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**Ashland  
Victimization Survey  
And  
Crime Prevention  
Evaluation**

1977-1979

Prepared By The  
Oregon Law Enforcement Council

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ASHLAND VICTIMIZATION SURVEY  
AND CRIME PREVENTION EVALUATION

1977 - 1979



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Ashland Victimization Survey  
and Crime Prevention Evaluation  
1977 - 1979

This report was produced under a contract with:

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SUMMARY

The overall goal of Ashland's crime prevention program has been partially achieved. For the purpose of this evaluation the change in burglary and larceny rates over the two-year period of 1977 through 1979 was defined as the percentage of households/persons experiencing one or more completed burglaries or larcenies. Although Table 1 reveals that the decline in the percentage of households burglarized from 3.4 percent in 1977 to 2.4 percent in 1979 did not attain significance, the decrease in the proportion victimized by theft from 12.7 percent to 9.5 percent is significant. There was also a significant reduction in the percentage of Ashland's citizens who were victims of the combined property crime category of burglary, larceny and auto theft (19.7% in 1977 vs. 11.5% in 1979). Significant reductions were also noted in the proportion victimized by completed and attempted violent crime (see Table 2).

Although the percentage of Ashland's residents who are aware of Ashland's crime prevention program has not increased over the two-year period, there was a nearly significant increase in the percentage of people who have engraved their property with identification numbers, and there was a significant increase in the proportion who display anti-burglary stickers.

In both the 1977 and 1979 surveys the simple precaution of making it a practice to lock all the doors and windows when leaving home proved to be closely related to the risk of being a property crime victim (see Tables 8a and 8c). Those who only "sometimes" or "rarely or never" lock their doors and windows stand a significantly greater risk of being the victim of completed or attempted property crime. In addition, making sure that all house or apartment window and door locks are operable significantly reduced the risk of victimization in the 1977 survey sample (see Table 8b). Although the same effect was evident within the 1977 sample the difference in the risk of property crime was not significantly related to the condition of household locks.

The observed reduction in the property crime over the two-year evaluation period was reflected in a significant reduction in the percentage of people

who feel they would be a victim of crime during the next year (1980) (see Table 23). This attitude of relative freedom from crime is probably as important as the actual reduction in the proportion victimized by crime, as little good is accomplished if people still feel as threatened by crime as they did in the past even though the actual rate of victimization has gone down. This relative sense of security is also evident in the change that has occurred in the respondent's rating of several community issues. Although drug and alcohol abuse is seen as being a serious problem in both survey years, concern over property and violent crime decreased in the first two years of Ashland's crime prevention program (see Table 31).

Besides the primary survey findings concerning changes in pre/post program victimization rates and participation in the crime prevention programs, this report discusses several other crime-related topics measured in the surveys, including:

- A comparison of 1977 and 1979 survey and reported (OUCR) crime.
- The risk of property crime victimization by six demographic factors.
- A comparison of 1977 and 1979 perceptions of crime and crime-related issues.
- A comparison of 1977 and 1979 monetary losses due to residential and violent crime.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In January of 1978 the Ashland Police Department began a formal crime prevention program funded through the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) and the Oregon Law Enforcement Council (OLEC). The Ashland crime prevention program continued to operate under federal, state and local funding through December 31, 1980 and presently continues through local funding.

The stated goal of the program was to significantly reduce the number of burglaries and larcenies in Ashland through a program of citizen involvement and education involving the media, community service organizations and individuals. This survey and evaluation report was completed to measure the attainment of this goal.

The evaluation of crime prevention programs conducted by police departments often rely on a simple pre-program, post-program comparison of reported crime. Unfortunately, there are potentially misleading and invalidating consequences of relying solely on reported rates as indicators of crime prevention program success. Since surveys of the general public have consistently shown that only a fraction of all crime is reported to the police, any change in the number of reported crimes might be due to 1) a change in the proportion victimized, 2) a change in the percentage of crimes reported to the police, or 3) both 1 and 2 above.

Paul Cirel, et al., in their report on Seattle's Exemplary Community Crime Prevention Project wrote that:

Program success in increasing citizen reporting of burglaries could mask (a crime prevention program's) crime reduction impact and might even produce an increase rather than decrease in burglary...since the program goals have opposite effects on police burglary data, an independent source of data is needed to assess the program's impact on burglary. Victimization surveys provide that data...(1:47).

Like most other crime prevention programs, particularly those in medium and small sized cities, Ashland's crime prevention target consisted of the city's entire residential and commercial population. Because of this city-wide emphasis and the lack of a suitable nearby city without a formal crime

prevention program to use as a control group it will not be possible to state conclusively that it was solely Ashland's crime prevention program that "caused" any decrease in property crime victimization rates, no matter how statistically significant they might be. This is because in the absence of a control city it will not be possible to measure and control for any other crime influencing changes which may have occurred concurrently with Ashland's crime prevention program.

This limitation, although serious, does not totally invalidate this evaluative effort. If significant reductions in burglary and larceny are measured between the 1977 and 1979 victimization surveys, it can at least be said that the crime prevention program was a likely contributor to that decrease.

The rates of victimization for the target crimes (burglary and larceny)--as well as motor vehicle theft, vandalism, robbery, assault and rape--have been compared between the pre-project period (1977) and two years later during an intermediate project period (1979). Also, changes in crime prevention program awareness and participation were appraised. It is anticipated that the proportion of the population affected by target crimes will decrease and knowledge of and participation in Ashland's crime prevention program will increase.

This report is one of four separate reports produced to document the effect of crime prevention programs in Ashland, Central Point and Gresham, Oregon. Milwaukie has been used as a control city for the evaluation of Gresham's program.

In March of 1978 victimization surveys were mailed to 1,000 randomly selected residences within each of the four cities to gather baseline pre-program measures of victimization, crime prevention program awareness and participation for Calendar Year 1977. Identical sampling methodology was used to determine the victimization and crime prevention awareness of the same cities for Calendar Year 1979. This report compares the results of these two surveys for the City of Ashland. (See Appendix C for a description of the sample and survey methodology.)

## II. FINDINGS

### A. Comparison of 1977 and 1979 Percentage of Victimization

#### 1. Proportion Victimized by Property Crime

Table 1 lists the ten types of completed and attempted property crime included in the 1977 (pre) and 1979 (post) surveys. Beside each crime type are listed the percentage of the households surveyed that were victimized by one or more incidents of each crime type. The last column shows the significance of the difference between the 1977 and 1979 victimization proportions.<sup>1</sup> None of the differences between the four categories of burglary proved to be significantly different between the two survey years. However, it is encouraging to note that the percentage of the population victimized by completed burglary and the number of families victimized by the combined burglary category declined in 1979.<sup>2</sup>

Motor vehicle theft increased insignificantly and the proportions victimized by attempted auto theft were identical in 1977 and 1979.

<sup>1</sup>If two sets of values expressed as averages or percentages are significantly different, this means that there is a five percent or less probability that the difference is due to chance alone. This five percent or less probability is commonly expressed as  $P < .05$ , where P represents probability and "<" indicates "less than."

<sup>2</sup>The category "burglary combined" groups the three types of burglary (property stolen, entry but nothing stolen, attempted burglary) into one group. This composite percentage is less than the addition of the percentage of victimization in the three burglary categories comprising it. This is because several of the households victimized experienced more than one type of burglary, and if counted more than once would result in an inflated proportion of victimized households. This single counting of households was done only in the case of victimization proportions, the actual number of incidents of crimes discussed in Sections C of this report counts all separate incidents whether or not they occurred within the same household.

The greatest decrease in crime in the 1979 survey occurred in theft. The probability that the 3.2 percent decrease was simply a chance fluctuation is less than 5 percent. No significant difference was noted in attempted theft. (1.6% in 1977 vs. 1.4% in 1979.)

Table 1  
Comparison of Proportions Victimized  
by Property Crime  
1977 - 1979

	1977 (N=703)	1979 (N=579)	Significance of Change
Burglary-Property Stolen	3.4%	2.4%	N.S. z = 1.05 p = .147
Burglary-Nothing Stolen	1.4%	1.6%	N.S. z = .294 p = .386
Attempted Burglary	2.4%	2.4%	N.S.
Burglary Combined	6.0%	5.5%	N.S. z = .385 p = .35
Motor Vehicle Theft	.28% <sup>a</sup>	.86% <sup>a</sup>	N.A.
Attempted Motor Vehicle Theft	1.0% <sup>a</sup>	1.0% <sup>a</sup>	N.A.
Theft	12.7%	9.5%	Significant z = 1.80 p = .04
Attempted Theft	1.6% <sup>a</sup>	1.4% <sup>a</sup>	N.A.
Vandalism	13.9%	14.0%	N.S.
Attempted Vandalism	2.0%	1.0% <sup>a</sup>	N.A.

<sup>a</sup>Proportions based on less than 10 incidents, no test of significance was made.

The proportions affected by vandalism and attempted vandalism showed little difference, 13.9 percent vs 14.0 percent and 2.0 percent vs 1.0 percent in 1977 and 1979, respectively.

Table 2 lists the proportion of Ashland's households victimized by four combined property crime categories. This grouping was done to measure the extent of change in all residential property crime between the two survey periods. When the households victimized by completed burglary, theft, auto theft and vandalism are combined there results a near 3 percent decrease in all surveyed property crimes since the beginning of Ashland's crime prevention program.<sup>3</sup> Although this drop is not large enough to attain strict statistical significance, it came close. All attempted property crime decreased insignificantly, 6.0 percent in 1977, and 5.9 percent in 1979.

When vandalism is excluded from the combined property crime category the resulting decrease in crime is significant.<sup>4</sup> This significant decline in property crime is largely a result of the significant decrease in theft, noted above. Because vandalism constitutes the biggest proportion of property crimes, and since its incidence changed little over the two survey years, by removing vandalism from the combined property crime group the remaining decrease in burglary and theft was enough to significantly reduce the percentage of victimization in the post-survey.

<sup>3</sup> The probability that the decrease in all property crimes was due to chance alone is only 9 percent (p = .09, z = 1.35).

<sup>4</sup> p = .047, z = 1.68



Table 2

Comparison of Combined Property and  
Violent Crime Categories  
1977 - 1979

	1977 (N=703)	1979 (N=579)	Significance of Change
Completed Property Crimes <sup>a</sup>	24.2%	21.3%	N.S. z = 1.35 p = .09
Attempted Property Crimes <sup>b</sup>	6.6%	5.9%	N.S. z = .515 p = .30
Completed Property Crimes Excluding Vandalism	14.7%	11.5%	Significant z = 1.68 p = .047
Attempted Property Crimes Excluding Attempted Vandalism	5.1%	5.2%	N.S. z = .081 p = .468
Completed Violent Crimes <sup>c</sup>	2.6%	1.3%	Significant z = 1.65 p = .05
Attempted Violent Crimes <sup>d</sup>	5.7%	2.9%	Significant z = 2.41 p = .008

<sup>a</sup> Includes burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and vandalism

<sup>b</sup> Includes attempts of the crimes listed above

<sup>c</sup> Includes robbery, assault with body, assault with weapon, and rape

<sup>d</sup> Includes attempts of the crimes listed above

2. Proportion Victimized by Violent Crime

Significantly fewer violent crimes were disclosed on the post-survey (1979).<sup>5</sup> Fortunately, violent crime is a relatively uncommon event in Ashland. In 1977, 2.6 percent of the population of Ashland aged 15 and over were victims of violent crime. In 1979, this figure fell to 1.3 percent.<sup>6</sup> Violent crime can leave permanent physical and emotional scars and any reduction in the number of victims is a welcome sign.

