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**Law Enforcement In Ohio Cities
Serving Over 100,000 People:**
A Task Analysis

96452

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The full time frame for this project is February, 1981-June, 1983. Field surveys were conducted during the period November, 1981-February 1982. A total of 35 staff members participated in the project, not including several boards.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

	PAGE
PREFACE.....	1
OFFICER PROFILE.....	2
COMPLAINT/INCIDENT SECTION.....	9
EQUIPMENT.....	11
SOURCES OF INFORMATION.....	13
ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS.....	15
ARREST, SEARCH AND SEIZURE.....	17
PATROL FUNCTIONS.....	19
PATROL CONTACT.....	20
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.....	22
COURT PROCEDURES.....	23
TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION.....	24
TRAFFIC PATROL.....	25
PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES.....	26
OTHER SAC PUBLICATIONS.....	38

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LIST OF TABLES

	PAGE
TABLE 1: COMPARISON: ACTUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT POPULATION V. SURVEY (RESPONSE) POPULATION.....	2
TABLE 2: OFFICERS' RACE AND SEX CHARACTERISTICS.....	3
TABLE 3: OFFICERS' EDUCATIONAL LEVELS PRIOR TO JOINING AND AT PRESENT: SEVEN LARGEST CITIES V. BALANCE OF STATE....	4
TABLE 4: "MY JOB IS...".....	4
TABLE 5: "MY JOB UTILIZES MY TALENTS...".....	5
TABLE 6: "MY (BASIC) TRAINING PREPARED ME...".....	5
TABLE 7: TYPES OF PATROL BY TYPE OF JURISDICTION.....	7
TABLE 8: WORK SHIFT: URBAN PATROL OFFICERS.....	7
TABLE 9: "I AM CALLED UPON TO PERFORM THE TASKS OF A HIGHER RANK...".....	8
TABLE 10: PERCENT OF OFFICERS NEVER ENCOUNTERING.....	9
TABLE 11: LOG ONLY RESPONSES FOR SELECTED COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS....	10
TABLE 12: "PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION" RESPONSES FOR SELECTED COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS.....	10
TABLE 13: "COMPLETE INVESTIGATION" RESPONSES FOR COMPLAINT/INCIDENTS.....	10
TABLE 14: FREQUENTLY USED EQUIPMENT ITEMS (LARGE CITY POLICE).....	11
TABLE 15: INFREQUENTLY USED EQUIPMENT ITEMS (LARGE CITY POLICE).....	12
TABLE 16: SUPERVISORS' RATING OF INFORMATION SOURCES MOST OFTEN USED (LARGE CITY POLICE).....	13
TABLE 17: INFORMATION SOURCES NEVER USED BY A MAJORITY OF OHIO PATROL OFFICERS IN LARGE JURISDICTIONS.....	14
TABLE 18: FREQUENTLY PERFORMED ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS.....	15
TABLE 19: SELDOM PERFORMED ADMINISTRATIVE TASKS.....	16
TABLE 20: FIVE MOST FREQUENTLY PERFORMED ARREST, SEARCH AND SEIZURE TASKS.....	17

TABLE 21: FIVE LEAST FREQUENTLY PERFORMED ARREST, SEARCH AND SEIZURE TASKS.....	<u>PAGE</u> 18
TABLE 22: FIVE MOST FREQUENTLY PERFORMED PATROL TASKS.....	19
TABLE 23: FREQUENTLY PERFORMED PATROL TASKS.....	20
TABLE 24: SELDOM PERFORMED PATROL TASKS.....	21
TABLE 25: FIVE MOST AND FIVE LEAST OFTEN PERFORMED CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION TASKS.....	22
TABLE 26: FIVE MOST AND FIVE LEAST OFTEN PERFORMED COURT PROCEDURE TASKS.....	23
TABLE 27: FIVE MOST AND FIVE LEAST OFTEN PERFORMED TRAFFIC ACCIDENT TASKS.....	24
TABLE 28: FIVE MOST AND FIVE LEAST OFTEN PERFORMED TRAFFIC PATROL TASKS.....	25
TABLE 29: PERFORMANCE FREQUENCY FOR SEVEN SELECTED PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES.....	26
TABLE 30: ACTIVITY STATUS FOR LAST FIVE WORK SHIFTS.....	27
TABLE 31: RUNNING.....	27
TABLE 32: OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED WHILE RUNNING.....	28
TABLE 33: CRAWLING.....	28
TABLE 34: JUMPING.....	29
TABLE 35: JUMPING OBSTACLES.....	29
TABLE 36: CLIMBING OBSTACLES.....	30
TABLE 37: OBSTACLES WITH HANDHOLDS AND FOOTHOLDS.....	30
TABLE 38: CLIMBING DISTANCES.....	31
TABLE 39: PUSHING (DISTANCES).....	31
TABLE 40: PUSHING (WEIGHTS).....	32
TABLE 41: PULLING (DISTANCES).....	33
TABLE 42: PULLING (WEIGHTS).....	33
TABLE 43: LIFTING (HEIGHTS).....	34
TABLE 44: CARRYING (DISTANCES).....	34

