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STATE OF OHIO
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Office of Criminal Justice Services
Statistical Analysis Center

Law Enforcement In Ohio Cities
Serving 25,000-100,000 People:
A Task Analysis

March, 1983

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LIST OF PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

AGENCY	COUNTY	PATROL OFFICERS	SUPERVISORS
Hamilton	Butler	19	3
Middletown	Butler	17	4
Fairfield Twp.	Butler	10	2
Springfield	Clark	38	6
East Cleveland	Cuyahoga	13	3
Garfield Heights	Cuyahoga	12	4
North Olmstead	Cuyahoga	13	4
Shaker Heights	Cuyahoga	7	3
South Euclid	Cuyahoga	9	2
Sandusky	Erie	14	3
Lancaster	Fairfield	13	2
Beavercreek	Greene	5	2
Fairborn	Greene	13	2
Delhi Twp.	Hamilton	7	2
Green Twp.	Hamilton	5	1
Colerain Twp.	Hamilton	4	1
Hancock	Findlay	21	4
Steubenville	Jefferson	17	2
Mentor	Lake	18	3
Newark	Licking	23	4
Austintown Twp.	Mahoning	9	1
Marion	Marion	18	3
Brunswick	Medina	8	2
Randolph Twp.	Montgomery	3	1
Miami Twp.	Montgomery	6	2
Mansfield	Richland	23	5
Canton	Stark	31	8
Perry Twp.	Stark	8	1
Massillon	Stark	13	1
Niles	Trumbull	6	3
Warren	Trumbull	11	1
Bowling Green	Wood	6	1
		420	86

PREFACE

This report has been prepared especially for chiefs and administrative officers in Ohio's fifty-nine large police departments, all of which serve urban populations between 25,000-100,000 people.* It analyzes the responses of some five hundred officers from thirty-two of those departments who participated in the state wide task analysis study conducted in 1981-82 by the Office of Criminal Justice Services for the Ohio·Peace Officer Training Council. Because each of these officers responded to more than one thousand questions about their backgrounds, sources of information, equipment, types of investigation, tasks, and physical activities, there now exists a rich data base which chief executive officers can use for decisions relating to hiring, training, planning--and especially in analyzing the propriety of departmental standards.

A total of 3,155 Ohio peace officers representing nearly 400 law enforcement agencies took part in this survey, the results of which are contained in a report issued in November, 1982. However, eight separate summaries (five for police jurisdictions, three for sheriffs' jurisdictions) like this one are also being published so that chief executive officers can see how their own departments compare with an aggregate profile of similarly-sized agencies throughout the·State. It is hoped that this process will also allow mayors, city managers, county commissioners, and other local officials to see their law enforcement operations in better perspective.

Actually, the task analysis study is three studies in one. While the 420 "large city" patrol officers were responding to the survey in terms of frequency (of use or performance), 86 of their supervisors were responding to the same questions in terms of (1) the importance, and (2) the learning difficulty of those items. This, in effect, triples the amount of available information, and geometrically increases the ways in which that information can be studied. Not only can it be determined how frequently a task is performed, but that information can be further analyzed in light of its importance to the law enforcement function and the difficulty with which the task is learned.

Because of the tremendous amount of data generated by this study (over six hundred and forty-one thousand pieces of information in the "large city" data base alone) no summary report can adequately capture all of the worthwhile data. This report, in fact, makes no attempt to do so. Rather, it is being published as a complement to the earlier state wide report and as an indicator of the type and depth of the available data. To that end it is·hoped that this brief report will arouse the interest of local law enforcement officials who will then make fuller use of the rich data base available through the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services.

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* Ohio's seven largest cities (over 100,000 population) were covered in an earlier report.

OFFICER PROFILE

Of the 2,620 patrol officers who participated in the state wide task analysis study, 420 were drawn from police departments in thirty-two of Ohio's fifty-nine large cities.

TABLE 1

COMPARISON:
ACTUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT POPULATION
V.
SURVEY (RESPONSE) POPULATION

	% of Law Enforcement Population·in Ohio		% of Population in Survey Response
MUNICIPALITIES.......................77.0%			77.3%
Largest City Police (over 100,000)	26.6%		28.6%
*****Large City Police (25,000-100,000)	16.2%		15.6%
Medium City Police (10,000-25,000)	14.1%		12.7%
Small City Police (2,500-10,000)	11.7%		13.1%
Smallest City Police (under-2,500)	8.4%		7.3%
COUNTIES.............................18.5%		17.2%	
Large County Sheriffs (over 250,000)	9.2%		7.0%*
Medium County Sheriffs (100,000-250,000)	3.1%		3.8%
Small County Sheriffs (under 100,000)	6.2%		6.4%
SPECIAL AGENCIES.....................4.5%		4.9%	
Private Police			.4%
Railroad Police			.8%
Jr./Sr. High School Security			.2%
College/University Police			1.5%
Dept. of Taxation			.1%
Port Authority Police			.1%
Special Constables			.1%
Park Rangers			1.1%
Mental Health Police			.8%
MISSING...4%			
TOTALS...............................100%.........................99.8%			

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* One large county sheriff's office, originally targeted for inclusion, was excluded after it was learned that those officers had only jail and civil processing duties.

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While the task analysis study was aimed primarily at law enforcement duties, resources, physical activities, and other non-personal aspects of the job, a good deal of background information was also collected and is offered here as a basis for better understanding the people who perform the patrol function in Ohio's large cities. Wherever possible these 420 officers will be compared to their peers throughout the remainder of the State.

On the basis of hereditary traits it is apparent that patrol officers in urban areas closely mirror the characteristics of the patrol officers across the balance of the state. However, they both differ somewhat from the patrol officers of the seven largest cities. The results are contained in Table 2.

