

**BURGLARY AND THEFT IN KENTUCKY:  
AN ANALYSIS OF  
INCIDENT-BASED DATA (1988)**

127466

**KENTUCKY  
CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE**



**STATISTICAL  
ANALYSIS  
CENTER**

KENTUCKY UNIFORM CRIME REPORT-UNIFORM OFFENSE REPORT  
RESEARCH PROJECT:

AN ANALYSIS OF INCIDENT-BASED DATA (1988)

BURGLARY AND THEFT

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## BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

In this report, the Kentucky Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) analyzes Uniform Crime Report/Uniform Offense Report data. Beginning July 1, 1987, the Kentucky State Police adopted a new method of crime data collection based upon a new statewide reporting format. This new system is incident-based. In other words, it contains information on the individual crime incident and, after an arrest is made, the victim, and the offender. Thus, it contains a significant amount of data beyond that traditionally collected under the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

The primary objective of this study was to demonstrate the potential uses of these data for law enforcement agencies across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The amount of data contained in the UOR provides a basis for an analysis of crime patterns such as:

1. Where and when are certain types of crime likely to occur?
  - a. Time of day, day of week, and month.
  - b. Geographic location (by Kentucky area development district).
2. Offender Profiles (by arrest).
  - a. By age.
  - b. By race and sex.

This report represents the second year in which the University of Louisville has analyzed this incident-based crime data.

## METHODS AND PROCEDURES

The Kentucky State Police provided a computer tape of the UCR-UOR data for the year 1988. These data were primarily from the rural areas of the Commonwealth but also include some communities from major metropolitan areas such as Jefferson County. Data for cities, such as Louisville and Lexington, were not included.

The data which we analyzed consisted of two files. The first file contained offenses reported to (or uncovered by) the police. The second file contained offender data for those reported crimes which resulted in an arrest.

For purposes of illustration, we have divided the analyses into three parts. The first set presents statewide analyses for burglary. Here we focus upon forced entry residential burglaries. The pattern is initially presented at its broadest level and examines the distribution of burglaries across the Commonwealth.

The second set of analyses show how these data can be used at the operational level. Here, we focus on the burglary data in the area development district which had the most reported burglaries (Bluegrass District). We also examine the pattern of reported burglaries across the counties linked by major highways. The purpose of this analysis was to determine whether "corridors of crime" exist in Kentucky. Using current population figures for Kentucky, we computed the victimization rate per 1000 households/resident.

Third, we constructed an offender profile based upon data from the arrest file. Specifically, we present data on the age, race, and sex of persons arrested for the crime under consideration.

These methods of analysis were then repeated using felony thefts as the crime focus.

### RESULTS OF THE STUDY

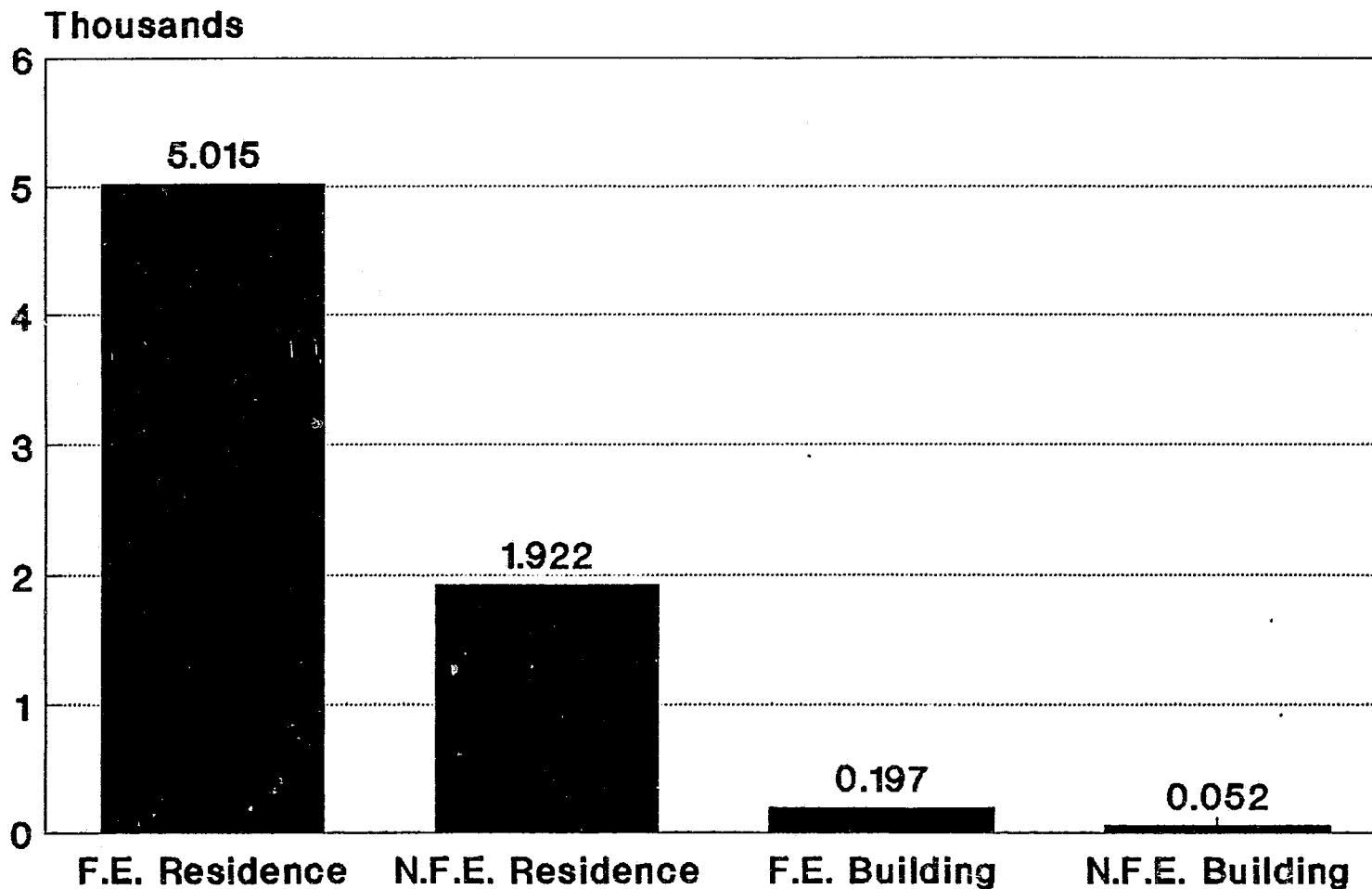
#### Statewide Results: Burglary, 1988

According to this data set, there were over 7000 burglaries known to the Kentucky State Police in 1988. As Chart 1 demonstrates, the top category of burglary was forced entry, residential (5015). As Chart 2 illustrates, the Northern Kentucky area development district registered the greatest number of burglaries (1164 - 23%) and Buffalo Trace the lowest number (58 - 1%).

#### Burglary: Urban versus Rural

Although the data came primarily from rural areas, some urban areas are included in the set. For this reason, we examined the rates from urban and rural areas. These data are presented in Charts 3 through 5. As expected the majority (55%) of the reported burglaries in this data set came from the rural areas of the Commonwealth. In the urban areas, the Northern Kentucky area development district led with 936 reported forced entry burglaries (41% of the total). In the rural regions, the Bluegrass area development district led with 407 burglaries (15% of the total).