TABLE 45: LIFTING (WEIGHTS).....	<u>PAGE</u> 35
TABLE 46: REASONS FOR INABILITY TO REASON WITH SUSPECTS.....	35
TABLE 47: TYPES OF RESISTANCE.....	36
TABLE 48: TYPES OF FORCE USED TO SUBDUE SUBJECTS.....	37

LIST OF PARTICIPATING POLICE AGENCIES

AGENCY	COUNTY	PATROL OFFICERS	SUPERVISORS
Akron P.D.	Summit	63	11
Cincinnati P.D.	Hamilton	141	24
Cleveland P.D.	Cuyahoga	205	59
Columbus P.D.	Franklin	148	25
Dayton P.D.	Montgomery	53	10
Toledo P.D.	Lucas	92	16
Youngstown P.D.	Mahoning	39	5
TOTAL		741	150

PREFACE

This report has been prepared especially for chiefs and administrative officers in Ohio's seven largest police departments, all of which serve urban populations of more than 100,000 people. It analyzes the responses of some nine hundred officers from those seven departments who participated in the state-wide task analysis study conducted in 1981-82 by the Division 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 741 "largest city" patrol officers were responding to the survey in terms of frequency (of use or performance), 150 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 one million pieces of information in the "largest 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 Division of Criminal Justice Services.

OFFICER PROFILE

Of the 2,620 patrol officers who participated in the state-wide task analysis study, 741 were drawn from police departments in Ohio's seven largest cities. The fact that 28% of the total patrol officer sample was drawn from less than 2% of the almost 400 agencies involved in the survey reflects the manpower concentration in the State's largest 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%

* 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.

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 largest cities. Wherever possible these 741 officers will be compared to their peers throughout the remainder of the State.

At the level of hereditary traits it is apparent that patrol officers in major urban areas differ markedly from those in smaller jurisdictions. For example, two-thirds of the 170 female patrol officers in the survey came from the large urban areas, as did 7 out of 10 of the black officers. The results are contained in Table 2.

TABLE 2
OFFICERS' RACE AND SEX CHARACTERISTICS

	Seven Largest City Agencies	Balance of State
White	74%	96%
Black	22%	4%
Male	84%	97%
Female	16%	3%

In terms of age, nearly 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 notable 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. Three out of four of the large city officers surveyed have completed at least one year of post high school education.

TABLE 3
OFFICERS' EDUCATIONAL LEVELS PRIOR TO
JOINING AND AT PRESENT:
SEVEN LARGEST CITIES
VS.
BALANCE OF STATE

	PRIOR TO JOINING		PRESENT	
	7 Largest Cities	Balance of State	7 Largest Cities	Balance of State
Less Than High School	1%	3%	1%	2%
High School	31%	50%	27%	42%
1-2 Years of College	43%	33%	43%	36%
3-4 Years of College	24%	13%	27%	17%
4 + Years of College	2%	1%	2%	2%

Table 3 reflects the emergence of better educated officers both state-wide and in the State's largest cities. The tendency is more pronounced in the latter areas, a fact that probably reflects the commensurate education levels within the jurisdictions as well as the accessibility of colleges and universities. It is noteworthy, however, that the "balance of state" patrol officers have demonstrated greater educational advancement since joining their departments than have their large city peers, an indication that the gap may be closing.

