION OF THE U.S.
1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE & HIGHWAY PATROL	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI		
1974	19	5	2	3	2	2	4	0
1975	9	0	1	3	4	3	3	2
1976	7	0	2	3	3	4	5	0
1977	2	4	1	2	2	4	4	0
1978	2	0	0	1	0	0	7	0
1979	8	0	0	0	0	2	5	1
1980	4	2	1	2	0	2	4	0
1981	4	1	2	0	0	2	9	0
1982	8	1	1	0	4	1	6	0
1983	4	0	0	1	0	3	3	2
1984	3	1	2	1	1	0	2	0
1985	4	0	1	0	3	1	5	0
1986	3	1	0	1	0	2	4	0
1987	4	1	0	3	1	1	7	0
TOTAL	81	16	13	20	20	27	68	5
MEAN	5.79	1.14	0.93	1.43	1.43	1.93	4.86	0.36

Group I -250,000 and over
Group II -100,000 to 249,999
Group III -50,000 to 99,999
Group IV -25,000 to 49,999
Group V -10,000 to 24,999
Group VI -under 10,000

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable

TABLE 59

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
 BY POPULATION GROUP
 SOUTH REGION OF THE U.S.
 1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE & HIGHWAY PATROL	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI		
1974	10	3	2	2	5	11	24	0
1975	12	3	0	5	5	6	23	0
1976	9	4	4	0	3	8	28	1
1977	5	3	3	0	4	10	22	0
1978	8	3	1	1	2	9	22	1
1979	5	5	2	2	3	6	26	0
1980	6	4	2	2	3	9	19	0
1981	9	2	5	1	4	9	13	0
1982	9	2	4	0	1	7	18	1
1983	6	0	0	0	4	3	23	1
1984	2	2	3	3	0	2	24	1
1985	6	2	2	1	4	5	16	0
1986	4	1	0	2	2	4	16	3
1987	3	2	0	2	5	3	12	1
TOTAL	94	36	28	21	45	92	286	9
MEAN	6.71	2.57	2.00	1.50	3.21	6.57	20.43	0.64

Group I -250,000 and over
 Group II -100,000 to 249,999
 Group III -50,000 to 99,999
 Group IV -25,000 to 49,999
 Group V -10,000 to 24,999
 Group VI -under 10,000

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable

TABLE 60

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED
 BY POPULATION GROUP
 WEST REGION OF THE U.S.
 1974-1987*

YEAR	POPULATION GROUPS						COUNTY, STATE & HIGHWAY PATROL	FEDERAL AGENCIES
	GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV	GROUP V	GROUP VI		
1974	6	1	0	0	1	2	8	2
1975	6	0	2	0	0	6	8	1
1976	5	0	0	1	1	1	2	0
1977	3	2	1	0	3	3	2	0
1978	3	1	2	0	2	2	10	0
1979	4	0	2	0	3	1	10	3
1980	1	2	1	0	3	0	5	2
1981	4	2	1	0	0	1	6	0
1982	5	3	0	0	0	1	9	0
1983	4	1	2	0	1	4	6	0
1984	6	0	1	0	0	0	6	1
1985	4	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
1986	3	2	0	2	0	1	4	1
1987	4	2	2	0	0	0	6	0
TOTAL	58	17	14	3	15	23	85	10
MEAN	4.14	1.21	1.00	0.21	1.07	1.64	6.07	0.71

Group I -250,000 and over
 Group II -100,000 to 249,999
 Group III -50,000 to 99,999
 Group IV -25,000 to 49,999
 Group V -10,000 to 24,999
 Group VI -under 10,000