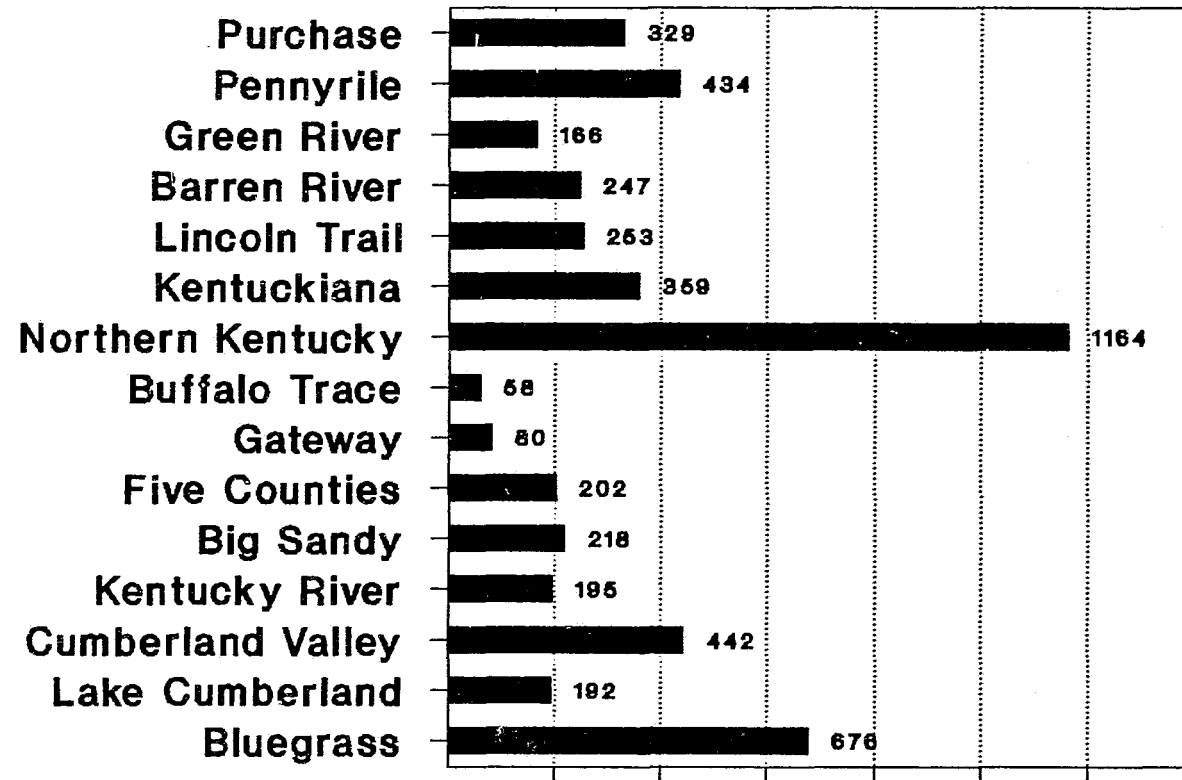
# Chart 1: BURGLARY By Type of Burglary



Kentucky, 1988

## Chart 2: BURGLARY (TOTALS) Forced Entry Residence

### Area Development Districts



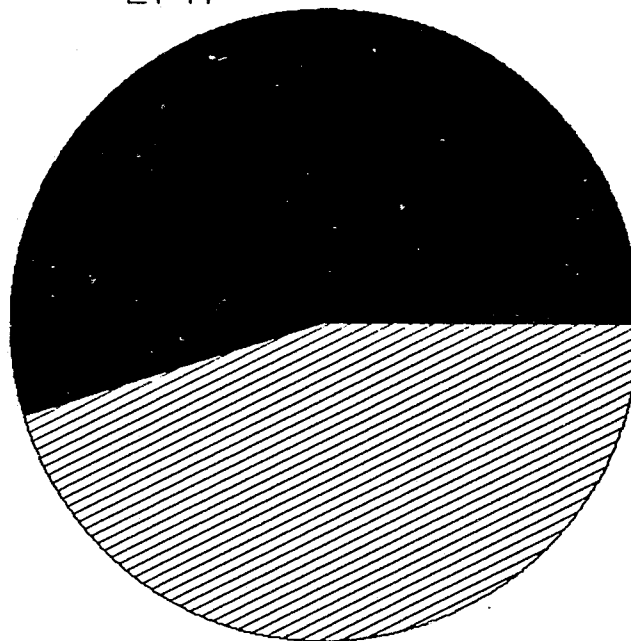
Number of Burglaries

Kentucky, 1988



# Chart 3: BURGLARIES Forced Entry Residence

Rural 55%  
2747



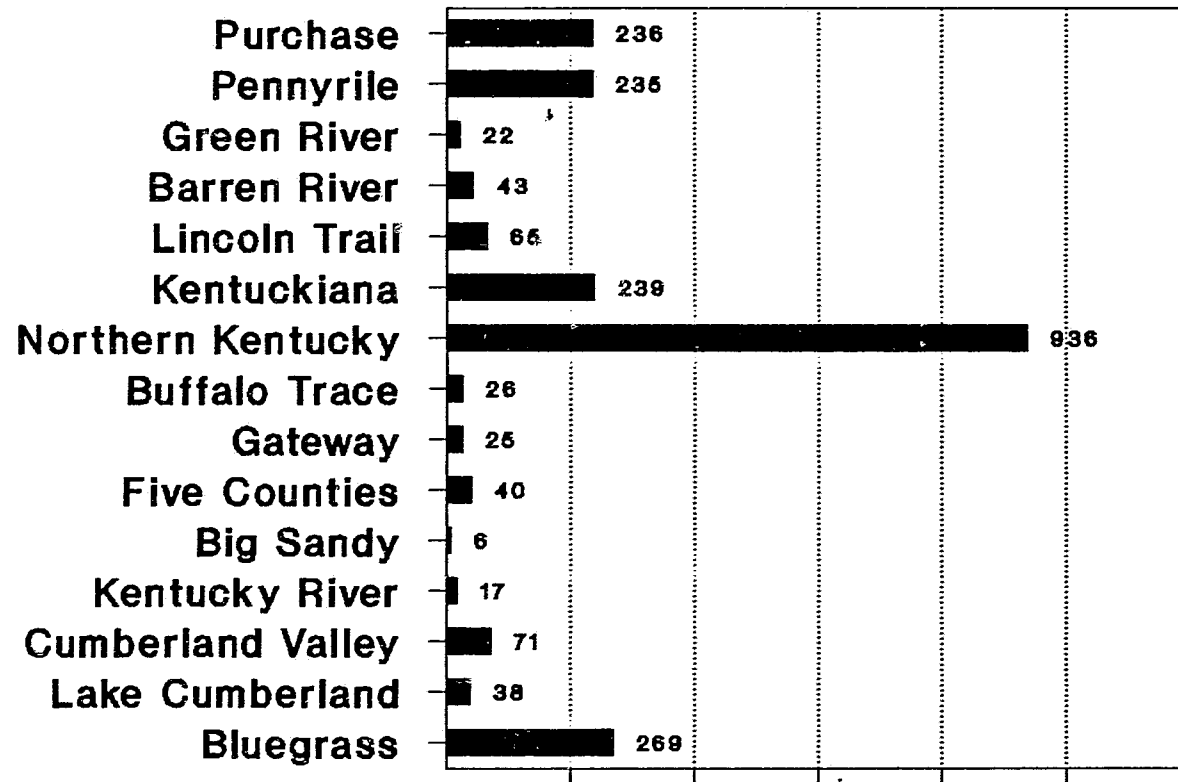
Urban 45%  
2268

Rural vs. Urban Areas

Kentucky, 1988

# Chart 4: URBAN BURGLARIES Forced Entry Residence

## Area Development Districts

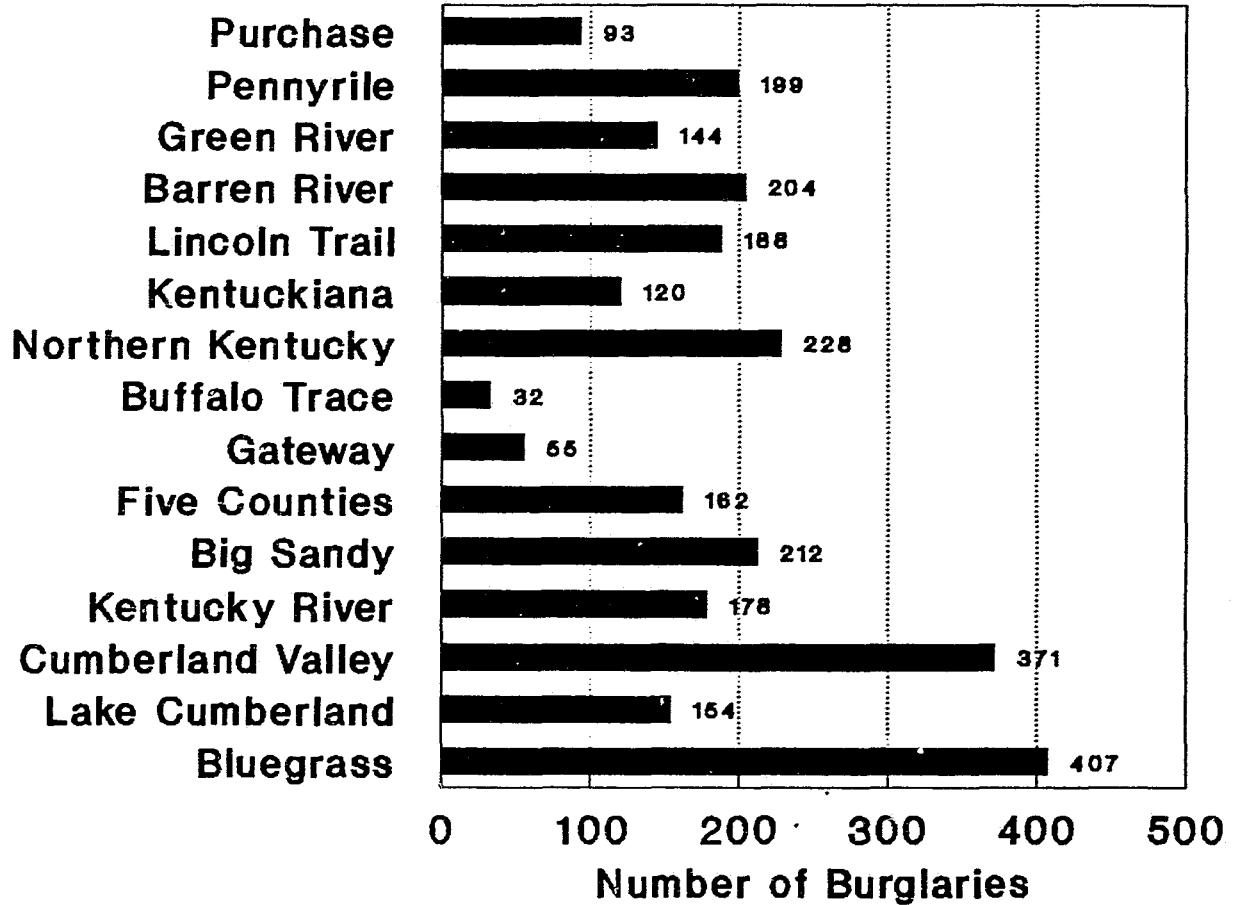


Number of Burglaries

Kentucky, 1988

# Chart 5: RURAL BURGLARIES Forced Entry Residence

## Area Development Districts



Kentucky, 1988

### **Burglary: Statewide Patterns - Shift, Day, Month**

Chart 6 presents the distribution of burglaries for the entire year by work shift.<sup>1</sup> Number of reported burglaries was almost evenly distributed across each shift.

Chart 7 demonstrates that the number of reported burglaries peaked on Friday and remained fairly stable throughout the week with the exception of Wednesdays.

In Chart 8, we see that the highest number of burglaries were reported in March and the lowest number in May.

### **Burglary in the Bluegrass Area Development District, 1988**

In order to demonstrate how these data could be used within a certain area, we conducted the same type of analyses in the area development district which recorded the most burglaries in rural areas - the Bluegrass District. Charts 9 through 11 show that the greatest percentage of burglaries were reported on the first shift, on Tuesdays (by a slight margin), and in October in this area.

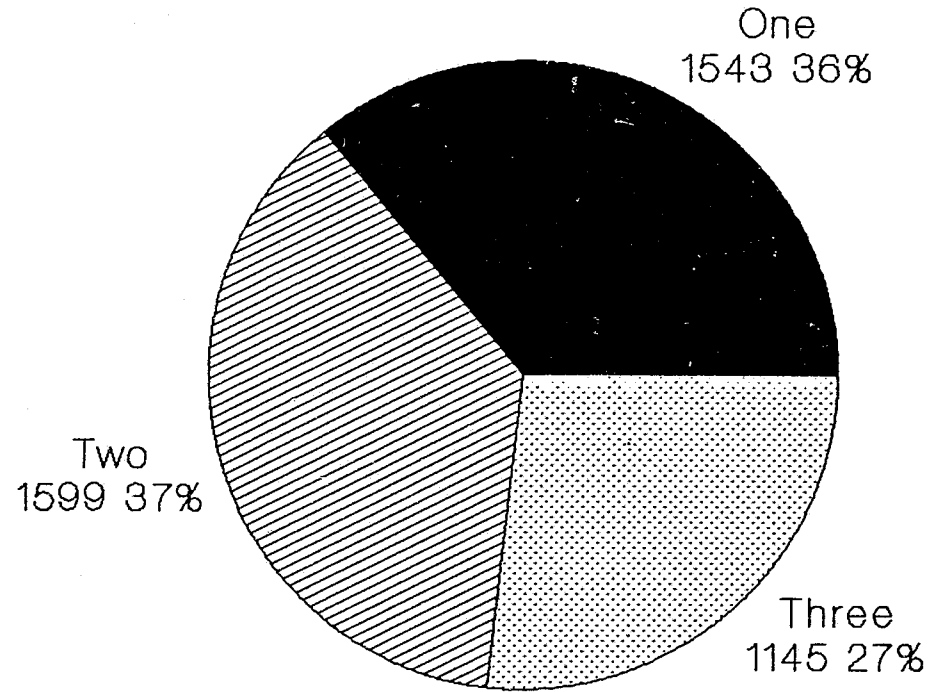
### **Burglary: Crime Corridors**

In Charts 12 and 13, the relationship between major highways and burglary patterns is explored. If a major highway cut through a county, it was included as a part of that "crime corridor". Here, the districts which were touched by more than one major highway had the highest number of reported burglaries (1331 or 45%). As Chart 13 reveals, Kenton County accounted for 58 percent of the reported burglaries within the Multiple Route corridor.

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<sup>1</sup>.Throughout this report, Shift One refers to the time period 12:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.; Shift Two refers to 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; and Shift Three is from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

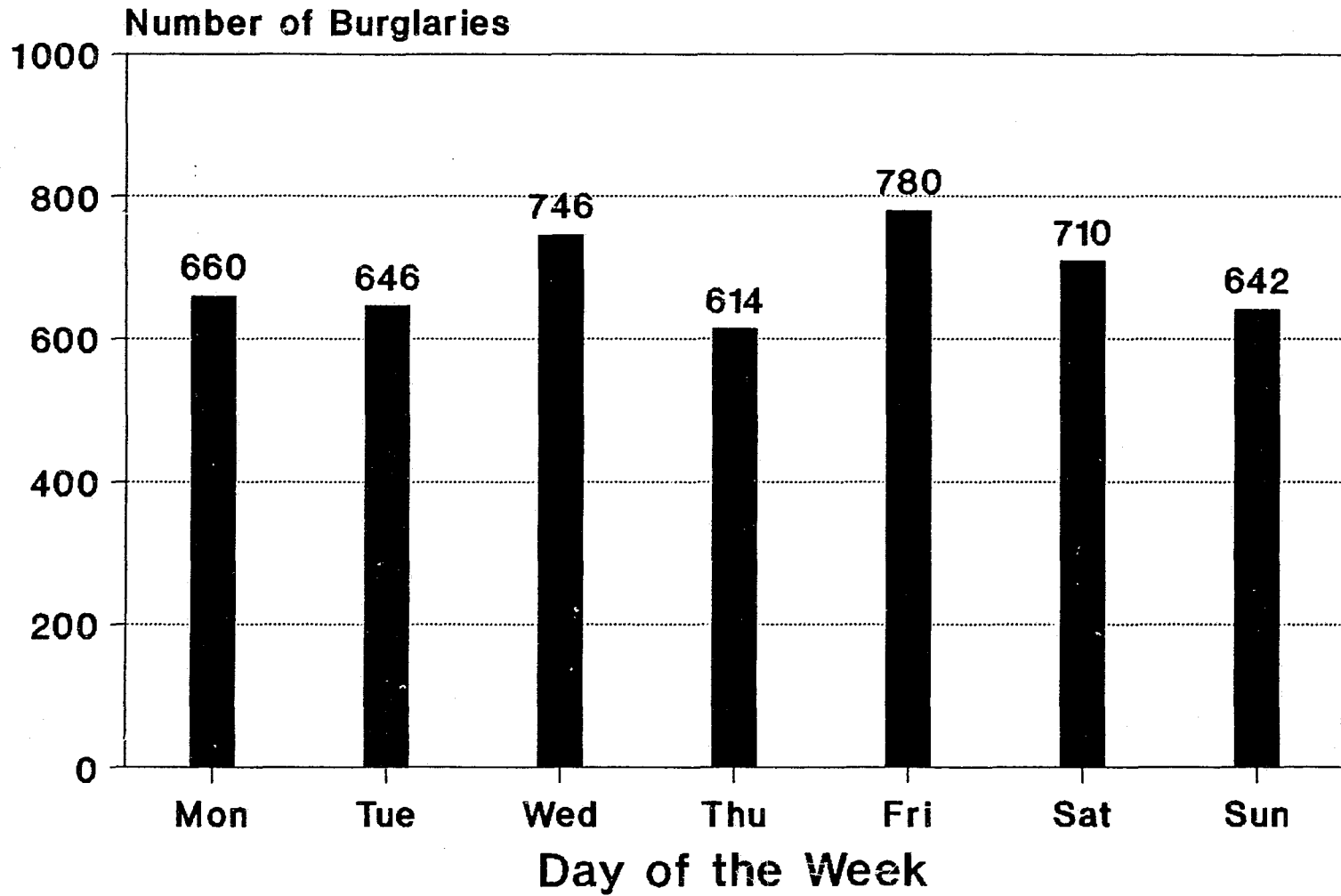
# Chart 6: BURGLARIES Forced Entry Residence



