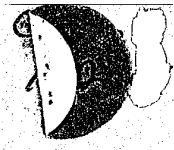
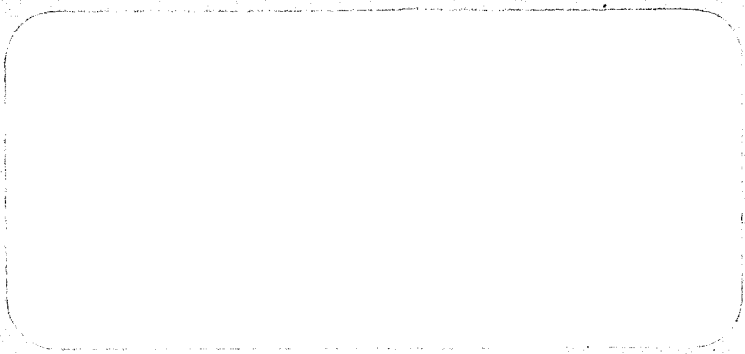


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OFFICE OF POLICY ANALYSIS, RESEARCH & STATISTICAL SERVICES

NEW YORK STATE DIVISION of
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES



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NEW YORK STATE
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES
Richard J. Condon
Commissioner

OFFICE OF POLICY ANALYSIS, RESEARCH AND STATISTICAL SERVICES
Sherwood E. Zimmerman
Deputy Commissioner

NEW YORK STATE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESSING
1982

Volume II
Felony Offenders Disposed in 1982
// December 31, 1984

Bureau of Criminal Justice Statistical Services
Richard A. Rosen
Chief

Prepared By:

Thomas J. Harig

**U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice**

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OVERVIEW OF FELONY ARREST PROCESSING

Section 1 of this volume presents processing highlights of New York State felony arrests. Data on both the outcomes of cases and their processing times are presented in the form of "tree" diagrams. These displays are based on felony arrests disposed in 1982. The report provides statewide processing information, and information about felony arrests disposed in New York City, in Other Metropolitan areas, and in Non-Metropolitan areas. Additional displays show the statewide case processing within sex, race, age, crime type, and crime class groupings. Figures designated by the suffix "A" present summary counts and percentages of cases by dispositional outcome; those with the "B" suffix present elapsed time between arrest and disposition in median days. (Medians and quartiles are summarized in a table accompanying each processing time display.) The outcome and time displays are presented in pairs to show the counts on which processing time calculations were based.

As noted in Volume I, these data are event based, that is, the unit of count is the arrest event. Any offender with multiple dispositions in 1982 is counted each time he or she was disposed. Therefore, these analyses overrepresent such offenders, and should not be considered descriptive of the personal characteristics (i.e., race, age, sex) of offenders processed.¹

¹In the study cohort of 116,552 arrest events, there were a total of 97,777 individual offenders. Of those offenders, 83,384 were counted in the cohort only once and 14,393 were counted two or more times. Those "multiple" offenders averaged 2.3 cohort arrests per offender.

Criminal Justice Processing Outcomes

Figures 1 through 21 ("A" suffix) are summary diagrams that display counts of felony arrests disposed during 1982. These arrests occurred between 1973-1982 with 94.6% occurring during 1981-1982. These data are especially useful in identifying patterns in the criminal justice system's response to felony arrests. The summary diagrams illustrate the distribution of outcomes resulting from felony arrests rather than the temporal flow of defendants through the criminal justice system.

Arrests

- * Of the 116,552 felony arrest events in the study cohort, 83,341 (71.5%) were from New York City, 19,498 (16.7%) were from Other Metropolitan Areas, and 13,713 (11.8%) were from Non-Metropolitan Areas.
- * Arrest events involving males (89.8%) were much more prevalent than those involving females (10.2%).²
- * Arrest events involving black offenders accounted for 47.5% of all felonies disposed in 1982; those involving whites accounted for 38.6% and those involving Hispanics³ for 13.0% of the total⁴.
- * The majority of arrest events involved relatively young adults. Overall, 54.3% of the events in the study population involved offenders under 25 years of age.
- * Overall 51,443 (44.1%) of the felony arrest events in the study cohort were for property crimes, 38,446 (33.0%) were for personal crimes, and 14,439 (12.4%) were for drug crimes.
- * Those arrest events involving a class A felony arrest charge accounted for 2.8% of all cases disposed in 1982; those involving a class B felony arrest charge accounted for 16.9%, class C for 17.0%, class D for 41.0%, and class E charges for 22.4% of all cases disposed.

²As noted in Volume I, the arrest event unit of count does not accurately represent the distribution of personal characteristics of individual offenders.

³As noted in Volume I, Hispanic offenders were coded in the "white" category prior to mid-1978 and Hispanics coding was disrupted after mid-1982. Therefore, Hispanics may be undercounted relative to their actual numbers.

⁴See Note 2 above.

Prosecution

- * The overwhelming majority (96.6%) of felony arrests in the cohort were prosecuted and disposed as a result of court action.
- * Of the 3,957 cases in the cohort that were not prosecuted, the majority (2,989 or 75.5% were disposed as the result of decisions by prosecutors not to bring the case forward ("prosecution declined" actions) rather than by a failure of the grand jury to indict the offender ("no true bill" actions).
- * Of the 968 "no true bill" actions statewide, New York City accounted for 64.5% (624), Other Metropolitan Planning Areas for 33.1% (321), and Non-Metropolitan Areas for 2.4% (23) of these cases.

Lower Versus Upper Court Processing

- * Over two-thirds (68.0%) of felony arrests in the cohort were disposed in the lower courts, that is, in courts with trial jurisdiction over misdemeanor and lesser offenses but only preliminary jurisdiction over the processing of felonies.
- * New York City processed the highest proportion (71.3%) of felony arrest cases through the lower courts as compared with the Other Metropolitan (58.1%) and Non-Metropolitan (62.2%) areas.
- * Arrest events involving males were less likely than those involving females to be processed in the lower courts (67.1% vs. 76.6%).⁵
- * Felony arrest events involving Hispanics were the least likely race/ethnic group to be processed in the lower courts (63.5%). Arrests involving white offenders were slightly less likely to be disposed in lower courts than those involving black offenders (68.6% vs. 68.8%). There were no substantial differences in the ratio of upper/lower court prosecution among age group.⁵
- * Arrests events involving property offenses were more likely to be processed in the lower courts (75.5%) than those involving either personal (61.1%) or drug (67.7%) offenses.
- * Over two-thirds (71.1%) of arrest events involving class A felony offenses and almost half (49.2%) of those involving a class B felony were processed in the upper courts, however, the majority of events involving class C felony (58.8%), D felony (73.5%), and E felony (85.9%) offenses were processed in the lower courts.

⁵ See Notes 2 and 3 above.

Conviction

- * Overall 63.7% of felony arrests in the cohort ultimately resulted in conviction.
- * Among cases disposed in upper courts, a higher proportion were convicted (84.4%) and a lower proportion dismissed (11.5%) than among cases disposed in the lower courts. In the lower courts only 58.3% of cases were convicted and 41.2% were dismissed.
- * The proportions of both lower and upper court convictions (conviction rate) were highest among cases from Non-Metropolitan areas and lowest for New York City cases. In the lower courts, 56.8% of New York City versus 67.9% of Non-Metropolitan cases were convicted; in the upper courts, 82.2% versus 89.5% of cases respectively were convicted.
- * Dismissals accounted for a higher proportion of lower court actions in New York City (42.7%) than in either the Other Metropolitan (40.7%) or the Non-Metropolitan areas (31.2%).
- * Conviction rates resulting from property arrests were slightly higher than for personal arrests in the upper courts and substantially higher in lower courts. In the upper courts, convictions were obtained in 88.6% of property arrests and 81.4% of personal arrests. In the lower courts, 66.0% of property arrests and 43.5% of personal arrests resulted in conviction.
- * Arrest events involving white offenders, whether disposed in upper or lower courts, were slightly more likely to result in conviction than arrests involving black offenders. In the upper courts, 86.4% of white and 82.9% of black offenders were convicted, compared with 62.0% of white and 56.2% of black offenders convicted in the lower courts.⁶
- * In the upper courts, arrest events involving younger offenders more often resulted in convictions than events involving older offenders. Of the 16 to 24 year olds processed in the upper courts, 86.3% were convicted, compared with 81.8% of offenders who were 25 and older. There was little variation in conviction rates by age of offender among cases disposed in lower courts.⁶
- * There were no substantial differences in conviction rates between events involving males and females in either upper or lower courts. In the upper courts, 84.5% of the males and 83.0% of the females were convicted, compared with 58.3% of the males and 58.3% of the females in lower courts.⁶

⁶See Notes 2 and 3 above.

- * The vast majority (85.9%) of convictions following felony arrest events were obtained through guilty pleas rather than by trials. Guilty pleas were more prevalent among lower court convictions (90.9%) than upper court convictions (77.6%).
- * Youthful Offender (YO) findings were more common following conviction in upper courts than they were following conviction in lower courts (13.2% versus 8.8% of convictions respectively). They were more common following convictions of property arrest events than they were following convictions of arrests for crimes against persons. This was particularly true in the upper courts.
- * The percentage of convictions resulting in Youthful Offender status was substantially lower in New York City than in either the Other Metropolitan or Non-Metropolitan areas.

Sentences

- * Overall, 47.6% of all convictions in the cohort resulted in some form of incarcerative sentence, either to a state prison or a local jail (including sentences to time already served and "split" sentences to jail and probation). A higher percentage of convictions among New York City cases (48.2%) resulted in an incarcerative sentence, than among cases in Other Metropolitan (47.2%) or Non-Metropolitan (45.1%) areas.
- * Of all felony arrests in the cohort, 30.3% received a sentence involving some form of incarceration. Slightly more arrests from Non-Metropolitan areas (34.2%) than from New York City (29.2%) or Other Metropolitan areas (32.4%) resulted in a sentence to incarceration.

For convictions in the upper courts:

- * Overall, 39.9% resulted in sentences to state prison. An additional 18.2% were sentenced to local jail. A further 8.5% received "split" sentences involving jail and probation, and 0.8% were sentenced to time already served.
- * State prison sentences were imposed at a substantially higher rate when the processing was initiated by arrest for a personal offense (58.0% of convictions) than when drug (36.0%) or property (29.9%) arrests were involved.
- * In upper courts, "straight" jail sentences (i.e., excluding "split" sentences) were somewhat more common for convictions following property arrests (22.2%) than for personal (14.1%) or drug arrests (16.8%).

- * Upper court convictions involving white offenders were substantially less likely to result in a state prison sentence (29.4% of convictions) than those for blacks (47.3%) or Hispanics (46.7%). Blacks were slightly more likely to receive jail sentences (18.9%) than whites (18.2%) or Hispanics (16.5%).⁷
- * Males were far more likely to receive prison sentences in the upper courts than females (41.4% of convictions vs. 20.5%); they were slightly more likely than females to be sentenced to jail from upper courts (18.4% of convictions vs. 16.0%).
- * Prison sentences were less frequently imposed in the upper courts for the younger (16-24 years old) group of offenders. The pattern in jail sentences was similar between the 16-24 and 25-older groups.
- * Among non-incarcerative sentences imposed in upper courts, probation was by far the most common, accounting for 28.8% of convictions. Almost one-third (32.6%) of the upper court convictions of property crime arrests received probation as compared with 31.8% of drug and 19.7% of personal offenses. The use of fines and discharges was rare in the upper courts, accounting for only 3.5% of the total convictions.

For convictions in the lower courts:

- * Overall, 26.3% resulted in a sentence to a local jail. In addition, 2.2% received a split sentence to jail and probation, and 7.0% were sentenced to time already served.
- * Jail sentences were more likely to result from convictions of property arrests (32.0%) than from convictions of drug (21.4%) or personal arrests (22.9%).
- * Arrests involving whites were less likely to result in (straight) jail sentences (19.9% of convictions) than was the case for blacks (32.2%) or Hispanics (26.2%). Females were less likely than males to receive jail sentences (18.2% of convictions vs. 27.3%), and the younger age group (16-19 year olds) was less likely to receive jail sentences than the older (25-older) group (23.9% of convictions vs. 29.0%).
- * Conditional discharges were imposed in 26.9% of all lower court convictions, followed by fine (16.3%) and probation (15.9%).

⁷These data do not necessarily demonstrate discrimination in the sentencing process. Additional information and analyses would be necessary to determine, for example, if these sentencing patterns were due to differences in prior offending histories or criminal behaviors of the offenders rather than race per se. See the DCJS report, Discrimination and the Decision to Incarcerate, (May, 1983). Also, see Notes 2 and 3 above.

Processing Time

Figures 1 through 21 ("B" suffix) are summary diagrams that display elapsed processing times between felony arrests and various dispositions of those arrests in New York State. For convictions, the elapsed time is calculated to the date of sentence; for all other dispositions the time is calculated to the date of the disposition. Thus, processing time is a measure of the maximum length of an offender's contact with the criminal justice system up to the point of sentencing. Data on the correctional processing of offenders are not part of this analysis.

A preliminary verification analysis of processing time revealed that there were a small number of cases in which an incorrect disposition date was recorded on the CCH/OBTS. In these cases the date recorded was later than the actual date of the disposition and consequently some of the processing times may be somewhat inflated. The exact magnitude of this bias is not known since source data were not available to reconcile the error. However the bias is not believed to be large since relatively few incorrect times were identified in the verification study. While these data may slightly overestimate processing time in general, there is no indication that the bias exists differentially among any of the specific subgroups of the study population (i.e., offense, age, sex, or race groups).

A similar, though more pervasive problem was also noted in recording dates for "prosecution declined" dispositions. Because this recording error appeared to affect a substantial number of such dispositions, it was believed that presentation of processing time statistics for this disposition would be misleading. Processing times for "prosecution declined" dispositions were therefore excluded from the displays. In addition, processing time statistics were omitted for all dispositions where fewer than twenty-five (25) cases formed the basis for computation. This was also due to the potential instability of processing times when based on a small number of cases. (On the summary diagrams, "N/A" is used to indicate that it was not appropriate to compute processing time).

The presentations use the lower quartile, median, and upper quartile to describe the distributions of processing time. These statistics are interpreted as follows:

--The lower quartile: 25% of cases processed were disposed in less time, and 75% in more time than the lower quartile value.

--The median: 50% of cases processed were disposed in less time, and 50% in more time than the median value.

--The upper quartile: 75% of cases processed were disposed in less time, and 25% in more time than the upper quartile value.

These median-based statistics were selected to summarize processing times because they are less sensitive to extreme values in the distributions than the more familiar arithmetic mean.

- * The median elapsed time between a felony arrest and a final disposition in 1982 was 91 days. Cases dismissed by grand jury action ("no true bill") took an average of 83 days to dispose.⁸ Arrests culminating in dismissal generally took less time (76 days) to process than those disposed as convictions (99 days) or acquittals (275 days).
- * Cases from New York City generally took less time to dispose (77 days) than cases from the Other Metropolitan (126 days) or Non-Metropolitan areas (98 days).
- * From arrest, personal offenses took slightly longer to dispose (104 days) than property (84 days) or drug (87 days) offenses. Overall, class A felony arrest offenses took longer to dispose (266 days) than class B (127 days), C (99 days), D (85 days), or E (64 days) felony arrest offenses.
- * Cases processed in the upper courts took considerably longer to dispose (216 days) than cases processed in the lower courts (56 days). This was uniformly true for all offense types and across all offender subgroups.

⁸The term "average" is applicable to a variety of measures of central tendency of a distribution. Throughout this discussion of processing times, "average" refers to the median.

- * In both lower and upper courts, acquittals and convictions by trial were the dispositions that took the longest time to process. Acquittals took 160 days in the lower courts and 302 days in upper courts, while convictions by trial took 191 days in the lower courts and 353 days in the upper courts. As would be expected, considerably less time was required for convictions by plea than for trial convictions in both the lower and upper courts (44 days and 204 days respectively for convictions by pleas).
- * Dismissals took longer than convictions in both lower and upper courts. The median time for dismissals in lower courts was 66 days, but was 226 days in upper courts.
- * Cases of younger defendants took longer to dispose than those of older defendants. The median processing time for 16-24 year olds was 100 days, whereas those 25 years and older were processed in an average of 78 days.
- * Whites and blacks were processed more quickly than Hispanics. Overall processing times were 87 days for whites, 81 days for blacks, and 151 days for Hispanics. A similar pattern of processing times generally holds for both lower and upper court dispositions.⁹

⁹Among other factors, these differences may be due to variations in arrest charges, prior criminal activity, and region. Further multivariate analyses are required to understand the impact that race and ethnicity have on processing times. Also, see Notes 2 and 3 above.

FIGURE 1-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N
 ALL FELONY OFFENSES

NEW YORK STATE
 FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

DISPOSITION	ALL DISPOSITIONS	NO TRUE BILL	PROSECUTED UPPER COURT LOWER COURT	DISMISSED UPPER COURT LOWER COURT	ACQUITTED UPPER COURT LOWER COURT	CONVICTED UPPER COURT LOWER COURT	OTHER UPPER COURT LOWER COURT	TRIAL UPPER COURT LOWER COURT	PLEA UPPER COURT LOWER COURT	YO UPPER COURT LOWER COURT
ARRESTED	091 DAYS									
PROSECUTION DECLINED										
NO TRUE BILL		083 DAYS								
PROSECUTED			095 DAYS							
UPPER COURT						216 DAYS				
LOWER COURT										
DISMISSED										
ACQUITTED										
CONVICTED										
OTHER										
TRIAL										
PLEA										
YO										
UPPER COURT										353 DAYS
LOWER COURT										204 DAYS
UPPER COURT										171 DAYS

S U M M A R Y

LOWER QUANTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUANTILE
026	091	211
043	083	126
028	095	216
014	056	150
023	076	203
029	220	393
021	066	191
181	275	407
211	302	432
089	160	235
031	099	219
128	211	337
256	353	494
125	204	323
108	171	264
007	049	115
125	191	302
002	044	110
053	086	140
078	185	329
119	220	355
015	075	191

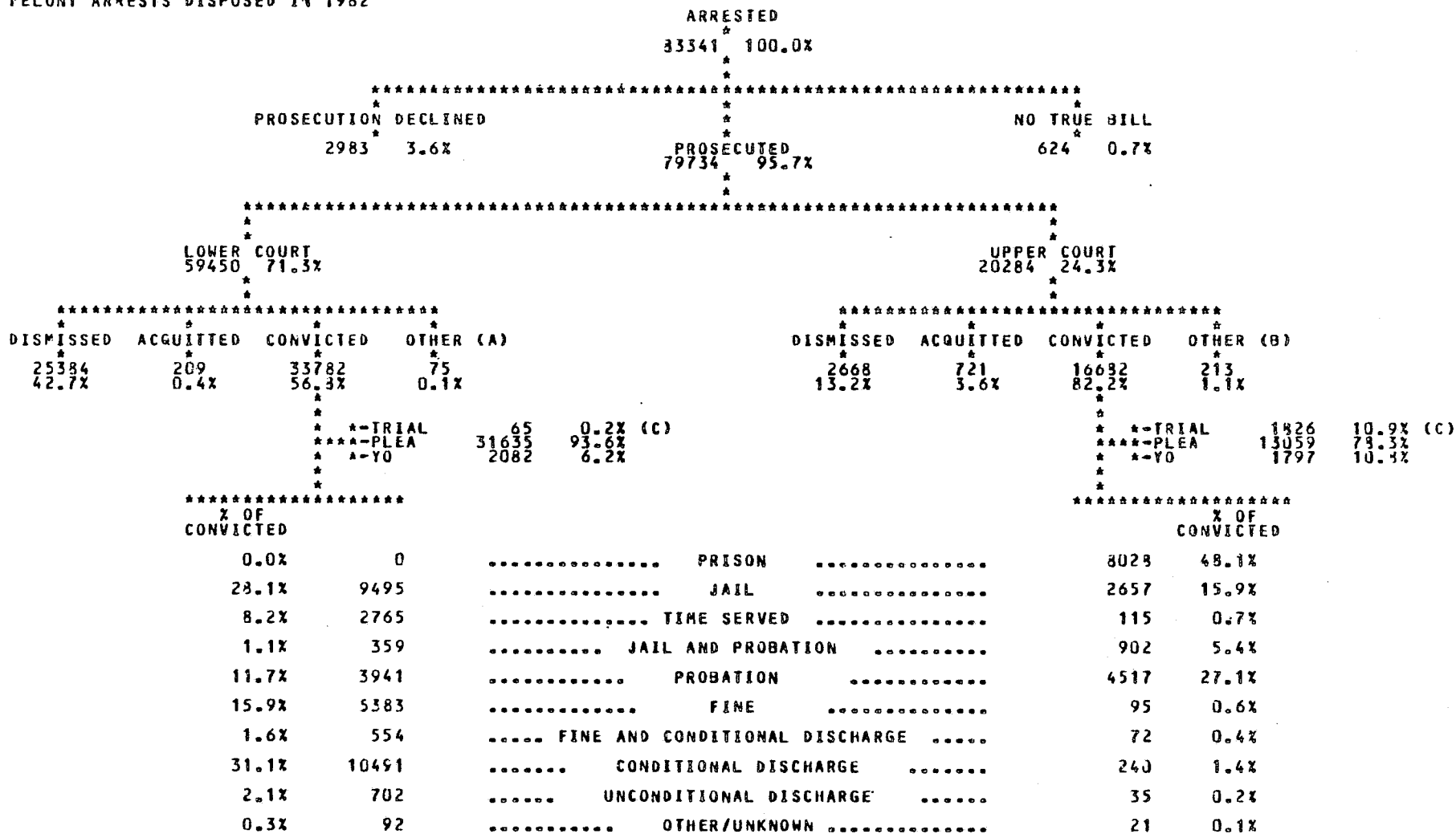
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
 LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 2-A

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSING SUMMARY

NEW YORK CITY
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES



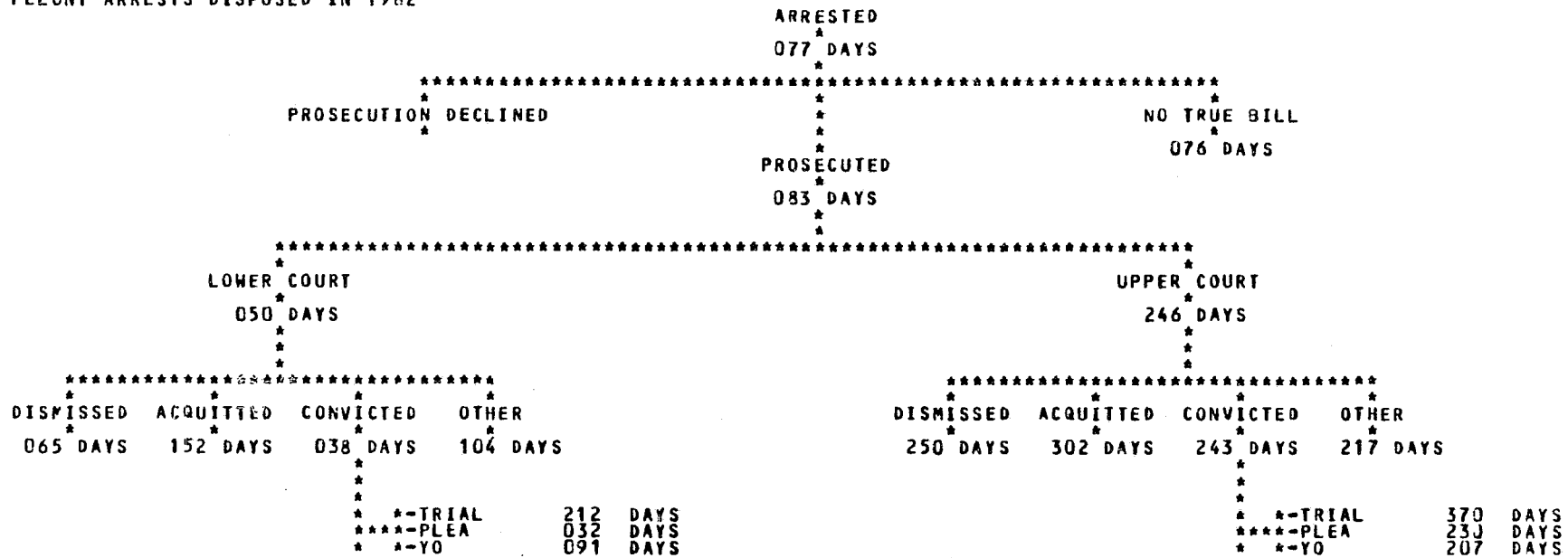
(A) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE LOWER COURT.
 (B) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE UPPER COURT.
 (C) PERCENTAGES OF CASES CONVICTED.