TABLE 2

OFFICERS' RACE AND SEX CHARACTERISTICS

	Thirty-two Large City Agencies	VS.	Balance of State	Seven Largest City Agencies
White	95%		95%	74%
Black	4%		4%	22%
Other	1%		1%	4%
Male	97%		97%	84%
Female	3%		3%	16%

In terms of age, nine out of ten officers were under the age of 35, but this was not significantly different from the other patrol officers in the State. (To a large extent, the age variable was determined by the one-to-seven year limitation placed upon officers who were otherwise randomly drawn for survey inclusion.)

Among the officers' acquired characteristics educational achievement was noteable for several reasons. Primary among these is the fact that most of the urban patrol officers have achieved more academically than the high school diploma required to become a peace officer in Ohio. Approximately two out of three of the large city officers surveyed have completed at least one year of post high school education. (NOTE: The urban-rural differences would be even more dramatic if the results from Ohio's seven largest departments were witheld from the "Balance of State" group).

TABLE 3

OFFICERS' EDUCATIONAL LEVELS PRIOR TO JOINING AND AT PRESENT: THIRTY-TWO LARGE CITIES VS. BALANCE OF STATE

	PRIOR TO JOINING		PRESENT	
	Thirty-two Largest Cities	Balance of State	Thirty-two Large Cities	Balance of State
Less Than High School	1%	3%	1%	2%
High School	42%	45%	36%	38%
1-2 Years of College	40%	35%	40%	37%
3-4 Years of College	16%	16%	22%	20%
4 + Years of College	1%	1%	2%	2%

Table 3 reflects the emergence of better educated officers both in the state's large cities and statewide. Here again the similarities between the two levels are evident. The advancement is slightly more pronounced in the former area; a fact that may reflect the commensurate education levels within the jurisdiction as well as the greater probability of access to nearby colleges and universities.

Three personal questions relating to job attitudes were also asked. Specifically, these addressed job interest, use of talents and training preparedness. While not an exhaustive list, these three areas are fundamentally important influences upon officer morale. The responses of the 420 "large city officers" are contained in Tables 4-6.

TABLE 4

"MY JOB IS..."

	Number	Percent
Very Dull	1	.2%
Dull	0	0 %
So So	43	10 %
Interesting	194	46 %
Very Interesting	182	43 %
	420	99.2%

TABLE 5

"MY JOB UTILIZES MY TALENT..."

	Number	Percent
Not at All	0	0%
Very Little	40	10%
Fairly Well	145	34%
Quite Well	173	41%
Very Well	62	15%
	420	100%

TABLE 6

"MY (BASIC) TRAINING PREPARED ME..."

	Number	Percent
Not at All	9	2%
Somewhat	198	47%
Well	176	42%
Very Well	37	9%
	420	100%

Based on these questions, the large city patrol officer can be portrayed as one who is quite interested in law enforcement work, satisfied that the job constructively utilizes his or her personal talents and, though to a lesser extent, comfortable with the degree to which their training prepared them for the actual duties they are called upon to perform. The responses of the urban officers did not differ significantly from those of other patrol officer throughout Ohio in these areas.

Somewhat surprisingly, a large number of these relatively young patrol officers had already gained some law enforcement experience prior to taking their present assignments. Close to one-third indicated prior experience as security guards, while others had served as military police officers, police reservists, deputy sheriffs, and a variety of related jobs.

FIGURE 1

PATROL OFFICERS WITH PRIOR LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERIENCE

SECURITY GUARD	27% / 32%
MILITARY POLICE	13% / 18%
MUNICIPAL POLICE	20% / 16%
POLICE RESERVE	23% / 25%
DEPUTY SHERIFF	12% / 8%
OTHER	6% / 4%

BALANCE OF STATE
32 LARGE CITIES
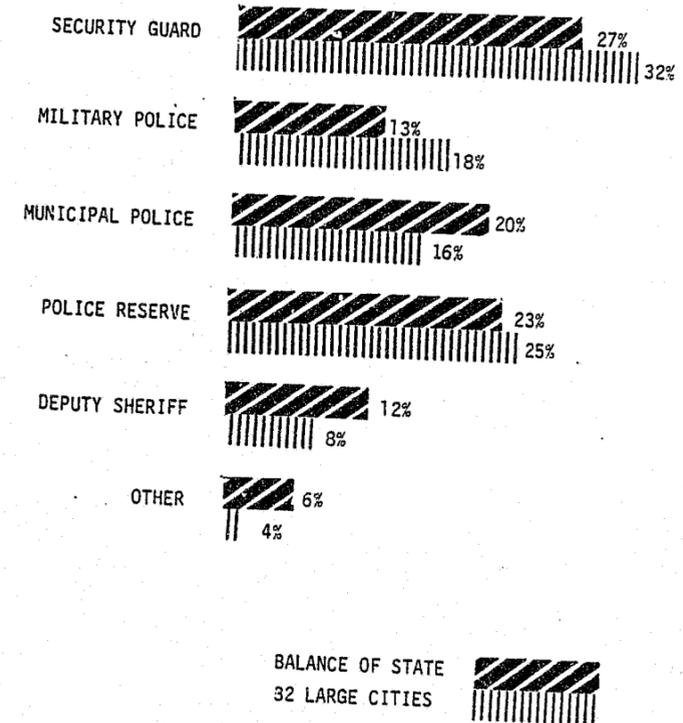
Several "agency" characteristics were also isolated in the survey data. Not surprisingly, the data revealed that the size of an agency's jurisdictional population will often dictate operational practices within those agencies. A noteable example is the assignment of patrol officers to patrol vehicles. Table 7 reflects the more comparable situations of vehicle patrol between the 32 large cities and the balance of state. Also included is the overwhelmingly different types of patrol in the seven largest urban areas to illustrate how closely the two former groups are related.