Likewise, the 2.8 percent drop in attempted violent crime represents a highly significant reduction in the percentage of Ashland's population victimized by attempted violent crime.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>5</sup>p = .05, z = 1.65

<sup>6</sup>Although on the surface a 1.3 percent drop hardly seems significant, when this percentage is translated into absolute numbers of victims the magnitude of the decrease becomes apparent. When the 1977 violent crime victimization percentage of 2.6 percent is multiplied by the approximate number of people aged 15 and over:  $11,506 \times .026 = 297$  victims result. However, if the same is done for the 1.3 percent victimized in 1979:  $12,098 \times .013 = 157$  victims result. This represents a 47.5 percent reduction in the projected number of victims ( $299 - 157 = \frac{142}{299} = 47.5\%$ ).

<sup>7</sup>p = .008, z = 2.41

Table 3  
Comparison of Proportions Victimized  
by Violent Crimes  
1977 - 1979

	1977 (N=703)	1979 (N=579)	Significance of Change
Robbery	.142%	.173%	N.A. <sup>a</sup>
Attempted Robbery	0	.345%	N.A. <sup>a</sup>
Assault w/Weapon	.285%	0	N.A. <sup>a</sup>
Attempted Assault w/Weapon	1.1%	0	N.A. <sup>a</sup>
Assault w/Body	2.1%	1.2%	N.A. <sup>a</sup>
Attempted Assault w/Body	4.0%	2.8%	N.S. z = 1.36 p = .09
Rape	.142%	.173%	N.A. <sup>a</sup>
Attempted Rape	.427%	.173%	N.A. <sup>a</sup>
All Completed Violent Crime	2.6%	1.3%	Significant z = 1.65 p = .05
Attempted Violent Crime	5.7%	2.9%	Significant z = 2.41 p = .008

<sup>a</sup> Proportions derived from less than ten victims. Tests of significance were done only on those crime types where there were at least 10 victims in each of the samples.

B. Comparison of 1977 and 1979 Survey Crime Incidence<sup>8</sup>

Since the survey sample sizes were different (1977: N = 703, 1979: N = 579) it was necessary to equate or normalize the two surveys prior to comparing the number of crime incidents. To correct for the unequal sample sizes the number of crimes of each crime type were compared on the basis of the number of crimes per 1,000 households for the property crimes and 1,000 persons for the personal crimes.

Table 4 lists the number of crimes per 1,000 households in Ashland occurring in 1977 and 1979. Two categories of burglary show declining rates--completed burglary and burglary, nothing stolen. Attempted burglary increased by 4.1 attempts per 1,000 households during 1979.

Table 4  
Comparison of 1977 - 1979 Household Crime  
Victimization Rates  
(Number of Incidents per 1,000 Households)

Crime Type	Rate per 1,000 Households		Change in Rate Per 1,000 Households
	1977	1979	
Completed Burglary	38.4	24.2	-14.2
Burglary-Nothing Stolen	21.3	19.0	-2.3
Attempted Burglary	27.0	31.1	+4.1
Motor Vehicle Theft	4.3	10.4	+6.1
Attempted Motor Vehicle Theft	10.0	12.1	+2.1
Vandalism	197.7	209.3	+11.6
Attempted Vandalism	31.3	13.8	-17.5

<sup>8</sup>The preceding sections dealt with the percentage of the survey respondents victimized one or more times--the fact that some people were victims of more than one incident of the same crime was ignored. This section, however, does count the actual number of incidents and equates for differences in the two sample sizes by projecting the number of crimes per 1,000 households for burglary, auto theft and vandalism and the number of crimes per 1,000 persons aged 15 and over for violent crimes and theft.

Both completed and attempted motor vehicle theft showed slight increases (+6.1 and +2.1 crimes per 1,000 households, respectively). Vandalism increased by 11.6 incidents while attempted vandalism decreased by 17.5 incidents per 1,000 households.

Table 5 compares the change in the personal crime rate between 1977 and 1979. Robbery incidents declined by 1.2 per 1,000 people aged 15 and older while attempted robbery incidents increased by 3.5 per 1,000. There was an encouraging decrease in the number of completed and attempted assaults with weapons and decreases in the number of completed and attempted assaults with body. The incidence of rape showed mixed change, with completed rapes increasing slightly (up .7 incidents per 1,000 population) and attempted rapes decreasing by 5 attempted crimes per 1,000 persons.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup>The incidence of personal crime is a relatively rare event compared to more common property crime. The reader should be aware that with the exception of 1977's rate of attempted assault with a weapon and completed and attempted assault with body, all other personal crime rates in both surveys are based on fewer than 10 survey-disclosed incidents. Because of this relatively low frequency these crime rates may not be reliable.

Table 5

Comparison of 1977 - 1979 Personal Crime Victimization Rates  
(Per 1,000 Persons Aged 15 and Over)

Crime Type	Rate per 1,000 Persons		Change in Rate Per 1,000 Persons
	1977	1979	
Robbery	2.9 <sup>a</sup>	1.7 <sup>a</sup>	-1.2
Attempted Robbery	0	3.5 <sup>a</sup>	+3.5
Assault-Weapon	2.9 <sup>a</sup>	0 <sup>a</sup>	-2.9
Attempted Assault-Weapon	15.7	0 <sup>a</sup>	-15.7
Assault-Body	39.8	12.1	-27.7
Attempted Assault-Body	69.7	31.1	-38.6
Rape	2.8 <sup>a,b</sup>	3.5 <sup>a,b</sup>	+ .7
Attempted Rape	8.5 <sup>a,b</sup>	3.5 <sup>a,b</sup>	-5.0
Theft	177.8	143.6	-34.2
Attempted Theft	18.5	15.5	-3.0

<sup>a</sup>Rate based on fewer than 10 survey-disclosed crime incidents

<sup>b</sup>Rate based on total population, males and females

C. Comparison of 1977 and 1979 Survey and OUCR Crime Incidents<sup>10</sup>

Table 6 lists and compares the number of incidents of completed crimes by type with the number of completed crimes reported to the Oregon Uniform Crime Reporting System (OUCR). Columns 1 and 3 show the number of survey-projected crimes occurring in Ashland during 1977 and 1979. These projected values were derived by multiplying the number of incidents disclosed in the surveys by either a household crime factor or an individual crime factor depending upon the type of crime.<sup>11</sup> Columns 2 and 4 list the number of crimes reported by the police to the OUCR system.

Column 5 shows the percent change in the number of survey-projected crimes experienced in 1977 and 1979, while Column 6 lists the percent change in the number of crimes known to the police (OUCR).

The totals at the bottom of Table 6 reveal a 16 percent overall increase in OUCR crimes and a 10 percent decrease in survey-projected crimes over the same two year period. This might be due to a combination of two factors. One reason is change in both the survey and OUCR crime incidence due to measurement error in both the survey and OUCR figures. The second cause may be due to an increase in the reporting of crimes to the police while the actual incidence of all crime, both reported and unreported as revealed in the surveys, has decreased in Ashland between 1977 and 1979.

<sup>10</sup>Oregon Uniform Crime Report

<sup>11</sup>The survey-projected frequency of all crimes was obtained by multiplying the survey frequency for each of these crime type by the factors listed in Appendix B.

Table 6  
Comparison of 1977 - 1979 Survey Projected and  
OUCR<sup>a</sup> Crime Incidence

	Col.1 1977 Survey	Col.2 1977 OUCR	Col.3 1979 Survey	Col.4 1979 OUCR	Col.5 77-79 Survey % Change	Col.6 77-79 OUCR % Change
Residential Burglary <sup>b</sup>	204	62	150	73	-26%	+18%
Theft <sup>c</sup>	2,046	517	1,734	602	-15%	+16%
Motor Vehicle Theft <sup>d</sup>	23 <sup>g</sup>	32	64 <sup>g</sup>	26	+178%	-19%
Vandalism <sup>e</sup>	1,050	257	1,293	290	+23%	+13%
Assault	491	31	146	52	-70%	+68%
Robbery	16 <sup>g</sup>	5	42 <sup>g</sup>	2	+163%	-60%
Rape <sup>f</sup>	16 <sup>g</sup>	1	21 <sup>g</sup>	3	+13%	+200%
Total	3,846	905	3,450	1,048	-10%	+16%

<sup>a</sup>Oregon Uniform Crime Report

<sup>b</sup>Excludes commercial and attempted burglaries

<sup>c</sup>Excludes shoplifting and theft from coin operated machines

<sup>d</sup>Includes an unknown number of thefts involving commercially owned and/or operated vehicles

<sup>e</sup>Includes an unknown number of vandalism involving commercial property

<sup>f</sup>Excludes attempted rape

<sup>g</sup>Projected incidents based on fewer than 10 survey-disclosed crimes; therefore, these survey projections may be unreliable

D. Comparison of 1977 and 1979 Crime Prevention Program Awareness and Participation

In 1977, 41.6 percent of Ashland's citizens were aware of the crime prevention program. In 1979, only one-tenth of one percent more know of the program (41.7%). Table 7 compares responses to several questions which increase the level of crime prevention program awareness and practice. Comparison of the responses to Item 1 on Table 7 illustrates that little change has occurred in the percentage of people who know of the program.

The second item in Table 7 indicates that of those sources of contact included on both the pre- and post-survey a significantly greater proportion of the population have learned of the program through word of mouth.

Only small percentages of people have learned of the program through direct contact with the crime prevention officer, meetings, or through the use of crime prevention program services such as security surveys and the use of household light timing devices and property engravers.

Responses to Item 3 show that 19.5 percent of the population of Ashland have had direct contact with Ashland's crime prevention program through contact other than the news media.

The analysis of responses to Item 4 of Table 7 revealed no significant changes in the percentage of people who lock their doors and windows when leaving home. In 1979, exactly two-thirds of the citizens of Ashland "always" locked their house doors and windows, representing a 2.3 percent increase over the 1977 percentage.

Responses to Item 5 show several changes. First, there has been a significant drop in the percentage of people who "usually" close and lock their garage door. However, this is compensated for by a significant decrease in the proportion of people who "rarely or never" lock their garage door. There was also a significant increase in the percentage of citizens who do not have garages.

Except for significant increases in the proportion of people who do not own or drive vehicles, there has been no significant changes in the percentage of people who lock their car doors when parked near or away from home (see Items 6 and 7, Table 7).

Two of the most encouraging findings in the comparison of crime prevention responses are a nearly significant increase in the percentage of people who have engraved most of their valuable property,<sup>12</sup> and a significant increase in the proportion of people who display anti-burglary stickers or decals.<sup>13</sup>

Nearly identical percentages of respondents' homes are equipped with operable door and window locks (88.6% and 89.6%).

The greatest difference occurred in the question dealing with the ownership of firearms. The 1979 survey revealed a very significant decrease in the percentage of people owning and using a firearm for recreation and for the protection of themselves, their family or property.<sup>14</sup>

In both the 1977 and 1979 surveys only a very small proportion of households have operating burglar alarm systems (1.7% and 2.1%).

<sup>12</sup>p = .104

<sup>13</sup>p = .043

<sup>14</sup>p = .0001 and p = .0375, respectively

Table 7  
Comparison of Crime Prevention Program  
Awareness and Participation  
1977 - 1979

	1977 (N=703)	1979 (N=579)	Significance of Change
1. Are you aware of Ashland's Crime Prevention Program?			
Yes	41.6%	41.7%	N.S.
No	58.4%	58.3%	N.S.
2. Source of Contact			
Radio and TV	36.0%	38.2%	N.S.
Word of Mouth	14.6%	18.0%	p = .05
Block Meeting	1.2%	.9%	N.S.
Rape Prevention Meeting	N.A. <sup>a</sup>	3.0%	N.A.
Security Survey	N.A. <sup>a</sup>	2.4%	N.A.
Checked Out Light Timing Device	N.A. <sup>a</sup>	3.3%	N.A.
Checked Out Engraving Tool	N.A. <sup>a</sup>	6.7%	N.A.
Obtained Anti-Burglary Warning Decals	N.A. <sup>a</sup>	3.0%	N.A.
C.P. Officer	3.7%	5.2%	N.S.
Other Source	4.8%	3.8%	N.S.