FIGURE 2-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK CITY
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES



***** S U M M A R Y *****			
	LOWER QUANTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUANTILE
ALL DISPOSITIONS	019	077	209
NO TRUE BILL	034	076	131
PROSECUTED	021	083	215
UPPER COURT	145	246	383
LOWER COURT	007	050	144
DISMISSAL	024	074	201
UPPER COURT	113	250	410
LOWER COURT	022	065	137
ACQUITTED	185	276	407
UPPER COURT	213	302	435
LOWER COURT	089	152	269
CONVICTED	017	085	225
UPPER COURT	146	243	376
TRIAL	267	370	498
PLEA	140	230	357
YO	124	207	324
LOWER COURT	003	038	105
TRIAL	150	212	326
PLEA	002	032	099
YO	057	091	152
OTHER	081	191	359
UPPER COURT	119	217	361
LOWER COURT	035	104	351

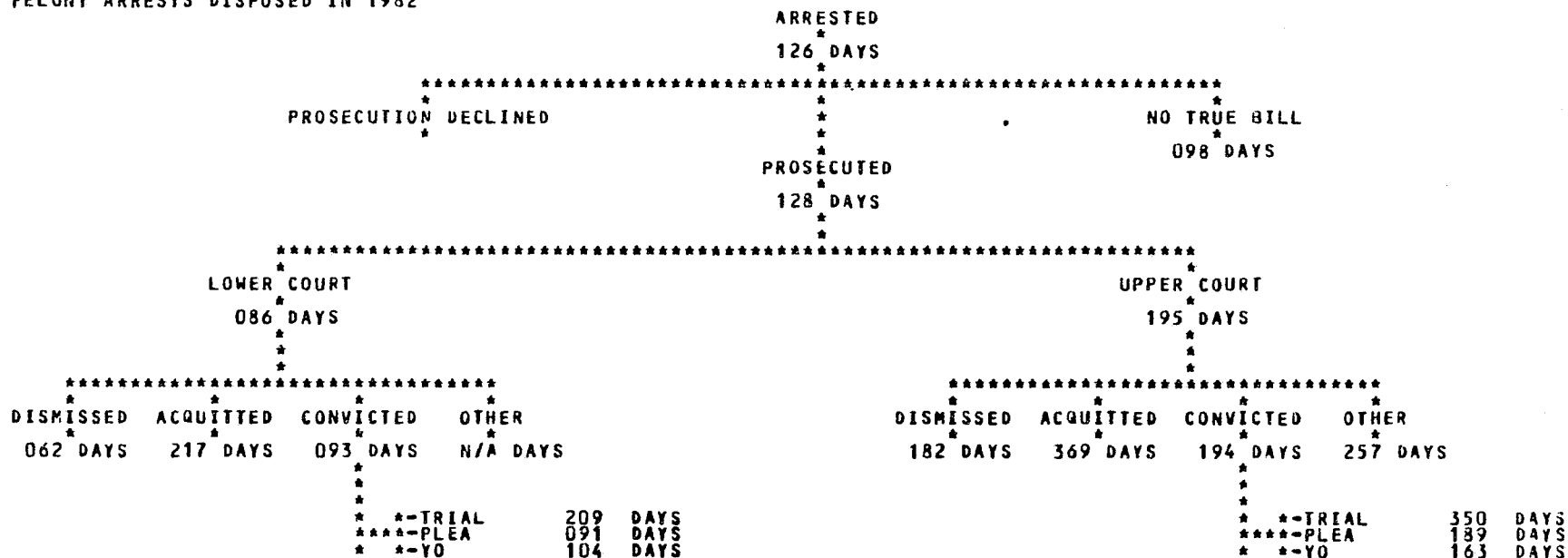
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE, LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 3-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

OTHER METROPOLITAN AREAS
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES

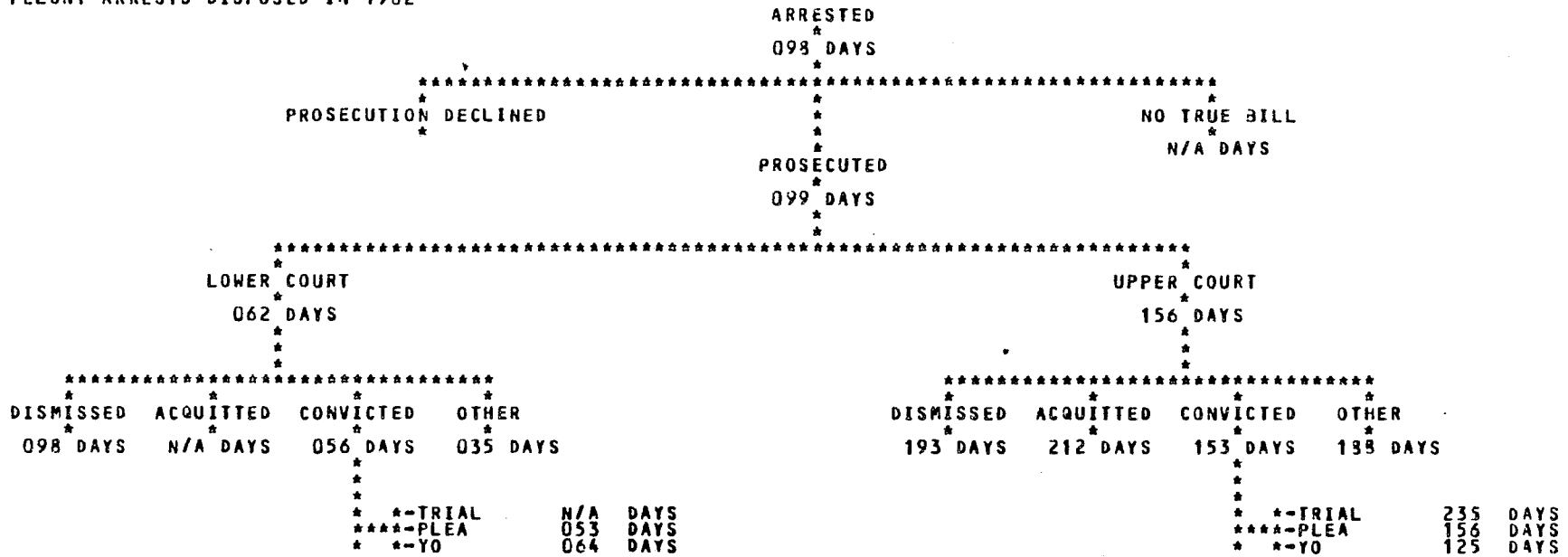


***** S U M M A R Y *****			
	LOWER QUARTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUARTILE
ALL DISPOSITIONS	060	126	232
NO TRUE BILL	062	098	123
PROSECUTED	060	128	235
UPPER COURT	119	195	313
LOWER COURT	037	086	172
DISMISSAL	014	070	211
UPPER COURT	000	182	350
LOWER COURT	016	062	193
ACQUITTED	237	336	461
UPPER COURT	274	369	496
LOWER COURT	120	217	334
CONVICTED	079	138	239
UPPER COURT	122	194	301
TRIAL	266	350	494
PLEA	119	189	293
YO	115	163	235
LOWER COURT	053	093	161
TRIAL	115	209	387
PLEA	049	091	161
YO	071	104	157
OTHER	123	233	355
UPPER COURT	137	257	370
LOWER COURT	N/A	N/A	N/A

(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 4-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N
 NON-METROPOLITAN AREAS
 FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982
 ALL FELONY OFFENSES



***** S U M M A R Y *****			
ALL DISPOSITIONS	LOWER QUARTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUARTILE
ALL DISPOSITIONS	043	098	193
NO TRUE BILL	N/A	N/A	N/A
PROSECUTED	043	099	193
UPPER COURT	101	156	243
LOWER COURT	025	062	138
DISMISSAL	028	112	238
UPPER COURT	102	193	313
LOWER COURT	025	098	229
ACQUITTED	136	197	265
UPPER COURT	154	212	275
LOWER COURT	N/A	N/A	N/A
CONVICTED	046	096	174
UPPER COURT	100	153	235
TRIAL	166	235	320
PLEA	101	156	237
YO	088	125	191
LOWER COURT	025	056	105
TRIAL	N/A	N/A	N/A
PLEA	022	053	105
YO	038	064	101
OTHER	045	119	215
UPPER COURT	103	188	284
LOWER COURT	009	035	117

(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE, LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 5-A

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSING SUMMARY

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
SEX OF OFFENDER: MALE

				ARRESTED											
				104627 100.0%											

		PROSECUTION DECLINED						NO TRUE BILL							
		2674 2.6%						866 0.8%							
				PROSECUTED											
				101087 96.6%											

LOWER COURT								UPPER COURT							
70183 67.1%								30904 29.5%							

DISMISSED		ACQUITTED		CONVICTED		OTHER (A)		DISMISSED		ACQUITTED		CONVICTED		OTHER (B)	
28898		262		40887		136		3493		926		26104		381	
41.2%		0.4%		58.3%		0.2%		11.3%		3.0%		84.5%		1.2%	
				*--TRIAL		125		*--TRIAL		2490		*--TRIAL		9.5% (C)	
				***-PLEA		37036		***-PLEA		20145		***-PLEA		77.2%	
				*-YO		3726		*-YO		3469		*-YO		13.3%	
				*****				*****				*****			
% OF								% OF				% OF			
CONVICTED								CONVICTED				CONVICTED			
0.0%		0						PRISON		10810		41.4%			
27.3%		11132						JAIL		4803		18.4%			
7.0%		2846						TIME SERVED		202		0.8%			
2.3%		932						JAIL AND PROBATION		2196		8.4%			
15.4%		6312						PROBATION		7156		27.4%			
16.5%		6752						FINE		191		0.7%			
3.1%		1249						FINE AND CONDITIONAL DISCHARGE		171		0.7%			
26.2%		10709						CONDITIONAL DISCHARGE		433		1.7%			
1.7%		711						UNCONDITIONAL DISCHARGE		61		0.2%			
0.5%		194						OTHER/UNKNOWN		76		0.3%			

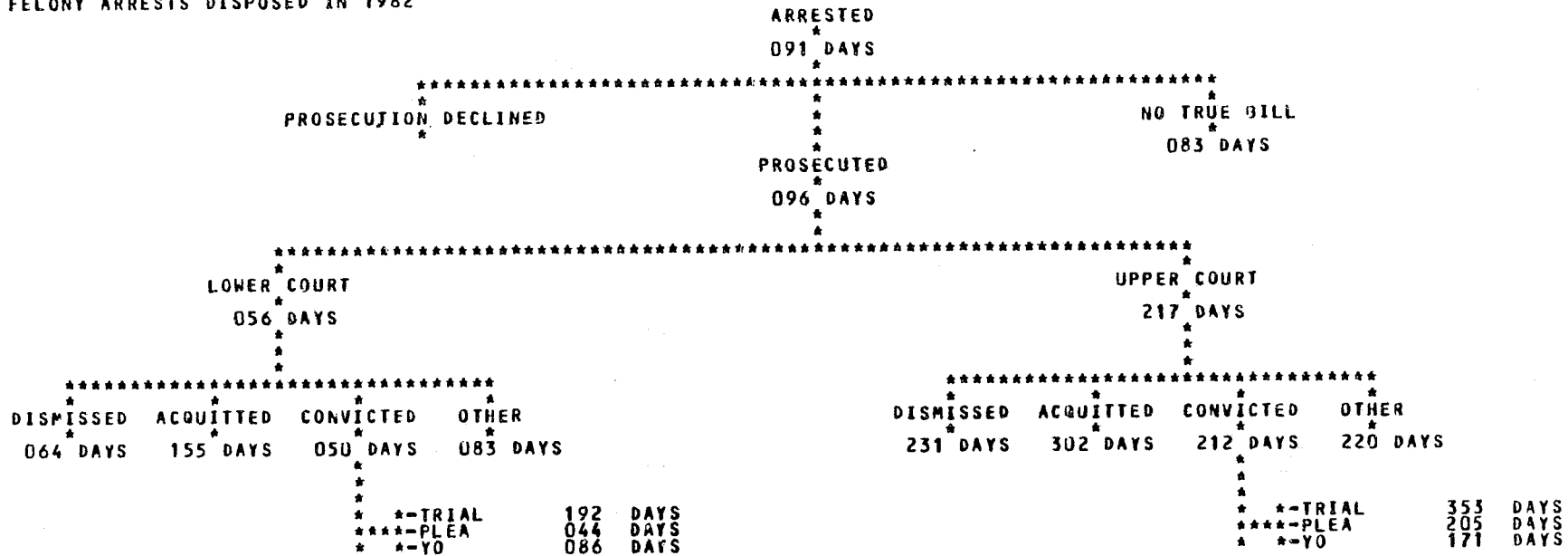
(A) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE LOWER COURT.
 (B) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE UPPER COURT.
 (C) PERCENTAGES OF CASES CONVICTED.

FIGURE 5-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
SEX OF OFFENDER: MALE



S U M M A R Y

	LOWER QUANTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUANTILE
ALL DISPOSITIONS	027	091	213
NO TRUE BILL	043	083	127
PROSECUTED	029	096	218
UPPER COURT	128	217	349
LOWER COURT	013	056	147
DISMISSAL	022	074	204
UPPER COURT	091	231	397
LOWER COURT	021	064	188
ACQUITTED	181	276	410
UPPER COURT	211	302	435
LOWER COURT	089	155	285
CONVICTED	032	102	223
UPPER COURT	128	212	353
TRIAL	255	353	484
PLEA	125	205	324
YO	108	171	265
LOWER COURT	008	050	116
TRIAL	139	192	297
PLEA	006	044	110
YO	054	086	141
OTHER	083	186	336
UPPER COURT	119	220	356
LOWER COURT	021	083	193

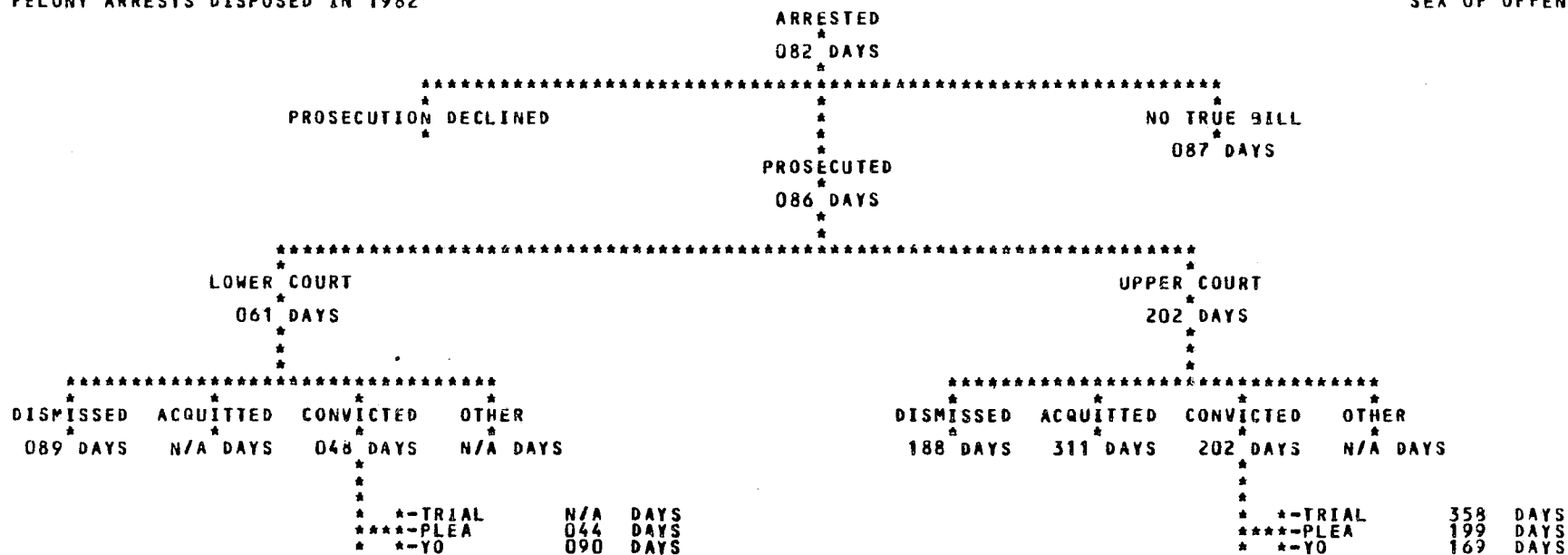
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 6-8

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
SEX OF OFFENDER: FEMALE



```

*****
* S U M M A R Y *
*****
* LOWER * * * * * UPPER *
* QUARTILE * MEDIAN * QUARTILE *
*****
* ALL DISPOSITIONS *
* 021 * * * * * 082 * * * * * 196 *
*****
* NO TRUE BILL *
* 045 * * * * * 087 * * * * * 123 *
*****
* PROSECUTED *
* UPPER COURT *
* 124 * * * * * 202 * * * * * 324 *
* LOWER COURT *
* 014 * * * * * 061 * * * * * 178 *
*****
* DISMISSAL *
* UPPER COURT *
* 027 * * * * * 100 * * * * * 210 *
* LOWER COURT *
* 062 * * * * * 188 * * * * * 340 *
* 026 * * * * * 089 * * * * * 205 *
*****
* ACQUITTED *
* UPPER COURT *
* 151 * * * * * 248 * * * * * 370 *
* LOWER COURT *
* 213 * * * * * 311 * * * * * 394 *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
*****
* CONVICTED *
* UPPER COURT *
* 020 * * * * * 081 * * * * * 182 *
* TRIAL *
* 128 * * * * * 202 * * * * * 320 *
* PLEA *
* 267 * * * * * 358 * * * * * 473 *
* YO *
* 125 * * * * * 199 * * * * * 314 *
* LOWER COURT *
* 111 * * * * * 169 * * * * * 255 *
* TRIAL *
* 006 * * * * * 048 * * * * * 113 *
* PLEA *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
* YO *
* 005 * * * * * 044 * * * * * 111 *
* 063 * * * * * 090 * * * * * 132 *
*****
* OTHER *
* UPPER COURT *
* 035 * * * * * 137 * * * * * 237 *
* LOWER COURT *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
*****
  
```

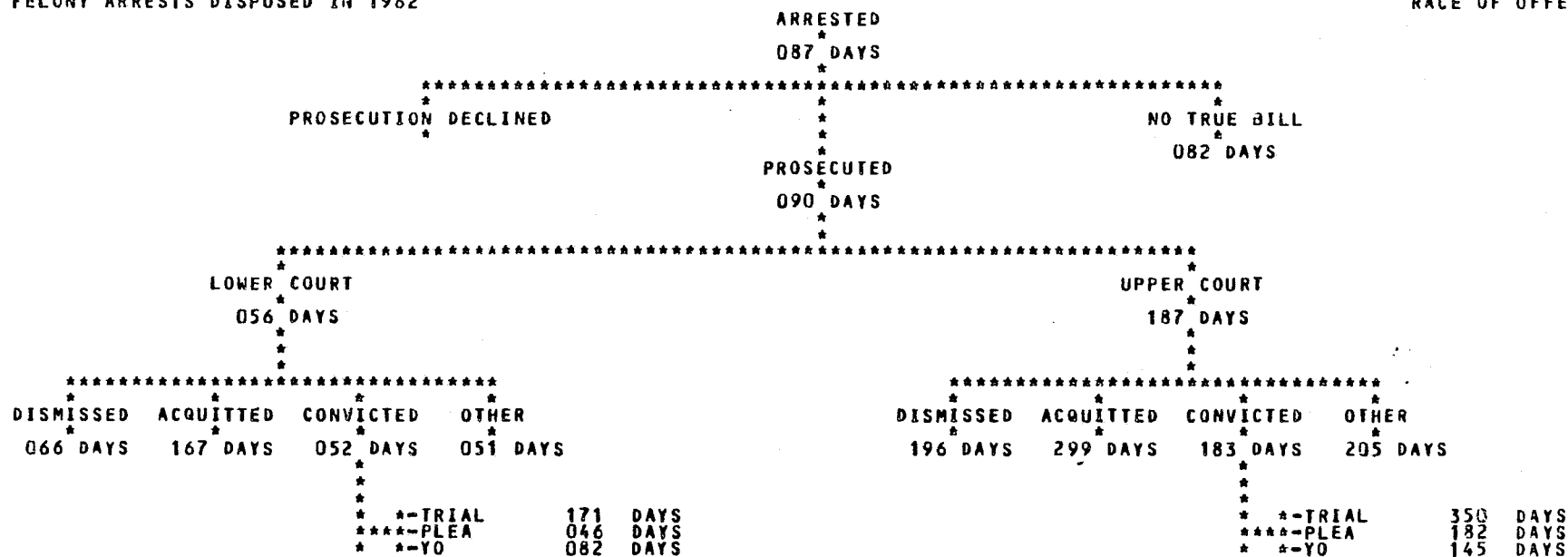
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 7-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
RACE OF OFFENDER: WHITE



ALL DISPOSITIONS

NO TRUE BILL
PROSECUTED
 UPPER COURT
 LOWER COURT
DISMISSAL
 UPPER COURT
 LOWER COURT
ACQUITTED
 UPPER COURT
 LOWER COURT
CONVICTED
 UPPER COURT
 TRIAL
 PLEA
 YO
 LOWER COURT
 TRIAL
 PLEA
 YO
OTHER
 UPPER COURT
 LOWER COURT

S U M M A R Y			
LOWER QUARTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUARTILE	
027	087	194	
038	082	123	
029	090	197	
113	187	307	
015	056	136	
021	075	206	
075	196	374	
019	066	196	
158	261	389	
200	299	427	
093	167	275	
034	092	138	
114	183	296	
248	350	509	
114	182	293	
100	145	219	
013	052	103	
033	171	287	
008	046	104	
053	082	127	
077	156	303	
119	205	348	
009	051	141	