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 741 large city officers are contained in Tables 4-6.

TABLE 4
"MY JOB IS..."

	Number	Percent
Very Dull	1	.1%
Dull	8	1.1%
So So	63	8.5%
Interesting	352	47.5%
Very Interesting	317	42.8%
	741	100.0%
	4	

TABLE 5
"MY JOB UTILIZES MY TALENT..."

	Number	Percent
Not at All	14	1.9%
Somewhat	257	34.7%
Well	352	47.6%
Very Well	117	15.8%
	740	100.0%

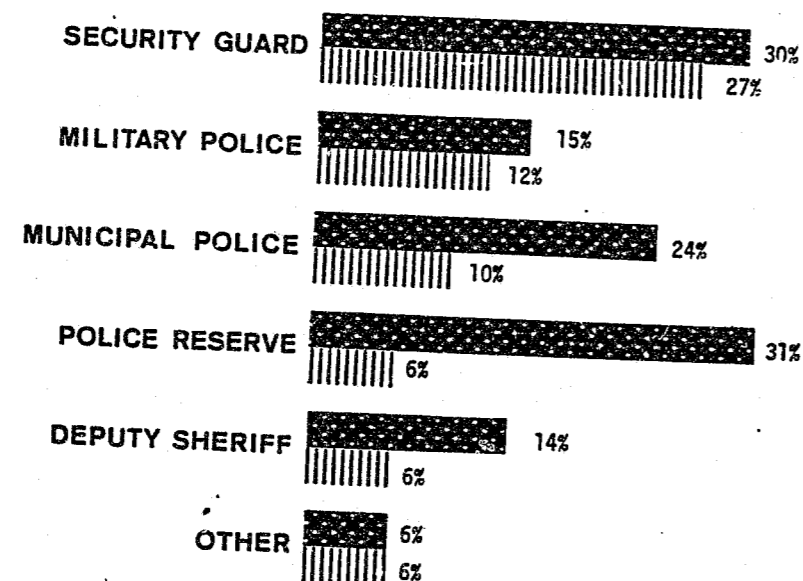
TABLE 6
"MY (BASIC) TRAINING PREPARED ME..."

	Number	Percent
Not at All	14	1.9%
Somewhat	257	34.7%
Well	352	47.6%
Very Well	117	15.8%
	740	100.0%

Based on these questions, the urban 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. Better than one-fourth indicated prior experience as security guards, while others had served as military police officers, police reservists, deputy sheriffs, and a variety of related jobs. However, there do appear to be differences between the urban officers and their "balance of state" counterparts.

PATROL OFFICERS WITH PRIOR LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERIENCE



BALANCE OF STATE SEVEN LARGEST CITIES

Particularly noticeable are the differences to be found in the "police reserve" and "military police" positions, areas in which the large city officers exhibit only a fraction of the prior experience gained by other officers throughout the State. To at least some extent, this trend holds true for virtually every job category.

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 notable example is the assignment of patrol officers to patrol vehicles. Table 7 reflects the overwhelming number of two-officer patrol vehicles in the seven largest cities, and the correspondingly large number of one-officer vehicles throughout the remainder of the State.

TABLE 7
TYPE OF PATROL
BY
TYPE OF JURISDICTION

	7 Largest Cities	Balance of State
1-Person Vehicle	25.9%	78.5%
2-Person Vehicle	63.4%	5.8%
Motorcycle	.4%	.3%
Foot	.1%	.5%
Other	10.2%	14.8%
	100 %	99.9%

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 741 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: URBAN PATROL OFFICERS

	Number	Percent
Day	180	24%
Afternoon	330	45%
Midnight	158	21%
Split Shift	18	2%
Odd Shift	22	3%
Other	31	4%
	739	99%

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 seven largest 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.

TABLE 9
"I AM CALLED UPON TO PERFORM THE TASKS OF
A HIGHER RANK..."

	7 Largest Cities	Balance of State
Never	29%	17%
Seldom	40%	29%
Occasionally	26%	35%
Frequently	3%	12%
Very Frequently	<u>2%</u>	<u>7%</u>
	100%	100%

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.