<sup>a</sup>These response categories were not included on the 1977 survey

	1977	1979 (N=429)	Significance of Change
3. Time of First Direct Contact <sup>b</sup>			
a. None	N.A.	81.5%	N.A.
b. 1 to 6 Months	N.A.	4.9%	N.A.
c. 7 to 12 Months Ago	N.A.	1.4%	N.A.
d. 13 to 18 Months Ago	N.A.	1.4%	N.A.
e. 19 to 24 Months Ago	N.A.	2.3%	N.A.
f. Over 24 Months	N.A.	3.3%	N.A.
g. Can't Recall	N.A.	5.5%	N.A.
Total		100.0%	

<sup>b</sup>Contact other than through the news media

Table 7 (Cont'd.)

	1977 (N=688)	1979 (N=557)	Significance of Change
4. Do you lock all your house or apartment doors and windows when no one is home?			
a. Always	64.3%	66.6%	N.S.
b. Usually	17.8%	18.1%	N.S.
c. Sometimes	8.4%	8.1%	N.S.
d. Rarely or never	8.5%	7.1%	N.S.
e. Doesn't apply, always someone home	.9%	0	N.S.
5. Do you keep your garage door(s) closed and locked as a matter of course?	1977 (N=679)	1979 (N=551)	Significance of Change
a. Always	33.6%	33.7%	N.S.
b. Usually	15.5	10.2%	(z = 2.74) p = .003
c. Sometimes	5.5%	4.1%	N.S.
d. Rarely or never	13.1%	9.8%	(z = 1.80) p = .024
e. Doesn't apply	32.4%	42.2%	(z = 3.54) p = .0002
6. Do you lock your vehicle doors when leaving the vehicle parked near your home?	1977 (N=679)	1979 (N=562)	Significance of Change
a. Always	41.5%	40.8%	N.S.
b. Usually	19.4%	17.5%	N.S.
c. Sometimes	12.2%	12.7%	N.S.
d. Rarely or never	26.3%	26.4%	N.S.
e. Doesn't apply	.6%	2.6%	(z = -2.88) p = .002
7. Do you lock your vehicle doors when leaving the vehicle parked away from home?	1977 (N=685)	1979 (N=567)	Significance of Change
a. Always	59.2%	59.1%	N.S.
b. Usually	21.8%	20.2%	N.S.
c. Sometimes	11.7%	11.5%	N.S.
d. Rarely or Never	6.7%	6.7%	N.S.
e. Doesn't apply, don't drive a vehicle	.6%	2.4%	p = .005

Table 7 (Cont'd.)

	1977 (N=681)	1979 (N=555)	Significance of Change
8. Have you engraved most of your valuable property with identification numbers?			
Yes	12.5%	14.9%	p = .104
No	87.5%	85.1%	p = .104
	1977 (N=676)	1979 (N=546)	Significance of Change
9. Do you use anti-burglary stickers or decals?			
Yes	3.8%	5.9%	p = .043
No	96.2%	94.1%	p = .043
	1977 (N=679)	1979 (N=539)	Significance of Change
10. Are all of your door and window locks operable?			
Yes	88.6%	89.6%	N.S.
No	11.4%	10.4%	N.S.
	1977 (N=703)	1979 (N=579)	Significance of Change
11. Do you have a firearm in your home for:			
Yes, Recreation	49.1%	32.3%	p = .0001
Yes, Protection	13.9%	10.5%	p = .0375
Yes, Occupation	1.7%	1.5%	N.S.
Yes, Other Reasons	1.6%	.2%	N.S.
12. Do you have an operating burglar alarm system in your home or apartment?			
Yes	1.7%	2.1%	N.S.
No	94.5%	94.5%	N.S.
Unknown	3.7%	3.4%	N.S.

For both 1977 and 1979, responses to all crime prevention items were cross tabulated with property crime victimization to assess the association between crime prevention knowledge and practice and the risk of being a victim of a property crime. Only two crime prevention items were significantly related to the probability of being a victim. Table 8a shows that only 15.1 percent of those who "always" or "usually" lock their house doors and windows were victims during 1977. However, for those who only "sometimes" or "rarely or never" lock their house windows and doors 22.8 percent and 29.2 percent, respectively, were victims of property crime in 1977. In addition, Table 8b shows there is nearly double the risk of being a victim of a property crime if all household window and door locks are not in working order. Of those with good locks, 15.6 percent were victims, while 27.7 percent of those homes and apartments with defective locks were victimized.

In an identical analysis of the 1979 survey a similar relationship existed between risk of property victimization and the locking of houses. Of those who "always" or "usually" lock their house doors and windows 15 percent and 10 percent were victims, respectively. But of those who only "sometimes" or "rarely or never" lock their homes 29.3 percent and 11.8 percent respectively were victims. Although Table 8c shows that this relationship is not linear, there is not a steady increase in victimization risk as the locking of doors and windows decreases, it does reveal that there is two or three times the likelihood of property crime for those who only "sometimes" lock their homes.

In the 1979 survey there was another significant but mixed relationship between the locking of vehicle doors when parked near home and the risk of property crime. Table 8d lists the following risk of victimization for each category of locking vehicle doors: Always--17.5 percent; Usually--6.8 percent; Sometimes--21.8 percent; Rarely or Never--15.1 percent. As might be expected, the highest risk of property crime exists for those who only "sometimes" lock the car doors. However, there is an unexpectedly high risk of property crime to those who "always" lock their car doors (17.5%) and a similar risk of property crime for those who "rarely or never" lock their car doors (15.1%). This finding is conflicting, since it would be expected that those who "rarely or never" lock the vehicle doors would be victimized more often than those who do lock their car doors.

Table 8a

Significant Associations Between Crime Prevention Methods  
and Property Crime Victimization  
(1977 Survey)

How often do you lock all the doors and windows of your home  
when you are leaving and no one is home?

		Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely or Never	Total
Property Crime Victim <sup>a</sup>	No	N=375 84.8%	N=104 84.9%	N= 45 77.2%	N= 41 70.8%	565
	Yes	N= 67 15.1%	N= 18 15.1%	N= 13 22.8%	N= 17 29.2%	115
Total		442	122	58	58	680

Chi Square = 8.966, p .05

<sup>a</sup>Includes victims of completed and/or attempted property crimes, excluding vandalism.

Table 8b

Are all the window and door locks in your home  
or apartment operable?

		Yes	No
Property Crime Victim <sup>a</sup>	No	N=508 84.4%	N= 56 72.3%
	Yes	N= 94 15.6%	N= 22 27.7%

Corrected Chi Square = 6.358, p = .0117

<sup>a</sup>Includes victims of completed and/or attempted property crimes, excluding vandalism.

Table 8c  
(1979 Survey)

How often do you lock all the doors and  
windows to your home when you are leaving  
and no one is home?

		Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely or Never
Property Crime Victim <sup>a</sup>	No	N=315 85.0%	N= 91 90.0%	N= 32 70.7%	N= 35 88.2%
	Yes	N= 55 15.0%	N= 10 10.0%	N= 13 29.3%	N= 5 11.8%

Chi Square = 9.593, p = .0224

<sup>a</sup>Includes victims of completed and/or attempted property crimes, excluding vandalism.

Table 8d  
(1979 Survey)

How often do you lock your vehicle doors when  
leaving the vehicle parked near your home?

		Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely or Never
Property Crime Victim <sup>a</sup>	No	N=189 82.5%	N= 92 92.9%	N= 56 79.9%	N=126 85.1%
	Yes	N= 29 17.5%	N= 7 7.1%	N= 15 21.1%	N= 22 14.9%

Chi Square = 8.508, p = .0366

<sup>a</sup>Includes victims of completed and/or attempted property crimes, excluding vandalism.



E. Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Demographic Characteristics

This section examines the risk of property crime victimization for Ashland residents according to citizen's membership in six demographic categories; sex, age, ethnicity, income, education, and household size. For purposes of this analysis victimization risk is defined as the percentage of people in each subcategory within each demographic factor who experienced one or more property crimes during 1977 and 1979.

1. Risk of Property Victimization by Sex

Table 9 shows that for both 1977 and 1979 a greater percentage of men experienced property crime than did women, however, in neither year did this difference attain significance. Table 10 indicates that when vandalism is removed from consideration insignificant differences in victimization risk are again obtained. In 1977 men showed a 4 percent greater risk (19.1% vs. 15.1%) while in 1979 this pattern was reversed with women showing a 2.8 percent greater risk of victimization by burglary, auto theft, and theft.

Table 9

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Sex

	Male	Female	Significance
	(243)	(278)	
1977 % Nonvictims	73.7%	78.3%	
	(87)	(77)	N.S.
1977 % Victims	26.3%	21.7%	p = .19
-----			
	(202)	(235)	
1979 % Nonvictims	75.2%	81.5%	
	(67)	(53)	N.S.
1979 % Victims	24.8%	18.5%	p = .09

Table 10

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Sex (Excluding Vandalism)<sup>a</sup>

	Male	Female	Significance
	(266)	(301)	
1977 % Nonvictims	80.9%	84.9%	
	(63)	(53)	N.S.
1977 % Victims	19.1%	15.1%	p = .187
-----			
	(232)	(241)	
1979 % Nonvictims	86.4%	83.6%	
	(36)	(47)	N.S.
1979 % Victims	13.6%	16.4%	p = .4264

<sup>a</sup>This category of crime includes completed and attempted acts of burglary, theft and motor vehicle theft. Vandalism was excluded.

2. Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Age

The age of the victim is more strongly and consistently associated with the risk of property crime victimization than is any of the other socioeconomic factors considered. In both surveys and for both property crime and property crime excluding vandalism, age is linearly related to the risk of victimization. The greatest risk of victimization occurs within the youngest age group (15-29 years) and decreases with each of the older age groups. The difference in the risk of victimization between age groups is significant for both survey years and for both categories of property crime (see Tables 11 and 12).

Table 11

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Age

	15-29 yrs.	30-44 yrs.	45-64 yrs.	65 + yrs.	Significance
N = (517)	(158)	(114)	(150)	(94)	
1977 % Nonvictims	68.5%	72.2%	82.0%	87.3%	
N = (162)	(73)	(44)	(33)	(12)	Significant
1977 % Victims	31.5%	27.8%	18.0%	11.7%	p = .0001
-----					
N = (435)	(138)	(100)	(117)	(79)	
1979 % Nonvictims	73.0%	76.1%	79.5%	89.3%	
N = (121)	(50)	(32)	(30)	(9)	Significant
1979 % Victims	26.5%	23.9%	20.5%	10.7%	p = .0258

Table 12

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Age (Excluding Vandalism)

	15-29 yrs.	30-44 yrs.	45-64 yrs.	65 + yrs.	Significance
N = (564)	(175)	(127)	(164)	(98)	
1977 % Nonvictims	75.8%	80.0%	89.7%	92.4%	
N = (115)	(56)	(32)	(19)	(8)	Significant
1977 % Victims	24.2%	20.0%	10.3%	7.6%	p = .0001
-----					
N = (471)	(145)	(113)	(129)	(84)	
1979 % Nonvictims	76.9%	85.6%	87.5%	95.7%	
N = (85)	(43)	(19)	(18)	(4)	Significant
1979 % Victims	23.1%	14.4%	12.5%	4.3%	p = .001

3. Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Ethnicity

The nonwhite population of Ashland is small. Because of this, very large differences in the risk of victimization must exist between the white and nonwhite subsamples for this difference to be significant. In 1977, nonwhites in Ashland had a 30.4 percent risk of property crime compared to the white population's risk of 23.5 percent. And again in 1979, the nonwhite sample had a 35.9 percent risk while only 21.7 percent of the whites experienced one or more property crimes. However, because of the fact that nonwhites comprised only 3.3 percent and 2.5 percent of the total sample in 1977 and 1979 respectively, neither of these differences reached significance (see Table 13).