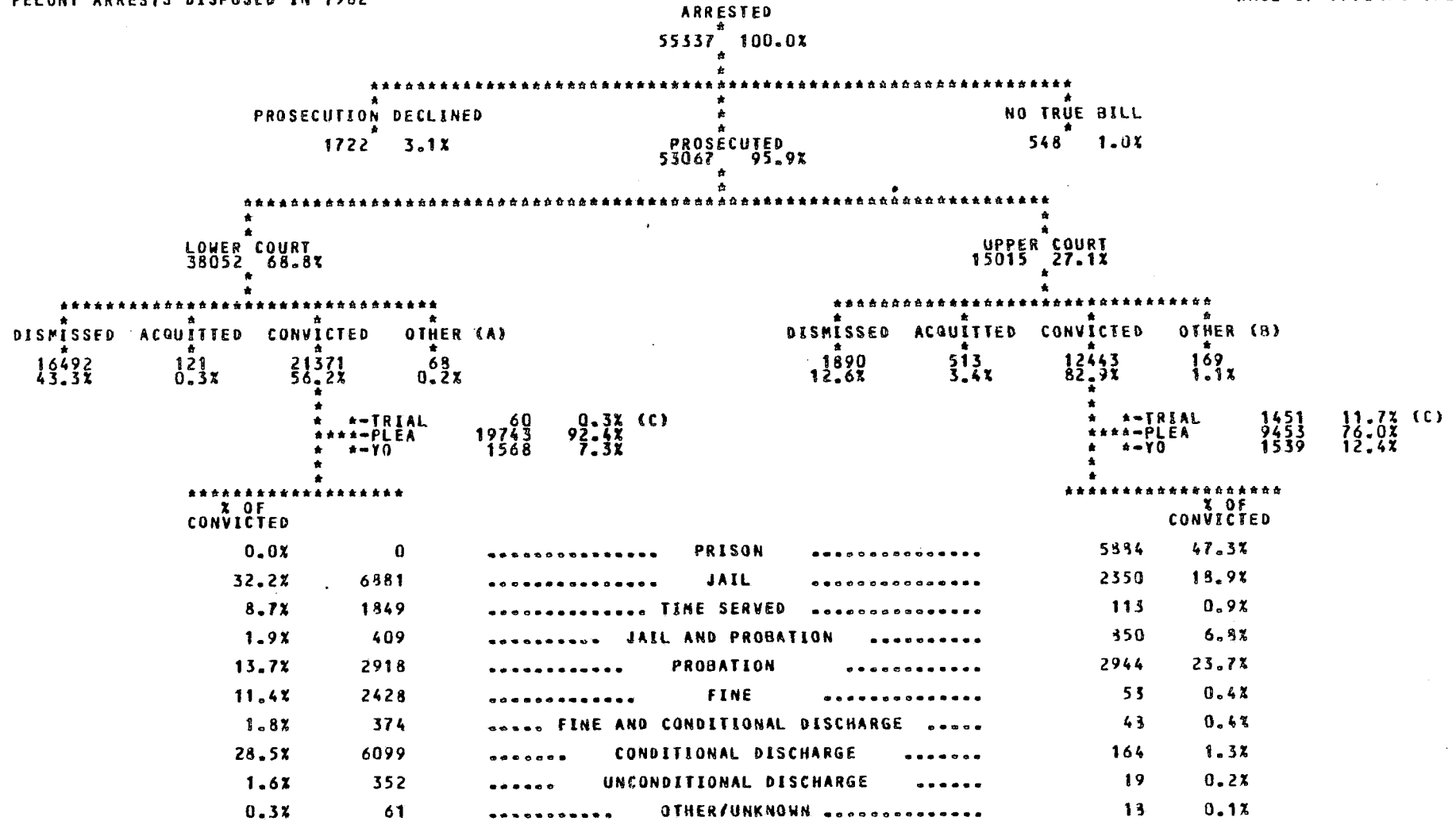
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 8-A

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSING SUMMARY

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
RACE OF OFFENDER:BLACK



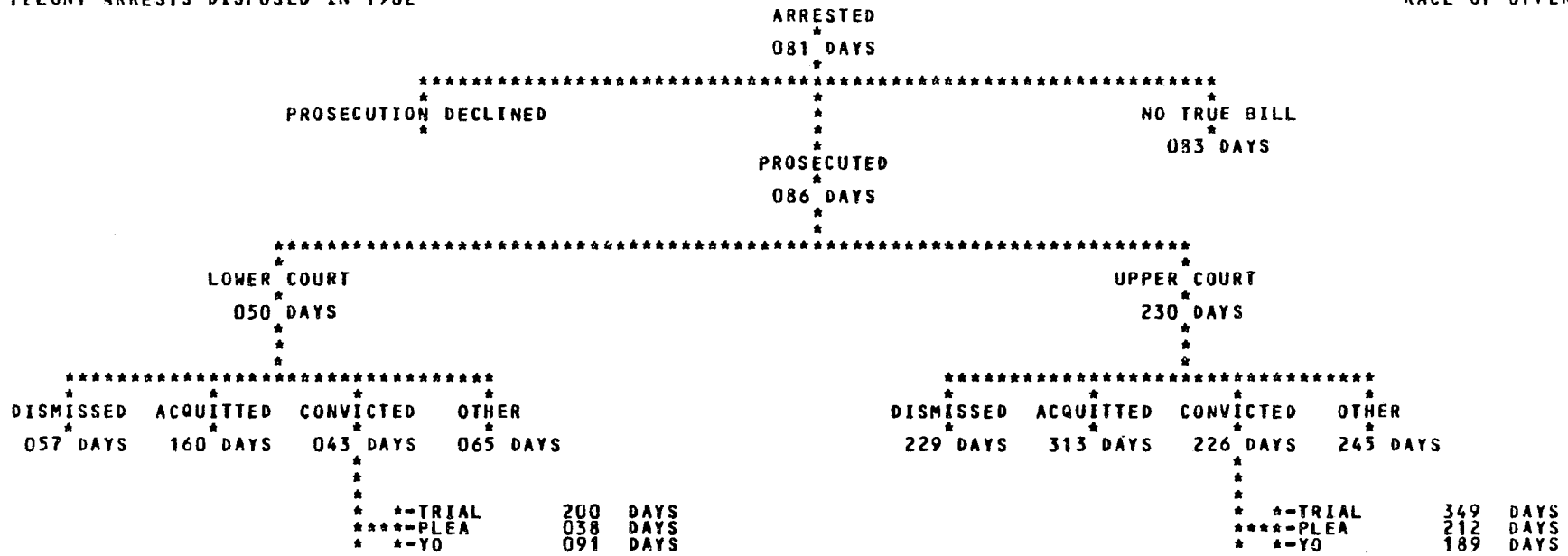
(A) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE LOWER COURT.
(B) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE UPPER COURT.
(C) PERCENTAGES OF CASES CONVICTED.

FIGURE 8-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
RACE OF OFFENDER:BLACK



***** S U M M A R Y *****			
	LOWER QUARTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUARTILE
ALL DISPOSITIONS	021	081	208
NO TRUE BILL	045	083	126
PROSECUTED	023	086	215
UPPER COURT	134	230	364
LOWER COURT	008	050	137
DISMISSAL	019	064	193
UPPER COURT	078	229	392
LOWER COURT	018	057	184
ACQUITTED	189	292	427
UPPER COURT	214	313	442
LOWER COURT	083	160	293
CONVICTED	024	096	223
UPPER COURT	135	226	356
TRIAL	253	349	475
PLEA	128	212	336
YO	115	189	301
LOWER COURT	005	043	112
TRIAL	148	200	326
PLEA	004	038	106
YO	056	091	147
OTHER	065	186	339
UPPER COURT	118	245	364
LOWER COURT	032	065	161

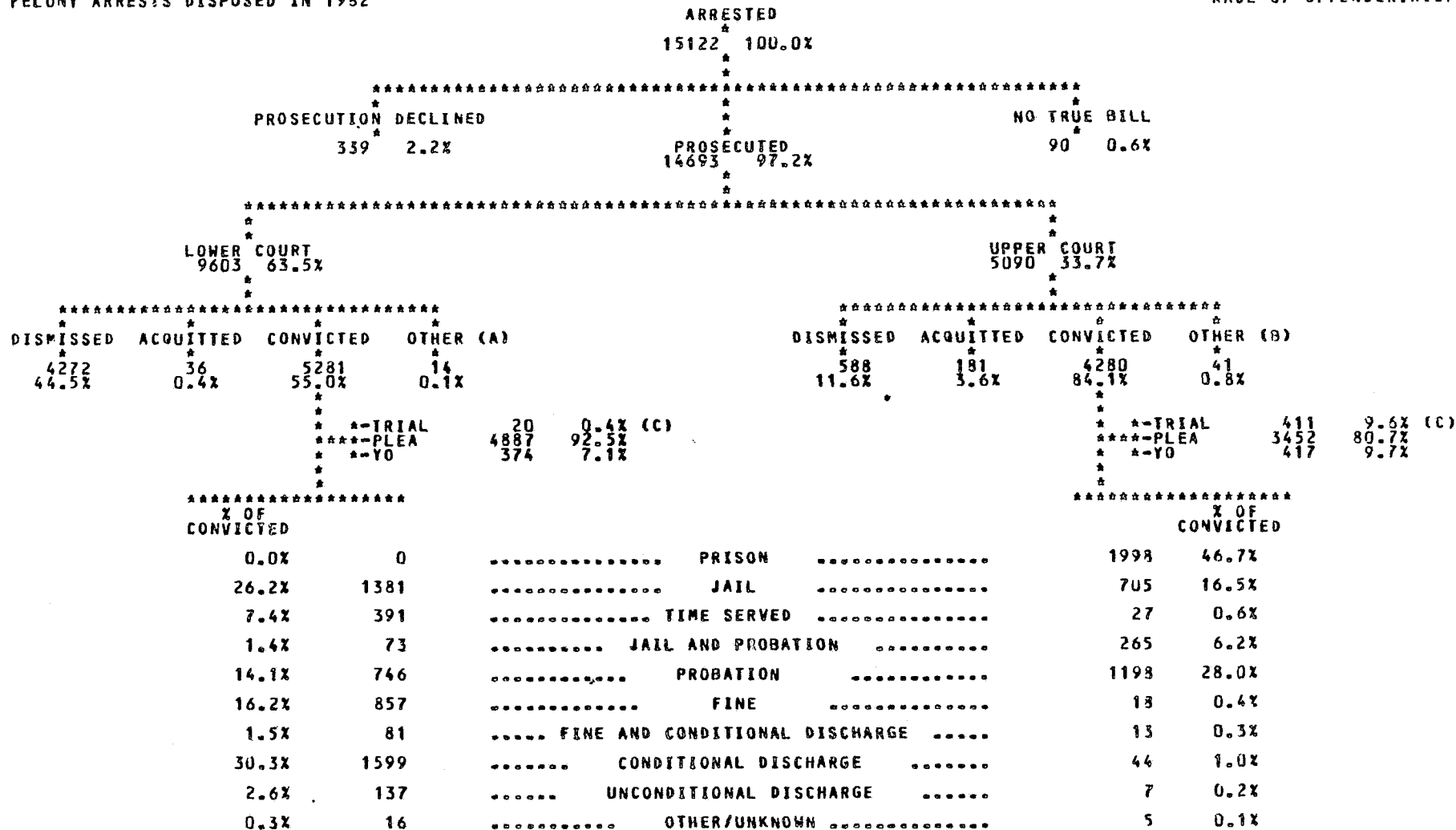
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 9-A

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSING SUMMARY

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
RACE OF OFFENDER: HISPANIC



(A) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE LOWER COURT.
(B) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE UPPER COURT.
(C) PERCENTAGES OF CASES CONVICTED.

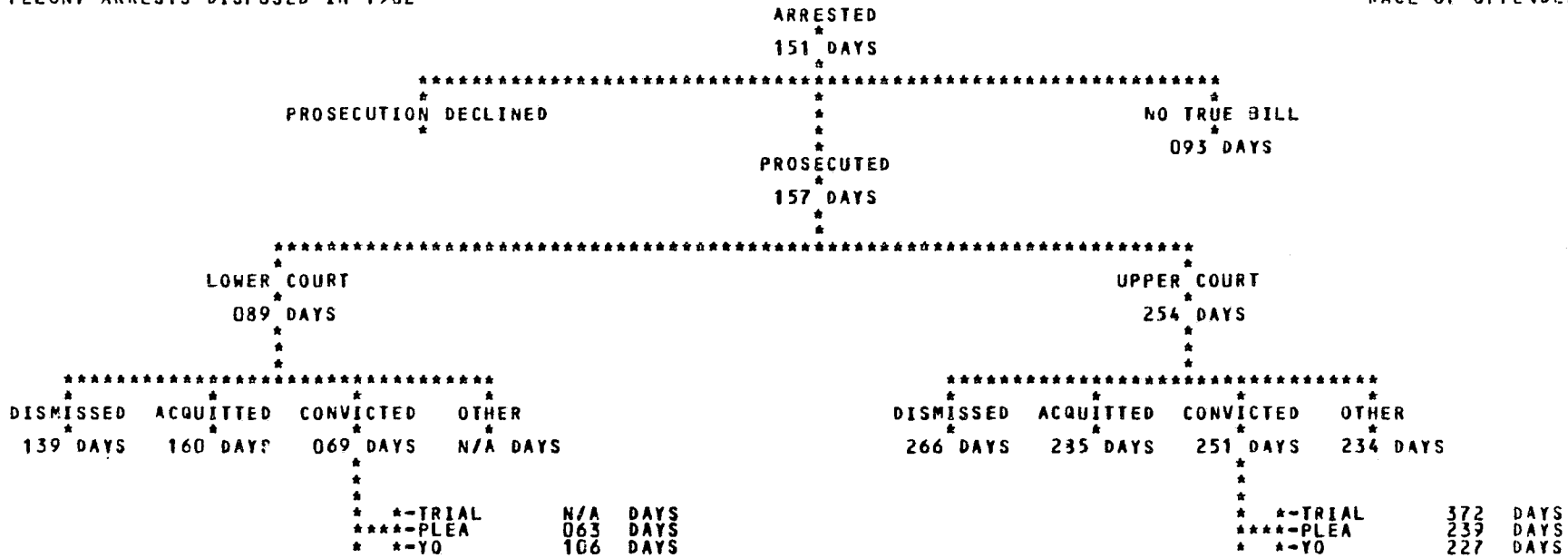
FIGURE 9-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS

DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
RACE OF OFFENDER:HISPANIC



***** S U M M A R Y *****

	LOWER QUARTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUARTILE
ALL DISPOSITIONS	049	151	269
NO TRUE BILL	042	093	147
PROSECUTED	053	157	272
UPPER COURT	163	254	374
LOWER COURT	028	089	203
DISMISSAL	050	165	239
UPPER COURT	152	266	416
LOWER COURT	046	139	217
ACQUITTED	198	277	386
UPPER COURT	207	285	397
LOWER COURT	100	160	285
CONVICTED	053	152	287
UPPER COURT	162	251	363
TRIAL	274	372	464
PLEA	154	239	352
YO	152	227	334
LOWER COURT	017	069	166
TRIAL	N/A	N/A	N/A
PLEA	014	063	161
YO	063	106	213
OTHER	161	234	377
UPPER COURT	161	234	336
LOWER COURT	N/A	N/A	N/A

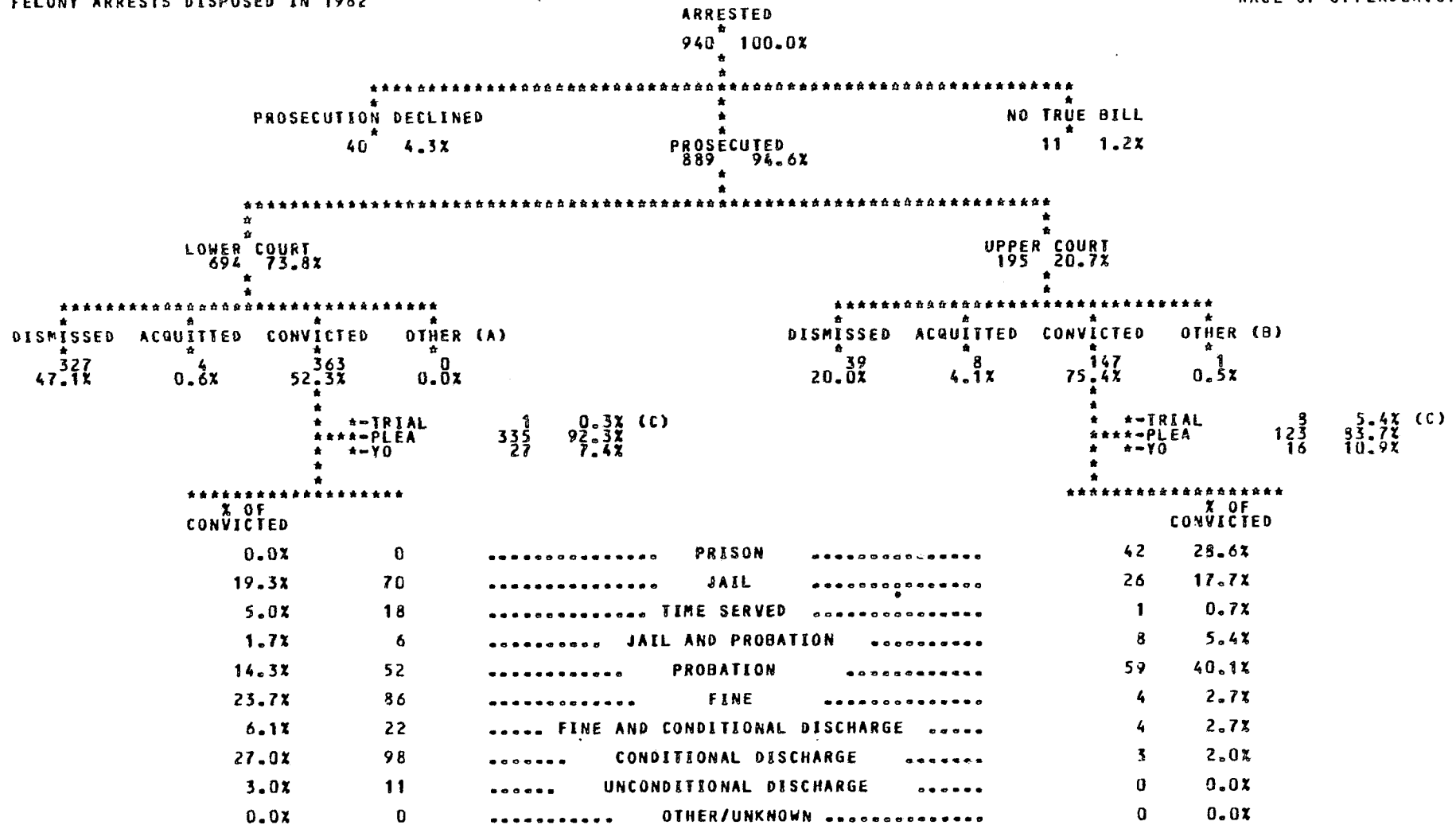
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 10-A

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSING SUMMARY

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
RACE OF OFFENDER: OTHER



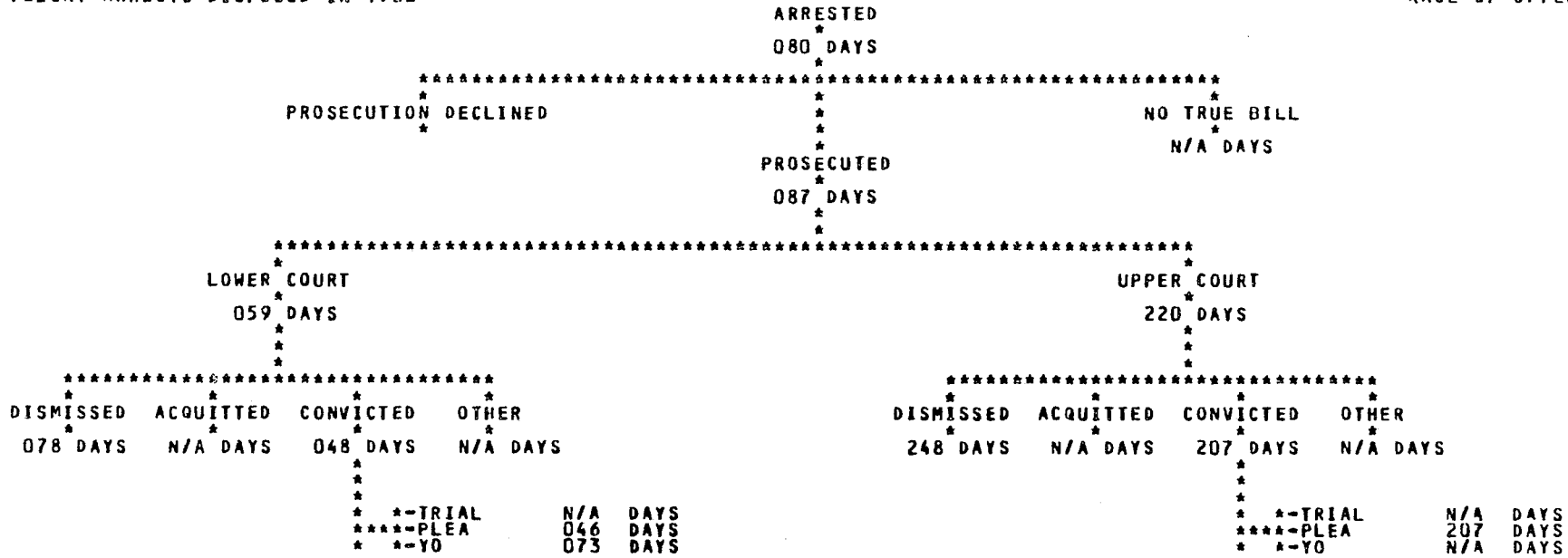
(A) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE LOWER COURT.
(B) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE UPPER COURT.
(C) PERCENTAGES OF CASES CONVICTED.