*Data for the years 1960-1973 are unavailable

APPENDIX II

COMPUTER COMMAND FILE

Program Danger

Variable Number/Variable Name	Variable Number/Variable Name
<u>Police Employee Data</u>	
1 Year (1960-1987)	27 New England Group II Total
2 Total Number City Police	28 New England Group III Total
3 Total Number of Sheriffs	29 New England Group IV Total
4 Total Number State Police and Highway Patrol	30 New England Group V Total
5 Total Police in U.S.	31 New England Group VI Total
6 Total Police Feloniously Killed	32 New England County, State & Highway Patrol
7 Kill Rate	33 New England Federal Agencies
<u>Table 1</u>	
Law Enforcement Officers Feloniously Killed by Geographic Region, Sub-region and Population Group	
8 Group I Total	34 Middle Atlantic Sub-region Total
9 Group II Total	35 Middle Atlantic Group I Total
10 Group III Total	36 Middle Atlantic Group II Total
11 Group IV Total	37 Middle Atlantic Group III Total
12 Group V Total	38 Middle Atlantic Group IV Total
13 Group VI Total	39 Middle Atlantic Group V Total
14 County, State & Highway Total	40 Middle Atlantic Group VI Total
15 Federal Agencies Total	41 Middle Atlantic County, State & Highway Patrol Total
16 Northeast Region Total	42 Middle Atlantic Federal Agencies
17 Northeast Group I Total	43 North Central Region Total
18 Northeast Group II Total	44 North Central Group I Total
19 Northeast Group III Total	45 North Central Group II Total
20 Northeast Group IV Total	46 North Central Group III Total
21 Northeast Group V Total	47 North Central Group IV Total
22 Northeast Group VI Total	48 North Central Group V Total
23 Northeast County, State & Highway Patrol Total	
24 Northeast Federal Agencies	
25 New England Sub-region Total	
26 New England Group I Total	

Variable Number/Variable Name	Variable Number/Variable Name
49 North Central Group VI Total	74 South Group IV Total
50 North Central County, State & Highway Patrol Total	75 South Group V Total
51 North Central Federal Agencies	76 South Group VI Total
52 East North Central Sub-region Total	77 South County, State & Highway Patrol Total
53 East North Central Group I Total	78 South Federal Agencies
54 East North Central Group II Total	79 South Atlantic Sub-region Total
55 East North Central Group III Total	80 South Atlantic Group I Total
56 East North Central Group IV Total	81 South Atlantic Group II Total
57 East North Central Group V Total	82 South Atlantic Group III Total
58 East North Central Group VI Total	83 South Atlantic Group IV Total
59 East North Central County, State & Highway Patrol Total	84 South Atlantic Group V Total
60 East North Central Federal Agencies	85 South Atlantic Group VI Total
61 West North Central Sub-region Total	86 South Atlantic County, State & Highway Patrol Total
62 West North Central Group I Total	87 South Atlantic Federal Agencies
63 West North Central Group II Total	88 East South Atlantic Sub-region Total
64 West North Central Group III Total	89 East South Atlantic Group I Total
65 West North Central Group IV Total	90 East South Atlantic Group II Total
66 West North Central Group V Total	91 East South Atlantic Group III Total
67 West North Central Group VI Total	92 East South Atlantic Group IV Total
68 West North Central County, State & Highway Patrol Total	93 East South Atlantic Group V Total
69 West North Central Federal Agencies	94 East South Atlantic Group VI Total
70 South Region Total	95 East South Atlantic County, State & Highway Patrol Total
71 South Group I Total	96 East South Atlantic Federal Agencies
72 South Group II Total	97 West South Central Sub-region Total
73 South Group III Total	98 West South Central Group I Total