TABLE 7

TYPE OF PATROL
BY
TYPE OF JURISDICTION

	Thirty-two Large Cities	Balance* of State	Seven Largest Cities
1-Person Vehicle	68 %	82 %	26 %
2-Person Vehicle	17 %	3 %	63 %
Motorcycle	.2%	.3%	.4%
Foot	.5%	.5%	.1%
Foot and Vehicle	3 %	11 %	
Other	12 %	4 %	

The great differences noted in the types of patrol utilized by various agencies can probably be accounted for by the demands of geography (especially for sheriffs' patrol officers), increased danger to the officers in some urban areas and, in at least some circumstances, union demands.

The 420 urban officers did not differ markedly from their "balance of state" peers in terms of work shifts, the breakout of which was as follows:

TABLE 8

WORK SHIFT: LARGE CITY PATROL OFFICERS

	Number	Percent
Day	104	25%
Afternoon	166	40%
Midnight	120	29%
Split Shift	12	3%
Odd Shift	5	1%
Other	12	3%
Total	419	101%

There was, however, a rather noticeable difference between the two groups when responding to the question about the number of times patrol officers are called upon to perform tasks of a higher rank. The infrequency of such occurrences among officers in the thirty-two large cities would seem to document more plentiful levels of manpower, and, hence, more rigidly enforced lines of specialization of duties. In the smaller departments, however, where the absence of a single person could upset the normal functioning of command and operations, such rigid specialization may be more of a luxury item.

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* Includes all other patrol officers surveyed (1,455) other than the 1,154 in the "Largest" and "Large" cities separately analyzed here.

TABLE 9

"I AM CALLED UPON TO PERFORM THE TASKS OF A HIGHER RANK..."

	Large Cities	Balance of State
Never		19%
Seldom	25%	31%
Occasionally	37%	33%
Frequently	31%	10%
Very Frequently	5%	6%
	3%	

COMPLAINT/INCIDENT SECTION

The complaint/incident section of the task analysis survey queried Ohio's peace officers to determine which complaints and incidents officers typically encountered in the course of their daily activities. The questions also gleaned the most frequent ways in which these incidents are handled. The scale below represents the categories officers could choose from when recording their responses.

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┌──────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│                       COMPLAINT/INCIDENT SCALE                             │
│            When I Respond To This Type of Complaint/Incident I Usually:     │
│                                                                            │
│    0            1            2               3              4               │
│ I have never  Make log   Conduct preliminary  Conduct complete  Other response or │
│ responded to  entry only. investigation and   investigation and  some combination │
│ this type of             write report.        write report.     of previous 3.   │
│ complaint/                                                                  │
│ incident.                                                                  │
└──────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

The majority of the questions yielding a response of "never" were aircraft, conservation, and victimless types of incidents. The questions listed in the following table are incidents that are not as rare but which still drew many "never" responses.

TABLE 10

PERCENT OF OFFICERS NEVER ENCOUNTERING...

Questions	Percent of Officers Responding "Never"
Curfew Violations	29.5%
Evictions	39.3%
False Fire Alarms	20.2%
Impersonating an Officer	57.4%
Motor Vehicle Hijacking	81.4%

The following three tables illustrate the most frequent types of investigations conducted by the "large city" officers in response to a variety of complaint/incidents.

TABLE 11

"LOG ONLY" RESPONSES FOR SELECTED COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS

Complaint/Incident	Percent of Officers Responding "Log Only"
Abandoned House	45.5%
Citizen Lockout	51.4%
Downed Wires	45.0%
Loud Party	40.0%
Perimeter Control at Fire	47.9%
Ruptured Water or Gas Line	43.1%

TABLE 12

"PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION" RESPONSES FOR SELECTED COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS

Complaint/Incident	Percent of Officers Responding "Preliminary Investigation Only"
Bad Check	61.4%
Credit Card Theft	66.9%
Motor Vehicle Theft	57.9%
Obscene Phone Call	59.5%
Robbery	57.9%

TABLE 13

"COMPLETE INVESTIGATION" RESPONSES FOR COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS

Complaint/Incident	Percent of Officers Responding "Complete Investigation"
Concealed Weapons	63.3%
Disorderly Public Conduct	70.2%
Drunk in Public	64.8%
Traffic Accident	82.1%
Traffic Offense	72.4%

EQUIPMENT

Experience dictates that various equipment items play a prominent role in the effective performance of an officer's duties. As such, the tables below report equipment items frequently and seldom used by patrol officers in the course of their work. It is worth noting that some items (i.e. shotgun, first aid kit, fire extinguisher), although infrequently used, are rated by supervisors as very important to the patrol function. Additionally, while some items reflect low importance or involve little learning difficulty, this may not actually be the case. The inclusion of a "never used" category in the importance and learning difficulty scales may have precluded a majority of supervisors from rating certain equipment items because they are never used.

TABLE 14

FREQUENTLY USED EQUIPMENT ITEMS
(LARGE CITY POLICE)

	Percent of Patrol Officers Using This Equipment Monthly Or More Often	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Equipment As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Equipment As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn to Operate
Automobile	99%	100%	85%
Body Armor	60%	79%	94%
Handcuffs	95%	98%	99%
Hand Held Radio	96%	99%	100%
LEADS Terminal	86%	99%	20%
Spotlight	94%	94%	100%
Typewriter	80%	83%	50%

TABLE 15

INFREQUENTLY USED EQUIPMENT ITEMS
(LARGE CITY POLICE)

	Percent of Patrol Using This Equipment Monthly or More Often	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Equipment As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Equipment As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn to Operate
Blackjack	15%	31%	75%
Drug Narcotics Kit	5%	42%	48%
Fingerprint Kit	12%	19%	13%
First Aid Kit	16%	58%	62%
Shotgun	29%	90%	74%

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Patrol officers in the performance of their wide ranging and often complex duties must rely on a large magnitude of information flowing from a variety of sources. Presented below in Figure 2 are the frequency, importance, and learning difficulty of the eight most frequently used sources of information. Additionally, Table 16 reflects the degree to which some sources are never utilized.