Shift Pattern

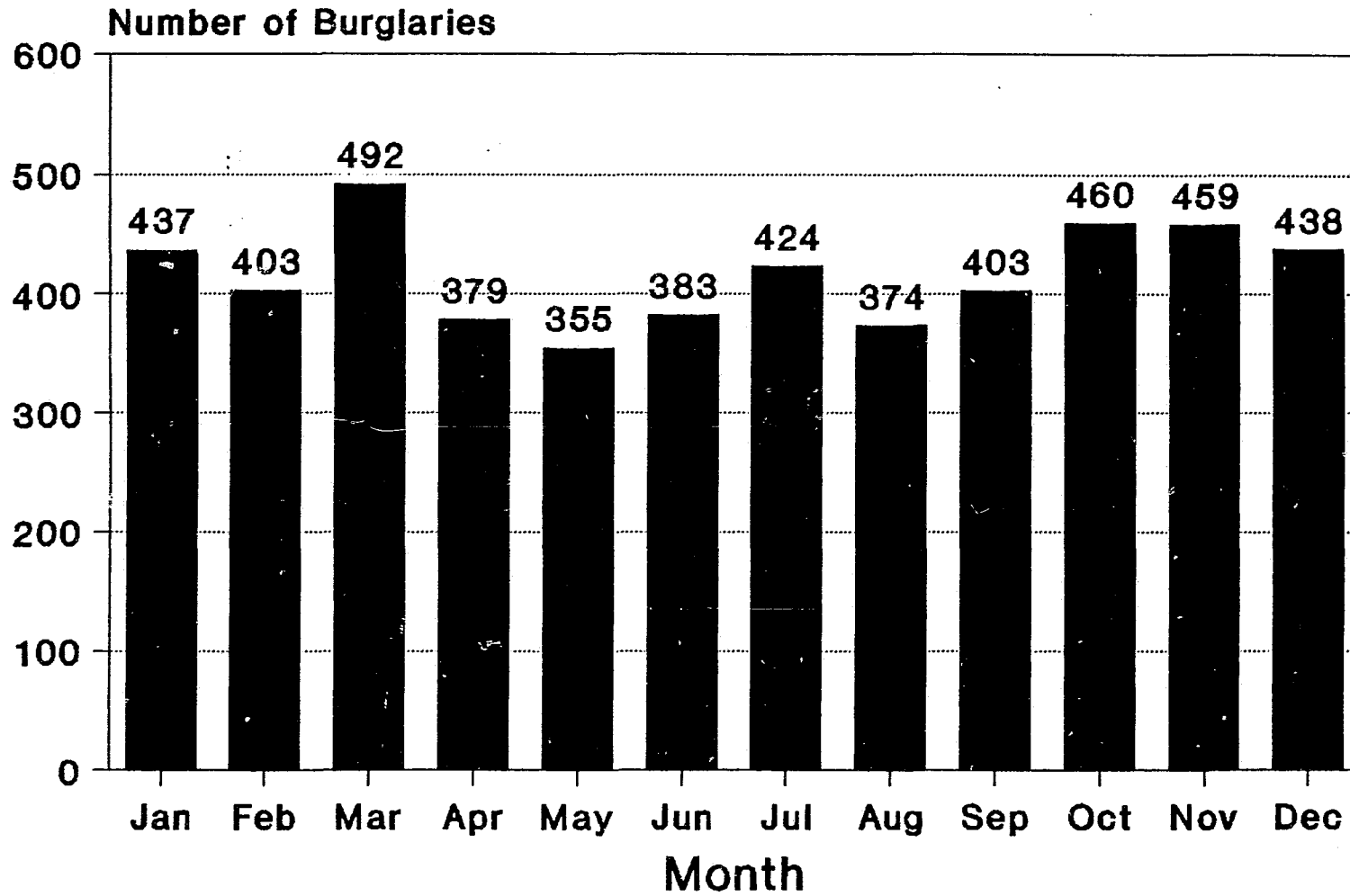
Kentucky, 1988

# Chart 7: BURGLARY Forced Entry Residence



Kentucky, 1988

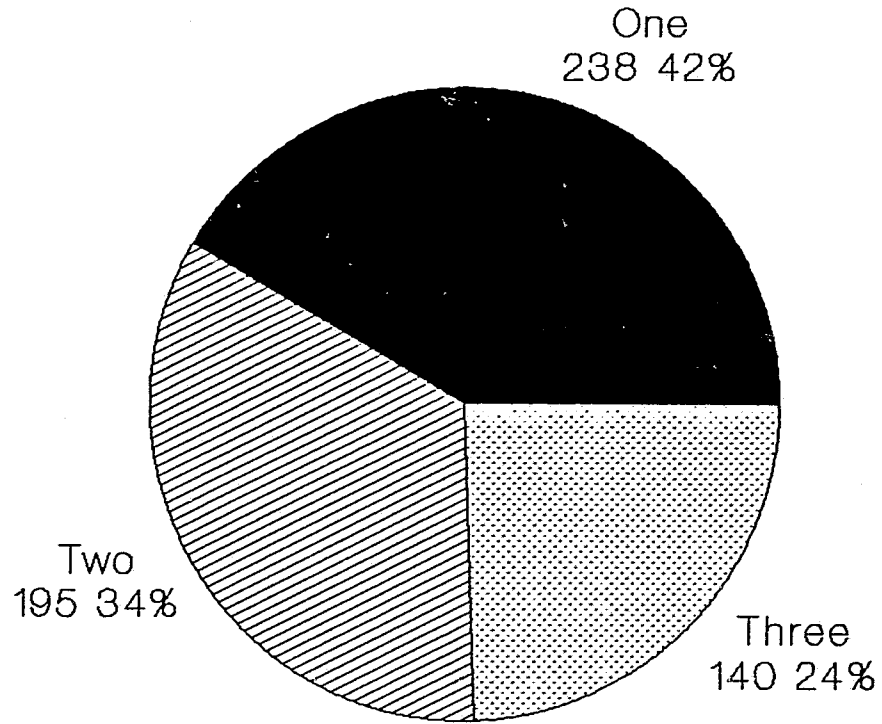
## Chart 8: BURGLARY Forced Entry Residence



Kentucky, 1988

# Chart 9: BURGLARY 1988

## Bluegrass District

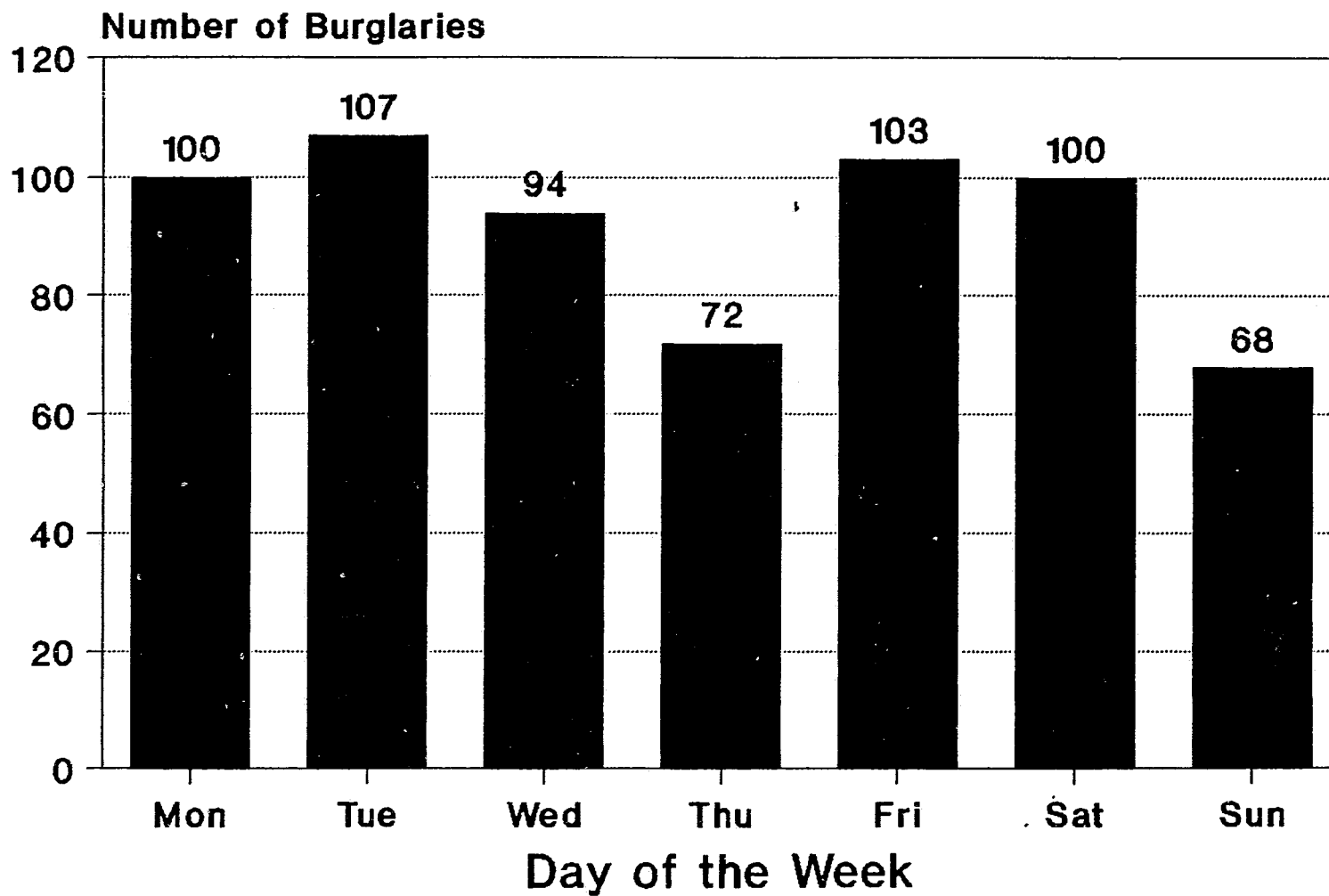


Shift Pattern

Forced Entry Residence (Rural)