Variable Number/Variable Name	Variable Number/Variable Name
157 East North Central Assault w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers	179 Pacific Rate per 100 Officers
158 West North Central Sub- region Total Assaults	180 Pacific Total Assaults
159 West North Central Rate per 100 Officers	181 Pacific Assault w/Injury
160 West North Central Total Assaults w/Injury	182 Group I Assaults
161 West North Central Assaults w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers	183 Group I Rate per 100 Officers
162 South Atlantic Sub-region Total Assaults	184 Group I Total Assaults w/Injury
163 South Atlantic Rate per 100 Officers	185 Group I Assault w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers
164 South Atlantic Total Assaults w/Injury	186 Group II Total Assaults
165 South Atlantic Assaults w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers	187 Group II Rate per 100 Officers
166 East South Central Sub- region Total Assaults	188 Group II Total Assaults w/Injury
167 East South Central Rate per 100 Officers	189 Group II Assaults w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers
168 East South Central Total w/Injury	190 Group III Total Assaults
169 East South Central Assaults w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers	191 Group III Rate per 100 Officers
170 West South Central Sub- region Total Assaults	192 Group III Total Assaults w/Injury
171 West South Central Rate per 100 Officers	193 Group III Assaults w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers
172 West South Central Total Assaults w/Injury	194 Group IV Total Assaults
173 West South Central Assaults w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers	195 Group IV Rate per 100 Officers
174 Mountain Sub-region Total Assaults	196 Group IV Total Assaults w/Injury
175 Mountain Rate per 100 Officers	197 Group IV Assault w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers
176 Mountain Total Assaults	198 Group V Total Assaults
177 Mountain Rate per 100 Officers	199 Group V Rate per 100 Officers
178 Pacific Sub-region Total Assaults	200 Group V Total Assaults w/Injury
	201 Group V Assault w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers
	202 Group VI Total Assaults
	203 Group VI Rate per 100 Officers
	204 Group VI Total Assaults w/Injury
	205 Group VI Assault w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers

Variable Number/Variable Name	Variable Number/Variable Name
206 County, State & Highway Patrol Total Assaults	236 Group IV Percent Other Weapon
207 County, State & Highway Patrol Rate per 100 Officers	237 Group IV Percent Hands
208 County, State & Highway Patrol Total Assaults w/Injury	238 Group V Total
209 County, State & Highway Patrol Assaults w/Injury Rate per 100 Officers	239 Group V Percent Firearms
	240 Group V Percent Knife
	241 Group V Percent Other Weapon
	242 Group V Hands
	243 Group VI Total
	244 Group VI Percent Firearms
	245 Group VI Percent Knife
	246 Group VI Percent Other Weapon
	247 Group VI Percent Hands
	248 County, State & Highway Patrol Total
	249 County, State & Highway Patrol Percent Firearms
	250 County, State & Highway Patrol Percent Knife
	251 County, State & Highway Patrol Percent Other Weapon
	252 County, State & Highway Patrol Percent Hands
	253 New England Sub-region Total
	254 New England Percent Firearms
	255 New England Percent Knife
	256 New England Percent Other Weapon
	257 New England Percent Hands
	258 Middle Atlantic Sub- region Total
	259 Middle Atlantic Percent Firearms
	260 Middle Atlantic Percent Knife
	261 Middle Atlantic Percent Other Weapon
	262 Middle Atlantic Percent Hands
	263 East North Central Total
	264 East North Central Per- cent Firearms
	265 East North Central Per- cent Knife

Table 3

Weapons Used by Population Group and Geographical Sub-region	
210 Total Firearms	
211 Total Knife	
212 Total Other Weapon	
213 Total Hands	
214 Percent Firearms	
215 Percent Knife	
216 Percent Other Weapon	
217 Percent Hands	
218 Group I Total	
219 Group I Percent Firearms	
220 Group I Percent Knife	
221 Group I Percent Other Weapon	
222 Group I Percent Hands	
223 Group II Total	
224 Group II Percent Firearms	
225 Group II Percent Knife	
226 Group II Percent Other Weapon	
227 Group II Percent Hands	
228 Group III Total	
229 Group III Percent Firearms	
230 Group III Percent Knife	
231 Group III Percent Other Weapon	
232 Group III Percent Hands	
233 Group IV Total	
234 Group IV Percent Firearms	
235 Group IV Percent Knife	