FIGURE 2

MOST FREQUENTLY USED INFORMATION SOURCES
(LARGE CITY POLICE)

	Percent of Patrol Officers Required To Read These Manuals	Percent of Supervisors Rating These Manuals As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating These Manuals As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Criminal Law and Procedural Manual	37%	95%	48%
Department Manuals	77%	87%	76%
Interoffice Memos	57%	59%	92%
Local Ordinances	71%	84%	71%
Ohio Criminal Code and Procedures	68%	99%	56%
Ohio Vehicle Code	58%	95%	66%
Training Bulletins	45%	72%	92%
Wanted Bulletins	36%	63%	98%

As seen in Figure 2, most of the required reading for the majority of patrol officers is rated by supervisors as rather easy to learn.

TABLE 16

INFORMATION SOURCES NEVER USED BY A MAJORITY OF PATROL OFFICERS
IN LARGE JURISDICTIONS

	NEVER USED
FAA Bulletins	81%
Field Guides	38%
Fish and Game Code	85%
Harbor Statutes	99%
Health Statutes	59%
ICC Rules	86%
Weather Forecasts	44%

ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS

As one might expect, administrative tasks were performed less frequently by patrol officers. Tabled below are both some of the more often and also never performed administrative tasks including their corresponding importance and learning difficulty ratings. As previously mentioned, some supervisors could not rank the importance and learning difficulty of certain tasks because they responded "never used" in some areas.

TABLE 17

FREQUENTLY PERFORMED ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Performing This Task at Least Once a Month	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Describe Person to Other Officer	86%	86%	84%
Exchange Information	63%	81%	91%
Notify Public Agencies	50%	57%	93%
Operate LEADS	54%	72%	27%
Operate Switchboard	55%	66%	66%
Request Equipment Repair	67%	77%	96%
Request Verification	72%	85%	87%
Type Incident Reports	60%	61%	59%

TABLE 18

NEVER PERFORMED ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Never Performing This Task	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Conduct Investigations	96%	16%	26%
Interview Applicants	97%	41%	20%
Investigate and Report Background	96%	43%	29%
Make Vehicle Repairs	96%	15%	7%
Train Police Dogs	97%	8%	2%
Update Spot Maps	94%	19%	30%
Write Contract Specifications	97%	15%	5%
Write Policy Materials	94%	28%	15%

ARREST, SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Of the 24 "arrest, search and seizure" tasks identified in the survey, four were performed at least weekly or even daily by the vast majority of the large city officers. Table 19 reflects these frequency ratings as well as the importance and learning difficulty ratings provided by the 86 large city supervisors.

TABLE 19

FIVE MOST FREQUENTLY PERFORMED
ARREST, SEARCH AND SEIZURE TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Performing This Task at Least Once a Week	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Arrest Persons Without a Warrant	63%	87%	54%
Conduct Field Search	58%	97%	72%
Conduct Frisk	70%	95%	85%
Handcuff Suspect	66%	99%	91%
Impound Property	43%	79%	86%

In most cases the importance and learning difficulty ratings correlated with the frequency ratings, with supervisors generally convinced of the both task importance and the relative ease with which it can be learned. The two exceptions to this rule are found in the learning difficulty ratings for "arrest persons without a warrant" and "conduct field search of arrested persons," two tasks which involve police officers in the sensitive and controversial areas of defendant rights. For those two tasks the patrol supervisors displayed misgivings about the ease with which the tasks could be learned.

At the other end of the spectrum, the five least often performed arrest/search and seizure tasks drew a decidedly mixed response from the supervisors. For example, "discharge firearm at person" had never been performed by four-out-of-five of the officers, yet elicited relatively high importance and difficulty ratings from the supervisors. It is interesting to note the degree of reliance by both the patrol and supervisors upon the public. And, while three-fourths of the patrol officers had never requested bystanders to assist in an apprehension, only one supervisor in ten saw that task as having any real importance.

TABLE 20

FIVE LEAST FREQUENTLY PERFORMED
ARREST, SEARCH AND SEIZURE TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Who Have Never Performed This Task	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Discharge Firearm at Person	79%	47%	20%
Plan Strategy for Arrests	30%	70%	56%
Plan Strategy for Searches	58%	61%	37%
Request Bystanders to Assist in an Apprehension	76%	10%	44%
Secure Search Warrant	57%	66%	30%

PATROL FUNCTIONS

Sixty-nine patrol function tasks were identified in the survey. Because some of these were quite obscure (e.g., clean fire fighting equipment, flush fuel spills, etc.) only the five most frequently performed patrol functions are summarized here.

TABLE 21

FIVE MOST FREQUENTLY PERFORMED PATROL TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Performing This Task at Least Once a Week	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Check For Wants Via Leads	83%	65%	91%
Check Parks	89%	63%	95%
Check Parking Lots	90%	58%	95%
Check Patrol Equipment	91%	83%	98%
Inform Dispatcher of Status	97%	95%	99%

The "patrol functions" listing also contained several tasks which were maintenance in nature (e.g., clean weapons, inspect cruiser, etc.). Because these are supplemental to, but not indicative of, patrol operations their ratings were not included in the calculating of the five most frequently performed tasks.