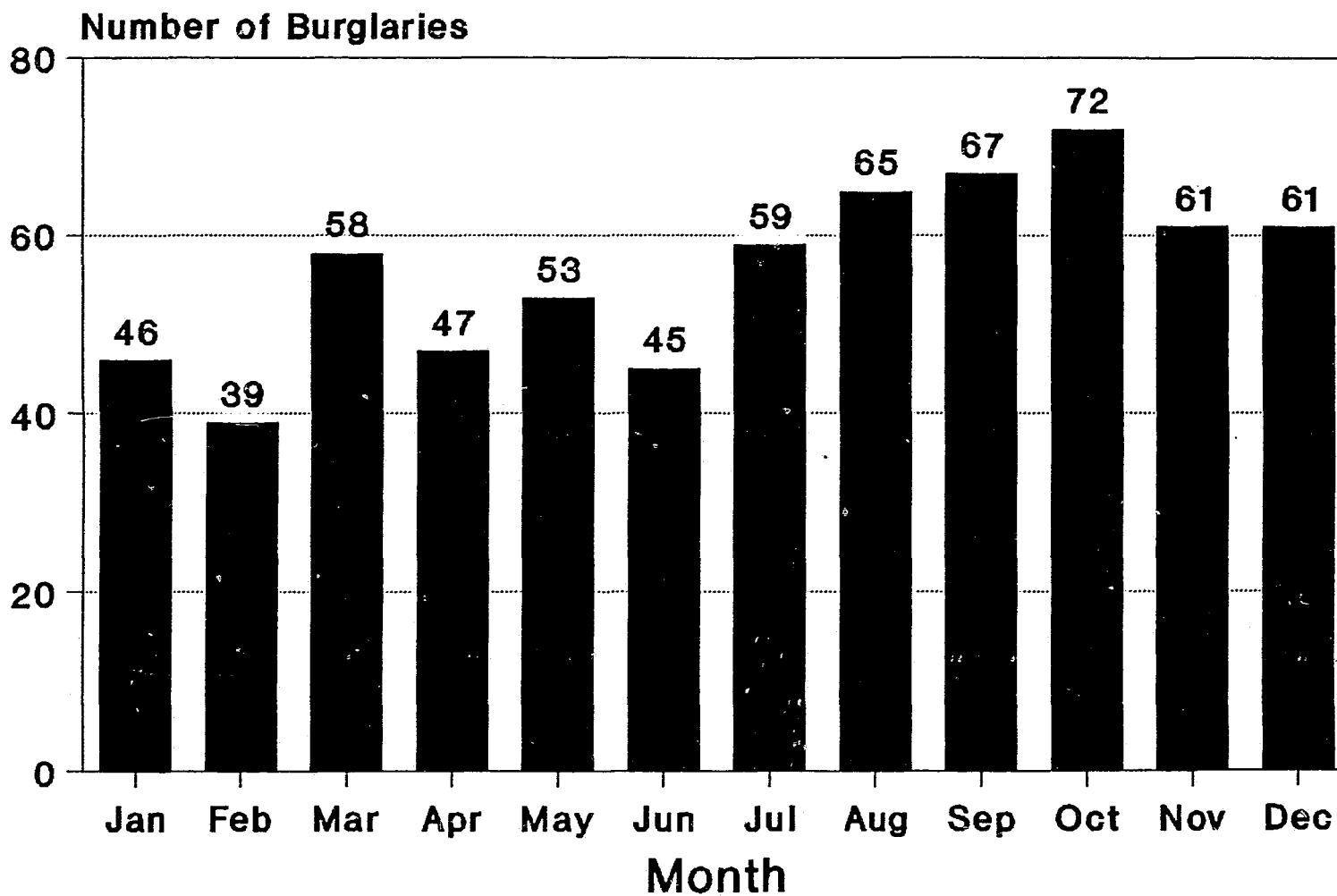


# Chart 10: BURGLARY: DAY OF THE WEEK Bluegrass District, 1988



Forced Entry Residence

# Chart 11: BURGLARY: MONTHLY PATTERN Bluegrass District, 1988

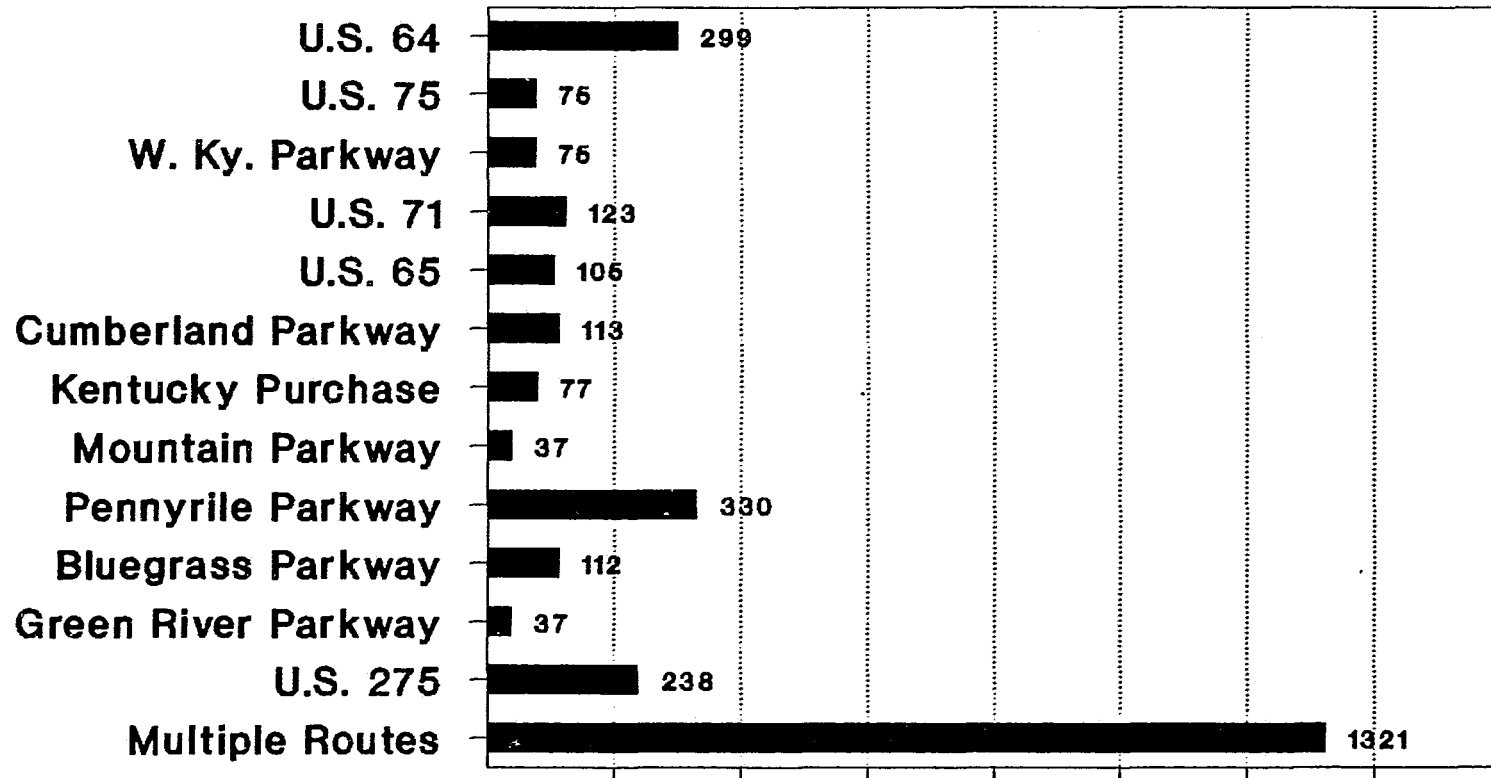


Forced Entry Residence

# Chart 12: BURGLARIES: CRIME CORRIDORS

## Kentucky, 1988 (Totals)

### Traffic Routes



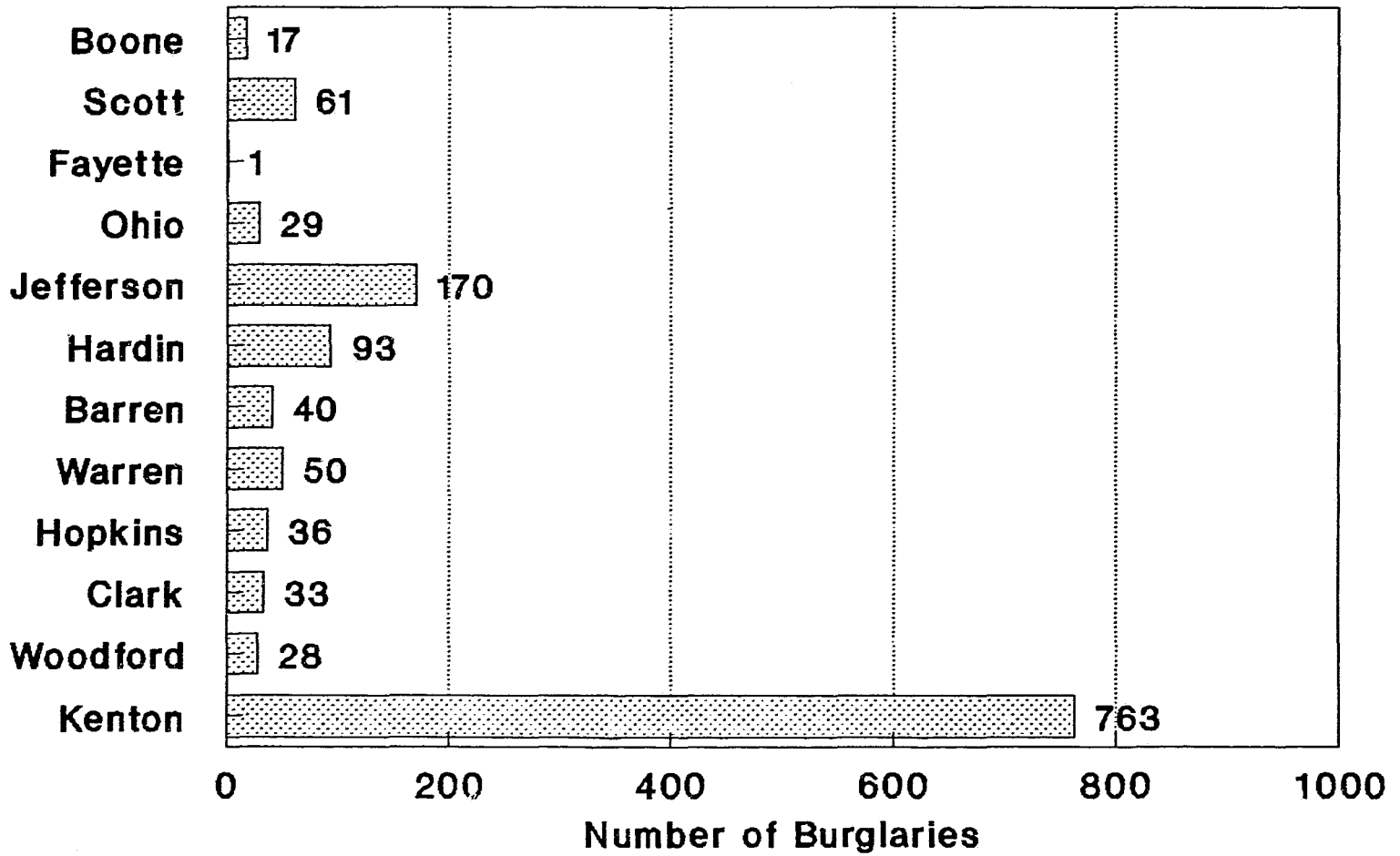
Number of Burglaries

Forced Entry Residence

# Chart 13: BURGLARIES CRIME CORRIDORS

## Multiple Routes, 1988

### Counties



Forced Entry Residence

**Statewide Results: Theft, 1988**

According to this data set, there were 18,849 felony thefts known to the police in 1988. As Chart 14 demonstrates, the majority of felony thefts were from automobiles (36%). In Chart 15, we see that the Northern Kentucky area development district registered the greatest number of thefts (3552 - 19%) followed by the Bluegrass District (2666 - 14%).

**Theft: Urban versus Rural**

Again, we examined the rates from urban and rural areas. These data are presented in Charts 16 through 18. Unlike the burglaries, the majority of the thefts (62%) were recorded in the urban areas of the Commonwealth. In the urban areas, the Northern Kentucky area development district led with 3104 reported thefts (27% of the total). In the rural regions, the Cumberland Valley area development district led with 982 thefts (14% of the total).

**Theft: Statewide Patterns - Shift, Day, Month**

Chart 19 presents the distribution of thefts for the entire year by work shift. Number of reported thefts was almost identical for each shift.

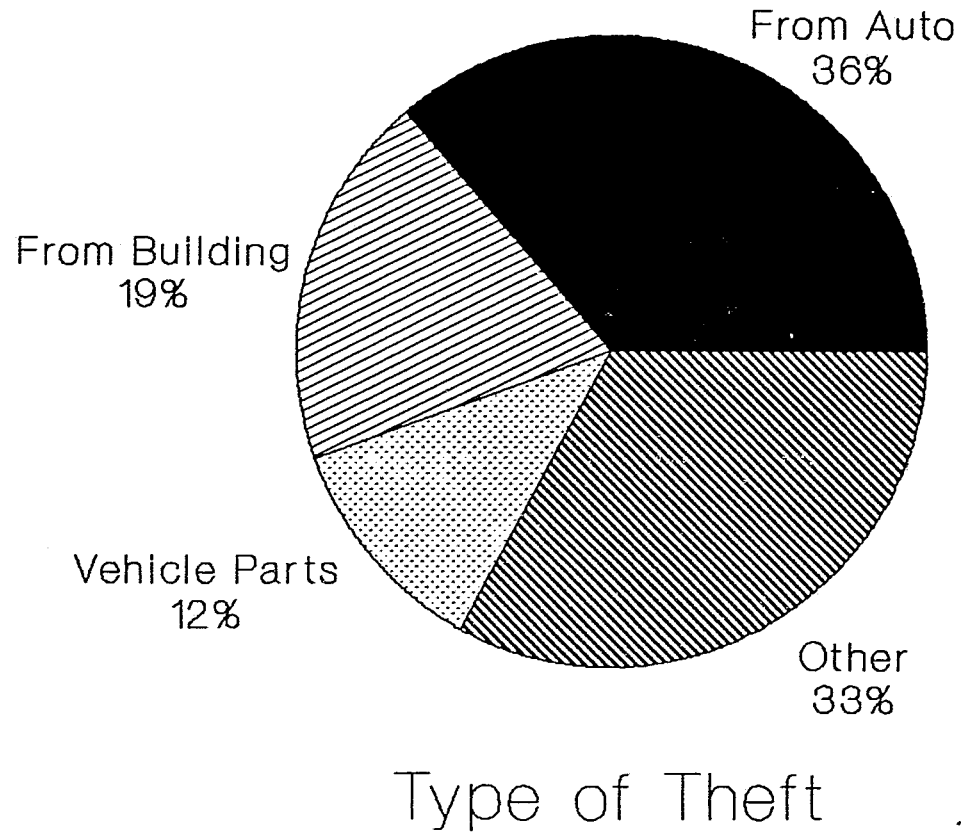
Chart 20 demonstrates that the number of thefts peaked on Friday but remained fairly stable throughout the week.

In Chart 21, we see that the highest number of thefts were reported in July and the lowest number was reported in December.

**Theft in the Cumberland Valley Area Development District, 1988**

We then conducted the same type of analyses in the area development district which recorded the most thefts in rural areas - the Cumberland Valley District. Charts 22 through 24 illustrate