When vandalism is removed from the comparison nonwhites continue to show higher, although insignificant, risks of victimization during both survey years (see Table 14).

Table 13

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Ethnicity

	Nonwhite	White	Significance
N = (512)	(15)	(496)	
1977 % Nonvictims	69.6%	76.5%	
N = (160)	(7)	(153)	N.S.
1977 % Victims	30.4%	23.5%	p = .6233
-----			
N = (430)	(9)	(421)	
1979 % Nonvictims	64.1%	78.3%	
N = (122)	(5)	(117)	N.S.
1979 % Victims	35.9%	21.7%	p = .3504

Table 14

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Ethnicity (Excluding Vandalism)

	Nonwhite	White	Significance
N = (559)	(17)	(543)	
1977 % Nonvictims	74.9%	83.6%	
N = (113)	(6)	(107)	N.S.
1977 % Victims	25.1%	16.4%	p = .25
-----			
N = (467)	(10)	(457)	
1979 % Nonvictims	70.3%	84.9%	
N = (86)	(4)	(81)	N.S.
1979 % Victims	29.7%	15.1%	p = .25

4. Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Income

Differences in the risk of property crime victimization are not significant between income levels. In 1977, the probability of being a victim varied from a low of 21.8 percent for the middle income group (\$10,000-24,999), to 27.3 percent for the low income group (\$2,999-9,999), to a high of 28.5 percent for the high income group (\$25,000+). In 1977, an even greater similarity in risk was noted, with only 2.1 percent separating the low risk (20.6%) and high risk (22.7%) subgroups (see Table 15).

With vandalism removed from the analysis the 1977 survey showed significant differences between the three income groups, with the lowest income group experiencing the highest risk of victimization (23.8%) and the middle income group having the lowest risk (13.4%). In 1979, the same comparison revealed no significant differences between income levels (see Table 16).

Table 15

Risk of Property Victimization by Income

	\$2,999-9,999	\$10,000-24,999	\$25,000 +	Significance
N = (477)	(145)	(259)	(72)	
1977 % Nonvictims	72.7%	78.2%	71.5%	
N = (155)	(54)	(72)	(29)	N.S.
1977 % Victims	27.3%	21.8%	28.5%	p = .2163
N = (419)	(152)	(194)	(74)	
1979 % Nonvictims	77.3%	77.8%	79.4%	
N = (119)	(45)	(55)	(19)	N.S.
1979 % Victims	22.7%	22.2%	20.6%	p = .9173

Table 16

Risk of Property Victimization by Income (Excluding Vandalism)

	\$2,999-9,999	\$10,000-24,999	\$25,000 +	Significance
N = (522)	(152)	(287)	(82)	
1977 % Nonvictims	76.2%	86.6%	81.3%	
N = (111)	(48)	(44)	(19)	Significant
1977 % Victims	23.8%	13.4%	18.7%	p = .0197
N = (453)	(165)	(209)	(79)	
1979 % Nonvictims	84.2%	84.0%	85.2%	
N = (85)	(31)	(40)	(14)	N.S.
1979 % Victims	15.8%	16.0%	14.8%	p = .995

5. Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Education

Generally speaking, when considering all property crimes the more educated residents experienced the greatest proportion of victimizations for both the 1977 and 1979 surveys. However, these differences only approached being significant (see Table 17).

Apparently vandalism contributed a great deal to the relatively high victimization among the more educated groups. After deleting vandalism the differences between the risk of victimization by educational level were reduced (see Table 18).

Table 17

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Education

	Elementary + Some H.S.	High School Graduate	Some College	College Grad. or Post Grad.	Significance
N = (514)	(72)	(132)	(133)	(177)	
1977 % Nonvictims	75.5%	82.0%	71.3%	75.7%	
N = (163)	(23)	(29)	(53)	(57)	N.S.
1977 % Victims	24.5%	18.0%	28.7%	24.3%	p = .1465
N = (436)	(48)	(106)	(136)	(146)	
1979 % Nonvictims	84.4%	83.2%	77.8%	73.0%	
N = (123)	(9)	(21)	(39)	(54)	N.S.
1979 % Victims	15.6%	16.8%	22.2%	27.0%	p = .0769

Table 18

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Education (Excluding Vandalism)

	Elementary + Some H.S.	High School Graduate	Some College	College Grad. or Post Grad.	Significance
N = (562)	(77)	(138)	(150)	(197)	
1977 % Nonvictims	80.1%	85.7%	80.4%	84.3%	
N = (116)	(19)	(23)	(37)	(37)	N.S.
1977 % Victims	19.9%	14.3%	19.6%	15.7%	p = .4758
N = (473)	(49)	(114)	(147)	(163)	
1979 % Nonvictims	85.9%	89.7%	84.4%	81.4%	
N = (85)	(8)	(13)	(27)	(37)	N.S.
1979 % Victims	14.1%	10.3%	15.6%	18.6%	p = .25

6. Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Household Size

In 1977 no significant differences existed in the risk of property crime by household size. But in 1979, the risk of 39.8 percent within the large family subgroup was approximately twice that of the small household size group (see Table 19). That difference is significant.

With vandalism removed the discrepancy between 1979 victimization rates increases, with the largest households experiencing two to three times the risk of victimization as the smaller households (see Table 20).

Table 19

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Household Size

	Single	1 Other	2-3 Others	4 or More	Significance
N = (506)	(64)	(217)	(160)	(65)	
1977 % Nonvictims	71.5%	78.4%	73.9%	76.5%	
N = (162)	(25)	(60)	(57)	(20)	N.S.
1977 % Victims	28.5%	21.6%	26.1%	23.5%	p = .4983
N = (437)	(94)	(182)	(138)	(23)	
1979 % Nonvictims	80.4%	79.9%	79.4%	60.2%	
N = (120)	(23)	(46)	(36)	(15)	Significant
1979 % Victims	19.6%	20.1%	20.6%	39.8%	p = .04

Table 20

Risk of Property Crime Victimization by Household Size (Excluding Vandalism)

	Single	1 Other	2-3 Others	4 or More	Significance
N = (553)	(68)	(241)	(174)	(71)	
1977 % Nonvictims	76.4%	87.0%	80.2%	82.6%	
N = (115)	(21)	(36)	(43)	(15)	N.S.
1977 % Victims	23.6%	13.0%	19.8%	17.4%	p = .10
N = (475)	(99)	(203)	(149)	(24)	
1979 % Nonvictims	84.6%	89.0%	86.1%	61.5%	
N = (82)	(18)	(25)	(24)	(15)	Significant
1979 % Victims	15.4%	11.0%	13.9%	39.5%	p = .001

F. Comparison of 1977-79 Monetary Loss

A series of questions were included in both the 1977 and 1979 surveys which asked the victims to indicate the replacement value of any property stolen or damaged and the total costs of any medical or legal costs, lost wages or any other expenditures resulting from crime. Table 21 summarizes the results of these monetary loss questions.

Table 21

Property Loss and Associated Costs of Crime, 1977-1979

	1977 Total Survey Loss	1977 Loss Per <sup>a</sup> Victim (N=176)	1979 Total Survey Loss	1979 Loss Per <sup>a</sup> Victim (N=125)
Property Loss	\$14,679	\$ 83	\$13,961	\$112
Other Loss <sup>b</sup>	8,933	51	2,102	17
	\$23,612	\$134	\$16,063	\$129

<sup>a</sup>Loss per victim based on total number of victims of completed property or violent crime (1977 N=176, 1979 N=125).

<sup>b</sup>Loss due to medical and legal expenses and wages lost from work.

To correct for the unequal sample sizes between the two samples the total monetary losses were divided by the total number of people in each sample who were victims of any completed property and/or violent crime. This yielded an average loss per victim. When this was done a slight decline in the average monetary loss was noted (1977: \$134 vs. 1979: \$129). Although this average loss may seem low it should be mentioned that the majority of these crimes were larceny and vandalism, many of which involved relatively small losses. However, these figures may underestimate the actual loss per victim as only 118 (67%) of the 176 victims in the 1977 survey indicated a loss of any kind. In 1979 87 (70%) of the 125 victims disclosed a property or crime related cost.

G. Comparison of 1977 and 1979 Perceptions of Crime and Crime-Related Issues

1. Neighborhood Crime Trend

Table 22 reveals that the largest share of people in Ashland (44.5% in 1977 and 44.1% in 1979) continue to think that the incidence of crime has remained about the same within the past year. There has been a nearly significant increase in the percentage of people who feel that crime has decreased within the past year (1979). The 2 percent increase in the proportion of people who feel that crime has increased is much less significant. This indicates that there has been a slight lessening in the citizens' fear of criminal threat.

2. Perceived Likelihood of Future Victimization

Perhaps one of the most encouraging changes to have occurred during the first two years of Ashland's crime prevention program has been a significant drop in the percentage of people who feel they will be a victim of crime during the next year (1980); declining nearly 5 percent over the two-year period. There has also been a commensurate increase in the proportion who feel that they will not be the victim of a crime (see Table 23). Table 24 lists the types of crime that each of the survey respondents felt could happen to them. The first and third columns exhibit the percentage of the total sample indicating each crime and the second and fourth columns list the percentage of only those who responded to this question. The percentages in the first and third columns were compared to measure the significance of change and the only significant finding was the 2.8 percent drop in the percentage of respondents who felt that they would be the victim of theft. This finding is even more notable since theft was the only individual crime type to show an actual decrease over the same time period (compare with Table 1).

Table 22

Perception of Crime Trend

Within the past year do you think that crime in your neighborhood has increased, decreased or stayed about the same?

Crime has:	1977 (N=679)	1979 (N=520)	Significance of Change
Increased	21.8%	23.8%	N.S.
Decreased	4.8%	6.7%	N.S.
			z = 1.46 p = .07
Stabilized	44.5%	44.1%	N.S.
No Opinion	18.4%	15.3%	N.S.
			z = 1.41 p = .08
	100.0%	100.0%	

Table 23

Perceived Likelihood of Future Victimization

Do you believe that you are likely to be the victim of a crime during the next year?

	1977 (N=683)	1979 (N=541)	Significance of Change
Yes	17.7%	12.8%	Significant z = 2.35 p = .009
No	54.8%	61.7%	Significant z = 2.43 p = .007
No Opinion	27.5%	25.5%	N.S.
	100.0%	100.0%	

Table 24

Type of Crime Perceived Most Likely to Occur

	1977		1979	
	% Total Sample (N=703)	% Respondents to the Quest. (N=147)	% Total Sample (N=519)	% Respondents to the Quest. (N= 87)
Burglary	4.6%	21.8%	3.8%	25.3%
Attempted Burglary	.3%	1.4%	--	--
Theft	7.5%	36.1%	4.7%(z=2.06) <sup>a</sup>	31.1%
Attempted Theft	--	--	--	--
Motor Vehicle Theft	.14%	.7	.17%	1.15%
Attempted Motor Vehicle Theft	.14%	.68%	--	--
Vandalism	4.6%	21.8%	3.1%(z=1.38) <sup>b</sup>	20.7%
Attempted Vandalism	--	--	.17%	1.15%
Robbery	1.3%	6.1%	.86%	5.8%
Attempted Robbery	--	--	--	--
Assault w/Weapon	.14%	.7%	--	--
Attempted Assault w/Weapon	--	--	--	--
Assault w/Body	--	--	.35%	2.30%
Attempted Assault w/Body	.14%	.7%	--	--
Assault Undetermined	.43%	2.0%	.17%	1.15%
Rape	.43%	2.0%	--	--
Attempted Rape	--	--	--	--
Unknown	1.0%	4.8%	.52%	3.5%

<sup>a</sup>The 2.7% decrease in the proportion of people who think they will be the victim of theft is significant (Z = 2.06, p = .019).