Variable Number/Variable Name	Variable Number/Variable Name
266 East North Central Percent Other Weapon	280 East South Central Percent Knife
267 East North Central Percent Hands	281 East South Central Percent Other Weapon
268 West North Central Sub-region Total	282 East South Central Percent Hands
269 West North Central Percent Firearms	283 West South Central Sub-region Total
270 West North Central Percent Knife	284 West South Central Percent Firearms
271 West North Central Percent Other Weapon	285 West South Central Percent Knife
272 West North Central Percent Hands	286 West South Central Percent Other Weapon
273 South Atlantic Sub-region Total	287 West South Central Percent Hands
274 South Atlantic Percent Firearms	288 Mountain Sub-region Total
275 South Atlantic Percent Knife	289 Mountain Percent Firearms
276 South Atlantic Percent Other Weapon	290 Mountain Percent Knife
277 South Atlantic Percent Hands	291 Mountain Percent Other Weapon
278 East South Central Sub-region Totals	292 Mountain Percent Hands
279 East South Central Percent Firearms	293 Pacific Sub-region Total
	294 Pacific Percent Firearms
	295 Pacific Percent Knife
	296 Pacific Percent Other Weapon
	297 Pacific Percent Hands

Meyer, C. Kenneth, Magedanz, Thomas C., Chapman, Samuel G. and Dahlin, Donald C.

- 1981 "A comparative assessment of assault incidents: robbery-related, ambush and general police assaults." Journal of Police Science and Administration. pp. 1-18.

Meyer, C. Kenneth, Magedanz, Thomas C., Chapman, Samuel G. Dahlin, Donald C. and Swanson, Cheryl.

- 1982a "An analysis of factors related to robbery-associated assaults on police officers - Part I." Journal of Police Science and Administration. pp. 1-27.

- 1982b "An analysis of factors related to robbery-associated assaults on police officers - Part II." Journal of Police Science and Administration. pp. 127-150.

- 1982c "An analysis of factors related to robbery-associated assaults on police officers - Part III." Journal of Police Science and Administration. pp. 249-272.

Peterson, Ruth D. and Bailey, William C.

- 1988 "Structural influences on the killing of police: a comparison with general homicides." Justice Quarterly. pp. 207-233.

Skolnick, Jerome H.

- 1966 "Justice without trial." Wiley, New York.

Weis, Kurt and Milakovich, Michael E.

- 1974 "Political misuses of crime rates." Society. pp. 27-34.

Wolfgang, Marvin E., Savitz, Leonard and Johnston, Norman

- 1970 "Abuses in crime reporting." An article in "Sociology of crime and delinquency." pp. 114-160. John Wiley and Sons, New York.

World Almanac

- 1987 Mark S. Hoffman, ed. pg. 387. Pharros Books, New York.

Zimring, Frank

- 1977 "The medium is the message: firearm caliber as a determinant of death from assault." Journal of Legal Studies. pp. 97-123.

REFERENCES

- Chapman, Samuel G.
1986 "Cops, killers and staying alive. The murder of police officers in America." Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois.
- Conklin, John E.
1981 "Criminology." pp. 476-481. Macmillan, New York.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
1960-1987 "Crime in the United States." Uniform Crime Reports. U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
1982-1987 "Law enforcement officers killed and assaulted." U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
- Gastil, Raymond D.
1971 "Homicide and a regional culture of violence." American Sociological Review. pp. 412-427.
- Hackney, Sheldon
1969 "Southern violence." American Historical Review. pp. 906-925.
- Konstantin, David N.
1984 "Homicides of American law enforcement officers, 1978-1980." Justice Quarterly. pp. 29-45.
- Lester, David
1984 "The murder of police officers in American cities." Criminal Justice and Behavior. pp 101-113.
- Mann, Allen A.
1991 "A descriptive analysis of crime in the Inland Empire." An unpublished Masters degree project.
- Margarita, Mona
1980 "Police as victims of violence." The Justice System Journal. pp. 218-233.