FIGURE 10-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
RACE OF OFFENDER: OTHER



ALL DISPOSITIONS

```

NO TRUE BILL
PROSECUTED
  UPPER COURT
  LOWER COURT
DISMISSAL
  UPPER COURT
  LOWER COURT
ACQUITTED
  UPPER COURT
  LOWER COURT
CONVICTED
  UPPER COURT
  TRIAL
  PLEA
  YO
  LOWER COURT
  TRIAL
  PLEA
  YO
OTHER
  UPPER COURT
  LOWER COURT
  
```

```

*****
* S U M M A R Y *
*****
* LOWER * * * * * UPPER *
* QUARTILE * * * * * QUARTILE *
*****
* 026 * * * * * 080 * * * * * 196 *
*****
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
*****
* 028 * * * * * 087 * * * * * 199 *
* 128 * * * * * 220 * * * * * 316 *
* 017 * * * * * 059 * * * * * 159 *
*****
* 032 * * * * * 087 * * * * * 202 *
* 096 * * * * * 248 * * * * * 366 *
* 030 * * * * * 078 * * * * * 196 *
*****
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
*****
* 021 * * * * * 083 * * * * * 130 *
* 127 * * * * * 207 * * * * * 284 *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
* 127 * * * * * 207 * * * * * 279 *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
* 006 * * * * * 048 * * * * * 116 *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
* 005 * * * * * 046 * * * * * 114 *
* 045 * * * * * 073 * * * * * 147 *
*****
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
* N/A * * * * * N/A * * * * * N/A *
*****
  
```

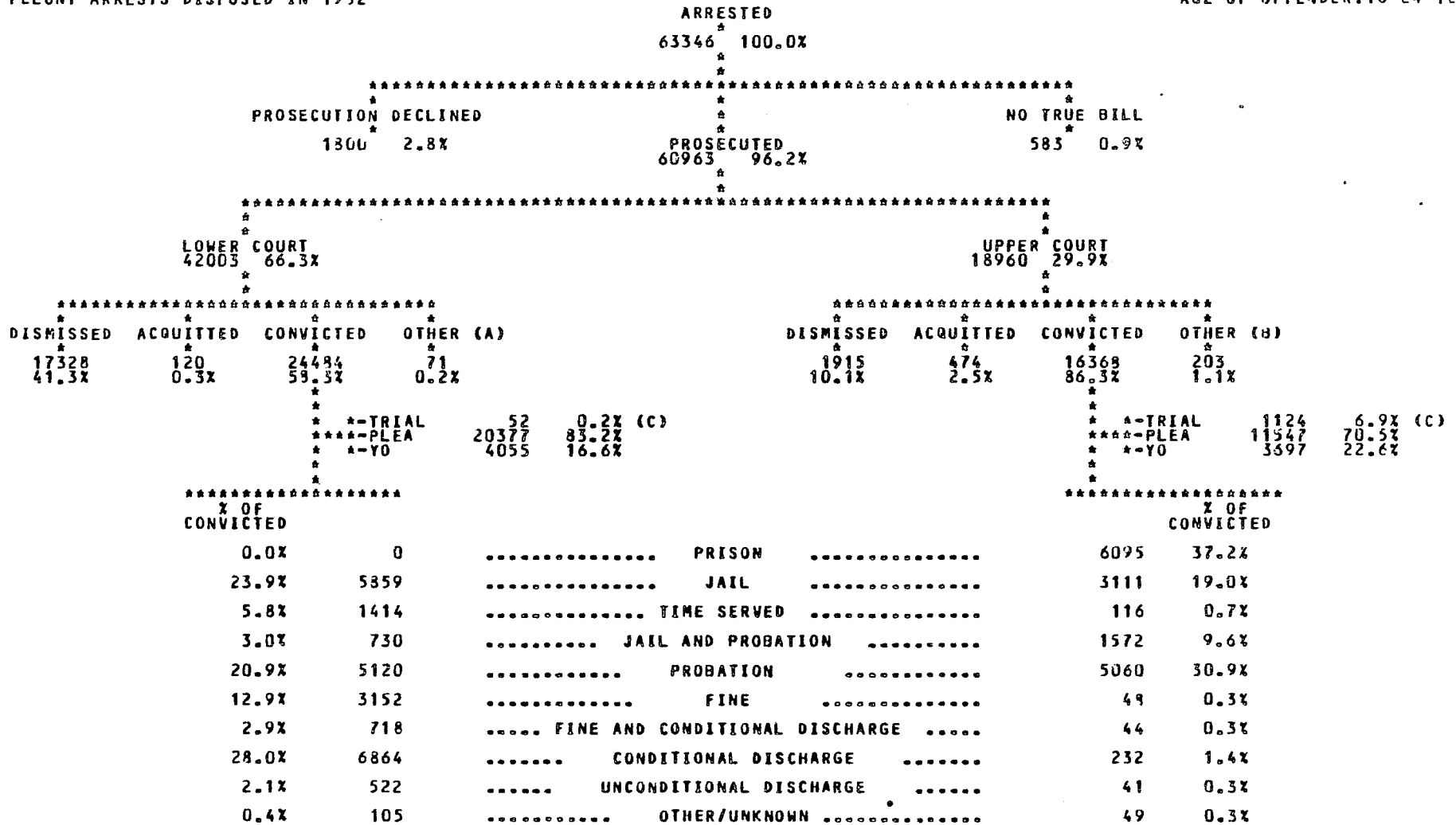
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 11-A

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSING SUMMARY

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
AGE OF OFFENDER: 16-24 YEARS



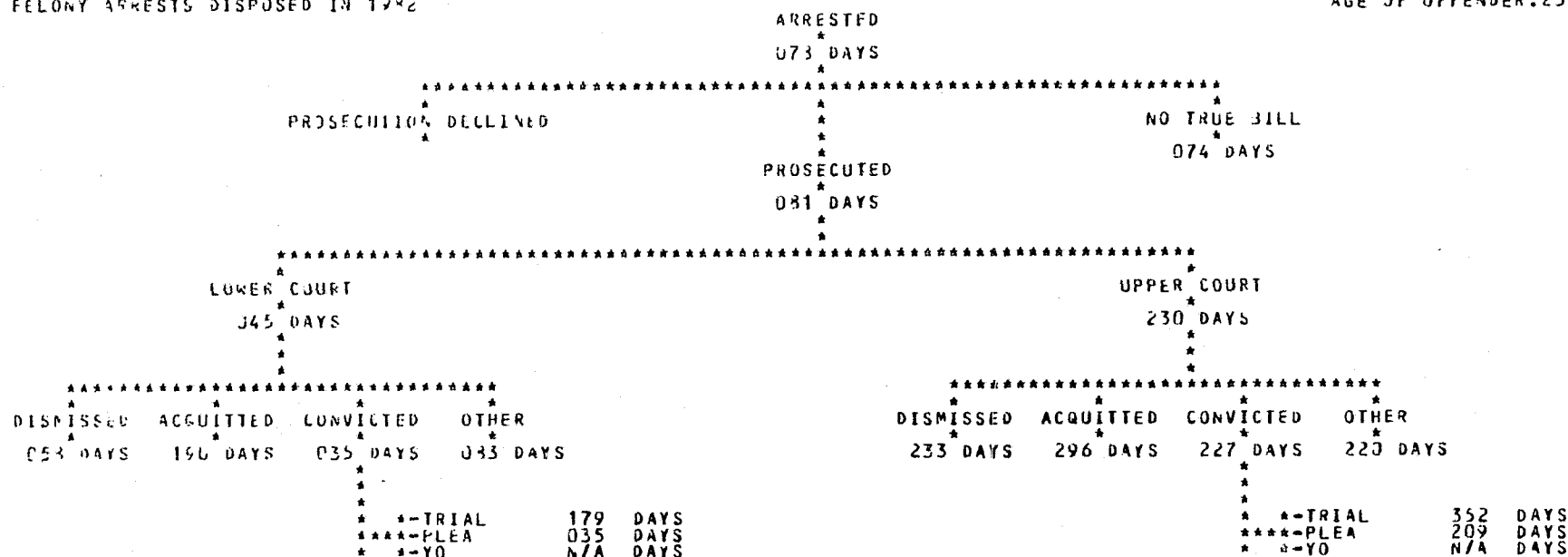
(A) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE LOWER COURT.
 (B) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE UPPER COURT.
 (C) PERCENTAGES OF CASES CONVICTED.

FIGURE 12-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1992

ALL FELONY OFFENSES
AGE OF OFFENDER: 25 AND OLDER



S U M M A R Y

	LOWER QUARTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUARTILE
ALL DISPOSITIONS	018	078	206
NO TRUE BILL	041	074	130
PROSECUTED	020	081	210
UPPER COURT	134	230	371
LOWER COURT	006	045	127
DISMISSAL	021	066	197
UPPER COURT	134	233	416
LOWER COURT	019	058	134
ACQUITTED	179	274	434
UPPER COURT	206	296	434
LOWER COURT	049	190	302
CONVICTED	018	046	215
UPPER COURT	130	227	359
TRIAL	254	352	492
PLEA	127	209	331
YO	N/A	N/A	N/A
LOWER COURT	003	035	099
TRIAL	086	179	296
PLEA	043	035	093
YO	N/A	N/A	N/A
OTHER	045	191	333
UPPER COURT	132	220	361
LOWER COURT	015	033	204

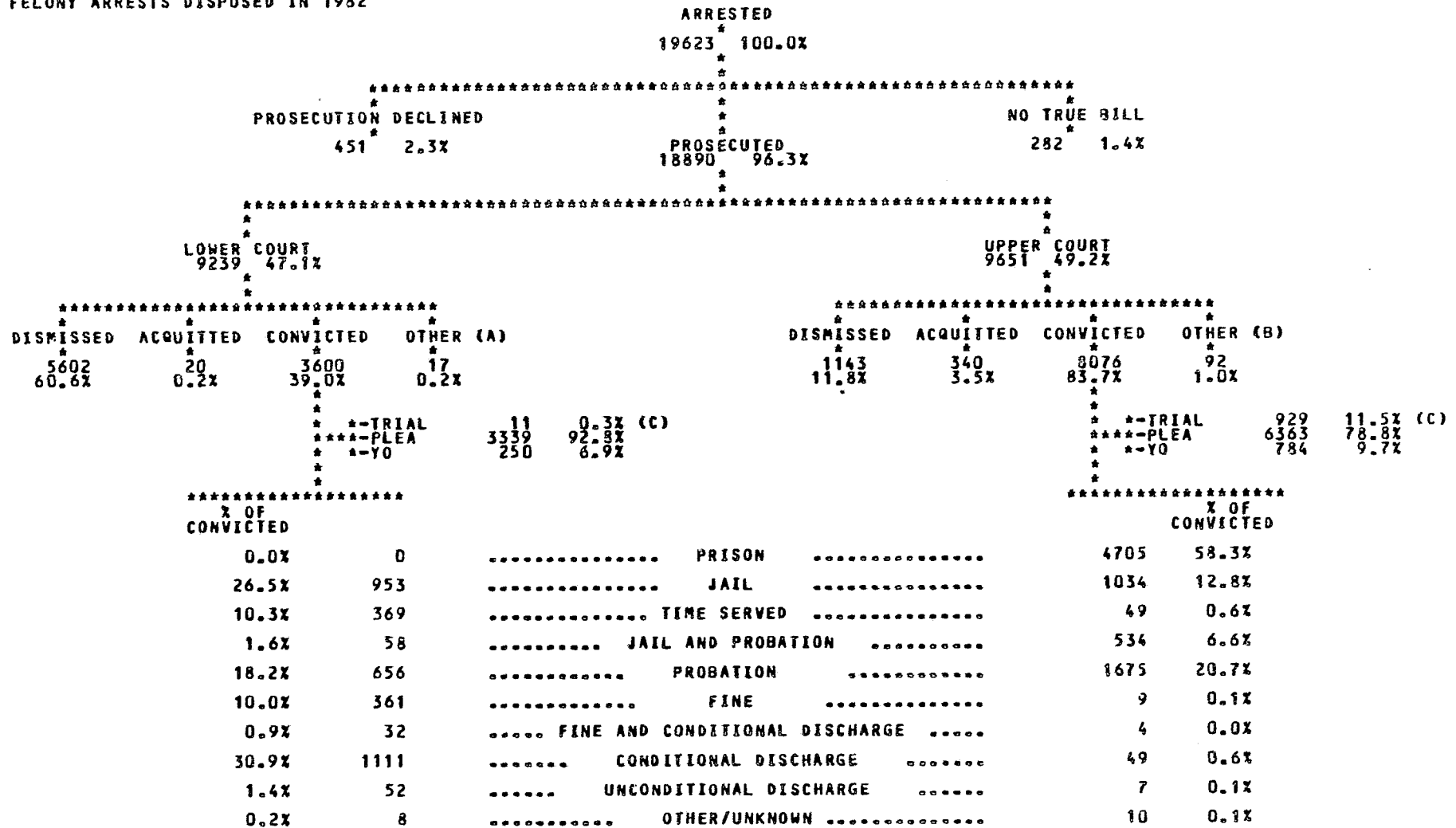
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 18-A

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSING SUMMARY

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

CLASS B ARREST OFFENSES



141

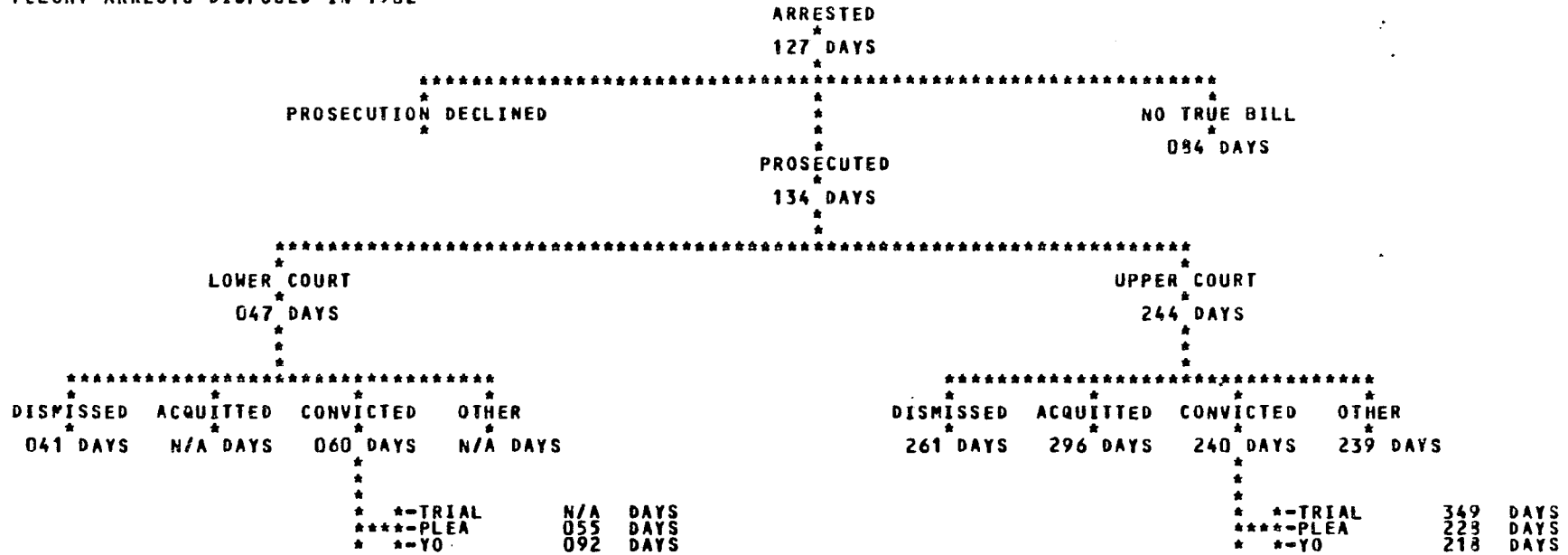
(A) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE LOWER COURT.
 (B) PERCENTAGES OF CASES PROCESSED BY THE UPPER COURT.
 (C) PERCENTAGES OF CASES CONVICTED.

FIGURE 18-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

CLASS B ARREST OFFENSES



ALL DISPOSITIONS

NO TRUE BILL
PROSECUTED
 UPPER COURT
 LOWER COURT
DISMISSAL
 UPPER COURT
 LOWER COURT
ACQUITTED
 UPPER COURT
 LOWER COURT
CONVICTED
 UPPER COURT
 TRIAL
 PLEA
 YO
 LOWER COURT
 TRIAL
 PLEA
 YO
OTHER
 UPPER COURT
 LOWER COURT

S U M M A R Y			
LOWER QUANTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUANTILE	
041	127	269	
042	084	131	
044	134	275	
148	244	364	
008	047	108	
009	051	150	
114	261	392	
006	041	092	
201	289	392	
297	296	397	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
086	184	316	
149	240	360	
253	349	458	
142	228	345	
131	218	331	
016	060	126	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
013	055	124	
060	092	147	
075	217	323	
107	239	325	
N/A	N/A	N/A	

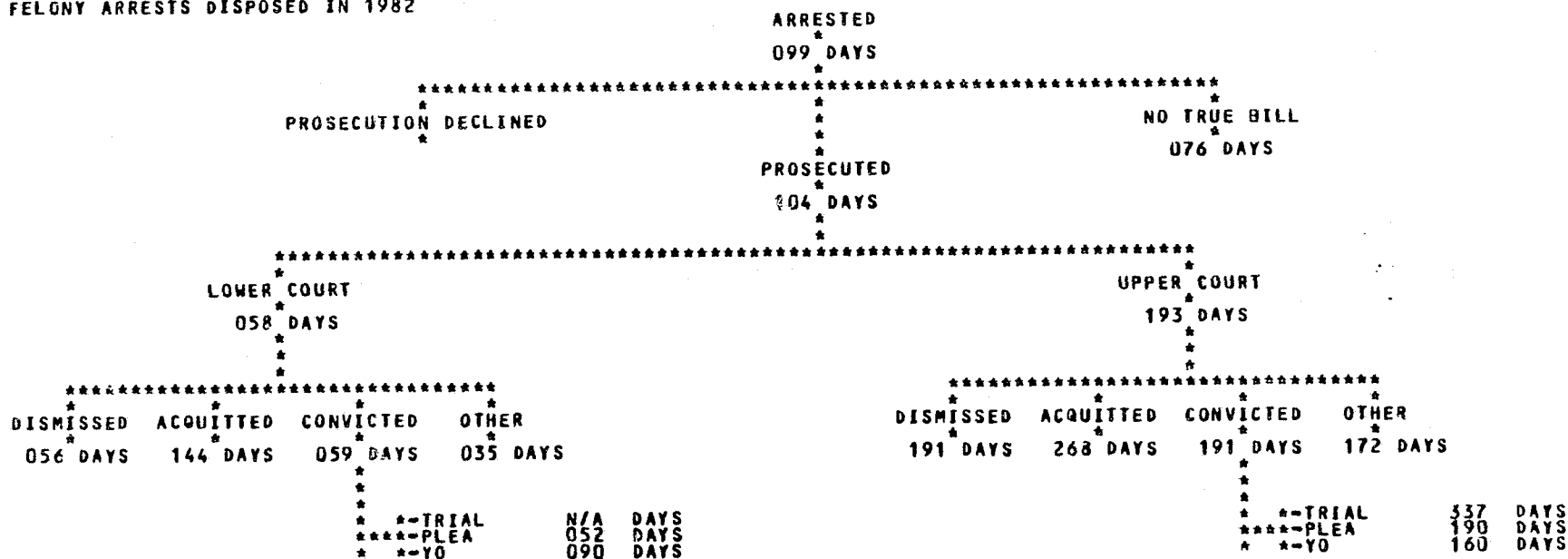
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 19-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

CLASS C ARREST OFFENSES



ALL DISPOSITIONS

NO TRUE BILL

PROSECUTED
UPPER COURT
LOWER COURT

DISMISSAL
UPPER COURT
LOWER COURT

ACQUITTED
UPPER COURT
LOWER COURT

CONVICTED
UPPER COURT
TRIAL
PLEA
YO
LOWER COURT
TRIAL
PLEA
YO

OTHER
UPPER COURT
LOWER COURT

***** S U M M A R Y *****			
*****	*****	*****	*****
LOWER	MEDIAN	UPPER	
QUARTILE		QUARTILE	
*****	*****	*****	*****
035	099	208	
044	076	120	
039	104	213	
114	193	306	
019	058	138	
021	062	185	
055	191	347	
020	056	172	
185	250	383	
198	268	404	
092	144	237	
055	122	230	
115	191	299	
242	337	451	
114	190	293	
104	160	239	
017	059	124	
N/A	N/A	N/A	
011	052	119	
054	090	140	
072	154	255	
103	172	332	
013	035	198	

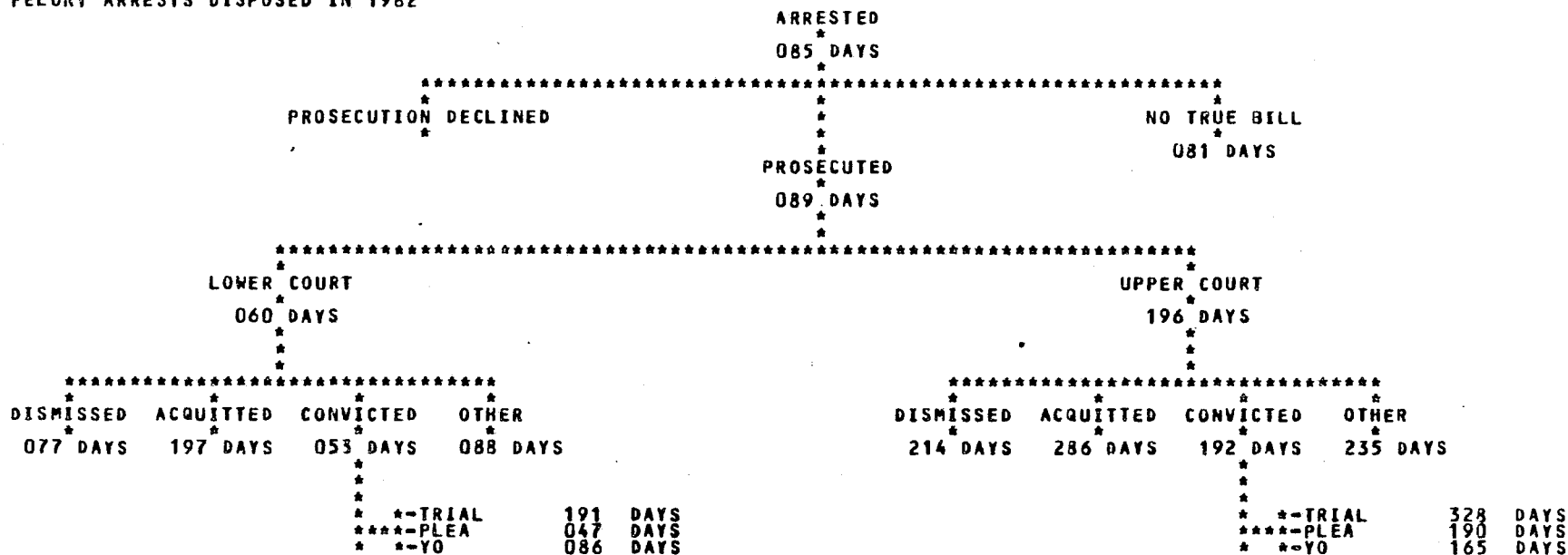
(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

FIGURE 20-B

M E D I A N D A Y S B E T W E E N A R R E S T A N D F I N A L D I S P O S I T I O N

NEW YORK STATE
FELONY ARRESTS DISPOSED IN 1982

CLASS D ARREST OFFENSES



* S U M M A R Y *

	LOWER QUARTILE	MEDIAN	UPPER QUARTILE
ALL DISPOSITIONS	025	085	200
NO TRUE BILL	042	081	118
PROSECUTED	027	089	204
UPPER COURT	117	196	321
LOWER COURT	017	060	167
DISMISSAL	025	087	210
UPPER COURT	088	214	412
LOWER COURT	025	077	203
ACQUITTED	153	260	391
UPPER COURT	194	286	452
LOWER COURT	100	197	305
CONVICTED	028	087	193
UPPER COURT	117	192	306
TRIAL	230	328	459
PLEA	115	190	303
YO	104	165	252
LOWER COURT	010	053	119
TRIAL	140	191	365
PLEA	007	047	115
YO	056	086	141
OTHER	039	195	356
UPPER COURT	127	235	389
LOWER COURT	033	088	204

(N/A = NOT APPROPRIATE,
LESS THAN 25 CASES)

CHARACTERISTICS OF ARRESTS

From a systems analytic perspective, arrests and offenders may be considered the "raw materials" which the criminal justice system processes; they are the inputs to which the system responds. Regional differences in processing, some of which were noted in the preceding section, may be a function of different inputs to the system.

As part of the examination of processing differences, this section focuses on the characteristics of the arrest event inputs. Several parameters are examined: the year the arrest took place, the type and seriousness of the most serious charge,¹⁰ the total number of crimes charged in the arrest event, and whether the most serious arrest charge was for an attempted or a completed crime. Section 3, following, will continue the investigation of differential processing by analyzing characteristics of offenders across the three regions of the State.

As was the case for the processing overview in Section 1, this analysis utilizes the arrest event as the unit of count.

Year of Arrest

Although all the cases in the study were disposed in 1982, the years of arrest for these cases span a ten year period, from 1973 through 1982. Delays between arrest and disposition appearing in the data may be the result of: (1) offenders who escaped from custody before their cases reached final disposition, (2) cases whose final disposition was deferred as a result of an appeal or, (3) problems in reporting data to the CCH/OBTS:

¹⁰Where an offender is charged with several offenses in the same arrest event, only the characteristics of the most serious offense charged are considered in analyses of the type and seriousness of the arrest. See Volume I.

Table 1 shows that almost two-thirds of all cases disposed in 1982 had been arrested in that same year, and that only 5.4 percent of the cases resulted from arrests occurring prior to 1981 (i.e., 1980 or earlier). Other MPAs showed a lower proportion of 1982 arrests than did the other two regions, but a higher proportion of 1981 arrests. Among arrests occurring prior to 1981 but not disposed until 1982, New York City and the Other MPAs showed a higher percentage (5.8% and 5.6% respectively) than did Non-Metropolitan Areas (2.3%).

Type of Offense

Figure 22 shows that among the felony arrest events disposed in 1982, property offenses were the most numerous, accounting for approximately 44 percent of the total. Property offenses comprised about 39 percent of the New York City arrests and over one-half of the arrests in each of the non-New York City regions. Offenses against persons were the second most common offense type in each of the regions. A substantially higher proportion of New York City arrests were for personal offenses (36.7%) than was the case in the Other MPAs (25.5%) or in the Non-Metropolitan Areas (21.0%).

Drug offenses accounted for 12.4 percent of all arrests, statewide. Again, New York City showed a larger proportion of these offenses among its arrests than did the other two regions.

Class of Offense

The vast majority of the arrests in the study cohort were for the least serious (i.e., class D and E) felony classes. Statewide, almost one-half were for class D offenses and nearly an additional quarter were for class E offenses.

Class A offenses (the most serious offense class) constituted less than three percent (3%) of all arrests statewide; classes B and C each accounted for about 17 percent of the statewide arrests. The distribution of the class of arrest offenses by region is displayed in Figure 23.