# Chart 14: FELONY THEFT By Type of Theft

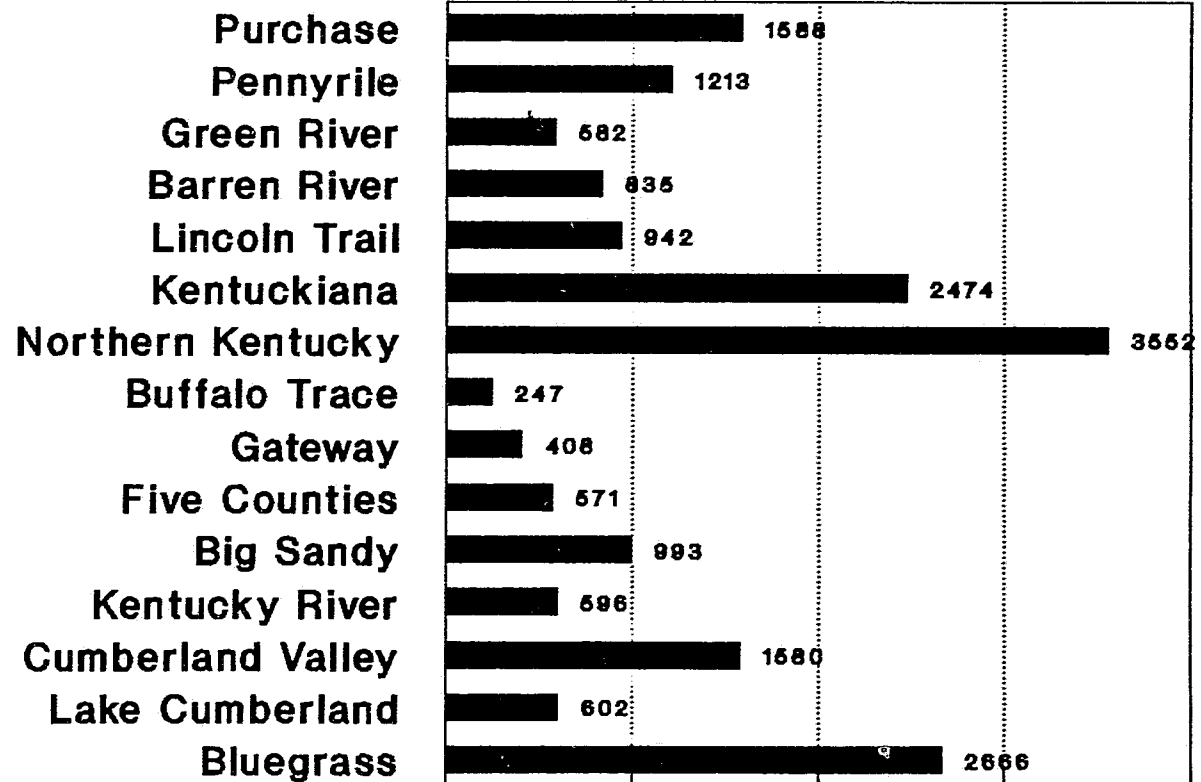


Kentucky, 1988

# Chart 15: FELONY THEFT

## Kentucky, 1988 (Totals)

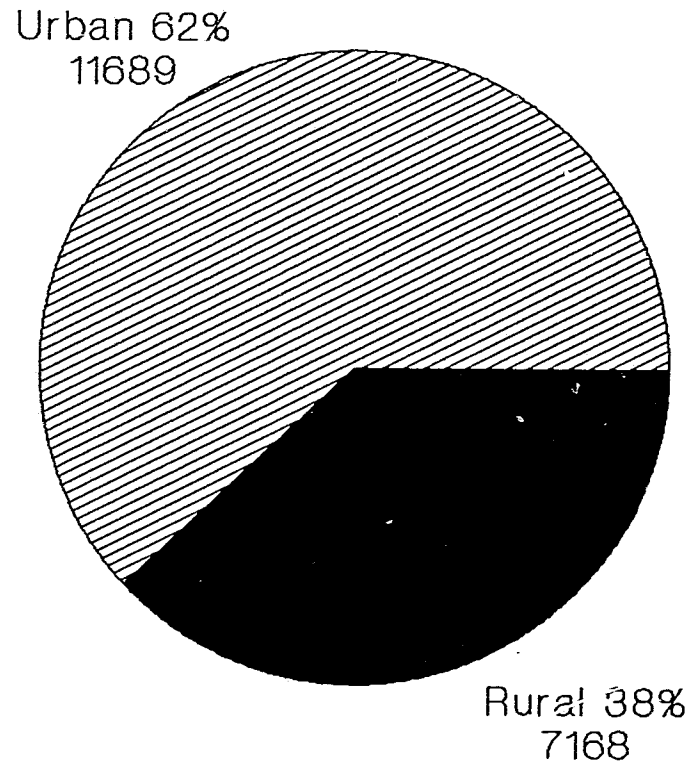
### Area Development Districts



Number of Thefts

Reported to Police

# Chart 16: FELONY THEFT Kentucky, 1988



Rural vs. Urban Areas

**Reported to Police**

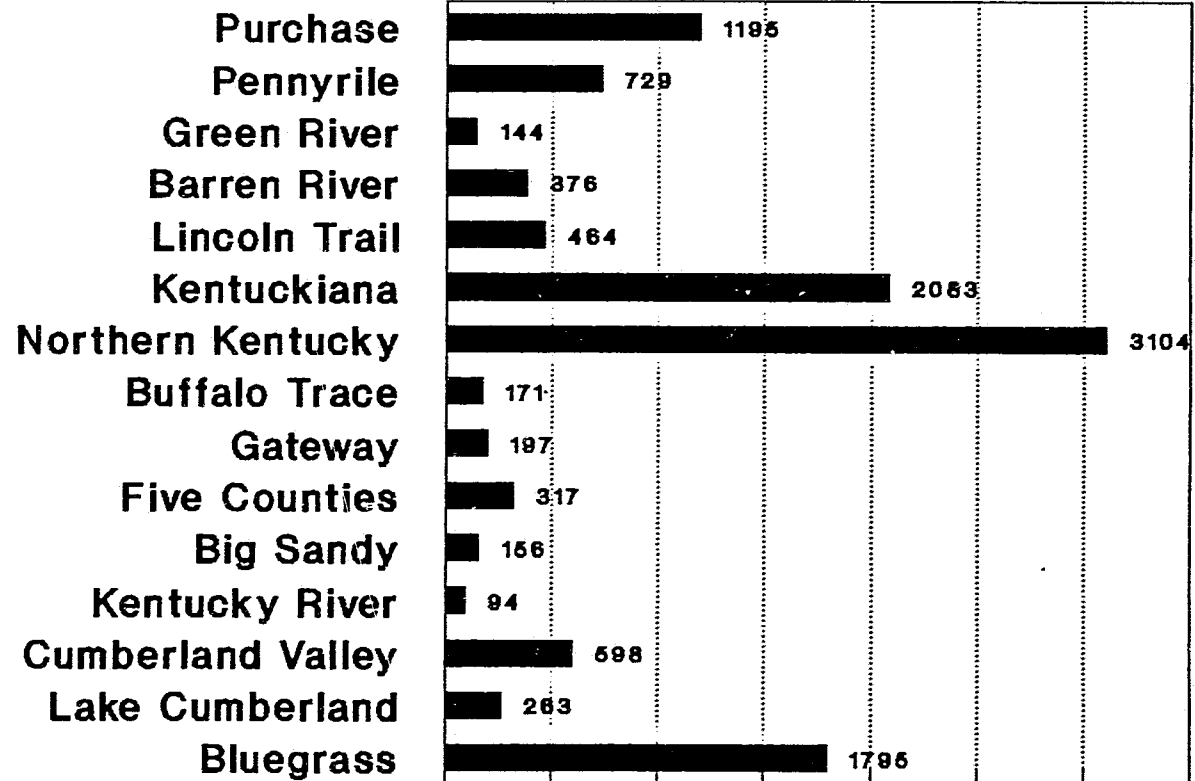




# Chart 17: FELONY THEFT

## Urban Kentucky, 1988

### Area Development Districts

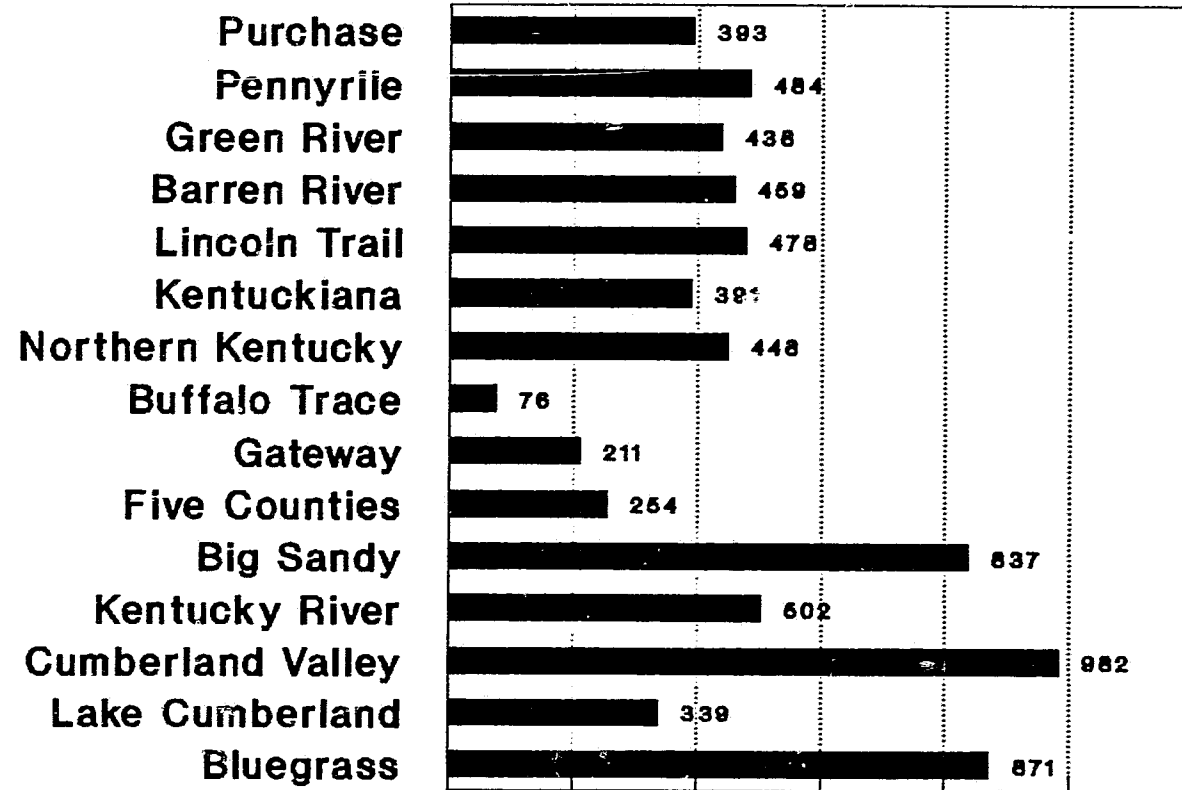


Number of Thefts

Reported to Police

# Chart 18: FELONY THEFT Rural Kentucky, 1988

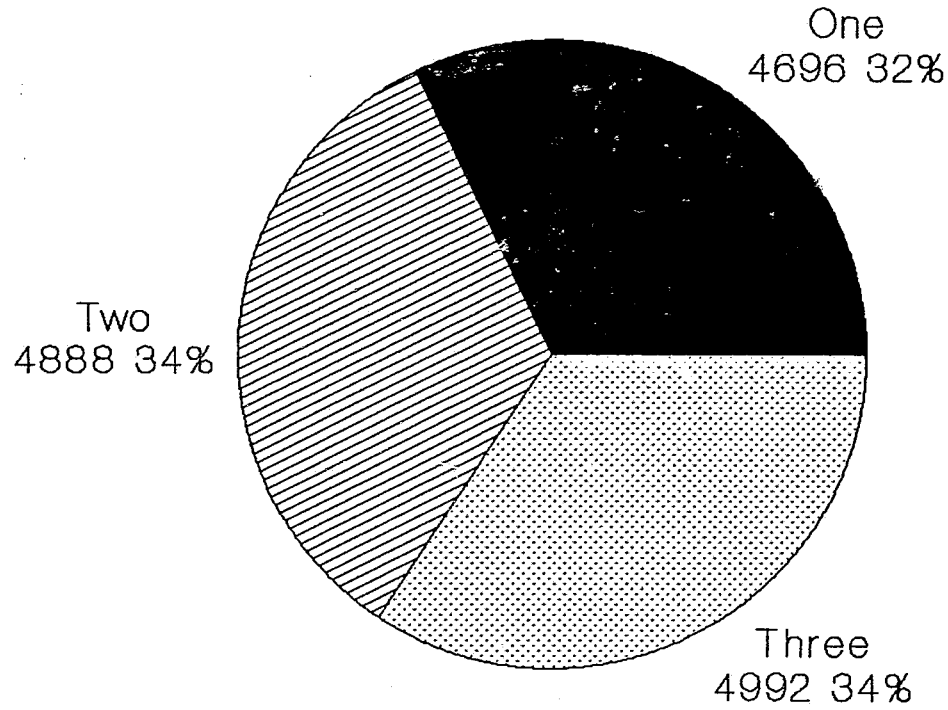
## Area Development Districts



Reported to Police

Number of Thefts

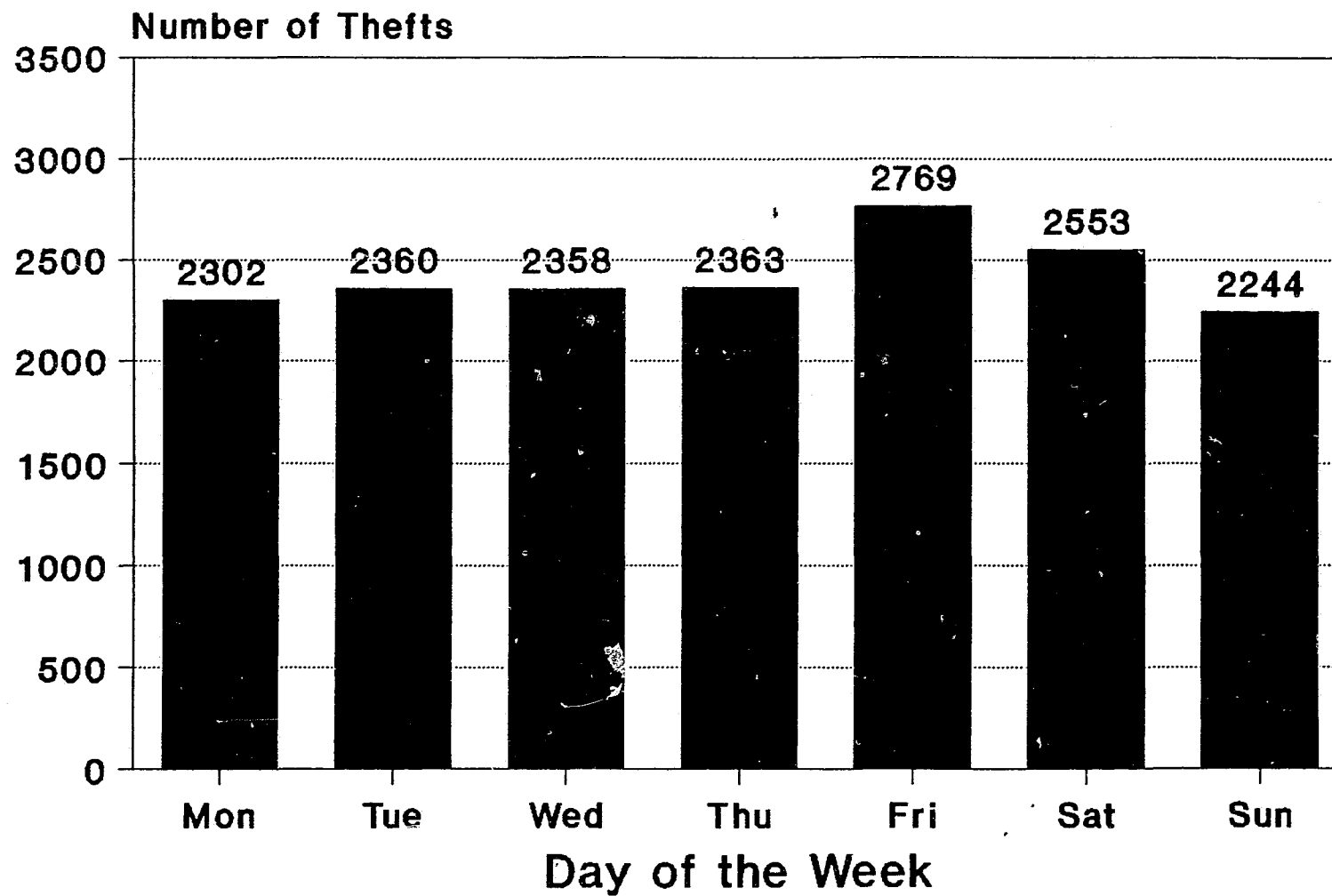
# Chart 19: THEFT Shift Pattern



Shifts

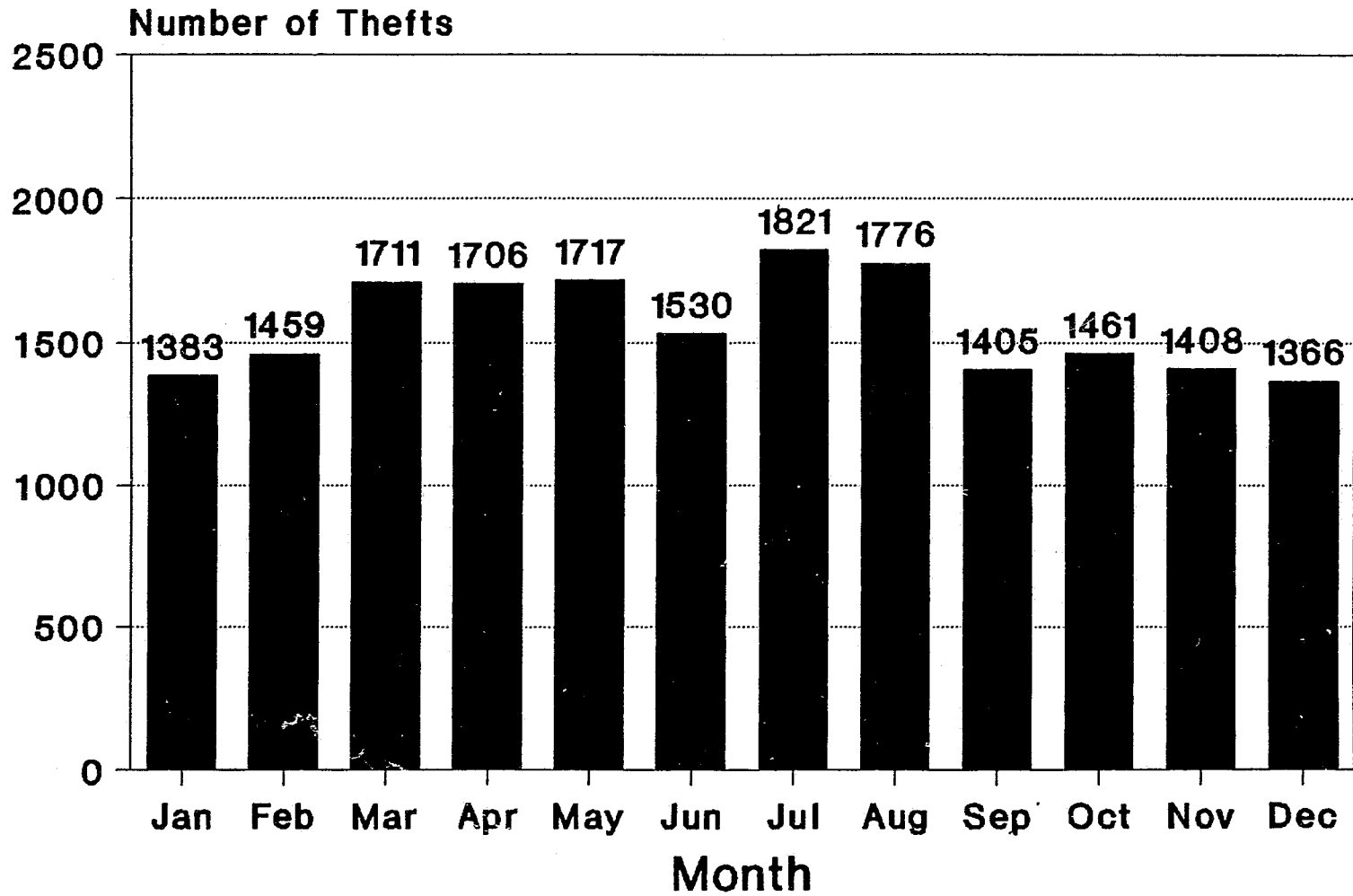
Kentucky, 1988

## Chart 20: THEFT By Day of the Week



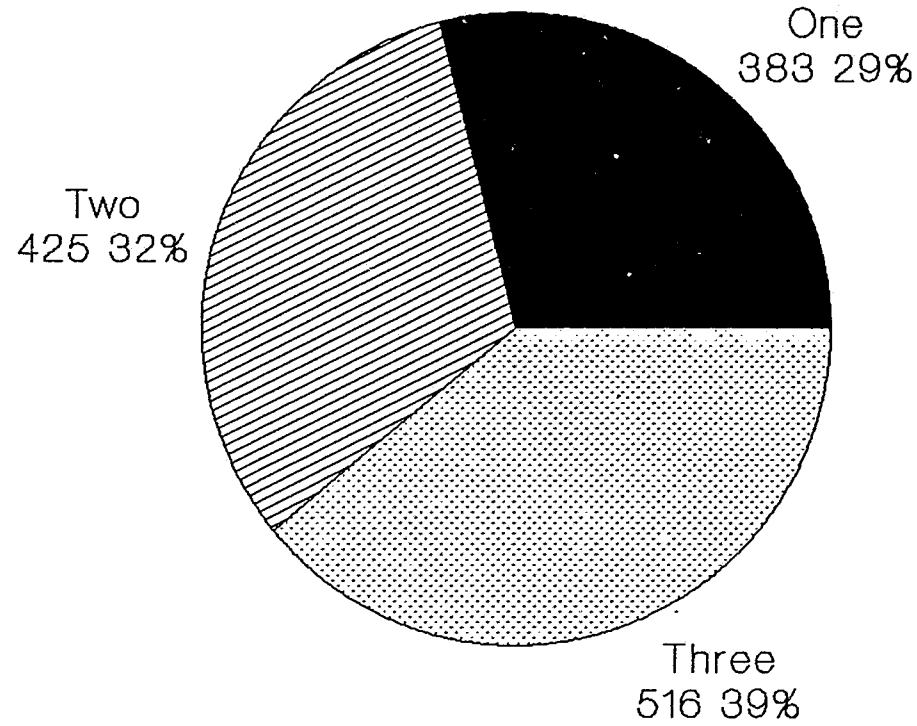
Kentucky, 1988

# Chart 21: THEFT By Month



Kentucky, 1988

# Chart 22: THEFT BY SHIFT Cumberland Valley District

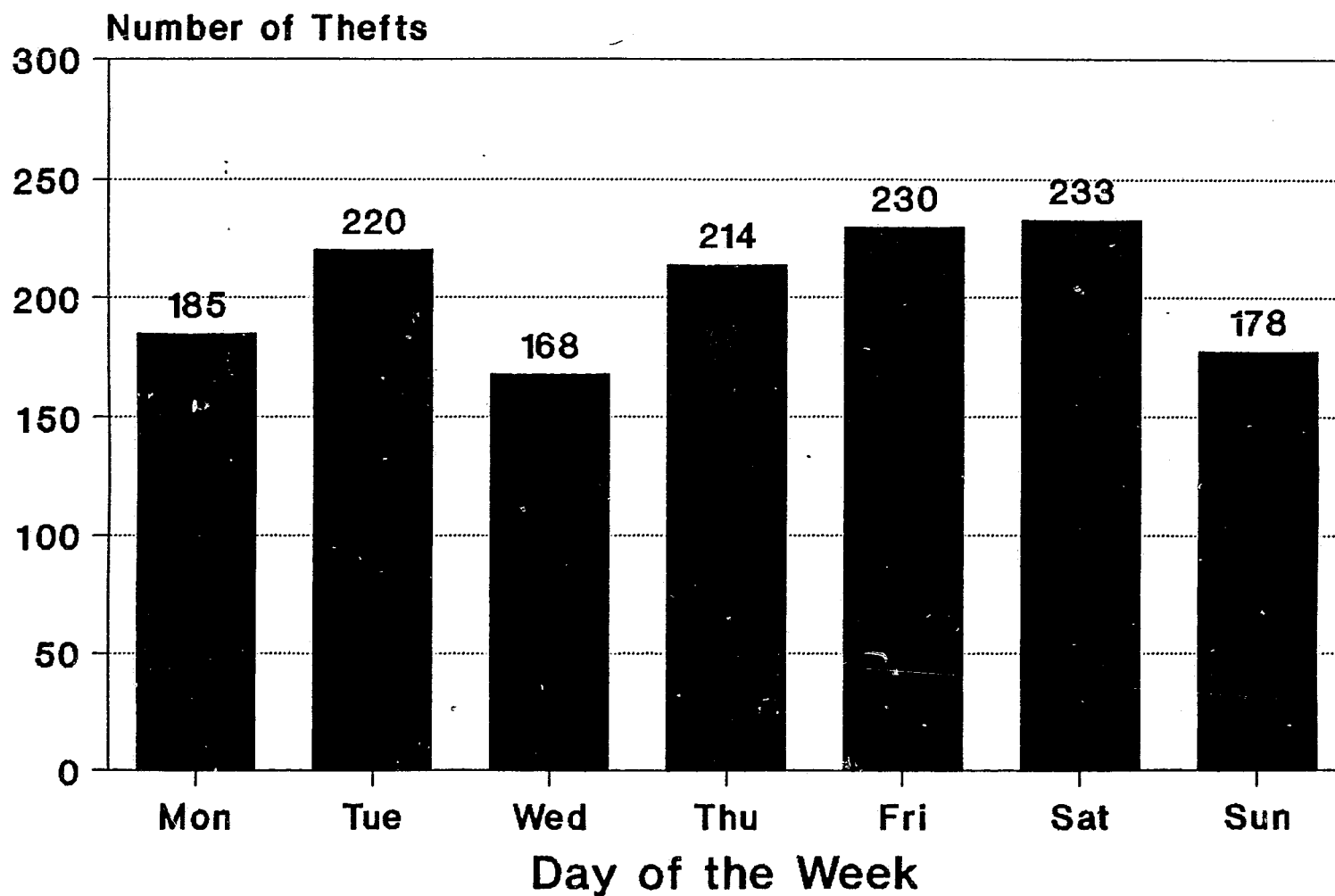


Shift Pattern

Felonies, 1988 - Rural



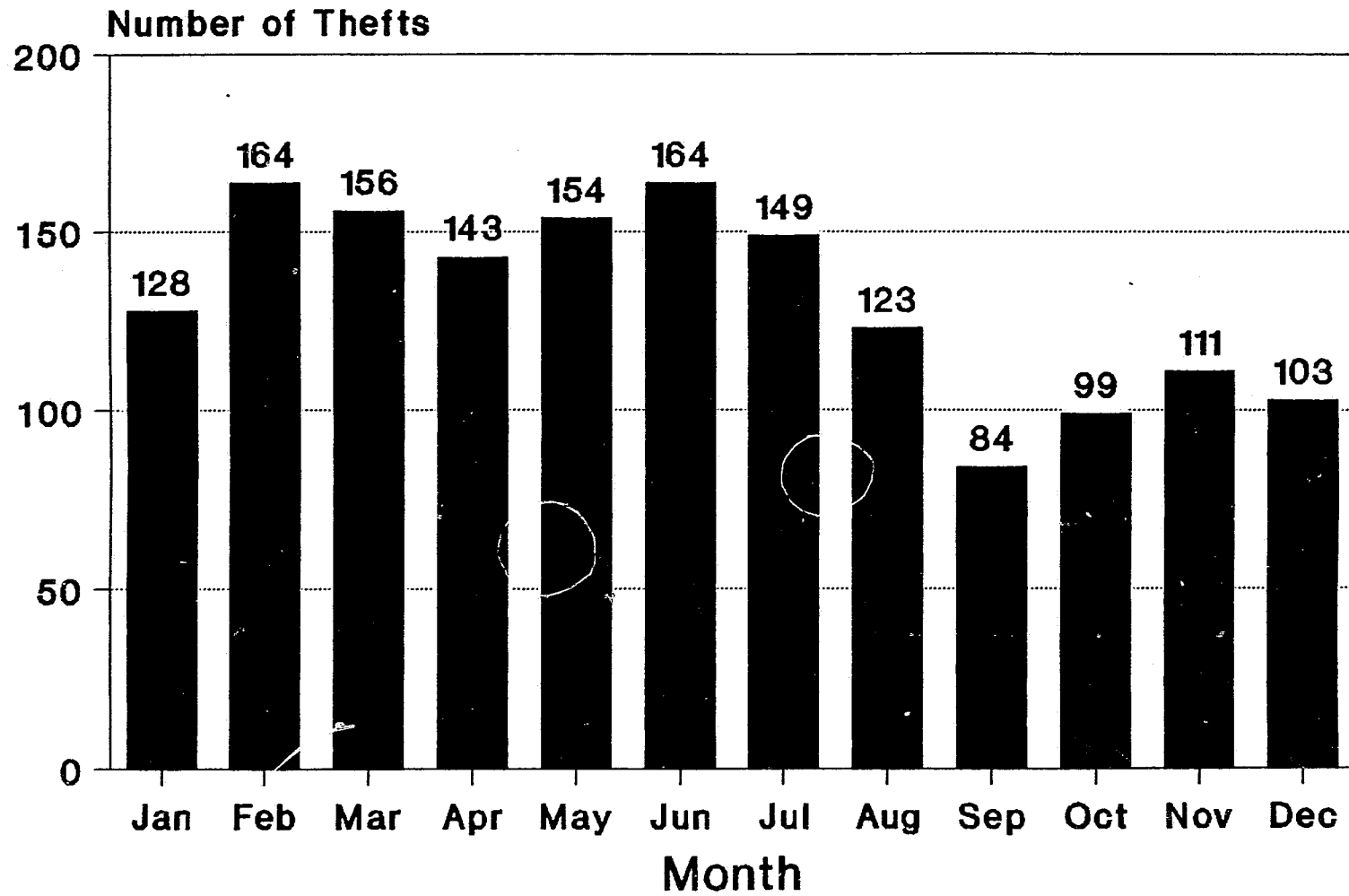
# Chart 23: THEFT BY DAY OF THE WEEK Cumberland Valley District



Felonies, 1988 - Rural

# Chart 24: THEFT BY MONTH

## Cumberland Valley District



Felonies, 1988 - Rural