PATROL CONTACT

Although a patrol officer's primary function is law enforcement in a reactive sense, each day sees the average patrol officer in contact with the public outside of the strict law enforcement context. These contacts range from counseling juveniles to cultivating informants to establishing rapport with local citizens. And, while these contacts provide a vital and indispensible service to the community by dissolving most reactive situations, they also tend to help the role of the patrol officer. For example, past findings indicate a direct relationship between the frequency with which patrol officers talk with people in the community and the level of interest in their jobs. Presented below are a few of the patrol contact functions dichotomized into high and low frequency categories with corresponding importance and learning difficulty ratings.

TABLE 22

FREQUENTLY PERFORMED PATROL TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Performing This Task at Least Once a Month	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Advise Victims	92%	88%	78%
Explain Nature of Complaints	87%	74%	80%
Give Street Directions	87%	54%	95%
Interview Suspicious Persons	87%	90%	51%
Investigate Suspicious Vehicles	94%	90%	73%
Stop Vehicle to Cite	90%	86%	70%
Warn Offenders	91%	64%	92%

TABLE 23

SELDOM PERFORMED PATROL TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Performing This Task at Least Once a Month	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Accept Bond	1%	0%	1%
Explain Demonstration Permits	1%	26%	45%
Fight Structual Fires	1%	1%	2%
Identify Ownership of Livestock	1%	6%	16%
Watch for Illegal Activity	1%	36%	56%

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CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

In the course of routine patrol work law enforcement officers have the opportunity to engage in criminal investigation. Below are ten of the criminal investigation activities most and least frequently engaged in by Ohio peace officers.

TABLE 24

FIVE MOST AND FIVE LEAST OFTEN PERFORMED CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Performing This Task at Least Once a Month	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Determine Whether Incidents Are Criminal Or Civil Matters	82%	87%	66%
Interview Complainants, Witnesses, etc.	80%	93%	40%
Package Evidences or Personal Property	65%	69%	72%
Tag Evidence And Confiscated Properties	78%	85%	87%
Take Custody of Lost and Found Property	66%	70%	94%
Cast Impressions At Crime Scene	.4%	40%	19%
Organize and Conduct Station-House Line-Ups	1%	38%	40%
Prepare Paperwork To File Extradition Warrants	0%	27%	15%
Use of Polygraph Results to Interrogate Suspect or Witness	1%	35%	15%
Witness Autopies	0%	23%	41%

22

COURT PROCEDURES

Either as a result of their patrol duties or in addition to them, patrol officers sometimes find themselves engaging in court-related procedures. Listed below are those court activities in which officers are most and least likely to engage.

TABLE 25

FIVE MOST AND FIVE LEAST
OFTEN PERFORMED COURT PROCEDURE TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Performing This Task at Least Once a Month	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Appear In Court (other than as a witness)	32%	33%	54%
Confer With Prosecutor Prior To Testimony In Case	57%	81%	81%
Discuss Cases With Prosecutors Following Legal Proceedings	32%	73%	81%
Review Reports And Notes For Court Testimony	53%	81%	68%
Testify In Criminal Cases	59%	91%	48%
Act As Court Bailiff	.2%	5%	14%
Assemble Potential Juror List	1%	2%	2%
Mail Jury Duty Notices	.2%	2%	4%
Testify in Liquor Board Hearings	1%	45%	44%
Testify In Secretary of State Implied Consent Hearings	.2%	19%	31%

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

Law enforcement officers in Ohio, as elsewhere, are called upon to investigate traffic accidents. The following is a list of accident-related activities which do and do not consume the patrol officer's time.

TABLE 26

FIVE MOST AND FIVE LEAST
OFTEN PERFORMED TRAFFIC ACCIDENT TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Performing This Task at Least Once a Month	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Determine Contributing Factors To An Accident	88%	87%	42%
Determine Violations In A Traffic Accident	90%	88%	62%
Diagram Accident Scenes	89%	92%	63%
Interview Persons Involved In Traffic Accidents	90%	90%	76%
Issue Citations In Traffic Accidents	90%	74%	80%
Calculate Vehicle Speed Using Mathematical Formulas	3%	40%	14%
Interview Tow Truck Operators For Relevant Accident Information	26%	41%	77%
Photograph Accident Scenes	25%	67%	48%
Review Accidents With Accident Investigators	21%	61%	74%
Take Coordinate Measures Of Accident Scenes	30%	72%	47%

TRAFFIC PATROL

Much of an officer's time on the job is spent on traffic patrol looking for violators and ensuring that traffic is flowing safely and smoothly.

TABLE 27

FIVE MOST AND FIVE LEAST OFTEN PERFORMED TRAFFIC PATROL TASKS

	Percent of Patrol Officers Performing This Task at Least Once a Month	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Important" or "Very Important"	Percent of Supervisors Rating This Task As "Very Easy" or "Rather Easy" to Learn
Explain Legal Procedures To Traffic Violators	83%	66%	78%
Follow Suspect Vehicle To Observe Traffic Violations	83%	69%	84%
Inspect Operator's License	93%	83%	97%
Issue Traffic Citations	93%	76%	91%
Issue Verbal Warnings To Traffic Violators	90%	50%	95%
Complete Operator's License Re-Examination Form	2%	34%	64%
Count Traffic Flow Using Automatic Devices	2%	7%	29%
Issue Moving Traffic Citations To Pedestrian	6%	24%	76%
Move Disabled Vehicles With Patrol Car	5%	5%	19%
Plan Traffic Detours	3%	29%	53%

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

Because of its implications for the validation of entry-level strength and agility requirements, this section perhaps will be of greatest interest not only to chiefs, but also to prospective recruits. Listed below are seven selected routine physical activities performed monthly or more frequently by patrol officers in thirty-two large city agencies.