<sup>b</sup>The 1.5% decrease in the proportion of people who think they will be the victim of vandalism approaches significance (Z = 1.38, p = .084).

### 3. Treatment of Juvenile Status Offenders<sup>15</sup>

There seems to be a growing feeling of opposition to the release of status offenders without court supervision. The 3.2 percent decline is the proportion of respondents who think that status offenders should be released without court supervision is significant. There is also a corresponding 3 percent increase in the percentage of surveyed citizens who feel that status offenders should be held in juvenile detention with juvenile criminal and status offenders (see Table 25).

### 4. Increased Taxes for Treatment of Juvenile Offenders

The nearly significant increase in the percentage of people who "strongly agree" and the significant increase in the percentage who "agree" with the policy of spending more tax money to treat juvenile offenders points to a growing awareness that something should be done to curb the potential criminality of young offenders. There was also a complementary decrease in the percentage of people who "disagree" with the use of increased taxes for this purpose (see Table 26).

### 5. Disclosure of Criminal Records

There was no significant change in the percentage of people who "agree" or "disagree" with the policy of releasing a person's criminal record to anyone who wants them. The largest percentage (1977 = 50%, 1979 = 48.1%) opposes the release of criminal records, while roughly one-third agrees with the policy of criminal record disclosure (1977 = 31%, 1979 = 33.2%) (see Table 27).

<sup>15</sup>Status Offenders are those juveniles (under 18) who have committed a crime that does not apply to adults (e.g., running away from home, possession of alcohol, etc.).

Table 25

Treatment of Status Offenders

How do you feel status offenders (noncriminal) should be treated by juvenile authorities?<sup>a</sup>

	1977 (N=660)	1979 (N=514)	Significance of Change
1. Held in jail with adult and juvenile criminal offenders	3.5%	3.1%	N.S.
2. Held in juvenile detention with juvenile criminal and status offenders	6.7%	9.7%	z = 1.88 p = .03
3. Held not in contact with adult criminals and juvenile criminal offenders	76.8%	77.3%	N.S.
4. Released without court supervision	13.0%	9.8%	z = 1.70 p = .045

<sup>a</sup>For exact wording of this item see Appendix A, Item 45.

Table 26

Support for Increased Juvenile Offender Prevention Programs

I would be willing to pay more taxes to treat juvenile offenders to prevent them from becoming adult criminals.

	1977 (N=677)	1979 (N=579)	Significance of Change
I Strongly Agree	16.1%	19.6%	z = - 1.62 p = .052
I Agree	32.0%	36.5%	z = - 1.68 p = .047
I'm Uncertain	28.0%	26.0%	z = .80 p = .212
I Disagree	16.7%	12.7%	z = 1.99 p = .023
I Strongly Disagree	7.2%	5.2%	z = 1.46 p = .072

Table 27

Access to Criminal Records

Do you feel that a person's criminal record should be made available to anyone who asks for them, including to employers or potential employers?

	1977 (N=687)	1979 (N=579)	Significance of Change
Yes	31.0%	33.2%	N.S.
No	50.0%	48.1%	N.S.
Not Sure	19.0%	18.7%	N.S.

6. Sentencing Disparity

There is a slight, but noticeable , optimism in the 1979 responses to the question which asked for the likelihood of equal sentencing in the Ashland area for any two people with similar criminal backgrounds who are convicted of the same crime (see Table 28). For the first three response categories there was a consistent, though insignificant, increase in the percentage of people who feel that it is "very likely," "likely," or "about 50/50%" that equal sentences will be given in this hypothetical situation. There was, however, a very significant decrease in the percentage who feel it is "very unlikely" that these hypothetical criminals would receive equal sentences. This change reflects a noticeable improvement in people's belief in the equity of sentences.

Table 28

Sentencing Disparity

If two people with similar criminal backgrounds are convicted of the same crime in your community, how likely do you think it is that they will receive the same sentence?

	1977 (N=686)	1979 (N=553)	Significance of Change
Very Likely (76-100%)	9.8%	11.3%	z = .86 N.S.
Likely (51-75%)	19.0%	22.1%	z = 1.35 N.S.
About 50-50% Chance	26.0%	28.2%	z = .87 N.S.
Unlikely (25-49%)	17.9%	14.5%	z = 1.61 N.S.
Very Unlikely (0-24%)	10.0%	5.3%	z = 3.05 Significant p=.001
Have No Idea	17.2%	18.5%	z = .60 N.S.

7. Community Corrections Programs

The public's willingness to establish community-based correctional programs in Ashland was examined for three categories of crimes and for four types of offenders. The categories of crimes are violent crimes, violent sex crimes, and property crimes. The types of offenders are first-time juvenile offenders, first-time adult offenders, and repeat juvenile offenders and repeat adult offenders.

Table 29 compares the differences in the proportion supporting or opposing community corrections programs for violent criminals. For first-time juvenile offenders there has been a significant decrease in support plus a significant increase in opposition to community correctional facilities for this type of offender. No significant differences in the two survey periods were detected for the remaining classifications of violent crime offenders. Nearly identical percentages of the public are still in opposition to community corrections programs for repeat juvenile and adult violent criminals.

Table 29

Comparison of Attitudes Toward  
Community Corrections Programs

Overall, would you say that you support or oppose the establishment in your community of correctional programs, such as halfway houses or work release centers?

Correctional Programs In Your Community For:	1977 (N=672)		1979 (N=554)			
	% Support		% Oppose		% Don't Know	
<u>Violent Crimes</u> (e.g., homicide, robbery, or assault)	1977	1979	1977	1979	1977	1979
First-Time Juvenile Offenders	66.5%	61.6% (z=1.78)*	18.1%	22.3% (z=1.83)*	15.4%	16.1%
First-Time Adult Offenders	53.7%	51.6%	28.6%	30.2%	17.8%	18.3%
Repeat Juvenile Offenders	20.7%	20.8%	60.9%	60.2%	18.4%	19.0%
Repeat Adult Offenders	13.3%	12.7%	71.3%	68.9%	15.4%	18.2%
<u>Violent Sex Crimes</u>						
First-Time Juvenile Offenders	45.8%	39.0% (z=2.24)**	36.8%	40.9%	17.4%	20.1%
First-Time Adult Offenders	33.0%	27.1% (z=2.24)**	49.4%	53.8%	17.6%	19.1%
Repeat Juvenile Offenders	11.9%	13.0%	72.2%	69.2%	15.9%	17.8%
Repeat Adult Offenders	10.7%	10.2%	75.8%	73.6%	13.4%	16.2%
<u>Property Crime</u>						
First-Time Juvenile Offenders	79.3%	75.7%	9.4%	9.5%	11.4%	14.8% (z=1.77)
First-Time Adult Offenders	64.6%	62.9%	21.9%	21.0%	13.5%	16.1%
Repeat Juvenile Offenders	26.2%	24.7%	56.9%	56.6%	16.9%	18.8%
Repeat Adult Offenders <sup>a</sup>	19.3%	--	65.2%	--	15.5%	--

\*Difference 1977-1979 percentages significant at p < .05

\*\*Difference in 1977-1979 percentages significant at p < .01

<sup>a</sup>Due to a typographical error in the 1979 survey the category "repeat juvenile offenders" was repeated twice and "repeat adult offenders" was omitted.



The 6.8 percent drop in support for first-time juvenile sex offenders and the 5.9 percent decline in support for community corrections facilities for first-time adult sex offenders are both statistically significant. No significant change has occurred in the violent sex crime category for repeat juvenile and repeat adult offenders.

For property crimes, the only response to change significantly was an increase in the percentage responding in the "Don't Know" category for first-time juvenile offenders. Practically identical percentages of respondents supported or opposed community corrections for first-time adult offenders and repeat juvenile offenders. Because of a typographical error in the wording of the 1979 survey the category "repeat juvenile offenders" was repeated where "repeat adult offenders" should have been. Because of this error no comparison was made for the "repeat adult offender" category.

#### 8. Diversion Programs

Community Corrections programs are usually directed toward convicted criminals while diversionary programs extract the offender before formal adjudication has taken place. These diverted offenders are then released without obligation if the crime is not serious or referred to noncriminal social service agencies for attention or treatment.

Although there has been a noticeable increase in the 1979 proportion of people who are opposed to diversion of first-time juvenile and adult property crime offenders, neither one of the increases reached significance. The only significant shift was a decline in the percentage of respondents who are not sure whether or not first-time property offenders should be diverted (see Table 30).

In the case of violent crime offenders there is again an increase in the proportion who are opposed to diversion. The 3.7 percent increase in the "no" category for juvenile offenders is not significant, while the 4.1 percent increase in those opposed to diversion of adult violent offenders is significant. Additionally, the decrease in those "not sure" about diversion of adult violent criminals is significant, indicating relatively more consensus in Ashland's opposition to the diversion of violent adult offenders. It should be cautioned, however, that although these changes in attitude may be statistically significant (indicating only a slight chance that the change was merely a random fluctuation) the changes are small in a practical sense and certainly do not signal a mandate for more restrictive, conventional forms of criminal correction.

Table 30

#### Comparison of Attitudes Toward Diversion Programs

Generally, do you think that diverting first-time property crime offenders is a good idea?

	% Yes		% No		% Not Sure	
	1977 (N=610)	1979 (N=549)	1977 (N=680)	1979 (N=549)	1977 (N=680)	1979 (N=549)
1. For Juvenile Offenders	67.0%	67.8%	18.6%	21.3% (z=-1.18)	14.4%	10.8% (z=1.88)*
2. For Adult Offenders	39.7%	41.9%	40.0%	44.6% (z=1.62)	20.1%	13.6% (z=3.0)**

#### First-time Violent Crime Offenders?

	% Yes		% No		% Not Sure	
	1977 (N=610)	1979 (N=549)	1977 (N=680)	1979 (N=549)	1977 (N=680)	1979 (N=549)
1. For Juvenile Offenders	10.7%	9.6%	74.7%	78.4% (z=-1.52)	14.5%	11.9% (z=1.33)
2. For Adult Offenders	5.9%	5.4%	82.2%	86.3% (z=-1.95)*	11.8%	8.3% (z=2.01)*

\*Difference in 1977-1979 percentages significant at  $p < .05$ .  
 \*\*Difference in 1977-1979 percentages significant at  $p < .01$ .

9. Rating of Community Issues

The opinion portion of the questionnaire ended by having each respondent rate the seriousness of community problems or issues on 10-point seriousness scale.

Table 31 lists the fourteen issues and their respective rank of seriousness for both the 1977 and 1979 surveys. Although there is substantial overall agreement in the ranks over the two year period there have been a few noticeable changes.<sup>16</sup> The most dramatic shift was the movement of the property tax issue from first position in 1977 to eighth position in 1979. Concern over the cost of living has moved to top priority in 1979, up from second in 1977. There is also a sizeable decrease in the perceived seriousness of the quality of education in Ashland--ranked tenth in 1977, moving to the fourteenth (bottom) position in 1979.