that the greatest percentage of burglaries were reported on the third shift (39%), on Fridays and Saturdays, and in February and June in the Cumberland Valley District.

#### **Theft: Crime Corridors**

In Charts 25 and 26, the "crime corridor" analysis is conducted for thefts. Here, the majority of thefts were reported in counties touched by more than one major highway (6987 or 52%). As Chart 26 reveals, Kenton County accounted for 31 percent of the reported thefts (2174) within the Multiple Routes corridor.

#### **Burglary Victimization Rates**

3.8 Kentucky households in 1000 were victimized by burglary in 1988 (see Figure 1). In Chart 27, we can see that the Northern Kentucky area development district had the highest rate of burglary victimization (9.9/1000) while Kentuckiana had the lowest (1.2/1000).<sup>2</sup>

#### **Theft Victimization Rates**

5.1 Kentucky residents per 1000 were the victims of theft in 1988 (see Figure 2). Once again (Chart 28), we note that the Northern Kentucky area development district had the highest rate of victimization for theft (10.8/1000) and Kentuckiana had the lowest (3.1).

#### **Burglary Arrest Rates**

24 Kentucky residents per 100,000 were arrested for burglary in 1988 (see Figure 3).

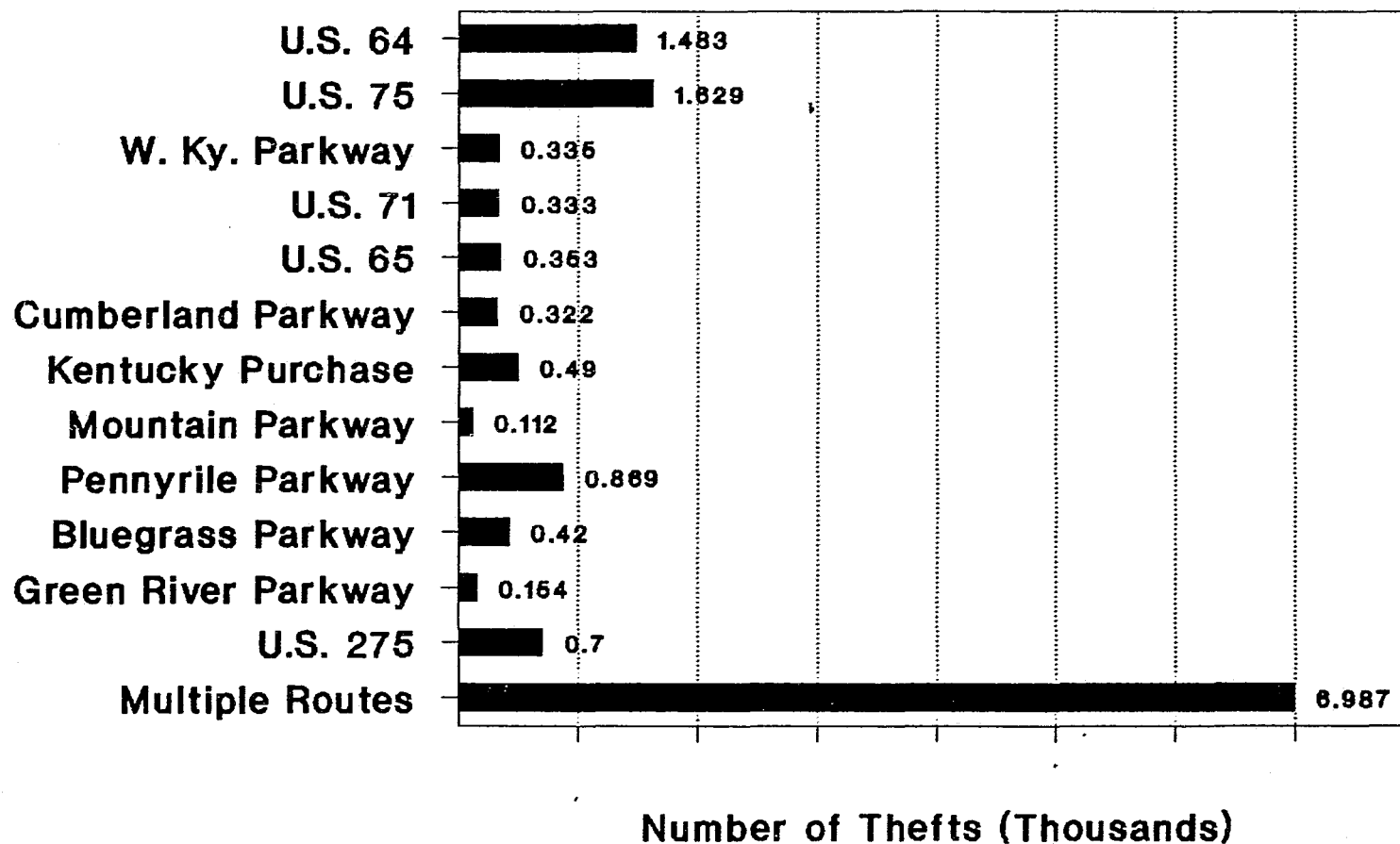
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<sup>2</sup>.However, it must be kept in mind (throughout this report) that the Kentuckiana data does not include crimes reported to the Louisville Police Department.