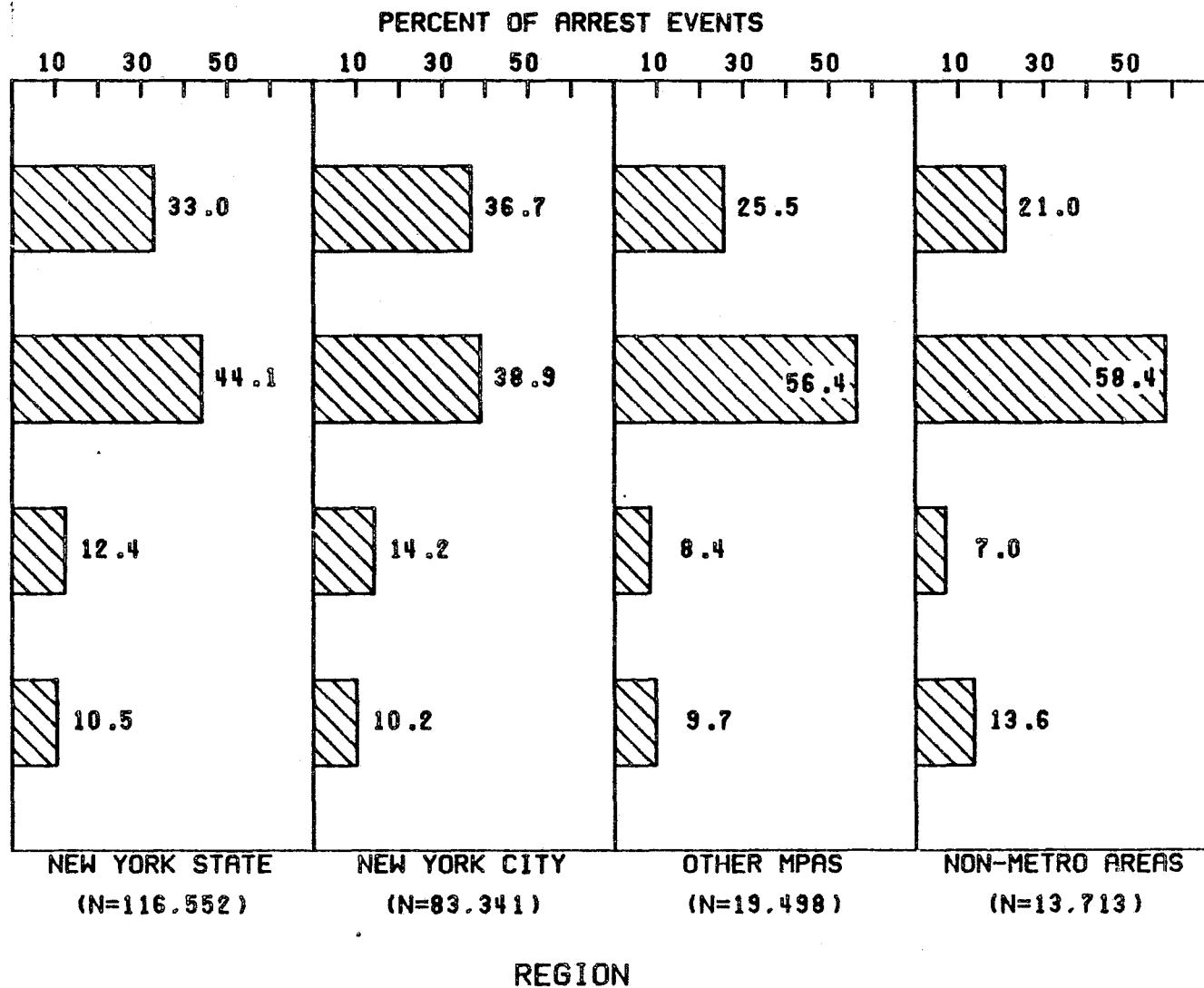
Table 1

Arrest Events Disposed in 1982 by Year of Arrest and Region
Number, Percent, and Cumulative Percent

Year of Arrest	Region											
	New York State			New York City			Other MPAs			Non-Metro Areas		
	N	%	cum %	N	%	cum %	N	%	cum %	N	%	cum %
1982	74,005	63.5	63.5	53,905	64.7	64.7	11,224	57.6	57.6	8,876	64.7	64.7
1981	36,242	31.1	94.6	24,594	29.5	94.2	7,187	36.9	94.4	4,461	32.5	97.3
1980	3,982	3.4	98.0	2,894	3.5	97.7	796	4.1	98.5	292	2.1	99.4
1979	1,011	0.9	98.9	823	1.0	98.7	146	0.7	99.3	42	0.3	99.7
1978	535	0.5	99.3	423	0.5	99.2	87	0.4	99.7	25	0.2	99.9
1977	350	0.3	99.6	321	0.4	99.5	16	0.1	99.8	13	0.1	100.0
1976	190	0.2	99.8	168	0.2	99.7	20	0.1	99.9	2	<0.1	100.0
1975	107	0.1	99.9	96	0.1	99.9	10	0.1	99.9	1	<0.1	100.0
1974	80	0.1	100.0	73	0.1	99.9	6	<0.1	100.0	1	<0.1	100.0
1973	50	<0.1	100.0	44	<0.1	100.0	6	<0.1	100.0	0	0.0	100.0
TOTAL	116,552	100.0	100.0	83,341	100.0	100.0	19,498	100.0	100.0	13,713	100.0	100.0

FIGURE 22
 TYPE OF MOST SERIOUS ARREST CHARGE
 BY REGION

TYPE OF MOST SERIOUS ARREST CHARGE



SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE A-5, VOLUME I.

Table 2 presents the breakdown of offense types within classes for New York State.¹¹ Class A offenses were predominately drug or personal crimes (homicide or kidnapping), with personal offenses the more prevalent in this class. Very few class A arrests were for property crimes (arson).¹²

Table 2
Type of Offense by Class of Offense:
Most Serious Charge in Arrest Event
New York State

Class of Arrest Offense	Total ^a	Type of Offense			
		Personal ^a	Property	Drug	Other
A	100.0% (3,220)	53.2% (1,712)	1.3% (42)	45.4% (1,461)	0.2% ^b (5)
B	100.0% (19,623)	58.3% (11,449)	6.4% (1,248)	33.2% (6,518)	2.1% (408)
C	100.0% (19,758)	45.0% (8,886)	38.6% (7,620)	9.7% (1,922)	6.7% (1,330)
D	100.0% (47,759)	32.0% (15,263)	49.9% (23,831)	7.0% (3,321)	11.2% (5,344)
E	100.0% (26,176)	4.3% (1,120)	71.4% (18,702)	4.6% (1,217)	19.6% (5,137)

^aExcludes 16 PL125 cases for which class was not known.

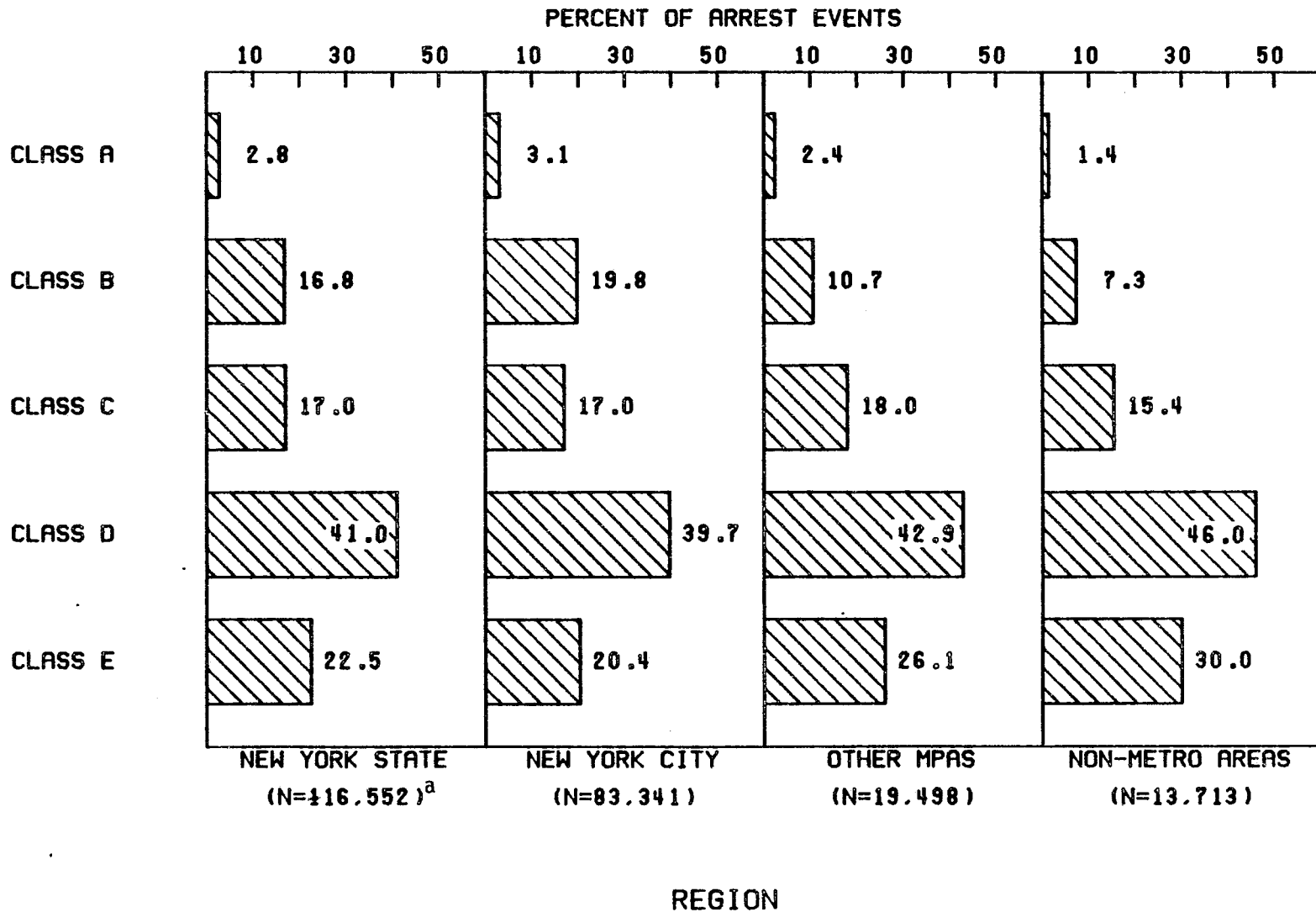
^bFive (5) class A cases were missing data on offense type.

¹¹Similar presentations for each of the regions are in Volume III, tables III-1a, -1b, and -1c. The regional distributions are generally similar to those for the State as a whole.

¹²Five class A cases lacked data on the specific offense type and were coded in the "other" category.

FIGURE 23
CLASS OF MOST SERIOUS ARREST CHARGE
BY REGION

CLASS OF MOST SERIOUS ARREST CHARGE



^aEXCLUDES 16 PL125 CASES FOR WHICH CLASS WAS UNKNOWN.
SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE A-6, VOLUME 1.

Personal offenses predominated among class B and C arrests, accounting for 58.3 percent of the class B and 45 percent of the class C arrests. In addition, almost one-third of class D arrests were for personal crimes. Property crimes were most prevalent among the lower (D and E) offense classes, comprising almost three-fourths of all class E arrests.

Attempts

Only 6.6 percent of the arrest offenses in the study cohort were attempts governed under Penal Law Article 110. The vast majority of these (over 86%) were cases from New York City. In all regions, the largest group of these offenses in the study cohort were attempts at class D felonies (i.e., resulting in a class E attempt offense).¹³ In New York City most of the attempts were attempts at personal crimes; in the other two regions most were attempts at property crimes.

Figures 24 and 25 show the regional distributions of attempts by type and class of the offense.

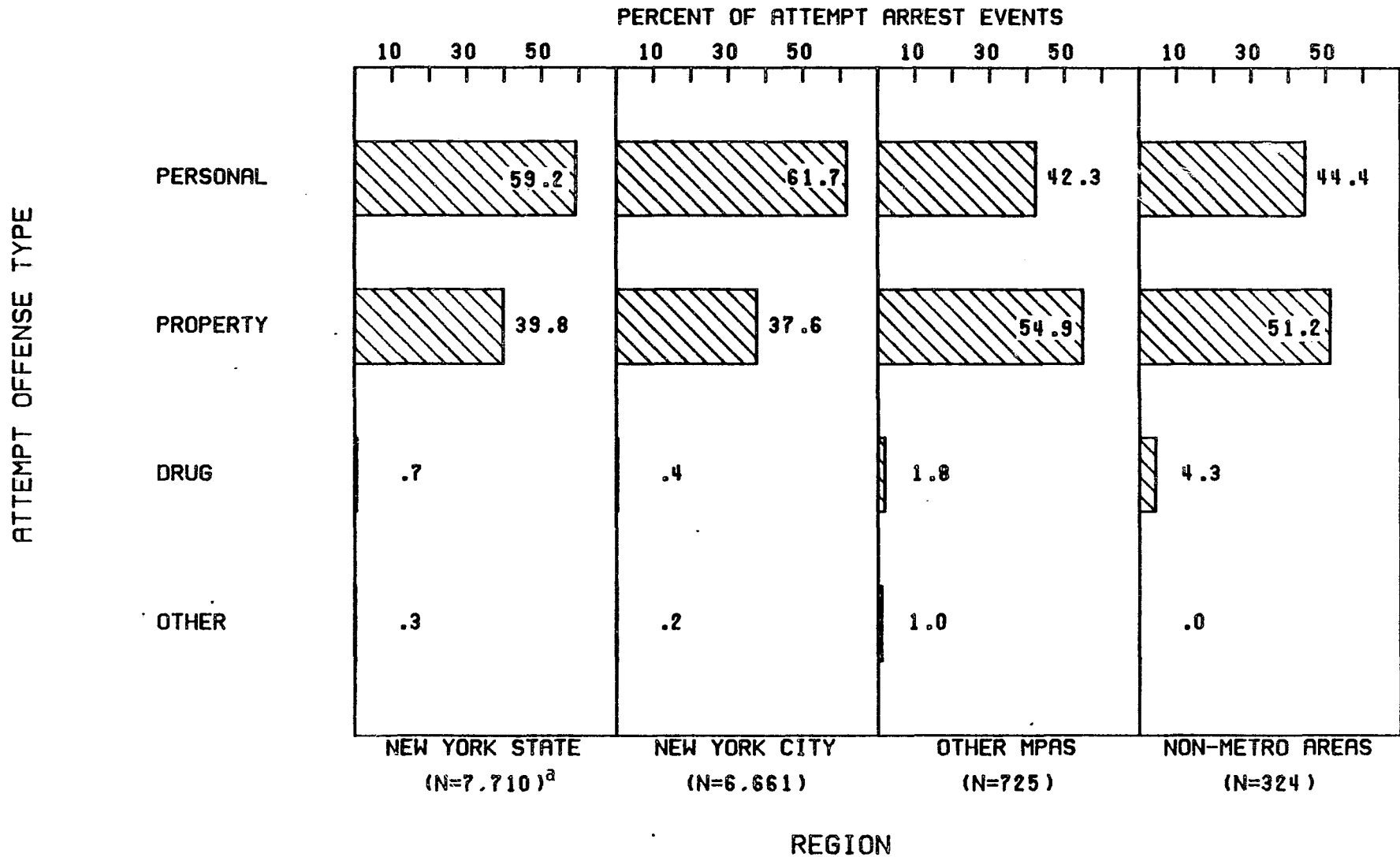
Number of Charges at Arrest

As noted earlier, where an arrest event included more than one charge, only the most serious felony charge was considered in selecting cases for this study. Some arrest events in the study cohort contain accompanying misdemeanor and felony charges while others do not. In this section, arrest events are characterized on the basis of whether such additional charges are present or not.

Table 3 shows the regional distributions of arrest events containing only a single charge and those containing at least one other offense.

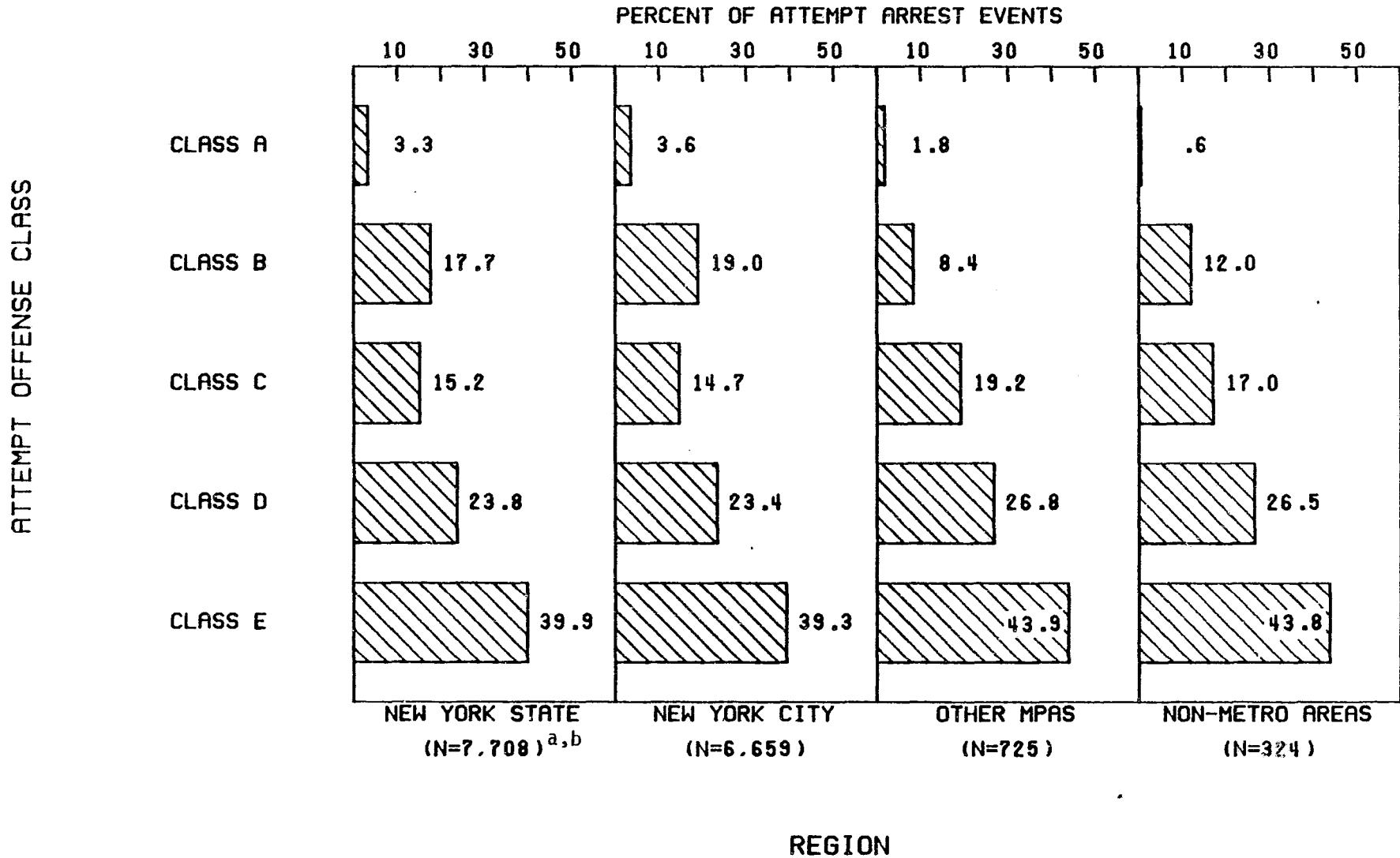
¹³Note that attempts at class E felonies are misdemeanors and are not included in the OBTS felony disposition report.

FIGURE 24
 ATTEMPT OFFENSES:
 MOST SERIOUS CHARGE AT ARREST
 ATTEMPT OFFENSE TYPE BY REGION



^aNUMBER OF ATTEMPT OFFENSES (MOST SERIOUS CHARGE WAS AN ATTEMPT).
 SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE III-2.VOLUME III.

FIGURE 25
 ATTEMPT OFFENSES:
 MOST SERIOUS CHARGE AT ARREST
 ATTEMPT OFFENSE CLASS BY REGION



^aNUMBER OF ATTEMPT OFFENSES (MOST SERIOUS CHARGE WAS AN ATTEMPT).

^bEXCLUDES 2 PL125 CASES FOR WHICH CLASS WAS UNKNOWN.

SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE III-3, VOLUME III.

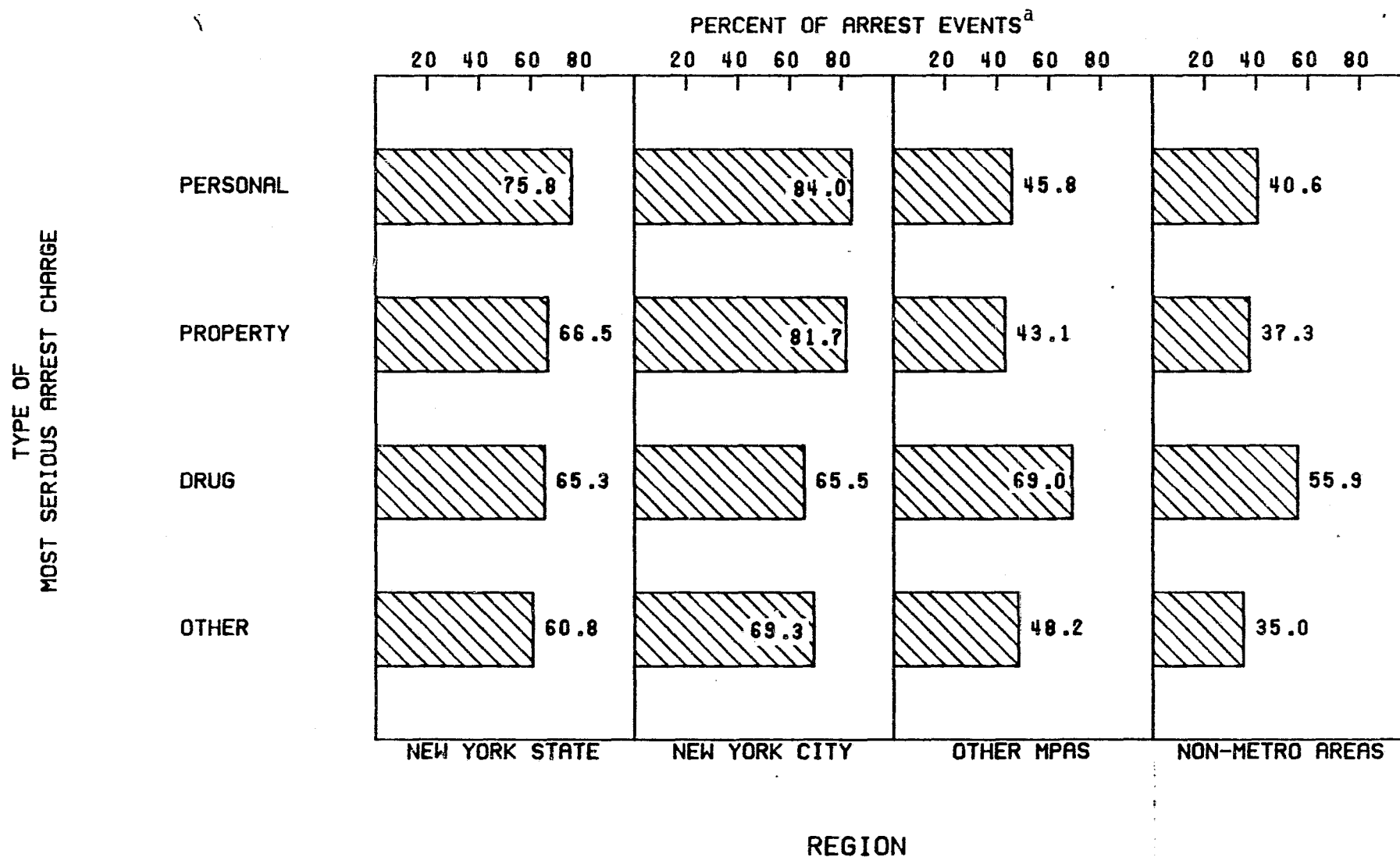
Table 3
Single and Multiple Charge
Arrest Events by Region

Region	Total	Type of Arrest Event	
		Single Charge Events	Multiple Charge Events
New York City	100.0% (83,341)	21.0% (17,520)	79.0% (65,821)
Other MPAs	100.0% (19,498)	53.5% (10,435)	46.5% (9,063)
Non-Metro Areas	100.0% (13,713)	61.0% (8,363)	39.0% (5,350)
New York State Total	100.0% (116,552)	31.2% (36,318)	68.8% (80,234)

These data clearly show that New York City felony arrests were far more likely to consist of multiple charges than were arrests in either of the other two regions of the State.