TABLE 28

PERFORMANCE FREQUENCY FOR SEVEN SELECTED PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

	Monthly or More Often	Never
Climb Obstacles	35%	3%
Jump Over Obstacles	21%	6%
Lift Heavy Objects or Persons	22%	6%
Physically Push Movable Object	30%	3%
Run After Suspects	26%	1%
Run Up Stairs	30%	5%
Subdue Persons Resisting Arrest	32%	1%

The remaining 19 tables of this report, and their corresponding narratives, describe in minute detail the most strenuous physical activity of the previous five work shifts undertaken by 280 of the "large city" patrol officers. The remaining 138 officers indicated no such activity for that time frame. As will become evident the task analysis study went to tedious lengths to measure these activities in feet, inches, pounds, etc. This was done because most departmental standards, especially physical standards, are measured in those same units.

TABLE 29

ACTIVITY STATUS FOR LAST FIVE WORK SHIFTS

	Number of Officers	Percent
No Activity	138	33%
Activity Without Resistance	116	28%
Activity With Resistance	164	39%
TOTAL	418	100%

It is interesting to note that in analyzing all the city police department categories, a trend toward inactivity becomes evident with a decrease in jurisdiction size. That is, a smaller precentage of big city officers are inactive as compared to small city officers. Conversely, the "large" city police officers are less likely than their "largest" city counterparts to engage in activity in which resistance plays a part.

During the course of police patrol work, officers periodically have to run, either in pursuit of suspects or to assist in other emergency situations. Below are the distances run by "large city" patrol officers during what they described as the "most strenuous physical activity of their last five work shifts." (Note: All of the remaining tables reflect descriptions of that same activity.)

TABLE 30

RUNNING

	Number of Officers	Percent
1 to 24 yards	96	53%
25 to 49 yards	19	10%
50 to 74 yards	19	10%
75 to 99 yards	8	4%
100 yards and over	40	22%
TOTAL	182	99%*

* Percentages do not add to 100% due to rounding.

In running, police officers can expect to encounter a number of obstacles which make their job more difficult. "Large city" officers responding to the task analysis survey reported encountering the following obstacles:

TABLE 31

OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED WHILE RUNNING

	Number of Officers	Percent
Ditch	5	4%
Fence or Wall	22	16%
Shrubs	5	4%
Stairs	16	11%
Vehicle	18	13%
2 of the above	29	21%
3 of the above	23	16%
Other	23	16%
TOTAL	141	101%*

Not often do officers find themselves crawling. One seasoned police veteran suggested this is because officers do not want to ruin their uniforms. Below are the distances Ohio's "large city" police officers crawled during their last five work shifts.

TABLE 32

CRAWLING

	Number of Officers	Percent
1 to 3 feet	21	62%
4 to 6 feet	6	18%
7 to 9 feet	1	3%
10 to 12 feet	3	9%
13 feet and over	3	9%
TOTAL	34	101%*

* Percentage exceeds 100% due to rounding.

The typical police officer in Ohio does not engage in the stunts that characterize law enforcement work as depicted on television. Still, some of the officers from the large city police forces did jump in the course of performing their duties. Following are the distances jumped by the task analysis respondents.

TABLE 33

JUMPING

	Number of Officers	Percent
1 to 3 feet	46	52%
4 to 6 feet	38	43%
7 to 9 feet	3	3%
10 to 12 feet	2	2%
TOTAL	89	100%

As with the officers who ran, the ones who jumped also encountered obstacles. The table below reflects the numbers of patrol officers having to cope with each type of obstacle.

TABLE 34

JUMPING OBSTACLES

	Number of Officers	Percent
Ditch	9	8%
Fence	16	14%
Shrubs	7	6%
Stairs	13	11%
Vehicle	8	7%
2 of the above	32	28%
3 of the above	21	18%
Other	10	9%
TOTAL	116	101%

Climbing is yet another activity which, while not consuming much of an officer's time, can make the job more difficult when it is necessary. The kinds of obstacles officers encounter can have important training implications. For example, if most of the obstacles did not have handholds or footholds, then training sessions would have to emphasize climbing techniques designed to help officers surmount these barriers. Below are some of the objects the officers were forced to climb.

TABLE 35

CLIMBING OBSTACLES

	Number of Officers	Percent
Ditch	1	1%
Embankment	13	15%
Fence	35	41%
Ladder	9	11%
Stairs	15	17%
Other	13	15%
TOTAL	86	100%

As mentioned earlier, handholds and footholds can be an important consideration for training purposes. The obstacles encountered by the "large city" respondents are analyzed below.

TABLE 36

OBSTACLES WITH HANDHOLDS AND FOOTHOLDS

	Number of Officers	Percent
Foothold	20	36%
Handhold	20	36%
Solid	16	29%
TOTAL	56	101%*

* Percentage exceeds 100% due to rounding.

Those readers concerned with officers who climb may be interested in knowing how far the latter were forced to climb. Below is a list of the distances for the "large city police" respondents.

TABLE 37

CLIMBING DISTANCES

	Number of Officers	Percent
5 feet or less	29	33%
6 to 10 feet	40	45%
11 to 20 feet	11	12%
21 feet and over	9	10%
TOTAL	89	100%

Pushing is another activity which most lay persons probably do not see officers do. Yet some of the task analysis respondents did, in fact, have to push objects during their last five work shifts.

TABLE 38

PUSHING (DISTANCES)

	Number of Officers	Percent
1 to 19 feet	50	51%
20 to 39 feet	17	17%
40 to 59 feet	18	18%
60 to 79 feet	5	5%
80 feet and over	9	9%
TOTAL	99	100%

The weight of an object to be pushed certainly influences the ease or difficulty with which the task is completed. Here are the weight ranges for objects pushed by police officers from the large city departments.