# Chart 25: THEFT: CRIME CORRIDORS

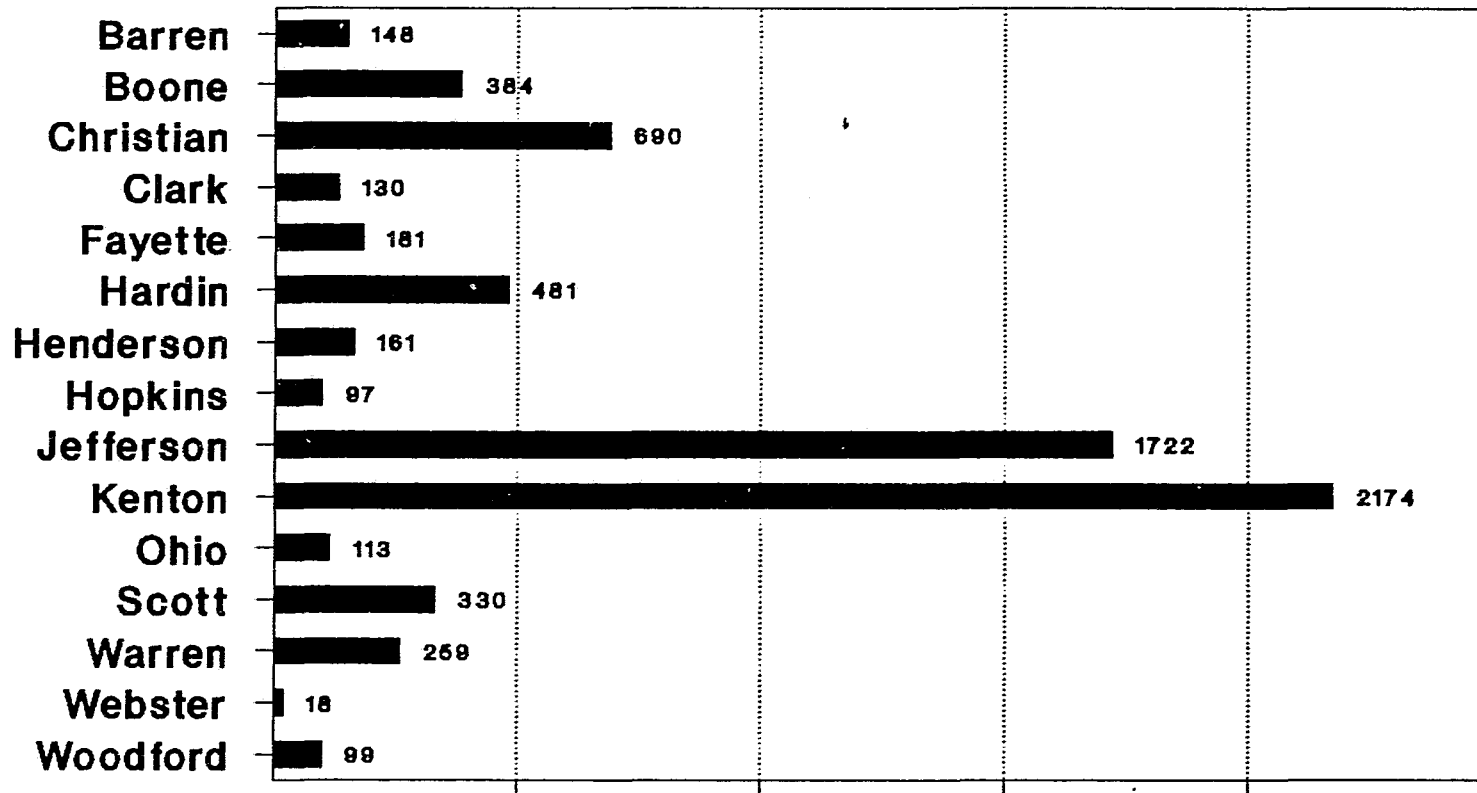
## Kentucky, 1988 (Totals)

### Traffic Routes



## Chart 26: FELONY THEFT: CRIME CORRIDORS Multiple Routes

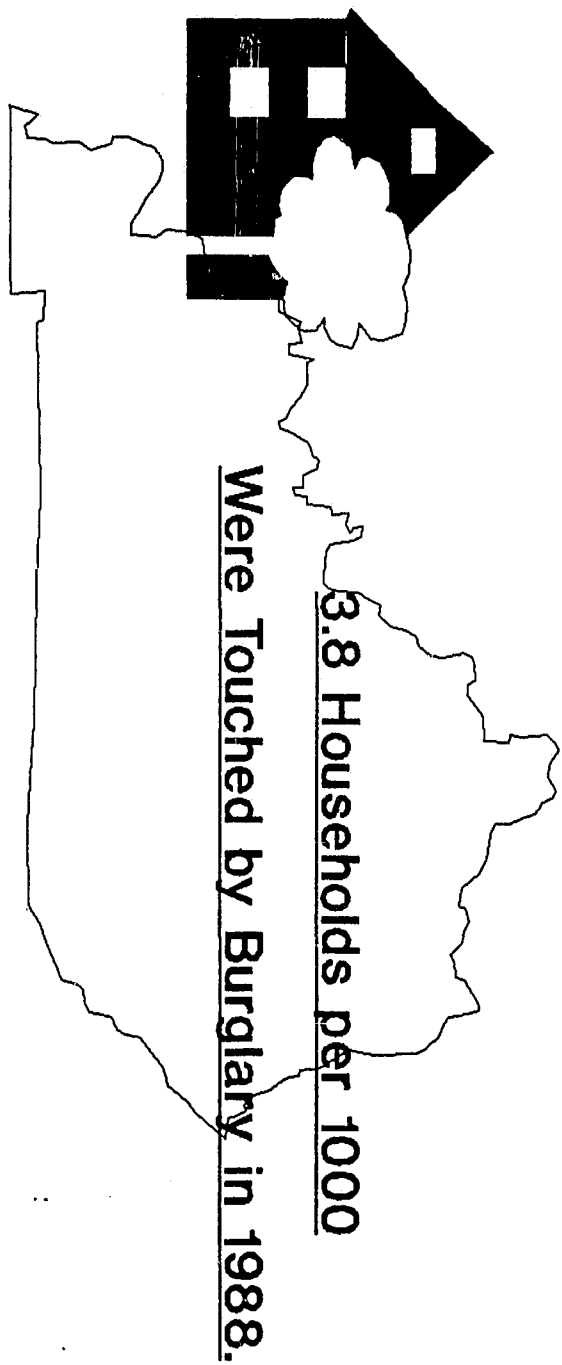
### Counties



Number of Thefts

Kentucky, 1988

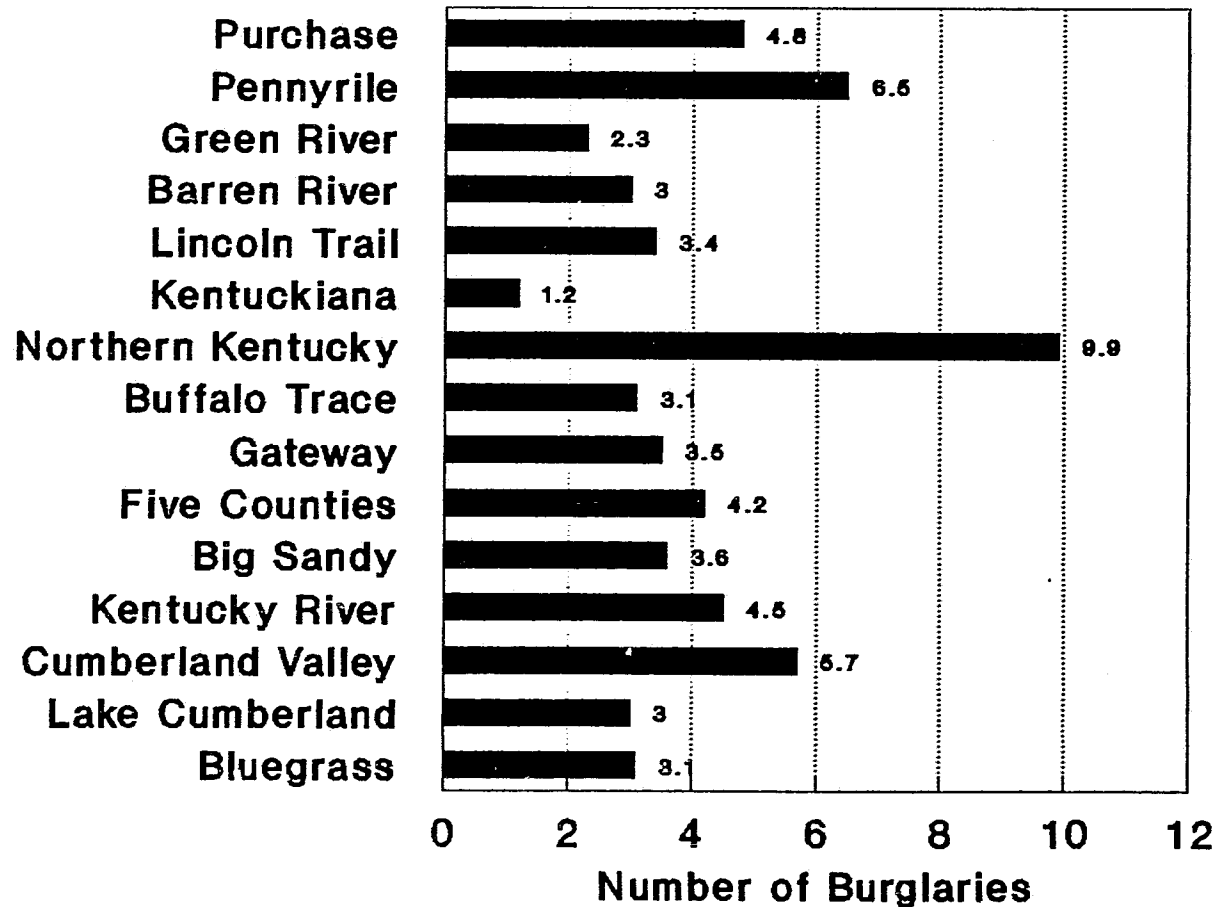
# Figure 1: BURGLARY VICTIMIZATION RATES



# Chart 27: BURGLARIES IN KENTUCKY 1988

## Rate per 1000 Households

### Area Development Districts



Forced Entry Residential

# Figure 2: THEFT VICTIMIZATION RATES

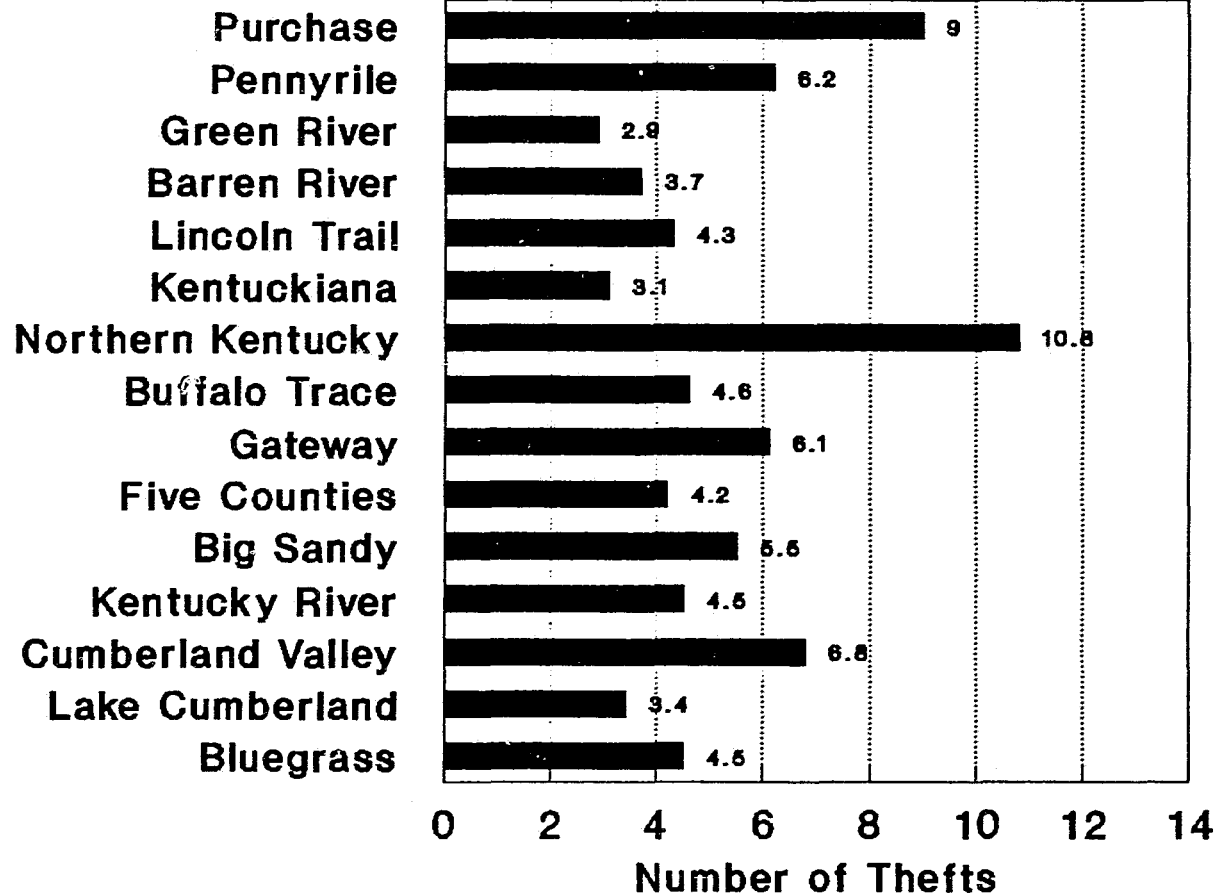
5.1 Kentucky Residents per 1000  
Were the Victims of Theft in 1988.