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

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 less rare but which still drew a plurality of "never" respondents.

TABLE 10
PERCENT OF OFFICERS NEVER ENCOUNTERING...

Questions	Percent of Officers Responding "Never"
...Curfew Violations	31.7%
...Evictions	36.0%
...Impersonating an Officer	22.5%
...False Fire Alarms	33.7%
...Motor Vehicle Hijacking	19.5%

The following four 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	49.1%
Citizen Lockout	49.9%
Perimeter Control at Fire	47.9%
Loud Party	47.6%
Downed Wires	42.2%

TABLE 12

"PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION" RESPONSES
FOR SELECTED COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS

Complaint/Incident	Percent of Officers Responding "Preliminary Investigation Only"
Motor Vehicle Theft	66.5%
Homicide	65.6%
Child Abuse	56.3%
Felony Assault	57.0%
Criminal Sexual Conduct	58.9%

TABLE 13

"COMPLETE INVESTIGATION" RESPONSES
FOR COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS

Complaint/Incident	Percent of Officers Responding "Complete Investigation"
Traffic Accidents	60.4%
Traffic Offenses	57.0%
Disorderly Public Conduct	54.5%
Drunk in Public	48.4%
Concealed Weapons	49.6%

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 at Least Once a Month	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	98%	99%	76%
Body Armor	60%	82%	89%
Handcuffs	96%	98%	96%
Hand Held Radio	98%	96%	97%
LEADS Terminal	77%	95%	23%
Spotlight	90%	86%	97%
Typewriter	62%	84%	43%

TABLE 15
INFREQUENTLY USED EQUIPMENT ITEMS
(LARGE CITY POLICE)

	Percent of Patrol Seldom Using This Equipment	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	4%	22%	62%
Breathalyzer	27%	76%	15%
Drug Narcotics Kit	4%	23%	23%
First Aid Kit	17%	59%	62%
Photo Equipment	12%	61%	21%
Radar	7%	48%	32%
Shotgun	29%	96%	60%

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 Table 16 are the frequency, importance, and learning difficulty of the nine most frequently used sources of information. Additionally, Table 17 reflects the degree to which some sources are never utilized.

TABLE 16
SUPERVISORS' RATING OF INFORMATION SOURCES MOST OFTEN USED
(LARGE CITY POLICE)

	Percent of Patrol Officers Using These Manuals At Least Once a Month	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 Procedures Manual	57%	91%	39%
Department Manuals	82%	96%	69%
First Aid Manuals	43%	43%	74%
Interoffice Memos	34%	63%	82%
Local Ordinances	69%	96%	66%
Ohio Criminal Code and Procedures	76%	97%	51%
Ohio Vehicle Code	61%	92%	68%
Training Bulletins	59%	80%	81%
Wanted Bulletins	37%	64%	92%

As seen in Table 16, most of the required reading for the majority of patrol officers is rated by supervisors as rather easy to learn.

TABLE 17
INFORMATION SOURCES NEVER USED BY A MAJORITY OF OHIO PATROL OFFICERS
IN LARGE JURISDICTIONS

	NEVER USED
Airport Field Conditions Report	97%
FAA Bulletins	83%
Fish and Game Code	88%
Harbor Statutes	93%
Health Statutes	53%
ICC Rules	84%
Field Guides	50%
Weather Forecasts	54%

(Number of respondents equals 741, percentages adjusted for missing cases; missing cases range from 1 to 11.)

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 seldom 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 18
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	87%	84%	79%
Estimate Property Value	54%	24%	58%
Exchange Information	59%	75%	84%
Notify Public Agencies	45%	45%	82%
Operate LEADS	45%	65%	30%
Request Equipment Repair	45%	68%	86%
Request Verification	85%	84%	91%
Type Incident Reports	42%	50%	53%

TABLE 19

SELDOM 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
Analyze Crime	10%	35%	31%
Attend Inservice Training	12%	66%	90%
Conduct Investigation	1%	27%	36%
Issue Wanted Notices	12%	50%	57%
Fingerprint Persons	1%	7%	19%
Investigate Report Background	1%	33%	18%
Participate in Planning	1%	22%	29%
Participate in Firearms Training	24%	85%	67%

ARREST, SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Of the 24 "arrest, search and seizure" tasks identified in the survey, five were performed at least weekly or even daily by the vast majority of the large city officers. As might be expected these were, in every case performed at least 15%-25% more frequently by the urban officers than by their peers statewide. Table 20 reflects these frequency ratings as well as the importance and learning difficulty ratings provided by the 150 large city supervisors.