TABLE 39

PUSHING (WEIGHTS)

	Number of Officers	Percent
25 to 49 pounds	4	4%
50 to 99 pounds	1	1%
100 to 149 pounds	8	8%
150 to 199 pounds	14	14%
200 pounds and over	72	73%
TOTAL	99	100%

It is evident from the table above that a plurality of officers pushed extremely heavy objects. Some of this can be explained by the fact that 72 of the officers indicated they had pushed a vehicle. Many of the rest may have pushed people, trash dumpsters, or other heavy objects. The majority of those pushing admitted receiving some assistance; most, however, revealed that speed was not required, suggesting that most situations were not of an emergency nature.

Some of the officers also found themselves pulling objects while performing their patrol duties. A breakdown of the distances the officers pulled objects is provided in the following table.

TABLE 40

PULLING (DISTANCES)

	Number of Officers	Percent
1 to 19 feet	55	65%
20 to 39 feet	15	18%
40 to 59 feet	5	6%
60 to 79 feet	4	5%
80 feet and over	6	7%
TOTAL	85	101%

It is evident that the vast majority of officers claiming to have pulled objects did so for relatively short distances. Even more important might be the weight of the objects pulled.

TABLE 41

PULLING (WEIGHTS)

	Number of Officers	Percent
25 to 49 pounds	2	2%
50 to 99 pounds	4	4%
100 to 149 pounds	24	27%
150 to 199 pounds	48	53%
200 pounds and over	12	13%
TOTAL	90	99%

Since 93% of the officers pulled objects weighing in excess of 100 pounds it might suggest that persons were the objects pulled. In fact, over four fifths of the officers pulled persons. And two-thirds of these officers received assistance in their pulling encounter. However, less than one third of those pulling claimed that speed was required, perhaps suggesting that the officers may have been pulling intoxicated persons.

The last standard physical activity to be considered is lifting. Again, the layman often does not see officers doing this. As can be seen in the following table, two-thirds of those officers engaging in lifting did so to heights of under five feet.

TABLE 42

LIFTING (HEIGHTS)

	Number of Officers	Percent
1 foot	12	15%
2 feet	10	12%
3 feet	27	33%
4 feet	7	9%
5 feet and over	25	31%
TOTAL	81	100%

Objects lifted often have to be carried certain distances. The table below reveals that over half of the officers carried their objects less than 20 feet.

TABLE 43

CARRYING (DISTANCES)

	Number of Officers	Percent
1 to 19 feet	40	52%
20 to 39 feet	11	14%
40 to 59 feet	9	12%
60 to 79 feet	5	7%
80 feet and over	12	16%
TOTAL	77	101%

Lifting and carrying can, of course, be made more or less difficult by the weight of the object carried.

TABLE 44

LIFTING (WEIGHTS)

	Number of Officers	Percent
25 to 49 pounds	12	15%
50 to 99 pounds	7	8%
100 to 149 pounds	16	19%
150 to 199 pounds	42	51%
200 pounds and over	6	7%
TOTAL	83	100%

Slightly less than three-fourths of these patrol officers carried people. And, over one-half of them got some assistance.

As could be expected, a number of the officers engaging in physical activities met resistance (37%). The majority (75%) of these officers had to contend with only one suspect, with another 11% being forced to grapple with two. In 84% of the cases the suspects were males.

One frustrating conclusion pointed out by the data is that reasoning with resistive suspects is difficult in most cases. Less than 40% of the officers were able to reason with their suspects. The task analysis respondents were given the opportunity to describe why they were unable to reason with their suspects.

TABLE 45

REASONS FOR INABILITY TO REASON WITH SUSPECTS

	Number of Officers	Percent
Drug or alcohol influence	115	71%
Emotionally or mentally upset	18	11%
Mental State Unknown	17	11%
No Opportunity to Reason	12	7%
TOTAL	162	100%

Resistance by suspects can take a variety of forms. For example, a drunk poses a problem different from the armed robber.

TABLE 46

TYPES OF RESISTANCE

	Yes	Percent	No	Percent
Barricade	12	(8%)	135	(92%)
Hit/Kick	88	(57%)	66	(43%)
Passive Resistance	41	(27%)	109	(73%)
Pulled Away	117	(75%)	39	(25%)
Ran Away	68	(45%)	84	(55%)
Special Tactics	4	(3%)	139	(97%)
Threw Object	20	(14%)	125	(86%)
Weapon	23	(16%)	123	(84%)
Wrestled	118	(78%)	34	(22%)

By far the vast majority (96%) of officers encountering resistance issued verbal orders to their suspects. Less than one-fifth of the officers saw their suspects submit to these orders.

In some cases, it was necessary for officers to use force to subdue the suspects. Table 47 lists the various degrees of force used by police in subduing resisting arrestees.

TABLE 47

TYPES OF FORCE USED TO SUBDUE SUBJECTS

	Yes	Percent	No	Percent
Chemical Agent	8	(5%)	140	(95%)
Discharge Firearm	7	(5%)	139	(95%)
Display Firearm	19	(13%)	127	(87%)
Handcuffs with Assistance	111	(72%)	43	(28%)
Handcuffs without Assistance	45	(30%)	106	(70%)
Hit/Kick	44	(29%)	106	(71%)
Restraining Holds	123	(80%)	30	(20%)
Wrestled	115	(76%)	37	(24%)
Nightstick/Blackjack	26	(18%)	121	(82%)
Other Force	6	(6%)	103	(94%)

OTHER SAC PUBLICATIONS

March 1983 — <u>Use of Force By Ohio Peace Officers</u>. An analysis of the use of force by Ohio law enforcers during the performance of routine patrol work. Examined are personal defense tactics as well as non-lethal and lethal force.