# Chart 28: THEFT IN KENTUCKY 1988

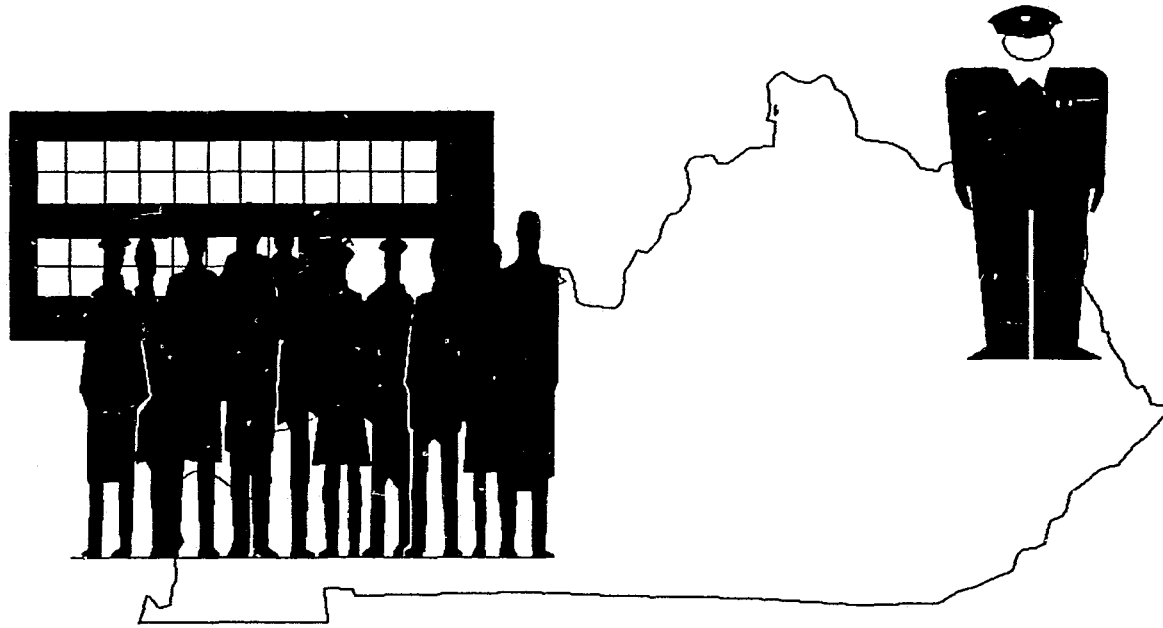
## Rate per 1000 Population

### Area Development Districts



Felonies

## Figure 3: BURGLARY ARREST RATES



24 Kentucky Residents per 100,000 Were  
Arrested for Burglary in 1988.



### **Burglary Offender Profile**

Charts 29 and 30 present data on persons arrested for burglary in Kentucky in 1988. The majority of burglary offenders were between the ages of 18 to 29 (62%); white (91%); and male (92%).

### **Theft Arrest Rates**

162 Kentucky residents per 100,000 were arrested for theft in 1988 (see Figure 4).

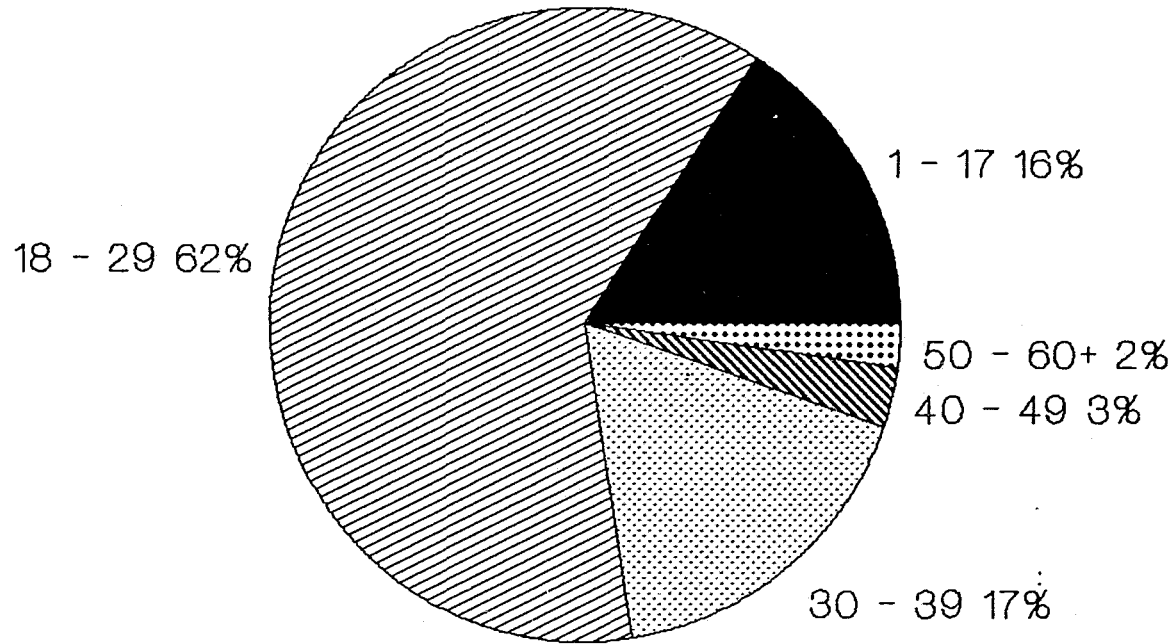
### **Theft Offender Profile**

Charts 31 and 32 present data on persons arrested for theft in Kentucky in 1988. The majority of theft arrestees were between the ages of 18 - 29 (50%); white (90%); and male (75%).

### **CONCLUSION**

The Uniform Offense Report data can provide information which could be valuable to officials at both the administrative (state) and operational (local) levels. This analysis is designed to serve as the starting point in the establishment of a long-term relationship between the Kentucky State Police, the Kentucky Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center, and the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics to analyze crime patterns in Kentucky.

# Chart 29: BURGLARY OFFENDER PROFILE By Age of the Offender



Burglary

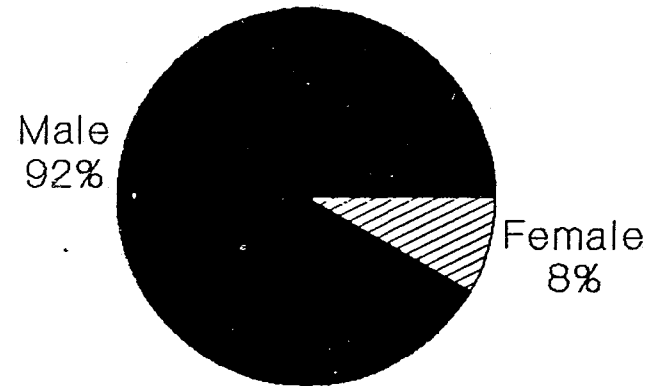
Statewide Pattern



# Chart 30: BURGLARY OFFENDER PROFILE By Race and Sex of Offender



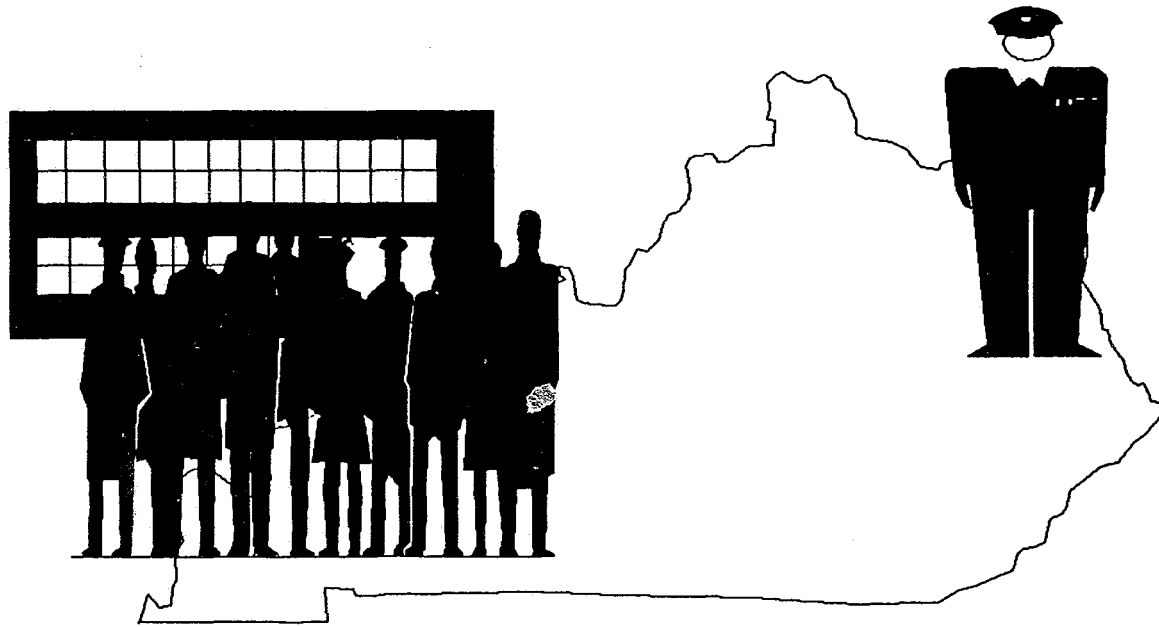
Race of Offender



Sex of Offender

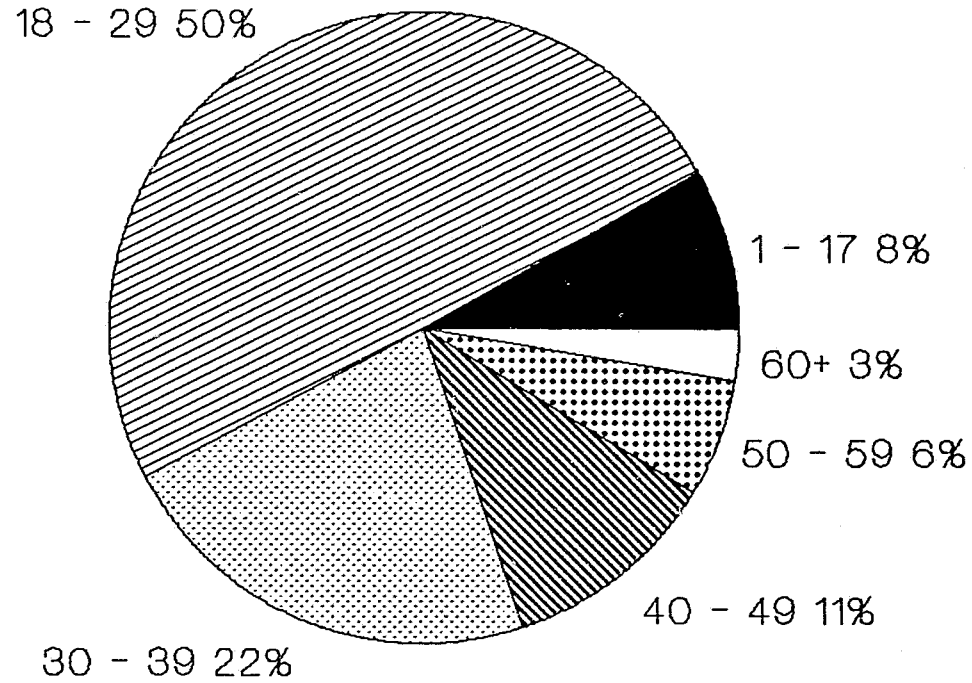
**Statewide Patterns**

## Figure 4: THEFT ARREST RATES



162 Kentucky Residents per 100,000 Were  
Arrested for Felony Theft in 1988.

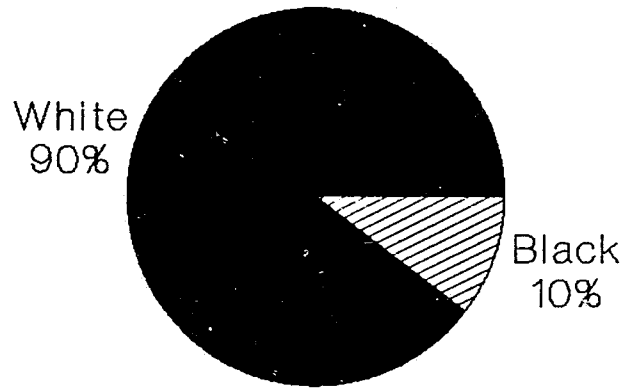
# Chart 31: THEFT OFFENDER PROFILE By Age of the Offender



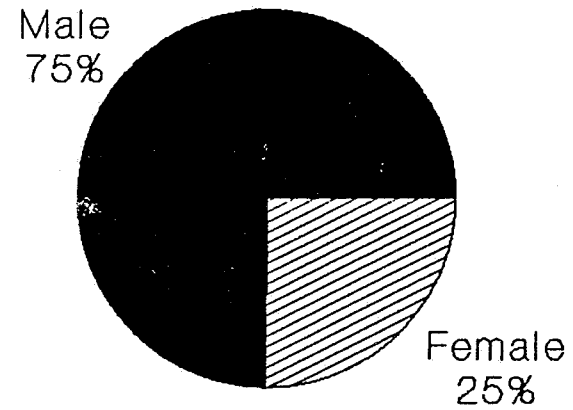
Felony Theft

**Statewide Pattern**

# Chart 32: THEFT OFFENDER PROFILE By Race and Sex of Offender



Race of Offender



Sex of Offender

**Statewide Patterns**