TABLE 20

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
Conduct Frisk	85.0%	95.4%	81.1%
Handcuff Suspect	80.0%	96.1%	81.7%
Arrest Persons Without a Warrant	73.2%	91.4%	54.0%
Conduct Field Search	72.8%	92.0%	70.5%
Arrest Persons With a Warrant	70.2%	88.6%	82.3%

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 high importance and difficulty ratings from the supervisors. And, while three-fourths of the patrol officers had never requested bystanders to assist in an apprehension, only one supervisor in six saw that task as having any real importance.

TABLE 21

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	80.5%	71.3%	30.0%
Request Bystanders to Assist in an Apprehension	76.5%	16.6%	35.5%*
Secure Search Warrant	63.3%	62.7%	18.8%
Plan Strategy for Searches	52.1%	72.6%	39.6%
Participate in Raid	16.6%	66.7%	60.4%

* "Never encountered" category was higher than 30% of total responses.

PATROL FUNCTIONS

Seventy-one 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 22

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
Inform Dispatcher of Status	95.5%	91.3%	91.9%
Check for Wants via LEADS	89.7%	91.4%	76.6%
Check Parking Lots	86.4%	50.7%	93.2%
Check Parks	83.9%	66. %	91.3%
Transport Prisoners	71.7%	84.7%	70.5%

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 counselling juveniles to cultivating informants to establishing rapport with local citizens. And, while these contacts provide a vital and indispensable 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 23
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	95%	88%	76%
Establish Field Contacts	65%	69%	71%
Give Street Directions	92%	55%	87%
Interview Suspicious Persons	94%	87%	56%
Mediate Family Disputes	91%	75%	28%
Stop Vehicle to Cite	91%	83%	64%
Talk to Establish Rapport	85%	83%	69%

TABLE 24
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%	6%	6%
Evacuate Persons	9%	71%	62%
Fight Structural Fires	1%	2%	4%
Fight Vehicle Fires	1%	11%	13%
Place Children in Protective Custody	17%	83%	58%
Search for Bombs	5%	60%	29%
Watch for Illegal Activity	8%	48%	53%

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 25

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	87%	87%	65%
Interview Complainants, Witnesses, etc.	84%	93%	45%
Locate Witnesses To Crime	76%	91%	50%
Search Crime Scenes For Physical Evidence	73%	89%	39%
Tag Evidence And Confiscated Properties	77%	82%	81%
Cast Impressions At Crime Scene	1%	32%	13%
Prepare Paperwork To File Extradition Warrants	2%	26%	15%
Photograph Line-up	1%	30%	32%
Serve As Deputy Medical Examiner	1%	5%	7%
Witness Autopsies	3%	11%	28%

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 26

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
Present Evidence In Legal Proceedings	38%	83%	35%
Confer With Prosecutor Prior To Testimony In Case	70%	77%	65%
Discuss Cases With Prosecutors Following Legal Proceedings	41%	62%	69%
Review Reports And Notes For Court Testimony	59%	77%	62%
Testify In Criminal Cases	78%	89%	38%
Act As Court Bailiff	0%	3%	5%
Assemble Potential Juror List	0%	3%	6%
Collect Fines	0%	1%	6%
Mail Jury Duty Notices	0%	2%	4%
Testify In Parole Or Probation Hearings	2%	4%	34%

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 27

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
Complete The Standard Traffic Accident Report Form	92%	84%	66%
Determine Violations In A Traffic Accident	92%	83%	52%
Instruct Persons To Exchange Information	92%	75%	93%
Interview Persons Involved In Traffic Accidents	92%	85%	69%
Issue Citations In Traffic Accidents	90%	70%	68%
Calculate Vehicle Speed Using Mathematical Formulas	2%	19%	12%
Measure Skid Marks	30%	52%	49%
Review Accidents With Accident Investigators	19%	52%	74%
Photograph Accident Scenes	3%	36%	28%
Take Coordinate Measures Of Accident Scenes	17%	34%	34%