In the 1979 survey the drug/alcohol abuse issue was divided into two separate categories, so that direct comparison with the 1977 survey is difficult. However, even with this change in wording there is very close agreement between the surveys. The combined social problem of drug/alcohol abuse was rated second out of fourteen issues in 1977, while the single issue of drug abuse was also rated second in 1979. The separate issue of alcohol abuse was rated fourth in 1979.

There remains little difference in the rating of the remaining crime related concerns. Property crime is relatively less of a concern in 1979, dropping to seventh position from fifth. Juvenile delinquency is of the same importance, rated sixth in both 1977 and 1979. Violent crime remains of relatively little importance in

<sup>16</sup>Spearman rank order correlation ( $r_s$ ) = .80,  $p = .002$ . The correlation coefficient ( $r_s$  in this case) is a measure of the agreement between the two lists of rank values. Correlation coefficients vary from 0 (no agreement) to 1.0 (high agreement). The probability that the correspondence between these two sets of rankings is due simply to chance is only 2 in 1,000 ( $p=.002$ ).

1979, ranked tenth compared to being in ninth position in 1977. This finding is even more reassuring in light of the murders of two young Ashland girls that occurred just a few months prior to the administration of the 1979 survey. The citizens of Ashland did not react hysterically to this tragic crime and did not make the mistake of thinking that the murders were the beginning of a wave of violent crime in Ashland. The public probably realizes that the double killing was an isolated, freak event that could have just as easily happened in any other community.

Table 31  
Rank Order Comparison of  
Community Issues  
(Lowest Number Equals Highest Rank)

Issue	Rank Order in 1977	Rank Order in 1979
Property Tax	1	8
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	2 (T)	*
Drug Abuse	**	2
Alcohol Abuse	**	4
Cost of Living	2 (T)	1
Pollution	3	3
Unemployment	4	5
Property Crime	5	7
Juvenile Delinquency	6	6
Zoning/Land Use	7	9
Poverty	8	11
Violent Crime	9	10
Quality of Education	10	14
White Collar Crime	11	13
Domestic Violence	12	12
Race Relations	13	***

T Tie  
\*Separated in 1979 into Drug Abuse and Alcohol Abuse  
\*\*Combined Into a Single Category in 1977  
\*\*\*Omitted in the 1979 Survey

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APPENDIX A

1979 Survey Questionnaire and Correspondence



SURVEY OF SERIOUS **CRIME** IN ASHLAND

THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES AND VIEWS OF CRIME IN ASHLAND.

YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED THROUGH A RANDOM SELECTION PROCEDURE TO HELP GIVE AN ACCURATE AND REPRESENTATIVE PICTURE OF CRIMINAL VICTIMIZATION. THE INFORMATION GAINED THROUGH THIS STUDY MAY BE USED IN MAKING FUTURE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DECISIONS. BECAUSE OF THIS, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE RECEIVE YOUR COOPERATION IN FILLING OUT THIS BOOKLET.

YOUR ANSWERS WILL BE TREATED CONFIDENTIALLY. EACH BOOKLET IS NUMBERED SO THAT WE CAN KEEP TRACK OF ALL THE QUESTIONNAIRES SENT TO CITIZENS.

PLEASE TAKE THE FEW MINUTES REQUIRED TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS BOOKLET. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each question carefully before responding. Do not skip any questions unless there are instructions to do so.

Notice that we are interested in the crimes committed against you or your property only between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979. Please do not include crimes happening before or after this period of time.

PART I: TYPES OF CRIME (OCCURRING BETWEEN JANUARY 1, 1979 AND DECEMBER 31, 1979).

Please indicate the number of times within the year of January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979, that each of the following occurred. If an event never occurred in this time period, please enter "0" in the appropriate space.

NOTE: If more than one crime occurred on the same occasion, please note each crime separately in the appropriate space. For example, if your home was burglarized once and on that same occasion you were also assaulted by the burglar, you would put a "1" in the appropriate space under "burglary" and "1" in the appropriate space under "assault."

EXAMPLE: Number of Times  
Event Occurred

BURGLARY

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 1. Someone broke into my house or apartment (including garage, etc.) and property was stolen. |
| 0 | 2. Someone broke into my house or apartment (including garage, etc.), but nothing was stolen. |
| 2 | 3. An attempt was made to break in, but it failed.  |

The above example indicates that the person filling it out was the victim of one (1) burglary and two (2) attempted burglaries.

Remember, we are interested in the period  
January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979.

Number of Times  
Event Occurred

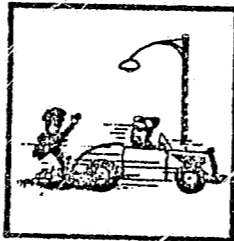
**BURGLARY**

- \_\_\_  1. Someone broke into my house or apartment (including garage, etc.) and property was stolen.
- \_\_\_  2. Someone broke into my house or apartment (including garage, etc.), but nothing was stolen.
- \_\_\_  3. An attempt was made to break in, but it failed.



**MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT**

- \_\_\_  4. Someone stole my car.
- \_\_\_  5. Someone stole my truck.
- \_\_\_  6. Someone stole my motorcycle.
- \_\_\_  7. Someone stole my boat.
- \_\_\_  8. Someone stole my aircraft.
- \_\_\_  9. Someone attempted to steal a motor vehicle, boat, or aircraft from me but failed.



**THEFT**

- \_\_\_  10. Someone stole property or money belonging to me not noted above.  
  
(\*Reminder: If the property or money was taken directly from you under actual or threatened force--it was a robbery and should be marked on question #12. If the property or money was taken by someone who entered your home, apartment, or garage without your permission--it was a burglary and should be checked on question #1).
- \_\_\_  11. Someone tried to steal my property or money, but failed.



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Remember, we are interested in the period  
January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979.

Number of Times  
Events Occurred

**VANDALISM**

- \_\_\_  12. Someone intentionally or recklessly damaged or destroyed property belonging to me.
- \_\_\_  13. Someone tried to damage or destroy property belonging to me, but failed.



**ROBBERY**

- \_\_\_  14. Someone took money or other valuables directly from me under the threat or actual use of force.
- \_\_\_  15. Someone tried to rob me, but failed.



**ASSAULT WITH WEAPON**

- \_\_\_  16. Someone beat or attacked me with a knife, gun, club, or other weapon.
- \_\_\_  17. Someone threatened me with a weapon but did not actually attack me with it.



**ASSAULT WITH BODY**

- \_\_\_  18. Someone hit or struck me with their fists, feet, or other part(s) of their body.
- \_\_\_  19. Someone threatened to hit or strike me but did not actually do so.



Remember we are interested in the period  
January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979.

Number of Times  
Events Occurred

RAPE

- \_\_\_ 20. Someone assaulted and forcibly raped me.
- \_\_\_ 21. Someone sexually assaulted or molested me but did not rape me.
- \_\_\_ 22. What is the total number of crimes (burglary, robbery, theft, vandalism, rape, assault, auto theft) committed against you between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979.

If you were assaulted or were the victim of any sexual crime, what was your relationship to the assailant?

- \_\_\_ 1. Stranger, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type of Crime)
- \_\_\_ 2. Friend or acquaintance, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type of Crime)
- \_\_\_ 3. Spouse, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type of Crime)
- \_\_\_ 4. Other household member, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type of Crime)

NOTICE

IF YOU WERE A VICTIM OF ANY CRIME MENTIONED SO FAR, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 23.

IF YOU WERE NOT A VICTIM OF ANY OF THESE CRIMES, SKIP TO QUESTION 42.



Remember, we are interested in the period  
January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979.

Number of Times  
Event Occurred

PERSONAL INJURY

- \_\_\_ 23. I was the victim of one or more of the above crimes, but I was not physically or mentally injured.
- \_\_\_ 24. I required first aid following the crime, but no hospitalization.
- \_\_\_ 25. I required medical attention in a doctor's office or hospital following the crime, but no overnight hospitalization.
- \_\_\_ 26. I required hospitalization for more than 24 hours as a result of the crime.
- \_\_\_ 27. I was psychologically disturbed as a result of the crime(s), but I received no counseling.
- \_\_\_ 28. I received psychological counseling as a result of the crime(s).
- \_\_\_ 29. If you were a victim of any crimes between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979, which of the following weapons were used against you? (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.)

- \_\_\_ 1. No weapon was used in any of the crimes.
- \_\_\_ 2. Bodily threats.
- \_\_\_ 3. Fists, Feet, etc.
- \_\_\_ 4. Gun.
- \_\_\_ 5. Knife.
- \_\_\_ 6. Club.
- \_\_\_ 7. Other weapon.

Remember, we are interested in the period  
January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979.

PROPERTY LOSS

\_\_\_ 30. If your property was burglarized, stolen, or robbed between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979, what was the total replacement value of the loss or losses? Please specify: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ 31. If you are not sure of the exact total replacement value of the property loss(es), what is your estimate of the total replacement value?

- \_\_\_ 1. Less than \$5.
- \_\_\_ 2. \$5 to \$19.
- \_\_\_ 3. \$20 to \$49.
- \_\_\_ 4. \$50 to \$99.
- \_\_\_ 5. \$100 to \$199.
- \_\_\_ 6. \$200 to \$499.
- \_\_\_ 7. \$500 to \$999.
- \_\_\_ 8. \$1,000 to \$1,999.
- \_\_\_ 9. \$2,000 to \$2,999.
- \_\_\_ 10. \$3,000 to \$3,999.
- \_\_\_ 11. \$4,000 to \$4,999.
- \_\_\_ 12. \$5,000 or more.

COSTS OF CRIME TO VICTIM

\_\_\_ 32. Which of the following costs of crime occurring between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979 apply to you (if any)? (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.)

- \_\_\_ 1. I had no costs due to any crime occurring between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979.
- \_\_\_ 2. Medical or psychological treatment following a crime.
- \_\_\_ 4. Legal expenses following a crime.
- \_\_\_ 5. Other Costs (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Remember, we are interested in the period January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979.

33. If you had any medical, legal, lost wages, or other costs of crime, what was the total value of these costs? (DO NOT INCLUDE PROPERTY LOSS COVERED IN QUESTIONS 30 and 31). Please specify costs. \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

34. If you are not sure of the exact total value of the costs, what is your estimate of the total costs?

- 1. Less than \$5.
- 2. \$5 to \$19.
- 3. \$20 to \$49.
- 4. \$50 to \$99.
- 5. \$100 to \$199.
- 6. \$200 to \$499.
- 7. \$500 to \$999.
- 8. \$1,000 to \$1,999.
- 9. \$2,000 to \$2,999.
- 10. \$3,000 to \$3,999.
- 11. \$4,000 to \$4,999.
- 12. \$5,000 or more.

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INSURANCE COVERAGE

35. Did insurance cover any of the costs or expenses from crime(s) occurring between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979? (Including property losses covered in Questions 30, 31 and other costs covered in Questions 33 and 34.)

- 1. Question doesn't apply; I had no loss from my crime.
- 2. Yes, insurance covered all losses and expenses.
- 3. Insurance covered over half but not all of the losses and expenses.
- 4. Insurance covered some but less than half of the losses and expenses.
- 5. Insurance covered none of the losses or expenses.

Remember, we are interested in the period January 1, 1979 to December 31, 1979.

LOCATION OF CRIME

36. In which of the following places did a crime against you occur? Please check all that apply, and indicate which crime(s) occurred at each place checked.