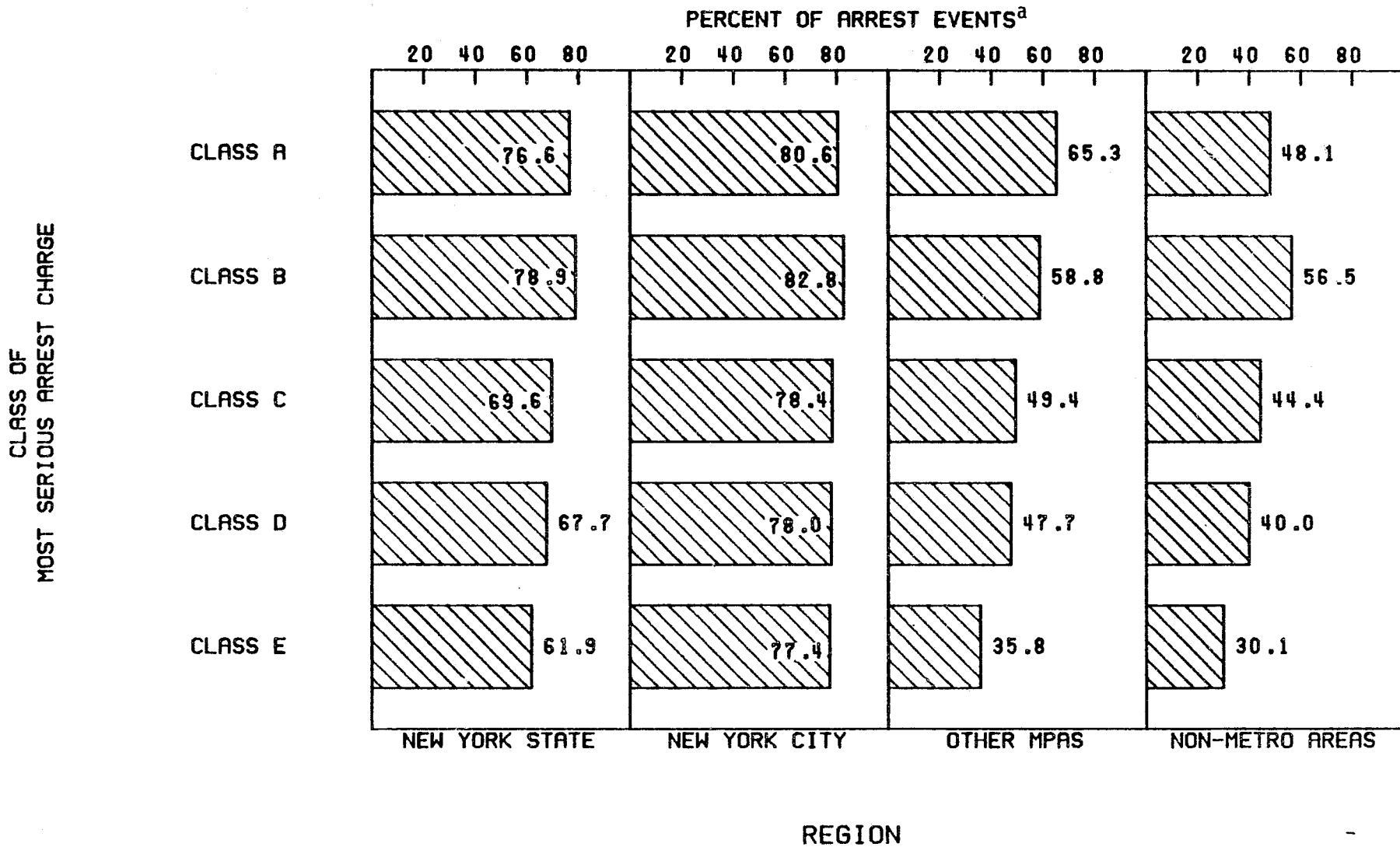
Figure 26 shows that the proportion of multiple charge events was generally higher in New York City across offense types (excepting drug offenses), while the magnitude of the inter-region difference was lower for drug offenses than for the remaining types. Arrests for personal crimes were most likely to have accompanying charges in New York City. In the other two regions, drug arrest events were most likely to have multiple charges. With regard to class (Figure 27), New York City showed the highest percentages of multiple charge arrests for all classes. In New York City and the Other Metropolitan areas, class B arrests were most likely to be accompanied by other charges; in the Non-Metropolitan areas, class A arrests were most likely to be multiple charge events.

FIGURE 26
 PERCENT OF ARREST EVENTS
 CONTAINING MULTIPLE CHARGES:
 TYPE OF MOST SERIOUS CHARGE BY REGION



^aPERCENT OF MULTIPLE CHARGE ARREST EVENTS WITHIN SPECIFIED TYPE AND REGION.
 SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE III-4, VOLUME III.

FIGURE 27
 PERCENT OF ARREST EVENTS
 CONTAINING MULTIPLE CHARGES:
 CLASS OF MOST SERIOUS CHARGE BY REGION



^aPERCENT OF MULTIPLE CHARGE ARREST EVENTS WITHIN SPECIFIED CLASS AND REGION.
 SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLES A-6 (V.I) AND III-5 (V.III).

Within the subgroup of arrests consisting only of multiple charges, regional differences can also be noted. Figure 28 displays the composition of multiple charge events by region. Multiple charge events were divided into the following categories: those where the accompanying charges were only misdemeanors, those with one additional felony, and those with two or more additional felonies.¹⁴ (The latter two groups are further subdivided into cases with no misdemeanors and with one or more misdemeanors.)

In all regions, where arrest events involved multiple charges, the other charges were likely to be misdemeanors. The proportions of arrest events containing one additional felony or two or more additional felonies were generally similar across regions. However, in New York City a single additional felony was more likely to be accompanied by additional misdemeanors than elsewhere in the State. Regional differences in the overall pattern of multiple charging were primarily due to the prevalence in New York City of added misdemeanor charges in cases where there is at least one additional felony.

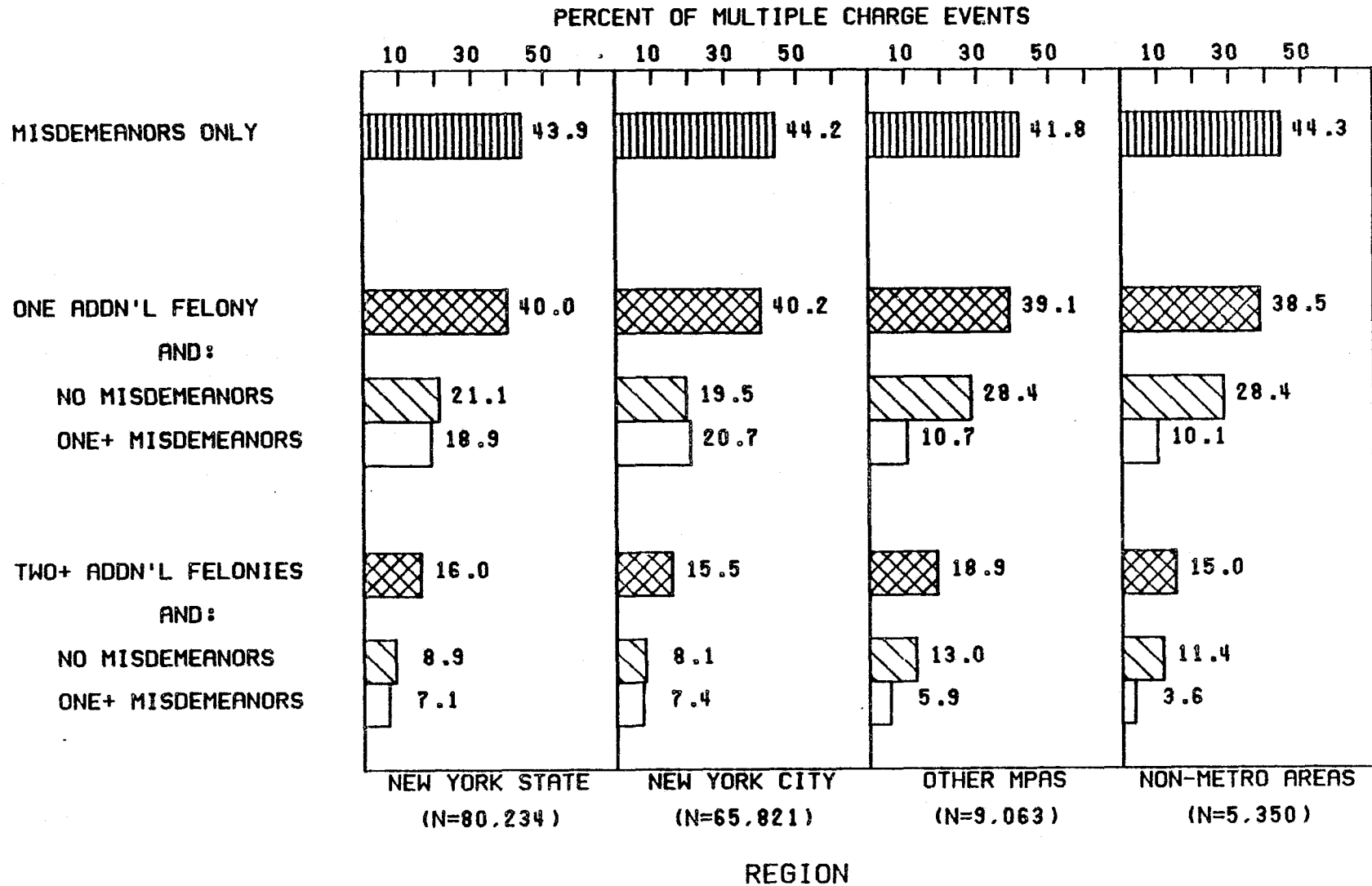
Summary

Statewide 44 percent of the felony arrests in the analysis were for property crimes and an additional 33 percent were for crimes against persons. Only 12 percent were for drug crimes. Arrests for the more serious felony offense classes (i.e., A and B) were relatively uncommon, accounting for about 20 percent of all arrests. Class D arrests were most common (41% of all arrests) and class D and E arrests combined accounted for over 63 percent of the felony arrests in the study cohort. (These class D and E arrests were most often for property crimes while the A and B arrests were generally for drug and personal crimes.)

¹⁴To these, of course, should be added the single (most serious) arrest charge which was the basis for selection of the case into the cohort.

FIGURE 28
 MULTIPLE CHARGE ARREST EVENTS:
 ADDITIONAL ARREST CHARGES BY REGION

-66-
 ADDITIONAL ARREST CHARGES



SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE III-6, VOLUME III.

Consistent with the Processing Summary in Section 1, these data on arrests indicate clear differences between New York City and the remainder of the State in 1982. The New York City criminal justice system responded not only to a substantially larger number of cases than in the other regions, but also to qualitatively different kinds of cases. New York City cases were more serious and contained more individual charges than non-New York City cases and were more likely to have involved personal and drug offenses. Arrests for attempted offenses were substantially more common in New York City as well.

To the extent that arrests reflect the overall nature of offenses being committed, these data support the notion that serious crime is a phenomenon acutely affecting urban areas, and New York City in particular.

In some respects, these data may reflect differences in police resources or practices rather than differences in the nature of the offenses themselves. For example, increased investigative resources may result in the detection of additional offenses with the result that arrest events would be more likely to contain multiple charges. Additional research is necessary to more fully examine these issues.

CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFENDERS

As noted in the Introduction (Volume I) this analysis of offender¹⁵ characteristics differs from other analyses in this report in that it is based on the individual offender rather than the arrest event.

The data show that the 116,552 felony arrest events in the study cohort involved only 97,777 different offenders. Of these offenders, 83,384 or 85.3 percent, were disposed on only one felony arrest in 1982. The remaining 14,393 offenders (14.7%) were disposed multiple times in 1982. This subgroup of "multiple disposition offenders"¹⁶ accounted for 33,168 arrest events, or approximately 2.3 arrests per offender (i.e., 33,168 arrests ÷ 14,393 offenders = 2.3). In the various arrest-based analyses, the characteristics of these offenders were counted once for each appearance in the cohort.¹⁷ This is fully appropriate in analyzing issues of system processing and describing offense-related characteristics since each arrest may be considered a unique input to which the system must respond. However, in examining offender-related characteristics (e.g., sex, race, age), using the arrest event as the unit of count would result in overrepresenting these characteristics for those persons appearing more than once

¹⁵The term "offender" is used here to refer to all persons arrested, in contrast to designating only those formally labelled as offenders by the fact of conviction.

¹⁶The terms "single-" or "multiple disposition offenders" will be used to designate the groups of offenders appearing in the cohort once and more than once.

¹⁷Among the 14,393 offenders appearing more than once in the cohort, the number of appearances ranged from 2 to 9. The modal number of multiple appearances was 2 (11,082 offenders).

in the cohort. To avoid such overrepresentation in this analysis of offenders, each offender was counted only once.¹⁸

This section begins with an analysis of the sex, age, race and prior criminal histories of offenders and how they differ by region. This is followed by a brief examination of selected offender characteristics by the type and class of the arrest offense. The goal of this examination is to review what the OBTS data reveal about patterns of offending among different offender subgroups.¹⁹ The section concludes with an analysis of differences between those offenders appearing in the cohort only once and those appearing multiple times.

All Offenders Appearing in the Cohort

Offender Attributes

Sex of Offender. Table 4 displays the distribution of offender sex by region. In all regions, males outnumbered females by a ratio of about 9 to 1.

¹⁸An example may serve to clarify this issue. If there were 11 offenders in a hypothetical study cohort, 10 males and one female, the ratio of male to female offenders would be 10:1. This statement is based upon an offender unit of count, since each offender was counted only once. However, if each male offender was arrested only once, but the single female offender was arrested 10 times, there would be a total of 20 arrests (10 involving males and 10 involving females). Using an arrest unit of count the ratio of male to female arrests would be 1:1.

¹⁹Among offenders appearing more than once in the cohort, only the arrest event leading to the most serious 1982 cohort disposition is considered in this analysis. Thus, although both offender and offense characteristics are being compared, the offender unit of count is maintained. (See Volume I for selection criteria).

This is slightly higher than the ratio observed in other data on New York State arrests.²⁰ The distribution of offender sex was similar across regions.

Table 4
Sex of Offenders
by Region

Region	Total	Sex of Offender	
		Male	Female
New York City	100.0% (67,632)	89.7% (60,641)	10.3% (6,991)
Other MPAs	100.0% (17,446)	86.7% (15,131)	13.3% (2,315)
Non-Metro Areas	100.0% (12,699)	89.1% (11,318)	10.9% (1,381)
New York State Total	100.0% (97,777)	89.1% (87,090)	10.9% (10,687)

²⁰For example the 1982 New York State Uniform Crime Reports show the following distributions:

all adult Part I arrests: males = 82.8%; females = 17.2%; n = 178,900
all adult arrests: males = 86.0%; females = 14.0%; n = 1,097,845

UCR data for previous years are generally similar. See: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, Crime and Justice, Annual Report 1982 (pp. 124-126). The fact that the Uniform Crime Reports and the OBTS system define offenses differently and use different reporting mechanisms may explain this difference.

Note that the sex distribution for arrest events in the cohort (which is quite similar to the distribution for offenders) compares very closely with the distribution of all 1982 felony arrests. See Table 2, Volume I.

Age at Arrest.²¹ Figure 29 shows that the age distributions for the two Non-New York City regions were very similar, and that these, in turn, differed markedly from the New York City distribution. New York City offenders were older than offenders from the other two regions. They were more likely to appear in the over 25 age categories relative to offenders from the Non-New York City regions and less likely to appear in the 16 to 19 category.

In all regions, a majority of offenders were under age 25. The modal age group in the areas outside New York City was the youngest (16-19); the modal group in New York City was the 25-34 year old group.²²

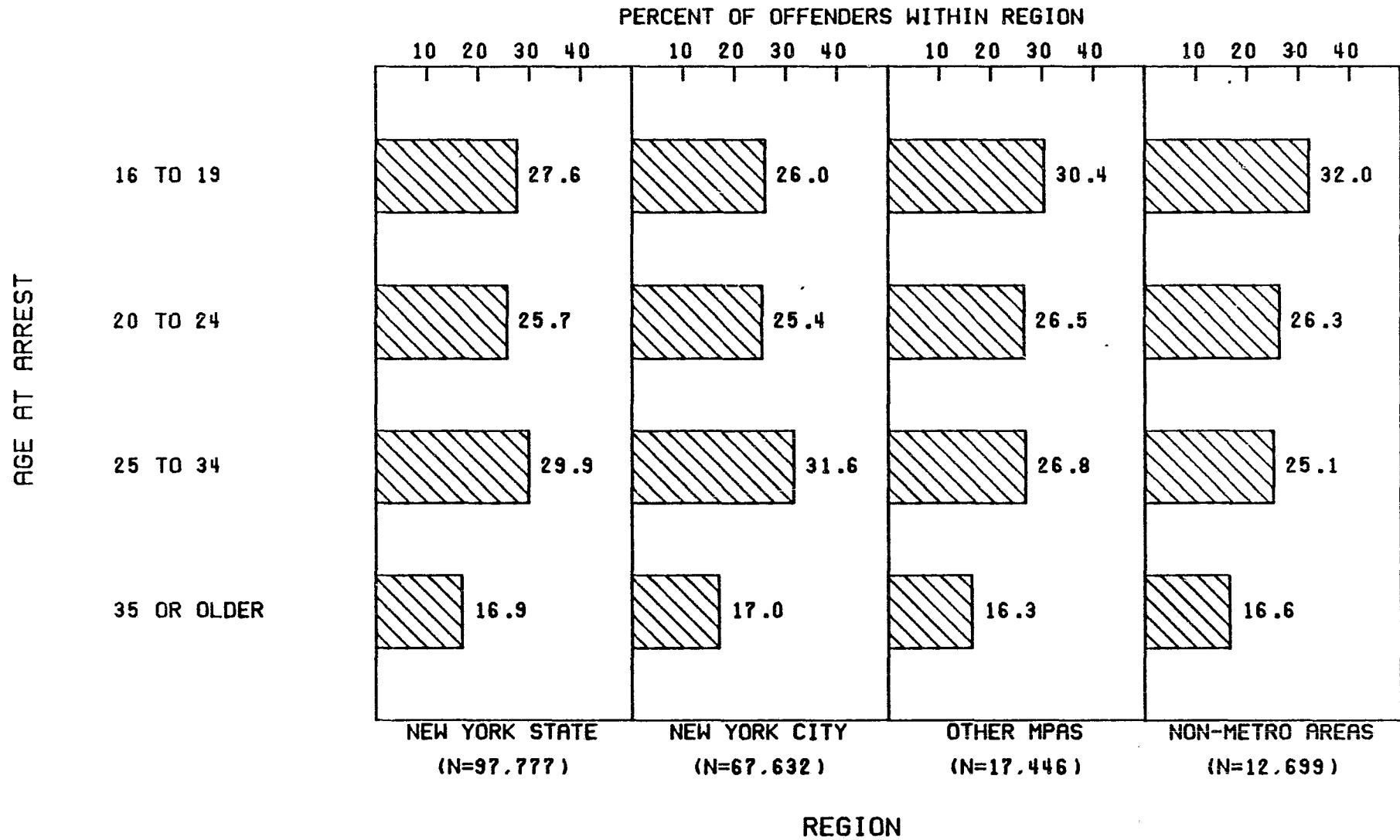
Race of offender. The race distributions (Figure 30) show sharp differences between regions. Minorities, and particularly blacks, tended to be represented among offenders in proportion to the degree of urbanization of the region. In the primarily rural Non-Metropolitan Areas, nonwhites comprised only 19.2 percent of the offender population. In the Other MPAs, the proportion of nonwhite offenders was 41.9 percent, while in New York City nonwhites comprised nearly three-fourths (71.5%) of all offenders. New York City was the only region with a substantial representation of Hispanic offenders; Hispanics accounted for less than three percent of offenders in the areas outside of New York City.

²¹For offenders appearing in the cohort multiple times, age at arrest is based on the arrest event leading to the most serious 1982 cohort disposition.

²²The continuous age distributions are characterized as follows:

	New York State	New York City	Other MPAs	Non-Metro Areas
mean	26.3	26.5	25.9	25.8
median	23.7	24.1	22.9	22.6
mode	17.0	16.0	17.0	17.0

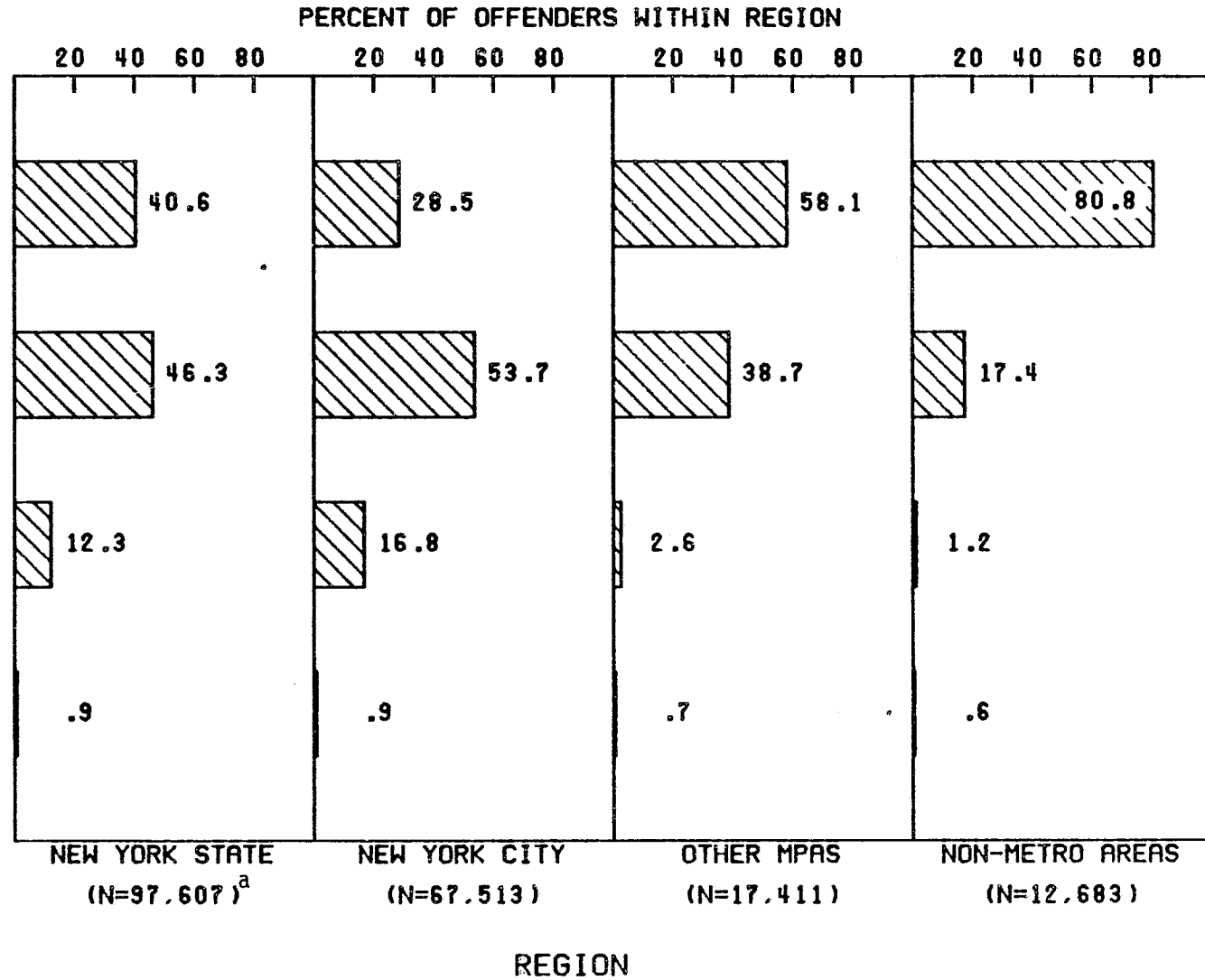
FIGURE 29
OFFENDER AGE AT ARREST
BY REGION



SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE III-7, VOLUME III.