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 28

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
Follow Suspect Vehicle To Observe Traffic Violations	78%	60%	80%
Explain Legal Procedures To Traffic Violators	83%	63%	74%
Inspect Operator's License	93%	81%	93%
Issue Traffic Citations	93%	38%	82%
Issue Verbal Warnings To Traffic Violators	90%	57%	90%
Count Traffic Flow Using Automatic Devices	3%	5%	18%
Operate Video Tape Equipment	2%	15%	28%
Plan Traffic Detours	4%	39%	45%
Complete Operator's License Re-Examination Form	2%	33%	60%
Move Disabled Vehicles With Patrol Car	4%	9%	29%

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 by patrol officers in Ohio's seven largest cities monthly or more frequently.

TABLE 29
PERFORMANCE FREQUENCY FOR SEVEN SELECTED
PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

	<u>Monthly or More Often</u>	<u>Never</u>
Climb Obstacles	49%	3%
Run After Suspects	44%	2%
Run Up Stairs	46%	5%
Jump Over Obstacles	33%	8%
Lift Heavy Objects or Persons	37%	5%
Subdue Persons Resisting Arrest	35%	3%
Physically Push Movable Object	39%	5%

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 529 of the "large city" patrol officers. The remaining 206 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 30
ACTIVITY STATUS FOR LAST FIVE WORK SHIFTS

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
No Activity	206	28%
Activity Without Resistance	260	35%
Activity With Resistance	269	37%
TOTAL	735	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 percentage of big city officers are inactive as compared to small city officers. Conversely, the small city police officers are less likely than their big 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 "largest 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 31

RUNNING

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1 to 24 yards	146	44%
25 to 49 yards	51	16%
50 to 74 yards	36	11%
75 to 99 yards	11	3%
100 yards and over	85	26%
TOTAL	329	100%

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

TABLE 32
OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED WHILE RUNNING

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Fence or Wall	47	18%
Shrubs	13	5%
Vehicle	24	9%
Stairs	26	10%
Ditch	4	1%
2 of the above	78	29%
3 of the above	47	17%
Other	<u>30</u>	<u>11%</u>
TOTAL	269	100%

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 "big city" police officers crawled during their last five work shifts.

TABLE 33
CRAWLING

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1 to 3 feet	56	63%
4 to 6 feet	13	15%
7 to 9 feet	5	6%
10 to 12 feet	5	6%
13 feet and over	<u>9</u>	<u>10%</u>
TOTAL	88	100%

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 largest city police forces did jump in the course of performing their duties. Following are the distances jumped by the task analysis respondents.

TABLE 34
JUMPING

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1 to 3 feet	87	46%
4 to 6 feet	83	43%
7 to 9 feet	15	8%
10 to 12 feet	<u>5</u>	<u>3%</u>
TOTAL	190	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 35
JUMPING OBSTACLES

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Fence	66	30%
Shrubs	18	8%
Vehicle	9	4%
Stairs	14	6%
Ditch	10	5%
2 of the above	55	25%
3 of the above	37	16%
Other	<u>14</u>	<u>6%</u>
TOTAL	223	100%

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 36
CLIMBING OBSTACLES

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Fence	117	60%
Embankment	19	10%
Ditch	2	1%
Ladder	2	1%
Stairs	45	23%
Other	9	5%
TOTAL	194	100%

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

TABLE 37
OBSTACLES WITH HANDHOLDS AND FOOTHOLDS

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Handhold	54	37%
Foothold	33	23%
Solid	59	40%
TOTAL	146	100%

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 "largest city police" respondents.

TABLE 38
CLIMBING DISTANCES

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
5 feet or less	49	28%
6 to 10 feet	79	44%
11 to 20 feet	35	20%
21 feet and over	14	8%
TOTAL	177	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 39
PUSHING (DISTANCES)

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1 to 19 feet	119	72%
20 to 39 feet	29	18%
40 to 59 feet	7	4%
60 to 79 feet	6	4%
80 feet and over	3	2%
TOTAL	164	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 largest city departments.