Number of Times Event Occurred	LOCATION OF CRIME(S)	CRIME(S) THAT OCCURRED
1. _____	In the street, within a few blocks of home	_____
2. _____	In the street, away from home (more than a few blocks)	_____
3. _____	In a store, bar, or other commercial location	_____
4. _____	In my home or apartment	_____
5. _____	Outside, near my home (yard, porch, etc.)	_____
6. _____	In my apartment building	_____
7. _____	At work, on the job	_____
8. _____	At school	_____
9. _____	Other location (please specify _____)	_____

37. In which of the following months did a crime against you occur? Please check all that apply, and indicate which crimes occurred during each month checked.

MONTH OF CRIME(S)	CRIME(S) THAT OCCURRED
1. January 1979	_____
2. February 1979	_____
3. March 1979	_____
4. April 1979	_____
5. May 1979	_____
6. June 1979	_____
7. July 1979	_____
8. August 1979	_____
9. September 1979	_____
10. October 1979	_____
11. November 1979	_____
12. December 1979	_____

NOTICE TO POLICE

38. As far as you know, were the police or other law enforcement authorities notified of the crime(s) that occurred to you between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979?

- 1. Yes, they were notified of all incidents.
- 2. They were notified of some but not all of the incidents.
- 3. They were notified of none of the incidents.

39. Indicate the type and number of crimes reported to the following agencies:

	TYPE OF CRIME	NUMBER OF CRIMES
1.	Ashland Police _____	_____
2.	Jackson Co. Sheriff _____	_____
3.	Oregon State Police _____	_____
4.	Other Agency _____ Specify _____ Agency Name _____	_____

40. Please list below each type of crime against you between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979 that was not reported to the police, as far as you know. Beside each type of crime list the number of incidents of that type not reported to the police.

TYPE OF CRIMES NOT REPORTED	NUMBER OF CRIMES NOT REPORTED
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____



41. What was the main reason why crime(s) you listed in Question 40 was/were not reported to the police? PLEASE CHECK THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT REASON.
- 1. Felt it was useless to report because nothing could/would be done.
  - 2. Afraid of retaliation.
  - 3. Afraid of police investigation.
  - 4. Felt the crime wasn't important enough to report.
  - 5. Felt too much time would be required of me if I reported the crime--loss of work, etc.
  - 6. Did not get around to it because I was busy with other matters.
  - 7. Afraid or embarrassed by what prosecutor and investigator might ask or find out.
  - 8. Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

42. Between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979 how often were each of the following crimes committed against other members of your household?

- DO NOT INCLUDE CRIMES PREVIOUSLY NOTED
- 1. \_\_\_ Doesn't apply, there are no other members of my household.
  - 2. \_\_\_ Doesn't apply, there were no crimes committed against other members of my household.

NUMBER OF TIMES CRIME OCCURRED	TYPE OF CRIME
3. _____	Robbery
4. _____	Attempted Robbery
5. _____	Theft
6. _____	Attempted Theft
7. _____	Motor Vehicle Theft
8. _____	Attempted Motor Vehicle Theft
9. _____	Assault
10. _____	Attempted Assault
11. _____	Rape
12. _____	Attempted Rape
13. _____	Murder
14. _____	Attempted Murder
	Other Crimes (Please Specify)
15. _____	_____
16. _____	_____
17. _____	_____

PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

43. Within the past year, do you think that crime in your neighborhood has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

- 1. Crime has increased.
- 2. Crime has decreased.
- 3. Crime has stayed about the same.
- 4. No opinion.
- 5. Haven't lived here that long.

44. Do you believe that you are likely to be the victim of a crime during the next year?

- 1. Yes. If "Yes", what type: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. No.
- 3. No Opinion.

45. Criminal justice officials have distinguished two general types of juvenile offenders (below age 18); these are 1) Criminal juvenile offenders and 2) Status juvenile offenders. Criminal juvenile offenders are those juveniles who have committed a crime (e.g., burglary, assault, etc.). Status juvenile offenders are those juveniles who have committed a crime that does not apply to adults, (e.g., running away from home, minor in possession of alcohol, etc.).

How do you feel status offenders (non-criminal) should be treated by juvenile authorities?

- 1. Held in jail with adult and juvenile criminal offenders.
- 2. Held in juvenile detention homes with juvenile criminal and status offenders.
- 3. Held in other facilities where they are not in contact with adult criminals and criminal juvenile offenders.
- 4. Status offenders should be released without court supervision.

46. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "I would be willing to pay more taxes to treat juvenile offenders to prevent them from becoming adult criminals." (Please check only one choice.)

- 1. Strongly agree.
- 2. Agree
- 3. Uncertain
- 4. Disagree.
- 5. Strongly disagree.

47. Do you feel that a person's criminal records should be made available to anyone who asks for them, including to employers or potential employers?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Not sure.

48. If two people with similar criminal backgrounds are convicted of the same crime in your community, how likely do you think it is that they will receive the same sentence?

- 1. Very likely (76-100% chance).
- 2. Likely (51-75% chance).
- 3. About 50-50% chance.
- 4. Unlikely (25-49% chance).
- 5. Very unlikely (0-24% chance).
- 6. Have no idea

49. Over-all, would you say you support or oppose the establishment in your community of correctional programs, such as halfway houses or work release centers? Please indicate your opinion for EACH of the following types of criminal offenders.

Correctional Programs  
In Your Community For:

	<u>Support</u>	<u>My Position</u> <u>Oppose</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<u>Violent Crimes</u> (e.g., homicide, robbery, or assault)			
First-time juvenile offenders	_____	_____	_____
First-time adult offenders	_____	_____	_____
Repeat juvenile offenders	_____	_____	_____
Repeat adult offenders	_____	_____	_____
	<u>Support</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<u>Violent Sex Crime</u> (e.g., rape)			
First-time juvenile offenders	_____	_____	_____
First-time adult offenders	_____	_____	_____
Repeat juvenile offenders	_____	_____	_____
Repeat adult offenders	_____	_____	_____
	<u>Support</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<u>Property Crimes</u> (e.g., theft and burglary)			
First-time juvenile offenders	_____	_____	_____
First-time adult offenders	_____	_____	_____
Repeat juvenile offenders	_____	_____	_____
Repeat juvenile offenders	_____	_____	_____

-9-A-

50. Diversion is the practice of dealing with criminals in such a way that the conventional criminal justice system does not become involved. Examples of such diversion are warning and release, community service or referral to other non-criminal social agencies.

Generally, do you think that diverting first-time property crime (e.g. theft, burglary) offenders is a good idea?

- For juvenile offenders \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not Sure
- For adult offenders \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not Sure

Generally, do you think that diverting first-time violent crime (e.g., homicide, rape, assault) offenders is a good idea?

- For juvenile offenders \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not Sure
- For adult offenders \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not Sure

51. How do you rate the seriousness of each of the following conditions in your community?

Place a check mark (✓) directly above the number chosen for EACH ISSUE. Example:

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

Issue

1. Cost of Living

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

2. Quality of Education

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

3. Domestic Violence (assaults, between household members)

-A-7- Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

4. Juvenile Delinquency

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

5. Pollution/Environmental Concerns

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

6. Drug Abuse

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

7. Poverty

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

8. Property Crime (e.g., burglary, theft)

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

9. Property Taxes

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

10. Alcohol Abuse

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

11. Unemployment

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

12. Violent Crime (e.g., assault, rape)

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

13. Land Use/Zoning Issues

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

14. White Collar Crime (e.g., employee theft, graft, fraud)

Not a Problem At All 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very Serious Problem

CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

52. Are you aware of the crime prevention program in Ashland?

- 1. Yes.
- 2. No.

53. Were you or a member of your family contacted by Ashland's crime prevention officer or their representative as a result of being the victim of a crime from January 1, 1978 through December 1979?

- 1. Yes.
- 2. No.

54. Have you or a member of your family been contacted by or received information about Ashland's Crime Prevention Program through any of the following sources? (Check all that apply.)

- 1. Radio/TV/Newspaper articles.
- 2. Public or organizational meetings.
- 3. Word of mouth.
- 4. Crime prevention block meetings.
- 5. Rape prevention meeting.
- 6. Household security survey.
- 7. Checked out and used light timing device.
- 8. Checked out and used property engraving tool.
- 9. Received and applied antiburglary warning decals.
- 10. Other contact with Ashland's Crime Prevention Officer or his/her representative.
- 11. Other sources, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

55. If you or a member of your household has had direct contact with Ashland's Crime Prevention Program (any contact other than contact through TV, radio or newspaper) when did this first encounter happen?

- 1. No Contact.
- 2. 1 to 6 months ago.
- 3. 7 to 12 months ago.
- 4. 1 year to 1 1/2 years ago.
- 5. 1 1/2 to 2 years ago.
- 6. More than 2 years ago.
- 7. Can't recall.

56. How often do you lock all the doors and windows to your home when you are leaving and no one else is there?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Rarely or never
- 5. Doesn't apply: there is always someone else at home when I leave.

57. Do you keep your garage door(s) closed and locked as a matter of course?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Rarely or never
- 5. Doesn't apply: don't have a garage.

58. How often do you lock your vehicle doors when leaving the vehicle parked near your home?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Rarely or never
- 5. Doesn't apply: don't own or use a car, truck, etc.

59. How often do you lock your vehicle doors when leaving the vehicle parked at some other location away from your home?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Rarely or never
- 5. Doesn't apply: don't own or use a car, truck, etc.

60. Have you engraved most of your valuable property with identification numbers?

- 1. Yes.
- 2. No.

61. If you were the victim of a property crime (theft or burglary) between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979, was your property engraved before or after the crime(s)? (Check only one)

- 1. Does not apply, I wasn't a victim.
- 2. I was a victim, but property was not engraved.
- 3. I was a victim and property was engraved before the crime occurred.
- 4. I was a victim but property was engraved after the crime occurred.

62. Are antiburglary stickers or warning decals in place on your home windows or doors?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

63. If you were the victim of a property crime (theft or burglary) between January 1, 1979 and December 31, 1979, were anti-burglary stickers or warning decals displayed before or after the crime(s) took place?

- 1. Does not apply, I wasn't a victim.
- 2. I was a victim, but warning decals were not displayed.
- 3. I was a victim and decals were displayed before the crime occurred.
- 4. I was a victim, but decals were displayed after the crime occurred.

64. Are all your house or apartment door and window locks in operable condition?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

65. Do you keep one or more firearms in your home?

- 1. No.  
Yes. If so, for what purpose:  
(Check one or more reasons)
- 2. Recreation (hunting, target shooting, gun collecting, etc.)
- 3. Protection for possible crimes against you, your family or your home
- 4. Occupational requirement (police officer, security guard, private investigator, etc.)
- 5. Other reasons (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

66. Do you have an operating burglar alarm system in your home or apartment?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY

-A-  
-9-

67. What is your sex?

- 1. Male
- 2. Female

68. What is your age?

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. 15-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> 7. 45-49        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. 20-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 8. 50-54        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. 25-29 | <input type="checkbox"/> 9. 55-59        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. 30-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10. 60-64       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. 35-39 | <input type="checkbox"/> 11. 65-69       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. 40-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 12. 70-74       |
|                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 13. 75 and over |

69. Which of the following racial or ethnic categories fits you best?

- 1. American Indian
- 2. Asian
- 3. Black or Afro-American
- 4. White or Caucasian (non-hispanic)
- 5. Hispanic (Spanish-speaking or Spanish heritage)
- 6. Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

70. Which of the following categories represents your family's total yearly income before taxes?

- 1. \$2,999 or less
- 2. \$3,000-\$5,999
- 3. \$6,000-\$9,999
- 4. \$10,000-\$14,999
- 5. \$15,000-\$24,999
- 6. \$25,000-\$49,999
- 7. \$50,000 or more

71. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- 1. 1-4 years
- 2. 5-7 years
- 3. 8 years
- 4. 1-3 years
- 5. 4 years
- 6. Technical School Attendance beyond high school
- 7. 1-3 years
- 8. 4 years
- 9. Post-graduate degree

72. How many people live with you in your household?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Myself only  | <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Five others   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. One other    | <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Six others    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Two others   | <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Seven others  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Three others | <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Eight others  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Four others  | <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Nine or more |

We need to know how long each of the survey respondents lived within Ashland and what percentage were college students during the period covered. For this reason please answer the following questions:

73. Please indicate the months you resided within the city limits of Ashland by placing a check mark beside each month of residence.