March 1983 — <u>The Ohio Statistical Analysis Center: A User's Profile</u>. This administrative report highlights SAC's setting and function in Ohio government, the federal SAC network, and the field of criminal justice. It profiles SAC's structure, research priorities, information users, and similarities to other state and territorial SACs.

March 1983 — <u>OCJS Research Requests and Responses: An Analysis</u>. An analysis of 346 research data requests received and responded to by SAC in 1982, as well as the nearly 1,000 requests received to date, by type and source of request.

Spring, 1983 — The following series of eight reports are modular summaries, each about 40 pages in length, profiling the results from each of the jurisdiction levels (based on populations) represented in 1981-82 Ohio Law Enforcement Task Analysis Survey. These reports highlight the frequency of task performance, equipment usage, physical activities, as well as other facets of the peace officer's job. Also included are supervisors' assessments of importance and learning difficulty.

<u>Law Enforcement In Ohio Cities Serving Over 100,000 People: A Task Analysis</u>.

<u>Law Enforcement In Ohio Cities Serving 25,000-100,000 People: A Task Analysis</u>.

<u>Law Enforcement In Ohio Cities Serving 10,000-25,000 People: A Task Analysis</u>.

<u>Law Enforcement In Ohio Municipalities Serving 2,500-10,000 People: A Task Analysis</u>. (forthcoming)

<u>Law Enforcement In Ohio Municipalities Serving Under 2,500 People: A Task Analysis</u> (forthcoming)

<u>Law Enforcement In Ohio Counties Serving Over 250,000 People: A Task Analysis</u>. (forthcoming)

<u>Law Enforcement In Ohio Counties Serving 100,000-250,000 People: A Task Analysis</u>. (forthcoming)

<u>Law Enforcement In Ohio Counties Serving Under 100,000 People: A Task Analysis</u>. (forthcoming)

November 1982   Survey of Ohio Citizen Attitudes Concerning Crime
                 and Criminal Justice. the third annual report of this
                 series, this study focusing on attitudes toward law
                 enforcement officers, public crime-fear levels, handgun
                 ownership, and the informational resources which mold
                 public opinion in this area.

October 1982   Peace Officers Task Analysis Study: The Ohio Report.
                 A two-and-one-half year study involving a survey of
                 3,155 Ohio peace officers in some 400 law enforcement
                 agencies concerning the types of investigation,
                 equipment, informational resources, tasks and physical
                 activities associated with law enforcement in Ohio.

May 1982   OCJS Research Requests and Responses: An Analysis.
                 An analysis of 308 research data requests received and
                 responded to by SAC in 1981, as well as the 625 total
                 requests received to date, by type and source of request.

April 1982   Fact and Fiction Concerning Crime and Criminal Justice
                 in Ohio (1979-1982 data). A look at twenty-five
                 popularly-believed myths about crime and criminal
                 justice in the State, accompanied by appropriate
                 factual data.

July 1981   Ohio Citizen Attitudes: Concerning Crime and Criminal
                 Justice (Report #2, 1980 data). The second in a
                 series of reports concerning Ohioans' attitudes and
                 opinions about contemporary issues affecting law
                 enforcement, courts, corrections, juvenile justice,
                 crime prevention, and criminal law.

June 1981   A Stability Profile of Ohio Law Enforcement Trainees:
                 1974-1979 (1981 records). A brief analysis of some 125
                 Ohio Law Enforcement Officers who completed mandated
                 training between 1974 and 1979. The randomly
                 selected group was analyzed in terms of turnover,
                 advancement, and moves to other law enforcement
                 agencies.

May 1981   A Directory of Ohio Criminal Justice Agencies (1981
                 data). An inventory of several thousand criminal
                 justice (and related) agencies in Ohio, by type and
                 county.

April 1981   Property Crime Victimization: The Ohio Experience
                 (1978 data). A profile of property crime in Ohio
                 highlighting the characteristics of victims, offenders,
                 and the crimes themselves; based on results of the
                 annual National Crime Survey victimization studies in
                 Ohio.

March 1981   Profiles in Ohio Law Enforcement: Technical Assistance,
                 Budgets, and Benefits (1979 data). The second report
                 emanating from the 1979 SAC survey of 82 sheriffs'
                 departments and 182 police departments in Ohio;
                 discusses technical assistance needs and capabilities
                 among these agencies, as well as budgets and fringe
                 benefits.

December 1980   The Need for Criminal Justice Research: OCJS Requests
                 and Responses (1978-1980). An analysis of some 300
                 research requests received and responded to by the
                 OCJS SAC Unit between 1978 and 1980, by type,
                 request source, and time of response.

September 1980   State of the States Report: Statistical Analysis Centers
                 (Emphasis Ohio) (1980 data). An analysis of the
                 criminal justice statistical analysis centers located in
                 virtually every state and several territories.

September 1980   Survey of Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys: Report (1979
                 data). An operational overview of 46 county prosecu-
                 tors' offices.

September 1980   In Support of Criminal Justice: Money and Manpower
                 (1977 data). Analysis of employment and expenditures
                 within Ohio's criminal justice system, by type of
                 component (police, courts, corrections, etc.), and
                 type of jurisdiction (county, city, township and
                 state).

June 1980   Concerning Crime and Criminal Justice: Attitudes
                 Among Ohio's Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (1979
                 data). Opinions and attitudes of 82 Ohio sheriffs and
                 182 chiefs of police, analyzed by jurisdictional size.

May 1980   Ohio Citizen Attitudes: A Survey of Public Opinion on
                 Crime and Criminal Justice (1979 data). An analysis
                 of public opinion and attitudes on a wide range of
                 issues concerning law enforcement, courts, corrections,
                 juvenile justice, crime prevention, and other areas of
                 crime and criminal justice.

END