TABLE 40
PUSHING (WEIGHTS)

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
25 to 49 pounds	21	12%
50 to 99 pounds	15	9%
100 to 149 pounds	14	8%
150 to 199 pounds	40	24%
200 pounds and over	<u>76</u>	<u>46%</u>
TOTAL	166	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 86 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 41
PULLING (DISTANCES)

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1 to 19 feet	126	75%
20 to 39 feet	21	12%
40 to 59 feet	5	3%
60 to 79 feet	1	1%
80 feet and over	<u>15</u>	<u>9%</u>
TOTAL	168	100%

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 42
PULLING (WEIGHTS)

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
25 to 49 pounds	21	12%
50 to 99 pounds	12	7%
100 to 149 pounds	35	21%
150 to 199 pounds	77	46%
200 pounds and over	<u>24</u>	<u>14%</u>
TOTAL	169	100%

Since over 80% of the officers pulled objects weighing in excess of 100 pounds it might suggest that persons were the objects pulled. In fact, over three fourths of the officers pulled persons. And almost two-thirds of these officers received assistance in their pulling encounter. However, less than half 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, three-fourths of those officers engaging in lifting did so to heights of under five feet.

TABLE 43
LIFTING (HEIGHTS)

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1 foot	14	8%
2 feet	37	23%
3 feet	42	26%
4 feet	30	18%
5 feet and over	<u>41</u>	<u>25%</u>
TOTAL	164	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 44
CARRYING (DISTANCES)

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1 to 19 feet	79	52%
20 to 39 feet	21	14%
40 to 59 feet	16	10%
60 to 79 feet	10	6%
80 feet and over	<u>27</u>	<u>18%</u>
TOTAL	153	100%

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

TABLE 45
LIFTING (WEIGHTS)

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
25 to 49 pounds	28	17%
50 to 99 pounds	19	11%
100 to 149 pounds	36	21%
150 to 199 pounds	68	40%
200 pounds and over	<u>19</u>	<u>11%</u>
TOTAL	153	100%

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

As could be expected, a number of the officers engaging in physical activities met resistance (37%). The majority (67%) of these officers had to contend with only one suspect, with another 19% being forced to grapple with two. In 72% 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 20% 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 46
REASONS FOR INABILITY TO REASON WITH SUSPECTS

	<u>Number of Officers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Drug or alcohol influence	138	51%
Emotionally or mentally upset	67	25%
Mental State Unknown	39	15%
No Opportunity to Reason	<u>25</u>	<u>9%</u>
TOTAL	269	100%

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

TABLE 47

TYPES OF RESISTANCE

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Passive Resistance	71	(28%)	184	(72%)
Barricade	24	(10%)	225	(90%)
Pulled Away	201	(78%)	58	(22%)
Ran Away	145	(56%)	114	(44%)
Threw Object	45	(18%)	203	(82%)
Wrestled	216	(81%)	52	(19%)
Hit/Kick	162	(63%)	97	(37%)
Special Tactics	13	(5%)	231	(95%)
Weapon	39	(16%)	201	(84%)

By far the vast majority (96%) of officers encountering resistance issued verbal orders to their suspects. Only 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 48 lists the various degrees of force used by police in subduing resisting arrestees.

TABLE 48

TYPES OF FORCE USED TO SUBDUE SUBJECTS

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Chemical Agent	30	(12%)	230	(88%)
Restraining Holds	186	(71%)	76	(29%)
Handcuffs with Assistance	201	(76%)	65	(24%)
Handcuffs without Assistance	94	(36%)	164	(64%)
Wrestled	201	(76%)	62	(24%)
Hit/Kick	79	(31%)	179	(69%)
Nightstick/Blackjack	46	(18%)	212	(82%)
Display Firearm	57	(22%)	198	(78%)
Discharge Firearm	6	(2%)	247	(98%)
Other Force	8	(5%)	156	(95%)

OTHER SAC PUBLICATIONS

- 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 sheriff's 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 prosecutors' 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