- January 1979
- February 1979
- March 1979
- April 1979
- May 1979
- June 1979
- July 1979
- August 1979
- September 1979
- October 1979
- November 1979
- December 1979

74. What was the total number of months you were a resident of Ashland during the above time period: \_\_\_\_\_ month(s)

75. During the above time period were you a student at Southern Oregon State College (SOSC)?

- Yes.  
If yes, how many months were you enrolled at SOSC?  
Month(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- No.

Thank you for your cooperation! Please place this questionnaire in the enclosed return envelope and drop it in the mail.

## INSTRUCTIONS

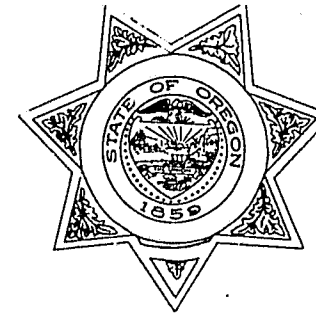
Please read and familiarize yourself with the following definitions of crime. It is important that you can distinguish between the types of crime which have or could affect you before completing the questionnaire.

Pay particular attention to the distinction between theft, burglary and robbery.

After familiarizing yourself with these definitions, go on to the next set of instructions before answering the questions. KEEP THIS PAGE ALONG SIDE OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE TO AID YOU IN ANSWERING THE QUESTIONS.

## CRIME DEFINITIONS

- BURGLARY:** Unlawful entry of a RESIDENCE or BUSINESS with or without force with the intent to commit a crime (usually the taking of property).
- MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT:** Theft or unauthorized use of a motor vehicle (car, truck, motorcycle, boat, or airplane).
- THEFT:** The unlawful taking of property or money without actual or threatened force being used.
- VANDALISM:** Intentional or reckless destruction or defacement of property without consent of the owner.
- ROBBERY:** Theft of property or cash directly FROM A PERSON by force or threat of force, with or without a weapon.
- ASSAULT WITH WEAPON:** Attack with a dangerous or deadly weapon resulting in any physical injury.
- ASSAULT WITH BODY:** Attack without a weapon; using only fists, arms, feet or other bodily part, involving any physical injury.
- RAPE:** Sexual intercourse through the actual or threatened use of force. "Statutory rape" (sexual intercourse without force committed against a person under 18 years of age) is excluded.



VIC LIVELY  
Chief of Police

## Ashland Police Department

CITY HALL ASHLAND, OREGON 97520 Phone (503) 482-5211

Dear Ashland Citizen:

Your police department needs your help! We are conducting a crime trend survey designed to more accurately measure the crime problems in Ashland. As you may be aware, distribution of police resources and establishment of priorities are usually based on statistics derived from crimes reported to the police. It is generally believed that many crimes are not reported for various reasons. If this is true in our community, your assistance may well help us understand and address the true crime picture.

Two years ago a similar survey was conducted in Ashland. By comparing the results of these two surveys we will be able to determine what changes, if any, have occurred in crime and reporting rates, public opinion regarding crime, and knowledge and practice of crime prevention tactics.

You are one of 1,000 Ashland citizens who have been selected at random. Enclosed with this letter is a questionnaire booklet and a self-addressed stamped envelope. Please read the instructions carefully and be sure to include the number of incidents of each type of crime you experienced during 1979. The information you submit will be treated confidentially. The number appearing on the booklet's face enables us to keep track of them.

Remember, by knowing what crimes occur, when they occur, who they are perpetrated against as well as which areas of the city are involved, your police department will be able to do a better job for you.

If the person to whom this letter is addressed is unable to complete the questionnaire, you can assist us by having any person 16 years of age or older, who has lived in your home since January 1, 1979, complete the questionnaire.

I would like to thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation and also advise you that this project was funded by the Oregon Law Enforcement Council.

Very truly yours,

Vic Lively  
Chief of Police



# Ashland Police Department

CITY HALL ASHLAND, OREGON 97520 Phone (503) 482-5211

VIC LIVELY  
Chief of Police

Dear Ashland Citizen:

Several weeks ago a pamphlet questionnaire was mailed to you entitled "Survey of Crime in Ashland," and we have not yet received your reply. Realizing that many of our citizens were away on business or vacation at that time, or that mail can be lost or misplaced, I am enclosing another pamphlet for your consideration.

I would like to emphasize the importance of your cooperation in this survey. You are one of only 1,000 persons selected to participate in this effort. The information you and your fellow citizens provide will help your police department to do a better job for you.

If you have already mailed me your original pamphlet within the last 3 or 4 days, ignore this request. If not, I again request your cooperation by taking the time to fill out the questionnaire and return it to me in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope. Remember, your answers will be treated confidentially.

Thank you again for your assistance in helping your police department do a better job for you.

Very truly yours,

Vic Lively  
Chief of Police

APPENDIX B

Survey-to-Population Crime Projection Weights

Appendix B

Survey-to-Population Crime Projection Weights

To extrapolate the survey-disclosed incidence of crime to the entire Ashland population age 15 and over the survey incidence of each crime type was multiplied by the following factors:

For 1977 and 1979 household crime (burglary, motor vehicle theft and vandalism) =

$$= \frac{\text{Total Ashland Population}}{\text{Average Number of People per Household}} \cdot \text{Number of surveyed Households}$$

$$(1977) = \frac{14,885}{2.803} \cdot 703 = \underline{\underline{7.554}}$$

$$(1979) = \frac{15,650}{2.530} \cdot 579 = 10.684$$

The survey-projected frequency of theft, assault, robbery and rape was calculated by multiplying the survey crime frequency by the following factors:

$$= \frac{\text{Total 15 + Age Population of Ashland}}{\text{Number of People in Sample}}$$

$$(1977) = \frac{11,506}{703} = \underline{\underline{16.363}}$$

$$(1979) = \frac{12,098}{579} = \underline{\underline{20.895}}$$

APPENDIX C

Sample Selection and Description



Appendix C

Sample Selection and Description

In both the 1977 and 1979 surveys, the following procedure to select the samples was used. First, the Oregon Motor Vehicle Division supplied the Law Enforcement Council with a magnetic tape listing of all drivers license holders who resided within Ashland's zip code area (97520). This master list was screened to identify and delete all people residing outside of Ashland's City Limits.

From this list a random sample was generated for the final screening process. First, the list was edited to exclude all duplicate addresses; that is, in all those instances where more than one person was listed at a particular address a random procedure was used to delete all but one of these people. This resulted in a list of people who resided at different addresses. This was done to eliminate the possibility of duplicating the incidence of household crime (e.g., burglary and motor vehicle theft) if two or more people within the same household returned completed questionnaires.

Once these steps were taken a final sample of 1,000 people were randomly chosen. Address labels were computer generated and the questionnaires were mailed in early March of 1978 and 1980. This initial mailing was followed at two week intervals with a postcard reminder, a full questionnaire remaining and a second postcard reminder.

Two weeks after the final postcard reminder 703 useable questionnaires were returned in the 1977 survey, and 579 were completed and returned in the 1979 survey. Once these questionnaires were coded and keypunched, the data were placed on a computer file. Several runs were made to screen for coding errors. Obvious errors were corrected and where questionable data was spotted, the original questionnaire was re-examined and appropriate adjustments were made.

To achieve parity between the sample and the current population of Ashland both the 1977 and 1979 samples were weighted so that the resulting samples matched the age and sex distribution for Jackson County<sup>1</sup>.

Tables C-1 through C-6 list the 1977 and 1979 weighted samples by demographic categories.

---

<sup>1</sup>The 1977 survey was weighted according to 1977 age and sex estimates. The 1979 survey was weighted according to 1978 age and sex distribution estimates. 1979 population figures by sex and age categories were not available.

Table C-1

Sample Distribution by Age Category

Age	1977		1979	
	N	% of Total	N	% of Total
15-19	54	7.6%	12	2.0%
20-24	81	11.5%	84	14.5%
25-29	96	13.7%	92	16.0%
30-34	66	9.4%	57	9.9%
35-39	50	7.1%	49	8.5%
40-44	42	6.0%	25	4.4%
45-49	52	7.4%	37	6.4%
50-54	41	5.8%	32	5.6%
55-59	41	5.9%	38	6.6%
60-64	50	7.1%	40	6.9%
65-69	63	9.0%	40	7.0%
70-74	21	2.9%	26	4.4%
75 +	23	3.2%	22	3.9%
Unknown	24	3.4%	23	4.0%
Total	703	100.0%	579	100.0%

Table C-2

Sample Distribution by Sex Category

Sex	1977		1979	
	N	% of Total	N	% of Total
Male	330	46.9%	268	46.4%
Female	355	50.5%	288	49.8%
Unknown	18	2.6%	22	3.8%
Total	703	100.0%	578	100.0%

Table C-3

Sample Distribution by Ethnic Category

Ethnic Group	1977		1979	
	N	% of Total	N	% of Total
American Indian	9	1.2%	5	.9%
Asian	2	.3%	7	1.2%
Black	2	.3%	0	.0%
White	649	92.4%	538	93.0%
Hispanic	3	.4%	2	.3%
Other	6	.9%	0	.0%
Unknown	31	4.4%	26	4.6%
Total	702	100.0%	578	100.0%

Table C-4

Sample Distribution by Income Category

Income	1977		1979	
	N	% of Total	N	% of Total
\$2,999 or less	32	4.5%	22	3.9%
\$3,000-5,999	77	10.9%	78	13.4%
\$6,000-9,999	91	13.0%	96	16.6%
\$10,000-14,999	147	20.9%	106	18.3%
\$15,000-24,999	184	26.2%	143	24.7%
\$25,000-49,999	84	12.0%	79	13.6%
\$50,000 +	17	2.4%	14	2.4%
Unknown	70	10.0%	41	7.0%
Total	702	100.0%	579	100.0%

Table C-5

Sample Distribution by Education Category

Level of Education	1977		1979	
	N	% of Total	N	% of Total
Elem. 5-7 Yrs.	3	.4%	2	.3%
Elem. 8 Yrs.	26	3.6%	19	3.3%
High School 1-3 Yrs.	67	9.6%	37	6.3%
High School 4 Yrs.	119	16.9%	97	16.7%
Tech. School	42	6.0%	30	5.2%
College 1-3 Yrs.	186	26.5%	174	30.1%
College 4 Yrs.	129	18.4%	117	20.2%
College-Post Grad.	105	14.9%	83	14.3%
Unknown	26	3.6%	20	3.4%
Total	703	100.0%	579	100.0%

Table C-6

Sample Distribution by Household Size

Household Size	1977		1979	
	N	% of Total	N	% of Total
Single	89	12.7%	117	20.3%
One Other	276	39.4%	228	39.4%
Two Other	116	16.6%	92	16.0%
Three Others	100	14.3%	81	13.9%
Four Others	49	6.9%	32	5.6%
Five Others	26	3.7%	2	.4%
Six Others	9	1.2%	2	.4%
Seven Others	1	.2%	1	.2%
Nine or More	1	.1%	1	.2%
Unknown	35	5.0%	22	3.8%
Total	702	100.0%	578	100.0%

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└

**END**