FIGURE 30
OFFENDER RACE BY REGION

RACE OF OFFENDER



^aEXCLUDES 170 OFFENDERS WITH RACE MISSING.
SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE III-8, VOLUME III.

An examination of offender age by race (Table III-9, Volume III) shows white offenders to be older than black and Hispanic offenders in New York City, but younger than all other race groups in the areas outside New York City.²³

Prior Arrest Record. Prior arrests are defined as those arrests occurring before the date of the 1982 cohort disposition. For offenders appearing multiple times in the cohort, priors are defined as those arrests occurring before the date of the most serious 1982 cohort disposition. The regional distribution shown in Figure 31 reveals that about one-third of offenders had no record of prior offending. This percentage was slightly higher in Non-Metropolitan areas than in New York City or the Other Metropolitan areas.

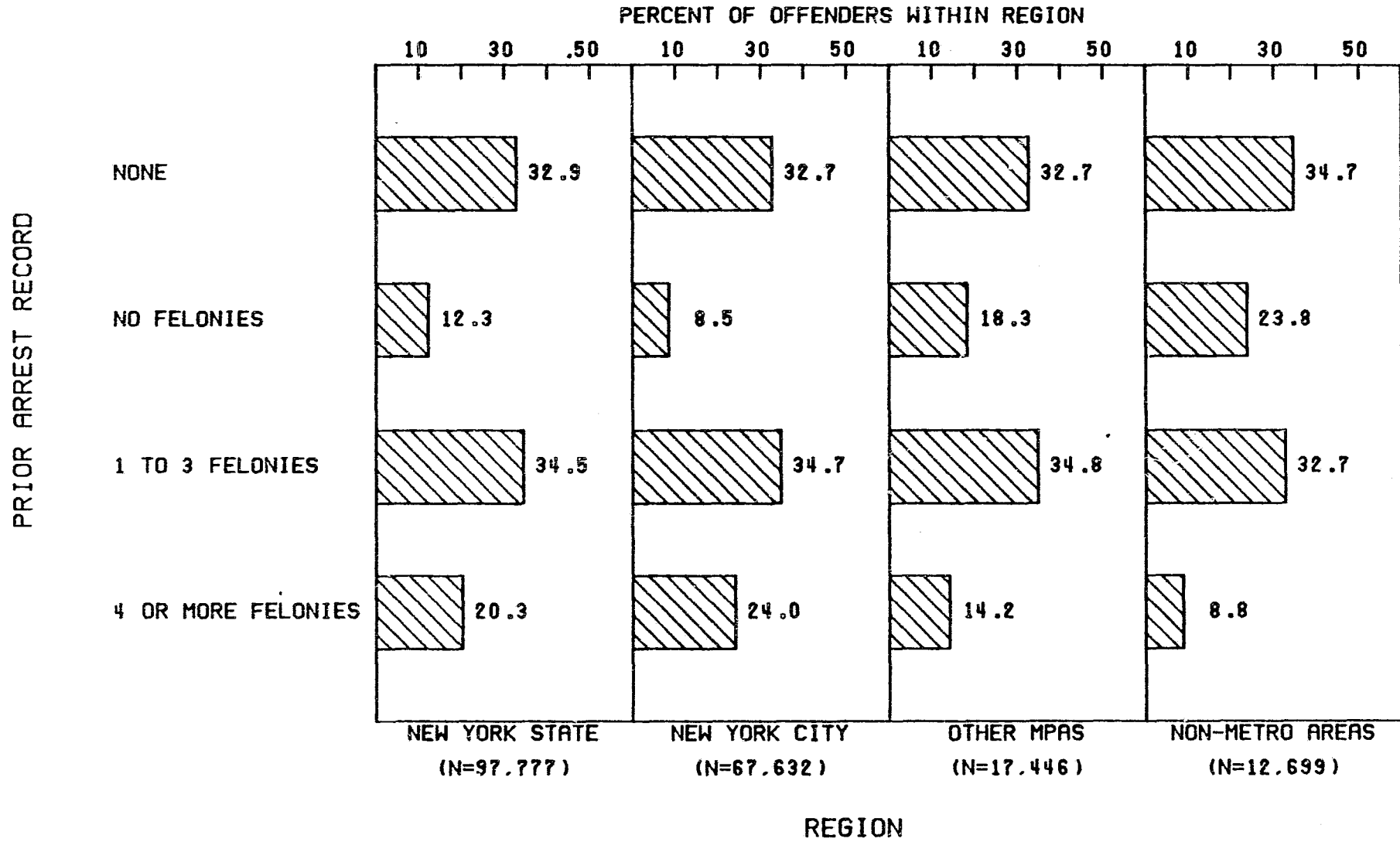
Among offenders who did have prior arrests, the seriousness of the record appears to be directly associated with the level of urbanization of the region. For example, New York City had the highest percentage of offenders with multiple felony arrests; Non-Metropolitan Areas had the lowest percentage. New York City had the lowest percentage of offenders with non-felony (i.e., misdemeanor or lesser) arrests, and Non-Metropolitan Areas had the highest.

Prior Conviction Record. The pattern of prior convictions shown in Figure 32 is similar to that for prior arrests: almost half (49.8%) of offenders had no record of prior convictions. New York City offenders tended to have the most serious conviction histories while offenders from Non-Metropolitan Areas had the least serious.²⁴ Among offenders having prior convictions, those convictions were generally for misdemeanors or lesser crimes; prior convictions for felonies were relatively uncommon.

²³Table III-9 (Volume III) presents median ages of the various race categories within each region. The median is a summary measure of a distribution defined as the value below which (and above which) half of the cases in the distribution fall. The median is used in preference to the mean in this table (and Tables III-12 and III-13) because the median is less sensitive to extreme values in the distribution.

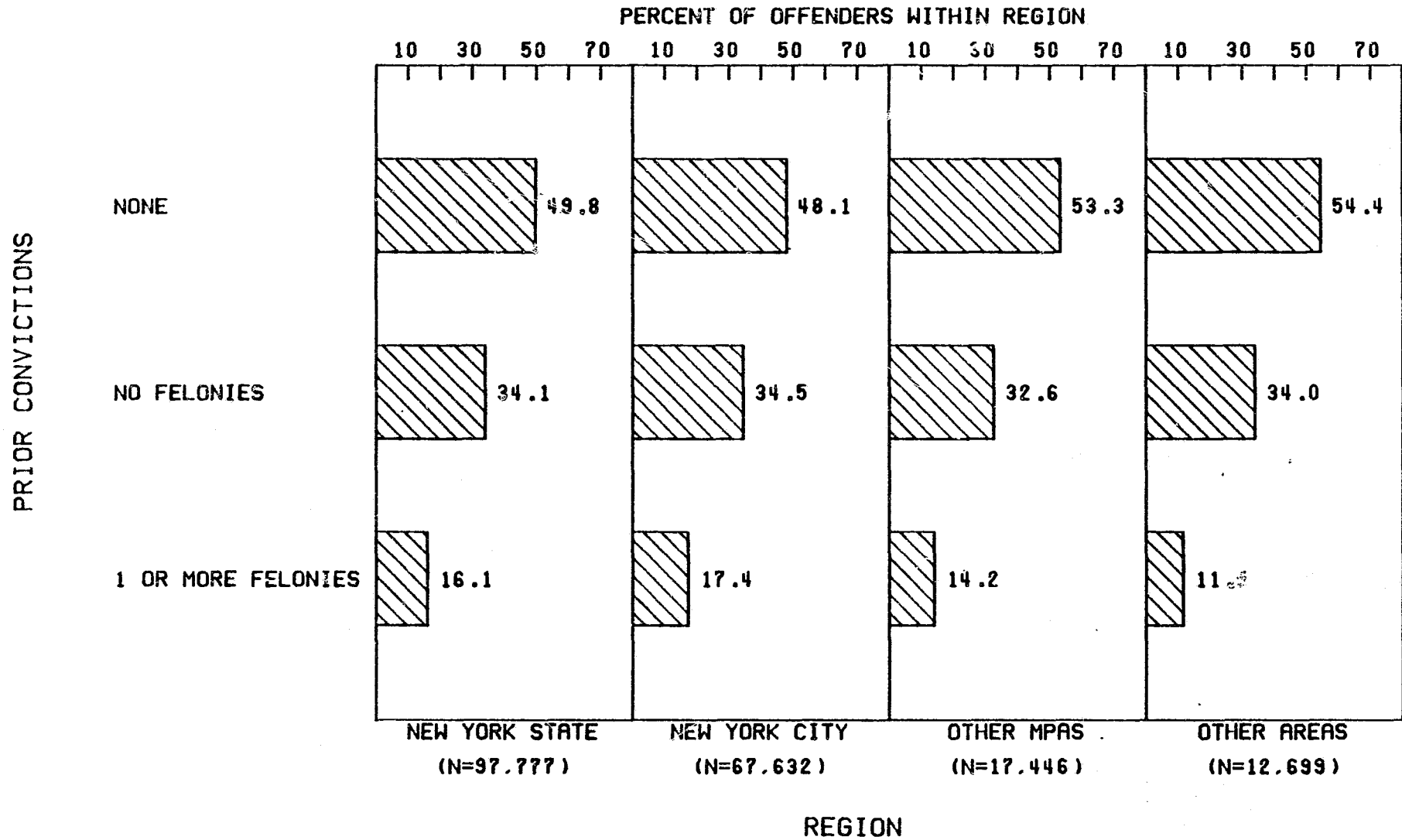
²⁴Prior convictions are convictions occurring before the date of the 1982 cohort disposition; for offenders appearing multiple times in the cohort priors are defined as those convictions occurring before the date of the most serious 1982 cohort disposition.

FIGURE 31
OFFENDER PRIOR ARREST RECORD
BY REGION



SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE III-10, VOLUME III.

FIGURE 32
OFFENDER PRIOR CONVICTION RECORD
BY REGION



SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLE III-11, VOLUME III.

As would be expected, age was positively associated in all regions with the severity of prior record, for arrests and (particularly) for convictions. This correlation arises because younger offenders have not been at risk long enough to accrue lengthy offending histories.²⁵ Tables III-12 and III-13 (Volume III) show the median ages of offenders for each category of the prior record indicators.²⁶

Among racial/ethnic groups in the areas outside of New York City, black offenders generally had more severe arrest and conviction histories than whites. In New York City, among offenders with prior histories, a similar though less pronounced pattern existed. In all areas, white offenders were the least likely to have prior offending histories. Table III-14a through III-14c display the prior arrest record for each race category in the three regions.

Offending Patterns

Figure 33 displays selected offender characteristics for each type of arrest offense within the three regions. Figure 34 displays the same offender characteristics by the class of the arrest offense within each region.

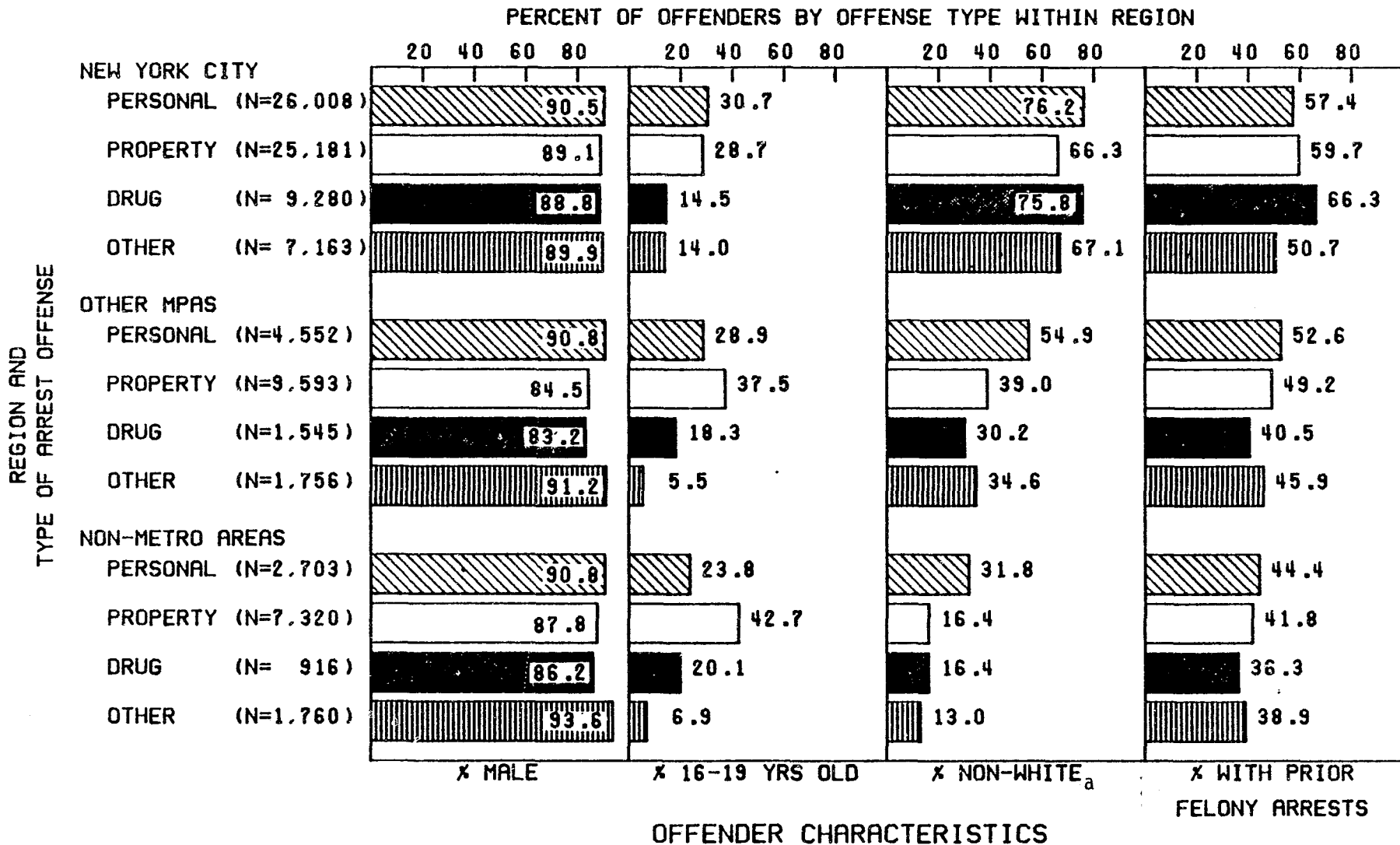
The offender characteristics shown in these graphs are the percent of male offenders, the percent of offenders in the 16 to 19 age group, the percent of offenders who are nonwhite, and the percent of offenders with at least one prior felony arrest.²⁷ The graphs are arranged to show relationships between these

²⁵Note that only adult offending is considered in calculating the indicators of prior record.

²⁶Note that in Table III-12, the median ages for the "No Felony" category of prior arrests is slightly higher than for the "1-3 Felony" category. Both categories can include offenders who had any number of prior misdemeanor arrests, the only difference being that offenders in the "No Felony" group had never been arrested for a felony. It is probable, then, that some "No Felony" offenders actually had longer records of misdemeanor arrests than offenders in the "1-3 Felony" group and that this accounts for the observed difference in the median ages.

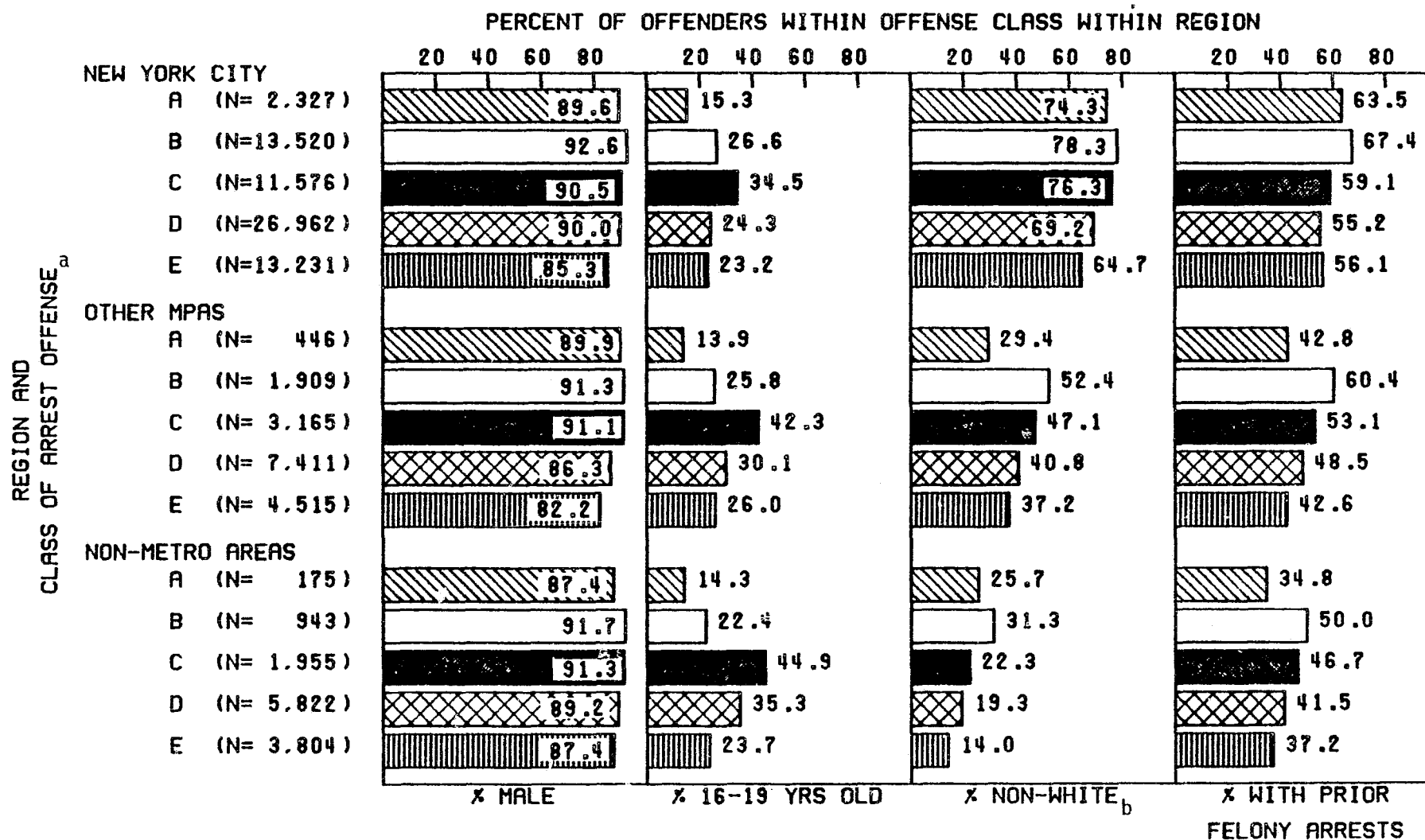
²⁷Percentages are based on the total for each offense type within region. This total is shown in the graphs.

FIGURE 33
 PATTERNS OF OFFENDING:
 SELECTED OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS
 BY TYPE OF ARREST OFFENSE WITHIN REGION



^a170 CASES MISSING RACE DATA.
 SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLES III-15 THROUGH III-18.V.III.

**FIGURE 34
PATTERNS OF OFFENDING:
SELECTED OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS
BY CLASS OF ARREST OFFENSE WITHIN REGION**



^a16 PL125 CASES MISSING CLASS DATA.

^b170 CASES MISSING RACE DATA.

SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLES III-19 THROUGH III-22 (V.III).

characteristics and the type or class of offense as well as the region, and are intended to provide a general profile of the offenders arrested for committing the indicated type or class of offense with regard to sex, age, race, and prior record.

Type of Offense. As previously shown (Table 4), males outnumbered females in the study population by approximately a 9:1 ratio. Figure 33 shows this to be generally true for all offense types regardless of region. Drug offenders were slightly more likely to be female than were offenders arrested for personal or property crimes.

Age, as measured by the proportion of offenders in the 16-19 age group, appears to be strongly associated with the type of offense. Property offenders in areas outside New York City tended to be younger than offenders arrested for other types of crime; drug, and to an even greater degree, "other" offenders tended to be older.

Race is associated both with the type of offense and with region. The largest proportion of minority offenders in the State was from New York City (see Figure 30). Because of this, in New York City, each offense type showed a substantially higher proportion of nonwhite offenders than was the case in the other two regions. Almost three-fourths of New York City offenders were minorities, regardless of offense type. Differences that do exist among offense types in New York City showed personal and drug offenders to have been slightly more likely to be nonwhite than other types. In the Non-New York City regions where the overall proportion of minorities was lower, the association with offense type is clearer. In these regions personal offenders tended to be nonwhite while drug offenders were likely to be white.

A similar pattern can be seen for offenders having at least one prior felony arrest. In general, the proportion of offenders with such records is higher in New York City than in the other regions. In New York City, offenders arrested for drug crimes were more likely than other offenders to have had prior felony arrest histories. Outside of New York City, personal offenders were most likely, and drug offenders least likely to have had prior felony arrest records.

Class of Arrest. Figure 34 shows the selected offender characteristics displayed by the statutory class of the most serious arrest charge for each region.

Despite the overwhelming preponderance of males in the study cohort there appears to be a slight association between sex and class of offense. In New York City and the Other MPA's, offenders arrested for class B offenses were the most likely to be male, followed closely by those arrested for class C offenses. Offenders arrested for class E felonies were least likely to be male in each of the regions.

Offenders arrested for the more serious offenses (i.e., classes A and B) tended to be older than offenders arrested for C, D and E offenses. This was generally the case in all regions and was particularly evident for class A arrestees. In all areas, class C arrestees had the largest proportion in the 16-19 age group.

As noted earlier, the proportion of nonwhites was uniformly higher among New York City offenders than among offenders from the other two regions. This was true regardless of class. In all areas, those arrested for class B and C offenses were generally more likely to be nonwhite than other offenders.

In all areas, offenders arrested for class B offenses were the most likely to have had a record of prior felony arrests. In New York City, offenders arrested for class D felonies were least likely to have had prior arrests for felonies. Outside of New York City, offenders arrested for class E felonies in Other Metropolitan areas, and class A felonies in Non-Metropolitan areas were least likely to have had prior arrests for felonies.

Single vs. Multiple Appearances
in the Cohort

This section continues the examination of offenders in the study cohort by comparing the characteristics of the 83,384 offenders disposed only once in 1982 with the remaining 14,393 disposed more than once. Differences between the offender and arrest event counts are a function of the characteristics and frequency of appearance of the multiply disposed offenders. Consequently, the nature and extent of such differences have implications for the arrest based processing analyses appearing elsewhere in this report.

Offender Attributes

Table 5 displays the proportion of offenders within each region that were disposed on a felony only once in 1982 and those disposed more than once. The proportion of offenders appearing in the cohort multiple times was highest for New York City and lowest for the Non-Metropolitan Areas. This follows the previously identified pattern for prior offending in which the seriousness of the prior record was directly associated with the degree of urbanization of the region.

Table 5

Comparison of Offenders Having a Single 1982
Disposition With Offender Having Multiple 1982
Dispositions by Region

Region	Total	Single Disposition Offenders	Multiple Disposition Offenders
New York City	100.0% (67,632)	82.7% (55,951)	17.3% (11,681)
Other MPAs	100.0% (17,446)	89.6% (15,639)	10.4% (1,807)
Non-Metro Areas	100.0% (12,699)	92.9% (11,794)	7.1% (905)
New York State Total	100.0% (97,777)	85.3% (83,384)	14.7% (14,393)

Table 6 refines this comparison by showing the proportion of arrest events accounted for by single and multiple offenders. A far larger proportion (and number) of arrest events were committed by multiple offenders in New York City than in either of the other regions.

Table 6
Comparison of Arrest Events Committed
by Offenders Having Single and
Multiple 1982 Dispositions by Region

Region	Total	Arrest Events		
		Committed by Single Disposition Offenders	Committed by Multiple Disposition Offenders	Average Number per Multiple Disposition Offenders
New York City	100.0% (83,341)	67.1% (55,951)	32.9% (27,390)	2.3
Other MPAs	100.0% (19,498)	80.2% (15,639)	19.8% (3,859)	2.1
Non-Metro Areas	100.0% (13,713)	86.0% (11,794)	14.0% (1,919)	2.1
New York State Total	100.0% (116,552)	71.5% (83,384)	28.5% (33,168)	2.3

Sex of Offenders. In all regions, males were more heavily represented among multiple offenders than among single offenders. The proportion of males among multiple offenders was similar for all regions.²⁸

²⁸In this and the data presentations which follow, the percentages shown are weighted subsets of the percentages for the entire offender group shown in the previous section. For example, the overall proportion of male offenders shown in Table 4 may be obtained by reweighting the percentages for the single and multiple groups (the weights are the proportion of all offenders in the single and multiple groups), i.e., for New York City:

$$\frac{(55,951}{(67,632} \times 88.8\%) + \frac{(11,681}{(67,632} \times 93.8\%) = 89.7\%$$

Table 7

Comparison of Offenders Having a Single 1982 Disposition
With Offenders Having Multiple 1982 Dispositions
By Sex Within Region

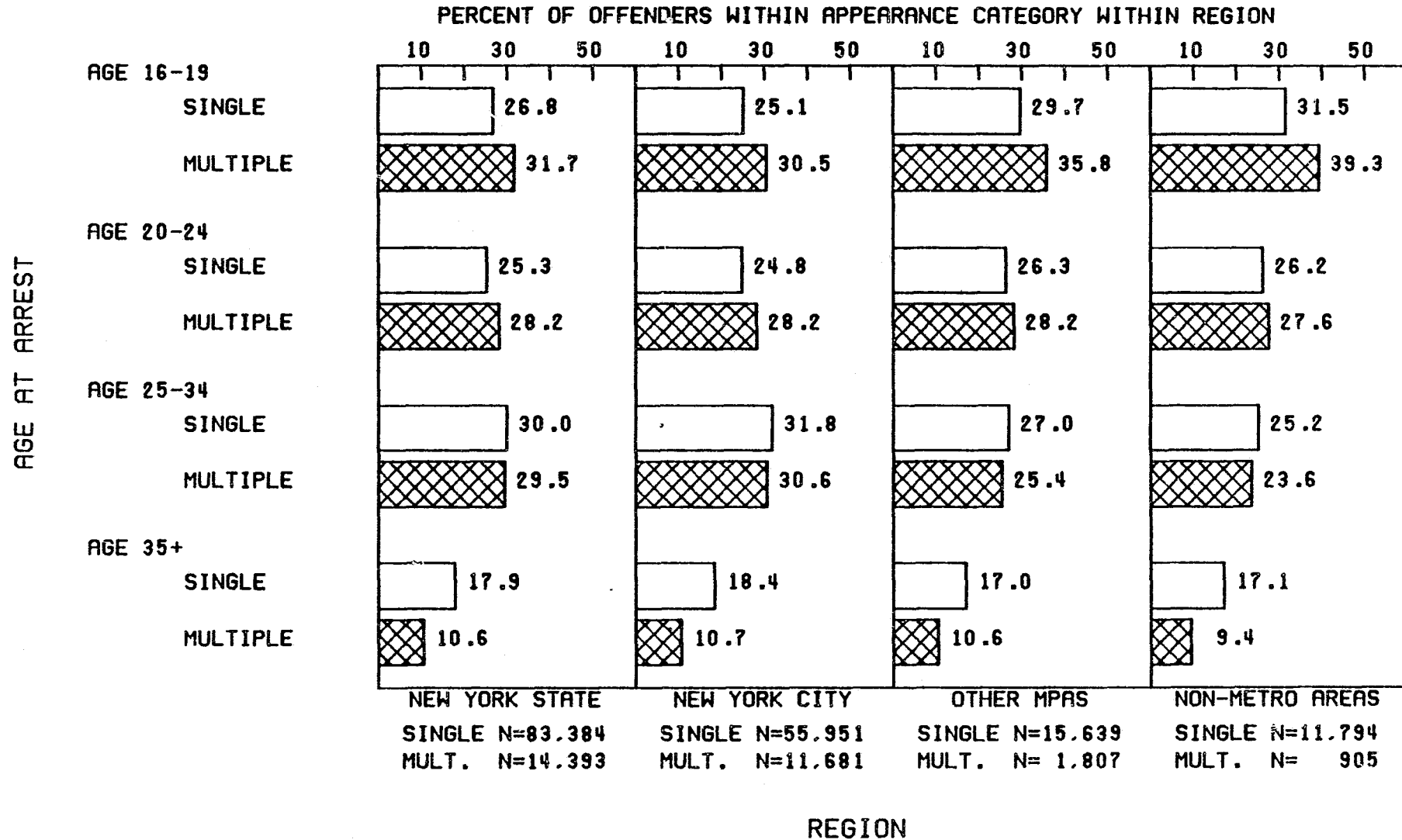
Region	Dispositions in 1982					
	Single			Multiple		
	N	% Male	% Female	N	% Male	% Female
New York City	55,951	88.8%	11.2%	11,681	93.8%	6.2%
Other MPA	15,639	86.3%	13.7%	1,807	90.6%	9.4%
Non-Metro Areas	11,794	88.9%	11.1%	905	91.5%	8.5%
New York State Total	83,384	88.3%	11.7%	14,393	93.3%	6.7%

Age at Arrest. Both the single and the multiple offender age distributions shown in Figure 35 are similar to the distributions for all offenders (see Figure 29). Again, differences between New York City and the other two regions are evident: in general, both single and multiple disposition offenders in New York City tended to be older than those in the Non-New York City regions. In all regions, and particularly in the least urban Non-Metropolitan Areas, multiple disposition offenders were younger than single offenders.²⁹

Race of Offender. Race distributions displayed in Figure 36 show that offenders appearing in the cohort multiple times were more likely to be nonwhite than offenders appearing only once. Differences between the single and multiple offender groups were most pronounced in the two Non-New York City regions.

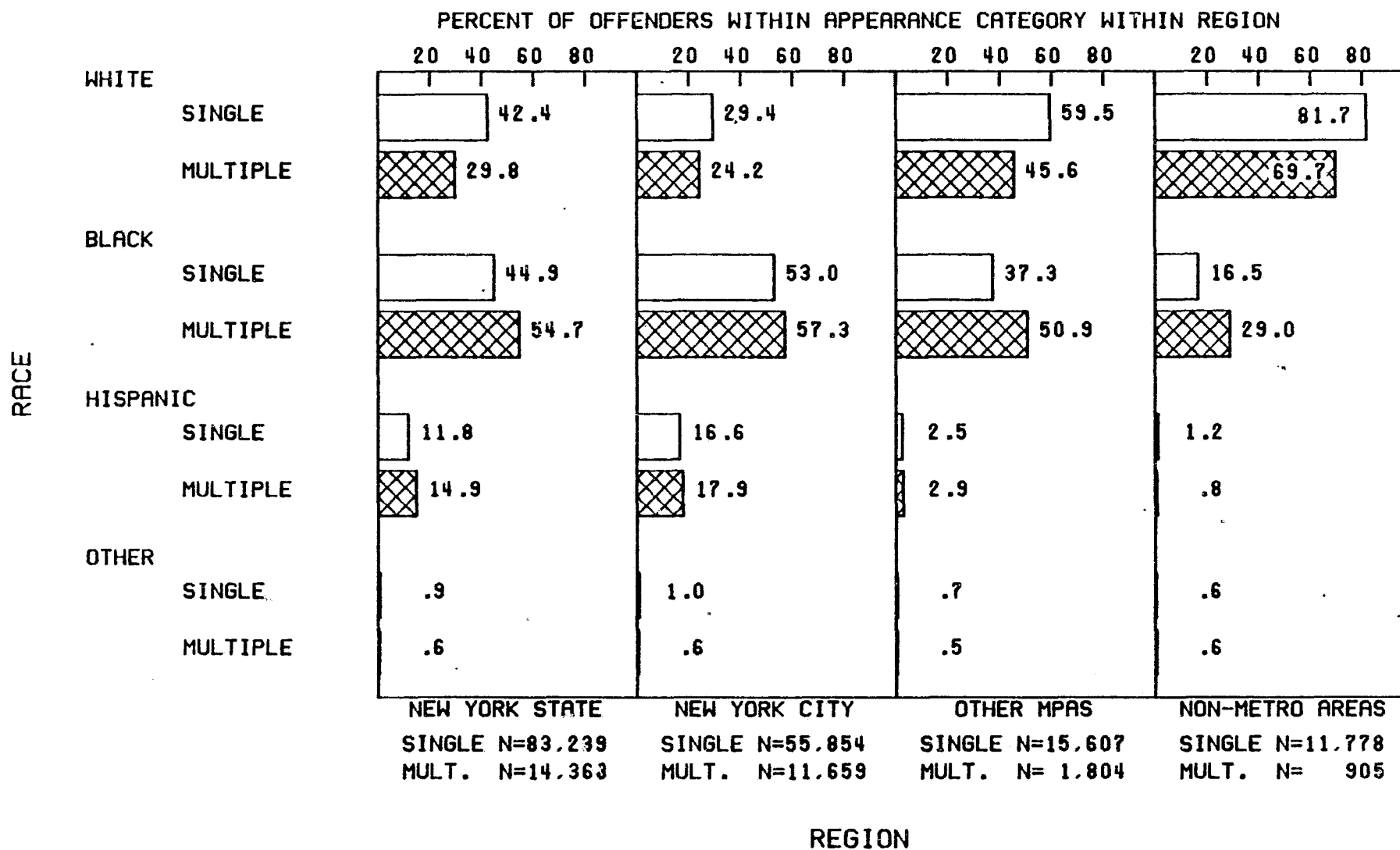
²⁹For multiple disposition offenders, age is the age of the offender at the arrest leading to the most serious 1982 cohort disposition.

FIGURE 35
COMPARISON OF OFFENDERS HAVING A SINGLE 1982 DISPOSITION
WITH OFFENDERS HAVING MULTIPLE 1982 DISPOSITIONS:
AGE AT ARREST WITHIN REGION



SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLES III-23A AND III-23B, VOL. III.

FIGURE 36
 COMPARISON OF OFFENDERS HAVING A SINGLE 1982 DISPOSITION
 WITH OFFENDERS HAVING MULTIPLE 1982 DISPOSITIONS:
 RACE OF OFFENDER WITHIN REGION



SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLES III-24A AND III-24B, VOL. III.

Prior Record. The single/multiple offender distributions for prior arrests are displayed in Figure 37 and the distributions for prior convictions in Figure 38. Both show that, in general, multiple offenders tended to have more serious offending histories than single offenders. (Among offenders with prior records, only the "no prior felony arrests" category in Figure 37 shows a higher proportion of single than multiple offenders).

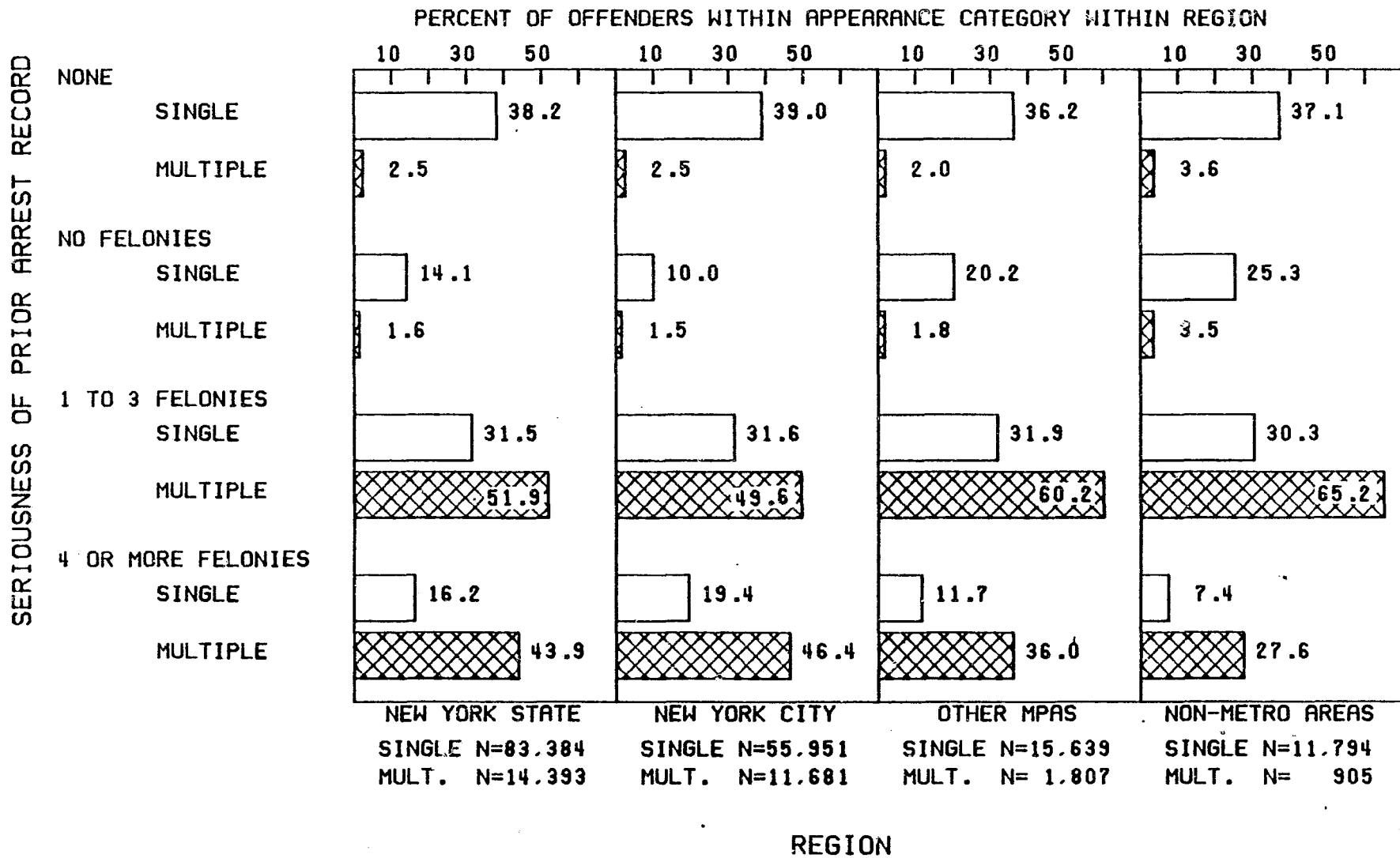
Summary

This analysis of offender characteristics is consistent with the analyses presented earlier in this report. There were differences among offenders along the urban/rural continuum, in general, and sharp differences between New York City and the rest of the State. New York City offenders were older, more likely to be black or Hispanic and more likely to have had a prior record of offending than were offenders from the other two regions of the State. Only with regard to the sex of the offender was there similarity among the regions.

As would be expected, older offenders tended to have more serious prior records than younger offenders. Black offenders were likely to be younger than whites in New York City, but older than whites in the areas outside of New York City. Among those with prior records, black offenders had more serious records than whites. In both non-New York City regions, blacks were more likely than whites to have had records and those records were likely to have been more serious. In all areas, white offenders were the group least likely to have had a history of prior offending.

The examination of offending patterns illustrates the sharp regional differences already noted, particularly with regard to race, prior record and age. Despite this, however, some patterns emerged that were consistent across all regions: property offenders outside of New York City were uniformly younger than offenders arrested for other crime types, and offenders statewide arrested for "other" and drug crimes tended to be older; personal offenders were more likely to

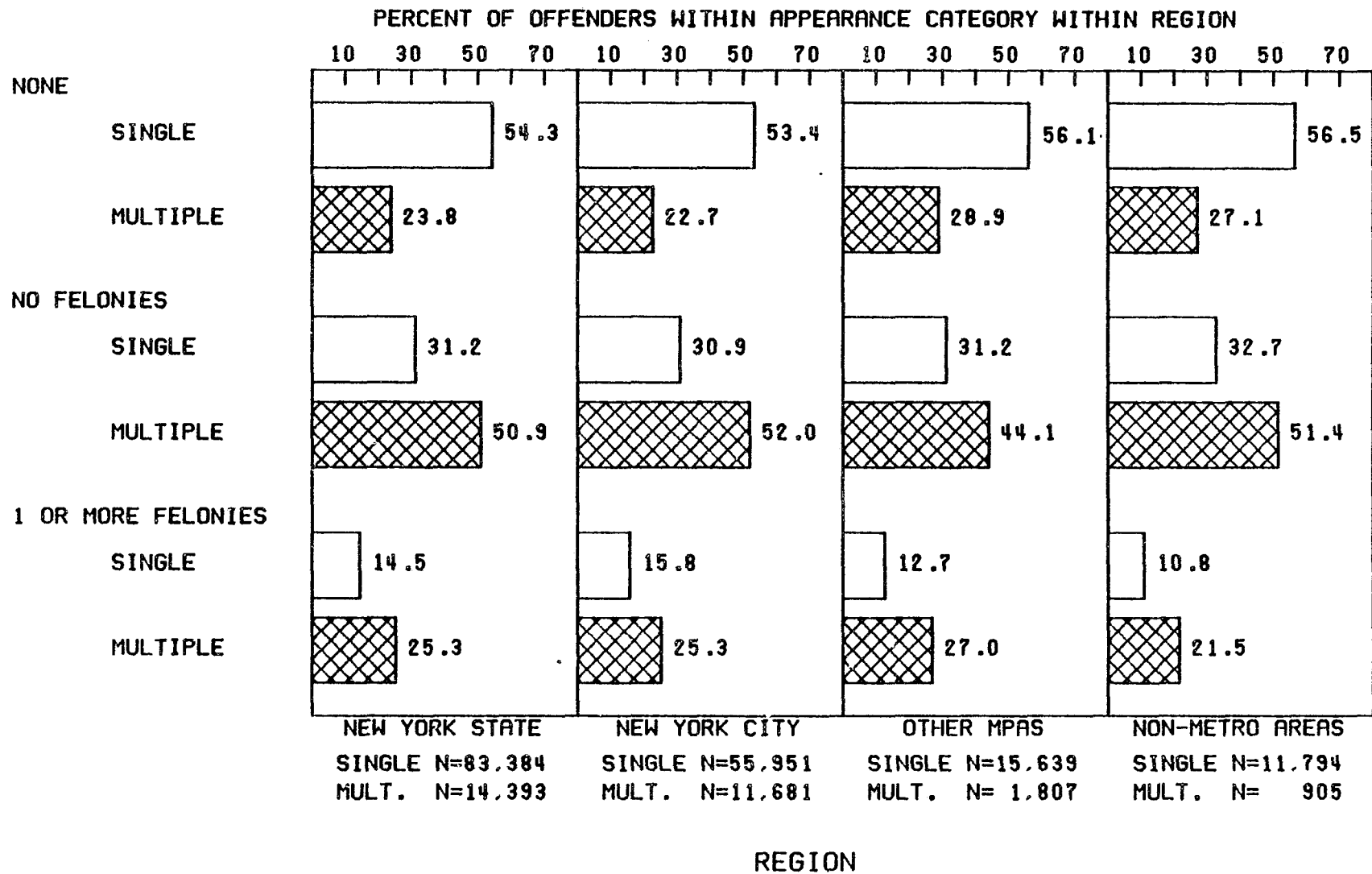
FIGURE 37
 COMPARISON OF OFFENDERS HAVING A SINGLE 1982 DISPOSITION
 WITH OFFENDERS HAVING MULTIPLE 1982 DISPOSITIONS:
 SERIOUSNESS OF PRIOR ARREST RECORD WITHIN REGION



SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLES III-25A AND III-25B, VOL. III.

FIGURE 38
COMPARISON OF OFFENDERS HAVING A SINGLE 1982 DISPOSITION
WITH OFFENDERS HAVING MULTIPLE 1982 DISPOSITIONS:
SERIOUSNESS OF PRIOR CONVICTION RECORD WITHIN REGION

SERIOUSNESS OF PRIOR CONVICTION RECORD



SOURCE DATA FOR THIS GRAPH ARE FOUND IN TABLES III-26A AND III-26B.VOL.III.

be nonwhite than offenders arrested for other crimes; and drug offenders were slightly more likely to be female than personal or property offenders. Offenders arrested for the more serious felony offenses were generally older and more likely to have had prior records than those arrested for lesser felonies, regardless of region. Minorities were most heavily represented among those arrested for B and C felonies. Class E offenders were slightly less likely to be male than class B, C, or D offenders.

The group of offenders who appeared more than once in the study cohort were different in several respects from those who appeared only once. New York City had a considerably higher proportion of such multiple disposition offenders than did the other two regions, with the Non-Metropolitan Areas having the lowest. In all regions, multiple disposition offenders were more likely to be male, to be younger, and to be members of a racial minority than offenders disposed only once in 1982. They were also more likely than single disposition offenders to have had histories of prior felony arrests and to have been convicted of a crime before their most serious 1982 cohort disposition.

From data presented earlier in the report (Table 1) it is known that almost 95 percent of arrest events disposed in 1982 occurred in 1981 or 1982. This suggests that offenders appearing in the cohort multiple times are likely to have been arrested for their offenses within that two-year span. There is thus a high likelihood that multiple disposition offenders represent a particularly persistent or arrest prone group among the overall population of offenders.

The fact that such "persistent" offenders were more prevalent in New York City and that New York City offenders had more serious prior criminal histories, suggests a major qualitative difference among the regions of the State. New York City offenders have accumulated more extensive criminal records and, by extrapolation, they may be presumed to be more persistent offenders than offenders from other regions. Certainly their careers were more serious (in terms of prior

arrests for felonies and convictions for all crimes) and more intensive (in terms of the proportion of multiple disposition offenders) than Non-New York City offenders.³⁰

These data reinforce findings presented earlier in the report: not only did the arrest events in New York City involve a greater number and more serious offenses than in the other regions, it is also true that New York City offenders (in terms of their criminal careers) were more "serious" as well. These factors help to explain the fact, noted in Section 1, that New York City courts make heavier use of incarcerative penalties for convicted offenders than did the courts elsewhere in the State. Prior offending is a factor which, in some cases, mandates an incarcerative sanction³¹ and has been empirically shown to influence the decision to incarcerate even when not legally mandated.³²

³⁰While better disposition reporting from New York City may account for the higher proportion of their offenders with prior convictions, differential reporting would not account for the higher proportion with prior felony arrests. The association between age and prior record and the fact that New York City offenders are older than offenders from other regions also supports the fact that their offenders have more extensive criminal histories.

³¹See, for example, the sentencing enhancement provisions contained in the New York State Penal Law, Sections 70.04, 70.06, and 70.10.

³²See, for example, L. Paul Sutton, Variations in Federal Criminal Sentences, Utilization of Criminal Justice Statistics, Analytic Report 17 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, LEAA, 1978), and Vera Institute of Justice, Felony Arrests: Their Prosecution and Disposition in New York City's Courts, (New York City: Vera Institute of Justice, 1977).